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# Doppler ambiguity analysis and suppression for LTE-based passive bistatic radars

**Key words:** Passive bistatic radar (PBR); Long term evolution (LTE); Doppler ambiguity; Range-Doppler processing

Corresponding author: Jun Wang

E-mail: [wangjun@xidian.edu.cn](mailto:wangjun@xidian.edu.cn)

 ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0322-0063>

# Motivation

1. Long term evolution (LTE) is a wireless communication technology that offers last-mile broadband wireless access with predictable extensive accessibility. The specific structure of LTE gives rise to undesired deterministic peaks in the cross-ambiguity function (CAF), which will cause false alarms and/or missing alarm.
2. Current Doppler ambiguity suppression methods all require prior information of the LTE signal. However, the transmitter information changes according to the external environment, which is beyond the control of the passive bistatic radar (PBR) designer and thus degrades the target detection performance.

# Main idea

1. The specific features of the cell-specific reference (CSR) signal and physical downlink control channel (PDCCH) in the LTE signal cause ambiguities in the CAF. The ambiguities are located every 1 kHz, and the signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs) of the ambiguities at 2, 4, and 6 kHz are greater than others.
2. The appearance of these peaks due to the CSR signal and PDCCH satisfies two conditions: codeword power  $E[|\mathbf{S}_{mk}|^2] \neq 1$  and its specific location feature

$$\Xi_{\text{csr}}[0, p] = \sin\left(\frac{\pi p H_{\text{csr}} J_{\text{csr}}}{M_{\text{csr}}}\right) \bigg/ \sin\left(\frac{\pi p J_{\text{csr}}}{M_{\text{csr}}}\right) \cdot \sum_{m_{\text{csr}}=0}^{J_{\text{csr}}-1} \sum_{k_{\text{csr}}=0}^{K_{\text{csr}}-1} \left| \mathbf{S}_{m_{\text{csr}} k_{\text{csr}}} \right|^2 \exp\left(\frac{-i 2 \pi m_{\text{csr}} p}{M_{\text{csr}}}\right).$$

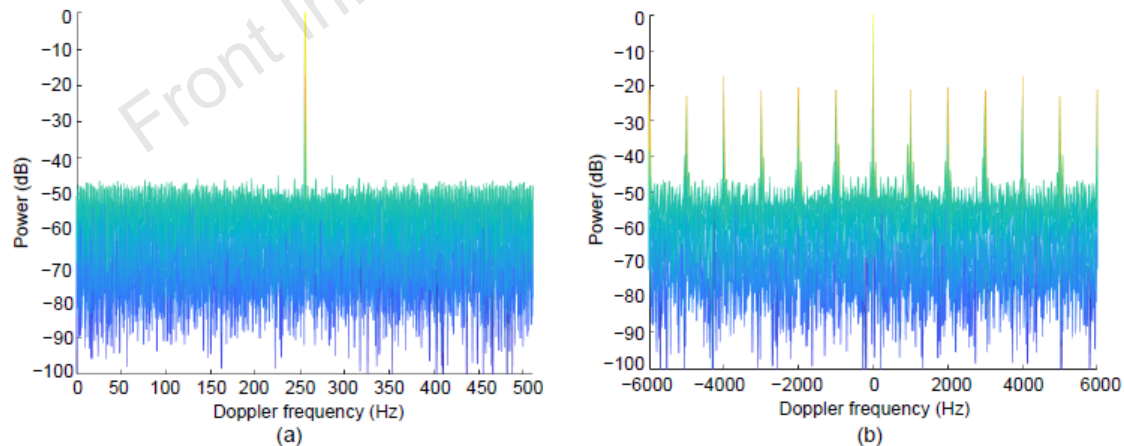
# Method

1. An adaptive mismatched method is proposed to pre-process the original reference signal to suppress the ambiguities caused by specific CSR signals and PDCCH.
2. A Tikhonov regularization optimal model is established between the template signal and the original reference signal to solve the modified weights of the CSR signal and PDCCH.
3. The proposed method can calculate the modified factor without prior information of the transmitting signal and the matched cross-correlation results.

# Major results (suppression)

**Table 1** Simulation parameters for the FDD LTE DL signal

| Parameter                         | Symbol | Value    |
|-----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Sampling rate (MHz)               | $f_s$  | 30.7     |
| Transmission type                 |        | FDD      |
| Coherent integration time (ms)    | $T_c$  | 50       |
| Bandwidth (MHz)                   | $B$    | 20       |
| Cyclic prefix type                |        | Extended |
| Cyclic prefix duration ( $\mu$ s) | $T_g$  | 16.67    |
| Data symbol duration ( $\mu$ s)   | $T_u$  | 66.67    |
| Number of data subcarriers        | $K$    | 1800     |
| Number of symbols per radio frame |        | 120      |
| CSR/PDCCH SNR (dB)                |        | 6        |
| Reference signal SNR (dB)         |        | 20       |



**Fig. 5** Cross-correlation range-Doppler frequency outputs of the mismatched reference signal (a) and the original reference signal (b)

# Major results (detection)

Table 2 Target return simulation parameters

| Signal   | SNR (dB) | Range (km) | Doppler frequency (Hz) |
|----------|----------|------------|------------------------|
| Target 1 | -20      | 10         | 1000                   |
| Target 2 | -40      | 10         | 2000                   |
| Target 3 | -35      | 10         | 4000                   |
| Target 4 | -30      | 15         | 1200                   |
| Target 5 | -35      | 15         | 2200                   |

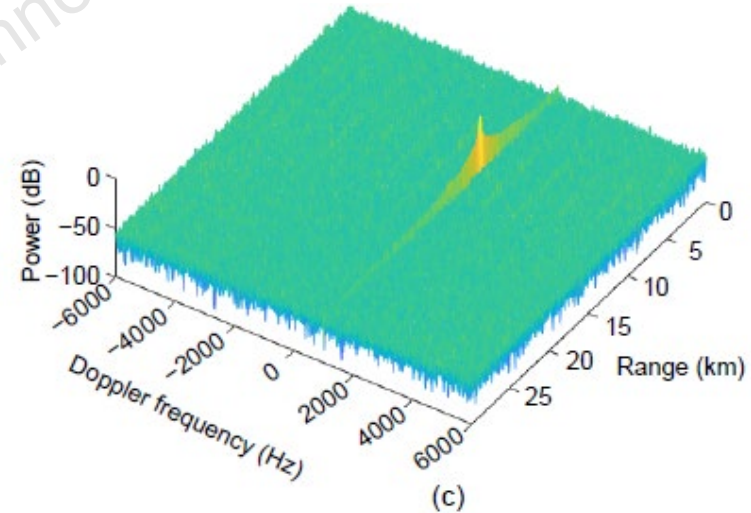
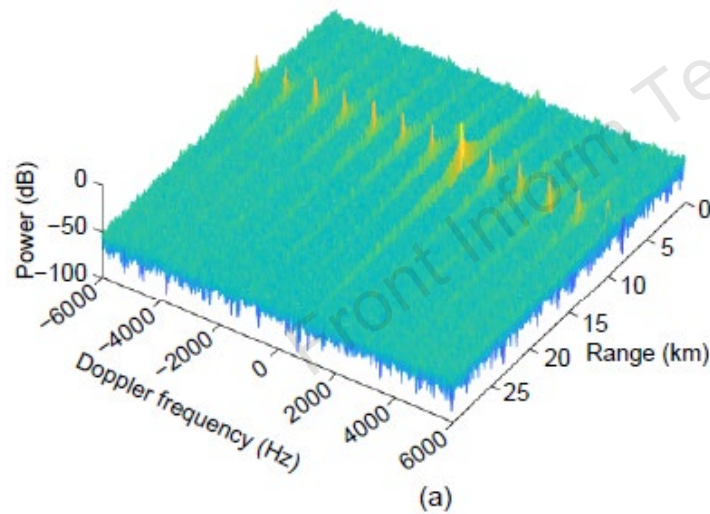


Fig. 6 One strong return target detection results from two methods: (a) 3D RD result of the matched filter; (c) 3D RD result of the proposed method

# Major results (performance)

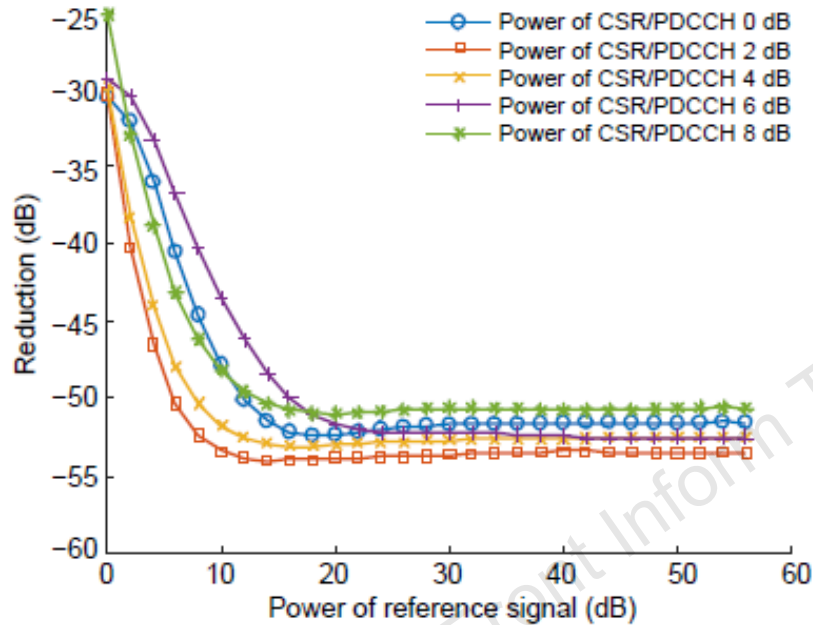


Fig. 8 Reduction versus different reference signals and CSR/PDCCH power: ambiguity peak reduction

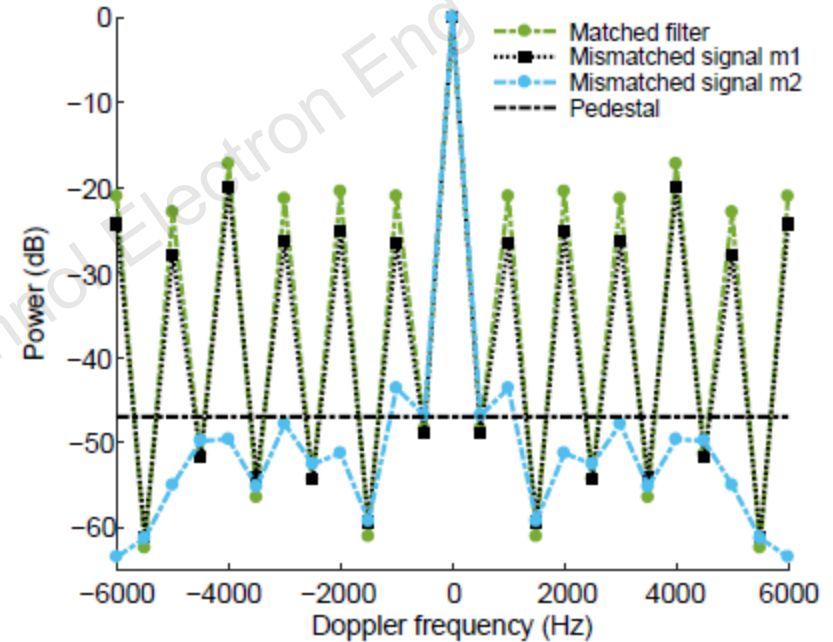
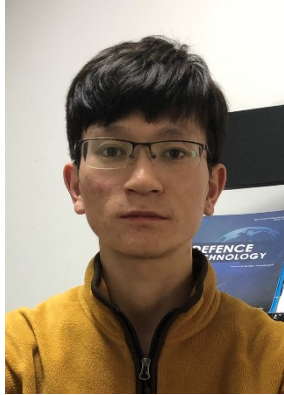


Fig. 9 Comparison of the suppression capability of different methods

# Conclusions

1. The two-stage pulse-Doppler compression method was adopted to approximate the FDD LTE DL signal CAF, and the reason for the undesired peaks was confirmed and explained in detail.
2. A new adaptive mismatched filtering method was proposed to pre-process the original reference signal to suppress these undesired deterministic peaks in the range-Doppler processing.
3. The effectiveness of the proposed method was evaluated using simulations. The results showed that all undesired peaks were suppressed below  $-40$  dB, and that the SNR loss in the main peak was only 1.7 dB.



Luo ZUO is currently a PhD candidate in the National Laboratory of Radar Signal Processing, Xidian University, Xi'an, China. His research interests are in the fields of communication and signal processing, including signal purification, clutter suppression, and weak target detection in passive bistatic radar.



Jun WANG received his BS degree in Measurement Engineering and his MS and PhD degrees in Signal and Information Processing from Xidian University, in 1990, 1995, and 2000, respectively. He is currently a professor with the National Laboratory of Radar Signal Processing, Xidian University. His research interests include passive radar adaptive signal processing, dim target tracking, parallel computation, and passive radar imaging.