# **Imaging Challenges at 3T and Above**

ISMRM 2014 : Weekday Course : Cardiovascular MRI at 3T and Beyond

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## <u>Highlights</u>

When performing CMR imaging at  $\geq$  3 Tesla...

- Imaging methods must carefully consider RF heating, off-resonance, and RF transmit inhomogeneity.
- Advanced cardiac gating techniques are needed.

### Target Audience

Anyone interested in performing human CMR at 3 Tesla or beyond.

#### **Overview**

There are many reasons one might want to perform CMR at 3 Tesla or higher. 3T is often the field-strength of choice for general-purpose clinical magnets, because it has been shown to provide better sensitivity and specificity than 1.5T in many neuro and musculoskeletal applications. 3T and higher are also capable of providing improved contrast, and providing improved signal-to-noise ratio, which can often be traded off for higher spatial resolution. This talk will briefly review the rationale and then delve into the technical challenges associated with pulse sequence design at  $\geq$ 3T. An emphasis will be placed on human imaging.

### References (suggested pre-reading)

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- 4. Reeder et al. In vivo measurement of T2\* and field inhomogeneity maps in the human heart at 1.5 T. MRM (1998) vol. 39 (6) pp. 988-98.
- 5. Noeske et al. Human cardiac imaging at 3 T using phased array coils. MRM (2000) vol. 44 (6) pp. 978-82.
- 6. Sung and Nayak. Measurement and characterization of RF nonuniformity over the heart at 3T using body coil transmission. JMRI (2008) vol. 27 (3) pp. 643-8.
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- 8. Schär et al. Cardiac SSFP imaging at 3 Tesla. MRM (2004) vol. 51 (4) pp. 799-806
- 9. Srinivasan and Ennis. Variable flip angle balanced steady-state free precession for lower SAR or higher contrast cardiac cine imaging. MRM (2014) vol 71 (3) pp. 1035-1043.
- 10. Frauenrath et al. Acoustic cardiac triggering: a practical solution for synchronization and gating of cardiovascular magnetic resonance at 7 Tesla. JCMR (2010) vol. 12 pp. 67.
- 11. Shrivastava et al. Radiofrequency heating at 9.4T: in vivo temperature measurement results in swine. MRM (2008) vol. 59 (1) pp. 73-8.