

# An audit of clinical photography, photogrammetry tools and spatial techniques to assist burn assessment

P. Helmholz, D. Belton, H. Douglas, F. Wood

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# Motivation

- Measurements to assess burns are often subjective and identification requires lots of training.
- Important measurements are (beside others) the depth of the burn and the area covered.
- Objective tools to support the assessment are desirable.

Epidermal burns

Superficial dermal burns

Mid dermal burns

Deep dermal burns

Full thickness burns



# Motivation

## Assessment

### Appearance

e.g. dry and red with no blisters, pale pink with blisters, dark pink with large blisters, ...

### Capillary Refill

e.g. blanches, sluggish, no

### Sensation

e.g. painful, very painful, maybe – reduced pain

...

## Measurements

### Colour

e.g. red, pink, dark pink, stained

### Surface Area

e.g. measurement is difficult when the wound will have to be touched

### Scarring/ Swelling

e.g. volume of the wound

### Texture

e.g. no blisters, blisters, large blisters, blotchy

...

Are supportive objective measurements possible using Photogrammetry and RS?

# Outline

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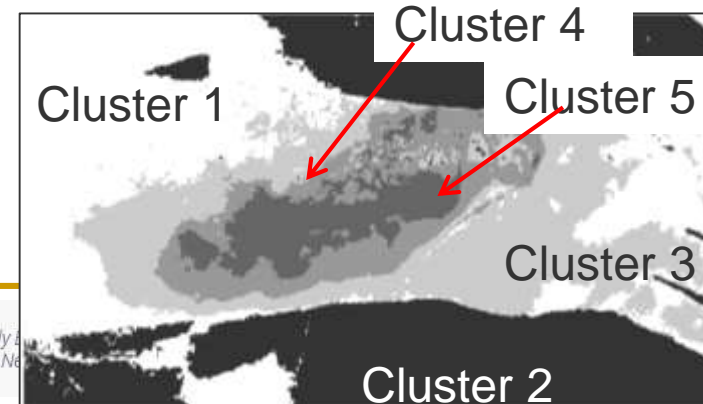
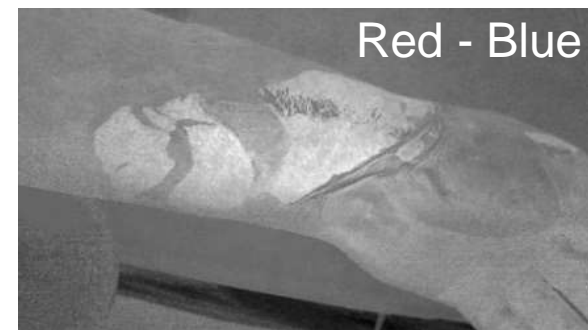
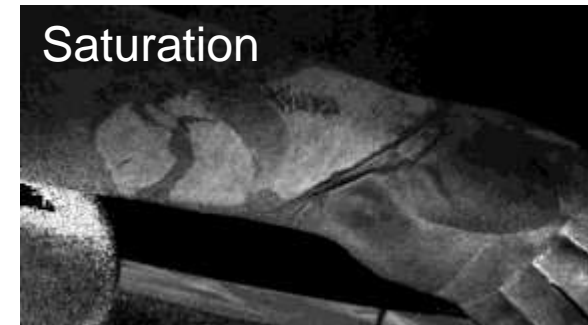


- Background
- Spectral Analysis
- Geometric Analysis
- Conclusion

# Spectral Analysis - Intro

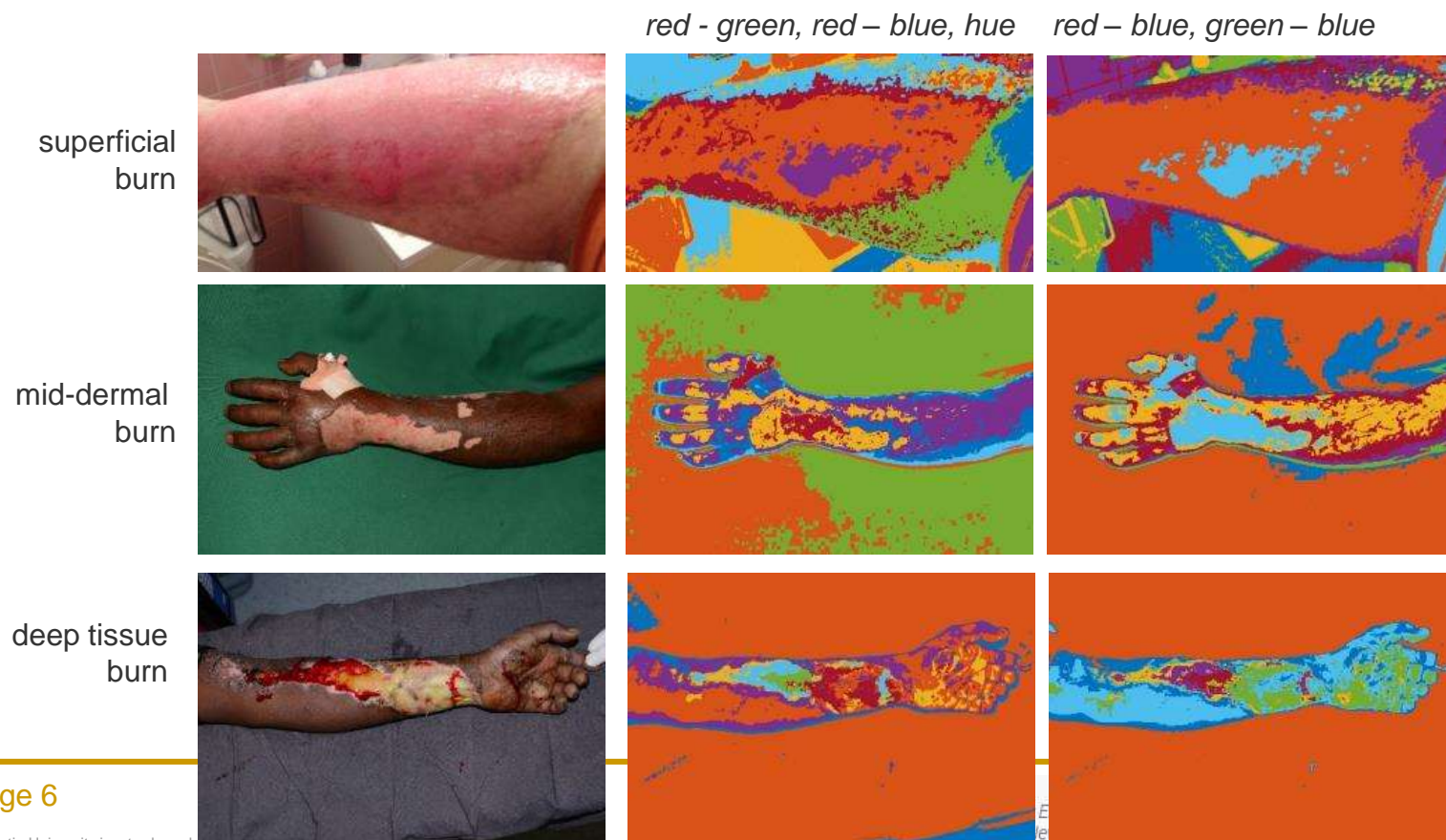


- Goal: Performing a clustering analysis using burn images and assess if skin with different burn depth can be separated.
- Images for this test were downloaded from the internet. The images were 21 RGB images.
- The chosen clustering algorithm for initial test is *k-means* due to the small number of images and missing labels.
- Feature used for clustering:
  - Bands in RGB colour space,
  - Bands in HSB (Hue, Saturation, Brightness) colour space,
  - Statistical information per band (entropy, standard deviation...)
  - Combination of bands (subtraction, division...)
- Tested were different band combinations and different number of cluster classes.



# Spectral Analysis Results

- Empirical testing found that the clustering results using the bands *red - green, red - blue, hue* AND *red - green, red - blue, green - blue* produce the best results
- Empirical testing has also found that 8 clusters achieve good results





# Spectral Analysis Conclusion

- It is possible to separate between different burn areas.
- Current challenges for objective burn assessment:
  - The way the images were captured (radiometric calibration, controlled conditions),
  - Additional features based on wavelength outside of RGB, and an extended analysis of these features (e.g. infrared and thermal-infrared),
  - The steps involved to transition between the stages of the clustering, segmentation, and finally classification (feature space selection, training data, more samples, segmentation and classification).

# Geometric Analysis - Intro

- Goal: To determine the surface area of burn wounds in order to analyse changes over time.
- Images from previous test were not suitable for geometric analysis.
- Therefore, images of “simulated” burns were captured with a photogrammetric camera (*Vectra H1*) and a structured light camera (*Skamet*).
- *Vectra H1* is a DSLR camera with a special lens which simulates to take two images within a known basis and a known approximate distance to the object enabling 3D reconstruction is possible.
- Output: Dense 3D point clouds which can be further processed with MIRROR software.
- *Skamet* sensor uses structured light and captures a depth map as well as RGB and IR data.
- Outputs are coloured 3D meshes.





# Vectra H1 - Results

- Data capturing takes less than 1 min with nearly always successful stitching results.
- Separate models could be stitched to a more complete model.
- Within the 3D models it is possible to extract 3D measurements including distances, areas, perimeter.
- Distances can be observed along the curved surface or as direct distance.
- Three different stitched datasets were captured to assess these measurements.

*Left model*



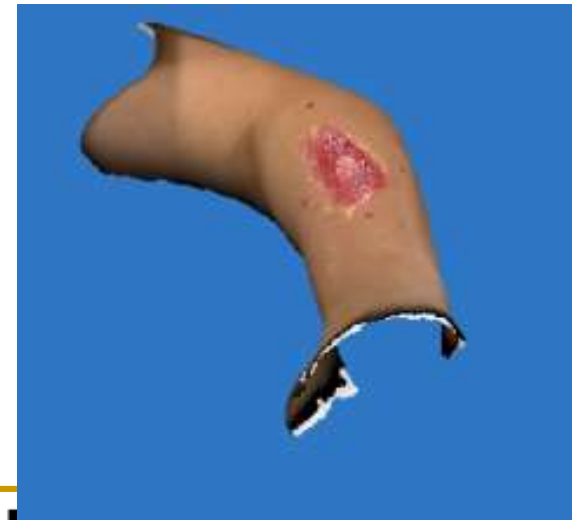
*Centre model*



*Right model*

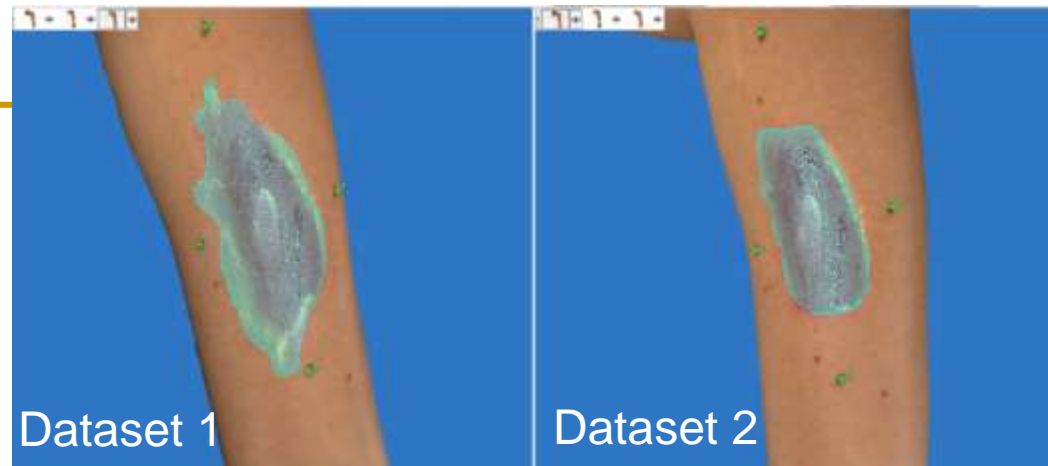


*Stitched model*



# VectraH1 - Results

- First test: Comparison of two datasets which simulate a healing burn wound.
- Measurements:



Performed Measurements	Dataset 1 (large burn)	Dataset 2 (healed burn)	Differences
Perimeter of selected burn areas	338.213 mm	253.266 mm	84.947 mm
Area selected burn areas	28.183 cm <sup>2</sup>	19.241 cm <sup>2</sup>	8.942 cm <sup>2</sup>
Area of forearm (stitched area)	521.42 cm <sup>2</sup>		
Calculated percentage area of the burn to the stitched area (manual calculated)	5.4 %	3.7 %	1.7 %
Straight line between landmark 1 and 3	127.354 mm	127.494 mm	- 0.14 mm
Line across the surface from landmark 1 to 3	127.510 mm	127.590 mm	-0.08 mm
Straight line between landmark 2 and 4	52.635 mm	52.714 mm	- 0.079 mm
Line across the surface from landmark 2 to 4	59.146 mm	59.024 mm	0.122 mm

- Conclusion: Precise and accurate measurements were possible.

# VectraH1 - Results

- Further results can be created, e.g. brown spots and red areas enhancing the visualization of pigmentation and vascularity.
- These and all previous results were extracted using the *Vectra* software which comes with the camera.



Brown spots



Red spots

# Skynet - Results

- Data capturing was a challenge as success was highly dependant on the background (shape, texture, colour).
- Creation of the models were done using the application which comes with sensor.
- Measurements were extracted using *CloudCompare* software.



3D model



Measurement

# Skamet - Results

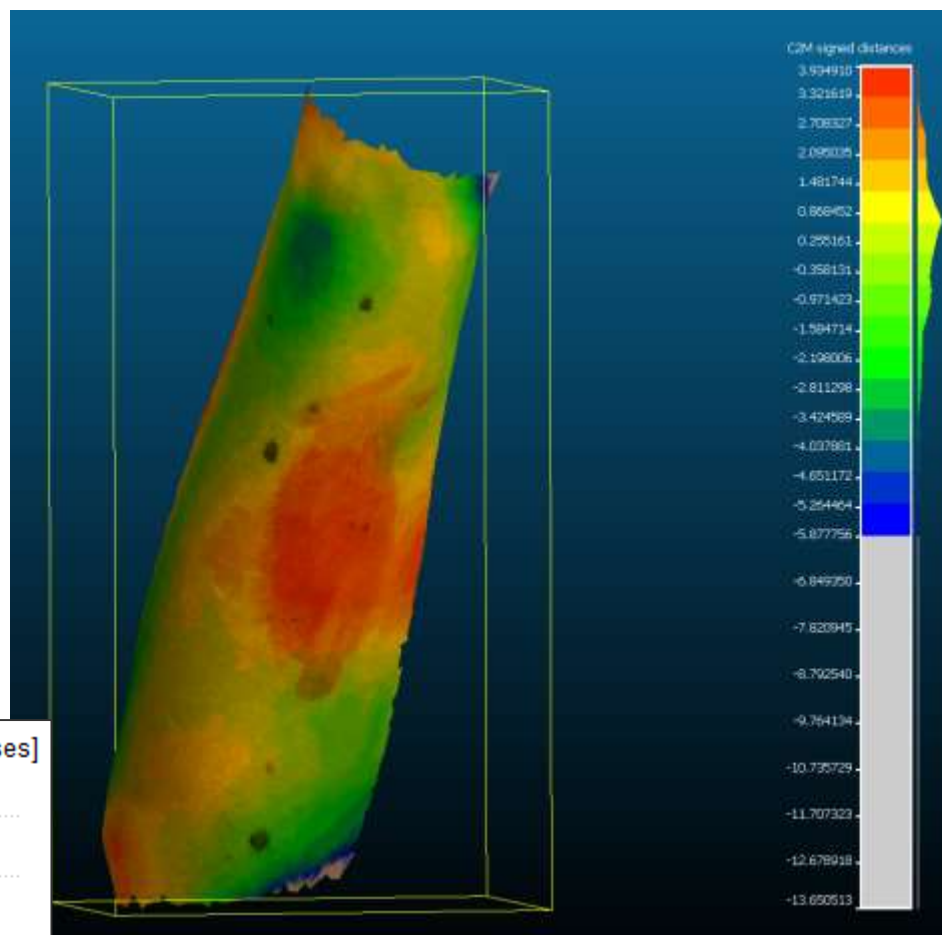
- In this test the distances between landmarks were compared.

Test person	Measurement 1	Measurement 2	Measurement 3	Average	Std. Dev.	Reference	Difference
1	154.10	154.57	154.95	154.54	0.348	148	6.54
2	89.44	88.48	94.50	90.81	2.641	94	-3.19
3	94.90	91.19	NA	93.045	1.855	NA	NA

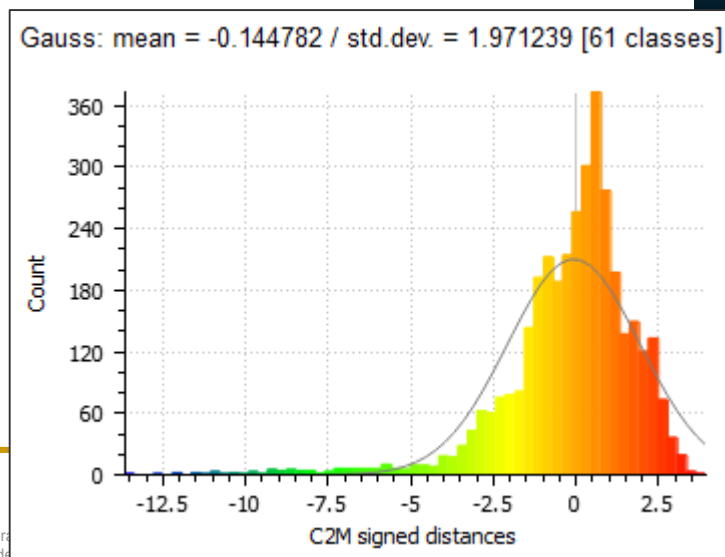
- Distance observations of the *Skamet* (mm range) are less precise compared to the *Vectra H1* camera (range of less than 1 mm).
- Further issues: the rendering was not always successful, e.g. the landmarks on the arm were not visible in all models. Therefore, measurement 3 of test person 3 was not possible.

# Comparison Vectra H1 and Skanet Models

- In this test, the whole model is compared, not the just distances between discrete landmarks.
- Overall the models from *VectraH1* and *Skanect* sensor are comparable (within 3-5 mm range).



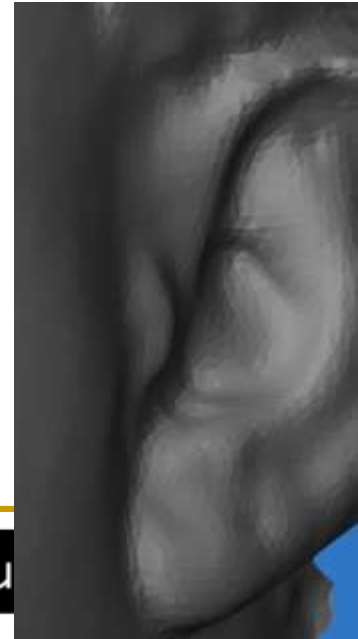
Heat map showing the differences between both models. Units are in mm.





# Geometric Analysis Conclusion

- Both sensors produce suitable 3D models, however the accuracy and precision of *Vectra H1* camera is higher.
- Rendering issues of *Skanect* sensor will be an issue when comparing the burn wound over time.
- It is uncertain how both sensors behave when assessing body areas with higher curvature. It is predicted that the *Vectra H1* can handle it better (due to the method used).  
→ See images to the right.
- Workflow of *VectraH1* camera from data capturing over data processing and analysis of the 3D models is straight forward and possible with software which comes with camera.
- Tool is helpful in monitoring the wound development over time (surface as well as volume measurements).



# Overall conclusion

- The potential of image analysis for the radiometric analysis of burn images could be shown.
  - Challenges for quantification are remaining (radiometric calibration, additional features, from clustering over segmentation to classification).
- The geometric analysis of the 3D models captured with stereo-photogrammetry (*VectraH1*) as well as structured-light photogrammetry (*Skanect*) could be shown.
  - *VectraH1* useable for a longitudinal study to assess the burn wounds over time (area and volume).
  - Less useful technique for burn severity assessments.
- Next step: clinical trial including additional cameras capturing e.g. infrared image data.