International Symposium on Fractional PDEs: Theory, Numerics and Applications
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Introduction

SECTION 1. Statement of the Object of the Work

“The effects of heat are subject to constant laws which can not be discovered without the aid of mathematical analysis. The object of the theory which we are about to explain is to demonstrate these laws; it reduces all physical researches on the propagation of heat, to problems of the integral calculus whose elements are given by experiment.”

Let \( v \) be the actual temperature of the point \((x,y,z)\). The following equation represents the movement of heat in the interior of bodies.

\[
\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{K}{CD} \left( \frac{d^2v}{dx^2} + \frac{d^2v}{dy^2} + \frac{d^2v}{dz^2} \right)
\]

K – thermal conductivity
C – specific heat
D – density
Introduction
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$$

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Entropy as a Measure of Non-Gaussian Diffusion in Porous Tissues Viewed using MRI

R.L Magin, C. Ingo, Dept. of BioE, University of Illinois at Chicago
L. Colon-Perez, Dept. of Physics, University of Florida
T.H. Mareci, Dept. of Biochemistry, University of Florida
T. Barrick, St. George’s Hospital, University of London
A. Hanyga, Warsaw Poland
• Diffusion weighted MRI and DTI are used to detect neurodegenerative, malignant and ischemic diseases.

• The correlation between disease and tissue structure relies on pulse sequences that probe relaxation times and molecular diffusion, typically with $S = S_0 \exp(-bD)$.

• Recent studies focus on anomalous diffusion, a process in which the NMR signal decays via $S = S_0 E_\alpha(-D_{\alpha,\beta} q^\beta \Delta^\alpha)$, where $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are fractional measures of tissue complexity.

• In this presentation, I will describe a model of anomalous diffusion derived using fractional calculus that uses $\alpha$, $\beta$ and entropy as measures of tissue complexity.
Diffusion in NMR and MRI

Diffusion weighted MR imaging (DWI) and tensor imaging (DTI) are powerful tools for characterizing normal and abnormal brain structures.

DWI can detect stroke and tumors, while DTI can readily detect changes in anisotropic diffusion in the white matter.

Bloch Equation

\[
\frac{\partial \vec{M}(\vec{r}, t)}{\partial t} = \gamma \vec{M}(\vec{r}, t) \times \vec{B} + \frac{M_0 - M_z}{T_1} \hat{z} - \frac{M_x \hat{x} + M_y \hat{y}}{T_2}
\]
Brain MRI at 3 T
MR images thus provide quantitative spatial maps of tissue parameters, T1, T2 and the diffusion constant, D.
Spin Echo Pulse Program

The pulse program establishes the slice, the field of view and the image resolution, but in the Fourier domain.

TR is repetition time

TE is the echo time
Each voxel in a tissue has its own characteristic T1 and T2.

These T1 and T2 values determine the fundamental image contrast.
MRI of the Brain – Sagittal Slice

T1 Contrast
$T_E = 14 \text{ ms}$
$T_R = 400 \text{ ms}$

T2 Contrast
$T_E = 100 \text{ ms}$
$T_R = 1500 \text{ ms}$

Proton Density
$T_E = 14 \text{ ms}$
$T_R = 1500 \text{ ms}$
How can we use the diffusion of water to provide such image contrast?
Diffusion in NMR

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) is an ideal method for investigating the self-diffusion of water because it is possible to “label” the molecules by manipulating the magnetization of the hydrogen nuclei without interfering with the process of diffusion.

This process can be “measured” using the Stejskal-Tanner gradient pulse pair:

We will see “how” soon.
Diffusion in Medicine

NMR is hence a useful tool with which to measure the diffusion coefficient, $D$, in liquids, porous materials, and tissues. And MRI, when diffusion-weighted, is now used to detect and diagnose pathology:

i) Tumors, (cystic, edema, solid; $D$ increases with tumor stage)
ii) Stroke, (in grey matter, $D$ decreases immediately after onset)
iii) White Matter Disease ($D$ is less anisotropic)
Progressive cortical infarction. A 62-year-old man had sudden onset of dense right hemiplegia 7 hours before his MRI study. The T2 sequence shows only a subtle increase in signal in a gyral pattern, whereas the DWI map shows an ischemic injury (arrow) mostly located in the insular and peri-insular cortex. The CBV map demonstrates a perfusion abnormality (arrow) much larger than the DWI abnormality. MRA demonstrates a left MCA stem occlusion (arrow). In the follow-up MRI the stroke has expanded beyond the initial area of perfusion abnormality (arrow).
How can we use MRI to measure diffusion?

Neglecting precession, $T_1$ and $T_2$ relaxation, we can write the Bloch-Torrey PDE for Magnetization, $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r},t)$, as:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r},t)}{\partial t} = \gamma \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r},t) \times \mathbf{B} + D\nabla^2 \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r},t) \quad \mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{G}(t))\hat{z}$$

where $\gamma = 42.58$ MHz/Tesla and $D$ is the diffusion constant (mm$^2$/sec).

$$M_{xy}(\mathbf{r},t) = M_x(\mathbf{r},t) + iM_y(\mathbf{r},t) = M_0 A(t) \exp\left(-i\gamma \mathbf{r} \cdot \int_0^t \mathbf{G}(t') dt' \right)$$

$$\frac{d \ln A(t)}{dt} = e^{i\gamma \mathbf{r} \cdot \int_0^t \mathbf{G}(t') dt'} D\nabla^2 e^{-i\gamma \mathbf{r} \cdot \int_0^t \mathbf{G}(t') dt'}$$
Bloch-Torrey PDE for Magnetization, $\mathbf{M}(r,t)$

$$
\ln A(t) = -D\gamma^2 \int_0^t \left[ \left( \int_0^{t'} \tilde{G}(t'') dt'' \right) \cdot \left( \int_0^{t'} \tilde{G}(t'') dt'' \right) \right] 
$$

If $\tilde{G}(t) = g(t)\hat{z}$ then for a pair of rectangular gradient pulses of amplitude $g_0$, duration $\delta$, and separated by $\Delta$.

$$
M_{xy}(\vec{r}, g_0, \Delta, \delta) = M_0 \exp[-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^2 (\Delta - \delta / 3) D]
$$

Since the detected NMR signal is proportional to $M_{xy}$ we have the simple result:

$$
S = S_0 \exp(-bD)
$$
$$
b = (\gamma g_0 \delta)^2 (\Delta - \delta / 3)
$$
The diffusion map distinguishes white matter from gray matter, with the cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) giving the highest values.

Using

\[ S = S_0 \exp(-bD) \]

in an MR imaging pulse sequence.
How well does $S = S_0 \exp[-(bD)]$ really work?

Try a stretched Exponential!

Heuristic!

$S = S_0 \exp(-[bD]^\beta)$, with $0 < \beta < 1$

DW-EPI at 3T: TR/TE = 4000/97 ms, slice thickness = 3 mm, matrix 256 x 256 and FOV = 22 x 22 cm$^2$. Max b-value = 3,300 s/mm$^2$
The stretched exponential parameter $\beta$ ($0 < \beta < 1$) also can provide a “map” of brain tissue.

$$S = S_0 \exp\left(-[bD]^\beta\right),$$

But why does it work and what does it mean? To answer this we will use fractional calculus.
Fractional Order Operators in Space
(Riesz fractional derivative)

If we consider a well behaved function $y(x)$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$ then we can define its Fourier transformation $y(\xi_x)$ through the integrals:

\[
F\{y(x)\} = \hat{y}(\xi_x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y(x')e^{i\xi_x x'} dx'
\]

\[
y(x) = F^{-1}\{\hat{y}(\xi_x)\} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{y}(\xi_x)e^{-\xi_x x} d\xi_x
\]
Fractional Order Operators in Space 
(Riesz fractional derivative)

In the Fourier domain for $1 < \beta < 2$ we will define the Fourier transform of the fractional order derivative as:

\[
\frac{d^\beta}{dx^\beta} g(x) \xrightarrow{F} (-i\xi_x)^\beta \hat{g}(\xi_x), \quad \frac{d^\beta}{d(-x)^\beta} g(x) \xrightarrow{F} (i\xi_x)^\beta \hat{g}(\xi_x)
\]

Hence we can write,

\[
\frac{d^\beta}{d|x|^\beta} g(x) = -\frac{1}{2\cos(\beta\pi/2)} \left[ \frac{d^\beta}{dx^\beta} + \frac{d^\beta}{d(-x)^\beta} \right] g(x)
\]

\[
\frac{d^\beta}{d|x|^\beta} g(x) \xrightarrow{F} \left|\xi_x\right|^\beta \hat{g}(\xi_x)
\]

In the case of $y(x) = e^{iax}$, we have

\[
D_x^\beta (e^{iax}) = -\left|a\right|^\beta e^{iax}
\]

Riesz
Riesz fractional derivative

\[ D_x^\beta (e^{-\alpha x^2}) = \frac{\alpha^{\beta/2}}{\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\pi \beta}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(-\frac{\beta}{2}\right) \Gamma(1 + \beta) \, _1F_1\left(\frac{1 + \beta}{2}; \frac{1}{2}; \alpha x^2\right) \]
Fractional Order Operators in Time (Caputo fractional derivative)

If we consider a well behaved function $y(t)$ on $[0, \infty)$ then we can define its Laplace transformation through the integrals:

$$L\{y(t)\} = \hat{y}(s) = \int_{0}^{\infty} y(t')e^{-st'} dt'$$

$$y(t) = L^{-1}\{\hat{y}(s)\} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} y(s)e^{st} ds$$

In the Laplace domain for $(0 < \alpha < 1)$, we will define the Caputo fractional order form of the Riemann-Liouville derivative as

$$L\left\{^{C}_{a}D_{t}^{\alpha} y(t)\right\} = s^{\alpha} y(s) - s^{\alpha-1} y(0^+)$$
Fractional Order Operators in Time (Laplace Domain)

Hence we can write

\[ \mathcal{C}D_t^{\alpha} y(t) = L^{-1}\left\{s^\alpha L\{y(t)\} - \frac{y(0^+)t^{-\alpha}}{\Gamma(1 - \alpha)}\right\} \]

where \( \Gamma(1 - \alpha) = \int_0^\infty e^{-u}u^{-\alpha}\,du \) is the Gamma function.

In the time domain for \((0 < \alpha < 1)\)

\[ \mathcal{C}D_t^{\alpha} u(t) = 0, \text{where } u(t) \text{ is the unit step function} \]

\[ \mathcal{C}D_t^{\alpha}\left[t^k u(t)\right] = \frac{\Gamma(k + 1)t^{k - \alpha}}{\Gamma(k - \alpha + 1)}, \text{for } k \geq 0 \]

\[ \mathcal{C}D_t^{\alpha}\left[\mathcal{E}_\alpha (\lambda t^\alpha)\right] = \lambda \mathcal{E}_\alpha (\lambda t^\alpha), \text{here } \mathcal{E}_\alpha (z) \text{ is the Mittag-Leffler function} \]
Fractional Order Bloch-Torrey PDE for Magnetization, $M(\mathbf{r},t)$

$$\tau^{\alpha-1} \frac{c}{0} D_t^\alpha [M_{xy}(\mathbf{r},t)] = -i\gamma(\mathbf{r} \cdot \bar{G}(t))M_{xy}(\mathbf{r},t) + D\mu^{\beta-2} R D_\mathbf{r}^\beta [M_{xy}(\mathbf{r},t)]$$

Here $\tau^{\alpha-1} \frac{c}{0} D_t^\alpha$ is the Caputo fractional time derivative, $0 < \alpha < 1$, and $\mu^{\beta-2} R D_\mathbf{r}^\beta$ is the Riesz fractional space derivative, $1 < \beta < 2$.

For a Stejskal-Tanner gradient pair pulse sequence, and for $\alpha = 1$, we can write:

$$S = S_0 \exp \left[ -(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D\mu^{\beta-2} \left( \Delta - \frac{(\beta-1)}{(\beta+1)} \delta \right) \right]$$

Here D is the apparent diffusion coefficient, mm$^2$/sec.

Magin et al, JMR 190, 255, 2008
PGSE (Stejskal-Tanner)
Changing $\beta$ (0.3 – 1.0) and $\mu$ (5–55 $\mu$m)
Fractional Order Bloch-Torrey PDE for Magnetization, $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r},t)$ – General Case:

$$S = S_0 (M_{\alpha,\beta})^2 E_\alpha \left[-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{\alpha,\beta} (\Delta - \delta)^\alpha \right]$$

$$M_{\alpha,\beta} = F_{\alpha,\beta} \left[(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{\alpha,\beta} \delta^\alpha \right]$$

Note, that $E_\alpha (z^\alpha)$ is the single parameter Mittag-Leffler function, but that

$$F_{\alpha,\beta} (z) = E_{\alpha,1+\beta/\alpha,\beta/\alpha} (z)$$

is the Kilbas-Saigo function, Kilbas et al, 2007

Let’s consider some particular cases.
Fractional Order Bloch-Torrey PDE for Magnetization, $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r},t)$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$M_{\alpha,\beta}$</th>
<th>$1&lt;\beta&lt;2$</th>
<th>$\beta=2$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0&lt;\alpha&lt;1$</td>
<td>$F_{\alpha,\beta}[(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{\alpha,\beta}\delta^\alpha]$</td>
<td>$F_{\alpha,2}[(\gamma g_0 \delta)^2 D_{\alpha,2}\delta^\alpha]$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha=1$</td>
<td>$F_{1,\beta}[(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{1,\beta}\delta] = \exp[-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{1,\beta}\delta / (\beta + 1)]$</td>
<td>$F_{1,2}[(\gamma g_0 \delta)^2 D_{1,2}\delta] = \exp[-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^2 D_{1,2}\delta / 3]$</td>
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</table>

Here the time and space constants are incorporated into $D_{\alpha,\beta}$. 
Fractional Order Bloch-Torrey PDE for Magnetization, $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r},t)$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$S / S_0$</th>
<th>$1 &lt; \beta &lt; 2$</th>
<th>$\beta = 2$</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 &lt; \alpha &lt; 1$</td>
<td>$(M_{\alpha,\beta})^2 E_\alpha \left[-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{\alpha,\beta} (\Delta - \delta)^\alpha \right]$</td>
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<td>$\alpha = 1$</td>
<td>$(M_{1,\beta})^2 E_1 \left[-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{1,\beta} (\Delta - \delta) \right] = \exp\left[-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{1,\beta} (\Delta - \delta) \right]$</td>
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Here the time and space constants are incorporated into $D_{\alpha,\beta}$. 
Fractional Order Bloch-Torrey PDE for Magnetization, $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r},t)$ – Short Pulse Approx.

\[
S = S_0 (M_{\alpha,\beta})^2 E_\alpha [-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{\alpha,\beta} (\Delta - \delta)^\alpha ]
\]

\[
M_{\alpha,\beta} = F_{\alpha,\beta} [(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{\alpha,\beta} \delta^\alpha ]
\]

In the short gradient pulse approximation, $\Delta \gg \delta$, $g_0 \delta$ constant, we obtain:

\[
S = S_0 E_\alpha [-(\gamma g_0 \delta)^\beta D_{\alpha,\beta} (\Delta)^\alpha ]
\]

which for $k = \gamma g_0 \delta$ is the solution to the fractional order diffusion equation.

We can see this easily from…
The Diffusion Equation - Generalized

\[
\frac{\partial P(x, t)}{\partial t} = D_{1,2} \frac{\partial^2 P(x, t)}{\partial |x|^2}
\]

Where \( D_{1,2} \) is the diffusion coefficient (e.g. \( mm^2/s \)).
The Diffusion Equation - Generalized

\[
\frac{\partial \alpha P(x, t)}{\partial t^\alpha} = D_{1,2} \frac{\partial^2 P(x, t)}{\partial |x|^2}
\]

\[
\frac{\partial \beta P(x, t)}{\partial t^\beta} = D_{\alpha,\beta} \frac{\partial^\beta P(x, t)}{\partial |x|^\beta}
\]

for \(0 < \alpha \leq 1\) and \(0 < \beta \leq 2\)

Where \(D_{1,2}\) is the diffusion coefficient (e.g. \(mm^2/s\)).

Where \(D_{\alpha,\beta}\) is the diffusion coefficient (e.g. \(mm^\beta/s^\alpha\)).
Application of the Laplace and Fourier transforms

\[ p(k, s) = \frac{s^{\alpha-1}}{s^\alpha + D_{\alpha,\beta}|k|^\beta} \]

Taking the inverse Laplace transform

\[ p(k, t) = E_{\alpha} \left( -D_{\alpha,\beta}|k|^\beta t^\alpha \right) \]

Here, \( E_{\alpha}[-z^\alpha] \) is the single parameter Mittag-Leffler function.
Anomalous diffusion (CTRW)

Anomalous diffusion phase diagram with respect to fractional order space parameter, $\beta$, and fractional order time parameter, $\alpha$.

$p(k, t) = E_{\alpha} \left[ -D_{\alpha,2} |k|^2 t^\alpha \right]$

$p(k, t) = \exp \left[ -D_{1,\beta} |k|^\beta t \right]$

Anomalous Diffusion Phase Diagram

\[ \langle x^2(t) \rangle \sim t^{2\alpha/\beta} \]

Generalized Solution to the Diffusion Equation

\[ p(k, t) = E_{\alpha}(-D_{\alpha, \beta}|k|^\beta t^\alpha) \]

Diffusion Simulations on Fractal Domains

(Özarslan et al., JMR, 183;315, 2006)

Subdiffusion, $0 < \mu < 1$

Superdiffusion $\mu = 1.5$

Fig. 11. Comparison of the trajectories of a Brownian or subdiffusive random walk (left) and a Lévy walk with index $\mu = 1.5$ (right). Whereas both trajectories are statistically self-similar, the Lévy walk trajectory possesses a fractal dimension, characterising the island structure of clusters of smaller steps, connected by a long step. Both walks are drawn for the same number of steps (approx. 7000).
Model for Entropy MRI Experiments

\[ p(k, t) = E_\alpha \left( -D_{\alpha, \beta} |k|^\beta t^\alpha \right) \]

\[ p(q, \Delta) = E_\alpha \left( -D_{\alpha, \beta} |q|^\beta \Delta^\alpha \right) \]

\[ H(q, \Delta) = -\sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\hat{p}(q, \Delta)_i \ln[\hat{p}(q, \Delta)_i]}{\ln(N)} \]

Here, \( \hat{p}(q, \Delta) \) is the individual contribution to the normalized power spectrum and the \( \ln(N) \) term is a normalization factor such that \( 0 < H(q, \Delta) < 1 \).
Entropy Surface

How can we apply this model to describe brain tissue?
Experimental Setup

- Fixed rat brain (4 % PFD) soaked overnight in phosphate buffered saline and imaged in Fluorinert
- Bruker 17.6 T, 750 MHz, 89 mm bore
- Pulsed Gradient Stimulated Echo (PGSTE) pulse sequence
  - TR=2 sec, TE=28 ms; with b-values up to 24,000 s/mm²; NA = 2, 3 orthogonal gradient directions; 1 slice; thickness = 1 mm
- T1 correction via variable TR data collection
- δ=3.5 ms, Δ=20-400 ms, g=275-1,400 mT/m
Model for Diffusion MRI Experiments

\[ \frac{S}{S_0} = e^{\exp(-bD)} \]

\[ b = q^2(\bar{\Delta}) \]

\[ \bar{\Delta} = \Delta - \delta/3 \]

Diffusion gradient strength (e.g. mm\(^{-2}\))

Diffusion mixing time (e.g. ms)

Gradient pulse duration
Model for Diffusion MRI Experiments

\[ S = S_0 \exp(-bD) \quad b = q^2(\bar{\Delta}) \quad \bar{\Delta} = \Delta - \delta/3 \]

\[ p(k, t) = E_\alpha \left( - D_{\alpha, \beta} |k|^\beta t^\alpha \right) \]

\[ p(q, \bar{\Delta}) = E_\alpha \left( - D_{\alpha, \beta} |q|^\beta \bar{\Delta}^\alpha \right) \]

The \( \alpha \) and the \( \beta \) enter into the expression in different ways, and hence can be measured separately!
Iso-b-value Diagram

\[ b = q^2(\bar{\Delta}) \]
Iso-b-value Diagram

\[ b = q^2(\bar{\Delta}) \]

\[ p(q^2, \bar{\Delta}) = \exp(-D_{1,2\beta}(q^2)^{\beta} \bar{\Delta}) \]
Iso-b-value Diagram

\[ p(q^2, \bar{\Delta}) = E_\alpha(-D_{\alpha,2}(q^2)(\bar{\Delta})^\alpha) \]

\[ b = q^2(\bar{\Delta}) \]

\( \bar{\Delta}, \text{seconds} \)

\( q^2, mm^{-2} \)
ROIs
(FOV 27 mm X 18 mm)

Cerebral Cortex (Grey Matter)
homogeneous & isotropic

Corpus Callosum (White Matter)
heterogeneous, tortuous & anisotropic
\[
p(q, \bar{\Delta}) = E_{\alpha}(-D_{\alpha, \beta}|q|^\beta \bar{\Delta}^\alpha)
\]

\[
\langle x^2(t) \rangle \sim t^{2\alpha/\beta}
\]

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<th>Constant $\bar{\Delta}$</th>
<th>Experiment</th>
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**GM**

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<td>0.95 ± 0.01</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2\alpha/\beta$</td>
<td>0.98 ± 0.02</td>
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**WM**

\[ x(t) \sim t^{\lambda/\beta} \]

\[ \lambda \sim \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \]

\[ \langle x^2(t) \rangle \sim t^{2\alpha/\beta} \]
\[ p(q, \bar{\Delta}) = E_{\alpha} \left( - D_{\alpha,\beta} |q|^\beta \bar{\Delta}^\alpha \right) \]

\[ \langle x^2(t) \rangle \sim t^{2\alpha/\beta} \]

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<tr>
<td>$\alpha$</td>
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<td>$1.15 \pm 0.13$</td>
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<td>$2\alpha/\beta$</td>
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<tr>
<td>( \alpha )</td>
<td>0.76 ( \pm ) 0.05</td>
<td></td>
<td>( \alpha )</td>
<td>0.95 ( \pm ) 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \beta )</td>
<td>1.95 ( \pm ) 0.06</td>
<td></td>
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<td>( 2\alpha/\beta )</td>
<td>0.76 ( \pm ) 0.08</td>
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<td>0.98 ( \pm ) 0.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>parameter</th>
<th>Constant ( \bar{\Delta} ) experiment</th>
<th>WM</th>
<th>parameter</th>
<th>Constant ( q ) experiment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \alpha )</td>
<td>0.42 ( \pm ) 0.04</td>
<td></td>
<td>( \alpha )</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \beta )</td>
<td>1.15 ( \pm ) 0.13</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>( 2\alpha/\beta )</td>
<td>0.74 ( \pm ) 0.12</td>
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</table>
$$p(q, \bar{\Delta}) = E_\alpha(- D_{\alpha, \beta} |q|^{\beta} \bar{\Delta}^\alpha)$$

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle \sim t^{2\alpha/\beta}$$

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<tr>
<th>parameter</th>
<th>GM</th>
<th>WM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha$</td>
<td>$0.76 \pm 0.05$</td>
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\[ p(q, \bar{\Delta}) = E_{\alpha}( - D_{\alpha, \beta} |q|^\beta \bar{\Delta}^\alpha) \quad \langle x^2(t) \rangle \sim t^{2\alpha/\beta} \]

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Experiment</th>
<th>( \alpha )</th>
<th>( \beta )</th>
<th>( 2\alpha/\beta )</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \bar{\Delta} )</td>
<td>Constant</td>
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<td>Experiment</td>
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<td>1.85 ± 0.07</td>
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The graph shows the comparison between GM (gray matter) and WM (white matter) with respect to \( S(S) \) vs. b-value (s/mm²) for different values of the parameters. The trend indicates a decrease in \( S(S) \) with increasing b-value, reflecting changes in tissue properties.
\[ p(q, \bar{\Delta}) = E_\alpha (-D_{\alpha, \beta} |q|^\beta \bar{\Delta}^\alpha) \]

\[ \langle x^2(t) \rangle \sim t^{2\alpha/\beta} \]

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Parameter Maps

Constant $\Delta$ experiment

$\alpha$

$\beta$

$H(q, \Delta)$
Parameter Maps

Constant $\Delta$ experiment

$\alpha$

$\beta$

$H(q, \Delta)$

Constant $q$ experiment

$\alpha$

$\beta$

$H(q, \Delta)$
‘Information’ Gained by the MLF

\[ H(q, \Delta)_{\text{MLF}} \quad H(q, \Delta)_{\text{mono}} \]

- \( \Delta_1 = 17.5 \text{ ms} \)
- \( \Delta_2 = 50 \text{ ms} \)
- \( q_1 = 78 \text{ mm}^{-1} \)
- \( q_2 = 52 \text{ mm}^{-1} \)
Fornix ROIs in Epileptic Subject

Mean and standard deviation of the MLF and entropy parameters for the fornix (F) ROIs in healthy and epileptic subjects in the constant $\Delta = 17.5$ ms experiments.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>parameter</th>
<th>ROI</th>
<th>Healthy</th>
<th>Epileptic</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha$</td>
<td>F, left</td>
<td>$0.25 \pm 0.10$</td>
<td>$0.86 \pm 0.09$</td>
</tr>
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<td>$\alpha$</td>
<td>F, right</td>
<td>$0.35 \pm 0.11$</td>
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<td>$\beta$</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\beta$</td>
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<td>$H(q, \bar{\Delta})$</td>
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Fractional anisotropy (FA) reduction of $\sim 15\%$ in fornix (Parekh et. al, *Exp Neurol*. 2010)
Fornix ROIs in Epileptic Subject

Fractional anisotropy (FA) reduction of ~15% in fornix (Parekh et. al, *Exp Neurol.* 2010)
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Brain MRI at 3 T
Fractional Order Parameter Maps

Courtesy of Thomas Barrick
**Human Connectome Project (HCP)**

- $\alpha$
- $\beta$
- $H(q, \Delta)$

 Courtesy of Thomas Barrick
Entropy of CSF
Entropy of Gray Matter
Entropy of White Matter
Conclusions & Future Work

• A $b$-value isn’t just a $b$-value (weighting $q$ vs. $\Delta$) – tempered distributions?
• $\alpha$, $\beta$ and entropy ($H$) provide ‘information’ about the diffusion dynamics within the tissue microstructure
• Neurodegenerative disease models (PTU)
• Clinical implementation
• Biomarkers for changes in brain structure?

http://homes.mpimf-heidelberg.mpg.de/~smikula/
Acknowledgements

Thomas Barrick, St. Georges, University of London
Matt Hall, University College, London
Xiaohong Joe Zhou, UIC MRI Center
Yi Sui, UIC, BioE, UIC
Dan Plant, AMRIS, University of Florida
Recent NMR and FC Papers


Preliminary Discourse

“After having established these differential equations their integrals must be obtained; this process consists in passing from a common expression to a particular solution subject to all the given conditions.”

“The method which is derived from them leaves nothing vague and indeterminate in the solutions, it leads them up to the final numerical applications, a necessary condition of every investigation, without which we should only arrive at useless transformations.”

Let $v$ be the actual temperature of the point $(x,y,z)$. The following equation represents the movement of heat in the interior of bodies.

$$\frac{d^{\alpha}v}{dt^{\alpha}} = \frac{K_{\alpha,\beta}}{CD} \left( \frac{d^{\beta}v}{dx^{\beta}} + \frac{d^{\beta}v}{dy^{\beta}} + \frac{d^{\beta}v}{dz^{\beta}} \right)$$

$K_{\alpha,\beta}$ – thermal conductivity

$C$ – specific heat

$D$ – density
Preliminary Discourse

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\( C \) – specific heat

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Linear and Complex Systems

- Chaos
  - Hodgkin-Huxley
  - Chua-Hartley

- Non-Linear
  - Turbulence
  - Combustion

- Deterministic

- Fractals

- Linear
  - Fractional Calculus
  - $\alpha$, $\beta$ and Entropy

- Random
  - Linear Time-invariant Causal
  - White Noise Brownian Motion