

# (Un)certainties in Radiation Dosimetry in Breast Imaging

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**Radboudumc**

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Susan G. Komen

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**How much radiation  
dose does a patient  
get during a  
mammogram?**

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...and...

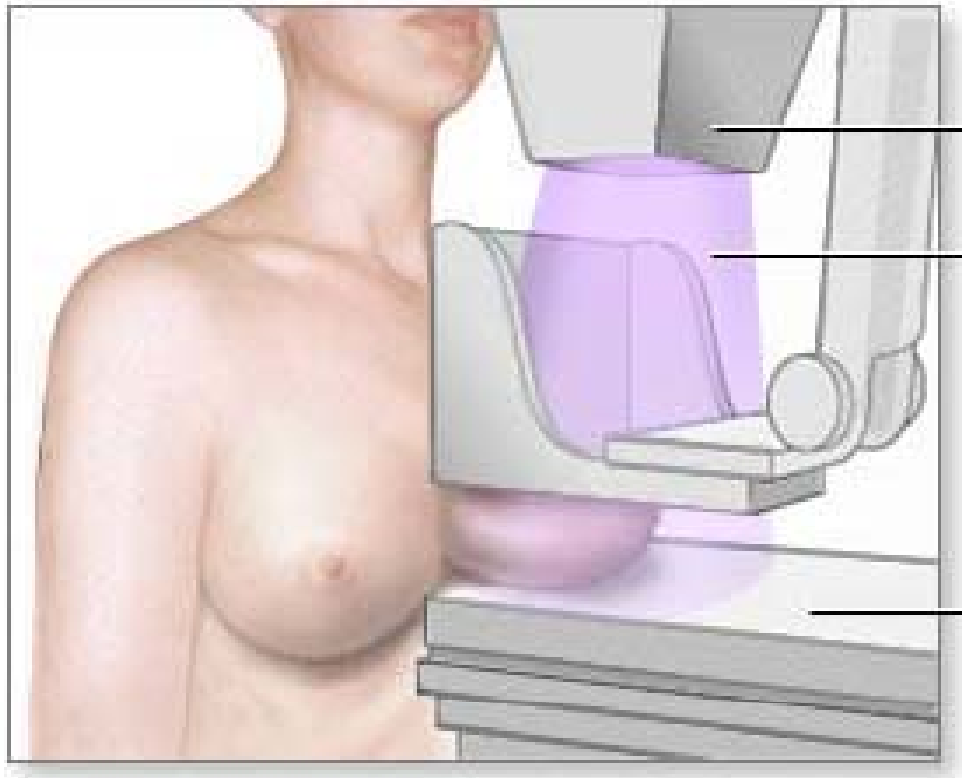
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# What does that mean?

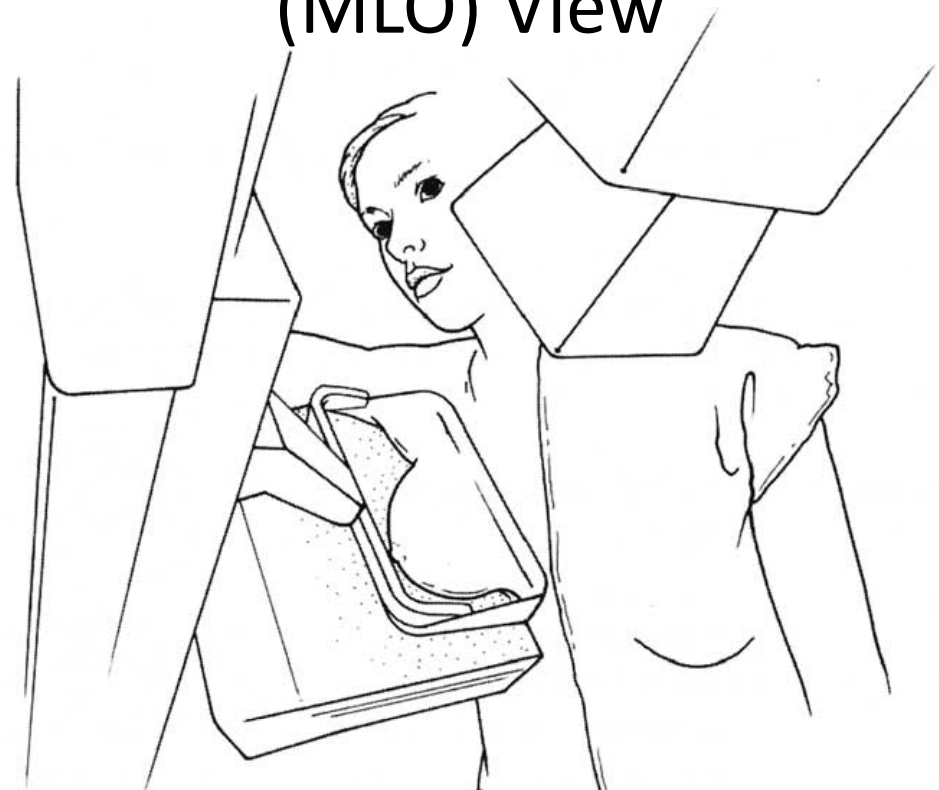
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# Mammogram Acquisition

## Cranio-caudal (CC) View

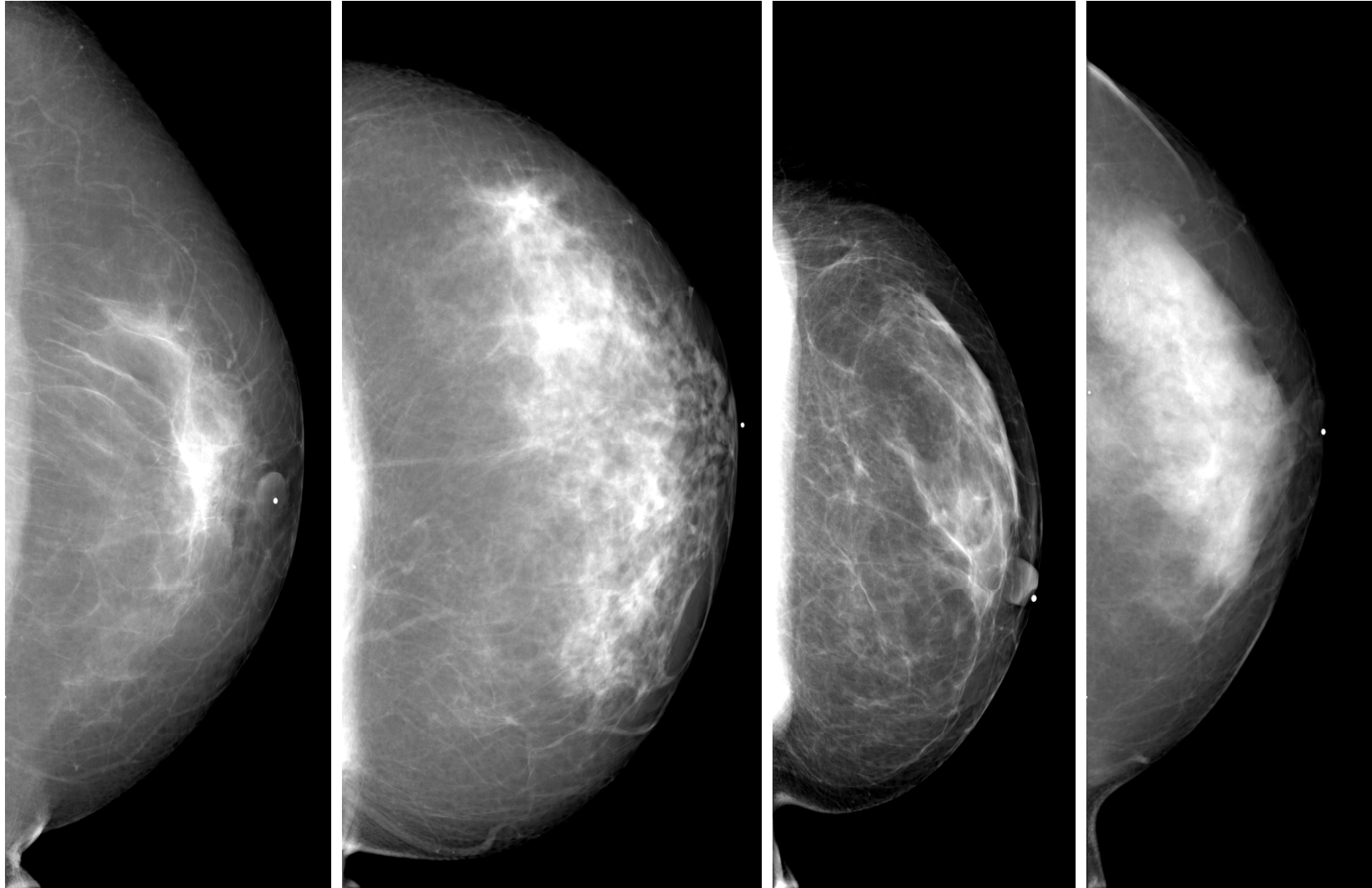


## Medio-lateral oblique (MLO) View



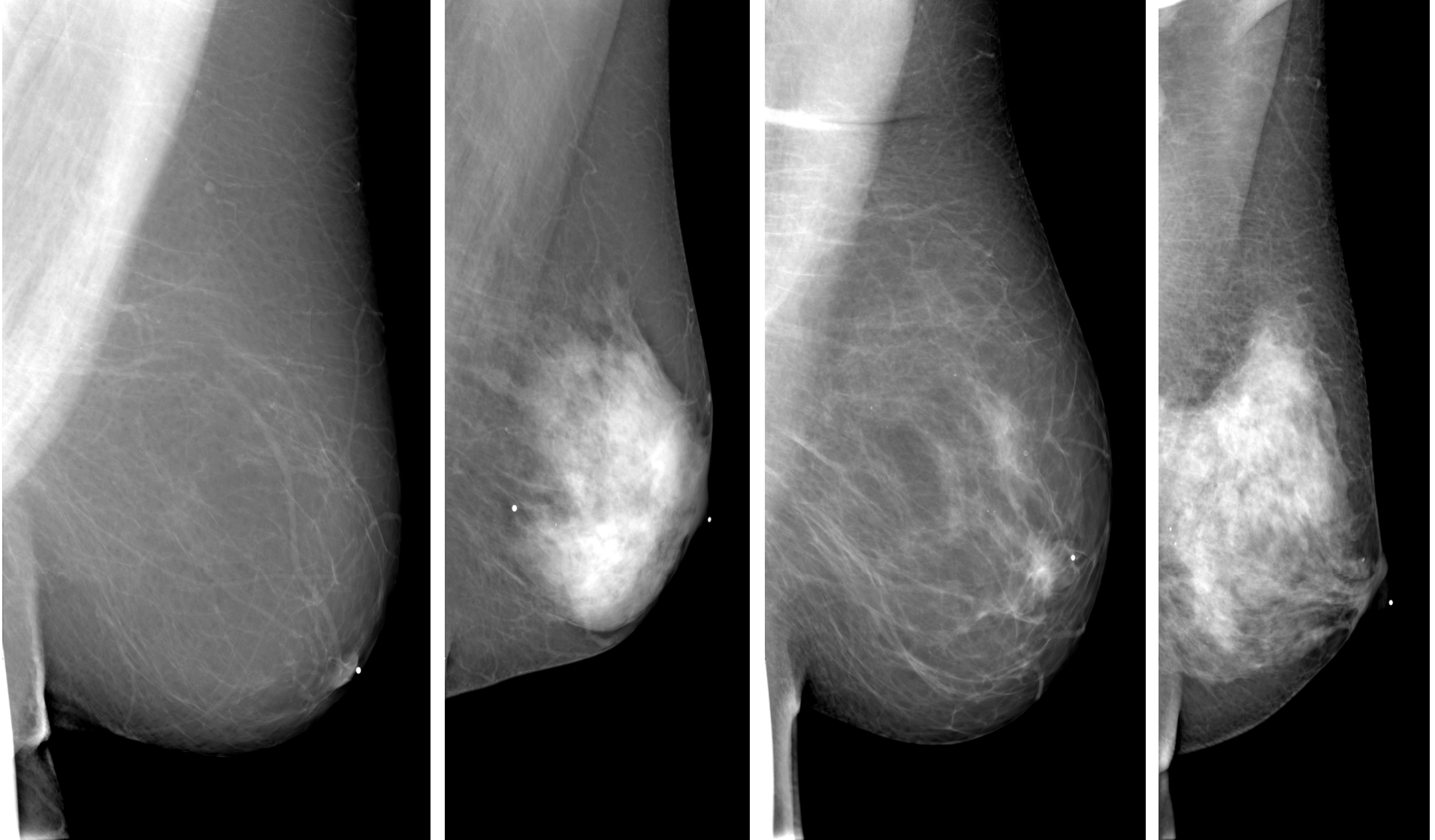
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# CC View Mammograms



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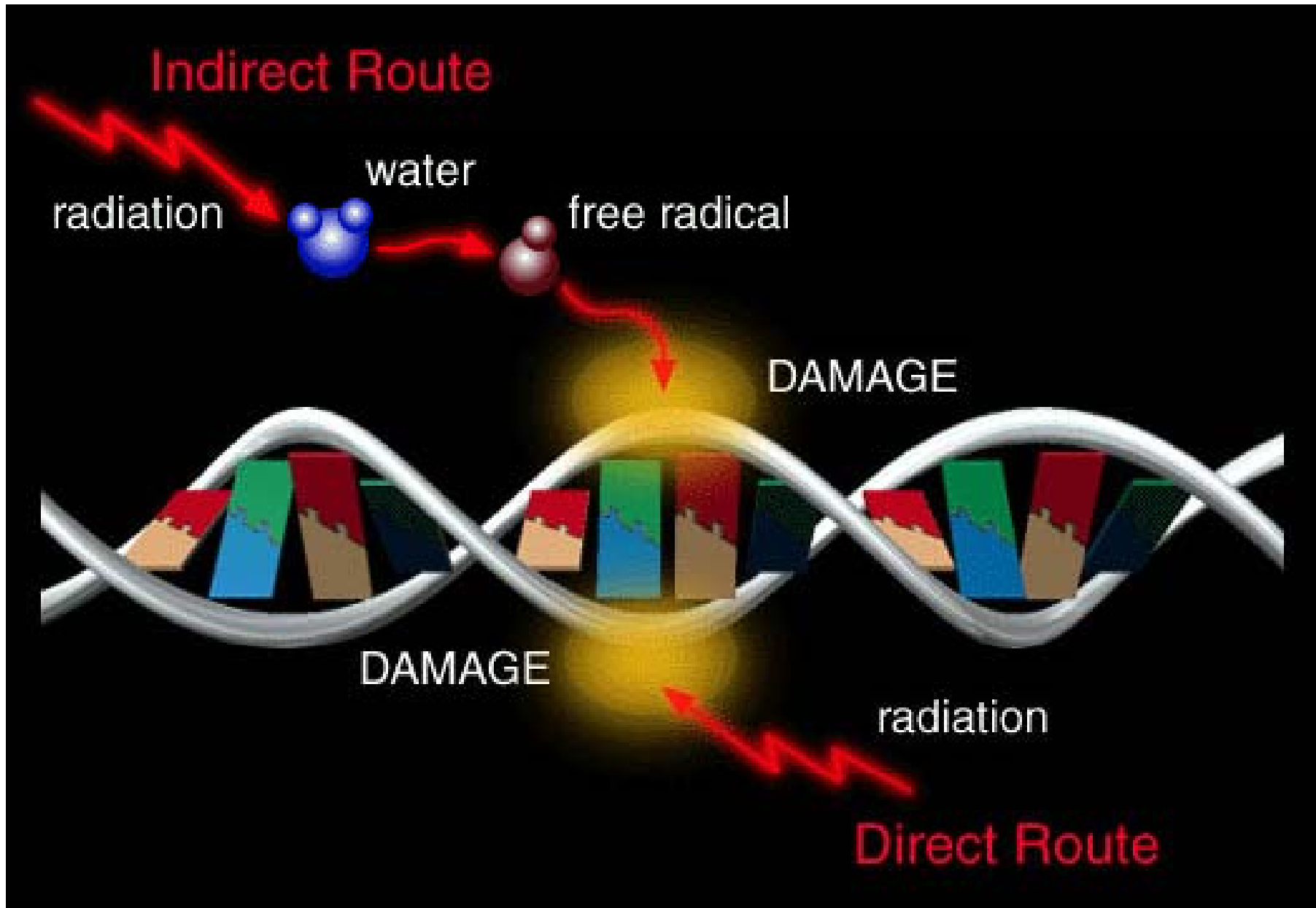
# MLO View Mammograms

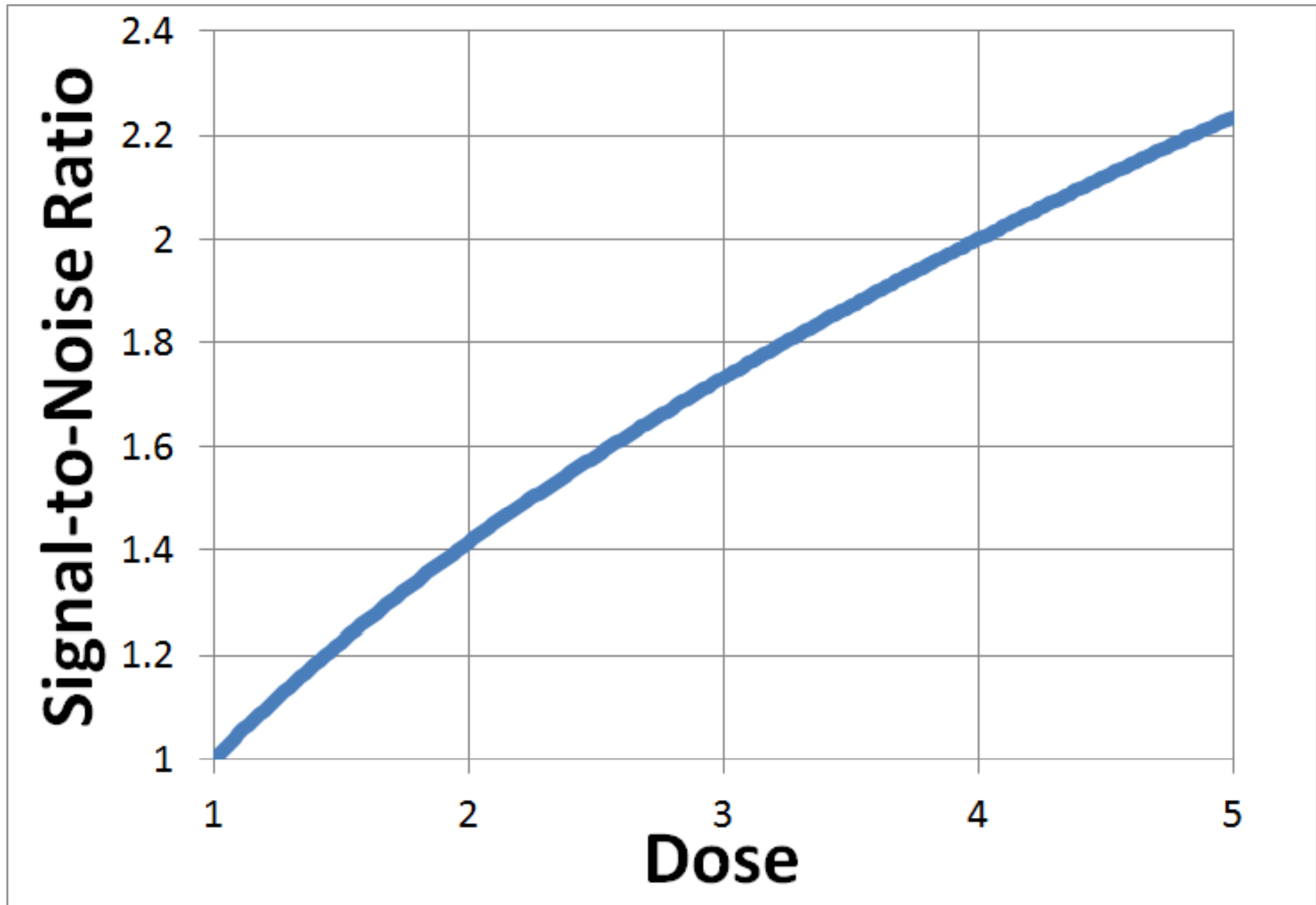




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# INTRODUCTION TO (BREAST) DOSIMETRY







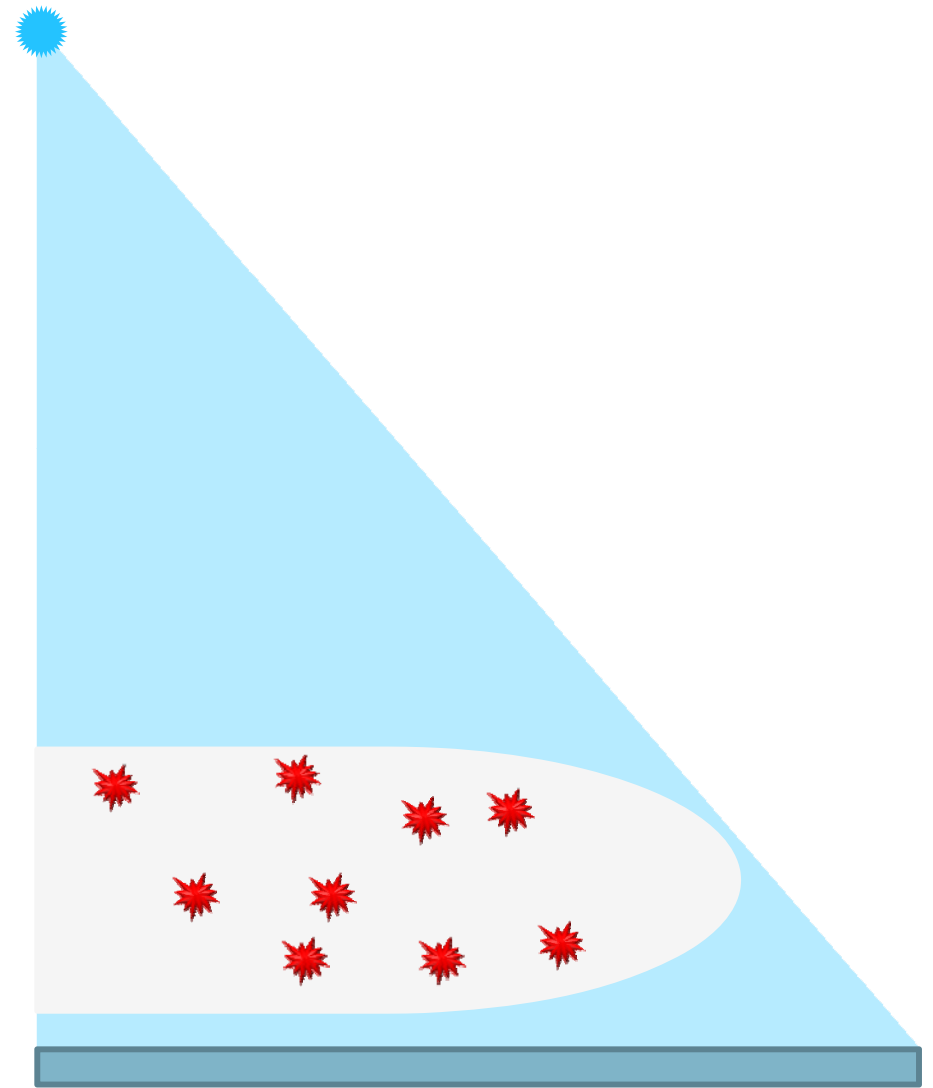
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# Absorbed Dose

Amount of energy deposited  
by x-rays in tissue  

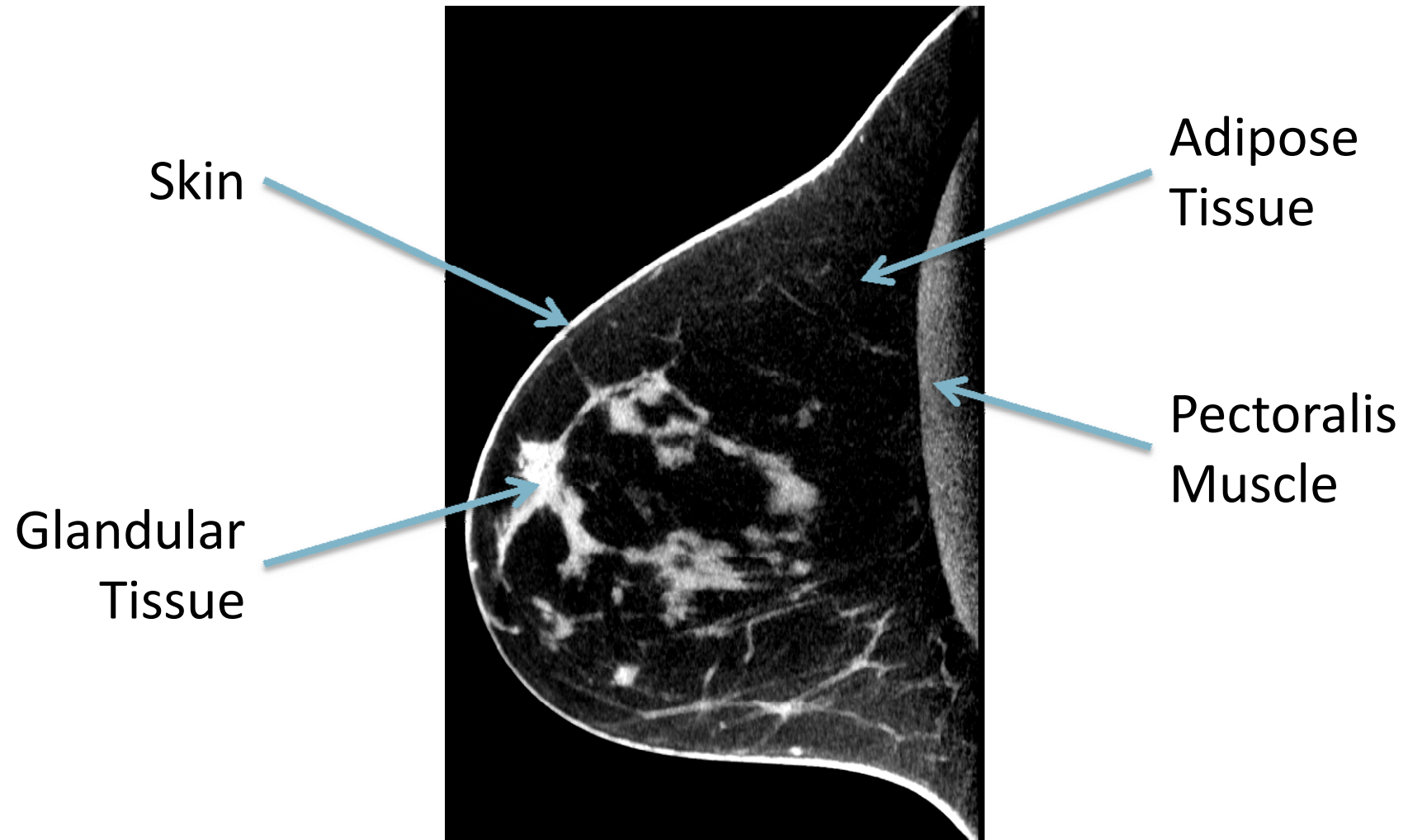
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Amount of tissue



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# Breast Composition



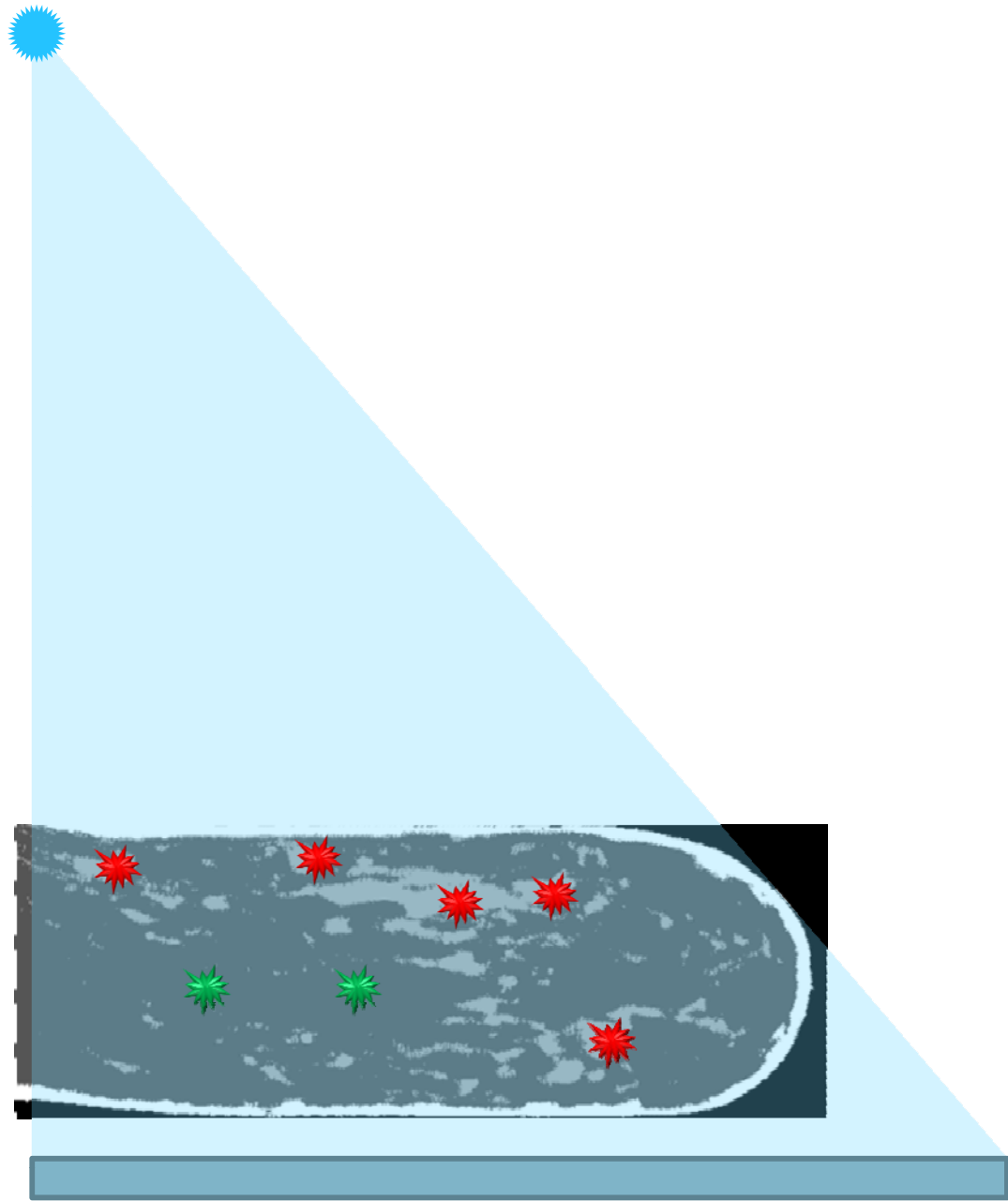
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# Average Glandular Dose

Amount of energy deposited by  
x-rays in glandular tissue

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Amount of glandular tissue





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# What can we measure?



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Air Kerma (K) → Dose ?

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# Average Glandular Dose

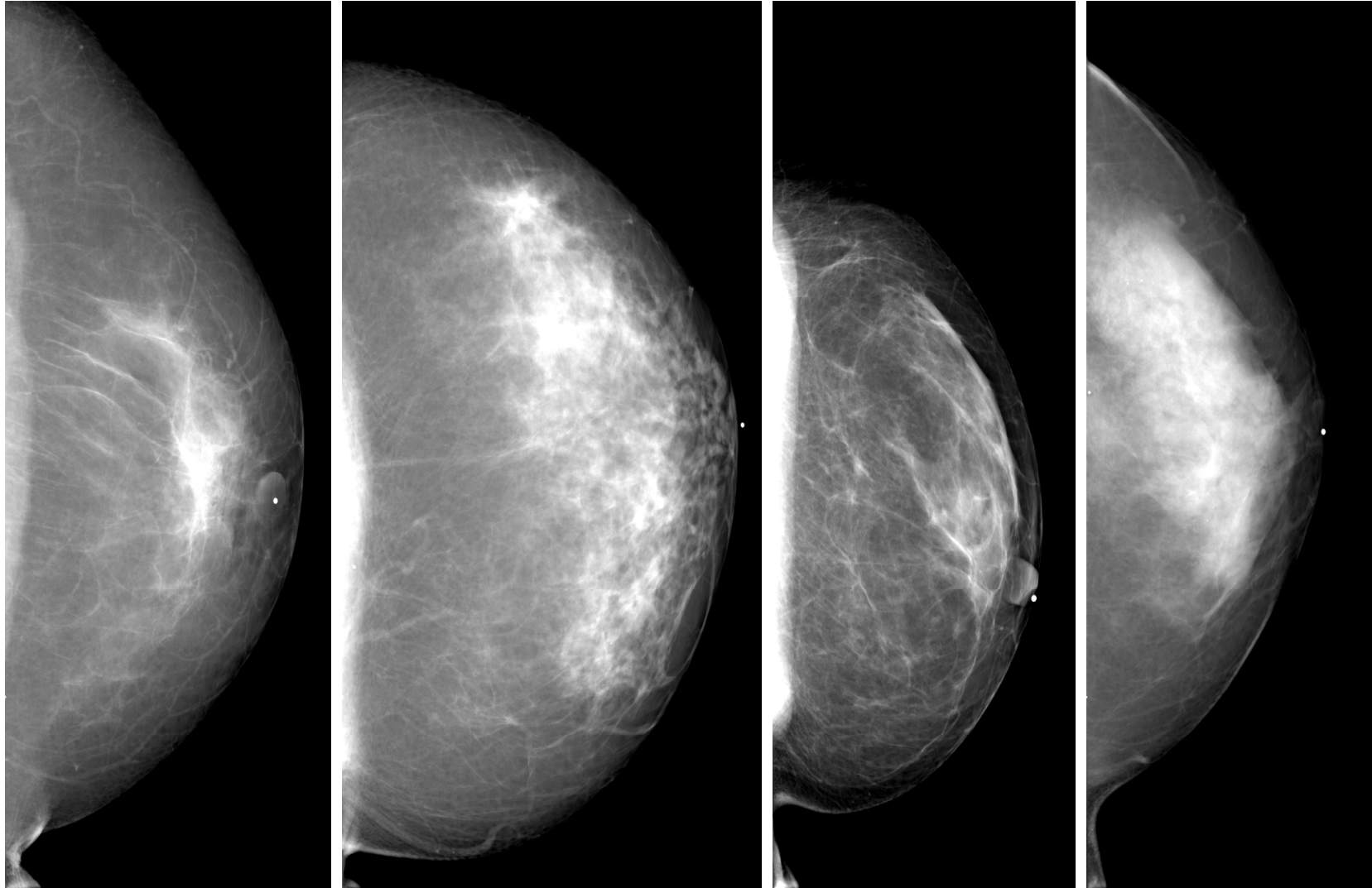
$$D = \text{Air Kerma (K)} * g c s$$



Obtained with  
Monte Carlo  
simulations

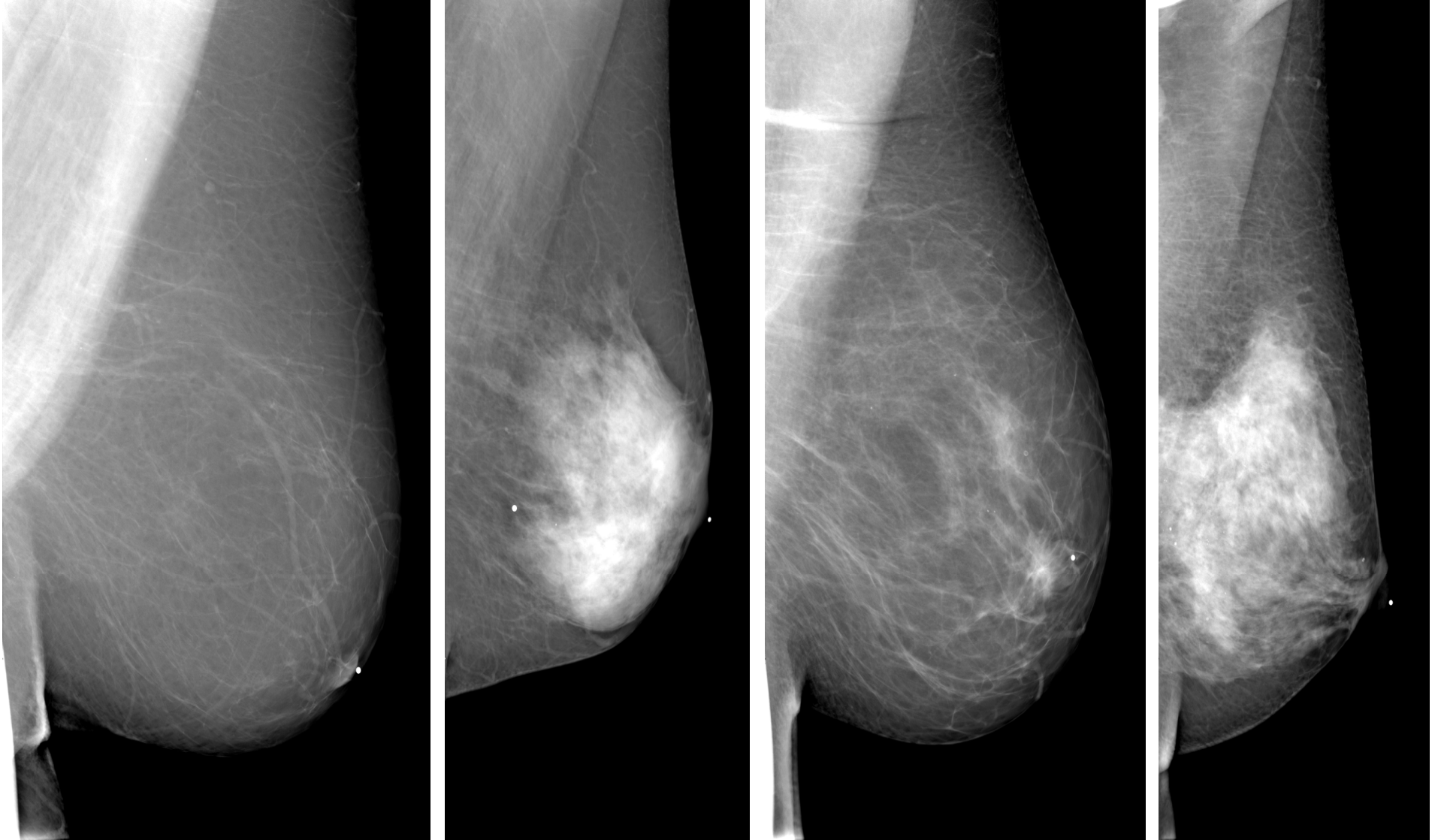
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# CC View Mammograms

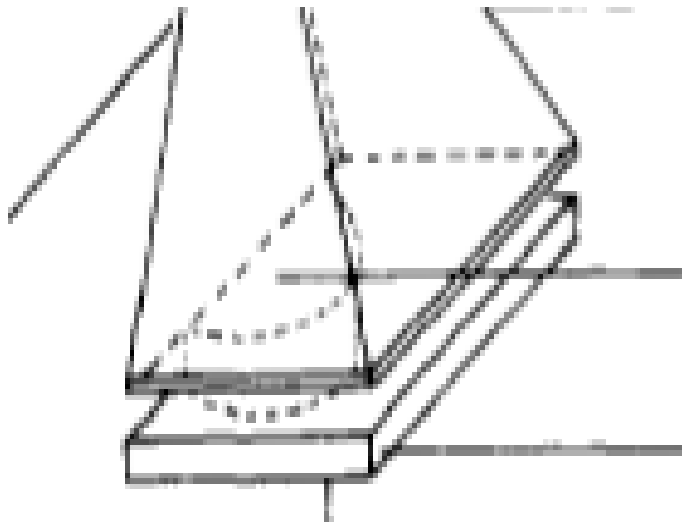


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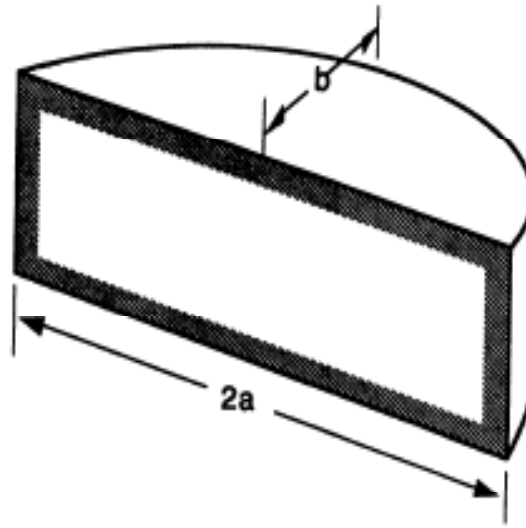
# MLO View Mammograms



# Standard Breast Shape - CC View

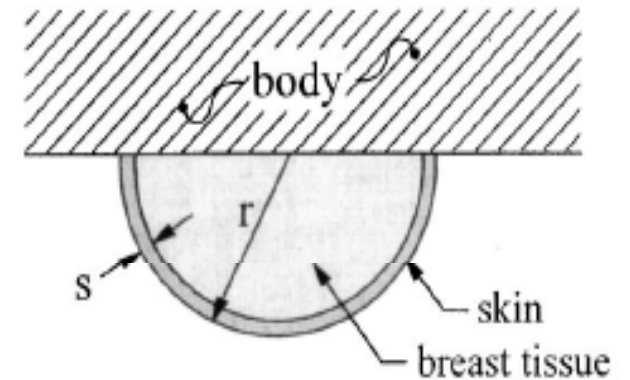


Dance, PMB, 1980; 25(1): 25-37



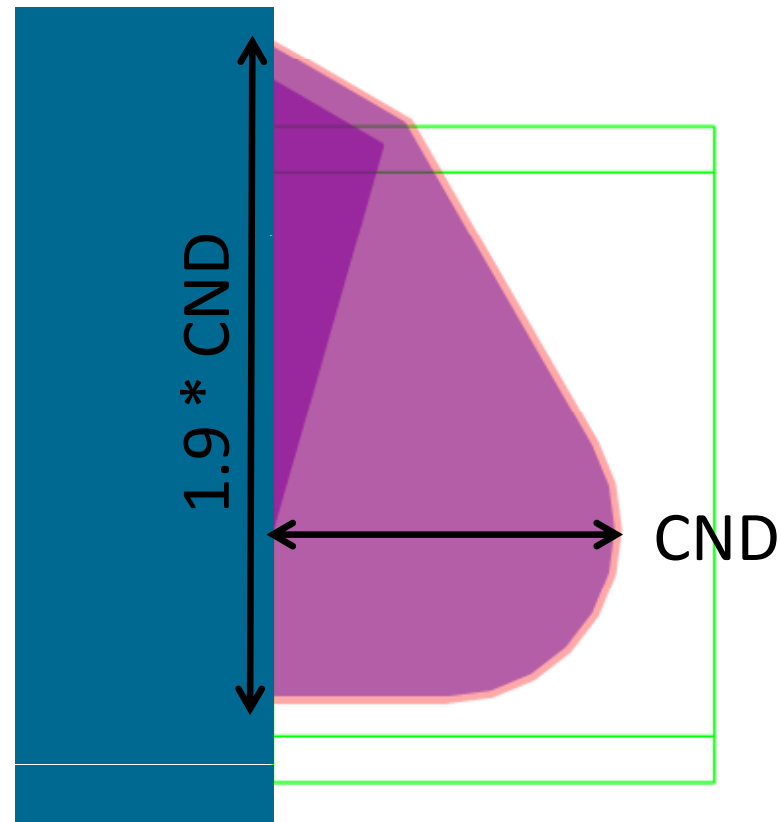
1.

Wu et al, Radiology, 1991; 179: 143-148



Boone, Med Phys, 2002; 29(5): 869-875

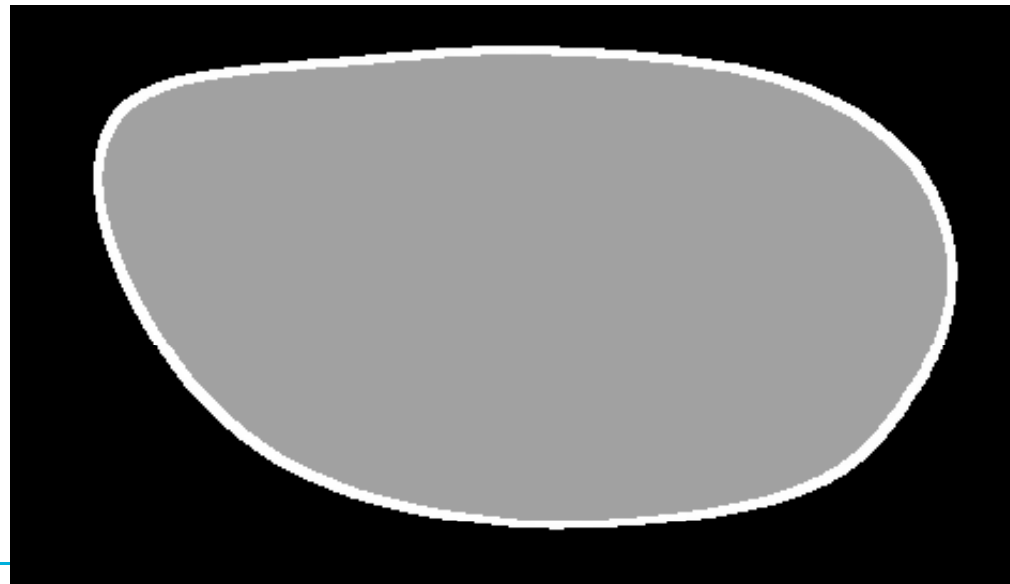
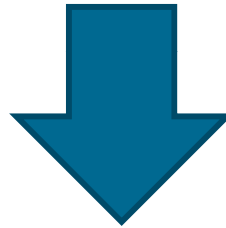
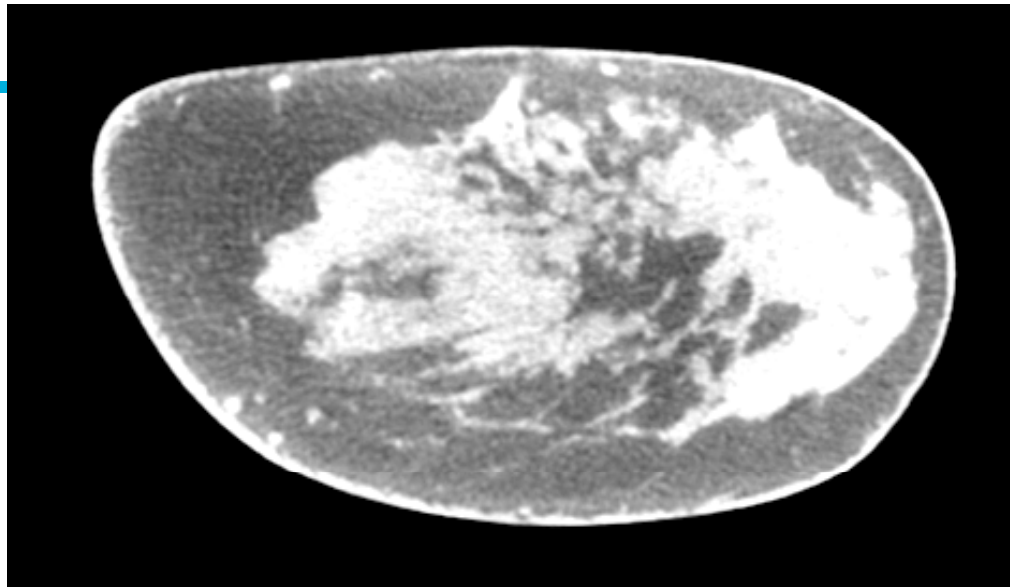
# Standardized Breast Shape MLO View



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# And the inside?





# Conversion factors

1216

*D R Dance*

**Table 2.** The conversion factor  $g$  which relates incident air kerma (without backscatter) to the 'standard' breast phantom dose for the 'standard' breast phantom.

HVL mm Al	$g$ (mGy mGy <sup>-1</sup> ) for breast thicknesses of					
	2 cm	3 cm	4 cm	4.5 cm	5 cm	6 cm
0.25	0.339	0.234	0.174	0.155	0.137	0.112
0.30	0.390	0.274	0.207	0.183	0.164	0.135
0.35	0.433	0.309	0.235	0.208	0.187	0.154
0.40	0.473	0.342	0.261	0.232	0.209	0.172
0.45	0.509	0.374	0.289	0.258	0.232	0.192
0.50	0.543	0.406	0.318	0.285	0.258	0.214
0.55	0.573	0.437	0.346	0.311	0.287	0.236

**Table 3.**  $s$ -factors for clinically used spectra are used.

Spectrum	$s$ -factor	Maximum error (%)
Mo/Mo	1.000	3.1
Mo/Rh	1.017	2.2
Rh/Rh	1.061	3.6
Rh/Al	1.044	2.4
W/Rh	1.042	2.1

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# Average Glandular Dose

$$D = \text{Air Kerma (K)} * g c s$$



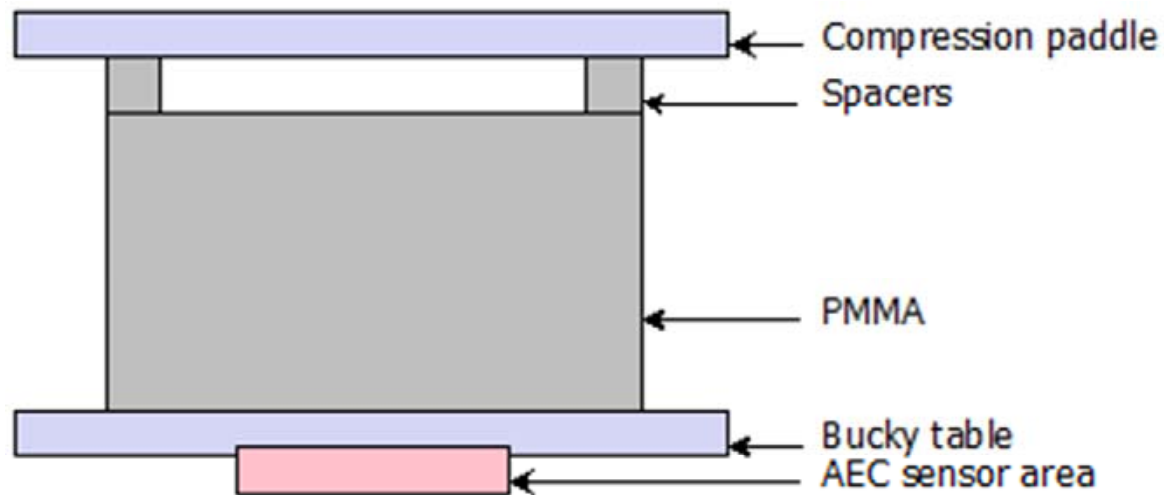
Obtained with  
Monte Carlo  
simulations

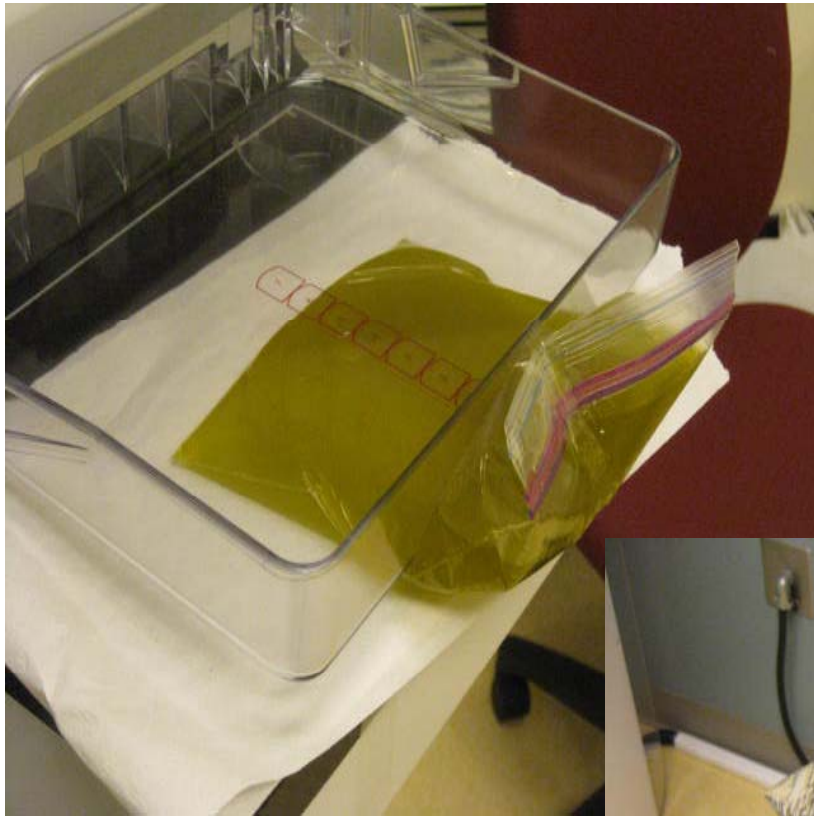


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# Phantom (Prospective) Dosimetry

# Prospective (phantom) dosimetry





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# Mammography Mean Glandular Dose (mGy)

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<b>Breast Thickness (cm)</b>	<b>14.3% Density</b>	<b>50% Density</b>
2	0.313	0.376
5	0.775	1.20
8	1.66	2.28

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# Tomosynthesis Mean Glandular Dose (mGy)

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<b>Breast Thickness (cm)</b>	<b>14.3% Density</b>	<b>50% Density</b>
2	0.735	0.670
5	1.48	1.30
8	3.07	2.64

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# Mammography and Tomosynthesis Dose

**Table 8**

**Ratio of MGD for DBT (from Table 7) to MGD for FFDM (from Table 6)**

Breast Thickness (cm)	1% Glandular Fraction	14.3% Glandular Fraction	25% Glandular Fraction	50% Glandular Fraction	75% Glandular Fraction	100% Glandular Fraction
2	2.45	2.35	1.87	1.76	1.65	1.65
3	2.08	1.67	1.28	1.19	1.14	1.11
4	2.63	2.11	1.86	1.27	1.19	1.16
5	2.36	1.88	1.53	1.08	0.930	0.880
6	1.90	1.83	1.95	1.25	1.12	1.00
7	2.26	1.76	1.39	1.12	0.810	0.700
8	2.13	1.85	1.47	1.16	0.820	0.670

(could we do better?)

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# Patient (Retrospective) Dosimetry

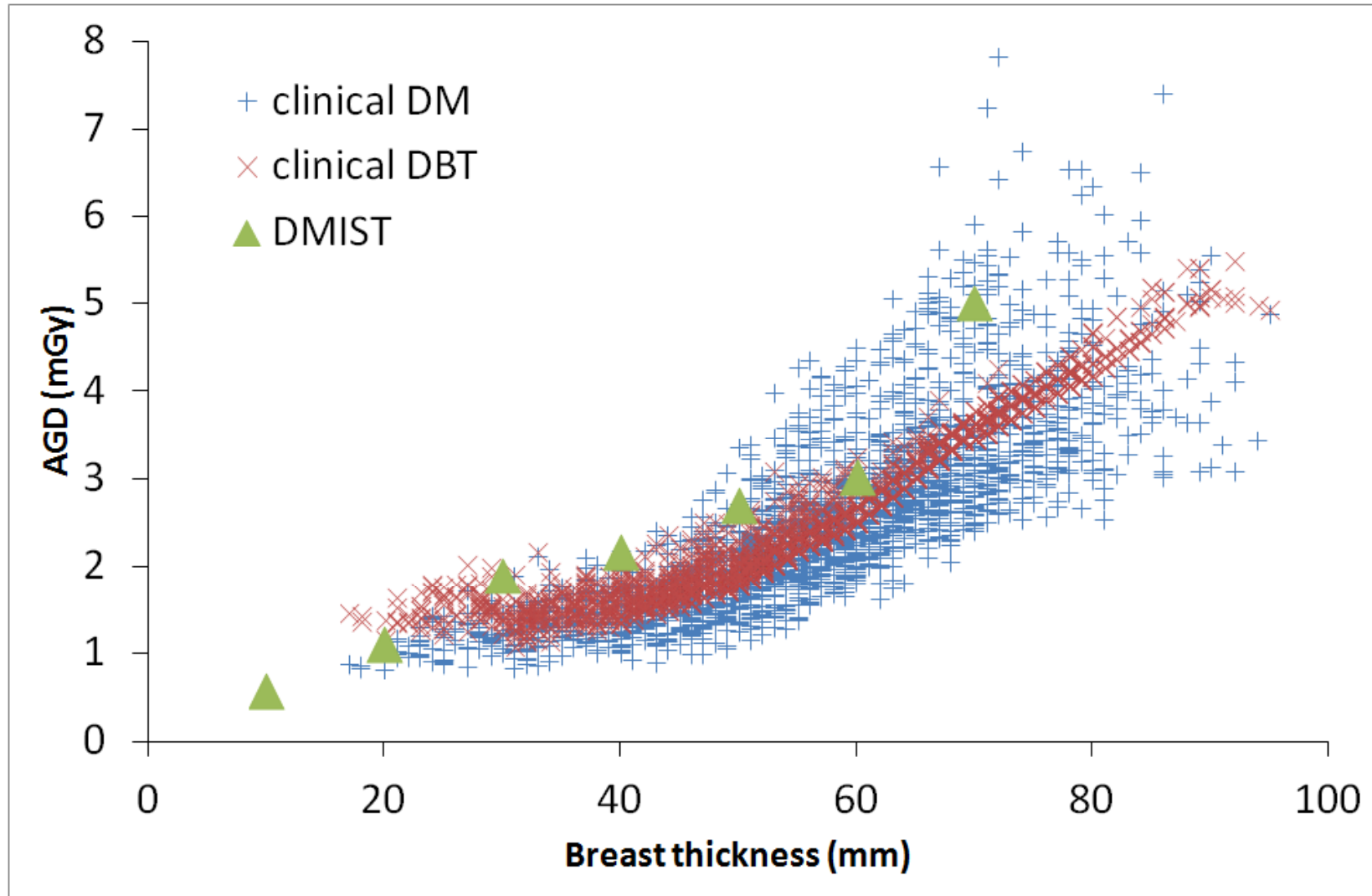
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# DICOM header

0018,0060 kVp: 31  
0018,1000 Device Serial Number: 6250  
0018,1020 Software Versions(s): VB41A(VX16B) (SL6:  
0018,1030 Protocol Name: TOMO\_PROJ  
0018,1110 Distance Source to Detector: 650  
0018,1111 Distance Source to Patient: 633  
0018,1114 ---: 1.0268562401264  
0018,1138 ---: 0  
0018,113A ---: NONE  
0018,1147 Field of View Shape: RECTANGLE  
0018,1149 Field of View Dimensions(s): 305\239  
0018,1150 Exposure Time: 88  
0018,1151 X-ray Tube Current: 121  
0018,1152 Exposure: 11  
0018,1153 Exposure in uAs: 10640  
0018,1156 Rectification Type: CONST POTENTIAL  
0018,1164 Imager Pixel Spacing: 0.085\0.085  
0018,1166 Grid: FOCUSED\PARALLEL  
0018,1190 Focal Spot(s): 0.3  
0018,1191 Anode Target Material: TUNGSTEN  
0018,11A0 Body Part Thickness: 72

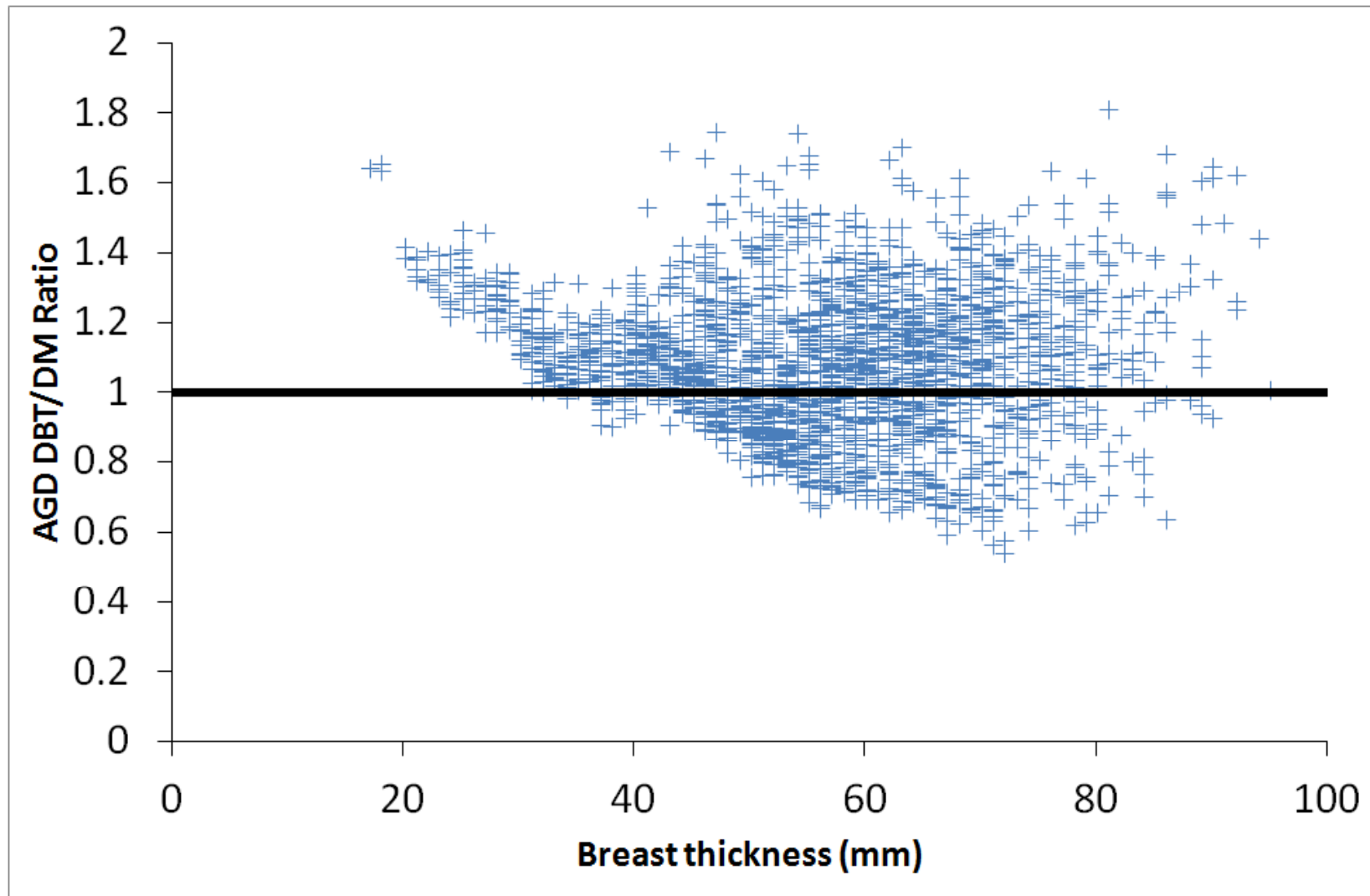
# System I

Ratio DBT/DM:  
Mean = 1.08 (0.54 – 1.81)



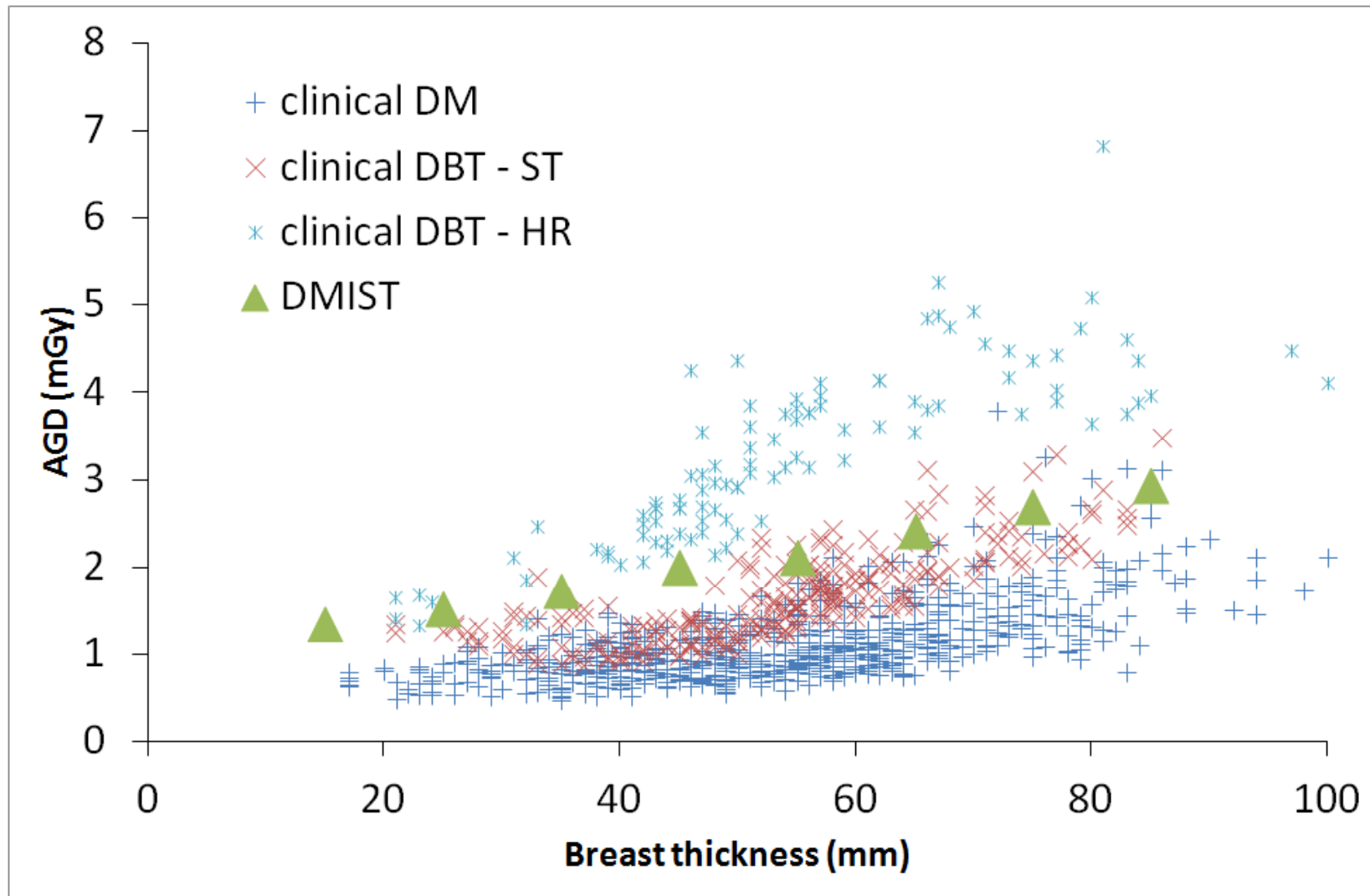
# System I

Ratio DBT/DM:  
Mean = 1.08 (0.54 – 1.81)



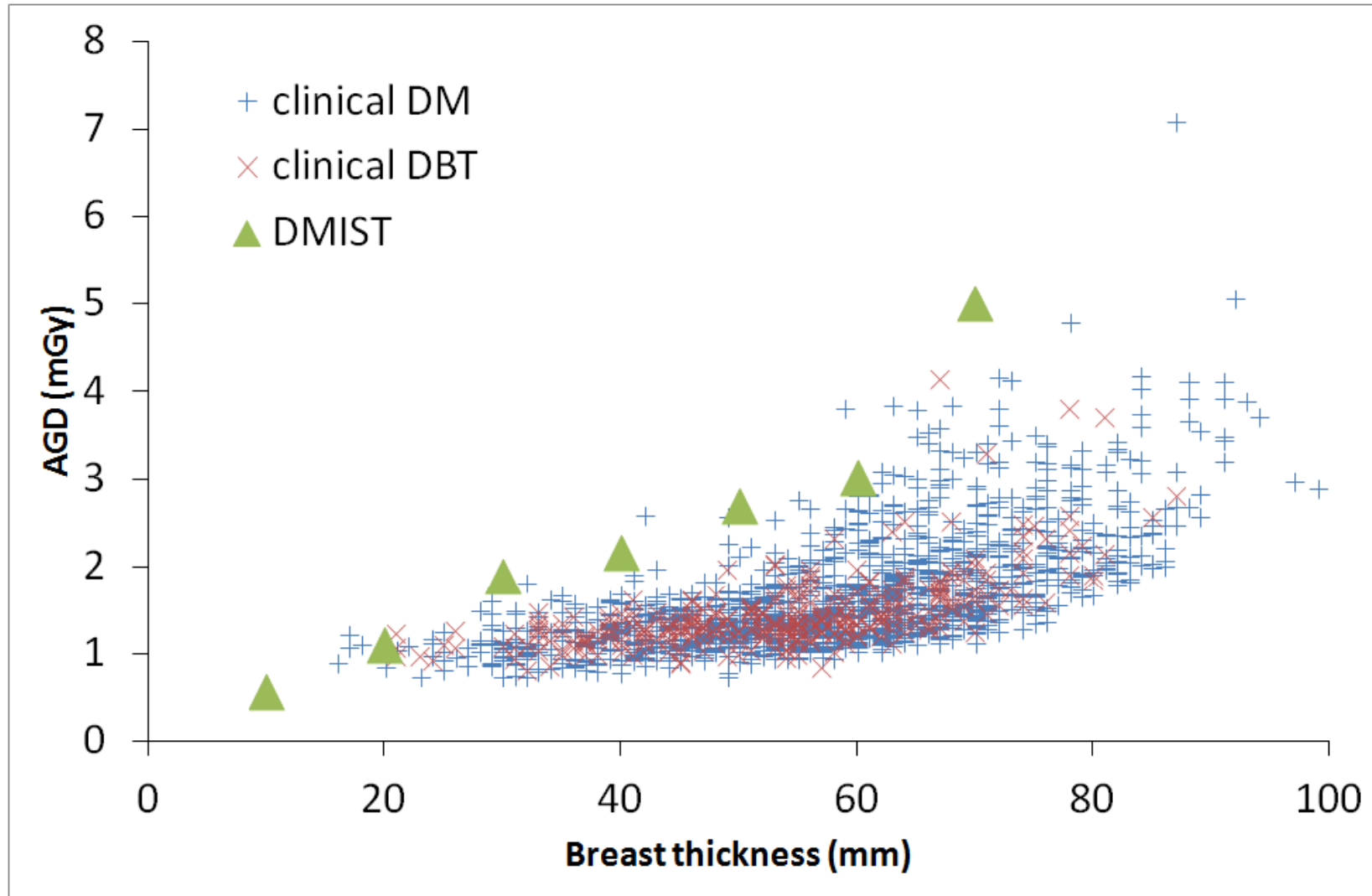
# System IV

Ratio DBT-ST / DM:  
Mean = 1.48 (unpaired)



# System V

Ratio DBT / DM:  
Mean = 0.90 (!) (unpaired)



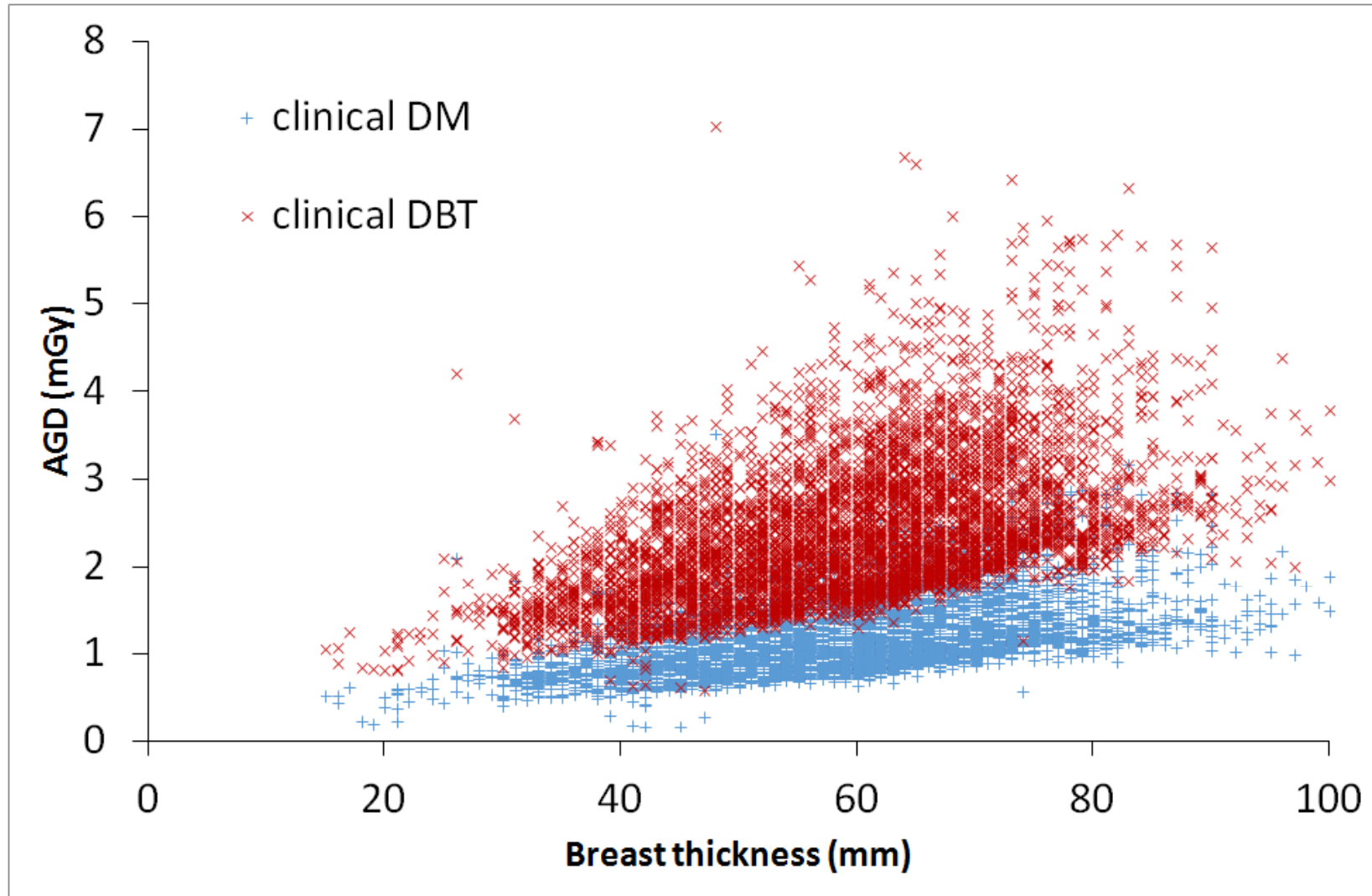
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# Are these final?



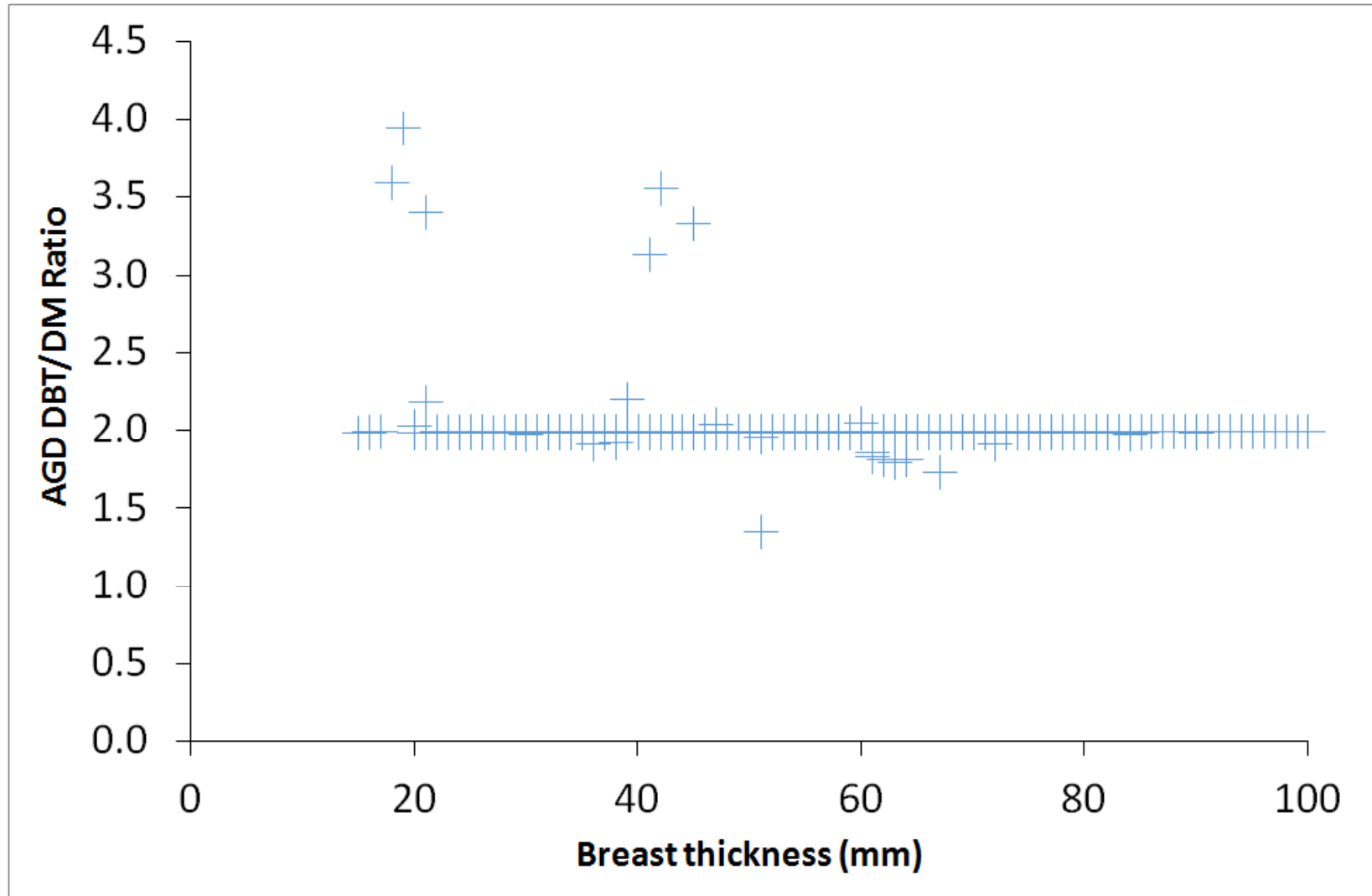
# System III

Ratio DBT / DM:  
Mean = **2.00 (!)**



# System III

Ratio DBT / DM:  
Mean = **2.00 (!)**



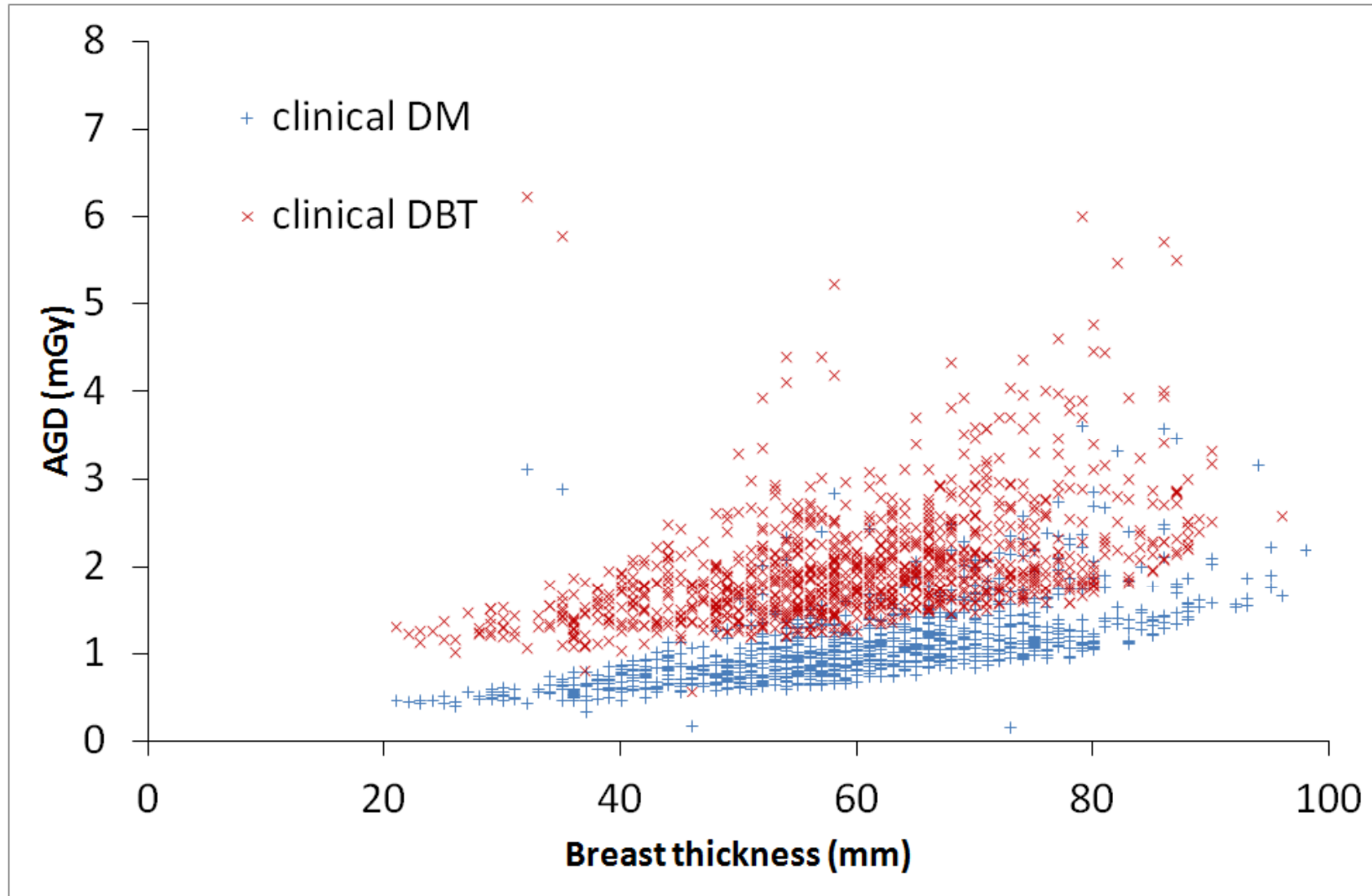
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# After software upgrade...

# System III

Ratio DBT / DM:

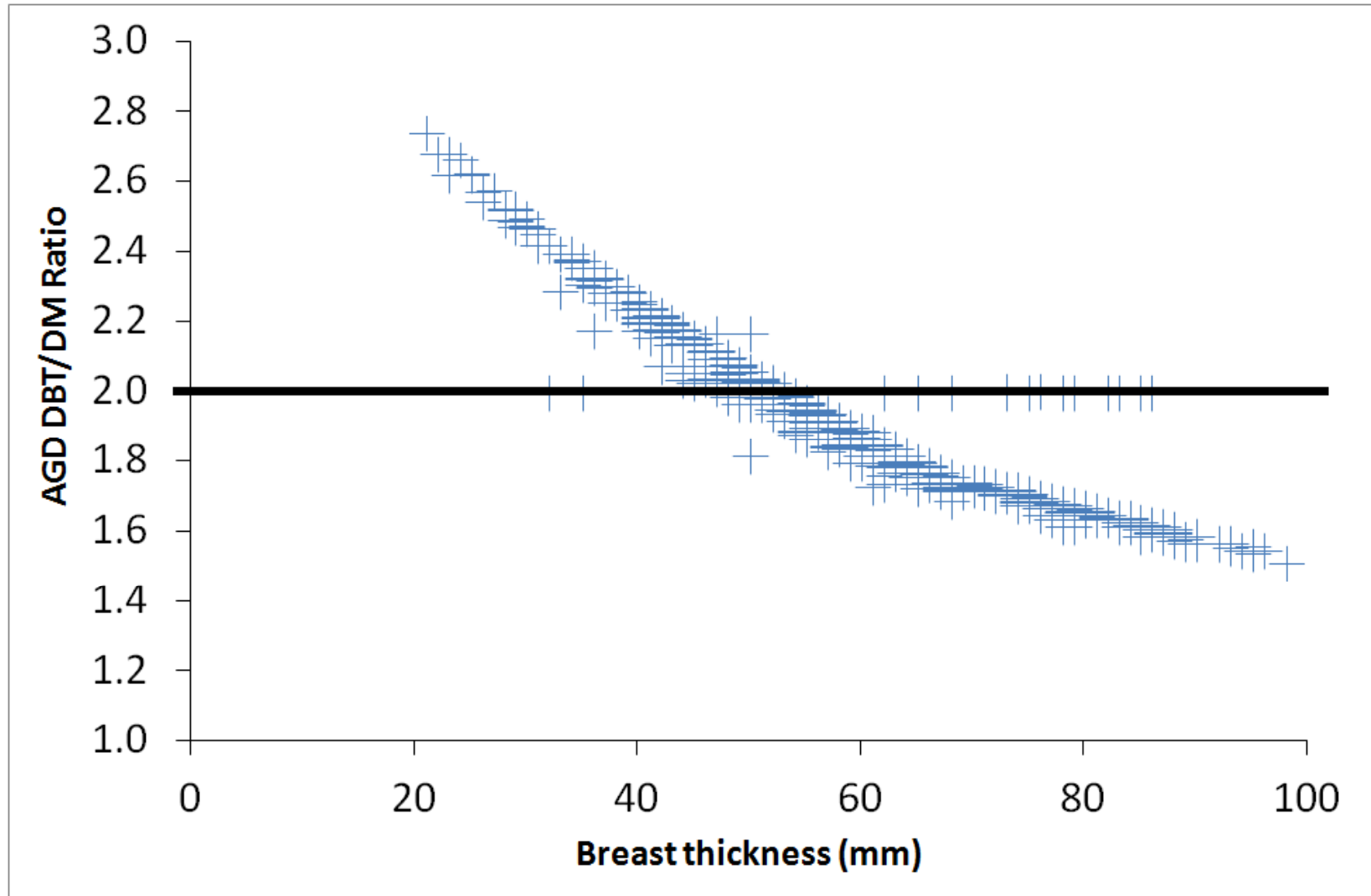
Mean = **1.90 (1.51 – 2.74)**



# System III

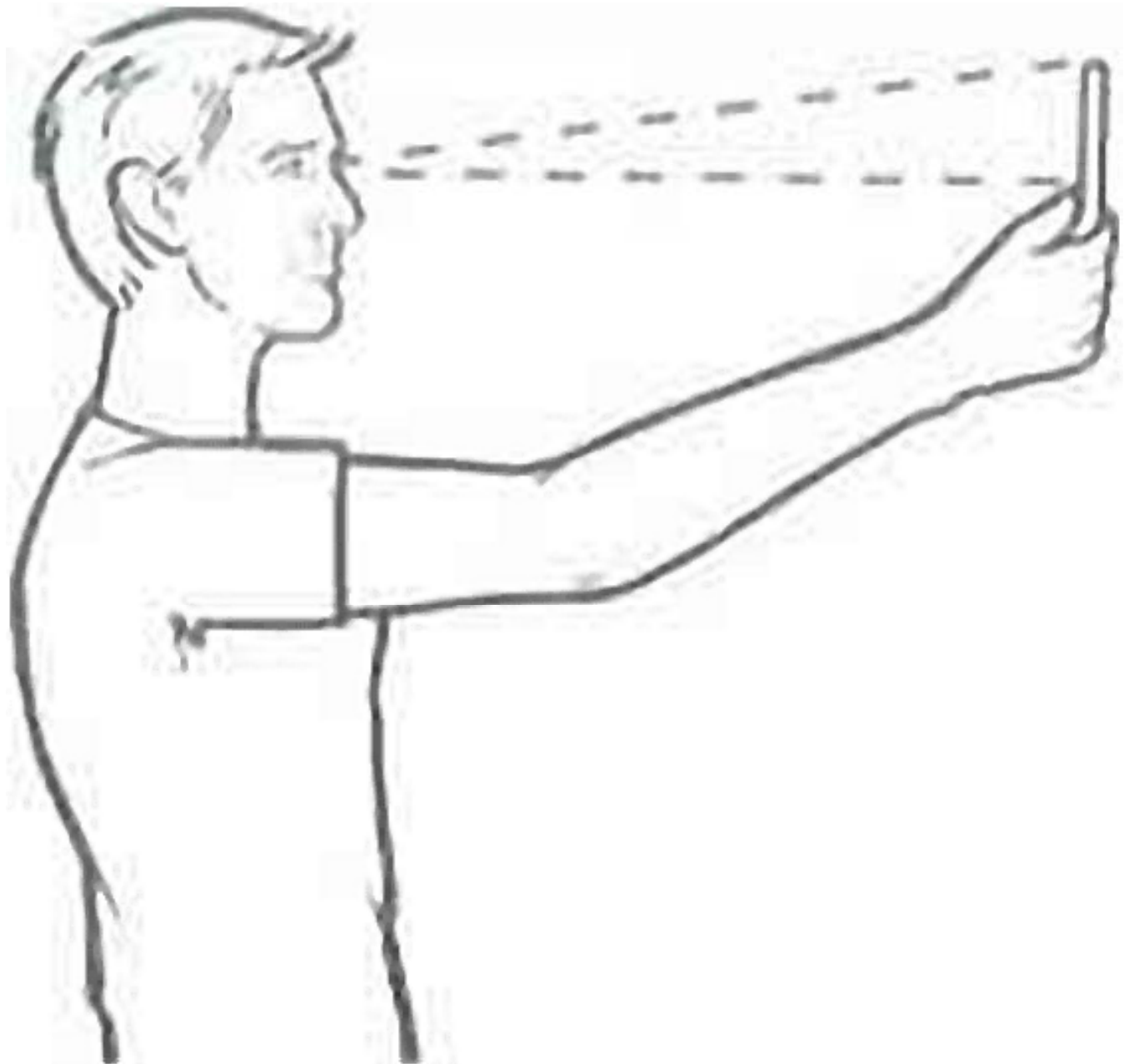
Ratio DBT / DM:

Mean = **1.90 (1.51 – 2.74)**

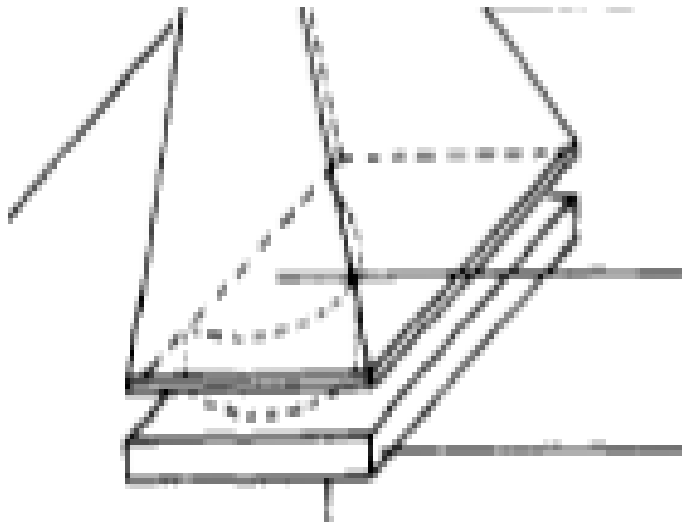


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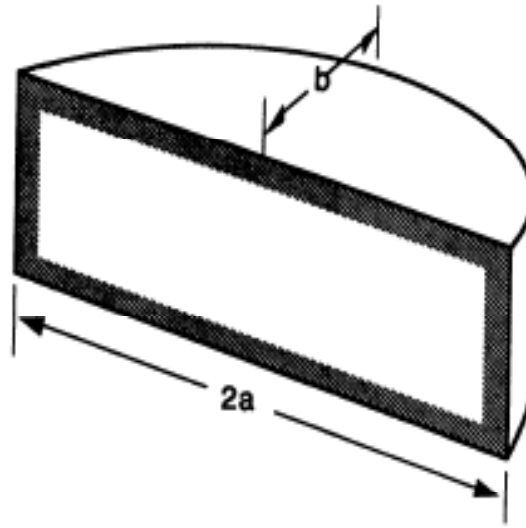
**So where are the  
uncertainties?**



# Standard Breast Shape - CC View

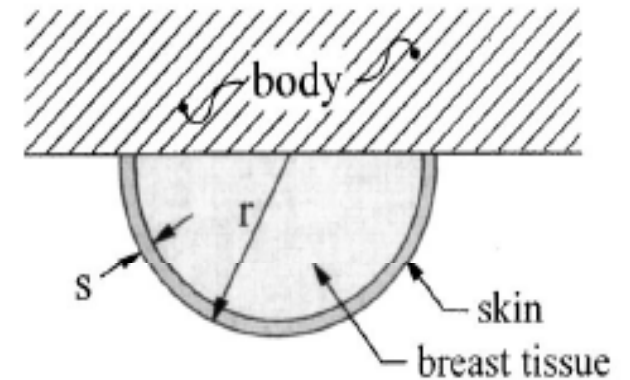


*Dance, PMB, 1980; 25(1): 25-37*



1.

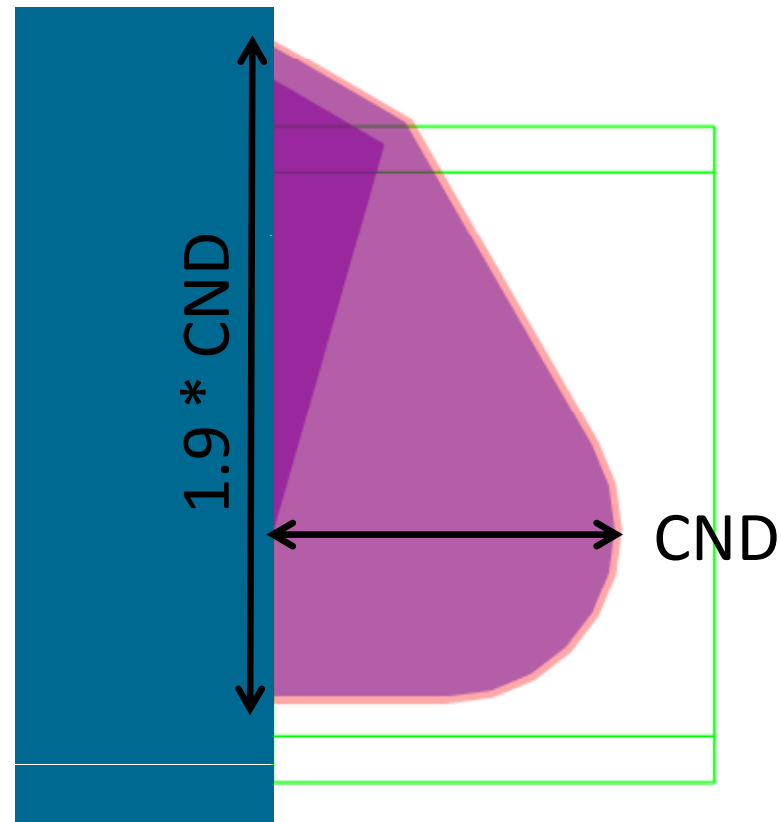
*Wu et al, Radiology, 1991; 179: 143-148*



*Boone, Med Phys, 2002; 29(5): 869-875*



# Standardized Breast Shape MLO View



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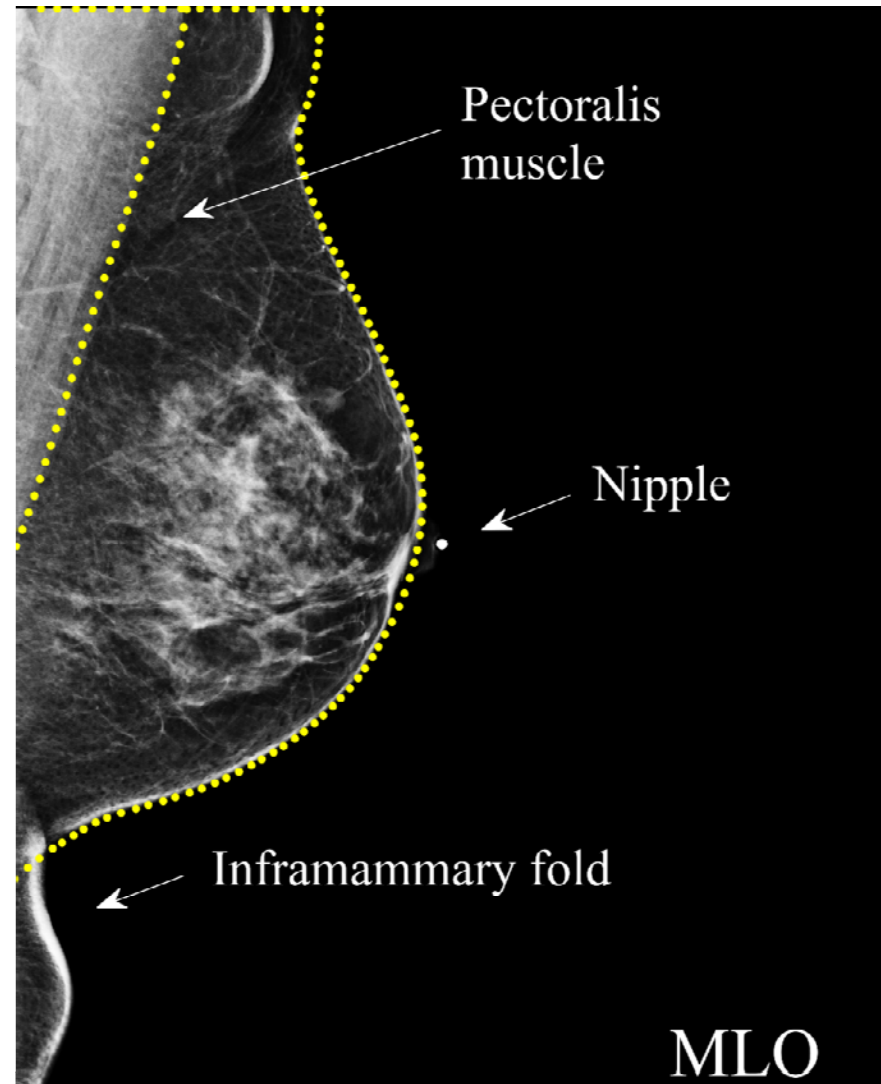
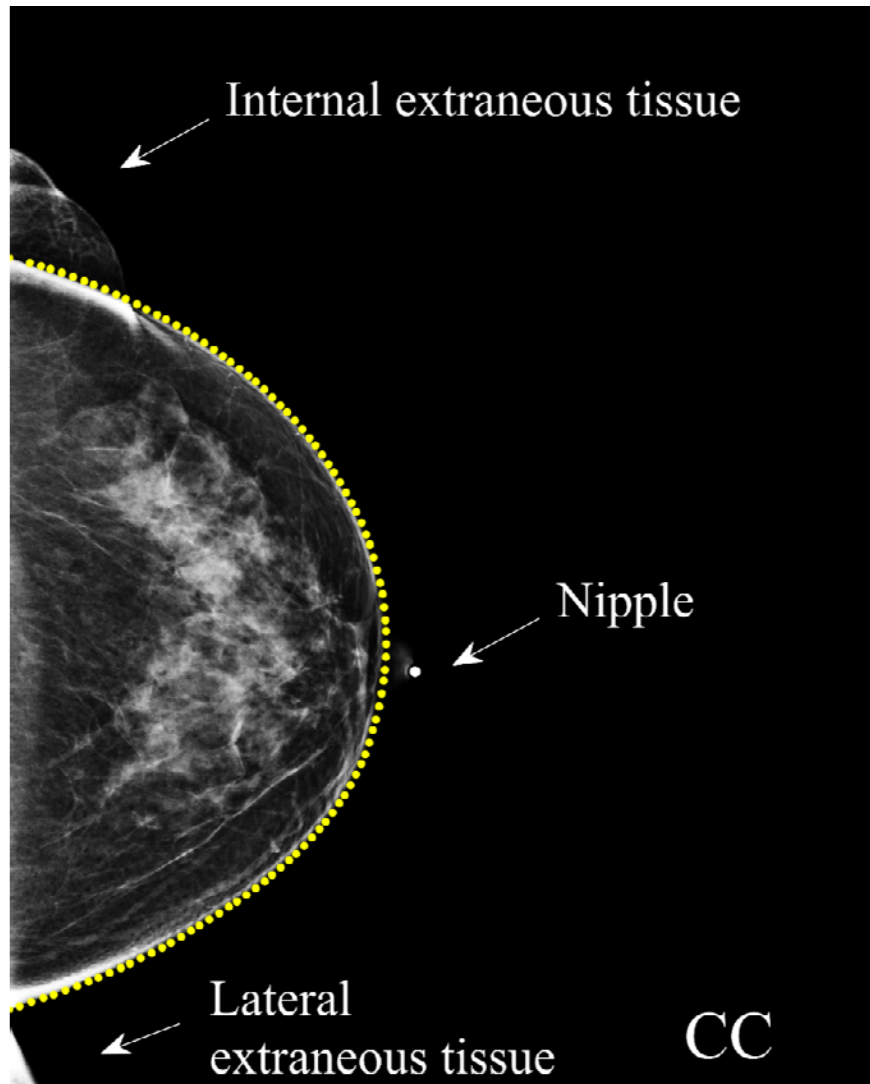
# Can we be more objective?

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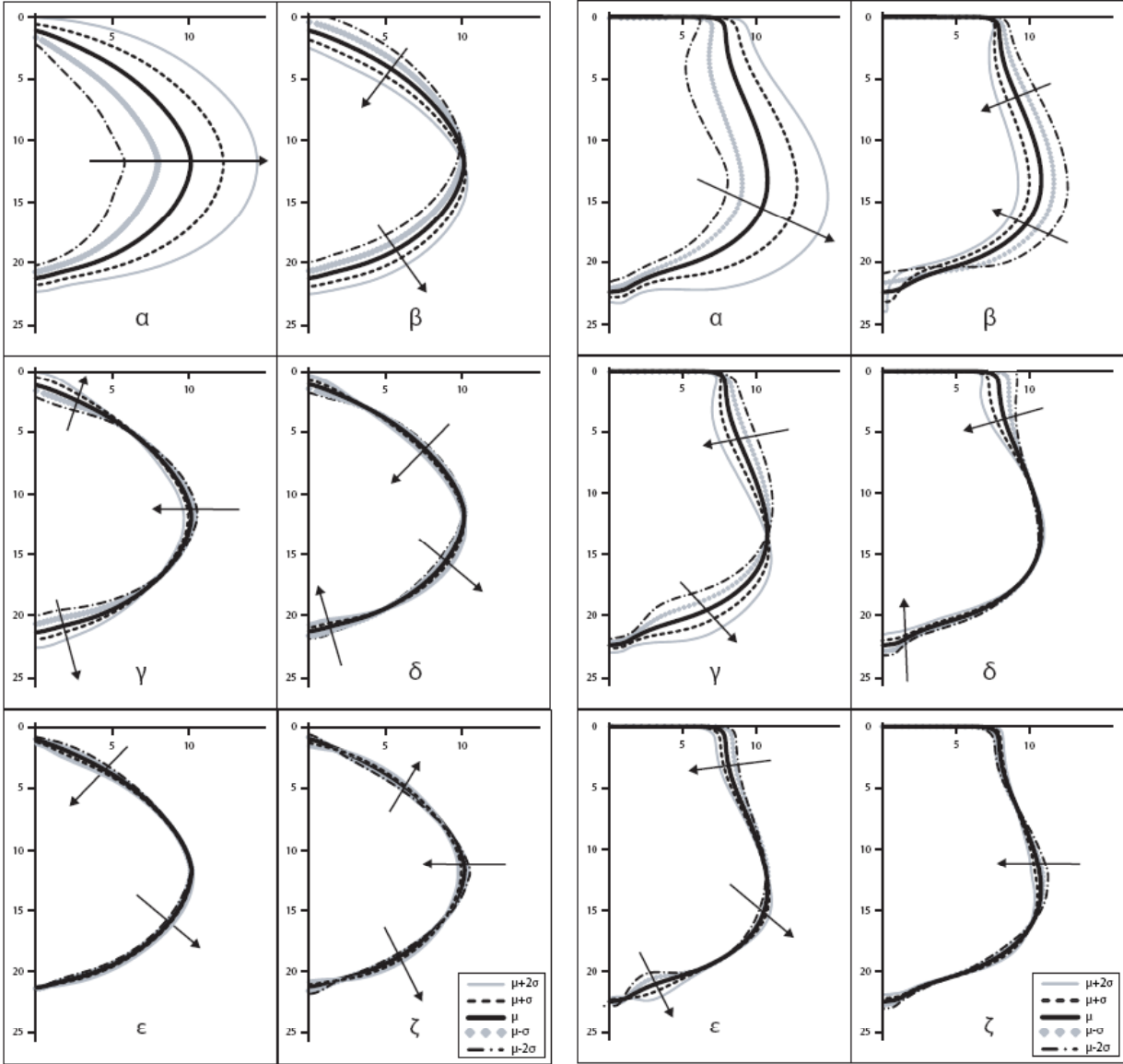
# Principal Component Analysis



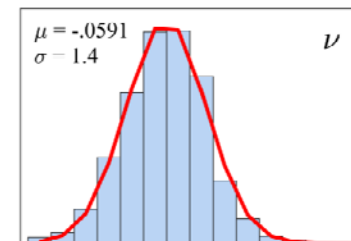
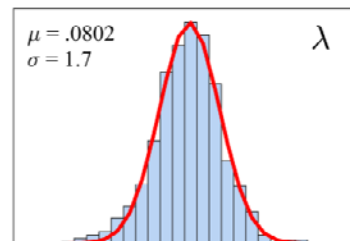
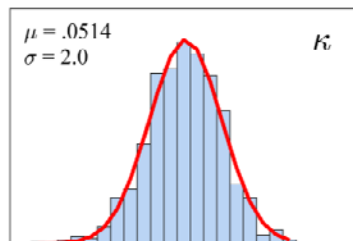
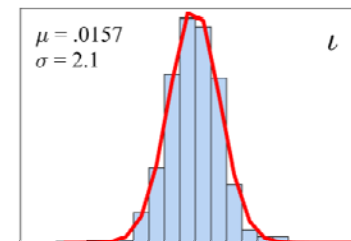
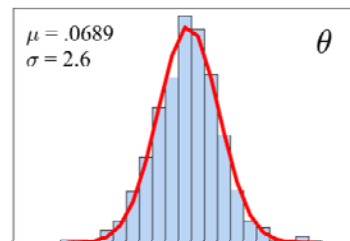
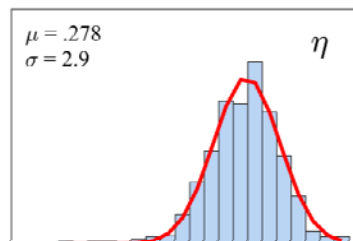
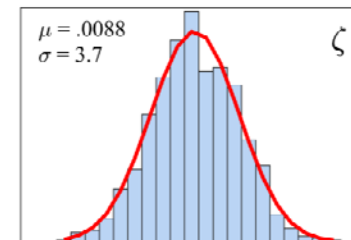
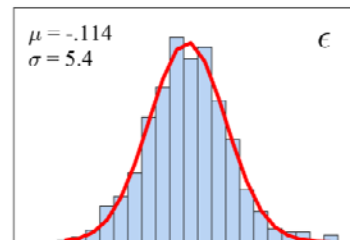
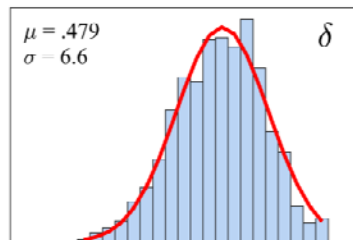
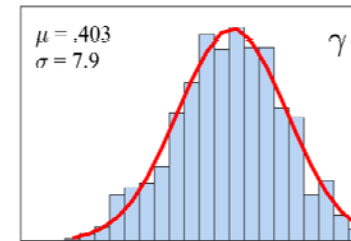
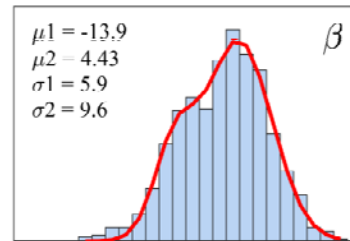
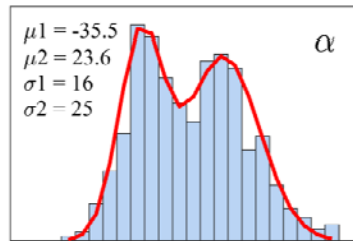
# 2D Model: From 1000 mammograms



# PCA Model Parameter Characterization



# Clinical Distribution of PCA Parameter Values

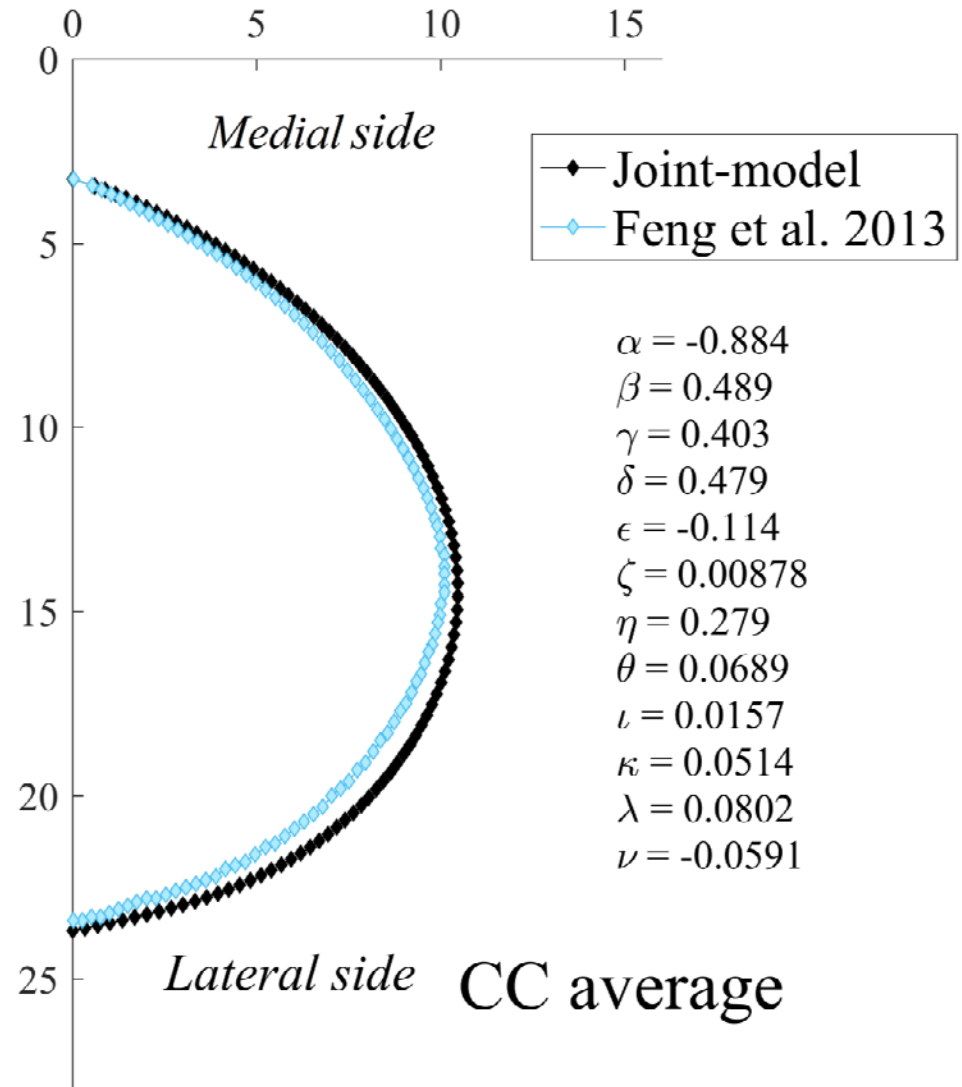


# Average CC view

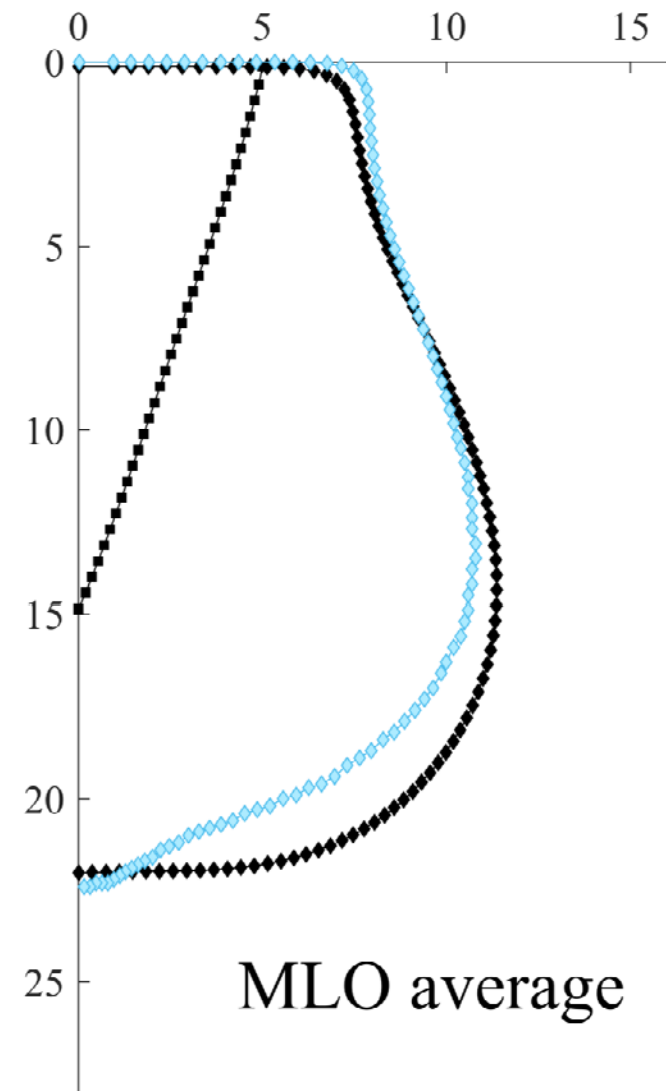
Area = 155.4 cm<sup>2</sup>

Patient average:<sup>1</sup>

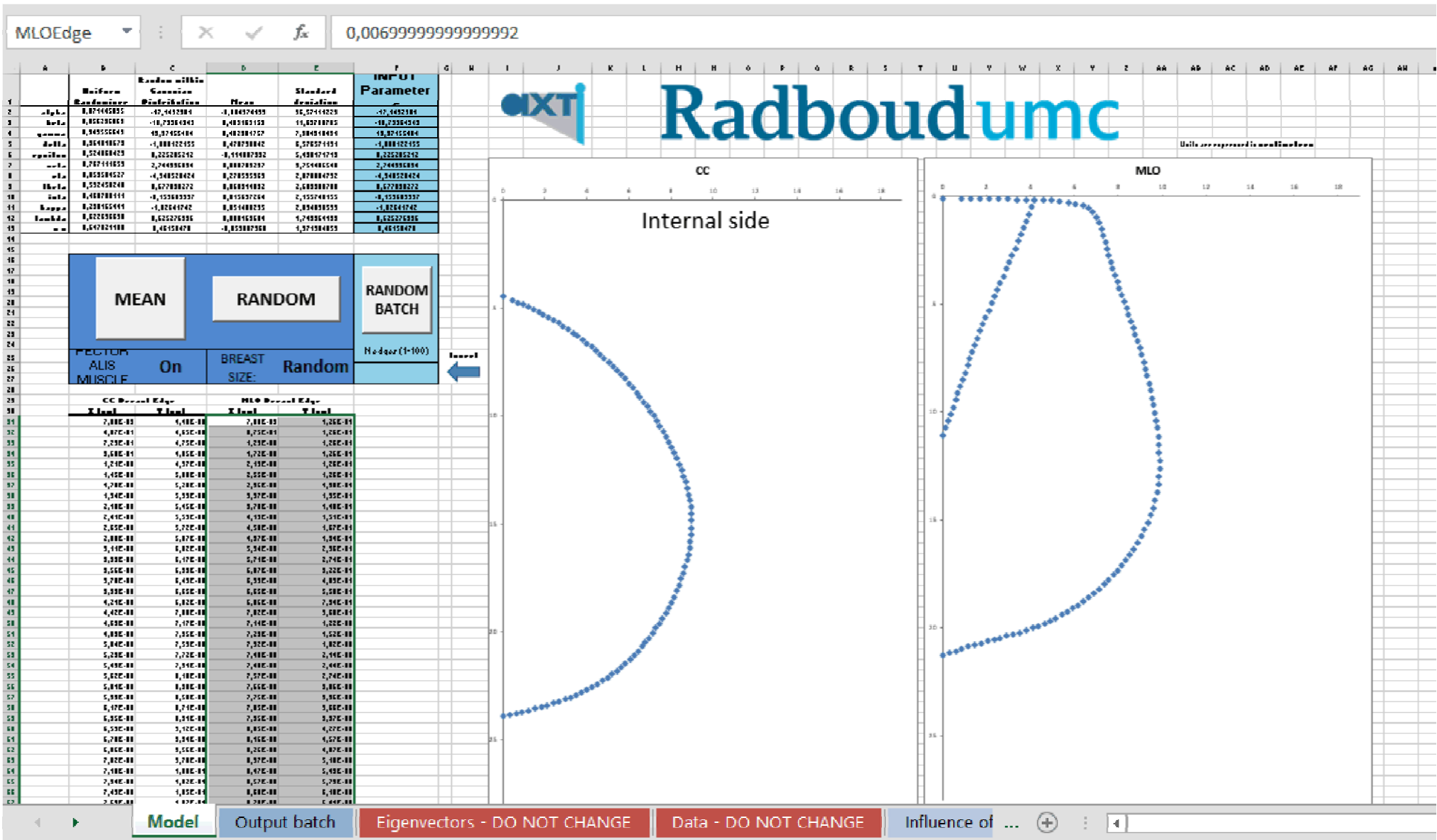
Area = 157.3 cm<sup>2</sup>



# Average MLO view

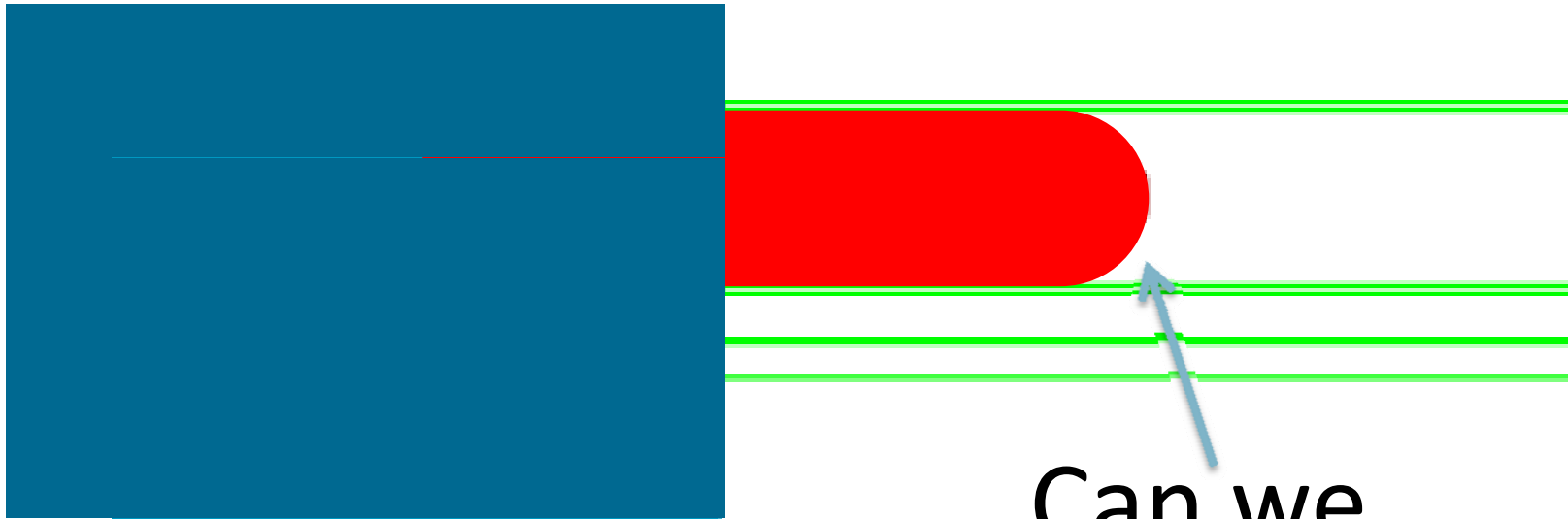






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# How about the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension?

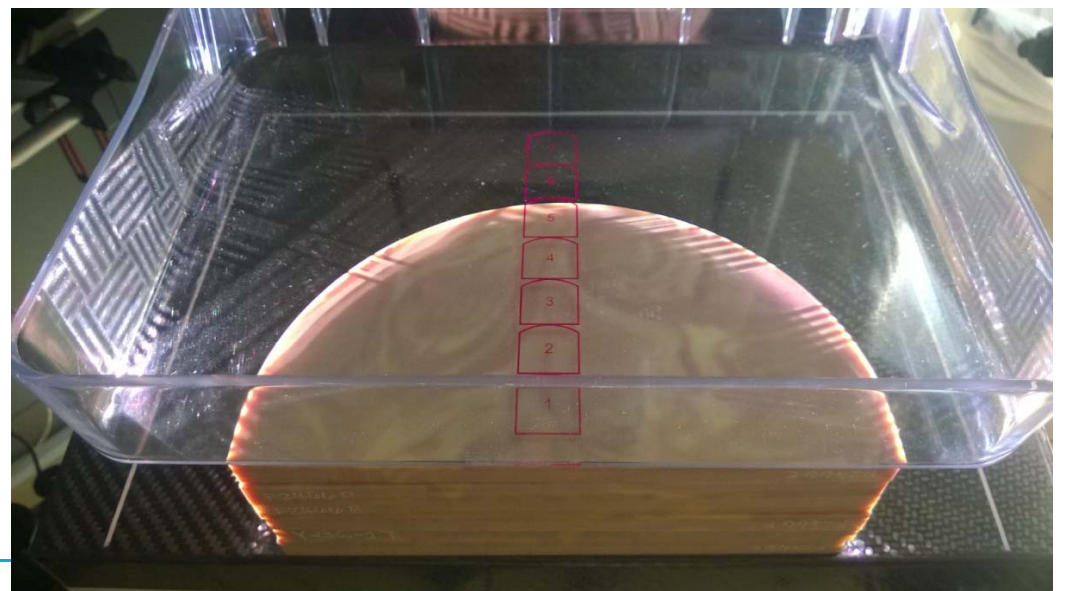
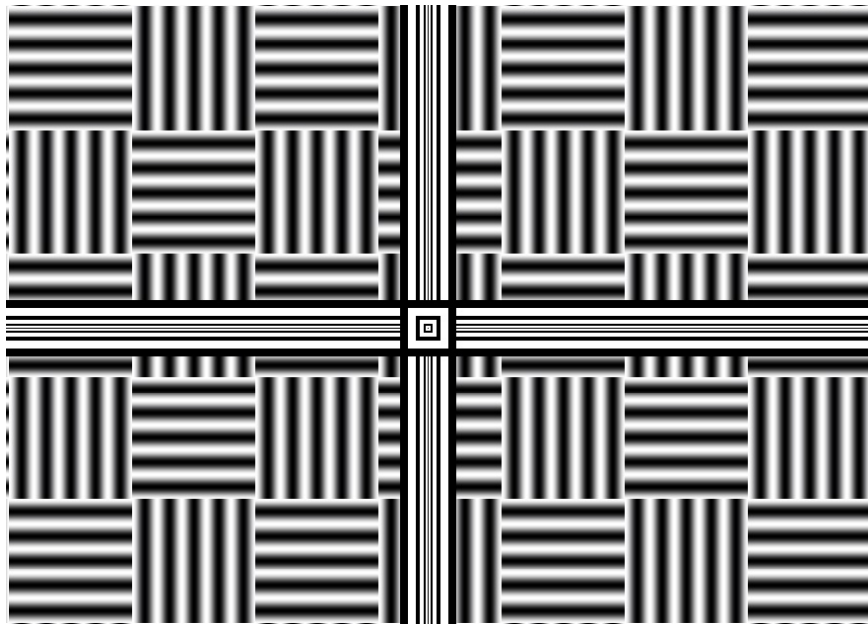


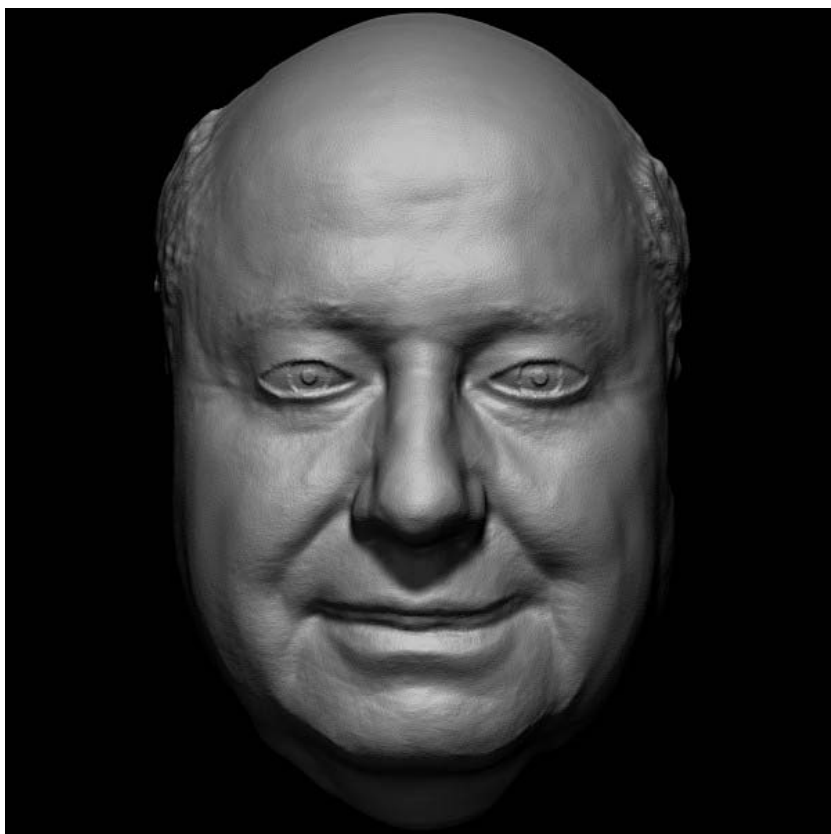
Can we  
characterize this?

# Acquisition of 3-D breast shape

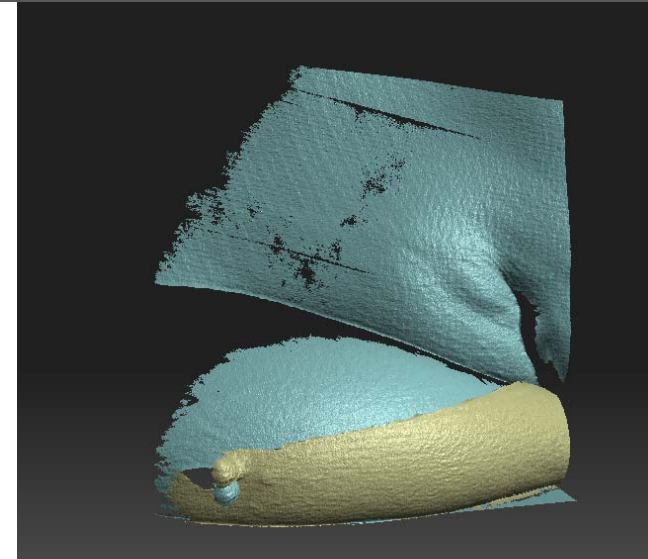
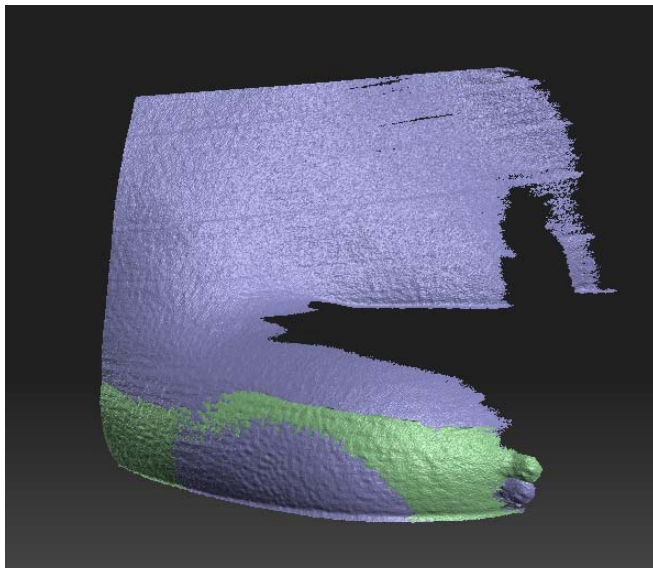
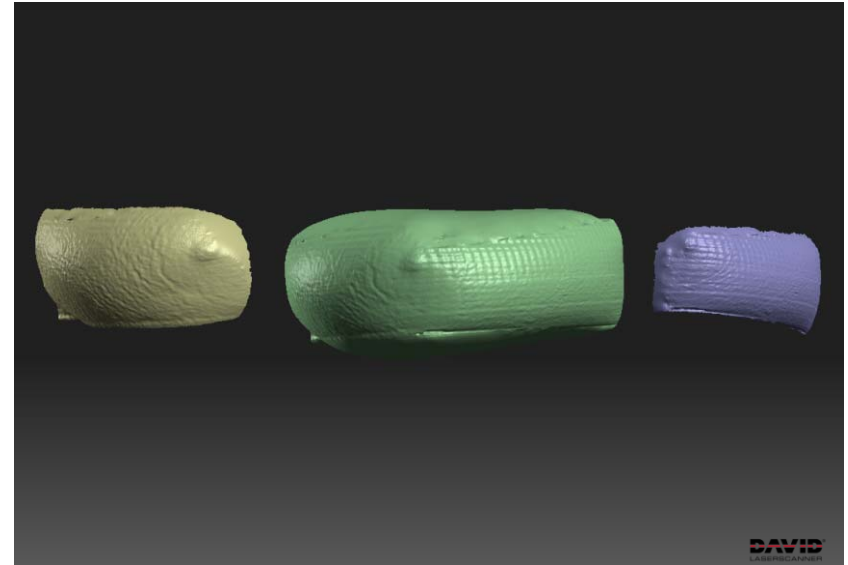
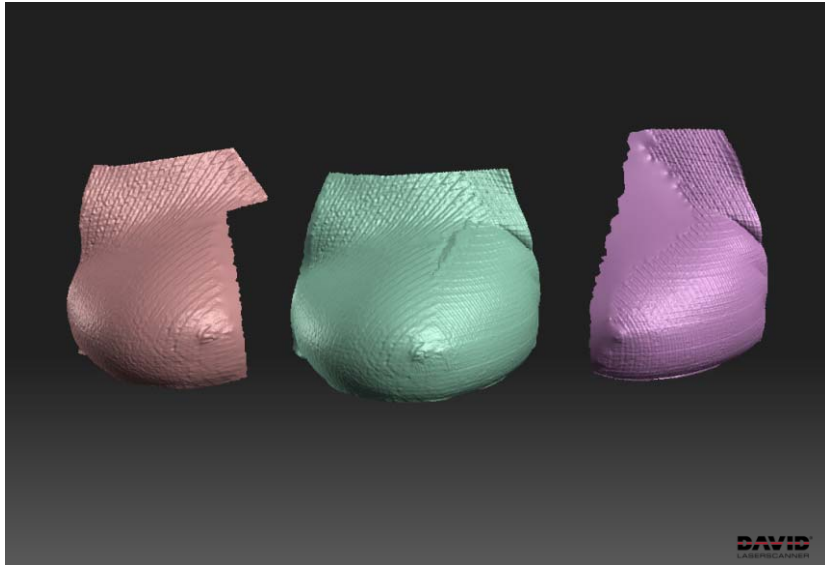


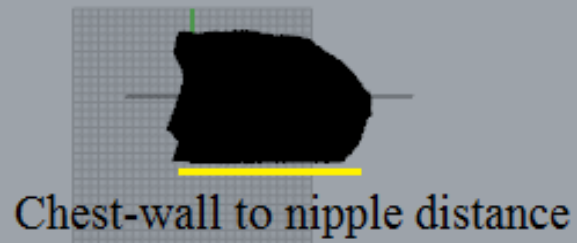
# 3-D scanner



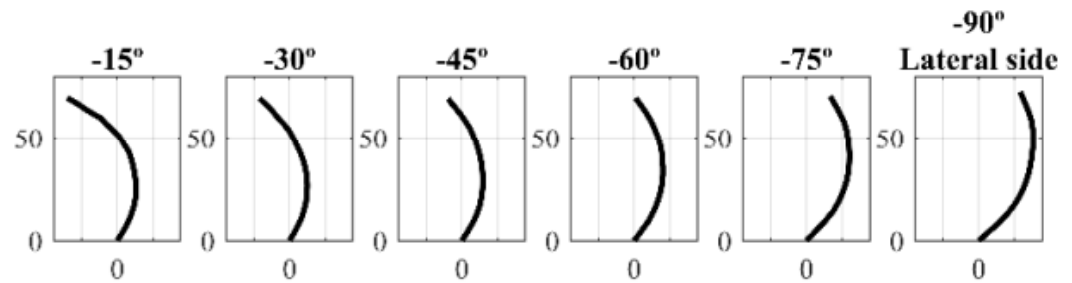
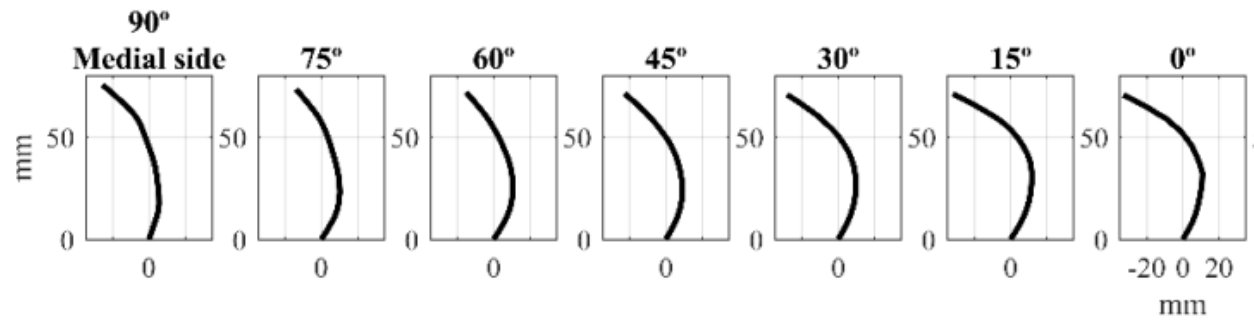
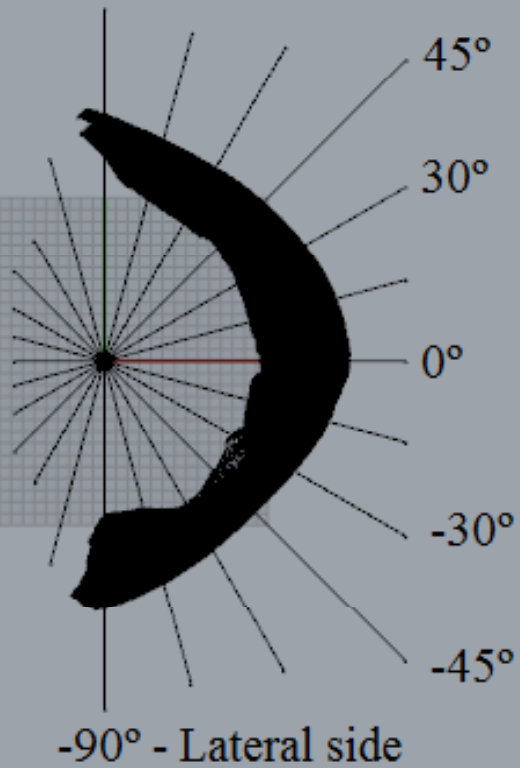


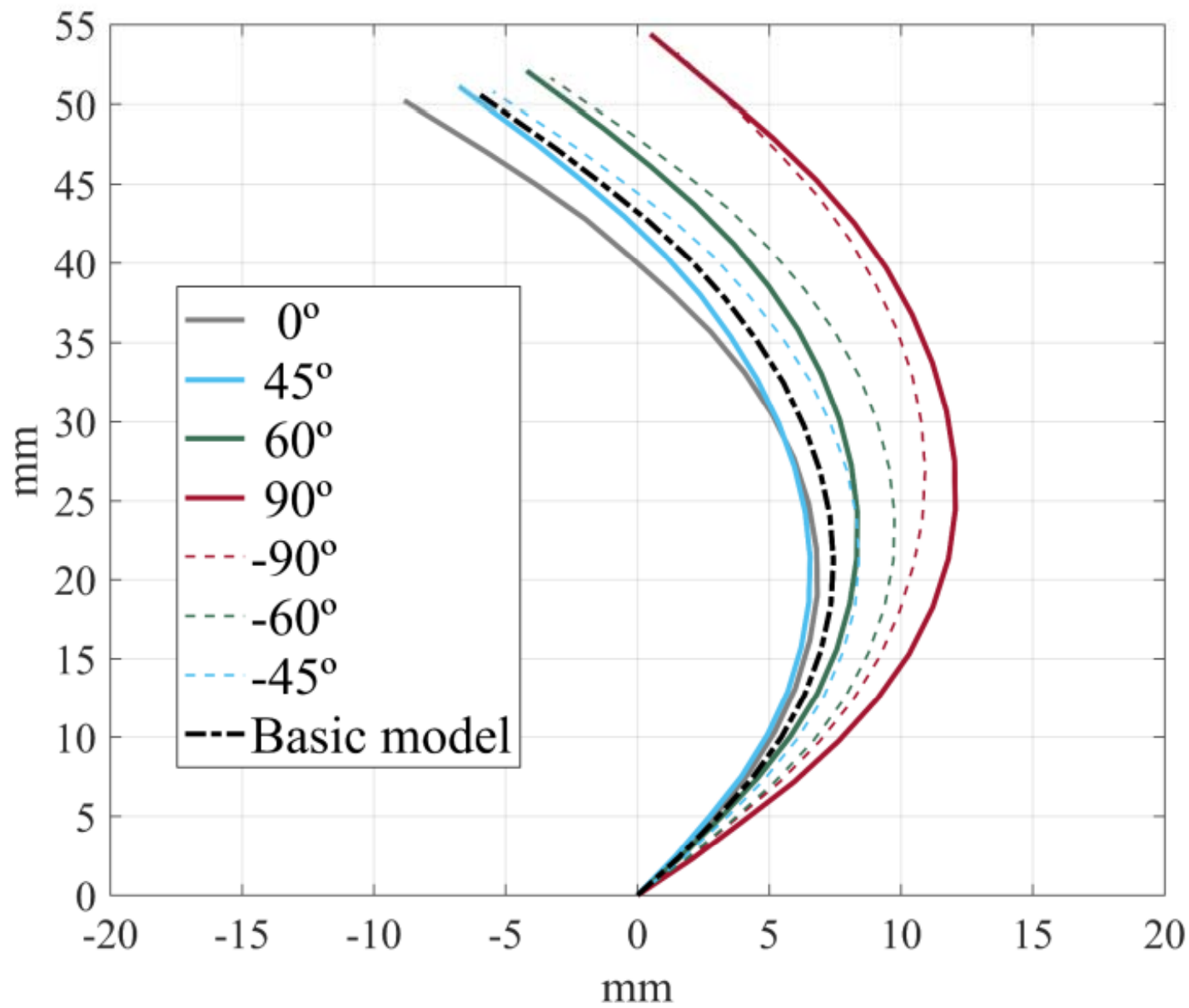
# Patient scans



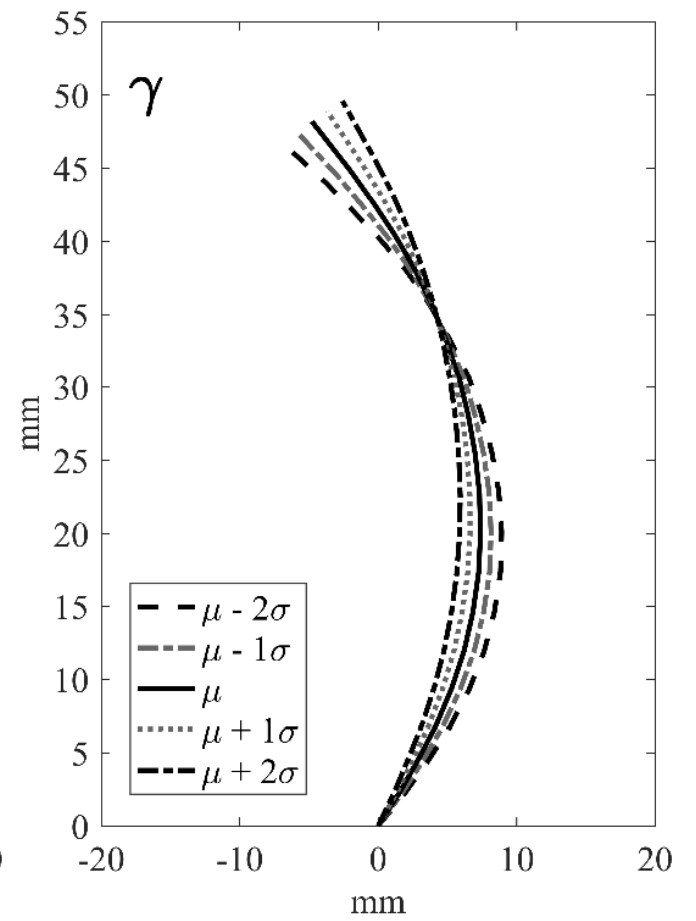
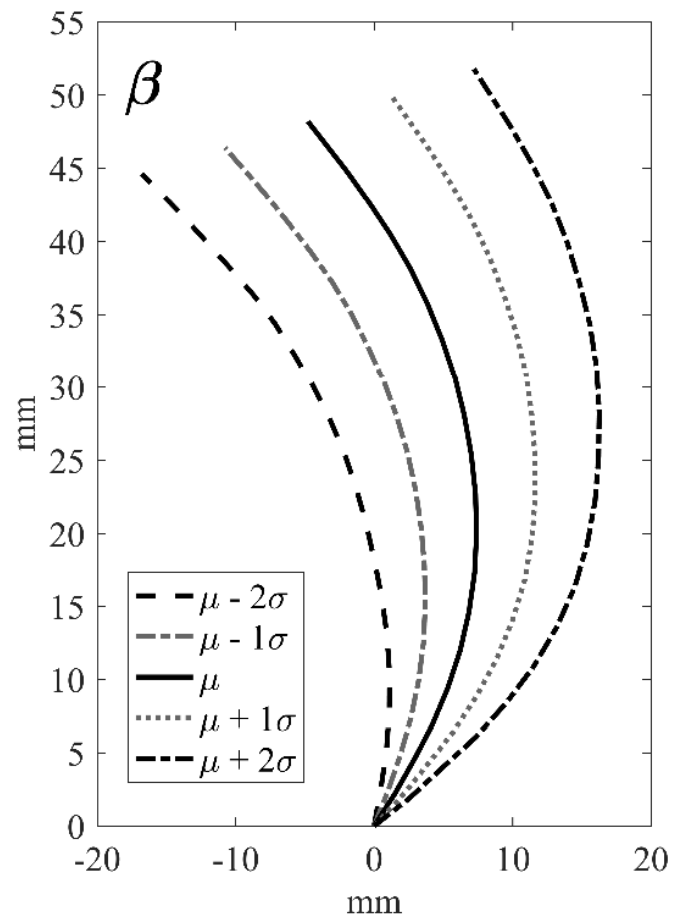
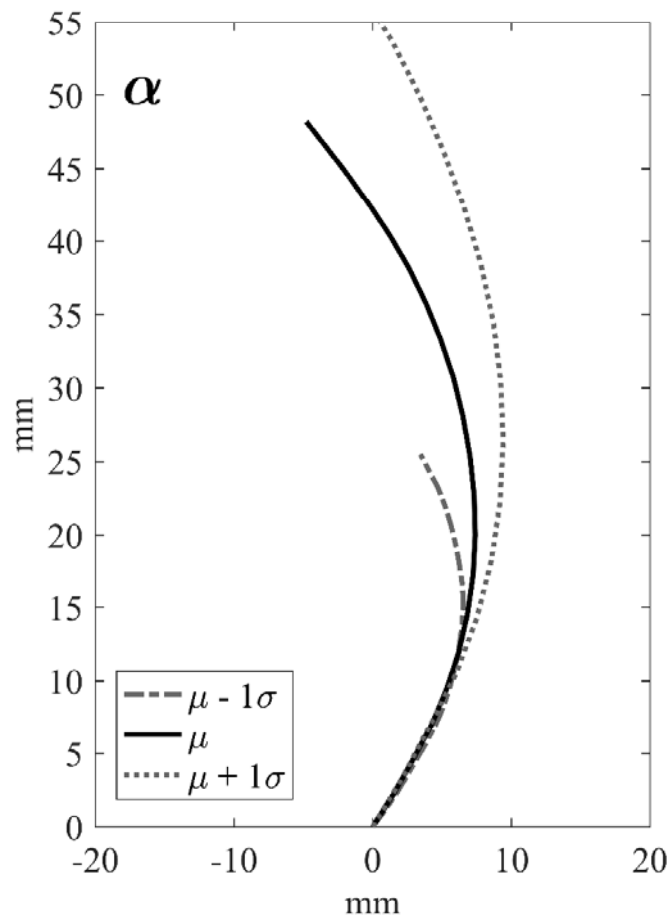


90° - Medial side

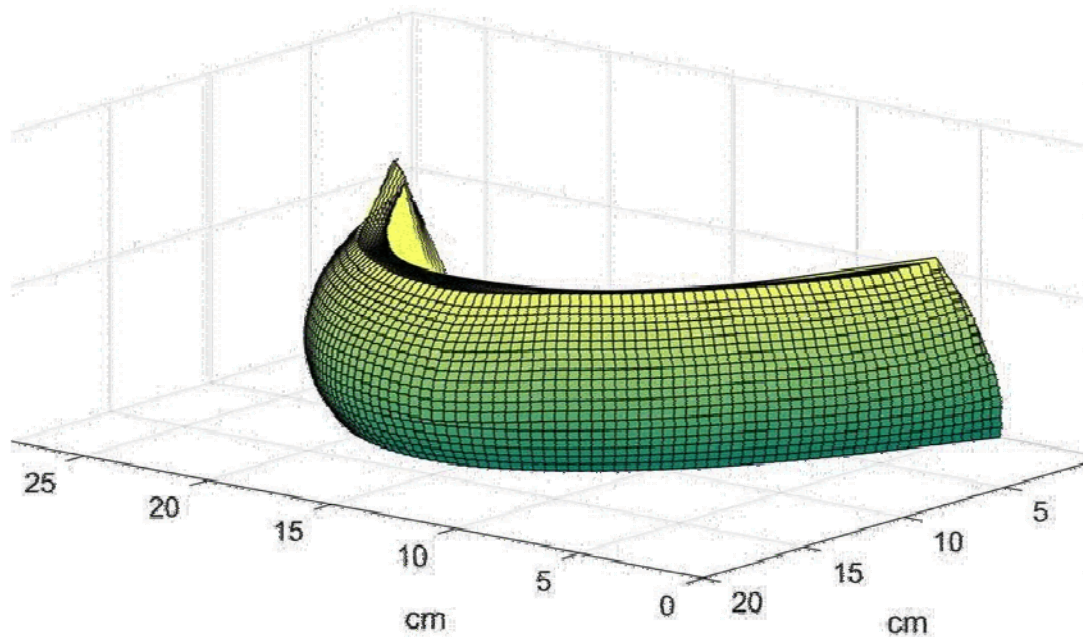








# Breast model



AXTI group, Radboudumc, Nijmegen, NL

Generate phantom

*Phantom dimensions*

Random phantom

breast thickness (mm) 53

eq. CND (mm) 15

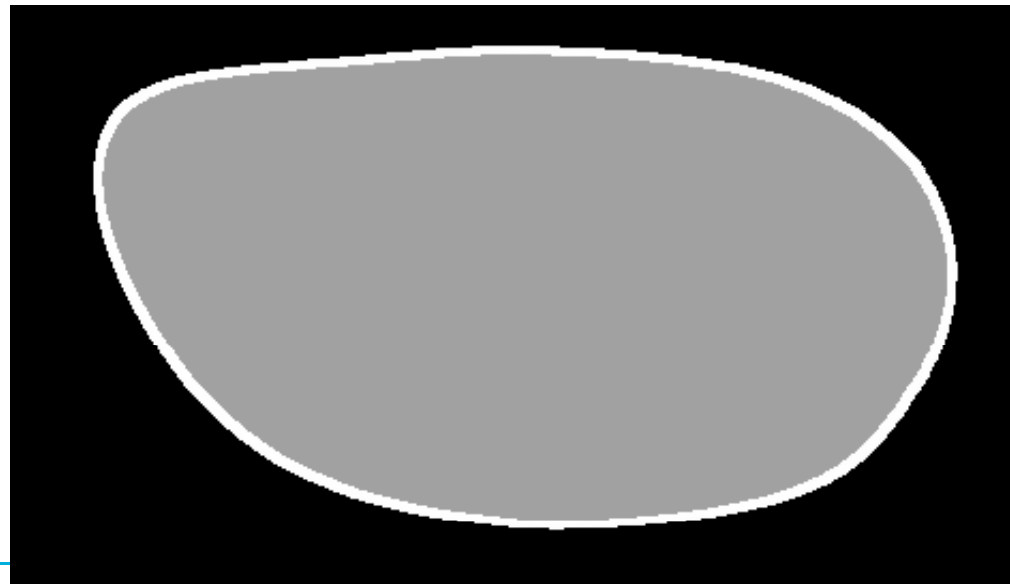
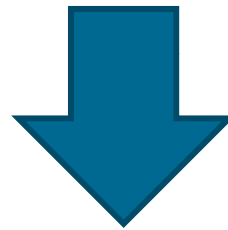
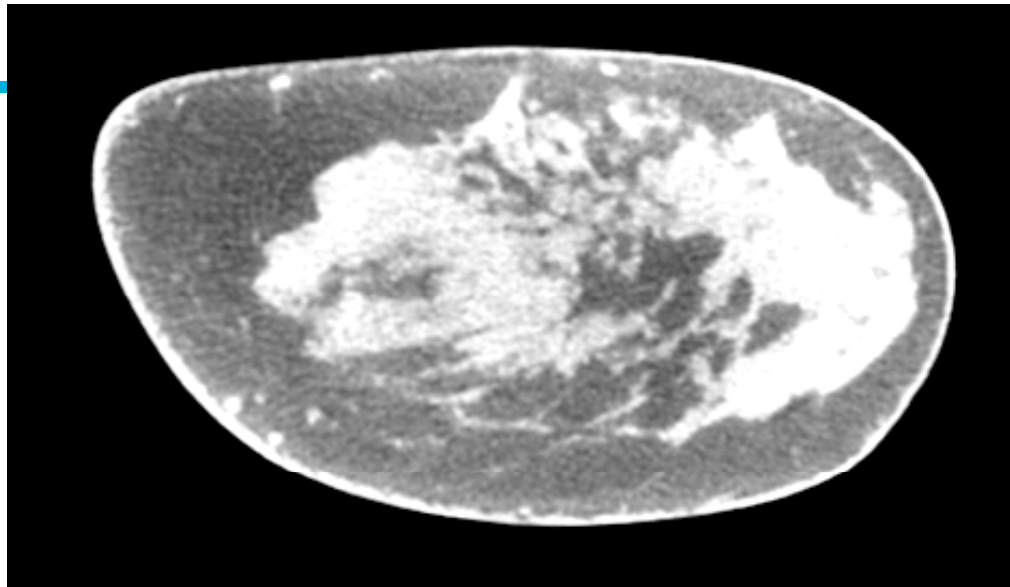
*Fine 3D curvature*

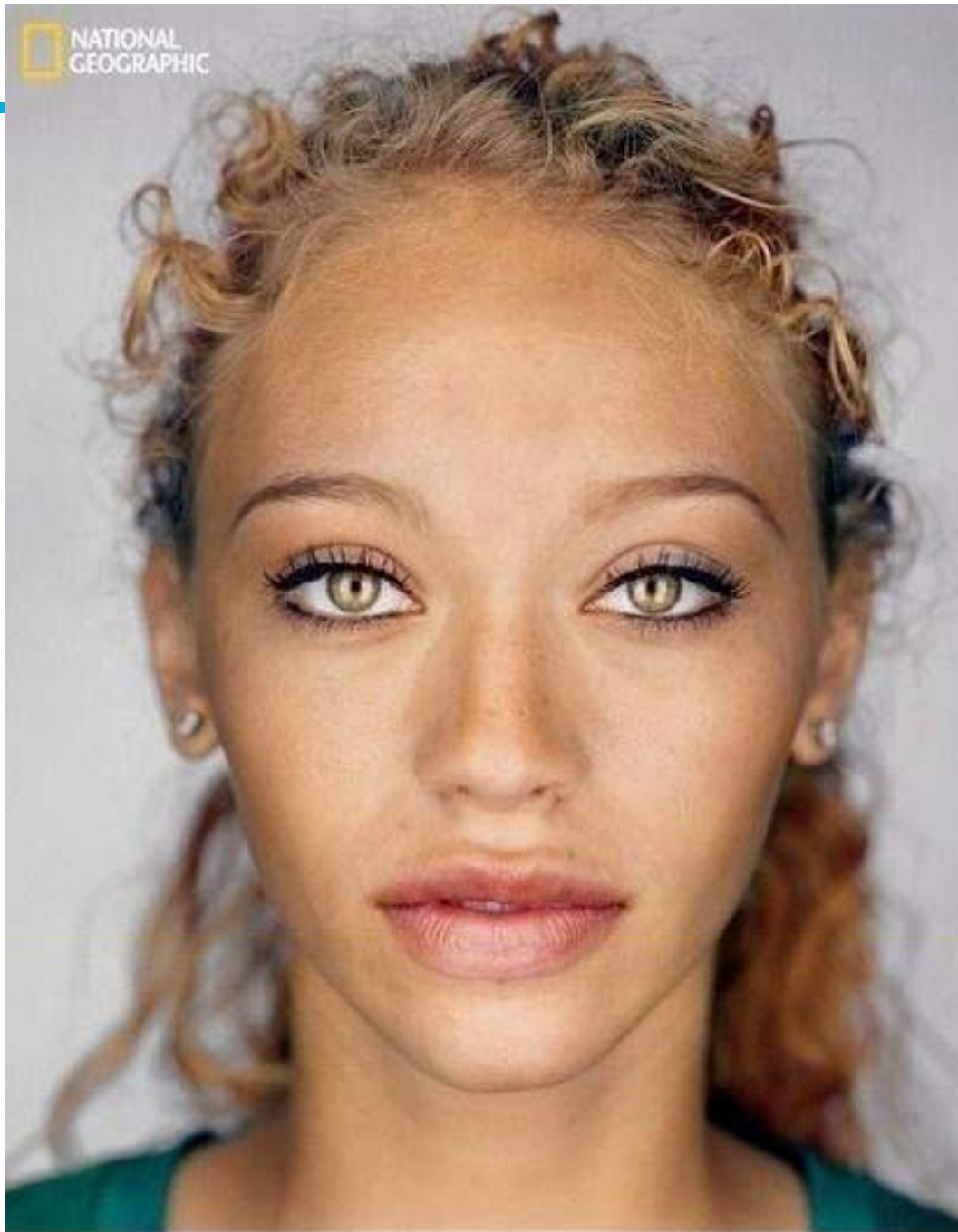
Save figure

Export phantom

---

**But what do these values  
of AGD mean?**





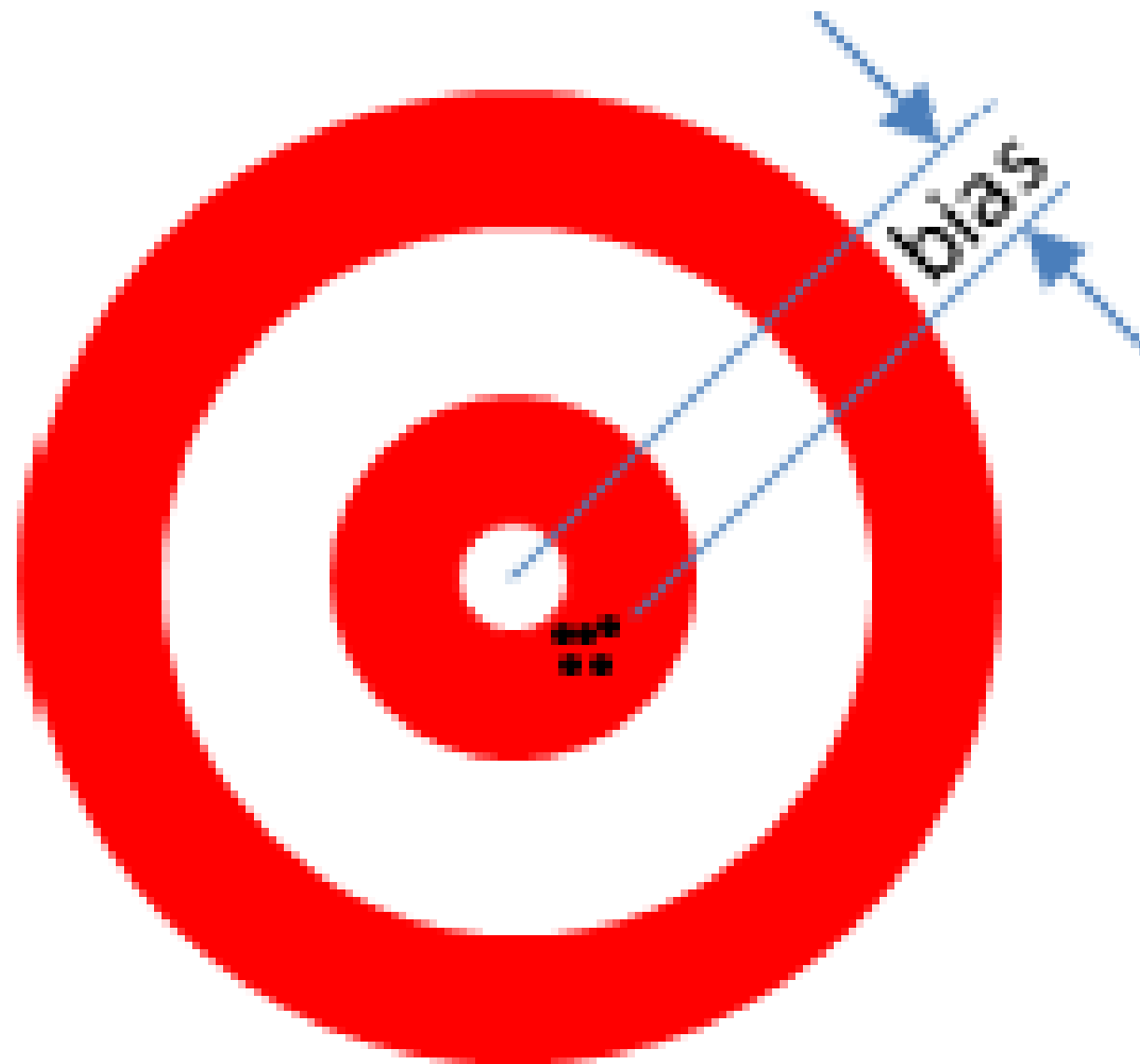
What the average human will look like in  
2050 according to National Geographics.

---

# So...

“detailed information will have to be obtained on the amount and distribution of gland tissue in many individual cases” before individual risk estimates can be made.

*Hammerstein et al, Radiology, 1979*



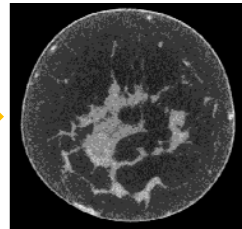
---

**What is the error  
introduced by the  
homogeneous tissue  
approximation in breast  
dosimetry?**

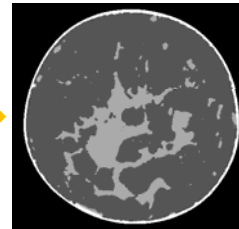




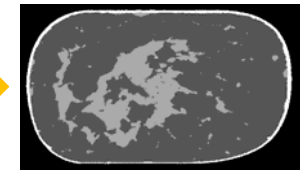
Patient BCT  
Imaging



Tissue  
Classification



Simulated  
Compression



Homogenization



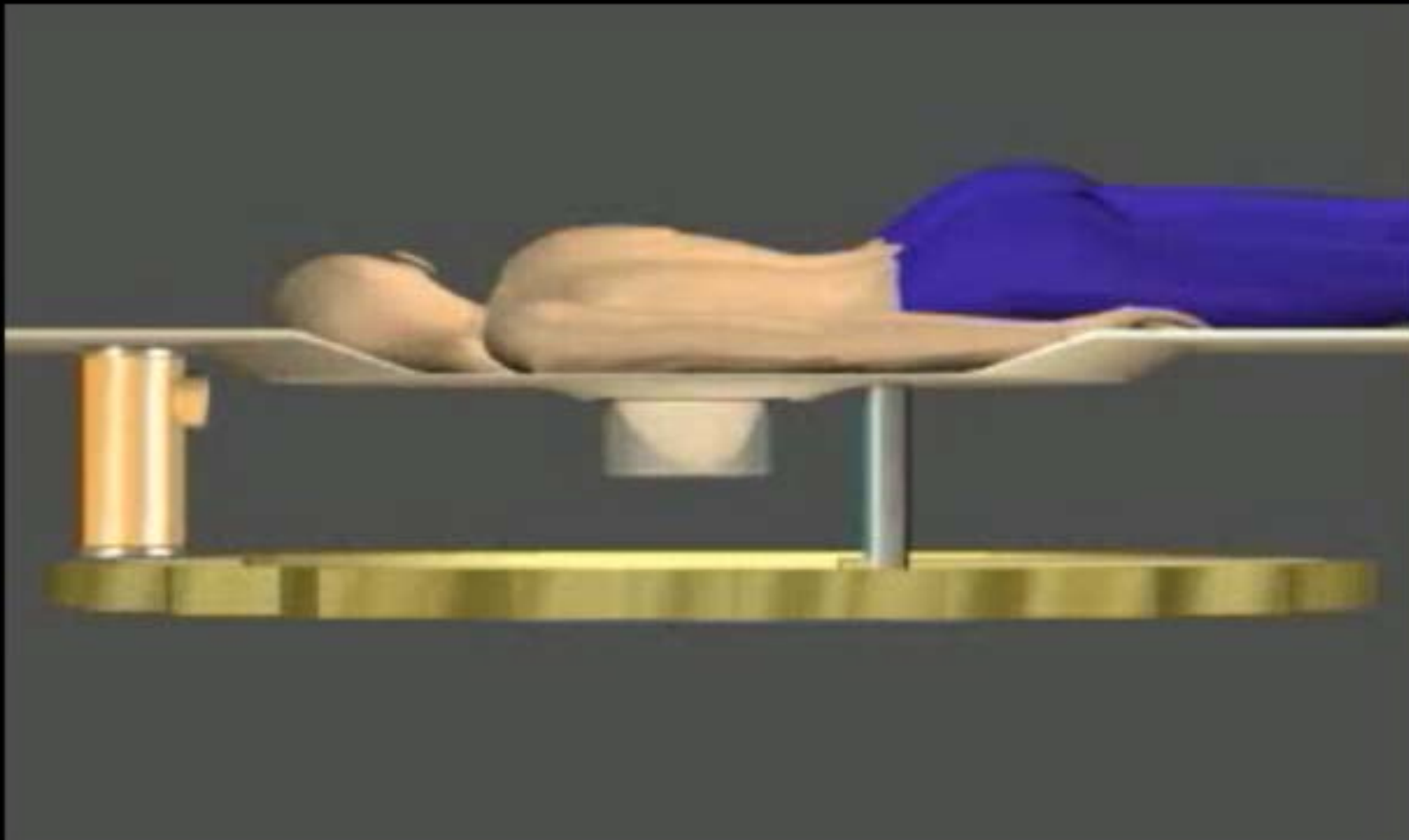
Monte Carlo  
Simulation

Homogeneous  
Mammography  
 $D_gN$

Heterogeneous  
Mammography  
 $D_gN$

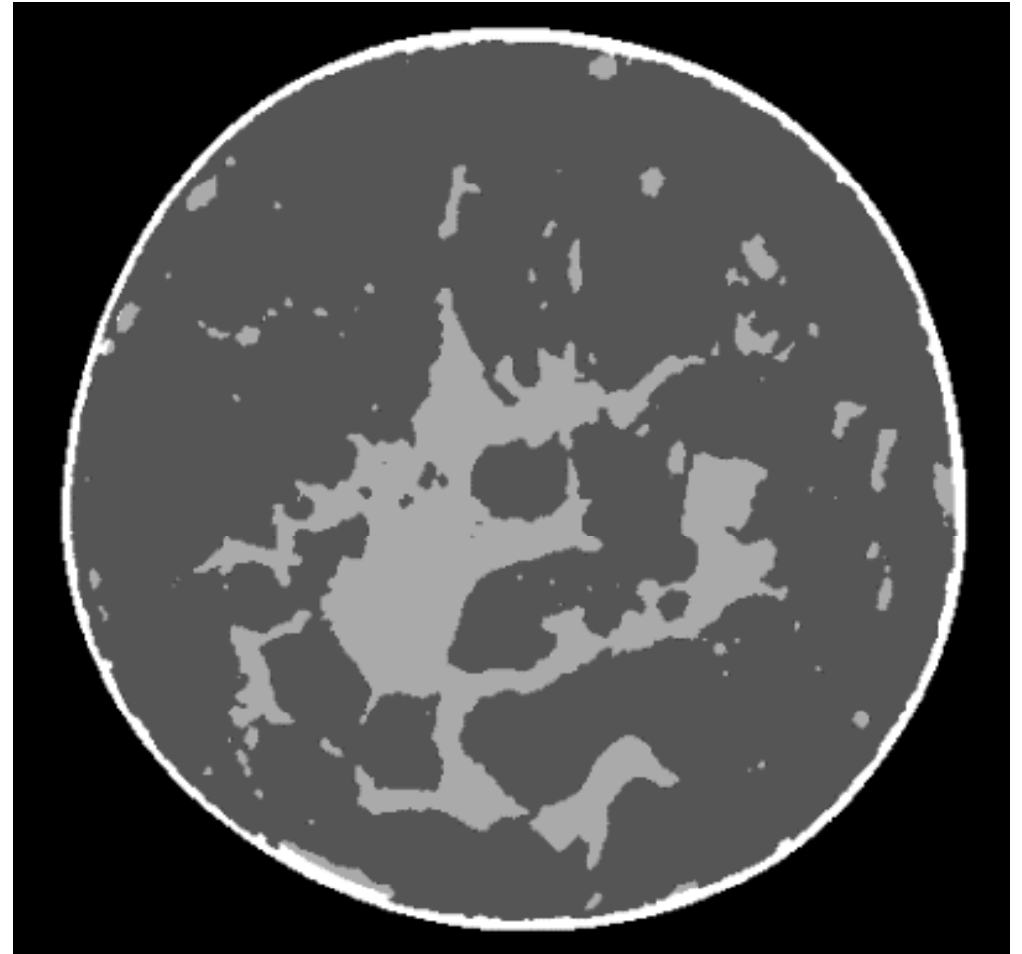
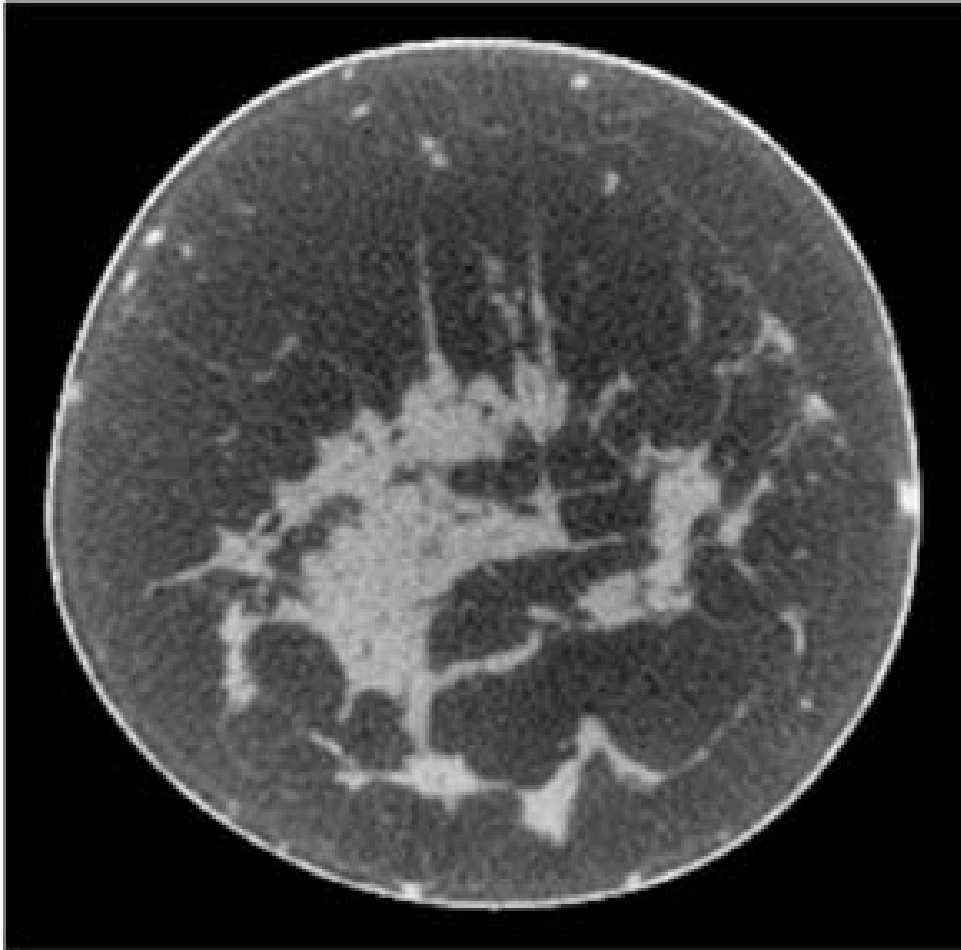
Monte Carlo  
Simulation

19 patients



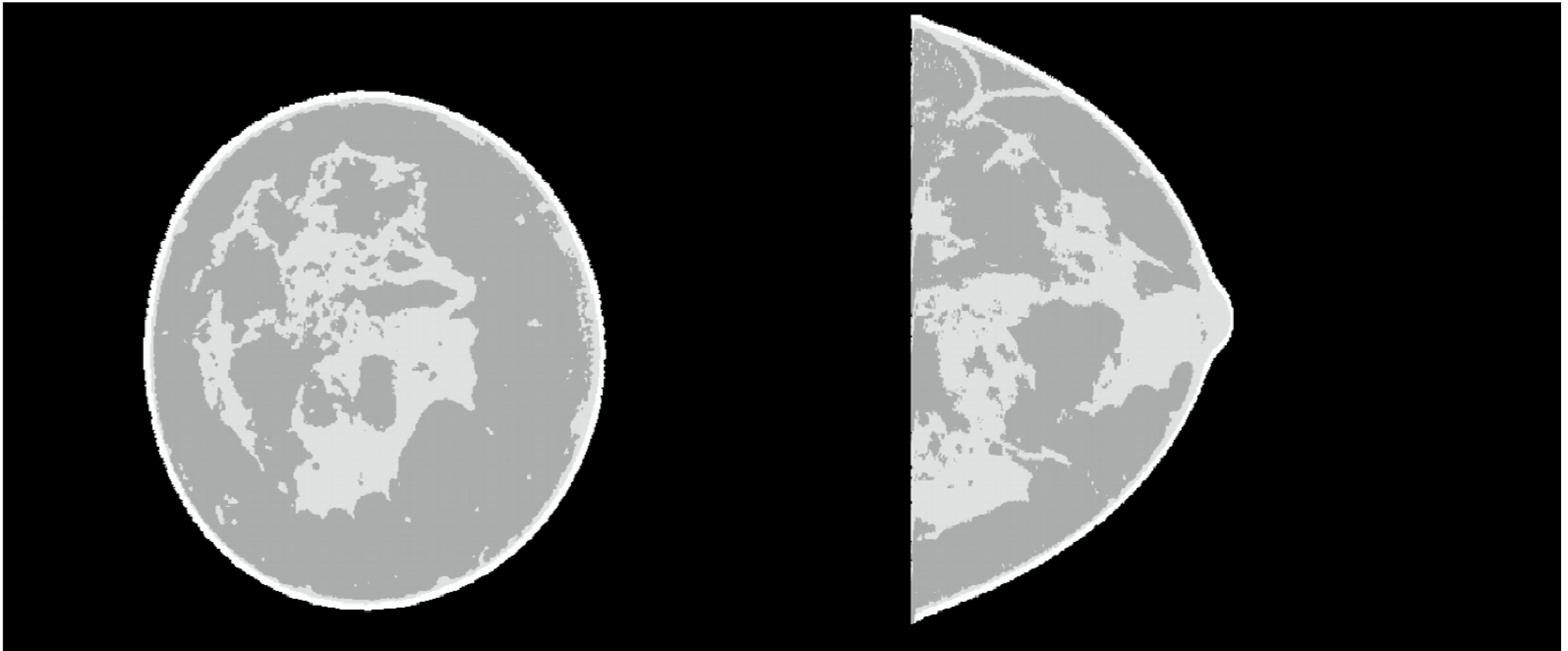
---

# Automated Tissue Classification



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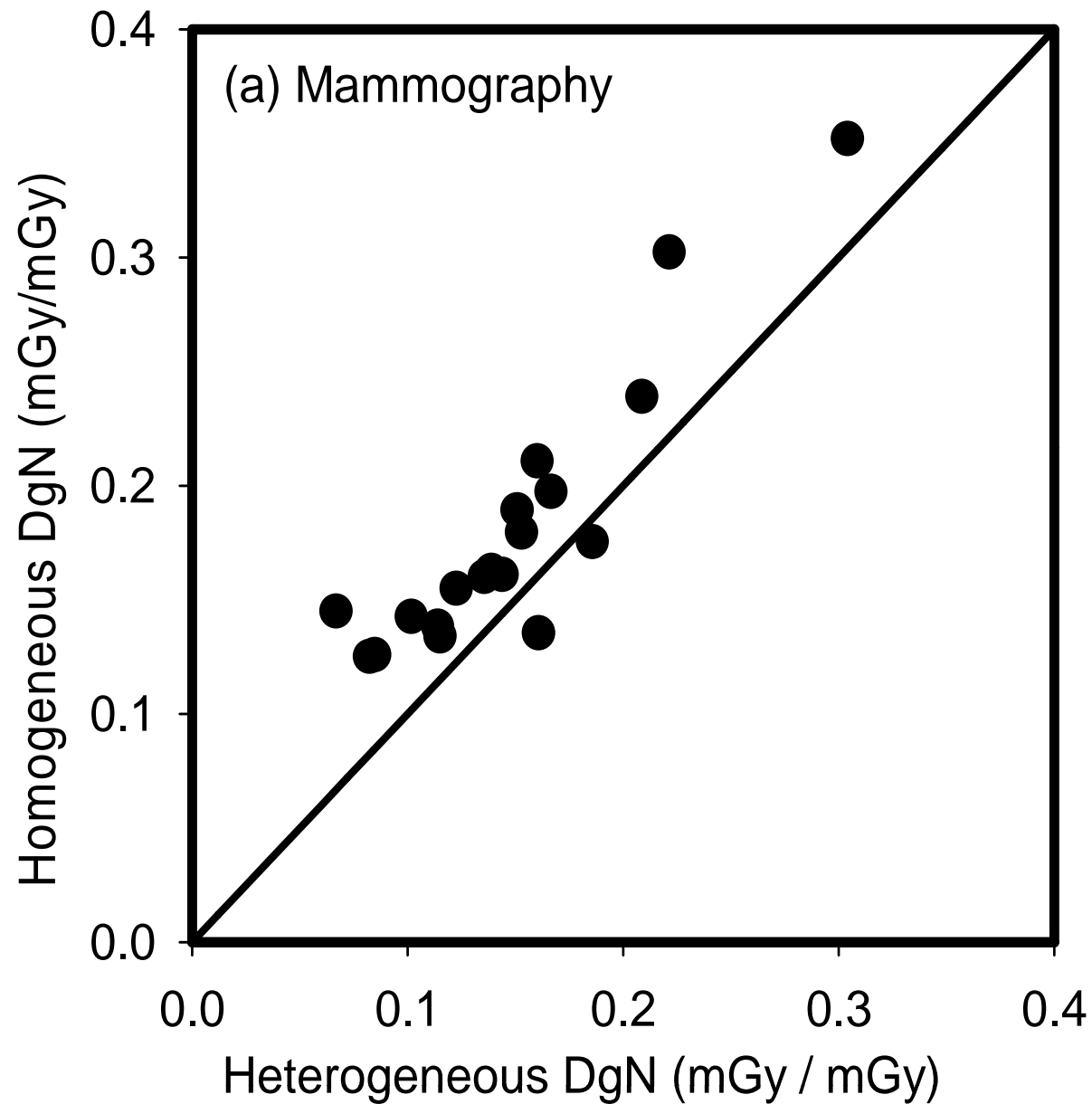
# Mechanical Breast Compression

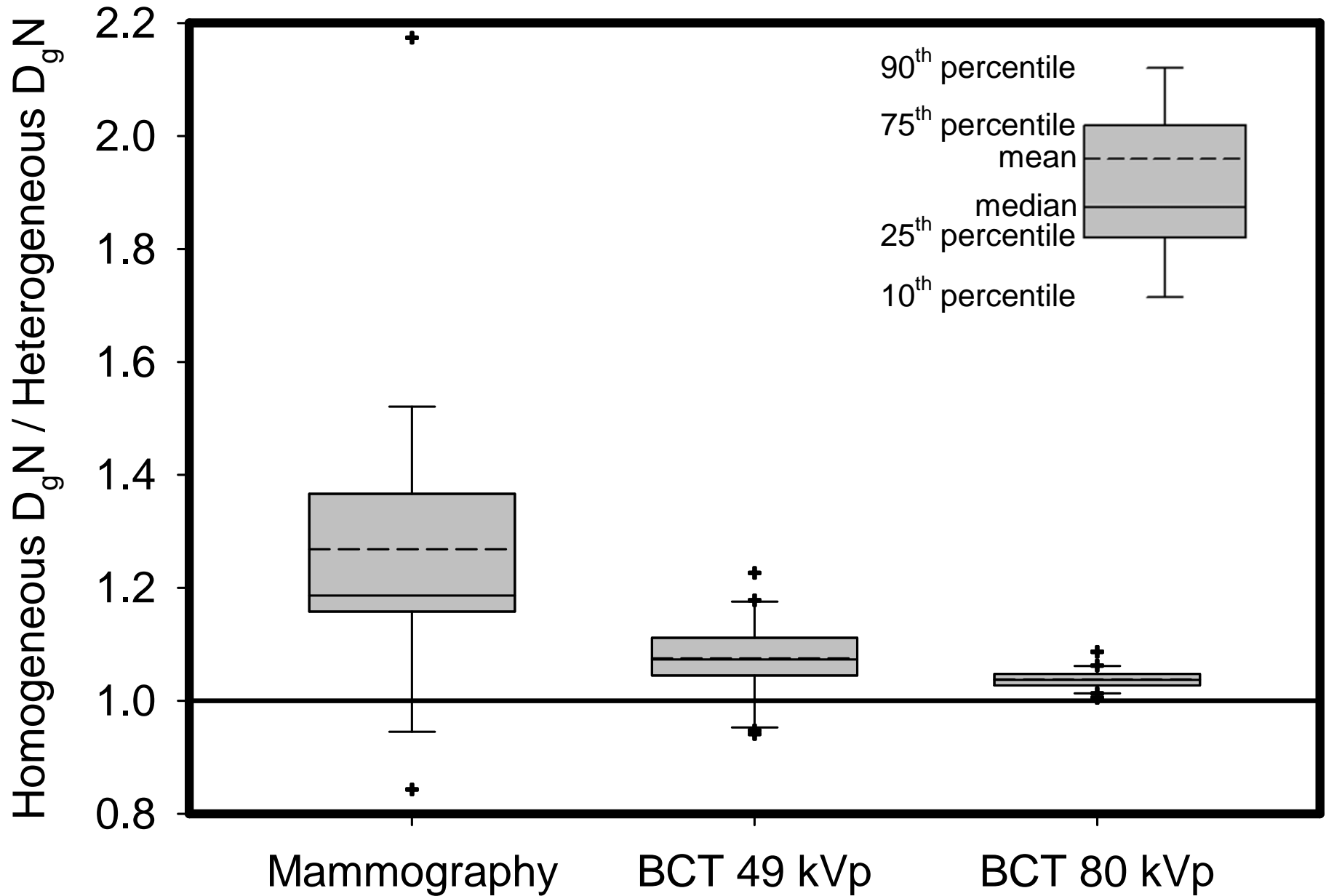


---

# Monte Carlo simulations







---

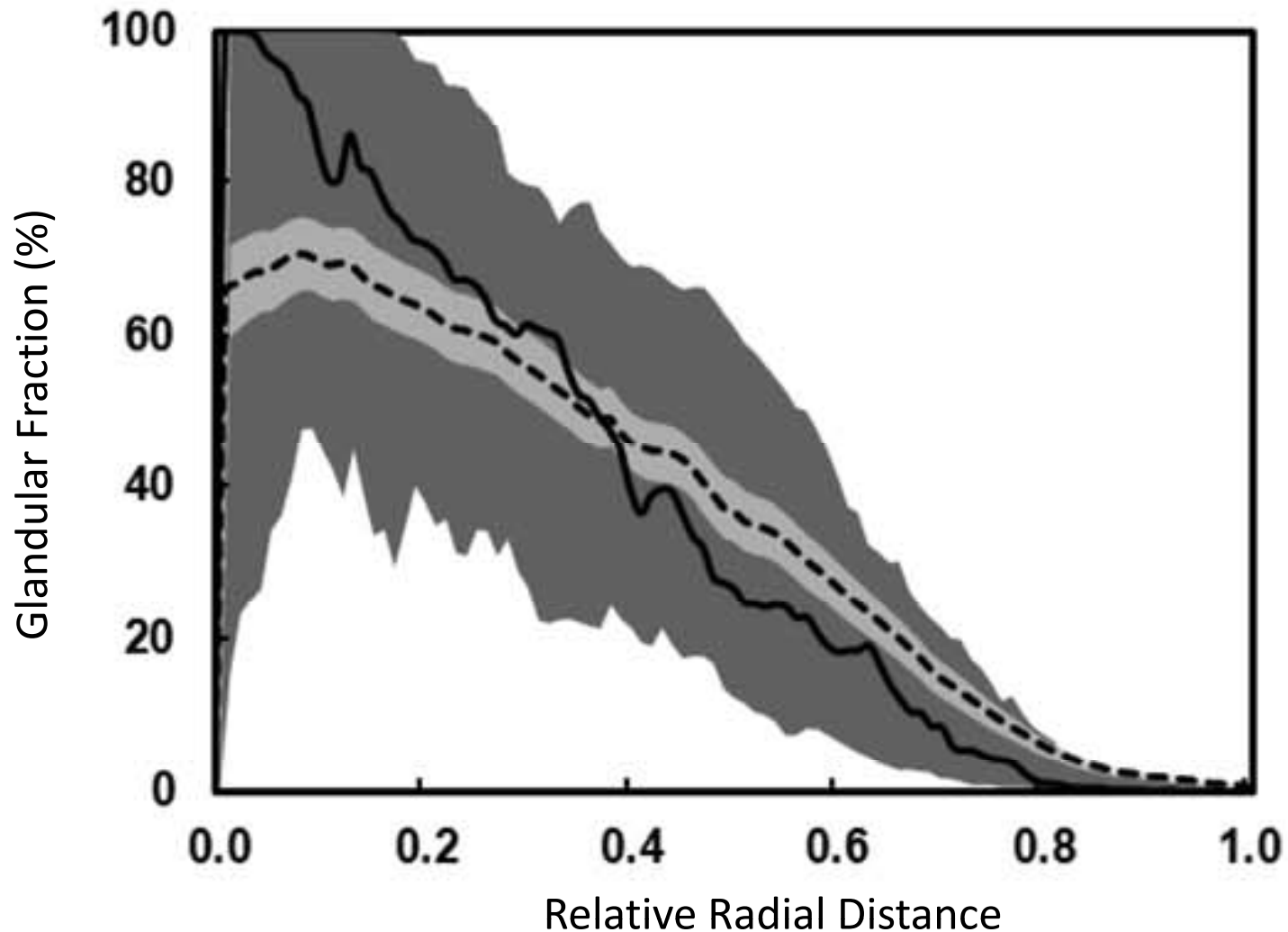
# Model-based Confirmation (N=219)

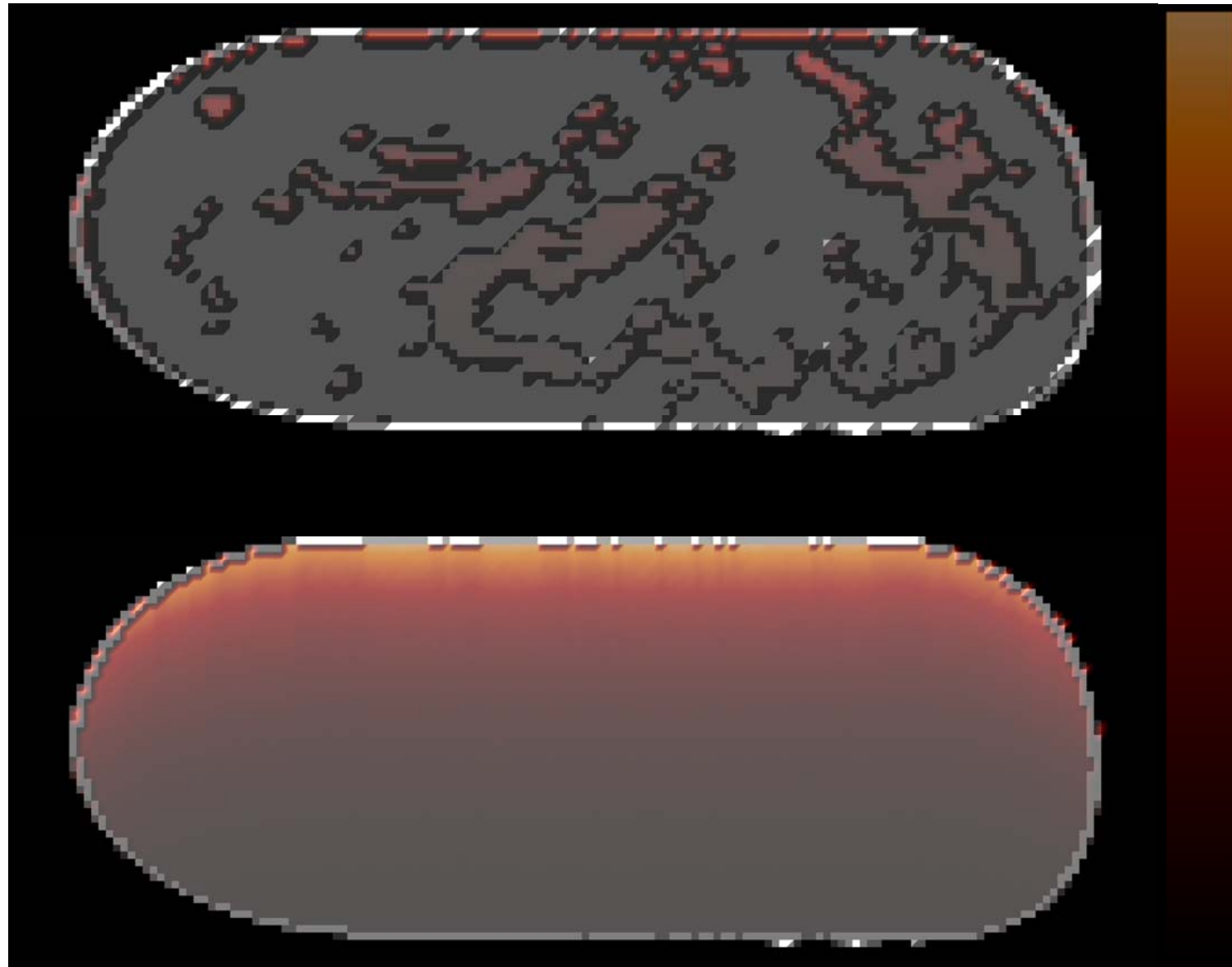
Mo anode:  $-35.3\%$  (SD = 4.1)

W anode:  $-24.2\%$  (SD = 3.0)



# Glandular tissue distribution



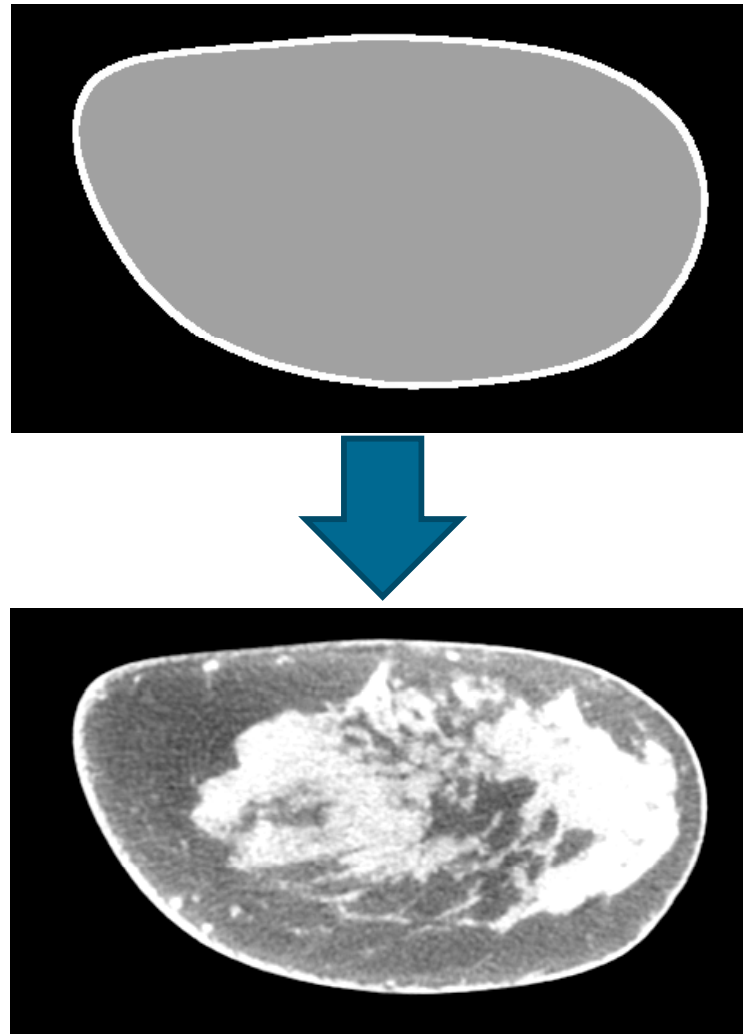


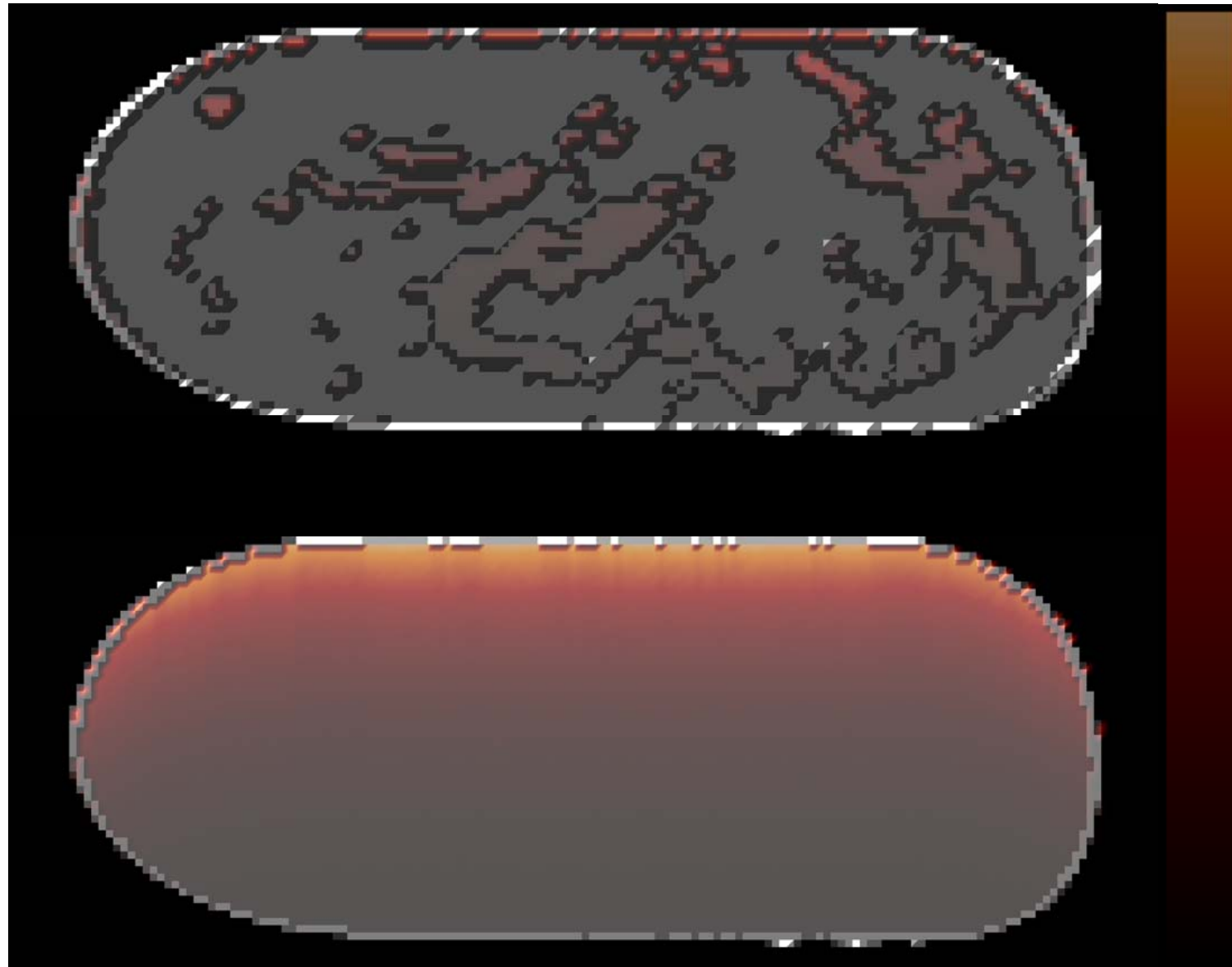
10.3

0.0

---

# Patient-Specific Breast Dosimetry





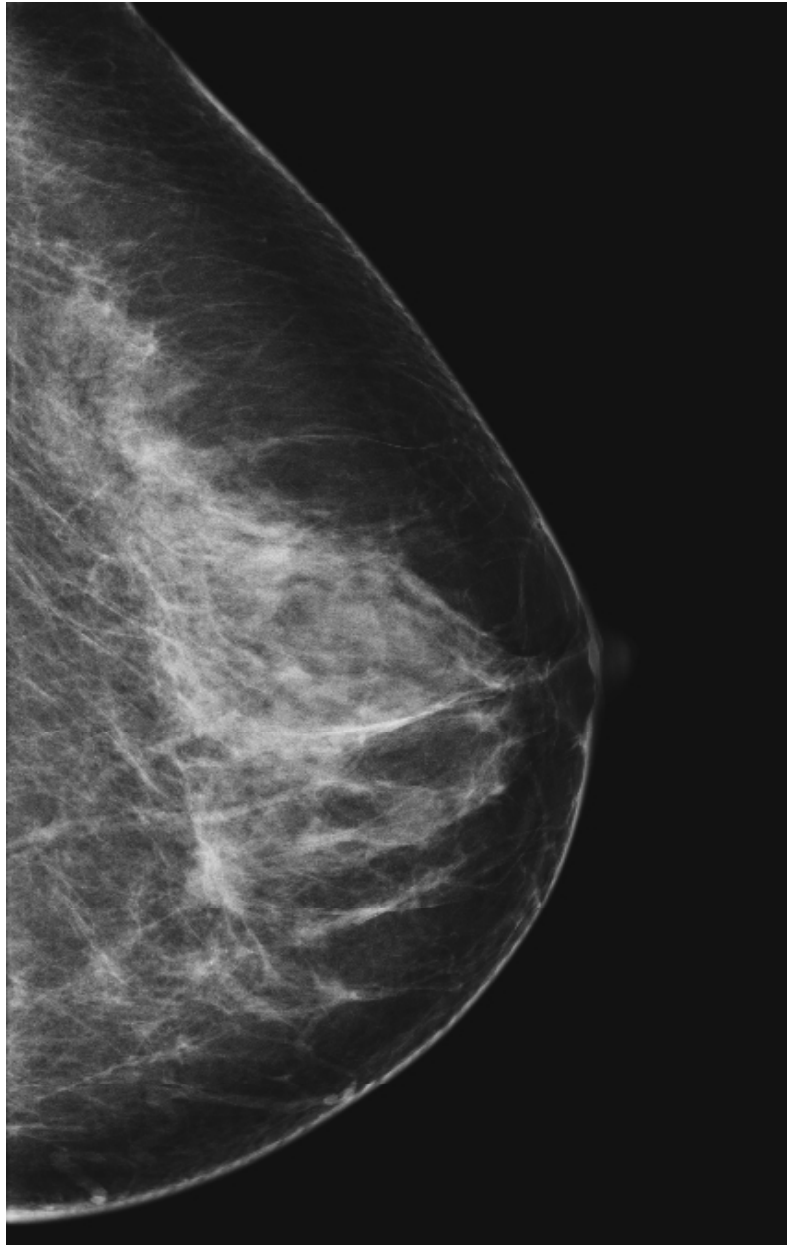
10.3

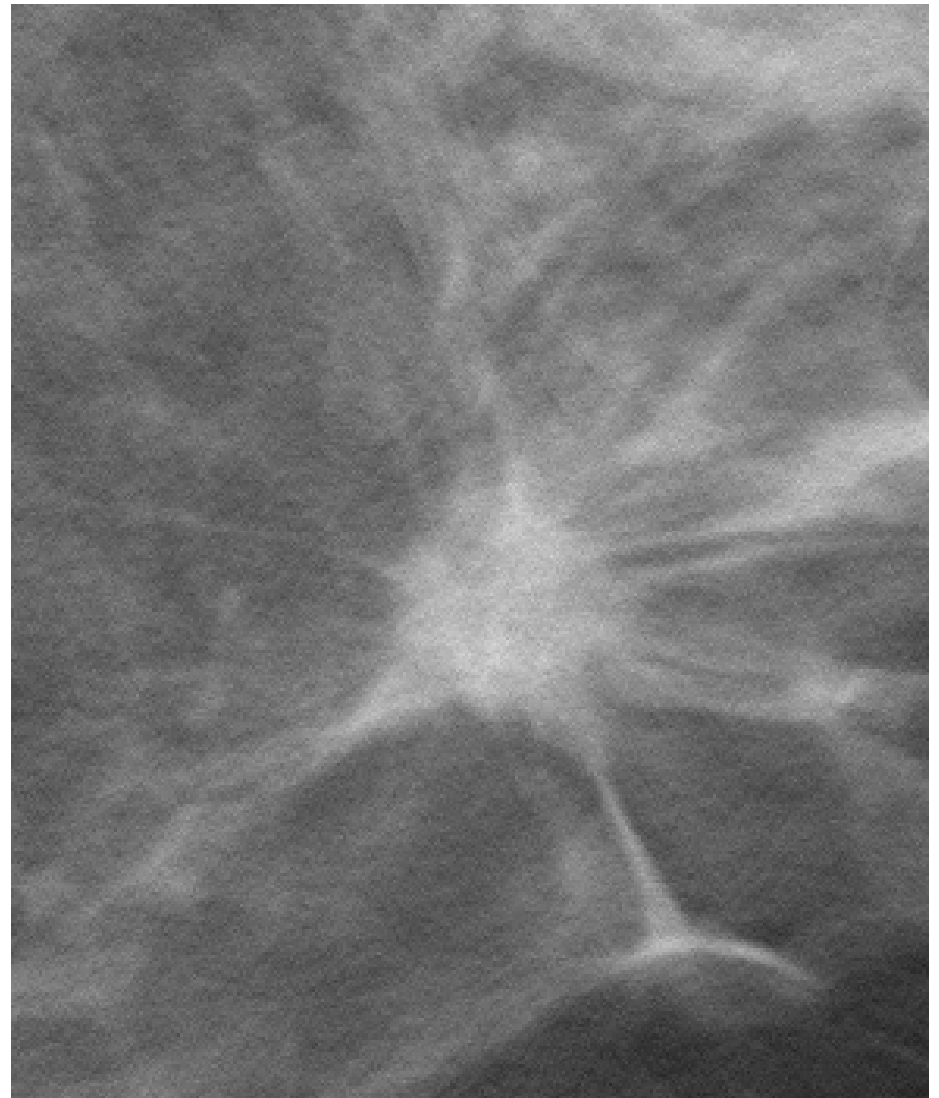
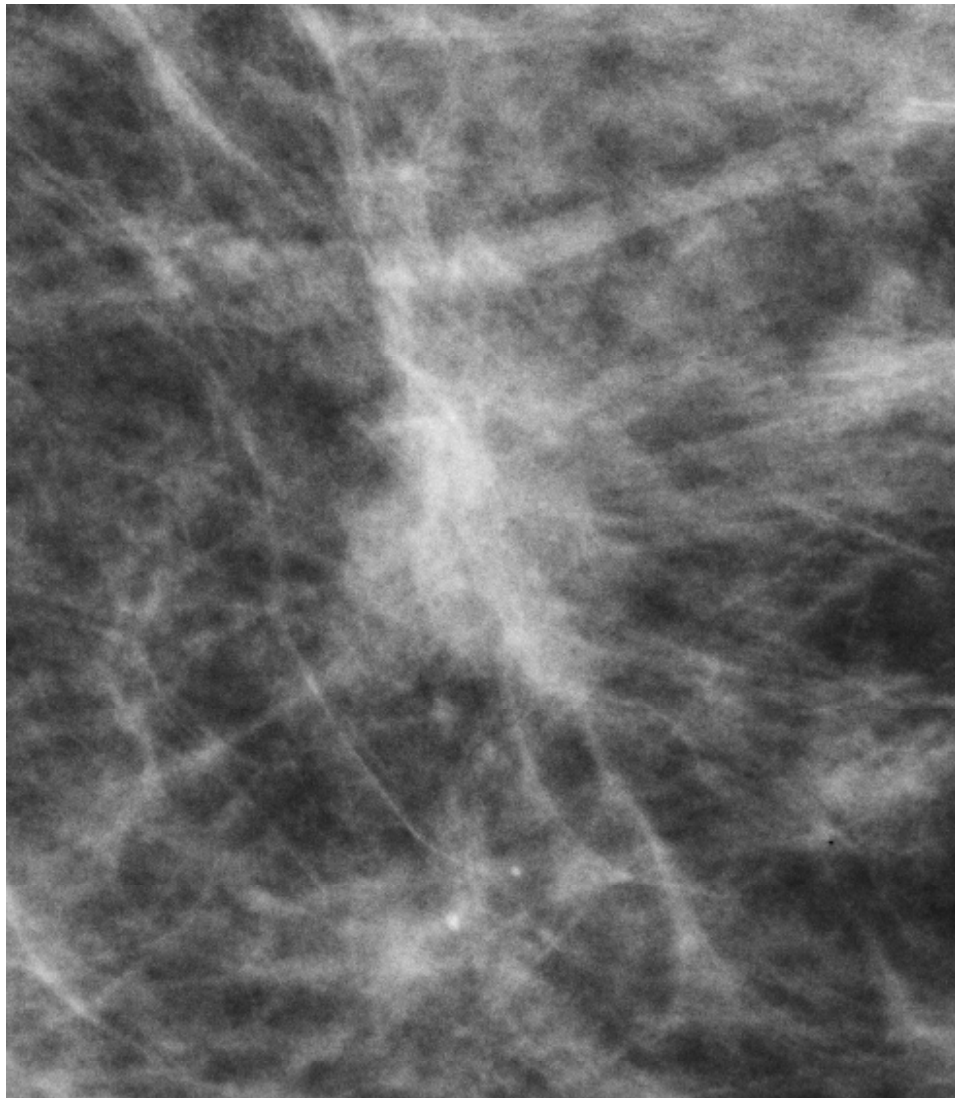
0.0

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# DIGITAL BREAST TOMOSYNTHESIS









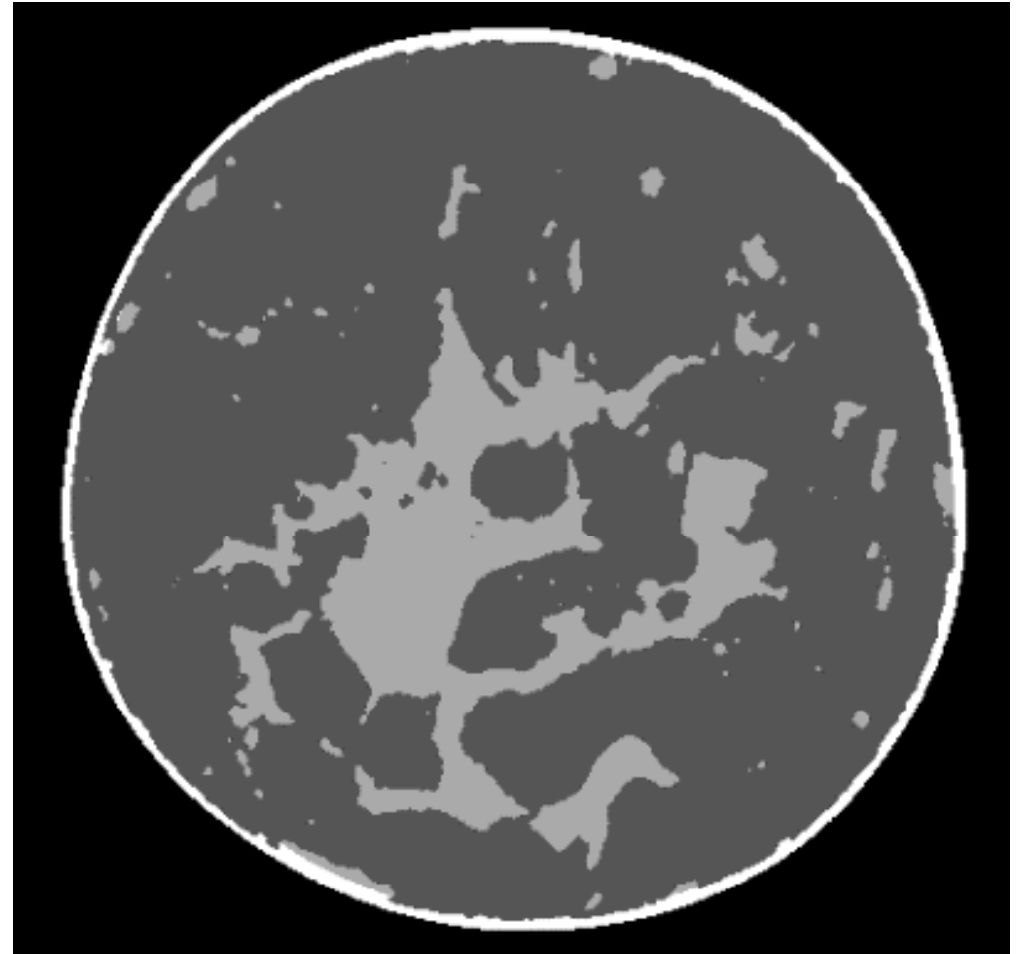
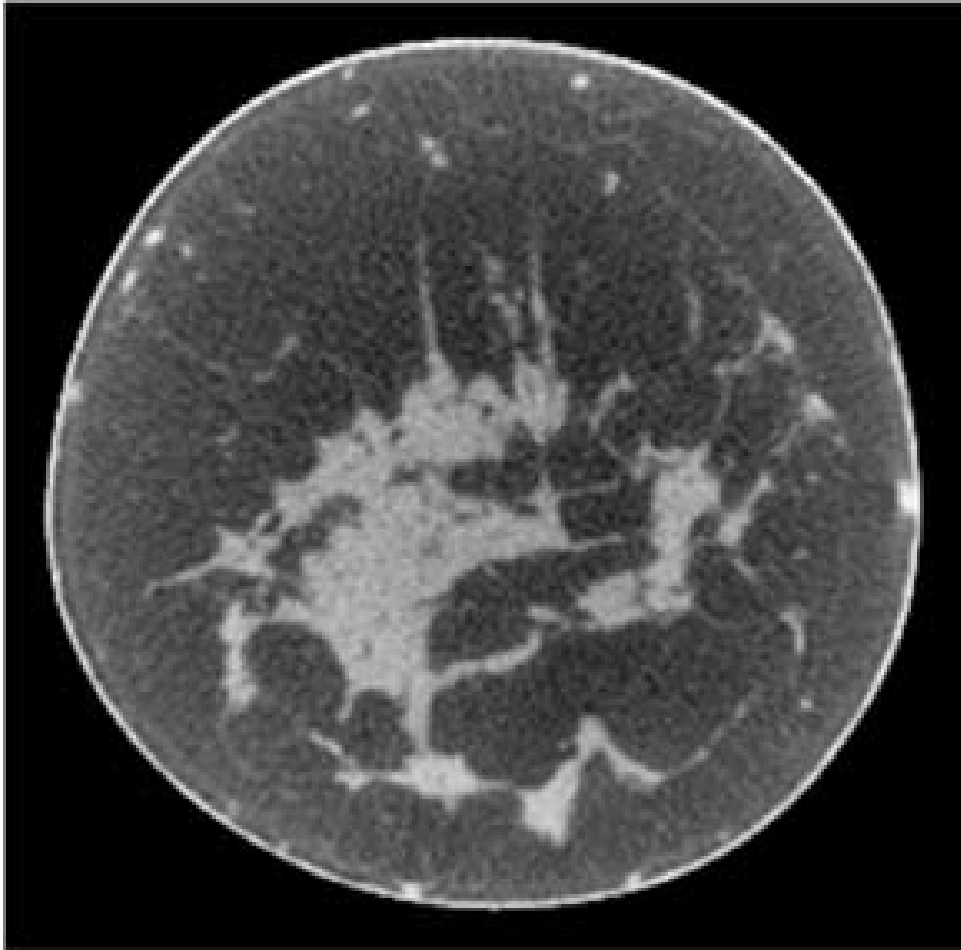
---

# Patient-Specific Breast Dosimetry

Need a tomosynthesis  
image classification  
algorithm

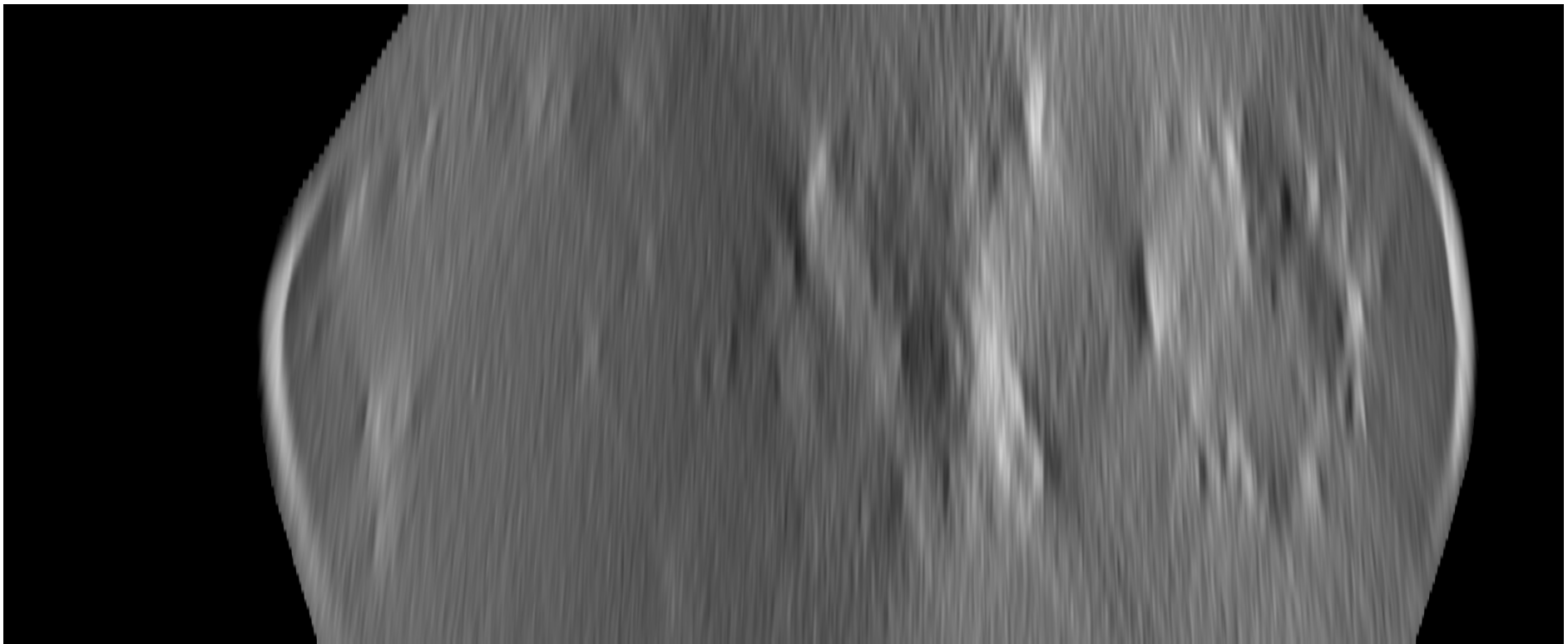
---

# Automated Tissue Classification



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# Image in the “wrong” direction



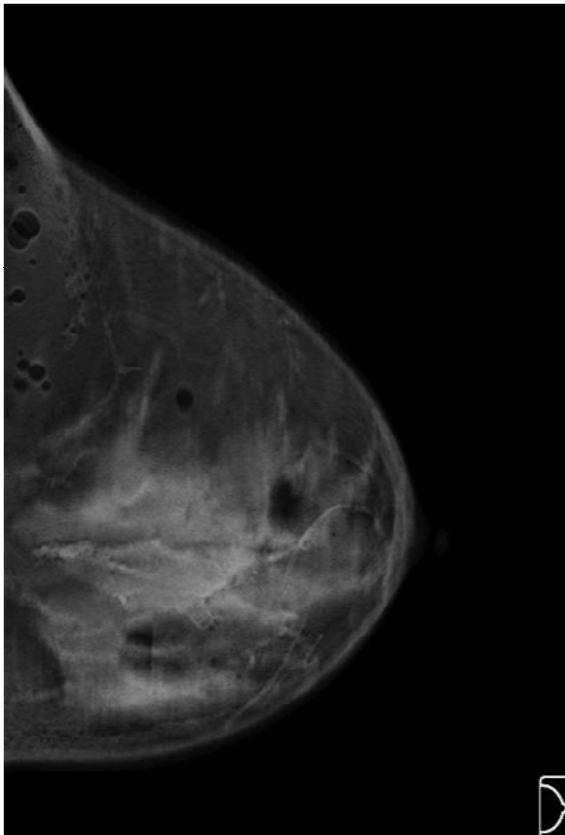
---

# Option 1

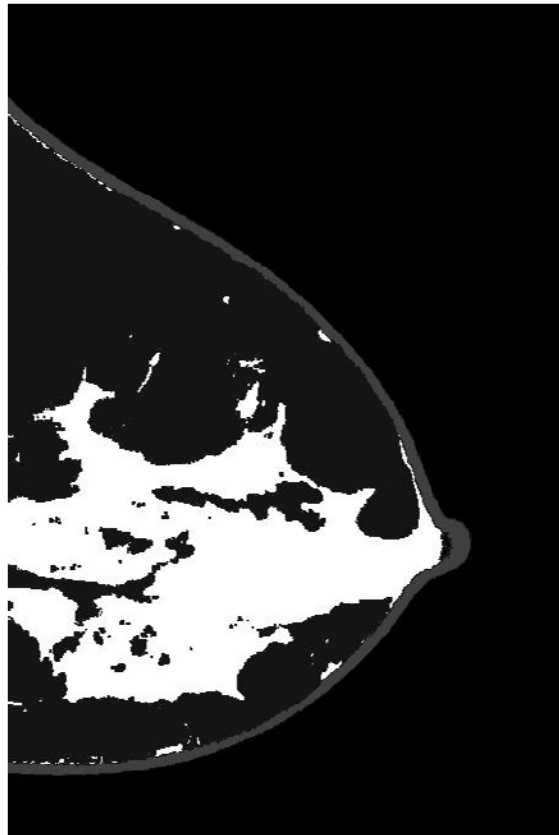
Classify the reconstructed  
tomosynthesis image

---

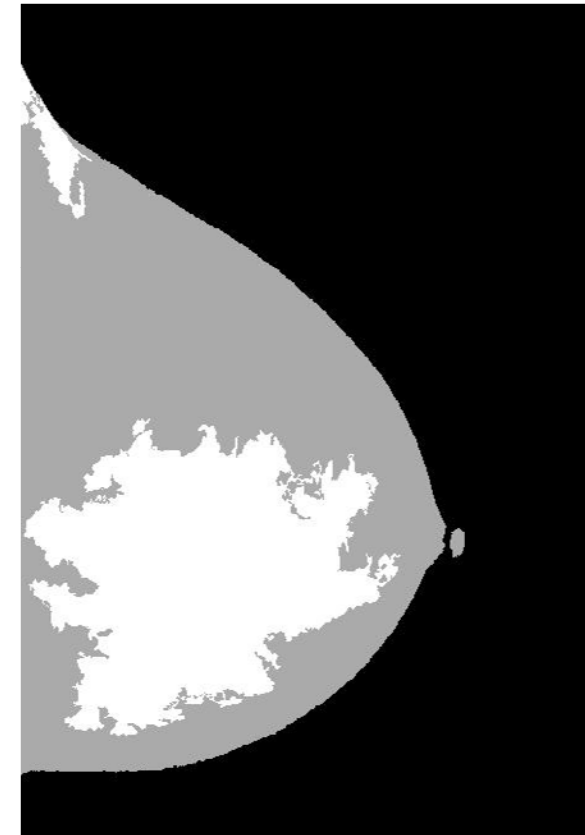
# Representative Classification - Fuji



Tomography



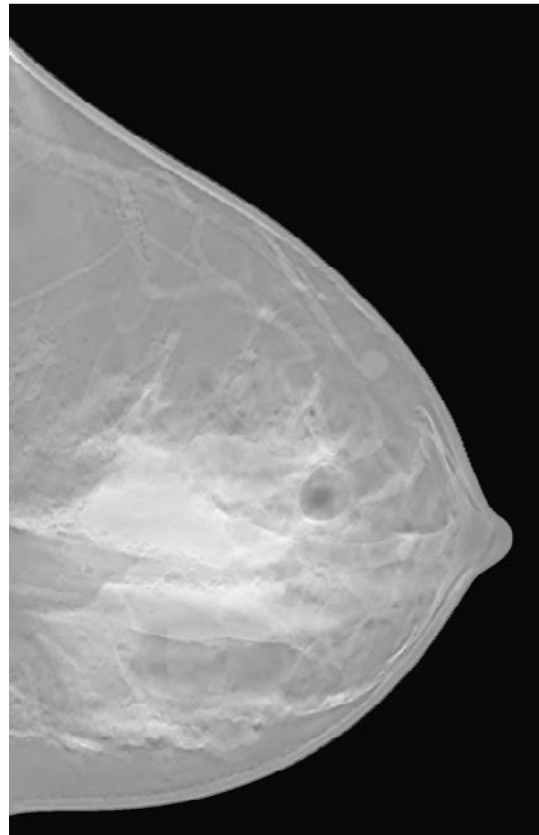
Gold Standard



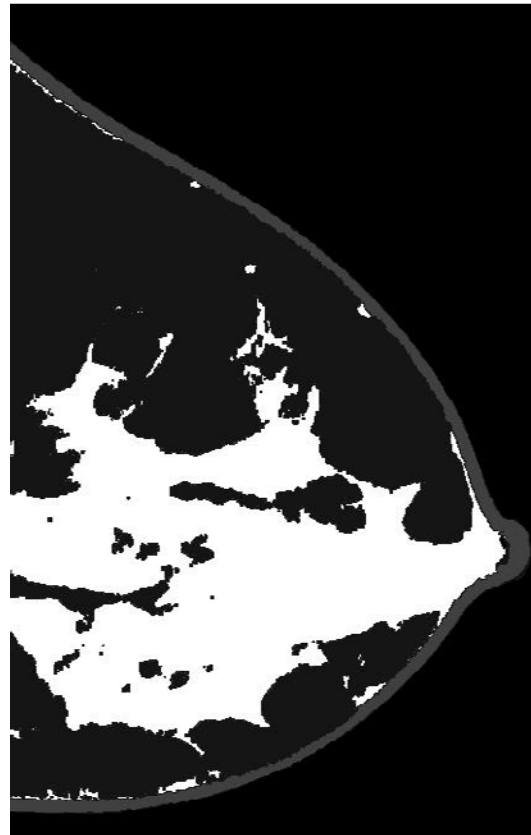
Classification

---

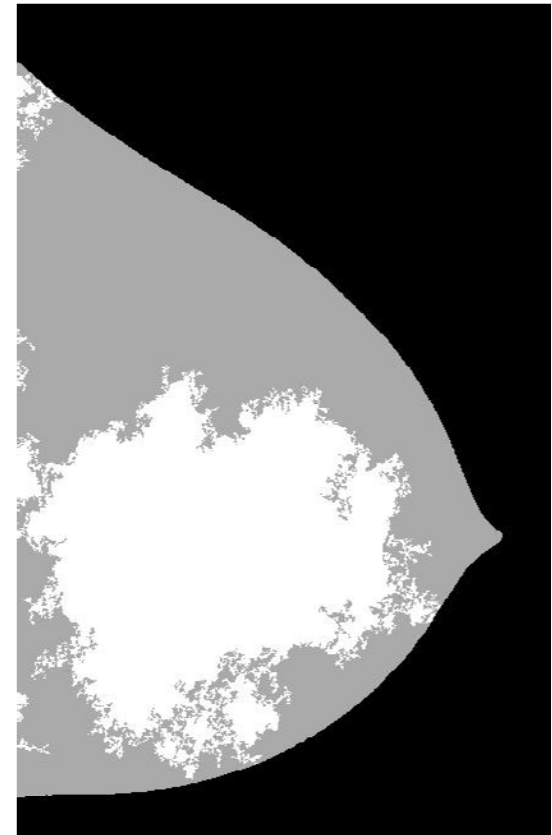
# Representative Classification - Phillips



Tomography



Gold Standard



Classification

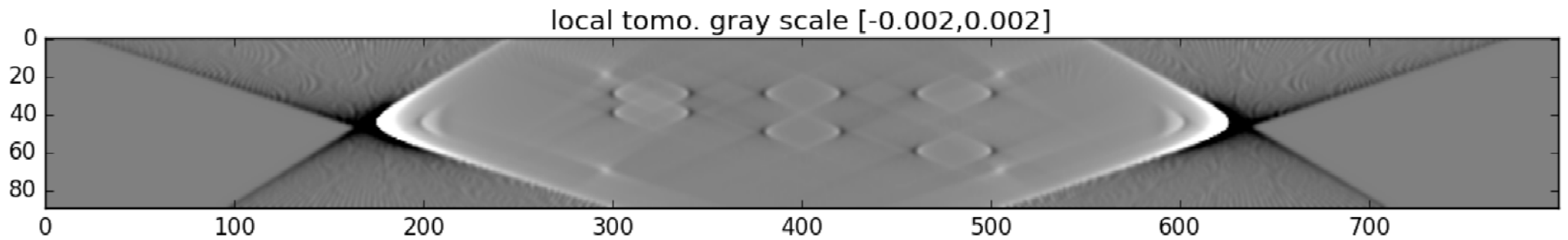
---

## Option 2

Reconstruct to a binary  
(trinary?) image

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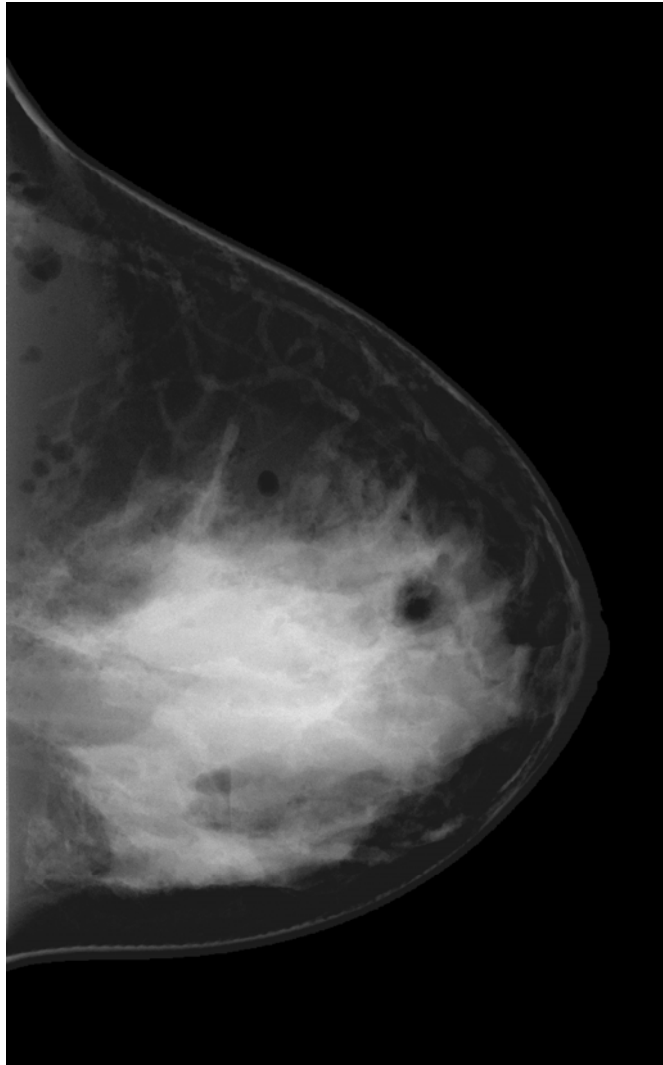
# Local tomography





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# Density maps





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# Patient-Specific Breast Dosimetry

4-year project  
funded by the  
Susan G. Komen  
Foundation for the  
Cure



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# How does dose translate to risk?

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## In short...

Breast dosimetry for QA/QC is well understood

So are its shortcomings

Patient-specific dose

Possible with (pseudo-)3D imaging

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# Questions?

