Fuzzy techniques for robust localization and tracking

A. Pérez-Neira, M.A.Lagunas, J.Bas[1]

Dept. Teoria del Senyal i Comunicacions
ETSI.Telecom. Barcelona
Campus Nord UPC. Edificio D-5. c./ Jordi Girona, 1-3
08034 Barcelona- ESPAÑA

RÉSUMÉ

Cet travail traite de l'estimation DOA dans un environement mobile. Des techniques nouvelles à base logique floue sont proposées pour améliorer les performances du système de suivi. En particulier, la capacitè d'approximation de fonction sans modèle est utilisée pour obtenir une estimation angulaire des haute résolution à partir de la densité spectrale spatiale. Ces estimations sont utilisées pur améliorer la résolution du suivi. En définitive, le système de localisation et de suivi est robuste. Sa complexité est faible et il offre une résolution comparable à celle de la décomposition en valeurs singulières.

ABSTRACT

This work addresses the problem of spatial reference estimation in mobile scenarios. Novel techniques based on fuzzy logic are introduced to enhance the performance of a tracking system. Specifically, the model-free function approximation capability of fuzzy logic is used to obtain high resolution angle estimates from the spatial spectral density. These estimates are used to improve the resolution of the tracker. To the authors knowledge it is the first time that fuzzy logic is introduced in array spectral estimation. This work also develops a fuzzy controller for acting as an interpolative supervisor of different trackers that apply in different operating conditions of the dynamic nonlinear system. The result is a robust localization and tracking system that presents a low computational burden and that attains a resolution comparable to that of Singular Value Decomposition techniques.

1 Introduction

In a recent work [1] the authors derive the Alternate Projection algorithm as a constrained phased array that is supposed to look at one source an block all the others. From this approach the authors solve the multiple source tracking problem as decoupled single source tracking problems;thus, reducing complexity. However, the concept of global tracker includes additional processing and data fusion, which enables to cope with eventual fadings of bounded time duration, as it may occur in crossing radial trajectories of two movils. That is why we introduce at each parallel branch the additional processing outlined in figure 1.
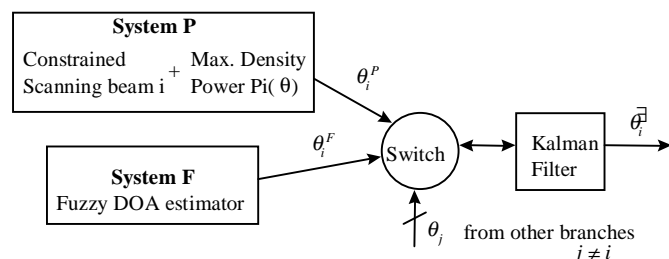

Figure 1. Proposed tracker at each parallel branch i

In the system proposed in [1], at each parallel branch the Spatial Power Density is measured after the constrained scanning. Thus resulting a so-called notch periodogram (system P). If no other users interfer in this periodogram its maximum corresponds to the desired user location.

However, the resolution of the constrained scanning beam is limited by that of the array; thus, degrading the behaviour of the tracker for close users. The switch block detects this resolution threshold and smoothly commutes to the proposed fuzzy DOA estimator (system F), which produces the estimates for the two closely located users (θi, θj).

The computational burden of the presented tracker is low as fuzzy techniques just require a fixed number of products/ additions or a fixed number of comparisons/ additions; thus, accomodating to real time software or hardware implementation respectively. In summary, the presented system supports the expectation of adaptive arrays for obtaining a communication front-end of affordable complexity and developing cost. Using real data, the results compare the performance of both systems, the proposed fuzzy system against the non-fuzzy one.

2 Problem Statement

We address a digital wireless communication system employing adaptive arrays for the localization of NS moving users using an array of NQ identical radio receivers. The NS users operate simultaneously in the frequency and time slot. If we suppose that the antenna array consists of NQ sensors of known characteristics (calibrated array) and letting $a_i(\theta k)$ be the gain and phase response of ith sensor in the direction θk, then the signal output of the ith sensor at time n will be

$$z_i(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{NS} a_i(\theta_k) s_k(n) + n_k(n) \qquad (2.1)$$

where ni(n) is the noise generated at the ith sensor (usually thermal noise) and sk(n) is a scaled and phased-delayed version of the signal emitted by user k. In this model we have assumed that the distances between the mobiles and the base station are large; therefore, the fading of the antenna elements is assumed to be fully correlated. Although of limited applicability to real-world problems, this clutter-free model lies at the core of viable algorithms.

Finally, in our work a small number of snapshots is necessary to carry out an angle estimate (less than 10 snapshots); thus, the relative array velocity does not change over the observation interval and can be assumed zero. The problem of interest is to estimate and track the NS sources' angular positions $\theta k(n)$ from the data $zi(n)$ that is collected in the snapshot vector $\mathbf{z}(n)$.

3 Linguistic-based knowledge for robust localization and tracking

It is well-known the introduction of expert knowledge in time or spatial frequency tracking and control. Fuzzy systems [2] especially have gained prominance due to the surprising ease with which fuzzy controllers can be designed. However, although fuzzy systems are model-free approximators of any continuous function, relatively few applications have been made to estimation problems [3-4]. This paper focusses on this estimation capability of fuzzy systems and applies it to obtain high resolution DOA (Direction Of Arrival) estimates.

3.1 Fuzzy logic function approximation for source localization

By "observing" the periodogram $P(\theta)$, the proposed fuzzy logic system produces DOA estimates even if the angle separation between two users is less than the resolution of the array. With suitable training pairs this simple fuzzy system can exactly map main lobe bandwidths into estimated source DOA's.

3.1.1. Basic architecture of Fuzzy Logic System (FLS)

The basis for a correct design and understanding of the system is the description of the input and output fuzzy variables (collected in vector $\mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{y}$ respectively). At each instant of time n, the two inputs are the maximum of the Periodogram, θmax, and the main-beam normalized bandwidth, BW. As an answer to these two inputs, the FLS computes the distance, d, of each source to the measured maximum. The fuzzy system F: X -> Y is a set of IF-THEN rules that map inputs into outputs, in our case, it approximates the function f(BW,θmax)=d. Specifically, the additive fuzzy system F that we are going to develop uniformly approximates the function f if X is compact and f is continuous [3].

At time n the fuzzy DOA estimates θ^F of the two close sources i and j are

$$\theta^F_i = \theta max - d; \qquad \theta^F_j = \theta max + d \qquad (3.1)$$

Figure 2 shows the architecture of the proposed high resolution DOA estimator. We note that the 10 dB main-lobe

bandwidth values (δ_p) for angles [0º,10º,20º] and NQ possible number of sensors should be strored in order to produce the normalize bandwidth BW from the measured one.

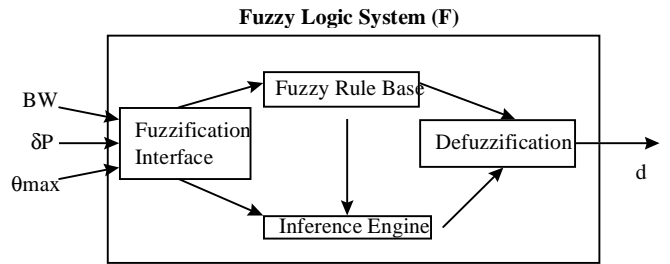*Figure 2. Proposed Fuzzy DOA estimator*

The ranges of BW, θmax and d are as follows: $1 \le BW < 2; -25º \le \theta_{max} \le 25º; 0 \le d < \delta_P$. The parameter δ_P refers to the resolution of the periodogram. In the field of view ($\pm 25º$) the fuzzy system is able to resolve sources closer than δ_P.

Once the input and output variables have been picked, the basic configuration of additive FLS comprises the four principle components shown in figure 2: a) a fuzzification interface, b) a fuzzy rule base, c) an interference engine and d) a defuzzification interface. This components are going to be described next.

A fuzzy set A in a universe of discourse, U, is characterized by a membership function μa, which takes values in the interval [0,1]; that is, $\mu_A: U \to [0,1]$. Thus, a fuzzy set A consists of a generic element u and its grade or membership function; that is, $A = \{(u, \mu_A(u) | u \in U\}$. A fuzzy variable is characterized by a set of fuzzy sets, T(u) (i.e. of linguistic or fuzzy values) of u. In this work A(.) and x will be used for the input term set and the input variable, respectively. B(.) and y will be used for the output term set and the output variable, respectively. In our case the variable $\mathbf{x}$ is a vector of two components. For instance, if the component x1 represents the location of the maximum θmax, its term set may be chosen as {very negative (A1(x1), negative (A2(x1), zero (A3(x1), positive (A4(x1)), very positive (A5(x1))}. Each of these terms or fuzzy membership functions can have different shapes. Triangular shapes simplify computation. Later on we comment on the convenience of other shapes as Gaussian. Equally spaced membership functions are possible only if the mean values (centers) can be chosen by the designer. If these values are estimated by means of a training procedure, so that they adapt to the data that is associated with the rules (e.g. case of the input BW as described in sub-section 3.1.2), then unequally spaced functions are the norm.

The fuzzification interface in figure 2 is a mapping from an input space to fuzzy sets in a certain input universe of discourse. So for a specific value xi(n) at time n, it is mapped to the fuzzy set A1(xi) with degree $\mu_{A_1}(xi(n))$ and to the fuzzy set A2(xi) with degree $\mu_{A_2}(xi(n))$, and so on.

In fuzzy Logic theory, the behavior of a fuzzy system is characterized by a set of IF-THEN rules R that associate output fuzzy sets with input fuzzy sets. These associations are summarized in a bank of fuzzy associative memory

(FAM) rules. Our system is a two-input/single-output system where the jth fuzzy rule is: Rj= IF (x1 is Aj(x1) and x2 is Aj(x2)) THEN (y is Bj(y)). Next section extracts these rules from numerical data.

The inference engine in figure 2 is to match the preconditions of rules in the fuzzy system rule base with input state linguistic terms and to perform implication. The procedure of implication used to develop the fuzzy DOA estimator is the so-called the correlation-product inference [2-4]. Finally, before obtaining the DOA estimate, we need a defuzzification process to get a crisp value; the defuzzifier block in figure 2 serves this purpose. Among the commonly used defuzzification strategies, the center of area or fuzzy centroid-defuzzification methods yields a superior result. All centroidal fuzzy systems F try to approximate the function f(.) with a conditional mean: f(x)=E[Y/X=x]. Let yj be the jth sample support value in the universe of discourse, Y, at which the membership function, μ(yj) represents its membership value. The defuzzification output (i.e. distance d to the peridogram maximum θmax) is, therefore calculated by

$$d = \frac{\sum_j \mu(yj)\, yj}{\sum_j \mu(yj)} \qquad (3.2)$$

Notice that yj is called support value if μ(yj)>0.

3.1.2. Derivation of the Fuzzy Logic Rules.

The selection of the fuzzy rules has a substantial effect on the performance of the FLS. The rules just translate the behaviour of the main lobe when two sources are closer than the array resolution (δ_p). As this resolution depends on θmax (i.e. there is more resolution in the broadside than in the endfire), a different set of rules is developed for each θmax. To reduce computation the whole field of view or range of θmax has been quantized in 5 values $[\pm 20^o, \pm 10^o, 0^o]$. The fuzzy set values or terms associated with x1, θmax, (i.e. Aj(x1)), have a triangular membership function centered at each of the quantized values.

To ellaborate the FAM's for each quantized θmax a set of NQ training pairs have been collected. In these training pairs the output, d, has been quantized in NQ different values di=i (i=0…NQ-1). From these singletones the output membership functions B(y) are designed. For each θmax, each distance di maps to the correspondig measured normalized bandwidth Bwi. These bandwidths are the support values to design the unequally spaced fuzzy set A(x2). Possible ambiguities are elliminated if Gaussian shaped membership functions are used in the set A(x2) instead of triangular shaped. Table 1 shows the rules for the case of a 9 antenna array. The ratio between the powers of both sources is considered to be less or equal to 7 dBs. This assumption is valid in communication systems with power control, where power groups can be allocated in time-frequency space such that their dissimilar power does not negatively affect the SDMA.

The FAM's table just associates the membership function of each training pair. Just by vector/matrix multiplications, each input fires parallely [3]. Note that rules just come from

	Bandwith (exponential)	
Position /Center (º)	0	10
0	2.6120	2.8350
1	2.6675	2.8611
2	2.8014	2.9497
3	3.2159	3.2020
4	4.1200	3.6262
5	4.9362	3.9246
6	5.2716	4.0317
7	5.5333	4.1195
8	5.8779	4.2285

Table 1. Rules from training pairs for an array of 9 antenna.

numerical data: the data establish the fuzzy sets that appear in the antecedents and consequents of the rules. The system surface is the relationship between the input variables and the output or, alternatively, between the antecedents and the consequents. Certain points on the control surface correspond to the exact rules, where the conjunction of the antecedents is unity for a specific rule and none of the other rules fire. Between these points, the fuzzy logic system interpolates the output. This interpolation can be made exact by using the analytic expression for the output (3.2). This expression transforms the fuzzy inference system into a functional equivalent adaptive network.

Other aspect is that the mapping in table 1 is only exact for di=iº and when the periodogram is estimated with a large number of snapshots. However, as our work focusses on DOA estimation for tracking, less than 100 (e.g. 10) snapshots are considered. For this reason and to improve the interpolation an LMS algorithm is used to learn the rules by learning the estimator parameters (i.e. width of the input membership functions and position of the output membership functions [3]). The rules are learned from varios periodogram realizations. For each realization k the rules and input/output fuzzy sets are adaptively designed in order to minimize $\Psi = E\{[d_{act} - f(x(k), y(k))]\}$, where d_{act} is the actual distance of the sources to the measured maximum of the peridodogram. By initializing the system with the proposed FAM's in table 1, the convergence of the system considerably speeds up.

3.2 Fuzzy Logic for automated control

The switch in figure 2 that commutes between the proposed fuzzy DOA estimator and the constrained scanning can be simply designed as a hard-decision threshold detector: "if the DOA distance between close sources is less than the array resolution, the DOA estimates are then produced by the fuzzy system". However, fuzzy systems are also highly suitable for automated control and fuse data from different controllers producing smooth transitions even in noisy scenarios. For this reason we implement the switch following the FLC theory. The rules for switching at branch of user i are:

$$R^m: IF\ (\theta_i - \theta_j)\ is\ T^m\ THEN\ \overline{\theta}\ is\ \theta_k^m;\ j,i = 1..NS\ users,\ j \neq i;$$
$$m = 1..M\ rules; k = 1,2$$

where (θi-θj) measures the distance between the angle of user

i and that of user j (produced at branch i and at each of the other (NS-1) branches, respectively), θ_k^m is the DOA estimate produced by either the scanning beam ($k = 1: \theta_k^m = \theta^P$) or the fuzzy estimator ($k = 2: \theta_k^m = \theta^F$).

The fuzzy inference process we have been referring to in Section 3.1 is known as Mamdani's fuzzy inference method, which it is the most commonly seen fuzzy methodology. However, when the output of each rule is a constant like in our case (i.e. crisp output membership functions θk) a Sugeno inference method is more suitable

$$\hat{\theta} = f(\theta_i - \theta_j) = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{M} T^m(\theta_i - \theta_j)\ \theta_k^m}{\sum_{m=1}^{M} T^m(\theta_i - \theta_j)} \qquad (3.3)$$

Because of the linear dependence of each rule on the system's input variables, the Sugeno method is ideal for acting as an interpolative supervisor of the two DOA estimators that apply in different operating conditions. We note that using product for inference and sum for combining the rules is mathematically equivalent to a Bayesian approach to decision making and control.

4 Simulations

The following simulations show the performance of both the fuzzy DOA estimator and the global tracker depicted in figure 1. First, table 2 shows the DOA mean squared error for two coherent sources of SNR=5 dB. The correlation matrix is computed from 100 snapshots. The training positions (i°; i=0…NQ-1) and the worst case of non-training positions (intermediate positions as: 0.5, 1.5, etc.) have been measured. This table illustrates that the performance of the fuzzy DOA estimator is far closer to that of the Capon method than the performance of periodogram is. Next, figures 3 and 4 show the results after using some field trial data [5]. The scenario consists in 2 users of 30 dB each moving one each other with constant velocity. Figure 3 compares the performance of the periodogram estimates against the performance of the system proposed in [1] with parallel Kalman trackers. Figure 4 compares the actual source positions against the estimates obtained with the system proposed in figure 1 (parallel Kalman trackers with the fuzzy logic detection and estimation sub-systems).

5 References

[1] Pérez-Neira, A. and Lagunas, M.A. "*High Performance DOA trackers derived from parallel low resolution detectors*", 8thV IEEE Workshop on SSAP., pp. 558-561, Greece, June 1996.

[2] Zadeh, L.A., *"Outlined of a new approach to analysis of complex systems and decision processes,"* IEEE Trans. O Systems, Man and Cybernetics, vol. 3, no.1, January 1973.

[3] Wang, L.X, Mendel, J.M., *"Fuzzy adaptive filters, with application to nonlinear channel equalization,"* IEEE Trans. on Fuzzy Systems, vol. 1, no.3, pp. 161-170, August 1993.

[4] Kosko, B., *"Fuzzy Engineering,"* Prentice-Hall, 1997.

[5] TSUNAMI, *"Report on the analysis of the field trial results,"* Doc. n°: R2108/UPC/WP3.6/DR/P/035/b1, 1995.

Displacement (°)	Fuzzy Method	Capon Method	Periodogram
0	0	0	0
0.5	0.2455	0.2339	0.2500
1	0.0000	0.1011	1.0000
1.5	0.2138	0.0178	2.2500
2	0.0000	0.0068	4.0000
2.5	0.2422	0.0034	6.2500
3	0.0051	0.0019	9.0000
3.5	0.2192	0.0046	12.2500
4	0.0000	0.0064	16.0000
4.5	0.2264	0.0104	19.8125
5	0.0193	0.0129	0.6875
5.5	0.1524	0.0172	0.7375
6	0.0055	0.0106	1.5625
6.5	0.1321	0.0088	1.5625
7	0.0000	0.0060	1.3375
7.5	0.0388	0.0384	0.6500
8	0.0000	0.0015	0.3125

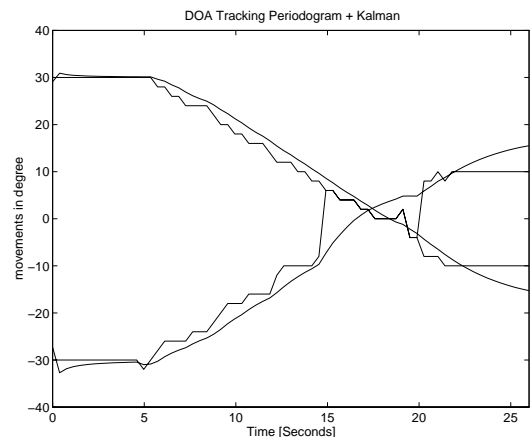*Table 1. Power position error (°2) (30 Monte-Carlo runs)*
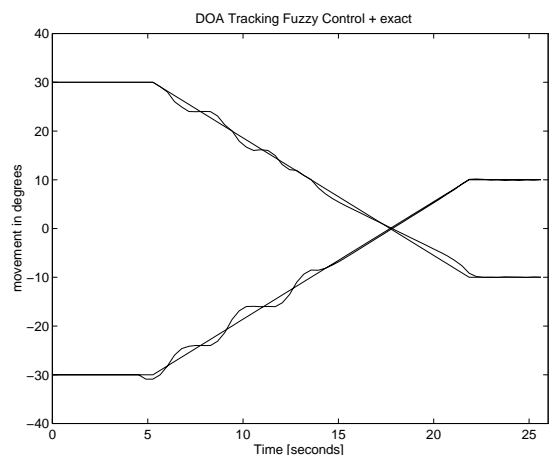

Figure 3.Field trial data.Periodogram against Kalman trackers

Figure 4.Field trial data.Actual DOA against fuzzy trackers