

Myocardial Imaging Tissue Doppler and Strain Imaging

Steven J. Lester MD, FRCP(C), FACC, FASE



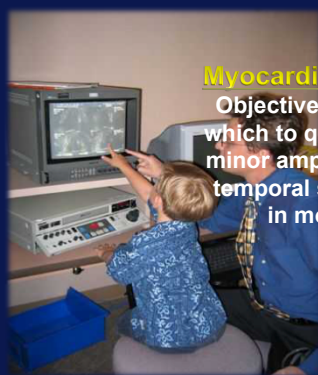
DISCLOSURE

Relevant Financial
Relationship(s)

None

Off Label Usage

None



Myocardial Imaging
Objective way with
which to quantify the
minor amplitude and
temporal subtleties
in motion



Objectives

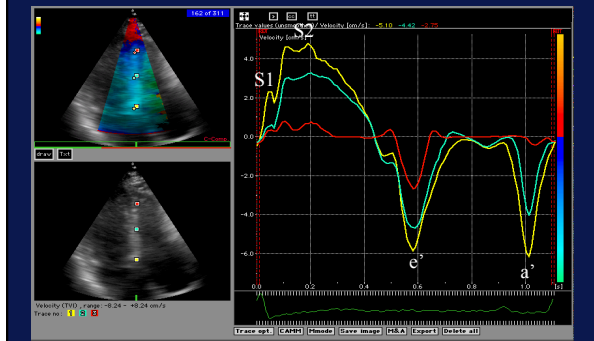
1. What is myocardial imaging?
2. Potential Clinical Applications
3. Impediments to widespread clinical adoption?

Doppler: Doppler Tissue Imaging

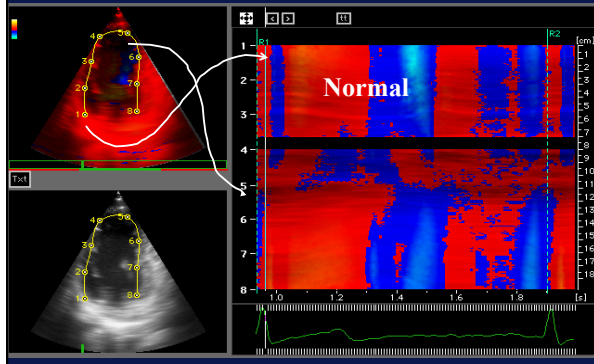
1. Turn wall filters off
2. Turn down the gain

The graph shows two curves on a coordinate system where the vertical axis is labeled 'Velocity (cm/sec)' and the horizontal axis is labeled 'Time (sec)'. The first curve is a sharp, narrow peak. The second curve is a broader, lower peak. The text '1. Turn wall filters off' and '2. Turn down the gain' is written in green next to the curves.

Doppler Tissue Imaging Septal Myocardial Velocity Traces

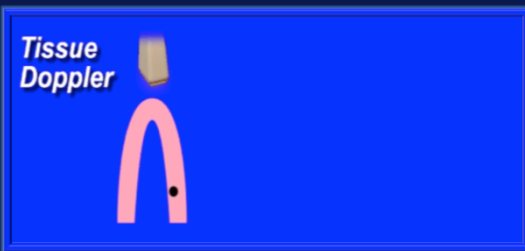


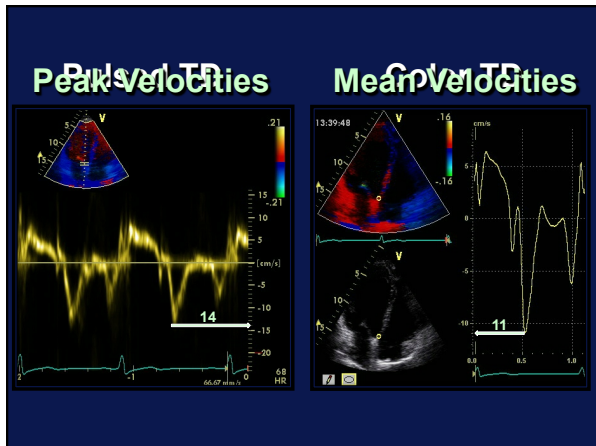
Curved M-mode : TVI

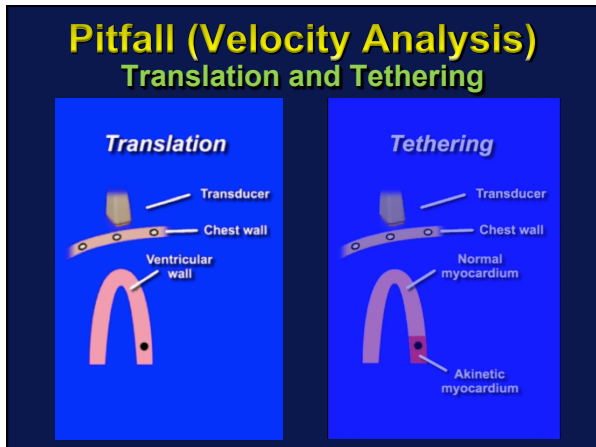


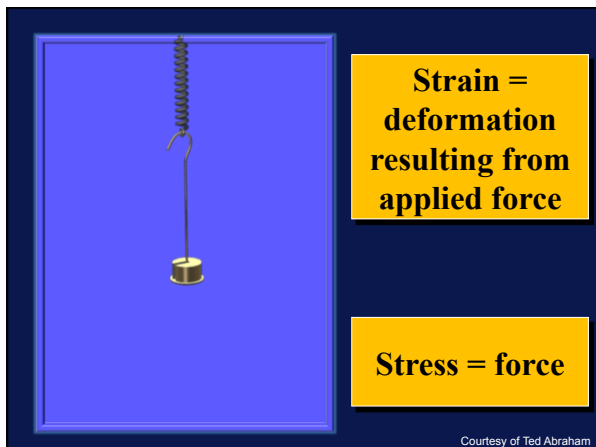
Goal

To Detect Regional Wall Motion



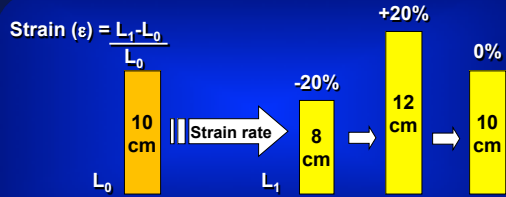




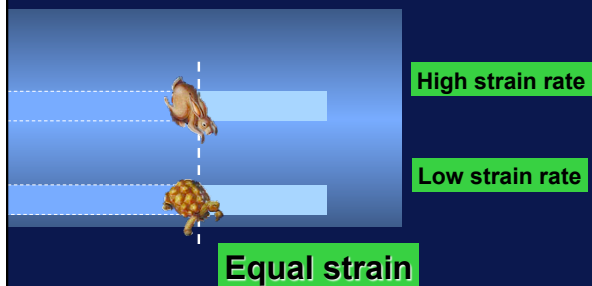


Myocardial strain

Used to describe elastic properties of cardiac muscle (Mirsky and Parmley: Circ Res, 1973)

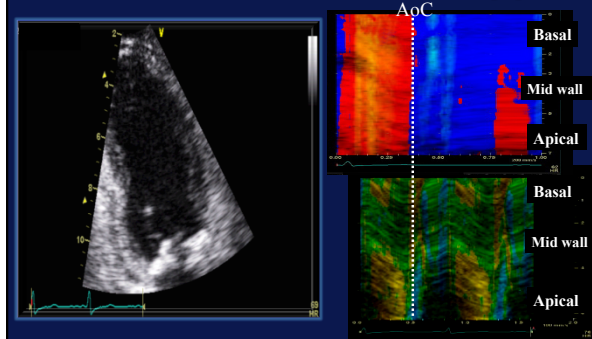


Strain rate: Rate of deformation



Courtesy of Andreas Heimdal

Strain rate vs. Tissue Doppler



Feature "Speckle" Tracking

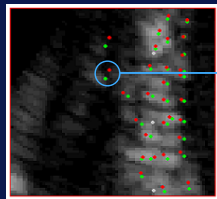


Movement of the myocardium relative to the sample volume fixed in space

Acoustic pattern tracking Speckle Tracking

Velocity is estimated as a shift of each object divided by time between successive frames (or multiplied by Frame Rate)-->

2D vector: $(V_x, V_y) = (dX, dY) * FR$



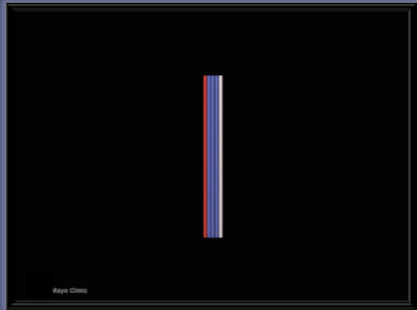
Courtesy Peter Lysysansky

Doppler Independent Techniques (Speckle Tracking) Potential Advantage?

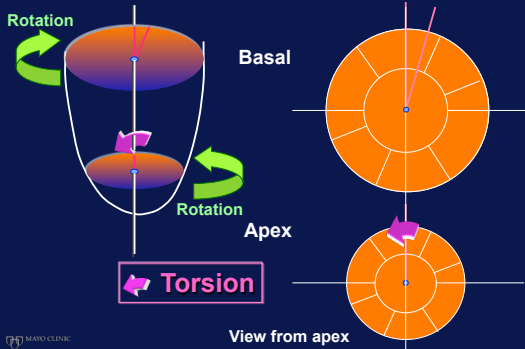
- Signal noise
- Speckle tracking by principle is angle independent
- Gray scale (standard views)
- Monitor strain in two rather than one dimension
- Minimal user input
- Assessment of rotation: derived from circumferential strain at different levels in the heart (**NO fixed sample volume**)

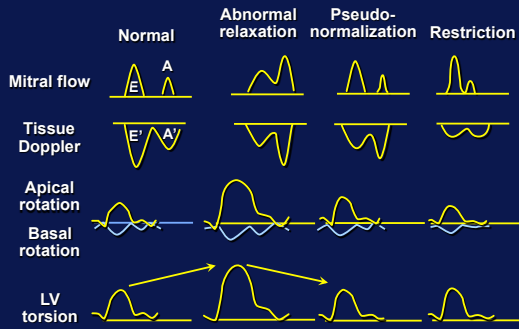
Myocardial Mechanics

Rotation/Twist/Torsion



Rotation and Torsion





Park et al: J Am Soc Echo Cardiogr 21:1129, 2008

Objective #2

Potential Clinical Applications



Cardiac Imaging

Impaired Systolic Function by Strain Imaging in Heart Failure With Preserved Ejection Fraction

Elisabeth Kraigher-Krainer, MD,* Amil M. Shah, MD, MPH,† Deepak K. Gupta, MD,*
 Angela Santos, MD,† Brian Claggett, PhD,† Burkert Pieske, MD,† Michael R. Zile, MD,†
 Adriaan A. Voors, MD,† Marty P. Leffkowitz, MD,† Milton Packer, MD,† John J. V. McMurray, MD,†

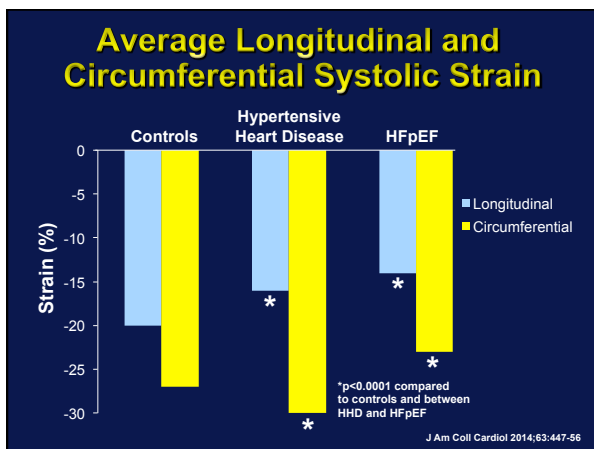
Impaired Systolic Function by Strain Imaging in Heart Failure With Preserved Ejection Fraction

Strain Imaging detects impaired systolic function despite preserved global LVEF in HFpEF that may contribute to the pathophysiology of the HFpEF syndrome.

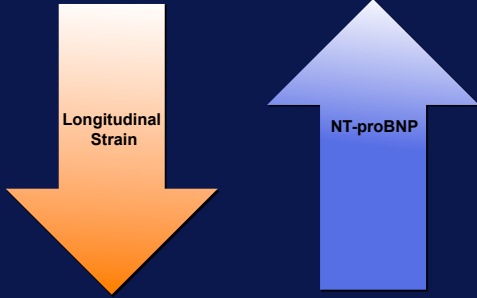
lower longitudinal strain (LS) (-20.0 ± 2.5 and -17.07 ± 2.04 vs. -34.6 ± 3.3, respectively, p < 0.0005 for both) and circumferential strain (CS) (-27.1 ± 3.1 in HFpEF; both LS and CS were related to LVEF standard echocardiographic measures of diastolic function, and LV filling pressure (multivariable adjusted p = 0.005).

Conclusions Strain imaging detects impaired systolic function despite preserved global LVEF in HFpEF that may contribute to the pathophysiology of the HFpEF syndrome. (JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging 2014;6:3:447-56)

J Am Coll Cardiol 2014;63:447-56



Association of Longitudinal Systolic Strain and NT-proBNP

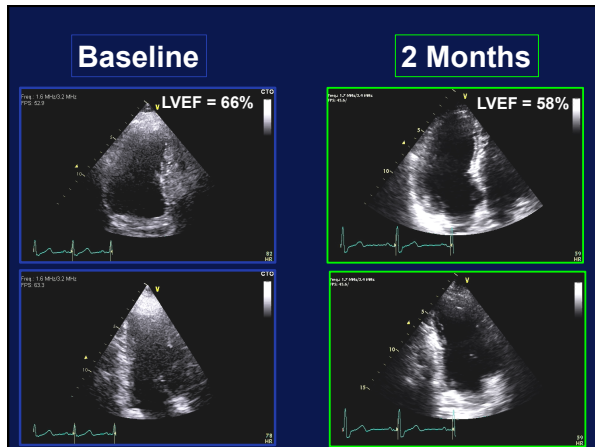


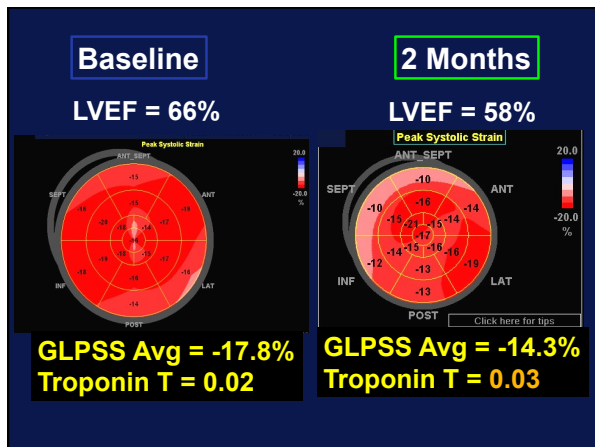




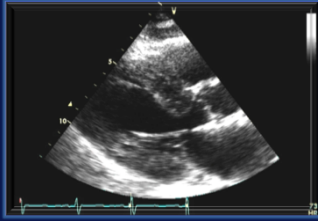
Case

- 76 year old male
- CMML/MDS with associated myeloid sarcoma skin lesions
- Experimental Chemotherapy ABT-348





Thick Walls, Why?

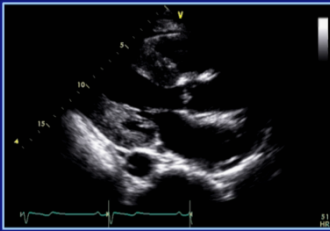


- Athlete
- HTN
- HCM
- Infiltrative
-amyloid
- Storage
-Fabry

HTN or HCM?



The Thinker
Auguste Rodin



Are They Really The Same?



CARDIAC MECHANICS IN PATIENTS WITH CARDIOMYOPATHY

Systolic Function Reserve Using Two-Dimensional Strain Imaging in Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: Comparison with Essential Hypertension

Hala Mahfouz Badran, MD, Naglaa Faheem, MD, Waleed Abdou Ibrahim, MD, Mohamed Fahmy Elnoamany, MD, Mohamed Elordi, MSc, and Magdi Yacoub, MD, Shrew, Gloucestershire, and James, Egypt, London, United Kingdom

J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2013;26:1397-406

Background: Although patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) have normal ejection fractions at rest, the investigators hypothesized that these patients have differentially abnormal systolic function reserves, limiting their exercise capacity compared with patients with hypertension (HTN).

Methods: Forty patients with HCM (mean age, 39.4 ± 12 years), 20 patients with HTN (with LVH) and 24 healthy controls.

Patients with HCM have significantly limited systolic function reserve and more dynamic dyssynchrony with exercise compared with those with HTN...

Results: In patients with HCM, resting values for longitudinal ϵ_{circ} , systolic strain rate, early diastolic strain rate, and atrial diastolic strain rate were significantly lower, while circumferential ϵ_{circ} and twist were higher, compared with patients with HTN and controls ($P < .001$). Functional systolic reserve increased during exercise in controls ($7 \pm 6\%$), increased to a lesser extent in patients with HTN ($10 \pm 16\%$), and was markedly attenuated in patients with HCM ($-23 \pm 28\%$) ($P < .001$). At peak exercise, even with augmented circumferential ϵ_{circ} and twist in patients with HCM ($P < .01$) compared with those with HTN, both remained lower than in controls ($P < .001$). LV dyssynchrony was amplified during exercise in patients with HCM compared with those with HTN ($P < .001$). Within the entire population, exercise capacity was clearly correlated with systolic functional reserve. However when taken separately, it was mainly related to resting LV dyssynchrony and diastolic function in patients with HCM, whereas it was linked to age and LV wall thickness in those with HTN.

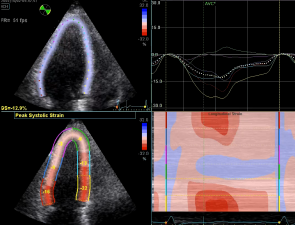
Conclusions: Patients with HCM have significantly limited systolic function reserve and more dynamic dyssynchrony with exercise compared with those with HTN. Two-dimensional strain imaging during stress may provide a new and reliable method to identify patients at higher cardiovascular risk. (J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2013;26:1397-406.)

HTN or HCM?

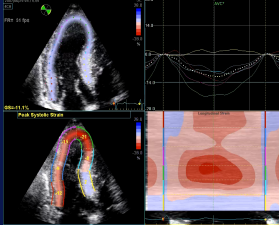
	Controls	HTN	HCM
Rest Strain (%)	-18.5 ± 2.0	-15.5 ± 3.7*	-13.5 ± 5.6**
Exercise Strain (%)	-23.1 ± 2.7	-17.7 ± 2.4*	-11.8 ± 4.9**
Rest TTP-SD (msec)	28 ± 7.5	28 ± 12.7	52 ± 28.9**
Exercise TTP-SD (msec)	20.9 ± 12	30 ± 20*	60 ± 37**

Identify "Regionality" of Myocardial Motion

Apical HCM



Septal HCM



Application of a Parametric Display of Two-Dimensional Speckle-Tracking Longitudinal Strain to Improve the Etiologic Diagnosis of Mild to Moderate Left Ventricular Hypertrophy

Dermot Phean, MB, BCh, PhD, Palanidhesh Thavendiranathan, MD, MSc, Zoran Popovic, MD, PhD, Patrick Collier, MB, BCh, PhD, Brian Griffin, MD, James D. Thomas, MD, and Thomas H. Marwick, MBBS, PhD, MPH, Cleveland, Ohio; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Hobart, Australia

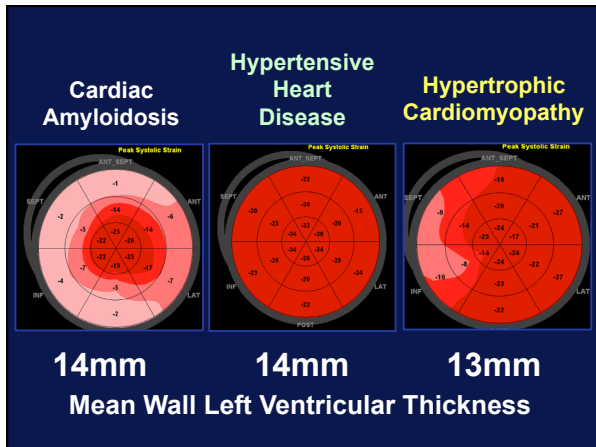
Application of a Parametric Display of Two-Dimensional Speckle-Tracking Longitudinal Strain to Improve the Etiologic Diagnosis of Mild to Moderate Left Ventricular Hypertrophy

J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2014;27:888-95

these contours, and interpretation was repeated with the addition of the strain polar map.

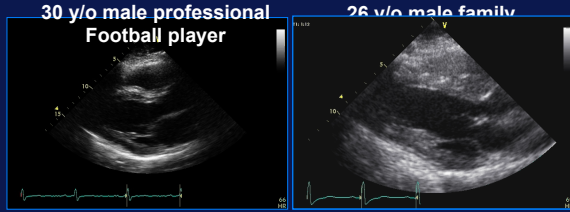
Results: Baseline concordance among the readers was poor ($\kappa = 0.28$) and improved with the addition of strain data ($\kappa = 0.57$). Accuracy was improved with the addition of polar maps for the entire study cohort ($P < .001$), with 22% of cases reclassified correctly. The largest improvements in sensitivity (from 40% to 86%, $P < .001$), specificity (from 84% to 95%, $P < .001$), and accuracy (from 70% to 92%, $P < .001$) were seen for CA. The strain polar map significantly improved reader confidence in making the correct diagnosis overall ($P < .001$).

Conclusions: Regional variations in strain are easily recognizable, accurate, and reproducible means of differentiating causes of LVH. The detection of LVH etiology may be a useful clinical application for strain. (*J Am Soc Echocardiogr* 2014;27:888-95)

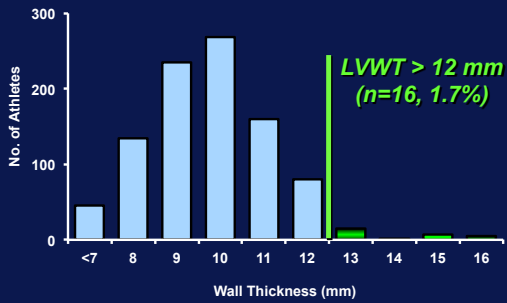




Athlete or HCM ?



Distribution of LVWT in 947 Elite Athletes?



Pelliccia et al N Engl J Med 1991;324:295

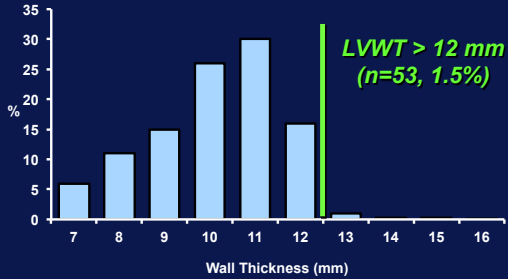
Distribution of LVWT in 947 Elite Athletes?

Of the 16 with LVWT > 12mm

- All had EDD >54mm
- All had normal LA dimension
- All were men, no women >11mm

Pelliccia et al N Engl J Med 1991;324:295

Distribution of LVWT in 3500 Elite Athletes?



Basavarajiah et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2008;51:1033

Distribution of LVWT in 3500 Elite Athletes?

Of the 53 with LVWT > 12mm

- 50 had EDD >58mm
- All had normal LA dimension and diastolic function
- All were men

Basavarajiah et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2008;51:1033

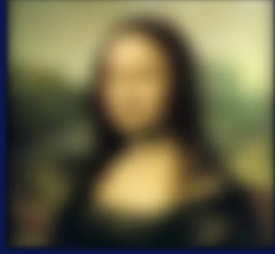
Athletes vs HCM Gray Zone LVWT

Criterion	Sensitivity	Specificity	AUC
LVRWT < 0.6	96	86	0.97
Septal e' (cm/sec) > 9	86	70	0.75
Long-endo ϵ (%) < -15	79	67	0.72
Long-endo ϵ / LVRWT < -30	82	95	0.94

Kansal MM et al. Am J Cardiol 2011;108(9):1322-6

Objective #3

Impediments to Clinical Adoption?



1. Standardization
2. Workflow

Echocardiographic Measures of Myocardial Deformation by Speckle-Tracking Technologies: The Need for Standardization?

Matthew R. Nelson, MD, R. Todd Hunt, MD, Sriragdin F. Rastan, MD, Stephen Cha, MS, Susan Wilansky, MD, and Steven J. Lester, MD, *Suzanne D. Ariawan, Radiator, Milwaukee*

Echocardiographic Measures of Myocardial Deformation by Speckle-Tracking Technologies: The Need for Standardization?

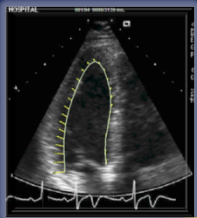
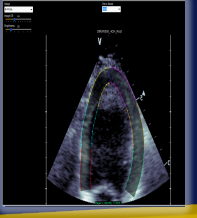
Methods: A convenience sample of 100 prospectively collected patients was evaluated. Subjects with more than two left ventricular endocardial segments poorly delineated were excluded. GLS was obtained from the apical four-chamber, three-chamber, and two-chamber views using two independent speckle-tracking echocardiographic software packages (EchoSight version 1.5.0 and Image-Arena version 4.5). Linear regression analysis and paired t tests were used to compare GLS results. Intraclass correlation coefficients and Bland-Altman plots were used for assessments of reliability.


Results: The "out-of-the-box" mean GLS was $-12.99 \pm 2.38\%$ using EchoSight and $-16.87 \pm 2.84\%$ using Image-Arena (mean difference, $3.87 \pm 2.42\%$; $P = .0001$). Agreement between the software packages was moderate (intraclass correlation coefficient, 0.43 ; 95% confidence interval, $0.32-0.55$). Using uniform variables to derive GLS (Lagrangian strain measured in systole and diastole at the endocardium and averaging the peak segmental strain curves), EchoSight GLS was $-16.17 \pm 2.90\%$ and Image-Arena GLS was $-16.87 \pm 2.84\%$ (mean difference, $0.70 \pm 2.73\%$; $P = .02$), with an intraclass correlation coefficient of 0.70 (95% confidence interval, $0.52-0.79$).

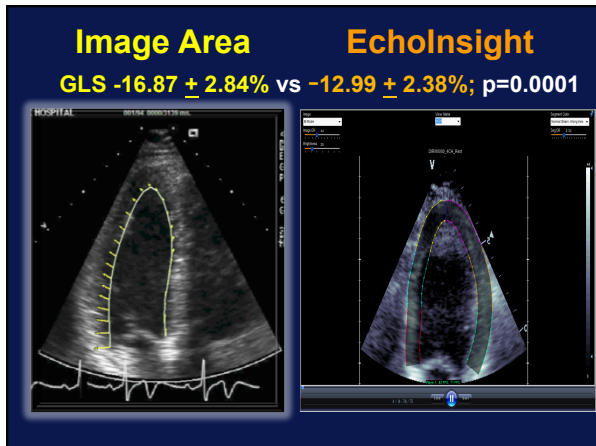
Conclusions: Image-Arena GLS results were consistent out of the box but became similar when information on the nature of myocardial mechanics is incorporated into routine clinical practice. [J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2012;25:1189-94](#)

Keywords: Speckle-tracking, Strain, Echocardiography

Image Arena 2D Speckle Tracking
(GE Vivid™ 7)





Need For Standardization

	Endocardium		Endocardium/Epicardium	
	Natural	Lagrangian	Natural	Lagrangian
Average of peaks				
Systole	$-14.63 \pm 2.48^\dagger$	$-15.79 \pm 2.86^\dagger$	$-13.42 \pm 2.22^\dagger$	$-14.39 \pm 2.53^\dagger$
Systole/diastole	$-14.96 \pm 2.50^\dagger$	$-16.17 \pm 2.90^\dagger$	$-13.70 \pm 2.24^\dagger$	$-14.71 \pm 2.57^\dagger$
Peak of ave				
Systole	$-13.99 \pm 2.61^\dagger$	$-15.05 \pm 2.99^\dagger$	$-12.99 \pm 2.38^\dagger$	$-13.91 \pm 2.69^\dagger$
Systole/diastole	$-13.99 \pm 2.61^\dagger$	$-15.05 \pm 2.99^\dagger$	$-12.99 \pm 2.38^\dagger$	$-13.91 \pm 2.69^\dagger$

-16.17 vs -16.87 ; $p=0.02$

[†]Significant difference ($P < .05$) compared with Image-Arena GLS
[‡]Significant difference ($P < .001$) compared with Image-Arena GLS

*J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2012;25:1189-94

REPRODUCIBILITY OF LEFT VENTRICULAR STRAIN

Head-to-Head Comparison of Global Longitudinal Strain Measurements among Nine Different Vendors The EACVI/ASE Inter-Vendor Comparison Study

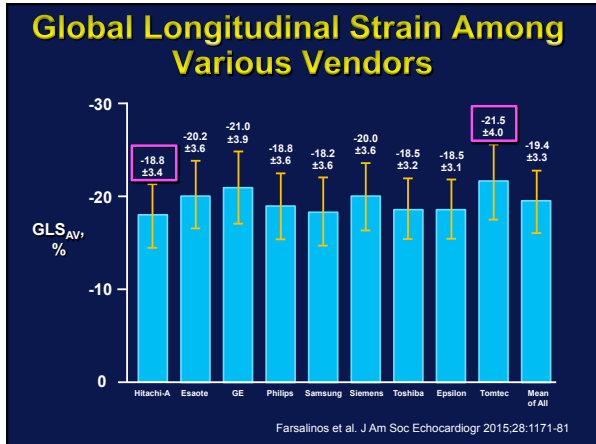
Konstantinos E. Farsalinos, MD, Ana M. Danaban, MD, Serkan Ünlü, MD, James D. Thomas, MD, Luigi P. Badano, MD, PhD, and Jens-Uwe Voigt, MD, PhD, Leuven, Belgium; Chicago, Illinois; and Padua, Italy

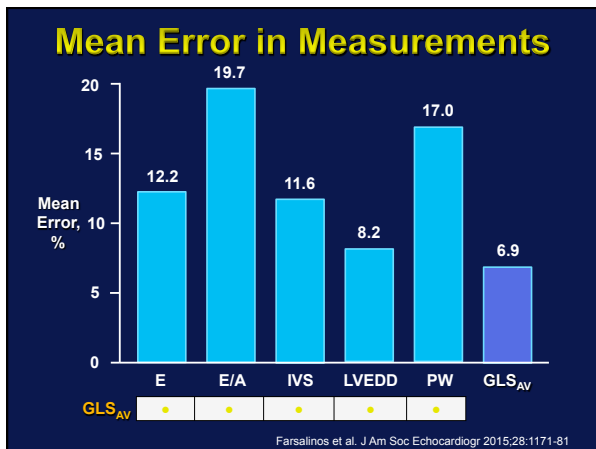
Background: This study was planned by the EACVI/ASE/Industry Task Force to Standardize Deformation Imaging to (1) test the variability of speckle-tracking global longitudinal strain (GLS) measurements among different vendors and (2) compare GLS measurement variability with conventional echocardiographic parameters.

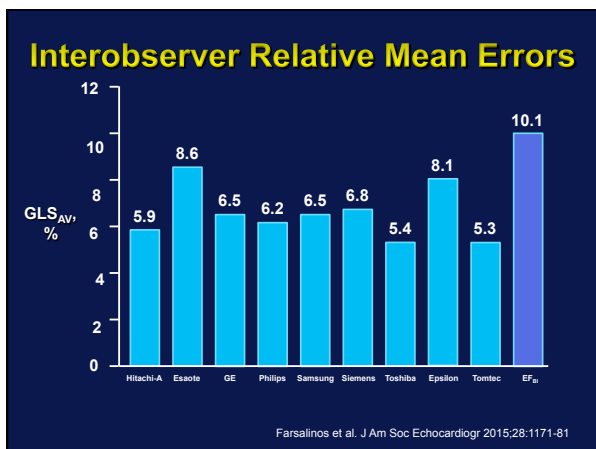
Methods: Sixty-two volunteers were studied using ultrasound systems from seven manufacturers. Each volunteer was examined by the same sonographer on all machines. Inter- and intraobserver variability was determined in a true test-retest setting. Conventional echocardiographic parameters were acquired for comparison. Using the software packages of the respective manufacturer and of two software-only vendors, endocardial GLS was measured because it was the only GLS parameter that could be provided by all manufacturers. We compared GLS_{AV} (the average from the three apical views) and GLS_{CH} (measured in the four-chamber view) measurements among vendors and with the conventional echocardiographic parameters.

Results: Absolute values of GLS_{AV} ranged from 18.0% to 21.5%, while GLS_{CH} ranged from 17.9% to 21.4%. The absolute difference between vendors for GLS_{AV} was up to 3.7% strain units ($P < .001$). The interobserver relative mean errors were 5.4% to 6.6% for GLS_{AV} and 6.2% to 11.0% for GLS_{CH}, while the intraobserver relative mean errors were 4.2% to 7.3% and 7.2% to 11.3%, respectively. These errors were lower than for left ventricular ejection fraction and most other conventional echocardiographic parameters.

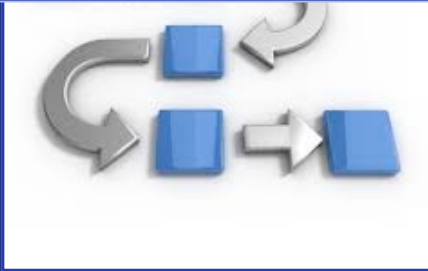
Conclusion: Reproducibility of GLS measurements was good and in many cases superior to conventional echocardiographic measurements. The small but statistically significant variation among vendors should be considered in performing serial studies and reflects a reference point for ongoing standardization efforts. (J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2015;28:1171-81.)







Any innovation in imaging must be paralleled or exceeded by an innovation in workflow.



Fully Automated Versus Standard Tracking of Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction and Longitudinal Strain
The FAST-EFs Multicenter Study

Christian Knaack, MD,* Sebastian C.A.M. Bekkers, MD, PhD,* Georg Schummers,† Marcus Schredersberg,‡ Dennis Morano, MD, PhD,† Luigi P. Badano, MD, PhD,† Andrea Franke, MD,† Ching-Ing Bivini, MD, MPH,† Alaa Mubvok Salim Chami, MD, PhD,† Partho P. Senagajla, MD, DM,

Fully Automated Versus Standard Tracking of Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction and Longitudinal Strain
The Fast-EFs Multicenter Study

RESULTS Automated measurements were feasible in 98% of studies, and the average analysis time was 8.1 s/patient. Interclass correlation coefficients and Bland-Altman analysis revealed good agreements among automated EF, local center manual tracking, and reference center manual tracking, but not for visual EF assessments. Similarly, automated and manual LS measurements obtained at the reference center showed good agreement. Intracenter variability was higher for visual EF than for manual EF or manual LS.

J Am Coll Cardiol 2015;66:1456-66

CONCLUSIONS Fully automated analysis of echocardiography images provides rapid and reproducible assessment of left ventricular EF and LS. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2015;66:1456-66) © 2015 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation.

Fully Automated Versus Standard Tracking of Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction and Longitudinal Strain
The FAST-EFs Multicenter Study

Christian Knaack, MD,* Sebastian C.A.M. Bekkers, MD, PhD,* Georg Schummers,† Marcus Schredersberg,‡ Dennis Morano, MD, PhD,† Luigi P. Badano, MD, PhD,† Andrea Franke, MD,† Ching-Ing Bivini, MD, MPH,† Alaa Mubvok Salim Chami, MD, PhD,† Partho P. Senagajla, MD, DM,

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND Time costs of manual EF and LS measurements are high.

OBJECTIVE Fully automated EF and LS measurements were compared with manual measurements.

METHODS Data from 100 patients were analyzed. A reference center determined EF and LS measurements.

RESULTS Interclass correlation coefficients and Bland-Altman analysis revealed good agreements among automated EF, local center manual tracking, and reference center manual tracking, but not for visual EF assessments. Similarly, automated and manual LS measurements obtained at the reference center showed good agreement. Intracenter variability was higher for visual EF than for manual EF or manual LS.

CONCLUSIONS Fully automated analysis of echocardiography images provides rapid and reproducible assessment of left ventricular EF and LS. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2015;66:1456-66) © 2015 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation.

KEYWORDS: echocardiography, left ventricular ejection fraction, left ventricular longitudinal strain, automated, manual, reference center, local center, intracenter variability.

2-C **4-C**

User Initiated Identification of views

Fully Automated Contouring

EDV **ESV**

EDV (2C)	113.9 ml	EDV (4C)	114.8 ml
ESV (2C)	48.5 ml	ESV (4C)	57.8 ml
EF (2C)	65.4%	EF (4C)	49.7%
GLS (2C)	-21.1%	GLS (4C)	-19.2%

Displaying results

EDV: 118.8 ml, ESV: 54.8 ml, EF: 63.9%, GLS: -20.1%

Fully Automated Versus Standard Tracking of Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction and Longitudinal Strain

The FAST-EFs Multicenter Study

Christian Koschinski, MD,* Sebastian C.A.M. Bekkers, MD, PhD,* Georg Schummers, Marcus Schneiderberg,† Dennis Mirani, MD, PhD,† Luigi P. Badano, MD, PhD,† Andrea Fraloc, MD,† Ching-Ing Hsiang, MD, MPH,† Alaa Mabrouk Salem Omar, MD, PhD,† Partho P. Sengupta, MD, DM

1. AutoLV measurements were feasible in 98% of studies.
2. Average analysis time was 8 ± 1 s/patient.
3. Interobserver variability was higher for both visual and manual EF, but not different for LS.

RESULTS AutoLV measurements were feasible in 98% of studies, and the average analysis time was 8 ± 1 s/patient. Interclass correlation coefficients and Bland-Altman analysis revealed good agreements among automated EF, local center manual tracking, and reference center manual tracking, but not for visual EF assessments. Similarly, automated and manual LS measurements obtained at the reference center showed good agreement. Intraobserver variability was higher for visual EF than for manual EF or manual LS, whereas interobserver variability was higher for both visual and manual EF, but not different for LS. Automated EF and LS had no variability.

CONCLUSIONS Fully automated analysis of echocardiography images provides rapid and reproducible assessment of left ventricular EF and LS. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2015;66:1458-66) © 2015 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation.

Cardio-Oncology

Simultaneous measurement of Strain and Ejection Fraction

Images courtesy of J. D'Hooge et al.

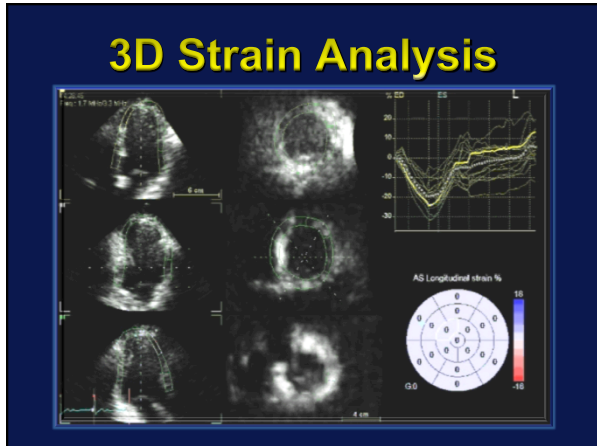
- Measures systolic shortening
• Sensitive measure of myocardium function
- Measures fractional change in volume
• Established, commonly used metric

Cardio-Oncology Analysis

October January

Strain

EF



Evaluation of Global Left Ventricular Systolic Function Using Three-Dimensional Echocardiography Speckle-Tracking Strain Parameters

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Background: The aim of this study was to evaluate the capacity and reproducibility of three-dimensional echocardiographic (3DE) strain parameters in the assessment of global left ventricular (LV) systolic function.

Methods: A total of 128 subjects with differing LV ejection fractions were investigated using two-dimensional echocardiographic (2DE) and 3DE strains. Three-dimensional echocardiographic strain allows obtaining

“a promising approach”

Results: After excluding 21 patients for insufficient image quality, four for arrhythmia, two for severe valvular disease, and one for severe dyspnea, the final population consisted of 100 patients. Comparison between 2DE and 3DE GLS revealed high correspondence ($r = 0.91$; $y = 1.04x - 0.71$) and mean error measurement of -1.3% (95% confidence interval, -5.7 to 3.2). Among strain parameters, global area strain exhibited the highest correlation with LV ejection fraction ($y = -1.66 + 10.4x - 0.92$; $P < .001$). Intraobserver measurement variability proved acceptable: 8% for GLS (vs 6% on 2DE analysis), 7% for circumferential strain (vs 15% on 2DE analysis), 7% for radial strain (vs 33% on 2DE analysis), and 5% for global area strain. The mean error between two measurements was low but similar for GLS. The mean time of

J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2012;25:68-79

Conclusions: Of all strain parameters, new 3DE area strain correlated best with common LV systolic function parameters and is thus the most promising approach, while all 3DE strain markers exhibited good reproducibility. (J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2012;25:68-79.)

Myocardial Imaging

“What’s Next Starts Soon”

Standardization Workflow Efficiency



Confucius

**“It doesn’t
matter how
slowly you
go as long
as you do
not stop”**