

ULTRASOUND: BASIC DEFINITION



- Ultrasound is acoustic(sound) energy in the form of waves having a frequency above the human hearing range(i.e. 20KHz)
- Ultrasound is a way of using sound waves to look inside the human body.





















Resolution

























Depth Vs Resolution



High frequency High resolution Shorter depth



Ultrasound Modes



• A Mode



Amplitude Modulation, is the display of amplitude spikes of different heights. It is used for opthamalolgy studies to detect finding in the optic nerve.

• B Mode



Brightness Modulation, will display an image of large and small dots, which represent strong and weak echoes, respectively

• M Mode



Motion Mode, is the display of a one-dimensional image that is used for analyzing moving body parts commonly in cardiac and fetal cardiac imaging





A Mode Scanning











































Acoustic Interface









B-Mode Ultrasound





















Acoustic Interface









B-Mode Ultrasound





B MODE



- B stands for Brightness
- B scans give two dimensional information about the cross- section.
- Generally used to measure cardiac chambers dimensions, assess valvular structure and function.





1970





Development of the B-mode Ultrasound image quality



M MODE



- M stands for motion
- This represents movements of structures over time.
- M Mode is commonly used for measuring chamber dimensions.
- This is analogous to recording a video in ultrasound.





- Aorta/left atrium (measurements, opening of aortic valve)
- Mitral/Prosthetic valve (type of valve)
- Tricuspid annular plane systolic excursion (TAPSE) for RV function
- Left/right ventricle (measurements, LV function)
- Endocarditis (motion of suspected vegetation)
- Mitral valve (Mitral stenosis)

Other types of M-mode	Characteristics	Application
Anatomical M-mode	Freedom of axis	Myocardial function
Color Doppler M-mode	Display time motion of color	Timing of flow (i.e. flow propagation)
Tissue Doppler M-mode	Time motion display of functional information	Deformation and myocardial velocity analysis
Curved M-mode	Color-coded segmental myocardial display format that provides information about myocardial function in various segments over time	Display of myocardial velocities and deformation parameters to obtain functional information









The Doppler effect



- The distance between the wave crests is decreased in the direction of the motion, and increased in the opposite direction.
- As the distance between the wave crests is equal to the wavelength, wavelength decreases (i.e. sound frequency increases) in front of the engine, and increases (sound frequency decreases) behind it.
- This effect can be heard, as the pitch of the train whistle is higher coming towards a listener than moving away, changing as it passes





Principles of Doppler ultrasound







Principles of Doppler ultrasound

- The Doppler effect enables ultrasound to be used to detect the motion of blood and tissue.
- The Doppler effect is the change in the observed frequency of the sound wave (*f r*) compared to the emitted frequency (*f t*) which occurs due to the relative motion between the observer and the source.
- Doppler shift frequency is proportional to the relative velocity between the source and the observer.
- It does not matter whether the source or the observer is moving. If either one is moving away from the other, the observer will witness a lower frequency than that emitted.





Doppler effect: change in wavelength with speed

- Ultrasound, like normal sound, is a wave.
- If a source of sound moves towards the listener, the waves begin to catch up with each other. The wavelength gets shorter and so the frequency gets higher – the sound has a higher pitch.
- We use this principle to work out how fast blood cells move. Ultrasound reflects off the blood cells and causes a Doppler shift





- The ultrasound probe emits an ultrasound wave
- A stationary blood cell reflects the incoming wave with the same wavelength: there is no Doppler shift





- The ultrasound probe emits an ultrasound wave
- A blood cell moving away from the probe reflects the incoming wave with a longer wavelength
- In reality, there is actually two Doppler shifts. The first one occurs between the probe and the moving blood cell (not shown here) and the second one occurs as the red blood cell reflects the ultrasound.





 Now, the blood cell moves towards the probe. It reflects the incoming wave with a shorter wavelength







- The detected Doppler shift frequency (*f d*) is the difference between the transmitted frequency (*f t*) and the received frequency (*f r*).
- The Doppler shift frequency f d depends on the frequency of the transmitted ultrasound, the speed of the ultrasound as it passes through the tissue (c) and the velocity of the blood (v)
- The is relationship can be expressed by the Doppler equation:

$$f_d = f_r - f_t = \frac{2f_t v \cos \theta}{c}$$



Blood Flow Profiles and Doppler Signals





TYPES OF DOPPLER ULTRASOUND



1. CONTINUOUS WAVE DOPPLER (CW)

 Uses different crystals to send and receive the signal
One crystal constantly sends a sound wave of a single frequency, the other constantly receives the reflected signal





2. PULSED WAVE DOPPLER



- Produces short bursts/pulses of sound
- Uses the same crystals to send and receive the signal
- This follows the same pulse-echo technique used in 2D image formation.











3. COLOR DOPPLER



- Utilizes pulse-echo Doppler flow principles to generate a color image.
- Image is superimposed on the 2D image.
- The red and blue display provides information regarding DIRECTION and VELOCITY of flow.
- Used for general assessment of flow in the region of interest
- Gives only descriptive or semi quantitative information on blood flow.









Fig. 8.3 Colour image showing flow reversal (blue in centre of image) in the carotid bulb of a normal internal carotid artery. The vein (blue at top of image) can be seen overlying the carotid artery.



















4. POWER DOPPLER



- 5 times more sensitive in detecting blood flow than color doppler.
- It can get those images that are impossible with color doppler.
- Used to evaluate blood flow through vessels within solid organs.









Fig. 10.10 Colour Doppler image of tricuspid regurgitation with variance admixed. Regions of green colouration associated with high variance are seen.



Fig. 10.11 Power Doppler image of arterio-venous fistulae, in which there is colour throughout the colour box.



Fig. 10.12 Power Doppler image of the kidney taken intraoperatively consisting of colour superimposed on the B-mode image.



Fig. 10.13 Directional power Doppler from a transplanted kidney.

with low-signal levels. In order to make the best use of the increase in sensitivity, the first manufacturers



APPLICATIONS



Obstetrics and Gynecology

- 1. Measuring the size of the fetus
- 2. Monitoring the baby for various procedures

Cardiology

- 1. Seeing the inside of the heart to identify abnormal functions
- 2. Measuring blood flow through the heartand major blood vessels

> Urology

- 1. Measuring blood flow through the kidney
- 2. Locating kidney stones
- 3. Detecting prostate cancer at early stage







The two major risks involved with Ultrasound are:

Development of heat:

Tissues or water absorb the ultrasound energy which increases their temperature locally.

Formation of bubbles (cavitation):

When dissolved gases come out of solution due to local heat caused by Ultrasound.



BENEFITS



- Images muscle, soft tissues very well Renders "live images" where most desirable section is selected
- Shows structure of organs
- ≻ No long-term side-effects
- > Widely available and comparatively flexible
- Highly portable
- ➢ Relatively inexpensive
- Spatial resolution is better in high frequency ultrasound scanners