

Patient-tailored Approach for Atrial Fibrillation:

**Electrogram-Based Ablation Targeting
Low-Voltage, Fractionation, Dispersion**

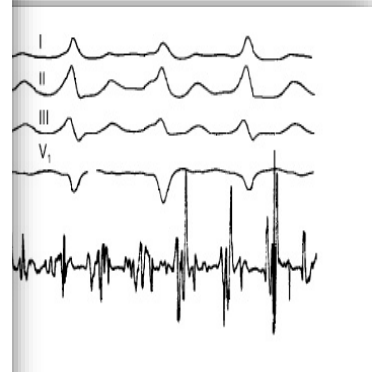
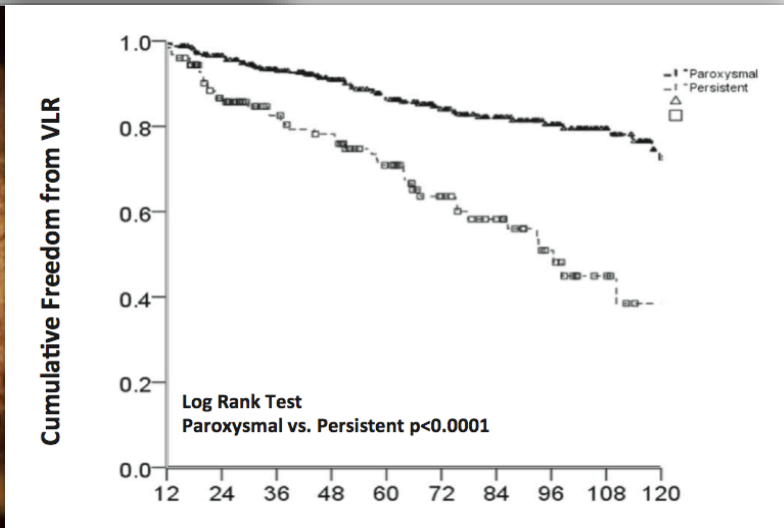
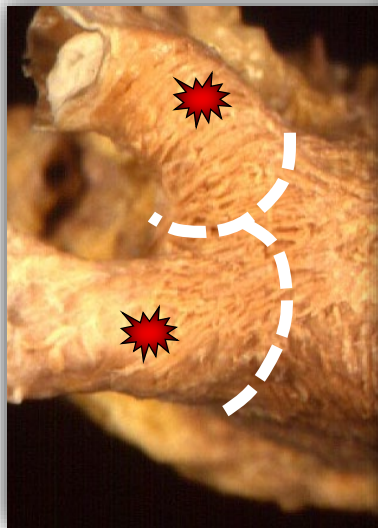
Amir Jadidi, MD

University Heart Center Freiburg-Bad Krozingen Germany

RHYTHM Nice

October 17th 2019

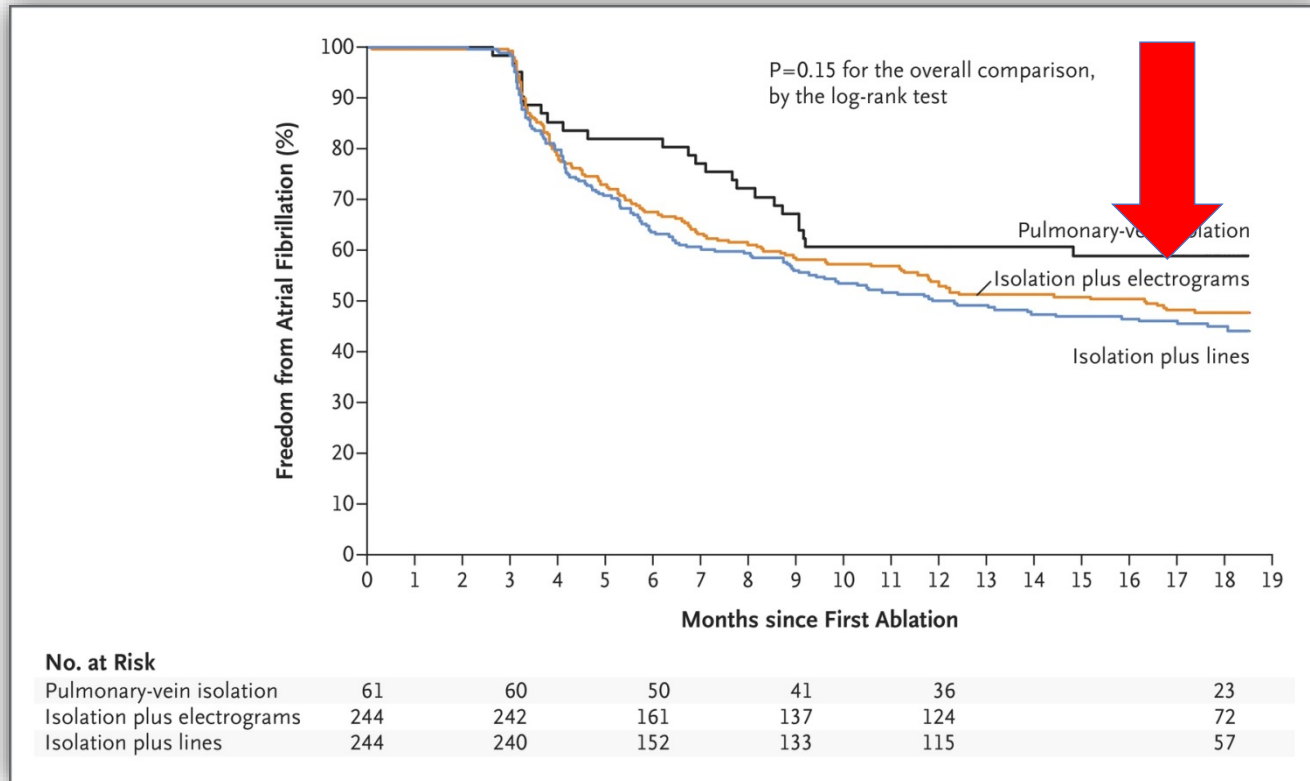
Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation Initiated by Ectopic Beats from the Pulmonary Veins



Engl J Med 1998

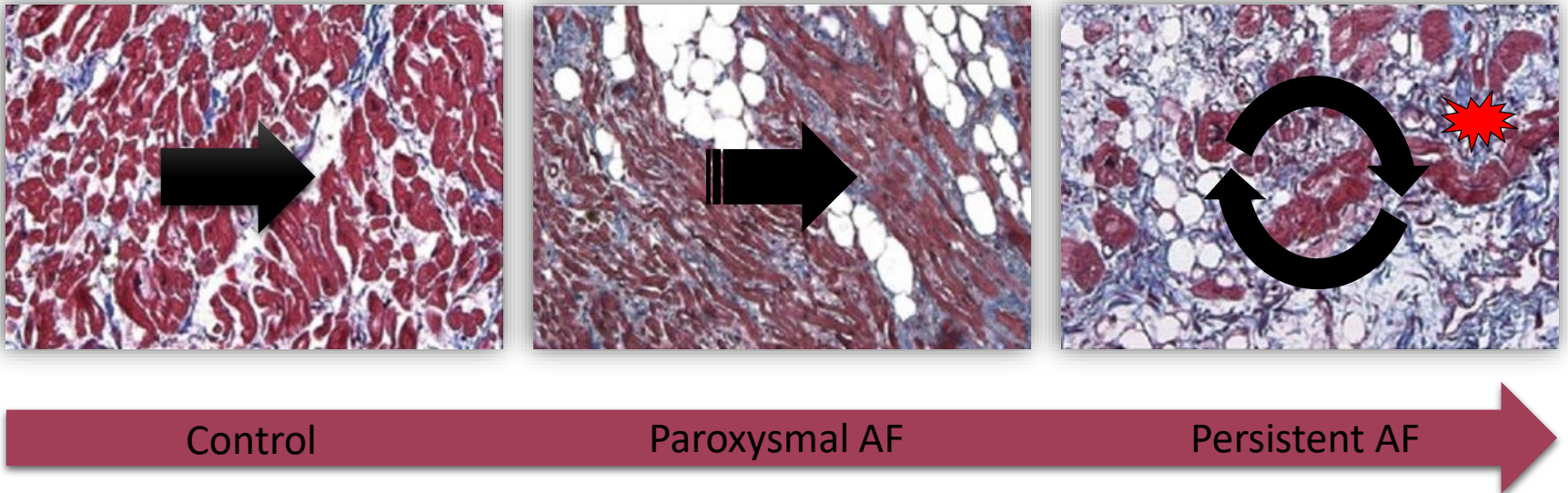
Steinberg et al.: Heart Rhythm 2014

Success of Ablation in Persistent AF Results of Conventional Approaches



Verma A.: STAR AF II, NEJM 2015

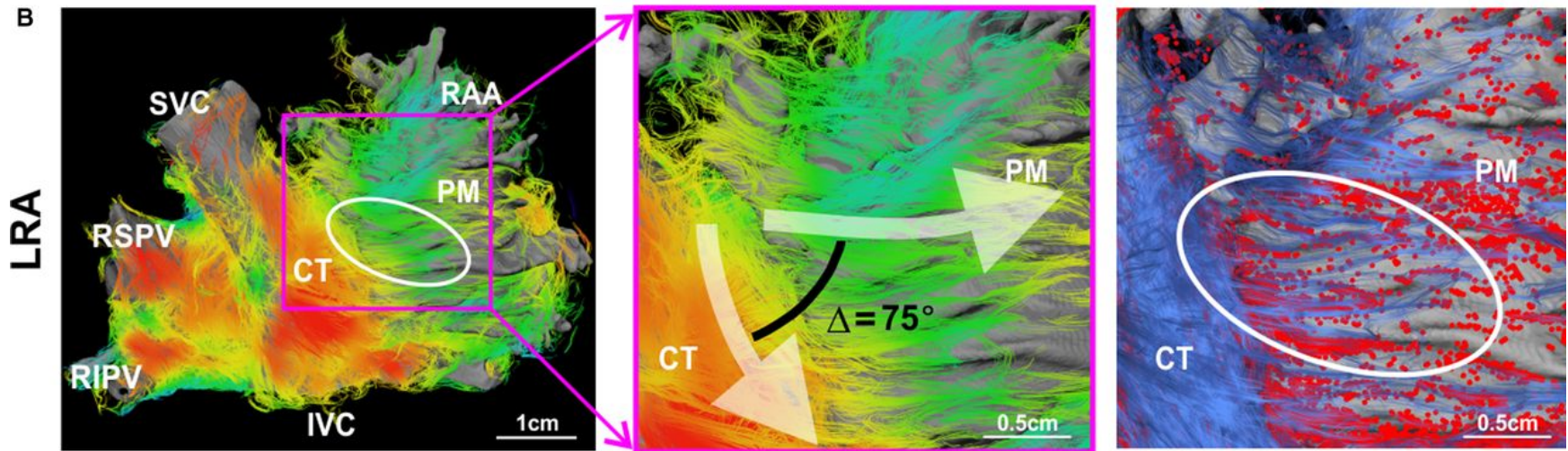
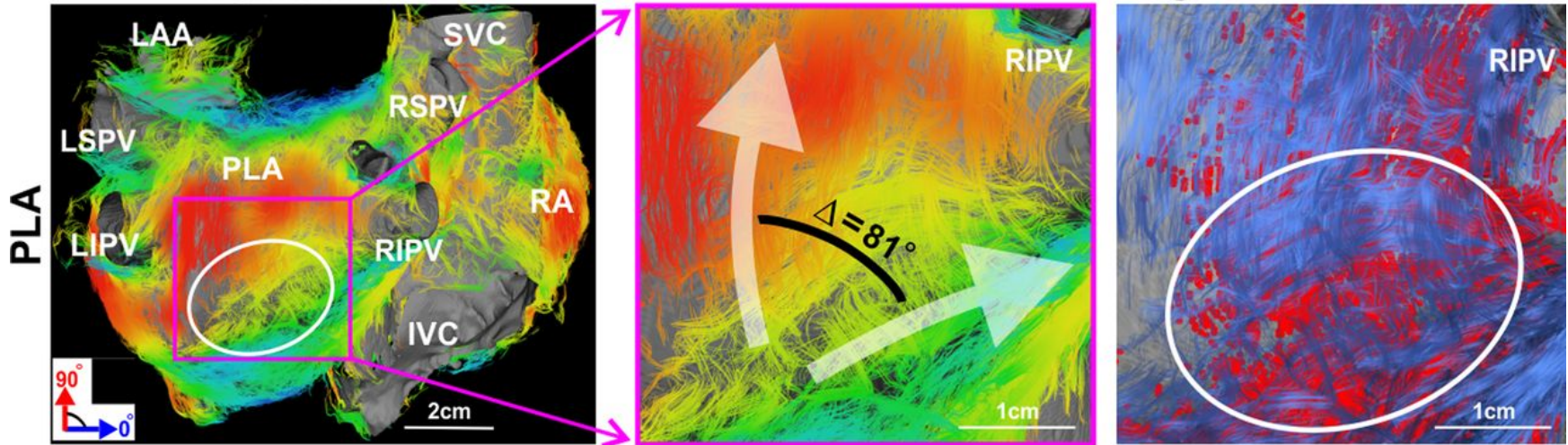
The Pathophysiological Substrate of Persistent AF: Fibrosis



Modified from: Platonov P et al.: JACC 2011

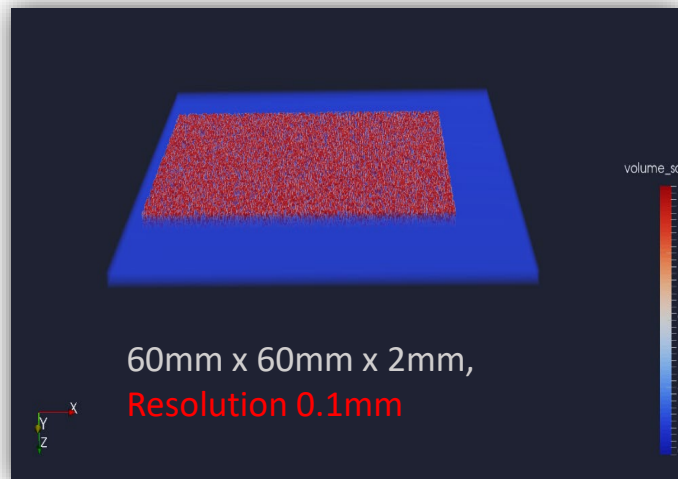
A 3D Myofiber Tracts of Intact Human Atria

Myofiber Misalignment and Fibrosis in Driver Regions



■ Fibrosis ■ Myofiber

AF Simulation Model (Courtemanche-Ramirez-Nattel) Incorporating 3D Atrial Fibrotic Patch

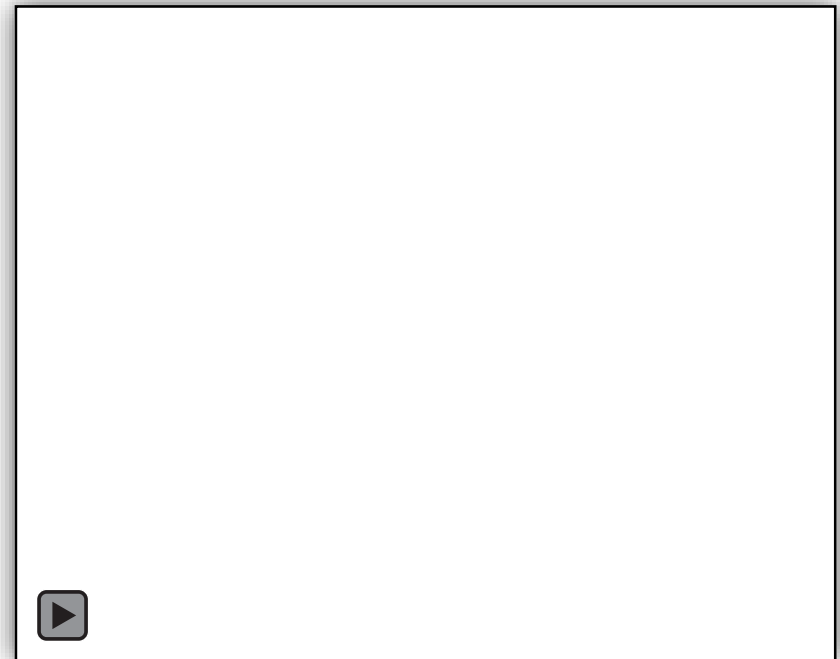
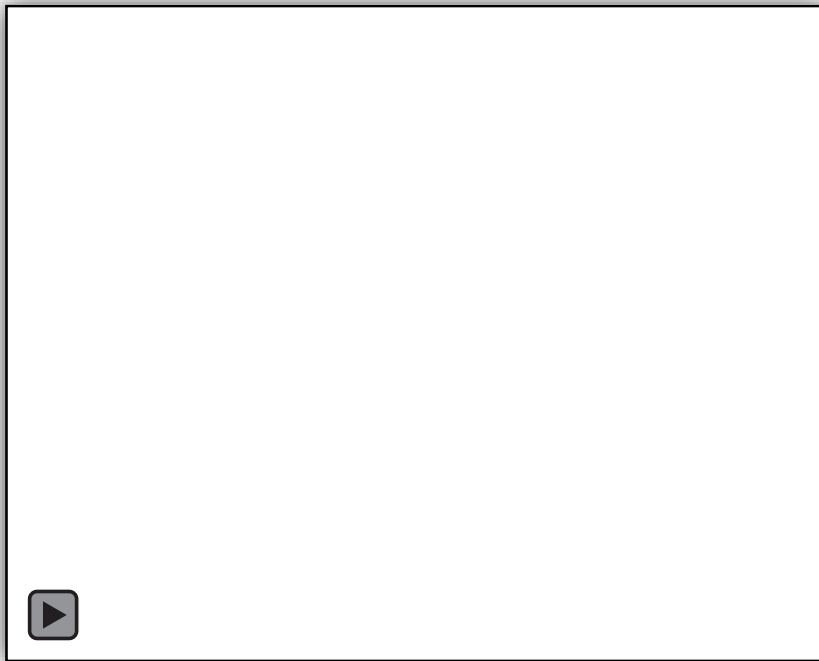


Conditions of induction of rotational activity:

- Minimum size of atrial fibrosis area $\geq 10\text{mm} \times 10\text{mm} \times 2\text{mm}$
- Degree of atrial fibrosis of **30...50%**

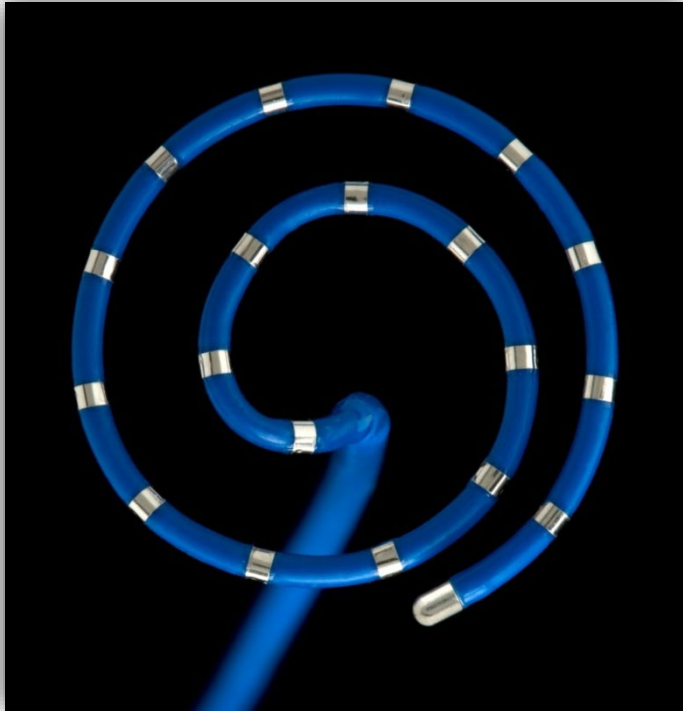
Rottmann M, Arentz T, Dössel O, Jadidi A: Computing in Cardiology 2016

Rotational Activity in 3D Patch of Fibrosis

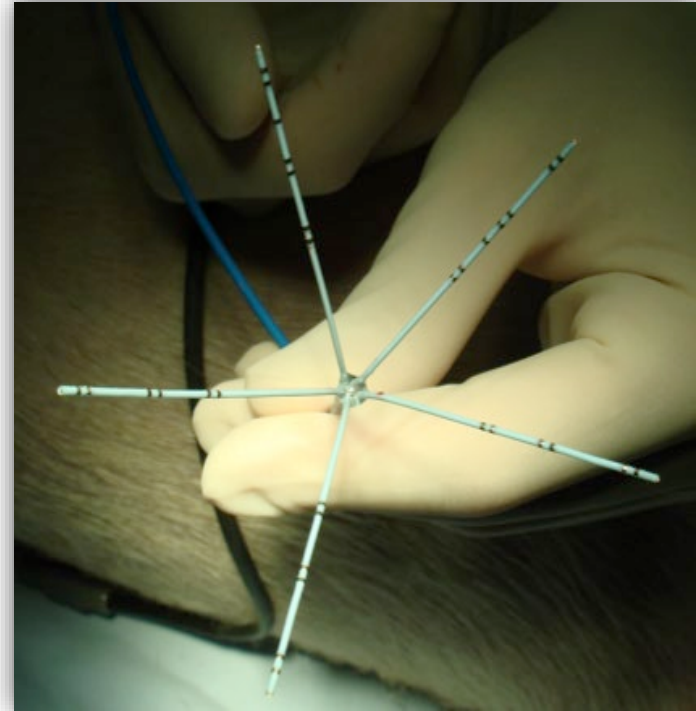


Rottmann M, Arentz T, Dössel O, Jadidi A.: Impact of Three Dimensional Atrial Fibrosis on Development and Stability of Rotational and Focal Sources in Atrial Fibrillation. *Computing in Cardiology* 2016; 43.

High density Mapping

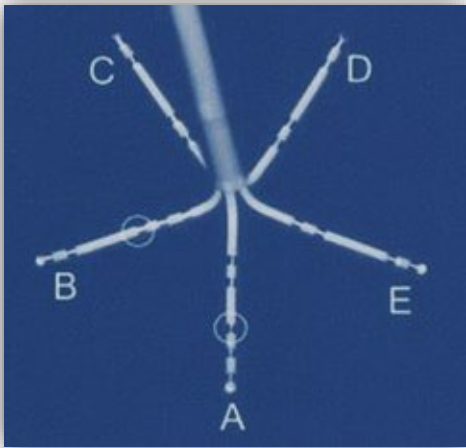


Jadidi A. et al.: Circulation EP 2016



Anter E. et al.: Circulation EP 2015

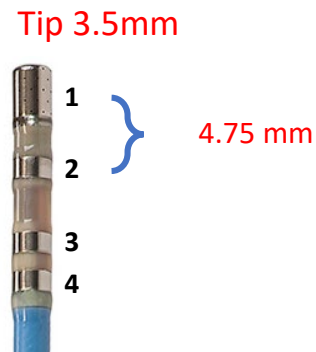
High-Resolution Mapping of Scar-Related Atrial Arrhythmias Using Smaller Electrodes With Closer Interelectrode Spacing



Anter E. et al.: Circulation EP 2015

3D-Mapping RA/LA using both catheters

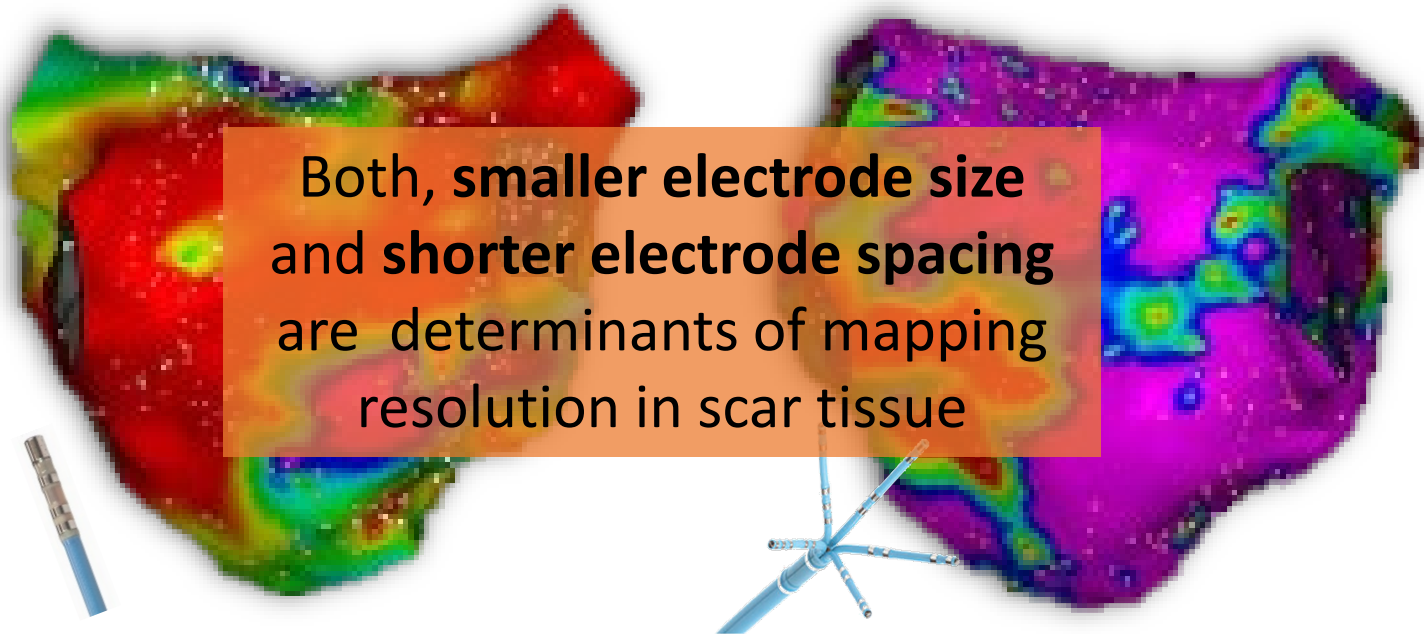
- in 10 pts with normal atria to define normal voltage cutoffs
- in 20 pts with scar-related ATs



Low Versus High Resolution Mapping of Atrial Low Voltage Substrate

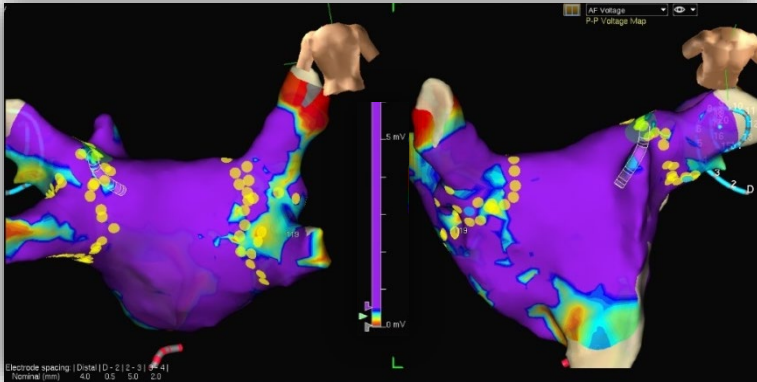
Linear

Multielectrode

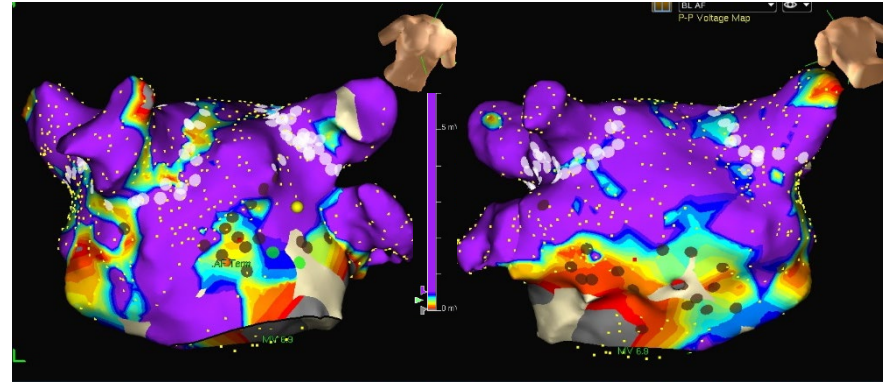


Both, smaller electrode size and shorter electrode spacing are determinants of mapping resolution in scar tissue

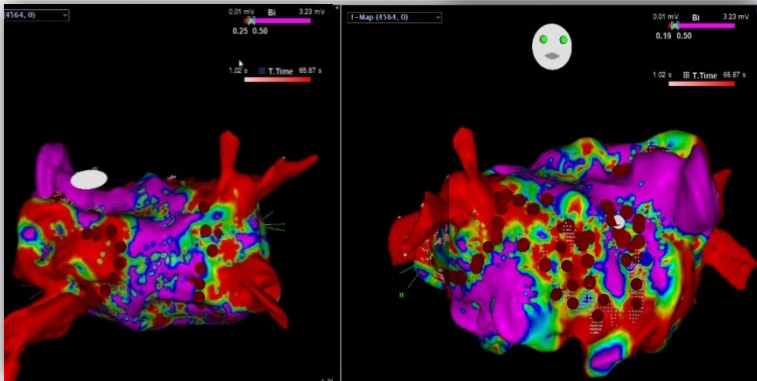
Low Voltage-Guided Ablation of Atrial Fibrillation



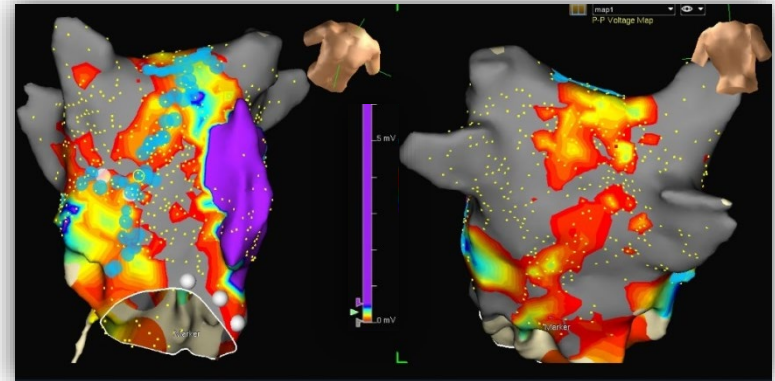
90% in paroxysmal- 45% in persistent AF



30% of persistent AF

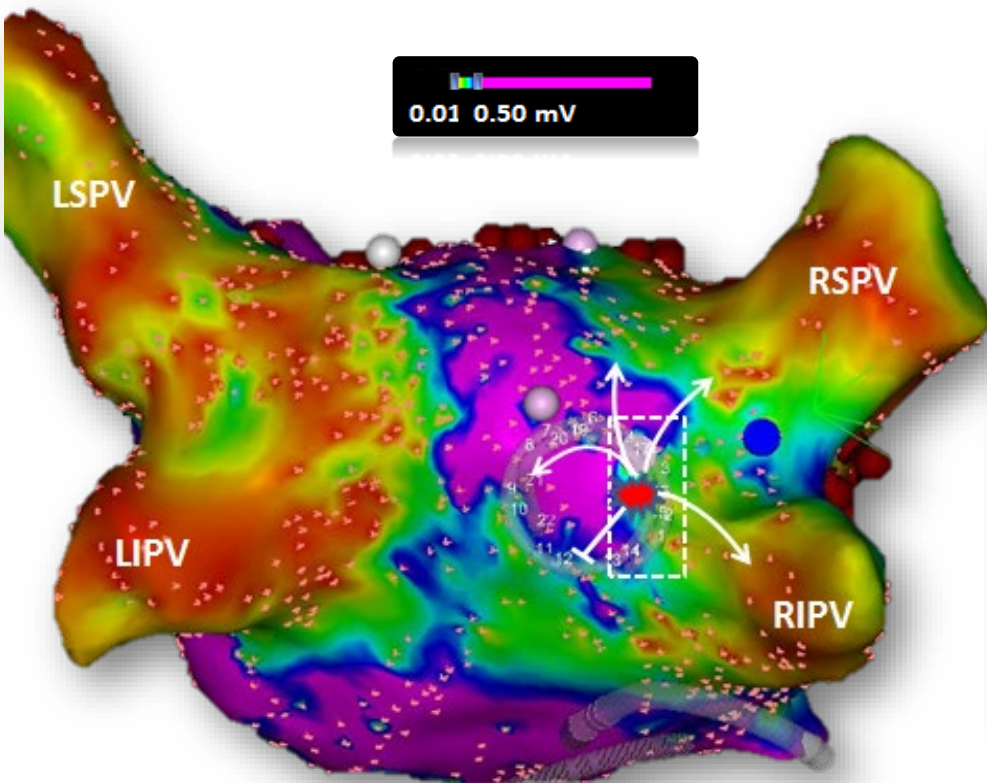


20% of persistent AF



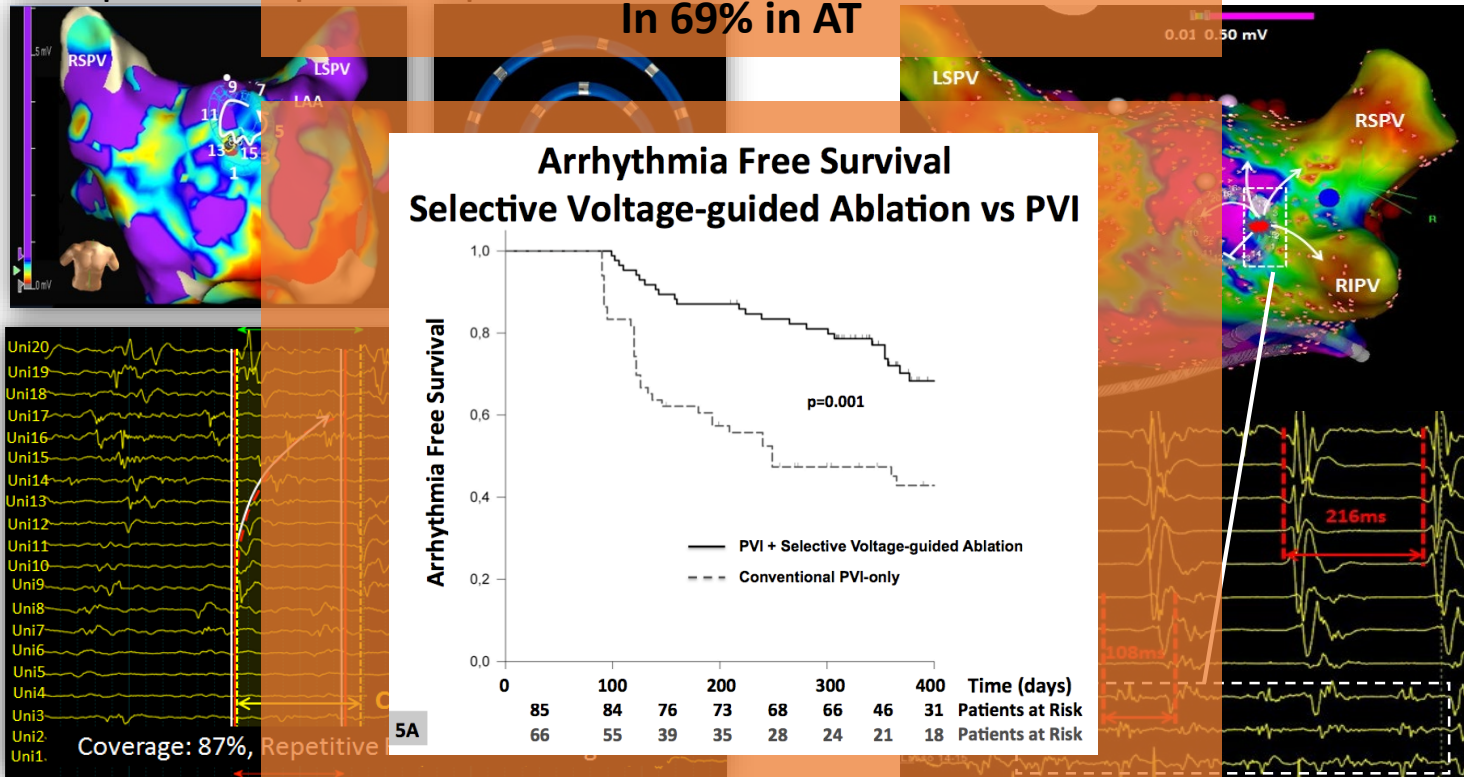
5% of persistent AF

High-Density Mapping in Atrial Fibrillation: Identifying the Arrhythmogenic Substrate: Low-Voltage, Fractionated, Rapid Activity



AF Sources Locate to Low Voltage Substrate <0.5mV

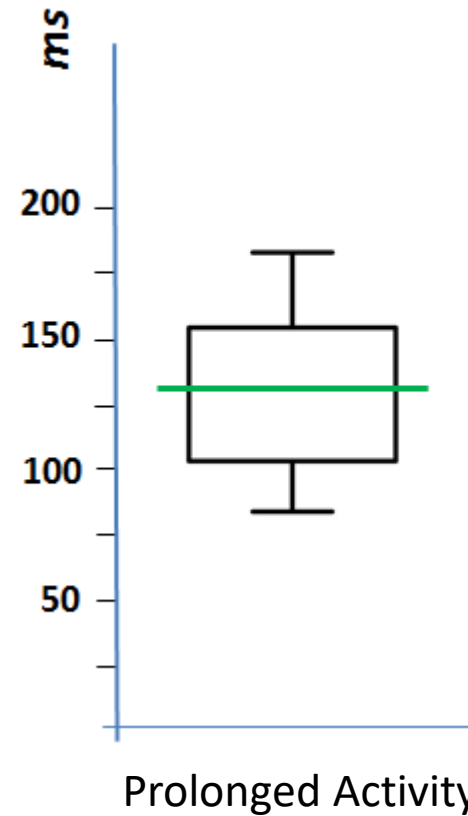
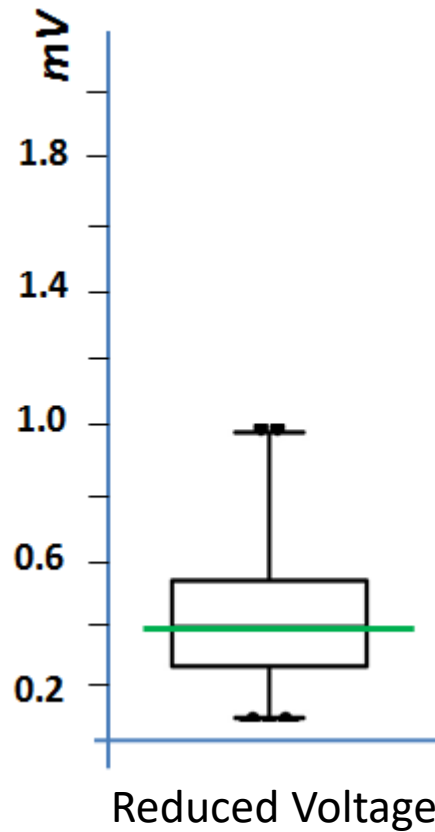
Rotational Source with Spatio-temporal Dispersion
Termination in 72% after 11 min of RF,
In 69% in AT



Low Voltage in AF <0.5mV (1mm Lasso)

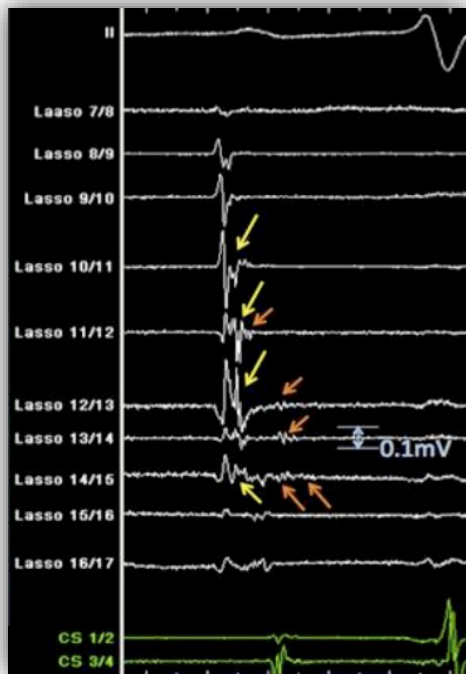
Low Voltage in SR <0.5mV with 0.5-1.0mV transitional zone.

Electrogram-Characteristics at AF Termination Sites: Low Voltage and Prolonged Activity

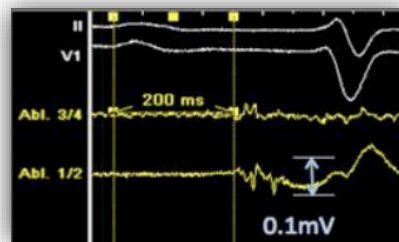


Local Electrogram Characteristics at AF Termination Sites after Sinus Rhythm Restoration

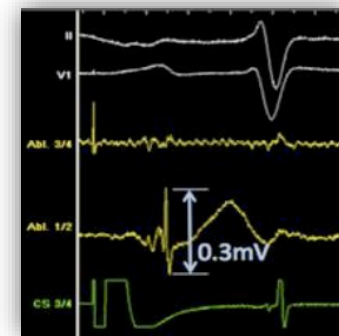
Sinus Rhythm



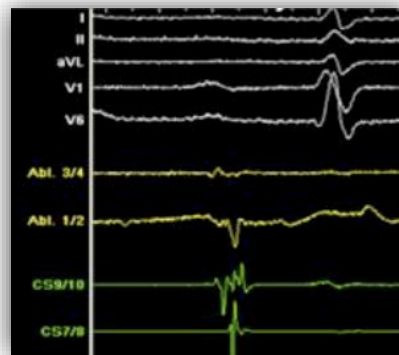
Sinus Rhythm



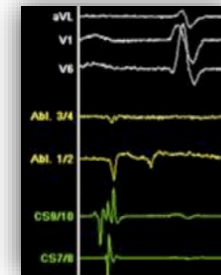
Mid-CS Pacing



Sinus Rhythm



Sinus Rhythm

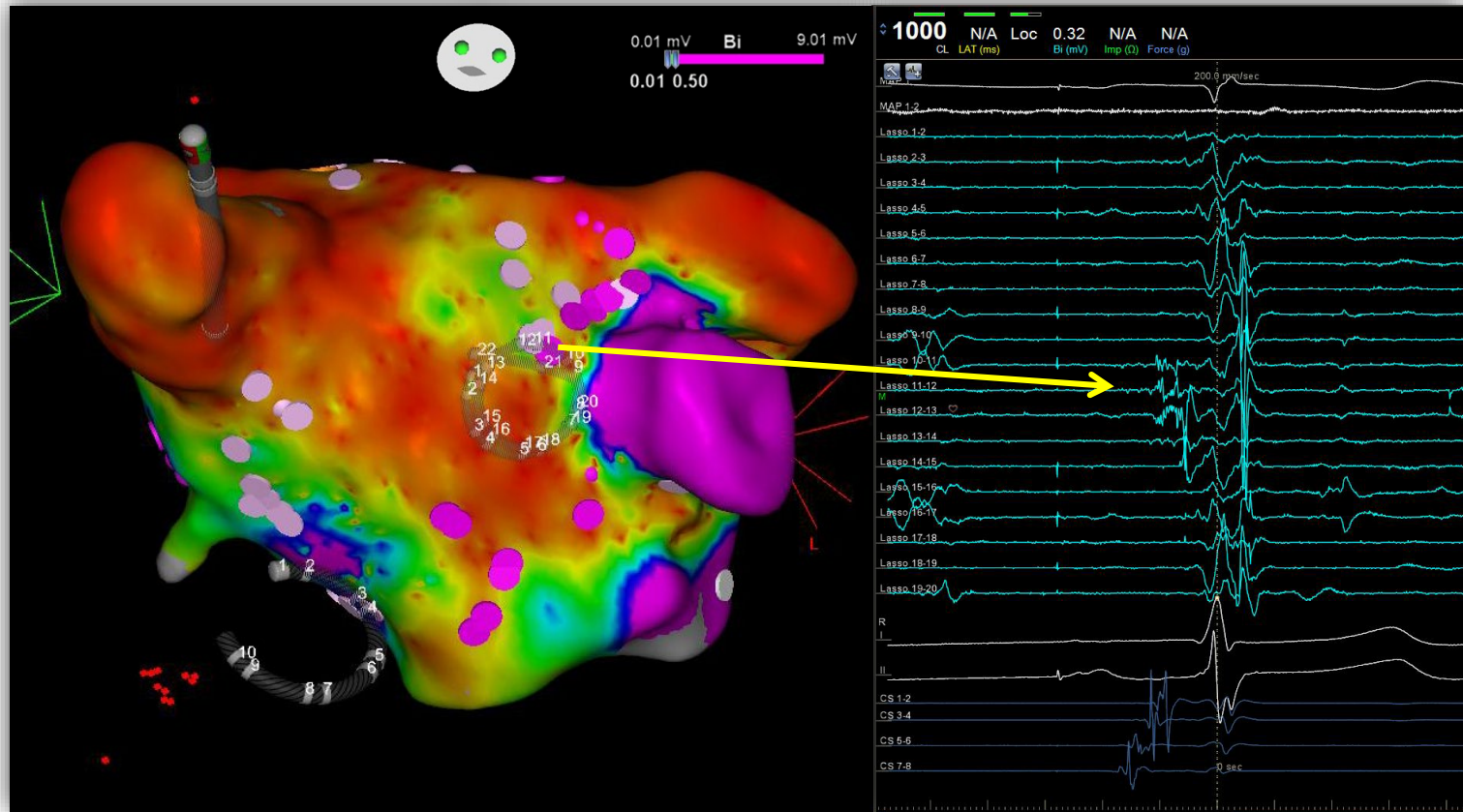


Atrial Fibrillation Maintained by Low Voltage Substrate

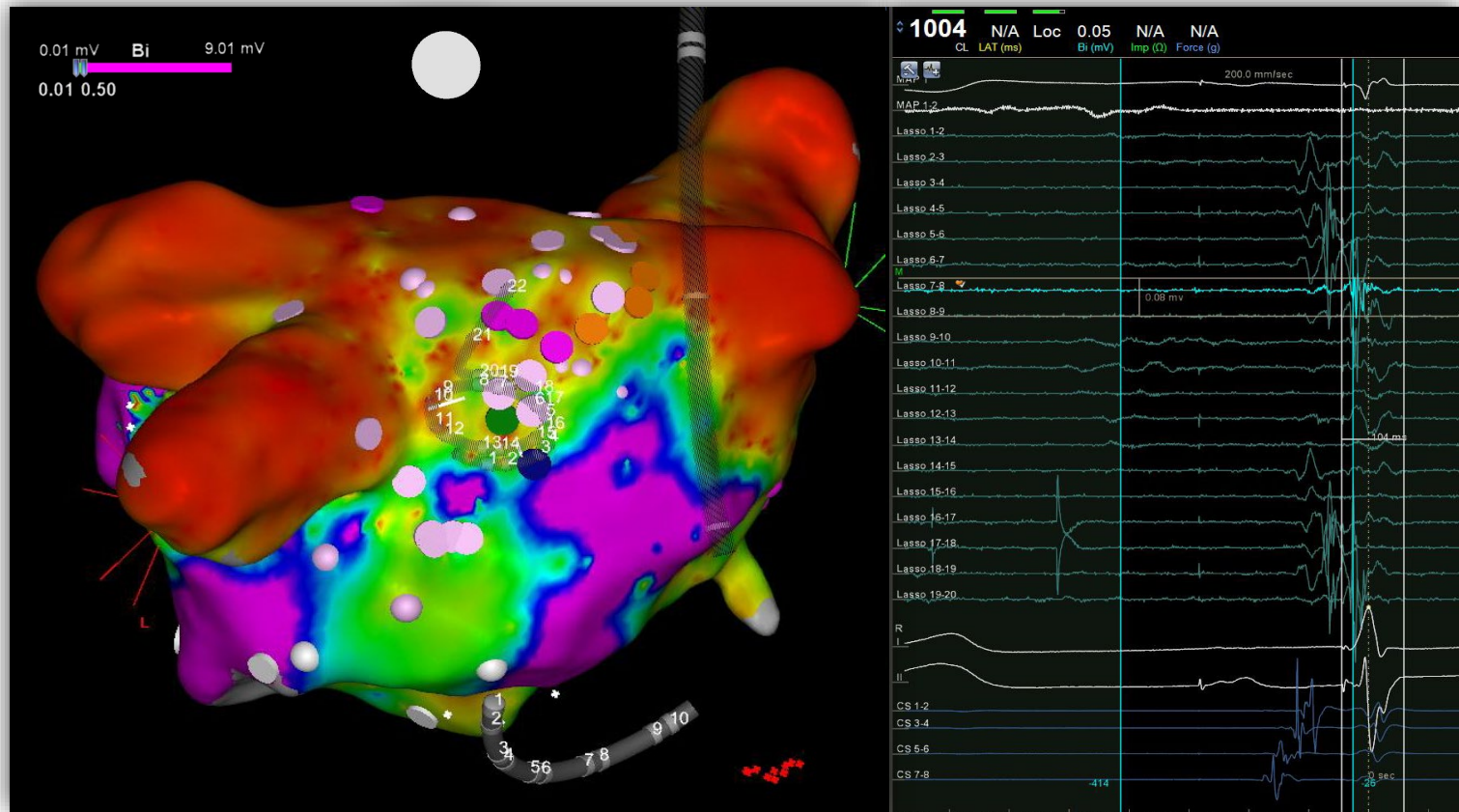
Case Example:

- 60 year old, male with persistent AF
- PVI in 12/2016
- 11/2017: Re-do procedure for recurrence of persistent AF and multiple atrial tachycardias

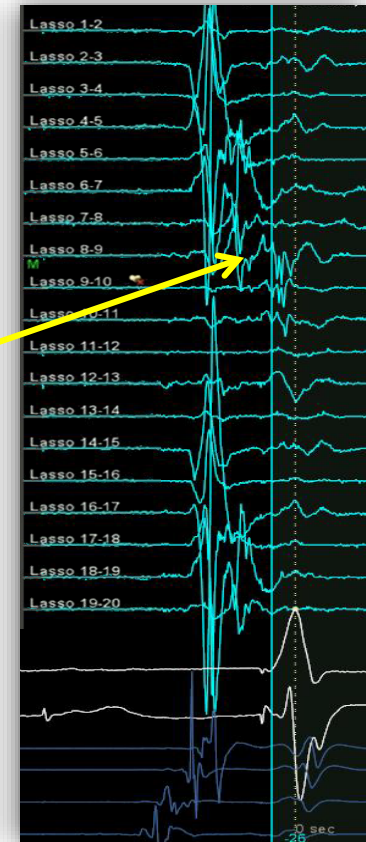
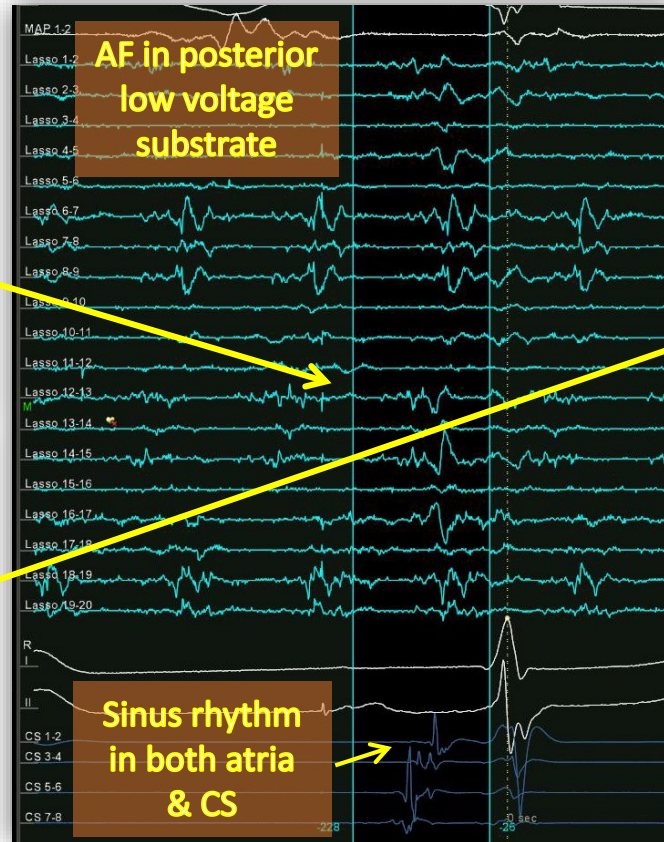
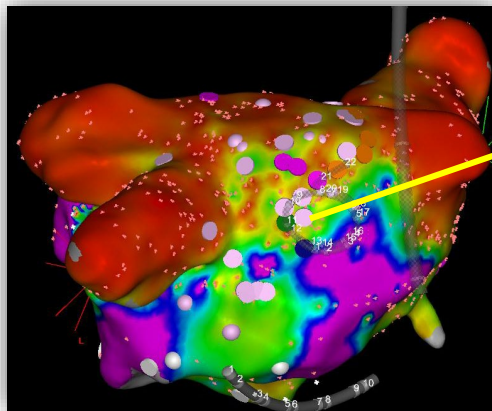
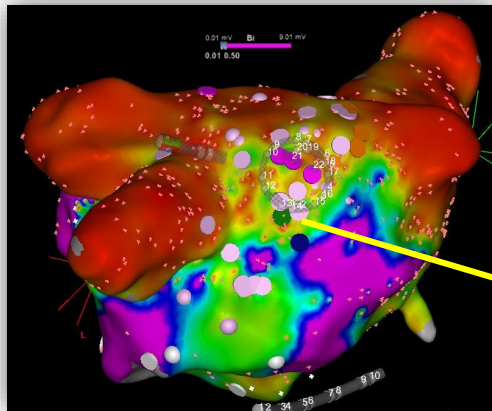
The Electrogram Signature of AF Substrate in Sinus Rhythm: Fractionated Delayed Activity



The Electrogram Signature of AF Substrate in Sinus Rhythm: Fractionated Delayed Activity



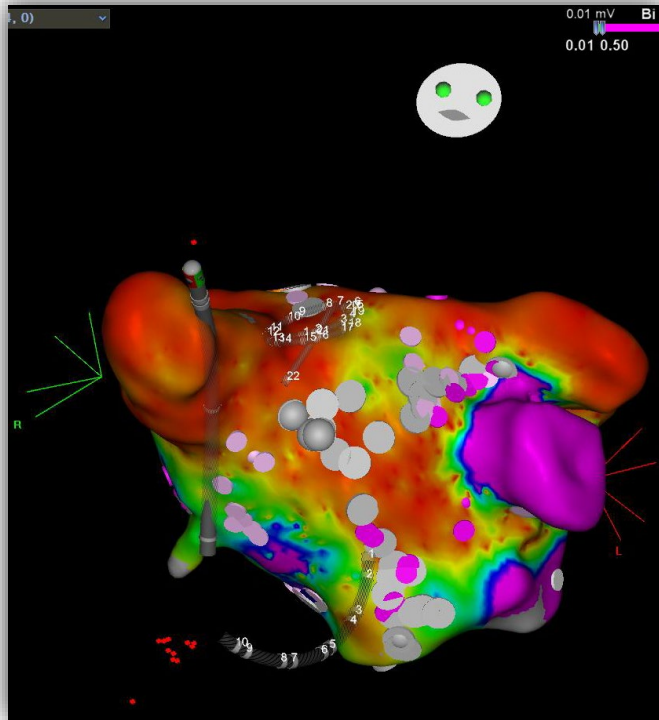
The Electrogram Signature of AF Substrate during AF and Sinus Rhythm



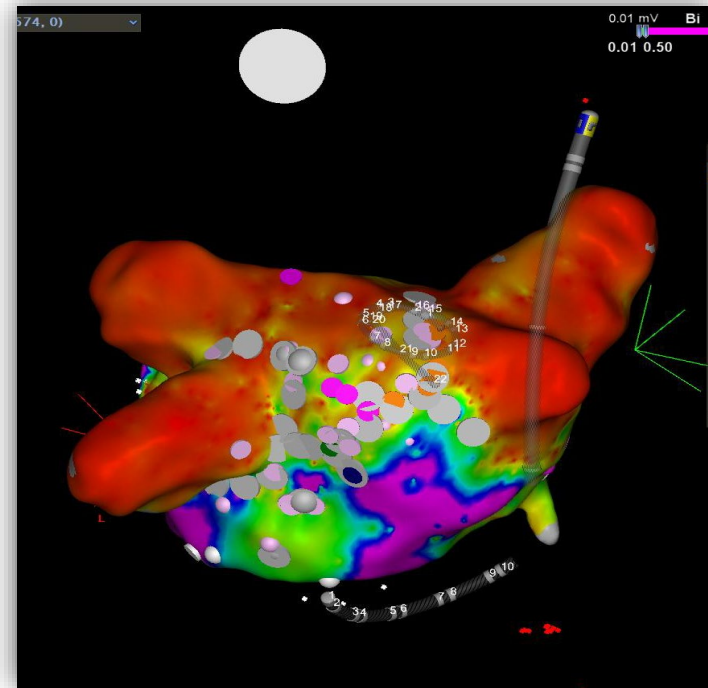
AF persists in posterior low voltage substrate

During SR

Ablation Set to Eliminate AF Substrate: Anterior LA



Anterior LA

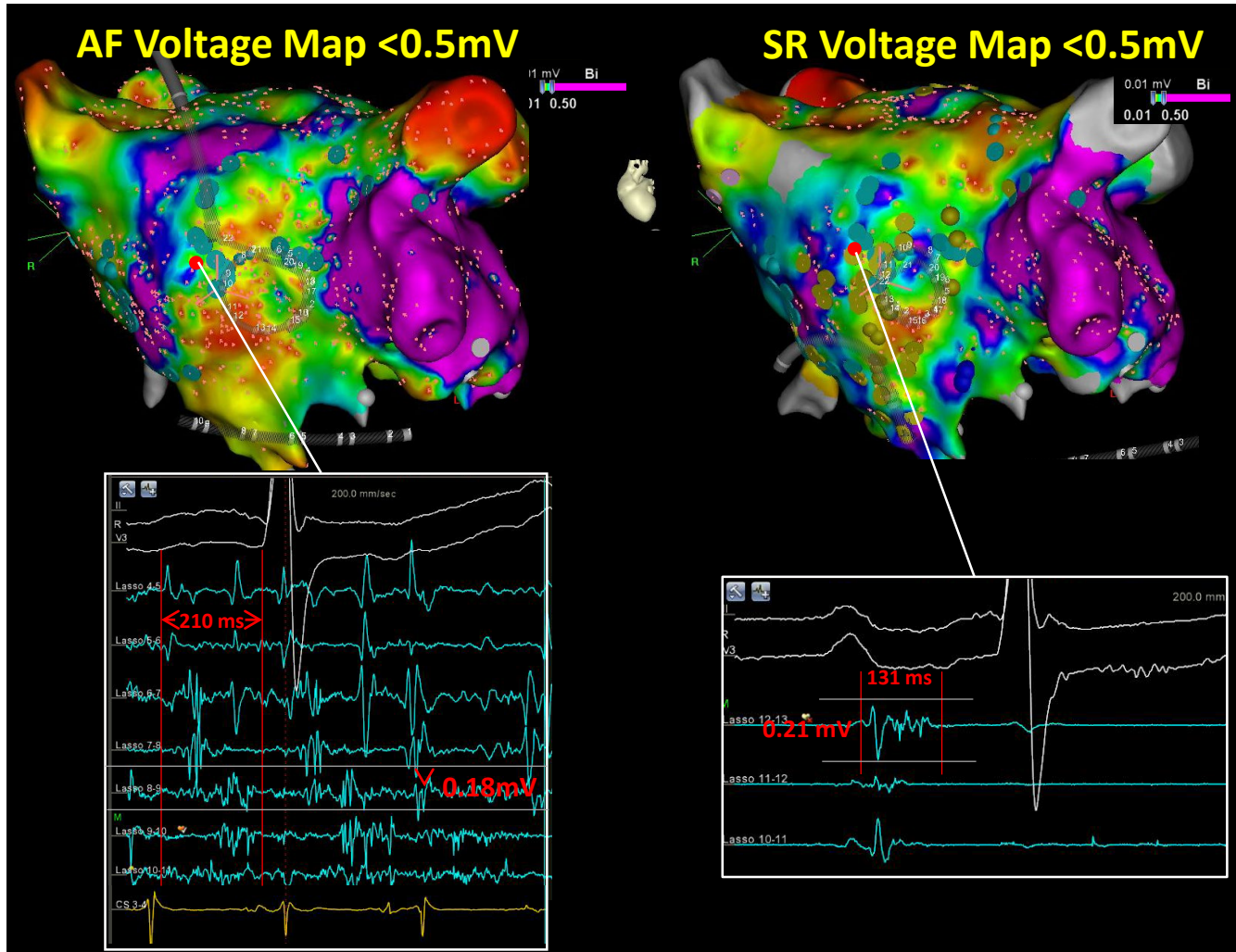


Posterior LA

Correlation of Low Voltage Substrate and Prolonged Activities

in Persistent Atrial Fibrillation versus Sinus Rhythm

Electrogram Characteristics in AF versus in SR in 40 patients

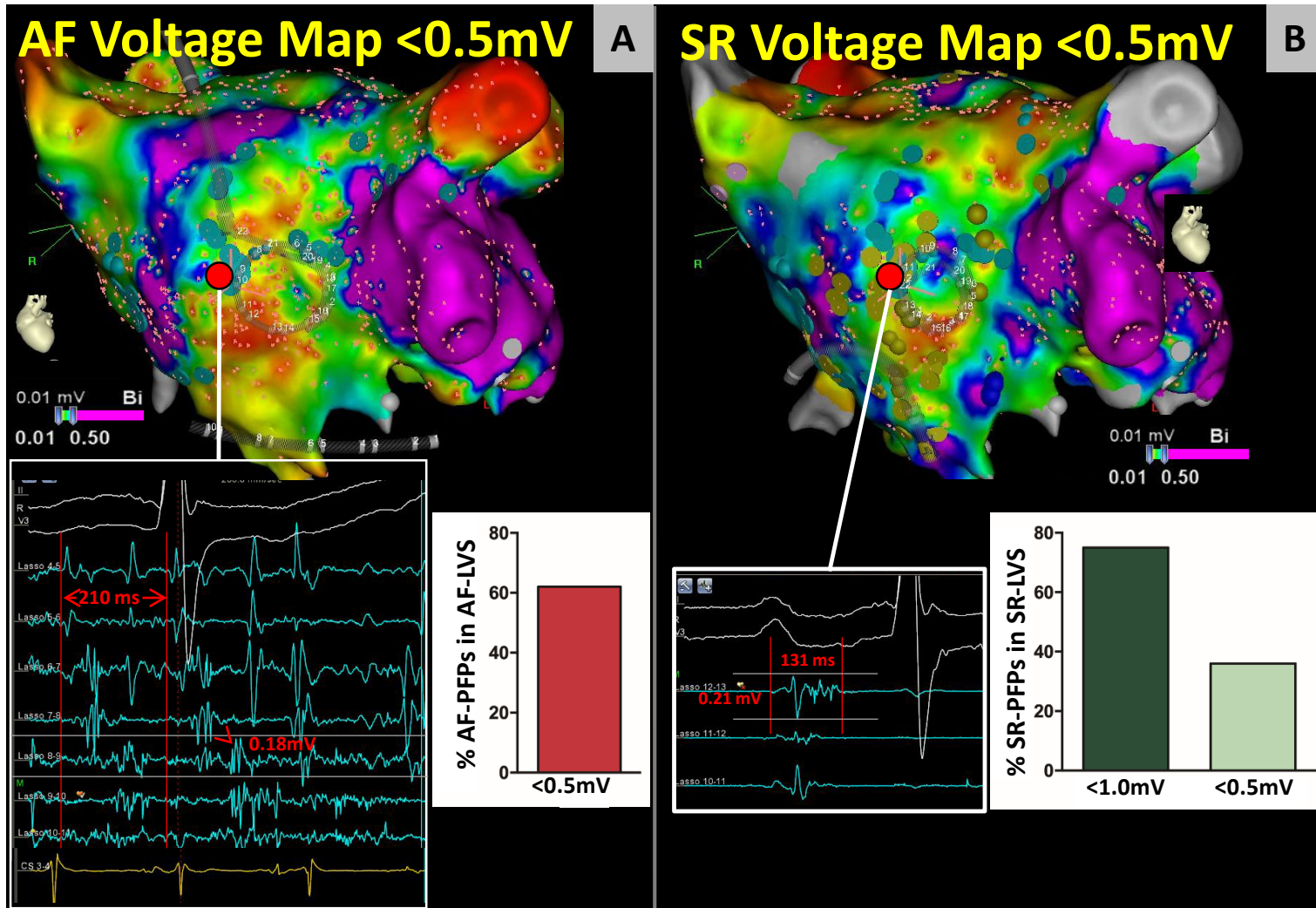


- Best match of low voltage areas, when using $<0.5\text{mV}$ in AF and $<1.0\text{ mV}$ in SR
- 70% of sites with fractionated potentials in SR (≥ 5 defl., $>50\text{ms}$) showed prolonged activity during AF ($>70\%$ CL coverage)

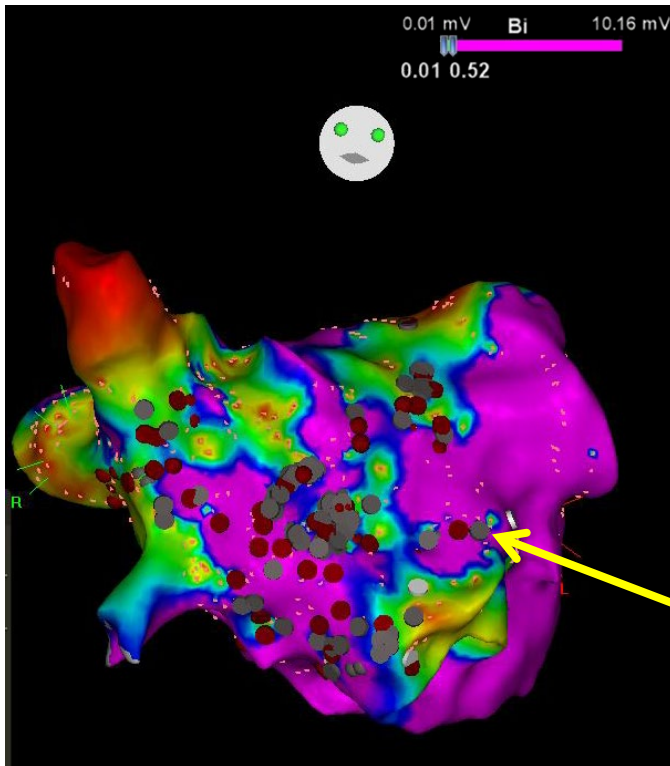
Spatio-temporal dispersion in AF
(CL coverage $>70\%$ AFCL)

Slow conduction
in sinus rhythm

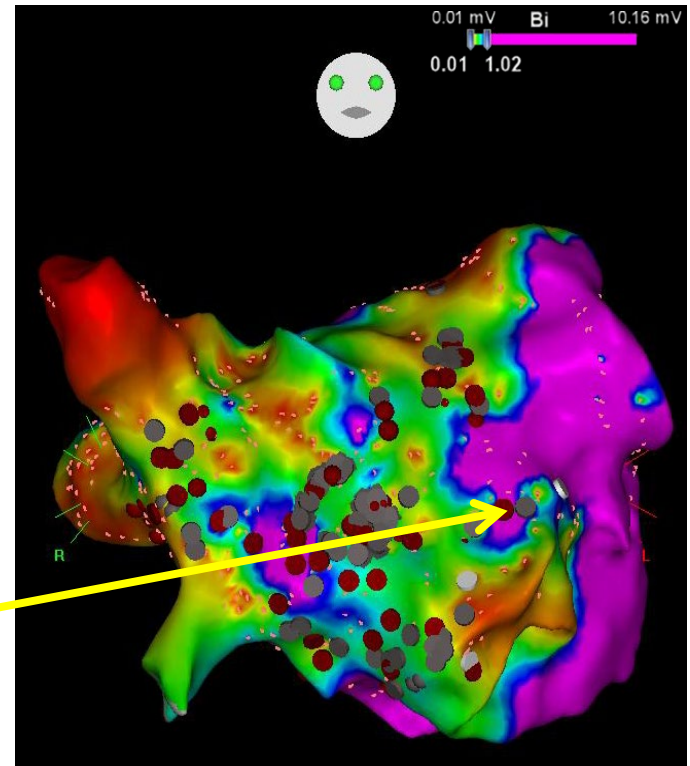
Electrogram Characteristics in AF versus in SR in 40 patients



During SR Combination of Low Voltage (<0.5-1.0mV) and Electrophysiological Criteria to Determine the Ablation Target

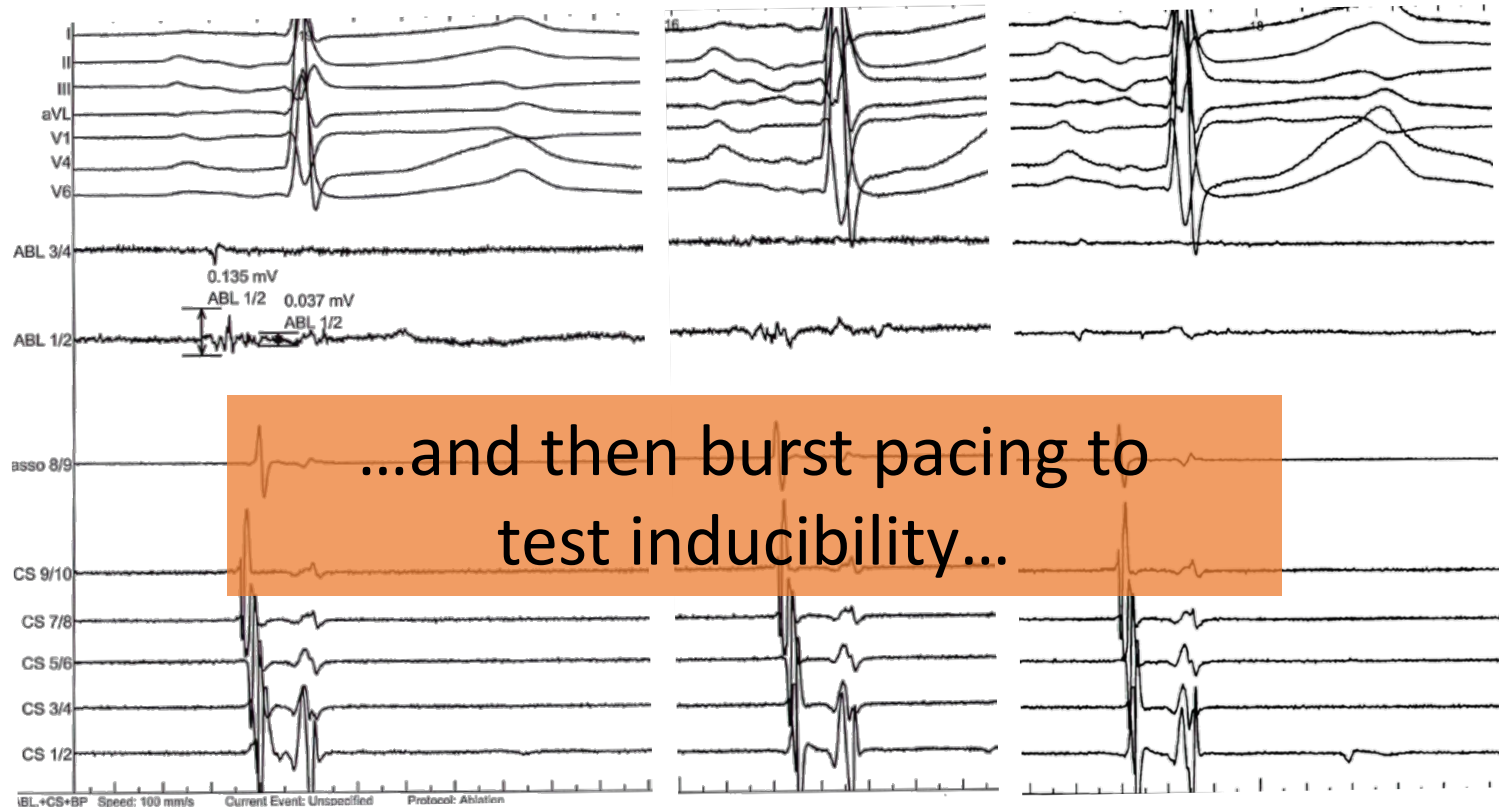


Voltage <0.5mV



Voltage <1.0mV

Ablation of Fractionated Potentials in SR in Low Voltage Areas (<1.0 mV)



Results: 12 Months Follow Up Patients

- AF recurrence: 18%
- AT recurrence: 9%
- **Arrhythmia freedom at 12 months: 73%**
- **Freedom from AF at 12 months: 82%**

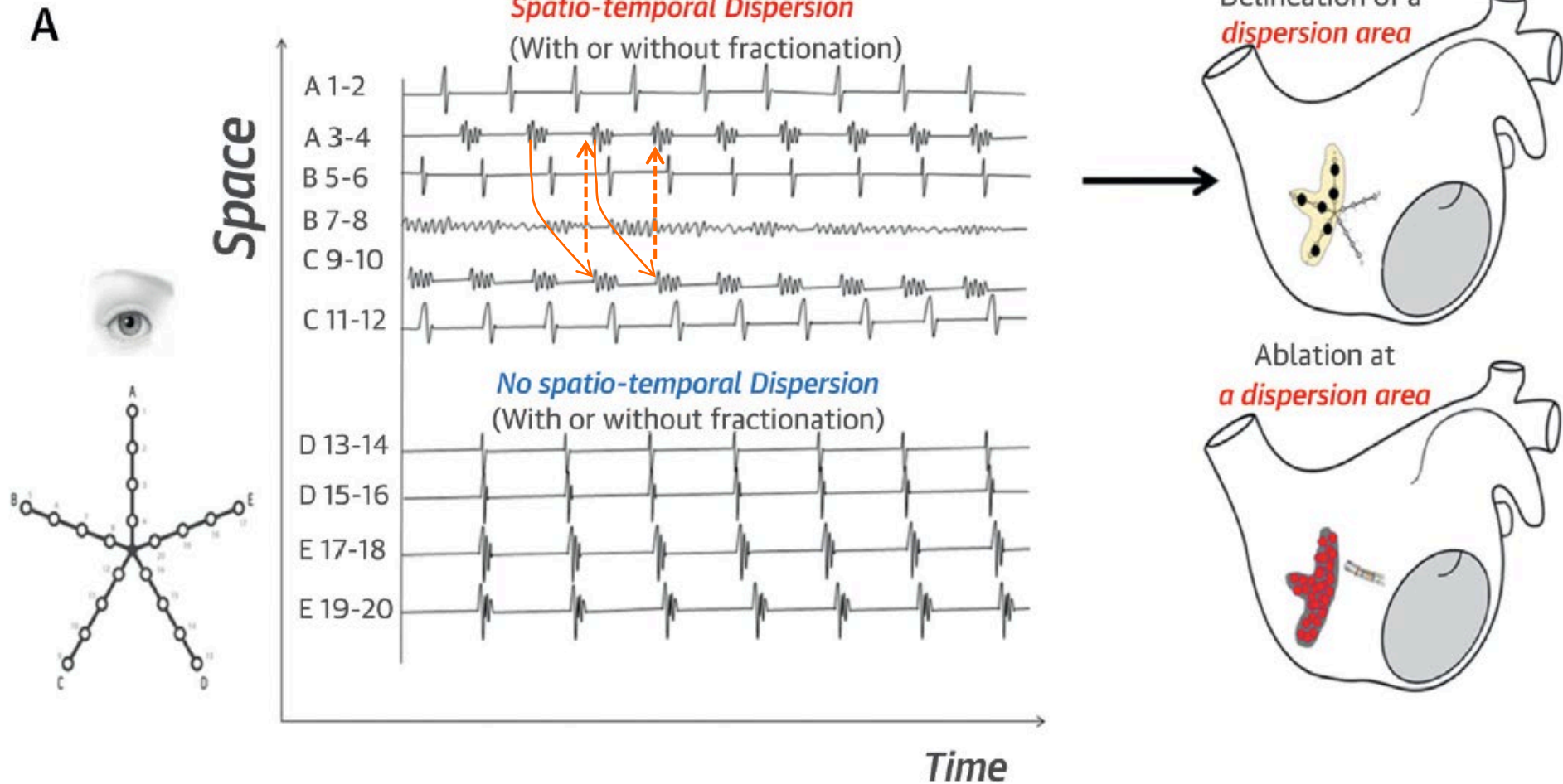
Novel Ablation Strategies for Persistent AF

AF Ablation Guided by Spatiotemporal Electrogram Dispersion Without Pulmonary Vein Isolation

A Wholly Patient-Tailored Approach

Julien Seitz, MD,^a Clément Bars, MD,^{a,b} Guillaume Théodore, MD,^c Sylvain Beurtheret, MD,^a Nicolas Lellouche, MD, PhD,^d Michel Bremondy, MD,^a Ange Ferracci, MD,^a Jacques Faure, MD,^a Guillaume Penaranda,^e Masatoshi Yamazaki, MD, PhD,^f Uma Mahesh R. Avula, MD,^f Laurence Curel, MS,^a Sabrina Siame,^a Omer Berenfeld, PhD,^f André Pisapia, MD,^a Jérôme Kalifa, MD, PhD^f

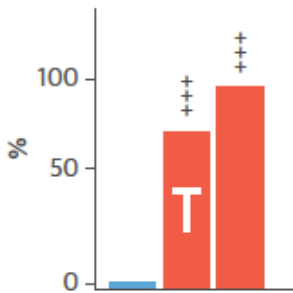
Novel Ablation Strategies for Persistent AF



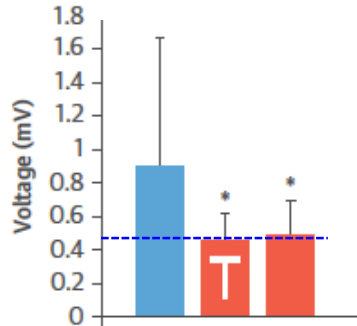
Seitz J., Kalifa J., AF Ablation Guided by Spatio-Temporal Dispersion – JACC 2017

Novel Ablation Strategies for Persistent AF

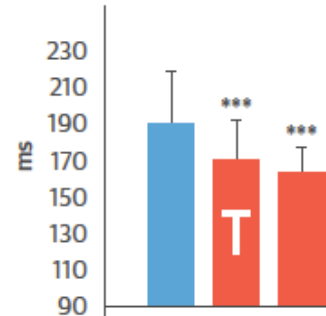
Single-bipole
"Continuous" Electrogram



Low Voltage

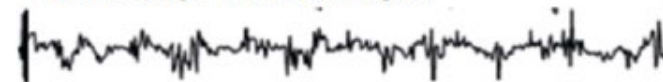


Cycle Length



Prolonged
Activity

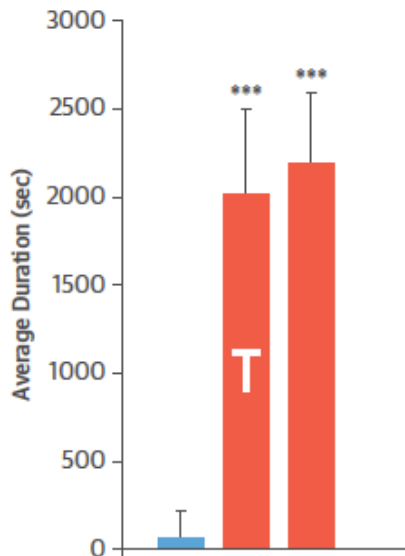
«Continuously» fractionated signal



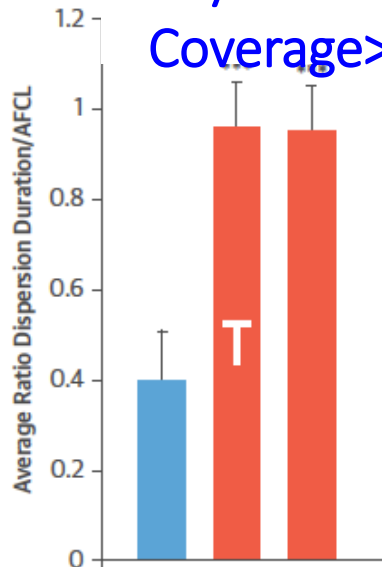
«Trains» of fractionation



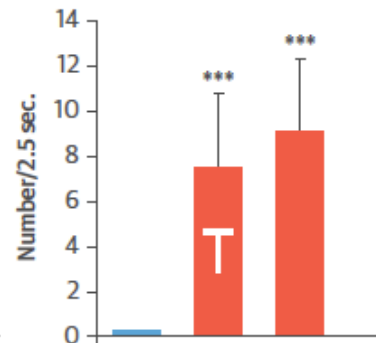
E
Duration Dispersion
/ 2.5 sec.



F
Cycle Length
Coverage > 70%



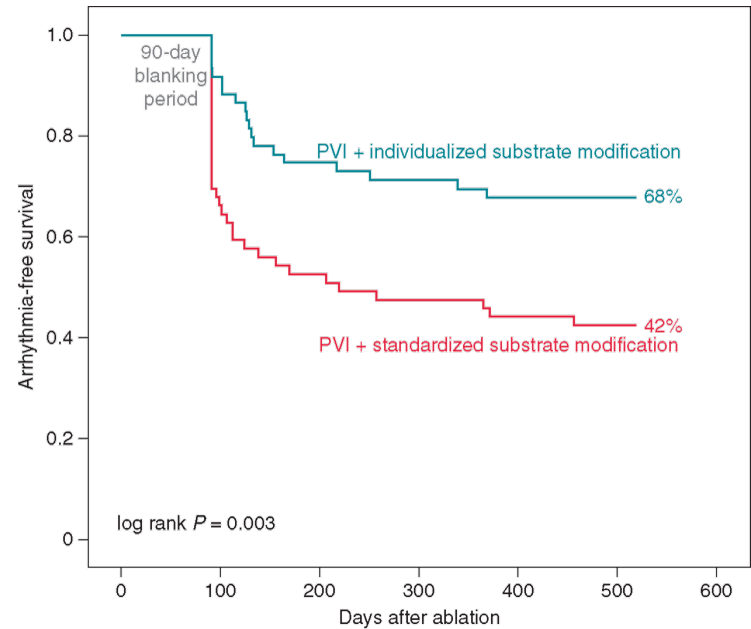
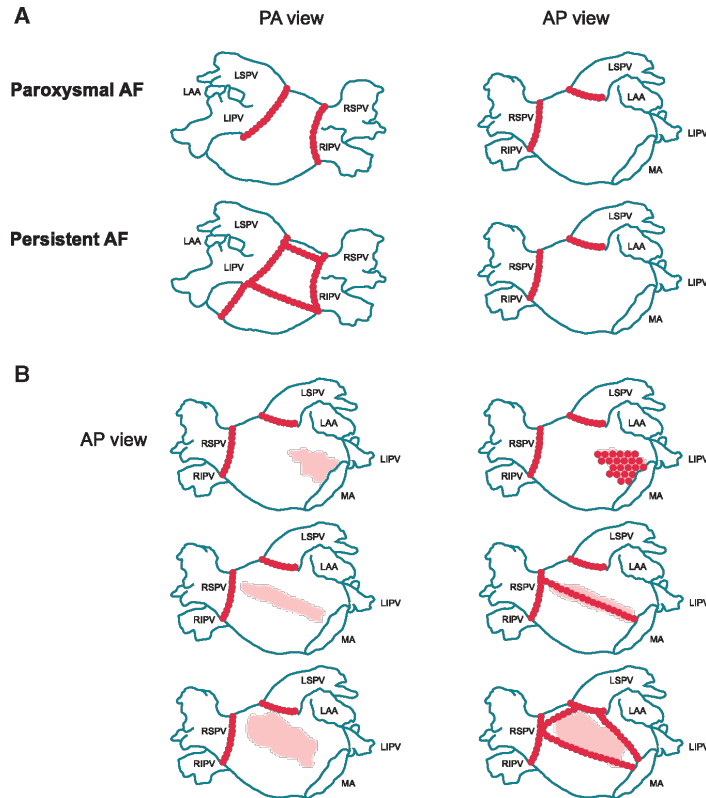
G
Rotations



Studies Using PVI plus Substrate Based Approach Targeting Low Voltage Areas

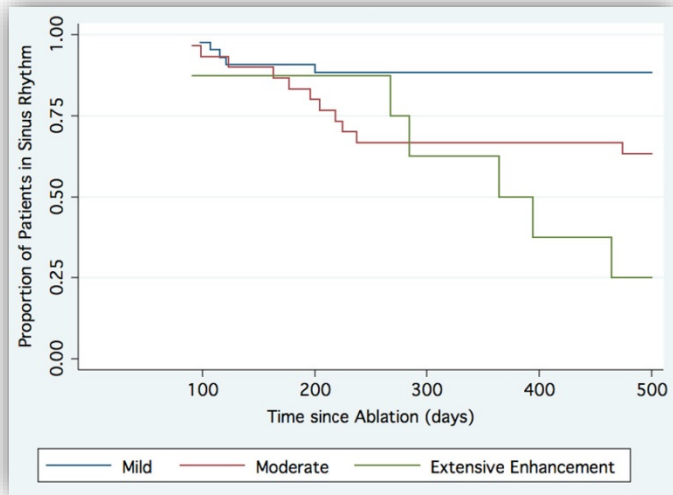
Title	N of Pts	Voltage Criterium	Catheter Used for Mapping	Endpoint of Ablation	Success
Jadidi et al.: Circ EP 2016	85 45	<0,5 in AF <1,0 in SR (w fragm. Pot, CL-coverage>70% or Rapid)	Lasso AF Focus Pentaray	Termination of AF, Ablation of prolonged activity, Non Inducibility for AT	69% at 13 M
Rolf et al.: Circ EP 2014	116	<0,5 in SR	Lasso	Reduction of LP, Non Capture, Lines	70% at 12 M (7d Holter)
Yang et al.: Circ EP 2016	86	0.1-0.4 0.4-1.3 in SR (w fragm. Pot)	Lasso	Reduction of LP, Defragmentation, Short Lines	70% at 24 M (7d Holter)
Kottkamp et al.: JCE 2016	31	<0.5 0.5-1.5 (2.5) (w fragm. Pot)	Contact Force Ablation catheter	Box Isolation of Low voltage substrate	72% at 12 M (7d Holter)
Seitz J. ..., Kalifa J. et al, JACC 2017		Spatio-temp-Dispersion Sites & AF-Term Sites display Low Voltage<0.5mV	PentaRay	AF termination	>70% at 12 M

Voltage Guided Ablation for AF: a Randomized Study



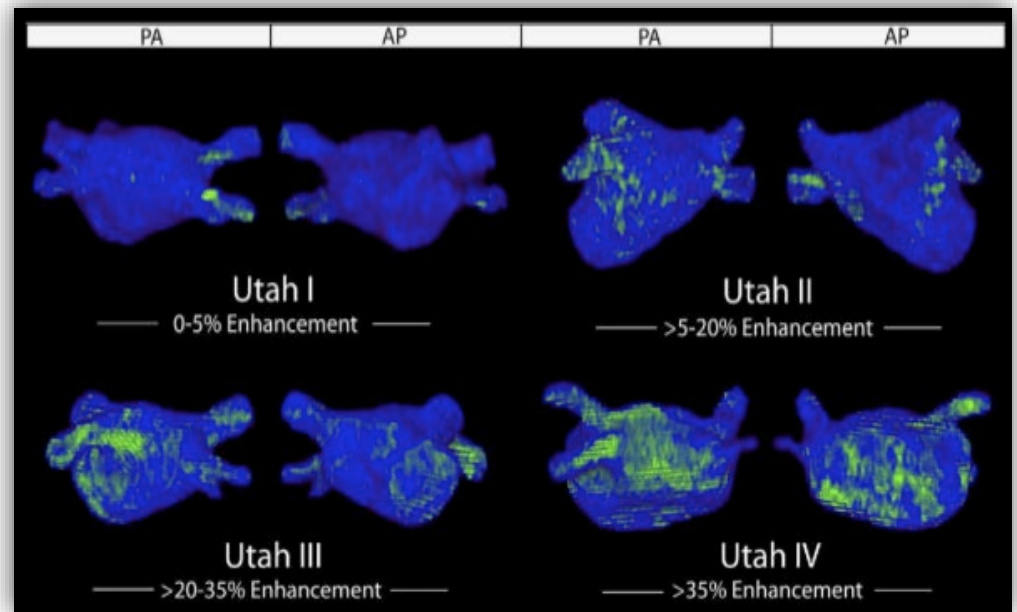
Number at risk	0	100	200	300	400	500	600
Group 1	62	39	30	24	6	0	
Group 2	62	54	42	39	8	2	

Success of PVI Depends on Degree of Fibrosis



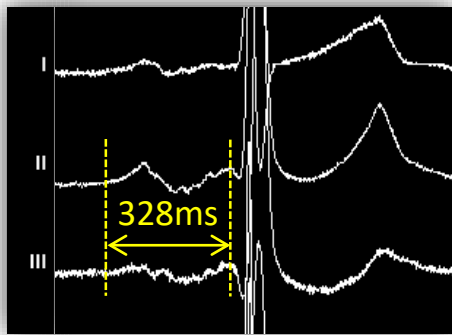
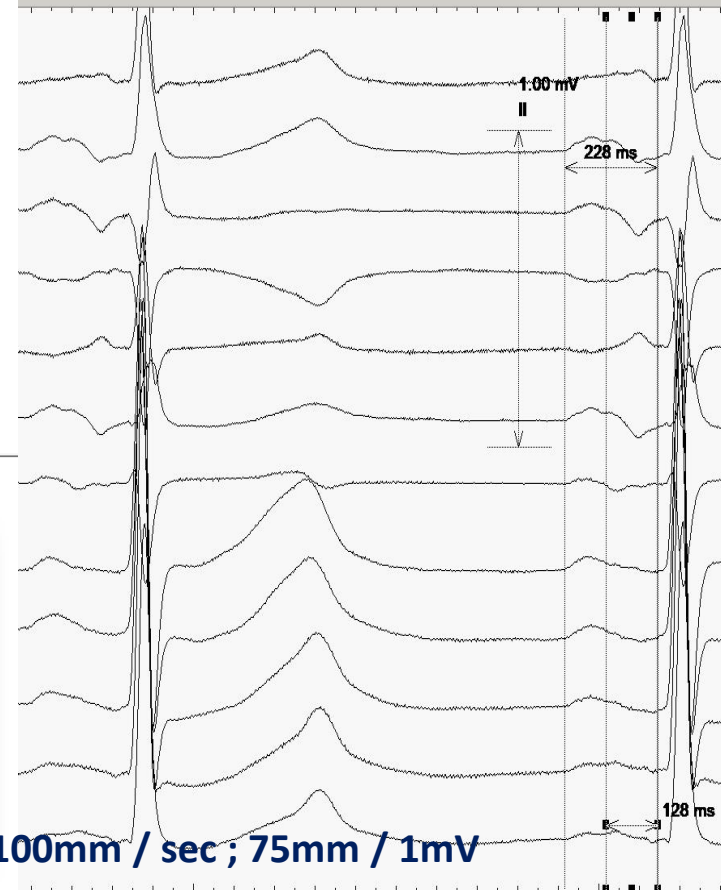
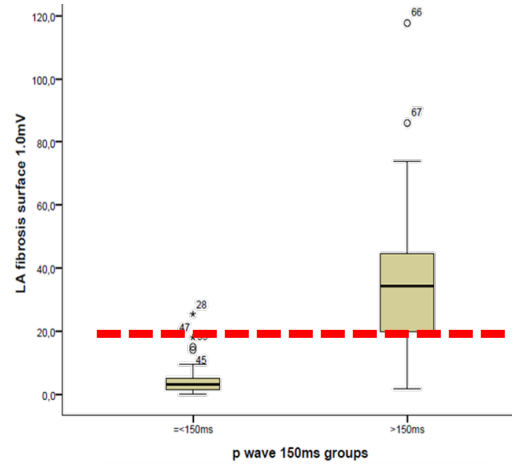
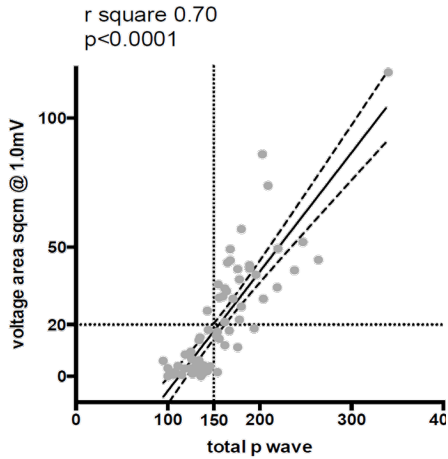
Oakes RS, ..., Marrouche NF: Circulation 2009

Marrouche et al.: JAMA 2014

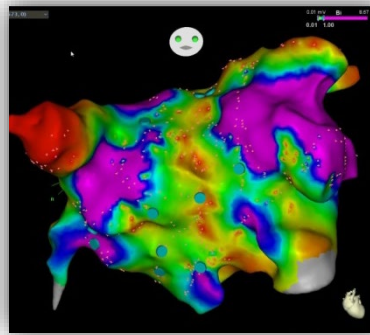


Amplified Digital 12 Lead ECG Identifies Patients with and without Low Voltage Substrate

Digital Amplified 12-ECG



VS.



Conclusions I

- High density multi-electrode mapping allows identification of arrhythmogenic atrial substrate.
- Elimination of fractionated / delayed potentials within low voltage areas during sinus rhythm is associated with non-inducibility of AF in 80% of persistent AF patients.
- PVI plus low voltage-based ablation resulted in arrhythmia freedom in 70% of patients after 1 year.
- Presence of LA low voltage substrate can be accurately identified prior to the EP-study/AF ablation by use of amplified digital P-wave duration in 12-lead-ECG.

Conclusions II

- How to ablate persistent AF ? “PVI-only” is efficient in patients without low voltage substrate (success rates: 80%) independent of AF type (paroxysmal or persistent).
- However, “PVI-only” results in high arrhythmia recurrences in patients with atrial low voltage substrate (>50% recurrence after 1 year !).
- Additional patient-tailored low voltage-based ablation of slow conduction areas (delayed potentials) ameliorates 1-year success rate from 50% to 70%.
- Low voltage and fractionated areas in SR vs. AF correlate in 70% of sites.
- Low Voltage areas are more extensive during AF than SR. Ablation of LVS during AF results in larger ablated tissue than during SR, although the success rates are similar (70% after 1 year FU).
- Identification of arrhythmogenic slow conduction substrate in AF necessitates high expertise of EGM interpretation.
- Identification of the arrhythmogenic substrate is easier and reproducible during sinus rhythm.

Merci ...



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Tim Henderson « Chaos »