

Applicazioni biomediche della Risonanza Magnetica e dei Materiali Magnetici



University researchers involved (NMR group, Dip. Fisica,
UNIPV, <http://arturo.unipv.it>) :

Seniors : Borsa F., Carretta P., Corti M., [Lascialfari A.](#) (UNIMI), Sanna S., Moscardini M.
(Mariani M. - UNIBO, Rigamonti A.)
collaboration with D'Angelo E. (Neuroscience), Nano R. (Biology) and groups of Prof.s
Altieri, Vidari (Chemistry), Dionigi (Medicine)

UNIMI personnel: Orsini F., Arosio P.

PhD and postdoc students : Basini M., Cobianchi M., Filibian M., Orlando T. (Adelnia
F., Radaelli A., Bordonali L.) collaboration with Paolini A., Pasi F.

MAIN RESEARCH LINES



NOT EXHAUSTIVE

- Applications of magnetic nanoparticles to biomedicine – **DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY**
- Dynamic nuclear polarization (DNP) – **DIAGNOSIS (and THERAPY)**
- Magneto therapy – **THERAPY (just begun)**
- Boron Neutron Capture Therapy – BNCT – **THERAPY**, see S. Bortolussi talk
- Theses in “research-hospitals” and abroad

Suggested book : Magnetism in Medicine, eds. W. Andrä and H. Nowak, Wiley-VCH

Thanks are due to Q. Pankhurst and C. Sangregorio for contributions to slides



Laurea magistrale : courses directly involving NMR group

- Tecniche diagnostiche II (Carretta P., Lascialfari A.) : basics of NMR, MRI, Imaging
- Strumentazione fisica biosanitaria (Corti M.) : MRI, ultrasounds, viscosity, CA, MFH

Laurea triennale / laurea magistrale / PhD / postdoc / scuola specialità : Theses

Hospitals involved :

- **Pavia** : Policlinico S. Matteo, Ist. Neurologico "Mondino", Fondazione Maugeri
- **Milano** : Ospedale Niguarda, IEO, Ist. Mario Negri
- **contatti ulteriori** : Ist. Besta - Milano, Ist. Tumori - Milano, Policlinico - Milano

Companies :

Bracco SpA, Bruker Italia srl, Stelar srl

Some students :

Laurea triennale : C. Cutaia, M. Mangiarotti, M. Mori, G. Savini, M. Montagna, A. Elia, T. Antonioli, L. Zagaglia

Laurea magistrale : B. Comin, I. Zucca, M. Pasin, A. Vultaggio, M. Mangiarotti, F. Palesi, D. Panizza, F. Zucconi, A. Capozzi, T. Orlando, M. Alquati, L. Martignetti (UNITO), M. Nizzola (UNIMI), G. Savini, F. Rottoli, C.M. Bellini, A. Ricciardi

PhD : F. Palesi, H. Amiri (UNIMI), K. Thangavel (UNIMI), L. Bordonali, T. Orlando, F. Adelnia (UNIMI), M. Basini (UNIMI), M. Cobianchi

Postdoc : P. Arosio, M. Filibian, S. Velu, A. Gianella, A. Fiore, M. Marinone(...), M. Grandi (...), M. Mariani (...), F. Palesi, S. Pin, M. Bonora

Scuola specialità & companies : B. Comini, D. Panizza, F. Zucconi, F. Tedoldi, R. Melzi, I. Zucca

Actual main collaborations

(magnetism, MRI, synthesis, hyperthermia)



- Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Roma, gruppo prof. G. Ortaggi
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Cagliari, Dr. M.F. Casula
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Modena, gruppo prof. A. Cornia
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Firenze, gruppo prof. D. Gatteschi
 - Dipartimento di Chimica Fisica, Università di Pavia, gruppo prof. P. Ghigna
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Pisa, Prof. E. Chiellini
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Bologna, Prof. M. Comes Franchini
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università degli studi di Milano, prof. P. Ferruti e E. Ranucci
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università degli studi di Milano, prof. G. D'Alfonso
 - Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche, Università degli studi di Padova, Dr. V. Amendola
 - Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche, Università degli studi di Catania, Prof. G. Vecchio
 - Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Milano Bicocca, gruppo prof. C. Riccardi
 - Dipartimento di biologia e biotecnologie "L. Spallanzani", Università degli studi di Pavia, Prof. R. Nano
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Pavia, Prof. Vidari
 - Facoltà di Medicina, Università di Pavia, Prof. Dionigi
 - Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Pavia, Prof. Altieri
 - Dipartimento di Scienze Farmacologiche, Università di Milano, Prof. R. Paoletti, Prof. E. Tremoli, Dr. U. Guerrini, Dr. G. Sironi
 - Dipartimento di Scienze Morfologiche-Biomediche, Università degli studi di Verona, Prof. P. Marzola, Prof. A. Sbarbati
 - Dipartimento di Scienze Farmacologiche e Biomolecolari, Università degli studi di Milano, Prof.ssa V.F. Sacchi, Dr.ssa A. Rizzo
 - Dipartimento di Chimica, Università degli studi di Milano, Dr. M. Scavini
 - INFN-CNR, National Nanotechnology Laboratory, Dr. T. Pellegrino, Dr. D. Cozzoli, Dr. L. Manna, Prof. R. Cingolani
 - Department of Chemistry, Humboldt Universität – Berlin (Germania), Prof. N. Pinna
- Regional Center of Advanced Technology and Materials, Olomouc (Repubblica Ceca), Dr. G. Zoppellaro
- FORTH (Foundation for Research and Technology - Heraklion, Greece), Prof. A. Lappas
 - Dept. Chemistry, Università di Bordeaux, Prof. S. Lecommandoux
 - Dept. Of Physics, University of Zaragoza (Spagna), Prof. F. Palacio e Dr. A. Millan
 - Departamento de Química Inorgánica, Universidad de Granada (Spagna), Dr. J.M. Dominguez-Vera
 - CNRS and University of Montpellier (Francia), Dr. J. Larionova, Dr. Y. Guari
 - Pasteur Institute of Tehran (Iran), Dr. M. Mahmoudi
 - Phillips Marburg University (Germany), Dr. W. J. Parak
 - Policlinico S. Matteo, Pavia, Dr. R. Di Liberto (direttore Fisica sanitaria)
 - Istituto Neurologico "Mondino", Pavia, Prof. E. D'Angelo (anche Università degli studi di Pavia) e Dr.ssa F. Palesi
 - Ospedale Niguarda, Milano, Dr. A. Torresin (direttore Fisica Sanitaria)
 - Istituto Europeo di Oncologia (IEO), Milano, Dr.ssa D. Origgi
 - Bracco SpA, Milano (Italia), dr. V. Lorusso
 - Centro Ricerche Colorobbia, Vinci (FI) (Italia), Dr. G. Baldi, Dr.ssa L. Niccolai
 - Stelar srl, Mede (PV) - Italia, Ing. G. Ferrante



Projects open

- **FIRB** Riname – PI prof. D. Gatteschi (INSTM – FI)
- **Fondazione Cariplo** “Chemical synthesis and characterization of magneto-plasmonic nano-heterostructures” – PI Prof. P. Ghigna (INSTM-PV), **just ended**
- **AIRC** “Magnetosomes as nanotechnology platform for thermotherapy of tumour”, PI A. Sbarbati (UNIVR)
- **European project NANOTHER**, PI Gaiker (Spain), **ended**
- **INSTM – Regione Lombardia MAGNANO**, PI A. Lascialfari
- **Contract UNIPV – Bracco SpA (DNP)**

Experimental techniques at NMR group



Universita' degli studi di Pavia

- **MRI Esaote , Artoscan**, H= 0.2 Tesla
- **NMR : broadband spectrometers** (Bruker, Tecmag, Mid-Continent) covering a frequency range 4-400 MHz. Magnetic field 0-9 Tesla. Temperature : 0.3-1000 K.
- **Quantum Design SQUID magnetometer**. Temperature: 1.7-800K.
Magnetic Field : $-7 \div 7$ Tesla.
- **Adiabatic calorimeter**, $1.5 < T < 300$ K
- **"Wide-band" EPR**

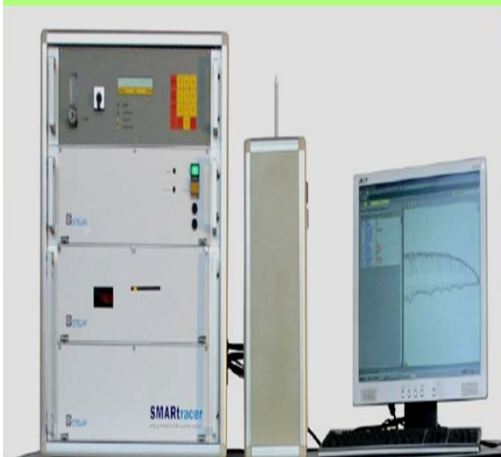
Universita' degli studi di Milano

- **Atomic Force Microscopy** / Scanning Tunneling Microscopy / Magnetic Force Microscopy - Autoprobe CP Research System - Veeco. Working temperature range 0-60°C.
- **NMR : broadband spectrometer** Stelar Spinmaster. 5-70 MHz. Temperature : 4.2-350 K.
Magnetic field 0-1.4 Tesla.
- **NMR relaxometer**, $10 \text{ KHz} < f < 10 \text{ MHz}$. Temperature $150 < T < 350$ K
(**MRI : Bruker AMX200**, 4.7 Tesla, super-wide-bore, rats and mice coils. Physiological parameters' control)
- **Magnetic Fluid Hyperthermia apparatus**, 100-990 kHz, for in-vitro and in-vivo (animals) measurements



Available equipments : broad-band NMR, MRI, MFH, magnetometry and relaxometry

SMART Tracer
Frequency : 10KHz – 10MHz



FT-spectrometers
and electromagnets



9 Tesla magnet
for broad-band NMR



Esaote Artoscan 0.2 Tesla
MRI Imager



SQUID magnetometer



Cryogenics





Clinical techniques related to our research

Magnetic Fluid Hyperthermia (MFH) or Magnetothermia TUMOUR THERAPY



- **Heating** through application of **AC magnetic field** via activation of 12 nm amino-silane coated Fe_3O_4 MNP directly implanted in the tumour (**glioblastoma**) mass at high doses (ca. 50 mg/cm^3)
- Typically : $\nu \sim 100 \text{ kHz}$, amplitude 10 kA/m
- Minor side effects
- Typical values of the reported **specific loss of power, SLP or SAR** (the energy converted into heat per mass unit) are : $10 \div 200 \text{ W/g}$
- Exceptions :
 - 35 nm bacterial magnetosomes (960 W/g at 410 kHz and 10 kA/m)
 - 16 nm $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ NP (1650 W/g at 700 kHz and 24.8 kA/m , 300 W/g at 11 kA/m)

Clinical techniques related to our research



Typical MRI apparatus for
clinical use, magnetic field
 $H = 1.5$ Tesla

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) **DIAGNOSIS**

MRI Timeline

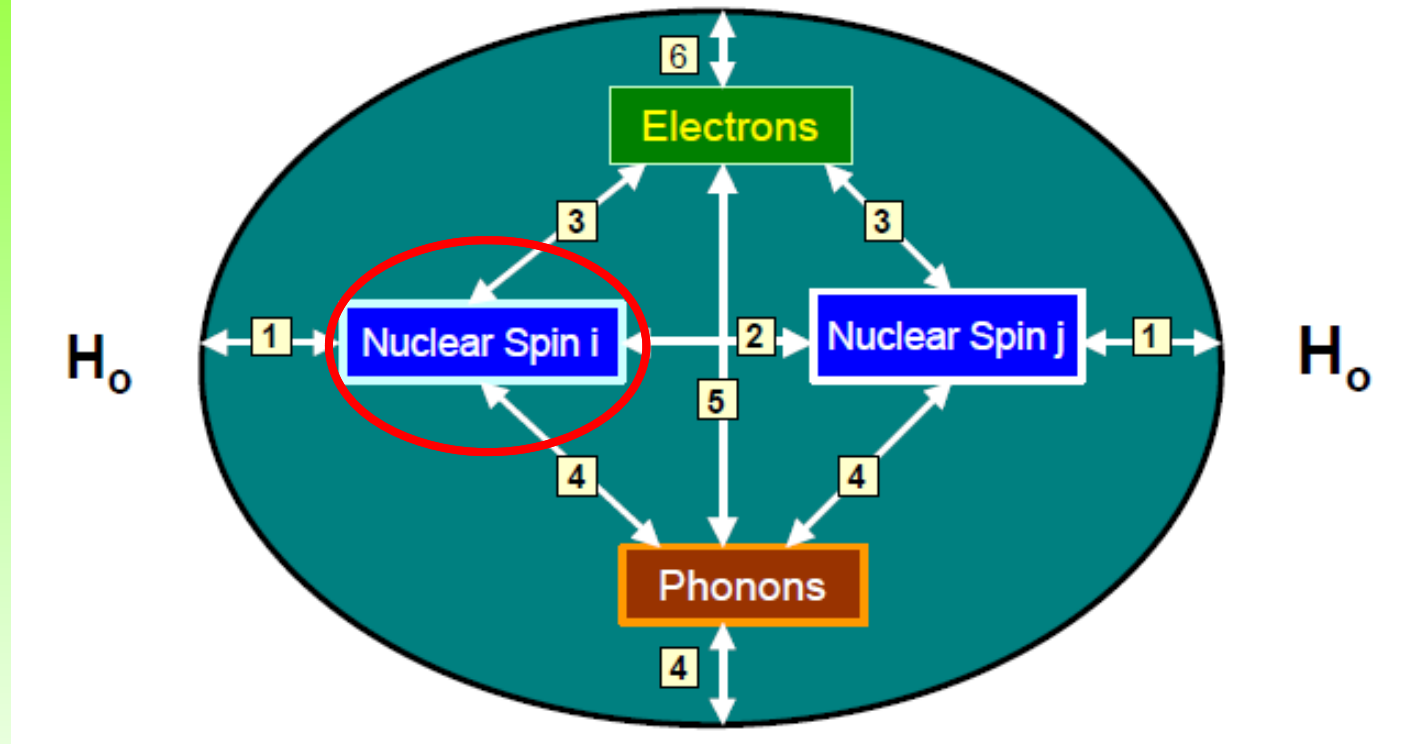
- 1937 MR phenomenon - Rabi
- 1946 MR phenomenon - Bloch & Purcell
- 1952 Nobel Prize - Bloch & Purcell
- 1950-70 NMR developed as analytical tool
- 1972 Computerized Tomography
- 1973 Backprojection MRI - Lauterbur
- 1975 Fourier Imaging - Ernst
- 1977 Echo-planar imaging - Mansfield
- 1980 FT MRI demonstrated - Edelstein
- 1986 Gradient Echo Imaging - NMR Microscope
- 1987 MR Angiography - Dumoulin
- 1991 Nobel Prize - Ernst
- 1992 Functional MRI
- 1994 Hyperpolarized ^{129}Xe Imaging
- 2003 Nobel Prize - Lauterbur & Mansfield



Why NMR ?



Basic Nuclear Spin Interactions



$$H = H_z + H_D + H_{CS} + H_Q + H_{hyp} + H_J + H_{ce}$$

H_z = Zeeman interaction, **path 1** ($\propto B_0 \sim 10^9$)

H_D = Dipolar interactions among nuclear spins, **path 2,3** ($\propto I \cdot S \cdot r^{-3} \sim 10^{3-5}$)

H_{CS} = Chemical shielding interaction, **path 6 and 3** ($\sim 1 - 10^5$)

H_Q = Quadrupolar interaction (nuclei $I > 1/2$) with surrounding ∇E , **path 3** ($10^3 - 10^7$)

H_{hyp} (paramagnetic shift) = hyperfine e-n dipolar (pseudocontact) and contact interactions, **path 3 (influenced by 5)**

H_J = J-coupling, **path 2 via path 3**

H_{ce} = interaction of nuclei with conduction electrons (e.g. nuclei, Knight shift), **path 3**



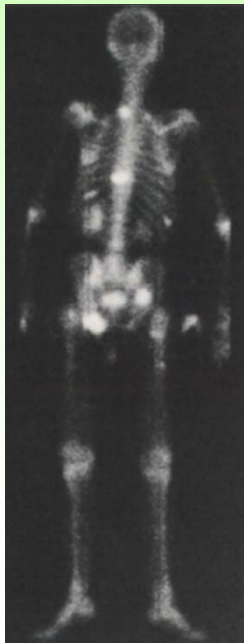
Why MRI ?

Why MRI?



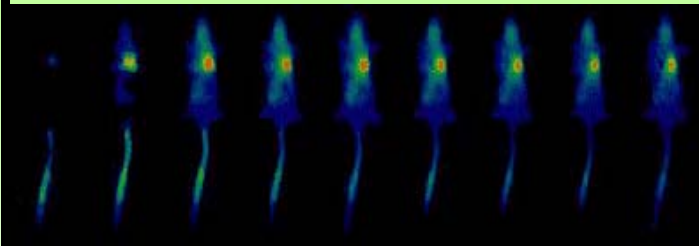
Nuclear Medicine:

- Poor spatial resolution
- Poor temporal resolution
- High sensitivity
- Reporters: radionuclides



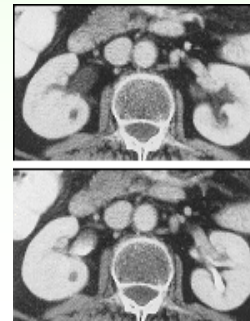
Optical Imaging:

- Poor spatial resolution
- Poor temporal resolution
- high sensitivity
- Reporters: luminescent probes



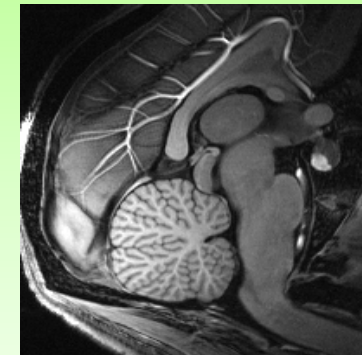
X-Ray (CT):

- Good spatial resolution
- Good temporal resolution
- Low sensitivity



MRI:

- **Non-invasive**
- Good spatial resolution
- Good temporal resolution
- Low sensitivity

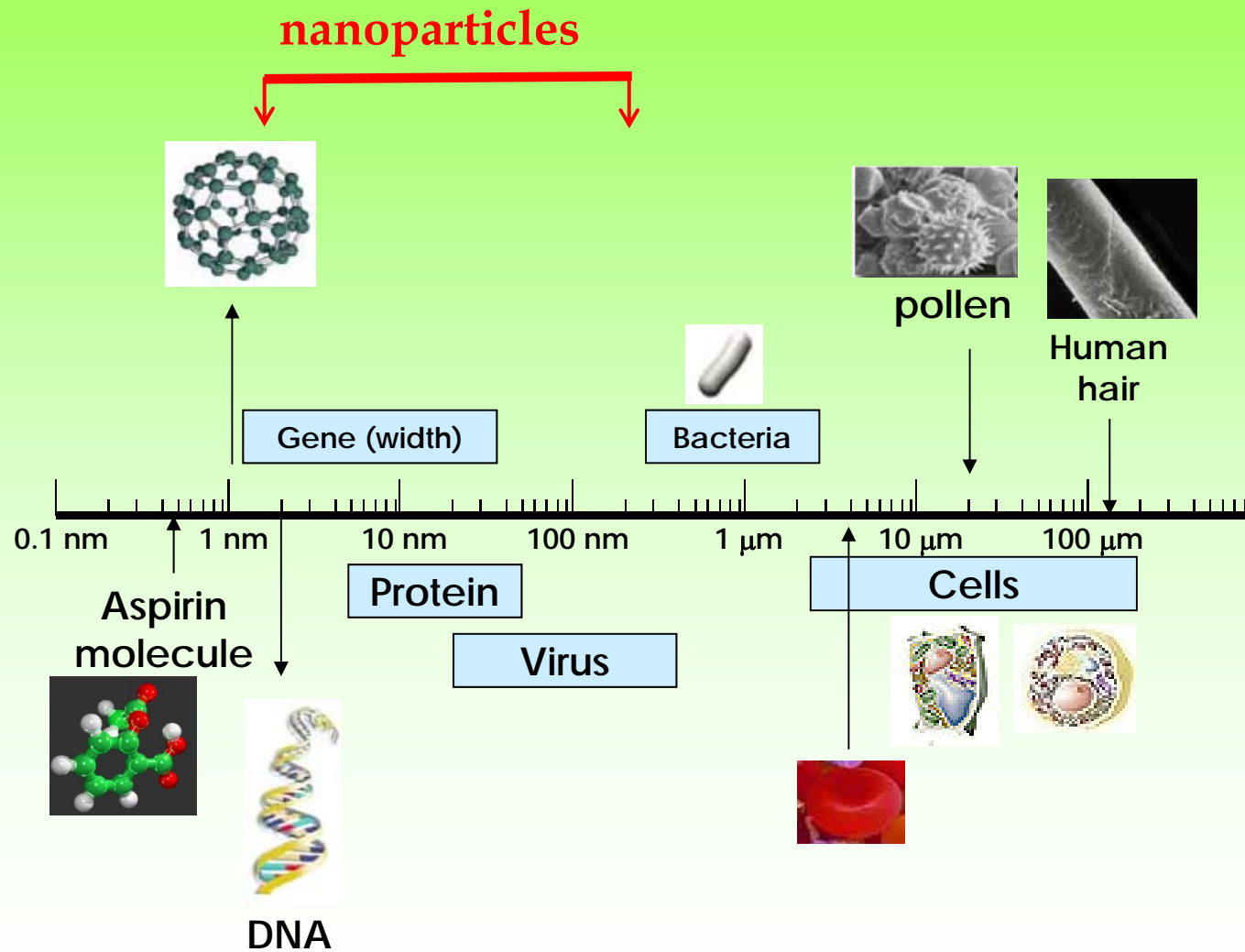




Why Nanomedicine ?



Typical dimensions in nanomedicine



Research interest in magnetic materials : different mechanisms



Sensing
(MRI, Sentimag, MEG-SQUID,...)



Moving
(navigation)



Heating
(Magnetic
Hyperthermia)

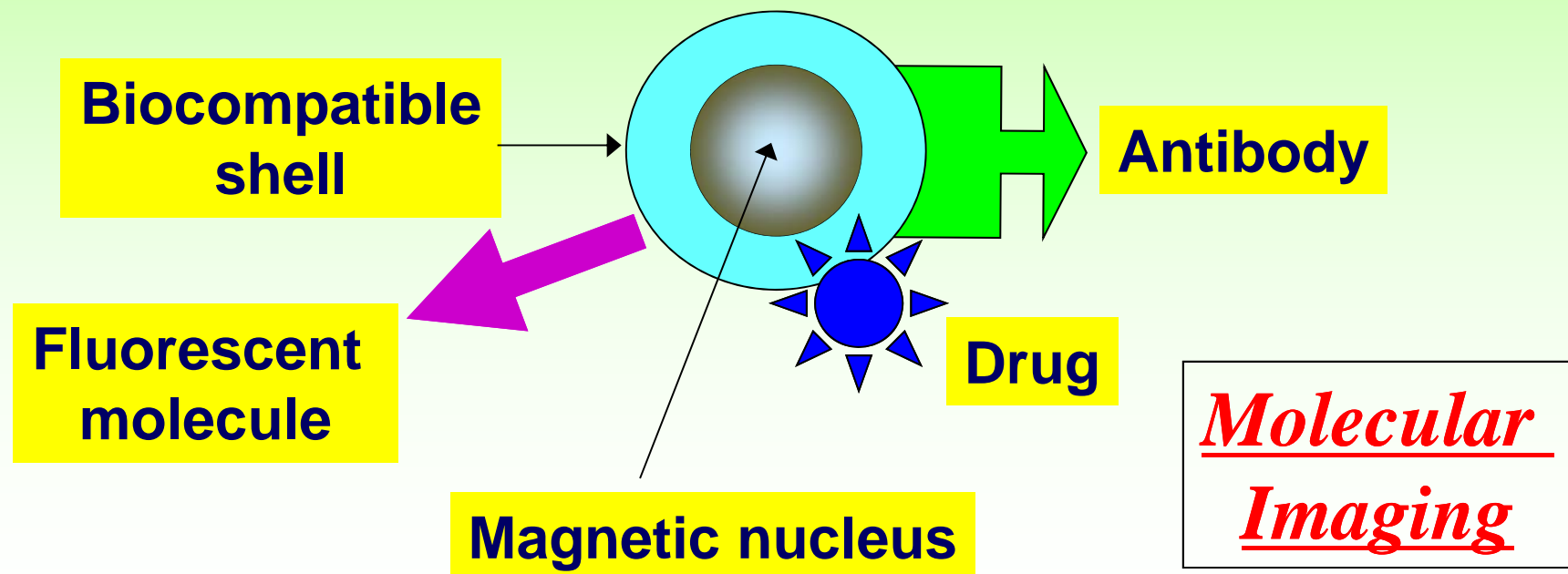


Ideal magnetic nanoparticle

Magnetic Nanoparticles in Theranostics:

Diagnostics : MRI, sensing, fluorescence

Therapy : magnetothermia, drug delivery





MNPs targeting : MOLECULAR IMAGING

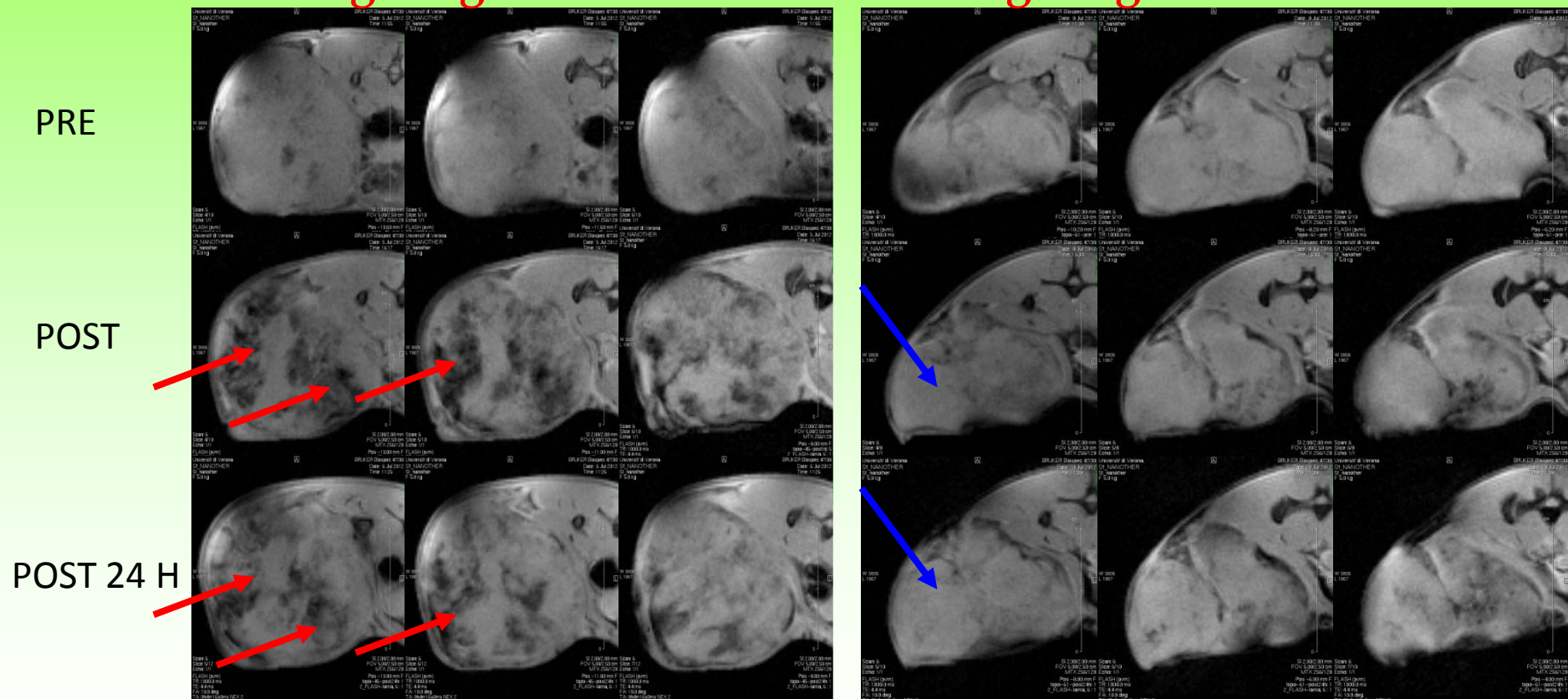
After MRI contrast agents injection

NP- Pisa- folic acid (Gradient-echo)

Targeting effective

NP- Pisa- without folic acid (Gradient-echo)

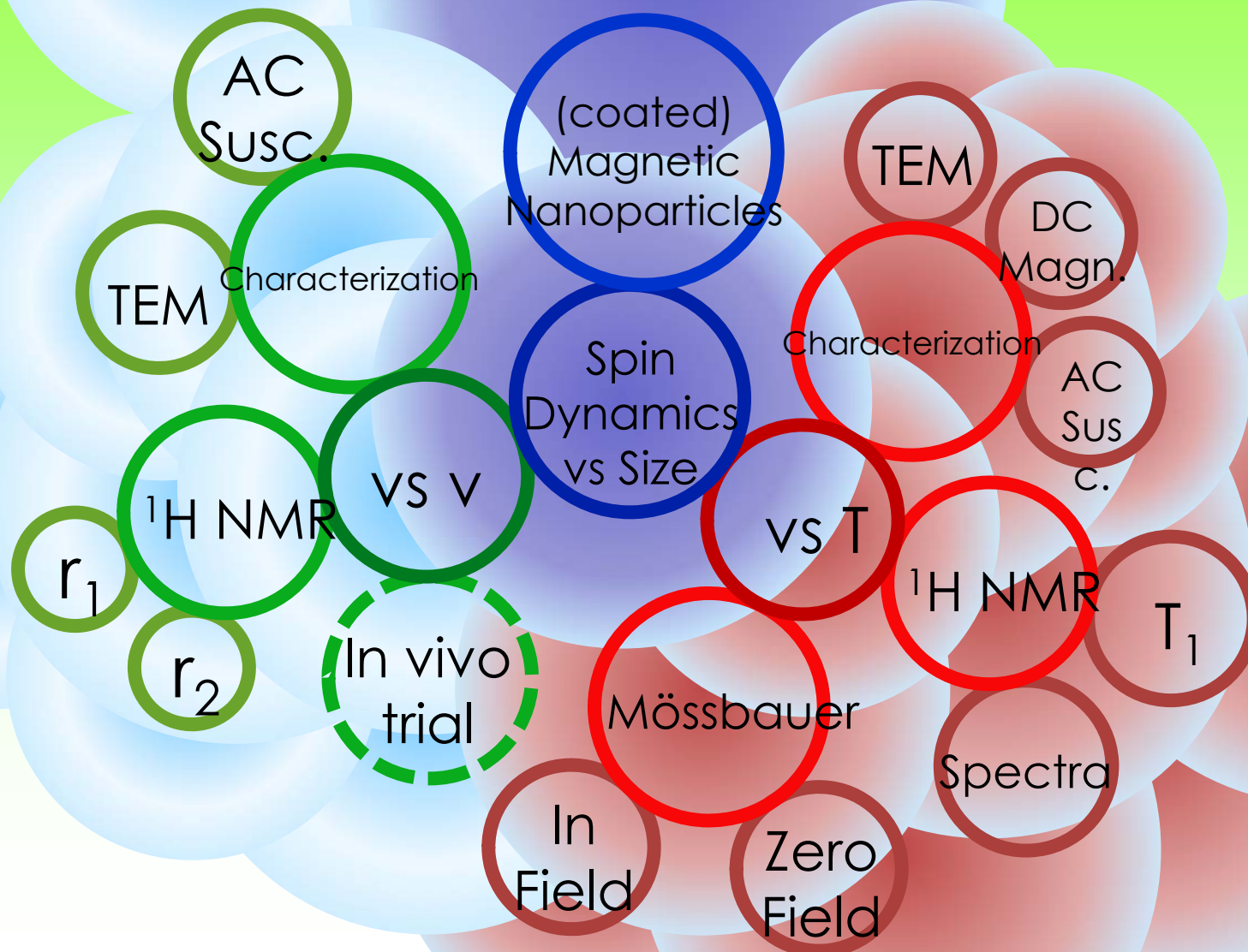
Targeting NOT effective



- MRI images of animal model with breast tumour
- Uptake studies in progress (R. Nano)



MNPs : from fundamental properties to applications



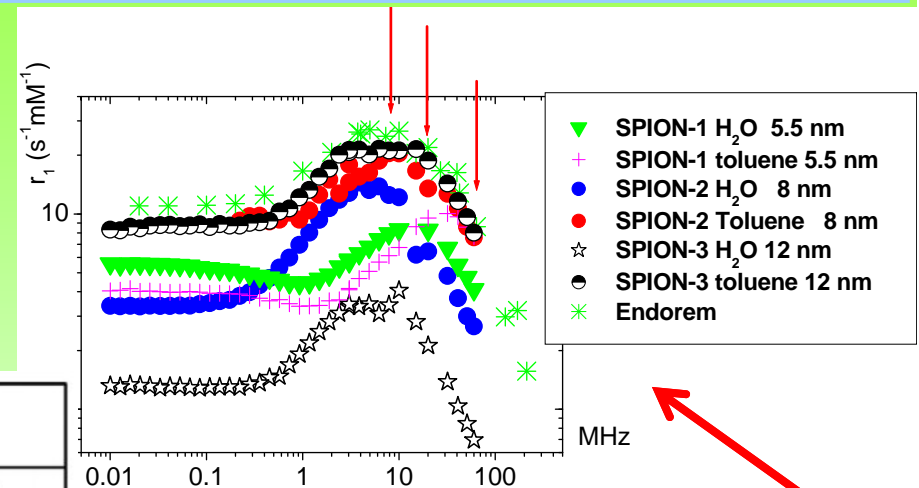


MNPs : from basic properties to applications

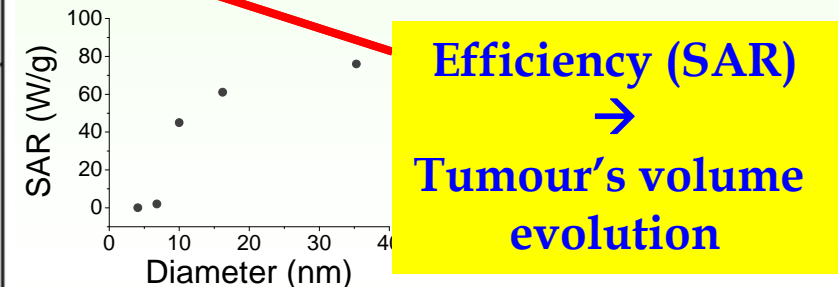
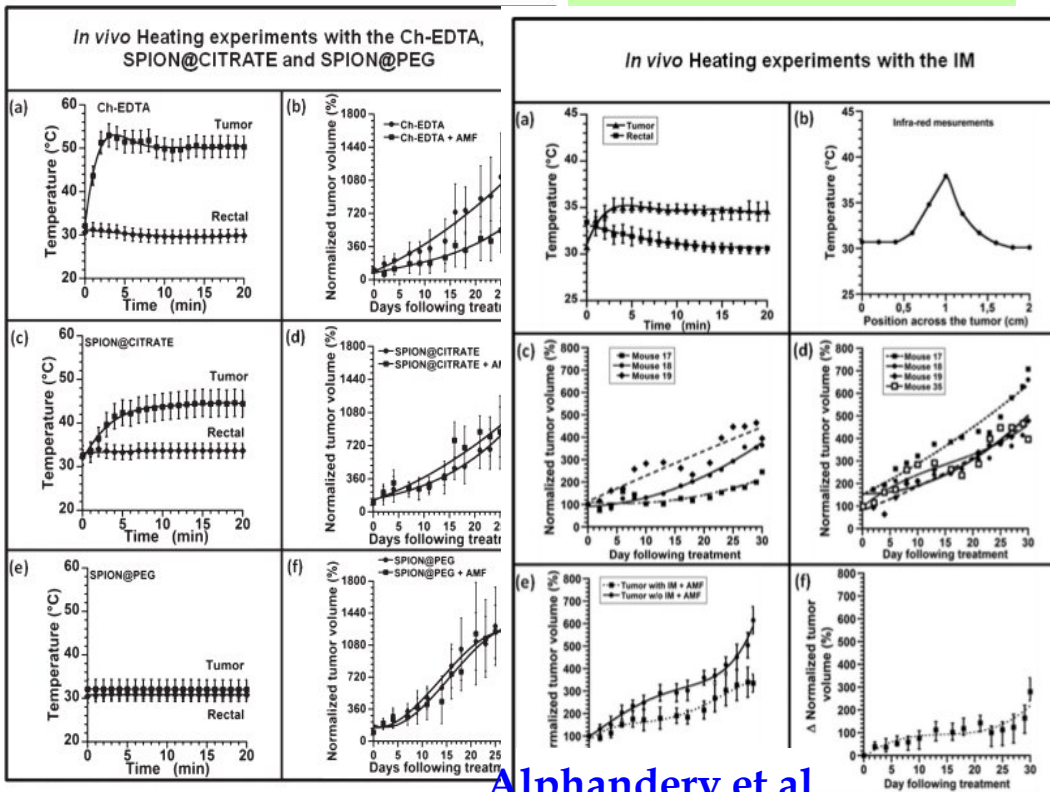
SAR in Magnetic Fluid Hyperthermia : NMR relaxometry at room temperature Study of influence of microscopic features

- Tumour cells MDA-MB-231 (breast)
- 40 mT
 - 20 minutes
- 183 kHz
 - 3 treatments (alternate days)
 - SAR Ch-Std: 390 W/g

In 1 case the tumour disappear !



$$\begin{aligned}
 1/T_1 = & (32\pi/135\,000) \mu_{SP}^2 \gamma_I^2 (N_a C / RD) \\
 & \times \{ 7PL(x)/x J^F[\Omega(\omega_S, \omega_0), \tau_D, \tau_N] \\
 & + [7QL(x)/x + 3(1 - L^2(x) - 2L(x)/x)] \\
 & \times J^F(\omega_I, \tau_D, \tau_N) + 3L^2(x) J^A(\sqrt{2\omega_I \tau_D}) \}
 \end{aligned}$$

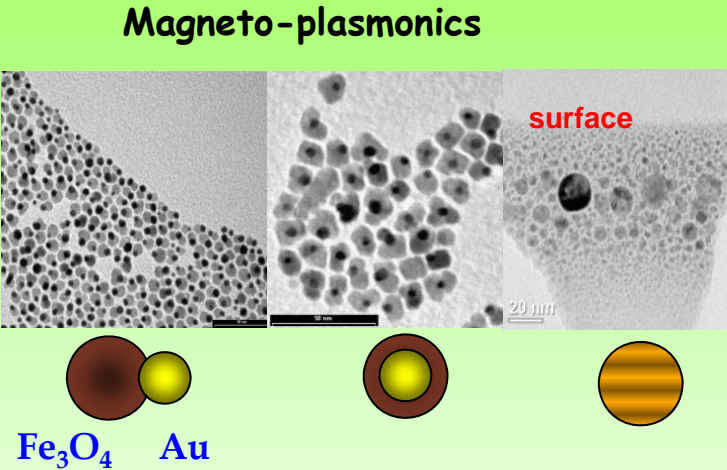
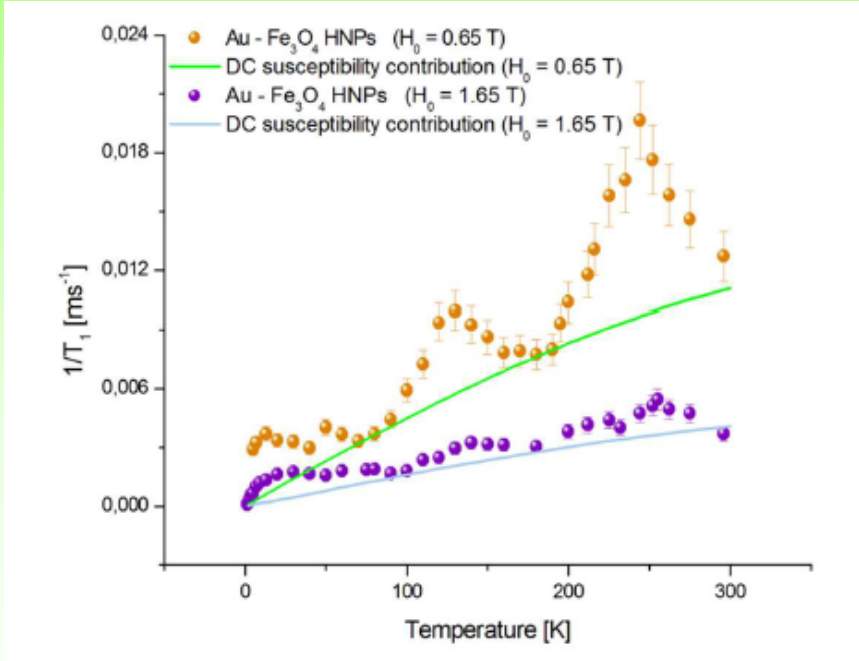




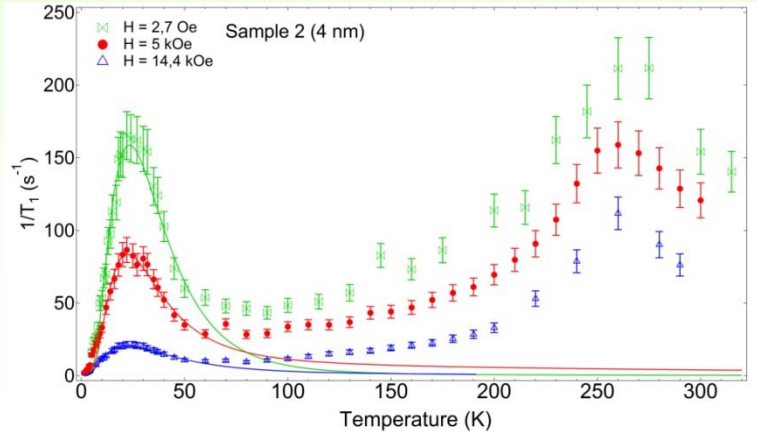
MNPs : fundamental magnetic properties

NMR vs temperature : disclosing spin dynamics & fundamental magnetism

Magneto-optical nano-devices :
ferrites+gold plasmon resonance and
spin dynamics



Ferrites spin dynamics



Physical model for spin dynamics :

$$\frac{1}{T_1} = A\chi T \left(\frac{\tau_R}{1 + \omega_L^2 \tau_R} + \frac{\tau_N}{1 + \omega_L^2 \tau_N} + \frac{\tau_\gamma}{1 + \omega_L^2 \tau_\gamma} \right)$$



Dynamic Nuclear Polarization : a novel contrasting technique and its principles

- ✘ Transfer of polarization from the electron to the nuclear spin system under irradiation of the electronic resonance

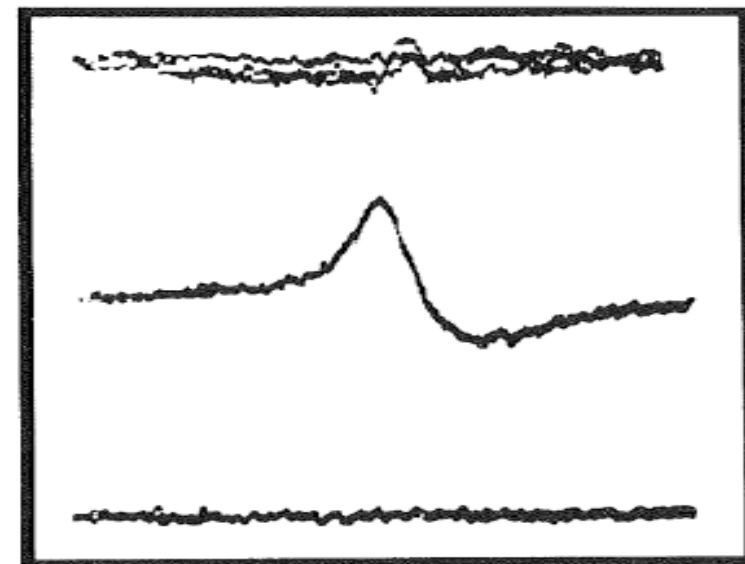
$$P_n (\%) = \varepsilon P_n^{\text{thermal}} = \varepsilon \tanh \left(\frac{\gamma \hbar H_0}{2K_B T} \right) \propto \frac{\varepsilon}{T}$$

NON EQUILIBRIUM HYPERPOLARIZED STATE

- ✘ In Metals and solutions
Overhauser Effect
- ✘ In solids doped with radicals
Solid State Effect (SE)

SE: non interacting electrons

TM: interacting electrons

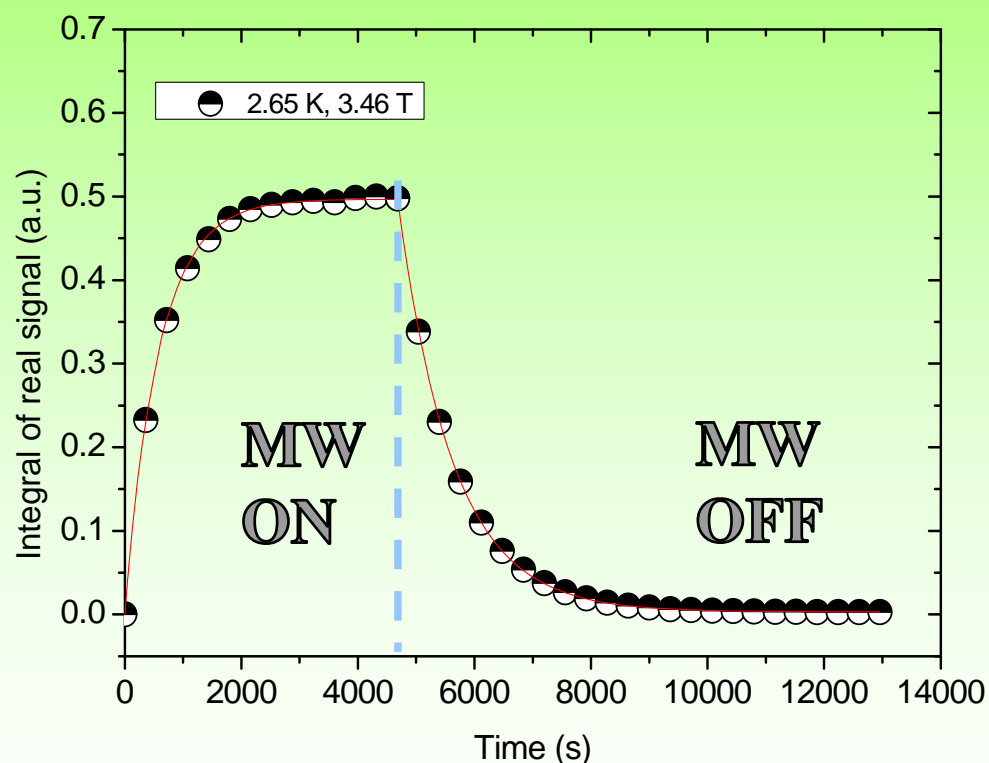


Carver, T. R.; Slichter, C. P. (1953). "Polarization of Nuclear Spins in Metals". *Physical Review* 92 (1): 212–213.

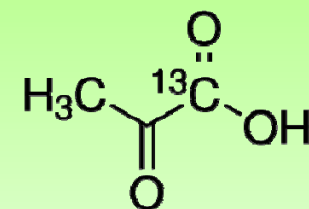


Polarization of Pyruvic acid at 3.46 T

MW source (15mW) about 96.92 GHz
Pyruvic acid +trityl radical 15mM



¹³C Pyruvic Acid



- Endogenous molecule, important for the study of tumoral activity.
- NMR signal increased by a factor 100000

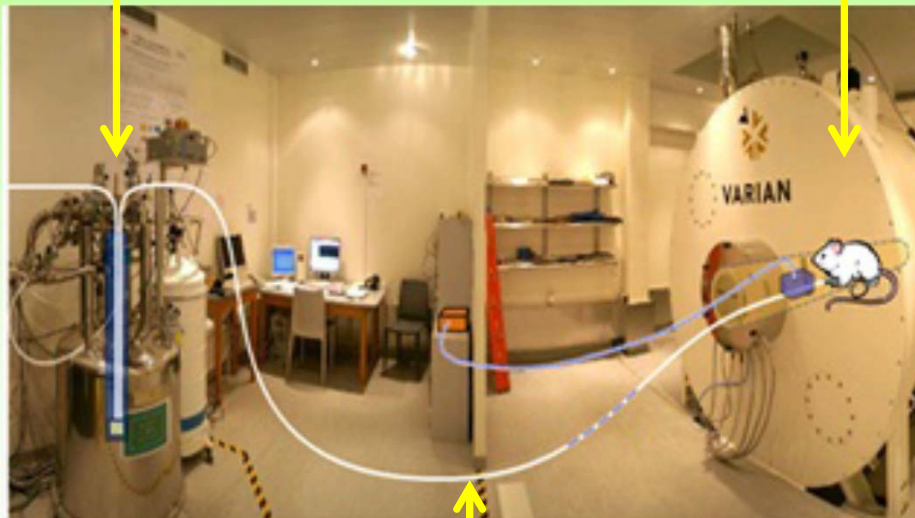


DNP for metabolic imaging

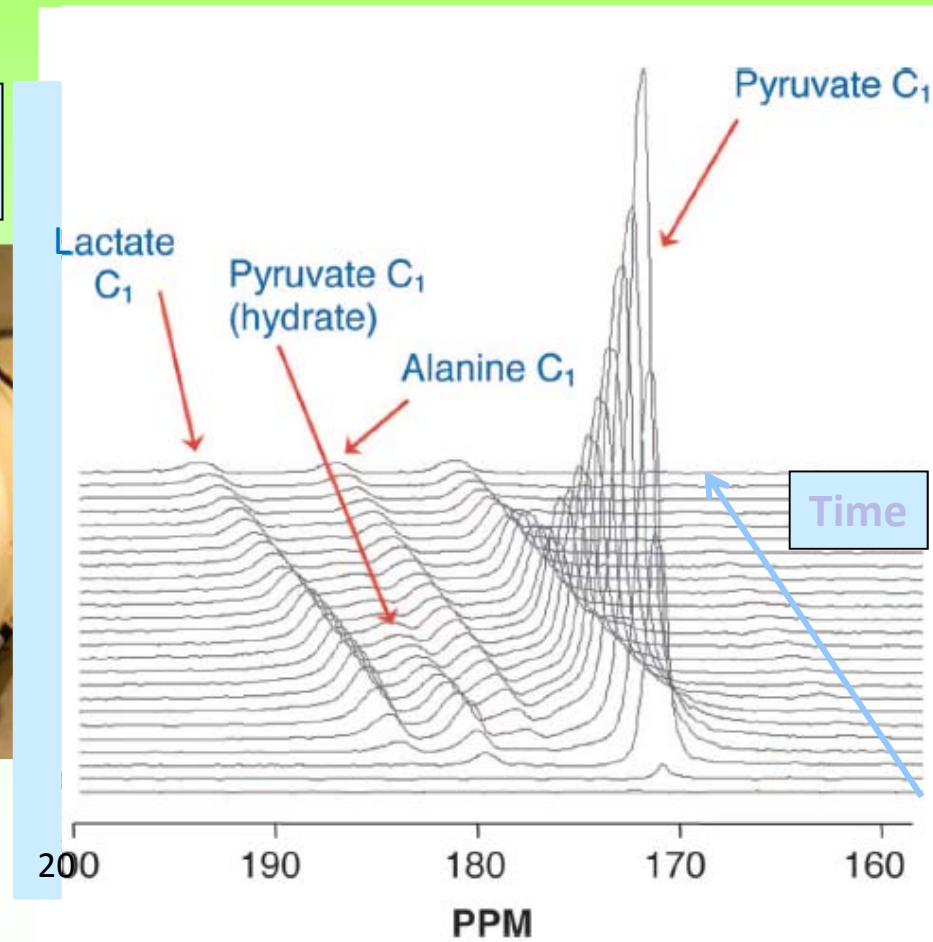
- Solutions of ^{13}C labelled metabolites and paramagnetic radicals (about 10 mM)
- Thermal mixing (TM) at low temperature (1.2 K) and high magnetic fields (3.35T)

Polarization
and dissolution

Injection
and MRI



Transfer line for the sample



Some important DNP results

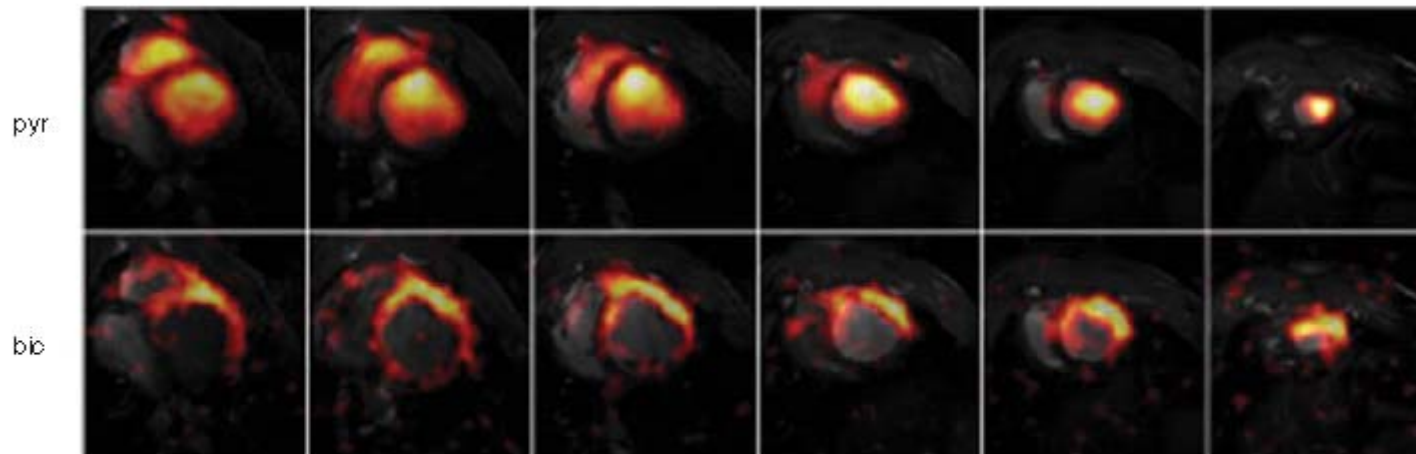
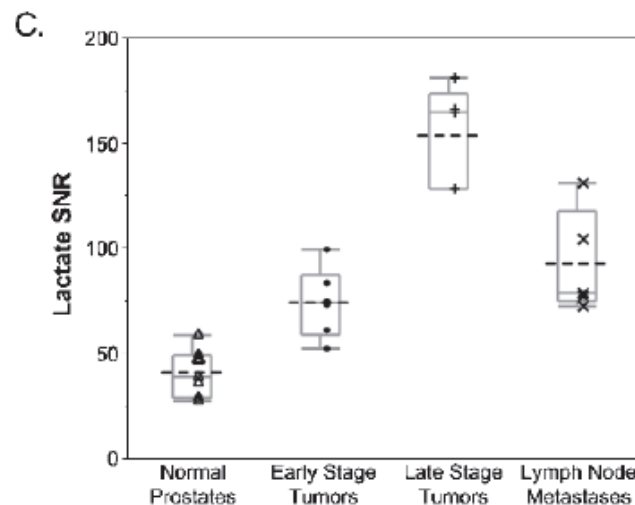
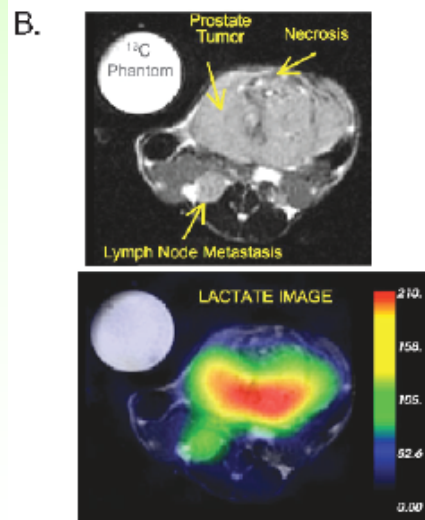


Fig. 5 Multi-slice cardiac-gated ^{13}C images with 8.8mm in-plane resolution and a 1cm slice thickness in a healthy pig heart using spectral-spatial excitation pulses combined with single-shot spiral readout. The top row shows metabolic images of the injected pyruvate overlaid on the conventional anatomical MR images whilst the bottom row shows that of bicarbonate arising from enzymatic conversion. Reprinted from Lau et al [24] with permission of the publisher. Copyright © John Wiley and Sons

T. R. EYKYN (2012). Cardiac Metabolism : time evolution of pyruvic acid and bicarbonate in heart



Pyruvate-lactate ratio and lactate content in prostate tumours



Magneto - therapy

Start-up clarifying requests

- Biological effects of ELF (*Extremely Low Frequency*) magnetic fields
- Mechanisms of interaction
- Definition of experimental protocol on cells

**A similar system actually
used by Prof. Benazzo,
Policlinico PV**

MAGNETOTERAPIA PORTATILE "FLEXA" Asalaser
Vicenza

CARATTERISTICHE TECNICHE

2 Canali con 2 uscite per applicatori
Frequenza variabile 0,5 - 50 Hz
Intensità del Campo Magnetico 0 - 1,6 mT
Durata trattamenti 0-99 minuti oppure continua
Programmi preimpostati per patologia
Possibilità di memorizzare trattamenti

APPLICATORE

Solenoide Portatile
30 cm diametro
22 cm di altezza
6,5 Kg di peso

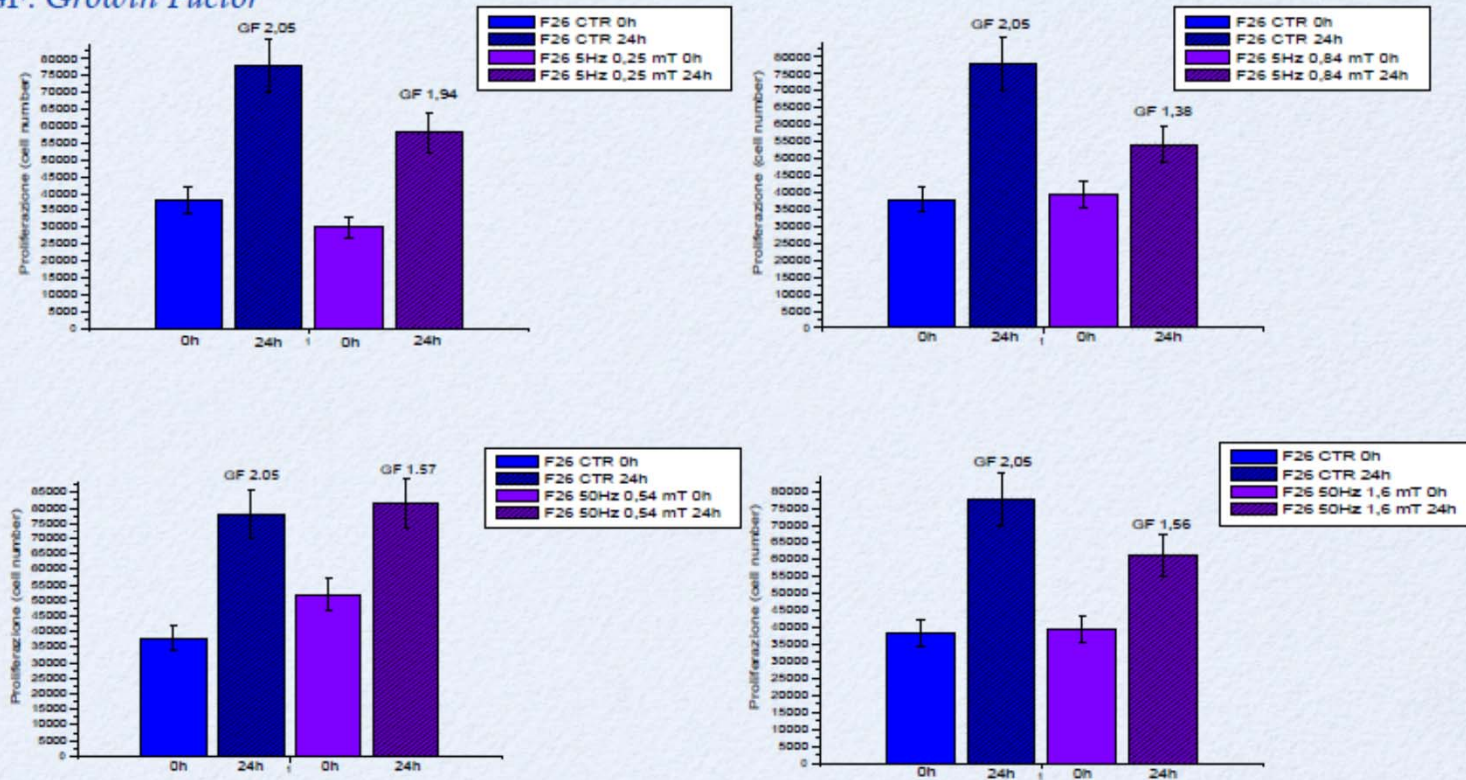




Secondo Trattamento

PROLIFERAZIONE CELLULARE SULLA LINEA F26

GF: *Growth Factor*



EFFETTI PIU' MARCATI PER $\nu=5$ Hz $H=0,84$ mT e $\nu=50$ Hz $H=0,54$ mT

- Effetto sulla **proliferazione cellulare** (fibroblasti)



***Esempi di tesi in collaborazione
e tesi esterne
(Italia, estero-Erasmus)***

SPETTROSCOPIA DI RISONANZA MAGNETICA IN PAZIENTI AFFETTI DA EMICRANIA (F.ROTTOLI)



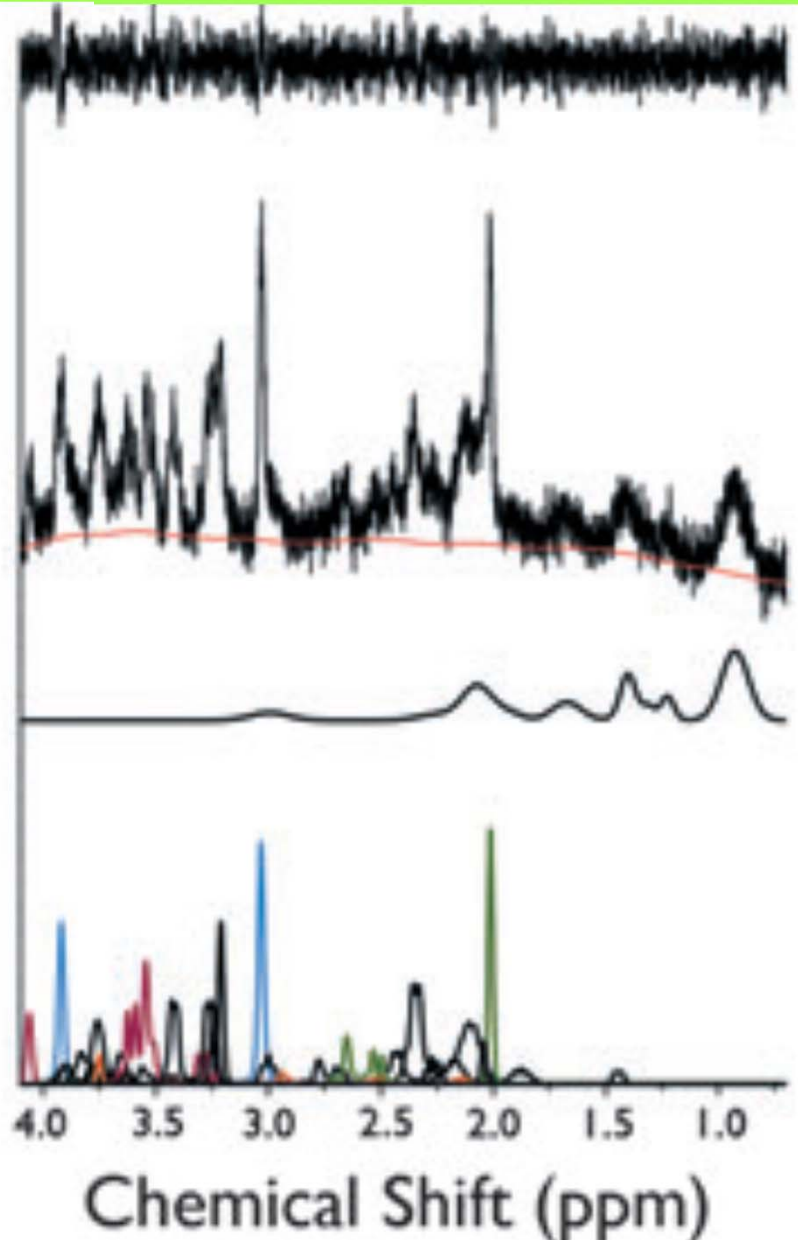
c/o Fondazione Maugeri

Residui

Spettro in vivo

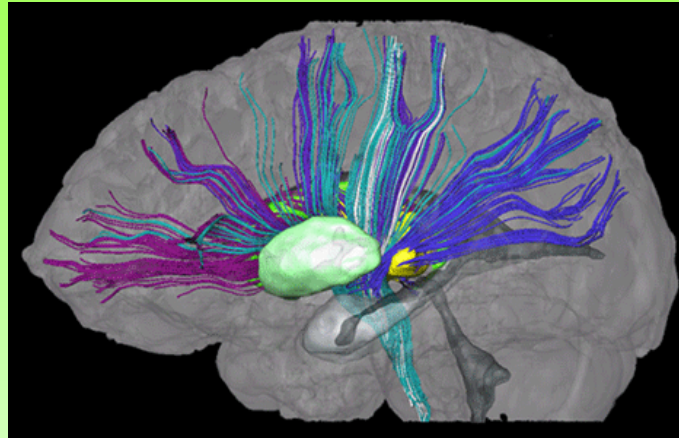
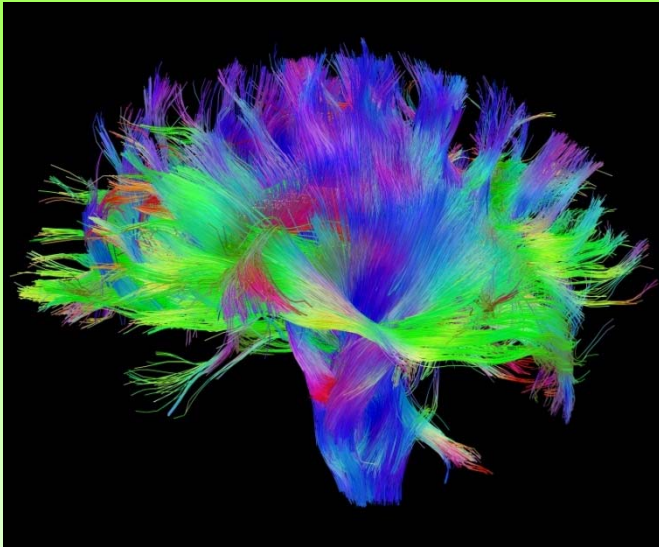
Fit dei metaboliti

Ippocampo di ratto a 7T



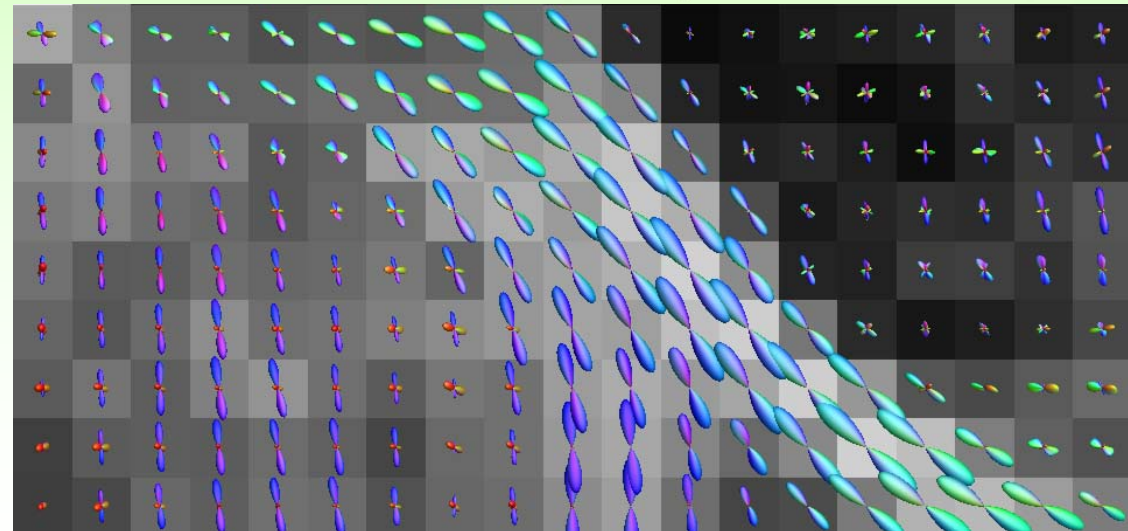
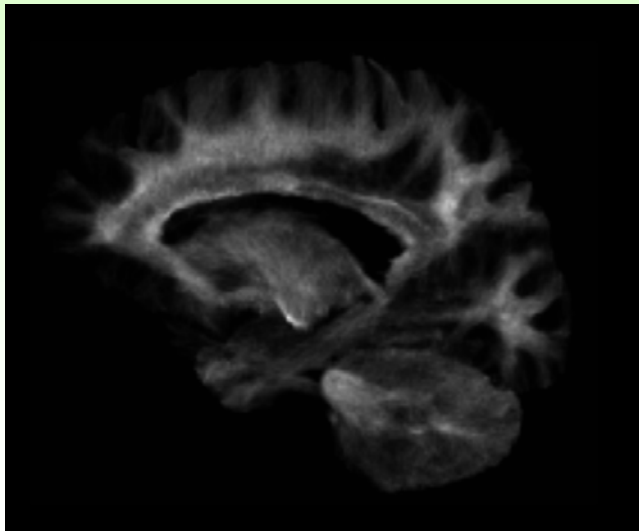
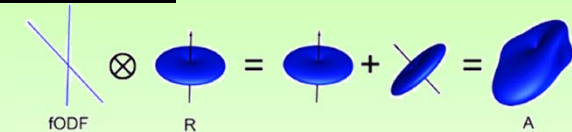
- Cr
- GSH
- mIns
- Lac
- NAA

DEVELOPMENT OF STRUCTURE-FUNCTION RELATIONSHIP IN BRAIN MRI: TOWARDS CLINICAL APPLICATION (G. Savini)



c/o Ist. Mondino

DTI
Tractography
F-MRI
CONNECTOMICS





The end

Any questions ??



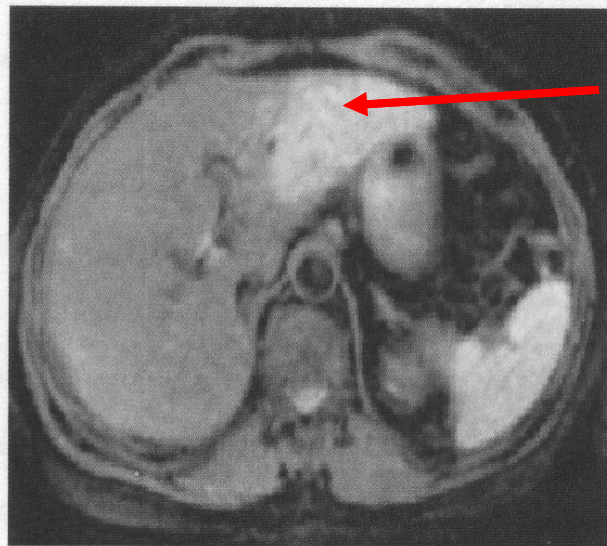


Why MRI contrast agents ?

Liver tumour detection by “negative” SP-CA

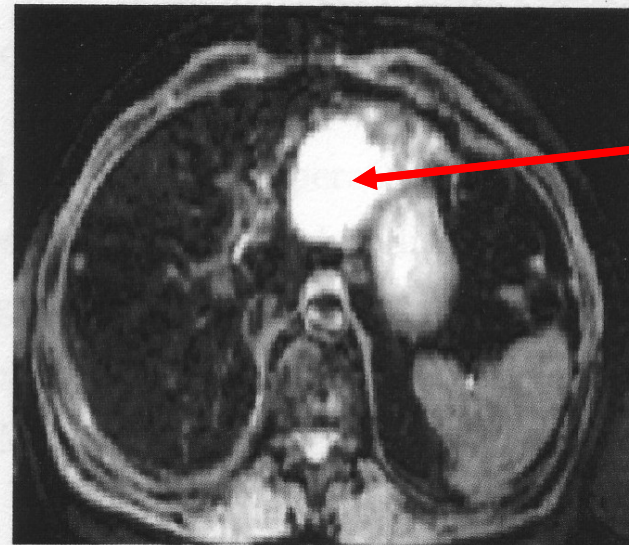
- Generally the **negative CA** are based on **superparamagnetic nanoparticles**

Example : liver tumour



(a)

without CA



(b)

with CA

Examples of biosensors



First Biosensor! → *Coal miners' biosensor*



Commercial Biosensors

Glucose biosensor

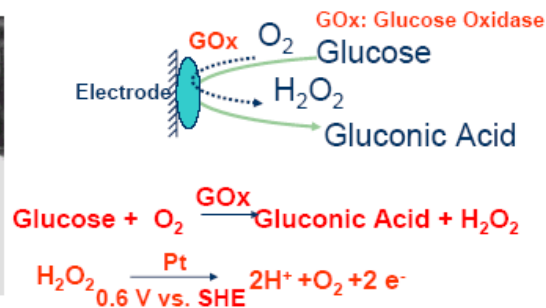
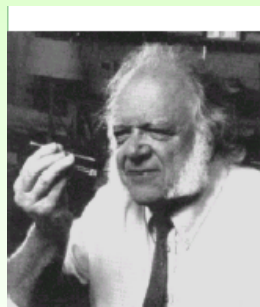


By Johnson & Johnson

Pregnancy test

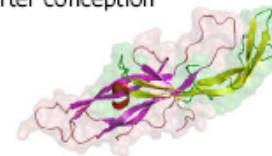


By Gima

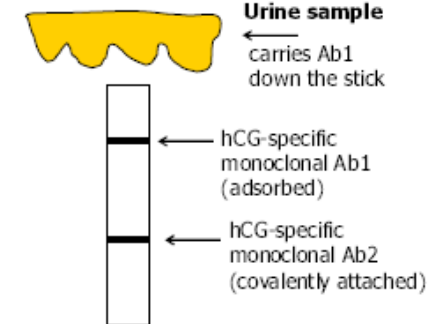
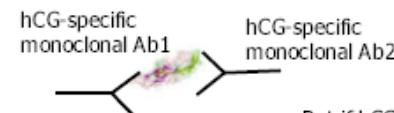


The first and the most widely used commercial biosensor: the blood glucose biosensor – developed by *Leland C. Clark* in 1962

hCG is a 244 amino acid glycoprotein (MW ~37kDa) produced by the embryo soon after conception



Sandwich assay:



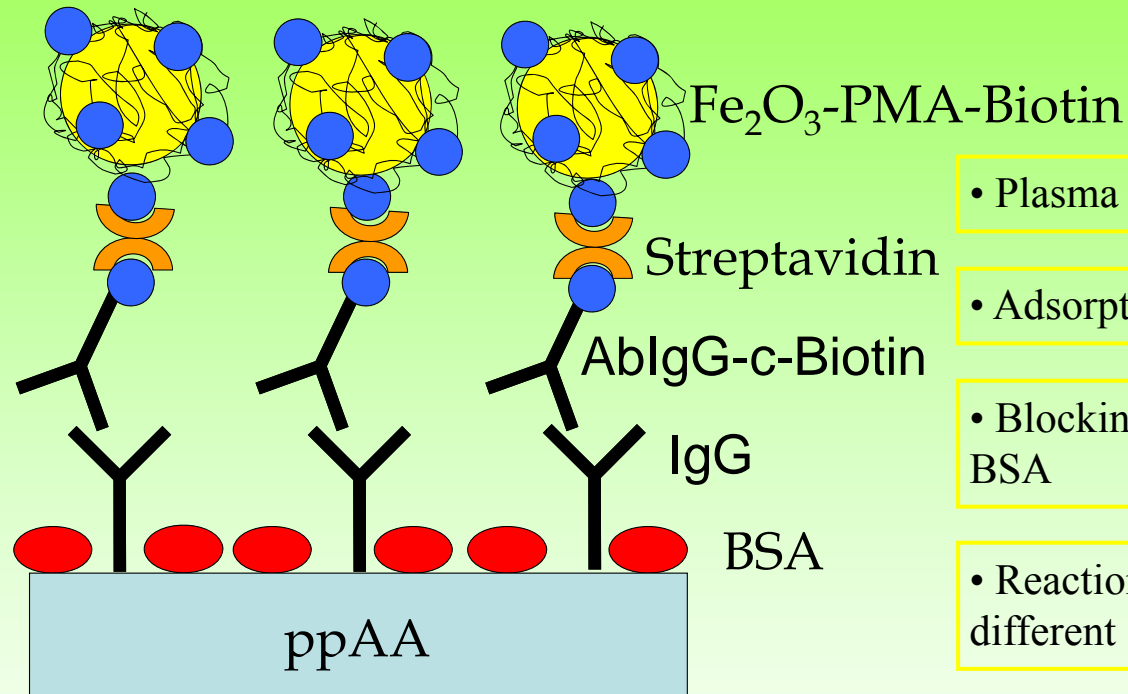
If Ab1-hCG complex present in the urine (pregnant), it will get stuck just where Ab2 is located

But if hCG is not present (not pregnant), hCG-specific monoclonal Ab1 will go straight through



Solid magnetic biosensors

Surface modification approach



- Plasma Deposited Poly Acrylic Acid (ppAA) [*]

- Adsorption of human IgG

- Blocking of the unreacted surface groups by BSA

- Reaction with biotinylated Ab-IgG molecules at different concentrations

- Absorption of streptavidin

- Absorption of *biotinylated modified γ -Fe₂O₃ superparamagnetic nanoparticles*

[*] F. Bretagnol, A. Valsesia, G. Ceccone, P. Colpo, D. Gilliland, L. Ceriotti, M. Hasiwa, and F. Rossi *Plasma Processes and Polymers* 3, 443 (2006).

Solid magnetic biosensors

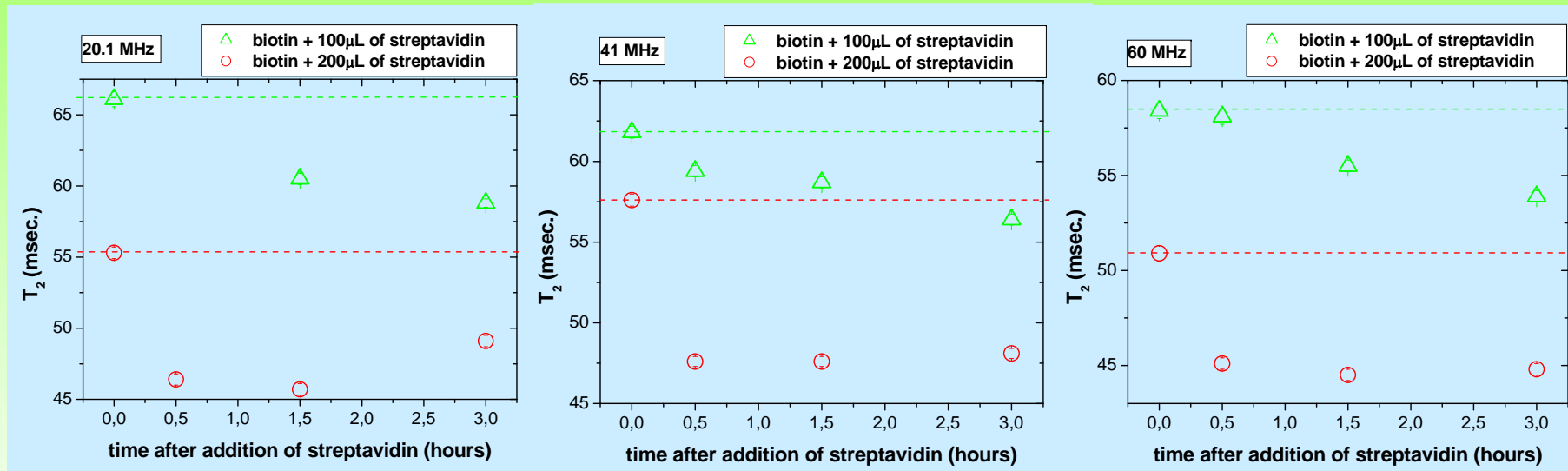


Results of the approach

^1H -NMR measurements

* Room temperature

* ^1H -NMR relaxation times T_1 and T_2 evaluated at 20.1, 41 and 60 MHz



as a function of time after the addition of streptavidin and quantity of streptavidin ($[\text{Strept}] = 1 \text{ mg/mL}$)

The longitudinal relaxation time T_1 not reported \Rightarrow under study

A 10-15% change of the transverse relaxation time $T_2 \Rightarrow$ Sensitivity of NMR

! Detection of probe-analyte interaction ! ... Clusters !

! Analyte not modified !



Therapy by **novel** MNPs : drug release

Percentage release of Tamoxifen
over 12 days (in vitro)

Sharif University
of Technology.

