

1 **Performance Evaluation of DOA Algorithms for Non-uniform Linear Arrays**
2 **in a Weather-Impacted Environment**

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7 **Key Points:**

- 8 • The performance of Minimum Variance Distortionless Response (MVDR), Multiple
9 Signal Classification (MUSIC) and the proposed Advanced-MUSIC (A-MUSIC) non-
10 uniform linear array (NLA) algorithms on a weather impacted wireless channel is
11 investigated.
- 12 • The co-prime and array interpolation NLA configurations are investigated on a
13 markovian rainfall channel model capturing widespread, shower and thunderstorm rain
14 events.
- 15 • The results indicate that the algorithms experience severe performance degradation in a
16 weather affected environment. However, the developed NLA algorithm achieves better
17 Direction of Arrival (DOA) estimation than the conventional NLA.

18

19

20 Abstract

21 Spectrum scarcity has necessitated the migration of radio frequencies from the lower to the
22 higher frequencies. This has resulted in radio propagation challenges due to the adverse
23 environmental elements otherwise unexperienced at lower frequencies. A re-design and re-
24 evaluation of the performance of traditional lower frequency technologies and algorithms for
25 implementation at higher frequencies especially for non-uniform linear antenna arrays are
26 therefore necessary. Specifically, the performance of Direction of Arrival (DOA) algorithms for
27 non-linear antenna arrays on weather impacted environments needs to be quantified and new
28 algorithms developed to counteract the migration challenges. This work investigates the
29 performance of Minimum Variance Distortionless Response (MVDR), Multiple Signal
30 Classification (MUSIC) and the proposed Advanced-MUSIC (A-MUSIC) non-uniform linear
31 array (NLA) algorithms on a weather-impacted wireless channel. The results indicate that the
32 developed NLA achieves better DOA estimation than the conventional NLA albeit at a reduced
33 performance for both, in a weather-impacted scenario.

34 1 Introduction

35 Direction of Arrival (DOA) estimation is critical in antenna design for emphasizing the desired
36 signal and minimizing interference. Smart antenna systems utilize DOA algorithms to estimate
37 the beamforming vectors, to track and identify the antenna beam, making DOA estimation
38 critical in smart antenna design and beamforming (Krim et al., 1996). The accurate estimation of
39 the DOA of the transmitted signals at the adaptive array antenna results in improved performance
40 in the recovery of the transmitted signal and suppression of other interfering signals. The
41 motivation for adopting Non-Uniform Linear Arrays (NLA) as opposed to the Uniform Linear
42 Arrays (ULA) include the following (El kassis, et al., 2010; Saric et al., 2010): Firstly, the failure
43 of any antenna sensor element(s) renders ULA to become NLA in harsh applications field and
44 this could lead to data loss. Secondly, physical and geographical conditions may prohibit the
45 construction of uniformly spaced sensors leading to NLA. Thirdly, the need to reduce the
46 number of sensors to decrease the production cost and minimize the impact on performance, and
47 finally the need to increase the aperture of an antenna using the same number of sensors in order
48 to obtain better performance, among others. NLA allow better resolution for the same number of
49 array elements compared to the ULA. Generally, NLA have larger antenna aperture, smaller
50 main lobe width resulting in better performance in angle resolution, estimation precision, and
51 other aspects. Therefore, the performance of NLA is of paramount importance especially with
52 the migration to higher frequencies that are more susceptible to the adverse weather
53 environmental factors.

54
55 Estimation accuracy of a given array depends upon characteristics of the array geometry and the
56 employed estimation algorithm; therefore, accurate DOS algorithms are required. DOA
57 estimation for NLA is more critical. Their uneven number of source and receiver antennas leads
58 to different degrees of freedom and irregular geometry. This results in different antenna sensor
59 separation and aperture sizes. Furthermore, the migration to higher frequencies makes it worse
60 due to the adverse effect of weather elements at these frequencies. New geometries requiring
61 different degrees of freedom for NLA have been proposed (Vaidyanathan et al., 2011; Tan et al.,
62 2014). They involve the studying of the covariance matrix of the received signals among
63 different sensors. Sparse arrays can be considered as a ULA where some sensors are omitted or
64 irregular linear arrays where the inter-sensor separations are chosen in an arbitrary way (Choi et

65 al., 2010). The irregular spacing results in difficulties in covariance between the various elements
66 because of the mutual coupling. These factors make DOA estimation for NLA challenging.
67 NLAs give similar performance to ULA with a smaller number of physical elements. Co-prime
68 array (Vaidyanathan et al., 2011; Tan et al., 2014) and array interpolation (Bronez et al., 1988;
69 Friedlander et al., 1993) have become the most popular algorithms for evaluating NLA. A co-
70 prime array comprises of two spatially under-sampled ULAs with co-prime spatial sampling
71 rates (Vaidyanathan et al., 2011; Pal et al., 2011). Array interpolation maps the covariance
72 matrix of a real array to a virtual array and enables the reduction of DOA estimation problems in
73 NLA to much simpler virtual ULA problems. Both these algorithms are investigated in this work
74 for NLA in a weather-impacted environment.

75
76 The most popular DOA algorithms used include the Minimum Variance Distortionless Response
77 (MVDR) algorithm that enforces a unit response at the direction of the desired signal and places
78 nulls in the directions of the interferences (Yu et al., 2015). The Multiple Signal Classification
79 (MUSIC) algorithm and its variants is applied directly to the NLA geometry resulting in high
80 computational complexity due to the multiple search for the maximum (Abramovich et al.,
81 1999). This work proposes the Advanced-MUSIC (A-MUSIC) DOA algorithm that employs
82 forward-backward averaging preprocessing technique on the cross correlation of array output to
83 improve the performance of the DOA techniques for NLAs. The application of these techniques
84 in a weather impacted radio propagation scenario for NLA is challenging and is the focus of this
85 work.

86
87 The increasing demand on mobile broadband services has led to the scarcity of radio spectrum
88 due to spectrum exhaustion (Zhang et al., 2015). This has led to migration to higher frequency
89 millimetre-wave (mmW) bands, which range from 30 GHz to 300 GHz, for mmW
90 communication with additional large bandwidths. Apart from the merits of increased bandwidth
91 and high frequency reuse packing due to shorter wavelengths, mmW communication possesses
92 its own challenges including large path loss suffered by mmW signals and the effect of the
93 weather effectors to signals in this band. Rainfall is a common weather phenomenon that affects
94 signal transmission at this band. In link budget design at lower frequencies, rainfall is
95 considered as a fixed propagation attenuation taken into account in the planning (Pi et al., 2011).
96 The signal suffers from absorption from the rain causing signal attenuation. Apart from
97 attenuation, the signals undergo scattering when transmitted through rain leading to both
98 amplitude attenuation and phase fluctuation (Ishimaru et al., 2004). Rain attenuation and
99 scattering are a function of the rain rate, polarization, physical size of drops and operating
100 frequency (Agber et al., 2013; Calla et al., 1990). Rainfall attenuation, frequency attenuation and
101 phase distortion affect the received signal. It is therefore mandatory for DOA algorithms to
102 consider weather effects for the systems. This has rarely been done in literature and therefore,
103 addressed in this work.

104
105 The performance of the DOA algorithms for NLA in weather affected channels needs to be
106 evaluated. Moreover, better DOA algorithms design is required to mitigate against the weather
107 effects. This work investigates and compares the performance of the NLA DOA algorithms on a
108 rainfall-impacted network and develops a hybrid algorithm to combat the weather effects. We
109 employ realistic markovian rainfall channel model to accurately capture the rainfall variations in
110 the following cases: widespread, shower and thunderstorm rain events.

111
 112 The structure of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents the NLA system model.
 113 Section 3 presents the evaluation of NLA as co-prime array or with array interpolation. In section
 114 4, the weather impacted propagation channel is modelled. The proposed method for efficiently
 115 estimating the DOA and other conventional and subspace DOA estimation algorithms are
 116 presented in section 5. In section 6, the performance measures and overall performance
 117 evaluation algorithm are presented. The simulation results and discussion are presented in
 118 section 7 and the main conclusions drawn from them summarized in section 8.

119
 120 Notation: The bold upper- and lower-case letters represent the matrices and column vectors,
 121 respectively. I is an identity matrix. The following superscripts $(\cdot)^*$, $(\cdot)^H$, $(\cdot)^{-1}$ and $(\cdot)^T$
 122 represent optimality, Hermitian, inverse and transpose operators, respectively and $E\{\cdot\}$ is the
 123 mathematical expectation. d is the spacing difference between array elements, c is the speed of
 124 light and λ is the wavelength.

125 **2 System model**

126 The system model consists of a source transmitting a signal $s(t)$ that traverses through a
 127 weather-impacted environment to impinge on the antenna elements at an angle θ . Assuming
 128 there are K uncorrelated narrowband plane-wave signals. The signals $x(t)$ induced on the
 129 antenna arrays are multiplied by adjustable complex weights w and then summed to form the
 130 system output $y(t)$.

131

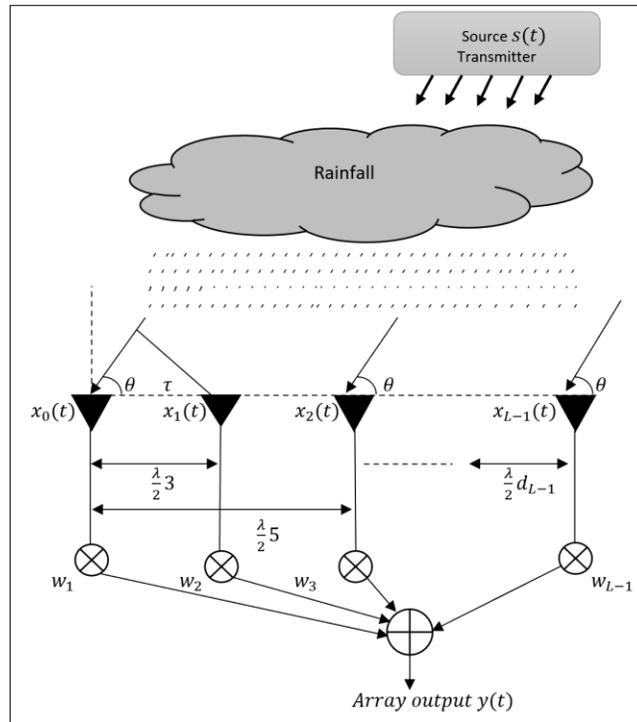


Figure 1: Non-uniform linear array

132
 133
 134
 135

136 A sparse NLA is considered with L existing elements. The sensors are separated with a distance
 137 d_i , a multiple of a half wavelength from each other. As shown in Fig.1, the array has
 138 configuration, $D = [d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{L-1}]$ such that $d = \lambda/2 * [0, d_2, \dots, d_{L-1}]$. The system is
 139 assumed to be confined to an azimuth-only system with isotropic sensors.

140

141 The received signal on the l^{th} element at the t^{th} snapshot is expressed as

142

$$143 \quad x_l(t) = \sum_{i=1}^K \alpha_i s_i(t) a_i(\theta_i + \Delta\theta_i) + v_i(t) \quad \text{for} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, K,$$

144 (1)

145

146 where α_i is the rainfall attenuation, θ_i the angle of arrival, $\Delta\theta_i$ the rainfall angle deviation, $s_i(t)$
 147 is signal associated with the i^{th} wave front and $v_i(t)$ is the additive white Gaussian noise at the
 148 l^{th} element. The total received signal vector X is expressed as:

149

$$150 \quad X = A(\hat{\theta})\tilde{S}(t) + V(t),$$

151 (2)

152

153 where

$$154 \quad X = [x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_K(t)]^T,$$

155

$$156 \quad A(\hat{\theta}) = [a_1(\hat{\theta}_1), a_2(\hat{\theta}_2), \dots, a_K(\hat{\theta}_K)]^T,$$

157

$$158 \quad \tilde{S}(t) = [\tilde{s}_1(t), \tilde{s}_2(t), \dots, \tilde{s}_K(t)]^T,$$

159

$$160 \quad V(t) = [v_1(t), v_2(t), \dots, v_K(t)]^T, \quad (3)$$

161

162 where $\tilde{s}_i(t) = \alpha_i s_i(t)$ and $\hat{\theta}_i = \theta_i + \Delta\theta_i$. The modelling and investigation of the rainfall
 163 attenuation α_i and angle deviation $\Delta\theta_i$ due to the weather impacted rainfall channel for NLA is
 164 the key focus on this work.

165 3 NLA methods

166 3.1 Co-prime Array Scheme

167 The NLA with L elements is divided into a co-prime array comprising of two spatially under
 168 sampled ULAs with co-prime spatial sampling rates (Vaidyanathan et al., 2011; Pal et al., 2011).
 169 This work utilizes the extended co-prime array configuration proposed in (Pal et al., 2011). In
 170 this configuration, the array is a union of two ULAs, one with N sensors and spacing Md and the
 171 other with sensors $2M - 1$ and spacing Nd as shown in the Fig. 2, where $d = \lambda/2$ to avoid
 172 spatial aliasing. The total number of physical elements is $L = 2M + N - 1$.

173

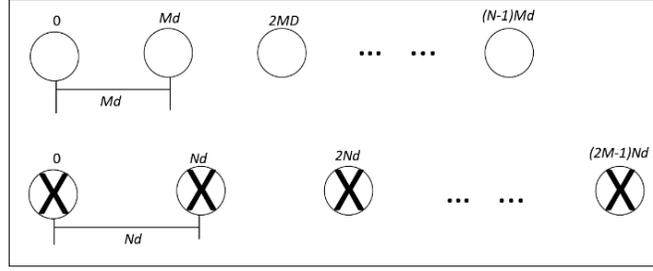


Figure 2: Co-prime array

Denote $d_i = \lambda/2 * [0, d_2, \dots, d_{L-1}]$ as the positions of the array sensors where $i = 1, \dots, 2M + N - 1$, the first sensor is assumed as the reference, i.e., $d_1 = 0$. From equation (1) the data vector received at the co-prime array is expressed as

$$x_l(t) = \sum_{i=1}^K \alpha_i s_i(t) a_i(\theta_i + \Delta\theta_i) + v_i(t), \quad (4)$$

where

$$a_i(\hat{\theta}_i) = [1, e^{\frac{2\pi d_2}{\lambda} \sin(\hat{\theta}_i)}, \dots, e^{\frac{2\pi d_{2L}}{\lambda} \sin(\hat{\theta}_i)}]^T, \quad (5)$$

is the steering vector of the array corresponding to $\hat{\theta}_i$. The elements of the noise vector $v(t)$ are assumed to be independent and identically distributed (*i. i. d*) random variables with a complex Gaussian distribution. The received signal vectors are similarly defined as in equation (2) and (3). The covariance matrix of data vector $x_l(t)$ is obtained as (Zhang et al., 2014)

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(x, x) &= E[x_l(t) x_l^H(t)] = A\sigma(s, s)A^H + \vartheta^2 I \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^K \rho_i^2 a(\hat{\theta}_i) a^H(\hat{\theta}_i) + \vartheta^2 I, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where $\sigma(s, s) = E[s_l(t) s_l^H(t)] = \text{diag}([\rho_1^2, \dots, \rho_L^2])$ is the source covariance matrix, $\text{diag}(\cdot)$ denotes a diagonal matrix that uses the elements of a vector as its diagonal elements, ρ_i^2 denotes the input signal power of the i^{th} signal, ϑ^2 denotes the noise variance and I is the identity matrix. In practice, the exact covariance matrix $\sigma(x, x)$ is approximated by its sample estimate $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ using the available Z snapshots, given by

$$\hat{\sigma}(x, x) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{j=1}^Z x_l(t) x_l^H(t). \quad (7)$$

The sample covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ approaches the theoretical version $\sigma(x, x)$ as the number of snapshots tends to infinity. The covariance matrix is utilised by the applied coprime DOA algorithms of section 5.

3.2 Modified Array Interpolation Scheme

The implemented interpolation considers an interpolation sector $[\theta_b, \theta_f]$ with the source DOA's assumed to be inside the sector $\hat{\theta} \in [\theta_b, \theta_f]$. The interpolation sector is uniformly divided into

209 $\Delta\theta$ intervals such that $\hat{\theta}_i = i\Delta\theta, i = 0 \text{ to } [(\theta_f - \theta_b)/\Delta\theta]$. With $A(\hat{\theta})$ and $\bar{A}(\hat{\theta})$ the manifold
 210 matrices of ULA and NLA respectively, the mapping matrix of the conventional interpolation
 211 array B is given by (Tuncer et al., 2007; Li et al., 2014)

$$212$$

$$213 \quad B = (A(\hat{\theta})A(\hat{\theta})^H)^{-1}A(\hat{\theta})\bar{A}(\hat{\theta})^H, \quad (8)$$

214
 215 Then an interpolation matrix B is designed to satisfy the least squares problem i.e.

$$216$$

$$217 \quad \min_B \|B^H A(\hat{\theta}) - \bar{A}(\hat{\theta})\|_F^2,$$

$$218 \quad (9)$$

219
 220 where $\|\cdot\|_F$ denotes the Frobenius norm of a matrix. The finite interpolation points results in
 221 interpolation mapping errors making the estimations not statistically optimal (Belloni et al.,
 222 2007). To alleviate this, the new transformation matrix G is reconstructed by projecting the
 223 transformational matrix with the sample array covariance matrix

$$224$$

$$225 \quad G = (\bar{B}^H \bar{B})^{-1/2} \bar{B}^H, \quad (10)$$

226
 227 where $\bar{B} = \hat{\sigma}(x, x)B$. The real antenna array steering vector $a(\hat{\theta})$ and the virtual array steering
 228 vector $\bar{a}(\hat{\theta})$ have the following relationship, $Ga(\hat{\theta}) = (\bar{B}^H \bar{B})^{-1/2} \bar{a}(\hat{\theta}) = \hat{a}(\hat{\theta})$. As a result of
 229 noise pre-whitening for cases where background noise becomes non-Gaussian after virtual
 230 transformation. The covariance matrix of the virtual antenna can be computed by using the
 231 transformation matrix G as (Li et al., 2014) as

$$232$$

$$233 \quad \hat{\sigma}(x, x) = G\sigma(x, x)G^H = \hat{A}\sigma(s, s)\hat{A}^H + \vartheta^2 I, \quad (11)$$

234
 235 with $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ the covariance matrix and array manifold \hat{A} are the pre-whitened values of the
 236 virtual antenna array and $\sigma(s, s) = E[s_l(t)s_l^H(t)]$. The covariance matrix is utilised by the
 237 applied DOA algorithms of section 5.

238

239 **4 Weather channel parameter modelling**

240 **4.1 Rainfall modelling**

241 The signal attenuation magnitude largely depends on the rain intensity. Based on its intensity,
 242 rain event may be classified into drizzle (D), widespread (W), shower (S) and thunderstorm (T).
 243 Table 1 presents the rain intensities of the four classes of rain. The rainfall is modelled by four or
 244 fewer states of a Markov Chain, R, given by

$$245 \quad R = \{D, W, S, T\}. \quad (12)$$

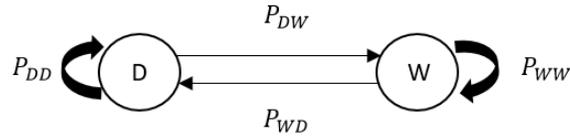
246 Table 1. Rain Rate Categories

Description	Rain Rate (r)	Steady state
-------------	-------------------	--------------

	mm\hr	prob. π_n
Drizzle	1-5	π_D
Widespread	5-10	π_W
Shower	10-40	π_S
Thunderstorm	>40	π_T

247
 248 Practical rainfall, widespread, shower and thunderstorm events consist of a mix of the different
 249 rain events (Alonge et al., 2015). This work utilizes Markov models developed from actual rain
 250 data to model practical rain events, with the state transition diagram and state transition
 251 probabilities as given below:

252 i) Widespread rainfall: Consists of drizzle and widespread events. The markovian transition
 253 among states in this event is shown in Fig. 3, with the transition probabilities, $P_{i,j}^W$, form state i
 254 to j , with $i, j \in R$ given by equation (13)



255
 256 Figure 3: Widespread rainfall.

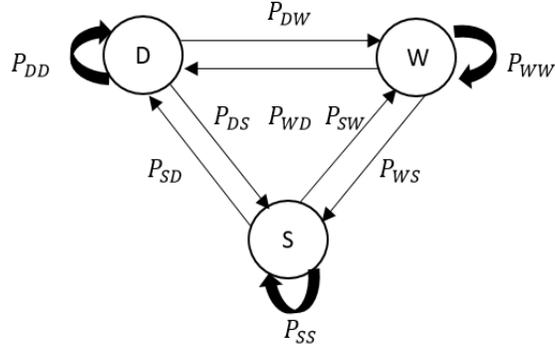
257
$$P_{i,j}^W = \begin{bmatrix} P_{DD} & P_{DW} \\ P_{WD} & P_{WW} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (13)$$

258 where P_{DW} is the transition from drizzle to widespread, P_{WD} is the transition from widespread to
 259 drizzle, P_{DD} is the no transition from drizzle and P_{WW} is the no transition from widespread.

260 ii) Shower rainfall consists of drizzle, widespread and shower events. The markovian transition
 261 among states in this event is shown in Fig. 4, with the transition probabilities, $P_{i,j}^S$, form state i
 262 to j , with $i, j \in R$ given by equation (14)

263
$$P_{i,j}^S = \begin{bmatrix} P_{DD} & P_{DW} & P_{DS} \\ P_{WD} & P_{WW} & P_{WS} \\ P_{SD} & P_{SW} & P_{SS} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (14)$$

264 where P_{DS} is the transition from drizzle to shower, P_{WS} is the transition from widespread to
 265 shower, P_{SD} is the transition from shower to drizzle, P_{SW} is the transition from shower to
 266 widespread and P_{SS} is the no transition from shower.

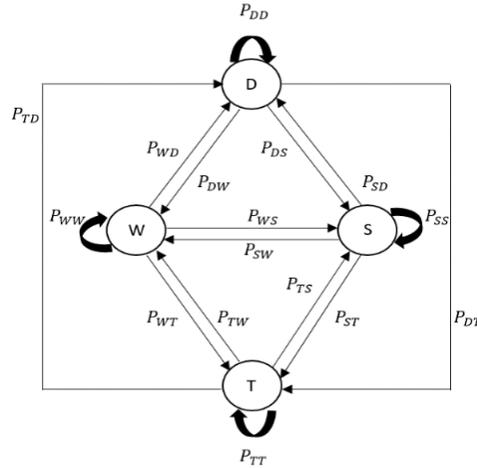


267

268

Figure 4: Shower rainfall

269 iii) Thunderstorm rainfall consists of drizzle, widespread, shower and thunderstorm events. The
 270 markovian transition among states in this event is shown in Fig. 5, with the transition
 271 probabilities, $P_{i,j}^T$, from state i to j , with $i, j \in R$ given by equation (15)



272

273

Figure 5: Thunderstorm rainfall

274
$$P_{i,j}^T = \begin{bmatrix} P_{DD} & P_{DW} & P_{DS} & P_{DT} \\ P_{WD} & P_{WW} & P_{WS} & P_{WT} \\ P_{SD} & P_{SW} & P_{SS} & P_{ST} \\ P_{TD} & P_{TW} & P_{TS} & P_{TT} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (15)$$

275 where P_{DT} is the transition from drizzle to thunderstorm, P_{WT} is the transition from widespread
 276 to thunderstorm, P_{ST} is the transition from shower to thunderstorm, P_{TD} is the transition from
 277 thunderstorm to drizzle, P_{TW} is the transition from thunderstorm to widespread, P_{TS} is the
 278 transition from thunderstorm to shower and P_{TT} is the no transition from thunderstorm.

279 The transition probabilities used are practically obtained as in (Alonge et al., 2015). The steady
 280 state probability of an event n , $\pi_n = \{\pi_D, \pi_W, \pi_S, \pi_T\}$, is solved by the standard Markov chain
 281 solution methods. The expected rate for a rainfall occurrence is derived from the probabilities as

$$282 \quad E[r] = \sum_n r_n \pi_n, \quad (16)$$

283 where r_n is the mean rain event and π_n is the steady state probability of the n^{th} state of the
 284 Markov model. The actual rain rate r is computed from a lognormal distribution with the given
 285 mean (Kedem et al., 1987; Cho et al., 2004).

286 4.2 Attenuation model

287 We consider a radio propagation environment where the signal is affected by attenuation due to
 288 the weather-impacted factors. The total attenuation A_T is given by

$$289 \quad A_T = \alpha_r + L_{fs}, \quad (17)$$

291 where α_r is the rain attenuation. The ITU rainfall model (I.T.U et al., 2005) is used for
 292 attenuation as

$$293 \quad \alpha_r = cr^a, \quad (18)$$

294 where r is the expected rain rate. The parameter c and exponent a depend on the frequency,
 295 f (GHz), the polarization state, and the elevation angle of the signal path. Free space loss
 296 attenuation, L_{fs} is given by

$$297 \quad L_{fs} = 20 * \log_{10} \left(\frac{4\pi d}{\lambda} \right), \quad (19)$$

299 where λ is the signal wavelength in metres and d is the distance from the transmitter.

301 4.3 Angle deviation model

302 The weather factors result in the delay and scattering of the transmitted signal leading to a phase
 303 angle change, the angle deviation. The angle deviation, $\Delta\theta_i$, is modelled as a normal distributed
 304 random variable with a mean μ_θ bounded as follows

$$305 \quad \Delta\theta_{min} \leq \Delta\theta_i \leq \Delta\theta_{max}, \quad (20)$$

307 where $\Delta\theta_{min}$ and $\Delta\theta_{max}$ are the minimum and maximum angle deviations respectively. The
 308 mean μ_θ is derived from the normalized rain rate

$$309 \quad \mu_\theta = r/r_{max}, \quad (21)$$

311 and r_{max} is the maximum rain rate. The assumption is reasonable as the heavier the rain, the
 312 more the scattering. The standard deviation is kept constant.

315 **5 DOA Estimation Algorithms**

316 5.1 MVDR Algorithm

317 5.1.1 MVDR Co-prime NLA

318 The MVDR algorithm minimizes the output power and constrains the gain in the direction of
319 desired signal to unity as follows (Yu et al., 2015),

320
321
$$\min E\{|y_i(t)|^2\} = \min w^H \hat{\sigma}(x, x) w, \quad (22)$$

322
323 subject to $w \cdot a(\hat{\theta}) = 1$, where $y_i(t)$ is the output of the array system and is given by

324
325
$$y_i(t) = w^H \hat{\sigma}(x, x) w. \quad (23)$$

326
327 The weight vector w is given by

328
329
$$w = \frac{(\hat{\sigma}(x, x))^{-1} a(\hat{\theta})}{a^H(\hat{\theta}) (\hat{\sigma}(x, x))^{-1} a(\hat{\theta})}, \quad (24)$$

330
331 where $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ is covariance matrix of the received signal for the L number of elements given by
332 equation (7). H is the Hermitian matrix and $a(\hat{\theta})$ is the steering vector. The MVDR spatial
333 spectrum is defined by

334
335
$$P_{MVDR_Co-Prime} = \frac{1}{a^H(\hat{\theta}) (\hat{\sigma}(x, x))^{-1} a(\hat{\theta})}. \quad (25)$$

336 The computational steps of MVDR algorithm using co-prime array are summarized in Algorithm
337 1.

338

Algorithm 1: MVDR Algorithm using Co-prime array

1. **Input:** $x = \{x_i(t)\} = f(\alpha_i, \theta_i)$, $M, N, L, K, d, \lambda, Z$ and $\mu \leftarrow$ Step size
 2. Compute covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ equation (7)
 3. Compute the weight vector w , equation (24)
 4. Compute the output array system $y_i(t)$, equation (23)
 5. **while** $w \cdot a(\hat{\theta}) \neq 1$
 do Minimize the output power, equation (22),
 Subject to $w \cdot a(\hat{\theta}) = 1$,
 6. Compute MVDR spectrum for co-prime array, equation (25)
-

339 5.1.2 MVDR Interpolation NLA

340 The spectrum of MVDR by array interpolation is given by (Friedlander et al., 1992)

341
342
$$P_{MVDR_AI} = \frac{1}{a^H(\hat{\theta}) (\hat{\sigma}(x, x))^{-1} a(\hat{\theta})}, \quad (26)$$

343

344 where $a(\hat{\theta})$ is the steering vector and $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ is the covariance matrix of the virtual antenna
 345 derived in equation (11). The computational steps of MVDR array interpolation algorithm are
 346 summarized in Algorithm 2.
 347

Algorithm 2: MVDR Algorithm using array interpolation

1. **Input:** $x = \{x_i(t)\} = f(\alpha_i, \hat{\theta}_i)$, $M, N, L, K, d, \lambda, Z$ and $\mu \leftarrow$ Step size
 2. Determine the ULA array manifold $A(\hat{\theta})$
 3. Compute the real array covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ equation (7)
 4. Compute the virtual array manifold $\bar{A}(\hat{\theta})$ and the mapping matrix of the conventional interpolation array B using (8) and the least squares problem (9).
 5. Compute transformation matrix T in equation (10).
 6. Compute the covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ in equation (11) of the virtual array using the transformation matrix T in step 5.
 7. Compute the weight vector w , equation (24), but using variance of step 6-
 $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$.
 8. Compute the output array system $y_i(t)$, equation (23)
 9. **while** $w \cdot a(\hat{\theta}) \neq 1$
 do Minimize the output power, equation (22),
 Subject to $w \cdot a(\hat{\theta}) = 1$,
 10. Compute MVDR array interpolation spectrum for NLA, equation (26)
-

348 5.2 MUSIC Algorithm

349 5.2.1 MUSIC Co-prime NLA

350 For MUSIC, an estimate $\sigma(x, x)$ of the covariance matrix is obtained and its eigenvectors
 351 decomposed into orthogonal signal and noise subspace (Tan et al., 2014; Li et al., 2019), where
 352 the DOA is estimated from one of these subspaces. The algorithm searches through the set off all
 353 possible steering vectors to find the ones orthogonal to the noise subspace. The diagonal
 354 covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ given by equation (7) is vectorized into

355
 356
$$\hat{\sigma}(x, x) = Q\Lambda Q^H, \tag{27}$$

357
 358 where Q is a unitary matrix containing the eigenvectors and a diagonal matrix
 359 $\Lambda = \text{diag}\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \dots \lambda_K\}$, of real eigenvalue ordered as $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_K \geq 0$. The vector that is
 360 orthogonal to A is the eigenvector of R having the eigenvalues of Λ . The MUSIC spatial
 361 spectrum is defined by

362
 363
$$P_{MUSIC_{Co-Prime}}(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{1}{a^H(\hat{\theta})Q_n Q_n^H a(\hat{\theta})}, \tag{28}$$

364
 365 where $a(\hat{\theta})$ is the steering vector corresponding to one of the incoming signals and Q_n is the
 366 noise subspace of the eigenvectors. The MUSIC technique for co-prime array is summarized in
 367 Algorithm 3.
 368

Algorithm 3: MUSIC Algorithm using co-prime

1. **Input:** $x = \{x_i(t)\} = f(\alpha_i, \hat{\theta}_i)$, $M, N, L, K, d, \lambda, Z$ and $\mu \leftarrow$ Step size
 2. Compute covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ equation (7)
 3. Decompose $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ into eigenvectors and eigenvalues in equation (27)
 4. Rearrange the eigenvectors and eigenvalues into the signal subspace and noise subspace
 5. Compute the co-prime array MUSIC spectrum equation (28) by spanning $\hat{\theta}$ to acquire estimates of the angle of arrival
 6. Determine the substantial peaks of $P_{MUSIC_{Co-Prime}}(\hat{\theta})$ to acquire estimates of the angle of arrival
-

369 5.2.2 MUSIC Interpolation NLA

370 The autocorrelation matrix is decomposed into signal and noise subspaces. From (11) the
 371 covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ is decomposed as (Li et al., 2014):

372
 373
$$\hat{\sigma}(x, x) = U_S \Sigma_S U_S^H + U_N \Sigma_N U_N^H, \quad (29)$$

374
 375 where U_S represents the signal subspace, U_N represents the noise subspace;
 376 $\Sigma_S = \text{diag}\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_M\}$ is the signal eigenvalue; $\Sigma_N = \text{diag}\{\lambda_{M+1}, \lambda_{M+2}, \dots, \lambda_N\}$ is the noise
 377 eigenvalue. The noise subspace Σ_N is orthogonal to all M signal steering vectors. The spectrum
 378 of the MUSIC, algorithm is given by

379
 380
$$P_{MUSIC_{AI}}(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{1}{a^H(\hat{\theta}) U_N U_N^H a(\hat{\theta})} = \frac{1}{\|U_N^H a(\hat{\theta})\|}.$$

 381 (30)

382
 383 If $\hat{\theta}$ is equal to DOA, the noise subspace U_N is orthogonal to the signal steering vectors and
 384 $\|U_N^H a(\hat{\theta})\|$ becomes zero when $\hat{\theta}$ is a signal direction and the denominator is identical to zero. It
 385 is obvious that in practice, $U_N^H a(\hat{\theta}) \neq 0$ due to finite samples. If this happens, the performance
 386 of MUSIC algorithm will not be optimal.

387
 388 The MUSIC technique using array interpolation is summarized in Algorithm 4.

389

Algorithm 4: MUSIC Algorithm using array interpolation

-
1. **Input:** $x = \{x_i(t)\} = f(\alpha_i, \hat{\theta}_i)$, M , N , L , K , d , λ , Z and $\mu \leftarrow$ Step size
 2. Determine the ULA array manifold $A(\hat{\theta})$
 3. Compute the real array covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ equation (7)
 4. Compute the virtual array manifold $\bar{A}(\hat{\theta})$ and the mapping matrix of the conventional interpolation array B using (8) and the least squares problem (9).
 5. Compute transformation matrix G in equation (10).
 6. Compute the covariance matrix $\hat{\tilde{\sigma}}(x, x)$ in equation (11) of the virtual array using the transformation matrix G in step 5.
 7. Decompose $\hat{\tilde{\sigma}}(x, x)$ into eigenvectors and eigenvalues in equation (29)
 8. Rearrange the eigenvectors and eigenvalues into the signal subspace and noise subspace.
 9. Compute MUSIC array interpolation spectrum for NLA, equation (30) by spanning $\hat{\theta}$ to acquire estimates of the angle of arrival
 10. Determine the substantial peaks of $P_{MUSIC_AI}(\hat{\theta})$ to acquire estimates of the angle of arrival.
-

390 5.3 A-MUSIC Algorithm

391 5.3.1 A-MUSIC Co-prime NLA

392 The existing MVDR and MUSIC algorithms are adversely affected by the low SNR in rain-
 393 impacted systems and need modifications. The A-MUSIC algorithm (Nxumalo et al., 2019)
 394 repeatedly reconstructs the covariance matrix to obtain two noise and signal subspaces
 395 continuously that are averaged for several iterations mitigating against the low SNR effects.
 396 From (7), the covariance matrix $\tilde{\sigma}(x, x)$ is reconstructed as

$$397 \tilde{\sigma}(x, x) = \hat{\sigma}(x, x) + J\hat{\sigma}(x, x)^*J, \quad (31)$$

398 where J is MATLAB constructions given as $J = \text{fliplr}(\text{eye}(L))$ which returns columns flipped
 399 in the left-right direction and L is the number of elements. The eigen decomposition on
 400 reconstructed covariance matrix $\tilde{\sigma}(x, x)$ is

$$401 \tilde{\sigma}(x, x) = \hat{Q}\Lambda\hat{Q}^H = Q_{S1}\Lambda_{S1}Q_{S1}^H + Q_{N1}\Lambda_{N1}Q_{N1}^H, \quad (32)$$

402 where $\tilde{\sigma}(x, x)$ is divided into signal subspace Q_S and noise subspace Q_N . Using low rank of
 403 matrix instead of full rank matrix, $\tilde{\sigma}(x, x)$ can be reconstructed into ω_x as

$$404 \omega_x = Q_{S2}\Lambda_{S2}Q_{S2}^H + Q_{N2}\Lambda_{N2}Q_{N2}^H. \quad (33)$$

405 The average signal subspace, signal eigenvalue, noise subspace, and the noise eigenvalue are
 406 given by

$$407 Q_S = \frac{(Q_{S1} + Q_{S2})}{2}, \quad Q_N = \frac{(Q_{N1} + Q_{N2})}{2},$$

415

$$416 \quad \Lambda_S = \frac{(\Lambda_{S1} + \Lambda_{S2})}{2}, \Lambda_N = \frac{(\Lambda_{N1} + \Lambda_{N2})}{2} \quad (34)$$

417

418 The A-MUSIC spectrum is then defined by

419

$$420 \quad P_{Advanced-MUSIC}(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{a^H(\hat{\theta}) \left[\frac{(\check{\sigma}(s,s)\check{\sigma}(s,s)^H)}{K} \right] a(\hat{\theta})}{a^H(\hat{\theta}) \check{\sigma}(n,n) a(\hat{\theta})}, \quad (35)$$

421

 422 where $\check{\sigma}(s, s) = Q_S \Lambda_S^{-1} Q_S^H$, and $\check{\sigma}(n, n) = Q_N \Lambda_N^{-1} Q_N^H$ are signal and noise subspace covariance
 423 matrix. The A-MUSIC technique using co-prime array is summarized in algorithm 5.

424

Algorithm 5: Proposed A-MUSIC Algorithm using co-prime array

1. **Input:** $x = \{x_i(t)\} = f(\alpha_i, \hat{\theta}_i)$, $M, N, L, K, d, \lambda, Z$ and $\mu \leftarrow$ Step size
 2. Compute the covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$, equation (7)
 3. Compute reconstructed covariance matrix $\vec{\sigma}(x, x)$, equation (31)
 4. Compute the eigen decomposition on reconstructed covariance matrix $\vec{\sigma}(x, x)$, equation (32)
 5. Compute reconstructed covariance matrix ω_x in equation (33)
 6. Compute the average signal subspace, noise subspace, signal eigenvalues, and the noise eigenvalue, $Q_S, Q_N, \Lambda_S, \Lambda_N$ in equation (34)
 7. Determine signal and noise subspace averaged covariance matrix $\check{\sigma}(s, s)$, $\check{\sigma}(n, n)$
 8. Compute the spectrum function, equation (35) spanning $\hat{\theta}$.
-

425 5.3.2 A-MUSIC Interpolation NLA

 426 In A-MUSIC array interpolation, we reconstruct the decomposed autocorrelation matrix into
 427 signal and noise subspaces. Using equation (11), the reconstructed covariance matrix $\vec{\sigma}(x, x)$ can
 428 be written as

429

$$430 \quad \vec{\sigma}(x, x) = \hat{\sigma}(x, x) + J \hat{\sigma}(x, x)^* J, \quad (36)$$

431

 432 with $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ the covariance matrix of equation (29). The eigen decomposition on reconstructed
 433 covariance matrix $\vec{\sigma}(x, x)$ is

434

$$435 \quad \vec{\sigma}(x, x) = \hat{\Phi} \Pi \hat{\Phi}^H = \Phi_{S1} \Pi_{S1} \Phi_{S1}^H + \Phi_{N1} \Pi_{N1} \Phi_{N1}^H, \quad (37)$$

436

 437 where $\vec{\sigma}(x, x)$ is divided into signal subspace Φ_S and noise subspace Φ_N . Using low rank of
 438 matrix instead of full rank matrix, $\vec{\sigma}(x, x)$ can be reconstructed into ϖ_x as

439

$$440 \quad \varpi_x = \Phi_{S2} \Pi_{S2} \Phi_{S2}^H + \Phi_{N2} \Pi_{N2} \Phi_{N2}^H. \quad (38)$$

441

442 The average signal subspace, signal eigenvalue, noise subspace, and the noise eigenvalue are
 443 given by

444

$$\begin{aligned}
 445 \quad \Phi_S &= \frac{(\Phi_{S1} + \Phi_{S2})}{2}, \quad \Phi_N = \frac{(\Phi_{N1} + \Phi_{N2})}{2}, \\
 446 \\
 447 \quad \Pi_S &= \frac{(\Pi_{S1} + \Pi_{S2})}{2}, \quad \Pi_N = \frac{(\Pi_{N1} + \Pi_{N2})}{2} \tag{39}
 \end{aligned}$$

448 The A-MUSIC spectrum is then defined by
449
450

$$451 \quad P_{Advanced-MUSIC}(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{a^H(\theta) \left[\frac{(\vec{\sigma}(s,s) \vec{\sigma}(s,s)^H)}{I} \right] a(\hat{\theta})}{a^H(\hat{\theta}) \vec{\sigma}(n,n) a(\hat{\theta})}, \tag{40}$$

452 where $\vec{\sigma}(s,s) = \Phi_S \Pi_S^{-1} \Phi_S^H$, and $\vec{\sigma}(n,n) = \Phi_N \Pi_N^{-1} \Phi_N^H$ are signal and noise subspace covariance
453 matrix. The A-MUSIC technique is summarized in Algorithm 6.
454
455

Algorithm 6: Proposed A-MUSIC Algorithm using array interpolation

1. **Input:** $x = \{x_i(t)\} = f(\alpha_i, \hat{\theta}_i)$, M , N , L , K , d , λ , Z and $\mu \leftarrow$ Step size
 2. Determine the ULA array manifold $A(\hat{\theta})$
 3. Compute the real array covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ equation (7)
 4. Compute the virtual array manifold $\bar{A}(\hat{\theta})$ and the mapping matrix of the conventional interpolation array B using (8) and the least squares problem (9).
 5. Compute transformation matrix G in equation (10).
 6. Compute the covariance matrix $\hat{\sigma}(x, x)$ in equation (11) of the virtual array using the transformation matrix G in step 5.
 7. Compute reconstructed covariance matrix $\vec{\sigma}(x, x)$ equation (36)
 8. Decompose $\vec{\sigma}(x, x)$ into eigenvectors and eigenvalues, equation (37)
 9. Compute the average signal subspace, noise subspace, signal eigenvalues, and the noise eigenvalue Φ_S , Φ_N , Π_S , Π_N , equation (39)
 10. Determine signal and noise subspace averaged covariance matrix $\vec{\sigma}(s, s)$, $\vec{\sigma}(n, n)$
 11. Compute the spectrum function $P_{Advanced-MUSIC}(\hat{\theta})$ spanning $\hat{\theta}$ equation (40).
-

456 6 Performance Measures

457 6.1 Root Mean Square Error (RMSE)

458 The performance of the DOA estimation algorithms is evaluated in terms of algorithms spectrum
459 functions, equations (25), (26), (28), (30), (35) and (40), the Root Mean Square Error (RMSE)
460 and the signal to noise ratios. The RMSE is given by
461

$$462 \quad RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{Z * K} \sum_{j=1}^Z \sum_{i=1}^K (\tilde{\theta}_{ij} - \theta_i)^2}, \tag{41}$$

463

464 where Z is the number of simulation trials, K is the narrowband electromagnetic wave sources
 465 impinging upon the array and the estimate of the i^{th} angle of arrival in the j^{th} trial is $\tilde{\theta}_{ij}$. Where
 466 utilised, the signal to noise ratio (SNR) is given by

$$467 \quad SNR = 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{x}{v} \right), \quad (42)$$

469 where x is the received signal strength in dB and v is the noise strength in dB. The overall
 470 performance evaluation is done as in algorithm 7.

471

Algorithm 7: System Algorithm

1. Choose an event

2. Compute expected rain rate, equation (16)

Compute the actual rain rate r from lognormal distribution with given mean

3. for i number of antennas $< L_{max}$

4. Compute the rain attenuation α_r , total attenuation A_T
 and angle $\hat{\theta}_i$.

Determine the angle deviation $\Delta\theta_i$, equation (20) and the
 mean μ_θ .

5. end for

6. Determine the received signal $x_i(t)$.

7. Compute DOA, algorithms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

472 6.2 Cramer Rao Bound (CRB)

473 To validate our DOA estimators, the Cramer Rao Bound (CRB) which shows the limit that can
 474 be achieved by an unbiased estimator is applied. The general CRB formula for the case of
 475 multiple DOA parameters per source and spatially uncorrelated white noise is developed in
 476 (Nehorai et al., 1994). The following compact matrix expression for the stochastic CRB was
 477 derived in (Stoica et al., 1990) and is applied in our case with the few required modification,

$$478 \quad CRB = \frac{\sigma^2}{2T} (Re\{H \odot G^T\})^{-1}, \quad (42)$$

480

481 where T is the number of data snapshots, $H = D^H [I - A(A^H A)^{-1} A^H] D$,
 482 $G = \sigma(s, s) A^H (\sigma(x, x))^{-1} A \sigma(s, s)$, $D = [d(\theta_1), \dots, d(\theta_K)]$, $d(\theta_i) = \frac{da(\theta)}{d\theta} |_{\theta=\theta_i}$,

483 $\sigma(x, x) = E[x(t)x^H(t)] = A\sigma(s, s)A^H + \vartheta^2 I$, $\sigma(s, s) = E[s(t)s^H(t)]$, I is the identity matrix,
 484 ϑ^2 is the noise variance, and $E\{\cdot\}$ denotes the expectation.

485 6.3 DOA Estimation Algorithm complexity

486 The complexity of MVDR and MUSIC algorithm has been derived and shown in Table 2 (Meng
 487 et al., 2019). For A-MUSIC, there are three major computational steps needed to estimate the
 488 DOA. The complexity of the first step is the covariance function and reconstruction of the
 489 covariance matrix, $\mathcal{O}(L^2 K)$. The second step is the eigenvalue decomposition operation, which
 490 has a complexity of $\mathcal{O}(L^3)$. The third step is obtaining the spatial pseudo spectrum, which has a

491 complexity of $\mathcal{O}(J_{\theta} \cdot J_{\Delta\theta} (L + 1)(L - K)/2)$, with J being the number of spectral points of the
 492 total angular field of view. Therefore, the total complexity of A-MUSIC is given by $\mathcal{O}(L^2K +$
 493 $L^3) + \mathcal{O}(J_{\theta} \cdot J_{\Delta\theta} (L + 1)(L - K)/2)$.

494
 495 Note that the complexity of deriving the covariance matrix for co-prime and array interpolation,
 496 and the complexity of deriving the weather effectors is same for all the algorithms and is not
 497 included in the derivation.

498
 499 Table 2. Computational Complexities of DOA Estimation Algorithms.
 500

DOA algorithm	Computational Complexity
MVDR	$\mathcal{O}(L^2K + L^3 + (2L^2 + 3L))$
MUSIC	$\mathcal{O}(L^2K + L^3 + JL)$
A-MUSIC	$\mathcal{O}(L^2K + L^3) + \mathcal{O}(J_{\theta} \cdot J_{\Delta\theta} (L + 1)(L - K)/2)$

501 **7 Simulation Results**

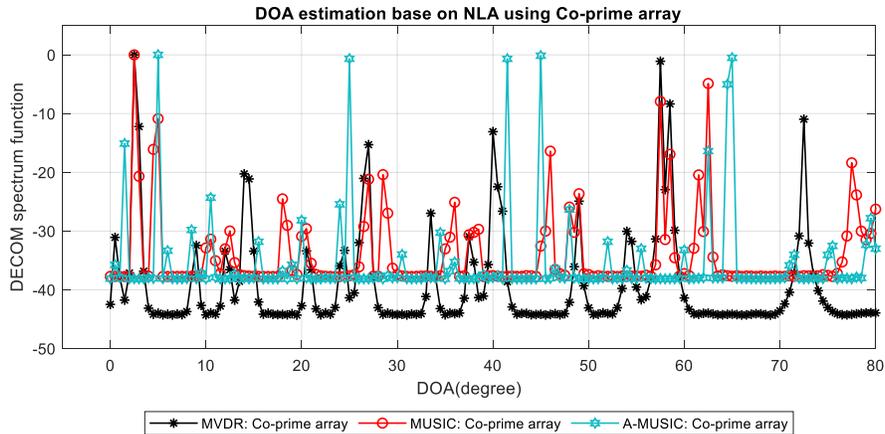
502
 503 An investigation into the performance of MVDR, MUSIC and the proposed A-MUSIC DOA
 504 algorithms for NLA is presented in this section. The performance investigation is based on co-
 505 prime array and array interpolation methods of a pair of sparse NLAs for different number of
 506 array elements, rain rates and SNR. The developed results are for a case where signals impinge
 507 on the NLA sensors from the same signal source. It is assumed that the signals are mutually
 508 independent and that noise is additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) with a zero mean. Unless
 509 explicitly stated, the simulation parameters are as in Table 3.
 510

511 Table 3. Simulation parameters
 512

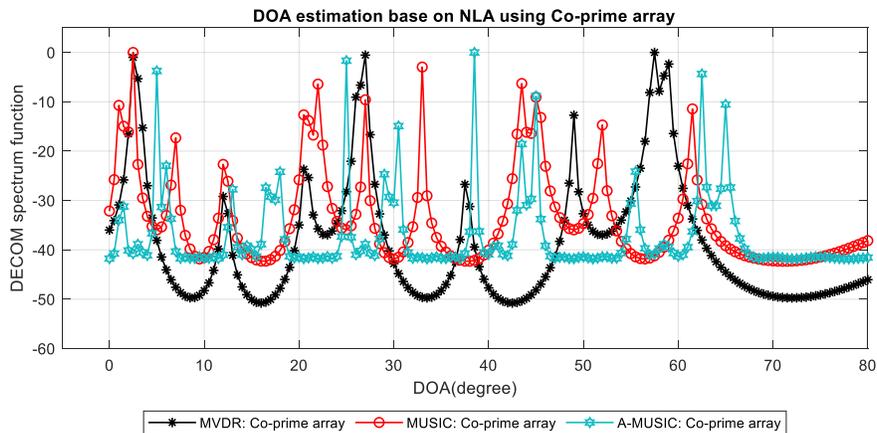
MVDR, MUSIC AND A-MUSIC	
Simulation parameters	Values
Input θ	$5^{\circ}, 25^{\circ}, 45^{\circ}, 65^{\circ}$
Number of elements L	10
Spacing difference	$d = \lambda/2 * [0, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15, 20, 25]$
Signal-to-noise ratio	SNR = 20dB
Number of Snapshots	Z = 300
Rain rate in (mm/hr) [no rain, drizzle rain, widespread rain, shower rain, thunderstorm]	[0, 2.5, 6, 15, 40]
a at $f = 80$ GHz	0.7103
k at $f = 80$ GHz	1.16995
$\Delta\theta_{min}, \Delta\theta_{max}$	$[0^{\circ} - 60^{\circ}]$
M, N,	3, 5

513
 514
 515 The results of Fig. 6(a)-6(d) and Fig. 7(a)-6(d) show co-prime array and array interpolation
 516 based spatial output spectrum of the MVDR, MUSIC and the proposed A-MUSIC for different

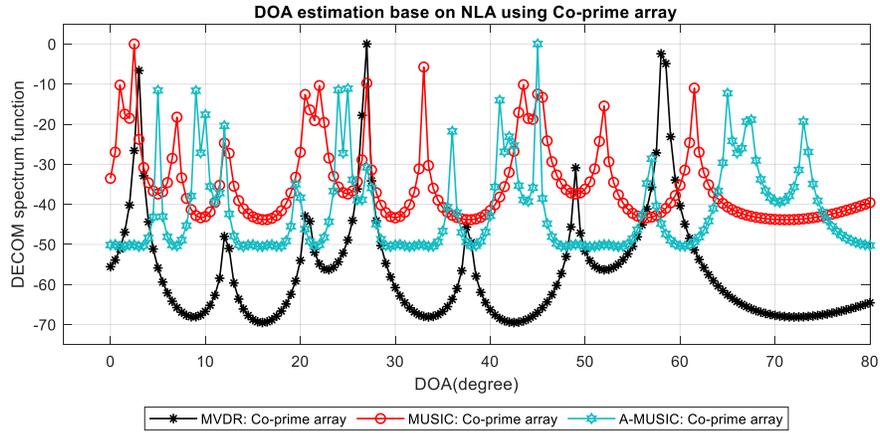
517 rain rates; no rain, widespread, shower and thunderstorm rain conditions. Note that without rain,
 518 the spectrum results for MVDR and MUSIC are similar to the ones in (Tan et al., 2014, Li et al.,
 519 2019) respectively. From the results, the following can be observed, the accuracy of DOA
 520 estimation reduces with increasing rain rate due to the high signal distortion at higher rain rates.
 521 The performance of the A-MUSIC is better than MUSIC followed by MVDR. This is because of
 522 the multiple averaging nature of the A-MUSIC algorithm. It can further be observed that at
 523 higher rain rates in the thunderstorm events, MVDR and MUSIC do not estimate the direction of
 524 arrival accurately.
 525



526
 527 Figure 6: (a) DOA estimation attenuation using Co-prime array with no rain
 528

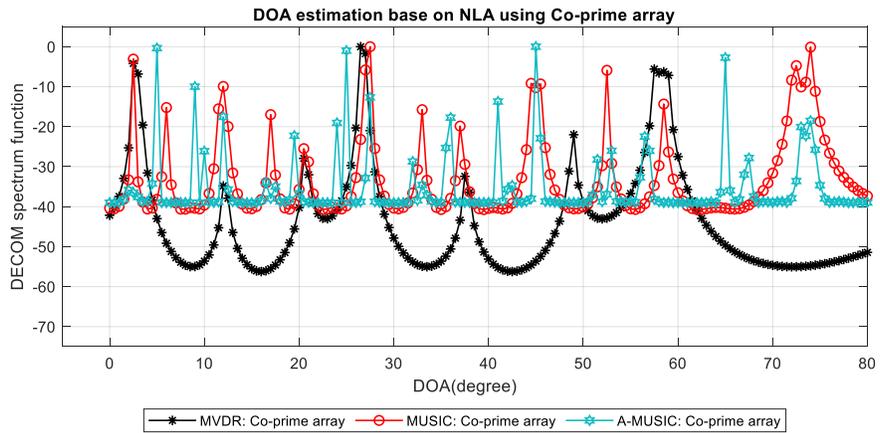


529
 530 Figure 6: (b) DOA estimation attenuation using Co-prime array for widespread rainfall
 531



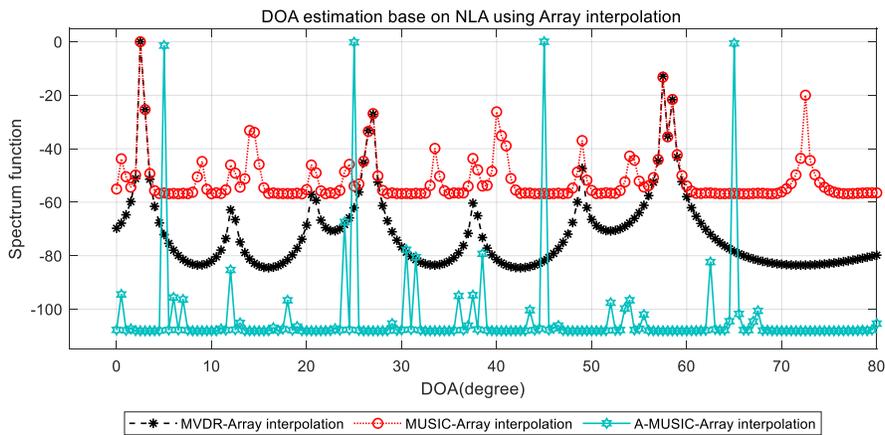
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Figure 6: (c) DOA estimation attenuation using Co-prime array for shower rainfall



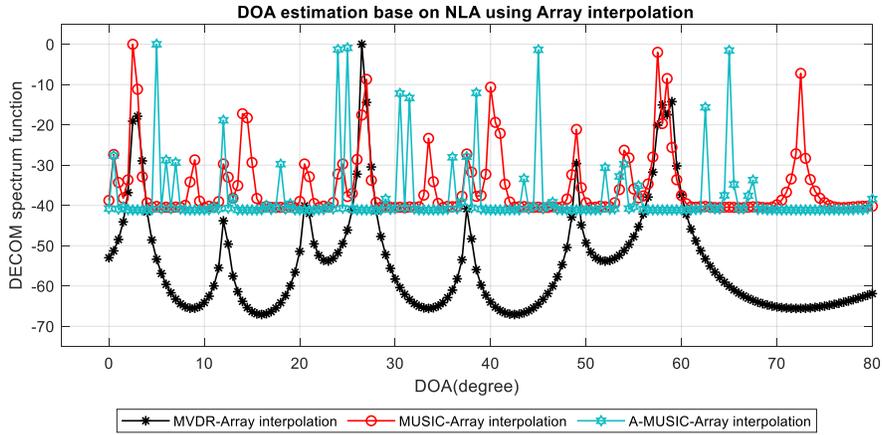
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Figure 6: (d) DOA estimation attenuation using Co-prime array for thunderstorm rainfall



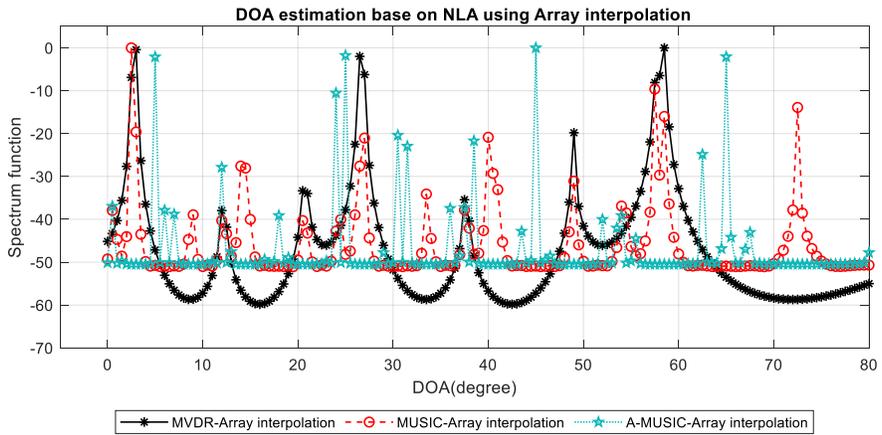
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Figure 7: (a) DOA estimation attenuation using array interpolation with no rain



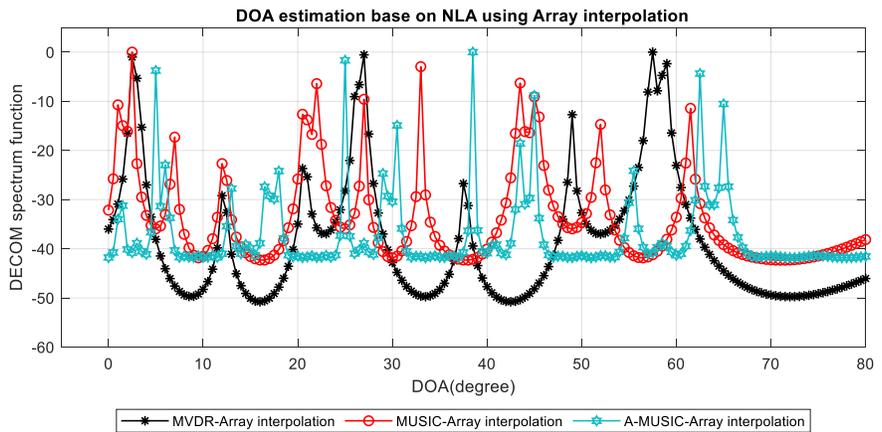
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Figure 7: (b) DOA estimation attenuation using array interpolation for widespread rainfall



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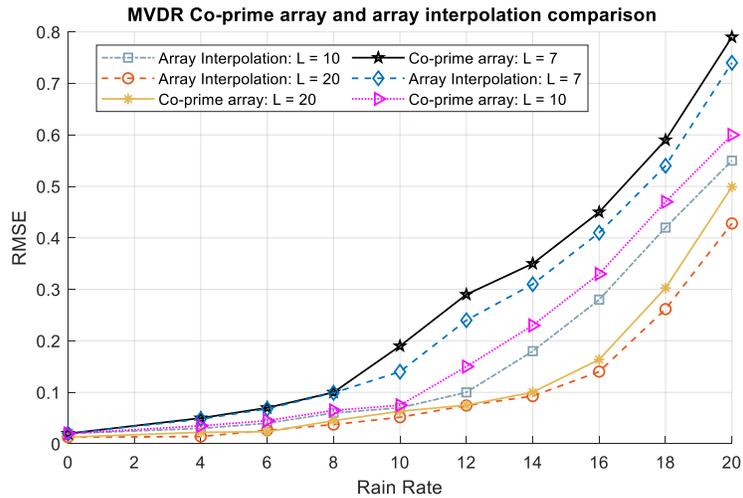
Figure 7: (c) DOA estimation attenuation using array interpolation for shower rainfall



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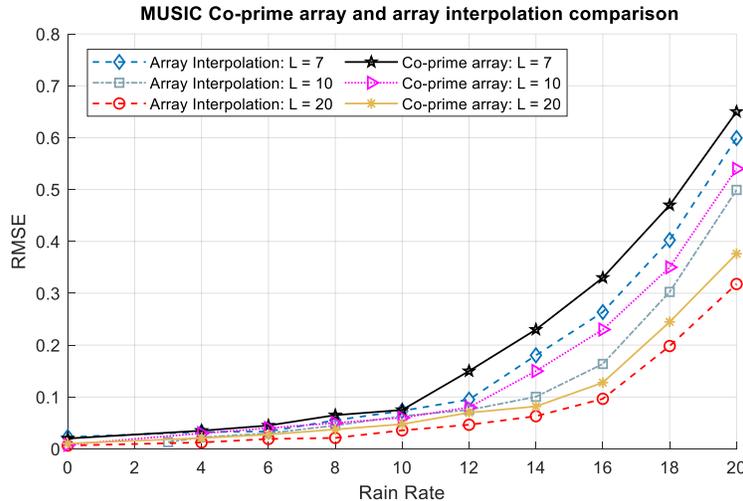
Figure 7: (d) DOA estimation attenuation using array interpolation for thunderstorm rainfall

559 The results of Fig. 8(a)-8(c) represent the RMSE value vs rain rate comparison of co-prime array
 560 and array interpolation of DOA algorithms for different number of elements. As expected, the
 561 RMSE increases with increasing rain rates while the error reduces with an increase in the number
 562 of antenna elements. A noticeable difference in performance is when the rain rate exceeds 10
 563 mm/hr. It can also be observed that the co-prime array configuration results in a higher error
 564 than the array interpolation method.
 565



566 Figure 8(a): MVDR RMSE vs rain rate for coprime and array interpolation at $L=7, 10, 20$
 567

568



569 Figure 8(b): MUSIC RMSE vs rain rate for coprime and array interpolation at $L=7, 10, 20$
 570

571

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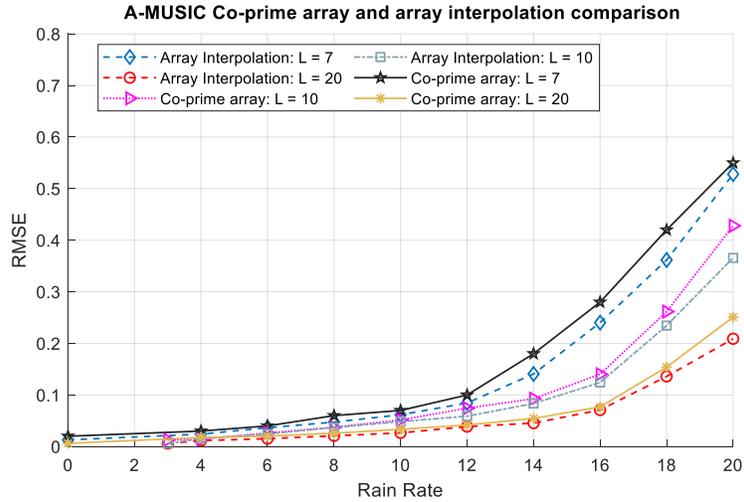


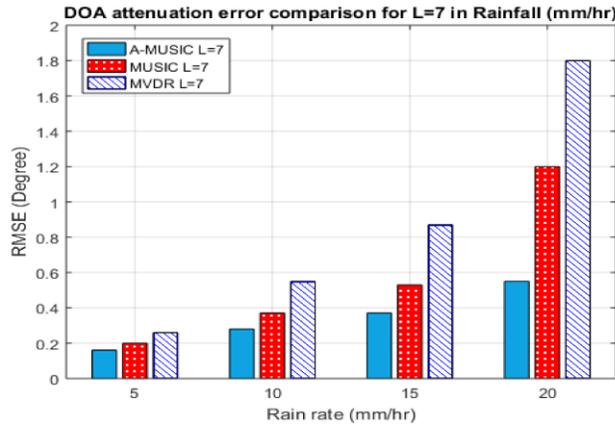
Figure 8(c): A-MUSIC RMSE vs rain rate for coprime and array interpolation at $L=7, 10, 20$

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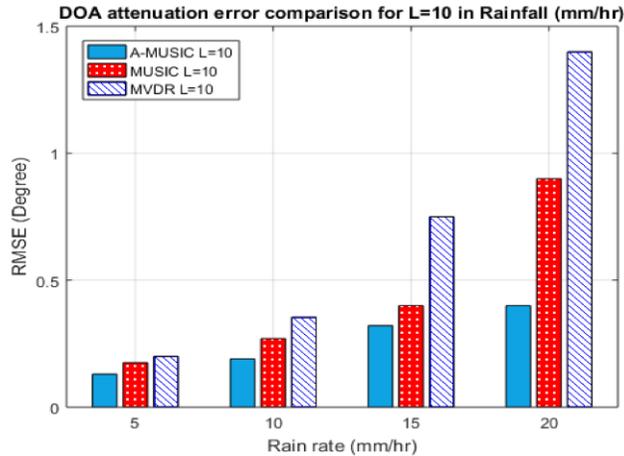
576 The results of Fig. 9(a)–(c) represent a comparison of the three DOA algorithms for different rain
 577 rates at different antenna elements. As observed above, the RMSE increases with increase in
 578 rainfall and reduction in number of antenna elements. The proposed A-MUSIC performs better
 579 than MUSIC and MVDR in that order. This can be attributed to the repeated reconstruction of
 580 the covariance matrix to obtain two noise and signal subspaces continuously that are averaged
 581 for several iterations.

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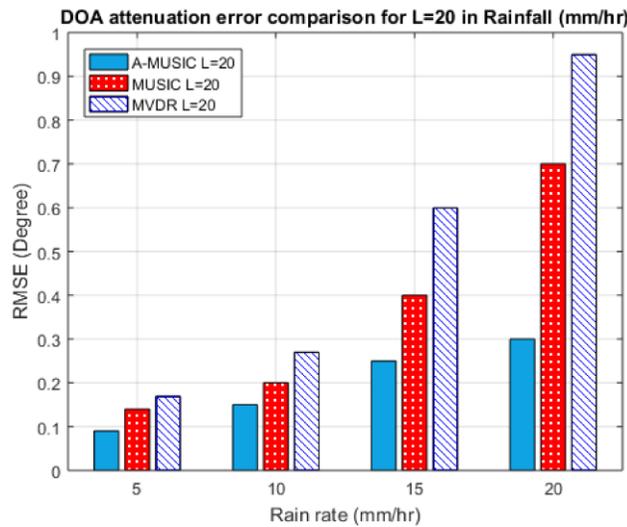


(a)

586
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(b)



(c)

588
589

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591
592

593 Figure 9: DOA estimation attenuation error comparison. (a) DOA estimation attenuation error
594 comparison for $L = 7$. (b) DOA estimation attenuation error comparison for $L = 10$. (c) DOA
595 estimation attenuation error comparison for $L = 20$.

596

597 The performance of the system is investigated further at different SNR conditions for a co-prime
598 configuration in Fig. 10 and array interpolation in Fig. 11. At $r = 10$ mm/hr. It is observed that as
599 the SNR increases, the RMSE decreases. The A-MUSIC co-prime array-based algorithm
600 outperforms the MVDR and MUSIC algorithm, and its performance trend is within the CRB
601 bounds. This demonstrates that the proposed method can still achieve satisfactory performance at
602 lower SNR conditions.

603

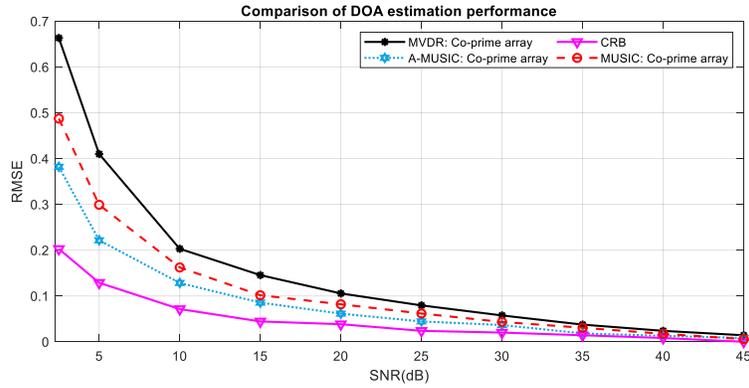


Figure 10: DOA estimation using co-prime array error comparison vs SNR

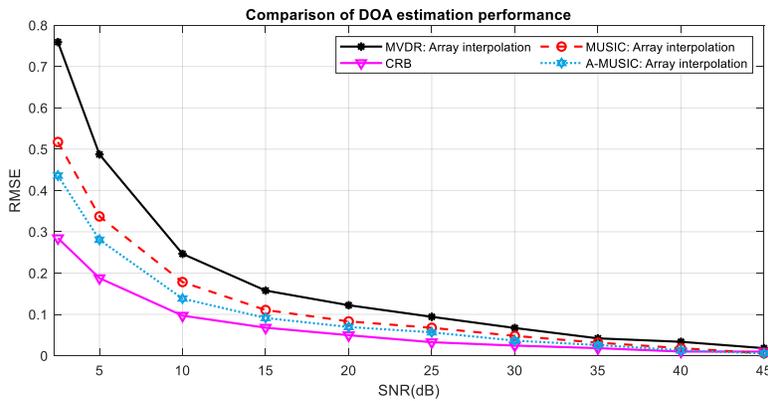


Figure 11: DOA estimation using array interpolation error comparison vs SNR

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610 In Fig. 12, the systems error performance at various number of snapshots is presented for
 611 condition where $r = 10$ mm/hr and $SNR = 20$ dB. As expected, the RMSE decreases as we
 612 increase the number of trials from 100 to 500. Therefore, this shows that by increasing the
 613 number of simulation trials, the algorithm's performance can be greatly improved. Furthermore,
 614 one can intuitively observe that the performance of the proposed A-MUSIC surpasses the
 615 classical MUSIC and the MVDR estimator over the range of the number of snapshots simulated.

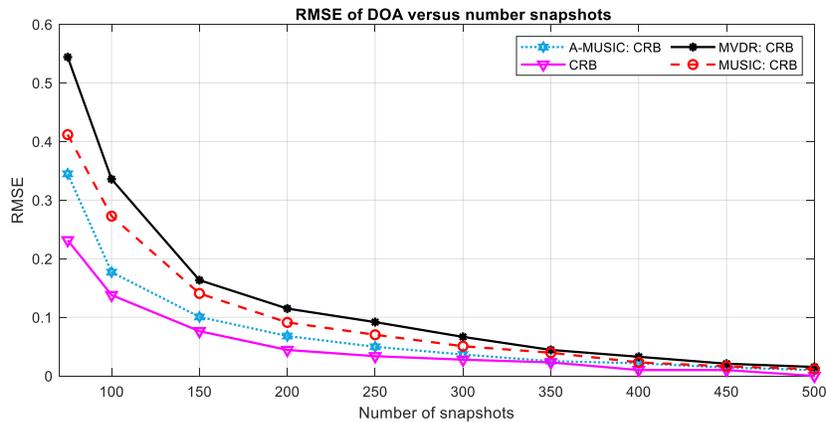


Figure 12: DOA estimation CRB error comparison vs number of snapshots

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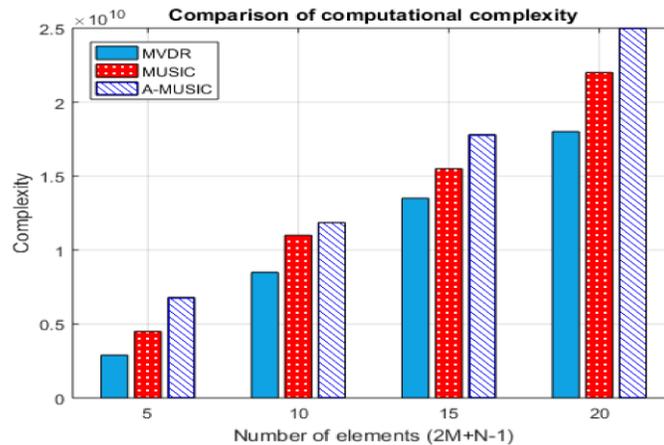


Figure 13: Comparison of computational complexity

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620

621 In Fig. 13, the computational complexity of A-MUSIC and the other DOA estimation algorithms
622 is compared at different antenna elements. Although A-MUSIC algorithm have high
623 performance in estimating the DOA, its computational complexity is high compared to MVDR
624 and MUSIC estimations. This is because of the multiple averaging nature of A-MUSIC
625 algorithm.

626 8 Conclusions

627 This work has investigated and evaluated the performance of DOA algorithms for non-uniform
628 linear arrays (NLA) in weather-impacted environment. The investigation is conducted with no
629 rain, widespread, shower and thunderstorm rainfall events. From the investigation, the
630 algorithm's performance accuracy significantly reduce from no rain condition to thunderstorm
631 rainfall condition with MUSIC performing better than MVDR. In terms of RMSE, the
632 algorithm's performance decline as the SNR values and number of snapshots are increased. The
633 work develops an A-MUSIC algorithm for the weather impacted conditions in NLA. The
634 performance of the developed A MUSIC is superior to the existing algorithm in terms of
635 accuracy and RMSE parameters. This work opens further investigation of performance of DOA
636 algorithms in weather-impacted environment and the need for a re-design of the existing
637 algorithms. The accuracy of the investigated algorithms needs to be validated further while
638 considering other statistical, analytical and computational measures.

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Figure 1.

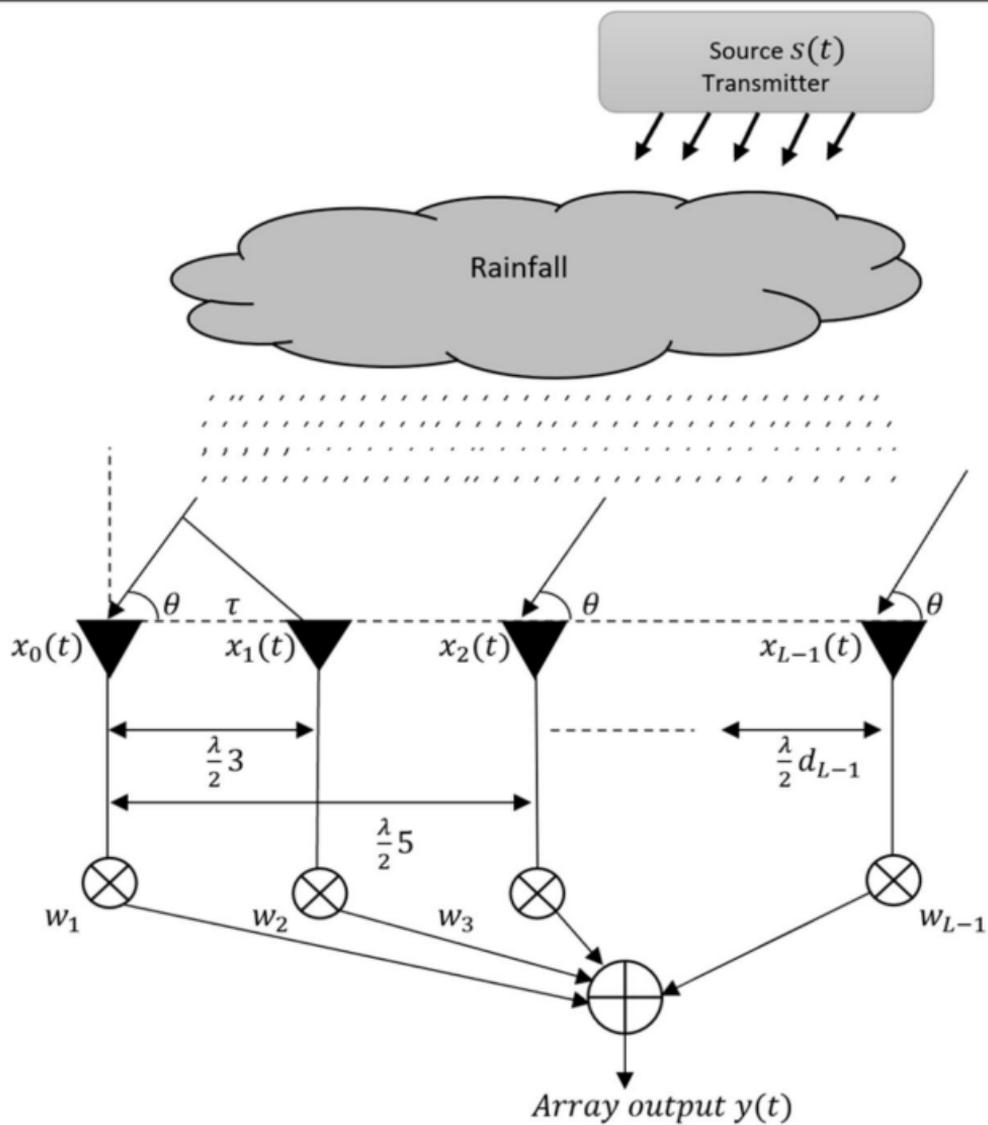


Figure 2.

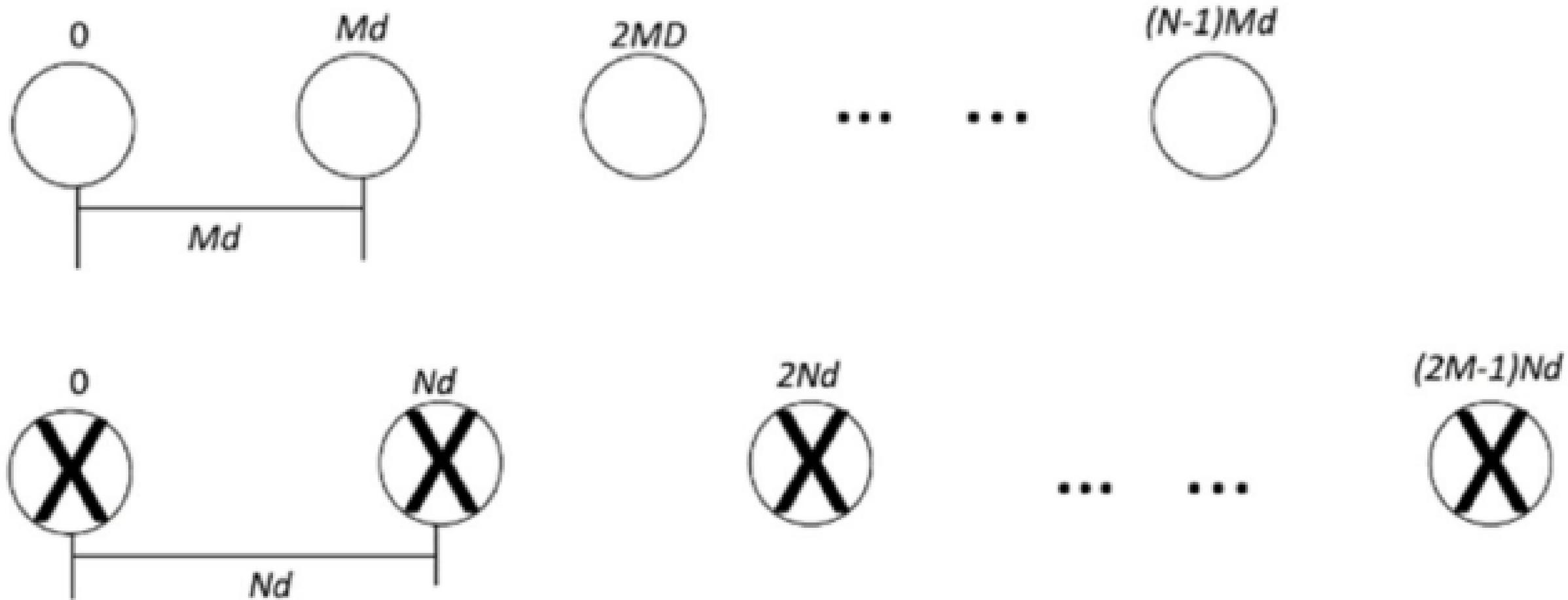


Figure 3.

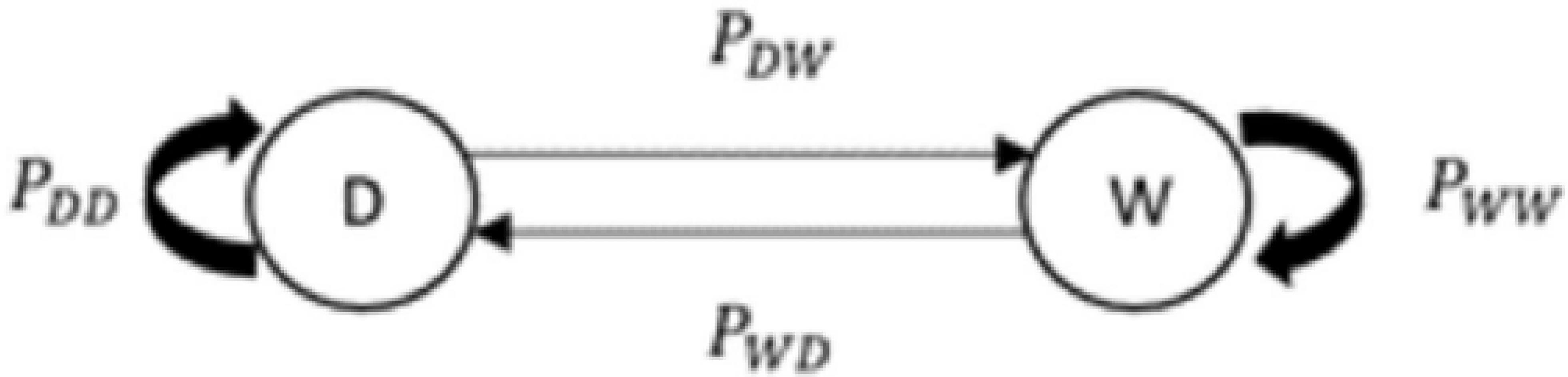


Figure 4.

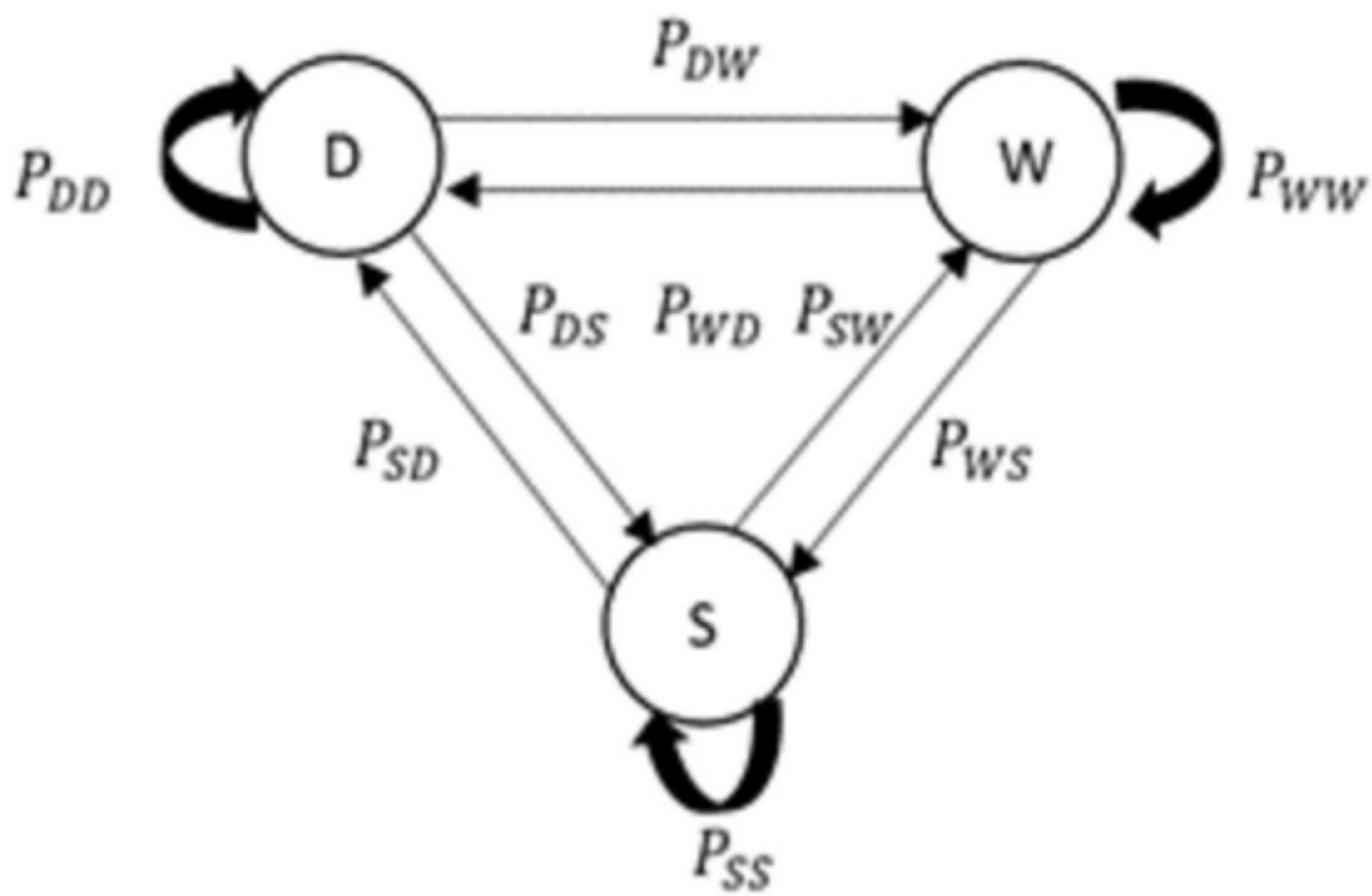


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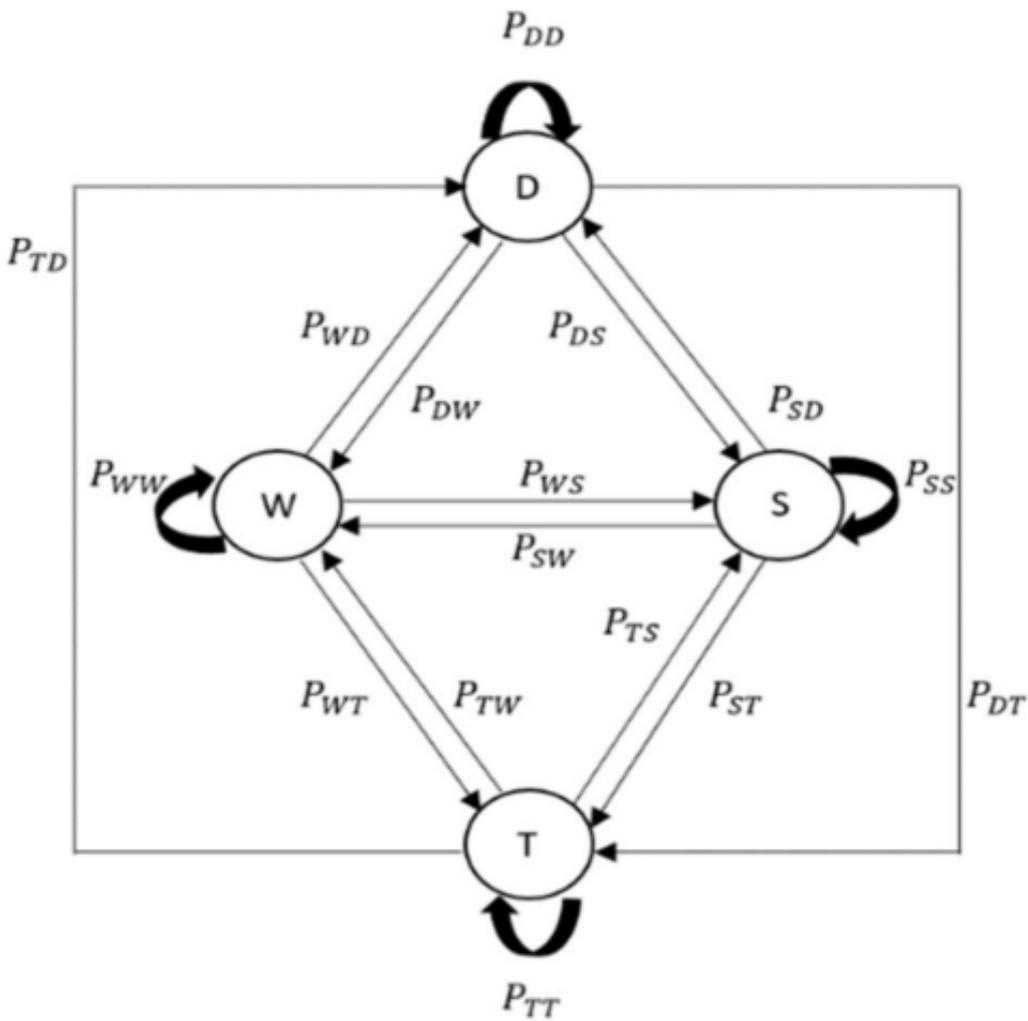


Figure 6(a).

DOA estimation base on NLA using Co-prime array

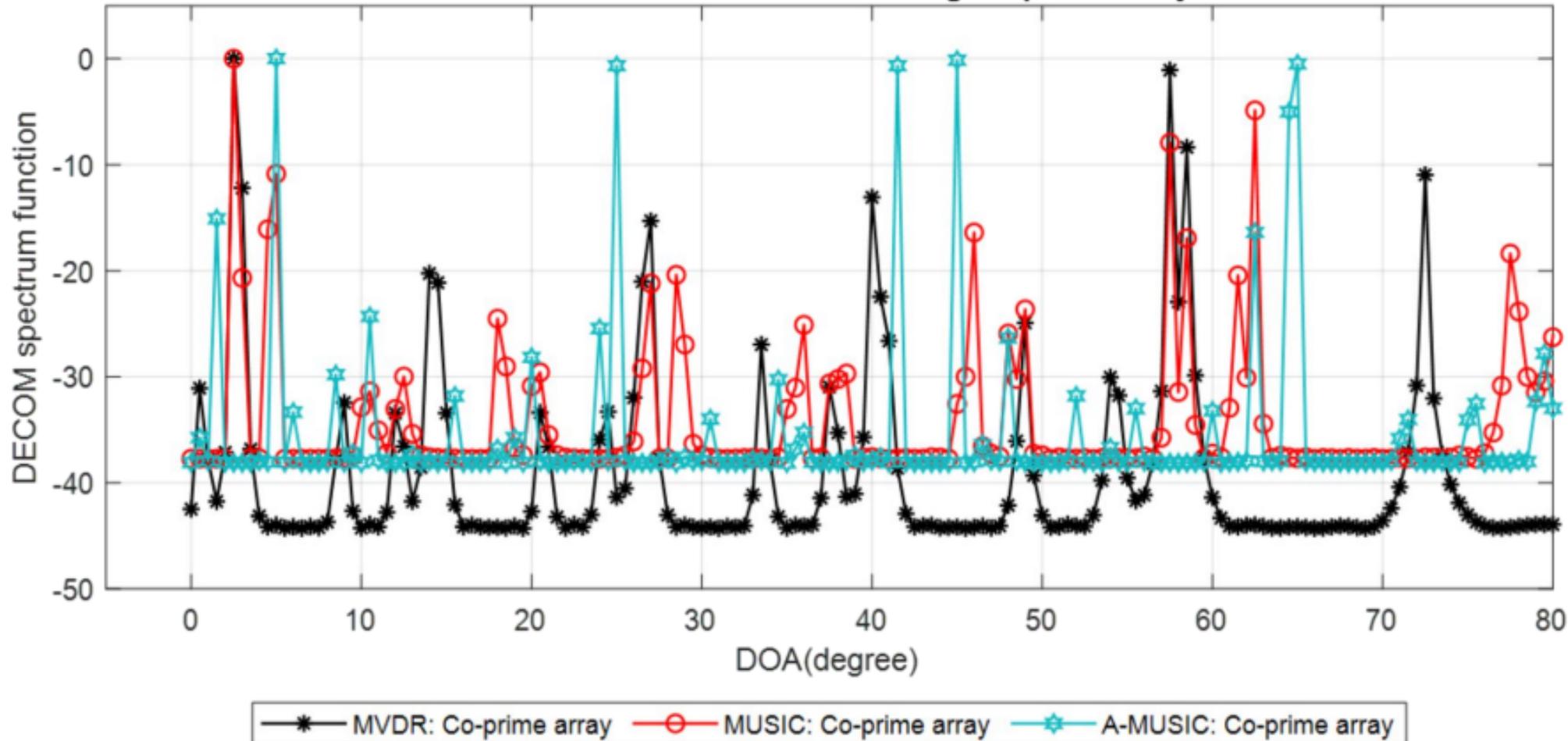
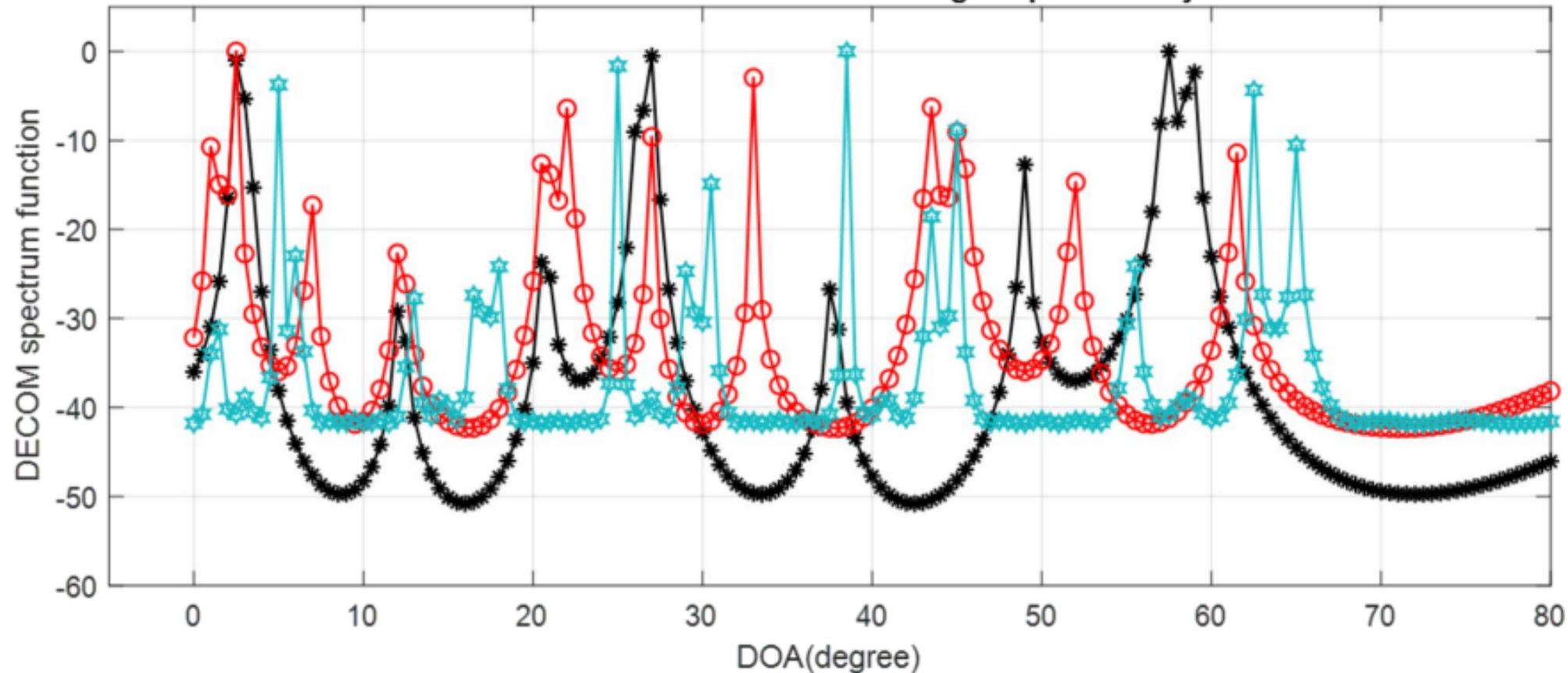


Figure 6(b).

DOA estimation base on NLA using Co-prime array



—*— MVDR: Co-prime array —○— MUSIC: Co-prime array —☆— A-MUSIC: Co-prime array

Figure 6(c).

DOA estimation base on NLA using Co-prime array

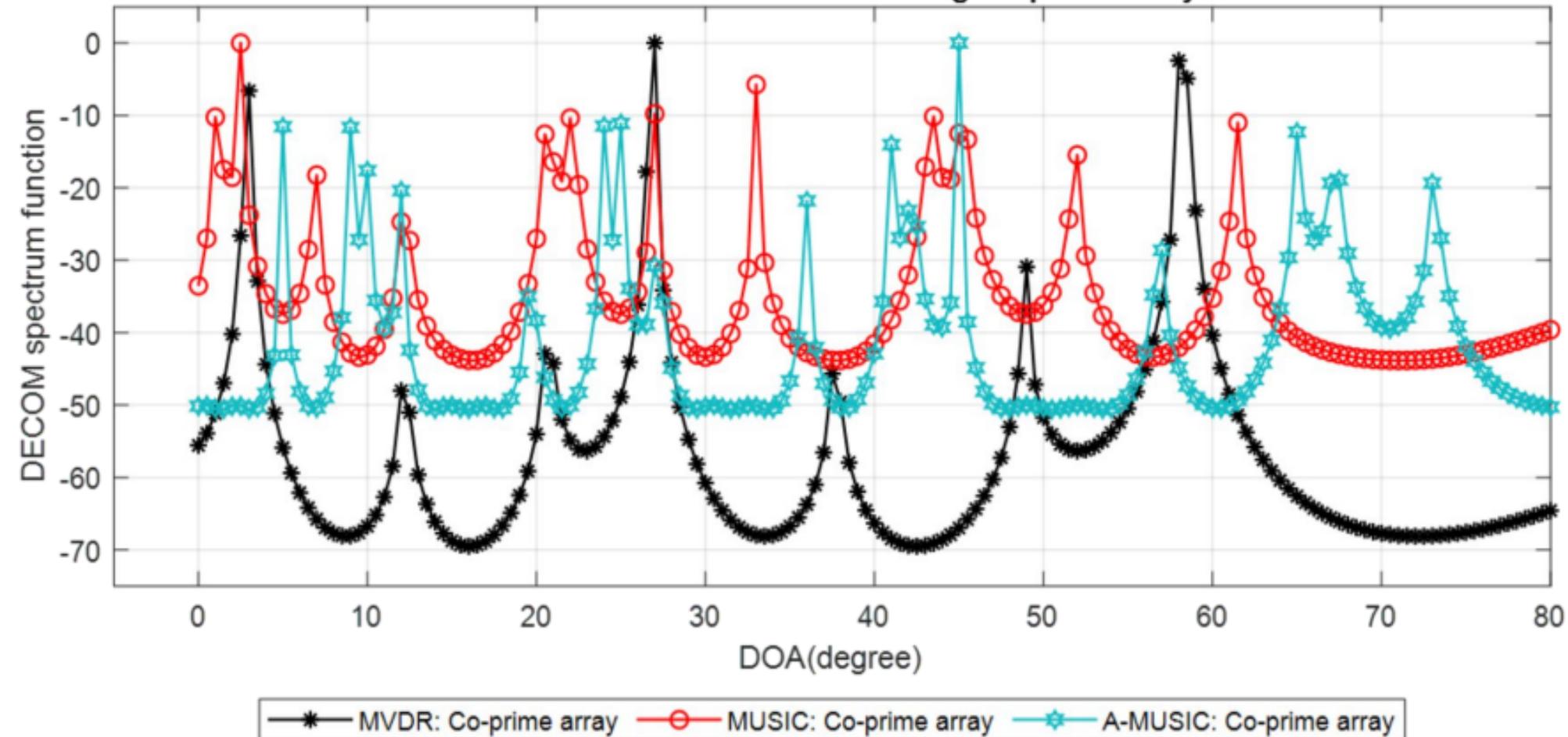
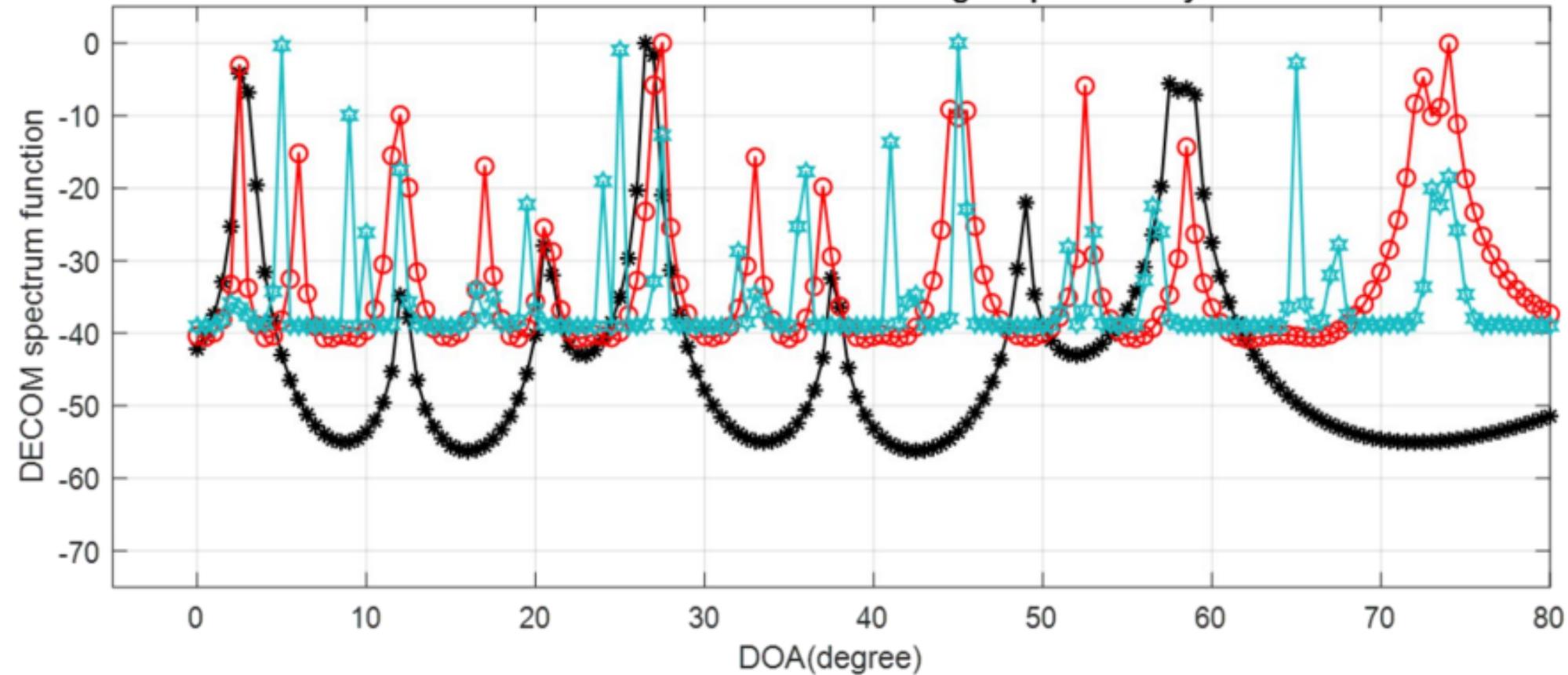


Figure 6(d).

DOA estimation base on NLA using Co-prime array



—*— MVDR: Co-prime array —○— MUSIC: Co-prime array —*— A-MUSIC: Co-prime array

Figure 7(a).

DOA estimation base on NLA using Array interpolation

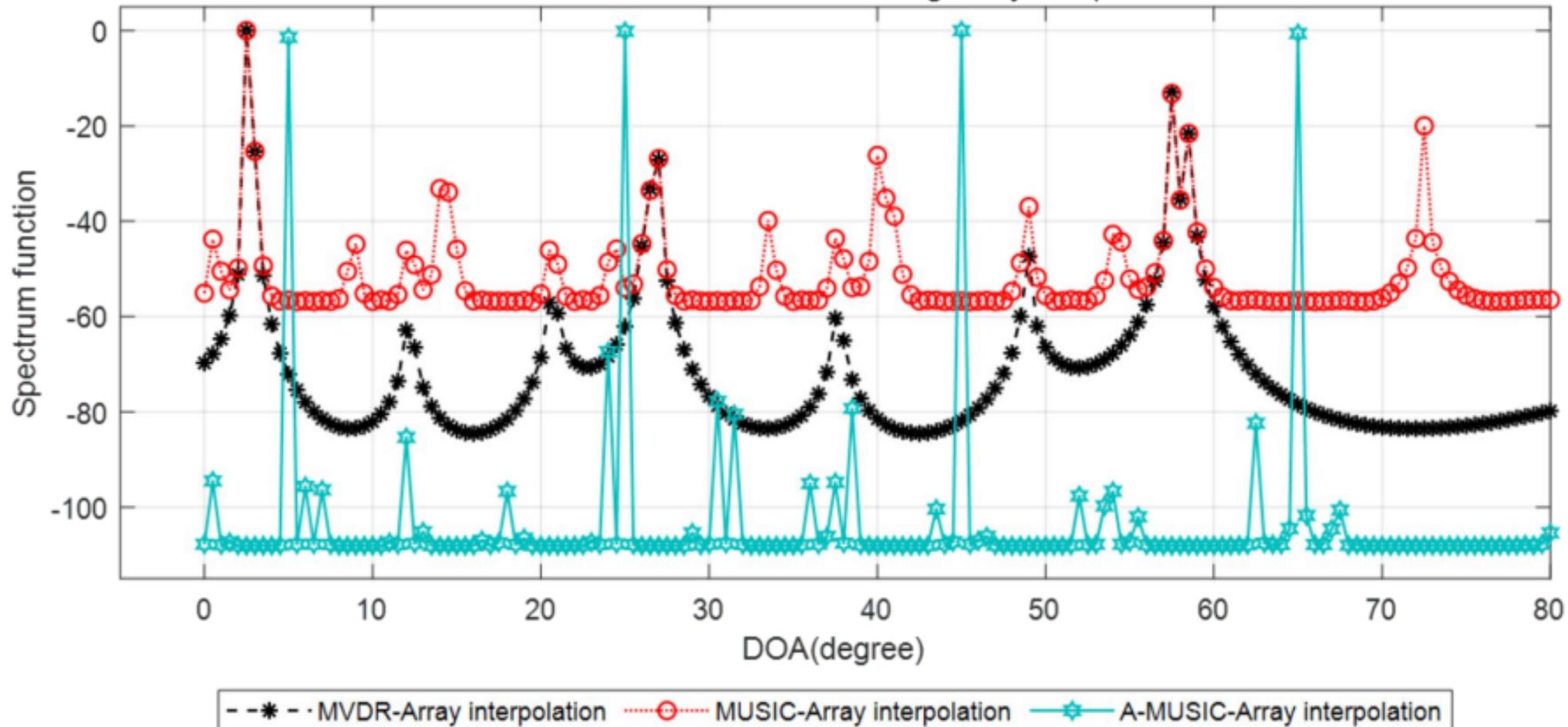


Figure 7(b).

DOA estimation base on NLA using Array interpolation

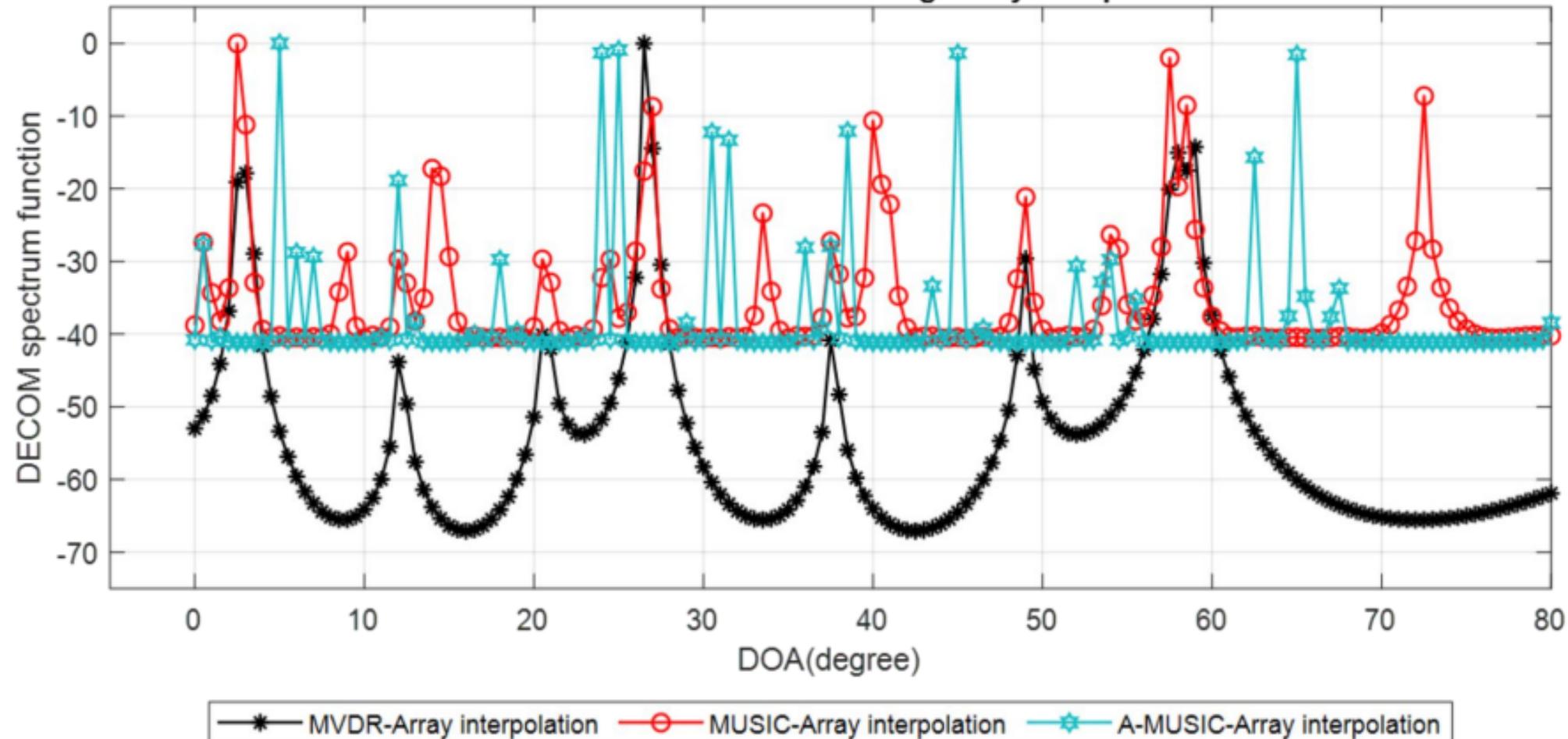


Figure 7(c).

DOA estimation base on NLA using Array interpolation

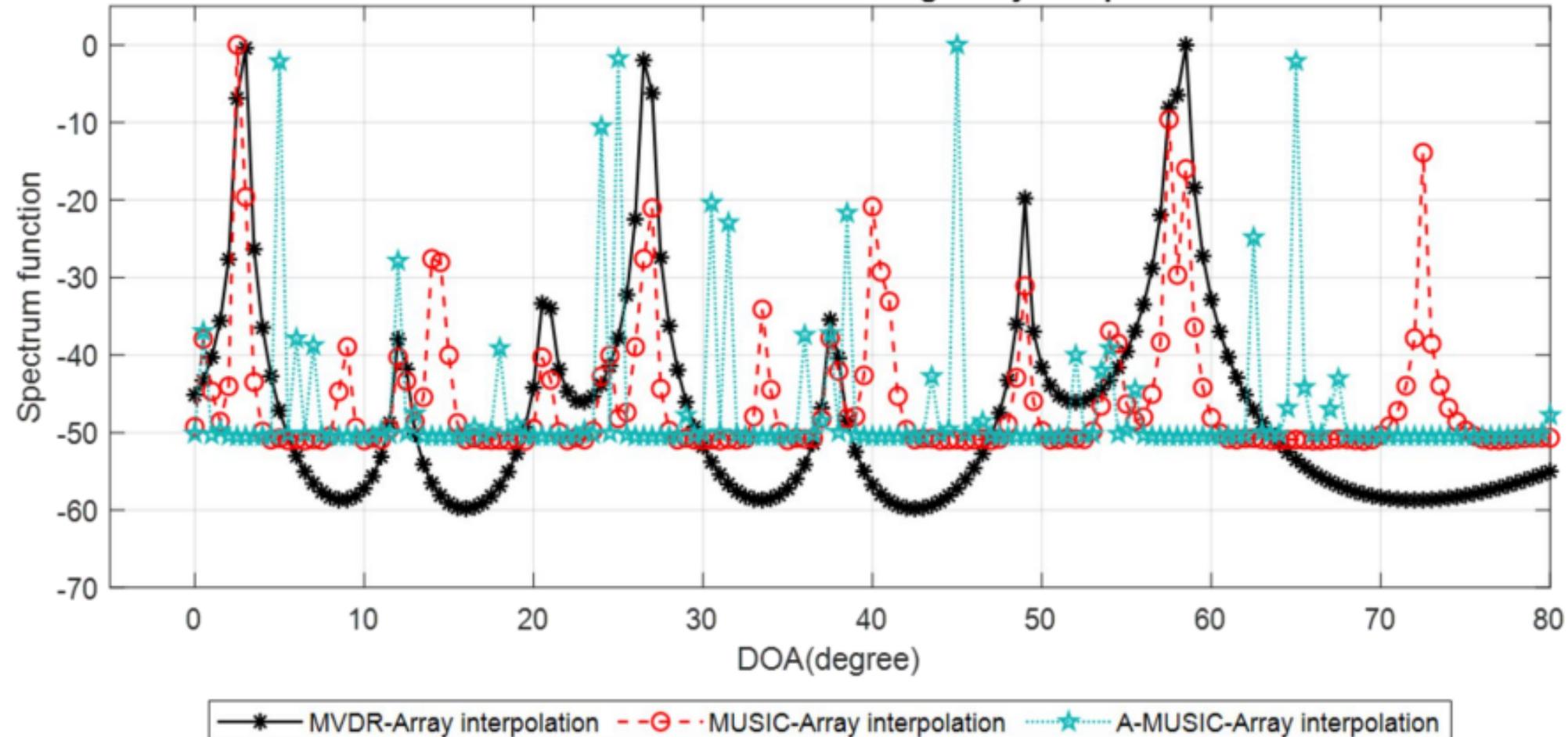
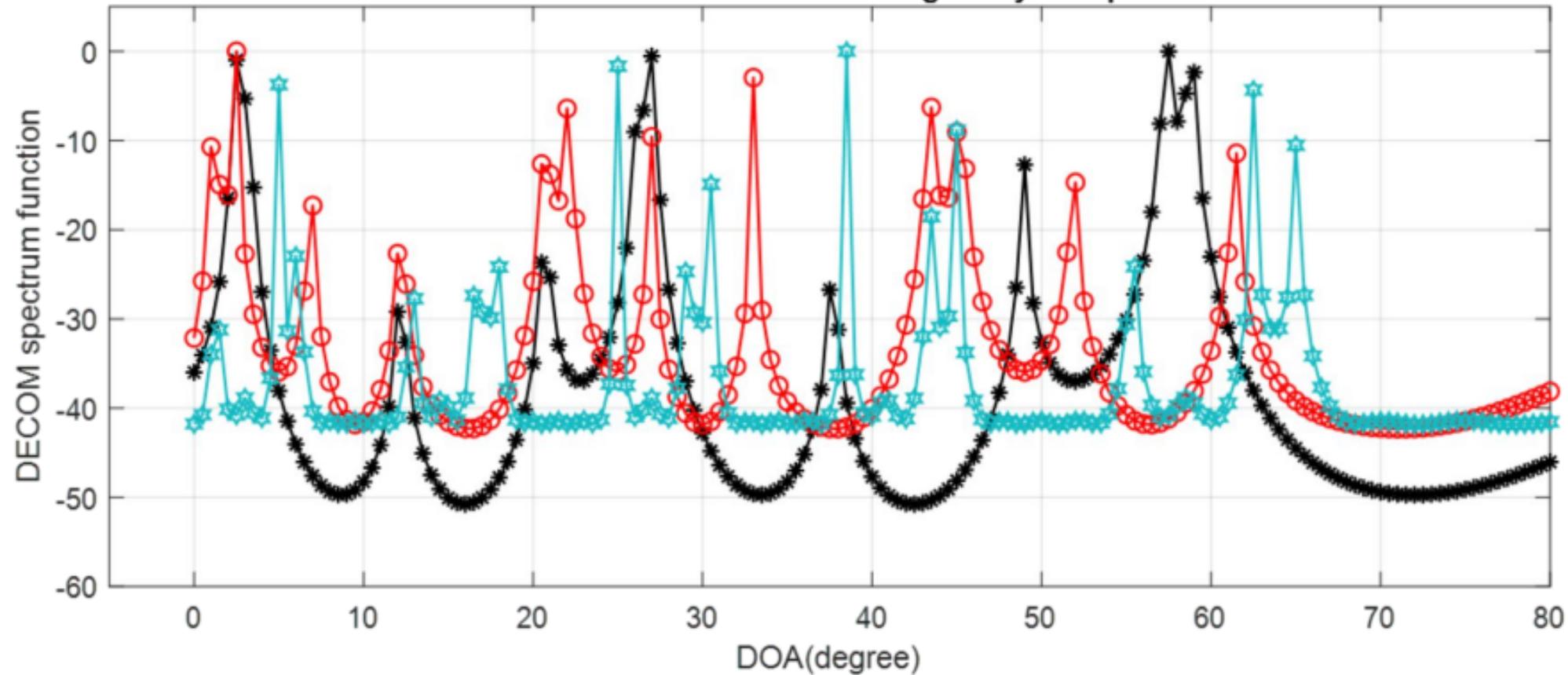


Figure 7(d).

DOA estimation base on NLA using Array interpolation



—*— MVDR-Array interpolation —○— MUSIC-Array interpolation —*— A-MUSIC-Array interpolation

Figure 8(a).

MVDR Co-prime array and array interpolation comparison

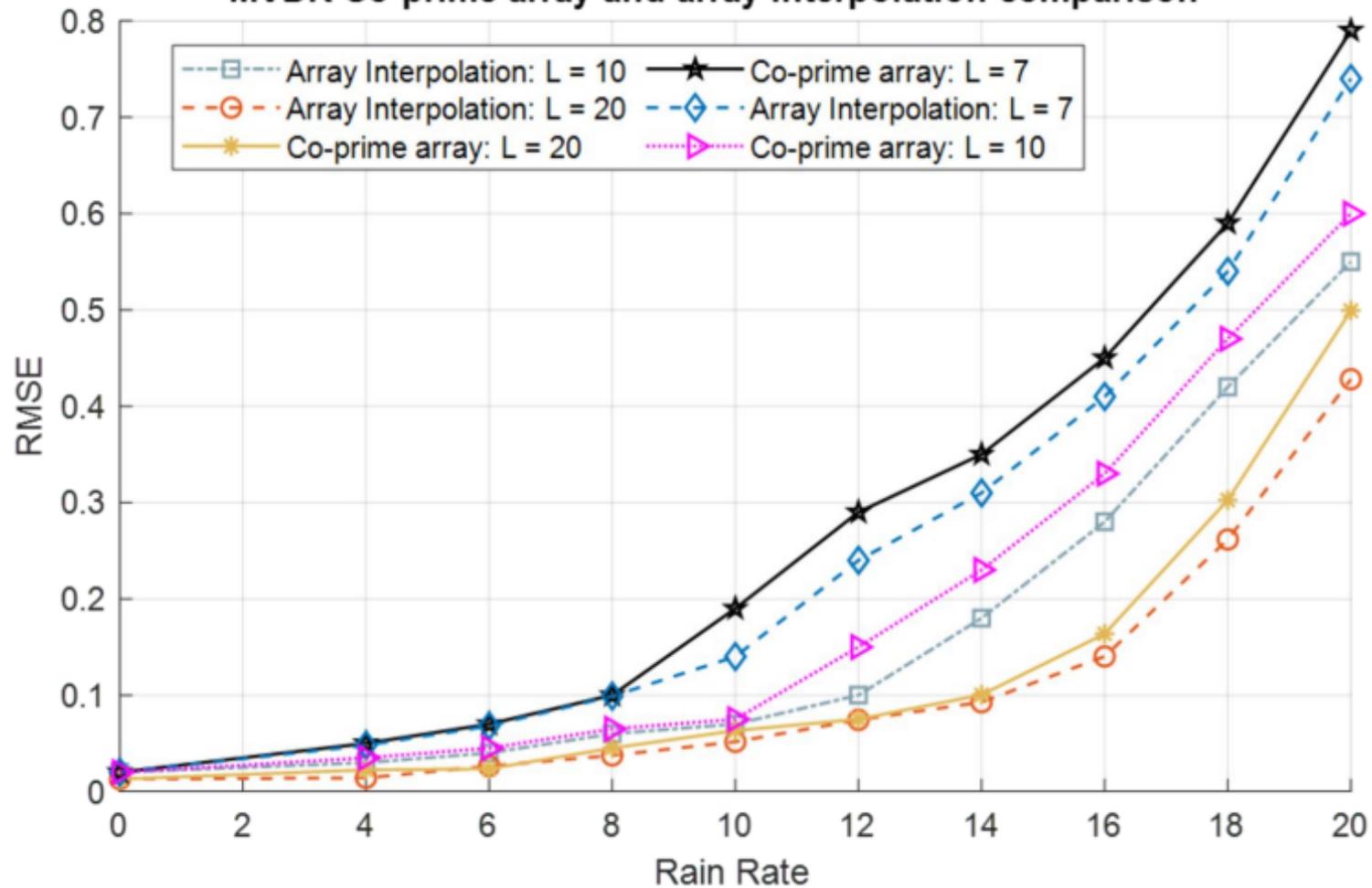


Figure 8(b).

MUSIC Co-prime array and array interpolation comparison

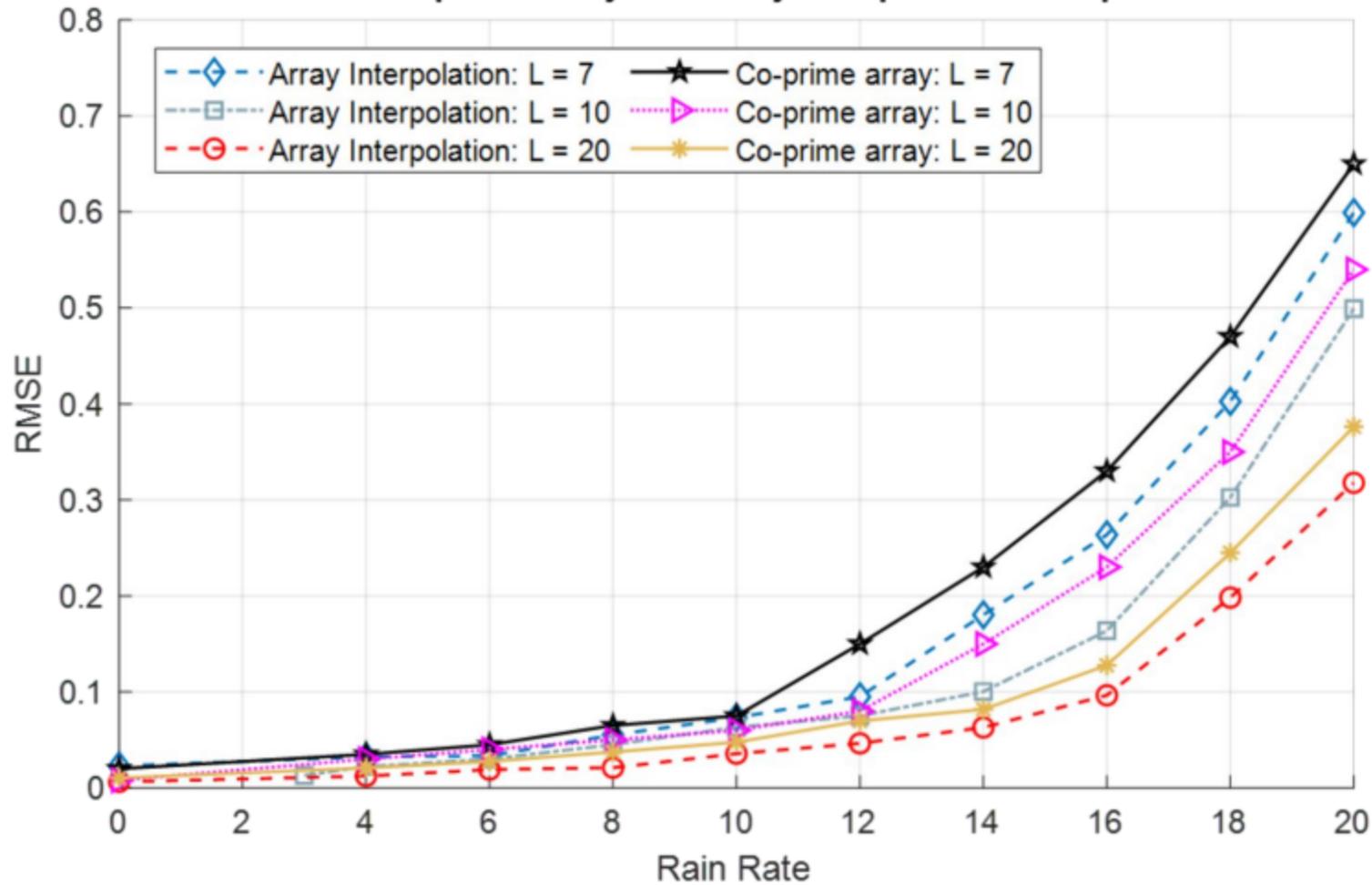


Figure 8(c).

A-MUSIC Co-prime array and array interpolation comparison

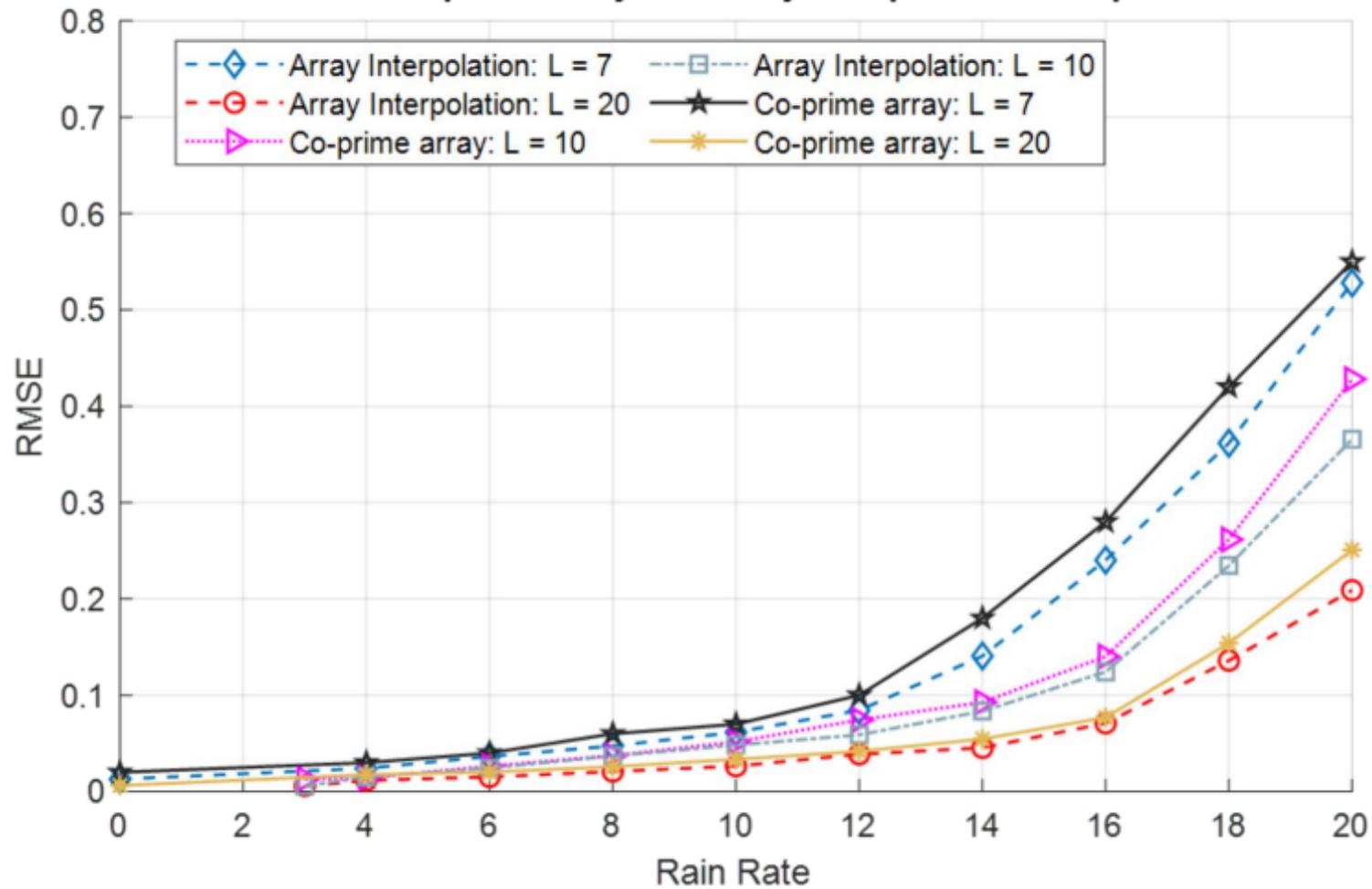


Figure 9(a).

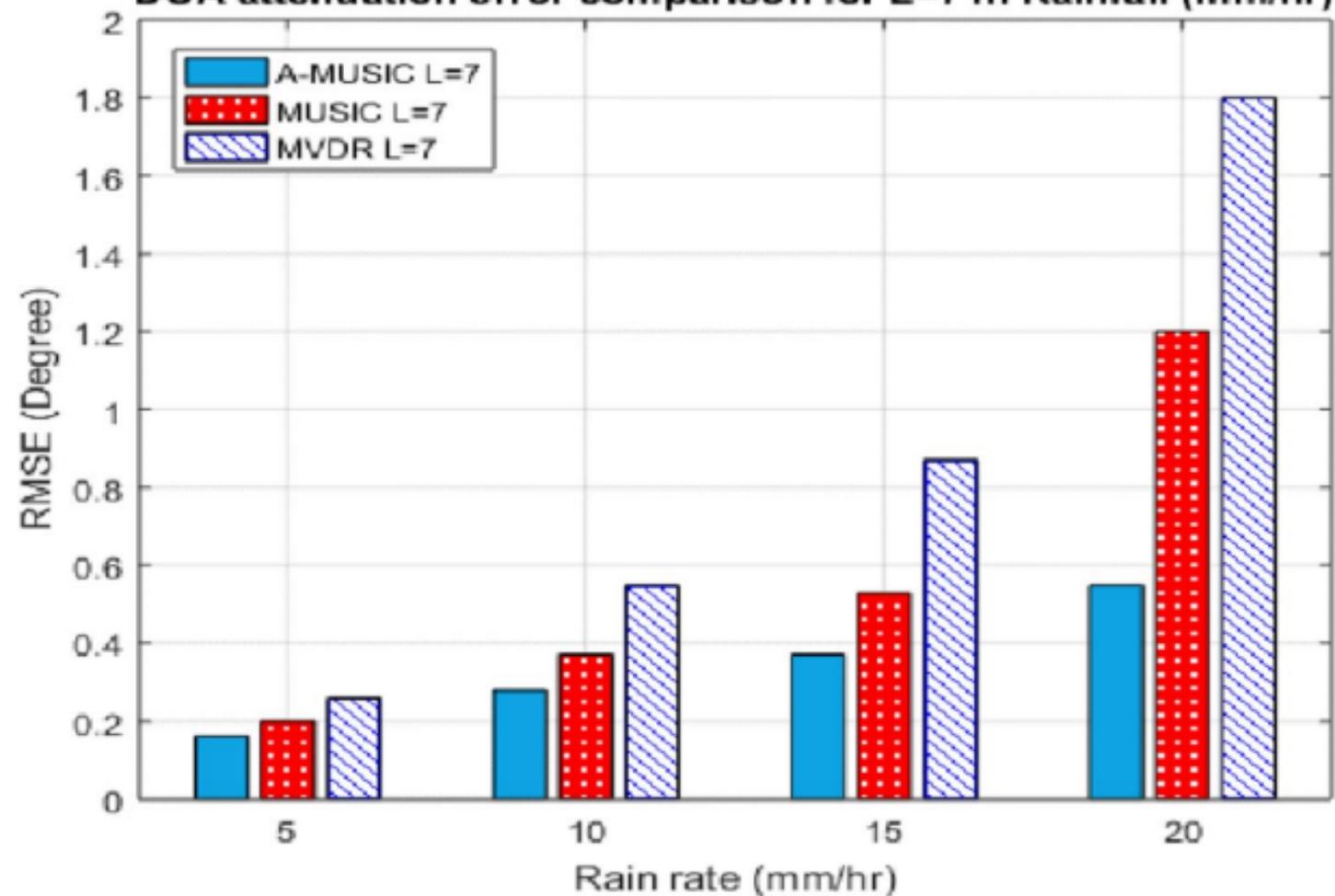
DOA attenuation error comparison for L=7 in Rainfall (mm/hr)

Figure 9(b).

DOA attenuation error comparison for L=10 in Rainfall (mm/hr)

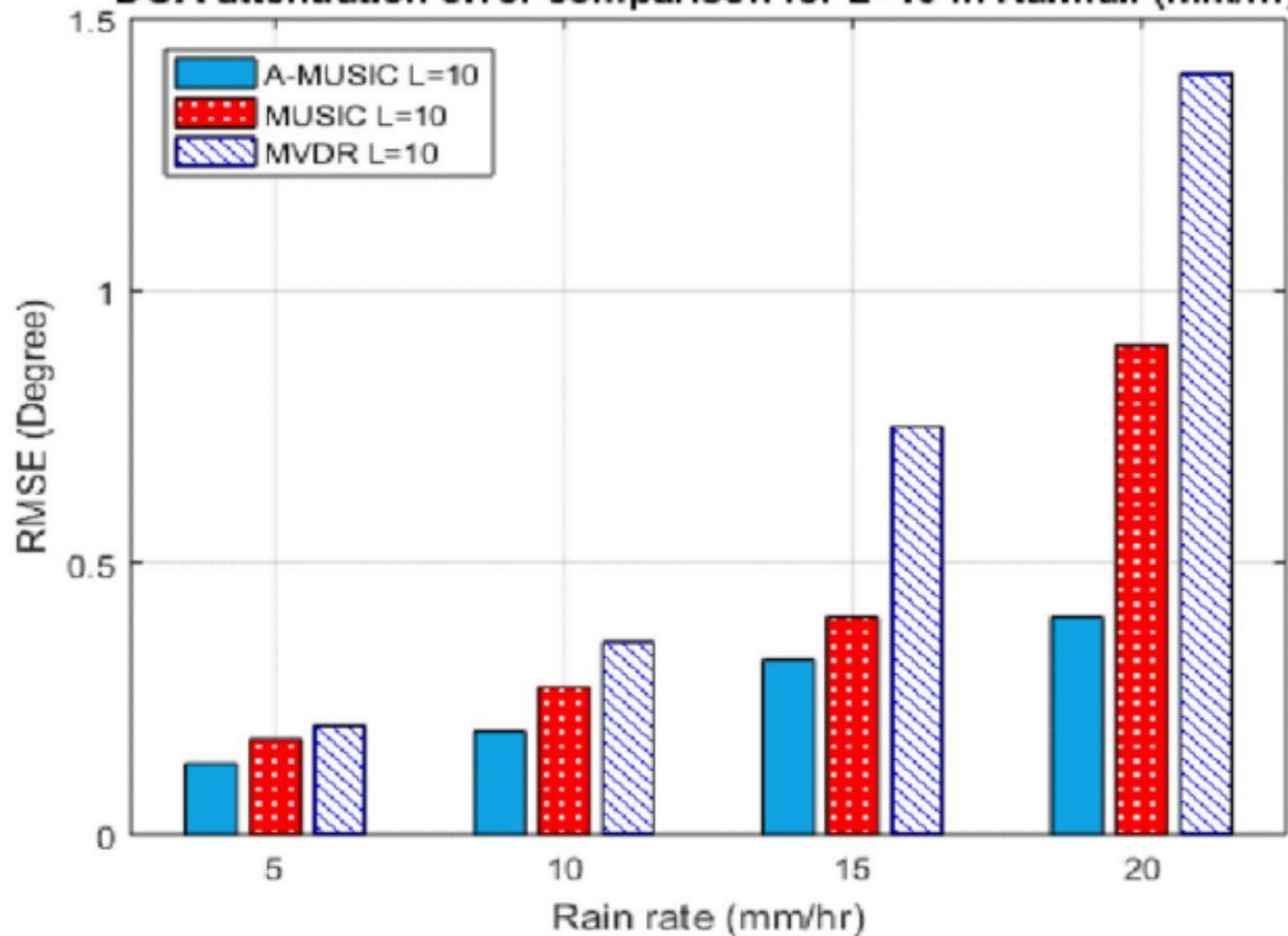


Figure 9(c).

DOA attenuation error comparison for L=20 in Rainfall (mm/hr)

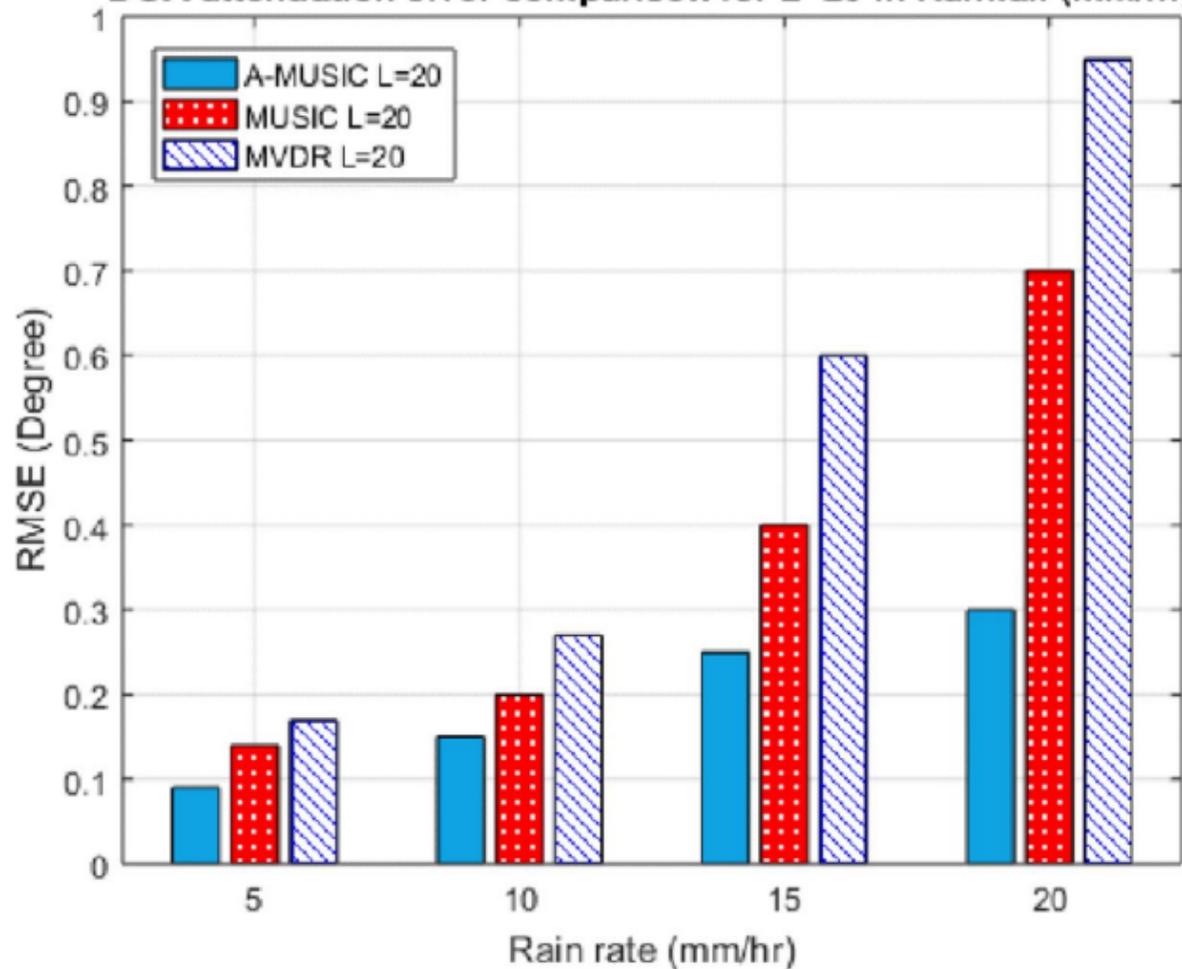


Figure 10.

Comparison of DOA estimation performance

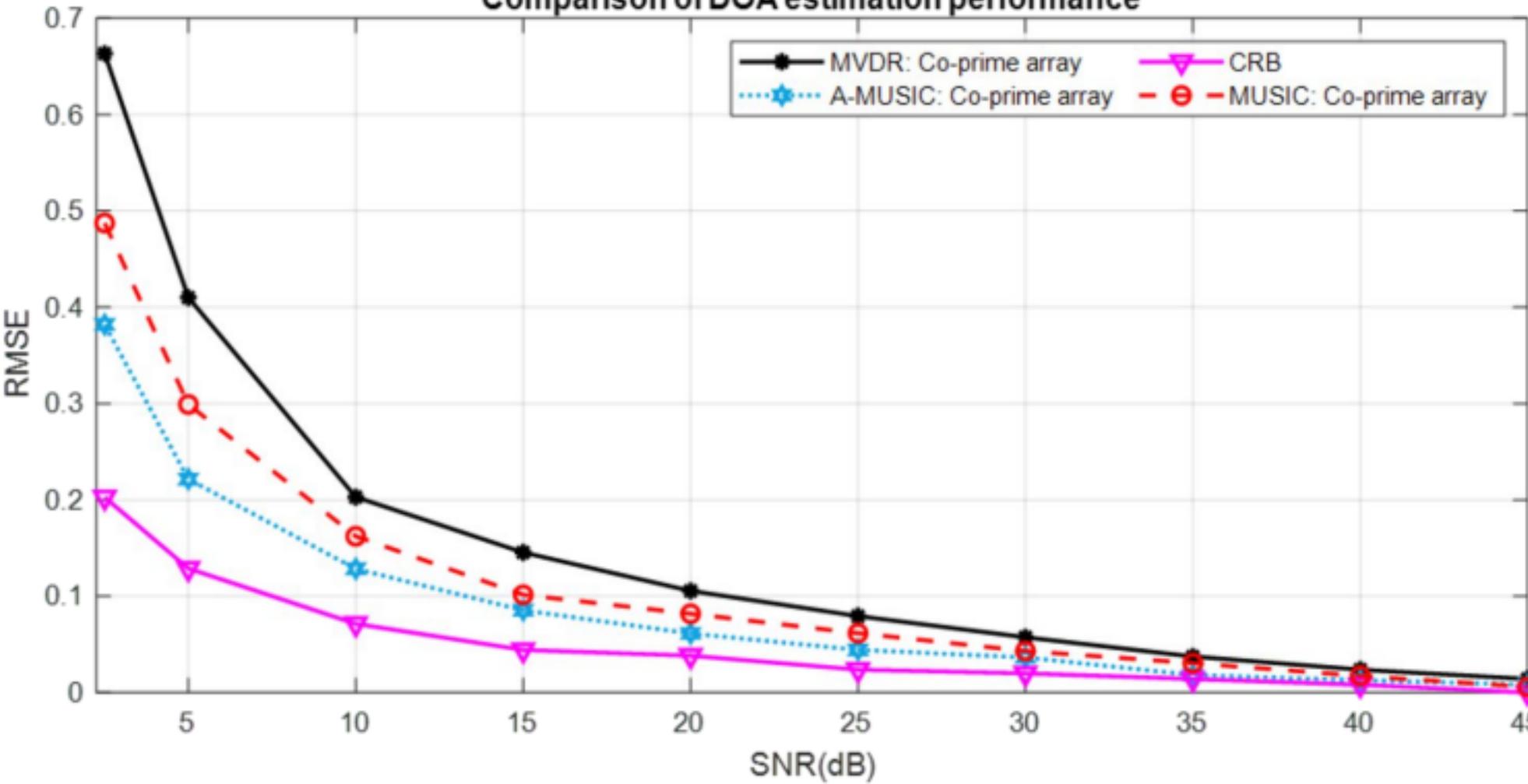


Figure 11.

Comparison of DOA estimation performance

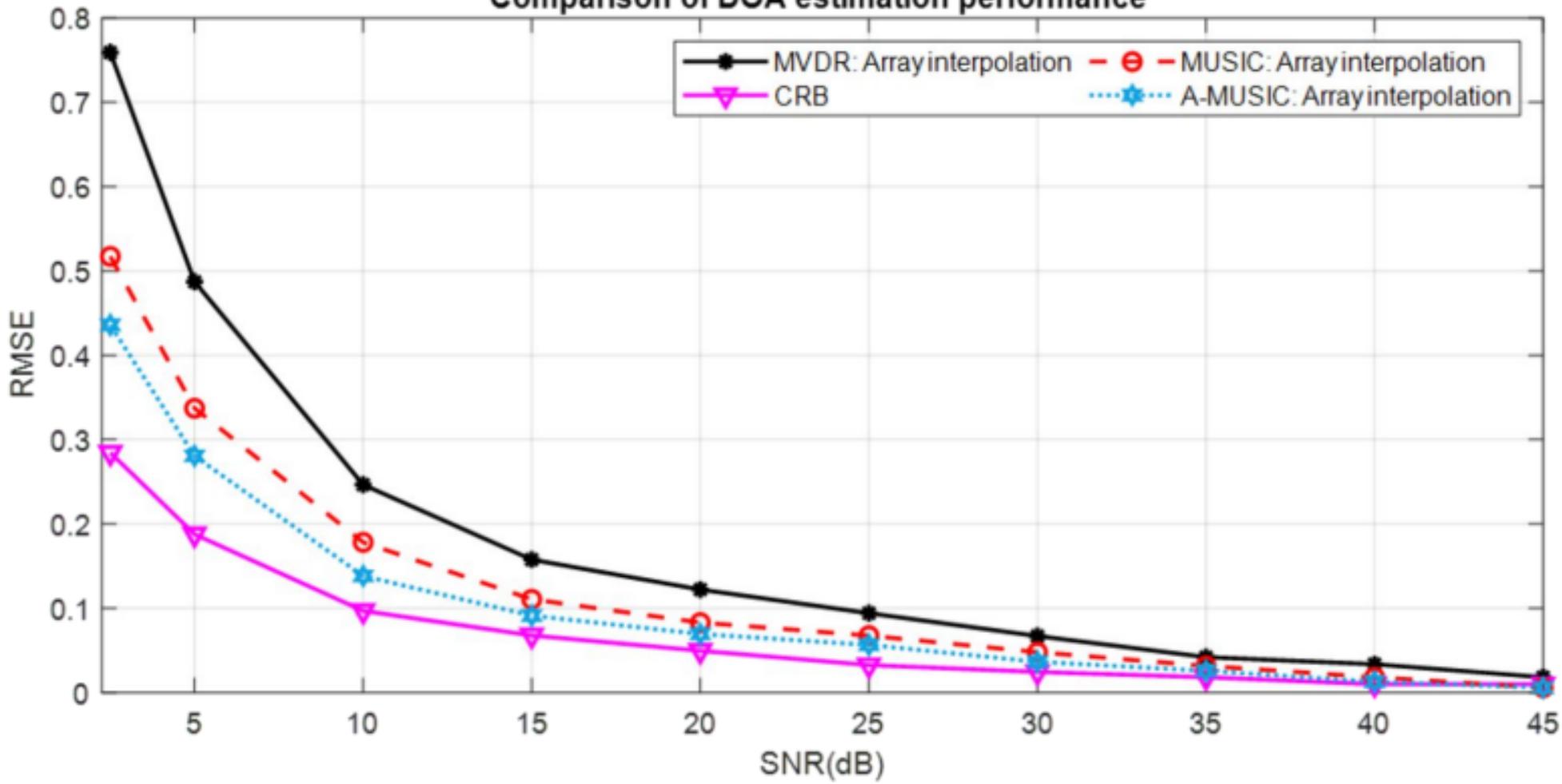


Figure 12.

RMSE of DOA versus number snapshots

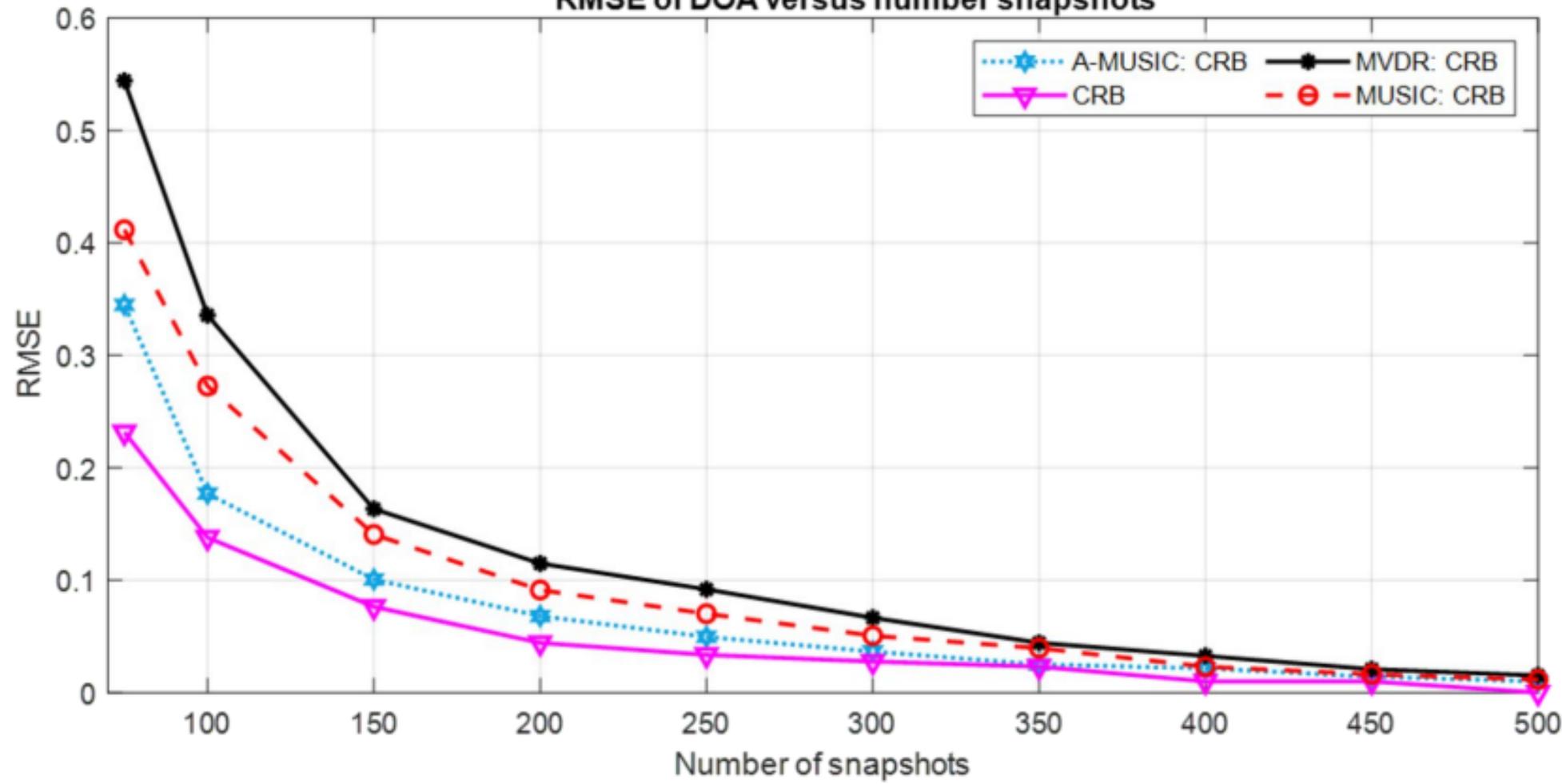


Figure 13.

Comparison of computational complexity