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## **(G\*) Deep-Learning Based segmentation of 3D Isotropic Hyperpolarized 129 Xe Lung MRI for Generating vADC for a Large Patient Population Studied with The Use of Transfer learning**

*Monday 19 June 2023 14:30 (15 minutes)*

**Introduction:** Hyperpolarized 129Xe lung MRI is an efficient technique used to investigate and assess pulmonary diseases. However, the longitudinal observation of the emphysema progression using hyperpolarized gas MRI-based Apparent Diffusion Coefficient (ADC) can be problematic, as the disease-progression can lead to increasing unventilated-lung areas, which likely excludes the largest ADC estimates. One solution to this problem is to combine static-ventilation and ADC measurements following the idea of 3He MRI ventilatory ADC (vADC). We have demonstrated this method adapted for 129Xe MRI to help overcome the above-mentioned shortcomings and provide an accurate assessment of the emphysema progression.

**Methods:** Ten study-subjects with written informed consent provided to an ethics-board-approved study protocol, underwent spirometry and 3He/129Xe MRI scanning. 129Xe imaging was performed at 3.0T (MR750, GEHC, WI) using whole-body gradients (5G/cm maximum) and a commercial 129Xe quadrature-flex RF coil (MR Solutions, USA).<sup>1</sup> Hyperpolarized 129Xe gas (polarization=35%) was obtained from a turn-key, spin-exchange polarizer system (Polarean-9820 129Xe polarizer). VDP was generated using the DL. We used 2-D U-Net architecture for segmentation and ResNet-152 as the backbone network that was trained on the ImageNet and a low-resolution MRI dataset. The segmentation masks were compared to ground truths using dice similarity coefficient.

**Results:** Fig.1 shows the acquired static-ventilation images (top-panel), matched voxel-size unweighted (b=0,) images (middle-panel) and correspondent ADC maps (bottom-panel) in coronal view for a representative study-subject demonstrating a good- match between static-ventilation and matched resolution unweighted-slices. Table 1 shows the demographic, PFTs, mean VDP, ADC, and vADC estimations for all study-subjects.

**Discussion and Conclusion:** In this proof-of-concept-study, we showed that the emphysema-progression can be potentially quantified with using the pulmonary static-ventilation and diffusion-weighted images of hyperpolarized 129Xe utilizing the ventilatory ADC approach powered by the DL-segmentation.

### **Keyword-1**

Lung, Deep-Learning

### **Keyword-2**

Hyperpolarized Xenon-129 MRI

### **Keyword-3**

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