Contents

\mathbf{C}_{0}	onter	nt Tab	les		i	
	List of Symbols					
	List	List of Equations				
	List	of Sour	rce Code		ix	
	List	of Figu	ıres		xii	
	List	of Tab	les		xiii	
1	Intr	roducii	ng The I	Research Question	1	
	1.1 Background Context and the Motivation to Study				1	
	1.2	Objec	Objectives, Methodology and Contributions			
		1.2.1	Objectiv	ves and Contributions	5	
		1.2.2	The Res	earch Questions	7	
		1.2.3	Research	n Methodology	8	
			1.2.3.1	Data Collection	9	
			1.2.3.2	Result Interpretation and Evaluation	10	
			1.2.3.3	Theory Development and Research Strategy	10	
		1.2.4	Theoret	ical and Practical Contributions	13	
	1.3	Organ	nisation of the Thesis			
2	Cur	rent N	I ethods	in Processing SAR and POLSAR Data	17	
	2.1	The n	ature of I	Polarimetric SAR: EM Wave Polarization	17	
	2.1.1 Representations of EM Wave Polarizations (Linear, Cir		ntations of EM Wave Polarizations (Linear, Circular) .	18		
			2.1.1.1	Plane wave and solutions to the EM Wave equations	18	
			2.1.1.2	Linear, Circular and Elliptical Polarization	19	
			2.1.1.3	Mathematical representations of wave polarizations	20	
		2.1.2	Differen	t Modes of Polarimetric SAR	24	
			2.1.2.1	Full Polarimetry and the Polarimetric Signatures	24	
			2.1.2.2	The Polarization Basis Transformation	26	

			2.1.2.3 Partial Polarimetry and the traditional SAR	28			
	2.2	.2 The Stochastics and Multivariate Nature of (POL)SAR data $$					
		2.2.1	The Stochastic nature of SAR and SAR speckle filtering $\ \ \ldots \ \ .$	32			
		2.2.2	The Multivariate Nature and The Observables in POLSAR data	36			
	2.3	Current methods in SAR and POLSAR speckle filtering					
		2.3.1	Current Statistical Models for SAR and POLSAR data $\ \ldots \ \ldots$	36			
		2.3.2	Current Methods for SAR speckle filtering	36			
		2.3.3	Current Methods for POLSAR speckle filtering	36			
		2.3.4	Current Methods to Evaluate (POL)SAR Speckle Filters $\ \ .$	39			
	2.4	Existing Measures of Distance for (POL)SAR data and their applications					
2.5 The need for Scalar Consistent Measures of Distance				44			
3	Con	sistent	Measures of Distance for Univariate SAR Data	45			
	3.1	Origin	al Heteroskedastic Model of SAR data	45			
	3.2	The E	ffects of Heteroskedasticity in SAR Data Processing	47			
	3.3	The Homoskedastic Effect of Logarithmic Transformation					
	3.4	4 Consistent Measures of Distance in the Log-Transformed Domain					
		3.4.1	Sampling distribution of Variance in Log-Transformed domain $$.	54			
		3.4.2	Sample variance as a statistical measure of homogenity	56			
4	Con	sistent	Measures of Distance for Multivariate POLSAR Data	59			
	4.1	POLSAR statistical analysis					
	4.2	Hetoroskedastic POLSAR data and the Homoskedastic Log-Transformation					
	4.3	Consistent Measures of Distance for POLSAR data					
	4.4	SAR as the Special Case of Polarimetric SAR					
	4.5	Validating the models against real-life data		68			
		4.5.1	Explaining practical data with the given Number-of-Looks	68			
		4.5.2	Comparing Theoretical Assumptions and Practical Implementa-				
			tions	72			
		4.5.3	Estimating the Effect Number-of-Looks (ENL)	74			
		4.5.4	Using the estimated ENL to better explain pratical data	75			
	4.6 Details of Mathematical Derivations			77			
		4.6.1	The Log-Chi-Square Distribution	77			
		4.6.2	Summary Statistics of Some POLSAR Observables	80			
		4.6.3	The characteristic function of some dissimilarity measures for polsar	81			

		4.6.4	SAR int	tensity as the special case of the POLSAR cov-matrix	
			determin	nant	2
			4.6.4.1	Original Domain: SAR Intensity and its ratio 85	ó
			4.6.4.2	Log-transformed domain: SAR log-intensity and the	
				log-distance	j
			4.6.4.3	Deriving the PDF for SAR dispersion and contrast 88	3
5	Usi	ng the	Consist	ent Measures of Distance 91	_
	5.1	Cluste	ering SAR	timages using the consistent measures 91	L
		5.1.1	Develop	ing kMLE clustering Algorithm 91	L
			5.1.1.1	Homogeneous Maximum Likelihood Estimation 91	L
			5.1.1.2	Heterogeneous k-MLE Clustering 93	}
			5.1.1.3	Determining number of clusters	Ł
		5.1.2	Evaluati	ing the kMLE algorithm	j
			5.1.2.1	Using the kMLE clustering algorithm for speckle filtering 96	j
			5.1.2.2	Evaluation of the kMLE speckle filter on Simulated targets 98	3
			5.1.2.3	Evaluation of the kMLE speckle filter on Real Images . 99)
	5.2	SAR S	Speckle fil	tering using the consistent measures)
		5.2.1	The FM	LE SAR Speckle Filters)
			5.2.1.1	FMLE Estimation	2
			5.2.1.2	Preservation of Distance Histogram Consistency 104	Ł
			5.2.1.3	Recursively Applying Fuzzy MLE Filter 105	ó
		5.2.2	Evaluati	ing the FMLE SAR speckle filters	j
			5.2.2.1	Qualititative Evaluation on Real Images 107	7
			5.2.2.2	Evaluating Speckle Suppression Effects 108	3
			5.2.2.3	Evaluating Target Detection Performance 108	3
			5.2.2.4	Contribution and Conclusions 109)
	5.3	Evalua	ating SAF	R Speckle Filters using the consistent measures 109)
		5.3.1	Speckle	Filtering Process And The Homoskedastic Log-transformed	
			Domain		L
		5.3.2	Evaluati	ing SAR Speckle Filters Over Homogeneous Areas 112	2
			5.3.2.1	Estimating ENL from MSE index in homogeneous areas 113	3
			5.3.2.2	Using log-variance to evaluate speckle filters 115	ó
			5.3.2.3	Estimating ENL from MSE index in homogeneous areas 115	ó
		5.3.3	Evaluat	sing SAR Speckle Filters over Heterogeneous Scenes 117	7

		5.3.4	Using MSE to find the most suitable speckle filter for practical			
		SAR images				
	5.4	Evaluating POLSAR Speckle Filters using the consistent measures				
		5.4.1	POLSAR ENL Estimation using the Homoskedastic Property	139		
		5.4.2	Evaluating POLSAR Speckle Filters over Homogeneous Areas	140		
		5.4.3 Evaluating POLSAR Speckle Filters over Heterogeneous		142		
6	and Conclusions	145				
	6.1	Result	Evaluation and Discussion	145		
	6.2	Contri	butions of the Thesis	147		
	6.3	Possib	le Future Work and Conclusion	150		
		6.3.1	Future research plan	150		
		6.3.2	Conclusion	151		
		6.3.3	Conclusion	153		
$\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{c}}$	References 15					