



Robust statistical framework for radar change detection applications - Part 2

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and many thanks to: A. Mian, J-P. Ovarlez, A. Atto

IEEE Radar Conference - 26/09/2020

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Recap of Part 1

- **Change detection in multivariate time series**

- **Statistical framework**

- Assume a **distribution** and meaningful **feature parameters**
- Derive a **decision function** Λ

- **Gaussian** framework with **covariance matrix**

- 2-step approaches: **plug-in detectors** (matrix distance) using the SCM
- 1-step approaches: **statistical criteria** (CFAR property)

- **Part 2:** **non-Gaussianity** and **dimensionality** issues

Motivation of Part 2 (1/3): non-Gaussian data

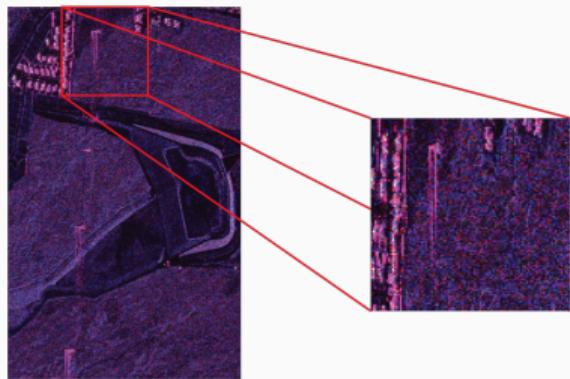
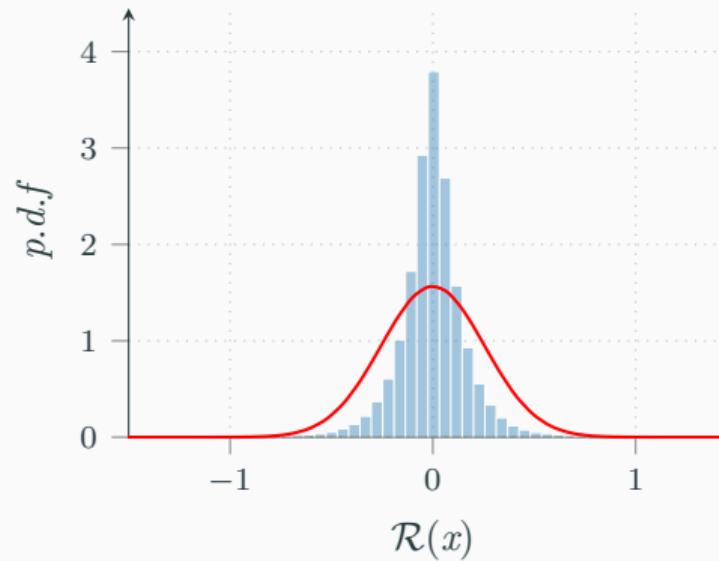


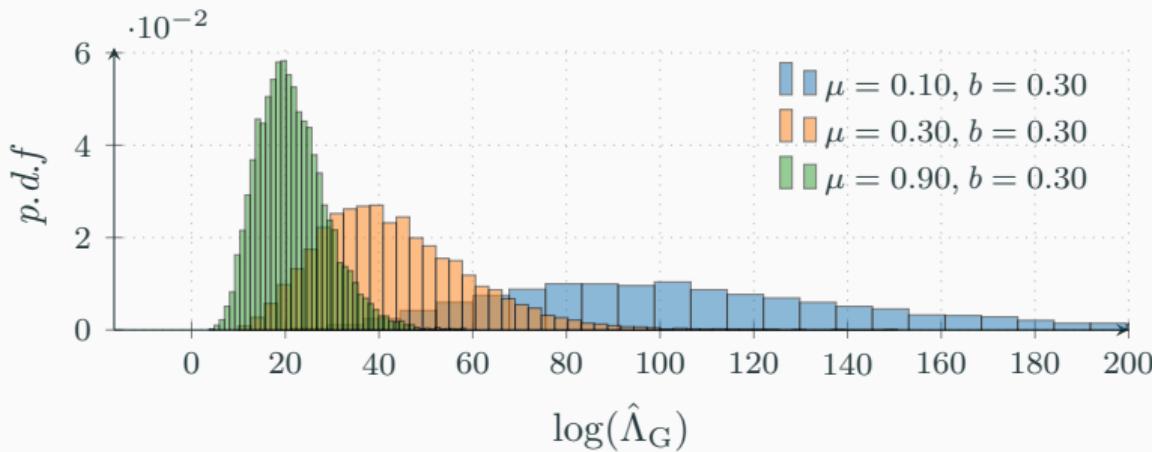
Figure 1: UAVSAR data (NASA/JPL-Caltech)



Gaussian models do not fit the **empirical distribution of the data!**

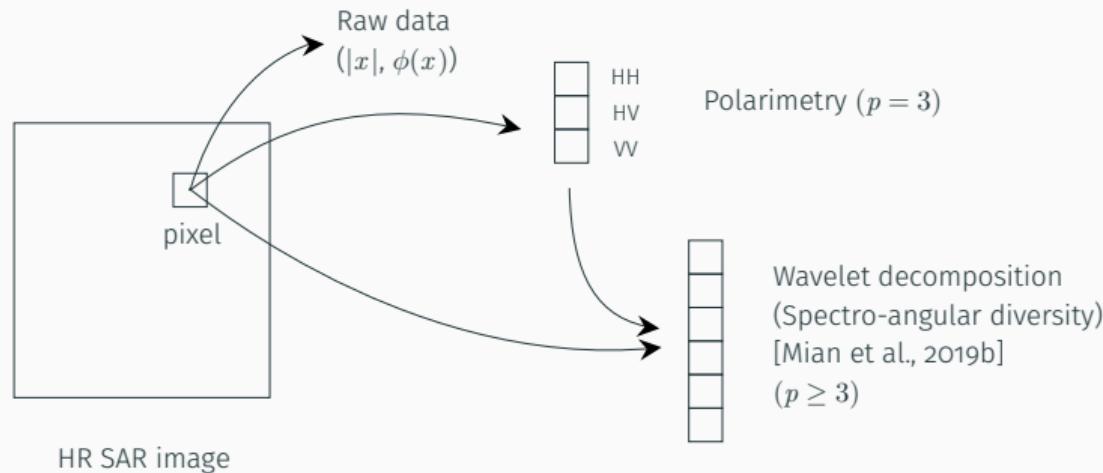
Motivation of Part 2 (2/3): issues in non-Gaussian context

$\mathbf{x}_i^t = \sqrt{\tau_i^t} \mathbf{z}_i^t$ where $\mathbf{z}_i^t \sim \mathbb{C}\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}_p, (0.5^{|i-j|})_{ij})$ and $\tau_i^t \sim \Gamma(\mu, b)$, $p = 3$, $n = 10$, $T = 3$.



Gaussian detectors can **perform poorly** and **lose properties** (e.g. CFAR for GLRT)

Motivation of Part 2 (3/3): dimensionality issues?



- Improved CD performance with appropriate data transformation [Mian et al., 2017]
- Increasing p implies increasing n (patch dimension) \Rightarrow lower CD resolution
- Can we achieve a reasonable trade-off?

PART 2

- **Sec.2:** Elliptical symmetric and compound Gaussian distributions
- **Sec.3:** M -estimators and robust plug-in detectors (2-step approach)
- **Sec.4:** Compound Gaussian GLRTs (1-step approach)
- **Sec.5-6:** Generalizations to structured covariance matrices

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Complex Elliptically Symmetric (CES) distributions

Definition

[Ollila et al., 2012]

Let $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^p$, \mathbf{x} follows a CES ($\mathcal{CES}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, g)$) if its p.d.f. can be written

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{-1} g((\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^H \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}))$$

where

- $g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is the density generator
- $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ is the center of distribution
- $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is the scatter matrix (full rank)

In general (finite second-order moment), $\mathbb{E} [(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^H] \propto \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$.

[Ollila et al., 2012] "Complex Elliptically Symmetric Distributions: Survey, New Results and Applications," IEEE Trans. on Signal Processing, vol. 60, no. 11, pp. 5597-5625, 2012.

CES characterizing property (1/3)

Stochastic representation theorem

$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{CES}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, g)$ iff it admits the stochastic representation

$$\mathbf{x} \stackrel{d}{=} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \sqrt{\mathcal{Q}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}$$

where

- $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^H$
- $\mathcal{Q} \geq 0$, is called the 2^{nd} -order modular variate:
 - independent of \mathbf{u}
 - whose p.d.f. only depends on g
- $\mathbf{u} \sim \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{C}S^p)$, i.e., \mathbf{u} is uniformly distributed on the unit sphere $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^p \mid \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1\}$

CES characterizing property (2/3)

Properties

1. One-to-one relation between the p.d.f. of \mathcal{Q} and g
2. Ambiguity: both $(\mathcal{Q}, \mathbf{A})$ and $(c^{-2}\mathcal{Q}, c\mathbf{A})$, $c > 0$ are stochastic representations of \mathbf{x}
⇒ identifiability issues
3. Distribution of quadratic form:

$$Q(\mathbf{x}) \triangleq (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^H \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathcal{Q}$$

CES characterizing property (3/3)

Properties

4. Sample generation

- draw \mathcal{Q}
- draw \mathbf{u} using $\mathbf{u} \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{g}/|\mathbf{g}|$, with $\mathbf{g} \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- set $\mathbf{x} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \sqrt{\mathcal{Q}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}$

5. Practical interpretation

- $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ accounts for correlations
- \mathcal{Q} accounts for amplitude fluctuations
- models non-Gaussian distributions (e.g. heavy tails)

Fisher information matrix (FIM) for CES

Slepian-Bangs type formula

[Besson and Abramovich, 2013]

Assuming

$$\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{CES}(\boldsymbol{\mu}(\boldsymbol{\theta}), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

The FIM has for entries

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathbf{F}(\boldsymbol{\theta})]_{ij} &= 2\gamma \Re \left\{ \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\mu}^H(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_i} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\mu}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_j} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \right\} \\ &\quad + \alpha \text{Tr} \left\{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_i} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_j} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \right\} \\ &\quad + \beta \text{Tr} \left\{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_i} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \right\} \text{Tr} \left\{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_j} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where α , β and γ only depend on g .

Practical way to compute CRLBs

Compound Gaussian (CG) distributions (1/2)

Compound Gaussian (CG) distributions

An important subclass of CES, also called

- Spherically invariant random vectors (SIRVs) [Yao, 1973]
- Scale mixture of normal distributions [Andrews and Mallows, 1974]

$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{CG}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, f_\tau)$ if it admits the stochastic representation

$$\mathbf{x} \stackrel{d}{=} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \sqrt{\tau} \mathbf{n}$$

where

- $\mathbf{n} \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$, is called the **speckle**
- $\tau \geq 0$, of c.d.f. f_τ , called the **texture**, is independent of \mathbf{n}

Compound Gaussian (CG) distributions (2/2)

Comments

- Indeed a subclass of the CES

$$\mathbf{x} \stackrel{d}{=} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \sqrt{Q} \mathbf{A} \underbrace{\mathbf{g}/|\mathbf{g}|}_{\mathbf{u}} \stackrel{d}{=} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \underbrace{\sqrt{Q}/|\mathbf{g}|}_{\sqrt{\tau}} \underbrace{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{g}}_{\mathbf{n}}$$

\Rightarrow CG iff $\sqrt{\tau}$ and \mathbf{n} are actually independent from this relation

- Covariance matrix exists if $\mathbb{E}[\tau] < +\infty$, and

$$\mathbb{E} [(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^H] = \mathbb{E} [\tau] \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$$

- Identifiability: Both $(\sqrt{\tau}, \mathbf{n})$ and $(a\sqrt{\tau}, \mathbf{n}/a), \forall a > 0$ leads to same CG dist. for \mathbf{x}

Examples (1/2)

t-distribution

- CG representation with $\tau^{-1} \sim \Gamma(\nu/2, 2/\nu)$, where $\nu > 0$ (d.o.f.)
- $\nu = 1 \implies$ complex Cauchy dist.
- $\nu \rightarrow \infty \implies$ CN dist.

K-distribution

- CG representation with $\tau \sim \Gamma(\nu, 1/\nu)$, where $\nu > 0$
- $\nu \downarrow \implies$ heavy-tailed dist
- $\nu \rightarrow \infty \implies$ CN dist

Examples (2/2)

Generalized Gaussian distribution

- CES representation with $\mathcal{Q} \stackrel{d}{=} G^{1/s}$ where $G \sim \Gamma(m/s, \eta)$, $s, \eta > 0$
- $s = 1 \implies$ CN dist.
- Heavier tails for $s < 1$ and lighter tails for $s > 1$

CG with deterministic textures

- CG representation with unknown deterministic textures $\{\tau_i\}$
- Conditional representation

$$\mathbf{x}_i | \tau_i \sim \mathbb{C}\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \tau_i \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

- Practical to derive robust processes with unknown f_τ (or g)

Practical use of CES/CG distributions

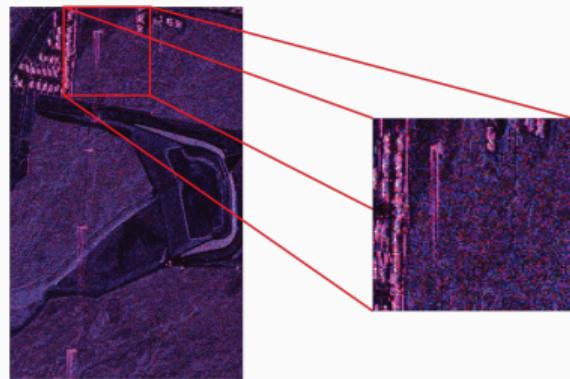
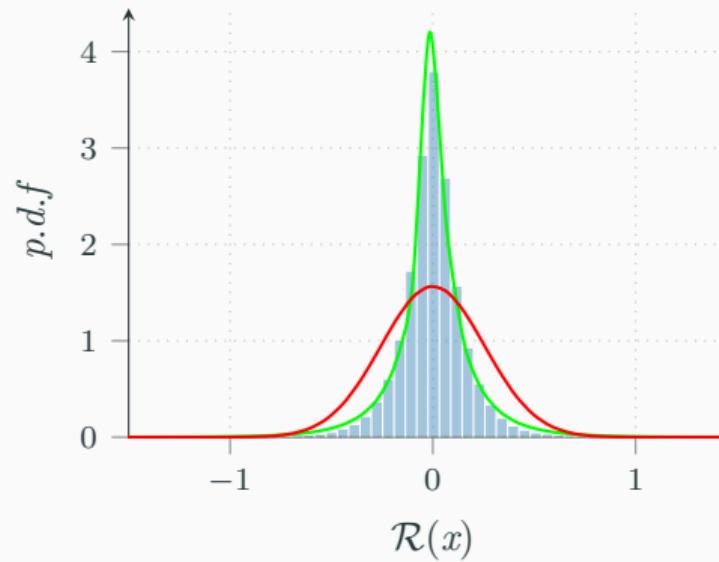


Figure 2: UAVSAR data (NASA/JPL-Caltech)



Good fit to the empirical distribution of the data!

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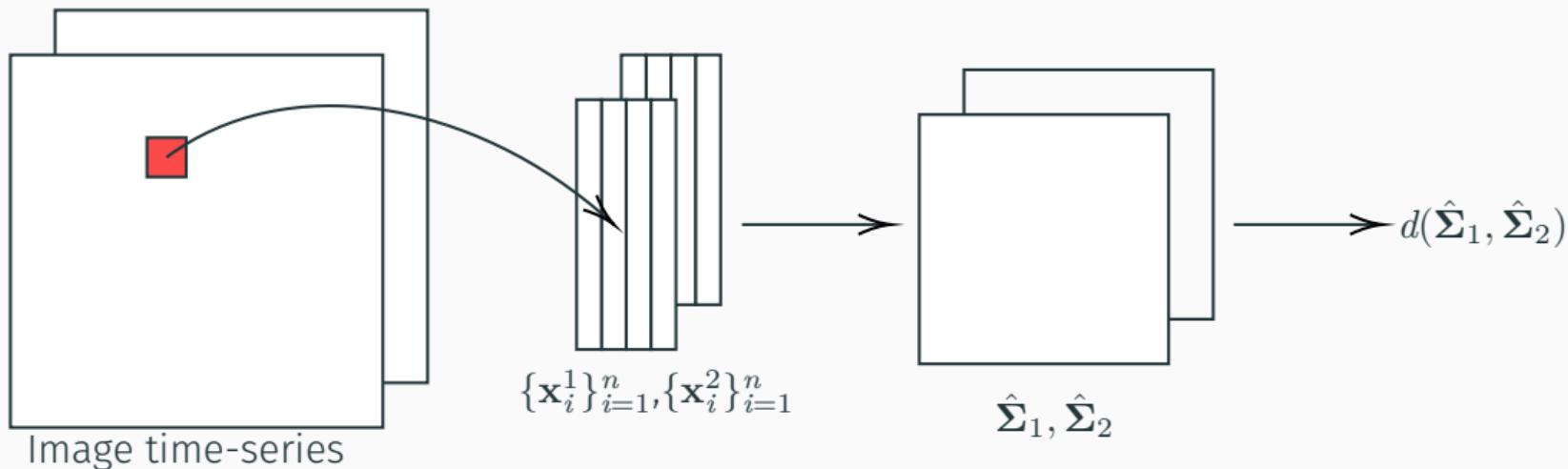
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2-Step CD: recap



- **Covariance matrix estimation** (feature extraction)
- Evaluation of a **distance** (feature comparison)

2-step CD: from Gaussian to CES

Gaussian plug-in detectors

$$\Lambda(\{\{\mathbf{x}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T) = d(\hat{\Sigma}_{\text{SCM}}^1, \hat{\Sigma}_{\text{SCM}}^2)$$

Issues when samples are CES

- The SCM is an **inaccurate** estimator
- The CES density generator g is **unknown** in practice
- We need **robust estimators** of the covariance matrix

Recall on the sample covariance matrix

Gaussian model

$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$ has the p.d.f.:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \propto |\Sigma|^{-1} \exp(-\mathbf{x}^H \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{x})$$

Sample covariance matrix (SCM)

Maximum likelihood estimator of the covariance matrix:

$$\hat{\Sigma}_{\text{SCM}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^H$$

→ Not robust to heavy tails (nor outliers).

Covariance matrix estimation in CES (1/2)

Maximum likelihood estimator (known g)

Let $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n \in (\mathbb{C}^p)^n$ be a n -sample following $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{CES}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma, g)$

- MLE: $\hat{\Sigma}_{\text{MLE}}$ that minimizes the negative log-likelihood function

$$\mathcal{L}(\Sigma) = n \ln |\Sigma| - \sum_{i=1}^n \ln g(\mathbf{x}_i^H \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i)$$

- Solution to the **fixed-point** equation

$$\hat{\Sigma}_{\text{MLE}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(\mathbf{x}_i^H \hat{\Sigma}_{\text{MLE}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^H$$

with $\varphi(t) = -g'(t)/g(t)$.

Covariance matrix estimation in CES (2/2)

M-Estimators (unknown g)

(PDF not specified \Rightarrow M-estimators can be used instead of MLE)

A complex M-estimator of Σ is defined as the solution of

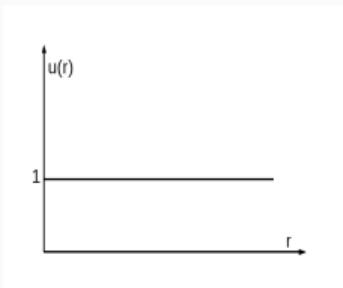
$$\widehat{\Sigma}_M = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n u \left(\mathbf{x}_i^H \widehat{\Sigma}_M^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i \right) \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^H,$$

for a given weight function u (not necessarily linked to g, φ).

Examples of M -estimators (1/2)

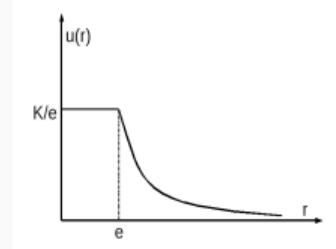
SCM

$$u(r) = 1$$



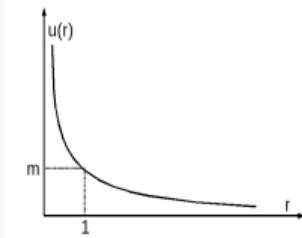
Huber

$$u(r) = \begin{cases} A/e & \text{if } r \leq e \\ A/r & \text{if } r > e \end{cases}$$



Tyler

$$u(r) = \frac{p}{r}$$



Remarks:

- Huber = mix between SCM and Tyler
- Performance/robustness trade-off

Tyler Estimator:

$$\mathbf{V} = \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^H}{\mathbf{x}_i^H \mathbf{V}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i}$$

Examples of *M*-estimators (2/2)

Other option: assume a specific g (not necessarily true)

Example : t -distribution with degree of freedom d

$$g(t) = \left(1 + \frac{2t}{d}\right)^{-(2p+d)/2}$$

Derive an M -estimator as its corresponding MLE:

$$\hat{\Sigma}_d = \frac{d+p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^H}{d + \mathbf{x}_i^H \hat{\Sigma}_d^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i}$$

⇒ trade-off between SCM ($d \rightarrow \infty$) and Tyler ($d \rightarrow 0$)

M-estimators: some key properties (1/2)

1. Computation with fixed-point algorithm (EM and MM interpretation)

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{h+1} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n u(\mathbf{x}_i^H \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_h^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^H$$

2. Existence, uniqueness, algorithm convergence subject to conditions on u and $n > p$

- Real case [Maronna, 1976, Tyler, 1987]
- Complex case [Pascal et al., 2008, Ollila et al., 2012]
- Using g -convexity [Wiesel, 2012]

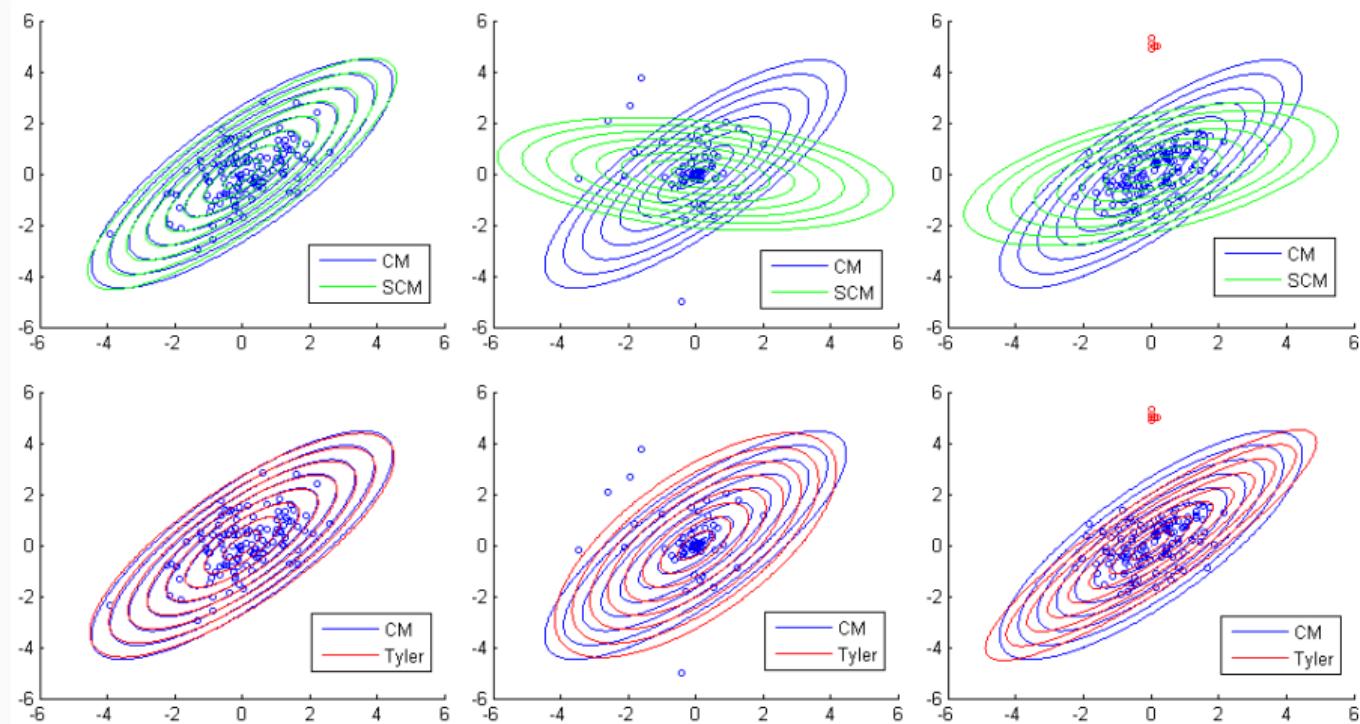
3. Several asymptotic characterization

- Standard Gaussian asymptotic [Ollila et al., 2012]
- Asymptotic Wishart equivalent [Drašković and Pascal, 2018]
- Large (n, p) regime [Zhang et al., 2014, Couillet et al., 2015]
- PAC bounds [Soloveychik and Wiesel, 2015]
- Comparison with Cramer-Rao bounds [Greco and Gini, 2013, Breloy et al., 2019]

M-estimators: some key properties (2/2)

4. Asymptotically **unbiased** and **consistent** estimators **up to a scaling**
⇒ Estimators of the *shape matrix*
5. Robust over the class of CES (Tyler is even “distribution-free”)
6. Robust to outliers [Maronna, 1976]
 - Influence function
 - Breakdown point
7. If the data is Gaussian: **little loss compared to the SCM**

Interest: visual examples with SCM and Tyler



Alternate way to demonstrate uniqueness: geodesic convexity

g-convexity

- Also referred to as **super-convexity** or **arcwise connectivity**
- Extends the concept of convexity to **geodesic curves** (link with Riemannian geometry)
- Used in many recent references about covariance estimation [Wiesel, 2011, Wiesel, 2012, Zhang et al., 2013, Ollila and Tyler, 2014, Duembgen and Tyler, 2016, Mian et al., 2019a, Breloy et al., 2019]

Geodesic curve on \mathcal{H}_p^{++}

Let the pair $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2 \in \mathcal{H}_p^{++}$, define the curve

$$\Sigma(\textcolor{brown}{t}) = \Sigma_1^{1/2} (\Sigma_1^{-1/2} \Sigma_2 \Sigma_1^{-1/2})^{\textcolor{brown}{t}} \Sigma_1^{1/2}$$

(shortest path between Σ_1 and Σ_2 on \mathcal{H}_p^{++} endowed with its natural metric)

g -convexity on \mathcal{H}_p^{++} : definitions

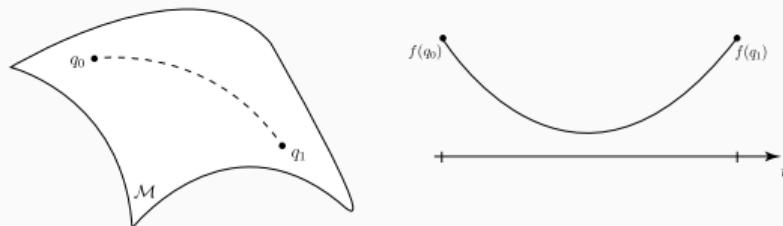
g -convex set of \mathcal{H}_p^{++}

A set $\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{H}_p^{++}$ is g -convex if for any $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2 \in \mathcal{S}, \Sigma(t) \in \mathcal{S} \forall t$

g -convex function

Let $\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{H}_p^{++}$ be a g -convex set, a function f is g -convex on \mathcal{S} if for any pair $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2 \in \mathcal{S}$

$$f(\Sigma(t)) \leq tf(\Sigma_1) + (1 - t)f(\Sigma_2), \quad \forall t \in [0, 1]$$



g -convexity: key properties

Propositions

- If f is geodesically convex on \mathcal{H}_p^{++} , any local minimum is a global minimum.
- If a minimum is obtained in \mathcal{H}_p^{++} then the set of all minimums form a g -convex subset of \mathcal{H}_p^{++} .
- If f is strictly g -convex and a minimum is obtained on \mathcal{H}_p^{++} , then it is a unique minimum.

g-convexity of *M*-estimators cost functions

Proposition

Let $\rho(t)$ be a non decreasing continuous function such that

$$r(x) = \rho(e^x)$$

is convex, then

$$\mathcal{L}(\Sigma) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \rho(\mathbf{x}^H \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{x}) + \ln |\Sigma|$$

is *g*-convex on \mathcal{H}_p^{++} .

Examples:

- CES log-likelihoods
- Costs linked to *M*-estimations: $\rho(t) = \ln |t|$ for Tyler estimator

Conclusions

On CES/CG models

- Flexible family of multivariate distributions
- Good empirical fit to many datasets
- M -estimators: robust estimators suited to this family

On g -convexity on \mathcal{H}_p^{++}

- Useful to derive meaningful costs/penalties for robust covariance matrix estimation
- Provides guarantees on existence/uniqueness of the solutions

Can we now apply M -estimators to plug-in change detectors ?

Recap on UAVSAR data

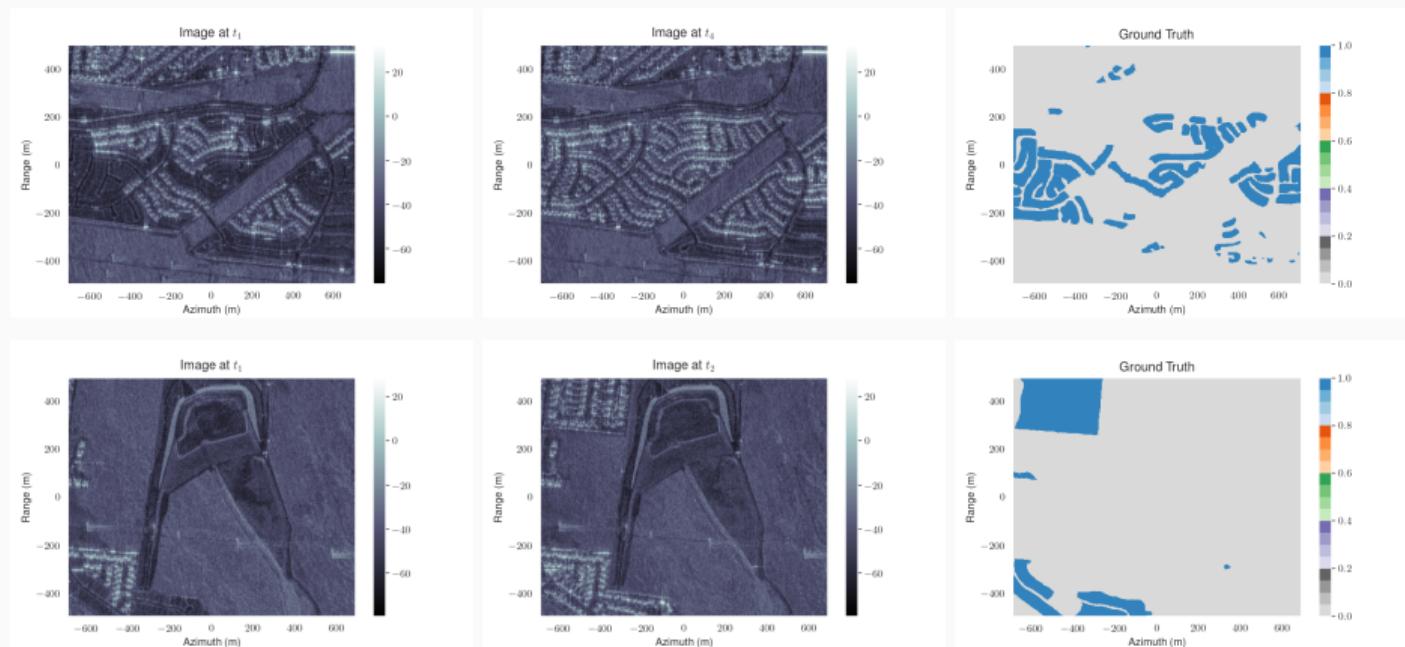


Figure 3: UAVSAR SanAnd_26524_03 scenes 1 and 2 [Ratha et al., 2017, Nascimento et al., 2019]

Compared detectors

- $\hat{\Lambda}_G$: Gaussian GLRT as baseline
- Plug-in Rao distance

$$d_{\text{Rao}}(\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2) = \alpha \sum_{i=1}^p \log^2 \lambda_i + \beta \left(\sum_{i=1}^p \log \lambda_i \right)^2 \text{ with } \{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^p = \text{eig}(\Sigma_1^{-1} \Sigma_2)$$

- $\hat{\Lambda}_{RG}$: SCMs, $\alpha = 1, \beta = 0$
- $\hat{\Lambda}_{RE}$: MLE of t -distribution (d.o.f. $d = 3$), $\alpha = \frac{d+p}{d+p+1}, \beta = \alpha - 1$
- Plug-in Wasserstein distance

$$d_W(\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2) = \text{Tr} \left\{ \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 - 2 \left(\Sigma_2^{1/2} \Sigma_1 \Sigma_2^{1/2} \right)^{1/2} \right\}$$

- $\hat{\Lambda}_{wg}$: computed with SCMs
- $\hat{\Lambda}_{we}$: computed with Tyler M -estimator (scale averaged)

Results

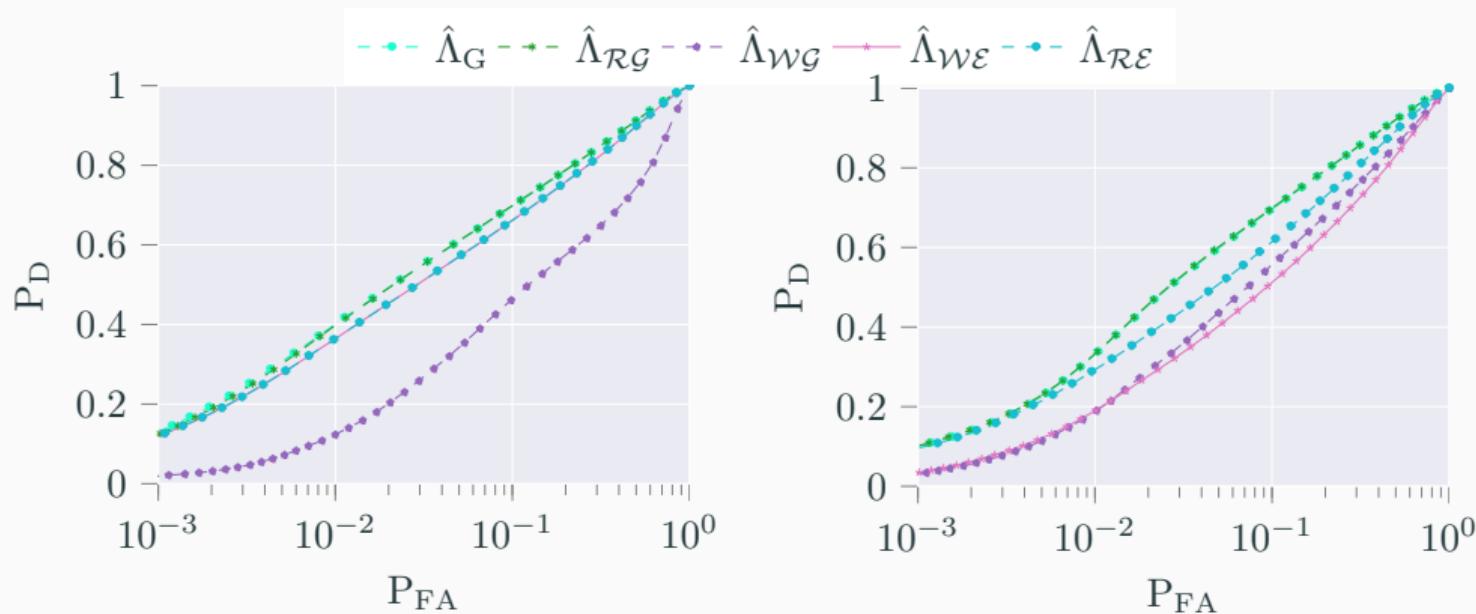


Figure 4: ROC plots using a 5×5 local window for the scenes 1 and 2.

Conclusion on the 2-step approach for CES data

- **M -estimators:** are very good at robustly estimating Σ
- **2-step CD application:** not always beneficial
 - Robustness: not sensitive to a change in few pixels in the patch (edges)
 - 2-step CD: does not grasp modular-variate/textures variations
 - M -estimators even mitigate their impact
 - e.g., Tyler makes a change in scale vanish, while we want to detect it

We need to turn to statistical criteria to fully leverage CES models !

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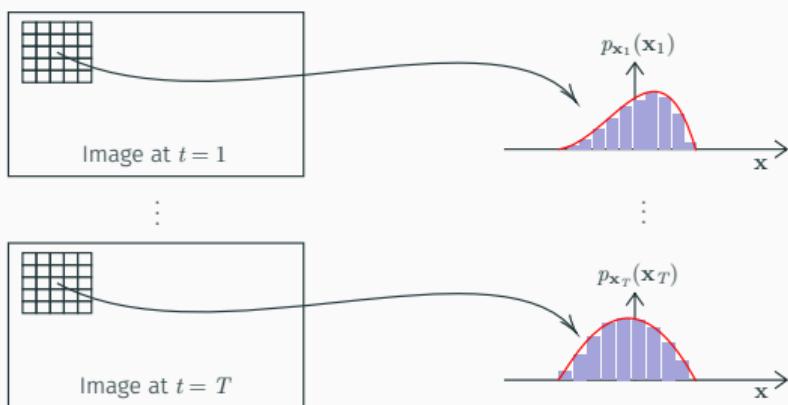
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Brief recap on 1-step statistical detection



- Set a **probabilistic model**

$$\mathbf{x}_i^t \sim p_{\mathbf{x}_i^t}(\mathbf{x}_i^t; \boldsymbol{\theta}_t; \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t),$$

$\{\boldsymbol{\theta}_t, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t\}$: interest/nuisance **parameters**

- Detect change in $\boldsymbol{\theta}_t \Leftrightarrow$ **binary hypothesis test**

$$\begin{cases} H_0 : \boldsymbol{\theta}_t = \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'} & \& \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t \neq \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t'}, \quad \forall(t, t') \\ H_1 : \boldsymbol{\theta}_t \neq \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'} & \& \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t \neq \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t'}, \quad \forall(t, t') \end{cases}$$

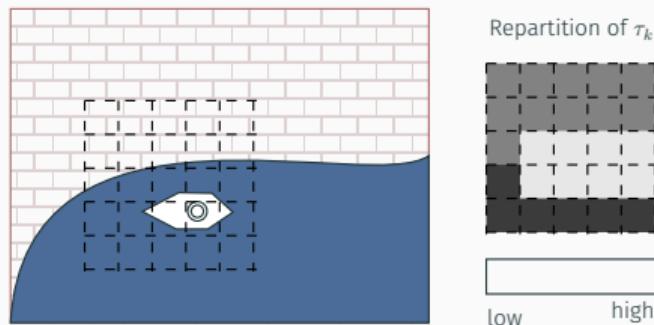
- Derive a **criterion** (GLRT, Rao, Wald, etc.)

Model for CD within CG

Model

CES with no assumption on density $g \rightarrow$ CG with unknown deterministic textures:

$$\mathbf{x}_i^t \sim \mathbb{C}\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau_i^t \Sigma_t)$$



Intuition: Σ_t captures local correlations and τ_i^t captures power fluctuations

Derivation of the GLRT

- **The MLE is Tyler's *M-estimator*,** why not plug it in in the formula of Λ_G ?

- Not the true GLRT: 2-step approach using GLRT as a distance
 - Tyler's scale ambiguity → losing power variations
 - τ is a new parameter that can also be tested individually
-
- **3 detection tests** [Mian et al., 2019a]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{Covariance only:} & \boldsymbol{\theta}_t = \{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t\} \quad \& \quad \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t = \{\boldsymbol{\tau}_t\} \\ \text{Covariance and textures:} & \boldsymbol{\theta}_t = \{\boldsymbol{\tau}_t, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t\} \quad \& \quad \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t = \emptyset \\ \text{Textures only:} & \boldsymbol{\theta}_t = \{\boldsymbol{\tau}_t\} \quad \& \quad \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t = \{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t\} \end{array} \right.$$

GLRT's expressions

Covariance only ($\theta_t = \{\Sigma_t\}$ & $\Phi_t = \{\tau_t\}$)

$$\hat{\Lambda}_{\mathcal{CAE}} = \frac{\left| \hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{TE}} \right|^{Tn}}{\prod_{t=1}^T \left| \hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{TE}} \right|^n} \prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{t=1}^T \frac{\left(q(\hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{TE}}, \mathbf{x}_i^t) \right)^p}{\left(q(\hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{TE}}, \mathbf{x}_i^t) \right)^p} \begin{matrix} \text{H}_1 \\ \gtrless \\ \text{H}_0 \end{matrix} \lambda,$$

where: $\hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{TE}} = f_t^{\text{TE}}(\hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{TE}})$, $\hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{TE}} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t^{\text{TE}}(\hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{TE}})$, $q(\Sigma, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^H \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{x}$ and

$$f_t^{\text{TE}}(\Sigma) = \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{x}_i^t \mathbf{x}_i^{tH}}{q(\Sigma, \mathbf{x}_i^t)}.$$

Property of global maximum thanks to g -convexity [Wiesel, 2012]

GLRT's expressions

Covariance and texture ($\theta_t = \{\tau_t, \Sigma_t\}$ & $\Phi_t = \emptyset$)

$$\hat{\Lambda}_{\text{MT}} = \frac{\left| \hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{MT}} \right|^{Tn}}{\prod_{t=1}^T \left| \hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{TE}} \right|^n} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\left(\sum_{t=1}^T q \left(\hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{MT}}, \mathbf{x}_i^t \right) \right)^{Tp}}{T^{Tp} \prod_{t=1}^T \left(q \left(\hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{TE}}, \mathbf{x}_i^t \right) \right)^p} \stackrel{H_1}{\gtrless} \lambda,$$

where:

$$\hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{MT}} = f_{n,T}^{\text{MT}} \left(\hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{MT}} \right) = \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T \mathbf{x}_i^t (\mathbf{x}_i^t)^H}{\sum_{t=1}^T q \left(\hat{\Sigma}_0^{\text{MT}}, \mathbf{x}_i^t \right)}.$$

Property of global maximum thanks to g -convexity [Wiesel, 2012]
 IEEE RadarConf 2020

GLRT's expressions

Texture only ($\theta_t = \{\tau_t\}$ & $\Phi_t = \Sigma_t$)

$$\hat{\Lambda}_{\text{Tex}} = \prod_{t=1}^T \frac{\left| \hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{Tex}} \right|^n}{\left| \hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{TE}} \right|^n} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\left(\sum_{t=1}^T q\left(\hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{Tex}}, \mathbf{x}_i^t\right) \right)^{Tp}}{T^{Tp} \prod_{t=1}^T \left(q\left(\hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{TE}}, \mathbf{x}_i^t\right) \right)^p} \stackrel{\text{H}_1}{\gtrless} \lambda, \stackrel{\text{H}_0}{\leq}$$

where:

$$\hat{\Sigma}_t^{\text{Tex}} = f_{n,T,t}^{\text{Tex}} \left(\hat{\Sigma}_1^{\text{Tex}}, \dots, \hat{\Sigma}_T^{\text{Tex}} \right) = \frac{Tp}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{x}_i^t (\mathbf{x}_i^t)^H}{\sum_{t'=1}^T q\left(\hat{\Sigma}_{t'}^{\text{Tex}}, \mathbf{x}_i^t\right)}.$$

Property of global maximum thanks to g -convexity [Wiesel, 2012]

CFAR properties

CFARness w.r.t. shape matrix

$\hat{\Lambda}_{MT}$ and $\hat{\Lambda}_{CAE}$ are CFAR matrix while $\hat{\Lambda}_{Tex}$ is not.

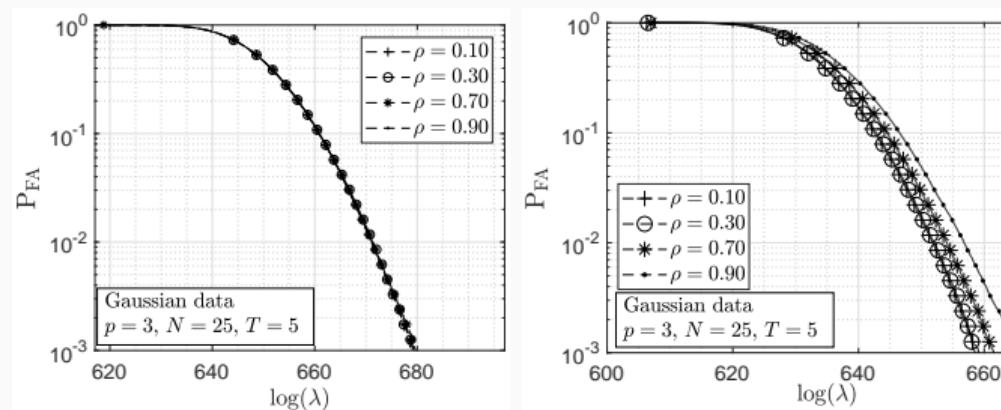


Figure 5: PFA versus threshold with $\mathbf{x}_i^t \sim \mathcal{CN} \left(\mathbf{0}_p, (\rho^{|i-j|})_{ij} \right)$.

CFAR properties

CFARness w.r.t. texture parameters

$\hat{\Lambda}_{\text{MT}}$, $\hat{\Lambda}_{\mathcal{CAE}}$ and $\hat{\Lambda}_{\text{Tex}}$ are CFAR texture.

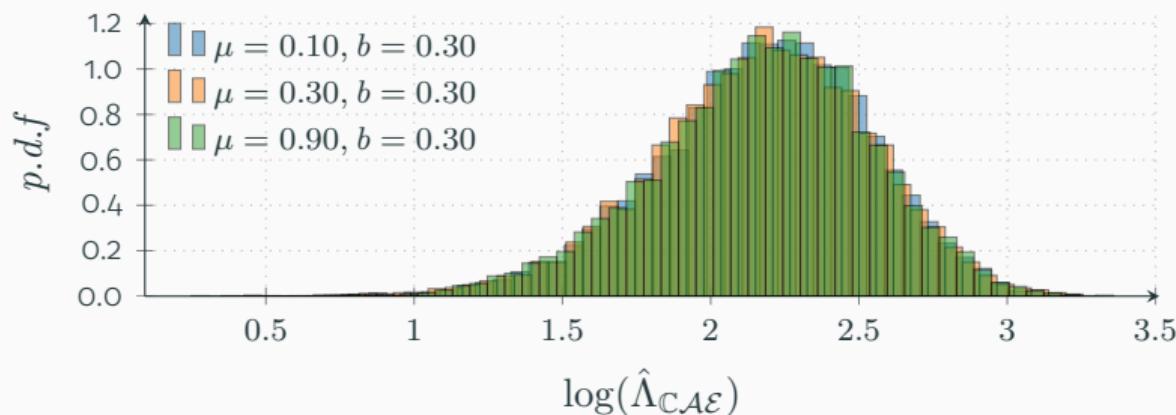


Figure 5: Test statistic histogram with $\mathbf{x}_i^t = \sqrt{\tau_i^t} \mathbf{z}_i^t$ where $\mathbf{z}_i^t \sim \mathbb{C}\mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{0}_p, (0.3^{|i-j|})_{ij} \right)$ and $\forall (i, t), \tau_i^t = \tau_i \sim \Gamma(\nu, b)$

Results on UAVSAR data

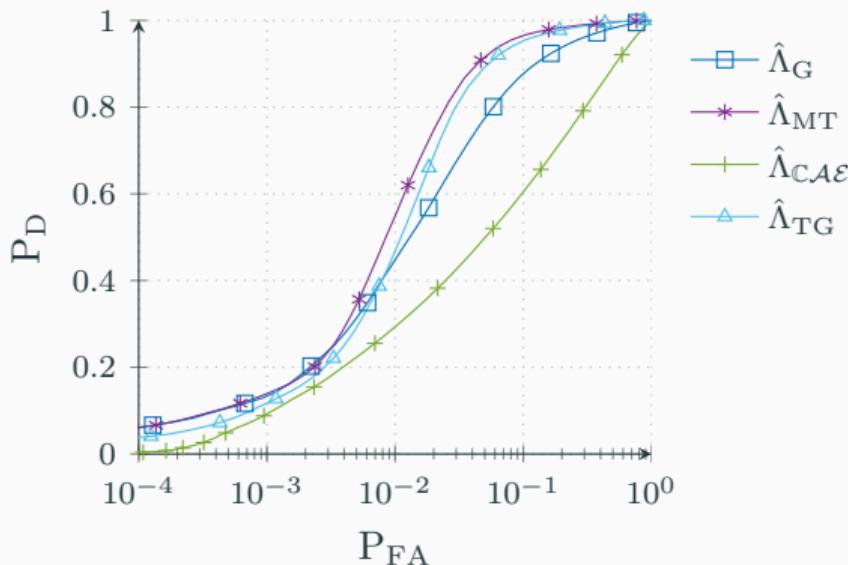
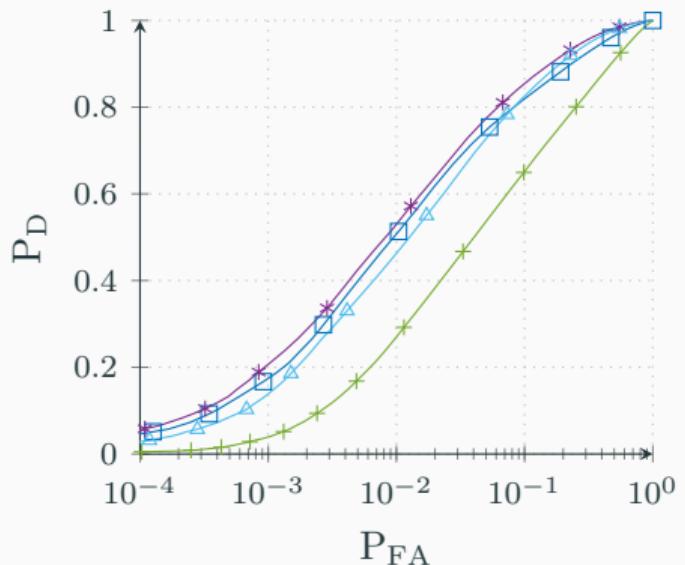


Figure 6: ROC plots using a 5×5 local window for the scenes 1 and 2.

Some concluding remarks

- **2-steps approaches:** do not fully leverage CES models
- **GLRT for covariance/texture testing under CG modelling**
 - Improved performance on SAR data
 - CFAR properties
- **Extensions**
 - CES case can be transposed but is more specific (assumed g)
 - t_1 , Wald, Rao, etc., remain to be derived

Remaining issue

- Dealing with *high p with reasonable n*
- Regularization or *structured covariance matrices*

Content

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Motivation through CD in SAR ITS

Dimensionality issue

- Wavelet transformations highlight interesting phenomena **but increase p**
- $n > p$ required for M -estimators to exist
- $n \sim 2p$ is a common rule of thumb to expect a correct estimation

⇒ Decreases the spatial resolution in CD

A possible solution

- Introduce **prior information** on the covariance structure
- Reduce the estimation problem dimension: better performances with low n

Examples of covariance matrices structures (1/2)

- **Linear and convex sets**

[Meriaux et al., 2019, Soloveychik and Wiesel, 2014]

$$\Sigma = \sum_{i=1}^L \alpha_i \mathbf{B}_i \text{ with } \forall i, \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

Common in **radar signal processing** (Toeplitz, sum-of-rank-1, blocks...)

- **Group symmetric structure**

[Soloveychik et al., 2015]

$$\Sigma = \mathbf{H} \Sigma \mathbf{H}^H \text{ for } \mathbf{H} \in \mathcal{G}$$

Induced by **symmetries of the sensing system**

Examples of covariance matrices structures (2/2)

- Kronecker products

[Wiesel, 2012, Breloy et al., 2016]

$$\Sigma = \mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}$$

Common in MIMO systems

- Factor models (spiked, low-rank)

[Sun et al., 2015]

$$\Sigma = \sum_{r=1}^k \lambda_r \mathbf{v}_r \mathbf{v}_r^H + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$$

Ubiquitous in radar, finance, bioinformatics, ...

Robust structured estimation: EXIP approaches

[Meriaux et al., 2019]

- **Parameterization** of the structure $\Sigma = \mathcal{R}(\theta)$

- **2-step estimation** procedure

1. Compute an M -estimator $\hat{\Sigma}_M$
2. Refine the estimate with the projection $\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \mathcal{J}_{\hat{\Sigma}_m, \hat{\Sigma}}(\theta)$, with

$$\mathcal{J}_{\hat{\Sigma}_m, \hat{\Sigma}}(\theta) = \alpha \operatorname{Tr} \left(\hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \left(\hat{\Sigma}_m - \mathcal{R}(\theta) \right) \hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \left(\hat{\Sigma}_m - \mathcal{R}(\theta) \right) \right) + \beta \left[\operatorname{Tr} \left(\hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \left(\hat{\Sigma}_m - \mathcal{R}(\theta) \right) \right) \right]^2$$

$\hat{\Sigma}$ is a consistent estimator, (α, β) build the FIM [Besson and Abramovich, 2013]

• Performance

- Theoretically guarantees, **asymptotic (m)-efficiency**
- **Sub-optimal at low sample support**

Robust structured estimation: optimization approaches

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\Sigma}{\text{minimize}} && \mathcal{L}(\Sigma) \\ & \text{subject to} && \Sigma \in \mathcal{S} \end{aligned}$$

Convexity, g -convexity

- recasting meaningful problems [Soloveychik and Wiesel, 2014]
- guarantees on global optimality for some structures [Wiesel and Zhang, 2015]

Majorization-minimization (MM)

[Sun et al., 2016a]

- **Closed-form iteration**, scalable algorithms
- Most structures have been tackled [Sun et al., 2016b, Breloy et al., 2016]

SAR data: a focus on low-rank models

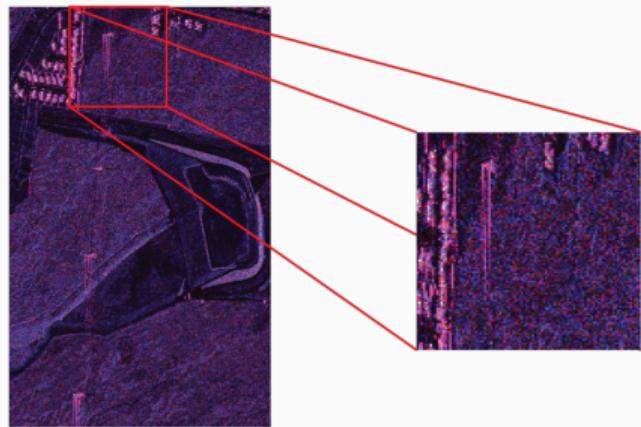


Figure 7: UAVSAR data (NASA/JPL-Caltech)

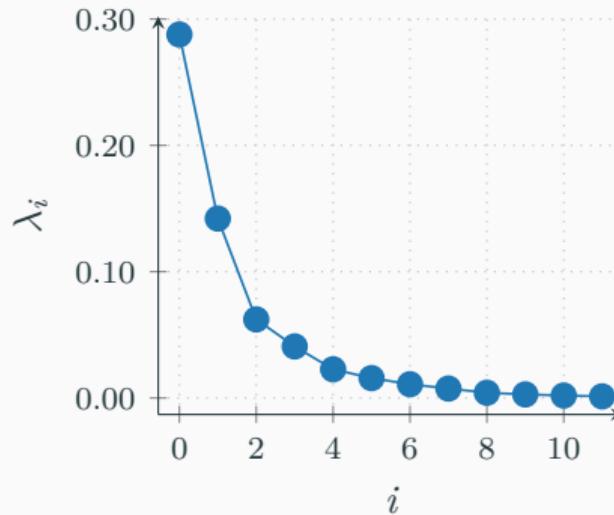


Figure 8: Spectrum ($p = 12$ wavelets)

Extending Tyler's estimator to low-rank models

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\Sigma}{\text{minimize}} && \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ln (\mathbf{x}_i^H \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i) + \ln |\Sigma| \\ & \text{subject to} && \Sigma = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{V}^H + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_p \\ & && \mathbf{V}^H \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{I}_k \end{aligned}$$

Issues

- No explicit solution
- Non-convex (nor g -convex)
- Requires iterative algorithms to evaluate local maximum → MM algorithm

The MM Algorithm (1/3)

[Hunter and Lange, 2004, Sun et al., 2016a]

- Consider the optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\mathbf{x}}{\text{minimize}} \quad f(\mathbf{x}) \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \end{aligned}$$

where f is too complex to handle directly

- The idea is to successively minimize an approximation $g(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{x}_t)$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \underset{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \quad g(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{x}_t)$$

hoping the sequence $\{\mathbf{x}_t\}$ will converge to an optimal point of f

- The MM algorithm provides

- The guidelines for the construction of such function g
- The conditions to ensure the success of this method

The MM Algorithm (2/3)

[Hunter and Lange, 2004, Sun et al., 2016a]

Construction rules for the surrogate function g

(A1) Equality at the considered point

$$g(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{y}) = f(\mathbf{y}) \quad \forall \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}$$

(A2) “Majorization”

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \leq g(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) \quad \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}$$

(A3) Equality of directional derivatives

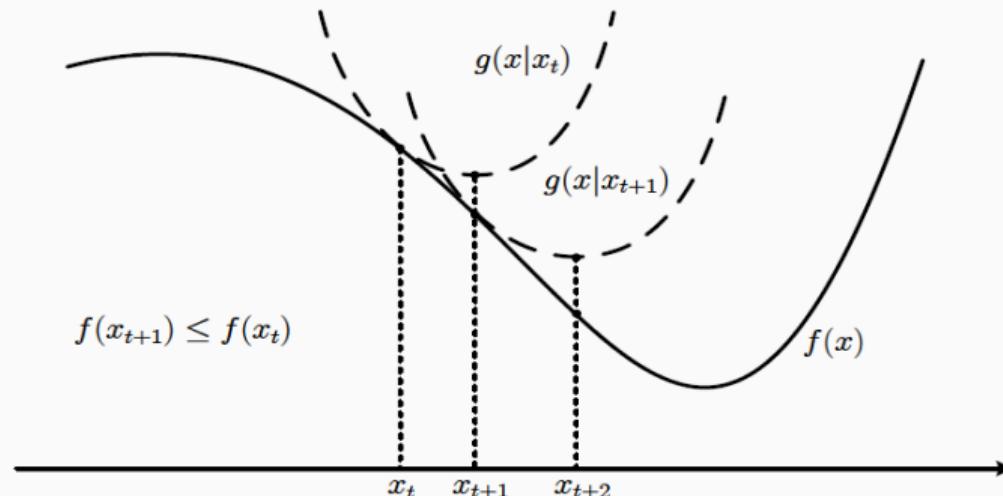
$$g'(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \mathbf{d})|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}} = f'(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{d}) \quad \forall \mathbf{d} \text{ with } \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{d} \in \mathcal{X}$$

(A4) $g(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y})$ is continuous in \mathbf{x} and in \mathbf{y}

The MM Algorithm (3/3)

[Hunter and Lange, 2004, Sun et al., 2016a]

“Iteratively minimizing a smooth local tight upperbound of the objective”



$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} g(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{x}_t)$$

Applying MM to our problem (1/2)

Majorization: “Gaussian” surrogate

$$\frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ln (\mathbf{x}_i^H \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i) + \ln |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}| \leq \frac{p}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{x}_i^H \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i}{\mathbf{x}_i^H \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i} + \ln |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}| + \text{const.}$$

Similar to a Gaussian likelihood with reweighted samples (IRLS)

Minimization: MLE for Gaussian factor models

[Tipping and Bishop, 1999]

Let $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ follow $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{V}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^H + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_p)$, the MLE of the covariance matrix is

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} = \mathcal{T}_k \left\{ \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{SCM}} \right\} \stackrel{\text{EVD}}{=} \hat{\mathbf{V}} \text{diag} \left([d_1, \dots, d_k, \hat{\sigma}^2, \dots, \hat{\sigma}^2] \right) \hat{\mathbf{V}}^H$$

with $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{SCM}} \stackrel{\text{EVD}}{=} \hat{\mathbf{V}} \text{diag} ([d_1, \dots, d_p]) \hat{\mathbf{V}}^H$ and $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \text{mean} ([d_{k+1}, \dots, d_p])$

Applying MM to our problem (2/2)

Algorithm 1 MM for low-rank structured Tyler's estimator

repeat

 Compute the SCM of normalized samples $\mathbf{x}_i / (\sqrt{\mathbf{x}_i^H \Sigma_t^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i} / p)$

 Update Σ_{t+1} by averaging $(p - k)$ last eigenvalues

until convergence

Alternatives

- EM-type/BCD w. textures $((\{\tau_i\}, \Sigma) \rightarrow$ yields the same iterations !
- Riemannian optimization (beneficial at low sample support) [Bouchard et al., 2020a]

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Application to GLRT for CD

GLRT

Given the data $\{\{\mathbf{x}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T$, model $p_{\mathbf{x}}$ and test parameters $\{\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}\}$, the GLRT is

$$\hat{\Lambda}_{\text{GLRT}} = \frac{\max_{\{\boldsymbol{\theta}_t, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t\}_{t=1}^T} p_{\mathbf{x}} (\{\{\mathbf{x}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T ; \{\boldsymbol{\theta}_t, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t\}_{t=1}^T | H_1)}{\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0, \{\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t\}_{t=1}^T} p_{\mathbf{x}} (\{\{\mathbf{x}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T ; \boldsymbol{\theta}_0, \{\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t\}_{t=1}^T | H_0)} \stackrel{H_1}{\gtrless} \lambda.$$

For CD with low-rank models

- No closed form expression of the MLE
- Optimization to evaluate the maximum over both hypotheses

Low-rank Gaussian CD (1/2)

[Ben Abdallah et al., 2019]

Model and parameters

$$\mathbf{x}_i^t \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_k^t + \sigma_t^2 \mathbf{I})$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}} (\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n | \Sigma) \propto \prod_{i=1}^n |\Sigma|^{-1} \exp(-\mathbf{x}_i^H \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i)$$

Hypothesis test

$$\begin{aligned} H_0 : \quad \boldsymbol{\theta}_0 &= \{\Sigma_k^0, \sigma_0^2\} \\ H_1 : \quad \{\boldsymbol{\theta}_t\}_{t=1}^T &= \{\Sigma_k^t, \sigma_t^2\}_{t=1}^T \end{aligned}$$

Low-rank Gaussian CD (2/2)

[Ben Abdallah et al., 2019]

Expression of the GLRT: no closed form

$$\hat{\Lambda}_{\text{LRG}} = \frac{\mathcal{L} \left(\{\{\mathbf{x}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T | H_1; \mathcal{T}_k\{\hat{\Sigma}_1\}, \dots, \mathcal{T}_k\{\hat{\Sigma}_T\} \right)}{\mathcal{L} \left(\{\{\mathbf{x}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T | H_0; \mathcal{T}_k\{\hat{\Sigma}_0\} \right)} \stackrel{H_1}{\gtrless} \lambda.$$

where $\hat{\Sigma}_t = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{x}_i^t (\mathbf{x}_i^t)^H$. From $\Sigma \stackrel{\text{EVD}}{=} \mathbf{U} \text{diag}(\mathbf{d}) \mathbf{U}^H$, we obtain $\mathcal{T}_k\{\Sigma\}$:

$$\mathcal{T}_k\{\Sigma\} = \mathbf{U} \text{diag}(\tilde{\mathbf{d}}) \mathbf{U}^H$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{d}} = [d_1, \dots, d_k, \hat{\sigma}_t^2, \dots, \hat{\sigma}_t^2]$ and $\hat{\sigma}_t^2 = \sum_{r=k+1}^p d_r / (p - k)$.

Low-rank compound Gaussian CD (1/2)

[Mian et al., 2020]

Model and parameters

$$\mathbf{x}_i^t \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \tau_i^t (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^t + \sigma_t^2 \mathbf{I}))$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}_{CG} (\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n | \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \{\tau_i\}_{i=1}^n) \propto \prod_{i=1}^n |\tau_i \boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{-1} \exp (-\mathbf{x}_i^H (\tau_i \boldsymbol{\Sigma})^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i)$$

Hypothesis test

$$\begin{aligned} H_0 : \quad \boldsymbol{\theta}_0 &= \{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^0, \sigma_0^2, \{\tau_i^0\}_{i=1}^n\} \\ H_1 : \quad \{\boldsymbol{\theta}_t\}_{t=1}^T &= \{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^t, \sigma_t^2, \{\tau_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T \end{aligned}$$

Low-rank compound Gaussian CD (2/2)

[Mian et al., 2020]

Evaluating Λ_{LRCG} requires to compute:

$$\hat{\Lambda}_{LRCG} = \frac{\mathcal{L}_{LRCG}^{H_1} \left(\{\{\mathbf{x}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T \mid \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{LRCG}^{H_1} \right)}{\mathcal{L}_{LRCG}^{H_0} \left(\{\{\mathbf{x}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n\}_{t=1}^T \mid \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{LRCG}^{H_0} \right)},$$

where $\mathcal{L}_{LRCG}^{H_0}$ and $\mathcal{L}_{LRCG}^{H_1}$ are the likelihood under H_0 and H_1 , and where

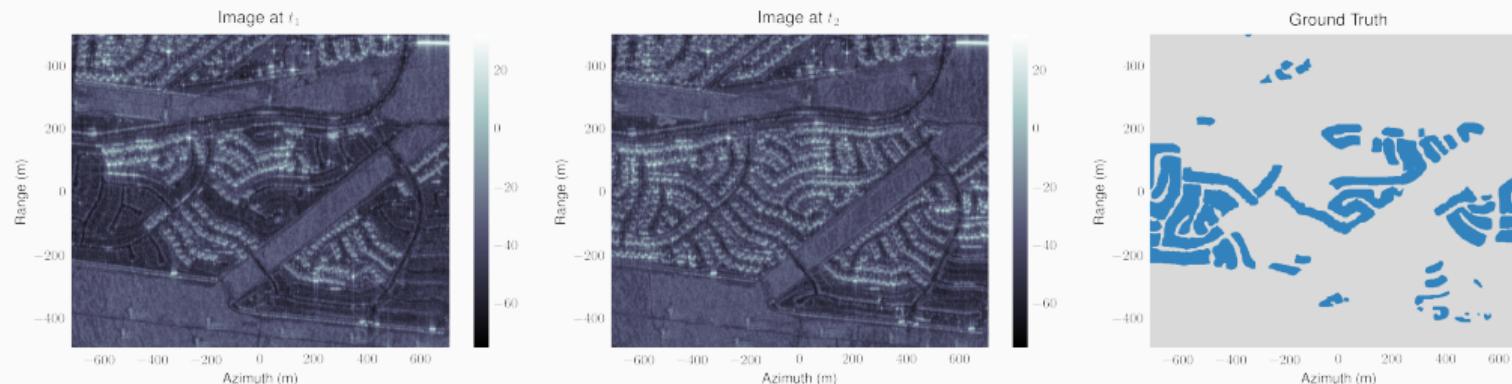
$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{LRCG}^{H_0} &= \left\{ \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_k^0, \hat{\sigma}_0^2, \{\hat{\tau}_i^0\}_{i=1}^n \right\}, \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{LRCG}^{H_1} &= \left\{ \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_k^t, \hat{\sigma}_t^2, \{\hat{\tau}_i^t\}_{i=1}^n \right\}_{t=1}^T\end{aligned}$$

are the MLE under H_0 and H_1 , respectively → evaluated with MM algorithm!

UAVSAR scene 1

Description

- Polarimetric data → wavelet decompr. [Mian et al., 2017] → $p = 12$ dim. pixels
- CD ground truth from [Nascimento et al., 2019]



Recall of the considered CD methods

Gaussian

$$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{C}\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$$

$$\theta = \Sigma$$

Low-rank Gaussian

$$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{C}\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_k + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$

$$\theta = \{\Sigma_k, \sigma^2\}, \text{ with } \text{rank}(\Sigma_k) = k$$

Compound-Gaussian

$$\mathbf{x}_i \sim \mathbb{C}\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau_i \Sigma)$$

$$\theta = \{\Sigma, \{\tau_i\}\}$$

Low-rank Compound-Gaussian

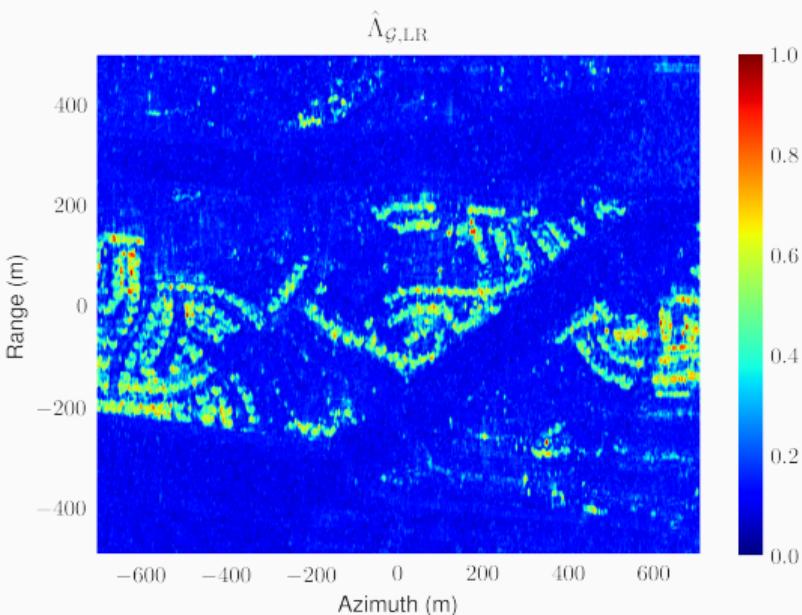
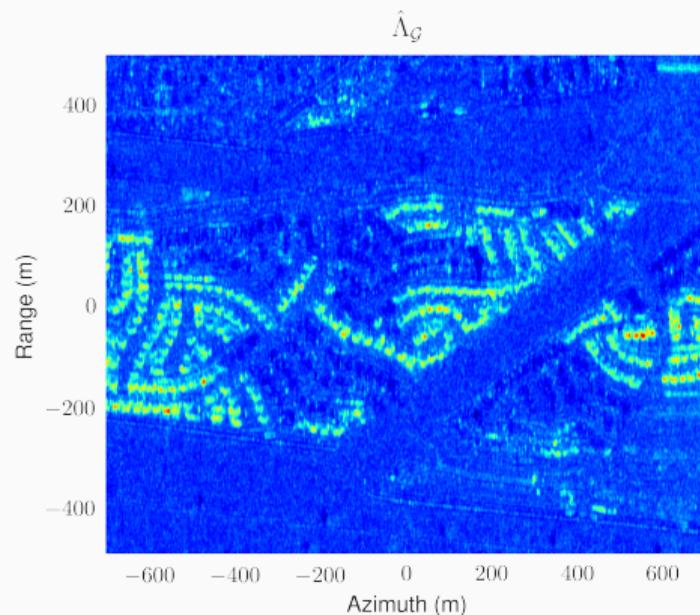
$$\mathbf{x}_i \sim \mathbb{C}\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau_i (\Sigma_k + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}))$$

$$\theta = \{\Sigma_k, \sigma^2, \{\tau_i\}\}, \text{ with } \text{rank}(\Sigma_k) = k$$

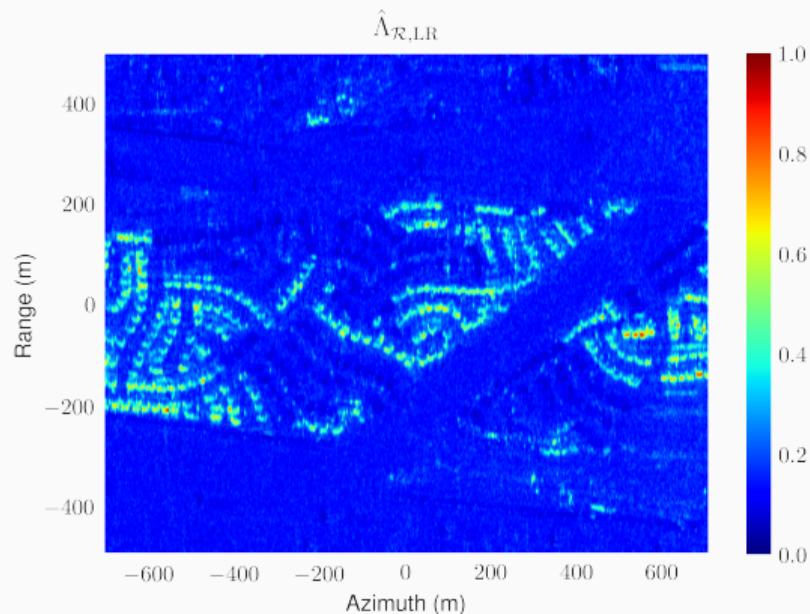
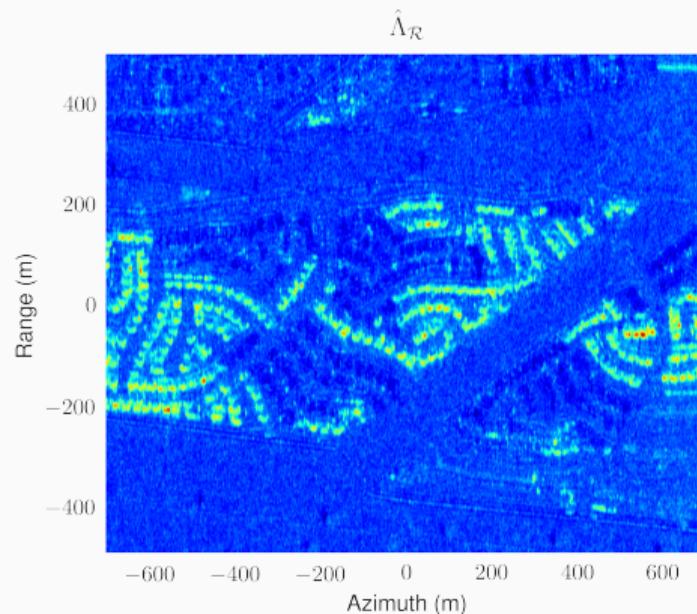
Variations on side parameters

Rank k and pre-estimated noise floor σ^2 detailed in [Mian et al., 2020]

Detectors output with a 5×5 sliding windows



Detectors output with a 5×5 sliding windows



Performance curves

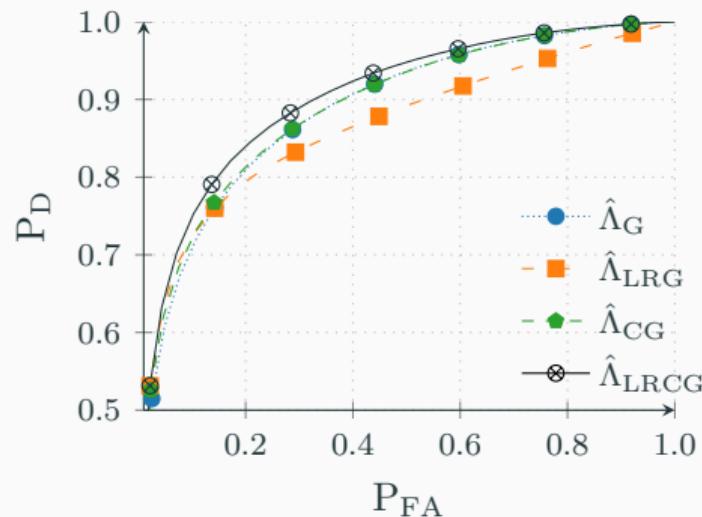


Figure 9: ROC with $(p = 12, N = 25, R = 3)$

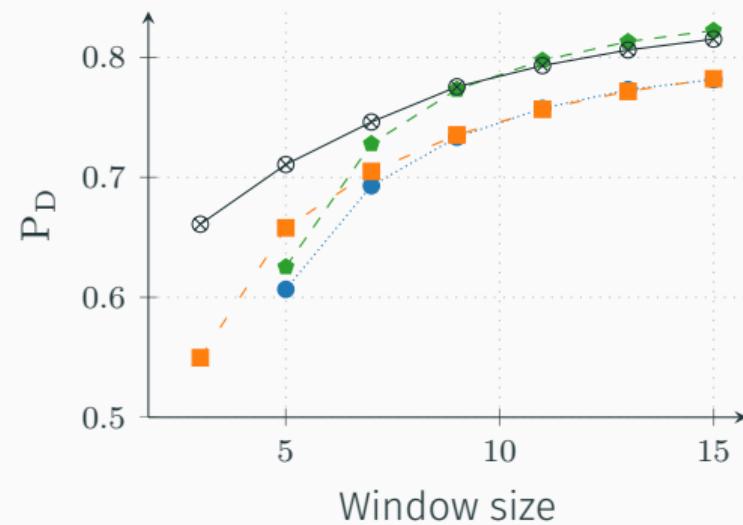


Figure 10: P_D versus window size ($P_{FA} = 5\%$)

Conclusions on CD for SAR-ITS

Conclusions

- Structures can be handled in robust models
- Improved performance and reduced window size

Perspectives

- Rank estimation strategies [Stoica and Selen, 2004, Terreux et al., 2018]
- CFAR test statistic in Low-rank ?
 - Random Matrix theory correction [Vallet et al., 2019].
- Testing specific variations [Ben Abdallah et al., 2019]
- Sequential testing [Bouchard et al., 2020b]
- Clustering for time-series [Petitjean et al., 2012]

Final big picture

Part 1

- Detection through covariance
- 1/2-step procedures
- Gaussian framework

Part 2

- Robust framework
- Structured parameters
- Applications to SAR-ITS

Generic tools from this presentation

- Statistical (change) detection framework: “features and distances”
- CES models and robust covariance matrix estimation
- CD: Optimization methods (MM, Riemannian, (g -)convexity)

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