

The Breast Tomography Project University of California, Davis

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#### **CONSULTANT**

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#### **RESEARCH FUNDING**

National Cancer Institute (R01) Stanford Research Institute (via NIH R01 subcontract) UC Santa Barbara (via NIH R01 subcontract)

#### **ROYALTIES**

Lippincott Williams and Wilkins (book)

#### **TRAVEL FUNDING**

American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) King Faisal Hospital ● Saudi Arabia

#### **OTHER CONFLICTS**

Patents Pending on various breast CT concepts Izotropic Imaging, board member

#### **Long Term Funding Acknowledgements:**

R01 CA•89260 (Feasibility) R01 EB•002138-10 (BRP) R01 CA•129561 (RDB) R01 CA●181081 (Current NIH) P30 CA•093373 (Cancer Center) California BCRP 7EB-0075 California BCRP 11I-0114 California BCRP 20IB-0125 (Merced) Susan G. Komen Foundation University of Pittsburgh Varian Imaging Systems UC Davis Bridge Funding

#### **Introduction**

**Technology Development Radiation Dose Assessment Image Quality Metrics Clinical Observations Observer Performance Other Cool Spinoffs Summary**







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**Anita Nosratieh**

**Jeff Siewerdsen**



#### **Cancer Mortality and Screening**





#### Mammography: Standard of Care





### Dedicated Breast CT



### **Mammography Dedicated Breast CT**



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**Technology Development Radiation Dose Assessment Image Quality Metrics Clinical Observations Observer Performance Other Cool Spinoffs Summary**







#### **Introduction**

- **Technology Development**
	- **Radiation Dose Assessment**
	- **Image Quality Metrics**
	- **Clinical Observations**
	- **Observer Performance**
	- **Other Cool Spinoffs**
	- **Summary**

## Hardware



#### **Components**





### **Doheny: Design**



**Gantry Views System views** 



**George Burkett, M.S.**



13



#### Computer aided design / computer aided manufacture (CAD/CAM)







### **Doheny: Mechanical Fabrication**









#### before

#### **Introduction**

- **Technology Development**
	- **Radiation Dose Assessment**
	- **Image Quality Metrics**
	- **Clinical Observations**
	- **Observer Performance**
	- **Other Cool Spinoffs**
	- **Summary**

Software Integration

### **Software: Hardware Integration**







**DOHENY**



Filter and Collimator stepper motors Heat exchanger

console computer recon computer

#### **Introduction**

- **Technology Development**
	- **Radiation Dose Assessment**
	- **Image Quality Metrics**
	- **Clinical Observations**
	- **Observer Performance**
	- **Other Cool Spinoffs**
	- **Summary**

# Calibration Software

### Calibration(s)





Automatic acquisition (QC software) of 11 different exposure levels to detector (each with 100 averaged images)



mA

23



$$
I(x, y)_{corr} = \overline{g} \quad \frac{[I(x, y)_{raw} - A_{raw}(x, y)]}{[B(x, y) - A(x, y)]}
$$

**calibration data files**



#### **Corrected (flat fielded)**

### Calibration(s)



#### **Geometric calibration: System → software**



detector plane



X

$$
u_{wr} = y_{obj} \cdot \frac{D + u_{wr} \cdot \sin \phi}{C + x_{obj}} \cdot \frac{1}{\cos \phi}, \ v_{wr} = z_{obj} \cdot \frac{D + u_{wr} \cdot \sin \phi}{C + x_{obj}}.
$$

#### **Geometric calibration: System → software**



 $X_{\text{center ray}}$ Y<sub>center ray</sub>  $\Delta x$  $\Delta y$ SIC

Physical scanner geometry  $\longrightarrow$  Reconstruction algorithm

### Multi-Source X-ray to reduce Cone Beam Artifacts



Multi-source x-rays detector

### Multi-Source X-ray to reduce Cone Beam Artifacts



### Defrise Phantom: One X-Ray Source



#### **One X-Ray Source, Line Plot Defrise Phanton**



### Individual source acquisitions



## Corgi Phantom



### Cadaver Breast







#### **Introduction**

- **Technology Development**
	- **Radiation Dose Assessment**
	- **Image Quality Metrics**
	- **Clinical Observations**
	- **Observer Performance**
	- **Other Cool Spinoffs**

#### **Summary**

## Reconstruction & Post-processing

#### **FDK Reconstruction Code**


### High Scatter environment





Cupping Artifact

### Mathematical Flat Fielding of Breast CT images



$$
\mathbf{g}_{A} = \mathbf{Q}_{A}\mathbf{\beta} + \mathbf{\varepsilon}
$$

2 2 2  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{X}_{A} & \mathbf{y}_{A} & \mathbf{Z}_{A} & \mathbf{X}_{A} \mathbf{y}_{A} & \mathbf{X}_{A} & \mathbf{Z}_{A} & \mathbf{X}_{A} & \mathbf{X}_{A} & \mathbf{y}_{A} & \mathbf{Z}_{A} \end{bmatrix}$ original image segmented image



## capping



## cupping



### **Introduction**

- **Technology Development**
	- **Radiation Dose Assessment**
- **Image Quality Metrics**
- **Clinical Observations**
- **Observer Performance**
- **Other Cool Spinoffs**

# Spectral Optimization

**Summary**





## Spectral Optimization:

- Physical measurements
- Tube potential and filtration studies
- Soft tissue (adipose/glandular)
- Iodine contrast (iodine/adipose)



## Spectral Optimization:

- Modeled spectra using TASMICS
- Dose calculated from Monte Carlo studies



### Contrast to Noise evaluation



$$
\text{(gland)} \quad \text{CNR} = \left[ \text{M}_{\text{signal}} - \text{M}_{\text{bg}} \right] / \sigma_{\text{bg}}
$$











### **Soft Tissue CNR**









**Introduction Technology Development Radiation Dose Assessment Image Quality Metrics Clinical Observations Observer Performance Other Cool Spinoffs Summary**



**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

Phase 1: Cylinders

## **Radiation dose is size dependent!**



2001 tape measure results  $(N = 200)$ 





 $X = 13.4 \text{ cm}$  $\sigma$ = 2.0 cm Median  $= 13.6$  cm

2008 assessment on bCT images (N = 137)



## **Monte Carlo Assessment of Dose Deposition**



### **monoenergetic functions**



## **Breast CT Dose (UCD) equivalent to 2-view mammography**

### **polyenergetic functions**



#### **Radiation Dose (2003)**

#### A comprehensive analysis of  $DgN<sub>CT</sub>$  coefficients for pendant-geometry cone-beam breast computed tomography

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**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

Phase 2: Breast Shapes



219 Breast CT data sets categorized by breast volume placed into 5 groups (43 per)



Each group used to compute median shape



 $V1 - V2 - V3 - V4 - V5$ 



### **Six phantoms (V1-V6)**



**Mean volume and shape in each quintile**

### **Monte Carlo Assessment of Dose Deposition**

### **monoenergetic functions**



### realistic breast shaped modeled



### Average glandular dose coefficients for pendant-geometry breast CT using realistic breast phantoms

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(Received 17 March 2017; revised 6 June 2017; accepted for publication 26 June 2017; published 20 August 2017)







V3 V<sub>5</sub> 45 50 55 60 65 70 **Tube Potential (kV)** Polyenergetic  $DgN_{CT}$  values  $3.0E + 5$ **Koning** 

phantom size:

 $(b)$ 

 $1.0$ 

 $0.8$ 

 $0.4$ 

17% glandular

 $0.2 \text{ mm}$  Cu



spectral model(s)

**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

Phase 3: Skin & density distributions

### The effect of skin thickness determined using breast CT on mammographic dosimetry

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(Received 24 October 2007; revised 15 January 2008; accepted for publication 17 January 2008; published 6 March 2008)





### Computed skin thickness for 100 women

#### **Skin thickness ~ 1.5 mm**

#### The characterization of breast anatomical metrics using dedicated breast CT

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(Received 17 September 2010; revised 23 February 2011; accepted for publication 24 February 2011; published 28 March 2011)

### Glandular tissue distributions (coronal plane)



#### Glandular tissue distributions (sagittal plane)



bra cup size: A,B,C,D

Modeled Radial Glandular Fractions in compressed phantoms  $\rightarrow$  Mammography Dosimetry



### Validating Methodology



### DgN(E): homogeneous vs. heterogeneous



62

### Breast dose in mammography is about 30% lower when realistic heterogeneous glandular distributions are considered

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(Received 22 April 2015; revised 11 August 2015; accepted for publication 15 September 2015; published 9 October 2015)

### realistic breast shaped modeled



### **Back to Breast CT Dosimetry**

Updated breast CT dose coefficients (DgNCT) using patientderived breast shapes and fibroglandular distributions

Submitted to Medical Physics Sept 2018



**Introduction Technology Development Radiation Dose Assessment Image Quality Metrics Clinical Observations Observer Performance Other Cool Spinoffs Summary**



**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

Spatial Resolution

## **Performance Metrics**

### Spatial Resolution



Image a 70 µm wire

$$
LSF(x) = \int PSF(x, y) dy
$$
  
MTF(f) =  $\int dx \, LSF(x) e^{-2\pi i fx}$ 

## **spatial resolution modeling**



### **Engineering impacts resolution**



### **Engineering impacts resolution**

**pulsed acquisition (4 ms)**






**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

Noise Power Spectra

# **Performance Metrics**

#### Contrast Resolution



#### **Contrast Resolution**: NPS measurements

$$
NPS(u, v) = \frac{|F(u, v)|^2}{N_X N_Y} \Delta_X \Delta_Y
$$











**cone angle**

#### **Noise Power Spectrum (NPS) measurements (Bodega)**



Yang *et al*., Noise power properties of a cone beam CT system for breast cancer detection, Med Phys. 2008

# Noise Power Spectrum (NPS) Analysis

• Detrending using image subtraction with identical parameters

 $K(x,y) = I_{A}(x,y) - I_{B}(x,y)$ 

$$
NPS(f_{\rm x},f_{\rm y})=\frac{1}{N}\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left|\text{DFT}_{\rm 2D}[K_{\rm i}(x,{\rm y})-\overline{K}_{\rm i}]\right|^{2}}{2}\;\frac{\varDelta_{\rm x}\varDelta_{\rm y}}{N_{\rm x}N_{\rm y}}.
$$

$$
\left(\begin{array}{c} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}\right)
$$

32 ROIS [128 x 128]

$$
\sigma^2 = \iiint NPS(f_x, f_y) \, df_x \, df_y
$$

# Noise Power Spectrum (NPS) Analysis



 $\overline{4}$ 

**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**



**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

# Preliminaries

# **Before Patient Imaging**

























**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

Breast CT images

**Summary**

### **Clinical Studies**

- **BIRADS 4 and 5 women (headed to biopsy)**
- **>600 patients imaged over several clinical trials**
- **~275 patients with iodine contrast**
- **Past: (1024 x 768) 500 views over 360<sup>o</sup> 512 x 512 x N reconstruction**
- **Now: (2048 x 1536) 500 views over 360<sup>o</sup> 1024 x 1024 x N reconstruction**
	- **150 um isotropic voxels**





first breast cancer imaged: January 2005





PRE CONTRAST POST CONTRAST

# Contrasted Enhanced breast CT



Malignant

benign







 $\frac{9}{00}$  vaniste | Nimber |

**SNM** 



### Invasive Mammary Carcinoma



92

**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

clinical comparisons Clinical Example 1: Masses



**Clinical** Example 2: Masses



# **Clinical** Example 3: calcs



mammogram

bCT

c.

d.

f.



# **Clinical** Example 4: more calcs







DCIS and IDC

#### **Temporal subtraction contrast-enhanced** dedicated breast CT

#### Peymon M Gazi<sup>1,2</sup>, Shadi Aminololama-Shakeri<sup>2</sup>, Kai Yang<sup>3</sup> and John M Boone<sup> $1,2$ </sup>

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Received 1 February 2016, revised 12 June 2016 Accepted for publication 27 June 2016 Published 5 August 2016





Pre-contrast bCT (time 0)

Post-contrast bCT (time 90 secs)





Case 5 Case 1 Case 2 Case 3 Case 4 335 1100 500 335 390 pre-con 目 긒 lэ 믚 ñн post-con 190  $-300$  $-200$ -500 190  $\overline{4}$  $\overline{4}$ A  $\mathbf{I}_{\texttt{seg-post}}$  $\vert$  2  $\overline{2}$  $\frac{1}{200}$  $\overline{q}$  $120<sub>5</sub>$ 140 95  $I_{sub-a}$ I₹ E E E Đ) Sub-IDAD  $-50$ -35 101 30

Subtraction Examples

better quantitation

**Introduction**

**Technology Development Radiation Dose Assessment Image Quality Metrics Clinical Observations Observer Performance Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**



**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

Anatomical Noise



A. E. Burgess, F. L. Jacobson, and P. F. Judy, "Human observer detection" experiments with mammograms and power-law noise," Med. Phys. 28, 419-437 (2001).



 $NPS(f) = NPS_{q}(f) + NPS_{q}(f)$ 



 $NPS_a(f) = \alpha f^{-\beta}$ 

### **Breast CT, Tomosynthesis, and Mammography Texture Comparisons**



# **Use breast CT images to generate images of different thickness**



#### Anatomical complexity in breast parenchyma and its implications for optimal breast imaging strategies

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## Use breast CT images to generate images of different thickness



#### Anatomical complexity in breast parenchyma and its implications for optimal breast imaging strategies

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### Comprehensive assessment of the slice sensitivity profiles in breast tomosynthesis and breast CT

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(Received 2 February 2012; revised 12 October 2012; accepted for publication 15 October 2012; published 26 November 2012)



**Anita Nosratieh** 

## **Tomographic slice thickness as a function of angle and object size**



## **Tomographic slice thickness as a function of angle and object size**





### **Breast CT, Tomosynthesis, and Mammography Texture Comparisons**





## **Mammography**



55 mm

## **Breast CT Images**



55 mm



## **Tomosynthesis**



55 mm



# **Breast CT:** *Technology development and clinical potential*

**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

Computer Observer

# **Computer (PWMF) Observer Performance**

#### Effect of slice thickness on detectability in breast CT using a prewhitened matched filter and simulated mass lesions

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(Received 11 April 2011; revised 22 December 2011; accepted for publication 25 January 2012; published 14 March 2012)

Signal Known Exactly (SKE)

## Evaluated versus slice thickness (from 0.4 mm to 44 mm)





Real breast CT data sets (N=151) Simulated Spherical Lesions

120 *from 1 mm to 15 in diameter*





## **Simulated lesion insertion into real breast CT data sets with different slice thickness**

 $f_{\text{sim}}[i,j,k] = f[i,j,k] + \Delta I M_{\text{tr}}(d[i,j,k]) M([D/2]-d_{\text{LC}}[i,j,k])$ 

**adaptive lesion insertion model**



**no lesion**

Modulation

Lesion

Intensity

(blurring)

**other lesion insertion models**





123

### Pre-whitened Matched Filter (PWMF) Performance



# **Breast CT:** *Technology development and clinical potential*

**Introduction**

**Technology Development**

**Radiation Dose Assessment**

**Image Quality Metrics**

**Clinical Observations**

**Observer Performance**

**Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**

Human Observers

# 2-Alternative Forced Choice Design





~6000 lesions: average of 3 breast imaging radiologists









### **Shadi Shakeri Karen Lindfors**



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### European Journal of Radiology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ejrad



Differentiation of ductal carcinoma in-situ from benign micro-calcifications by dedicated breast computed tomography

Shadi Aminololama-Shakeri<sup>a,\*</sup>, Craig K. Abbey<sup>c,3</sup>, Peymon Gazi<sup>a,1</sup>, Nicolas D. Prionas<sup>a,1</sup>, Anita Nosratieh<sup>d, 1</sup>, Chin-Shang Li<sup>b, 2</sup>, John M. Boone<sup>a, 1</sup>, Karen K. Lindfors<sup>a, 1</sup>

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**AUC = 0.87**

EVIEI



## ROC performance plots for CE-bCT



Reader 1: AUC =  $0.98 \pm 0.022$ ; Reader 2:  $AUC = 0.92 \pm 0.042$ 

Comparison of the AUC from measured lesion enhancement to the average AUC of the two readers



Performance was significantly higher for the radiologists compared to the enhancement values alone (AUC of 0.94 compared to 0.85,  $p < 0.026$ ).

# **Breast CT:** *Technology development and clinical potential*

### **Introduction**

**Technology Development Radiation Dose Assessment Image Quality Metrics Clinical Observations Observer Performance Other Cool Spinoffs** 

**Summary**



## **Image Segmentation**



### **Classification of breast computed tomography data**

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(Received 25 September 2006; revised 10 January 2008; accepted for publication 11 January 2008; published 26 February 2008)





Original bCT Slice

Segmented bCT Slice

Composite bCT Slice

### An unsupervised automatic segmentation algorithm for breast tissue classification of dedicated breast computed tomography images

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(Received 18 December 2017; revised 27 February 2018; accepted for publication 4 April 2018; published xx xxxx xxxx)



## **Breast Density Analysis**



# **risk assessment & dosimetry validation of 2D approaches (M. Yaffe)**

# **Breast Density (amplitude)**

#### The myth of the 50-50 breast

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(Received 30 April 2009; revised 23 September 2009; accepted for publication 29 September 2009; published 5 November 2009)





# **Breast Density (amplitude)**



**Median VBD = 16%**

## **2.5% loss in breast density every decade**



139

## **Beam Shaping Filter**







**3D BMF**

V3 Phantom

## **Six phantoms (V1-V6)**



### **Mean volume and shape in each quintile**



- **Physical Dosimetry**
- **Image Quality Assessment**
- **Mold for breast immobilization**



thermoplastic



## **Breast Immobilization & Beam Equalization**



## **Breast Alignment System**



# Titanium 3D Beam Modulation Filter







source-to-filter distance = 8 cm

**V3 phantom** <sup>144</sup>
## Implementation on bCT Platform



# Clinical Workflow



## MC Simulation Results: Projection





**V3 phantom** <sup>147</sup>

### MC Simulation Results: Projection





**V3 phantom** <sup>148</sup>

### MC Simulation Results: SPR









### MC Simulation Results: SPR





# **MC Simulation Results: Glandular Dose**

• Normalized to number of quanta reaching detector under thickest region of the breast:



#### **Breast CT:** *Technology development and clinical potential*

**Introduction**

**Technology Development Radiation Dose Assessment Image Quality Metrics Clinical Observations Observer Performance Other Cool Spinoffs** 







Signal

Background







- Breast CT has superior mass detection than mammography, based upon texture analysis, computer and human observer studies
- CE breast CT highlights malignant calcifications and is likely equivalent to CE-breast MRI
- Breast CT is FDA approved for diagnostic breast imaging, need to push the technology to achieve superior screening performance
- Breast CT is an emerging technology which will have an important role in reducing breast cancer mortality in the near future.

#### **Future Work:**

- Implement beam shaping filter with breast immobilization system
- Compare high resolution non-contrast bCT with mammography for microcalcification detection performance
- Compare CE-bCT with CE-breast MRI for cancer detection performance



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