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Precision in Cephalometric Measurements: Comparison of Cone Beam CT Lateral Cephalogram and Direct Digital Lateral Cephalogram

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Authors:

PhD Postgraduate Dr. Osama Al-ali, Teaching Assistant, Prof. Dr. Nasser Sawan, HOD, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ayham Kaddah,
Department of Orthodontics, Faculty of Dentistry, Damascus University, Damascus, Syria
Prof. Dr. Tancan Uysal,
Department of Orthodontics, Dean of Faculty of Dentistry, Izmir Katip Celebi University, Izmir, Turkey

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Introduction

Objective: Determine whether cone beam computed tomography lateral cephalograms (CBCT-LC) are of equal precision in diagnosis and treatment planning as direct digital lateral cephalograms (DD-LC) or not.

Material and Methods

Ten skeletal Class II patients were selected randomly from the records of orthodontic department, Damascus University. Using InVivo5 Dental software, CBCT data of each patient was imported and the head position was reoriented digitally, then CBCT-reconstructed lateral cephalograms of the same patients were generated. A total of 20 simultaneously recorded lateral cephalograms (10 DD-LC and 10 CBCT-LC) were analyzed. On each cephalogram, 26 parameters (25 angular and 1 ratio) were traced and measured and repeated after 2 weeks by one examiner (O.A).

Statistical Analyses: A paired samples t-test was used to compare the mean values of differences and intraclass correlation coefficients (ICC) were calculated to determine intra-examiner and inter-group correlations.



Fig. 1a: PAX 400 (VATECH CO., Korea).



Fig. 1b: DD-LC.

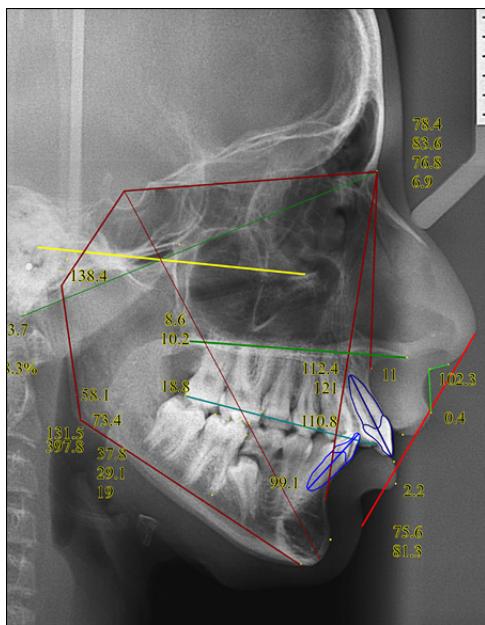


Fig. 1c: Cephalometric analysis performed using the Viewbox 3.1.1.13 cephalometric software (Halazonetis, Athens, Greece).

Fig. 2a: SCANORA (Soredex, Finland).

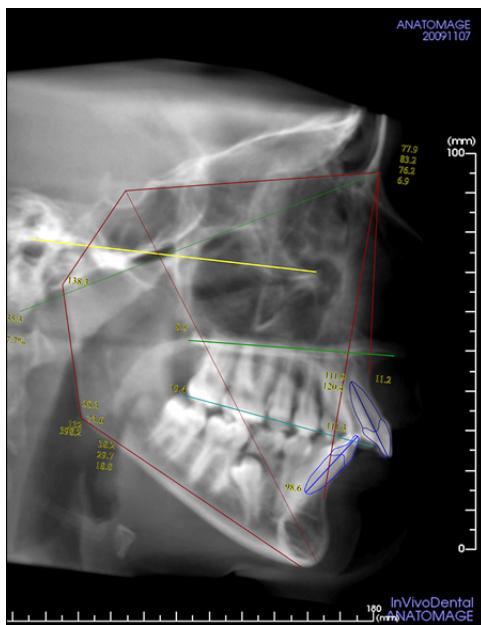


Fig. 2b-c: CBCT-reconstructed cephalogram created using InVivo5 Dental software (Anatomage, San Jose, CA, USA).

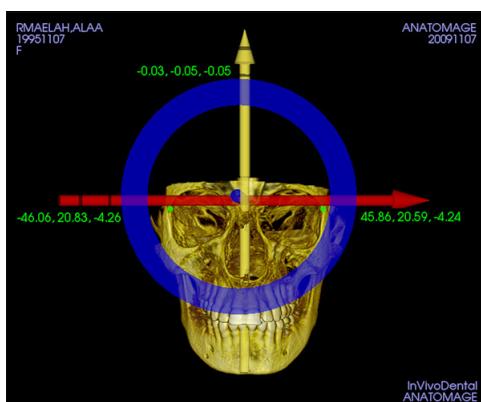
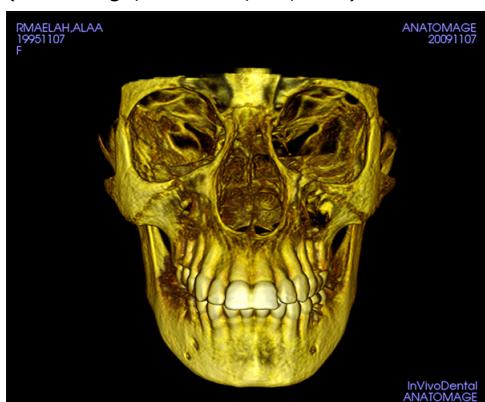


Fig. 3: CBCT 3-D Image. DICOM files were imported and 3-D images were created using InVivo 5 Dental software (Trademark of Anatomage Inc., 111 N. Market St. #800, San Jose, Calif, CA 95113).

Fig. 4a: Reorientation. 3-D images were reoriented as suggested by Cho 2009.*

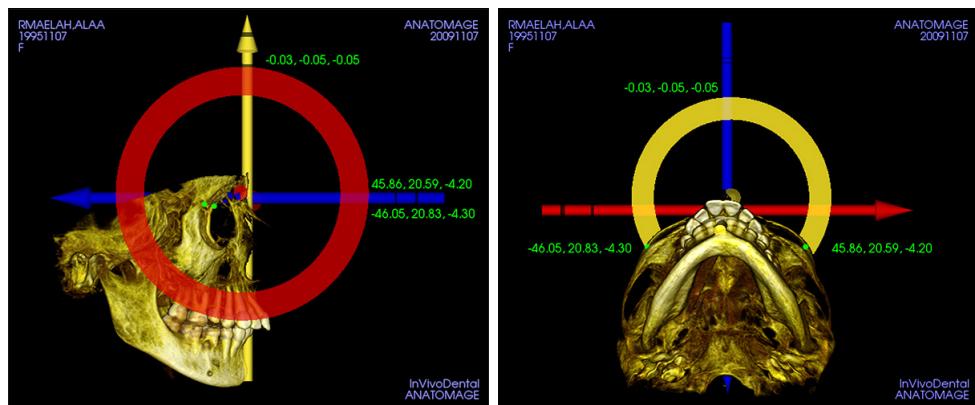


Fig. 4b-c: Reorientation. 3-D images were reoriented as suggested by Cho 2009.*

Results

The intra-examiner reproducibility for all measurements were not significantly different between the 2 cephalogram types. ICC were found to be high (.862 - .999, P < .001). The differences of measurements obtained from CBCT-LC and their DD-LC counterparts were statistically significant for 7 angular variables (Table 1). The differences were less than two degrees, which is generally within one standard deviation of norm values in conventional cephalometric analysis. The measurements related to the area around the point A were the least precision.

Repeated Measurements				Inter-Group Comparison						Repeated Measurements			
Intra-Examiner Reliability				DD LC X CBCT LC						Intra-Examiner Reliability			
DD LC		Variables		DD LC	CBCT LC	paired t-test		ICC	Sig.	CBCT LC			
1st session	2nd session	ICC	Sig.	Mean	Mean	P value				1st session	2nd session	ICC	Sig.
Angular (°)													
11,21	10,96	0,962	0,000	NSL^NL	11,21	11,11	0,742	0,971	0,000	11,11	11,11	0,995	0,000
36,78	36,8	0,998	0,000	NSL^ML	36,78	37,54	0,063	0,945	0,000	37,54	37,58	0,998	0,000
69,12	69,34	0,996	0,000	N-S-Gn	69,12	69,82	0,021	0,962	0,000	69,82	69,91	0,998	0,000
125,8	126,1	0,994	0,000	N-S-Ar	125,82	126,39	0,18	0,975	0,000	126,4	126,1	0,996	0,000
144,9	144,7	0,996	0,000	S-Ar-Go	144,86	145,12	0,68	0,973	0,000	145,1	145,5	0,994	0,000
126,1	126	0,997	0,000	Ar-Go-Me	126,1	126,03	0,875	0,987	0,000	126	125,9	0,998	0,000
396,8	396,8	0,998	0,000	Sum (Björk)	396,78	397,54	0,063	0,945	0,000	397,5	397,6	0,998	0,000
51,54	51,47	0,998	0,000	N-Go-Ar	51,54	51,07	0,193	0,981	0,000	51,07	50,94	0,998	0,000
74,54	74,51	0,996	0,000	N-Go-Me	74,54	74,98	0,143	0,955	0,000	74,98	74,98	0,994	0,000
132,9	132,9	0,998	0,000	N-S-Ba	132,93	133,72	0,08	0,939	0,000	133,7	133,5	0,993	0,000
77,54	77,54	0,995	0,000	S-N-Pg	77,54	77,21	0,141	0,971	0,000	77,21	77,16	0,999	0,000
82,83	82,9	0,978	0,000	S-N-A	82,83	83,4	0,029	0,874	0,000	83,4	83,22	0,973	0,000
76,57	76,59	0,996	0,000	S-N-B	76,57	76,28	0,264	0,953	0,000	76,28	76,26	0,998	0,000
6,27	6,32	0,981	0,000	A-N-B	6,27	7,13	0,004	0,783	0,000	7,13	7,00	0,981	0,000
11,29	11,48	0,993	0,000	N-A-Pg	11,29	13,31	0,003	0,843	0,000	13,31	13,07	0,989	0,000
78,71	78,31	0,964	0,000	A-B^NL	78,71	76,89	0,002	0,849	0,000	76,89	77,00	0,989	0,000
82,78	82,36	0,955	0,000	A-Pg^NL	82,78	81,23	0,004	0,863	0,000	81,23	81,27	0,996	0,000
25,54	25,87	0,983	0,000	NL^ML	25,54	26,41	0,039	0,962	0,000	26,41	26,48	0,999	0,000
102,7	102,6	0,999	0,000	U1L^NSL	102,73	102,57	0,871	0,942	0,000	102,6	103,1	0,992	0,000
114	113,5	0,985	0,000	U1L^NL	113,96	113,68	0,749	0,902	0,000	113,7	114,2	0,983	0,000
99,34	98,92	0,961	0,000	U1L^ML	99,34	98,53	0,194	0,809	0,002	98,53	98,04	0,916	0,000
121,1	121,7	0,992	0,000	U1L^L1L	121,13	121,37	0,858	0,901	0,000	121,4	121,3	0,985	0,000
21,59	21,56	0,991	0,000	NSL^OL	21,59	21,34	0,539	0,935	0,000	21,34	21,47	0,914	0,000
10,37	10,62	0,862	0,000	OL^NL	10,37	10,23	0,78	0,872	0,029	10,23	10,34	0,964	0,035
15,18	15,26	0,996	0,000	OL^ML	15,18	16,19	0,12	0,860	0,000	16,19	16,16	0,926	0,000

62,08 62,08 0,996 0,000 S-Go:N- 62,08 61,47 0,088 0,946 0,000 61,47 61,4 0,998 0,000
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Tab. 1: Intra-Examiner and Inter-Group Correlations

Conclusion

Precision was similar in both image types. The measurement differences between image types were statistically significant. Current findings substantiated the benefits of CBCT cephalometry in terms of the reliability of two-dimensional cephalometric analysis.

Literature

1. * CHO HJ. A Three-Dimensional Cephalometric Analysis. J Clin Orthod 2009;43(4):235-252.

Abbreviations

CBCT-LC: Cone Beam Computed Tomography Lateral Cephalogram.

DD-LC: Direct Digital Lateral Cephalogram.

ICC: intraclass correlation coefficients.

This Poster was submitted by Dr. Osama Al-ali.

Correspondence address:

PhD Postgraduate Dr. Osama Al-ali

Damascus University

Faculty of Dentistry, Department of Orthodontics

P.O.Box: 10256

Aleppo

Syria

Precision in Cephalometric Measurements: Comparison of Cone Beam CT Lateral Cephalogram and Direct Digital Lateral Cephalogram

Osama Al-ali¹, Nasser Sawan¹, Ayham Kaddah¹, Tancan Uysal²

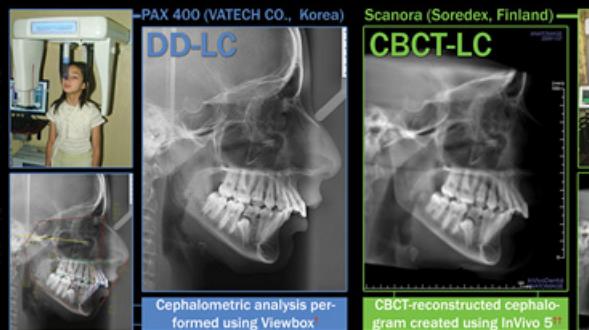
¹Department of Orthodontics, Faculty of Dentistry, Damascus University, Syria.

²Department of Orthodontics, Faculty of Dentistry, Izmir Katip Celebi University, Turkey

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STATISTICAL ANALYSES:

A paired samples t-test was used to compare mean values of differences and intraclass correlation coefficients (ICC) were calculated to determine intra-examiner and inter-group correlations.

RESULTS:

The intra-examiner reproducibility for all measurements were not significantly different between the 2 types. ICC were found to be high (.862 - .999, P < .001). The differences of measurements obtained from CBCT-LC and their DD-LC counterparts were statistically significant for 7 angular variables (Table 1). The differences were less than 2°, which is generally within ± 1 SD of norm values in conventional cephalometric analysis. The measurements related to the area around the point A were the least precision.

CONCLUSION:

Precision was similar in both image types. The measurement differences between image types were statistically significant. Current findings substantiated the benefits of CBCT cephalometry in terms of the reliability of two-dimensional cephalometric analysis.

Table 1: Intra-Examiner and Inter-Group Correlations

Variables	Inter-Group Comparison			Repeated Measurements DD-LC X CBCT-LC			Intra-Examiner Reliability			
	DO LC	CBCT	paired t-test	DO LC	CBCT	paired t-test	DO LC	CBCT	paired t-test	ICC
Angular (°)										
NSL*NL	11.21	11.11	0.742	0.971	11.11	11.11	0.995			
NSL*ML	36.78	36.89	0.998	0.945	37.54	37.58	0.998			
S-N-B	107.81	107.89	0.996	0.982	107.89	107.91	0.996			
S-N-A	125.92	126.09	0.994	0.975	125.92	126.09	0.995			
S-Ar-Go	164.89	164.73	0.996	0.973	164.86	165.12	0.994			
Ar-Go-Me	126.10	125.97	0.997	0.987	126.10	126.03	0.998			
Sum (Biorisk)	396.78	396.85	0.998	0.945	397.54	397.69	0.998			
N-Go-Air	51.47	51.47	0.998	0.981	51.07	50.94	0.998			
N-Go-Are	74.54	74.54	0.998	0.958	74.54	74.54	0.998			
N-S-Are	131.91	132.57	0.998	0.933	132.93	132.52	0.998			
N-S-Are	132.93	132.57	0.998	0.933	133.72	133.64	0.993			
S-N-Pg	77.54	77.64	0.995	0.971	77.21	77.16	0.999			
S-N-Pg	82.63	82.90	0.978	0.829	82.83	83.40	0.973			
S-N-A	76.57	76.59	0.996	0.953	76.57	76.28	0.998			
S-N-B	6.32	6.38	0.998	0.904	6.32	7.13	0.981			
S-N-A	12.29	12.33	0.993	0.949	12.29	12.31	0.997			
S-N-A	78.71	78.31	0.964	0.949	78.71	78.89	0.969			
S-N-A	82.76	82.36	0.955	0.949	82.76	81.23	0.904			
A-Pg*NL	25.54	25.87	0.983	0.959	26.41	26.41	0.999			
H-L*ML	102.73	102.69	0.999	0.942	102.73	102.59	0.992			
U1*NSL	102.73	102.69	0.999	0.942	102.73	102.59	0.992			
U1*NL	102.73	102.69	0.999	0.942	102.73	102.59	0.992			
L1*ML	121.13	121.68	0.992	0.951	121.13	121.37	0.956			
U1*U1L	21.59	21.56	0.991	0.955	21.59	21.34	0.935			
NSL*O*	10.37	10.62	0.862	0.862	10.37	10.23	0.864			
O*NL	15.18	15.26	0.996	0.960	15.18	16.19	0.120			
Ratios (%)										
S-Go-N-Me	62.09	62.05	0.996	0.946	61.47	61.47	0.995			

*Nasal spine to nasion, **Nasion to glabella, ***Nasion to glabella to nasion, ****Nasion to glabella to nasion to glabella.

^{††}Cho HJ. A Three-Dimensional Cephalometric Analysis. J Clin Orthod 2006;43(4):235-252.



3-D images were re-oriented as suggested by Cho 2009 ^{††}

Correspondence
Dr. Osama Hasan Al-ali
PhD Postgraduate Student
and Teaching Assistant
osama-alali@hotmail.com