



# Computationally Efficient FBP-Type Image Reconstruction/Segmentation from Cone-Beam Data



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## Motivation

Explosive material is serious threat to aviation security, it is important to protect property and people from terrorist attacks



Fig.1 Pan Am flight destroyed by bomb in 1988

## Properties of explosive material

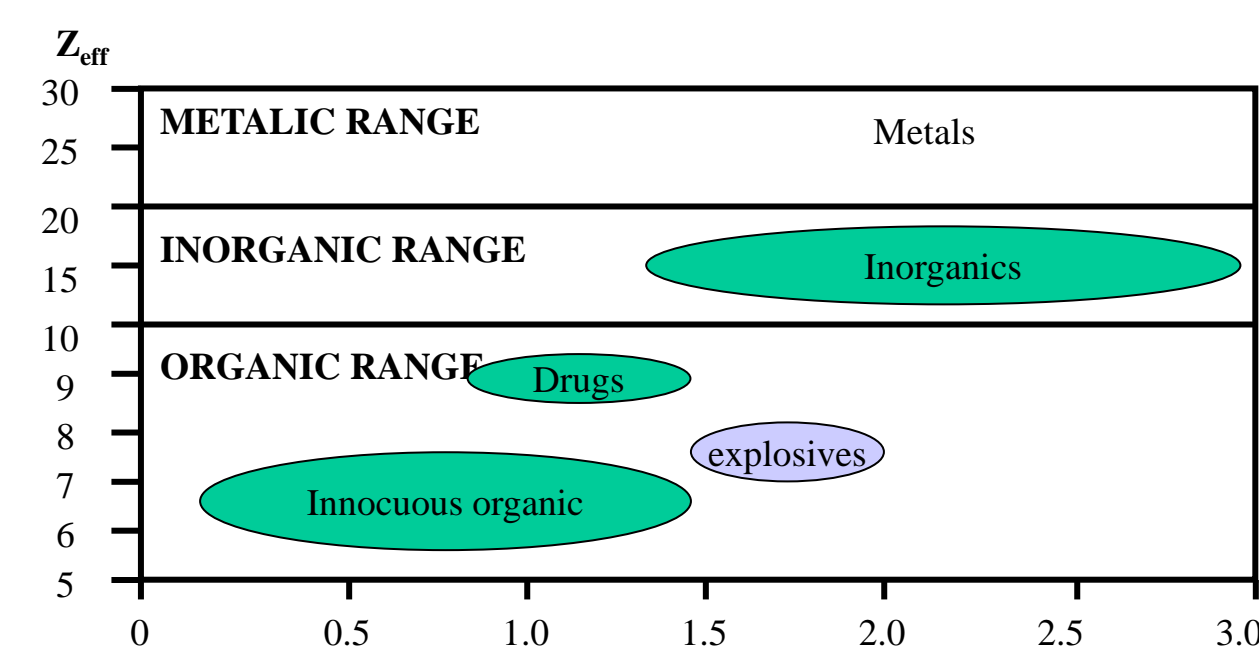
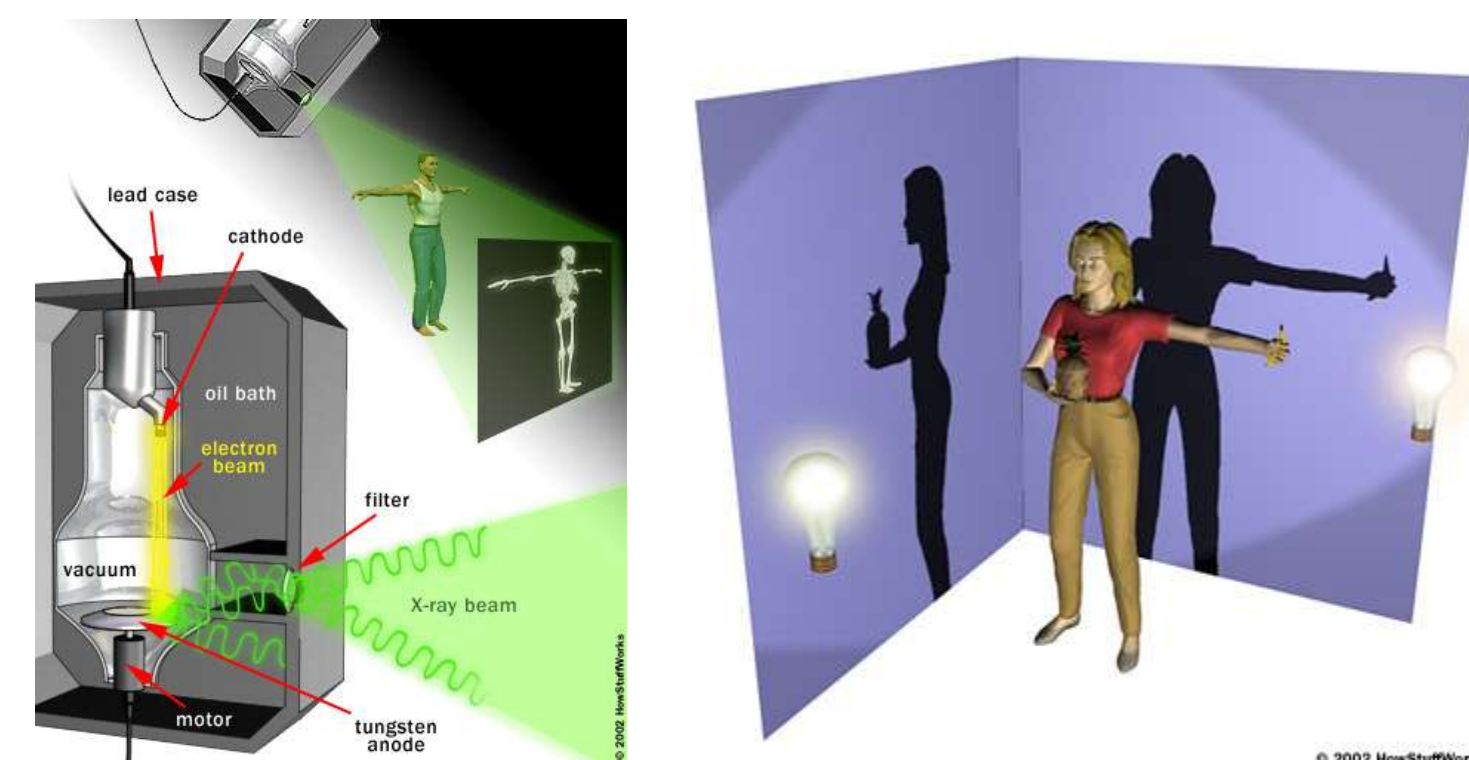


Fig.2 The imaging parameters are density and effective atomic number, explosive material contains high nitrogen, oxygen and moderate carbon

## X-ray CT imaging

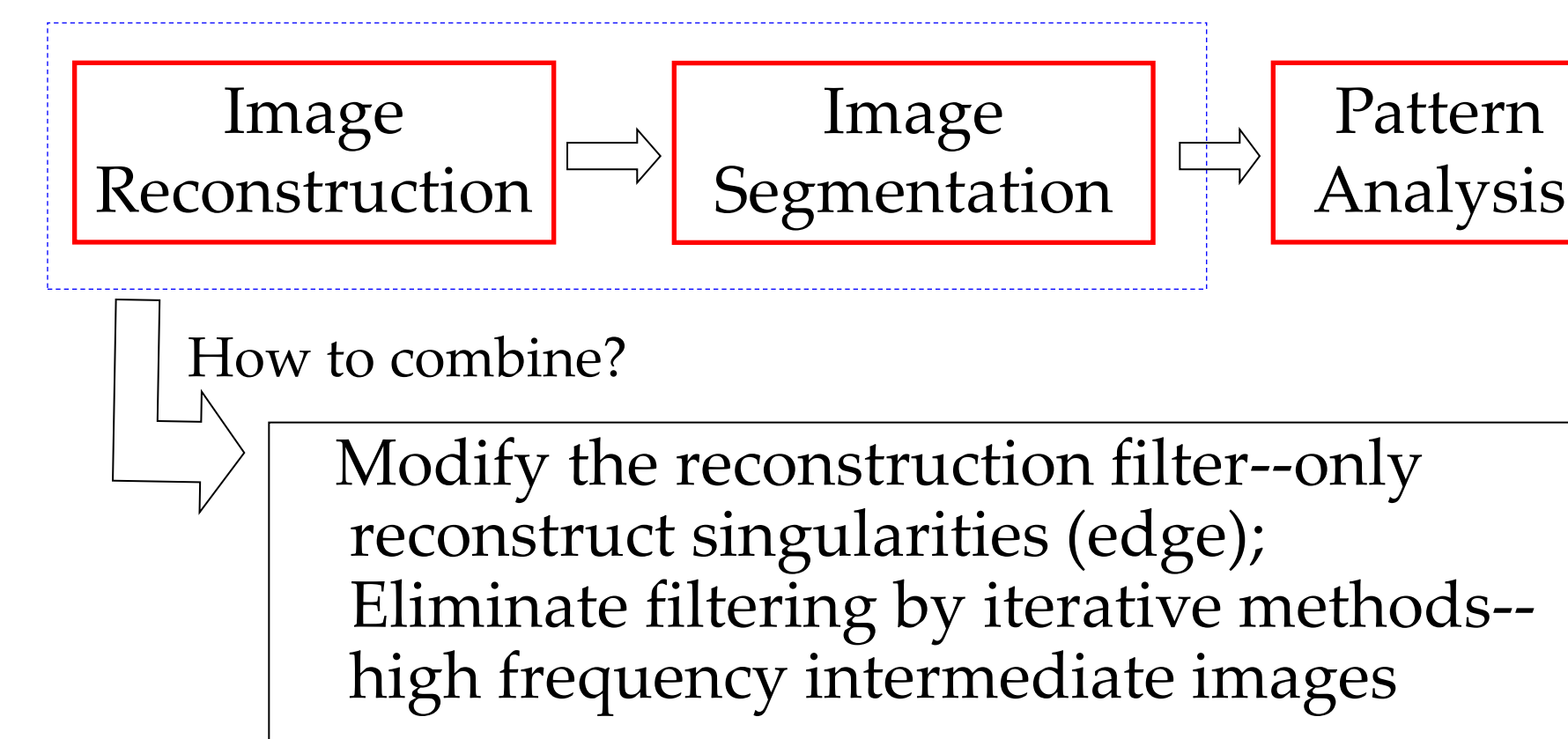
Fig.3. X-ray has good penetration. Different material absorbs X-ray differently, so the attenuation map can be imaged.



## Objectives of explosive detection

1. Design and implement of novel explosive detection using multi-sensor systems and unconventional approaches involving alternative signatures
2. High probability of detection in each category of explosives
3. Overall low probability of false alarm (< 5%)
4. Enhanced automation for high throughput rate (> 650 bags/hour)

## Technique approaches



Idea: eliminate or modify computationally expensive filtering step in the filtered back-projection (FBP) algorithm for simultaneous segmentation and image reconstruction

- Approach 1: Eliminate filtering  $\rightarrow$  *Iterative reprojection-backprojection* with appropriate weighting to guarantee convergence and regularization. The intermediate images are equivalent to segmented images at multiple resolutions
- Approach 2: Modify filtering  $\rightarrow$  *Replace "reconstruction filter" with appropriate differential operators* to produce an "unsharp masking" effect

## Cone-beam inversion using Fourier integral operator(FIO)

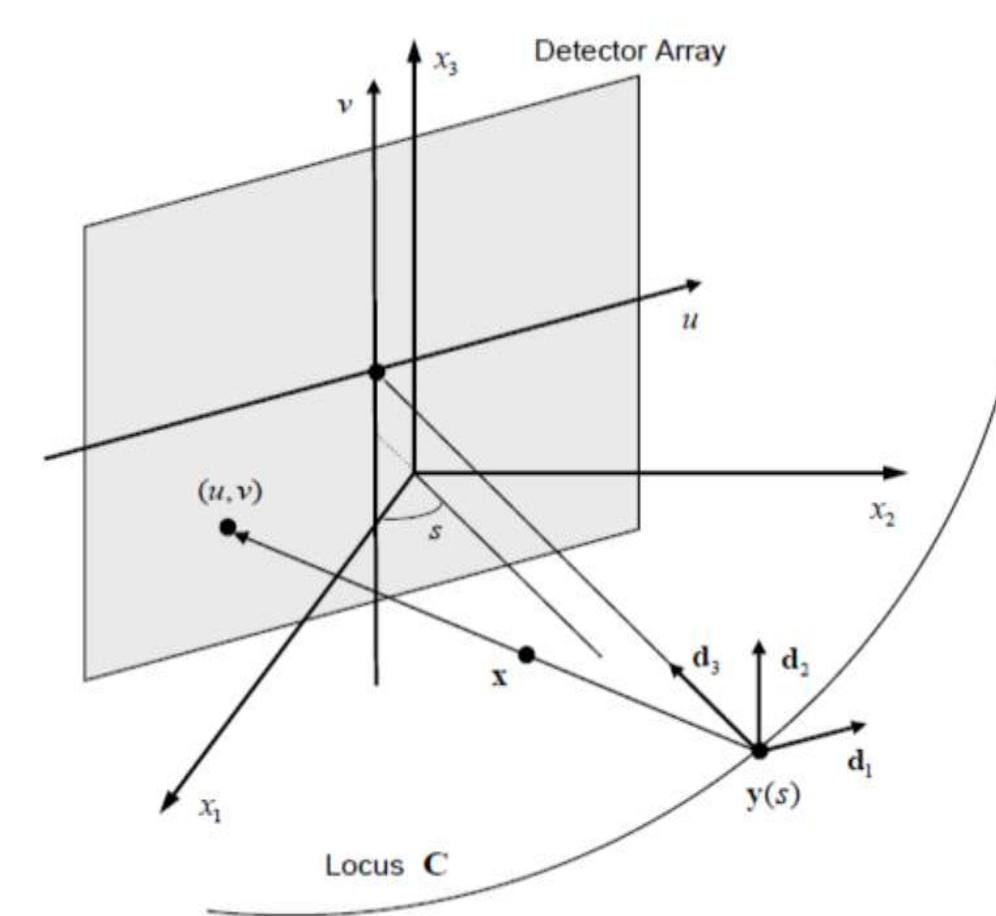


Fig.4. Local coordinate system for cone-beam projection measurement on a planar detector

Method: write the cone-beam transform as a FIO,

$f(x)$  is the object to be reconstruct,  $A$  is a standard symbol that is compactly supported in  $X$ .

The image is formed by applying the filtered adjoint operator (also FIO) to the projection data.

Choosing the filter as a differential operator  $\Delta$  can obtain edge image

Exact cone beam reconstruction requires the point spread function to be a Dirac delta function

$$I = \mathcal{F}^\dagger \overset{\text{Exact recon. filter}}{\mathcal{Q}}[d]$$

Reconstructed image
Back-projection

$$\hat{I} = \mathcal{F}^\dagger \mathcal{A}[d]$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \alpha \mathcal{D} + (1 - \alpha) \mathcal{Q}$$

$$\hat{I} = \alpha \hat{I} + (1 - \alpha) I$$

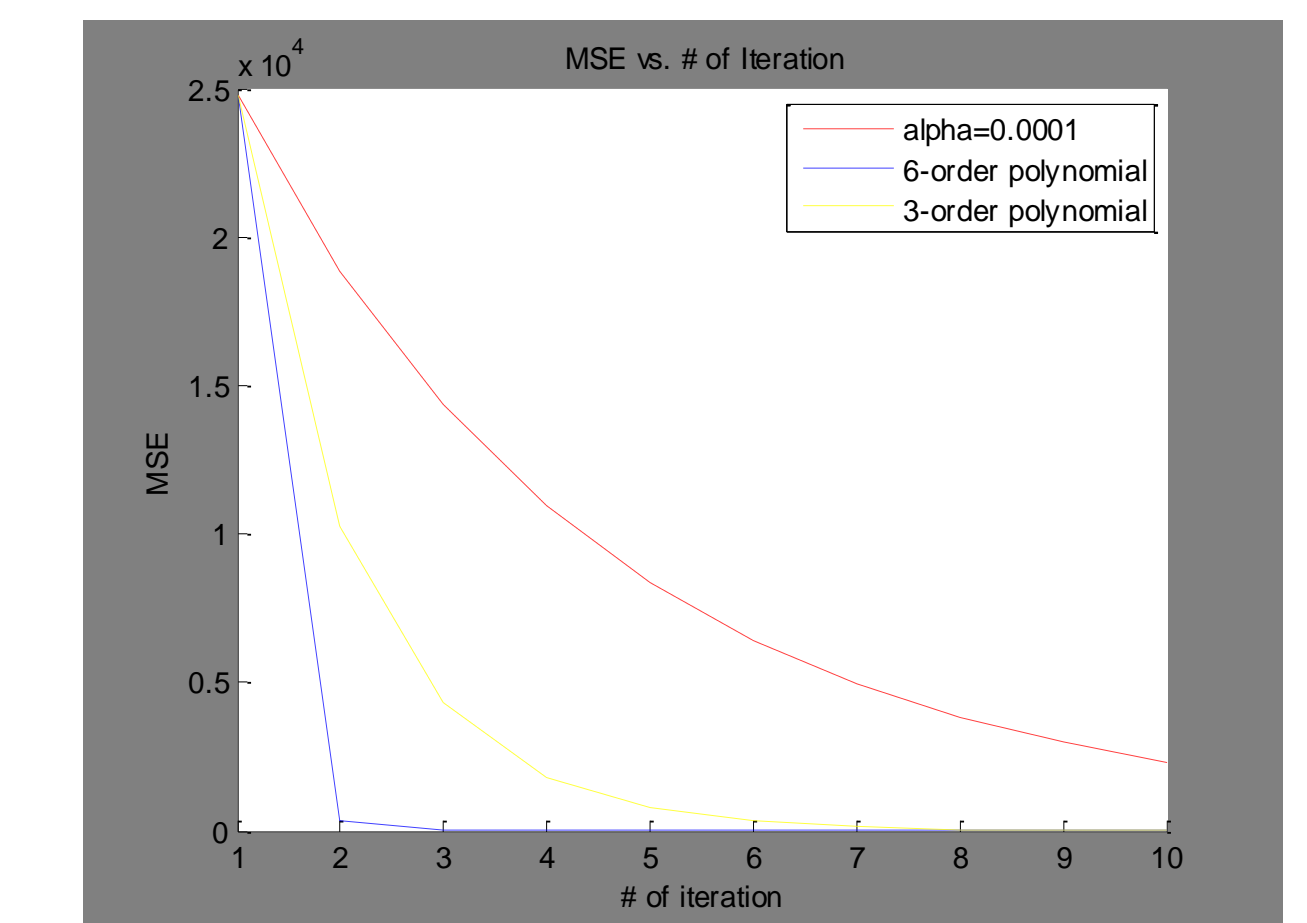
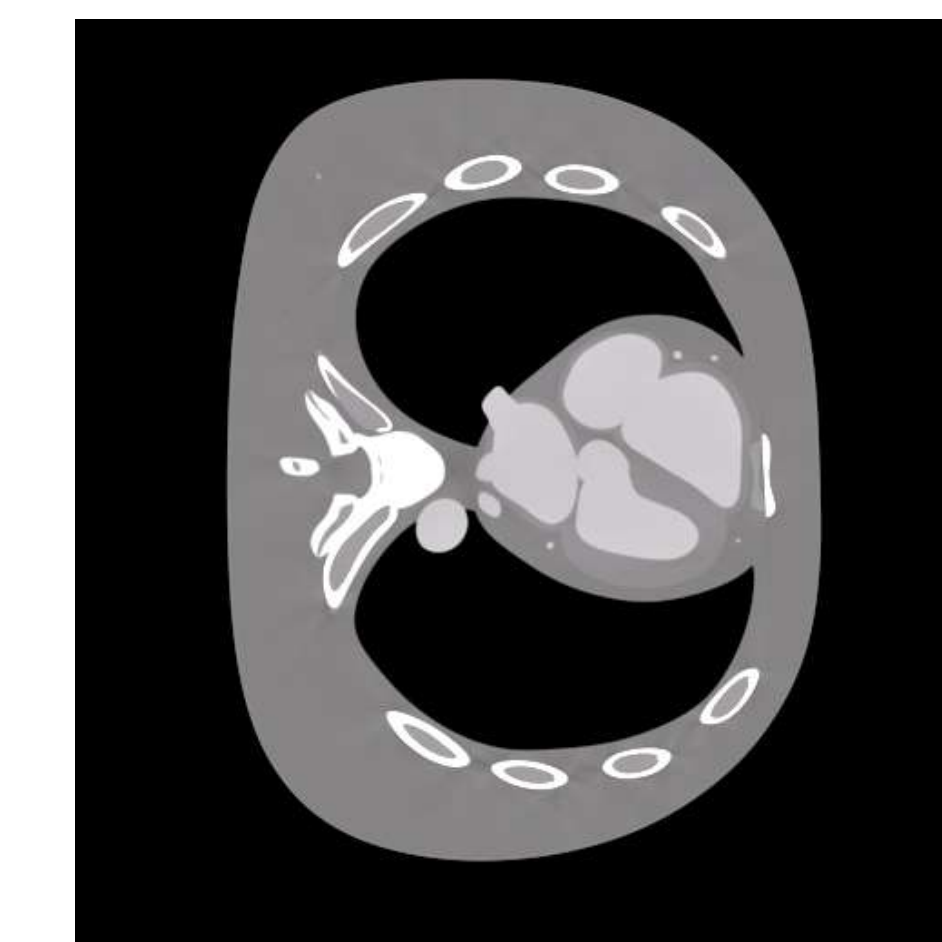
## Landweber's iteration scheme

$$f_{k+1} = f_k + \mathcal{D}\mathcal{T}^\dagger(g - \mathcal{T}f_k)$$

$f_k$ : kth reconstructed image  
 $\mathcal{T}$ : Forward operator  
 $\mathcal{D}$ : Back-projection operator  
 $g$ : Measured projection data

$\mathcal{D}$ : shaping matrix

- Accelerate the reconstruction of high frequencies
- Roll off the inverse filter to prevent Gibbs phenomenon
- Preserve the stability of the solution



(a)

Fig.5. Mean square error versus number of iteration. Performance comparison of generalized Landweber's iterative reconstruction using different shaping matrix. Red: step length is 0.0001; blue: shaping matrix is a 6-order polynomial of system matrix; yellow: shaping matrix is a 3-order polynomial of system matrix.



(b)

Fig.6. Cone-beam reconstruction using differential filter. (a) FDK's method for reconstruction of nCAT phantom (phantom from GE); (b) Image reconstructed by applying differential filter, edge is enhanced, the method is local and computationally efficient.

## References

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5. O. N. Strand, "Theory and methods related to the singular-function expansion and Landweber's iteration for integral equations of the first kind", SIAM J. Numer. Anal., vol. 11(4), pp. 798-825, Sept. 1974.