



Presentation of the paper  
“The Generalized Correlation  
Method for Estimation of Time Delay”

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# Paper presents.....

- Five Generalized Cross-Correlation function which differs in Weighting functions.
- Five processors are compared to outline their inherent relationships.
- Pros and cons of each processors.
- Interpretation of Low SNR of ML Estimator.

# Need for Estimation of Time Delay

- First stage that feeds into subsequent processing blocks for identifying, localizing, and tracking radiating sources.
- Time delay estimation has been a research topic of significant practical importance in many fields (radar, sonar, seismology, geophysics, ultrasonics, hands-free communications, etc.)
- Target localization by sonar systems and position estimation by radio navigation systems.

# Introduction

Two spatially separated sensors can be mathematically modeled as below.

$$x_1(t) = s_1(t) + n_1(t)$$

$$x_2(t) = \alpha s_1(t + D) + n_2(t),$$

where  $s_1(t)$ ,  $n_1(t)$ , and  $n_2(t)$  are real, jointly stationary random processes. Signal  $s_1(t)$  is assumed to be uncorrelated with noise  $n_1(t)$  and  $n_2(t)$ .

$$R_{x_1 x_2}(\tau) = E[x_1(t) x_2(t - \tau)],$$

$$\hat{R}_{x_1 x_2}(\tau) = \frac{1}{T - \tau} \int_{\tau}^T x_1(t) x_2(t - \tau) dt,$$

- The time shift causing the peak is an estimate of the true delay  $D$

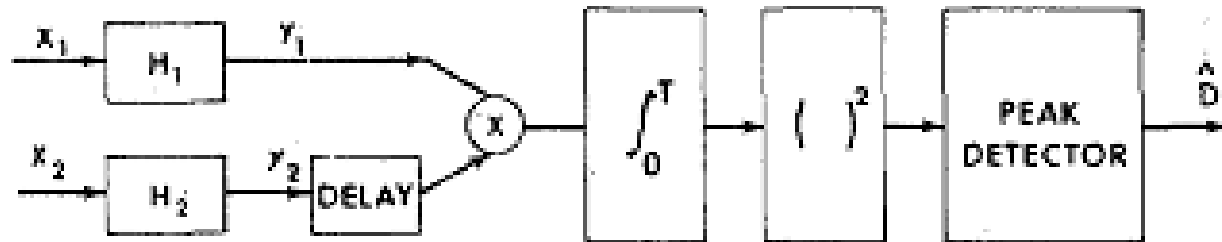


Fig. 1. Received waveforms filtered, delayed, multiplied, and integrated for a variety of delays until peak output is obtained.

$$R_{x_1, x_2}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G_{x_1, x_2}(f) e^{j2\pi f\tau} df.$$

$$R_{y_1, y_2}^{(g)}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_g(f) G_{x_1, x_2}(f) e^{j2\pi f\tau} df,$$

where

$$\psi_g(f) = H_1(f) H_2^*(f)$$

# Processor Interpretation

- Cross Correlation of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$

$$R_{x_1 x_2}(\tau) = \alpha R_{s_1 s_1}(\tau - D) + R_{n_1 n_2}(\tau).$$

Fourier Transform of above gives

$$G_{x_1 x_2}(f) = \alpha G_{s_1 s_1}(f) e^{-j2\pi fD} + G_{n_1 n_2}(f).$$

One interpretation is that the delta function has been spread by the Fourier transform of signal spectrum.

# I. Roth Processor

- The weighting proposed by Roth

$$\psi_R(f) = \frac{1}{G_{x_1, x_1}(f)}$$

- Cross Correlation is given by

$$\hat{R}_{y_1 y_2}^{(R)}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\hat{G}_{x_1 x_2}(f)}{G_{x_1 x_1}(f)} e^{j2\pi f\tau} df.$$

$$R_{y_1 y_2}^{(R)}(\tau) = \delta(\tau - D) \otimes \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha G_{s_1 s_1}(f)}{\{G_{s_1 s_1}(f) + G_{n_1 n_1}(f)\}} e^{j2\pi f\tau} df.$$

- Desirable effect of suppressing those frequency regions where  $G_{n_1 n_1}(f)$  is large.

# Smoothed Coherence Transform(SCOT)

- SCOT selects

$$\psi_s(f) = 1/\sqrt{G_{x_1 x_1}(f) G_{x_2 x_2}(f)}.$$

- This weighting gives the SCOT

$$\hat{R}_{y_1 y_2}^{(s)}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{\gamma}_{x_1 x_2}(f) e^{j2\pi f\tau} df,$$

where

$$\hat{\gamma}_{x_1 x_2}(f) \triangleq \frac{\hat{G}_{x_1 x_2}(f)}{\sqrt{G_{x_1 x_1}(f) G_{x_2 x_2}(f)}}.$$

- When  $G_{x_1 x_1}(f) = G_{x_2 x_2}(f)$ , the SCOT is equivalent to the Roth processor.



# The Phase Transform(PHAT)

- To avoid the spreading, PHAT uses weighting  $\psi_p(f) = \frac{1}{|G_{x_1, x_2}(f)|}$

- With uncorrelated noise i.e.,  $G_{n_1, n_2}(f) = 0$

Cross Correlation is given by  $R_{y_1, y_2}^{(p)}(\tau) = \delta(t - D)$ .

since  $\frac{\hat{G}_{x_1, x_2}(f)}{|G_{x_1, x_2}(f)|} = e^{j\theta(f)} = e^{j2\pi fD}$

- For the model as in fig1 with uncorrelated noises, PHAT doesnot suffer the spreading as other processors.

# Contd....

- Estimate of  $R_{y_1 y_2}^{(p)}(\tau)$  will not be a delta function if  $\hat{G}_{x_1 x_2}(f) \neq \bar{G}_{x_1 x_2}(f)$ ,  $\theta(f) \neq 2\pi fD$
- If  $G_{x_1 x_2}(f) = 0$  in some frequency band, then  $\theta(f)$  is undefined in that band and the estimate of the phase is uniform  $\pi$  rad.
- So need for additional weight to  $\cos$   $[-\pi, \pi]$  compensate for the presence or absence of the signal.
- SCOT assigns weight according to signal and noise characteristics.

# Eckart Filter

- Weighting is given by  $\psi_E(f) = \frac{\alpha G_{s_1, s_1}(f)}{G_{n_1, n_1}(f) G_{n_2, n_2}(f)}$
- This possesses some of the qualities of SCOT such as suppressing frequency bands of high noise.
- This filter attaches zero weight to bands where  $G_{s_1, s_1}(f) = 0$  PHAT .

# The HT Processor (Hannon and Thomson)

- ML estimator selects as the estimate of delay the value of  $\tau$  at which

$$R_{y_1 y_2}^{(HT)}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{G}_{x_1 x_2}(f) \frac{1}{|G_{x_1 x_2}(f)|} \cdot \frac{|\gamma_{12}(f)|^2}{[1 - |\gamma_{12}(f)|^2]} e^{j2\pi f\tau} df \quad \text{achieves peak.}$$

- Weight is given by  $\psi_{HT}(f) = \frac{1}{|G_{x_1 x_2}(f)|} \cdot \frac{|\gamma_{12}(f)|^2}{[1 - |\gamma_{12}(f)|^2]}$ ,

# Interpretation of Low SNR of ML Estimator

- Good delay estimation is most difficult in the case of low SNR.
- For Low SNR  $\frac{G_{s_1 s_1}(f)}{G_{n_1 n_1}(f)} \ll 1$  and  $\frac{G_{s_1 s_1}(f)}{G_{n_2 n_2}(f)} \ll 1$ ,

It follows that  $\psi_{\text{HT}}(f) \cong \frac{G_{s_1 s_1}(f)}{G_{n_1 n_1}(f) G_{n_2 n_2}(f)} = \psi_E(f)$ .

- $G_{n_1 n_1}(f) = G_{n_2 n_2}(f) = G_{nn}(f)$ ,

$$\psi_{\text{HT}}(f) \cong \frac{G_{s_1 s_1}(f)}{G_{nn}(f)} [\psi_s(f)] = \left[ \frac{G_{s_1 s_1}(f)}{G_{nn}(f)} \right]^2 \psi_p(f).$$

# Conclusion

- HT processor has been shown to be an estimator time delay under usual conditions.
- Under Low SNR, the HT processor is equivalent to Eckart prefiltering and cross correlation.
- If the coherence is slowly changing as a function of time, the ML estimation is a cross correlator preceded by prefilters that vary with time.



**Thank you**