

Basics of MRI

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DHHS

June 15, 2015



National Institute
of Mental Health



Outline

- 1 Medical Imaging Overview
 - General Imaging Principles
 - PET
 - X-Ray/CT
 - Ultra-sound
 - MRI
- 2 MRI - Breaking down the acronym
 - Magnetic
 - Resonance
- 3 Imaging
 - Location Encoding
 - Image Contrast
- 4 MR Safety
 - Why

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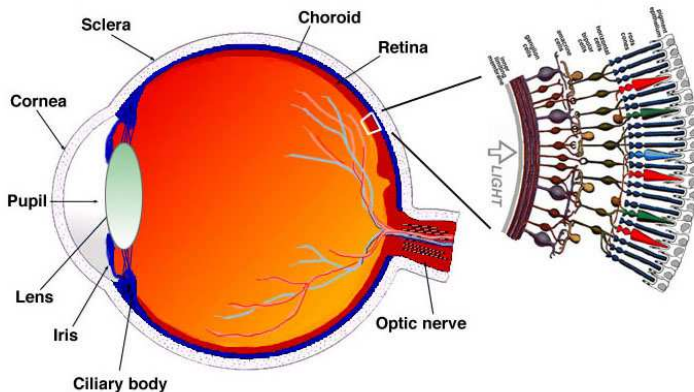
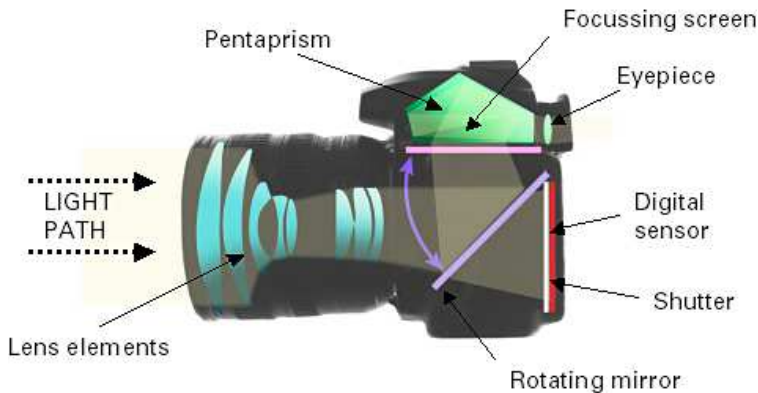


Fig. 1.1. A drawing of a section through the human eye with a schematic enlargement of the retina.

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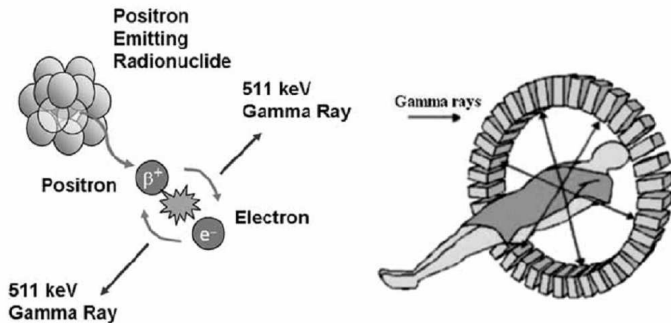
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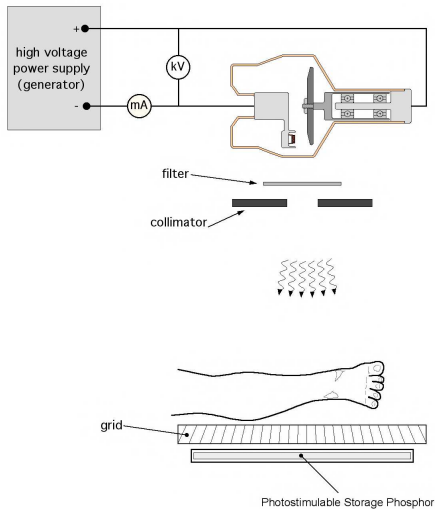
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 - MRI: Emit radio waves ($\approx$ radar), then look at properties of “reflected” signals to produce images.

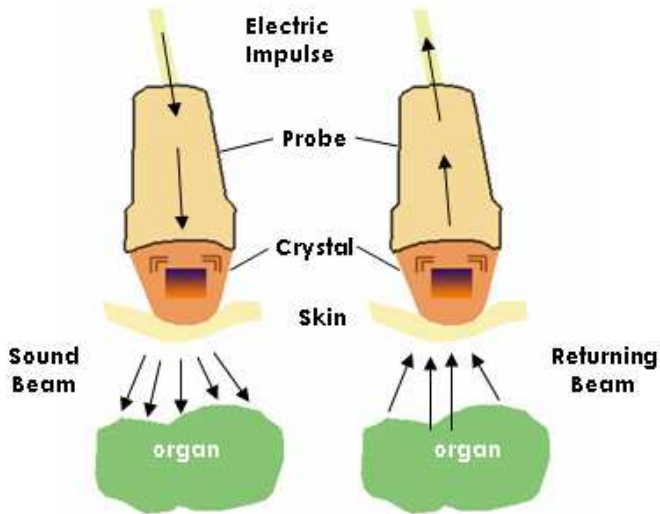
PET



X-Ray/CT



Ultra-sound



MRI

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MRI

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- Measure characteristics of modified signal that comes back to derive images.
- Much richer and subtle encoding scheme: can enhance contrast between tissues (and even between oxygenated and deoxygenated hemoglobin - basis of BOLD MRI / fMRI).

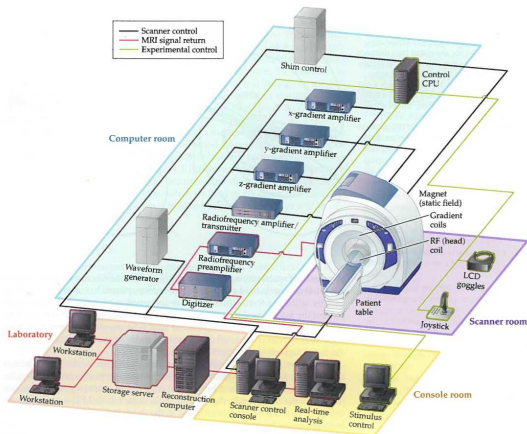
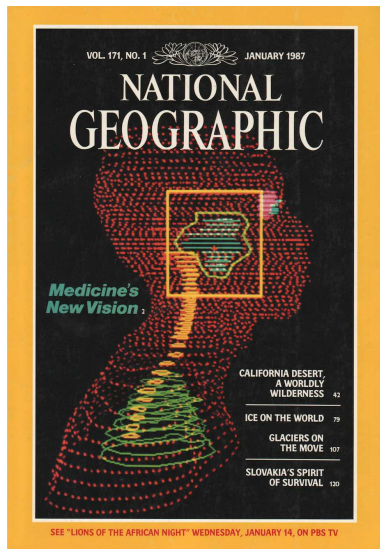


Figure 2.2 Schematic organization of the fMRI scanner and computer control systems. Two systems are important for fMRI studies. The first is the hardware used for image acquisition. In addition to the scanner itself, this hardware consists of a series of amplifiers and transmitters responsible for creating the gradients and pulse sequences (shown in black), and recorders of the MR signal from the head coil (shown in red). The second system is responsible for controlling the experiment in which the subject participates, and for recording behavioral and physiological data (shown in green).



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Magnetic

Magnetic

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Magnetic

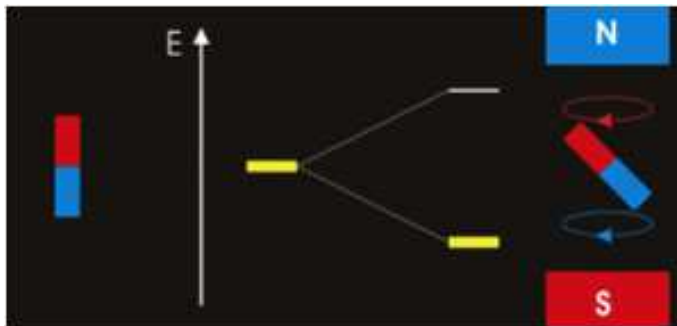
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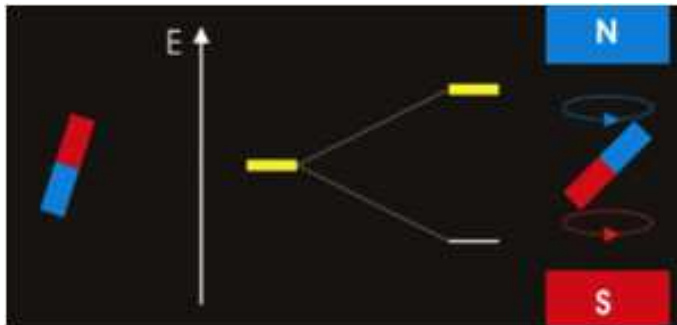
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- ^1H !

Resonance

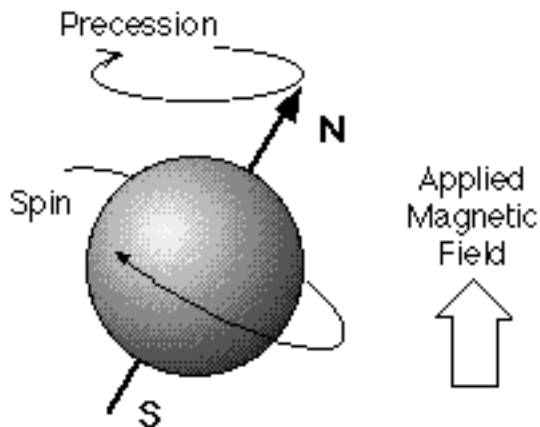
Resonance



Resonance



Resonance



Planck and Larmor Equations

$$E = h\nu = hf_0$$

$$2\pi f_0 = \omega_0 = \gamma B_0$$

Resonance - resulting from precession

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAE12114468910462>

(Tyler Moore - Videos for MR Tutorial)

Resonance - resulting from precession

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- Precession

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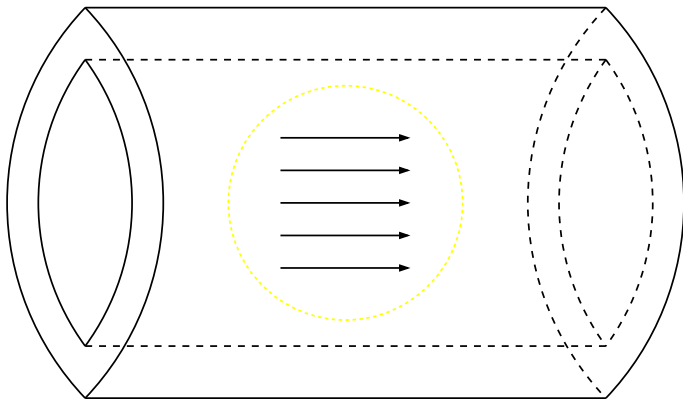
- Precession
- Resonance and excitation

Outline

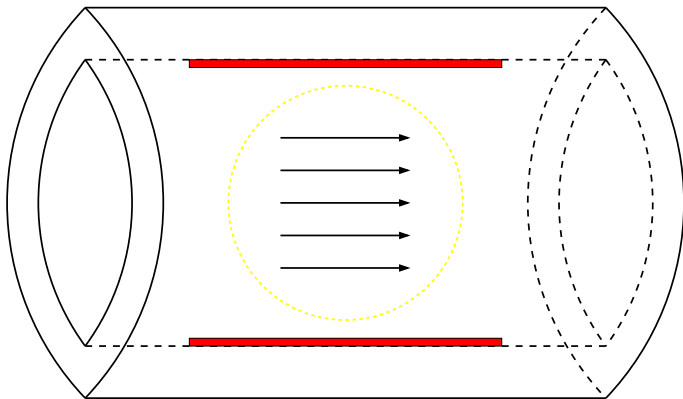
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Imaging Gradients

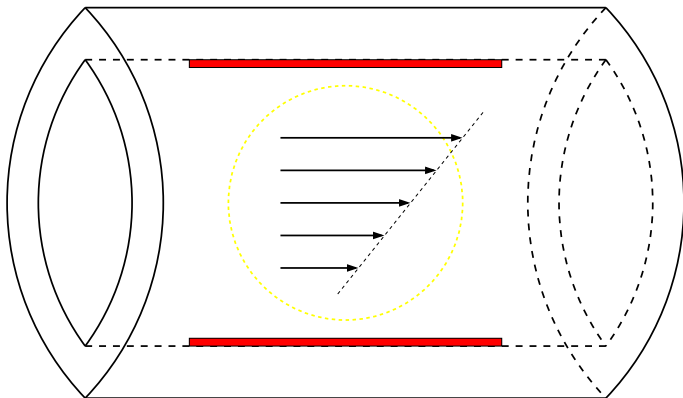
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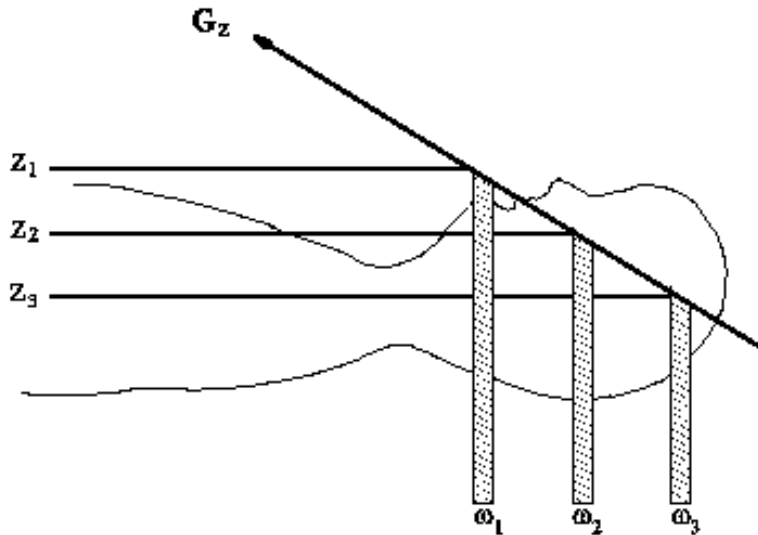
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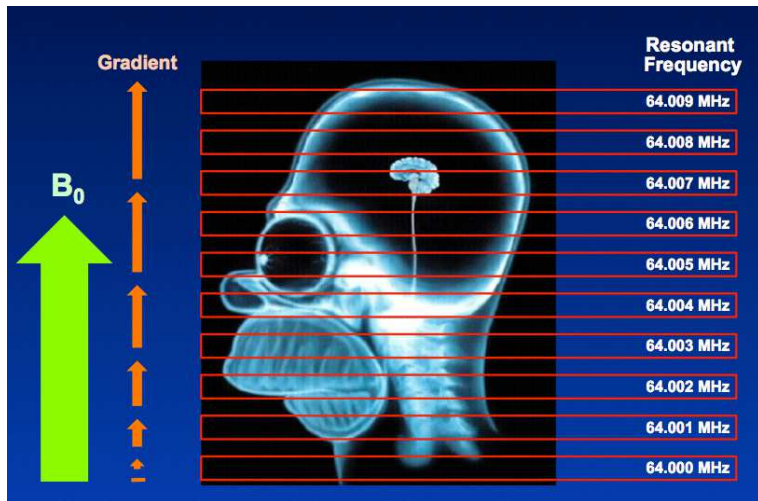
Imaging Gradients



Slice Encoding/Selection

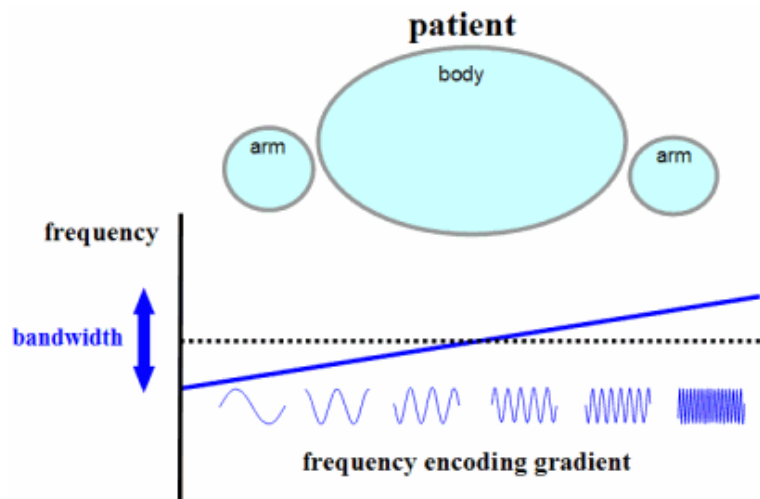


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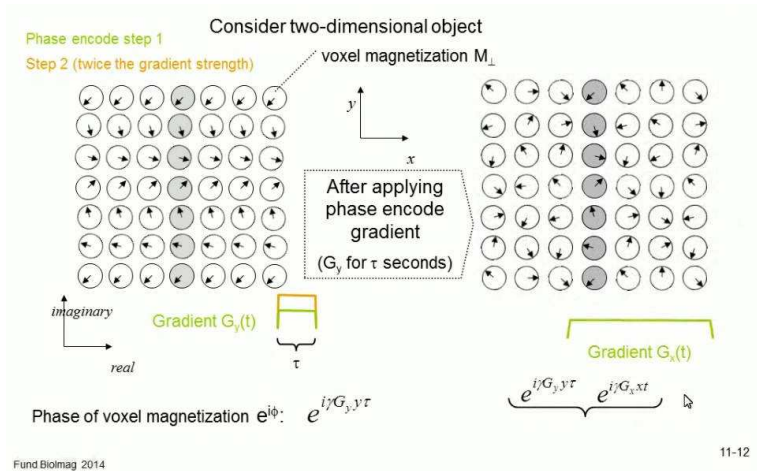
Frequency Encoding

Frequency Encoding



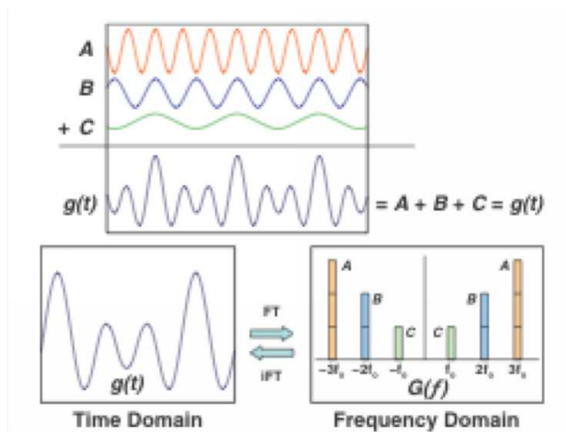
Phase Encoding

Phase Encoding



Creating image from signal

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- Data acquisition in “Fourier domain” encoded with spatial gradients.

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- Data acquisition in “Fourier domain” encoded with spatial gradients.
- Fourier transform acquired data to give image.

Creating image from signal

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- Fourier transform acquired data to give image.
- Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2003 to Lauterbur and Mansfield.

Creating image from signal

Paper on Fourier Transform in MR: DOI:10.2214/AJR.07.2874

American Journal of Roentgenology, 2008, Vol 5, 1396-1405

Relaxation times

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- Longitudinal (a.k.a T_1) relaxation

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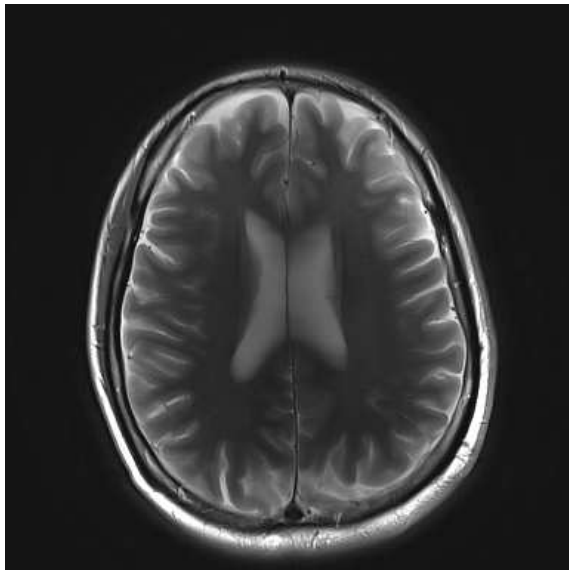
- Longitudinal (a.k.a T_1) relaxation
- Transverse (a.k.a T_2) relaxation

Basic tissue contrast

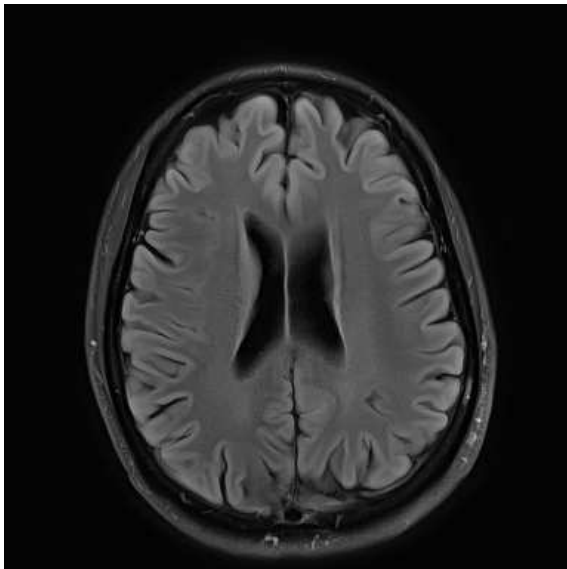
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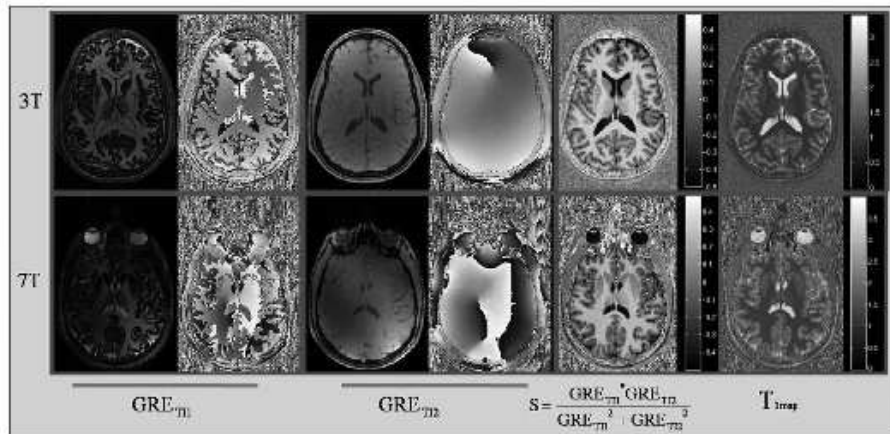
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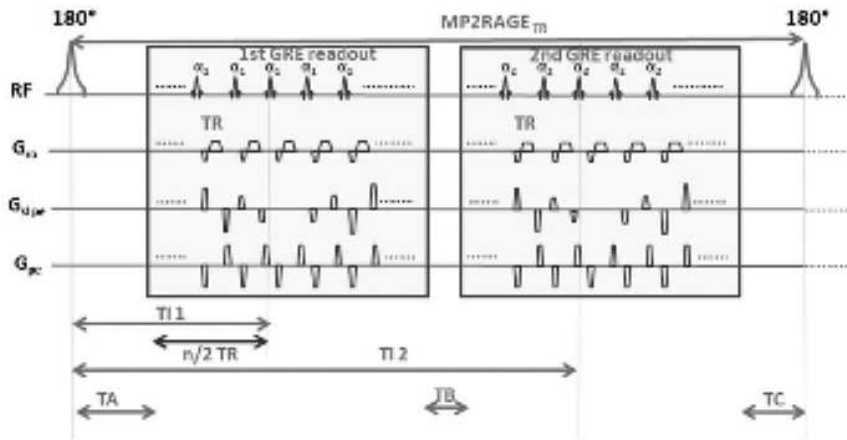
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MP2-RAGE: NeuroImage:49 (2010), 1271 - 1281

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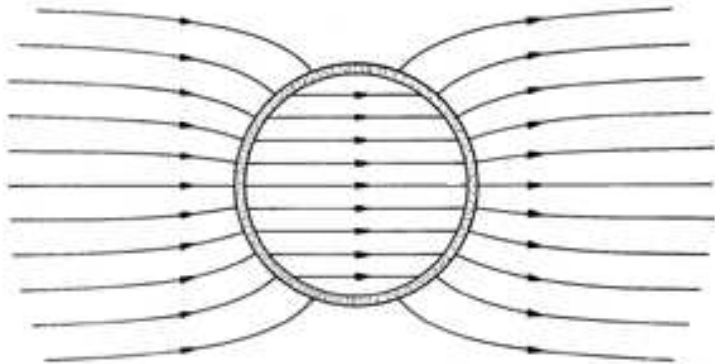
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- MRM, 1992 Vol 25:390-397 - Bandettini *et.al.*

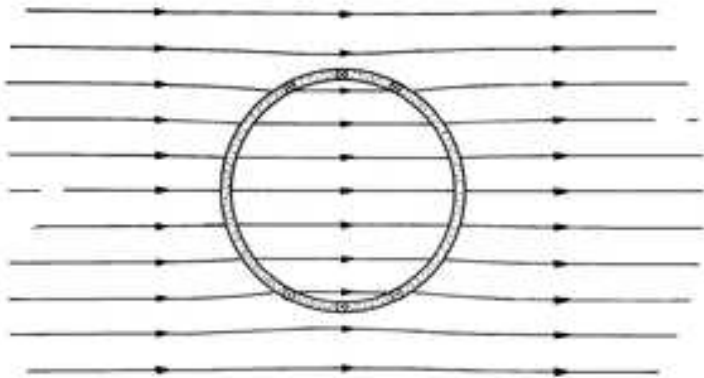
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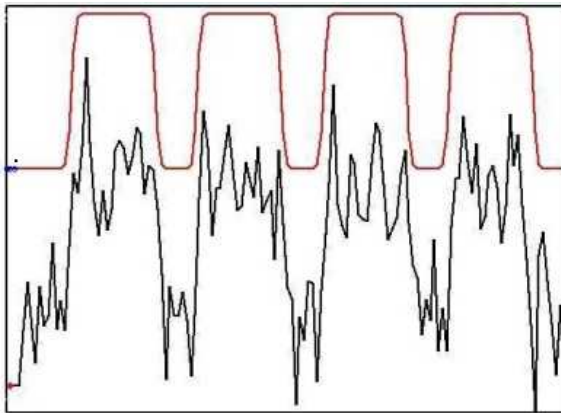
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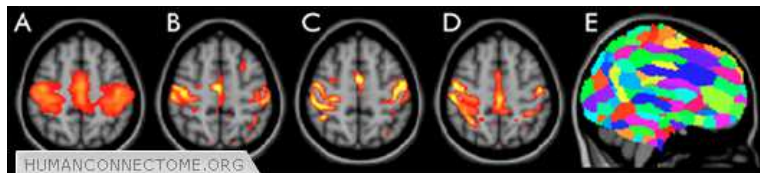
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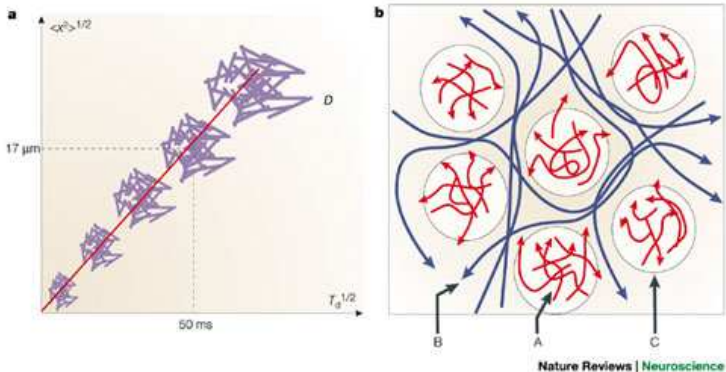


Diffusion contrast

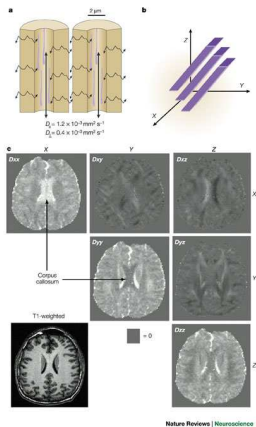
Nature Reviews Neuroscience 4, 469-480 (June 2003) —
DOI:10.1038/nrn1119

Diffusion contrast

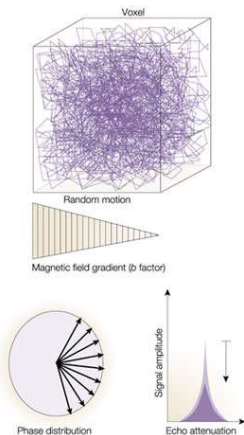
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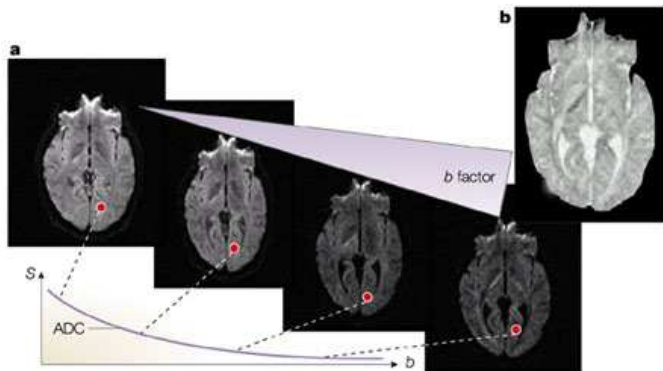


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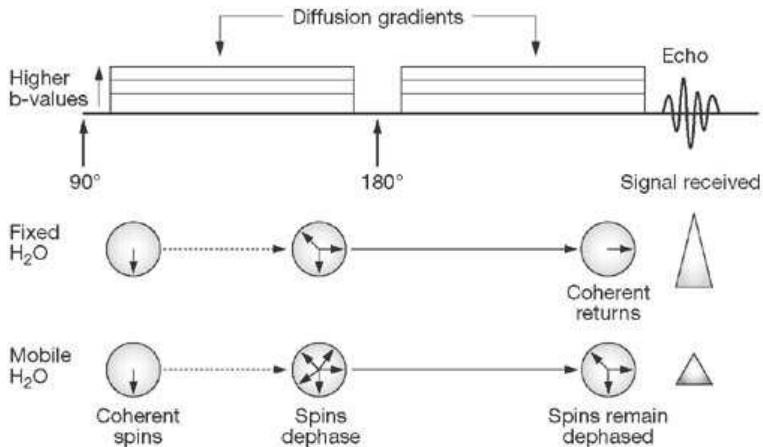
Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

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Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

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http://intranet.nmrh.nih.gov/safety_training.htm