



Multiple Mode Multi-Target Tracking in high noise environment using Radar measurements

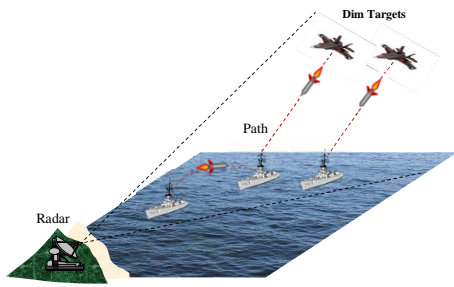


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1. Introduction: Context, Problem, Motivation and the goal

Context and problem:

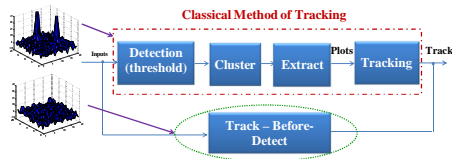


Multi-Target tracking in low SNR

- Recent developments of stealthy military aircraft, warship and cruise missiles have emphasized the need to detect and track low SNR targets. This concept known as Track-Before-Detect approach.
- In radar technology, track-before-detect (TBD) is a concept according to which a signal is tracked before declaring it a target.

Motivation:

Track-Before-Detect algorithms incorporate unthresholded measurements to track one or several targets under low SNR using particle filter.



Classical data and signal processing stages and TBD

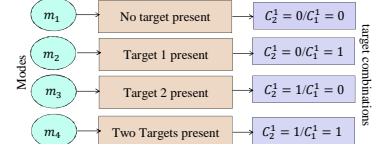
Research goals

- Using a multiple target Track-Before-Detect method for tracking varying number of target by estimating the target states under all possible existence combinations (modes).
- Implementation of the multi-mode multi-target track before detect (MM-MT-TBD) algorithm recursively using particle filtering to track two moving targets according a coordinate turn motion model as an example for radar measurements.

2. Multitarget state Model and Matrix Transition

Multi-target state model:

We consider the radar problem of tracking \mathcal{L} targets.



Target existence combination for two targets $\mathcal{M} = 4$

The dynamic multi-target state model for each mode can then be written as:

$$s_k^{[i]} = F^{[i]} s_{k-1}^{[i]} + v_k^{[i]}, \quad i = 1, \dots, \mathcal{M}$$

where $s_k^{[i]} = [s_{k,1}^{[i]} \quad s_{k,2}^{[i]} \quad \dots \quad s_{k,\mathcal{L}}^{[i]}]^T$ and

$$s_{k,\ell} = [x_{k,\ell} \quad \dot{x}_{k,\ell} \quad y_{k,\ell} \quad \dot{y}_{k,\ell} \quad I_{k,\ell}]^T, \quad \ell = 1, \dots, \mathcal{L}$$

$F^{[i]}$ and $v_k^{[i]}$ is transition matrix and process noise of each model.

Matrix transition:

Target existence variable is modeled as a random process with a two state first order Markov chain. The transition matrix can be written as:

$$\Gamma_\ell = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - P_{d,\ell} & P_{d,\ell} \\ P_{d,\ell} & 1 - P_{d,\ell} \end{bmatrix}$$

The general mode of the transition matrix is given by:
 $\Pi = \Gamma_1 \otimes \Gamma_2 \dots \otimes \Gamma_\ell$

3. Measurements Model and Likelihood Function

Measurement Model:

Each measurement frame is assumed to consist of $(N_r \times N_\phi \times N_\theta)$ bins. The measurement equation is given by:

$$z_k^{(a,b,c)} = \begin{cases} \sum_{\ell=1}^{\mathcal{L}} C_\ell^i h_k^{(a,b,c)}(s_{k,\ell}^{[i]}) + \omega_k^{(a,b,c)}, & \text{for } i = 2, \dots, \mathcal{M} \\ \omega_k^{(a,b,c)}, & \text{for } i = 1 \end{cases}$$

where

$$h_k^{(a,b,c)}(s_{k,\ell}^{[i]}) = A_{k,\ell} \exp \left(- \left(\frac{a\Delta_r - r_{k,\ell}}{2\sigma_r} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{b\Delta_{\dot{r}} - \dot{r}_{k,\ell}}{2\sigma_{\dot{r}}} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{c\Delta_\theta - \theta_{k,\ell}}{2\sigma_\theta} \right)^2 \right)$$

$r_{k,\ell}$, $\dot{r}_{k,\ell}$ and $\theta_{k,\ell}$ are the range, range-rate and azimuthal angle respectively of the ℓ th target. $\Delta_r, \Delta_{\dot{r}}$ and Δ_θ are their bin resolutions respectively.

The set of complete measurements collected up time k is denoted as:

$$Z_k = [z_1^T \quad z_2^T \quad \dots \quad z_k^T]^T$$

Likelihood Function:

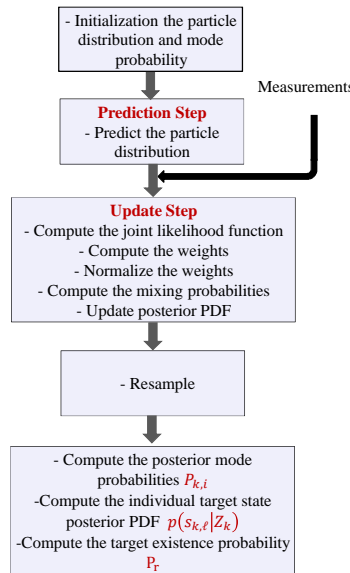
The joint likelihood function can be written as

$$p_{ji}(z_k | s_k^{[i]}) = \begin{cases} \prod_{a=1}^{N_r} \prod_{b=1}^{N_\phi} \prod_{c=1}^{N_\theta} \mathcal{N}(z_k^{(a,b,c)}; \mu_k^{(a,b,c)}(s_k^{[i]}), \sigma^2), & m_k = 2, \dots, \mathcal{M} \\ \prod_{a=1}^{N_r} \prod_{b=1}^{N_\phi} \prod_{c=1}^{N_\theta} \mathcal{N}(z_k^{(a,b,c)}; 0, \sigma^2), & m_k = 1 \end{cases}$$

Where $\mu_k^{(a,b,c)} = \sum_{\ell=1}^{\mathcal{L}} C_\ell^i h_k^{(a,b,c)}(s_k^{[i]})$ is the cumulative contribution to bin (a, b, c) from all the targets in mode i .

4. MM-MT-TBDF-PF

The particle filter implementation of the MM-MT-TBD algorithm are summarized in this steps:



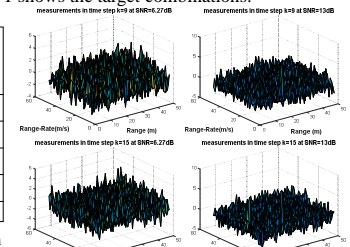
MM-MT-TBDF-PF steps for two targets ($\mathcal{M} = 4$)

5. Simulation and Results

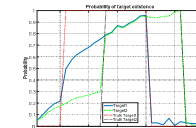
The measurements are generated from radar located at $(0,0)$ at 6.27dB peak SNR. Table 1 shows the target combinations.

Time Step (k)	C_ℓ^i	Mode ($m_k = i$)
1-5	None	1
6-12	T1	2
13-20	T1+T2	4
21-26	T2	3
27-30	None	1

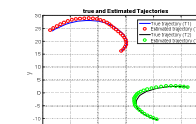
Table1: Target combination at different time step (k)



Measurement data at different time steps (k=9,15) at 6.27 dB and 13 dB peak SNR



Target Existence Probability for two targets at 6.27 dB peak SNR



Mode Probability for two Targets at 6.27 dB

Tue and estimated target trajectories for 2 targets at 6.27 dB

Tracking Error at 6.27 dB

Conclusion & Perspectives

- In this paper, we derived a track-before-detect algorithm to track a varying number of targets under low signal-to-noise-ratio conditions that can be implemented particle filter.
- The MM-MT-TBD estimate the target states under all possible target existence combinations or modes.
- This algorithm can keep track of targets entering or leaving a monitoring region.

Perspectives:

- This paper can be extended for geolocation and tracking of ground moving targets based on radar imagery and satellite imagery (GPS) for defense applications.

References

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