## Biomagnetism An alternative to study biological systems

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# Sources of Magnetic Fields in the Human Body



Typical intensity and spectra magneti fields sensitivity of Sensors ditribution and



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## Gastrointestinal Motility and Drug Delivery

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## Motivation-1

- Digestion requires that the food passes through the GI tract at an appropriate speed and time.
- Enzymes
- <u>Motility</u>
- Blood Irrigation
- <u>Electric Signals</u>



## **Motivation-2**

- Gastrointestinal motility assessment can give useful information to gastroenterologists for the understanding of the pathophysiology of several diseases
- New methods are necessary to cope with some of the drawbacks present in:
- X-rays
- Scintigraphy
- Hydrogen
- Intubation

## **Sources of Magnetic Fields**

- Magnetic Fields produced by depolarizing currents- *Intrinsic Fields* 
  - SQUIDs (fento-tesla sensitivity)
- Inert magnetic markers and tracers can be ingested in small quantities. A <u>test meal</u> containing magnetic tracers or markers. Ferrite powder or magnetite are used in concentrations of 1-4% weight *Extrinsic Fields* 
  - Fluxgate magnetometers (~nano-tesla)
  - AC biosuscepetomter
  - Magnetoresistive sensors.

## GI Motility Studies with Magnetic Markers and Tracers

- Gastric emptying time
- Orocaecal transit time
- Pharynx clearance and transit time
- Esophagus transit time
- Stomach mix
- Gastrocolic reflex
- Colon motility
- Total transit time
- Drug delivery
- Bowel ischemia (SQUIDs)



• A set of coils (2,3) generate a signal that is detected by a lockin amplifier. When properly balanced no voltage is detected at the lock-in. However when a magnetic substance is near one pair of coils a net voltage is detected.

## Gastric Emptying sensor (a) and positioning (b)





## **Gastric Emptying**

TABLE I. Gastric emptying times (minutes) with standard deviations.

Subject	Susceptometry	Gamma camera
JRM	61±19	$61 \pm 17$
MA	$45 \pm 18$	$47 \pm 12$
JVS	$80 \pm 20$	$70 \pm 21$



MIRANDA, J. R., BAFFA, O., OLIVEIRA, R. B., MATSUDA, N. M. An AC Biosusceptometer to Study Gastric Emptying. Medical Physics. , v.19, n.2, p.445 - 448, 1992.

#### **Oroceacal Transit Time Measurements**

- OCTT was measured by biomagnetic methods and the results were compared with the hydrogen breath test.
- A magnetic test meal was given containing lactulose and the expired hydrogen was analyzed by gas chromatography.

OLIVEIRA, R. B., BAFFA, O., TRONCON, L. E. A., MIRANDA, J. R. A., CAMBREA, C. R. Evaluation of a Biomagnetic Technique for Measurement of Orocaecal Transit Time. European Journal Of Gastroenterology Hepatology., v.8, p.491 - 496, 1996.

#### OCTT Plots in the Same Subject Before and After Loperamide Administration



#### OCTT Plot for a Hydrogen Non-Producer and High Fasting Producer Subjects in Comparison with the Magnetic Method



## Assesment of Stomach's Mechanical Activity



#### **Gastric Contractions**







# Drug Effect Assessed by the Susceptometric Measurements

- 8 Normal Volunteers
- Hyoscine N-butylbromide (Buscopan-IV 40 mg)
- 87 % of measurements showed significant amplitude variations





#### 28 minutes after...





MIRANDA, J. R. A., OLIVEIRA, R. B., SOUSA, P. L., BRAGA, F. J. H. N., BAFFA, O. A Novel Biomagnetic Method to Study Gastric Antral Contractions. Physics in Medicine and Biology., v.42, n.9, p.1791 - 1799, 1997.

### Esophagus Transit Time (ETT) Sensor Configuration



• The biosusceptometer is in an axial configuration

• The passage of the magnetic test meal near one of its extremities produces a signal as shown

#### **Sensor Positioning**



 DAGHASTANLI, N. A., BRAGA, F. J. H. N., OLIVEIRA, R. B., BAFFA, O.
Oesophageal Transit Time Evaluated by a Biomagnetic Technique. Physiological Measurements v.19, n.3, p.413 - 420, 1998

### ETT as Seen by Scintigraphy



#### **ETT-Biomagnetic Measurement**



#### **ETT-Scintigraphy Measurement**



## Comparison Between the Biomagnetic and Scintigraphic Methods



### Clearance and Pharynx Transit Time Mesurement



MIQUELIN, C.A., BRAGA, F. J. H. N., DANTAS, R. O., OLIVEIRA, R. B., BAFFA, O. Pharyngeal clearance and pharyngeal transit time determined by a biomagnetic method in normal humans. Dysphagia., v.16, p.308 - 312, 2001.

#### Scintigraphic Image and Sensor Positioning







## Fluxgate Magnetometer-10<sup>-9</sup> T





(a)

### Fluxgate with a Toroidal Nucleus



## Experimental Set-up for Magnetization Measurement



CARNEIRO, A. A. O., BAFFA, O., OLIVEIRA, R. B. Study of Stomach Motility Using Magnetic Tracers. Physics in Medicine and Biology., v.44, p.1691 - 1697, 1999.

# Relaxation Process Induced by the Stomach Motor Activity



Z component of the remanent magnetization M<sub>z</sub> is measured

#### Magnetization Decay Due to Stomach's Mechanical Activity



Sequence of RM decay curves obtained from a volunteer within the 40 min period immediately after ingestion of the test meal.

#### **Remanent Magnetization** – Time course



#### M<sub>z</sub>-Decay: a possible mechanism



### **Gastrocolic Reflex**



#### **Test Meal**



3 g magnetite ( $Fe_3O_4$ )

15 g Oat Flour

Water

### **Magnetic Signal of Cecum Region**



#### **Magnetic Signal Fourier Transform**





Before Meal

After Meal

#### Liver Susceptometry

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# Macroscopic aspects of the iron overloaded liver



# Microscopic aspects of the iron overloaded liver



# Methods for iron overload assessment

- Needle Biopsy (gold standard?)
- Serum ferritin concentration
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- Magnetic Susceptibility

#### Magnetic Field Some estimates



The magnetic field produced by a sphere of radius r is given by:  $\Delta B = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \left( \frac{md}{r^3} \right)$ But:  $\chi = \frac{M}{H}$  and  $M = \frac{m_d}{V}$ Thus:  $m_d = MV = \chi HV$ But:  $\chi = \approx 10^{-5} B = \mu_o (1+\chi)H \approx \mu_o H$ Thus:  $m_d = \frac{\chi VB}{\mu_0}$  $\Delta B = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \left( \frac{\chi VB}{\mu_0 r^3} \right) = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \left( \frac{4\pi r^3}{3\mu_0 r^3} VB \right) = \frac{2}{3} \chi B$ 

Using a magnetic field of 60µT a variation of 100pT will be produced.

## Procedure of measurement



## Procedure of measurement



#### In vivo measurements



#### Results of in vivo measurements





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## Noninvasive methods to study and localize neuronal activity: fMRI, EEG e MEG



#### Cellular Architecture $\rightarrow$ Sources





\*Modifiied from Bear, F.M.; Connors, B.W e Paradiso, M.A. - Structure of the Nervous System, *Neuroscience. Exploring the Brain* 

## MEG e EEG Current sources



### Magnetoencefalography (MEG)



#### The effect of electrical conductivity on the EEG









#### **CTF and Neuromag Systems**





#### System inside a MSR



#### Magnes II – Sistema Bti

Sensor Dual Magnes II, Bti - 2 x 37 Channels Inside a magnetically shielded room





#### **Data Interpretation**

normal response to a bilateral audio stimuli



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