



# Vision-Soar: Multi-agent image interpretation of medical images

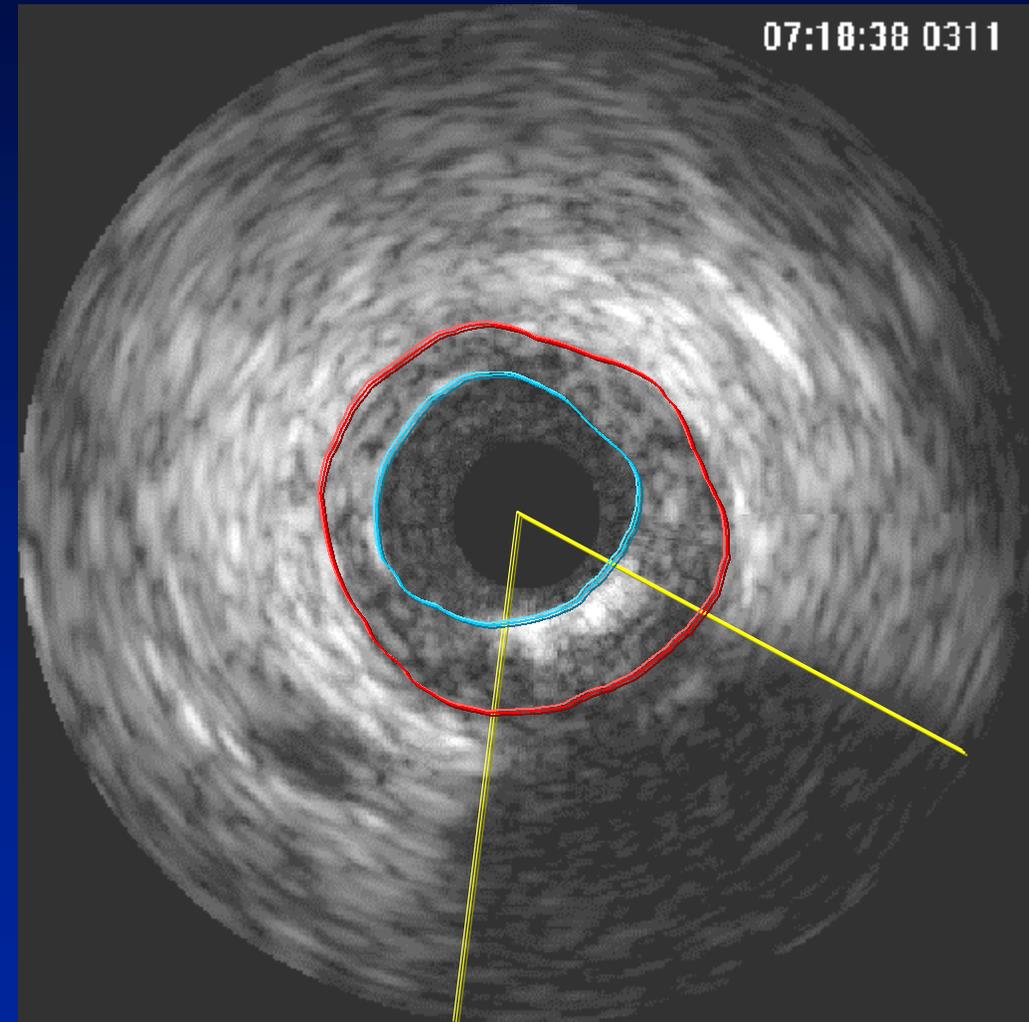
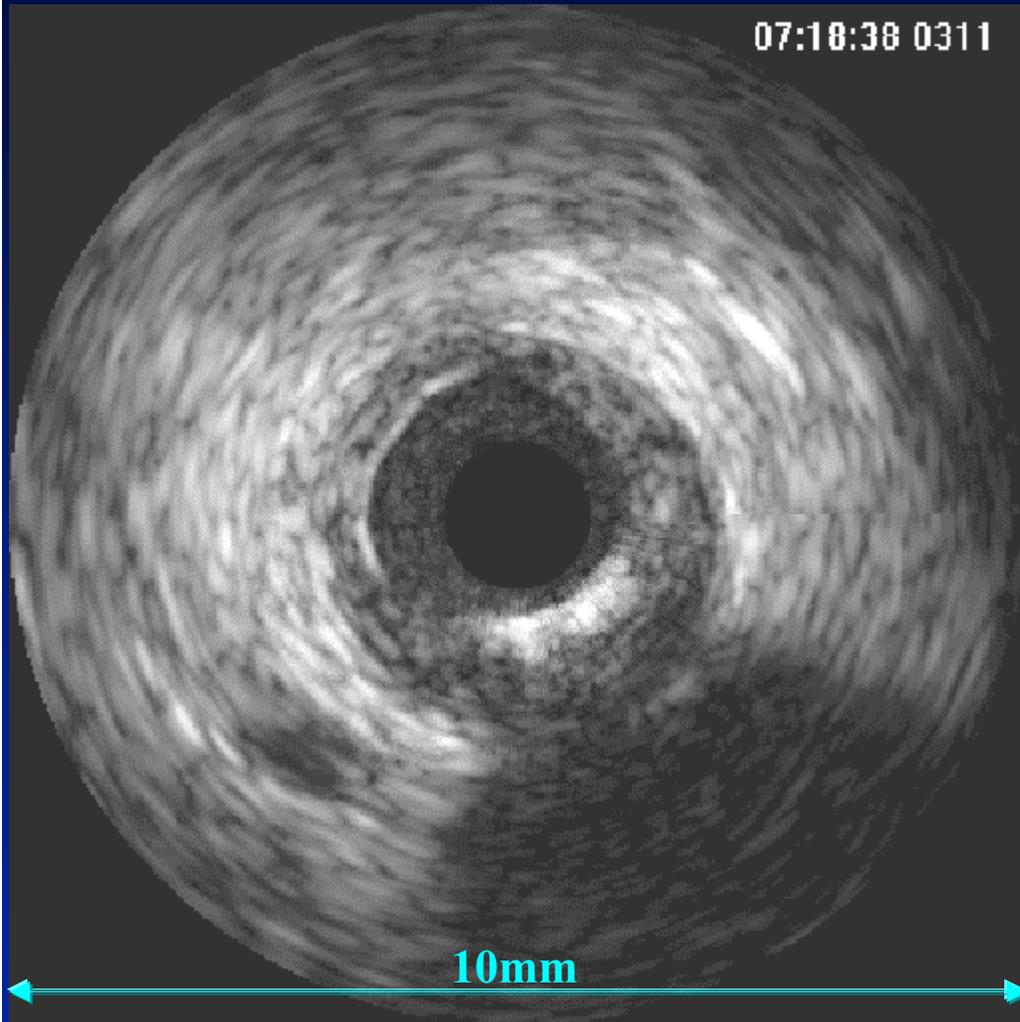


Ernst Bovenkamp

Division of Image Processing, Department of Radiology  
Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands

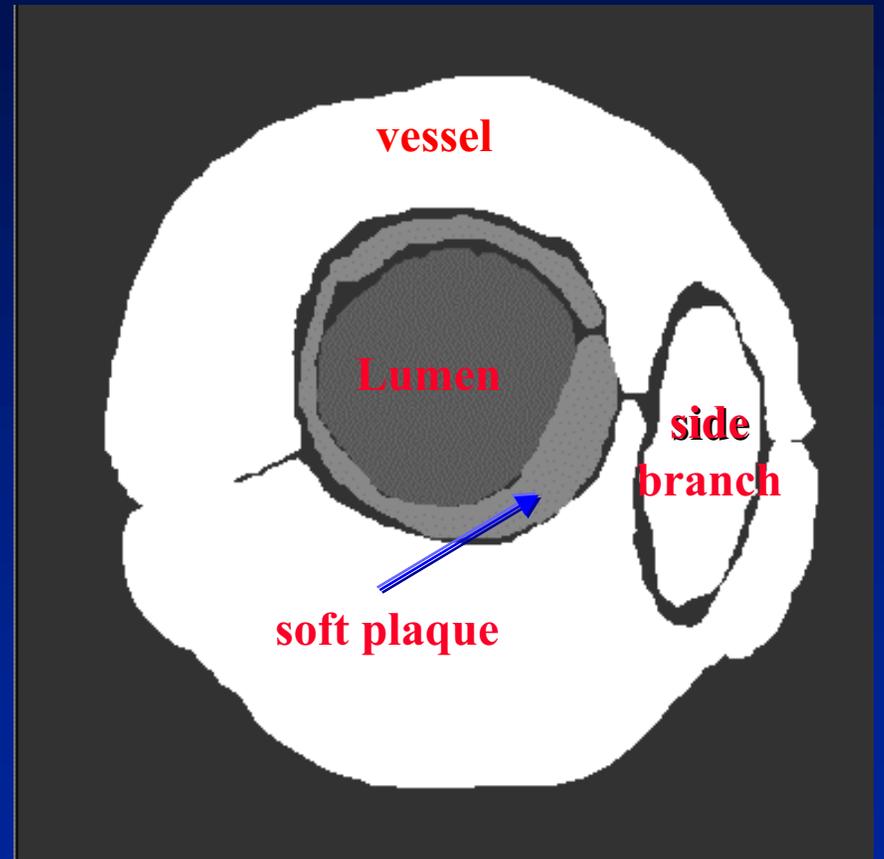
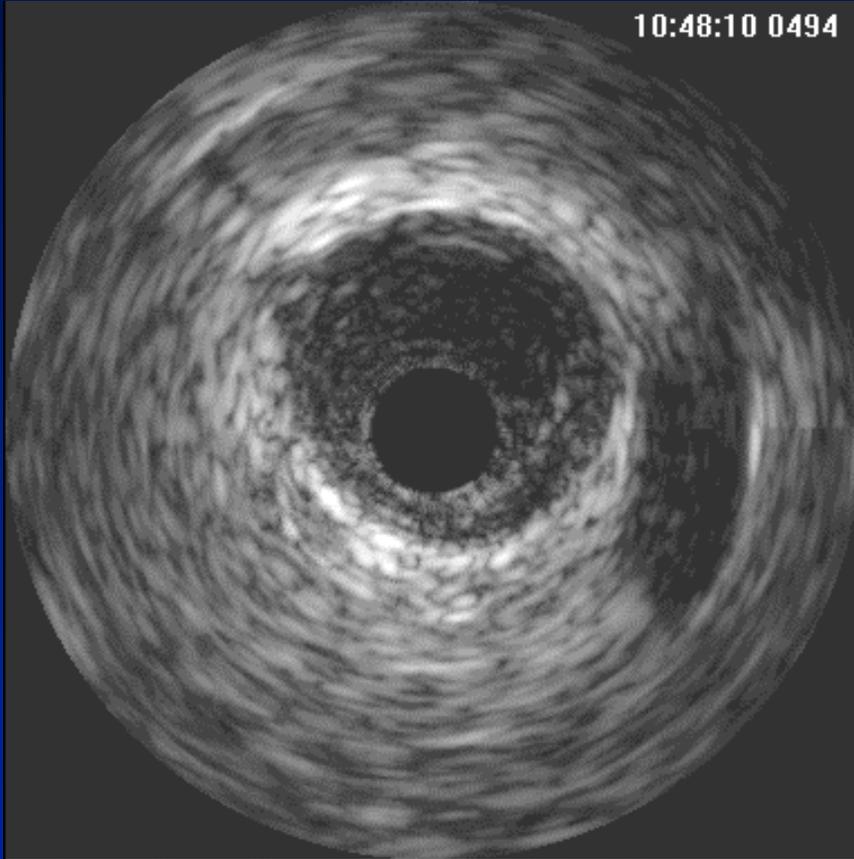
[ernst@lkeb.azl.nl](mailto:ernst@lkeb.azl.nl)

# Problem domain (IVUS)

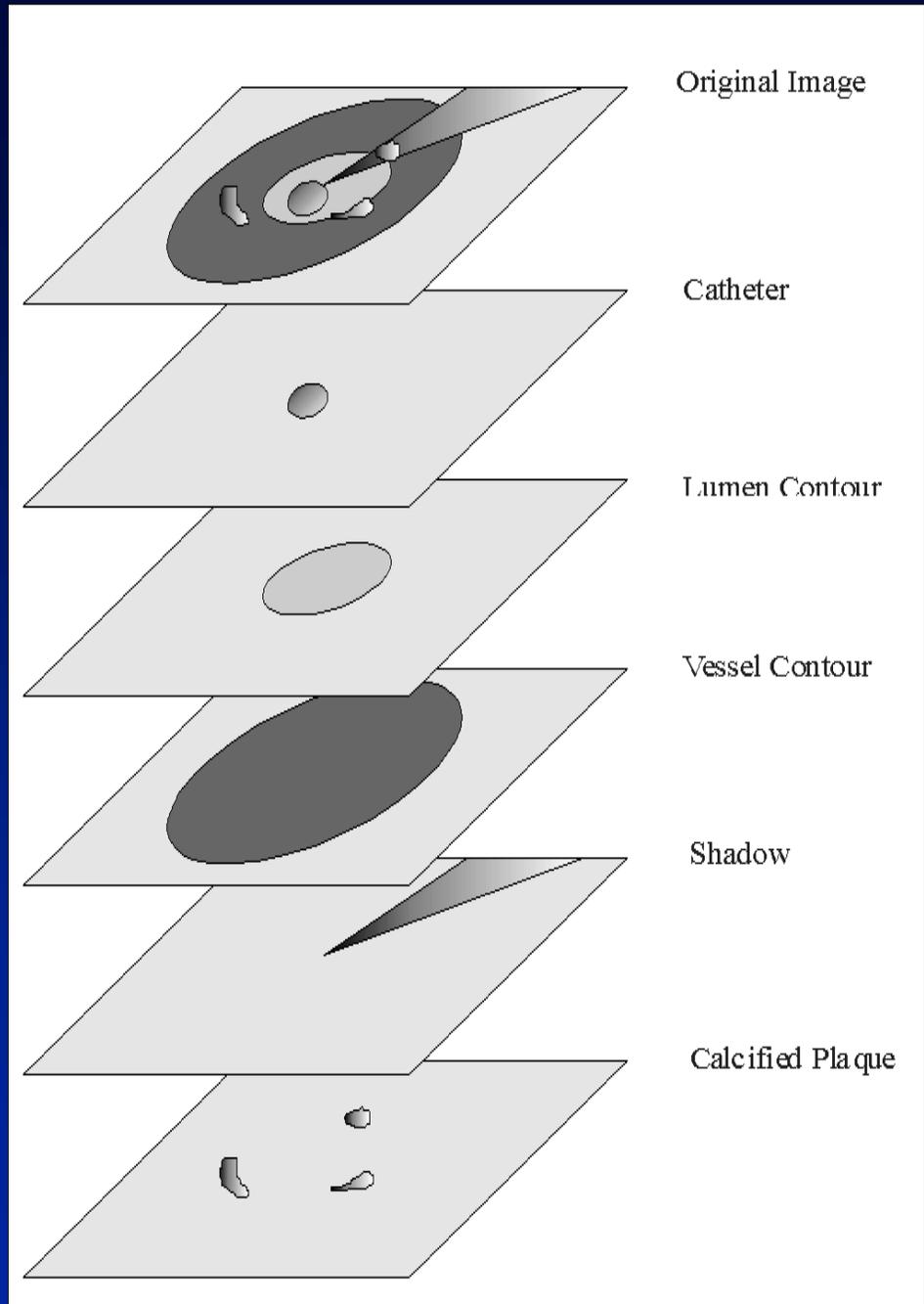




# Problem domain (IVUS)



# IVUS Image interpretation





## Some data

- Soar version: 6.2.5
- Agent development: Emacs + SDE 12.0
- Platform: Windows NT
- Software: C++, MDS 6.0



Dicom Tree Dicomdir Sele

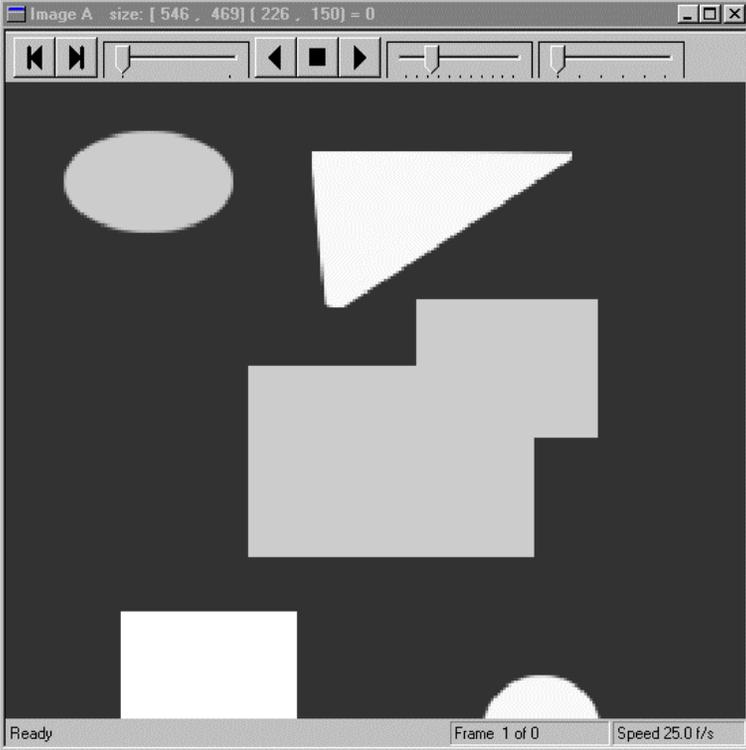
Fileset: GENERAL DICOMDIR Patient

Main Soar Interface

Main Commands: Step Stop Run Init

Agent Creation and Destruction: agent1 Create occlusie5 Destroy

Support Functions: Help Show Control Hide Agents



Load Close Previous Next

Dicom Info

Patient: [ ] [ ]

Study: [ ] [ ]

XA: [ ] [ ]

Compression Method: LossLess

Image Resolution: 256 x 256 x 8

Number of Frames: 1 More info

occlusie5

Selecting agent occlusie5

3: 0: 016 (identify-objects)  
Selecting agent occlusie5  
Object 5 is a circle with radius between 16 and 24

Object 4 is a rectangle

Object 2 is a triangle

Object 1 is unidentified

Object 3 is occluded and consists at least of 2 rectangles

Object 3 rectangle solution: extrapolate nodes 171 - 130 and 334 - 391

Object 3 rectangle solution: extrapolate nodes 0 - 391 and 109 - 130

4: 0: 020 (separate-objects)

Command >

Step Stop Run Init Learn Watch Excise Productions Save Print

occlusie5: identify-objects\*occlusion-h...

Premises

```
[state <s>
  ^image-objects <allobjects>
  (<allobjects> ^objects <object>)
  (<object> ^type occluded)
  (<object> ^allcircles <allcircles>)
  (<allcircles> ^nrofcirc { >= 1 <n^2 } })
  (<object> ^allcorners <allcorners>)
  (<allcorners> ^corner <corner2>)
  (<corner2> ^number 1)
```

Conclusions

```
{<object> ^hypothesis circle +
  ^hypothesis circle & ^hypothesis rect:
```

Matches

```
1 [state <s>
  ^image-objects <allobjects>
  5 (<allobjects> ^objects <object>)
  1 (<object> ^type occluded)
  1 (<object> ^allcircles <allcircles>)
  >>> {<allcircles> ^nrofcirc { >= 1 <n^2 } })
**** Matches For Left ****

**** Matches for Right ****

(<object> ^allcorners <allcorners>)
(<allcorners> ^corner <corner2>)
(<corner2> ^number 1)
(<corner2> ^cornerangle approximately-
<allcorners> ^corner <corner1>)
(<corner1> ^cornerangle approximately-
<corner2> ^number <number>)
(<corner1> ^number <number>)
(<corner2> ^value { > 0 <v^2 } })
(<allcorners> ^nrofcirc { >= 2 <n^1 } })
```

occlusie5 :agent production rules

Agent Production List

- identify-objects\*occlusion-hypothesis1
- identify-objects\*occlusion\*show-hypothesis1
- identify-objects\*occlusion-hypothesis2
- identify-objects\*occlusion\*show-hypothesis2
- identify-objects\*occlusion-hypothesis3
- identify-objects\*occlusion\*show-hypothesis3
- occlusion\*solution1\*rectangle-circle
- occlusion\*solution2\*rectangle-rectangle
- show-object\*propose\*operator
- show-objects\*compare\*operator1
- show-objects\*compare\*operator2
- show-objects\*compare\*operator3
- show-objects\*apply\*operator\*create-output
- show-objects\*apply\*operator\*remove-output
- show-objects\*terminate\*operator

Production Type:  User  Default  Chunks  Justifications



# Agents at work

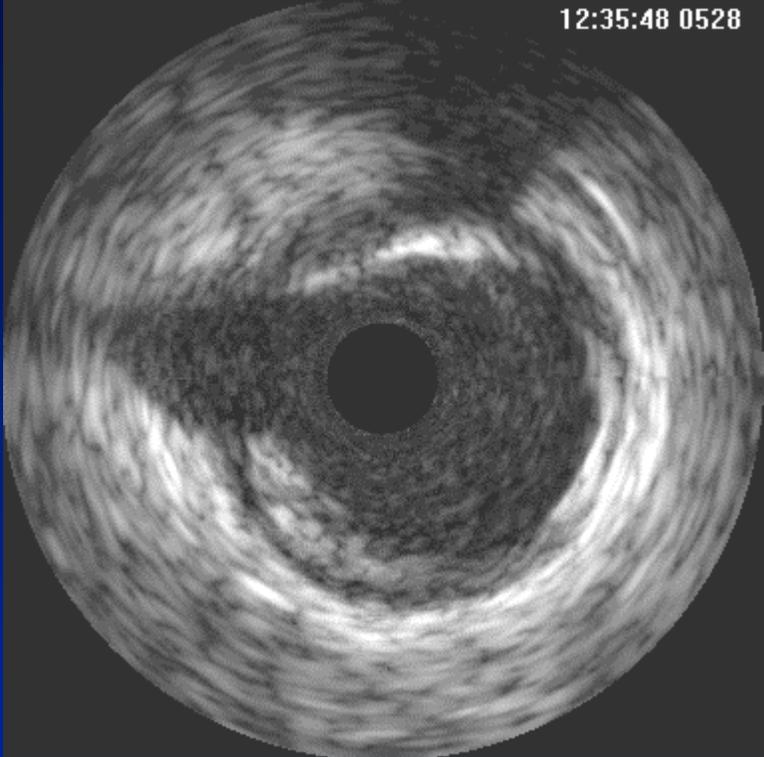
- Demonstration of communication protocol
- Demonstration of image processing actions
- Demonstration build-up of internal models
- Demonstration of exchange of image interpretation information



**Hello**

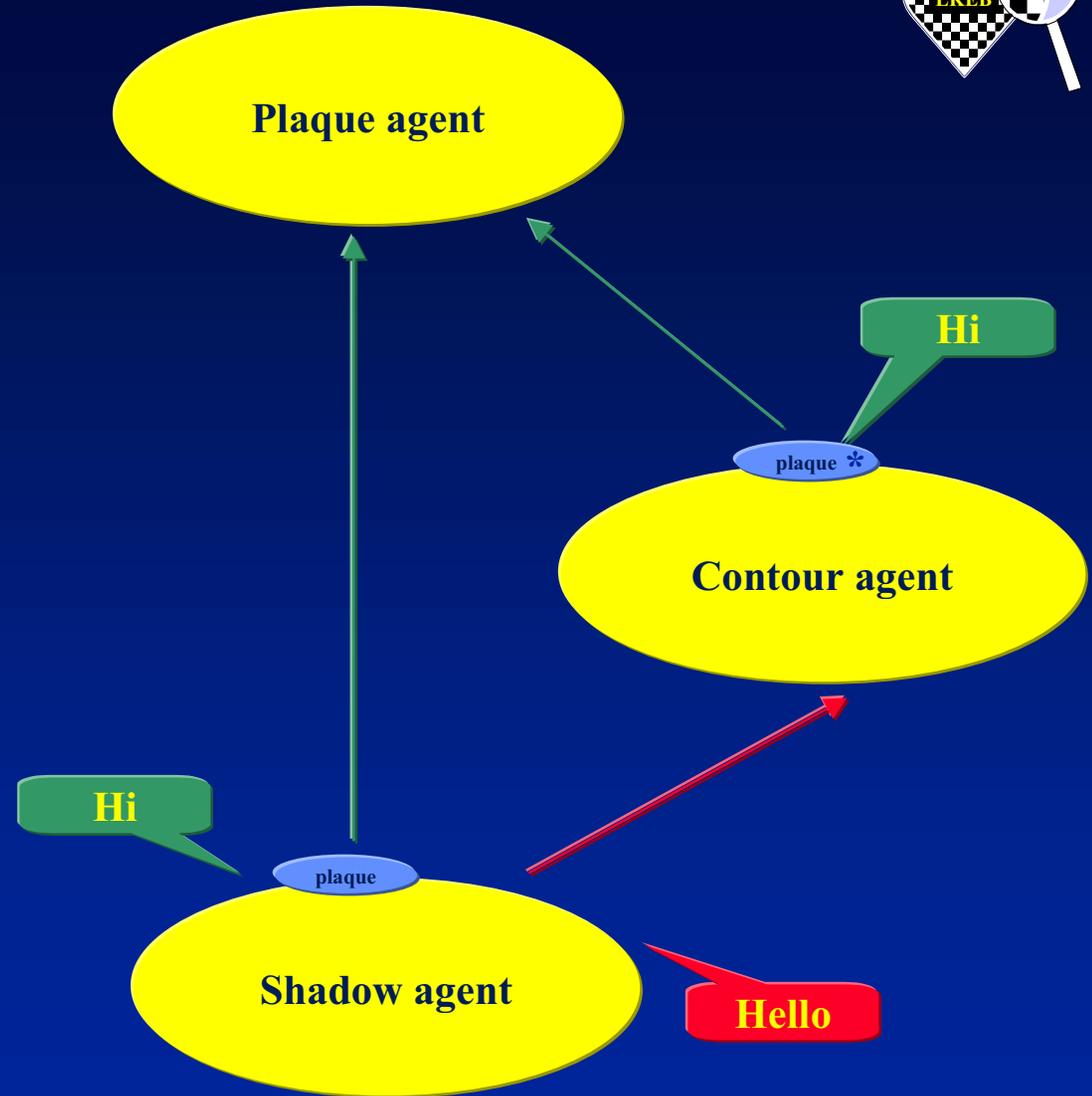
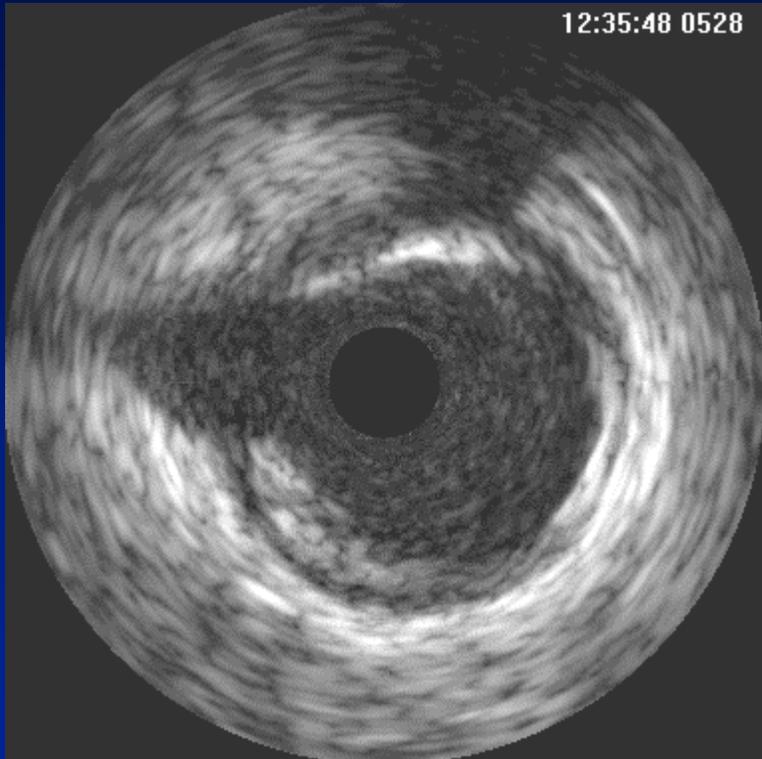
**Plaque agent**

**Hello**



**Contour agent**

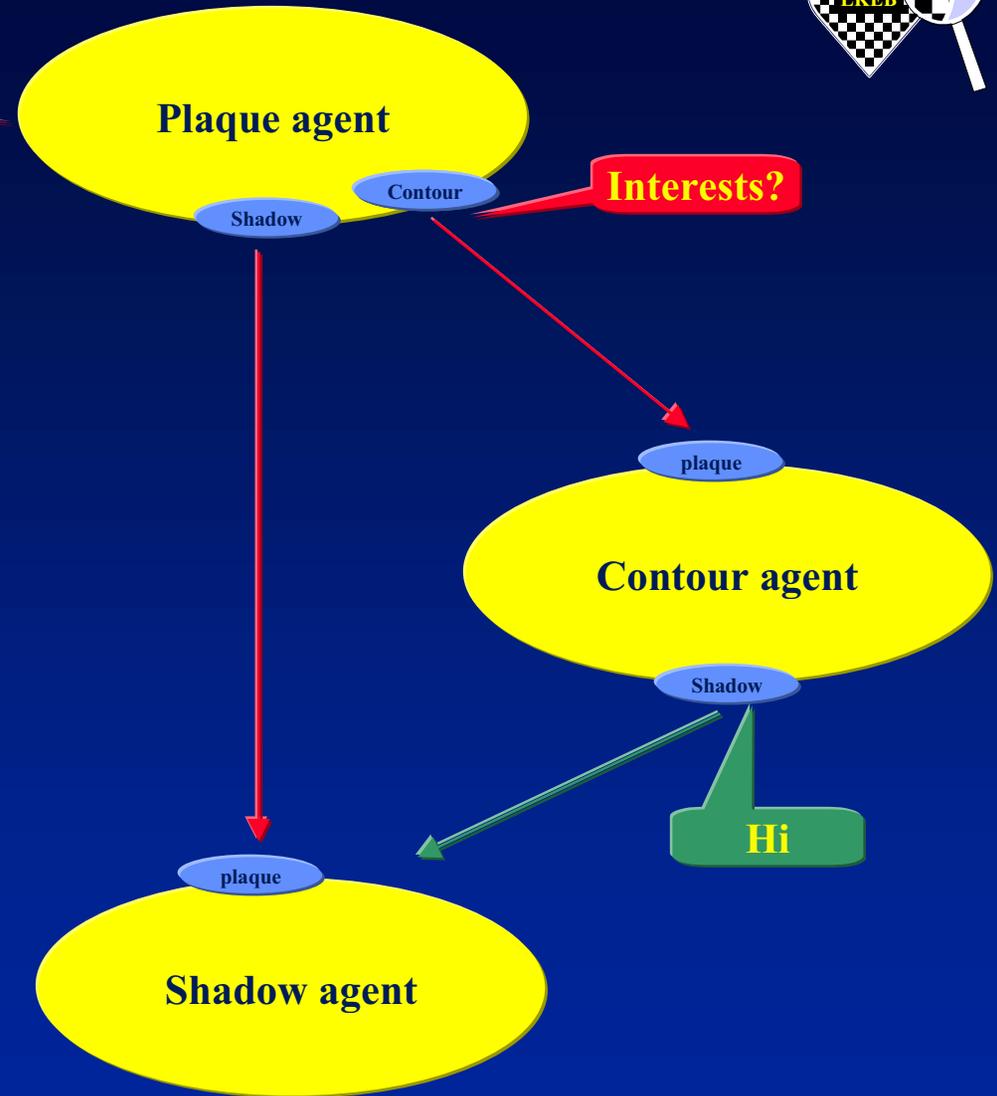
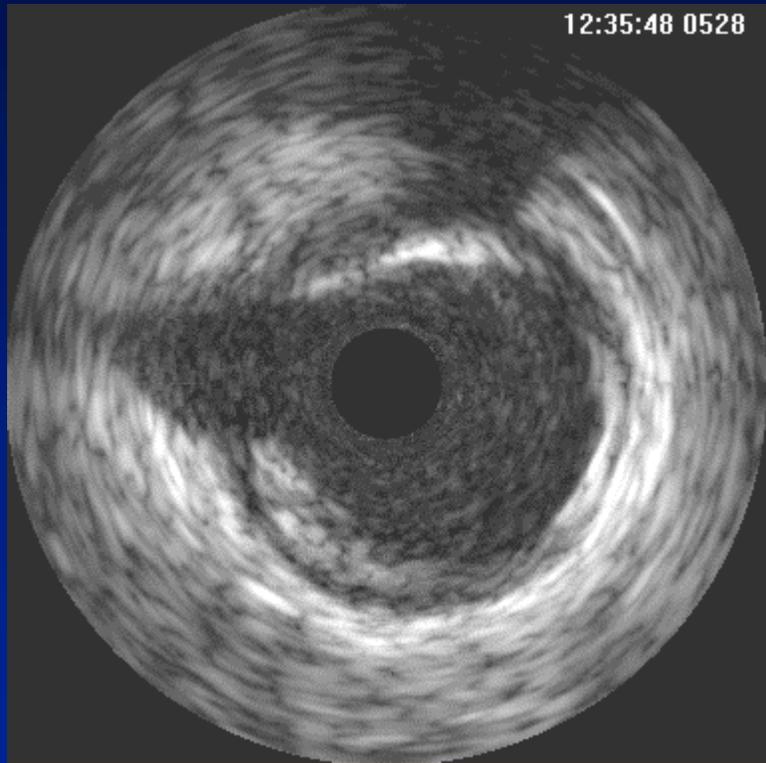
**Shadow agent**





**Capabilities?**

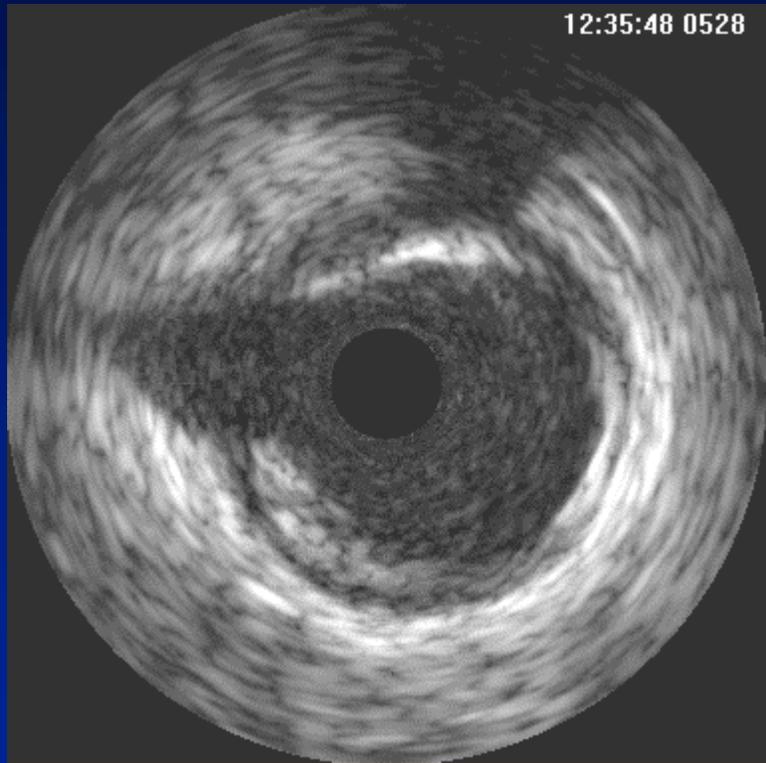
**Interests?**





Capabilities?

Interests?



Plaque and Shadow



Interests?

Shadow detection

Shadow

Contour

plaque

Contour agent

Shadow

plaque

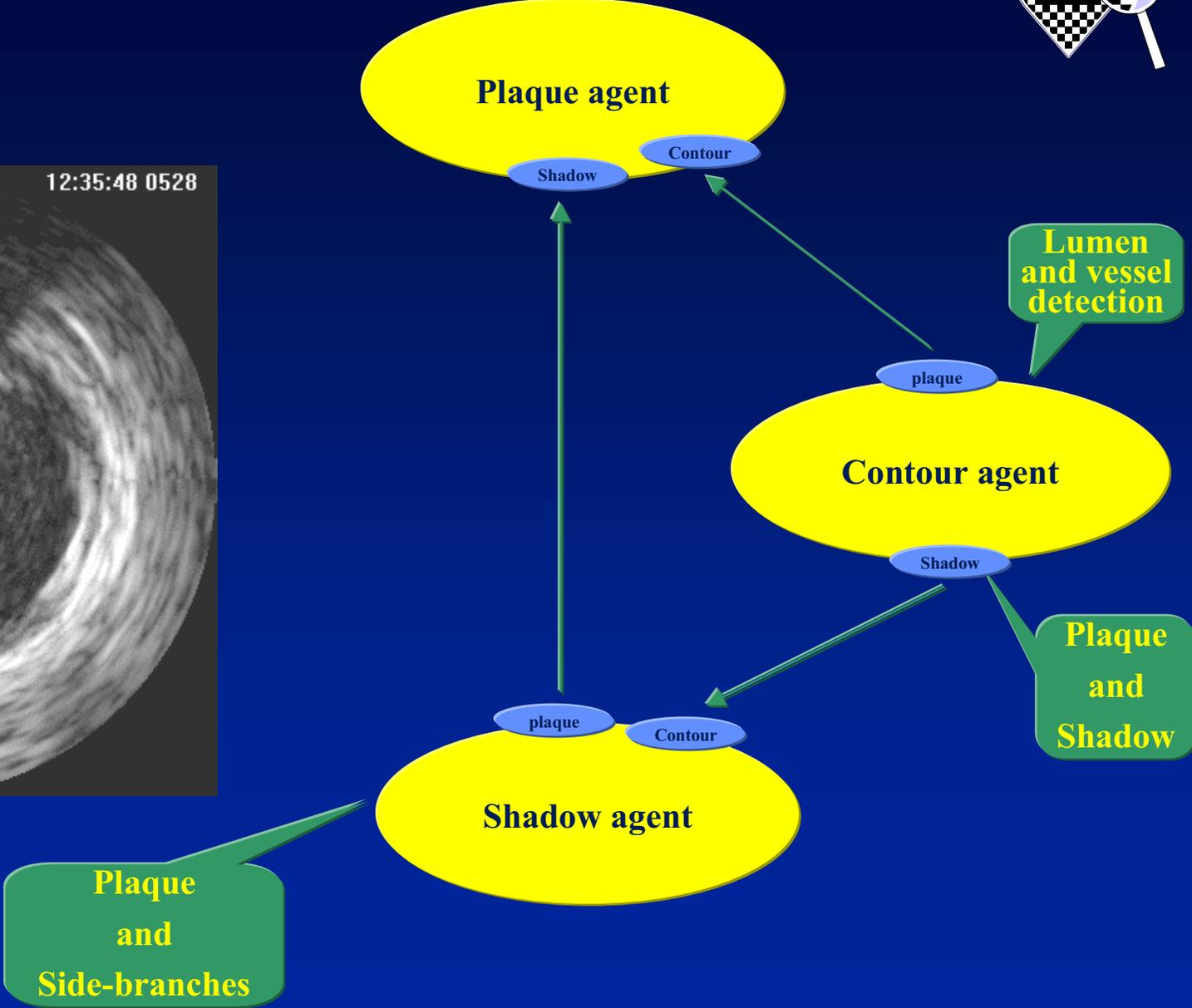
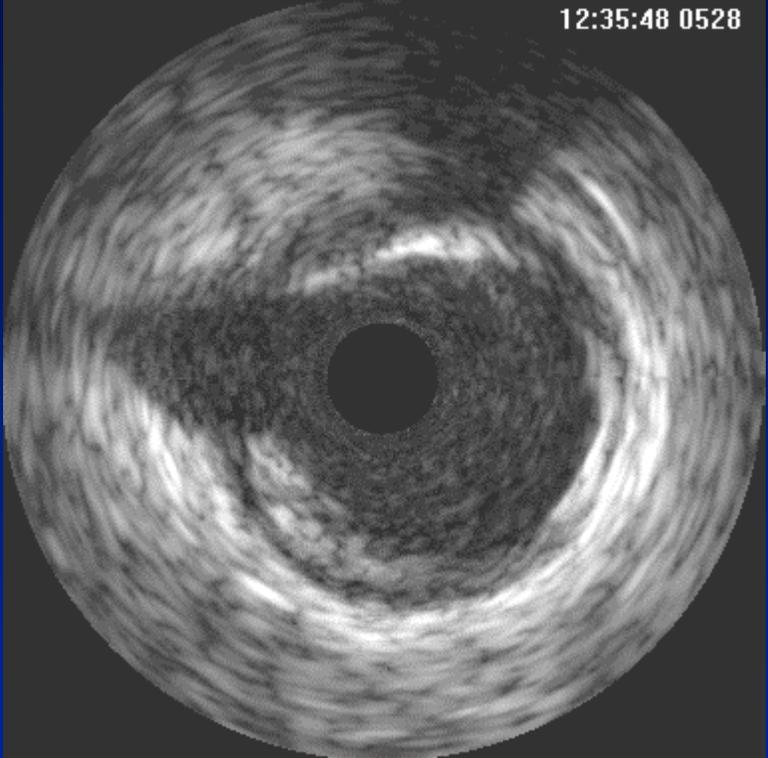
Contour

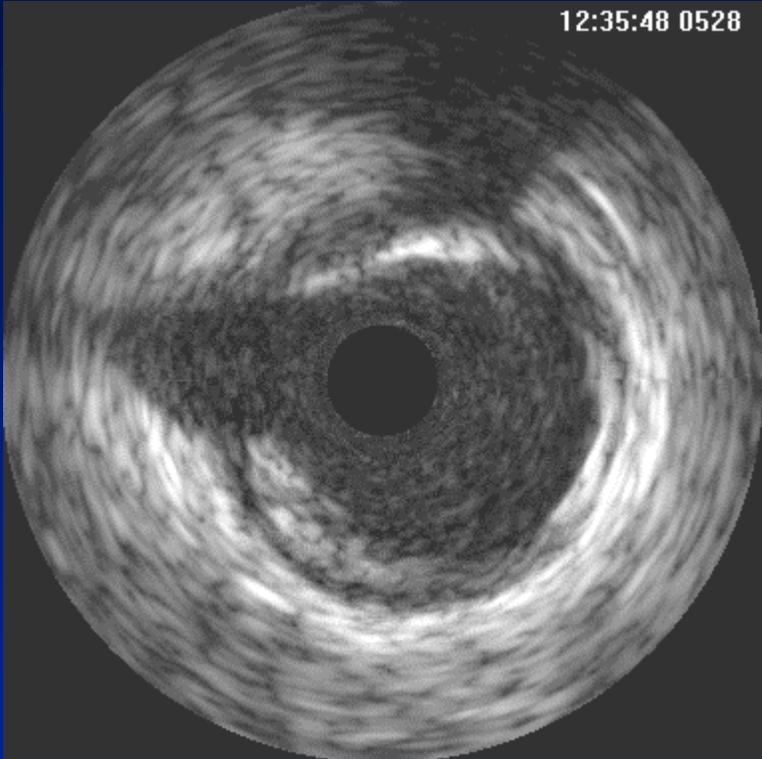
Shadow agent

Plaque and Shadow

12:35:48 0528

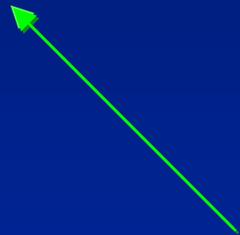
Shadow detection

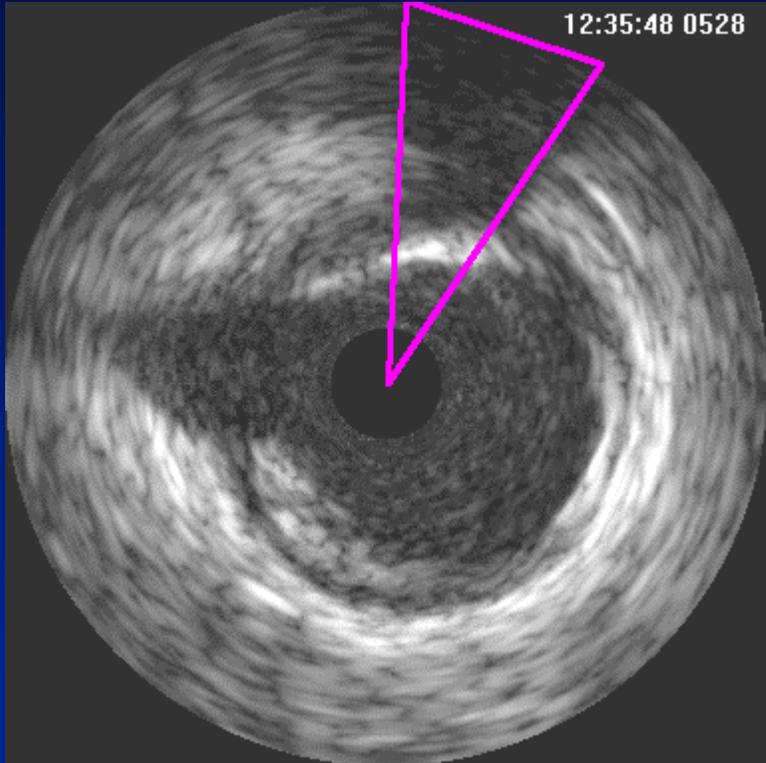




Shadow?

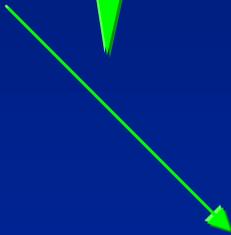
Capabilities?

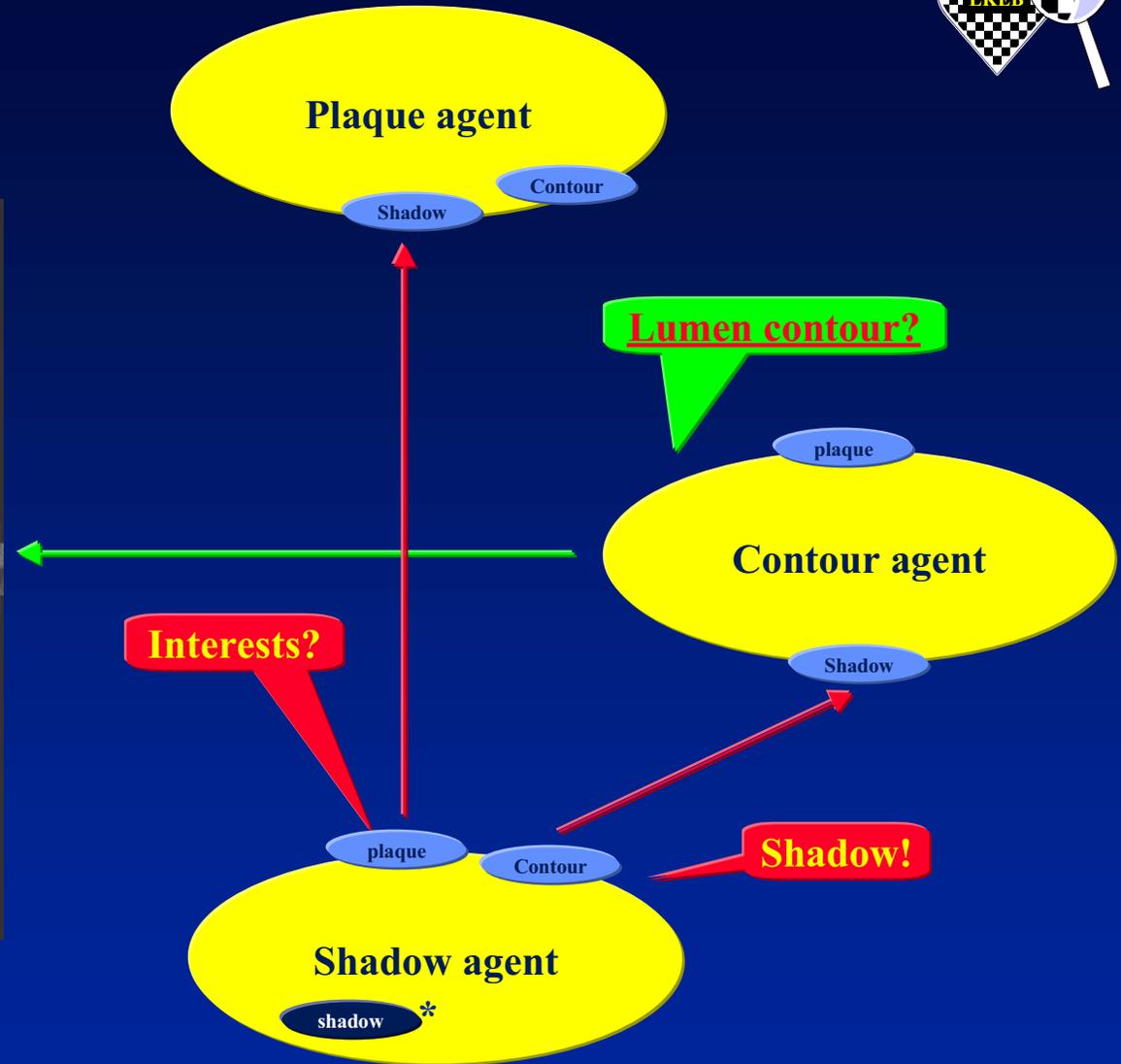
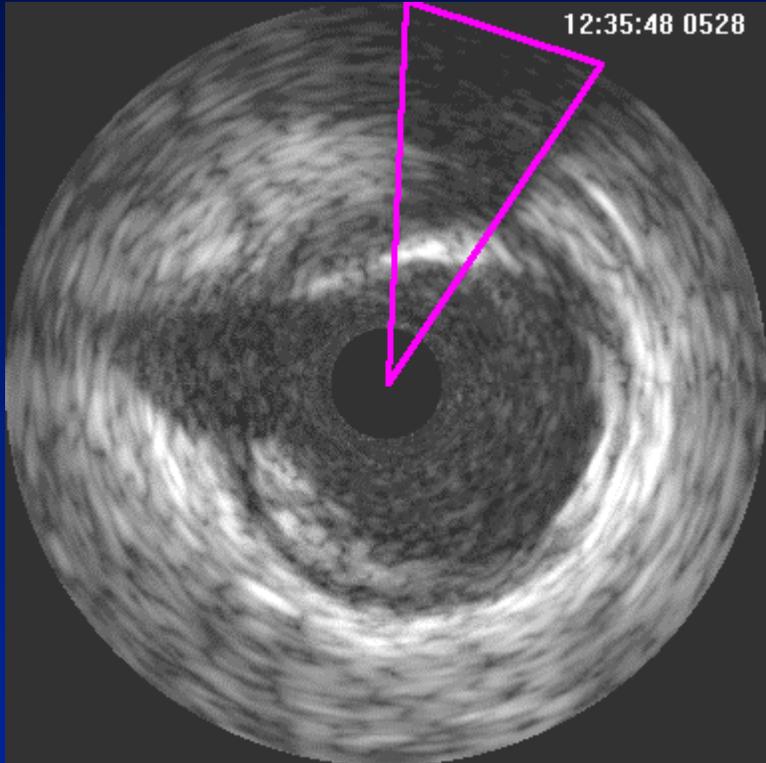


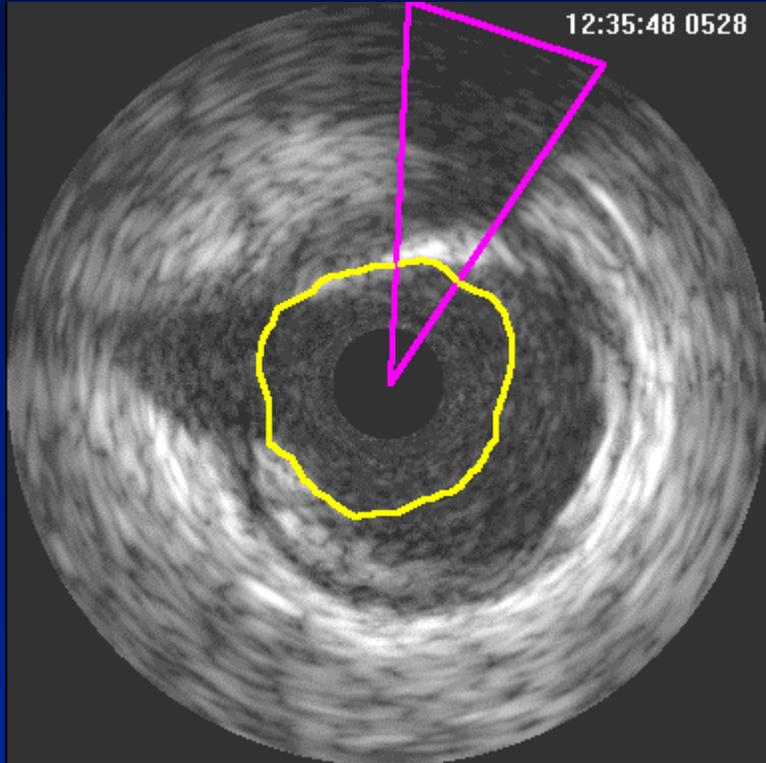


Shadow!

Lumen and vessel detection





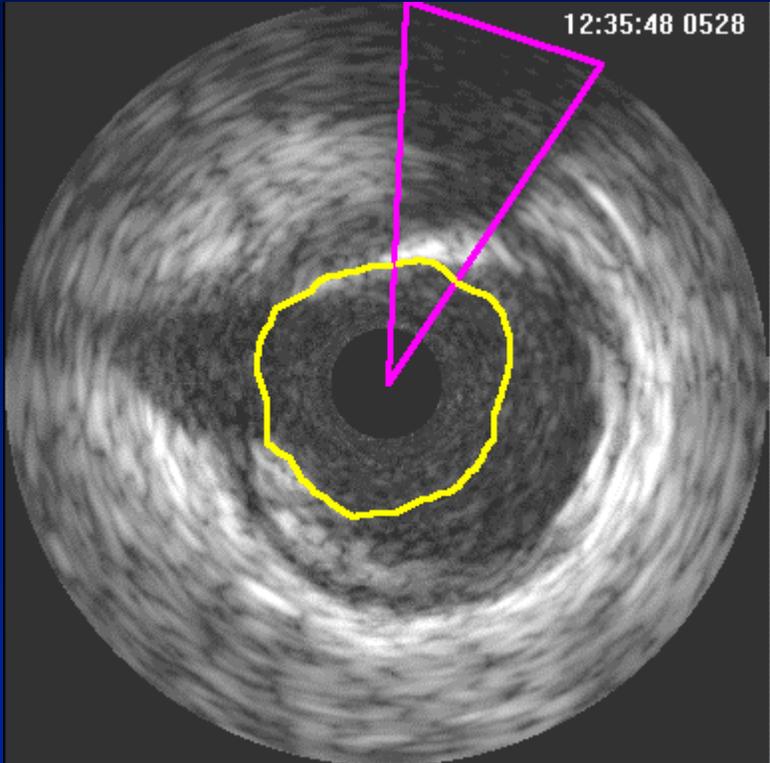


Shadow



Lumen contour!



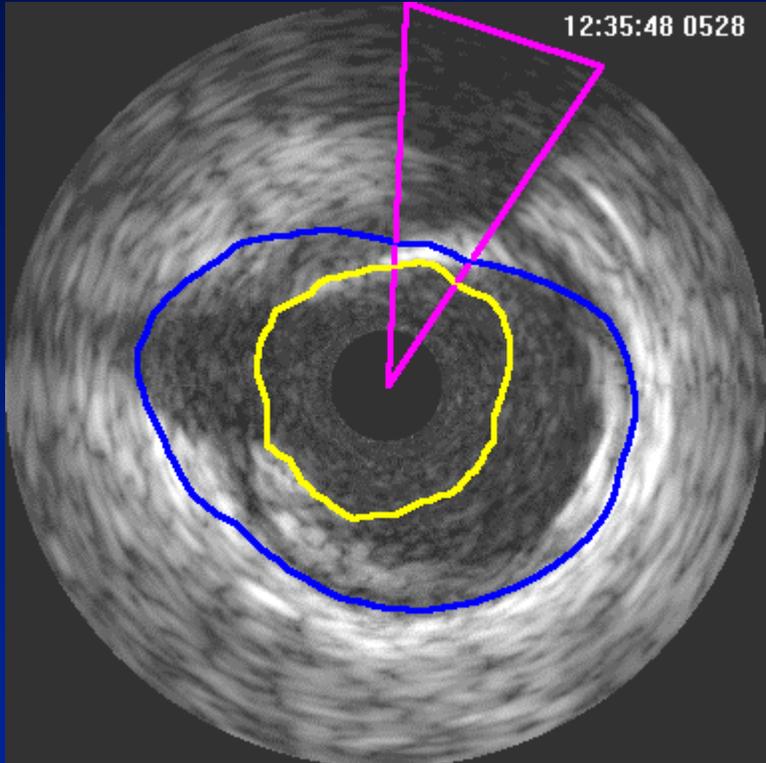




Calcified plaque?

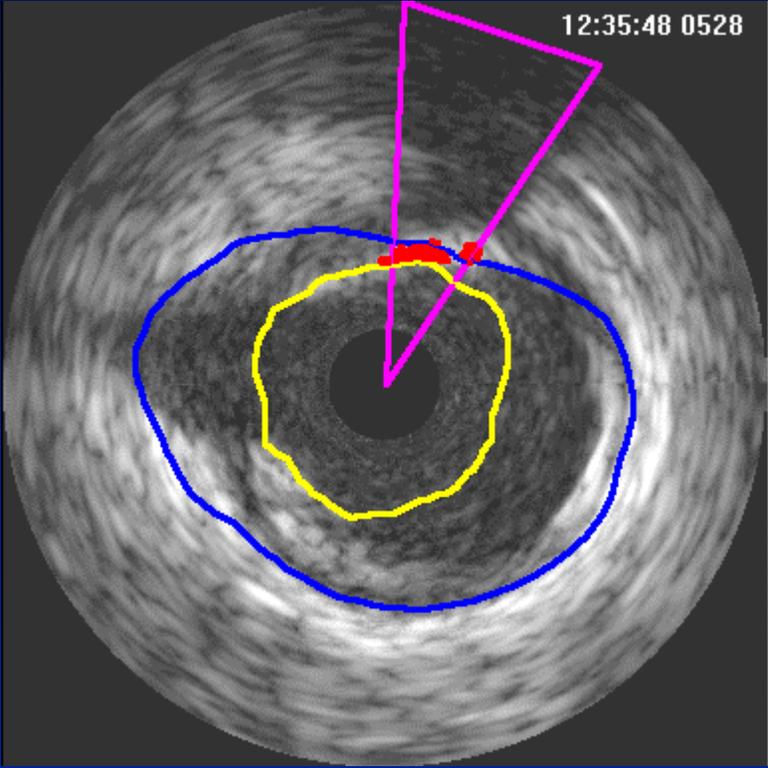


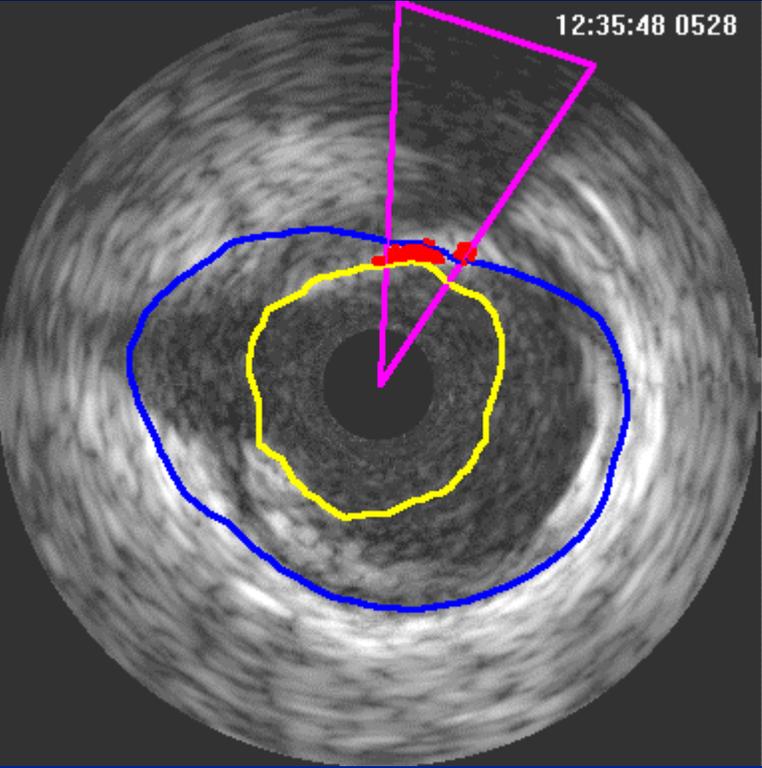
Vessel contour!





**Calcified plaque!**

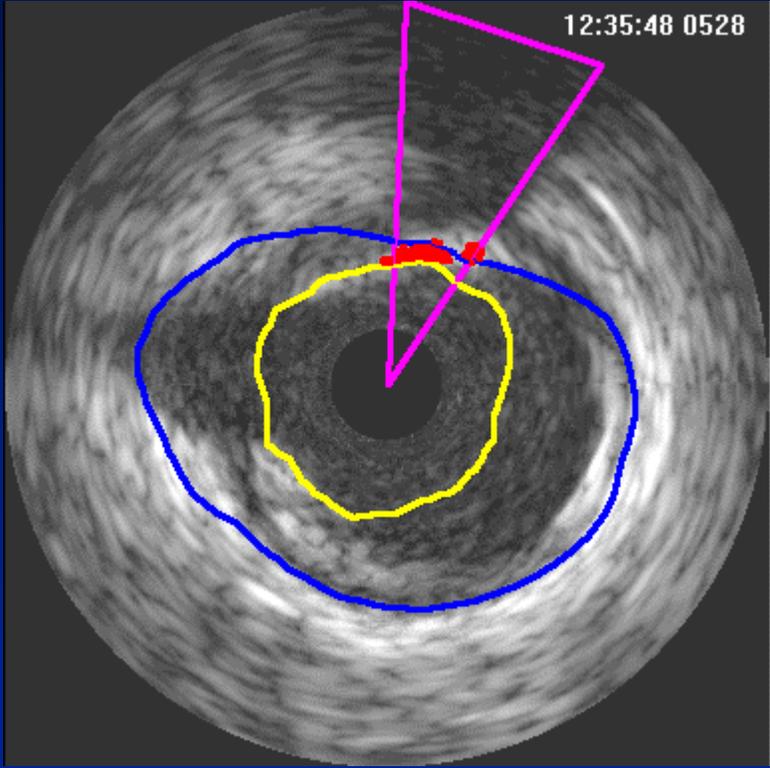




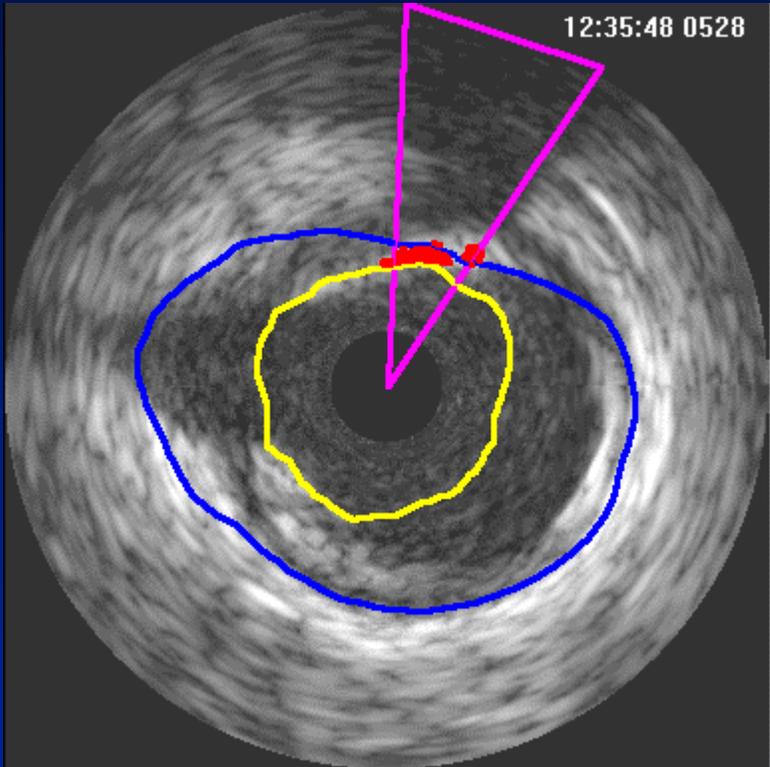
Plaque!

Plaque!





Shadow confirmed by plaque



Adjust contour detection



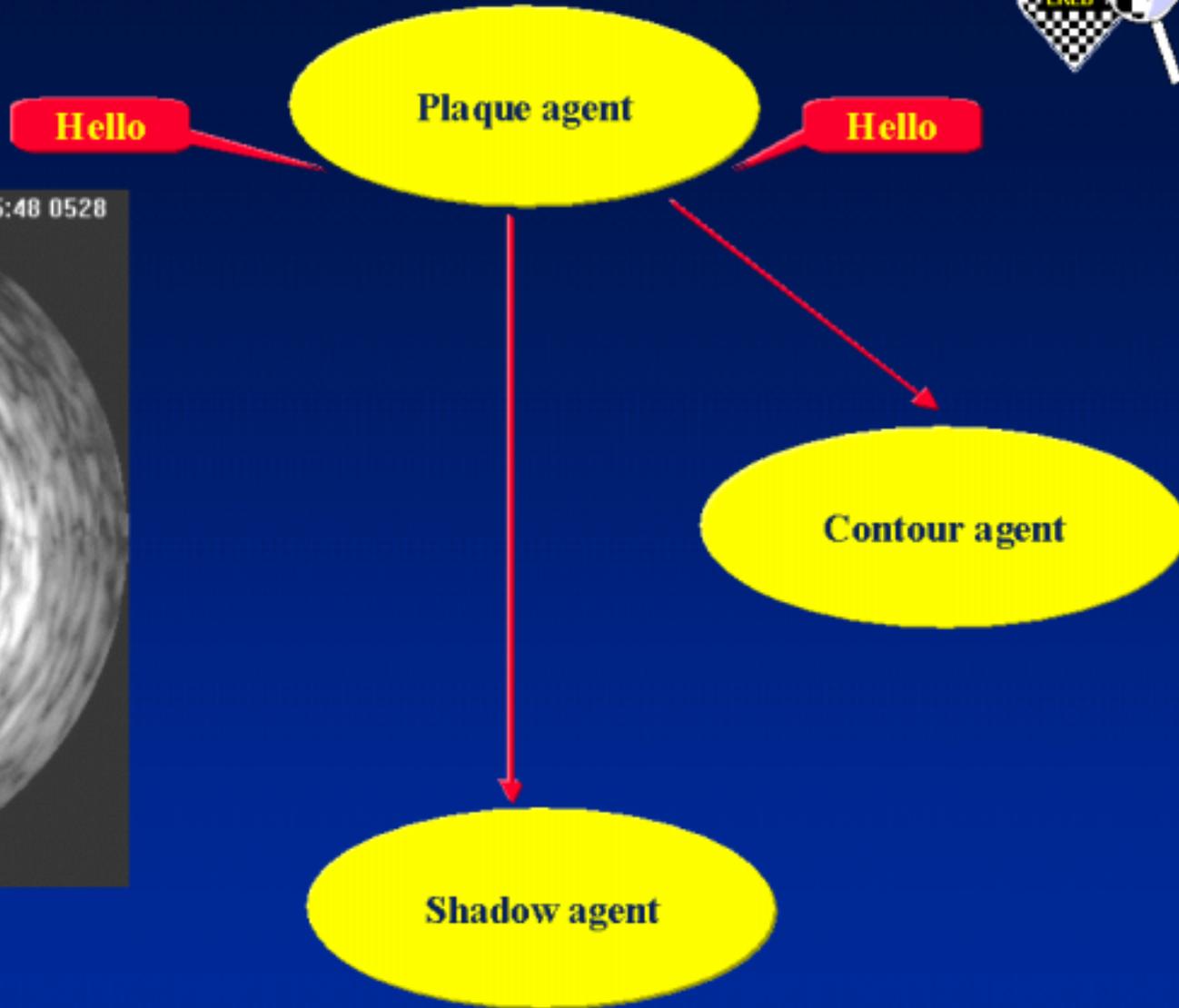
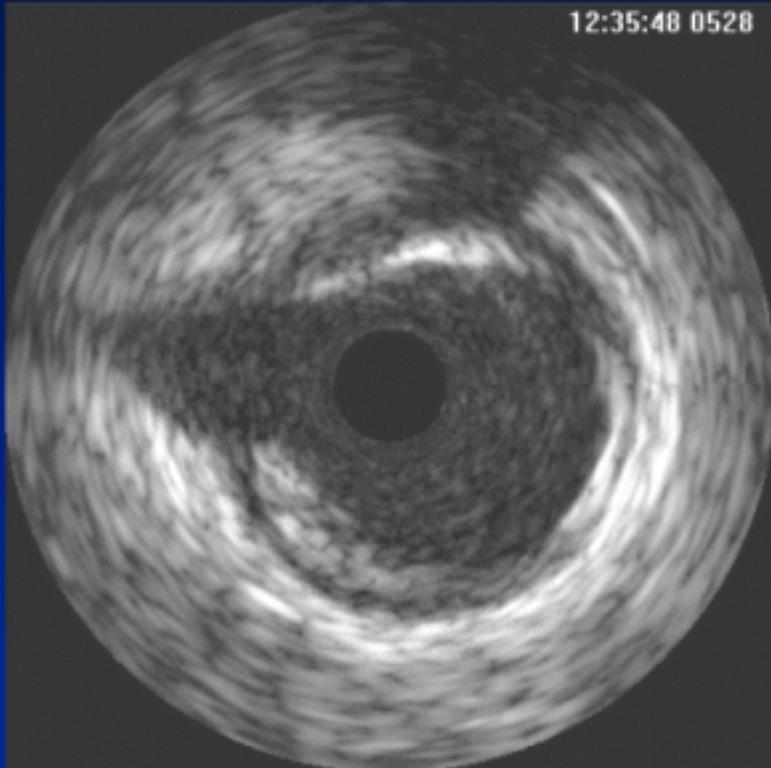
Animation



## Future work

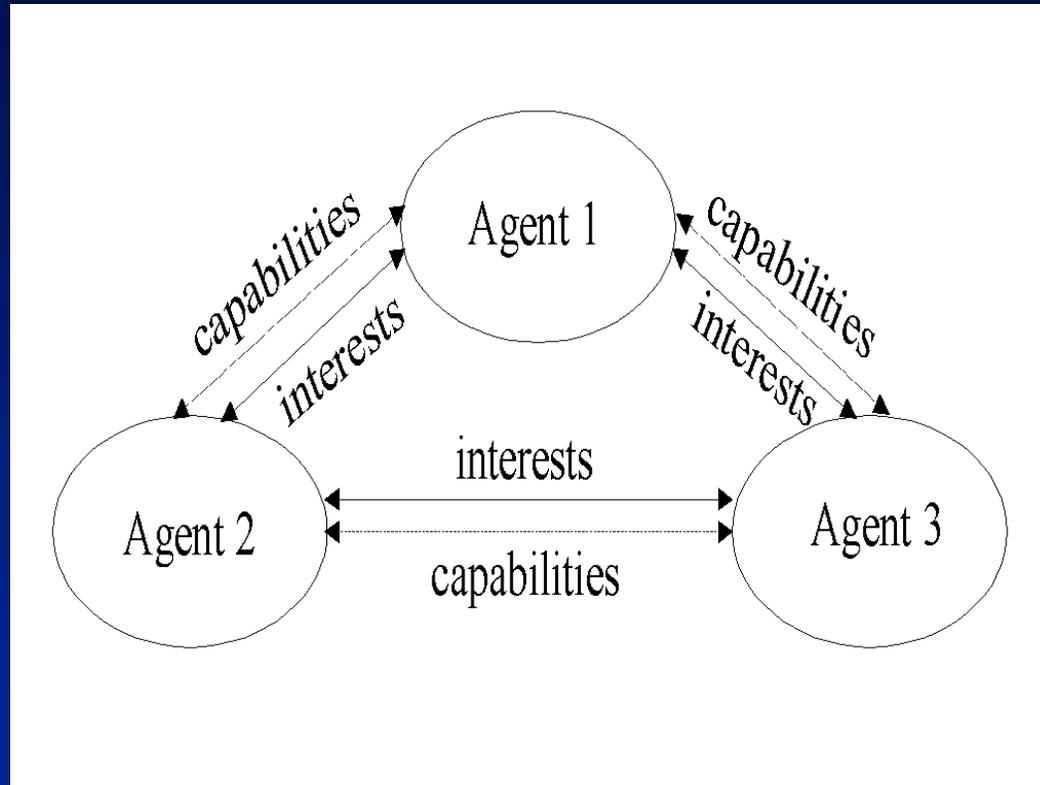
- Agent behavior: learning, emergent behavior, timing issues.
- Agent internal models: allowing an agent its personal views on the world and other agents.
- Specialized vs general agent issues.
- Agent communication: outdated information, conflicting information, etc.





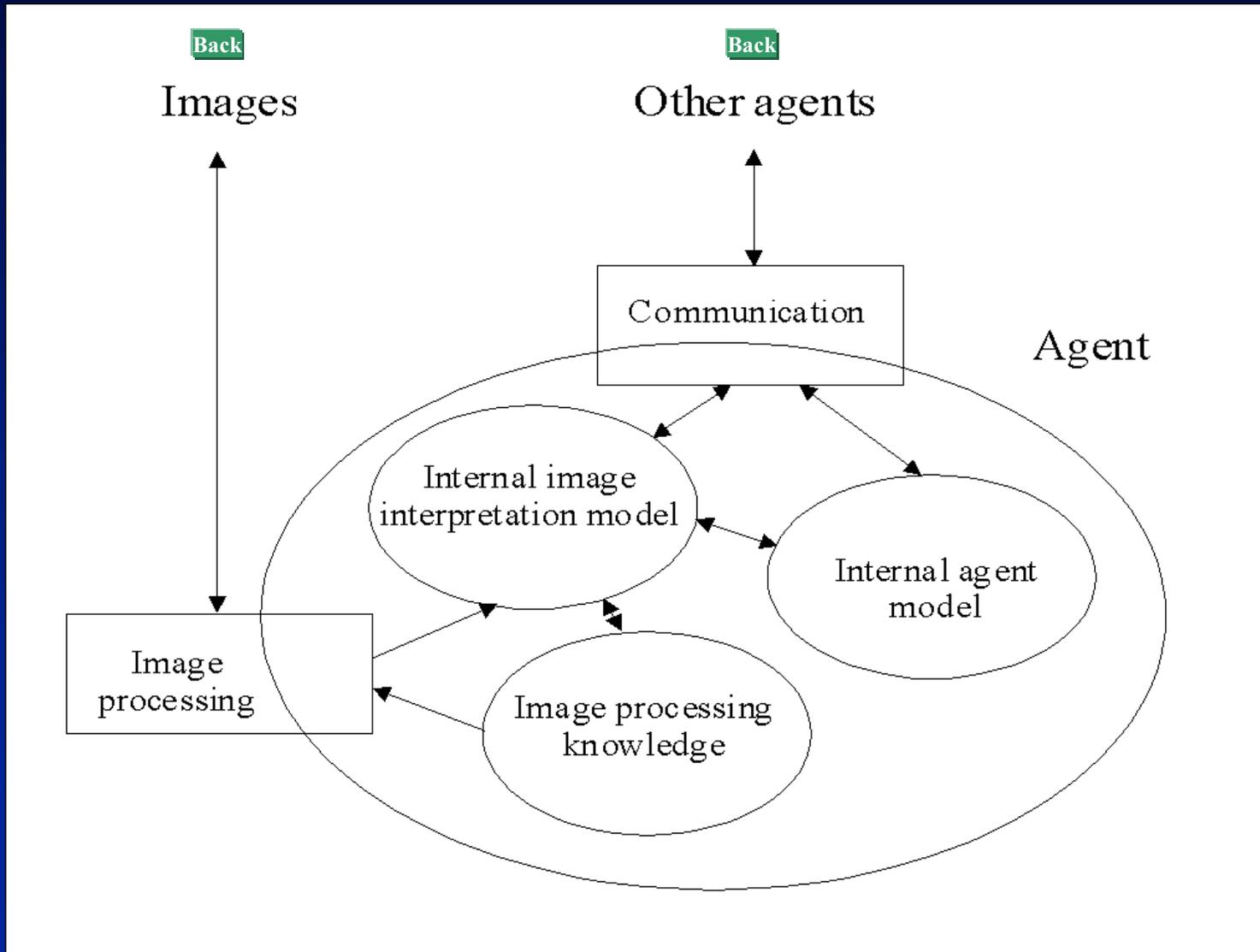


# Agent communication: initialization



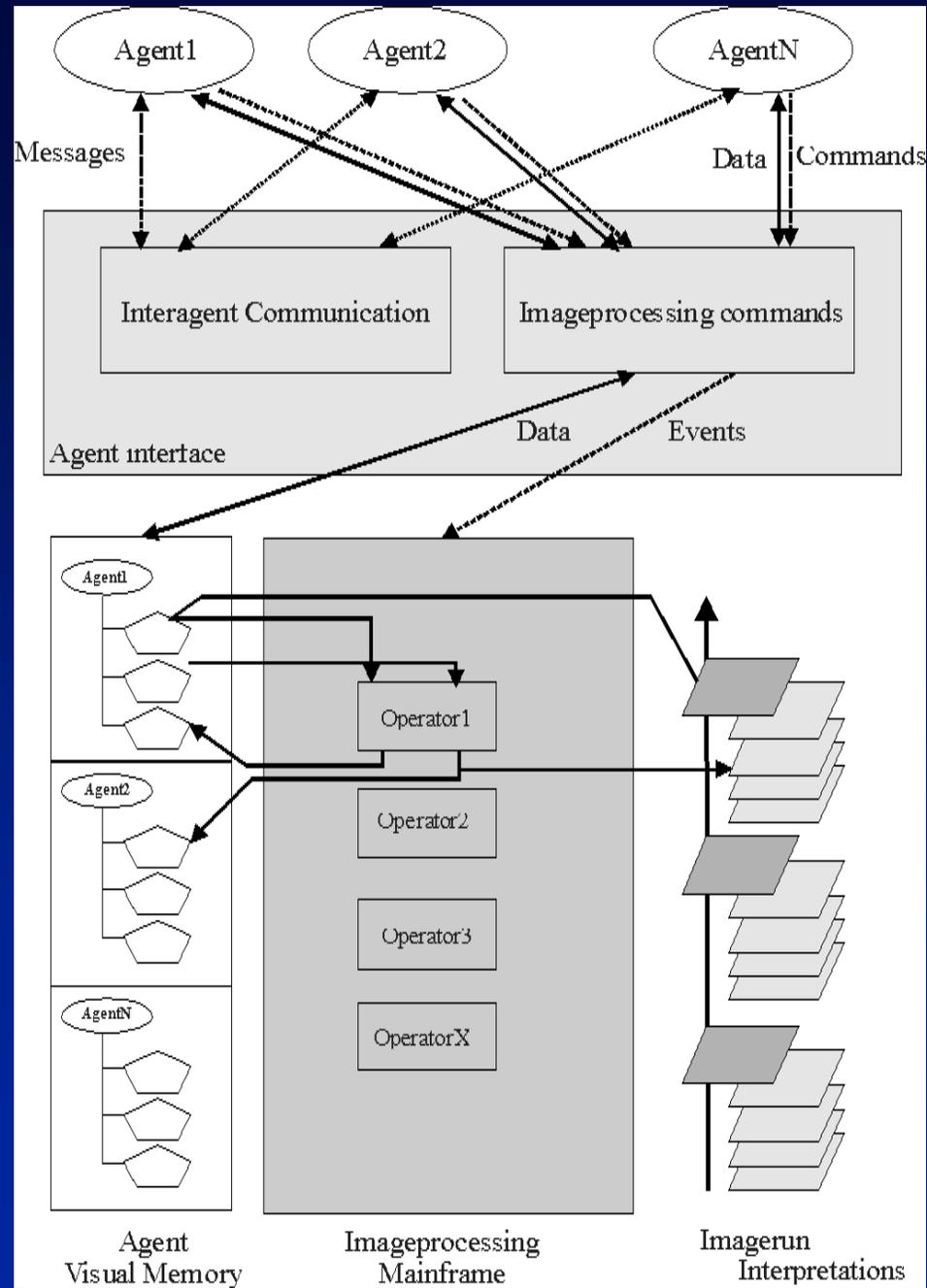


# Agent Internal model





# Soar agent interfaces





**ivus-contour**

```
75: 0: 014 (wait)
ivus-contour> p :depth 6 a2
(A2 ^plaque N30 ^plaque N32 ^shadow N29)
(N32 ^nr 0 ^object N33 ^startangle 3 ^stopangle 34)
(N33 ^grav-x 233. ^grav-y 127. ^maxgray 184. ^mean 165.722 ^mingray 150.
^plaque-angle 33. ^size 90. ^variance 81.3714)
(N30 ^nr 0 ^object N31 ^startangle 3 ^stopangle 34)
(N31 ^grav-x 208. ^grav-y 126. ^maxgray 214. ^mean 180.736 ^mingray 150.
^plaque-angle 14. ^size 216. ^variance 347.274)
(N29 ^end 34 ^mindist 40 ^nr 0 ^start 3)

ivus-contour> p :depth 6 a1
(A1 ^all N5 ^all N7 ^self M1)
(N7 ^capabilities shadow ^interests calcified-plaque
^interests side-branches ^name ivus-shadow)
(N5 ^capabilities calcified-plaque ^interests shadow ^name ivus-cplaque)
(M1 ^capabilities vessel ^capabilities lumen ^interests shadow
^interests calcified-plaque ^name ivus-contour)
```

Command > p :depth 6 a1

Step  
Stop  
Run  
Init  
Learn  
Watch  
Excise  
Productions  
Save  
Print