

Fig. 2. T1-Gd MRI, CT, pCT and gamma map for the 3%/3mm criterion presented for Patient 1 (17 years old, 6 beams-based treatment) and Patient 2 (6 years old, 6 beams-based treatment). To improve visibility, outer and eyes contours are displayed on the gamma maps.

Mean MAE of 111 Hounsfield Units (HU) $\pm$ 12HU, 364HU $\pm$ 56HU, 279HU $\pm$ 27HU and 60HU $\pm$ 10HU were obtained for the whole head, air, bone and water areas respectively. Regarding the dosimetry results, the 1%/1mm, 2%/2mm and 3%/3mm gamma indexes were equal to 96.44 $\pm$ 2.22%, 97.92 $\pm$ 1.54% and 99.59 $\pm$ 0.59% respectively. All 2%, 50%, 95% and 98% mean DVH differences were below 0.3%.

#### Conclusion

To our knowledge, it is the first study evaluating a 3D network with an unseen patient's category. In a previous study, a test with a cohort composed of 79 adults treated with intensity modulated radiation therapy led to a head MAE of 83HU $\pm$ 22HU, and gamma indexes of 97.90 $\pm$ 1.10%, 99.61 $\pm$ 0.30% and 99.83 $\pm$ 0.19% for the 1%/1mm, 2%/2mm and 3%/3mm criteria. As a result, very little differences were observed between the two studies highlighting the high generalizability of the developed model and its clinical implementation feasibility.

**PH-0409 Development of materials with independently adjustable MR- and CT-contrast to validate pseudo CTs**  
A. Elter<sup>1,2,3</sup>, P. Mann<sup>1,3</sup>, S. Dorsch<sup>1,2,3</sup>, A. Runz<sup>1,3</sup>, S. Martin<sup>4</sup>, C.P. Karger<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>German Cancer Research Center DKFZ, Medical Physics in Radiation Oncology, Heidelberg, Germany ;  
<sup>2</sup>Heidelberg University, Faculty of Physics and Astronomy, Heidelberg, Germany ; <sup>3</sup>Heidelberg Institute for Radiation Oncology HIRO, National Center for Radiation Research in Oncology NCRO, Heidelberg, Germany ; <sup>4</sup>German Cancer Research Center DKFZ, Department of Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry, Heidelberg, Germany

#### Purpose or Objective

MR-guidance in radiotherapy has the main advantage of providing a better soft tissue contrast as compared to conventional kV imaging. However, the image quality in MRI is based on more than 40 individually adjustable sequence parameters. To optimize these parameters for the use in radiotherapy, dedicated phantoms capable of representing anthropomorphic MR contrast are essential. Furthermore, a correct representation of CT values is important to create ground truth images for the validation of algorithms to generate pseudo-CTs from MR-images, which are used for dose calculation. In this work, a method to produce phantom materials with individually adjustable T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> relaxation times in MRI was extended to adjust

additionally given CT values in the soft tissue range. The dependence of the relaxation times on the modified CT value as well as on the magnetic field strength (0.35T and 1.5T) was investigated.

#### Material and Methods

Ni-DTPA doped agarose gels were used to create MRI contrast materials with individually adjustable T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> times [1]:

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = \frac{1}{T_{1/2,w}} + \frac{1}{T_{1/2,a}} C_a + \frac{1}{T_{1/2,N}} C_N, \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$

With the relaxation times of water (w), agarose (a), and Ni-DTPA (N) and the concentrations C<sub>a</sub>, C<sub>N</sub> of agarose (%) and Ni-DTPA (mM), respectively. Additionally, the CT-value of the gels was modified by adding potassium chloride (KCl), which are expected not to change the relaxation times. Two exemplary MR contrasts (T<sub>1</sub>=765ms, T<sub>2</sub>=32ms and T<sub>1</sub>=1500ms, T<sub>2</sub>=76ms at 1.5T) were produced containing seven different KCl concentrations, each. At a 1.5T MRI (Magnetom Symphony, Siemens Healthineers, Germany) a series of saturation recovery sequences and a multi-spin echo sequence with 32 equidistant echoes as implemented by the vendor were acquired to quantitatively measure T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> times, respectively. At a 0.35T MR-Linac (MRIdian Linac, Viewray, USA), the same type of measurements was performed for the T<sub>1</sub> quantification and a series of 8 double spin echo sequences for T<sub>2</sub> measurement.

[1] Tofts et al. 1993, doi: 10.1016/0730-725x(93)90420-i

#### Results

By adding KCl to the MRI contrast material positive CT-values up to 450 HU could be achieved without influencing T<sub>1</sub>. As expected, T<sub>1</sub> decreases with higher field strength: (-53 $\pm$ 28)ms and (-111 $\pm$ 75)ms from 1.5 to 0.35T for the two samples, respectively. T<sub>2</sub> shows only a slight dependence on the KCl concentration, but, as expected, not significantly on the B-field. A linear fit characterizes the T<sub>2</sub> dependence as an offset of (0.04 $\pm$ 0.01) and (0.15 $\pm$ 0.05) l/(g ms)\*[KCl] (95% confidence interval) for the two samples respectively as a function of the KCl concentration [KCl] in g/l.

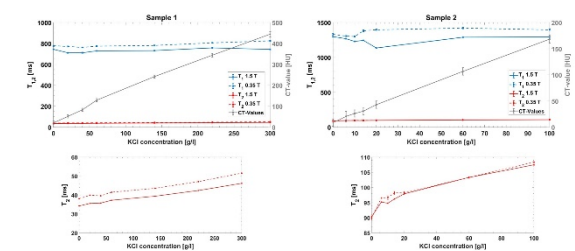


Figure 1: Dependence of T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> relaxation times and CT values on the KCl concentration at 0.35 and 1.5 T (top) with a zoom-in to the T<sub>2</sub> dependence (bottom) for two different phantom materials.

#### Conclusion

In this work, a method to produce phantom materials with adjustable T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> times was extended to simulate positive CT values up to 450HU by adding KCl. The dependence of the relaxation times on the KCl concentration and the field strength was investigated. This can be used for producing phantom materials with specified CT values and T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> relaxation times. Further measurements will focus on the generalization of the current results.