

Diffusion Basis Spectrum Imaging

Erjun Zhang

April 9, 2020
BMDE 660 Final Project

Content

1. Background

- ☐ Imaging resolution
- ☐ Purpose
- ☐ Clinical Applications

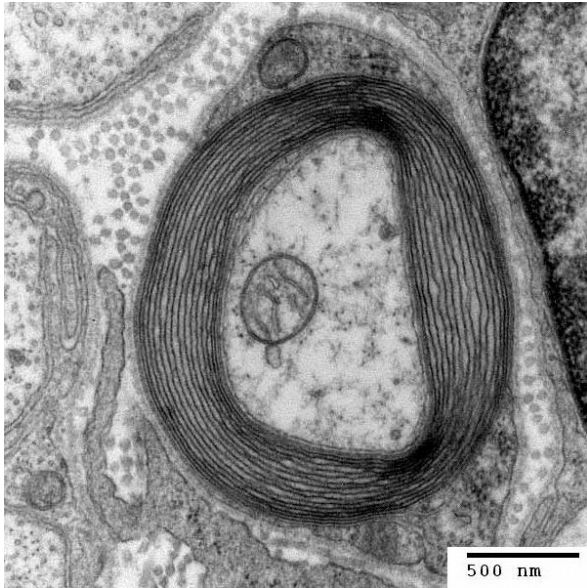
2. Methodology

- ☐ Basic DTI
- ☐ Gaussian Mixed Model
- ☐ Diffusion Basis Model
- ☐ Diffusion Basis Spectrum Model
- ☐ Results

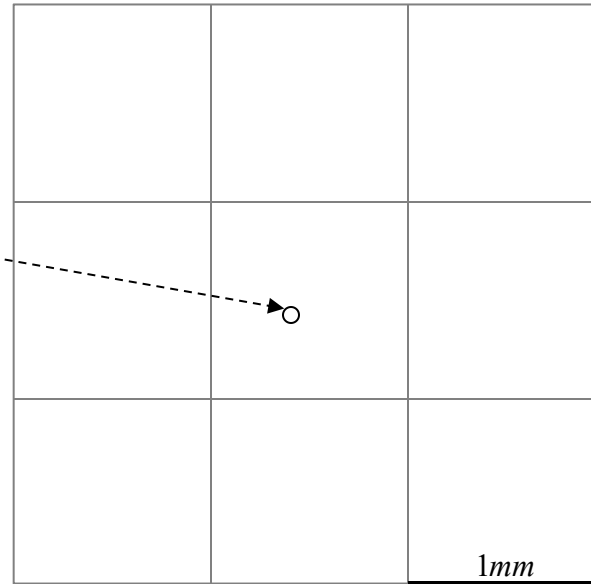
3. Challenges

4. Conclusion

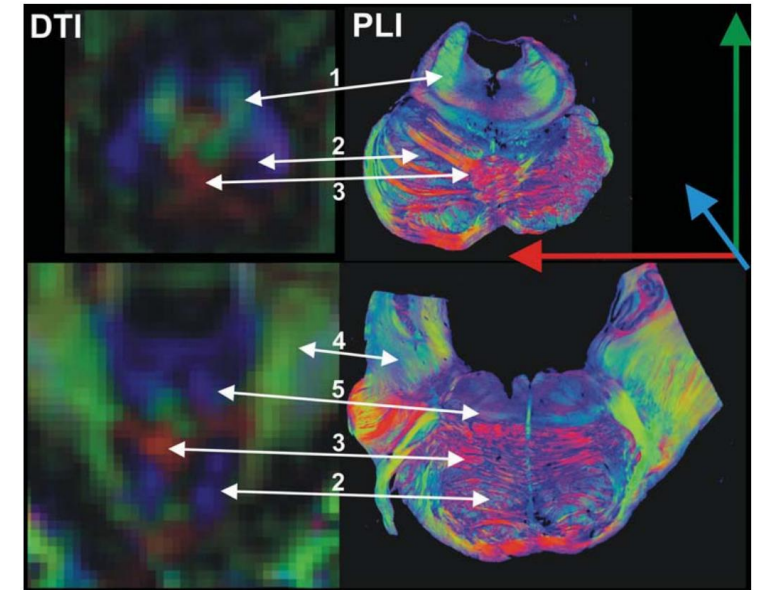
Different Resolutions of Imaging Method



TEM: 0.2nm



MRI: 1–2mm



DTI: 2mm

PLI: 200 nm

- Typical diameter of neural fiber 0.1–20μm
- Cytoskeleton of the axon: 8–25nm

Time-consuming: 3μm × 3μm 40 min

Sample making complicated

No vivo imaging

Low resolution (limited by principle)
Groups of fibers in one voxel

100ms to seconds

Vivo imaging

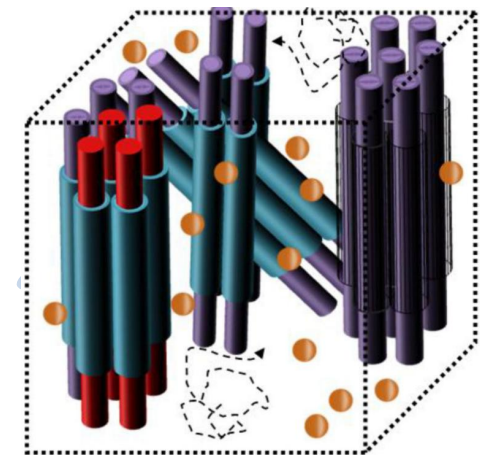
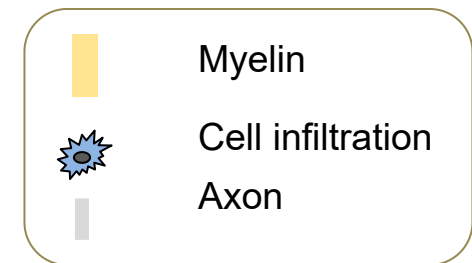
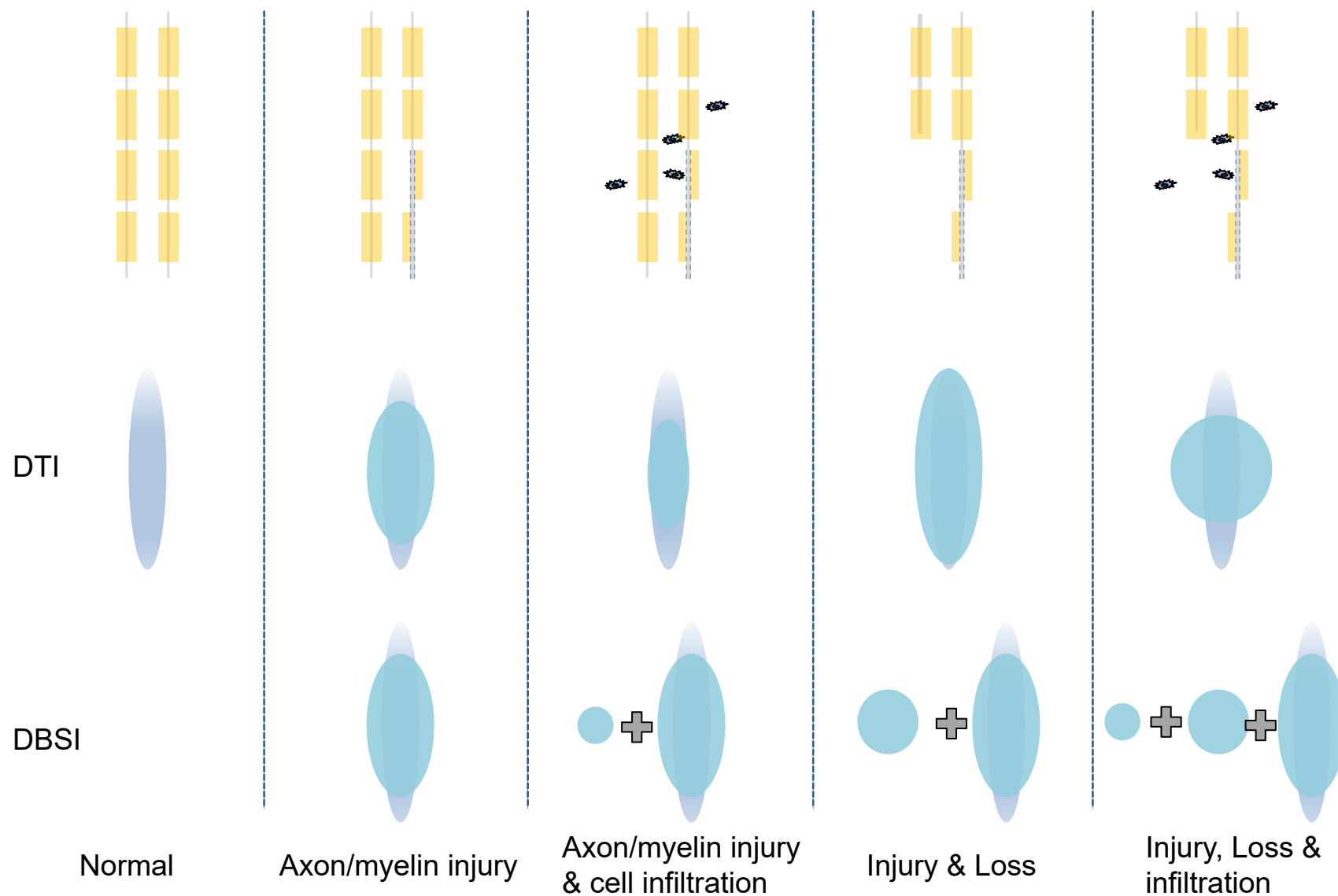


Microseconds

Elaborate processing of tissue

no vivo imaging

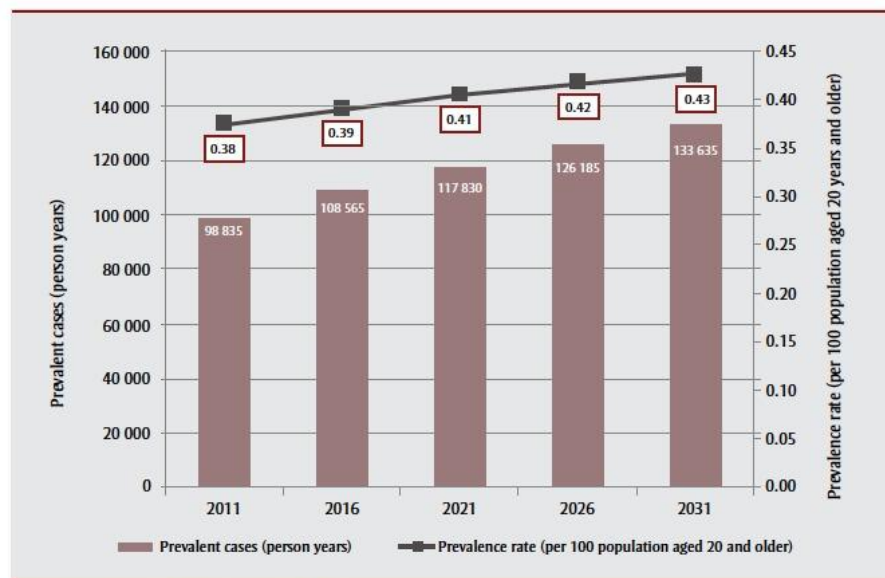
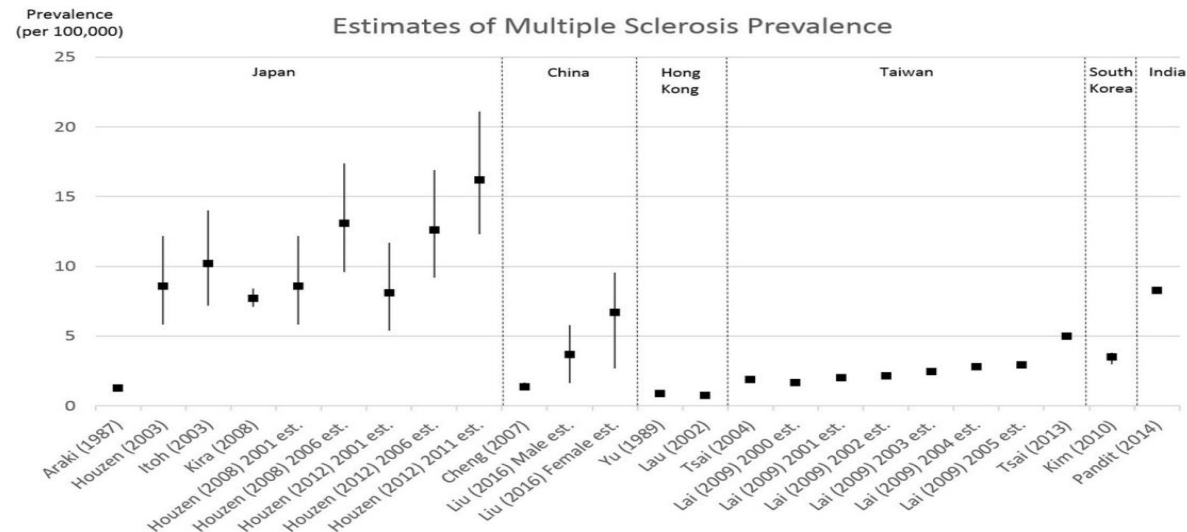
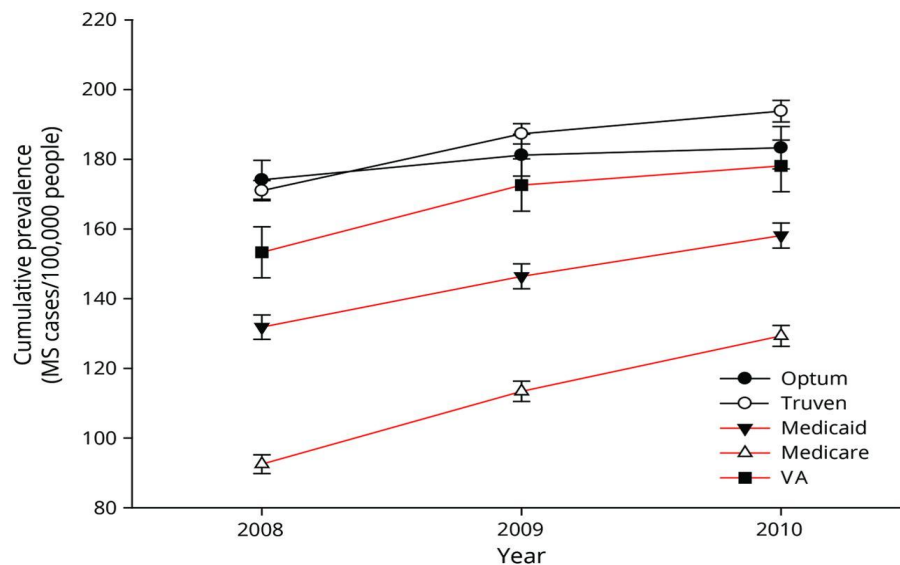
The only way to investigate WM of the living brain, but low resolution



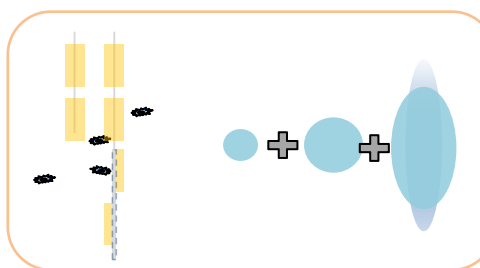
Purpose:

- Accurate neural architecture information (crossing fibers);
- Estimate diffusion parameters (extra-fiber pathology)

Clinical applications



Abbreviation: POHEM, Population Health Model.



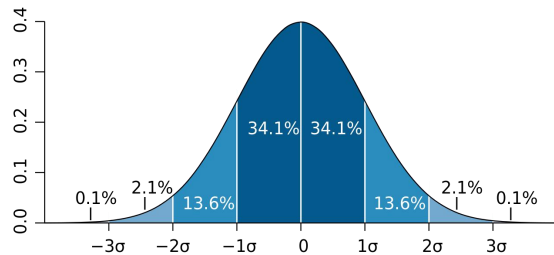
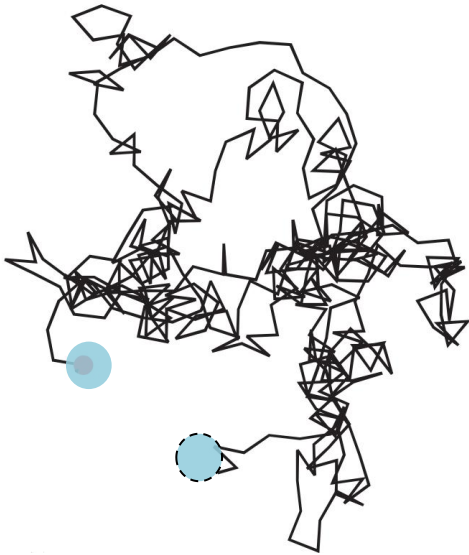
Neurological diseases:

- Multiple sclerosis
- Epilepsy
- Cervical spondylotic myelopathy
- Intracranial inflammation in HIV+ patients

Applications:

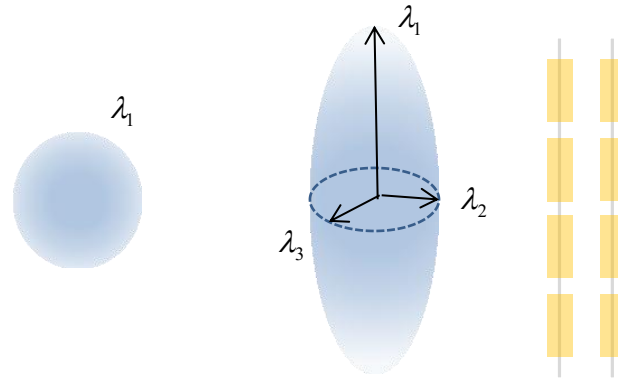
- Accurately assess MS progression and the disease modifying interventions;
- Earlier diagnose, long-term prediction
- Research on Children CNS development
- Solving fiber tracking problem

Basic DTI



Diffusion constant

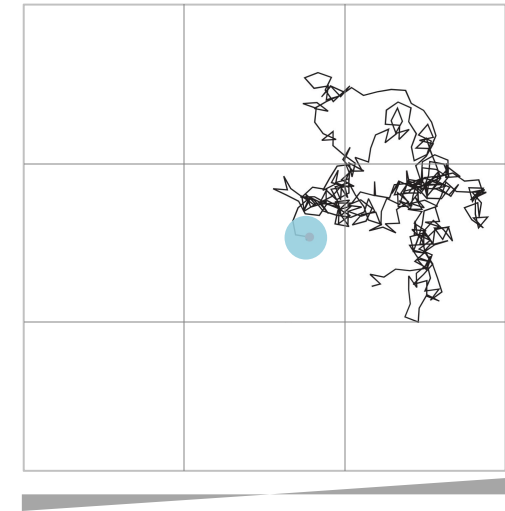
- Diffusion constant
- Watermolecular mobility
- Gaussian distribution
- 1D: $\bar{x^2} = 2D \cdot t$
- 3D: $\bar{x^2} = 6D \cdot t$



$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D_{xx} & D_{xy} & D_{xz} \\ D_{yx} & D_{yy} & D_{yz} \\ D_{zx} & D_{zy} & D_{zz} \end{bmatrix}$$

Diffusion Tensor

- 3 by 3
- Free water: ball, isotropic
- Restricted water (fiber): ellipsoid, anisotropic
- if symmetrical: 6 unknowns

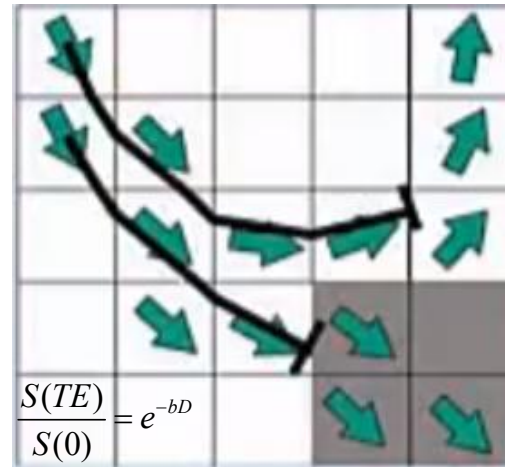
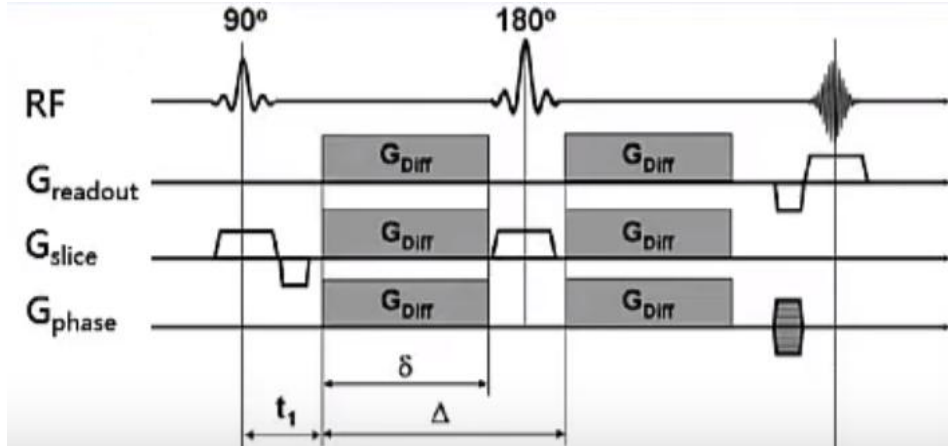


$$\frac{S(TE)}{S(0)} = e^{-bD} \quad b = (rG\delta)^2 \left(\Delta - \frac{\delta}{3} \right)$$

Gradient and signal

- b
- b and D make signal reduction
- b0 and at least 6 imaging with different b
- Find diffusion tensor

Fiber Tracking



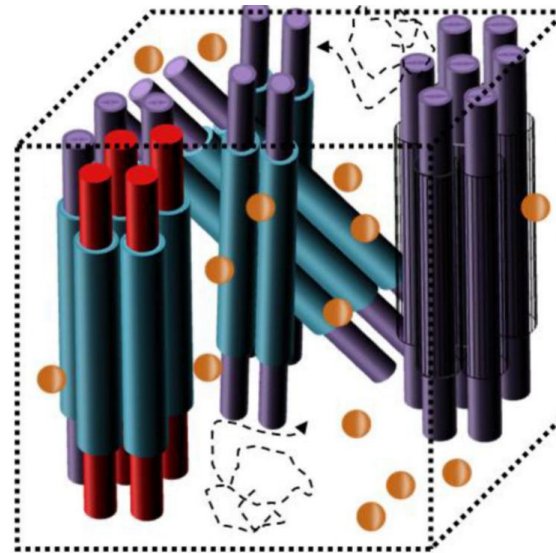
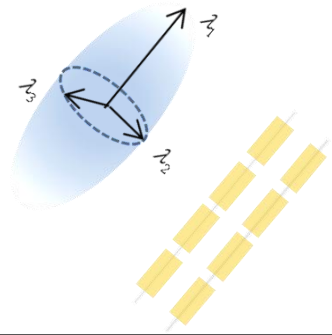
Fiber tracking

- Turning angle smaller than 60 degree
- FA too small
- Fails to track more than 1 fiber in 1 voxel

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_x \\ b_y \\ b_z \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} b_x & b_y & b_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_{xx} & b_{xy} & b_{xz} \\ b_{yx} & b_{yy} & b_{yz} \\ b_{zx} & b_{zy} & b_{zz} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} S_1 \\ S_2 \\ \vdots \\ S_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_{1xx} & b_{1yy} & b_{1zz} & b_{1xy} & b_{1xz} & b_{1yz} \\ b_{2xx} & b_{2yy} & b_{2zz} & b_{2xy} & b_{2xz} & b_{2yz} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ b_{6xx} & b_{6yy} & b_{6zz} & b_{6xy} & b_{6xz} & b_{6yz} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} D_{xx} \\ D_{yy} \\ \vdots \\ D_{yz} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_{xx} & D_{xy} & D_{xz} \\ D_{yx} & D_{yy} & D_{yz} \\ D_{zx} & D_{zy} & D_{zz} \end{bmatrix}$$



$$S_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{aniso}} C_i e^{-b_k \cdot D_i} + \eta$$

Gaussian Mixture Model:

- Assumption: independent fiber groups
- Try to solve: C_i, D_i, N

Advantage:

- Good angular resolution
- Fit well with multi-fiber voxels

Problem

- One group fiber problem
- Large dataset needed (acquisition time)
- Nonlinear optimization problems (time)

Diffusion Basis Model

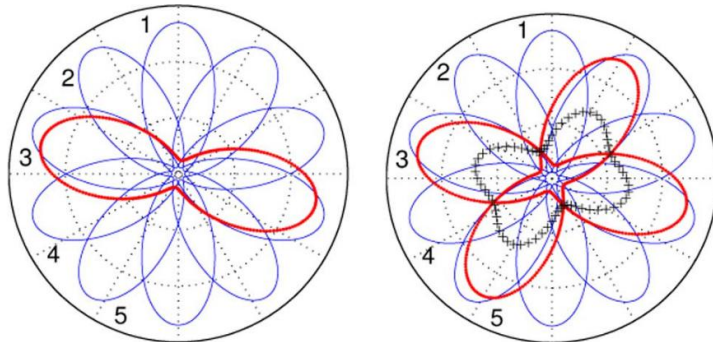
$$S_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{aniso}} C_i e^{-b_k \cdot D_i} + \eta \quad \sum C_i = 1$$

Gaussian Mixture Model Problem Source:

- Large unknowns of diffusion tensors
- Nonlinear problem

Fixed set of tensors:

- Anisotropy and magnitude of water diffusion for each fiber is constant
- Choose DT according prior knowledge
- Try to solve linear problem



$$S_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{aniso}} C_i e^{-|\bar{b}_k| \lambda_{\perp}} e^{-|\bar{b}_k| (\lambda_{||} - \lambda_{\perp}) \cos^2 \theta_{ik}} + \eta \quad \sum C_i = 1$$

Diffusion Basis Model:

Advantage:

- Good angular resolution
- Fit well with one and multi-fiber voxels
- Linear optimization problem
- Degree of freedom reduced by using diffusion basis (small dataset)

Problems:

- No isotropic part, which may worsen angular resolution

$$S_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{aniso}} C_i e^{-|\bar{b}_k| \lambda_{\perp}} e^{-|\bar{b}_k| (\lambda_{||} - \lambda_{\perp}) \cos^2 \theta_{ik}} + C_{N+1} e^{-|\bar{b}_k| d_{iso}}$$

Solved:

- C_i and θ_{ik}
- Number of anisotropic tensors

DBSI Model

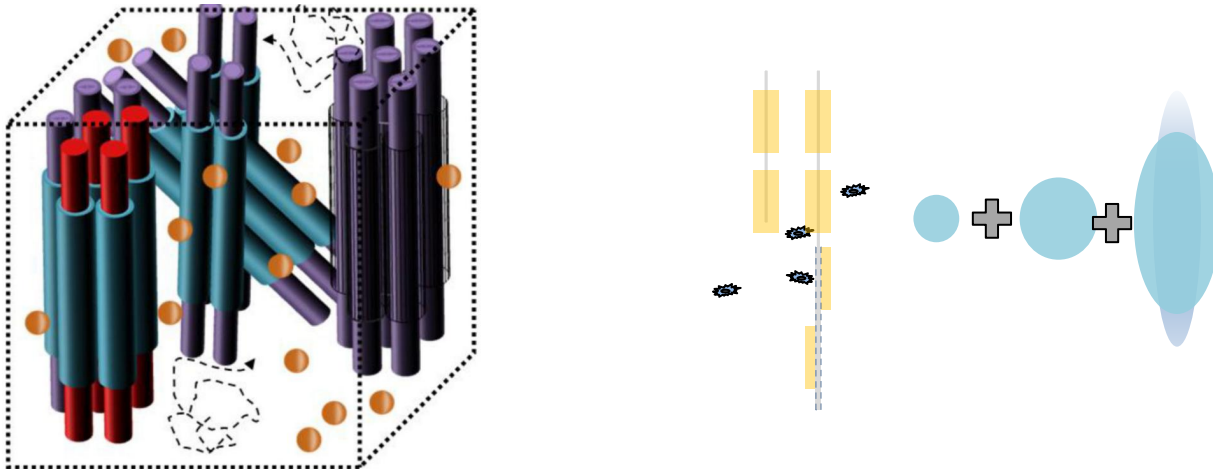
$$S_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{aniso}} C_i e^{-|\bar{b}_k| \lambda_{\perp}} e^{-|\bar{b}_k| (\lambda_{||} - \lambda_{\perp}) \cos^2 \theta_{ik}} + C_{N+1} e^{-|\bar{b}_k| d_{iso}}$$

Diffusion Basis Model Problems:

- Can not known if injury axons and myelins or edema exist

Reasons:

- Fixed diffusion tensors



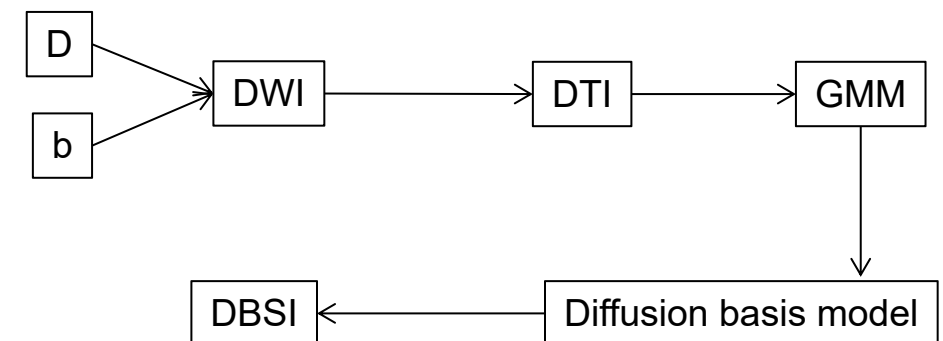
$$S_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{Aniso}} f_i e^{-|\bar{b}_k| \cdot \lambda_{\perp i}} e^{-|\bar{b}_k| \cdot (\lambda_{|| i} - \lambda_{\perp i}) \cdot \cos^2 \psi_{ik}} + \int_a^b f(D) e^{-|\bar{b}_k| \cdot D}$$

Nonlinear optimization problem:

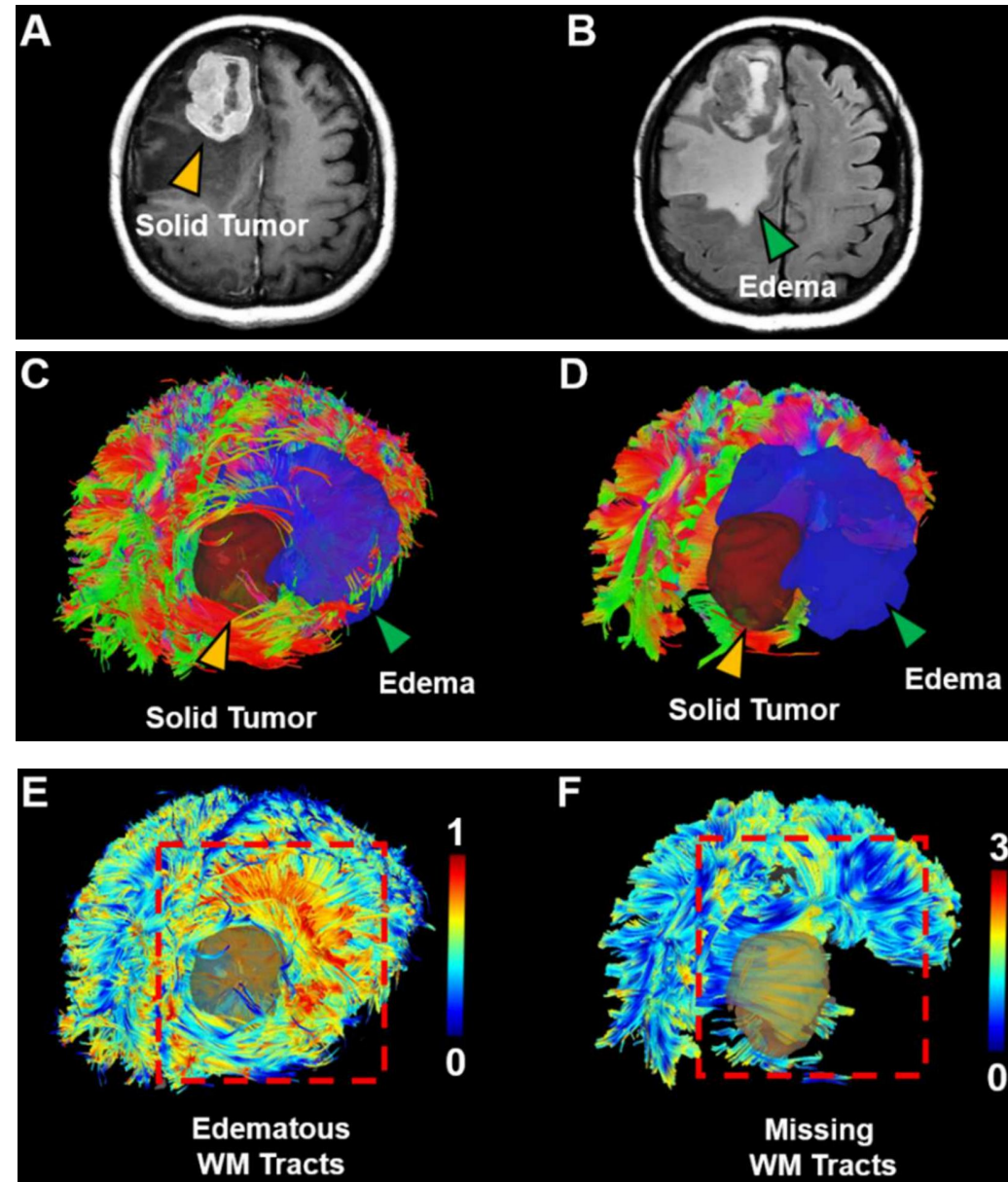
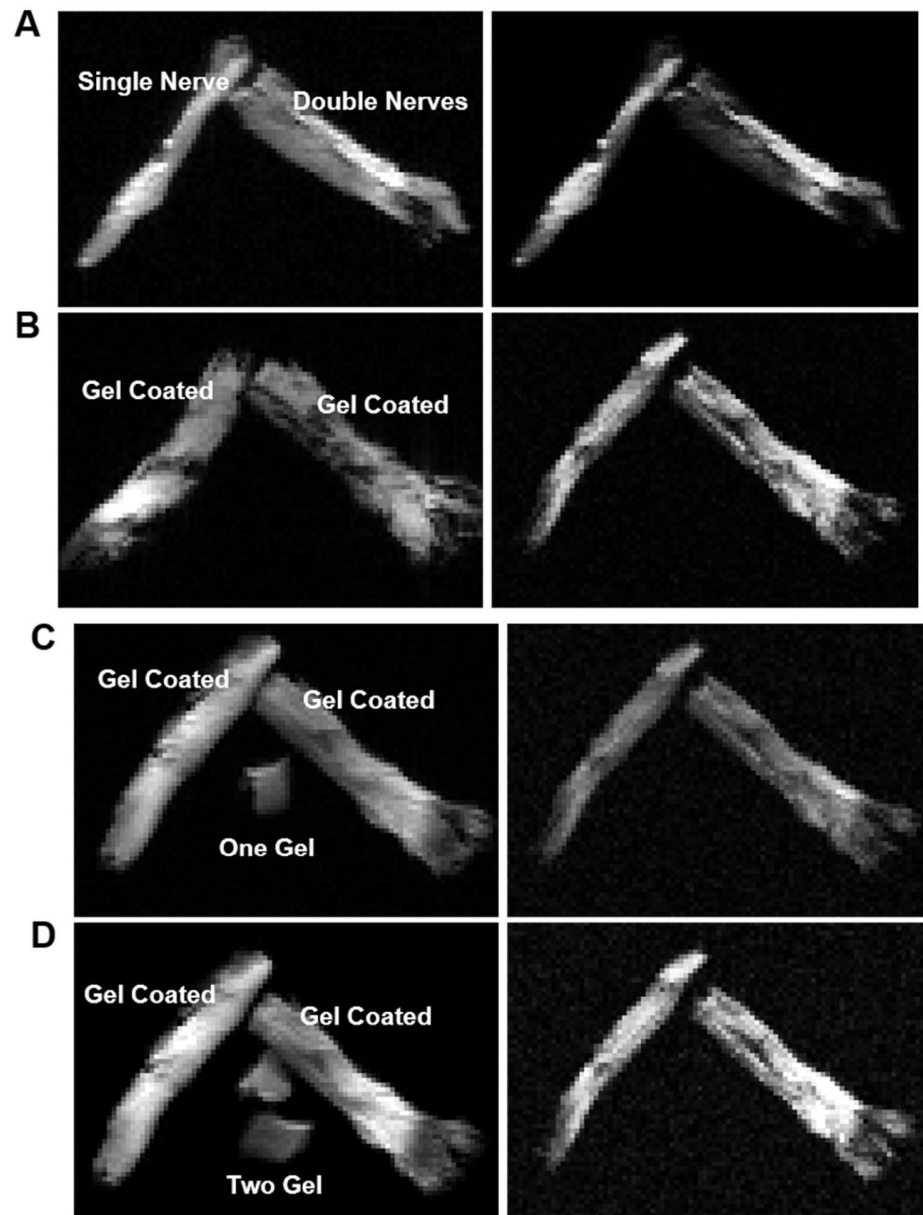
- know number of anisotropic tensors and its directions
- Try to solve $f_i, f(D)$

How?

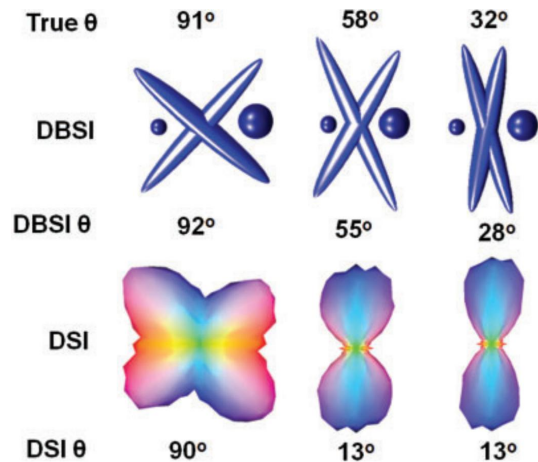
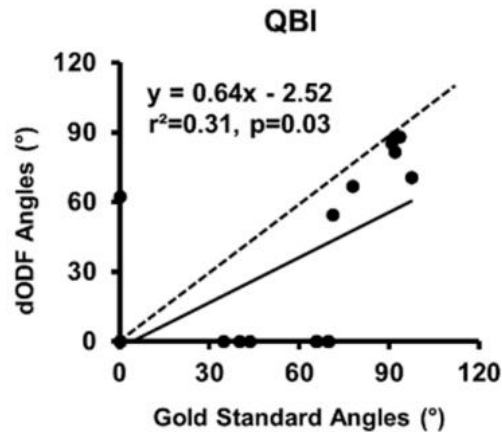
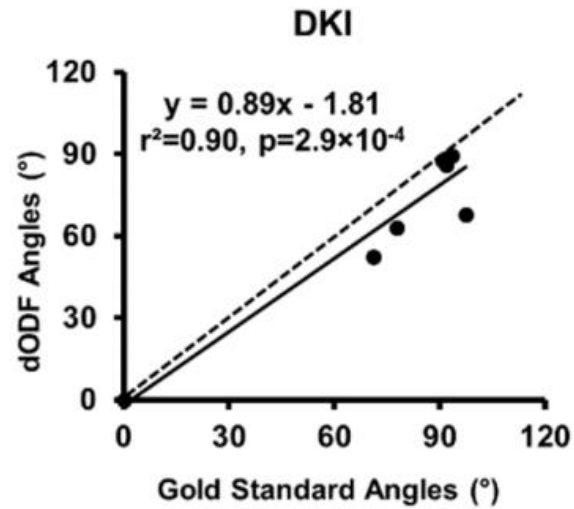
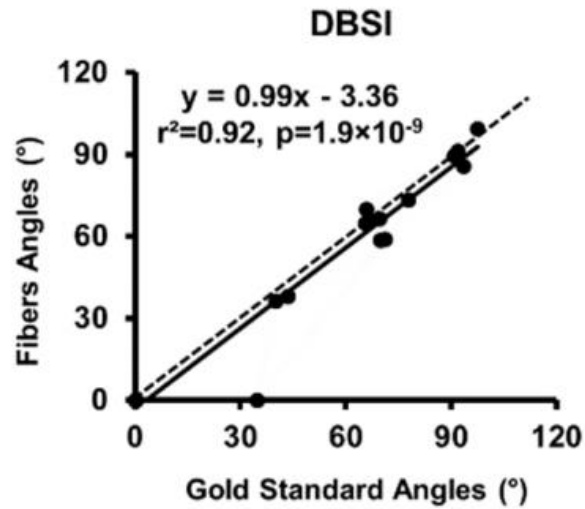
- Randomly select $\lambda_{||i}, \lambda_{\perp i}$
- Find best $f_i, f(D)$ (least square root method) and generalized pattern search algorithm to avoid local minimum
- Calculate the difference
- Repeat and find the smallest difference parameters
- Got $\lambda_{||i}, \lambda_{\perp i}, f_i, f(D)$



Results



Results, challenges & Conclusion



Challenges:

If number of anisotropic tensors is large, not efficiency or the nonlinear optimization problem, time cost.

- First fix axonal diffusivity, find best radial diffusivities.
- The use radial diffusivities to find best axonal diffusivities.
- ❖ Fibers in voxels adjacent are not independent, use former voxel information to as the start values of later one.

Diffusivity of fibers may not be independent.

- Use different b values with same directions to detect if fibers are independent or not.

Fiber positions in one voxel

- Independent fiber take more sparse space

Conclusion:

- ❖ DBSI method assume that fibers are independent in each voxel, and its diffusivities can be added;
- ❖ It use fixed diffusion functions as basis;
- ❖ Can separate isotropic parts from different anisotropic parts in tissues;
- ❖ Has high angular resolution and fiber tracking abilities;
- ❖ Have great potentials in applications of CNS diseases

References

1. Amankwah, Nana, Ruth Ann Marrie, Christina Bancej, Rochelle Garner, Douglas G. Manuel, Ron Wall, Philippe Finès, Julie Bernier, Karen Tu, and Kim Reimer. 2017. "Multiple Sclerosis in Canada 2011 to 2031: Results of a Microsimulation Modelling Study of Epidemiological and Economic Impacts." *Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention in Canada : Research, Policy and Practice* 37 (2): 37–48.
2. Wallin, Mitchell T., William J. Culpepper, Jonathan D. Campbell, Lorene M. Nelson, Annette Langer-Gould, Ruth Ann Marrie, Gary R. Cutter, et al. 2019. "The Prevalence of MS in the United States: A Population-Based Estimate Using Health Claims Data." *Neurology* 92 (10): e1029–40.
3. Cheong, Wing L., Devi Mohan, Narelle Warren, and Daniel D. Reidpath. 2018. "Multiple Sclerosis in the Asia Pacific Region: A Systematic Review of a Neglected Neurological Disease." *Frontiers in Neurology* 9 (June): 432.
4. Ye, Zezhong, Sam E. Gary, Peng Sun, Sourajit Mitra Mustafi, George Russell Glenn, Fang-Cheng Yeh, Harri Merisaari, et al. 2019. "The Impact of Edema and Fiber Crossing on Diffusion MRI Metrics: DBSI vs. Diffusion ODF." *bioRxiv*. <https://doi.org/10.1101/821082>.
5. Sun, Peng, Ajit George, Dana C. Perantie, Kathryn Trinkaus, Zezhong Ye, Robert T. Naismith, Sheng-Kwei Song, and Anne H. Cross. 2020. "Diffusion Basis Spectrum Imaging Provides Insights into MS Pathology." *Neurology(R) Neuroimmunology & Neuroinflammation* 7 (2). <https://doi.org/10.1212/NXI.0000000000000655>.
6. Wang, Yong, Qing Wang, Justin P. Haldar, Fang-Cheng Yeh, Mingqiang Xie, Peng Sun, Tsang-Wei Tu, et al. 2011. "Quantification of Increased Cellularity during Inflammatory Demyelination." *Brain: A Journal of Neurology* 134 (Pt 12): 3590–3601.
7. Ramirez-Manzanares, Alonso, Mariano Rivera, Baba C. Vemuri, Paul Carney, and Thomas Mareci. 2007. "Diffusion Basis Functions Decomposition for Estimating White Matter Intravoxel Fiber Geometry." *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging* 26 (8): 1091–1102.