

Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II
Ph.D. Program in
Information Technology and Electrical Engineering
XXXV Cycle

Antenna-Based Techniques for Modern Radars

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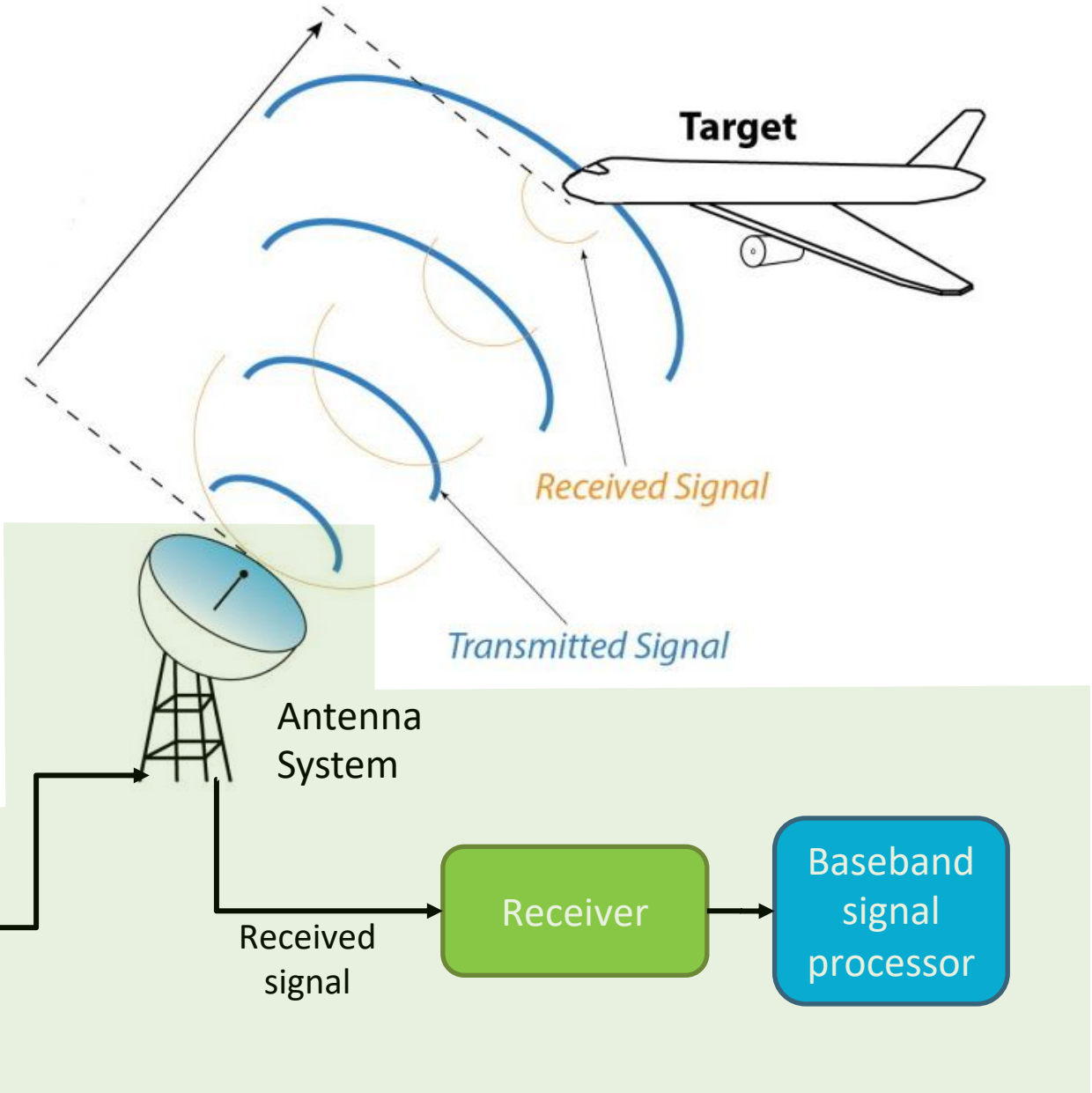
Supervisor: Prof. Antonio De Maio

GTTI PhD award for PhD Theses in the field of Communication Technologies

Introduction

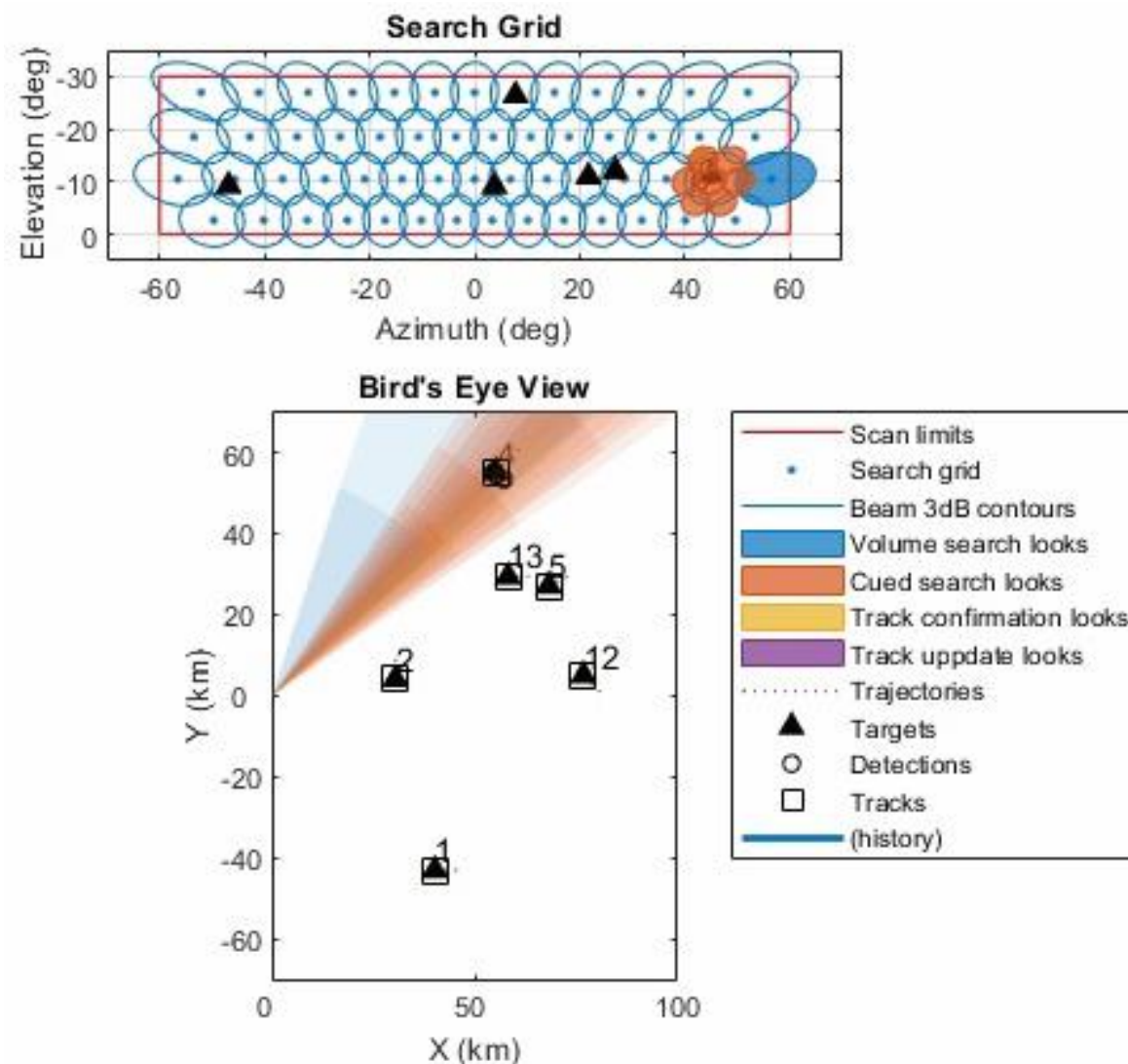


Radar
System



Modern Multichannel Array Radar Systems

- Surveillance at specific ranges
- Tracking with variable update rates
- 3-D target data measurements
- Manage many track simultaneously
- Ability to operate in clutter and jamming environments



Adaptive detection architecture

Accurate target localization
(estimation)

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graph TD; A[Adaptive detection architecture] --> C[Detection and estimation: two different signal processing tasks]; B[Accurate target localization (estimation)] --> C; C --> D[Target parameter estimation only after target presence declaration!];
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Detection and estimation: two different signal processing tasks

Target parameter estimation only after target
presence declaration!

DESIRED: **simultaneous** target detection and
accurate angular estimation

Multichannel planar phased array radar system

received data: $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{p}(u_0, v_0) + \mathbf{n}$

target backscattering
and channel propagation
effects

spatial steering
vector

target DOA

Gaussian
random noise

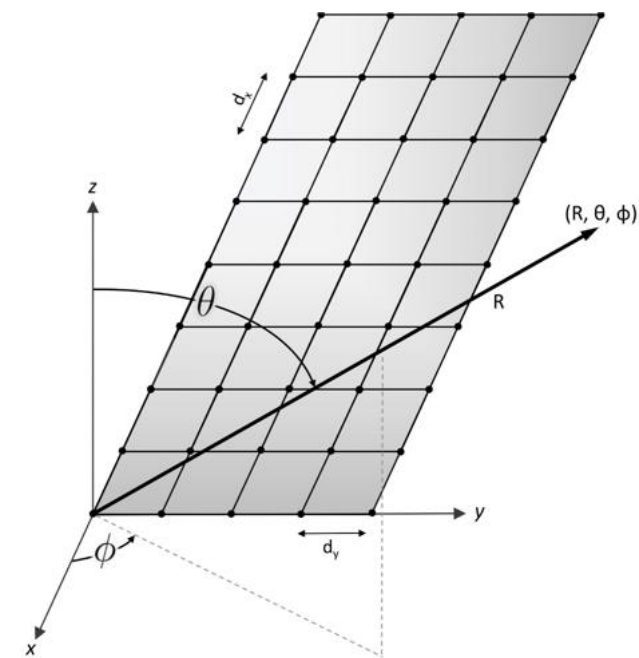
*Array steering direction
not usually aligned with
target DOA*

*Linearize the array manifold
around the pointing
direction $(\bar{u}, \bar{v})$*

$$\Delta u = u_0 - \bar{u} \quad \Delta v = v_0 - \bar{v}$$

unknown displacements

$$\Delta \theta = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta u \\ \Delta v \end{bmatrix}$$



Planar array geometry

Single-Pulse Simultaneous Target Detection and Angle Estimation [3/5]

Linearized target steering vector

$$\mathbf{p}_a(\Delta u, \Delta v) = \mathbf{p}(\bar{u}, \bar{v}) + \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}(u, v)}{\partial u} \right|_{\substack{u=\bar{u} \\ v=\bar{v}}} \Delta u + \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}(u, v)}{\partial v} \right|_{\substack{u=\bar{u} \\ v=\bar{v}}} \Delta v = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{H} \Delta \theta$$

Target detection **problem**

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{H}_0 : \begin{cases} \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{r}_k = \mathbf{n}_k \quad k = 1, \dots, K \end{cases} \\ \mathcal{H}_1 : \begin{cases} \mathbf{r} = a \mathbf{p}_a(\Delta u, \Delta v) + \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{r}_k = \mathbf{n}_k \quad k = 1, \dots, K \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

Constraints

$$\begin{aligned} |\Delta u| &\leq \alpha \\ |\Delta v| &\leq \beta \end{aligned}$$

Solution

Generalized Likelihood Ratio

$$\max_{\substack{|\Delta u| \leq \alpha \\ |\Delta v| \leq \beta}} \frac{(\bar{\mathbf{p}} + \bar{\mathbf{H}} \Delta \theta)^\dagger \bar{\mathbf{r}} \bar{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger (\bar{\mathbf{p}} + \bar{\mathbf{H}} \Delta \theta)}{(\bar{\mathbf{p}} + \bar{\mathbf{H}} \Delta \theta)^\dagger (\bar{\mathbf{p}} + \bar{\mathbf{H}} \Delta \theta)} = \max_{\substack{|\Delta u| \leq \alpha \\ |\Delta v| \leq \beta}} \frac{N(\Delta \theta)}{D(\Delta \theta)}$$

box constrained **fractional** quadratic optimization problem

Detect the target while simultaneously estimate its DOA

Single-Pulse Simultaneous Target Detection and Angle Estimation [4/5]

$$\max_{\substack{|\Delta u| \leq \alpha \\ |\Delta v| \leq \beta}} \frac{N(\Delta \theta)}{D(\Delta \theta)}$$

Dinkelbach's Optimization Algorithm

At each iteration

$$\Delta \theta^* = \arg \max_{\substack{|\Delta u| \leq \alpha \\ |\Delta v| \leq \beta}} N(\Delta \theta) - q^+ D(\Delta \theta)$$

=> GLRT for Linearized Array Manifold
with Dinkelbach Optimization

$$t_{\text{GLRT-LAM-DO}} = \frac{1}{1 + \|\bar{\mathbf{r}}\|^2} \frac{\left| \bar{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger (\bar{\mathbf{p}} + \bar{\mathbf{H}} \hat{\Delta \theta}_{DO}^*) \right|^2}{\left\| \bar{\mathbf{p}} + \bar{\mathbf{H}} \hat{\Delta \theta}_{DO}^* \right\|^2} \underset{\mathcal{H}_0}{\overset{\mathcal{H}_1}{\geq}} T$$

Coordinate Descent Algorithm

At each iteration

$$\Delta u^* = \arg \max_{|\Delta u| \leq \alpha} \frac{(\bar{\mathbf{p}}_{\Delta v}^{(n-1)} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}_u \Delta u)^\dagger \bar{\mathbf{r}} \bar{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger (\bar{\mathbf{p}}_{\Delta v}^{(n-1)} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}_u \Delta u)}{(\bar{\mathbf{p}}_{\Delta v}^{(n-1)} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}_u \Delta u)^\dagger (\bar{\mathbf{p}}_{\Delta v}^{(n-1)} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}_u \Delta u)}$$

$$\Delta v^* = \arg \max_{|\Delta v| \leq \beta} \frac{(\bar{\mathbf{p}}_{\Delta u}^{(n)} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}_v \Delta v)^\dagger \bar{\mathbf{r}} \bar{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger (\bar{\mathbf{p}}_{\Delta u}^{(n)} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}_v \Delta v)}{(\bar{\mathbf{p}}_{\Delta u}^{(n)} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}_v \Delta v)^\dagger (\bar{\mathbf{p}}_{\Delta u}^{(n)} + \dot{\mathbf{p}}_v \Delta v)}$$

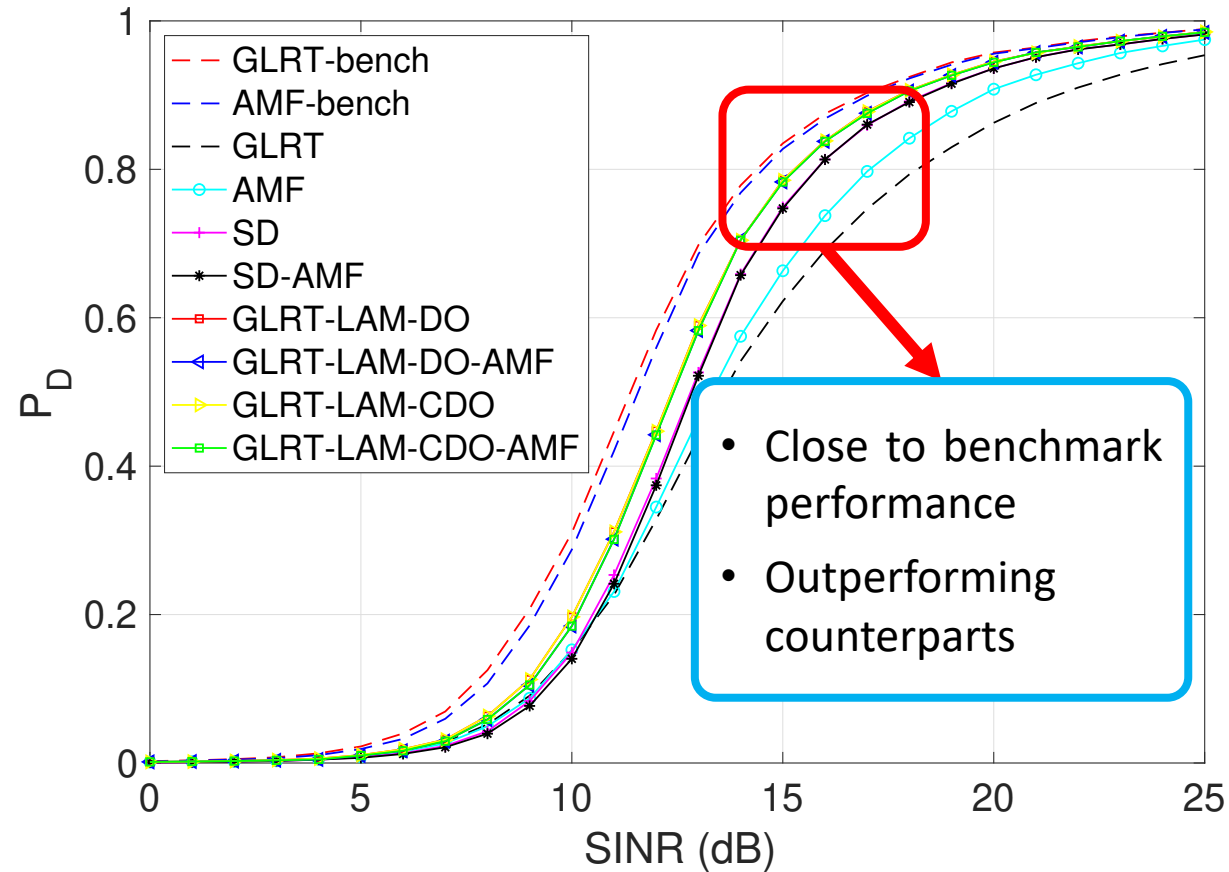
=> GLRT for Linearized Array Manifold with
Coordinate Descent Optimization

$$t_{\text{GLRT-LAM-CDO}} = \frac{1}{1 + \|\bar{\mathbf{r}}\|^2} \frac{\left| \bar{\mathbf{r}}^\dagger (\bar{\mathbf{p}} + \bar{\mathbf{H}} \hat{\Delta \theta}_{CDO}^*) \right|^2}{\left\| \bar{\mathbf{p}} + \bar{\mathbf{H}} \hat{\Delta \theta}_{CDO}^* \right\|^2} \underset{\mathcal{H}_0}{\overset{\mathcal{H}_1}{\geq}} T$$

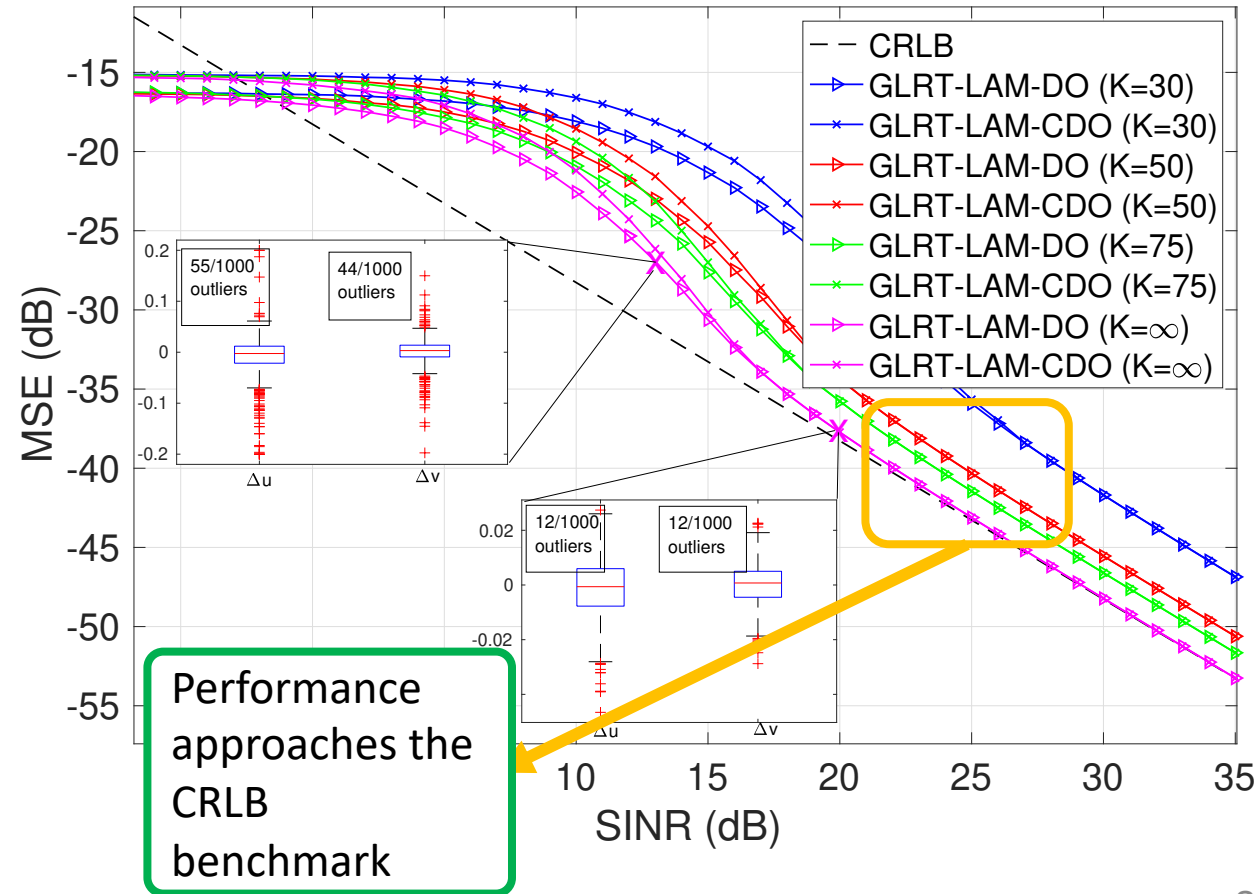
Single-Pulse Simultaneous Target Detection and Angle Estimation [5/5]

URA with 5x5 antennas, $\alpha = \beta = 0.2$, $(\Delta u, \Delta v) = (0.05, 0.05)$
1 narrow-band jammer at (0.1, 0.1), with JNR = 30 dB and 1 wide-band jammer ($B_f = 0.3$) at (0.3, 0.3) with JNR2 = 40 dB

Detection Performance

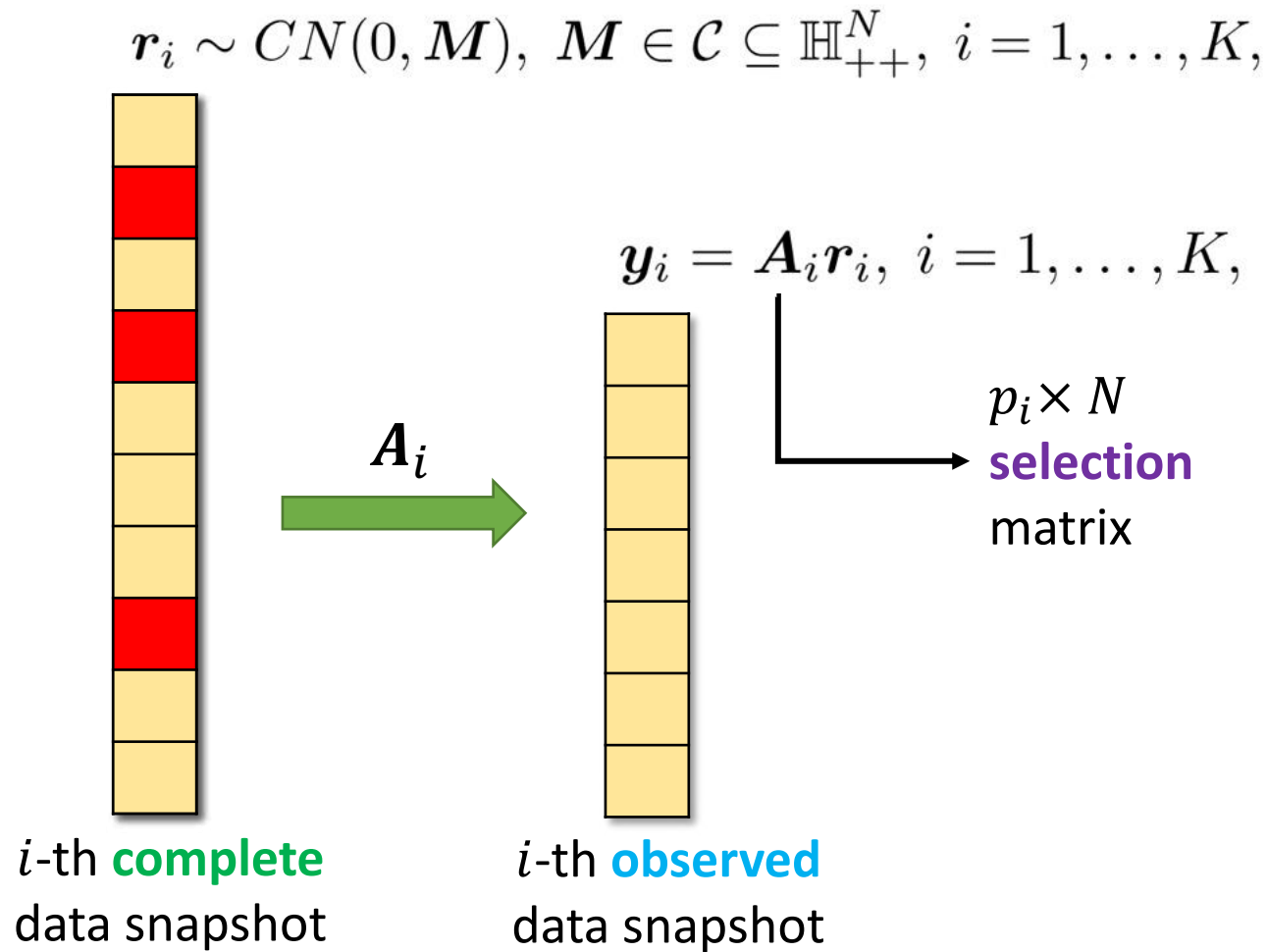
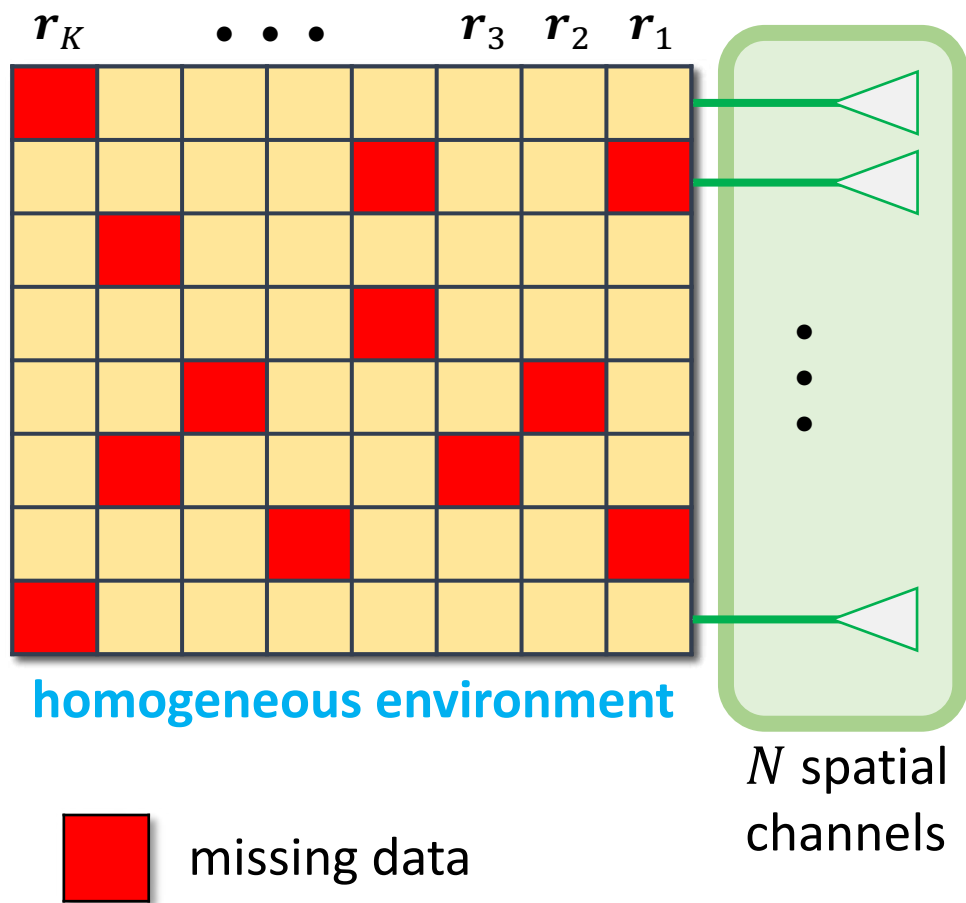


Estimation Performance



Structured Covariance Matrix Estimation with Missing-Data via EM

MOTIVATION



PROBLEM FORMULATION

The **constrained maximum likelihood (ML) estimate** of the covariance matrix can be formulated as

$$\hat{\mathbf{M}}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = \arg \max_{\mathbf{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \in \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{L}_y(\mathbf{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \mid \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_K)$$

with

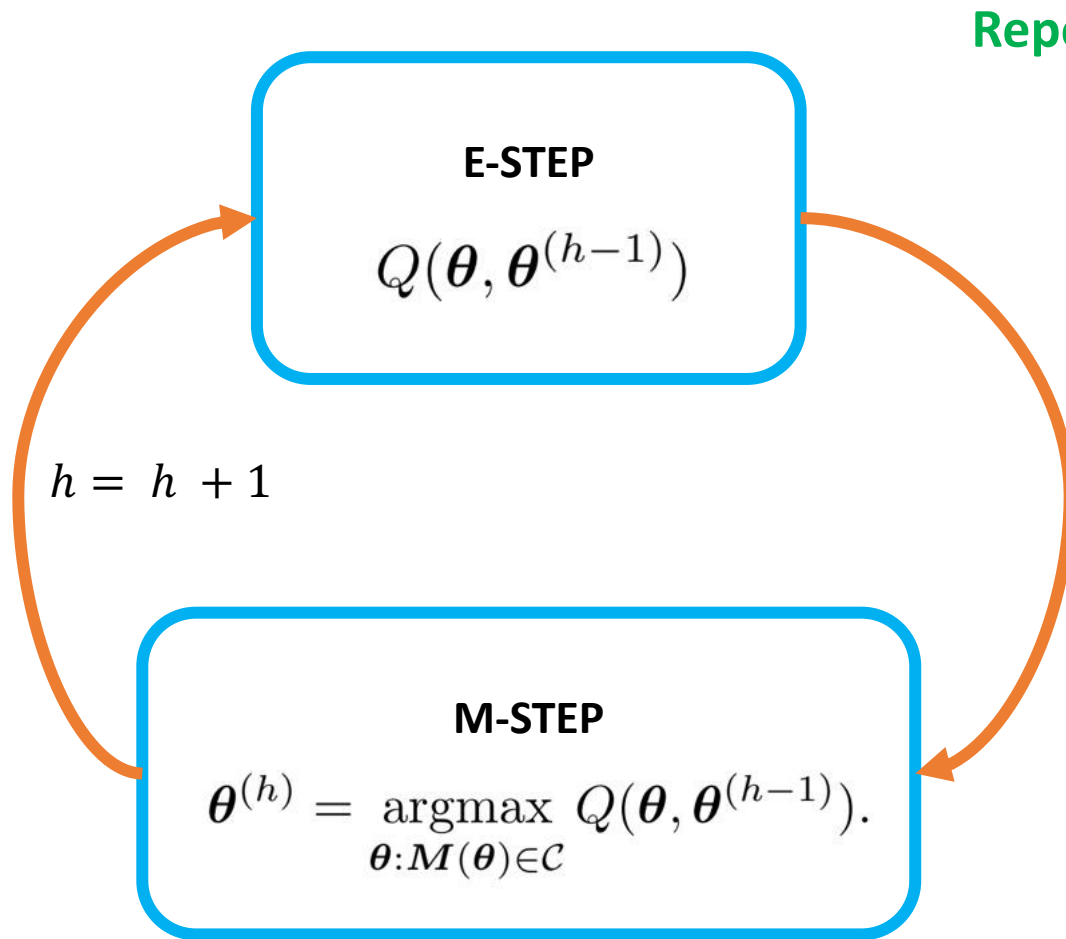
$\mathcal{L}_y(\mathbf{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \mid \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_K)$ the **observed data log-likelihood**

$\mathcal{C}$ the covariance matrix **uncertainty set**

$\mathbf{Y} = \{\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_k\}$ the **observed data set**

$\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^V$ the vector of the **unknown parameters** defining the underlining structure of $\mathbf{M}$.

EXPECTATION MAXIMIZATION-BASED ESTIMATION PROCEDURE



$$Q(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(h-1)}) = -K[N \ln(\pi) + \ln(\det(\boldsymbol{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta}))) + \operatorname{tr}\{\boldsymbol{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta})^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(h-1)}\}],$$

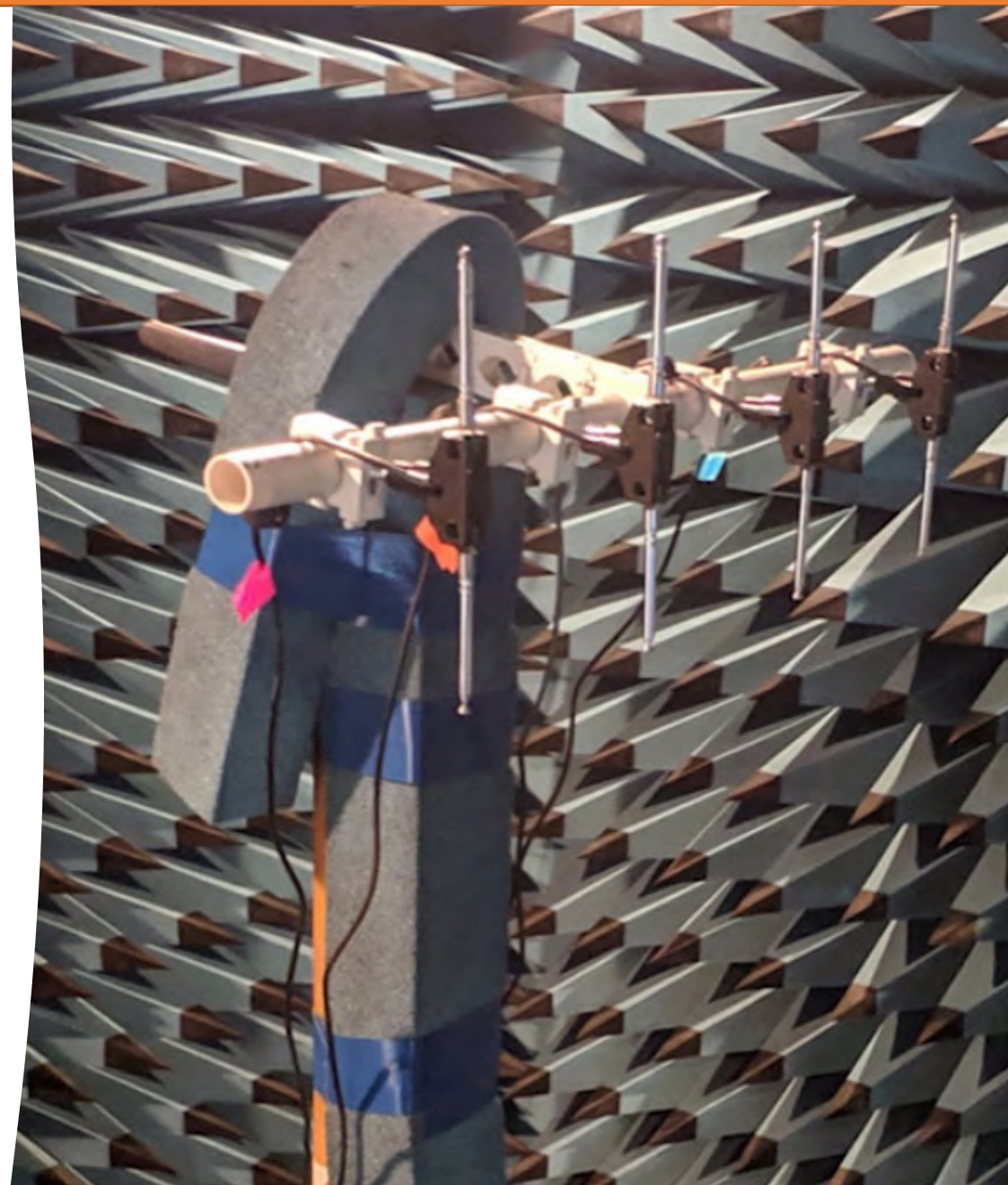
Solutions to the M-step devised in closed-form under the assumption of $\boldsymbol{M}$ belonging to a **specific** covariance matrix **uncertainty set**.

EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS

Data **collected** in an **anechoic chamber** using:

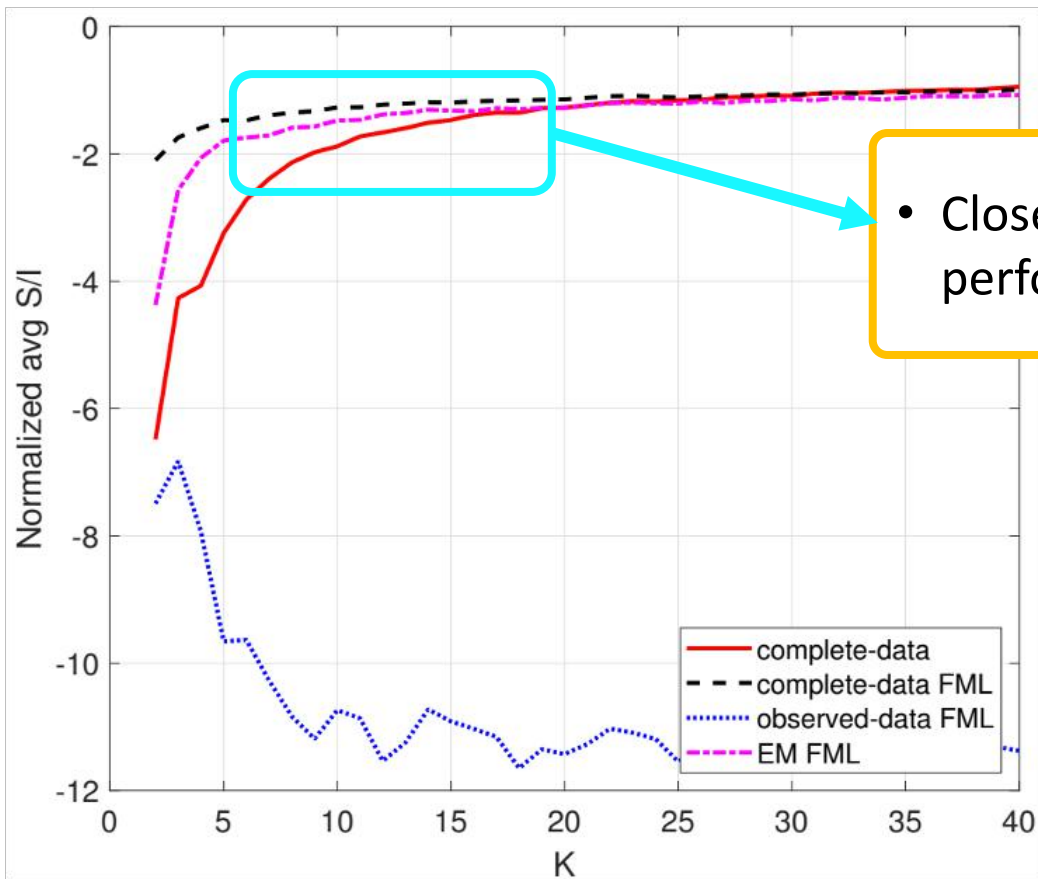
- ❑ **four-channels SDR coherent receiver**
- ❑ **SDR transmitters** to emulate the presence of unknown emitters
- ❑ a **Personal Computer** to perform digital signal processing operations;
- ❑ a **Uniform Linear Array** composed of four dipole antennas separated by $\lambda/2$

Missing data scenario emulated assuming probability of missing an observation $p_m = 0.3$



Structured Covariance Matrix Estimation with Missing-Data via EM [5/5]

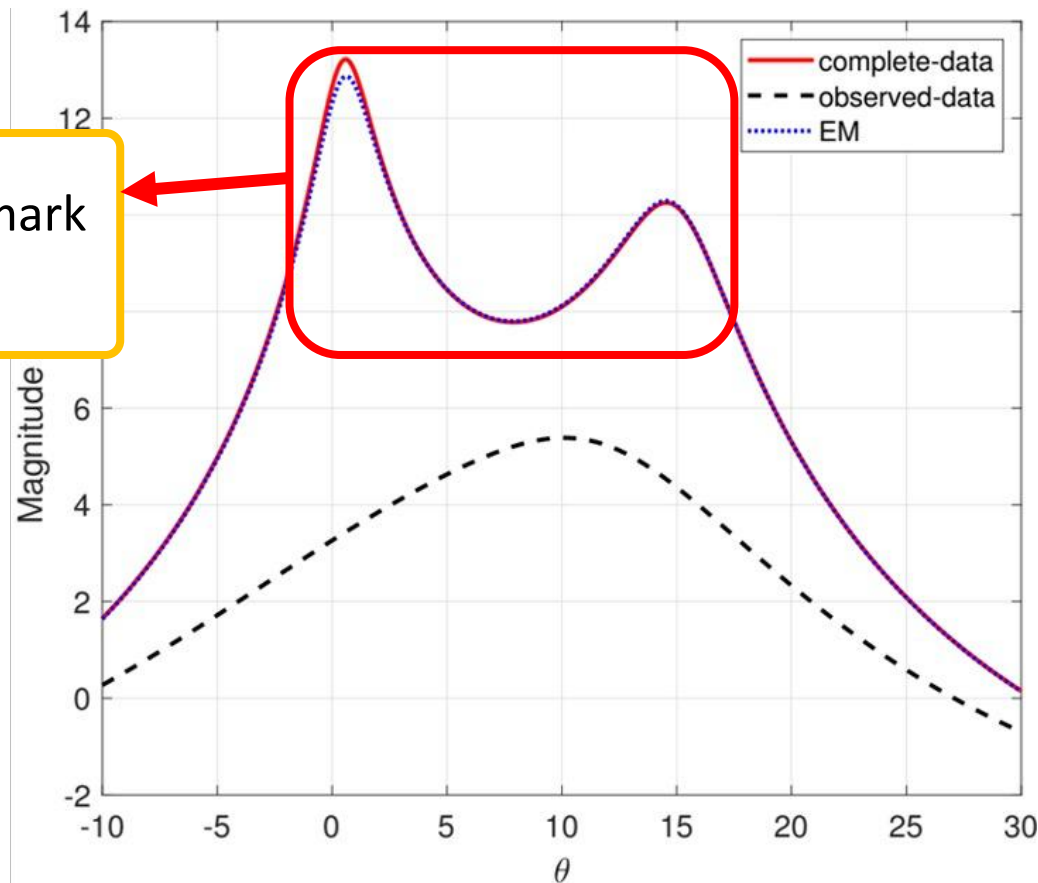
Adaptive Beamforming



- Close-to-benchmark performance

SINR (estimated using $L = 500$ disjoint blocks, each composed of 40 snapshots) versus the number of snapshots.

Detection of sources number



MUSIC Spatial Spectrum on a dataset of 250 samples.

TARGET DETECTION PROBLEM FORMULATION

ideal case (no missing-data)

$$\begin{cases} H_0 : \begin{cases} \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{r}_i = \mathbf{n}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, K \end{cases} \\ H_1 : \begin{cases} \mathbf{r} = \alpha \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{r}_i = \mathbf{n}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, K \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{z}_i = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{r}_i$$

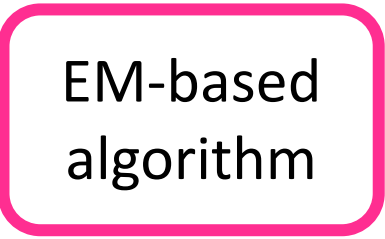
missing-data

missing-data case

$$\begin{cases} H_0 : \begin{cases} \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{z}_i = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{n}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, K \end{cases} \\ H_1 : \begin{cases} \mathbf{z} = \alpha \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{z}_i = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{n}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, K \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

Adaptive Radar Detection in the Presence of Missing-Data [2/3]

H_0 : estimation of $\mathbf{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  Computed by means of the previous EM estimation algorithm

H_1 : estimation of $\mathbf{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ and α   EM-based algorithm

E-step

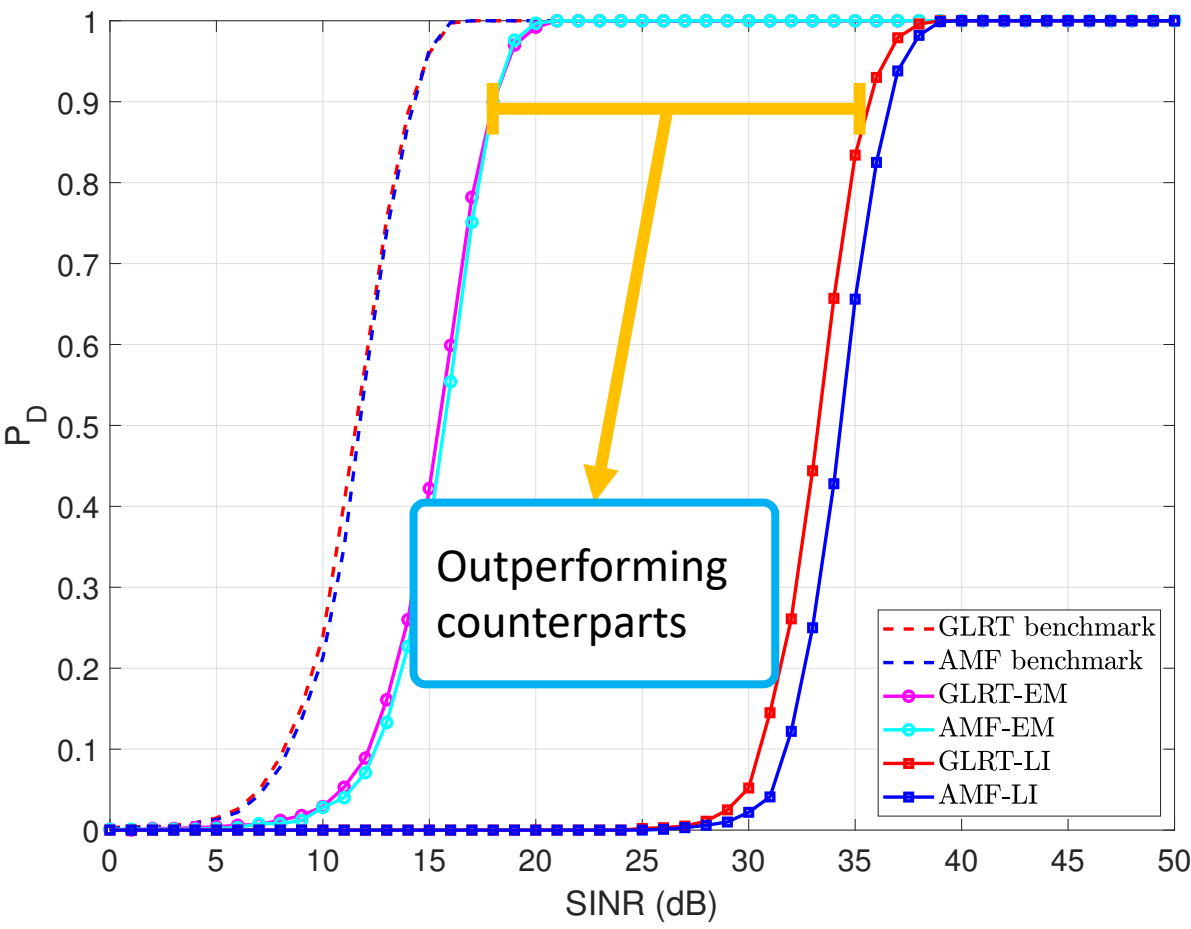
$$Q\left(\alpha, \boldsymbol{\theta} | \alpha^{(h-1)}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(h-1)}\right) = -(K+1) [N \ln(\pi) + \ln(\det(\mathbf{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta})))] \\ - \text{tr} \left\{ \mathbf{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta})^{-1} [(\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(h-1)} - \alpha \mathbf{p})(\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(h-1)} - \alpha \mathbf{p})^\dagger + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(h-1)}] \right\}$$

M-step

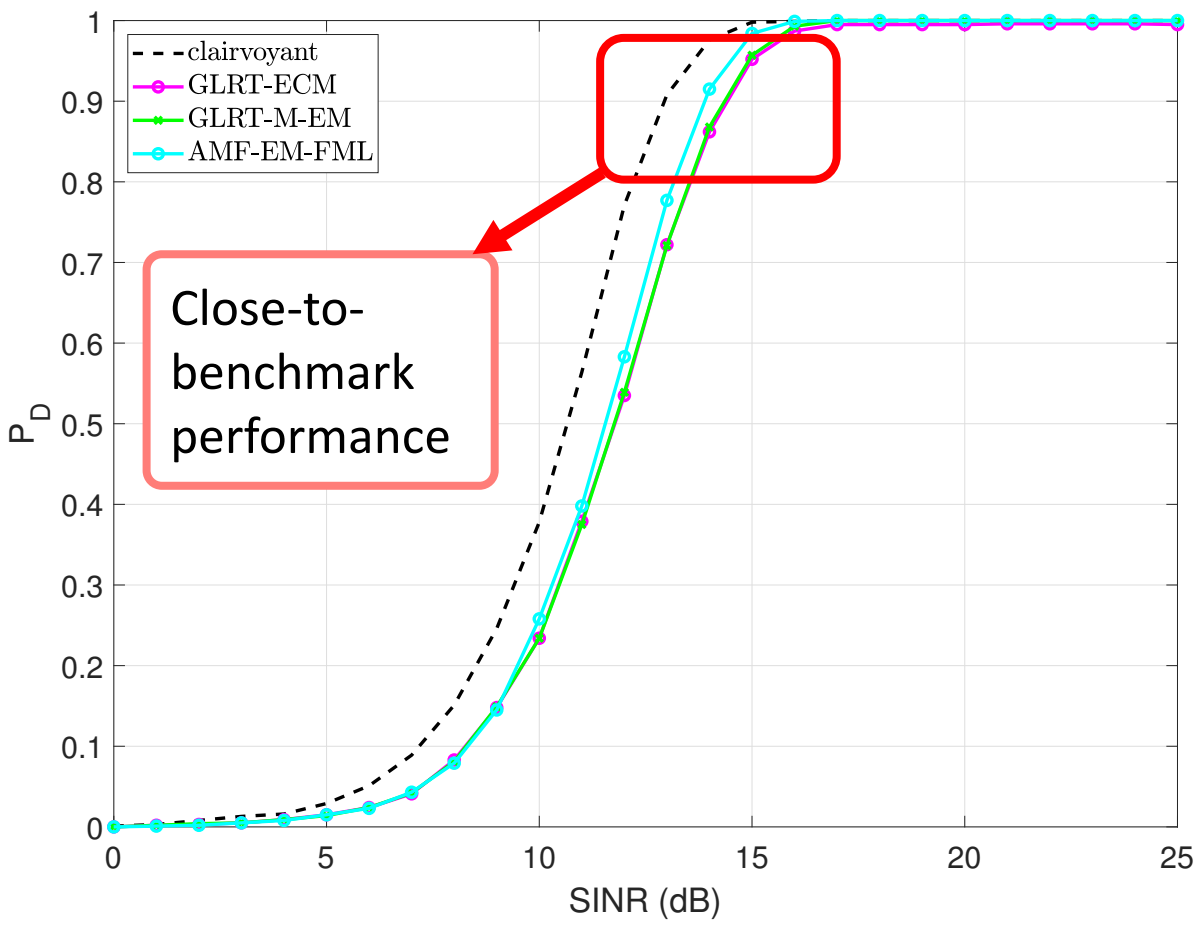
$$\left(\alpha^{(h)}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(h)}\right) = \underset{\alpha, \boldsymbol{\theta}: \mathbf{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \in \mathcal{C}}{\operatorname{argmax}} Q\left(\alpha, \boldsymbol{\theta} | \alpha^{(h-1)}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(h-1)}\right)$$

Devised in closed-form for
some specific covariance
matrix uncertainty set

No specific covariance structure



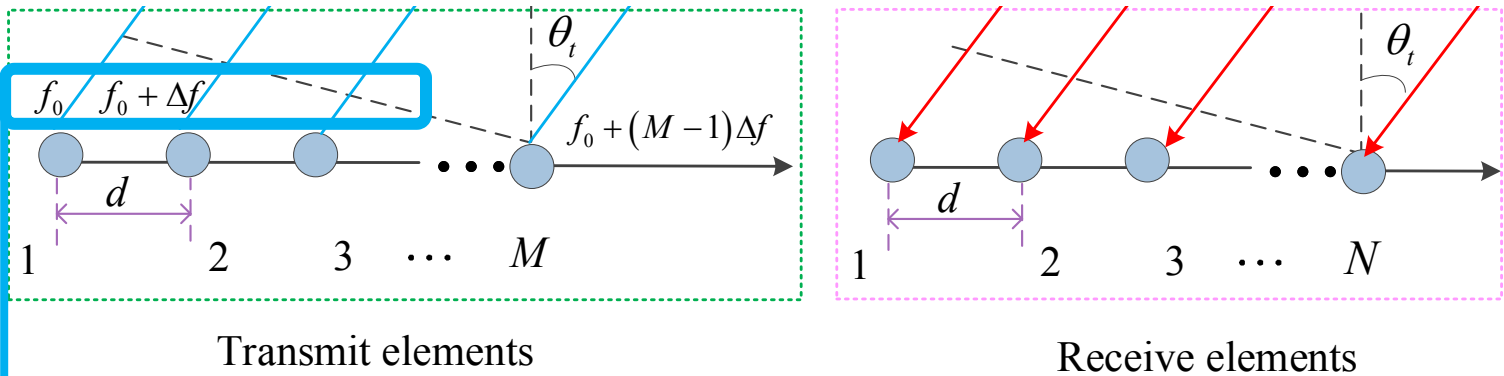
Structured covariance matrix with a lower bound on the white disturbance power level



Single-Snapshot Angle and Incremental Range Estimation for FDA-MIMO Radar

Single-Snapshot Angle and Incremental Range Estimation for FDA-MIMO Radar [1/4]

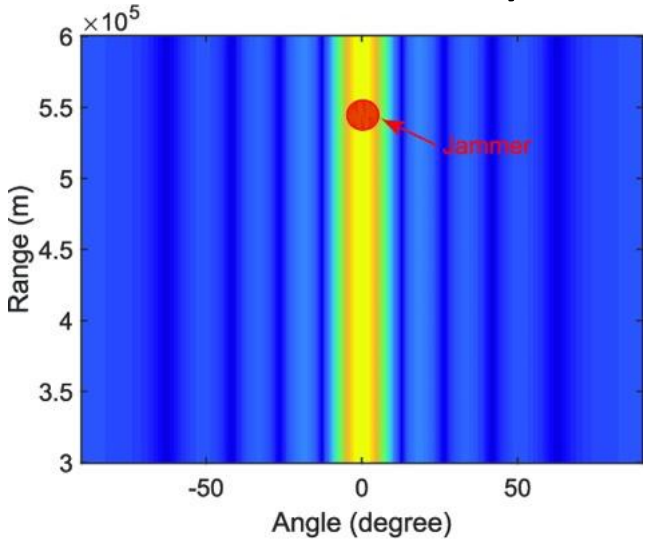
FDA-MIMO Radar System



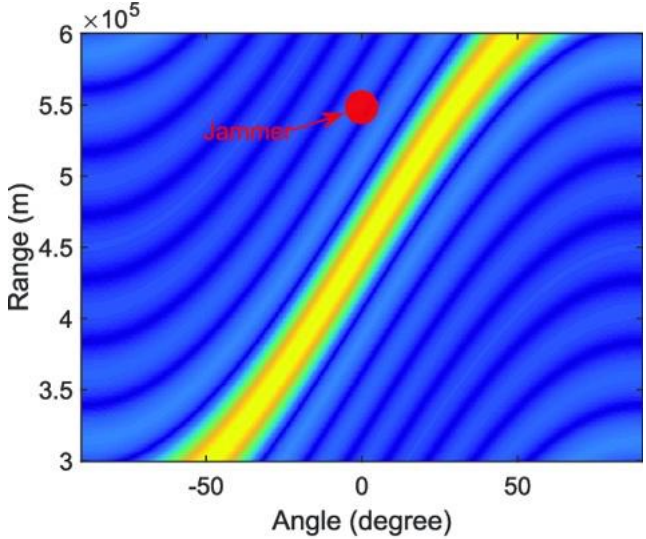
appropriate frequency shifts among Tx elements

range-angle-dependent beampattern

Phased array



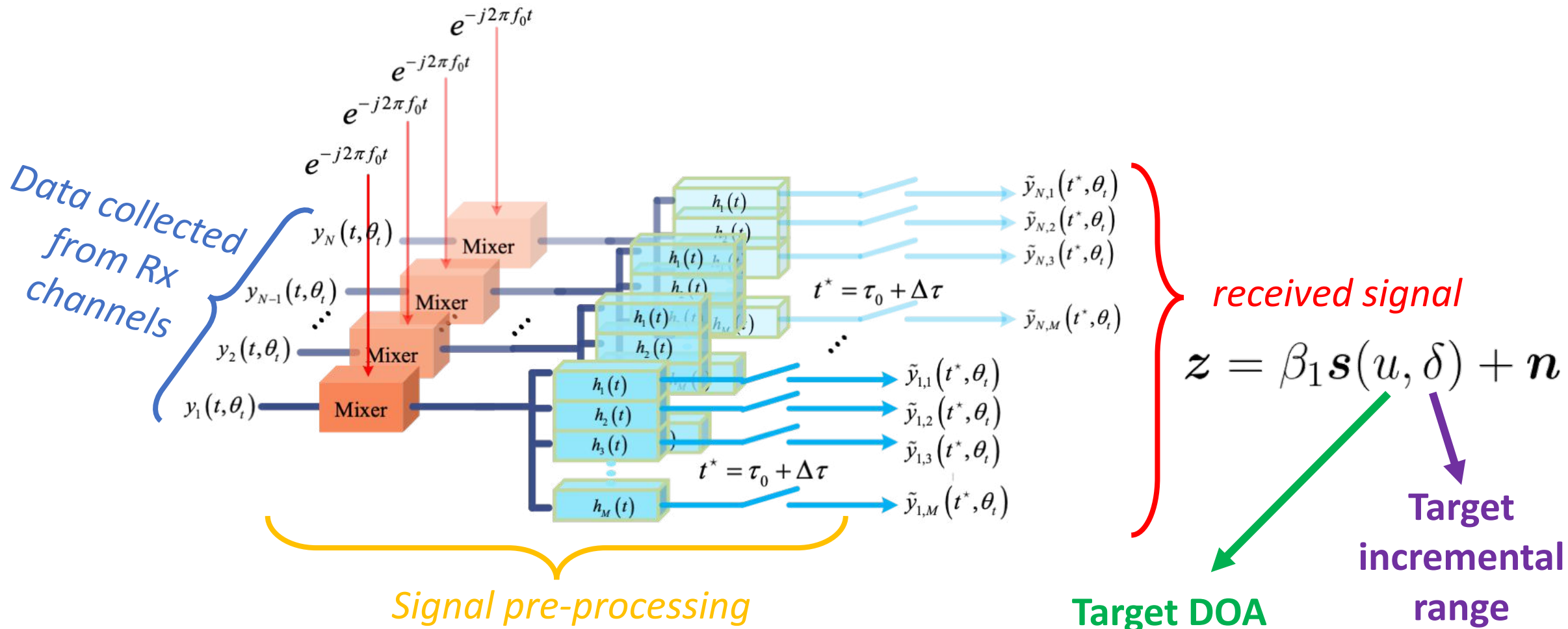
FDA-MIMO



Single-Snapshot Angle and Incremental Range Estimation for FDA-MIMO Radar [2/4]

range-angle-dependent
beampattern

Estimate target range and angle using a
single data snapshot!



Compute the ML estimate of u and δ

Solve

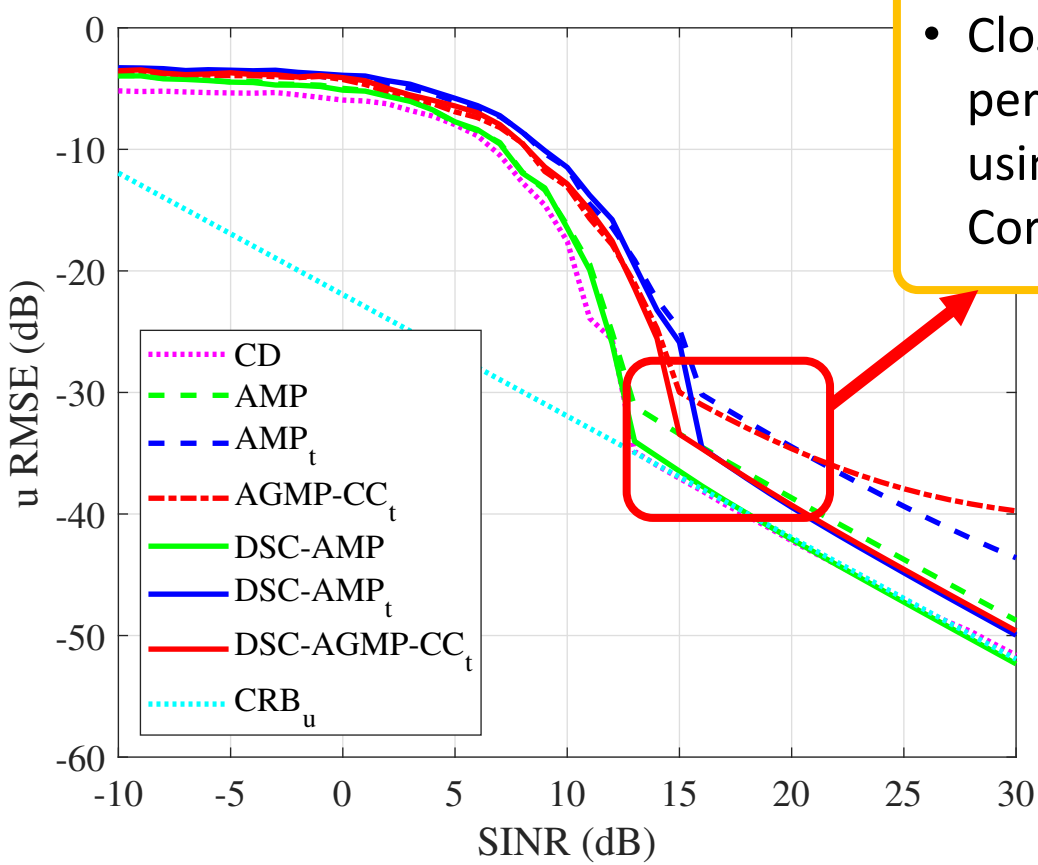
$$\max_{u \in [-1, 1], \delta \in [-\frac{\Delta f}{B}, \frac{\Delta f}{B}]} \frac{|\mathbf{s}^\dagger(u, \delta) \mathbf{Q}^{-1} \mathbf{z}|^2}{\mathbf{s}^\dagger(u, \delta) \mathbf{Q}^{-1} \mathbf{s}(u, \delta)}$$

1. CD-based method
2. Adaptive Monopulse Procedure
3. Adaptive Generalized Monopulse Procedure with Complex Correction

Single-Snapshot Angle and Incremental Range Estimation for FDA-MIMO Radar [4/4]

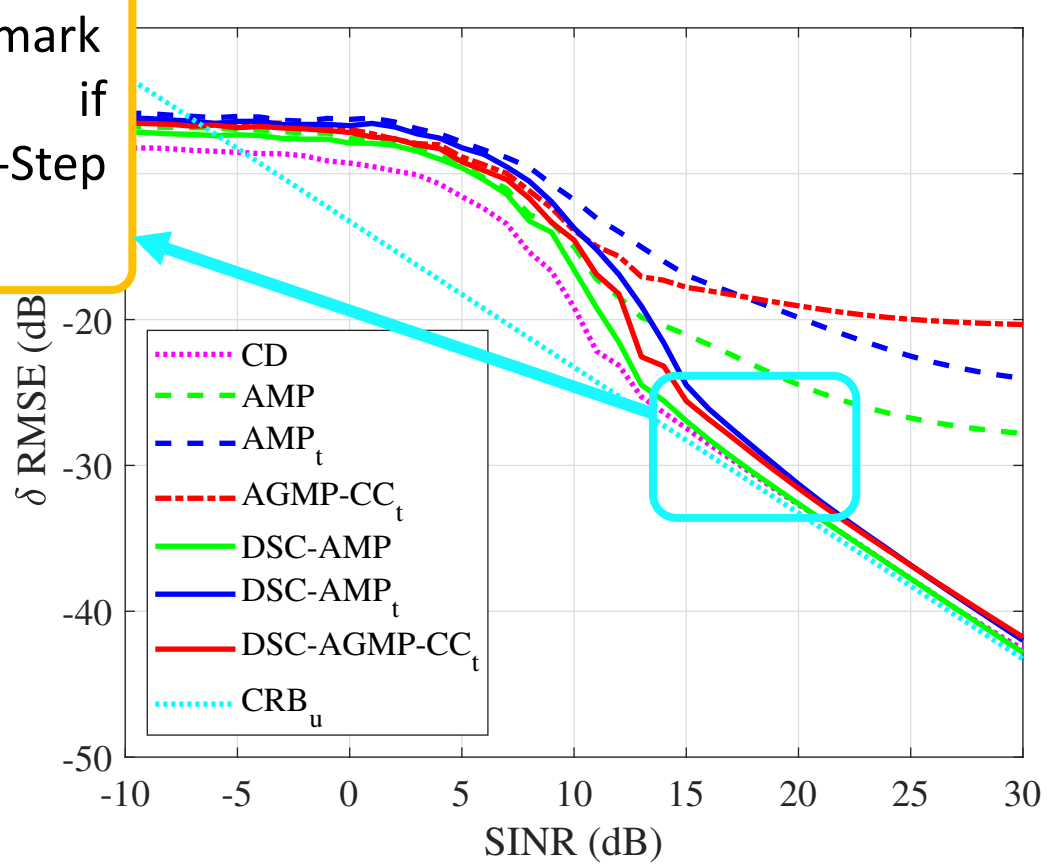
4 Tx and 10 Rx antennas, $B = 1$ MHz, $\Delta f = 0.5$ MHz
2 narrow-band jammers with JNR = 30 dB

RMSE – angle (u) estimation



• Close-to-benchmark performance if using a Double-Step Correction

RMSE – incr. range (δ) estimation



[J1]	A. Aubry, A. De Maio, S. Marano, and M. Rosamilia, " <i>Single-Pulse Simultaneous Target Detection and Angle Estimation in a Multichannel Phased Array Radar</i> ," IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, IEEE TSP, published, 2020.
[J2]	L. Lan, M. Rosamilia, A. Aubry, A. De Maio, and G. Liao, " <i>Single-Snapshot Angle and Incremental Range Estimation for FDA-MIMO Radar</i> ," in IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, IEEE TAES, published, 2021.
[J3]	A. Aubry, A. De Maio, and M. Rosamilia, " <i>Reconfigurable Intelligent Surfaces for N-LOS Radar Surveillance</i> ," in IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology, IEEE TVT, published, 2021.
[J4]	A. Aubry, A. De Maio, S. Marano, and M. Rosamilia, " <i>Structured Covariance Matrix Estimation with Missing-(complex) Data for Radar Applications via Expectation-Maximization</i> ," IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, IEEE TSP, published, 2021.
[J5]	A. Aubry, V. Carotenuto, A. De Maio, M. Rosamilia, and S. Marano, " <i>Adaptive Radar Detection in the Presence of Missing-Data</i> ," IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, IEEE TAES, published, 2022.
[J6]	L. Lan, M. Rosamilia, A. Aubry, A. De Maio, G. Liao, and J. Xu, " <i>Adaptive Target Detection with Polarimetric FDA-MIMO Radar</i> ," IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, IEEE TAES, published, 2022.
[J7]	M. Rosamilia, A. Balleri, A. De Maio, A. Aubry, and V. Carotenuto, " <i>Radar Detection Performance Prediction using Measured UAVs RCS Data</i> ", IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, published, 2022.
[J8]	A. Aubry, A. De Maio, L. Lan, and M. Rosamilia, " <i>Adaptive Radar Detection and Bearing Estimation in the Presence of Unknown Mutual Coupling</i> ", IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, IEEE TSP, published, 2023.

Thanks for the kind attention!