V/Q analysis with 3D EIT

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Background

- Critically ill patients often have significant alterations in gas exchange.
 Regional matching of ventilation and perfusion (V/Q) is key to ensure optimal gas exchange in the lungs.
- Current work in EIT-based V/Q is single 2D image [1].
- We develop a two-plane, 3D analysis of regional V/Q.
- While EIT-based measurement of air flow (V) is well understood, work on perfusion (Q) is ongoing, and both pusatility- and conductivity bolus-based techniques are used.
- Lung perfusion analysis needs signal processing to remove the cardiac component.
- This software is made available (see [3]) under open licence.

3D EIT



Methods

With ethics approval,

- Yorkshire cross pigs (8 @ 4 months, 55–59 kg).
- sedated, anesthetized and mechanically ventilated supine
- With PA catheter, inject NaCl bolus (10 mL of 7.2%) at apnea.
- The study consisted of phases designed to modify Q
 - Baseline
 - Dobutamine infusion,
 - Phenylephrine infusion,
 - Controlled hemorrhage.
- EIT data with Pioneer Set and custom, 2×16 electrode EIT belt.
- Three transverse EIT image layers were reconstructed [2].

EIT Methods: Ventilation



EIT Methods: Perfusion



EIT Perfusion: Fitting Gamma function

Select Lung and Heart Pixels





Voxel V/Q

$$\frac{\dot{\mathbf{V}}_{\text{vox}}}{\dot{\mathbf{Q}}_{\text{vox}}} = \frac{\frac{\Delta Z_{\dot{\mathbf{V}},\text{vox}}}{\Delta Z_{\dot{\mathbf{V}},\text{tot}}} \times V_T \times RR \times (1 - \frac{V_D}{V_T})}{\frac{\Delta Z_{\dot{\mathbf{Q}},\text{vox}}}{\Delta Z_{\dot{\mathbf{Q}},\text{tot}}} \times CO}$$

Impedance ratios represent the unitless ΔZ in each voxel.

Conversion to \forall and Q⁻ units requires multiplication by air and blood flows $V_T \times RR \times (1 - V_D/V_T)$ represents effective alveolar ventilation.

Example Images Baseline



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Images vs Condition



Comparison to Gold Standard



Global changes in V/Q mismatch during each study phase. Open circles = gold standard measure, open square = EIT-derived measure. * p < 0.05.

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V/Q analysis with 3D EIT



Abstract: Bedside measurement of V/Q matching with EIT has clinical potential. Previous work showed feasibility in 2D, but 3D lung heterogeneity is significant. We show V/Q in 3D in pig data. Additionally, analysis software is made available.

References:

- [1] JB Borges et al (2012) "Regional lung perfusion estimated by electrical impedance tomography in a piglet model of lung collapse" *J Appl Physiol* 112:225–236
- [2] B Grychtol et al (2019) "Thoracic EIT in 3D experiences and recommendations" Physiol Meas 40:074006
- [3] J Araos et al (2019) "V/Q analysis software",

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