

# 2D Imaging without Gradient Coils in a Low-Field Spokes-and-Hub Permanent Magnet

Irene Kuang, Jason Stockmann,  
Elfar Adalsteinsson, Jacob White



**Massachusetts  
Institute of  
Technology**

MGH/HST Athinoula A. Martinos  
Center for Biomedical Imaging

---



MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL HOSPITAL



Harvard-MIT  
Health Sciences & Technology



**HARVARD**  
MEDICAL SCHOOL



# Declaration of Financial Interests or Relationships

Speaker Name: Irene Kuang

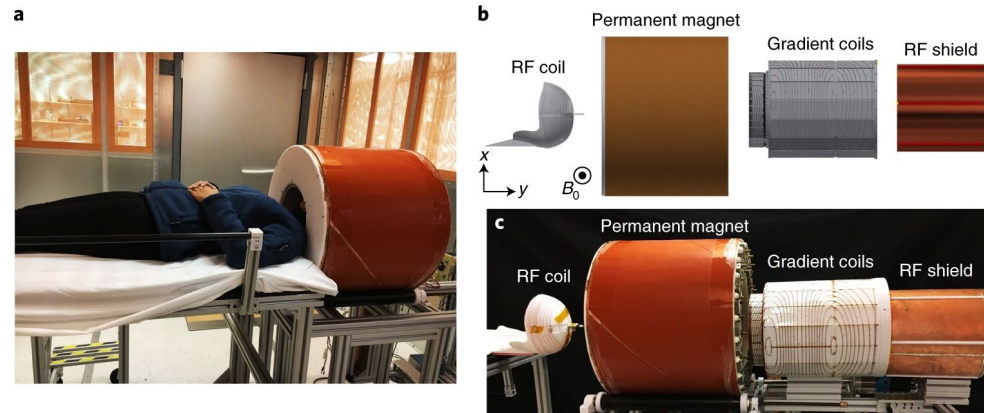
I have no financial interests or relationships to disclose with regard to the subject matter of this presentation.

# Permanent Magnet Imaging

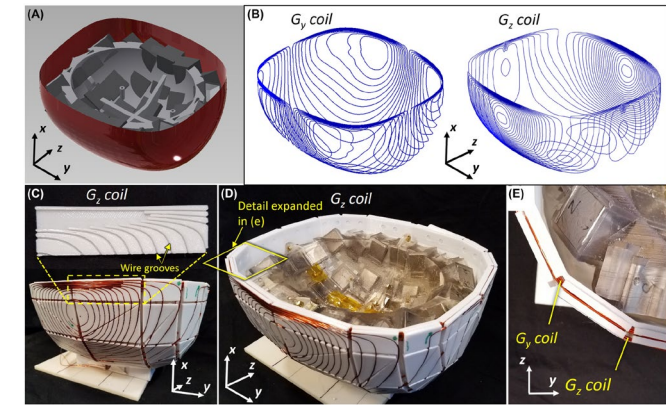
- ✓ Low cost
- ✓ Portable
- ✓ Safe for point-of-care and classroom use

— Inhomogeneous compared to clinical scanners

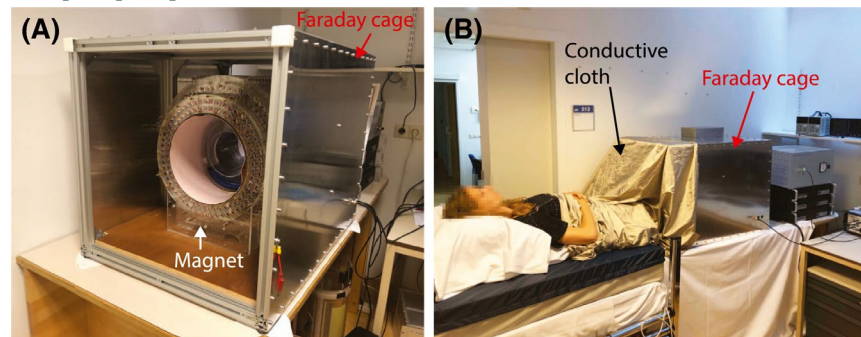
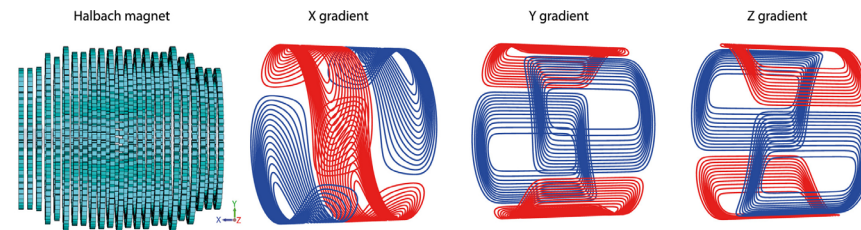
— Gradient non-linearity across FOV



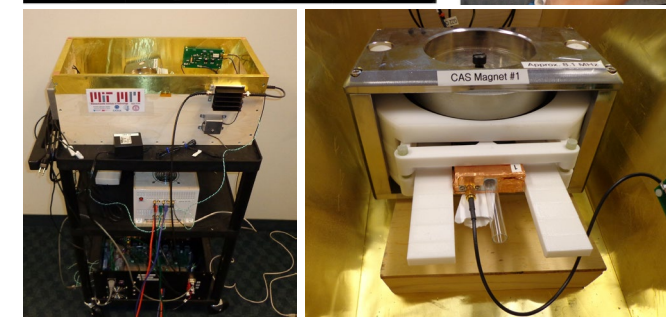
Cooley et al., A portable scanner for magnetic resonance imaging of the brain. Nat. Biomed. Eng., 2021.



McDaniel et al., The MR Cap: A single-sided MRI system designed for potential point-of-care limited field-of-view brain imaging. Magn. Res. Med., 2019.



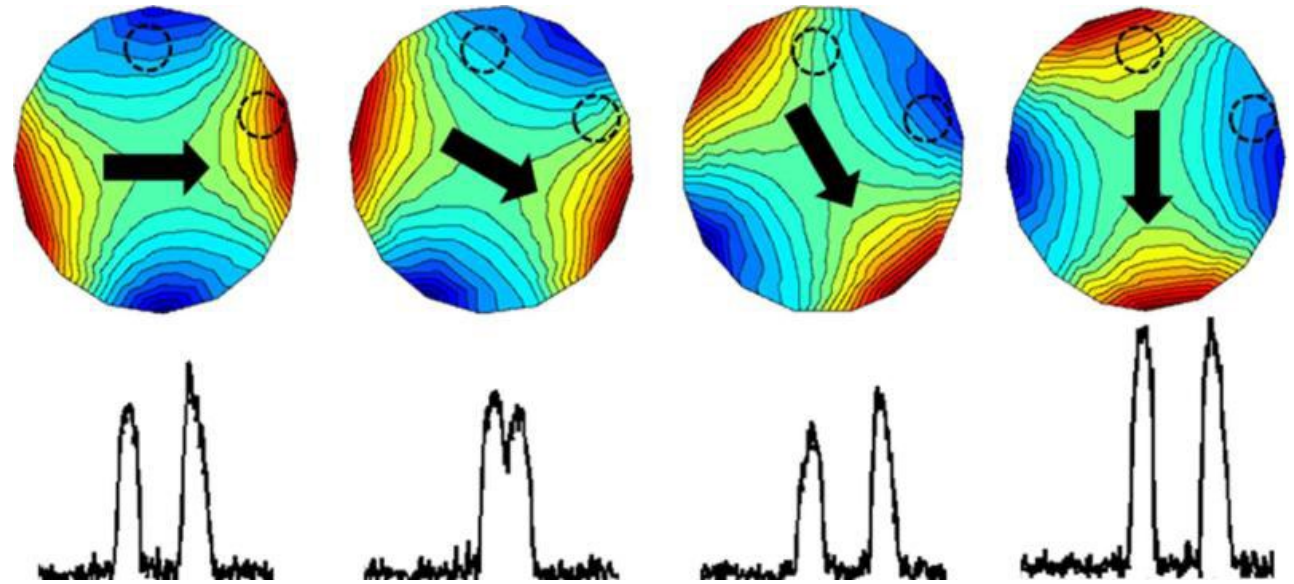
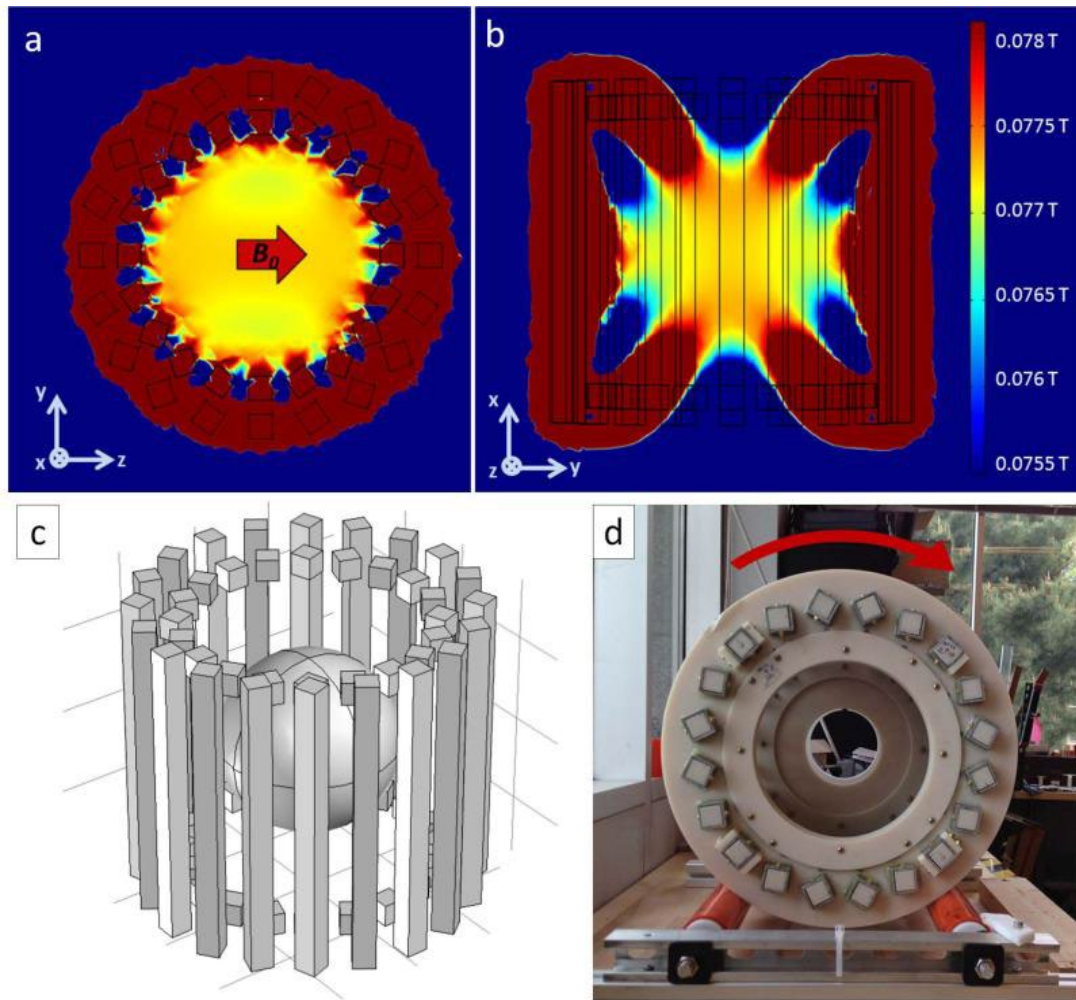
O'Reilly et al., In vivo 3D brain and extremity MRI at 50 mT using a permanent magnet Halbach array. Magn. Res. Med., 2020.



Cooley et al., Design and implementation of a low-cost, tabletop MRI scanner for education and research prototyping. J. Magn. Res. Imaging, 2019.



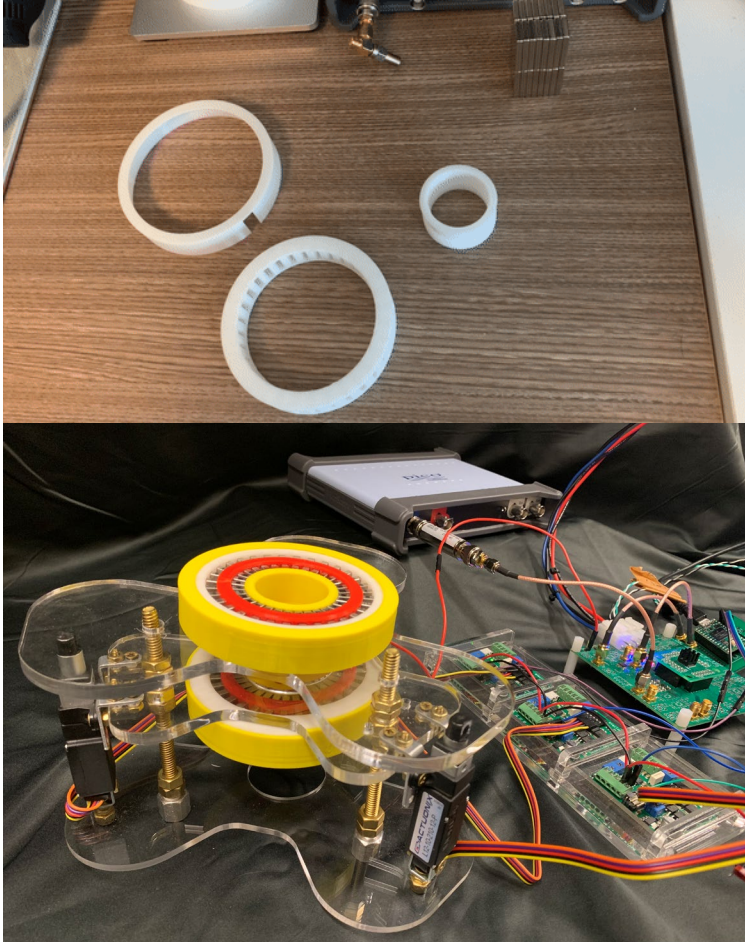
# Mechanically-Generated Gradients for Imaging



projections acquired from rotating Halbach magnet



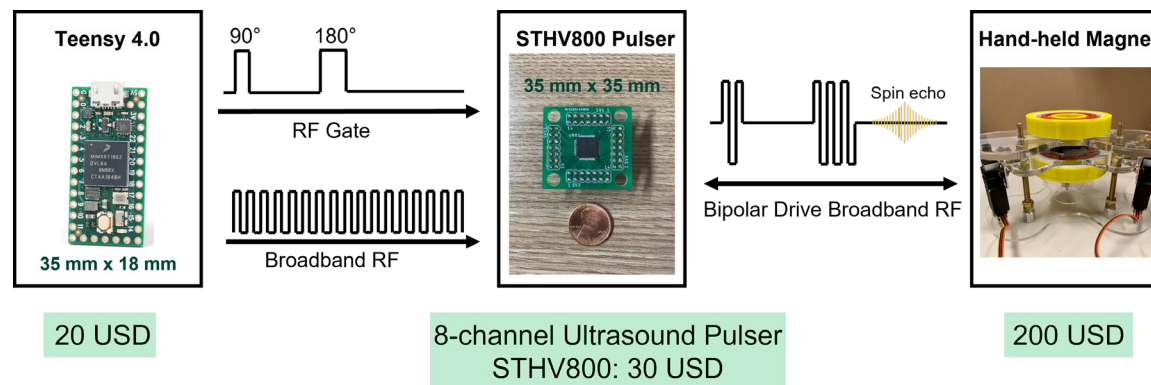
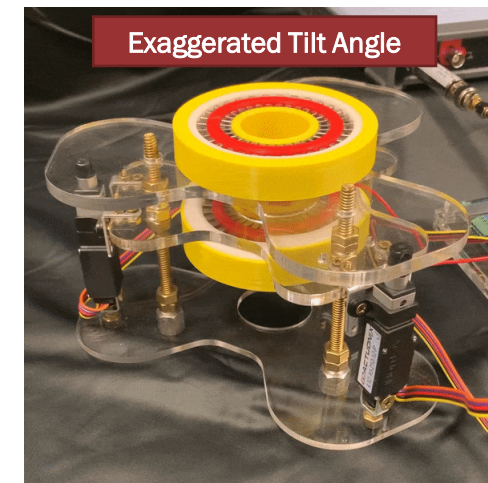
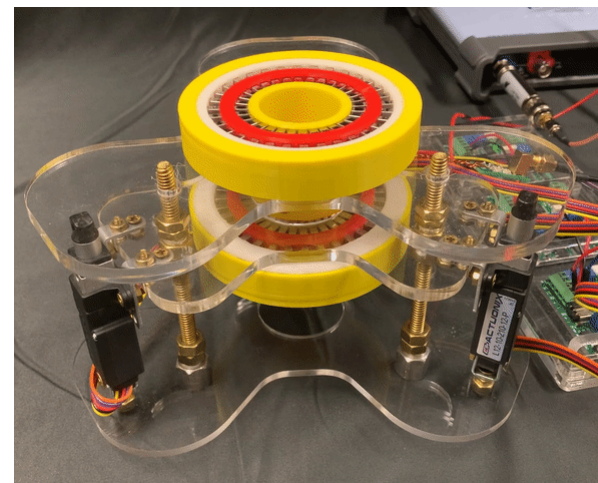
# Hand-Held 'Spokes-and-Hub' Magnets



- ✓ Easy & safe to assemble
- ✓ Low cost (<200 USD)
- ✓ Commercially-available parts

Aubert, G., U.S. Patent No. 5014032, 1991.  
Kuang et al., Int. Soc. Magn. Res. Med., 2019.  
Kuang et al., Int. Soc. Magn. Res. Med., 2020.

# Hand-Held 'Spokes-and-Hub' Magnets



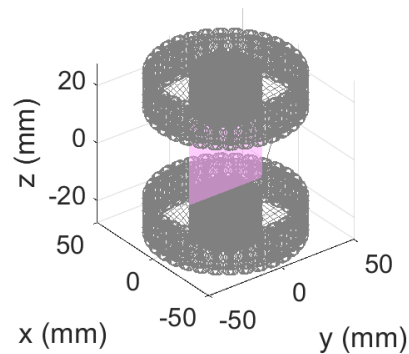
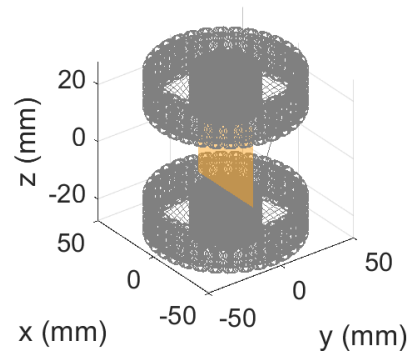
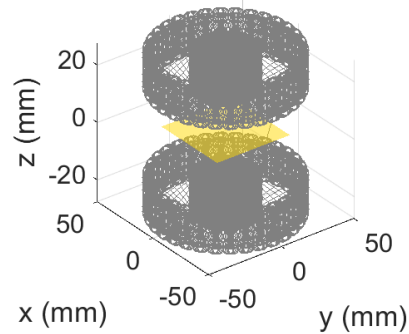
Aubert, G., U.S. Patent No. 5014032, 1991.  
Kuang et al., Int. Soc. Magn. Res. Med., 2019.  
Kuang et al., Int. Soc. Magn. Res. Med., 2020.



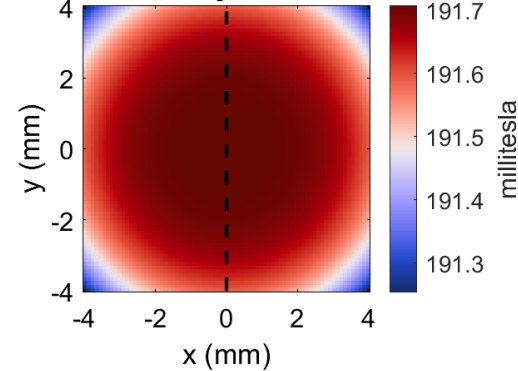
# Simulated Field Maps

$B_0 = 192 \text{ mT}$   
 $f_0 = 8.18 \text{ MHz}$   
(2000 ppm)

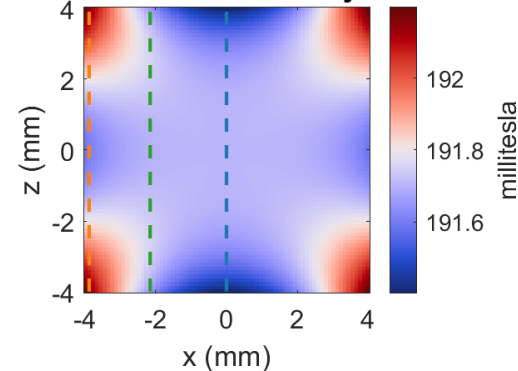
Simulated Plane (no gradient)



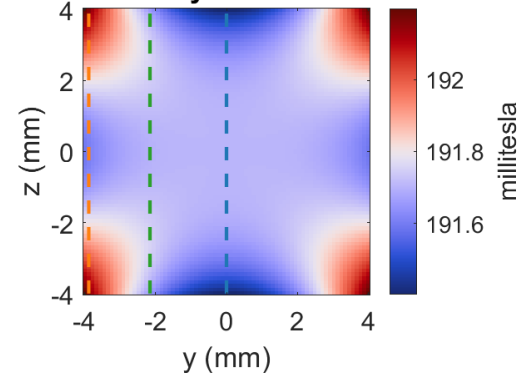
B0 field in x-y slice at z = 0



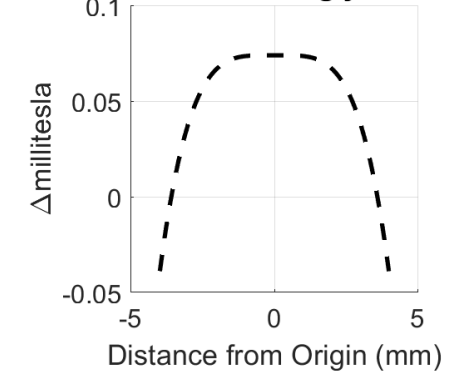
B0 field in x-z slice at y = 0



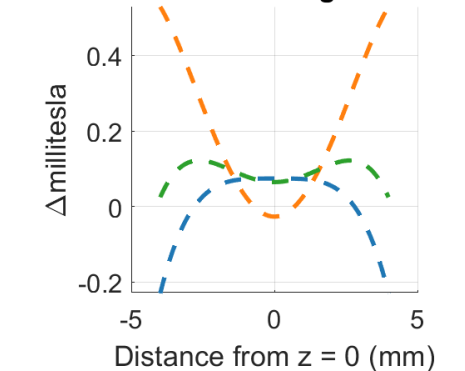
B0 field in y-z slice at x = 0



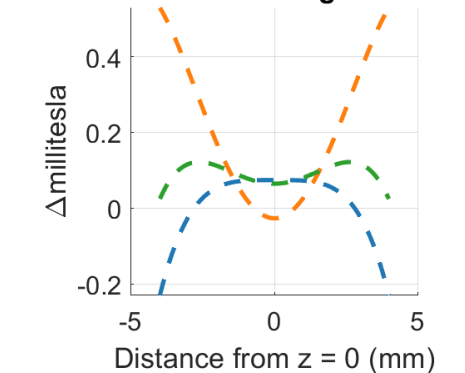
$\Delta B_0$  along y



$\Delta B_0$  along z

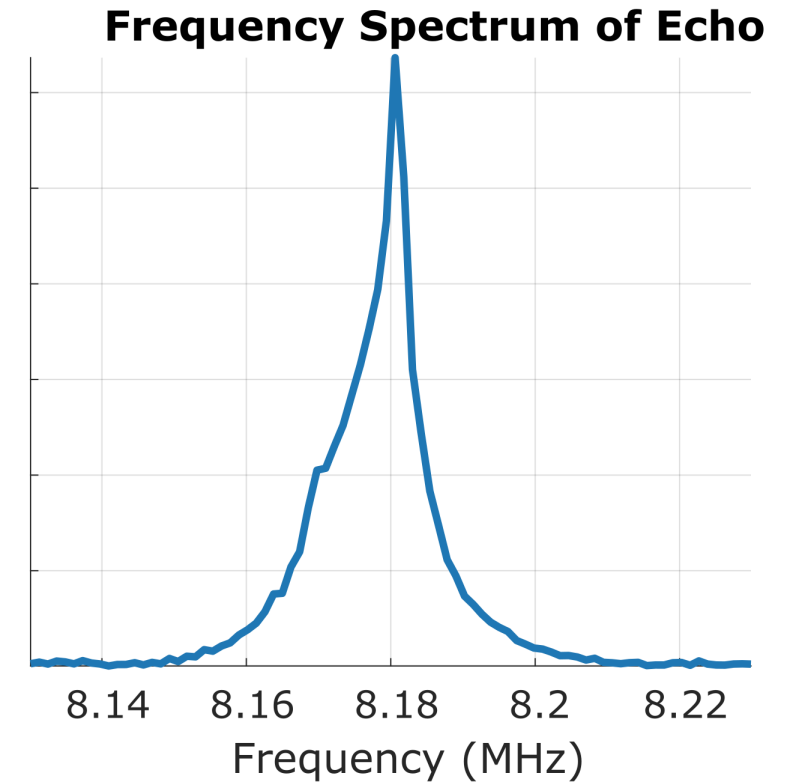
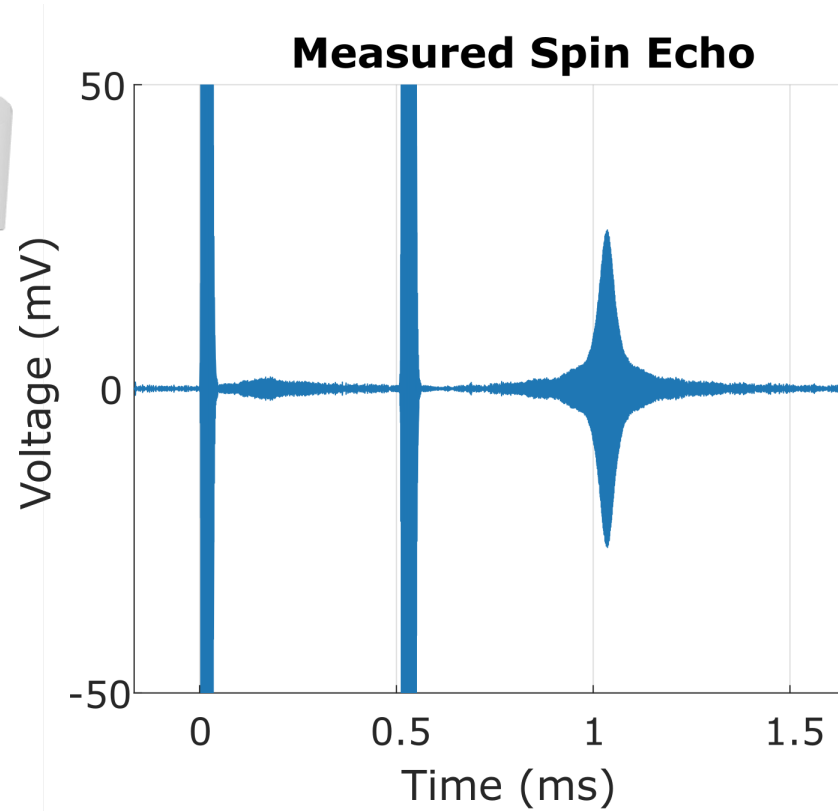
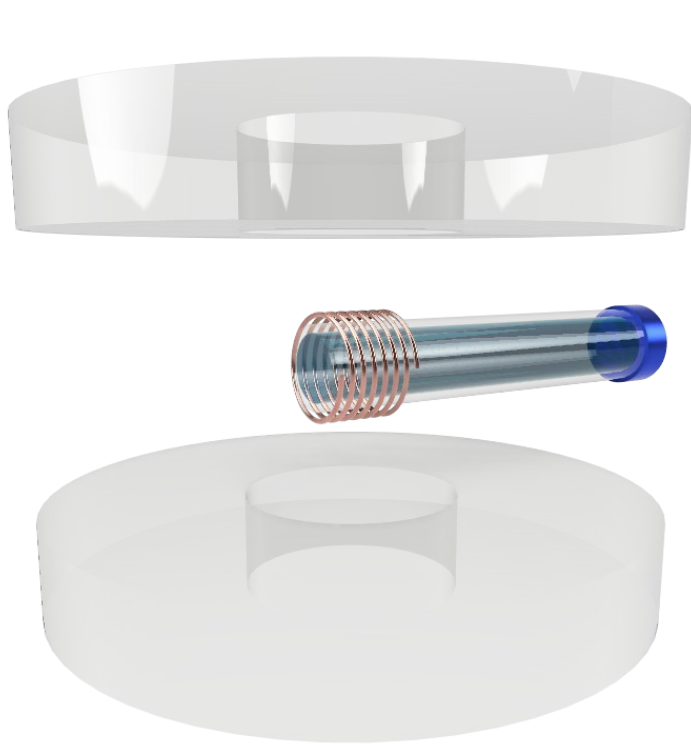
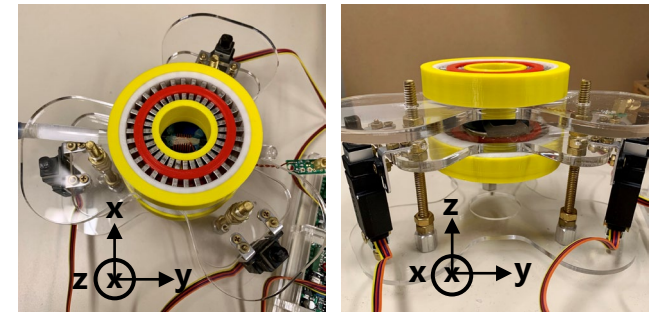


$\Delta B_0$  along z





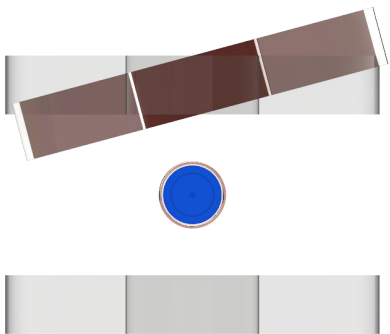
# Spin echo experiment – water phantom



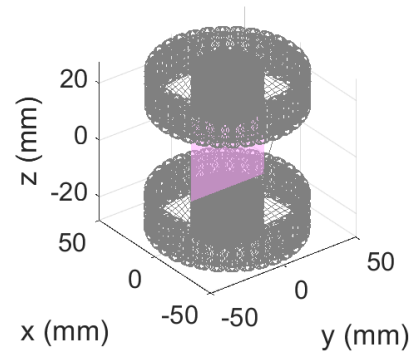
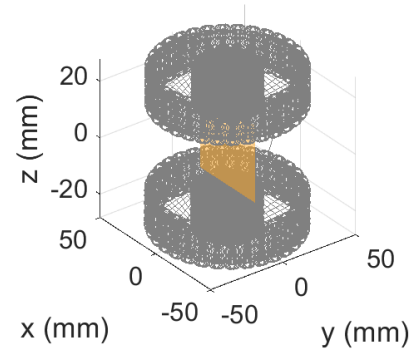
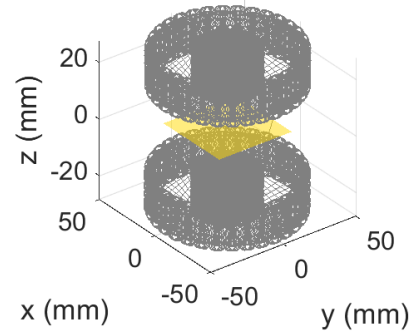
Sampling bandwidth,  $BW=125\text{MHz}$ ; Readout points,  $n_s=12875$ ;  $TE=1\text{ms}$

# Simulated Field Maps

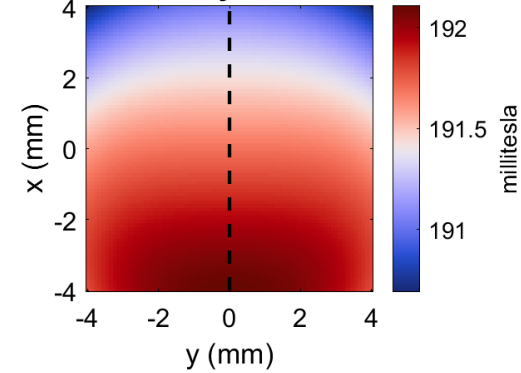
## Mechanical Tilt Gradient



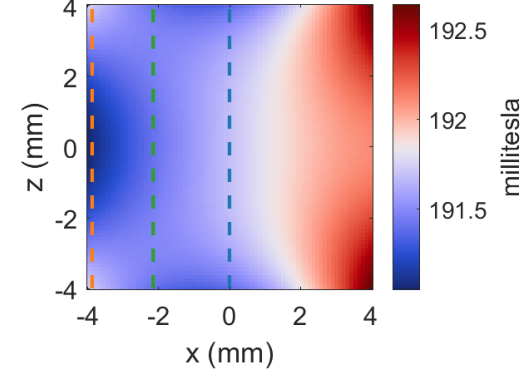
Simulated Plane (+1 degree tilt)



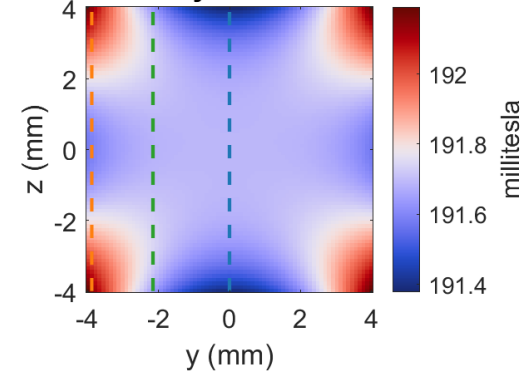
B0 field in x-y slice at z = 0



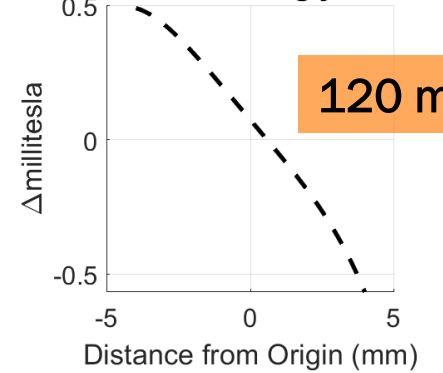
B0 field in x-z slice at y = 0



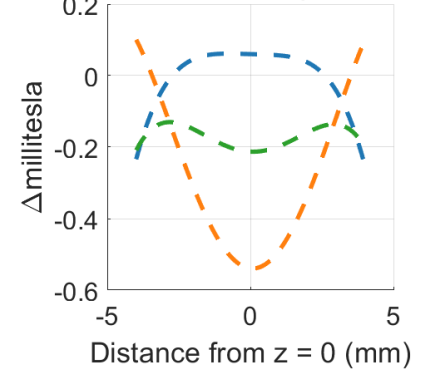
B0 field in y-z slice at x = 0



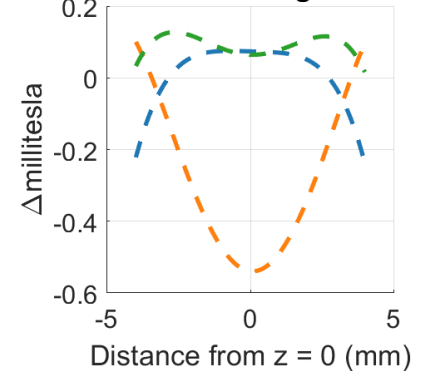
$\Delta B_0$  along y



$\Delta B_0$  along z

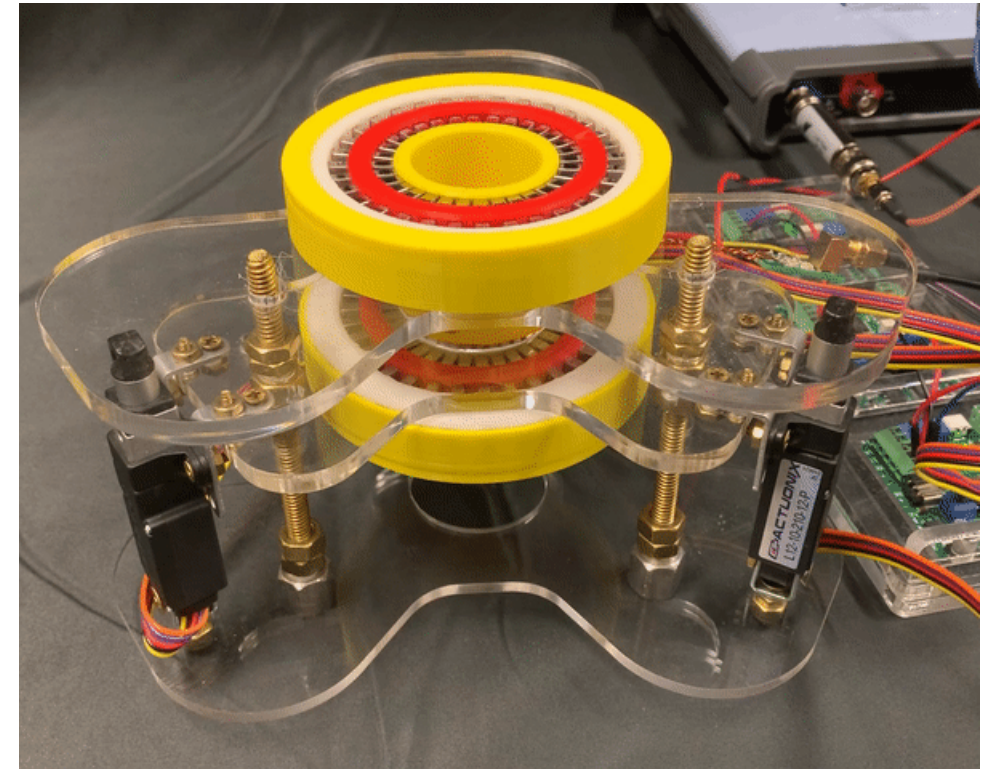
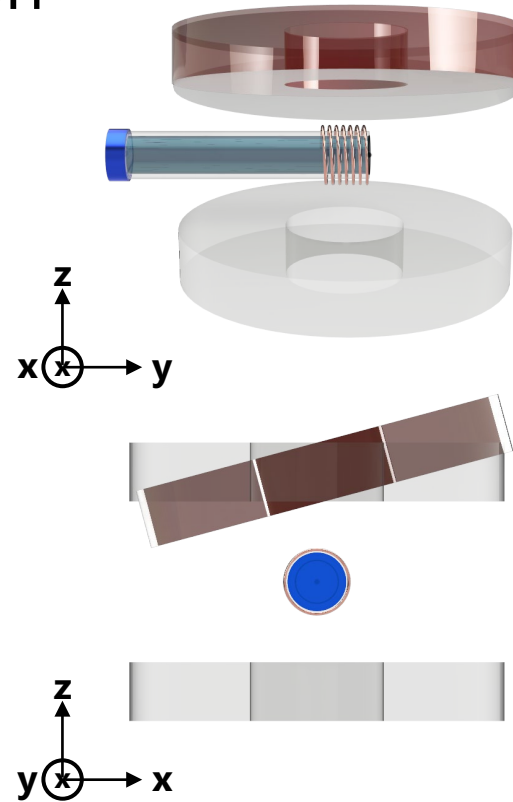


$\Delta B_0$  along z



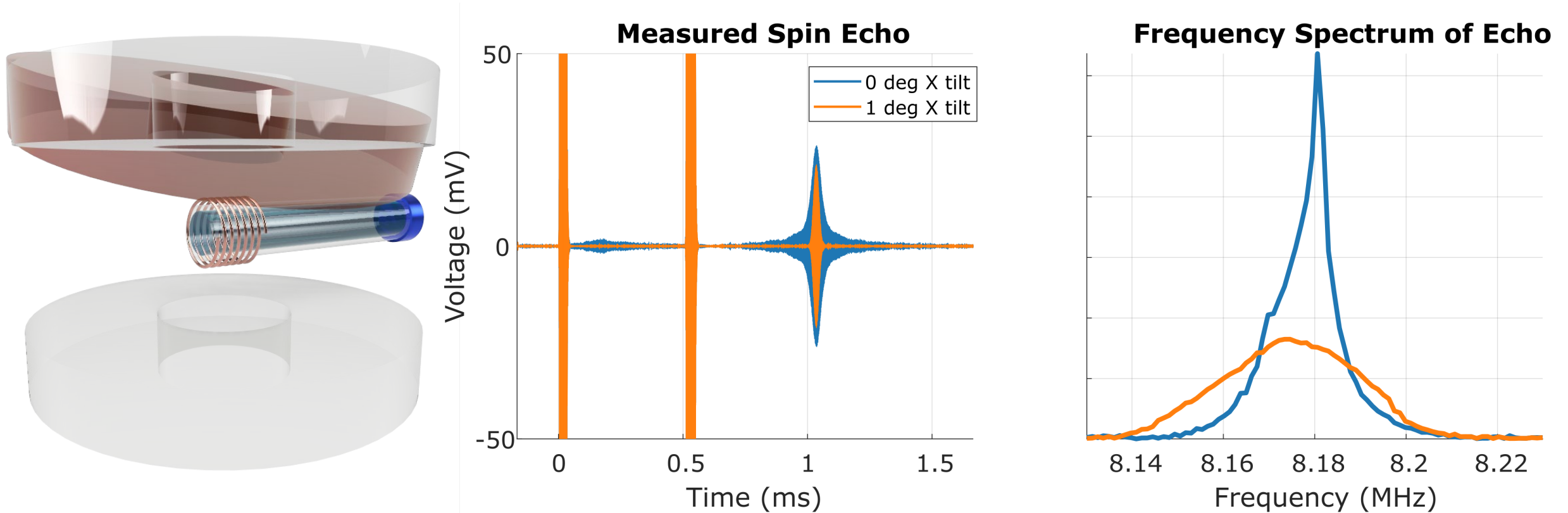
# Mechanically-Generated Tilt Gradient

Linear actuators with position feedback (Actuonix L12-P)



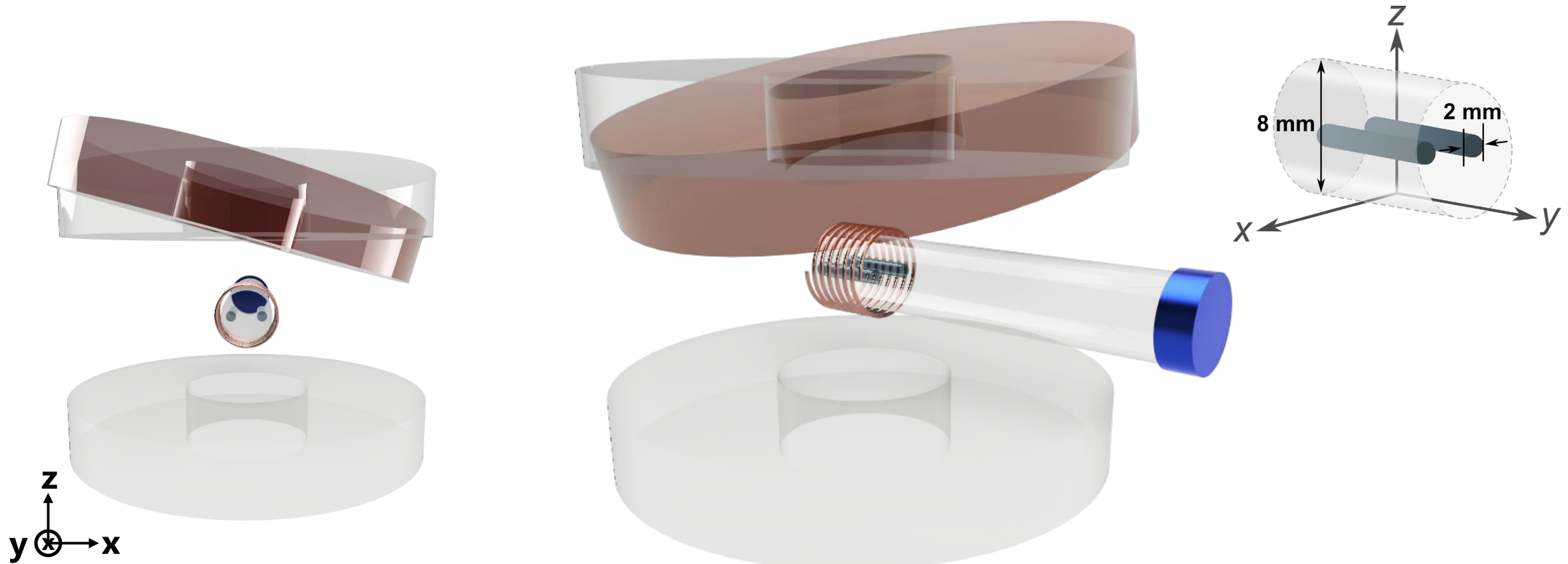


# Spin echo experiment – water phantom with X gradient

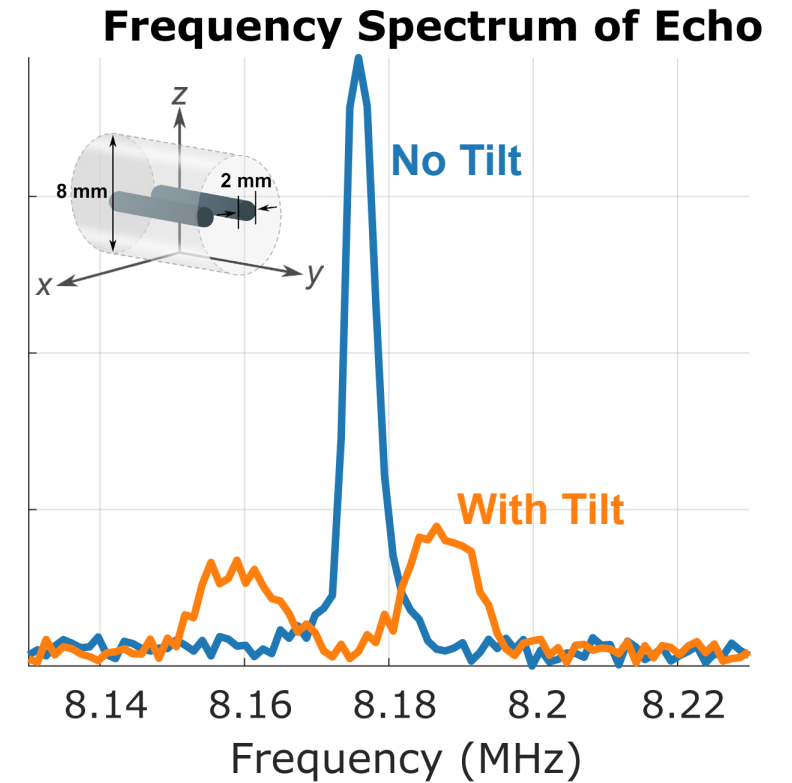
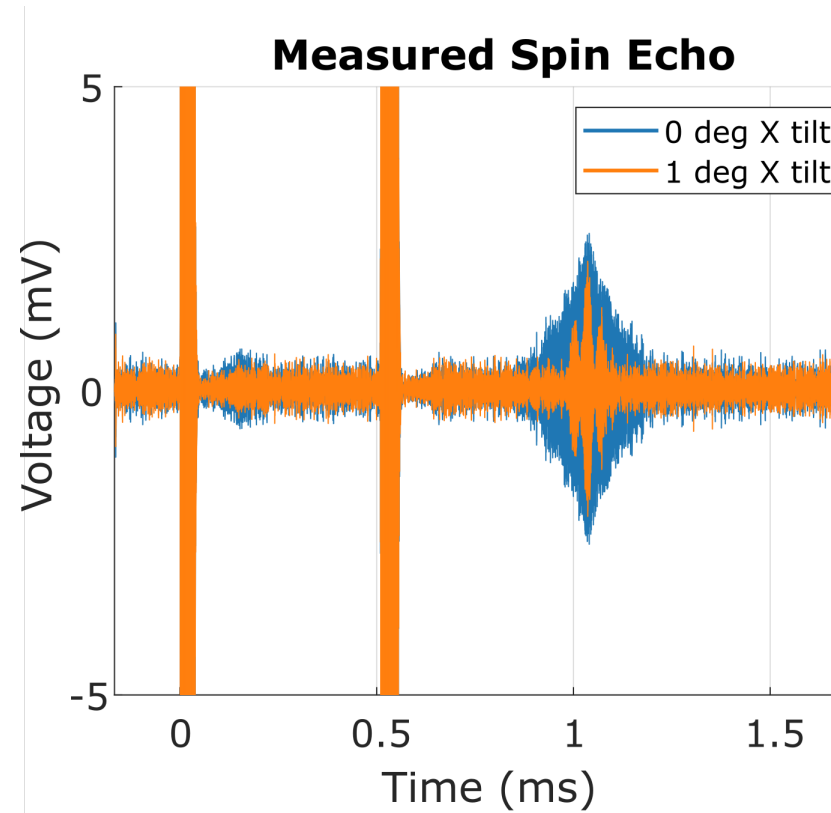
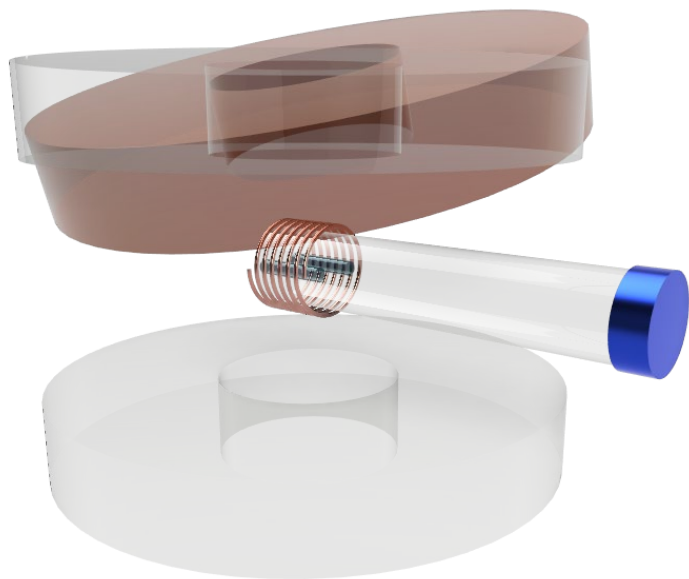


Sampling bandwidth,  $BW=125\text{MHz}$ ; Readout points,  $n_s=12875$ ;  $TE=1\text{ms}$

# Spin echo experiment – 2 tube phantom with X gradient



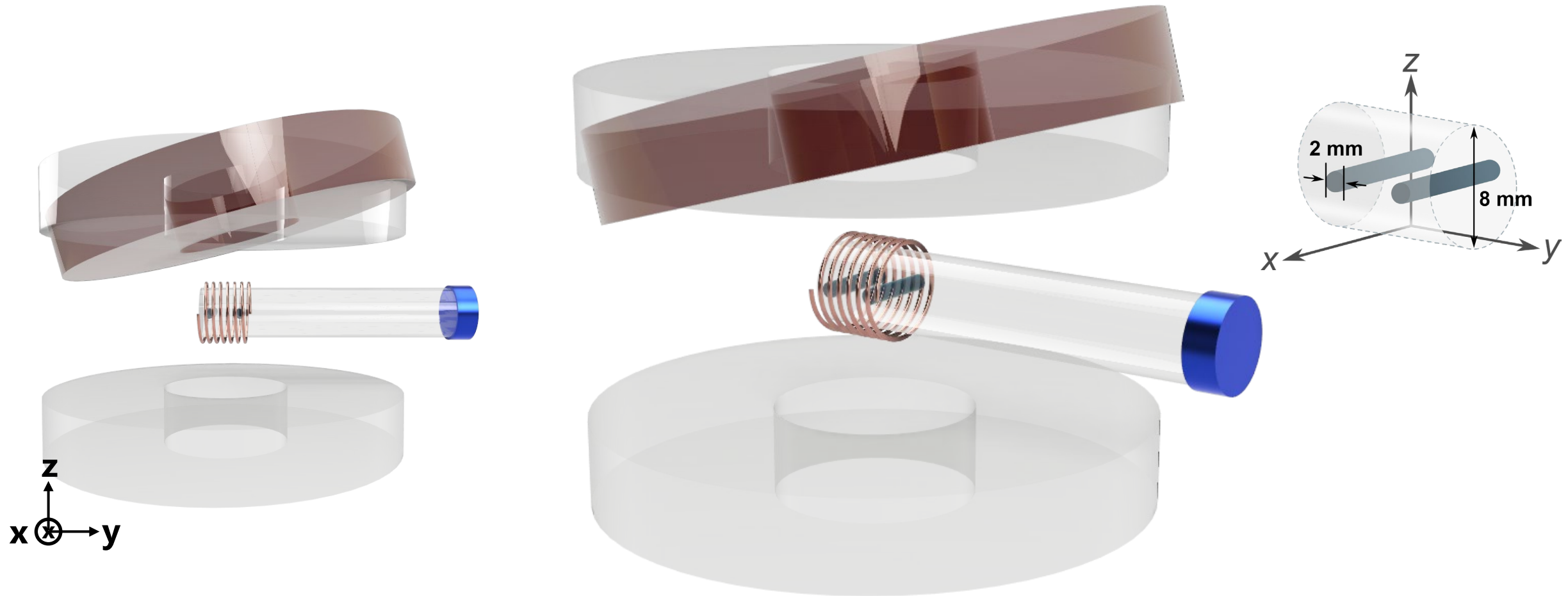
# Spin echo experiment – 2 tube phantom with X gradient



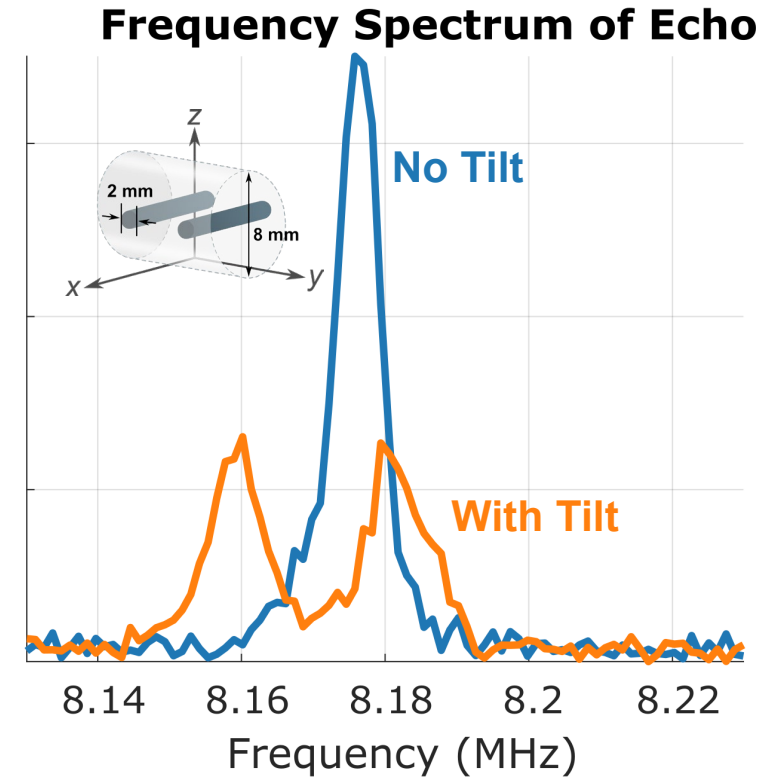
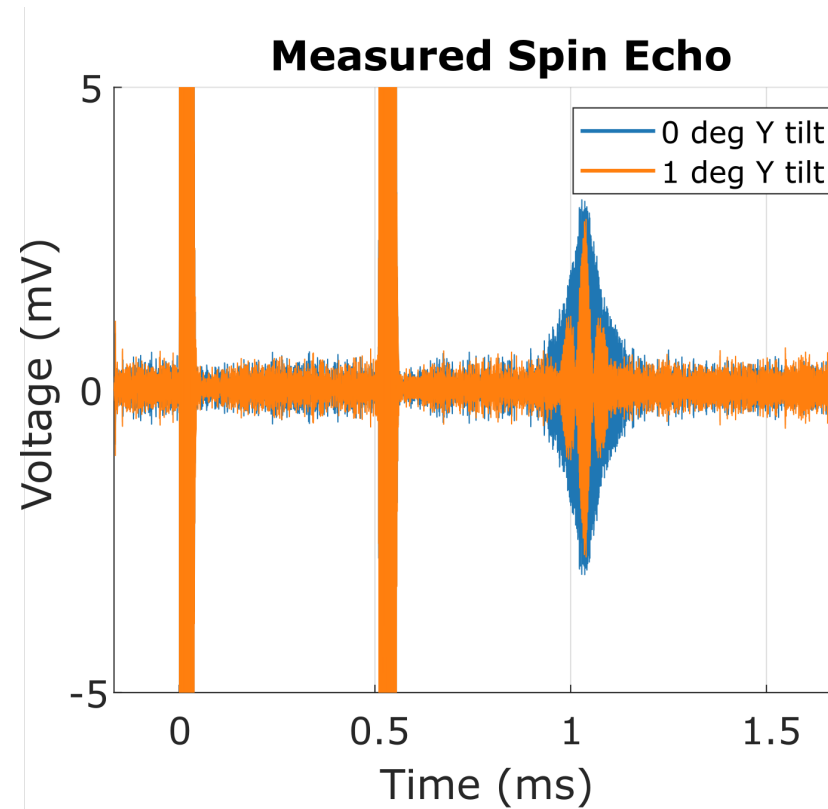
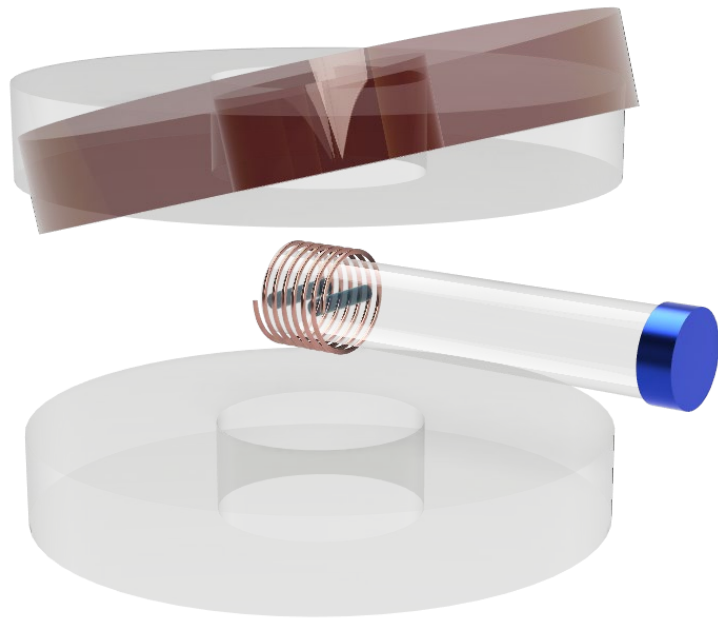
Sampling bandwidth,  $BW=125\text{MHz}$ ; Readout points,  $n_s=12875$ ;  $TE=1\text{ms}$



# Spin echo experiment - 2 tube phantom with Y gradient



# Spin echo experiment - 2 tube phantom with Y gradient




Sampling bandwidth,  $BW=125\text{MHz}$ ; Readout points,  $n_s=12875$ ;  $TE=1\text{ms}$

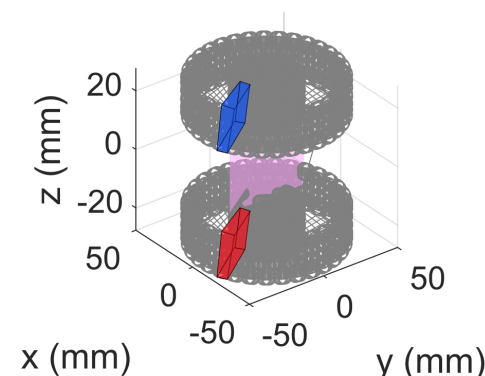
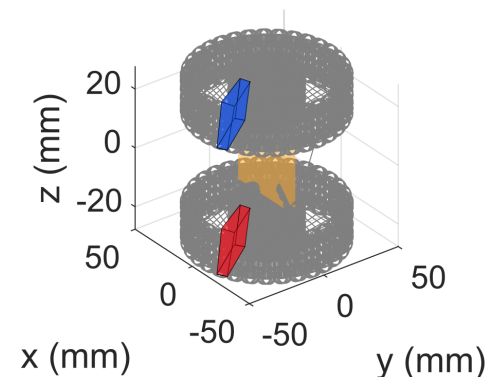
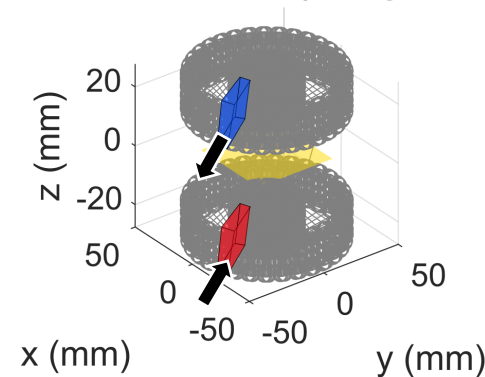
# Simulated Field Maps

*Built-in Z Gradient*

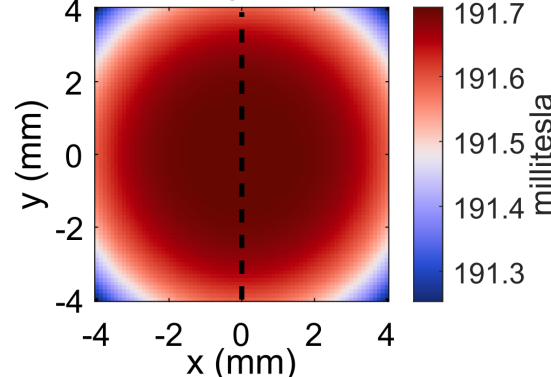
Built-in  
Z-gradient



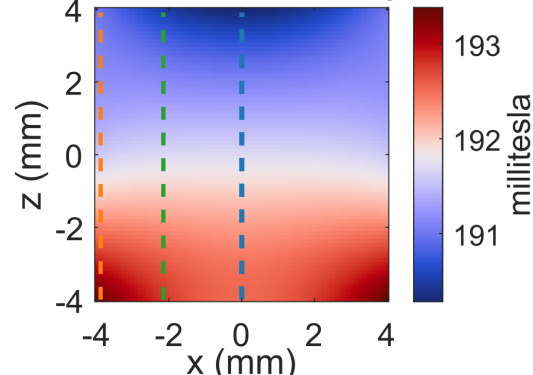
Simulated Plane (0 degree tilt)



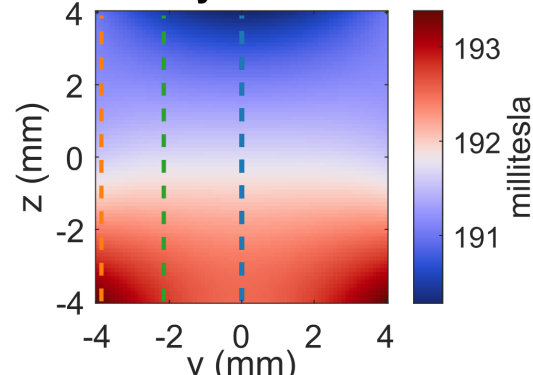
B0 field in x-y slice at z = 0



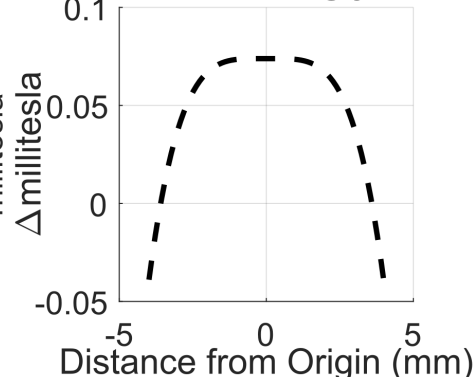
B0 field in x-z slice at y = 0



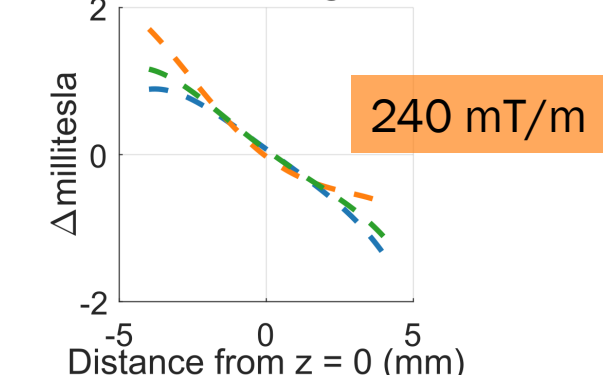
B0 field in y-z slice at x = 0



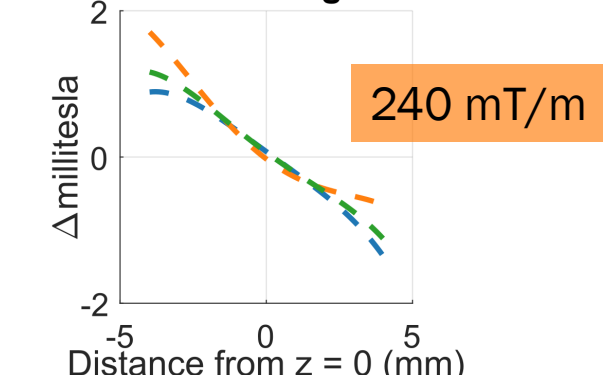
$\Delta B_0$  along y



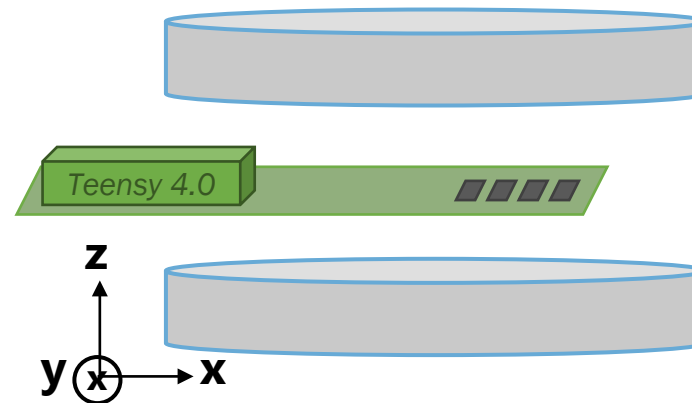
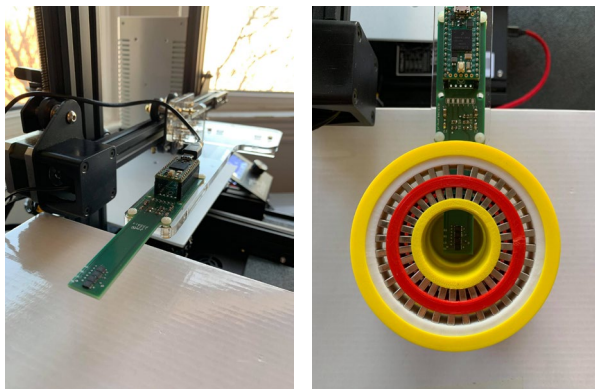
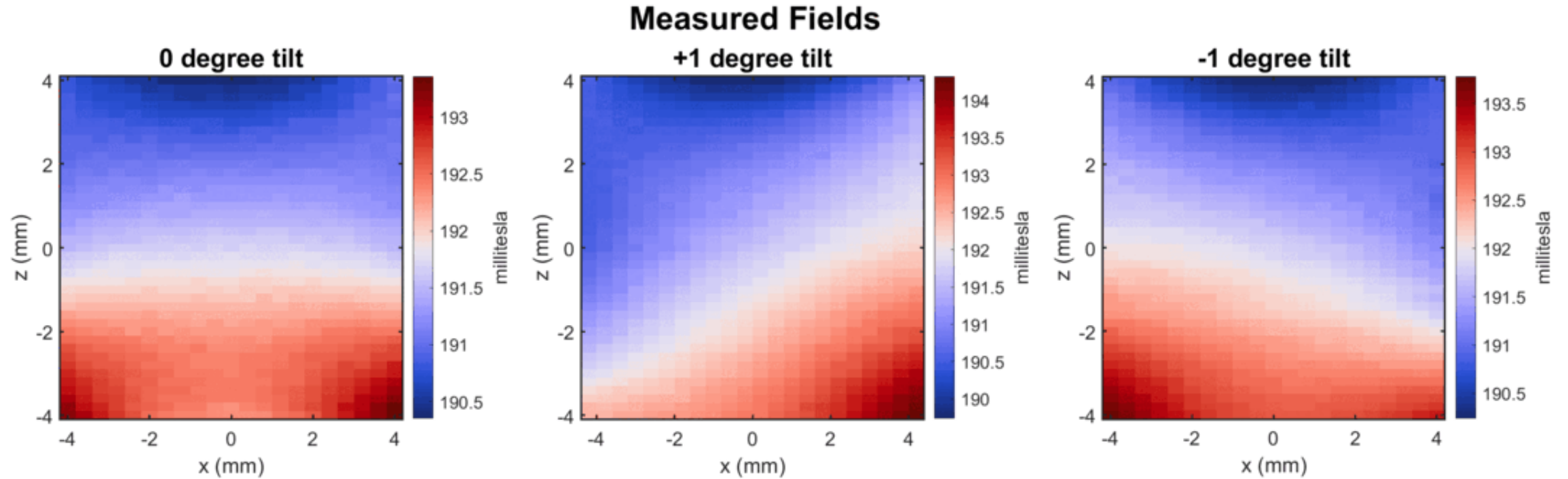
$\Delta B_0$  along z



$\Delta B_0$  along z



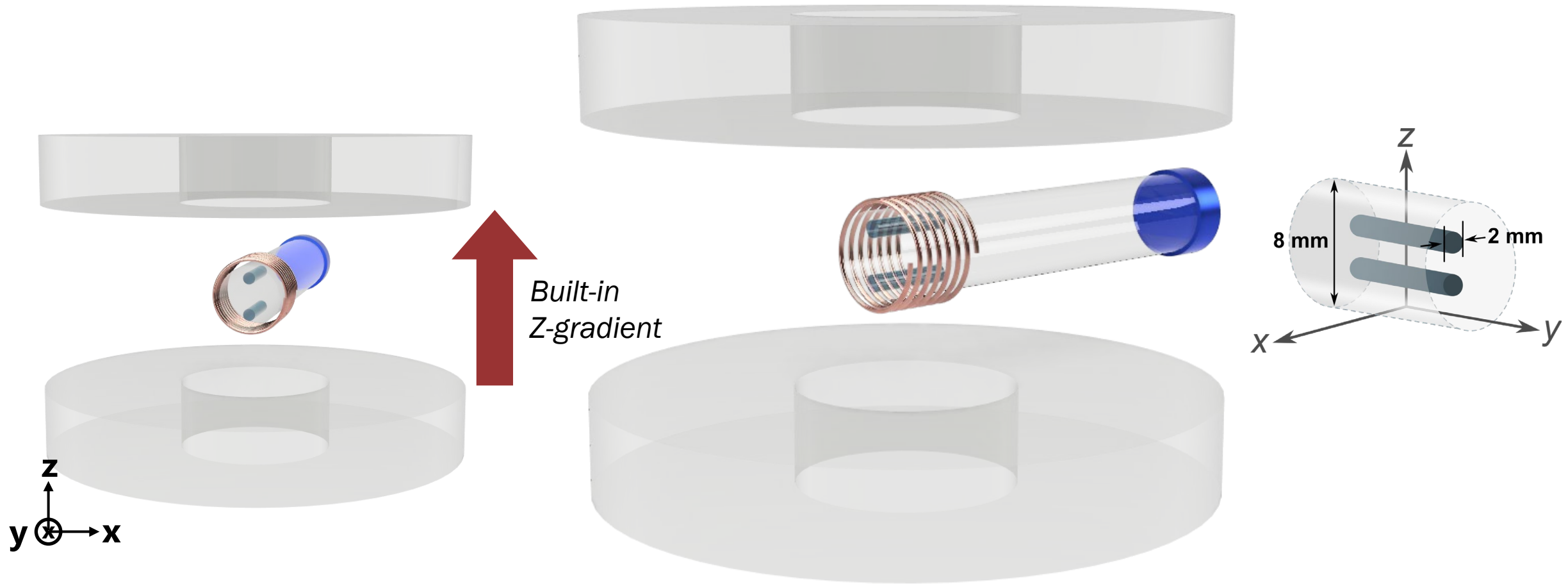
# Field map measurements – Z gradient + tilt



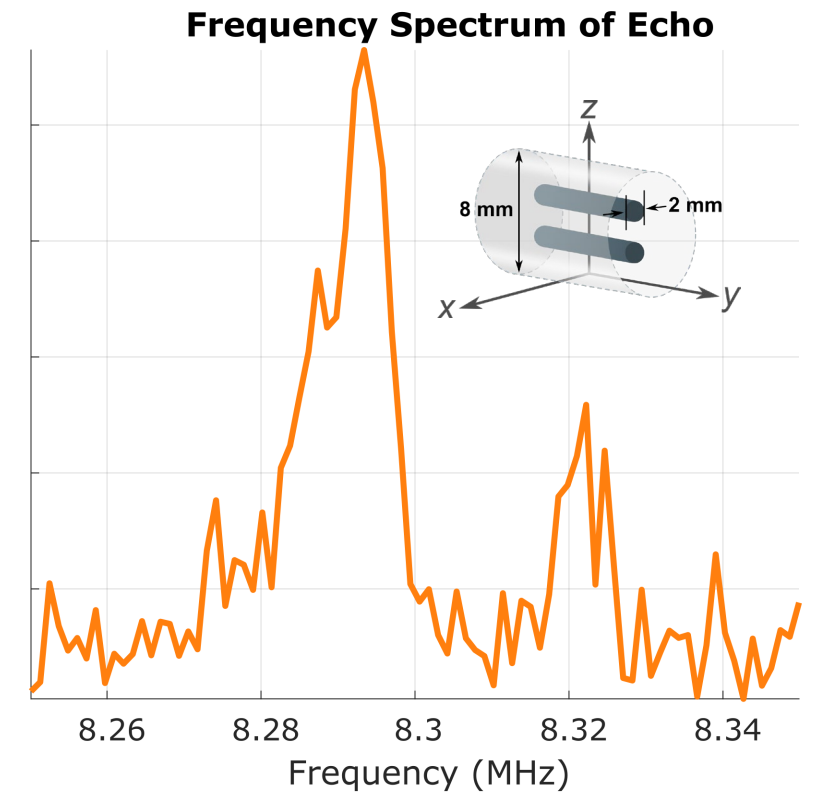
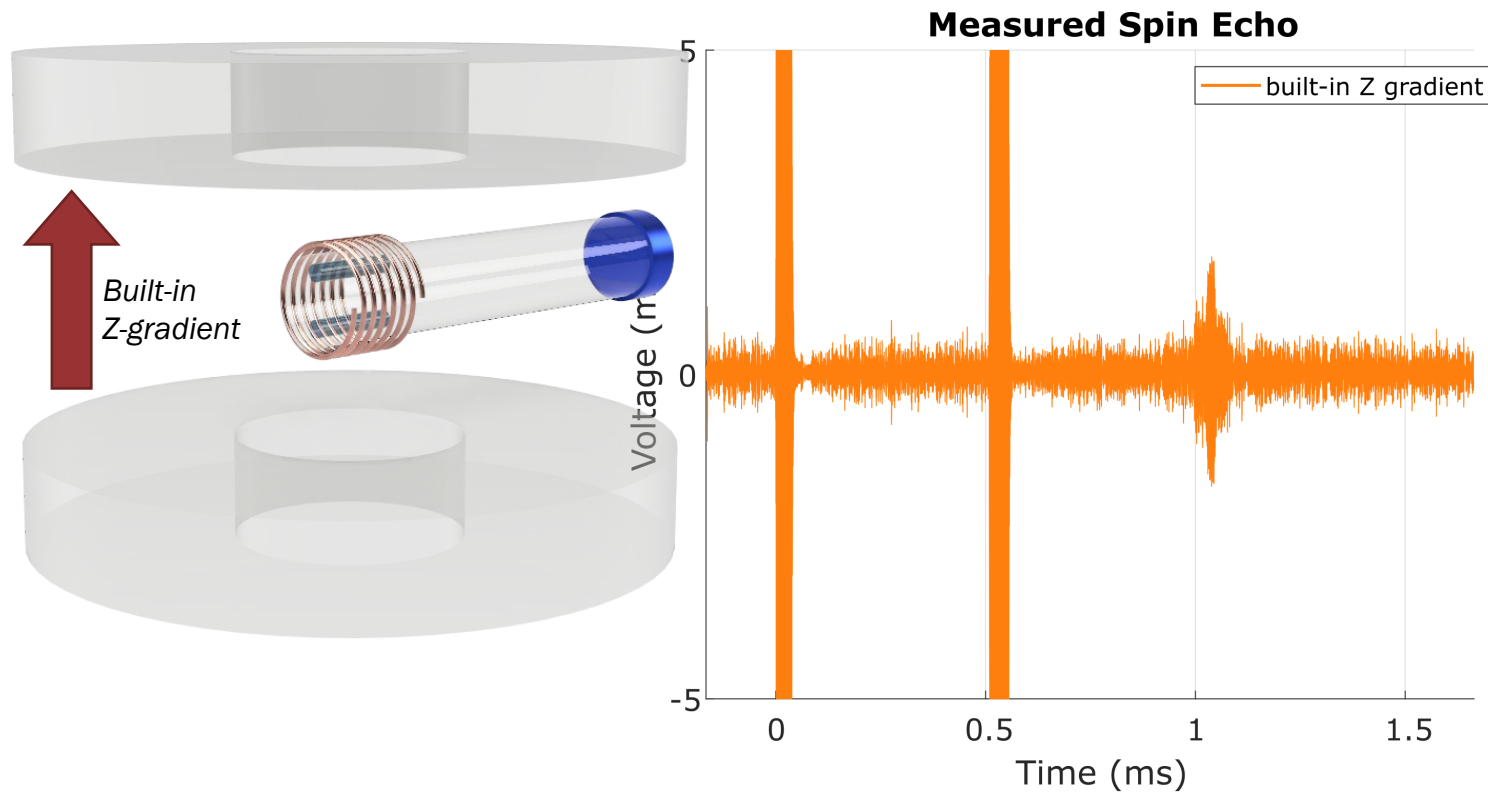
ALS31300 3D Linear Hall Effect Sensor (12-bit ADC)  
 Sensor range:  $\pm 2000$  Gauss, Sensitivity: 1 LSB/Gauss  
 Sensitivity error:  $\pm 0.6\%$ , Offset error:  $\pm 12$  LSB  
 RMS noise: 1 LSB



# Spin echo experiment - 2 tube phantom with Z gradient

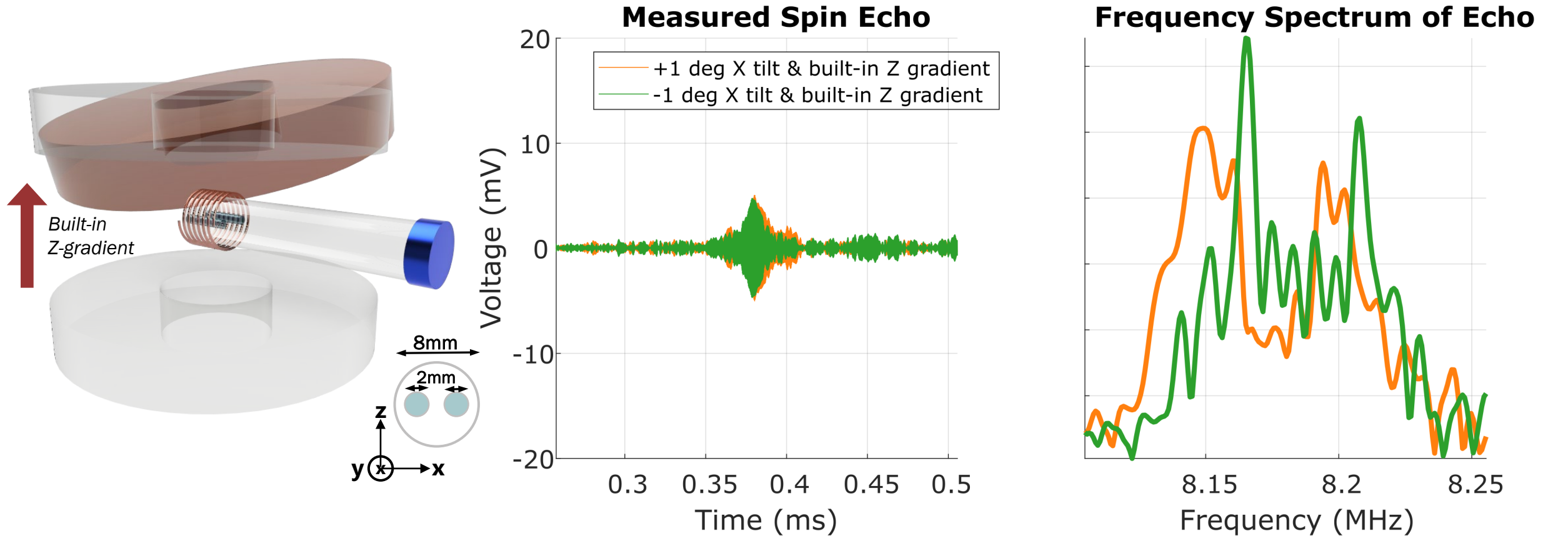


# Spin echo experiment - 2 tube phantom with Z gradient



Sampling bandwidth,  $BW=125\text{MHz}$ ; Readout points,  $n_s=12875$ ;  $TE=0.38\text{ms}$

# Spin echo experiment - 2 tube phantom with X gradient and Z gradient



Sampling bandwidth,  $BW=125\text{MHz}$ ; Readout points,  $n_s=12875$ ;  $TE=0.38\text{ms}$

# Next Steps Towards Imaging

- We have demonstrated X/Y/Z encoding fields for hand-held MR

## Future work:

- fast actuation (1 mm / 1 ms) for Turbo Spin Echo (TSE) imaging

