
To Learn or Not to Learn Features for Deformable Registration?

Raghav Mehta

*Centre for Intelligent Machines (CIM),
McGill University, Canada*



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

H Y D E R A B A D



To Learn or Not to Learn Features for Deformable Registration?

Aabhas Majumdar, Raghav Mehta, and Jayanthi
Sivaswamy

*Centre for Visual Information Technology (CVIT)
IIIT Hyderabad, India*

Registration problem



Fixed Image



Moving Image



Registered Image

- Feature-based registration has been a very popular technique to solve the registration problem.
- Following features have been explored
 - Intensity values, edges
 - Geometric moment ¹
 - 3D Gabor attributes ²
 - Modality Independent Neighborhood Descriptor (MIND) ³
 - Self-Similarity Context (SSC) ⁴

(1) Shen et al., IEEE TMI 2002 (HAMMER)

(2) Ou et al., MedIA 2011 (DRAMMS)

(3) Heinrich et al., MedIA 2012 (MIIND)

(4) Heinrich et al., MICCAI 2013 (SSC)

- A very natural question to feature-based registration in the current time would be
“Can *learning* of features lead to better registration?”
- Some initial works:
 - Deep features learnt using an unsupervised method ⁵
 - A Co-Registration and Co-Segmentation framework ⁶

(5) Wu et al., IEEE TBME 2016

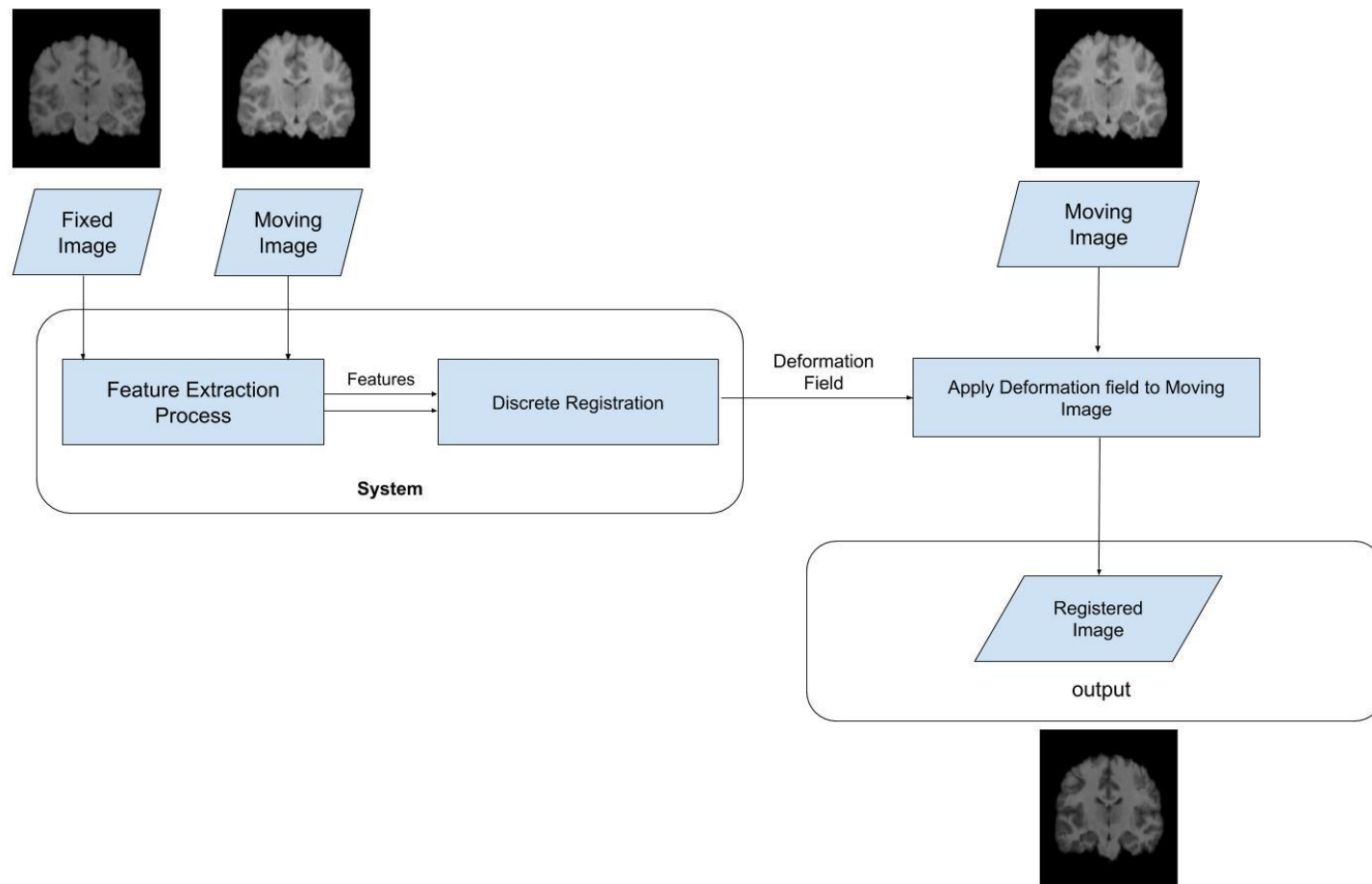
(6) Shakeri et al, MICCAI 2016

In this paper..

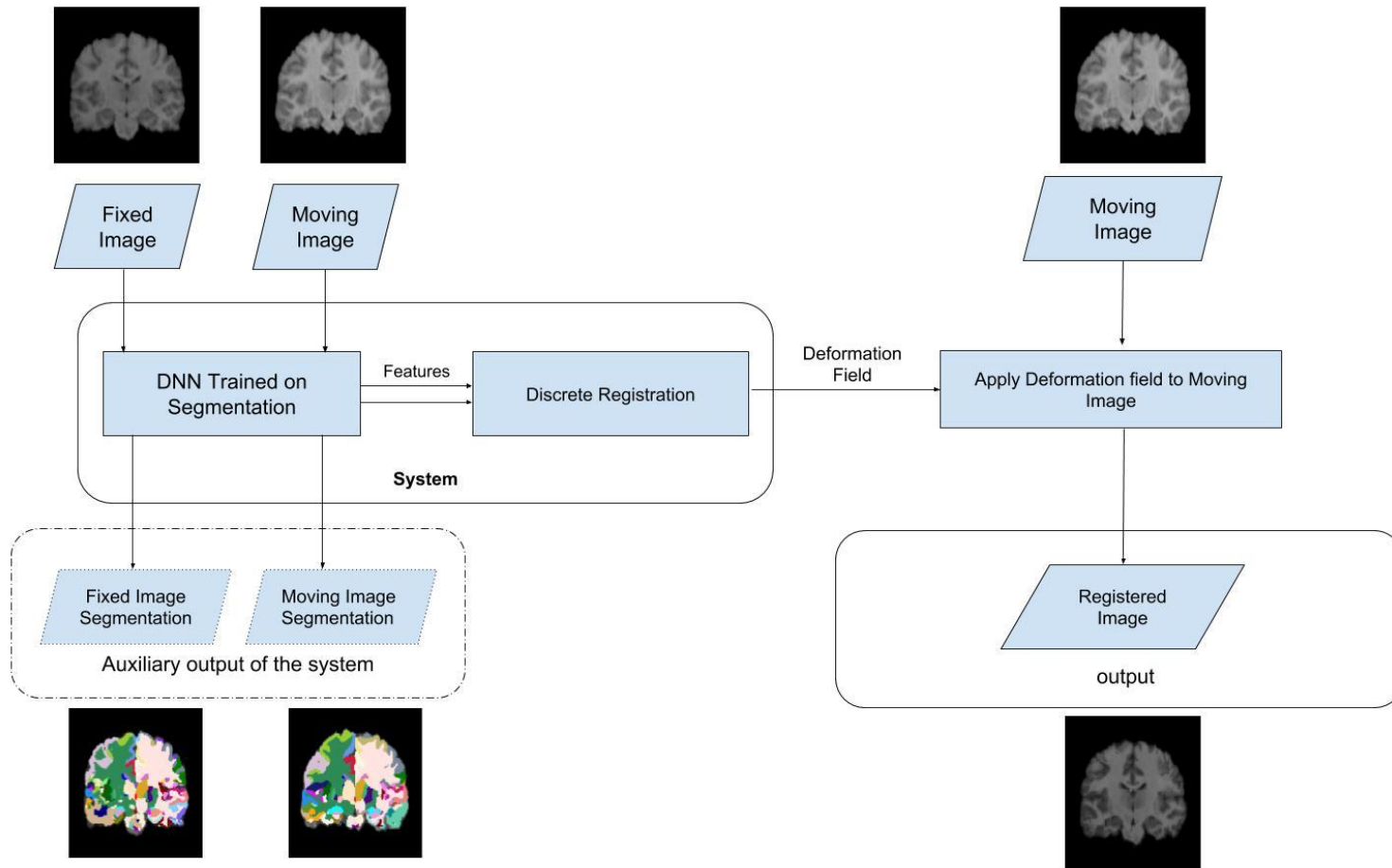


- We explore the pros and cons of using different DNNs to learn features in the context of registration.
- Features are learnt by training DNNs for structure segmentation task on Brain MRIs

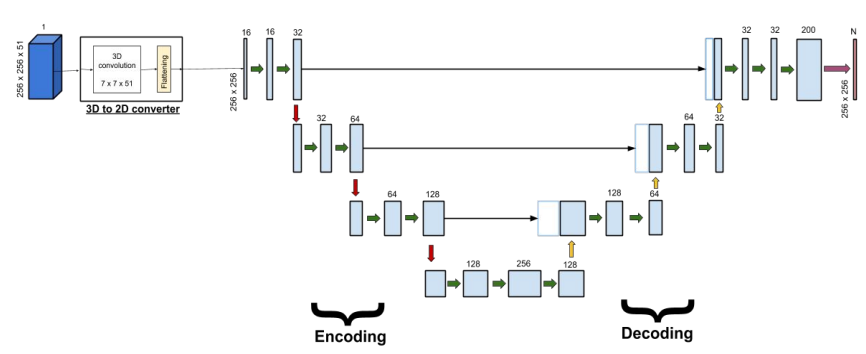
Feature-Based Registration



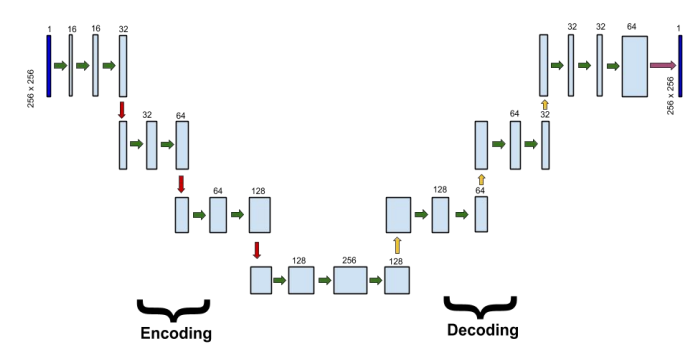
Our Method



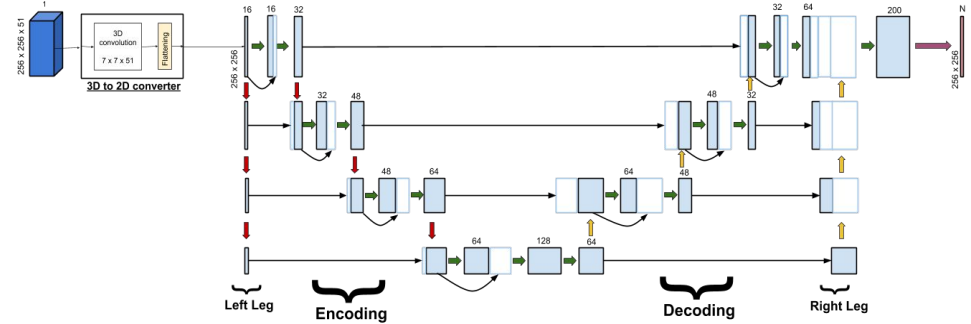
Architecture of DNNs used



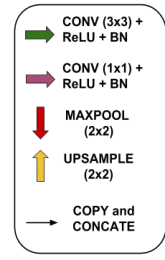
(A) U-net



(B) CAE



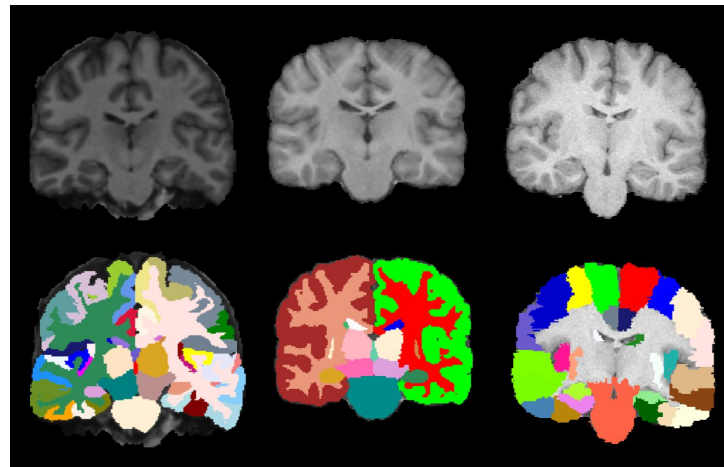
(C) M-net



- (8) Ronneberge et al., MICCAI 2015
- (9) Mehta et al, ISBI 2017
- (10) Masci et al., ICANN 2011

DNN Training Dataset

1. **MICCAI-2012** : 135 labels, Whole brain parcellated
2. **IBSR18** : 32 labels, Whole brain parcellated
3. **LPBA40** : 57 labels, Partial brain parcellated



MICCAI-2012 ¹¹

IBSR18 ¹²

LPBA40 ¹³

(11) Landman and Warfield, MICCAI 2012 workshop on multi-atlas labeling.

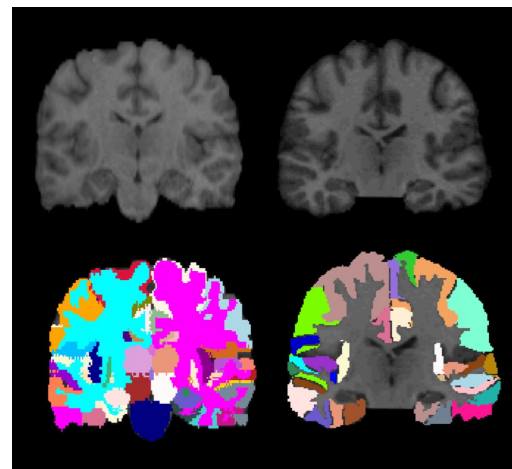
(12) Rohlfing, TMI 2012

(13) Shattuck et al., NeuroImage 2008

Registration Testing Dataset

Chosen based on their popularity for evaluating registration ¹⁴.

1. **CUMC12** : 12 volumes, 130 labels
2. **MGH10** : 10 volumes, 106 labels



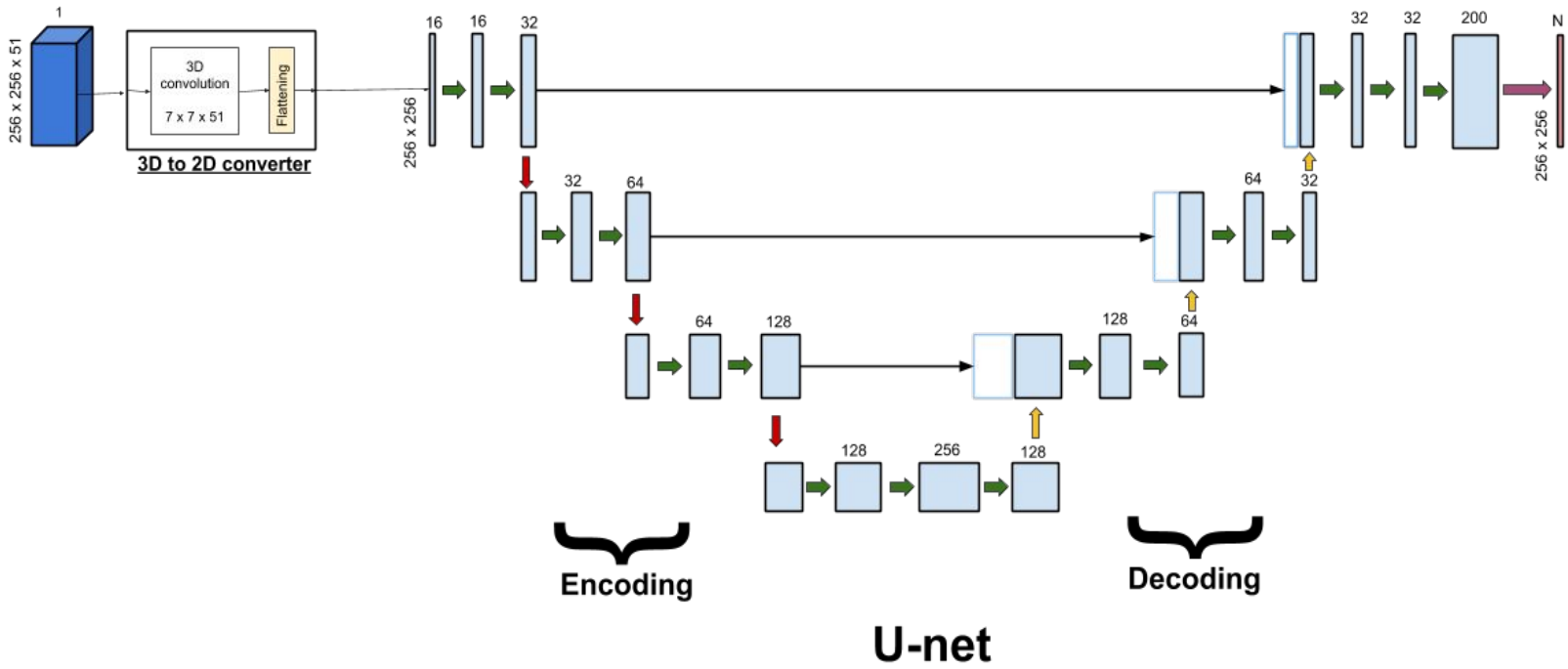
CUMC12

MGH10

- DNNs trained on a NVIDIA K40 GPU with 12 GB RAM
- Training time ~ 3 days
- Code for Deep Learning in Python with Keras Library
- Code for Discrete Registration in C++
- Optimiser: Adam
- Hyper parameters: LR = 0.001, $\beta_1 = 0.9$, $\beta_2 = 0.99$ and $\epsilon = 10 * e^{-8}$
- Evaluation: mean Jaccard Coefficient over all pair-wise registration

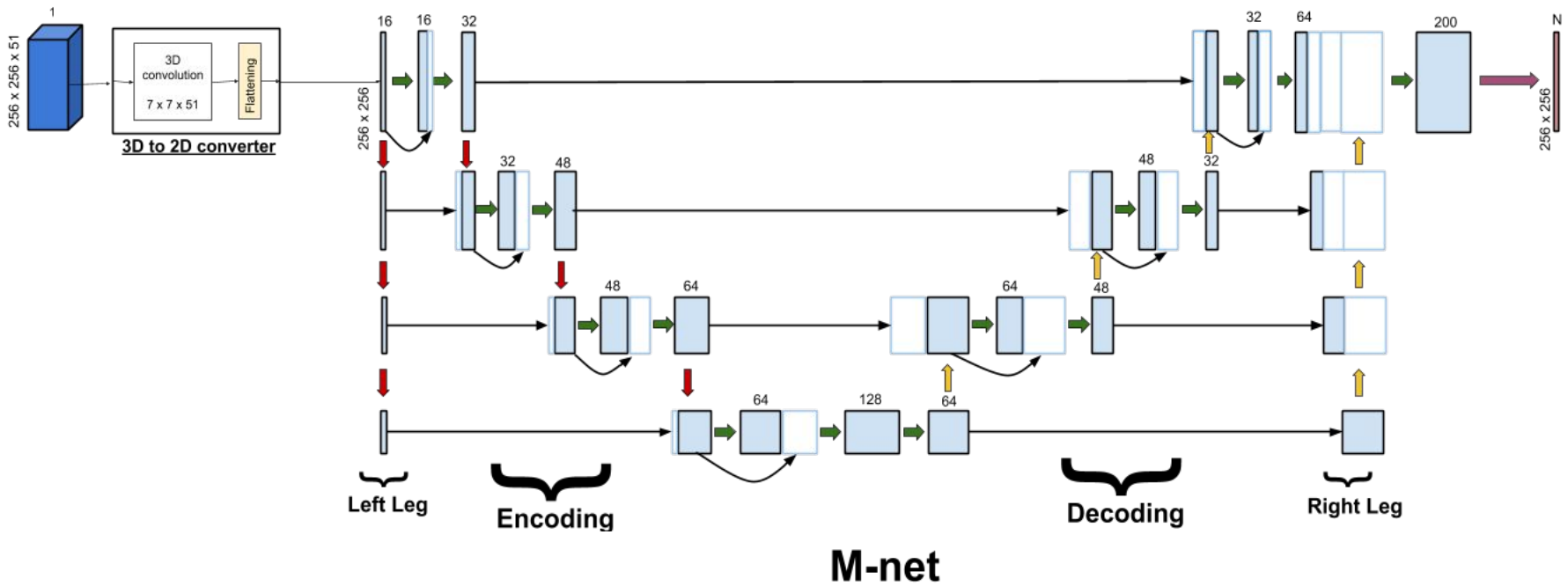
$$J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|}$$

1. Role of complexity of learning architecture:



(8) Ronneberge et al., MICCAI 2015

1. Role of complexity of learning architecture:



(9) Mehta et al., ISBI 2017

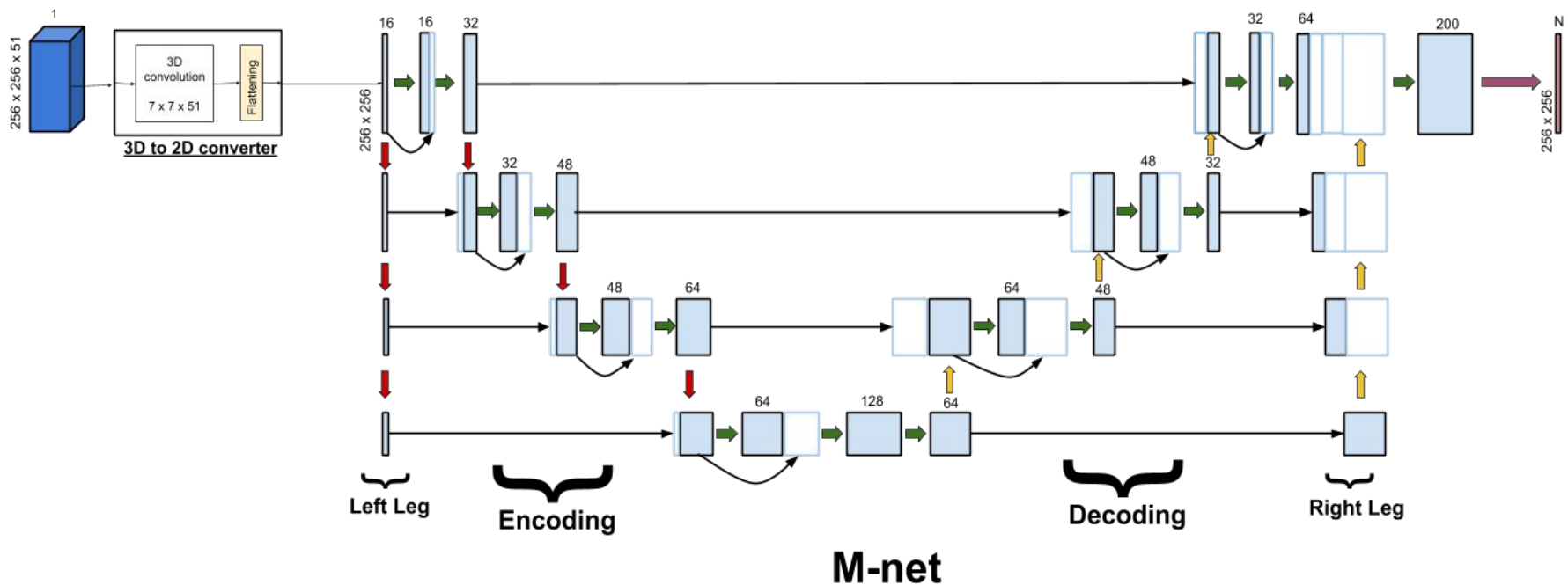
1. **Role of complexity of learning architecture:** M-net with added residual and supervision connections gives better performance than U-net



SP₁₃₅ : Segmentation Priors from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012

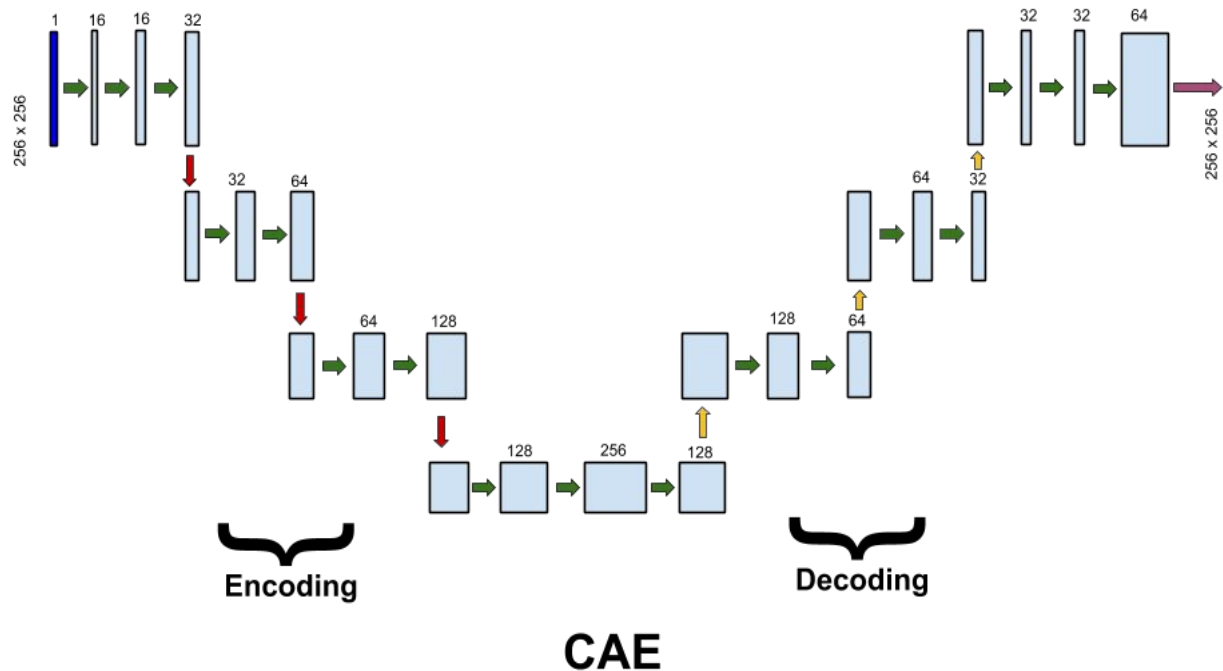
USP₁₃₅ : Segmentation Priors from U-net trained on MICCAI-2012

2. Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning:



(9) Mehta et al., ISBI 2017

2. Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning:



(9) Masci et al., ICANN 2011

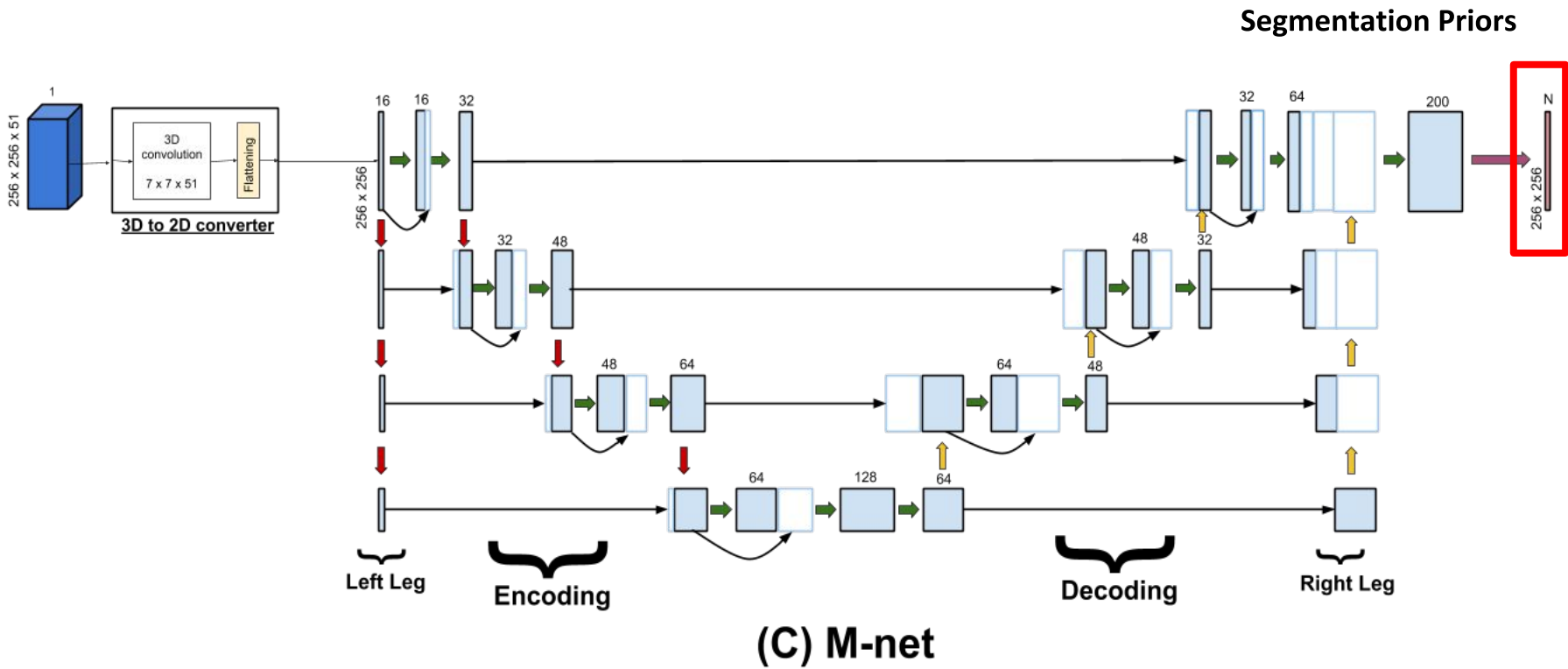
2. Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning: Supervised Learning gave better performance than Unsupervised Learning.



SP₁₃₅: Segmentation Priors from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012

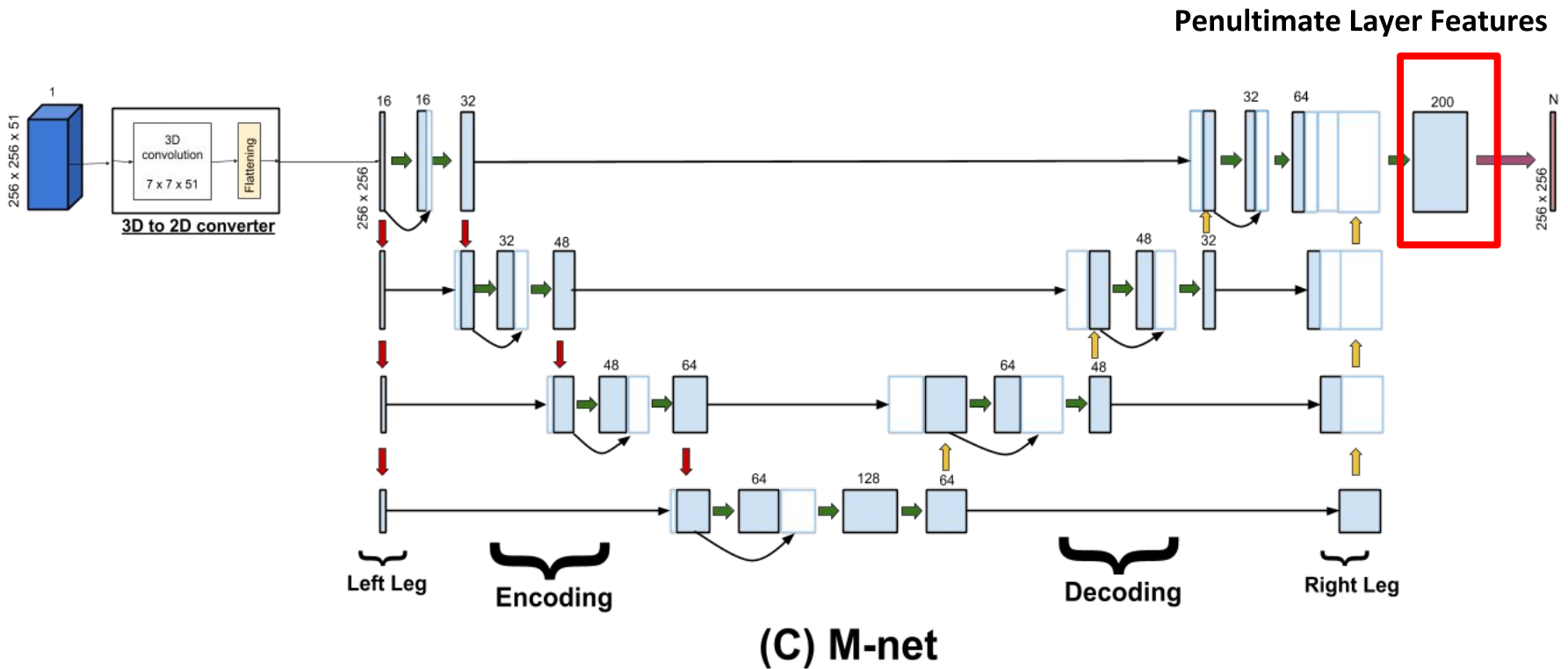
CAE: Features from Convolutional Auto-Encoder (CAE) trained on MICCAI-2012

3. Choice of learnt features:



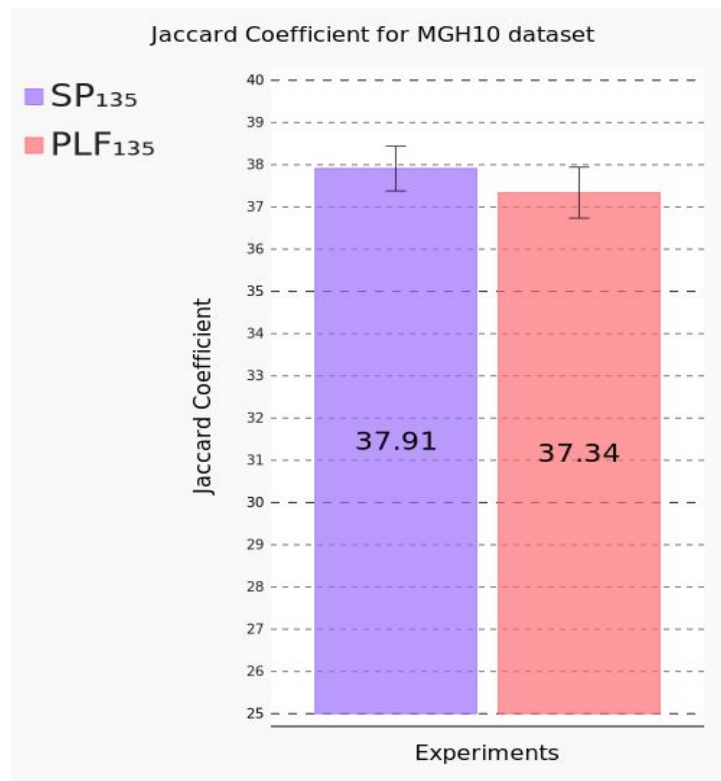
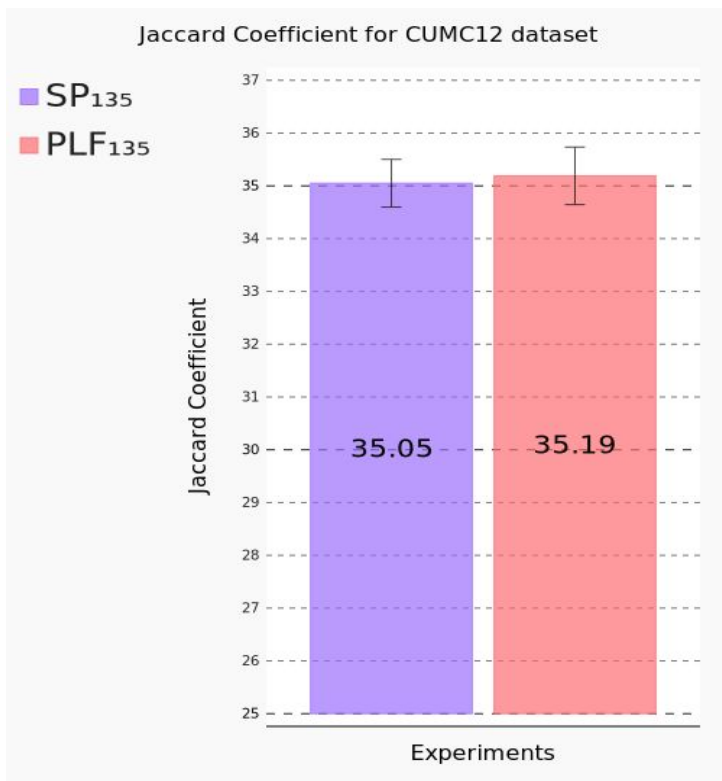
(9) Mehta et al., ISBI 2017

3. Choice of learnt features:



(9) Mehta et al., ISBI 2017

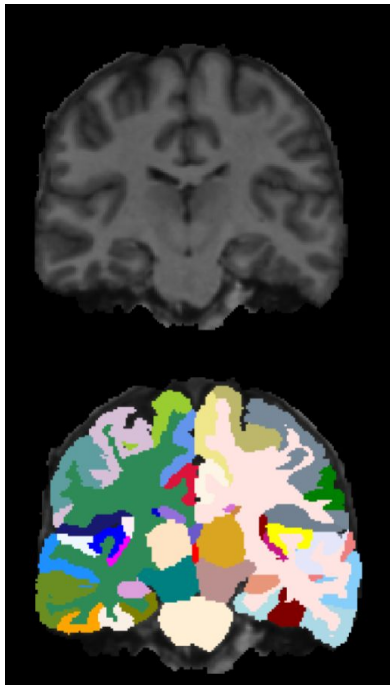
- Choice of learnt features:** Both PLF and SP provided features which were comparable in performance.



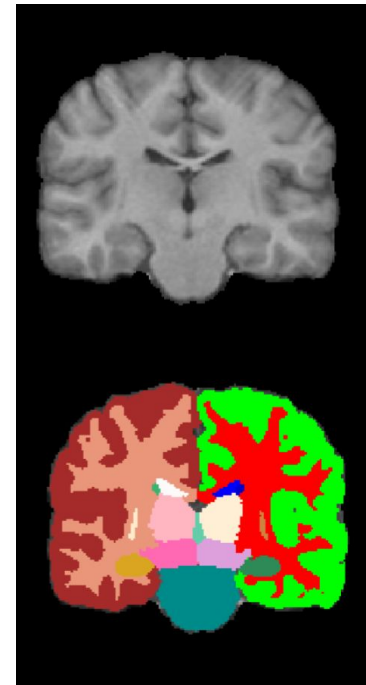
SP₁₃₅ : Segmentation Priors from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012

PLF₁₃₅ : Penultimate Layer Features from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012

4. Role of the number of labeled structures in training data:

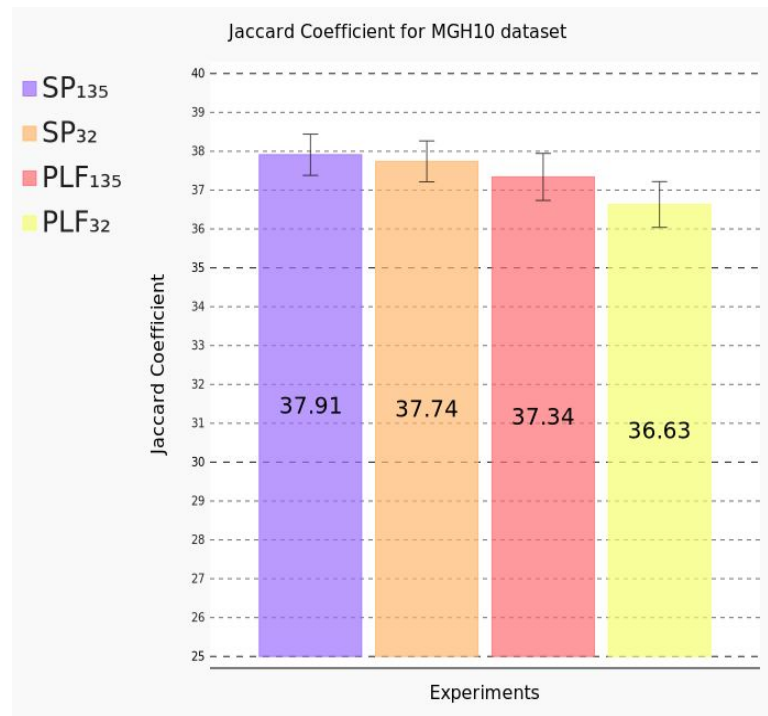
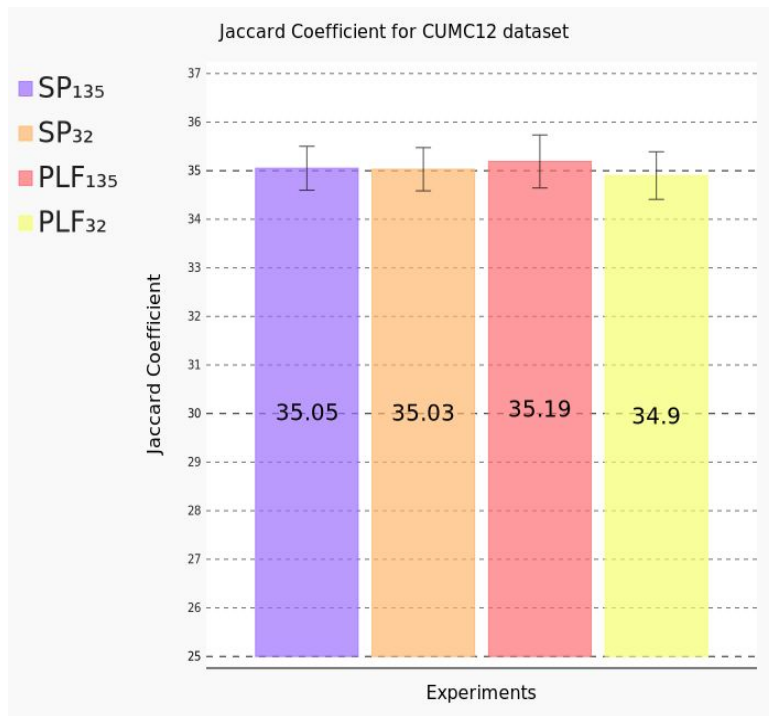


MICCAI-2012



IBSR18

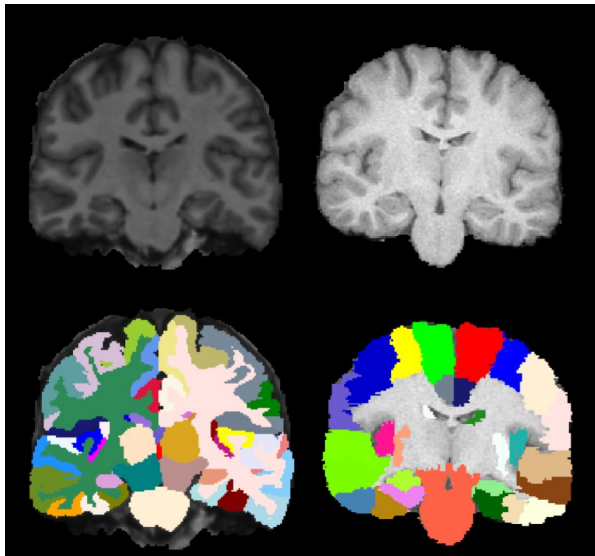
4. Role of the number of labeled structures in training data: Features learned from different number of structures in training dataset appeared to be equally effective.



SP₁₃₅ and SP₃₂ : Segmentation Priors from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012 and IBSR18 respectively

PLF₁₃₅ and PLF₃₂ : Penultimate Layer Features from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012 and IBSR18 respectively

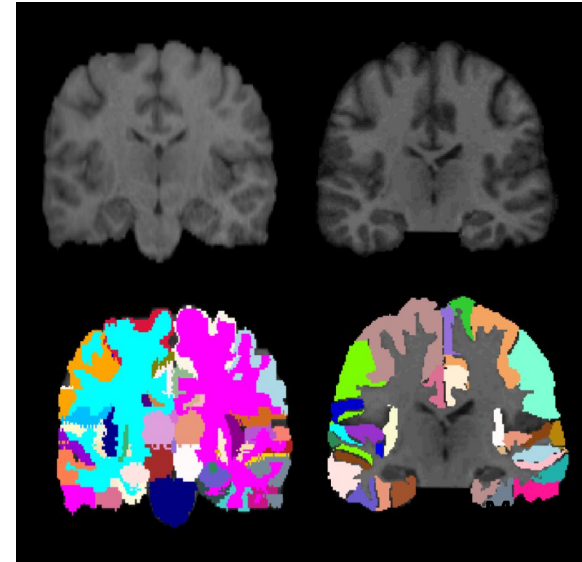
5. Parcellation of training dataset:



MICCAI-2012

LPBA40

DNN Training Datasets

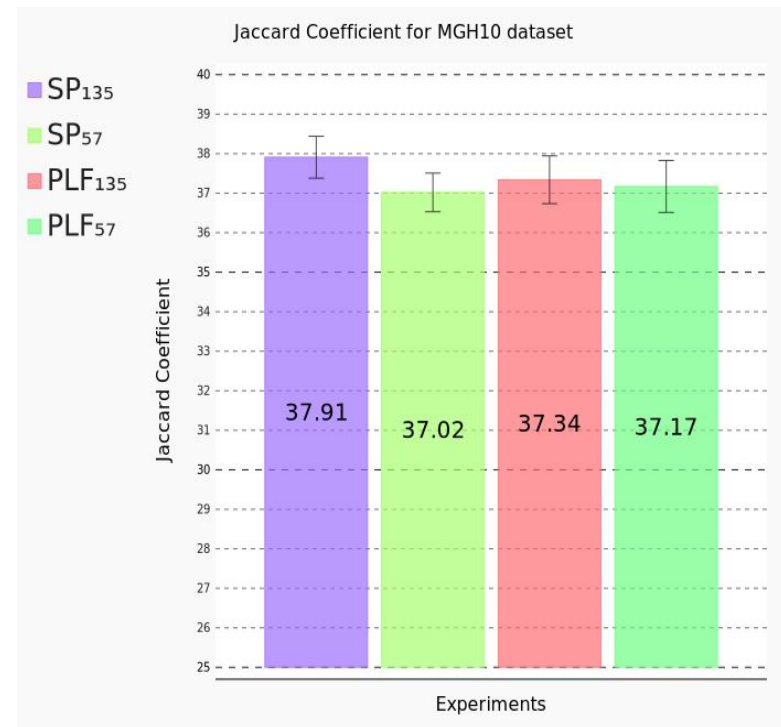
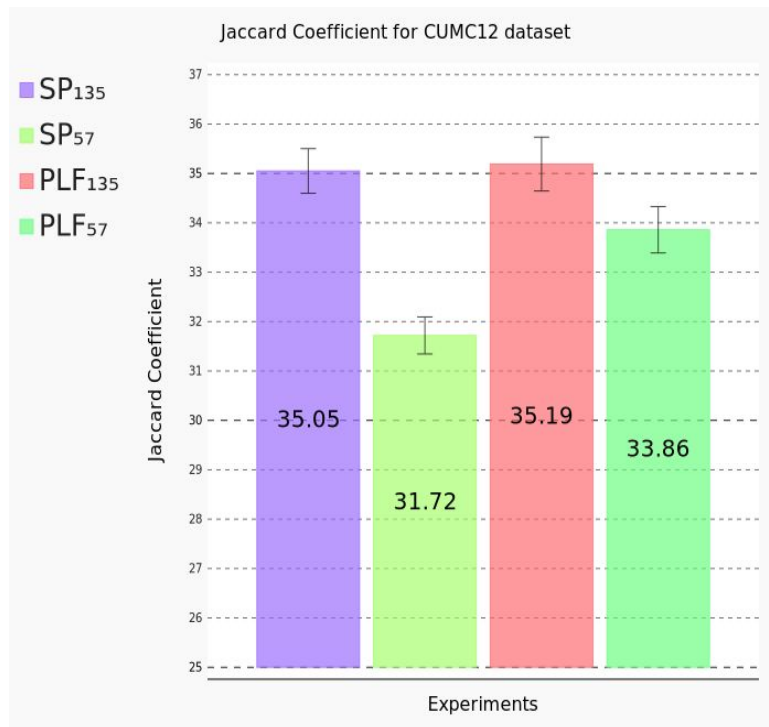


CUMC12

MGH10

Registration Testing Datasets

5. Parcellation of training dataset: CNN trained on whole brain parcellated dataset gave better results than partial brain parcellated dataset.



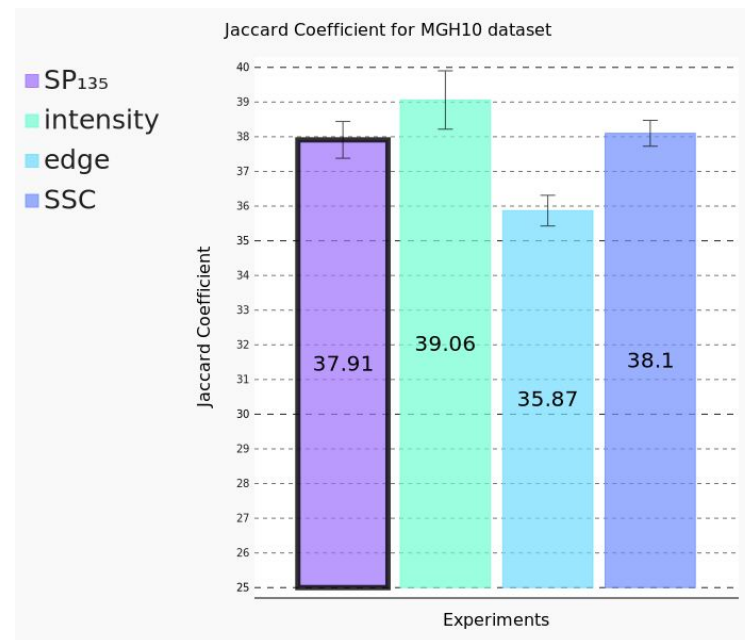
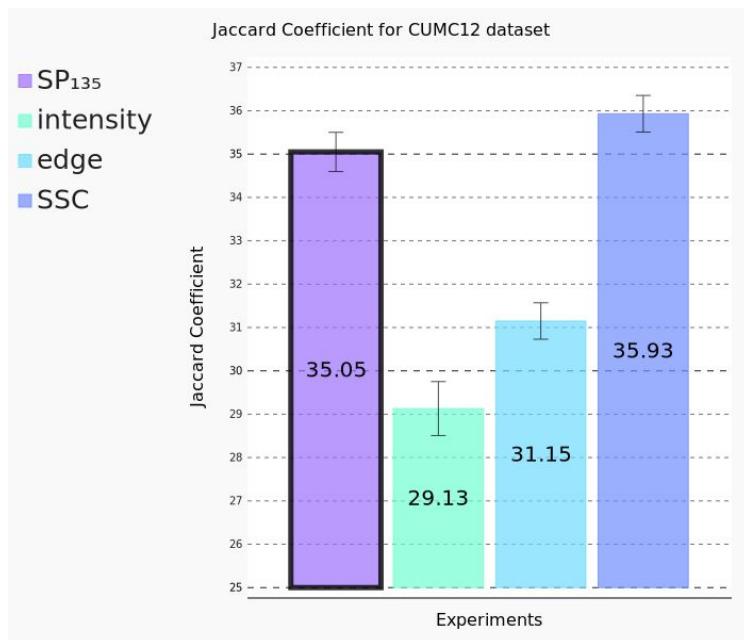
SP₁₃₅ and SP₅₇ : Segmentation Priors from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012 and LPBA40 respectively

PLF₁₃₅ and PLF₅₇ : Penultimate Layer Features from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012 and LPBA40 respectively

6. Learnt Features vs Hand-crafted Features:

- Hand-crafted Feature:
 - Intensity
 - Edge
 - SSC⁴
- Segmentation Priors from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012

6. **Learnt Features vs Hand-crafted Features:** Features learned using Deep Learning Failed to give better performance than SSC.



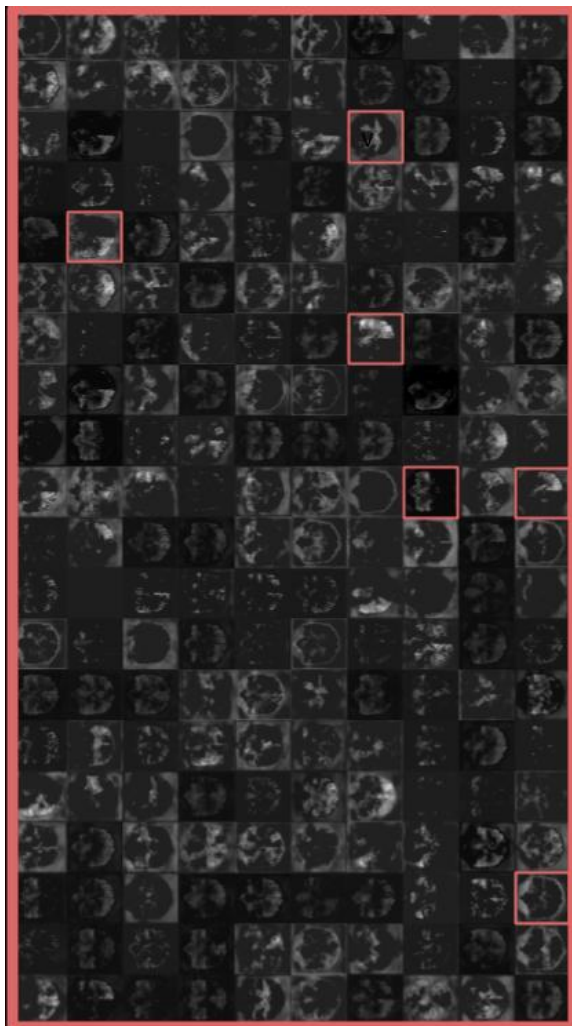
Learning features was explored with different DNN architectures and training regimes.

- Learning features requires high computational resources
 - A feature which need not be learnt (SSC) is the best option in **low-resource settings** and **limited annotated data** scenario, especially if only registration is of interest.
- In a scenario where **both registration and segmentation are of interest**, learning is the better option.

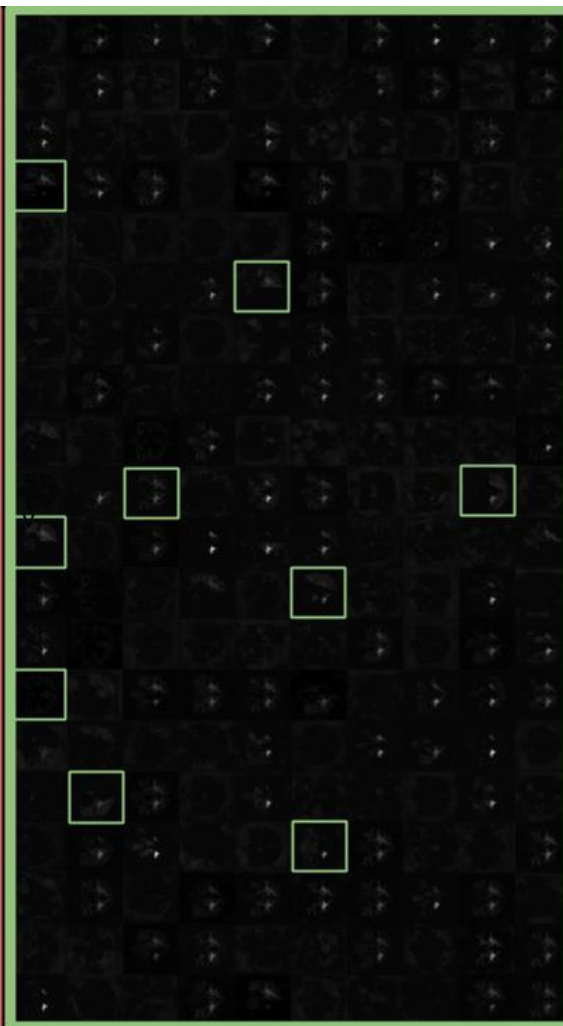


Thank You!

Visualisation of Features



(a) LPBA40

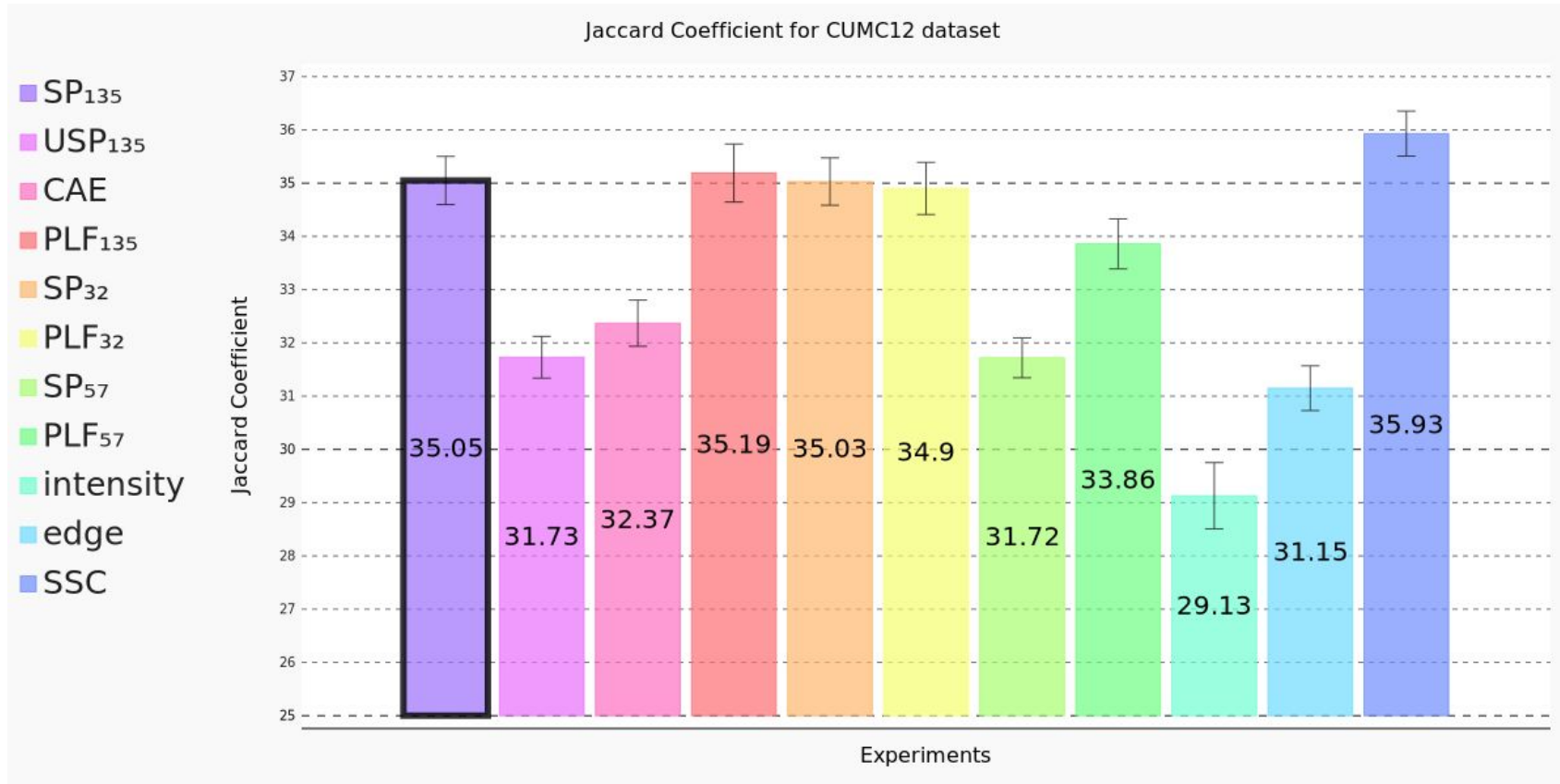


(b) MICCAI-2012



(c) IBSR18

Results



SP₁₃₅: Segmentation Priors from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012 **CAE**: Convolutional AutoEncoder

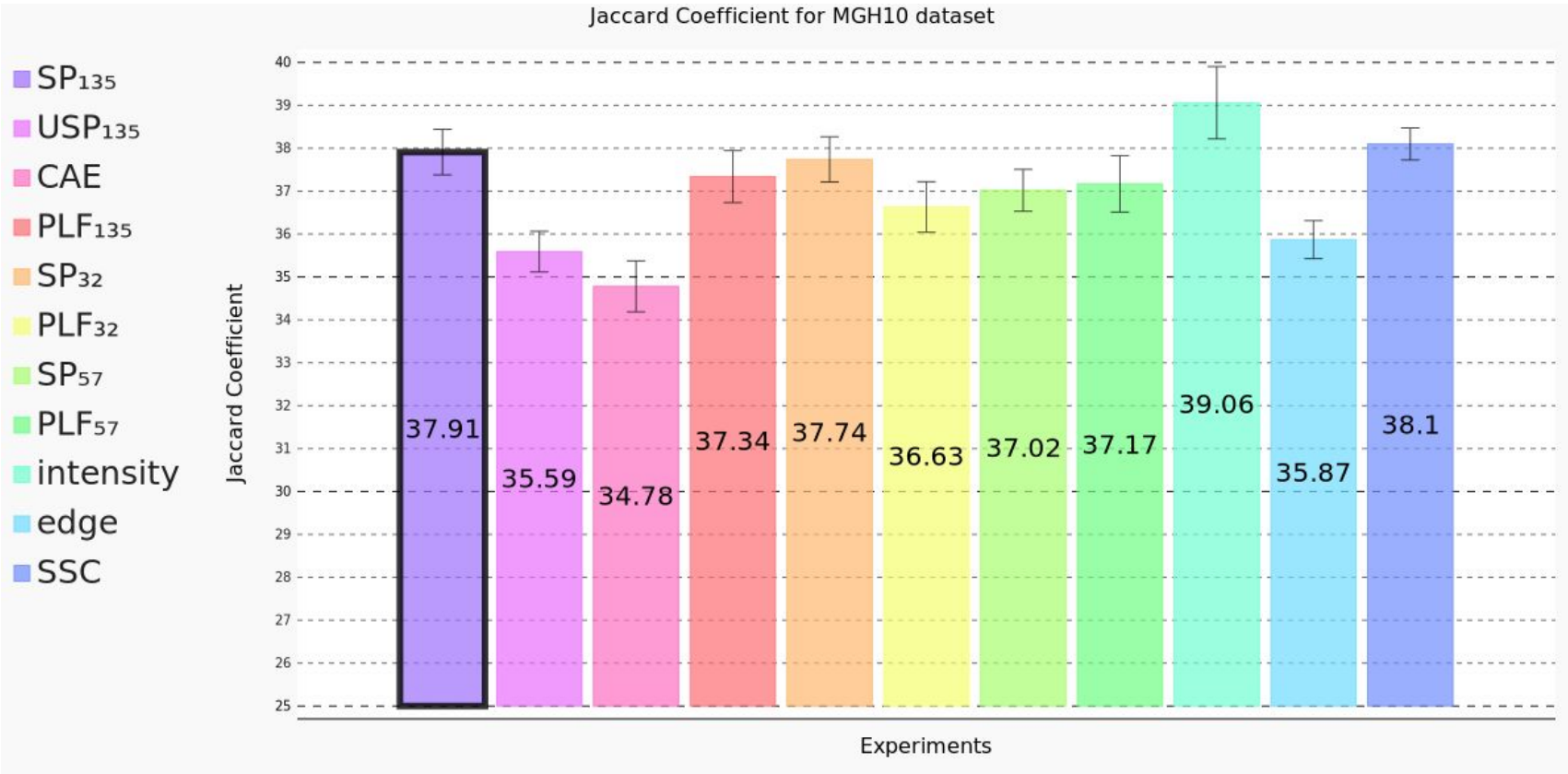
USP₁₃₅: Segmentation Priors from U-net trained on MICCAI-2012 **PLF**: Penultimate Layer Features

₁₃₅: trained on MICCAI-2012

₃₂: trained on IBSR18

₅₇: trained on LPBA40

Results



SP₁₃₅: Segmentation Priors from M-net trained on MICCAI-2012 **CAE**: Convolutional AutoEncoder

USP₁₃₅: Segmentation Priors from U-net trained on MICCAI-2012 **PLF**: Penultimate Layer Features

₁₃₅: trained on MICCAI-2012

₃₂: trained on IBSR18

₅₇: trained on LPBA40



- 1 Pairwise Registration takes 2 mins of CPU and 8 min of GPU time for Registration using Learnt Features
- SSC only takes 2-3 mins of CPU time for 1 Pairwise Registration.

- The Cost function to be minimised consists of a similarity and regularisation term.

$$E(u) = \sum_{\Omega} S(I_f, I_m, u) + \alpha |\nabla u|^2$$

- The deformation field is only allowed values from a quantised set of 3-D displacement.
- A 6 dimensional displacement space volume is created for storing the cost of translating a voxel x with a displacement d .

$$DSV(x, d) = S(I_f(x), I_m(x + d))$$



- The displacement field is obtained by winner-takes-all method by selecting the field with the lowest cost for each voxel.

Why SSC better than learnt features?



- SSC is a feature explicitly derived for registration whereas learnt features such as SP are optimised for good segmentation as they are trained on a segmentation dataset.
- It gives a good context of within the neighbourhood of the voxel.
 - Uses pairs of patches in six neighbourhood (with a spatial distance $\sqrt{2}$)
 - Avoids central patch for robustness against noise

$$S(I, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \exp\left(-\frac{SSD(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})}{\sigma^2}\right) \quad \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{N}$$

