Reviewer's report

Title: Computer Aided Vertebral Visualization and Analysis: A Pilot Study Using the Sand Rat, a Small Animal Model of Disk Degeneration

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Reviewer: Alison McGregor

Level of interest: A paper whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Advice on publication: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the compulsory revisions

The paper now reads much better. However, I am still unsure as to the need for figure one which is repeated in the text of the paper.
My concern is throughout the paper you mention minimizing noise content, good estimate, improved accuracy but only use these as descriptive terms and give no quantitative information as to how and by how much the filtering etc improves accuracy. Repeatability is still not addressed and nor is validity. I do feel such information would greatly enhance the paper.

Competing interests:

None declared.