RSNA-QIBA COMPARISON OF SHEAR WAVE SPEED ESTIMATION IN VISCOELASTIC PHANTOMS

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Thanks!

This is an international effort involving many groups

- Industry
- Academics
- Clinicians
- Government agencies
- Pharma
- Over 200 participants

 Special thanks to Mark Palmeri (Duke University) and Jun Chen (Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN) for many of the slides/plots included here



Clinical Motivation

- Clinical guidelines
 - EFSUMB Ultrasound Elastography Guidelines
 - JSUM Ultrasound Elastography Practice Guidelines
 - WFUMB Guidelines and Recommendations for Clinical Use of Ultrasound Elastography
 - SRU Elastography Assessment of Liver Fibrosis Consensus Statement
- Guidelines and clinical literature cite differences in SWS for liver fibrosis staging
- Need controlled datasets and imaging environments to characterize and delineate sources of SWS bias and variation



Liver Fibrosis Stages



Stars represent periportal fibrosis, lines represent bridging fibrosis, and circles represent nodularity

Barr et al. "Elastography Assessment of Liver Fibrosis: Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound Consensus Conference Statement", Radiology 276(3):845-861, 2015

Meta-analysis: SWS vs. METAVIR Score



Barr et al. "Elastography Assessment of Liver Fibrosis: Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound Consensus Conference Statement", Radiology 276(3):845-861, 2015.

Friedrich-Rust et al. "Performance of acoustic radiation force impulse imaging for the staging of liver fibrosis: a pooled meta-analysis", J Viral Hep 19(2), 2012.

Systems Involved in the Phase II Study

Most were blinded from knowing the results obtained by others prior to their data acquisition

- GE Logiq E9 C6-1
- Hitachi
- Mindray/Zonare ZS3
- Philips EPIQ C5-1
- Philips iU22 C5-1
- Samsung/Medison RS80A

- Siemens S3000 6C1
- Siemens S2000 6C1
- Siemens SC2000 4C1
- Supersonic Imagine Aixplorer - 6C1
- Toshiba Aplio-500 PVT
- Verasonics
- Duke custom implementation



VE Phantoms Chosen to Match Human Liver Data (Healthy-Fibrotic)



Three phantoms from CIRS -- A1 -- B3 -- C1 (oil-in-polyacrylamide dispersions)

Increasing stiffness and dispersion

Demonstrates a need for more dispersive phantom materials

Nightingale et al., "Derivation and analysis of viscoelastic properties in human liver: impact of frequency on fibrosis and steatosis staging", IEEE UFFC, 62(1), 2015.

Phase II Results



3 Phantoms (A1, B3, C1), 3 depths (3.0, 4.5, and 7.0cm), and 11 systems



Phase II Results



Reproducibility

3 Phantoms (A1, B3, C1), 1 depth, and 1 system at 3 sites



Phase II Results



Bias? Comparison with a 'consensus mean'

1 Phantom, 1 depth, and 11 systems



Phantom Material Properties

- What is ground truth?
- What are the viscoelastic properties of these materials?
- What is the (shear wave) frequency dependence of those properties?

• How can we determine estimate bias lacking ground truth?



Use MRE Estimates as a Reference



MRE complex modulus estimates

MRE estimates converted to equivalent SWS







Compare SWS to MRE Estimates







Digital Phantom Study Parameters

Curvilinear Probe Parameters

- Radius of curvature: 60 mm
- Element Height: 14 mm
- Element Pitch: 0.477 mm (0.007 mm kerf)
- Center Freq: 3.0 MHz
- Frac. Bandwidth: 100%
- Elevation Focus: 50 mm

ARF Excitation Parameters

- Frequency: 3.0 MHz
- F/# = 2, 3.5
- 500, 1000 cycles
- Focal Depths: 30, 50, 70 mm (F/2 for all configurations)

- Acoustic Material Properties
 - Attenuation: 0.45 dB/cm/MHz
 - Linear
- Elastic Material Properties
 - Poisson's ratio: 0.495
 - Shear modulus: [1.0, 2.0, 5.0, 10.0] kPa
- Viscoelastic Material Properties
 - Match Phase II phantoms
 - Fewer focal configurations

VE Digital Phantoms

$$G(t) = G_{\infty} + (G_o - G_{\infty})e^{-\beta t}$$

	Go (kPa)	G∞ (kPa)	B (s-1)
Phantom 1	10	2	6667
Phantom 2	15	4	5500
Phantom 3	20	4	4000



Simulation Setup Code Hosted on GitHub

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https://github.com/RSNA-QIBA-US-SWS

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Mo Tu we Th Fr Sa Su Mo Tu we Th Fr Sa Su This repository contains the parameters and simulation configuration files used for the digital phantom	
datasets that will be circulated to all of the manufacturers.	
Curvilinear Prohe Parameters	

- Radius of curvature: 60 mm
- Element Height: 14 mm
- Element Pitch: 0.477 mm (0.007 mm kerf)
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Quantitative Imaging Data Warehouse (QIDW)

http://qidw.rsna.org (US SWS Digital Phantoms)

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Conclusions

- Most commercial ultrasound systems agree quite well with a 'consensus mean' SWS in uniform phantoms
 - Some outliers (systems), but that can be corrected
- Calibration against MRE at ultrasound SWS-relevant frequency (e.g., 140 Hz for liver) provides a consensus 'target SWS' for a particular phantom
- Simulated data provides a basis for determining sources of bias in SWS estimation for each individual implementation
- Highly possible to minimize bias and reduce variance to about ±5% among systems in uniform media
- Better phantom materials and calibration methods are needed