

Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods

for Mammography Dosimetry

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Why are things changing?

- Different anode materials (W)
- Higher Tube Potentials (digital)
- Different filter materials (e.g. Al, Ag, Pd, etc.)
- New knowledge about breast geometry & composition
 - Skin Thickness
 - Breast Density (magnitude)
 - Glandular distribution in the breast
- Breast Tomosynthesis (not addressed in this symposium)

Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods for Mammography Dosimetry



This morning's theme:

A series of research vignettes

Examples of clinical utility



Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods for Mammography Dosimetry

Ав

Breast CT as the Backstory

Skin Thickness

Breast Density / the Myth

New Mammography Spectra

Density Heterogeneity

Summary







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Varian Imaging Systems



Larry Partain Gary Vishup John Pavkovich Hussan Mostafavi **Gerhard Roos** Ed Seppi Cesar Proano





Phelps





Miller





Brock















Simon



5

















Nicolas

Prionas

Computer aided design / computer aided manufacture (CAD/CAM)











Doheny: Mechanical Assembly



System Integration



FDK Reconstruction Code



Reconstructed breast CT images

2003

~42 minutes

2008 ~35 minutes 2010 ~20 seconds



graphics processor unit (GPU)



Pendant Geometry Imaging (no compression)







Spatial Resolution Improvements



Clinical Imaging

- Patients: women with suspicion of breast cancer (BIRADS 4 & 5's)
- First bCT scan: Nov 22, 2004
- >600 women on UC Davis scanners
- ~2000 bCT volume data sets
- ~260 have had contrast injection
- Radiation dose same as 2V mammography
- Image reconstruction 512³ or 1024³



bCT (no injected contrast)

























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Mass Lesions

Microcalcifications





Contrasted Enhanced breast CT



Invasive Mammary Carcinoma





Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods for Mammography Dosimetry

Clinical Implications



Two 2D mammograms

Volumetric breast CT data ~500 contiguous images

The effect of skin thickness determined us dosimetry

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(Received 24 October 2007; revised 15 January 2008; acceptublished 6 March 2008)

The characterization of breast anatomical metric breast CT

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Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods for Mammography Dosimetry

Breast CT as the Backstory



Skin Thickness

Breast Density / the Myth

New Mammography Spectra

Density Heterogeneity

Summary



Past Monte Carlo Studies typically assumed a 4 mm (or 5 mm) skin thickness for breast dosimetry



X Wu, GT Barnes, DM Tucker, Spectral dependence of glandular tissue dose in screenfilm mammography, Radiology 179: 143-148: 1991



DR Dance, Monte Carlo calculation of conversion factors for the estimation of mean glandular dose, PMB 35: 1211-1219: 1990



X Wu, EL Gingold, GT Barnes, DM Tucker, Normalized average glandular dose in molybdenum target-Rhodium filter and rhodium-target-rhodium filter mammography, Radiology 193: 83-89: 1994



DR Dance, CL Skinner, KC young, et al., Additional factors for the estimation of mean glandular dose using the UK mammography dosimetry protocol, PMB 45: 3225-3240: 2000

Radiology

Medical Physics

John M. Boone, PhD

Index terms: Breast radiography, radiation dose, 00.47, 0.99 Breast radiography, technology, 00.12 Breast radiography, utilization, 00.99 Physics

Radiology 1999; 213:23–37

Glandular Breast Dose for Monoenergetic and High-Energy X-ray Beams: Monte Carlo Assessment¹



Medical Physics

Normalized glandular dose (DgN) coefficients for arbitrary x-ray spectra in mammography: Computer-fit values of Monte Carlo derived data

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(Received 1 November 2001; accepted for publication 28 February 2002; published 19 April 2002)

Normalized glandular dose (DgN) coefficients for arbitrary x-ray spectra in mammography: Computer-fit values of Monte Carlo derived data

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Observation from breast CT images: Skin is not 4 mm thick on the breast



Medical Physics

The effect of skin thickness determined using breast CT on mammographic dosimetry

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(Received 24 October 2007; revised 15 January 2008; accepted for publication 17 January 2008; published 6 March 2008)

Verified the spatial accuracy in three dimensions using a phantom...



↑ Segmentation

Algorithm



Measurements

Skin Thickness Results

1.6

1.8

2.0

N = 100 breasts

N = 51 women

2.2

2.4



Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods for Mammography Dosimetry

Clinical Implications

Changing the skin thickness from 4.0 mm to 1.5 mm increased the DgN values by about 17-18%



But this assumes a homogeneous breast composition

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The characterization of breast anatomical metrics using dedicated breast CT

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fraction (3D)

X Wu, GT Barnes, DM Tucker, Spectral dependence of glandular tissue dose in screen-film mammography, Radiology 179: 143-148: 1991

DR Dance, Monte Carlo calculation of conversion factors for the estimation of mean glandular dose, PMB 35: 1211-1219: 1990

X Wu, EL Gingold, GT Barnes, DM Tucker, Normalized average glandular dose in molybdenum target-Rhodium filter and rhodium-target-rhodium filter mammography, Radiology 193: 83-89: 1994

DR Dance, CL Skinner, KC young, et al., Additional factors for the estimation of mean glandular dose using the UK mammography dosimetry protocol, PMB 45: 3225-3240: 2000

JM Boone, Glandular breast dose for monoenergetic and highenergy x-ray beams: Monte Carlo assessment, Radiology 213: 23-27: 1999

JM Boone, Normalized glandular dose (DgN) coefficients for arbitrary x-ray spectra in mammography: computer-fit values of Monte Carlo derived data. Med Phys 29: 869-875: 2001 All of these papers assumed that "aerial glandular density" was equal to "volume glandular density"

To be clear, there is no such thing as a 100% glandular breast

Only ~4% of women have a volume glandular fraction >50%

< Previous Article Next Article >

Proceedings Article

Glandular segmentation of cone beam breast CT volume images

Nathan Packard ; John M. Boone

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Proc. SPIE 6510, Medical Imaging 2007: Physics of Medical Imaging, 651038 (March 17, 2007); doi:10.1117/12.713911

Text Size: A A

From Conference Volume 6510

Medical Imaging 2007: Physics of Medical Imaging Jiang Hsieh; Michael J. Flynn San Diego, CA | February 17, 2007 SPIE


After Segmentation Algorithm





Medical Physics

The myth of the 50-50 breast

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The Volume Glandular Fraction (VGF)





Validation of Toronto versus UC Davis density assessment techniques















Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods for Mammography Dosimetry

Clinical Implications



kVp: 28 mAs: 157 Thk: 49 mm Target: TUNGSTEN Filter: RHODIUM R cranio-caudal Mag: 1.073 Size: 2560 x 3328 Angle: 0.0

28 kV W / Rh Thickness = 49 mm 157 mAs



MEDICAL PHYSICIST'S MAMMOGRAPHY QC TEST SUMMARY

Rh	Rh	Rh	Rh	Rh	Rh		
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
24	26	28	30	32	34		
50	50	50	50	50	50		
W	W	W	W	W	W		
Rh	Rh	Rh	Rh	Rh	Rh		
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Expo	sure	meas	ureme	ents⊧(ı	mR)		
150.0	194.3	236.9	278.6	320.1	361.1		
80.2	107.5	133.7	159.6	185.5	211.8		
70.2	94.5	118.2	141.4	165.3	189.4		
			125.9	147.4	169.1		
150.0	194.3	236.9	278.6	320.1	361.1		
192.2	245.9	297.9	348.6	399.0	448.6		
0.78	0.79	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8		
Calcu	Calculations						
150.0	194.3	236.9	278.6	320.1	361.1		
75.0	97.2	118.5	139.3	160.1	180.6		
80.2	107.5	133.7	141.4	165.3	189.4		
70.2	94.5	118.2	125.9	147.4	169.1		
0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5		
0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6		
0.450	0.479	0.498	0.513	0.528	0.542		
0.27	0.29	0.31	0.33	0.35	0.37		
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass		

Tungsten / Rhodium Combination

Half Value Layer



W/Rh @ 28 kV HVL = 0.498 mm Al Output (at 65.5 cm) = 4.8 mR/mAs

Radiation Output

32

30

34

36

Mean glandular dose coefficients (D_{gN}) for x-ray spectra used in contemporary breast imaging systems

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Table 1.	Summary	of modele	ed spectra.
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Voltage (kV)	Target + Filter	HVL range (mm Al)	DgN table #	Manufacturer
35–49	Mo + 400 μ Cu	2.24-3.80	2	General system
35–49	$Rh + 400 \mu Cu$	2.21-3.79	3	General system
24-49	$Mo + 30 \mu Mo$	0.28-0.52	4	GE essential
24-49	$Mo + 25 \mu Rh$	0.33-0.56	5	GE senobright low energy
24-49	$Rh + 25 \mu Rh$	0.28-0.65	6	GE essential GE senobright low
26–34	W + 50 μ Ag	0.48-0.69	7	energy Hologic dimensions IMS giotto TOMO
26-38	W + 500 μ A1	0.34-0.61	8	Philips microdose
28-49	$W + 700 \mu Al$	0.46-0.92	9	Hologic dimensions
35–49	$W + 200 \mu Cu$	1.68-2.89	10	Hologic contrast
35–49	$W + 300 \mu Cu$	2.04-3.45	11	Hologic contrast
23–35	W + 50 μ Rh	0.41–0.64	12	Siemens mammomat hologic dimensions IMS giotto TOMO

28 kV HVL = 0.498 mm Al

12.5% Breast Density

Dgn Values W-Rh Anode-Filter 12.5% Glandular Breast (mGy/mGy)						
			Due est Thi			
	Breast Thickness (cm)					
HVL	3	4	5	6	7	8
0.482	0.426	0.347	0.290	0.246	0.213	0.187
0.507	0.427	0.349	0.291	0.247	0.214	0.188
0.532	0.429	0.351	0.292	0.249	0.215	0.189
0.557	0.431	0.353	0.294	0.250	0.216	0.190
0.582	0.434	0.355	0.296	0.252	0.218	0.191
	HVL 0.482 0.507 0.557 0.582	HVL 3 0.482 0.426 0.507 0.427 0.532 0.429 0.557 0.431 0.582 0.434	HVL 3 4 0.482 0.426 0.347 0.507 0.427 0.349 0.532 0.429 0.351 0.557 0.431 0.353 0.582 0.434 0.355	HVL 3 4 5 0.482 0.426 0.347 0.290 0.507 0.427 0.349 0.291 0.532 0.429 0.351 0.292 0.557 0.431 0.353 0.294 0.582 0.434 0.355 0.296	V-Rh Anode-Filter 12.5% Glandular Breast (mGy/mG Breast Thickness (cm) HVL 3 4 5 6 0.482 0.426 0.347 0.290 0.246 0.507 0.427 0.349 0.291 0.247 0.532 0.429 0.351 0.292 0.249 0.557 0.431 0.353 0.294 0.250 0.582 0.434 0.355 0.296 0.252	HVL 3 4 5 6 7 0.482 0.426 0.347 0.290 0.246 0.213 0.507 0.427 0.349 0.291 0.247 0.214 0.532 0.429 0.351 0.292 0.249 0.215 0.557 0.431 0.353 0.294 0.215 0.582 0.434 0.355 0.296 0.252 0.218

DgN_{12%} = 0.290 mGy/mGy

 $DgN_{50\%} = 0.254 \text{ mGy/mGy}$

50% Breast Density

Dgn Values W-Rh Anode-Filter 50% Glandular Breast (mGy/mGy)							
Energy (kV)				Breast Thic	kness (cm)		
(,	HVL	3	4	5	6	7	8
28	0.482	0.385	0.308	0.253	0.214	0.184	0.160
	0.507	0.386	0.309	0.255	0.215	0.184	0.161
	0.532	0.388	0.311	0.256	0.216	0.185	0.162
	0.557	0.390	0.313	0.257	0.217	0.186	0.163
	0.582	0.392	0.315	0.259	0.218	0.188	0.164

Incident Air Kerma to Breast:

 $4.8 \text{ mR/mAs} \times 157 \text{ mAs} \times K_{ISL} = 746 \text{ mR} = 6.51 \text{ mGy} [EAK]$

Dose (50%) = 6.51 mGy × 0.254 mGy/mGy = 1.65 mGy ←

Dose (12%) = 6.51 mGy × 0.290 mGy/mGy = 1.89 mGy ←

14.4% increase due to more accurate glandular fraction assessment



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Breast CT as the Backstory

Skin Thickness

Breast Density / the Myth



New Mammography Spectra

Density Heterogeneity

Summary



Why do we need another spectral model

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Molybdenum, rhodium, and tungsten anode spectral models using interpolating polynomials with application to mammography John M. Boone, Thomas R. Fewell, and Robert J. Jennings

Citation: Medical Physics 24, 1863 (1997); doi: 10.1118/1.598100





SELENIA DIMENSIONS

• Limited kV range: 18 to 42 kV

Derived from measurements on x-ray tubes of the past



SIEMENS MAMMOMAT INSPIRATION



PHILIPS MICRODOSE

Monte Carlo Simulation Geometry



Detection Plane Size





LARGE

MEDIUM

SMALL



• 0.4 % difference in HVL, averaged across all vendors, after conventional filtration is applied.

=> Detection plane size does not affect spectral shape



• 1.8 % difference in HVL, averaged across all vendors, after conventional filtration is applied.

=> Focal spot size does not affect spectral shape





• 0.3 % difference in HVL, for W anode systems , after conventional filtration is applied.



For a given anode composition, vendor-specific geometrical differences do not affect spectral shape



• 0.3 % difference in HVL, for W anode systems , after conventional filtration is applied.

A single mammography system geometry can be used for all commercial systems

methodology for *new* spectral model adopted from:



Tungsten anode spectral model using interpolating cubic splines: Unfiltered x-ray spectra from 20 kV to 640 kV





Molybdenum, Rhodium, and Tungsten Anode Spectral Model using Interpolating Cubic Splines



MASMICS, RASMICS, TASMICS -

- 0.5 keV energy resolution
- Minimal filtration (0.77 mm Be)



Mean glandular dose coefficients (DgN) for contemporary mammography systems



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Summary



Glandular dose is the metric of interest!

Absorbed Radiation Dose in Mammography¹

G. Richard Hammerstein, M.S., Daniel W. Miller, Ph.D., David R. White, Ph.D.,² Mary Ellen Masterson, M.S., Helen Q. Woodard, Ph.D.,³ and John S. Laughlin, Ph.D.

Radiation dose from mammographic techniques was determined as a function of surface exposure, beam quality, and depth. Relative exposure vs. depth was measured in tissuesubstitute materials by thermoluminescent dosimetry. The *f*-factors were calculated from elemental compositions of mastectomy specimens. Dose at depth depends on beam quality as well as exposure and tissue composition. Analysis of data from the ACS/NCI Screening Centers shows current average midbreast doses to be 25 times lower (film/screen) and 3 times lower (Xerox) than the 2 rads previously estimated. Quantitative risk indicators other than midbreast dose are also discussed.

INDEX TERMS: Breast, neoplasms • Mammography, dosimetry • Mammography, radiation dose • Mammography, radiation hazards

Radiology 130:485-491, February 1979

"Detailed information will have to be obtained on the amount and distribution of gland tissue in many individual cases before individual risk estimates can be made"



Heterogeneous (VGF = 20%)



Radiation Protection Dosimetry (2005), Vol. 114, Nos 1-3, pp. 359–363 doi:10.1093/rpd/nch510

BREAST DOSIMETRY USING HIGH-RESOLUTION VOXEL PHANTOMS

D. R. Dance^{1,*}, R. A. Hunt¹, P. R. Bakic², A. D. A. Maidment², M. Sandborg³, G. Ullman³ and G. Alm Carlsson³



10 – 43% overestimation using structure phantoms



9-59% overestimation using unstructured phantoms



Characterization of the homogeneous tissue mixture approximation in breast imaging dosimetry

Ioannis Sechopoulos, Kristina Bliznakova, Xulei Qin, Baowei Fei, and Steve Si Jia Feng

Classified Breast



Breast After Compression



Used whole breast for BCT computations

compressed portion ma

Used only compressed portion of breast for mammography computations

27% overestimation using simulated mechanical compression of bCT images in 20 patients.

MEDICAL PHYSICS

The characterization of breast anatomical metrics using dedicated breast CT

Shih-Ying Huang^{a)} and John M. Boone^{b)} Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of California–Davis, One Shields Avenue, Davis, California 95616 and Department of Radiology, University of California–Davis Medical Center, 4860 Y Street, Ambulatory Care Center Suite 3100, Sacramento, California 95817



Radial Glandular Fraction (RGF)



MEDICAL PHYSICS

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Phantom Design



Modeled RGFs in compressed breast phantoms





Validating Methodology


DgN(E): heterogeneous vs. homogeneous





pDgN: heterogeneous vs. homogeneous



Asymmetric shifts in glandular distributions



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Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods for Mammography Dosimetry

- The only breast density metric that matters in breast dosimetry is volume glandular fraction
- A new understanding of breast geometry along with updating anode/filter/kV parameters will make clinical breast dosimetry more accurate
- Skin thickness would be important with homogeneous breast tissue, but less so with heterogeneous models

Changing Perceptions and Updated Methods for Mammography Dosimetry

- The mammography spectra presented here will be made available in spreadsheet format (after it's published) by request
- The DgN values described in a PMB publication (200 pages) will be provided by request
- Heterogeneous breast models represent the next generation in breast dosimetry



Future Directions

- Generate more realistic breast shapes under compression for Monte Carlo studies
- Model MLO projection different from CC
- With some tomosynthesis systems going to much wider angles, a full angled-beam MC analysis will be necessary
- The cycle of CAP \rightarrow Research \rightarrow CAP \rightarrow Research \rightarrow CAP continues



Future Directions

New AAPM Task Group on Breast Dosimetry

- Ioannis Sechopoulis
- David Dance
- Ken Young
- R. Vanegen
- John Boone



New AAPM Task Group on Breast Dosimetry

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