

# Ultrasound imaging and their application



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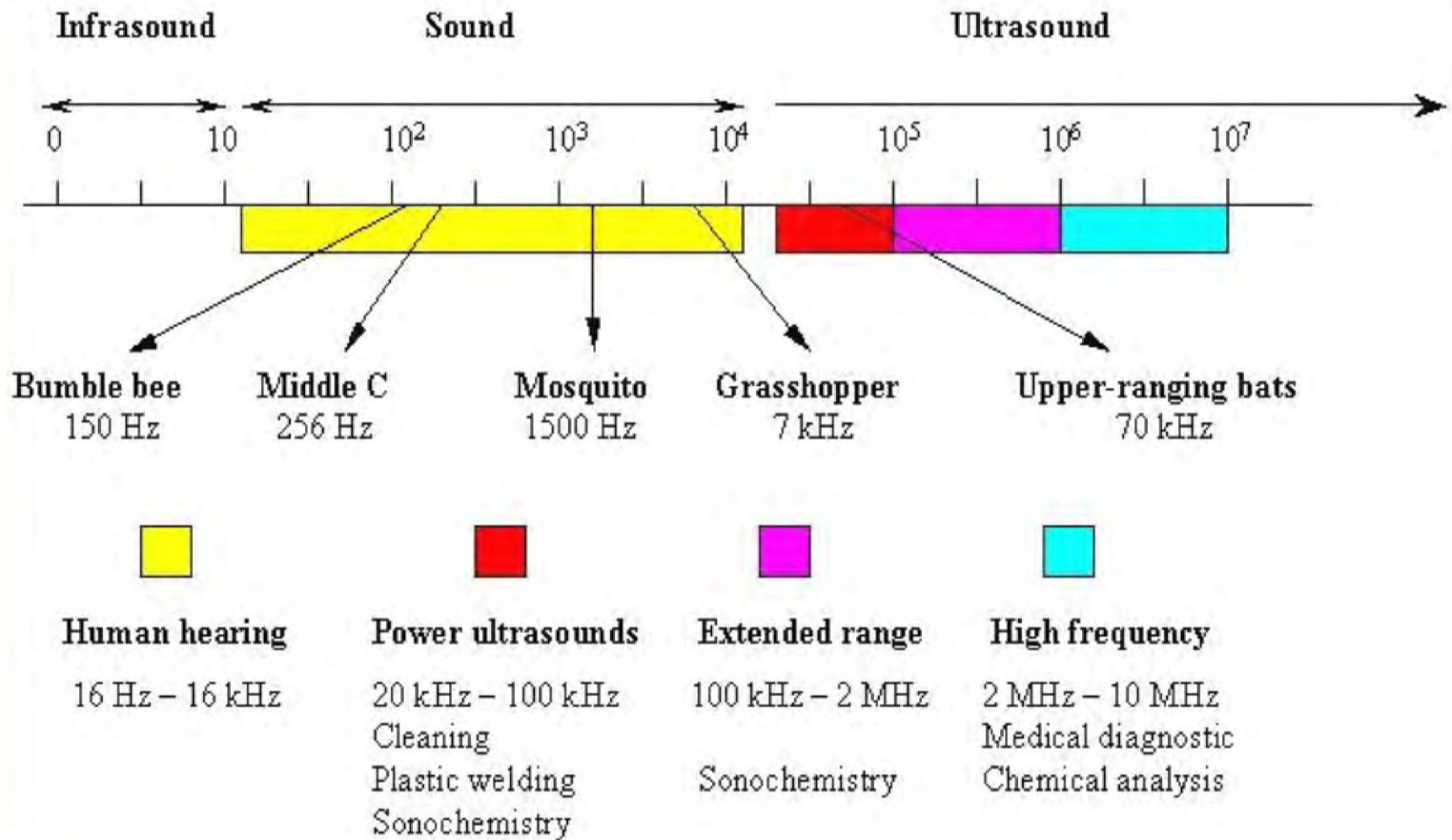
# Outline

- History
- What is Ultrasound ?
- Uses of Ultrasound
- Physics of ultrasound & Ultrasonic echo imaging
- Ultrasound imaging system schematic
- Ultrasound imaging modes
- advantages and the Clinical Applications

# History

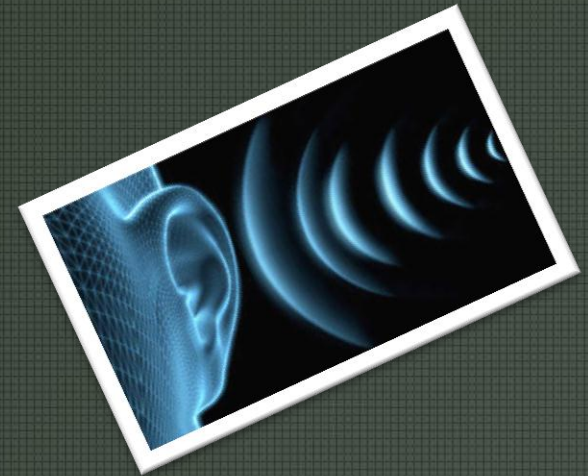
- 1877: Discovery of piezoelectricity (Pierre and Jacques Curie)
- 1913: First sonar patent filed after Titanic disaster
- 1917: Sonar used for detecting range of u-boats during WWI
- 1930s: Ultrasound used for physical therapy for Europe's football teams
- 1990s: Early 3D and 4D ultrasound imaging systems
- 2000s: Portable ultrasound systems,, MR-guided focused ultrasound
- Today : Diagnostic ultrasound is second most popular medical imaging
- modality after X-ray

# What is Ultrasound ?



# What is Ultrasound ?

- Acoustic waves are mechanical pressure waves
- Ultrasound waves are pressure waves that travel through a medium at a frequency greater than 20 kHz



## Humans

- Can typically hear frequencies between 20 Hz to 20 kHz
- Children can detect higher frequencies than adults

# Uses of Ultrasound

- **Ultrasound Imaging / Detection**

Medical Sonography

3-20 MHz

- **Sonar**

Hz–kHz range

- **Non-destructive testing (NDT)**

kHz–low MHz range

Detection of cracks in materials



# Uses of Ultrasound

- **Monitoring**

- Structural Health Monitoring**

- Long term damage detection**

- Infrastructure, aircraft**

- Embedded sensor networks**

- kHz-low MHz range**



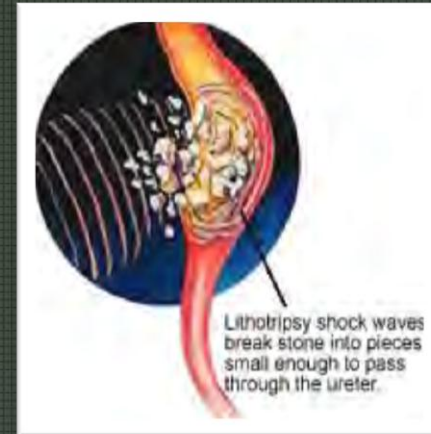
- **Fetal Heart Monitoring**

- Continuous detection and monitoring  
of fetal heart beat**

- Low MHz range**

# Uses of Ultrasound

- **Ablation/Destruction of Tissues**
  - ablation of kidney stones**
  - Tumor ablation**
  - MRI or Ultrasound guided**



- **Other Uses**
  - Drug activation (Focused heating of drugs)**
  - Vibration (Wire bonding)**
  - Tissue cutting**
  - Water treatment**



# Physics of ultrasound & Ultrasonic echo imaging

- Wave length

One complete wave cycle

- Frequency

Number of vibrations that a molecule makes/second,

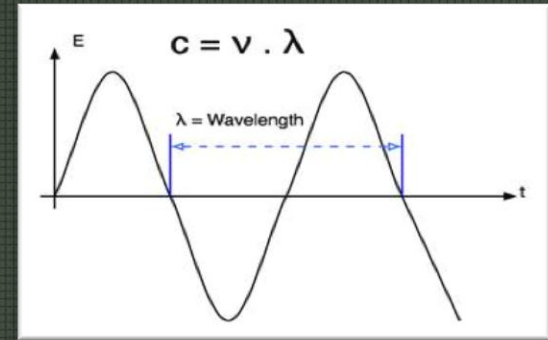
Unit of cycles/s (Hz)

Higher frequency has smaller wavelength  $c = f\lambda$

Better spatial resolution

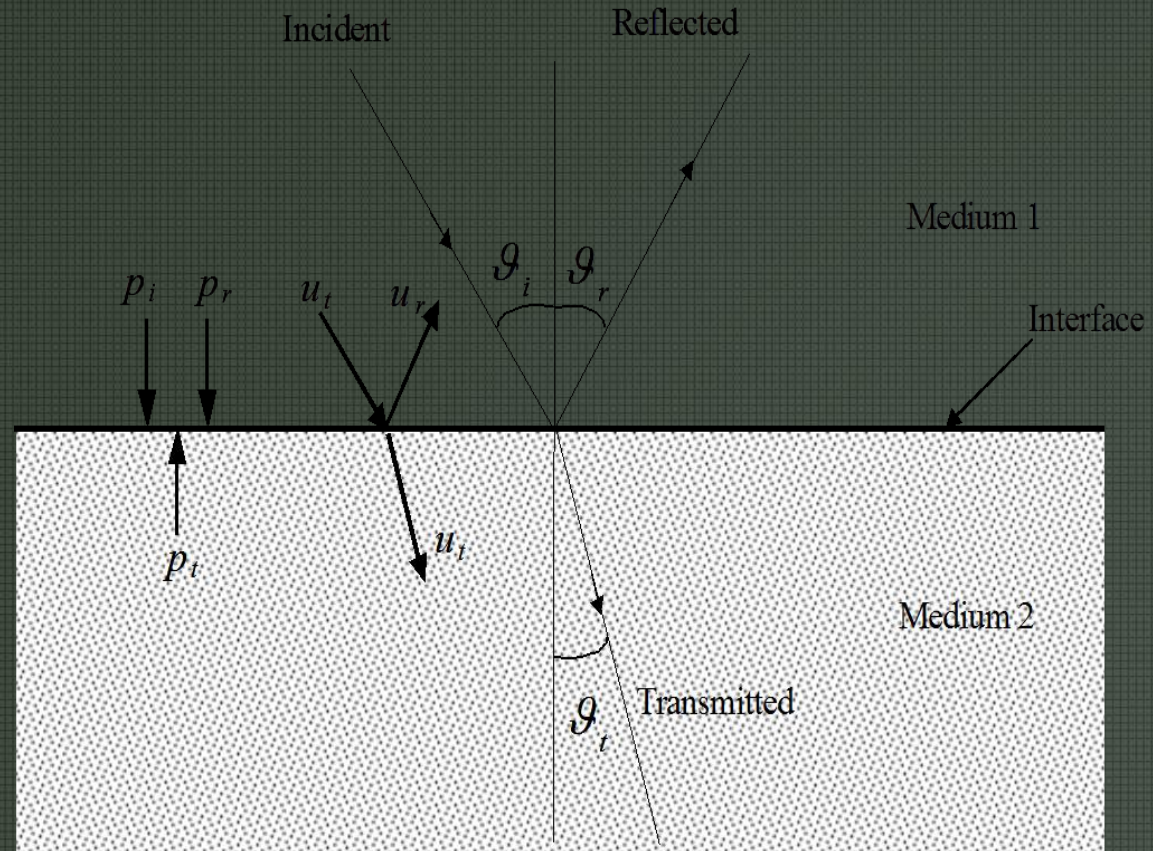
Higher frequency waves degrade faster with distance

- Attenuation



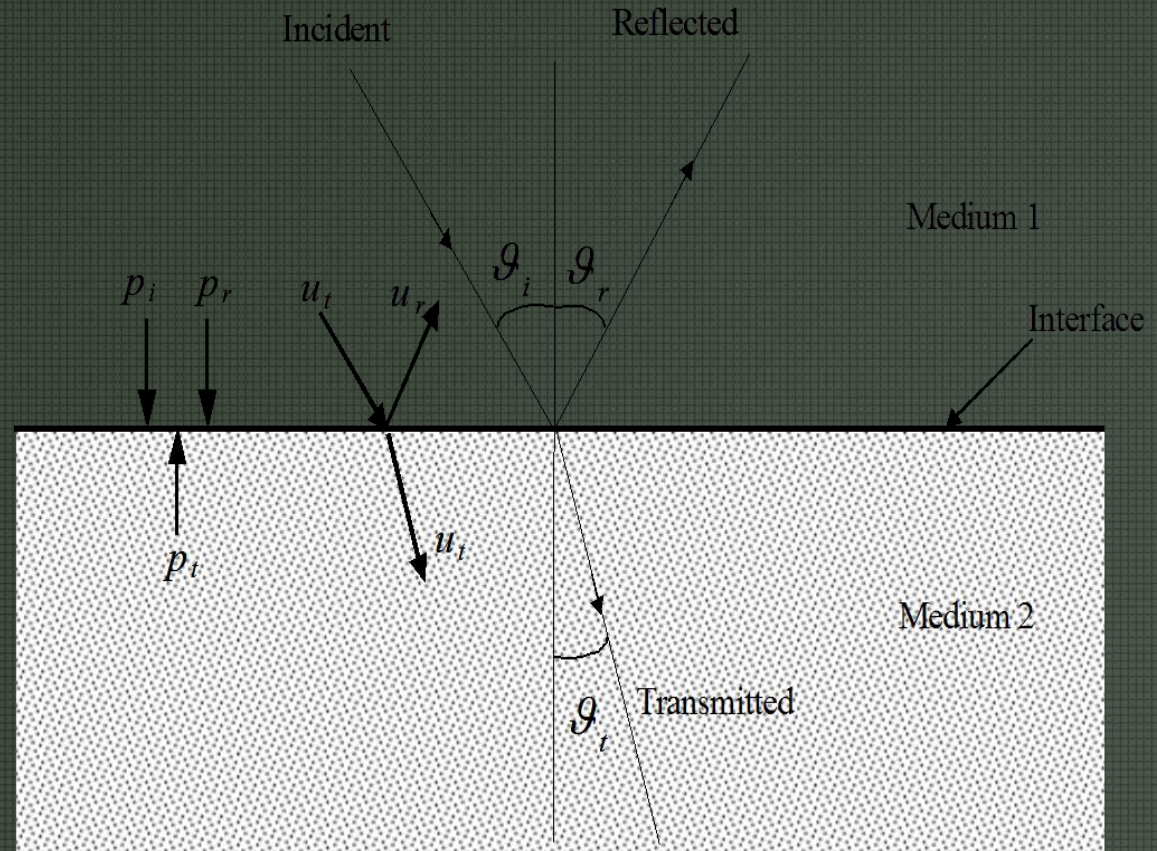
# Physics of ultrasound & Ultrasonic echo imaging

- Reflection:
- Refraction
- Diffusion



# Physics of ultrasound & Ultrasonic echo imaging

- Reflection:
- Refraction



# Physics of ultrasound & Ultrasonic echo imaging

- Diffuse Reflection

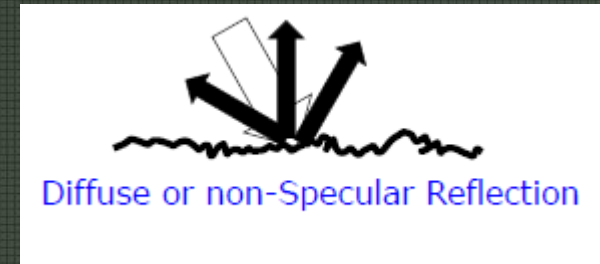
Most surfaces are rough

Parts of beam are redirected due to  
in multiple directions

Loss of coherence of beam

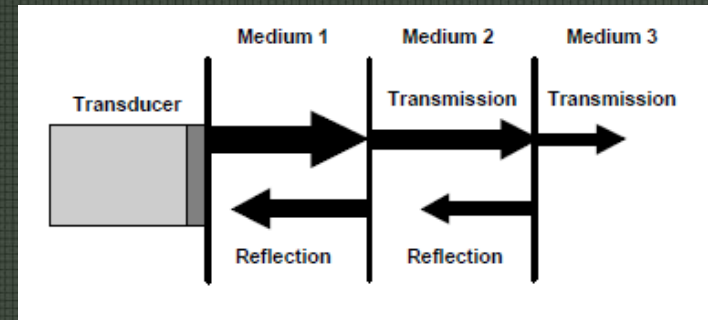
Decreased beam intensity

Increased acoustic clutter



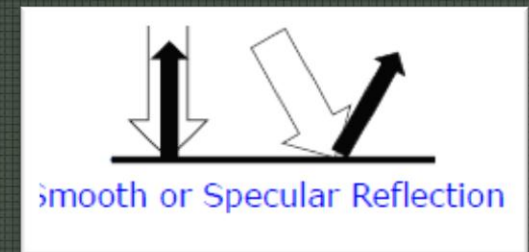
# Physics of ultrasound & Ultrasonic echo imaging

- Acoustic Impedance :  $Z = \rho c$   
 $\rho$ : density,  $c$  : sound velocity



- Echo:

Reflected echo intensity depends on the acoustic impedances of the two adjoining media



# Physics of ultrasound & Ultrasonic echo imaging

- Acoustic Impedance :

رايل	النسيج
٤١٣	الهواء
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	الدماغ
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	الرئة
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	الدهن
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	الماء
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	الكبد
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	الدم
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	الكلية
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	العضلات
$1.000000 \times 10^8$	الجمجمة والعظام

- Hypoechoic

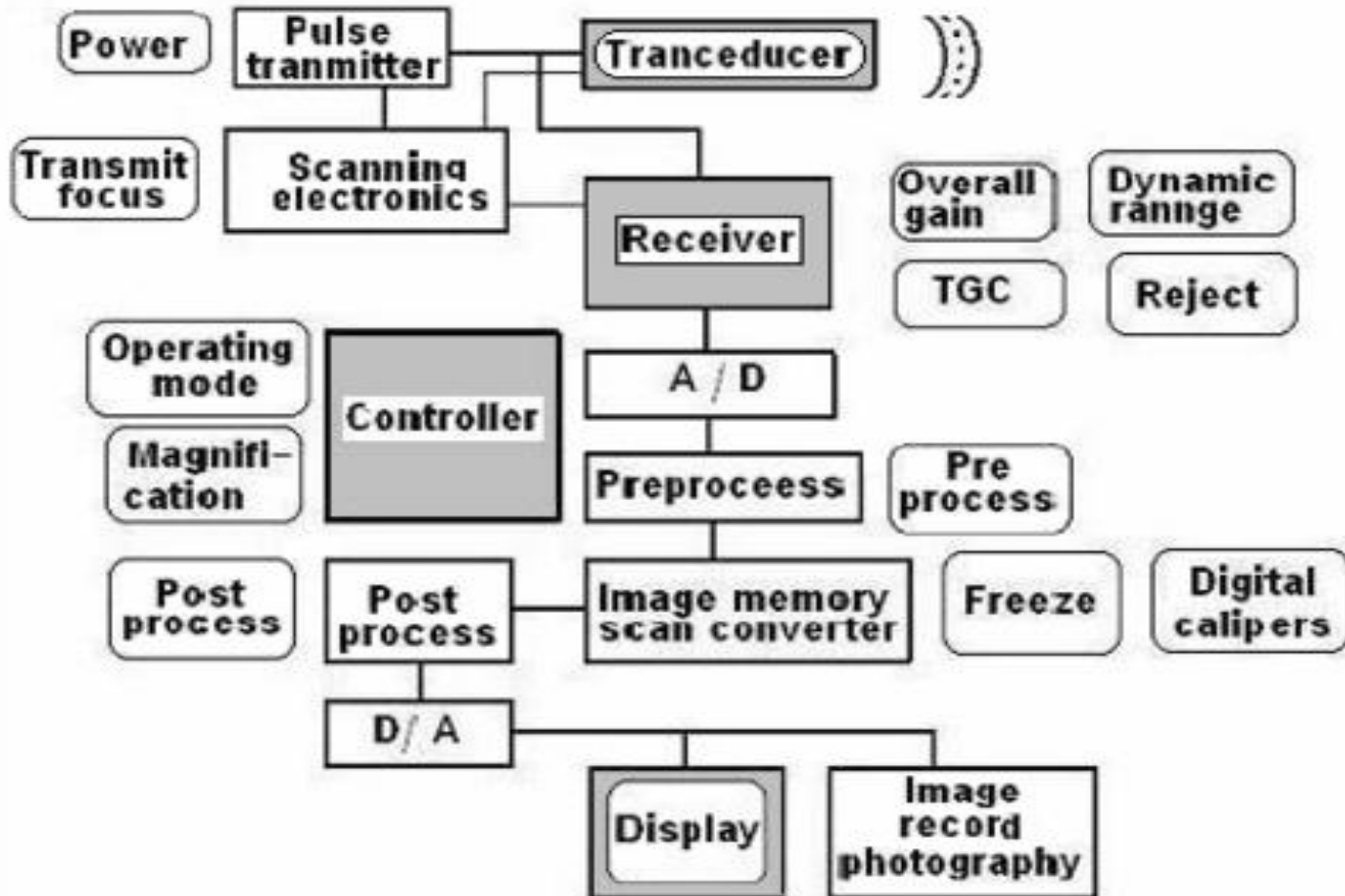
Dark regions in ultrasound, images lack scatters,  
Fluids

- Hyperechoic

Bright regions have many scatters



# Ultrasound imaging system schematic

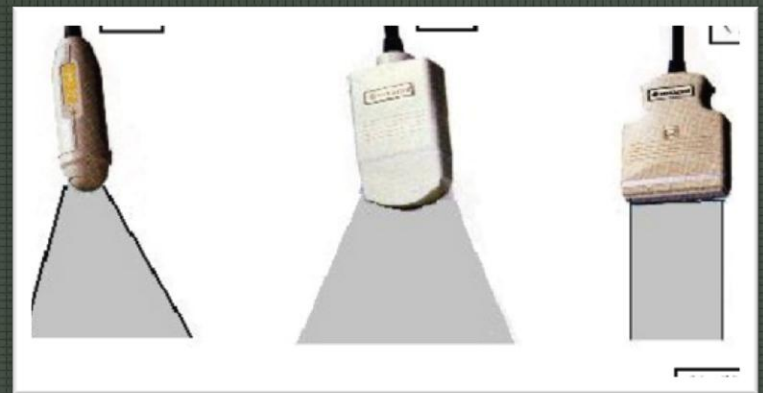


# Ultrasound imaging system schematic

- **Transducer** (electrical signal to a acoustic signal)  
generates pulses of ultrasound and sends them into patient  
Organ boundaries and complex tissues produces echoes  
(reflection or scattering) which are detected by the transducer

Echoes displayed on a grayscale anatomical image

Brightness corresponds to echo strength





# Ultrasound imaging system schematic

- Pulse Transmitter:  
PRF( pulse repetition frequency)
- Receiving:
- A\D, D\A
- Gain of receiver:( TGC- time gain compensation)

# Ultrasound imaging system schematic

- Transducer types:

## Auto-scan transducers

Mechanical sector probes( annular array)

Special transducer (trans rectal)

Linear probe(linear probes, electronic convex probes,  
phased arrays)



**Ultrasound transducers**

# Ultrasound imaging modes

- A-mode( Amplitude mode)
- M-mode( Motion mode)
- B-mode( Brightness mode)
- 3D imaging
- Doppler

# Ultrasound imaging modes

- **A-mode( Amplitude mode)**

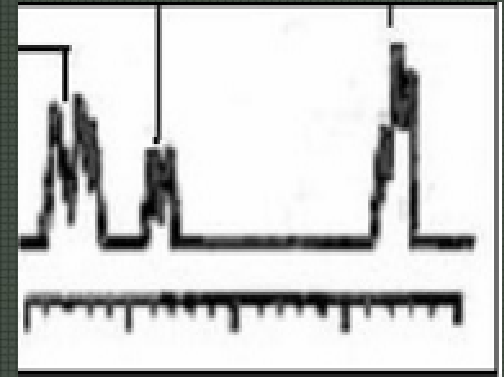
Oldest, simplest type

Display of the envelope of pulse-echoes vs. time, depth  $d = ct/2$

Measure the reflectivity at different depth below the transducer position

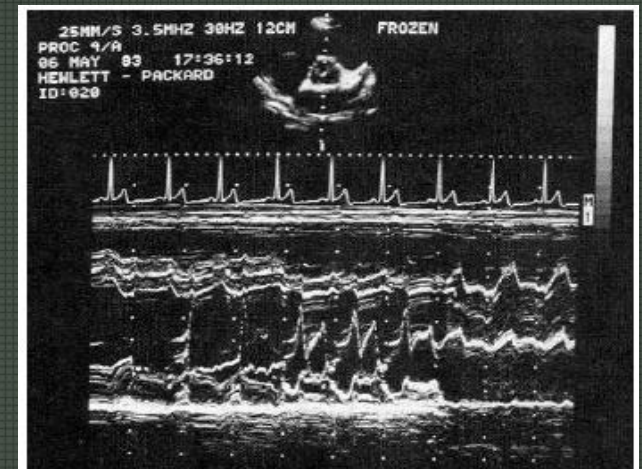
Applications: ophthalmology (eye length, tumors),  
localization of brain midline, liver cirrhosis, myocardium  
infarction

- Frequencies: 2-5 MHz for abdominal, cardiac, brain;  
5-15 MHz for ophthalmology, pediatrics, peripheral blood  
vessels



# Ultrasound imaging modes

- M-mode( Motion mode)
- Display the A-mode signal corresponding to repeated input pulses in separate column of a 2D image, for a fixed transducer position
  - Motion of an object point along the transducer axis (z) is revealed by a bright trace moving up and down across the image
- – Often used to image motion of the heart valves, in conjunction with the ECG



# Ultrasound imaging modes

- **B-mode (Brightness mode)**
- Move the transducer in x-direction while its beam is aimed down the z-axis, firing a
- new pulse after each movement
- Received signal in each x is displayed in a column
- Unlike M-mode, different columns corresponding to different lateral position (x)
- Directly obtain reflectivity distribution of a slice! (blurred though!)



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# Ultrasound imaging modes

- 3D imaging
  - By mechanically or manually scanning a phased array transducer in a direction perpendicular to the plane of each B-mode scan
  - Can also electronically steering the beams to image different slices





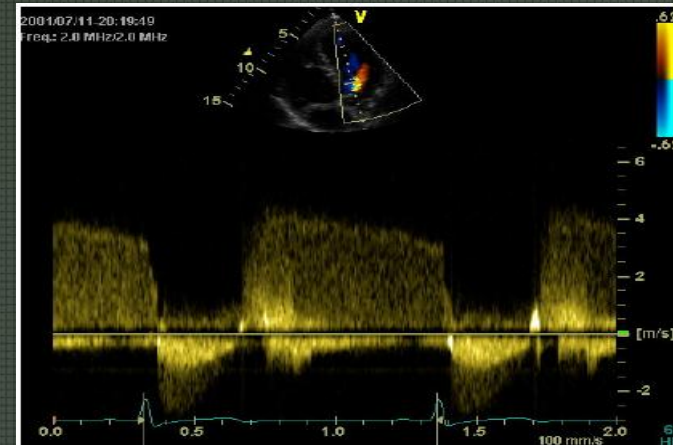
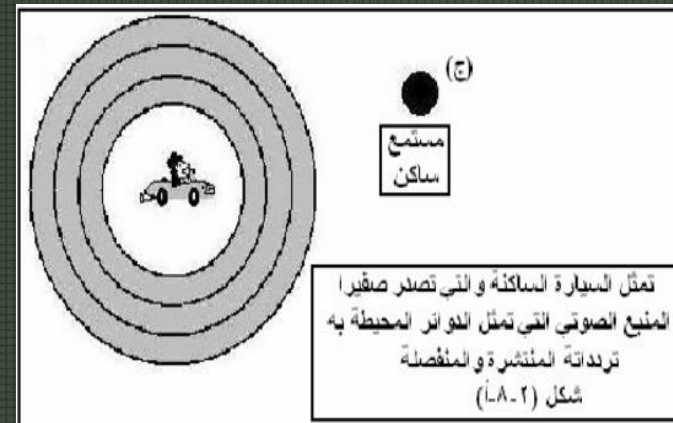
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# Ultrasound imaging modes

- Doppler:
  - CW Doppler
  - Pulse Mode Doppler
  - 4D d



# References

- Curry T Dowdey J, and Murray R: Christiansensintroduction to the physics of diagflostik radiology,Philadelphia 1984 Lea & Febiger, PP 238 2
- Dick D and Carson P: Principles of auto scan ultrasoundinstrumentation. in Fullerton G and Zagzebski J editors:Medical physics of CT and ultrasound, New York, 1980,American Association of Physicists ill Medicine