



**3rd APASL HCC Conference**

November 21-23, 2013

Cebu, Philippines



# CE-Ultrasound US Elastography for HCC

**SNUH**



**Byung Ihn Choi, M.D.**

Department of Radiology  
Seoul National University Hospital



# CEUS & US Elastography : Contents

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## CEUS

- Introduction
- Contrast agents & imaging
- Clinical application  $\Rightarrow$  US Video WS
- Summary

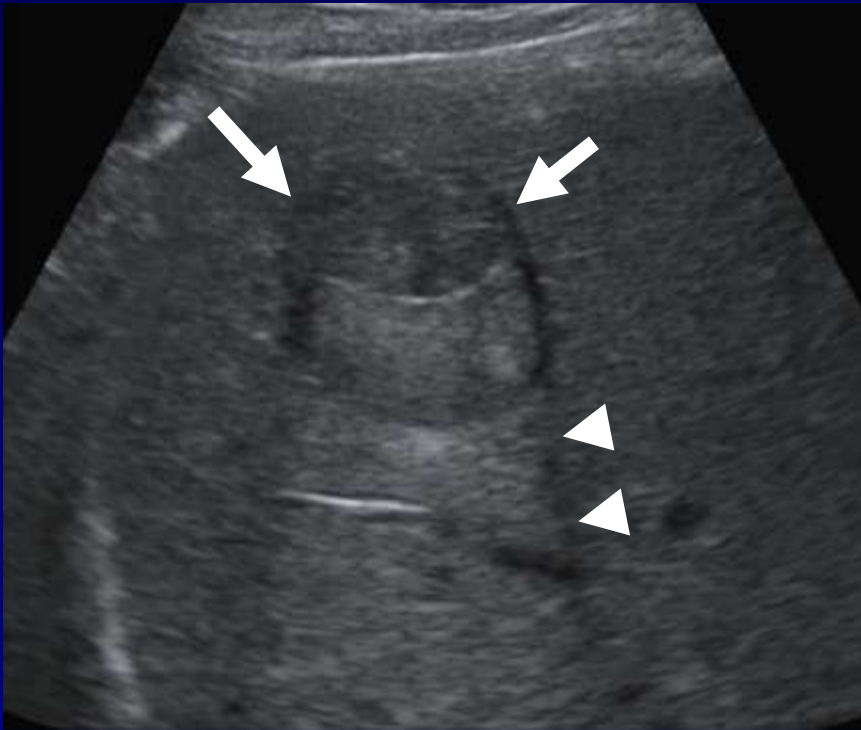
## US Elastography

- Introduction
- Clinical application
- Summary

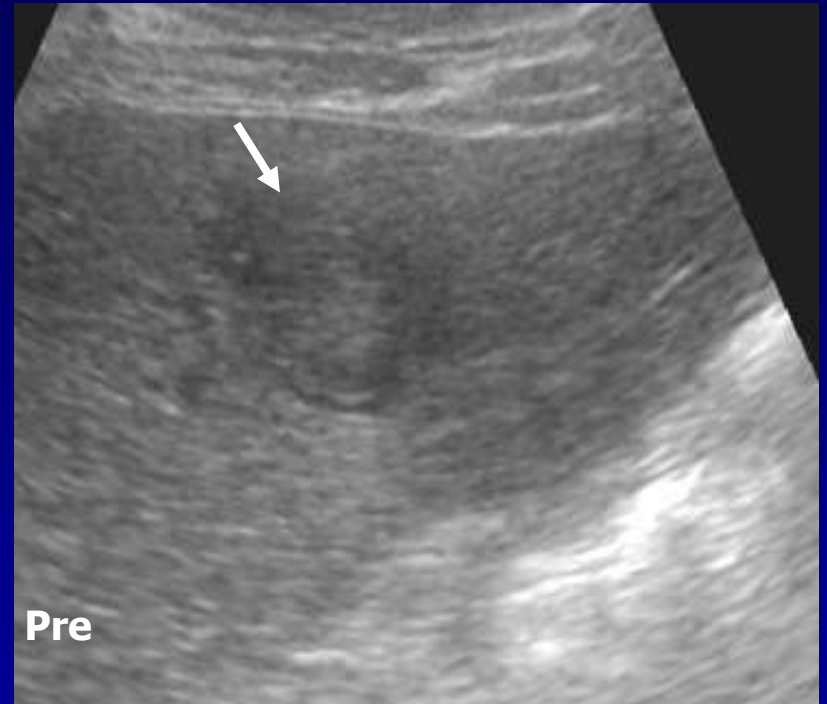


# Grayscale US

## Diagnosis of liver tumor



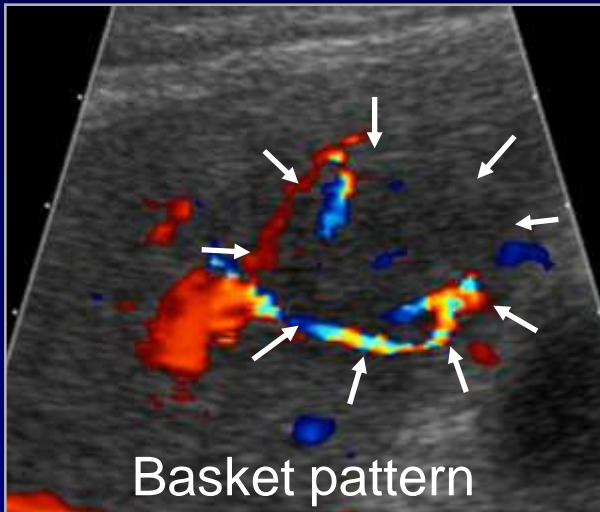
Peripheral halo  
Mosaic pattern  
Lateral shadowing → HCC



Nonspecific



# Doppler US : CDI, PDI

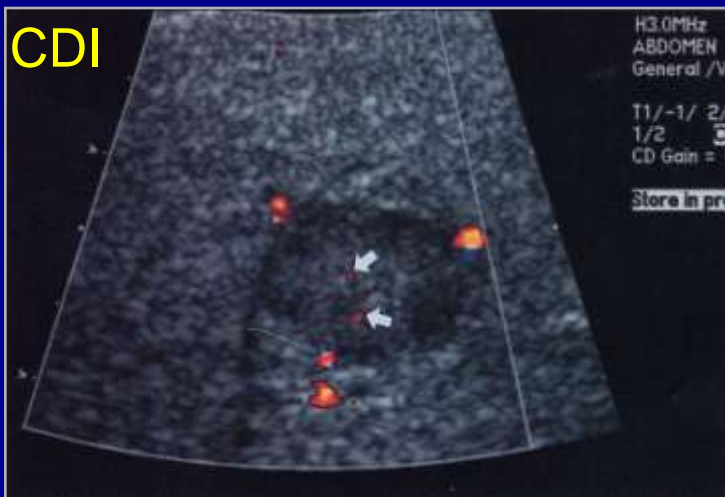


## Limitations of Doppler

- Not sensitive
- Not specific
- in deeply located small lesion



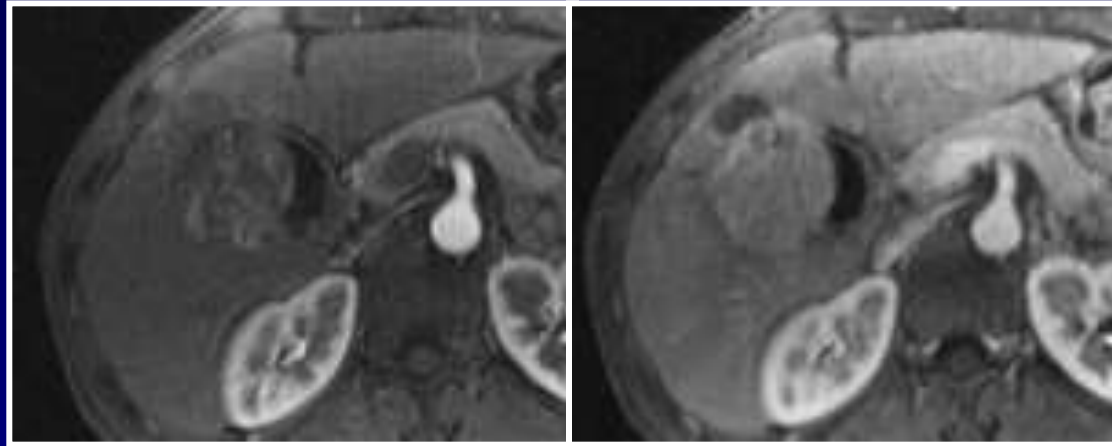
## Detection of Flow in Small Vessels ↓



- Poor Reflectivity of Blood
- Strong Reflectivity of Clutter
- High Attenuation
- Small Doppler Shift



# Contrast Agents



**Contrast-enhanced CT or MR  
has been widely used**

**for**

**Diagnosis, Characterization of malignant  
Anatomic mapping liver  
Treatment monitoring tumor**



Likewise

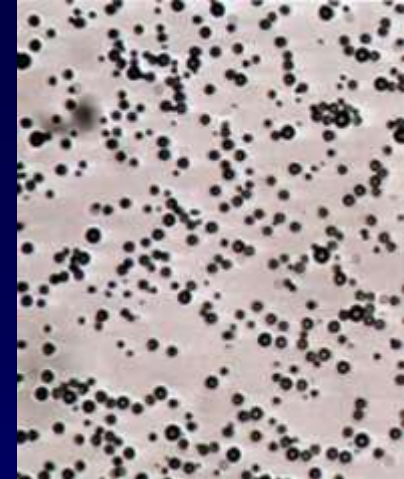
**US needs contrast agents  
for**

Diagnosis, Characterization

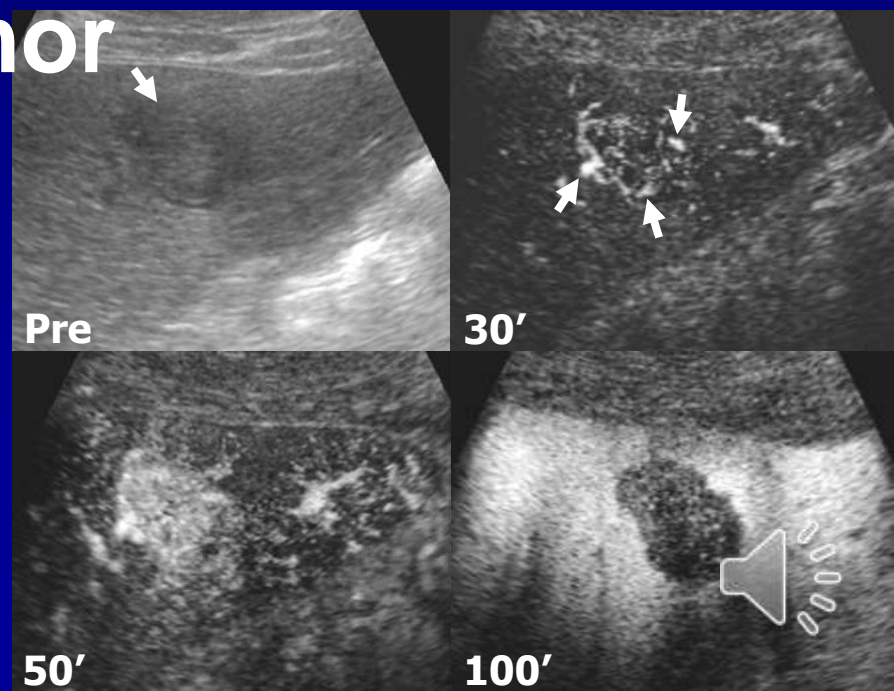
Anatomic mapping

Treatment monitoring

of malignant liver tumor



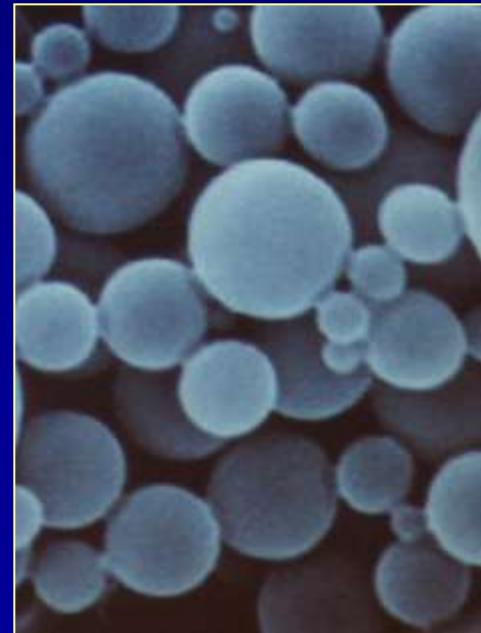
Indication of  
CE US



# US Contrast Agents

**Gas-filled microbubbles with an acoustic impedance different from the blood and relatively permeable shell**

- Smaller than  $7\mu\text{m}$
- Remain within the vascular compartment
- Cross the capillary beds
- Survive passage through the cardiopulmonary circulation



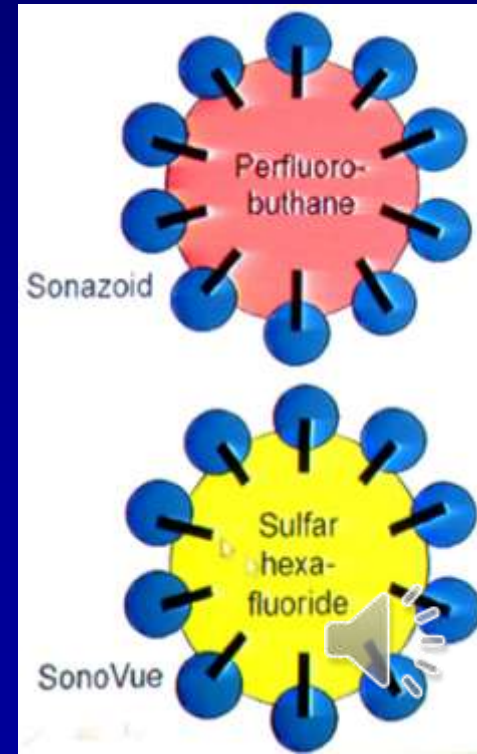
# Contrast Agents : Big-5

1st Generation → High MI Imaging

- Levovist<sup>®</sup> Schering

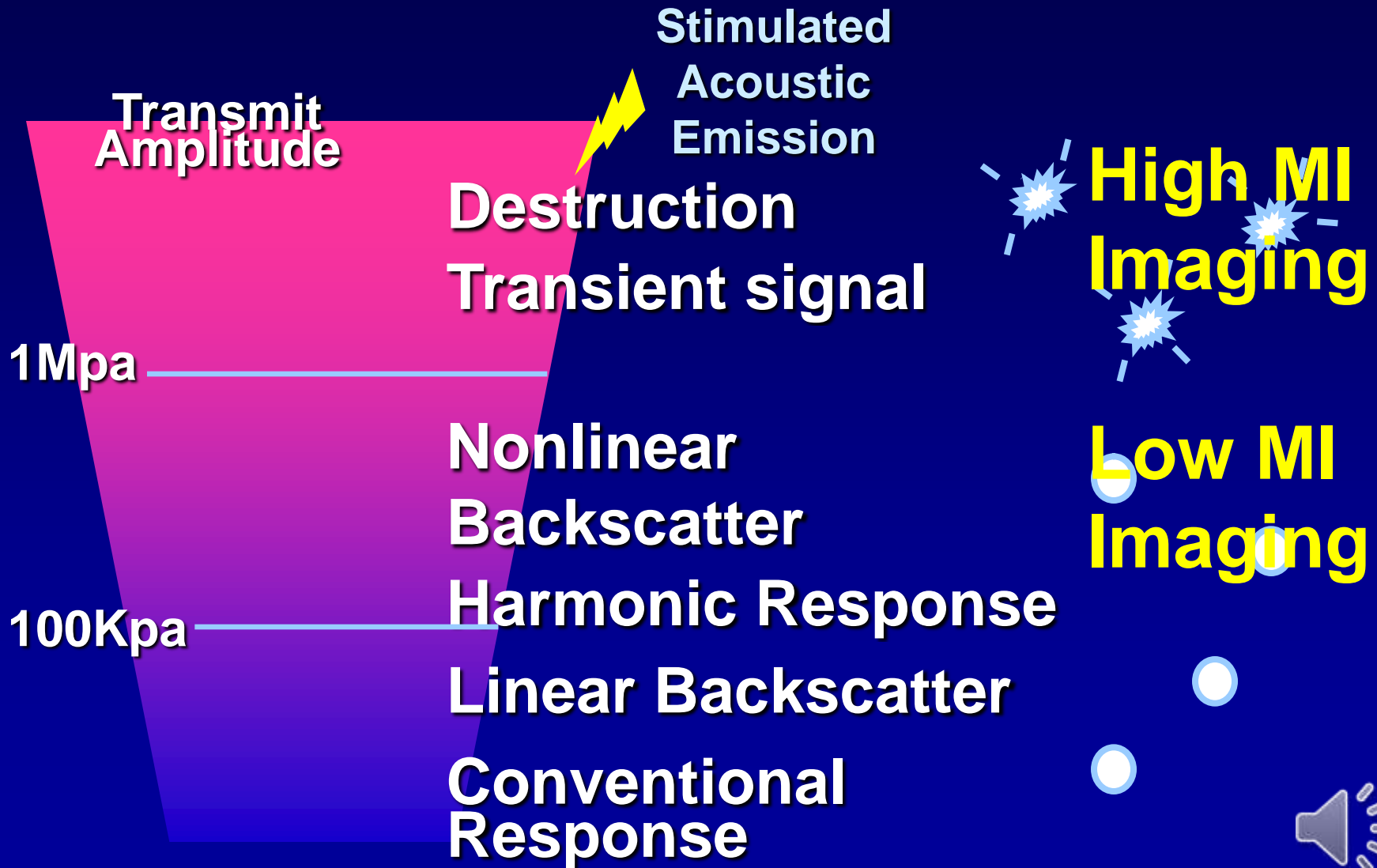
2nd Generation → Low MI Imaging

- Definity<sup>®</sup> Lantheus Medical
- Sonovue<sup>®</sup> Bracco
- Optison<sup>®</sup> TYCO
- Sonazoid<sup>®</sup> GE Healthcare  
Daiichi-Sankyo



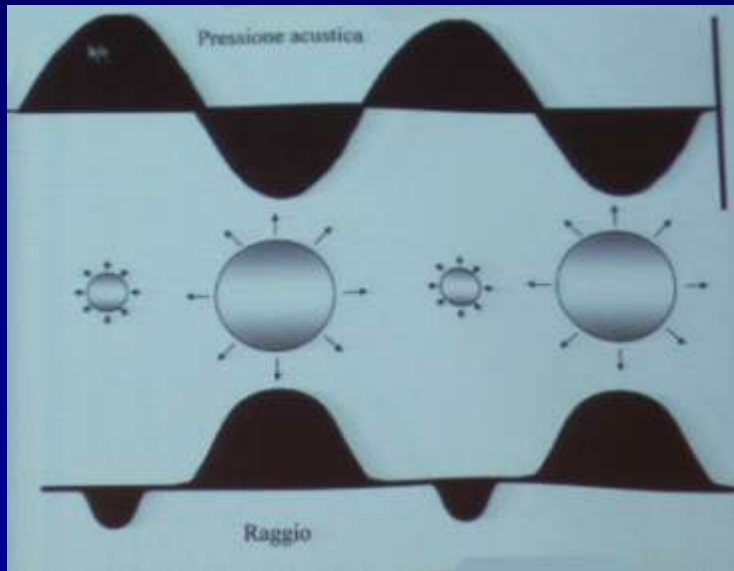


# Mechanism for Enhancement

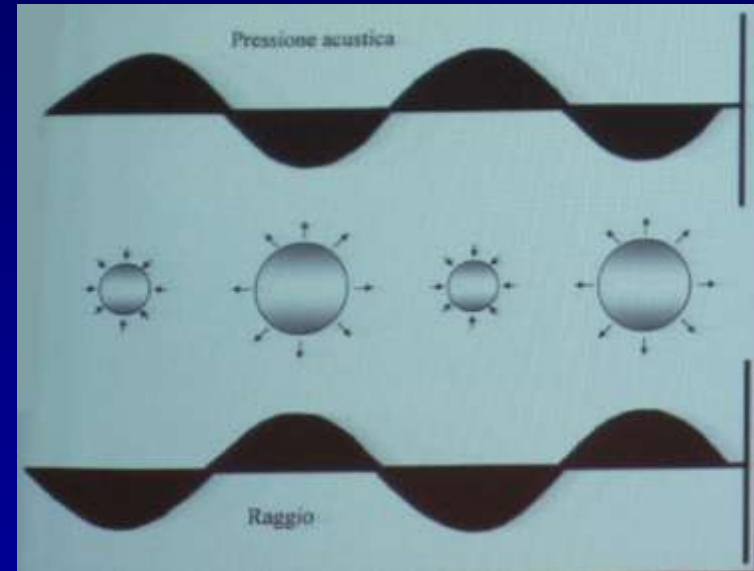


# Mechanical Index (MI)

- Peak negative pressure of the transmitted pulse
- Indication of the probability of bubble destruction



- **High MI (>0.5)**
  - Non-linear behaviour



- **Low MI (< 0.2)**
  - Symetric behaviour

# US Imaging Methods for Microbubble

- **Fundamental**
- **Color Doppler (CD)**
- **Power Doppler (PD)**
- **Harmonic Power Doppler (HPD)**
- **Pulse Inversion Harmonic (PIHI)**
- **Coded Harmonic Angio (CHA)**
- **Coherent Contrast Imaging (CCI)**
- **Agent Detection Imaging (ADI)**
- **Contrast Pulse Sequencing (CPS)**



# Contrast-enhanced US

## High MI Imaging ( $> 0.6$ )

- 1<sup>st</sup> generation contrast agent
- Disruptive bubble imaging
- Vascular volume assessment

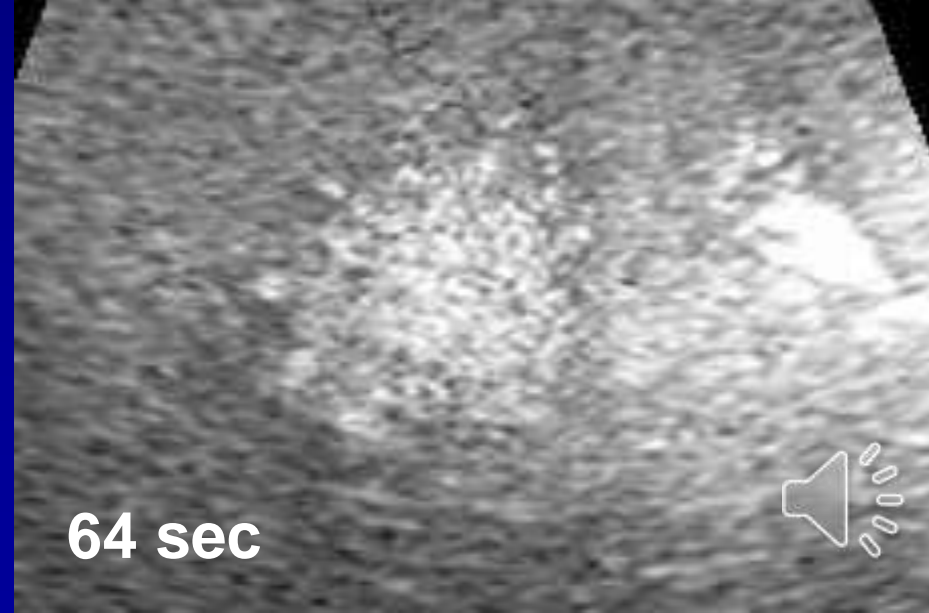
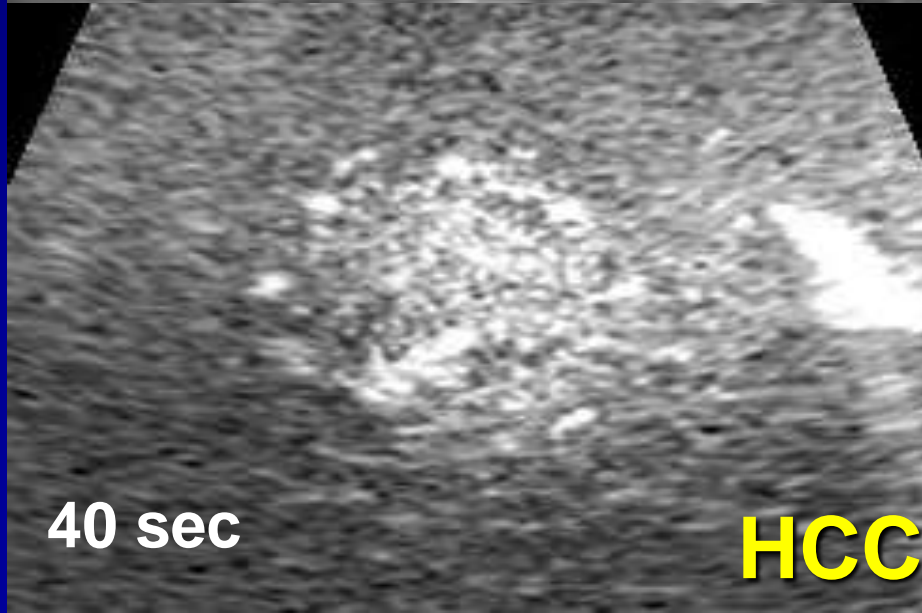
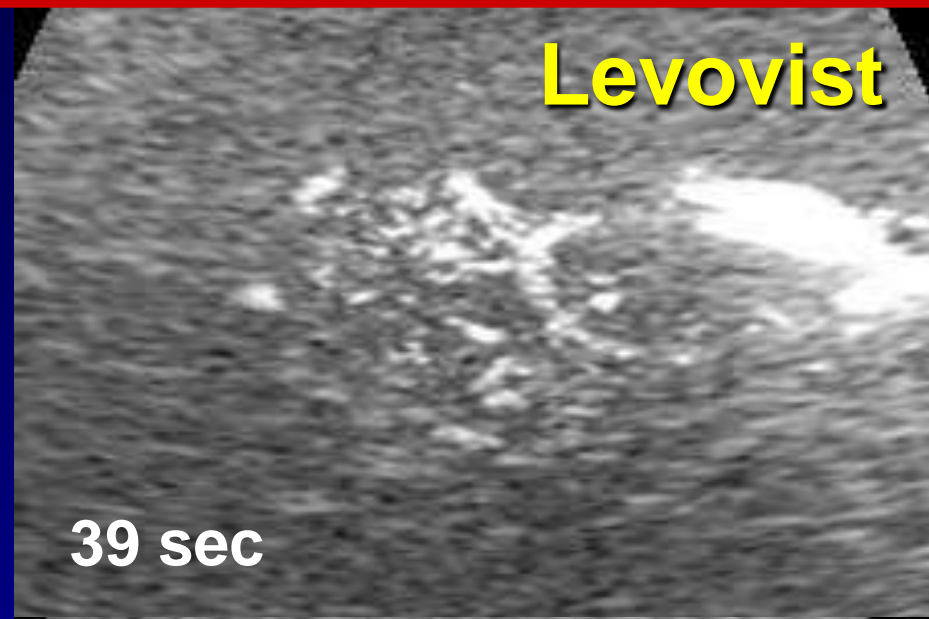
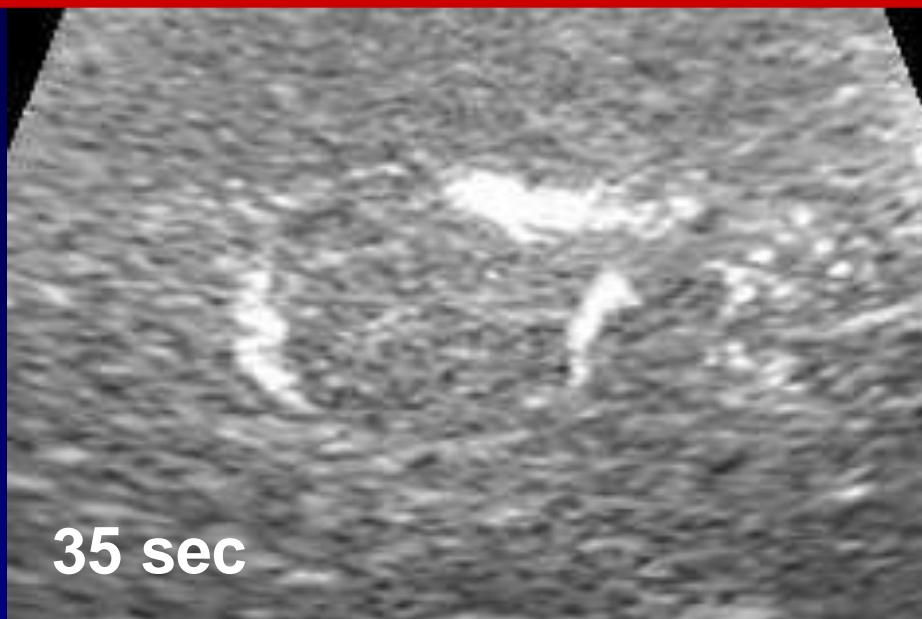
## Low MI Imaging ( $< 0.2$ )

- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation contrast agent
- Continuous bubble imaging

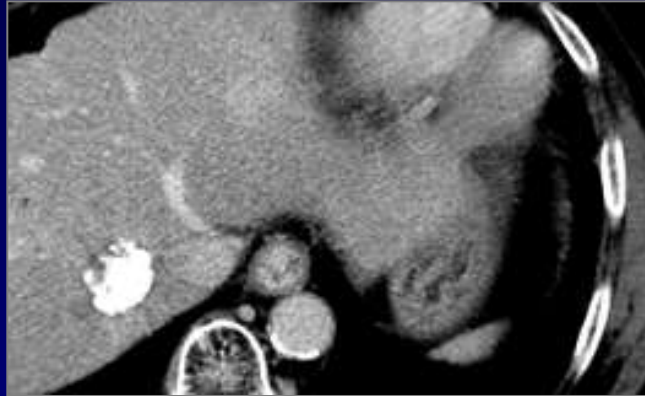
- Vascularity assessment
- Kupffer cell function



# High MI Imaging : CHA



# Low MI Imaging

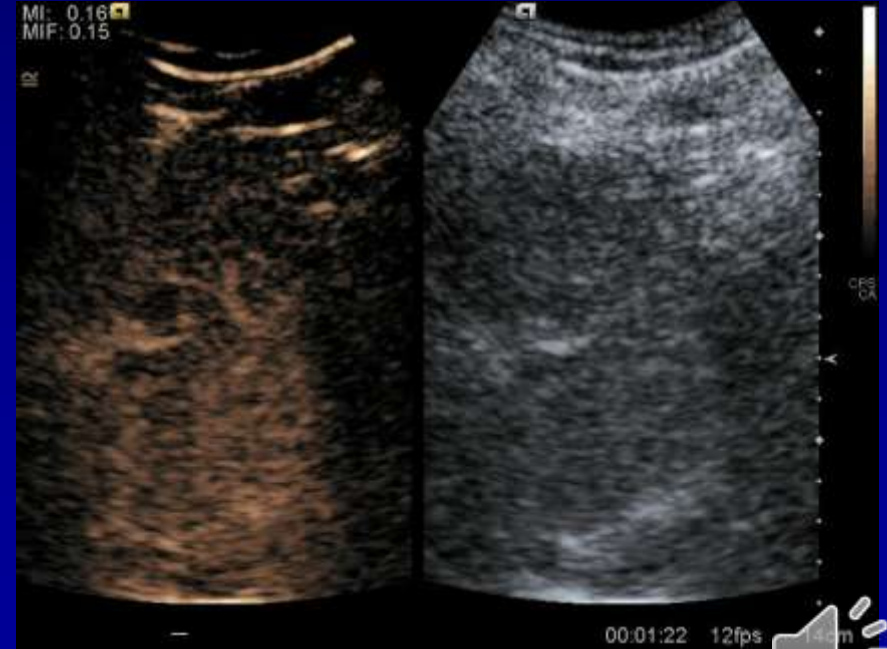


SonoVue

HCC



Early phase

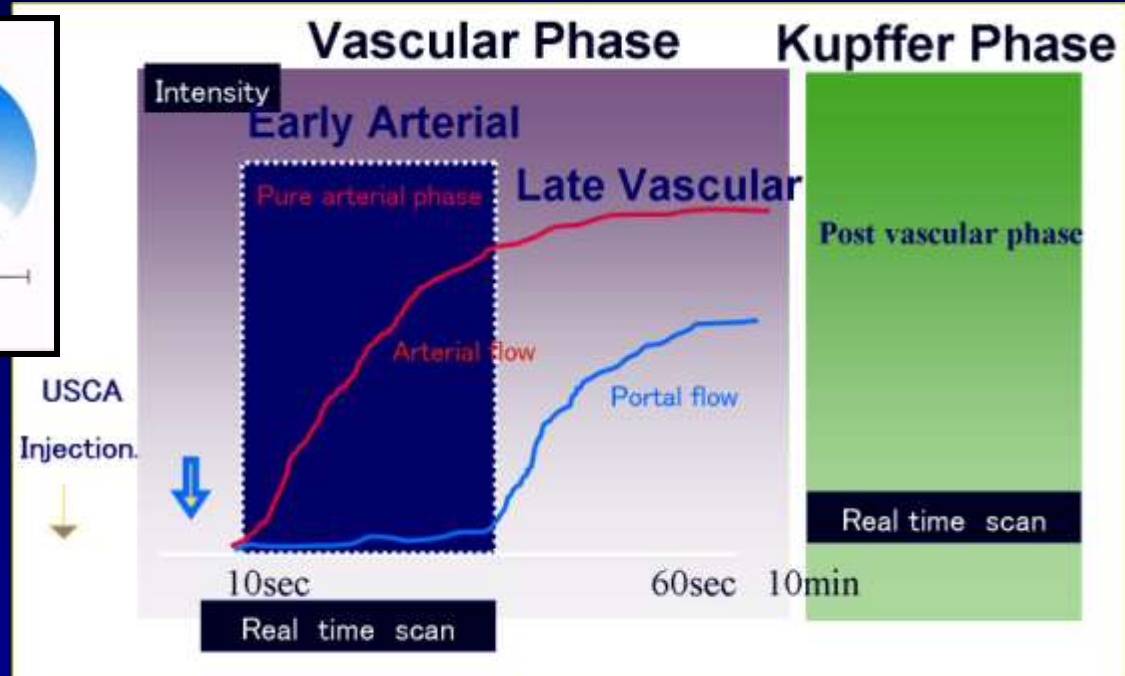
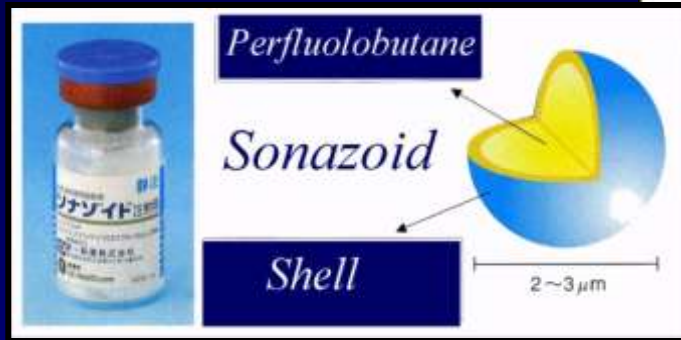


Late phase



# Low MI Imaging Sonazoid

Sonazoid Microbubble is taken up by Kupffer cells



Courtesy of Dr Kudo

# US Contrast Agent

Agent	Imaging	Approved
Levovist®	Vasclar + (Kupffer)	Worldwide
SonoVue®	Vascular alone	Europe, China, Korea
Definity®	Vascular alone	Canada, Australia, USA
Sonazoid®	Vascular + Kupffer	Japan, Korea





# Summary : CE US

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- **Focal liver lesion**
  - Allows lesion characterization
  - Reduces the need for CT / MRI
  - Improves patient management
  - Introduced into guidelines
- **Percutaneous image-guided tumor ablation**
  - Allows intra-and post-procedural evaluation
  - Might be useful in patient follow-up after therapy as an alternative to CT/MR evaluation



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- Summary

## US Elastography

- Introduction
- Clinical application
- Summary





# Elastography : Hot Issue

**From:** Joel Gay [<mailto:joel.gay@supersonicimagine.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, October 26, 2012 4:26 AM

**To:** Ziv.Ben-Ari@sheba.health.gov.il; leuyf2@gmail.com; laurent.d.castera@gmail.com; laurent.castera@bjn.aphp.fr; jean-pierre.cercueil@chu-dijon.fr; bichoi@snu.ac.kr; jerome.dumortier@chu-lyon.fr; giovanna.ferraioli@unipv.it; Sven.Francque@uza.be; Mireen.Friedrich-Rust@kgu.de; ivica.grgur evic@zg.htmet.hr; aym eric.guibal@gmail.com; sb328138@skynet.be; keimv@medizin.uni-leipzig.de; didier.lebrec@bjn.aphp.fr; jmsh@snu.ac.kr; olivier.Lucidarme@psl.aphp.fr; stanislas.pol@cch.aphp.fr; thierry.poynard@psl.aphp.fr; orensh@tasmc.health.gov.il; james.trotter@baylorhealth.edu; valerie.vilgrain@bjn.aphp.fr; murielw1999@yahoo.fr; p.zoumpoulis@echomed.gr; ushkwang@gmail.com; Dr. Winnie Chu

**Cc:** Jean-pierre Henry; Aline Criton; Sharon Bruce

**Subject:** SuperSonic Imagine Aixplorer Liver Users Meeting – Sunday November 11, 7:30 PM, Boston, USA

Dear all,

## 63<sup>rd</sup> AASLD Annual Meeting

SuperSonic Imagine is organizing its next worldwide Aixplorer® Liver Users' Meeting in Boston, while attending the 63<sup>rd</sup> AASLD Annual Meeting (or The Liver Meeting®).

We are very pleased to invite you to join this next meeting in order to discuss how we plan to move forward with the building of proofs of the value of SWE™ in the diagnosis of liver fibrosis.

If you are not planning on attending The Liver Meeting® 2012 and you know some of your hepatologists, gastroenterologists and radiologists colleagues who have worked with Aixplorer® are going, feel free to forward this invitation to them. We will be very happy to welcome them at this Aixplorer® users' meeting.

We thank in advance all sites and representatives who will agree joining this global effort.

Please review the practical details below and inform us on your availability by replying to this email.

The Liver Meeting® is a registered trademark of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.

## Aixplorer Liver Users' Meeting, Boston, MA, November 2012

### **Date and Time**

Sunday November 11

7:30-9:00 PM

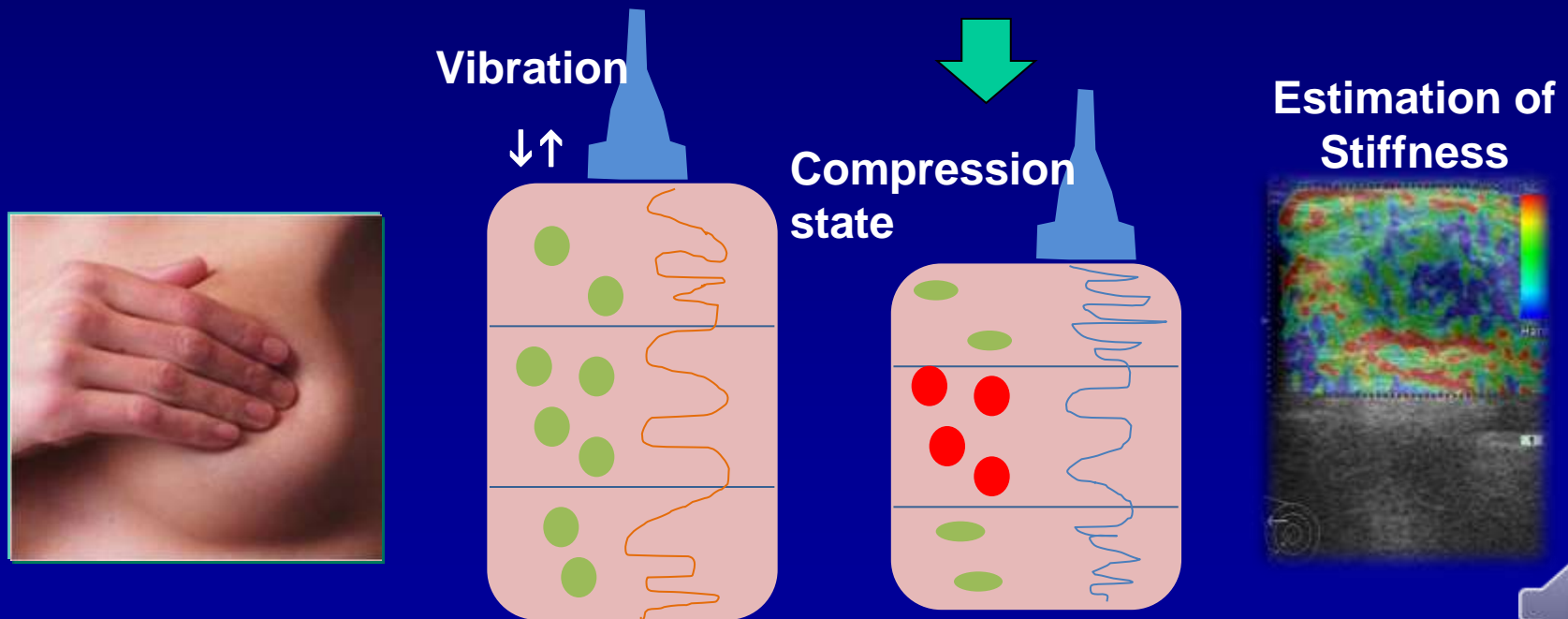
### **Location, Venue**



# US Elastography

- New technique for studying the elastic property (stiffness) of tissue
- Similar to that obtained with manual palpation, but more sensitive and less subjective

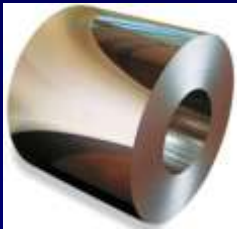
→ 21C palpation



- Limitation (Compression E): Deep organ



# What is Elasticity?



Steel is hard



Ice cream is soft



Sponge is elastic

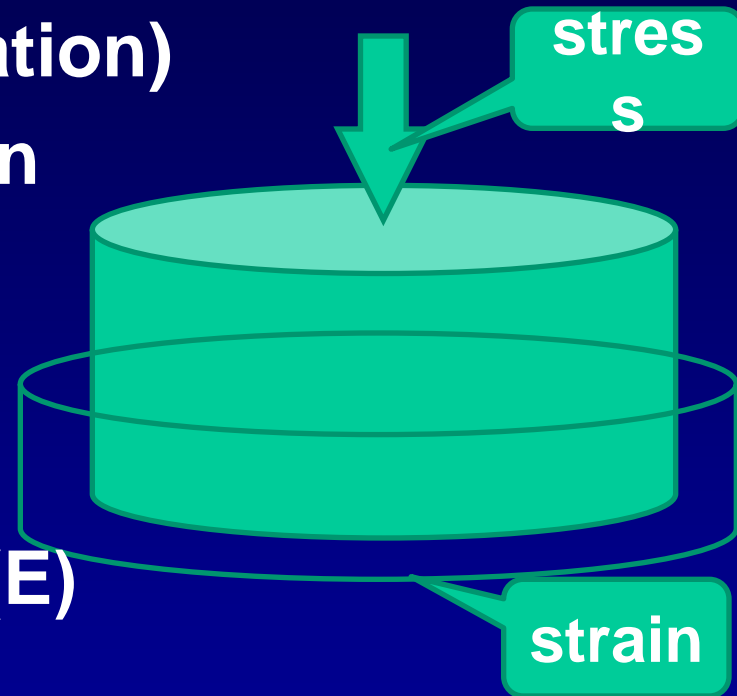
- **Elastic material**
  - has a resting shape
  - changes its shape when a stress is given
  - restores its shape after the stress is removed
- **Elasticity is the degree of shape change (strain) of a given material when a stress is given**



# Stiffness & Elasticity

- Stress causes strain (deformation)
- Stiff material makes less strain
- The stiffness is in inverse proportion to the elasticity
- Stiffness  $\propto$  Young's Modulus (E)
- Tissues show different E (normal liver <6 kPa, LC > 15 kPa)
- Measurement of E:  $E = S/\epsilon$  (kPa)

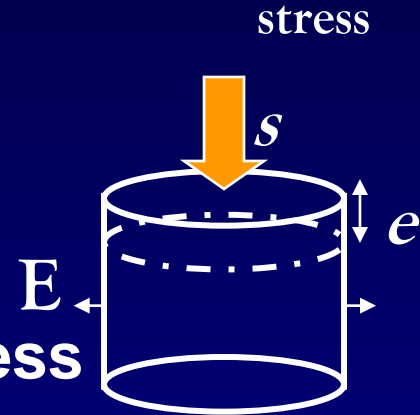
E: Young's modulus, kPa, S: stress,  $\epsilon$ : strain



# Elastic Properties of Soft Tissue

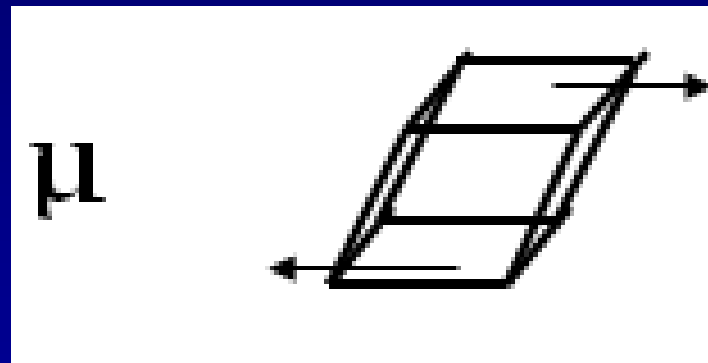
- Young's modulus(E): stress/strain

- Elastic property corresponding to palpation
- Relates longitudinal strain to longitudinal stress



- Shear modulus:

- Relates transverse strain to transverse stress
- Shear stiffness can be calculated from velocity of shear wave



$$E = 3\rho c_s^2$$

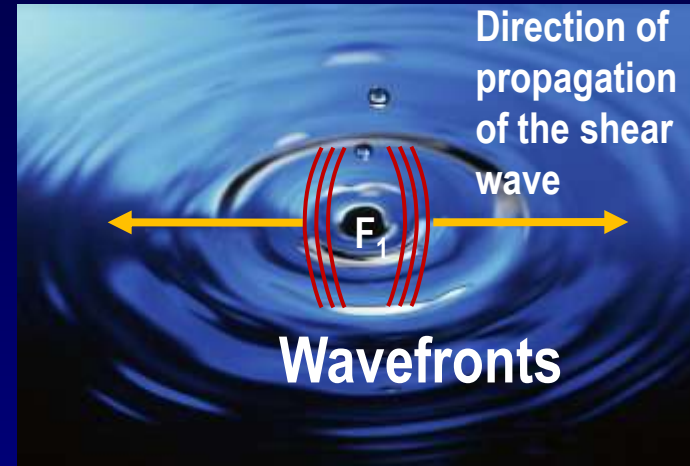
$\rho$  = tissue density,  
liver: 1000 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

$c$  = shear wave  
velocity (m/s)



# Shear (Transverse) Wave?

Velocity :  
~1540  
m/s  
In tissue



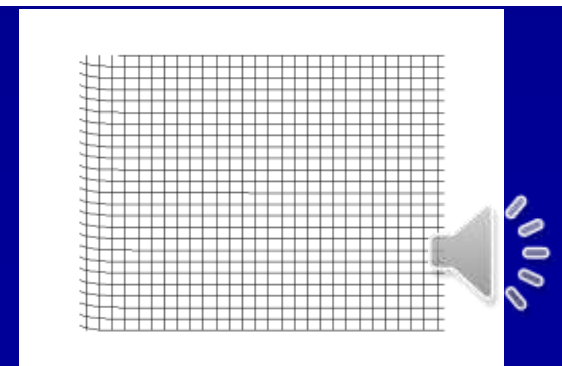
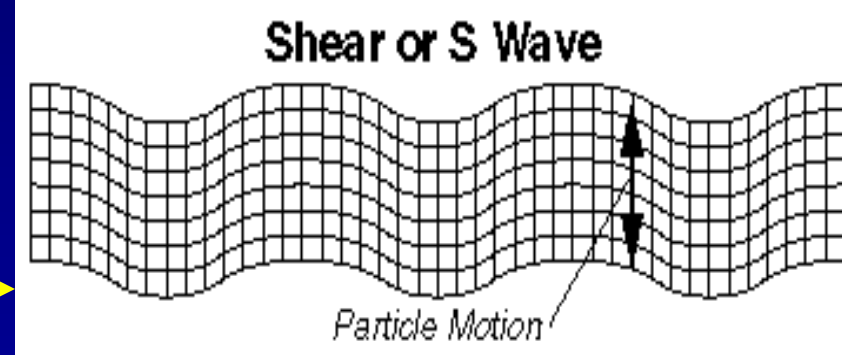
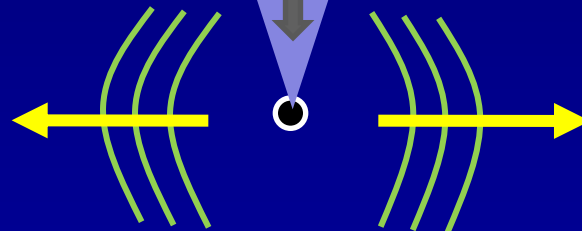
Longitudinal Wave

Velocity :  
1-10 m/s  
In tissue

Shear Wave

$$E = 3\rho c_s^2$$

As tissue stiffness increases,  
Shear wave velocity increases

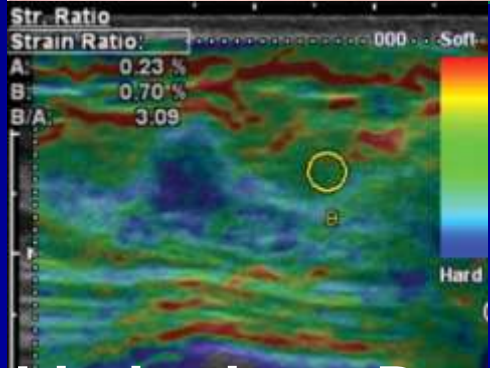




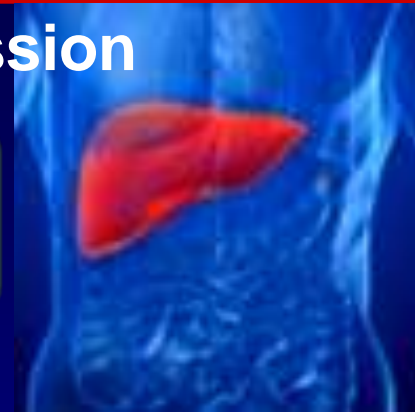
# US Elastography

Breast vs. Liver by Manual compression

Static elastography



Shear wave-based elastography



Mechanical push

Acoustic Radiation Force Impulse

Transient elastography

ARFI imaging

Supersonic SWE

- Limitation : Deep organs



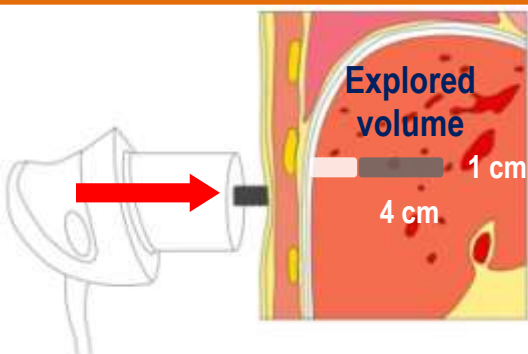
# Conventional SWE : TE

## Principle of Transient Elastography

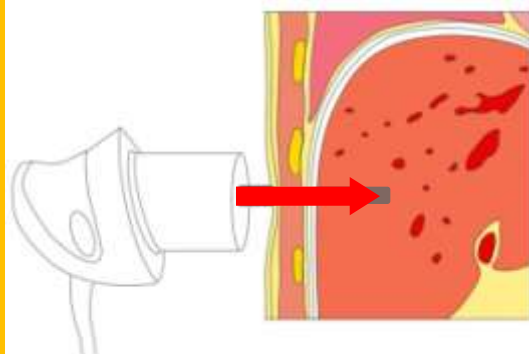
- Dedicated acquisition platform
- External mechanical impulse generating low-frequency shear wave
- Recording propagation speed by M-mode acquisition



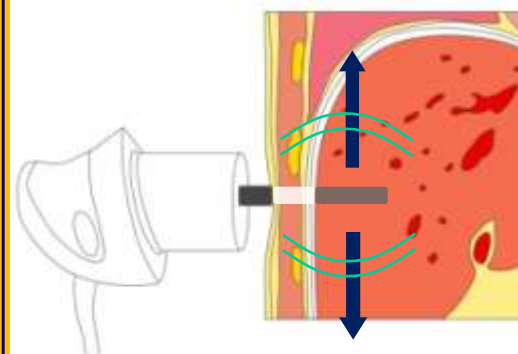
Step 1: Mechanical impulse by a external vibrator



Step 2: Transmitted from the vibrator to the tissues via the transducer



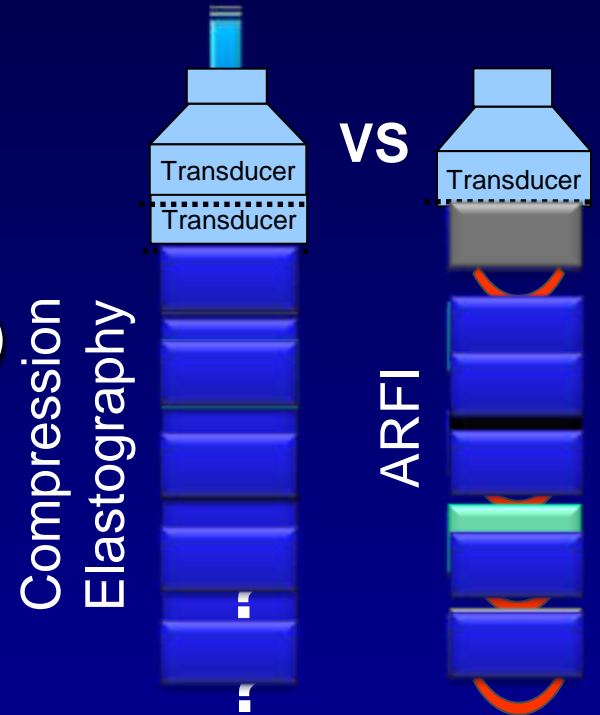
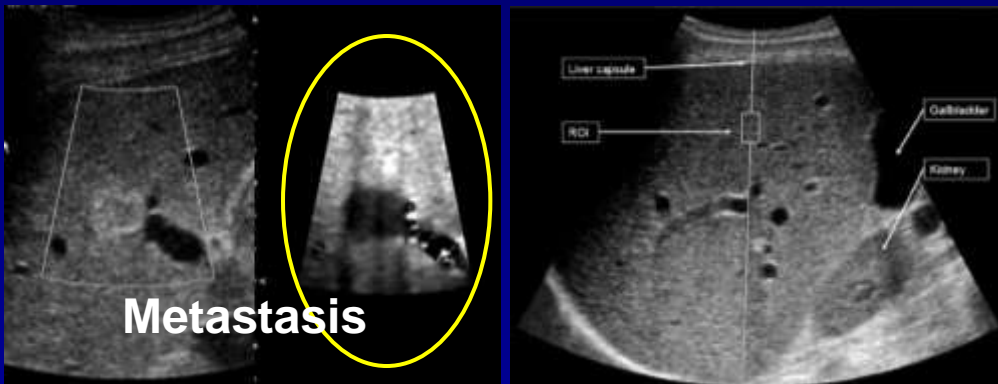
Step 3: An elastic shear wave that propagates through the tissue



# New SWE Imaging

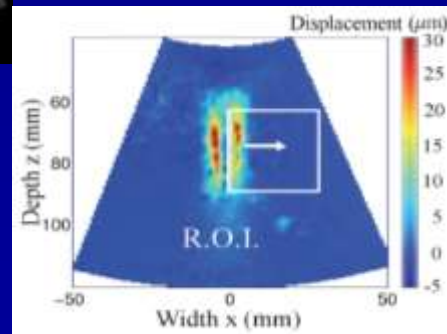
- Acoustic radiation force impulse Imaging (**ARFI**): *Siemens*

- Virtual Touch Tissue Imaging (I)
- Virtual Touch Tissue Quantification (Q)



- Supersonic shear wave E (**SSWE**):

*Supersonic Imagine (SSI)*



shear wave dispersion



elasticity map

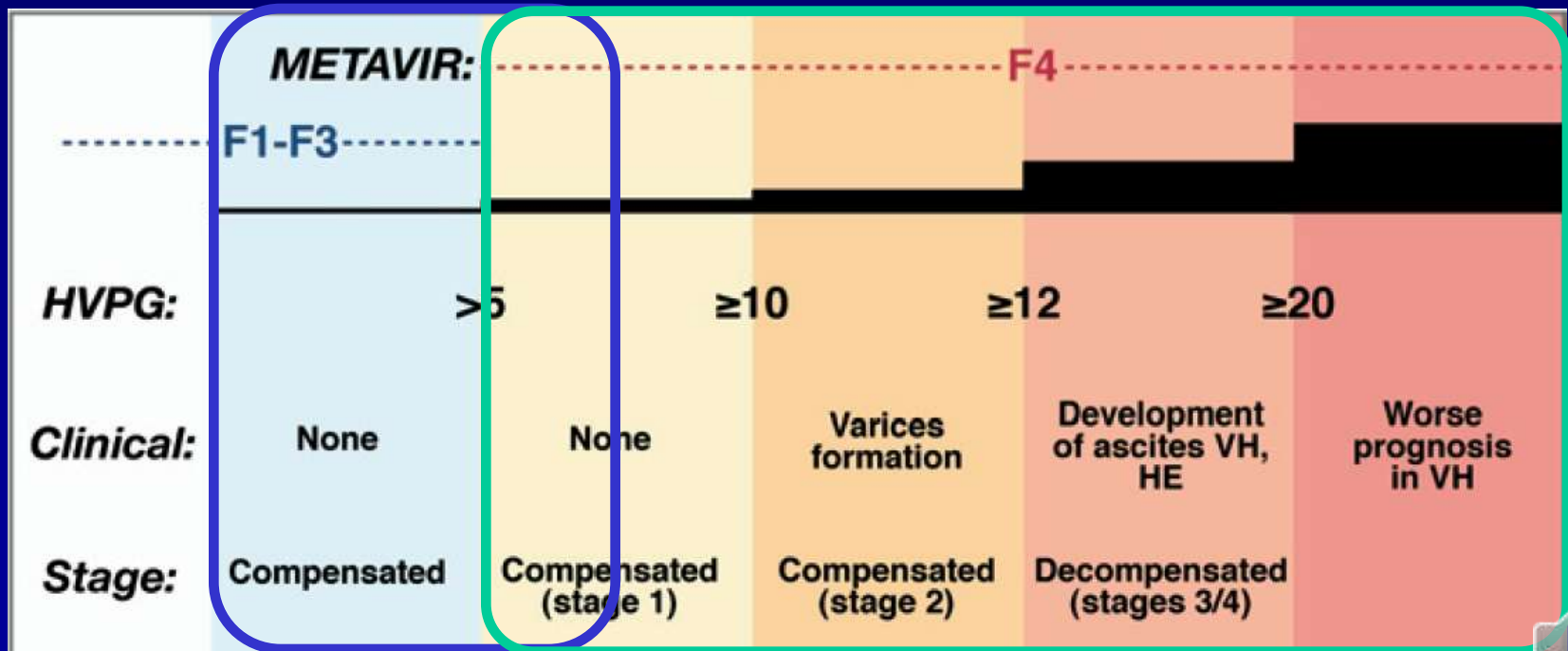
# SW-based Elastography

	Product Name	Company	Vibration Source	Frequency
Transient elastography	Fibroscan	Echosens	Mechanical vibrator	50 Hz
ARFI elastography	Acuson S2000	Siemens	Transient radiation force	
Supersonic shear Imaging	Aixplorer	Supersonic Imagine	Transient radiation force	



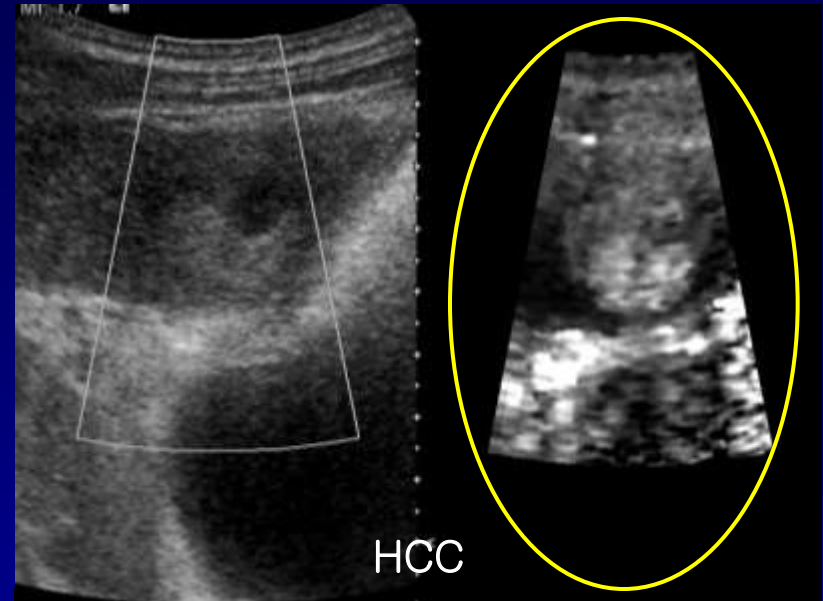
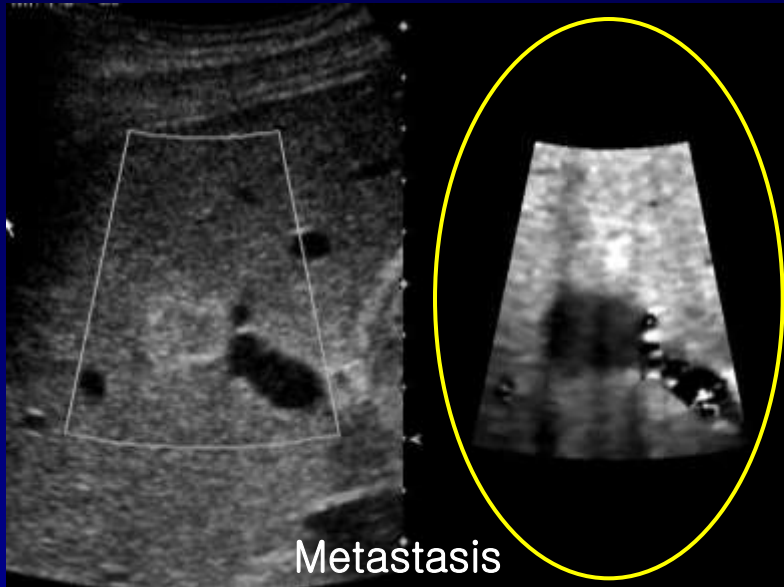
# US Elastography : Hepatic Fibrosis

- Extensively validated
  - Noninvasive
  - Easy to repeat
  - Quantitative
  - Reproducible



# USE : Focal Liver Lesion

## ARFI: Metastasis vs. HCC



# Acoustic Radiation Force Impulse Elastography for Focal Hepatic Tumors: Usefulness for Differentiating Hemangiomas from Malignant Tumors

KJR 2013;14:743-753

Ji Eun Kim, MD<sup>1</sup>, Jae Young Lee, MD<sup>2</sup>, Kyung Soo Bae, MD<sup>1</sup>, Joon Koo Han, MD<sup>2</sup>, Byung Ihn Choi, MD<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Radiology, Gyeongsang National University School of Medicine, Jinju 660-702, Korea; <sup>2</sup>Department of Radiology and Radiation Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul 110-744, Korea

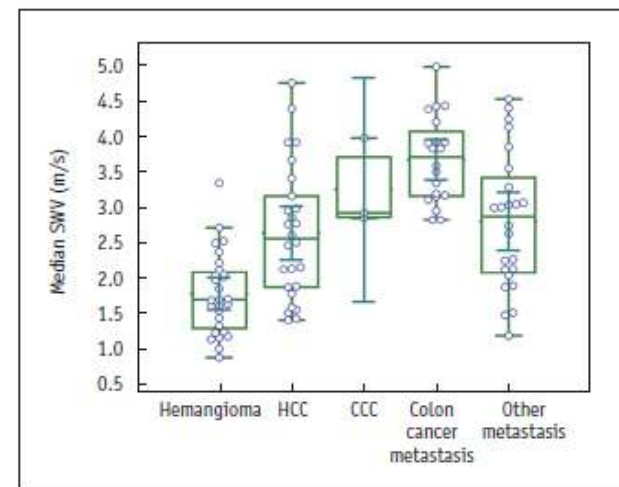
**Objective:** The purpose of this study is to investigate whether acoustic radiation force impulse (ARFI) elastography with ARFI quantification and ARFI 2D imaging is useful for differentiating

**Table 1. Mean Shear Wave Velocity of Focal Hepatic Tumor Groups**

	n	Mean SWV $\pm$ SD (m/sec)*
Hemangioma (a)	28	1.80 $\pm$ 0.57
HCC (b)	26	2.66 $\pm$ 0.94
CCC (c)	3	3.27 $\pm$ 0.64
Colon cancer metastasis (d)	20	3.70 $\pm$ 0.61
Other metastasis (e)	24	2.82 $\pm$ 0.96

SWV for differentiating hemangiomas from malignant tumors was 0.86, with a sensitivity of 65.8% at a cut-off value of 2.73 m/sec ( $p < 0.05$ ). In the ARFI 2D images, the malignant tumors were more conspicuous as compared with the hemangiomas ( $p < 0.05$ ).

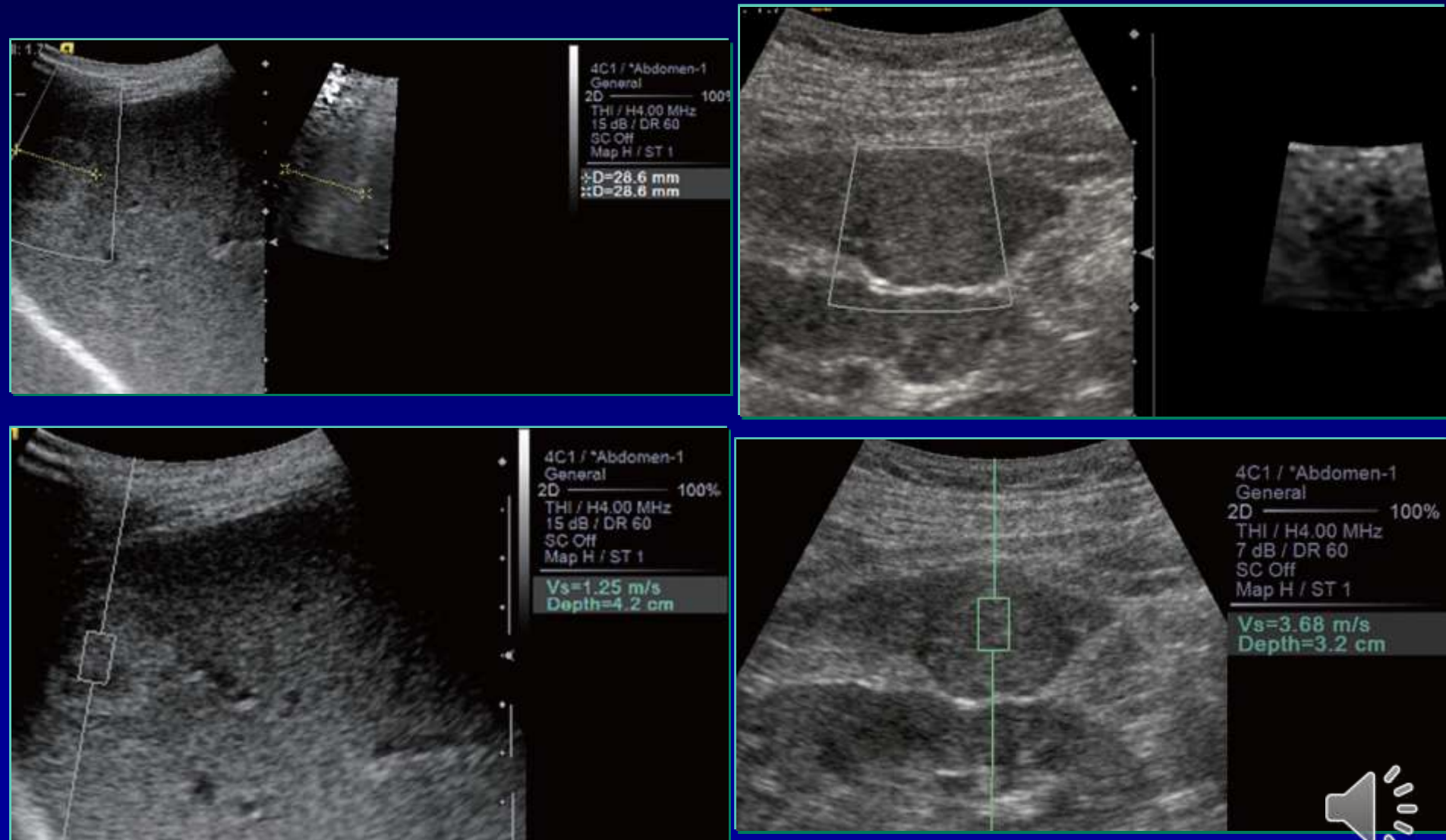
**Conclusion:** ARFI elastography with ARFI quantification and ARFI 2D imaging may be useful for differentiating hepatic hemangiomas from malignant hepatic tumors.



**Fig. 1.** Combined box-and-whisker and dot plots of median shear wave velocity (SWV) (m/sec, y-axis) among five hepatic tumor groups (x-axis). HCC - hepatocellular carcinoma, CCC - cholangiocarcinoma



# ARFI: Hemangioma vs. Mets







# 2012 WFUMB USE meeting

September 28-29  
Washington DC



EC meeting of WFUMB

November 27  
Chicago



EC member of  
WFUMB & RSNA





# 2013 WFUMB USE meeting



WORLD FEDERATION FOR ULTRASOUND IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY

www.wfumb.org

February 8, 2013

Ryung Jin Choi, MD  
Department of Radiology  
Seoul National University Hospital  
101, Daehagno, Jongno-gu  
Seoul 150-744  
South Korea  
rjchoi@snu.ac.kr

Dear Dr Choi:

I am writing on behalf of the World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB) to invite you to attend a meeting of the WFUMB's Elastography Consensus Committee on March 15-17, 2013 in Washington, D.C.

The schedule of events is as follows:

Friday, March 15

Arrivals  
7pm - Group Dinner

Saturday, March 16

8am-6pm - Consensus Meeting  
7pm - Group Dinner

Sunday, March 17

8am-1pm - Consensus Meeting  
(Meeting may go to 18:00 if it takes longer than we expected together with only available people)  
Departures

Your presentation schedule will be on March 16 (Saturday) from 4:00 to 5:00 pm, and your presentation topic is Shear Wave Method of Ultrasound Elastography of the Liver for 20 minutes

#### EXECUTIVE BUREAU

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mkudo@wfumb.org

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#### WFUMB Elastography Consensus Meeting (Tentative)-

#### Agenda-

March 16-

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Welcome and Introduction (8:00-8:20) | Kudo-                     |
| 2. Basics and Terminology (8:20-12:00)  | Kudo /Barr (Co-Chair)-    |
| 3. Liver (13:00-18:00)                  | Kudo/Cosgrove (Co-Chair)- |

March 17-

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Breast (8:00-12:00)   | Kudo/Filice (Co-Chair)- |
| 2. Thyroid (13:00-16:00) | Kudo/Wilson (Co-Chair)- |

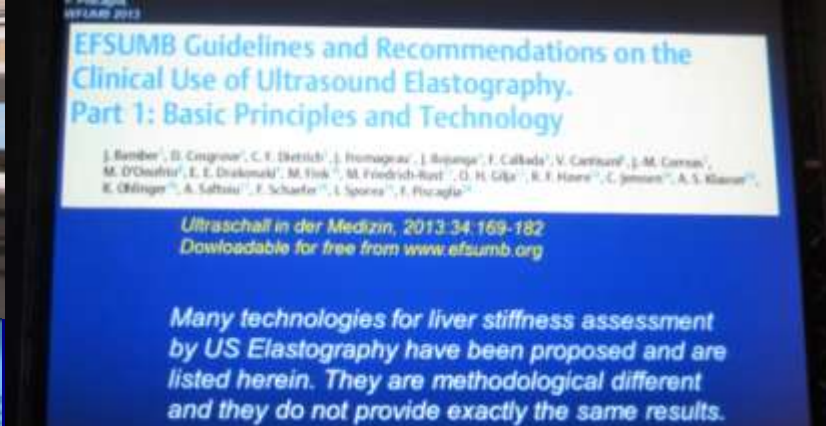
- Co-Chair was assigned to the native English speakers (Except Dr. Filice), who are not responsible for draft manuscript writing.-
- The allocated time is just tentative. It might be shorter or could be longer depending on the numbers of discussion point. -



Washington DC  
March 16-17



# 2013 WFUMB USE meeting



**EFSUMB Guidelines and Recommendations on the Clinical Use of Ultrasound Elastography. Part 1: Basic Principles and Technology**

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*Many technologies for liver stiffness assessment by US Elastography have been proposed and are listed herein. They are methodological different and they do not provide exactly the same results.*

Abstract  
Keywords:

1. Introduction
2. Principle of elastography
  - 2.1 Measured physical quantity and excitation methods
3. Strain imaging
  - 3.1 Strain Elastography
  - 3.2 Practical system of strain elastography
  - 3.3 Acoustic radiation force impulse (ARFI) imaging
  - 3.4 Appropriate measurement conditions and artifact for strain imaging
4. Shear wave speed measurement and imaging
  - 4.1 Transient Elastography
  - 4.2 Acoustic radiation force induced shear wave methods
  - 4.3 Appropriate measurement conditions and artifacts for shear wave imaging
5. Relationship between strain and shear wave speed images
6. Conclusion
7. Question and Answers





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The accuracy of elastography methods improves with the severity of fibrosis. The most studied etiology is chronic viral hepatitis. The body of evidence is highly dependent on the method for other etiologies.

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-What are the limitations?↵

Obesity is a common limitation of all ultrasound based elastography methods. Others↵ are narrow intercostal spaces and, for transient elastography, the presence of ascites. Most methods show increased values when amino-transferases are elevated↵

Some manufacturers do not recommend the use of liver elastography in pregnancy.↵

↵

-To what extent can elastography reduce liver biopsies?↵

**-Can elastography provide additional information for focal liver lesions?↵**

Currently, the body of evidence concerning the use of elastography in focal liver lesions is not strong enough to recommend its use in clinical practice.↵

WFUMB Guidelines and

Part 3: Liver↵

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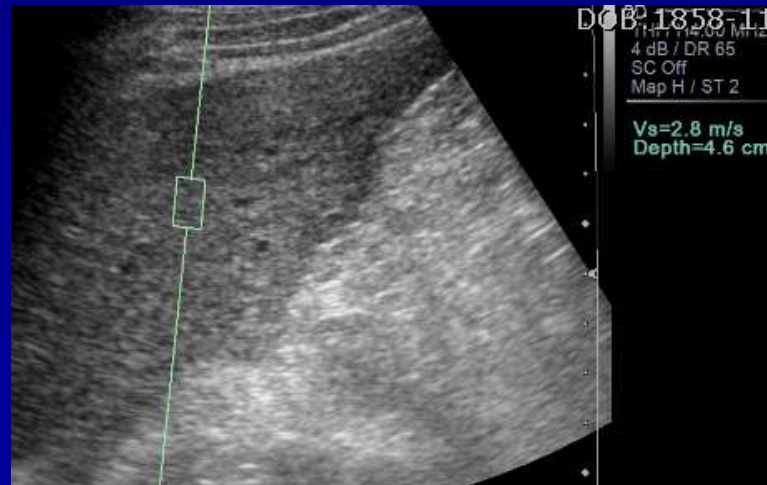
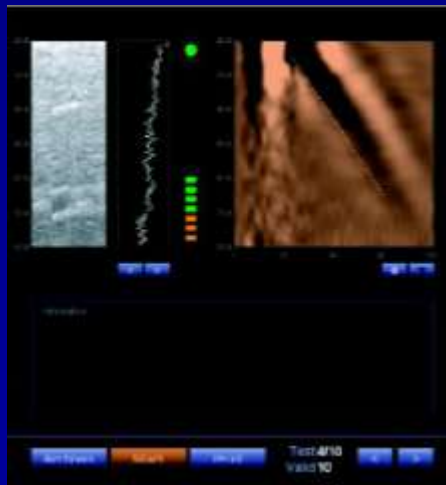
*These recommendations are written based on the international literature and on the WFUMB experts group's findings.*↵

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# Summary : US Elastography

- Elastography is one of important noninvasive methods to quantify HF more sensitively and objectively
- Currently, the body of evidence concerning the use of US elastography in focal liver lesions is not strong enough to recommend its use in clinical practice
- To avoid confounders of liver stiffness, comprehensive other imaging exams are needed





***Thank U***

