SNR and Noise Variance Estimation in Polarimetric SAR Data

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Knowledge for Tomorrow



DLR

Pauli Color-Coded Image

HV-VH Coherence







Coherency Matrix



Noise-free Data

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} T_{11} & T_{12} & T_{13} \\ T_{21} & T_{22} & T_{23} \\ T_{31} & T_{32} & T_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$



Model for Cross-Pol Data



 $u_1[i] = s[i] + w_1[i]$

$$\sigma^{2} = E\left\{ \left| w_{1} \right|^{2} \right\} = E\left\{ \left| w_{2} \right|^{2} \right\}$$





$$u_2[i] = s[i] + w_2[i]$$

$$SNR = \frac{E\left\{ |s|^2 \right\}}{E\left\{ |w_1|^2 \right\}} = \frac{E\left\{ |s|^2 \right\}}{E\left\{ |w_2|^2 \right\}}$$



Cramér–Rao Lower Bound (CRLB)

$$u_{1}[i] = s[i] + w_{1}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$u_{2}[i] = s[i] + w_{2}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{1}[0] & u_{1}[1] & \cdots & u_{1}[N - 1] & u_{2}[0] & u_{2}[1] & \cdots & u_{2}[N - 1] \end{bmatrix}^{T}$$

$$p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\pi^{2N} \det(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}})} \exp\{-\mathbf{x}^{H} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}\}$$
$$\ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})] = -2N \ln(\pi) - 2N \ln(\sigma^{2}) - N \ln(2SNR + 1) - \frac{1}{\sigma^{2}} \left[\frac{SNR + 1}{2SNR + 1} \sum_{i=0}^{2N-1} |x_{i}|^{2} - \frac{SNR}{2SNR + 1} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} 2\operatorname{Re}(x_{i}^{*} x_{i+N})\right]$$

$$\mathbf{J}(SNR,\sigma^{2}) = \begin{bmatrix} -E\left\{\frac{\partial^{2}\ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})]}{\partial SNR^{2}}\right\} & -E\left\{\frac{\partial^{2}\ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})]}{\partial SNR\partial(\sigma^{2})}\right\} \\ -E\left\{\frac{\partial^{2}\ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})]}{\partial(\sigma^{2})\partial SNR}\right\} & -E\left\{\frac{\partial^{2}\ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})]}{\partial(\sigma^{2})^{2}}\right\} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4N}{(2SNR+1)^{2}} & \frac{2N}{\sigma^{2}(2SNR+1)} \\ \frac{2N}{\sigma^{2}(2SNR+1)} & \frac{2N}{\sigma^{4}} \end{bmatrix}$$



Cramér–Rao Lower Bound (CRLB)

$$u_{1}[i] = s[i] + w_{1}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$u_{2}[i] = s[i] + w_{2}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$x = [u_{1}[0] \ u_{1}[1] \ \cdots \ u_{1}[N - 1] \ u_{2}[0] \ u_{2}[1] \ \cdots \ u_{2}[N - 1]]^{T}$$

$$p_{x}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\pi^{2N} \det(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}})} \exp\{-\mathbf{x}^{H} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}\}$$

$$\ln[p_{x}(\mathbf{x})] = -2N \ln(\pi) - 2N \ln(\sigma^{2}) - N \ln(2SNR + 1) - \frac{1}{\sigma^{2}} \left[\frac{SNR + 1}{2SNR + 1} \sum_{i=0}^{2N-1} |x_{i}|^{2} - \frac{SNR}{2SNR + 1} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} 2\operatorname{Re}(x_{i}^{*} x_{i+N})\right]$$

Hp: σ^2 is known

$$\mathbf{J}(SNR) = -E\left\{\frac{\partial^2 \ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})]}{\partial SNR^2}\right\} = \frac{4N}{(2SNR+1)^2}$$
$$\mathbf{J}^{-1}(SNR) = \frac{(2SNR+1)^2}{4N}$$

Joint estimation of SNR and σ^2

$$\operatorname{var}\left\{S\hat{N}R\right\} \ge \frac{\left(2SNR+1\right)^2}{2N} \quad \operatorname{var}\left\{\hat{\sigma}^2\right\} \ge \frac{\sigma^4}{N}$$

$$\operatorname{var}\left\{S\hat{N}R\right\} \ge \frac{\left(2SNR+1\right)^2}{4N}$$



Maximum Likelihood (ML) Estimation

$$u_{1}[i] = s[i] + w_{1}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$u_{2}[i] = s[i] + w_{2}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{1}[0] & u_{1}[1] & \cdots & u_{1}[N - 1] & u_{2}[0] & u_{2}[1] & \cdots & u_{2}[N - 1] \end{bmatrix}^{T}$$

$$p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2N \det(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}})} \exp\{-\mathbf{x}^{H} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}\}$$
$$\ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})] = -2N \ln(\sigma) - 2N \ln(\sigma^{2}) - N \ln(2SNR + 1) - \frac{1}{\sigma^{2}} \left[\frac{SNR + 1}{2SNR + 1} \sum_{i=0}^{2N-1} |x_{i}|^{2} - \frac{SNR}{2SNR + 1} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} 2\operatorname{Re}(x_{i}^{*} x_{i+N})\right]$$





Maximum Likelihood (ML) Estimation



Maximum Likelihood (ML) Estimators

$$u_{1}[i] = s[i] + w_{1}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$u_{2}[i] = s[i] + w_{2}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{1}[0] & u_{1}[1] & \cdots & u_{1}[N - 1] & u_{2}[0] & u_{2}[1] & \cdots & u_{2}[N - 1] \end{bmatrix}^{T}$$

$$p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2N \det(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}})} \exp\{-\mathbf{x}^{H} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}\}$$
$$\ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})] = -2N \ln(\pi) - 2N \ln(\sigma^{2}) - N \ln(2SNR + 1) - \frac{1}{\sigma^{2}} \left[\frac{SNR + 1}{2SNR + 1} \sum_{i=0}^{2N-1} |x_{i}|^{2} - \frac{SNR}{2SNR + 1} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} 2\operatorname{Re}(x_{i}^{*} x_{i+N})\right]$$

Hp: σ^2 is known

$$\hat{SNR}_{ML}(\sigma^2) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} |u_1[i] + u_2[i]|^2}{4N\sigma^2} - \frac{1}{2}$$

 $\frac{\partial \ln[p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})]}{\partial SNR} = 0$

Maximum Likelihood (ML) Estimation

Hp: σ^2 is known





Eigenvalue-Based (EB) Noise Variance Estimator

$$\hat{\sigma}_{EB}^{2} = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \left| u_{1}[i] \right|^{2} + \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \left| u_{2}[i] \right|^{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \left| u_{1}[i] \right|^{2} + \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \left| u_{2}[i] \right|^{2}\right)^{2} - \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \left| u_{1}[i] \right|^{2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \left| u_{2}[i] \right|^{2}\right) + \left|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} u_{1}^{*}[i] u_{2}[i]\right|^{2}}$$

from S. Cloude, "Introduction to Pol-InSAR", Advanced Course on Radar Polarimetry, ESA-ESRIN, 2011

$$\operatorname{cov}(\llbracket u_{1} \quad u_{2} \rrbracket) = \begin{bmatrix} E \{ u_{1}u_{1}^{*} \} & E \{ u_{1}u_{2}^{*} \} \\ E \{ u_{1}^{*}u_{2} \} & E \{ u_{2}u_{2}^{*} \} \end{bmatrix}$$









Coherence-Based (CB) SNR Estimator













Thank you!



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Data Covariance Matrix

$$u_{1}[i] = s[i] + w_{1}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$u_{2}[i] = s[i] + w_{2}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{1}[0] & u_{1}[1] & \cdots & u_{1}[N - 1] & u_{2}[0] & u_{2}[1] & \cdots & u_{2}[N - 1] \end{bmatrix}^{T}$$

$$p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2N \det(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}})} \exp\{-\mathbf{x}^{H} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}\} \qquad \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}} = ?$$

$$C_{\mathbf{x}i,i} = E\{(s[i] + w_{1+floor(i/N)}[i])(s[i] + w_{1+floor(i/N)}[i])^*\} = A^2 + \sigma^2 = \sigma^2(SNR+1), i = 0..2N - 1$$

$$C_{\mathbf{x}i,i+N} = E\{(s[i] + w_1[i])(s[i] + w_2[i])^*\} = A^2 = \sigma^2 SNR, i = 0..N - 1$$

$$C_{\mathbf{x}i+N,i} = E\{(s[i] + w_2[i])(s[i] + w_1[i])^*\} = A^2 = \sigma^2 SNR, i = 0..N - 1$$

$$C_{\mathbf{x}i+N,i} = 0, \text{ for all the other elements of the matrix}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma^2 (SNR+1) \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} & \sigma^2 SNR \, \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} \\ \sigma^2 SNR \, \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} & \sigma^2 (SNR+1) \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} \end{bmatrix}$$



Data Covariance Matrix

$$u_{1}[i] = s[i] + w_{1}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$u_{2}[i] = s[i] + w_{2}[i], i = 0..N - 1$$

$$\mathbf{x} = [u_{1}[0] \ u_{1}[1] \ \cdots \ u_{1}[N - 1] \ u_{2}[0] \ u_{2}[1] \ \cdots \ u_{2}[N - 1]]^{T}$$

$$p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2N \det(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}})} \exp\{-\mathbf{x}^{H} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}\} \qquad \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma^{2} (SNR+1) \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} & \sigma^{2} SNR \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} \\ \sigma^{2} SNR \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} & \sigma^{2} (SNR+1) \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}}) = \sigma^{4N} (2SNR + 1)^{N}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{SNR+1}{2SNR+1} \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} & -\frac{SNR}{2SNR+1} \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} \\ -\frac{SNR}{2SNR+1} \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} & \frac{SNR+1}{2SNR+1} \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{D} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \det(\mathbf{M}) = \det(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{C}) \qquad \mathbf{M}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C})^{-1} & -\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B})^{-1} \\ -\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C})^{-1} & (\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B})^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$