

## WORKSHOP PRESENTATION



# Biventricular strain analysis at 1.5T cardiac MR imaging: preliminary results in volunteers using an iterative SENSE reconstruction with L1 regularization

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### Background

Changes in myocardial strain have been shown to precede onset of systolic dysfunction in patients with cardiomyopathy. Traditionally performed with echocardiography, acoustic windows can limit strain evaluation. Preliminary work has shown good agreement between myocardial strain derived from deformation field analysis at balanced steady-state free-precession (bSSFP) cine MRI and speckle tracking echocardiography. The application of a novel prototype iterative SENSE reconstruction with L1 regularization (IR-SENSE) to highly accelerated segmented bSSFP cine acquisitions can maintain or improve the effective temporal resolution with a shorter breath-hold. The purpose of this study is to evaluate left- and rightventricular stain analysis from bSSFP cine acquisitions using conventional GRAPPA and highly accelerated T-PAT with IR-SENSE. We hypothesize that myocardial strain parameters derived from accelerated T-PAT cine acquisitions with IR-SENSE are similar to those obtained using conventional segmented bSSFP with comparable effective temporal resolutions.

### Methods

9 healthy volunteers (6 males,  $44.3 \pm 13.5$  yrs) underwent imaging at 1.5 T (MAGNETOM Aera, Siemens AG, Healthcare Sector, Erlangen, Germany). The following 5 pulse sequences were acquired in the short axis and 4-chamber orientations: GRAPPA factor 2 standard

<sup>1</sup>Department of Radiology, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, USA Full list of author information is available at the end of the article bSSFP cine with 5 and 14 views per segment (Seg NIR), and T-PAT factor 4 bSSFP cine with 2, 8, and 14 views per segment reconstructed using a prototype IR-SENSE algorithm (Seg IR) (Table 1). Strain values were derived from deformation field analysis on prototype software (Siemens Corporate Technology, Princeton, NJ). LV global and RV lateral wall longitudinal strains were obtained from 4-chamber cine acquisitions. LV circumferential and radial strains were obtained from shortaxis acquisitions for the base, mid-chamber, and apex. Average and peak strains were compared using a twosided student's t-test.

### Results

All T-PAT 4 cine bSSFP acquisitions were successfully reconstructed using the IR-SENSE algorithm. Average and peak systolic strains by region and sequence are shown in Table 2. Longitudinal strains were similar across all acquisitions (p > 0.05), with a trend towards greater strain values for 5-Seg NIR and 2-Seg IR acquisitions. LV radial and circumferential strains were regionally similar except for differences between 5-Seg NIR and 8-Seg IR LV radial strain in the mid-chamber and 5-Seg NIR and 14-Seg NIR LV circumferential strain in the apical chamber (p < 0.05).

### Conclusions

This preliminary study demonstrates that myocardial strains derived from deformation field analysis on highly accelerated bSSFP cine acquisitions with IR-SENSE are



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| Sequence<br>abbreviation | In-Plane resolution<br>(mm × mm) | Slice<br>thickness<br>(mm) | Views per<br>segment | Acceleration technique<br>and factor | Effective temporal resolution (msec) | Acquisition<br>time (sec) |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2-Seg IR                 | 1.9 × 1.8                        | 6                          | 2                    | T-PAT SENSE factor 4                 | 5.5                                  | 19                        |
| 8-Seg IR                 | 1.9 × 1.8                        | 6                          | 8                    | T-PAT SENSE factor 4                 | 22                                   | 6                         |
| 14-Seg IR                | 1.9 × 1.8                        | 6                          | 14                   | T-PAT SENSE factor 4                 | 38.6                                 | 4                         |
| 5-Seg NIR                | 1.5 × 2.1                        | 6                          | 5                    | iPAT GRAPPA factor 2                 | 12.5                                 | 17                        |
| 14-Seg NIR               | 1.5 × 1.5                        | 6                          | 14                   | iPAT GRAPPA factor 2                 | 39.2                                 | 8.4                       |

### Table 1 Cardiac MRI sequence parameters.

IR: iterative reconstruction using k-t SENSE

# Table 2 Segmental end systolic strain results (average, peak; expressed as a percentage) by imaging sequence and cardiac region.

| Sequence<br>Abbreviation | LV<br>Longitudinal | RV<br>Longitudinal<br>Free Wall | LV Radial<br>Basal<br>Chamber | LV Radial<br>Mid<br>Chamber | LV Radial<br>Apical<br>Chamber | LV Circum<br>Basal<br>Chamber | LV Circum<br>Mid<br>Chamber | LV Circum<br>Apical<br>Chamber |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2-Seg IR                 | -17.1, -26.1       | -17.2, -24.9                    | 37.7, 56.9                    | 41.2, 62.7                  | 32.6, 47.1                     | -20.3, -24.7                  | -22.3, -27.4                | -25.2, -28.2                   |
| 8-Seg IR                 | -16.0, -23.3       | -17.1, -23.3                    | 29.5, 42.8                    | 36.1, 48.1                  | 34.5, 50.4                     | -19.4, -24.2                  | -20.4, -24.1                | -22.5, -25.8                   |
| 14-Seg IR                | -15.0, -22.7       | -16.4, -23.0                    | 36.4, 61.1                    | 41.5, 59.9                  | 38.3, 54.1                     | -18.9, -24.0                  | -20.8, -24.3                | -23.7, -26.4                   |
| 5-Seg NIR                | -16.6, -24.8       | -19.5, -26.4                    | 40.8, 62.0                    | 50.2, 74.7                  | 29.7, 41.9                     | -19.8, -25.5                  | -21.9, -26.1                | -20.7, -23.4                   |
| 14-Seg NIR               | -16.8, -24.0       | -19.6, -26.0                    | 41.0, 64.5                    | 47.7, 69.1                  | 41.7, 63.3                     | -19.7, -24.6                  | -21.9, -26.0                | -26.6, -29.6                   |

similar to strains derived from conventionally reconstructed segmented bSSFP cine sequences with similar effective temporal resolutions.

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