

# Electricity in the Body

Carleton University Biomedical Engineering Society  
Professor Presentation Night  
11 February 2015

**Andy Adler**

Professor & Canada Research Chair in Biomedical Engineering  
Systems and Computer Engineering, Carleton University, Ottawa

From Andy Adler: Can you please tell me more about what you want to hear? ...

From: Vicky Madge via [sce.carleton.ca](http://sce.carleton.ca)

*If you could talk about how you are involved at Carleton; what classes you teach currently (and maybe talk about your classes from uOttawa), your research projects currently underway (include objective, methods, and tools if possible) and anything else you can think of that will give the students a good indication of what to expect in the next couple years in undergrad and what to expect in a future in biomedical engineering. How does that sound?*

... what you want to hear?

... Six hours later ...

... what you want to hear?

## Classes

- Electronics & Bio-electronics
- Digital signal processing
- Biomedical instrumentation
- Medical imaging
- Introduction to Biomedical Engineering (grad)

## Research ...

### Electricity in the body

- Electrical imaging
- Cardiac mapping
- Tasers

... the future

*Prediction is difficult, especially  
about the future.*

— Niels Bohr

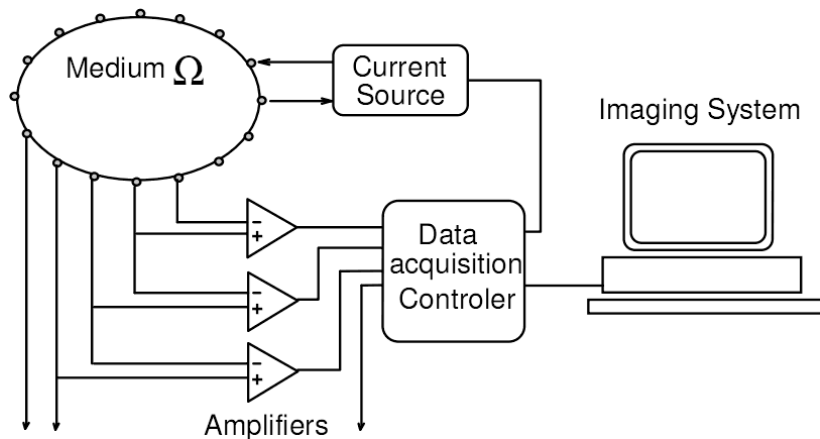
# Electrical Impedance Tomography

10-day old healthy  
baby with EIT  
electrodes

Source:  
[eidors3d.sf.net/data\\_contrib/if-  
neonate-spontaneous](http://eidors3d.sf.net/data_contrib/if-neonate-spontaneous)



# Electronics – Block Diagram

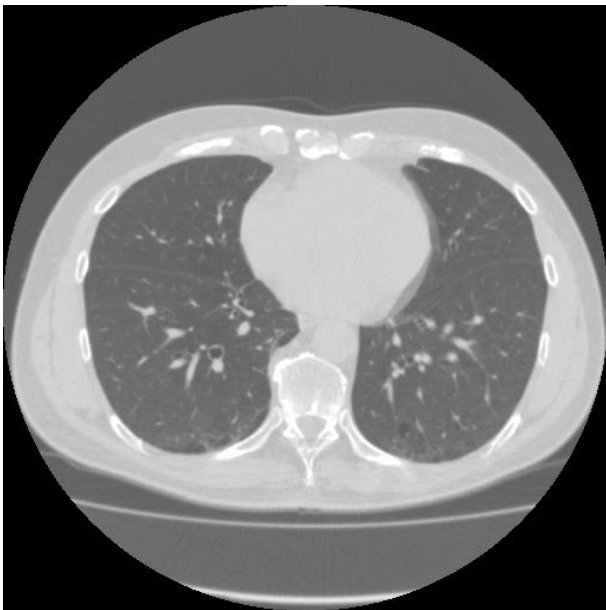




# Current Propagation

Healthy Adult Male  
CT slide at heart

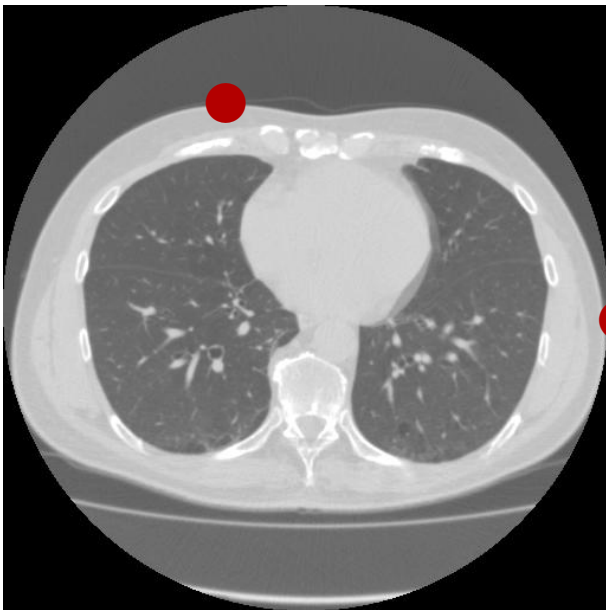
Source: ei-  
dors3d.sf.net/tutorial/netgen/extrusion



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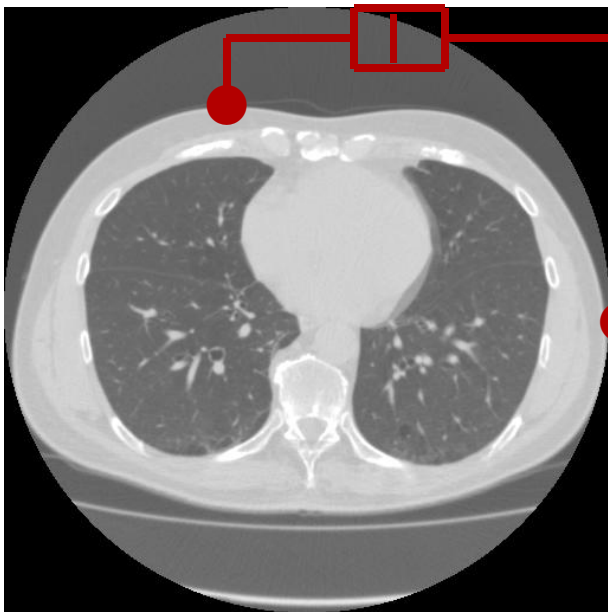
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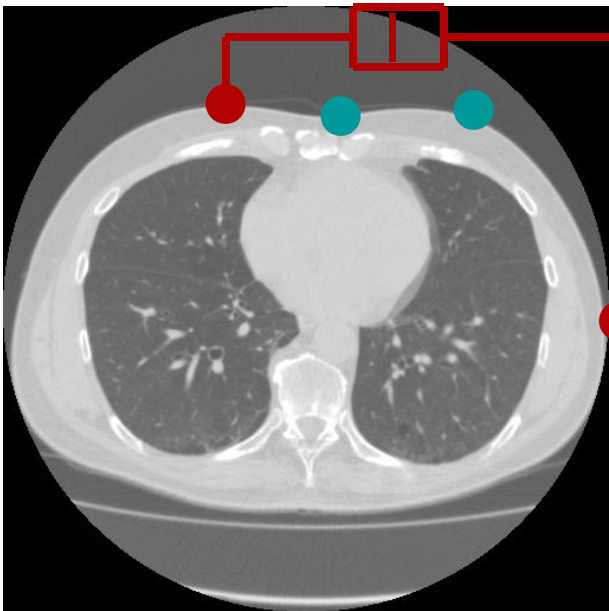
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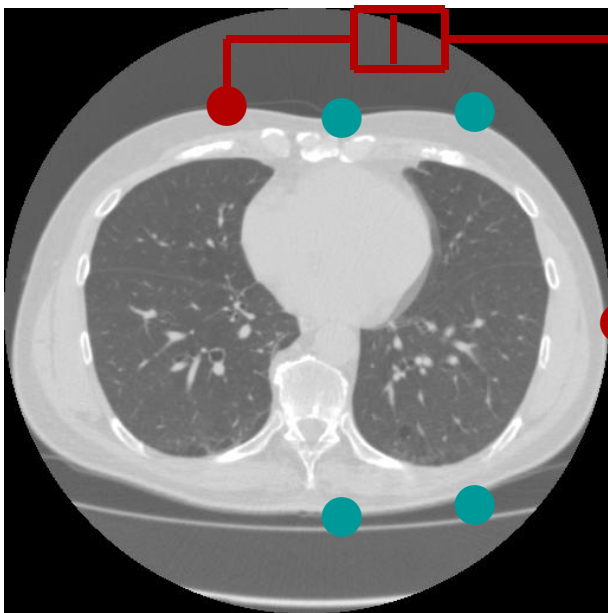
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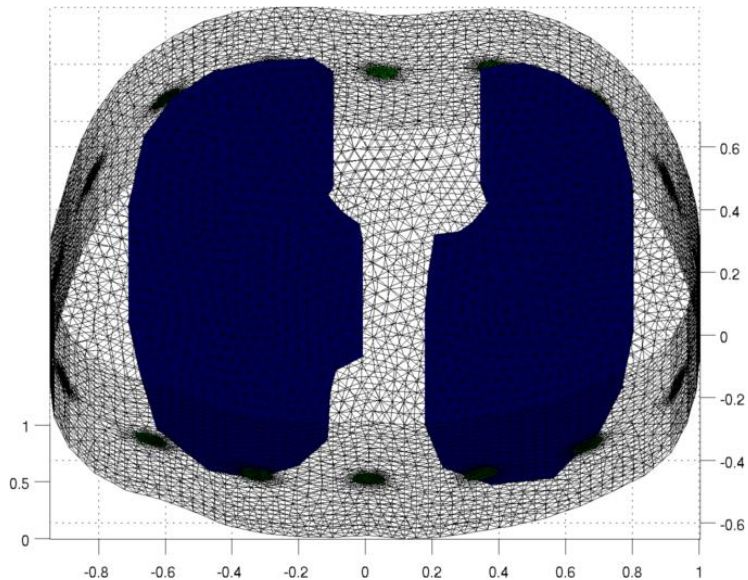
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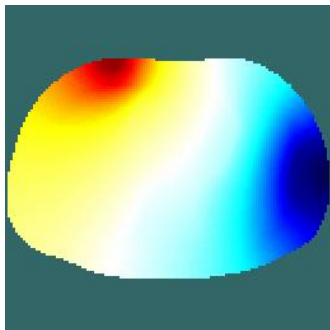
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dors3d.sf.net/tutorial/netgen/extrusion



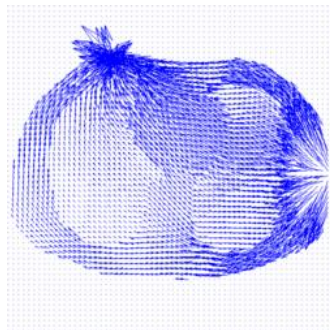
# Finite Element Modelling



# Finite Element Modelling



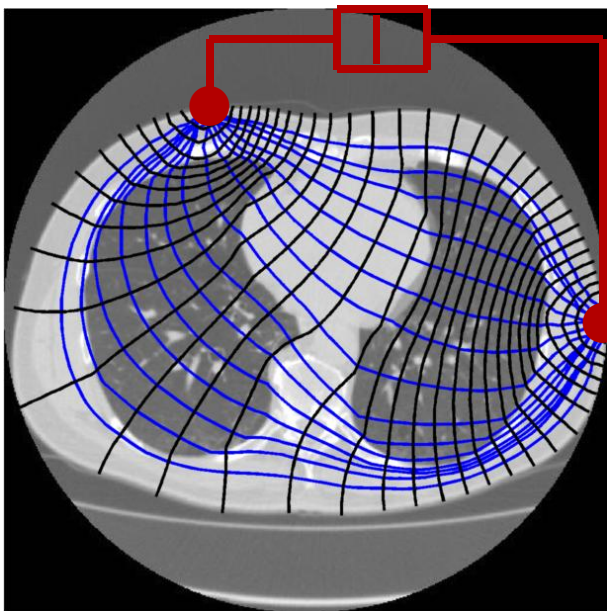
Simulated Voltages



Voxel Currents

# Thorax Propagation

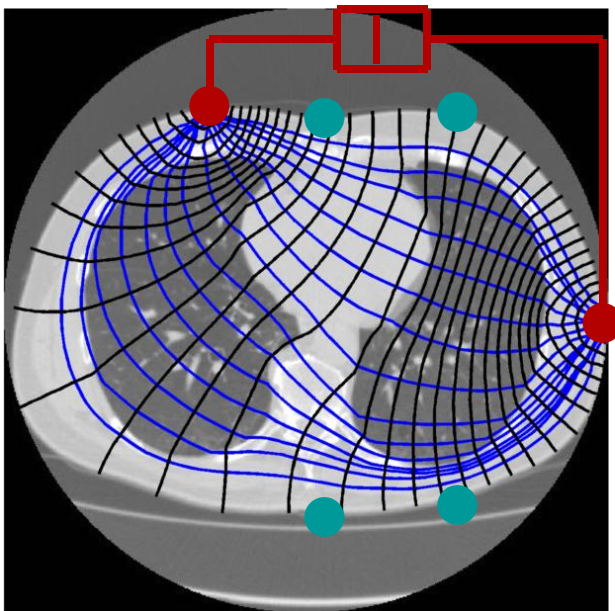
CT Slice with  
simulated current  
streamlines and  
voltage  
equipotentials





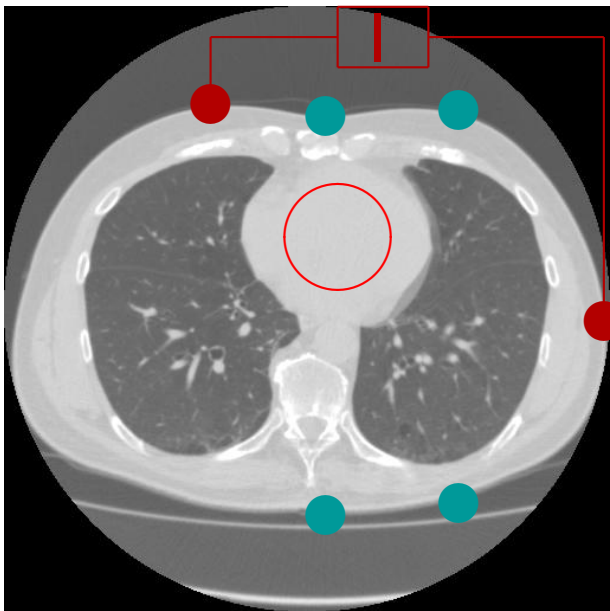
# Thorax Propagation

CT Slice with  
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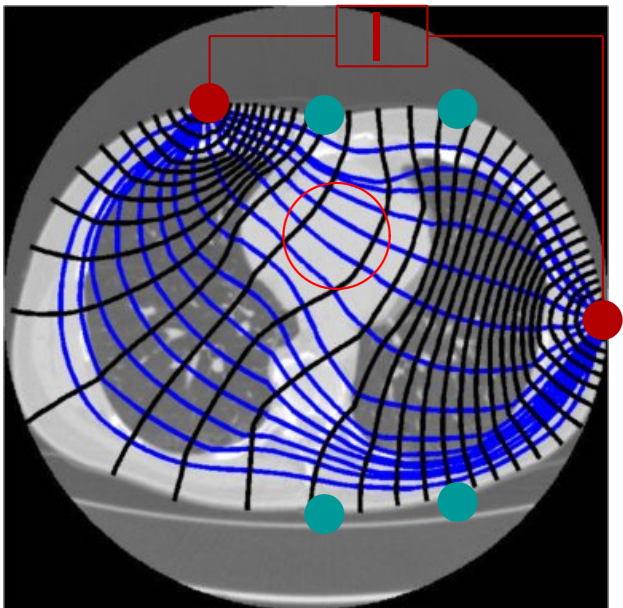
## Changing Conductivity

Heart receives  
blood (diastole)  
and is more  
conductive

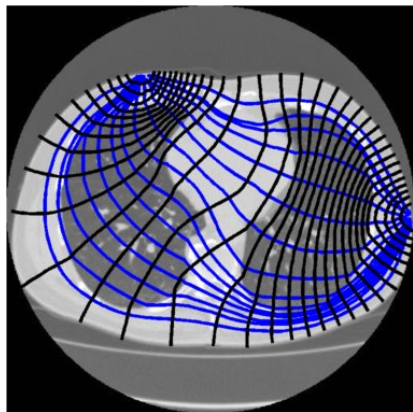
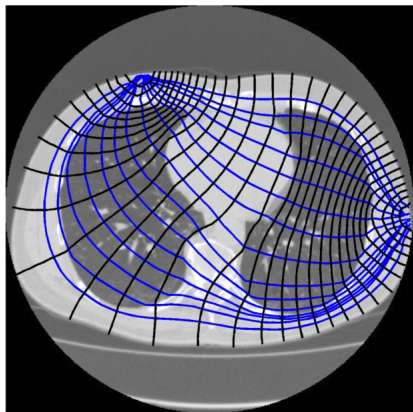


## Changing Conductivity

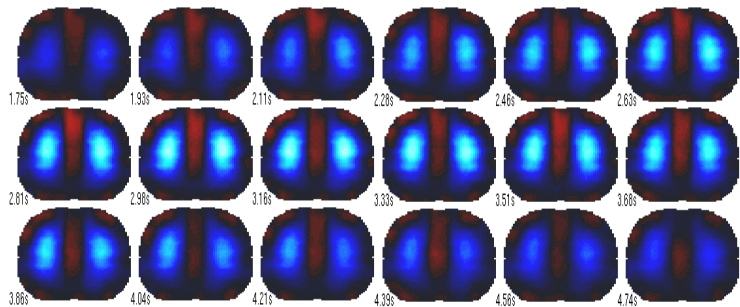
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# Changing Conductivity

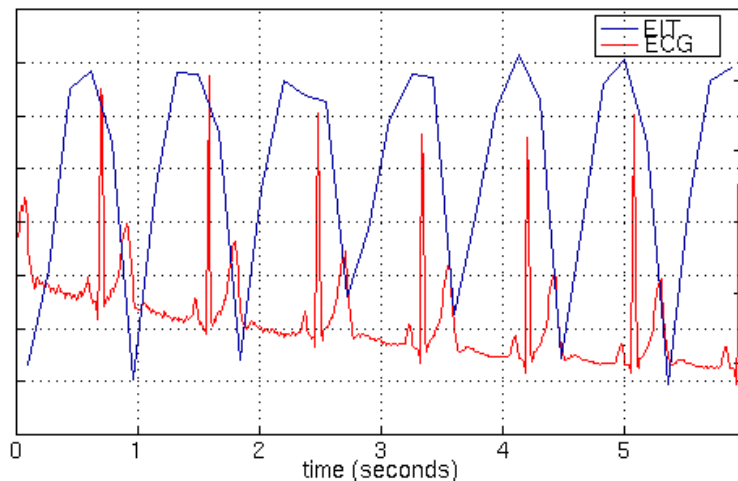


## Application: Breathing



Chest images of tidal breathing in healthy adult

## Application: Heart



EIT Signal in ROI around heart (and ECG)

## Why Image Lungs? $\Rightarrow$ Respiratory Failure

**Inadequate gas exchange by respiratory system**

Hypoxemia ( $O_2 \downarrow$ ) or Hypercapnia ( $CO_2 \uparrow$ )

# Why Image Lungs? $\Rightarrow$ Respiratory Failure

## **Inadequate gas exchange by respiratory system**

Hypoxemia ( $O_2 \downarrow$ ) or Hypercapnia ( $CO_2 \uparrow$ )

### Causes

- Pulmonary dysfunction
  - Asthma, Emphysema, COPD, Pneumonia, Pneumothorax, Hemothorax, ARDS, Cystic Fibrosis
- Cardiac dysfunction
  - Pulmonary Edema, Arrhythmia, Congestive heart failure, Valve pathology



# Why Image Lungs? $\Rightarrow$ Respiratory Failure

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### Treatment

- Emergency treatment
- Treatment of underlying cause
- **Mechanical Ventilation**

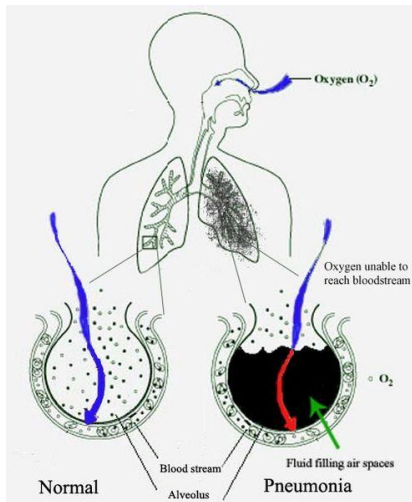
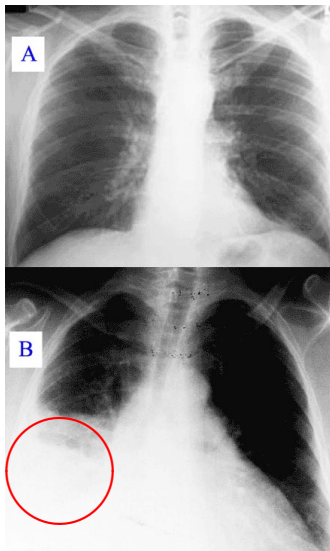
# Mechanical Ventilation



Mechanical Ventilator with EIT monitor

Source: Swisstom.com

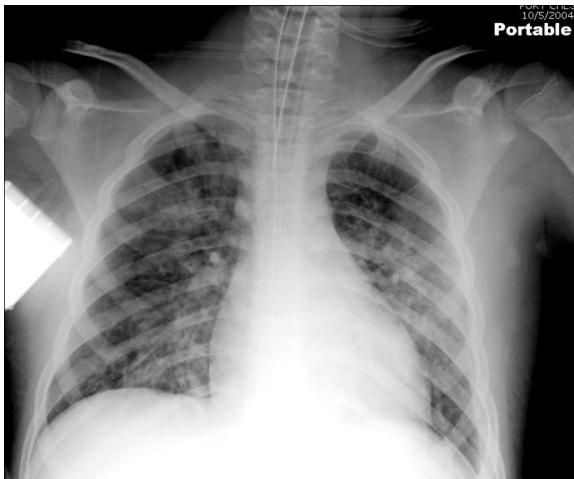
# Why image lungs? Example: Pneumonia



**B**: fluid in right lung

Source: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pneumonia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pneumonia)

# Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS)

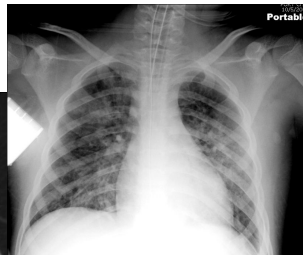
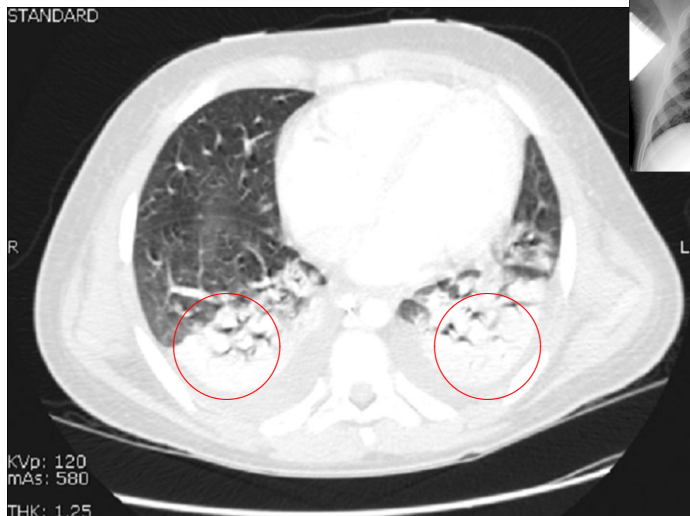


Chest X-ray of  
paediatric patient

Source: Wolf GK, Arnold JH, in

*Yearbook of Intensive Care and  
Emergency Medicine, 2005*

# Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS)



# Regional Ventilation

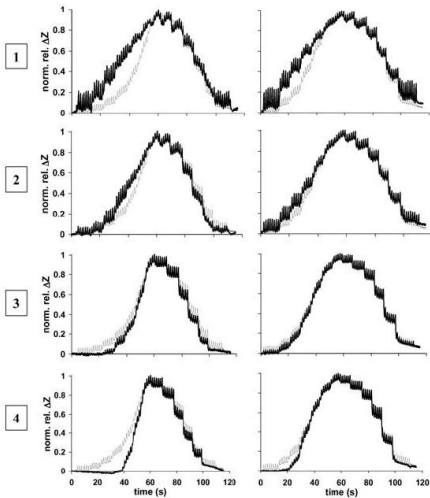
Electrical impedance tomography

Regions of interest

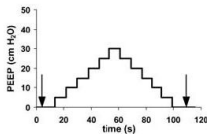


Acute lung injury

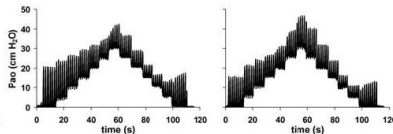
Surfactant treatment



Ventilatory manoeuvre

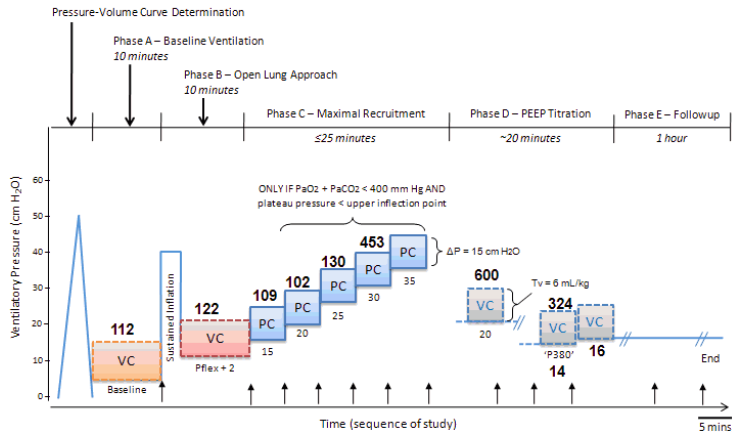


Airway pressure



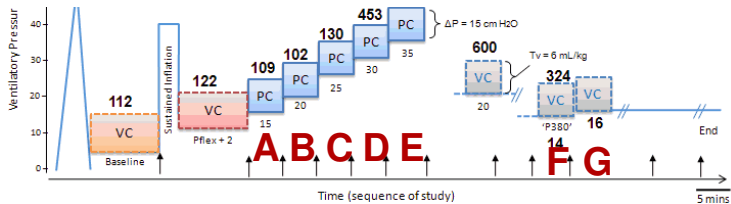
Source: Frerichs *et al*,  
*Intensive Care Med*,  
2003  
[eidors3d.sf.net/tutorial/lung\\_EIT/if\\_p](http://eidors3d.sf.net/tutorial/lung_EIT/if_p)

## Patient 1 – PaO<sub>2</sub> + PaCO<sub>2</sub>



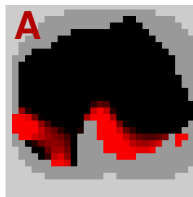
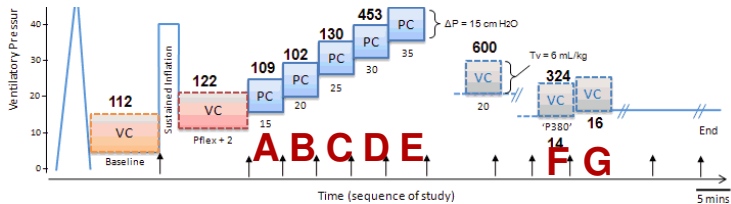
Lung recruitment protocol (Patient: F, 5.9 years, 20 kg, ARDS triggered by parainfluenza pneumonia).

# EIT + Lung State

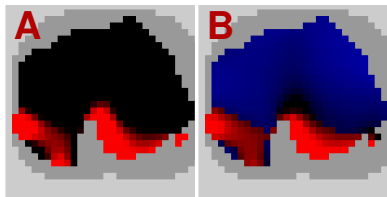
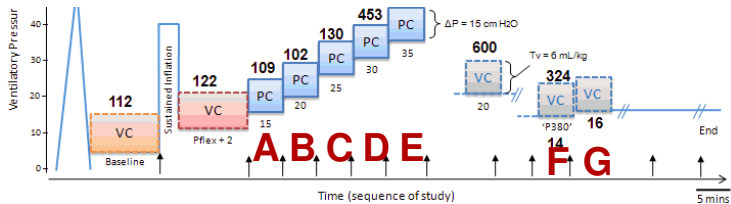




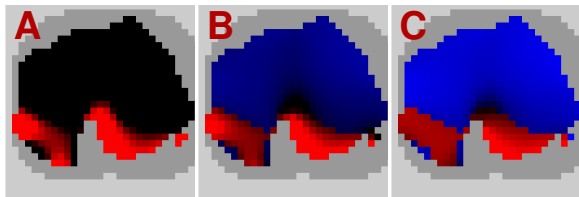
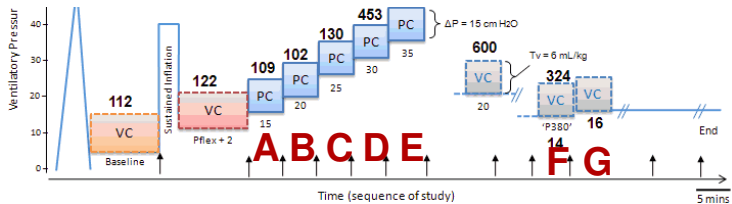
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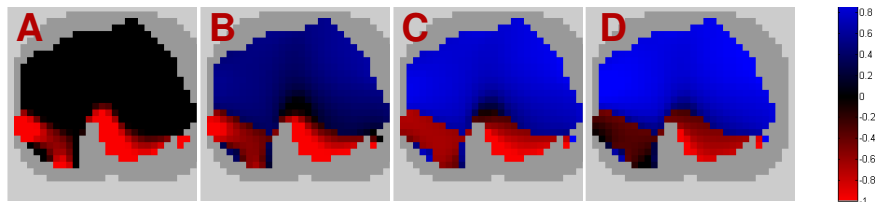
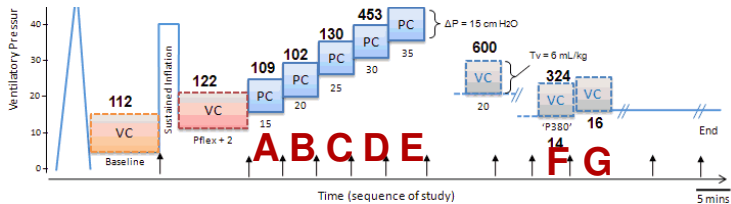
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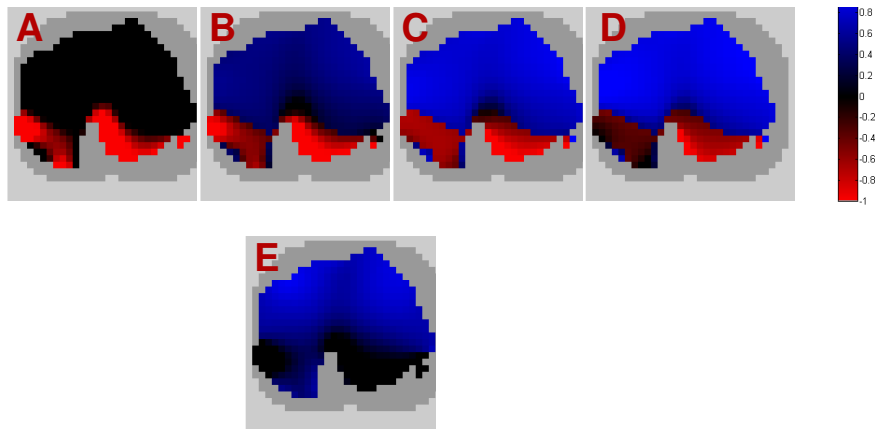
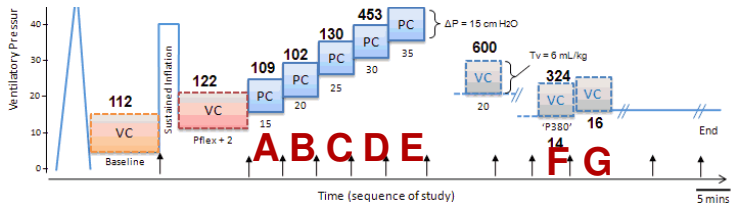
# EIT + Lung State



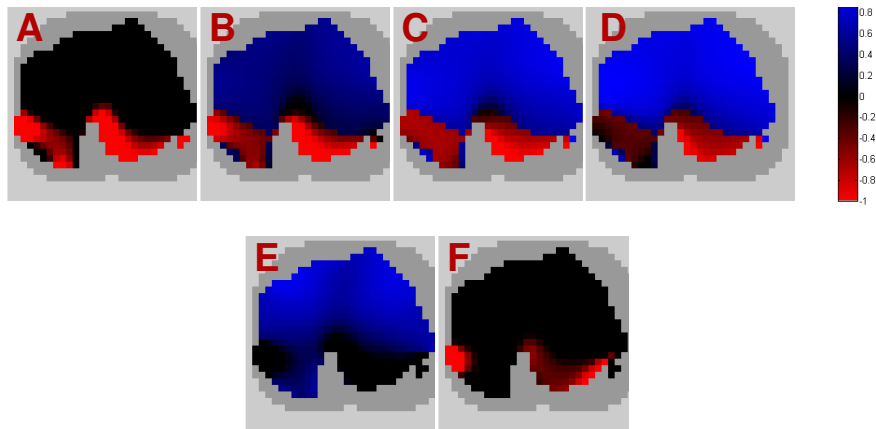
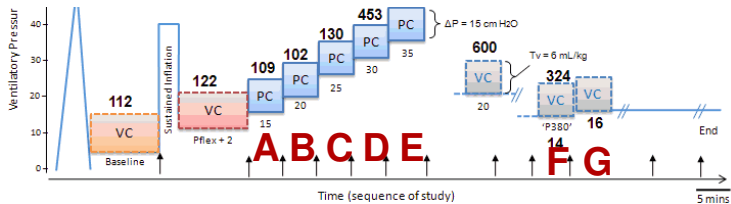
# EIT + Lung State



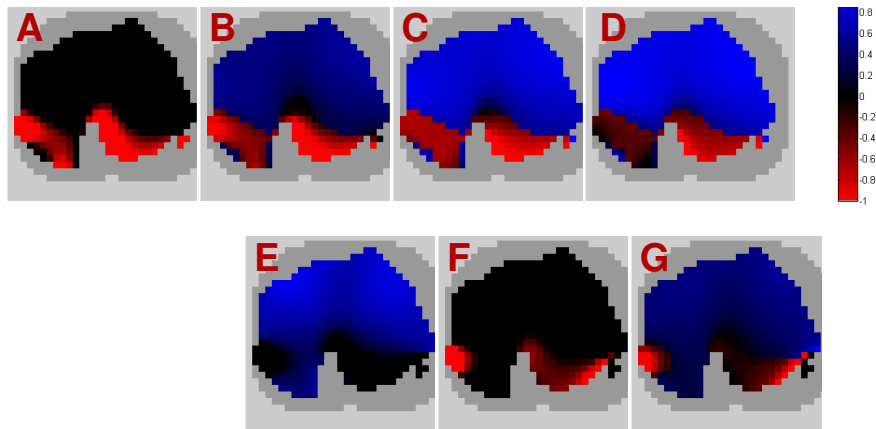
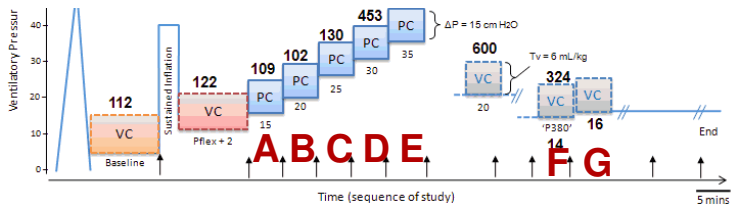
# EIT + Lung State



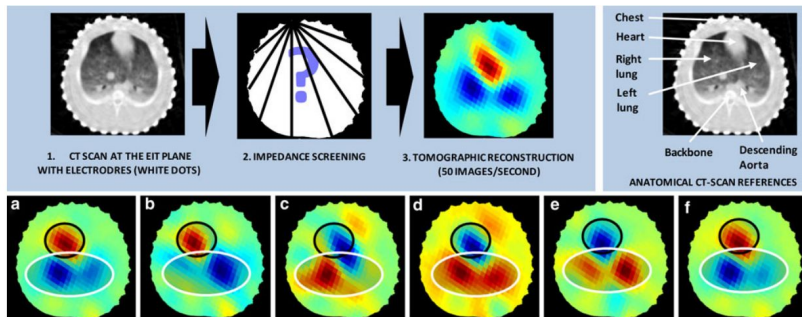
# EIT + Lung State



# EIT + Lung State



# EIT for Non-Invasive Blood Pressure



**Fig. 1** Tracking the propagation of arterial pressure pulses by EIT: After placing several electrodes around the chest (1), impedance measurements are performed for each electrode pair (2) and used to construct a tomographic impedance image (3). A CT-scan of pig chest is provided as anatomical reference. *Lower panel* shows an example

of pulse propagation during an entire cardiac cycle: **a** and **b** the filling of the heart is observed (*black ROI*). **c** The heart empties while the right lung (here on the *left hand side*) is starting to be perfused with conductive blood. **d** and **e** Both lungs are perfused (*white ROI*). Finally, **f** the cardiac cycle starts again

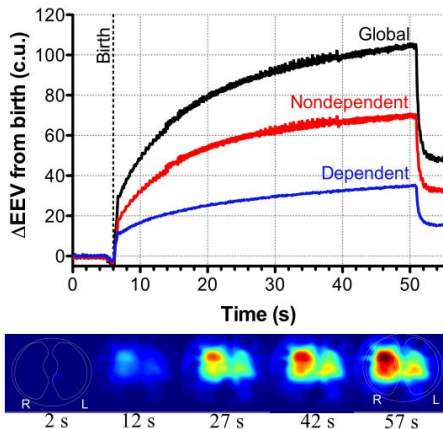
## Pulse transit time from heart to descending aorta using EIT

Source: Sola et al, *Med. Biol. Eng. Comput.*, 2011



# Neonatal Breathing

- Preterm newborns have complex, unstable physiology
- Ventilatory support is often essential
- Currently, no adequate monitors of breathing
- These data are from a lamb model of neonates



**Figure 1.** Exponential pattern of volume change during a SI, as measured by EIT, in global thorax and gravity-dependent

# EIT for Brain Imaging

## Applications:

- Epileptic foci
- Stroke (Ischaemic vs. Haemorrhagic)
- Fast Neural Imaging

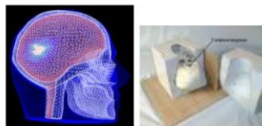
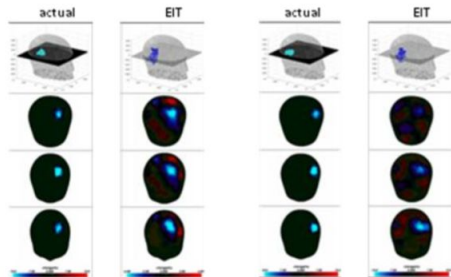


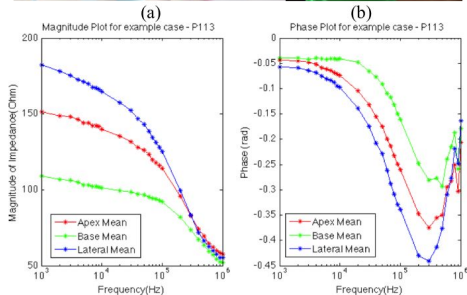
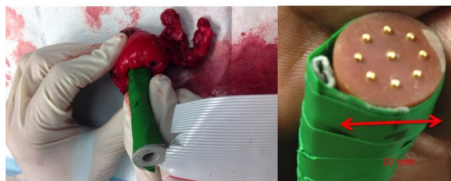
Fig. 2. Left : Finite element of the head used to produce images. Right: Example of EIT images produced in a saline filled tank



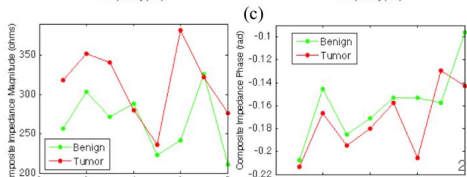
Source: Holder,  
[www.ucl.ac.uk/medphys/research/eit/pubs/brain\\_EIT\\_over](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/medphys/research/eit/pubs/brain_EIT_over)

# EIT for Cancer Imaging: Breast/Prostate

- Cancerous tissue has different electrical properties
- Image tissue
- Image increased vascularization



Source: Khan, Mahara, Halter *et al*, Conf. EIT, 2014

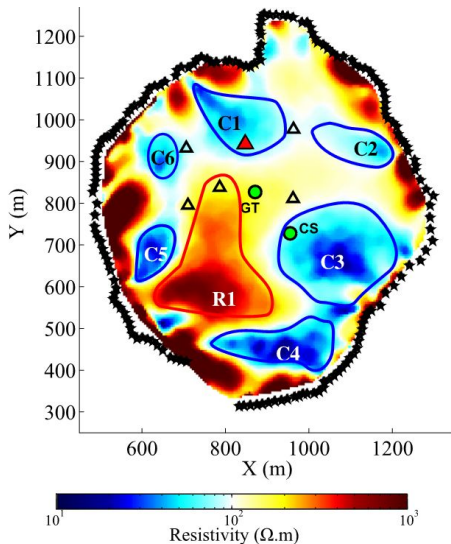


# Non-medical applications

- Flow in pipes
- Mixing tanks
- Imaging metallic ores
- Hydro-geology

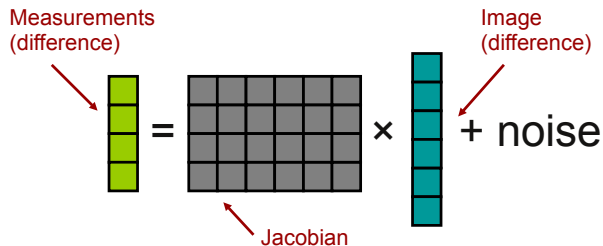
Figure shows resistivity in a cross-section of La Soufrière de Guadeloupe volcano.

Source: N. Lesparre *et al*, Conf. EIT, 2014



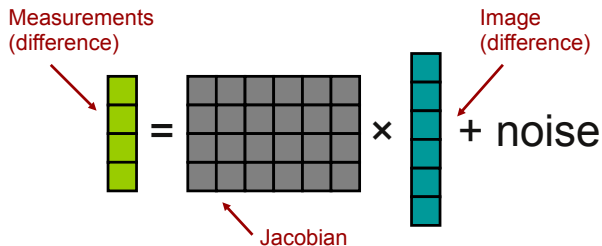
# Reconstruction in Pictures

- Forward Problem

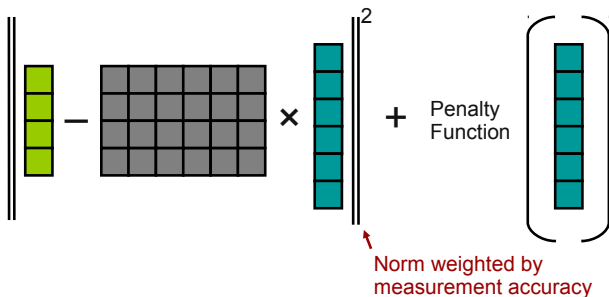


# Reconstruction in Pictures

- Forward Problem

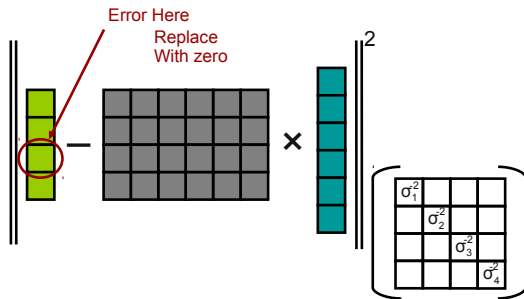


- Linear Solution: Minimize norm



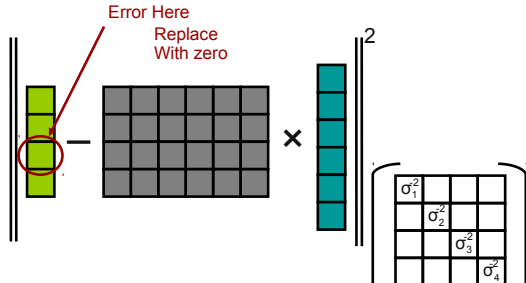
# Idea #1: Reconstruction with Data Errors

“Traditional”  
Solution

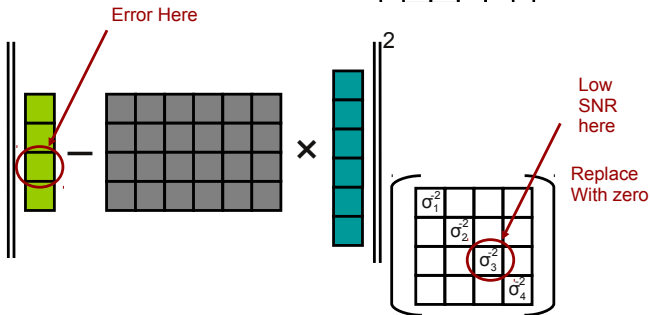


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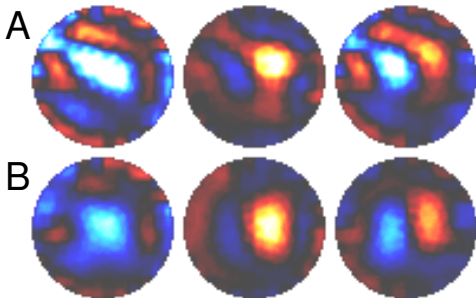
Error Model  
Solution





# Electrode Error compensation

- Offline compensation using “jack-knife” approach (2005)



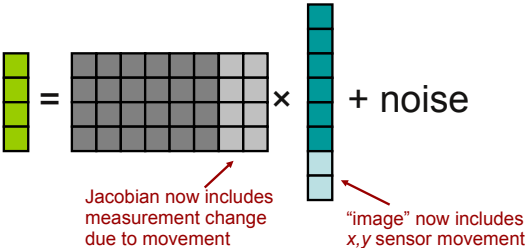
EIT images in anaesthetised, ventilated dog

*A*: uncompensated, *B*: compensated. *Left*: ventilation *Centre*: saline (right lung) *Right*: ventilation and saline

- Automatic detection (via reciprocity comparison) (2009)
- New work to speed online calculation & use data quality

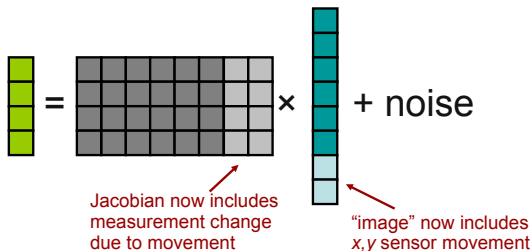
# Idea #2: Electrode movement

Sensitivity to  
sensor  
movement

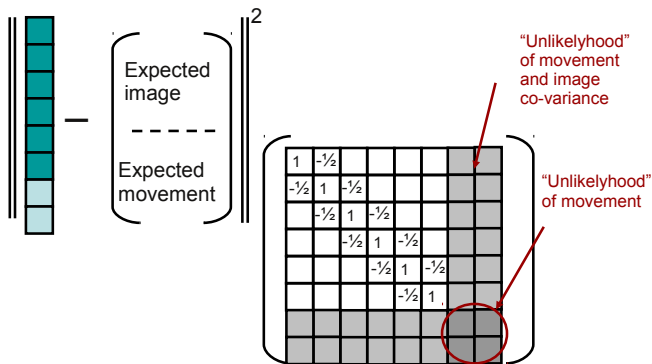


## Idea #2: Electrode movement

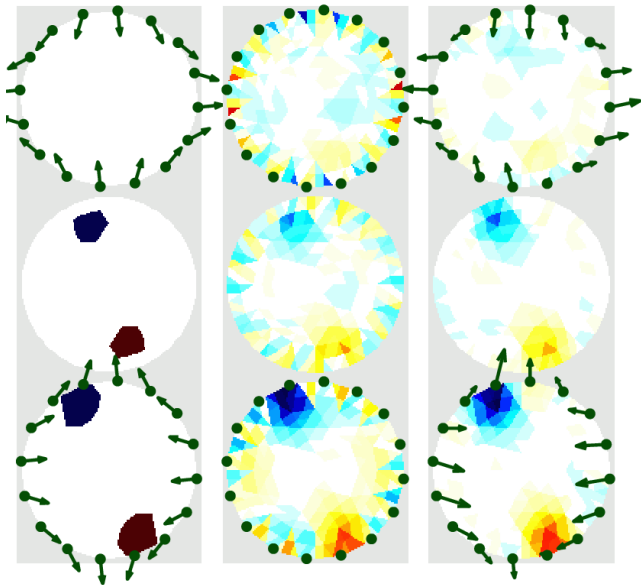
Sensitivity to sensor movement



Adapted penalty function



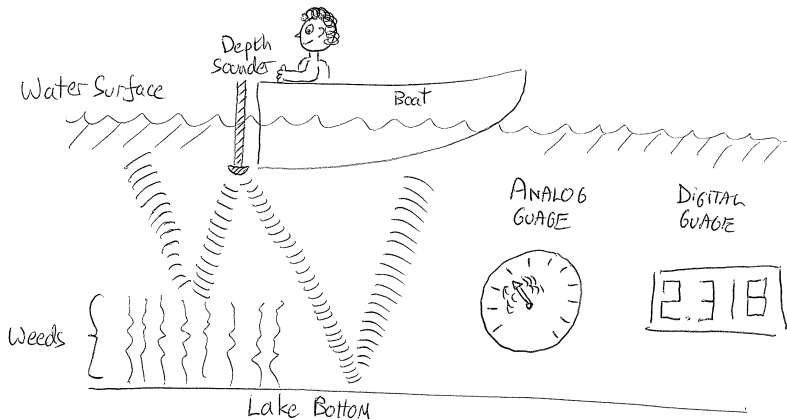
# Electrode movement compensation



Source: Gómez-Laberge *et al*, Phys. Meas., 2006

## Idea #3: Data Quality

## Idea #3: Data Quality



Depth Sounder – with analog and digital gauges

# What's the problem?

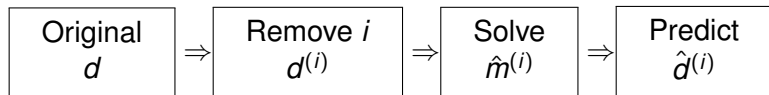
With strong priors and complex algorithms, algorithms give us pretty pictures, even when they are irrelevant.

*Question:*

- how can we know when to trust a pretty picture?
- how can we know when the data are junk?

# Data Quality Measure: Concept

- *Concept:* High Quality Data is Consistent
- *Idea:* Use IP to predict each data point from all others

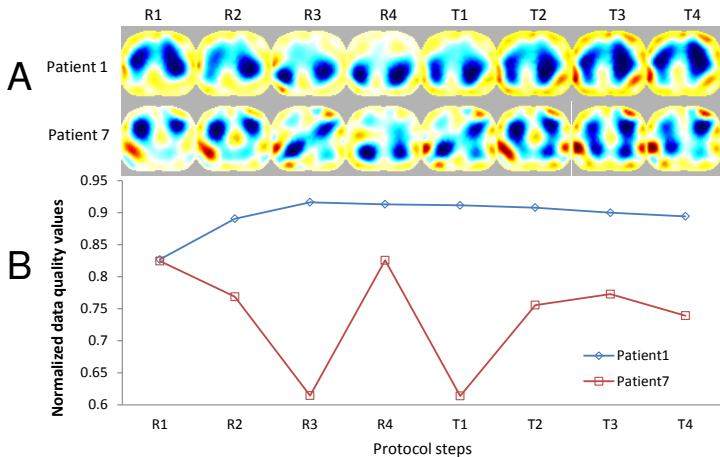


- Calculate error

$$\epsilon_i = d_i - \hat{d}_i^{(i)}$$



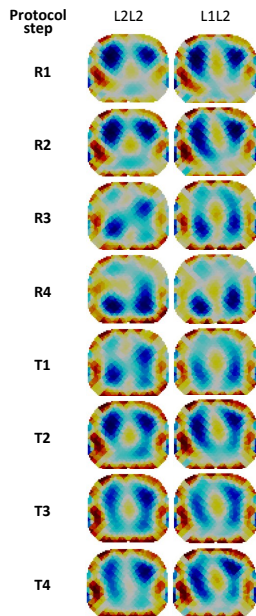
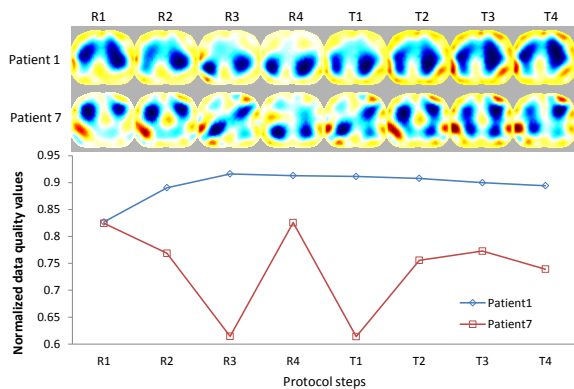
## Example: Data quality measures



Clinical data and data quality metric for each stage of the protocol (R1–R4 — recruitment: PEEP $\uparrow$ , T1–T4 — titration: PEEP $\downarrow$ ).

A: EIT images B: Calculated data quality.

# Data Quality vs. Robust Algorithms



# Perspectives

- Data analysis is hard
- powerful algorithms are useful
- we live in a world of big data
- complex systems fail in complex ways
- users like pretty pictures

So . . . the situation will get worse

# Solutions?

# Solutions?



# Solutions?



# Solutions?



# Solutions?



Thus, we need



# Solutions?



Thus, we need

- Open Data

# Solutions?

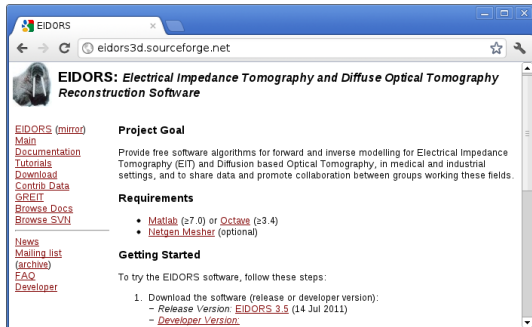


Thus, we need

- Open Data
- Open source analysis

For EIT ...

# For EIT ...



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar containing "eidors3d.sourceforge.net". The page title is "EIDORS: Electrical Impedance Tomography and Diffuse Optical Tomography Reconstruction Software". On the left side, there is a vertical menu of links: "EIDORS (mirror)", "Main", "Documentation", "Tutorials", "Download", "Contrib Data", "GREIT", "Browse Docs", "Browse SVN", "News", "Mailing list (archive)", "FAQ", and "Developer". The main content area is divided into sections: "Project Goal" (describing the software's purpose), "Requirements" (listing dependencies like Matlab, Octave, and Netgen Mesher), and "Getting Started" (providing instructions on how to download the software, including release and developer versions).

**EIDORS: Electrical Impedance Tomography and Diffuse Optical Tomography Reconstruction Software**

[EIDORS \(mirror\)](#)  
[Main](#)  
[Documentation](#)  
[Tutorials](#)  
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[Contrib Data](#)  
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[News](#)  
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[Developer](#)

**Project Goal**

Provide free software algorithms for forward and inverse modelling for Electrical Impedance Tomography (EIT) and Diffusion based Optical Tomography, in medical and industrial settings, and to share data and promote collaboration between groups working these fields.

**Requirements**

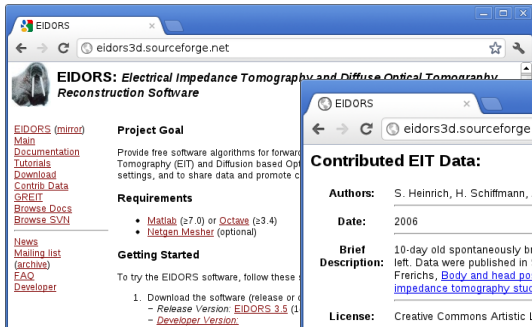
- [Matlab](#) (≥7.0) or [Octave](#) (≥3.4)
- [Netgen Mesher](#) (optional)

**Getting Started**

To try the EIDORS software, follow these steps:

1. Download the software (release or developer version):
  - Release Version: [EIDORS 3.5](#) (14 Jul 2011)
  - [Developer Version](#):

# For EIT ...



**EIDORS: Electrical Impedance Tomography and Diffuse Optical Tomography Reconstruction Software**

[EIDORS \(mirror\)](#)  
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[Mailing list \(archive\)](#)  
[FAQ](#)  
[Developer](#)

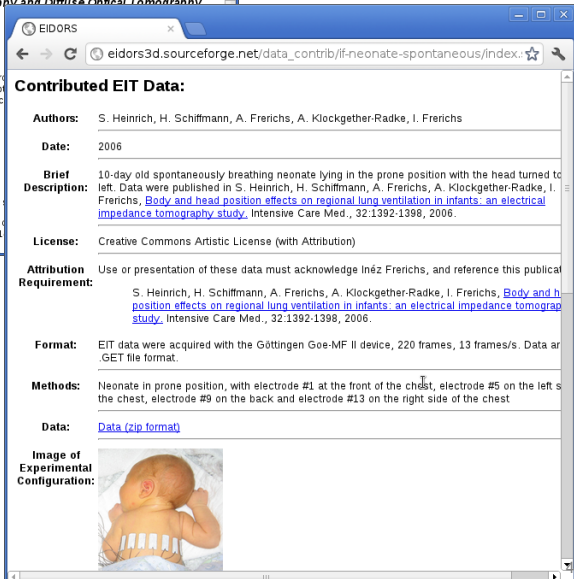
**Project Goal**  
Provide free software algorithms for forward Tomography (EIT) and Diffusion based Optical Tomography (DOT) settings, and to share data and promote c

**Requirements**

- [Matlab](#) (≥7.0) or [Octave](#) (≥3.4)
- [Netgen Mesher](#) (optional)

**Getting Started**  
To try the EIDORS software, follow these

1. Download the software (release or d...
  - Release Version: [EIDORS 3.5](#) (1...)
  - [Developer Version](#):



**Contributed EIT Data:**

**Authors:** S. Heinrich, H. Schiffmann, A. Frerichs, A. Klockgether-Radke, I. Frerichs

**Date:** 2006

**Brief Description:** 10-day old spontaneously breathing neonate lying in the prone position with the head turned to left. Data were published in S. Heinrich, H. Schiffmann, A. Frerichs, A. Klockgether-Radke, I. Frerichs, [Body and head position effects on regional lung ventilation in infants: an electrical impedance tomography study](#), Intensive Care Med., 32:1392-1398, 2006.


**License:** Creative Commons Artistic License (with Attribution)

**Attribution Requirement:** Use or presentation of these data must acknowledge Inéz Frerichs, and reference this publication: S. Heinrich, H. Schiffmann, A. Frerichs, A. Klockgether-Radke, I. Frerichs, [Body and head position effects on regional lung ventilation in infants: an electrical impedance tomography study](#), Intensive Care Med., 32:1392-1398, 2006.

**Format:** EIT data were acquired with the Göttingen Goe-MF II device, 220 frames, 13 frames/s. Data are in .GET file format.

**Methods:** Neonate in prone position, with electrode #1 at the front of the chest, electrode #5 on the left side of the chest, electrode #9 on the back and electrode #13 on the right side of the chest

**Data:** [Data \(zip format\)](#)

**Image of Experimental Configuration:**  




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*Traffic jam on the way to Carleton*