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# Mastering MRI Designs through Component Selection

Mark van Uden

Tesla Dynamic Coils

05-02-2024



**MEDISCHE ELEKTRONICA**  
Ontwikkelingen, normen en toepassingen

6 februari 2024 | Van der Valk Vianen

# Tesla Dynamic Coils

- Work for about 20 years in the field of MR scanners
  - Philips Healthcare
  - RadboudUMC
  - Tesla Dynamic Coils
- Based in Zaltbommel
- We develop and built RF coils, peripheral electronics, cables, mechanical for MRI scanners
- ISO 13485:2016 certified



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# Topics

- Nuclear magnetic resonance
- Scanner
- RF coils
- Components and designs
  - Static magnetic field distortion
  - Transmit (receive) coils
  - Receive coils
  - Testing

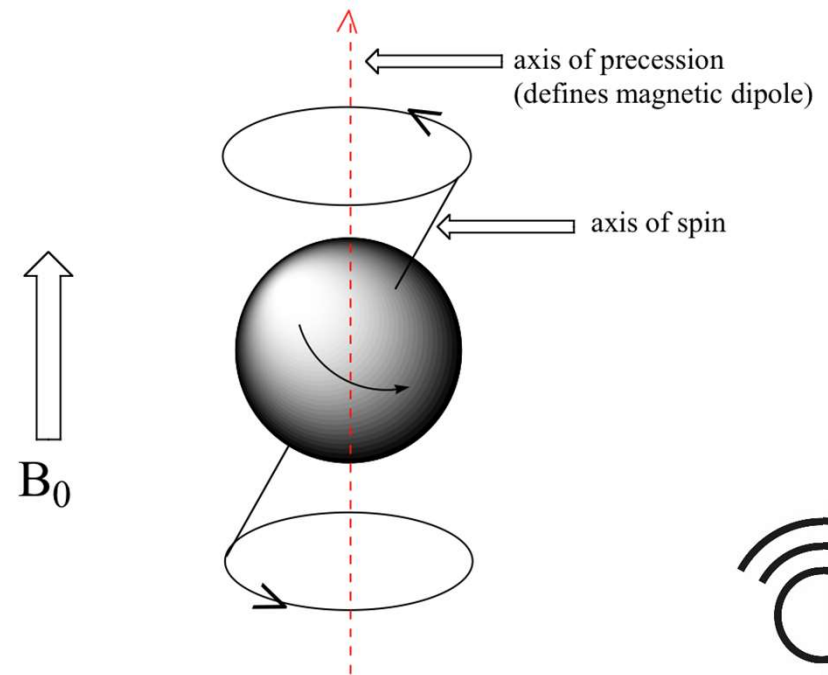


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# Nuclear magnetic resonance

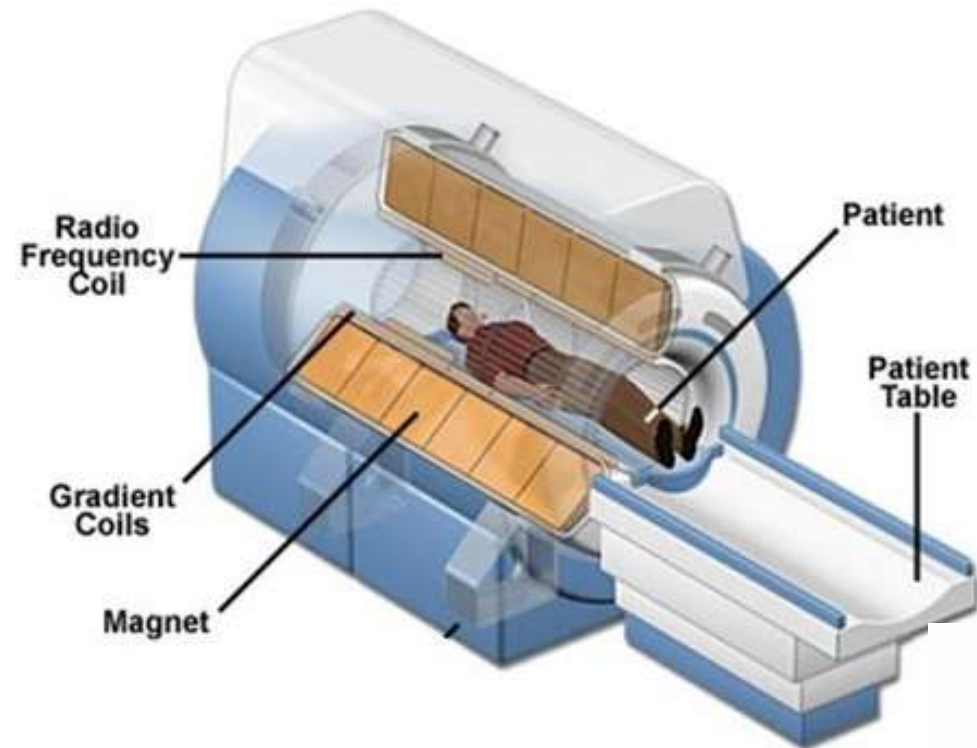
- Frequency is determined by:
  - Magnetic field strength
  - Gyromagnetic ratio
  - Nuclei:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{31}\text{P}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ , ...
  - Ranges between 30 MHz and 300 MHz
- MRI: Magnetic Resonance Imaging medical application



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# MR Scanner

- Magnet
- RF coils
- Gradient coils
- Patient table
- Patient



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# MR Scanner

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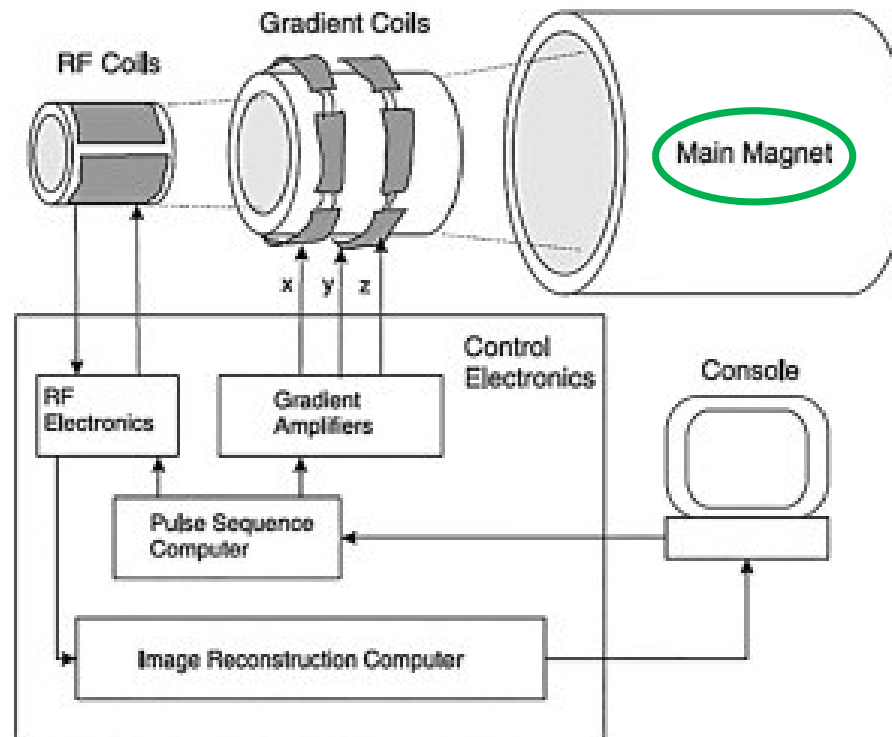
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# MR Scanner

- Magnet ( $B_0$ )
  - 0 Hz
  - 3 – 7 Tesla
- RF coils ( $B_1+$ )
  - 30 – 300 MHz
  - Max. 50  $\mu$ T
  - Max. 35 kW peak
  - Max. 250W average
- Gradient coils
  - 1 – 5kHz
  - 200 mT/m
  - 200 T/m/s

## MRI Scanner Components



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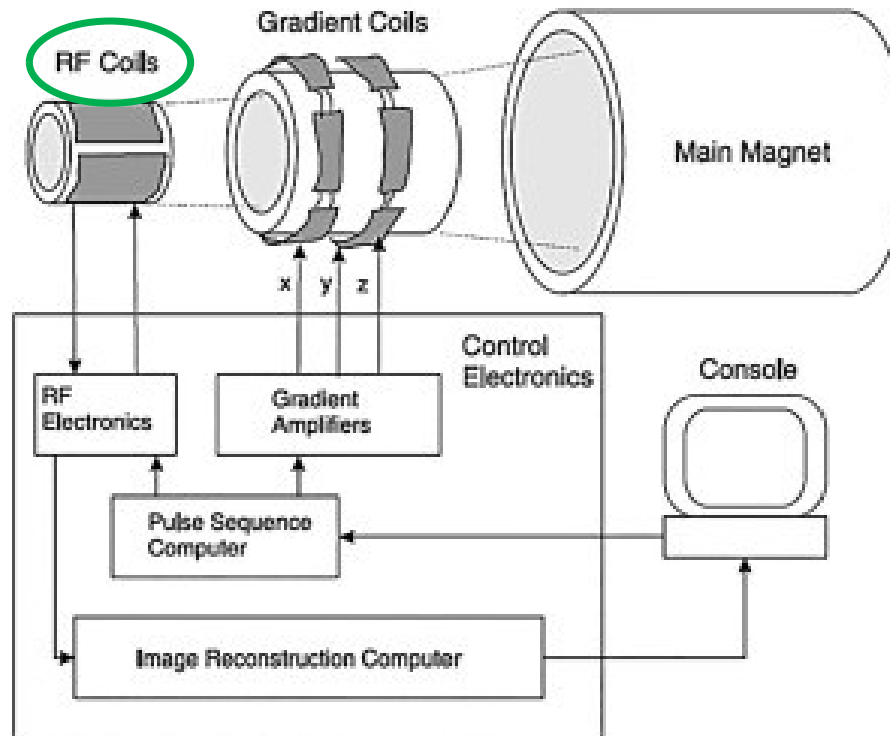


Image from Gruber B, Froeling M, Leiner T, Klomp DWJ. RF coils: A practical guide for nonphysicists. *J Magn Reson Imaging*. 2018 Jun 13;48(3):590–604. doi: 10.1002/jmri.26187. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 29897651; PMCID: PMC6175221.

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## MRI Scanner Components



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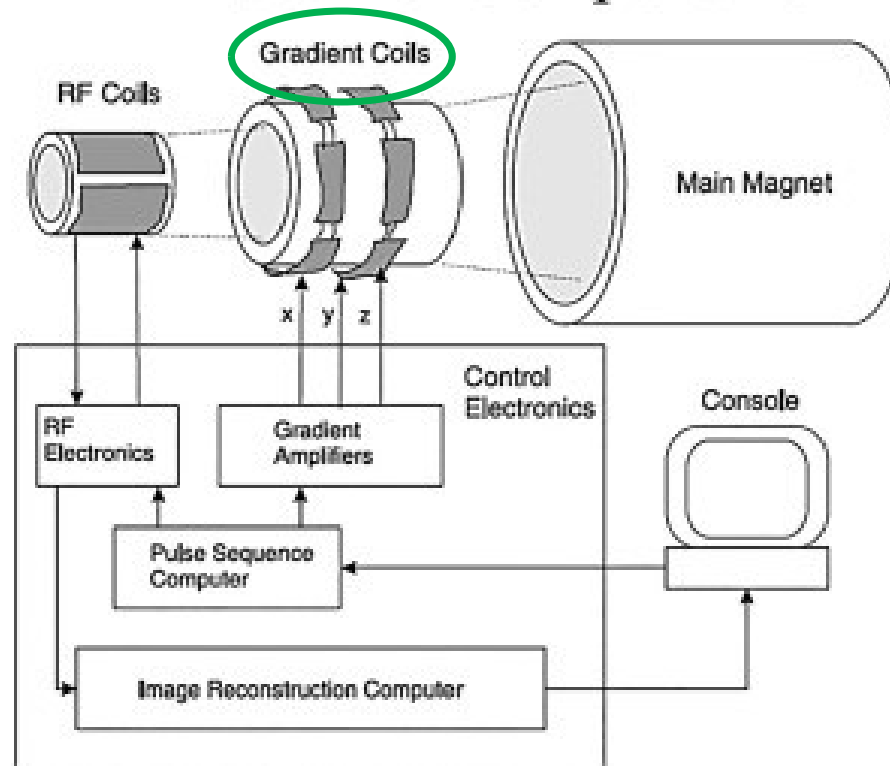
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## MRI Scanner Components

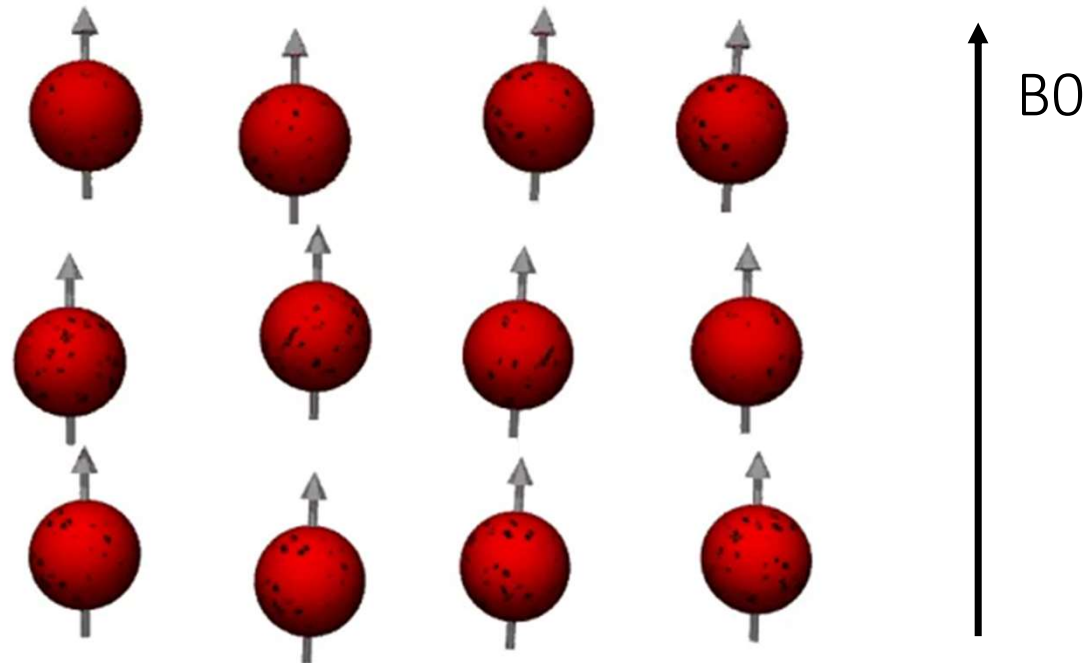


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# Nuclear magnetic resonance

- Transmit and/or receive on frequency of interest



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YBUSOrH0lw>

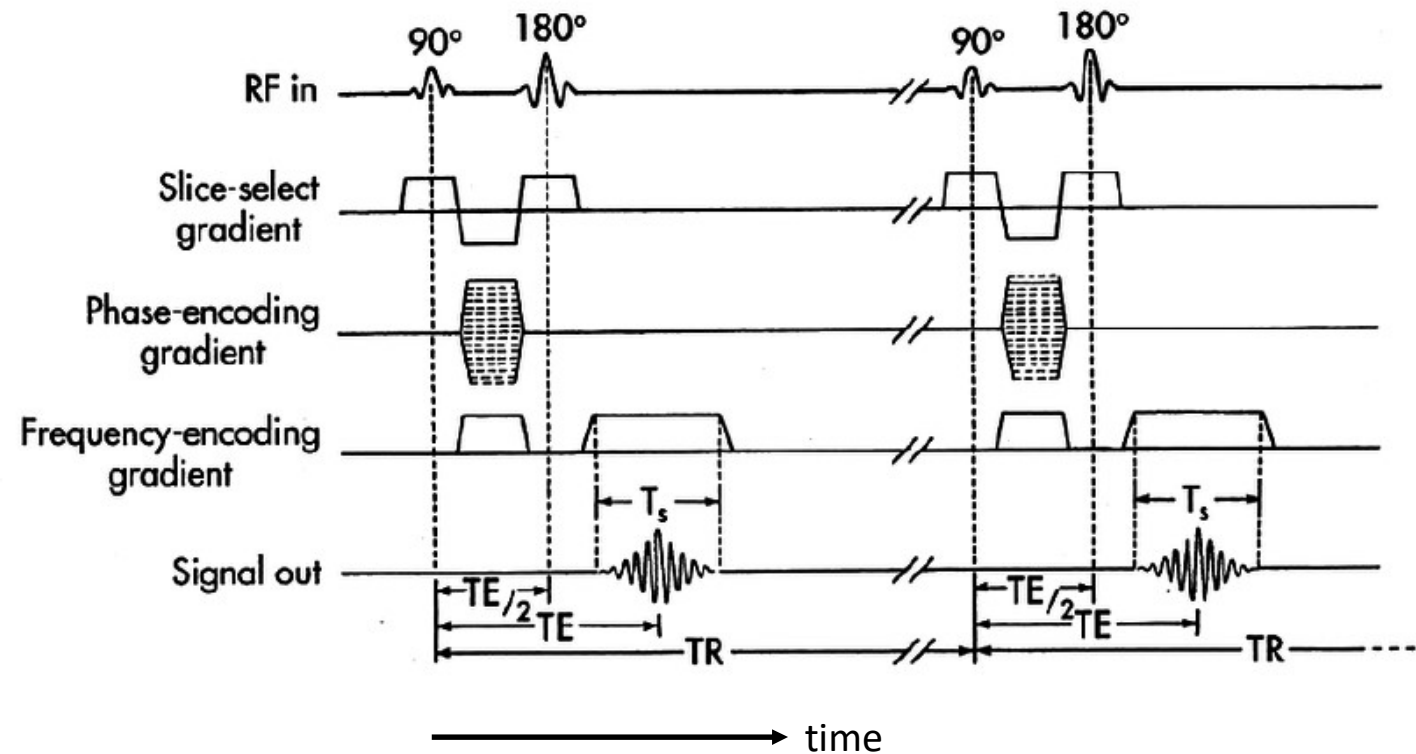


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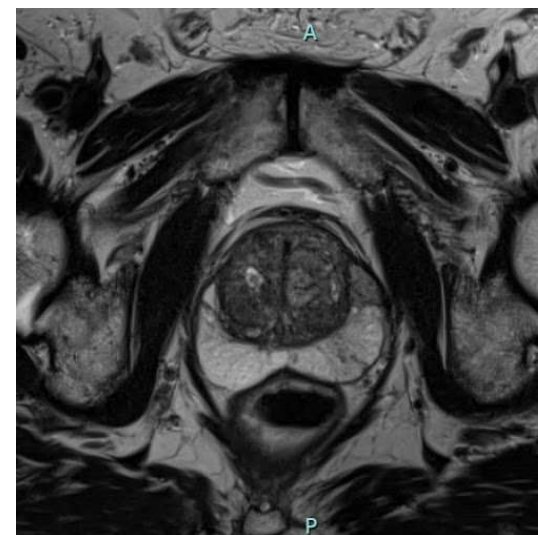


# MR Scanner

- Combine RF pulses and gradient fields
- Right timing
- Image/spectrum

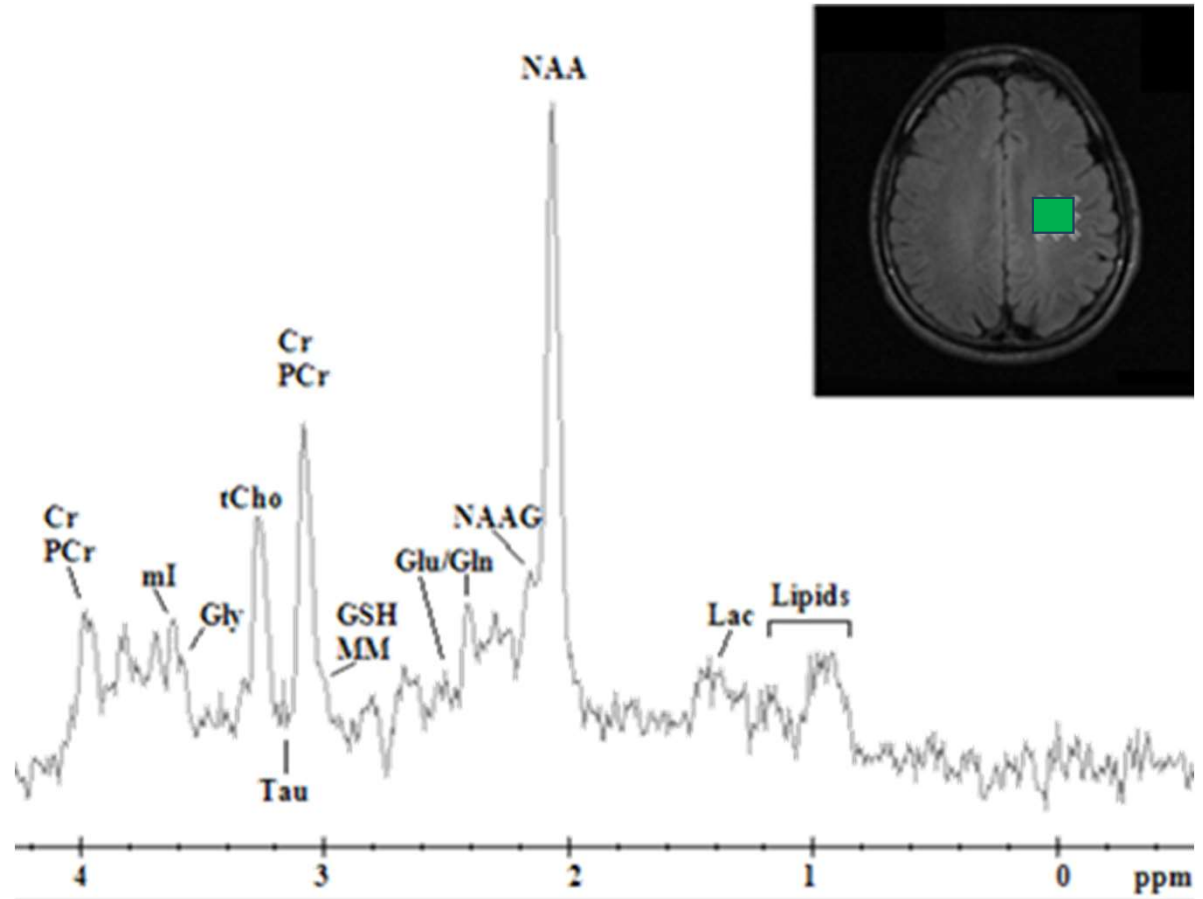


# MR Scanner



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# MR Scanner



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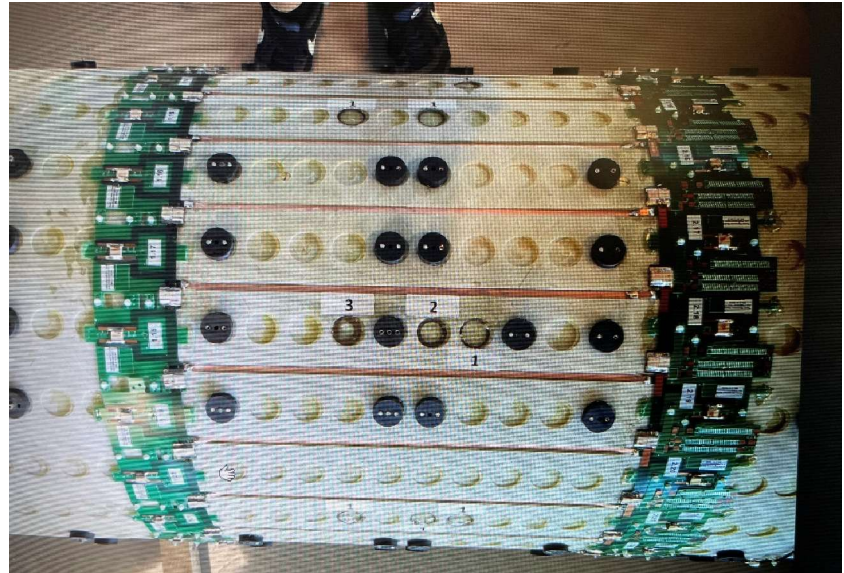
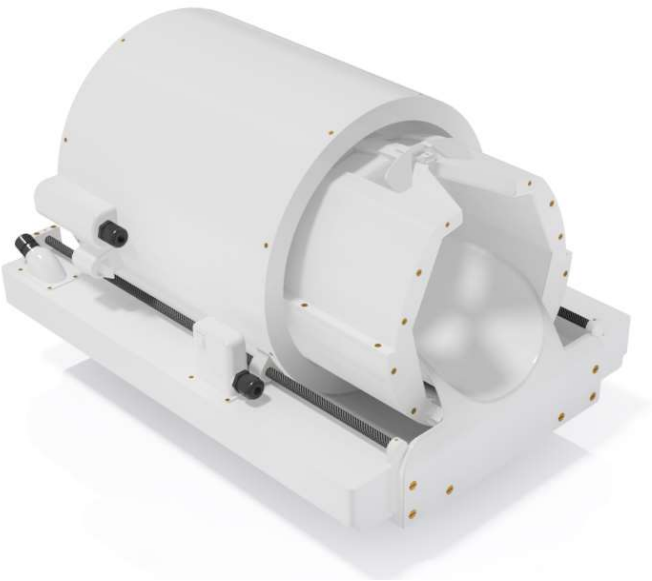


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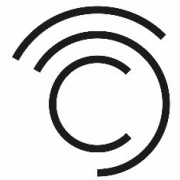
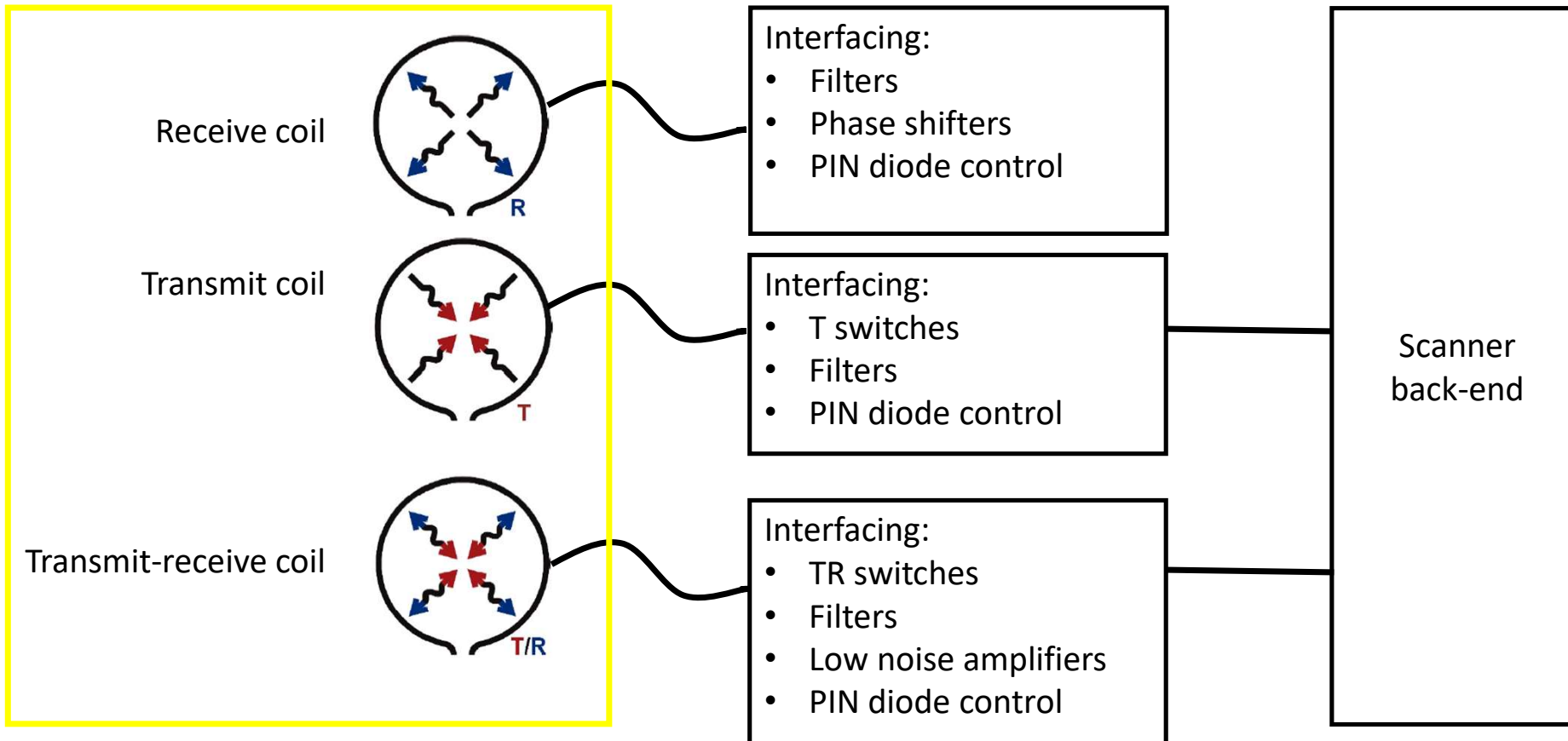
# RF coils



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# RF coils



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# Components and designs

- Capacitors
- Inductors
  - RF
  - DC/chokes
  - Traces
- Resistors
- Low Noise Amplifiers
- Fuses
- Diodes
  - PIN diodes
  - Fast diodes
  - ESD suppression
- RF connectors
  - BNC
  - SMA
  - SMB
  - N



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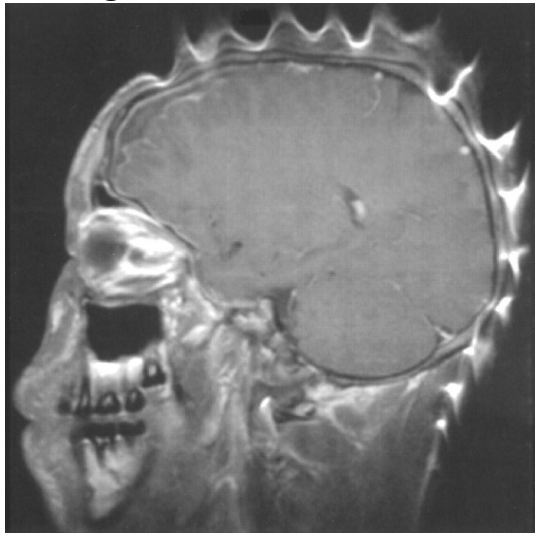




# Components and designs: B0 distortion

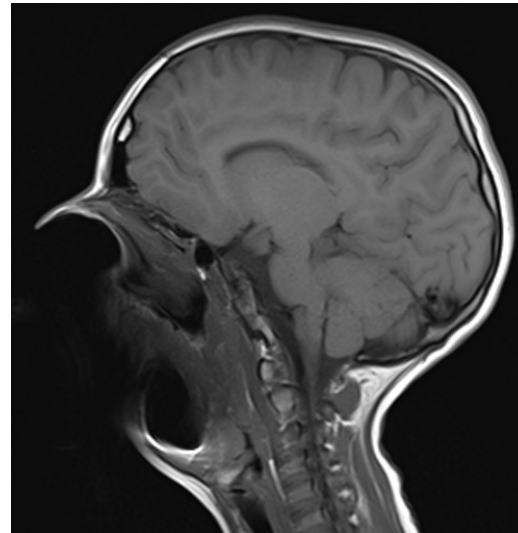
- Distortion of main magnetic field in imaging Field Of View (FOV)

Hair gel



<https://www.ajronline.org/doi/10.2214/ajr.182.2.1820532>

Braces



<https://mriquestions.com/susceptibility-artifact.html>

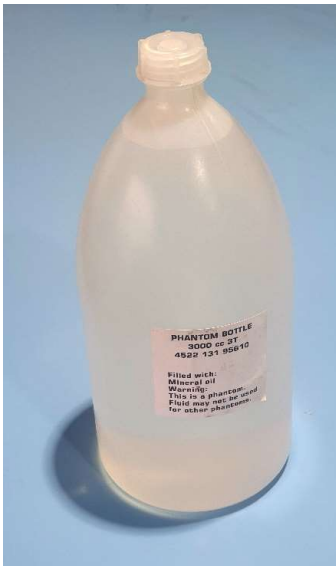


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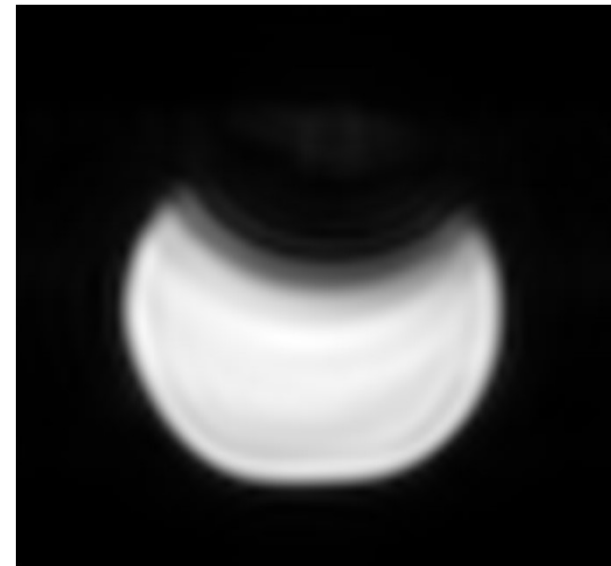
# Components and designs: B0 distortion

- Test protocol on MR scanner

M4 screw



N connector



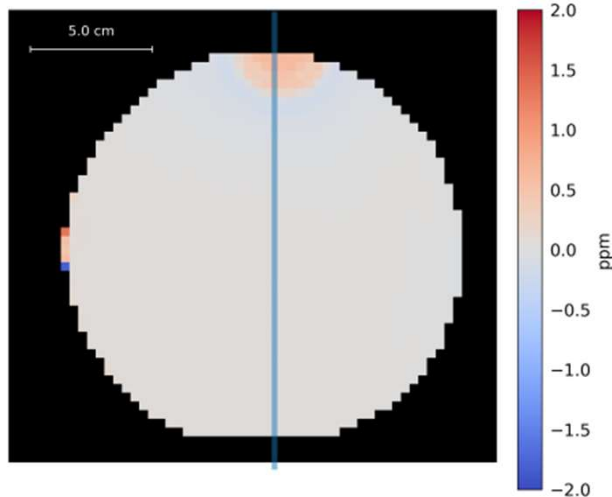
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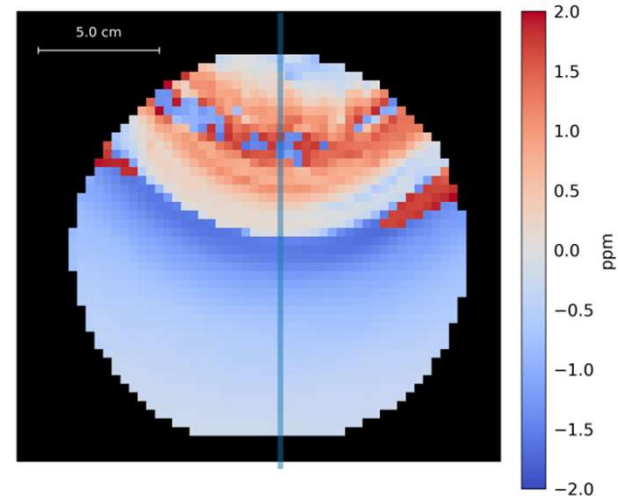
## M4 screw

Half ppm distance: 7 mm



## N connector

Half ppm distance: 126 mm

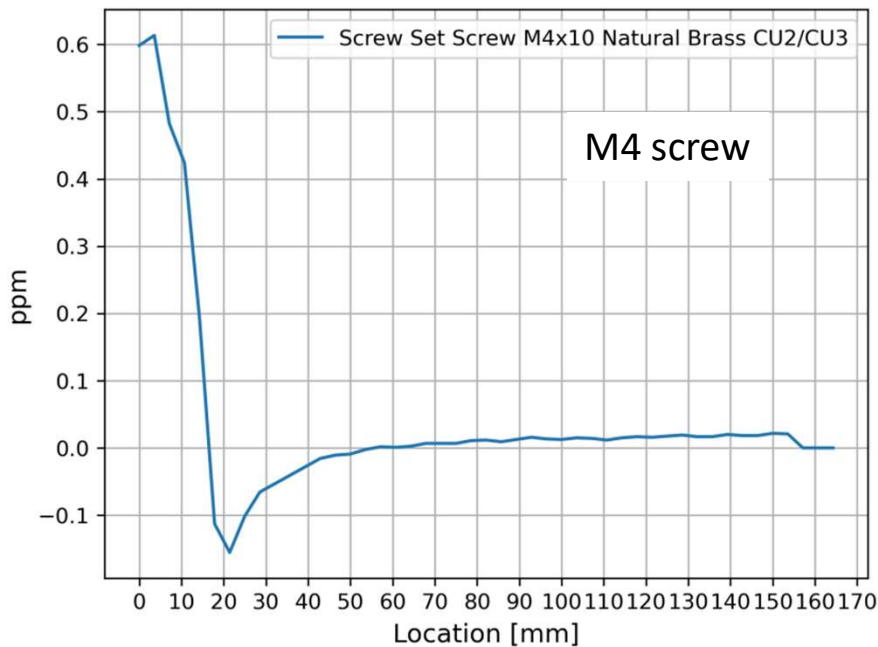


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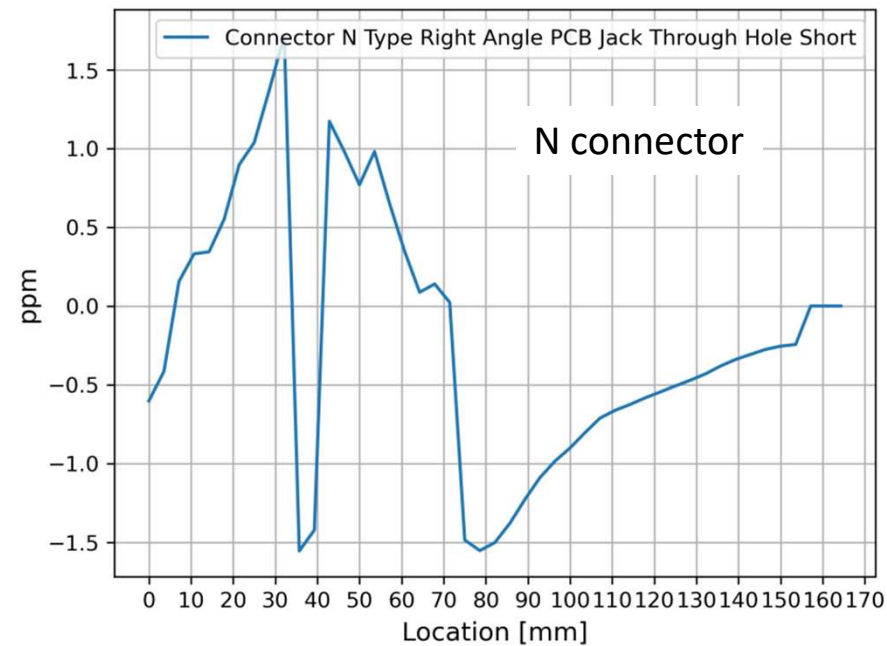
# Components and designs: B0 distortion

- Test protocol on MR scanner

Profile



Profile

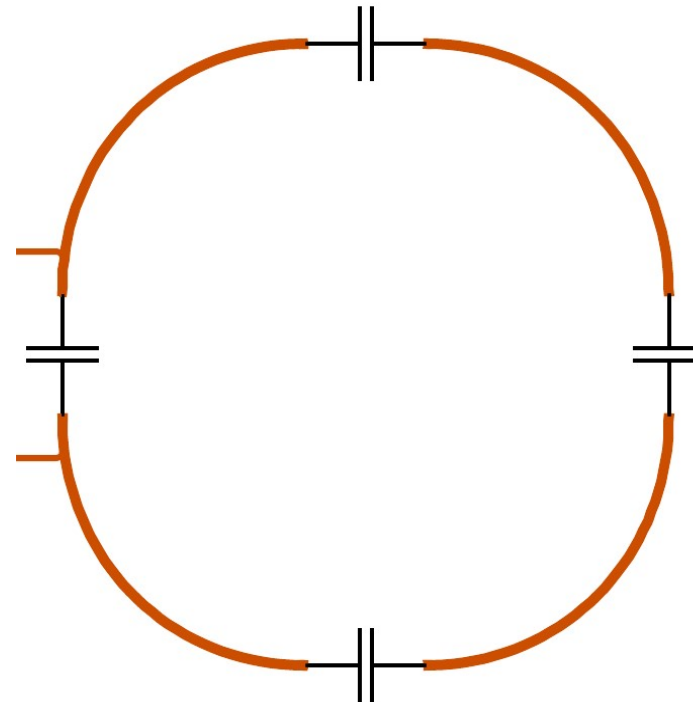
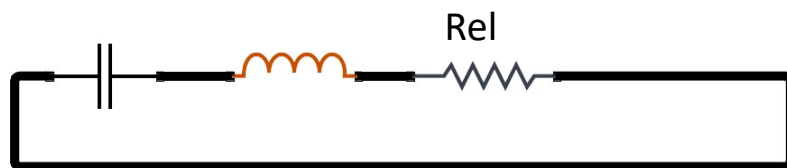


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# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils

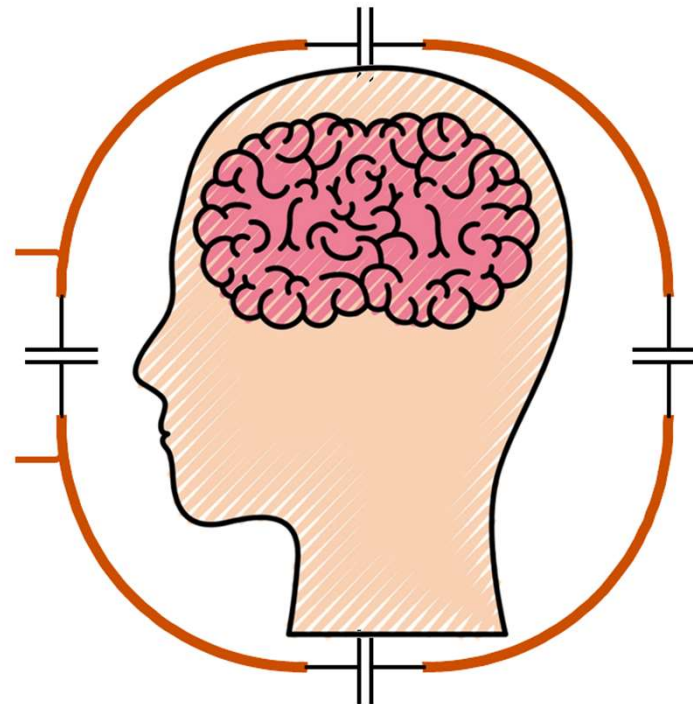
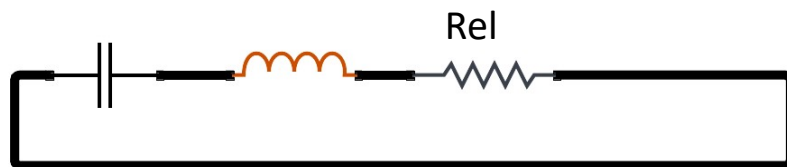
- Loading of RF coil
- EM fields couples to conducting substance



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# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils

- Loading of RF coil
- EM fields couples to conducting substance

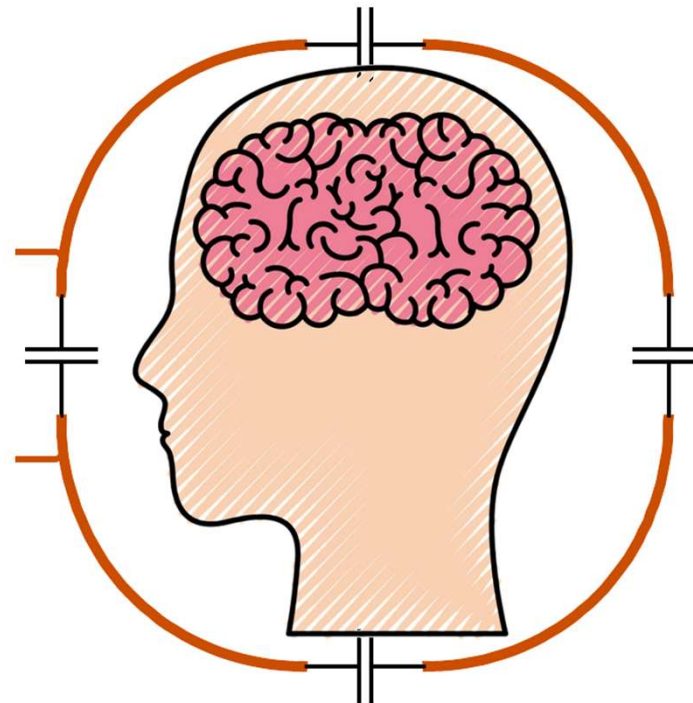
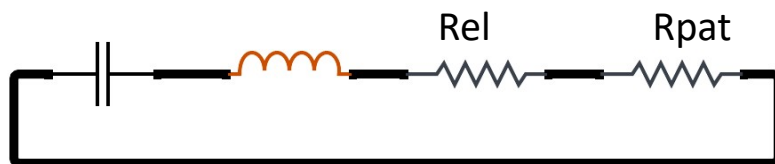


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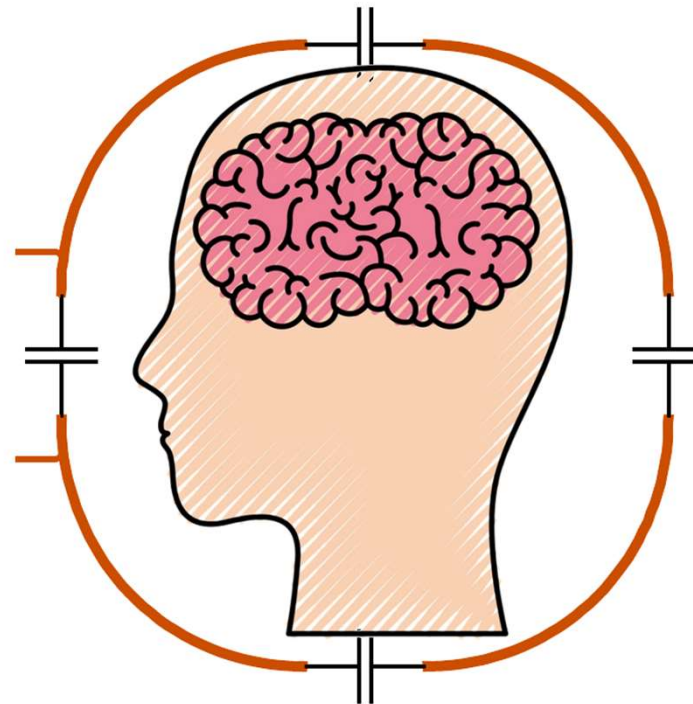
- Loading of RF coil
- EM fields couples to conducting substance
- Quality factor drops



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# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils

- Specific absorption rate (SAR)
- E-field
- Great effort put in prediction



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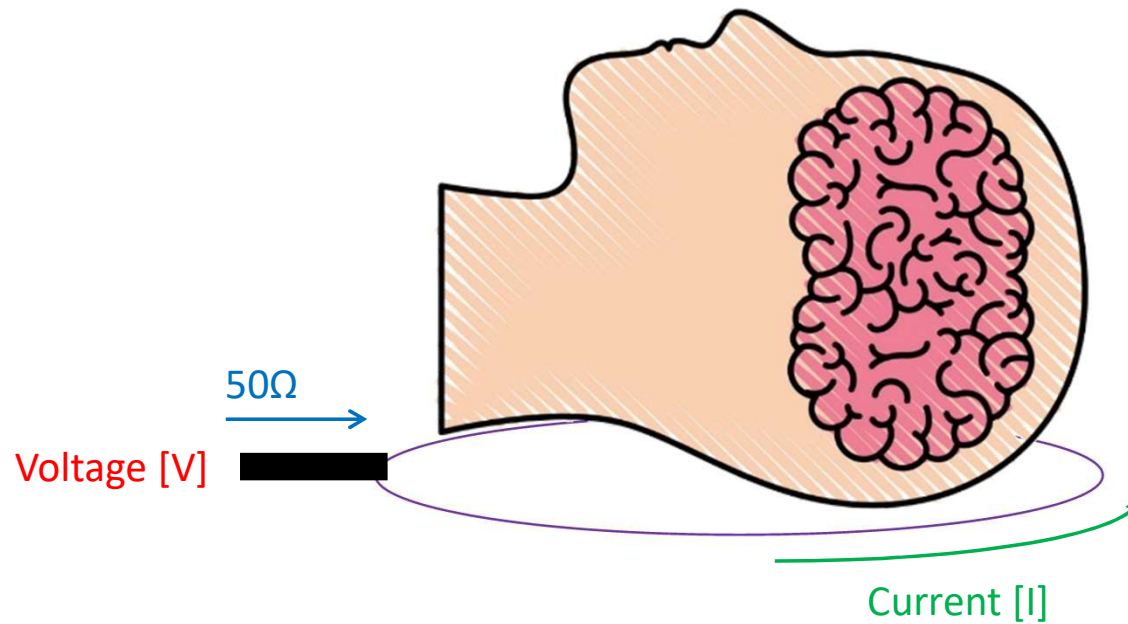


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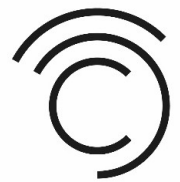
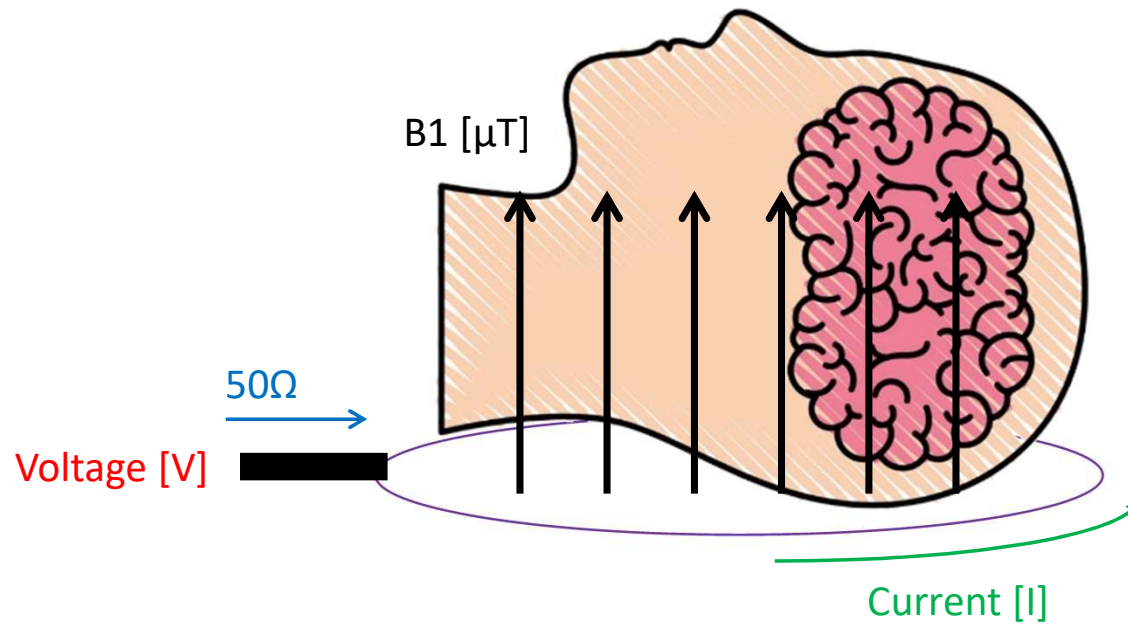


# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils



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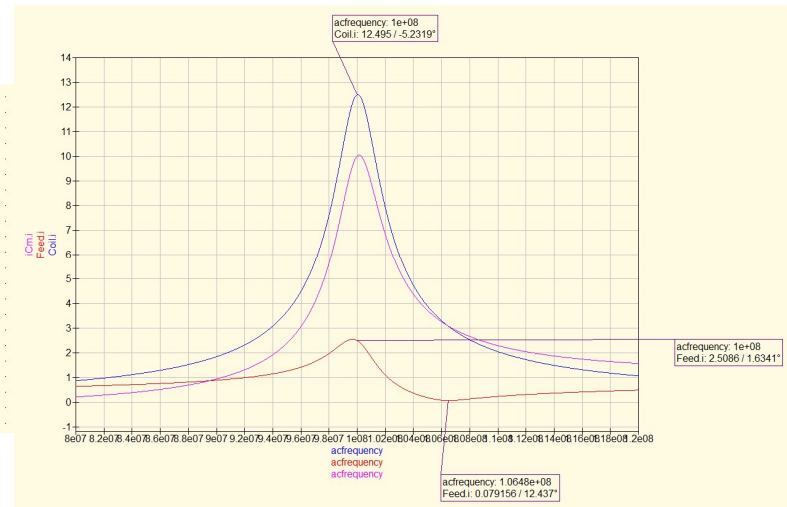
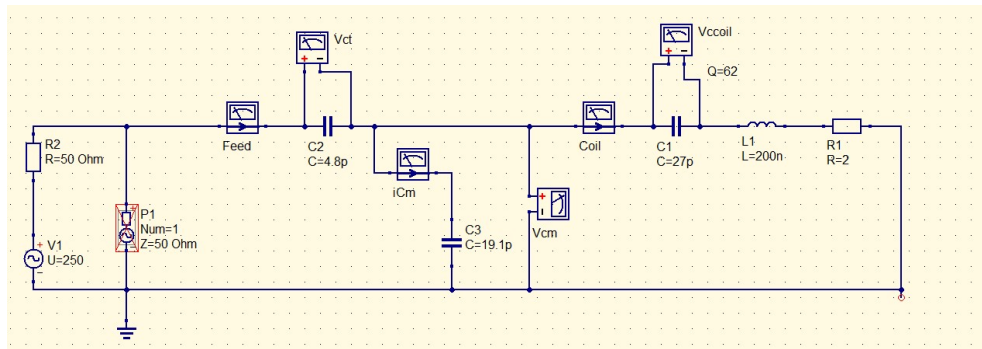
- How much B1+/V is generated by a coil
  - Measure pick up probe



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# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils

- How much B1+/V is generated by a coil
  - Measure pick up probe
  - Circuit simulation



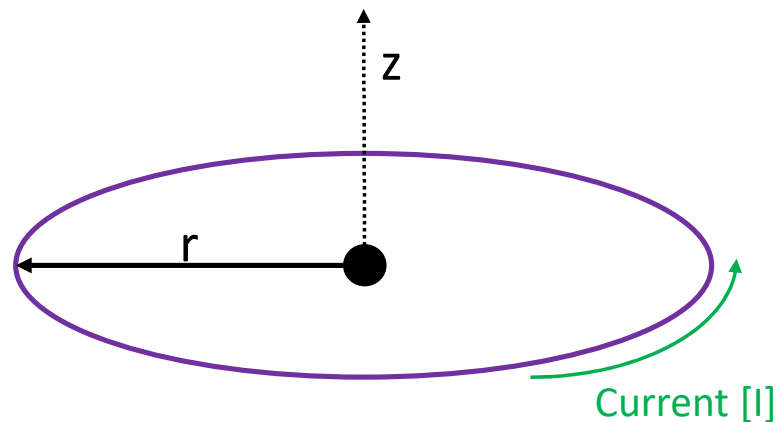
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# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils

- How much B1+/V is generated by a coil
  - Measure pick up probe
  - Circuit simulation
- Tissue does change the EM field

$$B_z = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} * \frac{2\pi r^2 I}{(z^2 + r^2)^{3/2}}$$

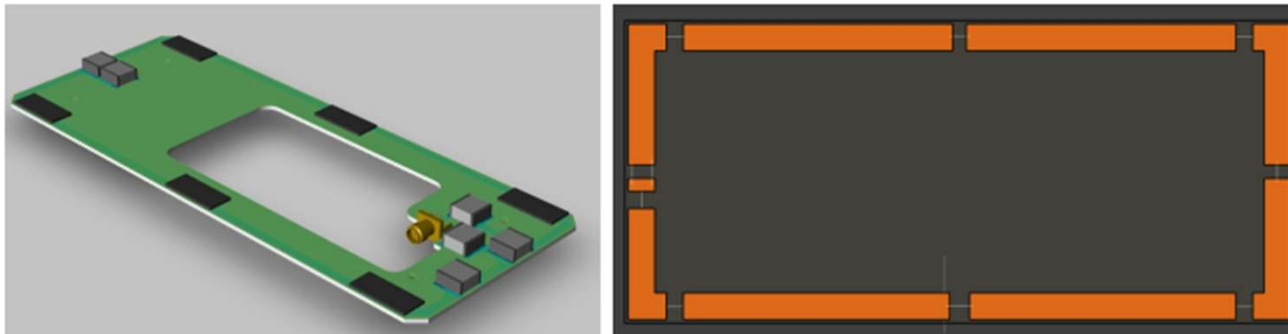


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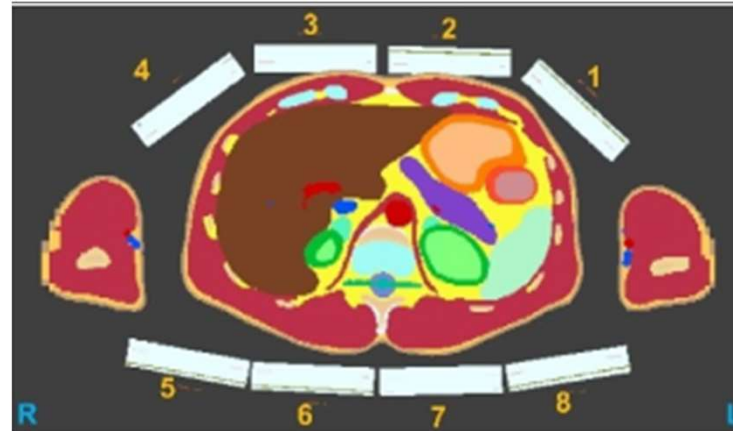
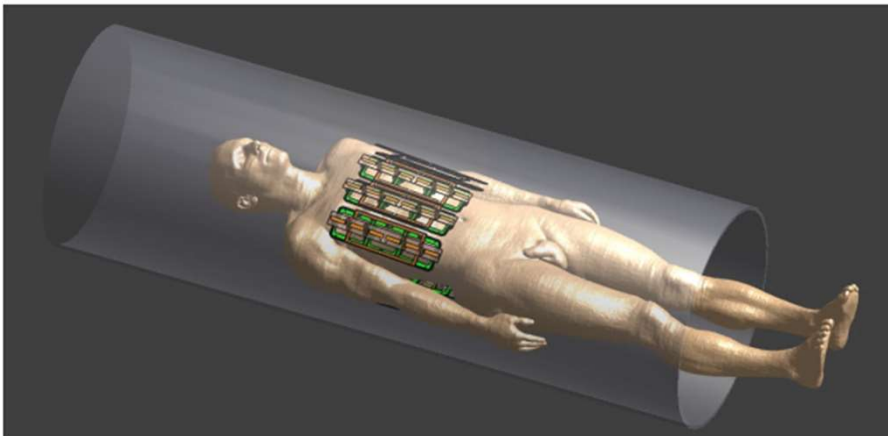
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  - EM field simulation



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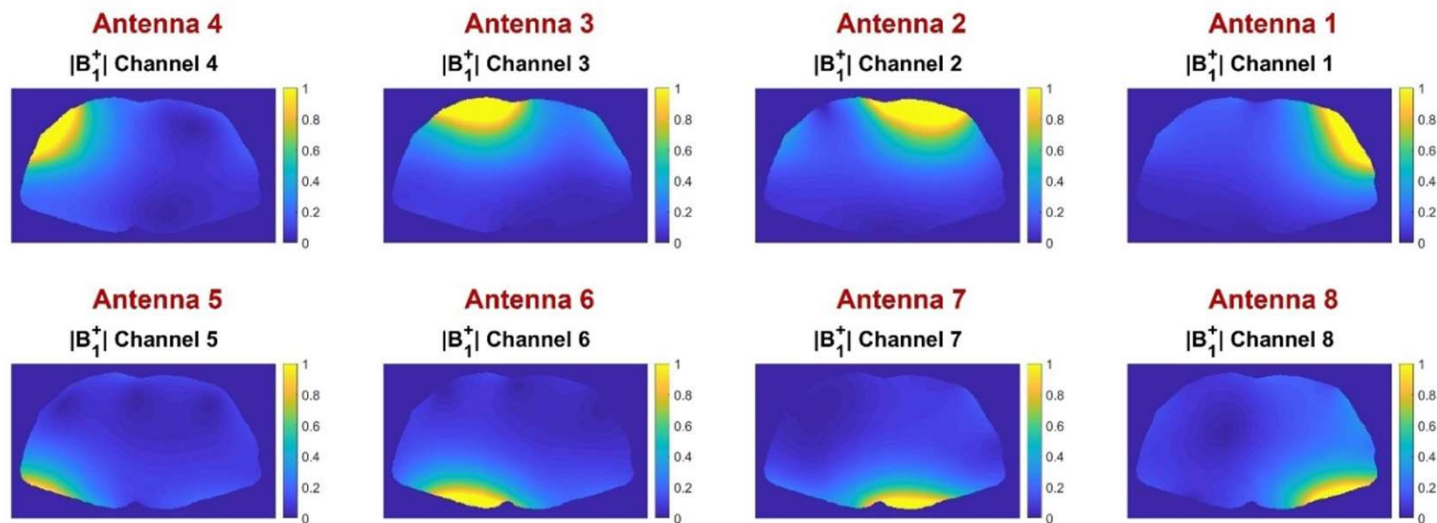
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# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils

- How much  $B_1^+/V$  is generated by a coil
  - Measure pick up probe
  - Circuit simulation
  - EM field simulation



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# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils

- How much B1+/V is generated by a coil
  - Measure pick up probe
  - Circuit simulation
  - EM field simulation
  - Measure on MR scanner
    - B1+ map
    - Flip angle train



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# Components and designs: Tx(Rx) coils

- Scale voltage and currents to desired B1+ field
- Or maximum output of the RF power amplifier of the scanner
- Compare scaled values to datasheet



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# Components and designs: Rx coils

- Pick up the tiny RF signals
- Positioned close to the patient
- Losses (resistance) result in lower SNR
- Rx coils must be combined with a Tx coil
- They are exposed to high B1 fields

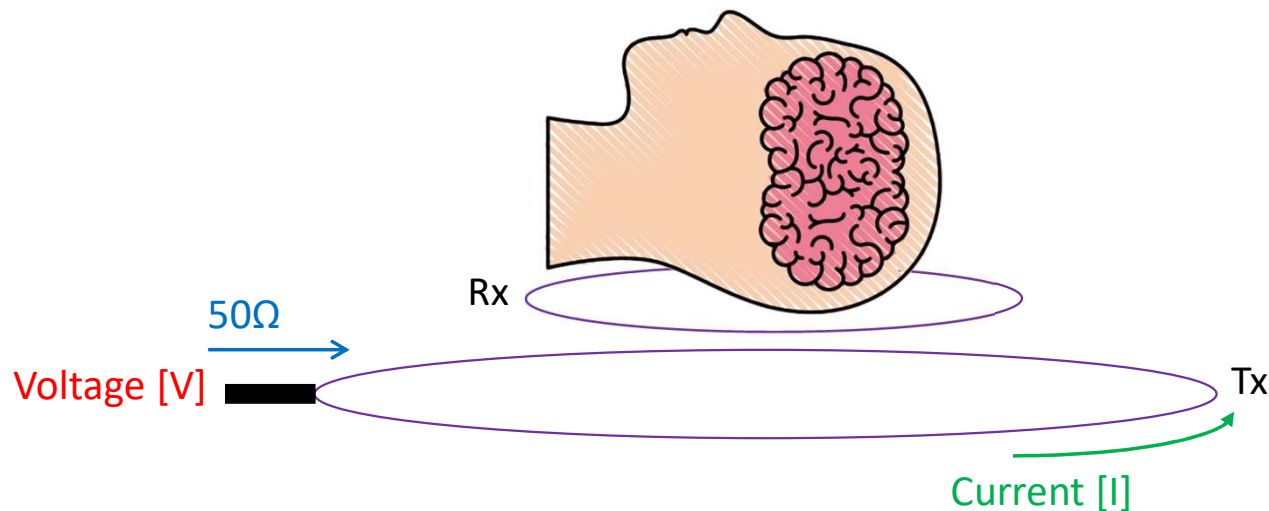


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# Components and designs: Rx coils

- During transmit voltage induced
- Induced voltage creates a current
- Current generates own magnetic field
- Disturb original B1 field



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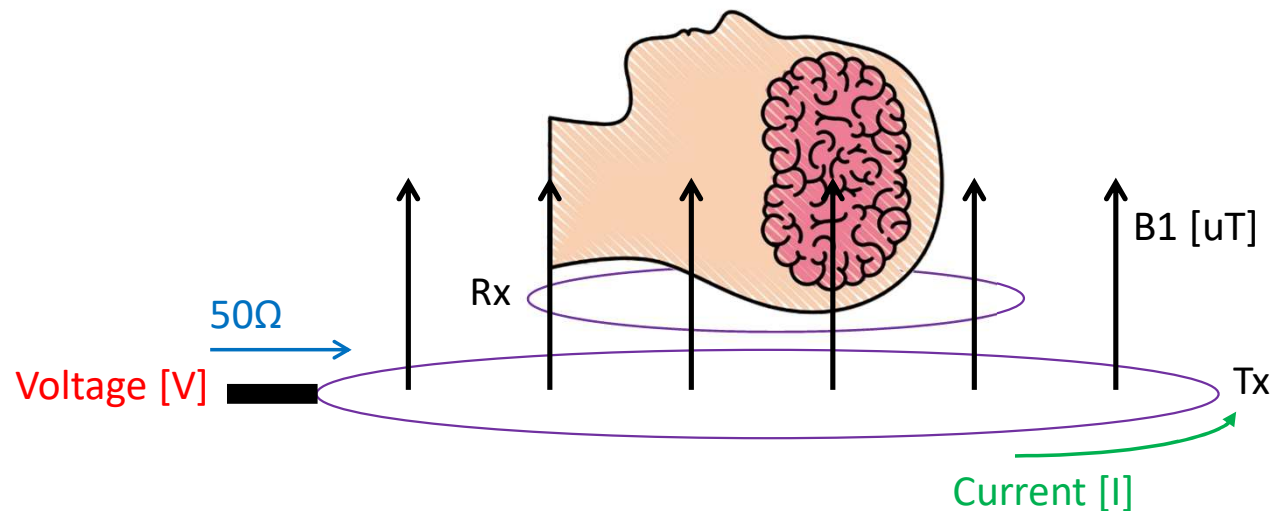


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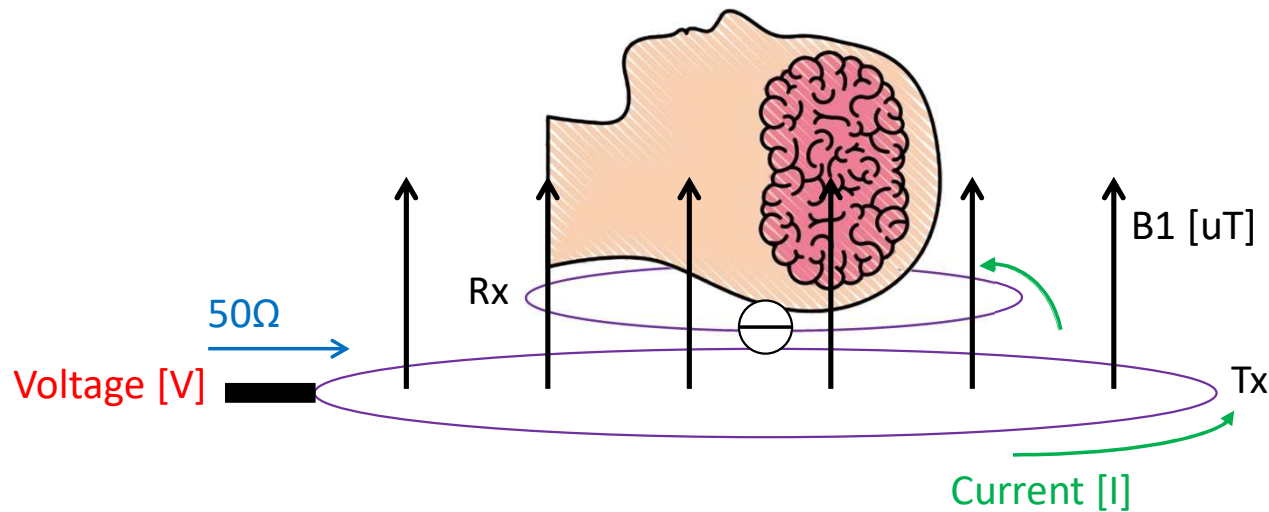
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$$V_{ind} = 2 * \pi * f * A * B_1$$



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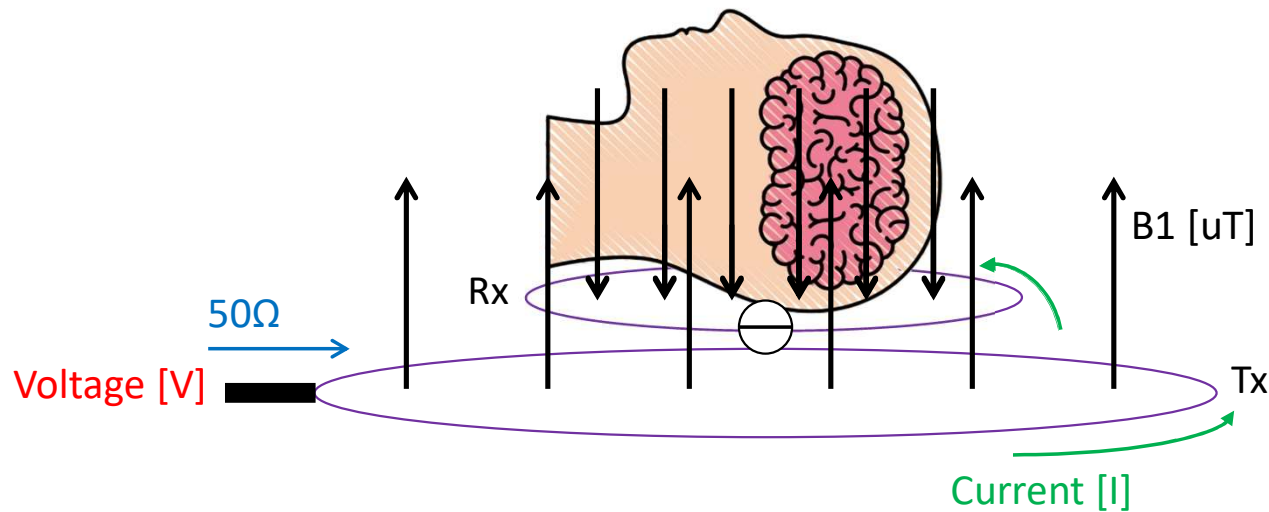
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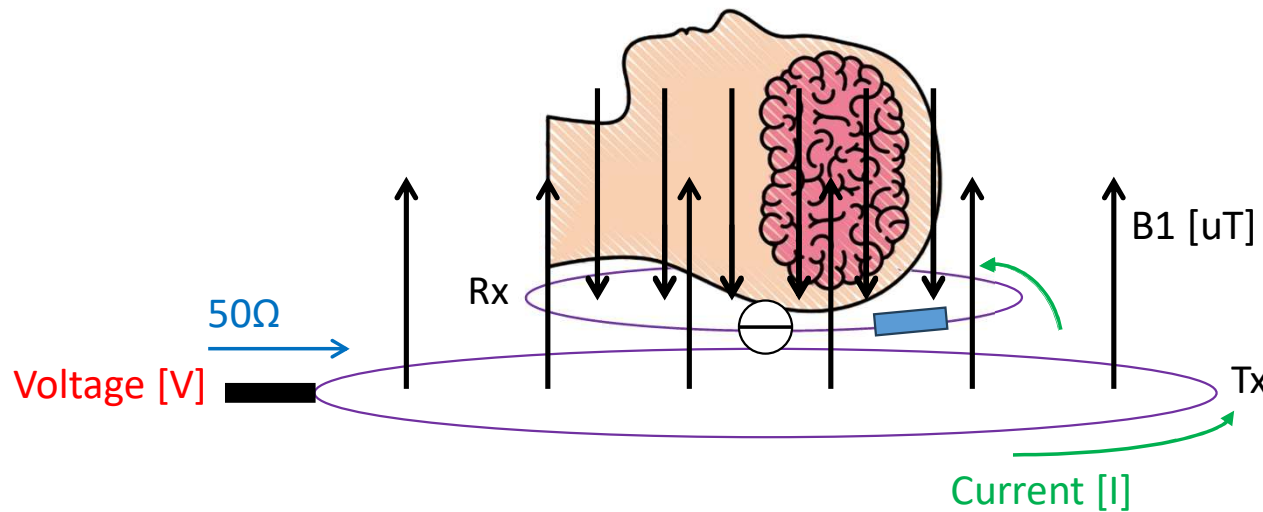
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$$V_{ind} = 2 * \pi * f * A * B_1$$

$$I_{coil} = \frac{V_{ind}}{Z_{coil}}$$



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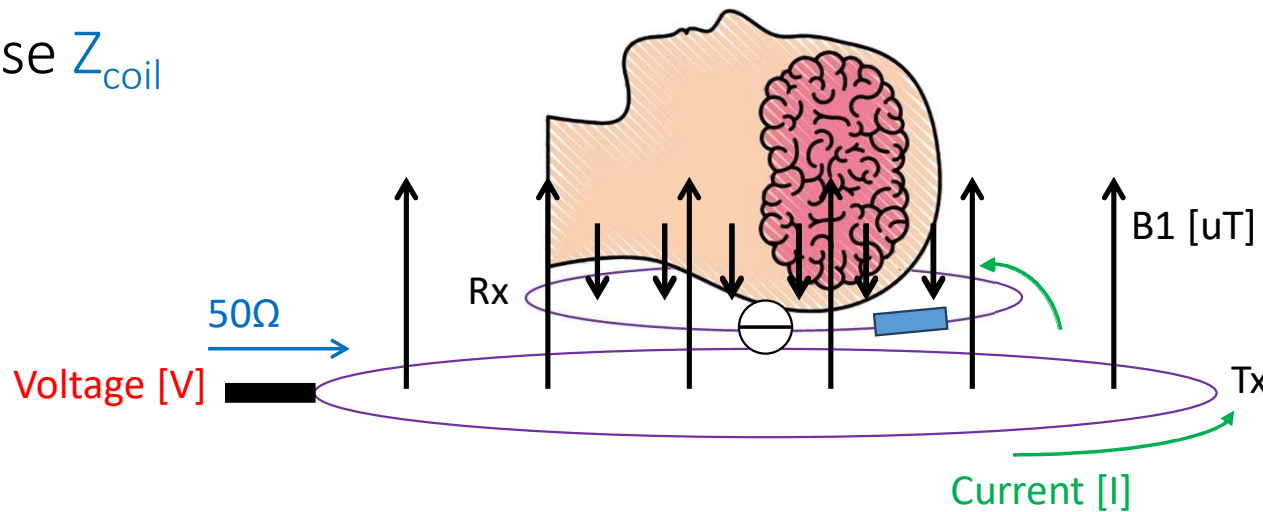


# Components and designs: Rx coils

- During transmit voltage induced
- Induced voltage creates a current
- Current generates own magnetic field
- Disturb original B1 field
- Increase  $Z_{coil}$

$$V_{ind} = 2 * \pi * f * A * B_1$$

$$I_{coil} = \frac{V_{ind}}{Z_{coil}}$$



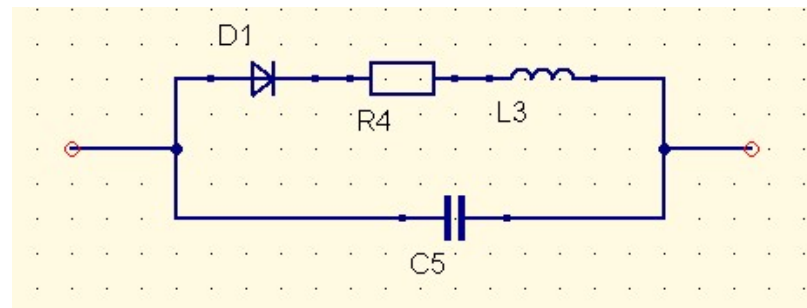
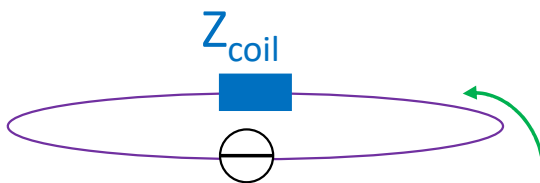
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# Components and designs: Rx coils

- High  $Z_{\text{coil}}$  means low SNR
- Switch the high impedance on and off: detune circuits
- PIN diode biasing



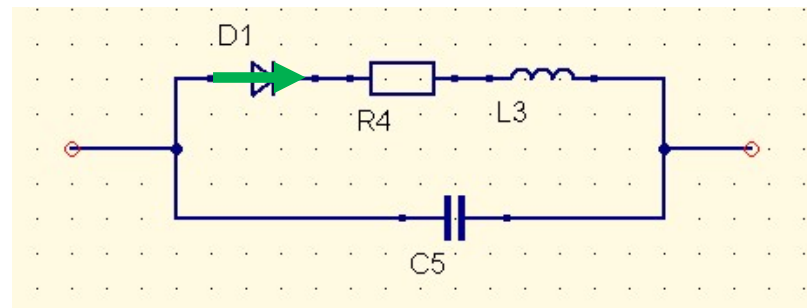
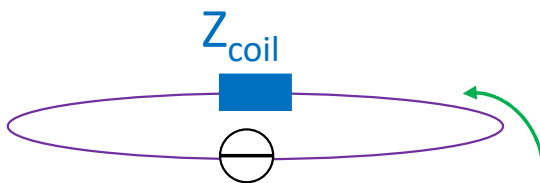
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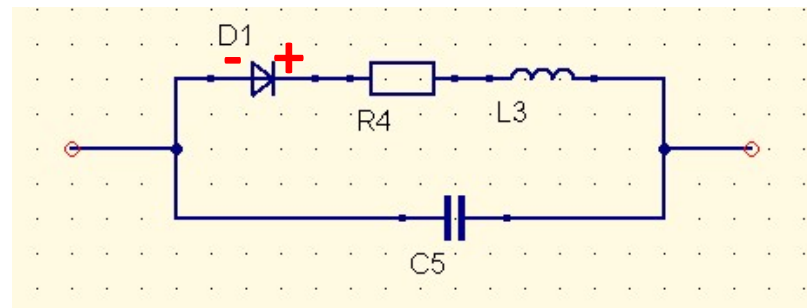
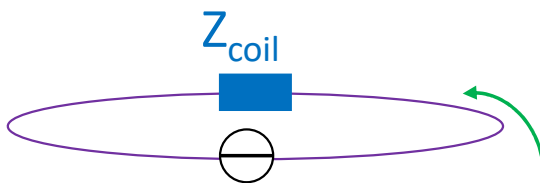
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- High  $Z_{\text{coil}}$  means low SNR
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# Components and designs: Rx coils

- Missing specifications
- Experience and common practice
- +60dBm CW  $\neq$  8kW puls

## Absolute Maximum Ratings<sup>1</sup> @ 25°C

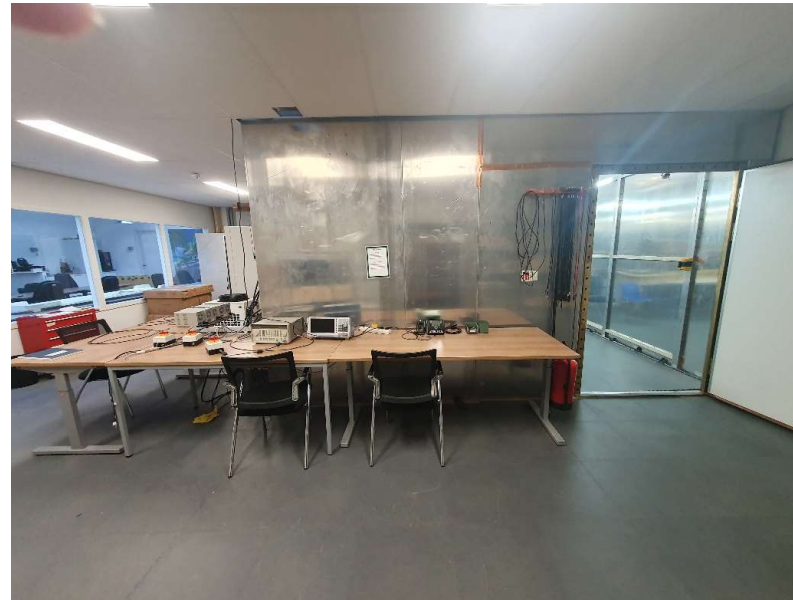
Parameter	Absolute Maximum
Operating Temperature	-65°C to +125°C
Storage Temperature	-65°C to +150°C
Diode Junction Temperature	+175°C Continuous
Diode Mounting Temperature	+265°C for 10 seconds
RF C.W. Incident Power	+ 60 dBm C.W.
Forward D.C. Current	+500mA
Reverse D.C. Voltage @ -10 $\mu$ A	-1100V

1. Exceeding these limits may cause permanent damage.



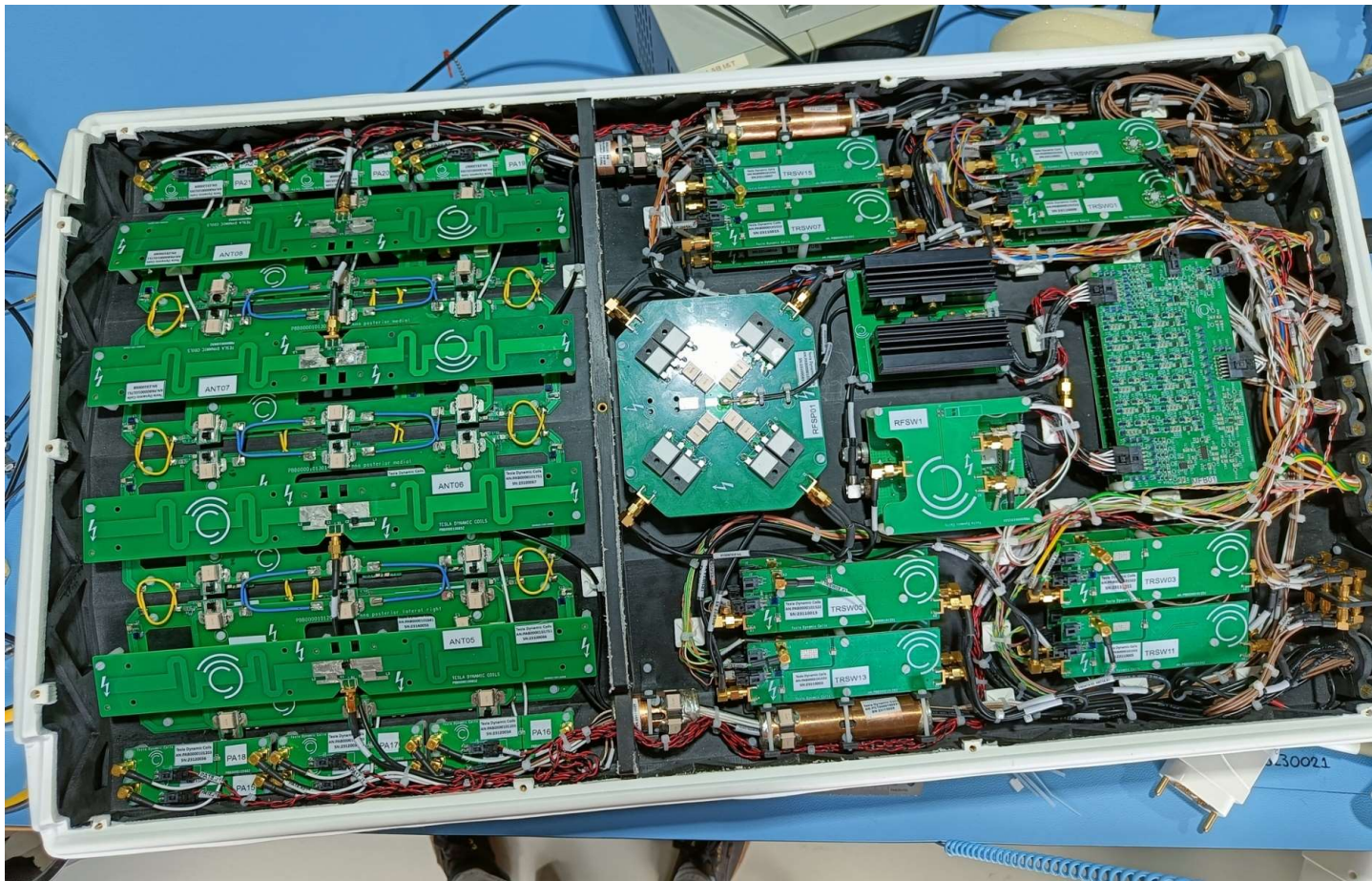
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# Components and designs: Testing



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# Cables



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# Summary

- Showed the electromagnetic field environment and application
- Component selection
  - Distortion of static magnetic field
  - SAR
  - High pulse power
  - Missing specifications
- Testing



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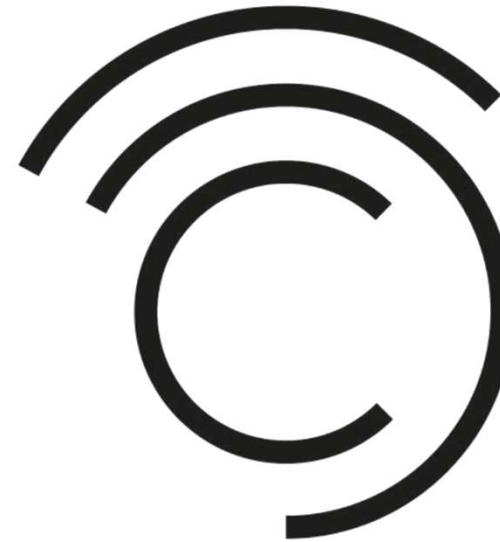
<https://www.tesladc.nl/>

Schimminck 12  
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## Tesla Dynamic Coils



**MEDISCHE ELEKTRONICA**  
Ontwikkelingen, normen en toepassingen

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