

Myocardial Imaging

Tissue Doppler and Strain Imaging

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DISCLOSURE

**Relevant Financial
Relationship(s)**

None

Off Label Usage

None

When obtaining a pulsed wave tissue Doppler signal you should?

- a.** Turn the wall filters on and turn down the receiver gain.
- b.** Turn the wall filters off and turn up the receiver gain.
- c.** Turn the wall filters off and turn down the receiver gain.
- d.** Turn the wall filters on and turn up the receiver gain.

With “speckle tracking” myocardial imaging:

- a.** You measure strain along the axis of the ultrasound beam.
- b.** Velocity and strain measurements are measured from standard gray-scale images.
- c.** Myocardial velocity measurements are not influenced by translational or tethering motion as they are when obtained by pulsed wave tissue Doppler imaging.
- d.** You can measure longitudinal but not circumferential or radial strain.

Compared to pulsed wave tissue Doppler the myocardial velocities obtained by color tissue Doppler are?

- a. Higher**
- b. Lower**
- c. The same**

Myocardial Imaging

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





Objectives

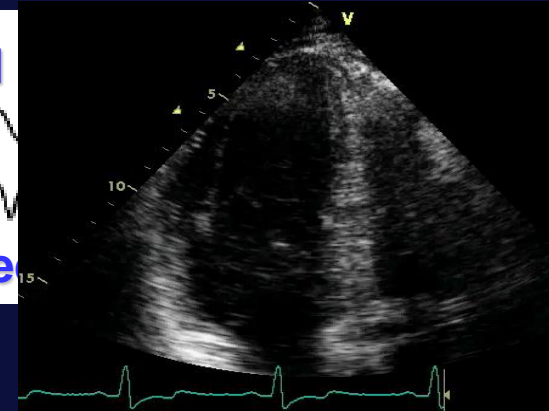
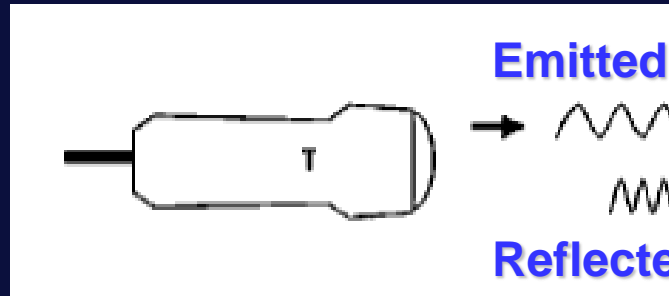
- 1. What is myocardial imaging?**
- 2. Potential Clinical Applications**
- 3. Impediments to widespread clinical adoption.**

How Do We Obtain a Velocity?

Christian Andreas Doppler
1803 - 1853



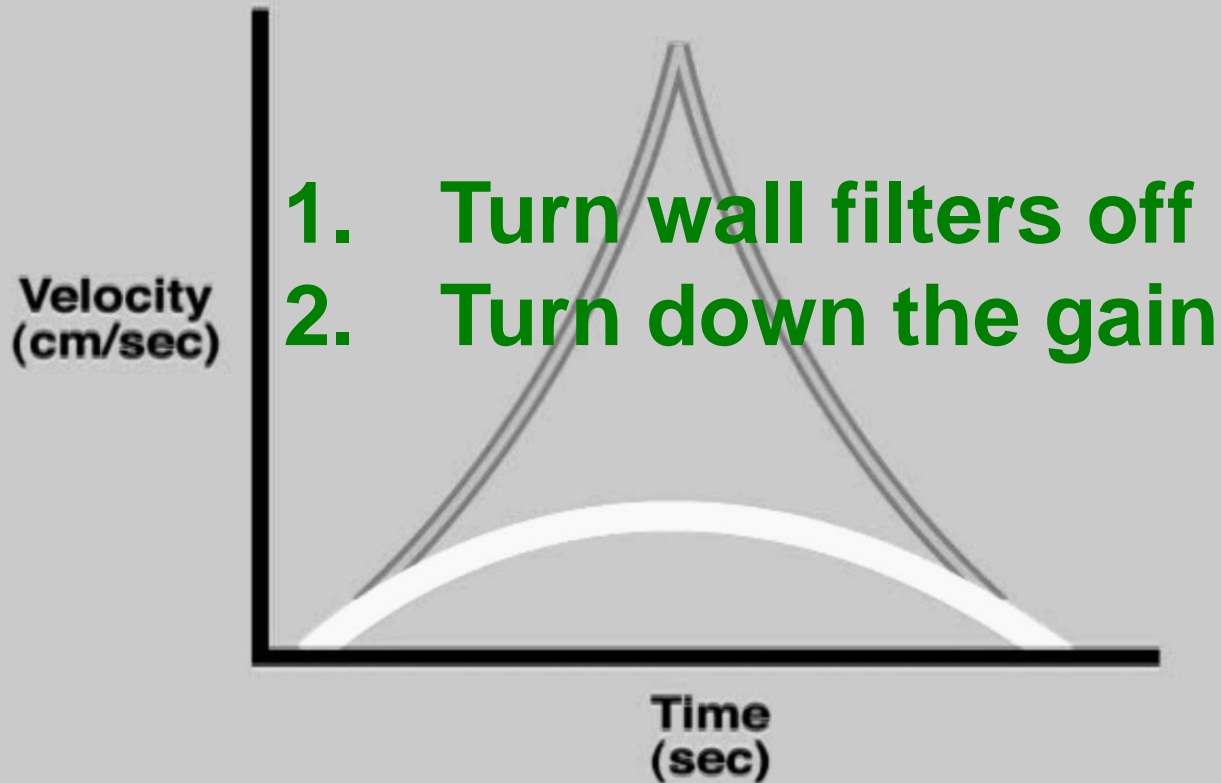
Positive Frequency Shift



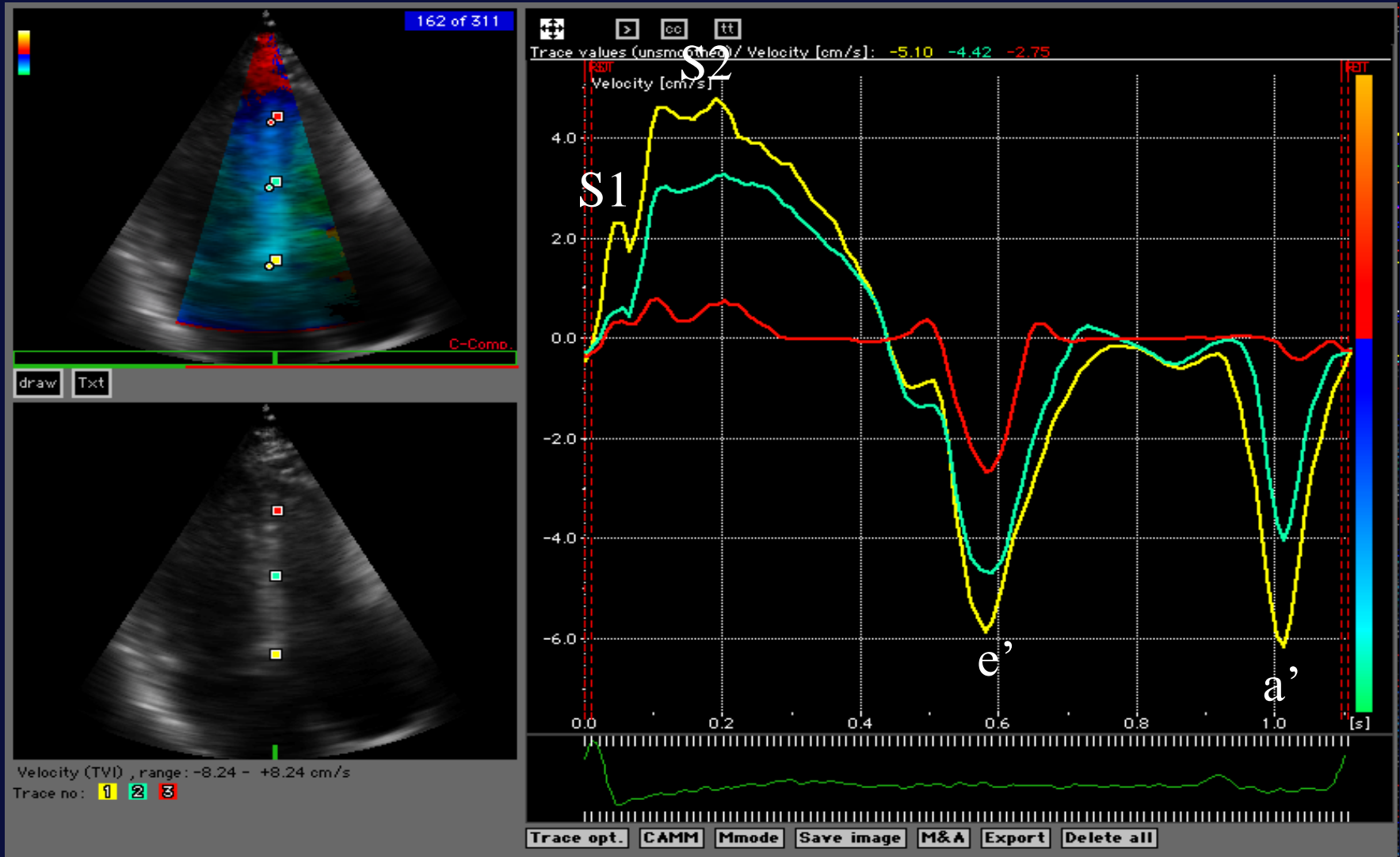
$$(f_r - f_o) = 2f_o v (\cos\theta) / c$$

C= average speed of sound in tissue (1540m/sec)

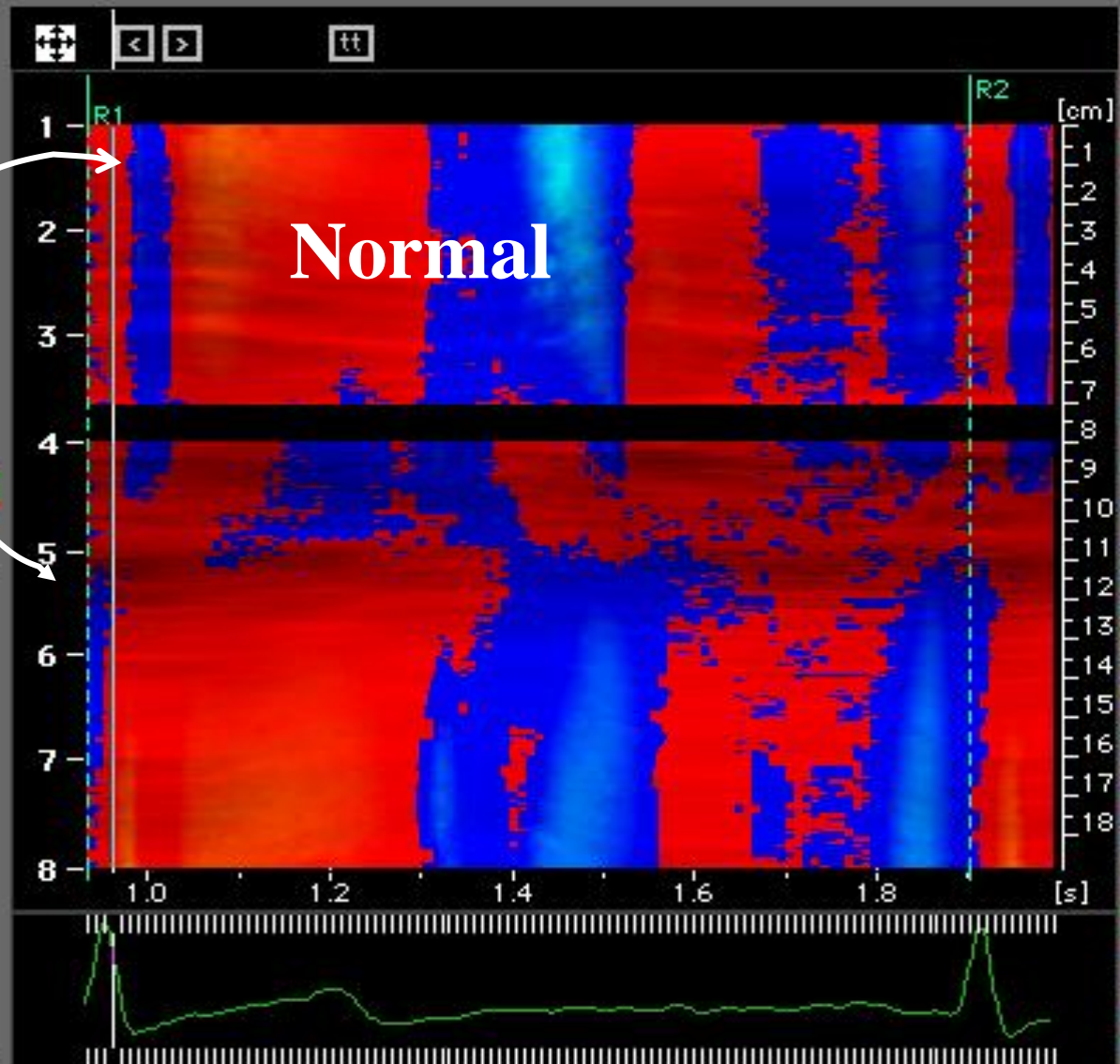
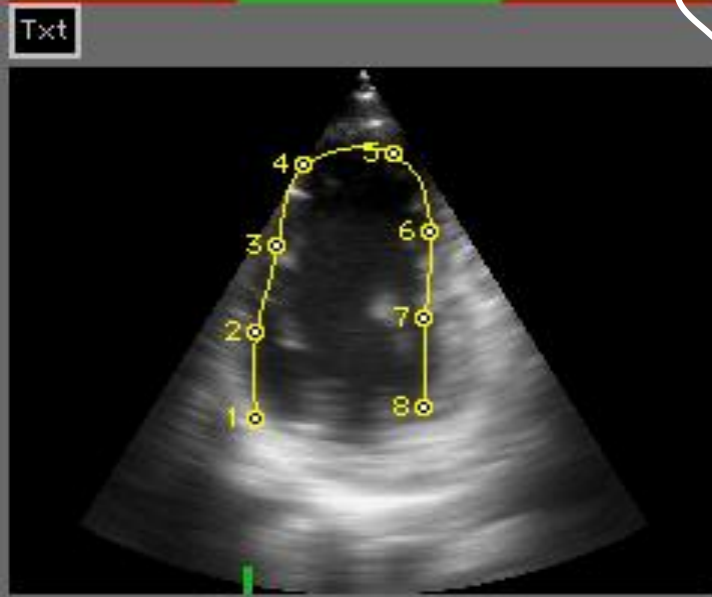
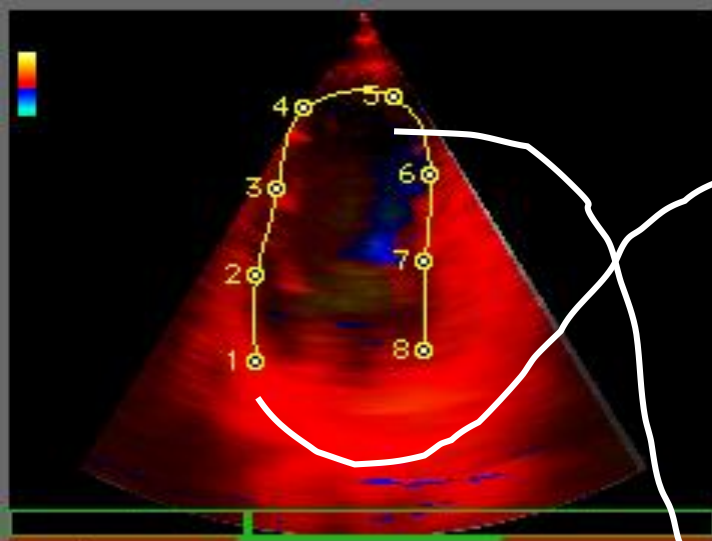
Doppler: Doppler Tissue Imaging



Doppler Tissue Imaging Septal Myocardial Velocity Traces

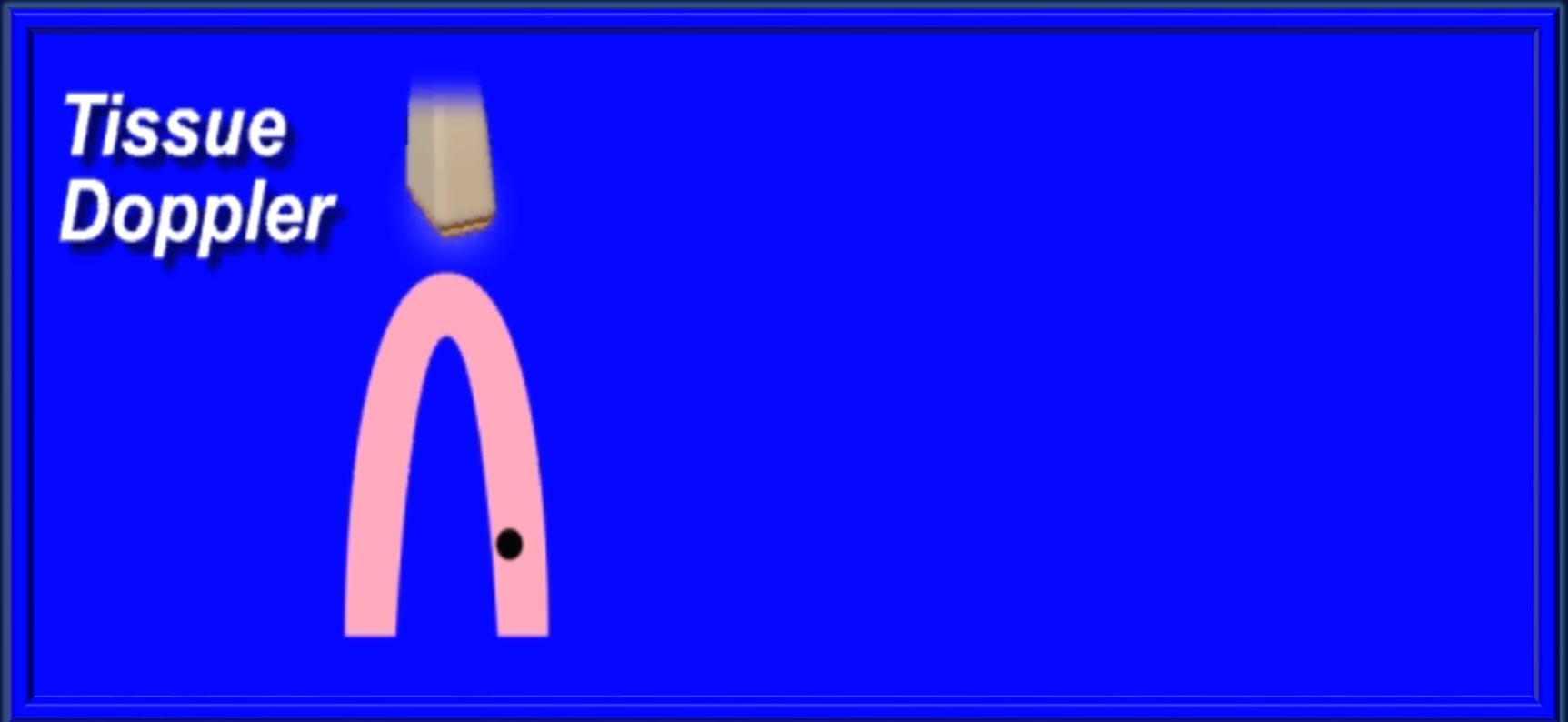


Curved M-mode : TVI

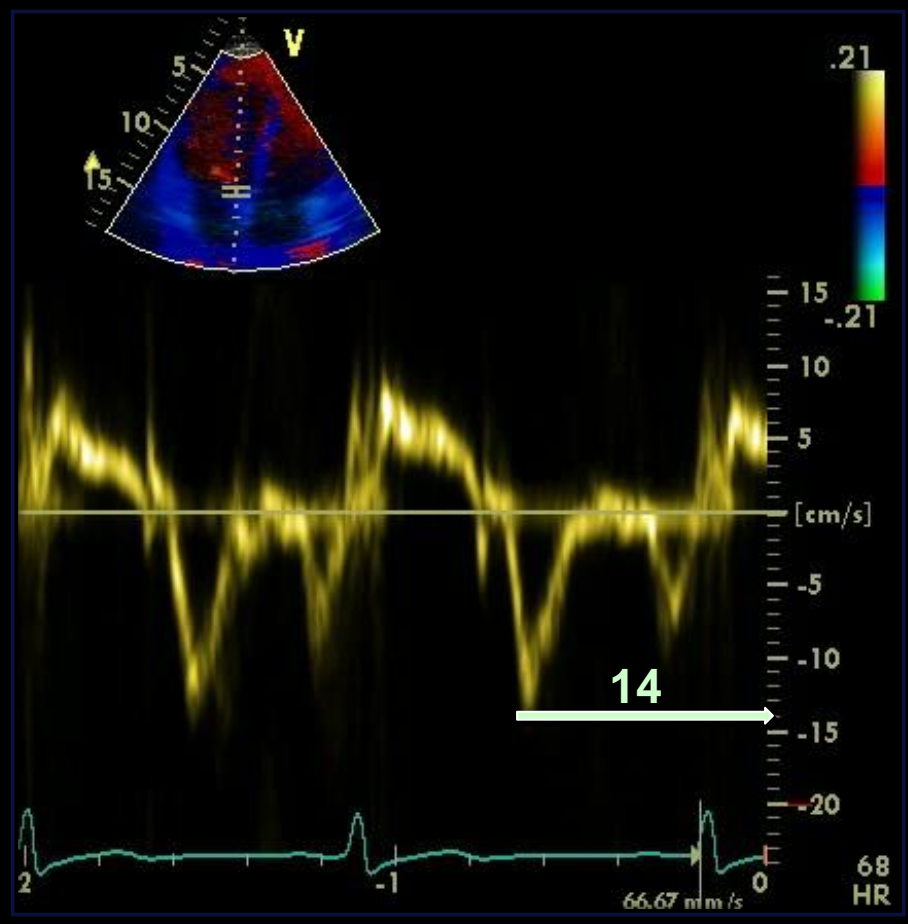


Goal

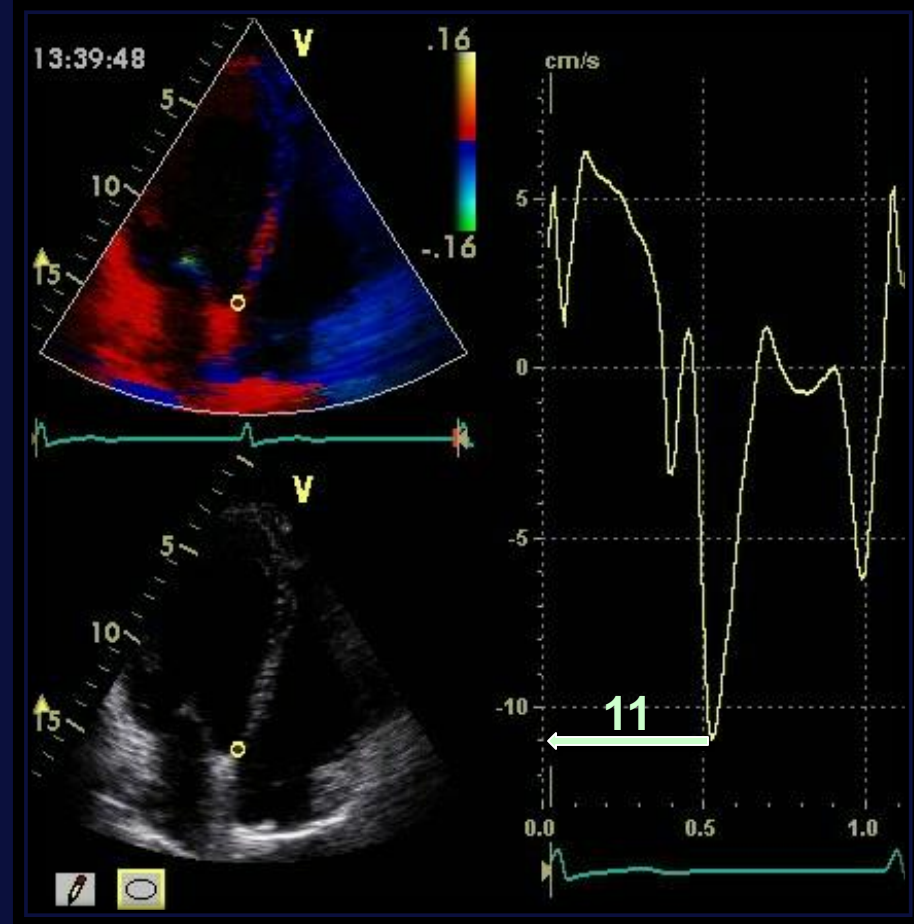
To Detect Regional Wall Motion



Pulsed TD Peak Velocities



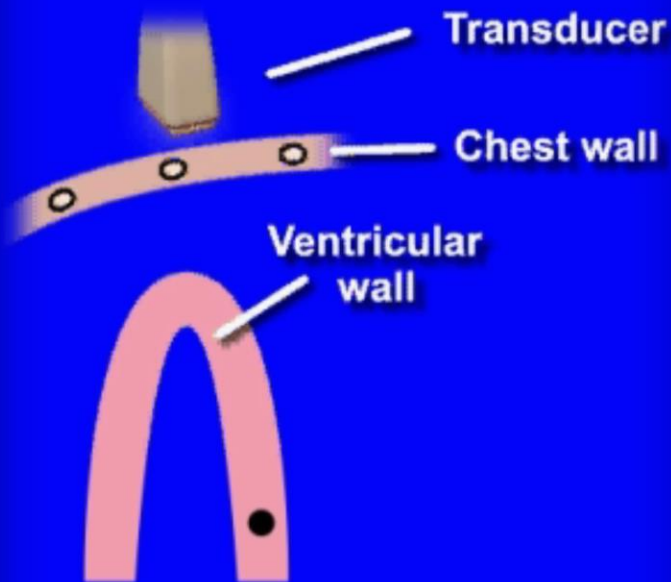
Color TD Mean Velocities



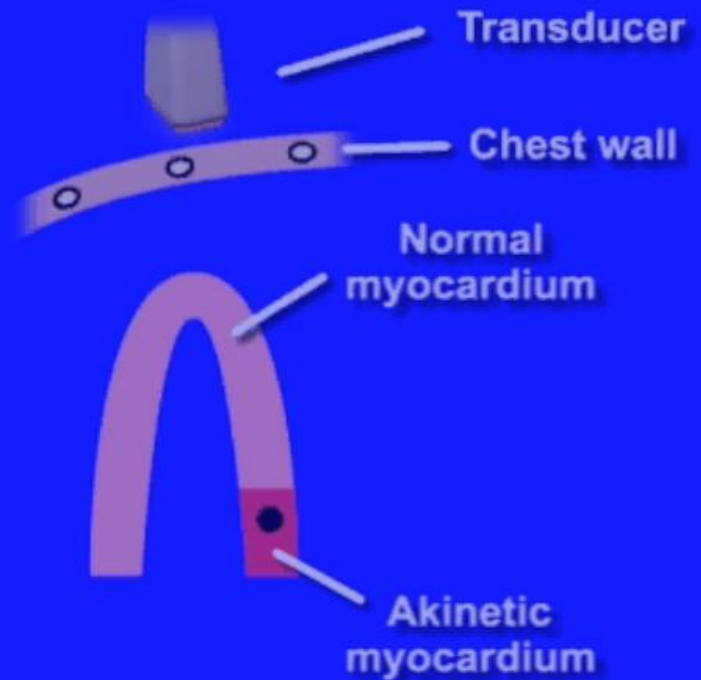
Pitfall (Velocity Analysis)

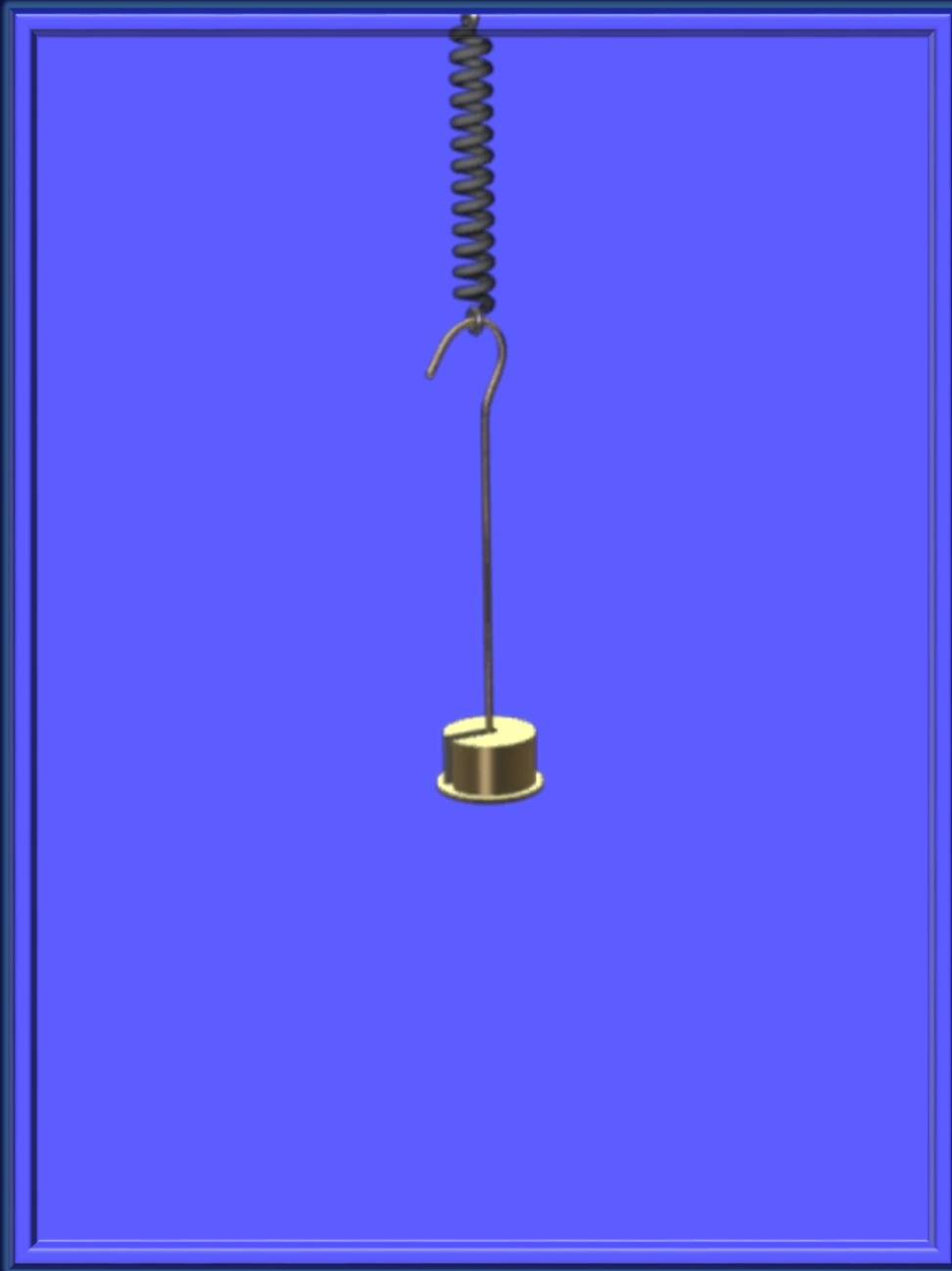
Translation and Tethering

Translation



Tethering





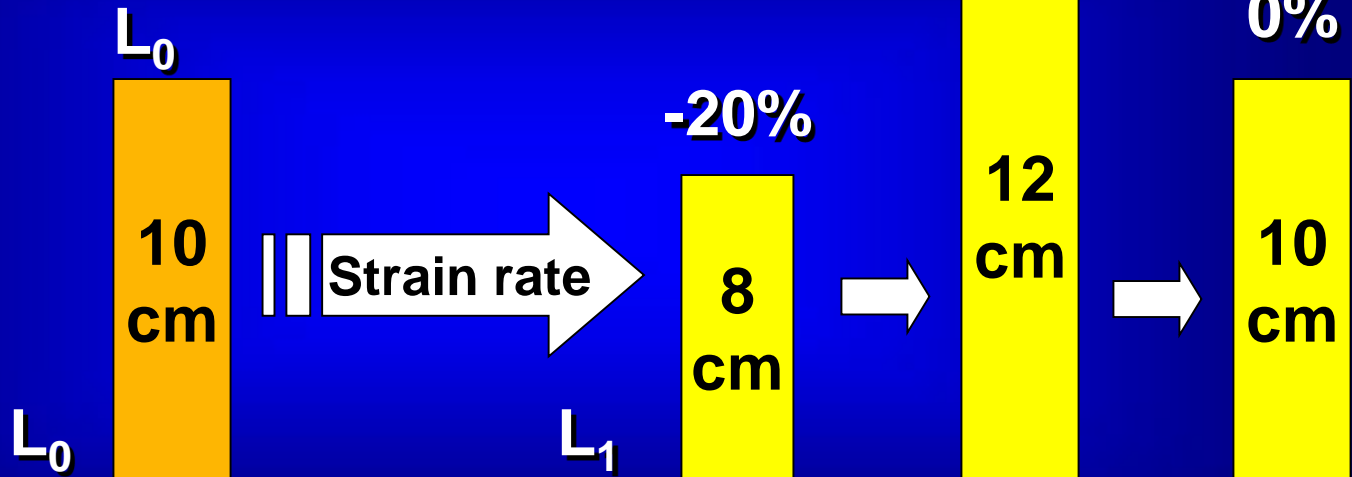
**Strain =
deformation
resulting from
applied force**

Stress = force

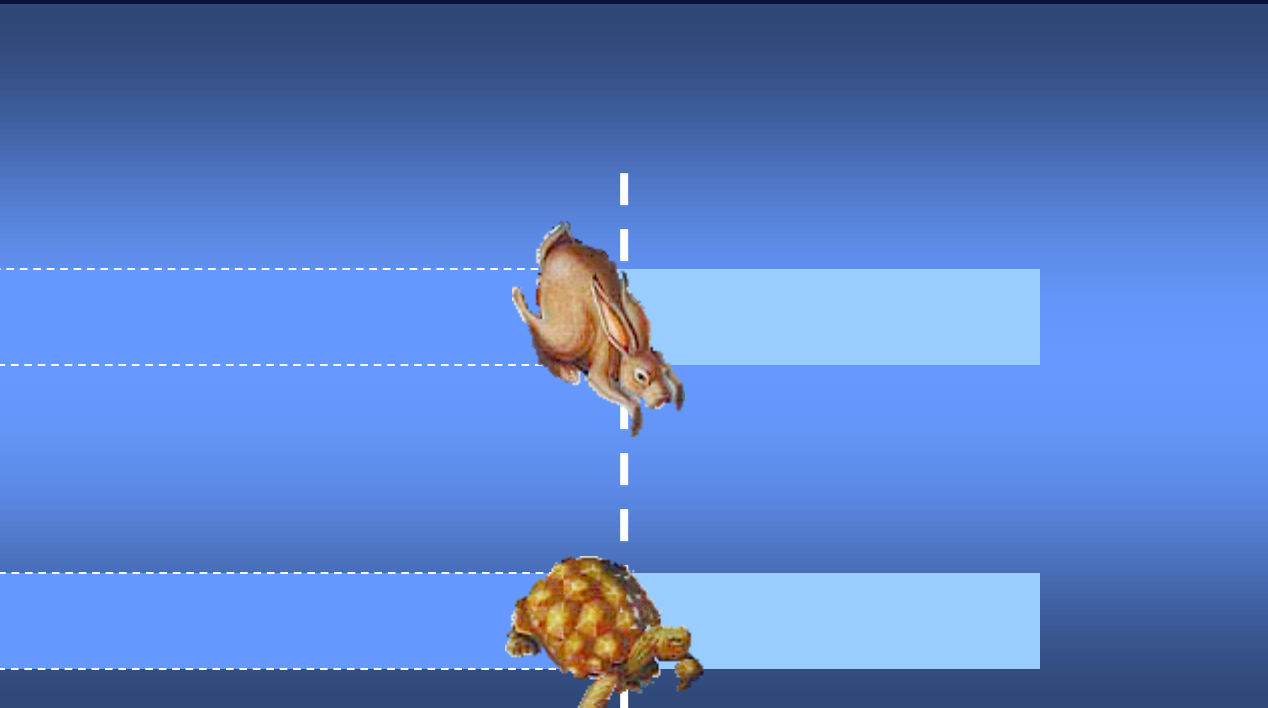
Myocardial strain

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

$$\text{Strain } (\epsilon) = \frac{L_1 - L_0}{L_0}$$



Strain rate: Rate of deformation

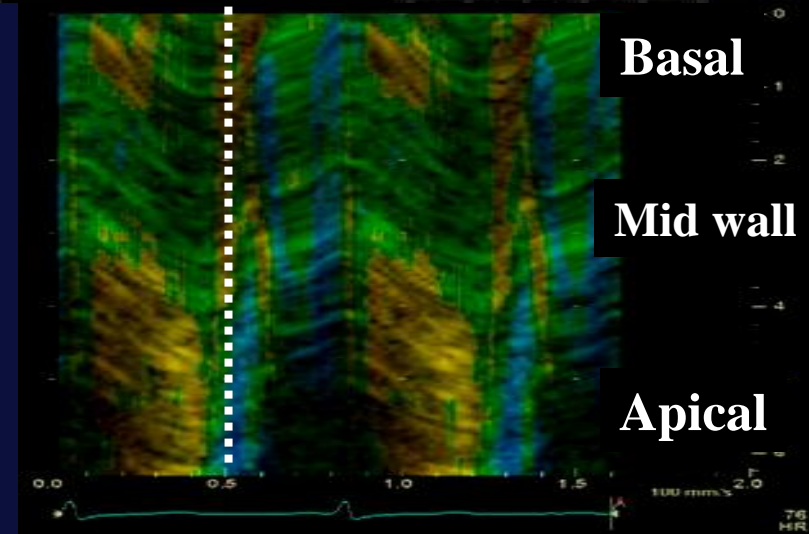
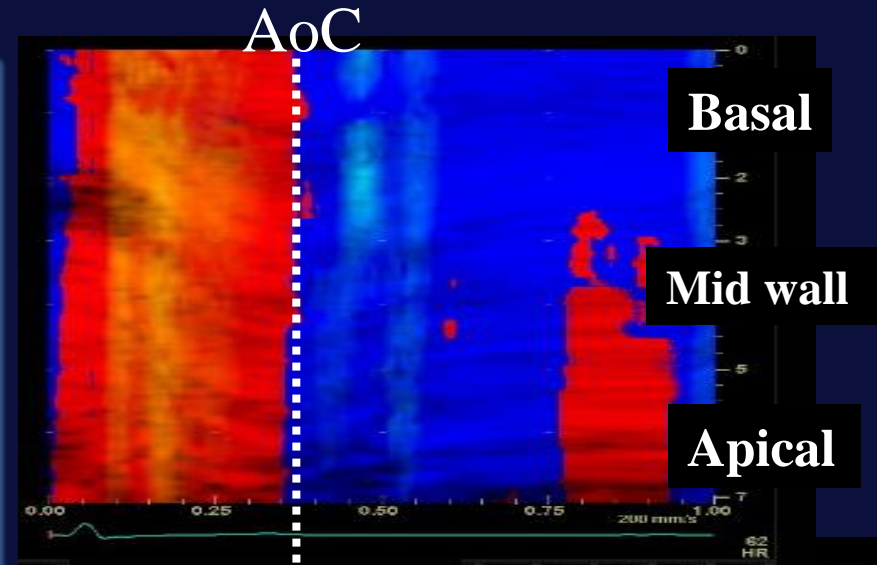
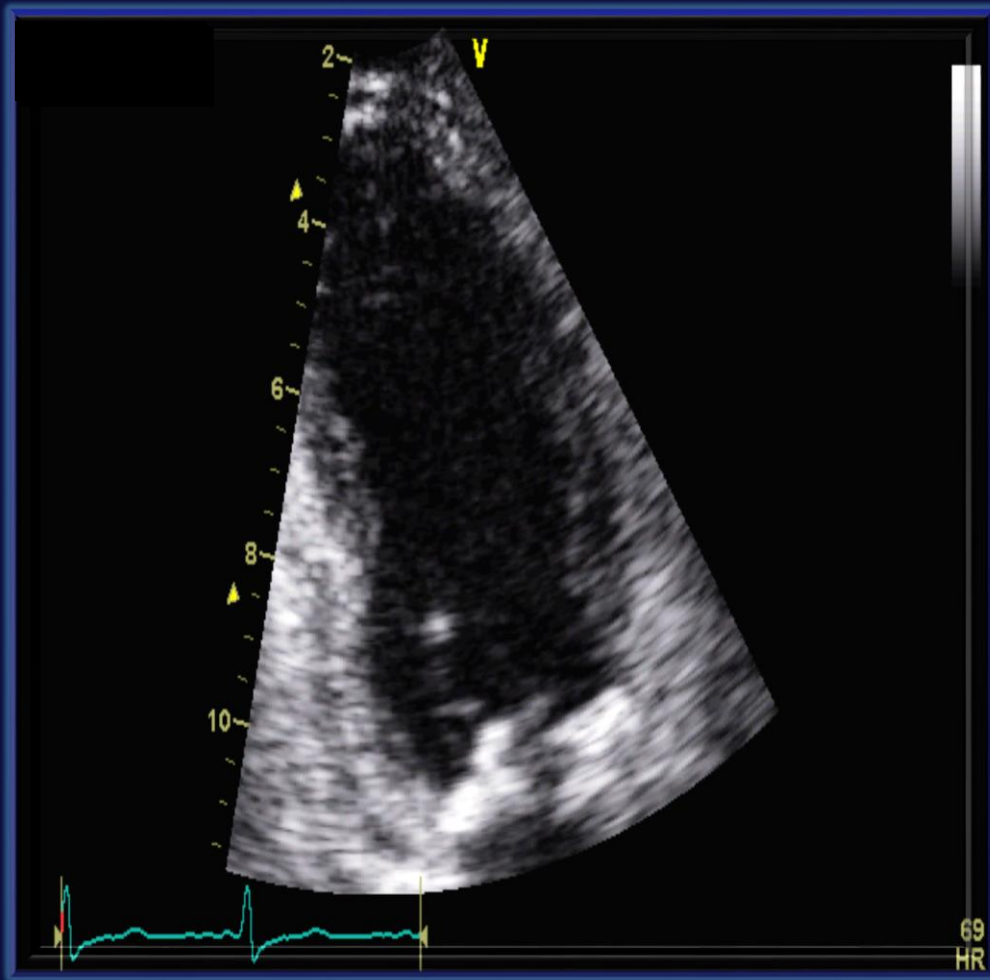


High strain rate

Low strain rate

Equal strain

Strain rate vs. Tissue Doppler



Feature “Spoke” Tracking



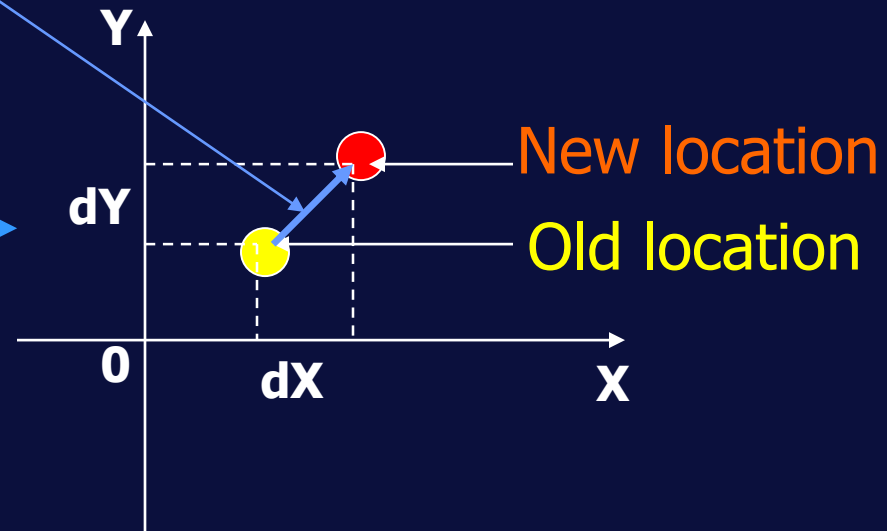
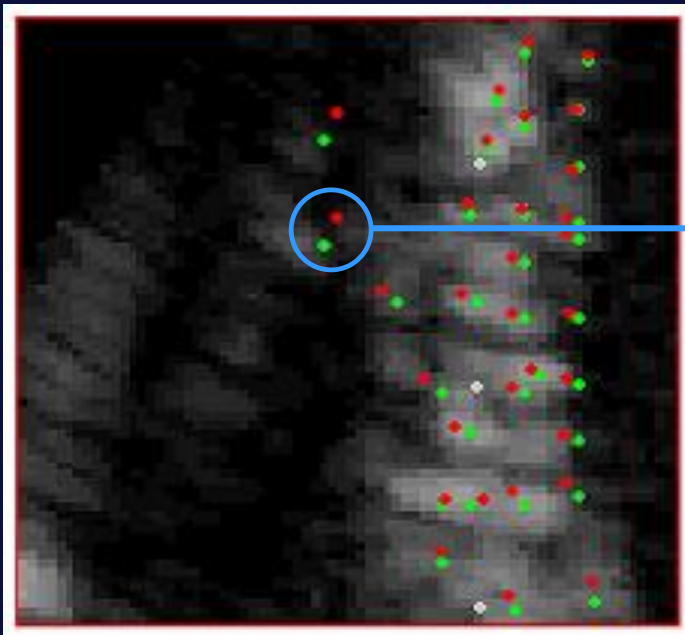
**Movement of the myocardium relative to the
sample volume fixed in space**

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

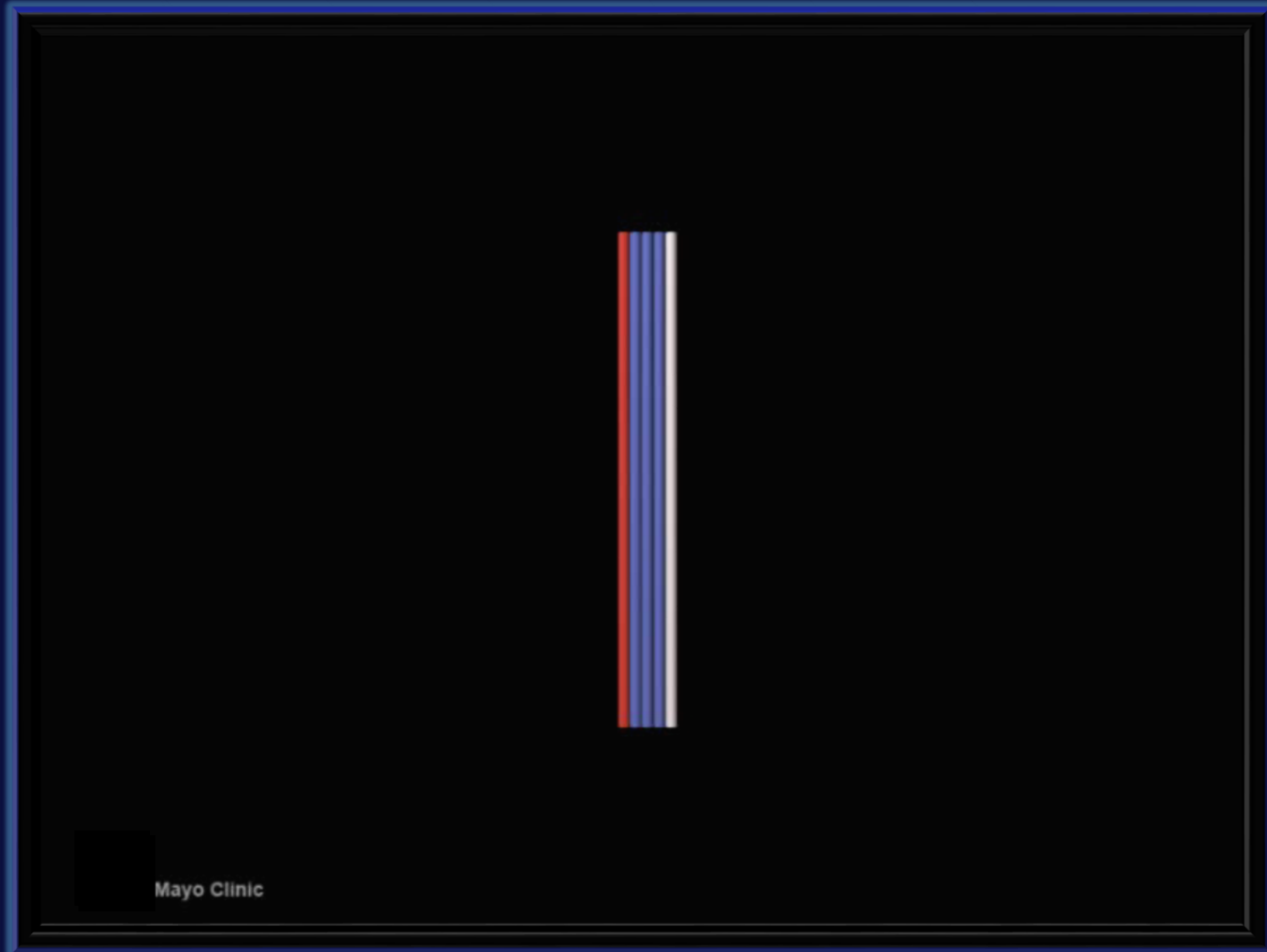


Doppler Independent Techniques (Speckle Tracking) Potential Advantage?

- 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**)

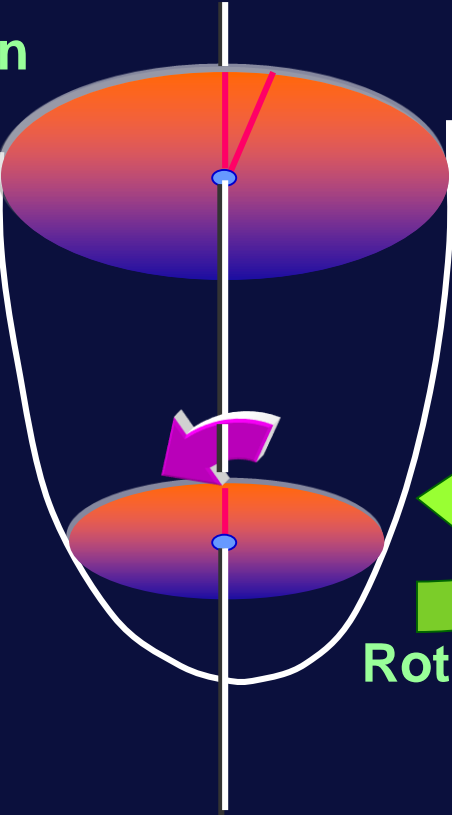
Myocardial Mechanics

Rotation/Twist/Torsion

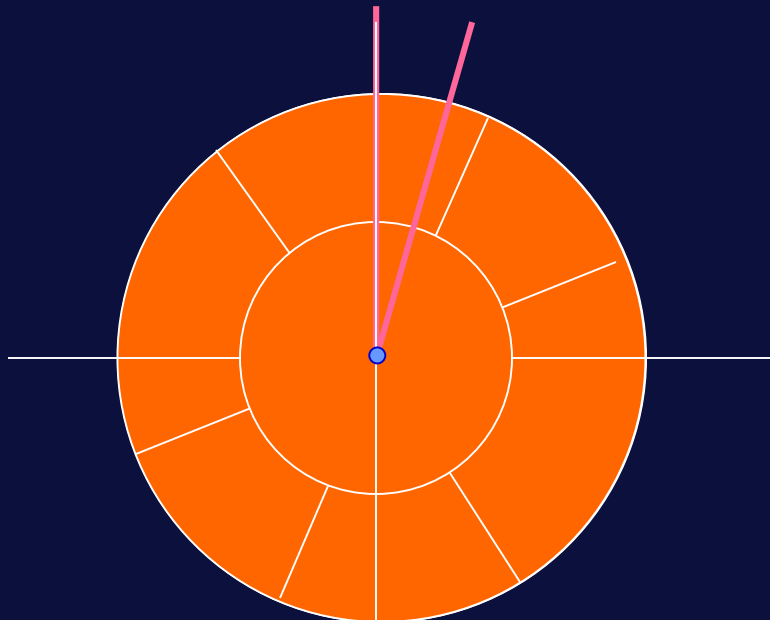


Rotation and Torsion

Rotation



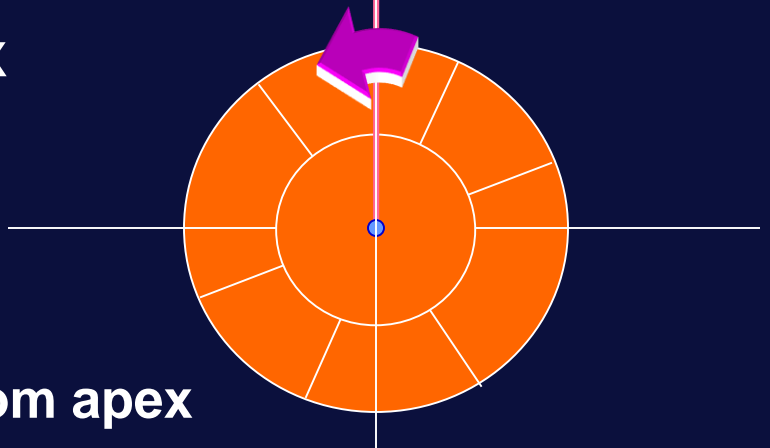
Basal



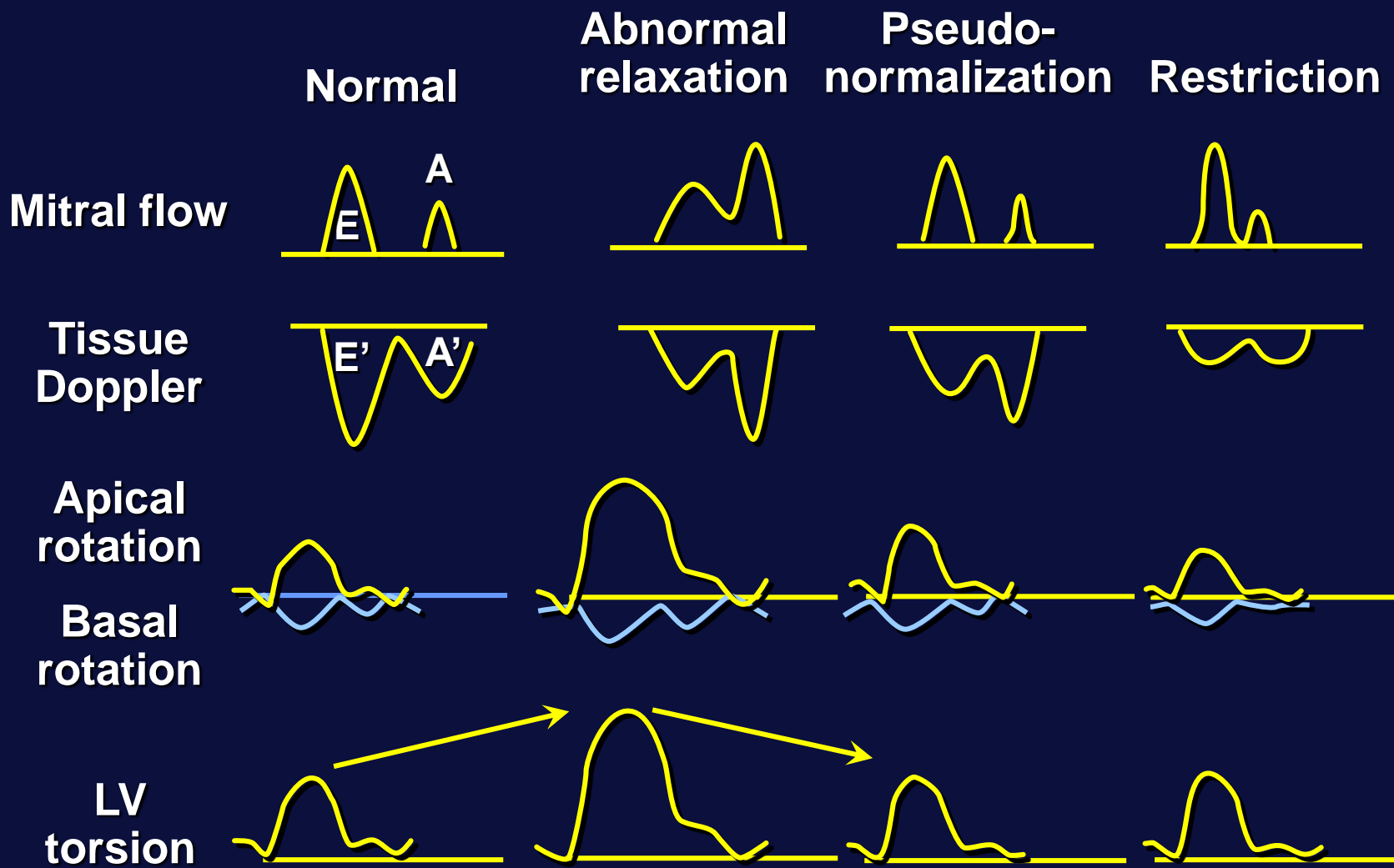
Rotation

Apex

 **Torsion**



View from apex



Objective #2

Potential Clinical Applications



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. Lefkowitz, 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.

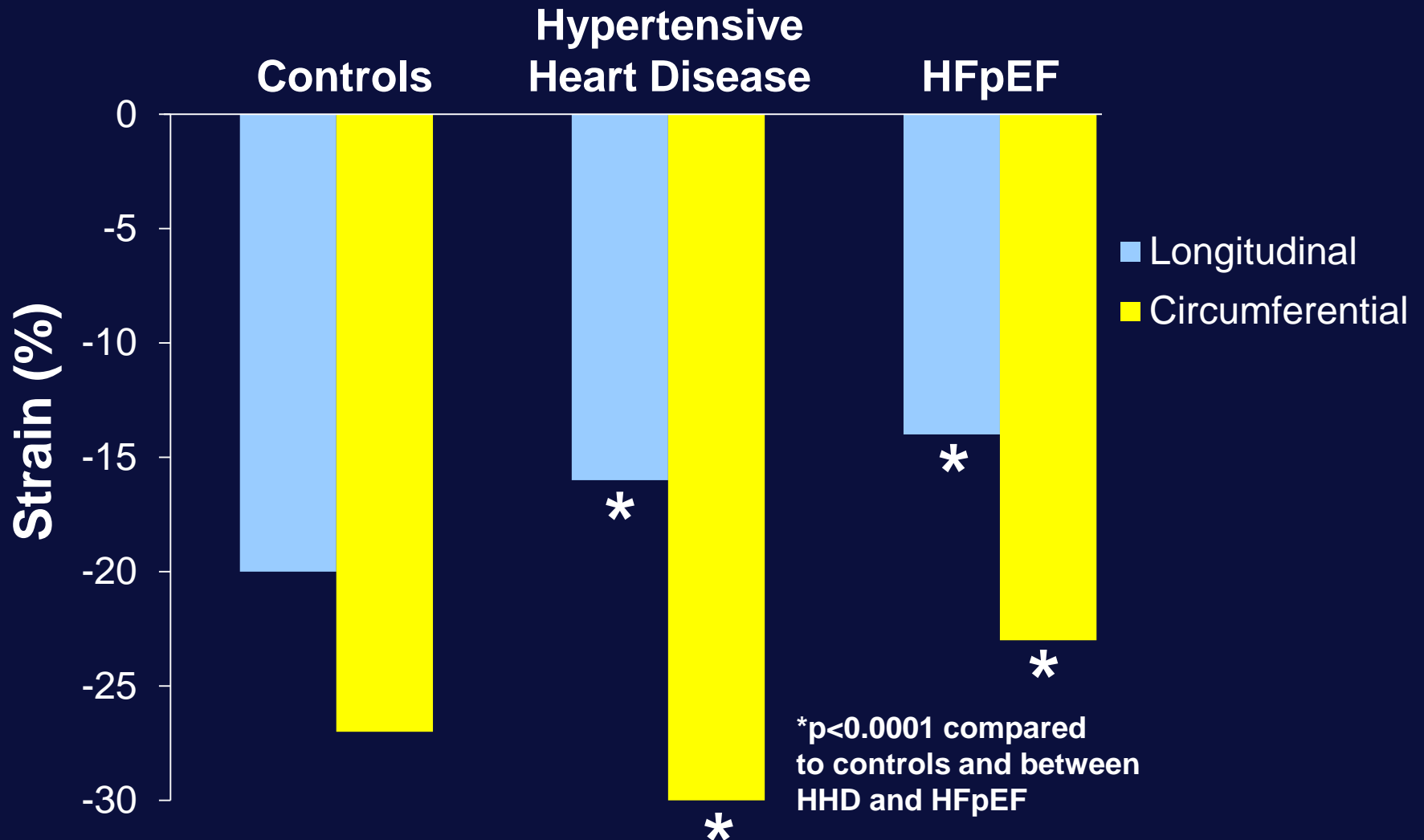
lower longitudinal strain (LS) (-20.0 ± 2.1 and -17.07 ± 2.04 vs. -14.6 ± 3.3 , respectively, $p < 0.0001$ for both) and circumferential strain (CS) (-27.1 ± 3.1 vs. -21.1 ± 3.1 , respectively, $p < 0.0001$ for both). In HFpEF, both LS and CS were related to LVEF ($r = -0.45$ and -0.42 , respectively, $p < 0.0001$ for both) independent of standard echocardiographic measures of diastolic function. Higher NT-proBNP was associated with lower LS and CS ($r = 0.35$ and 0.32 , respectively, $p < 0.0001$ for both), and higher NT-proBNP, even after adjustment for 10 baseline covariates including LVEF, measures of diastolic function, and LV filling pressure (multivariable adjusted $p = 0.001$).

J Am Coll Cardiol 2014;63:447-56

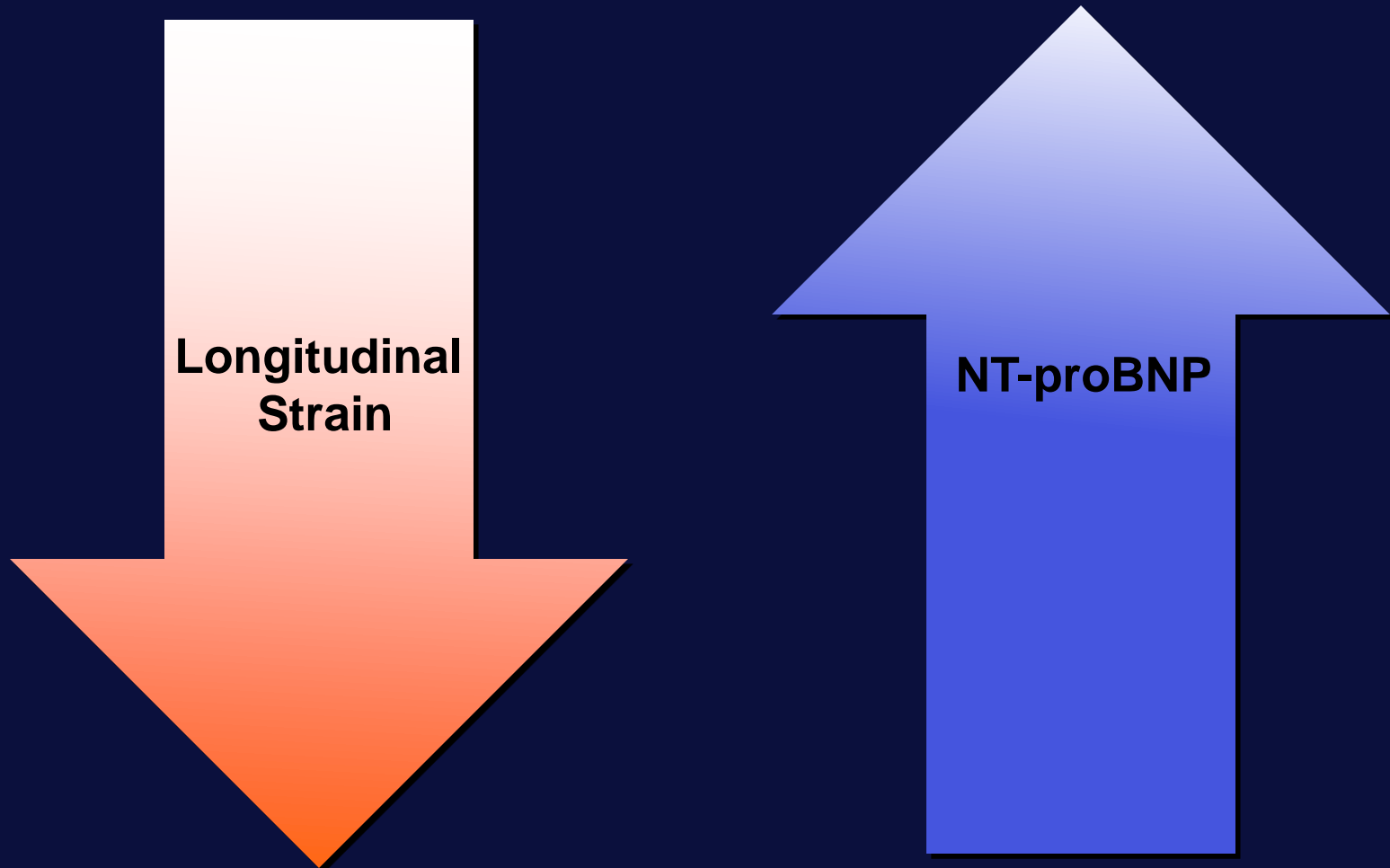
Conclusions

Strain imaging detects impaired systolic function despite preserved global LVEF in HFpEF that may contribute to the pathophysiology of the HFpEF syndrome. (LCZ696 Compared to Valsartan in Patients With Chronic Heart Failure and Preserved Left-ventricular Ejection Fraction; NCT00887588) (J Am Coll Cardiol 2014;63:447-56) © 2014 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation

Average Longitudinal and Circumferential Systolic Strain



Association of Longitudinal Systolic Strain and NT-proBNP



CATHPCI LEADS
IN INNOVATION

DIGOXIN: TIME
TO RE-EVALUATE?

MITRAL VALVES
& 3D ECHO

IT TAKES
2 TO TRIAGE

Cardiovascular Business

PATIENT, PRACTICE & TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

Vol. 7 No. 6 | Nov./Dec. 2013

Surviving Cancer, But at a Cost

Radiation & Chemo-induced Cardiovascular Diseases

SPECIAL SECTION

Technology &
Teamwork Take CVIS
Up a Notch at North
Kansas City Hospital

*Sponsored by
Siemens Healthcare*



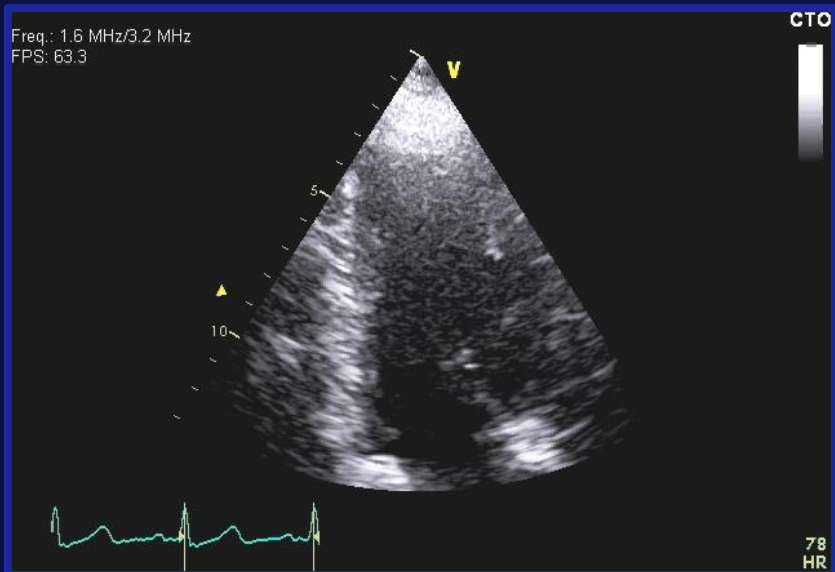
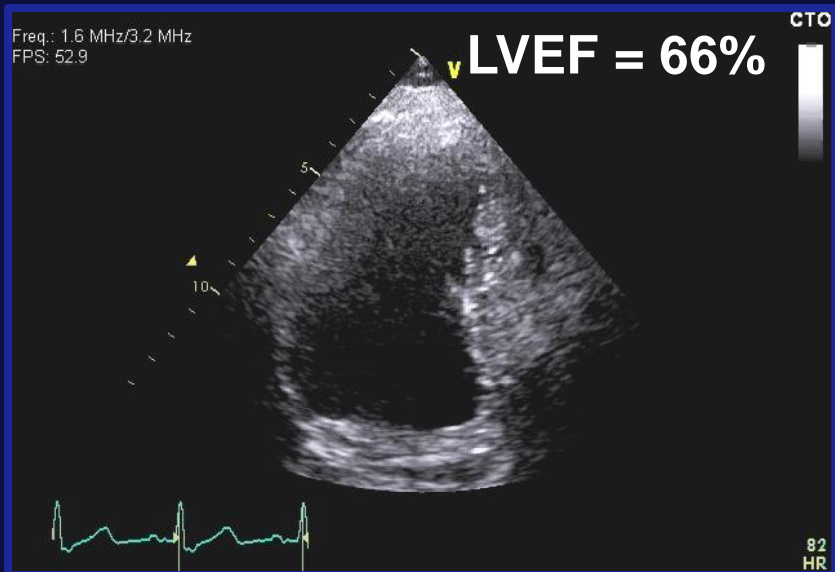
Cardio-Oncology

“The difficulty when dealing with cardiology side effects is that they can often mask themselves as normal effects from the cancer treatment itself..”

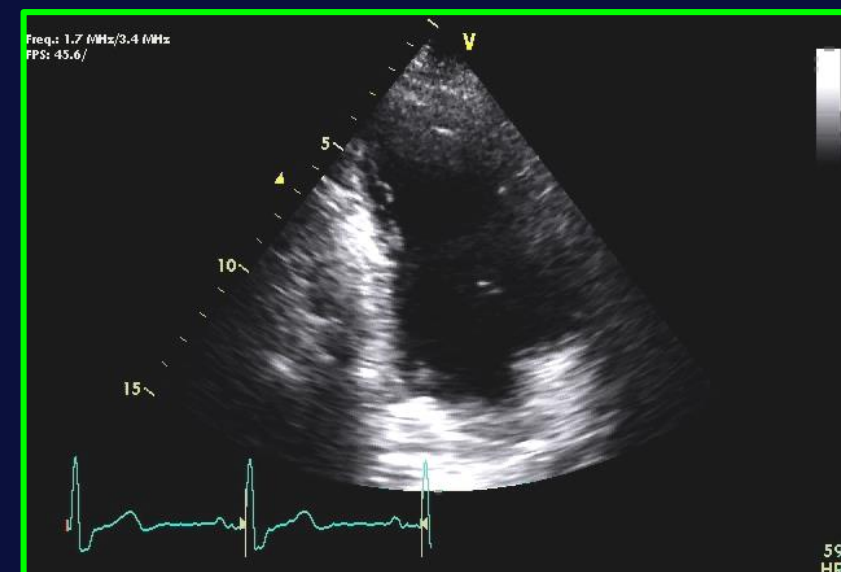
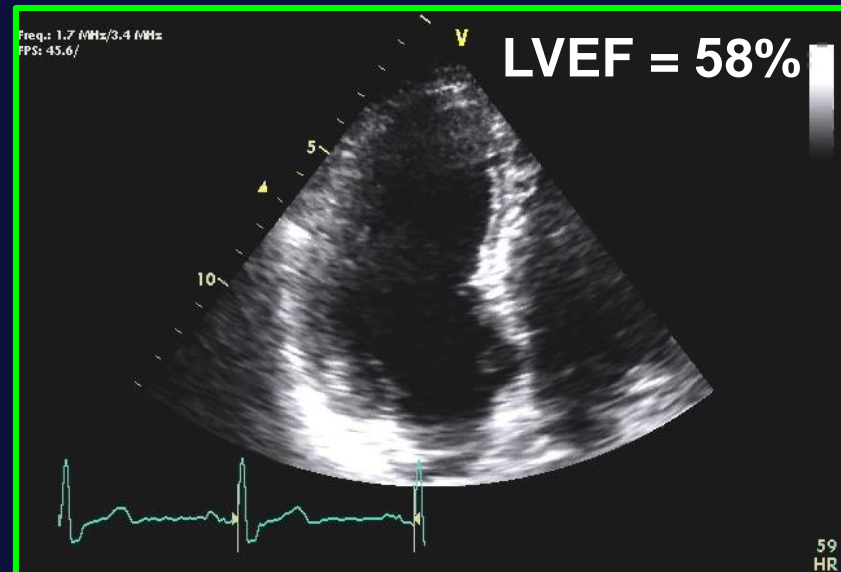
Case

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

Baseline



2 Months

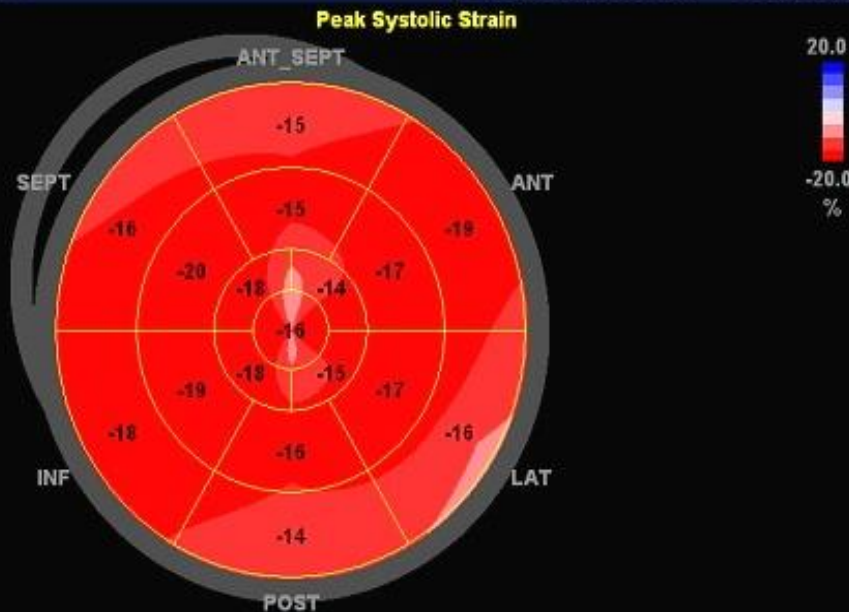


Baseline

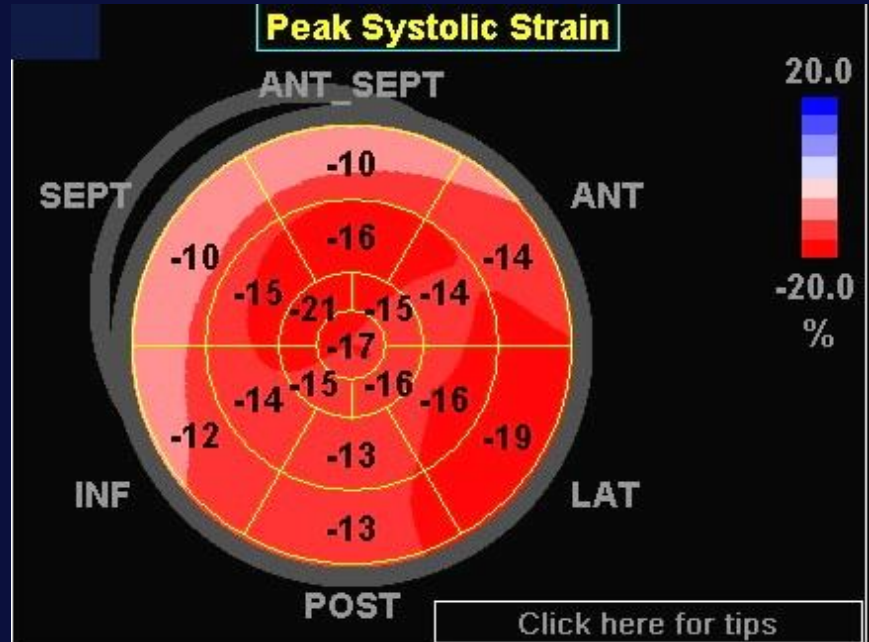
LVEF = 66%

2 Months

LVEF = 58%



GLPSS Avg = -17.8%
Troponin T = 0.02



GLPSS Avg = -14.3%
Troponin T = 0.03

GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

Recommendations for Cardiac Chamber Quantification by Echocardiography in Adults: An Update from the American Society of Echocardiography and the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging

Global Longitudinal Peak Systolic Strain (GLS) “in the range of -20%”

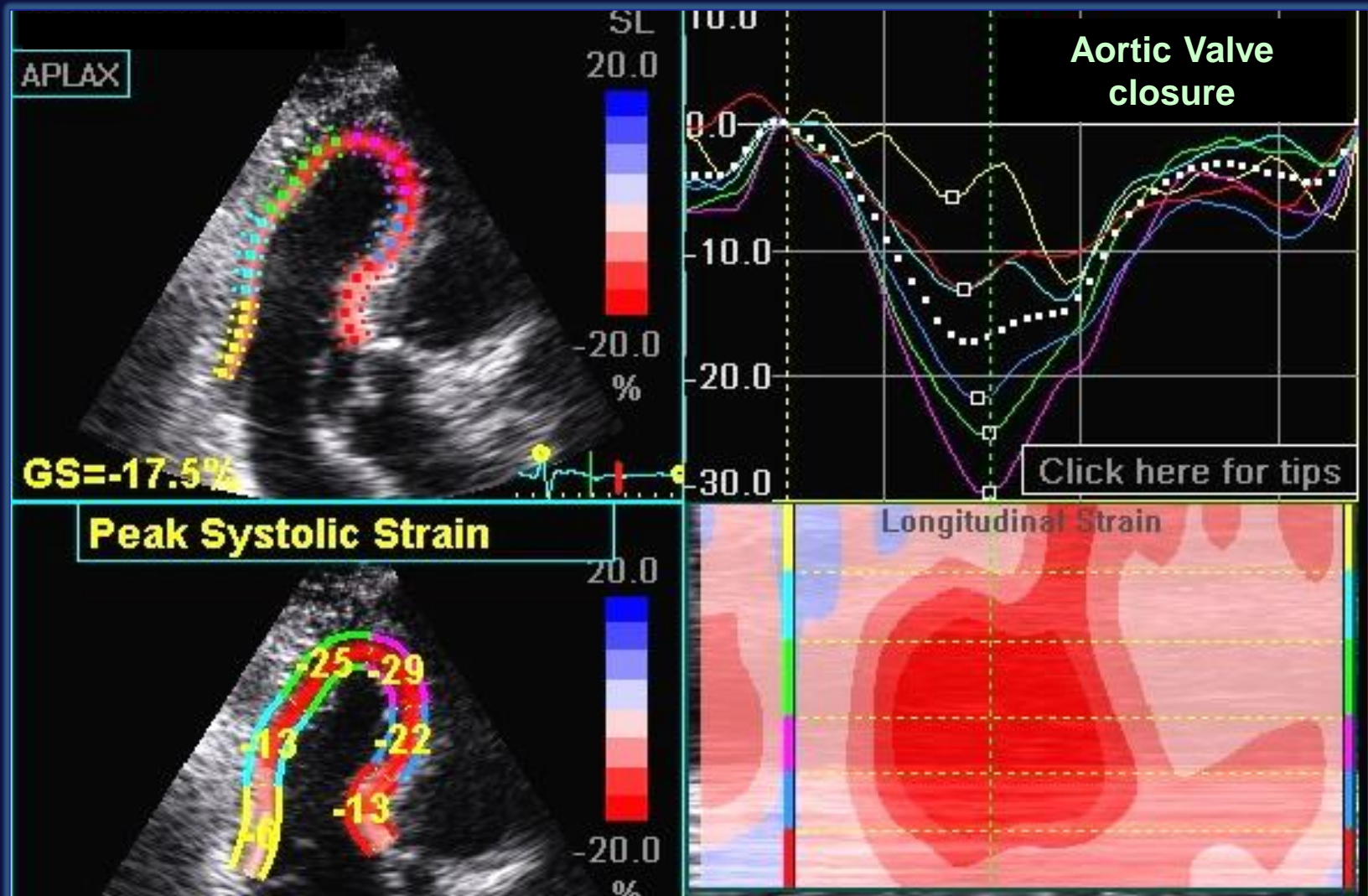
Group are: Roberto M. Lang, MD, FASE, et al

- **“Optimize image quality, maximize frame rate and minimize foreshortening”.**
- **“When regional tracking is suboptimal in more than two myocardial segments in a single view the calculation of GLS should be avoided”.**

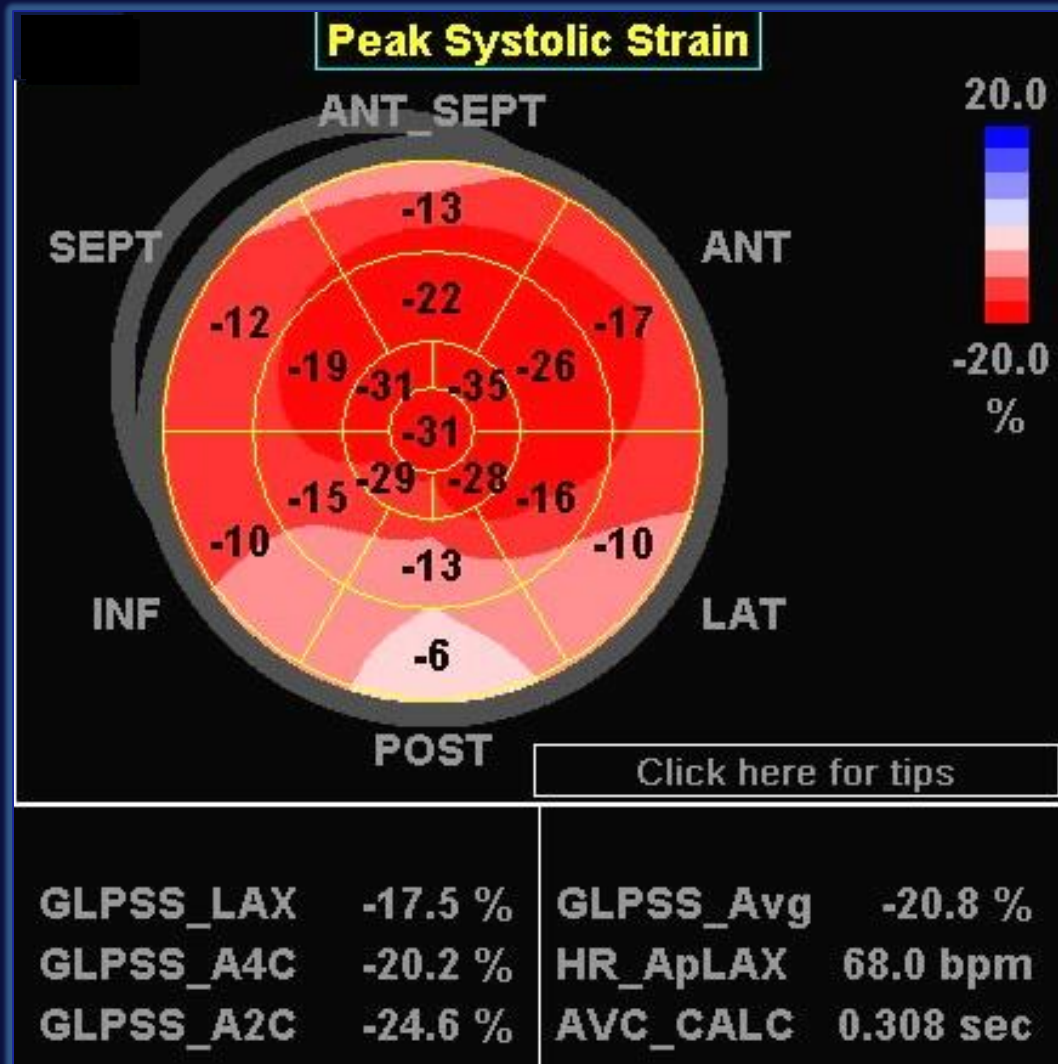
Echocardiogr 2015;28:1-39.)

Keywords: Adult echocardiography, Transthoracic echocardiography, Ventricular function, Normal values

Timing: Peak Systole?



Global Longitudinal Peak Systolic Strain



Early Detection and Prediction of Cardiotoxicity in Chemotherapy-Treated Patients

Heloisa Sawaya, MD, PhD^a, Igal A. Sebag, MD^d, Juan Carlos Plana, MD^f, James L. Januzzi, MD^a,
Bonnie Ky, MD^g, Victor Cohen, MD^e, Sucheta Gosavi, MD^a, Joseph R. Carver, MD^g,
Susan E. Wiegers, MD^g, Randolph P. Martin, MD^h, Michael H. Picard, MD^a,
Robert E. Gerszten, MD^a, Elkan F. Halpern, PhD^c, Jonathan Passeri, MD^a, Irene Kuter, MD^b, and
Marielle Scherrer-Crosbie, MD, PhD^{a,*}

As breast cancer survival increases, cardiotoxicity associated with chemotherapeutic regimens such as anthracyclines and trastuzumab becomes a more significant issue. Assessment of the

Early Detection and Prediction of Cardiotoxicity in Chemotherapy-Treated Patients

Heloisa Sawaya, MD, PhD^a, Igal A. Sebag, MD^d, Juan Carlos Plana, MD^f, James L. Januzzi, MD^a,
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Marielle Scherrer-Crosbie, MD, PhD^{a,*}

^aCardiac Ultrasound Laboratory and Division of Cardiology, ^bGillette Center for Breast Cancer, and ^cInstitute for Technology Assessment, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts; ^dEchocardiography Laboratory and Cardiology Division and ^eAbramson Cancer Center and Cardiology Division, Department of Medicine, Sir Mortimer B. Davis-Jewish General Hospital and McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; ^fDivision of Cardiology, University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas; ^gDivision of Cardiology, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and ^hPiedmont Heart Institute, Atlanta, Georgia. Manuscript received September 29, 2010; revised manuscript received and accepted January 6, 2011.

Dr. Scherrer-Crosbie was supported by an investigator-initiated grant from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, Dallas, Texas, a Claffin Distinguished Scholar Award, and a Clinical Innovation Award, Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Ky was supported by the Kynett Focus Junior Faculty Investigator Award, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Januzzi has received grant support from Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany, Siemens Medical Systems, Erlangen, Germany, and Critical Diagnostics, San Diego, California. Dr. Plana is on the speaker's bureau of GE Healthcare, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

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E-mail address: marielle@crosbie.com (M. Scherrer-Crosbie).

mation and biomarkers (high-sensitivity troponin I [hsTnI] and N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide [NT-proBNP]) could predict the development of chemotherapy-induced cardiotoxicity in patients treated with anthracyclines and trastuzumab. Cardiotoxicity was defined according to recent guidelines (Cardiac Review and Evaluation Committee of trastuzumab-associated cardiotoxicity) as a reduction of the left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) of $\geq 5\%$ to $< 55\%$ with symptoms of heart failure or an asymptomatic reduction of the LVEF of $\geq 10\%$ to $< 55\%$.¹

Methods

Patients > 18 years of age diagnosed with HER-2-over-expressing breast cancer and either scheduled to receive treatment including anthracyclines and trastuzumab or scheduled to receive trastuzumab after previous anthracycline treatment were eligible. Patients with LVEFs $< 50\%$ were excluded.

Patients were enrolled at 4 institutions. All patients signed informed consent forms, which were approved by the institutional review board of the participating institutions.

Patients were studied before chemotherapy (except 10 patients who had previously been treated with anthracy-

Early Detection and Prediction of Cardiotoxicity in Chemotherapy-Treated Patients

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Anthracyclines and Trastuzumab

zumab therapy underwent echocardiography and blood sampling at 3 time points (baseline and
3 and 6 months during the course of chemotherapy). The LV ejection fraction; peak systolic
myocardial longitudinal, radial, and circumferential strain; echocardiographic markers of

Can we predict a later (3 months) decline in LVEF?

- **No decrease in GLS > 10% or elevated hsTnI have a 3% probability of a decrease in LVEF.**
- **If either a decrease in GLS or elevated hsTnI have a 9X increased risk for cardiotoxicity compared to those with no changes in either of these markers.**

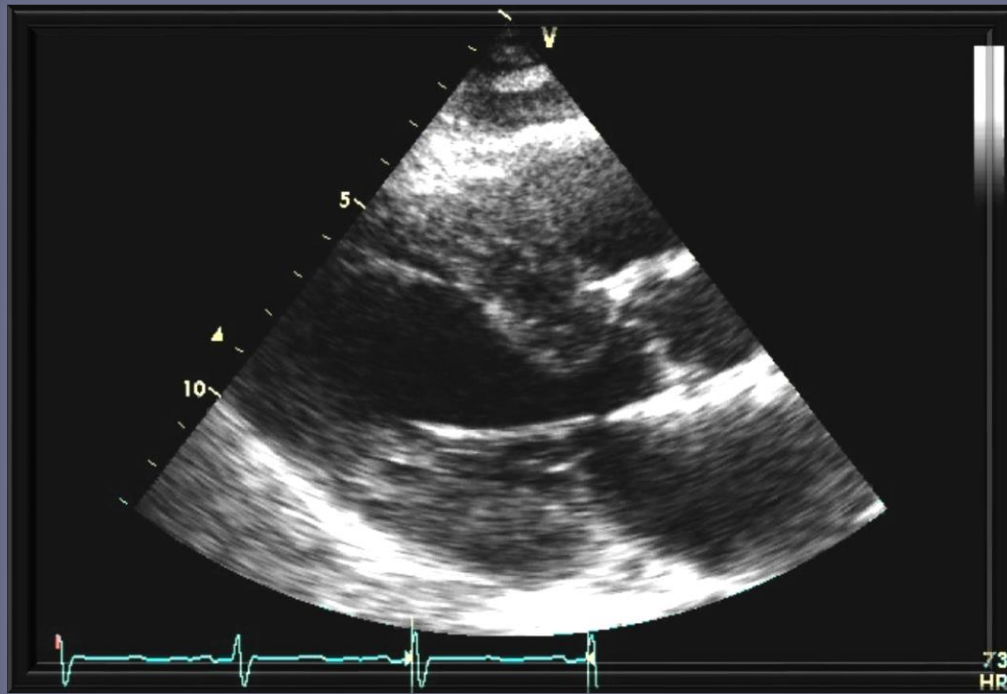
EXPERT CONSENSUS STATEMENT

Expert Consensus for Multimodality Imaging Evaluation of Adult Patients during and after Cancer Therapy: A Report from the American Society of Echocardiography and the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging

- CRTCD if decrease in LVEF > 10% to a value < 52%
- **GLS is the optimal parameter of deformation for the early detection of subclinical LV dysfunction.**
- **In patients with available baseline strain measurements, a relative percentage reduction of GLS of < 8% from baseline appears not to be meaningful, and those > 15% from baseline are very likely to be abnormal.**

baseline

Thick Walls, Why?

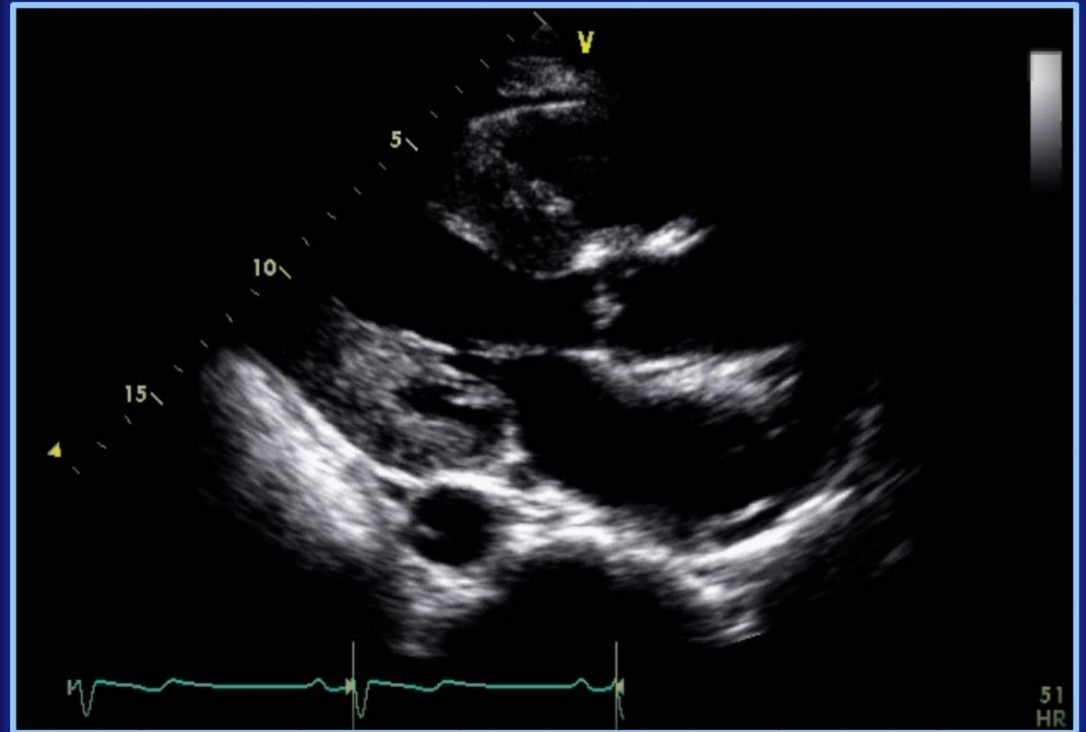


- Athlete
- HTN
- HCM
- Infiltrative
 - amyloid
- Storage
 - Fabry

HTN or HCM?



The Thinker
Auguste Rodin



Are They Really The Same?



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 Elseddi, MSc, and Magdi Yacoub, MD, Shebin, Alexandria, and Aswan, 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, 39.1 ± 12 years), 20 patients with HTN with LVH, and 33 healthy

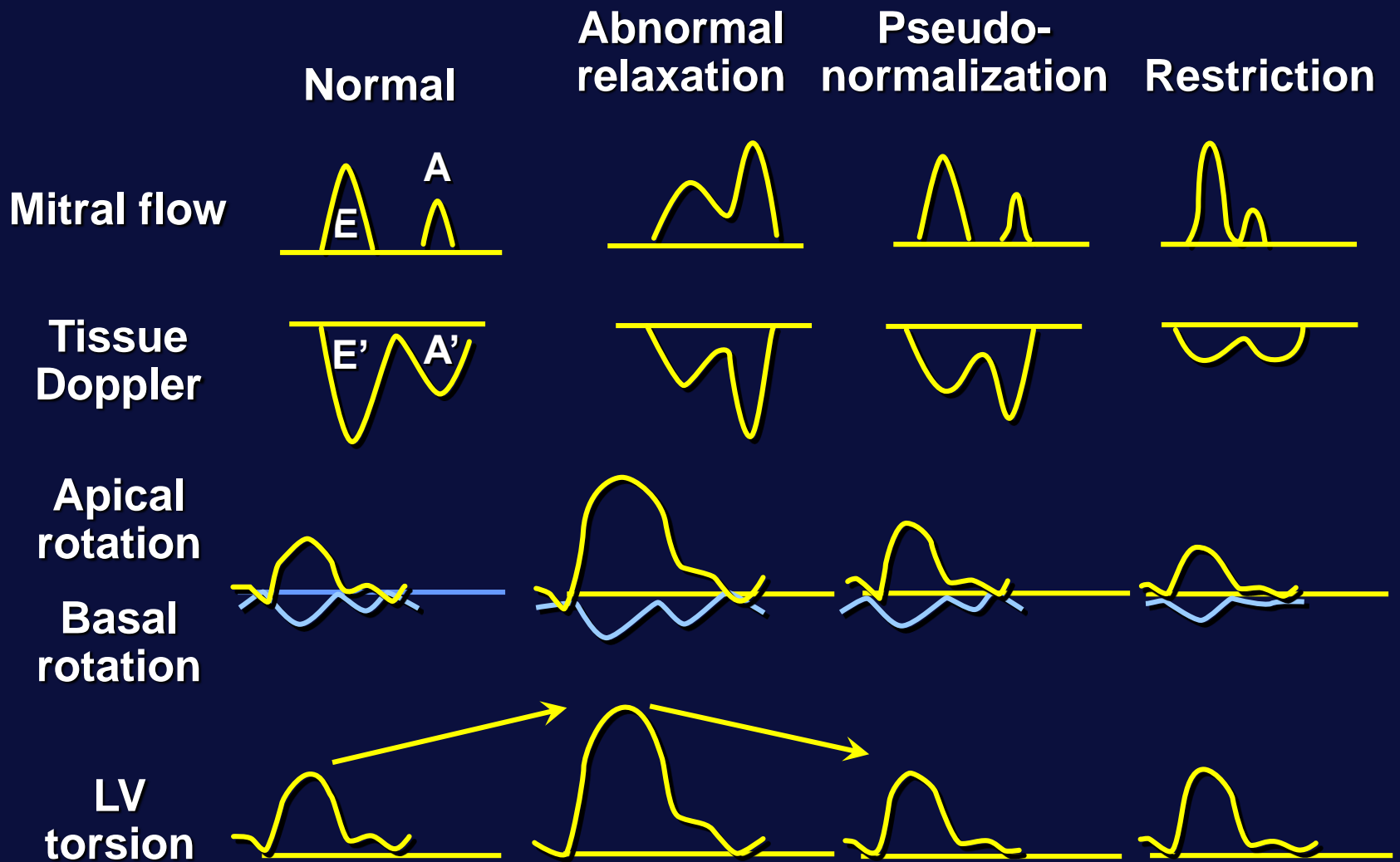
Patients with HCM have significantly limited systolic function reserve and more dynamic dyssynchrony with exercise compared with those with HTN...

Results: In patients with HCM, resting values for longitudinal ϵ_{sys} , systolic strain rate, early diastolic strain rate, and atrial diastolic strain rate were significantly lower, while circumferential ϵ_{sys} and twist were higher, compared with patients with HTN and controls ($P < .0001$). Functional systolic reserve increased during exercise in controls ($17 \pm 6\%$), 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_{sys} 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**



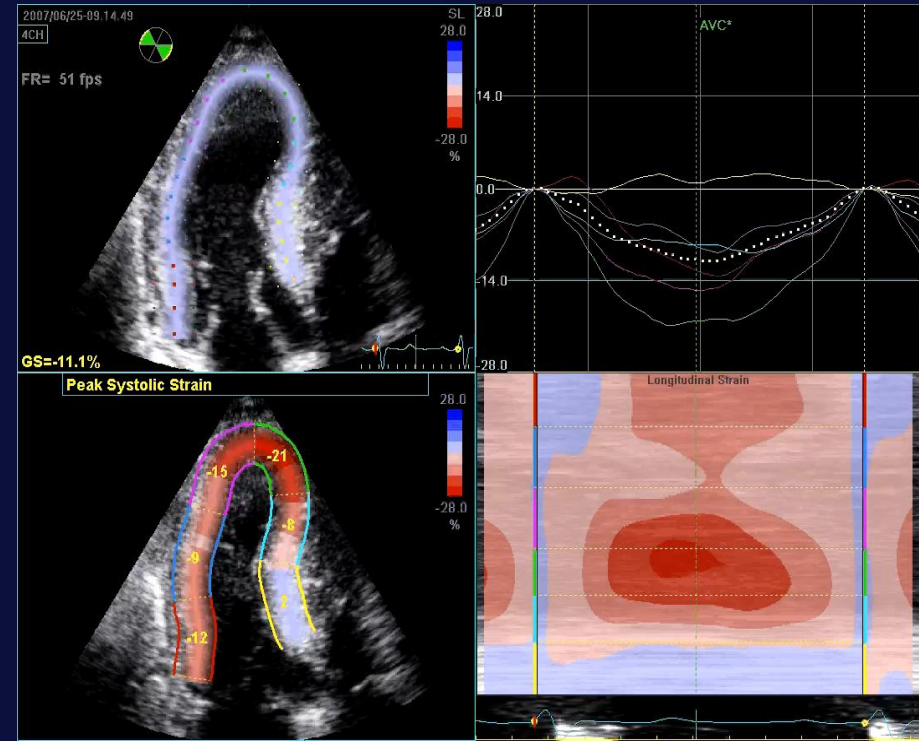
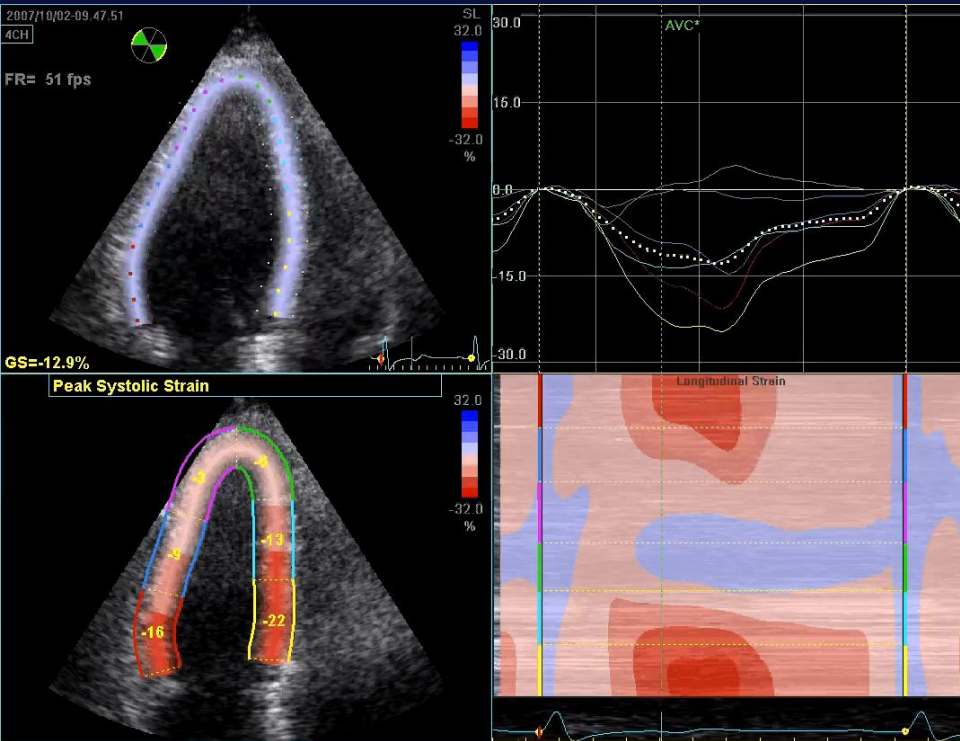
HTN or HCM?

	Controls	HTN	HCM
Rest Circumferential Strain (%)	-19.3 ± 2.5	-23.9 ± 2.9*	-22.8 ± 3.4**
▲ Circumferential Strain Exercise (%)	5.3 ± 1.2	1.7 ± 2.1*	2.3 ± 3.0**
Septal Thickness (mm)	9.6 ± 2.0	17.8 ± 4.4*	26.0 ± 6.0**

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 Phelan, MB, BCh, PhD, Paaladinesh 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

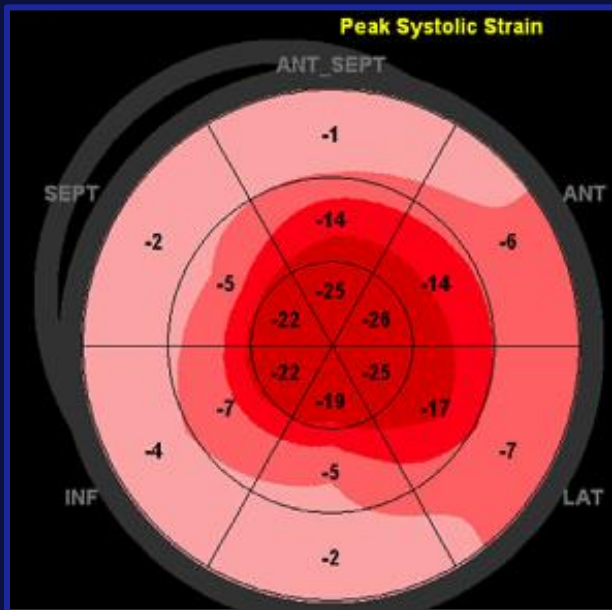
[J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2014;27:888-95](#)

these cohorts, 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 ($P < .001$).

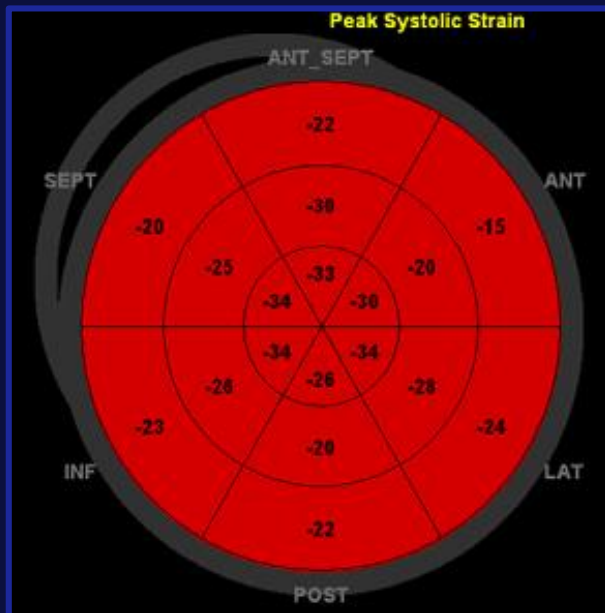
Conclusions: Regional variations in strain are easily recognizable, accurate, and reproducible means of differentiating causes of LVH. The detection of LVH etiology may be a useful clinical application for strain. (J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2014;27:888-95.)

Cardiac Amyloidosis



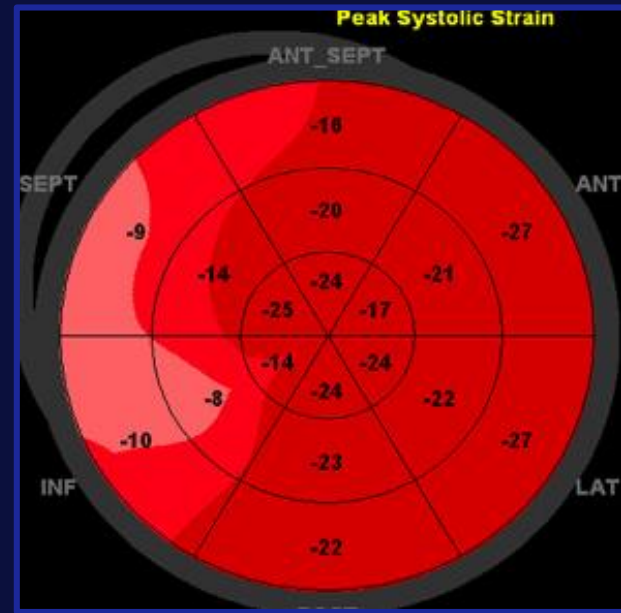
14mm

Hypertensive Heart Disease



14mm

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy



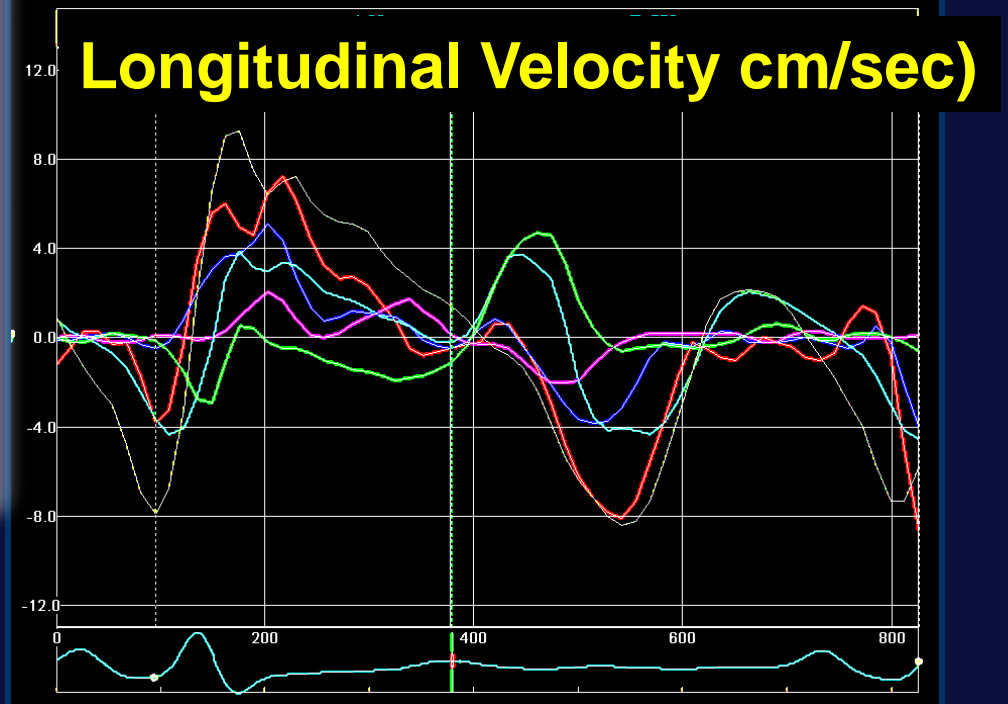
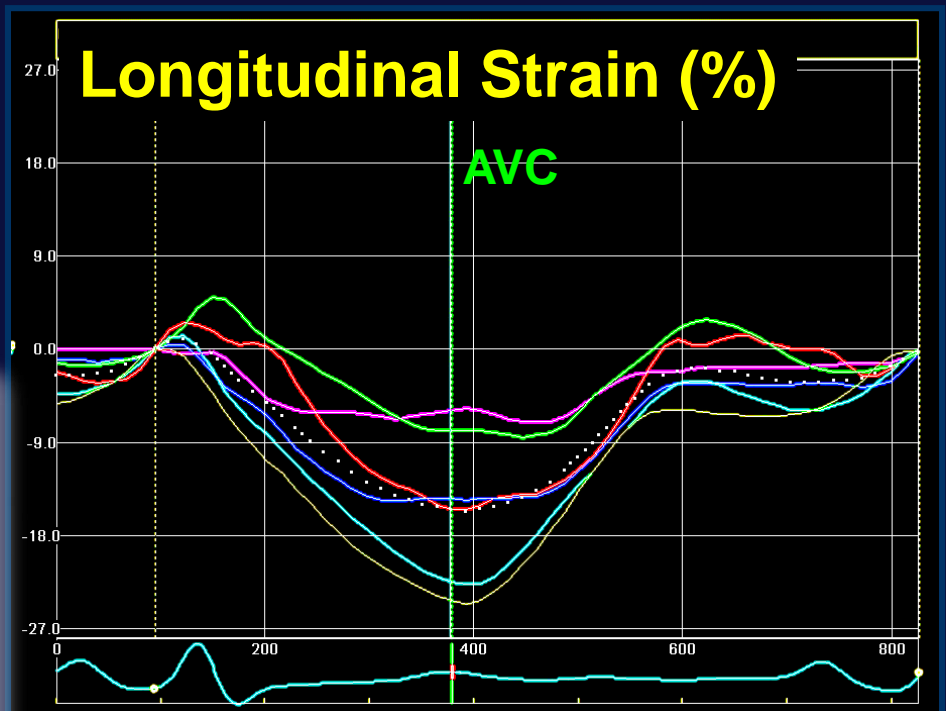
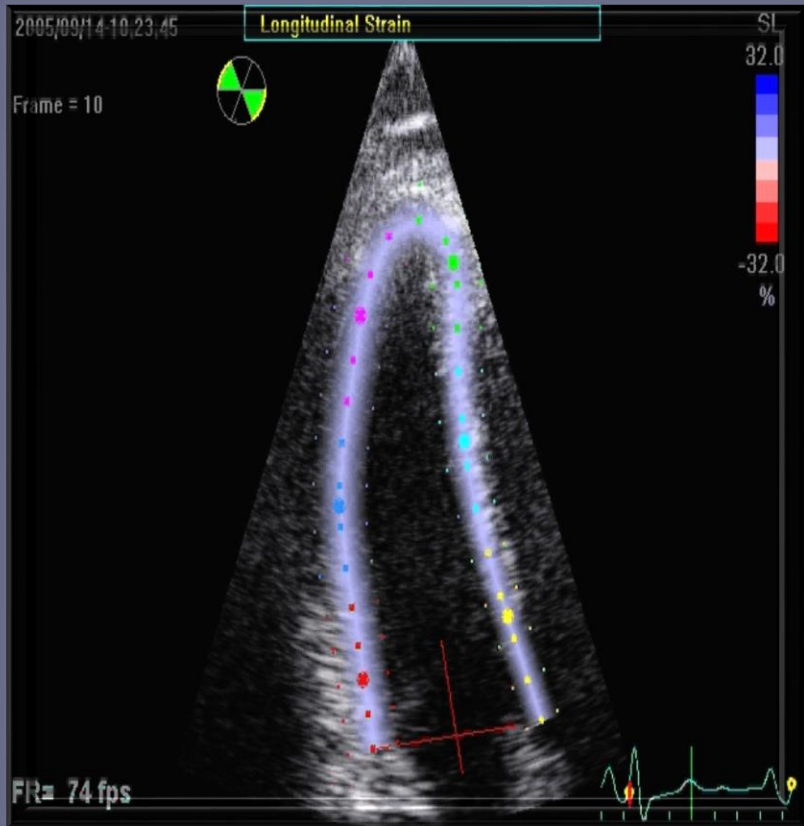
13mm

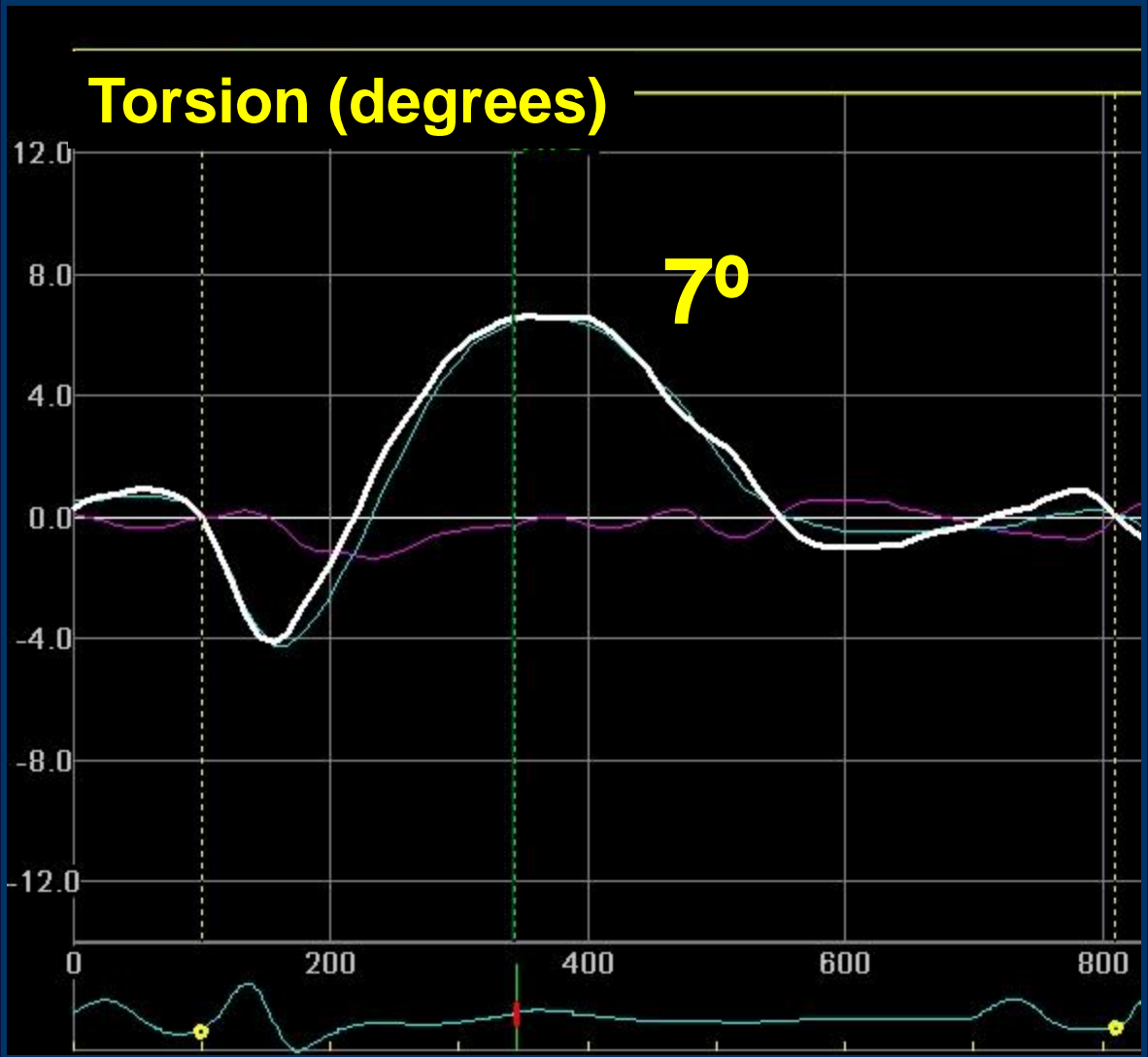
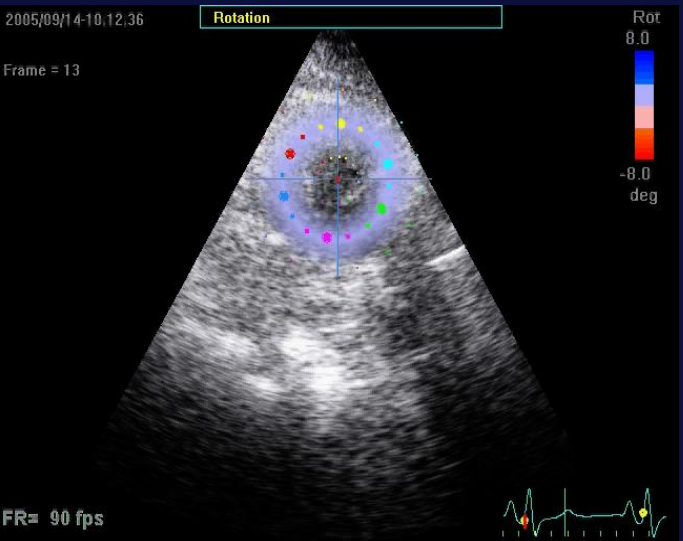
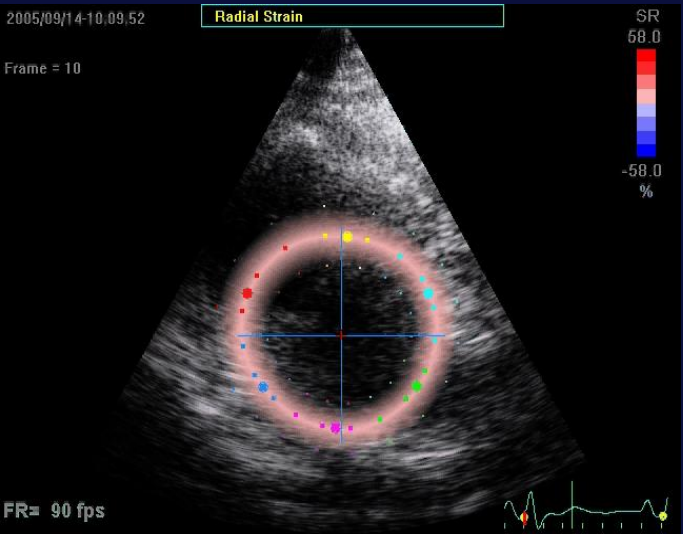
Mean Wall Left Ventricular Thickness

Pattern Recognition

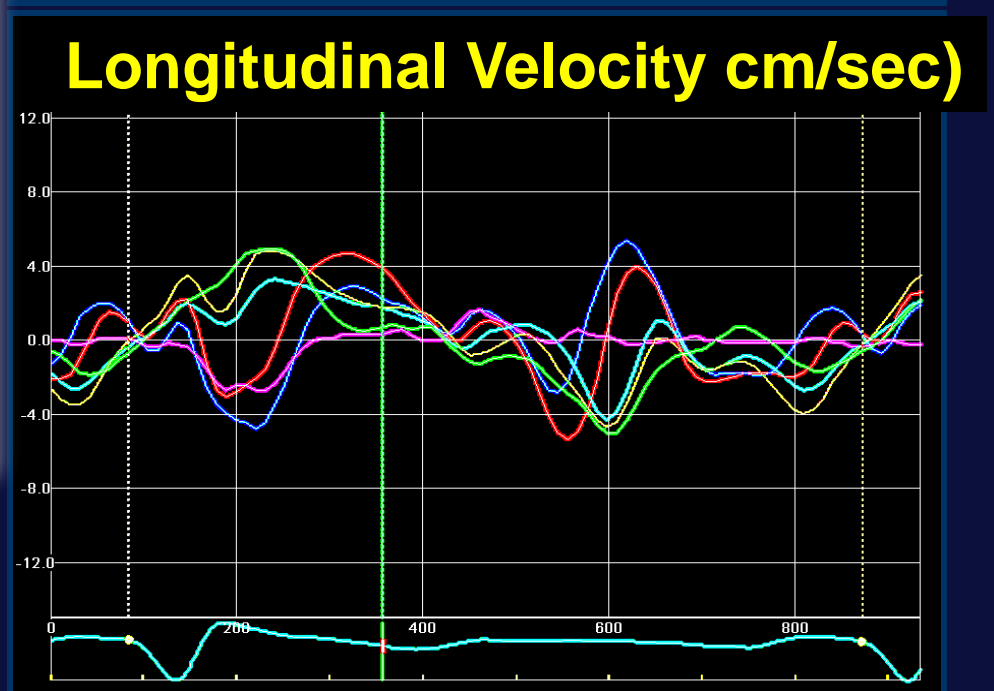
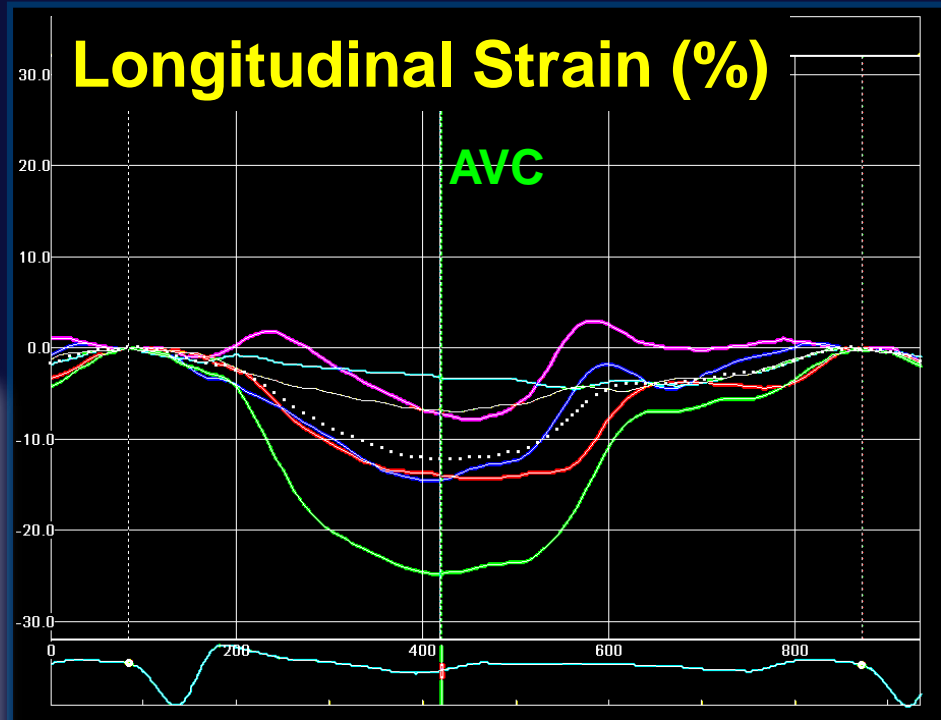
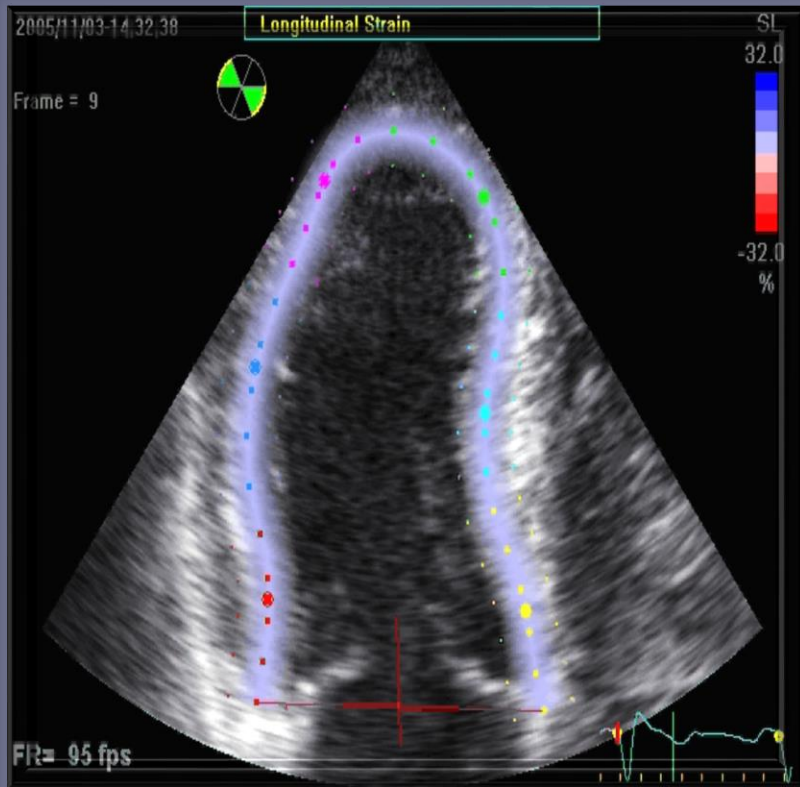


Constrictive Pericarditis





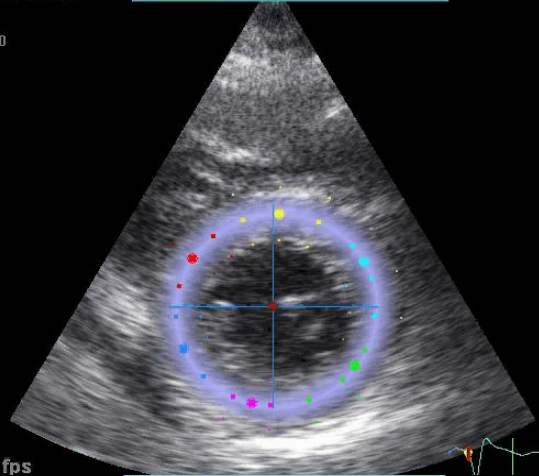
Amyloidosis



2005/11/03-14:28.19

Rotation

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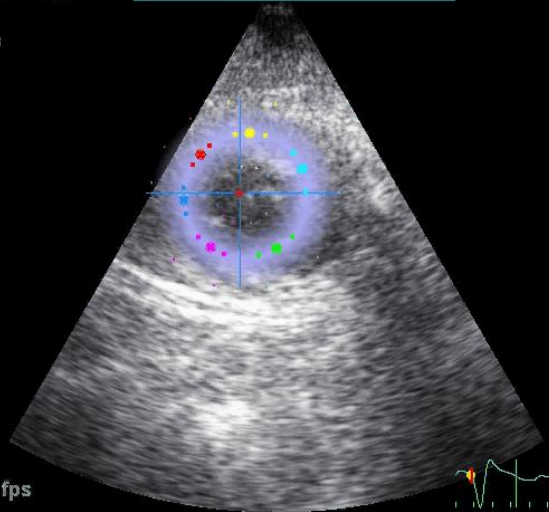


Rot
8.0
-8.0
deg

FR= 82 fps
2005/11/03-14:29.37

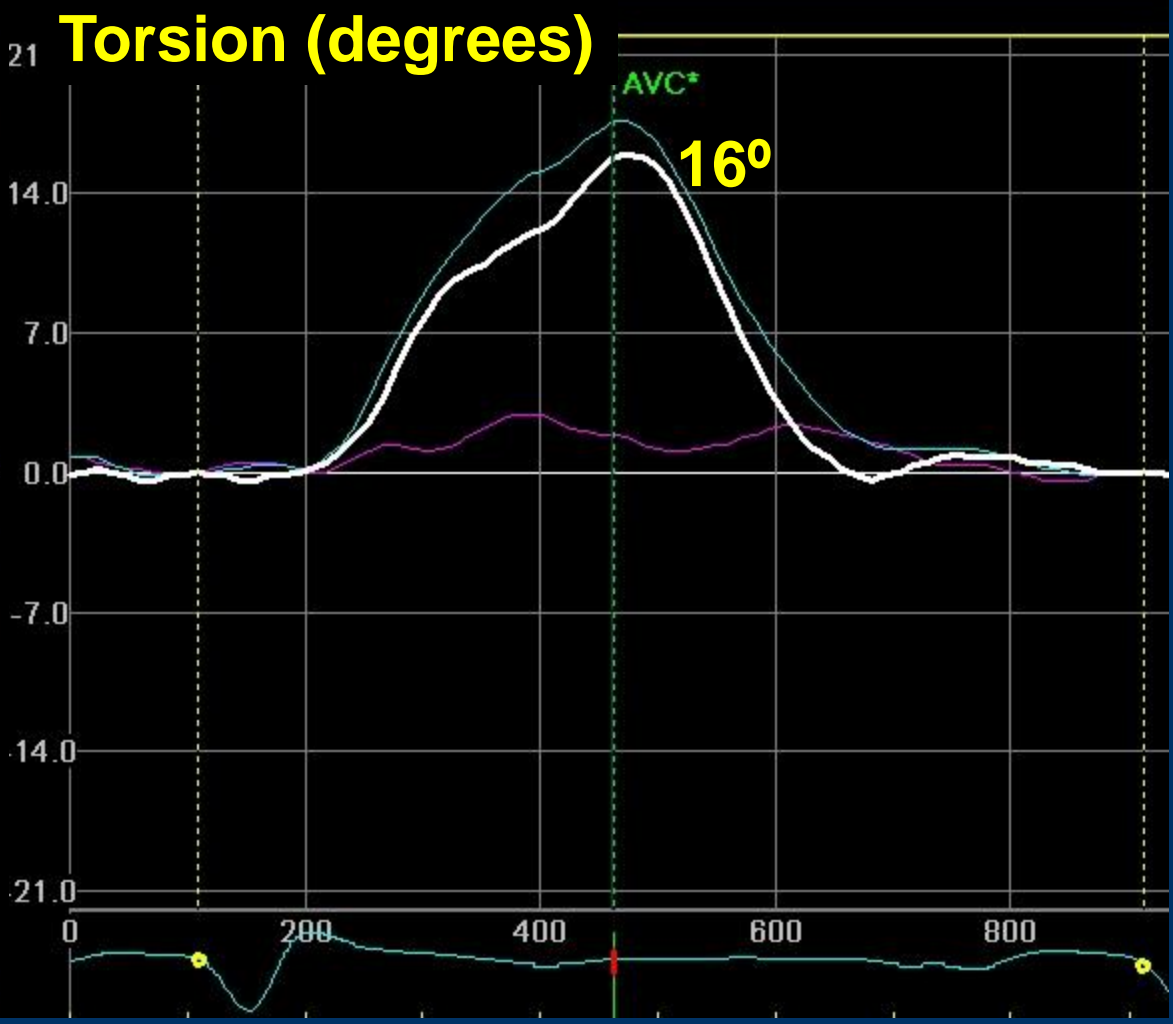
Rotation

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Rot
30.0
-30.0
deg

FR= 82 fps



LV Mechanics in Mitral and Aortic Valve Diseases

Value of Functional Assessment Beyond Ejection Fraction

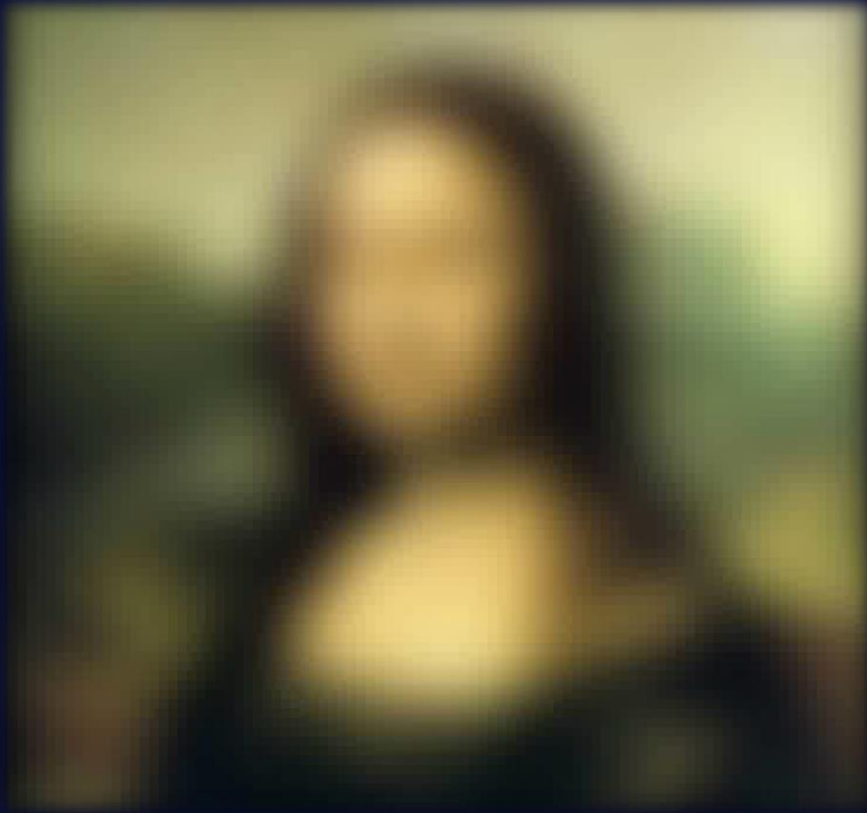
Elena Galli, MD, PhD,* Patrizio Lancellotti, MD, PhD,† Partho P. Sengupta, MD, DM,‡ Erwan Donal, MD, PhD*

- “LV dysfunction is frequently subclinical despite a normal ejection fraction. It may precede the onset of symptoms and portend a poor outcome...”
- “ The advent of novel tissue-tracking echo techniques has unleashed new opportunities for the clinical identification of early abnormalities in LV function”.

the clinical identification of early abnormalities in LV function. This review gathers and summarizes current evidence regarding the use of these techniques to assess myocardial deformation in patients with valvular heart disease. (J Am Coll Cardiol Img 2014;7:1151-66) © 2014 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation.

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 Hurst, MD, Serageldin F. Raslan, MD, Stephen Cha, MS, Susan Wilansky, MD, and Steven J. Lester, MD, *Scottsdale, Arizona; Rochester, Minnesota*

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 (EchoInsight 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 EchoInsight 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), EchoInsight GLS was $-16.17 \pm 2.90\%$ and Image-Arena GLS was $-16.87 \pm 2.84\%$ (mean difference, $0.70 \pm 2.75\%$; $P = .02$), 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 ussures of myocardial mechanics into routine clinical practice will require vigilance and standardization of the various techniques, necessitating independent validation of commercially available speckle-tracking echocardiographic products. (J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2012;25:1189-94.)

J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2012;25:1189-94

Keywords: Speckle-tracking, Strain, Echocardiography

Image Arena

2D Speckle Tracking

(GE Vivid™ 7)

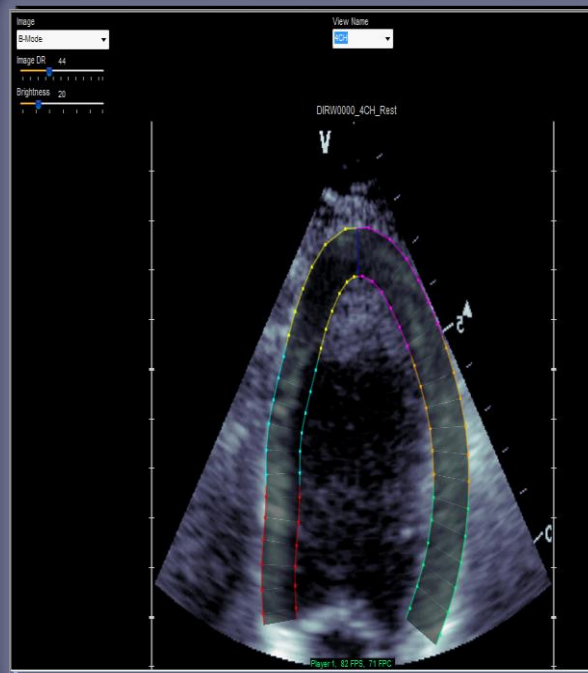
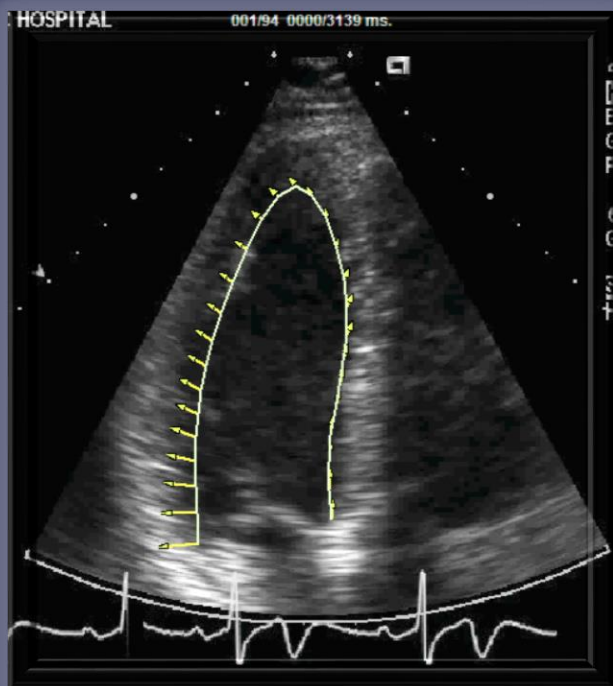
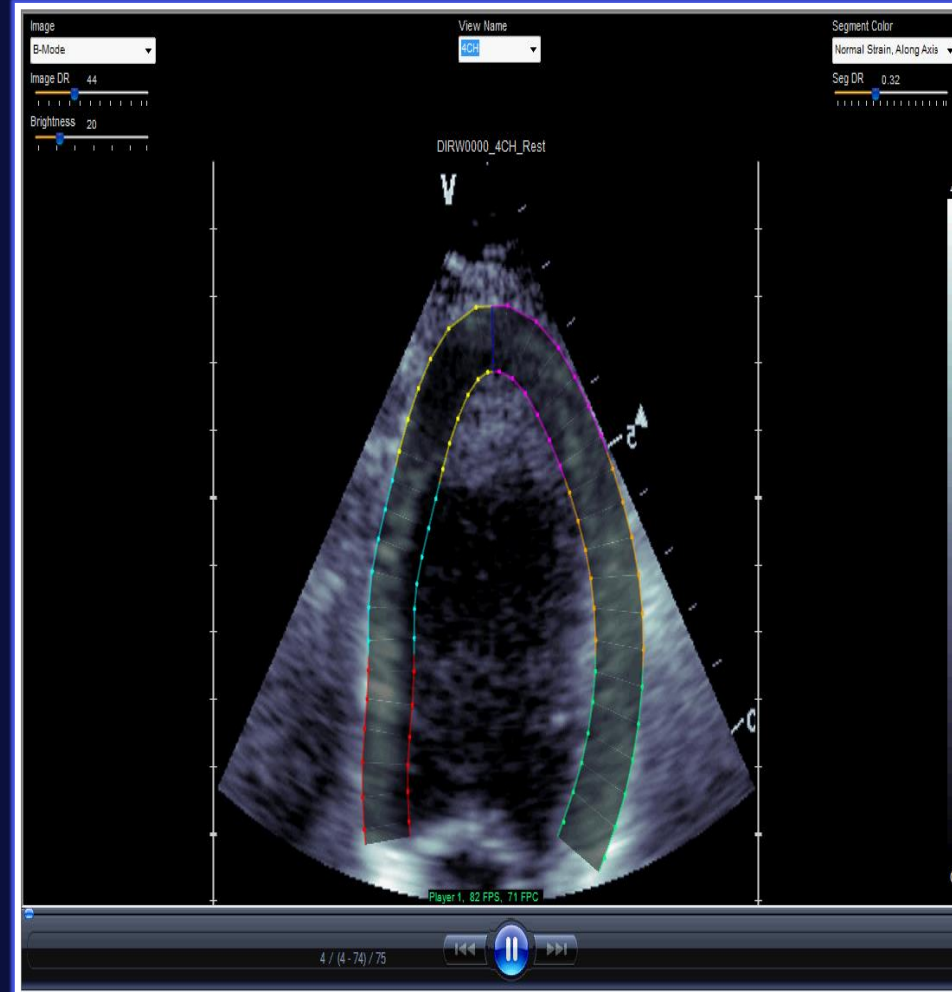
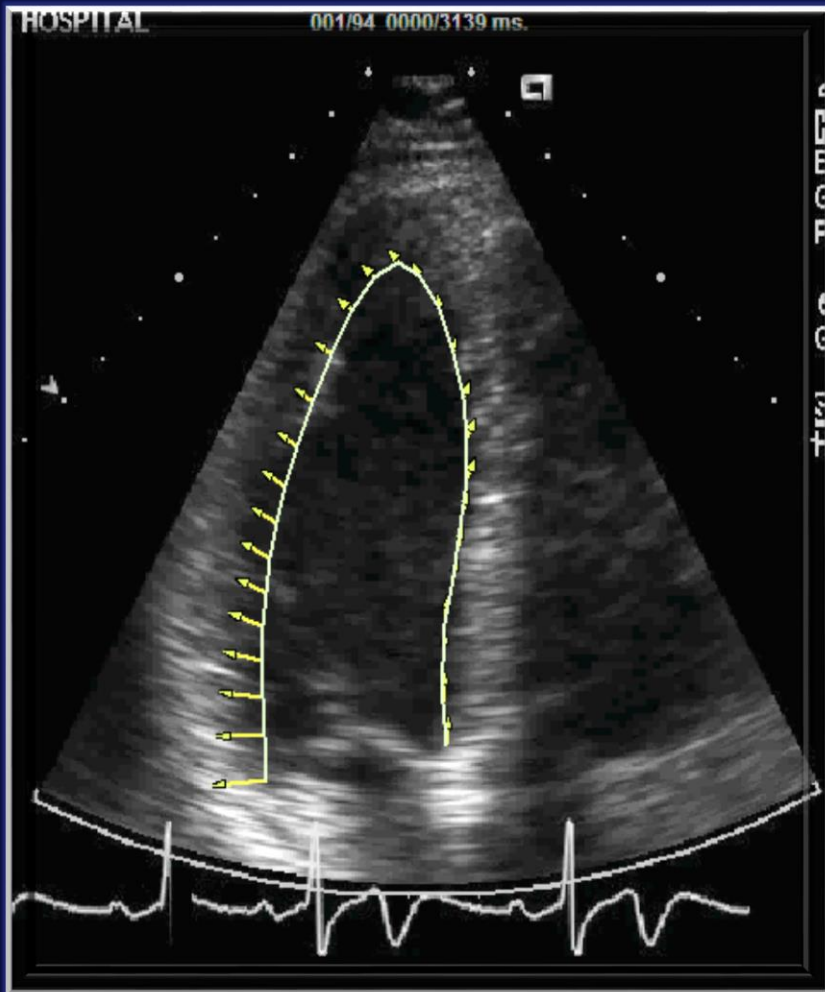


Image Area

EchoInsight

GLS $-16.87 \pm 2.84\%$ vs $-12.99 \pm 2.38\%$; $p=0.0001$



Need For Standardization

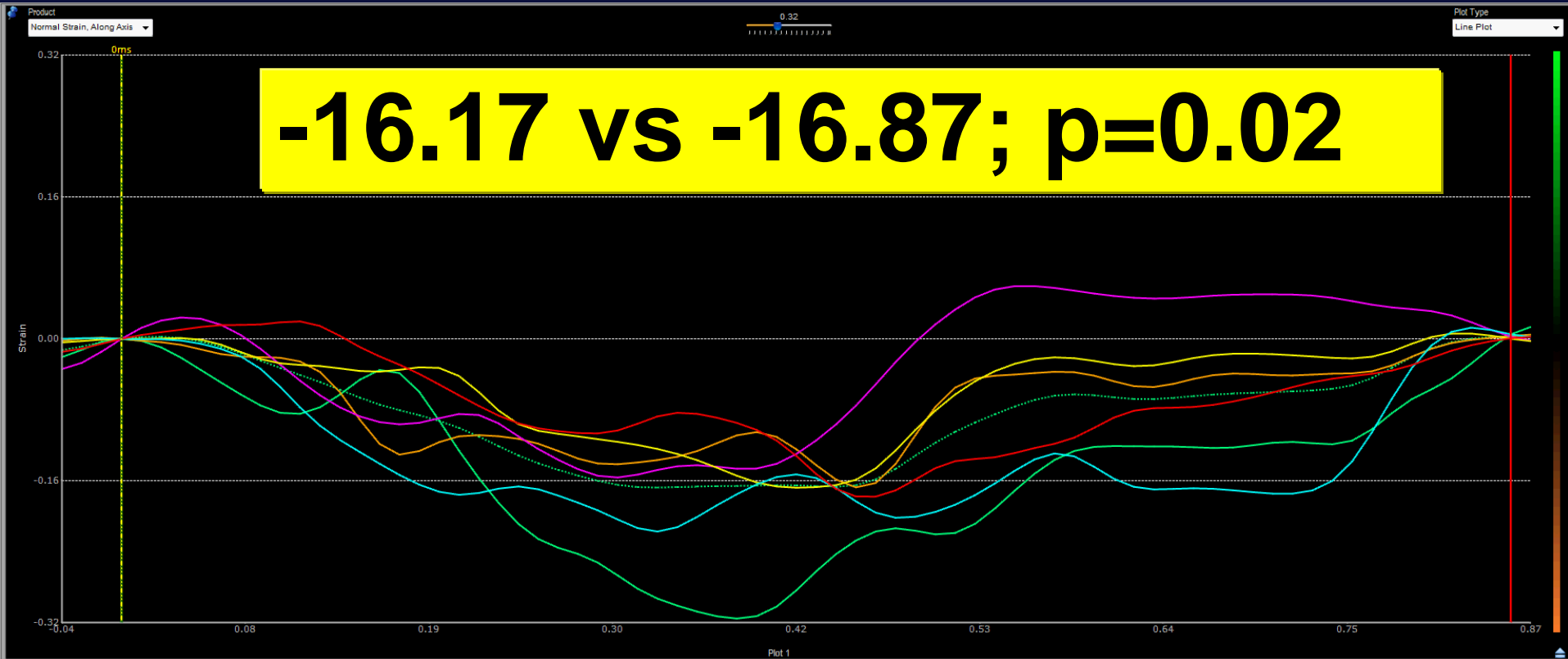
	Endocardium		Endocardium/Epicardium	
	Natural	Lagrangian	Natural	Lagrangian
Average of peaks				
Systole	-14.63±2.48†	-15.79±2.86†	-13.42± 2.22†	-14.39±2.53†
Systole/ diastole	-14.96±2.50†	-16.17±2.90*	-13.70± 2.24†	-14.71±2.57†
Peak of ave	-16.17 vs -16.87; p=0.02			
Systole	-15.55±2.60†	-14.99±3.04†	-12.90± 2.43†	-13.66±2.75†
Systole/ diastole	-13.99±2.61†	-15.05±2.99†	-12.99± 2.38†	-13.91±2.69†

*Significant difference (P<.05) compared with Image-Arena GLS

†Significant difference (P<.001) compared with Image-Arena GLS

Average of Peaks or Peak of the Average?

-16.17 vs -16.87; $p=0.02$



Scaling and Adaptive Scaling?



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. Daraban, 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*

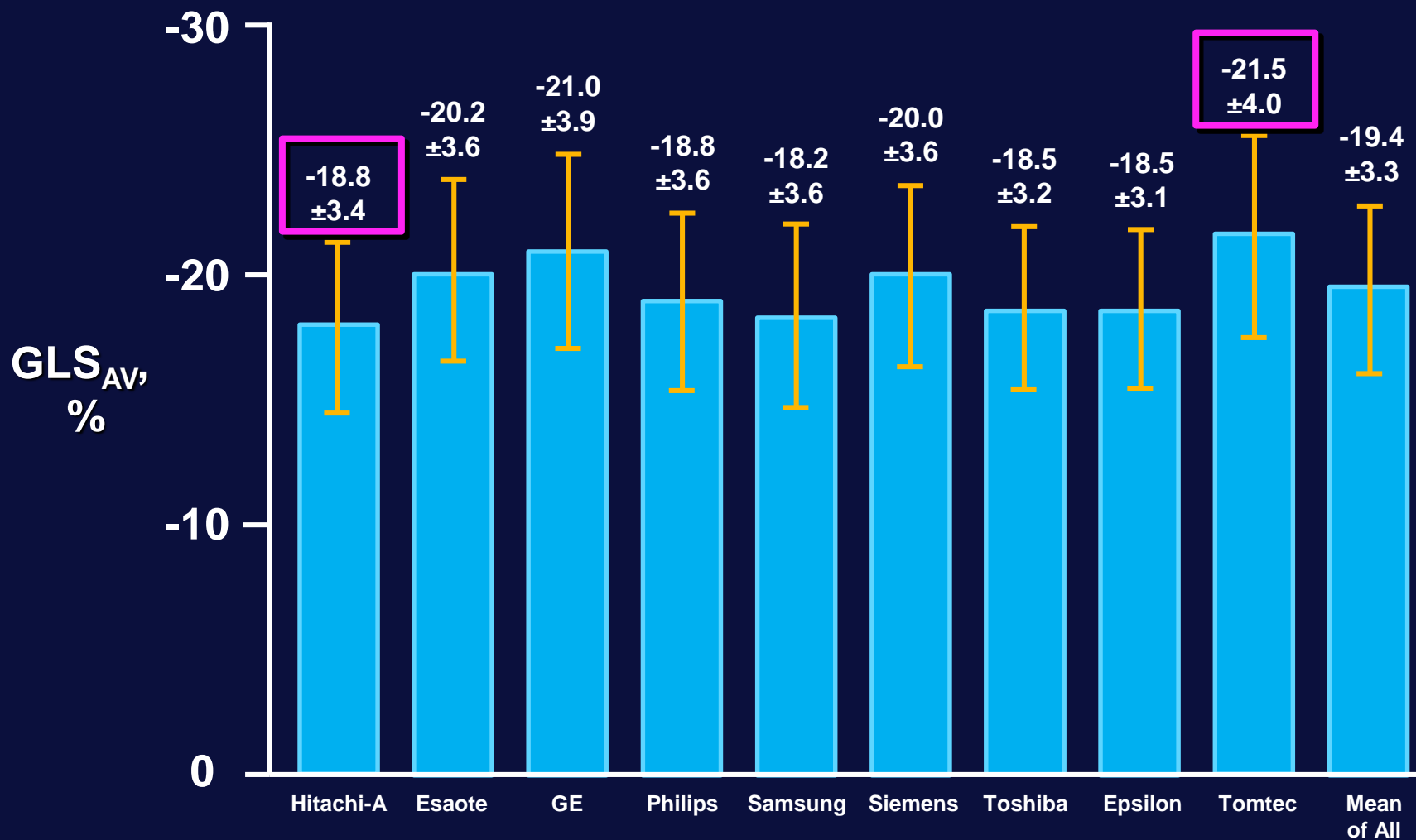
Background: This study was planned by the EACVI/ASE/Industry Task Force to Standardize Deformation Imaging to (1) test the variability of speckle-tracking global longitudinal strain (GLS) measurements among different vendors and (2) compare GLS measurement variability with conventional echocardiographic 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_{4CH} (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_{4CH} 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 8.6% for GLS_{AV} and 6.2% to 11.0% for GLS_{4CH} , while the intraobserver relative mean errors were 4.9% 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.)

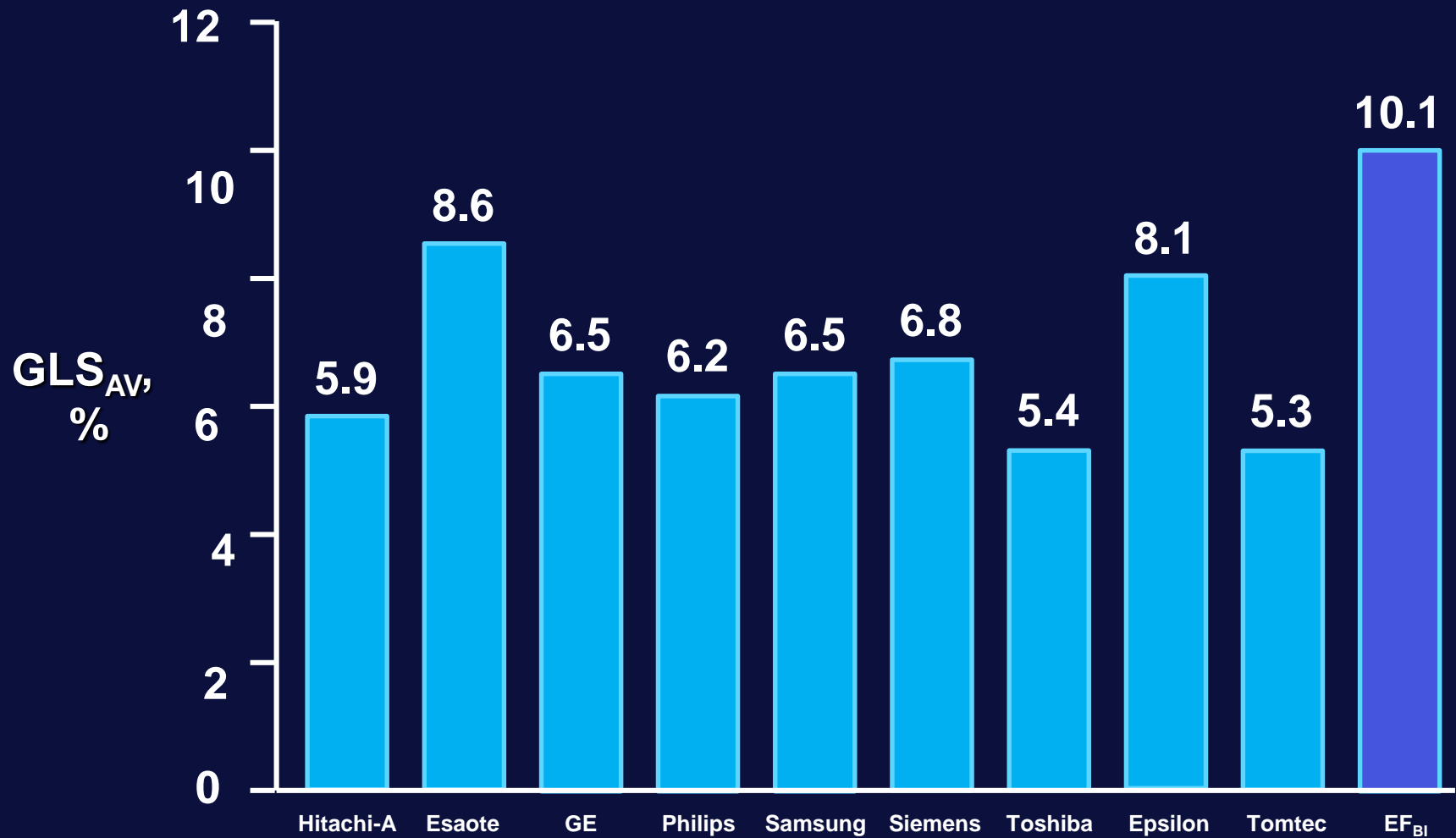
Global Longitudinal Strain Among Various Vendors



Mean Error in Measurements



Interobserver Relative Mean Errors



SPECIAL ARTICLE

Definitions for a Common Standard for 2D Speckle Tracking Echocardiography: Consensus Document of the EACVI/ASE/Industry Task Force to Standardize Deformation Imaging

Jens-Uwe Voigt,[†] Gianni Pedrizzetti,[†] Peter Lysyansky,[†] Tom H. Marwick, H el ene Houle, Rolf Baumann,

Cross vendor variability in peak systolic global longitudinal strain may now be less than that of measures of left ventricular ejection fraction

Recognizing the critical need for standardization in strain imaging, in 2010, the European Association of Echocardiography (now the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging, EACVI) and the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) initiated a concerted effort to reduce inter-vendor variability. As part of the EACVI/ASE/Industry initiative to standardize deformation imaging, we prepared this technical document which is intended to provide definitions, names, abbreviations, formulas, and procedures for calculation of physical quantities derived from speckle tracking echocardiography and thus create a common standard.

(J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2015;28:183-93.)

J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2015;28:183-93

Keywords: Echocardiography, Two-dimensional, Deformation imaging, Strain, Strain rate, Speckle tracking, Left ventricle, Myocardial, Standard, Definitions

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 Knackstedt, MD,* Sebastiaan C.A.M. Bekkers, MD, PhD,* Georg Schummers,† Marcus Schreckenberg,† Denisa Muraru, MD, PhD,‡ Luigi P. Badano, MD, PhD,‡ Andreas Franke, MD,§ Chirag Bavishi, MD, MPH,|| Alaa Mabrouk Salem Omar, MD, PhD,|| Partho P. Sengupta, MD, DM||

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

were saved in a centralized database, and machine learning-enabled software (AutoLV, Tomtec-Arena 1.2, Tomtec Imaging Systems, Unterschleissheim, Germany) was applied for fully automated EF and LS measurements. A reference center reanalyzed all datasets (by visual estimation and manual tracking), along with manual LS determinations.

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 manual EF, but not different for LS. Automated EF

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 Kn
Denisa Mura
Alaa Mabrou

ABSTRACT

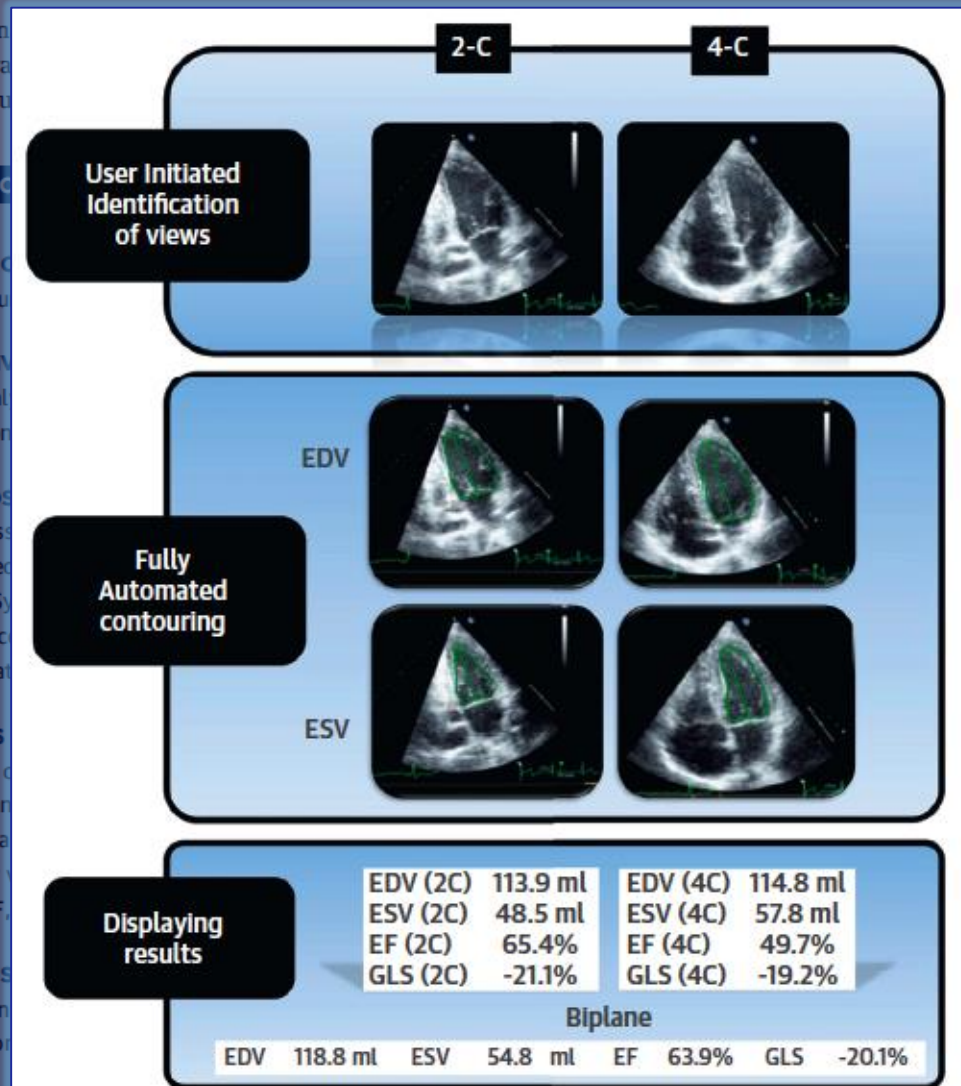
BACKGROUND
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Fully Automated Versus Standard Tracking of Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction and Longitudinal Strain



The FAST-EFs Multicenter Study

Christian Knackstedt, MD,* Sebastiaan C.A.M. Bekkers, MD, PhD,* Georg Schummers,† Marcus Schreckenber,‡ Denisa Muraru, MD, PhD,‡ Luigi P. Badano, MD, PhD,‡ Andreas Franke, MD,§ Chirag Bavishi, 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 sec/patient.
3. Interobserver variability was higher for both visual and manual EF, but not different for LS.

Reference center analyzed all datasets (by local estimation and manual tracking), along with manual EF determinations.

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.

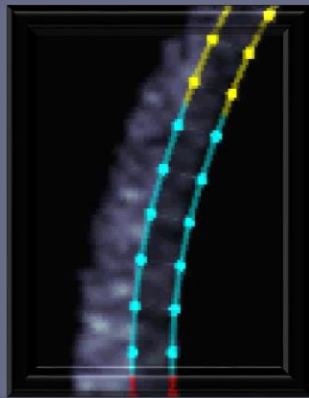
CONCLUSIONS Fully automated analysis of echocardiography images provides rapid and reproducible assessment of left ventricular EF and LS. (J Am Coll Cardiol 2015;66:1456–66) © 2015 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation.

Cardio-Oncology

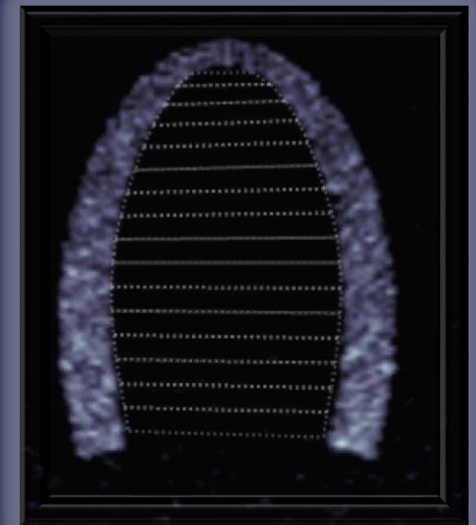
Simultaneous measurement of Strain and Ejection Fraction

Images courtesy of J. D'Hooge et. al.

Longitudinal
Strain



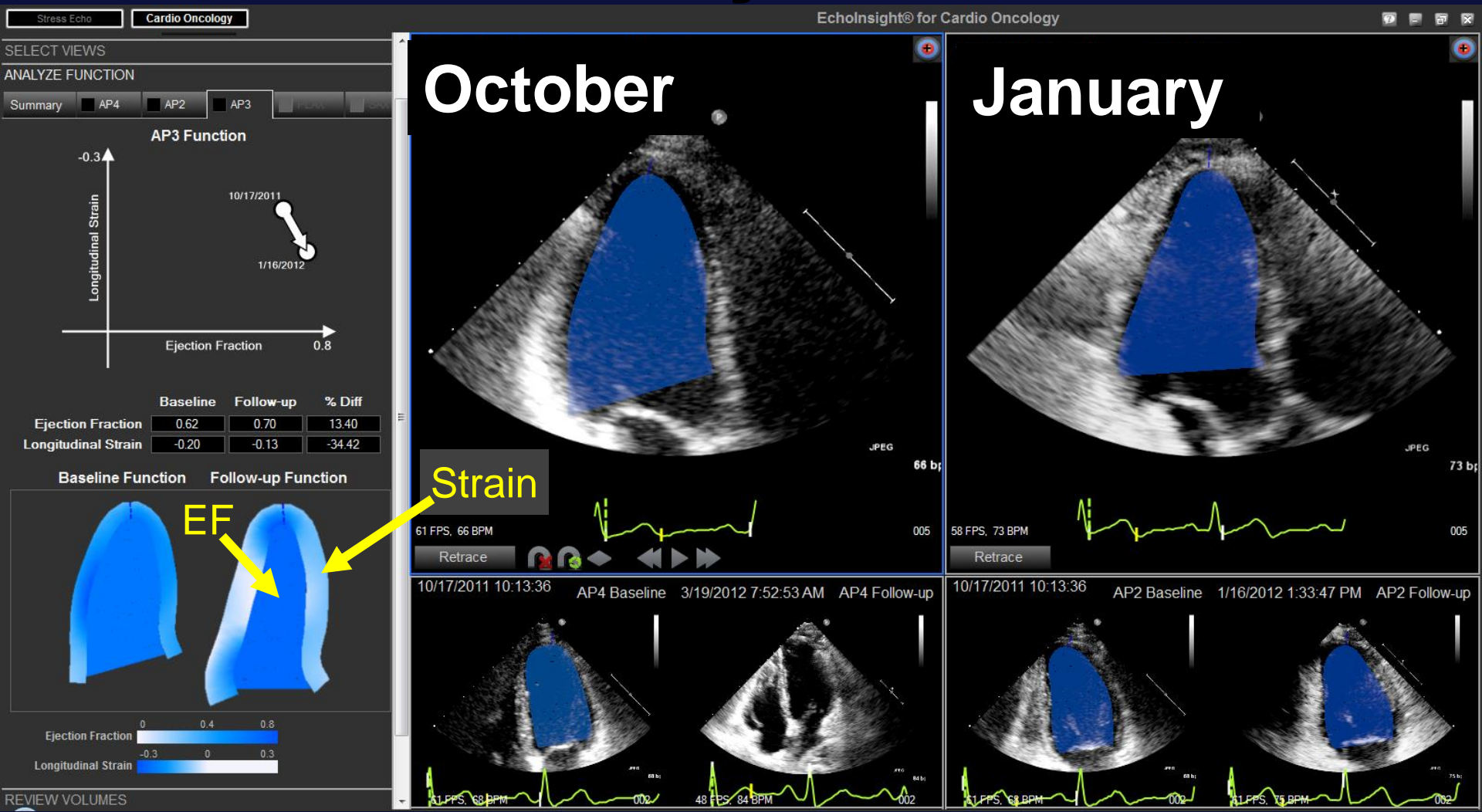
Regional
Ejection
Fraction



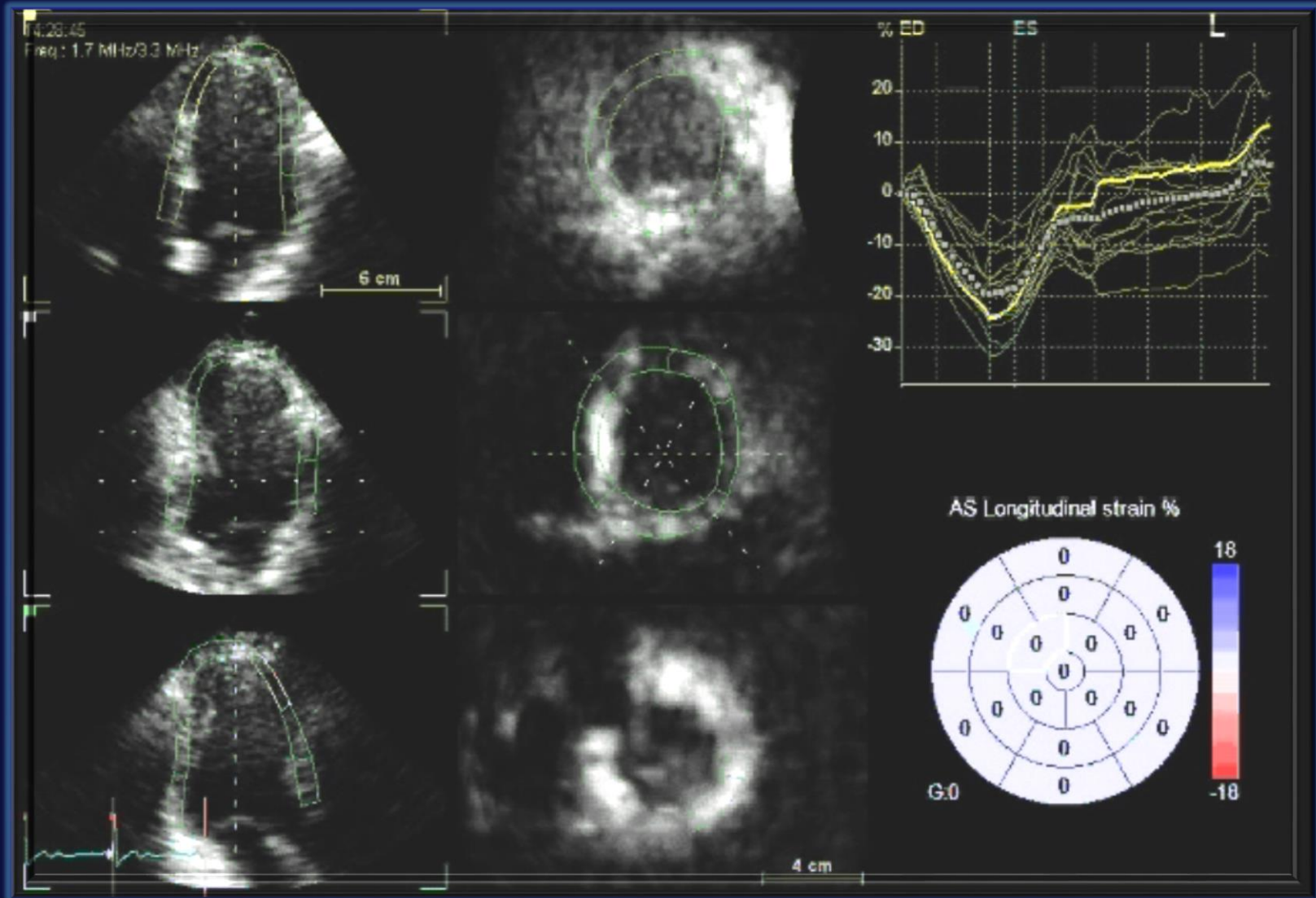
- Measures **systolic shortening**
- Sensitive measure of myocardium function

- Measures **fractional change in volume**
- Established, commonly used metric

Cardio-Oncology Analysis



Lower resolution 3D Strain Analysis (spatial and temporal)



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

Patricia Reant, MD, PhD, Laurence Barbot, MD, Cecile Touche, MD, Marina Dijos, MD, Florence Arsac, MD, Xavier Pillois, PhD, Mathieu Landelle, MD, Raymond Roudaut, MD, and Stephane Lafitte, MD, PhD, *Pessac, France*

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 ($y = -1.65 + 10.4x$, $r = -0.92$, $P < .001$). 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 lower with 3DE than 2DE analysis for circumferential and radial strain but similar for GLS. The mean time of measurement was shorter with 3DE than 2DE analysis ($P < .001$).

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”**

Take Home Points

- 1.** DTI characterizes the low velocity, high intensity signals that come from the wall.
- 2.** DTI is limited to movement relative to the sample volume fixed in space
- 3.** Velocity: pitfalls of tethering and translational motion

Take Home Points

- 4.** Local parameters of deformation (strain and strain rate) are not influenced by tethering or translational motion
- 5.** Feature or Speckle tracking can evaluate velocity, strain and strain rate from standard gray scale images
- 6.** Feature tracking permits assessment of strain in the axis of movement rather than the axis of the ultrasound beam.

When obtaining a pulsed wave tissue Doppler signal you should?

- a.** Turn the wall filters on and turn down the receiver gain.
- b.** Turn the wall filters off and turn up the receiver gain.
- c.** Turn the wall filters off and turn down the receiver gain.
- d.** Turn the wall filters on and turn up the receiver gain.

With “speckle tracking” myocardial imaging:

- a.** You measure strain along the axis of the ultrasound beam.
- b.** Velocity and strain measurements are measured from standard gray-scale images.
- c.** Myocardial velocity measurements are not influenced by translational or tethering motion as they are when obtained by pulsed wave tissue Doppler imaging.
- d.** You can measure longitudinal but not circumferential or radial strain.

Compared to pulsed wave tissue Doppler the myocardial velocities obtained by color tissue Doppler are?

- a. Higher**
- b. Lower**
- c. The same**

