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Three GLRT detectors for range distributed target  
in grouped partially homogeneous radar  
environment

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homogeneous radar environment

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Abstract

In this paper, we consider the range distributed target detection in partially homogeneous (PH) clutter which displays different statistical properties in adjacent range cells. We propose a group method that adjacent cells with slightly varying statistics are divided into a group. Given the cells group effects on deducing the generalized likelihood ratio test (GLRT), three detectors: one-step group GLRT (1S-G-GLRT), maximum a posteriori estimation group GLRT (MAP-G-GLRT) and two-step group GLRT (2S-G-GLRT) are developed. It is verified that the 1S-G-GLRT and 2S-G-GLRT are constant false alarm rate (CFAR) with respect to the scale parameter of texture and the estimated speckle covariance matrix. The experiments show that, in the simulated clutter, the three proposed detectors behave approximately similarly, all of them outperforming three existing detectors remarkably despite the effects of target models and group strategies. In the real clutter, the 1S-G-GLRT and MAP-G-GLRT have advantages over the detectors without grouping in PH real clutter.

Keywords

Group GLRT, Target detection, Partially homogeneous sea clutter, Radar

Notation

Throughout the paper, unless otherwise stated, lightface lowercase letters denote scalars, boldface lowercase letters stand for vectors, and boldface uppercase letters represent matrices. For a complex matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}^T$  and  $\mathbf{A}^H$  denote the transpose and conjugate transpose, respectively. For a positive definite matrix  $\mathbf{M}$ ,  $\mathbf{M}^{1/2}$  and  $\mathbf{M}^{-1/2}$  are the square-root matrix and the inverse of square-root matrix, respectively. For a scalar  $\lambda$ ,  $E\{\lambda\}$  is the statistical expectation of  $\lambda$ , and  $\ln\lambda$  is the natural logarithm of  $\lambda$ .  $\hat{\tau}_{MAP|H_i}$  denotes the maximum a posteriori estimation (MAP) of  $\tau$  under hypothesis  $H_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ .  $\hat{\alpha}_k$  denotes the maximum likelihood estimate of  $\alpha_k$ .  $\Gamma(\bullet)$  denotes the Gamma function.  $CN(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{M})$  stands for the complex Gaussian distribution with zero mean and covariance matrix  $\mathbf{M}$ ;  $\chi^2(N)$  is the chi-square distribution with  $N$  degrees of freedom; and  $CW_N(\Sigma, L)$  represents the complex Wishart distribution with parameters  $L$ ,  $N$  and identity covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ . Moreover,  $\mathbf{I}_N$  is the identity matrix of order  $N$ . In addition, we summarize the main symbols and acronyms used in this paper in Table I and Table II, respectively, for ease of reference.

Table I The main symbols used in the paper

Symbol	Definition	Symbol	Definition
$\mathbf{z}_k$	Return vector at the $k$ -th range cell	$\mathbf{p}$	Nominal steering vector
$\mathbf{c}_k$	Sea clutter	$\alpha_k$	A scalar on target effects.
$\mathbf{g}_k$	Speckle	$\tau_k$	Texture
$G$	Number of groups, $g = 1, 2, \dots, G$	$H_g$	Total cell number of the $1 \sim g-1$ -th groups.
$h_g$	Cell number of each group, $\mathbf{h} = [h_1, h_2, \dots, h_G]$	$\beta_g$	Scale parameter of texture in the $g$ -th group $\mathbf{\beta} = [\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_G]$
$\eta_g$	Shape parameter of	$\rho$	One-lag correlation

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