

INTERFACING ELECTRONIC FOR MEASUREMENT,  
SIGNAL PROCESSING AND WIRELESS  
COMMUNICATION



Edited by

Sheroz Khan, International Islamic University Malaysia

AHM Zahirul Alam, International Islamic University Malaysia

Anis Nurashikin Nordin, International Islamic University Malaysia



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INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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## Chapter 13

# DEVELOPMENT OF WEARABLE REFLECTANCE PULSE OXIMETRY FOR TELEHEALTH MONITORING SYSTEM

MUHAMMAD ARHAM, SYED ZULFAUZI AND OTHMAN O. KHALIFA

In recent years there has been increasing interest in wearable/mobile health monitoring devices, both in research and industry. These devices are particularly important to the world's increasingly aging population, whose health has to be assessed regularly or monitored continuously. One of these devices is Pulse oximeter which indirectly measures the oxygen saturation of a patient's blood (as opposed to measuring oxygen saturation directly through a blood sample) and changes in blood volume in the skin, producing a photoplethysmograph (PPG). The main goal of this chapter is to develop a cost-effective user-friendly Pulse Oximetry for Telehealth Monitoring System.

### 13.1. INTRODUCTION

Pulse oximeter is a medical device that indirectly measures the oxygen saturation of a patient's blood (as opposed to measuring oxygen saturation directly through a blood sample) and changes in blood volume in the skin, producing a photoplethysmograph (PPG). It is often attached to a medical monitor so staff can see a patient's oxygenation at all times. Normal heart rate is in the region of 100 beats per minute. It uses optical sensors and light emitting diodes emitting light at different wavelengths through a finger tip where the transmitted light is detected using an optical sensor (Li Yun). Based on the principle of oxygenated haemoglobin having a higher absorption coefficient for infrared light than deoxygenated haemoglobin while deoxygenated haemoglobin absorbs more red lights, by taking the ratio of absorbed red light to infrared light, the oxygen saturation level can be obtained. The waveform has a complex shape that should be preserved through sensor detection and signal processing.

### 13.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

PPG pulse oximetry relies on the fractional change in light absorption due to arterial pulsations. In a typical configuration, light at two different wavelengths illuminating one side of tissue (e.g., a finger) will be detected on the same side (reflectance mode) or the opposing side (transmission mode) after traversing the vascular tissues between the source and the detector (Jianchu & Steve, 2005).