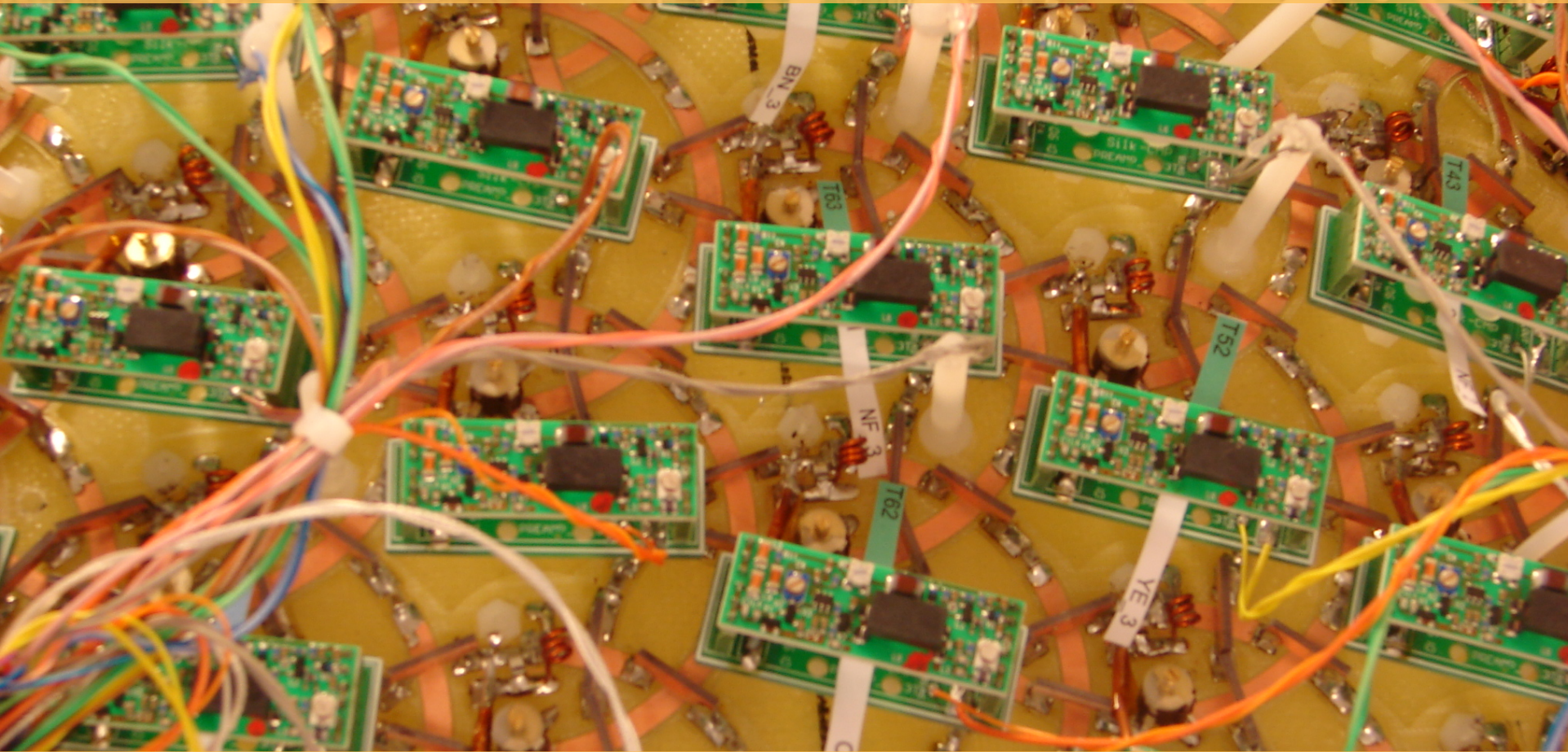


# *Technology for encoding with detectors*



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Harvard Medical School

Harvard-MIT Div. of Health Sciences Technology (HST)



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# Outline

1. Coil intro; highly parallel detection, encoding...
  - i. Basics of Faraday detection and encoding in MR arrays
  - ii. How far can the highly parallel angle take us (modeling).
  - iii. Array compression with mode mixing (receive arrays)
  - iv. Array compression (transmit arrays).
2. Some coil arrays;
  - i. 32-128 channel arrays
  - ii. Pediatric arrays
3. Using the coils;
  - i. *Echo Volume imaging and Inl*
  - ii. *Simultaneous multislice imaging.*
4. *An application*
  - ii. *Laminar analysis in cortex*

# Why work on MRI technology?

Bread and butter of MR industry for 30 years:

Gross pathology, diagnostics and treatment planning...

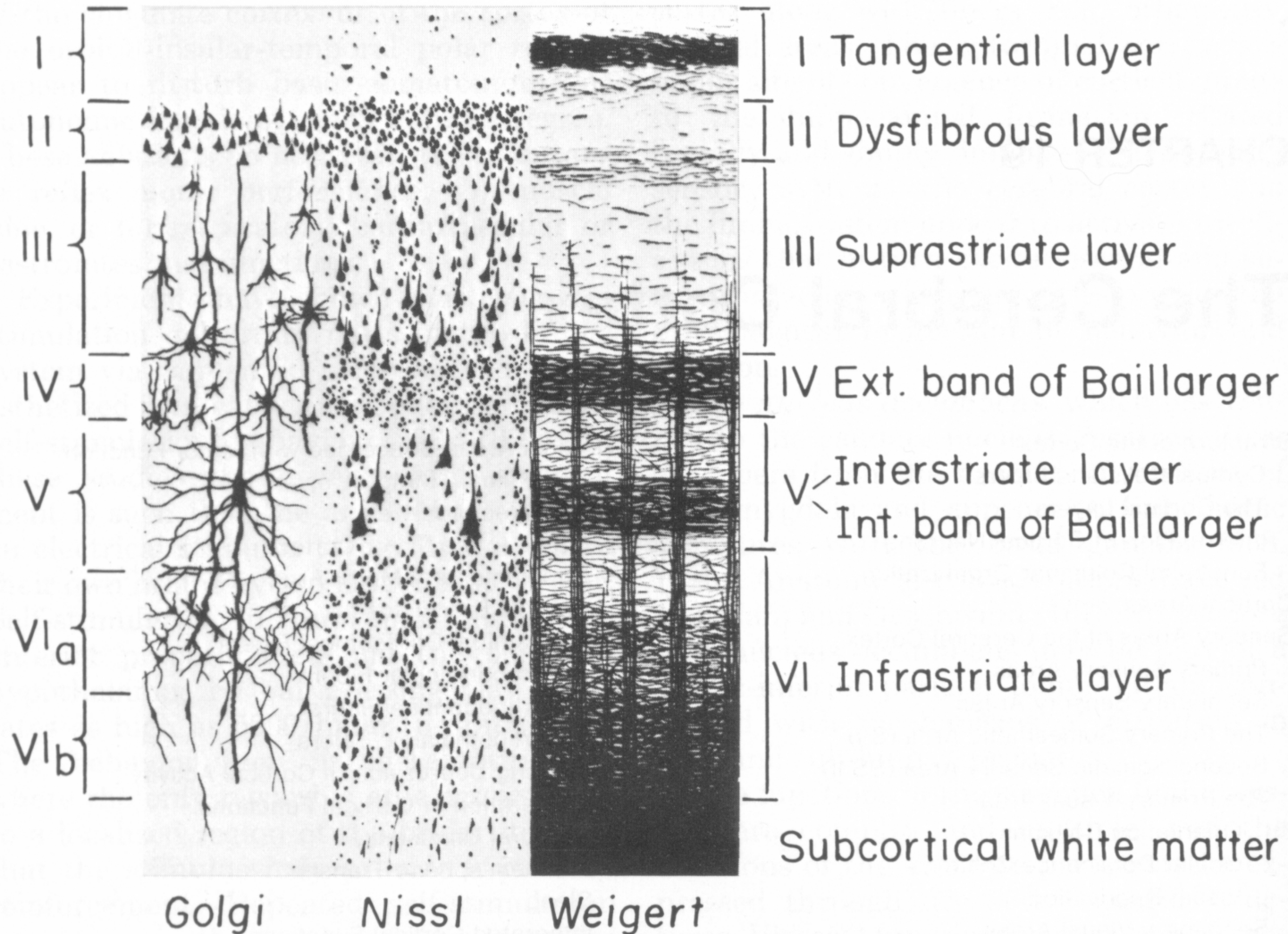
Next level of brain structure; Laminar and columnar organization needs ~200um isotropic resolution.

>> Both encoding and sensitivity limited

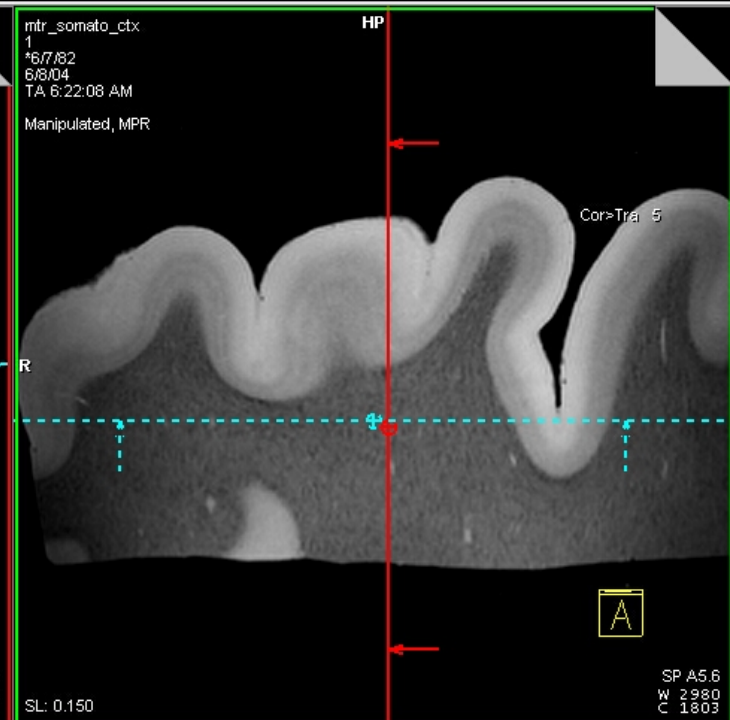




# Is there more to see?



**Figure 19-1.** The cell layers and fiber arrangement of the human cerebral cortex (semischematic) (after Brodmann (301)).



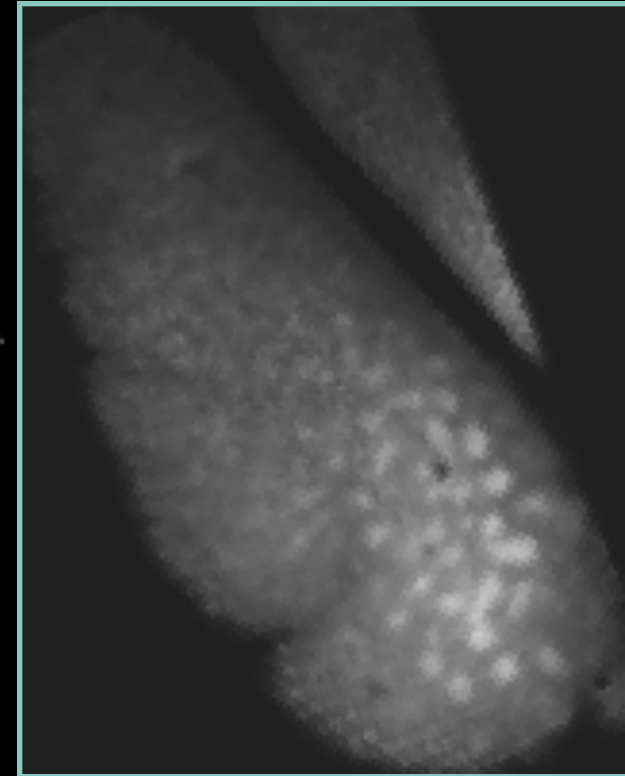
*7T ex vivo hemisphere*  
150um isotropic  
1 hour scan  
(1 echo of a 4 echo FLASH)

# Human sensory/motor cortex



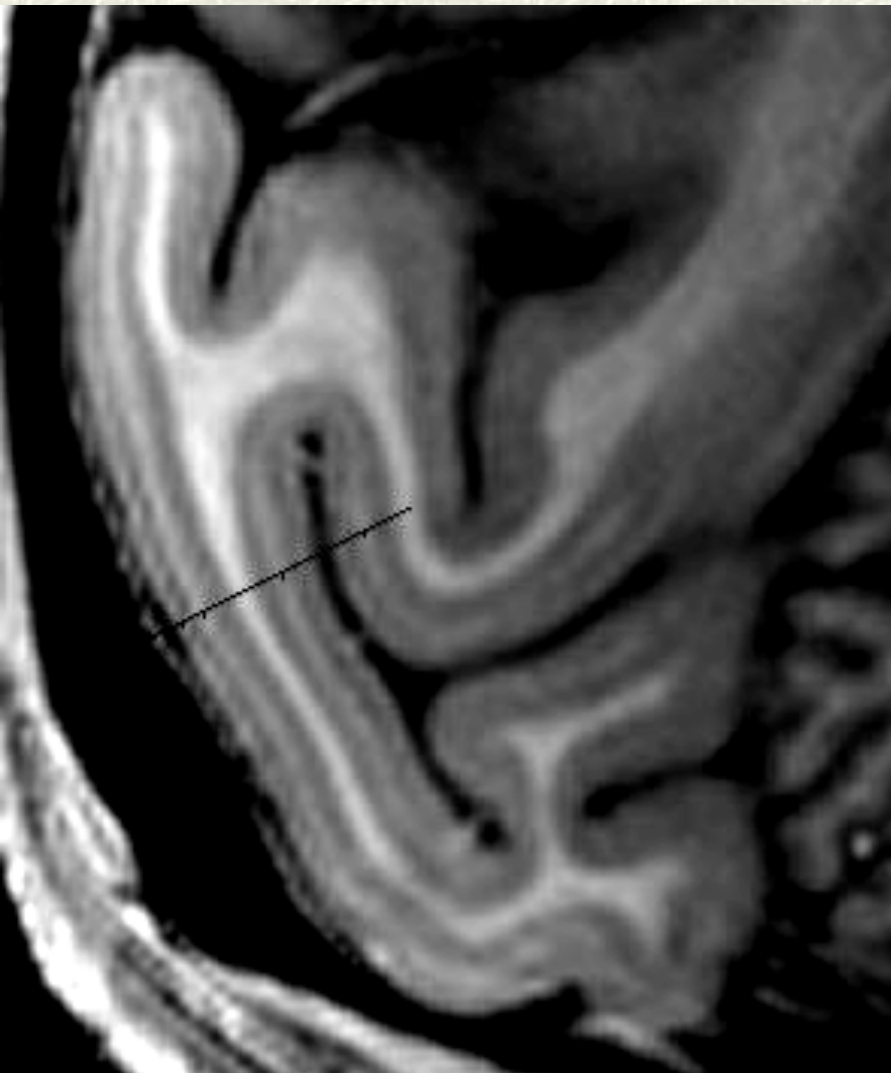
7T *ex vivo*  
100um isotropic

Islands in  
Endorhinal cortex

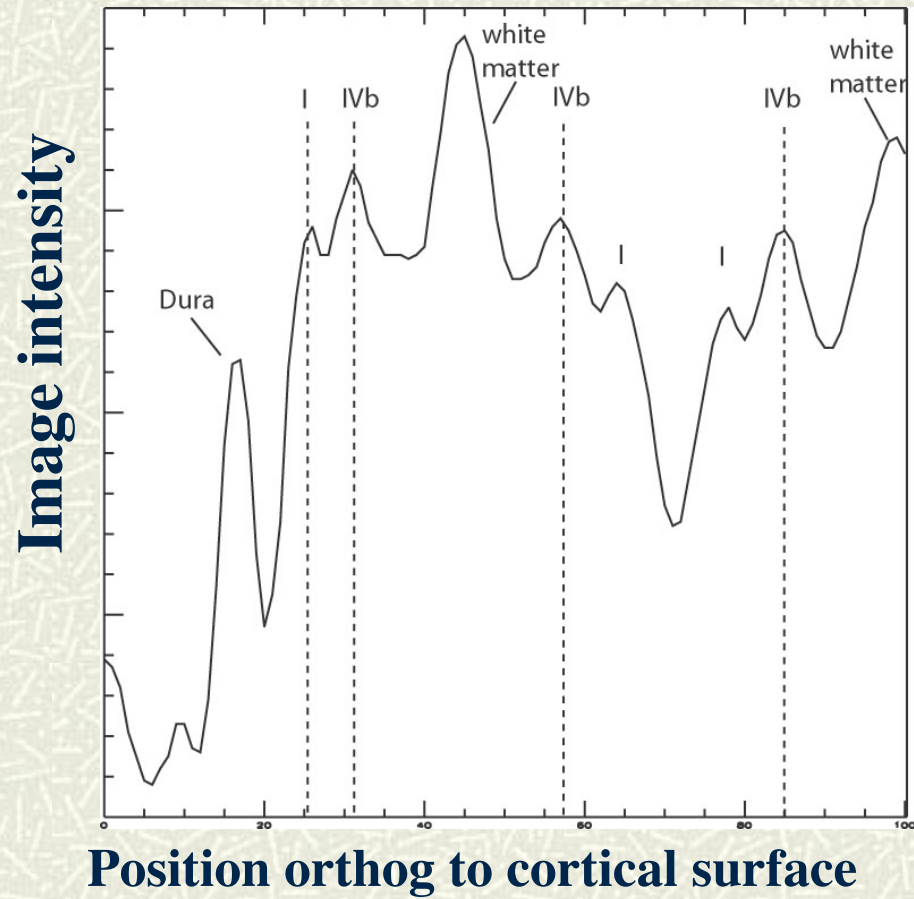


B. Fischl  
J. Augustinack, MGH

# Cortical layers in Monkey V1 at 7T



## Intensity vs Position

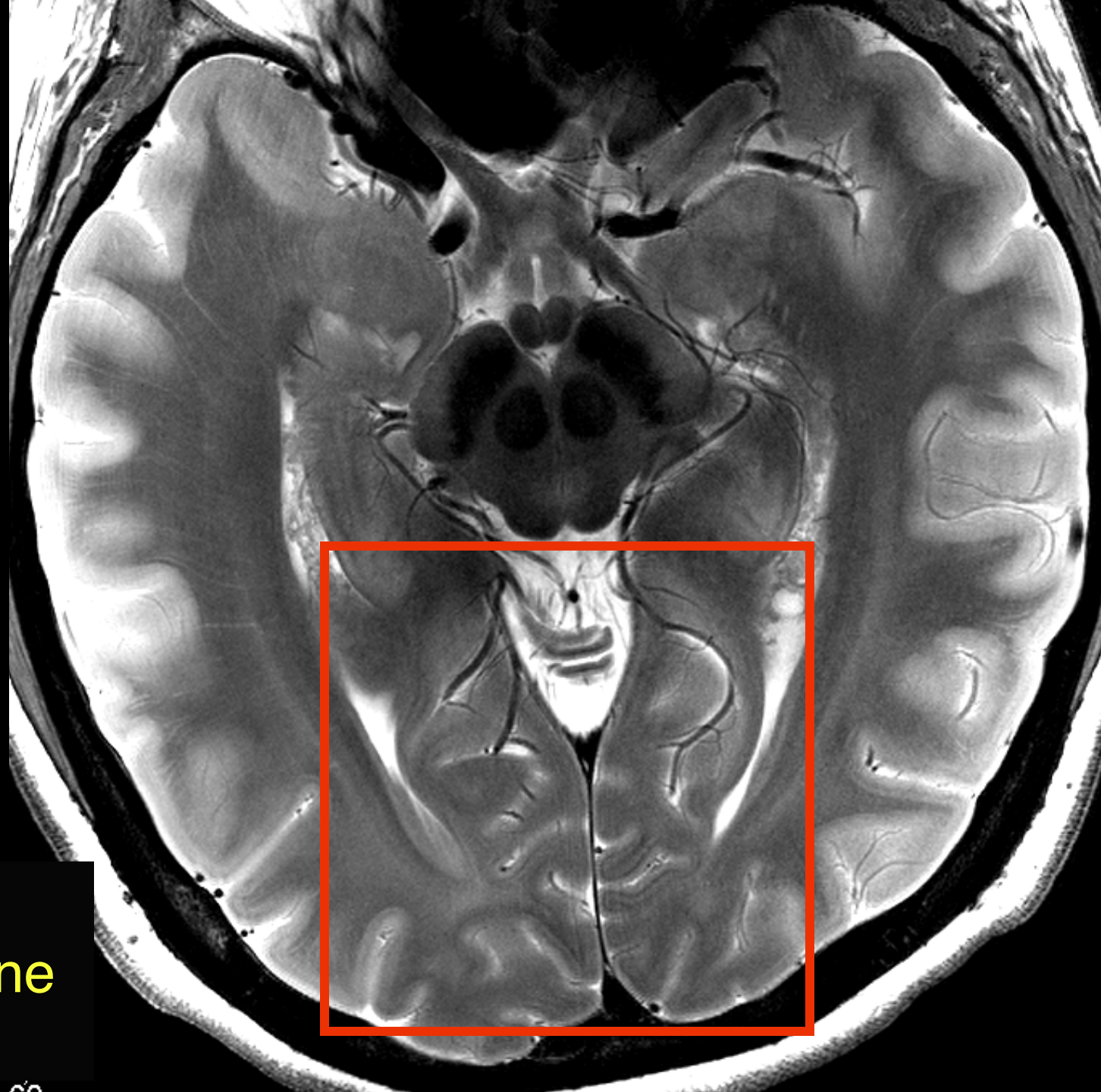


3D MPRAGE T<sub>1</sub> images 250um x 250um x 750um

Wald, BASP 2011

MGH, A.A. Martinos Center





7T array coil  
270um inplane  
2mm slice

7T\_100  
7T\_100  
\*1/1/75;30Y  
STUDY 1  
4/12/05  
12:07:29 PM  
23 IMA 5 / 7

MGH 7T  
MR 2002B  
HFS  
+LPH



7T array coil  
270um inplane  
2mm slice

55  
500.0  
0.0  
9:32  
205.0

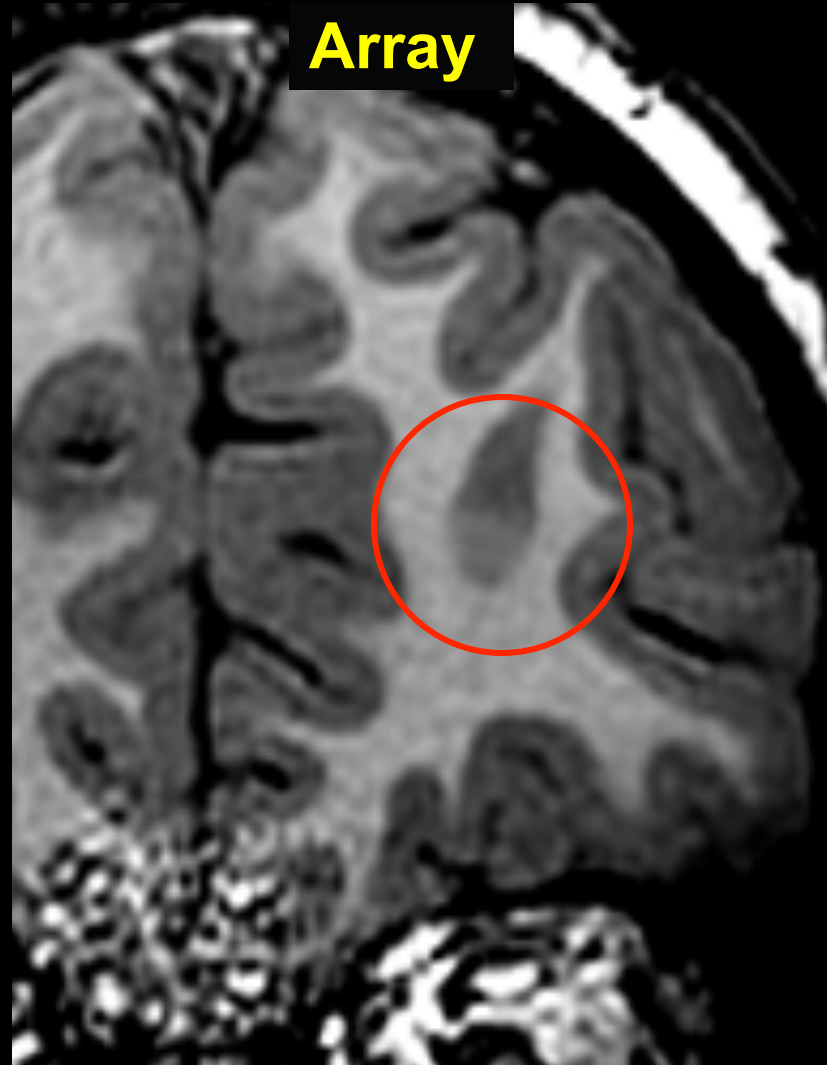
SP F  
SI  
FoV 156  
572\*

1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8

W



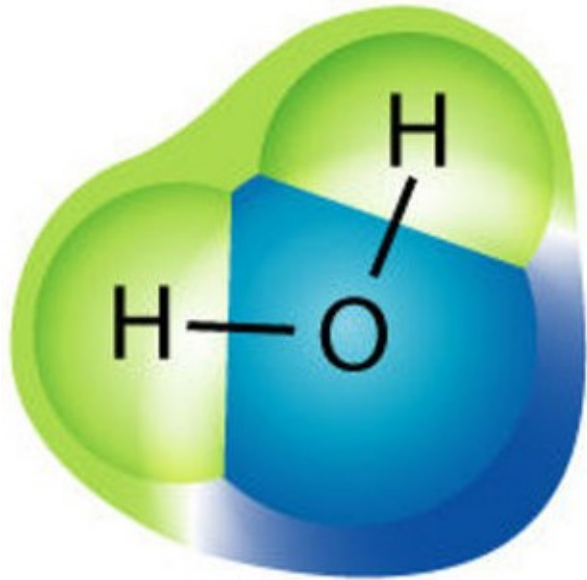
# 14 yr old: Improved imaging targets surgery



Dozen seizures per day → Seizure free

# MRI (short version):

## Water magnetism



Is water magnetic? Yes, weakly

Orbital electrons, electron spin:

Diamagnetism; no un-paired e<sup>-</sup>,

quenched orbital angular momentum.

Nuclear magnetism:

O<sup>16</sup> (even number of p and n

> no magnetic moment

H<sup>1</sup> (proton, spin 1/2) --->>>

magnetic moment + angular momentum

= Magnetic Resonance

# Boltzmann polarization

Magnetic dipole:

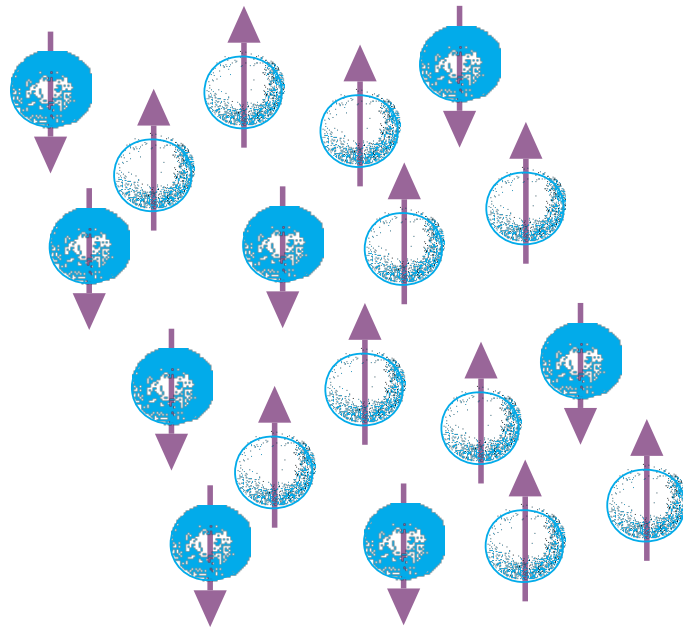
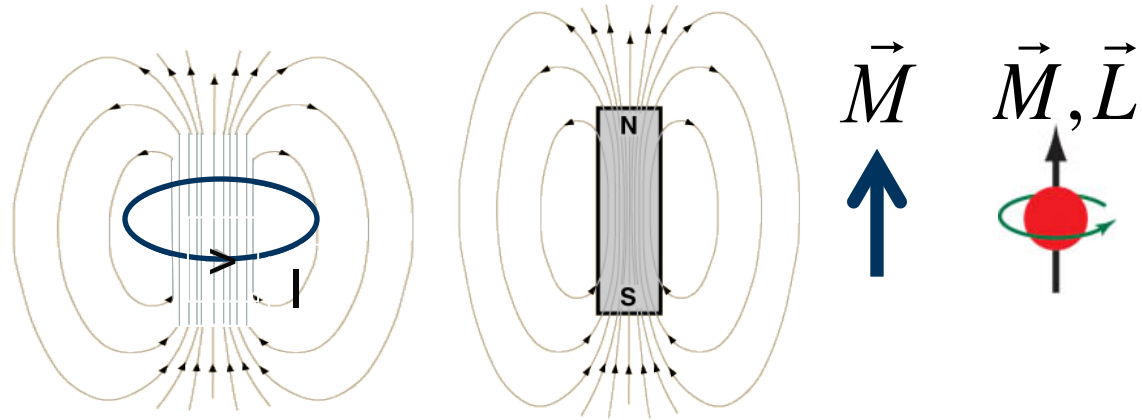


Image distribution of this....

=

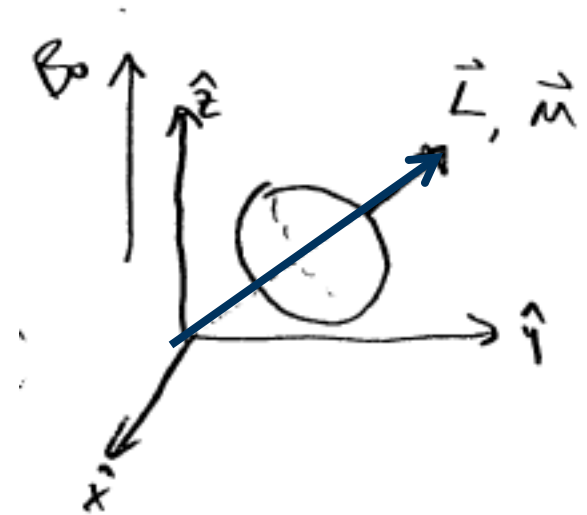


Net alignment:

$$\vec{M} = \sum \vec{m}$$



# Energy and Torque on dipole in field



Energy of system (wants to align):

Torque on  $M$  in an applied field;

Also angular momentum:

Torque =  $dL/dt$  yields gyroscopic motion:

$$U = -\mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \gamma \mathbf{L}$$

$$d\mathbf{M}/dt = \gamma \mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{B}$$



# Equations of motion for spin in B field

Bloch Eqs. Lab Frame



$$\dot{\vec{M}} = \gamma \vec{M} \times \vec{B}$$

For  $\mathbf{B} = B_0 \hat{z}$   $\dot{M}_z = 0$   $M_z$  is a constant of motion

$M_{xy} = M_0 e^{-\gamma B_0 t}$   $M_{xy}$  rotates cw in xy plane,  $\omega_0 = \gamma B_0$



# Two components of Magnetization

$M_z$  : Stationary, does not contribute to signal.

*Tells you how much is “stored” ready for the next excitation.*

$M_{xy}$  : Processes at  $\omega = \gamma B_{\text{total}}$ .

*Determines amplitude and phase of detected signal.*

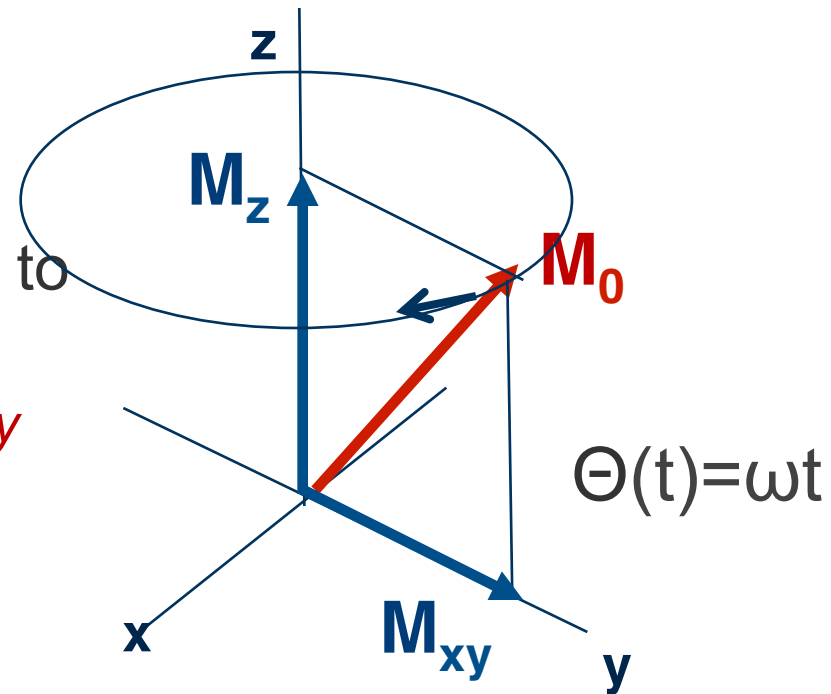
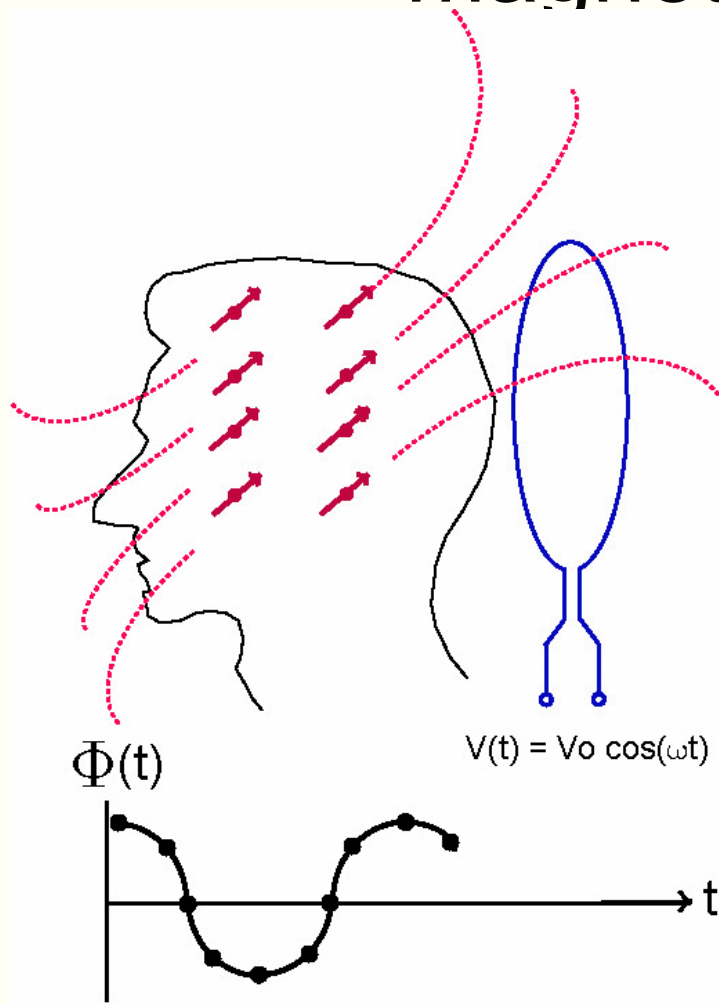


Image encoding: keep track of  $M_{xy}$  when a gradient is on...



# Faraday detection: Near-field magnetic dipole detectors



$$\Phi(t) \propto M_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

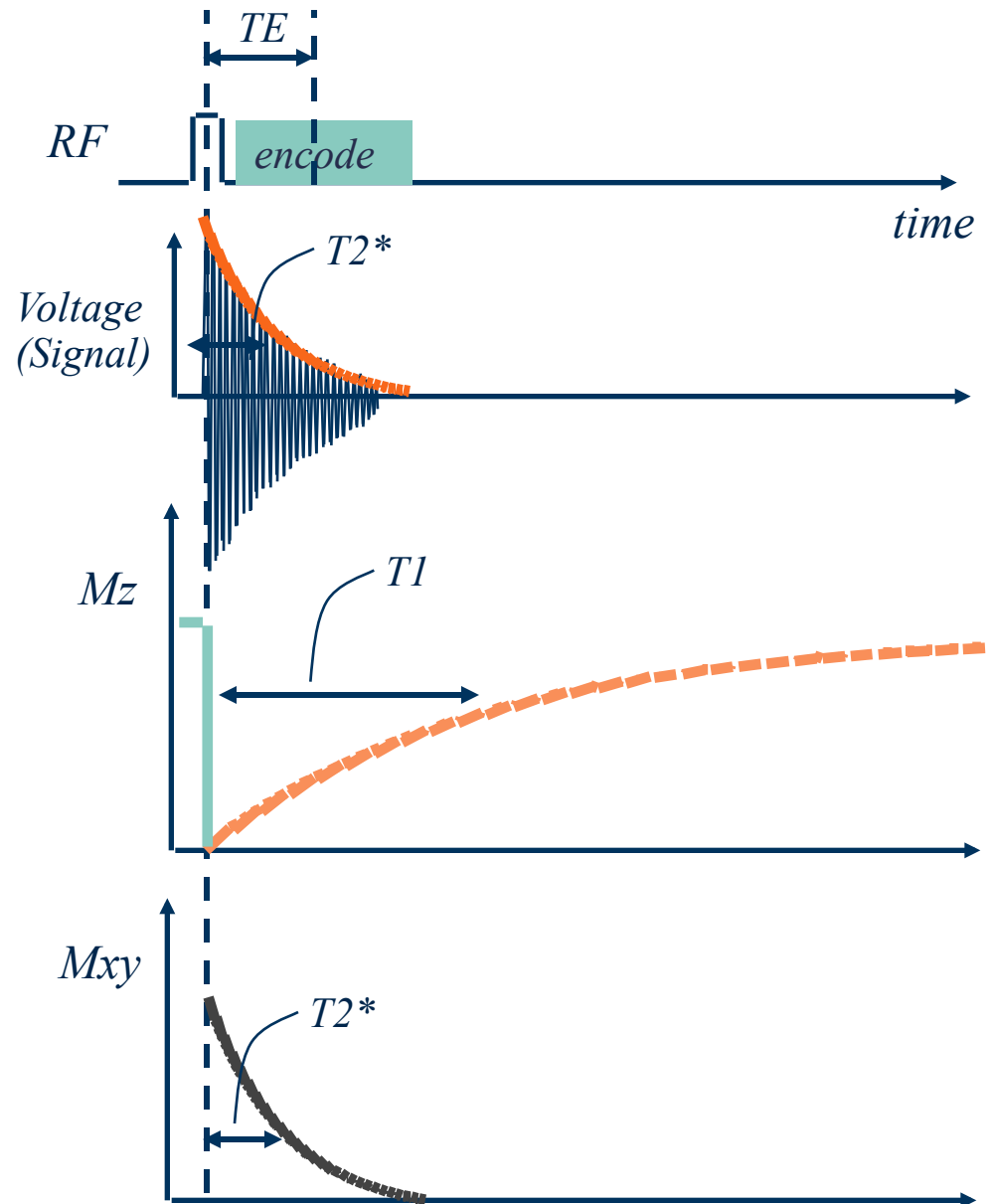
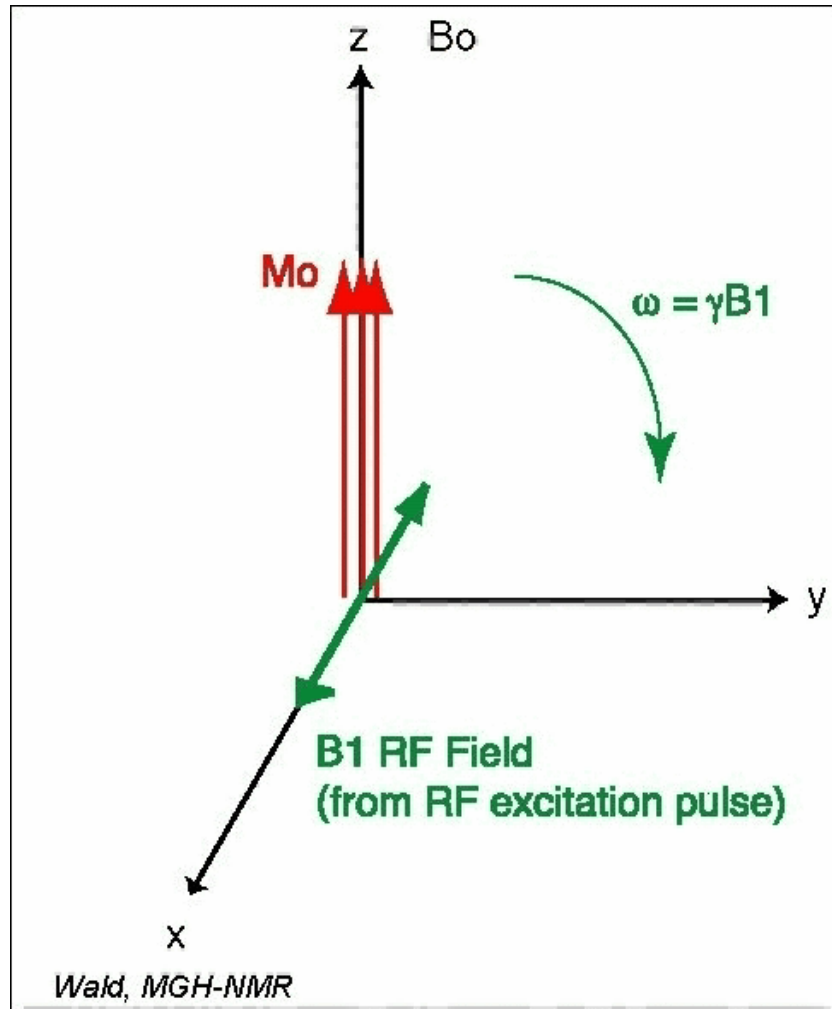
$$V(t) = -\frac{d\Phi(t)}{dt}$$

$$V(t) \propto -M_0 \omega \sin(\omega t)$$

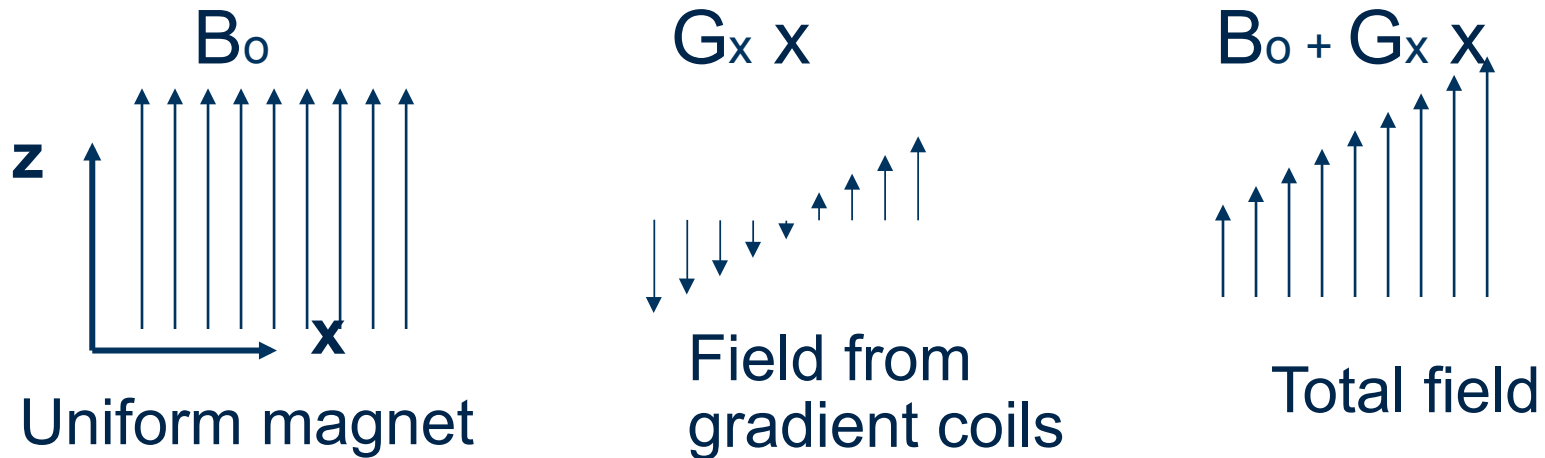
$$M_0 \propto B_0 \quad \omega \propto B_0$$

$$V(t) \propto B_0^2$$

# Magnetization vector during MR



# Fourier encoding with applied static field gradients



$$G_x = \partial B_z / \partial x$$

$$\vec{B}(\vec{r}) = (B_0 + \vec{G} \cdot \vec{r})\hat{z}$$

$$\omega_{spins} = \gamma B_0 + \gamma \vec{G} \cdot \vec{r}$$

$$M_{xy} = M_0 e^{-\gamma B(\vec{r})t}$$

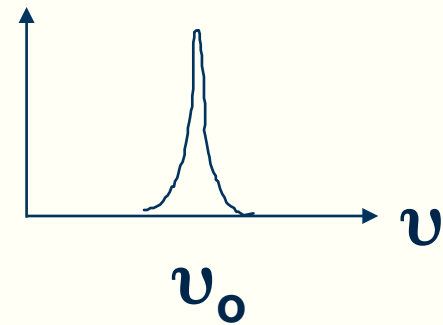
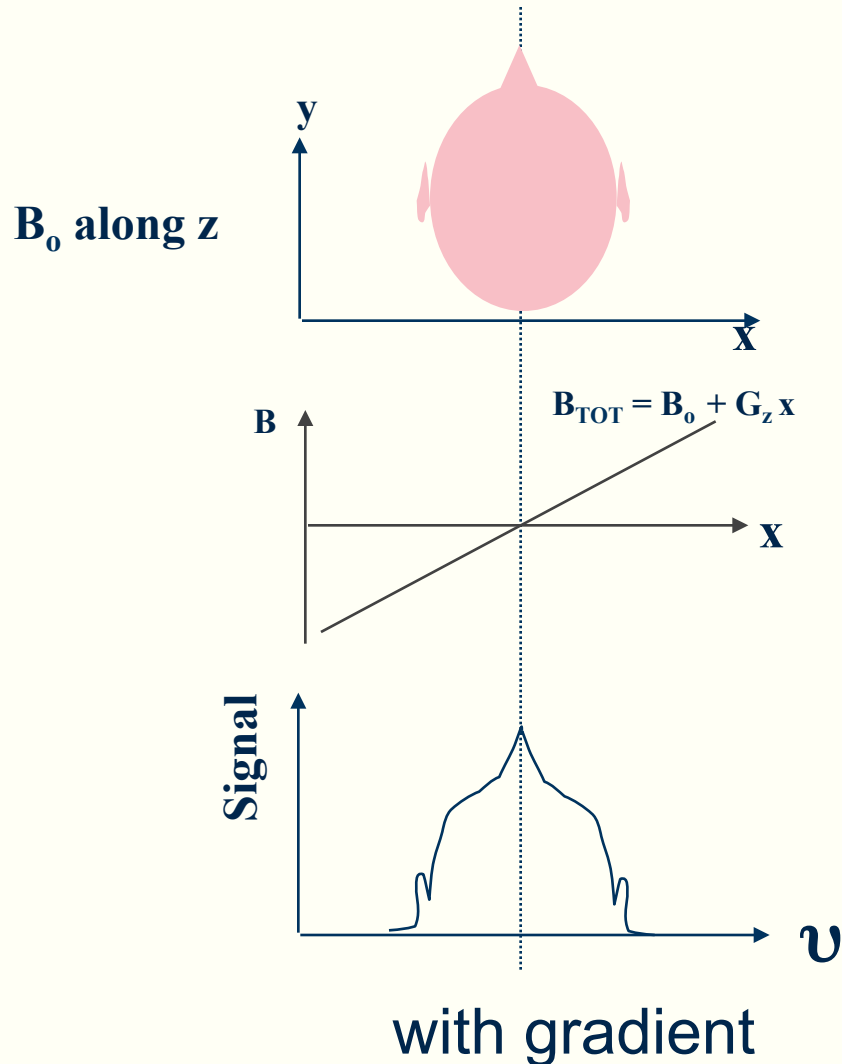
$M_{xy}$  rotates cw in xy plane,

$$\omega = \gamma B_0 + \gamma \vec{G} \cdot \vec{r}$$



# Encoding, intuitive picture

## “Frequency encoding”



without gradient

# Equations of motion in gradient field

$$M_{xy} = M_0 e^{-\gamma B_0 + \gamma(\vec{G}(t) \cdot \vec{r})t} \quad M_{xy} \text{ rotates cw in xy plane,}$$

View in frame Rotating  
with spins:

$$M_{xy} = M_0 e^{-\gamma(\vec{G} \cdot \vec{r})t}$$

Use complex notation for xy  
component:

$$M = M_x + iM_y$$

Be a little more precise about phase:

$$\theta(\vec{r}, t) = \int_0^t \omega(t) d\tau$$

$$M(\vec{r}, t) = M_0(\vec{r}) \exp\left(-i \int_0^t (\vec{G}(t) \cdot \vec{r}) d\tau\right)$$

# Equations of motion in gradient field

Bloch Eqs. Rotating frame

$$M(\vec{r}, t) = M_0(\vec{r}) \exp\left(-i \int_0^t (\vec{G}(t) \cdot \vec{r}) d\tau\right)$$

**Define:**  $\vec{k}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^t \vec{G}(t) d\tau$

r has no time depend, can bring it out of the integral...

$$M(\vec{r}, \vec{k}) = M_0(\vec{r}) \exp(-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r})$$

Note, t dependence is in k, which is under user control...

Detection coil integrates signal over space:

$$S(\vec{k}) = \iiint_{RFcoil} M(\vec{r}, \vec{k}) dr^3$$

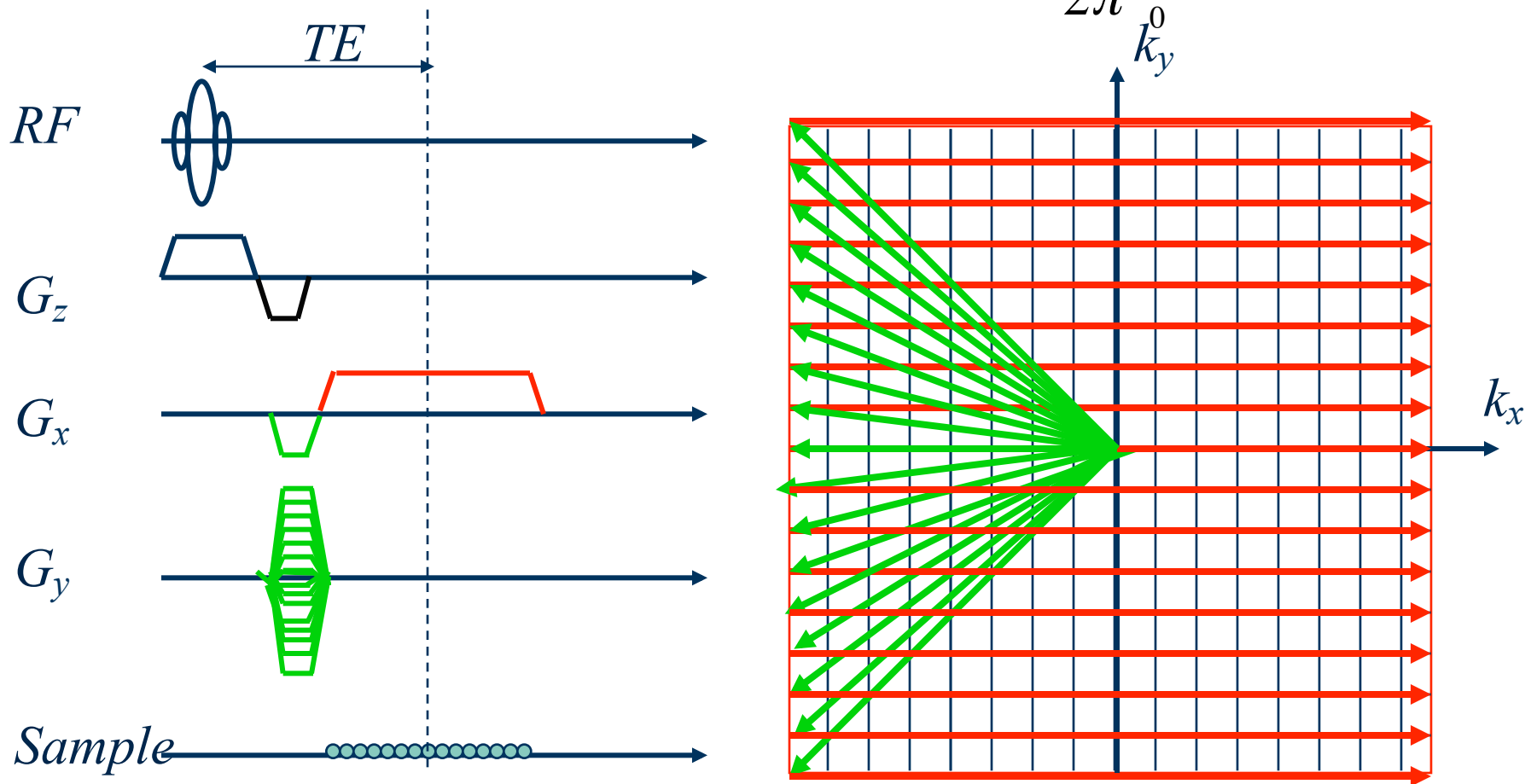
$$S(\vec{k}) = \iiint_{RFcoil} M(\vec{r}) \exp(-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}) dr^3$$

S and M related thru Fourier Integral, measure S(k), compute M(r)...



$k(t)$  is what we control; view the imaging process as a “trip thru k-space”

$$\bar{k}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{k_y^0}^t \bar{G}(t) d\tau$$



# Receive coils over last 15 years

1 channel to many,  
loose-fitting to tight-fitting...



1ch quad BC



8ch "dome" array

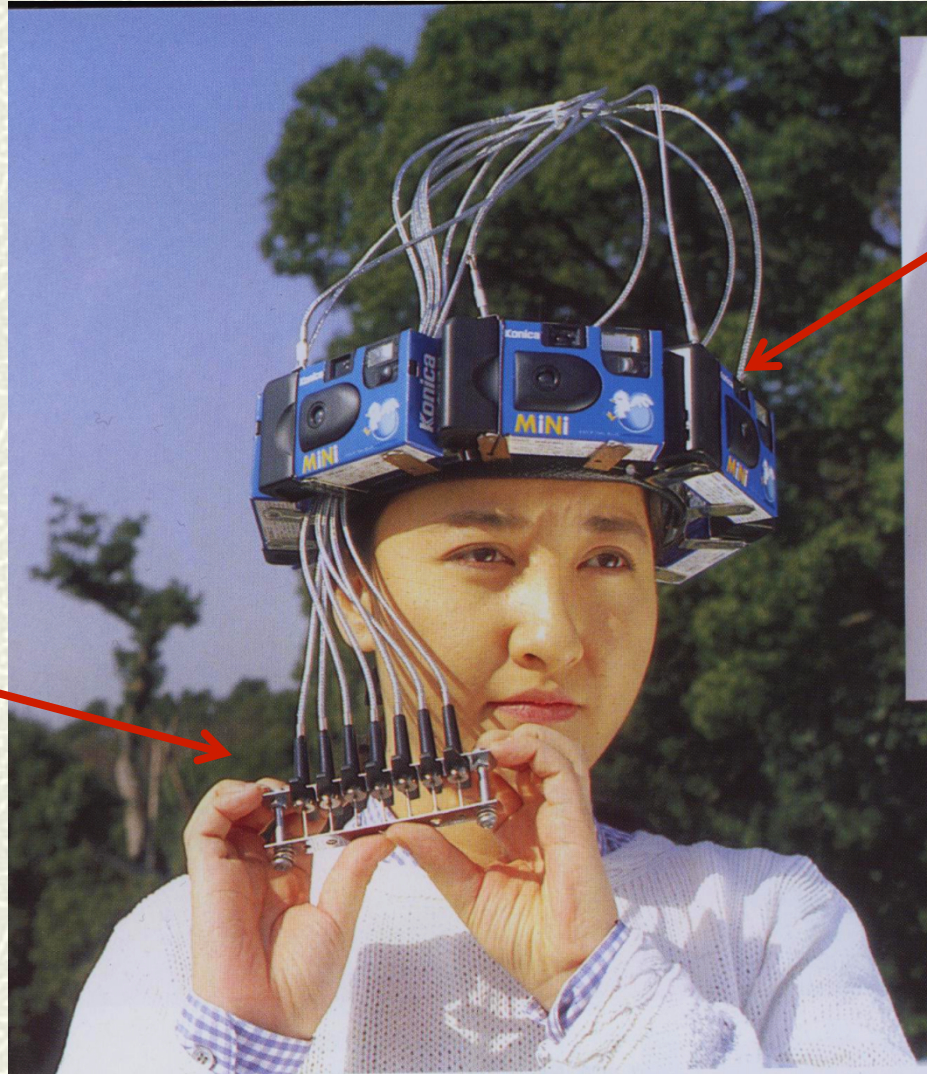


32ch "helmet" array



32ch "helmet" array

# Parallel imaging: it just makes sense.

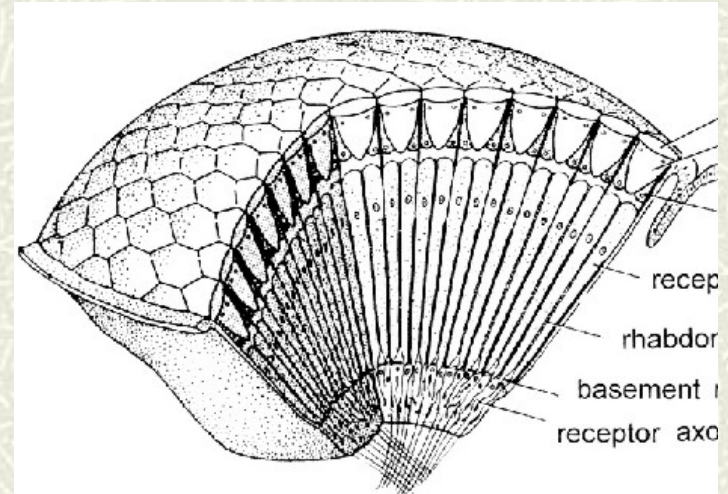
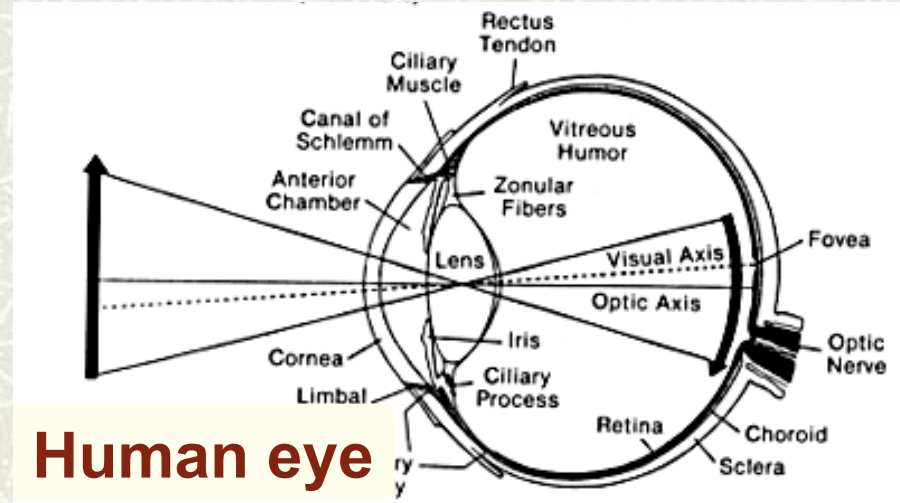
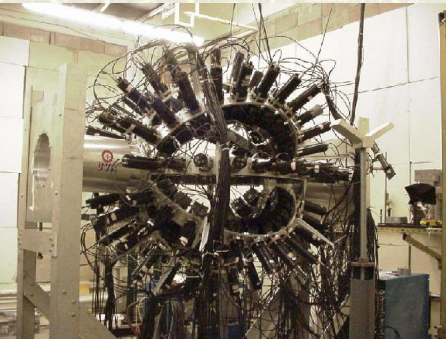


Each detector creates a separate photo (with different spatial information!)

Simultaneous acquisition

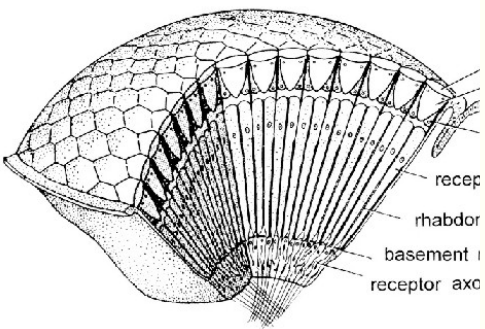


# Almost every imager is array-based...



**compound eye**



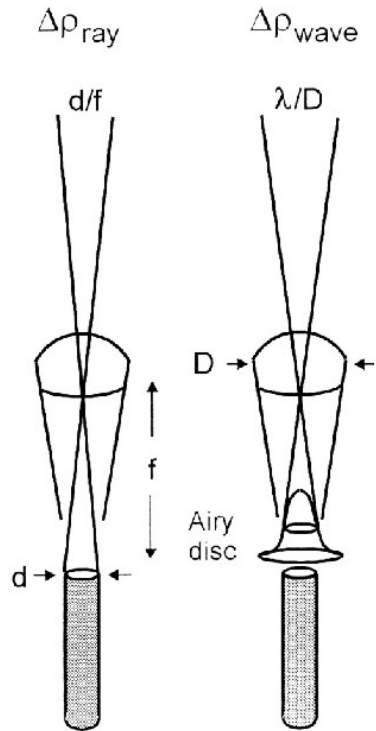


# How many elements does an insect need?

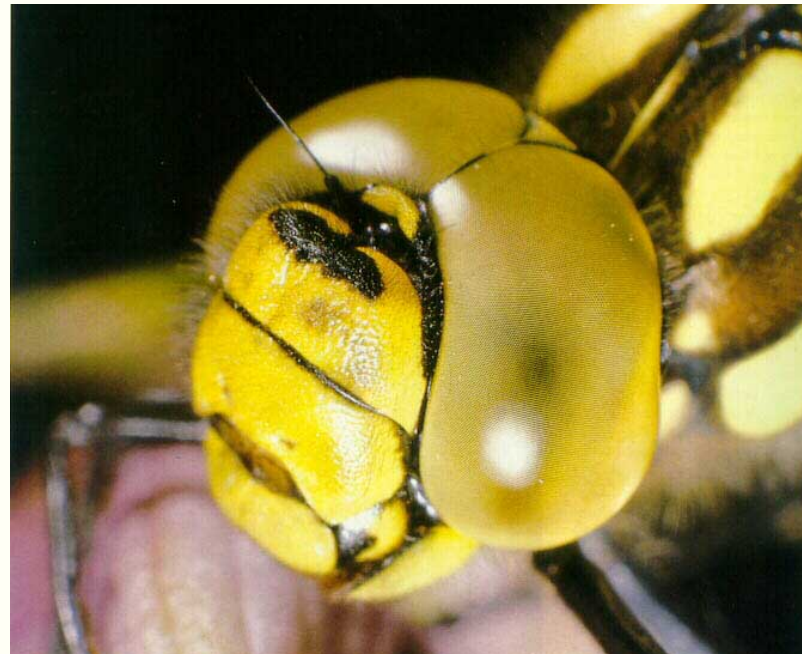
Angular resolution is diffraction limited, ommatidium size needs to be  $\sim 30\mu\text{m}$ .

(Feynman Lectures vol. 1)

-> To cover  $2\pi$  square radians in 3mm dia need:  
 $\sim 50\text{k}$  of them



$$\Delta\rho^2 \approx \Delta\rho_{\text{ray}}^2 + \Delta\rho_{\text{wave}}^2$$



**Aeshna dragonfly; 28,000 ommatidium**

Far-field array

# Others?

<u>Creature</u>	<u># elements</u>
Wood Lice	5
Small flies	~5k
Lobster	~14k
Dragonfly	~30k

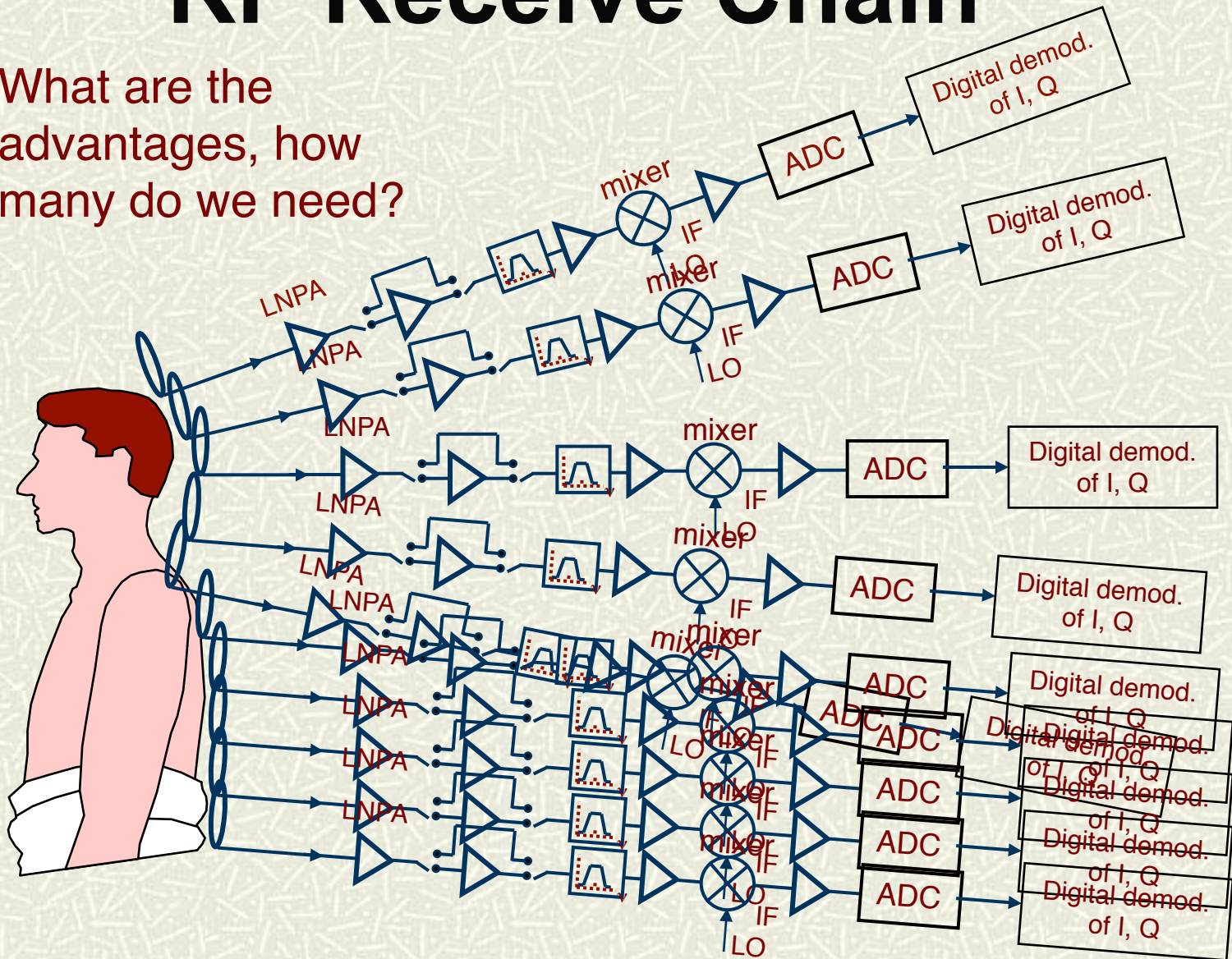
**Get MR out of the “wood lice” category!**

# Strategy

- Coils placed close to head to maximize coupling to brain.
- Entire dome of head covered
- Expand capabilities of scanner (# of receive channels) as needed.
- Solve the coupling issues, loss sources that cut into performance of highly parallel detection.

# RF Receive Chain

What are the advantages, how many do we need?



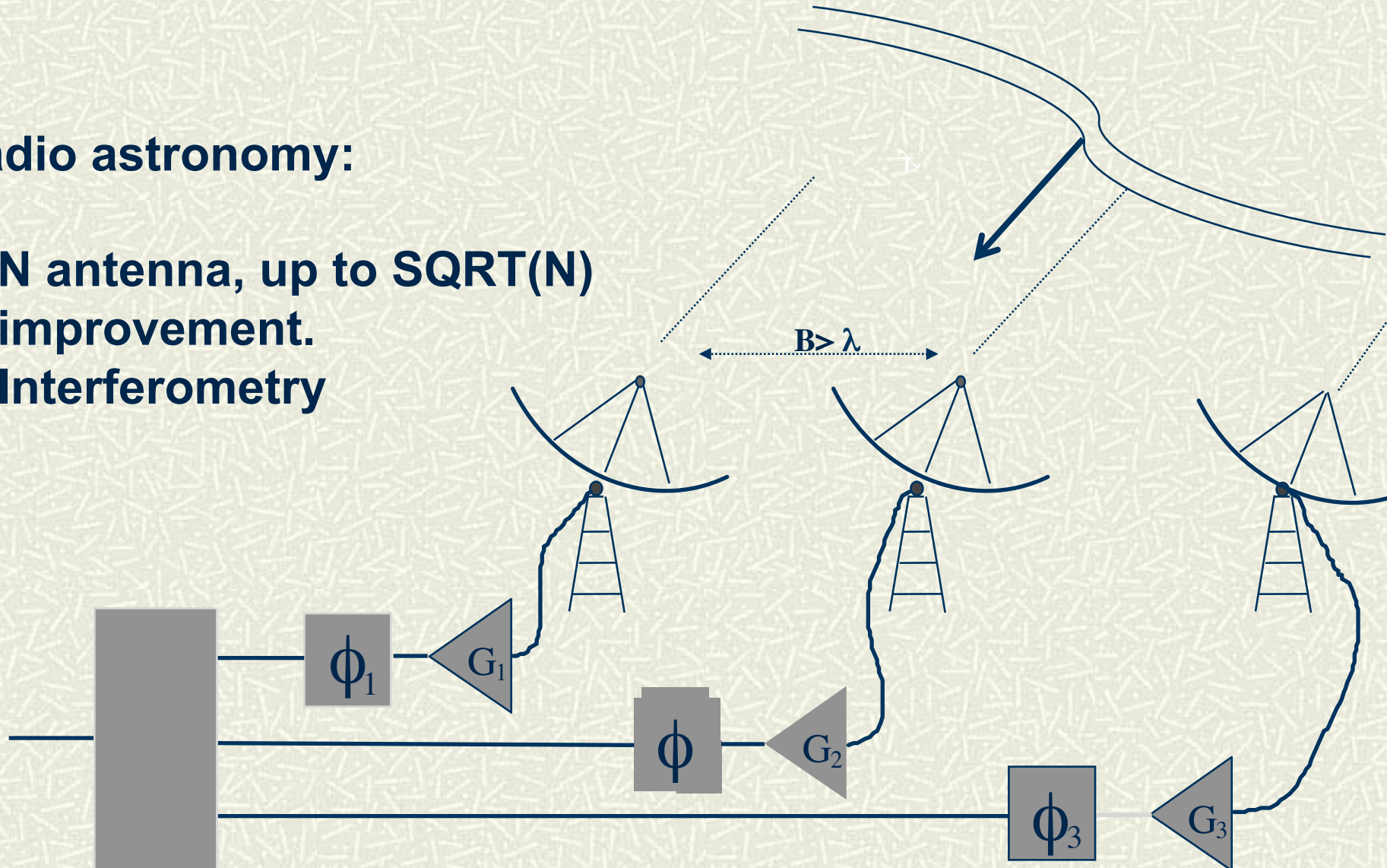


# Far-field arrays

● source

## Radio astronomy:

- **N** antenna, up to **SQRT(N)** improvement.
- **Interferometry**

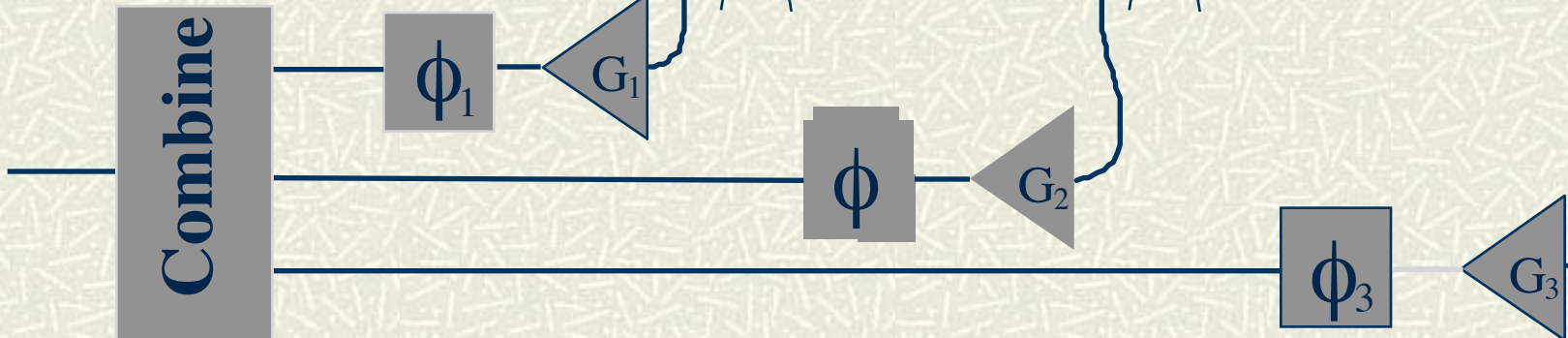
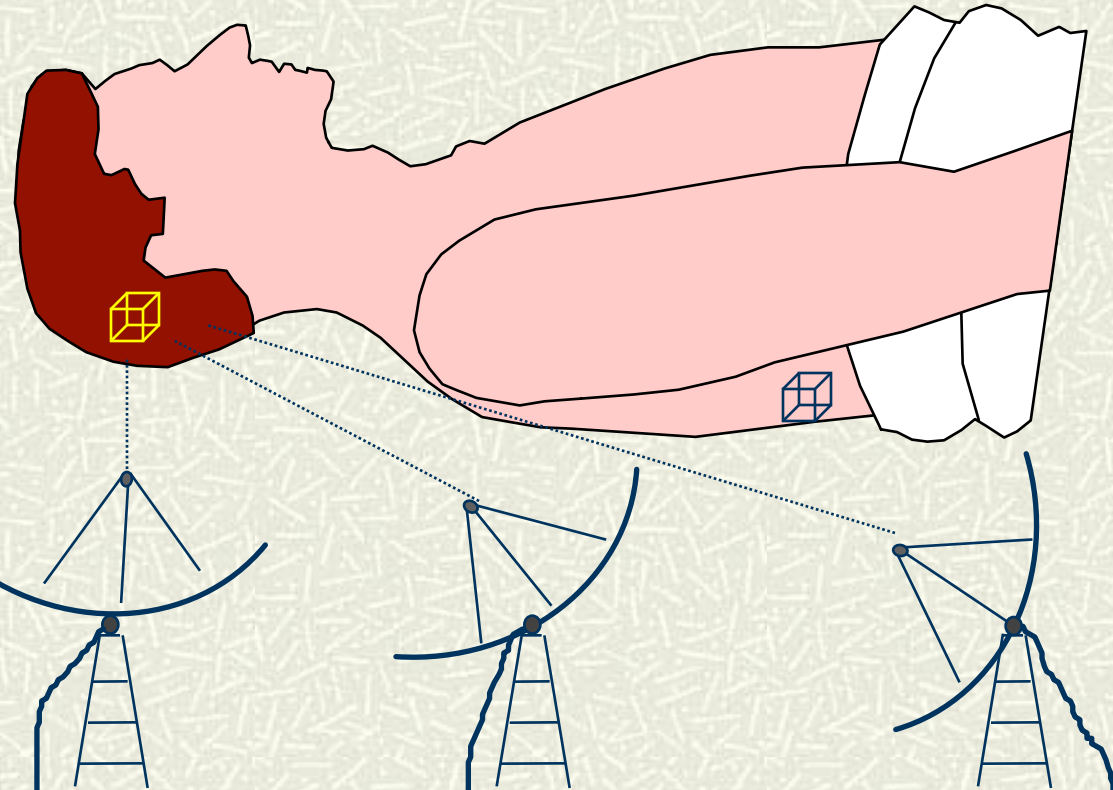


# MR arrays are near field arrays

Sensitivity is distance dependent.

Detectors must “point” in different directions...

phase and gain must be maximized on a pixel by pixel basis



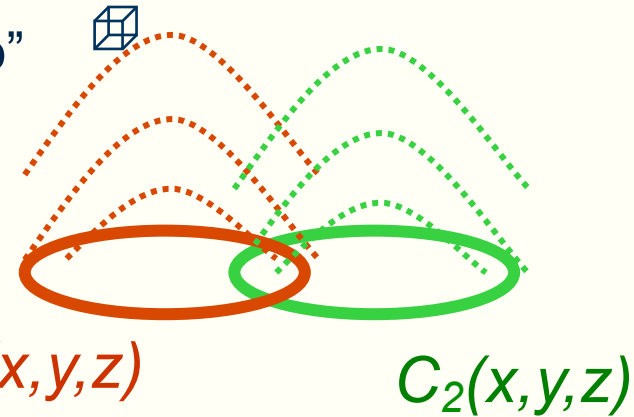
# Optimize the combination for each pixel (best done in image space...)

$C(x,y,z)$  is “coil sensitivity map”

$$I = \sum_{coil=1}^N w_{coil}(x,y) S_{coil}(x,y) = \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{S}$$

$$SNR = \frac{\mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{S}}{\sqrt{\mathbf{w}^H \Psi \mathbf{w}}}$$

Optimum weight (least squares sense):  $w_i(x,y,z) = C_i(x,y,z)$ .



Common simplification:  $S_i$  is a good approx. of  $C_i$   
(assume high SNR, uniform noise in channels.)

“Sum of Squares”  
recon

$$I^{rSoS} = \sqrt{S^H S} \quad SNR_0^{rSoS} = \frac{S^H S}{\sqrt{S^H \Psi S}}$$

Next best (almost always good enough);

$$I^{cov-rSoS} = \sqrt{S^H \Psi^{-1} S} \quad SNR_0^{cov-rSoS} = \sqrt{S^H \Psi^{-1} S}$$

# Encoding in MR

$$S(k) = \int_{\text{object}} M(x) e^{2\pi i k x} dx$$

$$\text{Ncoil} * \text{Npixel} \rightarrow S = A m$$

← Npixel

S(k)  
(measured signal  
for each coil)

coil1

coil2

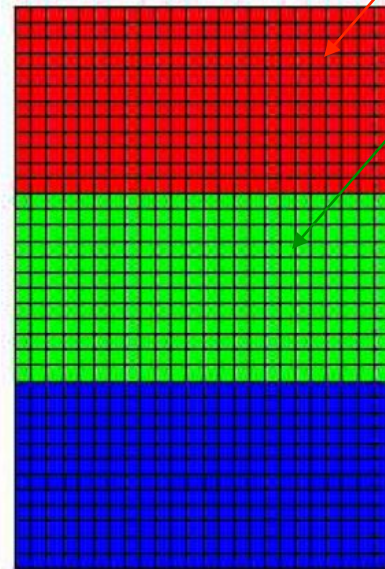
coil3



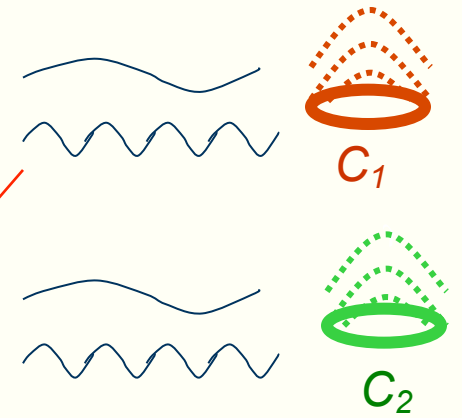
S

=

Encoding matrix



A



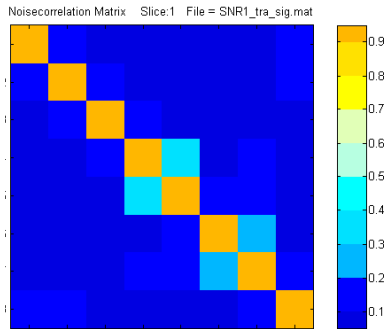
m



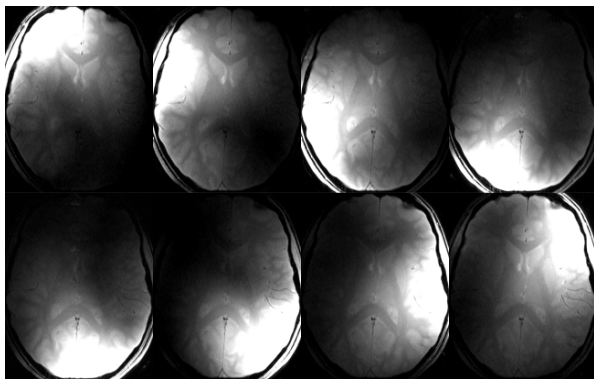
Final image

# Encoding matrix must be well-conditioned

*noise enhancement “G-factor” depends on coil geometry, under-sampling pattern*

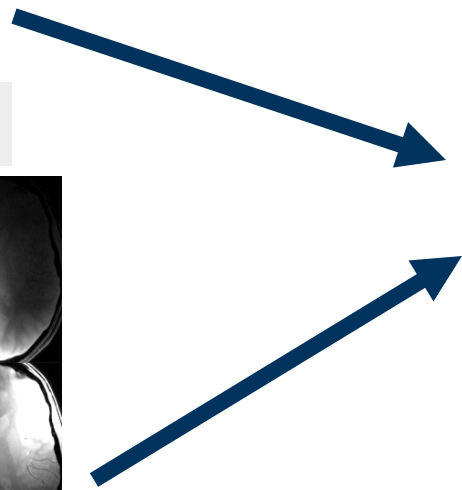


noise correlation matrix

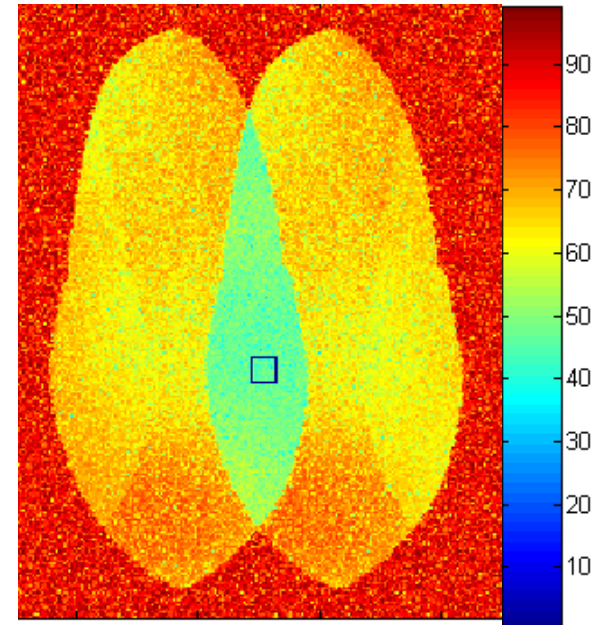


coil sensitivity profiles

$$SNR_{accel} = \frac{SNR_{full-k}}{G\sqrt{R}}$$



map of 1/G

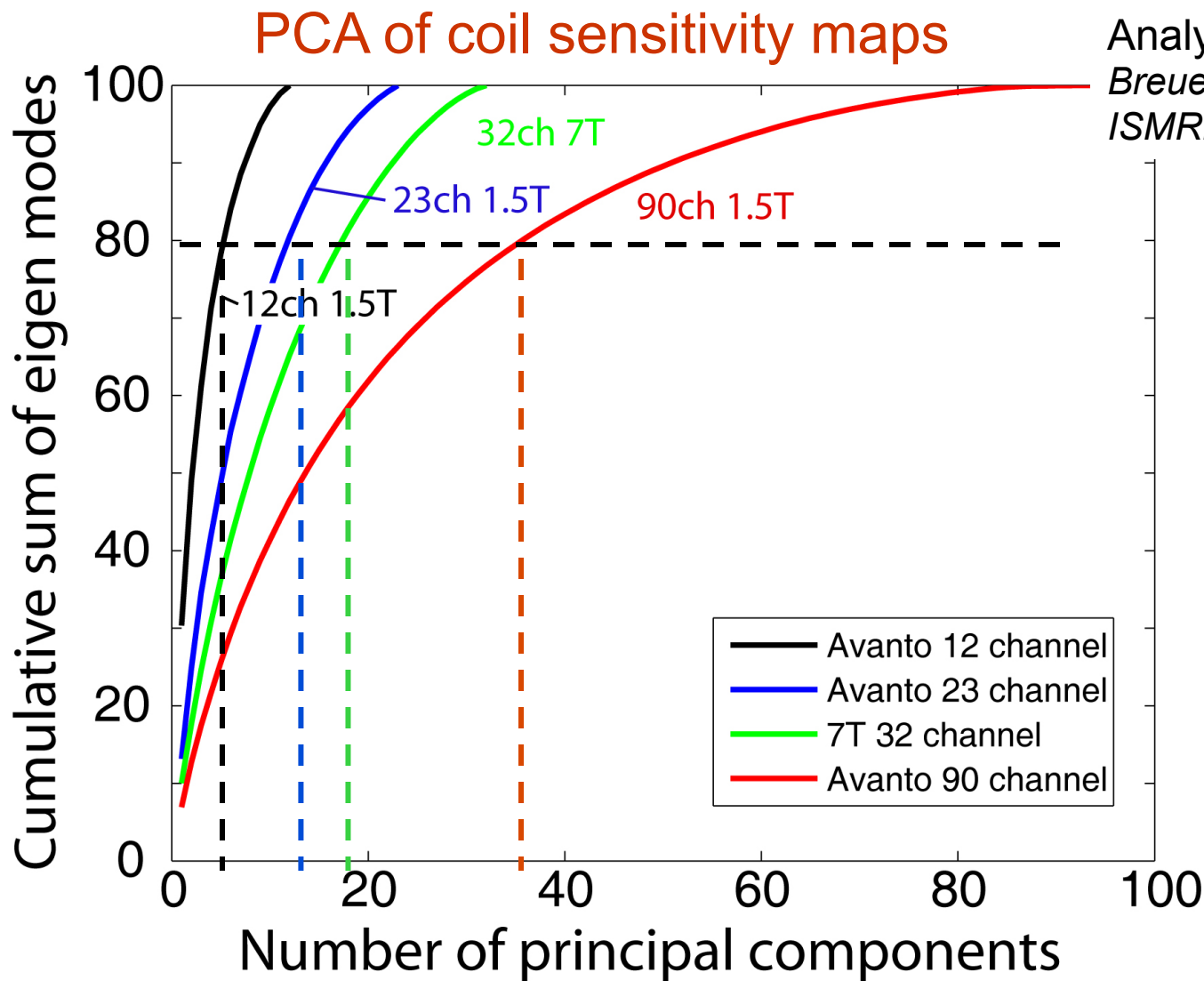


Rate = 4  
Gmax=2.17



# 3D encoding power of the array:

# eigenmodes of the sensitivity maps which contribute 80% of the energy



# Mode Compression: The performance of a 96 ch array on a 32 ch scanner

Basic premise: Spatial modes of the array do not form an orthogonal basis set desirable for parallel imaging.

Use the methods of image compression...

Create linear combinations of the signals which diagonalize the spatial modes. Retain only the modes which contribute the most to SNR / acceleration capabilities.

$$M_i(k_x, k_y) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{coils}} \underbrace{a_{i,j} e^{i\varphi_{i,j}}}_{\text{weights}} S_j(k_x, k_y)$$

Mode  $i$       Signal from Coil  $j$

↑

weights

# Mode Compression: Simulation

$$R = S S^H$$

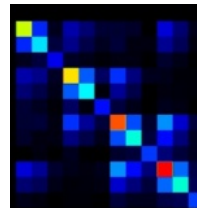
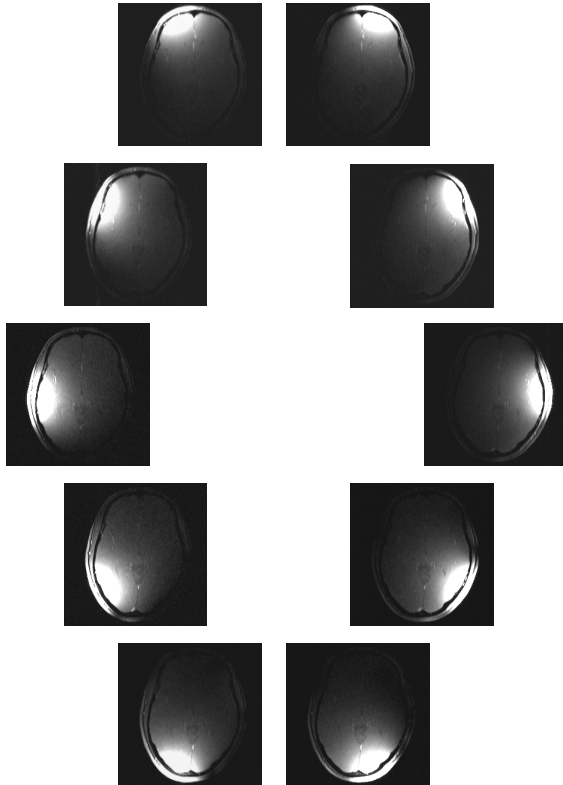
Diagonalizing R w/ eigenvector decomposition:

$$R = U D U^{-1}.$$

Need SNR, not S, so form whitened version of S using noise covariance matrix:  $\psi$

$$W^H W = \psi^{-1} \quad \tilde{S} = WS$$

$$\text{Diagonalize: } \tilde{R} = \tilde{S} \tilde{S}^H$$



96 channel

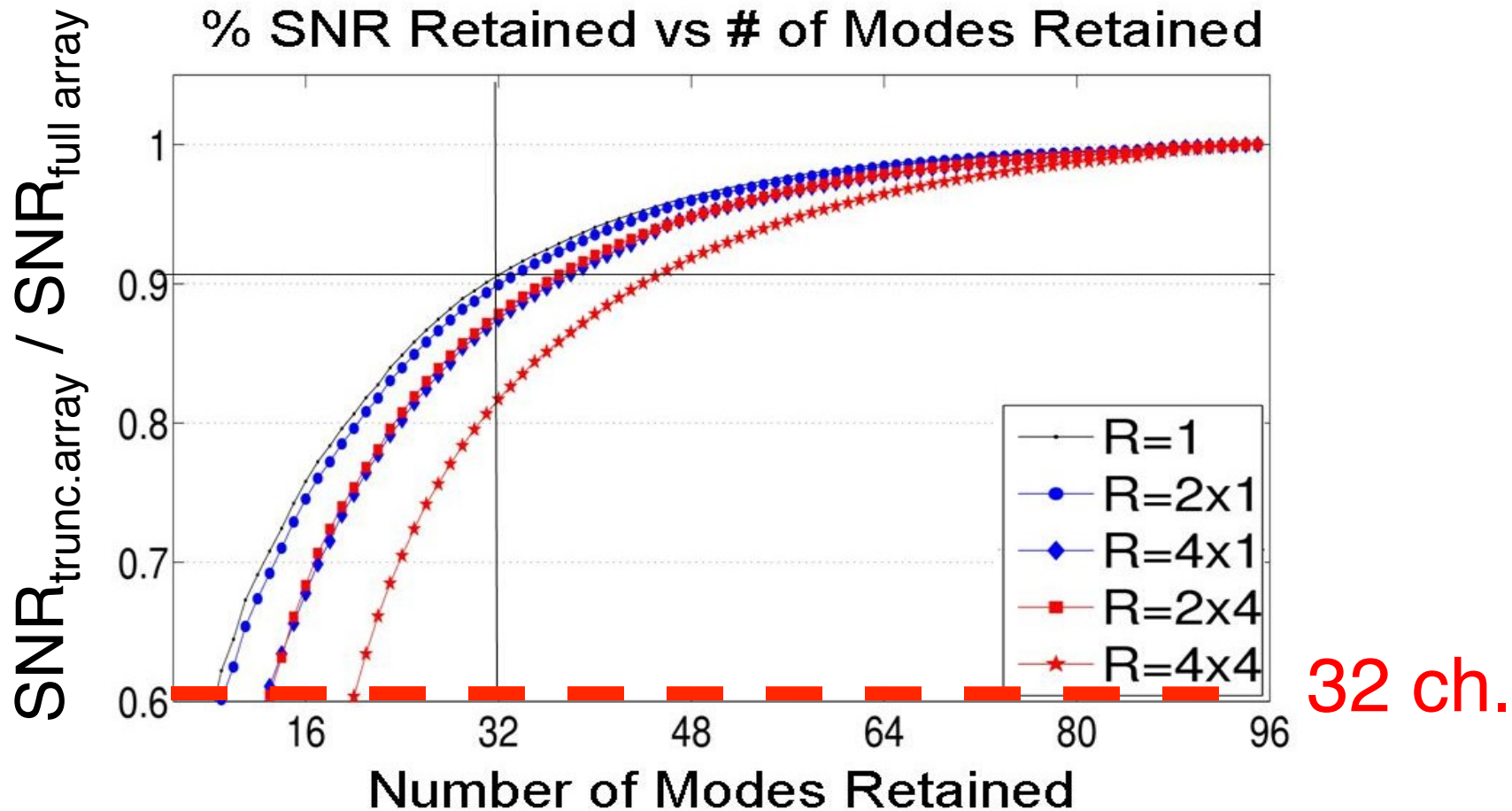
coil maps ( $S_j(x,y)$ )

(only 3<sup>rd</sup> row from bottom shown)

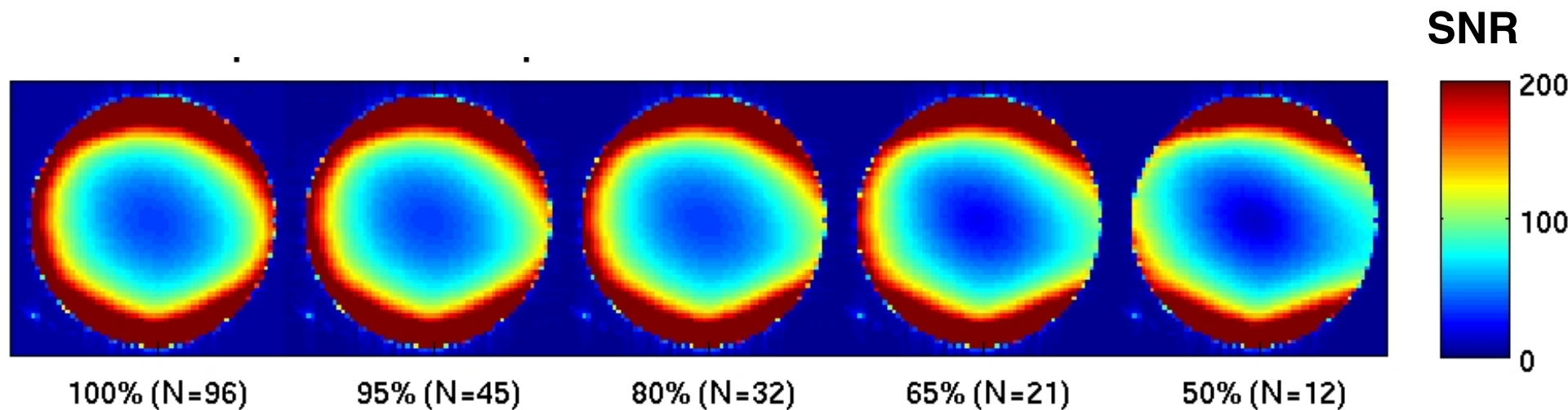
**Truncate mode basis set retaining only most important modes**

MGH, A.A. Martinos Center

# Mode Compression: SNR performance (96→32)

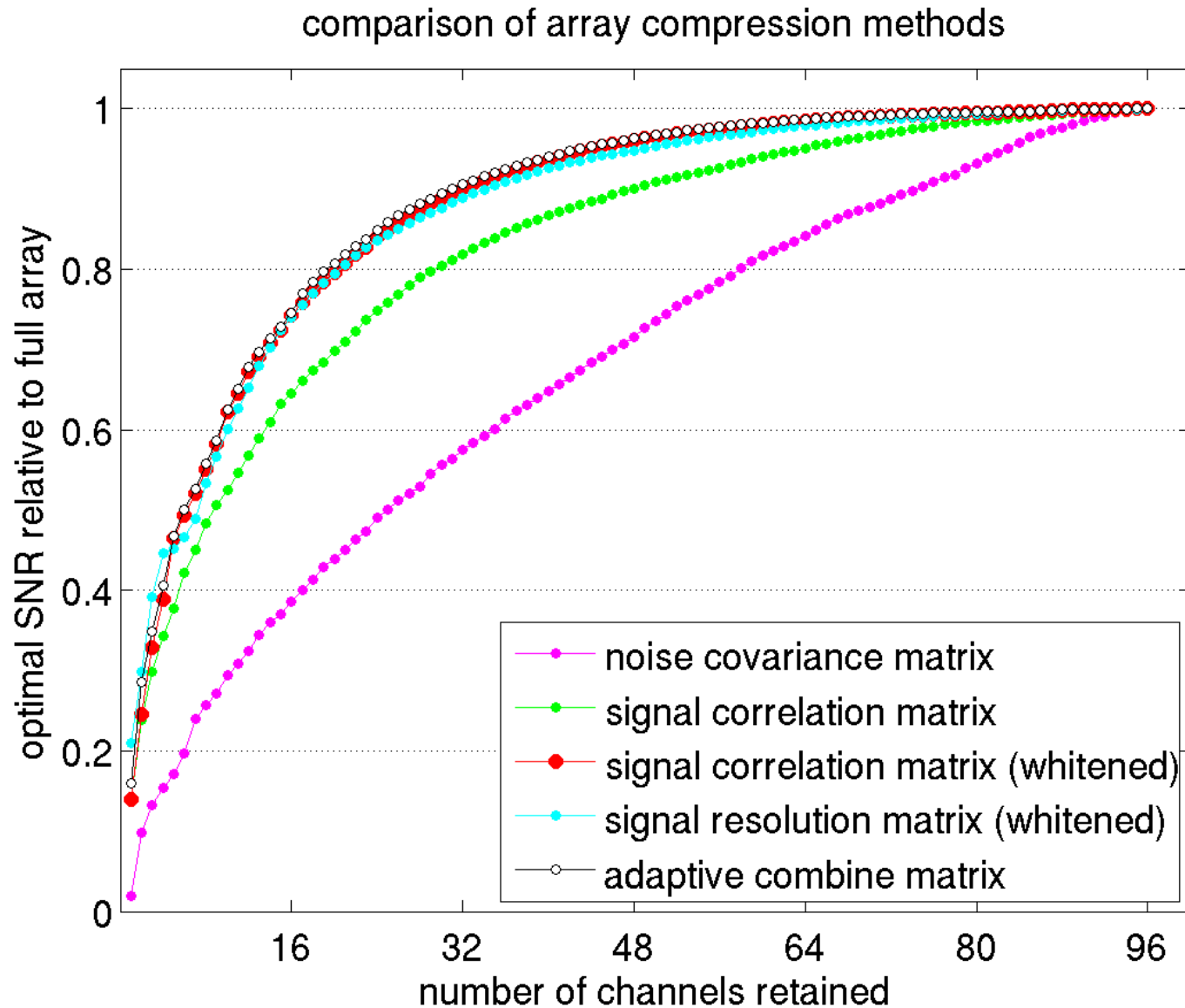


# Mode Compression: Distribution of SNR loss in compression of 96ch array



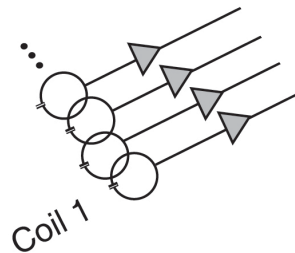
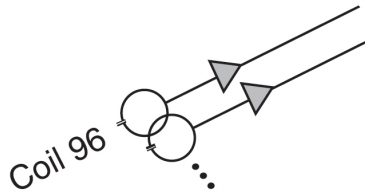


# Mode Compression: other methods



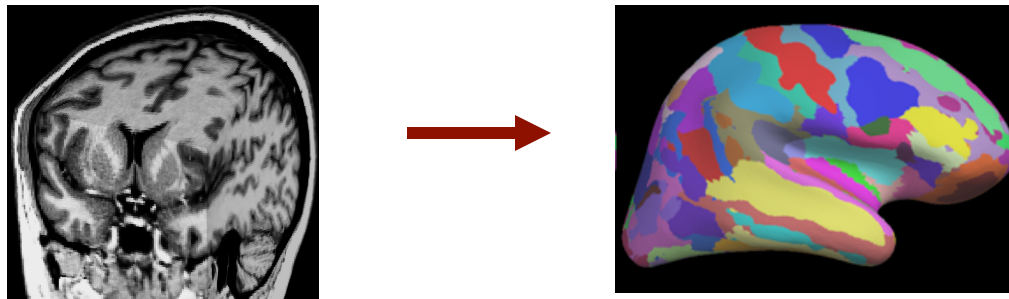
# Mode Compression: Hardware construction

$$M_i(k_x, k_y) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{coils}} a_{i,j} e^{i\varphi_{i,j}} S_j(k_x, k_y)$$



# Vision of the future.

- 1) 256 channel array adaptively compresses to 64 channels.
- 2) Labeled cortical map is created from 2min 3D scan

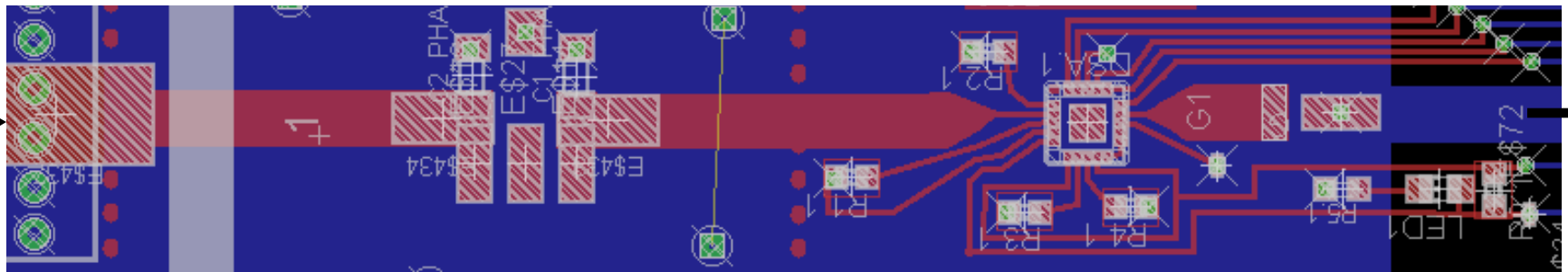


- 3) User clicks on anatomy (e.g. “Broca’s + Wernicke’s area”) and a particular sequence (e.g. EVI, R=3 x 4)
- 4) Scanner calculates mode coefficients to optimize Broca’s + Wernicke’s area SNR, downloads to mode-matrix.
- 5) User enjoys >2x sensitivity and improved acceleration over 32ch array in language study.

# Mode Compression: Hardware construction

Proof-of-principle: 32→16

One matrix connection...



analog signal  
from splitter board  
(copy of  $S_j$ )

Pi circuit  
phase shift ( $\Phi_{i,j}$ )

5 bit digital  
attenuator ( $a_{i,j}$ )

Output  
to combiner

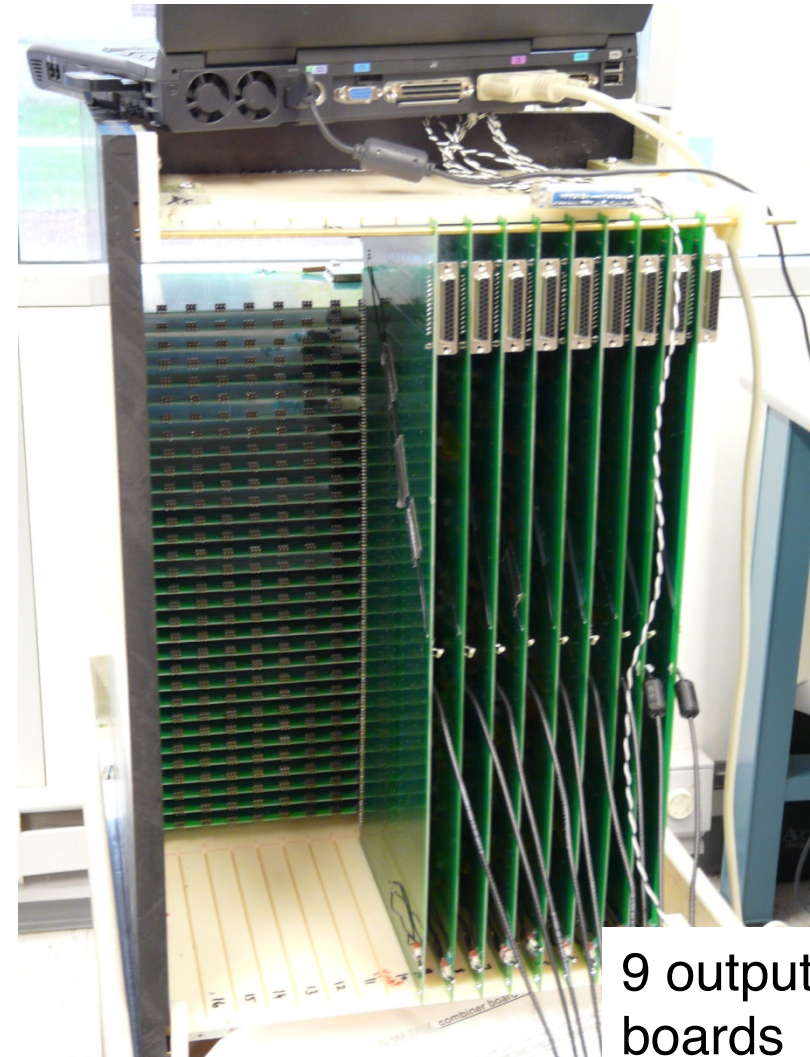


# Mode Compression: Hardware construction

Proof-of-principle: 32→16



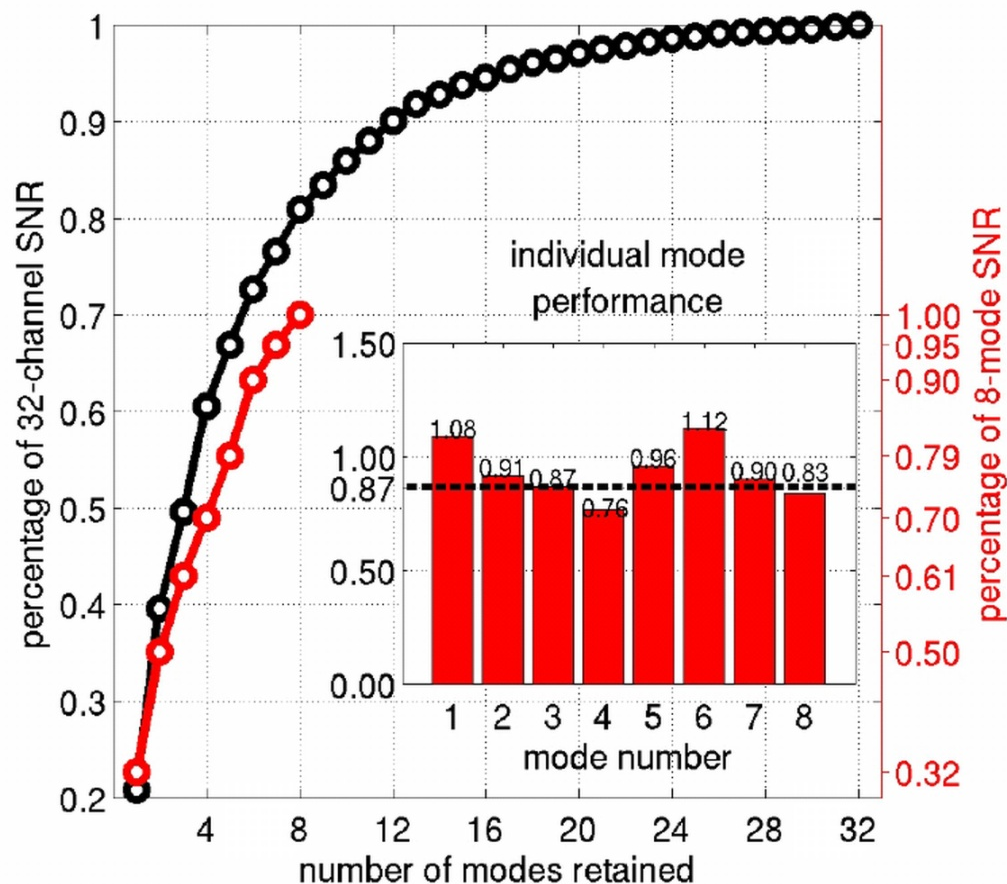
Input S  
from 32  
coils



9 output  
boards

# Mode Compression: Hardware construction

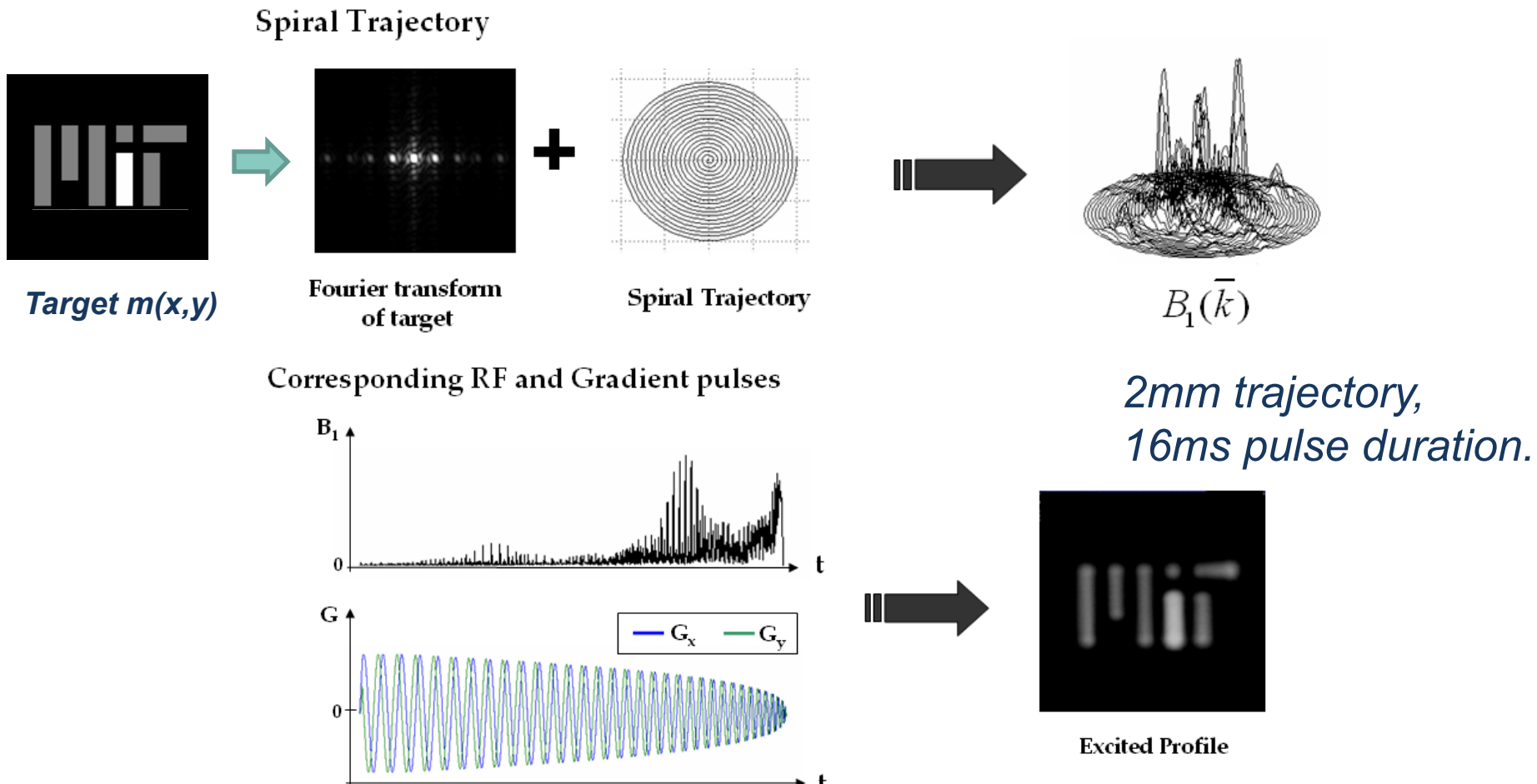
Proof-of-principle: 32→16



**Figure 3:** Ideal versus measured SNR compression achieved by 32-to-8 mixing matrix. (Inset) Percentage SNR retained in each individual mode.

# Spatially tailored excitation:

*Pauly et al A k-space analysis of small-tip angle excitation.  
J Magn Reson, 1989. 81: p. 43-56.*



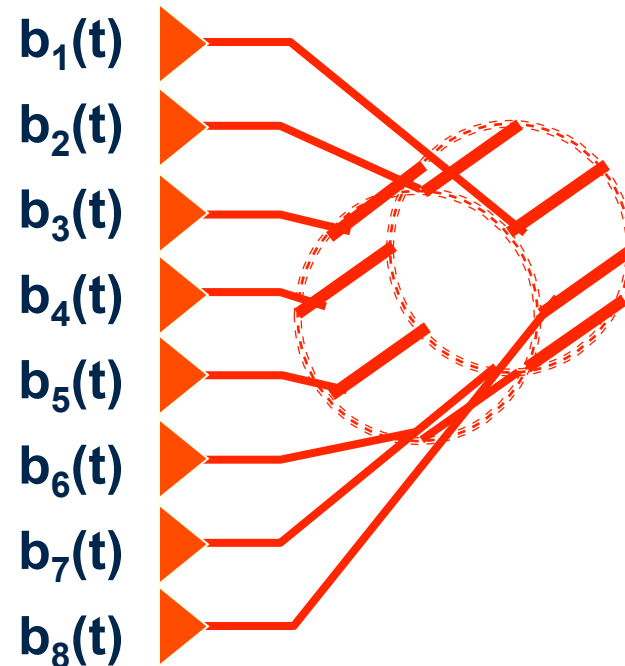
# Add spatial degrees of freedom via Tx array

## Parallel Transmit (pTx)

Eight pulse shapes:

Eight:

- 1) Small signal pulse gen.
- 2)  $B_0$  eddy current comp.
- 3)  $B_1$  linearization.
- 4) Power amplifiers.
- 5) SAR monitors.

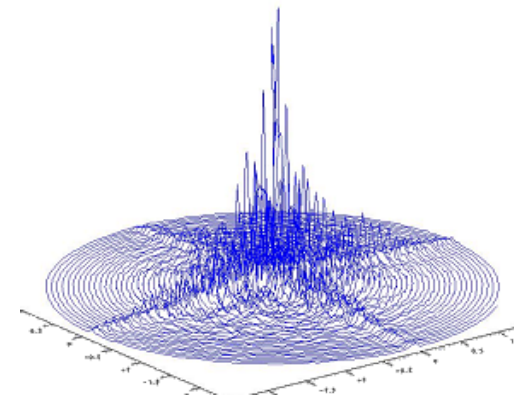
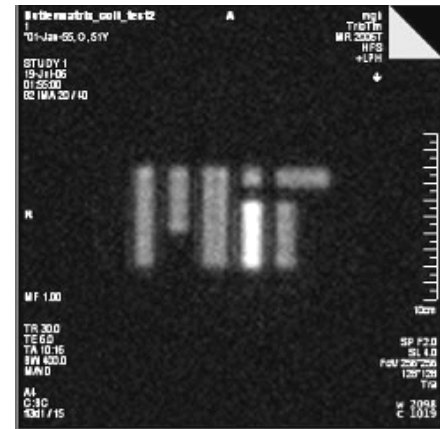
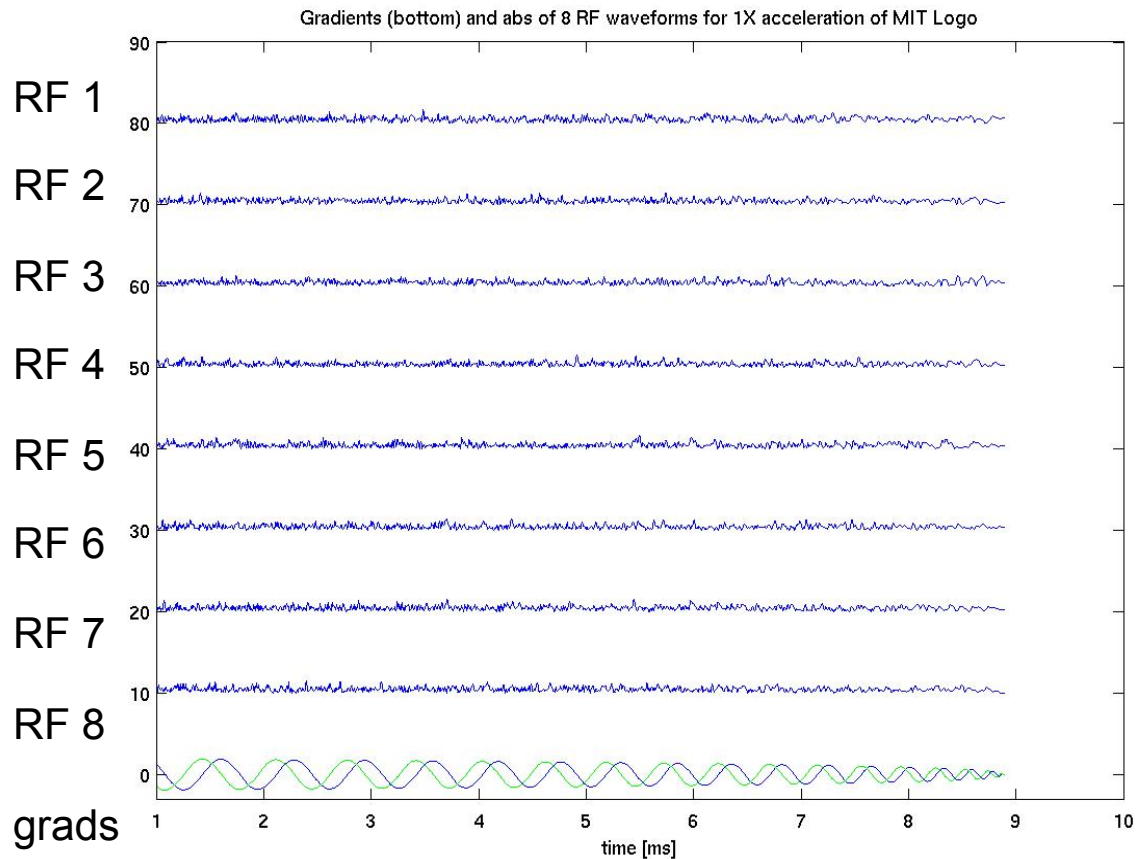




# The RF waveform...

Nyquist sampled

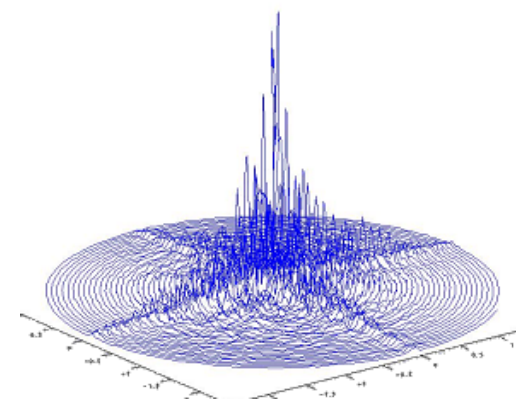
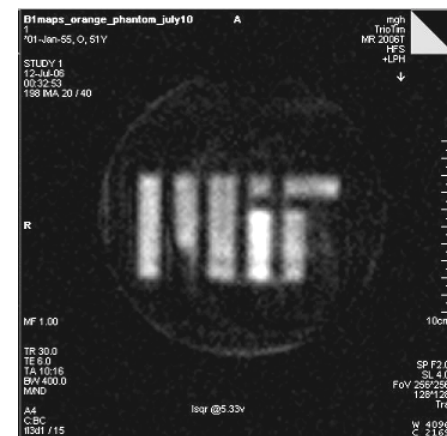
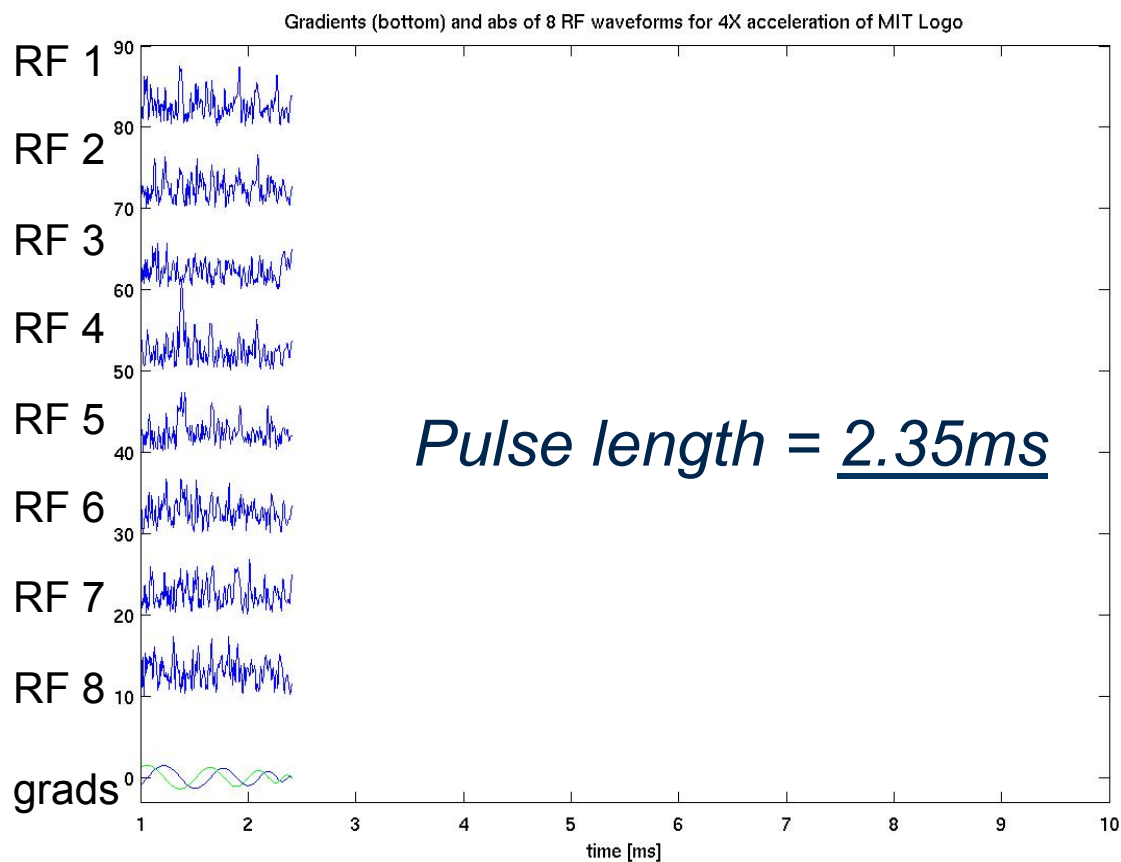
*Pulse length = 9ms*





# Undersampling the transmit kspace trajectory

## 4x acceleration

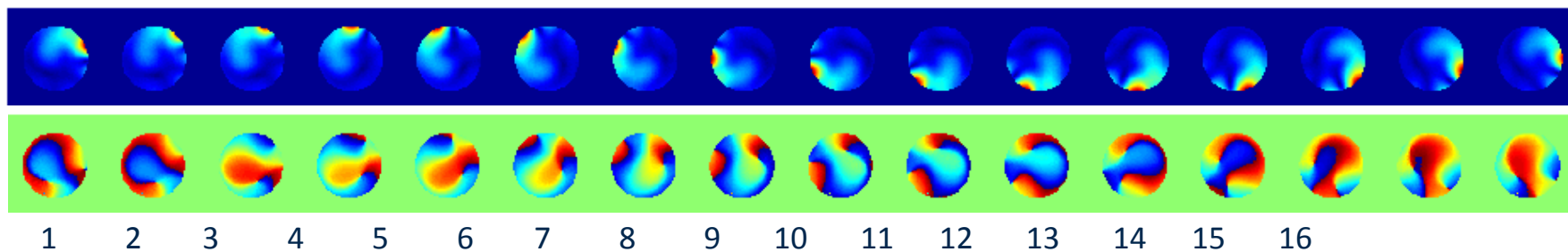


# Mode compression in transmit arrays

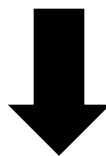
## 16ch Tx array at 7T, strip-line modes and birdcage modes

Magn, phase

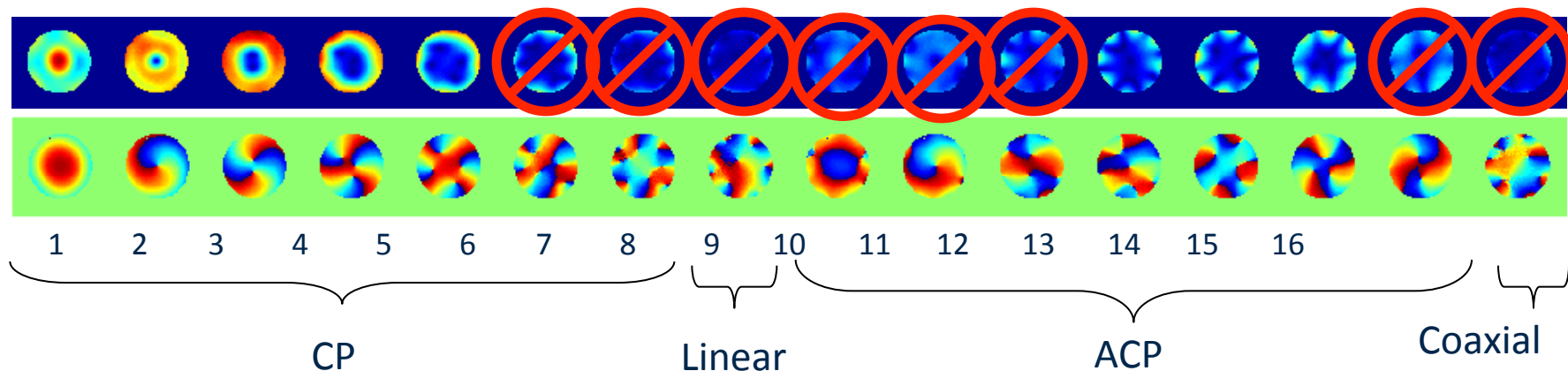
16 Stripline coil modes



Form 16 orthogonal birdcage modes w/  
Butler matrix

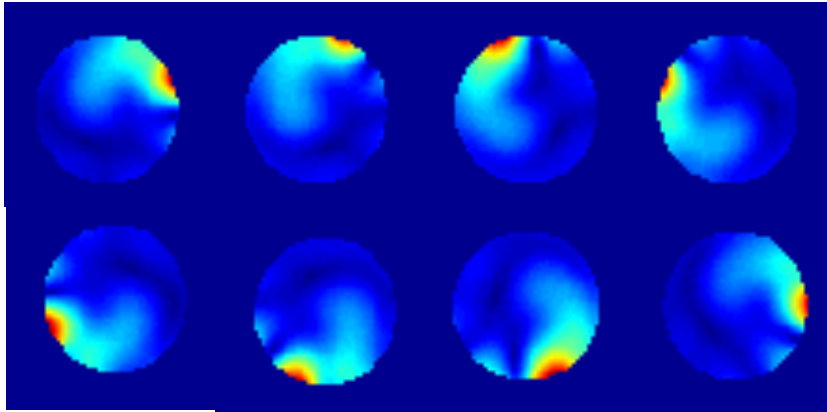


Magn, phase

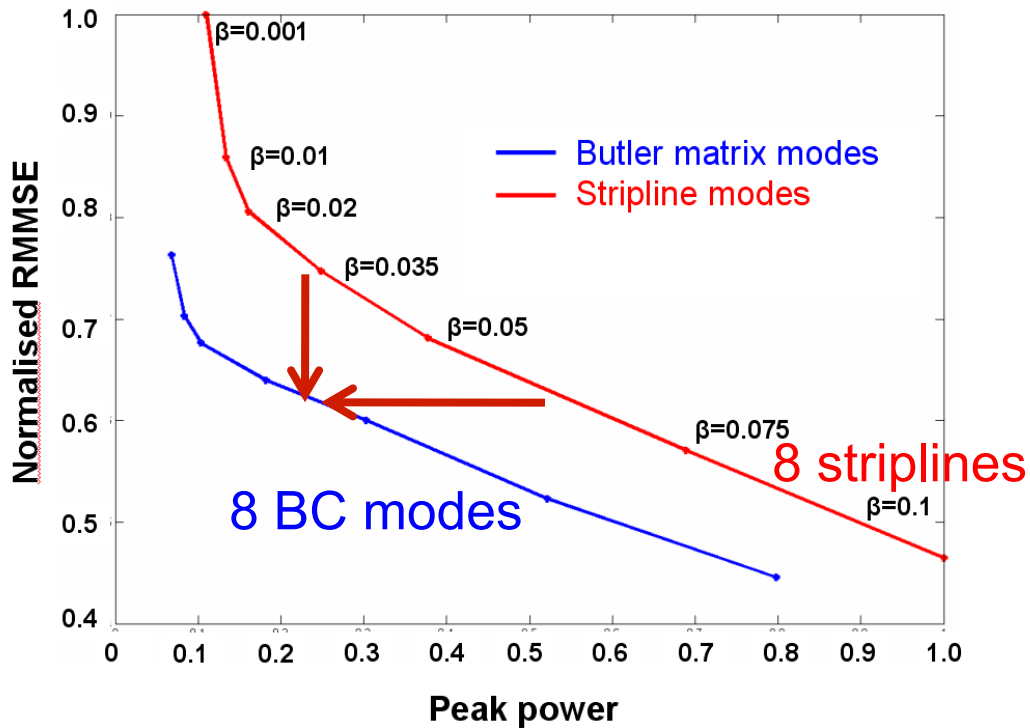
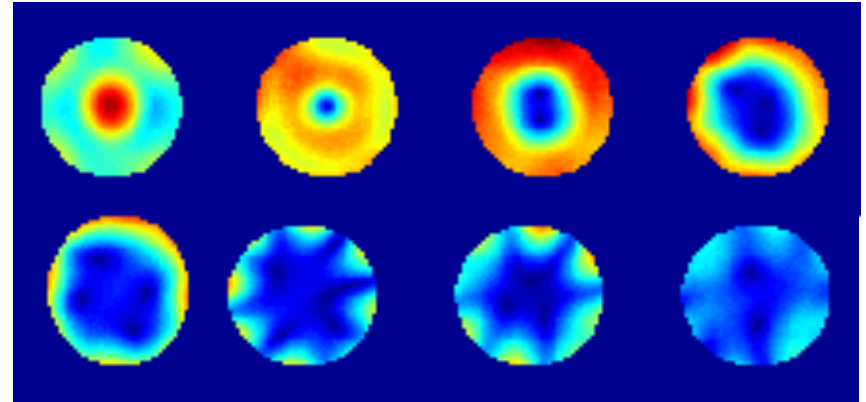


# Coil mode compression

8 stripline modes



8 optimal modes of 16 BC modes



Mode Compression:

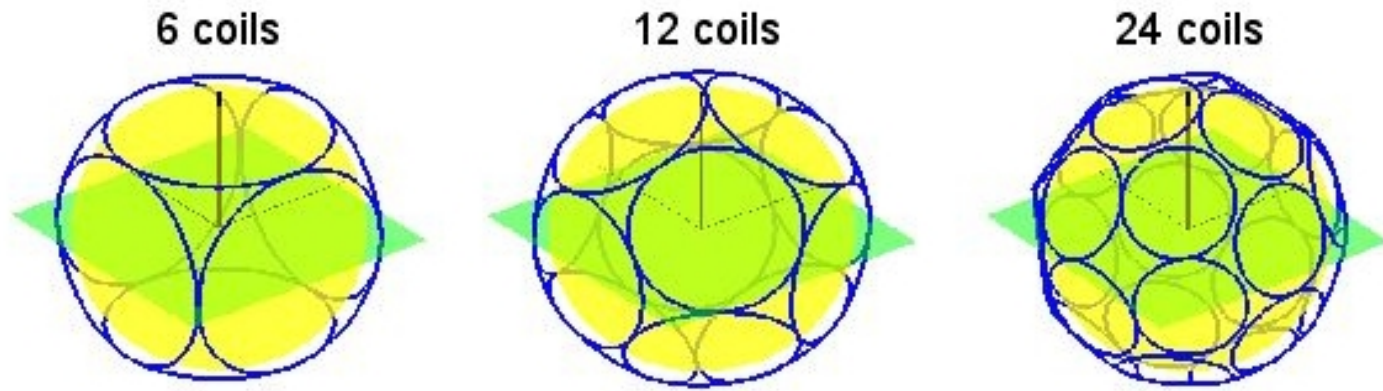
*Alagappan et al ISMRM 2008, p.618*

Mode choice based on target:

*Zelinski et al ISMRM 2008, p.1302*

# What does more buy you?

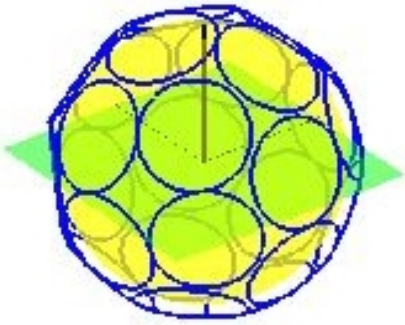
## Spherical array model, ETH Group



### **Approaching Ultimate SNR with Finite Coil Arrays**

*F. Wiesinger, N. De Zanche, K. P. Pruessmann*

*Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University Zurich and ETH ,  
ISMRM 2005 p672.*

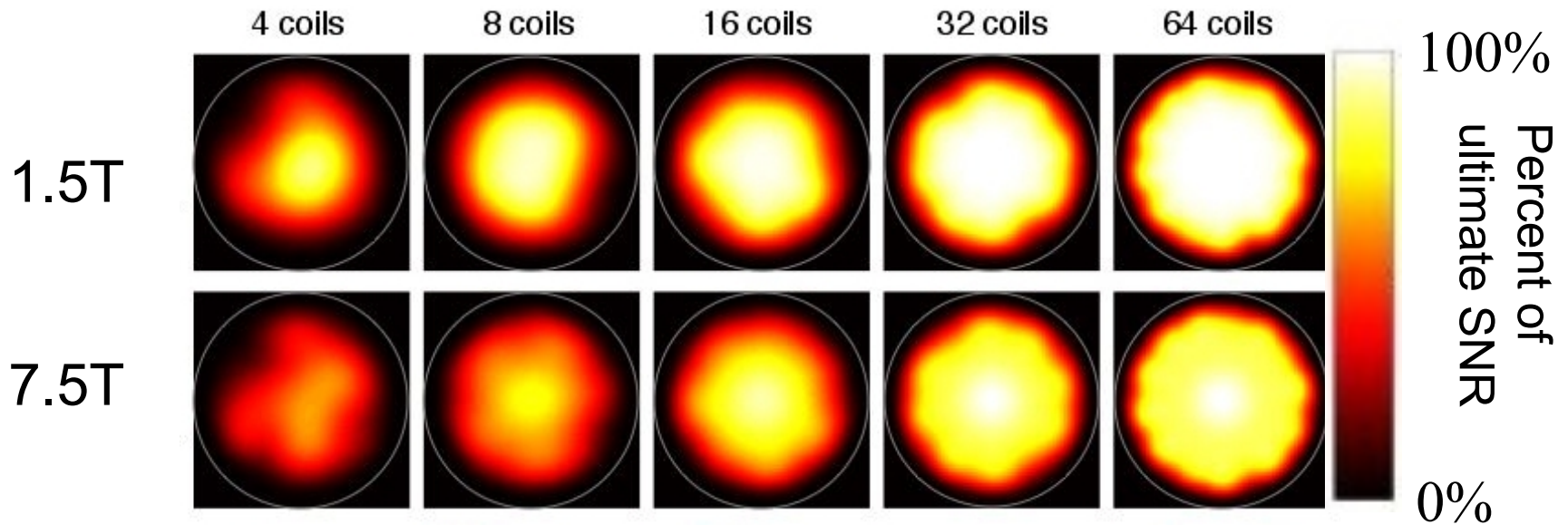


# Spherical array model

data courtesy of:

Wiesinger, DeZanche, Pruessman, ETH Zurich

Percent of achievable sensitivity



- Max-out in the center first.
- SNR at periphery  $\sim$  linear in # of elements.
- Higher field needs more elements.
- Adding elements only helps if body noise dominated.



# Ultimate SNR

What is the maximum SNR you achieve with a coil distribution on a cylinder or sphere?

*Roemer, Edelstein, 6<sup>th</sup> SMRM, p.410, 1987*

*Reykowski, Ph.D. Thesis, Texas A&M, 1996.*

*Ocali, Atalar MRM 39 p.462-473, 1998*

*Ohlinger, Grant, Sodikson, MRM 50(5) p1018 2003*

*Wiesinger, Boesinger, Pruessmann, MRM 52(2) p376 2004*

## Any coil sensitivity profile:

- must satisfy Maxwell's equations.
- can be expressed as a linear combination of basis functions which:
  - 1) Are solutions.
  - 2) Span the space of solutions to Maxwell's Eq.

# Ultimate SNR

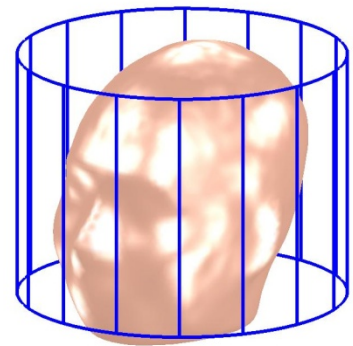
Express an arbitrary sensitivity pattern as the infinite sum over the basis functions and optimize for sensitivity.

Favorite basis functions include:

- plane waves
- spherical harmonics

SNR is intrinsically limited by Maxwell equations.

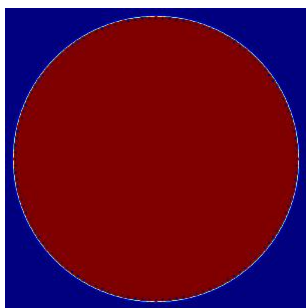
- The ultimate SNR is lower in the center of the object...
- Its likely to be easier to reach the limit at lower field.



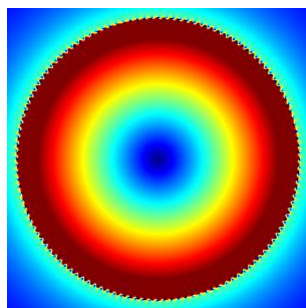
# Ultimate SNR: birdcage basis

An array built from nesting birdcages each tuned to a different mode, spans the required space.

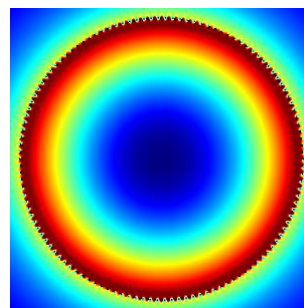
Birdcage detection profiles:



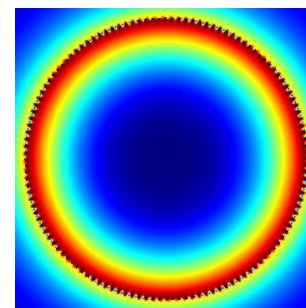
Uniform mode



2nd mode



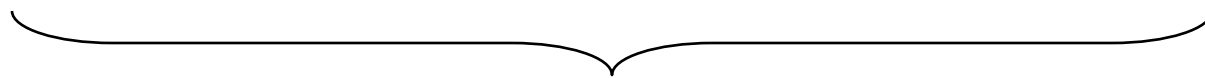
3rd mode



4th mode...

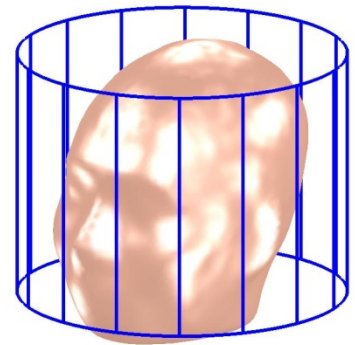


Common use



No signal from center

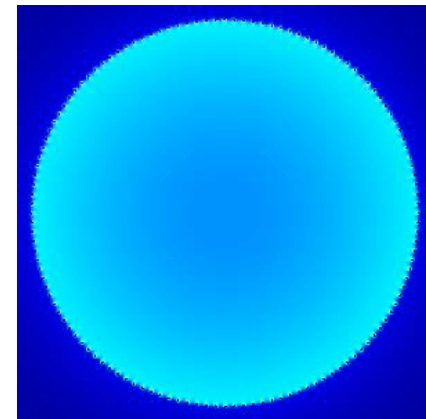
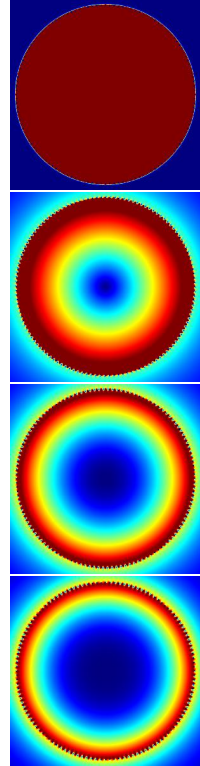
# Ultimate SNR



An array built from nesting birdcages...

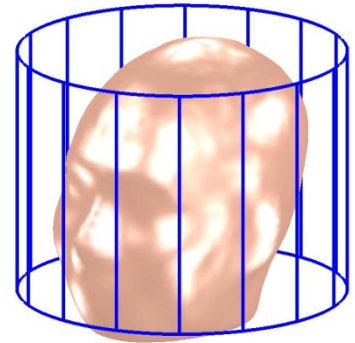
## Ultimate SNR for cylinder:

- Is just a standard array combination of these basis functions.
- Needs only one element to achieve in center.
- More elements only add to the periphery

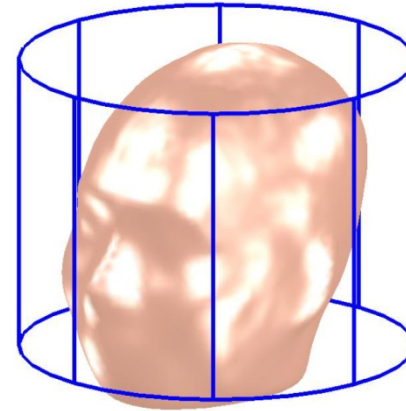
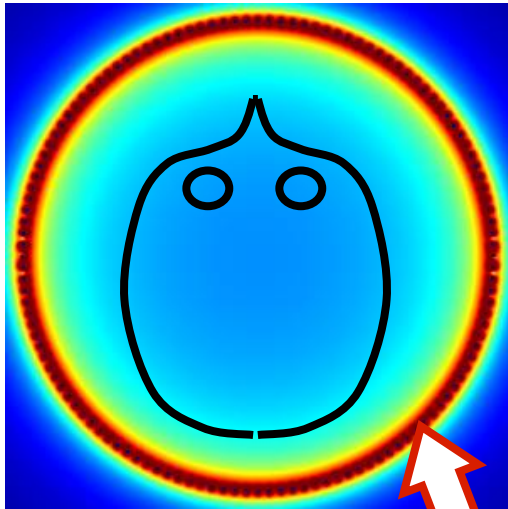


Cumulative combination  
of 32 lowest modes

# Ultimate SNR



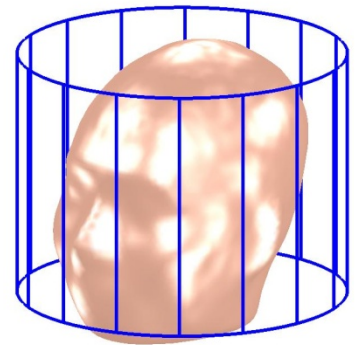
An array built from nesting birdcages...



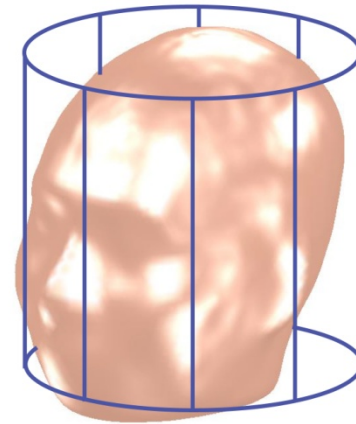
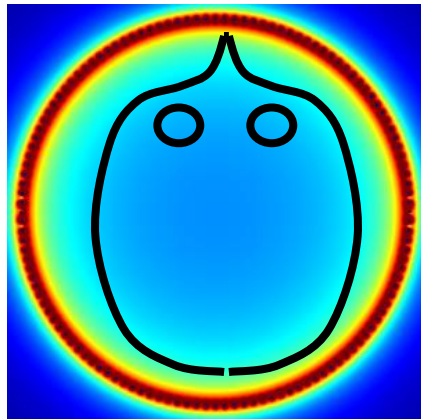
Most of the gain from the higher modes misses the head!



# Ultimate SNR

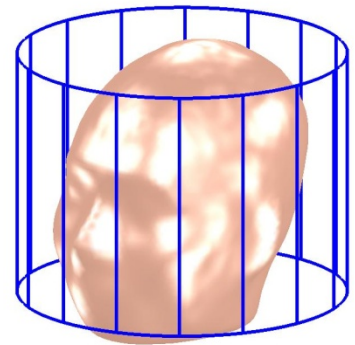


An array built from nesting birdcages...

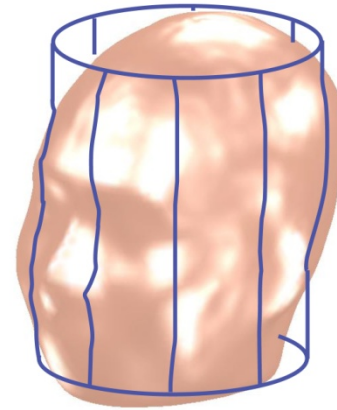
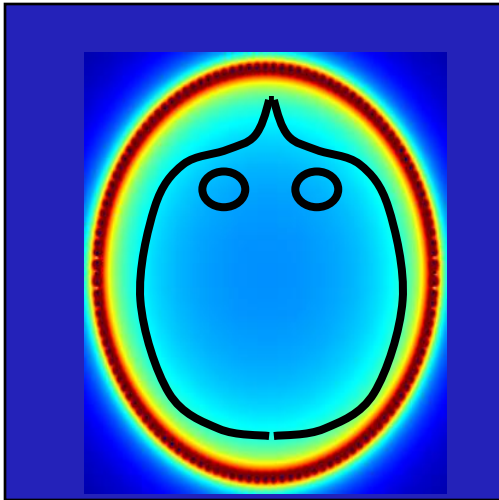


Need to shrink-wrap to head to get benefit of the higher mode array elements

# Ultimate SNR

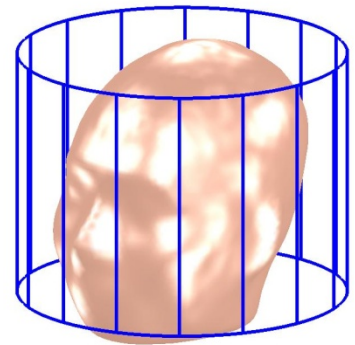


An array built from nesting birdcages...

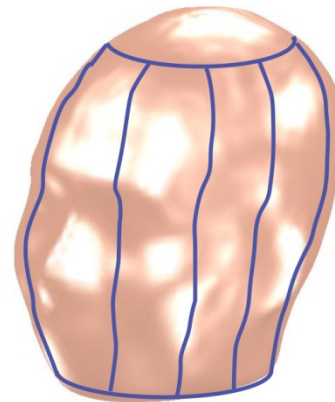
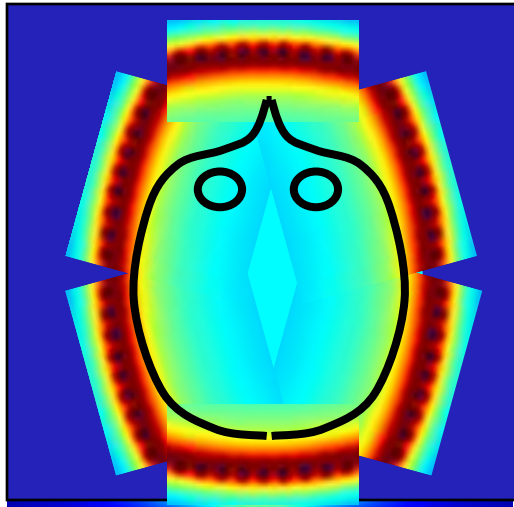


Need to shrink-wrap to head to get benefit of the higher mode array elements

# Ultimate SNR



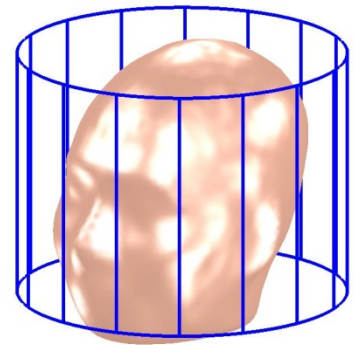
An array built from nesting birdcages...



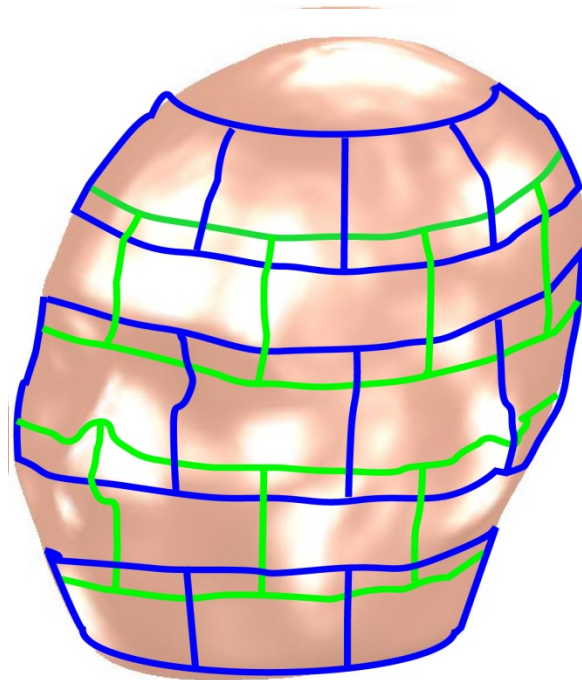
Need to shrink-wrap to head to get benefit of the higher mode array elements

# Implementing ultimate SNR

How do we get spatial variations in  $z$  for acceleration?

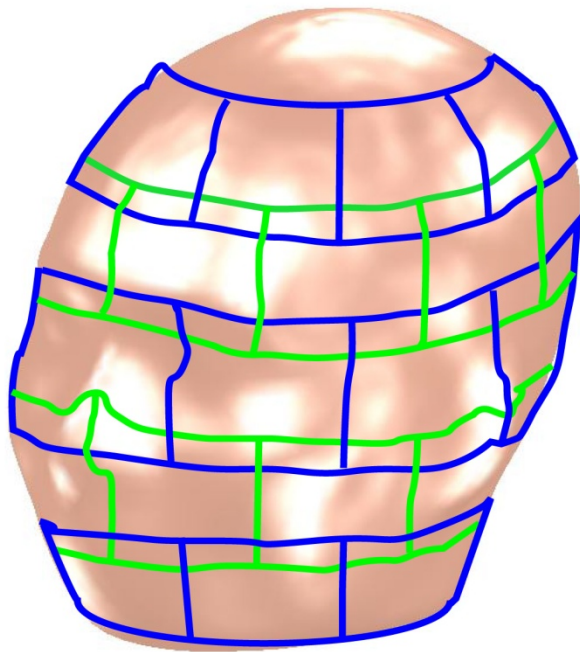
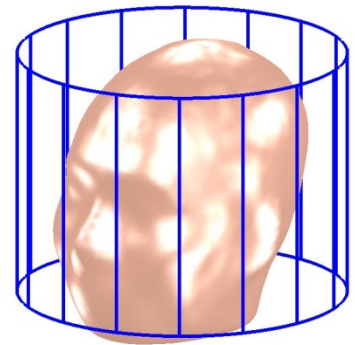


$z$



# Implementing ultimate SNR

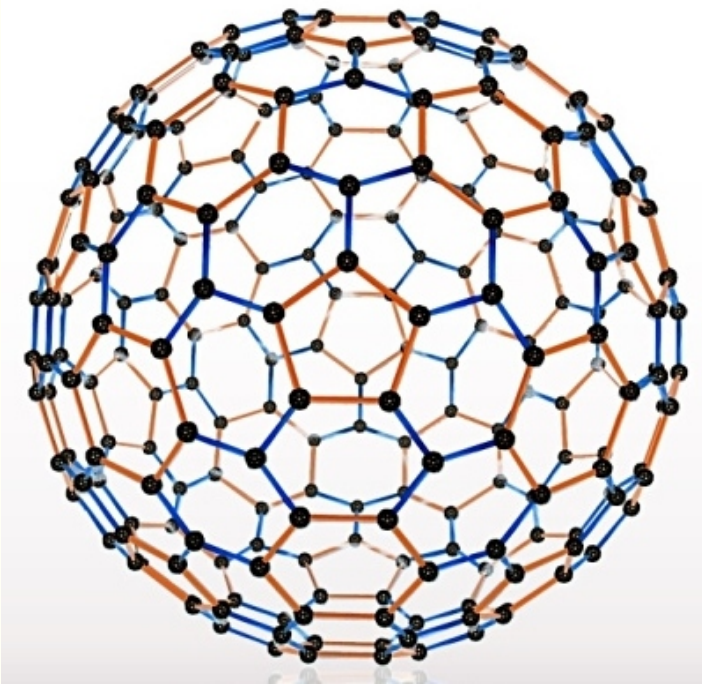
**How many elements?**



- 1 5 birdcages in z
- 2 x 32 modes detected per birdcage
- 3 **160 Total elements**
- 4
- 5



# 90 Channel 1.5T Phased Array



C240 Carbon “Buckyball”

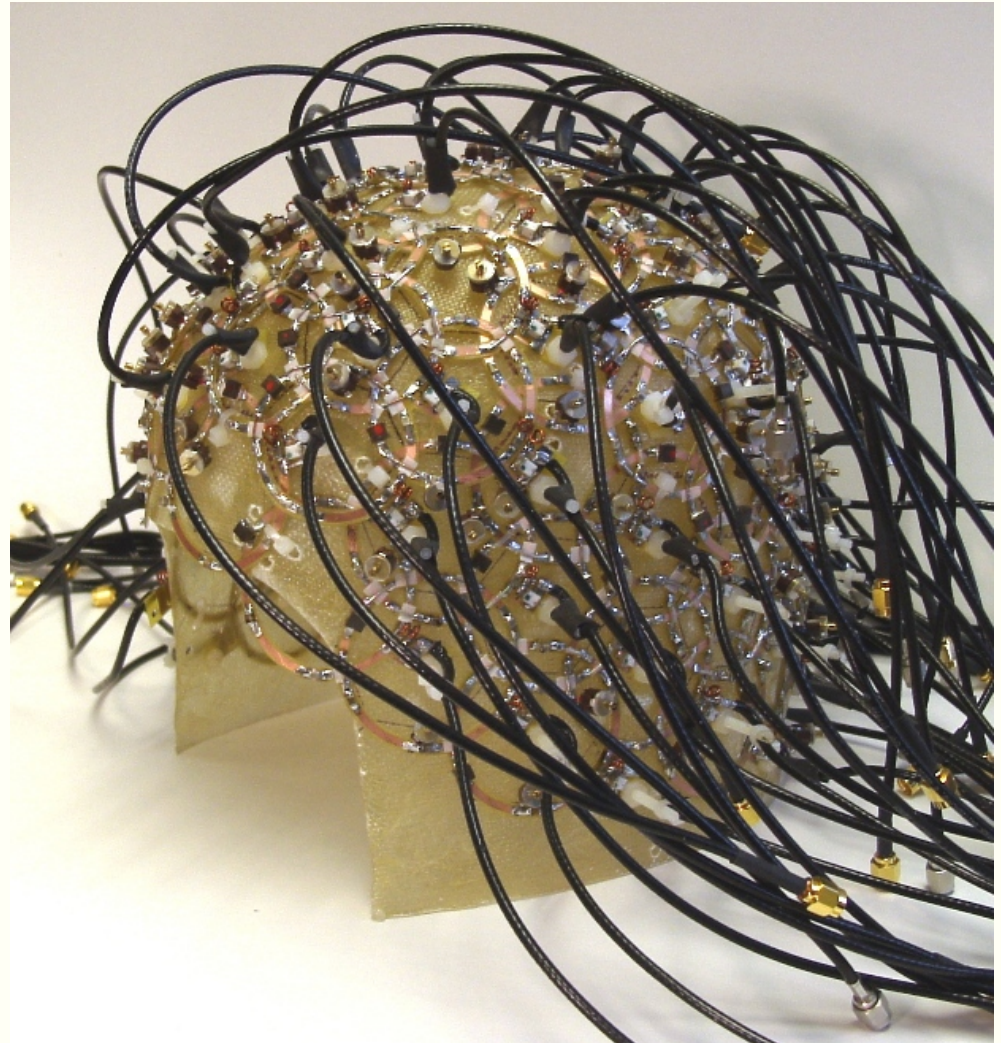


MGH, A.A. Martinos Center

# 90 Channel 1.5T Phased Array

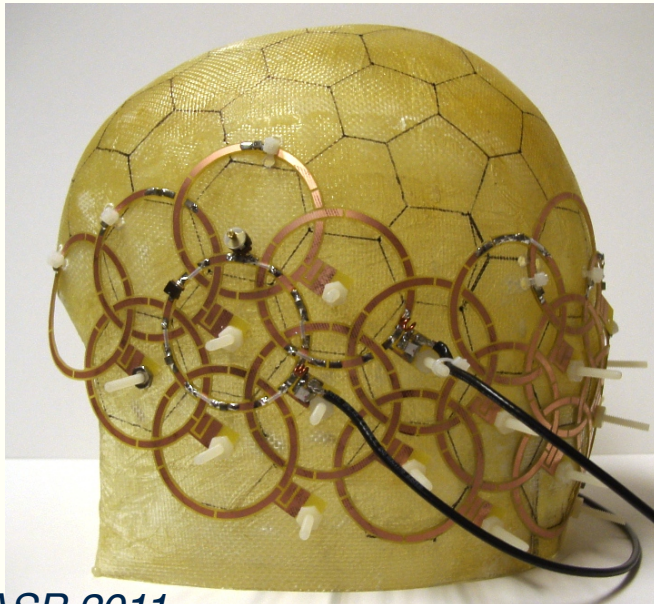
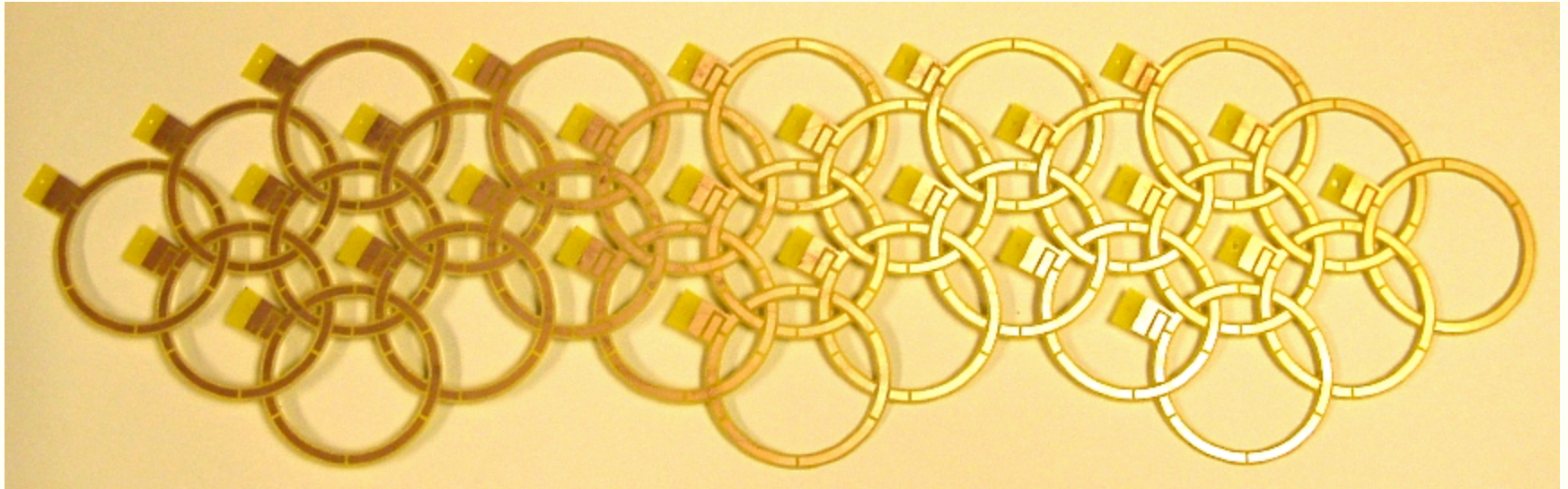
Most coils are  
48mm I.D.

Pin diode detuning



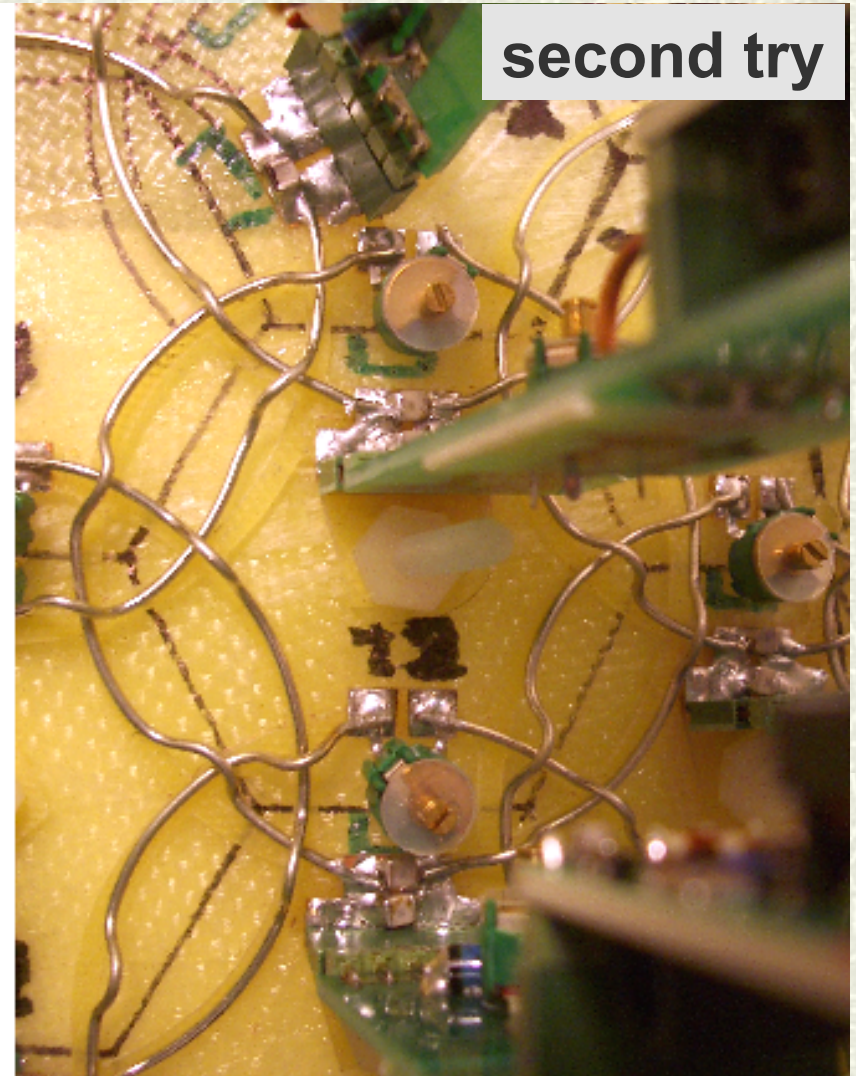
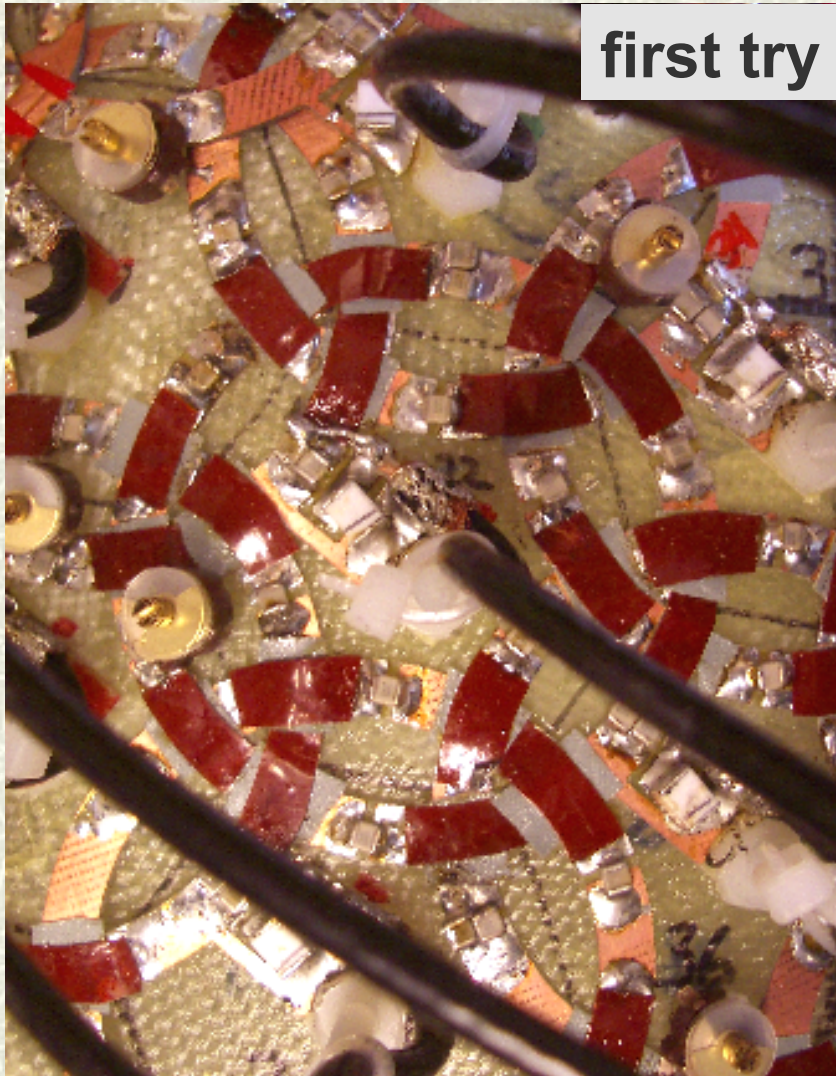


# Many Coils From One Piece





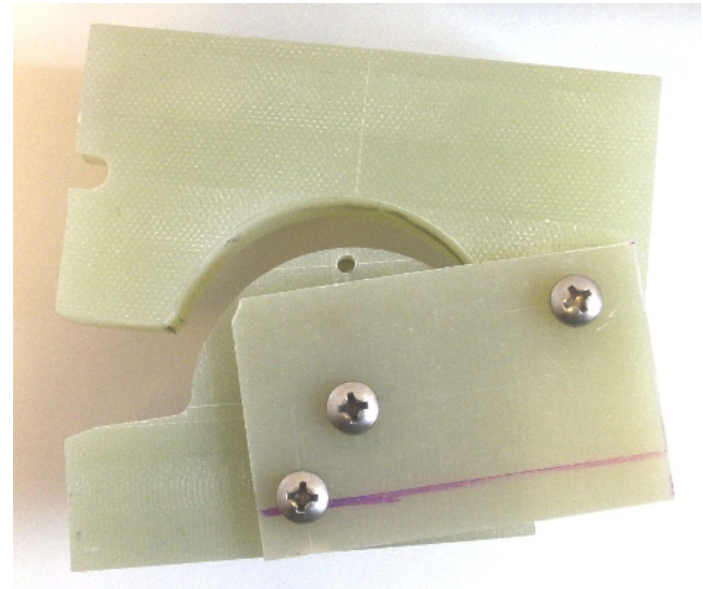
# MGH 96 channel 3T





# How to Build 96 Wire Coil Elements?

## Tools for forming wires



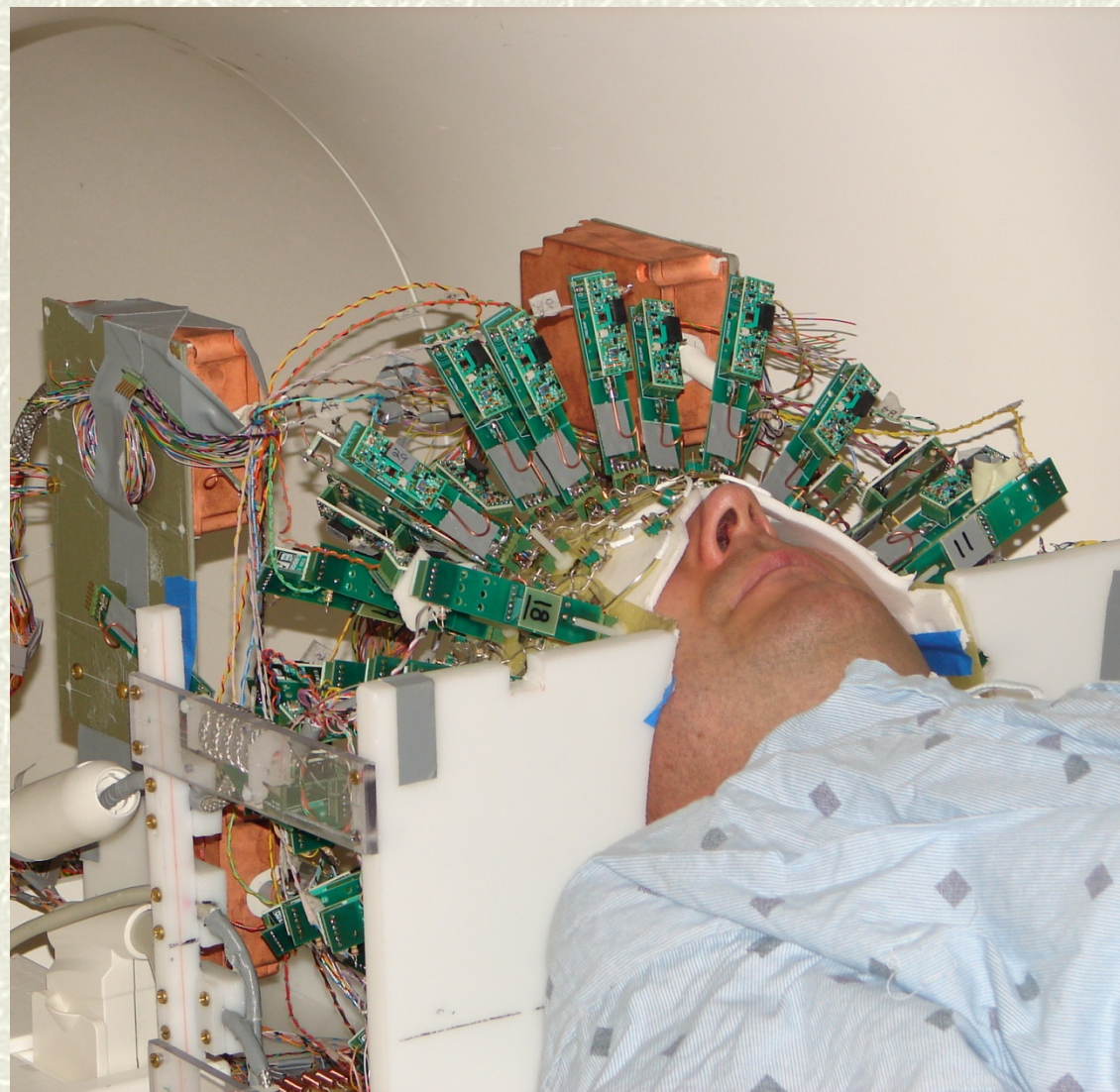
96 Ch 3T  
(second try)



**90 ch 1.5T**

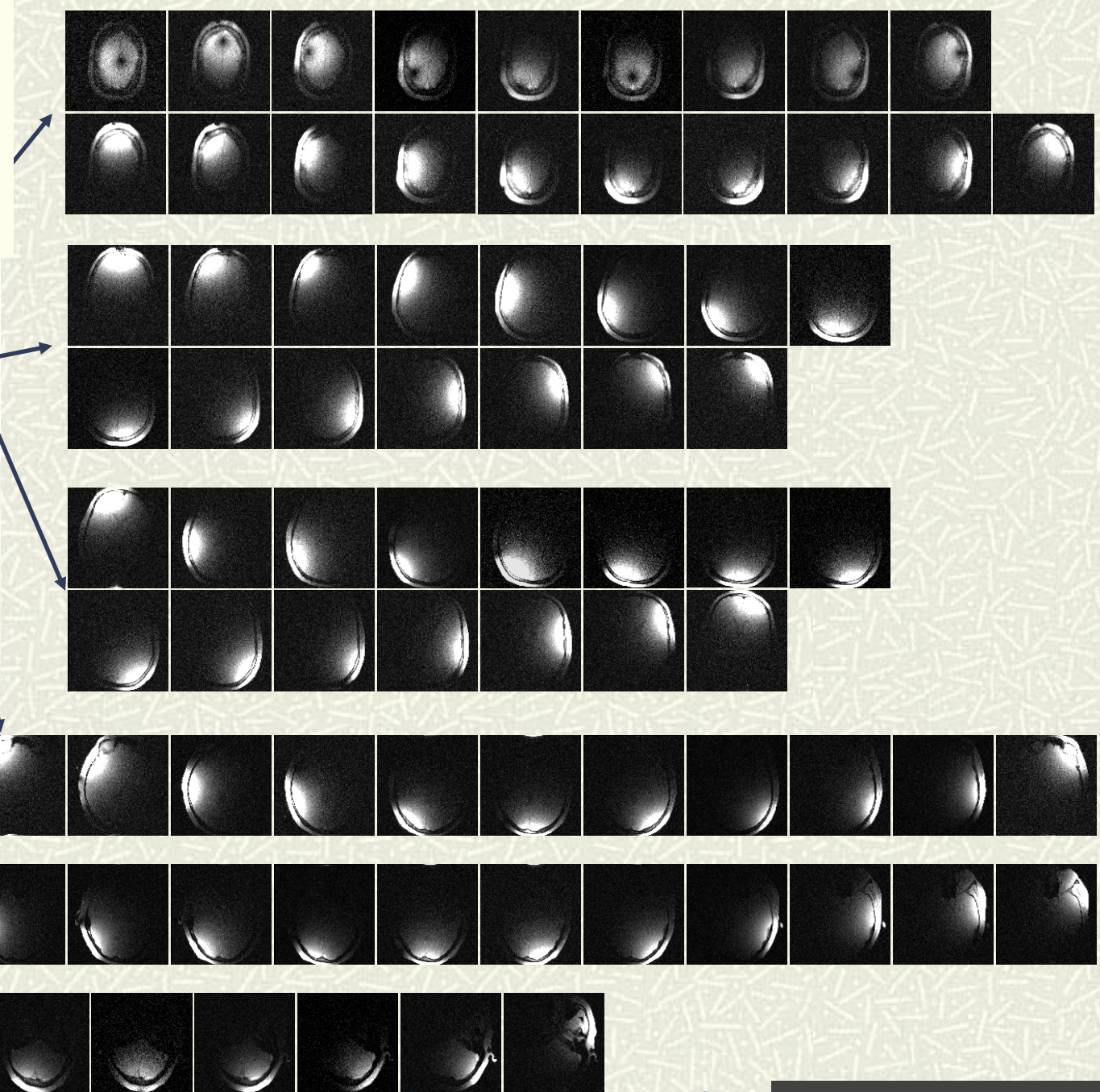
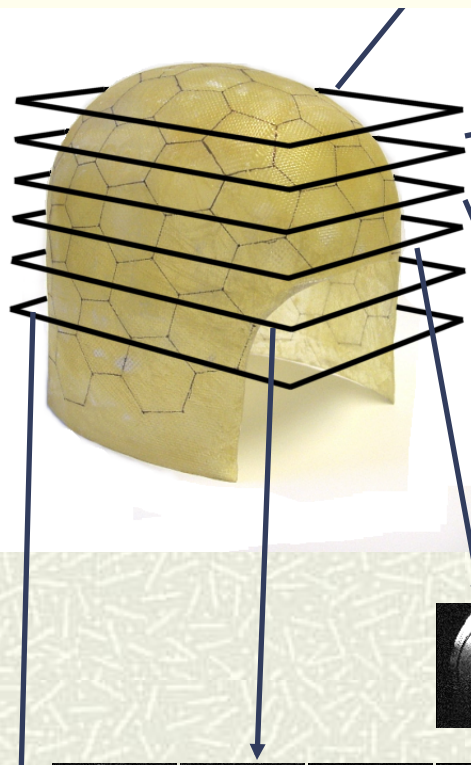


**96 ch 3T**

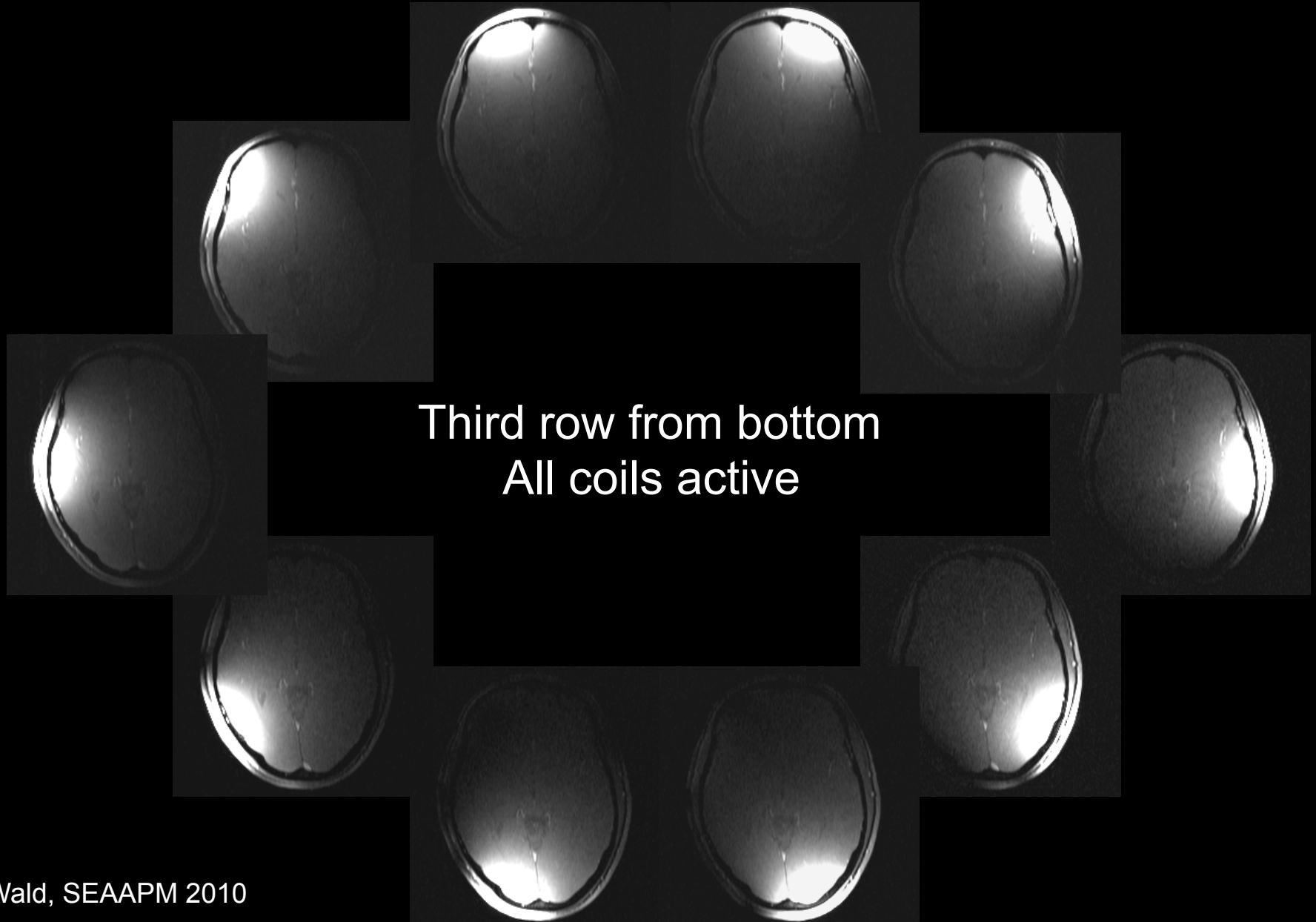




# 90 Channel Uncombined Images



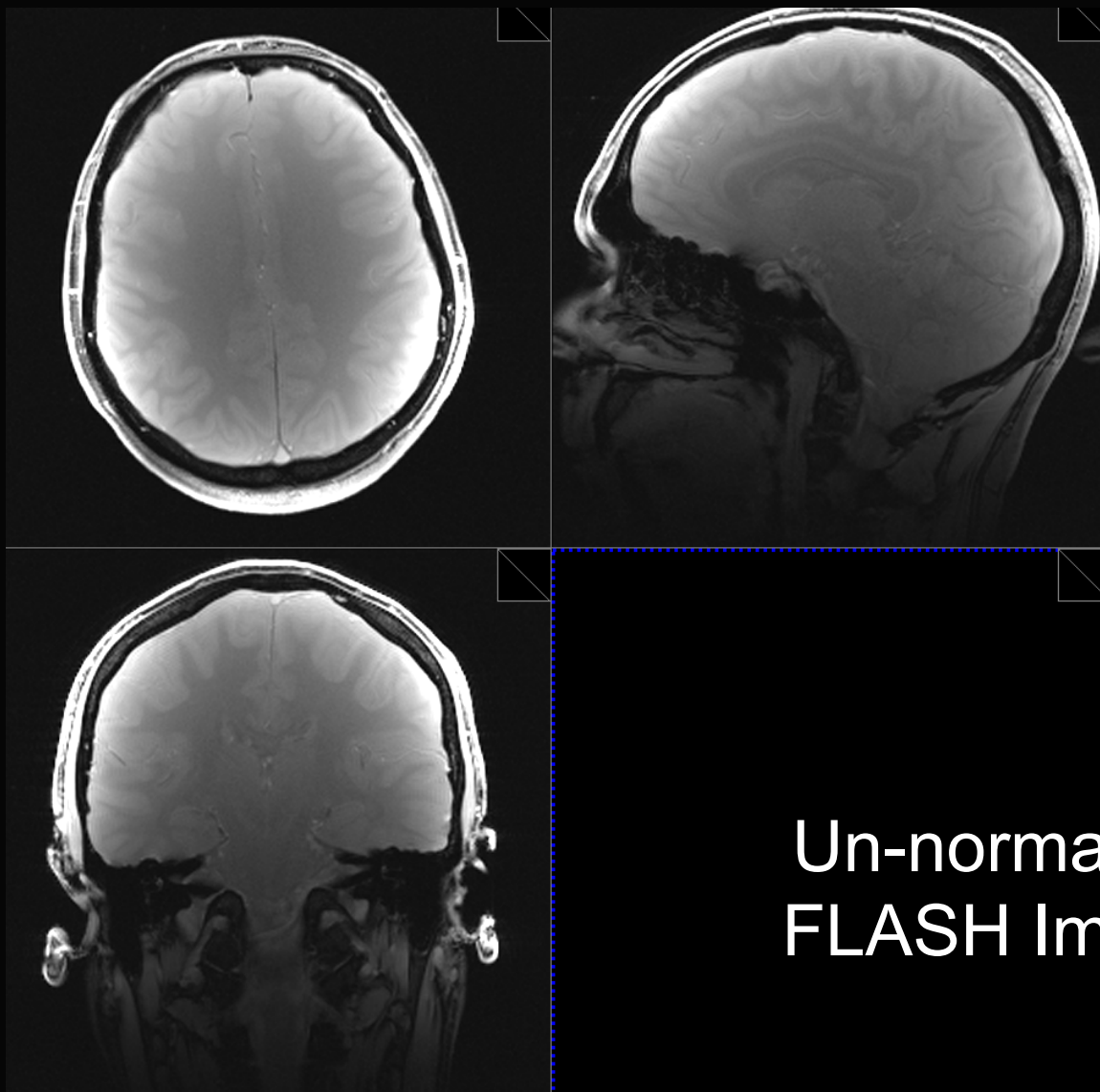
# Uncombined Coil Images



Third row from bottom  
All coils active



# MGH 96 Channel Head Coil for 3T

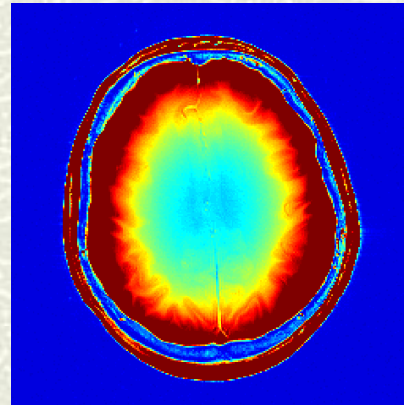
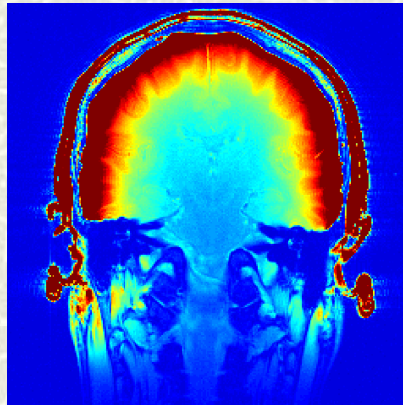
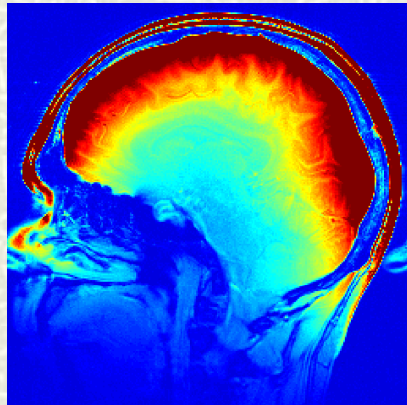


Un-normalized  
FLASH Images

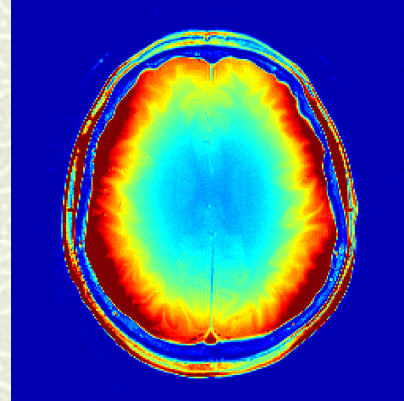
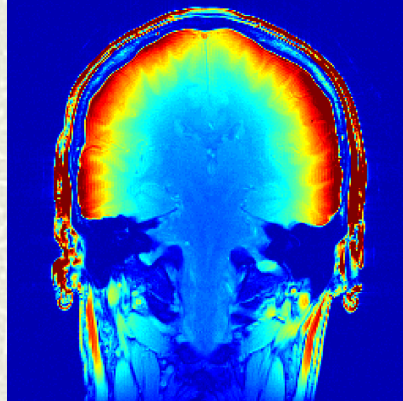
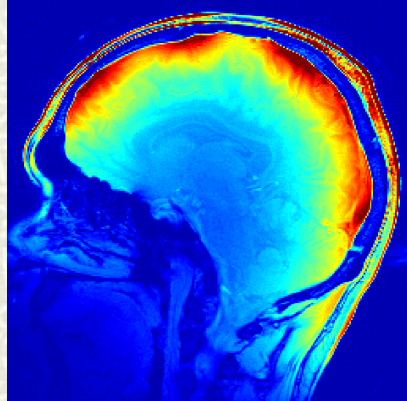
TR / TE / Flip = 200 / 4.07 / 20deg, BW = 200, FoV = 220mm, 256x256

# Sensitivity Maps (SNR)

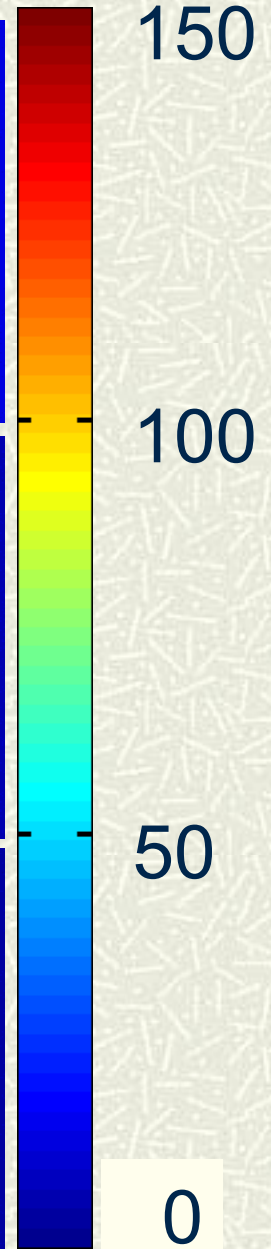
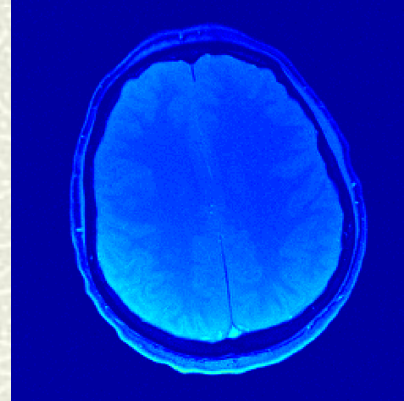
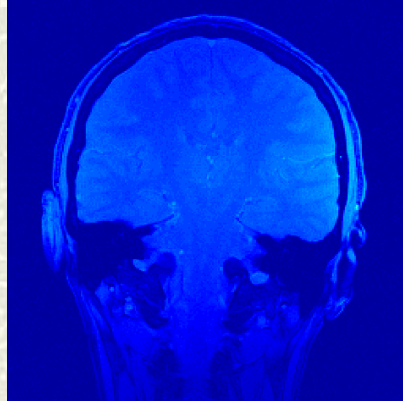
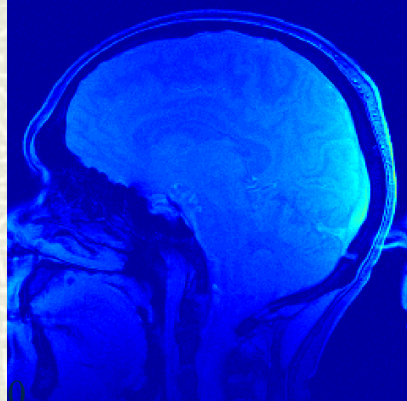
**MGH  
96 Ch**



**MGH  
32 Ch**

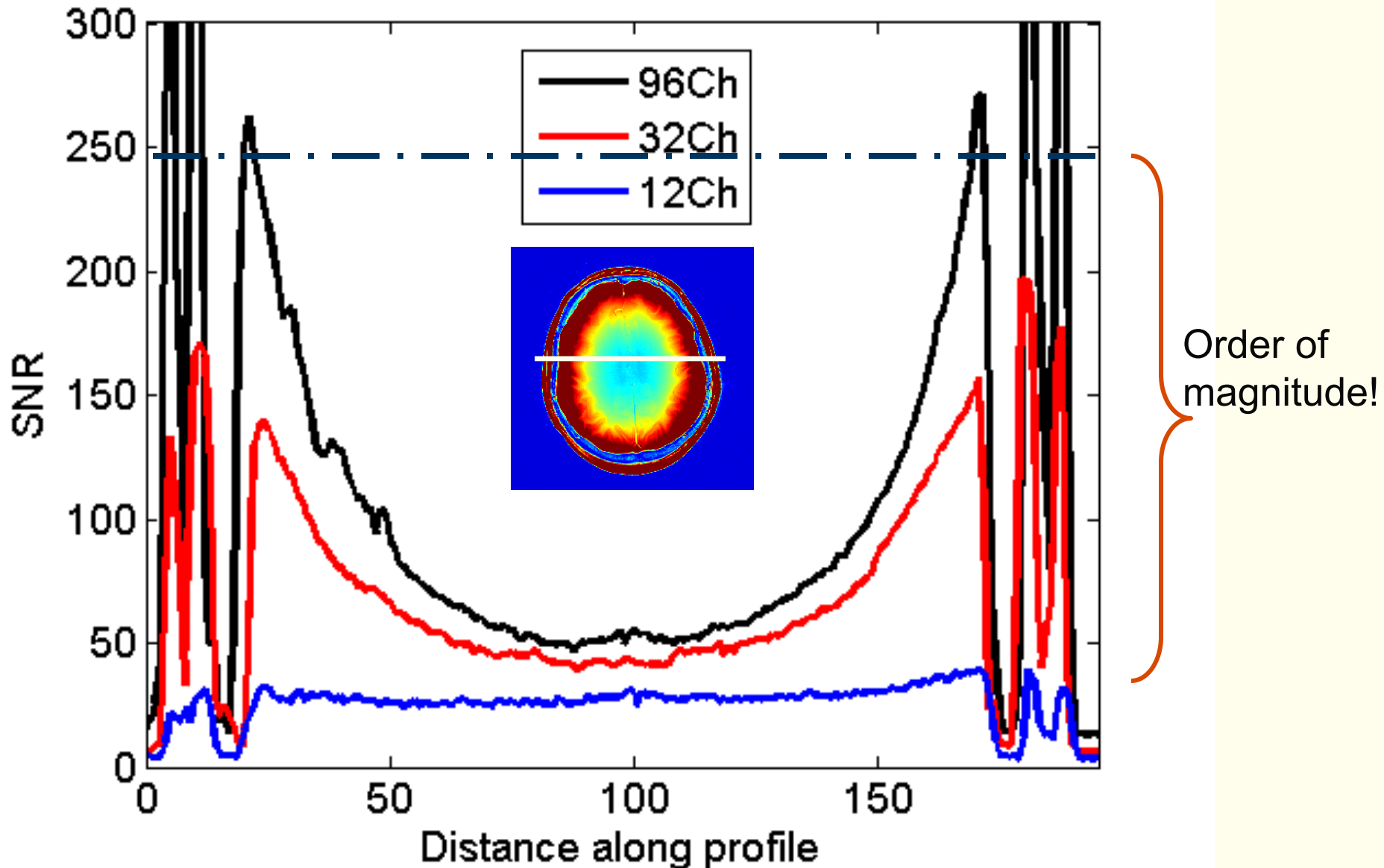


**Siemens  
12 Ch**





# Sensitivity Profiles (SNR)



# Bench-to-bedside translation via industrial partnership

Bench



**MGH prototype 32 channel brain array**

Bedside

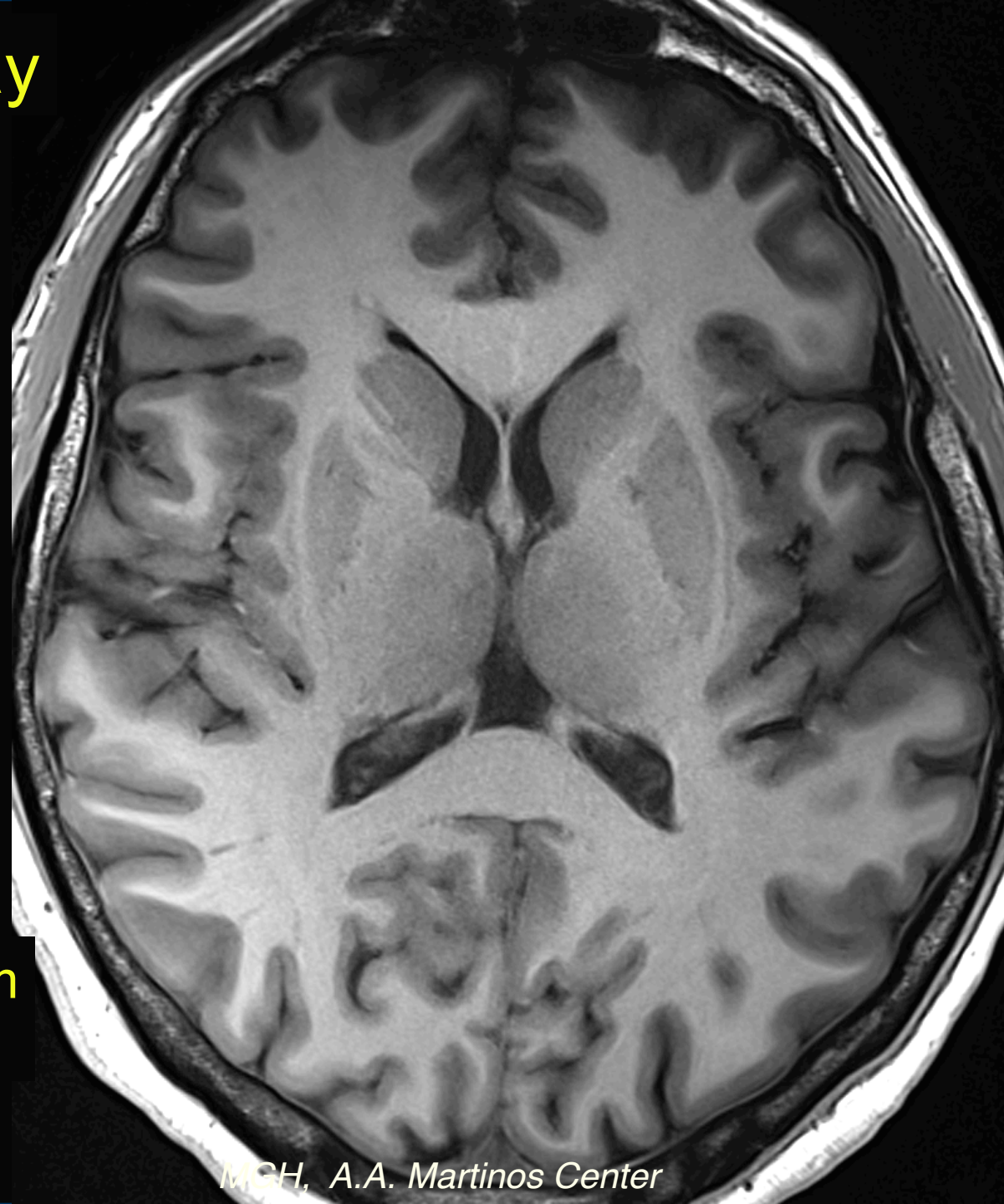


**Siemens 32 channel brain array**

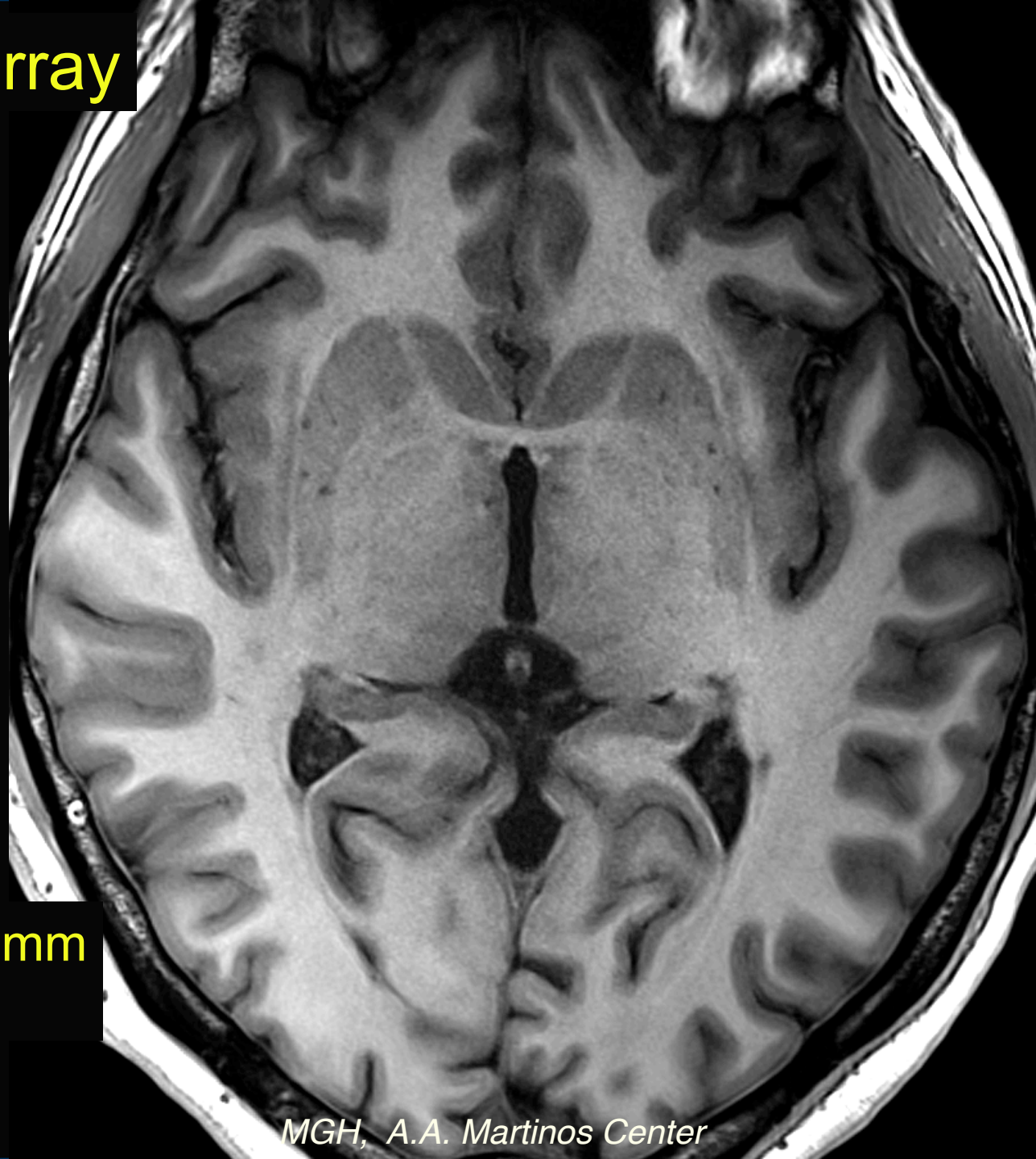
# 3T 32ch MGH array

Volume MPRAGE

400 $\mu$ m x 400 $\mu$ m x 1.5mm  
= 240nl



# 3T 32ch MGH array

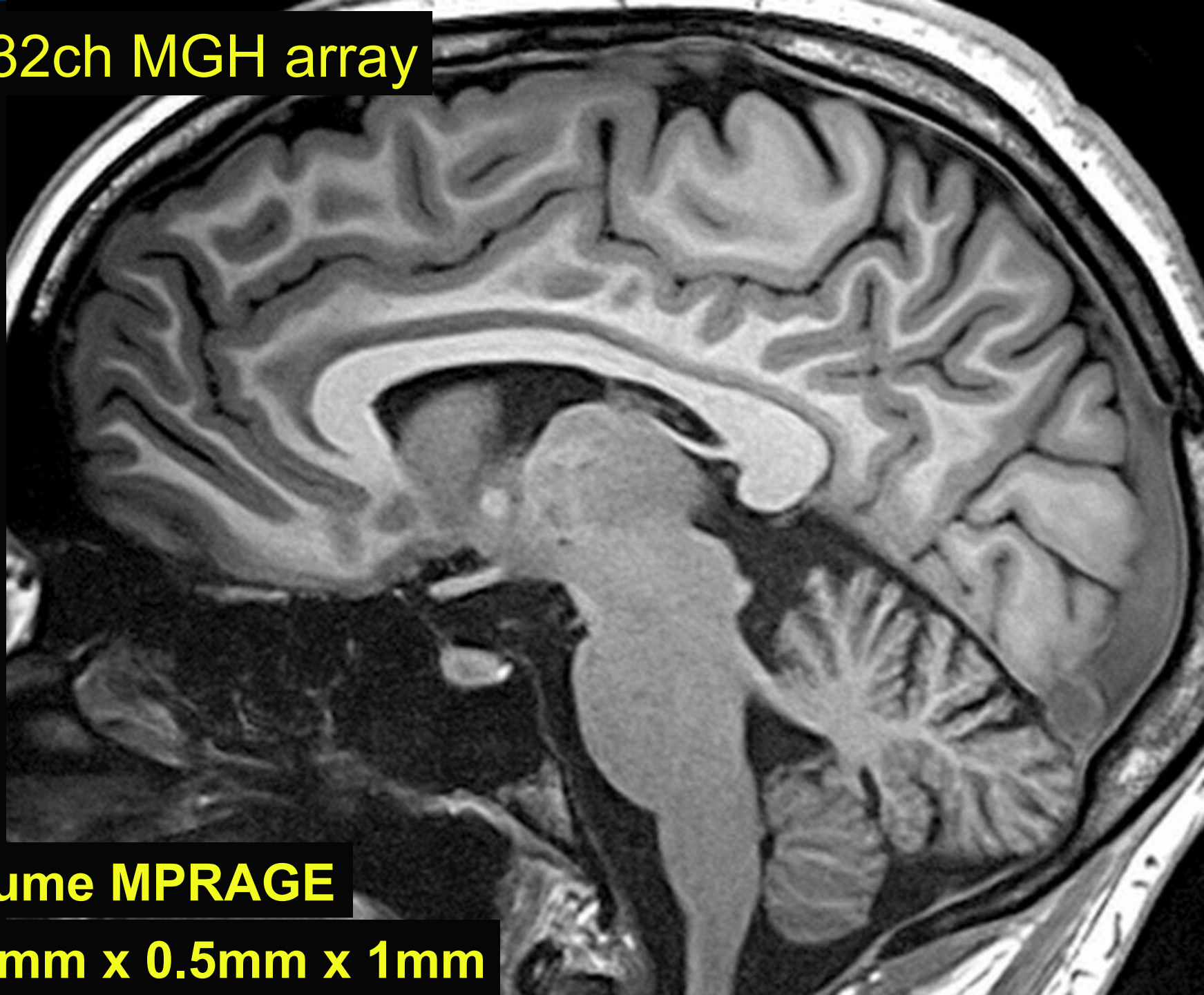


Volume MPRAGE

400um x 400um x 1.5mm  
= 240nl



**3T 32ch MGH array**

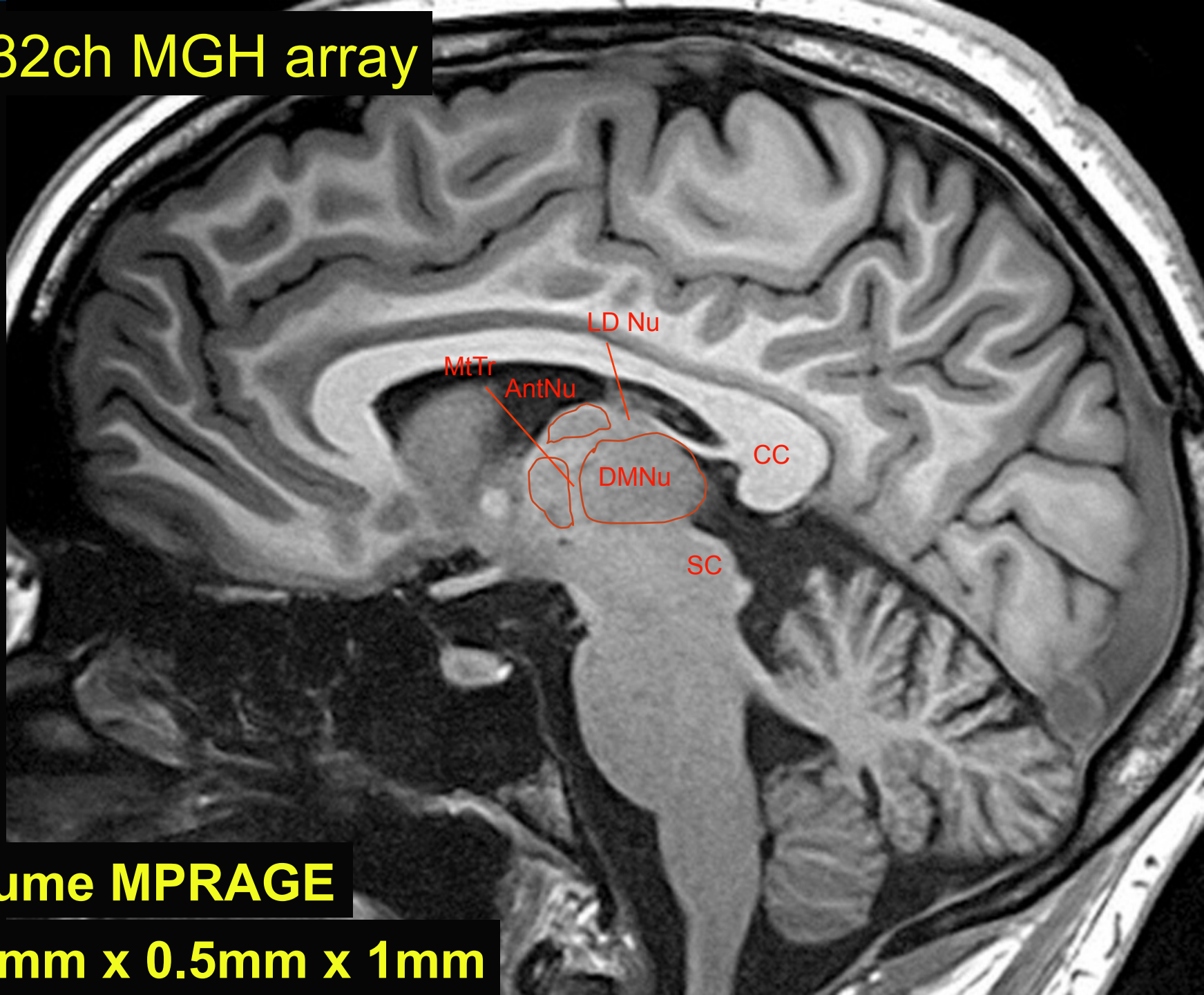


**Volume MPRAGE**

**0.5mm x 0.5mm x 1mm**



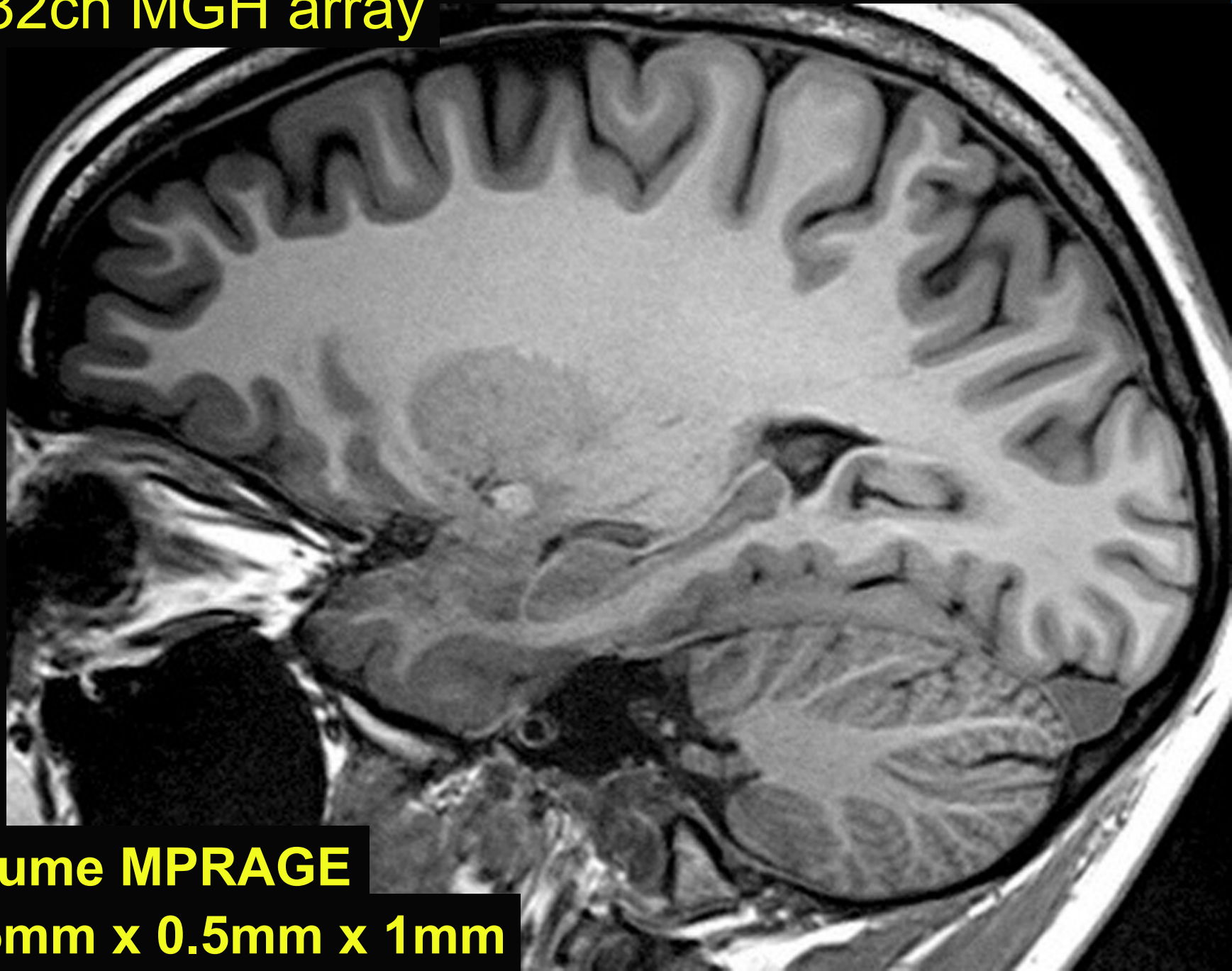
3T 32ch MGH array



Volume MPRAGE

0.5mm x 0.5mm x 1mm

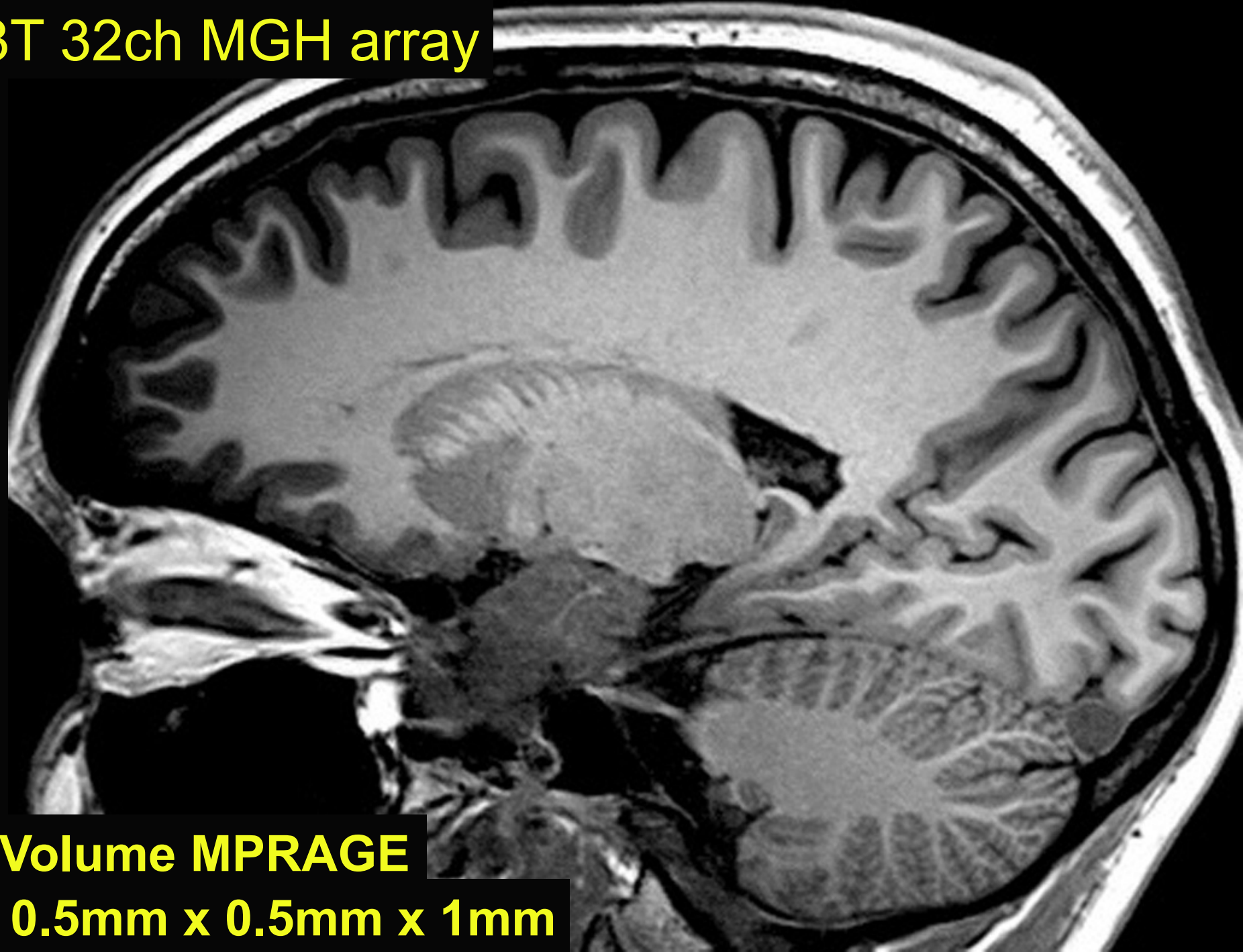
**3T 32ch MGH array**



**Volume MPRAGE**

**0.5mm x 0.5mm x 1mm**

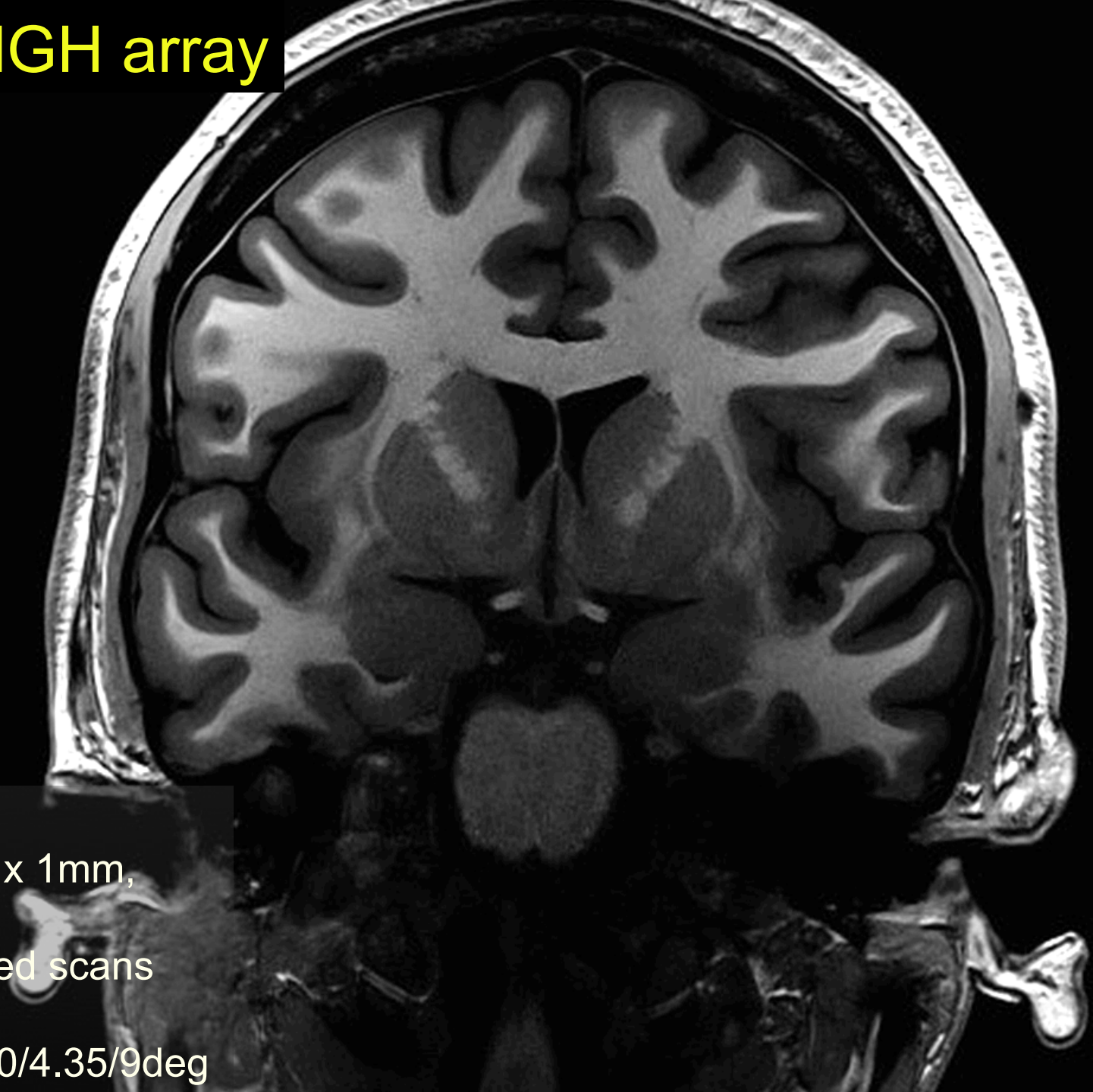
**3T 32ch MGH array**



**Volume MPRAGE**  
**0.5mm x 0.5mm x 1mm**



# 3T 32ch MGH array



3D MPRAGE

380um x 380um x 1mm,

Resol.=144nl

7 motion corrected scans

TI=900ms,

TR/TE/flip = 2250/4.35/9deg



# 3T 32ch MGH array

3D MPRAGE

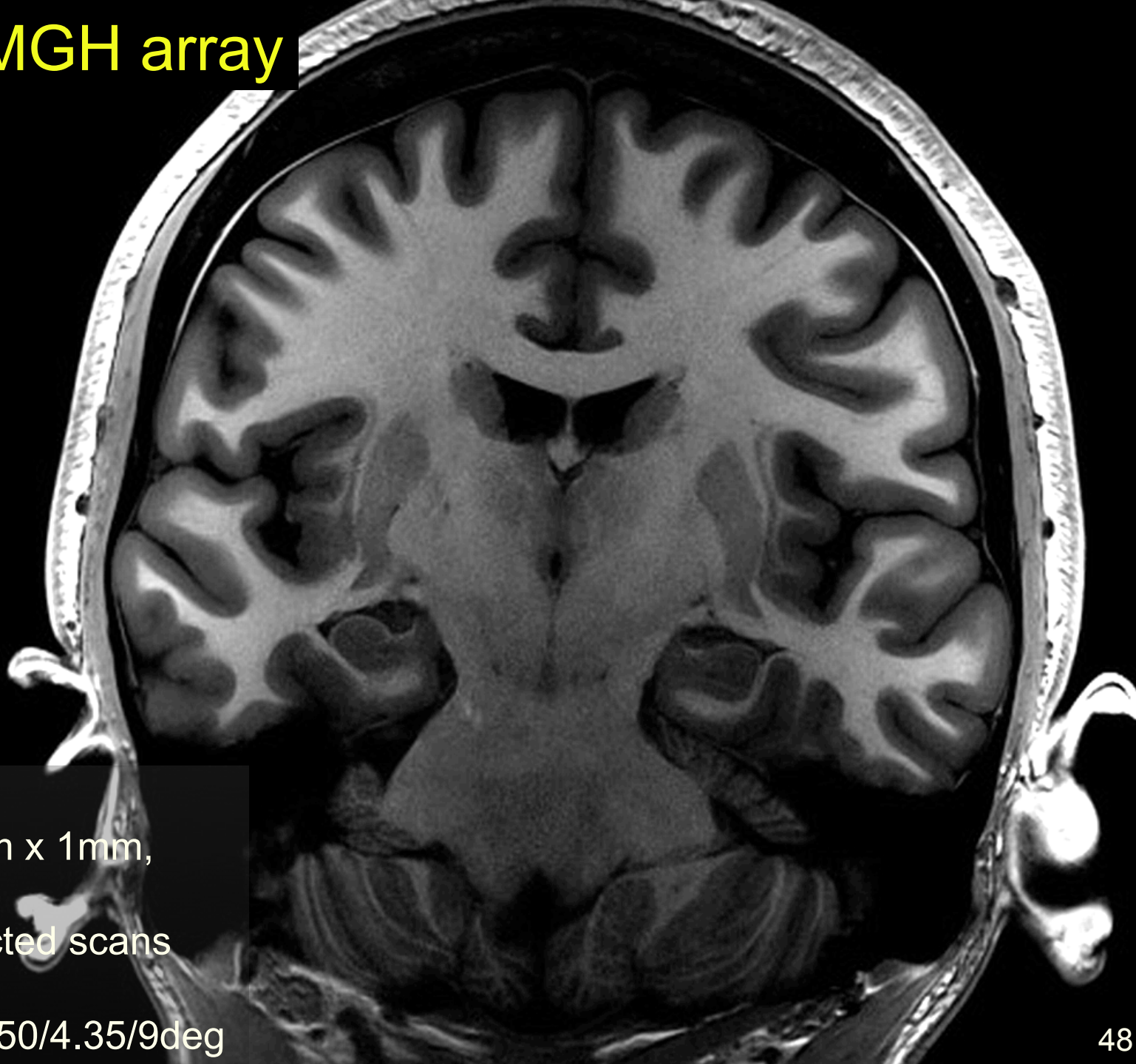
380um x 380um x 1mm,

Resol.=144nl

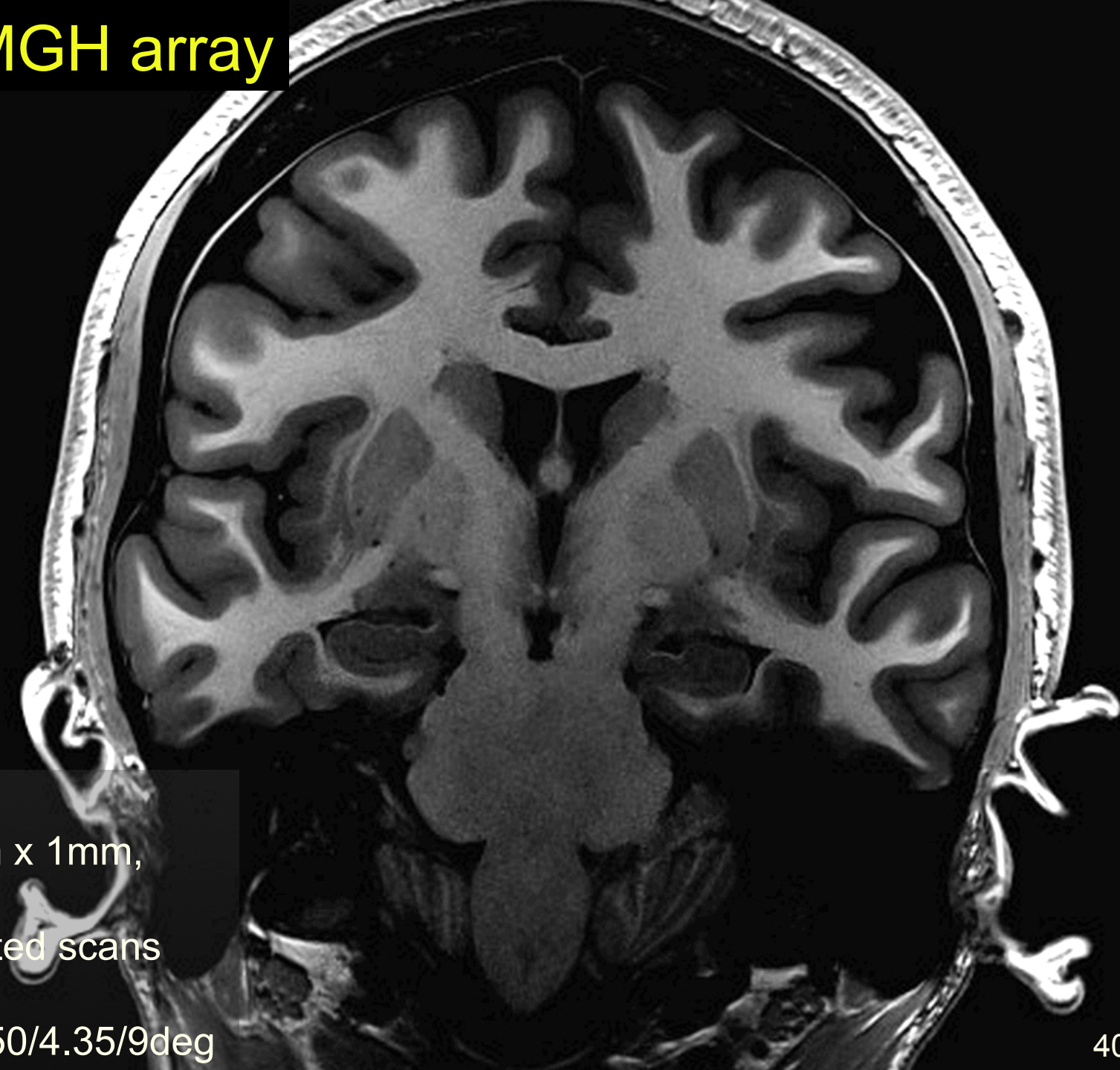
7 motion corrected scans

TI=900ms,

TR/TE/flip = 2250/4.35/9deg

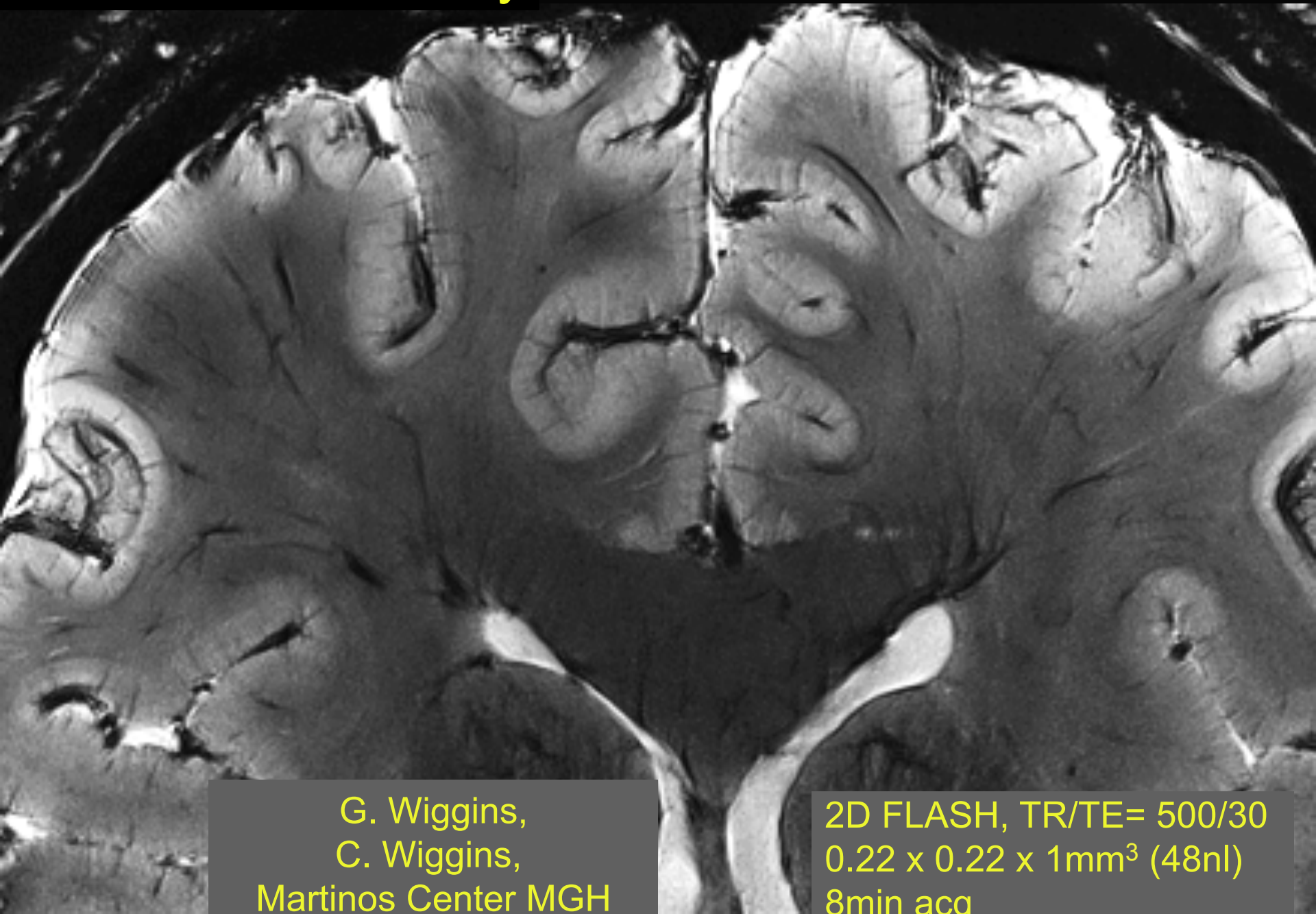


# 3T 32ch MGH array



3D MPRAGE  
380um x 380um x 1mm,  
Resol.=144nl  
7 motion corrected scans  
TI=900ms,  
TR/TE/flip = 2250/4.35/9deg

# 7T 32ch MGH array



G. Wiggins,  
C. Wiggins,  
Martinos Center MGH

2D FLASH, TR/TE= 500/30  
0.22 x 0.22 x 1mm<sup>3</sup> (48nl)  
8min acq



2007\_08\_24\_7T\_15

AH

Martinos Center Bay 5

TrioTim

MR B13

HFS

+LPH

1  
\*1/1/1988, M, 19Y

STUDY 1  
8/24/2007  
4:29:23 PM  
19 IMA 7 / 9

**7 Tesla  
230um**

R

1 cm

MF 2.94

TR 500.0  
TE 25.0

**2D FLASH,  
0.23 x 0.23 x 1.5mm<sup>3</sup>  
8min acq**

TP 0  
SP F4.3  
SL 1.5  
FoV 208\*238  
896\*1024  
Tra>Cor(-7.5)  
W 2600  
C 1184



2007\_08\_24\_7T\_15

AH

Martinos Center Bay 5

TrioTim

MR B13

HFS

+LPH

\*1/1/1988, M, 19Y

STUDY 1

8/24/2007

4:18:54 PM

16 IMA 2 / 9

**7 Tesla  
230um**

R



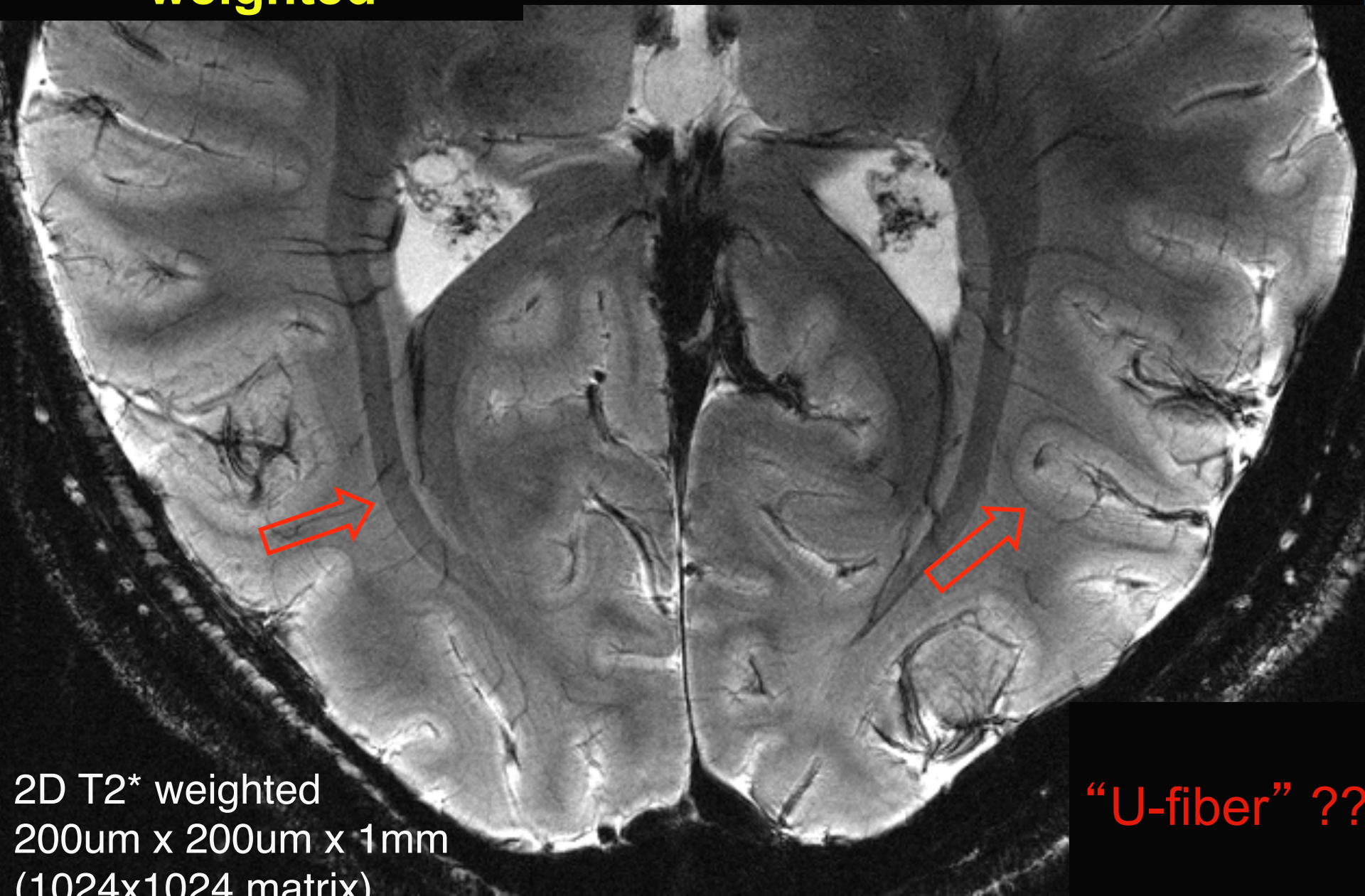
1cm

MF 3.37

**2D FLASH,  
0.23 x 0.23 x 1.5mm<sup>3</sup>  
8min acq**

TP 0  
SP F21.0  
SL 1.5  
FoV 208\*238  
896\*1024s

# 7T Highres T2\* weighted

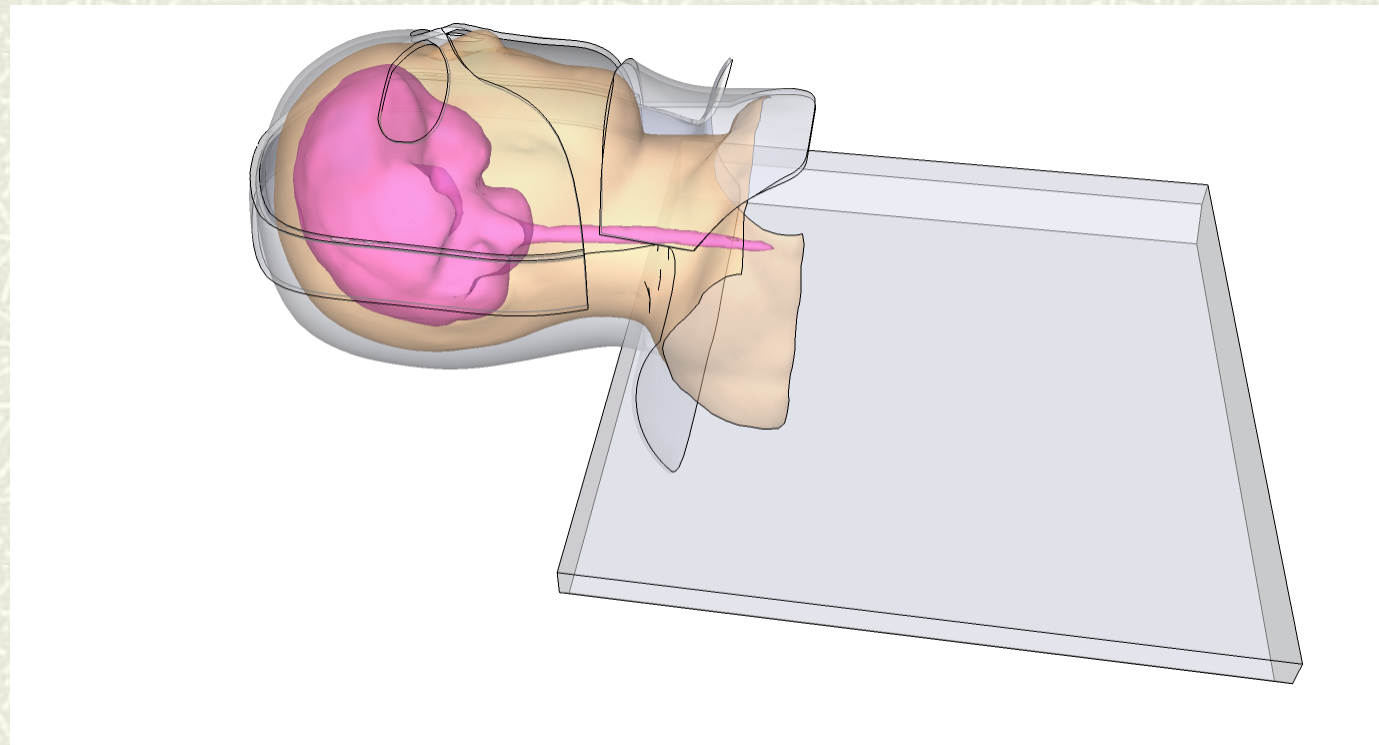


2D T2\* weighted  
200um x 200um x 1mm  
(1024x1024 matrix)

“U-fiber” ??

# 64ch head-neck-Cspine prototype

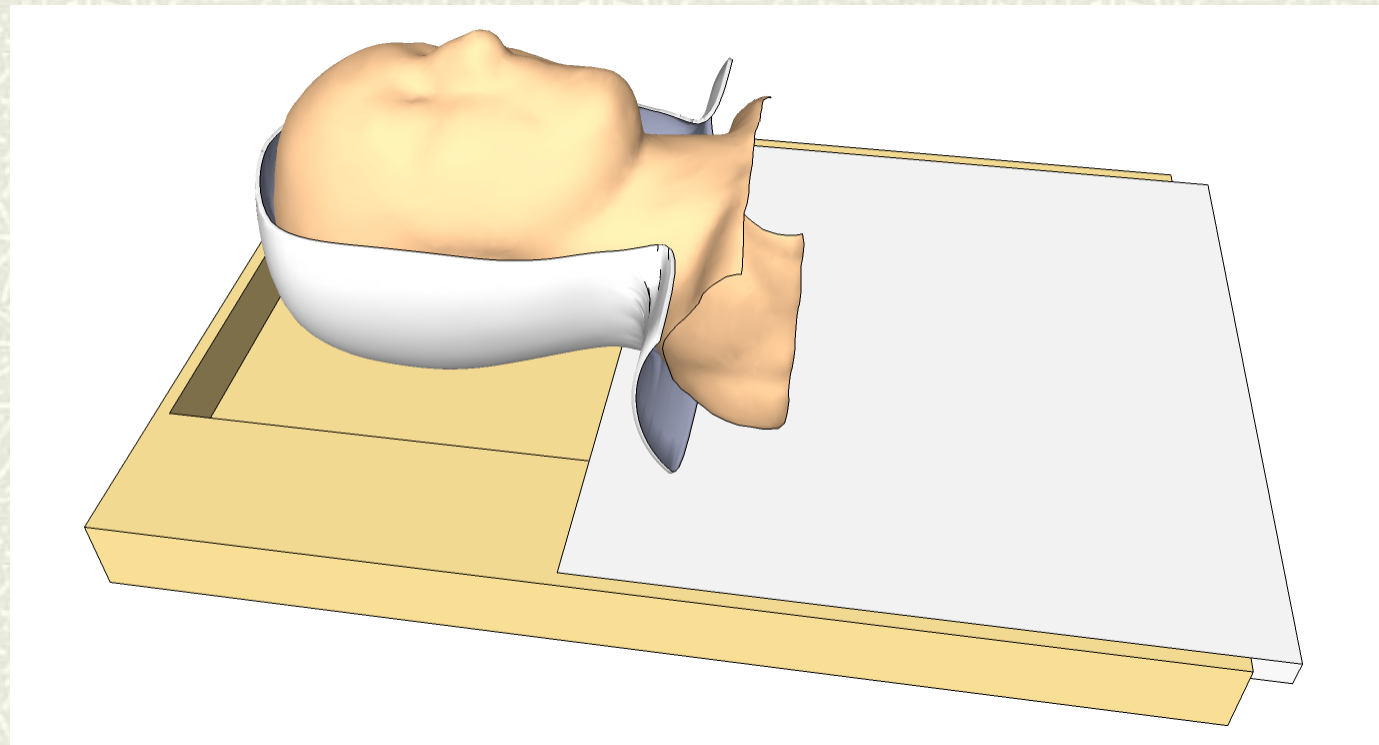
Build around statistical head-shape from MR images





# 64ch head-neck-Cspine prototype

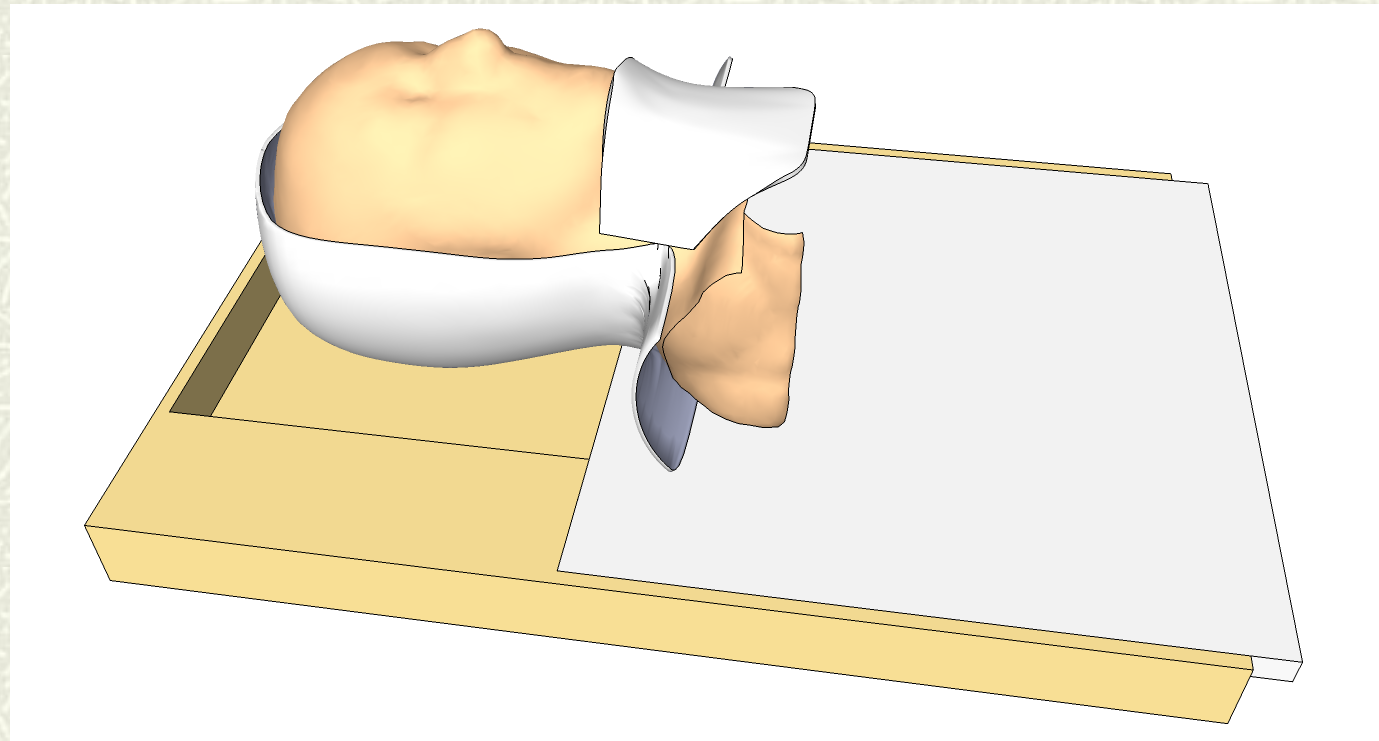
Build around statistical head-shape from MR images





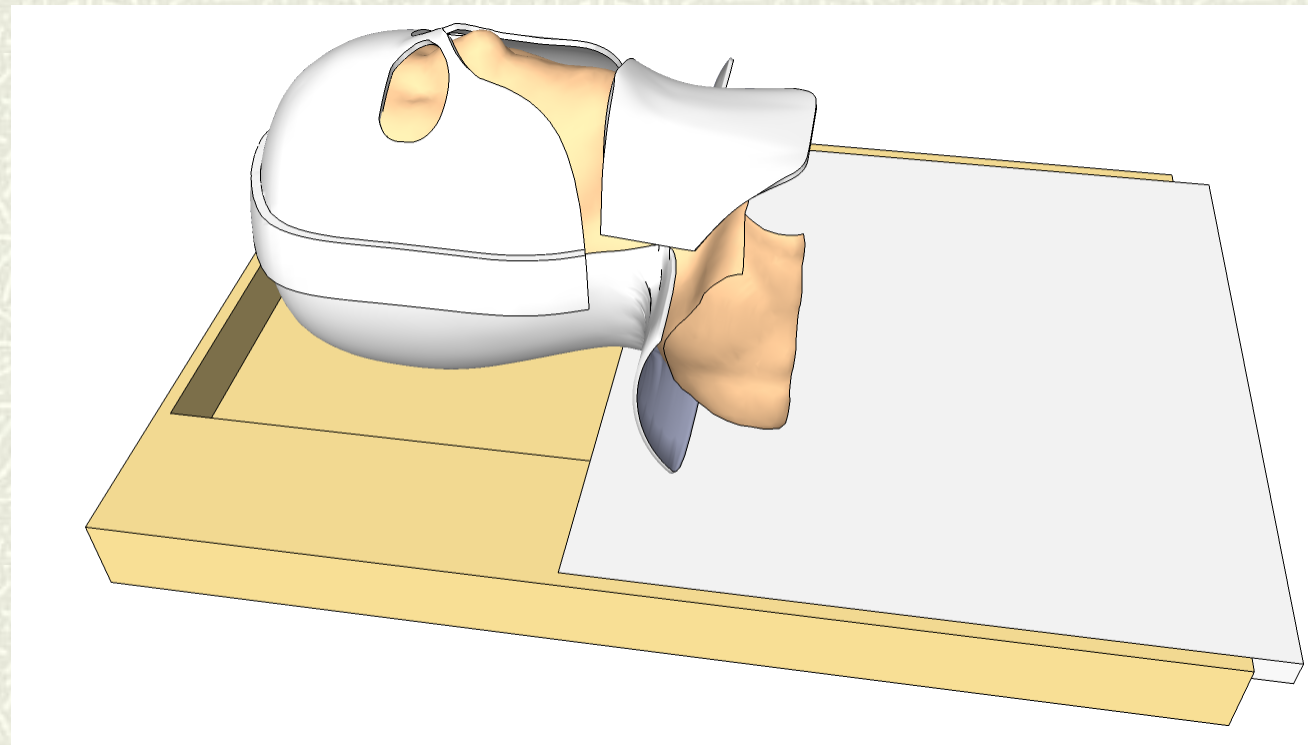
# 64ch head-neck-Cspine prototype

Build around statistical head-shape from MR images



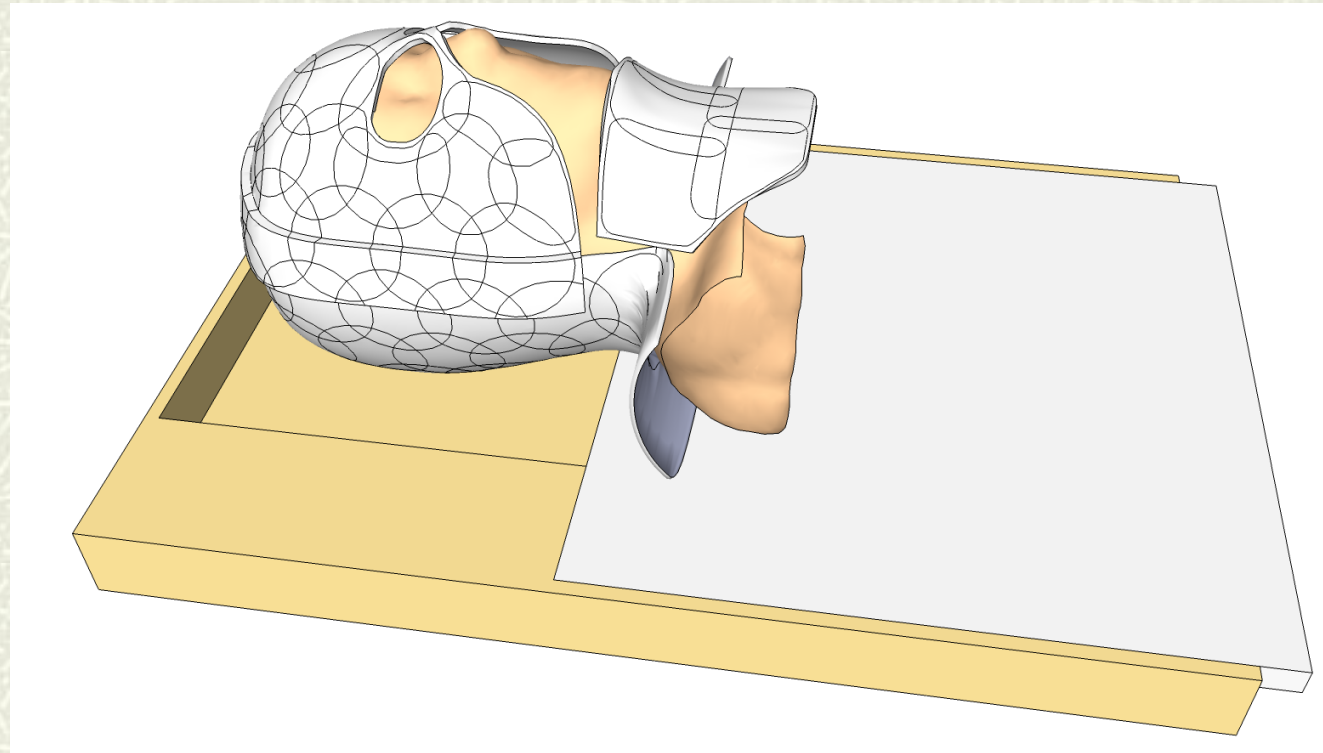
# 64ch head-neck-Cspine prototype

Build around statistical head-shape from MR images



# 64ch head-neck-Cspine prototype

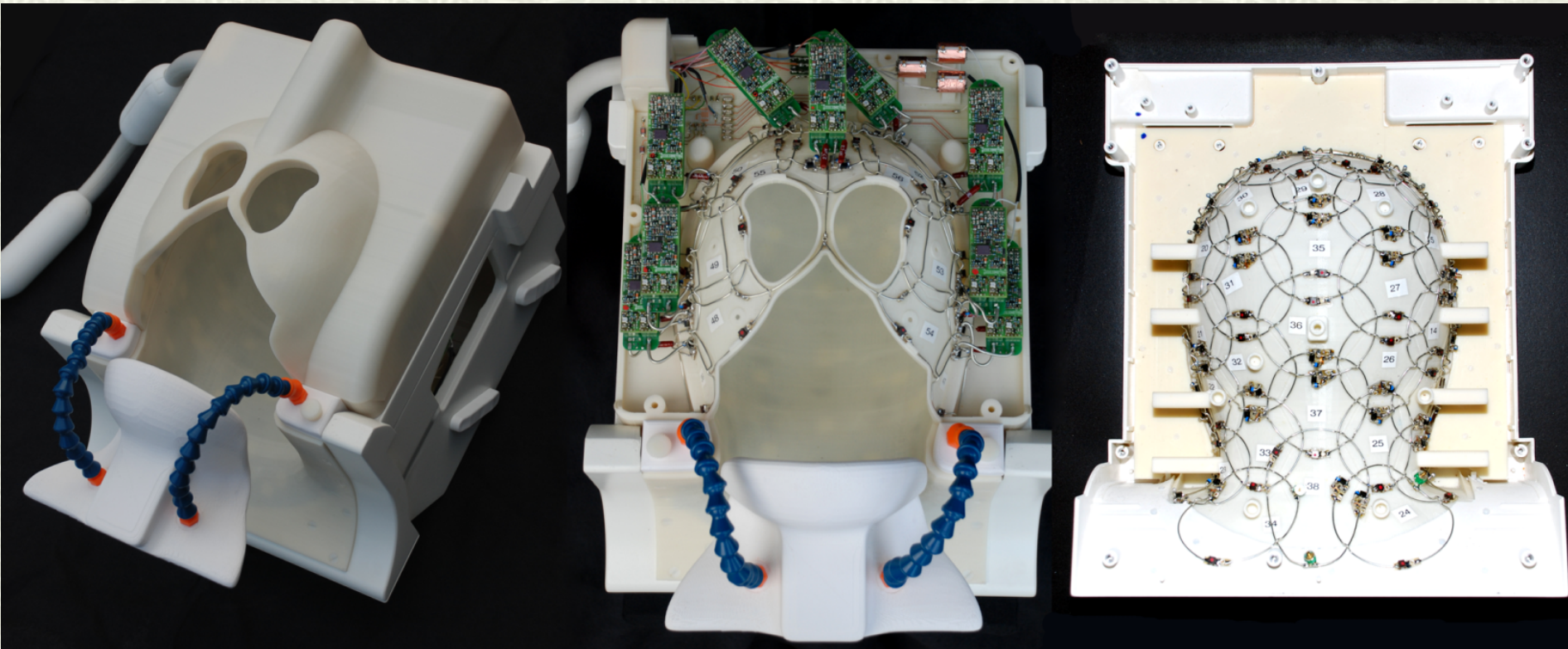
Build around statistical head-shape from MR images





# 64ch head-neck-Cspine prototype

Build around statistical head-shape from MR images

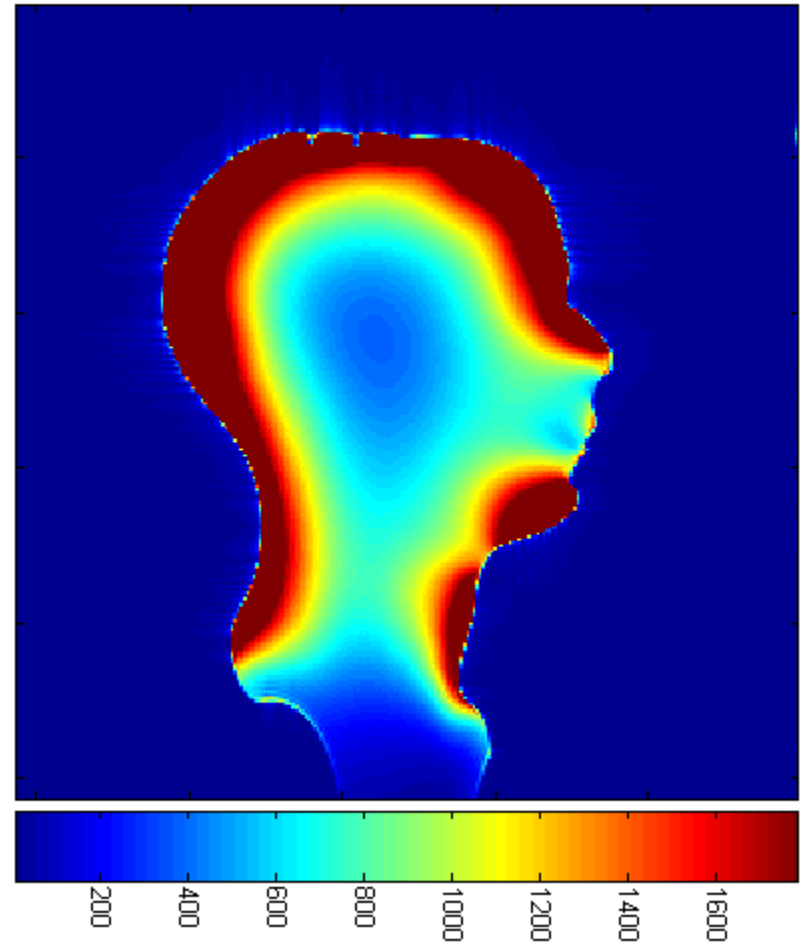




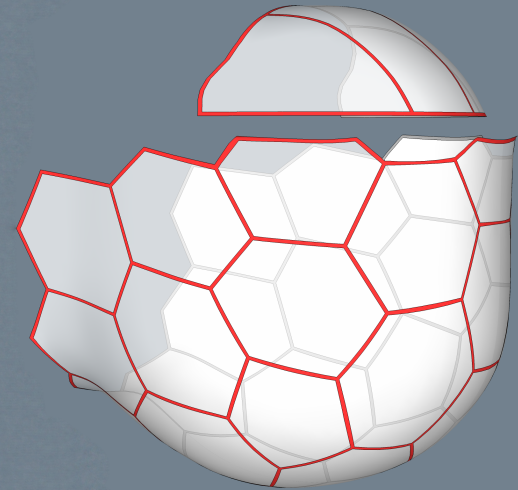
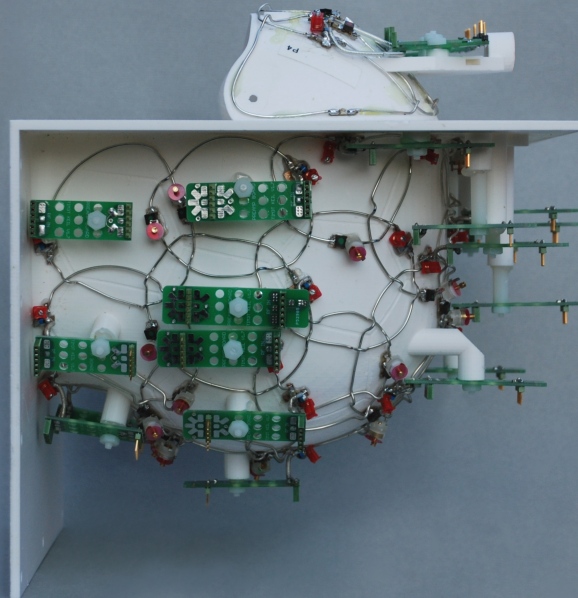
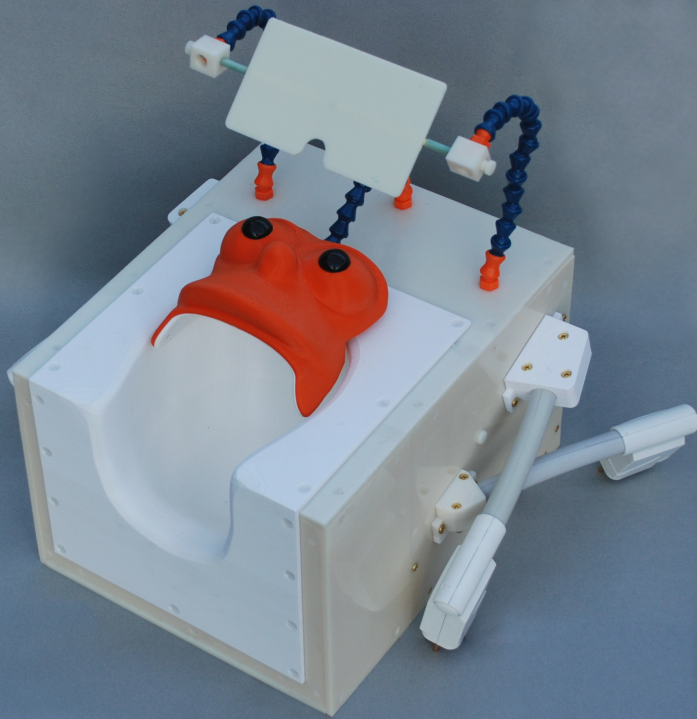
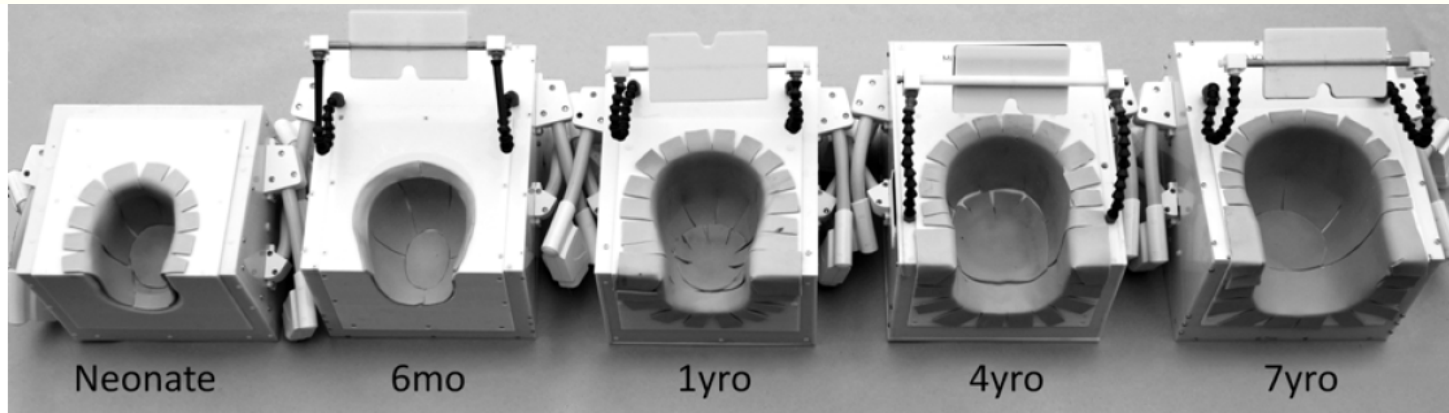
# Sensitivity comparison

20CH Head-Neck (Siemens)

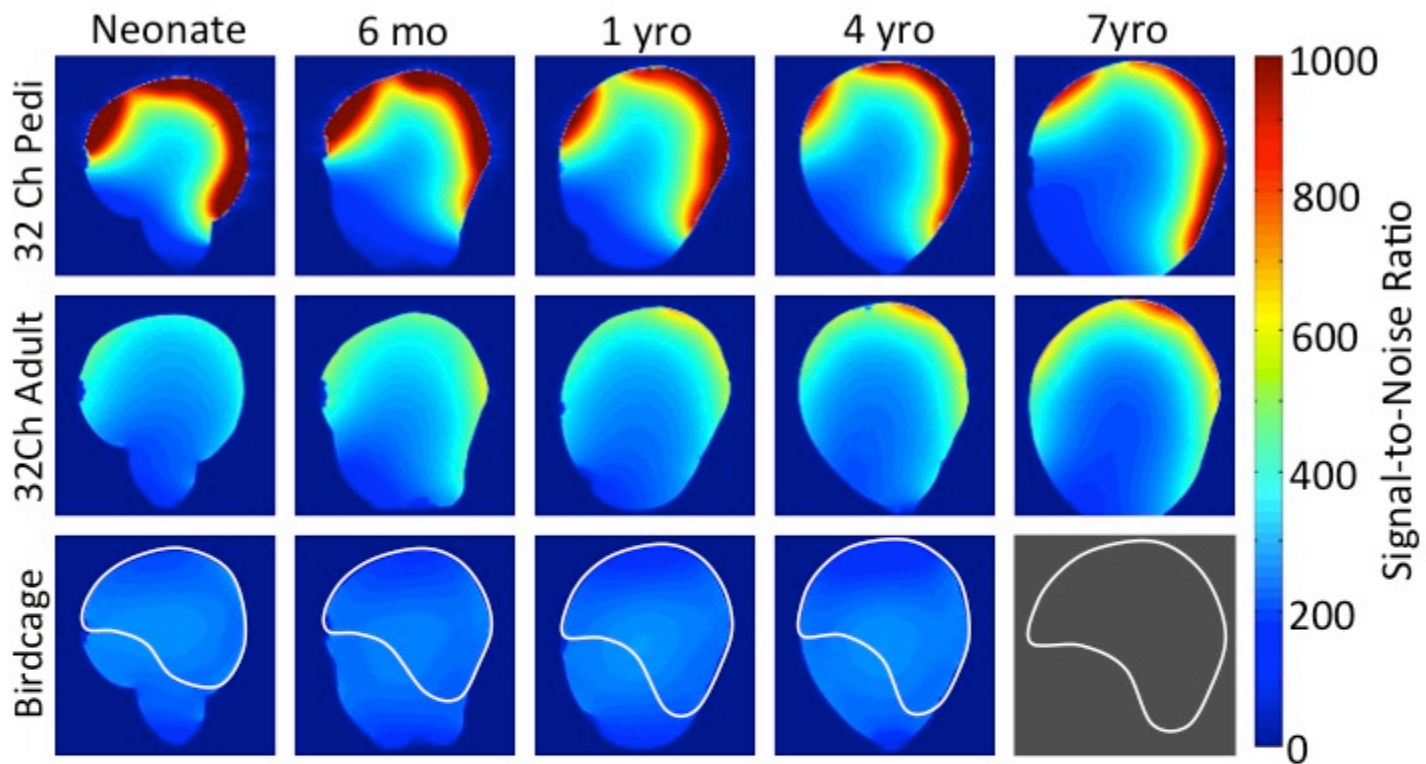
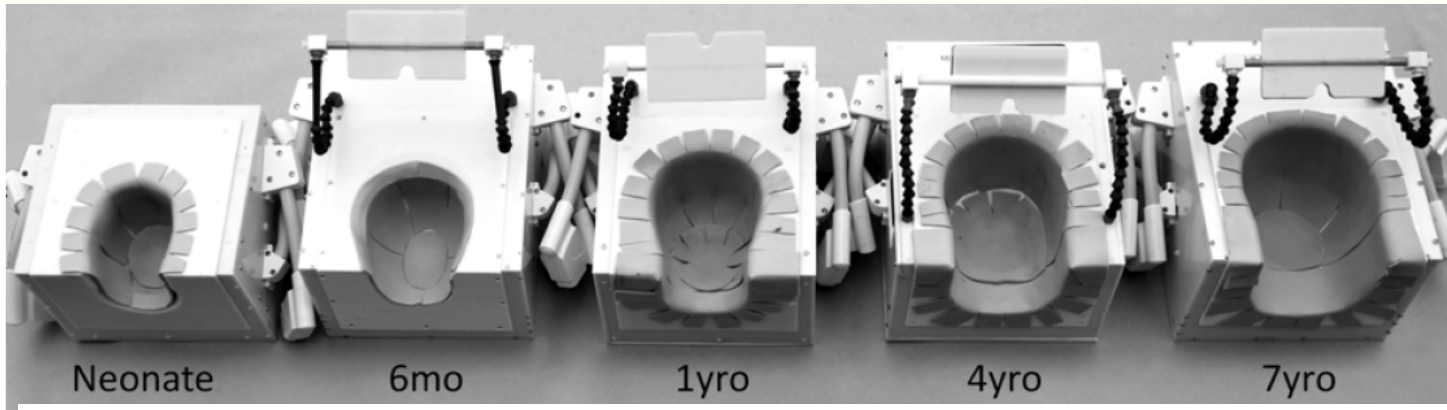
64CH-Head-Neck (MGH)



# SNR in 32ch Pediatric arrays

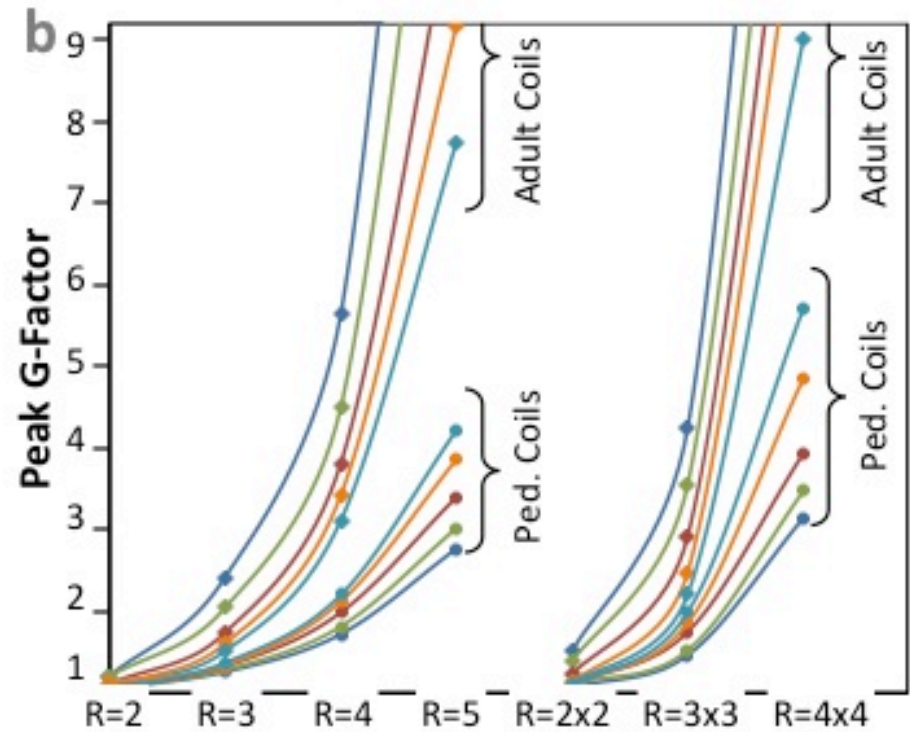
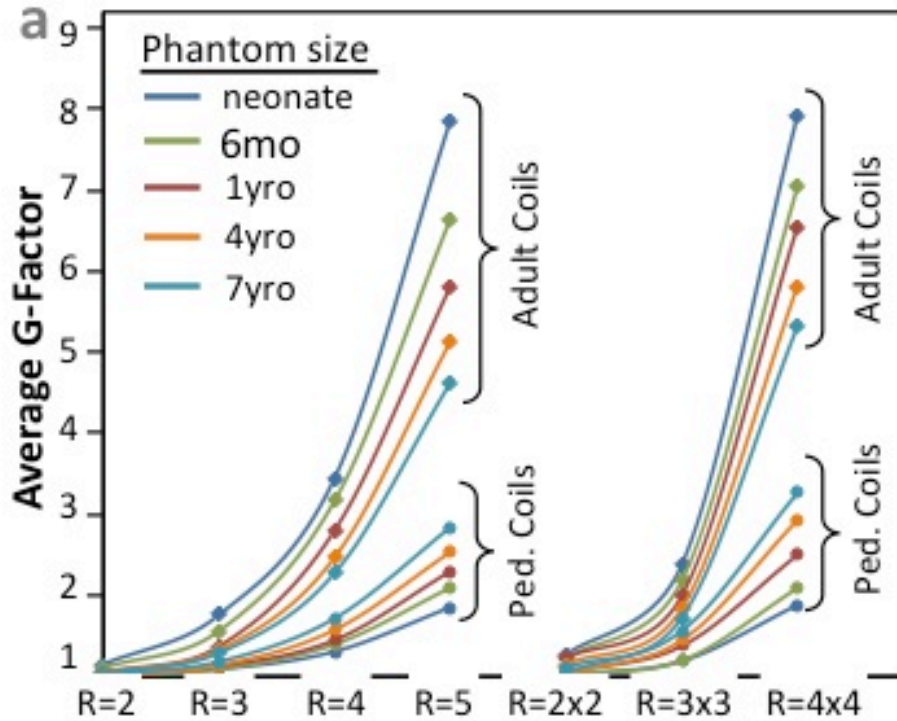
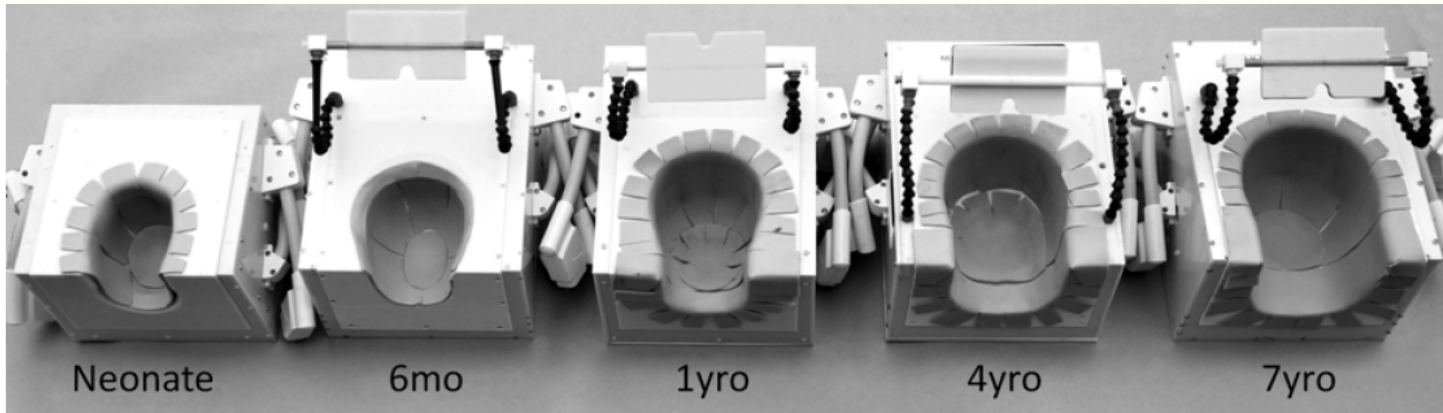


# SNR in 32ch Pediatric arrays



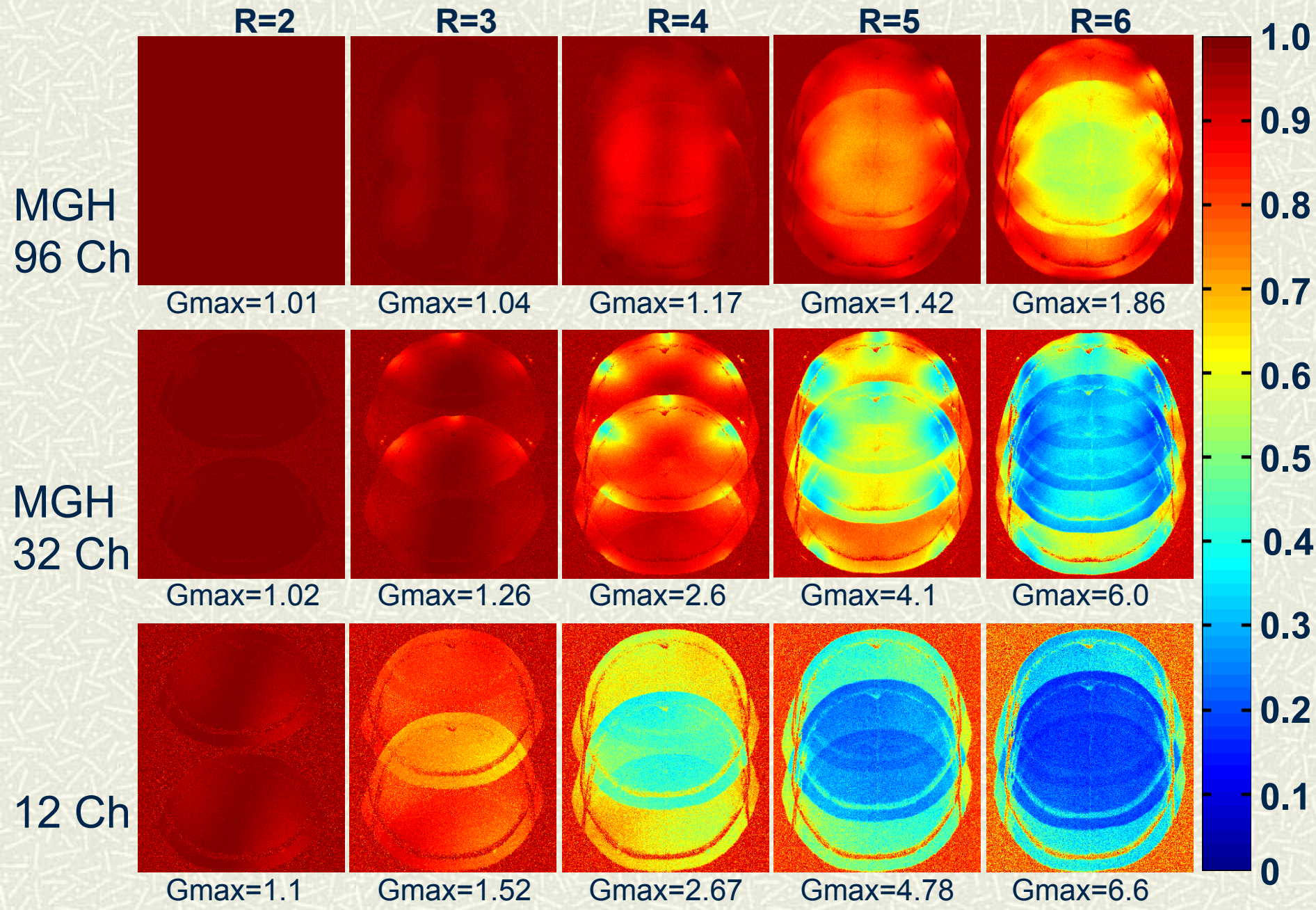


# G-factor in 32ch Pediatric arrays



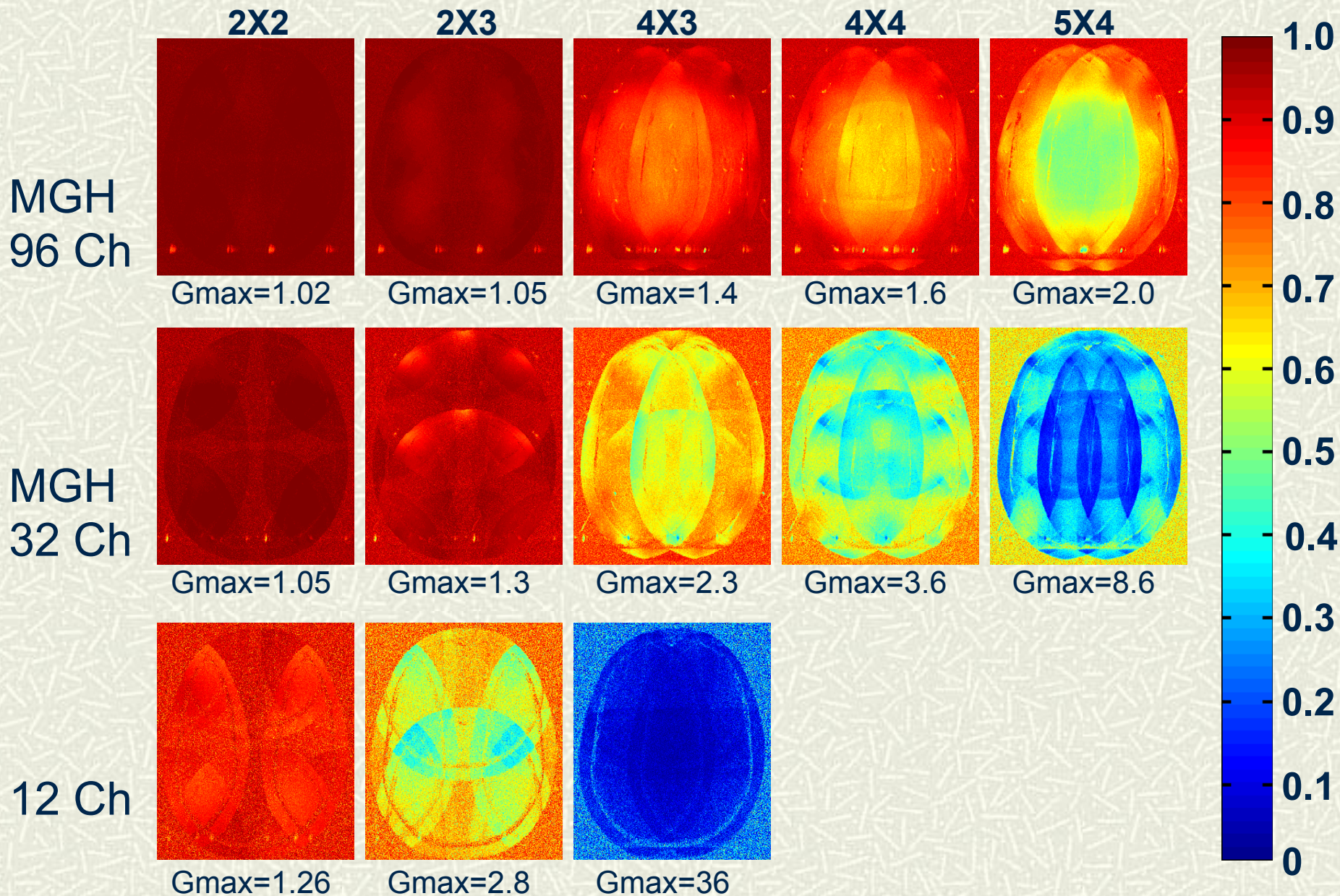


# 1/G-factor Maps, 3 Tesla, adult arrays





# 1/G-factor, 2D Acceleration



# 3T 32ch Flash with R=12x

1mm isotropic,  
acquisition =  
1:20

TR = 12  
TE = 4.7  
Flip=15  
BW = 130  
Norm



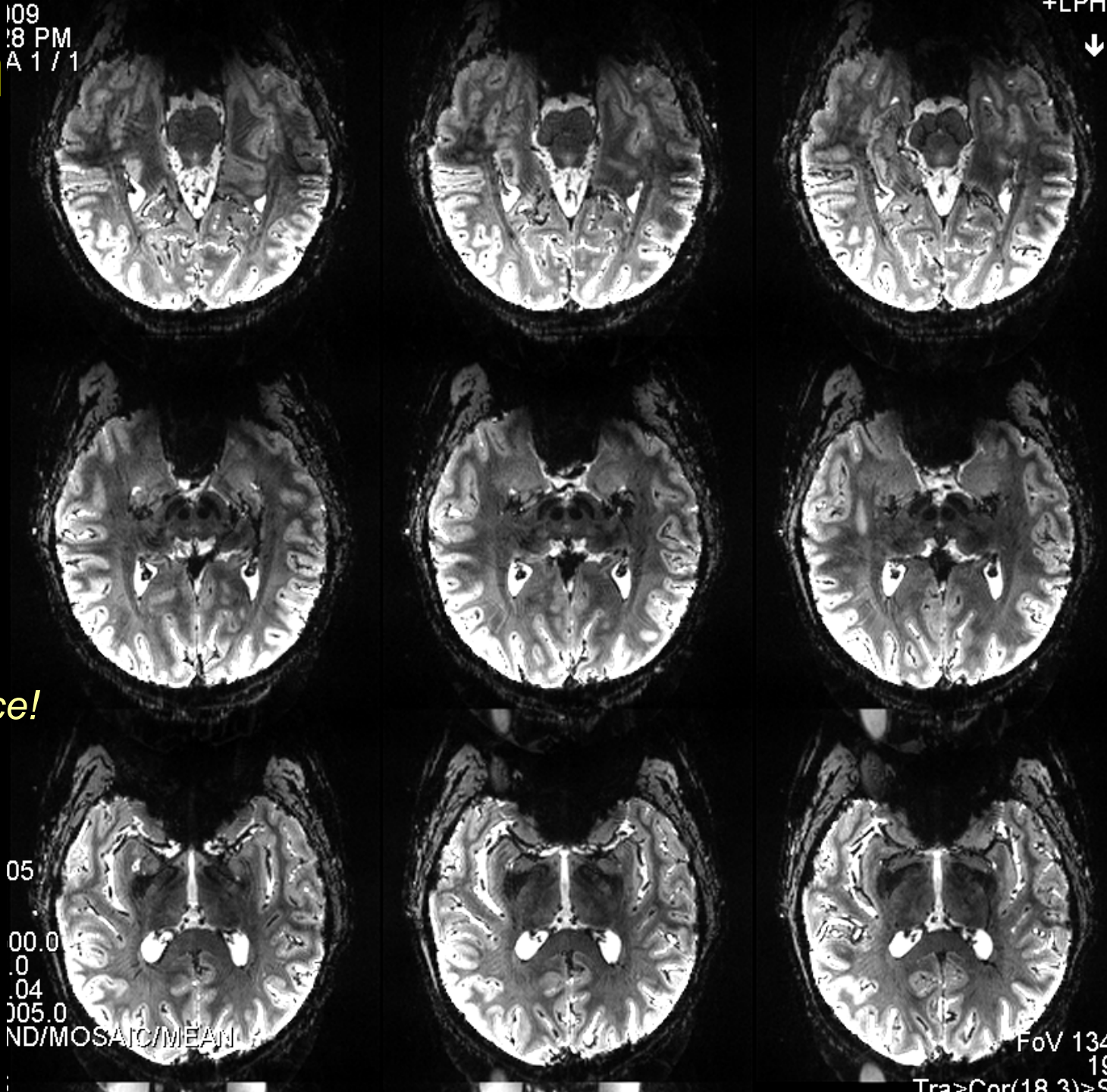
Courtesy: Mathias Nittka, Siemens Medical Solutions  
MGH, A.A. Martinos Center



# 0.75mm 7T fMRI

7T  
0.75mm isotropic  
Single shot EPI  
32ch  
R=3 Grappa

*<100ms per slice!*



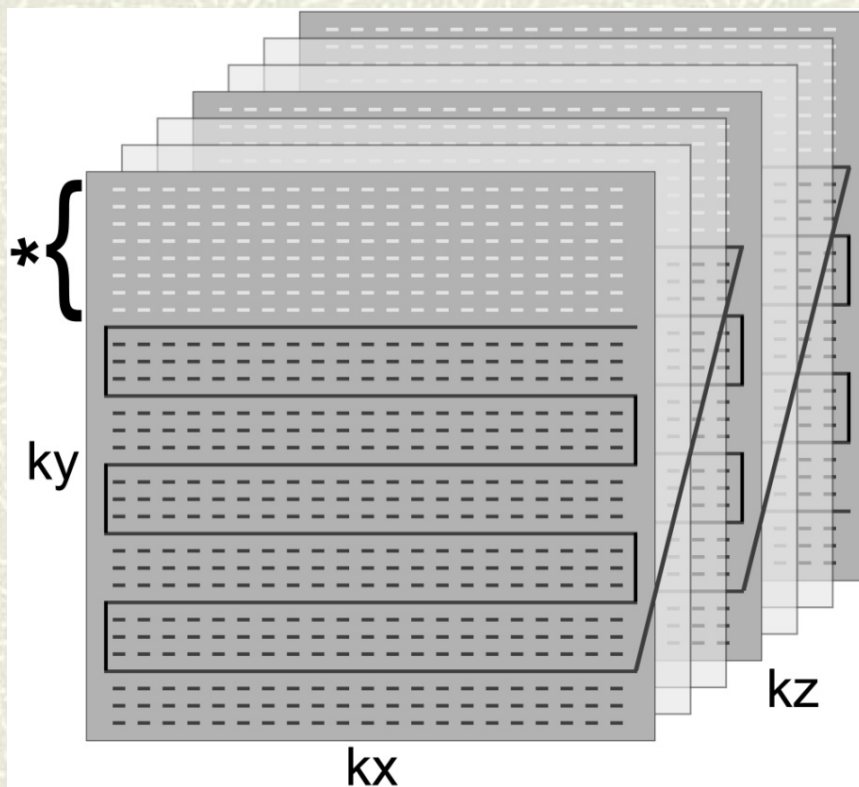


# Do something new; Single Shot Echo-Volumnar Imaging (EVI)

64x64x56 matrix, 3.4mm isotropic resolution, 32 channel coil

16x acceleration + 6/8 PF = 21 fold reduction in distortion

3D EVI  
K-space  
trajectory

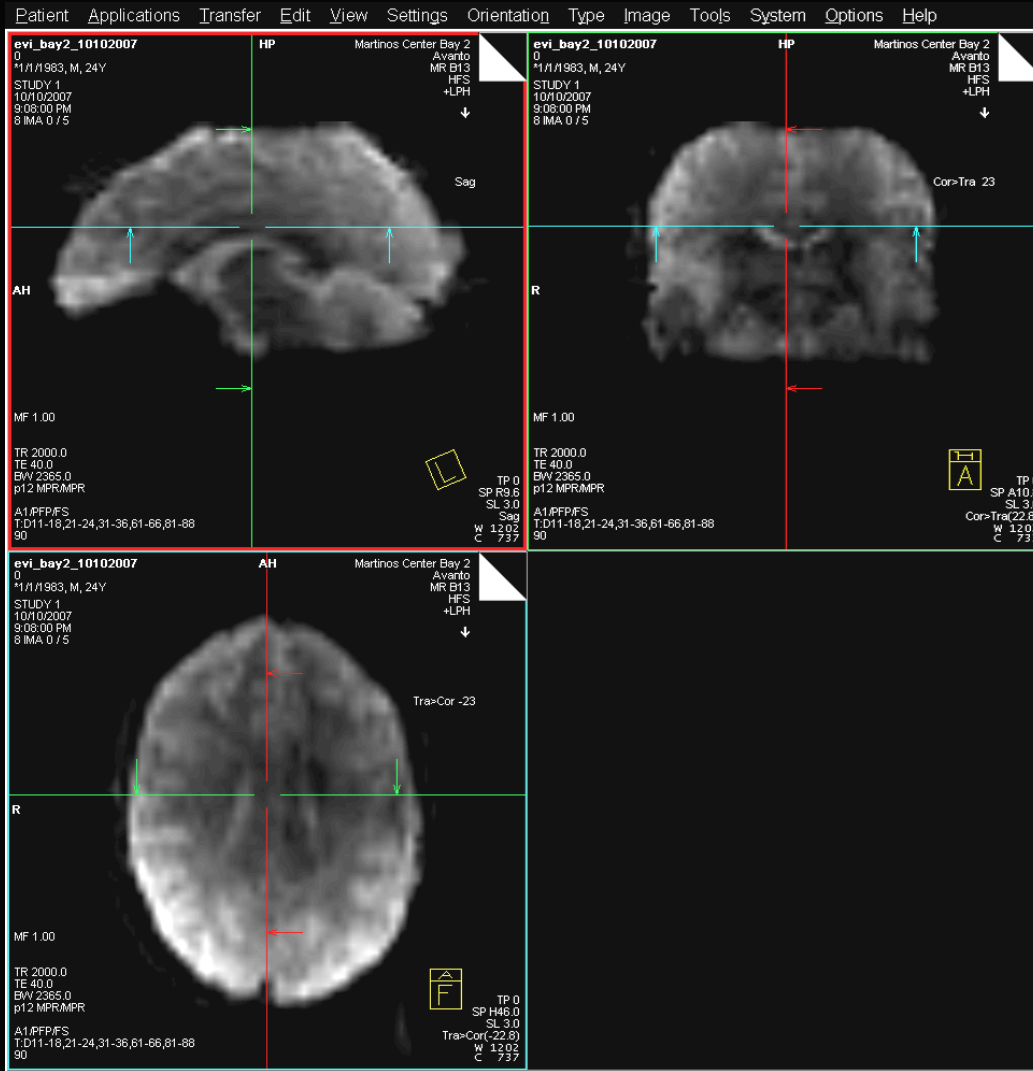


readout ~ 80ms

**Whole-head  
in 100ms**

# EVI: Whole brain imaging at 5 fps

Single shot, 64 x 64 x 48, 3mm isotropic



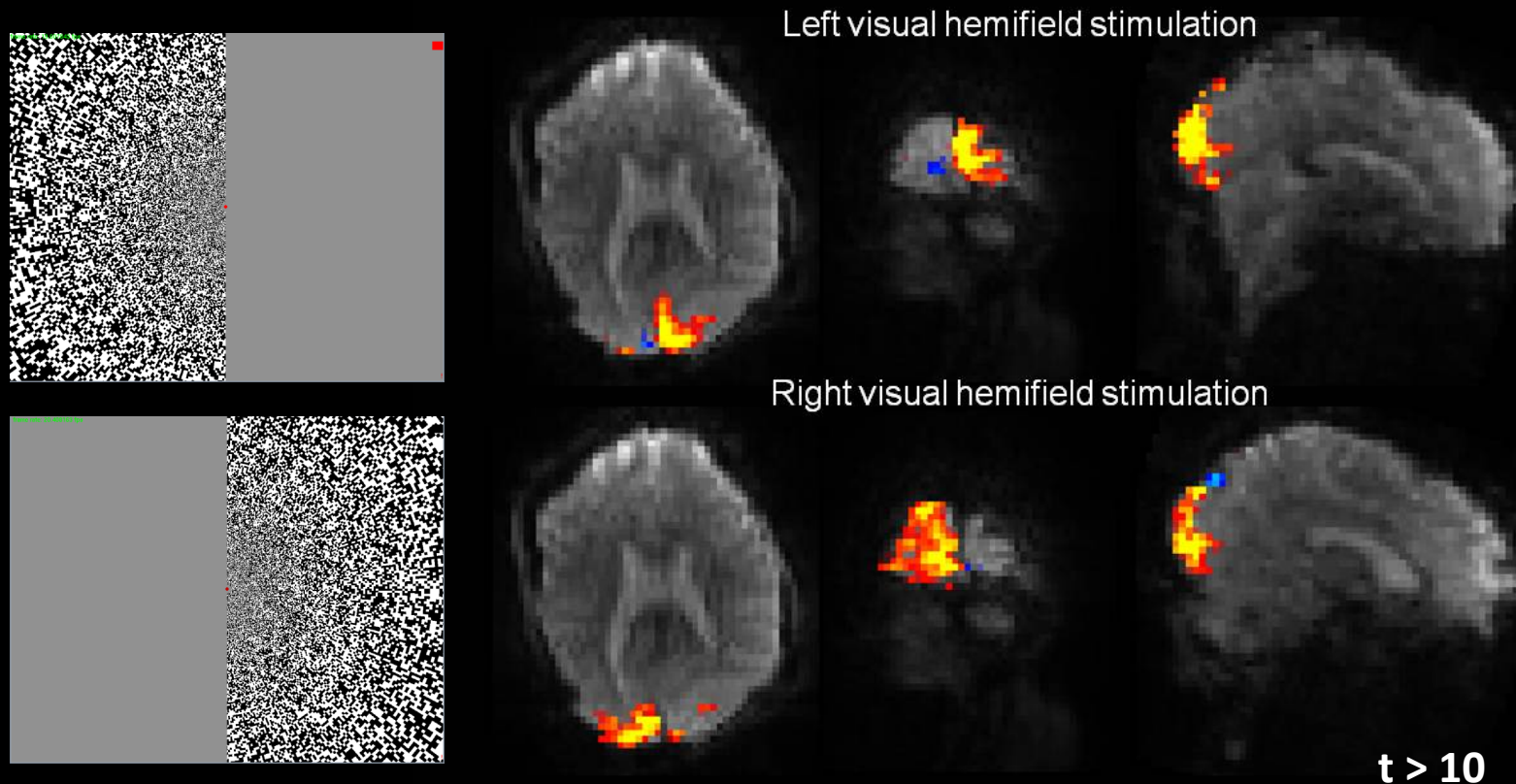
Unaccelerated, would be 3000 lines of PE

$R=12$ ,  $PF=6/8$

Whole head w/ 192 lines

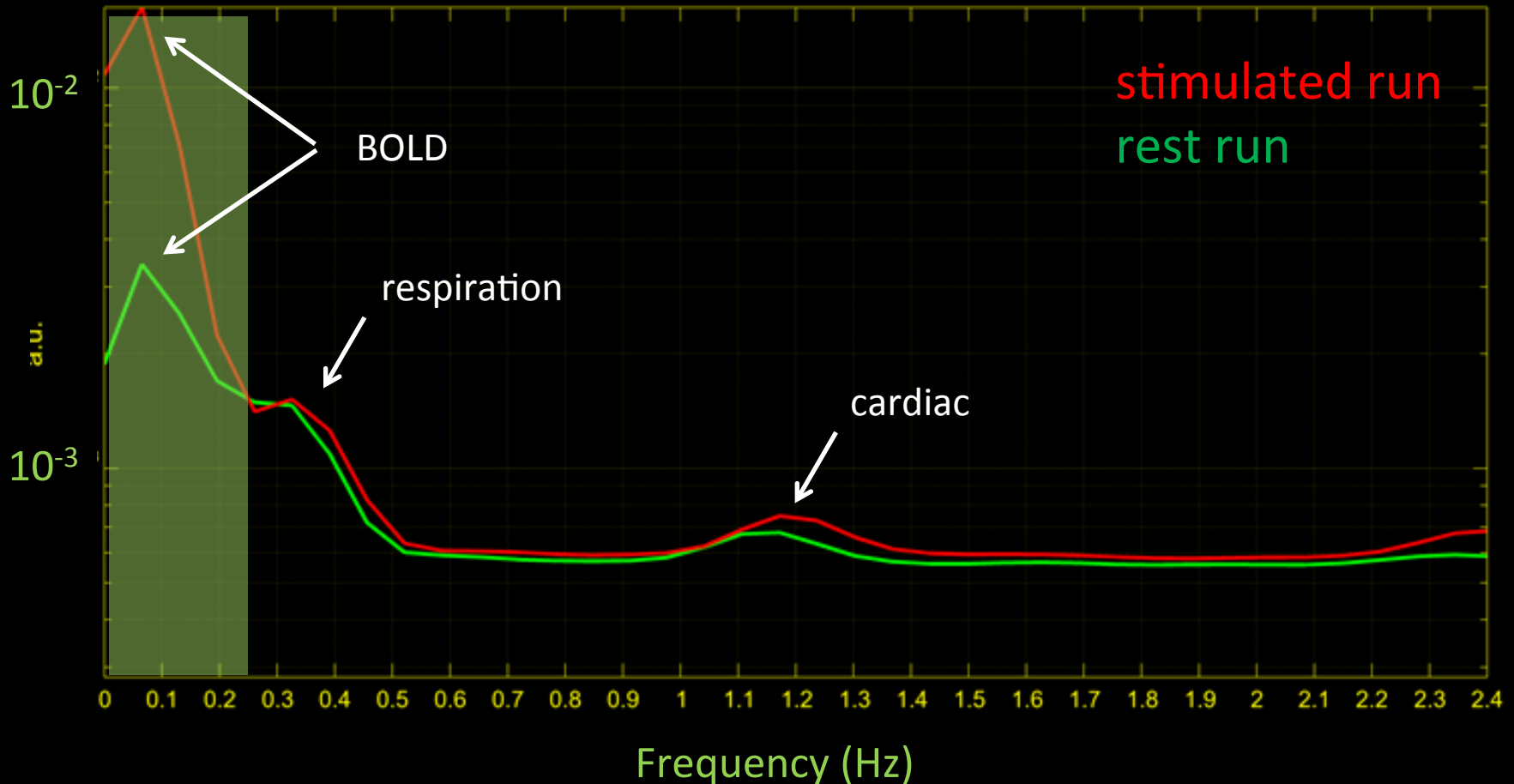
32ch coil, 1.5T  
 $R=3 \times 4$  (12x)  
accel

# 3T fMRI: results hemifield task



- 8 runs of 4 randomized trials each (950 TRs), block design 16s ON/10s OFF
- Basic GLM in MATLAB for fMRI analysis, fixed effects combination of runs
- Expected contralateral activity can be observed

# Power Spectral Analysis: V1 voxels

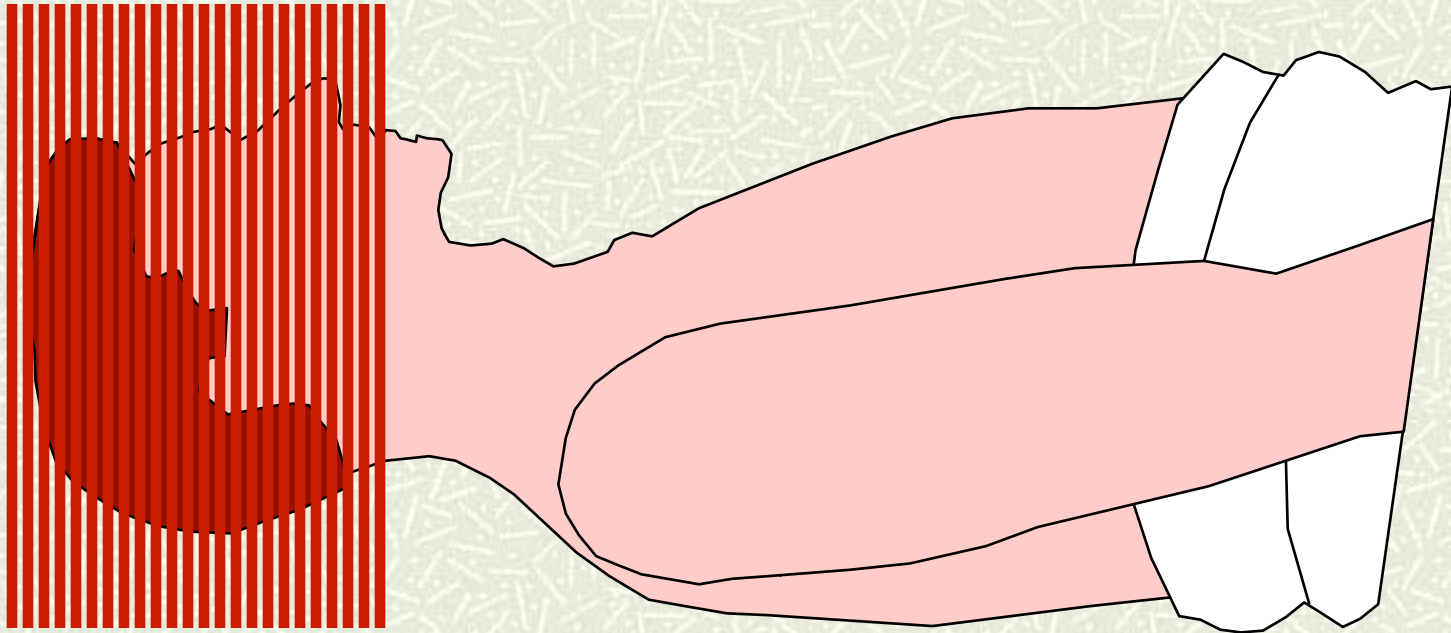


- Selected activated voxels, 64pt Welch Spectrogram.
- Respiration is biggest interference, but only factor of 2 below resting state BOLD
- BOLD occupies only 1/8 of the frequency band in this acquisition



# One more way to accelerate: Simultaneous multi-slice

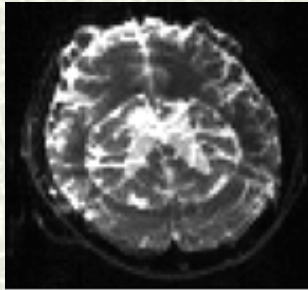
3 slices acquired simultaneously...



# Simultaneous multi-slice

Note: encoding is not undersampled, no  $\sqrt{R}$  penalty !!

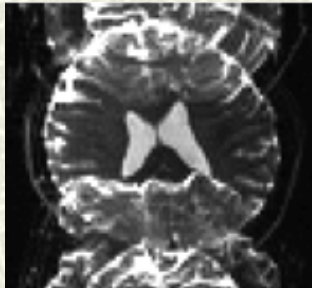
3 EPI slices  
acquired  
simultaneously...



Un-alias with parallel imaging...

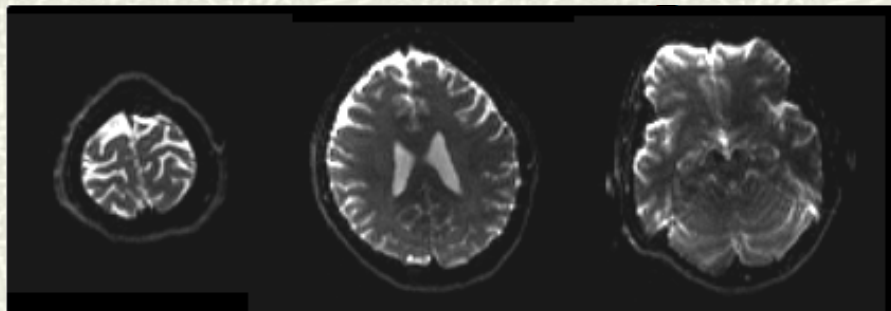
*Larkman et al. JMRI 13(2) p313, 2001*

*Feinberg, et al. PLoS One, 2010*



Blip scheme for shifting EPI, then use parallel imaging...

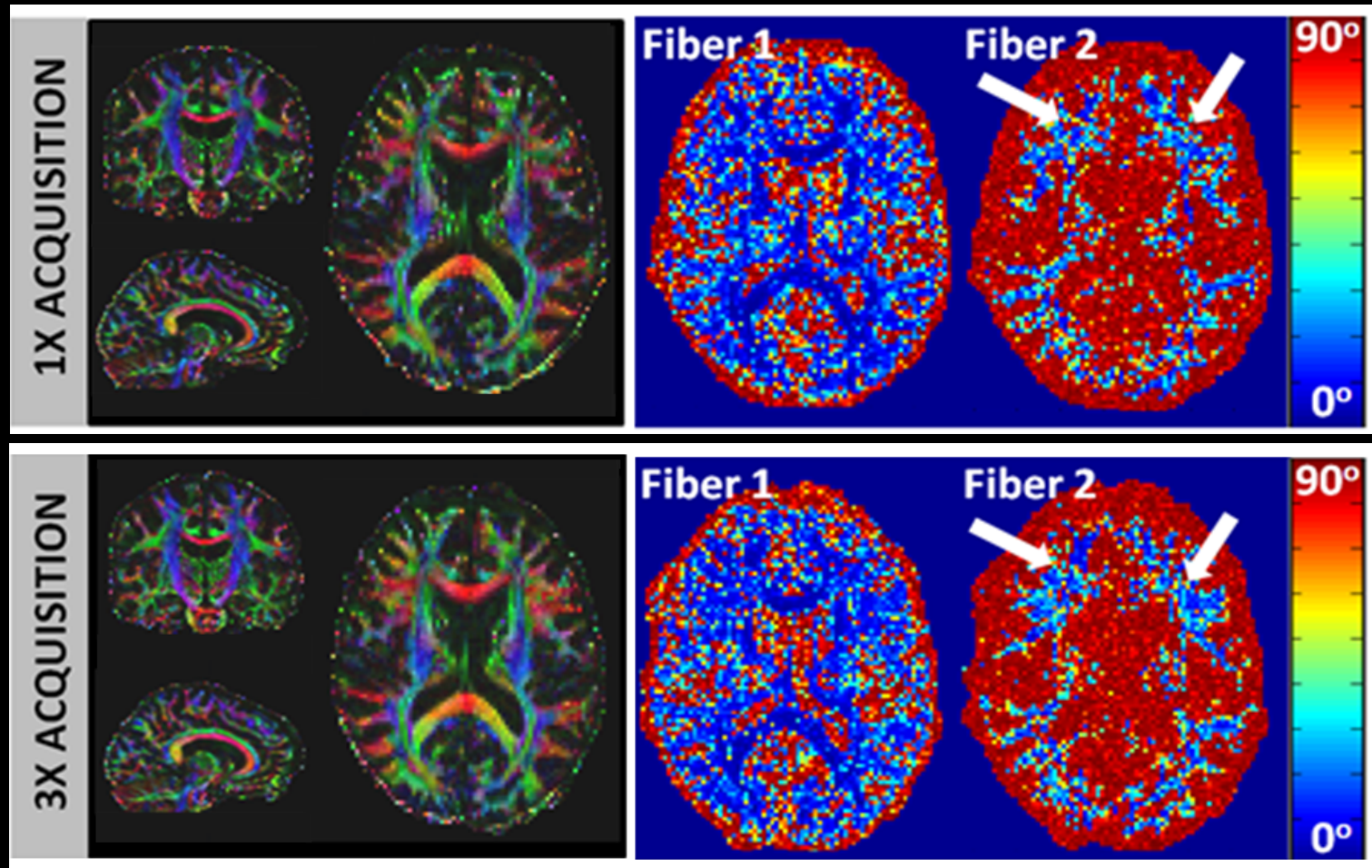
*Setsompop et al. ISMRM 2010, p551*



Blip scheme  
reduces  $g$  by 2x

# Blipped-CAPIRIHNA, 3 slice simultaneous

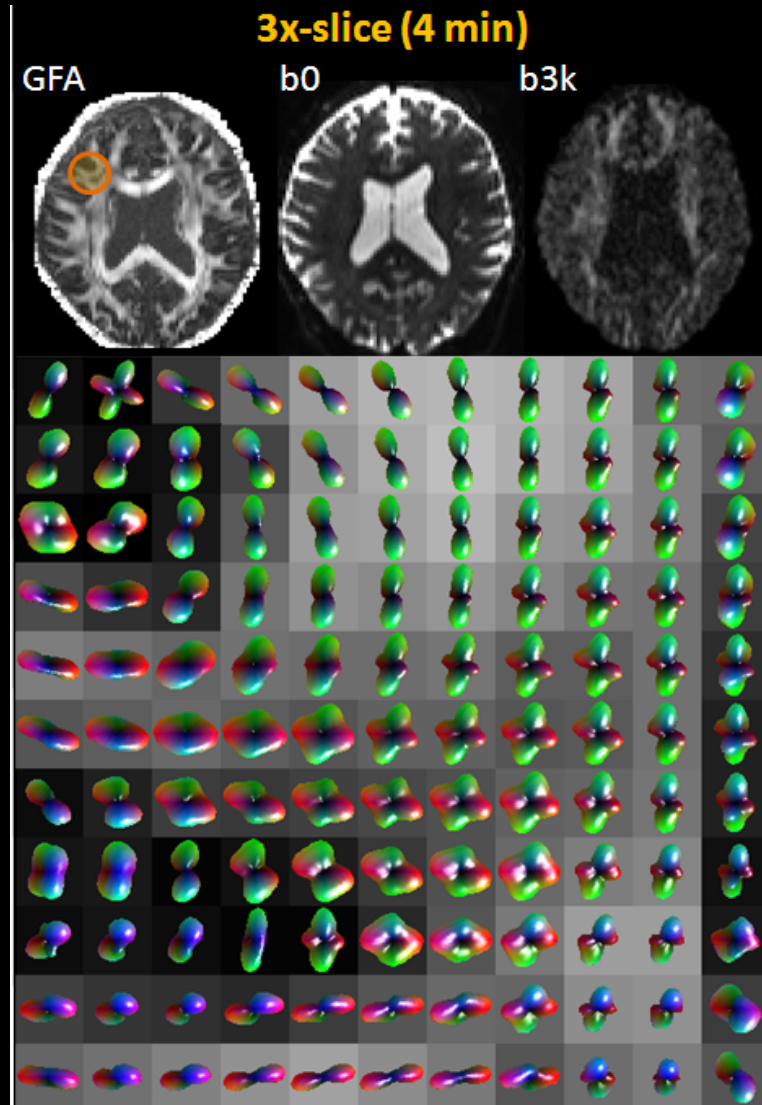
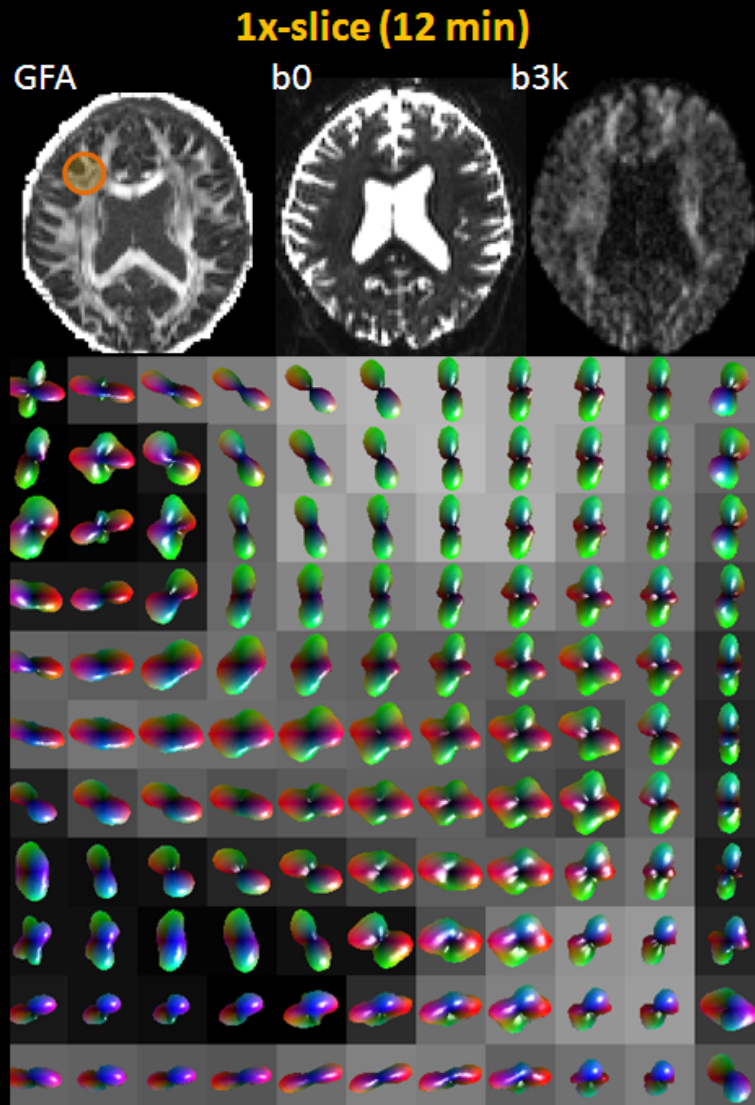
Kawin Setsompop (*ISMRM 2010, p551*)



64 direction Q-ball acquisition FA maps, 95% uncertainty angle for fiber orient.  
Acquire 3 slices at a time and use multi-channel coils to unravel. No significant  
SNR penalty (maybe 10% for unaliasing)!



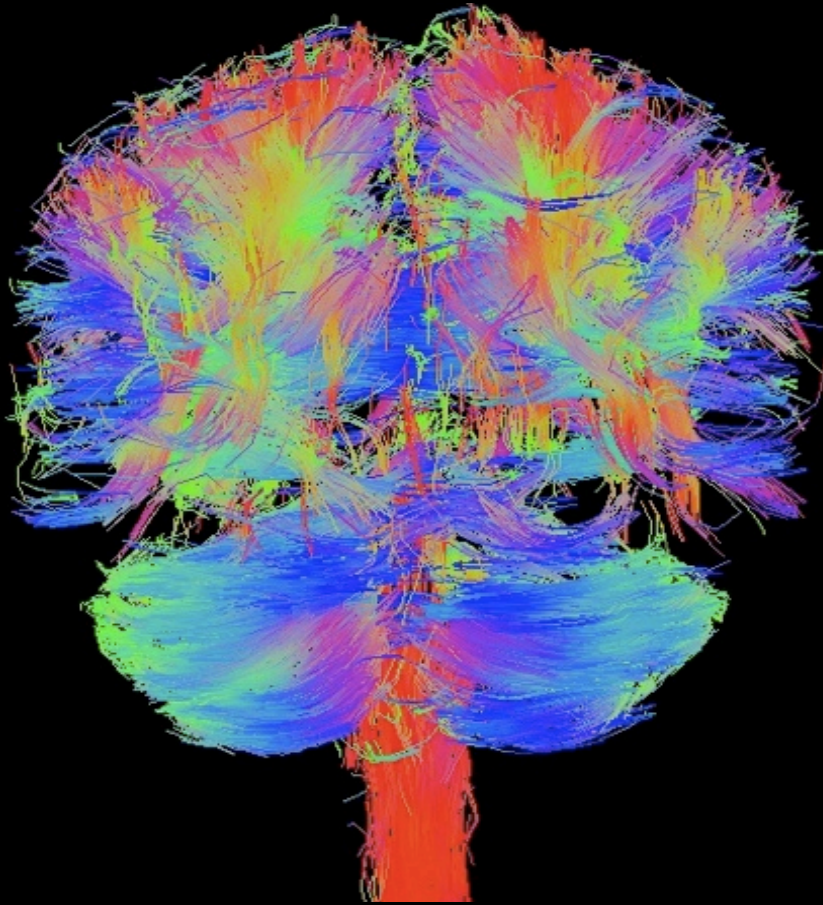
# DWI EPI; exactly the same but 3x faster!



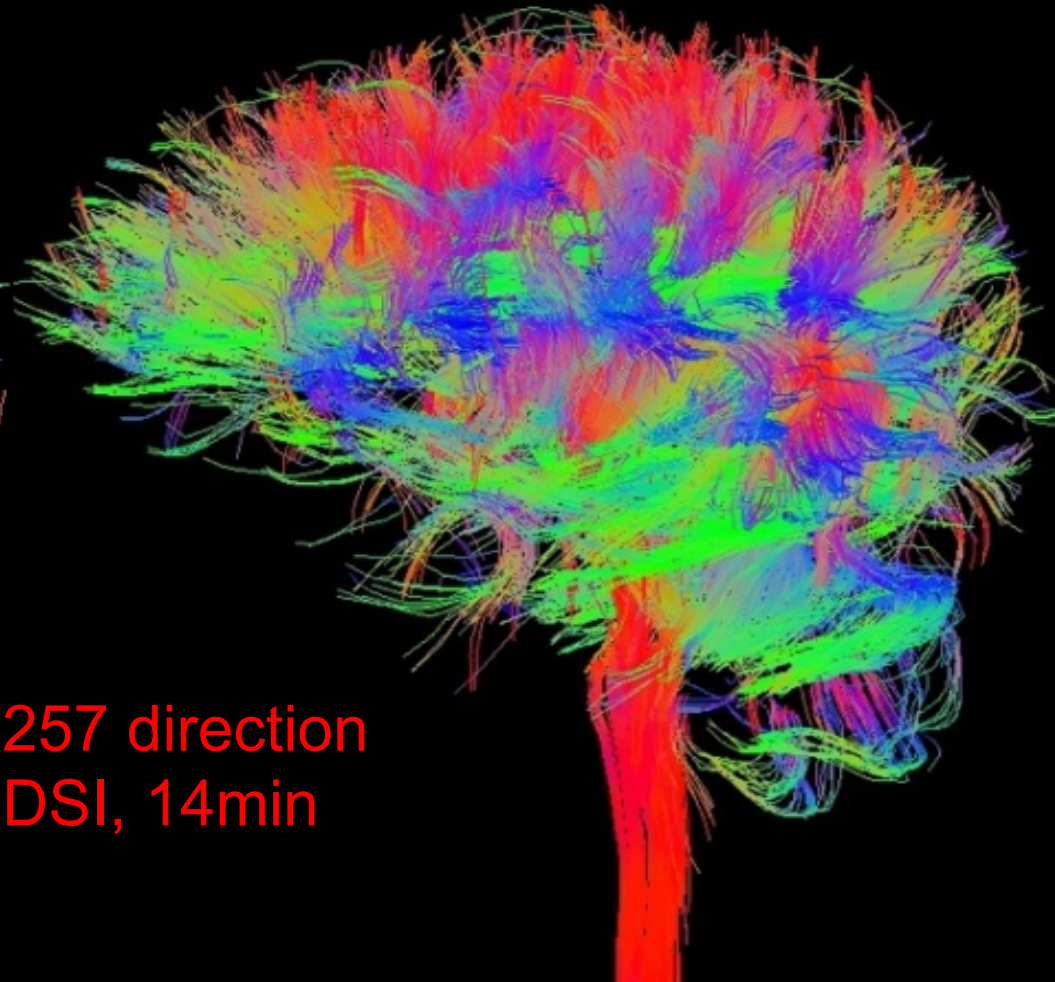
DWI EPI 120 directions, 1mm isotropic whole head



# Diffusion Spectrum Imaging (DSI) becomes feasible...

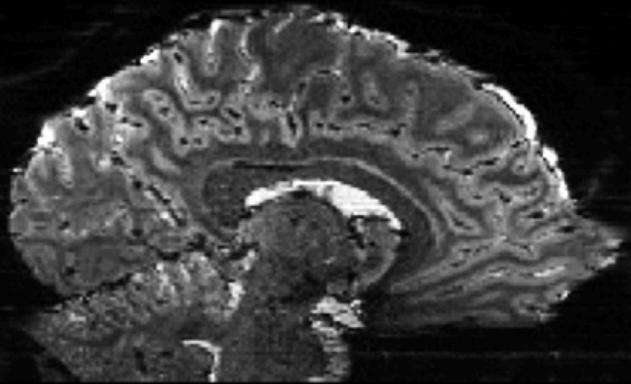
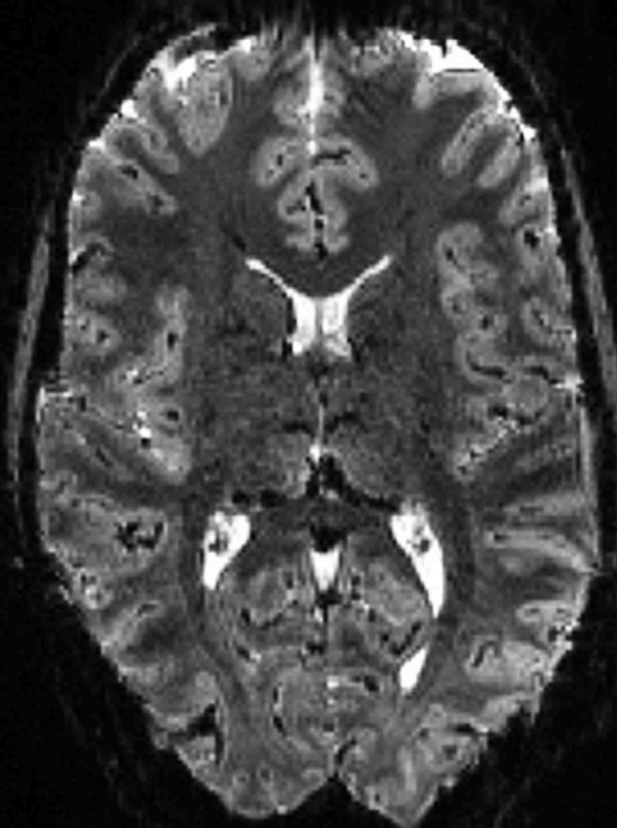
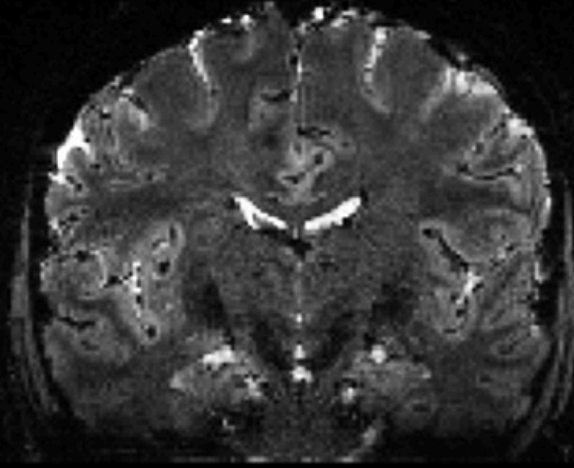


257 direction  
DSI, 14min



# 3x simultaneous multi-slice EPI for 7T fMRI

1 mm isotropic, 120 slices, 200x200 matrix, TE = 24 ms, TR = 2.88 s



3-fold multi-slice,  $R=2$  in-plane

whole-brain  
1 mm iso. in  
2.88 s

unfolded images

# What can we see after all this work?

Laminar specific fMRI in human brain with 7T.

Jon Polimeni, MGH

# fMRI at 7T compared to 3T

- 2x the signal to noise (at high resolution)
  - 2x the BOLD contrast.
- 

- 4x the Contrast to Noise Ratio

- 20min run at 3T -> 1.25min at 7T
- 16 subjects at 3T -> single subject at 7T



0.75mm

7T

7T

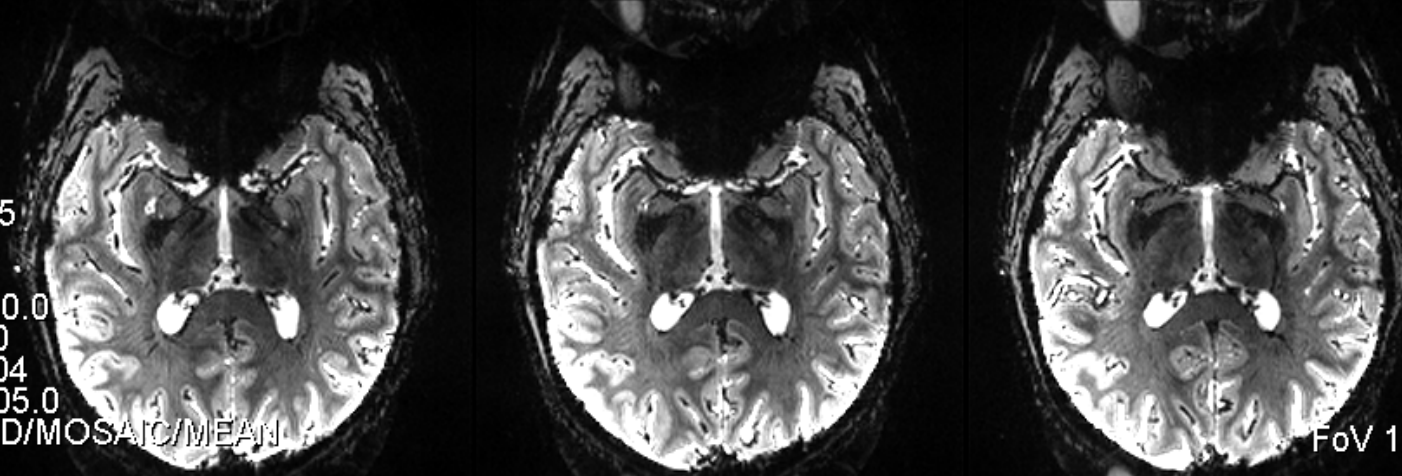
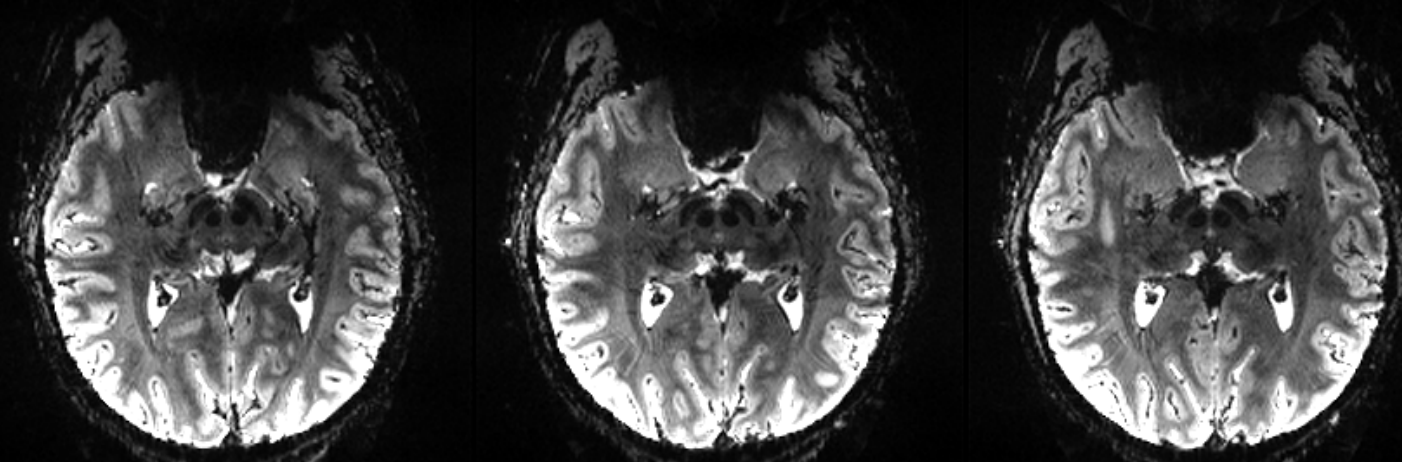
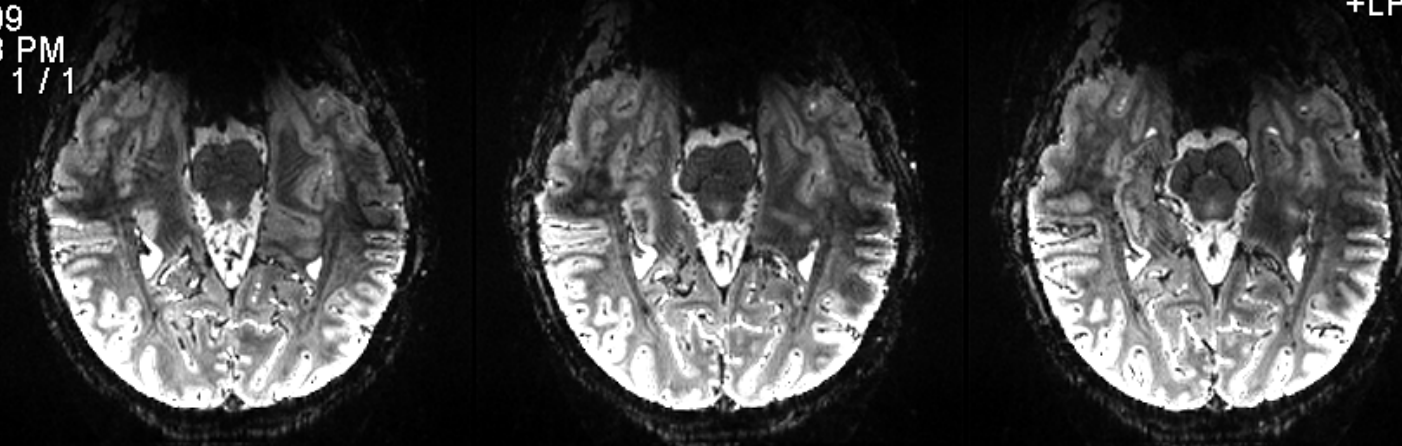
0.75mm isotropic

Single shot EPI

32ch

R=3 Grappa

109  
8 PM  
A 1 / 1



05

00.0

.0

.04

005.0

ND/MOSAIC/MEAN

FoV 134

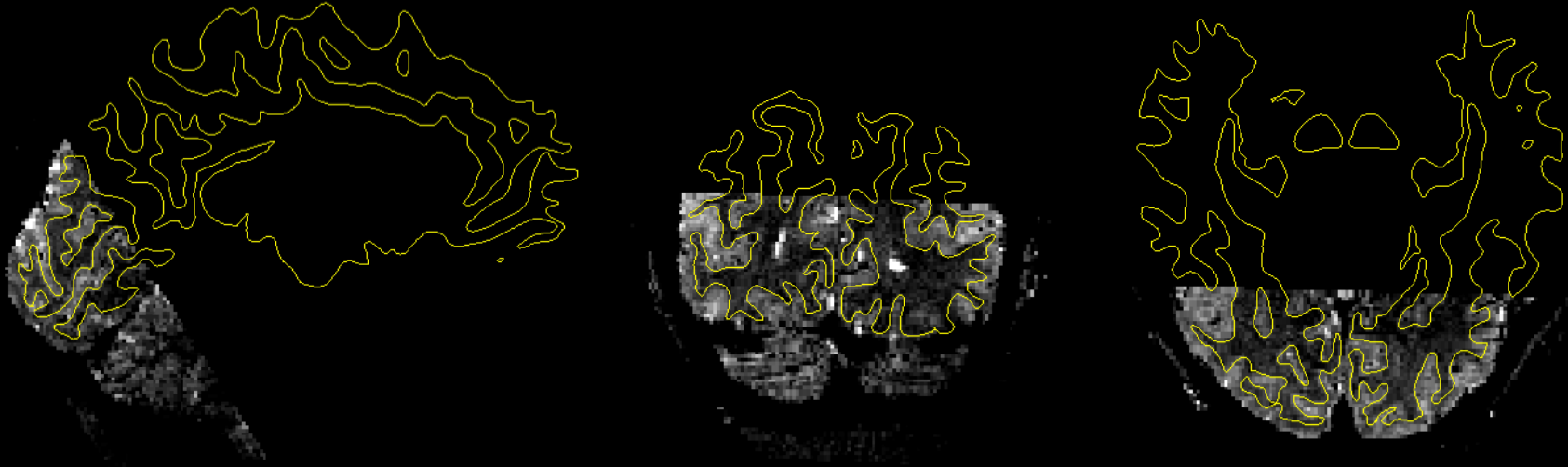
19

Tr>Cor(18 3)>S

+LPH  
↓

*Average of  
10 shots shown*

# boundary-based registration

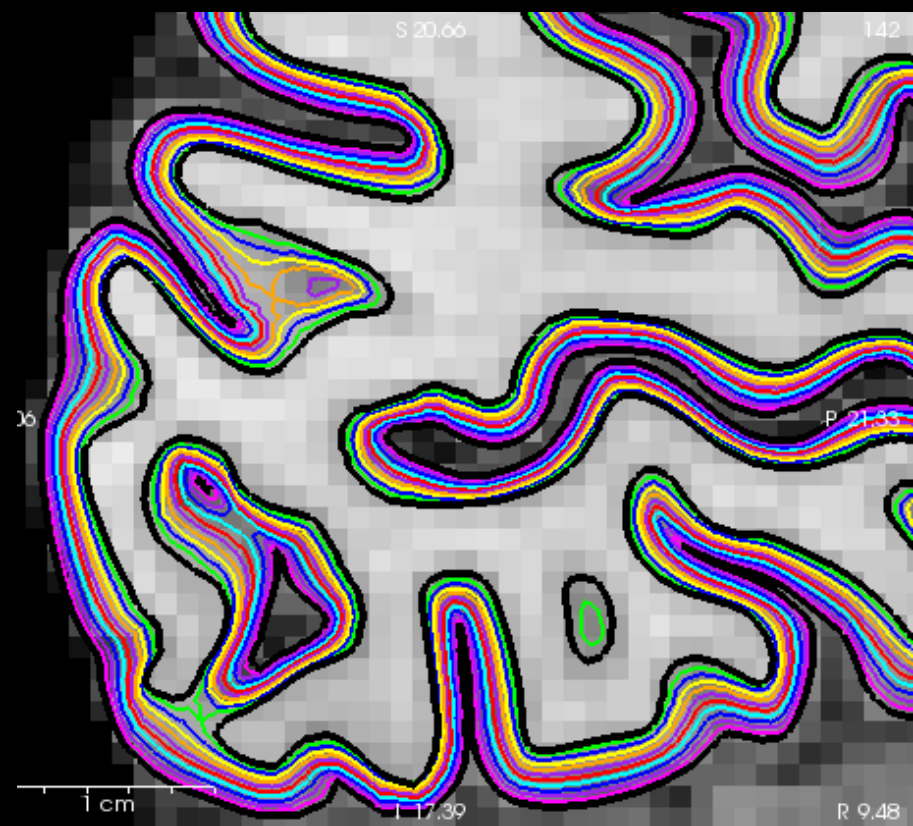
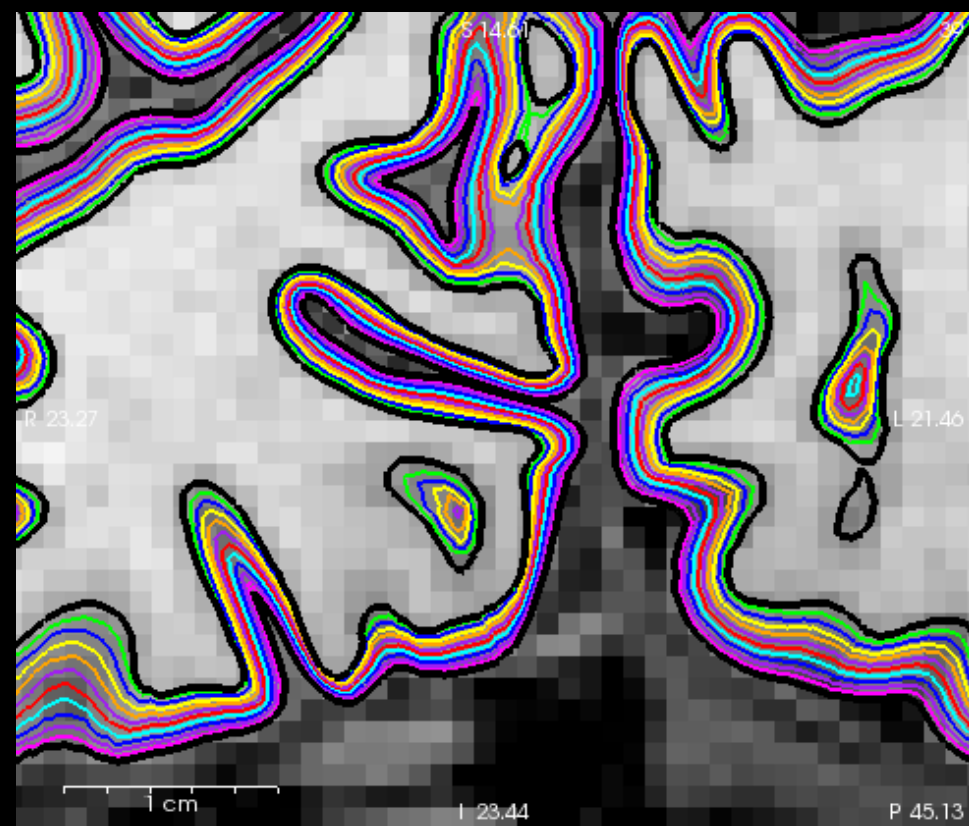


Greve, Fischl, MGH.

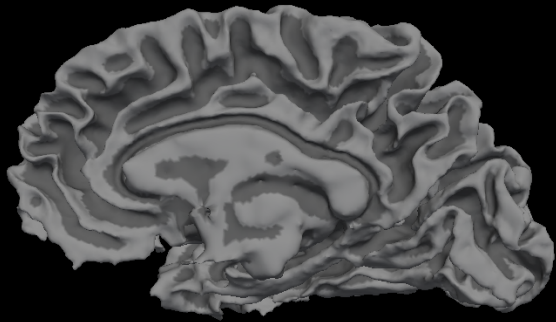
- computes gray-white boundary from EPI data
- calculates rigid transformation that aligns boundary to gray-white surface reconstruction

1mm iso. EPI to 1mm iso. MEMPRAGE!

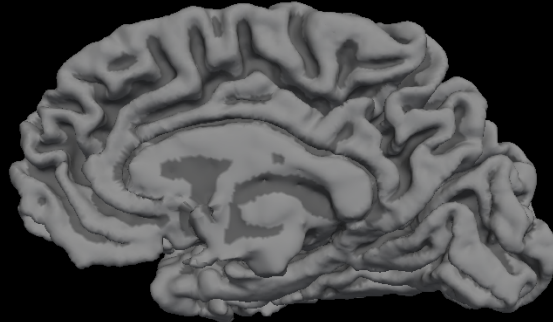
Interpolate along the path between pial surface vertices and WM surface vertices.  
Generate a cortical surface at each depth...



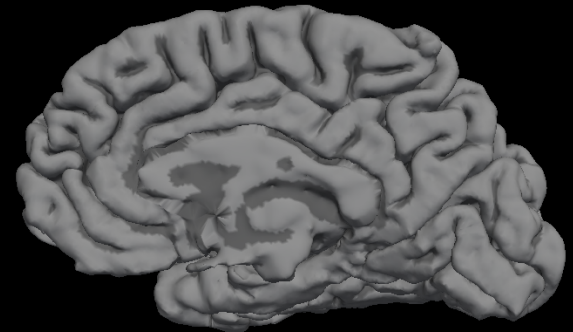
# Generate surfaces at each depth



White matter surface



Middle depth surface



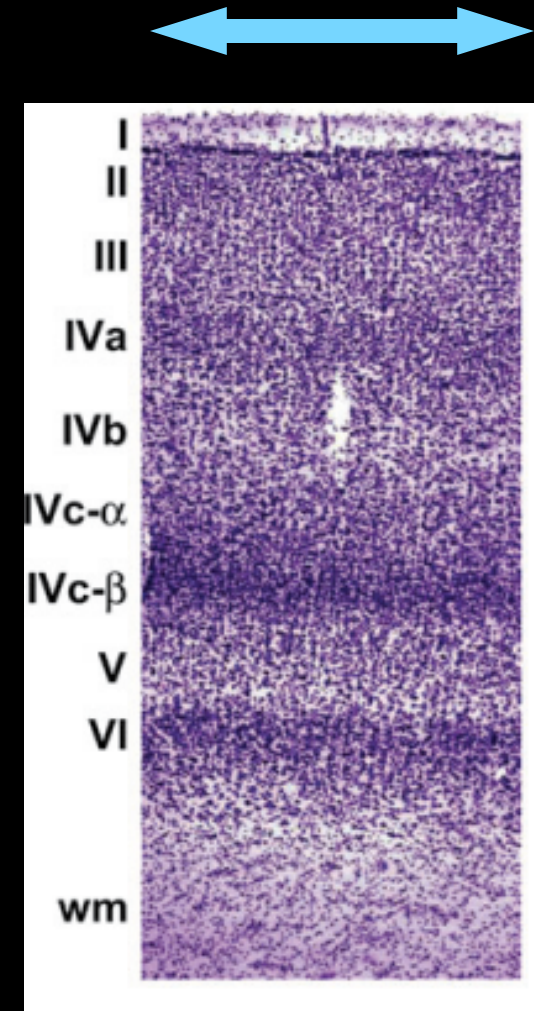
Pial

- fMRI analysis on intermediate surfaces:
  - E.g. consider only the activated voxels which intersect a given surface...



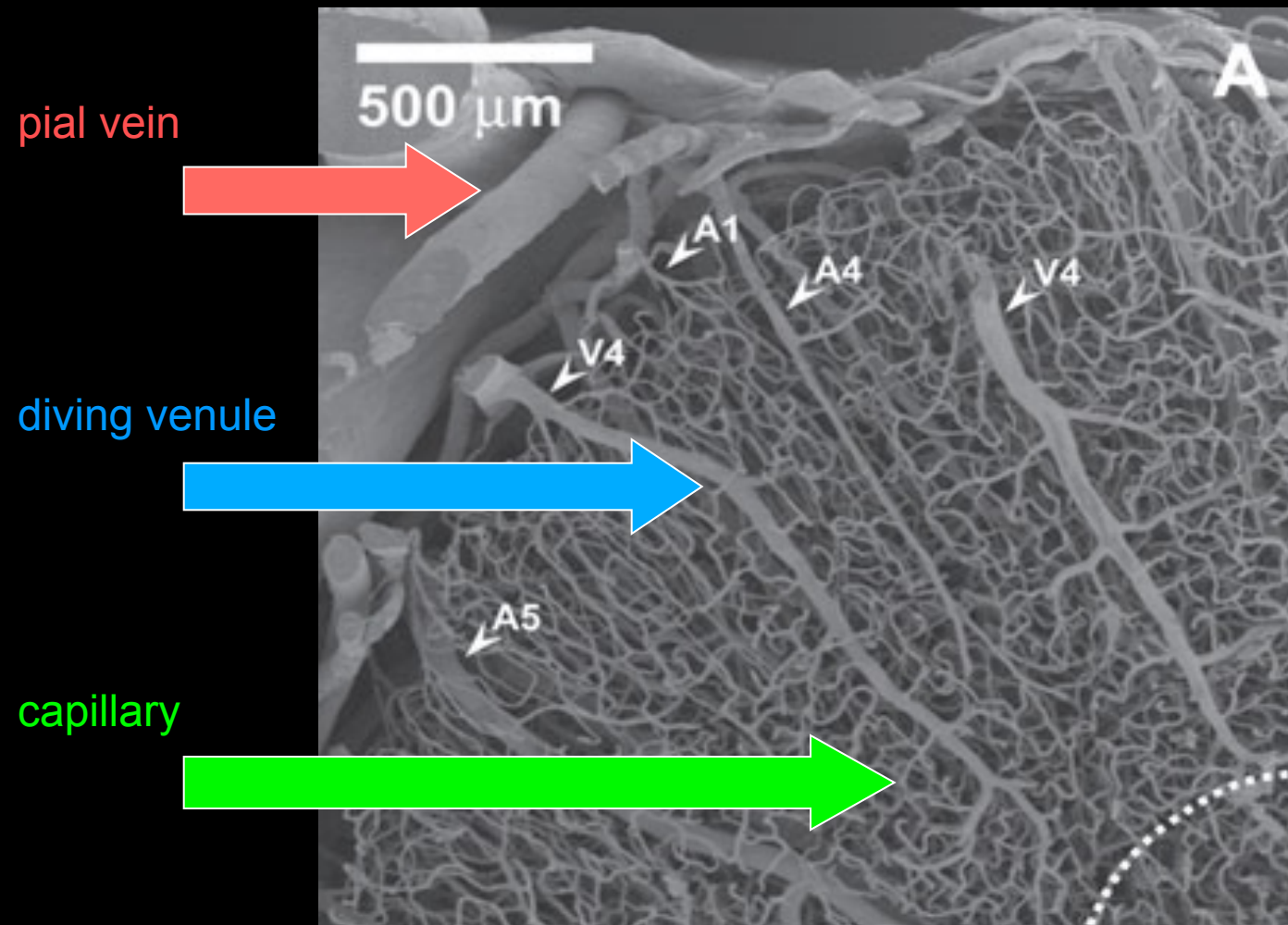
# targeted sampling of cortical layers

- explore **tangential** specificity *as function of layer*
- **radial** specificity – laminar regulation?
- measurement **columnar** and **laminar** features of functional architecture



macaque V1, Nissl stain  
[Weber *et al.* 2008, *Cereb Cortex*]

# spatial scales of vascular anatomy

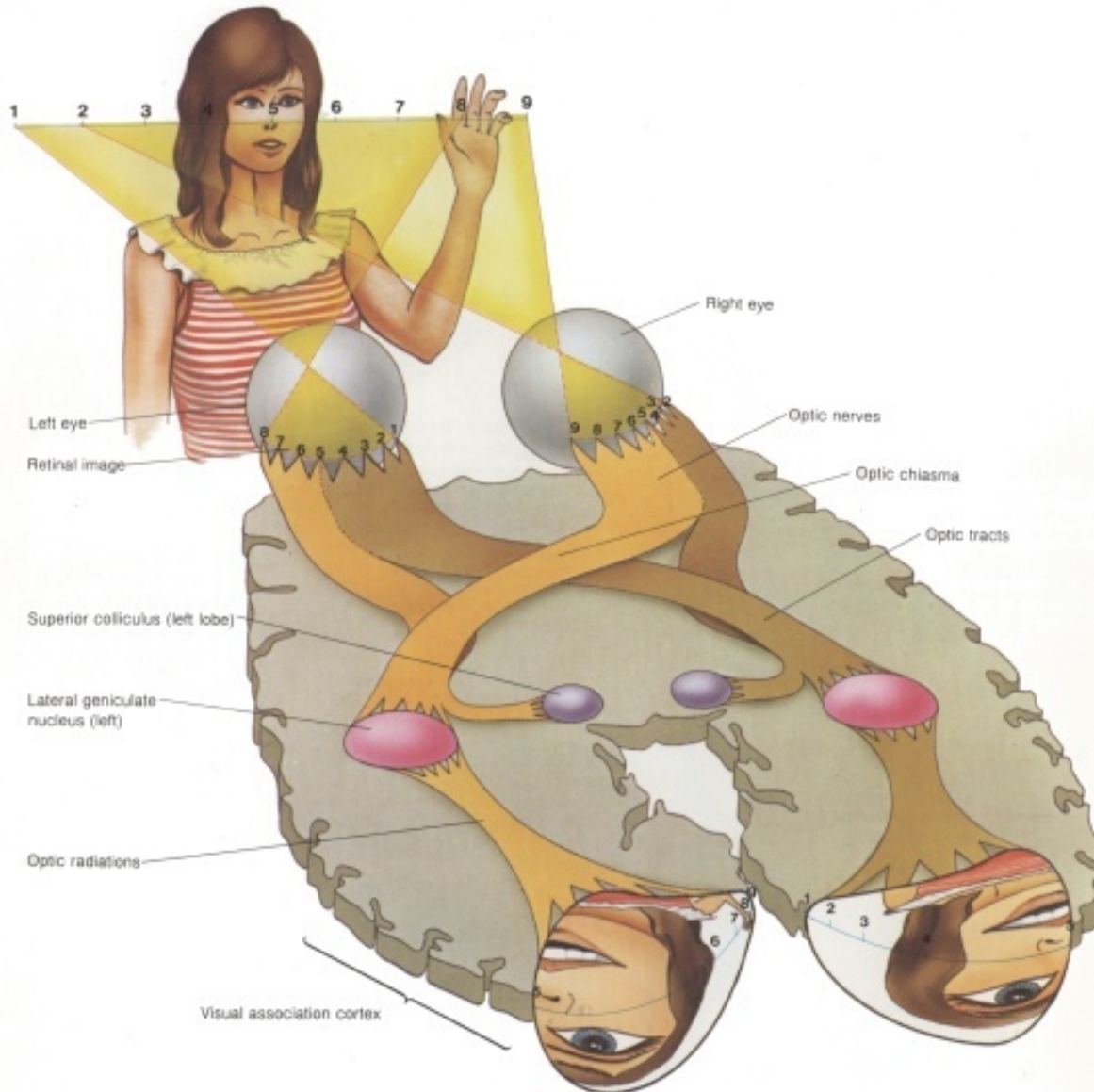


vascular  
corrosion  
casts from  
gyrus of  
macaque V1

[Weber *et al.* 2008,  
*Cereb Cortex*]

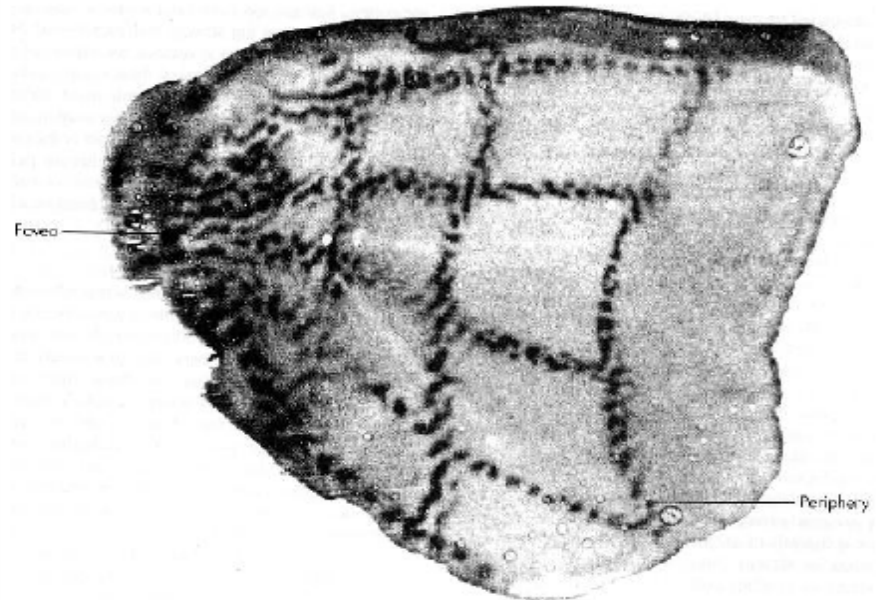
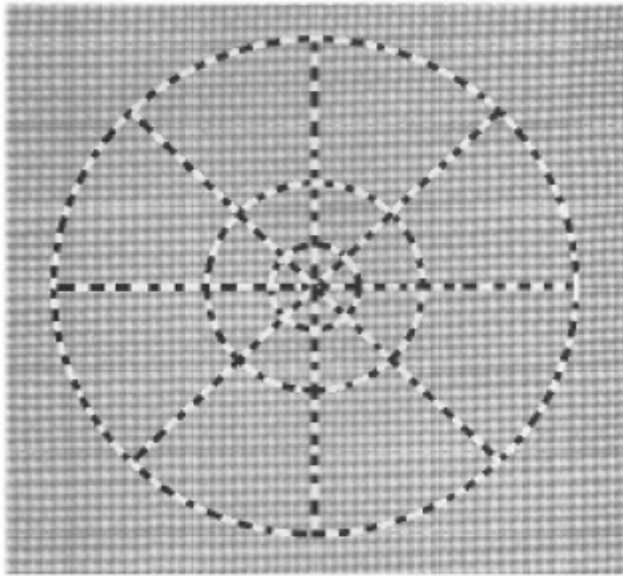
can exploit *regularity* of vascular organization!

**Retinotopy:** *nearby* neurons possess receptive fields that are *nearby* in visual field



a **topographic map** of the visual field is laid out on cortical *surface*

# first imaging demonstration: 2DG



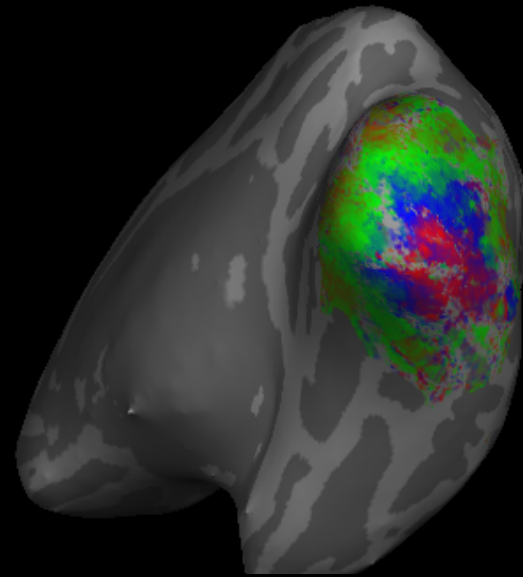
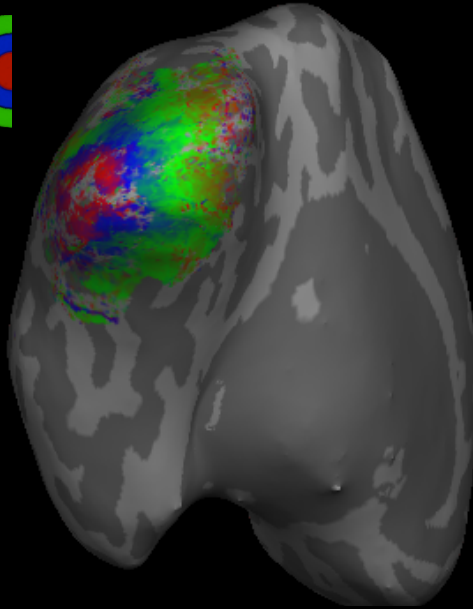
(Tootell *et al.*, 1982)



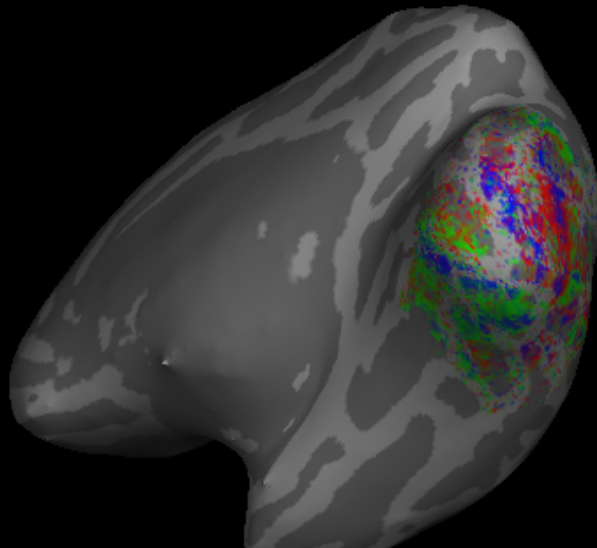
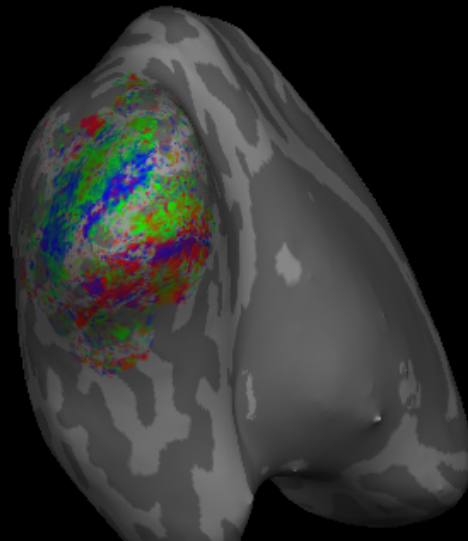
# 1 mm isotropic fMRI retinotopy, 7T 32ch

Jon Polimeni, MGH.

eccentricity



polar angle

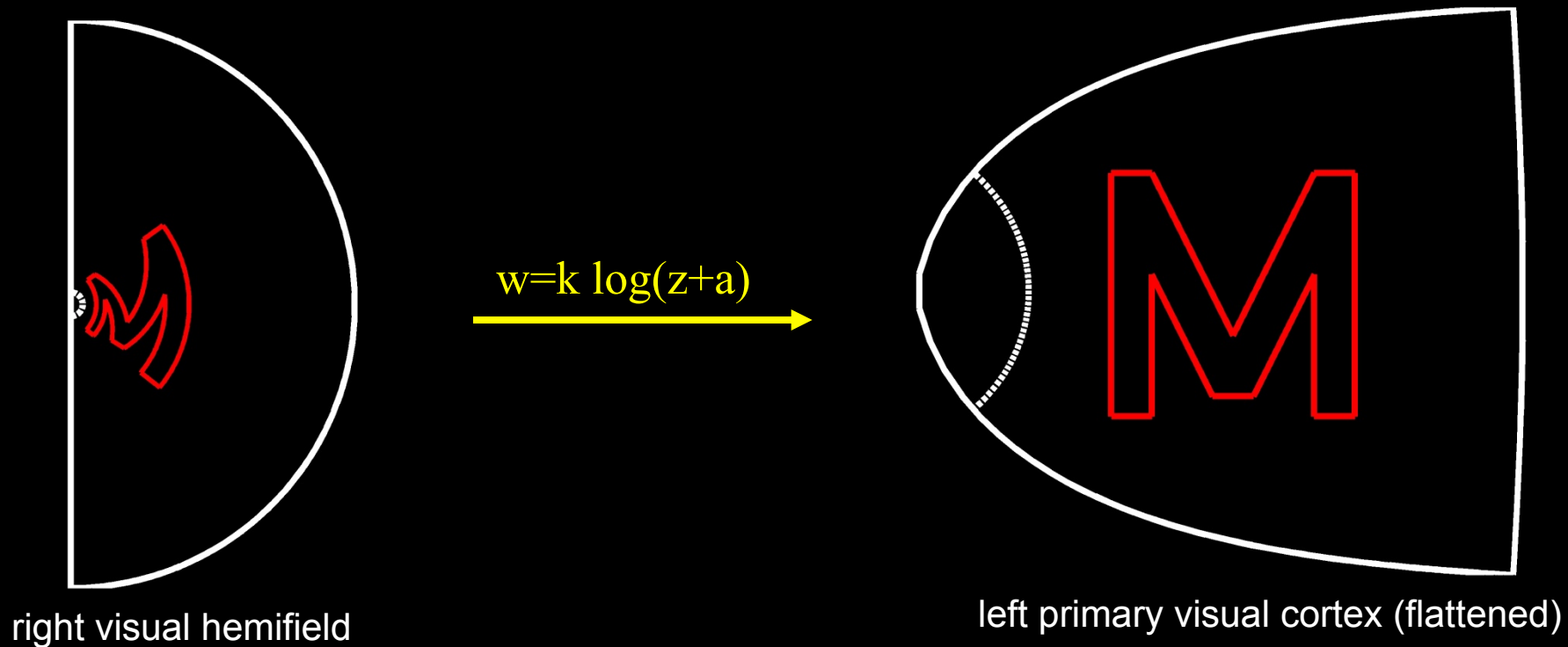


*unsmoothed*, 20 minutes of scanning total

# Resolution Stimulus

goal: imposed desired activity pattern on V1 surface

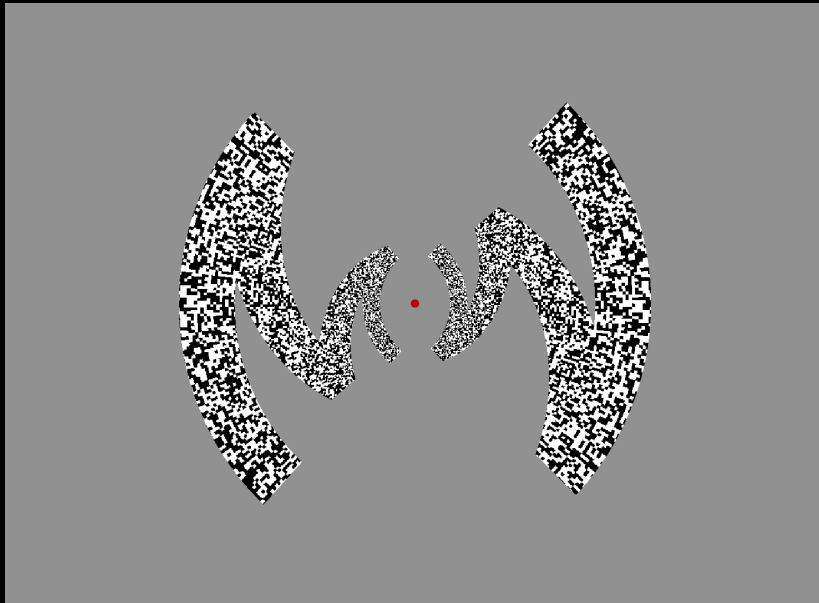
Jon Polimeni, MGH.



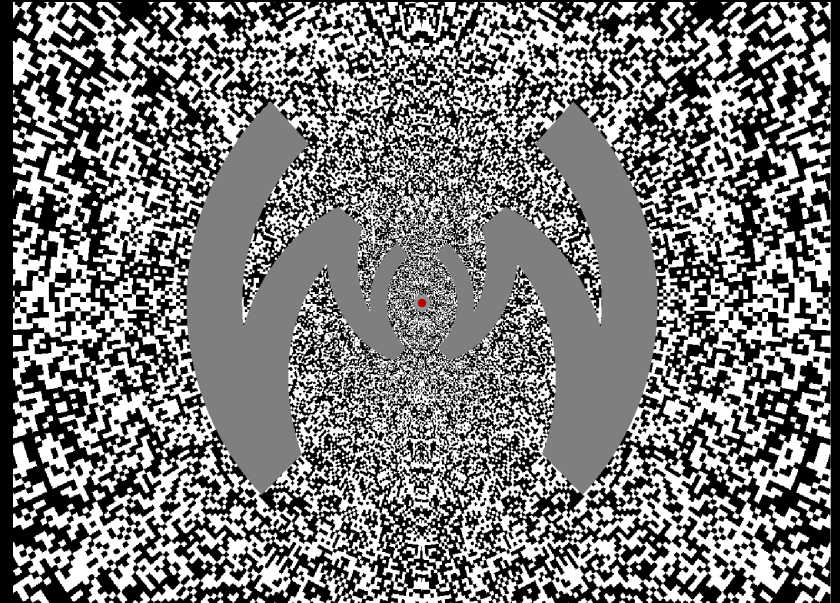
# resolution stimulus

Jon Polimeni, MGH.

stimulus condition A

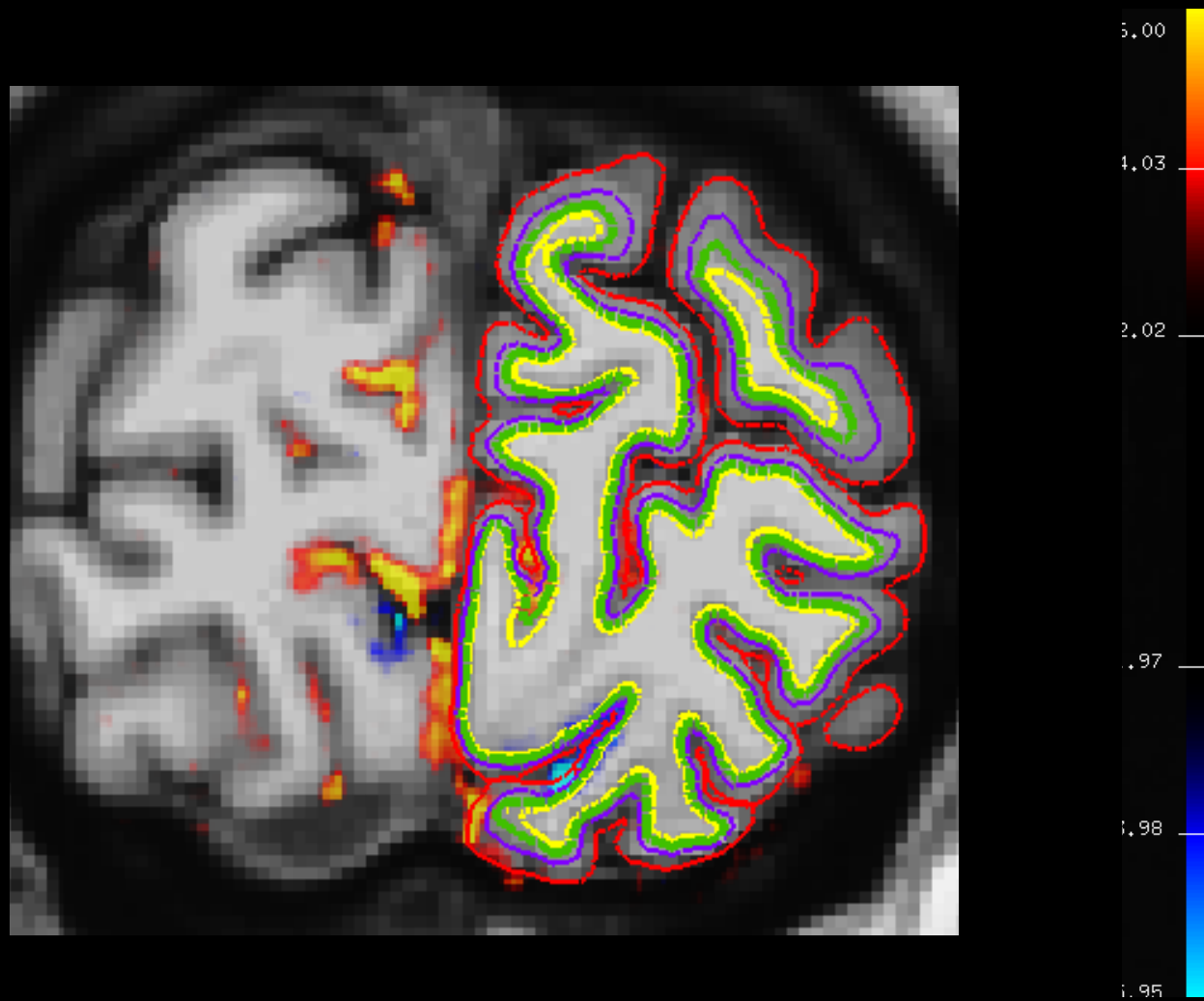


stimulus condition B



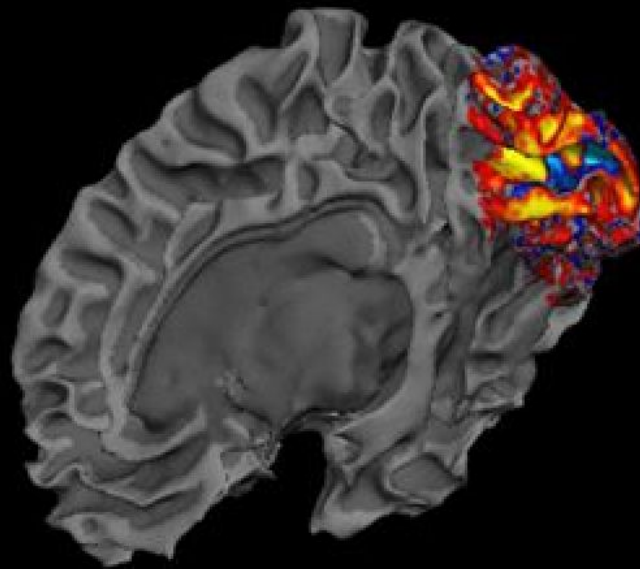
- counterphase flickering (8 Hz) scaled spatial noise pattern
- fixation task to minimize blurring due to eye movements
- block design presentation: two stimulus conditions plus rest, 5min total

# Here's the result!





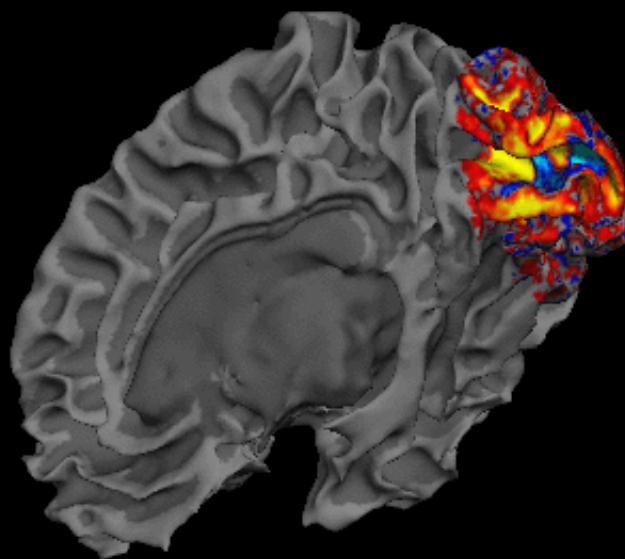
# Here it is again...



Jon Polimeni, MGH

# View activation on inflated surface

5 Minute block design



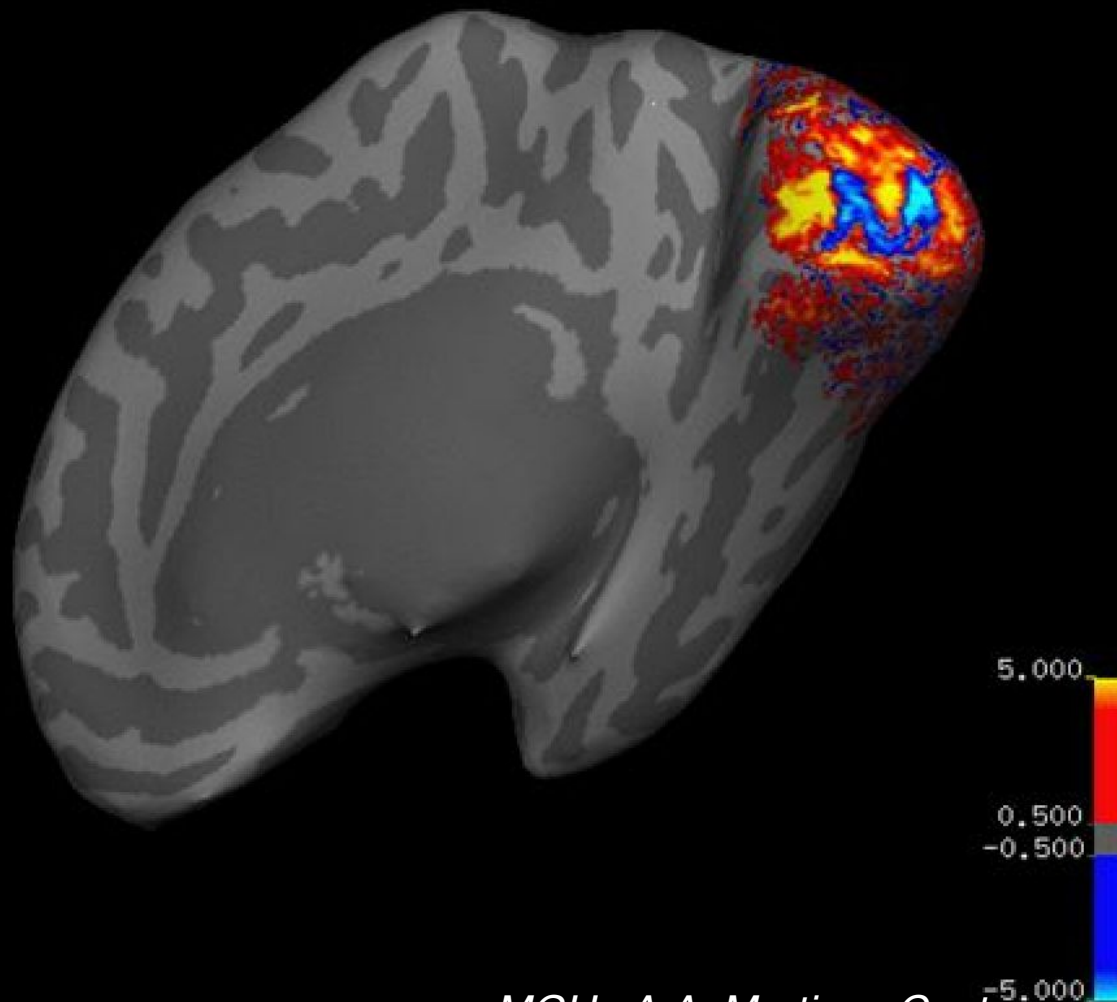
Jon Polimeni, MGH

Wald, BASP 2011

MGH, A.A. Martinos Center

# View activation on inflated surface

5 Minute block design



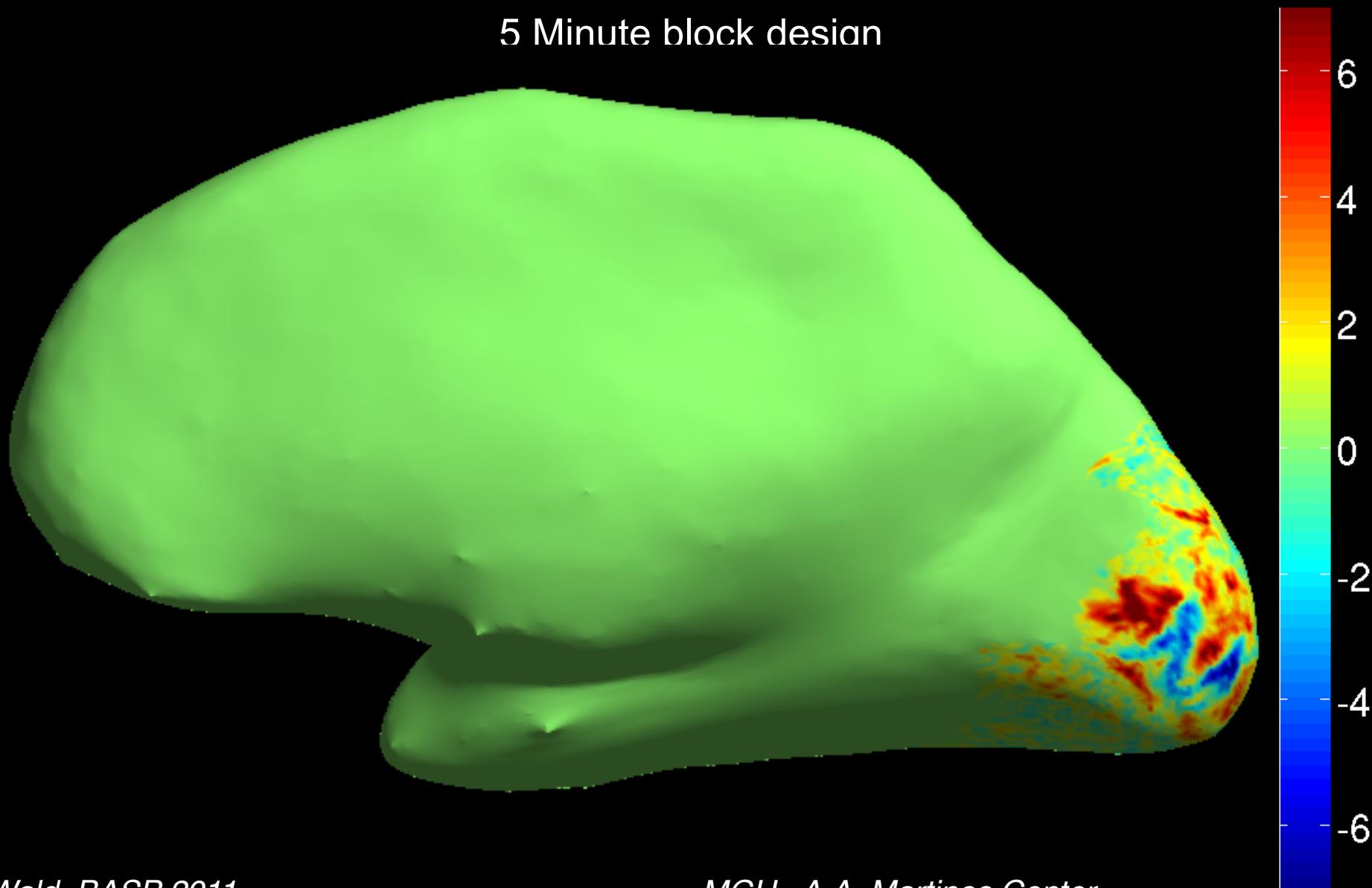
Jon Polimeni, MGH

Wald, *BASP* 2011

MGH, A.A. Martinos Center

# Unsmoothed, unthresholded Z scores

5 Minute block design

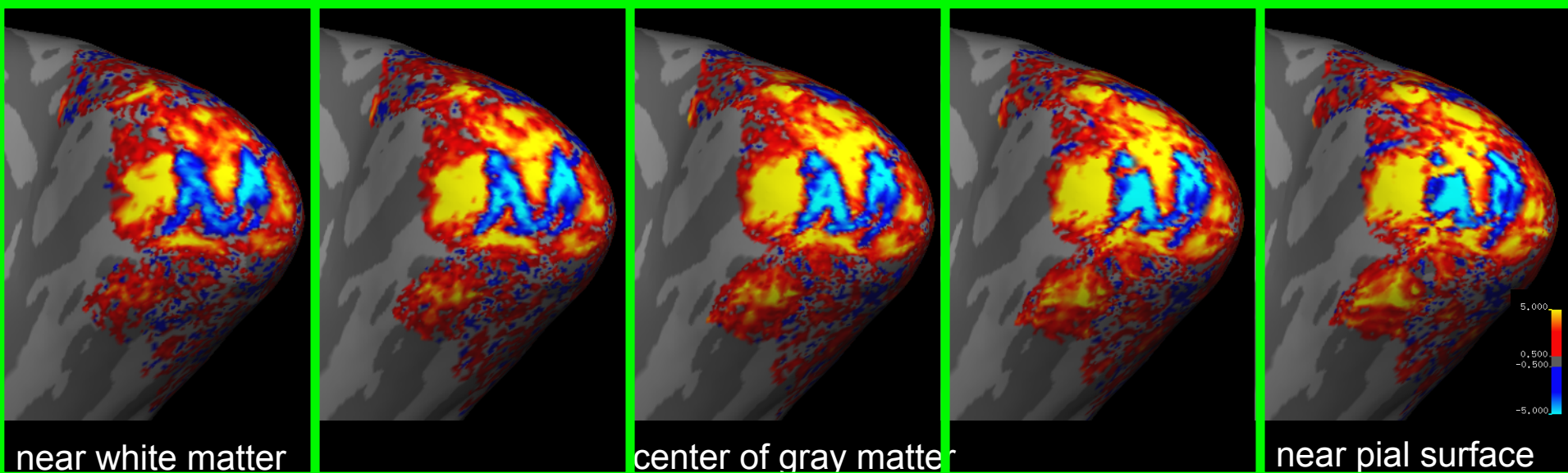




# View activation pattern from voxels thru each of the many cortical surfaces.

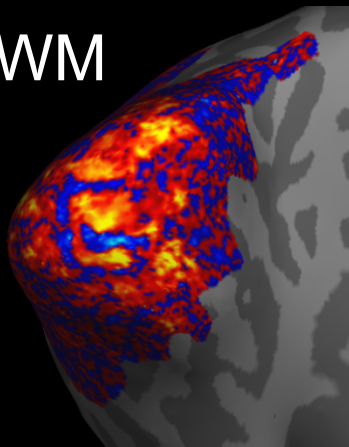
Jon Polimeni, MGH.

TA: 5 min, 24 sec

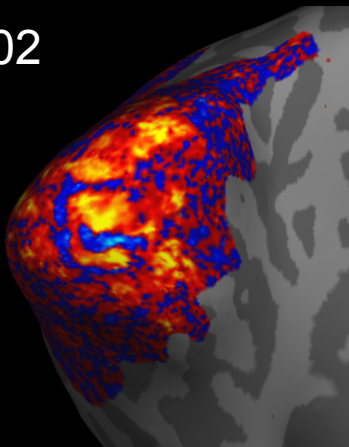


## Resolution Pattern Degrades with Proximity to Pial Vessels

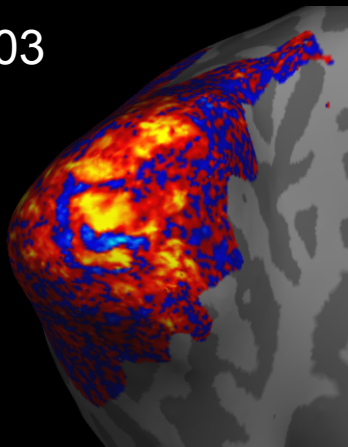
WM



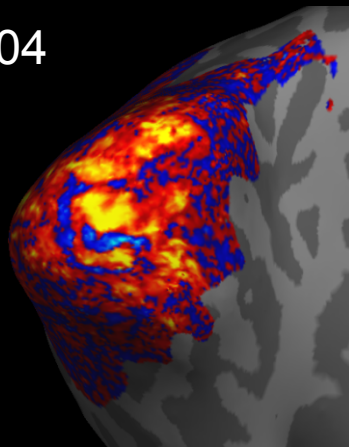
02



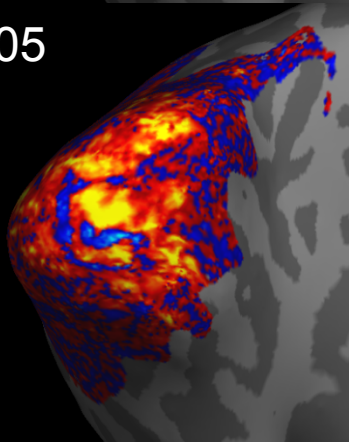
03



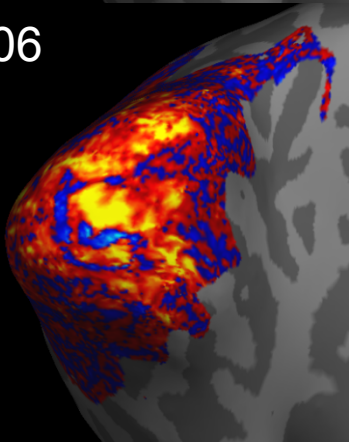
04



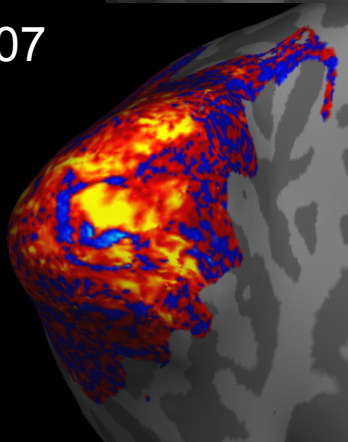
05



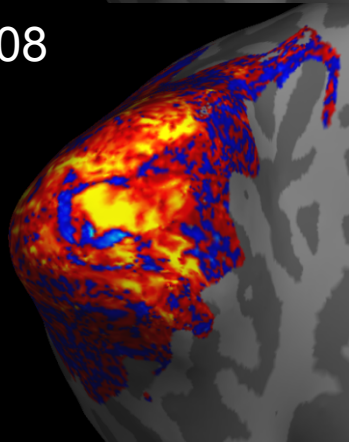
06



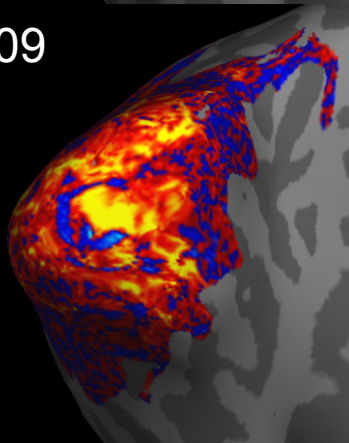
07



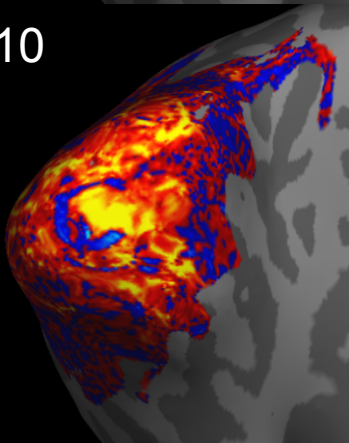
08



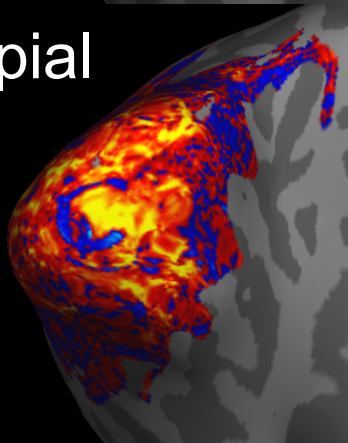
09



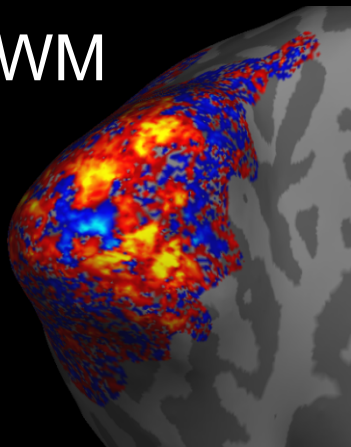
10



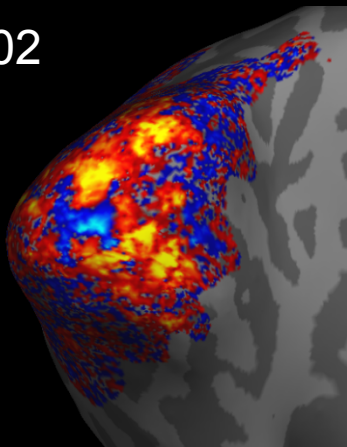
pial



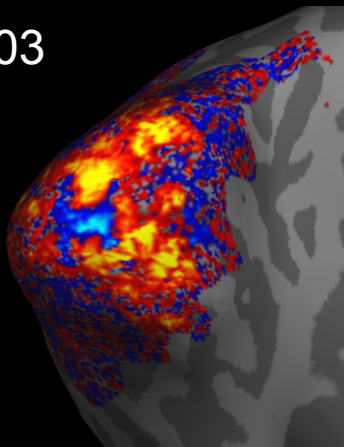
WM



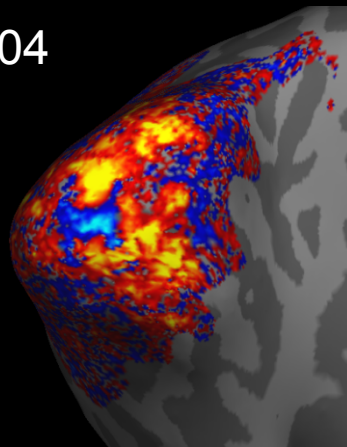
02



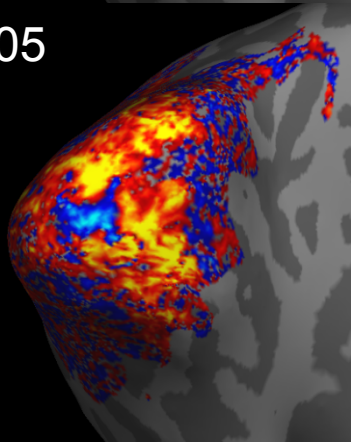
03



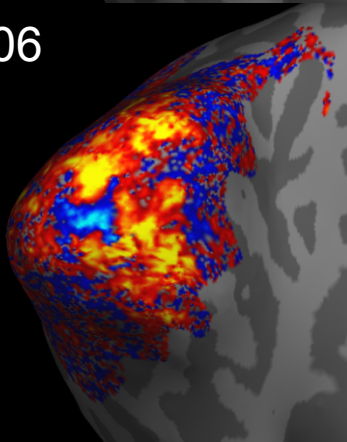
04



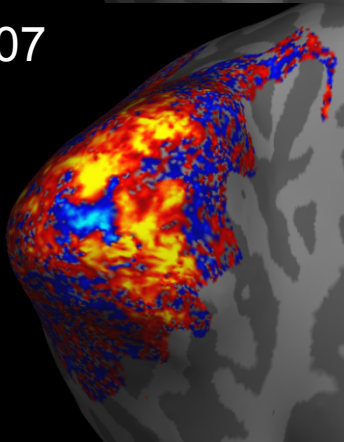
05



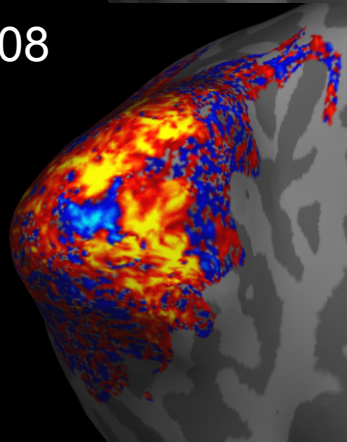
06



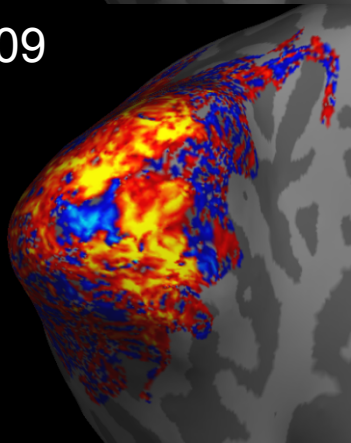
07



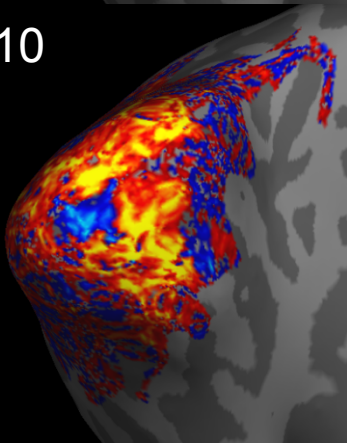
08



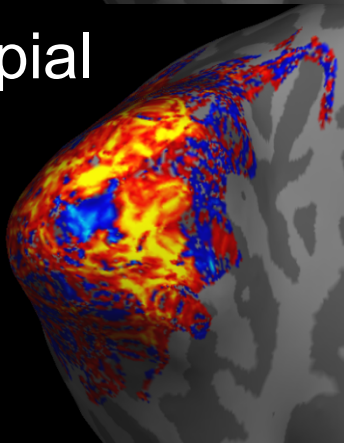
09



10

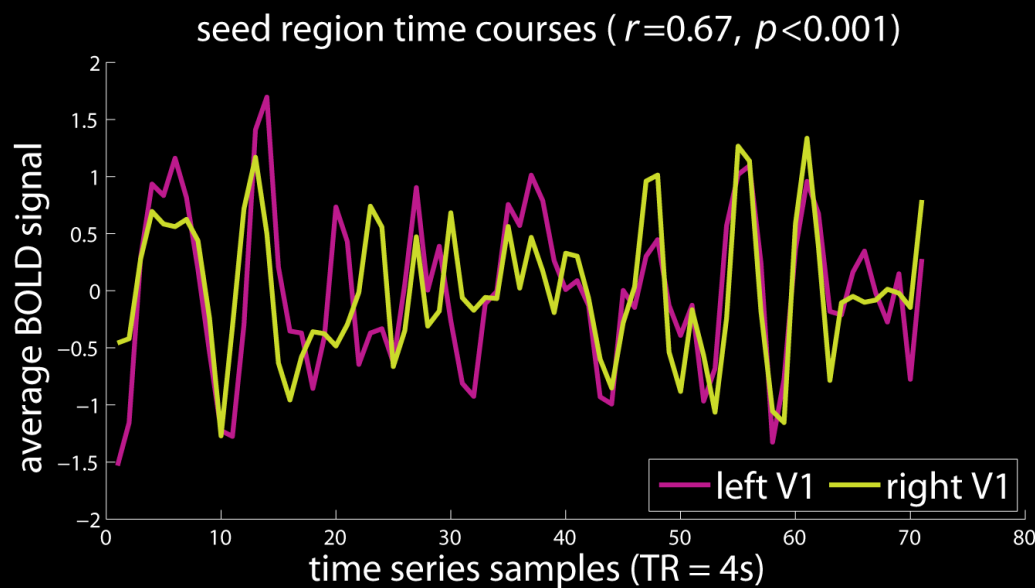


pial



# BOLD based connectivity

- Connected brain regions have correlated BOLD time-series in the absence of stimulus. (*Biswal 1995*)
- regress out motion, WM, ventricular, and whole-brain signals
- calculate correlation-coeff. between two regions.





# Laminar-specific connectivity studies

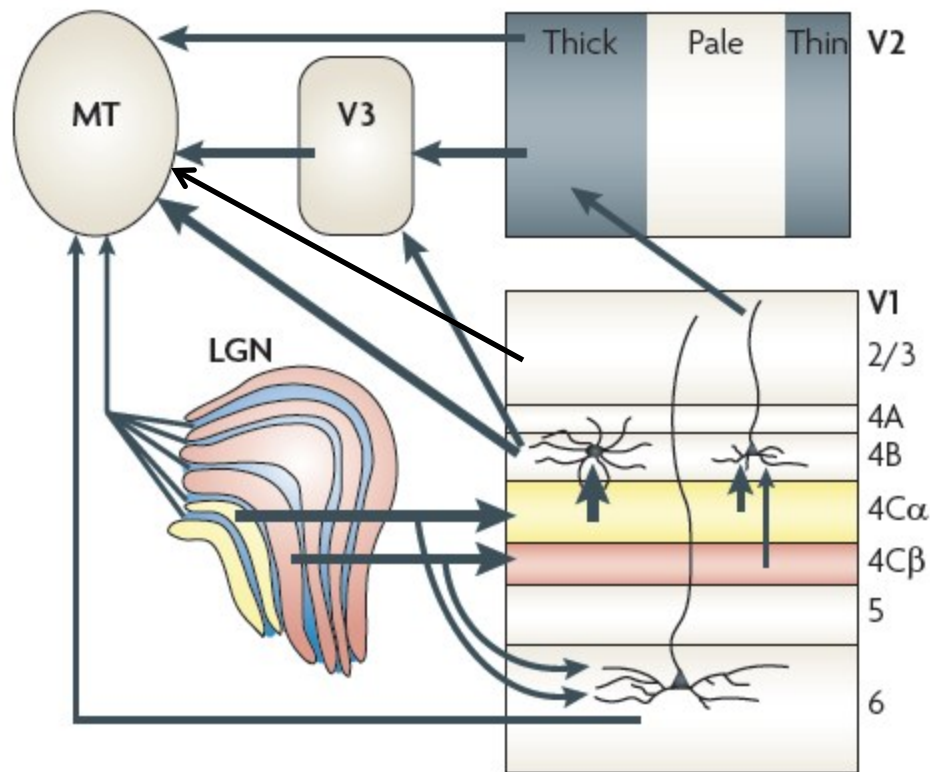
Can we exploit the laminar specific wiring diagram for:

1. Evidence that BOLD has laminar specificity.
2. Determine directionality in cortical networks.

Can you tell which direction the information is flowing?

# How to test laminar specificity w/ fMRI?

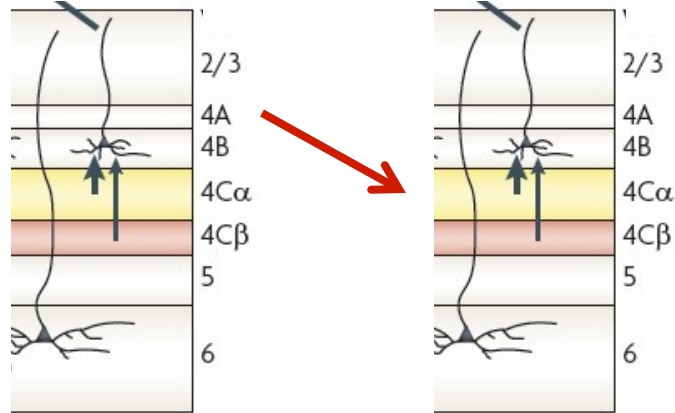
exploit known anatomical connections  
between V1 and MT; *inputs and output layers are different*



*Nassi and Callaway  
Nature Reviews: Neuroscience  
Vol 10, 2009, p360-372*

# “Connections” in resting state fMRI

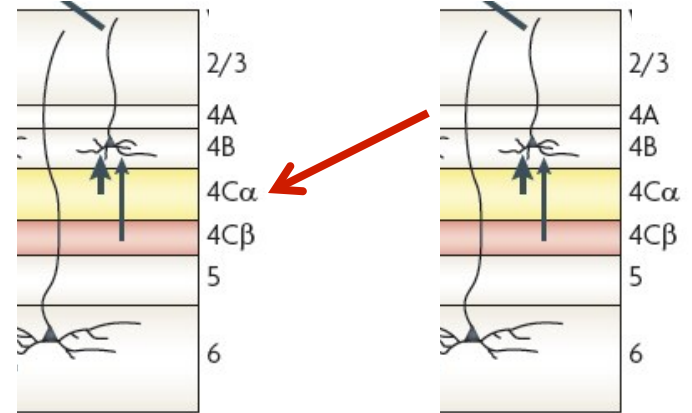
Feed-forward



Area 1

Area 2

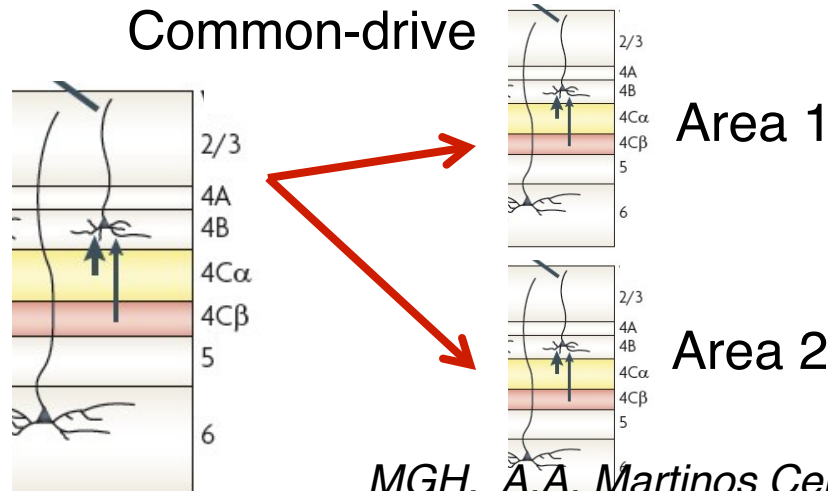
Feed-back



Area 1

Area 2

Common-drive



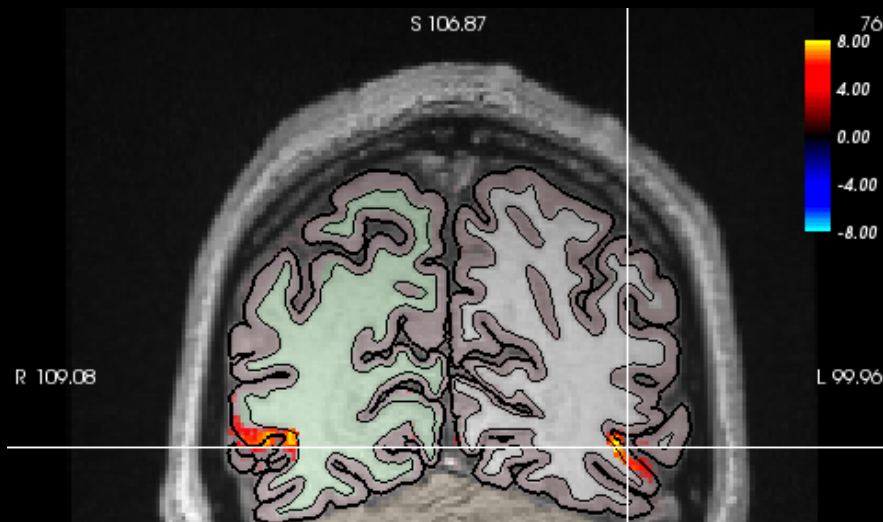
Area 1

Area 2

MGH, A.A. Martinos Center

# MT functional localizer (LCMS)

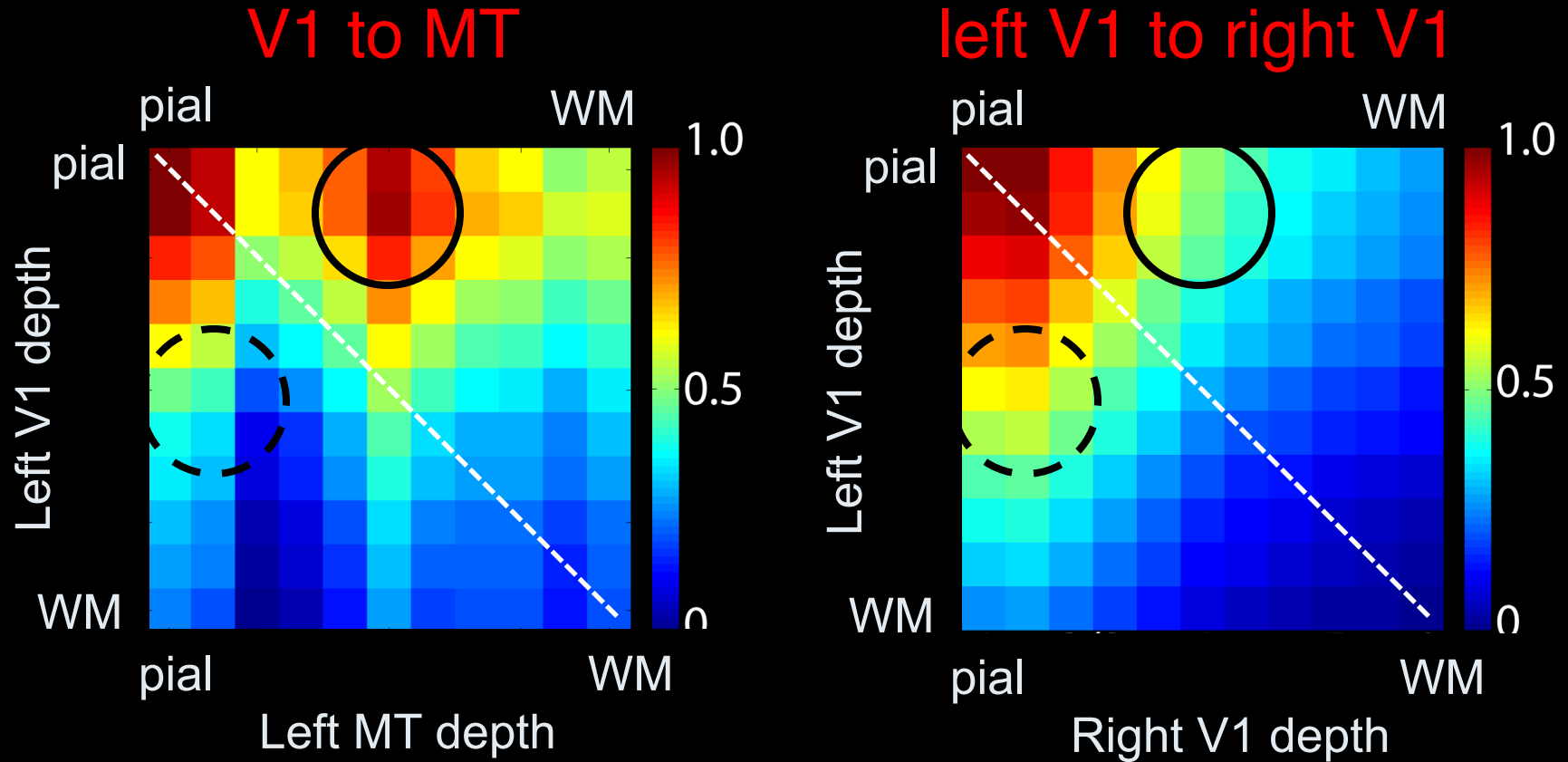
# correlations from seeding left hemisphere activation ROI





# laminar-specific fcMRI

*normalized correlation coefficient*

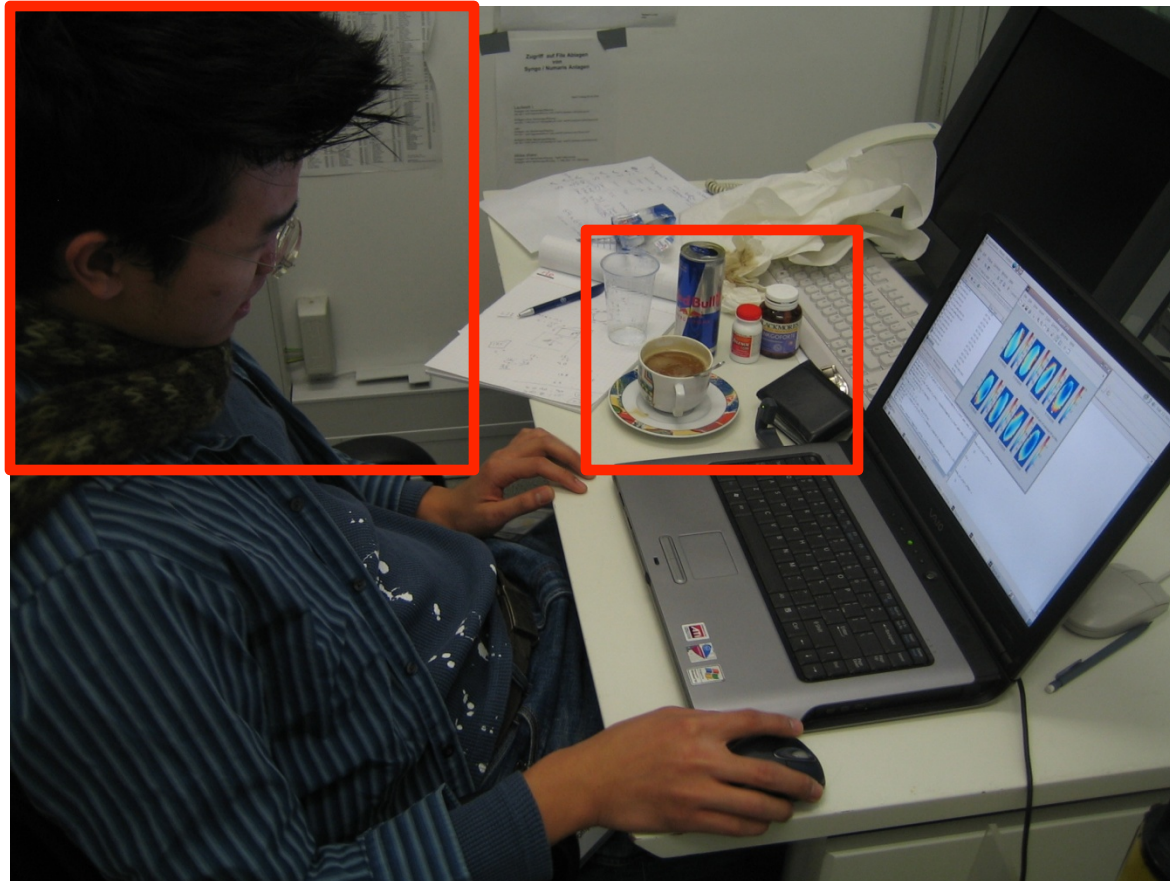


1. blood flow regulation at laminar level.
2. identify common drive situation.
3. infer directionality of connections.

# What will advance MR encoding...

MR and signal processing expertise...

Kawin Setsompop, at work at the MR console...



Coffee, Red bull, Tylenol & Ginko Forte

## Thank you!

wald@nmr.mgh.harvard.edu

# Equations of motion in gradient field

Bloch Eqs. Rotating frame

$$\frac{d\vec{M}}{dt} = \gamma \vec{M} \times \left( \vec{B} - \frac{\vec{\omega}_{rot}}{\gamma} \right) \quad \vec{B} = (B_0 + \vec{G} \cdot \vec{r}) \hat{z}$$

choose rotating frame  $\omega_{rot} = \omega_0$   
*(spins at  $\omega = \omega_0$  are stationary...)*

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\omega &= \omega_{spins} - \omega_{rot} \\ &= \gamma \vec{G} \cdot \vec{r} \quad \text{when } \omega_{rot} = \omega_0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left( \vec{B} - \frac{\vec{\omega}}{\gamma} \right) = \gamma \vec{G} \cdot \vec{r} = \Delta\omega$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{M}_x \\ \dot{M}_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \vec{G} \cdot \vec{r} \\ -\vec{G} \cdot \vec{r} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} M_x \\ M_y \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{complex notation for xy} \\ \text{component: } M = M_x + iM_y \end{array}$$

$$M(\vec{r}, t) = M_0(\vec{r}) \exp\left(-i \int_0^t (\vec{G}(t) \cdot \vec{r}) d\tau\right)$$