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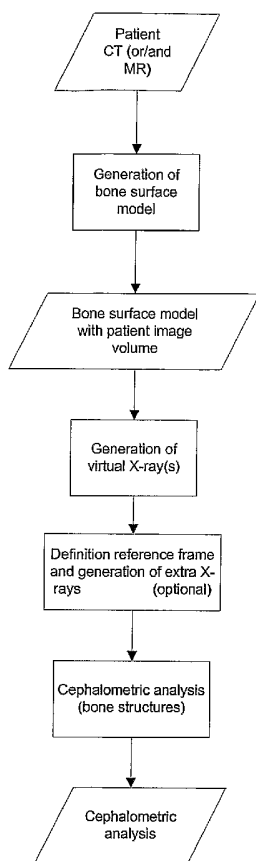
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR DERIVING A TREATMENT PLAN FOR ORTHOGNATIC SURGERY AND DEVICES THEREFOR



(57) Abstract: The present invention is related to a method for performing a cephalometric or anthropometric analysis comprising the steps of : - acquiring a 3D scan of a person's head using a 3D medical image modality, - generating a 3D surface model using data from the 3D scan, - generating from the 3D scan at least one 2D cephalogram geometrically linked to the 3D surface model, - indicating anatomical landmarks on the at least one 2D cephalogram and/or on the 3D surface model, - performing the analysis using the anatomical landmarks.

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METHOD FOR DERIVING A TREATMENT PLAN FOR ORTHOGNATIC
SURGERY AND DEVICES THEREFOR

10 Field of the invention

[0001] The present invention relates to methods for assessing the shape of the skull and soft tissues and for determining a treatment plan for maxillofacial surgery and more particularly for orthognatic surgery and devices used
15 in such surgery or in the preparation thereof.

State of the art

[0002] In maxillofacial surgery, the skull and dentition is surgically remodelled or restored. This
20 surgical discipline encompasses surgical interventions of repair, in particular, of a mis-positioning of the jaws with respect to one another, called orthognatic surgery. Typically, orthognatic surgery involves osteotomies of the maxilla and/or mandible to reposition these bone fragments
25 correctly with respect to the rest of the skull and to create a good occlusion. Osteotomies are surgical operations whereby a bone is cut to shorten, lengthen or change its alignments. With 'occlusion' is meant the manner in which the teeth from upper and lower arches come
30 together when the mouth is closed.

[0003] The preparation of such a surgical intervention requires implementing orthodontic and radiographic techniques.

Orthodontic techniques

[0004] A casting of the patient's mandibular and maxillary dentition is made. These castings, generally made of plaster, are then mounted in an articulator representing
5 the tempero-mandibular joints and jaw members. The castings are used to simulate the relative displacement that has to be applied to the jaws to create a good occlusion. To enable the surgeon to respect the simulated relative positions, a splint, i.e. a plate comprising on each of its
10 surfaces tooth-prints of the two castings, is made. The splint is used to maintain the casting or the jaws in relative positions where the teeth are in occlusion.

[0005] Since the surgical intervention generally includes osteotomies of both jaws, two splints are
15 generally made from the dental castings, in addition to a so-called initial splint linking the two jaws in their occlusion position before the intervention.

[0006] A so-called intermediary splint determines the foreseeable displacement of the maxilla with respect to
20 the mandible, when the mandible is in its original (preoperative) position. This splint enables the surgeon to place the maxilla back on the skull in the desired definitive position before intervening on the mandible. A so-called definitive splint determines the occlusion
25 objective to be surgically achieved and is thus used to correctly position the mandible on the skull by setting the position of the mandible with respect to the previously replaced maxilla.

30 Radiographic techniques

[0007] The preparation of the surgical operation also uses X-ray radiographs of the patient. Typically a lateral radiograph (cephalogram) is performed. Sometimes a frontal X-ray radiograph and other radiography with

different views are performed. These radiographs enable, in particular, performing an approximate simulation of the operative action.

[0008] The simulation is performed manually from a tracing paper placed on the radiography. For example, landmarks are indicated and the contours of the mandible are drawn. The tracing paper is then moved to approximately reproduce thereon the desired post-operative occlusion, after which the maxillary contours are drawn. The maxillo-mandibular assembly drawn on the tracing paper is then moved in one block while respecting cephalometric standards, labial ratios, as well as other criteria known for this type of intervention. The direction and amplitude of the jaw displacements are thus radiographically and approximately defined. The results of this simulation are compared and adjusted according to the relative motion of the mandible and of the maxilla envisaged by means of the splints.

[0009] The actual simulation of an orthognatic surgical intervention is thus performed essentially manually. Further, this simulation is only done in two dimensions based on a plane profile view of the skull.

[0010] The current generation of CT-scanners provide detailed 3D information of the patient's anatomy. Based on this data, 3D surface reconstructions of the bone and the skin surface are possible. Bone fragments can be isolated, and moved with respect to each other. This could provide a suitable basis for a computer assisted orthognatic surgery planning system. However, the currently available 3D surface representations algorithms do not provide a suitable framework comprising anatomically relevant references, which allow the clinician to easily and reliably reposition a bone fragment in the virtual 3D environment. A second problem is associated with the use of

3D surface representations derived from CT-scans of patients having amalgam dental fillings. Teeth amalgam fillings create artefacts that appear as streaks on the CT images. Using these CT images as such, it is impossible to
5 plot on a three-dimensional view the exact position of the teeth to obtain the bite.

[0011] Patent document WO03/028577-A2 discloses an apparatus and method for fabricating orthognatic surgical splints. It also relates to a method for creating a
10 computerised composite skull model suitable for diagnosis and treatment planning. In said method a 3D CT model of the patient's bone structure and a digital dental computer model of the patient's dentition are generated, both comprising a same set of fiduciary markers.

15

Aims of the invention

[0012] The present invention aims to provide a method for performing a cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis. In a second object it aims to provide a method
20 for deriving a treatment plan for orthognatic surgery, comprising said analysis method. In a further object it aims to provide devices suitable therefor.

Summary of the invention

25 [0013] The present invention relates to a method for performing a cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis comprising the steps of :

- acquiring a 3D scan of a person's head using a 3D medical image modality,
- 30 - generating a 3D surface model using data from that 3D scan,
- generating from the 3D scan at least one 2D cephalogram geometrically linked to the 3D surface model,

- indicating anatomical landmarks on the at least one 2D cephalogram and/or on the 3D surface model,
- performing the cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis using the anatomical landmarks.

5 [0014] Preferably the medical image modality is magnetic resonance imaging or computer tomography. The 3D surface model advantageously represents a bone structure surface and/or a soft tissue envelope.

[0015] In a preferred embodiment the method further
10 comprises the step of visualising said generated at least one 2D cephalogram together with the 3D surface model in a virtual scene.

[0016] Advantageously the method further comprises the determining of a reference frame from anatomical
15 reference points on the person's head.

[0017] Preferably in a further step a report of the cephalometric analysis is generated.

[0018] In another embodiment the method comprises the further step of providing 2D or 3D photographs, from
20 which a textured 3D skin surface is derived.

[0019] The analysis typically comprises the determination of linear distances between two landmarks, the distance of a landmark to a reference plane, the distance between landmarks projected on a plane, angles
25 between landmarks or planes, proportions computed between these measurements or the distance between two points along a surface and parallel to a plane.

[0020] In yet a further embodiment the method comprises the steps of acquiring a 3D scan of the person's
30 head, while the person is wearing a 3D splint. Also a 3D scan of casts of said person's upper and lower jaw is then preferably acquired. Next the 3D scan of said person's head, while wearing the 3D splint, and the 3D scan of casts

of upper and lower jaw are fused, based on features of the 3D splint. Advantageously data from the 3D scan of the person wearing said 3D splint is subsequently used for generating the 3D surface model.

5 [0021] In a second object the invention relates to a method for deriving planning information for repositioning a bone fragment, comprising the steps of :

- performing a cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis as previously described,
- 10 - defining a set of virtual positions of the bone fragment to be repositioned, said positions being defined based on the anatomical landmarks,
- visualising for each of the virtual positions the result of repositioning the bone fragment together with the landmarks in the 3D surface model and on the 2D
15 cephalograms,
- taking a decision on an intra-operative repositioning of the bone fragment based on the cephalometric analysis and on the visualisation.

20 [0022] In an advantageous embodiment the virtual positions result from a translation and/or rotation of the bone fragment.

[0023] In another object the invention relates to a device for cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis,
25 comprising

- a computing unit arranged for generating from 3D scan data a 3D surface model and a 2D cephalogram geometrically linked to the 3D surface model,
- visualisation means for representing the 2D cephalogram
30 and/or the 3D surface model, and
- computation means for performing the analysis based on anatomical landmarks provided on the at least one 2D cephalogram and/or on the 3D surface model.

The 3D scan data are preferably CT or MRI data.

[0024] In a further object the invention relates to a 3D splint for use in a method as previously described. The 3D splint comprises a U-shaped part arranged for
5 fitting the upper and lower dental arches and is provided with an extra-oral or intra-oral extension on the U-shaped part.

[0025] In a last object the invention relates to a program, executable on a programmable device containing
10 instructions, which when executed, perform the method as previously described.

Short description of the drawings

[0026] Fig. 1 represents the generation of a virtual
15 (lateral) cephalogram.

[0027] Fig. 2 represents the definition of an anatomically related reference frame.

[0028] Figs. 3A and 3B represent the definition of anatomical landmarks. Both the lateral cephalogram and 3D
20 bone surface model are used to exactly define the points.

[0029] Fig. 4 represents the results of the 3D cephalometric tracing.

[0030] Fig. 5 represents the moving bone fragments being indicated during set-up of orthognatic surgery.

25 [0031] Fig. 6 represents a virtual result of orthognatic surgery.

[0032] Fig. 7 represents the control window used to move the bone fragments.

[0033] Fig. 8 represents the tracking of the
30 movements of the landmarks on the virtual cephalograms (Fig.8A) and on the bone surface representations (Fig.8B).

[0034] Fig. 9 represents the 3D-splint alone and in position between the plaster casts of the dentition. This

3D-splint envisages fusing by means of features of the extension.

[0035] Fig. 10 represents the 3D-splint alone and in position between the plaster casts of the dentition. This
5 3D splint envisages fusing by means of gutta-percha markers.

[0036] Fig. 11 to 14 represent flowcharts of various embodiments of the method according to the invention.

[0037] Fig. 15 represents a global summary of the
10 flowcharts shown in Figs.11-14.

Detailed description of the invention

[0038] In order to perform an adequate 3D cephalometric analysis of bone tissue and/or soft tissues,
15 the ability to indicate the relevant points on the 3D structures alone does not suffice. Points required for adequate 3D cephalometric tracing that are not well defined on the 3D structure are available on a 2D representation and vice-versa. The present invention describes a
20 computerised system that solves this problem.

[0039] The present invention provides a method to redefine the framework of a 3D surface representation into an anatomically relevant framework. The anatomically relevant framework allows a clinician to perform an
25 accurate cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis in an intuitive manner. Moreover, a 3D surface representation comprising an anatomically relevant framework has the advantage that it allows the virtual repositioning of bone fragments in relation to anatomically relevant landmarks,
30 making it particularly suited for the planning of surgical interventions. The flowchart shown in Fig.11 summarises the main steps of the method according to the invention.

[0040] In medical imaging, a modality is any of the various types of equipment or probes used to acquire images

of the body. Radiography, computer tomography, ultrasonography and magnetic resonance imaging are examples for modalities in the present context.

[0041] A method and device to perform a 3D
5 cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis is disclosed allowing a preoperative assessment of a patient's anatomy. The device comprises a computerised system, visualising image volumes (e.g. CT-image volumes) and surface models extracted from it, together with 2D projection grey-value
10 images, i.e. virtual X-ray images geometrically linked with the CT-image and computed from it. The combined information provides a means for effectively and accurately assessing the 3D anatomy of the patient's skull and soft tissue surface. The technology fuses classical 2D cephalometric
15 tracings with 3D bone surface visualisation. The surface model can be generated using the CT data, as described in the paper '*Marching Cubes: a High Resolution 3D Surface Construction Algorithm*' by W.E. Lorensen, H.E. Cline (ACM Computer Graphics (ACM SIGGRAPH '87 Proceedings), vol.21, no.4, pp.163-169, July 1987). The virtual X-ray images
20 (cephalograms) can be obtained as described in '*Display of surfaces from volume data*', Levoy M., IEEE Comput. Graph. Appl. 8,3 (May 1988), pp.29-37.

[0042] A 3D scan of the patient is the input to the
25 system. The image volume is composed of so-called 'voxels', i.e. volume elements that each hold one value (e.g. a greyvalue). The box-shaped voxels compose a complete image volume when arranged in a three-dimensional array. Based on this image volume, a 3D surface of the bone structure
30 and/or the soft tissue envelope is constructed. If required, it is possible to add the natural complexion (the natural tone and texture of the skin) of the face to the skin surface generated from CT-data, by adding the colour information of the face. To achieve this, a textured 3D

skin surface, acquired e.g. by 3D photography or laser scanning, can be added and registered to the CT-data (see flowchart in Fig.12). As an alternative, a series of 2D photos are acquired and by aligning the skin surface model
5 from CT to the view of the 2D photo, the texture is transferred.

[0043] In an initial step the clinician defines or selects the type of analysis. A cephalometric analysis performs measurements at the level of the patient's skull.
10 An anthropometric analysis performs measurements at the level of the patient's skin. The present invention allows defining various cephalometric and anthropometric analyses or even a combination of both. The type of analysis determines the anatomical landmarks that should be
15 indicated by the clinician and the measurements that are computed.

[0044] Before indicating these landmarks the clinician has virtually positioned the patient to create a lateral cephalogram (see Fig.1), and preferably an
20 anatomical reference frame (Fig.2) is installed replacing the co-ordinate system of the CT-data. Also a frontal cephalogram is optionally generated.

[0045] The anatomical reference frame is a coordinate system attached to anatomical reference points.
25 This reference frame consists of a horizontal, median and vertical plane (Fig.2). With this reference frame, the directions up/down and left/right are linked with the anatomy of the patient. Consequently the installation of such anatomical reference frame allows an easy navigation
30 within the virtual images.

[0046] In a particular embodiment, the system constructs such anatomical relevant reference frame after the clinician has indicated following anatomical landmarks:

1. two left/right symmetrical landmarks: e.g. the left and right fronto-zygomatic suture.

2. Nasion

3. Sella

5 The horizontal plane is defined by the direction defined in 1, together with the direction Nasion-Sella and goes through the Sella. The median plane is perpendicular on the horizontal plane, contains the left/right direction and goes through Sella. The vertical plane is perpendicular on
10 the median plane and horizontal plane and goes through Sella.

Another reference frame can be defined based on the skin surface alone:

1. two left/right symmetrical landmarks: e.g. the pupils,

15 2. with a lateral view of the head, the direction of the pupils tangent to the upper limit of the ear,

3. a soft tissue point on the facial midline, e.g. on the soft tissue Nasion point (Nasion-s).

The horizontal plane is defined by the directions defined
20 in 1 and 2, and goes through Nasion-s. The median plane is perpendicular on the horizontal plane, and contains the direction defined by 2, and goes through Nasion-s. The vertical plane is perpendicular on the horizontal and median plane, and goes through Nasion-s.

25 [0047] In a next step anatomical landmarks of the analysis are indicated. Landmarks are characteristic anatomical points on hard tissues or soft tissues. The landmarks can be indicated on the surface model or on the 2D cephalogram (see Fig. 3). Selected anatomical points can
30 determine an anatomical plane, which should be considered as one of the anatomical landmarks.

[0048] Finally, the measurements (distances or angles) of the analysis are computed and preferably a

report is generated. The position of the landmarks can be adjusted. Possible measurements comprise :

- 5 - angles between planes (e.g. the inclination of the Frankfurter plane with the horizontal plane of the reference frame),
- angles between projected points,
- linear distances between two landmarks. This can be the actual distance between points or the distance of the points projected on the reference planes: the height, the width and the depth distances between two
- 10 points,
- distance of a landmark to the reference planes,
- proportional measurements that compute the proportion between two measurements.

15 Fig.4 shows an example of analysis results.

[0049] Several types of cephalometric analyses can be defined. In the set-up of a specific type of cephalometric analysis preferably following elements are defined:

- 20 - whether the reference frames are used or not, and if so, which ones,
- a number of measurements between anatomical landmarks or anatomical planes are defined. If a landmark for a measurement is not already defined in the system, a
- 25 new landmark has to be defined.

Also freely orientated extra virtual X-ray images can be generated.

[0050] In order to prepare efficiently the repositioning of bone fragments the following requirements

30 should be achieved for an orthognatic surgery planning system :

- the planning system should allow repositioning the bone fragments with respect to an anatomically defined

reference frame and with respect to anatomically defined rotation/translation references, and

- it should visualise the results of any repositioning.

Preferably, the effects of any repositioning are

5 visualised at the level of the skeleton as well as on the level of the soft tissues.

[0051] In the prior art solutions most clinicians perform a planning using 2D cephalograms in combination with dental castings. However, as a 2D cephalogram is a
10 projection image, 3D information is lost, while dental casts only give 3D information on a very limited area of the head and provide no information on the soft tissue.

[0052] When preparing a bone fragment repositioning, useful additional information can be obtained using the
15 above-described 3D cephalometric analysis (Fig.5). Using information from the cephalometric analysis, the user (typically a surgeon) can reposition bone fragments in a virtual way. As an example, Fig. 6 shows the result of a virtual maxillary repositioning. Different types of
20 translation and rotation with respect to the landmarks can be simulated by means of the computerised planning system. For example a rotation around an axis or a translation along a direction can be defined as the intersection between two planes or as being perpendicular to a plane or
25 it can be defined by two landmarks.

[0053] To create an easy way of working, the user can predefine in the computerised orthognatic surgery planning system various types of surgery, such as maxillary advancement, mandibular advancement, mandibular widening,
30 etc. When he chooses a type of surgery, a user interface asking to perform several tasks is popped up. At the end, the surgeon can enter specific surgical parameters and the bone fragments are moved accordingly (Fig.7). Fig.7 shows parameters for the movement of the maxilla with respect to

the anatomically defined reference frame. The landmarks are updated accordingly and the movement of the landmarks with respect to their original position is depicted (Fig.8). In order to increase flexibility of the bone repositioning tools in the planning system, the user can define his set of bone movement references, adhering to his way of working and performing surgery.

[0054] Amalgam dental fillings can corrupt CT-images at the level of the teeth. This renders accurate visualisation of the occlusion very difficult. Moreover, to clearly inspect the occlusion, the details of the teeth are very important. To image the details of teeth, a very high resolution CT-scan is required, and in consequence a high X-ray exposure of the patient. However, it should be avoided to expose a patient to high X-ray doses.

[0055] In order to increase the level of detail at the level of the crown of the teeth, without increasing the CT radiation dose, a 3D-splint (Fig.9) is used with a planar U-shaped geometry and fitting on both the actual upper and lower dental arches at the same time. Attached to this part, the splint has at least one extension. This extension can be either extra-oral or intra-oral. The splint is produced in a non-toxic material that is almost radiolucent.

While wearing this splint, the patient is CT-scanned. Then, plaster casts of the patient's upper and lower jaw with the splint in between (see Fig.9) are CT-scanned. The additional steps are also indicated in the flowchart of Fig.14. Using image analysis techniques, the features of said extension are extracted from both the patient CT scan and the cast scan. Based on these features both data sets are fused, and the plaster casts are co-visualised with the patient CT scan. Such a feature can be the part of the

surface of said extension. This allows accurate software planning at the level of crowns of teeth. Instead of employing features of the extension, one could also envisage the use of gutta-percha markers (see Fig.10). The
5 splint then contains at least 4 spherical gutta-percha markers with a diameter of about 1mm. At least one marker should be positioned on the extension and not in the same plane as the U-shaped part.

[0056] After finishing the virtual planning using
10 the 3D cephalometric reference frame with the enhanced imaging of the teeth, the plaster casts are mounted in an articulator. The planning system exports the virtual planning results to the articulator in order to move the plaster casts in the same way as in the virtual planning
15 (see flowchart in Fig.13). Depending on the type of articulator, this can be performed by modifying a number of characteristic parameters in accordance with the planning output, or in case of e.g. a motorised articulator, to drive that articulator. In case the model has to be split
20 into several components, the same procedure is repeated for all components. Based on the new position of the plaster casts in the articulator, the physical surgical splints are produced.

[0057] Alternatively, the surgical splints can be
25 digitally designed. A box-shaped or a U-shaped object is introduced in the software and the intersection volume with the plaster cast model is computed, after which the inserted object is removed. This object is then produced. Several available production methods can be applied: e.g.
30 milling, 3D printing, stereolithography, sintering, ... Using these production methods, the splints are directly produced or otherwise a model is produced from which a splint can be derived manually by routinely used techniques.

[0058] Also, the planning results of the maxillofacial surgery planning can be exported to a surgical navigation system, as indicated in the flowchart of Fig.13.

5 [0059] Optionally, the surgeon can also work the other way around. The surgeon performs a (possibly partial) model surgery on the plaster casts. To check this model surgery with the remainder of the skull, the new positions of the models are CT-scanned. This scan is entered in the
10 planning system by means of registration. Based on one or more unaltered parts of the current plaster casts and the original plaster casts, the models are registered by surface matching and the transformation matrices for the bone surface are known.

CLAIMS

1. Method for performing a cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis comprising the steps of :
- acquiring a 3D scan of a person's head using a 3D
5 medical image modality,
 - generating a 3D surface model using data from said 3D scan,
 - generating from said 3D scan at least one 2D cephalogram geometrically linked to said 3D surface model,
 - 10 - indicating anatomical landmarks on said at least one 2D cephalogram and/or on said 3D surface model,
 - performing said cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis using said anatomical landmarks.

2. Method for performing a cephalometric
15 and/or anthropometric analysis as in claim 1, wherein said medical image modality is magnetic resonance imaging or computer tomography.

3. Method for performing an analysis as in claim 1 or 2, wherein said 3D surface model represents a
20 bone structure surface and/or a soft tissue envelope.

4. Method for performing an analysis as in any of claims 1 to 3, further comprising the step of visualising said generated at least one 2D cephalogram together with said 3D surface model in a virtual scene.

25 5. Method for performing an analysis as in any of claims 1 to 4, further comprising the step of determining a reference frame from anatomical reference points on said person's head.

6. Method for performing an analysis as in
30 any of claims 1 to 5, further comprising the step of generating a report of said cephalometric analysis.

7. Method for performing an analysis as in any of claims 1 to 6, further comprising the step of

providing 2D or 3D photographs, from which a textured 3D skin surface is derived.

8. Method for performing an analysis as in any of claims 1 to 7, wherein said analysis comprises the
5 determination of linear distances between two landmarks or the distance of a landmark to a reference plane.

9. Method for performing an analysis as in any of claims 1 to 8, further comprising the steps of acquiring a 3D scan of said person's head, said person
10 wearing a 3D splint as in claim 15, and a 3D scan of casts of said person's upper and lower jaw and further comprising the step of fusing, based on features of said 3D splint, said 3D scan of said person's head, said person wearing said 3D splint, and said 3D scan of casts of said person's
15 upper and lower jaw.

10. Method for performing an analysis as in claim 9, whereby data from said 3D scan of said person wearing said 3D splint is used for generating said 3D surface model.

20 11. Method for deriving planning information for repositioning a bone fragment, comprising the steps of
:
- performing a cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis as in any of the previous claims,
25 - defining a set of virtual positions of said bone fragment to be repositioned, said positions being defined based on said anatomical landmarks,
- visualising the result for each of said virtual positions,
30 - taking a decision on an intra-operative repositioning of said bone fragment based on said cephalometric analysis and on said visualisation.

12. Method for deriving planning information as in claim 11, wherein said virtual positions result from a translation and/or rotation of said bone fragment.

13. A device for cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis, comprising

- a computing unit arranged for generating from 3D scan data a 3D surface model and a 2D cephalogram geometrically linked to said 3D surface model,
- visualisation means for representing said 2D cephalogram and/or said 3D surface model, and
- computation means for performing said analysis based on anatomical landmarks provided on said at least one 2D cephalogram and/or on said 3D surface model.

14. A device for cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis, wherein said 3D scan data are CT or MRI data.

15. A 3D splint for use in a method as in claim 9, comprising a U-shaped part arranged for fitting the upper and lower dental arches and provided with an extension on said U-shaped part.

16. A program, executable on a programmable device containing instructions, which when executed, perform the method as in any of the claims 1 to 12.

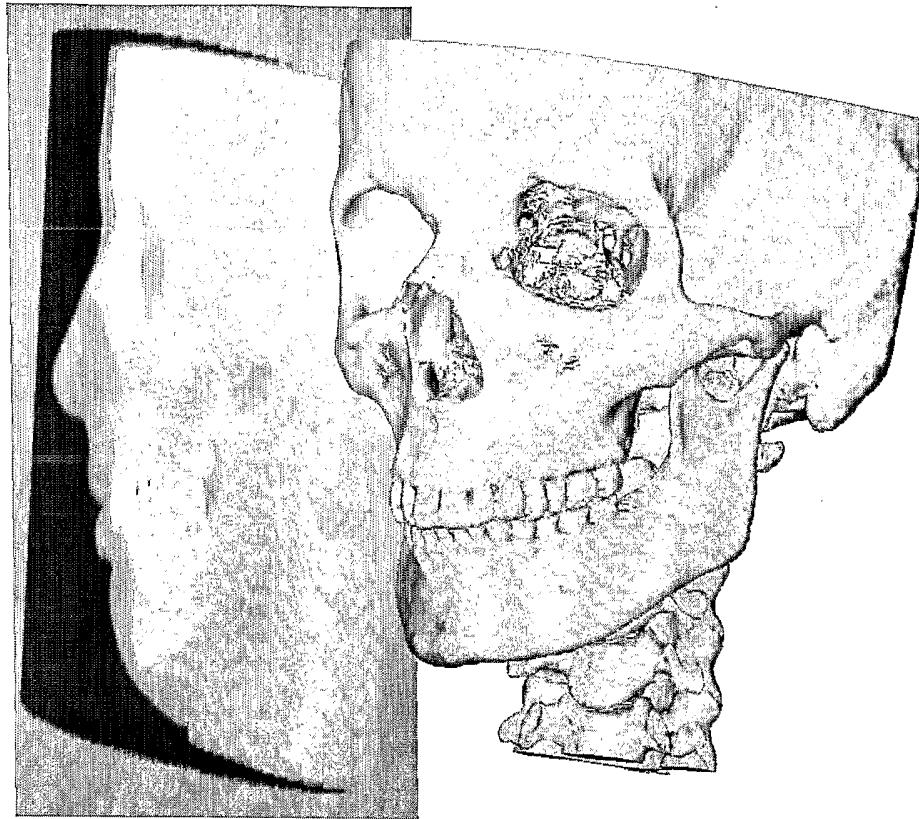


Fig. 1

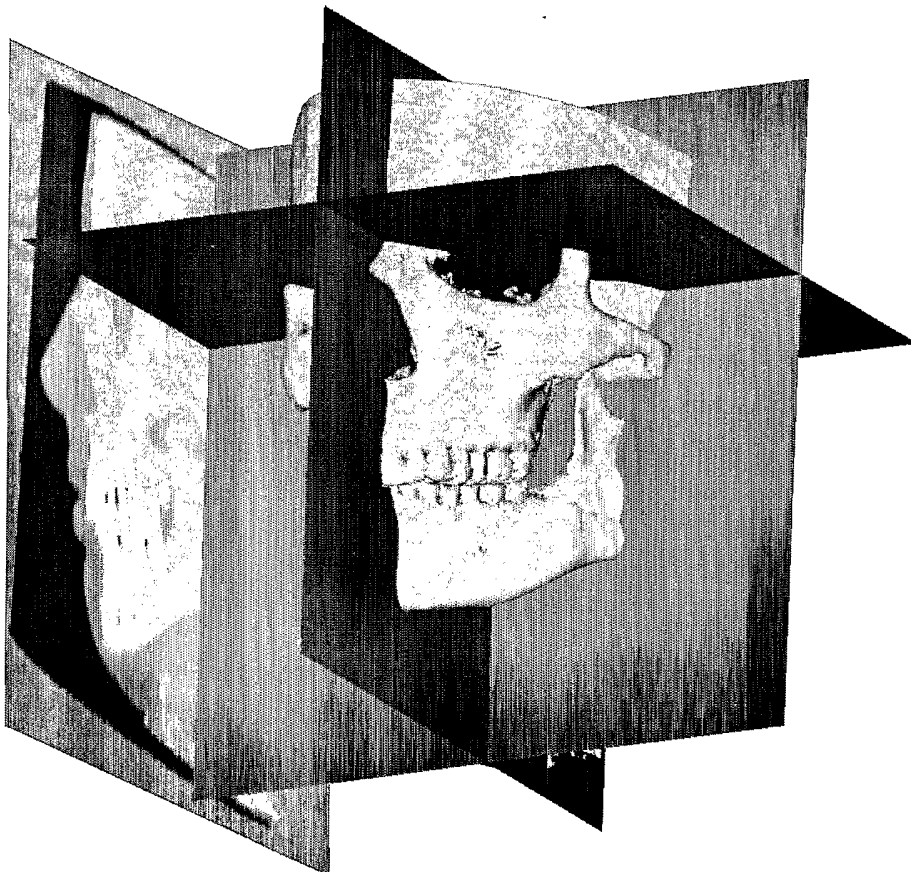


Fig. 2

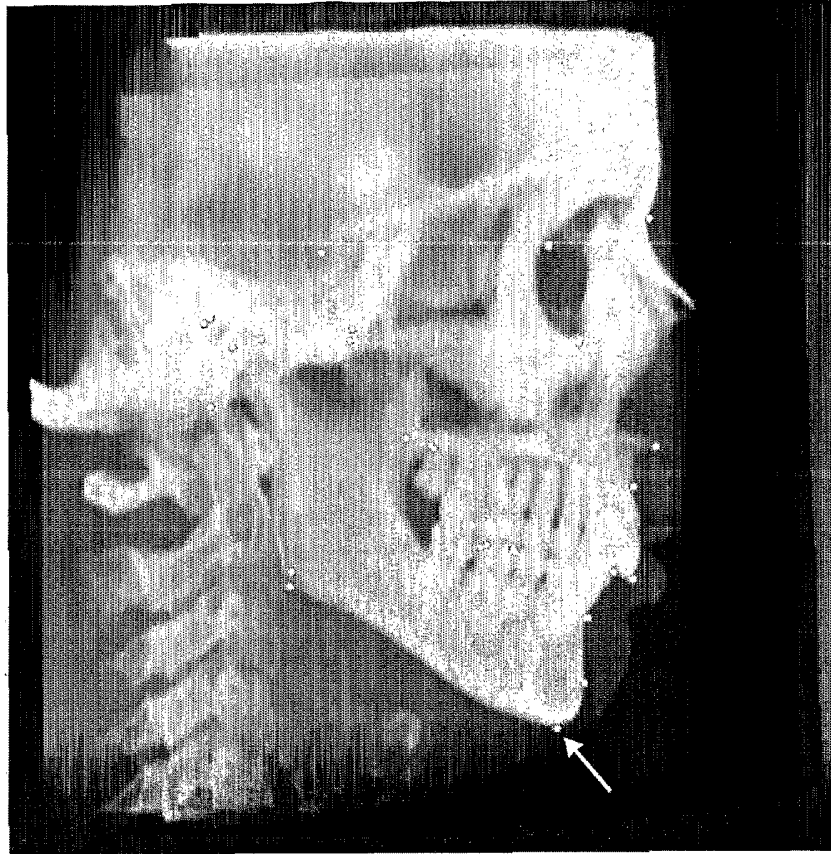


Fig. 3A

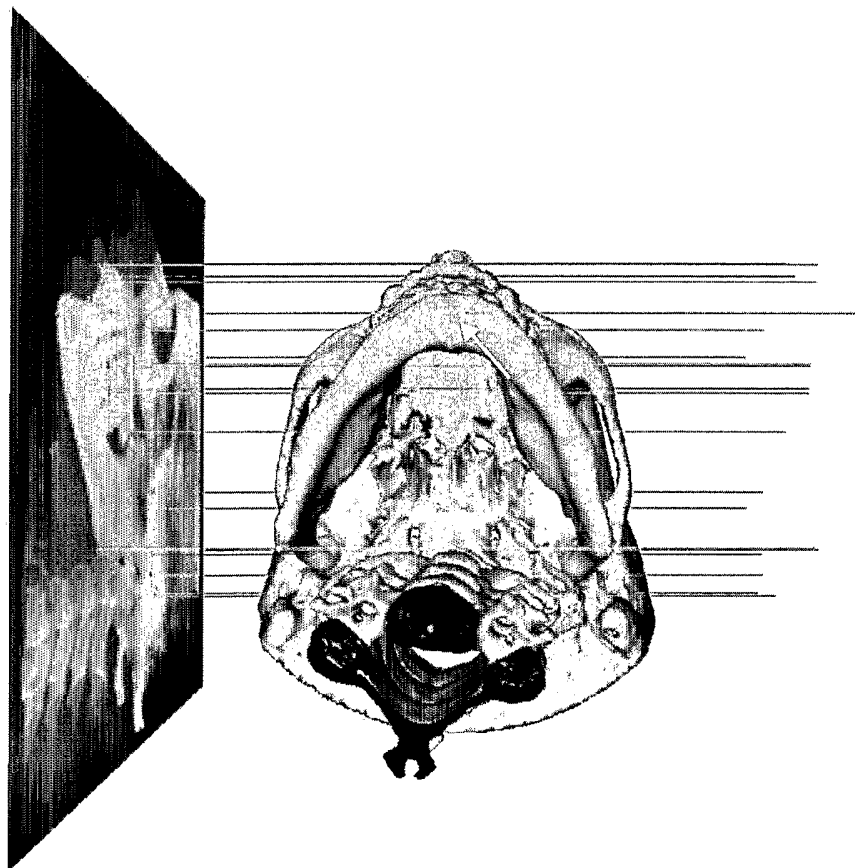


Fig. 3B

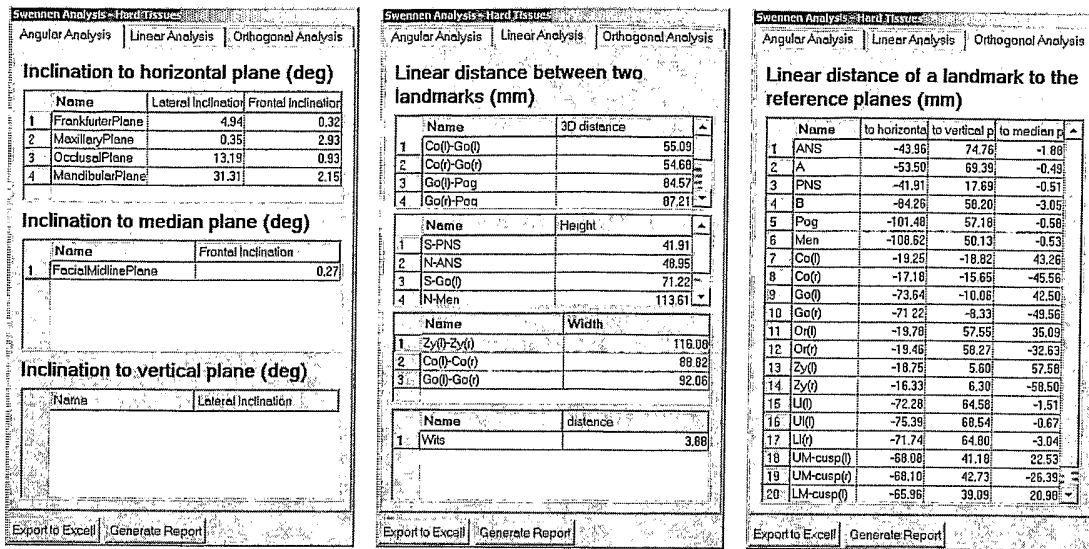


Fig. 4

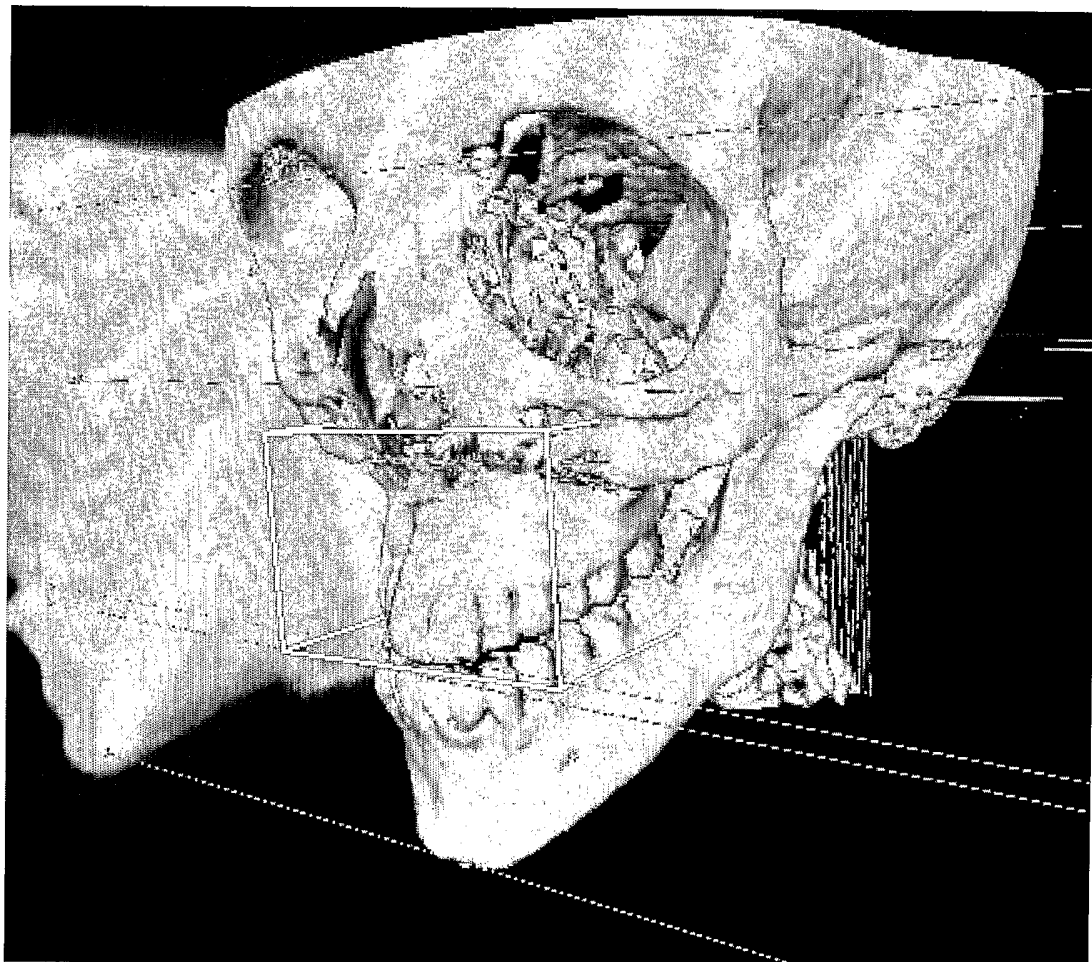


Fig. 5

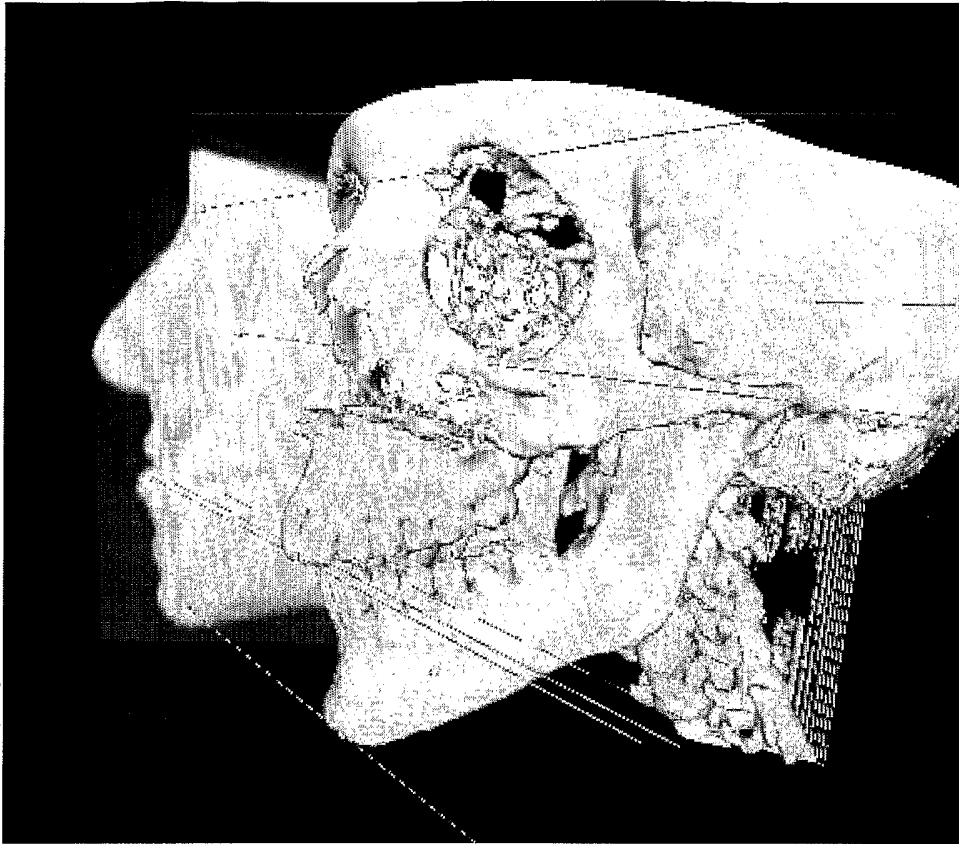


Fig 6

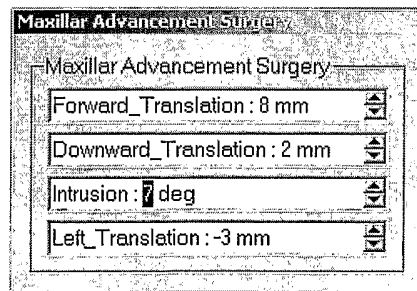


Fig. 7

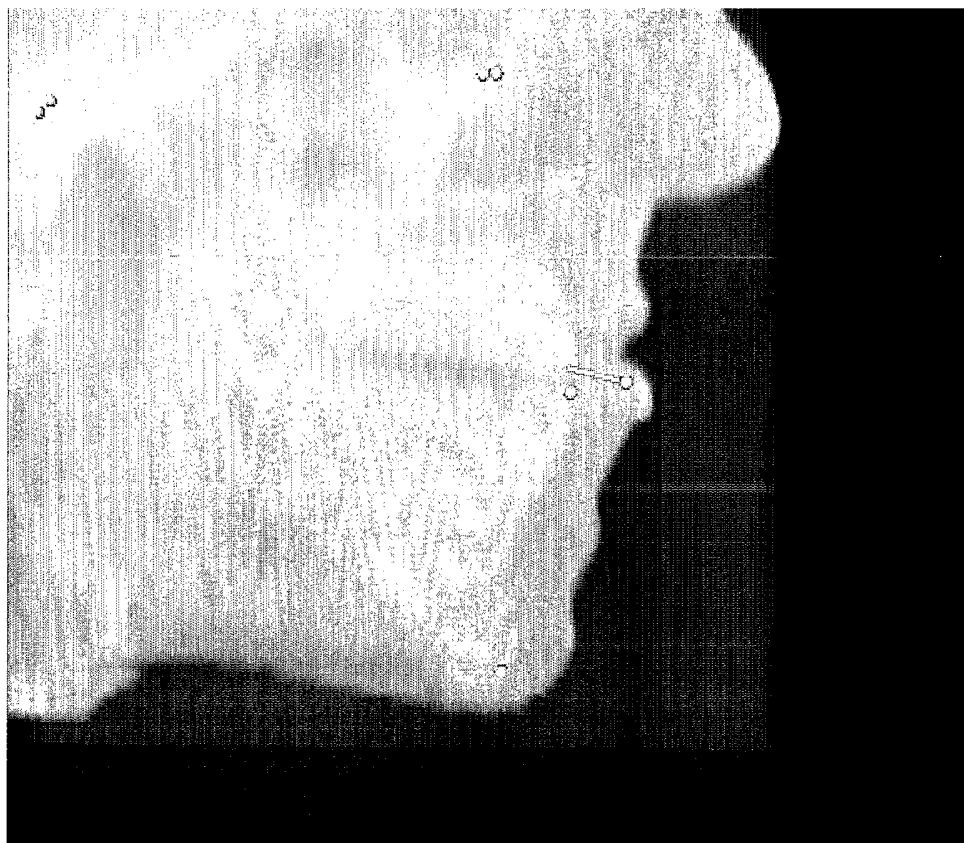


Fig. 8A

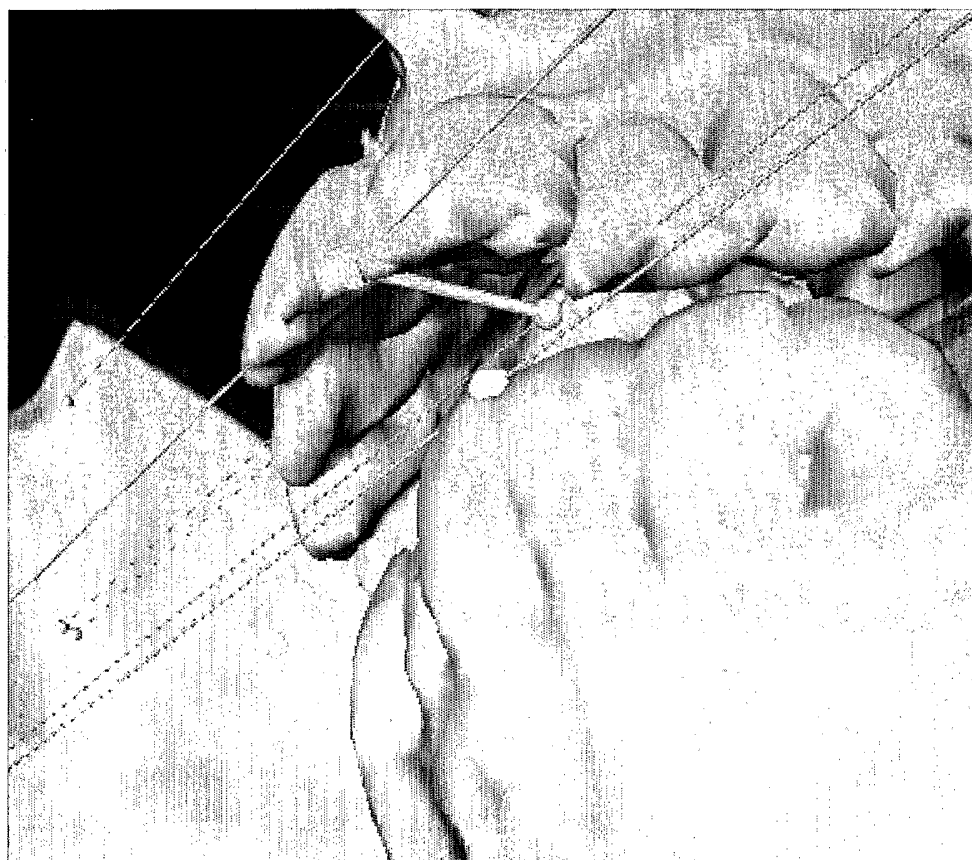


Fig. 8B

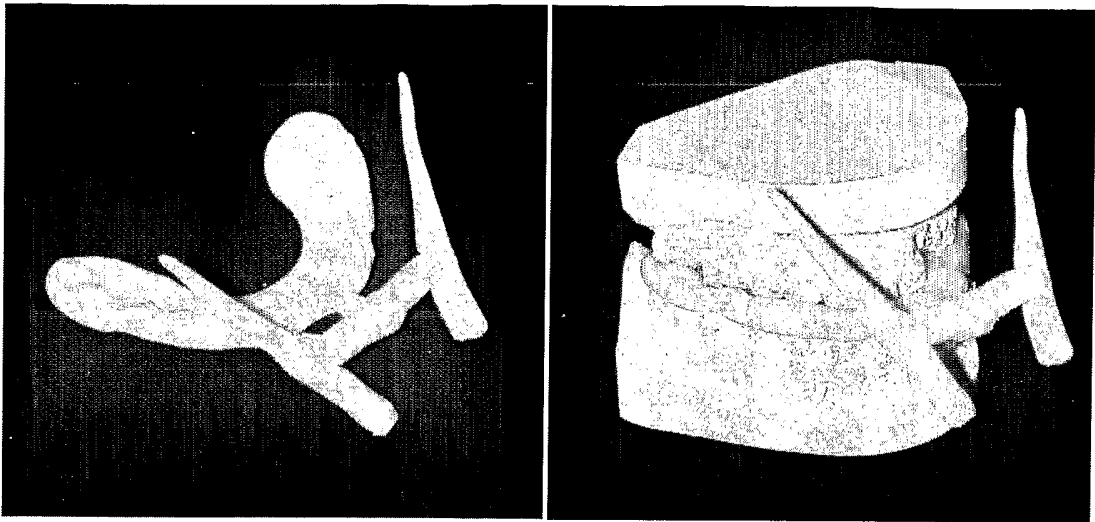


Fig. 9

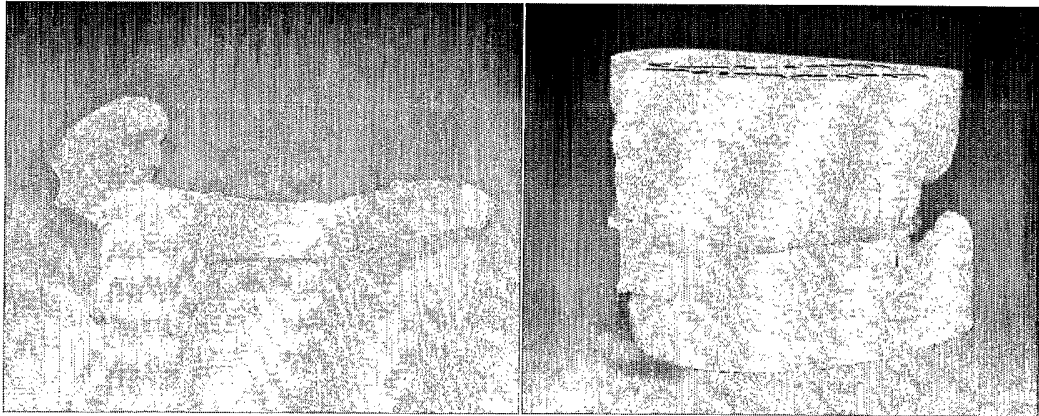


Fig 10

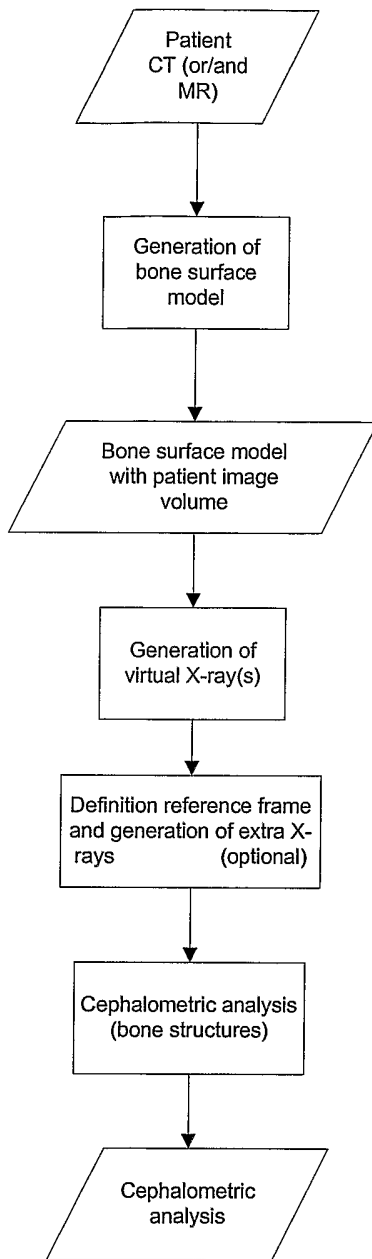


Fig 11

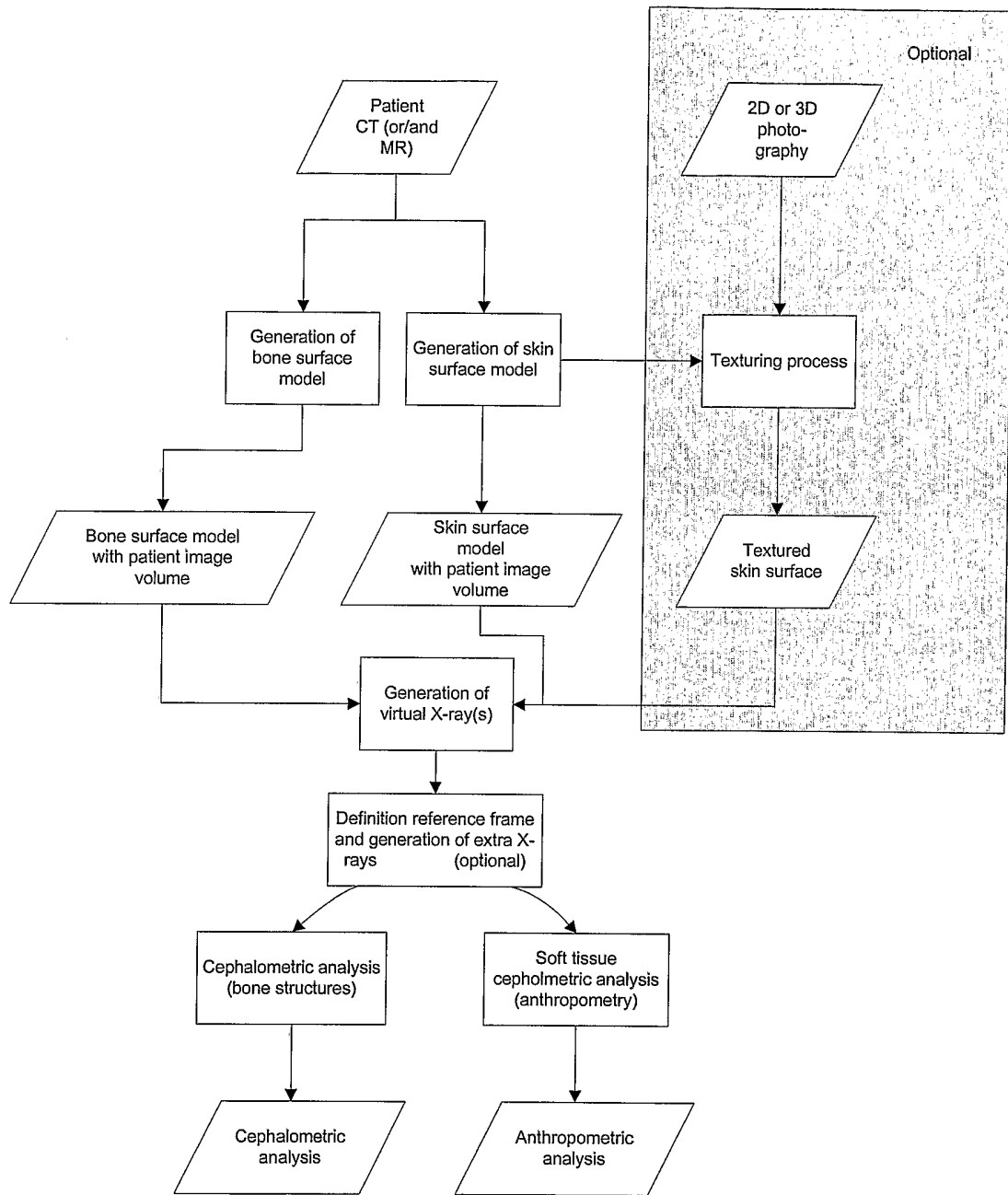


Fig.12

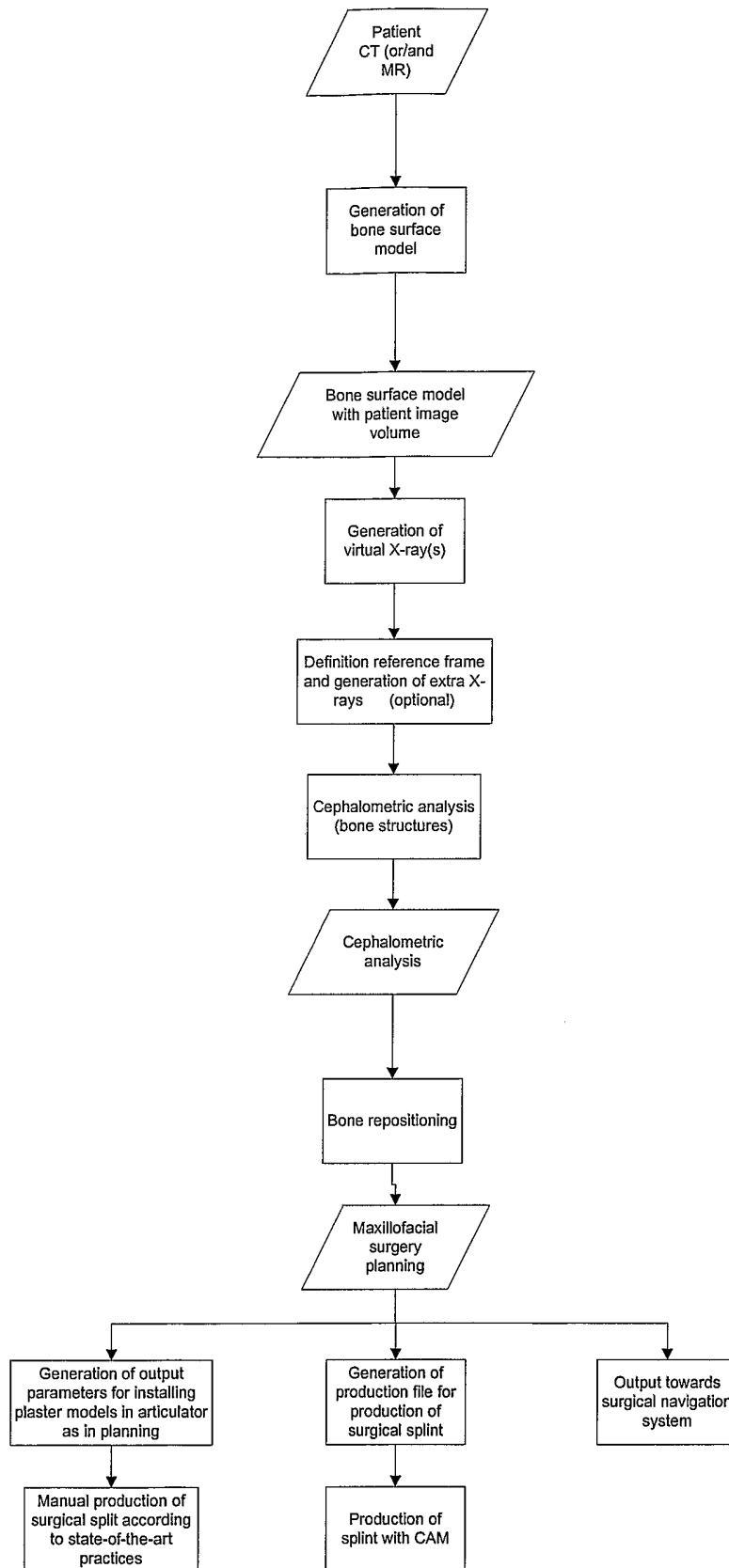


Fig 13

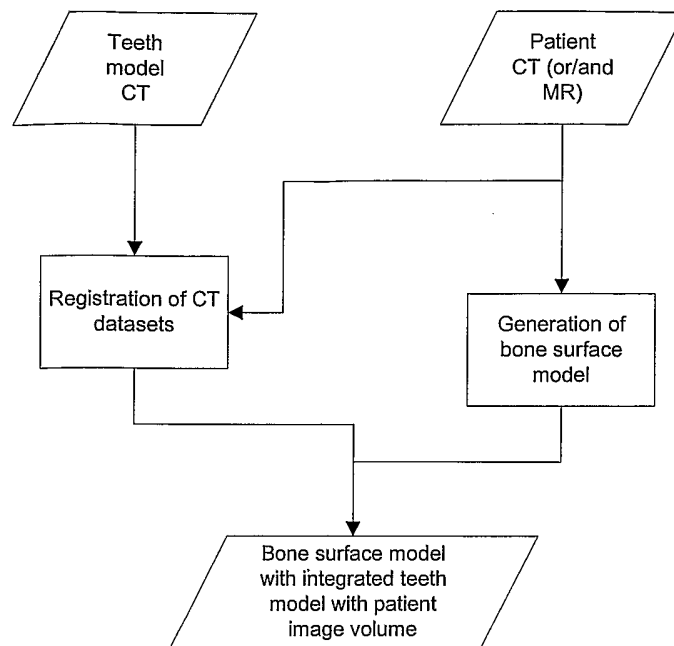


Fig. 14

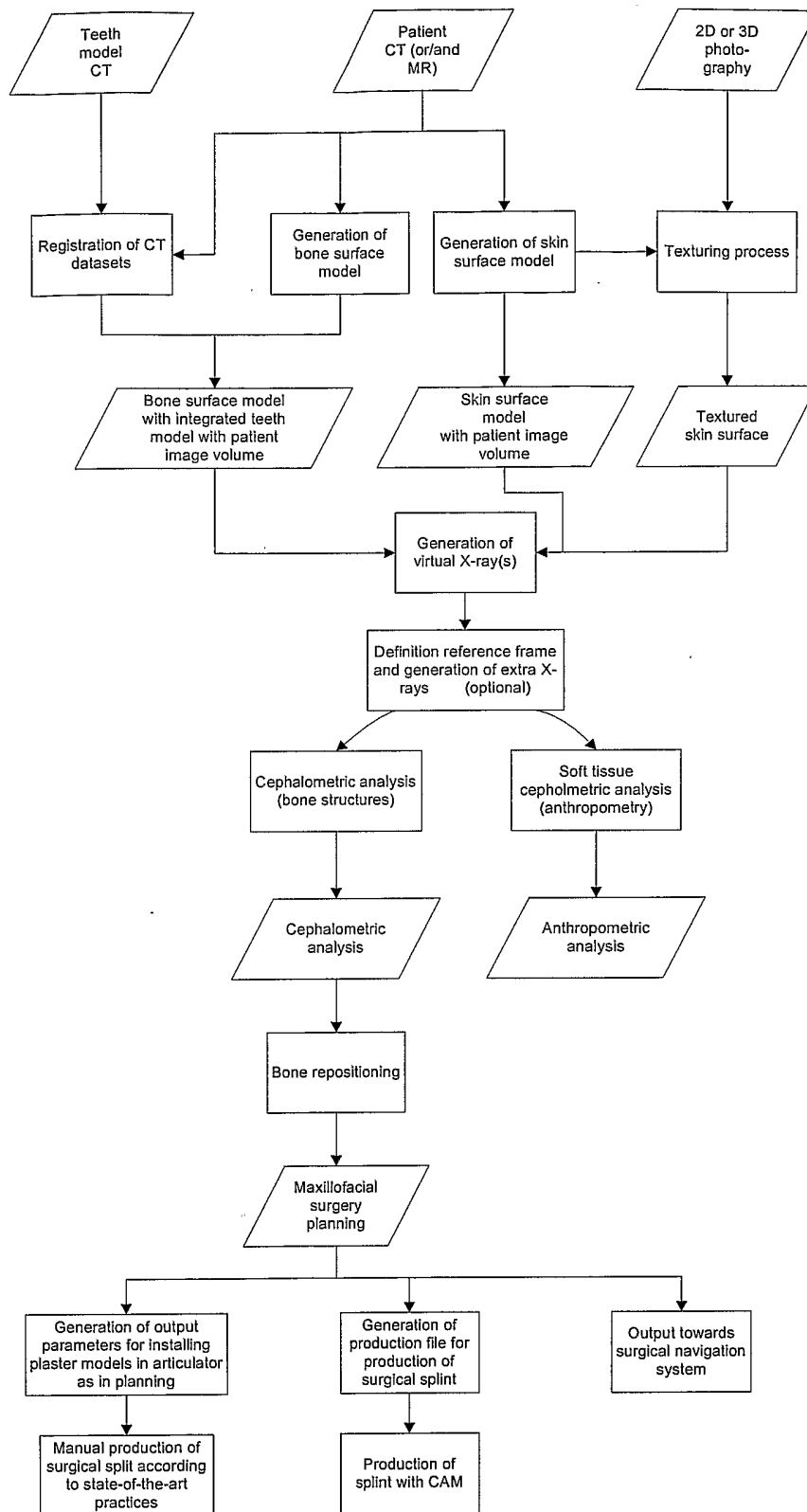


Fig. 15

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/BE2005/000100

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G06T7/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B G06T G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, COMPENDEX, PAJ, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	TROULIS M J ET AL: "Development of a three-dimensional treatment planning system based on computed tomographic data." INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY. AUG 2002, vol. 31, no. 4, August 2002 (2002-08), pages 349-357, XP008053607 ISSN: 0901-5027 abstract; figures 2,4,7,8 Page 350-351 "Development of the software" Page 352 "Results" ----- -/--	1,13,14

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 October 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

25/10/2005

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Jonsson, P.O.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/BE2005/000100

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>SCHUTYSER F ET AL: "Image-based 3D planning of maxillofacial distraction procedures including soft tissue implications"</p> <p>MEDICAL IMAGE COMPUTING AND COMPUTER-ASSISTED INTERVENTION - MICCAI 2000. THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. PROCEEDINGS (LECTURE NOTES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE VOL.1935) SPRINGER-VERLAG BERLIN, GERMANY, 2000, pages 999-1007, XP008053601 ISBN: 3-540-41189-5</p> <p>abstract paragraphs '0002!, '03.1!</p> <p>-----</p>	1,13
Y	<p>VERSTREKEN K ET AL: "An image-guided planning system for endosseous oral implants"</p> <p>IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON MEDICAL IMAGING IEEE USA, vol. 17, no. 5, October 1998 (1998-10), pages 842-852, XP008053785 ISSN: 0278-0062</p> <p>abstract; figures 1-7 Par. II B,C</p> <p>-----</p>	1,13
X	<p>US 2004/015327 A1 (SACHDEVA ROHIT ET AL) 22 January 2004 (2004-01-22)</p> <p>abstract; figures 1-3 paragraph '0012!</p> <p>-----</p>	14
X	<p>US 6 213 769 B1 (BETTEGA GEORGES ET AL) 10 April 2001 (2001-04-10)</p> <p>abstract; figure 1 column 4, line 57 - column 5, line 13</p> <p>-----</p>	15
X	<p>WO 03/028577 A (BOARD OF REGENTS, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM) 10 April 2003 (2003-04-10)</p> <p>cited in the application page 8, lines 7-17; figure 7</p> <p>-----</p>	15

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/BE2005/000100

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 11-12
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-10,13,14,16

A method/device/program for cephalometric and/or anthropometric analysis

2. claim: 15

a 3D splint

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 11-12

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy

From the feature of performing an intra-operative repositioning in claim 11 it is clear that this involves a method of treatment within the meaning of Rule 39.1(iv) PCT.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/BE2005/000100

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2004015327	A1	22-01-2004	NONE	
US 6213769	B1	10-04-2001	DE 69729804 D1 DE 69729804 T2 EP 0954252 A1 FR 2757373 A1 WO 9827892 A1	12-08-2004 14-07-2005 10-11-1999 26-06-1998 02-07-1998
WO 03028577	A	10-04-2003	EP 1441641 A2 US 2003065259 A1	04-08-2004 03-04-2003