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Motion-corrected free-running 4D MRI of the fetal heart - from in silico to in vivo

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BACKGROUND

- Fetal cardiac MRI suffers from motion blurring (maternal respiration, fetal bulk-movement, fetal cardiac motion).
- 3D radial acquisitions provide simplified scan planning, to guarantee volumetric coverage of the cardiac anatomy ^{4,5}.

AIMS

Create motion-corrected 4D images of the fetal heart from 3D radial data acquired *in utero*.

Acquire free-running data Resp. fetal Card. cycle Divide acquisition and reconstruct volumes for each section Estimate respiratory motion within each section using fNAV Align each section using rigid registration, identify and reject outliers Use motion parameters to correct k-space, reconstruct 4D images using compressed sensing



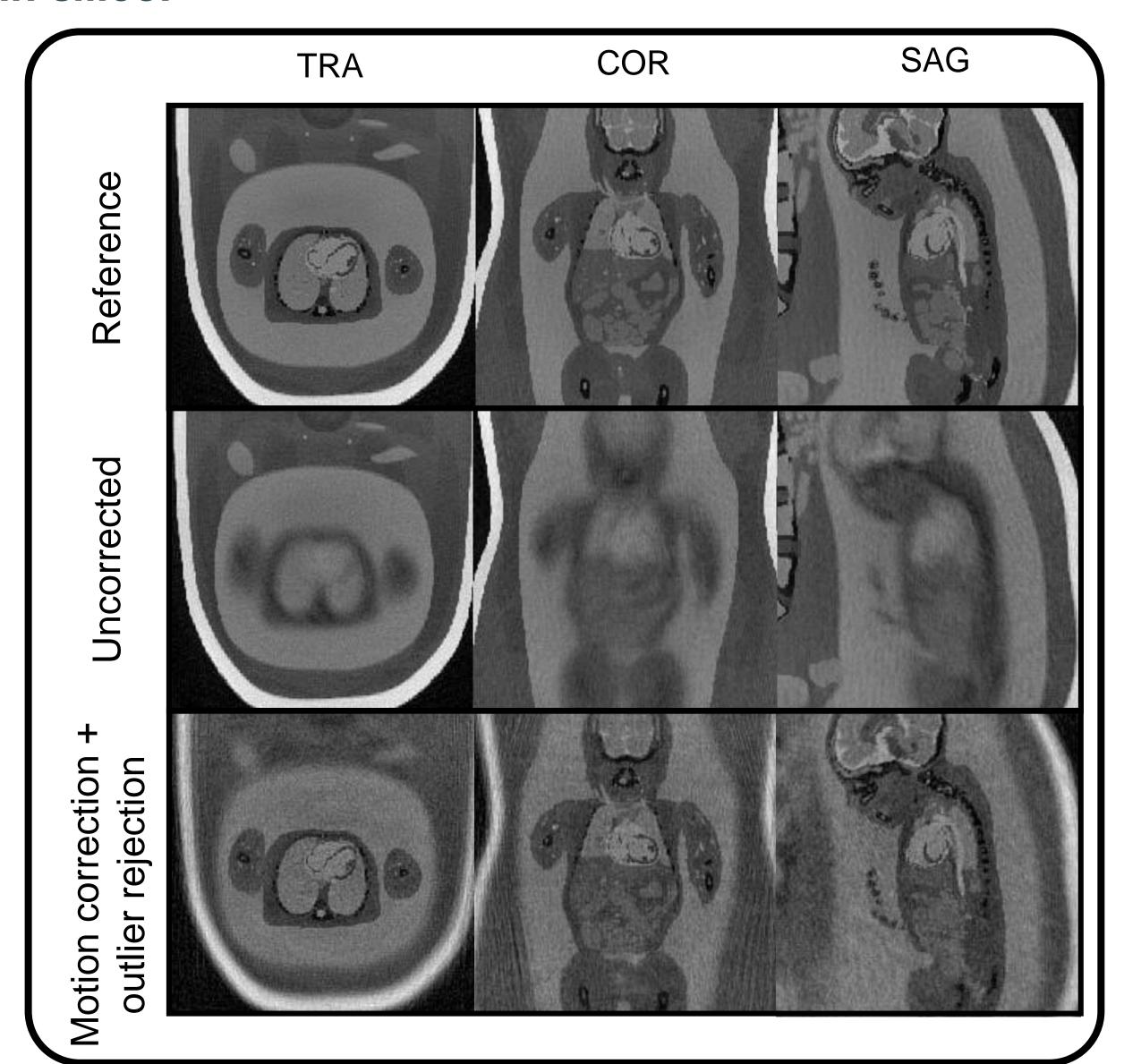
Uncorrected data

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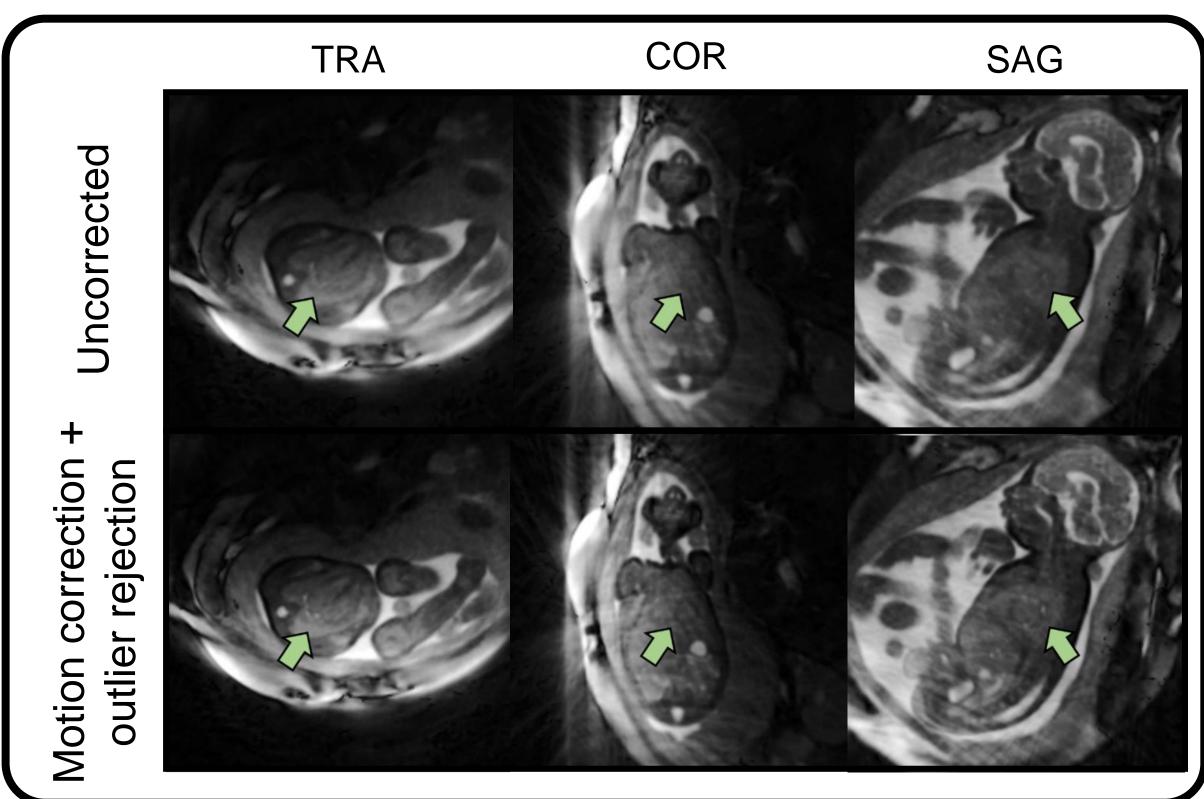
Motion corrected data

RESULTS

In silico:



In utero:



CONCLUSION

A novel algorithm for motion-corrected dynamic volumetric imaging of the fetal heart was developed. Its initial use was investigated using a numerical simulation and its feasibility was demonstrated *in utero*. Further investigation is required to determine the degree of motion that can be accurately corrected with the goal of developing 3D MRI methods that can help manage cardiovascular disease discovered *in utero*.

References

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