

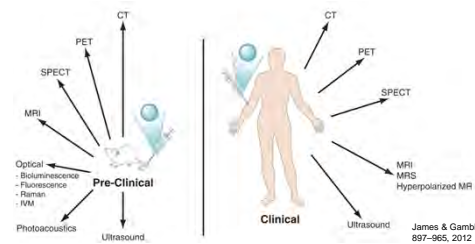
## Hybrid Imaging Systems

Roger Fulton, PhD

Brain and Mind Research Institute, University of Sydney; Westmead Hospital, Sydney.



## What is Hybrid Imaging?



James & Gambhir, Physiol Rev 92: 897-965, 2012

Hybrid (or multimodality) imaging is the integration of two or more modalities: PET, SPECT, CT, MRI, fMRI, optical, ultrasound, etc with the images being registered in space and time.

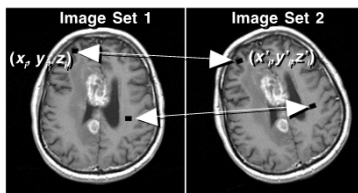
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## Hybrid Imaging Approaches

### Serial Hybrid Imaging

- Images acquired separately and fused together by rigid or nonrigid image registration.
- Useful, but prone to registration error due to body deformation, respiratory motion, disease progression.



Rigid Transformation  
 $T = f(x, y, z, rot_x, rot_y, rot_z)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{bmatrix} = T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Hybrid Imaging Approaches

### Integrated Hybrid Imaging

- Simultaneous or near simultaneous acquisition,
  - Examples: PET/CT, SPECT/CT, PET/MR, ..
  - Better co-registration.



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## Hybrid Imaging Advantages

### Combining Strengths

- Hybrid imaging should provide some kind of added value.
- To be useful a hybrid imaging system should enable the modalities to do things that they could not do alone.
  - To answer clinical questions that could not be answered using the scanners separately.
  - To improve the quantitative accuracy of functional/molecular imaging studies.
  - To enable clinical or preclinical studies to be done in less time.
  - To reduce costs.

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PET/CT



### Commercial PET-CT Scanners



**Siemens Biograph**  
LSO, 2/6/16/64 slice CT

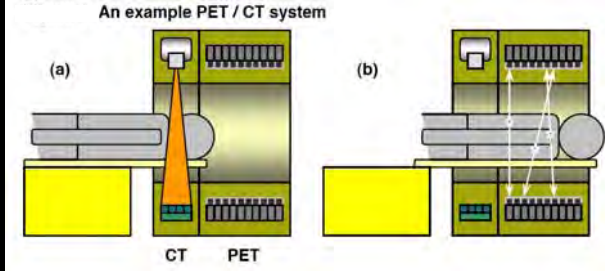
**GE Discovery ST**  
BGO, 4/8/16 slice CT

**Philips Gemini**  
GSO, 6/10/16 slice CT

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### PET/CT

An example PET / CT system



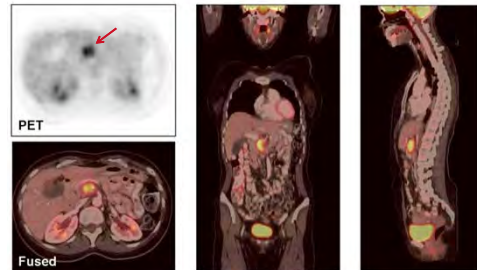
(a) CT (b) PET

D. Plattner, IMPACT Technology update no. 4, 2004.  
<http://www.impactscan.org/download/petct.pdf>

### PET/CT Advantages

#### Localization

- Provides accurately aligned structural and functional information.



PET/CT  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG scan of 50 y.o. female with pancreatic cancer.  
D. Townsend, Phys. Med. Biol. 53 (2008) R1-R39.

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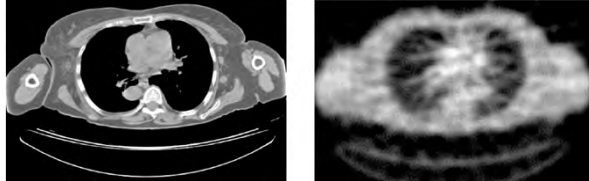
### PET/CT Advantages

#### Low noise attenuation correction factors, fast

- CT provides low noise attenuation information in a short time for attenuation correction of the PET emission data.

**CT (~80 keV – 120 keV)**  
Low noise, fast.  
Needs to be scaled to 511 keV.

**PET Transmission (511 keV)**  
Noisy, slow, quantitatively accurate for 511-keV.

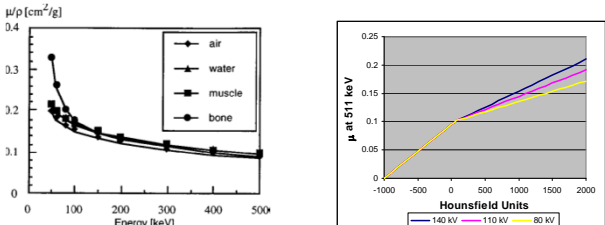


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### PET/CT Attenuation correction

#### CT-based Attenuation Correction

- A two segment linear scale is used
- Different scaling for soft tissues and bone
- Break point at about 0 - 70 HU unit
- Bone scale depends on CT kV

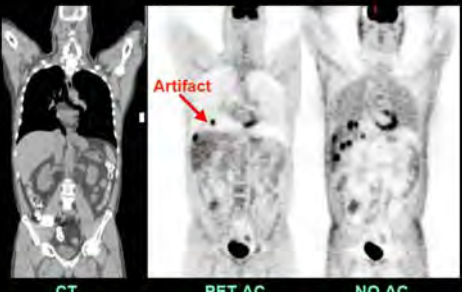


Kinahan et al Med Phys 25(10), pp2046-2053, 1998

Rappoport V et al IEEE NSS Conference Record 2004

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### Breathing Artifacts: Misregistration Of Lesions




CT PET AC NO AC

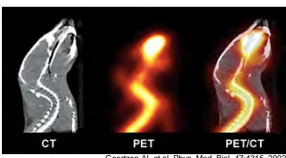
58-y-old man diagnosed with colon cancer. A lesion at the dome of the liver appears erroneously in the lower right lung base on the PET AC image. On the non-AC image all the liver lesions are confined to the liver.

Courtesy P. Kinahan, University of Washington

### Preclinical PET/CT



Bioscan NanoPET/CT      Siemens Inveon PET/CT




CT      PET      PET/CT

PET and CT images showing distribution of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluoride ion in a mouse.


Gierzen AL et al. Phys. Med. Biol. 47:4315-2002.

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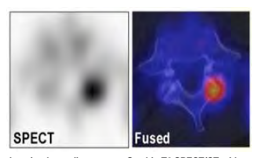
### SPECT/CT



### Commercial SPECT-CT Scanners

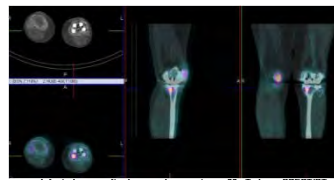


GE Hawkeye      Siemens Symbia      Philips Precedence



SPECT      Fused

Imaging bone disease on a Symbia T2 SPECT/CT with  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ -MDP. D. Townsend, Phys. Med. Biol. 53 (2008) R1-R39



Infected screw after knee replacement on a  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  bone SPECT/CT scan. Courtesy D. Bailey, The Radiographer 59 (2012) 98-103.

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### PET/CT and SPECT/CT

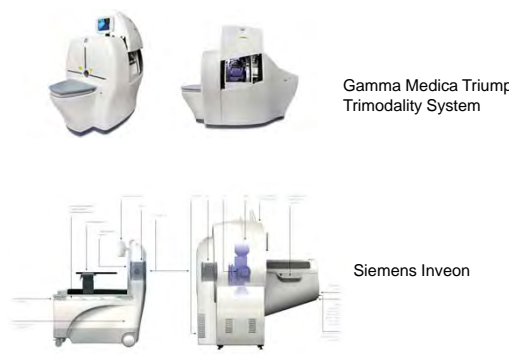
- › Use of CT for attenuation correction introduces some potential sources of artifacts.
- › Non-simultaneous acquisition creates a propensity for motion between scans.
- › CT can deliver significant radiation doses dependent on chosen scan parameters.

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### Trimodality PET/SPECT/CT



### TRIMODALITY – Preclinical PET / SPECT / CT



Gamma Medica Triumph II Trimodality System

Siemens Inveon

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## TRIMODALITY SYSTEMS

Clinical



Mediso AnyScan - Human PET, SPECT and CT.  
<http://www.mediso.com>

Preclinical



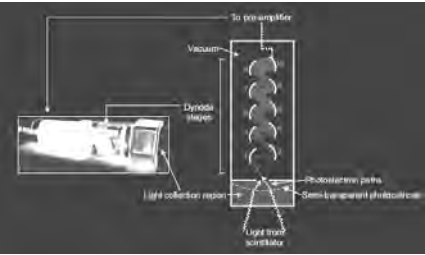
Carestream Albira - uPET, uSPECT and uCT.  
<http://carestream.com>

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# PET/MR



## PMTs and magnetic fields do not mix

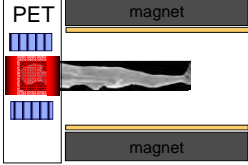


- Solution 1: *transport the light from the scintillation crystal to the PMTs a distance away (outside the B field)*
- Solution 2: *replace the PMTs with solid state devices (APDs)*

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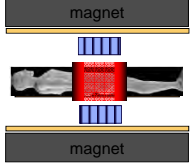
## Approaches to PET/MRI

“tandem” PET/MRI





- + interference easier to avoid
- + largely use existing hardware
- + least expensive

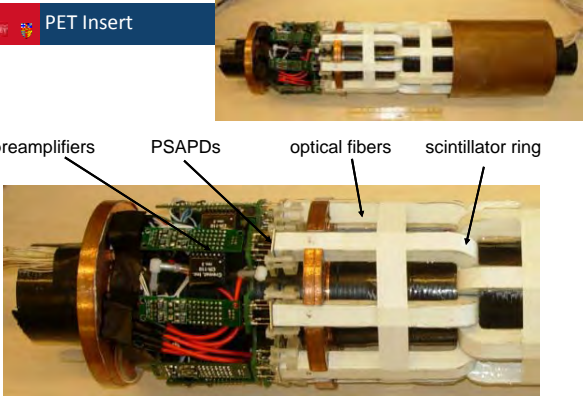
“integrated” PET/MRI





- + simultaneous PET/MRI possible
- + higher throughput
- + best image registration

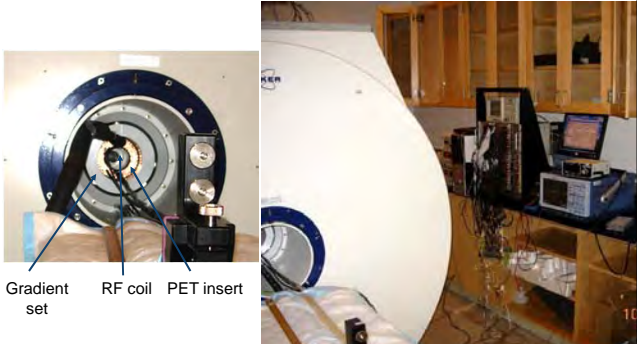
## PET Insert





Catana C, et al. (2006) J Nucl Med 47:1968-1976

## PET-MRI Set Up

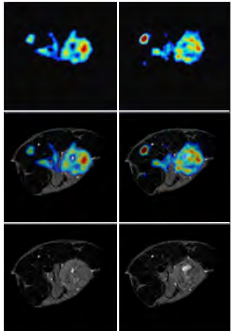


Catana C, et al. (2006) J Nucl Med 47:1968-1976



### Simultaneous in vivo PET and MR imaging



**Mouse  
FDG Tumor Imaging**

**PET**

- ~200  $\mu\text{Ci}$   $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG
- Voxel size:  $0.35 \times 0.35 \times 1.5 \text{ mm}^3$

**MRI**

- RARE sequence
- Whole body imaging RF coil
- FOV =  $4 \times 4 \text{ cm}^2$
- Matrix size  $256 \times 256$

Catana C et al. PNAS 2008;105:3705-3710

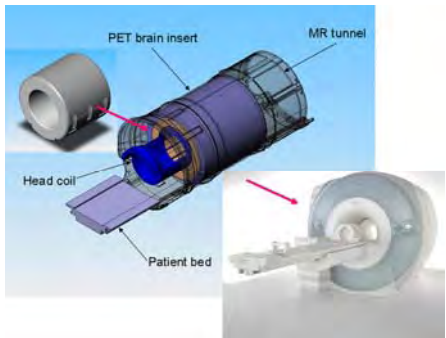
PNAS

©2008 by National Academy of Sciences

### PET/MR SYSTEM TYPES

**INTEGRATED**

- Siemens BrainPET
- PET insert - LSO crystal ring, APDs
- 3T MR
- Simultaneous PET/MR



Schlemmer H W et al. Radiology 2008;248:1028-1035

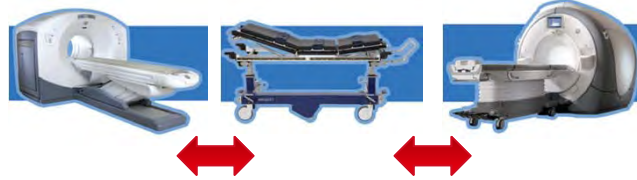
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### PET/MR SYSTEM TYPES

**SEQUENTIAL – TWO ROOMS**

- GE TRI-MODALITY- PET/CT + MR

PET/CT      Patient Transfer Table Top (PTTT)      MR



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### PET/MR SYSTEM TYPES

**SEQUENTIAL ('Tandem') – SAME ROOM**


- Philips Ingenuity TF
- PET/CT and MRI share same bed



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### WHOLE BODY PET/MR

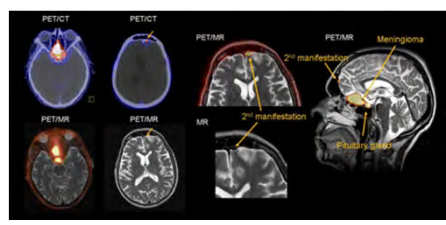
**Integrated whole body PET/MR**



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### PET/MRI

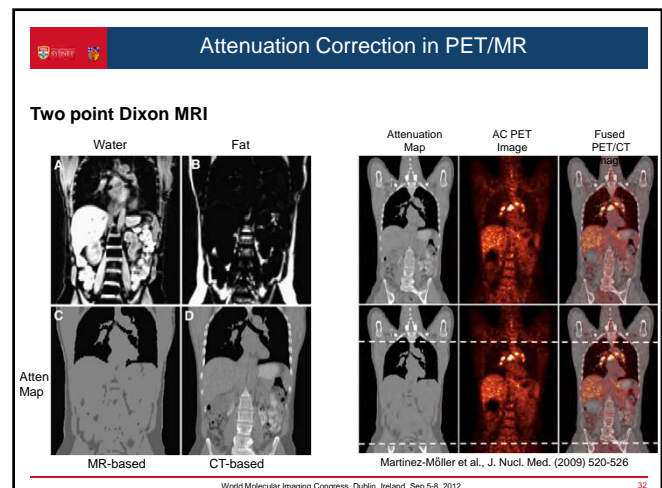
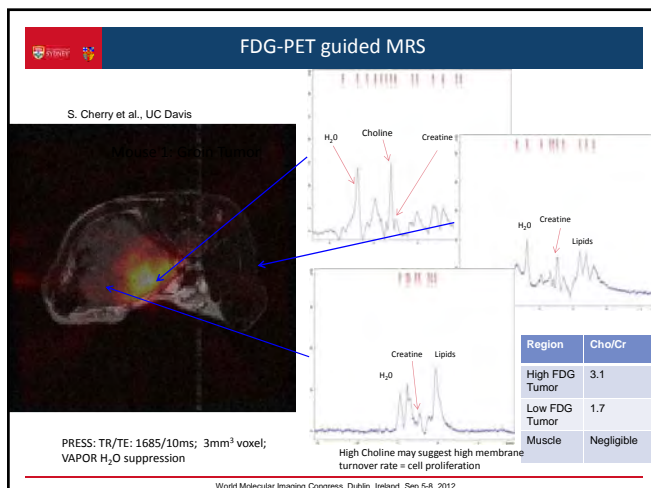
**PET/MRI vs PET/CT**



Frontobasal meningioma -  $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTA-TOC

Pichler et al. J. Nucl. Med. (2010) 51(3) 333-336.

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### Why PET/MR?

#### Potential Strengths

- Excellent registration of structural and molecular imaging data with better soft tissue contrast than CT
- Anatomic priors for PET reconstruction, partial volume correction and data modeling
- PET can be combined with advanced MRI techniques such as fMRI, DWI, MR spectroscopy, and MR molecular imaging agents.
- No additional radiation dose.
- Potential to obtain motion information from MRI for motion correction of PET data.

#### Weaknesses

- More expensive than PET/CT
- Attenuation information not directly measured as in CT
- Uncertainty regarding throughput, cost effectiveness and ultimate clinical role.

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### OTHER HYBRID IMAGING MODALITIES

### OTHER HYBRID IMAGING MODALITIES

#### A partial list:


- › PET/MR, PET/CT,...
- › SPECT/CT, SPECT/MR,...
- › MR/PET, MR/Ultrasound, MR-EIT,...
- › Optical/PET, Optical/SPECT, Optical/CT, Optical/MR
- › Photoacoustic/Thermoacoustic
- › Trimodality – Optical/x-ray/radioisotopic, Magneto-photo-acoustic
- › Omnitomography

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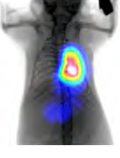
### HYBRID OPTICAL MODALITIES

### Optical / Planar x-ray [/ Radioisotope]

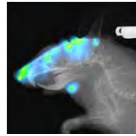
Use of co-registered x-ray image for source localization.



Injected tumour cells labelled with near infra-red fluorophores (fluorescent chemical compounds that can re-emit light upon light excitation).



Intracranially injected NIR fluorophores.



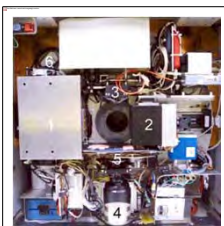
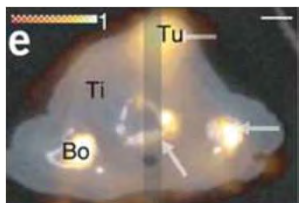
- Optical (Luminescence/Fluorescence)
- Radioisotopic
- X-ray

<http://www.carestream.com/in-vivo-imaging-image-gallery.html>

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### Hybrid FMT-XCT

#### Hybrid fluorescence molecular tomography (FMT) / X-ray CT (XCT)


Nude mouse with subcutaneous tumor. FMT image superimposed on microCT image.

A. Ale et al., Nature Methods 9, 615–620 (2012)

- Hybrid FMT-XCT system built around a GE eXplore Locus MicroCT. (1) X-ray source. (2) X-ray detector. (3) XY stage for two lasers, 680nm and 750nm. (4) CCD camera. (5) Filter wheel. (6) Rotating gantry.

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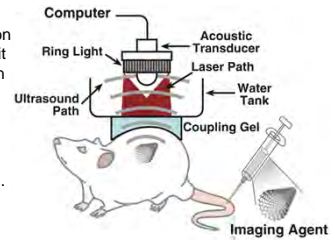
# PHOTOACOUSTIC IMAGING



### Photoacoustic Imaging

#### Principle


- Illuminate biological tissue with pulsed laser light (when radio frequency pulses are used, the technology is referred to as thermoacoustic imaging).
- Molecules (endogeneous or imaging agents with specific optical absorption properties) in tissue heat up and emit sound which can be detected with an ultrasound transducer.
- Optical absorption is closely associated with physiological properties, such as hemoglobin concentration and oxygen saturation.
- Advantage:** Inherent co-registration of photoacoustic signal to 2D/3D anatomical target in real-time.



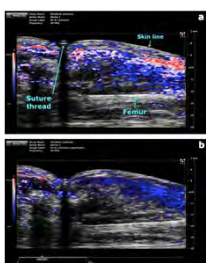
James & Gambhir, Physiol Rev 92: 897–965, 2012

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### Photoacoustic Imaging



Vevo LAZR Photoacoustic Imaging System  
<http://www.visualsonics.com/photoacoustic-technology>



Hindlimb of a mouse under non-ischemic (a) and ischemic conditions (b).

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# MR/OPTICAL

