

ONERA THE FRENCH AEROSPACE LAB

MIMO, which applications in radar ?

Marc Lesturgie 3 September 2020

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MIMO Radar

Content

1. Introduction and history of MIMO in radar

- 2. Back to radar principles
- 3. MIMO radar geometry and configuration
- 4. Transmission : signals, power and patterns
- 5. Receiving chain and processing
- 6. Examples of application
- 7. Conclusion



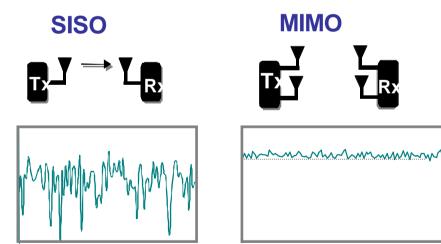


MIMO in Communication & Navigation..

MIMO=Multiple Input Multiple Output

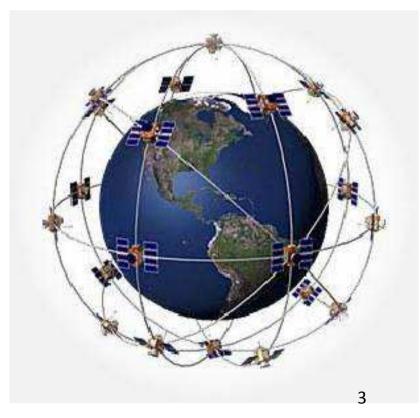
MIMO in communication domain

- In strong multipaths environments :
- Improvement of quality factor
- Reduction of fading probability
- Reduction co-channel interference
- Improvement of data-rate



Space diversity

Navidation domain GPS GNSS

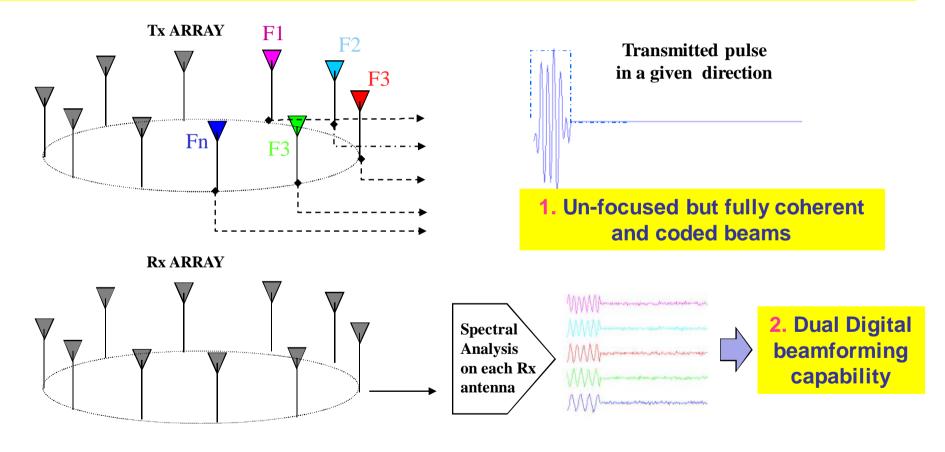


MIMO in Radar (not really new !)



RIAS* / SIAR** by Jacques Dorey (1986) – « Space Frequency » orthogonal coding

The 1st VHF air surveillance radar to defeat stealth and cover from low to high altitudes



Received signals on one antenna

4

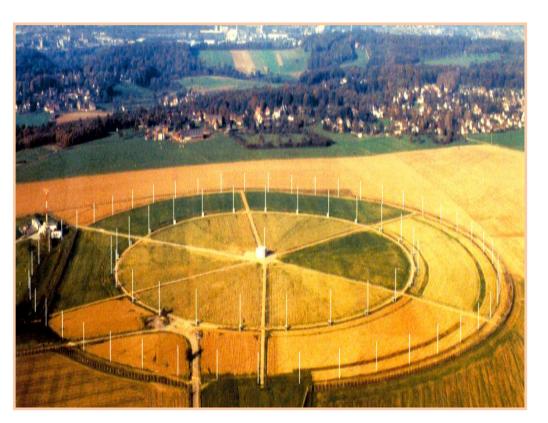
*RIAS : Radar à Impulsion et Antenne Synthétiques ** SIAR : Synthetic Impulse and Antenna Radar



RIAS – Realisations...1987...1990...!



ONERA mock up (1987)



Thales demonstrator (1990)

- VHF band
- 2 imbricated arrays, Vertical polarization
- Application to air surveillance

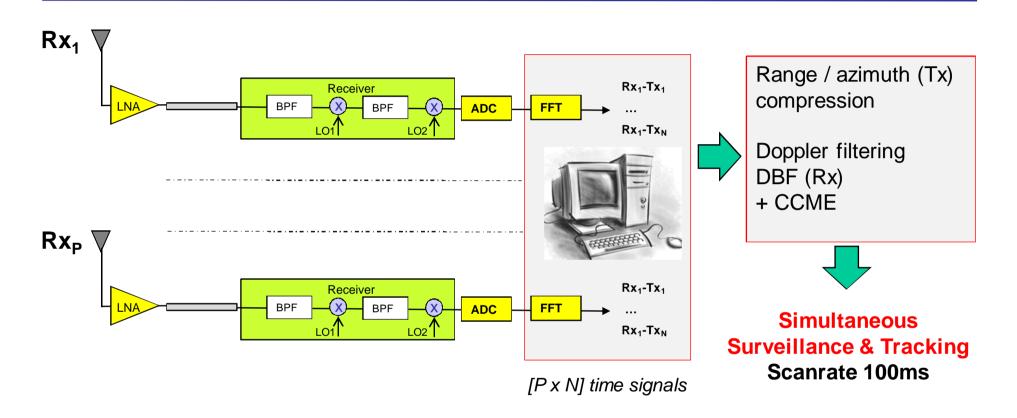


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RIAS Processing



J. Dorey, Y. Blanchard, and F. Christophe, "The RIAS project, a new approach to air surveillance radar," in *Colloque International sur le Radar*, ser. TP, no. 1984-20. Versailles, France: ONERA, 21-24 May 1984, in French.
J. Dorey and G. Garnier, "The RIAS pulsed synthetic-antenna radar," *L'Onde Electrique*, vol. 69, pp. 36–44, Nov-Dec

1989, in French.

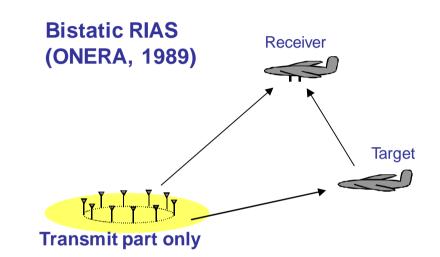
A.-S. Luce, H. Molina, D. Muller, and V. Thirard, "Experimental results on RIAS digital beamforming radar," in *Radar 92. International Conference*, Brighton, UK, Oct. 1992, pp. 74–77.



RIAS, a VOR (or GPS) - inspired radar?

VOR : VHF Omnidirectional Range





In the bistatic configuration, the receiver can detect and localise the target after decoding the signals received from the RIAS emitter, provided :

- (i) Transmitted code sequence is known
- (ii) Time and frequency syncrhonisation are performed



Finally, as a first observation

the common denominator of GPS, VOR, RIAS is

A <u>coherent</u> coding of the position or direction provided by a transmitting infrastructure

A localisation capability from 1 single receiving element if and only if the transmitting code is known

A share of complexity :

- Hardware (and cost!) on Transmit,
- Software complexity (and banalisation?) on Receive

An intrinsic multi-user service (in-principle no limitation of aircrafts, GPS-users)



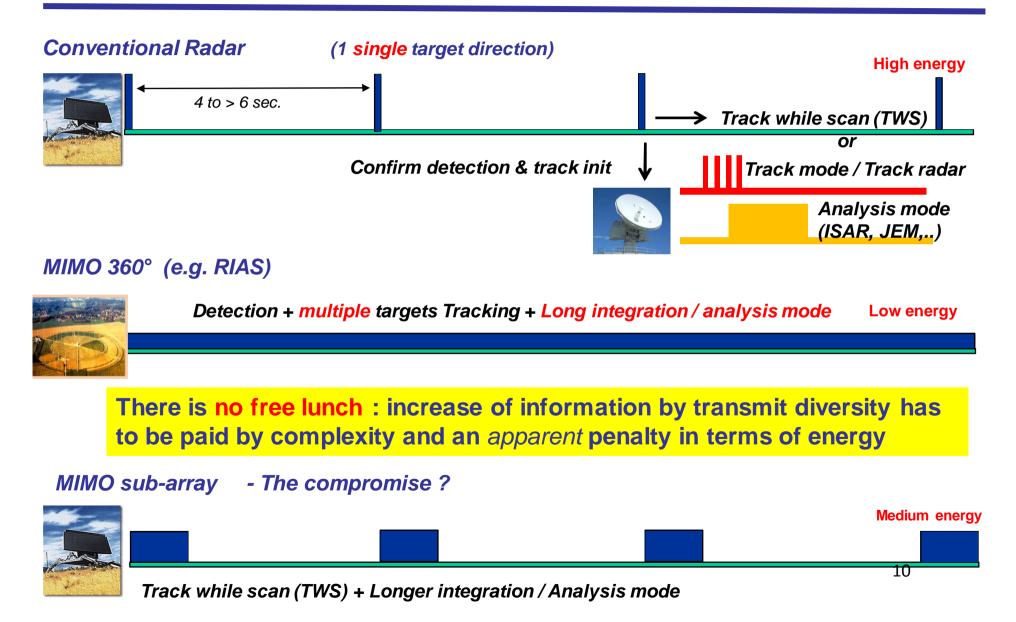
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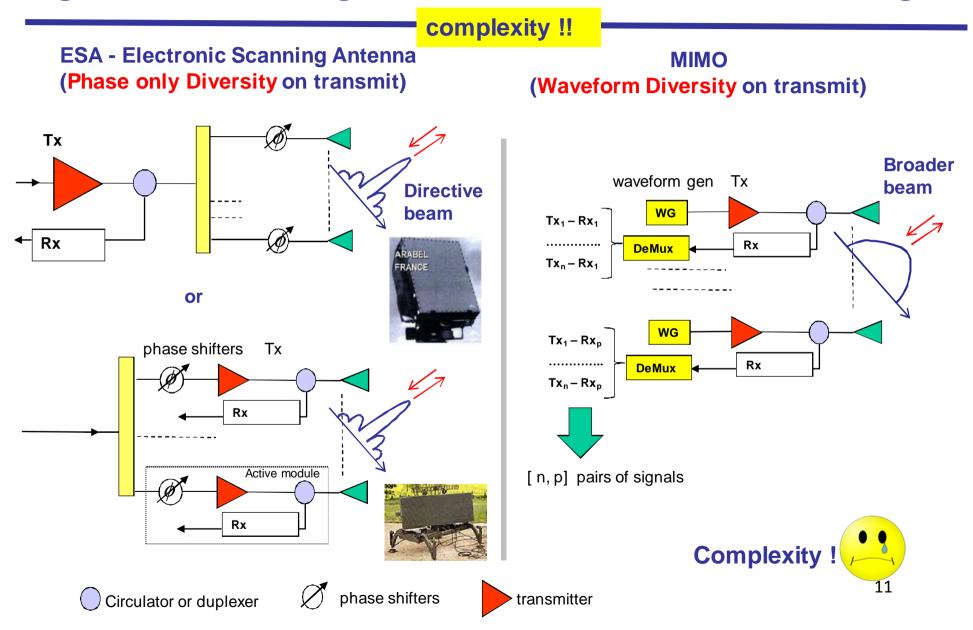


MIMO in radar for air surveillance



Digital Beam Forming on transmit vs. Electronic Scanning

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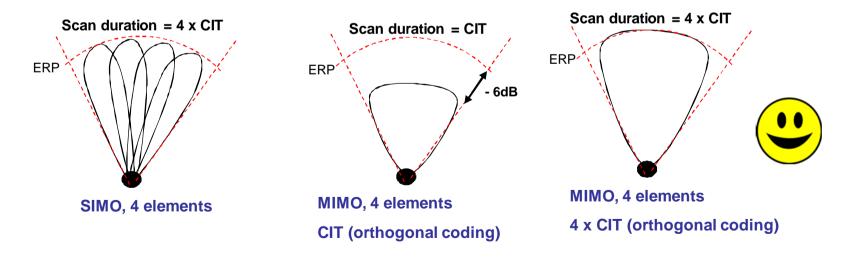


Orthgonal coding is favored as to illuminate all the directions of the airspace within the physical pattern of the individual antenna

- **Compared to electronic beam steering antenna** power budget penalty for MIMO, varies as \underline{N} instead of \underline{N}^2 but all **the directions are illuminated at the same time**.
- → MIMO requires to <u>compensate for the defocusing losses (N)</u>.

••

This can be done by improving the integration time (coherent / integration) which results in an efficient Doppler processing, if the target signature remains coherent

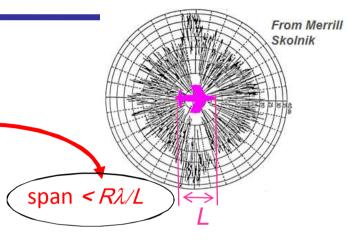


Requires target coherence ! (\rightarrow the case at low frequency, e.g. RIAS), ¹²

Radar, diversity, coherence and configuration ..



- Radar functions (hereafter)
- MIMO : multiple antenna and diversity on transmit
- Coherence : modern radar is coherent (phase processing)
- For air-surveillance mission, diversity (span) on transmit is limited by the variation of the target RCS pattern



The importance of the target model in Radar processing

Radar Mode / Radar technique	Target model	Resolution vs. size	Processing Time scale
1. Surveillance	Point scatter Coherent		10ms to 100ms
2. Tracking	Point scatter Non Coherent		100ms to few seconds
3. ISAR	Multiple Point scatter Coherent		100ms to few seconds
4. SAR	Multiple Point scater Coherent	• •	100ms to few seconds
			13



- 1. History of MIMO in radar and close domains
- 2. Back to radar principles

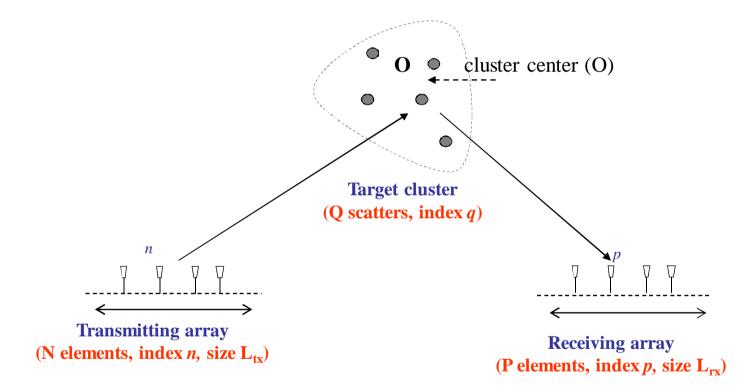
3. MIMO radar geometry and configuration

- 4. Transmission : signals, power and patterns
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Configuration, signal and processing

a MIMO system is a multi-port system with independant access on transmit and receiving sides. By essence, such system allows for **measuring the transfer function between each transmitting element (n of N) and each receiving element (p of P).**



The propagation environment is important and we need to define the cluster of scatterers or targets which are precisely composing the transfert function. 15



The MIMO channel matrix **S**

The channel matrix (S) is the transfert function between each Tx element and each Rx element ;

$S = g_t \alpha g_r$ dim(S)=[N,P]

 \mathbf{g}_{t} contains the transmitting steering vector \mathbf{D}_{T} for each scatter; dim=[N,Q] where Q is the number of scatters, N the number of transmitting elements \mathbf{g}_{r} contains the receiving steering vector \mathbf{D}_{R} for each scatter; dim=[Q,P]

where P is the number of receiving elements

 α is a diagonal matrix which contains the complex amplitude of the Q scatters

$$D_{T} = \begin{bmatrix} d_{1}(\vec{u}_{T}) \\ \vdots \\ d_{N}(\vec{u}_{T}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\int \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \vec{\delta}_{T} \cdot \vec{u}_{T}\right)} \\ \vdots \\ e^{\int \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (N-1) \vec{\delta}_{T} \cdot \vec{u}_{T}\right)} \end{bmatrix} D_{R} = \begin{bmatrix} d_{1}(\vec{u}_{R}) \\ \vdots \\ d_{P}(\vec{u}_{R}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\int \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \vec{\delta}_{R} \cdot \vec{u}_{R}\right)} \\ e^{\int \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \vec{\delta}_{R} \cdot \vec{u}_{T}\right)} \end{bmatrix} MIMO \text{ steering vector} MIMO \text{ steering vector}$$

$$\frac{Transmit}{N \text{ antennas}} \vec{u}_{T} \qquad \vec{u}_{R} \qquad Receive \\ P \text{ antennas}$$

$$\vec{\delta}_{T} \qquad \vec{\delta}_{R} \qquad \vec{\delta}_$$



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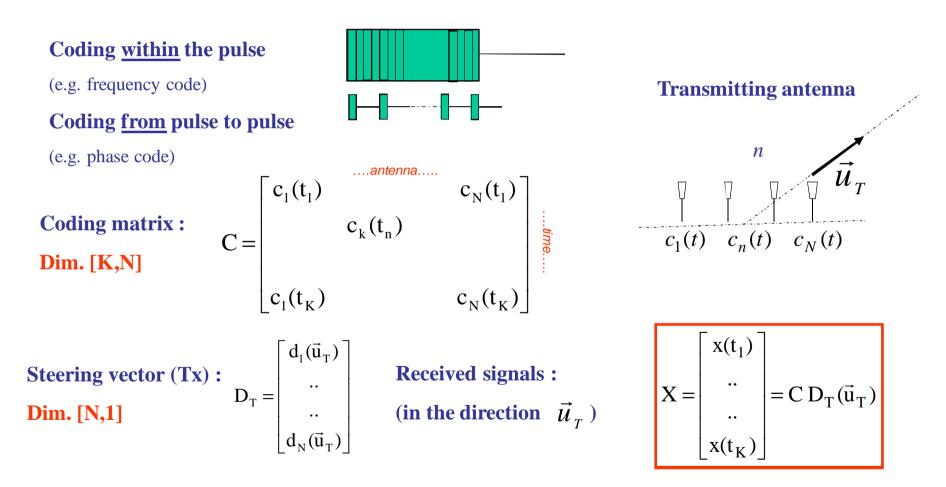
4. Transmission : signals, power and patterns

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Signal Model : the transmitted code

Let's denote C the [K,N] vector and $D_T(\vec{u}_T)$ the steering vector in the direction \vec{u}_T



K is the number of code elements

Dim. [K,1] ¹⁸

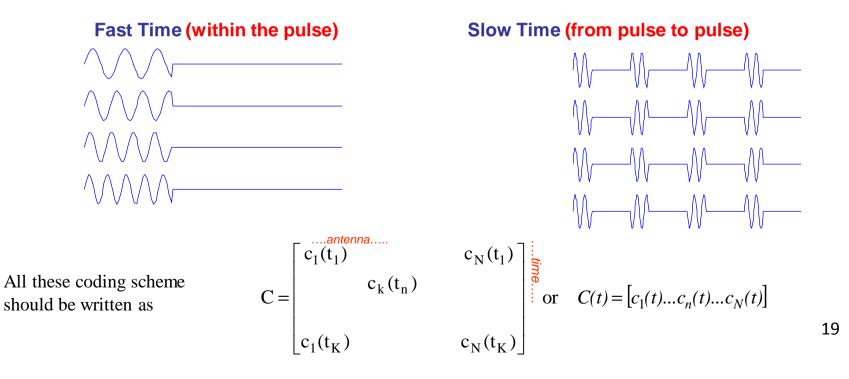
MIMO transmit codes

FT-CDMA : fast-time code division multiple access

ST-CDMA : slow time CDMA

- FDMA : frequency division multiple access
- TDMA: time division multiple access, also randomized TDMA (R-TDMA),
- **DDMA**: Doppler division multiple access,

[Petre Stoica & al.]







Average transmitted power (1)



Since $X = [x(t_1) \dots x(t_K)]^t = C D_T(\vec{u}_T)$ of dimension [K,1] the average transmitted power – over a Code periode – is :

$$P(\vec{u}_{T}) = p(\vec{u}_{T}) X^{H} X = p(\vec{u}_{T}) D_{T}(\vec{u}_{T})^{H} C^{H} C. D_{T}(\vec{u}_{T}) = p(\vec{u}_{T}) D_{T}(\vec{u}_{T})^{H} R_{CC} D_{T}(\vec{u}_{T})$$

 $p(\vec{u}_T)$: ERP of individual element

With $R_{CC} = C^{H}C$ correlation matrix of the code

EXAMPLES

Orthogonal codes (RIAS case)Fully correlated codes (Scanning antenna)

$$C^{H}C \approx Id$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$P(\vec{u}_{T}) = p(\vec{u}_{T})N$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} D_{T}(\vec{u}_{0}) & \dots & D_{T}(\vec{u}_{0}) \end{bmatrix}^{T}$$

$$P(\vec{u} = \vec{u}_{0}) = p(\vec{u}_{0})N^{2}$$

Different "equivalent" array factors POWER PENALTY for "pure orthogonal" MIMO

20



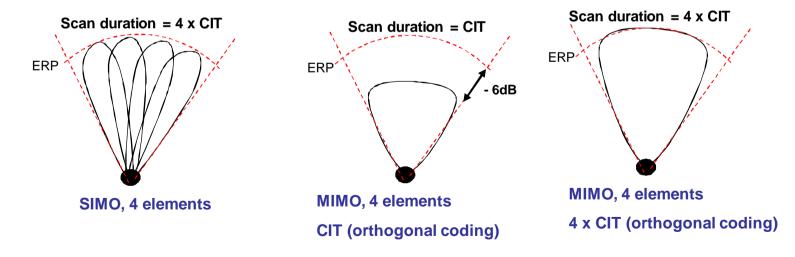
Average transmitted power (2)

Compared to electronic beam steering antenna power budget penalty for MIMO, varies as N instead of N²

but all the directions are illuminated at the same time.

For a **given set of power budget parameters**, (total emitted power, gain, noise figure, ..) MIMO requires to **compensate the defocusing losses.**

This can be done by improving the integration time (coherent / integration)



If and only if the target signal remain coherent across the increased CIT ^[21]

Example of transmit pattern (1)

Examples of code - fixed scanning antenna (n=32)

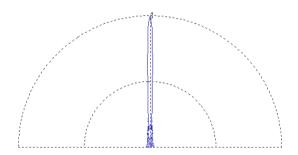
$$C = \begin{bmatrix} D_{T}(\vec{u}_{0}) & \dots & D_{T}(\vec{u}_{0}) \end{bmatrix}^{t}$$

with
$$\begin{cases} d_{n}(\vec{u}_{0}) = \exp(-j\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}\vec{r}_{n}.\vec{u}_{0}) \\ d_{n}(\vec{u}_{0}) = \exp(-j\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}n\vec{\delta}.\vec{u}_{0}) & \text{for ULA case} \end{cases}$$

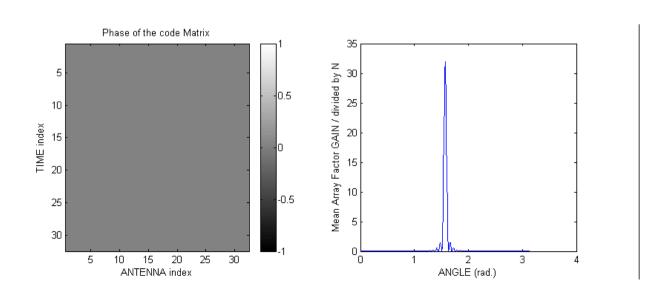


Display of the instantaneous « temporal pattern »

 Y
 Y



 $\vec{\delta}$



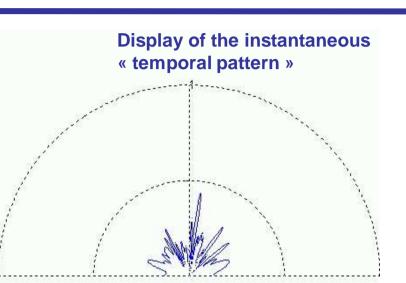


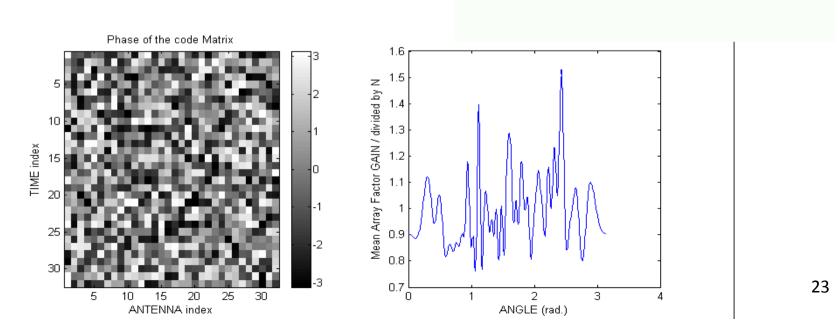
Example of transmit pattern (2)

Examples of code - random Phase Code (n=32)

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} \dots & \exp(j2\pi rand) & \dots \\ \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

-

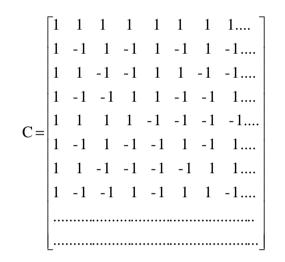




Example of transmit pattern (3)



Examples of code - Hadamard Code (n=32)



Phase of the code Matrix

10

20

25

30

10

5

15

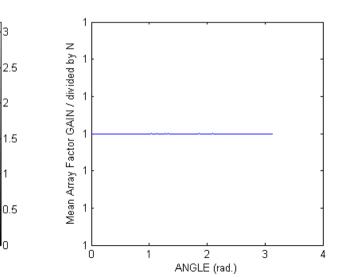
ANTENNA index

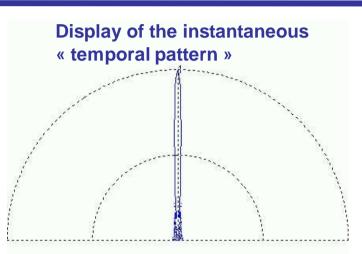
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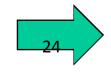
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TIME index











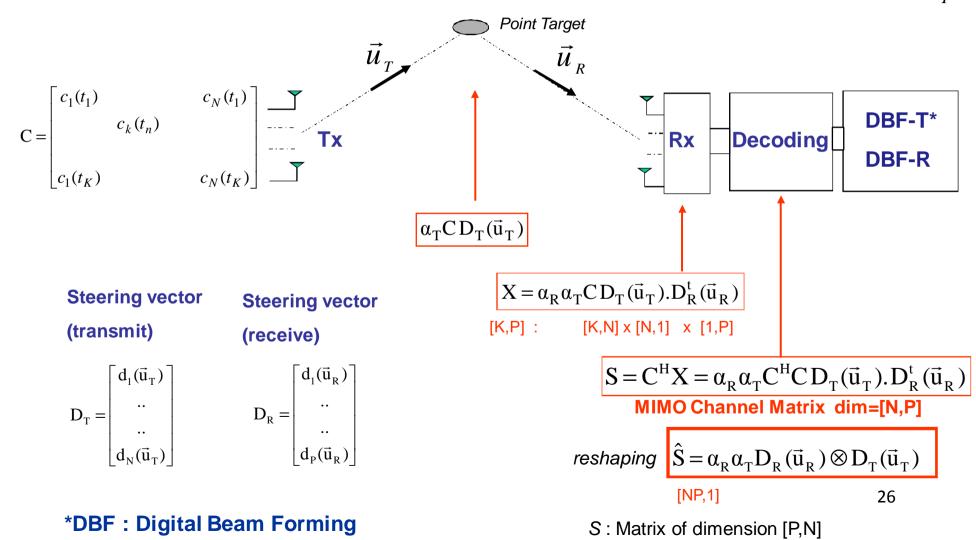
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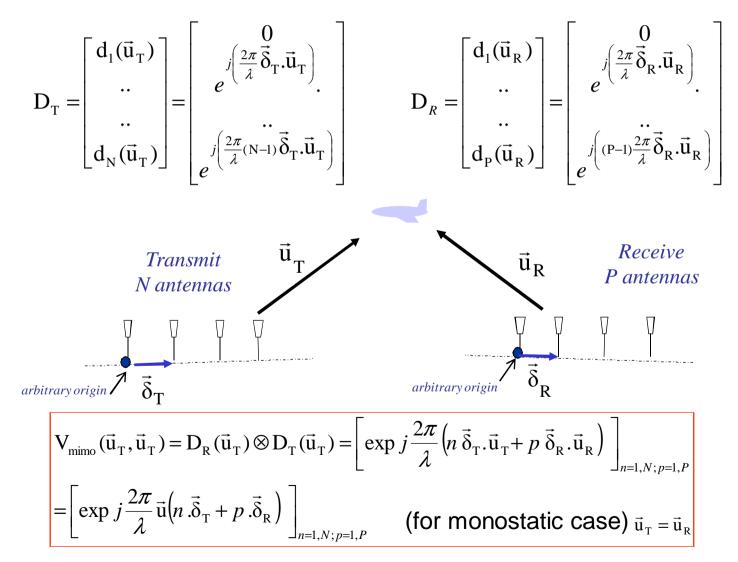
MIMO Signal chain : DBF*-T and DBF-R

Let's denote C the [N,K] code matrix and $D_T(\vec{u}_T)$ the steering vector in the direction \vec{u}



The MIMO steering vector (1)

ULAs case (as an example)

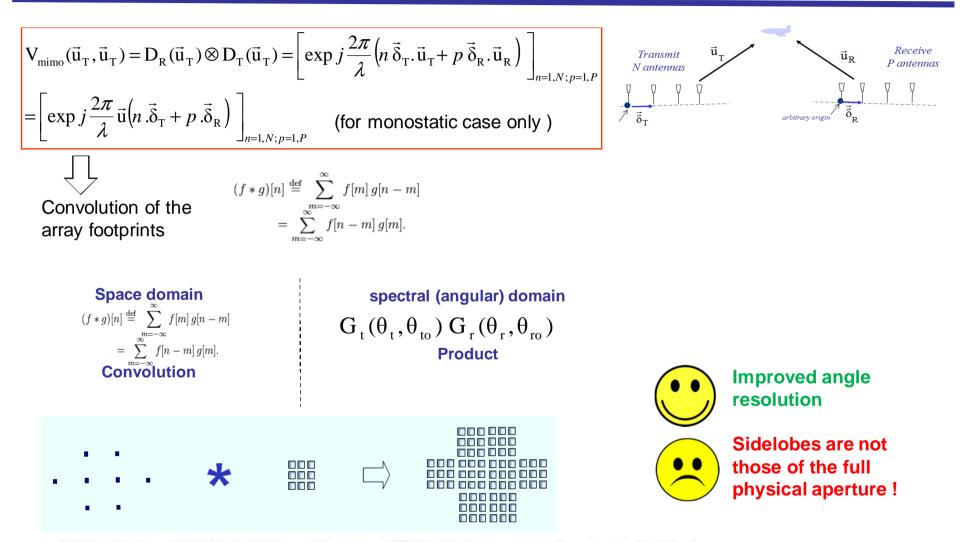




27



The MIMO steering vector (2)

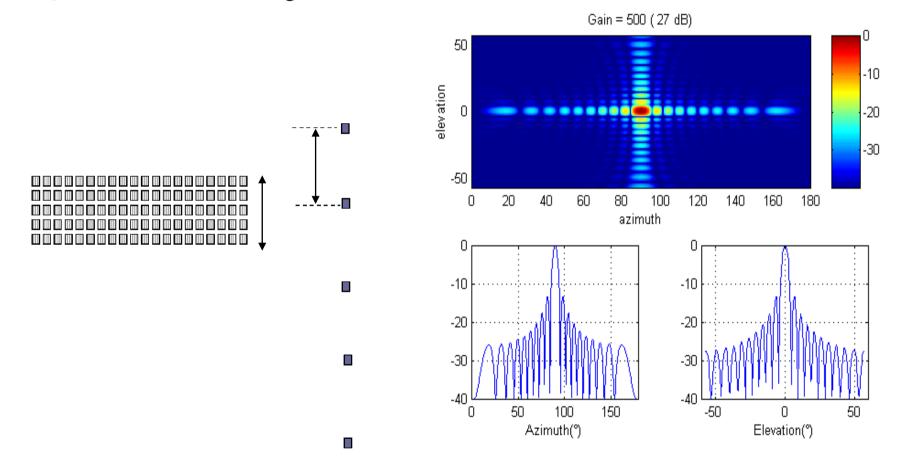


F. Robey, S. Coutts, D. Weikle, J. McHarg, and K. Cuomo, "MIMO radar theory and experimental results," in *Signals, Systems and Computers, 2004. Conference Record of the Thirty-Eighth Asilomar Conference on*, vol. 1, Nov. 2004, pp. 300–304 Vol.1.



Example of MIMO « Tx & Rx » pattern

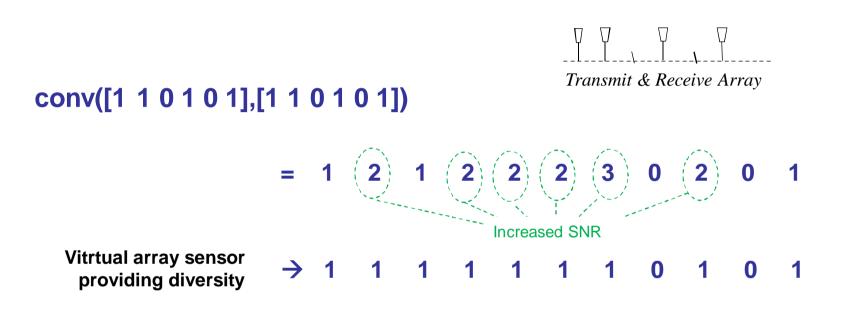
Quasi-monostatic configuration



Conventional digital beam-forming, based on <u>direct compensation</u> of the geometric phase, at each antenna of the transmit and receive array. 29



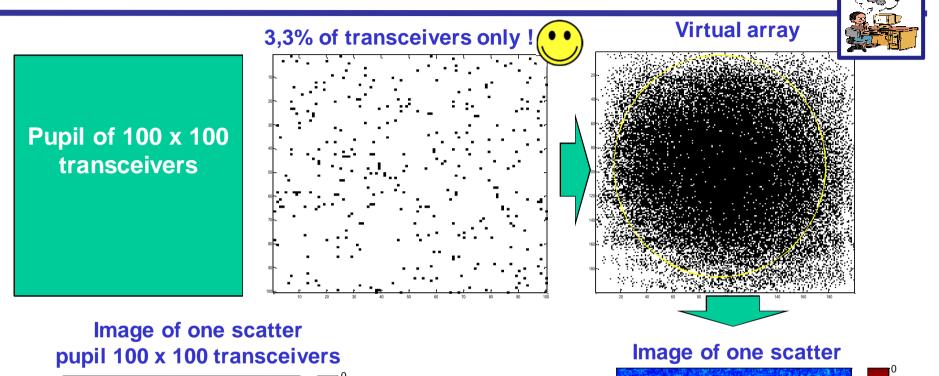
Information (diversity) vs. SNR

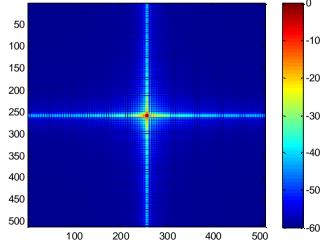


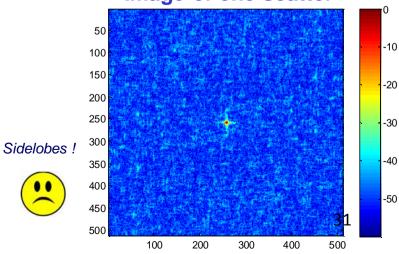
If we keep only the Tx/Rx pairs of different virtual positions, the SNR is reduced but the directivity can be enhanced.

However, the possibilities in 1D are rather limited...

A simple example in 2D







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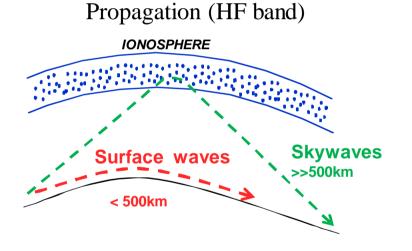
7. Conclusion

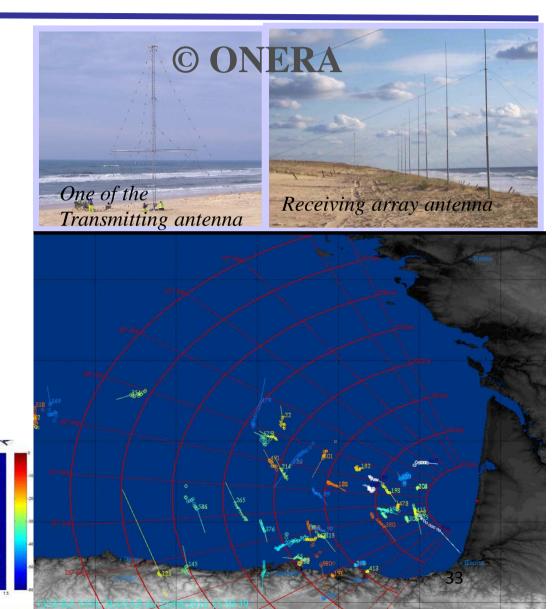


Example 1 : HF Surface Waves Radar (HFSWR)

ROS - The French HFSWR

Maritime surveillance of altlantic ocean and mediterranean sea





3 main limitations

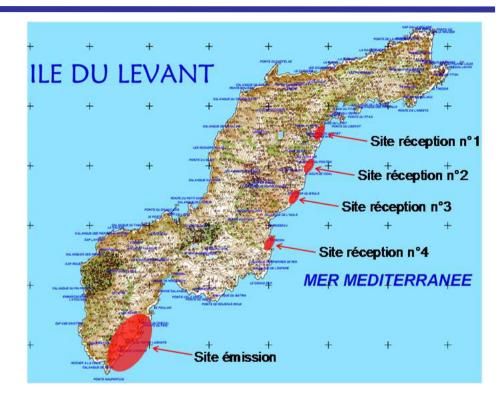
- Low Azimut resolution
- Range resolution
- Small boat vs clutter

In HFSWR, targets extrems must be separated from strong a childerreforms. This requires a very loss CIF F-1 to 2 and



Example 1: HFSWR based on MIMO technology

- MIMO virtual antenna of 2500m
- 1 Tx site (4 antennas)
- 4 Rx sites (8 antennes)
- Dual fréquency mode (5 / 9MHz)
- Remote control from main land

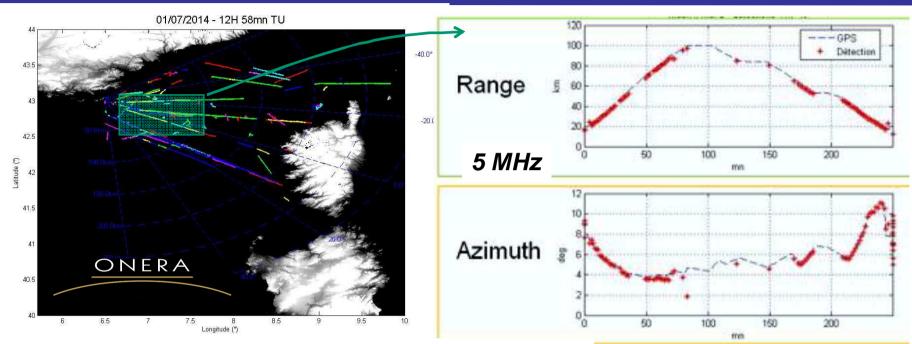


F. Jangal , M. Menelle "French HFSWR contribution to the European integrated maritime surveillance system I2C", IET radar conference, Hangzhou, October 2015.



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Example 1 : HFSWR based on MIMO technology

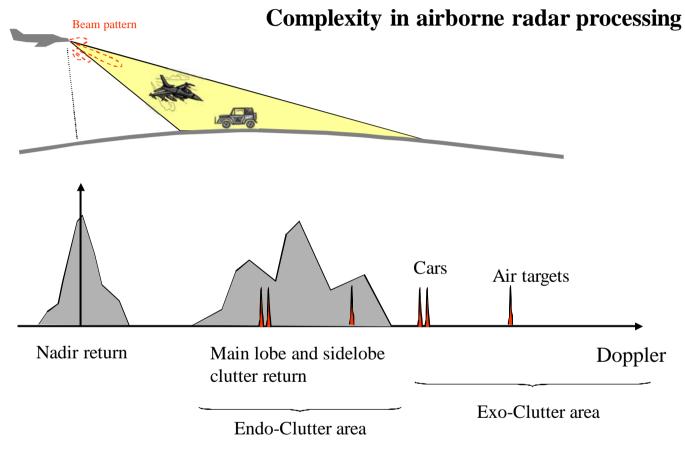


F. Jangal , M. Menelle "French HFSWR contribution to the European integrated maritime surveillance system I2C", IET radar conference, Hangzhou, October 2015





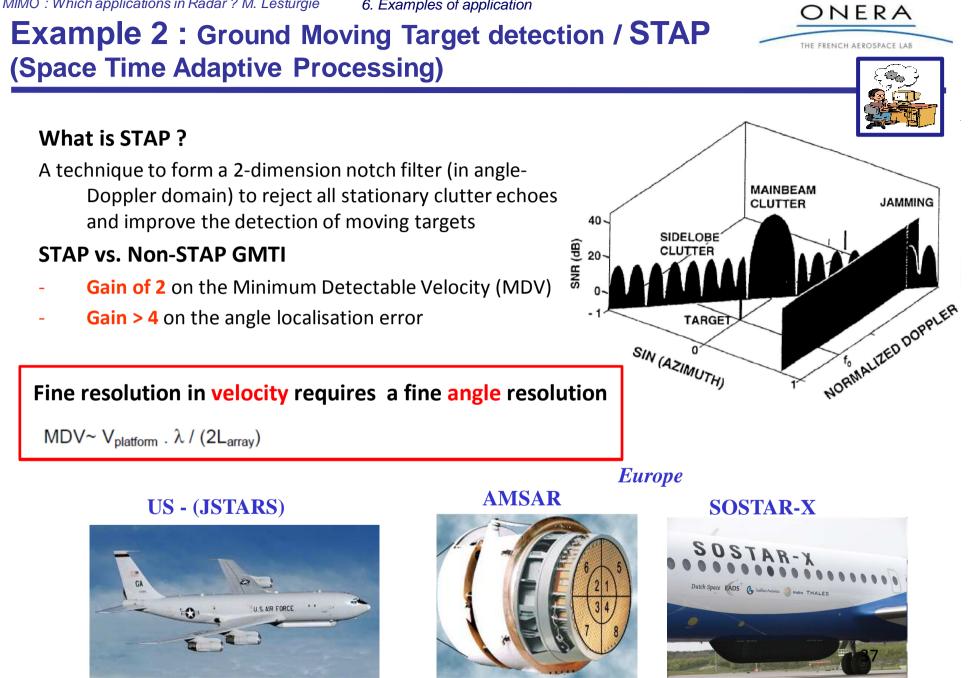
Example 2 : Ground Moving Target detection / **STAP** (Space Time Adaptive Processing)



(can include air target difficult to detect)

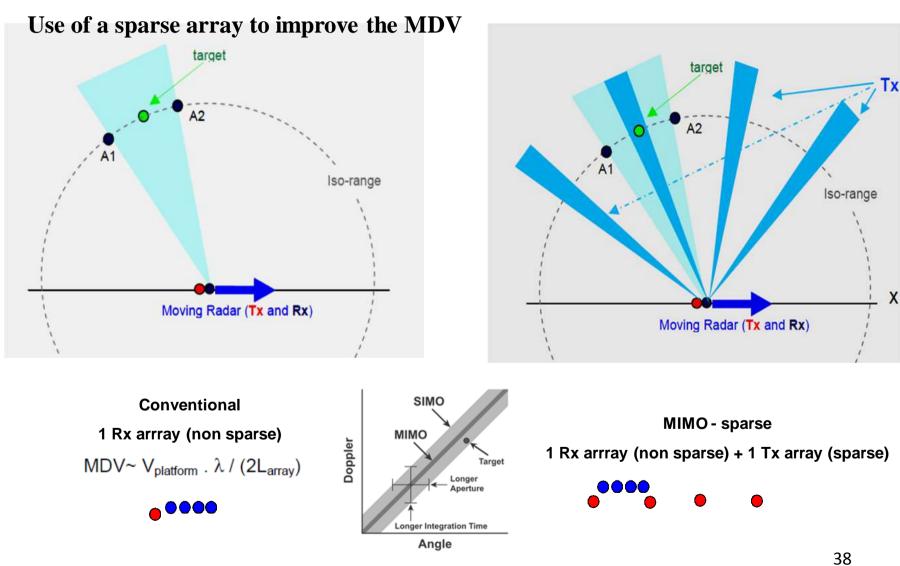
New processing schemes are considered to mitigate clutter contamination, both for air and ground targets : STAP (Space Time Adaptive Processing)





Example 2 : MIMO – STAP – sparse & non sparse array (1)

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This configuration can be helpful to improve the MDV of low frequency airborne radar

Example 2 : MIMO – STAP – sparse & non sparse array (2)

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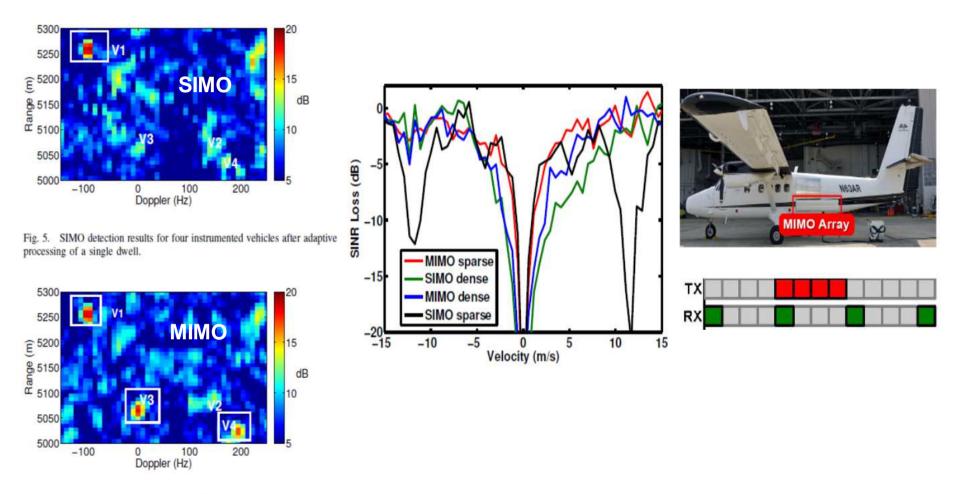
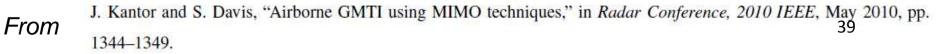


Fig. 6. DDMA MIMO detections for four instrumented vehicles after adaptive processing in a single dwell.

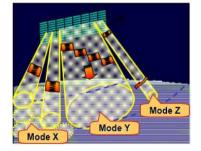


Example 3 : MIMO in future space borne SAR (1)

State-of-the-art on spaceborne SAR imaging

	State of the Art	Imaging Mode (single pol)		
	(TerraSAR-X)	ScanSAR	Stripmap	Spotlight
	Resolution	16 m	3 m	1 m
	Swath Width	100 km	30 km	10 km
-	Orbit Duty Cycle	3 mi	nutes per	orbit





Future	Imagir	Imaging Mode (quad pol)		
Requirements	Mode X	Mode Y	Mode Z	
Resolution	5 m	1 m	<< 1 m	
Swath Width	400 km	100 km	30 km	
Orbit Duty Cycle	30 m	30 minutes per orbit		

From :

Digital Beamforming and MIMO SAR: Review and New Concepts

G. Krieger, M. Younis, S. Huber, F. Bordoni, A. Patyuchenko, J. Kim, P. Laskowski, M. Villano, T. Rommel, P. Lopez-Dekker, and A. Moreira DLR, Microwaves and Radar Institute, Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany

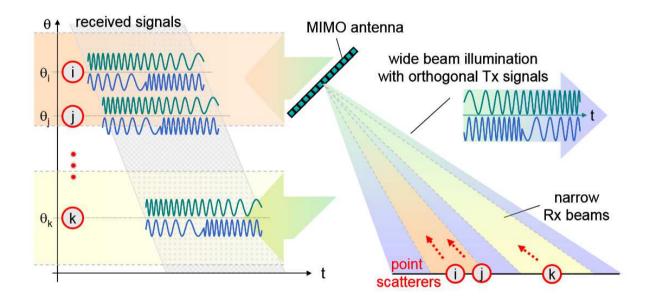




Example 3 : MIMO in future space borne SAR (2)

Issue on selection of orthorgonal waveform.

Non orthogonal waveform generates cross-correlation products / interference between the channels Strong and diffuse scattering may affect the quality of the image in the region where the orthogonality is not perfect.



Two-transmitter diversity is used to extend the high resolution wide swath (HRWS)

Digital Beamforming and MIMO SAR: Review and New Concepts

G. Krieger, M. Younis, S. Huber, F. Bordoni, A. Patyuchenko, J. Kim, P. Laskowski, M. Villano, T. Rommel, P. Lopez-Dekker, and A. Moreira DLR, Microwaves and Radar Institute, Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany

From :

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Example 4 : milimeter-waves radar

A STAND-OFF 35GHz BODY SCANNER

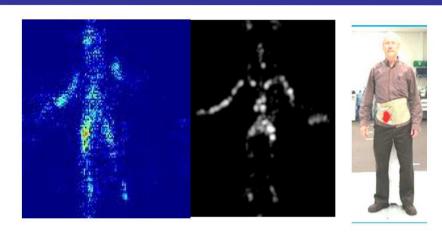
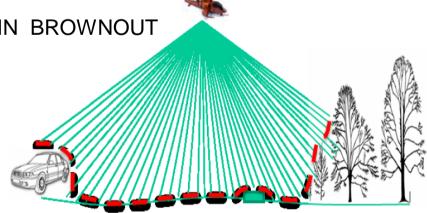


Figure 2. (a) A Raw body Image, (b) With four-look speckle reduction, (c) Cross polar returns from a hidden simulated target, superimposed on a visual image

A MIMO RADAR FOR LANDING HELICOPTERS IN BROWNOUT (multi-beam radar altimeter)

T-shape array TDMA, X (24 x 24) or Ka (32 x 32)

From : MIMO Radar Developments at Teledyne Australia , I. Dennis Longstaff , Halappa Ashoka , Troy Kilpatrick *, Radar 2013 Conference, Adelaide



6. Examples of application



Other examples

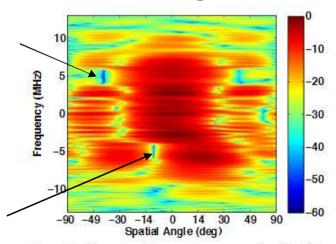
Urban environment

J Yu, J Krolik, "Simultaneous target and multipath positioning with MIMO radar", IET Radar 2012 conference

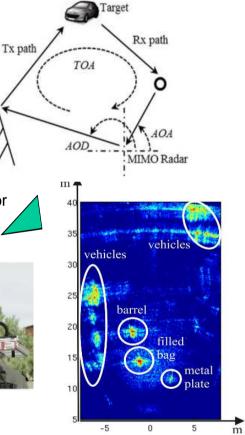
J Yu, J Krolik, "MIMO multipath clutter mitigation for GMTI automotive radar in urban environments, "IET Radar 2012 conference

A J Kirschner, J Guetlein, S Bertl, J Detlefsen, "A millimetre-wave MIMO radar system for threat detection in patrol or checkpoint scenarios", IET Radar 2012 conference

Interferences mitigation







T Higgins, T Webster, A K Shackelford, "Mitigating interference via spatial and spectral nulls", IET Radar 2012 conference

Figure 11: Normalized beam pattern power (in dB) of the chirp waveform with space-frequency nulls at -10° and -5 MHz, 60° and 0 MHz, and both -40° and 40° at 5 MHz, four-channel experimental configuration.

7. Conclusion



Conclusion

Pros	Cons E : engineering issue P : physical limitation
 Resolution enhancement or Undersampling of array manifold antenna Access to new information (Doppler, permanent track while scan) Key enabler for low freq radar 	 Complexity : Waveform, processing (E) SNR to compensate (P+E) Diffuse clutter suppression (P+E) Coherence of the target response (P)

Potential applications

- Low frequency air surveillance radar (1,2,3,4 -,-,-,-)
- Short range radar (-,2,-,- -,-,-)
- Air defense radar in combination with conventional scanning (-,-,3,- -,2,-,4)
- STAP at low frequency (1,2,-,4 1,-,3,-)
- Space borne SAR MIMO : very challenging (-,-,3,- 1,-,3,-)