



Site Specific IGRT Considerations for Clinical Imaging Protocols

Krishni Wijesooriya, PhD
University of Virginia



Department of Radiation Oncology

Outline

- Image registration accuracies for different modalities
 - What imaging modality best suited for each site, and Tx type?
- For each site, will discuss
 - Site-specific goals and uncertainties
 - Dosimetric consequences of exceeding tolerances
 - Desirable IGRT characteristics and feasible systems to achieve goals
 - IGRT process designs to minimize site-specific uncertainties
 - Sites used as examples of critical thinking process in this presentation: lung, liver, prostate, spine SBRT, H&N
- Offline and on-line correction strategies
 - Differences
 - Importance of time and efficiency of verification.
 - How to use them and when to use them

Department of Radiation Oncology



- Image registration accuracies for different modalities
 - What imaging modality best suited for each site?
 - What imaging modality best suited for each Tx type ?

Department of Radiation Oncology



Executive summary of AAPM/ASTRO on image guided technologies

Critical Review

Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT) Technologies for Radiation Therapy Localization and Delivery

Jennifer De Lee Santos, MD,* Richard Pogue, PhD,* Nikhil Agarwal, PhD,¹ Jakob E. Rejzarski, PhD,² Jason Pierre Eisenhardt, PhD,³ Hong Anna Bao, MD,⁴ Sergio Scharfkerl, PhD,⁵ Lei Ding, PhD,⁶ Kenneth H. Fowler, PhD,⁷ Daniel Indelicato, MD,⁸ Gilda Longoni, PhD,⁹ Jung Lohmann, PhD,¹⁰ Willy Mayr, MD,¹¹ Lohmann Forst, PhD,¹² William Sattler, PhD,¹³ Michael Sorensen, MD, MS,¹⁴ William C. Yeh, MD, MS,¹⁵ and Leslie C. Chetty, PhD¹⁶

*Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY; ¹Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA; ²Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Texas, Austin, TX; ³Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL; ⁴Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; ⁵Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA; ⁶Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; ⁷Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Texas, Austin, TX; ⁸Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; ⁹Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA; ¹⁰Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; ¹¹Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; ¹²Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; ¹³Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; ¹⁴Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; ¹⁵Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; ¹⁶Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

Department of Radiation Oncology



IGRT modalities, accuracies, and sites—Radiation Based systems

Modality	Accuracy	Site
IGRT (kV)	±0.5 mm	Prostate, Breast, Lung, Head and Neck, Pelvic
IGRT (MV)	±0.5 mm	Prostate, Breast, Lung, Head and Neck, Pelvic
IGRT (kV) with CBCT	±0.5 mm	Prostate, Breast, Lung, Head and Neck, Pelvic
IGRT (kV) with MV	±0.5 mm	Prostate, Breast, Lung, Head and Neck, Pelvic
IGRT (kV) with MV and CBCT	±0.5 mm	Prostate, Breast, Lung, Head and Neck, Pelvic

Department of Radiation Oncology



IGRT modalities, accuracies, and sites—Non Radiation based systems

Table 1. Non-radiation based systems for IGRT

Modality	Accuracy	Site
IGRT (kV) with CBCT	±0.5 mm	Prostate, Breast, Lung, Head and Neck, Pelvic
IGRT (kV) with MV	±0.5 mm	Prostate, Breast, Lung, Head and Neck, Pelvic
IGRT (kV) with MV and CBCT	±0.5 mm	Prostate, Breast, Lung, Head and Neck, Pelvic

Executive summary of AAPM/ASTRO on image guided technologies
J De Lee Santos et al. "Image guided radiation therapy (IGRT) technologies for radiation therapy localization and delivery"
JROBP 87(1): 13-45, 2013

Department of Radiation Oncology



Measurements of Abdominal Tumor Motion

- Bradner GS et al IJROBP 2006; 65: 554-560 – 13 patients**
- Up to 2.5cm inferiorly for all tumors, motion up to 1.2 cm A/P observed for liver and kidneys
 - Mean S/I displacements: Liver 1.3cm; Spleen 1.3 cm; Kidneys 1.2cm

Department of Radiation Oncology



Liver motion with breath hold (ABC) and intra-arterial microcoils

- Intra-fraction liver motion in CC dimension
 - 2.5 mm (range 1.8 –3.7 mm) -diaphragm
 - 2.3 mm (range 1.2–3.7 mm) – hepatic microcoils
- Inter-fraction liver motion in CC dimension
 - 4.4 mm (range 3.0–6.1 mm) -diaphragm
 - 4.3 mm (range 3.1–5.7 mm)- hepatic microcoils

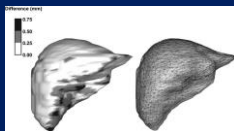
Need daily on-line imaging and repositioning if treatment margins smaller than those required for free breathing are a goal.

Dawson, L.A, Brock, K.K et. al. "The reproducibility of organ position using active breathing control (ABC) during liver radiotherapy". IJROBP 51; 1410-21 (2001)

Department of Radiation Oncology



Intra-fraction reproducibility of liver with ABC breath hold



breath-hold computed tomography (CT) scans at the time of simulation. On the left, the liver from the second CT is registered to the liver from the first CT scan using a finite element mesh-based deformable registration tool. The gray scale shows the absolute difference in the position of the liver surfaces. White represents differences with ≤ 2.5 mm, whereas black representing differences of ≤ 7.5 mm. On the right, the first CT is shown in solid and the second is shown in wire frame.

Eccles C, Brock K.K. et. al. "Reproducibility of liver position using active breathing coordinator for liver cancer radiotherapy", IJROBP 64 (3); 751-759 (2006)

Department of Radiation Oncology



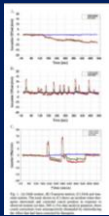
Liver

- Site-specific goals and uncertainties (e.g. low contrast target, periodic breathing motion)
- Desirable IGRT characteristics (e.g. minimize breathing motion to optimize ability to visualize low contrast targets, multiple fiducial markers inside target)
- IGRT Process Decisions (e.g. breath-hold treatment if possible, use of PRV to allow for OAR inter-fx motion on day of treat)

Department of Radiation Oncology



Intra-fraction prostate motion measured by Calypso system



Sustained Excursion
Prostate shifts from isocenter
Longitudinal and vertical posterior motion

RT(T) shifts later during treatment

High Frequency, Transient Excursion
Prostate shifts erratically ~ 9 minutes

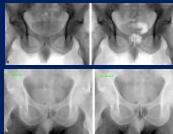
15% of patients exhibit prostate movement >5mm from initial position within 10s mainly in S/I direction

Left-Right motion is the least

Kupelian et al "Multi-institutional clinical experience with the Calypso system in localization and continuous real-time monitoring of the prostate gland during external radiotherapy", IJROBP 67: 1088-1098: 2007

Langen et al "Observations on real-time prostate gland motion using electromagnetic tracking", IJROBP 71: 1084-1090: 2008

Inter/Intra-fraction prostate motion measured by Varian OBI system and internal gold markers



- Typical example of inter-fraction displacement where gold marker displacement relative to bony anatomy in AP kV images at different fractions
- Example of intra-fraction displacements where the gold marker moves >2mm in the S/I direction after 2min

B. Sorcini et al "Clinical application of image-guided radiotherapy, IGRT (on the Varian OBI platform)", Cancer Radiotherapy 10: 252-257: 2006

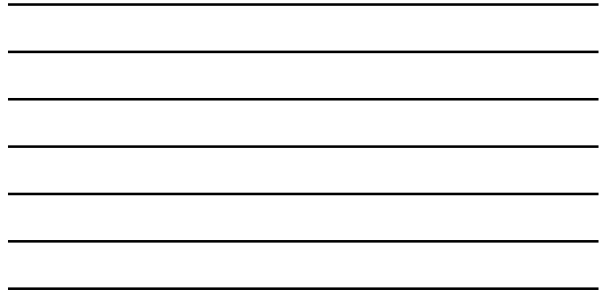
Department of Radiation Oncology

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA HEALTH SYSTEM

Compare fiducials to prostate guidance

- Little difference between fiducial markers to prostate in CBCT
- Difference in residual error 1.1mm (SD 2.9)

Letourneau D et al "Assessment of residual error for online cone-beam CT guided treatment of prostate cancer patients", *LROBP* 62: 1239-46; 2005



Department of Radiation Oncology

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA HEALTH SYSTEM

Prostate Motion in Obese Men

	SI (mm)	LR (mm)	AP (mm)
Mean	2.2	11.4	2.6
Median	2.2	8.4	2.5
Range	0-7	0-42	0-8
95% CI	1.3-3.1	0.0-22.0	1.8-3.3

Abbreviations: SI = superior-inferior, LR = left-right, AP = anterior-posterior, CI = confidence interval.

Left-Right motion is the largest in Obese men >10mm!

LE Millender et al "Daily electronic portal imaging for morbidly obese men undergoing radiotherapy for localized prostate cancer", *LROBP* 59 (1): 6-10; 2004



Department of Radiation Oncology

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA HEALTH SYSTEM

Prostate Motion in Obese Men

JR Wong et al "Potential for higher treatment failure in obese patients: correlation of elevated body mass index and increased daily prostate deviations from the radiation beam isocenters in an analysis of 1,485 CT images", *LROBP* 75: 49-55; 2009



Prostate

- Site-specific goals and uncertainties (e.g. discrete and unpredictable target motion)
- Desirable IGRT characteristics (e.g. soft tissue visualization, periodic intra-fx verification)
- IGRT Process Decisions (e.g. tradeoffs and clinical use of CBCT and OBI-fiducial-based imaging)

Department of Radiation Oncology



Intra-Fraction Motion of Spine During SBRT

3.3 mm – Using a stereotactic body frame

Shiu AS, Chang AL, et al. "Near simultaneous computed tomography image guided stereotactic spine radiotherapy: an emerging paradigm for achieving true stereotaxy" JROBP 57: 605-613 (2013)

5.2 mm – using whole body vacuum cushion

Yano K, Lovelock DM, et al. "CT image guided intensity modulated radiation therapy for paraspinal tumors using stereotactic immobilization", JROBP 55: 583-589 (2003)

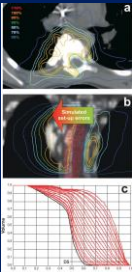
Table 2

Patient setup errors				
	min	Z	x	max
Translational errors (mm)				
SI	-0.3	2.0	3.8	11
AP	0.5	1.2	2.6	19
LR	0.6	2.1	3.0	15
Rotational error (°)				
SI	-0.3	1.4	1.3	8
AP	-0.4	1.2	1.4	7
LR	0	1.3	1.4	6

Setup errors observed during treatment. Reported are group mean errors (SD), distribution of systematic (S) and of random (r) positioning errors.

Method: Guckenberger et al. "Precision required for dose-escalated treatment of spinal metastases and implications for image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT)". Radiotherapy Oncology, 84: 28-32, 2007

Precision Requirements for Spine SBRT – Dosimetric consequences



- Dose distribution in the axial plane
- Simulated transversal patient set-up errors (0.5-1.00mm) with resulting displacements of the spinal cord
- Dose to the spinal cord:
 - Black – prescribed dose from Tx plan
 - Red – dose distributions resulting from simulated set up errors

To keep dose to spinal cord within + 5%/- 10% of the Rx dose maximum errors should be within

- 1mm (2mm)- transverse
- 4mm (7mm) – SI
- 3.5 deg (5 deg) - rotations

Method: Guckenberger et al. "Precision required for dose-escalated treatment of spinal metastases and implications for image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT)". Radiotherapy Oncology, 84: 28-32, 2007

H&N IMRT

- Site-specific goals and uncertainties (e.g. complex dose distributions adjacent to many critical structures, and sensitive to rotations due to long target)
- Desirable IGRT characteristics (e.g. soft tissue visualization and ability to detect rotations)
- IGRT Process Decisions (e.g. may use OBI for daily setup and CBCT weekly to assess if replan needed)

Department of Radiation Oncology



Correction strategies for setup errors Adaptive RT

- Online procedures – tumor is in close proximity to critical structures or high dose RT
 - Acquires images daily
 - Assesses info from daily imaging prior to Tx
 - Simple corrections implemented to compensate noted deviations in position
 - Larger reduction in geometric errors than offline approaches
- Offline procedures
 - frequent acquisition of images without immediate intervention
 - Calculate systematic and random uncertainties of set up error
 - Correction for systematic error made for the remaining fractions
- Adaptive Rt –
 - Replanning before every tx based on 3D image acquired
 - Replan only when substantial changes to anatomy is observed

Department of Radiation Oncology



Time lag between image acquisition and decision to enable/disable beam

- 0.03 seconds is fast enough to maintain target position within 1mm of predicted for motions with speeds up to 3.3 cm/s
- The issues of lag and dose suggest we would benefit from combining internal and external guidance – Cyberknife uses implanted markers and periodic radiography, but uses an external coordinate to estimate the internal position

J.M. Baber, Y. Cao "Advanced Technologies in Image-Guided radiation therapy" Seminars in Radiation Oncology 17: 293-307, 2007



Daily variation of prostate location with respect to bony anatomy

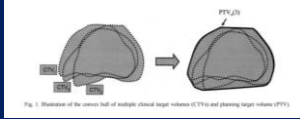


Fig. 1. Illustration of the center-of-mass of multiple clinical target volumes (CTVs) and planning target volume (PTV).

Online correction strategy: Pre-Tx imaging and align to soft tissue
Can also create a bounding box from first k days of daily CTVs – Advantage: eliminate the effects of systematic variation in internal target location

Yan D, Lovelace D, et al. "An offline strategy for constructing a patient-specific planning target volume in adaptive treatment process for prostate cancer". *IRROBP* 48 (1): 289-302 (2006)

Substantial anatomical change due to weight loss during RT

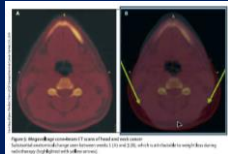


Figure 10. Weight loss, combined 17 years of head and neck cancer. Substantial amount of soft tissue mass, mainly in the neck, which is critical to weigh this same combination of soft tissue with the cancer.

Offline correction strategy: re-simulating and re-planning

Imaging Protocol Schemes

- To maintain certain intra-fractional motion limits
- Need to have imaging protocols
- Mainly decided by clinical trials
- Examples:
 - RTOG 0924 – Prostate – every 5 min to reacquire a CBCT/MVCT

Summary

- IGRT tolerances and techniques depend on the Tx site, dose fractionation, nearby critical structure doses, and also patient size/immobilization
- If used inappropriately, will lead to unsuitable margin reduction, and missing the tumor
- At present IGRT does not measure biological change/healthy tissue function
- Online/offline IGRT both reduce dose delivery to healthy tissue/enable dose escalation
- Allows to adapt radiotherapy to changes in tumor shape/size/location
