

Subject Name: Biomedical Instrumentation Design II 2

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Lecture No.: 4

Lecture Title: Data Acquisition, Part 2.



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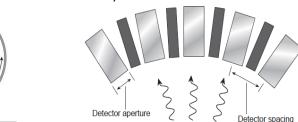


Data Acquisition, Part 2

- Third-generation CT scanner.
- Reference detectors are typically located at either end of the detector array to measure the unattenuated x-ray beam.
- The rotating detector design allows all of the readings that make up a view to be recorded instantaneously and simultaneously >>> thus reducing scan times and patient motion artifacts. resulting from patient motion.

• An advantage of the third-generation system is that the tube is directly focused on the detector

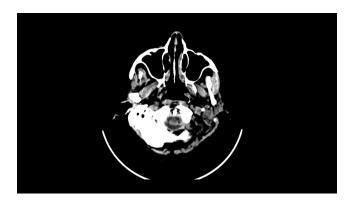
array.

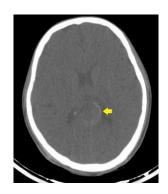




• A disadvantage of the third-generation design is the more frequent occurrence of ring artifacts.

Because the same bank of detectors is used repeatedly, even a very small misalignment of a single detector will result in a visible ring artifact.



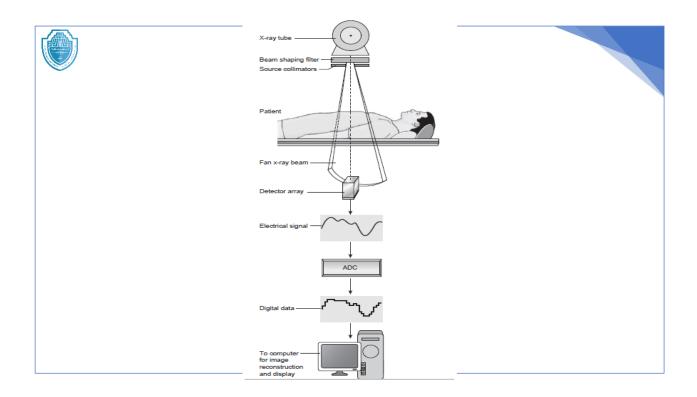




• <u>Detector Electronics</u>

- X-ray photons that strike the detector must be measured, converted to a digital signal, and sent to the computer.
- This is accomplished by the data-acquisition system (DAS), which is positioned within the gantry near the detectors.
- Signals emitted from the detectors are analog (electric), whereas computers require digital signals.

 Therefore, one of the tasks of the DAS is to convert the analog signal to a digital format.
- To measure the x-ray photons that have penetrated the patient, the DAS samples the detectors as many as 1,000 times per second.





• Patient table

- The patient lies on the table (or couch) and is moved within the gantry for scanning.
- The process of moving the table by a specified measure is most commonly called incrementation, feed, step, or index.
- Helical CT table incrementation is quantified in millimeters per second because the table continues to move throughout the scan.
- The degree to which a table can move horizontally is called the scannable range, and will determine the extent a patient can be scanned without repositioning.



CT GANTRY CONTROL PANEL

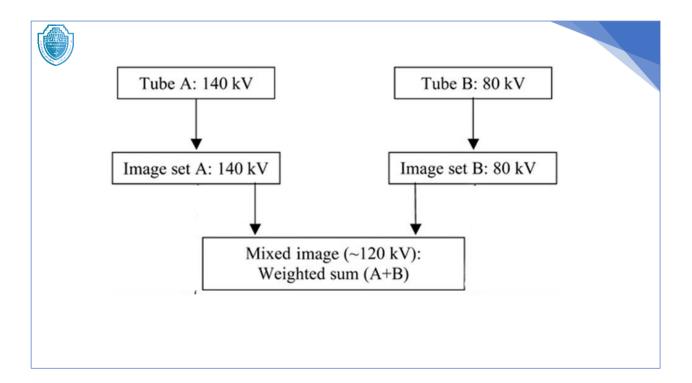
- 1. Gantry Tilt (+/-30 degrees).
- 2. Laser Alignment Lights on/off.
- 3. Couch in/out.
- 4. Free (manual) Couch Movement.
- 5. Zero Couch Position.
- 6. Couch up/down.
- 7. Home Button (couch out & down).





• Dual Energy CT (DECT)

- Dual-energy CT, also known as spectral CT, is a computed tomography technique that uses two separate xray photon energy spectra, allowing the interrogation of materials that have different attenuation properties at different energies.
- Whereas conventional single-energy CT produces a single image set, dual-energy data (attenuation values at two energy spectra) can be used to reconstruct numerous image types:
- Weighted average images (simulating single energy spectra).
- · Virtual monoenergetic images (attenuation at a single photon energy rather than a spectrum).





- material decomposition images: is a method for differentiation and quantification of materials in
 a sample and it utilizes the energy dependence of the linear attenuation coefficient, i.e. mapping
 or removing substances of known attenuation characteristics, such as iodine, calcium, or uric
 acid):
- · virtual non-contrast images (iodine removed).
- Iodine concentration (iodine maps): used to detect pulmonary embolism (PE) with CT angiography.
- Calcium suppression (calcium removed (CaSupp)): used to observe bone marrow edema by removing calcium components from the image.
- Uric acid suppression (uric acid removed): used for the diagnosis of gout. It is a good noninvasive alternative to synovial fluid aspiration.

