# OFDM-based Dual Function Communications-Radar Utilizing the 4D Modified Matrix Pencil Method

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Abstract—Increased competition between wireless communications and radar systems motivates the use of dual-function communications-radar (DFRC) devices, which perform both functions simultaneously. Orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) waveforms that echo from targets can be compared with the transmitted waveform to isolate phase-shifts related to targets' ranges, velocities, azimuth angles and elevation angles. Extending the modified matrix enhancement matrix pencil method (MMEMP) to four dimensions (4D), this paper estimates the target parameters, comparing estimates to the Cramér-Rao lower bound (CRLB). A Fifth Generation New Radio-compliant (5G NR) system is simulated, demonstrating superior precision to Fourier- and MUSIC-based parameter estimation.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Congestion of the radio frequency (RF) spectrum results from proliferation of wireless communications [1] and radar systems, aiming to meet demands for high-speed data transfer and remote sensing, respectively. Competition lowers bit rates in communications and reduces probability of detection in radar systems. To reduce interference, dual-function communications-radar (DFCR) systems utilize one waveform to perform both operations simultaneously [2]–[4]. A singular DFCR base-station (DFBS) can achieve lower cost, space, weight and power requirements than two independent systems.

Orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) communications waveforms are suitable for DFBSs [5], [6]. Echoes from targets in the environment can be compared with the transmitted waveform, isolating phase-shifts related to and allowing estimation of ranges and velocities of those targets. Phase shifts of the received signal across an antenna array allow for azimuth and elevation angle estimation.

Matrix pencil (MP) techniques estimate the frequencies from sums of complex (damped) sinusoids [7]. Application of the one-dimensional (1D) technique has been used in estimation of angles of arrival (AoA) for a massive antenna array [8] and pole extraction from underwater targets [9]. Signal AoA and times of arrival have been estimated with 2D MP techniques [10], [11], which has also been used for imaging [12]. Using 3D MP, azimuth and elevation AoA have been estimated simultaneously with signal frequency [13].

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One method is the 2D matrix enhancement matrix pencil (MEMP) technique [14] which takes a moving window through data to enhance it, then extracts the normalized frequencies. It is an 'off-grid' method: accuracy is limited by the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR). The 2D modified MEMP (MMEMP) technique [15] improves computational efficiency and bypasses an error the MEMP technique is susceptible to. It has been extended to 3D to perform AoA estimation [16].

Our previous works [17], [18] applied Fourier transforms and the MUSIC algorithm [19] to estimate target range, velocity, azimuth angle and elevation angles from an airborne DFBS. These methods are 'on-grid': accuracy is limited by resolution of the search space. Here we extend the MMEMP technique to estimate target parameters in a 4D parameter space and present results from Monte-Carlo simulations.

# II. SYSTEM MODEL

The scene contains one DFBS, K point targets and user equipment which may receive downlink communications. Relative to the DFBS, the kth point target has range, velocity, azimuth angle and elevation angle parameters  $\mathbf{w}_k = [R_k, v_k, \theta_k, \phi_k]$ . Signal echoes undergo Doppler shift  $f_{D,k} = 2v_k f_c/c$  with signal carrier frequency  $f_c$  and speed of light c.

OFDM waveforms transmit  $N_{ca}$  data subcarriers simultaneously for each of  $N_{sym}$  OFDM symbols. *M*-quadrature amplitude modulation (QAM) encodes binary data into the symbols. For the  $\eta$ th subcarrier and  $\mu$ th OFDM time slot, data symbol  $d_{Tx}(\eta, \mu)$  is embedded into the signal via an inverse discrete Fourier transform (DFT) [20]. Each OFDM symbol conveys  $N_{ca} \times \log_2(M)$  bits of information.

Subcarriers have spacing  $\Delta f$  Hz, the  $\eta$ th subcarrier having frequency  $f_{\eta} = \eta \Delta f$  Hz, and the signal bandwidth is  $BW = N_{ca}\Delta f$  Hz. Inter-carrier interference arises due to Doppler shifts in echoes from moving targets, but subcarrier orthogonality is ensured by limiting  $10f_{D,k} < \Delta f \forall k$  [6].

An OFDM symbol has period  $T_{sym}$  s, comprising a data signal preceded by a guard period  $T_{cyc}$  s, which limits intersymbol interference from multipath effects. Here we assume no multipath, but by limiting spread in target range, echoes from different targets arrive in the same OFDM time slots, i.e., delay between target signals is less than the guard period,  $2(\max_k R_k - \min_k R_k)/c < T_{cyc}$ . We also assume the system doesn't suffer from self-interference, achievable in full-duplex systems with cancellation methods [21]–[23]. Finally, the transmitted symbols and received echoes are assumed to have negligible time-frequency mismatch [24].

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Signals are transmitted and received by the square uniform planar array (UPA) on the DFBS, with  $N_{BS}$ -by- $N_{BS}$  isotropic antennas in the y-z plane. Antennas use phased array beamforming with normalized steering vector  $\mathbf{a}(\theta, \phi) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{BS}^2 \times 1}$ for AoA  $(\theta, \phi)$ , with  $\theta$  the azimuth angle and  $\phi$  the elevation angle. In the *p*th row and *q*th column of the UPA [25]

$$a(\theta, \phi; p, q) = \frac{1}{N_{BS}} \exp\left[\iota 2\pi p \times \frac{d}{\lambda} \sin(\theta) \cos(\phi)\right] \\ \times \exp\left[\iota 2\pi q \times \frac{d}{\lambda} \sin(\phi)\right]$$
(1)

with  $\iota = \sqrt{-1}$ , horizontal and vertical antenna spacing d, and carrier signal wavelength  $\lambda$ . Here,  $d = \lambda/2$  m, i.e., halfwavelength spacing  $(2\pi \frac{d}{\lambda} = \pi)$ , and the DFBS boresight is along the x-axis, i.e., transmit beamformer  $\mathbf{f}_{BS} = \mathbf{a}(0^{\circ}, 0^{\circ})$ .

The targets are modelled as point scatters with timeinvariant channels. For target k with AoA  $(\theta_k, \phi_k)$ 

$$\mathbf{H}_{k} = \alpha_{k}(\sigma_{k})\mathbf{a}(\theta_{k},\phi_{k})\mathbf{a}(\theta_{k},\phi_{k})^{H} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{BS}^{2} \times N_{BS}^{2}}$$
(2)

with target radar cross-section (RCS)  $\sigma_k$ . Coefficient  $\alpha_k(\sigma_k)$ incorporates complex normal scattering,  $\mathcal{CN}(0, \sigma_k^2)$ , and twoway pathloss. Pathloss uses frequency and distance dependent terms from a close-in free space reference pathloss model [26].

The DFBS applies beamforming, then transmits the OFDM signal which propagates and reflects from targets. A DFT extracts data symbols from the echoes at each of the  $N_{BS}^2$ antennas. For the  $\eta$ th subcarrier and  $\mu$ th OFDM time slot [17]

$$\mathbf{d}_{Rx}(\eta,\mu) = d_{Tx}(\eta,\mu) \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbf{H}_{k} \mathbf{f}_{BS} \exp\left[-\iota 2\pi \eta \Delta f \frac{2R_{k}}{c}\right] \\ \times \exp\left[\iota 2\pi \mu T_{sym} f_{D,k}\right] + \mathbf{z}(\eta,\mu) \quad (3)$$

where z is additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) with noise power  $\sigma_z^2$ , i.e., in the *p*th row and *q*th column of the UPA,  $z(\eta, \mu, p, q) \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, \sigma_z^2)$ . Subcarriers, indexed by  $\eta$ , have a linear phase shift dependent on target range  $(-2\Delta f R_k/c)$ and OFDM time slots, indexed by  $\mu$ , have a linear phase shift depending on target velocity  $(T_{sym}f_{D,k})$ .

# **III. 4D MMEMP METHOD**

# A. Matrix enhancement

Received data symbols (3) are compared with transmitted symbols, producing 4D element-wise division tensor, X, with dimension lengths  $\mathbf{n} = [N_{ca}, N_{sym}, N_{BS}, N_{BS}]$ . For the  $\eta$ th subcarrier,  $\mu$ th OFDM symbol, and antenna in the *p*th row and qth column of the UPA

$$x(\eta,\mu,p,q) = \frac{d_{Rx}(\eta,\mu,p,q)}{d_{Tx}(\eta,\mu)} \tag{4}$$

with  $d_{Rx}(\eta, \mu, p, q)$  the element (including AWGN) of (3) for this antenna. Phase changes due to range, velocity and angular information, are contained within the data tensor. Sturm and Wiesbeck [6] and our previous works [17], [18] processed (4) with Fourier transforms to estimate the range and velocities of targets. Schmidt's classic MUSIC algorithm [19] searched

over azimuth angles [6] or azimuth and elevation angles [17] to estimate target angular information. These methods scan a discrete search space, i.e., are on-grid with large search complexity. We extend the off-grid MMEMP method [15] to estimate target parameters within a 4D parameter space.

Entries in (4) are sums of K 4D sinusoids,  $\exp[\iota 2\pi\omega_k(i)]$ , with frequencies  $\omega_k = [f_{R_k}, f_{v_k}, f_{\theta_k}, f_{\phi_k}]$ . Frequencies are normalized, i.e.,  $f_{R_k} \in [0, 1)$  (range is non-negative),  $f_{v_k}, f_{\theta_k} \in [-0.5, 0.5)$  and  $f_{\phi_k} \in [-0.5, 0)$ . The entries are

$$x(\eta,\mu,p,q) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k \gamma_{R_k}^{\eta} \gamma_{v_k}^{\mu} \gamma_{\theta_k}^{p} \gamma_{\phi_k}^{q} + z(\eta,\mu,p,q)$$
(5)

with  $\beta_k$  complex amplitude,  $z(\eta, \mu, p, q)$  AWGN and terms:  $\gamma_{R_k} = \exp\left[-\iota 4\pi \Delta f R_k/c\right], \ \gamma_{v_k} = \exp\left[\iota 2\pi T_{sym} f_{D,k}\right],$  $\gamma_{\theta_k} = \exp\left[\iota \pi \sin(\theta_k) \cos(\phi_k)\right], \, \gamma_{\phi_k} = \exp\left[\iota \pi \sin(\phi_k)\right].$ 

Data tensor X can then be enhanced to ensure it is full rank. (Block) Hankel matrices are formed by taking moving window segments, with the length of the segments denoted as the 'pencil parameters'  $\mathbf{m} = [m_R, m_v, m_\theta, m_\phi]$ . In this work m(i) = |n(i)/2| + 1, with  $|\cdot|$  the floor operator and n(i) the length of the corresponding dimension of the data tensor.

Define  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{A}(i, j, ...), m, n)$  as the Hankel operator on tensor A: [A(1, j, ...), A(2, j, ...), ..., A(m, j, ...)] is the first column and  $[\mathbf{A}(m, j, \ldots), \mathbf{A}(m+1, j, \ldots), \ldots, \mathbf{A}(n, j, \ldots)]$  is the last row of the resultant Hankel (block) matrix. The 4D enhanced matrix,  $\mathbf{X}_4$ , is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{X}_{1}(\mu, p, q) &= \mathcal{H}(x(\eta, \mu, p, q), m_{R}, N_{ca}) \\ \mathbf{X}_{2}(p, q) &= \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{X}_{1}(\mu, p, q), m_{v}, N_{sym}) \\ \mathbf{X}_{3}(q) &= \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{X}_{2}(p, q), m_{\phi}, N_{BS}) \\ \mathbf{X}_{4} &= \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{X}_{3}(q), m_{\theta}, N_{BS}) \end{aligned}$$
(6)

where  $\mathbf{X}_I$  has  $\prod_{i=1}^{I} m(i) \times (n(i) - m(i) + 1)$  elements.

#### **B.** Frequency estimation

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Estimates of normalized frequencies,  $\hat{\omega}_k$ , can be extracted from  $X_4$ . Singular value decomposition produces

$$\mathbf{X}_4 = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{V}^H = \mathbf{U}_s\mathbf{S}_s\mathbf{V}_s^H + \mathbf{U}_z\mathbf{S}_z\mathbf{V}_z^H$$
(7)

with  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{C}^{\prod \mathbf{m} \times \prod (\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{n} + 1)}$  a diagonal matrix of singular values. Columns of  $\mathbf{U}~\in~\mathbb{C}^{\widecheck{\prod}\mathbf{m}\times\prod\mathbf{m}}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  $\mathbb{C}^{\prod(\mathbf{m}-\mathbf{n}+1)\times\prod(\mathbf{m}-\mathbf{n}+1)}$  are left and right singular vectors.

Subscripts s and z indicate signals or noise respectively, i.e., the first K columns of the parent matrix for signals and remaining columns for noise. K is assumed to be known but can be estimated from S by thresholding to separate signalrelated values and near-zero noise-related values [27].

Define  $\bar{m}(i) = \prod_{j \in [1,2,3,4], j \neq i} m(j)$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_1(\mathbf{A}, i)$  as matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  with the last  $\bar{m}(i)$  rows deleted and  $\mathcal{U}_2(\mathbf{A}, i)$  as matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  with the first rows  $\bar{m}(i)$  deleted. To extract parameters from 4D sinusoids we also define the shuffling matrix,  $\mathbf{P}_i \in \mathbb{C}^{\prod \mathbf{m} \times \prod \mathbf{m}}$ 

$$\mathbf{P}_{i} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}(1); \ \mathbf{p}(1+m(i)); \ \dots ; \ \mathbf{p}(1+(\bar{m}(i)-1)m(i)); \\ \mathbf{p}(2); \ \mathbf{p}(2+m(i)); \ \dots ; \ \mathbf{p}(2+(\bar{m}(i)-1)m(i)); \\ \mathbf{p}(3); \ \dots ; \ \mathbf{p}(m(i)+(\bar{m}(i)-1)m(i)) \end{bmatrix}$$
(8)

where  $\mathbf{p}(i) \in \mathbb{C}^{1 \times \prod \mathbf{m}}$  is the row vector with a one in its *i*th position and zero elsewhere.

Poles  $\gamma_{\phi_k}$  are estimated by generalized eigenvalues (GEs) of matrix pencil  $\mathcal{U}_2(\mathbf{U}_s, 4) - \rho \mathcal{U}_1(\mathbf{U}_s, 4)$ , where  $\rho \in \mathbb{C}$ . With  $\mathbf{A}^{\dagger}$ the Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and diag( $\mathbf{A}$ ) a diagonal matrix, the eigenvalue decomposition (EVD)

$$\operatorname{diag}(\hat{\gamma}_{\phi_{\tilde{k}}}) = \mathbf{W}^{\dagger}(\mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{1}}(\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{s}}, \mathbf{4})^{\dagger}\mathcal{U}_{2}(\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{s}}, \mathbf{4}))\mathbf{W}$$
(9)

yields eigenvectors, **W**, and GE estimates,  $\hat{\gamma}_{\phi_{\tilde{k}}}$ , from which  $\hat{f}_{\phi_{\tilde{k}}} = \Im(\log(\hat{\gamma}_{\phi_{\tilde{k}}}))/2\pi$  can be extracted and normalized.

The MEMP technique [14] estimates frequencies of the other complex sinusoids from matrix pencils formed by shuffling singular vectors  $\mathbf{U}_s$ . This results in four sets of unassociated frequencies, requiring a grouping operation to yield a group of estimated frequencies  $\hat{\omega}_{\tilde{k}}$  corresponding to one of the *K* targets. The correlation-based nature of this operation can result in non-associated frequencies being grouped, e.g., giving  $\hat{\omega}_k = [\hat{f}_{R_k}, \hat{f}_{\nu_k}, \hat{f}_{\theta_k}, \hat{f}_{\phi_k}]$  with  $k \neq \tilde{k}$ .

Addressing this, Chen et al. [15] proposed the modified MEMP (MMEMP) technique which simultaneously estimates poles in 2D complex sinusoids, bypassing grouping and attaining similar performance to the MEMP technique. It exploits eigenvectors of the first matrix pencil, W, and is extended to 4D by applying shuffling matrices to  $U_s$ 

$$\operatorname{diag}(\hat{\gamma}_{R_{\bar{k}}}) = \mathbf{W}^{\dagger}(\mathcal{U}_{1}(\mathbf{P}_{1}\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{s}}, 1)^{\dagger}\mathcal{U}_{2}(\mathbf{P}_{1}\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{s}}, 1))\mathbf{W}$$
(10)

$$\operatorname{diag}(\hat{\gamma}_{v_{\tilde{k}}}) = \mathbf{W}^{\dagger}(\mathcal{U}_{1}(\mathbf{P}_{21}\mathbf{U}_{s}, 2)^{\dagger}\mathcal{U}_{2}(\mathbf{P}_{21}\mathbf{U}_{s}, 2))\mathbf{W}$$
(11)

$$\operatorname{diag}(\hat{\gamma}_{\theta_{\tilde{k}}}) = \mathbf{W}^{\dagger}(\mathcal{U}_{1}(\mathbf{P}_{321}\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{s}},3)^{\dagger}\mathcal{U}_{2}(\mathbf{P}_{321}\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{s}},3))\mathbf{W} \quad (12)$$

with  $\mathbf{P}_{21} = \mathbf{P}_2 \mathbf{P}_1$  and  $\mathbf{P}_{321} = \mathbf{P}_3 \mathbf{P}_{21}$ . Frequencies in the same  $\tilde{k}$ th diagonal position correspond to the same target, allowing estimation of target parameters  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}_{\tilde{k}} = [\hat{R}_{\tilde{k}}, \hat{v}_{\tilde{k}}, \hat{\theta}_{\tilde{k}}, \hat{\phi}_{\tilde{k}}]$ .

Equations (9)-(12) provide solutions for the case where each of parameters are distinct between targets. When multiple targets share, e.g. the same range, the MMEMP technique can still be applied by extracting non-diagonal block matrices from the initial solutions of (9)-(12) and performing additional EVDs. Treatment is not provided here due to space constraints but it has been given in 2D [15] and 3D [16].

To assess performance, the 4D 2-norm distances  $||\omega_k - \hat{\omega}_{\tilde{k}}||$  for  $k, \tilde{k} = 1, ..., K$ , were used to match group estimates to targets by smallest distance to largest, with each group corresponding to a unique target. This prioritized achieving the best possible estimate for one of the targets, rather than minimizing a global error between estimate-target matches.

#### C. Cramér-Rao lower bound

The Cramér-Rao lower bound (CRLB) is a lower bound on the variance of the unbiased estimation of the target parameters from noisy data [25]. Unknown parameters are given in the vector  $\boldsymbol{\nu} = [\boldsymbol{\nu}_1; \boldsymbol{\nu}_2; \dots; \boldsymbol{\nu}_K] \in \mathbb{C}^{6K \times 1}$  with

$$\boldsymbol{\nu}_{k} = [|\beta_{k}|; \ \angle \beta_{k}; \ R_{k}; \ v_{k}; \ \theta_{k}; \ \phi_{k}] \in \mathbb{C}^{6 \times 1}$$
(13)

where  $|\beta_k|$  and  $\angle \beta_k$  are the magnitude and phase of  $\beta_k$ .

To calculate the CRLB of each parameter, the Fisher Information Matrix (FIM),  $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{C}^{6K \times 6K}$ , must be calculated. The

FIM is made of block matrices  $\mathbf{F}_{ab} \in \mathbb{C}^{6\times 6}$ , where *a* is the row and *b* the column of this block in the FIM. The entry of the *i*th row and *j*th column in this block is

$$F_{ab}(i,j) = \frac{2}{\sigma_z^2} \Re\left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^H}{\partial \nu_a(i)} \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \nu_b(j)}\right)$$
(14)

with  $\sigma_z^2$  the noise power and x is the vector of entries in (5) without inclusion of the AWGN, z.

From differentiation with respect to angle parameters,  $\theta_k$ and  $\phi_k$ , entries in the FIM contain summations of trigonometric functions with phases dependent on the differences between  $(\theta_a, \phi_a)$  and  $(\theta_b, \phi_b)$ . Analytical expressions for the FIM are not included here due to space constraints.

The CRLB for the variance of the normalized frequency estimates in  $\nu$  are diagonal elements of the inverse of the FIM,  $\mathbf{F}^{-1}$ . For the UPA, the CRLB for  $\theta_k$  and  $\phi_k$  are independent of one another [28].

### **IV. SIMULATION RESULTS**

In Fifth Generation New Radio (5G NR) standards the 'numerology',  $\mu_{5G}$ , determines suitable carrier frequencies, subcarrier spacing,  $\Delta f = 15 \times 2^{\mu_{5G}}$  kHz, and OFDM time slot length,  $T_{sym} = 1000/(14 \times 2^{\mu_{5G}})$  µs [29]. In our simulations we set carrier frequency  $f_c = 6$  GHz and  $\mu_{5G} = 0$  ( $\Delta f = 15$  kHz,  $T_{sym} = 71.42$   $\mu$ s). Target parameters are within limits,  $R_k \in [0, c/(2\Delta f)), v_k \in$  $[-c/(4T_{sym}f_c), +c/(4T_{sym}f_c)), \theta_k \in [-\pi/2, \pi/2)$  and  $\phi_k \in$  $[-\pi/2, 0)$ . Data tensor dimensions n, pencil parameters m, and size of enhanced matrix  $X_4$  are changed by varying the number of data subcarriers, OFDM symbols and number of antennas. We demonstrate simulations with equally sized data tensor dimensions n(i) = n for i = 1, ..., 4, denoted  $n^4$ . Methodology and shuffling matrices provided can be applied to data tensors with differently sized dimensions. Data is encoded into 4-QAM symbols. The UPA boresight is along the x-axis.

Point targets each have an RCS of 1 m<sup>2</sup> and parameters  $\mathbf{w}_1 = [4300 \text{ m}, -20 \text{ m/s}, -10^\circ, -70^\circ]$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_2 = [4600 \text{ m}, 10 \text{ m/s}, 30^\circ, -35^\circ]$ , and  $\mathbf{w}_3 = [4900 \text{ m}, 30 \text{ m/s}, 50^\circ, -20^\circ]$ , respecting constraints related to Doppler shift and guard period. Due to DFBS beamforming, random reflection coefficients and pathloss, the targets have different effective gains for received signal powers of [-2.98, 0, -20.88] dB respectively, relative to target two. When simulated individually, the effective gain 0 dB as noise power at each antenna is defined relative to the received signal power and SNR,  $\sigma_z^2 = P_{Rx} \times 10^{-\text{SNR}/10}$ , where  $P_{Rx}$  is received signal power without noise in watts. The results presented are the average of 1,000 realizations of the simulations with random noise.

Performance of the 4D MMEMP technique is demonstrated by giving the mean-squared errors (MSE) against SNR for estimates of each of the four parameters of a single target with parameters  $w_1$ . The 4D MMEMP technique is applied to data tensors with sizes  $4^4$ ,  $6^4$ ,  $8^4$  and  $10^4$ . In Fig. 1 (and Fig. 2) the solid colored lines represent MSE and dashed lines of the same color give the CRLB for that data tensor size.



Fig. 1. Parameter estimation for one target with  $\mathbf{X}\in \mathbb{C}^{4^4}, \mathbb{C}^{6^4}, \mathbb{C}^{8^4}, \mathbb{C}^{10^4}.$ 

The MSE linearly reduce with increasing SNR, whereas an increase in  $n^4$  reduces MSE nonlinearly. Diminishing returns for increasing the data tensor size are seen: increasing the data tensor size from  $4^4$  to  $6^4$  is equivalent to a 10 dB increase in SNR but an increase from  $8^4$  to  $10^4$  is only equivalent to a 5 dB SNR improvement. MSE of estimates for target parameters are close to the CRLBs, but there is a slight trend for the gap between MSE and the CRLBs to increase with increasing  $n^4$ . The parameter estimate MSE are not the same, due to scaling between the estimates of frequencies,  $\hat{\omega}_k$ , and corresponding parameters,  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}_k$ . MSE for the range estimates are large as small errors in  $\hat{f}_{R_k}$  scale to large  $\hat{R}_k$  errors. This could be compensated by increasing the size of the corresponding data tensor dimension, i.e., number of subcarriers.

In this figure the black lines represent the resolutions of parameter estimates using the Fourier-based and MUSIC algorithm. Resolutions for Fourier technique estimates of range and velocity are given from a system using a large number of data subcarriers and OFDM symbols as in [17], with resulting resolutions of 3.03 m for range and 0.68 m/s for velocity with  $N_{ca} = 3300$  and  $N_{sym} = 512$ . The 4D MMEMP-based estimation of velocity is more precise than Fourier-based estimation for nearly all SNRs and data tensor sizes. However, due to frequency-parameter scaling, to outperform the Fourier technique on range estimates the 4D MMEMP technique requires a high SNR (20+ dB) and a large data tensor size (large number of subcarriers). In comparison to a fine 0.1° search resolution possible with the MUSIC algorithm, the 4D MMEMP technique is more precise at nearly all SNRs and



Fig. 2. Parameter estimation for three targets of different gains and  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{C}^{8^4}$ .

data tensor sizes.

In Fig. 2 we present MSE for parameter estimates for data tensor size  $8^4$  in a scenario with K = 3 targets with parameters,  $\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2$  and  $\mathbf{w}_3$ . With increasing SNR the MSE reduce for all targets and targets with weaker reflections have higher MSE. At low SNRs (0, 5 dB) the echo from target three is so weak, relative to noise, that the parameters cannot be estimated reliably, taking random values within the search limits. The MSE for  $\theta_3$  at low SNRs are higher than for  $\phi_3$  as the search space is doubled, i.e.,  $f_{\theta_k} \in [-0.5, 0.5)$  and  $f_{\phi_k} \in [-0.5, 0) \forall k$ . The other targets, with stronger echoes, are reliably estimated. Black lines are the same as in Fig. 1.

## V. CONCLUSIONS

We have simulated a 5G NR-compliant OFDM-based DFCR system, extending the MMEMP method to perform parameter estimation in 4D, using MSE as a performance metric. Range, velocity, azimuth angle and elevation angles have been estimated for multiple point targets in a scenario.

It has been shown that the target parameters can be accurately and precisely estimated with the 4D MMEMP technique with large data tensor sizes and when the SNR is high. The 4D MMEMP technique is off-grid and so can attain higher precision estimates than Fourier-based or MUSIC techniques. Its performance is close to that of the CRLB.

When the SNR is low a high precision estimate can be obtained by processing a large data tensor: similarly, high SNRs can compensate reduction in precision for small data tensors. For more precise estimates of a specific parameter, the corresponding dimension of the data tensor can be increased.

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