# Application of Biomedical Digital Solutions: Virtual Flow Cytometry and Hematometrics in Pathology and Research

Hernani D Cualing IHCFLOW Inc Lutz, FL, USA Can these diagnostic images become data instead of just pictures? Can we go beyond eyeballs or estimate?



Brightfield and fluorescent Models: Routine HE tissue stain of bone marrow, reticulin fibers stain for fibrosis in bone marrow and fluorescent probes in cells



# Future of healthcare



# Approach to Segmentation Goals

A good segmentation is typically one which satisfies the user requirements, fits the model system for wide generalization, fast implementation and applicability:

App -fits my workflow as pathologist, really fast

 adapt to the heterogeneity of images by using the common thread from these images, no matter how different

- should be multidisciplinary, as collaboration between scientists, medical persons, and computer engineers.

# Image Data: common thread?

- Red,Blue, Green channels contain all the information on objects.
- Hue, saturation and Brightness channels also have useful information on all these objects
- Combination of above channels allow application in a wide variety of tissue of different tissue stains using standard segmentation bioengineering tools in a defined ordered sequence













## Basic color of tissue stains and their H, S, I histograms









# Workshop paradigm

- We created a workshop paradigm : set of tools in the workshop used in a defined sequence, ie best chisels, planes, tools, as analogy for example, to convert Planks of Honduras Mahogany to a Queen Ann table.
- We premise a strategy of using a pipeline of primitive, familiar, but reliable segmentation thresholding and object partitioning tools using the workshop model: thresholding histogram by intermeans or max entropy, bit or grayscale masks, Watershed, Voronoi tesselations, Centroids, Math morphology, image math
- Will lead to robust APPS in any number of target antigens or tissue (bone marrow, stroma or any biomarkers, etc.)
- And handle brightfield or fluorescent images

An app should be versatile, and based on a workshop paradigm: we called hematometrics, by using only a limited set of good segmentation tools applied to widely different tissue materials to create customized final segmentation results .



Brightfield and fluorescent Models: Routine HE tissue stain of bone marrow, reticulin fibers stain for fibrosis in bone marrow and fluorescent probes in cells























H and G

### Tissue microarray virtual flow High throughput analysis





Corresponding virtual flow tissue cytomics



Results demonstrate positive strong correlation between the manual grading and computer grading using our test and control groups. The correlation was high with r 0.9735 (nonparametric Spearman p<0.0001).



Results demonstrate positive strong correlation between the manual grading and computer grading using our test and control groups. In the test group, the mean reticulin manual grading is 1.8 (95% Cl 1.58 - 2.07) vs AUTORETIC mean of 1.734 with 95% Cl(1.47 - 1.99) with no significant difference between the mean(SD). The correlation was high with r 0.98 (nonparametric Spearman p<0.0001).





Virtual Flow cytometry and hematometrics in Pathology and research

# So in these limited examples, data could be obtained.

Is this a **better way than just eyeballing** and estimating metrics in everyday pathology work? High disagreement without use of computerized image analysis.

#### ROC CURVE ANALYSIS OF 10 PATHOLOGISTS ASSESSING HERCEPTEST MANUALLY

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#### ROC CURVE ANALYSIS OF 10 PATHOLOGISTS UTILIZING AUTOMATED IMAGE ANALYSIS

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### Gaussian in log x scale



Eppenherger-Castori et al., JCO, 19:645, 2001

Dynamic Range of DAB

# Note the dynamic range of Integrated Brown / 10 µm<sup>2</sup>

1068 864

764

633 246

48

Biomarker grading 1+ to 4+ of same slides to 10 pathologists without and with computer aid

The low agreement is not the fault of pathologists, but lies from the limitation of our visual system We are good with linear scales but the brown staining are in logarithmic scale from 0 to 1 log

# Limitation of the human eye

- 1. Resolution is limited to 0.1 mm
- Limited perception of intensity difference (can differentiate up to 40 grays ) in linear scale
- Inability to separate hue from other components or susceptible to surround illusion
- 4. Perceive "false" contours and illusions



# How Virtual Flow/ Hematometrics differs from most commercially image analysis packages available?



Most other systems are pixel and color ratio based, for antigen density



AutoPlasmacellsRed-converts a CD138 red-stained bone marrow section (with brown hemosiderin precipitates) to a digital form

Virtual Flow/ Hematometrics is more suited to cell events counting, with ratios based on single cells or intracellular single cells.

# Comparison with area analysis

CytoNuclear Module – CD8



- Positive Cells shown in Yellow
- Outputs: Tissue Area, Positive Cells (weak, medium, strong), Average Nuclear Size (Average Cell Size in this example)
- 790 Positive Cells, 120,000um^2 Tissue Area

### Area Analysis Module – CD8



Positive Area indicated in yellow (weak), orange (medium), and red (strong) Outputs include: Total tissue area, Positive Area (weak, medium, strong), Average positive optical density 21.7533% Positive Tissue Area



## Hodgkin lymphoma Area percent image analysis vs Positive and Negatively Stained Single cell Detection

Sample internet obtained image and area-based result (Company X)



Comparison result using our cytomics



Virtual Flow Hematometrics will help in automating counting tissue markers or putting data on tissue as metrics. It is counting cell events, or subcellular objects or any target objects.



5 um







Tissues are sections of cells that have 8 to 32 microns cell diameter DIGITAL PATHOLOGY AND VIRTUAL FLOW CYTOMETRY

### WORKFLOW INTEGRATION WITH EASE EASY ACCESS TO AN APPLICATION LOW COST OF OWNERSHIP STANDARDIZED RESULTS AND UNIFIED EXPERIENCE

VFLOW + STORE+ SHARING + NETWORK + DATABASE =



### APPS := VIRTUAL FLOW CYTOMETRY



... and multiple chargers, accessories, service/repair agreements, etc.

SMART PHONE(sp) := WHOLE SLIDE IMAGING

# App: Traditional vs Computational Molecular Pathology

An 86-year-old woman presents with a lump in her right clavicular area. Relevant history includes prior bilateral breast cancet, a history of smoking, and a brother who died of colon cancer. She has no other symptoms, but has a suspicious skin nodule in her lower right quadrant. A PET/CT scan revealed activity in the retroperitoneum, left common iliac chain adenopathy, and nodular soft tissue along the left pelvic and adnexal regions.



DIAGNOSIS: Metastatic squamous cell carcinoma; possible primaries include lung and breast.

CK7	Focally Positive
CK20	Negative
TIF-1	Negative
ER	Negative
PR	Negative
Mammaglobin	Negative
\$100	Negative
WTI N-terminus	Negative
CA125	Focally Positive
CEA(P)	Positive
SYN	Negative
CA 19.9	Rare cells positive
CDX2	Negative
GCDFP-15	Negative
AE-1/AE-3	Positive
MOC 31	Rare cells positive
p63	Positive
SP-A	Negative

Image analysis cancer %= 43



BRAF and KRAS DNA sequencing requires at least 20% tumor in tissue- then a go for Sanger or Next generation DNA sequencing











### "Virtual Flow Cytometry" of Immunostained Lymphocytes on Microscopic Tissue Slides: *i*HCFlow<sup>TM</sup> Tissue Cytometry

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### **RESEARCH APP BIOMARKERS**



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#### QUANTITATIVE MORPHOLOGICAL AND MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY OF THE HUMAN THYMUS CORRELATE WITH INFANT CAUSE OF DEATH

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US Patent No: 7,899,624 Virtual flow cytometry on immunostained tissue-tissue cytometer 4 ALSO PUBLISHED AS: 20070020697

NOT ANTIGEN QUANT

For CLIA LAB DIAGNOSTICS Or TISSUE METRICS

Works with any microscope with any CCD

Virtual Flow cytometry in Pathology

There is a **better way to just eyeballing** and estimating metrics in everyday pathology images using digital pathology and virtual flow cytometry.

Virtual Flow does true counting with ratios based on single cells, the positive over total cells (positive and negative cells) to generate a dual population dot plot parametric displays which is next generation above area analysis.

The virtual flow extend to hematometrics or to oncology metrics using a novel workshop paradigm applicable to wide variety of any color digital images to create custom final segmentation results to get data from pictures and to push traditional pathology to a next generation computational pathology.

# **Computational Pathology**

 The advances may help in augmenting traditional pathology into computational pathology in line with precision medicine and genomics.

#### Consultant: Hernani Cualing MD

ABP Board Certified in Hematopathology ABP Board Certified in Anatomic and Clinical

Parisology

Service Trained in Hernatopathology and Sergical Pathology with over 30 years of pathology experience

Univ of South Florida Dept of Pathology/Cell Biology

Cutaneous Lymphoma Cooperative Group, Cincinnati, OH and Tampa, FL

IHCELOW is a company specializing in

diagnostic hematopathology as well as interpretation of IHC

(ImmuneHistoChemistry) and ROW Cycometry results to achieve the most accurate and timely diagnosis.

Please send Slides, Special Stains and Patient Information to the following address:

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Lutz, Florula 33558

Pease include the billing information and address of consulter, A set consultation fee is charged to the consulter pathologists or office per consult.

FEE POR SERVICE BALING:

GALL FOR CONSULTATION FEE.

Phone: 813-#80-7649

Fax: 811-909-4866

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#### PATHOLOGY SOLUTIONS









Technology at work ... for you.



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IHCFLOW, Inc. is also a company that seeks to advance diagnosis through Hematometrics: digital tools to quantify pathology microscopic integes.such as Virtu-

Hematometrics are computerized tools to help pathologists. These tools are tech-

hology at work for pathologists. They are like microscopes, aiding the pathologist.

The intelligent guess or estimate that is used currently in diagnostic microscopy

interpretation of tissue diagnosis could be made more accurate and precise by

Results for display only, we have modules to analyze bune married we cellularity and

bone marrow fibrosis, immunofluorescence targets, carcinoma burden quantifica-

hematometrics such as VirtualFlow<sup>TM</sup>. Diagnosis is made by pathologists.

tion, lymphoid stains subset analysis, and even counting tumor cells like Reed-

to see the underlying metrics of tissue special stains;

Steinberg cells., all frum paraffin stained slides,

SALES: WWW IHOPLOW COMinicualFlow<sup>TH</sup>



CUSTOM SOLUTIONS

Hernani D. Cualing Marshall E. Kadin Mai P. Hoang Michael B. Morgan *Editors* 

### Cutaneous Hematopathology

Approach to the Diagnosis of Atypical Lymphoid-Hematopoletic Infiltrates in Skin

Springer

#### NON-NEOPLASTIC HEMATOPATHOLOGY AND INFECTIONS



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