

Optimization of Poly Phase Codes in Time Domain for MIMO RADAR

Pooja Bhamre, Shilpi Gupta

Abstract: Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) RADAR system is proficient in improving the range resolution while considering the orthogonality of the signal. In this paper, Poly Phase coded waveforms are optimized in time domain. The phase codes of the transmit waveforms are designed using 'JAYA' optimization algorithm and compared with the literature. Though Multi-Objective Decision Making (MODM) problem shows trade-off between different performance parameters, computationally effective 'JAYA' algorithm outperforms. The approach is validated with mathematical modeling and numerical simulations.

Index Terms: MIMO RADAR, Optimization, Poly-phase coded waveforms.

I. INTRODUCTION

Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) radar system is capable of transmitting arbitrary waveforms from each antenna and exhibits remarkable potentials of mitigating fading effect, enhancing resolution, and reducing interference from clutter, jammers etc. Researchers have explored several advantages of MIMO radar such as diversity increment of the target signal, improvement in interference mitigation capability, enhanced parameter identifiability [1], and improved flexibility in designing transmit beam pattern making it an interesting area. The existing work on MIMO radar waveform design focuses on the orthogonal waveform generation in time domain [2], [3] as well as space domain [4].

In the field of MIMO RADAR for designing orthogonal code sets for different transmit antennas various population based algorithms were reported such as Simulated Annealing(SA)[2], Genetic Algorithm(GA)[5], Particle Swarm Optimization(PSO)[6], Ant Colony Optimization(ACO)[7] etc. Each of the above algorithm is characterised by both the common controlling parameters and algorithm specific parameters such as annealing temperature in SA, crossover probability, mutation probability and selection operator in GA, position and velocity in PSO, pheromone intensity in ACO.

In this paper, we optimize polyphase coded waveforms in the time domain for MIMO radar. Optimization of poly phase codes in time domain takes care of range resolution property of radar as well as orthogonality of waveforms. The organization of the rest of the paper is as follows. Cost functions of the poly phase coded waveforms are formulated in time domain in Section 2. Section 3 includes the detailed

steps of the designing of the transmit codes with JAYA optimization. Design results are validated through the simulation and results are depicted in Section 4. Finally Section 5 concludes the paper.

II. PROBLEM FORMULATION

In phase coded waveform, the long pulse having duration T is considered which is converted into N smaller sub pulses, called chips by dividing. Each chip has a width $\tau = T/N$. Phase-coded waveform is characterized by each of these chips and each sub pulse is characterised by a particular phase with which it is transmitted. Consider L isotropic radar antennas each separated by a distance of d , transmitting distinct phase coded waveforms. The transmitted waveform from the l^{th} antenna element of the array is generally represented as

$$S_l(t) = e^{j2\pi f_c t} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \text{Rect} \left[\frac{t - (n + 0.5)\tau}{\tau} \right] u_l(n) \quad (1)$$

$l=1,2,\dots,L; n=1,2,\dots,N.$

where f_c is the carrier frequency, Rect represents rectangular function, τ is the subpulse time duration, $u_l(n)$ is the n th subpulse of the coding waveform transmitted from l th antenna, and N represents number of subpulses in time domain of the coded waveform at each element. Assuming that there is no influence of the rectangular function and the carrier frequency on the waveform coding, analysis leads to simplify coding waveform of the l^{th} antenna element of the MIMO radar which is given as

$$u_l = \left[e^{j\frac{2\pi\phi_1(1)}{M}}, e^{j\frac{2\pi\phi_1(2)}{M}}, \dots, e^{j\frac{2\pi\phi_1(N)}{M}} \right] \quad (2)$$

where $\phi_1(n)$ is the coding phase of the n th subpulse.

Receiver extracts echo signals by a set of matched filters. The matched-filter response of a signal consists of a narrow mainlobe and low side-lobes are required[8], [9]. Thus the width of the mainlobe and sidelobe level specifications are the function of the expected target resolution and expected target RCS difference. Prerequisite of high resolution in the multiple target detection for some applications is the autocorrelation side lobe peaks (ASP) level of the transmitted signals have to be low. The Autocorrelation function of polyphase sequence u_l with discrete time index k can be represented as

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Pooja Bhamre, Department of Electronics and Communication, SVNIT, Surat, India.

Shilpi Gupta, Department of Electronics and Communication, SVNIT, Surat, India.

$$A(\phi_l, k) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N-k} e^{j[\phi_l(n) - \phi_l(n+k)]} = 0$$

for $0 < k < N$

$$(3)$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=-k+1}^N e^{j[\phi_l(n) - \phi_l(n+k)]} = 0$$

for $-N < k < 0$

where $\phi = 2\pi\phi/M$ for M-phase coded waveforms. The autocorrelation peaks are obtained at an integer multiples of the bit duration.

A. Single Objective Decision Making(SODM)

An objective function which is either to be minimized or maximized characterizes the given system model with the described restrictions. The single objective optimization problem is the one containing only one objective function. Radar applications including multiple target detection require high resolution. To accomplish this it is required for the transmitted signals to have low autocorrelation sidelobe peaks levels (ASP)

$$ASP = \sum_{l=1}^L \max_{k \neq 0} |A(\phi_l, k)| \quad (4)$$

The another measure of quality of designing the sequence is expressed by discrimination factor (DF). Golay [10] has given the discriminating factor (DF) as

$$DF = \frac{A(0)}{\max_{k \neq 0} |A(\phi_l, k)|} \quad (5)$$

For Barker sequences, DF is found to be equal to the sequence length. The value of DF is inversely proportional to the energy required for detecting a target and Radar Cross Section (RCS) of the target. Hence the design requirement is to maximize DF [11]. For this purpose optimization can be used to maximize Eq. (5). In this work optimization algorithm is applied to these single objective functions given in Eq. 4 and Eq.5 separately.

B. Multi-Objective Decision Making(MODM)

Mutually orthogonal waveforms has to be designed in order to suppress interference. They also have an advantage of acquiring independent information from various target returns. So orthogonal waveforms that have low cross-correlation (CP)[12] has to be developed. Now, cross correlation function of sequences u_p and u_q is given as

$$C(\phi_p, \phi_q, k) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N-k} e^{j[\phi_q(n) - \phi_p(n+k)]} = 0$$

for $0 < k < N$

$$(6)$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=-k+1}^N e^{j[\phi_q(n) - \phi_p(n+k)]} = 0$$

for $-N < k < 0$

The designed orthogonal waveforms should have lower ASP as well as CP [13]. Designing number of polyphase code sets (generally equal to number of antennas) having lesser cross correlation amongst them is very intractable problem. Various optimization algorithms are reported in the literature to form a multiobjective function containing ASP, CP, total

autocorrelation side lobe energy (ASLE) and cross correlation energy (CCE). All above terms has to be as small as possible leading to overall minimization problem.

The cost function (CF) for optimization problem of minimizing is as follows:

$$CF = \sum_{l=1}^L \max_{k \neq 0} |A(\phi_l, k)|$$

$$+ \sum_{p=1}^{L-1} \sum_{q=p+1}^L \max_k |C(\phi_p, \phi_q, k)| \quad (5)$$

$$+ \sum_{p=1}^{L-1} \sum_{q=p+1}^L \sum_{k=-(N-1)}^{N-1} |C(\phi_p, \phi_q, k)|^2$$

$$+ \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} |A(\phi_l, k)|^2 \quad (7)$$

III. JAYA OPTIMIZATION

The burden of tuning the controlling parameters is diminished in the Jaya algorithm proposed by Rao [14]. Various benchmark functions have been analysed using various number of optimization algorithms. The statistics showed that, the Jaya algorithm requires fewer iterations for achieving the global optimum, and proved to be superior in many ways as compared to other optimization algorithms. In the search process of Jaya algorithm, each individual upgrades its current value depending on the best and worst values of the cost function. This helps in convergence towards the global optimal [15]. Detailed steps of JAYA optimization algorithm are explained below.

1. Initial selection of L phase values are random numbers between $0 \leq \phi \leq (M - 1)$ for M-phase coded waveform for a given number of population.
2. Calculation of the cost function as given in Eq. (4) and Eq. (5) for SODM and Eq. (7) for MODM problem for all the population is done followed by identification of the 'best' and 'worst' solution amongst all.
3. Modification of the population depending on the 'best' and 'worst' is as shown:

$$X_{new} = X + r_1(X_{best} - X) - r_2(X_{worst} - X) \quad (8)$$

where r_1 and r_2 are random numbers in the range $[0, 1]$ for a specific iteration. Again calculation of the cost function of modified data is done.

4. Comparison of the original cost function and modified cost function is done. As it is a minimization problem, whichever results in least cost function, the corresponding X is kept.
5. Steps 2 - 3 - 4 are repeated until a termination criterion is reached.
6. Optimal solution provides L number of phase values which are the inputs to the phase feeding network at the transmitter side of MIMO radar system.

IV. DESIGN AND SIMULATION RESULTS

Poly phase coded waveforms are designed with 4 antenna elements for time domain analysis with an isotropic radiation pattern which are separated by a distance of $\lambda/2$ where λ is the wavelength. We apply ‘JAYA’ optimization algorithm to calculate phase values (ϕ). Simulations are carried out in MATLAB to design waveforms. Phases(ϕ) are designed at each subpulse through each antenna. JAYA optimization is applied to minimize the ASP function. 32-phased sequences are optimized for different code lengths ranging from 2 to 12. Table I shows the optimized sequences with corresponding ASP.

Table I: JAYA Optimized sequences and their ASP’s for different code lengths.

Code Length(N)	Optimized Sequence	ASP
2	7,4	0.5
3	25, 22, 3	0.333
4	31, 19, 25, 28	0.25
5	0, 2, 30, 17, 0	0.2
6	6, 24, 16, 13, 16, 23	0.1766
7	10, 0, 1, 22, 0, 31, 8	0.142857
8	20, 27, 2, 31, 27, 18, 0, 18	0.125
9	0, 8, 13, 22, 11, 26, 18, 15, 8	0.1111
10	18, 13, 27, 22, 27, 20, 10, 17, 29, 9	0.1
11	31, 10, 0, 15, 31, 1, 8, 2, 31, 18, 17	0.0909
12	31, 19, 0, 15, 31, 31, 14, 12, 31, 0, 2, 0	0.0926

It can be observed that as code length increases there is an improvement in ASP upto code length N = 11. Further increase in code length degrades the performance.

Further, design consist of the JAYA optimized DF function . Designed sequences of 32-phased and various code lengths are compared with sequences given by Singh[11] with respect to DF. It is observed from the Table II upto code length N = 11 DF obtained by Modified simulated annealing and Jaya are same. But further increase in code length degrades the performance.

Table II: Comparison of DF for different code lengths.

Code Length(N)	DF	
	Modified simulated annealing[11]	JAYA
2	2	2

3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	5.63	5.63
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9
10	10	10
11	11	11
12	12	10.799
15	14.99	8.7628
50	23.95	8.5324
100	38.11	9.4786
500	64.92	10.8813
1000	80.6	18.4162

Finally, we also elaborated a minimization problem with multi-objective cost function represented in Eq. (7) with N = 40, M = 4 and L = 4. The results are compared with other population based algorithms used in literature in Table III. ASP and CP are normalized to the sequence length for fair comparison. It has been observed that our design is able to achieve the best ASP (-18.2501 dB) and ASLE (0.3828) amongst all, but at the cost of other performance parameters. So, it can be said that there is trade-off between different objectives in MODM problem. This performance improvement guarantees higher range resolution of the RADAR system. Optimized code sets using JAYA algorithm are given in Table IV. The designed phases can be implemented with the 2-bit phase shifters at the feeding network of each antenna.

Fig.1 displays autocorrelation function of the designed waveforms with different optimization algorithms and compared with our design. Least ASP and narrower main lobe width of JAYA optimized waveforms makes it suitable for better detection of closely spaced targets even at low signal to noise (SNR) region.

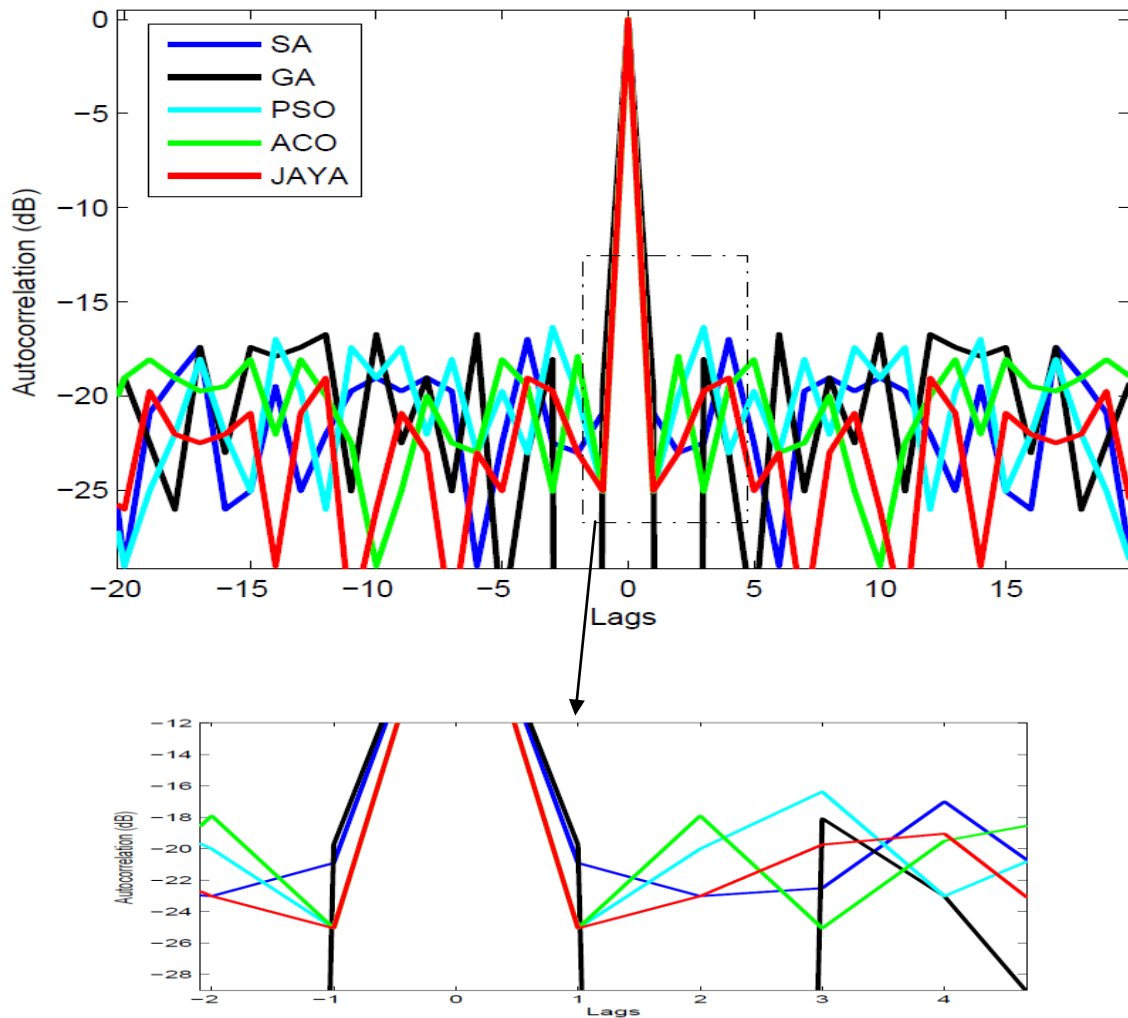


Fig. 1 Comparison Of Autocorrelation Function Of The Designed waveforms With $N = 40$, $M = 4$.

Table III: Comparison of different optimization algorithms.

Optimization algorithms	Average ASP		Average CP		Average ASLE	Average CCE
	Normalized value	Value in dB	Normalized value	Value in dB		
SA with iterative search[2]	0.1525	-16.3329	0.1989	-14.029	0.4398	0.4352
GA with iterative code selection[5]	0.1471	-16.6468	0.2078	-13.6491	0.4299	0.4558
PSO with Hamming scan[6]	0.1333	-17.5045	0.2122	-13.4664	0.4306	0.4442
ACO with Hamming scan[7]	0.1293	-17.7705	0.2068	-13.6887	0.3993	0.4681
JAYA	0.1223	-18.2501	0.2666	-11.4843	0.3828	0.4754

Table IV: JAYA Optimized Code sets for time domain analysis with N = 40, M = 4 and L = 4

Subpulse No.	Code set 1	Code set 2	Code set 3	Code set 4
1	1	1	1	3
2	0	1	1	0
3	1	2	2	3
4	1	1	3	1
5	2	0	3	2
6	1	1	2	3
7	0	3	0	1
8	2	1	1	1
9	2	2	3	0
10	0	0	3	1
11	0	1	3	0
12	2	3	0	0
13	1	2	1	0
14	3	3	2	3
15	2	2	1	1
16	2	3	0	3
17	2	0	2	0
18	3	0	1	3
19	3	1	1	3
20	3	0	0	0
21	2	1	3	2
22	1	0	1	1
23	1	3	2	0
24	0	0	0	0
25	3	3	3	2
26	1	1	1	1
27	3	2	0	2
28	0	2	0	3
29	2	0	3	3
30	2	0	0	2
31	2	3	2	3
32	0	2	3	0
33	2	0	3	0
34	0	0	3	1
35	1	1	3	3
36	2	3	2	0
37	1	2	0	3
38	3	1	0	0
39	0	3	0	0
40	1	1	0	1

V. CONCLUSION

The poly phase coded waveforms can be optimized for the resolution enhancement maintaining orthogonality for RADAR system. The pulse compression goodness of a code is decided by its autocorrelation function. The 'JAYA' optimization, without any algorithm specific parameters outperform other population based algorithms in the time domain waveform designing. Additionally, computational complexity of tuning the algorithm specific parameters have been reduced and hence the design time. Effect of varying the number of subpulses(N) and phases(M) on the performance can be carried out in near future.

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AUTHORS PROFILE

Pooja Bhamre

She was born in 1986. She received the B. Tech. degree in Electronics and Telecommunication engineering from College of Engineering Pune (COEP), Pune, India, in 2007. From 2011 to 2013, she was pursuing the postgraduate study in K. K. Wagh College of Engineering, Nashik, Pune university. She is



currently pursuing the Ph.D. degree from the Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology (SVNIT), Surat, India. Her research interests are RADAR signal processing, MIMO RADAR and Optimization.



Dr. S. Gupta

She received her bachelor and master degree in 2004 and 2007 in Electronics and Communication from U.P technical University and Kurukshetra University respectively. She received her Ph. D degree from Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, Surat, Gujarat, India in 2015. She is presently Associate professor at SVNIT, Surat. She is a lifetime Associate member of IETE. Her research interest focuses in advanced wireless Technologies like MIMO technology, 5G technology, Massive MIMO Technology, Optical sensors, Free space optics, optical amplifiers Email: sgupta@eced.svnit.ac.in, shilpig1980@gmail.com.