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A study illustrating the viability of in-vivo simultaneous hyperpolarized 129Xe MRI and [150]-water PET measurements

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¹²⁹Xe is a stable, non-radioactive-isotope, capable of being imaged with MRI. [¹⁵O]-water PET (positron emission tomography) is a gold-standard imaging method. We propose to utilize gold-standard [¹⁵O]-water PET to validate our ¹²⁹Xe-based perfusion imaging methods using a one-shot, multi-modal-imaging approach utilizing simultaneous PET/MRI.

Globally our group is the first one to perform successful validation work for ¹²⁹Xe-based brain perfusion techniques, directly and simultaneously with [¹⁵O]-water PET using phantom scans. ¹²⁹Xe/PET images indicate that the diameter of the phantom from both PET and MRI images are similar clearly indicating the feasibility of the simultaneous hyperpolarized ¹²⁹Xe MRI and [¹⁵O]-water PET measurements. This enabled the next step of in-vivo imaging which we performed on a small animal model.

As ¹²⁹Xe provides higher sensitivity and superior SNR as compare to other imaging techniques. It would be much more cost-effective alternative to PET for imaging stroke, brain cancer and other brain diseases.



RESULTS:

Figure 1: Panels A, B, and C, D represents as follows: 2D axial A) ¹²⁹Xe MRI image, B) [¹⁵O]-water PET image obtained for xenon dissolved in [¹⁵O]-water inside the syringe phantom, C) ¹H image and D) [¹⁵O]-water distribution (PET) image obtained from rat brain.