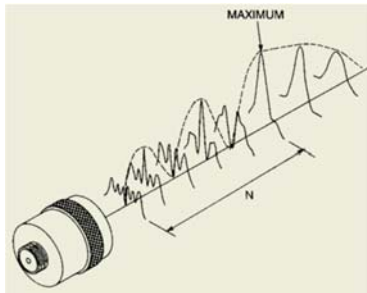
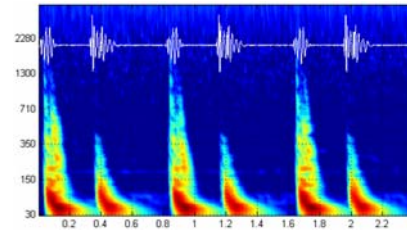


# Physics of ultrasonography



KAD 2015.03.24

**Sound: mechanical wave (model)**

whistle



spring

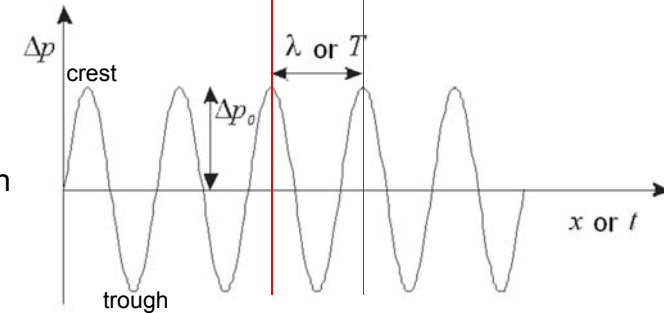
compression  
rarefaction

rarefaction



spatial and  
temporal  
periodicity

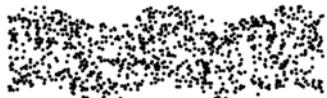
function



2



**longitudinal wave**  
(in the interior of liquids and gases only this type)



**transverse** wave

hydrostatic pressure      pressure change, sound pressure

$$p_{\text{total}} = p_{\text{hydrostat}} + \Delta p$$

pressure   DC   + AC   amplitude   phase

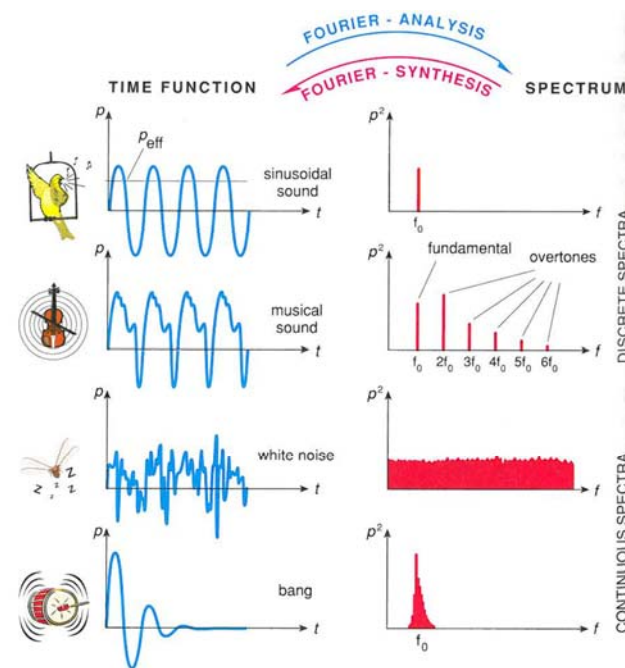
$$\Delta p(t, x) = \Delta p_{\max} \sin \left[ 2\pi \left( \frac{t}{T} - \frac{x}{\lambda} \right) \right]$$

$$c \cdot T = \lambda, \quad c = f \cdot \lambda$$



Textbook, Fig. II.46.

3



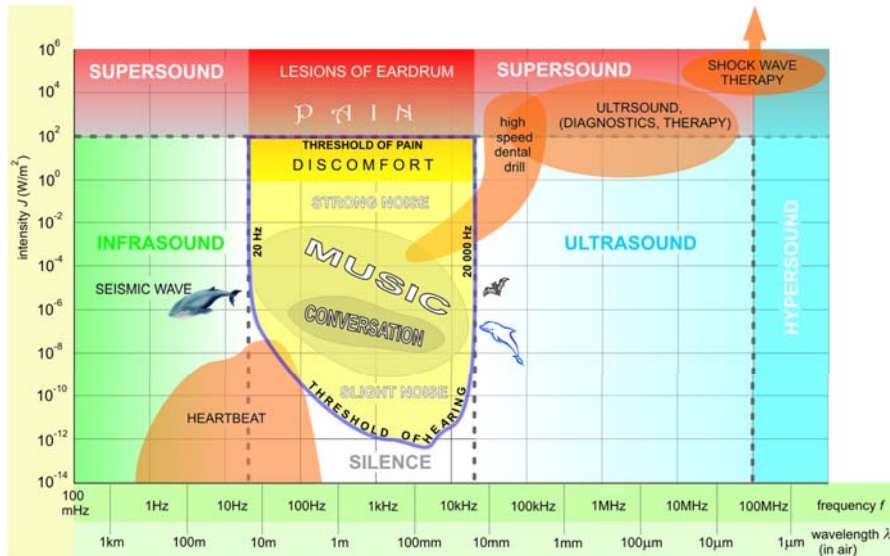
**pitch:**  
frequency of the  
fundamental

**timbre** (tone colour):  
relative strengths of  
overtones/harmonics  
(spectrum)

Textbook, Fig. IV.23.

4

## Frequency and intensity regions of sounds



Lab. manual, Audiometry.

5

## The role of elastic medium

$$\kappa = -\frac{\Delta V}{V \Delta p}$$

**compressibility**  
relative volume decrease  
over pressure

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho \kappa}}$$

**speed of sound**

$$Z = \frac{p}{v} = \frac{p_{\max}}{v_{\max}}$$

**acoustic impedance**  
(definition)

$$Z_{\text{el}} = \frac{U}{I}$$

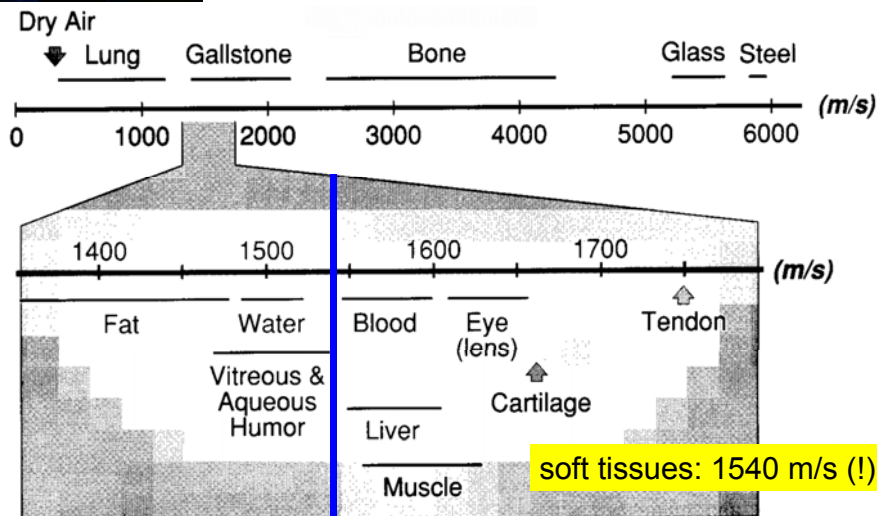
$$Z = c\rho = \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{\kappa}}$$

**acoustic impedance**  
(useful form)



6

## Speed of sound/US in different media



soft tissues: 1540 m/s (!)

7

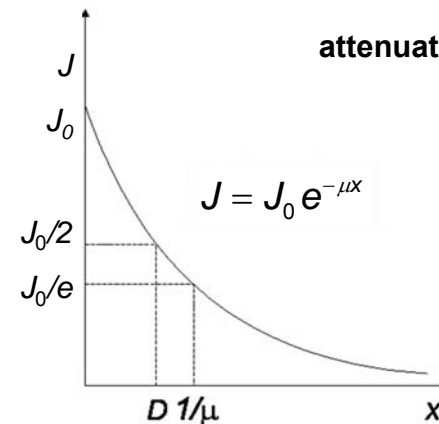
## Intensity of US

$$J = \frac{1}{Z} \Delta p_{\text{eff}}^2$$

$$P_{\text{el}} = \frac{1}{Z_{\text{el}}} U_{\text{eff}}^2$$

intensity =  
energy-current density    electric analogy

## Loss of energy during propagation (absorption)



$$\text{attenuation: } \alpha = 10 \cdot \lg \frac{J_0}{J} \text{ dB}$$

$$\alpha = 10 \cdot \mu \cdot x \cdot \lg e \text{ dB}$$

$\mu$  is proportional to  
frequency in the  
diagnostic range

**specific  
attenuation:**

$$\frac{\alpha}{f \cdot x}$$

8

$\mu$  is proportional to frequency in the diagnostic range

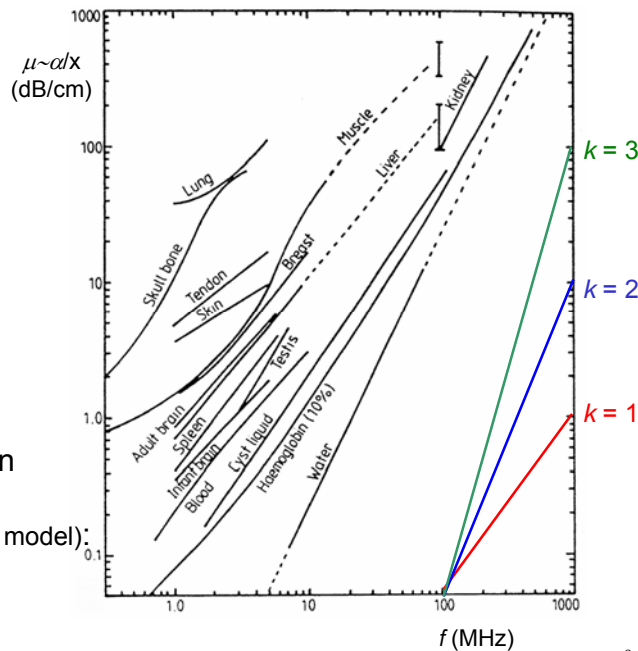
$$\mu \sim f^k, \quad k \sim 1(?)$$

$$\log \mu \sim k \log f$$

if the graph is a linear, the power function approximation is valid

specific attenuation for soft tissues (homogeneous tissue model):

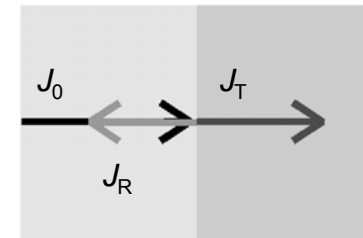
$$\frac{\alpha}{f x} \sim 1 \frac{\text{dB}}{\text{cm MHz}}$$



9

## Phenomena at the boundary of different media

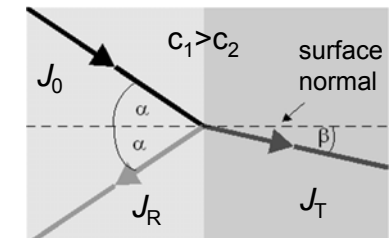
normal/perpendicular incidence



$$J_0 = J_R + J_T$$

reflection and transmission (penetration)

skew incidence



$$\frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \beta} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$$

Snellius-Descartes

Textbook, Fig. II.47.

10

## Reflection (normal incidence)

reflectivity:

$$R = \frac{J_{\text{reflected}}}{J_{\text{incident}}} = \left( \frac{Z_1 - Z_2}{Z_1 + Z_2} \right)^2$$

“full” reflection:

$$Z_1 \ll Z_2, \quad R \approx 1$$

optimal coupling:

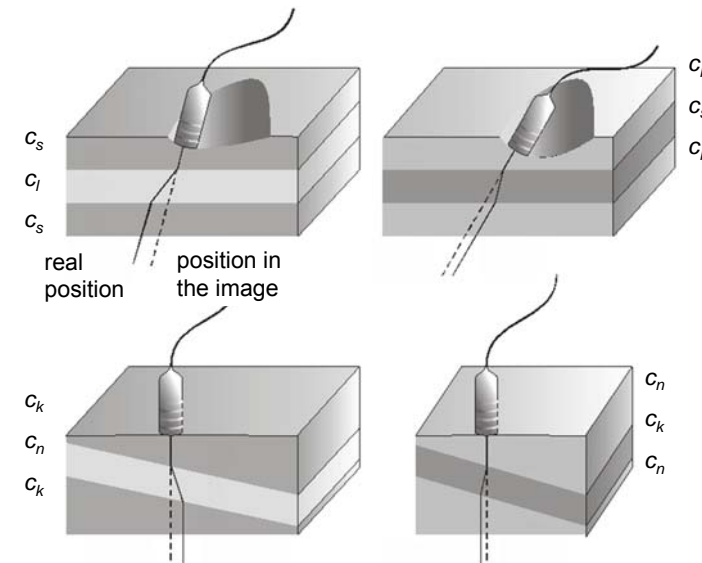
$$Z_{\text{connecting}} \approx \sqrt{Z_{\text{source}} Z_{\text{skin}}}$$



boundary surface	R
muscle/blood	0.001
fat/liver	0.006
fat/muscle	0.01
bone/muscle	0.41
bone/fat	0.48
soft tissue/air	0.99

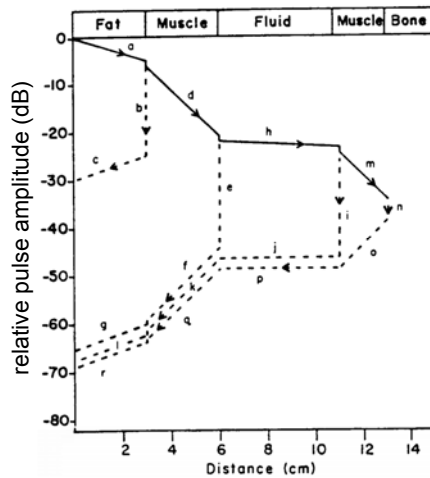
11

## Phenomenon of skew incidence or normal incidence and skew boundaries



Textbook, Fig. on pg. 153

12



## Absorption and reflection

the later comes back the reflection, the deeper lays the reflecting surface and the weaker is the intensity

run time dependent amplification

TGC: time gain compensation

DGC: depth gain control

boundary surface	$R$	$10\lg R$ (dB)	$T$	$10\lg T$ (dB)
fat/muscle	0.01	-20.0	0.990	-0.044
muscle/blood	0.001	-30.0	0.999	-0.004
muscle/bone	0.41	-3.9	0.590	-2.291

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## Generation of US. Piezoelectric effect

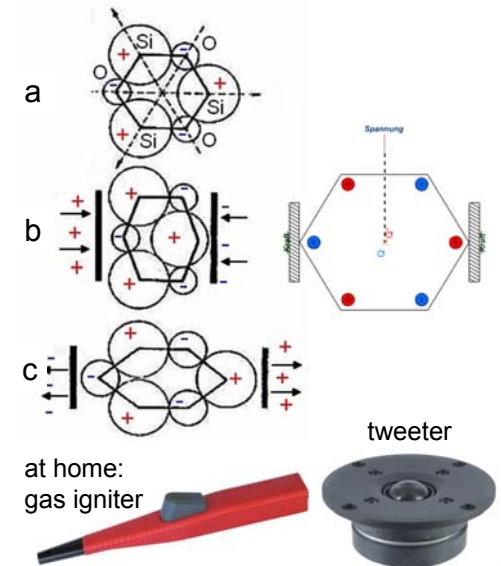
production: inverse ~  
detection: direct ~

source of electric signal  
(sine wave oscillator)+  
transducer (piezo-crystal)

(a) Center of charge of positive and negative charges coincides.

(b) and (c) As a result of pressure, the charge centers are separated, i.e. a potential difference arises (direct ~).

The crystal is deformed when voltage is applied (inverse ~).

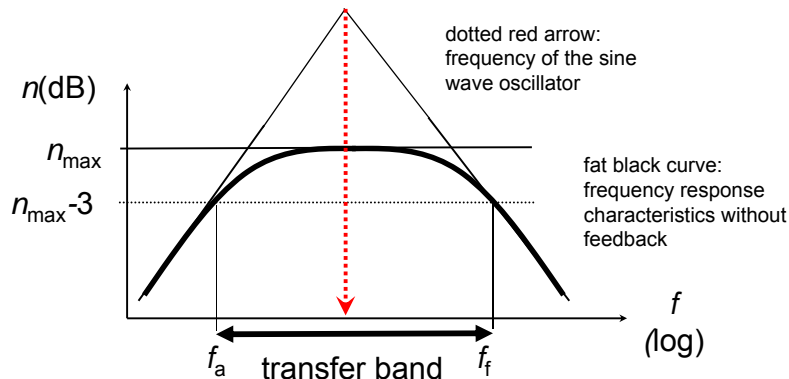


## Source of electric signal : sine wave oscillator

amplifier with positive feedback

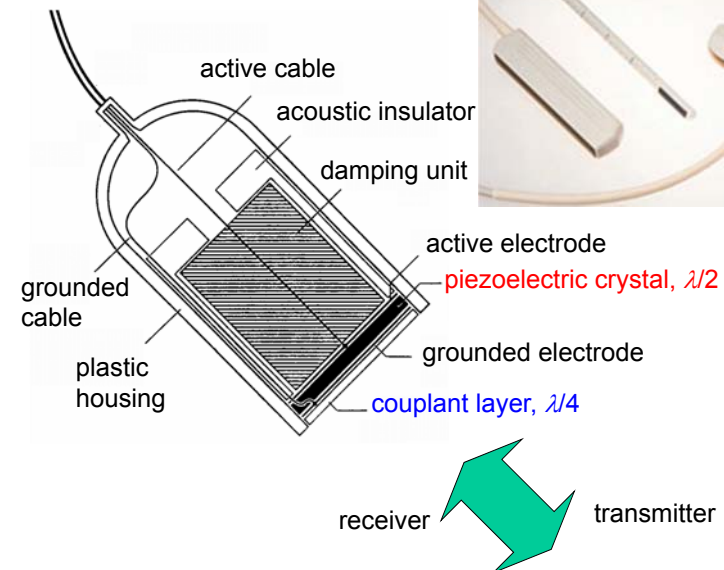
$$A_{U, \text{feedback}} = \frac{A_U}{1 - \beta A_U}$$

$\beta A_U = 1$ , amplification = „infinity“ → sine wave oscillator  
no input signal, output signal: sine voltage



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## Ultrasound transducer



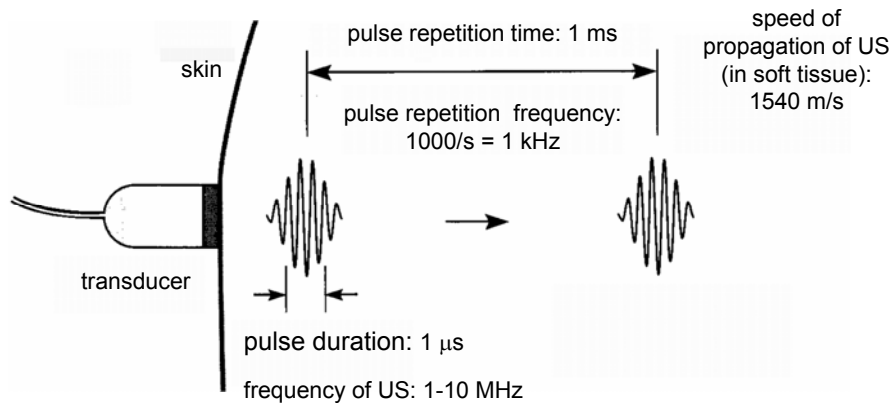
16



## Characteristic of US pulses

transducer: transmitter and receiver is the same unit

**time sharing** mode: pulses instead of continuous wave US



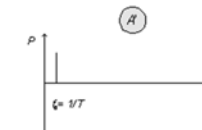
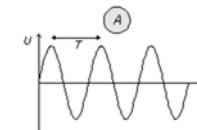
Textbook, Fig. VIII.32.

17

## Time function

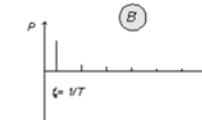
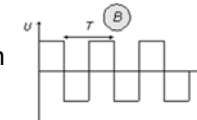
## Spectrum

sine function



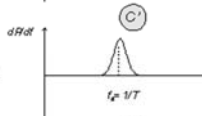
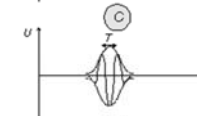
line spectrum (1 line)

square function



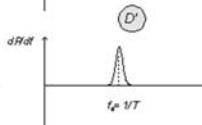
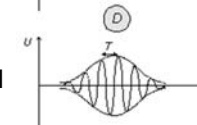
line spectrum

sine wave pocket (some „periods”)



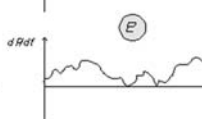
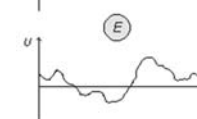
band spectrum

sine wave pocket (several „periods”)



band spectrum

aperiodic function

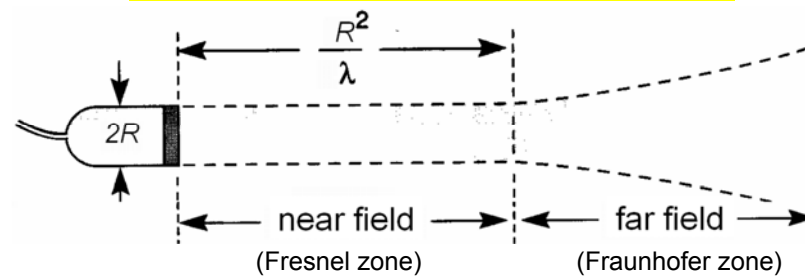


continuous spectrum

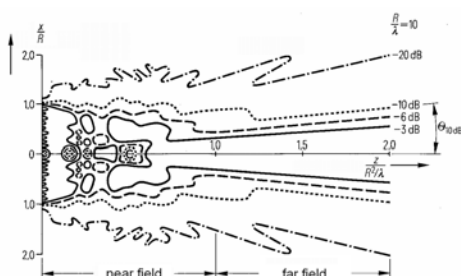
## US pulse

18

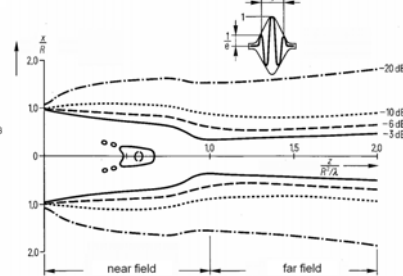
## US beam shape (simplified version)



Beam shape, continuous wave US

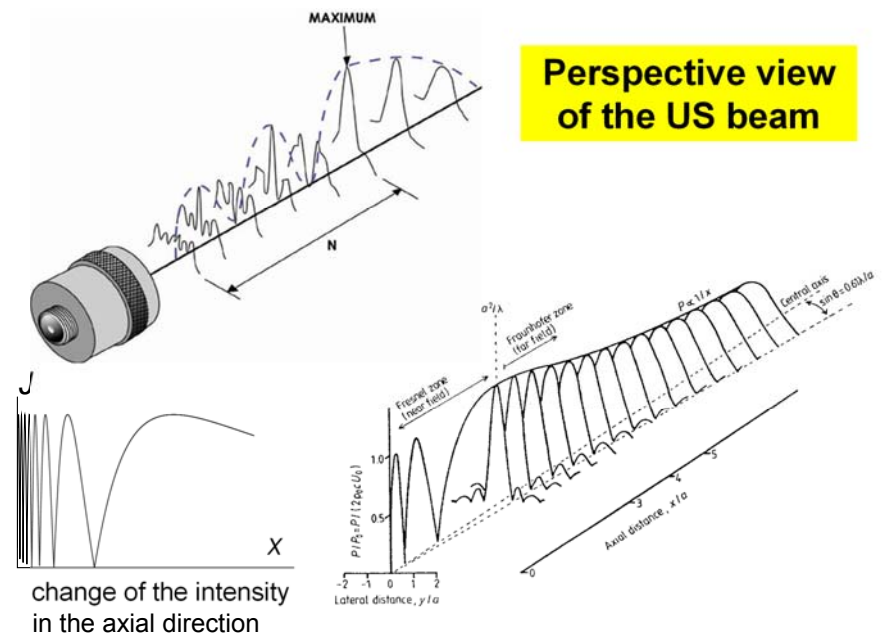


Beam shape, pulsed wave US



9

## Perspective view of the US beam



cf. Textbook. Fig. on p.505

20

## Resolving limit, resolution

**Resolving limit** is the distance between two object details which can be just resolved as distinct objects (the smaller the better).

**Resolution (resolving power):** the reciprocal of the resolving limit (the greater the better)

**Axial resolving limit** depends on the pulse length. Pulse length is inversely proportional to the frequency.

**Lateral resolving limit** is the minimum separation of two interfaces aligned along a direction perpendicular to the ultrasound beam. It depends on the beam width

<b>Typical values</b>	frequency (MHz):	2	15
	wavelength (in muscle) (mm):	0.78	0.1
	penetration depth (cm):	12	1.6
	lateral resolving limit (mm):	3.0	0.4
	axial resolving limit (mm):	0.8	0.15

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## Axial resolving limit

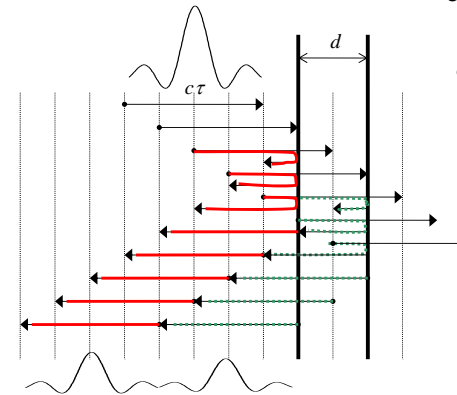
$\tau$  : pulse duration

$c_1\tau \cong c_2\tau = c\tau$  pulse length

$\delta_{ax} = d = \frac{c\tau}{2}$  resolving limit

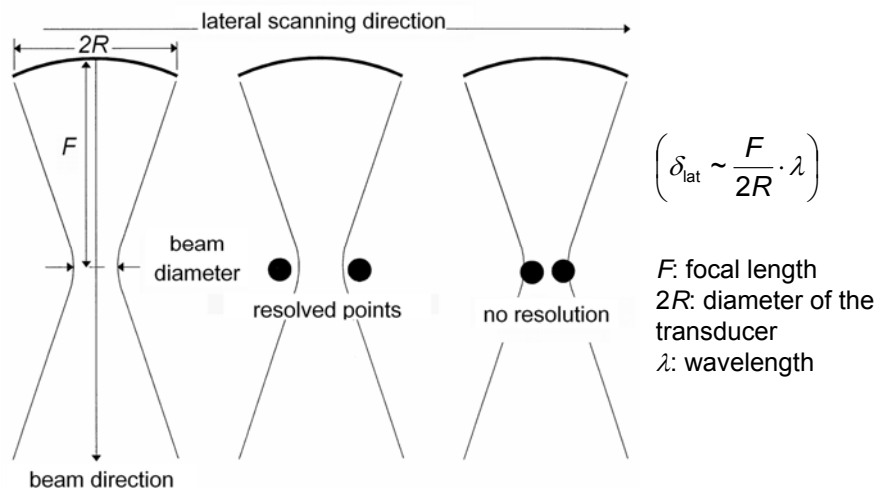
The axial resolving limit is the half of the pulse length. The echos from the adjacent surfaces in this case just hit another.

$$\tau \sim T = \frac{1}{f}$$



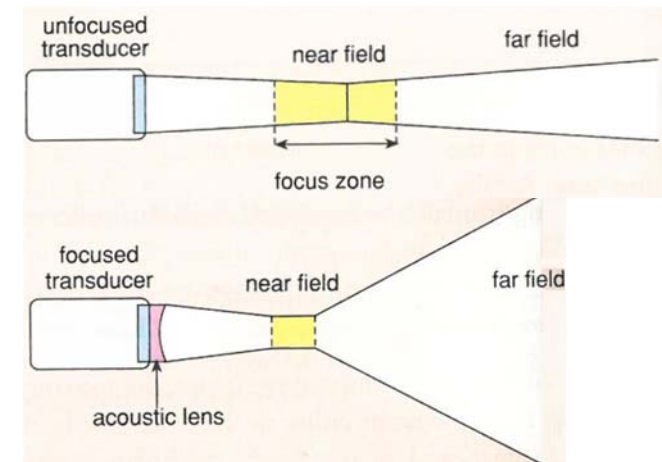
22

## Lateral resolving limit



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## Focusing of the beam

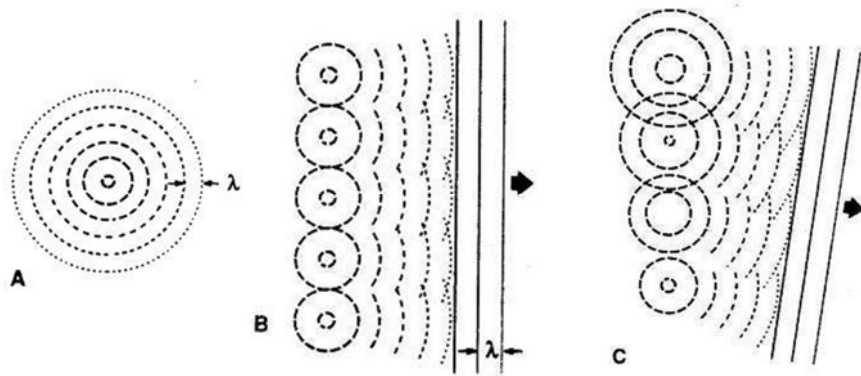


Focusing increases the divergence of the beam in the far field regime and reduces the depth sharpness.

cf. Textbook Fig. on p.506

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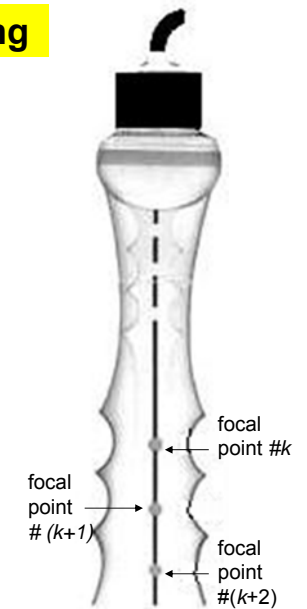
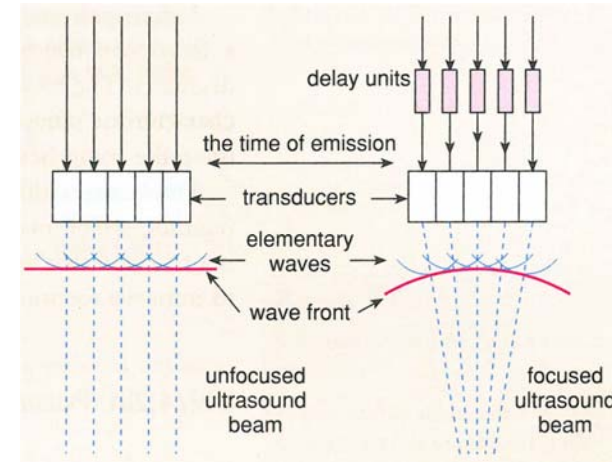
## Huygens' principle



Any wave propagates so, that each point on a primary wavefront serves as the source of spherical secondary wavelets that advance with a speed and frequency equal to those of the primary wave. The primary wavefront at some later time is the envelope of these wavelets.

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## Electronic focusing

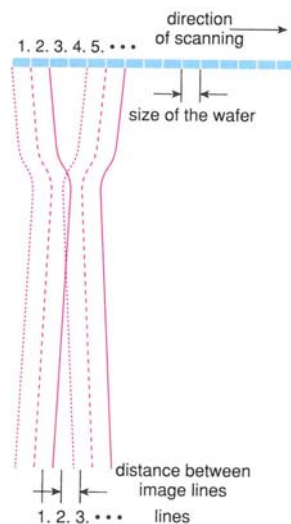


cf. Textbook Fig. on p.507

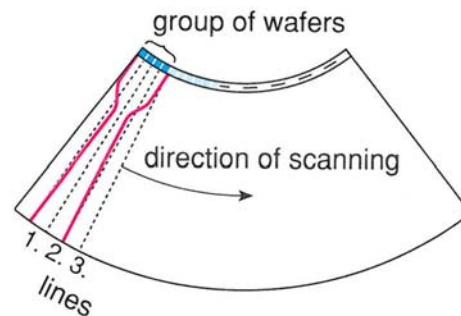
26

## Scanning

multi unit linear array



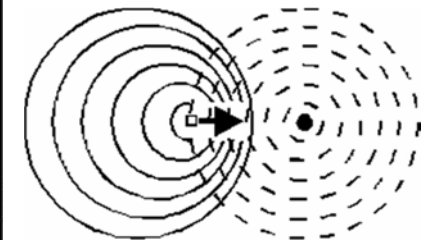
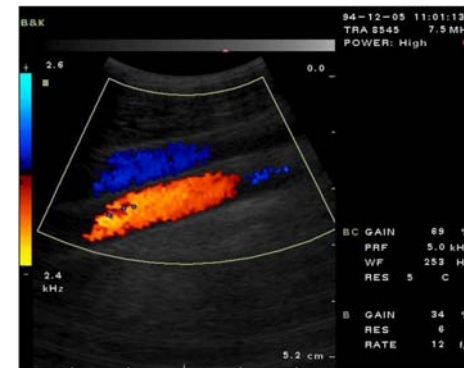
multi unit curved array



cf. Textbook Fig. VII. 36-37

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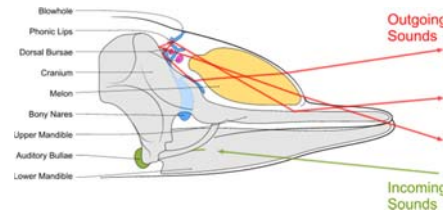
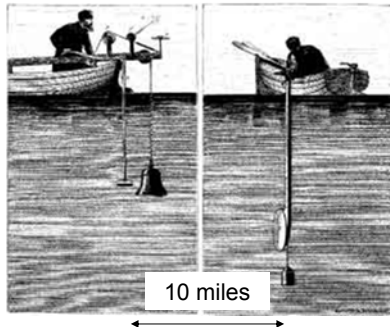
## US imaging. Modes of sonography. Doppler-echo.



## Echo principle

1794 Spallanzani:  
bat's navigation

1822 Colladen  
measured the speed of  
sound in water

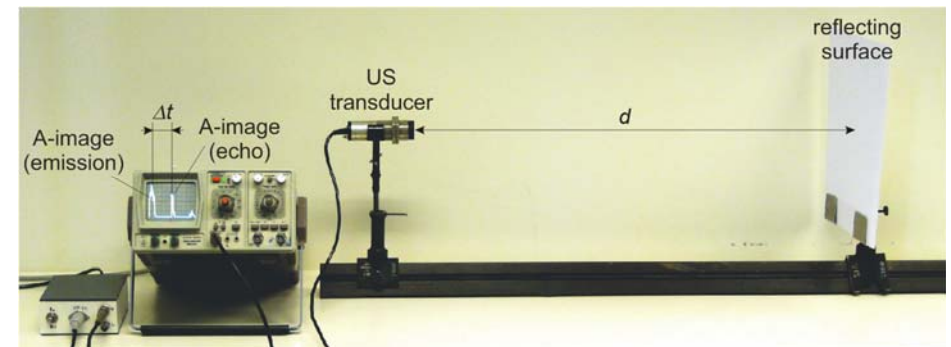


bottlenose dolphin

29

## Echo principle

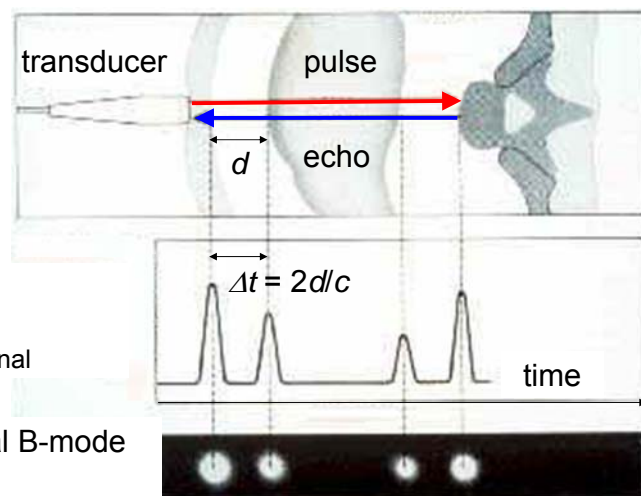
using a special US-head, short pulses are emitted in the air towards a  
reflecting surface, and the same US-head detects the echo signal



$$c\Delta t = d + d = 2d$$

30

## Receiving the echos

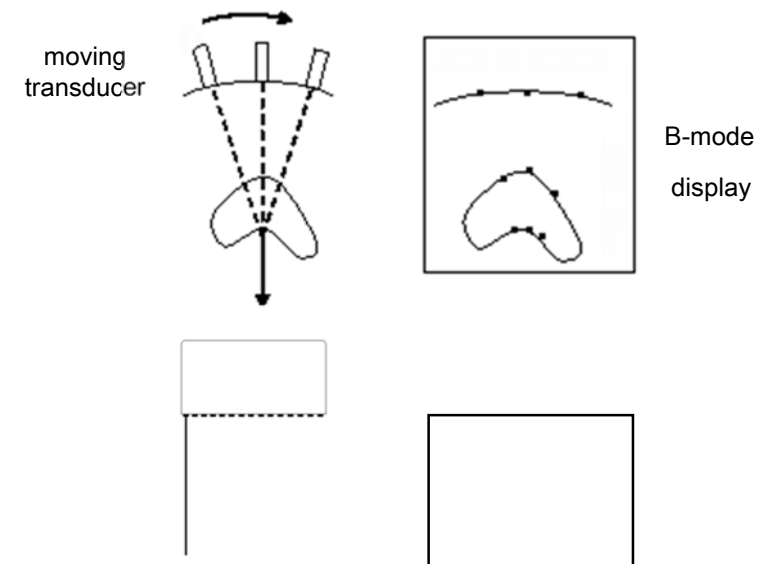


A-mode  
(**A**mplitude)  
only 1-dimensional

1-dimensional B-mode  
(**B**rightness)

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## 2-dimensional B-mode



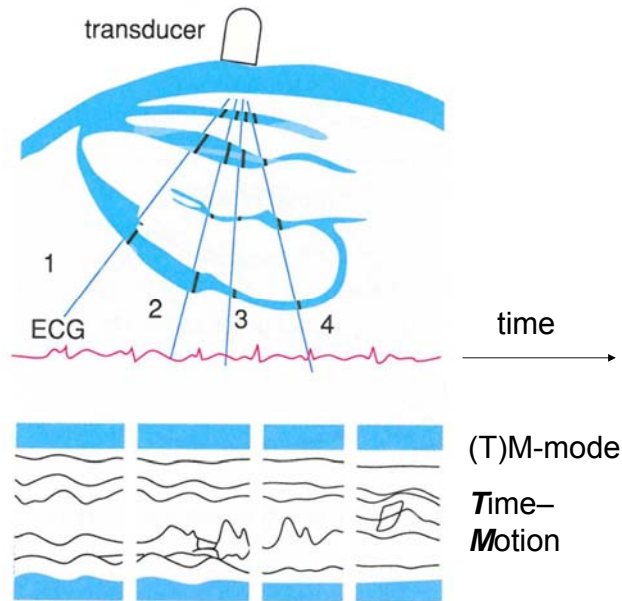
32



## TM-mode

ECG signal  
for reference

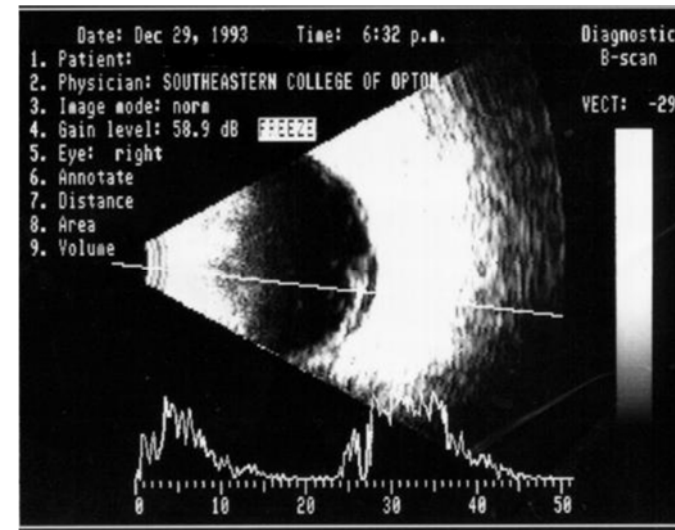
(vertical)  
time-dependent  
1-dimensional  
B-mode



Textbook Fig. VIII.34

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## 2-dimensional B-mode and A-mode (used in ophthalmology)



real speed of  
propagation for  
the accurate  
determination of  
distances:

cornea: 1641 m/s

aqueous humour:  
1532 m/s

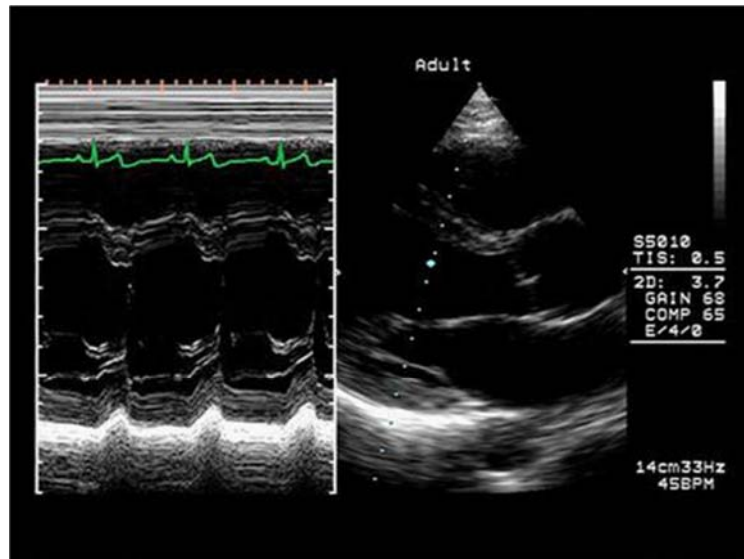
crystalline lens:  
1641 m/s

vitreous body:  
1532 m/s

34

TM-mode

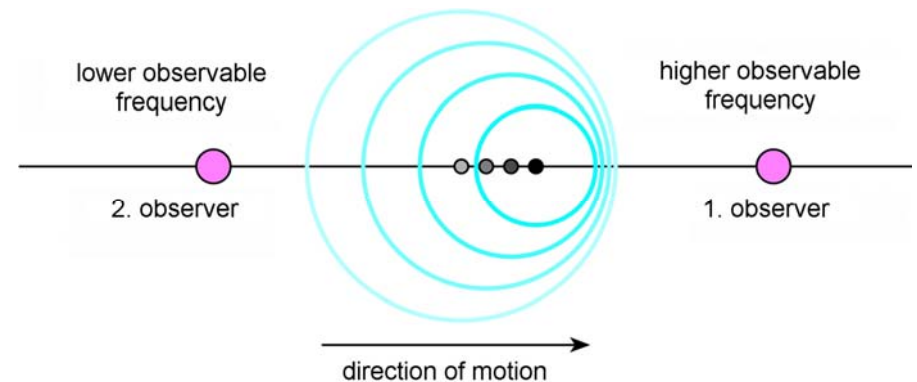
B-mode



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## Doppler phenomenon

„The pitch of a train whistle seems to get higher as it approaches, then seems to lower as the train whistle moves away.” (C. Doppler, 1842)



Textbook Fig. VIII.39

36

$f'$ : **observed frequency**,  $f$ : original frequency

- (a) standing source and moving observer ( $v_o$ )  
 +: observer approaches the source  
 -: observer moves away from the source

$$f' = f \left( 1 \pm \frac{v_o}{c} \right)$$

- (b) moving source and standing observer  
 (if  $v_s \ll c$ , then „same” as (a))

$$f' = \frac{f}{1 \mp \frac{v_s}{c}}$$

- (c) moving source and moving observer

$$f' = f \frac{1 \pm \frac{v_o}{c}}{1 \mp \frac{v_s}{c}}$$

- (d) moving reflecting object (surface),  
 (if  $v_R \ll c$ )

$$f' = f \left( 1 \pm \frac{2v_R}{c} \right)$$

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**Doppler frequency** = frequency change = frequency shift

if  $v_i, v_R \ll c$  (i= S or O)

rearranging equation (a)

**moving source or observer:**

$$\Delta f = f_D = \pm \frac{v_i}{c} f$$

rearranging equation (d)

**moving reflecting object  
or surface:**

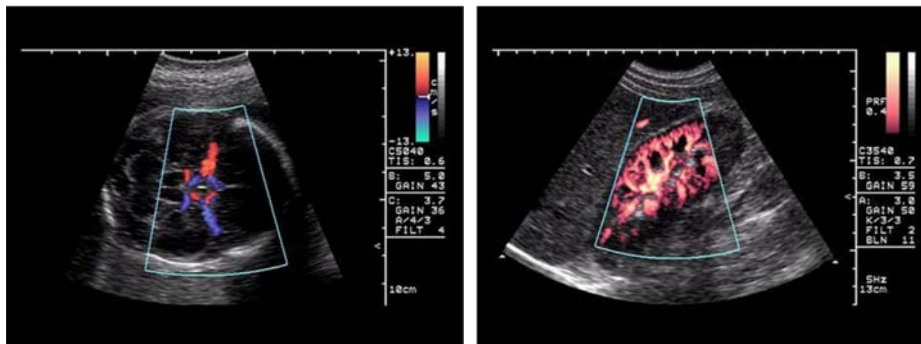
$$\Delta f = f_D = \pm 2 \frac{v_R}{c} f$$

if  $v$  and  $c$  are not parallel, then  $v \cos \theta$  should be used  
 instead of  $v$  (remark: if  $\theta = 90^\circ$ ,  $f_D = 0$ )

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## Colour coding

towards the transducer: warm colours  
 away from the transducer: cold colours



BART: **Blue** Away **Red** Towards

power Doppler

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## 1-dimensional CW Doppler apparatus for measuring average flow velocity. Red blood cells as sound scatterers

CW: continuous wave

source and detector are separated

$$|f_D| = 2 \frac{v_R \cos \theta}{c} f$$

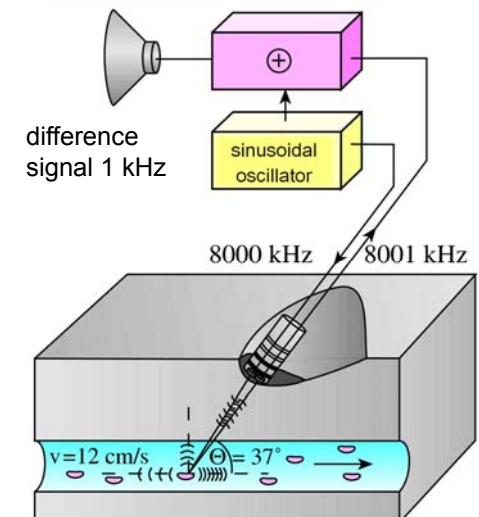
e.g.  $f = 8000$  kHz

$v = 12$  cm/s

$c = 1600$  m/s

$\theta = 37^\circ$

$\Rightarrow f_D = 1$  kHz  
 (beating phenomenon)

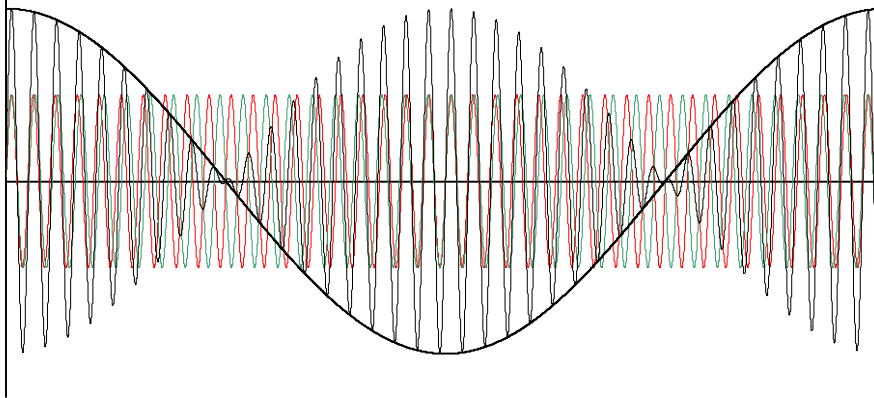


Textbook Fig. VIII.41

40

## Beating phenomenon

$f_{\text{red}} \geq f_{\text{green}}$  the beating frequency equals to the difference of the two interfering frequency

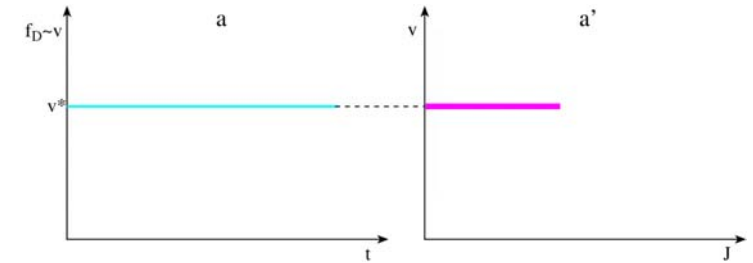


reminder:  $\sin \alpha + \sin \beta = 2 \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \cos \frac{\alpha - \beta}{2}$

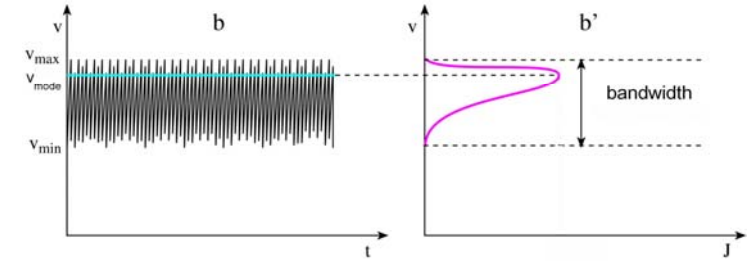
41

## Doppler curves

one constant velocity ( $v^*$ )



frequency distribution (with  $v_{\text{mode}}$ )



velocity distribution in TM-mode

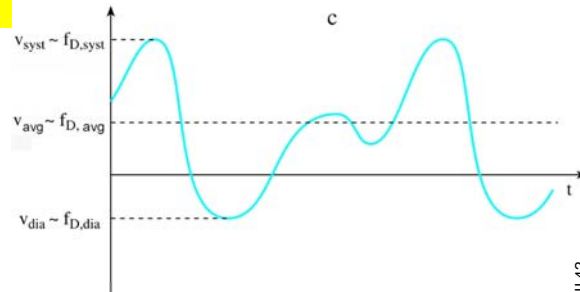
velocity distribution at a certain time

Textbook Fig. VIII.42

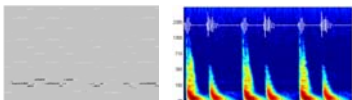
42

## Doppler curves

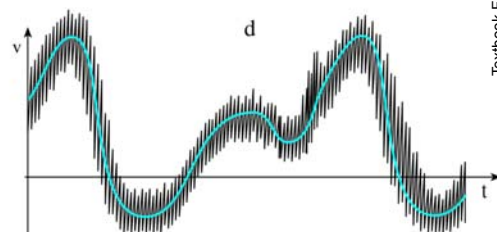
flow can be represented by one velocity in each moment



flow can be represented by a velocity distribution in each moment



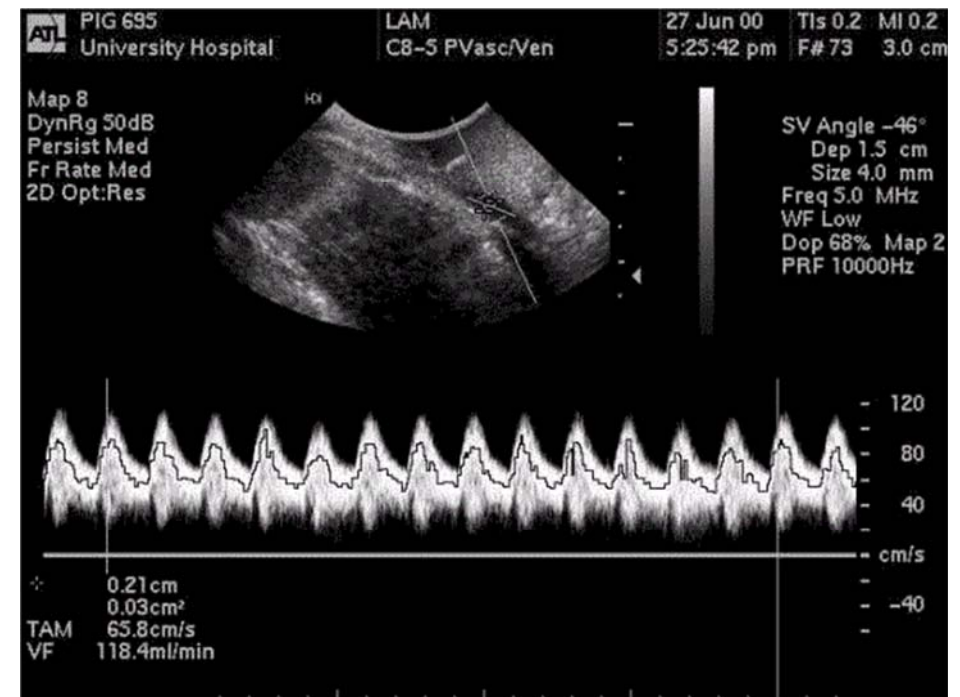
cf. voiceprint, music/heart beats in time-frequency representation



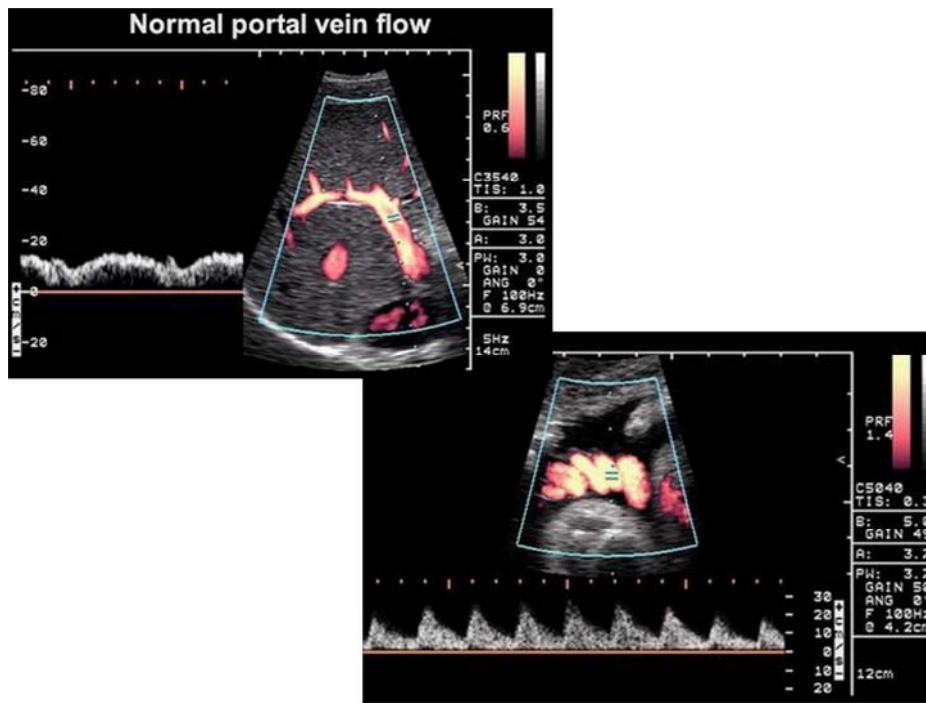
velocity distribution in TM-mode

Textbook Fig. VIII.42

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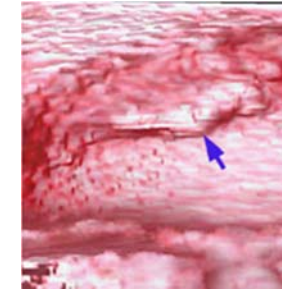


## 3D reconstruction

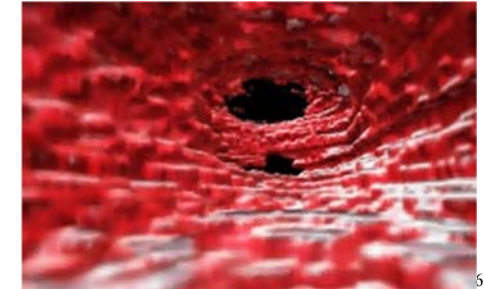
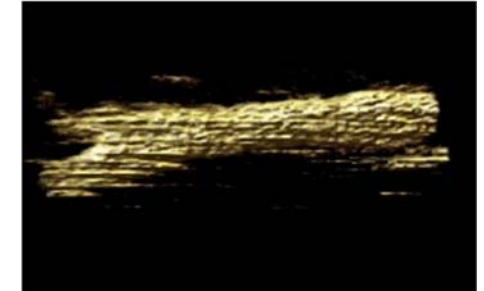
face of a fetus



bladder



carotis



## Safety

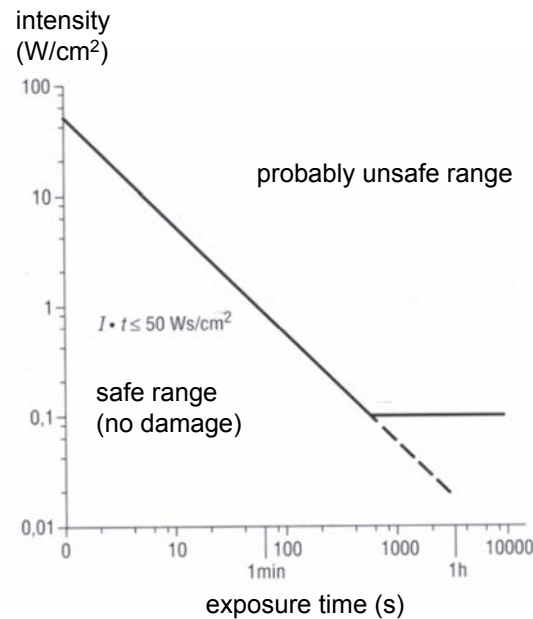
in the diagnostics:

$10 \text{ mW/cm}^2 = 100 \text{ W/m}^2$

cf. pain threshold:  $10 \text{ W/m}^2$

in the therapy:  $1 \text{ W/cm}^2$

spatial average temporal average (SATA) intensity;  
spatial peak temporal peak (SPTP) intensity;  
spatial peak temporal average (SPTA) intensity;  
spatial peak pulse average (SPPA) intensity;  
spatial average pulse average (SAPA) intensity



more:

in „Medical imaging methods”

lecture + practice

