

# Detection and localization of defects for sensor array imaging in noisy environments

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PEPS Interactions Mathématiques-Industrie - project Imagelec (Imagerie électromagnétique à partir de signaux fortement bruités).

Consider a simple imaging problem: detection and localization of a point reflector.

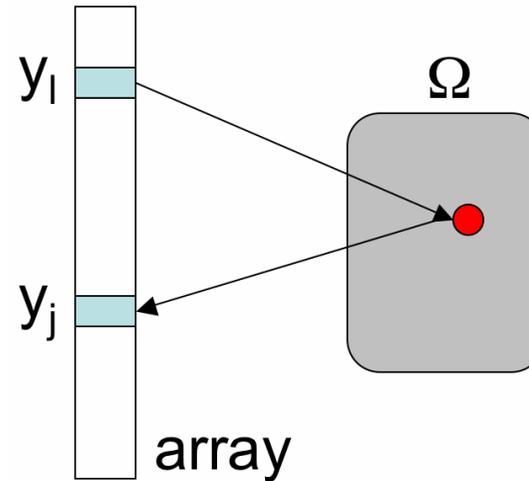
→ “All” methods work.

Add noise.

→ Which method is best ?

## The array response matrix (in an ideal world)

- Time-harmonic waves emitted by point sources and recorded by point sensors
- Array of  $n$  elements  $\{\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n\}$ .
- $\hat{u}(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l) =$  field recorded by the sensor at  $\mathbf{y}_j$  when the sensor at  $\mathbf{y}_l$  emits a time-harmonic signal at frequency  $\omega$ .



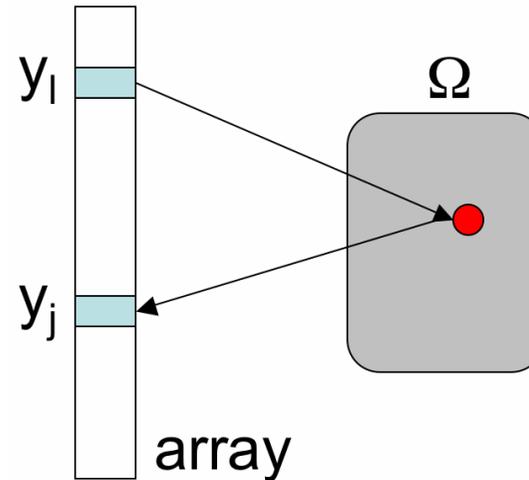
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- Response matrix  $\mathbf{A}_0 = ((A_0)_{jl})_{j,l=1,\dots,n}$  in a known environment:

$$(A_0)_{jl} = \hat{u}(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l) - \hat{G}_0(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l)$$

where

- $\hat{u}(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l)$  the field recorded by the sensor at  $\mathbf{y}_j$  when the sensor at  $\mathbf{y}_l$  emits.
- $\hat{G}_0(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l)$  is the incident field (Green's function of the background medium).



## A simple model: a point reflector in a constant background (1/2)

Scalar wave equation:  $\Delta_{\mathbf{x}} \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2(\mathbf{x})} \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = -\delta_{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x})$ .

In the presence of a localized reflector in the search domain  $\Omega$ :

$$\frac{1}{c^2(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{1}{c_0^2} (1 + \sigma_r V_{\text{ref}}(\mathbf{x}))$$

- $c_0$  is the known background speed (supposed constant),
- the local variation  $V_{\text{ref}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_{\text{ref}}}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}})$  represents the reflector at  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}}$ , where  $\Omega_{\text{ref}}$  is a compactly supported domain with volume  $l_{\text{ref}}^3$ .

- Response matrix  $\mathbf{A}_0 = ((A_0)_{jl})_{j,l=1,\dots,n}$ :

$$(A_0)_{jl} = \hat{u}(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l) - \hat{G}_0(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l)$$

- $\hat{u}(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l)$  the field recorded by the sensor at  $\mathbf{y}_j$  when the sensor at  $\mathbf{y}_l$  emits:

$$\Delta_{\mathbf{x}} \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}_l) + \frac{\omega^2}{c_0^2} (1 + \sigma_r V_{\text{ref}}(\mathbf{x})) \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}_l) = -\delta_{\mathbf{y}_l}(\mathbf{x})$$

- $\hat{G}_0(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l)$  is the incident field:

$$\hat{G}_0(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{y}_l) = \frac{e^{i \frac{\omega}{c_0} |\mathbf{y}_j - \mathbf{y}_l|}}{4\pi |\mathbf{y}_j - \mathbf{y}_l|}$$

## A simple model: a point reflector in a constant background (2/2)

- If the reflector is small, the response matrix has the form (Born approximation):

$$(A_0)_{jl} = \hat{G}_0(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}}) \frac{\omega^2}{c_0^2} \sigma_r l_{\text{ref}}^3 \hat{G}_0(\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}}, \mathbf{x}_l)$$

or equivalently:

$$\mathbf{A}_0 = \sigma_{\text{ref}} \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}}) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}})^T, \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma_{\text{ref}} = \frac{\omega^2}{c_0^2} \sigma_r l_{\text{ref}}^3 \left( \sum_{l=1}^n |\hat{G}_0(\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}}, \mathbf{x}_l)|^2 \right)$$

- $\sigma_r$  is the scattering amplitude of the reflector,
- $l_{\text{ref}}^3$  is the volume of the reflector,
- $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$  is the normalized vector of Green's functions from the array to the point  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\left( \sum_{l=1}^n |\hat{G}_0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_l)|^2 \right)^{1/2}} \left( \hat{G}_0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_j) \right)_{j=1, \dots, n}$$

The matrix  $\mathbf{A}_0$  has rank 1 and its unique non-zero singular value is  $\sigma_{\text{ref}}$ .

Remark: other possible models: perfectly conducting crack, small inclusion, ...

Question 1: What is the structure of the (SVD of the) measured matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  in the presence of noise ? When do we sound the alarm (presence of a reflector) ?

## Imaging functionals (1/3)

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be the (symmetrized) measured response matrix. Perform a SVD:

$$\mathbf{A} = \sum_{l=1}^n \sigma^{(l)} \mathbf{v}^{(l)} (\mathbf{v}^{(l)})^T$$

Remember that the unperturbed matrix is  $\mathbf{A}_0 = \sigma_{\text{ref}} \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}}) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}})^T$ .

- MUSIC functional ( $\mathbf{P}$  = projection on image space of  $\mathbf{A}$  = projection on span( $\mathbf{v}^{(1)}$ )):

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{MUSIC}}(\mathbf{x}) = \|(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P})\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})\|^{-1} = \|\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) - (\overline{\mathbf{v}^{(1)}})^T \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{v}^{(1)}\|^{-1}$$

- Reverse-Time migration functional:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x}) = \overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}^T \mathbf{A} \overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}$$

- Kirchhoff Migration functional:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{KM}}(\mathbf{x}) = \overline{\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x})}^T \mathbf{A} \overline{\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x})}$$

where

$$\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left( \exp(i \frac{\omega}{c_0} |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j|) \right)_{j=1, \dots, n}$$

## Imaging functionals (2/3)

A general imaging functional can be obtained using a weighted-subspace migration:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{I}_{\text{SM}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) &= \overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}^T \left[ \sum_{l=1}^n w_l(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{v}^{(l)} (\mathbf{v}^{(l)})^T \right] \overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})} \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^n w_l(\mathbf{x}) (\overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}^T \mathbf{v}^{(l)})^2\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{w}(\mathbf{x}) = (w_l(\mathbf{x}))_{l=1, \dots, n}$  are (complex) weights.

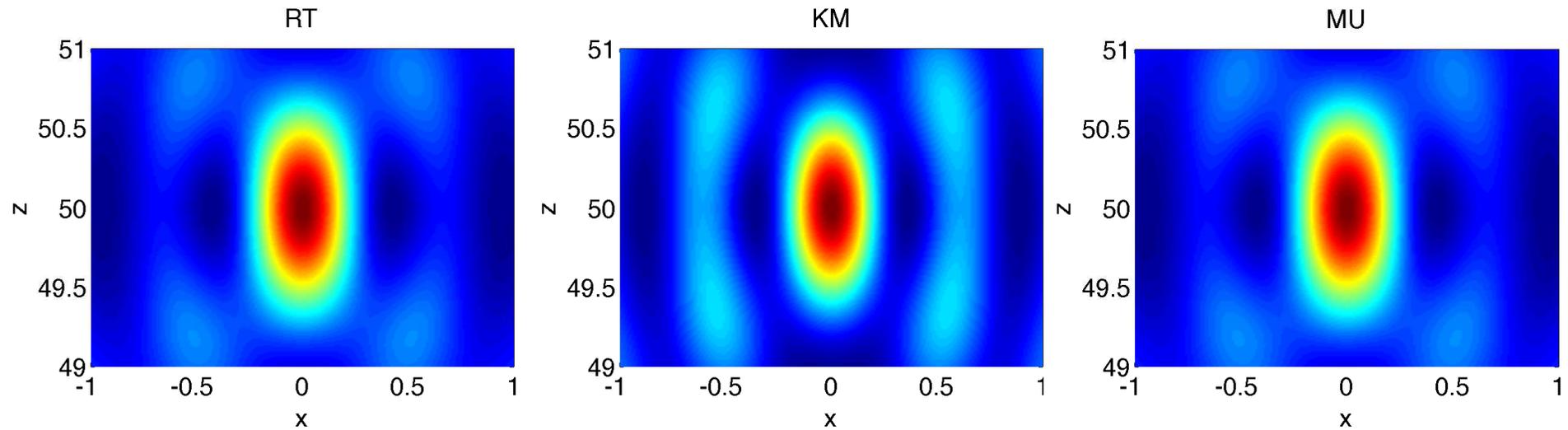
- Denote  $w_l^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma^{(l)}$ . Then  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{SM}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}^{(1)})$  corresponds to Reverse-Time migration:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{SM}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}^{(1)}) = \mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x})$$

- Denote  $w_l^{(2)}(\mathbf{x}) = \exp\left(-i2 \arg\left(\overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}^T \mathbf{v}^{(1)}\right)\right) \mathbf{1}_1(l)$ . Then  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{SM}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}^{(2)})$  corresponds to MUSIC:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{I}_{\text{MUSIC}}(\mathbf{x}) &= \left\| \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) - (\overline{\mathbf{v}^{(1)}}^T \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})) \mathbf{v}^{(1)} \right\|^{-1} = \left(1 - \left| \overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}^T \mathbf{v}^{(1)} \right|^2\right)^{-1/2} \\ &= \left(1 - \mathcal{I}_{\text{SM}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}^{(2)})\right)^{-1/2}\end{aligned}$$

## Imaging functionals (3/3)



Imaging functionals for a point reflector in the absence of noise.

Left: Reverse-Time migration, center: Kirchhoff Migration, right: MUSIC (or more exactly,  $1 - \mathcal{I}_{\text{MUSIC}}(\mathbf{x})^{-2}$ ).

Question 2: What is the best imaging functional to localize a reflector in the presence of noise ?

## A point reflector in a noisy environment: the response matrix

- In the presence of a reflector and noise, the response matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  has the form

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}_0 + \mathbf{W}$$

- The matrix  $\mathbf{A}_0$  is the rank-one matrix that corresponds to the reflector.
- The matrix  $\mathbf{W}$  models noise.

*Assume that:*

there is additive measurement noise (and symmetrize the matrix, since the unperturbed response matrix is symmetric).

*Then:*

The matrix  $\mathbf{W}$  is complex symmetric Gaussian, i.e.,  $W_{jl} = W_{lj}$  and  $W_{jl}$ ,  $j \leq l$  obey independent complex Gaussian random variables with mean zero and variance  $\delta^2$  off the diagonal ( $j \neq l$ ) and  $2\delta^2$  on the diagonal ( $j = l$ ).

## The response matrix without reflector and with noise

- Denote

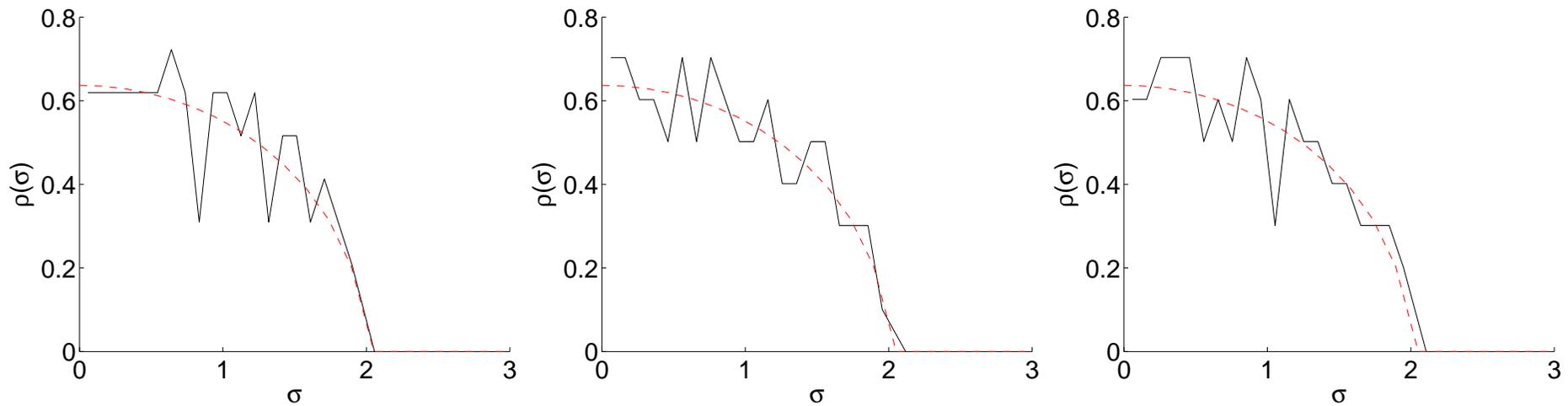
- $\sigma_1^{(n)} \geq \sigma_2^{(n)} \geq \sigma_3^{(n)} \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n^{(n)}$  the singular values of the response matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- $\sigma_{\text{noise}} = \sqrt{n}\delta$  where  $\delta^2$  is the variance of the entries of the matrix.

In the regime  $n \gg 1$  (number of sensors  $\gg 1$ ):

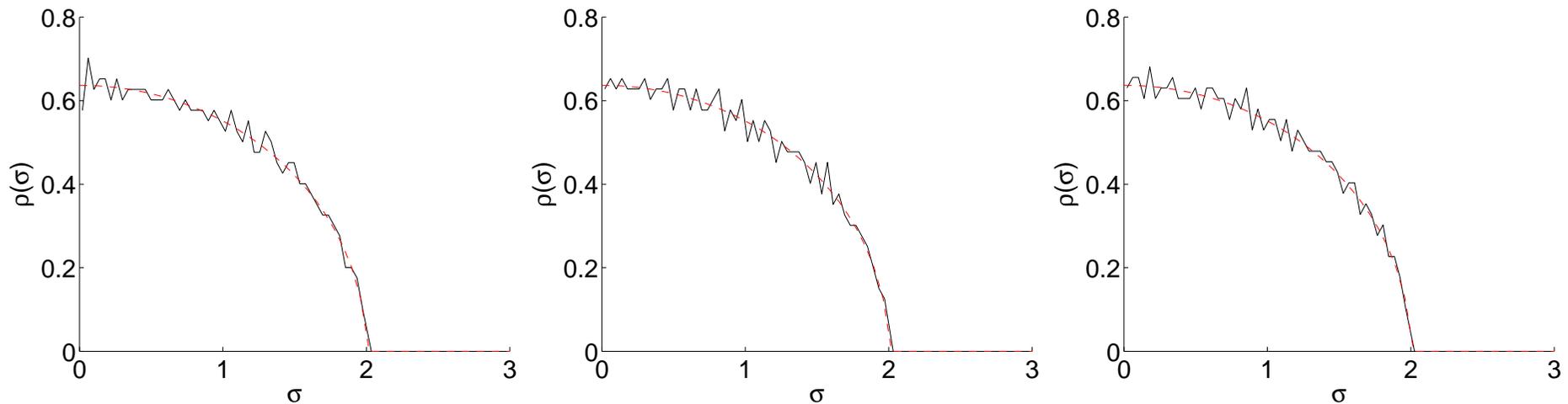
- a) The singular values  $(\sigma_j^{(n)})_{j=1,\dots,n}$  follow a quarter-circle distribution:

$$\frac{1}{n} \text{Card}(j = 1, \dots, n, \sigma_j^{(n)} \in [a, b]) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sigma_{\text{noise}}} \int_a^b \rho_{\text{qc}}\left(\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{noise}}}\right) d\sigma$$

$$\rho_{\text{qc}}(\sigma) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{4 - \sigma^2} & \text{if } 0 < \sigma \leq 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



Histogram of the singular values for three realizations of the random matrix  
 ( $n = 100, \sigma_{\text{noise}} = 1$ ).



Histogram of the singular values for three realizations of the random matrix  
 ( $n = 1000, \sigma_{\text{noise}} = 1$ ).

## The response matrix without reflector and with noise

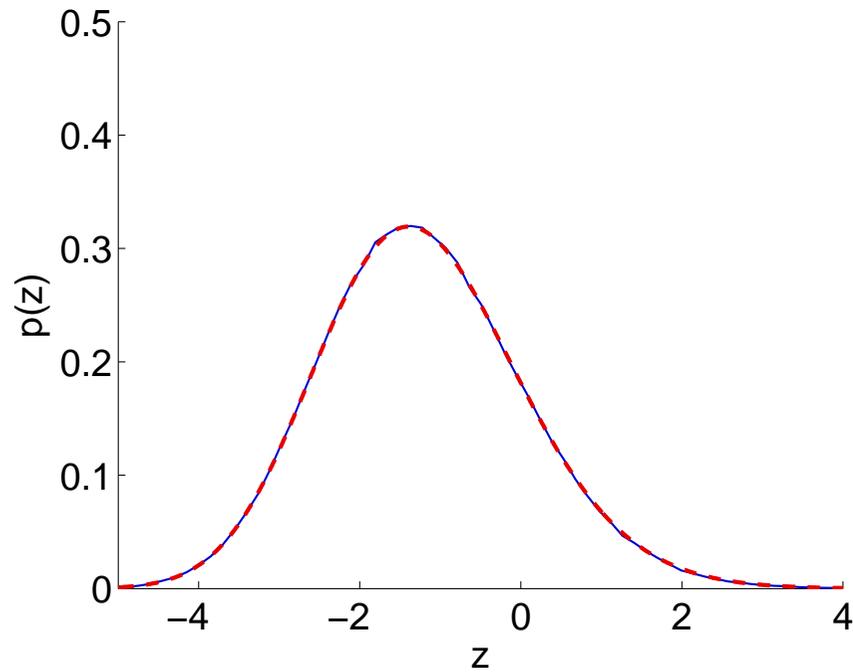
- Denote
  - $\sigma_1^{(n)} \geq \sigma_2^{(n)} \geq \sigma_3^{(n)} \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n^{(n)}$  the singular values of the response matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ .
  - $\sigma_{\text{noise}} = \sqrt{n}\delta$  where  $\delta^2$  is the variance of the entries of the matrix.

In the regime  $n \gg 1$  (number of sensors  $\gg 1$ ):

b) The largest singular value satisfies

$$\sigma_1^{(n)} = \sigma_{\text{noise}} \left[ 2 + 2^{-2/3} n^{-2/3} Z_1 + o(n^{-2/3}) \right]$$

where  $Z_1$  follows a type 1 Tracy-Widom distribution ( $\mathbb{E}[Z_1] \simeq -1.21$ ,  $\text{Var}(Z_1) \simeq 1.61$ ).



Histogram of  $2^{2/3}n^{2/3}(\sigma_1^{(n)}/\sigma_{\text{noise}} - 2)$  obtained from MC simulations with  $n = 50$  in the absence of reflector (solid) and compared with the theoretical type 1 Tracy-Widom distribution (dashed).

## The response matrix with a point reflector and with noise

- Denote
  - $\sigma_1^{(n)} \geq \sigma_2^{(n)} \geq \sigma_3^{(n)} \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n^{(n)}$  the singular values of the response matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ .
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In the regime  $n \gg 1$  (number of sensors  $\gg 1$ ):

- a) The second singular value satisfies  $\sigma_2^{(n)} \simeq 2\sigma_{\text{noise}}[1 + O(n^{-2/3})]$ ,  
the singular values  $(\sigma_j^{(n)})_{j=2,\dots,n}$  follow a quarter-circle distribution.

## The response matrix with a point reflector and with noise

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**b1)** If  $\sigma_{\text{noise}} < \sigma_{\text{ref}}$ , then the largest singular value satisfies

$$\sigma_1^{(n)} = \sigma_{\text{ref}} \left[ 1 + \sigma_{\text{noise}}^2 \sigma_{\text{ref}}^{-2} + n^{-1/2} \sigma_{\text{noise}} \sigma_{\text{ref}}^{-1} (1 - \sigma_{\text{noise}}^2 \sigma_{\text{ref}}^{-2})^{1/2} Z_0 + o(n^{1/2}) \right]$$

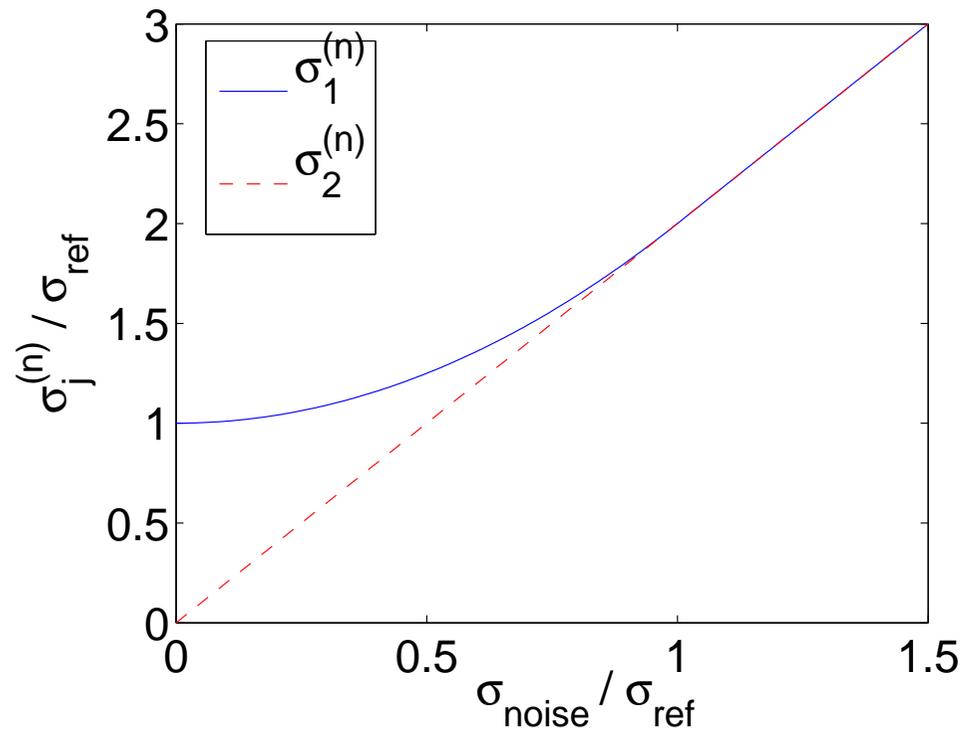
where  $Z_0$  follows a standard Gaussian distribution.

**b2)** If  $\sigma_{\text{noise}} > \sigma_{\text{ref}}$ , then the largest singular value satisfies

$$\sigma_1^{(n)} = \sigma_{\text{noise}} \left[ 2 + 2^{-2/3} n^{-2/3} Z_1 + o(n^{-2/3}) \right]$$

where  $Z_1$  follows a type 1 Tracy-Widom distribution ( $\mathbb{E}[Z_1] \simeq -1.21$ ,  $\text{Var}(Z_1) \simeq 1.61$ ).

Proof: random matrix theory.



Mean first and second singular values.

Consider

$$R := \frac{\sigma_1^{(n)}}{\left(\frac{1}{n-2} \sum_{j=2}^n (\sigma_j^{(n)})^2\right)^{1/2}}$$

In the regime  $n \gg 1$  (number of sensors  $\gg 1$ )

- In the absence of reflector,

$$R \stackrel{dist.}{=} 2 + \frac{1}{2^{2/3} n^{2/3}} Z_1$$

where  $Z_1$  follows a type 1 Tracy-Widom distribution.

- In the presence of a reflector, if  $\sigma_{\text{ref}} > \sigma_{\text{noise}}$ , then

$$R \stackrel{dist.}{=} \frac{\sigma_{\text{ref}}}{\sigma_{\text{noise}}} + \frac{\sigma_{\text{noise}}}{\sigma_{\text{ref}}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sqrt{1 - \sigma_{\text{noise}}^2 \sigma_{\text{ref}}^{-2}} Z_0$$

where  $Z_0$  follows a standard Gaussian distribution.

If  $\sigma_{\text{ref}} < \sigma_{\text{noise}}$  then  $R \stackrel{dist.}{=} 2 + \frac{1}{2^{2/3} n^{2/3}} Z_1$ , as in the absence of a reflector !

- *Detection test with level  $r$ : If the data gives  $R$ , then sound the alarm if  $R > r$ .*
- The **false alarm rate (FAR)** is the probability to sound the alarm when there is no reflector:

$$\text{FAR} = \mathbb{P}(R > r \mid \text{without reflector})$$

The **probability of detection (POD)** is the probability to sound the alarm when there is a reflector:

$$\text{POD} = \mathbb{P}(R > r \mid \text{with reflector})$$

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$$\text{POD} = \mathbb{P}(R > r \mid \text{with reflector})$$

- Fix  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Choose

$$r_\alpha = 2 + \frac{1}{2^{2/3}n^{2/3}} \Phi_{\text{TW1}}^{-1}(1 - \alpha),$$

where  $\Phi_{\text{TW1}}$  is the type 1 Tracy-Widom cumulative distribution function. For instance,  $\Phi_{\text{TW1}}^{-1}(0.95) \simeq 0.98$ . Main results:

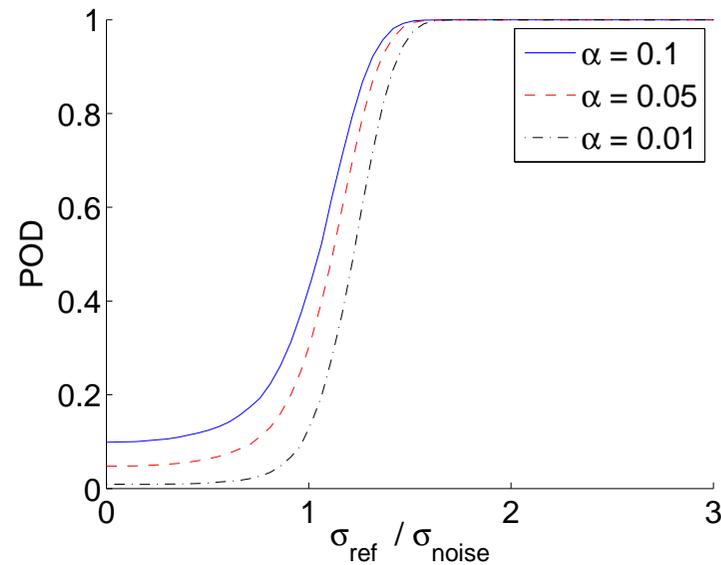
- The FAR of the test  $R > r_\alpha$  is  $\alpha$ .
- The POD of the test  $R > r_\alpha$  is

$$\text{POD} = \max \left\{ \alpha, \Phi \left( \sqrt{n} \frac{\frac{\sigma_{\text{ref}}}{\sigma_{\text{noise}}} + \frac{\sigma_{\text{noise}}}{\sigma_{\text{ref}}} - r_\alpha}{\sqrt{1 - (\sigma_{\text{noise}}/\sigma_{\text{ref}})^2}} \right) \right\}$$

where  $\Phi$  is the standard Gaussian cumulative distribution function.

- **By Neyman-Pearson lemma the test  $R > r_\alpha$  maximizes the POD for a given FAR  $\alpha$ .**

The POD increases with the number  $n$  of sensors, with  $\sigma_{\text{ref}}/\sigma_{\text{noise}}$ , and with the FAR  $\alpha$ .



The SV-based test becomes powerful when  $\sigma_{\text{ref}} > \sigma_{\text{noise}}$ .

## Migration-based detection test

Reverse-Time imaging functional:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x}) = \overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}^T \mathbf{A} \overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})} \quad \text{with } \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\left(\sum_{l=1}^n |\hat{G}_0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_l)|^2\right)^{1/2}} \left(\hat{G}_0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_j)\right)_{j=1, \dots, n}$$

- Imaging of a point reflector without noise:  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}$  is a **peak** centered at  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}}$ :

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma_{\text{ref}} h(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}}) = \sigma_{\text{ref}} \left(\overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}^T \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}})\right)^2$$

$h$  = **point spread function**; maximal at  $\mathbf{0}$  (Cauchy-Schwartz);  $h(\mathbf{0}) = 1$ .

- Full aperture:

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sinc}^2\left(\frac{\pi|\mathbf{x}|}{\lambda_0}\right)$$

$\Leftrightarrow$  the width of the function  $h(\mathbf{x})$  is  $\lambda_0/2$  (diffraction limit).

- Imaging of noise without reflector:  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}$  is a **speckle pattern**, i.e. a stationary Gaussian random field with mean zero, variance  $2\delta^2$ , and covariance function:

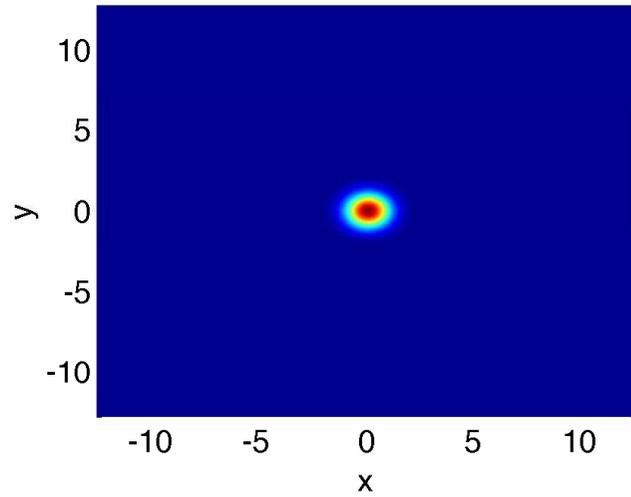
$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x})\overline{\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{y})}] = 2\delta^2 h(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

The hotspot volume is defined by

$$V_c = \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{(\det \mathbf{H})^{1/2}}, \quad \mathbf{H} = \left( -\partial_{x_j x_l}^2 h(\mathbf{0}) \right)_{j,l=1,\dots,3}.$$

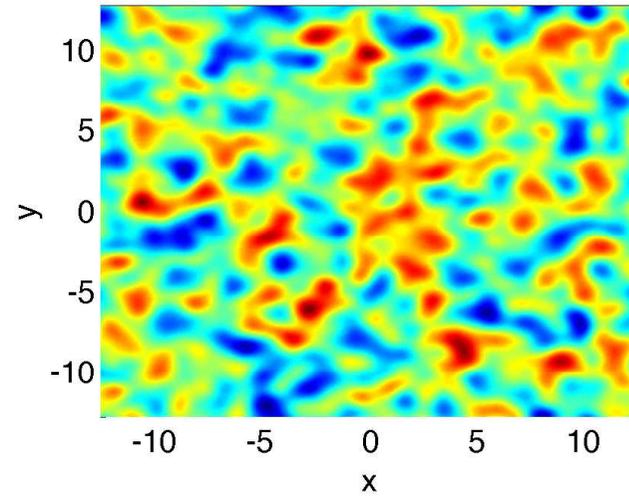
- Full aperture:

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{8\pi^2}{3\lambda_0^2} \mathbf{I}, \quad V_c = \frac{3^{3/2}}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \lambda_0^3$$



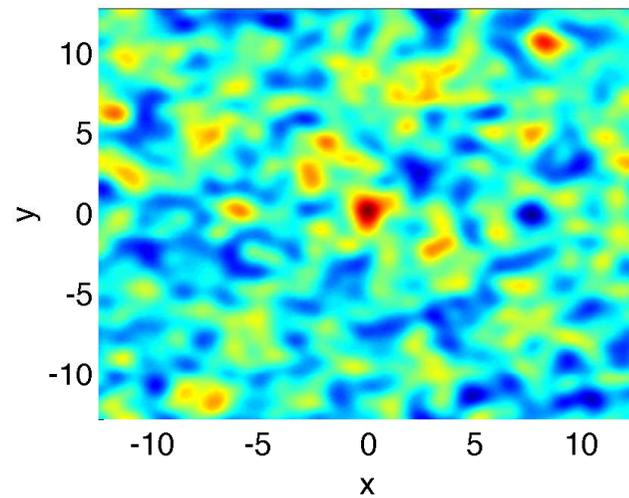
With reflector, without noise

Point spread function



Without reflector, with noise

Speckle pattern



With reflector, with noise

- Consider

$$S := \frac{\|\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}^2 |\Omega|}{\|\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2}.$$

In the regime  $n \gg 1$  (number of sensors  $\gg 1$ ) and  $|\Omega| \gg V_c$  (search volume  $\gg$  hotspot volume):

- a) In the absence of a reflector, then

$$S \stackrel{dist.}{=} \ln \frac{|\Omega|}{V_c} + \frac{3}{2} \ln \ln \frac{|\Omega|}{V_c} + Z,$$

where  $Z$  follows a Gumbel distribution.

- b) In the presence of a reflector, then

$$S \stackrel{dist.}{=} \max \left\{ \frac{\sigma_{\text{ref}}^2}{2\delta^2} + \frac{\sigma_{\text{ref}}}{\delta} Z_0, \ln \frac{|\Omega|}{V_c} + \frac{3}{2} \ln \ln \frac{|\Omega|}{V_c} + Z \right\},$$

where  $Z_0$  follows a standard Gaussian distribution and is independent of  $Z$ .

Proof: extreme value theory for random fields.

- *Migration-based detection test: If the data gives  $S$ , sound the alarm if  $S > s$ .*

Fix  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Choose

$$s_\alpha = \ln \frac{|\Omega|}{V_c} + \frac{3}{2} \ln \ln \frac{|\Omega|}{V_c} + \Phi_G^{-1}(1 - \alpha),$$

where  $\Phi_G(x) = \exp(-e^{-x})$  is the Gumbel cumulative distribution function. For instance  $\Phi_G^{-1}(0.95) \simeq 2.97$ .

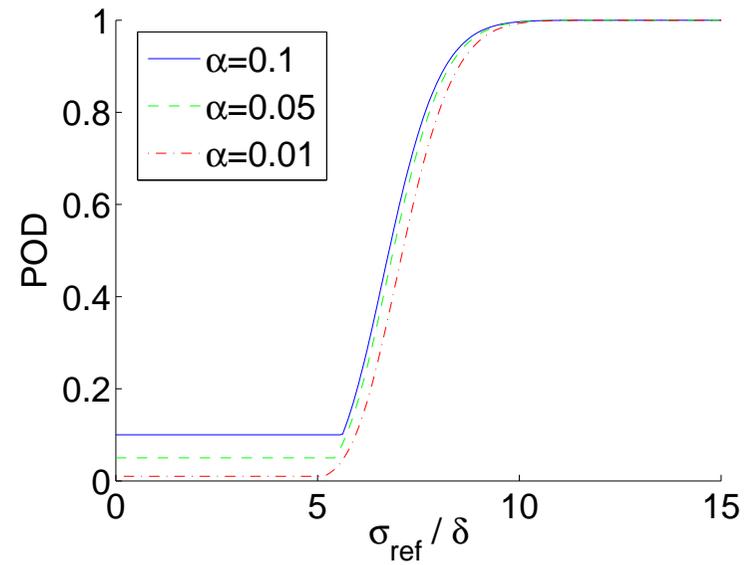
Main results:

- The false alarm rate (FAR) of the test  $S > s_\alpha$  is  $\alpha$ .
- The probability of detection (POD) of the test  $S > s_\alpha$  is

$$\text{POD} = \max \left\{ \Phi \left( \frac{\frac{\sigma_{\text{ref}}^2}{2\delta^2} - s_\alpha}{\frac{\sigma_{\text{ref}}}{\delta}} \right), \alpha \right\}$$

where  $\Phi$  is the standard Gaussian cumulative distribution function.

- *By Neyman Pearson lemma, the test  $S > s_\alpha$  maximizes the POD for a given FAR  $\alpha$ .*



The migration-based test becomes powerful when  $\sigma_{\text{ref}} > \sqrt{2}\delta \ln^{1/2}(|\Omega|/V_c)$ .

Remember:  $\sigma_{\text{noise}} = \sqrt{n}\delta$ .

## Comparison between SV-based test and migration-based test

- The migration-based test becomes powerful when  $\sigma_{\text{ref}} > \sqrt{2}\delta \ln^{1/2}(|\Omega|/V_c)$ .
- The SV-based test becomes powerful when  $\sigma_{\text{ref}} > \delta\sqrt{n}$ .
- Therefore the migration-based test is more (resp. less) powerful than the SV-based test when  $n > (\text{resp. } <) 2 \ln(|\Omega|/V_c)$ .
- In practice, we usually have  $n > 2 \ln(|\Omega|/V_c)$ , and therefore **the migration-based test is more efficient than the SV-based test.**
- **The SV-based test is simpler to implement than the migration-based test.**

## Optimal migration for localization

- Given the parameters  $\mathbf{x}$  (the reflector location),  $\sigma$  (the reflector singular value), and  $\delta^2$  (the noise variance), the likelihood of the observations  $\mathbf{A}$  is proportional to

$$l_0(\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{x}, \sigma, \delta^2) = \frac{1}{\delta^{n^2+n}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \sigma \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})^T\|_F^2}{2\delta^2}\right)$$

- Prior information on  $(\mathbf{x}, \sigma, \delta^2)$ : nothing (Jeffrey prior).
- Bayes theorem: Given the observations  $\mathbf{A}$ , the likelihood function of the parameters  $\mathbf{x}$  (the reflector location),  $\sigma$  (the reflector singular value), and  $\delta^2$  (the noise variance) is proportional to

$$l_0(\mathbf{x}, \sigma, \delta^2 \mid \mathbf{A}) = \frac{1}{\delta^{n^2+n+1}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \sigma \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})^T\|_F^2}{2\delta^2}\right)$$

- The maximum likelihood estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  of  $\mathbf{x}$  (and the nuisance parameters  $\delta^2$  and  $\sigma$ ) is found by maximizing the likelihood function. Main result:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\mathbf{x}} |\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x})|^2$$

↪ Reverse-Time migration is the best method in the presence of additive noise.

Proof. Given the observations  $\mathbf{A}$ , the likelihood function of the parameters  $\mathbf{x}$  (the reflector location),  $\sigma$  (the reflector singular value), and  $\delta^2$  (the noise variance) is proportional to

$$l_0(\mathbf{x}, \sigma, \delta^2 \mid \mathbf{A}) = \frac{1}{\delta^{n^2+n+1}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \sigma \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})^T\|_F^2}{2\delta^2}\right)$$

The maximum likelihood estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  of  $\mathbf{x}$  (and the nuisance parameters  $\delta^2$  and  $\sigma$ ) is found by maximizing the likelihood function:

$$(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \hat{\sigma}, \hat{\delta}^2) = \operatorname{argmax}_{\mathbf{x}, \sigma, \delta^2} l_0(\mathbf{x}, \sigma, \delta^2 \mid \mathbf{A}).$$

We first eliminate  $\delta^2$  by requiring

$$\frac{\partial l_0(\mathbf{x}, \sigma, \delta^2 \mid \mathbf{A})}{\partial \delta} = 0.$$

This gives

$$\hat{\delta}^2 = \frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \sigma \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})^T\|_F^2}{n^2 + n + 1},$$

and the likelihood ratio is then proportional to

$$l_0(\mathbf{x}, \sigma, \hat{\delta}^2 \mid \mathbf{A}) \simeq \|\mathbf{A} - \sigma \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})^T\|_F^{-(n^2+n+1)/2}.$$

Since  $\mathbf{A}$  is complex symmetric it admits a symmetric SVD: there exist unitary vectors  $\mathbf{v}^{(l)}$  and nonnegative numbers  $\sigma^{(l)}$  (the singular values) such that

$$\mathbf{A} = \sum_{l=1}^n \sigma^{(l)} \mathbf{v}^{(l)} \mathbf{v}^{(l)T}$$

We can write

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \sigma \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})^T\|_F^2 = \|\tilde{\mathbf{v}} - \sigma \tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})\|_2^2$$

for  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}} = \sum_{l=1}^n \sigma^{(l)} \mathbf{v}^{(l)} \otimes \mathbf{v}^{(l)}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \otimes \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$ . Using  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})\|_2 = \|\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})\|^2 = 1$ ,

$$\hat{\sigma} = \underset{\sigma}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|\tilde{\mathbf{v}} - \sigma \tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})\|_2^2 = \overline{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})}^T \tilde{\mathbf{v}}$$

Therefore the estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  derives from maximizing the MUSIC-type function

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \underset{\mathbf{x}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\| \tilde{\mathbf{v}} - \left( \overline{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})}^T \tilde{\mathbf{v}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x}) \right\|_2^2$$

Note however that  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is not the maximizer of the MUSIC functional since all singular vectors (weighted by the singular values) contribute to  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}$ . We have in fact

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \tilde{\mathbf{v}} - \left( \overline{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})}^T \tilde{\mathbf{v}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x}) \right\|_2^2 &= \|\tilde{\mathbf{v}}\|_2^2 - \left| \overline{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})}^T \tilde{\mathbf{v}} \right|^2 &= \|\tilde{\mathbf{v}}\|_2^2 - \left| \sum_{l=1}^n \sigma^{(l)} \left( \overline{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}^T \mathbf{v}^{(l)} \right)^2 \right|^2 \\ &= \|\mathbf{A}\|_F^2 - |\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x})|^2 \end{aligned}$$

This gives  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \underset{\mathbf{x}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left( \|\mathbf{A}\|_F^2 - |\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x})|^2 \right)$ .

## Optimal migration for localization

Important remark:

The Bayesian localization scheme can be used once the detection test has passed.

Bayesian analysis is powerful but depends on the prior.

Here the prior is: there exists a reflector.

## Statistical analysis of localization error

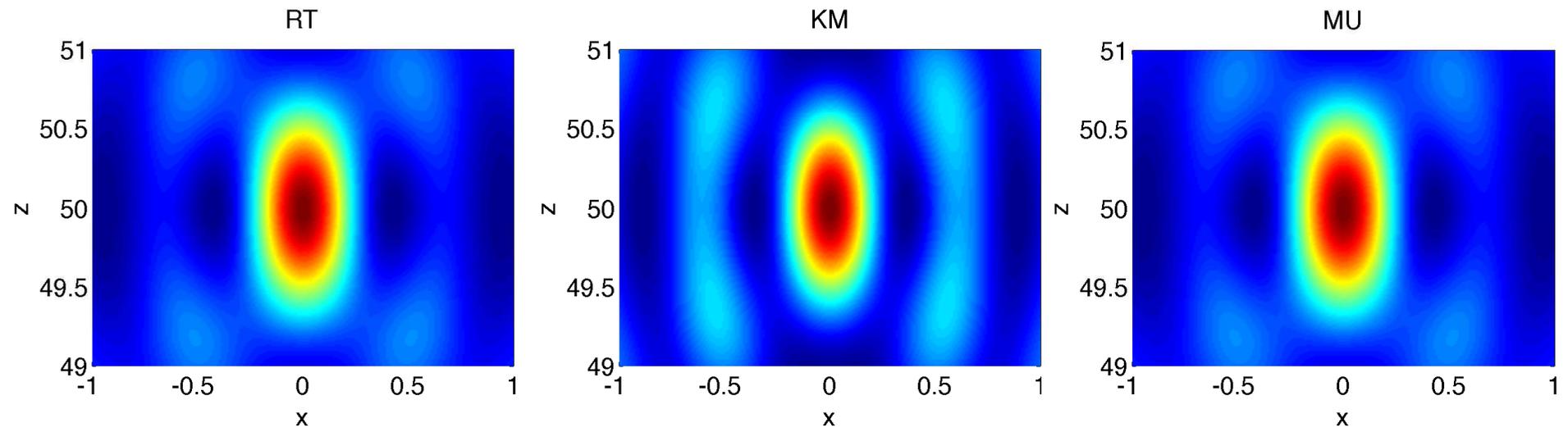
Optimal estimator:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\mathbf{x}} |\mathcal{I}_{\text{RT}}(\mathbf{x})|^2$$

To leading order in  $\delta/\sigma_{\text{ref}}$ , the estimator  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is unbiased and its covariance matrix is

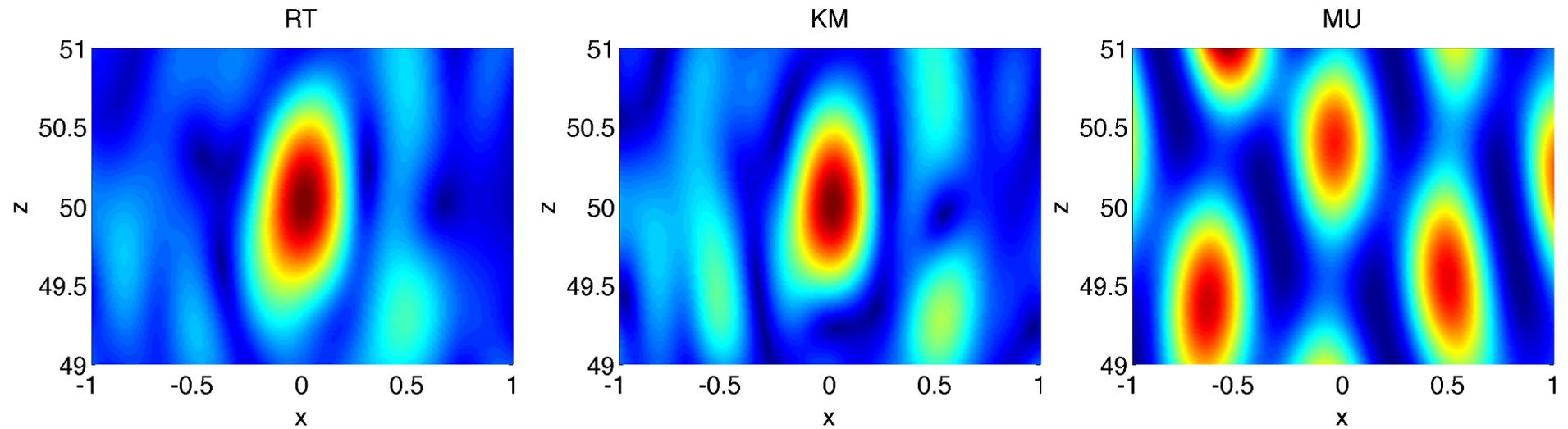
$$\mathbb{E}[(\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}})(\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{x}_{\text{ref}})^T] = \frac{\delta^2}{\sigma_{\text{ref}}^2} \mathbf{H}^{-1}.$$

Full aperture:  $\mathbb{E}[(\hat{x}_j - x_{\text{ref},j})^2] = \frac{\delta^2}{\sigma_{\text{ref}}^2} \frac{3}{2\pi^2} \lambda_0^2, \quad j = 1, \dots, 3.$

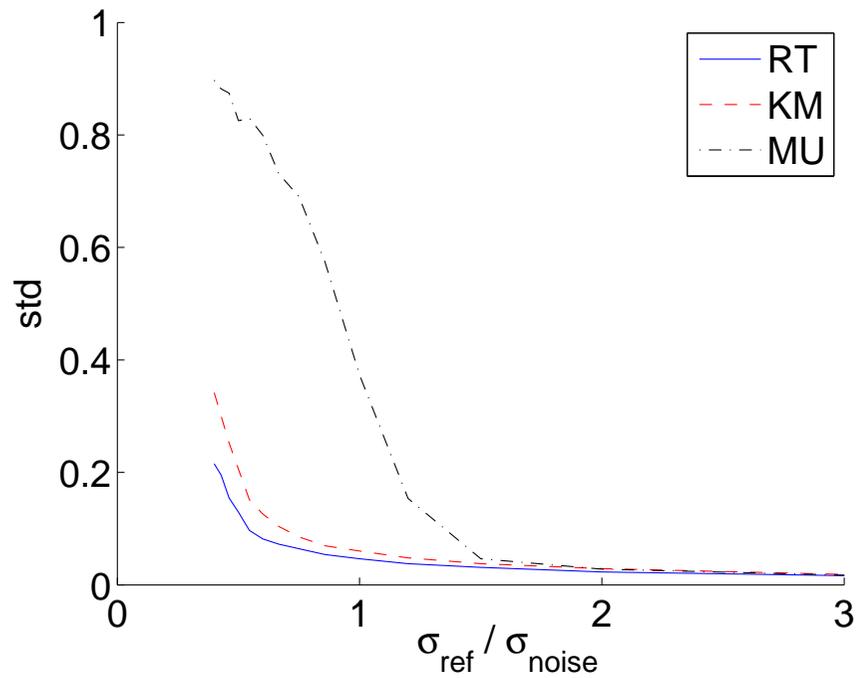


Imaging functionals in the absence of noise.

Left: reverse-time migration, center: Kirchhoff migration, right: MUSIC.



Imaging functionals in the presence of noise.



Standard deviation of the estimated reflector location obtained with three different imaging methods (here  $\lambda_0 = 1$ ,  $n = 100$ ).

## Conclusions

- Statistical and stochastic tools:
  - Random matrix theory: description of the distribution of the singular values of the array response matrix in a noisy environment.
  - Extreme value theory: description of the speckle pattern obtained by migration (backpropagation) of the array data.
  - Bayesian analysis: optimal localization of a target.
- Optimal tests involve non-Gaussian distributions (Gumbel, Tracy-Widom).
- What is important is the structure of the response matrix (symmetric, Hermitian, Hankel, Toeplitz, ...), not much the marginal distribution of the entries.
- It is possible to extend the results to
  - several reflectors, cracks, or inclusions,
  - other noisy environments (random medium in the single-scattering regime for instance).

The main hypothesis is that the information is low-rank while the noise is high-rank.