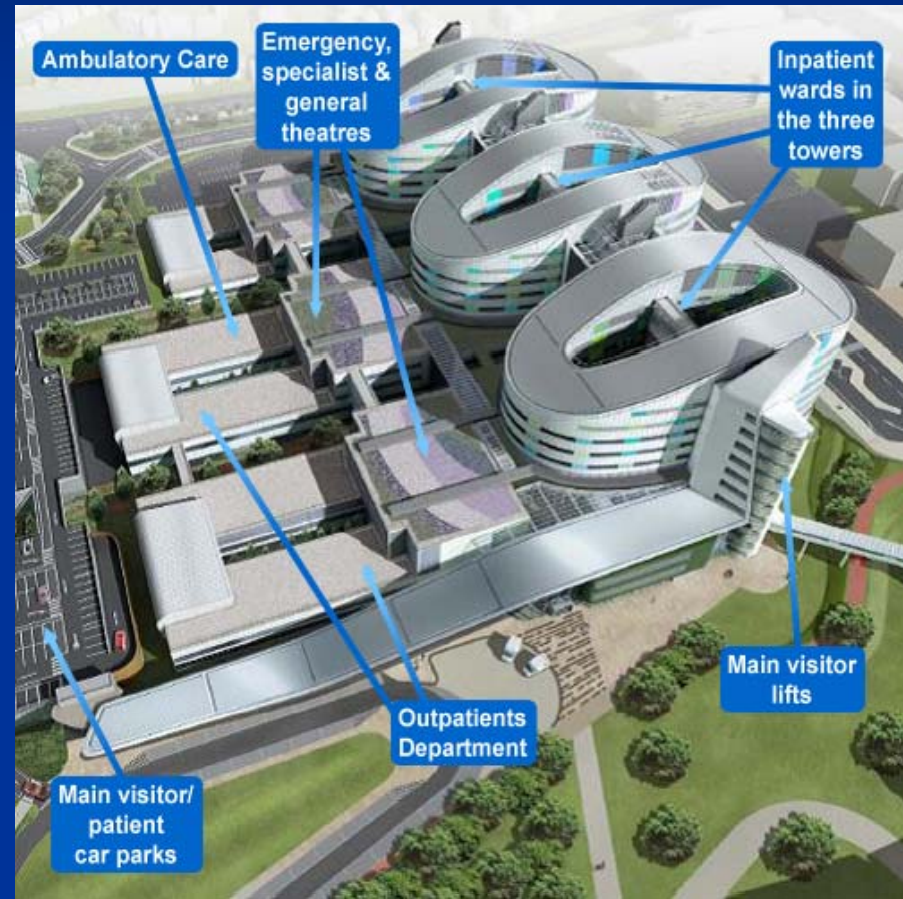


# Long axis function and torsion in heart failure.

John E Sanderson MA MD FACC  
Professor of Clinical Cardiology  
Department of Cardiovascular Medicine  
University of Birmingham  
UK



# University of Birmingham UK and Hospital

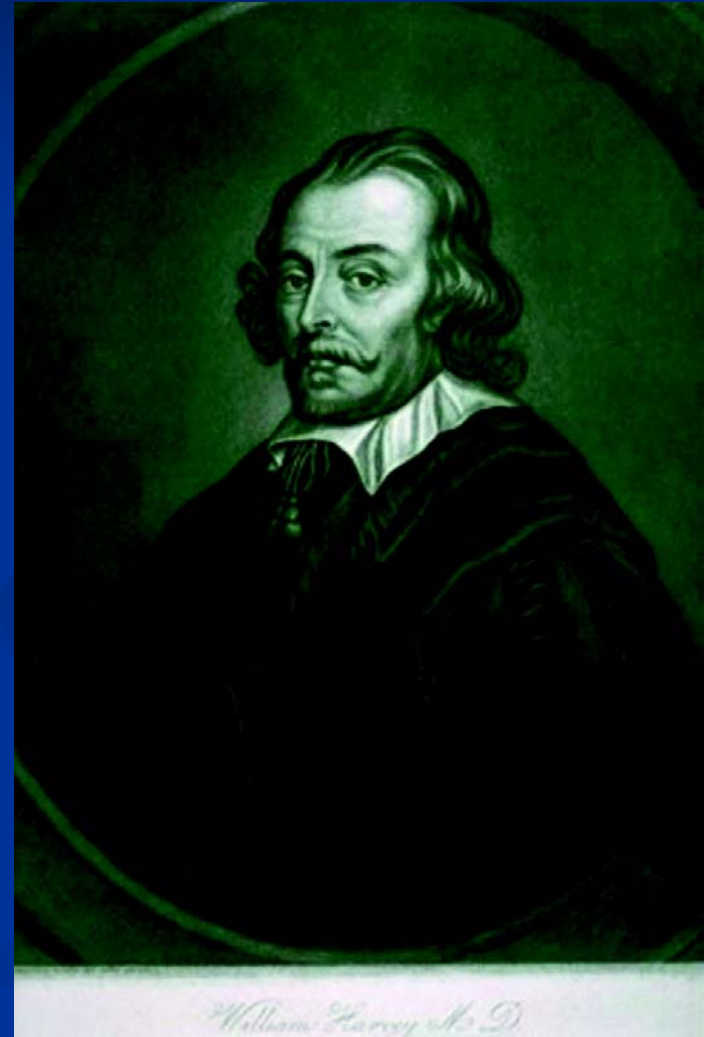




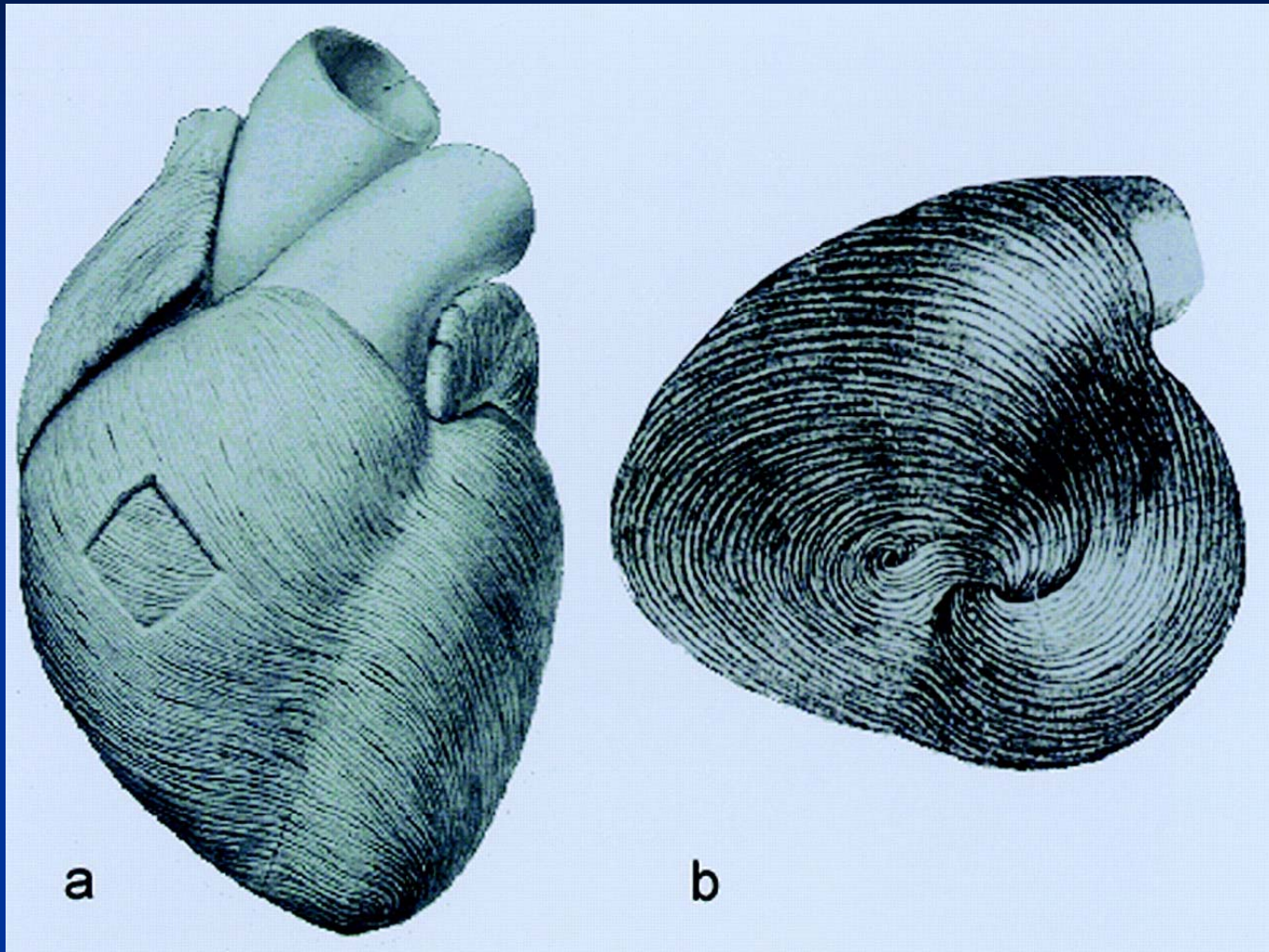
# Twisting/rotation

- Sir William Harvey in 1628, 'Exercitatio Anatomica De Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus', a twisting motion of the ventricle during contraction was first described after observation of open chested animal hearts.

(Harvey W, Leake CD. Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus. Frankfurt, 1628.



- Torsion refers to the counterclockwise rotation of LV apex with respect to the LV base during systole, followed by untwisting in the opposite direction during isovolumic relaxation and filling
- Ascribed to asymmetrical shortening of the internal and the external spiral muscle layers of the ventricular wall resulting in storage of potential energy when released contribute to ventricular suction and early diastolic filling



**Buckberg G. D.; J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2002;124:863-883**

## Human Spirals

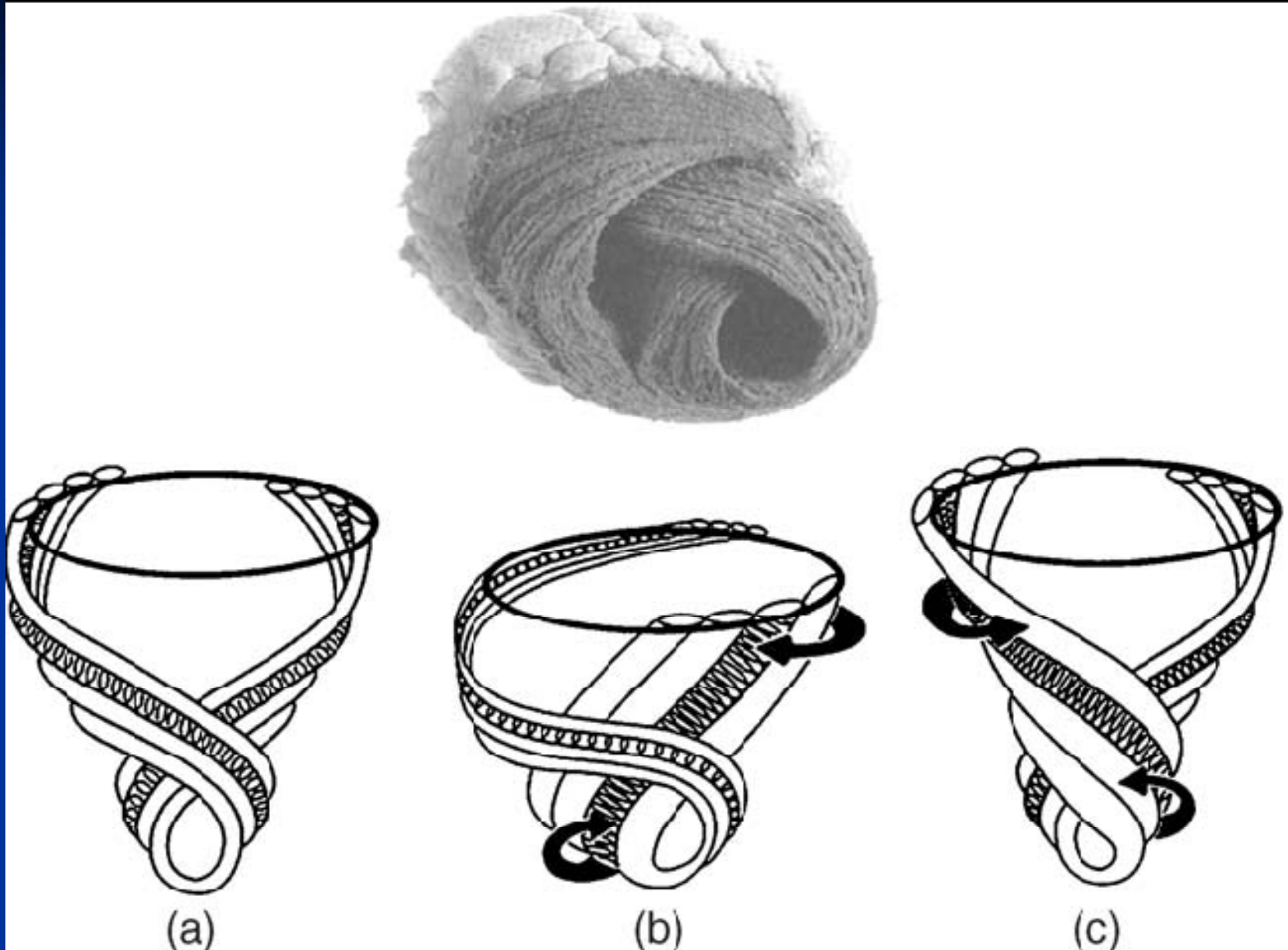


finger



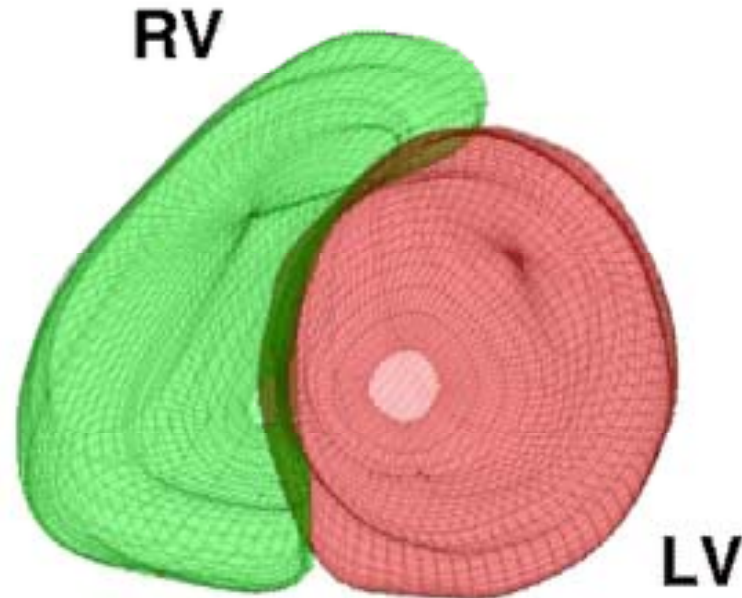
LV apex

Buckberg G. D.; J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2002;124:863-883



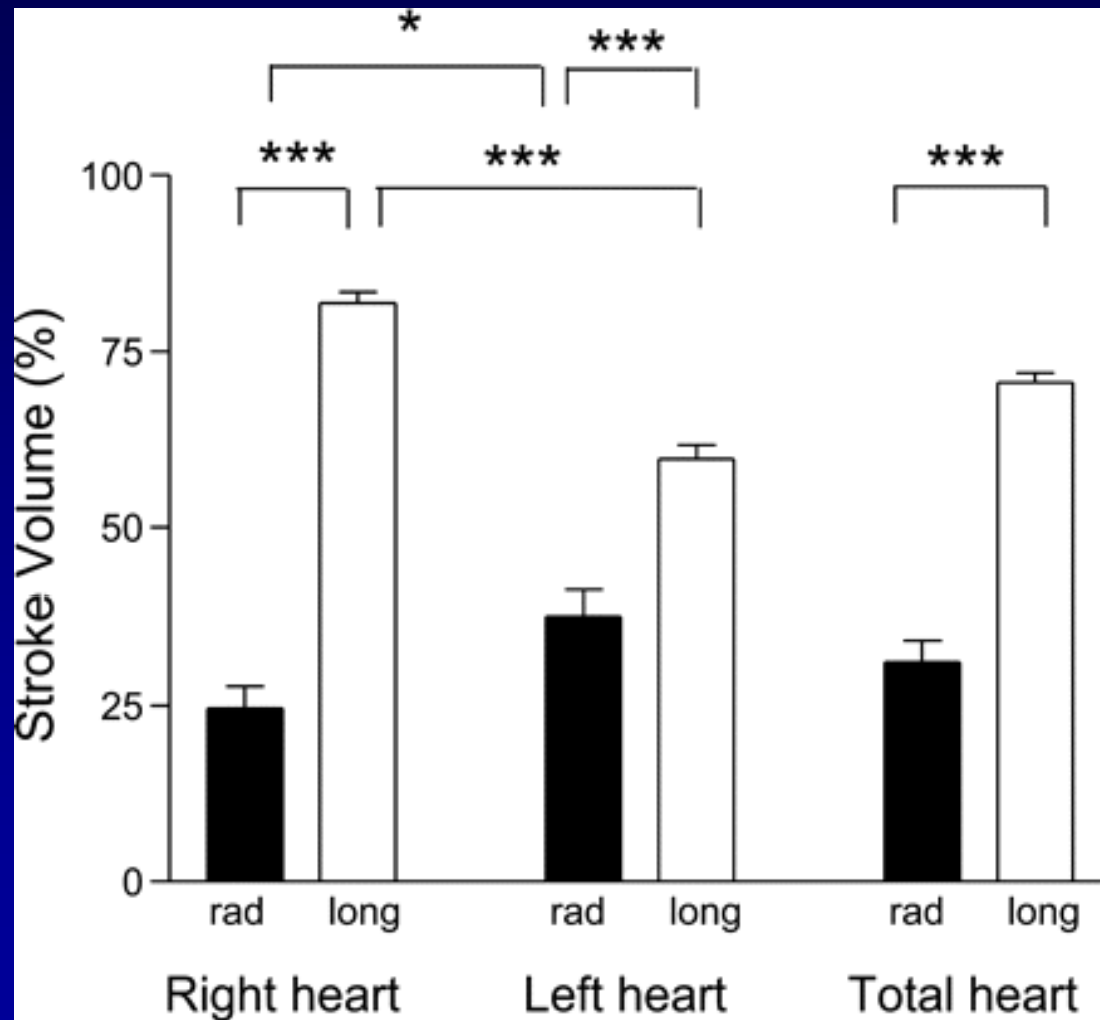
# Importance of AV plane displacement- long axis function

Epicardial contours of the left and right ventricle (LV, RV) during the cardiac cycle



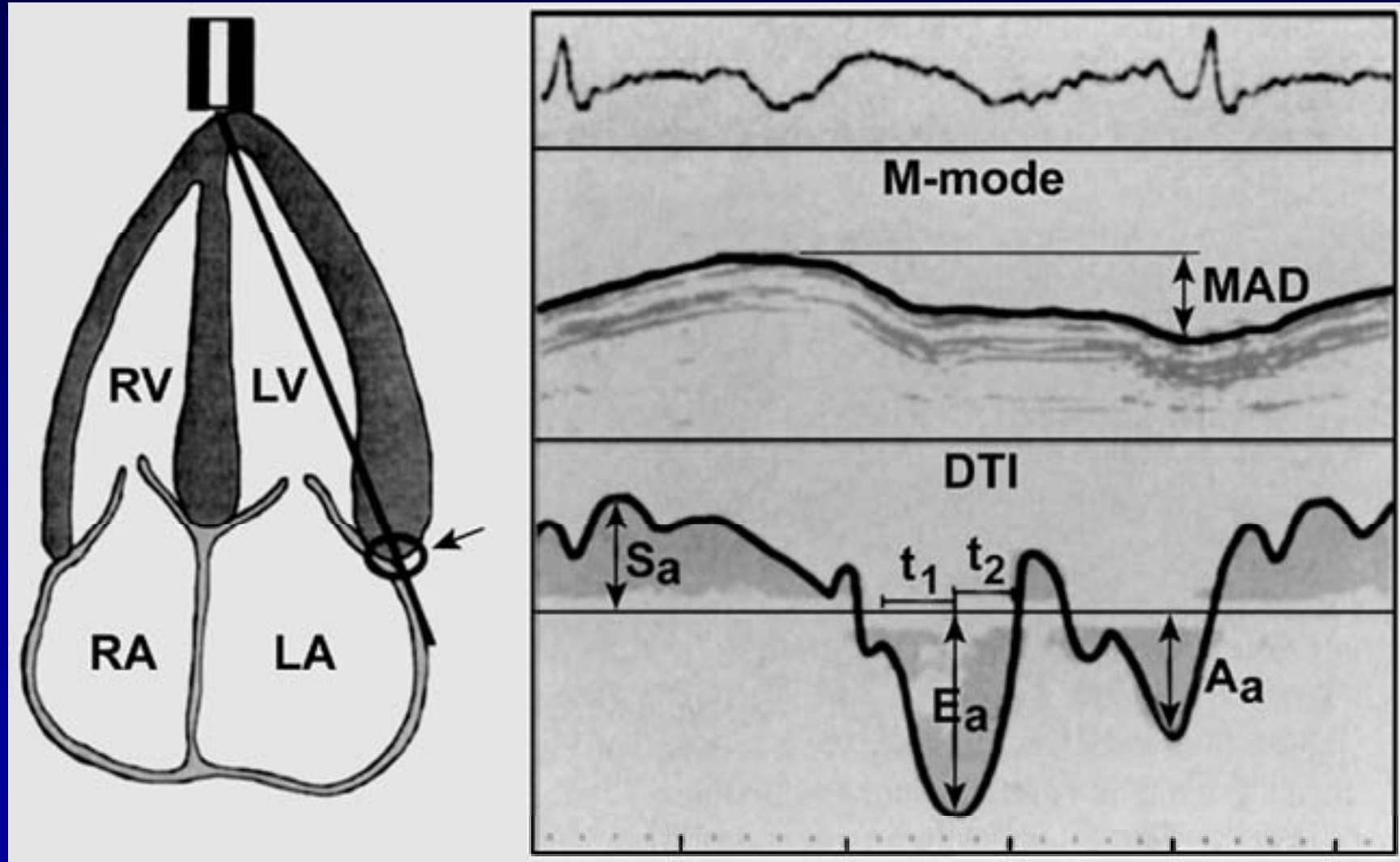
Cardiac MR Group, Lund

# Importance of longitudinal ventricular function.

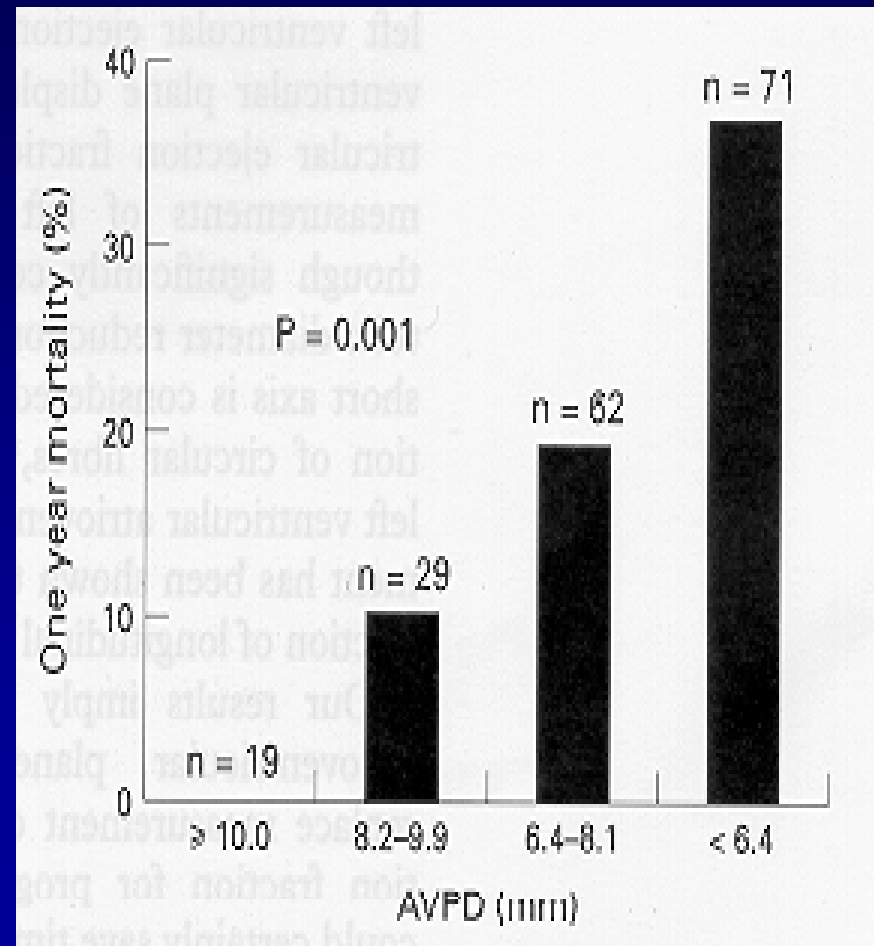
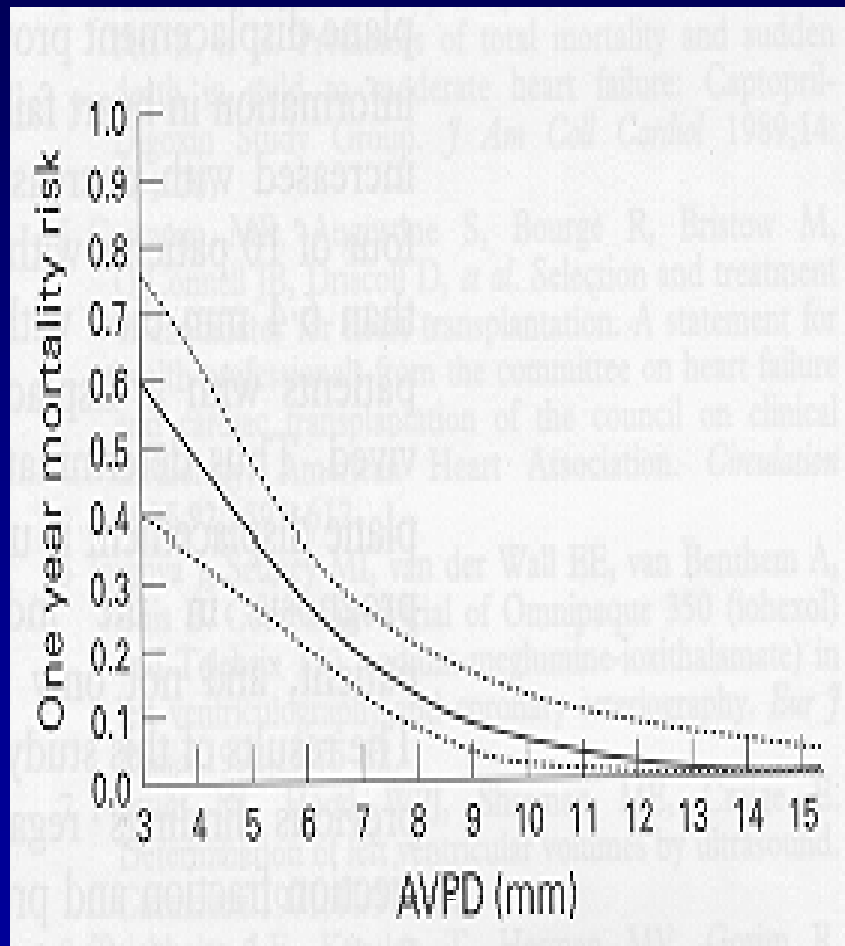


Carlsson, M. et al. Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 2007;293: H636-H644

# Mitral Annular Velocity Tissue Doppler



# Long Axis in heart failure-mortality



$$EF (\%) = (AVPD (\text{mm}) \times 5.5) - 5$$

(Willenheimer et al Heart 1997;78:230-236)

## Ventricular long-axis function is of major importance for long-term survival in patients with heart failure

B Grüner Sveälv, E L Olofsson and B Andersson

*Heart* 2008;94;284-289; originally published online 17 Jun 2007;  
doi:10.1136/hrt.2006.106294

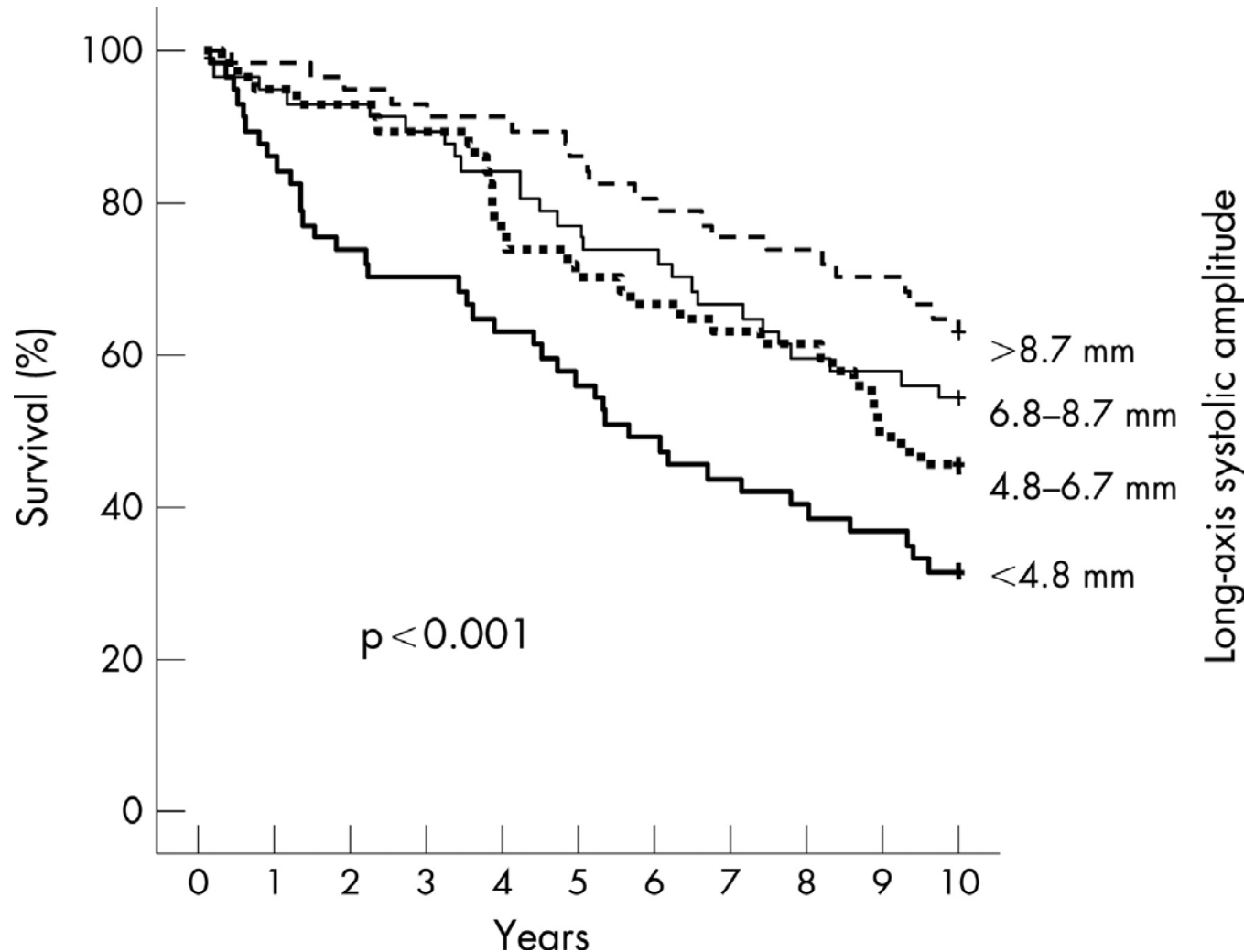
**Table 2** Predictors of 10-year mortality in 228 patients with chronic heart failure

Predictors	Univariate association		Multivariate association	
	p Value	HR (95% CI)	p Value	HR (95% CI)
Gender	0.20	0.76 (0.50 to 1.16)	0.32	
Age	0.55	0.99 (0.97 to 1.01)	0.53	
Heart rate (bpm)	0.42	1.02 (0.97 to 1.08)	0.51	
SBP (mm Hg)	0.002	0.93 (0.89 to 0.98)	0.21	
LA (mm)	0.001	1.22 (1.08 to 1.36)	0.30	
LVEDD (mm)	<0.001	1.30 (1.20 to 1.42)	0.06	
SAX FS (%), n = 199	<0.001	0.72 (0.65 to 0.81)	0.16	
LVLAX syst ampl (mm)	<0.001	0.83 (0.77 to 0.89)	0.024	0.80 (0.66 to 0.97)
LVLAX syst vel (cm/s)	<0.001	0.71 (0.60 to 0.83)	0.12	
LVLAX EDFV (cm/s)	0.014	0.88 (0.79 to 0.97)	0.30	
RV LAX syst ampl (mm)	<0.001	0.93 (0.89 to 0.97)	0.60	
RV LAX syst vel (cm/s), n = 206	0.007	0.90 (0.84 to 0.97)	0.24	
RV LAX EDFV (cm/s)	0.001	0.88 (0.81 to 0.94)	0.09	

Univariate and multivariate Cox regression analysis of 10 years' mortality. Calculations were performed on continuous data. Changes of five units were used for age, heart rate, systolic blood pressure, left atrial dimension, left ventricular end-diastolic dimension, and short-axis fractional shortening. Remaining variables have low numeric value and changes are expressed for one unit.

EDFV, early diastolic filling velocity; LA, left atrium; LVEDD, left ventricular end-diastolic dimension; LVLAX, left ventricular long axis; RV LAX, right ventricular long axis; SAX FS, short-axis fractional shortening; SBP, systolic blood pressure.

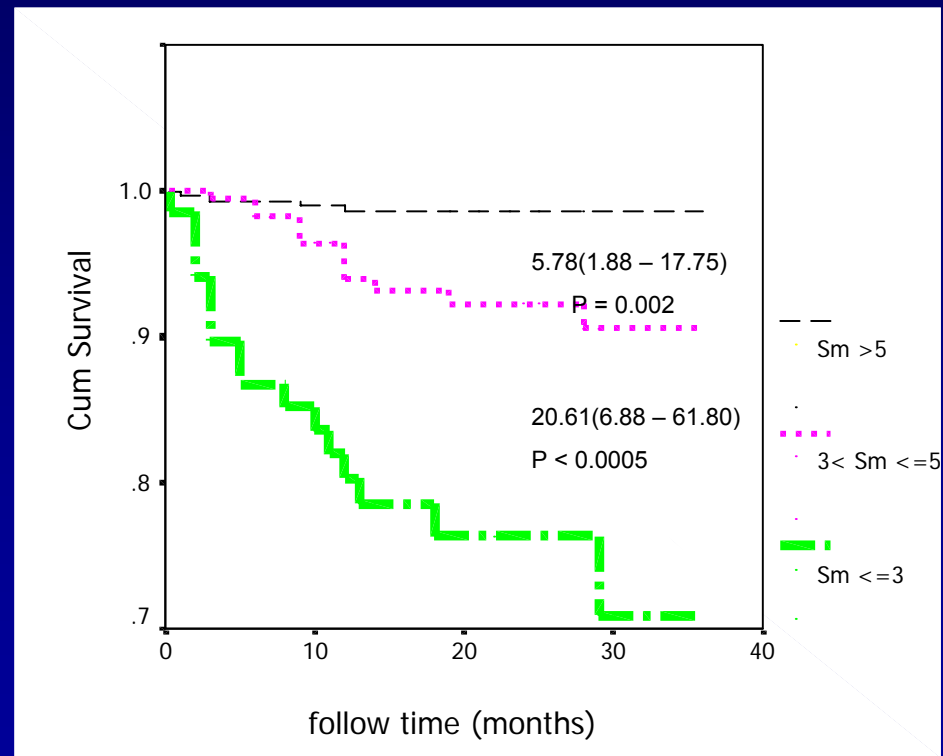
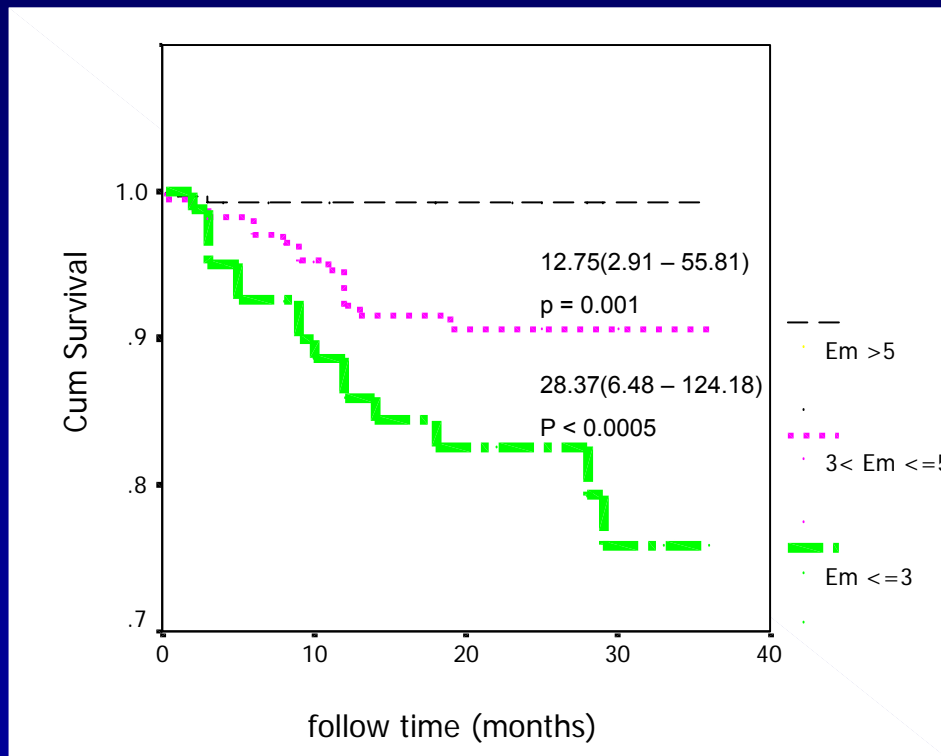
**Figure 1 Survival curves are displayed for each quartile of left ventricular long-axis systolic amplitude. There was an overall difference between the curves as assessed by the log-rank test (p8.7 mm. Q3 vs Q4, hazard ratio (HR) = 0.72 (95% confidence interval 0.41 to 1.29), p = 0.27. Q2 vs Q4, HR = 0.76 (0.57 to 0.99), p = 0.049. Q1 vs Q4, HR = 0.72 (0.60 to 0.86), p**



# Mitral annular velocities by TDI in systole (Sm) and early diastole (Em) are Important Predictors of Mortality in CVS Disease.

Em

Sm



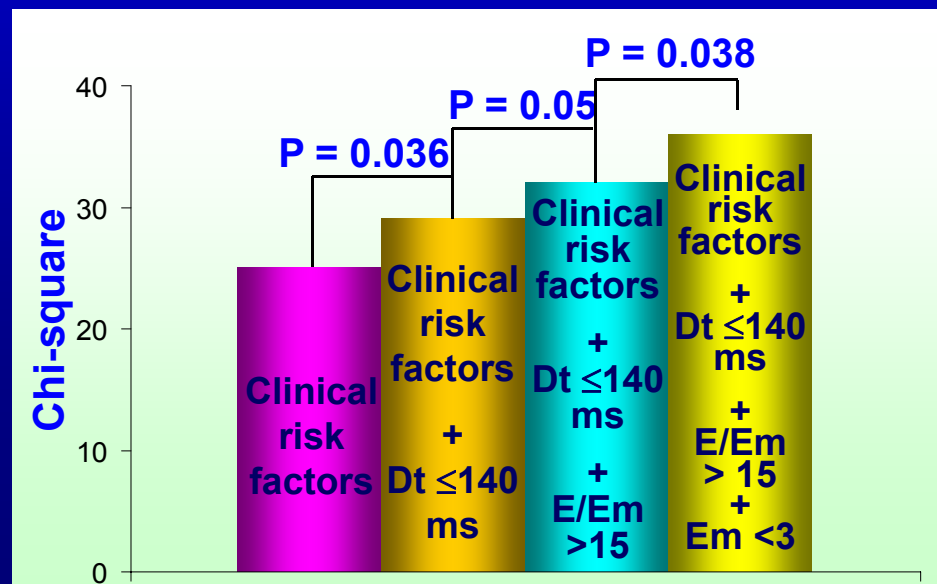
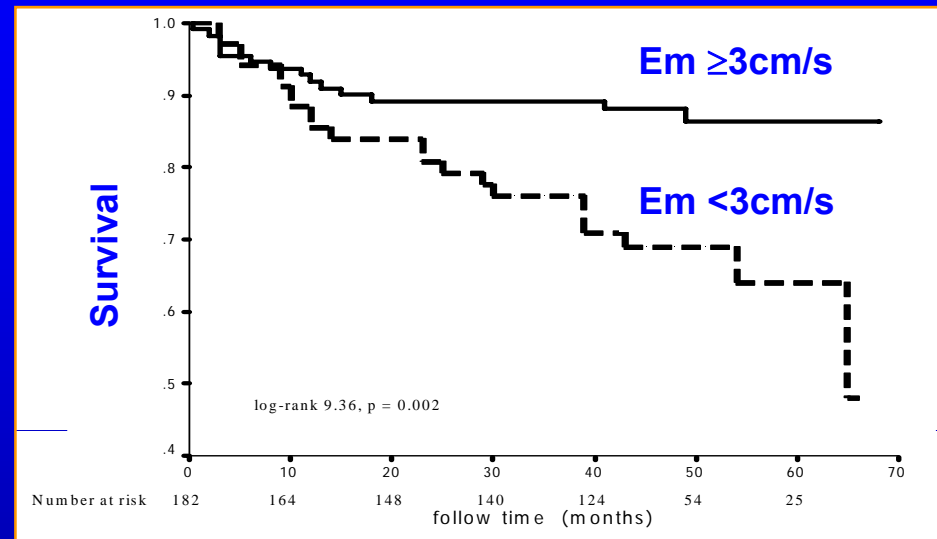
# Incremental Predictive Value of Em & E/Em in Heart Failure -

*Wang M, et al, JACC 2005;45:272-7.*

- 182 CHF pts with EF <50%
- Median F.U. : 48 months
- End-point : Cardiac mortality

## Results :

- Em independently predicted cardiac mortality (RR = 0.61; CI = 0.45-0.82)
- Em < 3cm/s predicted mortality
- Incremental prognostic value by E/Em >15

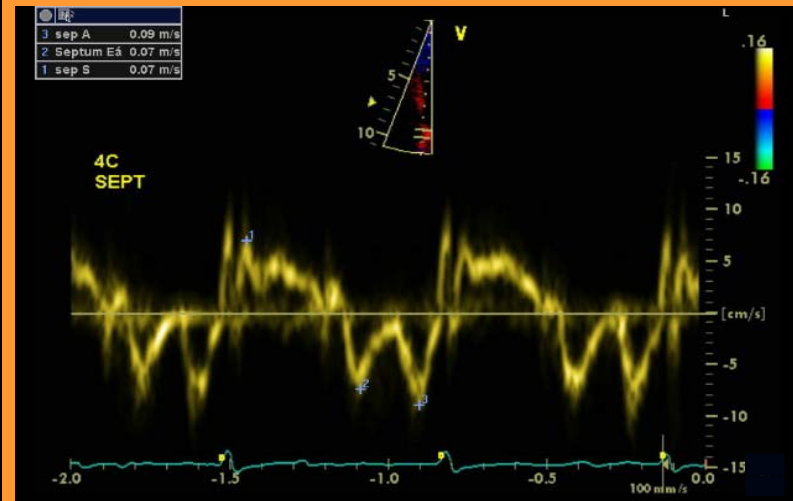
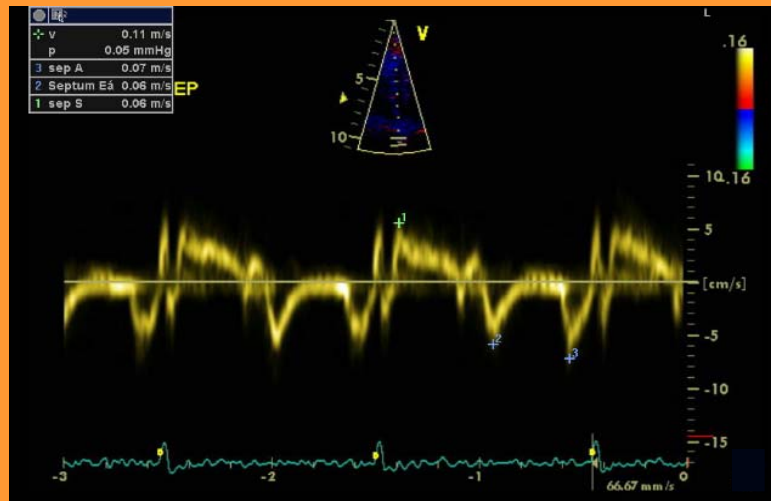


# Longitudinal Functional Reserve Index (LFR Index)

Patient, ♀ 77 years

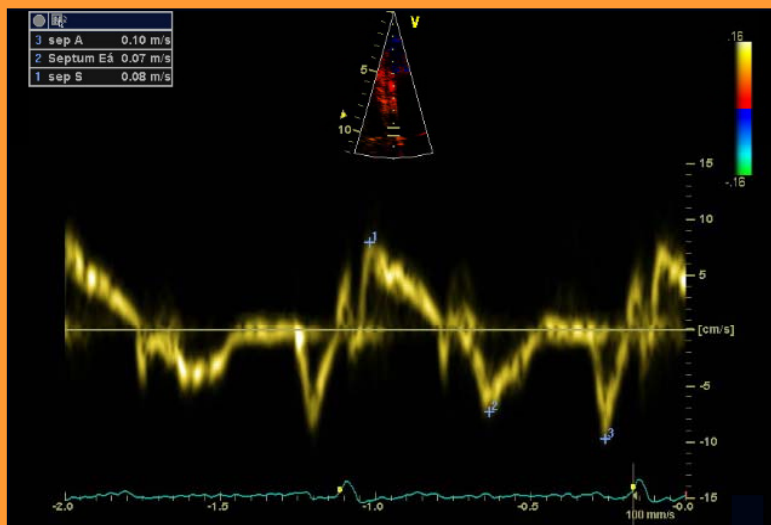
Control, ♀ 72 years

Rest



Rest

Exercise



Exercise

$$\text{Diastolic (Systolic) LFR Index} = \Delta E_m \text{ (or } S_m) * (1 - 1/E_m \text{ (or } S_m) \text{ at rest) *}$$

\*(Ha et al., Heart 2007)

# Longitudinal Functional Reserve Index (LFR Index)

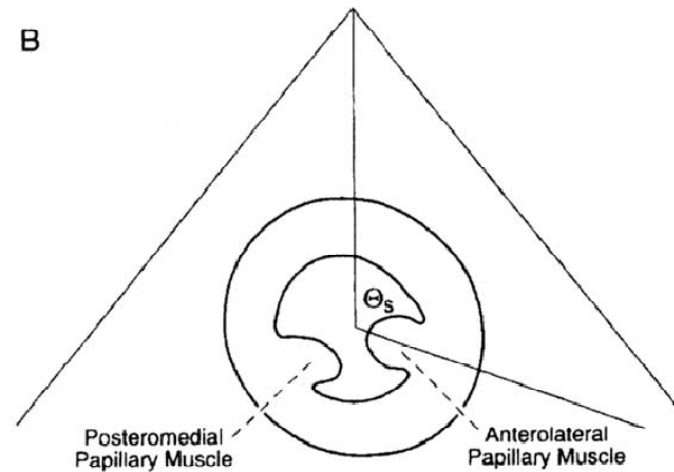
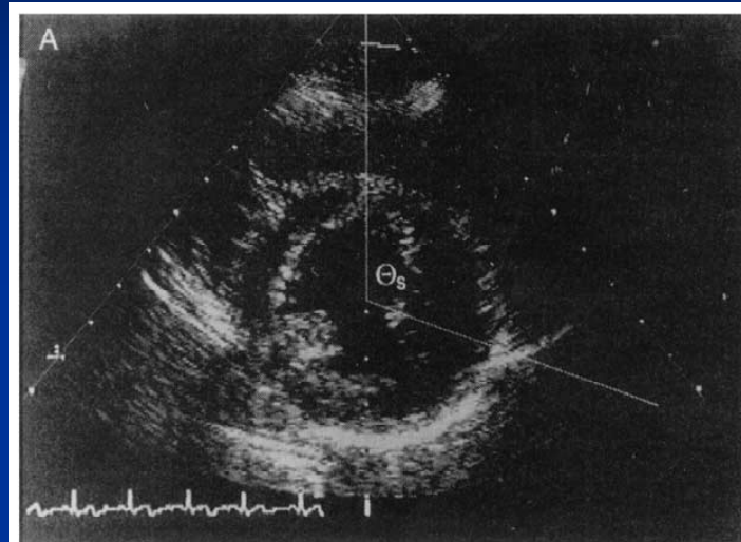
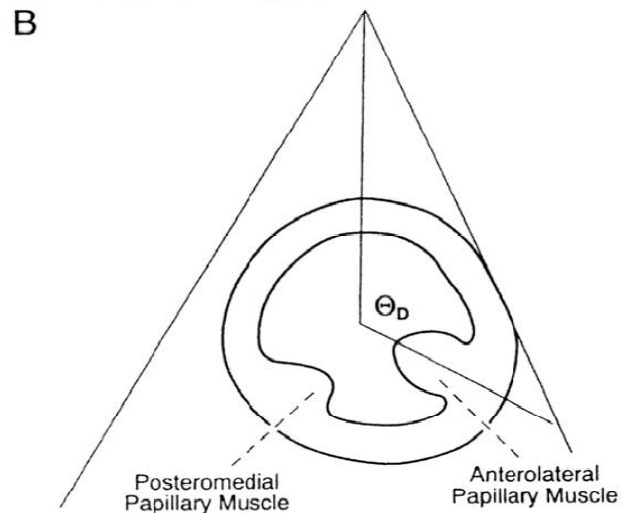
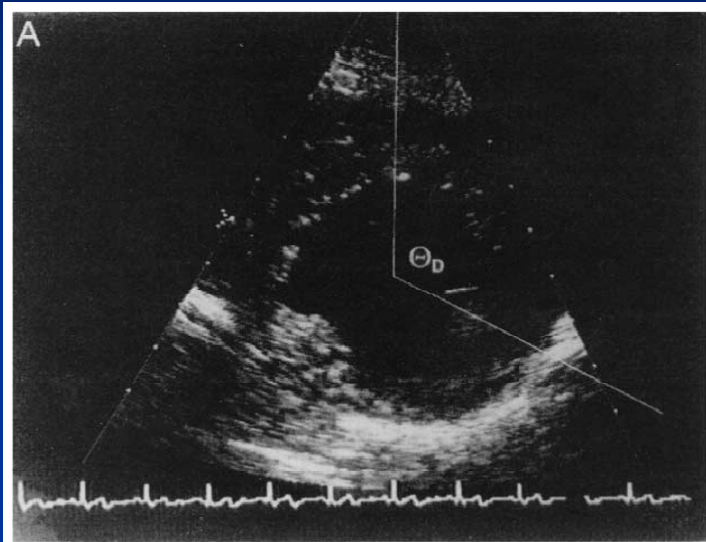
Echo Results	Patients (n=39)	Controls (n=21)
Em at Rest (cm/s)	7.9±4.2	7.9±2.1
Em at Exercise (cm/s)	9.9±2.3 p=0.000	12.5±2.6
Sm at Rest (cm/s)	7.9±1.6	8.0±1.5
Sm at Exercise (cm/s)	8.9±1.9 p=0.003	10.6±2.2
Diastolic LFR Index (cm/s)	2.0±1.5 p=0.001	3.9±2.4
Systolic LFR Index (cm/s)	0.9±1.5 p=0.001	2.3±1.5

# Quantification of Torsion

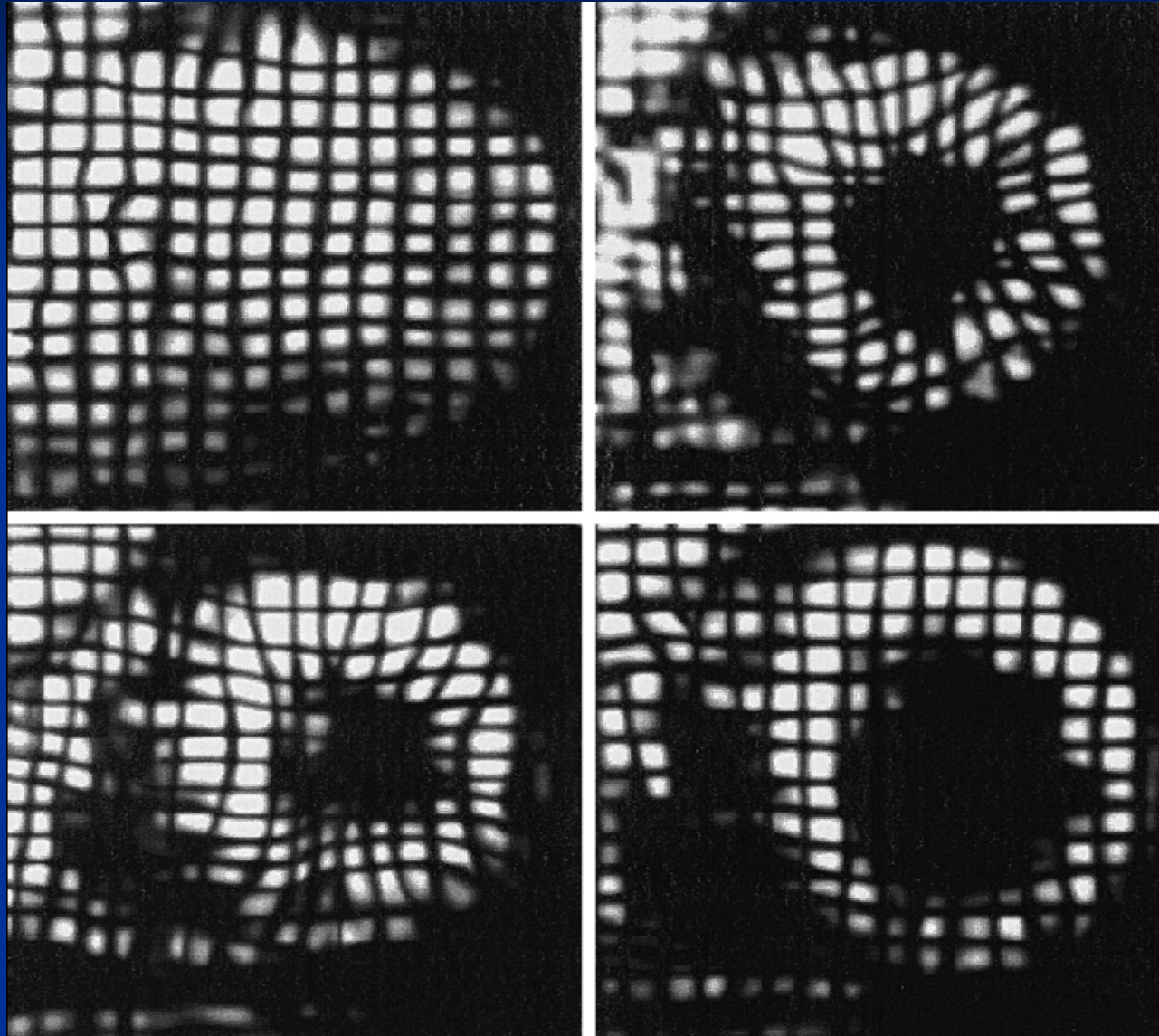
- Cineangiography of radio-opaque markers/sonomicrometry
- 2 D Echocardiography
- Magnetic resonance imaging
- Tissue Doppler Imaging
- 2-dimensional (2D) echocardiography – speckle tracking

# Simple 2D Echocardiography

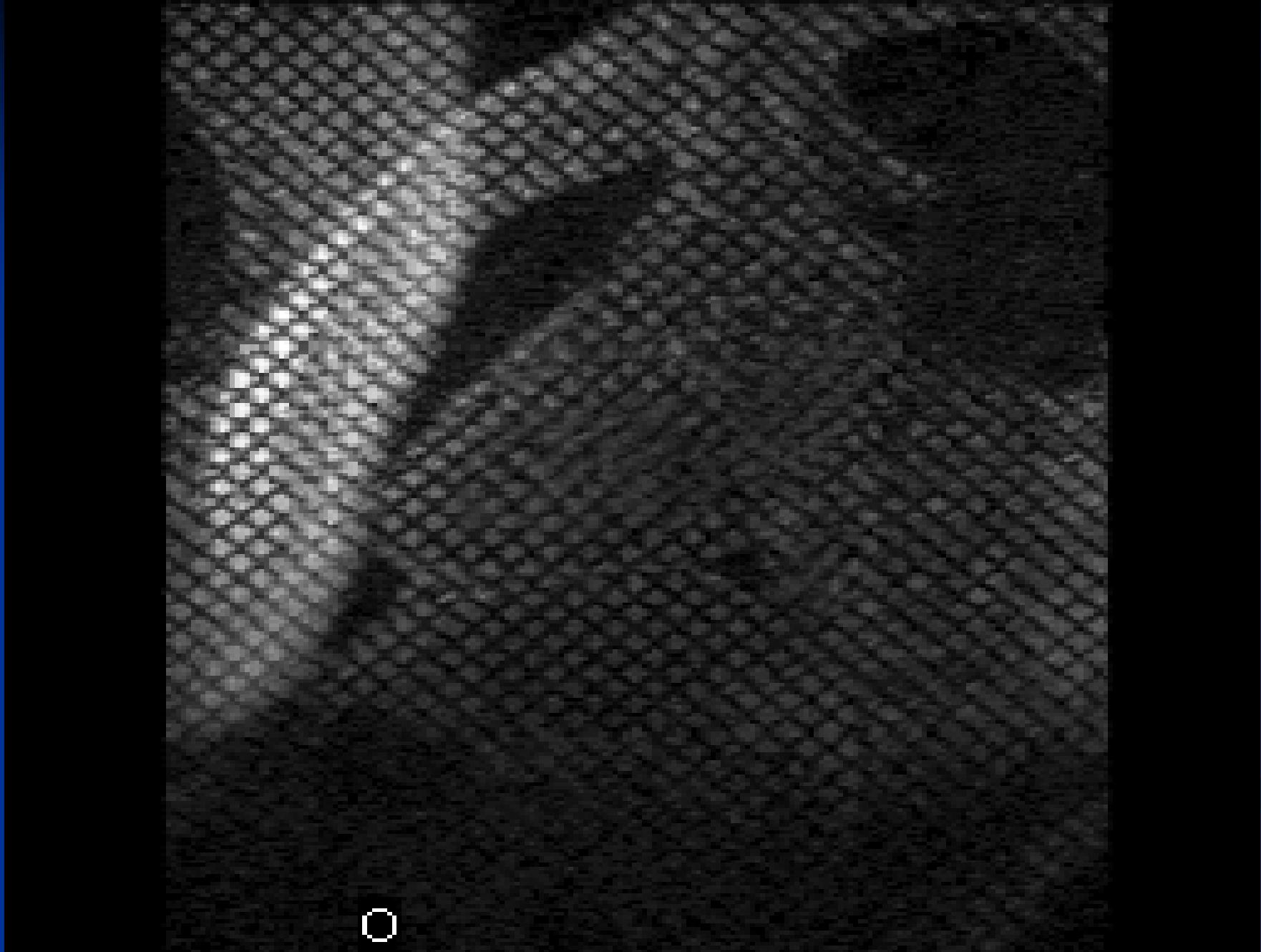
Tischler et al Am Soc J Echo 2003



# MRI Tagging

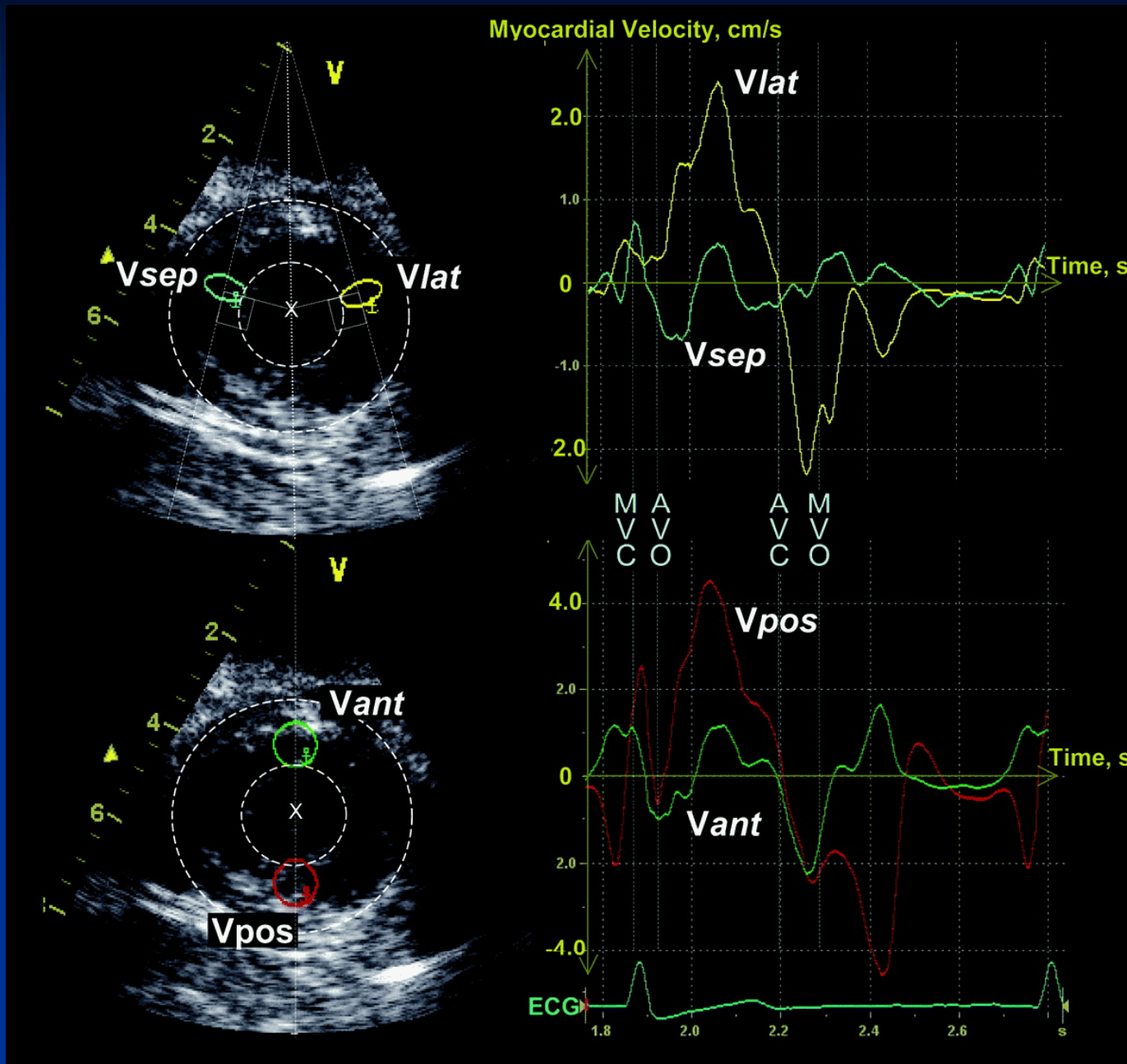




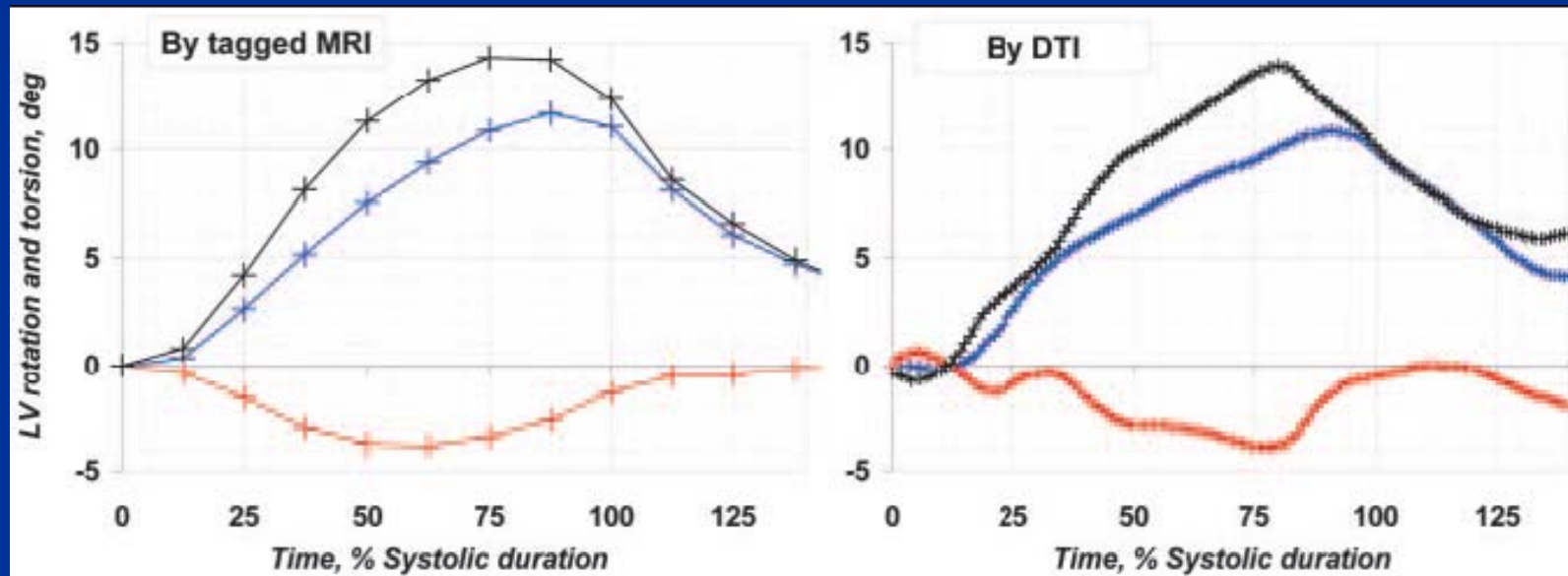


# Twisting and Untwisting by TDI

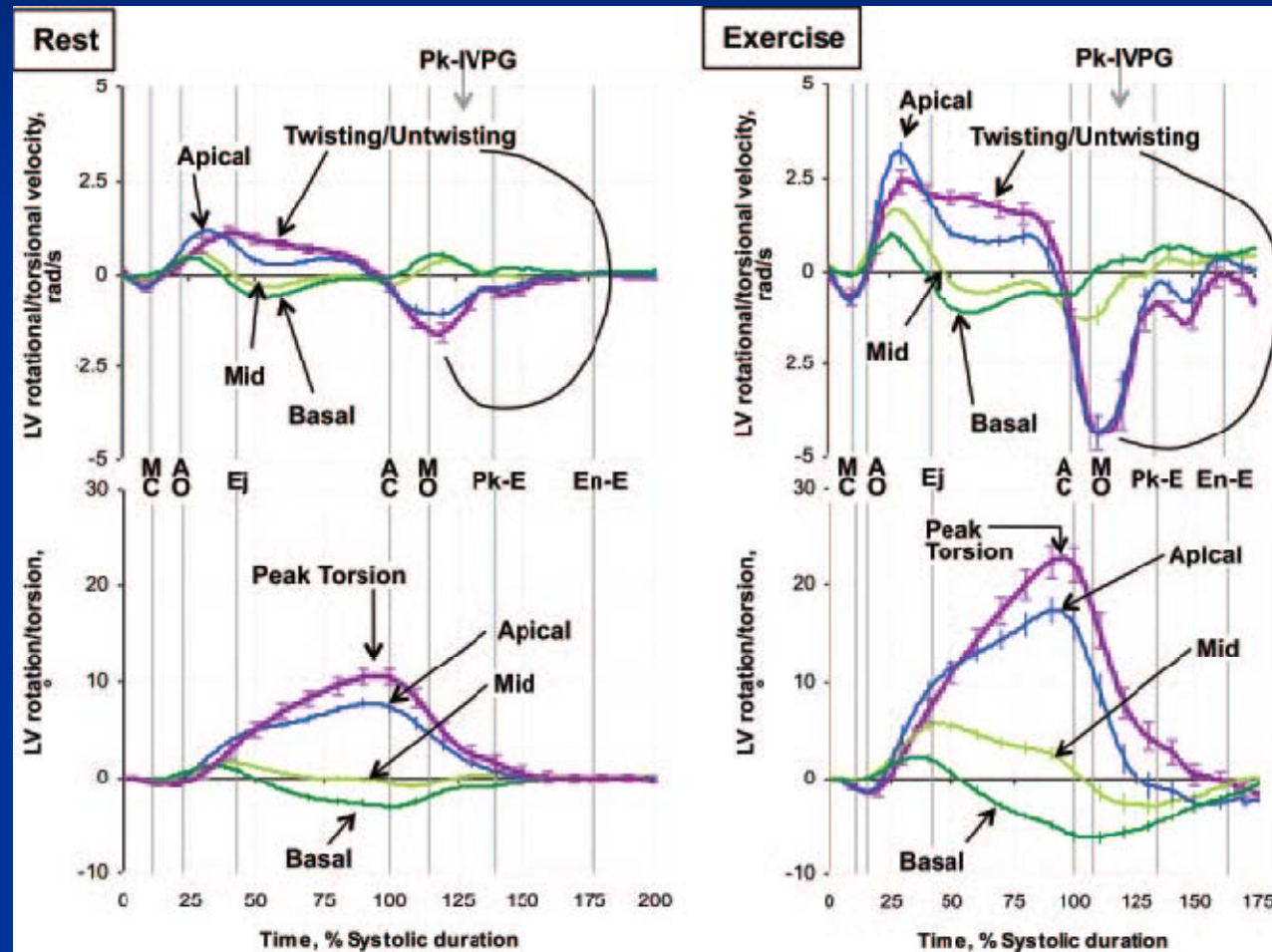
Notomi et al  
Circulation  
2006;113;2524

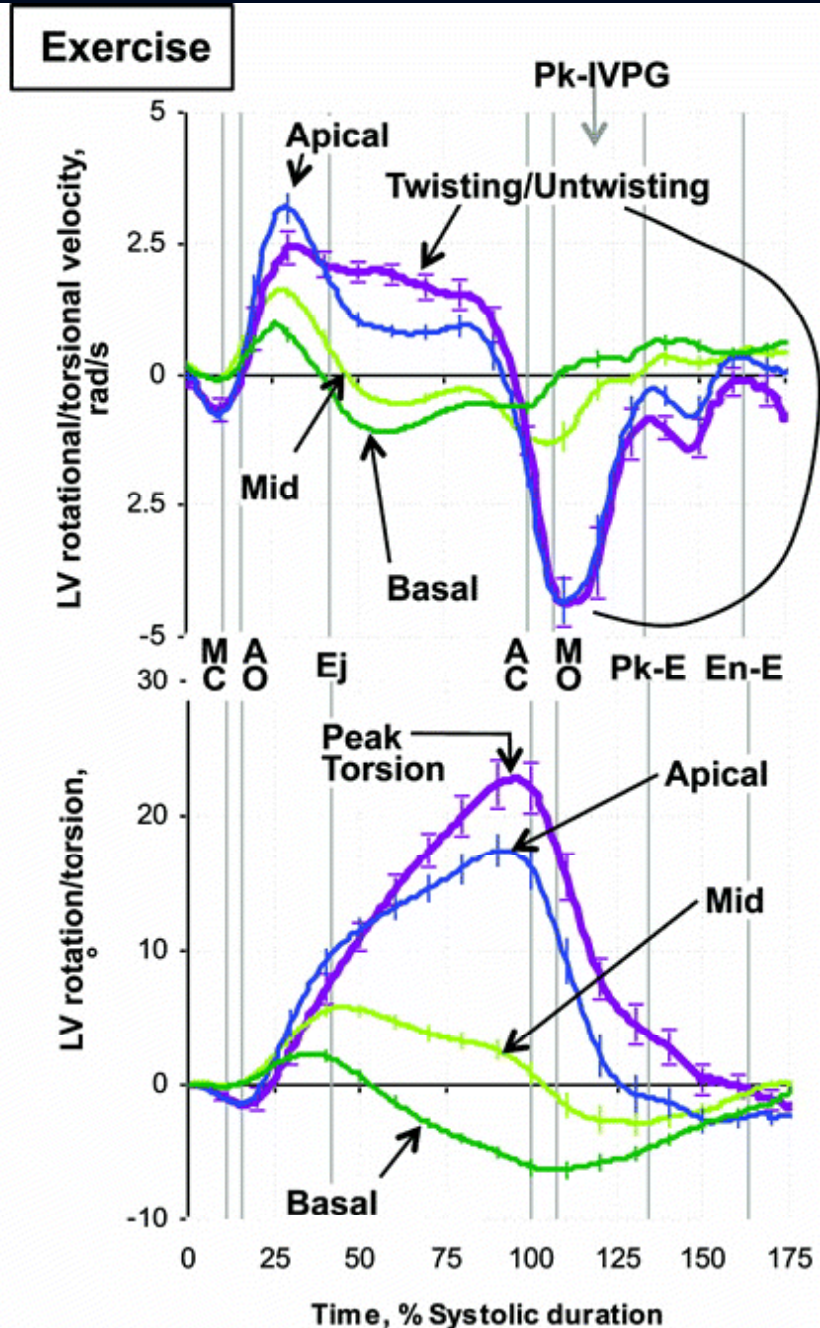
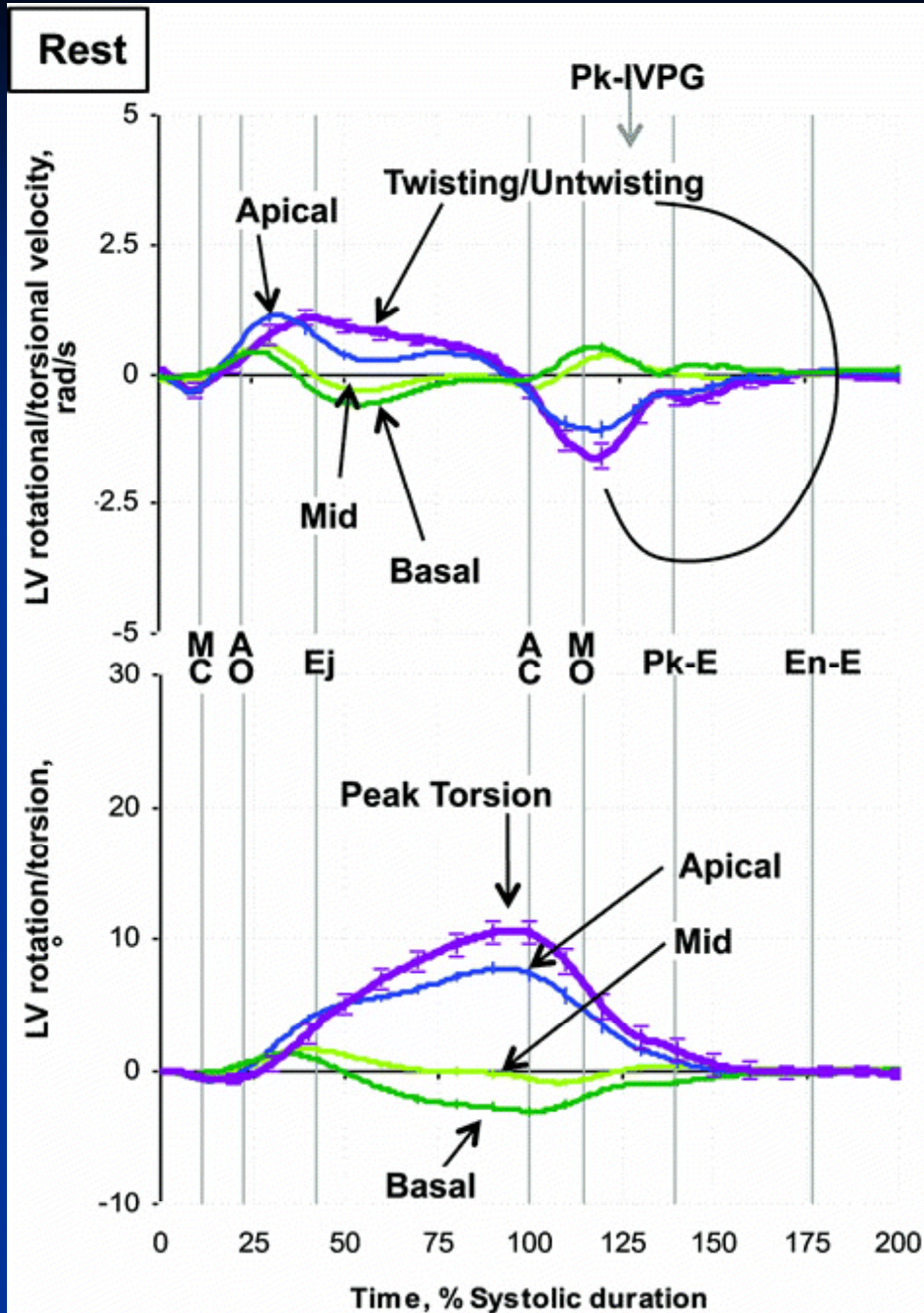


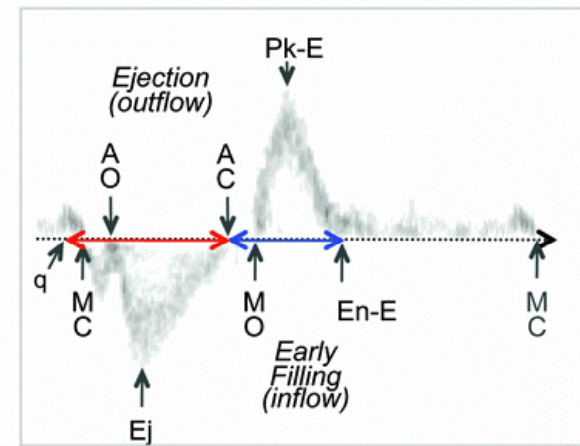
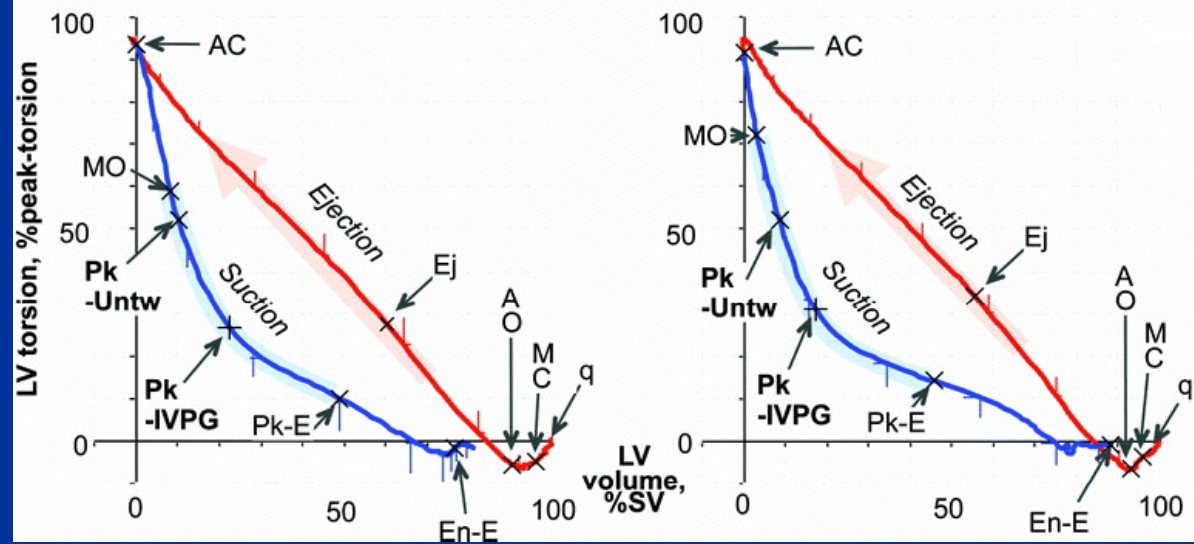
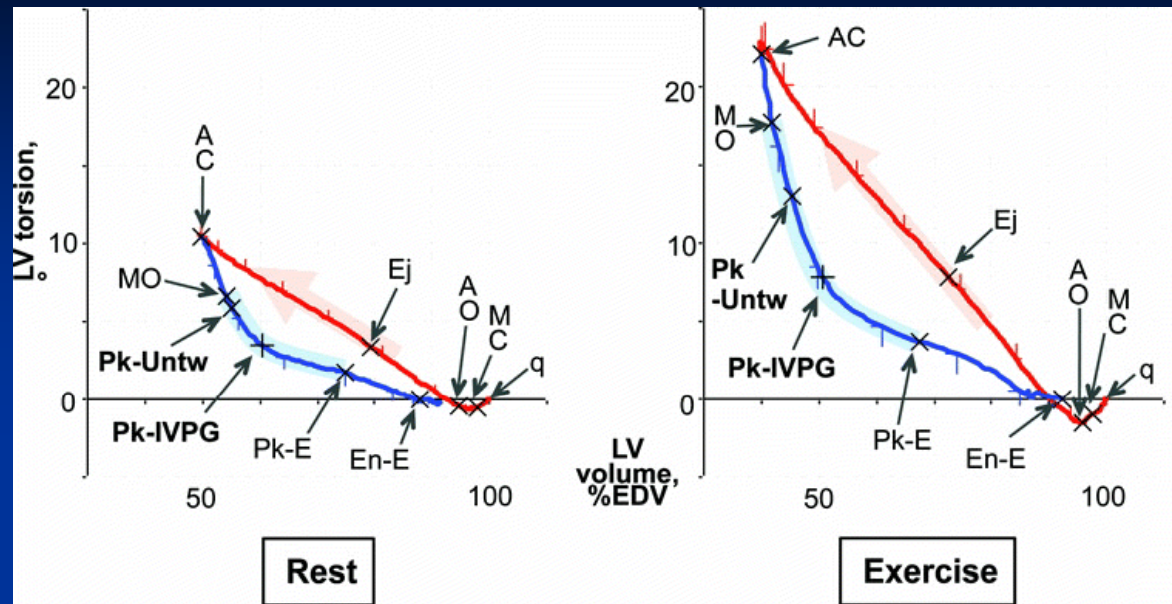
Assessment of Left Ventricular Torsional Deformation by  
Doppler Tissue Imaging  
Validation Study With Tagged Magnetic Resonance Imaging  
Notomi Y et al Circ 2005



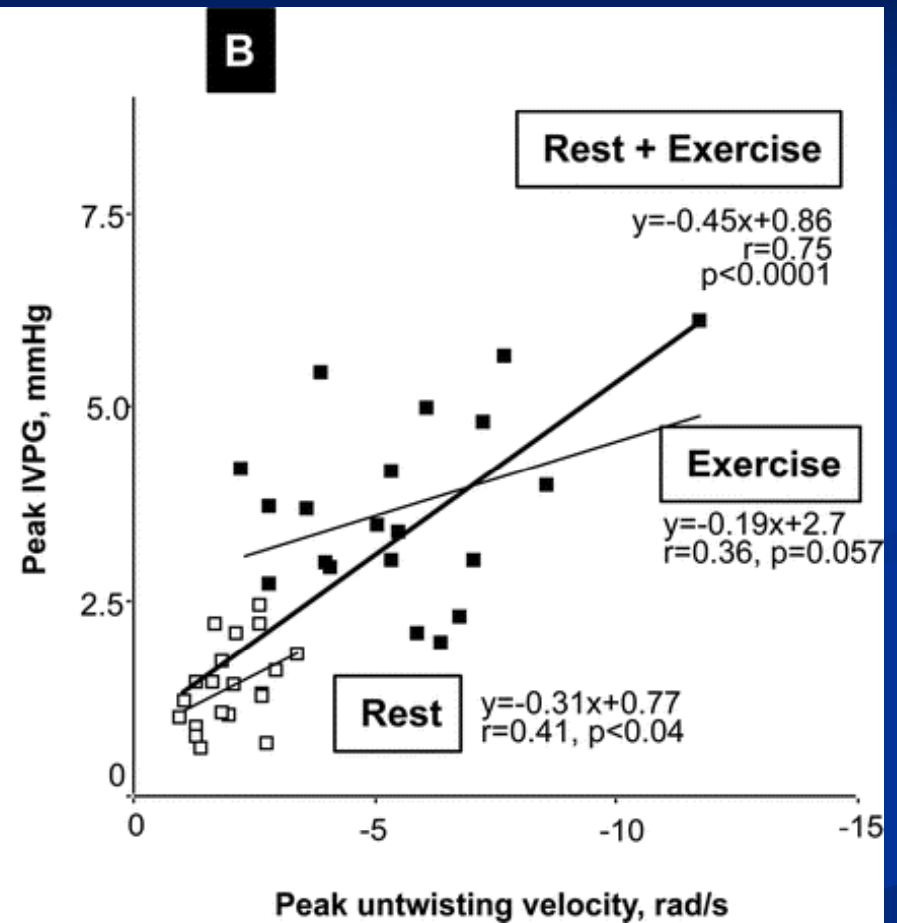
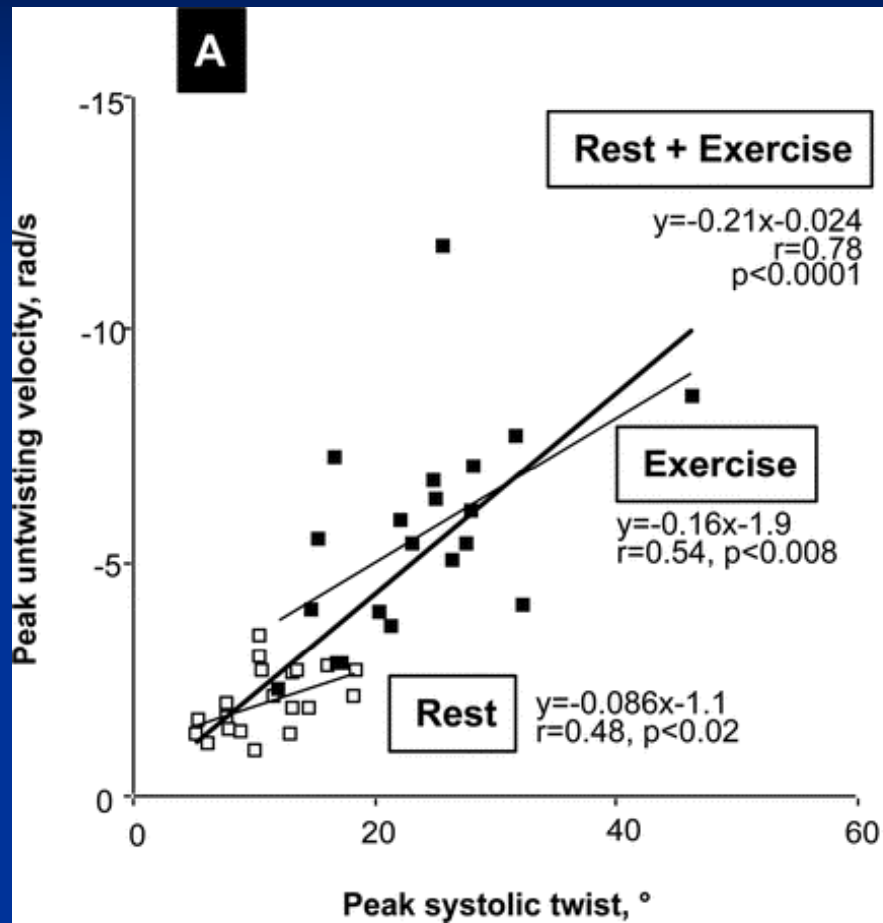
# Enhanced Ventricular Untwisting During Exercise A Mechanistic Manifestation of Elastic Recoil Described by Doppler Tissue Imaging Notomi Y et al Circ 2006







Normal subjects

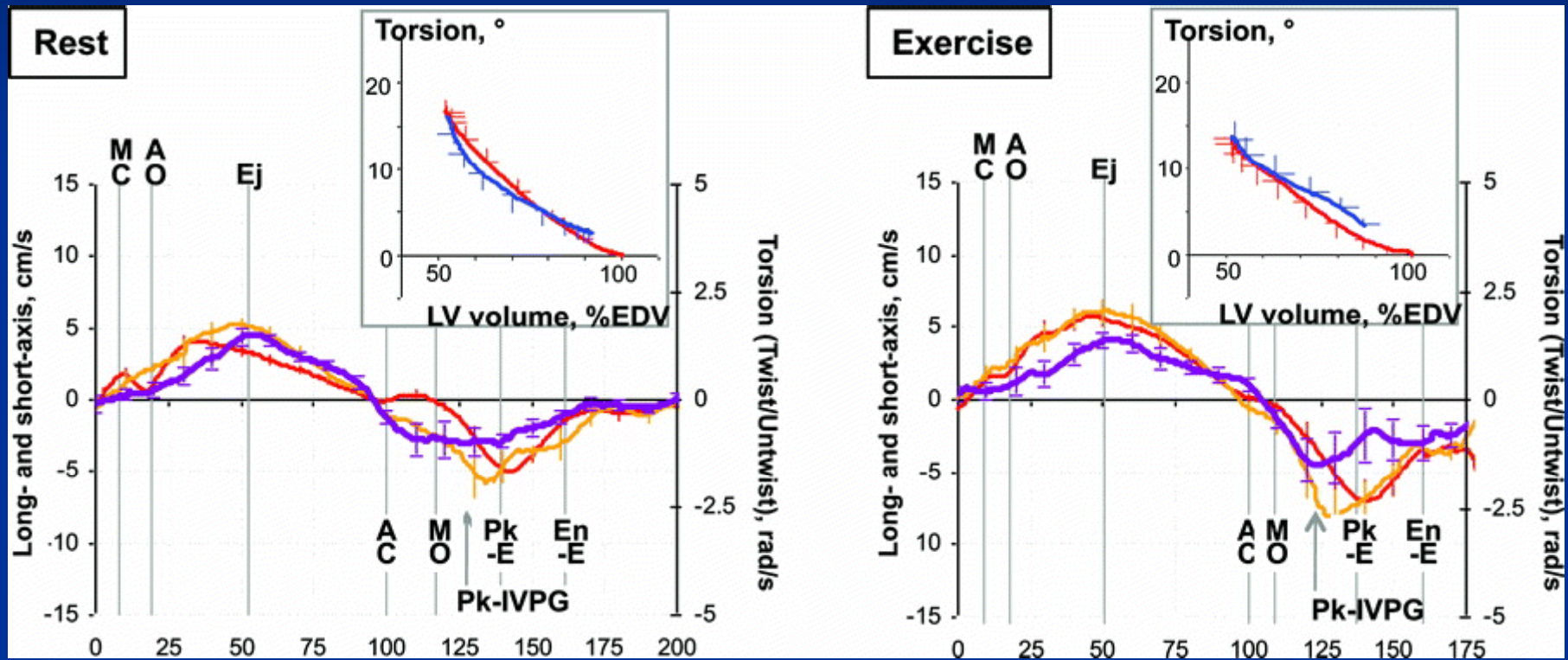


**TABLE 2. Correlation Between LV Untwisting Velocity and Diastolic Function Indices**

	Rest		Exercise		Rest + Exercise	
	<i>r</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>P</i>
Peak untwisting velocity versus:						
Early diastolic peak velocity	0.31	0.092	0.23	0.170	0.59	<0.0001
Time to early diastolic peak velocity	0.31	0.090	0.16	0.170	0.73	<0.0001
Acceleration velocity	0.43	0.029	0.30	0.096	0.66	<0.0001
Long-axis peak early-diastolic velocity	0.42	0.032	0.55	0.011	0.69	<0.0001
Short-axis peak early-diastolic velocity	0.01	0.476	0.09	0.353	0.54	0.0002

Notomi et al Circulation 2006;113:2524-2533

# HCM patients (n=7)



## Ventricular untwisting: a temporal link between left ventricular relaxation and suction

**Yuichi Notomi, Zoran B. Popović, Hirotsugu Yamada, Don W. Wallick, Maureen G. Martin, Stephanie J. Orszak, Takahiro Shiota, Neil L. Greenberg, and James D. Thomas**

*Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio*

To understand the interaction between LV mechanics and inflow during early diastole, Doppler tissue images (DTI) and catheter-derived pressures (apical and basal LV, left atrial, and aortic) and LV volume data were obtained at baseline, during varying pacing modes, and during dobutamine and esmolol infusion in 7 closed-chest anesthetized dogs. LV torsion and torsional rate profiles were analyzed from DTI data sets (apical and basal short-axis images) with high temporal resolution ( $6.5 \pm 0.7$  ms).

**Table 4. Results of stepwise multiple regression analysis**

<b>Dependent Variables</b>	<b>Relaxation time constant (tau)</b>		<b>Intraventricular pressure gradient</b>	
	multiple r	0.66	0.57	
<b>Independent Variables</b>	partial r	(p-value)	partial r	(p-value)
Heart Rate	-0.35	(0.005)	ns	(0.497)
Maximum dP/dt	ns	(0.953)	ns	(0.638)
Peak LVP	0.28	(0.025)	ns	(0.561)
Peak LV Torsion	ns	(0.259)	ns	(0.924)
Peak LV Untwisting velocity	-0.62	(<0.0001)	0.57	(<0.0001)
Relaxation time constant (tau)	<i>na</i>		ns	(0.116)

Partial r indicates partial regression coefficient. The corresponding p-value are showing in parentheses.

ns, no significance. Na, not available for comparison.

**Figure 1-a. Averaged left ventricular (LV) torsion and torsional velocity profile altered by electrical activation sequence.**

RV-p indicates right ventricle pacing; LVa-p, left ventricular apical pacing.

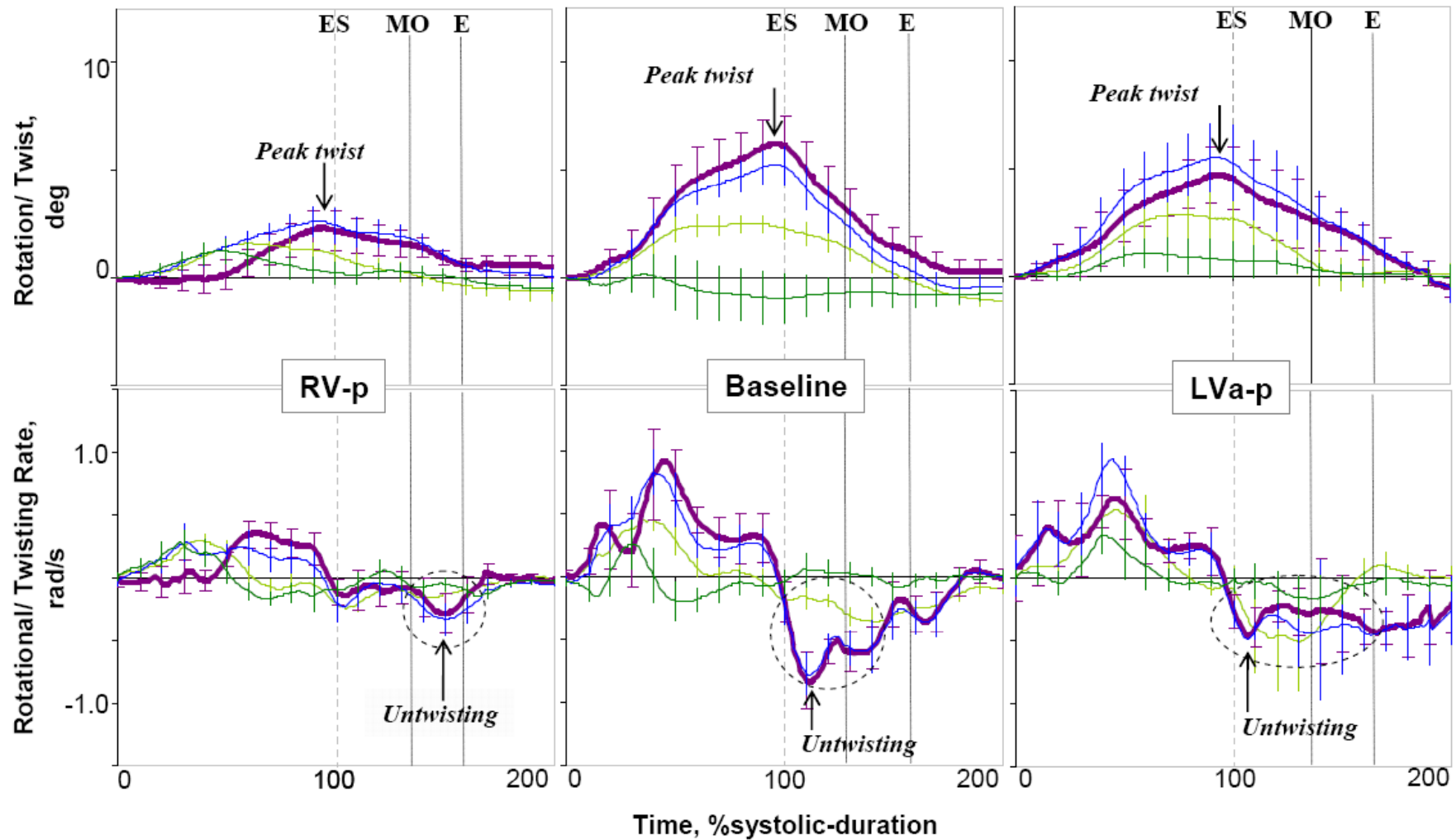
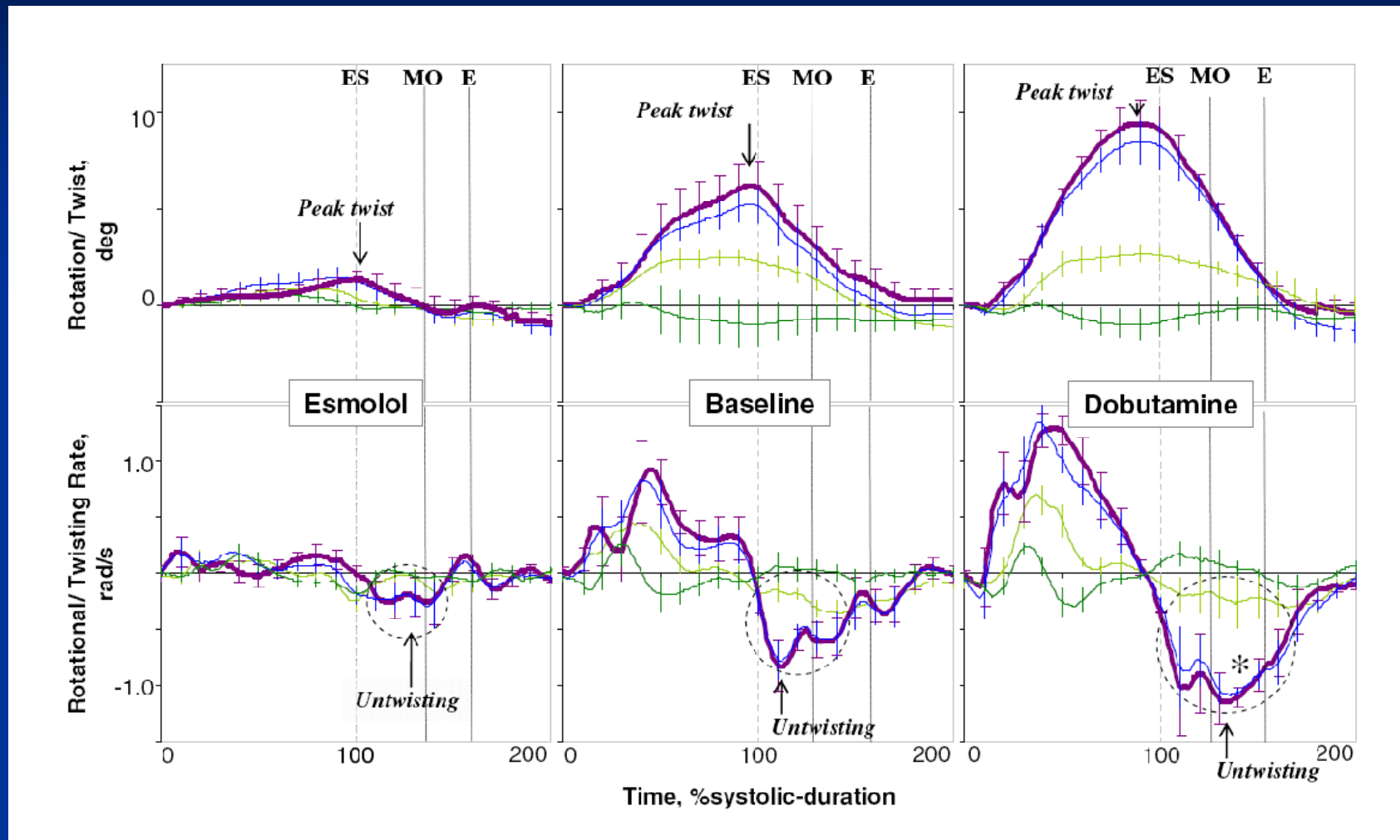
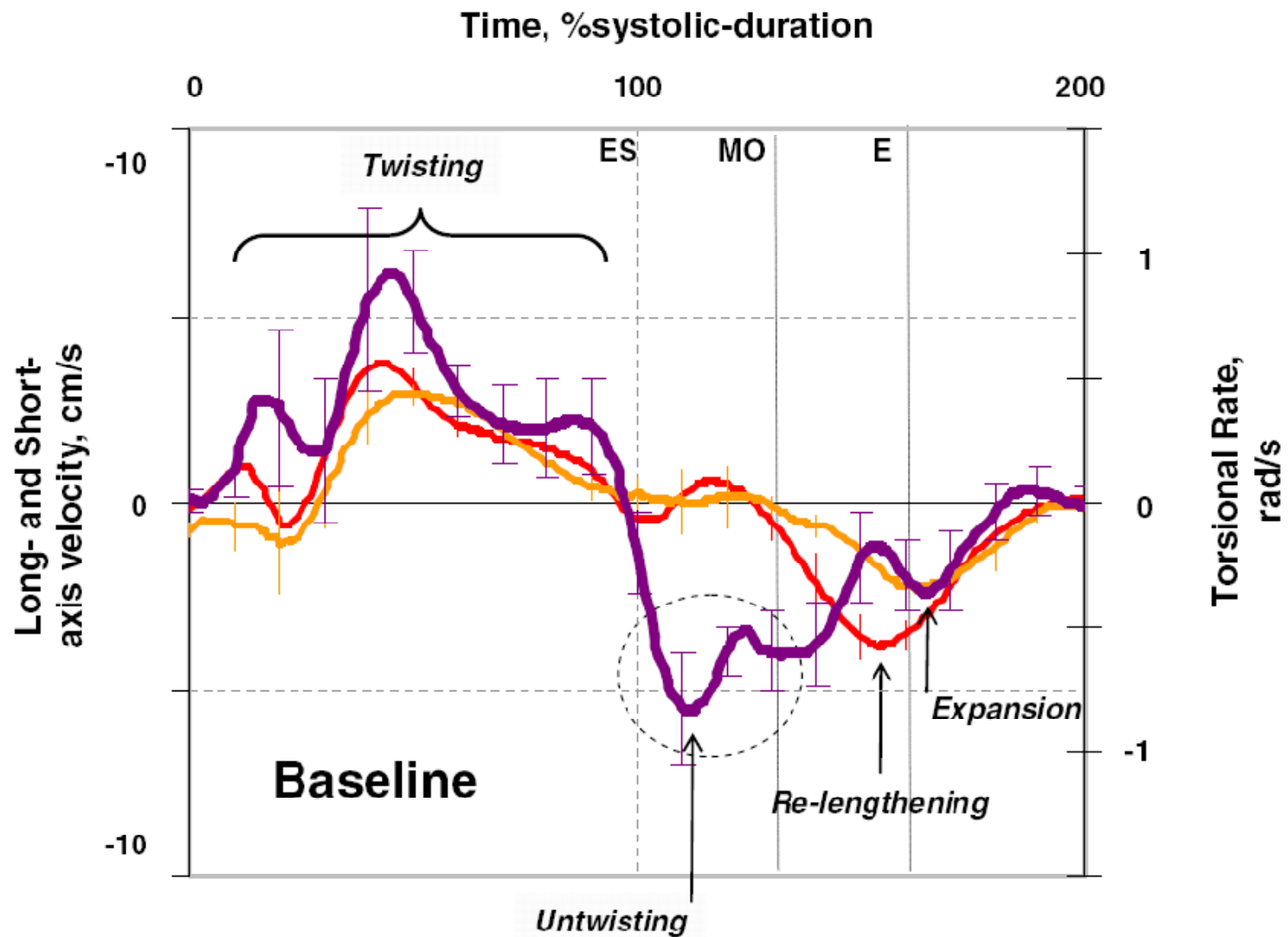
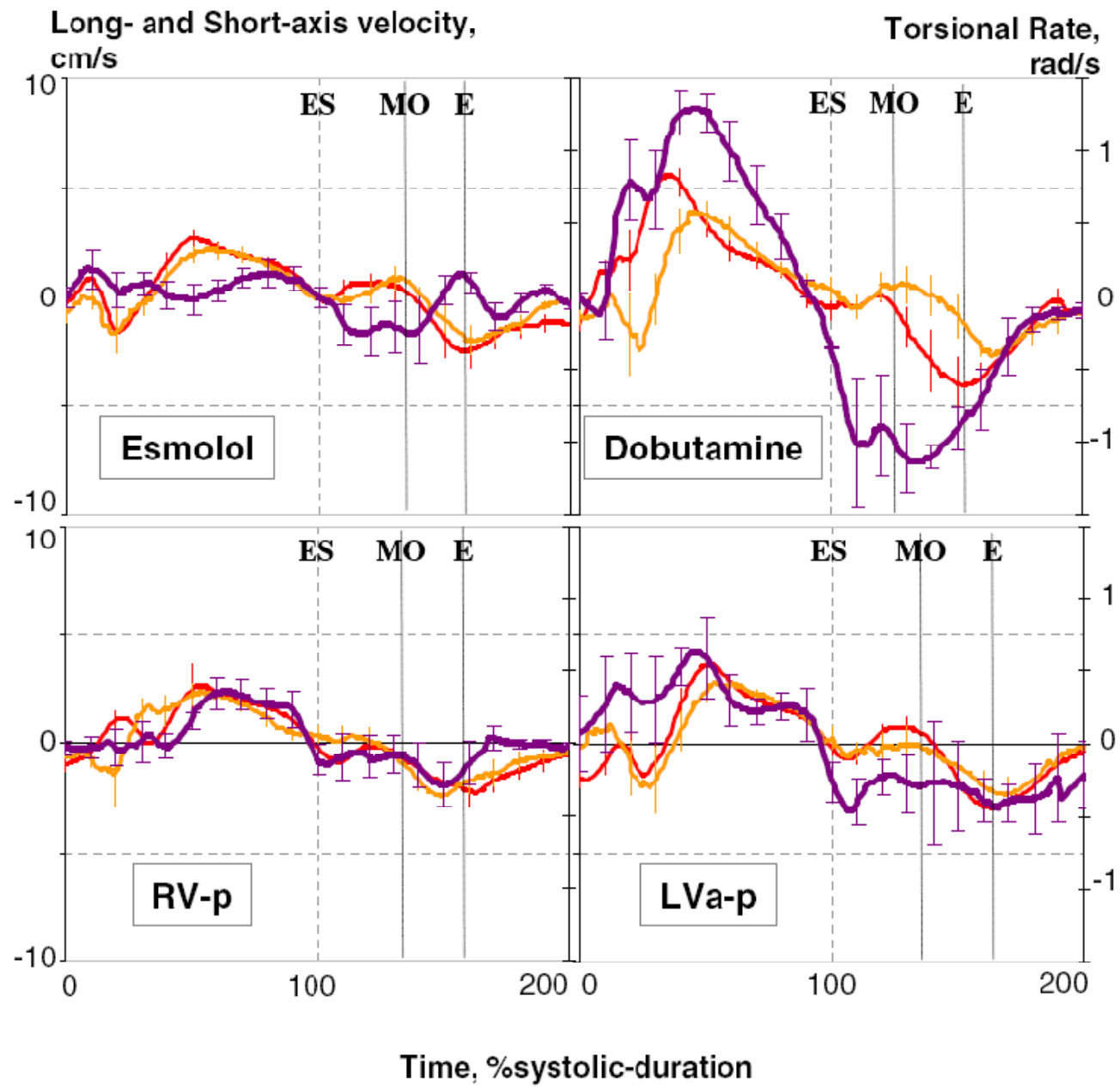


Figure 1-b. Averaged LV torsion and torsional velocity profile altered by inotropic manipulation.

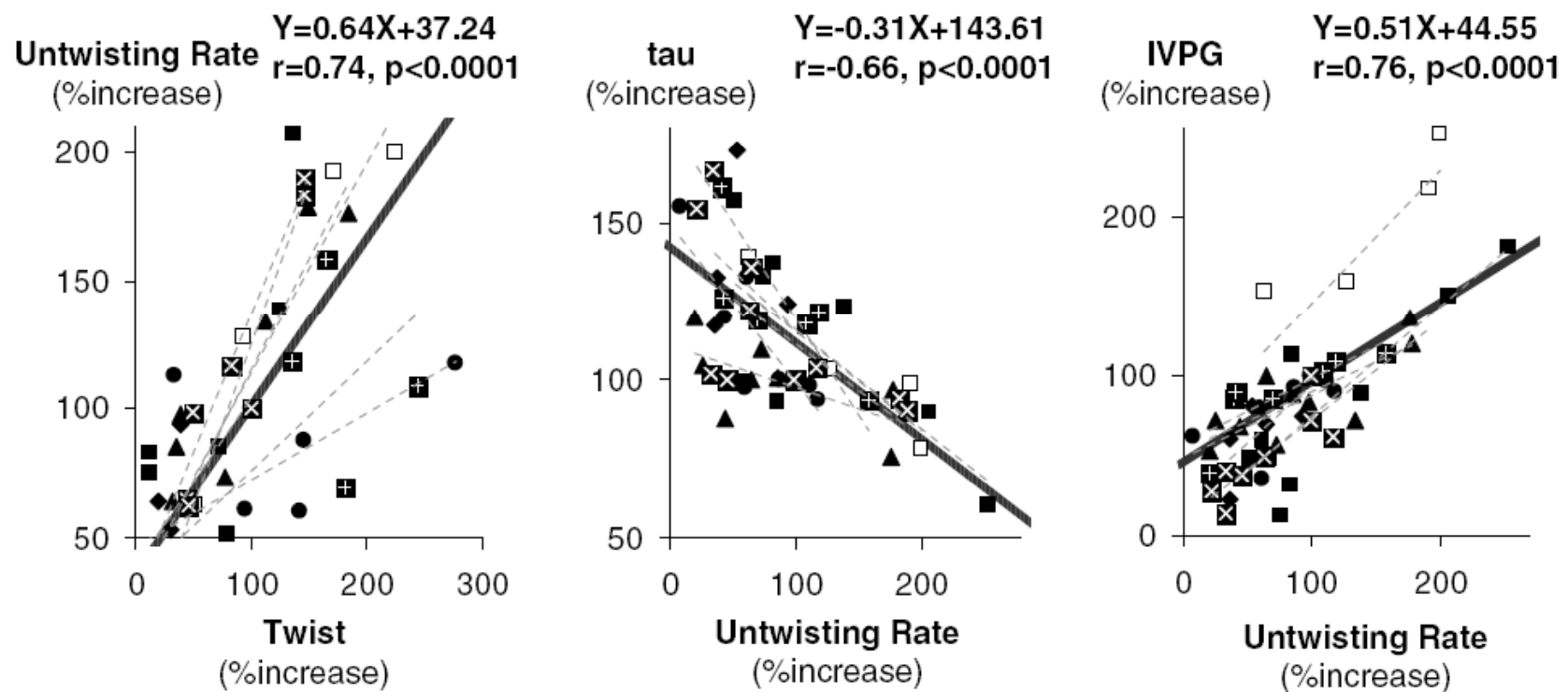


Dobutamine enhanced untwisting velocity both during isovolumic relaxation (ES to MO) and early filling (i.e., the suction phase, shown by the asterisk mark). Thus, untwisting occurs over both phases, releasing elastic energy

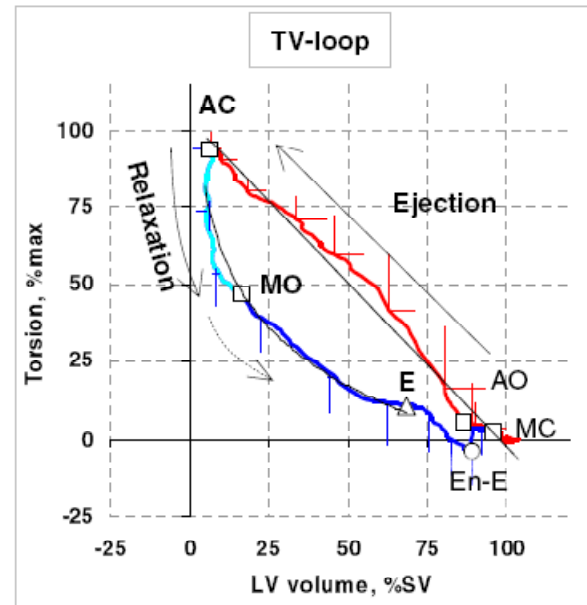
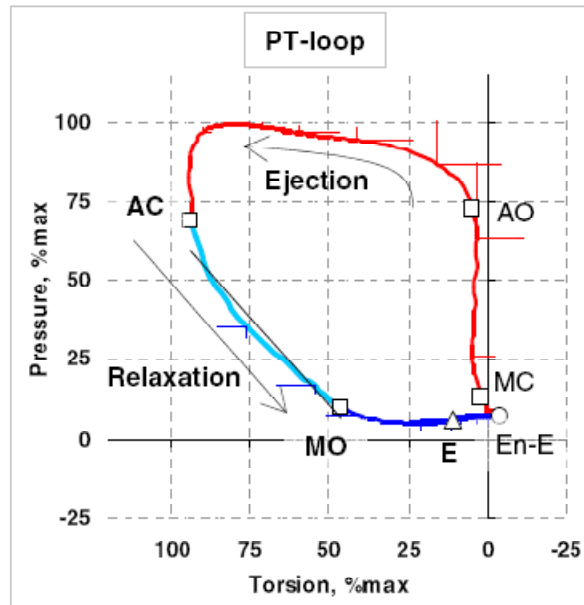
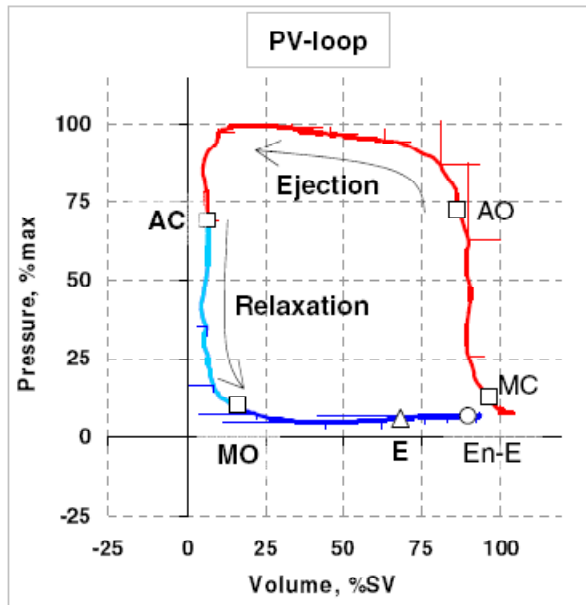




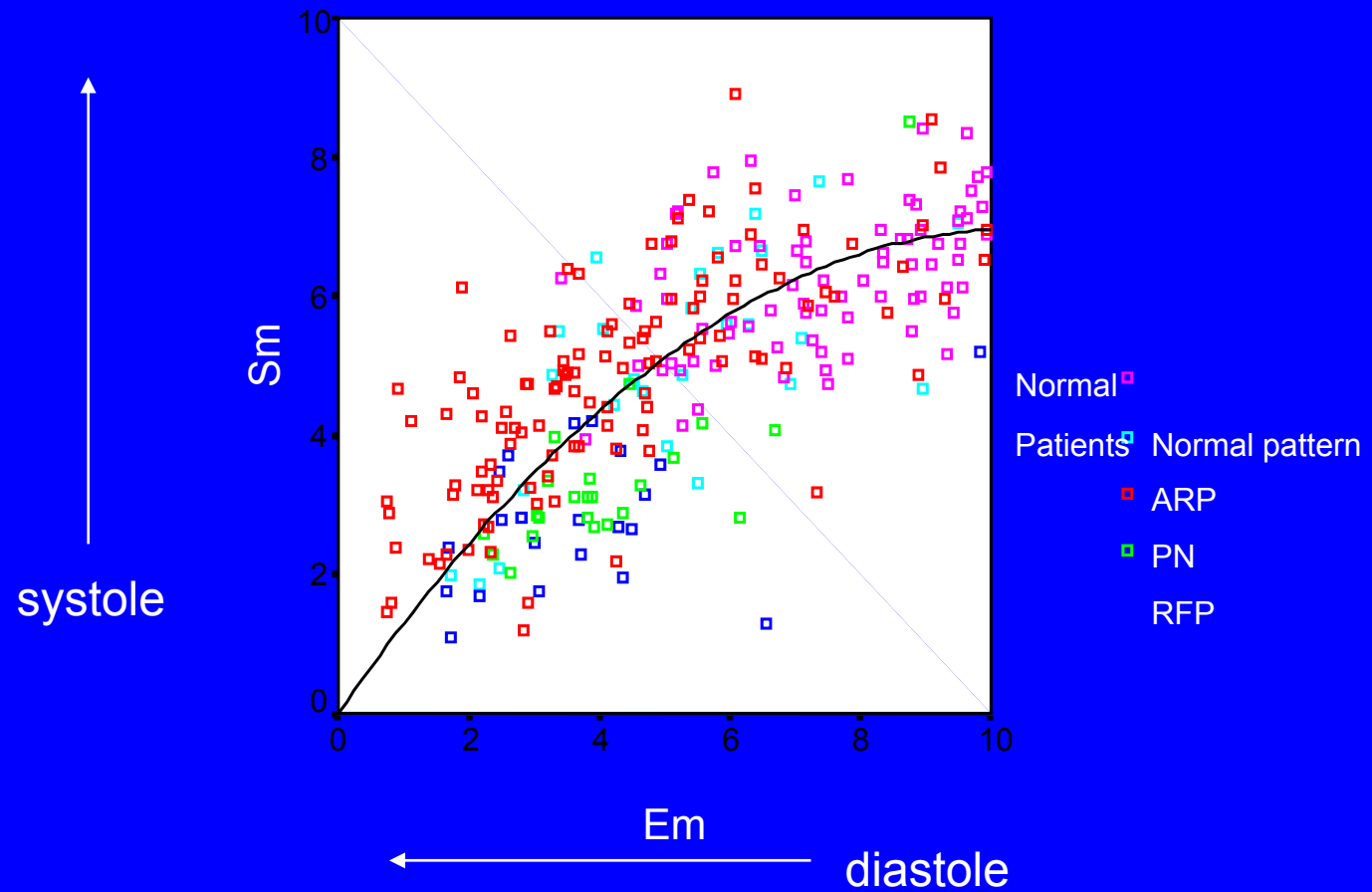
**Figure 3.** Relationship between systolic peak torsion (*Torsion*) and peak untwisting velocity (*Untwisting*), peak untwisting velocity and relaxation time constant (*tau*), and peak untwisting velocity and intra-ventricular pressure gradient (*IVPG*).



# Pressure-volume (PV), Pressure-torsion (PT) and torsion-volume relationships

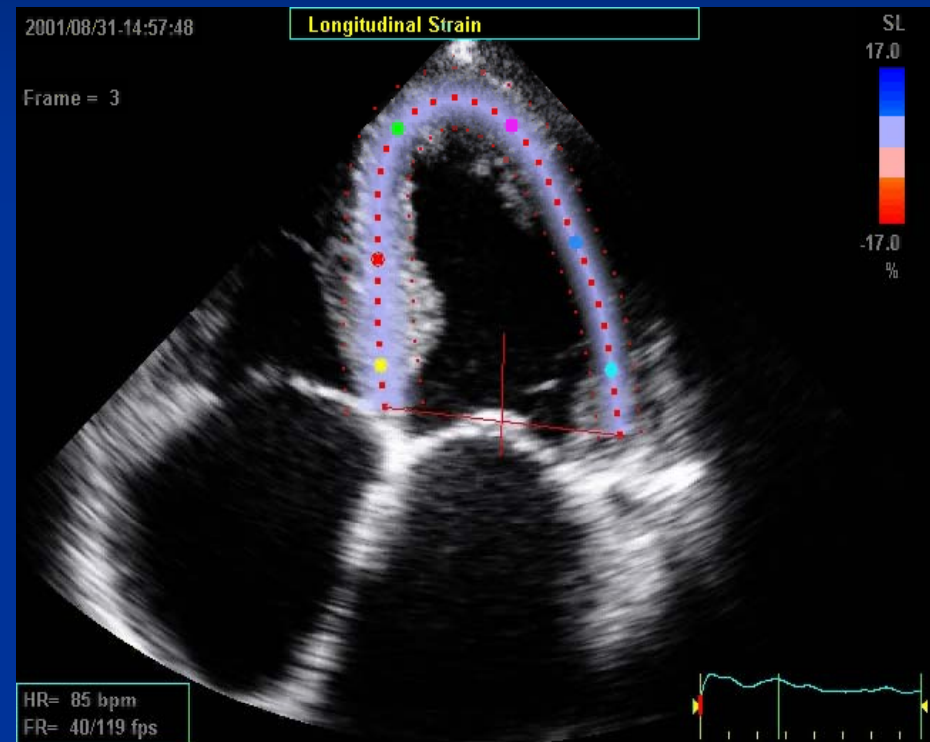
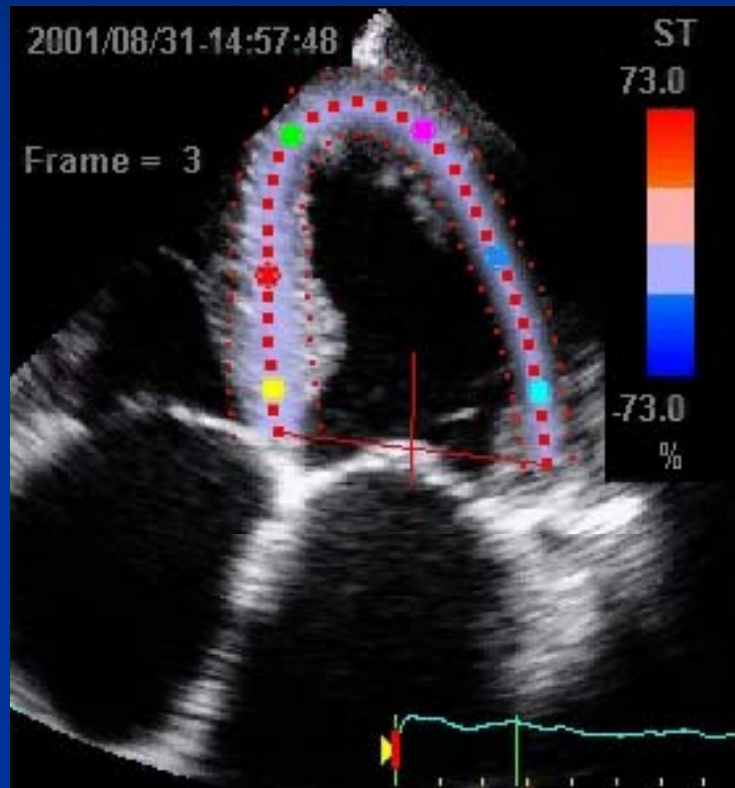


# Systole and diastole are linked.

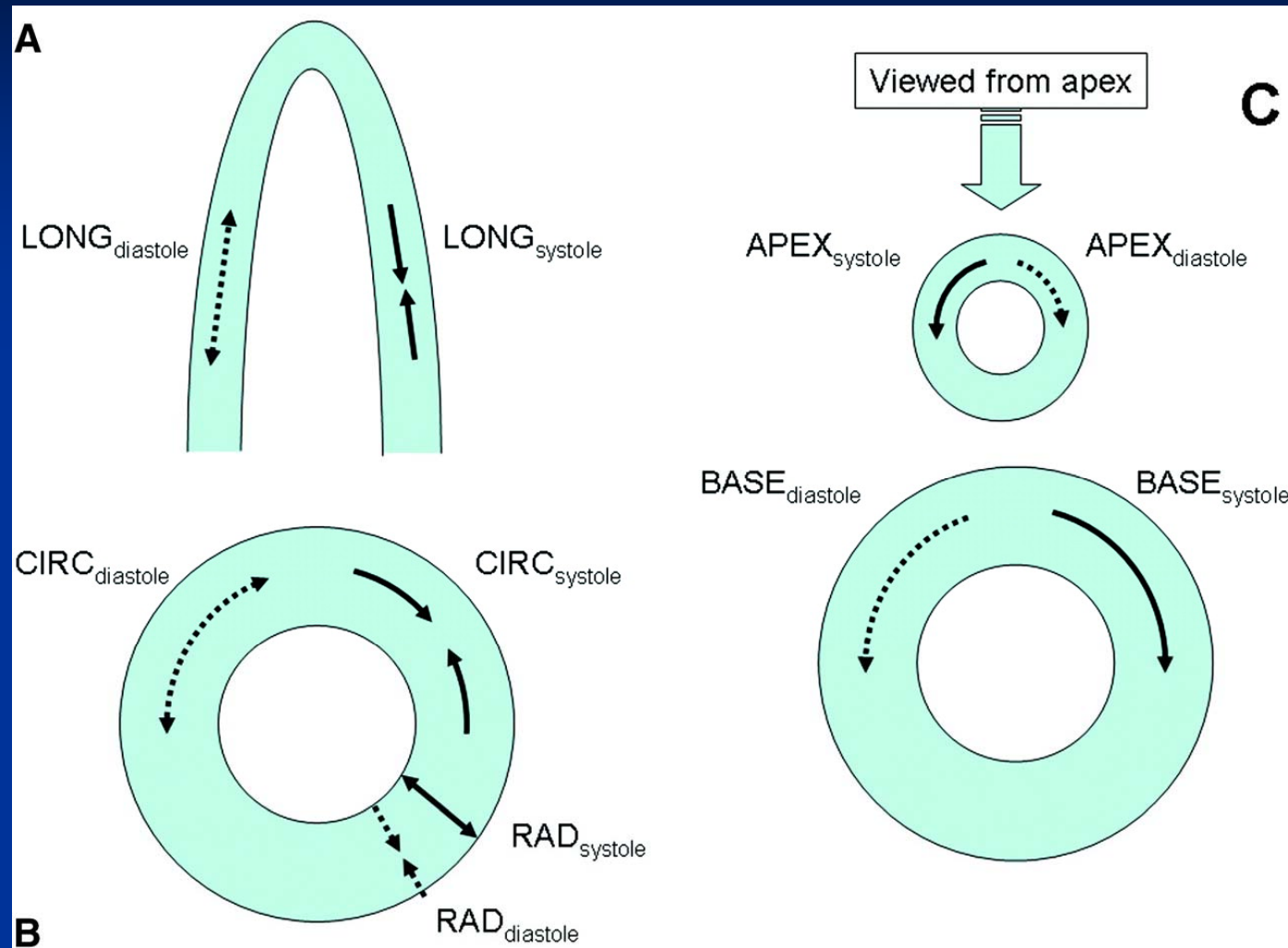


Yip G, Zhang Y, Tan P, Wang M, Ho P, Brodin L-A, Sanderson JE  
*Clinical Science* 2002;102:515-22

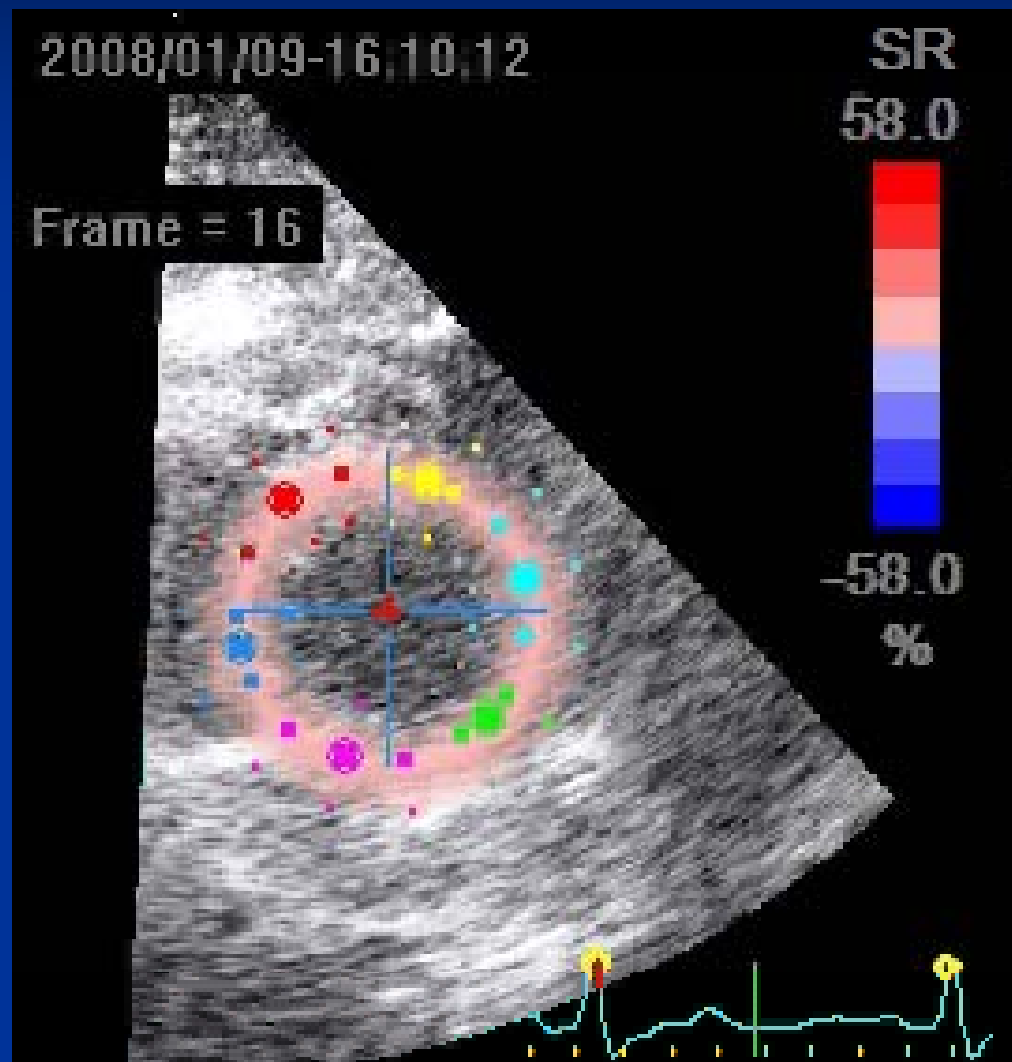
# 2D speckle tracking



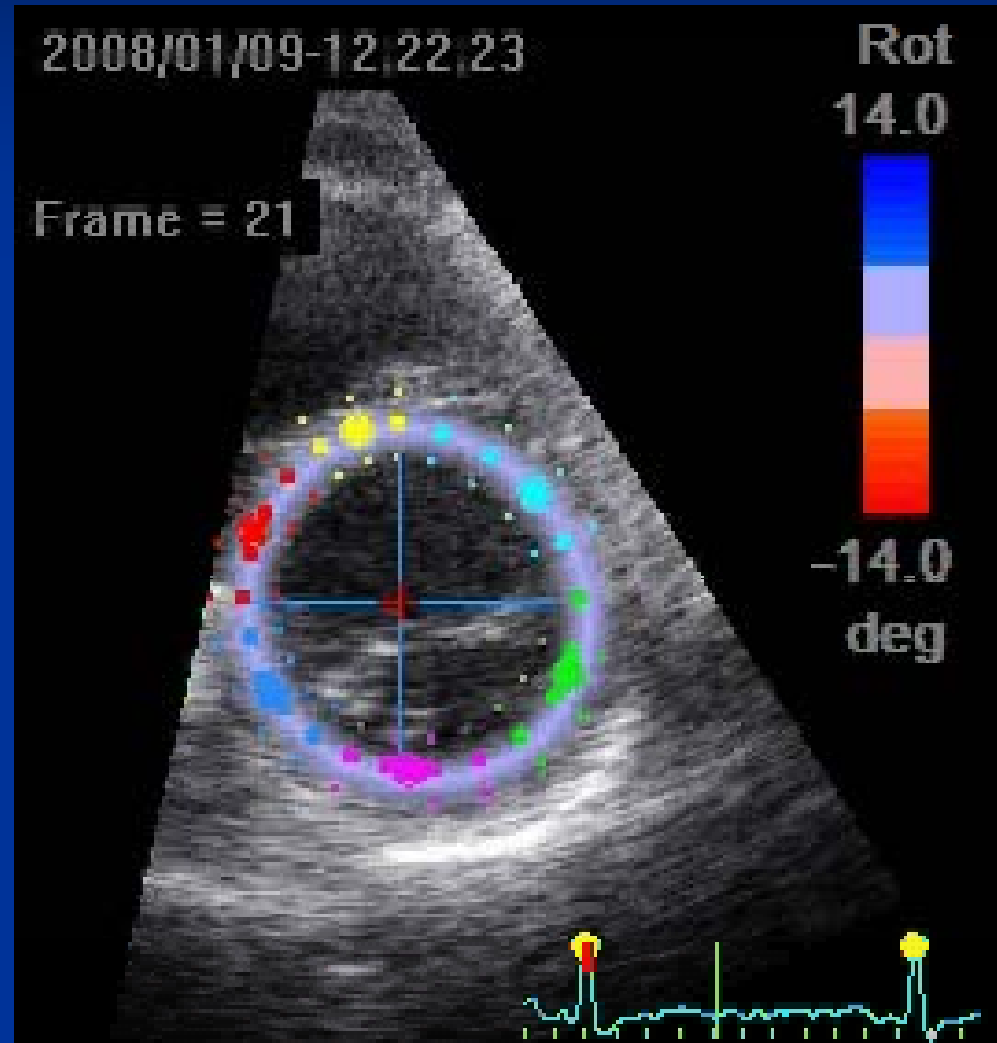
# Graphic representation of the principal myocardial deformations: longitudinal (A), radial and circumferential (B), and torsion (C)



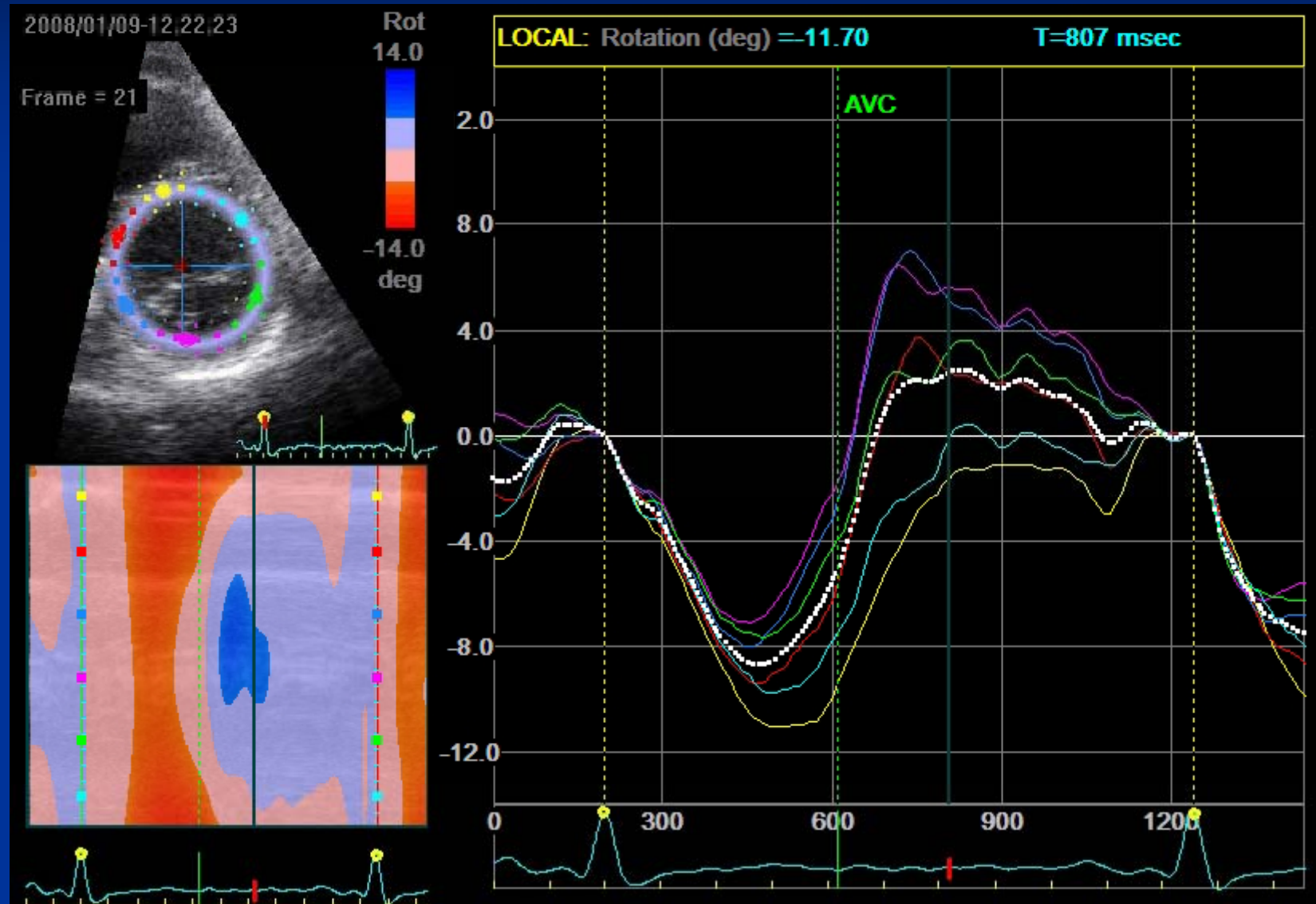
# Apical Rotation



# Basal Rotation

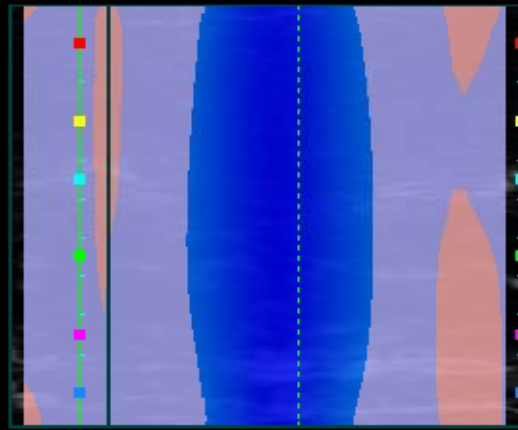
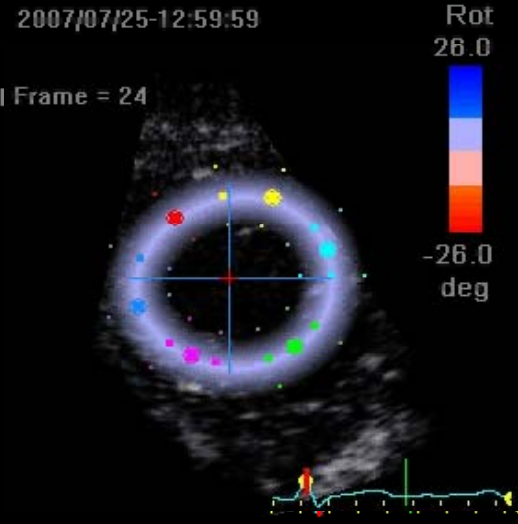


# Rotation by STI

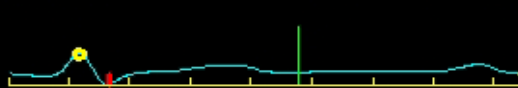
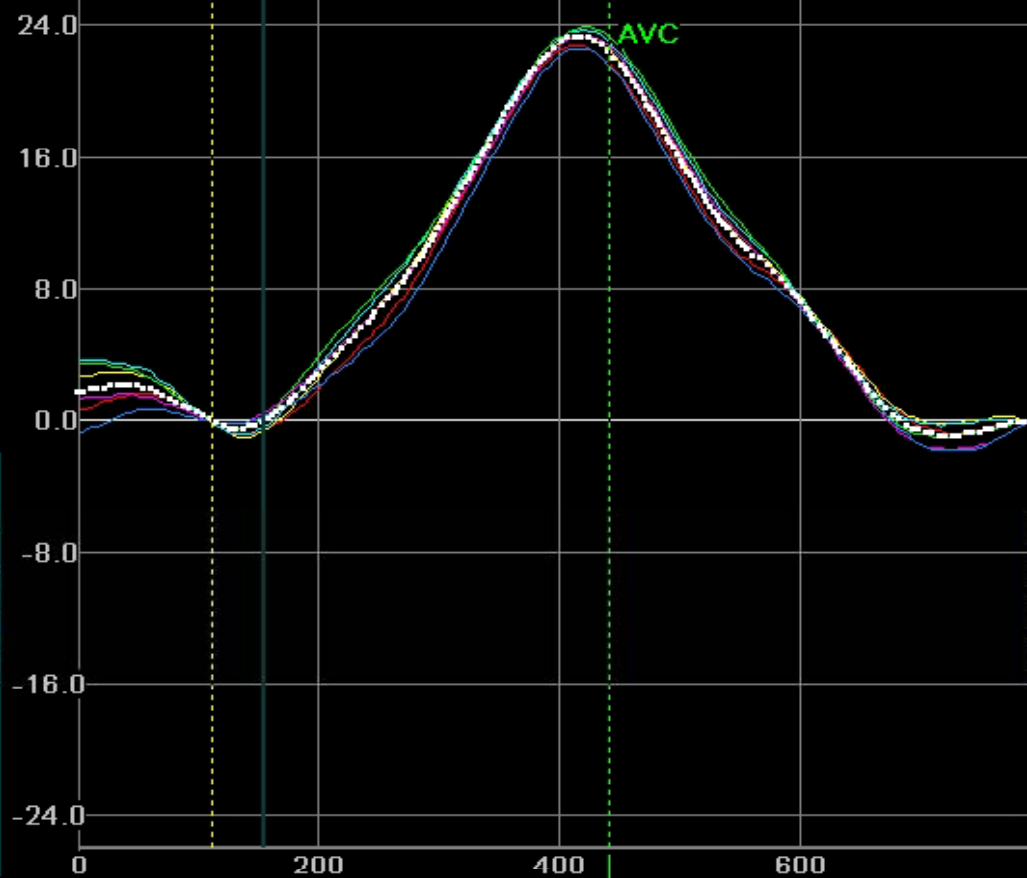


2007/07/25-12:59:59

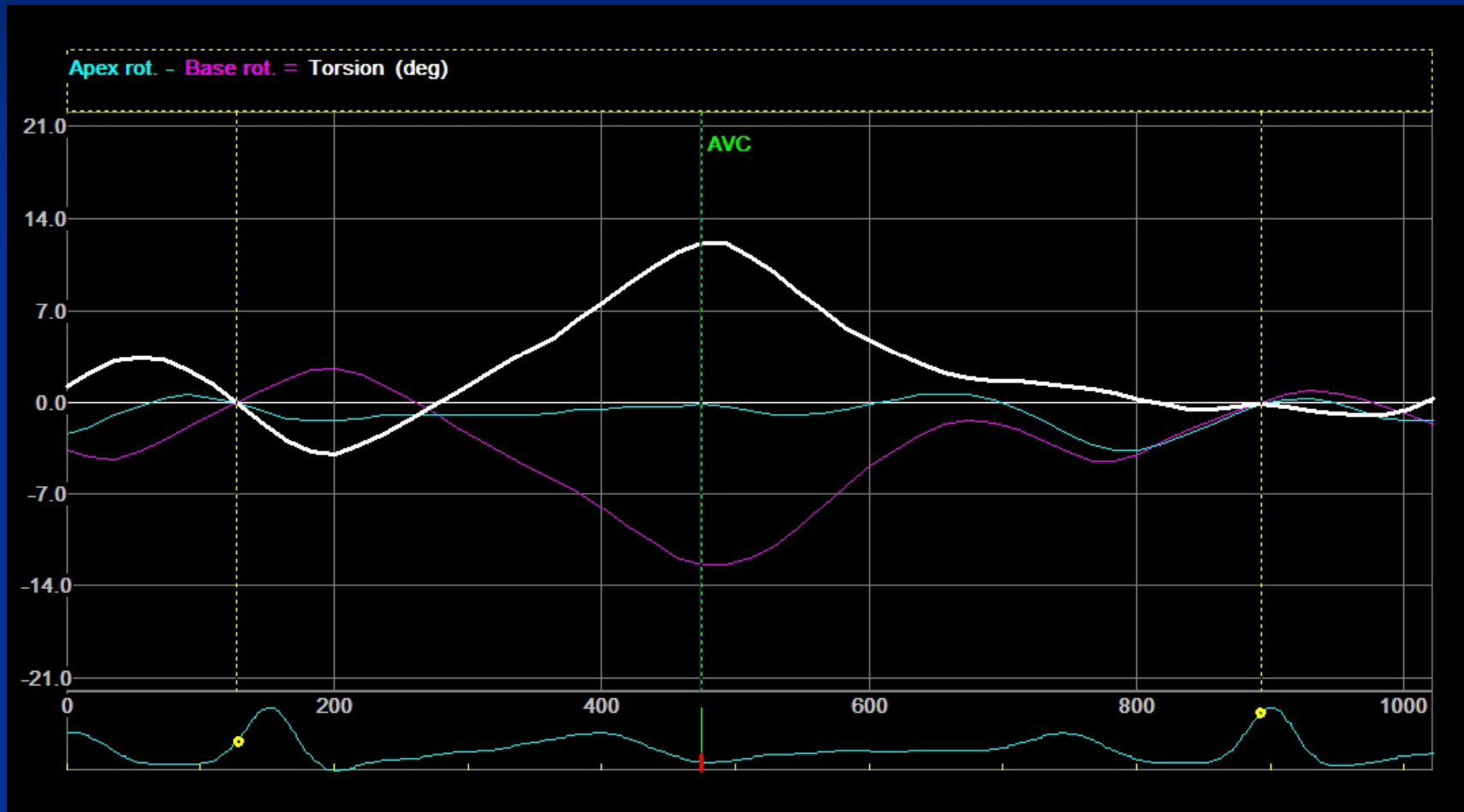
1 Frame = 24



LOCAL: Rotation (deg)



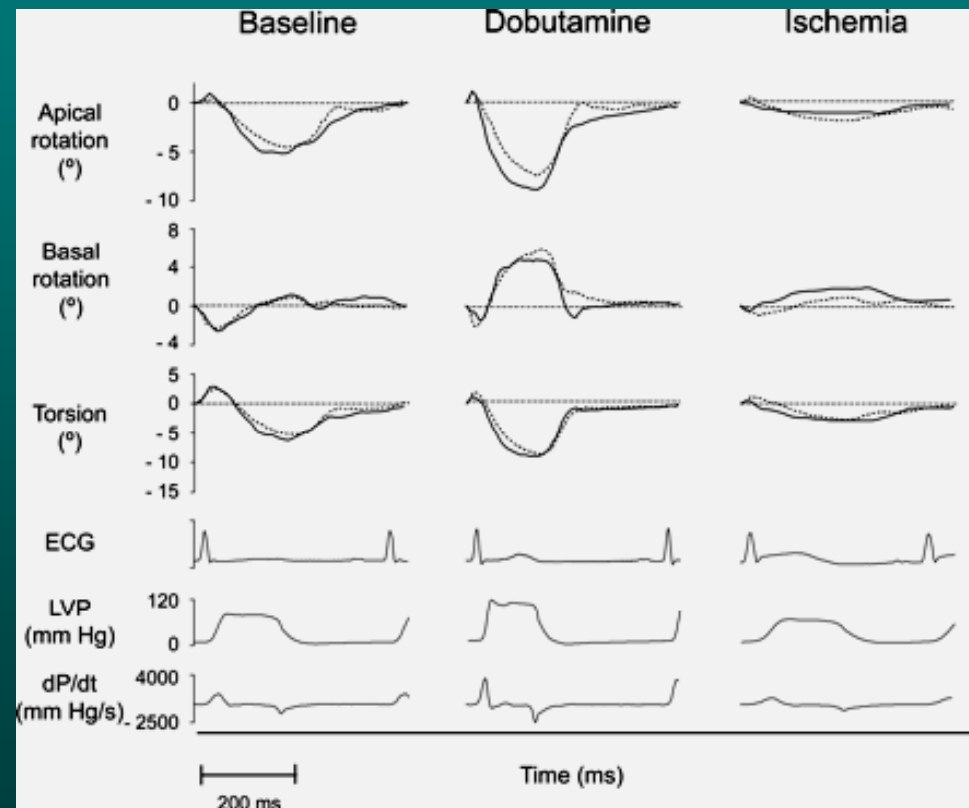
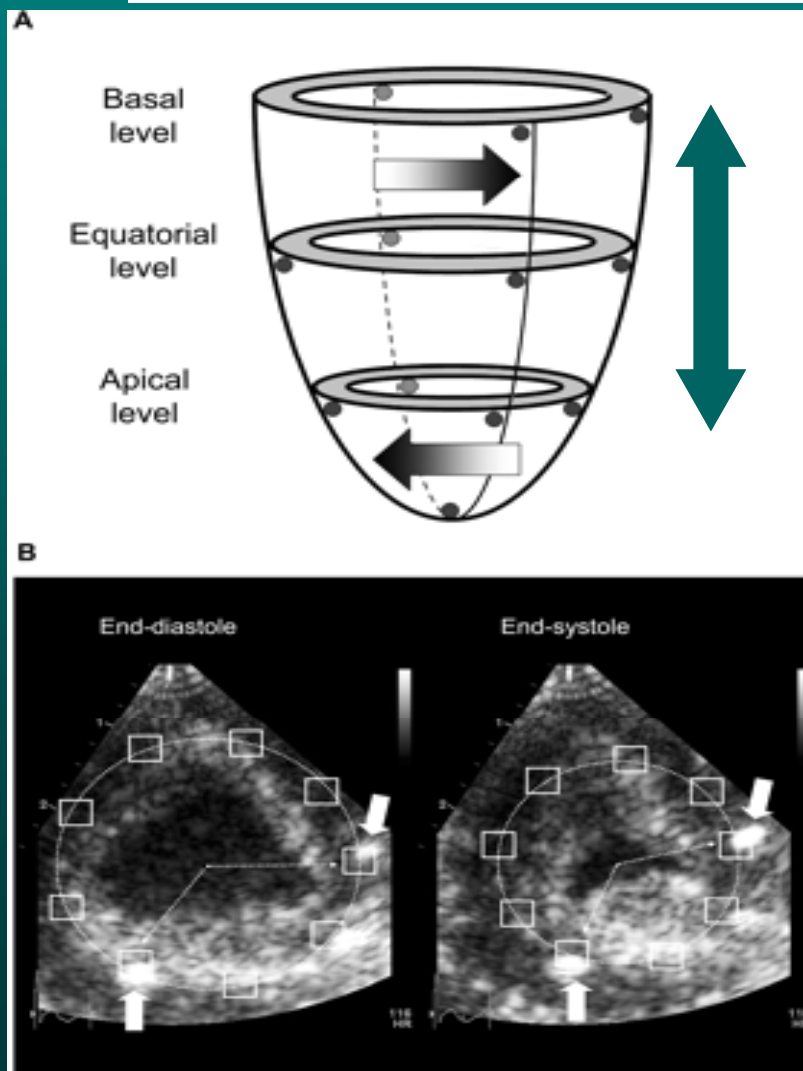
# Torsion



# New Noninvasive Method for Assessment of Left Ventricular Rotation

## Speckle Tracking Echocardiography

Thomas Helle-Valle, MD; Jonas Crosby, MSc; Thor Edvardsen, MD, PhD; Erik Lyseggen, MD; Brage H. Amundsen, MD; Hans-Jørgen Smith, MD, PhD; Boaz D. Rosen, MD; João A.C. Lima, MD; Hans Torp, DrTechn; Halfdan Ihlen, MD, PhD; Otto A. Smiseth, MD, PhD



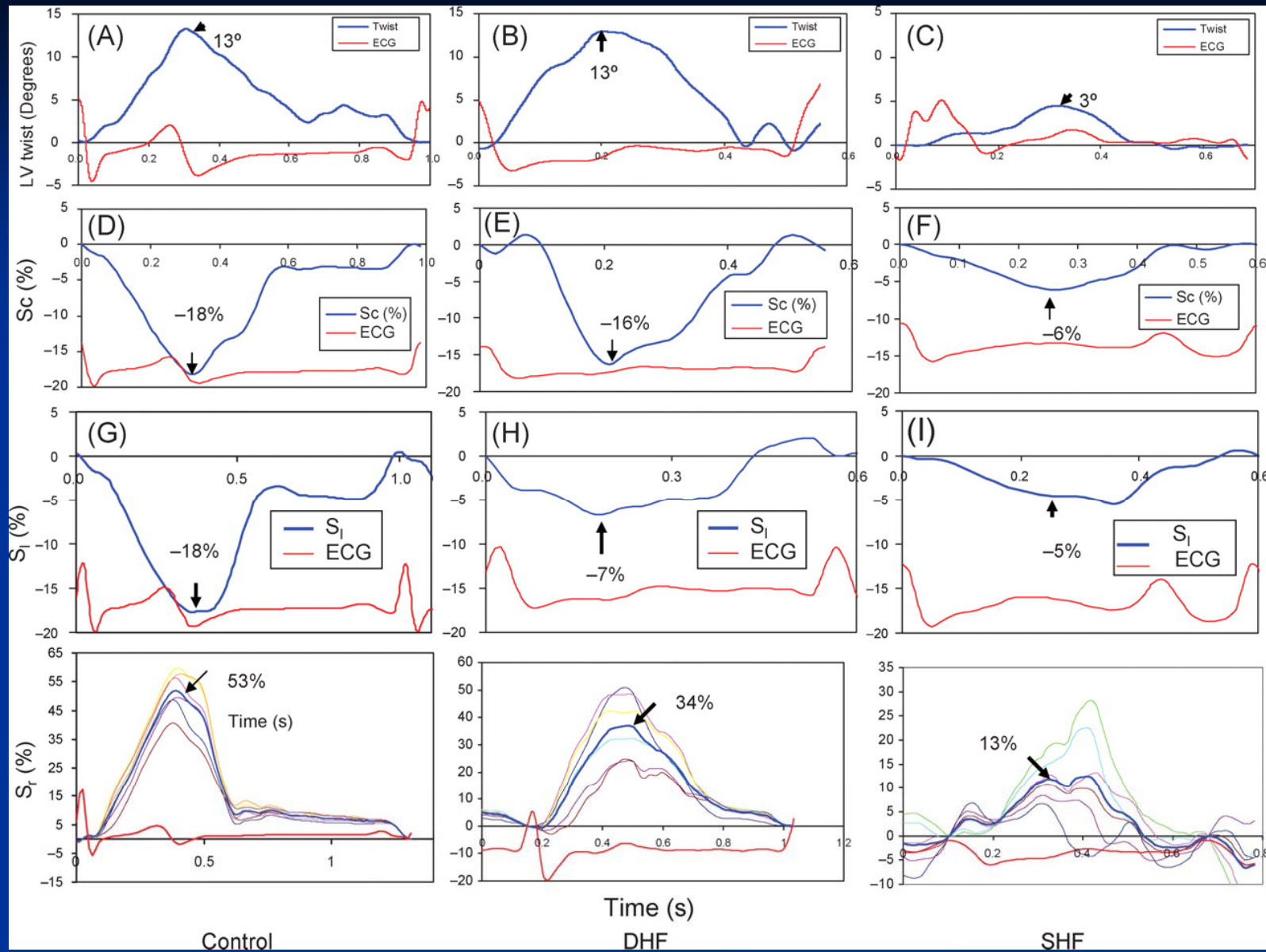
Circulation 2005;112:3149-3156

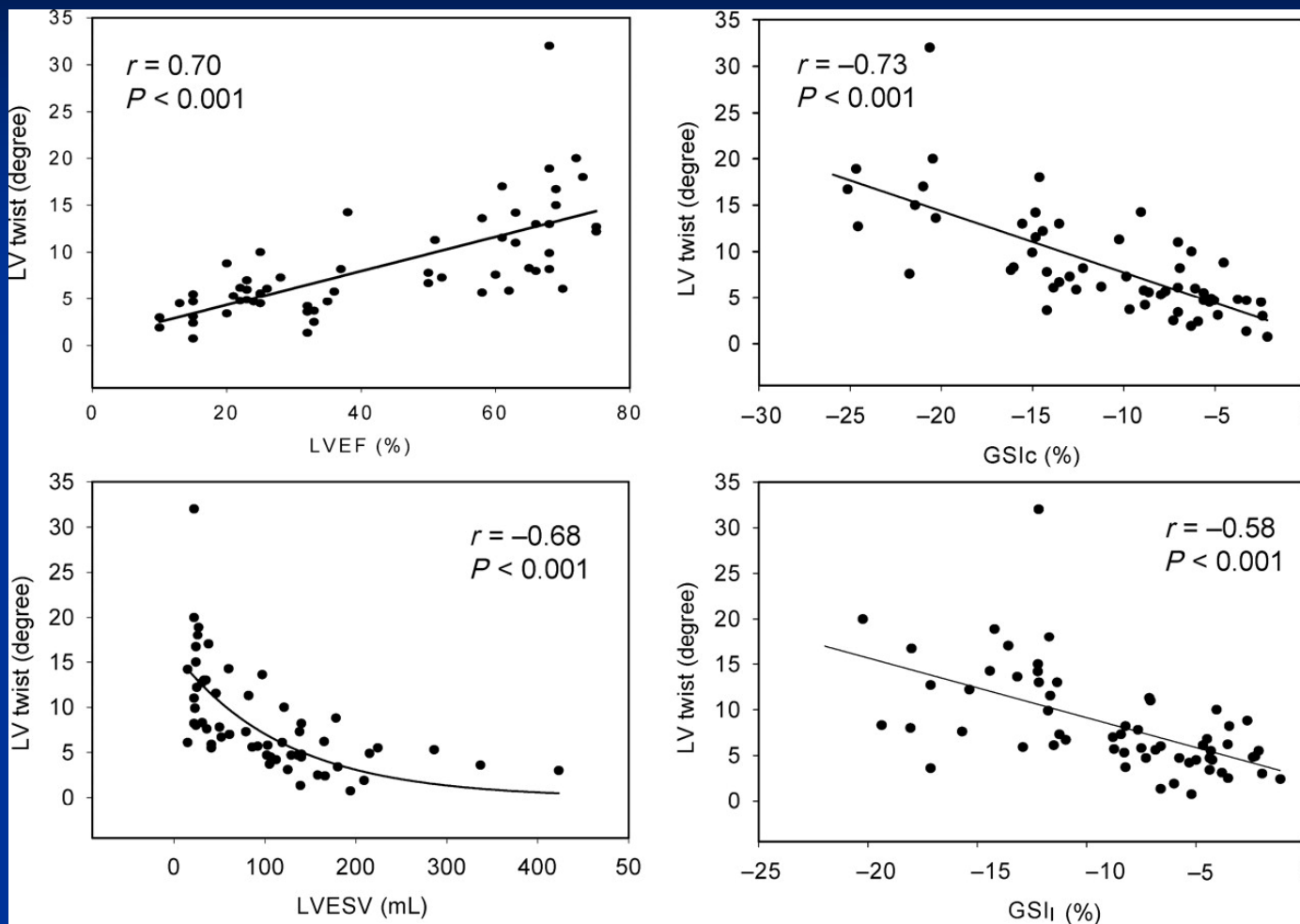
# Preserved left ventricular twist and circumferential deformation, but depressed longitudinal and radial deformation in patients with diastolic heart failure

Jianwen Wang, Dirar S. Khoury, Yong Yue, Guillermo Torre-Amione, and Sherif F. Nagueh\*

## Conclusion

LV longitudinal and radial strains are reduced, but circumferential deformation and twist are normal in DHF patients. On the other hand, in patients with SHF, longitudinal, radial, and circumferential deformation, and twist are all reduced. Multivariable regression analysis suggests that preserved LV twist and circumferential strain may contribute to normal EF in patients with DHF.





Wang, J. et al. Eur Heart J 2008 0:ehn141v1-7; doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehn141

# Longitudinal Strain and Torsion Assessed by Two-dimensional Speckle Tracking Correlate with the Serum Level of Tissue Inhibitor of Matrix Metalloproteinase-1, a Marker of Myocardial Fibrosis, in Patients with Hypertension

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JASE Available online 6 March 2008.

## Background

We hypothesized that the alterations of myocardial collagen turnover in patients with hypertension may be involved in the early changes of regional contractile function assessed by a new speckle tracking method.

## Methods

In 56 patients with untreated hypertension ( $48 \pm 11$  years, ejection fraction  $> 55\%$ ) and 20 age-matched control subjects, the serum levels of aminoterminal propeptide of procollagen I/III and tissue inhibitor of matrix metalloproteinase (TIMP)-1 were measured by radioimmunoassay and enzyme immunoassay. To assess the regional contractile function, the average of negative longitudinal strain of 6 segments at apical 4-chamber view (longitudinal  $\epsilon$ ), the average of radial strain (radial  $\epsilon$ ) and the average of circumferential strain (circumferential  $\epsilon$ ) of 6 mid-left ventricular (LV) segments, and basal-to-apical torsion were obtained by 2-dimensional speckle tracking imaging.

## Results

Compared with control group, longitudinal  $\epsilon$  was significantly decreased ( $-20.4 \pm 3.0\%$  vs  $-22.1 \pm 2.2\%$ ,  $P = .030$ ) and basal-to-apical torsion was increased ( $20.5 \pm 5.7$  degrees vs  $17.4 \pm 3.7$  degrees,  $P = .013$ ) in patient group. The serum level of log TIMP-1 was higher in the patients ( $3.6 \pm 0.6$  vs  $3.0 \pm 0.5$ ,  $P < .001$ ). The serum log TIMP-1 significantly correlated with longitudinal  $\epsilon$  ( $r = 0.405$ ,  $P = .015$ ), basal-to-apical torsion ( $r = 0.331$ ,  $P = .017$ ), and the LV mass ( $r = 0.266$ ,  $P = .047$ ). In multivariate analysis, longitudinal  $\epsilon$  ( $\beta = 0.326$ ,  $P = .015$ ) and basal-to-apical torsion ( $\beta = 0.402$ ,  $P = .003$ ) independently correlated with the serum TIMP-1 level.

## Conclusion

In patients who are hypertensive with normal ejection fraction, impaired longitudinal  $\epsilon$  and increased LV torsion correlated with serum TIMP-1, which suggests that the change in collagen turnover and the myocardial fibrotic process may affect the early contractile dysfunction of LV.

# Assessment of left ventricular rotation and torsion with two-dimensional speckle tracking echocardiography.

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Choi YS.

Division of Cardiology, Department of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Cardiovascular Center, Seoul National University Hospital, Seoul, Korea.

**BACKGROUND:** Speckle tracking echocardiography (STE) has a unique feature of angle independence and, thus, may provide a powerful means of assessing left ventricular (LV) torsion (LVtor). The aims of this study were to assess: (1) the feasibility of 2-dimensional STE in the measurement of LVtor; and (2) the relationship of LVtor with age and conventional echocardiographic parameters. **METHODS:** We consecutively recruited 160 healthy volunteers. After obtaining conventional echocardiographic parameters, apical and basal short-axis rotations were assessed with STE. LVtor was defined as the net difference between rotation angles in the two short-axis planes normalized for LV longitudinal length. **RESULTS:** Reliable LVtor measurement was possible only in 56 volunteers (35%). This low feasibility was largely a result of the failure to obtain reliable basal rotation values. In 56 volunteers who were finally enrolled in this study, a significant correlation was found between LV ejection fraction and LVtor ( $r = 0.56$ ,  $P < .001$ ) and this correlation was attributed to apical ( $r = 0.47$ ,  $P < .001$ ) but not basal ( $P = .14$ ) rotation. There was no significant change in LVtor with aging. However, initial counterclockwise motion ( $r = -0.51$ ,  $P = .001$ ) and its interval ( $r = -0.44$ ,  $P = .001$ ) in the basal rotation gradually decreased with aging, and correlated with early transmitral inflow velocity ( $r = 0.44$  and  $0.49$ , respectively) and its deceleration time ( $r = -0.43$  and  $-0.48$ , respectively) (all  $P < .001$ ). In contrast, such correlations were not found for initial clockwise motion and its interval in the apical rotation.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Currently, STE has limited feasibility in the measurement of LVtor.

There was no significant age-related change in LVtor. In LV rotations, basal rotation was affected by the age-related changes in the LV early diastolic filling, whereas apical rotation was mainly related to LV systolic performance.

JASE 2007;20:45-53

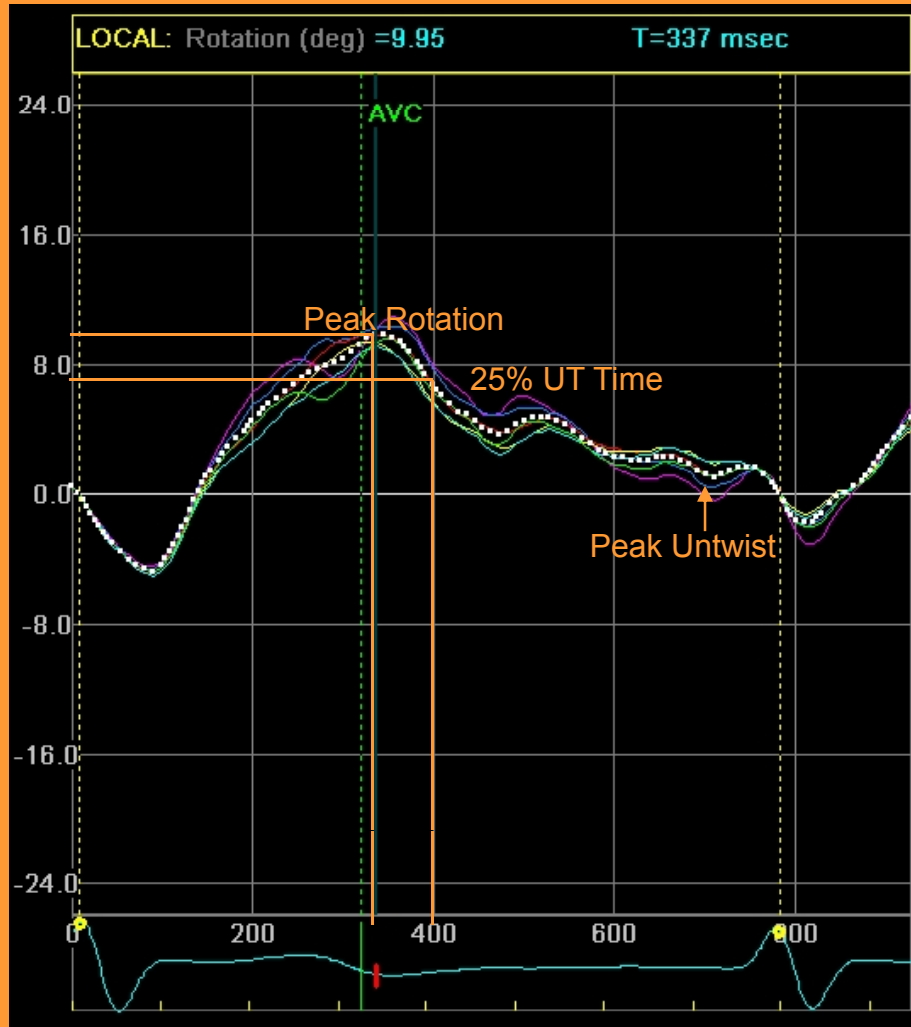
**Hypothesis:**  
**Reduced ventricular twist and long axis  
function (AV plane displacement)  
leads to:**

- Reduced ventricular suction
- Reduced and delayed early diastolic filling
- Shortened time for filling of the heart
- Increased filling pressure
- Breathlessness on exercise.



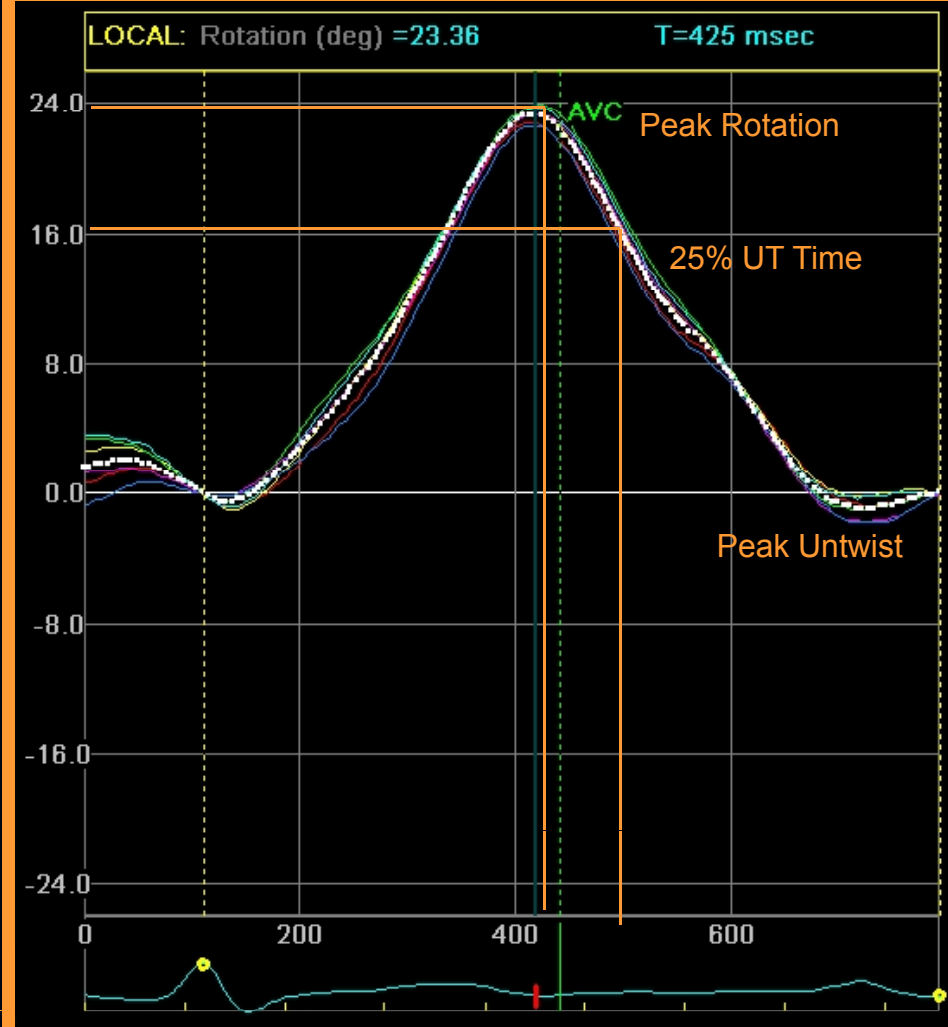
# Rotation and Untwist

## Patient, ♂ 62 years



Peak Rotation: 9.95deg (337ms)  
Untwist at 25% of  
Untwist Duration: 9.25deg = 7% (378ms)

## Control, ♀ 61 years



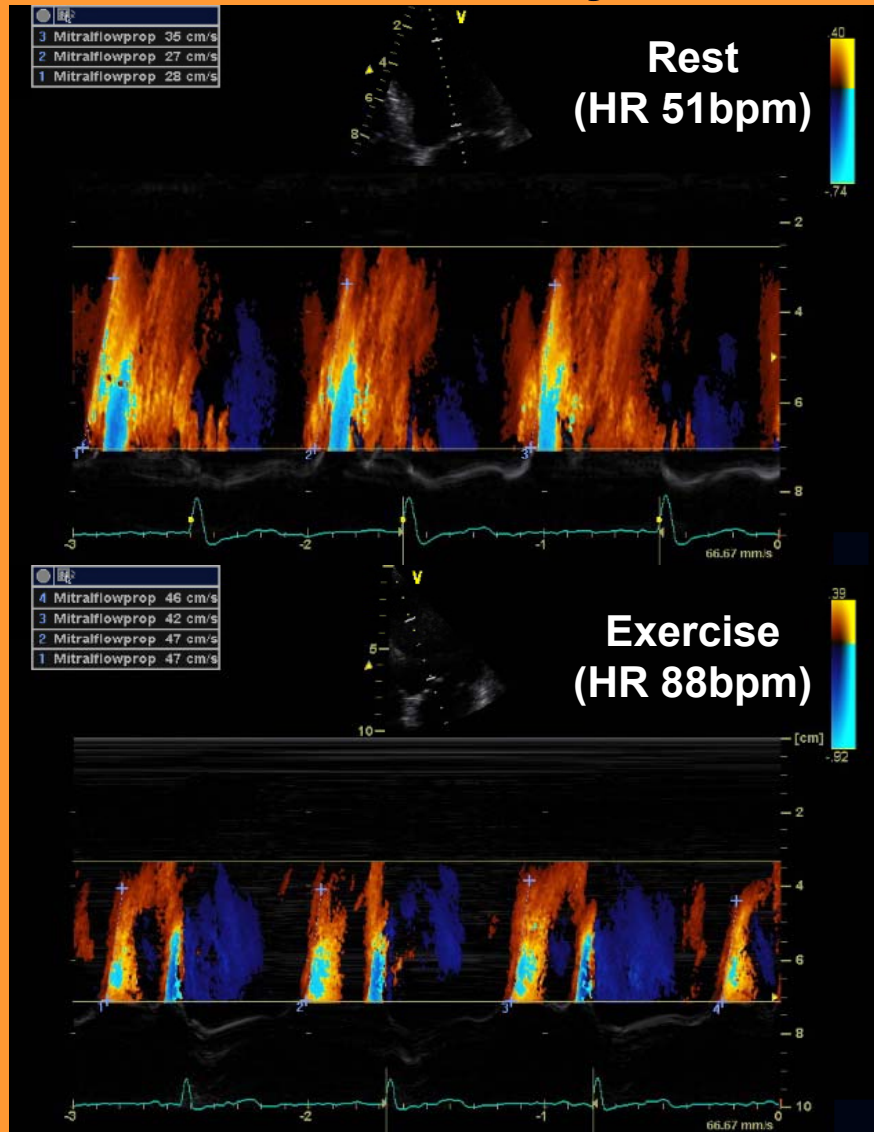
Peak Rotation: 23.36deg (at 425ms)  
Untwist at 25% of  
Untwist Duration: 16.88deg = 28% (491ms)

# Rotation and Untwist at Rest

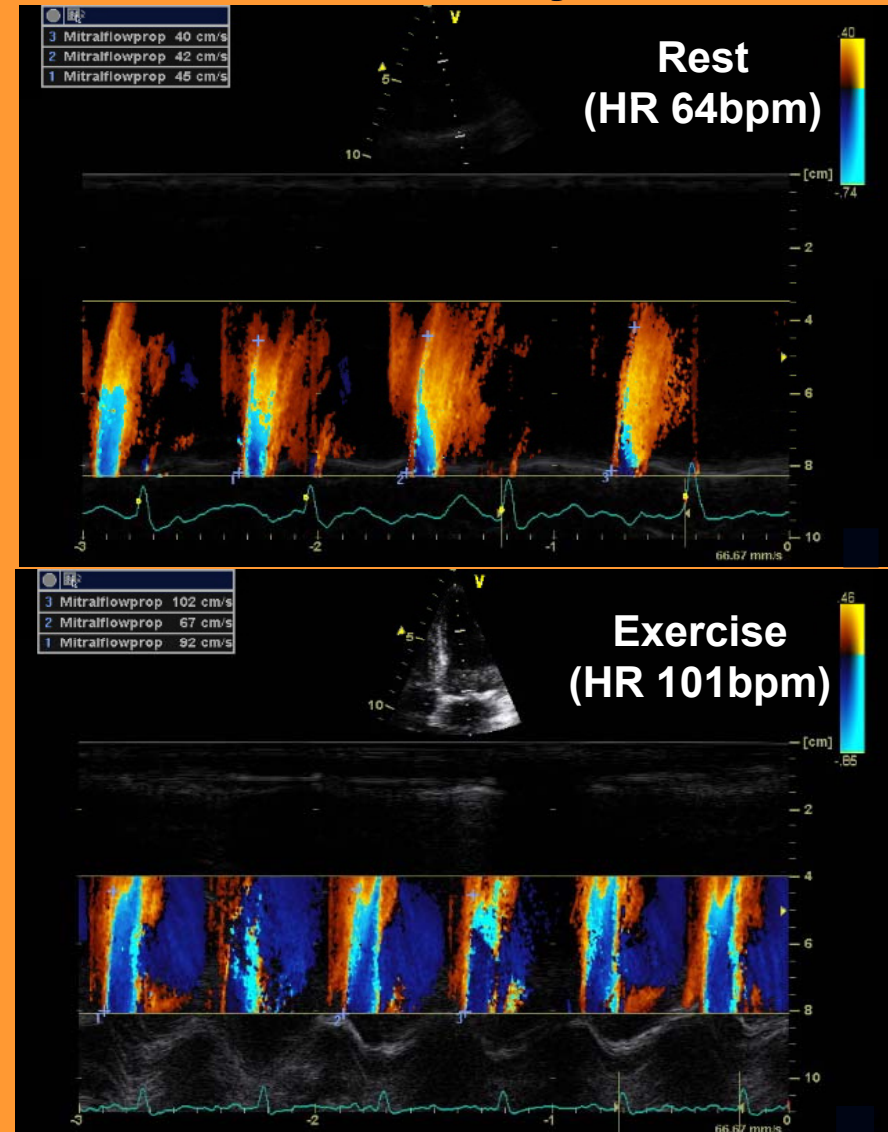
Echo Results	Patients (n=32)	Controls (n=22)
Heartrate at Rest (bpm)	66±12	66±10
Apical Rotation at Rest (Degree)	9.5±3.7 p=0.004	12.7±4.1
Basal Rotation at Rest (Degree)	-9.5±3.3	-10.7±3.3
Torsion at Rest (Degree/cm)	2.6±0.5 p=0.01	3.2±0.6
Percent of Untwist at 25% of	22.3±10.4 p=0.012	30.0±10.2
Untwist Duration		

# Mitral Flow Propagation Velocity at Rest and Exercise

## Patient, ♀ 77 years



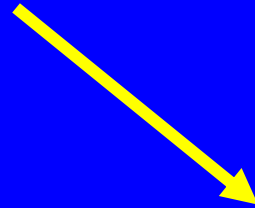
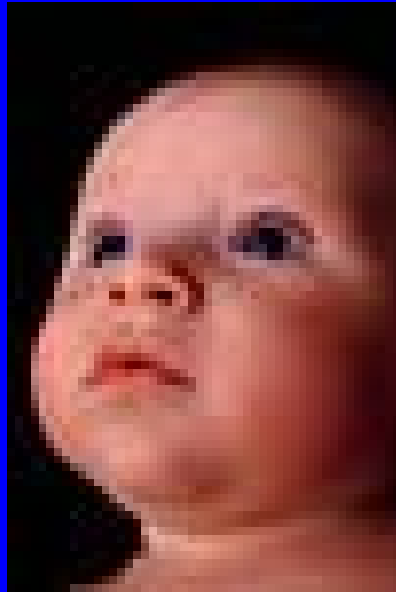
## Control, ♀ 72 years



# Mitral Flow Propagation Velocity (MFPV)

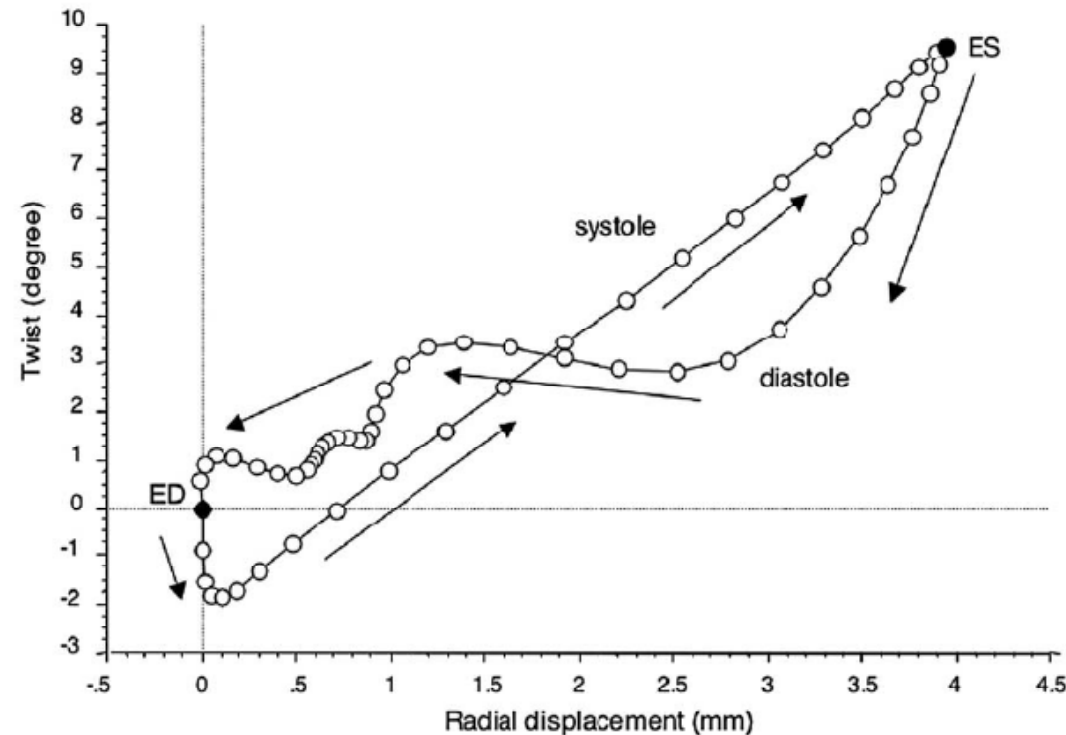
Results	Patients (n=37)	Controls (n=20)
Heartrate at Rest (bpm)	68±12	68±10
Heartrate at Exercise (bpm)	91±9	93±7
MFPV Rest (cm/s)	38.6±9.9	36.9±5.4
MFPV Exercise (cm/s)	48.8±12.7 p=0.025	57.0±13.2
MFPV Increase (cm/s)	10.8±10.8(32%) p=0.003	20.6±12.3(58%)

# Effects of Ageing on Diastolic function and Collagen.

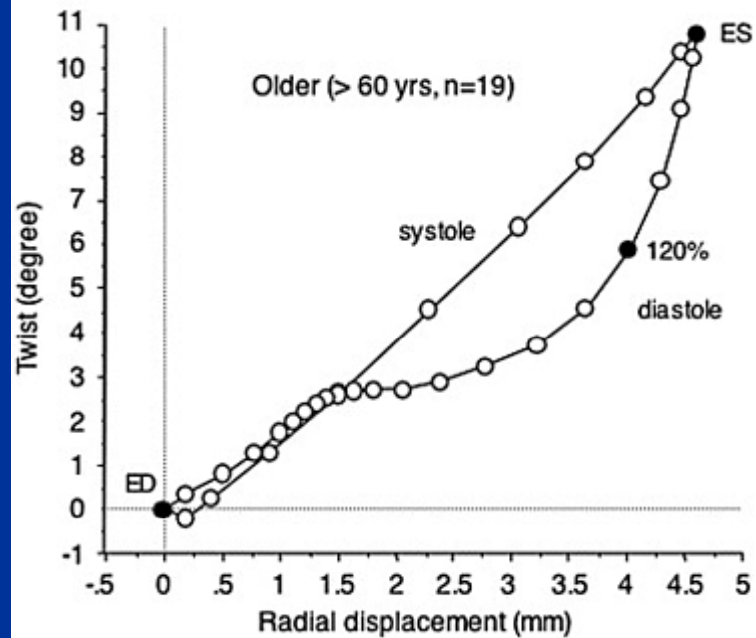
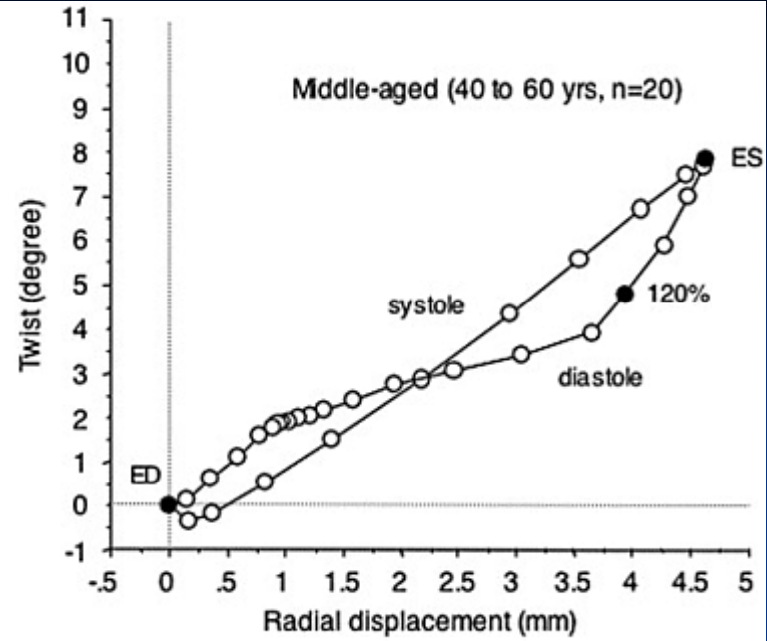
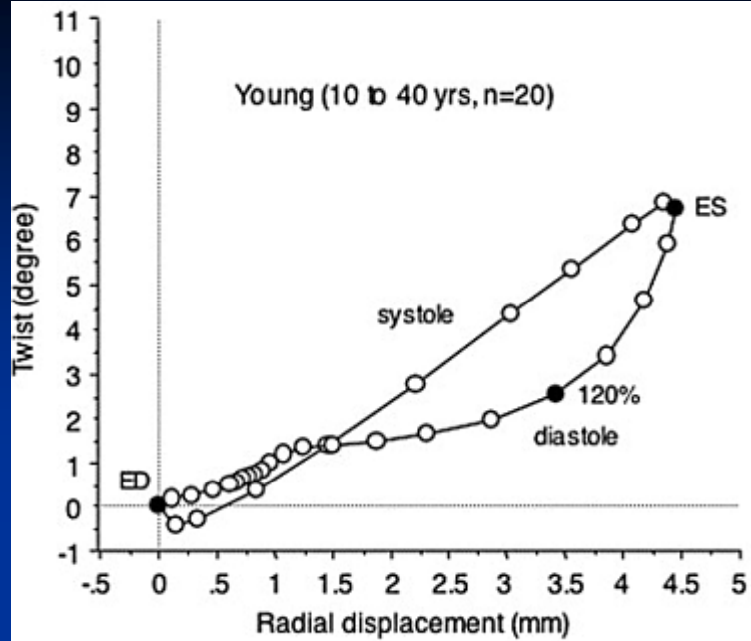


# Effect of Aging on Twist-Displacement Loop by 2-Dimensional Speckle Tracking Imaging

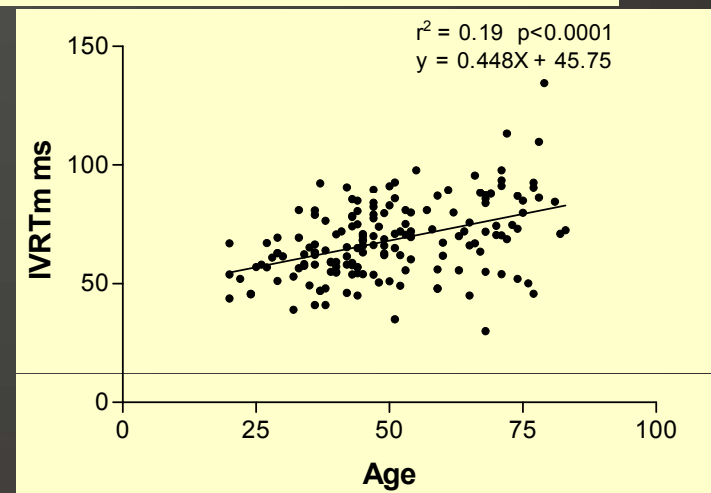
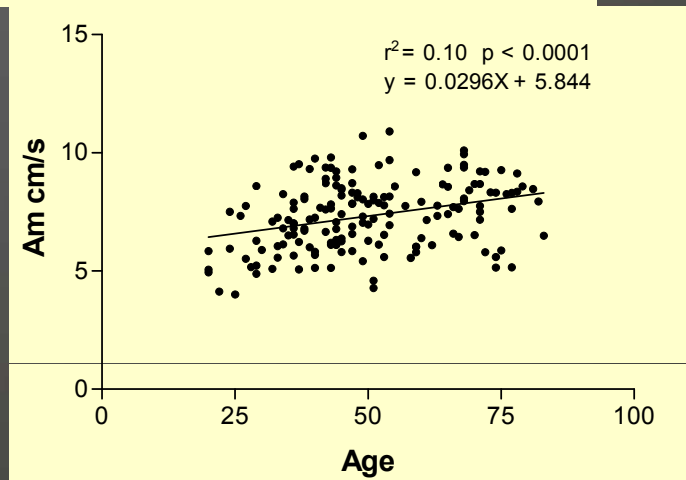
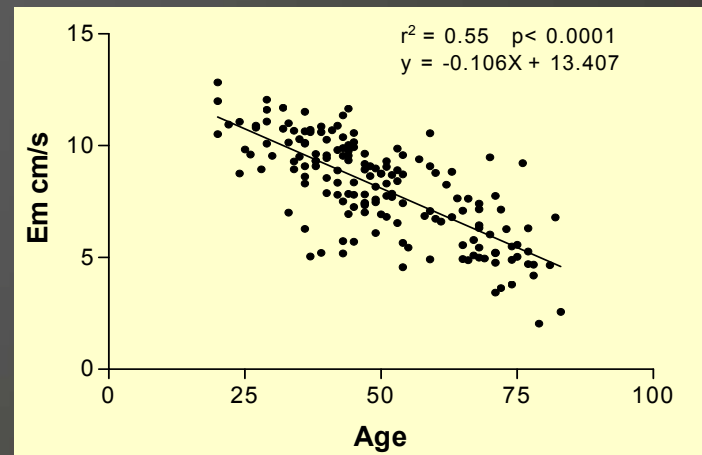
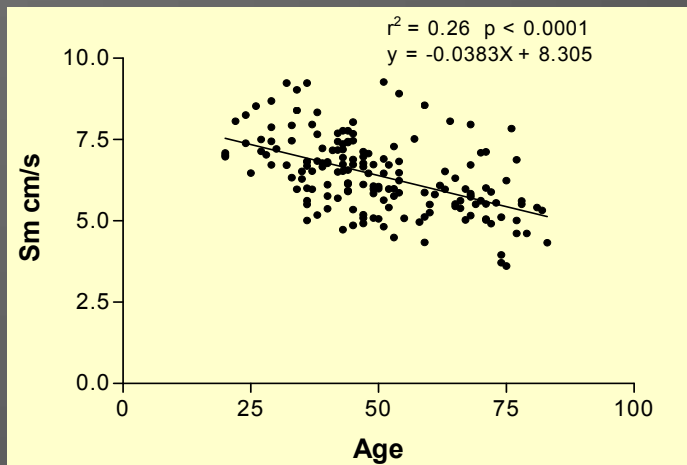
Hiromi Nakai, BS, Masaaki Takeuchi, MD, Tomoko Nishikage, BS, Michiko Kokumai, MS, Shinichiro Otani, MD, and Roberto M. Lang, MD, *Osaka, Japan, and Chicago, Illinois*



**Figure 1** Twist-displacement loop in healthy 26-year-old man. Twist is plotted against radial displacement during one cardiac cycle. Number of dots reflects frame rate (69 Hz in this case). X-axis denotes radial displacement and y-axis denotes twist. Dot point of 0 means at end diastole (*ED*). After initial transient clockwise twist, left ventricle shows persistent counterclockwise twist that peaks at end systole (*ES*). Note that curve during systole looks almost linear and that there is tight relationship between twist and displacement ( $r = 0.99$ ). During early diastole, rapid untwisting occurs despite small reversal of systolic radial displacement. During remainder of mid to late diastole, less untwisting develops with large change in radial displacement.



# Influence of Age on LV long axis changes in velocities (TDI) in normal subjects



## Age changes (20-84 years) of mitral annular excursion (LAX) and velocity (m) in systole and diastole

	Expected at age 20	Expected at age 84	Changes from age 20 to 84 years	Changes in %	Linear correlation to age	Level of significance
S <sub>LAX</sub>	1.49	1.22	-0.28	-18%	r = -0.44	p<0.001
S <sub>m</sub>	7.48	5.22	-2.26	-30%	r = -0.49	p<0.001
E <sub>LAX</sub>	1.09	0.56	-0.53	-49%	r = -0.67	p<0.001
E <sub>m</sub>	10.99	4.82	-6.17	-56%	r = -0.67	p<0.001
A <sub>LAX</sub>	0.48	0.60	0.12	25%	r = 0.35	p<0.001
A <sub>m</sub>	6.57	8.53	1.96	30%	r = 0.31	p=0.002

Yip GW, Zhang Y, Tan PY, Wang M, Ho PY, Sanderson JE 1999

# Conclusions

- Rotation or twist is a fundamental property of ventricular function and its disturbance may be a major factor in the development of impaired ejection and filling.



THANK YOU

13 6 2003

