

# Wrist MRI Discretization Tools for Finite-Difference Time-Domain Solvers and Analysis

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# Research Motivation

## Strict electronic certification requirements driving aggressive corporate investment in FDTD simulation software

- SAR certification, causing rising overhead costs
- FDTD simulation software limited
- Existing methods focused on cranial
- Electrical Nerve Stimulation for Arthritis Pain



Figure 2 – Wrist Fracture



Figure 1 Coil Demo for Leg-specific MRI Prototype

Sampaio, MD, Marcos Loreto, and Nicholas M. Kolanko, MD. MRI of the wrist. The Journal of Practical Medical Imaging and Management, October 9, 2014. <https://www.appliedradiology.com/articles/mri-of-the-wrist>

# Objectives

1. Develop wrist optimized program
2. FDTD suitable formats
3. Provide higher level accuracy with 2D only
4. Ability to process both color and grayscale
5. Ability to reverse discretization process

# Previous Iterations

1998

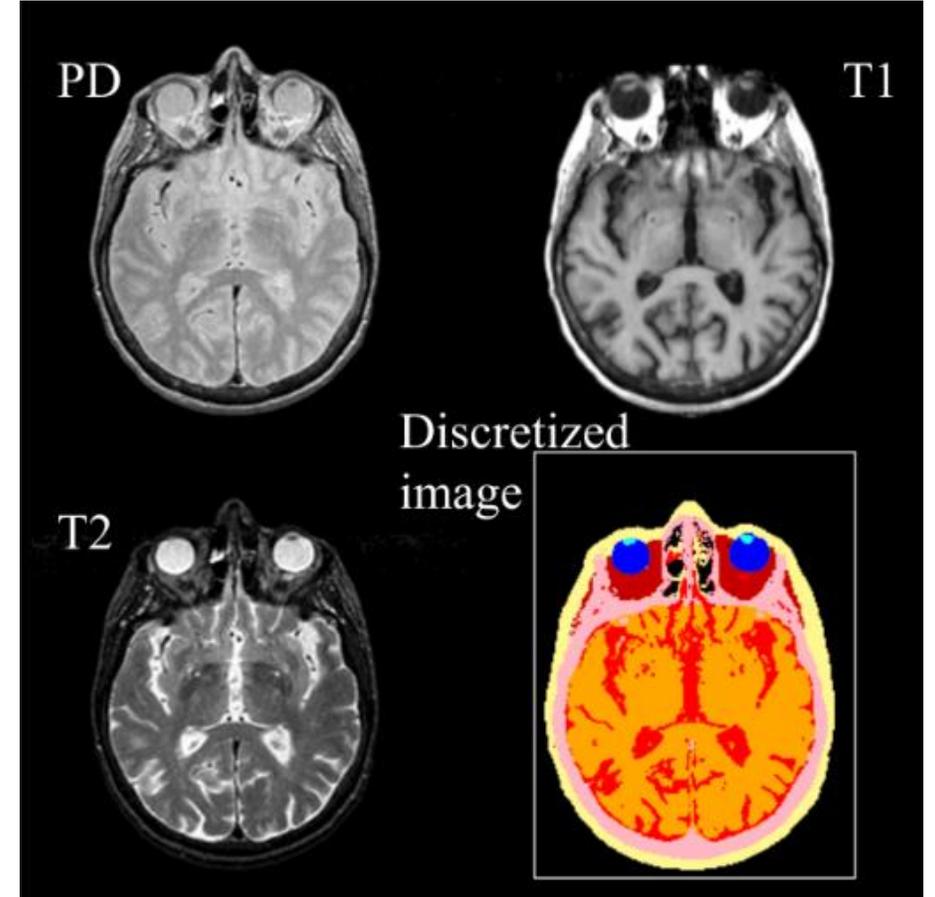
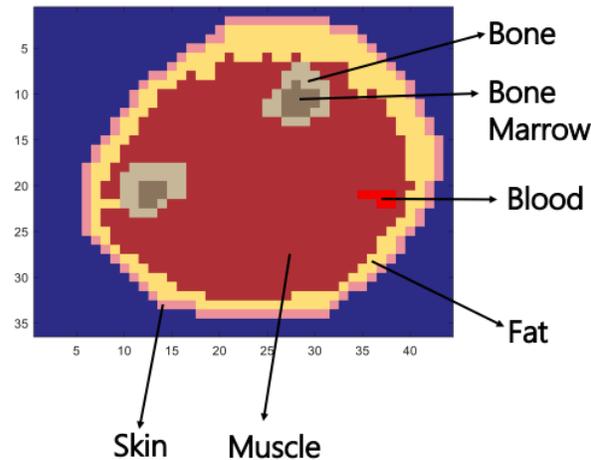
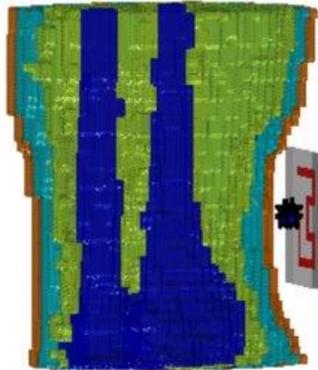
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A. Elsherbeni and C.D. Taylor, Jr., "Simulation of Interaction of Electromagnetic Waves with a Human Head," Electrical Engineering Department, University of Mississippi

# Procedure

- Start with actual MRI images → (categorize)
- MRI images → (gray scale)
- Assign a grid to the image, set resolution (h value)
- Assign color by tissue
- Export into format suitable for FDTD (MRI) → [R, G, B, X, Y]
- Integrate the discretized images into the FDTD code
- Reverse the entire process

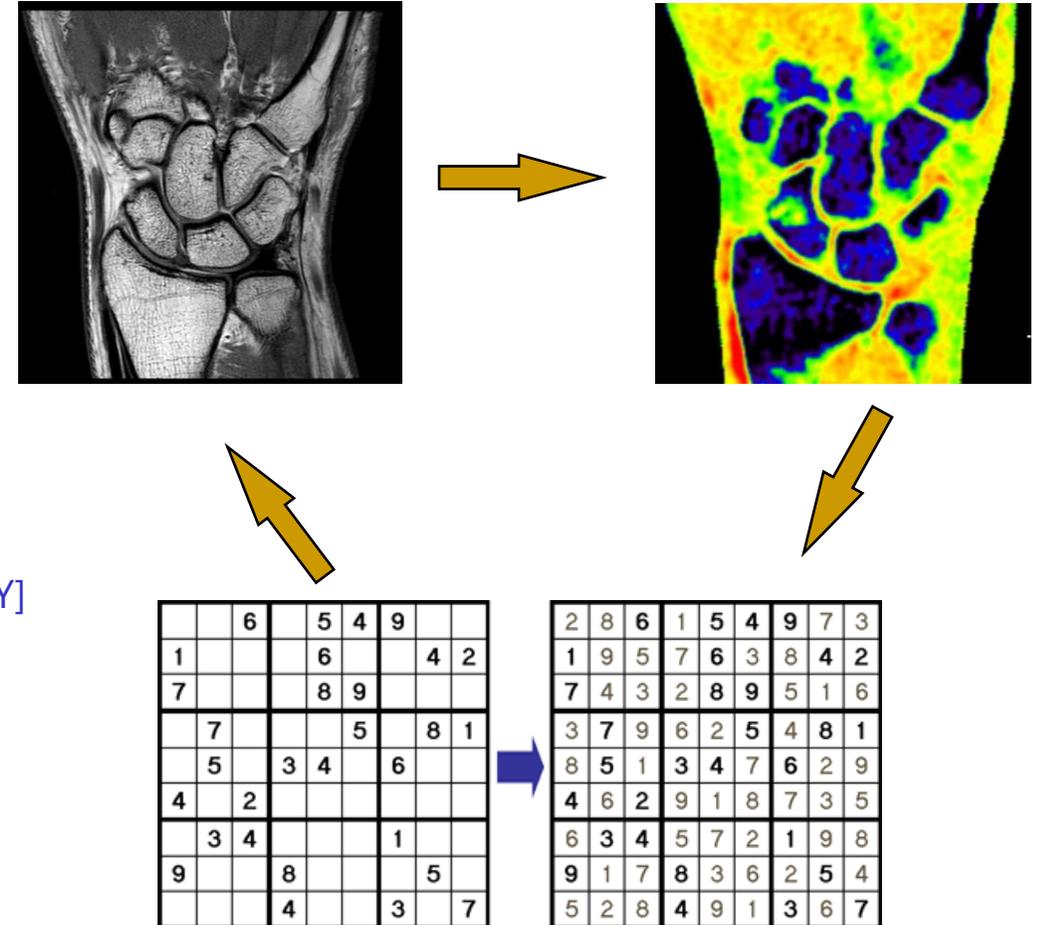


Figure 1. Wrist MRI (from our work). (A) Coronal section with the carpal bones in the dashed yellow box. (B) Zoomed image of the carpal bones. (C) Labeled rendered surfaces of the eight carpal bones.

# MRI Protocol

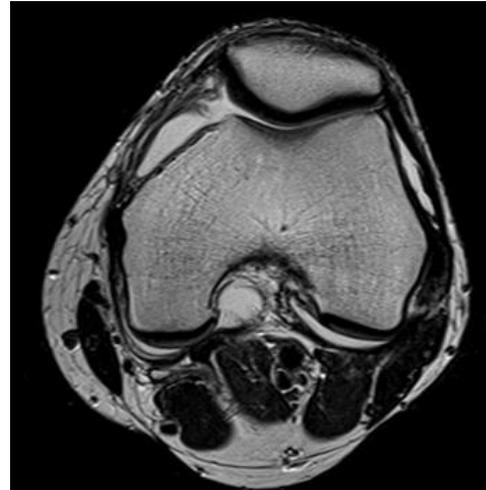
- PD, T1 (LRT), T2 (TRT), GRE
- Fat Suppression



PD



T1



T2



GRE

# MRI Protocol

- Increased sophistication of MRI protocol = higher degree of discretization

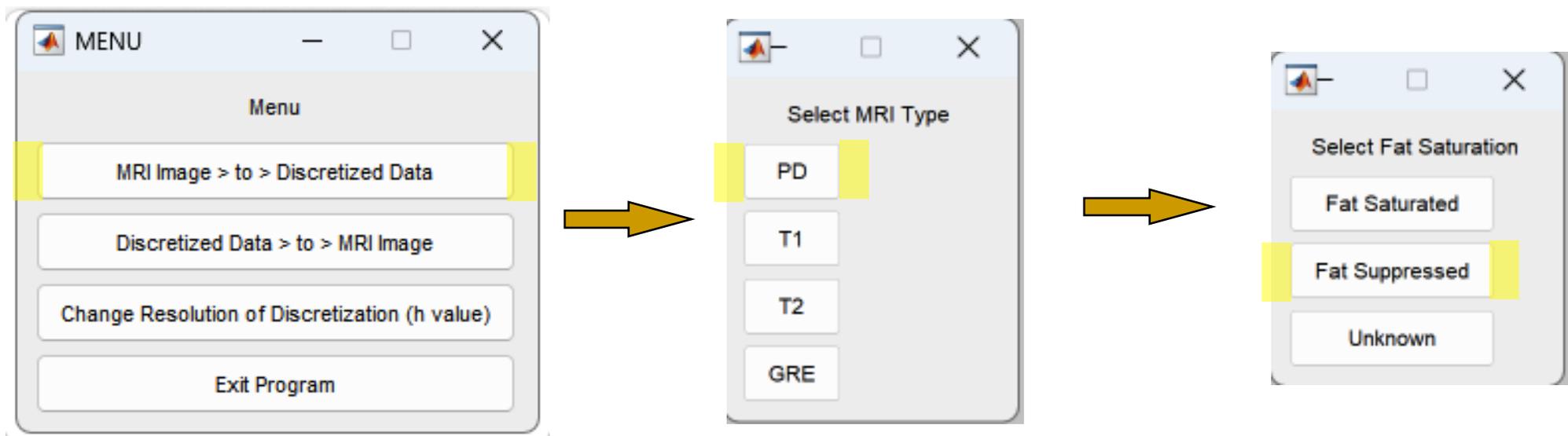
**Table 1. MRI protocol**

<b>Imaging plane</b>	<b>MRI sequence weighting</b>	<b>Structures optimally assessed</b>
Coronal	Fast spin echo T1 , PD fat sat or STIR and GRE T2*	Bones, intrinsic ligaments, TFCC
Axial	Fast spin echo PD Fat sat and PD (or T1)	Bones, scapholunate ligament, extrinsic ligaments, peri-articular cysts, tendons and nerves
Sagittal	Fast spin echo PD Fat sat	Bones, TFCC, extrinsic ligaments, peri-articular cysts, tendons and nerves

PD – Proton density weighted sequence      Fat sat – spectral fat saturation      GRE – gradient echo

# Program Functionality – User Facing Side

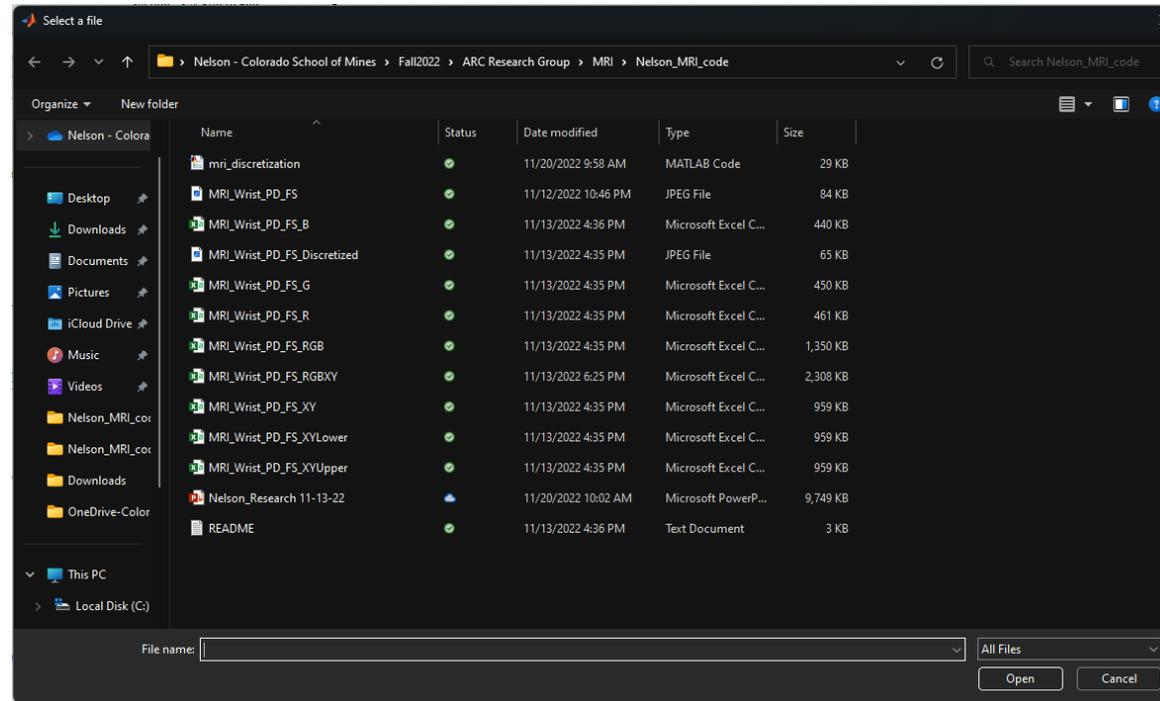
- Menu provides user several options based on MRI type



Categorization enables program to assign a different tissue assignment protocol based on categorization, increasing accuracy of discretization

# Program Functionality – User Facing Side

- Program works with system OS to provide user GUI for file selections:



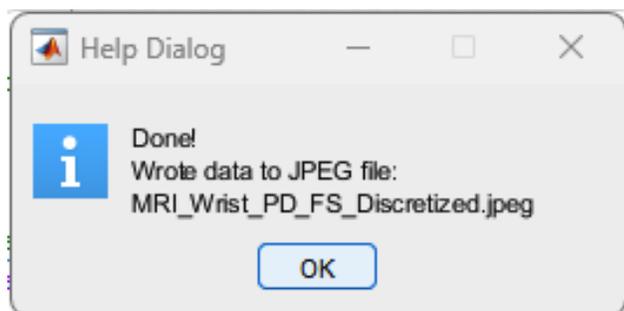
User selects MRI image from any folder

# Program Functionality – User Facing Side

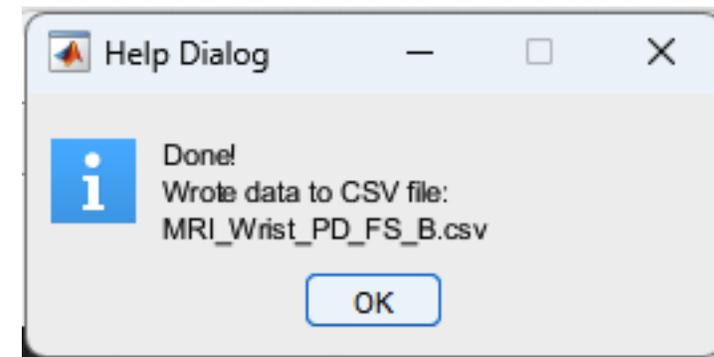
- Program displays image processing montage and exports files:



Montage



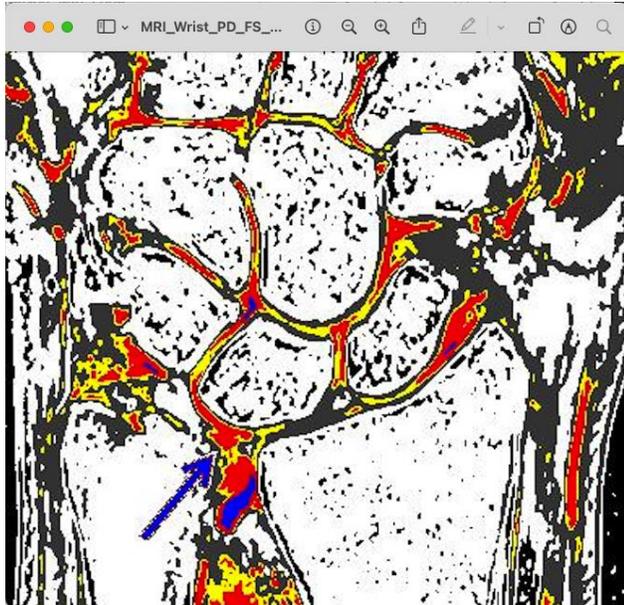
JPEG Confirmation



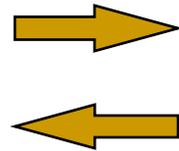
CSV Confirmation

# Program Functionality – User Facing Side

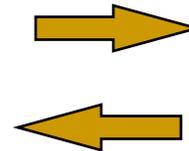
## Results:



JPEG



1. [R, G, B, X, Y]
2. [R, G, B]
3. [X, Y]
4. [X<sub>LOWER</sub>, Y<sub>LOWER</sub> ]
5. [X<sub>UPPER</sub>, Y<sub>UPPER</sub> ]
6. [R]
7. [G]
8. [B]



8 FDTD Suitable Formats

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	255	255	0	1	1		
2	64	64	64	1	2		
3	64	64	64	1	3		
4	64	64	64	1	4		
5	64	64	64	1	5		
6	64	64	64	1	6		
7	64	64	64	1	7		
8	64	64	64	1	8		
9	64	64	64	1	9		
10	64	64	64	1	10		
11	64	64	64	1	11		
12	64	64	64	1	12		
13	64	64	64	1	13		
14	64	64	64	1	14		
15	64	64	64	1	15		
16	64	64	64	1	16		
17	64	64	64	1	17		
18	64	64	64	1	18		
19	64	64	64	1	19		
20	255	255	0	1	20		
21	255	255	0	1	21		
22	255	0	0	1	22		
23	255	0	0	1	23		
24	255	0	0	1	24		
25	255	0	0	1	25		
26	255	0	0	1	26		
27	255	255	0	1	27		
28	64	64	64	1	28		
29	64	64	64	1	29		
30	64	64	64	1	30		
31	64	64	64	1	31		
32	64	64	64	1	32		
33	64	64	64	1	33		
34	64	64	64	1	34		
35	64	64	64	1	35		
36	64	64	64	1	36		
37	64	64	64	1	37		
38	64	64	64	1	38		
39	64	64	64	1	39		
40	64	64	64	1	40		

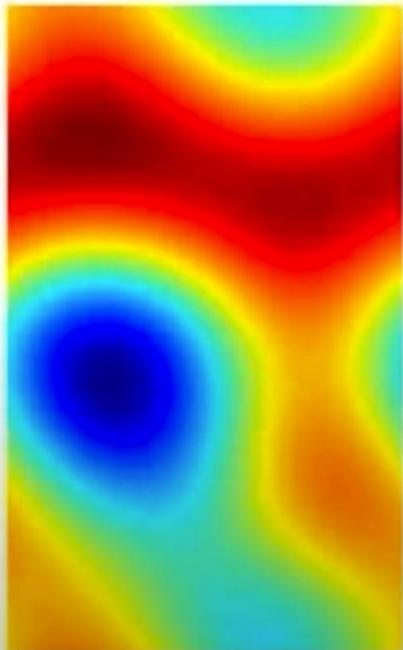
CSV

Entire process can be reversed in like manner

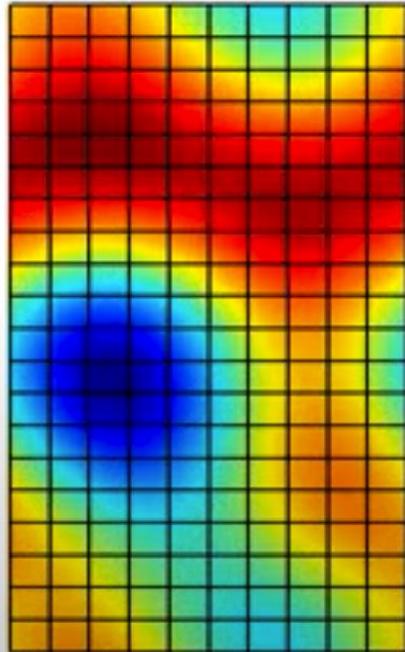
# Program Functionality – Backend Code

## Representing functions on a grid

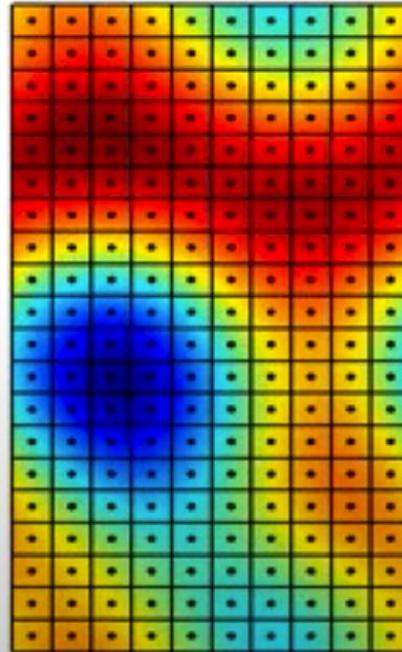
Example  
physical  
(continuous)  
2D function



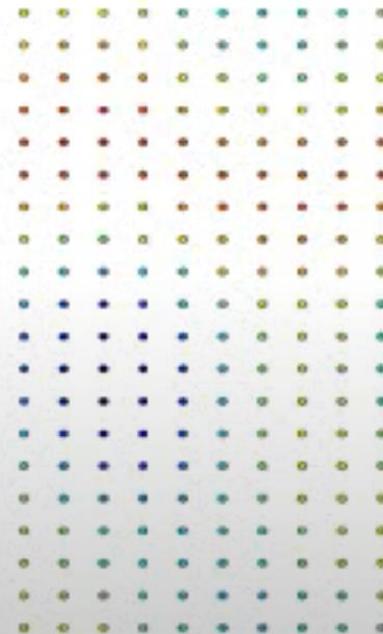
A grid is  
constructed by  
dividing space  
into discrete  
cells



Function is  
known only at  
discrete points



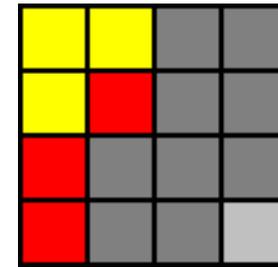
Representation  
of what is  
actually stored in  
memory



# Program Functionality – Backend Code

2 grids assigned. 1<sup>st</sup> grid is for quantization of cell material (from previous iteration):

- Based on the desired resolution, each cell will contain several material types.
- Each material type is counted in the cell.
- The greatest occurring material will be selected as the material type for this cell.



Original area of  
3 bone cells  
3 fluid cells  
9 air cells  
1 cartilage cell



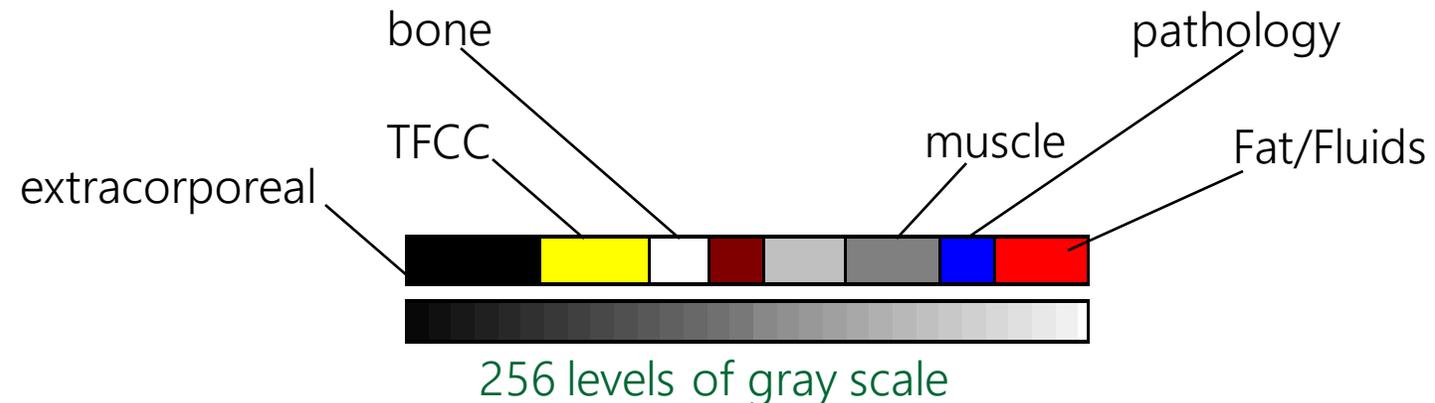
Quantized  
to 1 air cell

A. Elsherbeni and C.D. Taylor, Jr., "Simulation of Interaction of Electromagnetic Waves with a Human Head," Electrical Engineering Department, University of Mississippi

# Program Functionality – Backend Code

## Tissue assignment methodology:

- The ASCII pixel data are converted to integers
- The 256 levels in each pixel are interpreted as one of 6 different materials including free space.
- Each material type is considered to have an exclusive interval for a quick conversion.

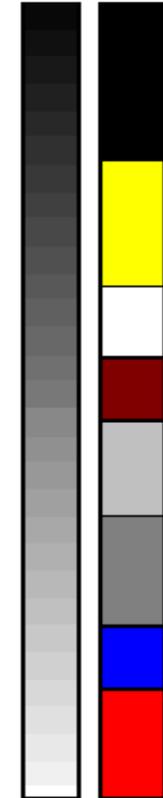


A. Elsherbeni and C.D. Taylor, Jr., "Simulation of Interaction of Electromagnetic Waves with a Human Head," Electrical Engineering Department, University of Mississippi

# Program Functionality – Backend Code

Tissue assignment methodology (For PD FS assignment protocol):

Tissue Type	Gray Level	Color
extracorporeal/free space	0-9	black
bone	10-49	white
muscle & tendons	50-99	Dark grey
TFCC	100-119	yellow
fat & fluids	120-229	red
pathological issue	230-255	blue



# Program Functionality – Backend Code

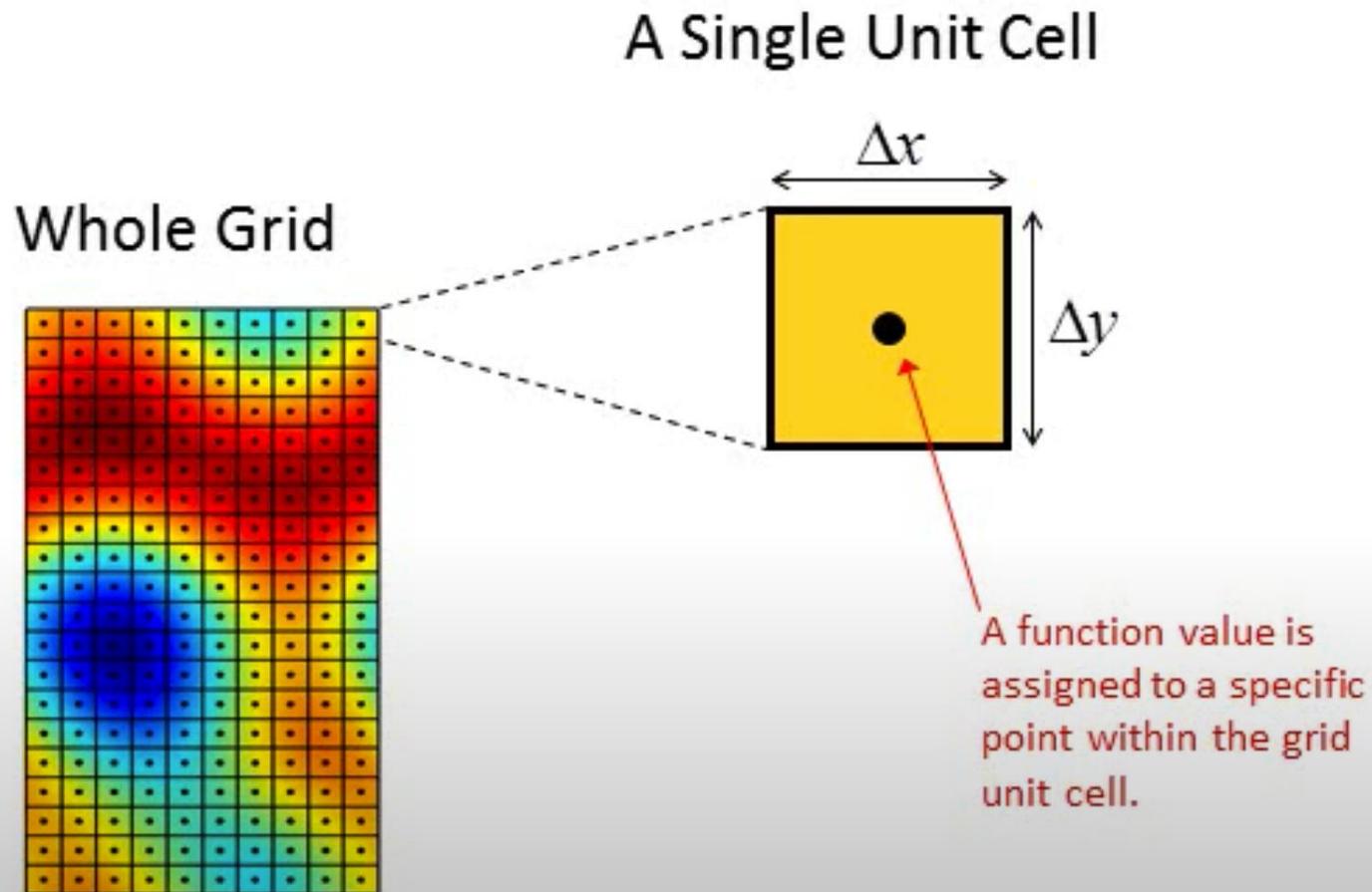
```
%% Resynthesize image based on tissue
% by assigning tissue to colors

if PD == true % image is a PD
    if fatSuppressed == true
        % Extracorporeal -> Black
        linearInd = find(grayImage>=0 & grayImage<=9);
        redChannel = grayImage;
        redChannel(linearInd) = 0;
        greenChannel = grayImage;
        greenChannel(linearInd) = 0;
        blueChannel = grayImage;
        blueChannel(linearInd) = 0;
        outImage = cat(3, redChannel, greenChannel, blueChannel);

        % Muscle -> Dark Grey
        linearInd = find(grayImage>=50 & grayImage<=99);
        redChannel(linearInd) = 64;
        greenChannel(linearInd) = 64;
        blueChannel(linearInd) = 64;
        outImage = cat(3, redChannel, greenChannel, blueChannel);
```

# Program Functionality – Backend Code

FDTD Export based on 2<sup>nd</sup> grid:





# Program Functionality – Backend Code

```
%% Rearrange image array into format suitable for FDTD -> 8 Matrices contained in CSV or TXT 1. [R, G, B,
[rows, columns, numberOfColorChannels] = size(outImage);
[x, y] = meshgrid(1:columns, 1:rows);
% Extract the individual red, green, and blue color channels.
% Need to cast to double or else x and y will be clipped to 255 when we concatenate them.
if numberOfColorChannels == 1
    % Leave as gray scale.
    % Get array listing [r, g, b, x, y]. Using (:) will turn all the 2-D arrays into column vectors.
    finalImage = [outImage(:), x(:), y(:)];
else
    redChannel = double(outImage(:, :, 1));
    greenChannel = double(outImage(:, :, 2));
    blueChannel = double(outImage(:, :, 3));

    %% Get array listing [r, g, b, x, y]. Using (:) will turn all the 2-D arrays into column vectors.
    %Extract all matrices and combine 1. [R, G, B, X, Y]
    finalImage = [redChannel(:), greenChannel(:), blueChannel(:), x(:), y(:)];

    %Extract R, G, B color matrices and combine 2. [R, G, B]
    finalImageRGB = [redChannel(:), greenChannel(:), blueChannel(:)];

    %Extract X, Y coordinate matrices and combine 3. [X, Y]
    finalImageXY = [x(:), y(:)];

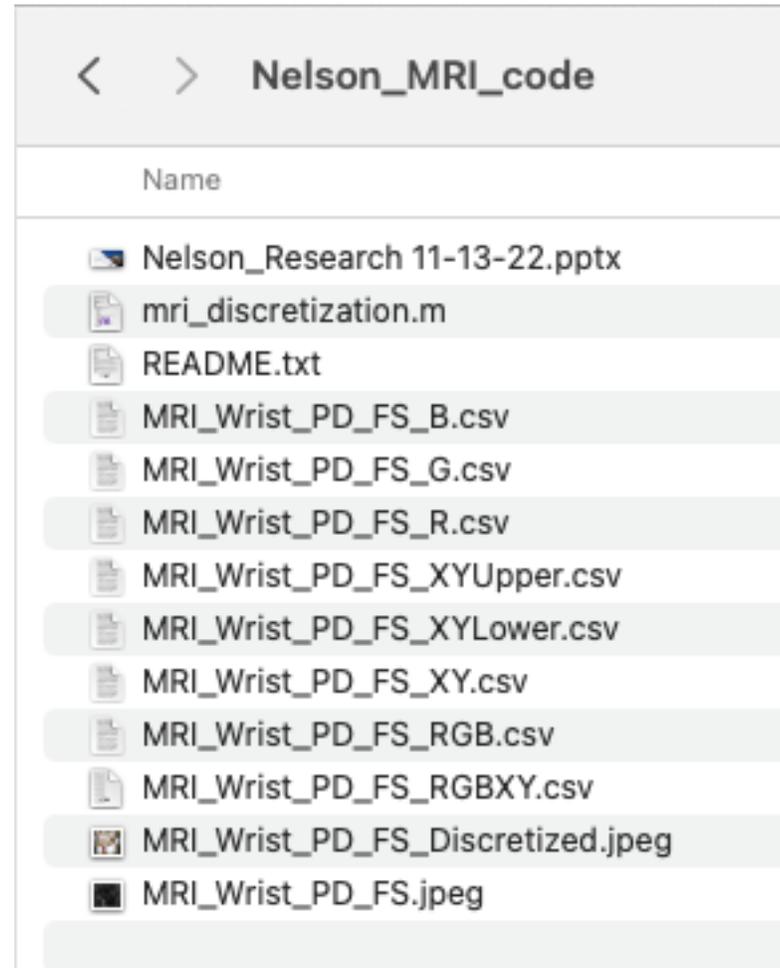
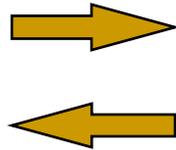
    %Extract X lower bound, Y lower bound coordinate matrices and combine 4. [X Lower, Y Lower]
    [i] = finalImageXY(:,1);
    [j] = finalImageXY(:,2);
    finalImageXYLower = [i, j+1];
```

# Program Functionality – User Facing Side

## ■ Results:

1. [R, G, B, X, Y]
2. [R, G, B]
3. [X, Y]
4. [X<sub>LOWER</sub>, Y<sub>LOWER</sub> ]
5. [X<sub>UPPER</sub>, Y<sub>UPPER</sub> ]
6. [R]
7. [G]
8. [B]

8 FDTD Suitable Formats



Entire process can be reversed in like manner

# Next Steps

- MRI Discretization Protocols to be Expanded
  - Tissue assignment protocol will be further sophisticated to take advantage of deeper MRI protocols
- Integration into FDTD
- App?