

Preclinical MRI Imaging of liver colorectal metastases

Workshop: 3D model and applications in Oncology

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FERRER Cyril



Colorectal Cancer (CRC)

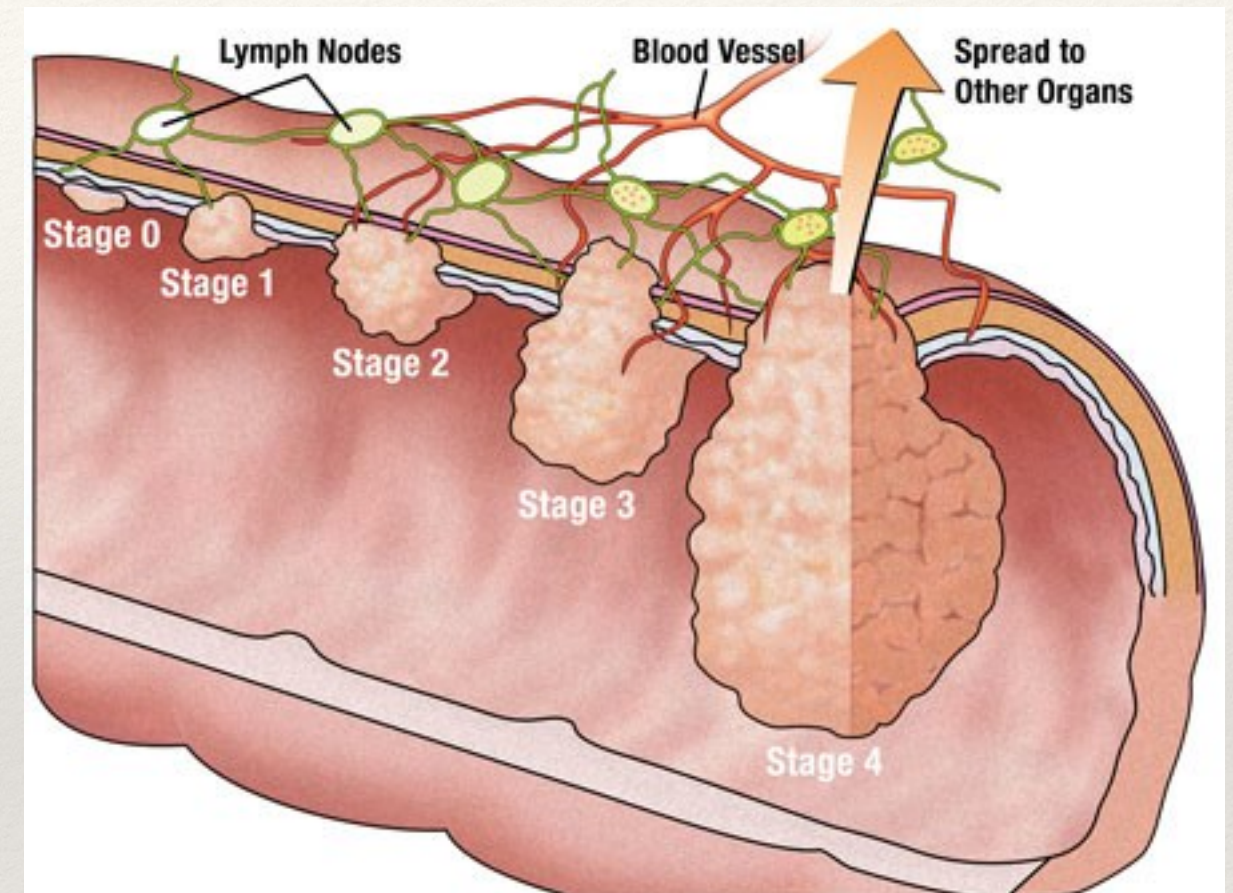
- ❖ Incidence:
 - ❖ 3rd most common cancer worldwide
 - ❖ 4th most common cause of death
 - ❖ In France in 2012, Second in women and men
 - ❖ Prevision in France: 45 000 new cases every year in 2020
 - ❖ 50 % of CRC metastases in liver

Risk Factors

- ❖ Familial and hereditary (Adenomatous Polyposis, Hereditary nonpolyposis Colon cancer...)
- ❖ Age: 90% colon cancer patients are diagnosed after the age of 50.
- ❖ Diet, physical inactivity, smoking & alcohol consumption
- ❖ Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)
- ❖ Obesity type 2 diabetes

Colorectal Cancer

- ❖ Treatment :
 - ❖ Depends on the stage:
 - ❖ 0 and I: Surgery
 - ❖ II and III: Surgery, if needed: radiotherapy, chemotherapy
 - ❖ IV: Mainly chemotherapy
- ❖ Five-year survival rate: 56%
- ❖ 90% if early detection (American Cancer Society)

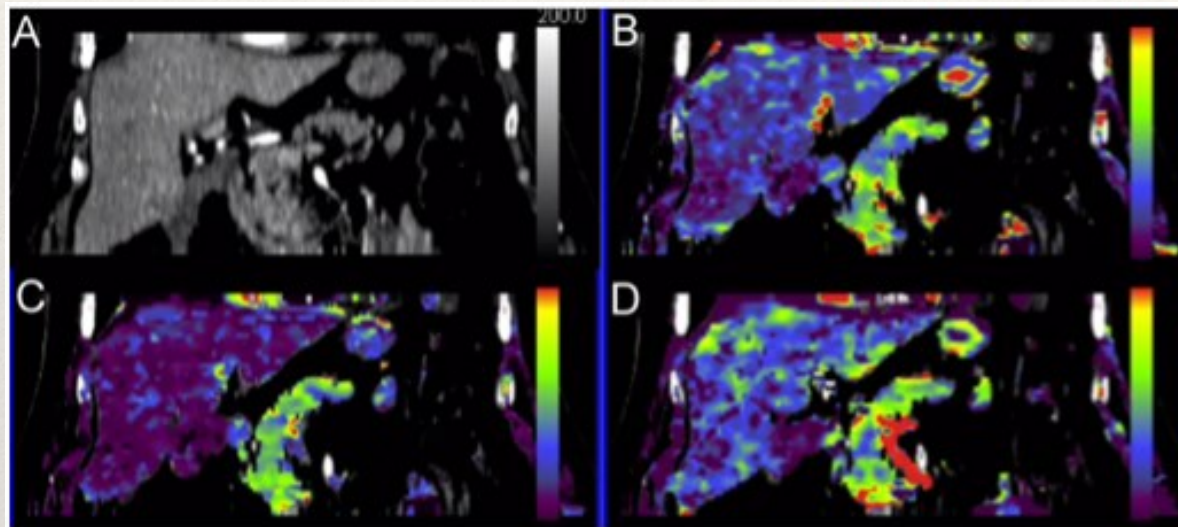


How to improve this survival rate?

- ❖ Pre-clinical imaging allow us to try to improve:
 - ❖ Earlier detection
 - ❖ Functional acquisition
- ❖ But also :
 - ❖ Evaluate new treatments
 - ❖ Evaluate combination of therapies (time, dose):
 - ❖ chemotherapy (FUFOL, FOLFOX, XELOX, FOLFIRI)
 - ❖ anti-angiogenic drugs (Avastin anti-VEGF, Erbitux anti-EGFR)

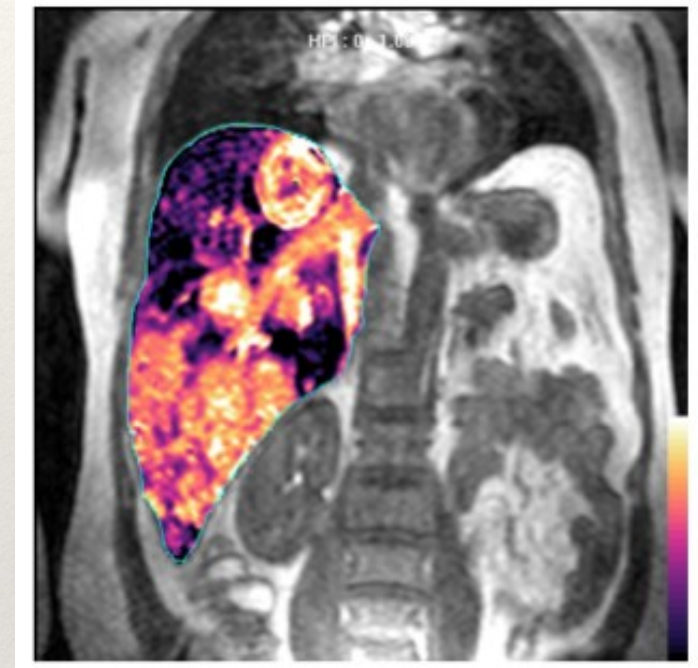
Clinical Detection

❖ Dynamic Contrast Enhanced CT:



Volumetric helical dynamic contrast enhanced CT of upper abdomen enabling multiplanar assessment of the liver. Images in the coronal plane are shown: anatomical (A), blood flow (B), blood volume (C), and extraction fraction (D).

❖ Dynamic Contrast Enhanced MRI:

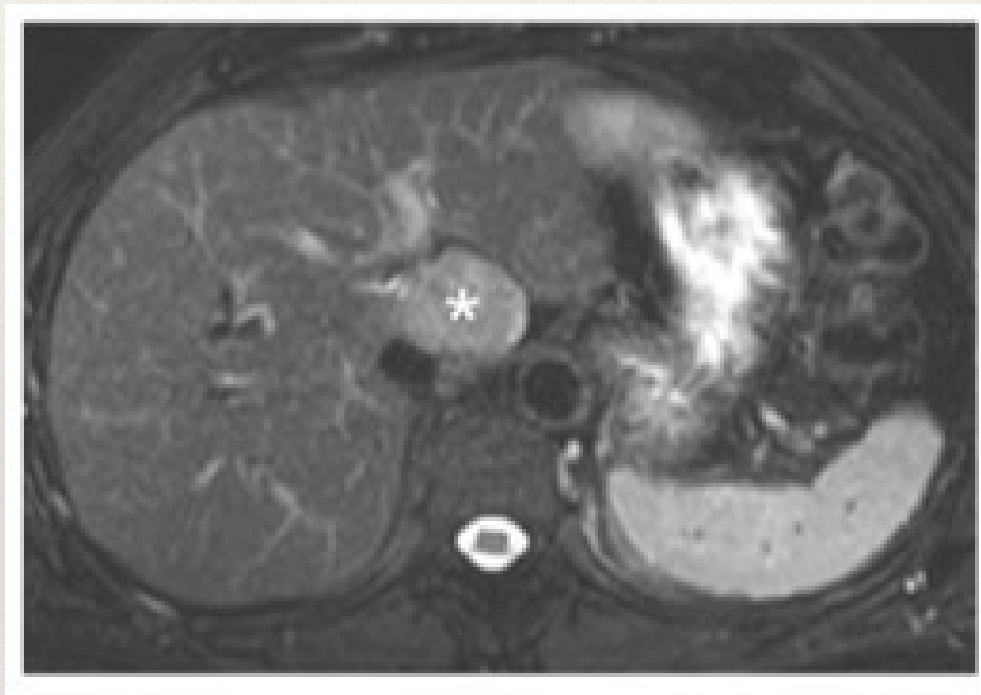


hepatic perfusion index (HPI) map through the liver

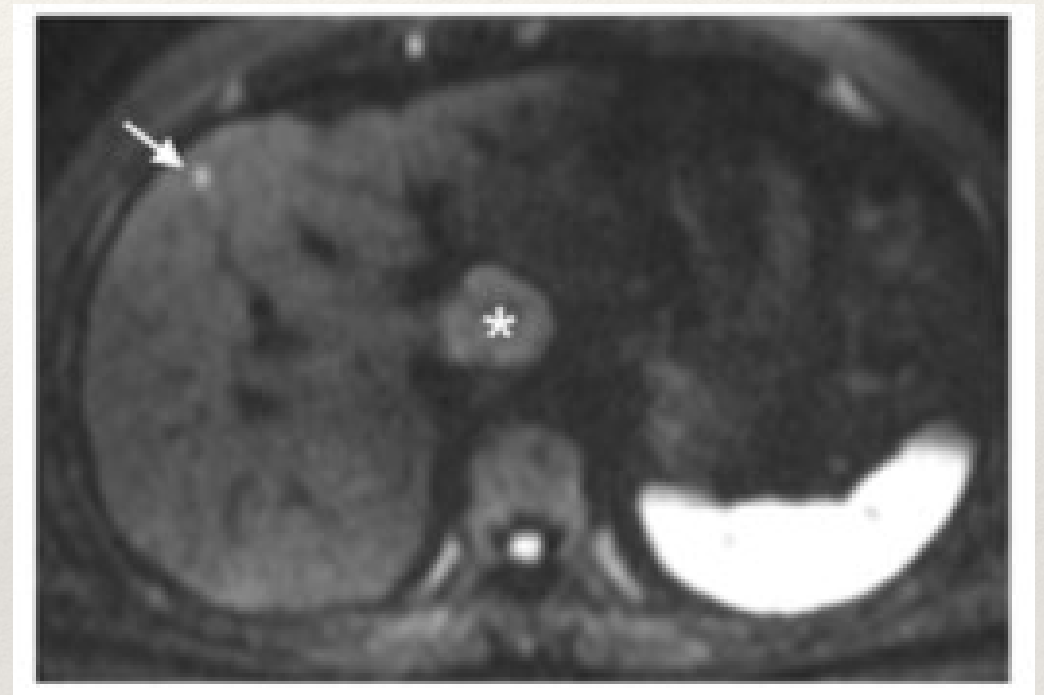
Functional Imaging of the Liver Vicky Goh, MD, FRCR, Sofia Gourtsoyianni, PhD, and Dow-Mu Koh, MD, FRCR Semin Ultrasound CT MRI 34:54-65 C 2013

Clinical Detection

❖ Diffusion Weighted MRI:



fat-suppressed T2-weighted



*diffusion-weighted image $b=750$
s/mm²*

Aim of the study

- ❖ BioNanoNMRI academic preclinical imaging platform
- ❖ 9,4T Agilent MRI
- ❖ Aim: Detect and follow-up liver colorectal cancer metastases, on order to evaluate new therapies or combinaisons

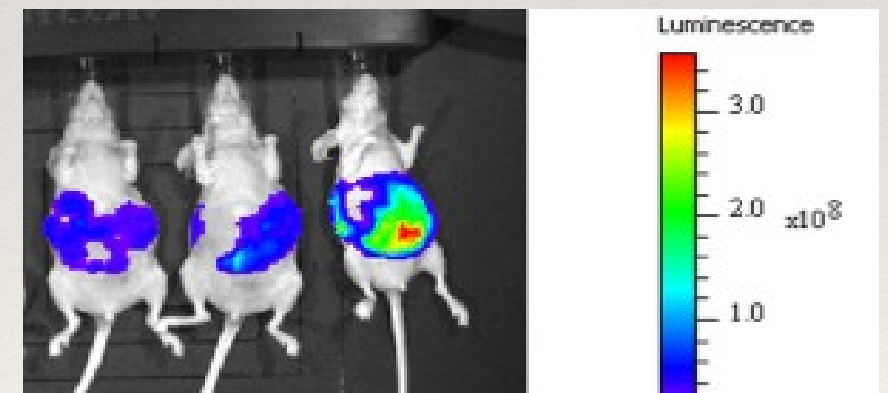


Methods

- ❖ Pre-clinical model:
 - ❖ Primary tumor model is too aggressive to follow-up metastases
 - ❖ Secondary tumor model is more interesting:
 - ❖ Intrasplenic injection of human colorectal cancer cell line (SW-620-luc) cells followed by splenectomy
 - ❖ Bioluminescence is currently the reference:
 - ❖ Fast, high sensitivity, not invasive
 - ❖ False positive, low resolution, non quantitative, need cell expressing luciferase

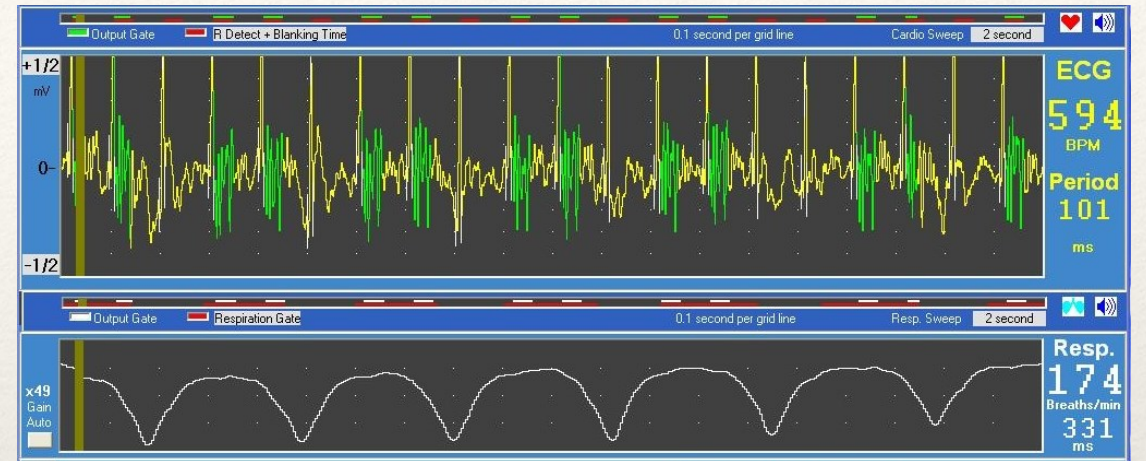


Surgery and injection of SW 620 cell

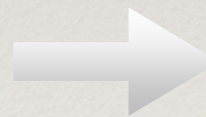
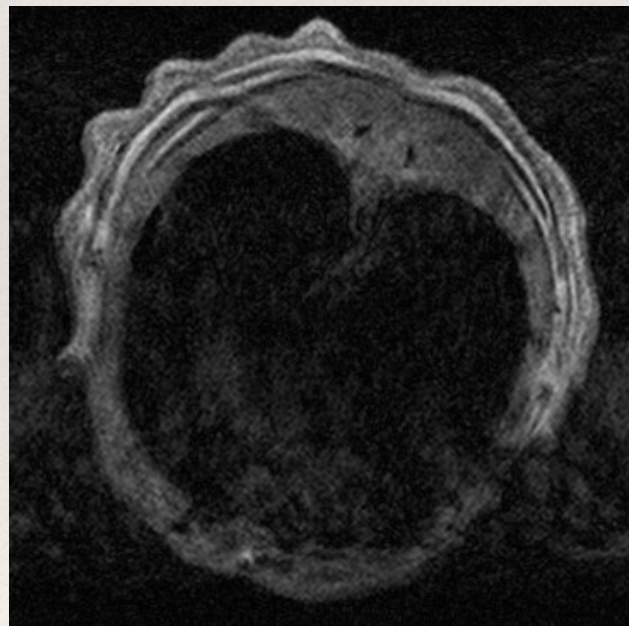


Observation with bioluminescence

Gating is mandatory



Without Gating



Respiration and
Cardiac Gating

Spin Echo Multiple Slice Acquisition TR=3s
TE=18ms

Tissue Characterization

- ❖ After relaxation times measurement, we optimized a gated T2 weighted pulse sequence to allow accurate segmentation :

At 9,4T:

Healthy liver:

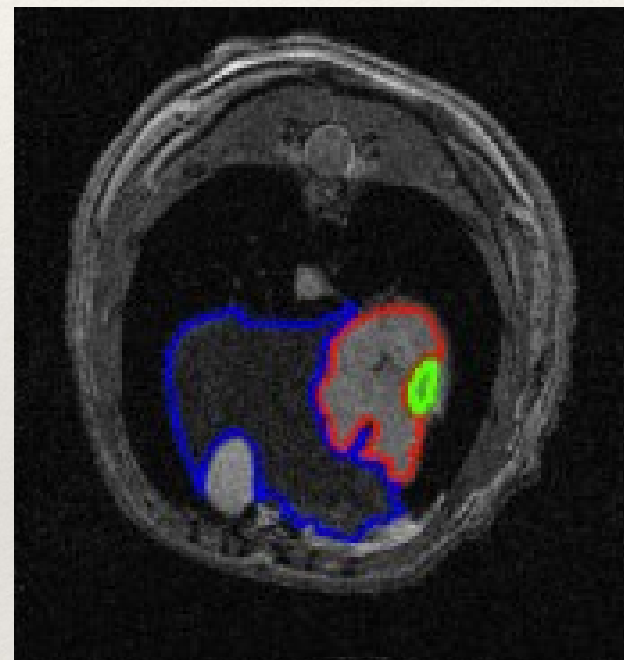
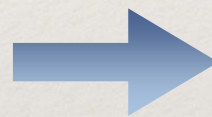
T1 = 577ms

T2=20,92ms

Metastases:

T1=920ms

T2=38ms



Spin Echo:

TR=3s

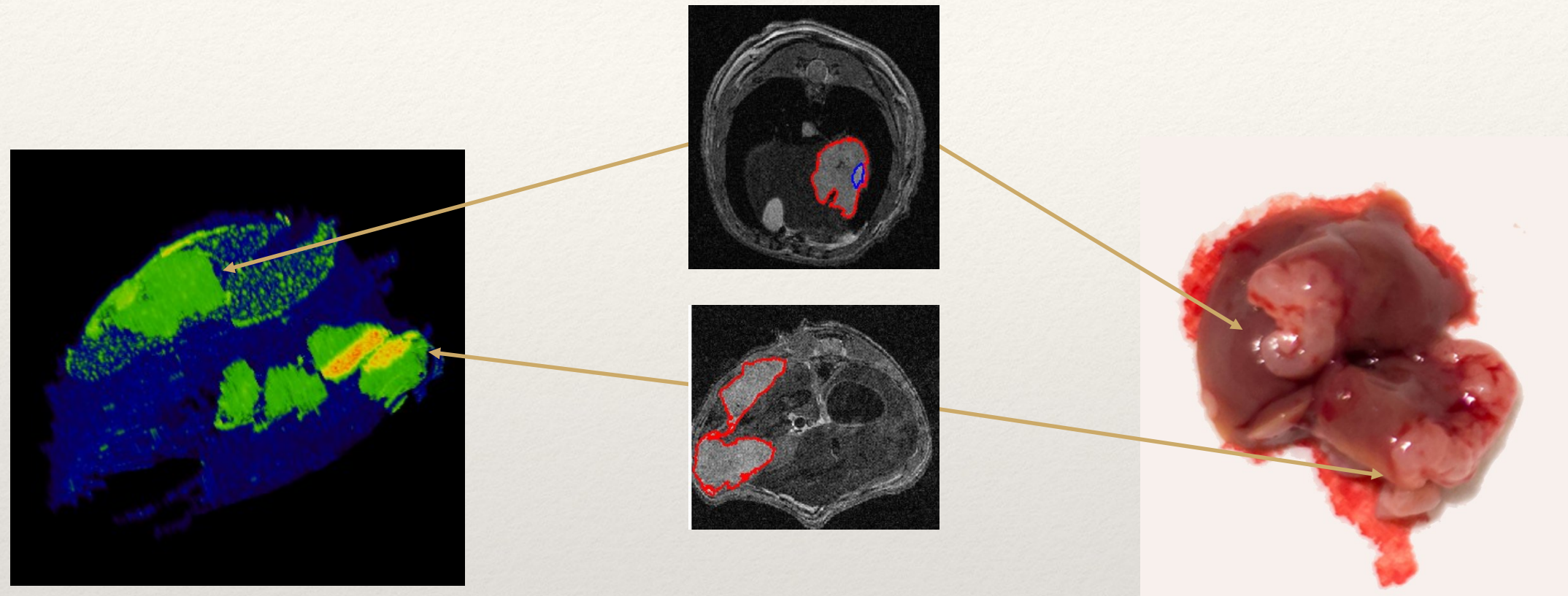
TE=18ms

Thickness=0.5m
m

Full liver ≈
45 slices in 40min

- ❖ Reveals an heterogeneity in the tumor tissue
- ❖ Needs to be correlated with histological study to understand the origin of this difference

Tumor Volume Measurements



Computed 3D

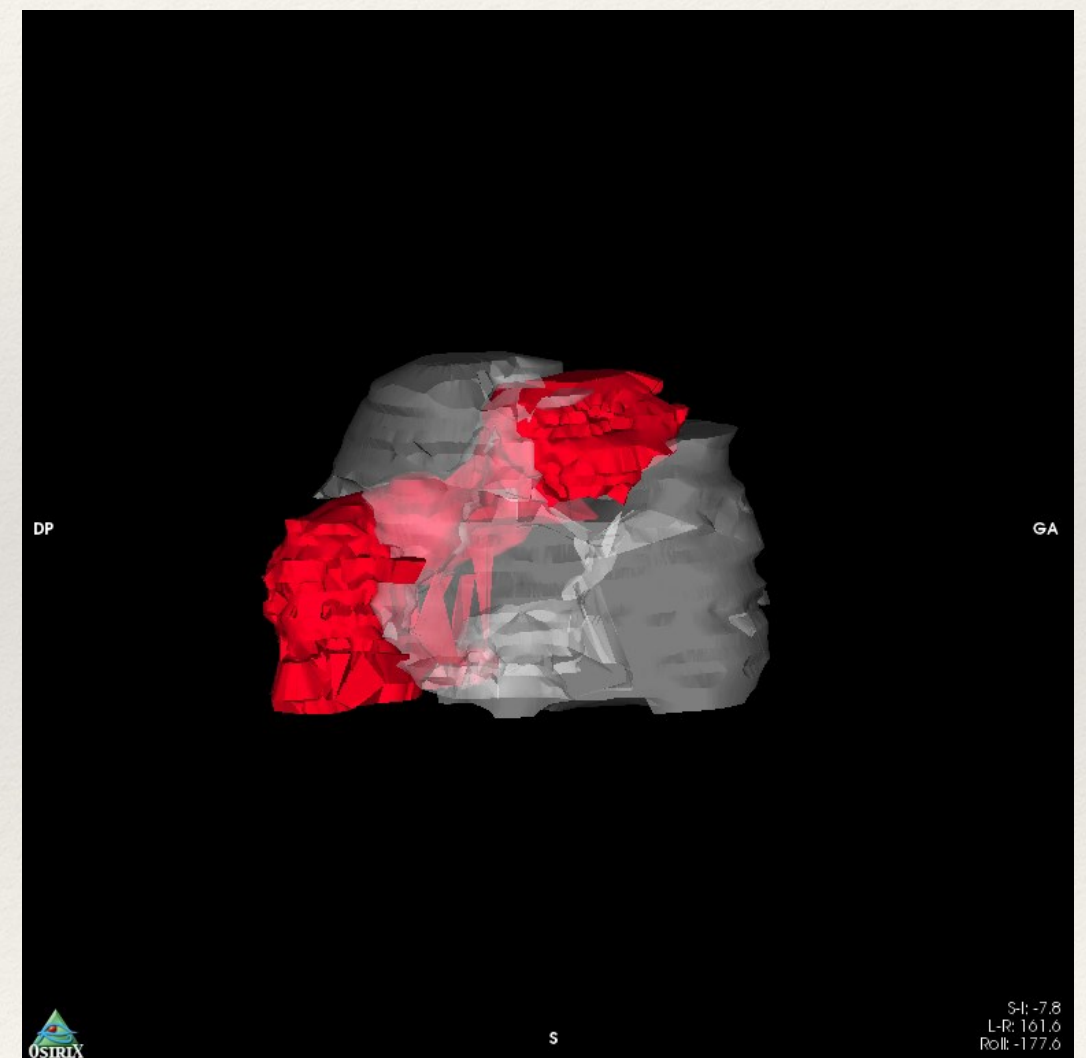
Total Tumor Volume:
week 3: 132 mm³ +/- 15 mm³
week 4: 625 mm³ +/- 60 mm³
Measured with Myrian[©]

Tumor Volume Measurements

Week 3: 132mm³:

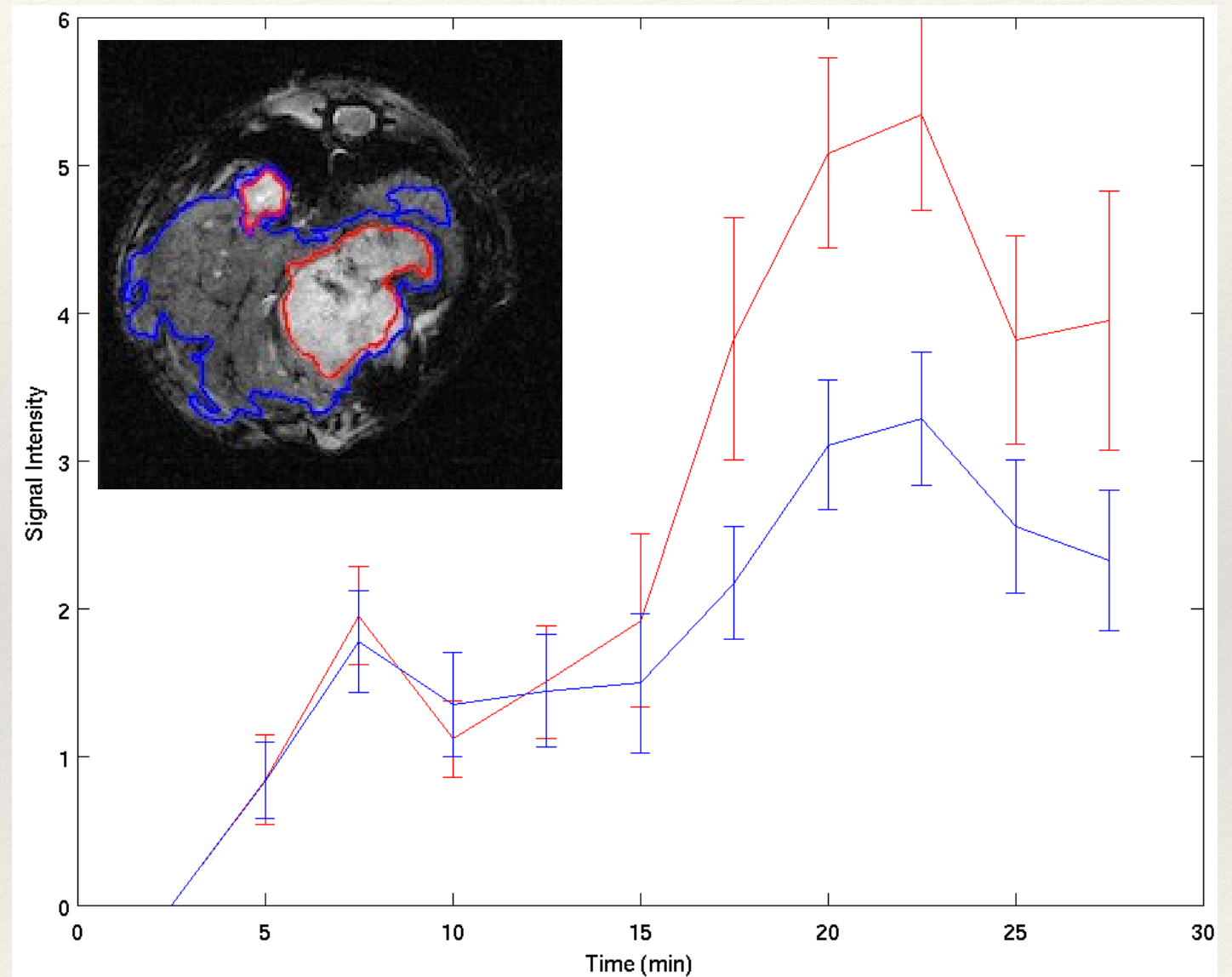


Week 4: 625mm³:



Functional Acquisition

- ❖ Preliminary experiment:
- ❖ IP Injection of gadolinium-based contrast agent (Dotarem), and (Inversion with Flash Detection)
- ❖ Measurable signal variation with contrast agent

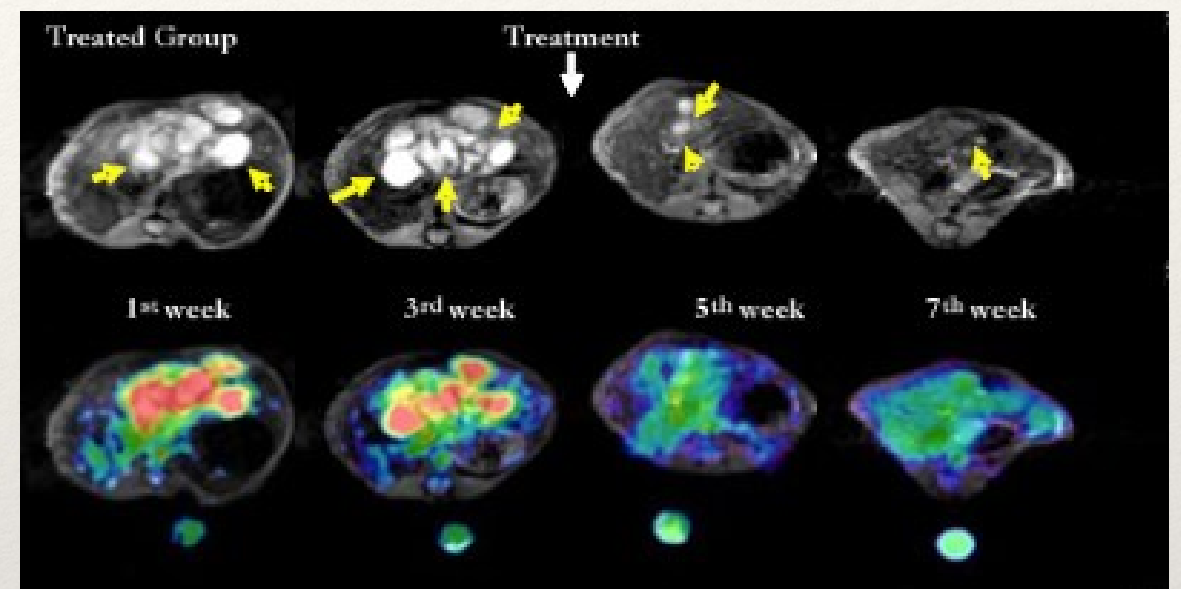


Conclusion

- ✓ Validation of a pre-clinical model of colorectal liver metastases
- ✓ MRI anatomical detection and follow-up of metastases
- ✓ MRI functional detection of metastases growing
- ✓ Optimization of a complete acquisition and characterization chain on an innovative model

Possible development

- ❖ Perspective on Imaging:
 - ❖ Diffusion MRI
 - ❖ Sodium MRI, (UTE)
 - ❖ Faster sequences to get rid off gating (propeller, ...)
- ❖ High throughput screening
- ❖ Evaluation of tumor micro-environment before and after targeted therapies (anti-VEGF...)



¹H and Na MRI of the treated mouse with liver tumor
Monitoring of Liver Tumor Response to Treatment by Na
MRI S. K. Hekmatyar et al. Imaging Science Division,
Radiology, Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana, United
States, Pfizer, Inc, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States, 2007

Thanks for your attention

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