



ISMRRM & SMRT Annual Meeting & Exhibition  
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15-20 May 2021



ISMRRM 2021  
Trainee Awards

# ISMIRM 2021 Trainee Awards

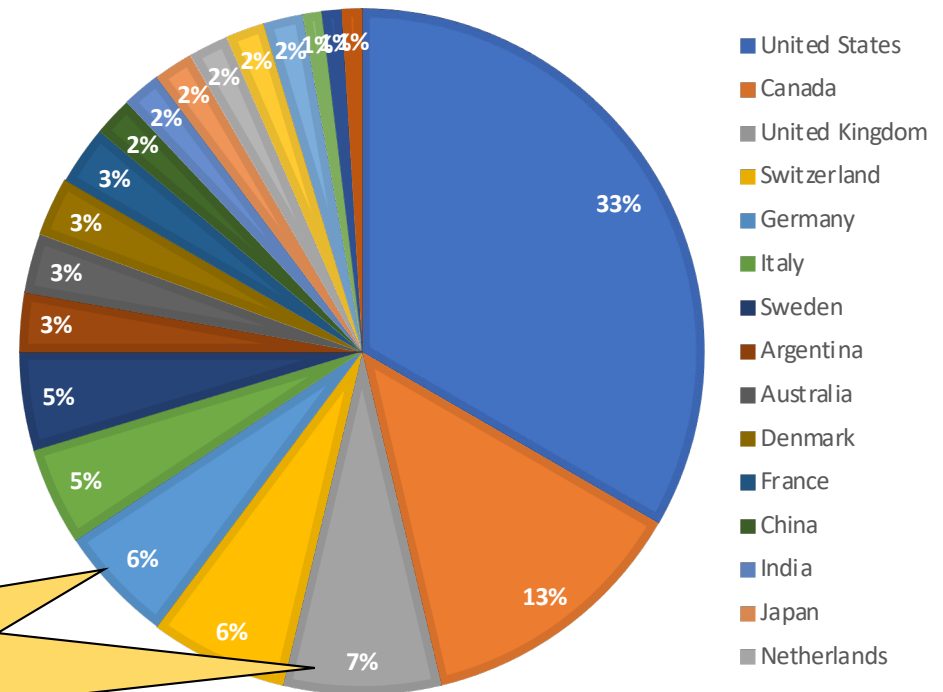
- A way to highlight the accomplishments of our trainee members.
- The DSG committee solicited applications from trainees with abstract accepted as 1<sup>st</sup> author.
- Members of the DSG Committee (#11 in total) judged the abstracts and selected winners for the following categories:
  - Best Methods Abstracts accepted as Oral and Poster presentation
  - Best Neuro Abstracts accepted as Oral and Poster presentation
  - Best Body Abstracts accepted as Oral and Poster presentation

# # submissions

111 submissions

- 61 poster presentations
- 50 oral presentations
- 36 newcomers  
(first time submission as a first author)

**Special feature of 2021:**  
2 awards per oral category





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**Best Methods Abstracts**

Oral 1
Oral 2
Poster

**Best Neuro Abstracts**

Oral 1
Oral 2
Poster

**Best Body Abstracts**

Oral 1
Oral 2
Poster



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Diffusion Study Group Award 2021 for  
**Best Diffusion Methods Abstract (Oral)**



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**Geraline Vis**

*Dept of Diagnostic Radiology, Clinical Sciences  
Lund, Lund University, Lund, Sweden*

**109: High-resolution visualization of isotropically restricted diffusion in brain by strong spherical dMRI and super-resolution reconstruction.**



**1<sup>st</sup> Time  
Submission**

# High-resolution visualization of isotropically diffusion in brain by strong spherical dMRI and super-resolution reconstruction

Geraline Vis<sup>1</sup>, Markus Nilsson<sup>1</sup>, and Filip Szczepankiewicz<sup>1</sup>

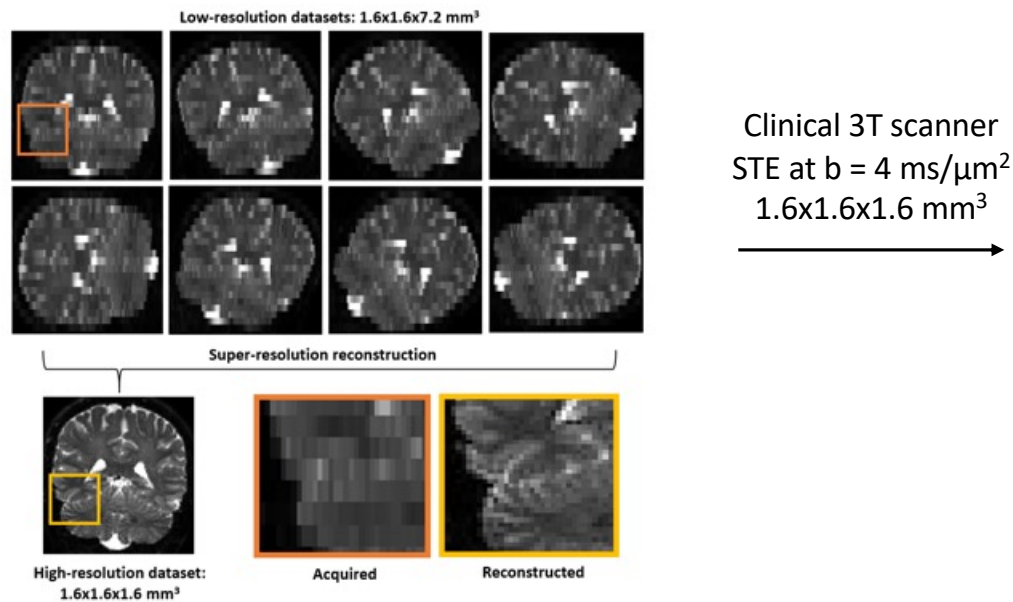
<sup>1</sup>Dept. Of Diagnostic Radiology, Clinical Sciences Lund, Lund University, Lund, Sweden

## Problem

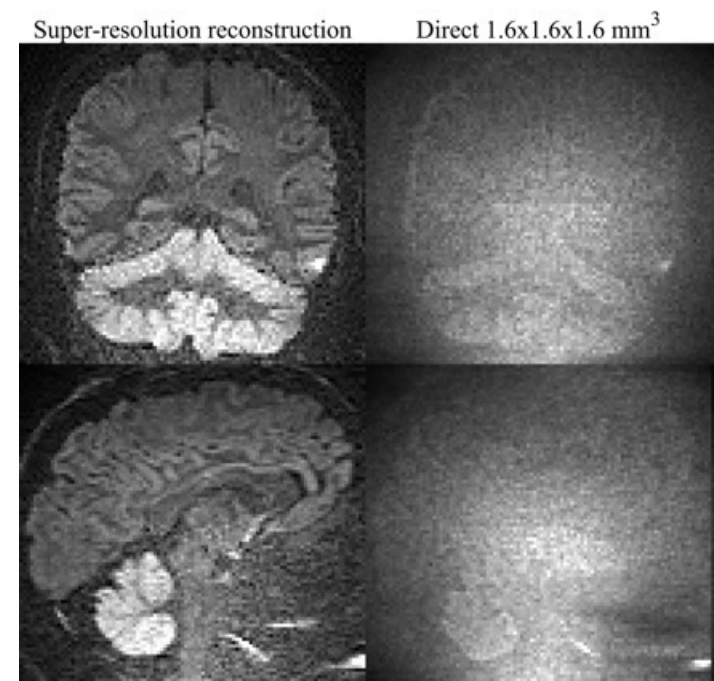
Low SNR limits high-resolution imaging of isotropically restricted diffusion<sup>1</sup>

## Methods

Super-resolution increases SNR while retaining high-resolution



## Results



## Implications

Novel contrast may be used to study densely packed cells in high-resolution on a clinical scanner

<sup>1</sup>Tax et al. 2020 *NeuroImage*



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**Wiktor Olszowy**

*Center for Biomedical Imaging, EPFL,  
Lausanne, Switzerland*

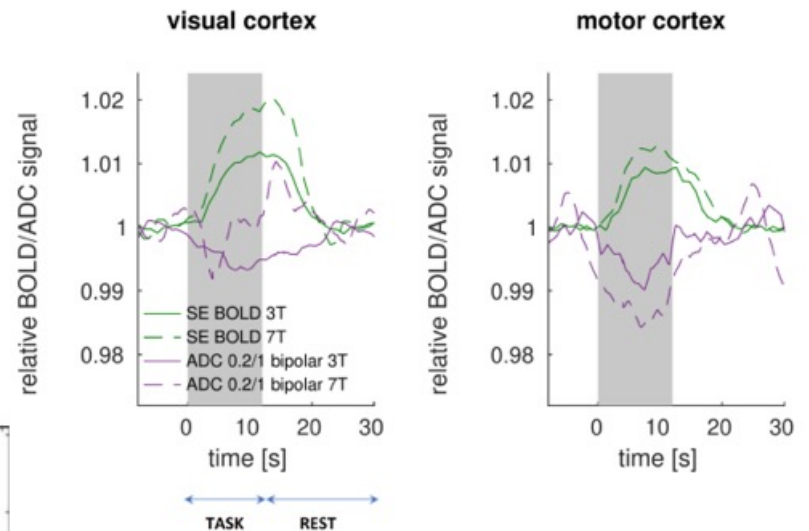
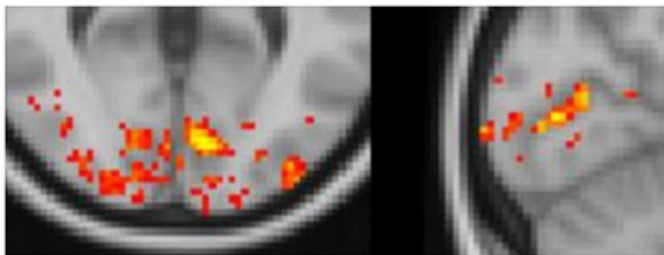
**459: Beyond BOLD: in search of genuine  
diffusion fMRI contrast in human brain.**



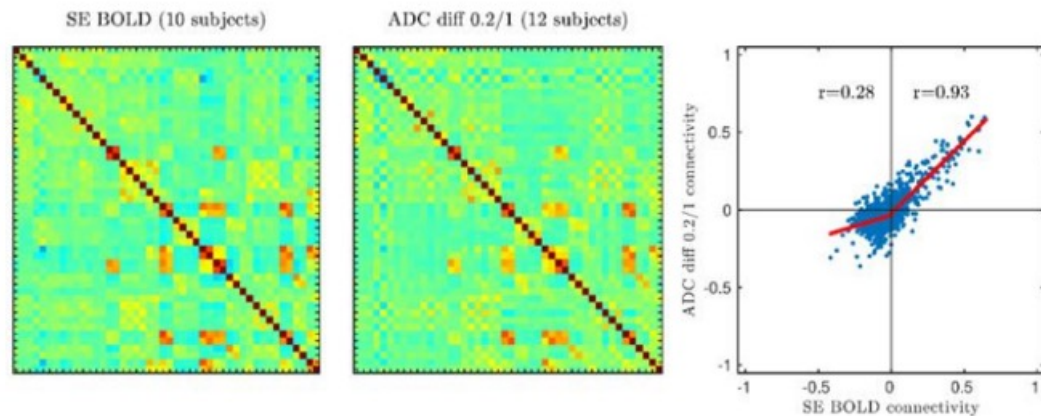
## Beyond BOLD: in search of genuine diffusion fMRI contrast in human brain

Wiktor Olszowy<sup>1</sup>, Yujian Diao<sup>1,2</sup>, Ileana Jelescu<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>Center for Biomedical Imaging, EPFL <sup>2</sup>Laboratoire d'Imagerie Fonctionnelle et Métabolique, EPFL

- BOLD fMRI relies on neurovascular coupling -> Diffusion fMRI more specific to neuronal activation
- We minimized BOLD contaminations for Diffusion fMRI
  - Differences between ROIs and 3T/7T
  - Task-induced ADC decreases:
- Task-induced DfMRI activation more spatially specific than BOLD (checkerboard task):



- Resting-state anti-correlations attenuated preferentially in DfMRI:



- Our DfMRI is largely free of vascular contaminations
- DfMRI valuable alternative to BOLD, part. for low field MRI
- Full study: [biorxiv/OpenNeuro/GitHub](https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.05.16.444253v1.full)
- [www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.05.16.444253v1.full](https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.05.16.444253v1.full)



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**Eric Seth Michael**

*Institute for Biomedical Engineering,  
ETH Zurich and University of Zurich, Zurich,  
Switzerland*

**1324: Multi-shot diffusion MRI of the human  
brain with motion-compensated oscillating  
gradients**



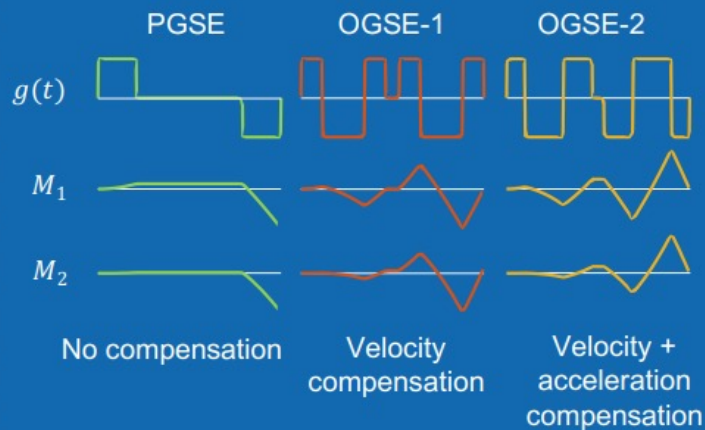
**1<sup>st</sup> Time  
Submission**

# 1324: Multi-shot diffusion MRI of the human brain with motion-compensated oscillating gradients

Eric Seth Michael, Franciszek Hennel, Klaas Paul Pruessmann

**Motivation:** Investigate utility of motion-compensated oscillating gradients for mitigation of phase-induced reconstruction errors in multi-shot DWI

## Methods: DW waveforms

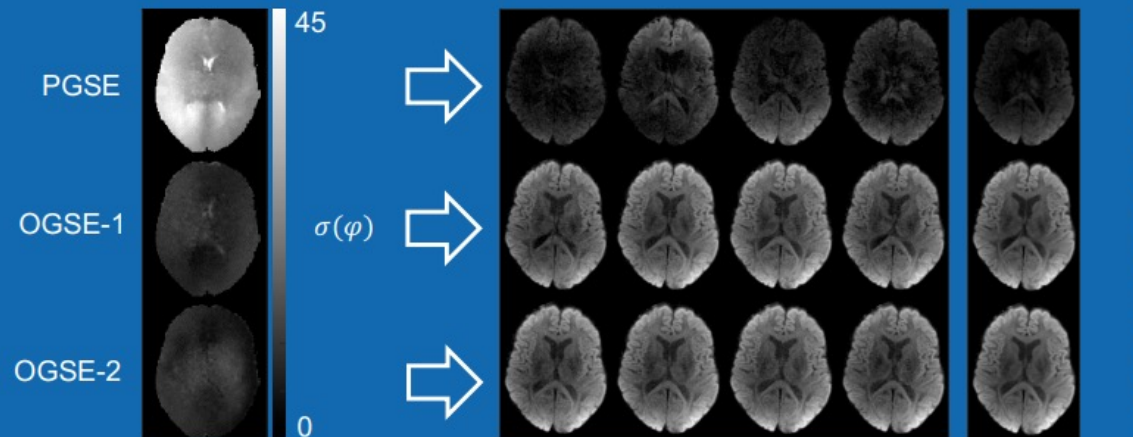


**Results:** Both oscillating gradient variants result in significantly reduced phase variability and artifact-free reconstructed images

Phase variations across repeated single-shot acquisitions

Repetitions of multi-shot acquisitions

Average



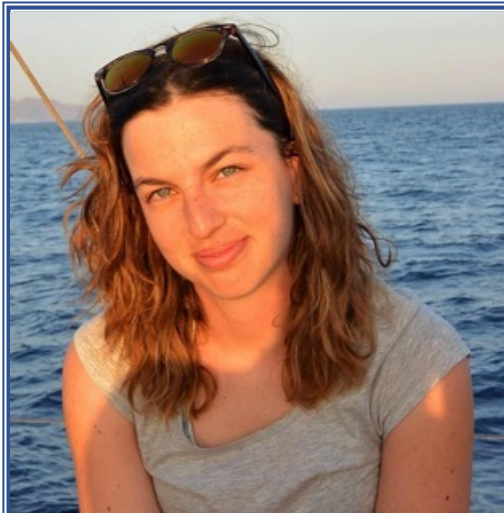
• Consistent phase stability eliminates need for advanced reconstruction methods



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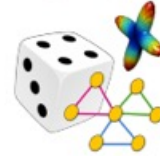
**Simona Schiavi**

*University of Verona, Verona, Italy*

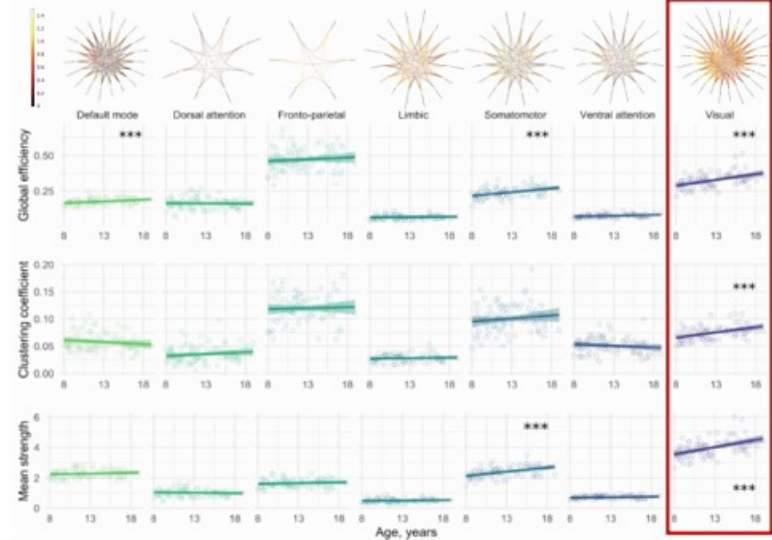
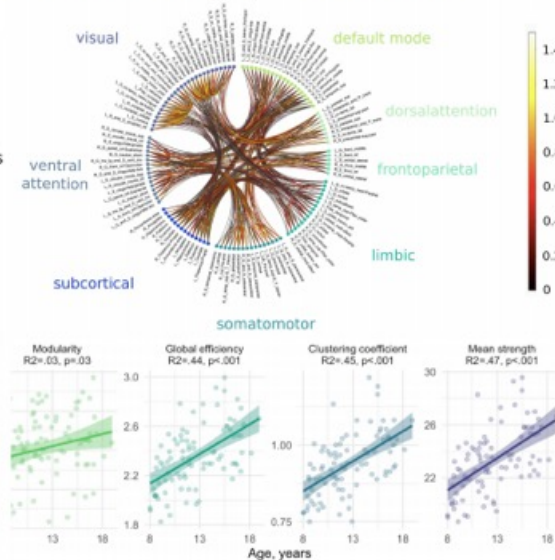
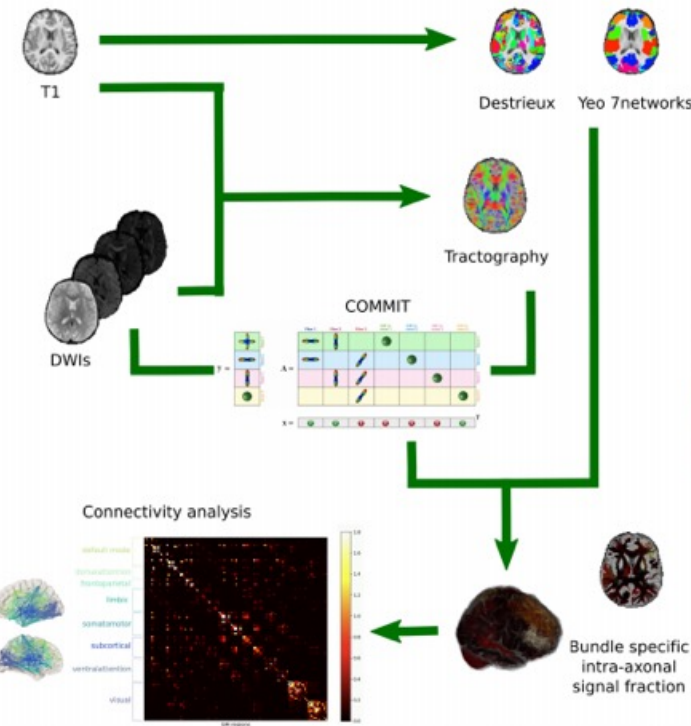
210: Unique insights into visual network development over childhood and adolescence from microstructure informed tractography



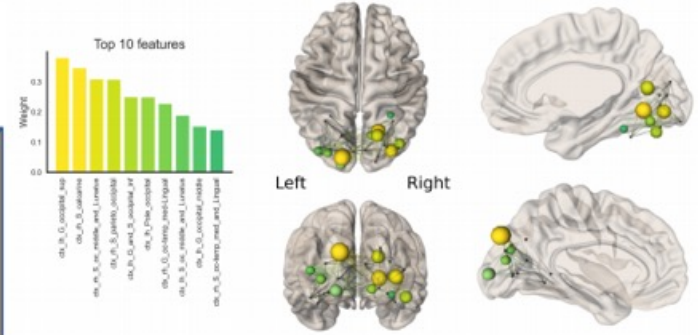
# Unique insights into visual network development over childhood and adolescence from microstructure informed tractography



For the first time we applied **COMMIT** to investigate structural connectivity over age-related development with more biologically informative graph global measure



we **confirmed** previous observations on **maturation pattern of posterior regions** and found **unique visual network characteristics**

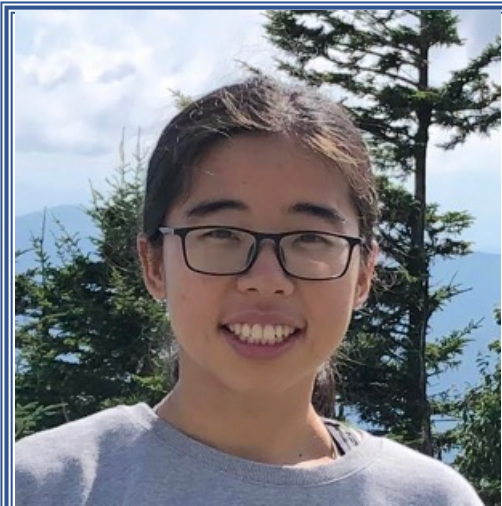




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**Yixin Ma**

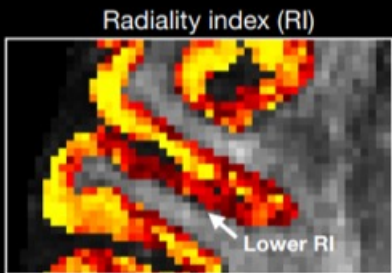
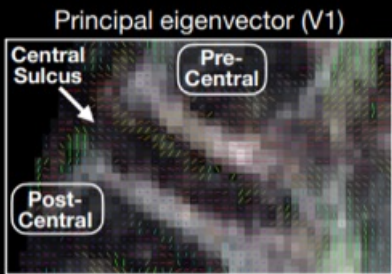
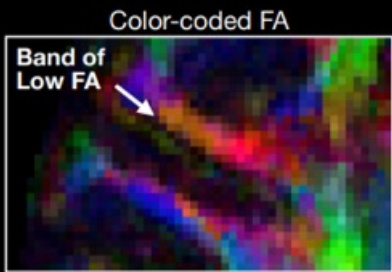
*Brain Imaging and Analysis Center, Duke University, Durham, NC, United States*

299: Column-based cortical depth analysis of the diffusion anisotropy in submillimeter whole-brain DTI of the human gray matter

# Column-based cortical depth analysis of the diffusion anisotropy in submillimeter whole-brain DTI of the human gray matter

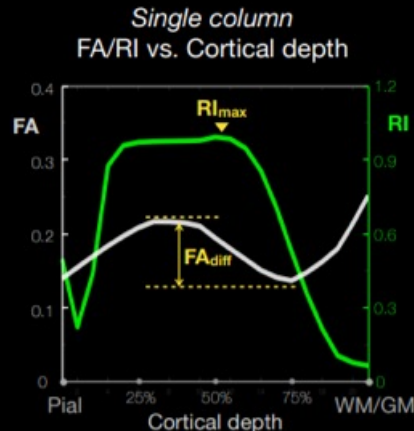
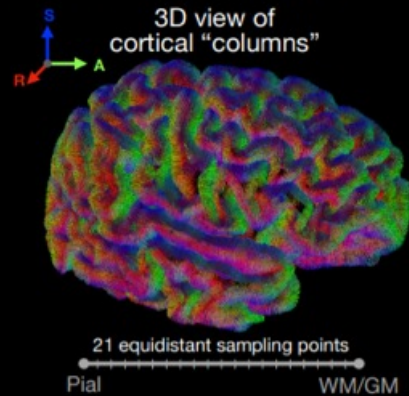
Yixin Ma, Trong-Kha Truong, Iain P. Bruce, Chun-Hung Yeh, Jeffrey R. Petrella, and Allen W. Song

## DTI metrics maps

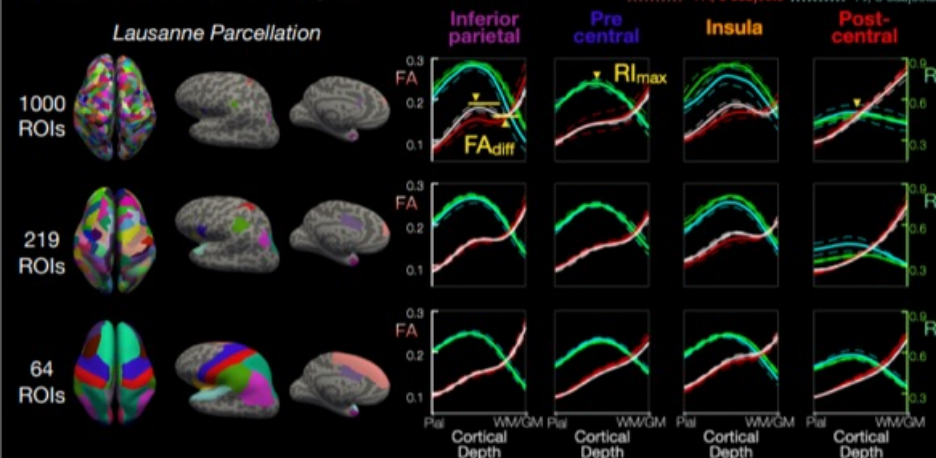


0.9mm isotropic resolution

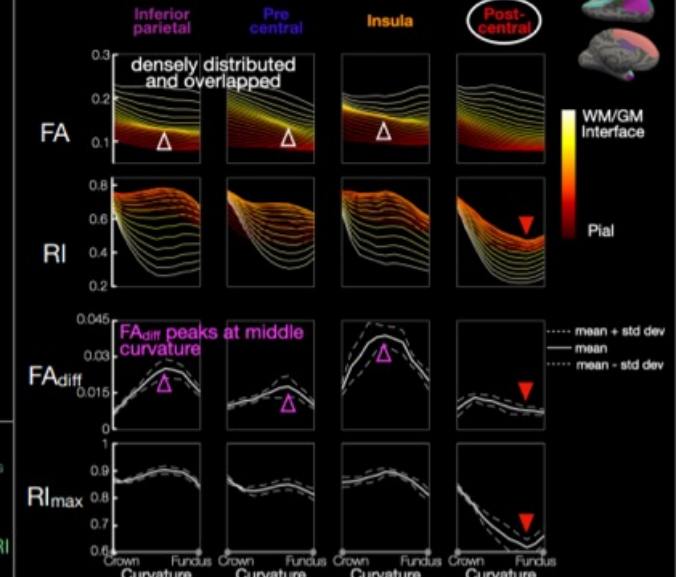
## Column-based analysis



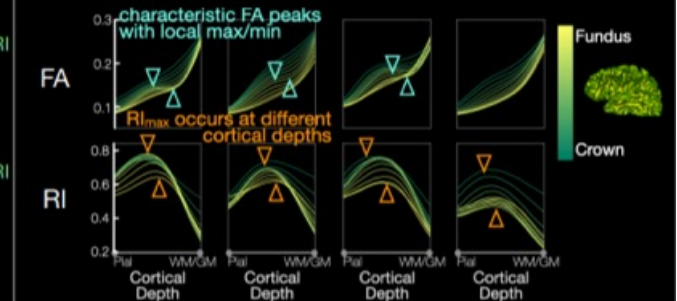
## FA/RI vs. cortical depth in atlases



## FA/RI vs. curvature



## FA/RI vs. cortical depth





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# Diffusion Study Group Award 2021 for Best Diffusion Neuro Abstract (Poster)



**Ethan Danielli**

*Imaging Research Centre, St. Joseph's  
Healthcare; McMaster University, Hamilton, ON,  
Canada*

**1301: Correlating Concussion-Related Symptoms to  
the Personalized MRI Assessment of Brain  
Abnormalities in Children.**



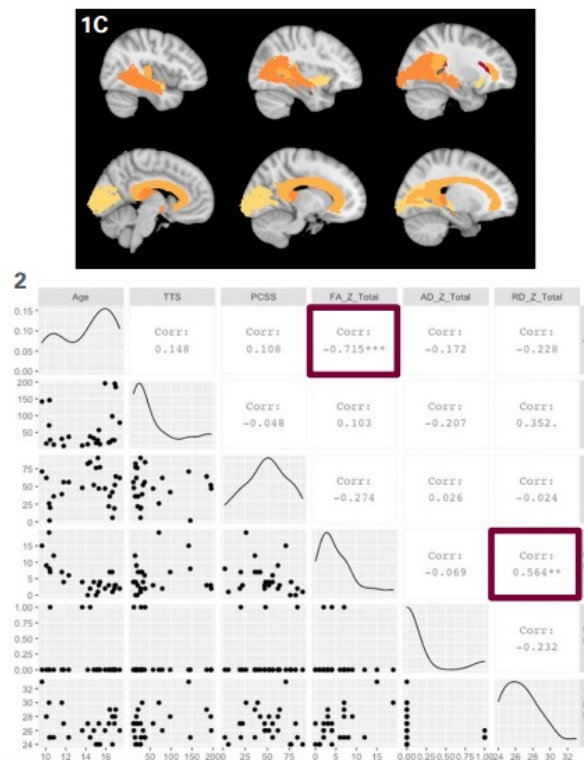
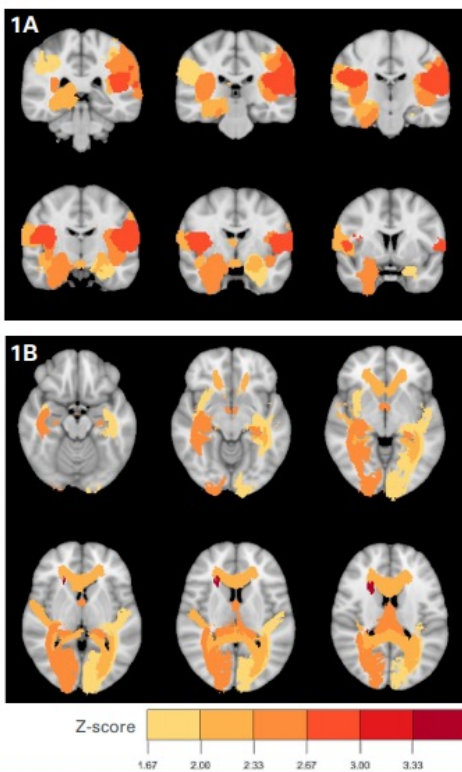
**1<sup>st</sup> Time  
Submission**



# Correlating Concussion-Related Symptoms to the Personalized MRI Assessment of Brain Abnormalities in Children

Ethan Danielli,<sup>1,2</sup> David Stillo,<sup>1,2</sup> Rachele A Ho,<sup>3,7</sup> Carol DeMatteo,<sup>3,8</sup> Geoffrey B Hall,<sup>7</sup> Nicholas A Bock,<sup>7</sup> John F Connolly,<sup>2,4,7,8</sup> Michael D Noseworthy<sup>1,2,5,6,8</sup>

1. Imaging Research Centre, St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton, ON, Canada; McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada; 2. School of Biomedical Engineering, 3. School of Rehabilitation Sciences, 4. Department of Linguistics, 5. Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 6. Department of Radiology, 7. Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour, 8. ARIAL Research Centre



## Key findings:

- Subject-wise Z-scoring and injury burden (IB) approach successfully identified and quantified personal concussion severity
- Younger subjects had greater FA IB ( $r=-0.715$ )
- Significant variance was found between FA IB & age, FA IB & PCSS, RD IB & age, and RD IB & TTS:PCSS
- Age and ongoing neurodevelopment influence concussion severity
- FA, RD and AD all provided useful IB results

**Figure 1:** A sample of injured FA brain ROIs with colours corresponding to injury severity calculated by Z-scores relative to normative, healthy values from a coronal (1A), axial (1B) and sagittal (1C) perspective.

**Figure 2:** A paired matrix plot indicating the distribution of each metric and the correlation between metrics, with significant correlations marked with an asterisk.



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**Linda Heskamp**

*Newcastle University Translational and Clinical  
Research Institute (NUTCRI), Newcastle University,  
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK*

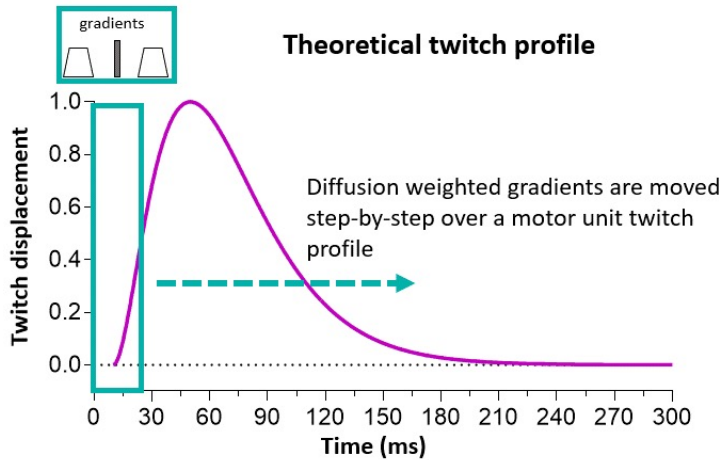
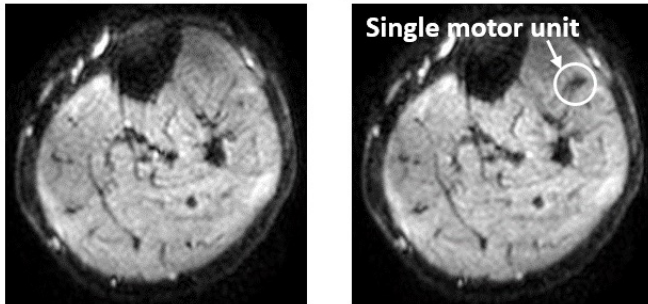
**587: The muscle twitch profile assessed with  
Motor Unit Magnetic Resonance Imaging  
(MUMRI)**

# The muscle twitch profile assessed with Motor Unit MRI (MUMRI)

Linda Heskamp<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Birkbeck<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Roger Whittaker<sup>1</sup>, Ian Schofield<sup>1</sup>, Andrew Blamire<sup>1</sup>

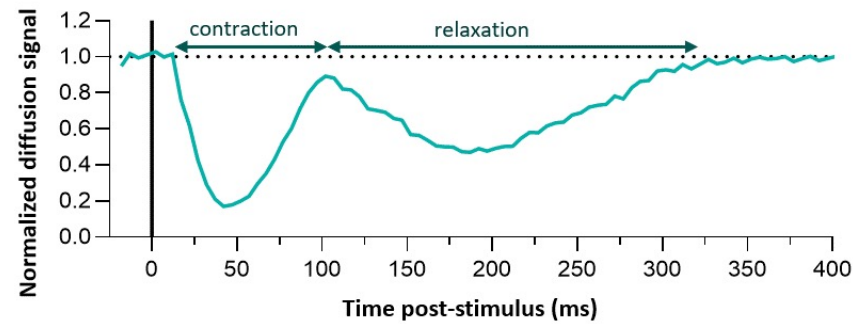
## Methods

Motor units activated via electrical nerve stimulation show as signal voids on diffusion weighted images

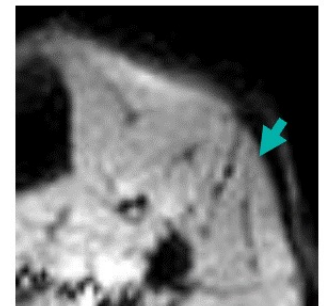
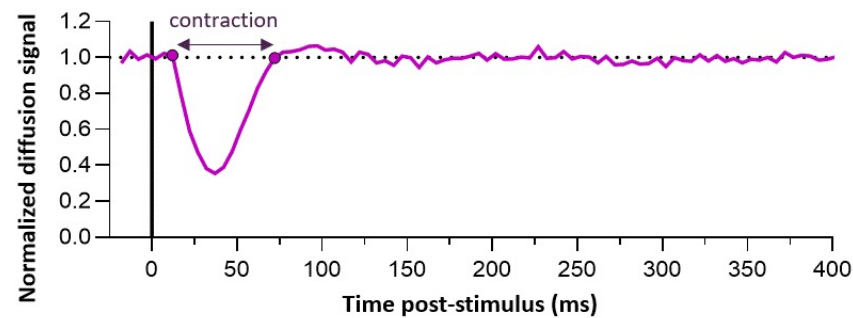


## Results

### DW signal reflecting the twitch profile of a whole muscle



### DW signal reflecting the twitch profile of a single motor unit





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**Sisi Li**

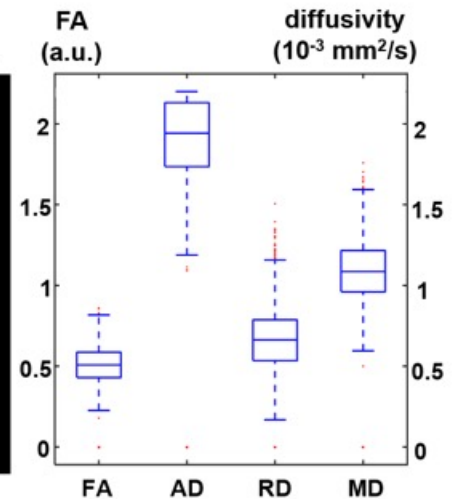
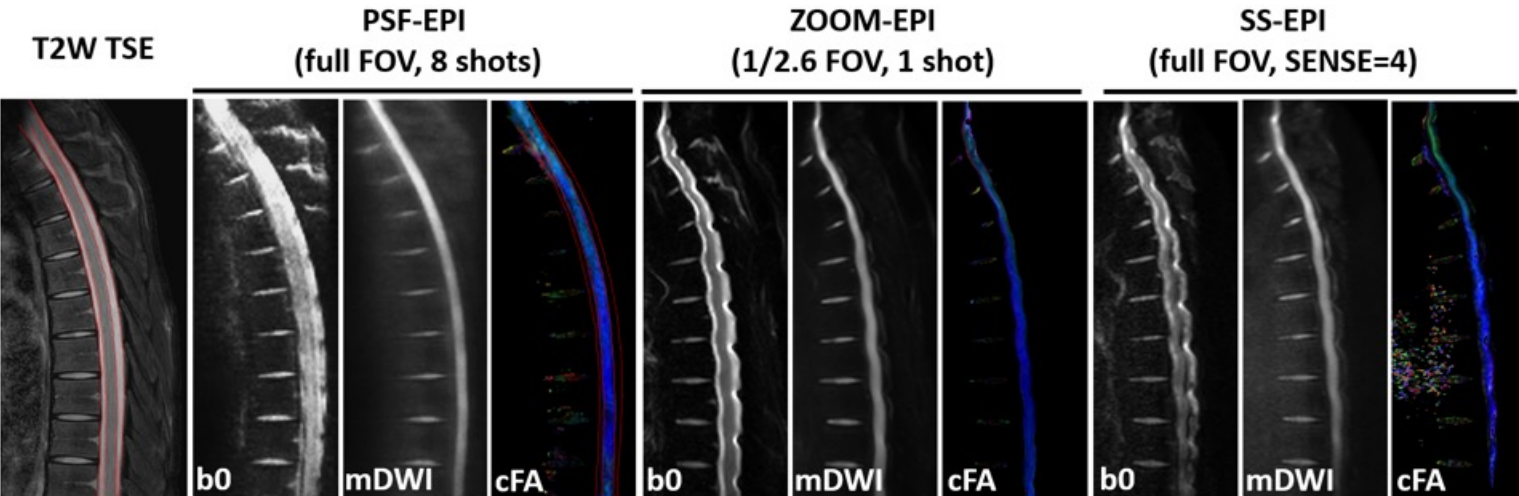
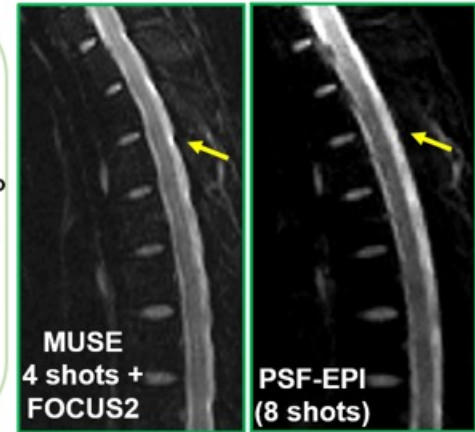
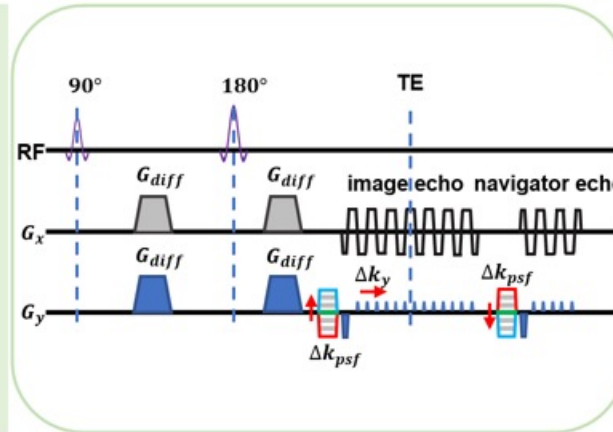
*Center for Biomedical Imaging Research,  
Department of Biomedical Engineering, Tsinghua  
University, Beijing, China*

**104: High-Fidelity Diffusion Tensor Imaging  
of the Thoracic Spinal Cord Using Point-  
Spread-Function Encoded EPI (PSF-EPI).**

# High-Fidelity Diffusion Tensor Imaging of the Thoracic Spinal Cord Using Point-Spread-Function Encoded EPI (PSF-EPI)



- ✓ **feasibility** of DTI for Tspine
  - tilted-CAIPI accelerated PSF-EPI<sup>1-3</sup> (8 shots)
- ✓ **efficacy in distortion correction**:
  - PSF-EPI v.s. MS-EPI, rFOV+MS-EPI, SS-EPI
  - similar performance on Philips and GE scanners
- ✓ **reliability of performance**:
  - high anatomical fidelity + reasonable SNR levels
  - practical scan time: ~ 6 min (2 NEX, 6 directions)
- ✓ **quantitative evaluation of DTI metrics**:
  - agree with reported values<sup>4-6</sup> + reproducibility



[1] Zaitsev M., et al. MRM, 2004. [2] In M. H., et al. NeuroImage, 2017. [3] Dong Z., et al. MRM, 2018. [4] Zaharchuk G., et al. AJNR 2011. [5] Jeong EK., et al. MRM 2005. [6] Kim T., et al. AJNR 2010.



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# Diffusion Study Group Award 2021 for Best Diffusion Body Abstract (Poster)



**Moses Philip Cook**

*Sunnybrook Research Institute, University of  
Toronto, Canada*

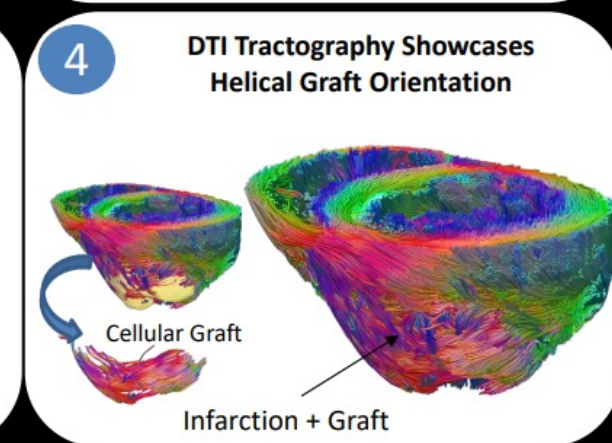
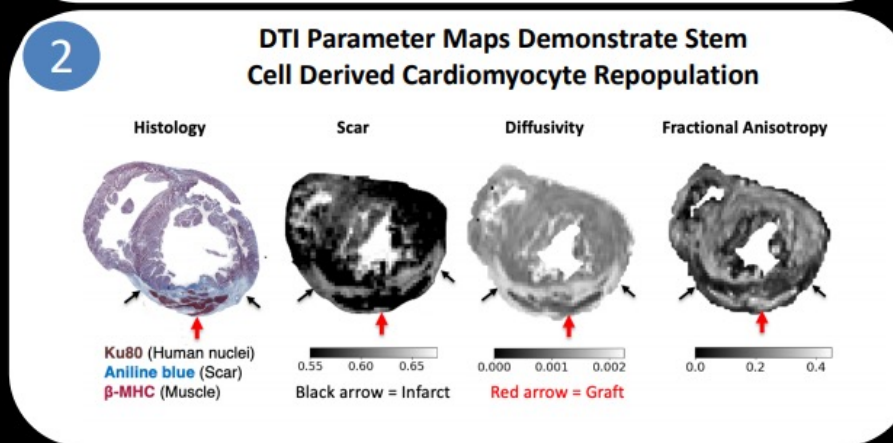
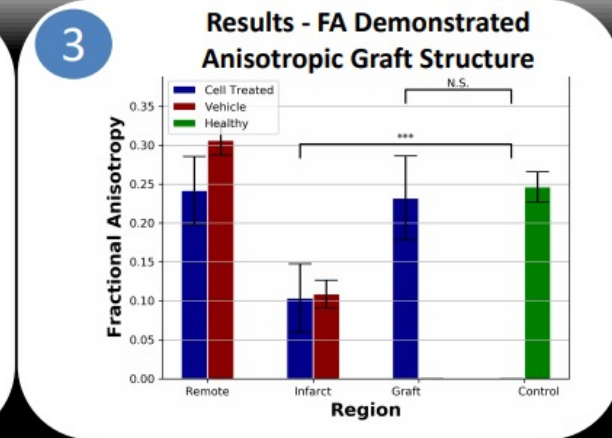
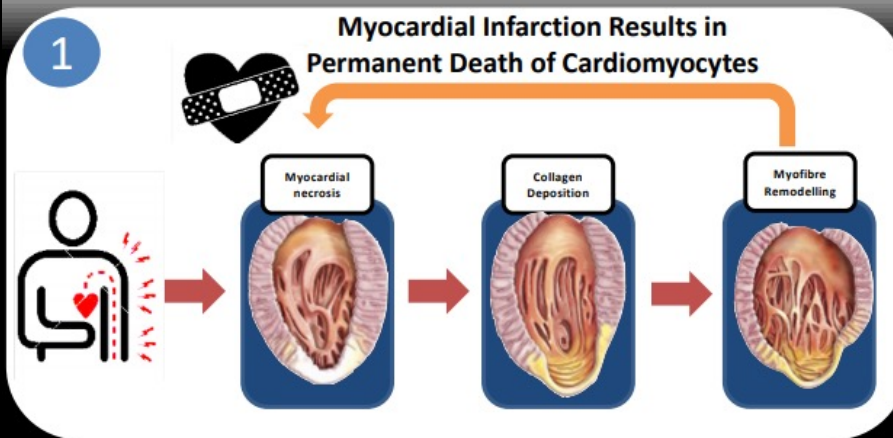
**982: Diffusion Tensor Imaging Reveals Myocardial  
Structure after Stem Cell-derived Cardiomyocyte  
Therapy in Myocardial Infarction**



**1<sup>st</sup> Time  
Submission**

# Diffusion Tensor Imaging Reveals Myocardial Structure after Stem Cell-derived Cardiomyocyte Therapy in Myocardial Infarction

Moses P. Cook, Wahiba Dhahri, Graham A. Wright, Michael A. Laflamme, Nilesh R. Ghugre



Congratulations!!

