# 生醫超音波技術

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# Outline

- Fundamentals of ultrasound
- Focusing in acoustics
- Diffraction and array beamformation
- Image quality factors
- Ultrasonic blood flow estimation

# What is ultrasound?

# Characteristics of Ultrasound

- A mechanical wave:
  - -Characterized by pressure, particle velocity and displacement.
  - -Density change of the propagating medium.
  - -But it is still a wave, i.e., there is reflection, refraction, scattering, diffraction, attenuation...etc.

### Basics of Acoustic Waves

• Longitudinal Wave:



### **Basics of Acoustic Waves**

#### • Shear Wave:



# Characteristics of Ultrasound

#### • A mechanical wave:

- -Characterized by pressure, particle velocity and displacement.
- -Density change of the propagating medium.
- -But it is still a wave, i.e., there is reflection, refraction, scattering, diffraction, attenuation...etc.

### Sound Velocity and Density Change

 $v(x) = c_0 + (1 + \frac{B}{2A})u(x)$ Phase velocity
Nonlinearity
Particle velocity



### When Peak Pressure Is Very High



# Characteristics of Ultrasound

#### • A mechanical wave:

- -Characterized by pressure, particle velocity and displacement.
- -Density change of the propagating medium.
- -But it is still a wave, i.e., there is reflection, refraction, scattering, diffraction, attenuation...etc.

### Reflection

#### Low Density to High Density

#### High Density to Low Density



### Refraction



# Acoustic Scattering



### Diffraction



# Characteristics of Ultrasound

- Sound wave with frequencies higher than the audible range (>20-25kHz):
  - Typical frequency range for biomedical applications:
     0.1-50MHz.
  - $-c=f\cdot \mathbf{l}.$
  - Sound (propagation) speed in soft tissues are around 1500m/sec. It becomes higher in hard tissues (e.g., bone).

#### Table IV Velocity and acoustic impedance of pertinent materials and biological tissues at room temperature (20–25°C)

	Velocity (m/sec)	Impedance × 10 <sup>-6</sup> (kg/m²-sec) <sup>a</sup>	
Water Aluminum Air Plexiglas Blood Myocardium (perpendicular to fibers) Fat Liver Kidney	1484 6420 343 2670 1550 1550 1450 1570 1560	1.48 17.00 0.0004 3.20 1.61 1.62 1.38 1.65 1.62	
Skull bone	3360 (longitudinal)	6.00	

"Rayl is a unit commonly used for acoustic impedance. One rayl =  $1 \text{ kg/m}^2$ -sec.

# Characteristics of Ultrasound

- Affected by the elastic properties of the propagating medium:
  - Various modes of propagation.
  - Hooke's law: T=eS (tensor form in 3D).

 $c = \sqrt{B / r}$ 

Characteri stic impedance :  $Z_0 = \mathbf{r}c$ 

#### TABLE 9.3

#### REFLECTIVITY OF NORMALLY INCIDENT WAVES

Materials at Interface		Reflectivity
Brain-skull bone		0.66
Fat-bone		0.69
Fat-blood		0.08
Fat-kidney		0.08
Fat-muscle		0.10
Fat-liver		0.09
Lens-aqueous humor		0.10
Lens-vitreous humor		0.09
Muscle-blood		0.03
Muscle-kidney		0.03
Muscle-liver		0.01
Soft tissue (mean value)-water	ſ	0.05
Soft tissue-air	)	0.9995
Soft tissue-PZT5 crystal	•	0.89

.

### **Bio-Effects**

HeatingCavitation

# Ultrasound Heating





### **Bio-Effects**

HeatingCavitation

### Cavitation

- Formation and behavior of gas bubbles in acoustic fields.
- Transient cavitation: sudden growth and collapse of bubbles, resulting shock waves and very high temperatures.



# **Other Acoustic Phenomena**

- Radiation force.
- Sonoluminescence.
- ...etc.

### **Radiation Force**

• An ultrasonic wave exerts a static force on an interface or in a medium where there is a decrease in power in the wave propagation direction.



# **Other Acoustic Phenomena**

- Radiation force.
- Sonoluminescence.
- ...etc.

# Sonoluminescence

• Weak emission of light observable when high intensity ultrasound passing through a medium containing dissolved gases.





# What can ultrasound do in medicine and biology?

### Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology

- Diagnostics (as a wave):
  - -Imaging.
  - -Blood flow measurements.
  - -Bone density (indirect).
  - -...etc.

# Ultrasonic Imaging



### Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology

- Therapeutics:
  - -Heat generation:
    - Hyperthermia.
    - HIFU.
  - -Shock wave
    - Lithotripsy.
  - -...etc.

# Hyperthermia

Hyperthermia is a method of treating cancerous tissue by elevating the tissue temperature to 42.5 °C or above, and maintaining this for 30-60 minutes.



# Hyperthermia



Figure 3: Thermal contour images for (left) non-switched and (right) switched sonications.



Figure 4: T2 weighted image of thermal necrosis caused by (a) single four focus pattern and (b) switched focus pattern across axis.

### HIFU

- High Intensity Focused Ultrasound.
- In the focal point, the sudden and intense absorption of the ultrasound beam creates a sudden elevation of the temperature (from 85 to 100 °C) which destroys the cells located in the targeted zone.

### HIFU for Prostate Cancer



# Image Guided HIFU


#### Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology

#### • Therapeutics:

- -Heat generation:
  - Hyperthermia.
  - HIFU.
- -Shock wave
  - Lithotripsy.
- -...etc.

# Extracorporeal Lithotripsy

#### • The use of shock waves to destroy stones in the body.



# Extracorporeal Lithotripsy



#### Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology

- Sonoluminescence.
- Radiation force.
- Cavitation.
- Cosmetics.
- ...etc.

#### **Bio-Effects and Safety Requirements**

### Basics

- Safety regulations.
- Physical parameters vs. Bio-effects.
- Measurement techniques.
- Dose: Energy absorption in tissue.
  - Temperature rise, cell damage.
  - Dosimetry: measurements of such effects.
- Exposure: Characteristics of ultrasound field.
  - Pressure, intensity, power.
  - Exposimetry: measurements of temporal/spatial characterisitics.

#### **Bio-Effects**

- Temperature rise and cell damage (cavitation).
- FDA Track I: Pre-amendments.
  - $-I_{SPTA}$  (720 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) and  $I_{SPPA}$  (190 W/cm<sup>2</sup>).
- FDA Track III:
  - TI (Thermal Index) and MI (Mechanical Index).
- ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable).

### **Bio-Effects**

- Thermal index (TI):
  - TIS, TIB, TIC.
  - Analytical.



- Mechanical Index (MI):
  - Experimental.
  - Destruction of bubble with different sizes at various frequencies.

$$\mathsf{MI} \equiv \frac{\mathsf{P}_{0.3}}{\sqrt{\mathsf{f}_{c}}}$$









#### **Real-Time Imaging**





#### The AcuNav Diagnostic Ultrasound Catheter







#### TransEsophageal Echocardiogram (TEE)











8 Week Fetus

Works-in-Progress

# **Clinical Applications**





(From www.acuson.com)

• OB/GYN, vascular, cardiac, transcranial, abdominal, musculoskeletal, endo-vaginal, endo-rectal, ocular, intra-vascular, ...etc.

#### Characteristics of Diagnostic Ultrasound

- Non-invasive.
- Safe (under regulations).
- Real-time.
- Reflection mode (similar to RADAR).
- Blood flow imaging.
- Access.
- Portable.
- Body type dependent.

#### Function Modes

- A-mode (A-scan, 1D).
- B-mode (Gray scale, 2D).
- 3D ultrasound.
- M-mode (motion)
- Color Doppler (2D, blood flow).
- Spectral Doppler (localized, blood flow).
- Audio Doppler.

## A-Scan (Amplitude, 1D)



## B-Scan (Brightness, 2D)



### 2D Scan Formats



limited view

limited acces wide view

wide view

### 3D Ultrasound



### M-Mode (Motion)



#### Transducers: Generation and Detection of Sound Waves (Section II)

### Ultrasonic Array Transducers



(From www.acuson.com)



#### Transducer

- Energy conversion: electrical ? mechanical.
- Generation and detection (speaker and microphone).
- Medical ultrasound: same device in MHz range.
- Piezoelectricity: electrical polarization ? mechanical strain.
- PZT, PVDF and composite materials are commonly used.

## Piezoelectricity

#### Anisotropy







Curie temperature:  $320^{\circ} - 370^{\circ}$ C.



#### Detection of Ultrasound

• Reciprocal to generation.



### **Design Considerations**

• Bandwidth and sensitivity.



### Acoustic Lens

#### • Fixed geometric elevational focusing.


### 1-D and 2-D Arrays





Hand-held 3-D probe from Kretztechnik



2-D matrix-array at Duke

### Factors in Image Quality

### Factors of Image Quality

- Spatial resolution.
- Contrast resolution.
- Temporal resolution.
- Uniformity.
- Sensitivity.
- Penetration.

#### **Spatial Resolution**

- Lateral and elevational : diffraction limited.
- Axial resolution : the width of the pulse.
- Given limited total bandwidth, there exists a tradeoff between axial and lateral/elevational resolutions.



#### Lateral Resolution (X)

- Diffraction limited.
- Determined by frequency, active aperture size and depth.
- Fixed transmit and dynamic receive focusing.
- Is dynamic transmit focusing possible?
- Is a bigger aperture always better?

### Elevational Resolution (Y)

- Fixed lens (geometric focus).
- Determined by frequency, aperture size and depth.
- 2D array and alternative 1D array designs.



#### Axial Resolution (Z)

- Pulse width (absolute bandwidth).
- System and transducer bandwidth.
- Transmit power.
- Attenuation consideration.
- Coded waveform long pulse + large bandwidth.

## Focusing and Diffraction: Resolution in the *x*-*y* plane (Section III)

### **B-mode Imaging**





### Linear Scanning



#### **Beam Formation Using Arrays**

#### Focusing:

### Curved Linear Scanning





## Sector Steering



### How is the resolution determined?

### Focusing $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ Beam Formation



• To form a beam of sound wave such that only the objects along the beam direction are illuminated and possibly detected.

Sidelobe

### Nomenclature

#### Good Focusing

X

beam pattern

#### Poor Focusing

x: Lateral, azimuthal, scany: Elevational, non-scanz: Axial, range, depth

Beam pattern Radiation pattern Diffraction pattern Focusing pattern

#### Pulsed Wave (PW) vs. Continuous Wave (CW)



#### **Radiation Pattern**



### How to focus?

### Beamforming

- Manipulation of transmit and receive apertures.
- Trade-off between performance/cost to achieve:
  - Steer and focus the transmit beam.
  - Dynamically steer and focus the receive beam.
  - Provide accurate delay and apodization.
  - Provide dynamic receive control.



Single Zone Focusing Multi-Zone Focusing Dynamic Focusing





A-scan:

V (t) = k 
$$\int \int \int \frac{R(x', y', z')e^{-2bz'}}{z'} B(x', y', z') p(t - \frac{2z'}{c}) dx' dy' dz'$$

B-scan:

S(x,t) = k 
$$\iiint R(x',y',z')B(x'-x,y',z')p(t-\frac{2z'}{c})dx'dy'dz'$$

Scanning  $\rightarrow$  Convolution (Correlation vs. Convolution)

## Imaging Model

$$p(t - \frac{2z'}{c}) = A(t - \frac{2z'}{c})\cos(2\mathbf{p}f_0(t - \frac{2z'}{c}))$$

Ideally,

$$S(x,t) = R(x,y_0,ct/2)$$

In practice,

 $B(\cdot)$ : determined by diffraction

 $A(\cdot)$ : determined by transducer bandwidth

#### **Diffraction from 1D Apertures**

• Free space Green's function:



### Focusing in the Far Field

ka<sup>2</sup> / 2z << 1

$$p(x',z) \approx \frac{e^{jkz}e^{jkx'^2/2z}}{z} \int_{-a}^{a} C(x)e^{-jkxx'/z} dx = \frac{e^{jkz}e^{jkx'^2/2z}}{z} F.T.[C(x)]$$

Aperture  $\leftarrow$  (*F*.*T*.) $\rightarrow$  Radiation Pattern

When not in the far field  $\rightarrow$  effective aperture function

C (x) = C (x) 
$$e^{-jkx^2/2z}$$

### Radiation Pattern of a Rectangular Aperture



#### Beam width vs. Aperture size and frequency

$$\left| p(x',z) \right| = \left| \int_{-a}^{a} e^{-jkxx'/z} dx \right| = \left| \frac{1}{jkx'/z} \left[ e^{jkx'a/z} - e^{-jkx'a/z} \right] \right| = \left| 2a \frac{\sin kx'a/z}{kx'a/z} \right| = \left| 2a \sin c(\frac{kx'a}{z}) \right|$$

#### Lateral Resolution

- Frequency
- Aperture size
- -3 dB, -6 dB, -10 dB, -20 dB,...etc.



#### Focusing in the Fresnel Region

 $Z^{2} >> (X - X')^{2}$ d (x,x') = z  $(1 + \frac{(x - x')^2}{z^2})^{1/2} \approx z + \frac{(x - x')^2}{2z}$  $p(x',z) \approx \frac{1}{z} \int_{-a}^{a} e^{jkz} e^{jk(x-x')^{2}/2z} dx = \frac{e^{jkz} e^{jkx'^{2}/2z}}{z} \int_{-a}^{a} e^{-jkxx'/z} e^{jkx^{2}/2z} dx$  $C(x) = C(x) e^{jq(x)}$  $p(x',z) \approx \frac{e^{jkz}e^{jkx'^2/2z}}{z} \int C(x)e^{-jkxx'/z}e^{jkx^2/2z}dx$ 

### Focusing: An Acoustic Lens

C (x) = 
$$|C(x)|e^{-jkx^2/2z}$$



When out of the fixed focal point:



#### Axial Intensity



# Implementation of Focusing Using Arrays (Section IV)

#### **Beam Formation Using Arrays**



 $O(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} S_i (t - t(x_i, R, q)) \leftarrow Delay and Sum$ 

$$t(x_{i}, R, q) = \frac{\left(\left(x_{i} - R \sin q\right)^{2} + R^{2} \cos^{2} q\right)^{1/2}}{c} = \frac{R}{c} \left(1 + \frac{x_{i}^{2}}{R^{2}} - \frac{2x_{i}}{R} \sin q\right)^{1/2}$$

In Fresnel region

$$t(x_{i}, R, q) \approx \frac{R}{c} \left( 1 + \frac{x_{i}^{2}}{2R^{2}} - \frac{x_{i}}{R} \sin q - \frac{x_{i}^{2}}{2R^{2}} \sin^{2} q \right)$$
$$= \frac{R}{c} \left( 1 - \frac{x_{i}}{R} \sin q + \frac{x_{i}^{2}}{2R^{2}} \cos^{2} q \right) = \frac{R}{c} - \frac{x_{i} \sin q}{c} + \frac{x_{i}^{2} \cos^{2} q}{2Rc}$$

Effective aperture size:  $2a \rightarrow 2a \cos q$ 

### Propagating Delays

**Transmit:** 

$$\boldsymbol{t}^{\mathsf{T}}(\mathbf{x}_{\mathsf{i}},\mathsf{R},\boldsymbol{q}) = -\frac{\mathbf{x}_{\mathsf{i}}\sin\boldsymbol{q}}{\mathsf{c}} + \frac{\mathbf{x}_{\mathsf{i}}^{2}\cos^{2}\boldsymbol{q}}{2\mathsf{R}\mathsf{c}}$$

Receive:

 $\boldsymbol{t}^{\mathsf{R}}(\mathbf{x}_{\mathsf{i}},\mathsf{R},\boldsymbol{q}) = \frac{2\mathsf{R}}{\mathsf{c}} - \frac{\mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{i}} \sin \boldsymbol{q}}{\mathsf{c}} + \frac{\mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{i}}^{2} \cos^{2} \boldsymbol{q}}{2\mathsf{R}\mathsf{c}}$ 

## Array -> Sampled Aperture


### Array Steering and Grating Lobes



### Grating Lobes



#### **Beam Sampling**



### Real-Time Image Formation (Section V)

#### Scan Conversion

• Acquired data may not be on the display grid.



### Scan Conversion



#### Scan Conversion



 $p(m,n) = c_{m,n,i,j}a(i,j) + c_{m,n,i+1,j}a(i+1,j) + c_{m,n,i,j+1}a(i,j+1) + c_{m,n,i,j+1}a(i+1,j+1)$ 

### Moiré Pattern



# Temporal Resolution (Section VI)

#### **Temporal Resolution (Frame Rate)**

- Frame rate=1/Frame time.
- Frame time=number of lines \* line time.
- Line time=(2\*maximum depth)/sound velocity.
- Sound velocity is around 1540 m/s.
- High frame rate is required for real-time imaging.

#### **Temporal Resolution**

- Display standard: NTSC: 30 Hz. PAL: 25 Hz (2:1 interlace). 24 Hz for movie.
- The actual acoustic frame rate may be higher or lower. But should be high enough to have minimal flickering.
- Essence of real-time imaging: direct interaction.

#### **Temporal Resolution**

- For an actual frame rate lower than 30 Hz, interpolation is used.
- For an actual frame rate higher than 30 Hz, information can be displayed during playback.
- Even at 30 Hz, it is still possibly undersampling.

(Section VII)

- Contrast resolution is determined by both spatial resolution and speckle noise variations.
- Speckle comes from coherent interference of diffuse scatterers. In-coherent processing must be used to reduce speckle noise.
- There exists a tradeoff between contrast and spatial resolutions.

• Contrast-to-Noise Ratio (CNR):

$$CNR = \frac{\langle I_1 - I_2 \rangle}{\mathbf{s}_{I_A}} = \frac{\langle \Delta I \rangle}{\mathbf{s}_I} \sqrt{N}$$

• On a log display





- Contrast resolution is primarily limited by speckle noise.
- Speckle is a multiplicative noise.
- On a logarithmic display,

 $\boldsymbol{S}_D \approx 4.34 dB.$ 

# Spatial vs. Contrast $CNR = \frac{10 \log \left(\frac{I_1}{I_2}\right)}{4.34} \sqrt{N}$

- Speckle noise is 4.34dB for true speckle, a figure of merit for detectability.
- CNR increases as speckle noise decreases, generally resulting in loss in spatial resolution.
- Both CNR and spatial resolution can be improved by reducing sample volume.

Doppler Techniques for Motion Estimation (Section VIII)

## Color Doppler Mode







### Power Doppler





03:06:28PM C7 # 35 5.0MHz R 0 KIDNEY /V ₽₩R TIS 100% 7.3 0/ -/3/VEA+4 2/4/+25.0MHz CEV 35dB 0:0 100% LEVEL: 78

### PW Doppler (Spectral Doppler)



### CW Doppler (Spectral Doppler)



# **Doppler Effect**







- Relative motion of the source causes a change in received frequency.
- Blood flow velocity is measured by detecting Doppler frequency shifts.

## **Doppler Equations**

 $f_d = f_s \frac{v_r + v_s}{c - v_s}$  $f_d \approx f_s \frac{(v_r + v_s)}{c}$ 

where  $f_d$  is the Doppler frequency shift,  $f_s$  is the carrier frequency, c is the sound velocity in blood,  $v_s$  and  $v_r$  are source and receiver velocities.

# Doppler Ultrasound

- Primary scattering site: red blood cell. The platelet is too small and the number of leukocytes is not significant.
- The red blood cell size is around several microns. Thus, scattering and speckle are also present.
- The red blood cells in a sample volume are assumed to move in unison.

# **Doppler Equations**



- Typical physiological flows (5-10m/sec at most) are much slower than sound velocity in the body (~1500m/sec).
- Doppler shift is doubled due to round-trip propagation.
- Only parallel flows can be detected.



#### Flow Pattern v. Velocity Profile


#### Flow Pattern v. Velocity Profile



#### Flow Pattern v. Velocity Profile



## **CW Doppler Processing**



#### Wall Filter (Clutter Filter)



# Audio Doppler

$$f_d = \frac{2vf_s}{c} \cos q$$

- For typical blood velocities and carrier frequencies, the Doppler shifts from blood happen to be in the human audible range (near DC to 20KHz).
- Positive shifts in one channel and negative ones in the other.
- Hilbert transform.
- Clinically useful.





#### $CW \rightarrow PW$

- <u>CW: No range resolution.</u>
- Sampling in time = sampling in range.
- $\rightarrow$  CW Doppler to PW Doppler.

#### Pulsed Wave (PW) Doppler





# PW System Diagram



Another View for PW Doppler,...

#### Autocorrelation Processing



## $PW \rightarrow Color Doppler$

- Single gate  $\rightarrow$  multiple gates.
- Local flow information  $\rightarrow$  2D flow information.
- Less time for velocity estimation: quantitative  $\rightarrow$  qualitative.

# **Color Doppler Parameters**



- Use efficient time domain correlation techniques to calculate flow characteristics.
- Auto-correlation of the Doppler signal.
- Commonly derived parameters are <u>mean velocity</u> (including directionality), variance and energy (power).

#### **Color Doppler Derivation**

 $R(t) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S(t + t) S^{*}(t) dt$  $R(t) = |R(t)| e^{jq(t)}$ 

$$\overline{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{q}'(0) \approx \frac{\mathbf{q}(\mathsf{T}) - \mathbf{q}(0)}{\mathsf{T}} = \frac{\mathbf{q}(\mathsf{T})}{\mathsf{T}}$$
$$\mathbf{s}^{2} \approx \frac{2}{\mathsf{T}^{2}} \left(1 - \frac{\mathsf{A}(\mathsf{T})}{\mathsf{A}(0)}\right) = \frac{2}{\mathsf{T}^{2}} \left(1 - \frac{|\mathsf{R}(\mathsf{T})|}{\mathsf{R}(0)}\right)$$
$$E = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(\mathbf{w}) d\mathbf{w} = R(0)$$

# Color Doppler

- Flow parameters are mapped into colors for display (1D or 2D).
- Choice of map affects the presentation of Color Doppler images.

#### **Color Doppler: Signal Processing**



- Significant frame rate reduction.
- Small color boxes are often used to increase frame rate.
- Sophisticated systems utilize multiple beam formation to further increase frame rate.



#### FreeStyle<sup>™</sup> Extended Imaging Renal Transplant

Works-in-Progress

## **PW/Color Doppler Limitations**



## Velocity Ambiguity



## Range Ambiguity





 $c \cdot T_0 / 2$  OR  $c \cdot (PRI + T_0) / 2^?$ 

#### **Doppler: Complications**

- Non-trivial wall filters are required to remove interference from slow-moving objects.
- Adequate signal processing capabilities and sufficient dynamic range are necessary to detect weak flows.
- Conflicts with frame rate requirements.
- <u>Only parallel flow is detectable.</u>  $f_d = \frac{2vf_s}{c} \cos q$

# Is Quantitative Volume Flow Estimation Possible?

#### Ultrasonic Quantitative Blood Flow Estimation

• Blood volume flow rate (*Q*) equals blood flow with velocity (*v*) pasting a blood vessel cross sectional area (*Area*).

 $Q = v \times Area$ 

• The size of blood vessel cross section area can be obtained by B-mode scanning.



# Doppler Angle Must Be Known.

#### **Doppler Angle Estimation**

Doppler Spectrum Bandwidth (bw) vs. Lateral velocity ( $v \sin q$ )



#### **Doppler Angle Estimation** Flow with Spatial and Temporal Velocity Gradients



## **Doppler: Tissue Motion Imaging**

- Doppler principles can be used to visualize cardiac motion.
- Higher signal levels allow simpler wall filters and less number of firing.
- Suitable for cardiac applications.

#### • Heart motion parameters:

- Velocity: v = dw/dt.
- Displacement *w*: temporal integration of *v*.
- Strain rate: r = dv/dz.
- Strain *s*: temporal integration of *r*.





# Thank you!