A Non-Physicist's Intro to MRI

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A human head















The rate of precession changes linearly with the strength of the magnetic field

eary

aloria



"rotating frame of reference"



relaxation

main magnetic field



T2 is dephasing



dephasing looks like "less signal"



T1 and T2 relaxation







The fish are what make it interesting....

inversion recovery



Using inversion recovery we can weight our measurements for tissues with specific T1

How do we get spatial information?

what do we measure?



add up the red lines

two voxels (left and right)



take one measurement (sum)

two voxels (left and right)



apply a different magnetic field to each half





apply a different magnetic field to each half





rate of precession is different in each voxel





rate of precession is different in each voxel





the voxels are out of phase

rate of precession is different in each voxel





the voxels are out of phase

take second measurement (sum)

1st measurement: left + right
2nd measurement: left - right

add them: 2 x left

1st measurement: left + right 2nd measurement: left - right

subtract them: 2 x right

Real sequences sum together fractional amounts from all the voxels.

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The fractions are changed using the x-, y-, or z-gradients.

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The voxels are "unmixed" from all the measurements using an Inverse Fourier Transform.

A Pulse Sequence

1. "Prepare" (invert, flip) 2. Localize (Gradients) 3. Measure repeat 4. Relax 5. Go back to 1.

fMRI (BOLD)



fMRI (BOLD)



this side dephases faster = less signal

fMRI (BOLD)



this side's T2 returns to normal

questions?

Gory

aloria