

Foreword

The original German version is a book called „Handbuch der Kernspintomographie“, which has been edited by Edwin Ferger Verlag, Bergisch Gladbach. We sold some thousand copies – about one book per Radiological Practice in Germany – what I felt as quite satisfactory. The interested clients were not only the doctors themselves but also the professional auxiliary personnel, frequently females with a good scientific education. The relative success of the project and the wish to keep me busy („Rast‘ ich, so rost‘ich“.) encouraged me to produce an English translation, which is presented here.

The issue in English language is not really meant for the use by the Anglo-Saxon radiological community because they have their own books and the IEEE and have the money to buy the adherent devices. In the United States for example there is one of the highest densities of installed MRI-devices of the world.

I thought more to use English as a lingua franca to provide information for the radiological Diaspora in the world. I hope my clients to be living in Europe- east of Germany, Asia, South and Middle America, Africa.

This geographical and semantic orientation keeps me happy with concern to my way to use the English language. Having practiced English with the professional need to write quarterly project progress reports I adapted to what was sometimes called “continental English“. Surprisingly this way to express oneself is much better understood by the Non-Anglo-Saxons than the King’s English. So I could get away without hiring an expensive mother-tongue-Britisher.

Now, in the middle of the foreword, I want to thank my co-authors and equally Dr. Christian Lienert who did a great work by correcting the physics and mathematics of the original German version.

The concept and layout of the book is dominated by the attempt to make the book redundant i.e. separating pure text from mathematics, diagrams etc. On the right hand side you find the text which is meant to be independent and self-explaining.

On the left side there is an accumulation of formulas, diagrams and other information which is thought to be self-explaining, too. We hope that this overlapping information helps to a better understanding of the difficult matter.

The total level of the book should correspond to what is in use at the German “Technische Hochschule”.

Never forget the scientific ambient, e.g. the list of Nobel Awards given in conjunction is long: Pauli, Rabi, Bloch, Purcell, E.L. Hahn, Lauterbur and Mansfield. That counts for the premium quality of literature and makes the occupation with the matter so cool!

Bergisch Gladbach in 2015

Lothar Dilcher