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**Center  
for  
Thoracic Insufficiency  
Syndrome**

# **The Etiology of Thoracic Insufficiency Syndrome in Neuromuscular Scoliosis based on Quantitative Dynamic Lung MRI (QdMRI)**

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# Disclosures RMC

- Grant Support
  - National Organization of Rare Disorders ( NORD)
- NORD Medical Advisory Committee member
- Spinal Consultant to the FDA
- Advocate for inventors/companies trying to develop safe and effective devices for children

# Thoracic Insufficiency Syndrome in neuromuscular scoliosis

- The thorax fails to support normal respiration or lung growth
  - Because of muscle weakness
  - Because of **increased thoracic disability from deformity**



# Retrospective review

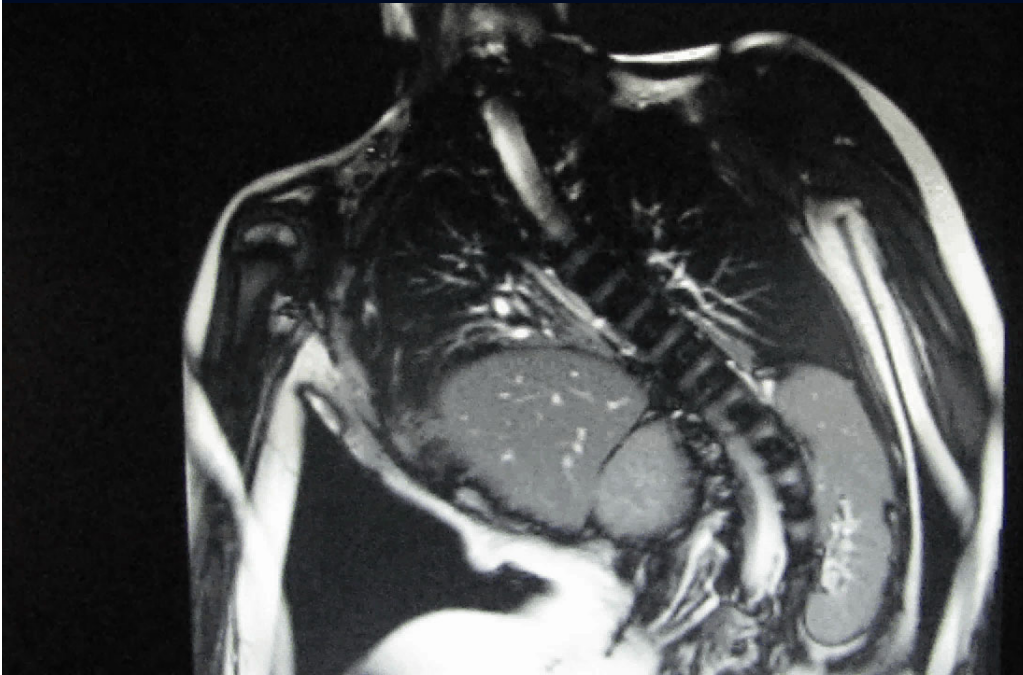
## 5 NM scoliosis pts

- Avg age 7.9 yrs,
  - Avg f/u 2.13 yrs
  - Scoliosis  $75^{\circ}$  preop,  
 $45^{\circ}$  f/u.
  - SAL .84 preop,  
.96 at f/u.
  - Pelvic obliquity  $19.6^{\circ}$   
f/u  $13.6^{\circ}$
  - Complications: 2 rib cradle migrations
- Eiffel Tower VEPTR constructs



# Dynamic Lung MRI

2 preop only, 3 pre and post op



# 4-D Quantitative Dynamic Lung MRI (QdMRI)

$\Delta L$

$\Delta LRC$

$\Delta LD$

# Hypothesis

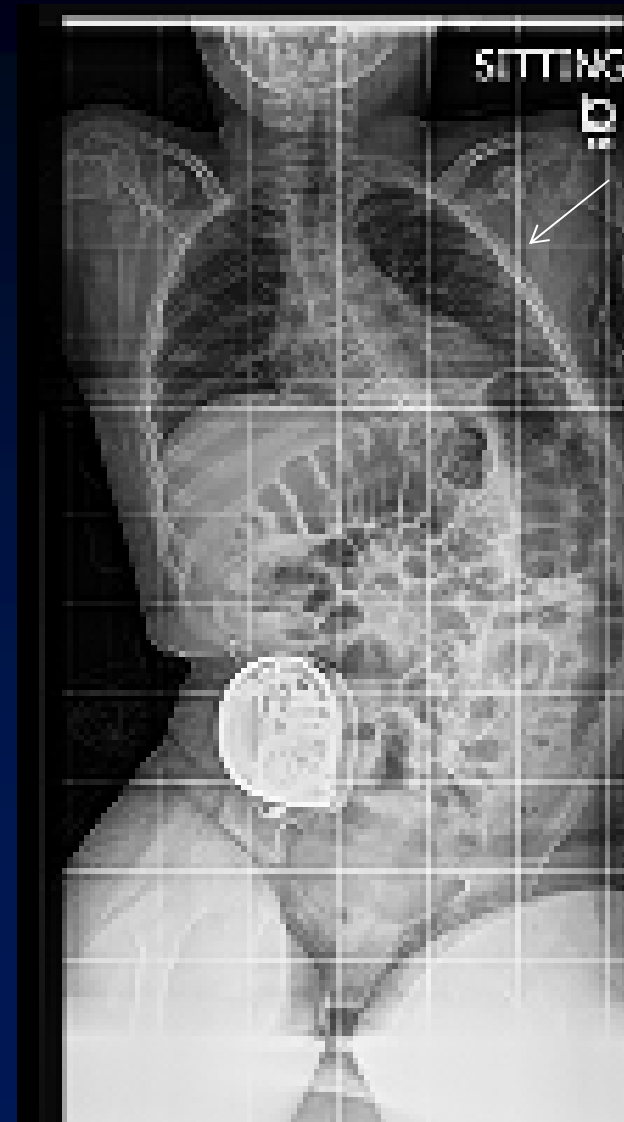
- The concave side would be more obstructed with less change in volume with respiration
  - Renal motion more obstructed
- The convex side (rib hump) would have less rib cage volume changes with respiration





# Preop QdMRI (5 pts)

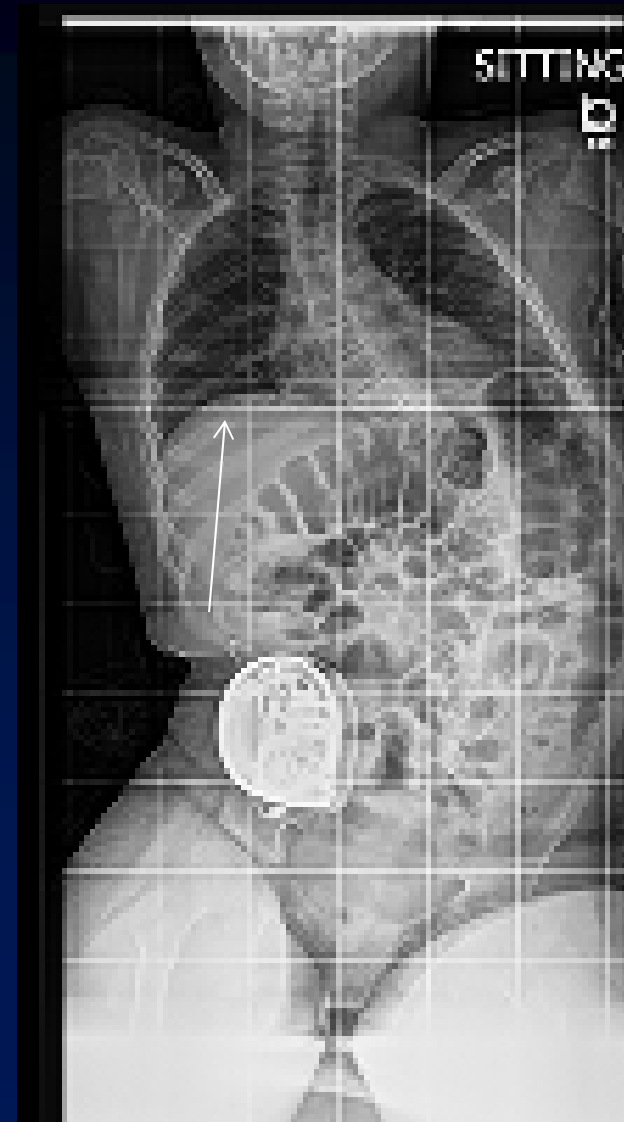
- Concave side
  - $\Delta$  rib cage volume 46.5 cc
  - $\Delta$  diaphragm volume 25.7 cc
- Convex side
  - $\Delta$  rib cage volume 40.5 cc
  - $\Delta$  diaphragm volume 27.4





# Preop QdMRI (5 pts)

- Concave side
  - $\Delta$  rib cage volume 46.5 cc
  - $\Delta$  diaphragm volume 25.7 cc
- Convex side
  - $\Delta$  rib cage volume 40.5 cc
  - $\Delta$  diaphragm volume 27.4 cc

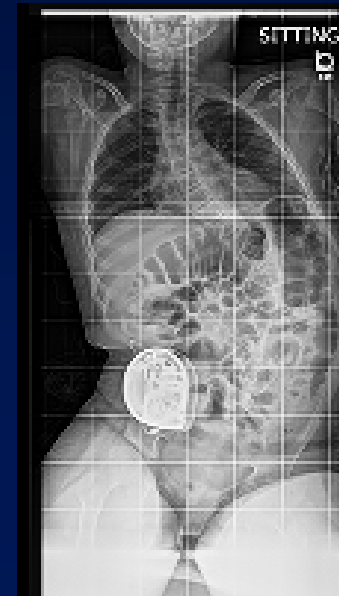


# Preop QdMRI

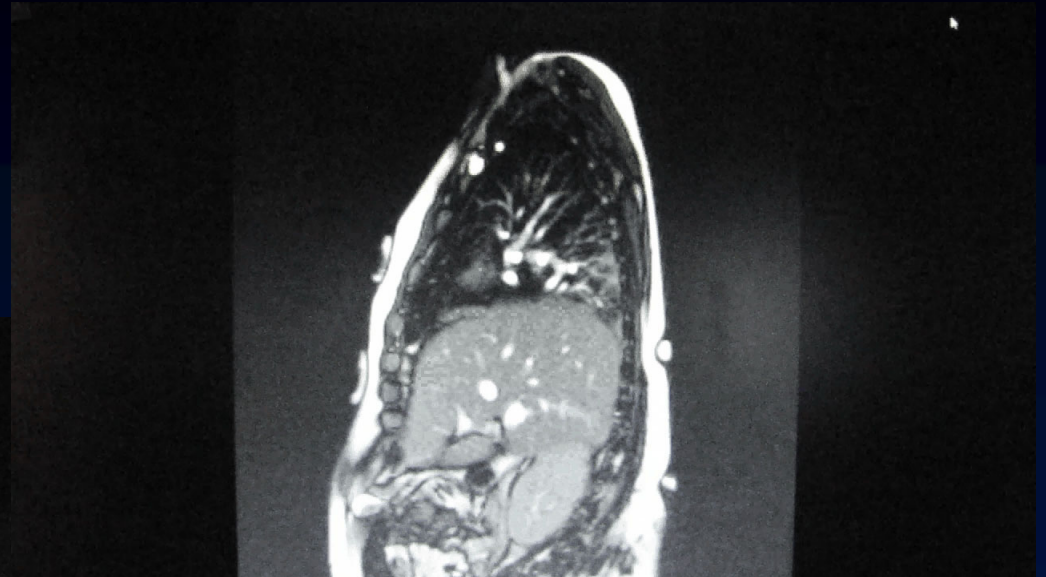
## Concave Hemi-thorax

### Diaphragm volumes

- 2 pts
  - concave  $\Delta$  diaphragm volume  $<$  convex
- 1 pt
  - concave  $>$  convex
- 2 pts
  - had equal volumes.



Concave Diaphragm 39.2 cc



Convex Diaphragm 20.1 cc



# Pre-op Renal Excursion

Kidney excursion

- Concave was 2.58 mm
- Convex 3.02 mm.





# What is normal

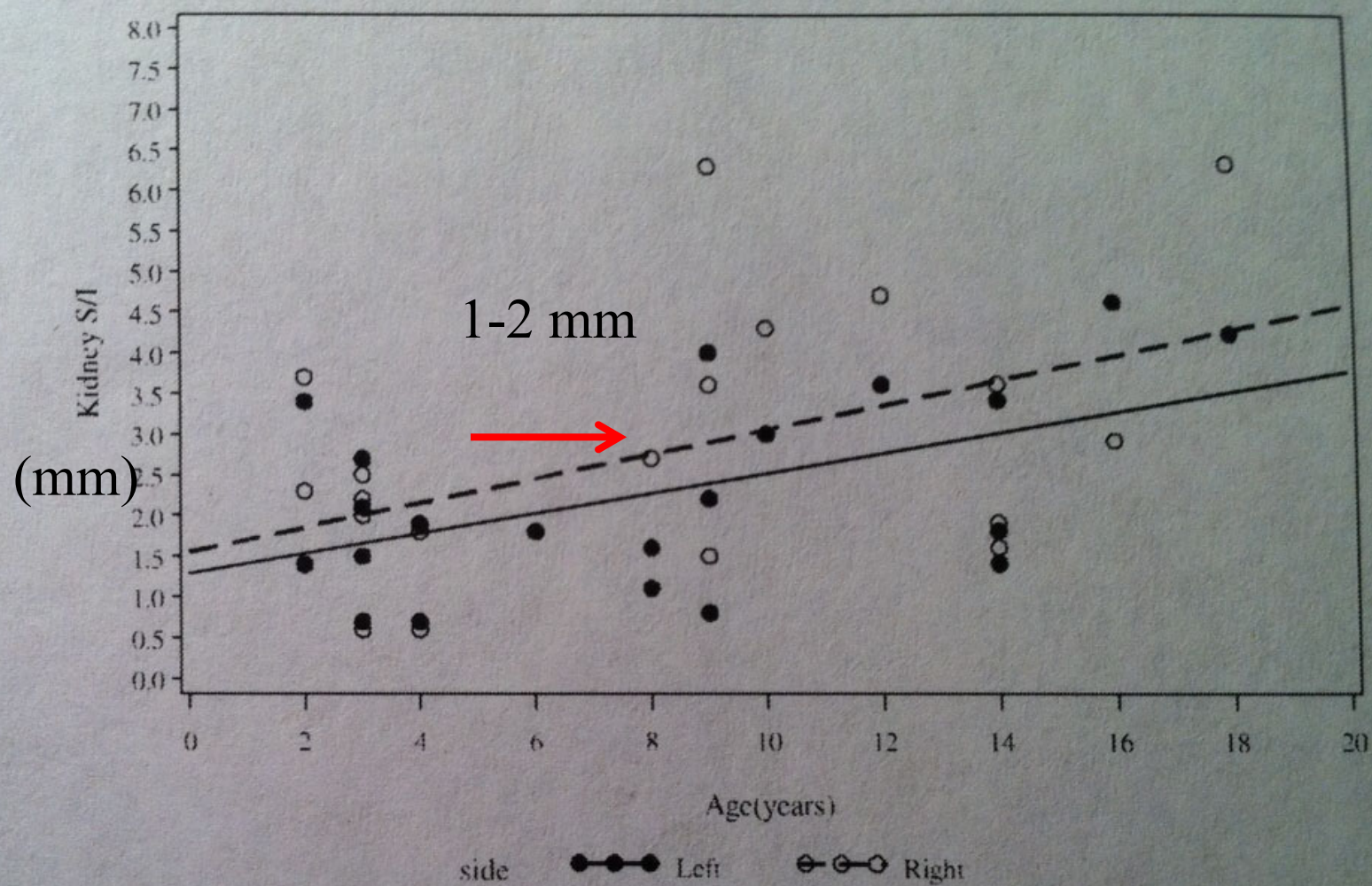


Fig. 1. Left and right kidney motion superoinferior (S/I) by age.

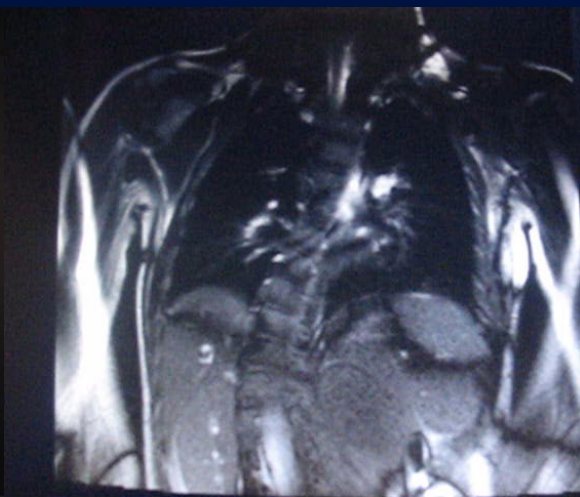
# Post op Renal Excursion

- Concave kidney excursion increased 6.3mm (320%)
- Convex 5.2mm (192%).

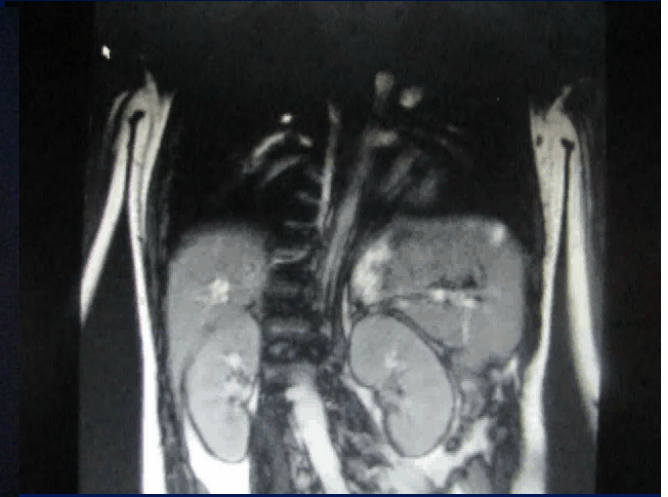


CTIS 

1.2 mm



13.1mm



# 3 pts postop QdMRI scans

## Concave side

- $\Delta$  rib cage volume increased 57%
- $\Delta$  diaphragm volume increased 128%

## Convex side

- $\Delta$  rib cage volume increased 72%
- $\Delta$  diaphragm volume increased 109 %





# Summary

- QdMRI can accurately assess thoracic performance parameters such as unilateral diaphragm/rib cage lung volume changes
- It has great potential to increase our understanding of these diseases



# Summary

- VEPTR treatment appears to increase concave hemidiaphragm and convex rib hump hemi-thorax performance in TIS due to neuromuscular scoliosis
  - But, this needs much more study

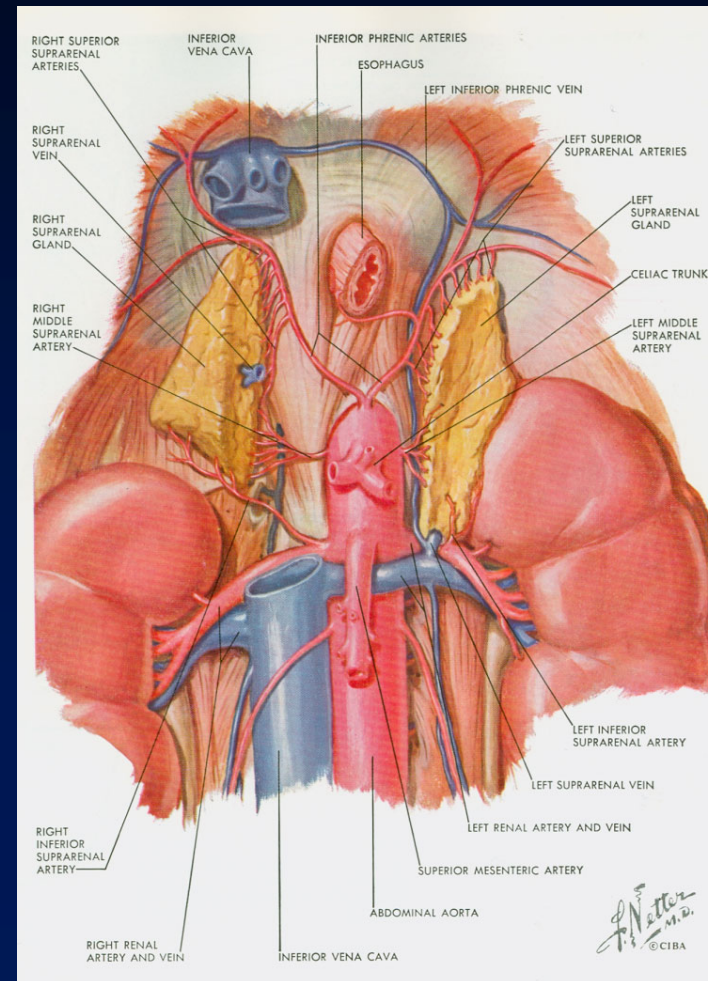
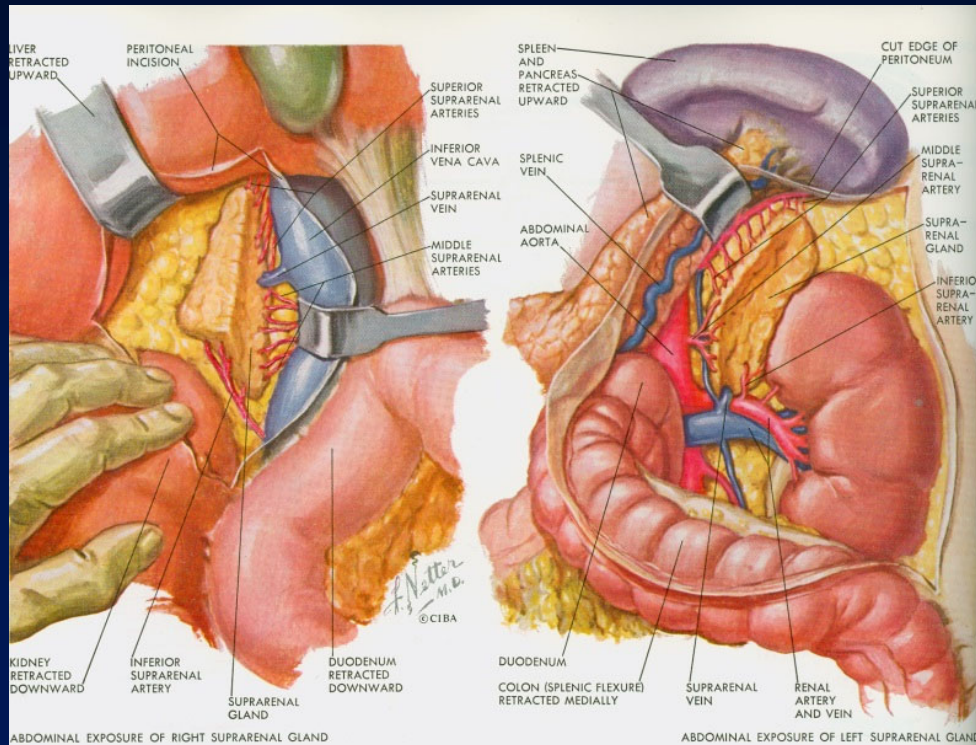


# The Future Breakthroughs in Treatment

- To really advance surgical treatment of spine deformity in children, we have to better understand the dynamic biomechanical component of these diseases
  - X rays can't help us much
- We have the technology to do this
  - But we have a long way to go



# The Kidney Pedicle and other structures probably play a complicated role in the pathologic biomechanics of TIS





# Thank You

