Bioengineering 280A
Principles of Biomedical Imaging

Fall Quarter 2004
X-Rays/CT Lecture 1

Topics

- X-Rays
- Computed Tomography
- Direct Inverse and Iterative Inverse
- Backprojection
- Projection Theorem
- Filtered Backprojection

EM spectrum

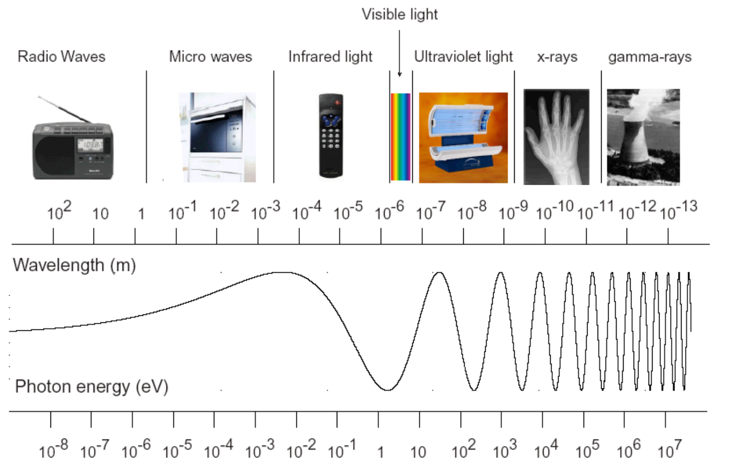

Figure 4.1: *The electromagnetic spectrum.*

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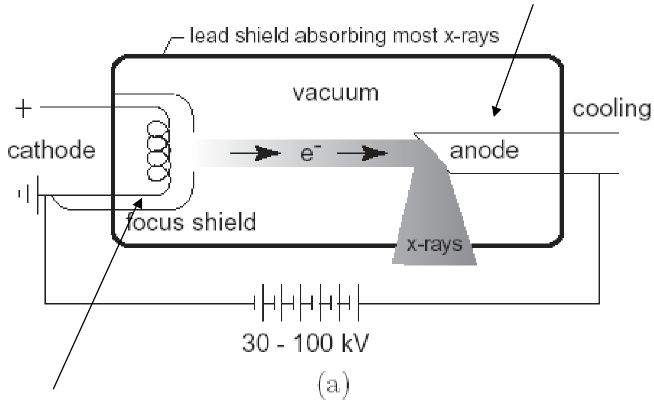
X-Ray Tube

Usually tungsten is used for anode
Molybdenum for mammography



Tungsten filament heated to about 2200 C leading to thermionic emission of electrons.

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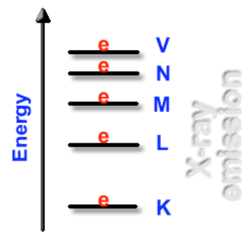
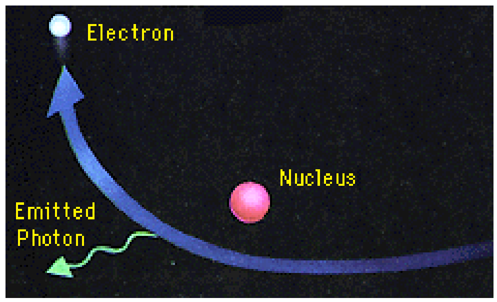
X-Ray Production



Characteristic Radiation

Bremsstrahlung
(braking radiation)



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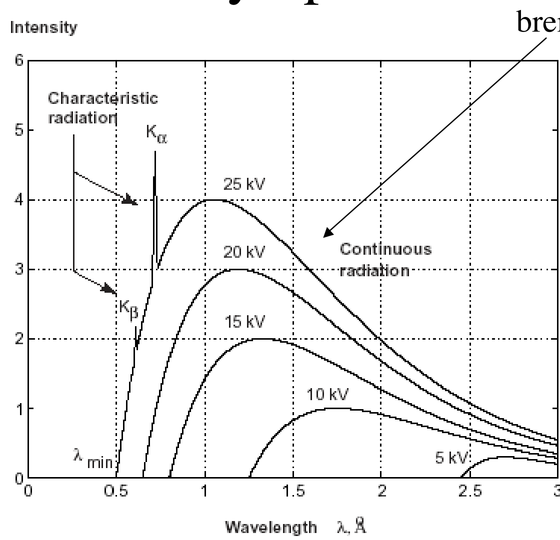
http://www.scienceofspectroscopy.info/theory/ADVANCED/x_ray.htm

X-Ray Spectrum

bremsstrahlung



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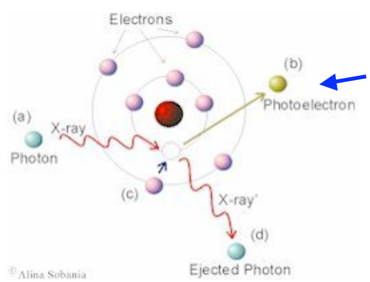
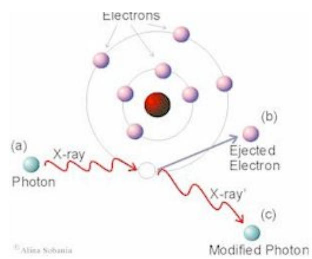
Interaction with Matter

Typical energy range for diagnostic x-rays is below 200 keV. The two most important types of interaction are photoeletric absorption and Compton scattering.



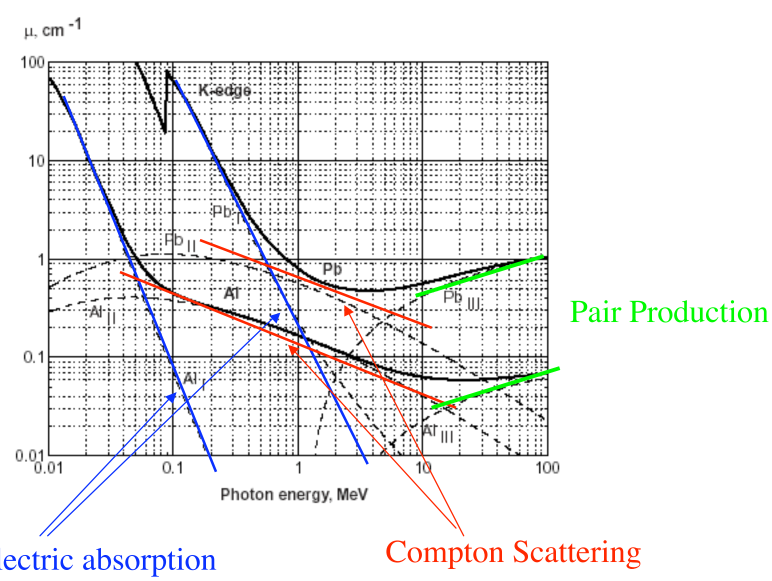
Photoelectric effect dominates at low x-ray energies and high atomic numbers.

Compton scattering dominates at high x-ray energies and low atomic numbers, not much contrast

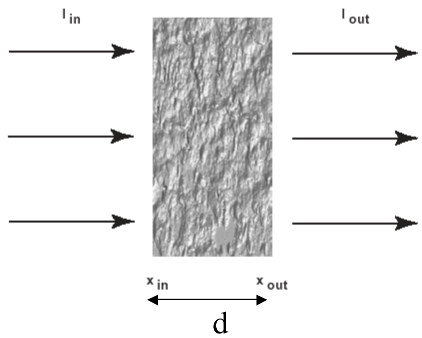


http://www.eee.ntu.ac.uk/research/vision/asobania

Interaction with Matter



Attenuation

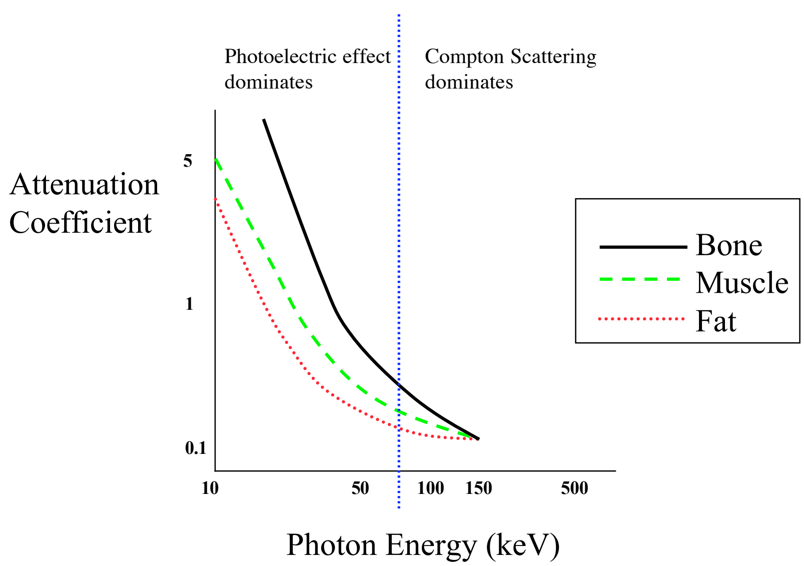


For single-energy x-rays passing through a homogenous object:

$$I_{out} = I_{in} \exp(-\mu d)$$

↑ Linear attenuation coefficient

Attenuation



Adapted from www.cis.rit.edu/class/simg215/xrays.ppt

Half Value Layer

X-ray energy (keV)	HVL, muscle (cm)	HVL Bone (cm)
30	1.8	0.4
50	3.0	1.2
100	3.9	2.3
150	4.5	2.8

In chest radiography, about 90% of x-rays are absorbed by body. Average energy from a tungsten source is 68 keV. However, many lower energy beams are absorbed by tissue, so average energy is higher. This is referred to as beam-hardening, and reduces the contrast.

Values from Webb 2003

Attenuation

For an inhomogenous object:

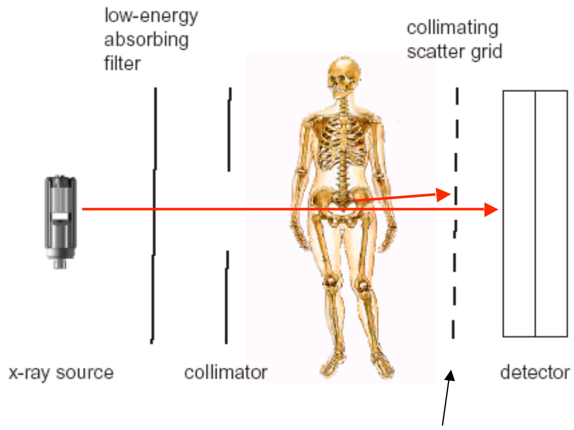
$$I_{out} = I_{in} \exp\left(-\int_{x_{in}}^{x_{out}} \mu(x)dx\right)$$

Integrating over energies

$$I_{out} = \int_0^\infty \sigma(E) \exp\left(-\int_{x_{in}}^{x_{out}} \mu(E,x)dx\right)dE$$

Intensity distribution of beam

X-Ray Imaging Chain



Reduces effects of Compton scattering

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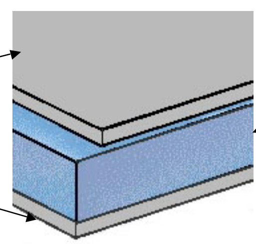
X-ray film

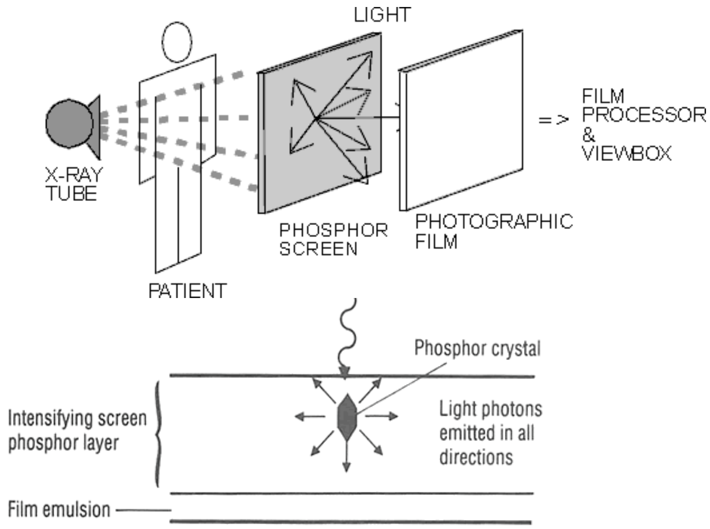
Emulsion with silver halide crystals
Each layer ~ 10 μm



Flexible base ~ 150 μm

Silver halide crystals absorb optical energy. After development, crystals that have absorbed enough energy are converted to metallic silver and look dark on the screen. Thus, parts in the object that attenuate the x-rays will look brighter.

Intensifying Screen



http://learntech.uwe.ac.uk/radiography/RScience/imaging_principles_d/diagimage11.htm
http://www.sunnybrook.utoronto.ca:8080/~selenium/xray.html#Film

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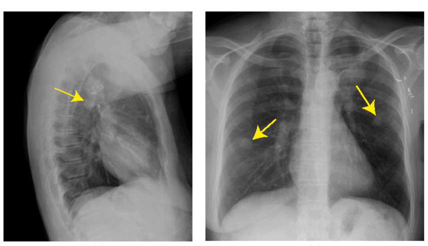
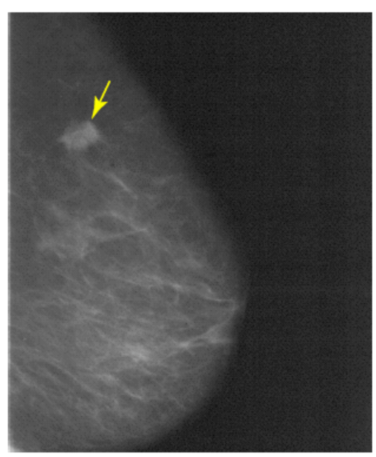
X-Ray Examples



(a) (b)



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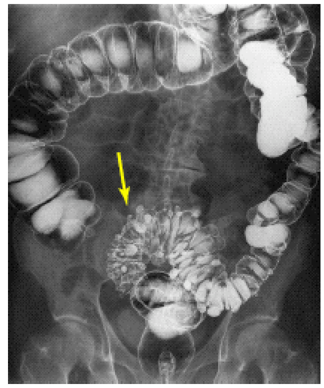
X-Ray w/ Contrast Agents

Angiogram using an iodine-based contrast agent.
K-edge of iodine is 33.2 keV



Barium Sulfate
K-edge of Barium is 37.4 keV

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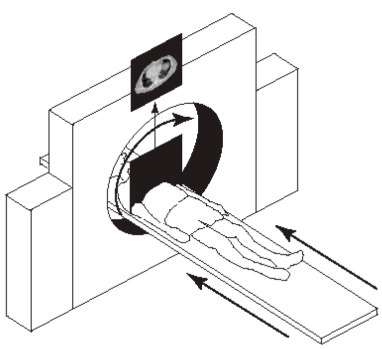
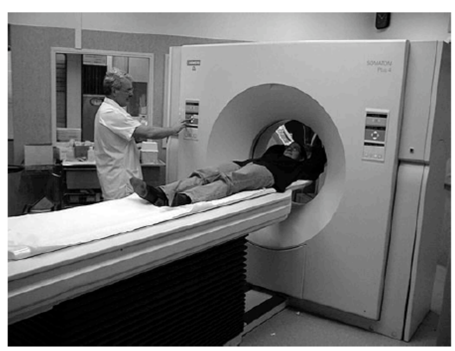
Computed Tomography





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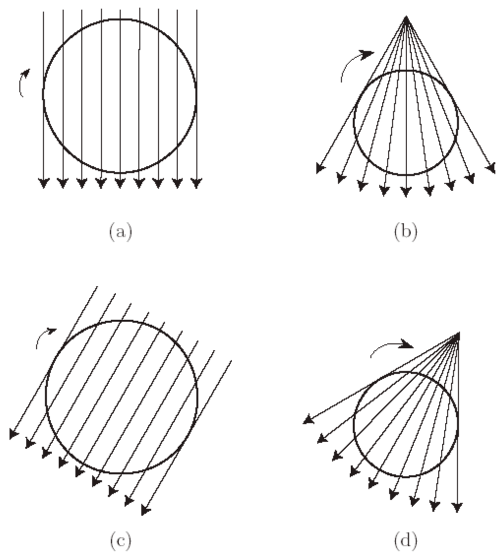
Computed Tomography

Parallel Beam



Fan Beam

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CT Number

$$\text{CT\_number} = \frac{\mu - \mu_{water}}{\mu_{water}} \times 1000$$

Measured in Hounsfield Units (HU)

Air: -1000 HU
Soft Tissue: -100 to 60 HU
Cortical Bones: 250 to 1000 HU

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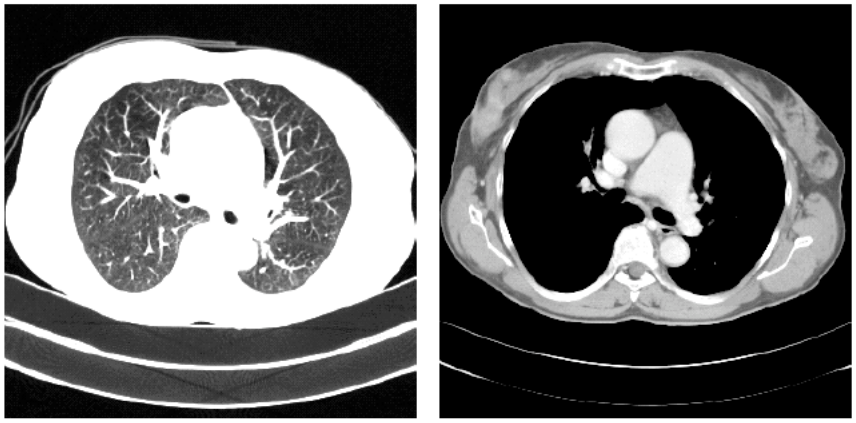
CT Display



(a) (b)

Figure 5.4: *CT-image of the chest with different window/level settings:(a) for the lungs (window 1500 and level -500) and (b) for the soft tissues (window 350 and level 50).*

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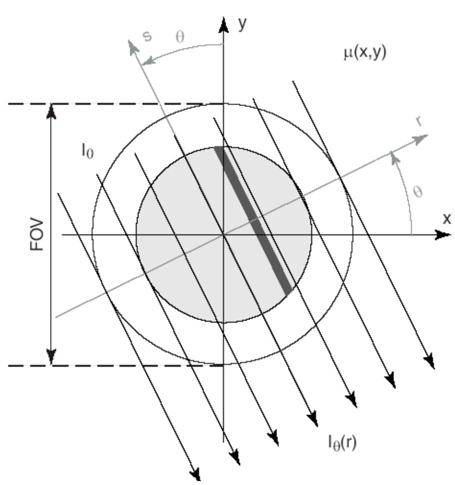
Projections



$$\begin{bmatrix} r \\ s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r \\ s \end{bmatrix}$$

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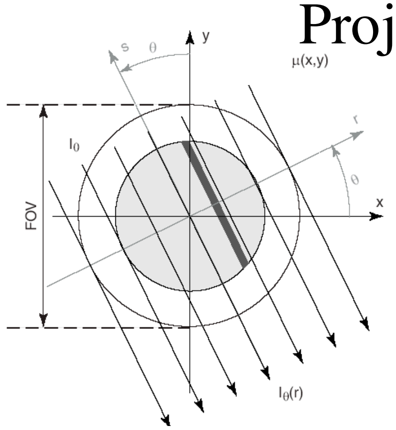
Projections



$$I_\theta(r) = I_0 \exp\left(-\int_{L_{r,\theta}} \mu(x,y)ds\right)$$

$$= I_0 \exp\left(-\int_{L_{r,\theta}} \mu(r\cos\theta - s\sin\theta, r\sin\theta + s\cos\theta)ds\right)$$

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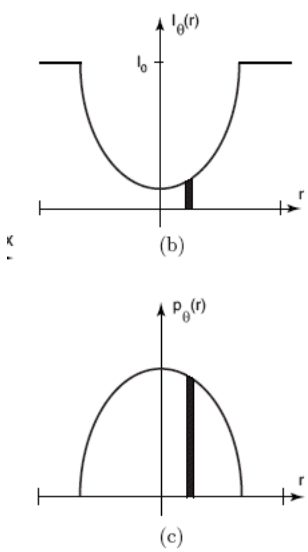
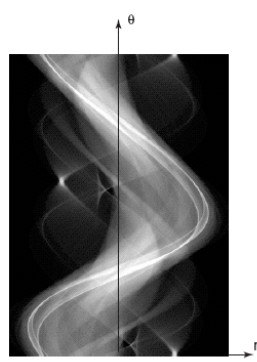
Projections



$$I_\theta(r) = I_0 \exp\left(-\int_{L_{r,\theta}} \mu(r\cos\theta - s\sin\theta, r\sin\theta + s\cos\theta)ds\right)$$

$$p_\theta(r) = -\ln\frac{I_\theta(r)}{I_0}$$

$$= \int_{L_{r,\theta}} \mu(r\cos\theta - s\sin\theta, r\sin\theta + s\cos\theta)ds$$



Sinogram

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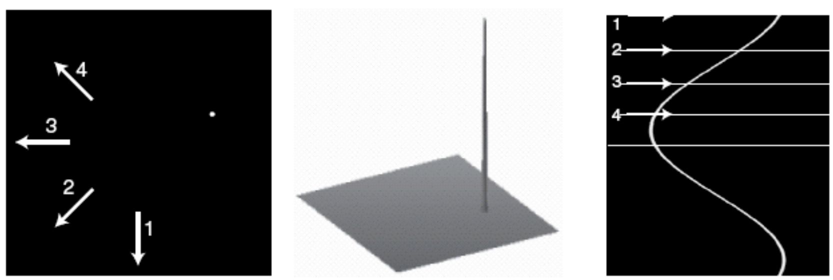
Sinogram



(a) (b) (c)

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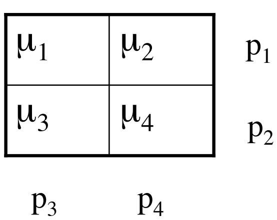
Direct Inverse Approach



$p_1 = \mu_1 + \mu_2$
$p_2 = \mu_3 + \mu_4$
$p_3 = \mu_1 + \mu_3$
$p_4 = \mu_2 + \mu_4$

$$\begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \\ p_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \mu_3 \\ \mu_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

4 equations, 4 unknowns.
Are these the correct equations to use?

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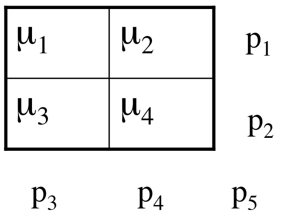
Direct Inverse Approach

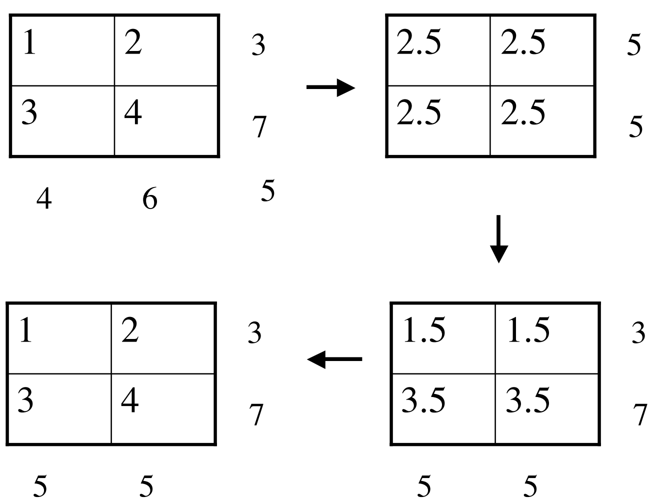


$p_1 = \mu_1 + \mu_2$
$p_2 = \mu_3 + \mu_4$
$p_3 = \mu_1 + \mu_3$
$p_5 = \mu_1 + \mu_4$

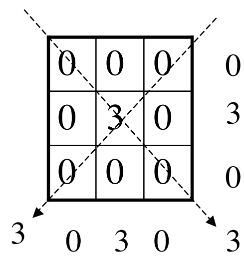
$$\begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \\ p_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \mu_3 \\ \mu_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

4 equations, 4 unknowns. These are linearly independent now.
In general for a NxN image, N^2 unknowns, N^2 equations.
This requires the inversion of a $N^2 x N^2$ matrix
For a high-resolution 512x512 image, N^2=262144 equations.
Requires inversion of a 262144x262144 matrix!
Inversion process sensitive to measurement errors.

Iterative Inverse Approach
Algebraic Reconstruction Technique (ART)



Backprojection



0	0	0
1	1	1
0	0	0

→

1	0	0
1	2	1
0	0	1

→

1	1	0
1	3	1
0	1	1

→

1	1	1
1	4	1
1	1	1

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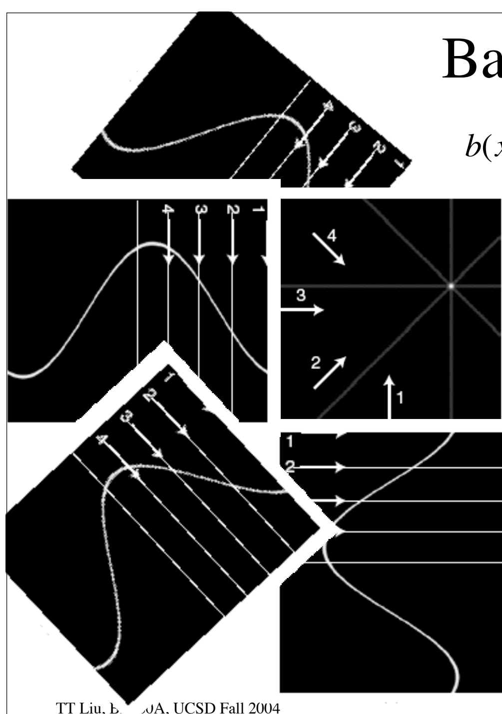
Backprojection



$$b(x,y) = B\{p(r,\theta)\}$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi} p(x\cos\theta + y\sin\theta, \theta)\,d\theta$$

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Backprojection

$$b(x,y) = B\{p(r,\theta)\} = \int_0^{\pi} p(x\cos\theta + y\sin\theta, \theta)\, d\theta$$

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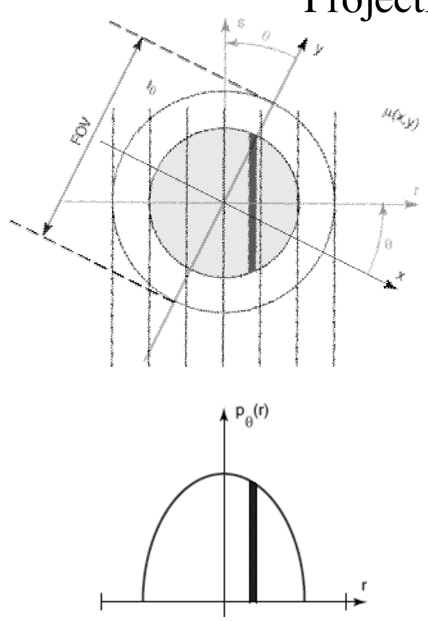
Projection Theorem



$$\begin{aligned} U(k_x,0) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mu(x,y) e^{-j2\pi(k_x x + k_y y)} dxdy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{-\infty}\left[\int_{-\infty}^{-\infty} \mu(x,y) dy\right] e^{-j2\pi k_x x} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{-\infty} p_0(x) e^{-j2\pi k_x x} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{-\infty} p_0(r) e^{-j2\pi k r} dr \end{aligned}$$

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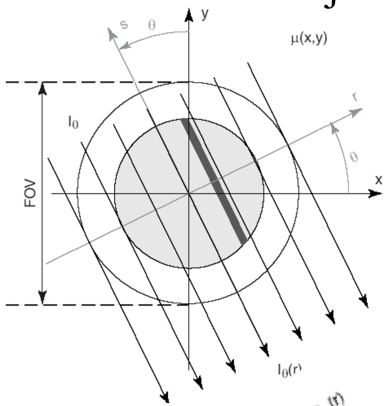
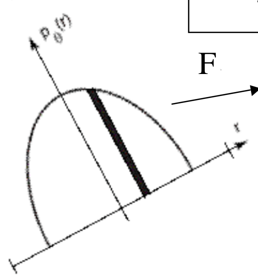
Projection Theorem



$$U(k_x,k_y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\mu(x,y)e^{-j2\pi(k_x x + k_y y)}dxdy$$
$$= F_{2D}\left[\mu(x,y)\right]$$

$$U(k_x,k_y) = P(k,\theta)$$
$$k_x = k\cos\theta$$
$$k_y = k\sin\theta$$
$$k = \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2}$$



$$P(k,\theta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p_\theta(r)e^{-j2\pi kr}dr$$

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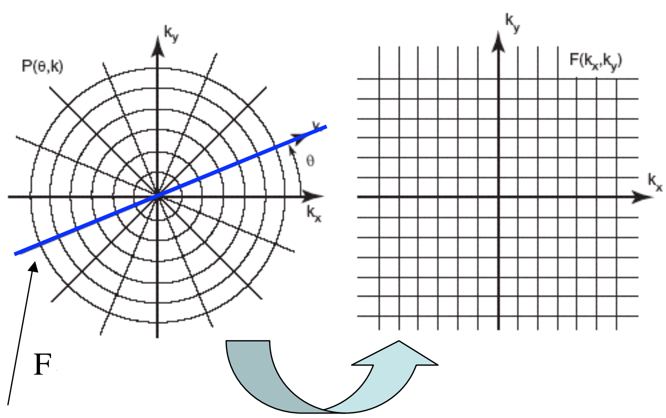
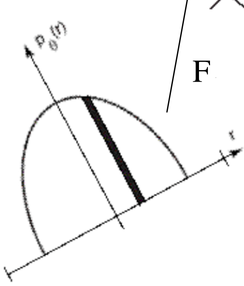
Fourier Reconstruction





Interpolate onto Cartesian grid
then take inverse transform

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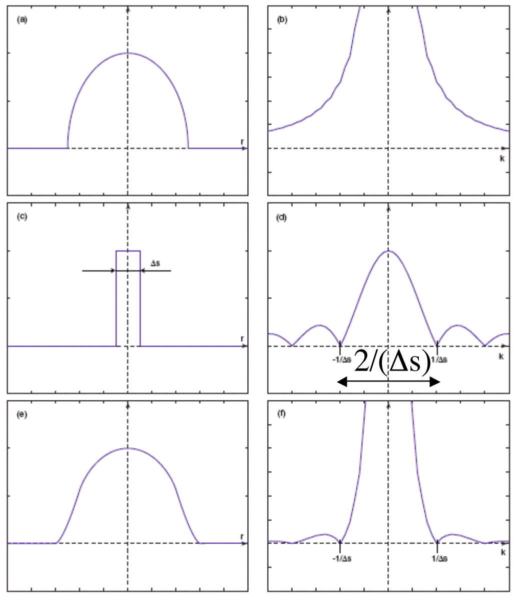
Sampling Requirements

Projection

Beam Width

Smoothed Projection



$W = 2/(\Delta s)$

$\delta = 1/W = \Delta s/2$

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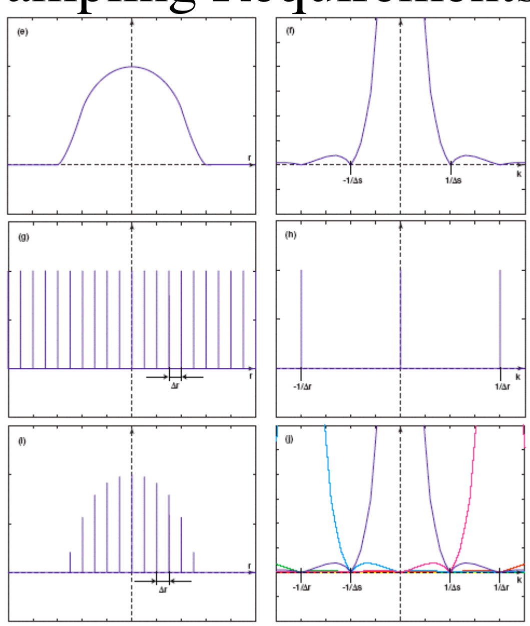
Sampling Requirements

Smoothed Projection

Detectors $\Delta r \leq \Delta s/2$

Sampled Smooth Projection



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Sampling Requirements

Size of detector Δr = δ=1/W= Δs/2
Number of Detectors N = FOV/ Δr where Δr≤ Δs/2

Angular Sampling -- how many views?

Want Circumference/(views in 360 degrees) = Δr

πFOV/(views)=Δr=FOV/N

Number of views in 360 degrees = πN

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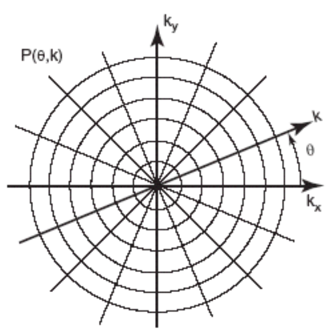
Polar Version of Inverse FT



$$\mu(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} U(k_x,k_y)e^{j2\pi(k_x x + k_y y)}dk_x dk_y$$

$$= \int_{0}^{2\pi}\int_{0}^{\infty} U(k,\theta)e^{j2\pi(k\cos\theta x \; + k\sin\theta y)}kdkd\theta$$

$$= \int_{0}^{\pi}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} U(k,\theta)e^{j2\pi(xk\cos\theta \; + yk\sin\theta)}|k|dkd\theta$$

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Filtered Backprojection

$$\mu(x,y) = \int_0^{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} U(k,\theta) e^{j2\pi(xk\cos\theta \ + yk\sin\theta)} |k| dk d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |k| U(k,\theta) e^{j2\pi kr} dk d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi} u^*(r,\theta) d\theta \longleftarrow$$ Backproject a filtered projection

$$where\ r = x\cos\theta + y\sin\theta$$

$$u^*(r,\theta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |k| U(k,\theta) e^{j2\pi kr} dk$$

$$= u(r,\theta) * F^{-1}\left[|k|\right]$$

$$= u(r,\theta) * q(r)$$

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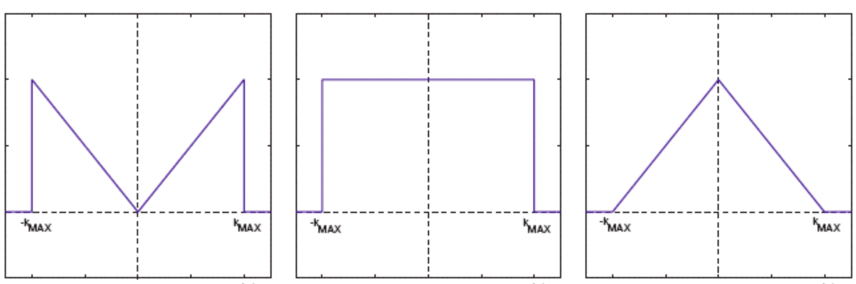
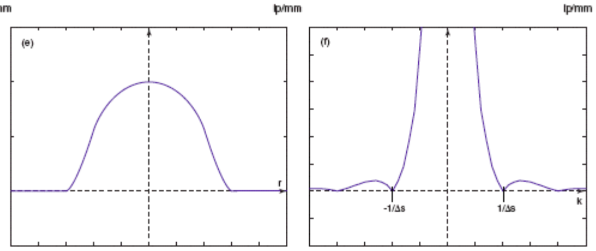
Ram-Lak Filter



k_{max}=1/Δs



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Additional Filtering

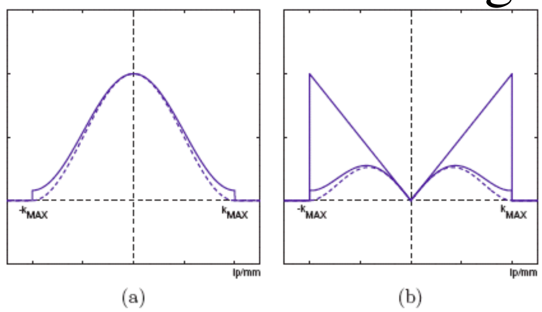
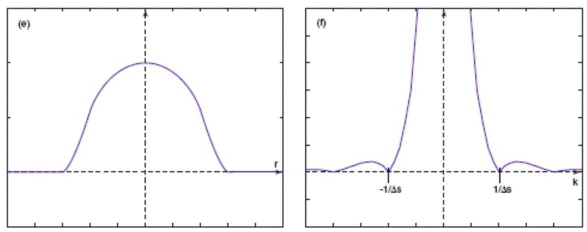


Figure 5.12: *(a) Hamming window with $\alpha = 0.54$ and Hanning window (dashed) with $\alpha = 0.5$. (b) Ramp filter and its products with a Hamming window and a Hanning window (dashed).*

$k_{max}=1/\Delta s$



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