

Medical diagnostic systems

(Orvosbiológiai képalkotó rendszerek)

Ultrasound – its place in medical diagnostics

(Az ultrahang helye az orvosi diagnosztikában)

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Radiography (X-ray, CT)

- EM attenuation = mass attenuation coefficient \times density

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

- density, relaxation times T_1, T_2 of (proton) magnetic dipoles

Nuclear medicine (PET)

- emissions from radioisotopes (e.g. fludeoxyglucose ^{18}F)

Ultrasound (B-mode, Doppler)

- level of backscatter from different depths (arrival times)
- frequency shift in received signal

Radiography (X-ray, CT)

- photoelectric effect, Compton scattering

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

- resonance, relaxation, shielding, tumbling

Nuclear medicine (PET)

- metabolic uptake of radioisotopes

Ultrasound (B-mode, Doppler)

- density, compressibility contrast → scattering
- moving scatterers → Doppler effect
- density and compressibility → speed of sound (SoS)
- absorption and scattering → attenuation

Radiography (X-ray, CT)

- 30 keV (≈ 41 nm), $1/2$ -value thickness [Akar *et al.* 2006]:
bone: 2.7 mm; muscle: 17.4 mm; water 18.5 mm

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

- 1.5 T, spin-lattice relaxation time T_1 [Nitz and Reimer 1999]:
normal liver: 493 ms; malignant liver: 905 ms

Nuclear medicine (PET)

- 5 $\mu\text{g/g/min}$ glucose metabolic rate in bone marrow [Yao *et al.* 1995]

Ultrasound (B-mode)

- backscatter/stiffness/attenuation/SoS/density/non-linearity...

Advantages of ultrasound

- cheap (~\$20k machine, personnel, electricity, gel)
- portable
- fast (10-100 Hz)
- *relatively* safe

Disadvantages of ultrasound

- qualitative
- poor image quality (speckle)
- depth/resolution trade-off

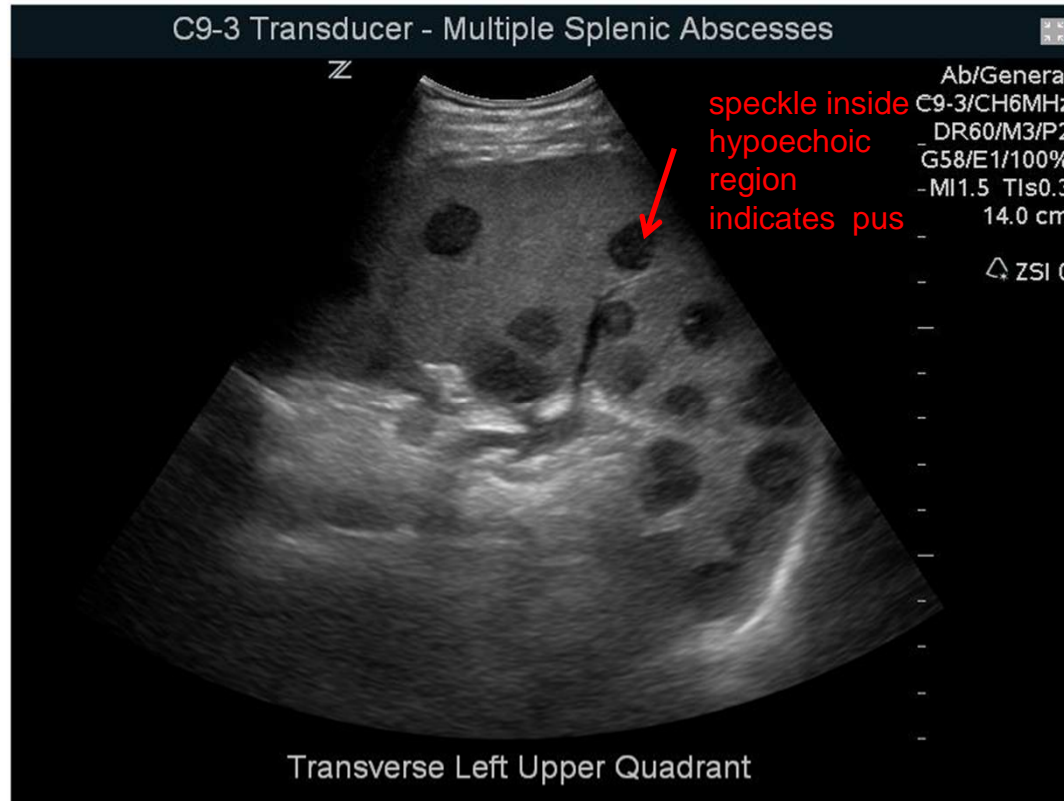


“Ultrasound image of normal 24 week fetus”
<http://images.wellcome.ac.uk> N0019385
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Applications of ultrasound

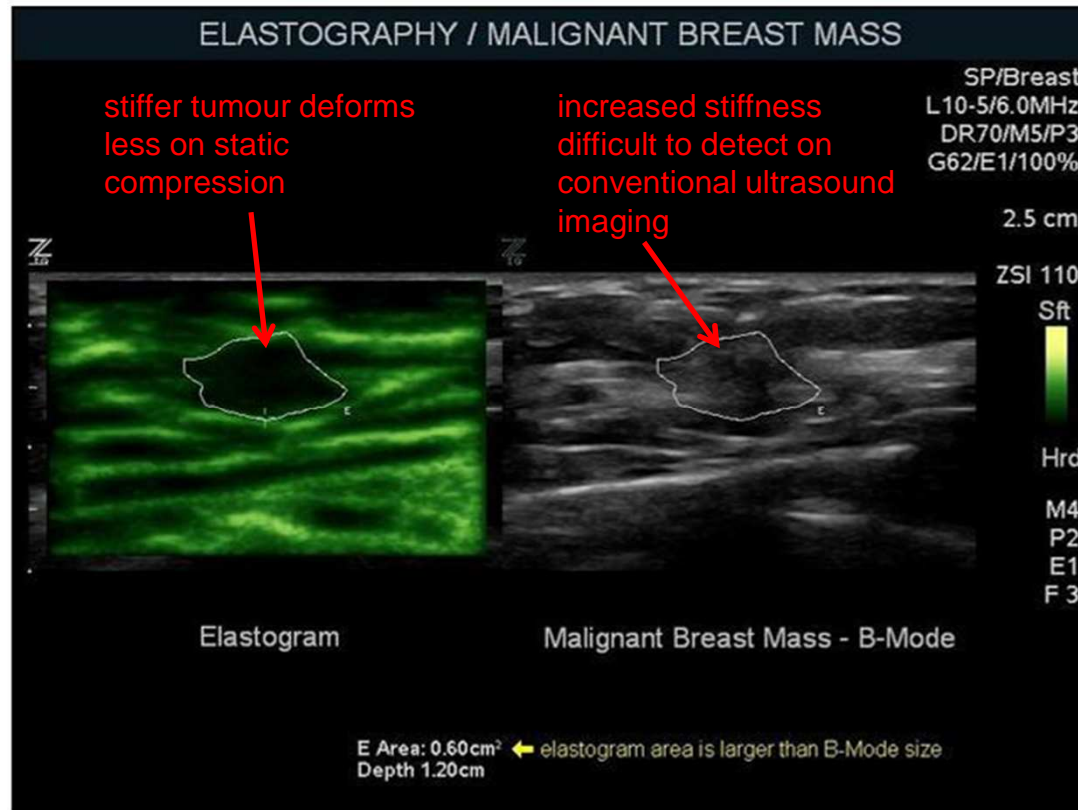
Application	Example	Why ultrasound?
Abdominal organs	Cysts	Water-filled cysts very hypoechoic; speckle indicates pus
Cancer diagnosis	Hard lumps	Ultrasound elastography for detecting stiff inclusions
Cardiovascular system	Heart motion	High frame rate; Doppler effect
Eye	Biometry	Strong echoes from boundaries; accurate distance measurement
Foetus	Measure size	Safety; easy delineation of baby from hypoechoic amniotic fluid

Abscess (pus) in the spleen



Courtesy of Zonare Medical Systems
http://www.zonare.com/products/clinical-images/id_2/

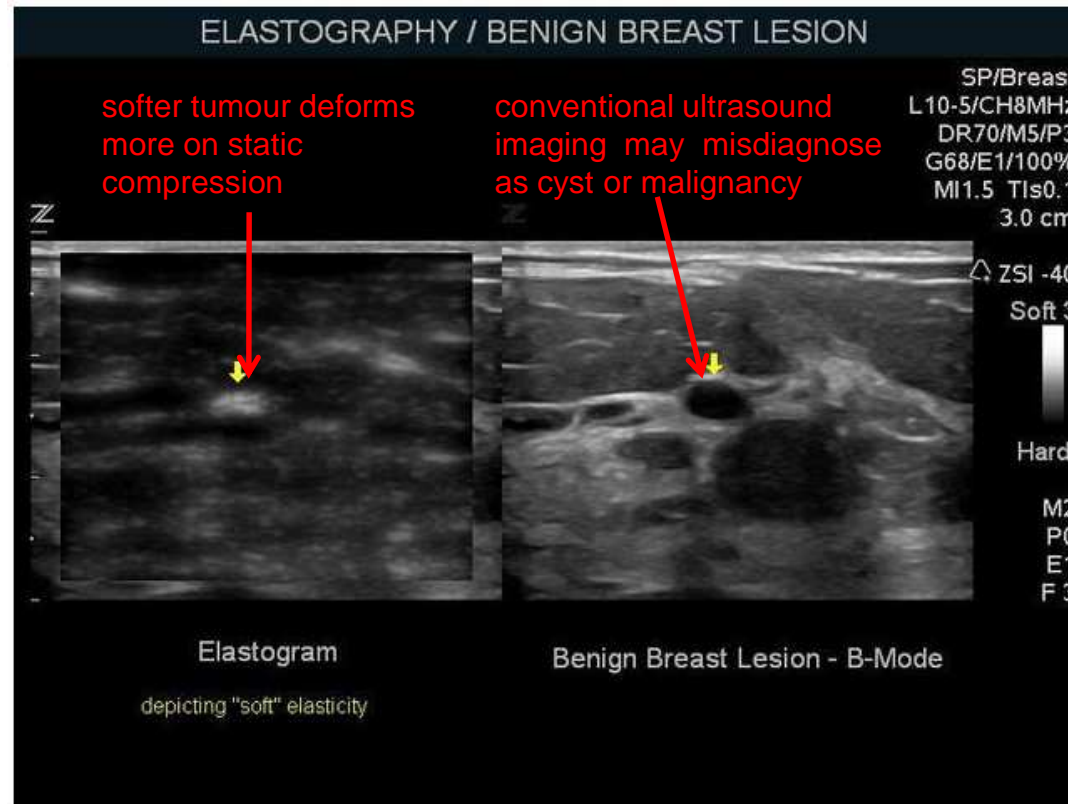
Cancerous (malignant) breast tumour



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http://www.zonare.com/products/clinical-images/id_4/

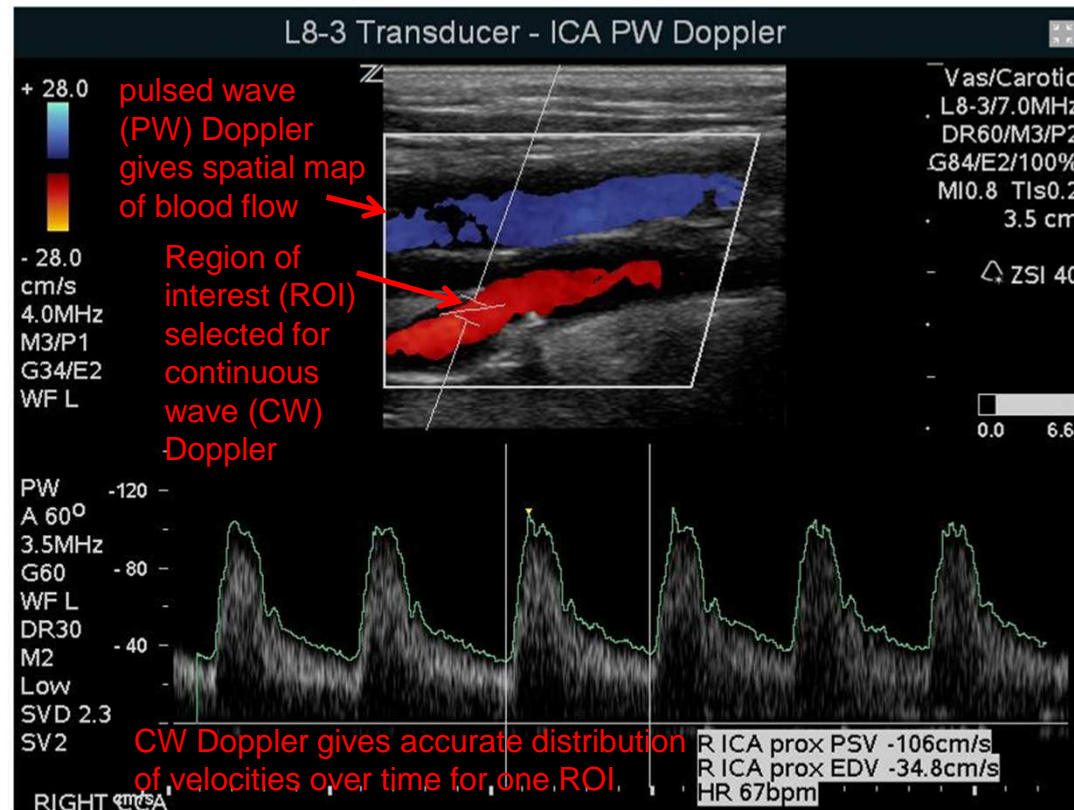
Benign breast tumour



Courtesy of Zonare Medical Systems

http://www.zonare.com/products/clinical-images/id_4/

Internal carotid artery blood flow



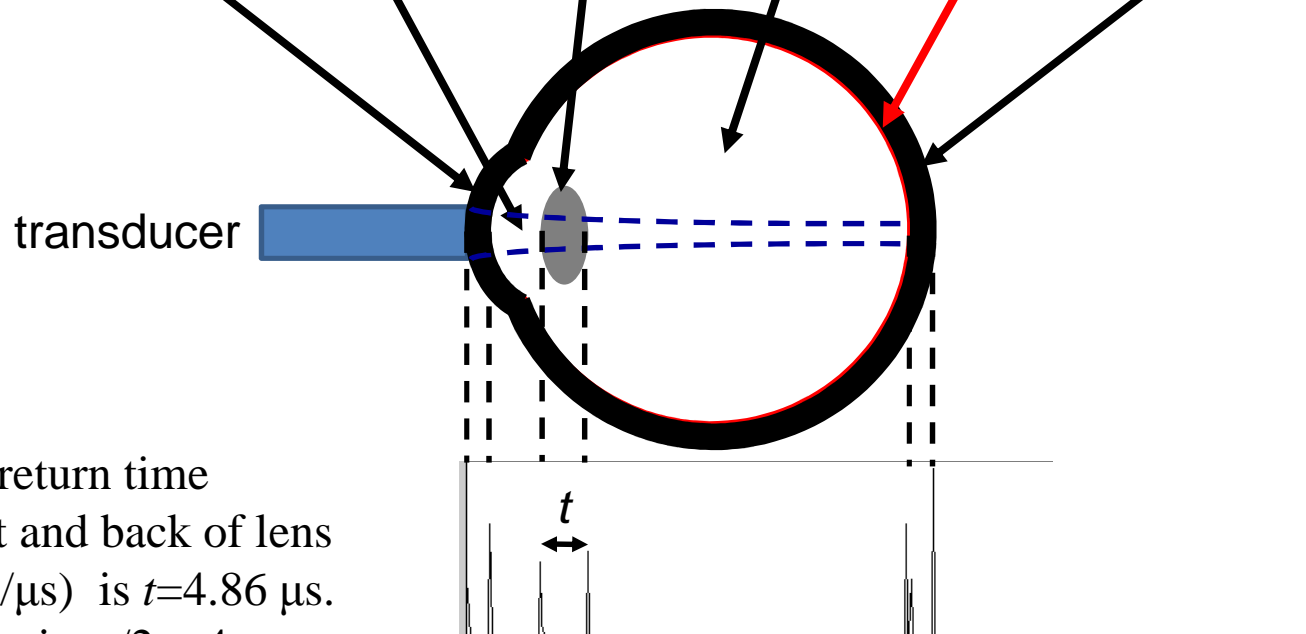
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http://www.zonare.com/products/clinical-images/id_10/

Eye biometry

[Thijssen1993]

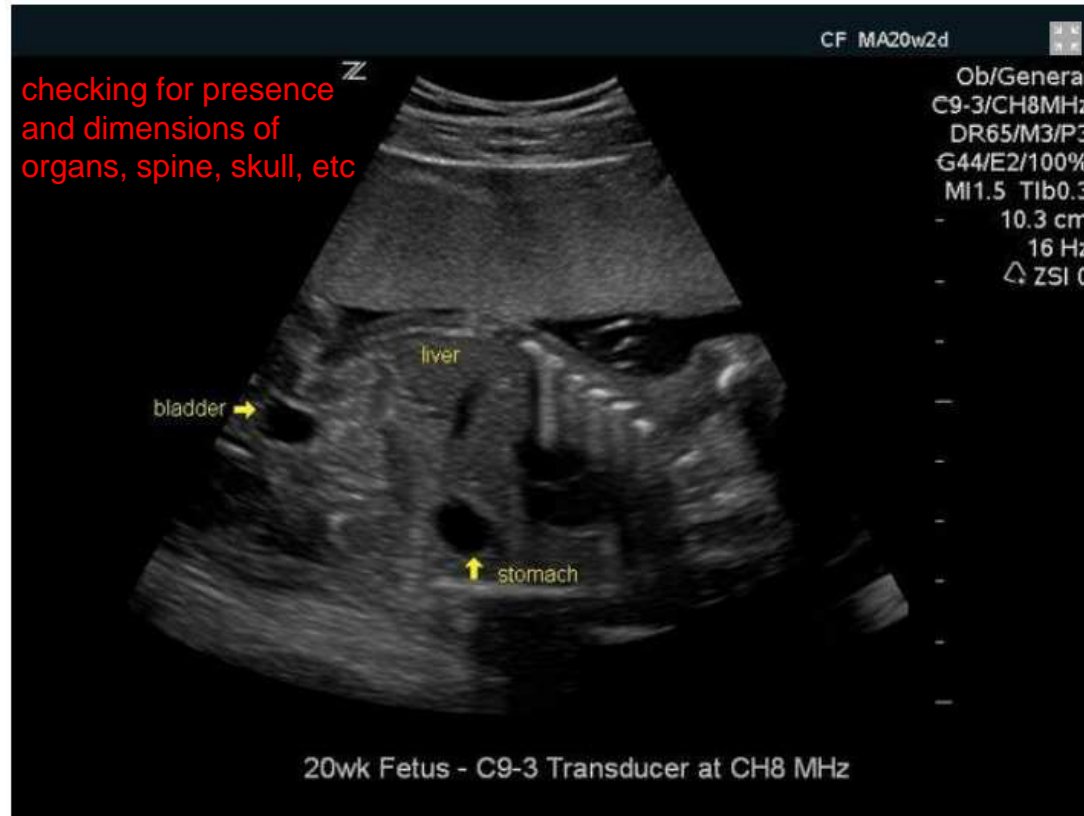
	cornea	aqueous humour	lens	vitreous humour	retina	sclera
speed of sound (m/s)	1620	1530	1647	1530	1565	1650



Example:
 difference in return time
 between front and back of lens
 ($c=1.647 \text{ mm}/\mu\text{s}$) is $t=4.86 \mu\text{s}$.
 Lens thickness is $ct/2 = 4 \text{ mm}$.

simulated echoes from eye
 based on image above

Foetus



Courtesy of Zonare Medical Systems
http://www.zonare.com/products/clinical-images/id_7/

References

- [Akar *et al.* 2006] Measurement of attenuation coefficients for bone, muscle, fat and water at 140, 364 and 662 keV γ -ray energies.
http://enformatik.ktu.edu.tr/eakademik/1703/articles/makale_25.pdf
- [Nitz and Reimer 1999] Contrast mechanisms in MR imaging
- [Thijssen 1993] The history of ultrasound techniques in ophthalmology
- [Yao *et al.* 1995] Quantitative PET imaging of bone marrow glucose metabolic response to hematopoietic cytokines