```
3.0 T
                                        10
                                                        Stejskal - Tanner
                                    EPI
                                                      . b - value 1000 s/mm<sup>2</sup>
           가
                                        6 , 11 , 23 , 35
                                                         가
                                       (FA)
                                                       . FA
                                                                                가
                     FΑ
                                        FΑ
                                                       가 6
                                                                        가
                                                                47
              :
                                                               가 가
                                                                             FΑ
                   가
                                                                            FΑ
              가
                               가 가
                                                         FΑ
                                                             FΑ
                            (1, 2).
              가
                                                                              FΑ
                         (VR: volume ratio),
       (RA: relative anisotropy)
                                           (FA:
fractional anisotropy)
                                             가
                                   가
                                  6
                 (3, 4).
                            6
                                                                      T2
                                                                10
                                                                                    5 ,
                                                                                         5,
                                          (KRF-
                                                          22 )
                                                                                           3.0 T
2002 -
              - D00476).
                                                                (Signa VHi, GE Medical, U.S.A.)
       2004
                         2005 1 10
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87

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EPI single - shot b value=1000 s/mm², TR/TE=8000/71 ms, Matrix=128 \times 128, slice thickness/spacing=5/2 mm, FOV=220 mm, NEX=1 11 , 23 , 35 47 56 , 47 6 25 가 가 (Advantage Window, GE, U.S.A.) EPI FΑ FΑ 2 FΑ 가 1, 가 5 FΑ

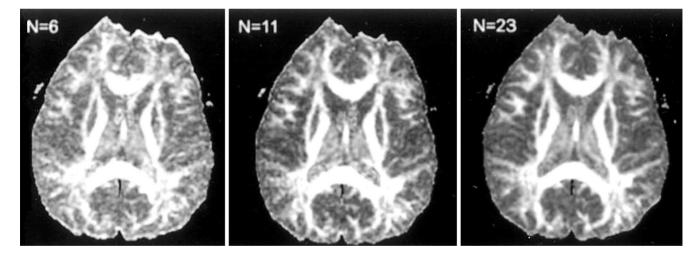
Stejskal - Tanner type :frontal gray matter, : putamen, :posgle - shot EPI terior limb of internal capsule, :splenium of the corb - pus callosum)

. FA

FA . FA FA SPSS 11.5 (statistical package for the social science)

FA (one - way ANOVA: analysis of

variance) .



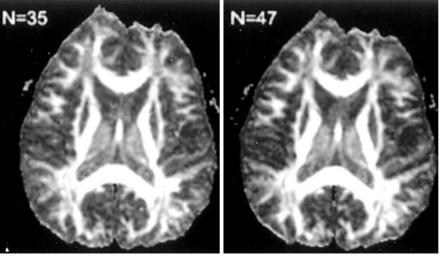
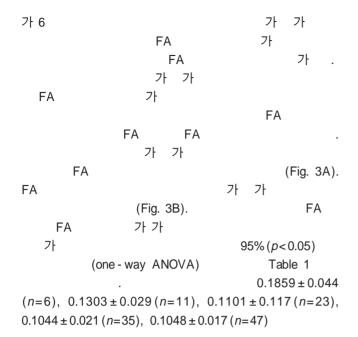


Fig. 1. FA map with different gradient schemes.



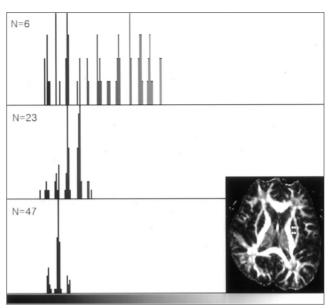


Fig. 2. ROI and histogram analysis on FA map.

Table 1. Fractional Anisotropy and Standard Deviation of Fractional Anisotropy on Different Diffusion Tensor Imaging Schemes (p < 0.05)

Region of Interest	Number of Gradient Direction						
		n=6	n = 11	n = 23	n = 35	n = 47	<i>p</i> -value
Frontal gray matter	Mean SD	0.1859 0.044	0.1303 0.029	0.1101 0.017	0.1044 0.021	0.1048 0.017	0.00000004
Putamen	Mean SD	0.1737 0.036	0.1343 0.025	0.1151 0.023	0.1040 0.027	0.101 0.017	0.00000068
Posterior limb internal capsule	Mean SD	0.7544 0.053	0.7145 0.042	0.7206 0.036	0.7115 0.033	0.6947 0.035	0.03313136
Corpus callosum splenium	Mean SD	0.8155 0.061	0.8099 0.040	0.7979 0.042	0.7933 0.046	0.7701 0.039	0.23943359

SD: Standard Deviation

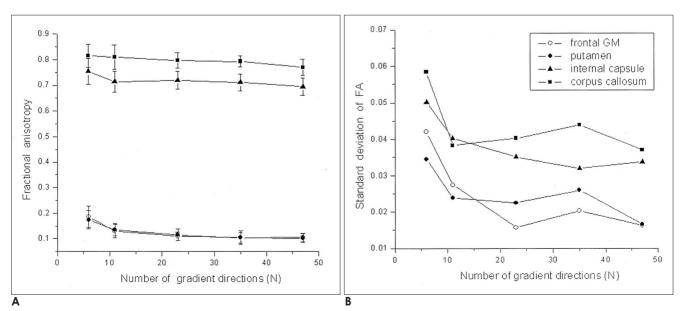


Fig. 3. The mean FA (A) and the standard deviation of FA (B) for different gradient schemes.

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가 p<0.05 . FA FΑ 가 가 FΑ 가 가 가 (5, 6). 가 가 가 6 가 6 가 가 (principal axis) (eigen vector) 가 (fiber tractography) (artifact) (7). 가 23 가 FA FΑ 가 가 가 6 가 . , FA 가 6 23 가 가 23 가 ADC 가 가 가 23 가 가 (8). 가 (NEX) 가 가 23 가 (9, 10). SVD (singular value decom position) 가 가 가 FA 6 가 가 6 FΑ 가 6 가 가 FΑ 가 (single self - diffusion) (single tensor model) 가 가 가 가

(multiple tensor model) (11). 가

가

			가
가 가 Planar Imaging (EPI)	·	. EPI	가 Echo
parallel ima odically rotated ove reconstruction) (12).			LLER (peri - ith enhanced
가			
가			
가			,
	가 가		
		:	가 가
FA			71-23

가

FΑ

- 가
 - 23 가
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Histogram Analysis of Noise Performance on Fractional Anisotropy Brain MR Image with Different Diffusion Gradient Numbers¹

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Purpose: We wished to analyze, qualitatively and quantitatively, the noise performance of fractional anisotropy brain images along with the different diffusion gradient numbers by using the histogram method.

Materials and Methods: Diffusion tensor images were acquired using a 3.0 T MR scanner from ten normal volunteers who had no neurological symptoms. The single-shot spin-echo EPI with a Stejskal-Tanner type diffusion gradient scheme was employed for the diffusion tensor measurement. With a b-valuee of 1000 s/mm², the diffusion tensor images were obtained for 6, 11, 23, 35 and 47 diffusion gradient directions. FA images were generated for each DTI scheme. The histograms were then obtained at selected ROIs for the anatomical structures on the FA image. At the same ROI location, the mean FA value and the standard deviation of the mean FA value were calculated.

Results: The quality of the FA image was improved as the number of diffusion gradient directions increased by showing better contrast between the WM and GM. The histogram showed that the variance of FA values was reduced as the number of diffusion gradient directions increased. This histogram analysis was in good agreement with the result obtained using quantitative analysis.

Conclusion: The image quality of the FA map was significantly improved as the number of diffusion gradient directions increased. The histogram analysis well demonstrated that the improvement in the FA images resulted from the reduction in the variance of the FA values included in the ROI.

Index words: Brain, MR

Magnetic resonance (MR), diffusion Magnetic resonance (MR), pulse sequence

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