

Myelin mapping helps assess pain in trigeminal neuralgia secondary to multiple sclerosis

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Hodaie Lab



Methods

Data Sources

Toronto Western
Hospital Neurosurgical
Clinic:
64 MS-TN patients
64 healthy controls

Cam-CAN:

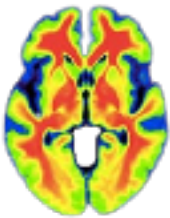
64 healthy controls

Data Processing

Myelin Map (MM)
computation

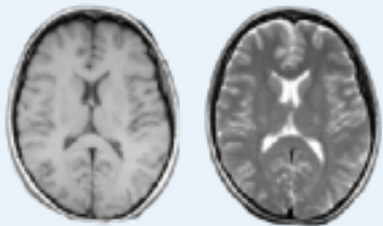
Analysis Plan

Two-one-sided t-tests &
univariate region-based
statistical testing
(python)



T1-w MRI (FSPGR) and **T2-w MRI** (B0 average of DWI)

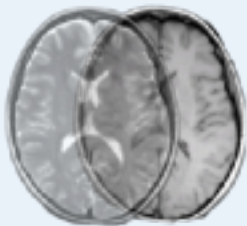
1. Skull stripping (BET2)



2. Bias correction (FSL)

3. Image resampling (3D Slicer)

4. Image registration & transformation (ANTs)



T2 → T1

5. Standardization & computation of myelin map (FSL)

Figure 1: Construction of myelin map through calculation of ratio co-registered T1-w/T2-w images. FSPGR: fast spoiled gradient echo, DWI: diffusion weighted imaging, BET2: brain extraction tool 2, FSL: FMRIB Software Library, ANTs: Advanced Normalization Tools

Results

MS-TN Cohort Demographics

Age (years, mean ± SD)	54 ± 10
Sex (M : F)	28 : 36
Duration of MS (years, mean ± SD)	16 ± 9
Duration of TN pain (years, mean ± SD)	5 ± 4

Healthy controls were age and sex matched.

Chi-square test demonstrated no significant differences in handedness distribution between MS-TN and healthy controls.

A region-based univariate analysis demonstrated a significant difference of handedness related myelination asymmetry in the tapetum in MS-TN patients compared to healthy controls.

Myelin Map External Validity

Two-one-sided t-tests demonstrated equivalence between MMs of local and external HCs (all regions $p < 0.05$), confirming cross-scanner generalizability

- Superior fronto-occipital fasciculus (ipsi + contra)
- Superior longitudinal fasciculus (ipsi + contra)
- Cingulum-hippocampus (ipsi + contra)
- Cingulum-cingulate gyrus (ipsi + contra)
- Sagittal stratum (ipsi + contra)
- Posterior thalamic radiation (ipsi + contra)
- Posterior corona radiata (ipsi + contra)
- Superior corona radiata (ipsi + contra)
- Anterior corona radiata (ipsi + contra)
- Retrolenticular part of internal capsule (ipsi + contra)
- Corticospinal tract (ipsi + contra)
- Corpus callosum (splenium, genu, body)
- Pontine crossing tract part of MCP
- Middle cerebellar peduncle

- Medial lemniscus (ipsi/contra)

Myelin Map Internal Validity

MM differences between MS-TN patients and healthy controls ($p < 0.0001$) in the following regions:

Decreased MM intensity (myelin content) in MS-TN

Increased MM intensity (myelin content) in MS-TN

29/48 JHU regions demonstrated significant differences ($p < 0.0001$).