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4D-MRI using Internal Surrogates

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Strategies for 4D-MRI

Real time 4D-MRI

- ultra-fast 3D MR sequence
- fast gradient, multi-coils, parallel processing
- inadequate image quality (3-4 mm, 1.5 s/f)

Retrospective 4D-MRI

- fast 2D MR sequence
- breathing signal (surrogate)
- adequate image quality (1.5x1.5x3 mm, 0.3 s/f)

Retrospective 4D-MRI

Image Acquisition	Respiratory Signal				
Fast 2D cine MR	Surrogates				
Multiple slices	- External				
Cine duration > 1 cycle	- Internal/Image-based				
Frame rate: ~3 f/s	Signal processing				
Slice thickness: 3-5 mm	Phase determination				

- Slice thickness: 3-5 mm
- Pixel size: 1-2 mm

Internal/image-based Surrogates

- Implanted markers
- Diaphragm
- Air content
- Lung area
- Lung density
- Fourier transform
- Body area (axial, sagittal)
- Normalized cross correlation
- Deformable image registration
- Simplified process, lower cost, more efficient
- Potentially better correlation with tumor motion



Fast MRI: Examples



Fast MR Sequences

- TrueFISP/FIESTA (balanced steady state gradient echo) - T2*/T1, sensitive to fluid, band artifacts from long TR
- ► HASTE/SSFSE (single shot fast spin echo) - T2, good CNR, signal decay from lung echo train, blurring
- FLASH/Fast SPGR (fast spoiled gradient echo) - T1 (poor), tumor hypo-intensity
- ► EPI (echo-planner imaging) - GE-EPI (T2*), SE-EPI (T2), IR-EPI (T1) - susceptibility, ghosting, chemical shift, fat suppression











Axial SBA ~ RPM: Summary											V
Patient	Р	T (s)	V _T	A (mm)	V _A	R	D	D _A	F (s)	S _{BA}	S _{RPM}
Lung Cancer Patients											
Mean	L2	3.4	0.18	6.5	0.20	0.90	-5.1	13.8	0.47	3.1	2.6
Abdominal Cancer Patients											
Mean	L2	3.7	0.19	6.8	0.21	0.94	-1.3	8.5	0.32	2.8	2.6
All Patients											
Mean	L2	3.6	0.19	6.6	0.20	0.92	-3.3	11.4	0.40	2.9	2.6
p *	0.61	0.34	0.50	0.78	0.52	0.04	0.28	0.001	0.03	0.23	0.92
 Good correlation in the abdomen (R=0.94). Phase shifts observed in the lung in some patients. 											



Sagittal SBA ~ Motion TrackingSagittal SBATrackingImage: Colspan="2">Image: Colspan="2"Image: Colspan="2">Image: Colspan="2">Image: Colspan="2"Image: Cols







- 10 Subjects, 2 min scan, sagittal / coronal
- Small phase difference (-3.1±4.8%)
 High correlation (r²=0.97±0.02)









Tumor CNR: 20.1 in 4D-MRI, 2.5 in 4D-CT.



Summary

- 4D-MRI using internal surrogates is feasible.
- Slice body area and Fourier Transform are potential robust internal respiratory surrogates.
- Validation is essential for using internal respiratory surrogate.

Acknowledgements



Fang-Fang Yin, PhD Brain Czito, MD Chris Willett, MD Chris Kelsey, MD Jim Chang, PhD Paul Segars, PhD Kevin Kelly, BS, RT(MR) Raj Panta, MS Fan Zhang, MS Cindy Qin, BS

The Golfers Against Cancer (GAC) Foundation