

Ultra**SONIC** Sensing

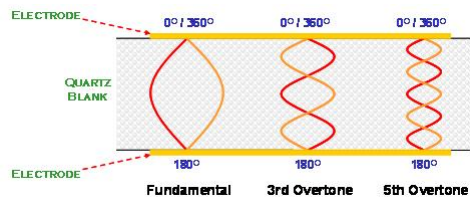
by Kevin Corrigan, Ivan Snyder, and Eric Welch

Applications

- Liquid Level Sensing
- Automation
- Contouring or Profiling
- Box Sorting using a Multi-Transducer System
- Pallet Detection with Forklifts
- Bottle Counting on Drink Filling Machine
- Ultrasound - Medical



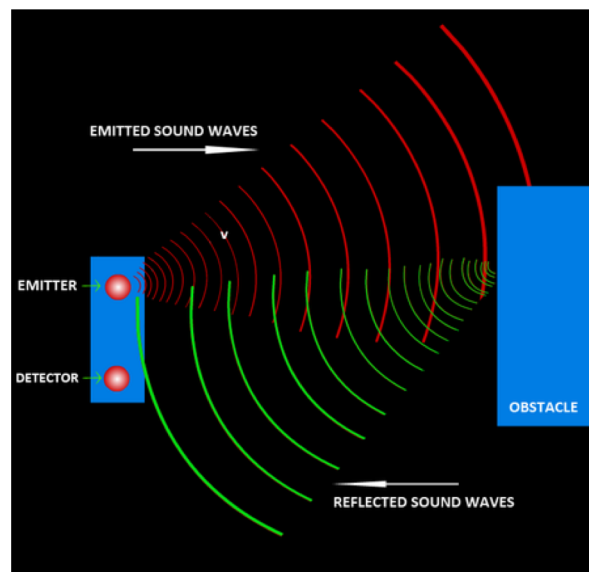
Frequency Production



- Resonant Frequencies
- Matching half the AC wavelength to the thickness of crystal
- Polished surfaces of crystals mask lower harmonics
- 9th and 11th with greatest amplitude

Distance Sensing Basics

- $D = \frac{1}{2} T * C$
- Time
- Speed of Sound



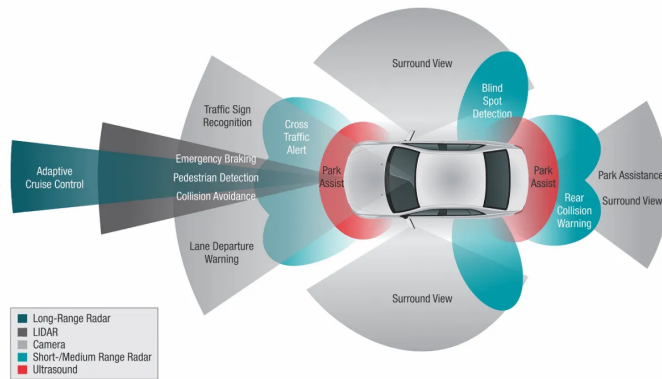
Collision Avoidance

Echolocation - broadly described as "seeing with sound".
Bats use sound waves and echoes to determine where objects are in space.



Bats navigate their territory and seek out prey by emitting sound waves or "bat calls" (a variety of chirps and squeaks)

Narrowband calls (Constant Frequency, or CF, calls) identify potential prey
Broadband calls (Frequency Modulation, or FM, calls) scan the landscape



Ultra



Pros

- Their small size makes it easy to integrate into projects
- Easy to integrate into systems
- High sensitivity / accuracy
- Minimal harm / safe
- Relatively cheap

Cons

- Limited detection range (10m)
- Soft surface interference
- Temperature sensitive (5-10°)
- Useless in a vacuum

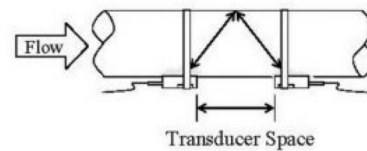
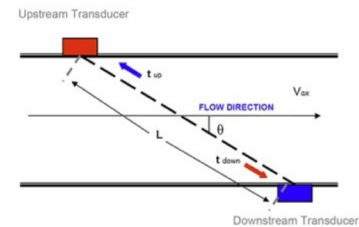
Flow

- Transit Time Ultrasonic Flow Meters

$$v = \left(\frac{L}{2\cos(\alpha)} \right) \left(\frac{t_{up} - t_{down}}{t_{up}t_{down}} \right)$$

- Doppler Ultrasonic Flow Meters

$$f = f_0 \left(\frac{c \pm v_r}{c \pm v_s} \right)$$



Pros:

- Not invasive
- Good for corrosive, abrasive, or sanitary environments
- Not effected by Temperature

Cons:

- Pipes and equipment must be kept clean
- Not great for fluids caring solid particulates
- Effected by vibrations

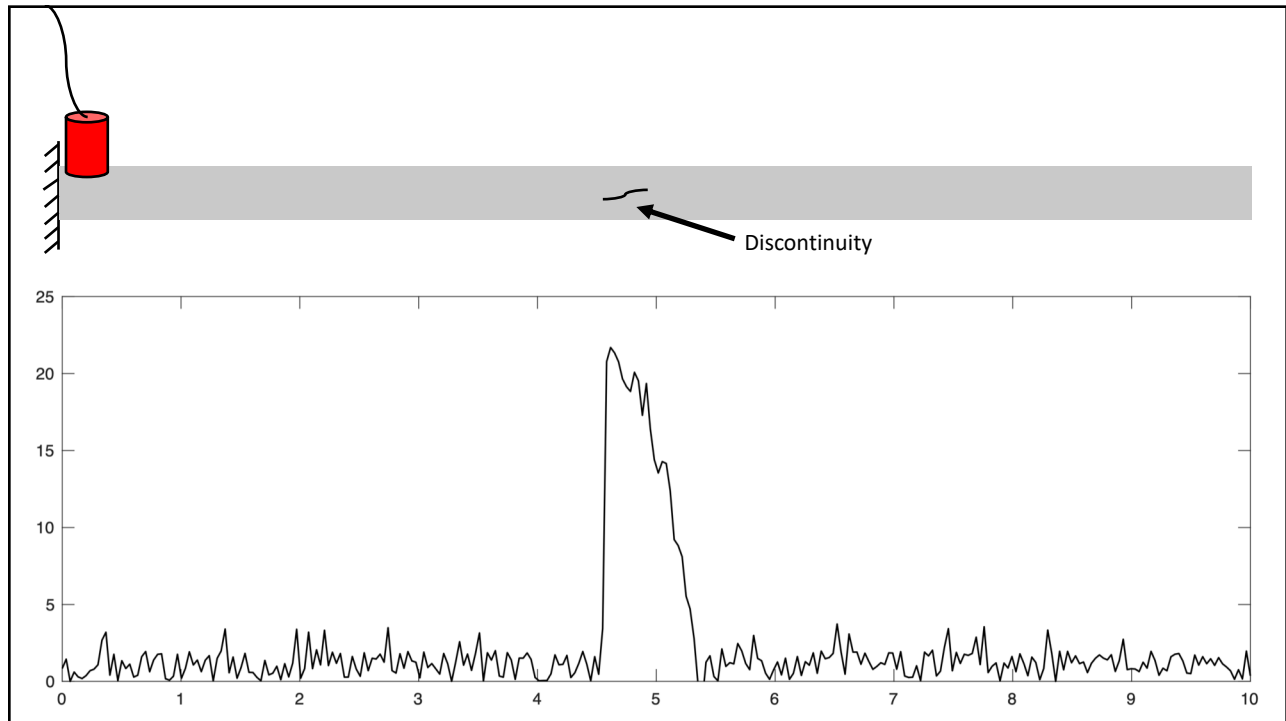
Applications

- Zero point calibration
- Pulse Totalizer
- 4-20 milliamp loop



Material Testing

- Pulse-echo inspection system
- Wave propagation is affected by material properties
- Discontinuities reflect waves back to transducer



References

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