**Overview of Myocardial Mechanics** *Background and Echocardiographic Assessment* 

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**Conflicts:** None





#### **I ALWAYS Have Fun at APCDE!**



APCDE - Osaka, Japan - May 1997



## **Myocardial Strain: What is It??**

**Strain: dimensionless index of change in length** 

Strain ( $\varepsilon$ ) = L-L<sub>0</sub>/L<sub>0</sub>

#### LV strain may offer a pure index of regional LV function but is difficult to measure









#### **Strain: More Than a Number 3D Tensor with Linear and Shear Components**



#### Linear strain



#### **Shear strain**





#### **Fundamentals of Biomechanics**

#### **Stress-Strain Relationships**



#### **Fundamentals of Biomechanics**



#### **From Sarcomere to Stroke Volume** *A Little Goes a Long Way!*



**50 mL** 

1.0 cm Diastole  $\Delta SL = 13\%$   $\epsilon_{epi} = -7\%$   $\epsilon_{mid} = -15\%$   $\epsilon_{endo} = -26\%$   $\epsilon_{rad} = +37\%$ EF = 60%

20 mL 1.4 cm Systole **Fundamentals of Biomechanics** 

# Source of Arterial Pressure Myocardial Wall Stress



Sphere Approximation Laplace's Law



In reality, in 2011, there is NO WAY to directly measure wall stress in vivo









#### Echocardiographic Methods to Measure Strain

Derived from tissue velocity





#### **Strain Derived from Tissue Velocities**



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# **Predictors of Tissue Doppler Strain Rate** *Relationship to invasive indices during ischemia*

# Systolic Strain Rates $\varepsilon'_{SYS}$ VS:rES P/V0.89 $+dP/dt_{max}$ 0.86EF0.77ESV0.57

#### **Diastolic Strain Rates**

ε' <sub>DIAS</sub> vs:	r
EDP	0.82
-dP/dt <sub>max</sub>	0.81
Tau	0.72
EDV	0.60



Greenberg et al. Circ 2002; 105:99-105

#### **Limitations of TDI Strain**

- Detects only single component of strain
- Limited scope of radial (anteroseptum and posterior wall) and circumferential (septum and lateral wall) strain from parasternal window
- Subject to noise, particularly strain rate
- Very tedious to perform









# Deriving strain directly from the B-mode image





# **Derivation of 2D Strain by Echo**







# Not a New Idea, Just Better Implementation COMPUTERS IN CARDIOLOGY 1988

LOCAL MYOCARDIAL DEFORMATION COMPUTED FROM SPECKLE MOTION

Jean Meunier, Michel Bertrand, Guy E. Mailloux and Robert Petitclerc

Ecole Polytechnique, C.P. 6079, Station "A" and Institut de Cardiologie, 5000 Belanger E., Montreal, H1T 1C8, CANADA







Fig. 3 Velocity (motion) vector fields computed from the two ROI in fig. 2 near end-diatole. The composite (C), translational (T), rotational (R) and deformation (D) fields are represented. The coordinate origin is the ROI center.

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# Longitudinal Strain from B-Mode Echo Normal Subject



# Longitudinal Strain Dilated Cardiomyopathy



#### **Bull's-eye Plot from 3 Apical Views**





#### **Apical 4 Chamber**



#### **Apical 2 Chamber**

#### Normal





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#### **LAD Infarct**









Strain11:24

#### Normal Global Strain and Strain Rate by Age





Marwick et al. JACC Imaging 2009; 2: 80-84







#### What About Torsion?



E <sub>ll</sub>	E <sub>lc</sub>	$\mathbf{E_{lr}}$
E <sub>cl</sub>	E <sub>cc</sub>	<b>E</b> <sub>cr</sub>
<b>E</b> <sub>rl</sub>	E <sub>rc</sub>	<b>E</b> <sub>rr</sub>

• Torsion is the longitudinalcircumferential shear component of strain





#### Measurement of LV Torsion by Doppler tissue imaging



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#### **Alteration of LV Torsion in Childhood** *No Twist as Infant, Develops by Adolescence*

#### < 6 months: 4°

4 to 9 years : 7°

#### 14 to 16 years : 11°





#### Notomi et al. Circulation 2006: 113: 2534-2541

#### **The Molecular Spring Titin May Play a Role**



Extension of PEVK and N2B unique sequence D





2.2

2.4

#### **Titin is Stiffer in Adults Than Children**





Notomi et al. Circ 2006; 113: 2524-2533



T₩ -13.3 20.00

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400\_

# **Timing and Magnitude of LV Mechanics** *Impact of Exercise*



Strain11:34

#### **Torsion-Volume Loop**





Notomi et al. Circ 2006; 113: 2524-2533

#### **LV Untwisting Predicts IVPG**





Notomi et al. Circ 2006; 113: 2524-2533

#### **Untwisting/IVPG Relationship Holds for Normals and HCM**



# **Putting It All Together**

- During systole, a significant amount of elastic energy is stored in the myocyte and the interstitum as <u>torsion</u>
- The earliest mechanical manifestation of diastole is an abrupt <u>untwisting</u> that is largely completed before the mitral valve opens
- This untwisting helps to establish a base-to-apex intraventricular pressure gradient in early diastole that assists in the low pressure filling of the heart
- Modulation of this mechanism allows the heart to augment its function many-fold during exercise









#### Why Has Strain/Torsion Not Become Mainstream?

- In 2011 very few clinical reports have any advanced mechanics
- No interoperability
  - Each company has proprietary format
  - No DICOM scan line format
  - Different results with different equipment
- No standardization
- Changing workflow requirements
  - On-line or off-line?
  - Need for separate review software
- *Too many parameters!* – And what do they <u>mean???</u>
- No reimbursement



#### **Comparison of Radial Strain Measurements**



**Strain Can Be Defined in Many Ways** *Some 1D Strain Definitions* 

Small Strain

Green Lagrange Strain

Almansi Strain

Logarithmic Strain

$$l_{0}$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} \frac{l^{2} - l_{0}^{2}}{l_{0}^{2}}$$

$$\varepsilon_{a} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{l^{2} - l_{0}^{2}}{l^{2}}$$

$$e = \ln \frac{l}{l_{0}} = \int_{l_{0}}^{l} \frac{dl}{l}$$

 $l-l_0$ 



# **Small Strain or Large Strain?** *Manufacturers Do Not Specify their Approach*







## **Approaches to Standardization** *In vitro strain phantom?*

2 3 0

- Agar gel with reflectors formed inside a mold
- Sonomicrometer crystals imbedded within
- Rhythmic deformation applied to gel
- Can only validate 1D strain
- Agar dehydrates so phantom rapidly deteriorates





# **Possible Approaches**

- Improved interoperability
  - Can we develop a DICOM scan line format
  - Barring that would individual companies provide a way for others to work with their data
  - ASE and EAE have formed task force with industry
- Standardization
  - Develop a strain phantom?
- Changing workflow requirements
  - On-line or off-line must give the same values!
- Too many parameters!
  - Need for comparative studies
- Approach to reimbursement
  - Can we prove the value of this without devaluing the rest of echo



#### **LV Mechanics: Present State of the Art**



We now have the echocardiographic tools available to let us assess LV contraction, relaxation, compliance, suction, and filling pressure.

# **3D Modelling of LV Torsion**







Strain11:48