

# RS-Net: Regression-Segmentation 3D CNN for Synthesis of Full Resolution Missing Brain MRI in the Presence of Tumours

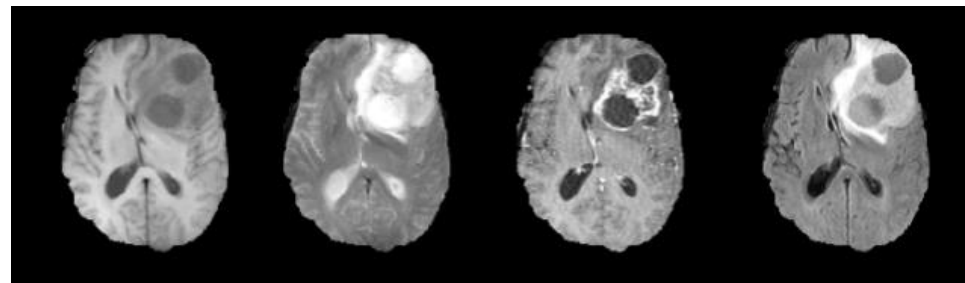
Raghav Mehta, Tal Arbel

Centre for Intelligent Machines  
McGill University



# Motivation

- Availability of different modalities of MRI assists in better analysis of disease
  - Improved segmentation of pathology [1]



[1] Havaei et al., MICCAI 2016

T1

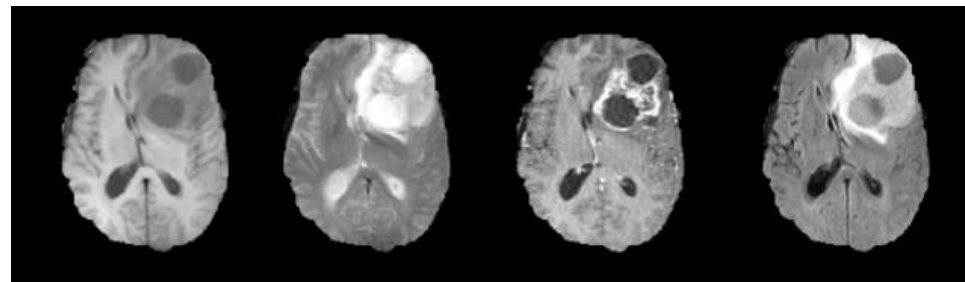
T2

T1c

FLAIR

# Motivation

- Availability of different modalities of MRI assists in better analysis of disease
  - Improved segmentation of pathology [1]
- In real clinical practice, not all modalities are always available due to various reasons
  - Cost and time constraints
  - Image corruption due to noise, patient movement
  - Inappropriate acquisition parameters



T1

T2

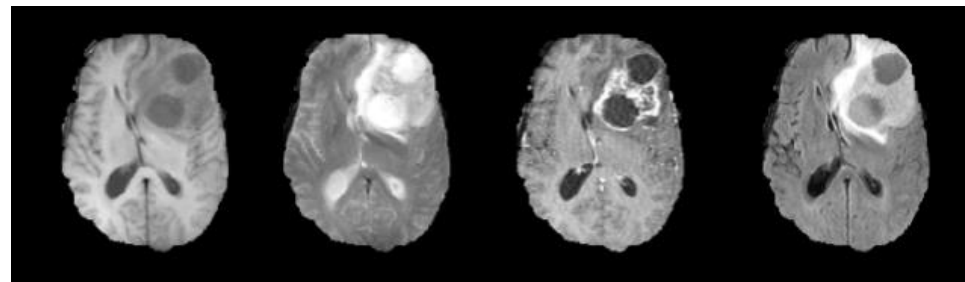
T1c

FLAIR

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# Motivation

- Availability of different modalities of MRI assists in better analysis of disease
  - Improved segmentation of pathology [1]
- In real clinical practice, not all modalities are always available due to various reasons
  - Cost and time constraints
  - Image corruption due to noise, patient movement
  - Inappropriate acquisition parameters
- Synthesized missing modality can be used by clinicians for better diagnosis
- This can also assist in improving automatic pathology segmentation [2]



T1

T2

T1c

FLAIR

[1] Havaei et al., MICCAI 2016

[2] Tulder et al., MICCAI 2015



# Related Work (Modality Synthesis)

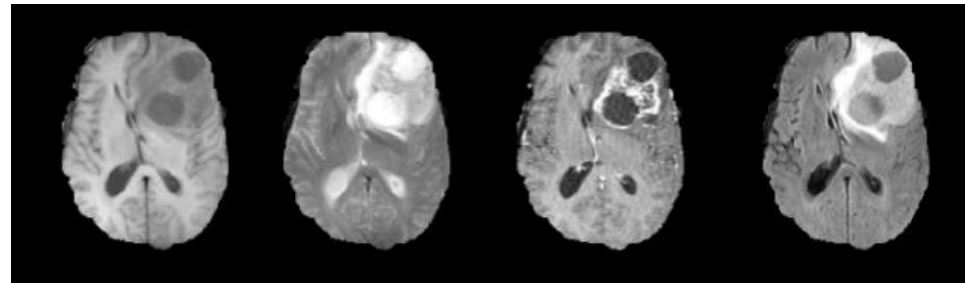
	Dataset	Synthesis Type	Evaluation Metrics
Modality Propagation [3]	Diseased / Pathology	Uni-modal	Correlation Coefficient (CC)
REPLICA [4]	Healthy / Pathology	Uni-modal / Multi-modal	PSNR, SSIM, UQI
MIMECS [5]	Healthy / Pathology	Uni-modal / Multi-modal	Tissue Segmentation / Visual Comparison
LSDN [6]	Healthy	Uni-modal	PSNR
2D-CNN [7]	Pathology	Uni-modal / Multi-modal	MSE, PSNR, SSIM
2D-GAN [8]	Pathology	Uni-modal	MAE, PSNR

[3] Ye et al., MICCAI 2013  
[4] Jog et al., MIA 2016  
[5] Roy et al., TMI 2013

[6] Van Nguyen et al., MICCAI 2015  
[7] Chartsias et al., TMI 2017  
[8] Wolterink et al., SASHIMI MICCAI 2017

# In this Paper...

- Method specifically designed for synthesizing MR sequence with pathology



T1

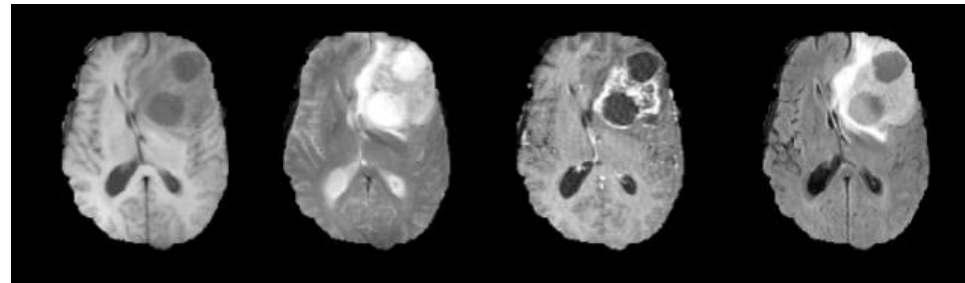
T2

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FLAIR

# In this Paper...

- Method specifically designed for synthesizing MR sequence with pathology
- Multimodal synthesis of missing MR sequence



T1

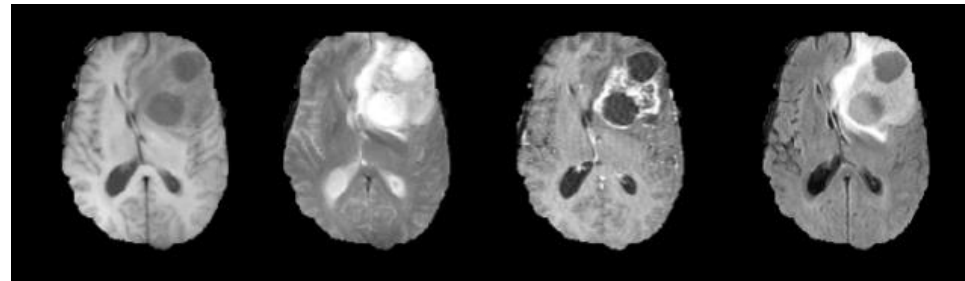
T2

T1c

FLAIR

# In this Paper...

- Method specifically designed for synthesizing MR sequence with pathology
- Multimodal synthesis of missing MR sequence
- Synthesis quantification using on MC-dropout [9] based uncertainty estimation



T1

T2

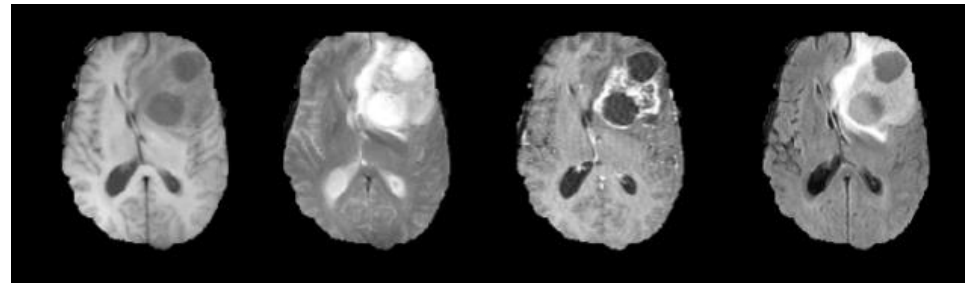
T1c

FLAIR



# In this Paper...

- Method specifically designed for synthesizing MR sequence with pathology
- Multimodal synthesis of missing MR sequence
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- Experiments on publicly available large-scale brain tumour dataset (BraTS 2017)



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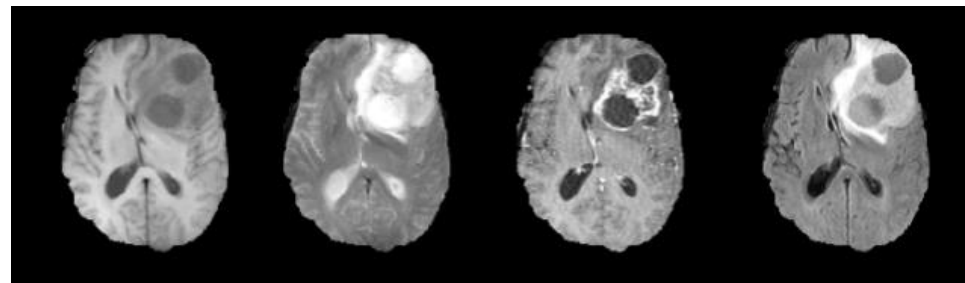
T2

T1c

FLAIR

# In this Paper...

- Method specifically designed for synthesizing MR sequence with pathology
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- Synthesis quantification using on MC-dropout [9] based uncertainty estimation
- Experiments on publicly available large-scale brain tumour dataset (BraTS 2017)
- Evaluation based on downstream segmentation task



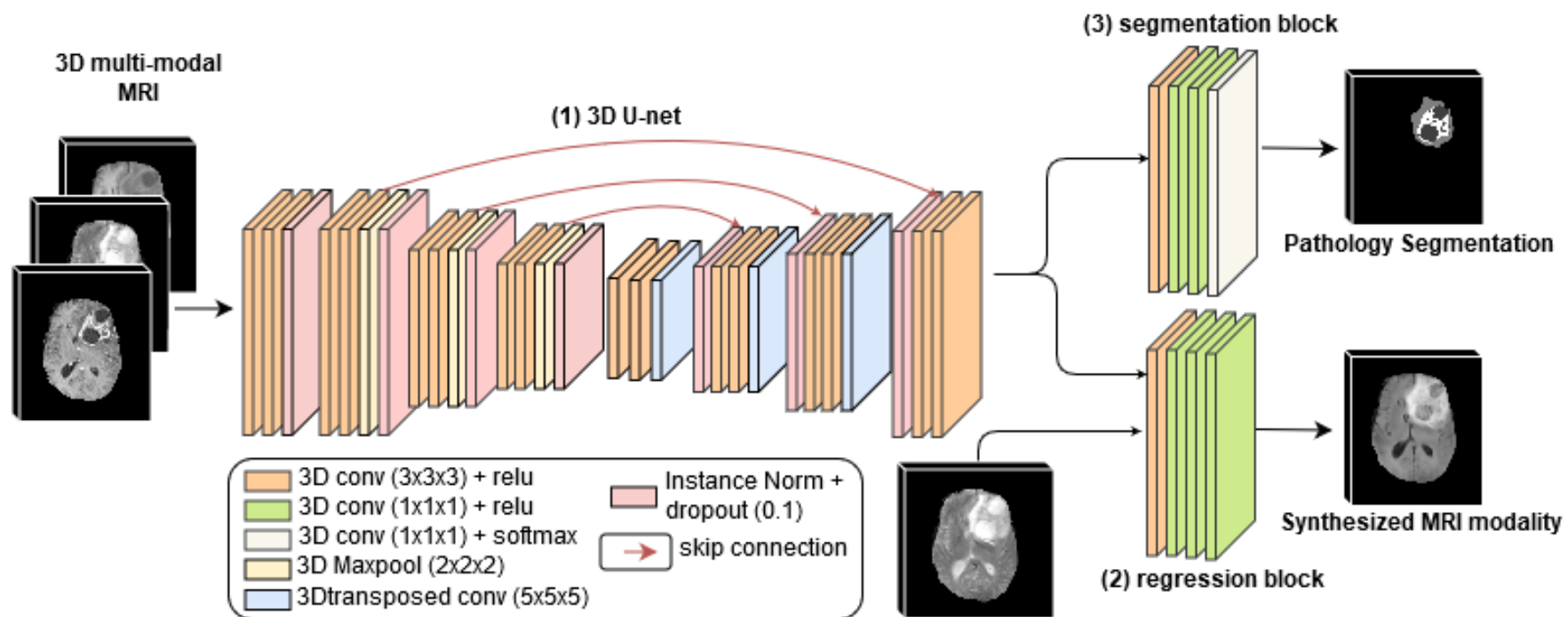
T1

T2

T1c

FLAIR

# Proposed Method (RS-Net)



[10] Cicek et al., MICCAI 2016

[11] Ulyanov et al., arXiv:1607.08022.

# Loss Function

- Weighted combination of Mean Squared Error (MSE), for synthesis, and Categorical Cross Entropy (CCE), for segmentation.

$$L^i = \lambda_1(w_n^i * MSE)^i + \lambda_2(w_n^i * CCE)^i$$

# Loss Function

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$$L^i = \lambda_1(w_n^i * MSE)^i + \lambda_2(w_n^i * CCE)^i$$

- Weights for each samples according to its true label.

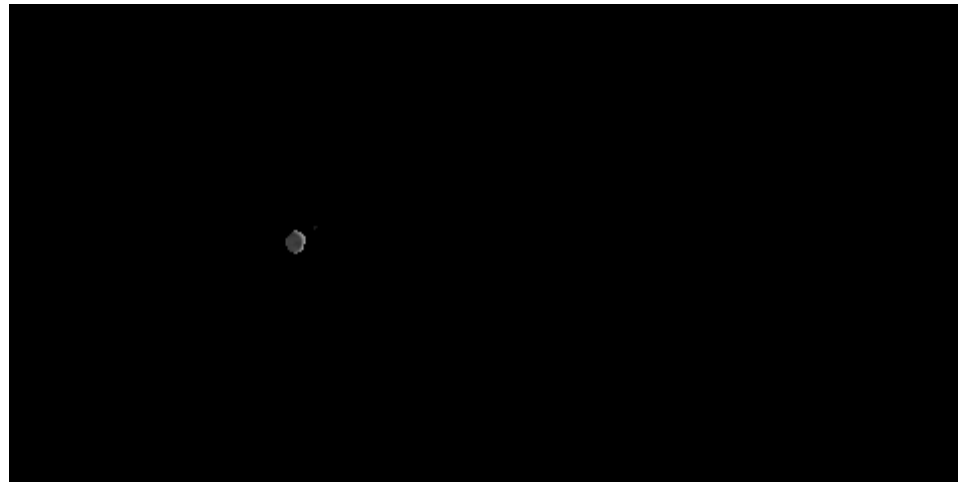
Which is real and which is synthesized?



T2

# Which is real and which is synthesized?

Real

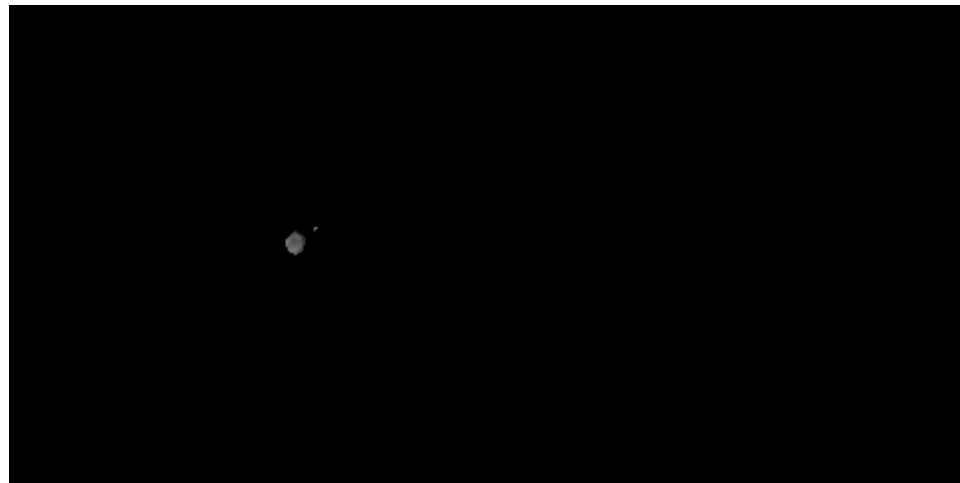


Synthesized

T2

# 3D visualization

Real

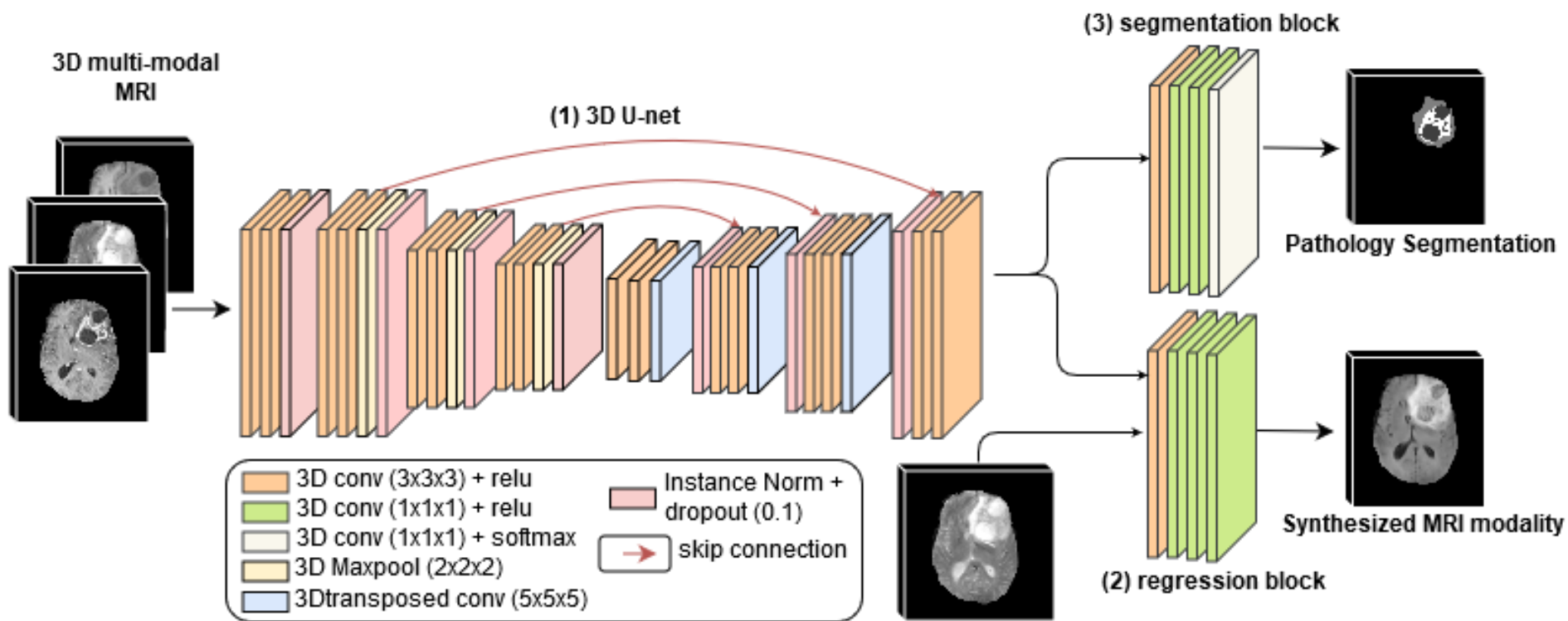


Synthesized

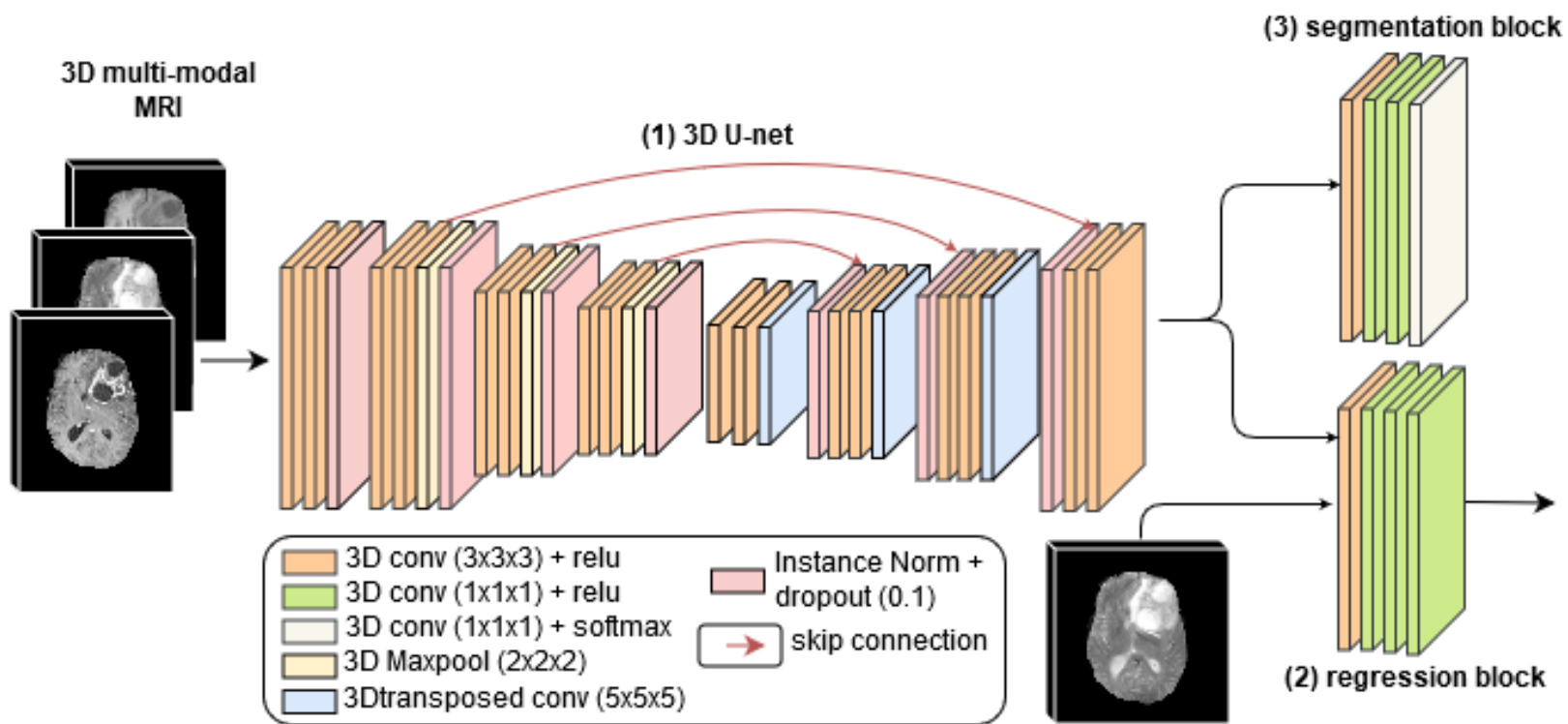
T1c



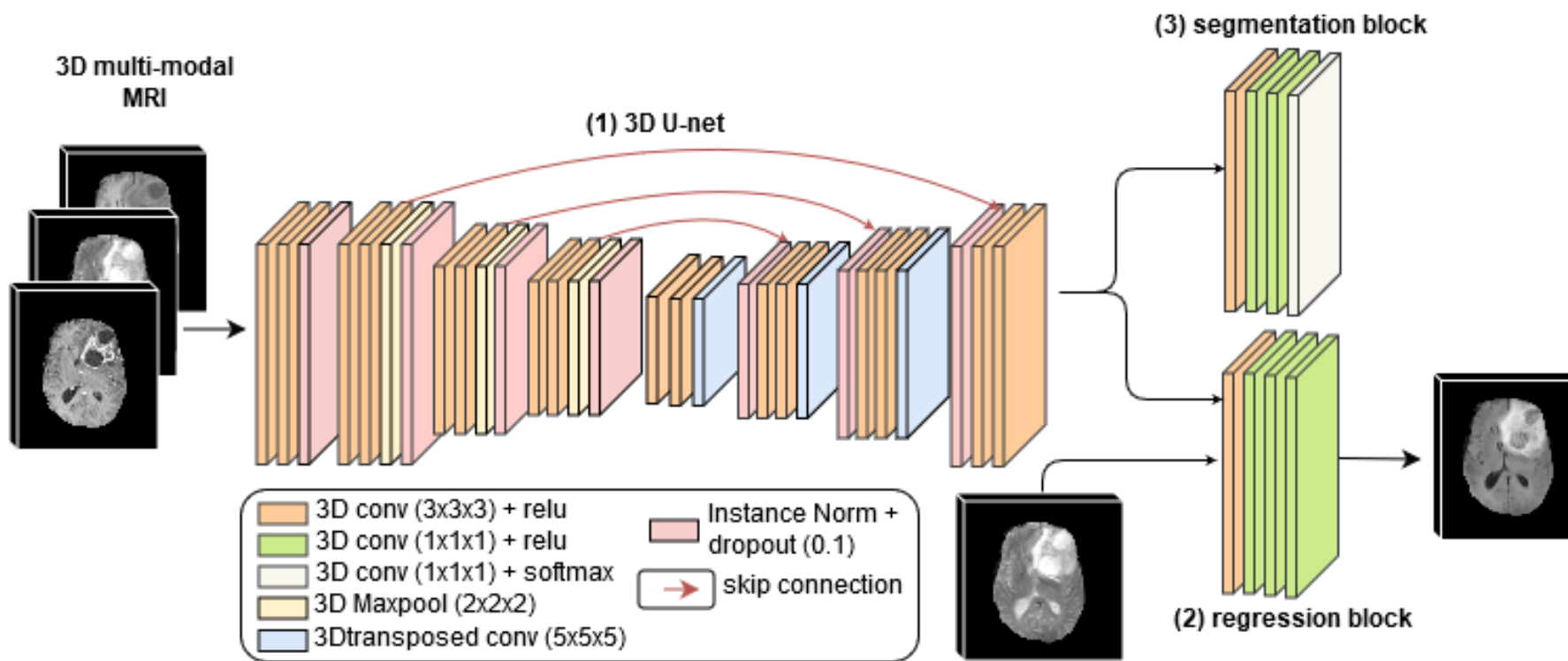
# Synthesis Uncertainty



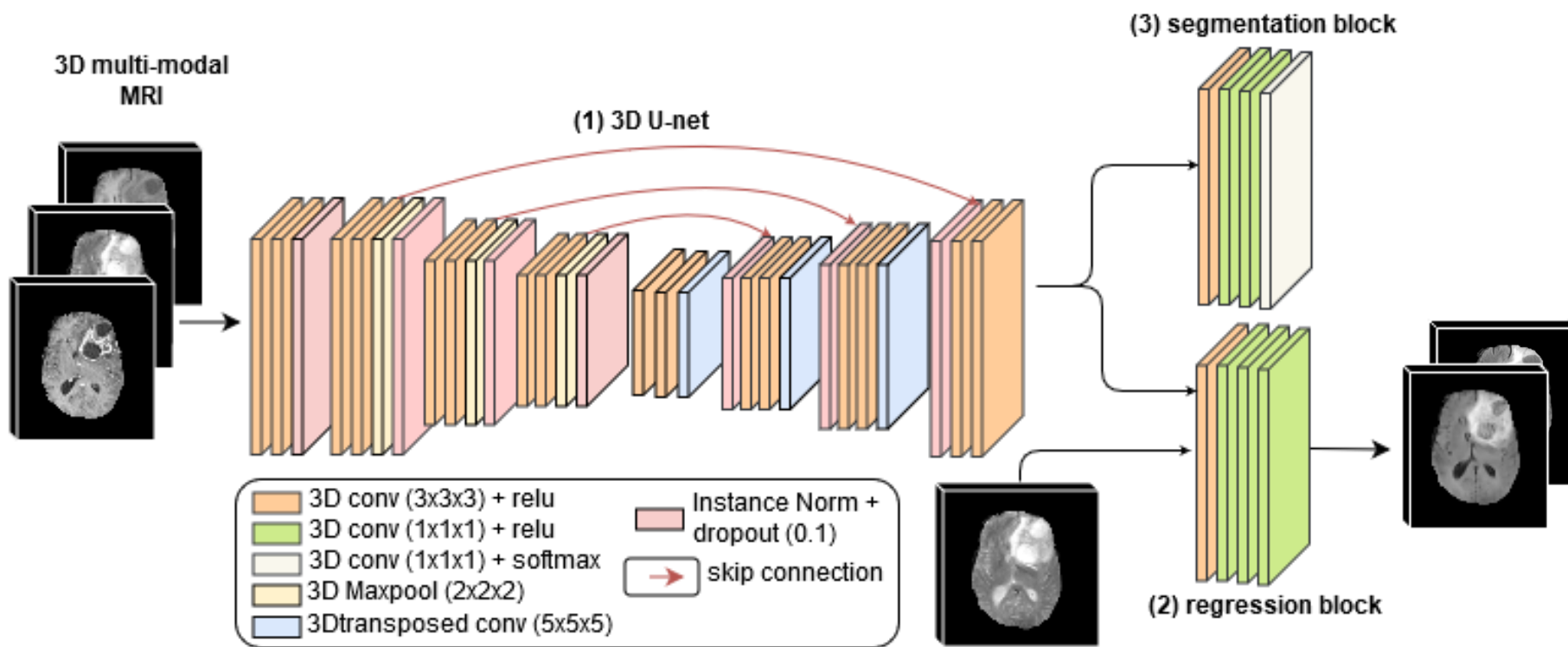
# Synthesis Uncertainty



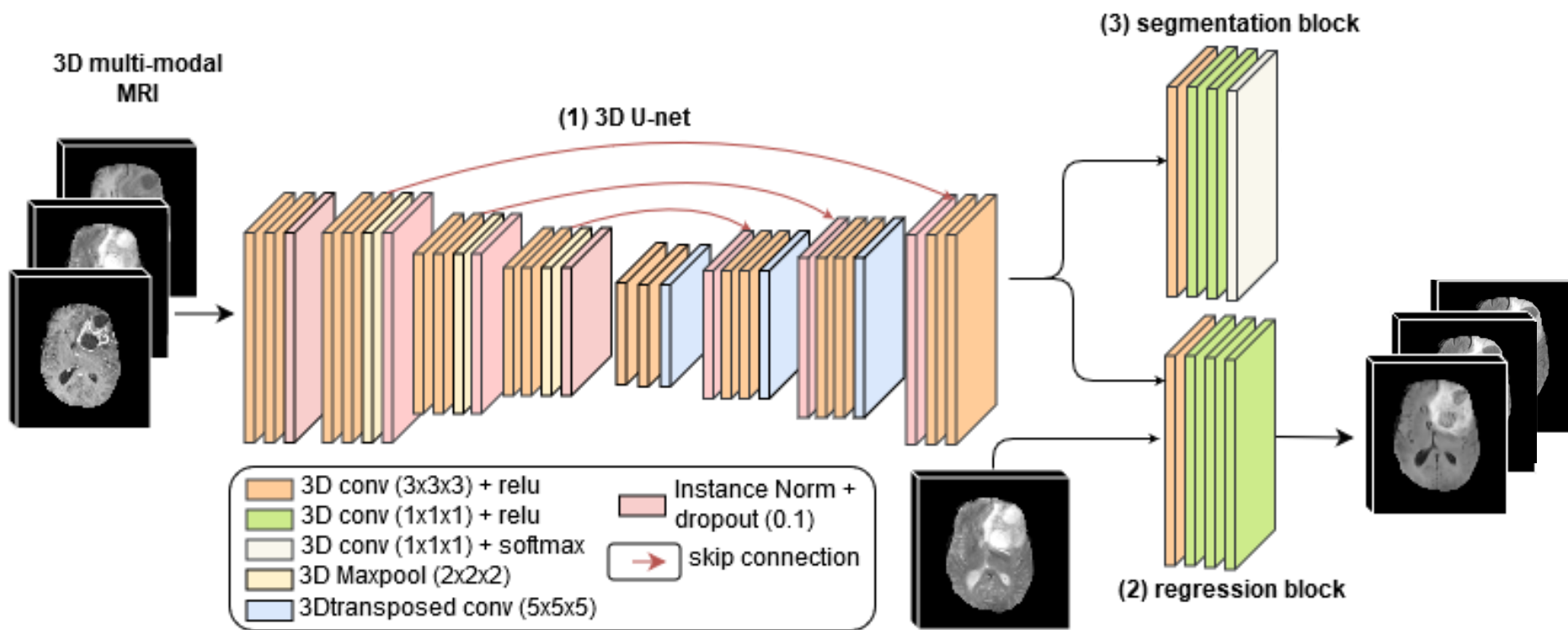
# Synthesis Uncertainty



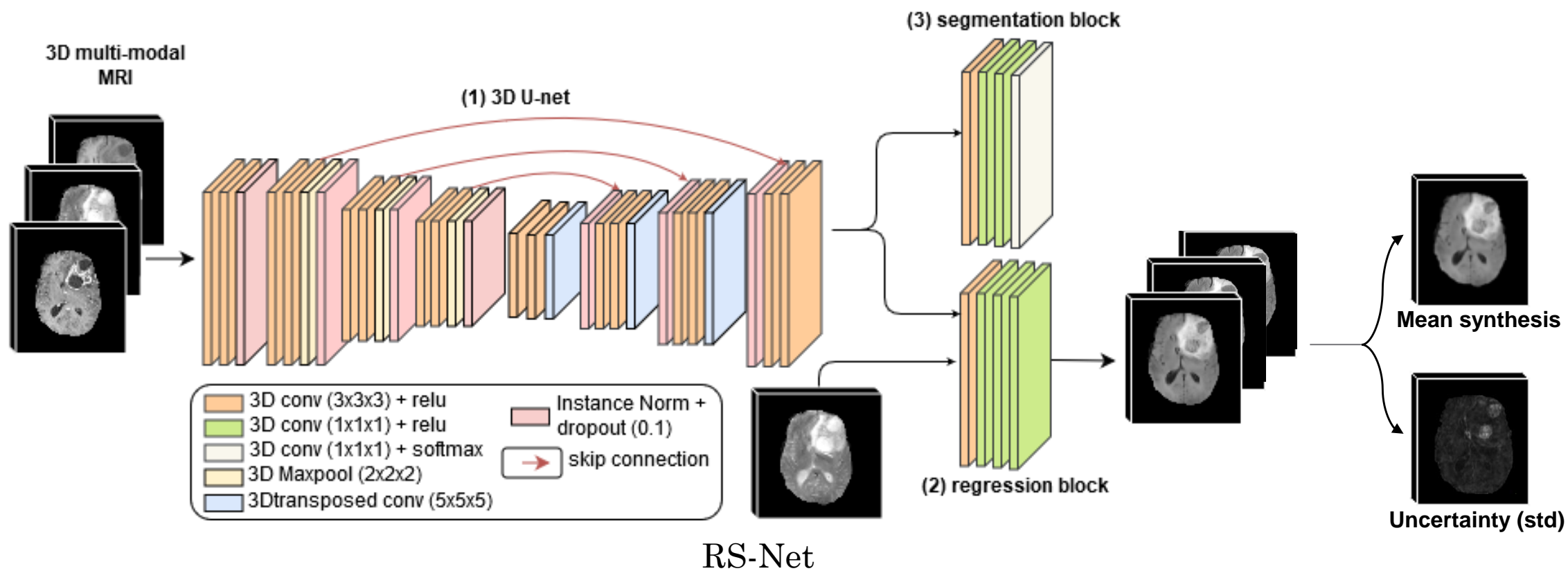
# Synthesis Uncertainty



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# Synthesis Uncertainty





# Experiments on BraTS 2017 dataset

# Dataset and Pre-processing

- 2017 Brain Tumour Segmentation (BraTS) [12] challenge dataset
  - 4 modalities (T1, T2, FLAIR, T1c)
  - Resolution:  $1 \times 1 \times 1 \text{ mm}^3$
  - Dimensions:  $184 \times 200 \times 152$
  - Manual marking for 3 types of tumour (edema, necrotic core, and enhancing core)
- Pre-processing
  - Skull stripping
  - Co-registration
  - Intensity Normalization (mean subtraction, divide by standard deviation, re-mapping to 0-1)



# Dataset and Pre-processing

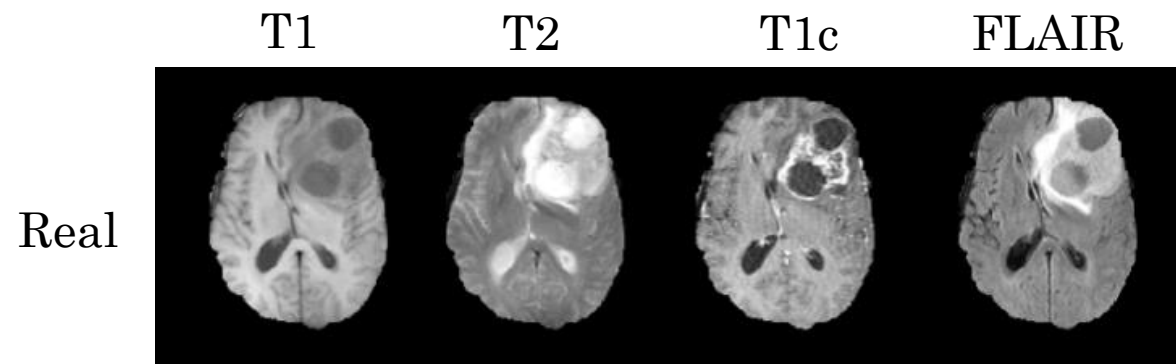
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- BraTS 2017 Training data (285 patients) for training (228) and validation (57)



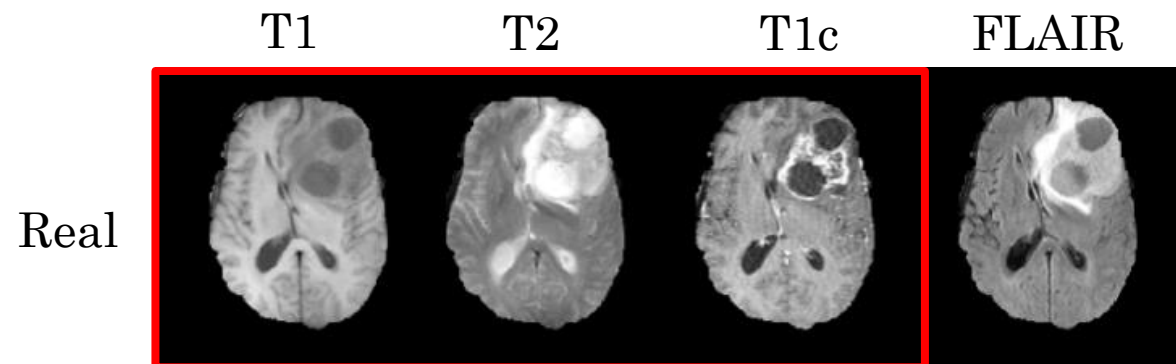
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  - Co-registration
  - Intensity Normalization (mean subtraction, divide by standard deviation, re-mapping to 0-1)
- BraTS 2017 Training data (285 patients) for training (228) and validation (57)
- BraTS 2017 Validation data (46 patients) for testing

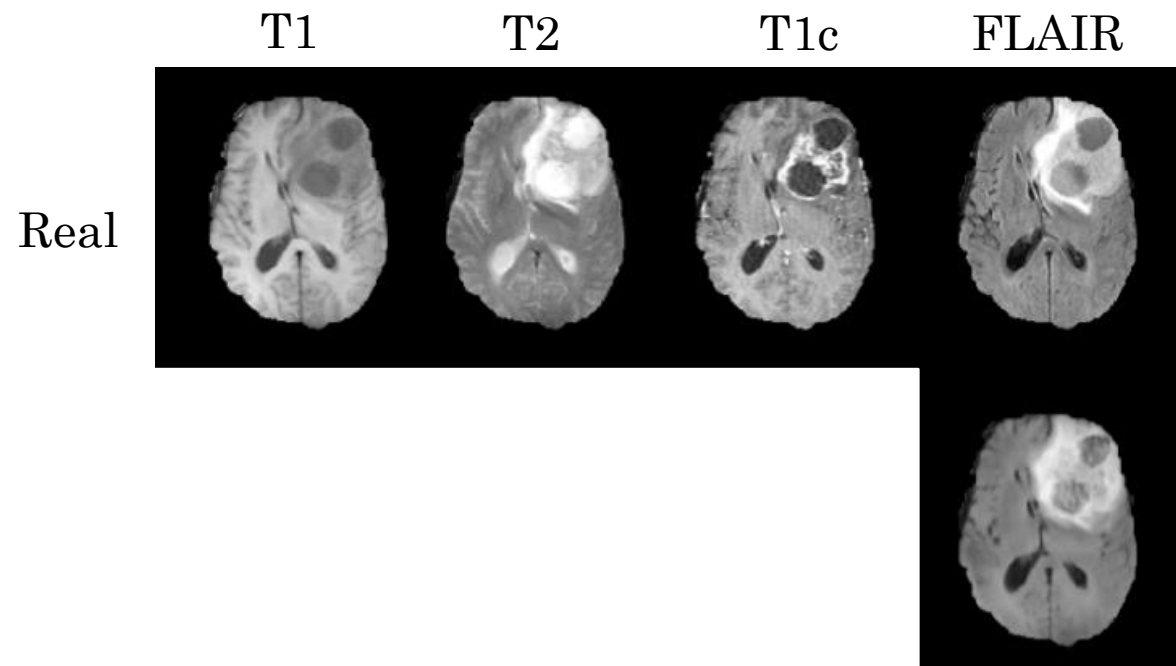
# 3 -to- 1 synthesis



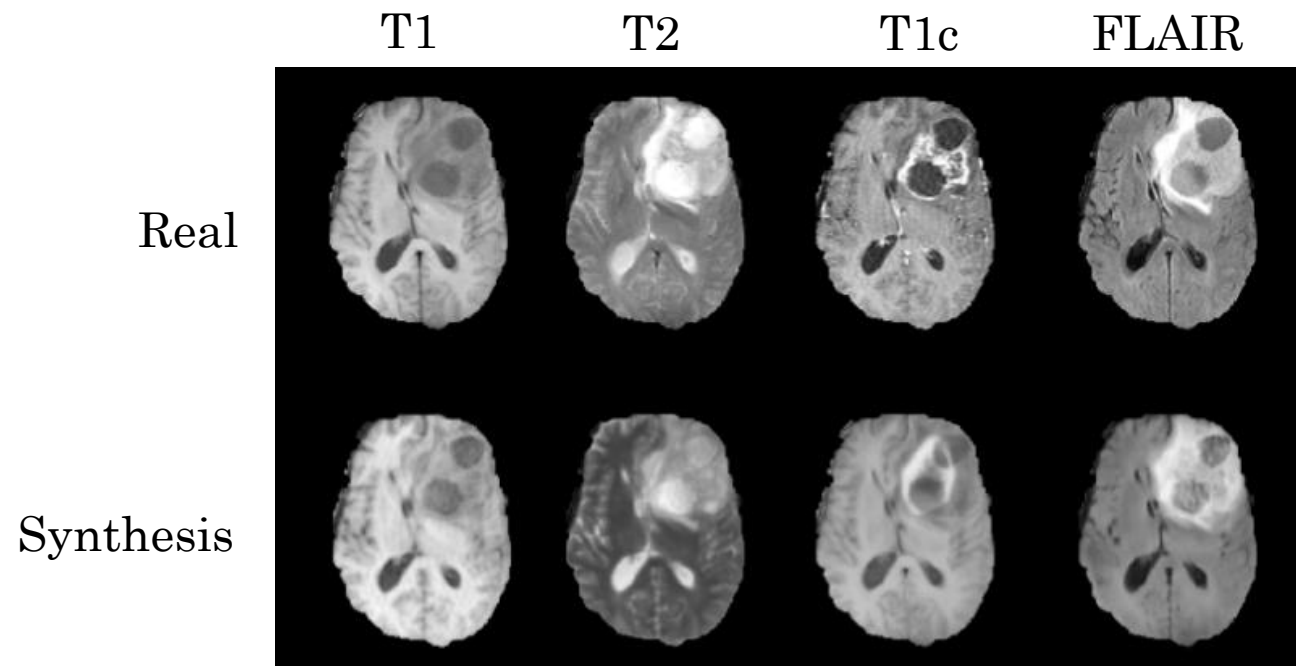
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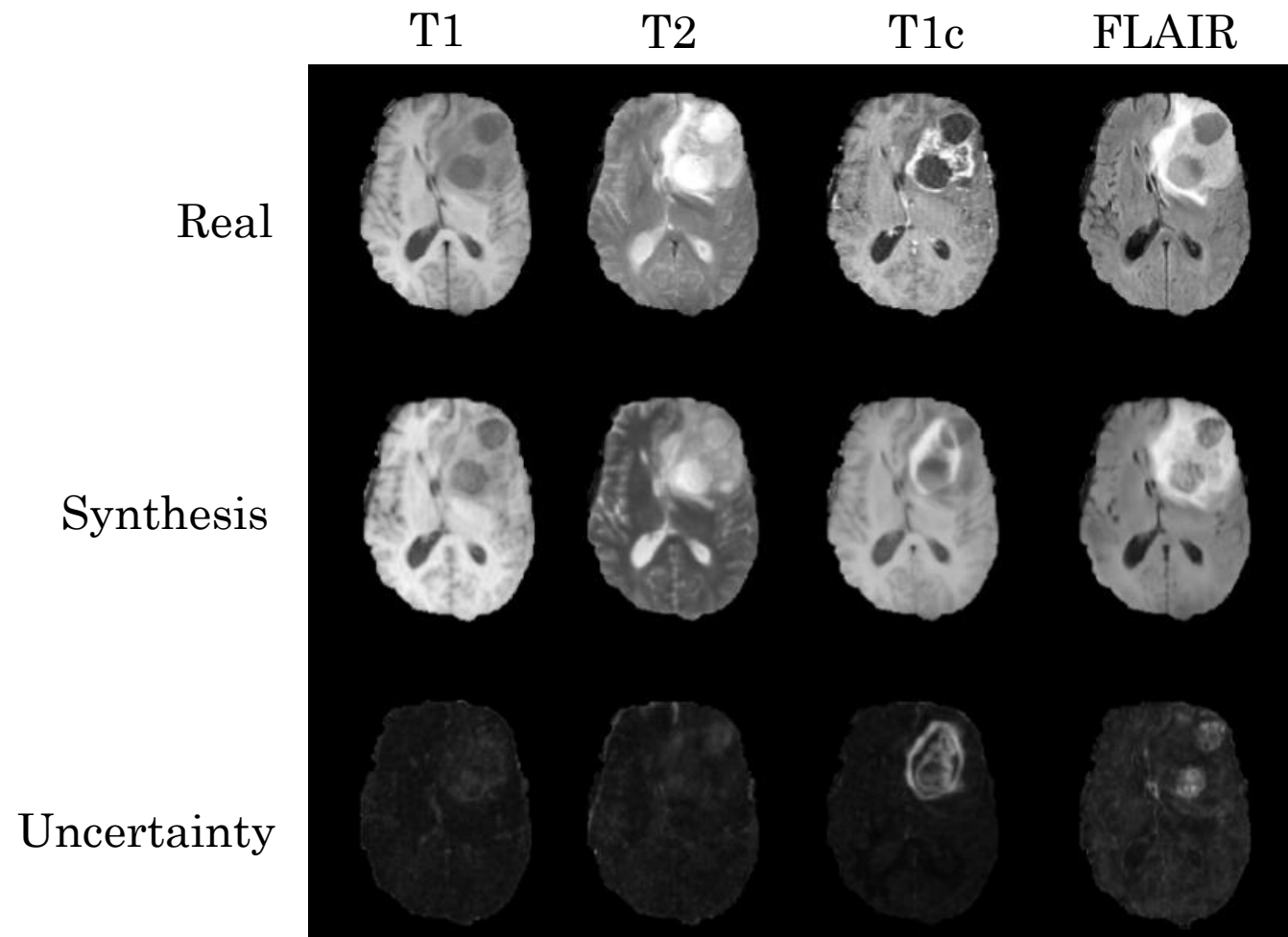
# 3 -to- 1 synthesis



# 3 -to- 1 synthesis



# 3 -to- 1 synthesis





# Quantitative Evaluation

- Standard Evaluation metrics [4,6,7,8]
  - Peak Signal to Noise Ration (PSNR)
  - Mean Squared Error (MSE)
  - Structure Similarity Index (SSIM)

[4] Jog et al., MIA 2016

[6] Van Nguyen et al., MICCAI 2015

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- Global metrics, Useful for quantitative evaluation of the whole MRI

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- Global metrics, Useful for quantitative evaluation of the whole MRI
- Here, interested in evaluating synthesis performance in the area of tumour
- Tumour Segmentation (whole, core, and enhancing) evaluation
  - Dice Coefficient
  - $DICE(A, B) = \frac{2|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} * 100$

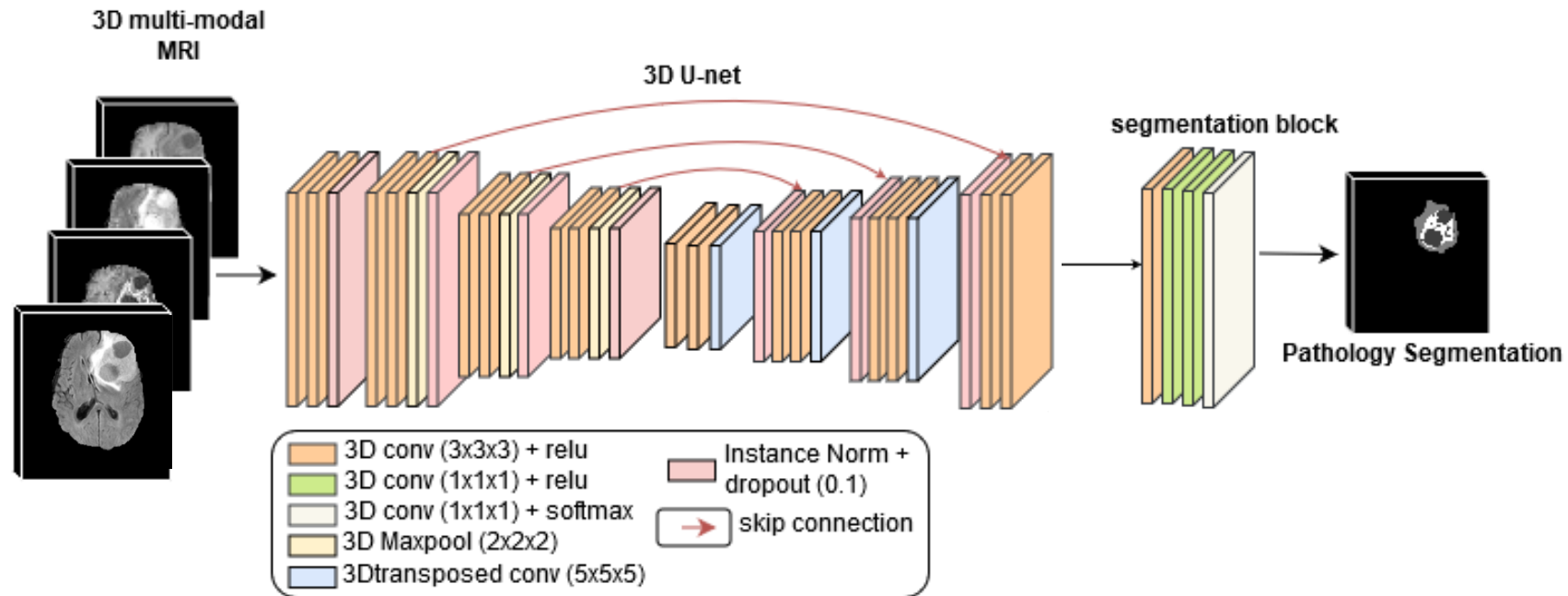
[4] Jog et al., MIA 2016

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[7] Chartsias et al., TMI 2017

[8] Wolterink et al., SASHIMI MICCAI 2017

# Segmentation Network (S-Net)



[10] Cicek et al., MICCAI 2016

[11] Ulyanov et al., arXiv:1607.08022.



# Replacing real with synthetic MRI Volumes

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	68.2	87.9	75.7

✓ Real MRI

DE: Dice Enhance  
DT: Dice Tumour  
DC: Dice Core



# Replacing real with synthetic MRI Volumes

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	68.2	87.9	75.7
T1 Synthesis	⊙	✓	✓	✓	67.6	87.9	75.5

✓ Real MRI

⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)

DE: Dice Enhance

DT: Dice Tumour

DC: Dice Core



# Replacing real with synthetic MRI Volumes

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	68.2	87.9	75.7
T2 Synthesis	✓	⊙	✓	✓	66.3	87.3	75.6

✓ Real MRI

⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)

DE: Dice Enhance

DT: Dice Tumour

DC: Dice Core



# Replacing real with synthetic MRI Volumes

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	68.2	87.9	75.7
FLAIR Synthesis	✓	✓	⊙	✓	66.8	83.6	73.1

✓ Real MRI

⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)

DE: Dice Enhance

DT: Dice Tumour

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# Replacing real with synthetic MRI Volumes

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	68.2	87.9	75.7
T1ce Synthesis	✓	✓	✓	⊙	24.8	87.3	54.0

✓ Real MRI

⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)

DE: Dice Enhance

DT: Dice Tumour

DC: Dice Core



# Replacing real with synthetic MRI Volumes

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>68.2</b>	<b>87.9</b>	<b>75.7</b>
T1 Synthesis	⊙	✓	✓	✓	67.6	87.9	75.5
T2 Synthesis	✓	⊙	✓	✓	66.3	87.3	75.6
FLAIR Synthesis	✓	✓	⊙	✓	66.8	83.6	73.1
T1ce Synthesis	✓	✓	✓	⊙	24.8	87.3	54.0

✓ Real MRI

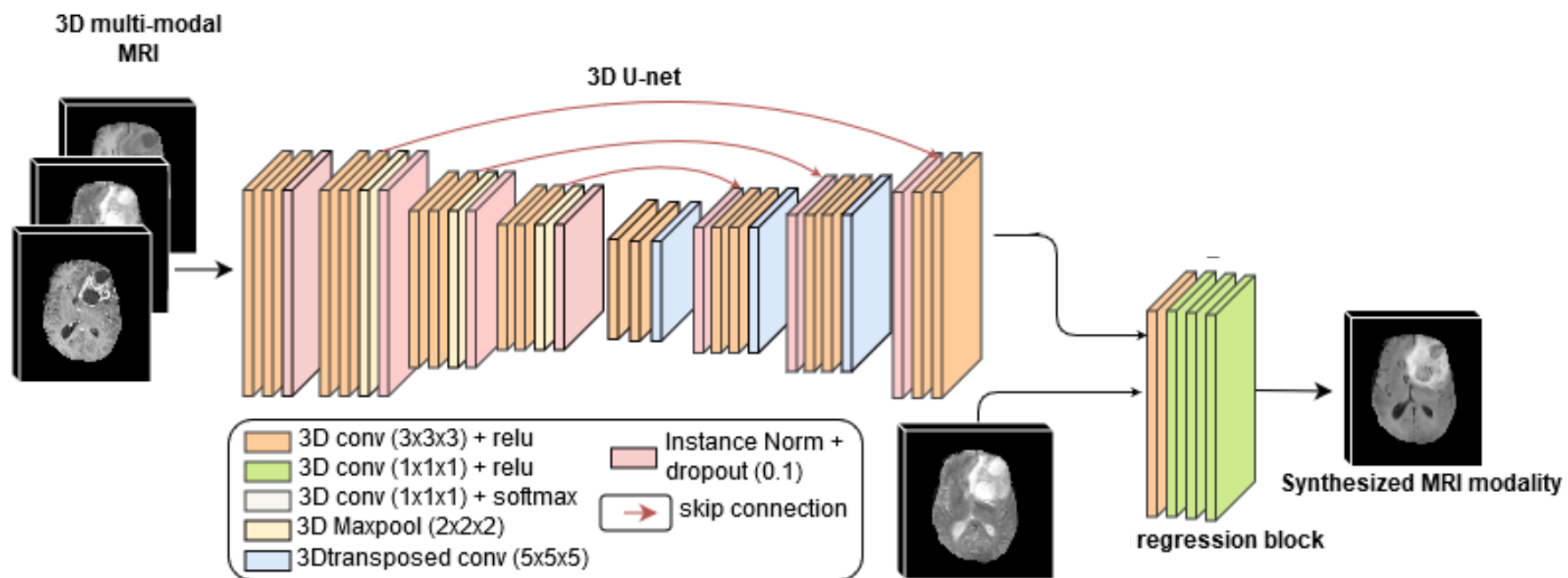
⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)

DE: Dice Enhance

DT: Dice Tumour

DC: Dice Core

# Regression-only Network (R-Net)



R-Net

# Comparison of RS-Net and R-Net

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>68.2</b>	<b>87.9</b>	<b>75.7</b>
T1 Synthesis	⊙	✓	✓	✓	67.6	87.9	75.5
	●	✓	✓	✓	67.5	87.8	75.3

- ✓ Real MRI
- ⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)
- Synthesised MRI (R-Net)

DE: Dice Enhance  
DT: Dice Tumour  
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# Comparison of RS-Net and R-Net

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
<b>Real</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>68.2</b>	<b>87.9</b>	<b>75.7</b>
<b>T2 Synthesis</b>	✓	⊙	✓	✓	66.3	87.3	75.6
	✓	●	✓	✓	66.1	87.2	75.4

- ✓ Real MRI
- ⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)
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# Comparison of RS-Net and R-Net

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	68.2	87.9	75.7
FLAIR Synthesis	✓	✓	⊙	✓	66.8	83.6	73.1
	✓	✓	●	✓	62.9	81.3	71.5

- ✓ Real MRI
- ⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)
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	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
Real	✓	✓	✓	✓	68.2	87.9	75.7

T1ce Synthesis	✓	✓	✓	⊙	24.8	87.3	54.0
	✓	✓	✓	●	24.1	85.9	53.9

- ✓ Real MRI
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T1 Synthesis	⊙	✓	✓	✓	67.6	87.9	75.5
	●	✓	✓	✓	67.5	87.8	75.3
T2 Synthesis	✓	⊙	✓	✓	66.3	87.3	75.6
	✓	●	✓	✓	66.1	87.2	75.4
FLAIR Synthesis	✓	✓	⊙	✓	66.8	83.6	73.1
	✓	✓	●	✓	62.9	81.3	71.5
T1ce Synthesis	✓	✓	✓	⊙	24.8	87.3	54.0
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# Comparison of RS-Net against other methods



# Comparison of RS-Net against other methods

- Comparison against following state-of-the-art methods:
  - 2D Convolutional Neural Network (2D CNN) [7]
  - Regression Ensembles with Patch Learning for Image Contrast Agreement (REPLICA) [4]
  - Patch-based Location Sensitive Deep Network (LSDN) [6]

[4] Jog et al., MIA 2016

[6] Van Nguyen et al., MICCAI 2015

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  - Patch-based Location Sensitive Deep Network (LSDN) [6]
- Two Experiments:
  - T1 -to- T2 synthesis
  - T1 -to- FLAIR synthesis

[4] Jog et al., MIA 2016

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[7] Chatsias et al., TMI 2017

# Dataset and Pre-processing

- 2015 Brain Tumour Segmentation (BraTS) [12] challenge dataset
  - 4 modalities (T1, T2, FLAIR, T1c)
  - Resolution:  $1 \times 1 \times 1 \text{ mm}^3$
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- BraTS 2015 Training Low-Grade Glioma cases (54 patients)

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- Pre-processing
  - Skull stripping
  - Co-registration
  - Intensity Normalization (Divide by mean)
- BraTS 2015 Training Low-Grade Glioma cases (54 patients)
- 5 fold cross validation with 42, 6, and 6 cases respectively for training, validation, and testing.

# Evaluation Metrics

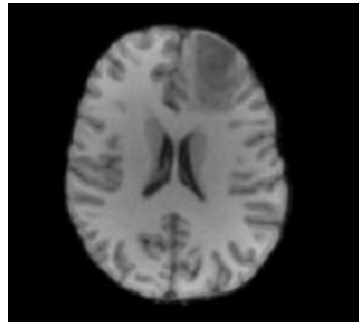
- Structure Similarity Index (SSIM)

$$\text{SSIM} = \frac{(2\mu_x\mu_{x'} + c_1)(2\sigma_{xx'} + c_2)}{(\mu_x^2 + \mu_{x'}^2 + c_1)(\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_{x'}^2 + c_2)}$$

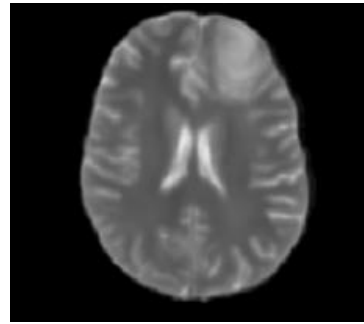
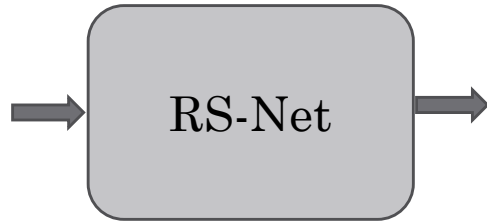
- Peak Signal -to- Noise Ratio (PSNR)

$$\text{PSNR} = \log_{10}\left(\frac{\text{MAX}_I^2}{\text{MSE}}\right)$$

# T1 -to- T2 synthesis



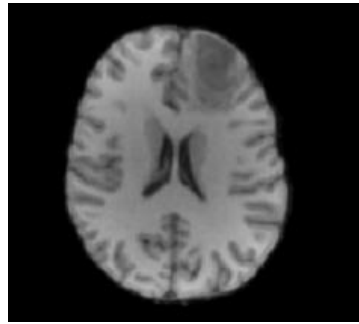
Input T1 MRI



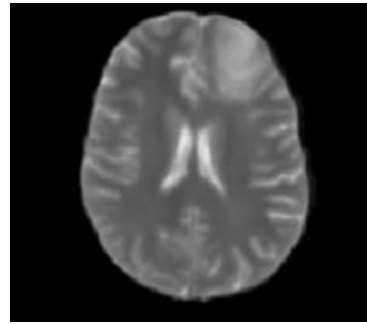
Synthesised T2 MRI



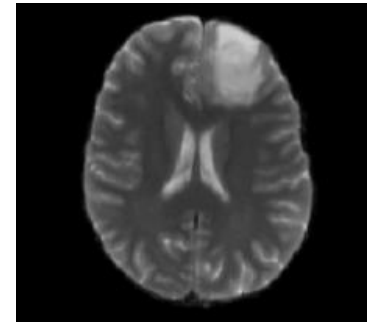
# T1 -to- T2 synthesis



Input T1 MRI

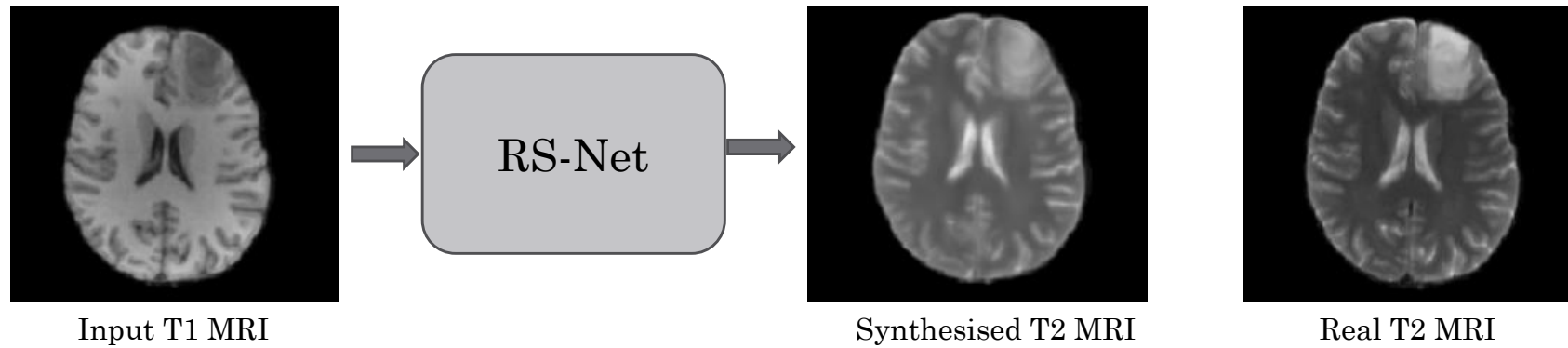


Synthesised T2 MRI



Real T2 MRI

# T1 -to- T2 synthesis



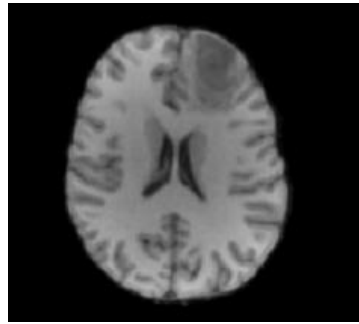
	REPLICA [4]	LSDN [6]	2D-CNN [7]	RS-Net (proposed)
SSIM	0.901 (0.01)	0.909 (0.02)	0.929 (0.17)	<b>0.934 (0.02)</b>
PSNR	28.62 (1.69)	30.12 (1.62)	30.96 (1.85)	<b>31.13 (1.78)</b>

[4] Jog et al., MIA 2015

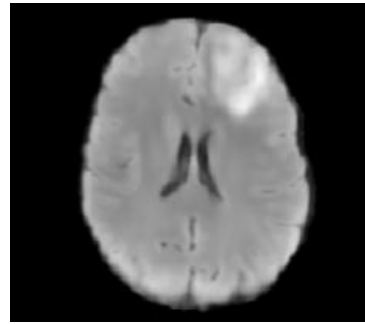
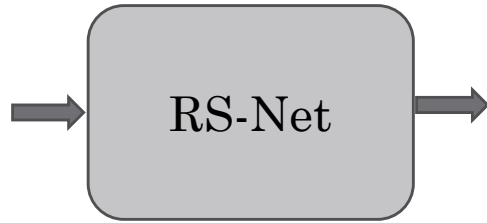
[6] Van Nguyen et al., MICCAI 2015

[7] Chartsias et al., TMI 2017

# T1 -to- FLAIR synthesis

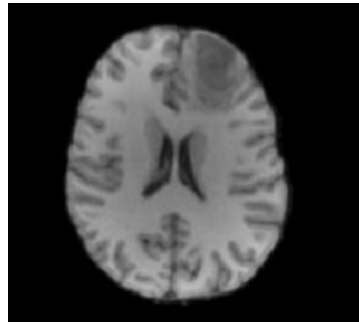


Input T1 MRI

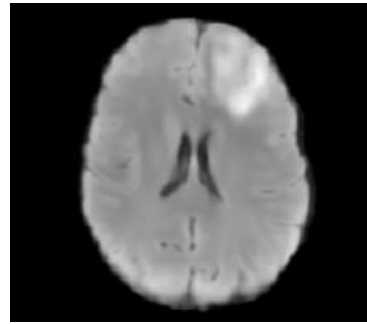


Synthesised FLAIR MRI

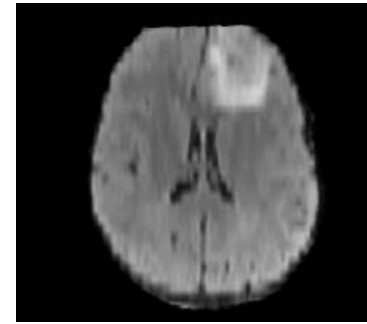
# T1 -to- FLAIR synthesis



Input T1 MRI

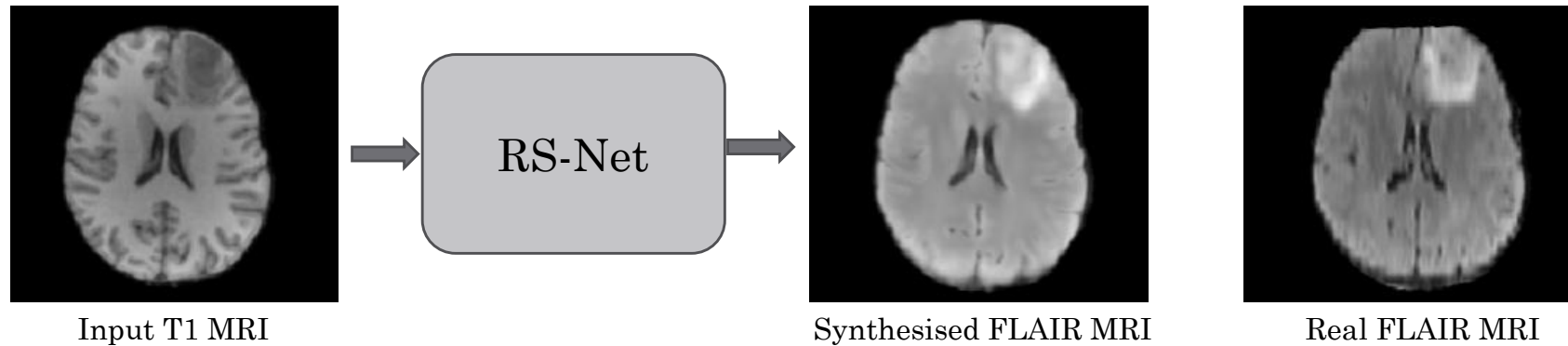


Synthesised FLAIR MRI



Real FLAIR MRI

# T1 -to- FLAIR synthesis



	REPLICA [4]	LSDN [6]	2D-CNN [7]	RS-Net (proposed)
SSIM	0.870 (0.01)	0.887 (0.01)	0.897 (0.01)	<b>0.900 (0.01)</b>
PSNR	28.32 (1.38)	29.68 (1.56)	30.32 (1.61)	<b>30.88 (1.84)</b>

[4] Jog et al., MIA 2015

[6] Van Nguyen et al., MICCAI 2015

[7] Chatsias et al., TMI 2017

# Conclusion

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- Proposed a 3D CNN for the combined task of Synthesis and Segmentation
  - High quality synthesis even for tumour regions
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  - Can be communicated to clinicians
- Quantitative evaluation with downstream task of tumour segmentation
  - Real MRI can be replaced with Synthesised MRI with minimum degradation in tumour segmentation accuracy
  - Combined Synthesis-Segmentation improves quality over only Synthesis, especially for FLAIR, T1c
- T1c synthesis is still an open and challenging task

# Questions?

Real



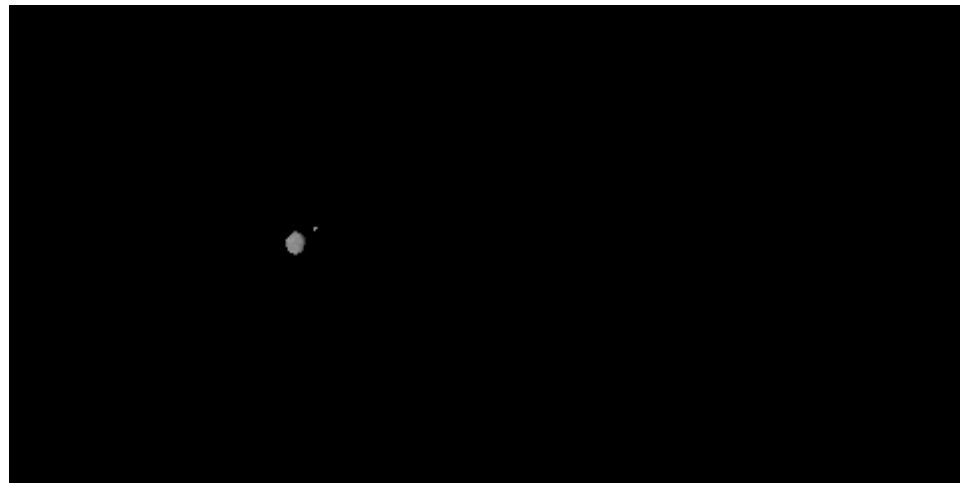
Synthesized

T2



# 3D visualization

Real

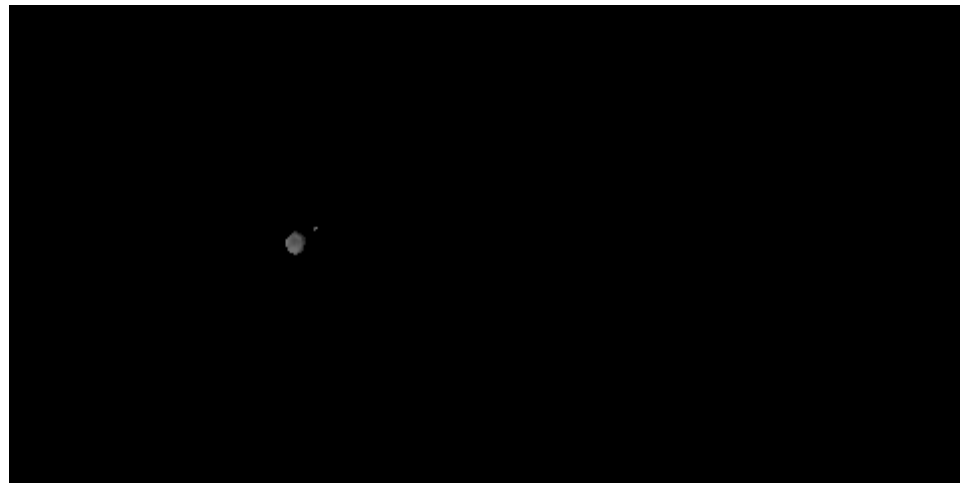


Synthesized

T1

# 3D visualization

Real

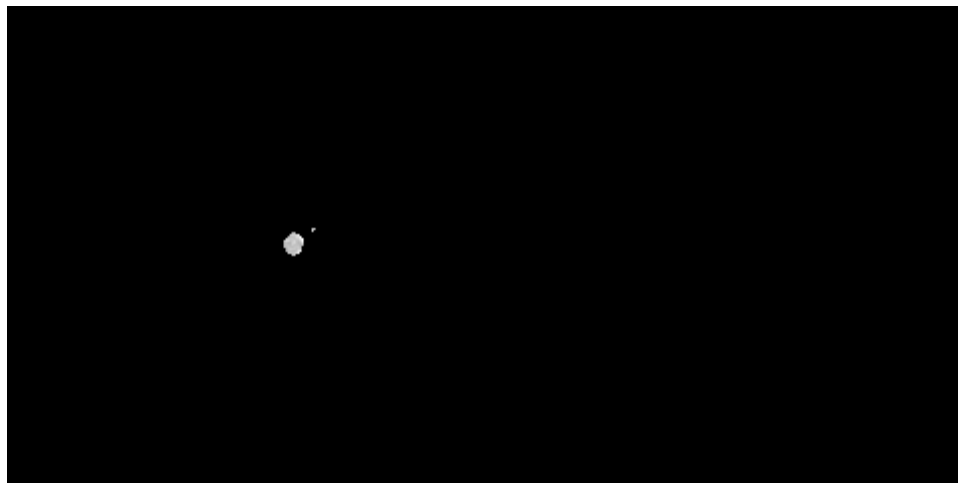


Synthesized

T1c

# 3D visualization

Real

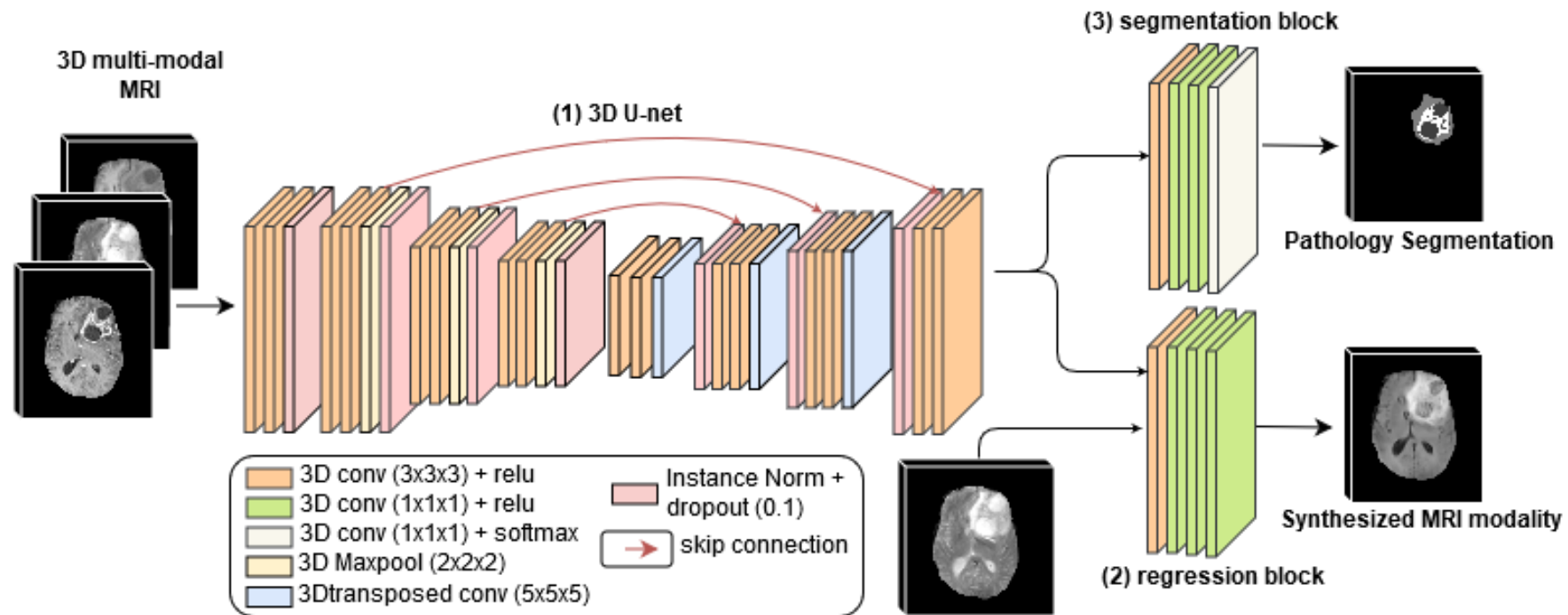


Synthesized

FLAIR



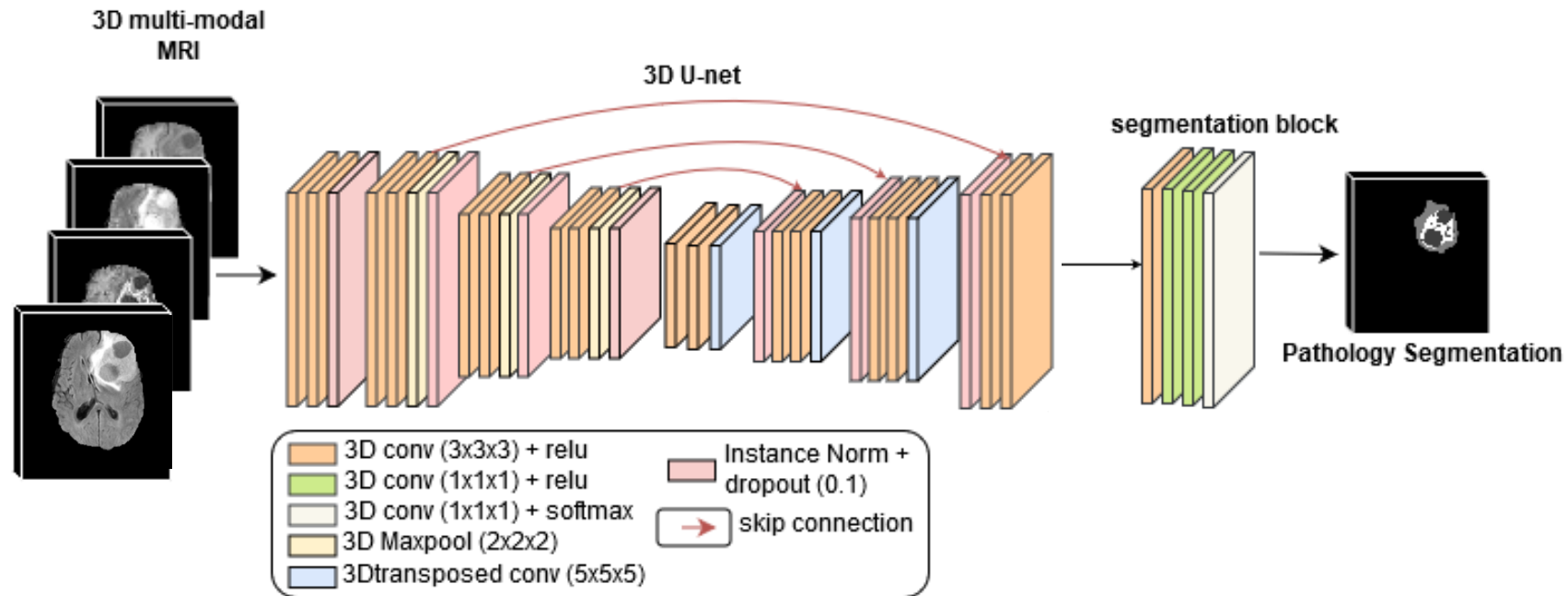
# Performance of Segmentation part of RS-Net



RS-Net



# Performance of Segmentation part of RS-Net



S-Net



# Performance of Segmentation part of RS-Net

	T1	T2	FLAIR	T1ce	DE	DT	DC
<b>Real</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>68.2</b>	<b>87.9</b>	<b>75.7</b>
<b>T1 Synthesis</b>	⊙	✓	✓	✓	67.6	87.9	75.5
	×	✓	✓	✓	66.4	85.2	71.0
<b>T2 Synthesis</b>	✓	⊙	✓	✓	66.3	87.3	75.6
	✓	×	✓	✓	66.5	87.0	71.1
<b>FLAIR Synthesis</b>	✓	✓	⊙	✓	66.8	83.6	73.1
	✓	✓	×	✓	70.5	82.6	74.0
<b>T1ce Synthesis</b>	✓	✓	✓	⊙	24.8	87.3	54.0
	✓	✓	✓	×	23.1	86.5	52.0

✓ Real MRI

⊙ Synthesised MRI (RS-Net)

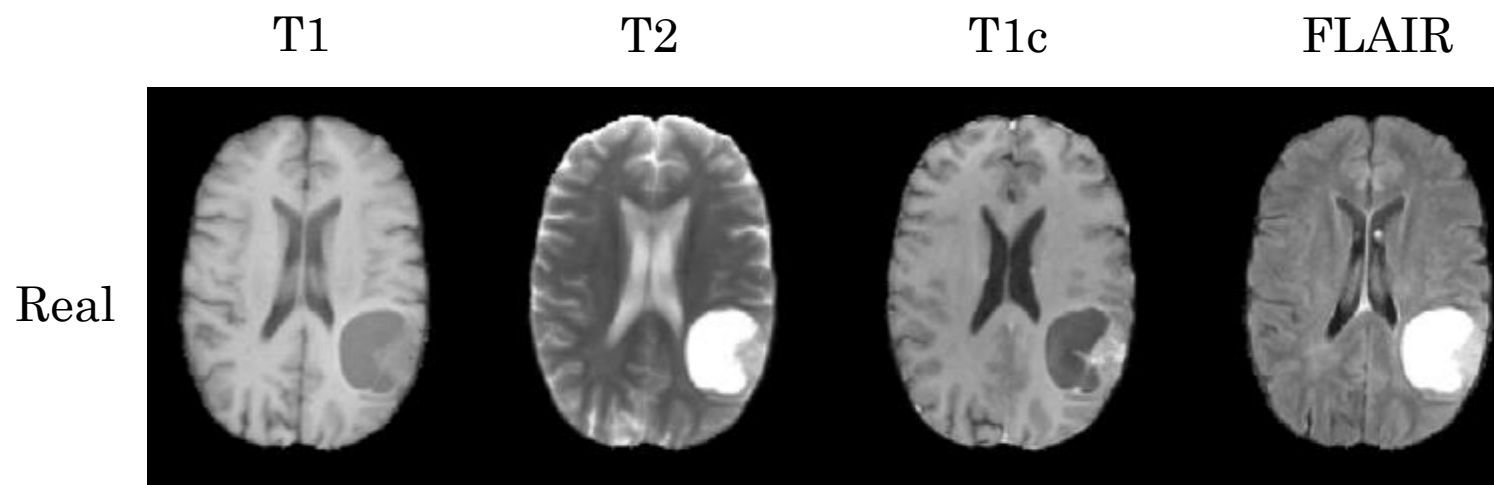
× Segmentation output of RS-Net without MR volume

DE: Dice Enhance

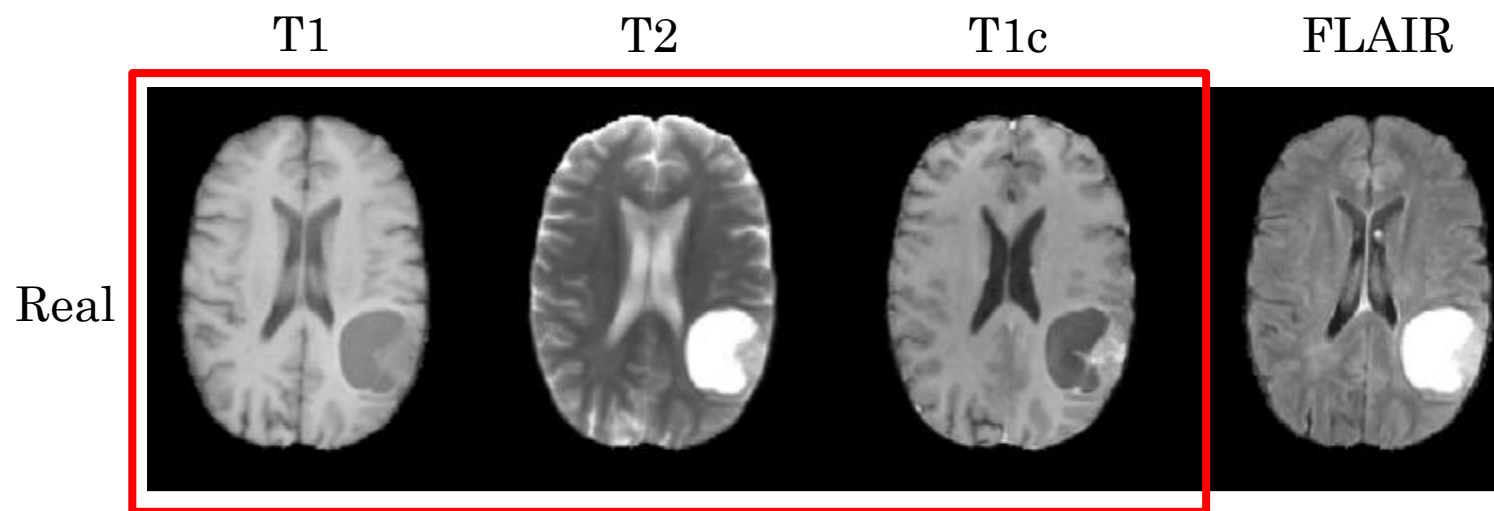
DT: Dice Tumour

DC: Dice Core

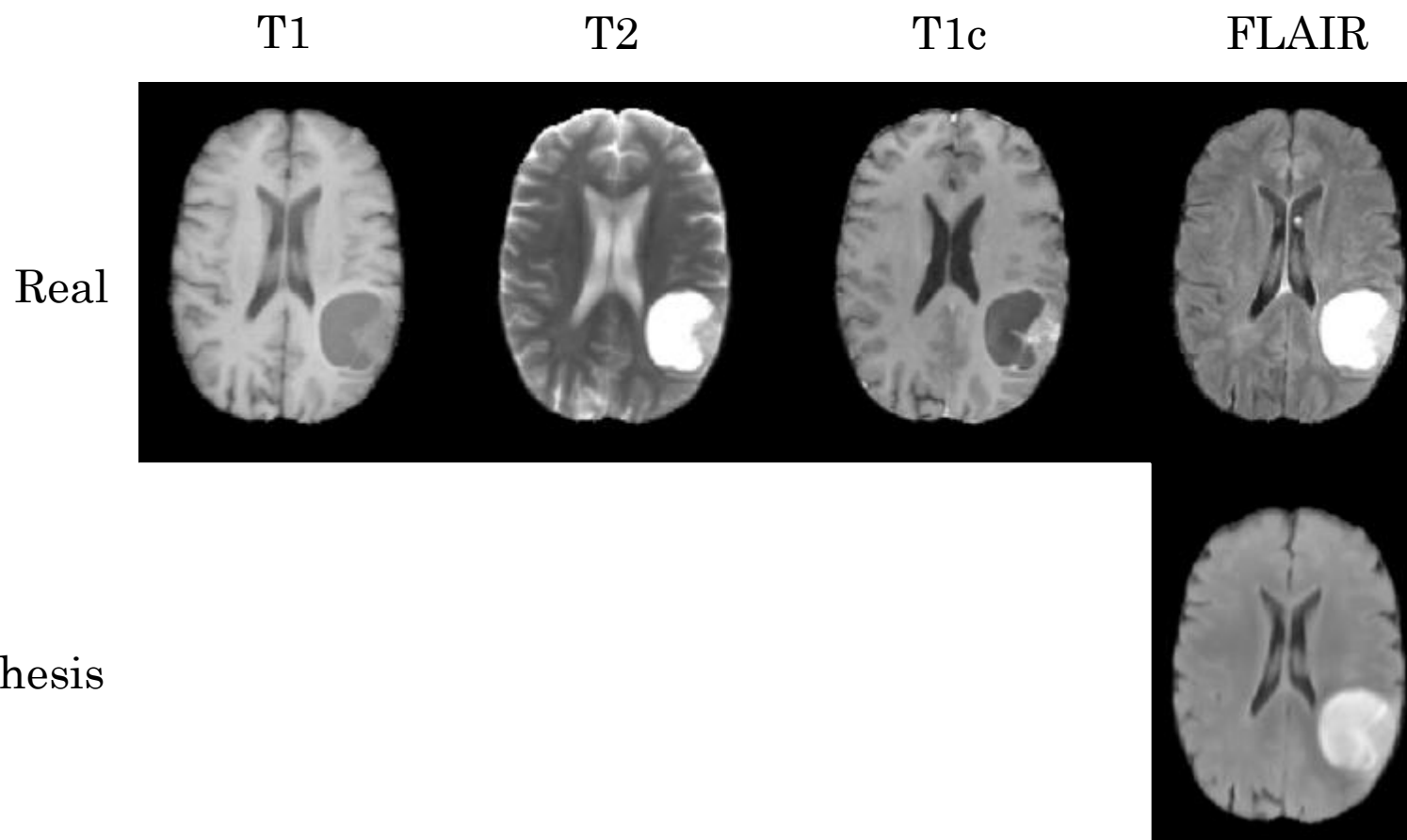
# 3-to-1 synthesis



# 3-to-1 synthesis



# 3 -to- 1 synthesis



# 3 -to- 1 synthesis

