

Medical signal processing

Signal?

signal: contains information (information: new knowledge, that decreases the uncertainty).

noise: everything, that is not signal.
Relative!

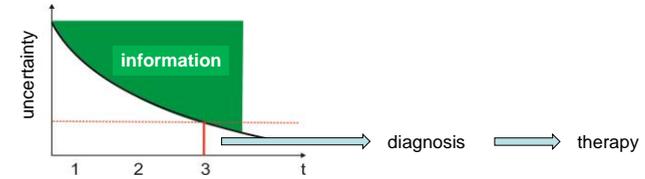
signal

Information



1. Enters.
2. Complaint?
3. Which?

- information:
1. A patient.
 2. I've a toothache.
 3. Third molar.



Information content

Which tooth is ill?

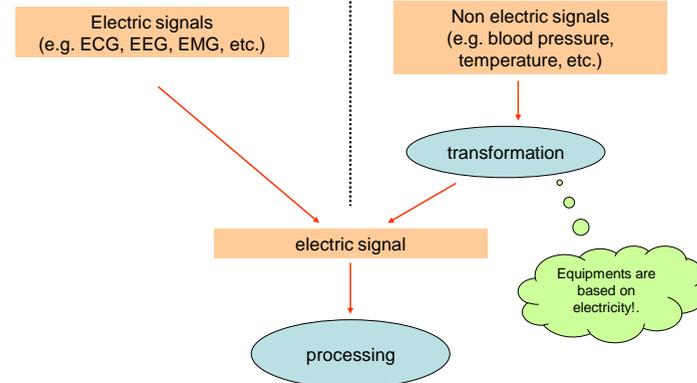
1. Upper? - not. Only 16 possible places. Decreasing uncertainty.
2. On the left? - not. 8 possible places.

32 possible answers! The uncertainty is enough large.

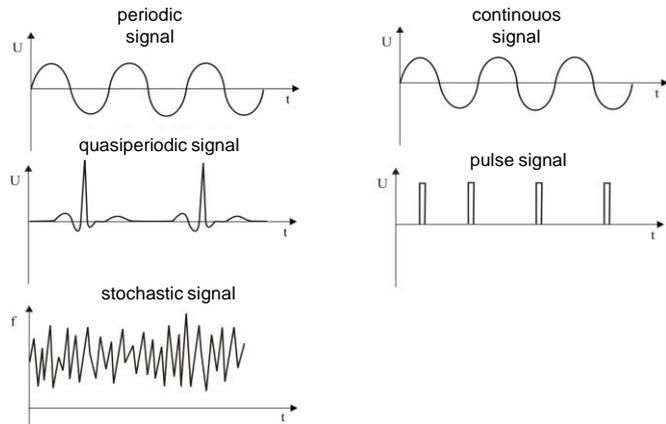
Five right questions are necessary to identify the place!
Information content: 5 bit ($2^5 = 32$)

Bit: unit of the information.

Classification of the signals 1.

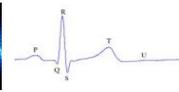


Classification of the signals 2.



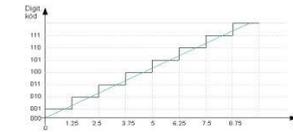
Classification of the signals 3.

analog signal



In a certain range every value is possible.

digital signal



height:
analog signal

measurement



height:
175 cm
(only discret values)

Signal and noise

Noise is random normally!

Ideal case: there is no noise!

Real measurements: noise is always present!

Signal to noise ratio:

The ratio of the quantity used to characterize the strength of the signal and the noise.

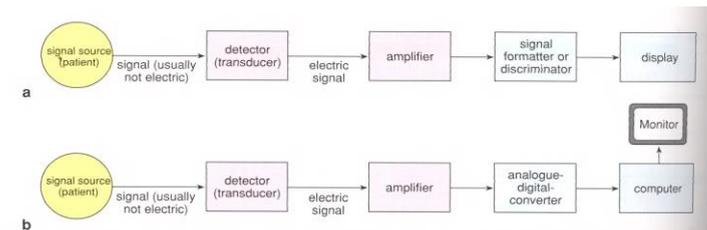
Higher value is better!

How can we increase?

increasing the signal

decreasing the noise

Signal processing



Elements in a electric circuit

passive



resistor



capacitor



inductivity

active



diode

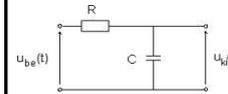


transistor

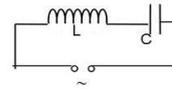
Electric circuits

A unit consists of elements.

simple
(consists of passive elements)



RC circuit



LC circuit

complex
(consists of passive and active elements)



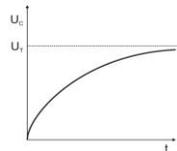
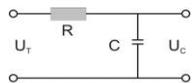
integrated circuit



amplifier

DC behavior of a RC-circuit

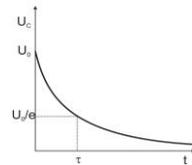
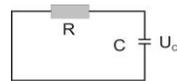
charging



$$U_C = U_T \cdot \left(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}\right)$$

$$\tau = RC$$

discharging

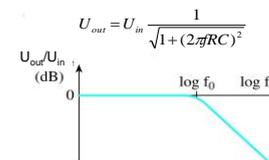
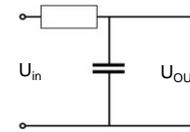


$$U_C = U_0 \cdot e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}$$

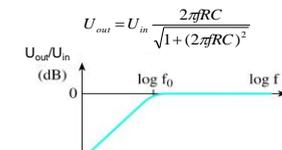
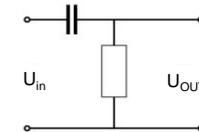
τ = time constant

AC behavior of a RC-circuit

Lowpass filter

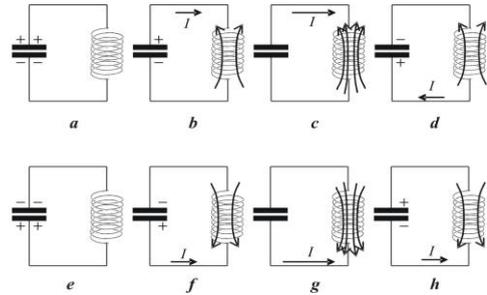


Highpass filter



Resonant circuit (LC-circuit)

Electric (in the capacitor) and magnetic (in the coil) field



The electric and the magnetic field periodically are built up and destroyed.

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$

Resonance

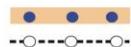
Energy exchange between two oscillating systems is possible only if the resonant frequency of the two systems is enough close to each other.

Tacoma bridge (1940)



Semiconductors

n-type



conductance band

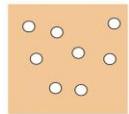
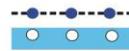


valence band



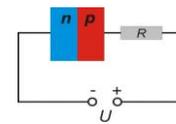
the net charge is zero!

p-type

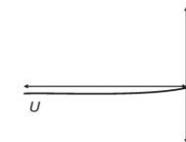
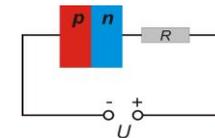


Working of a diode

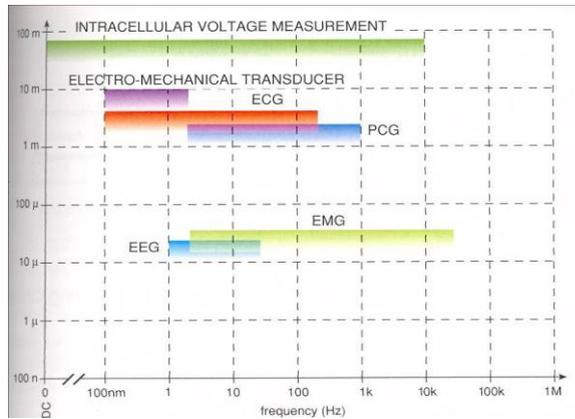
forward direction



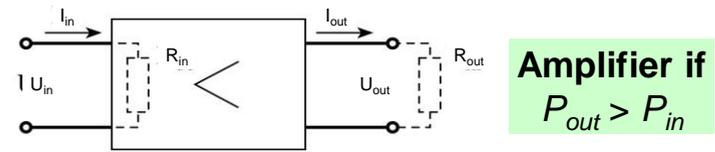
reversed direction



Biological signals



Amplifier



Amplifier if
 $P_{out} > P_{in}$

Power gain: (A_P)

Voltage gain: (A_U)

$$A_P = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}}$$

$$A_U = \frac{U_{out}}{U_{in}}$$

The decibel scale

Instead of the simple proportion we use frequently the logarithmic of them. This is the decibel-scale.

$$n = 10 \cdot \lg \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \text{ (dB)}$$

$$P = \frac{U^2}{R}$$

$$A_P = \frac{U_{out}^2 / R_{out}}{U_{in}^2 / R_{in}} = \frac{U_{out}^2}{U_{in}^2} \cdot \frac{R_{in}}{R_{out}} = A_U^2 \cdot \frac{R_{in}}{R_{out}}$$

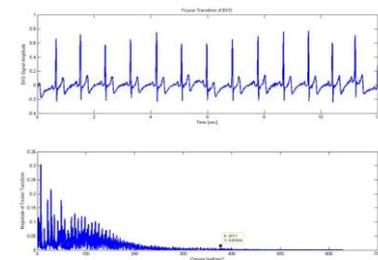
$$n(\text{dB}) = 10 \cdot \lg A_U^2 + 10 \cdot \lg \frac{R_{in}}{R_{out}} = 20 \cdot \lg A_U + 10 \cdot \lg \frac{R_{in}}{R_{out}}$$



Fourier theorem

$$y(t) = \sum_k a_k \sin(k \cdot \omega_0 \cdot t + \Phi_k)$$

Every periodic signal may be decomposed into the sum of sinusoidal signals.

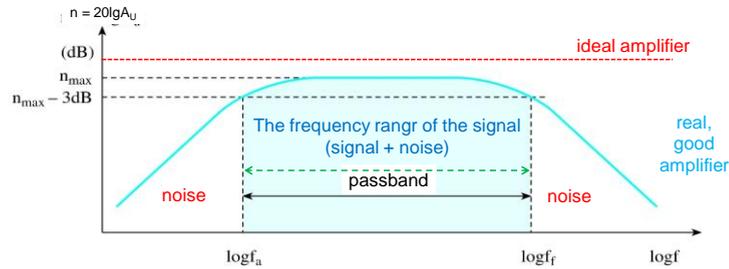


An ecg signal and its frequency components.

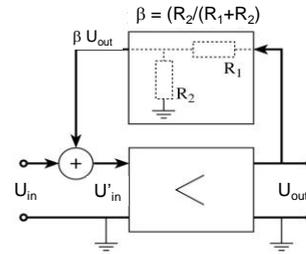
Transfer characteristics

The amplification (in decibel) as the function of the frequency.

In the presence of the noise the real amplifier is better.

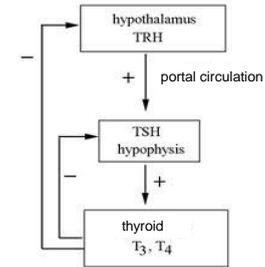


Feed-back



$$U'_{in} = U_{in} \pm \beta \cdot U_{out}$$

$$A_{U,F} = \frac{U_{out}}{U_{in}} = \frac{A_U}{1 \pm \beta \cdot A_U}$$

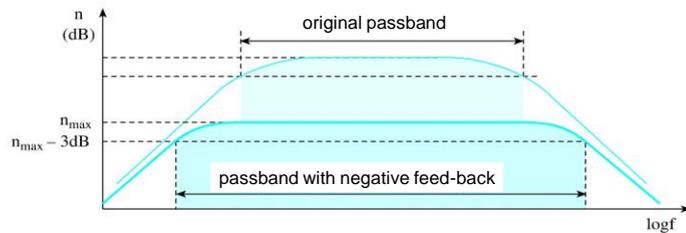


feed-back in the body

Negative feed-back

The feed-backed part of the output is added to the input after inversion.

$$A_{U,NF} = \frac{U_{out}}{U_{in}} = \frac{A_U}{1 + \beta \cdot K_U}$$



Advantage of the negative feed-back

$$A_{U,F} = \frac{U_{out}}{U_{in}} = \frac{K_U}{1 + \beta \cdot K_U} \text{ usually } \beta \cdot K_U \gg 1, \text{ so } K_{U,F} \approx \frac{K_U}{\beta \cdot K_U} = \frac{1}{\beta}$$

The properties (gain, transfer band) depend on feed-back elements only.

Consequences:

1. The parameters (gain, transfer band) are well defined.
2. Noise level decreases on the output.
3. Stability increases.

Pozitive feed-back

The feed-backed part of the output is added to the input.

$$A_{U,PF} = \frac{U_{out}}{U_{in}} = \frac{A_U}{1 - \beta \cdot A_U}$$

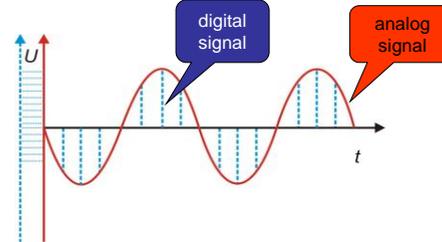
if $\beta A_U = 1$ the system is unstable, oscillation.



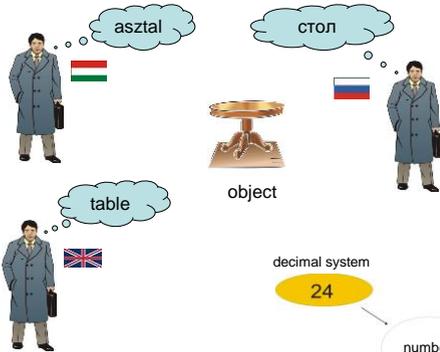
Oscillators: used to produce electric signal.

Digitizing the signal

Digital signal: a signal characterized by digital value and determined at a given time periodically (sampling).



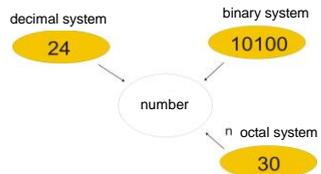
Binary system of the numbers



Sum of the powers of 2.

numbers: 0 and 1.

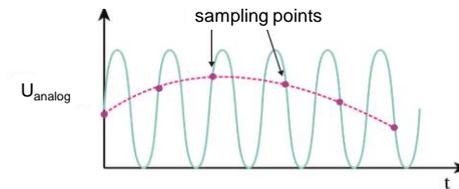
$$\begin{aligned} \text{e.g. } 101 &= 1 \cdot 2^2 \\ &+ 0 \cdot 2^1 \\ &+ 1 \cdot 2^0 \end{aligned}$$



Shannon principle

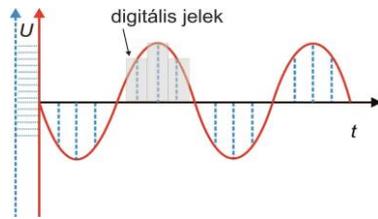
$$f_{\text{sampling}} \geq 2 \cdot f_{\text{signal}}$$

If the sampling doesn't fulfill this requirement, false frequencies appear.



Role of the resolution

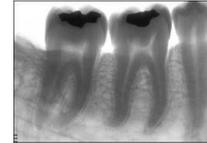
quantization noise:
noise due to the quantization.



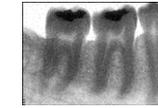
Due to the quantization series of square pulses appear. The frequency range of them is different from the original one. Higher resolution decreases this noise.

Role of the noise level

original image



Richly detailed images,
sufficient information.



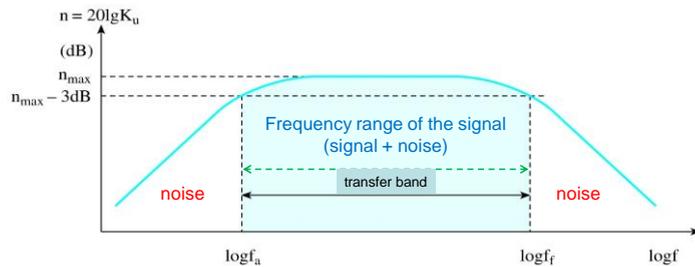
noise level

Increasing noise level
decreases the
information obtained
from the image.

To decrease the noise
level is an important
part of the signal
processing.

Planning a good amplifier

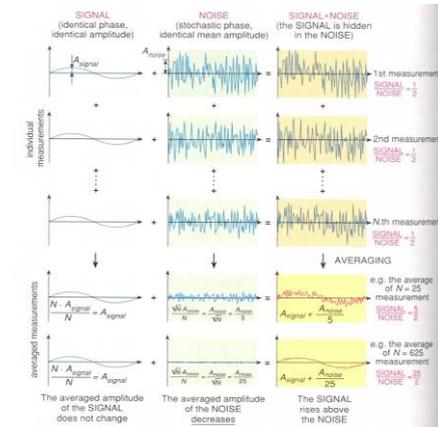
Base: Noise is present in the whole frequency range.



The signal to noise ratio increases
due to the decreasing amplification out of the transfer band.

Decreasing the noise by averaging

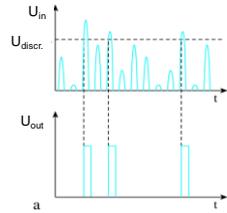
Base:
Noise is random while the
signal is not.



Pulse signals

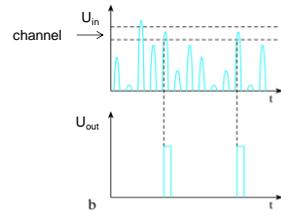
Base: The amplitude of the noise pulses is different in average.

Integral discriminator (ID)



Signal is produced only over a certain level.

Differential discriminator (DD)



Signal is produced if the amplitude is in the channel.

Displays

CRT (not frequently used nowadays)



LCD

OLED



XEL-1

Displaying a time process



Time is on the horizontal axis and amplitude of the signal is on the vertical axis.

Information in an image

What is on the photo?

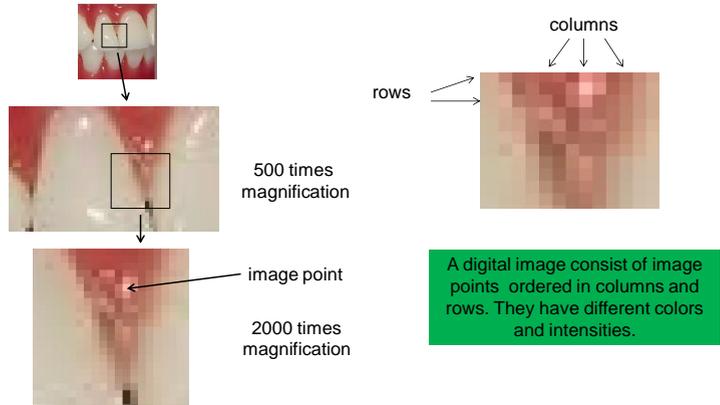
„A landscape, a beautiful garden.”



In fact:

How much is the absorption ability and the reflectivity of the different objects.

Structure of an image



500 times magnification

2000 times magnification

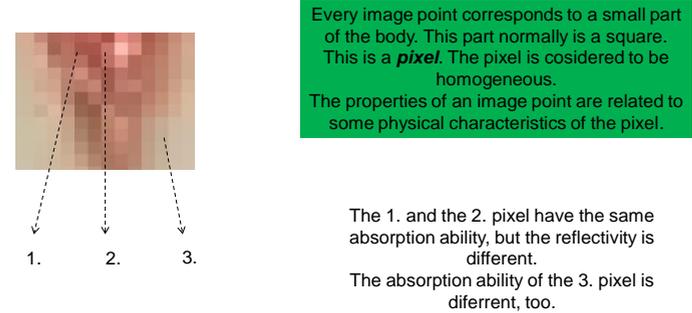
image point

rows

columns

A digital image consist of image points ordered in columns and rows. They have different colors and intensities.

Physical content of an image



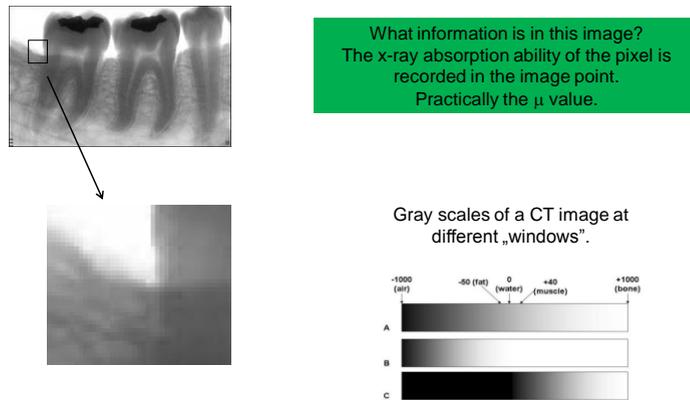
1. 2. 3.

Every image point corresponds to a small part of the body. This part normally is a square. This is a *pixel*. The pixel is considered to be homogeneous. The properties of an image point are related to some physical characteristics of the pixel.

The 1. and the 2. pixel have the same absorption ability, but the reflectivity is different.

The absorption ability of the 3. pixel is different, too.

X-ray image

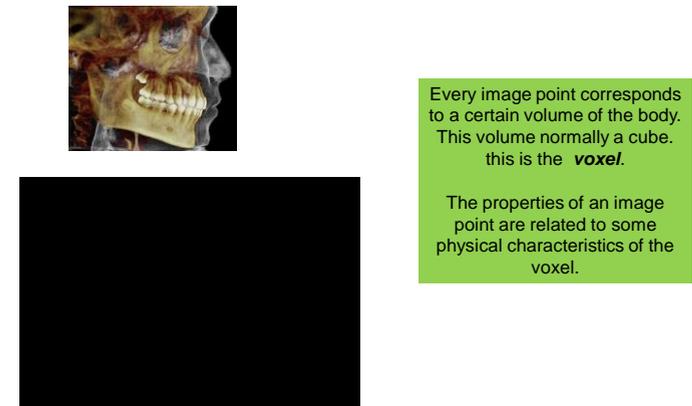


What information is in this image?
The x-ray absorption ability of the pixel is recorded in the image point.
Practically the μ value.

Gray scales of a CT image at different „windows“.

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| -1000 (air) | -50 (fat) | 0 (water) | +40 (muscle) | +1000 (bone) |
| A | [Grayscale bar] | | | |
| B | [Grayscale bar] | | | |
| C | [Grayscale bar] | | | |

3D image

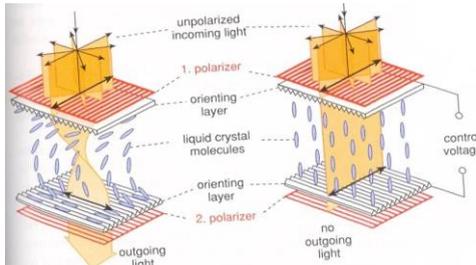


Every image point corresponds to a certain volume of the body. This volume normally a cube. this is the *voxel*.

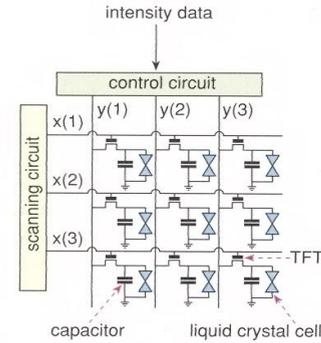
The properties of an image point are related to some physical characteristics of the voxel.

LCD (Liquid Crystal Display)

Structure and working of a single pixel (cell)

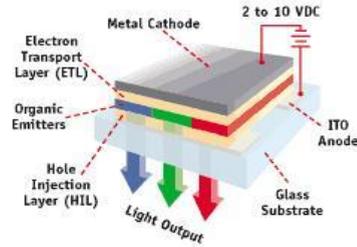


TFT (-LCD) display



A very thin (transparent) transistor layer switches each pixel. This improves the speed.

OLED Structure



LED: Light Emitting Diode

O(rganic)LED displays

This is the structure of a unit cell (an image point) of the display. The recombination of the electrons and holes produces the light. The color corresponds to the energy difference of them. (Of course one of the electrodes must be transparent.)

Comparison of displays

| | CRT | LCD | TFT-LCD (LED) | Plasm | OLED |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| brightness (cd/m ²) | ~100 | 200-300 | 200-300 | 400-1000 | A few 100 |
| Contrast ratio | > 1000:1 | ~ 600:1 | 600:1 (but LED: 1000000:1) | > 1000:1 | > 1000:1 |
| Viewing angle | whole range | ~140-160 degree | ~140-160 degree | ~160 degree | whole range |
| Frame rate | <1 ms | 8-20 ms | <8 ms | <1 ms | <1 ms |

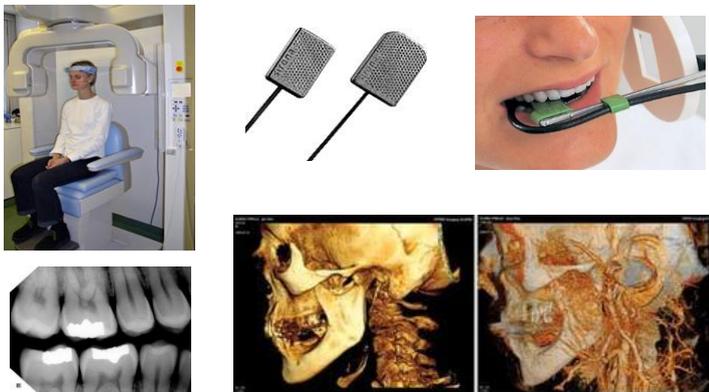
Flexible displays



Transparent displays



Application of the CCD



Unit cell of a CCD

