Zak-OTFS based ISAC and Radar

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Zak-OTFS Modulation - A Review

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Zak-OTFS Modulation



- So far no corresponding theory for reliable communication in doubly-spread channels – Considered to be an old challenging problem
- We have pioneered a Zak-transform based theory for reliable communication in doubly-spread channels
- Delay-Doppler signal processing is expected to revolutionize the design of future communication and radar systems

Pulsones: A new basis for TD signals

• The well known periodic impulse train

$$p_{0,0}(t) = \sqrt{\tau_{p}} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta(t - k\tau_{p})$$

• $p_{0,0}(t)$ delay and Doppler shifted by (τ, ν)

$$p_{ au,
u}(t) = \sqrt{ au_p} e^{j2\pi
u(t- au)} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}} \delta(t- au-k au_p)$$

• Pulsones $p_{ au,
u}(t)\,,\,(au,
u)\in\mathbb{R}^2$ forms a basis for TD signals

Pulsones and the Zak-transform

- Sinusoidal basis $(e^{j2\pi ft})$: Fourier transform is projection onto this basis, $X(f) = \int x(t) e^{-j2\pi ft} dt.$
- Zak-transform Z_t : Projection of x(t) on this basis

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{x}_{\mathsf{dd}}(\tau,\nu) &\triangleq \quad \mathcal{Z}_t\Big(\mathsf{x}(t)\Big) = \int \mathsf{x}(t)\, p_{\tau,\nu}^*(t)\, dt \\ &= \quad \sqrt{\tau_p} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}} \mathsf{x}(\tau+k\tau_p)\, e^{-j2\pi k\nu\tau_p} \end{aligned}$$

• DD realizations are Quasi-periodic functions:

$$\begin{array}{lll} x_{\rm dd}(\tau+n\tau_p,\nu+m\nu_p) & = & e^{j2\pi n\nu\tau_p} \, x_{\rm dd}(\tau,\nu), \ n,m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ \nu_p & \triangleq \frac{1}{\tau_p} \end{array}$$

• Pulsones form a basis:
$$x(t) = \int_{0}^{\tau_{\rho} \nu_{\rho}} \int_{0}^{\nu_{\rho}} x_{dd}(\tau, \nu) p_{\tau, \nu}(t) d\tau d\nu$$

S. K. Mohammed, "Derivation of OTFS Modulation From First Principles," *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology*, vol. 70, no. 8, pp. 7619-7636, Aug. 2021.

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Pulsones:OTFS :: Sinusoids:OFDM



Figure: Fourier transform: $x(t) \leftrightarrow X(f)$, $x(t) = \int X(f) e^{j2\pi f t} df$



Figure: OFDM Tx. and Rx. signal processing in frequency domain (FD).

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Pulsones:OTFS :: Sinusoids:OFDM



Figure: Zak transform: $x(t) \rightarrow x_{dd}(\tau, \nu)$, $x(t) = \int_{0}^{\tau_{\rho}} \int_{0}^{\nu_{\rho}} x_{dd}(\tau, \nu) p_{\tau,\nu}(t) d\tau d\nu$

Channel action

- Delay-only channels: Channel acts through linear convolution with its impulse response $y(t) = h(t) \star x(t)$. I/O relation is predictable if h(t) is stationary
- Doubly-spread channels: Channel acts on the DD representation of input through *twisted convolution* with its DD spreading function

$$y(t) = \iint h(\tau',\nu') \, \mathsf{x}(t-\tau') \, e^{j2\pi\nu'(t-\tau')} \, d\tau' \, d\nu'$$



 $\begin{aligned} x(t) \to x_{dd}(\tau,\nu) &\equiv x(t-\tau') e^{j2\pi\nu'(t-\tau')} \to x_{dd}(\tau-\tau',\nu-\nu') e^{j2\pi\nu'(\tau-\tau')} \\ y_{dd}(\tau,\nu) &= \iint h(\tau',\nu') x_{dd}(\tau-\tau',\nu-\nu') e^{j2\pi\nu'(\tau-\tau')} d\tau' d\nu' \end{aligned}$

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Pulsone is a Quasi-periodic pulse in DD domain



• Quasi-periodic DD pulse: delay period τ_p , Doppler period $\nu_p = 1/\tau_p$

• Pulse *effectively* localized in the fundamental DD period: $\mathcal{D}_{0} \triangleq \left\{ (\tau, \nu) \, \middle| \, 0 \leq \tau < \tau_{p}, \, 0 \leq \nu < \nu_{p} \right\}$

• Information carrier for Zak-OTFS modulation

*Figure taken from [4].

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Zak-OTFS carrier waveform



Figure: The TD and FD realizations of a DD pulse are pulse trains modulated by a sinusoid (pulsone). Time duration and bandwidth are inversely related to the spread of the DD pulse along the Doppler and delay axis respectively.

Zak-OTFS modulation



Figure: Information is carried by DD pulses spaced 1/B and 1/T apart along the delay and Doppler axis respectively (information grid/lattice). $M \triangleq \frac{\tau_P}{1/B}$, $N \triangleq \frac{\nu_P}{1/T}$. No. of carriers is MN = BT. No loss in dimensionality.

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Generating the discrete inf. signal	$x_{\mathrm{dd}}[k+nM,l+mN] \triangleq x[k,l] e^{j2\pi n \frac{l}{N}}.$
Generating the analog signal	$\Lambda_{dd} = \left\{ \left(k \frac{\tau_p}{M}, l \frac{\nu_p}{N} \right) \mid k, l \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$
on the information grid	$x_{dd}(\tau,\nu) = \sum_{k,l \in \mathbb{Z}} x_{dd}[k,l] \delta\left(\tau - k\frac{\tau_p}{M}\right) \delta\left(\nu - l\frac{\nu_p}{N}\right)$
Shaping the pulse at the tx.	$x_{dd}^{w_{tx}}(\tau,\nu) = w_{tx}(\tau,\nu) *_{\sigma} x_{dd}(\tau,\nu)$
Converting to time domain	$s_{td}^{}(t) = \mathcal{Z}_t^{-1}\left(x_{dd}^{w_{tx}}(au, u) ight)$
Applying the channel $h(au, u)$	$r_{\rm td}(t) = \iint h_{\rm phy}(\tau,\nu) s_{\rm td}(t-\tau) e^{j2\pi\nu(t-\tau)} d\tau d\nu$
Converting to DD domain	$y_{dd}(au, u) = \mathcal{Z}_t\left(r_{td}(t) ight)$
Shaping the pulse at the receiver	$y_{dd}^{w_{rx}}(\tau,\nu) = w_{rx}(\tau,\nu) *_{\sigma} y_{dd}(\tau,\nu)$
Sampling on the information grid	$y_{dd}[k',l'] = y_{dd}^{w_{fx}} \left(\tau = k' \frac{\tau_p}{M}, \nu = l' \frac{\nu_p}{N} \right), \ k',l' \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$y_{dd}[k, l] = h_{eff}[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{dd}[k, l] = \sum_{k', l' \in \mathbb{Z}} h_{eff}[k', l'] x_{dd}[k - k', l - l'] e^{j2\pi \frac{l(k-k')}{MN}},$$

$$h_{eff}[k, l] = h_{eff}(\tau = k/B, \nu = l/T), \ h_{eff}(\tau, \nu) = w_{rx}(\tau, \nu) *_{\sigma} h_{phy}(\tau, \nu) *_{\sigma} w_{tx}(\tau, \nu)$$

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Predictable I/O relation with Zak-OTFS modulation



- Channel response to a DD pulse can be measured accurately if channel delay and Doppler spreads are less than respective periods (crystalline regime, no aliasing)
- Channel response to an arbitrary DD pulse can be predicted from the given response to a particular pulse
- $\bullet\,$ In crystalline regime, I/O relation is predictable and non-fading

- MC-OTFS (Hadani et. al. WCNC paper 2017): I/O relation is not predictable as it is designed to be compatible with OFDM mod/demod
- Others like AFDM, ODDM, OTSM are also not predictable since the I/O relation is not given by twisted convolution
- Zak-OTFS is predictable since Tx/Rx signal processing acts through twisted convolution just as the LTV channel

Throughput comparison: Zak-OTFS vs. CP-OFDM

- Packet Duration: 1 ms, Bandwidth: 720 KHz
- Total power (Data + pilots) to noise ratio: 12 dB
- Standardized Vehicular-A channel model
- $\bullet\,$ Maximize eff. throughput w.r.t. waveform parameters and adaptive modulation/coding as in 3GPP 5G NR (BLER < 0.1)
- CP-OFDM
 - Sub-carrier spacings: 15, 30, 60 KHz
 - DMRS (Type-A) boost: -6, -4, -2, 0, 2, 4, 6 dB
- Zak-OTFS
 - $\nu_p = 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 24 \text{ KHz}$
 - Pilot to data power ratio (PDR) -10, -5, 0, 5, 10 dB
 - Gauss-Sinc pulse shaping filters

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Throughput comparison: Zak-OTFS vs. CP-OFDM



- Zak-OTFS better than CP-OFDM, for both mobility and large cell scenarios
- Gains to be more higher since Zak-OTFS requires almost no re-transmissions due to AWGN like channel
- Significantly better than CP-OFDM for target BLER 10⁻² (not shown here)

Zak-OTFS based Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC)

A Zak-OTFS subframe (point pilot)



Figure: A Zak-OTFS subframe in DD domain consisting of pilot, guard region and data symbols. Guard regions are overhead.

Image: A matrix

High PAPR of point pilot



Figure: Tx. TD point pilot signal. High PAPR. $M = 31, N = 37, \nu_p = 30$ KHz.

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Spread pulsones



Figure: Point pilot (energy at one point).



Figure: Spread pilot. Energy is spread using Chirp filter q = 3, M = 31, N = 37.

• Point pilot at (k_p, l_p)

 $x_{\mathsf{p},\mathsf{dd}}[k,l] = \sum_{n,m\in\mathbb{Z}} e^{j2\pi \frac{nl}{N}} \delta[k - k_p - nM] \delta[l - l_p - mN]$

- Spread pilot
 - $x_{s,dd}[k, l] = w_s[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{p,dd}[k, l]$
 - Energy spread over all MN pulsones
 - Energy on each pulsone is $\frac{1}{MN}$



PAPR of spread pulsones



Figure: Complementary CDF (CCDF) plot of IAPR. M = 31, N = 37. RRC pulse $w_{tx}(\tau, \nu)$ with roll-off factors, $\beta_{\tau} = \beta_{\nu} = 0.6$. Discrete chirp filter with q = 3. PDR $\rho_p/\rho_d = 10$ dB. Point pilot PAPR = 15 dB. Spread pilot PAPR is only 5 dB.

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Discrete DD domain signals (MN dimensional)

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$$M = B\tau_p$$
, $N = T\nu_p = \frac{T}{\tau_p}$, $MN = BT$

• DD signals are quasi-periodic w.r.t. Λ_p but are periodic w.r.t. Λ_{dd}^{\perp}

 $x_{\rm dd}[k+nM,l+mN] = e^{j2\pi\frac{nl}{N}} x_{\rm dd}[k,l] , \ x_{\rm dd}[k+nMN,l+mMN] = x_{\rm dd}[k,l]$



Figure: Information Lattice Λ_{dd} (blue dots), period lattice Λ_p (green dots) and the dual of information lattice Λ_{dd}^{\perp} (red dots). $\Delta \tau = \tau_p / M = \frac{1}{B}$ and $\Delta \nu = \nu_p / N = \frac{1}{T}$.

Discrete DD filters are M^2N^2 dimensional

- Filtering of discrete quasi-periodic DD signals $(x_{p,dd}[k, l])$
- $*_{\sigma}$ equivalent to *MN*-periodic twisted convolution (\circledast_{σ}) with *MN*-periodic extension of filter

$$\begin{aligned} x_{s,dd}[k,l] &\triangleq w_{s}[k,l] *_{\sigma} x_{p,dd}[k,l] \\ &= w[k,l] \circledast_{\sigma} x_{p,dd}[k,l] \\ &= \sum_{k'=0}^{MN-1} \sum_{l'=0}^{MN-1} w[k',l'] x_{p,dd}[k-k',l-l'] e^{j2\pi l' \frac{(k-k')}{MN}} \end{aligned}$$

• MN-periodic extension of $w_s[k, I]$

$$w[k, l] \triangleq \sum_{n,m\in\mathbb{Z}} w_s[k+nMN, l+mMN]$$

- w[k, I] is periodic with period MN, w[k + nMN, I + mMN] = w[k, I]
- Response of two discrete filters having the same periodic extension is same
- Discrete filters are $MN \times MN$ dimensional

• Chirp filter
$$w[k, l] = \frac{1}{MN} e^{j2\pi \frac{q(k^2+l^2)}{MN}}$$
 (q: slope)

• Transmit signal: data pulsones + spread pulsone (pilot)

$$x_{\rm dd}[k,l] = \sqrt{E_d} x_{\rm d,dd}[k,l] + \sqrt{E_p} x_{\rm s,dd}[k,l]$$

• Received signal:

$$\begin{aligned} y_{dd}[k, l] &= h_{eff}[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{dd}[k, l] + n_{dd}[k, l] \\ &= \sqrt{E_d} \underbrace{(h_{eff}[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{d,dd}[k, l])}_{\text{Received data signal}} \\ &+ \sqrt{E_p} \underbrace{(h_{eff}[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{s,dd}[k, l])}_{\text{Received sensing signal}} + n_{dd}[k, l]. \end{aligned}$$

M. Ubadah, S. K. Mohammed, R. Hadani, S. Kons, A. Chockalingam, and R. Calderbank, "Zak-OTFS for integration of sensing and communication," available online - arXiv:2404.04182v1 [eess.SP], 5 Apr 2024 (http://arxiv.org/abs/2404.04182).

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Channel sensing in LTI (Delay-only) channels

- x[n]: Discrete-time periodic Tx. pilot signal with period P (continuous time Tx. pilot is time-limited and transmitted with a cyclic prefix)
- Rx. pilot: $y[n] = h[n] \star x[n]$, \star : Linear conv., h[n]: Channel imp. resp.
- Cross-correlation: Periodic cross-correlation between Rx. and Tx. pilot

$$A_{y,x}[n] \triangleq \sum_{k=0}^{P-1} y[k] x^*[k-n] = h[n] \star A_{x,x}[n].$$

• $A_{x,x}[n] \triangleq \sum_{k=0}^{P-1} x[k] x^*[k-n]$: Periodic auto-correlation of Tx. pilot

• Ideal auto-correlation: $A_{x,x}[n] = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta[n - kP]$ (e.g. Zadoff-Chu sequence)

$$A_{y,x}[n] = h[n] \star A_{x,x}[n] = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} h[n - kP]$$

• Choose period P to be greater than delay spread of channel h[n]

Channel sensing in LTV channels

- **Tx pilot**: $x_{s,dd}[k, l]$ having discrete-time realization $x_s[n]$ of period P = MN (Discrete Zak-transform)
- **Rx pilot**: $y_{dd}[k, l] = h_{eff}[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{s,dd}[k, l]$ having discrete-time realization y[n]
- **Cross-ambiguity function** $A_{y,x_s}[k, l]$: **Periodic** cross-correlation between the Rx pilot y[n] and the Tx. pilot delayed by k taps and Doppler shifted by l taps, i.e., $x_s[n-k] e^{j2\pi \frac{l(n-k)}{MN}}$

$$A_{y,x_s}[k,l] = \sum_{n=0}^{MN-1} y[n] x_s^*[n-k] e^{-j2\pi \frac{l(n-k)}{MN}}$$

• Cross-ambiguity equiv. computed in discrete DD domain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{y,x_{s}}[k,l] &= \sum_{k'=0}^{M-1} \sum_{l'=0}^{N-1} y_{dd}[k',l'] \, x_{s,dd}^{*}[k'-k,l'-l] \, e^{-j2\pi \frac{l(k'-k)}{MN}} \\ &= h_{eff}[k,l] \, *_{\sigma} \, \mathcal{A}_{x_{s},x_{s}}[k,l] \end{aligned}$$

• $A_{x_s,x_s}[k, l]$: Cross-ambiguity of the Tx. pilot

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Channel sensing with spread pulsone (q = 5) $(h_{\text{eff}}[k, l] *_{\sigma} A_{x_s, x_s}[k, l]$



Figure: Blue dots: Lattice type auto-ambiguity of spread pulsone M = 11, N = 13, q = 5. $h_{\text{eff}}[k, l]$: Green rectangle with black border. Choice of q such that green rectangles do not overlap. Enables accurate/efficient estimation of $h_{\text{eff}}[k, l]$.

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Channel sensing with spread pulsone (q = 4) $(h_{\text{eff}}[k, l] *_{\sigma} A_{x_s, x_s}[k, l])$



Figure: Chirp filter slope $q = 5 \rightarrow q = 4$. Changes $A_{x_s,x_s}[k, l]$. Support of $h_{\text{eff}}[k, l]$ is same. Green rectangles overlap. Inaccurate estimation of $h_{\text{eff}}[k, l]$.

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Channel sensing in a Zak-OTFS ISAC frame

Received signal

$$y_{dd}[k, l] = \sqrt{E_d} \underbrace{(h_{eff}[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{d,dd}[k, l])}_{\text{Received data signal}} + \sqrt{E_p} \underbrace{(h_{eff}[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{s,dd}[k, l])}_{\text{Received sensing signal}} + n_{dd}[k, l].$$

• Cross-ambiguity between $y_{dd}[k, l]$ and $x_{s,dd}[k, l]$

data interference to sensing

- $A_{x_s,x_s}[k, l]$: Auto-ambiguity of tx. spread pilot
- $A_{x_d,x_s}[k, l]$: Cross-ambiguity between tx. data signal and tx. spread pilot
- Choice of spreading filter w[k, l]: A_{xs,xs}[k, l] is almost Dirac-delta (supported on a lattice) and the eff. channel h_{eff}[k, l] satisfies crystallization condition w.r.t. this lattice, A_{xd,xs}[k, l] is noise-like

Channel sensing $(A_{x_d,x_s}[k, l])$



Figure: $|A_{x_d,x_s}[k, I]|$: Magnitude of cross-ambiguity between data and spread pulsone. $E_p = E_d = 1$. M = 31, N = 37, q = 3. $|A_{x_d,x_s}[k, I]| \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{MN}}$. Appears noise-like. Low data to pilot interference.

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Joint sensing and communication



• ITU Veh-A channel model

Path no. i	1	2	3	4	5	6
Rel. Delay τ_i (μs)	0	0.31	0.71	1.09	1.73	2.51
Rel. Power $\frac{\mathbb{E}[h_i ^2]}{\mathbb{E}[h_1 ^2]}$ (dB)	0	-1	-9	-10	-15	-20

• Path Doppler shift: $\nu_i = \nu_{max} \cos(\theta_i)$, ν_{max} : Max. path Doppler shift, $\theta_i \sim \text{i.i.d.}$ Unif ([0, 2 π)])

- Path channel gain: Rayleigh faded, $\sum_{i=1}^{6} \mathbb{E}[|h_i|^2] = 1$
- Pulse shaping at Tx/Rx: RRC pulses ($\beta_{\tau} = \beta_{\nu} = 0.6$), M = 31, N = 37, $\nu_{p} = 30$ KHz. $B = M\nu_{p} = 0.93$ MHz, $T = N\tau_{p} = 1.23$ ms

• Received data to noise power ratio: $\rho_d \triangleq \frac{E_d \sum_{(k,l) \in S} |h_{\text{eff}}[k,l]|^2}{MNN_0}$

- Received pilot to noise power ratio: $\rho_p \triangleq \frac{E_p \sum\limits_{(k,l) \in S} |h_{\text{eff}}[k,l]|^2}{MNN_0}$
- Uncoded 4-QAM BER, DD domain LMMSE equalizer

NMSE (spread pulsone) vs. Pilot to data ratio (PDR)



Figure: NMSE vs. PDR for a spread sensing pulsone with q = 3. Veh-A channel, RRC pulse shaping filter ($\beta_{\tau} = \beta_{\nu} = 0.6$), data SNR $\rho_d = 25$ dB, $\nu_{max} = 815$ Hz, $\nu_p = 30$ KHz, M = 31, N = 37. Flooring at high PDR is due to DD domain aliasing.

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BER vs. PDR ("U" shaped)



Figure: BER vs. PDR for a spread sensing pulsone with q = 3. Veh-A channel. RRC pulse shaping filter ($\beta_{\tau} = \beta_{\nu} = 0.6$), data SNR $\rho_d = 25$ dB, $\nu_{max} = 815$ Hz, $\nu_p = 30$ KHz, M = 31, N = 37. BER improves with increasing PDR and then degrades with further increase due to increase in residual pilot after cancellation $\mathbb{P} + \mathbb{P} + \mathbb{P} + \mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}$

BER vs. ν_{max}



Figure: BER vs ν_{max} for spread sensing pulsone (q = 3). Veh-A channel model, RRC pulse shaping filter ($\beta_{\tau} = \beta_{\nu} = 0.6$), Doppler period $\nu_{p} = 30$ KHz, PDR $\frac{\rho_{p}}{\rho_{d}} = 10$ dB, data SNR $\rho_{d} = 25$ dB. BER almost invariant of Doppler spread in crystalline regime ($2\nu_{max} < \nu_{p}$). Gap in performance w.r.t. perfect CSI.

Throughput vs. u_{max}



Figure: Effective throughput (bits/sec/Hz) as a function of increasing ν_{max} . Integrated sensing and communication (S| C & C|S). $\nu_p = 30$ KHz. M = 31, N = 37. RRC pulse shaping filter ($\beta_{\tau} = \beta_{\nu} = 0.6$). Spread pilot results in higher effective throughput.

Turbo signal processing



Figure: Signal processing for proposed Zak-OTFS based iterative joint sensing and communication.

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BER with Turbo signal processing



Figure: Veh-A channel, data SNR = 25 dB, PDR = 10 dB. With turbo iterations BER is close to that with perfect CSI.

Zak-OTFS Radar

(Lines vs. Lattices)

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Zak-OTFS Radar



- Tx. radar signal (DD pulse) is at origin.
- Very simple detection. The DD shift of each received pulse (relative to the origin) is an estimate of the target's distance and velocity.
- Complexity is only that of TD \rightarrow DD (Zak transform) $O(BT \log(BT))$

Table: Comparison with prior works on identification of linear time-varying systems with K > 1 targets. $\Delta \tau$ and $\Delta \nu$ are the delay and Doppler domain resolution respectively.

Identification	Min. reqd.	Complexity	Resolution
approach	time-bandwidth (BT)		
Compressive sensing	K ²	$O(K^3)$	$\Delta \tau \propto \frac{1}{B}$
based			$\Delta \nu \propto \frac{1}{T}$
Super-resolution	K ²	$O(K^3)$	Infinite
(MUSIC)			
DD domain			
Cross-ambiguity	4 <i>K</i>	K^2	$\Delta u \propto rac{4}{T}$
Chirp (LFM) pulses			
Section III in [8]			$\Delta au \propto rac{1}{B}$
DD domain			
Cross-ambiguity	K	K log K	$\Delta u \propto \frac{1}{T}$
Zak-OTFS pulsone			
Section IV in [8]			$\Delta au \propto rac{1}{B}$

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Chirps (LFM) - Single target



- Chirp $e^{j\pi at^2}$ has auto-ambiguity function supported on the line $\nu a\tau = 0$ in DD domain
- Need two chirps to localize a single target

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Chirps - Multiple target



- Multiple targets: more intersections than the no. of true targets, issue of "ghost" targets
- Need at least two-pairs of up-chirp-/down-chirp of different slopes to resolve multiple target (loss in Doppler resolution)

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Chirps vs Zak-OTFS



• Four targets unif. dist. in the DD rectangle [0 , 3] μs imes [-600 , 600] Hz.

- Zak-OTFS with $\tau_p = 100 \, \mu s$ and $\nu_p = 10$ KHz. Gaussian pulse shaping.
- RMS range est. error is smaller with Zak-OTFS than with Chirps

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Zak-OTFS - Transceiver signal processing



- Channel acts through twisted convolution $(*_{\sigma})$: $y_{dd}(\tau, \nu) = h(\tau, \nu) *_{\sigma} x_{dd}^{w_{tx}}(\tau, \nu)$
- Input-Output (I/O) relation: $y_{dd}^{w_{rx}}(\tau,\nu) = h_{eff}(\tau,\nu) *_{\sigma} x_{dd}(\tau,\nu)$
- Effective DD channel: $h_{eff}(\tau, \nu) = w_{rx}(\tau, \nu) *_{\sigma} h(\tau, \nu) *_{\sigma} w_{tx}(\tau, \nu)$
- Sampled I/O relation: $y_{dd}[k, l] = y_{dd}^{w_{rx}} \left(\tau = \frac{k\tau_p}{M}, \nu = \frac{l\nu_p}{N} \right) = h_{eff}[k, l] *_{\sigma} x_{dd}[k, l]$
- DD domain I/O relation is stationary/predictable if h_{eff}[k, l] is known/can be acquired efficiently
- Model-free approach: acquire $h_{eff}[k, l]$ and not $h(\tau, \nu)$

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