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Robust GPS-Based Timing for Phasor Measurement Units

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Grace Xingxin Gao

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

How to Make GPS-based Timing Robust?



Facts about GPS

- GPS provides timing for many applications, such as PMUs
- GPS civil signals are unencrypted
 - Only GPS military signals are encrypted
 - Civil users (e.g. PMUs) do not have access to the military codes
- GPS civil signal structures are completely open
 - GPS civil signal definition is published in its Interface Control Documents (ICD)
- GPS received signals are extremely weak
 - GPS satellites are 20,200 km (12,550 miles) away
- GPS is operational
 - Satellites in orbits
 - Signals being broadcast
 - Billions of GPS receivers in use



Outline

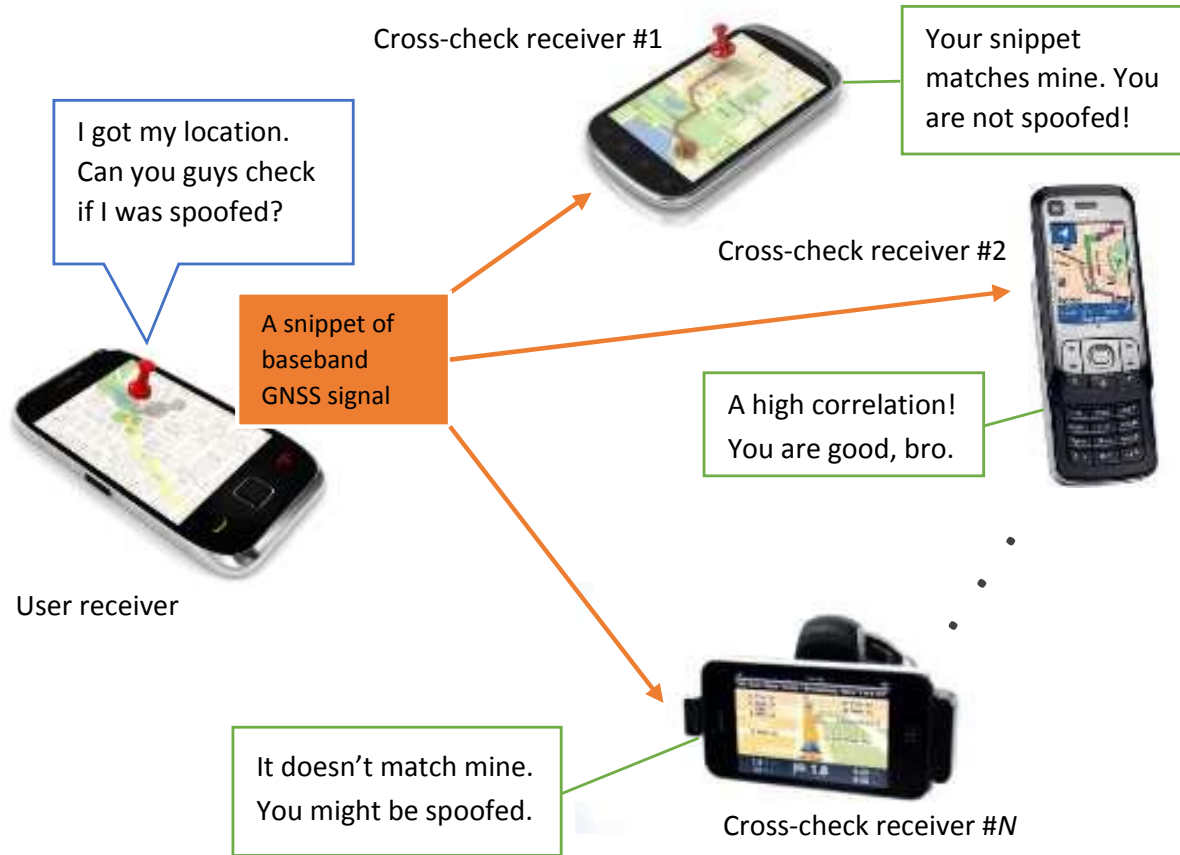
- GPS Cooperative Authentication
 - Pairwise check
 - Decision aggregation
- Position-Information-Aided Vector Tracking
 - Approach
 - Implementation
 - Experimental Results
- Conclusions



Outline

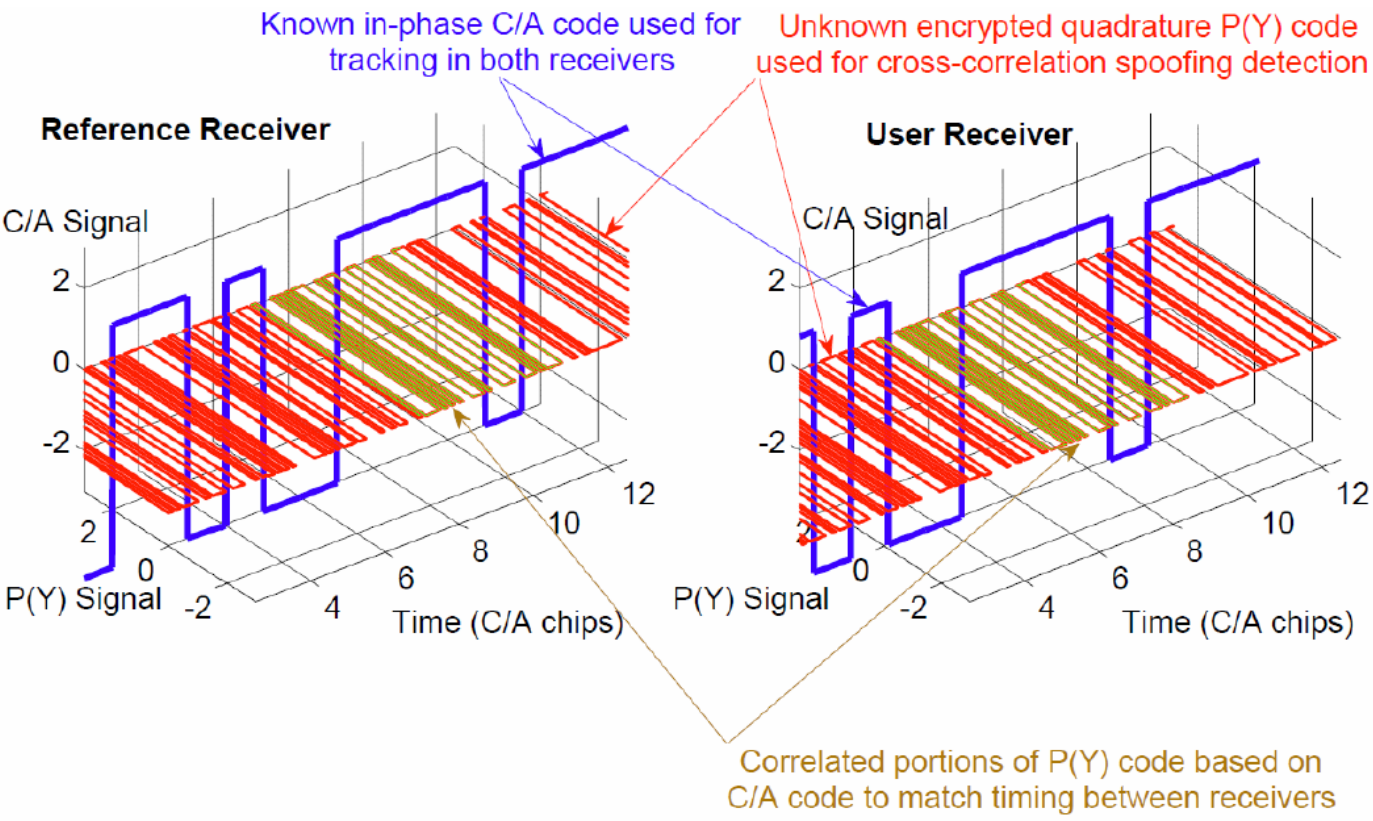
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Cooperative Authentication: Architecture



Merits: *network* and *geographical* redundancy

Pair-wise Checking: Cross-correlation of P(Y) Code



Lo *et al.*, 2009
Psiaki, Humphreys *et al.*, 2013

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Pairwise Check

Received GPS signal from one satellite:

$$s(t) = \underbrace{C(t - \tau)}_{\text{C/A Code}} \underbrace{D_C(t - \tau)}_{\text{P(Y) Code}} \sin(2\pi(f + \underbrace{f_D}_{\text{Doppler Frequency}})(t - \underbrace{\tau}_{\text{Time Delay}}) + \underbrace{\phi}_{\text{Phase shift}})$$
$$+ \underbrace{P(t - \tau)}_{\text{P(Y) Code}} \underbrace{D_P(t - \tau)}_{\text{P(Y) Code}} \cos(2\pi(f + \underbrace{f_D}_{\text{Doppler Frequency}})(t - \underbrace{\tau}_{\text{Time Delay}}) + \underbrace{\phi}_{\text{Phase shift}})$$

We want to cross correlate the $P(t)D_P(t)$ signals from two different receivers.

Estimate:

- Doppler frequency, f_D
- Phase shift, ϕ

Wipe off Doppler and align phase:

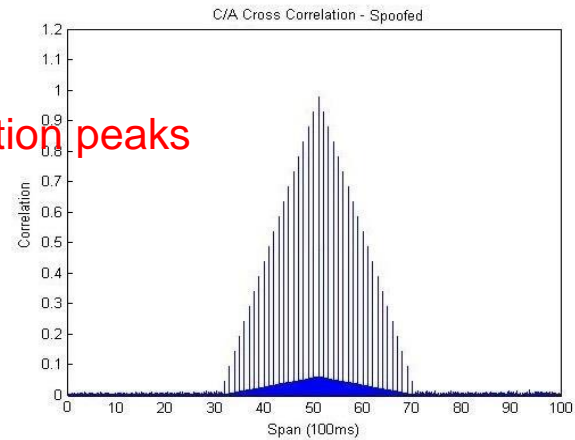
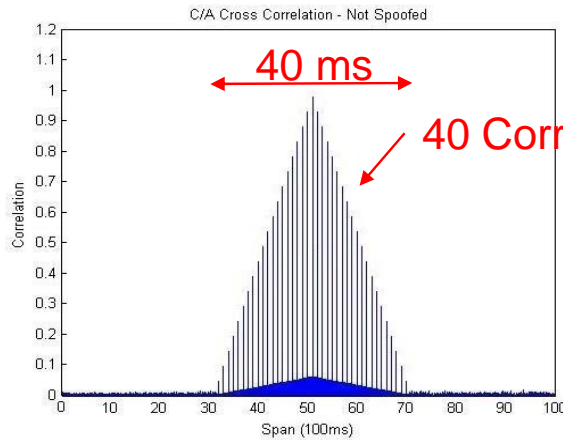
$$P(t - \tau)D_P(t - \tau) = \text{LPF}[\cos(2\pi(f + f_D)(t - \tau) + \phi) \cdot s(t)]$$

Pairwise Check – Ideal Results

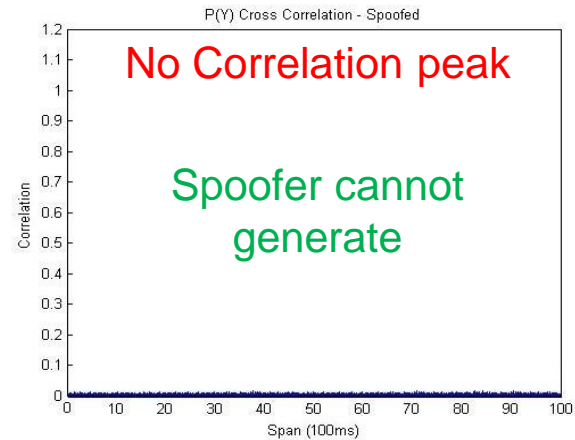
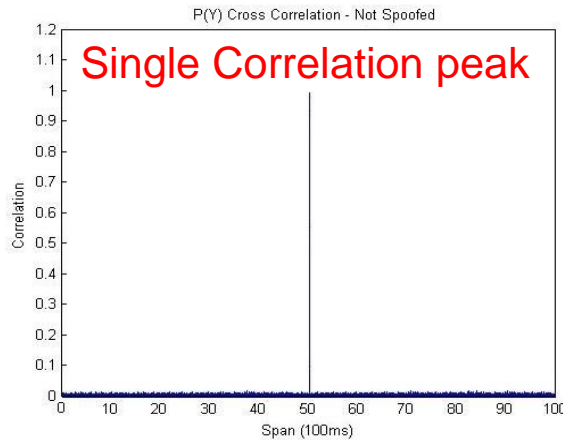
In-phase
Baseband
Correlation
(C/A)

Not Spoofed

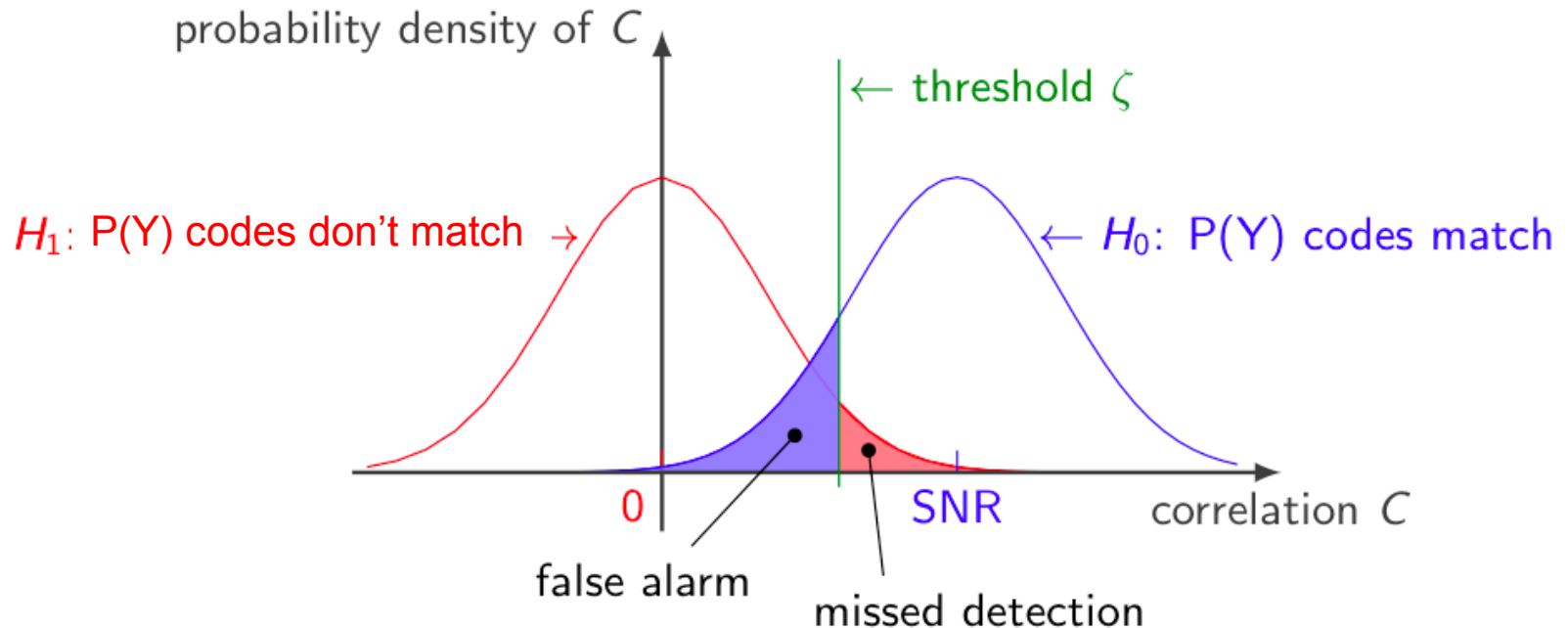
Spoofed



Quadrature-
phase
Baseband
Correlation
(P(Y))



Modeling Pairwise Check



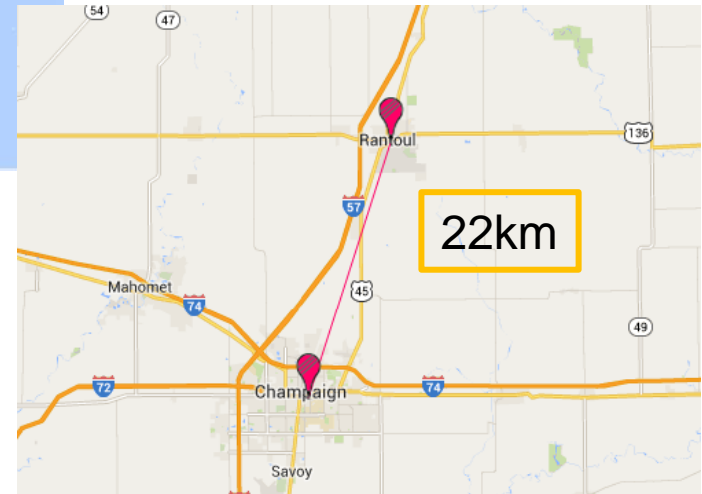
- ▶ Probability of false alarm α
- ▶ Probability of missed detection β

Experiments with Different Scenarios

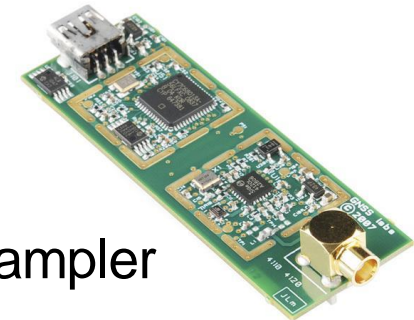


San Francisco CA and
Champaign IL, static

Rantoul IL, moving at ~45 mph
and Champaign IL, static



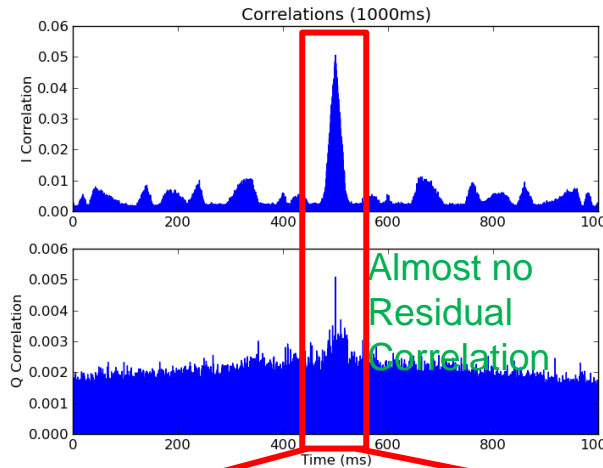
Experiments: San Francisco & UIUC Everitt Lab



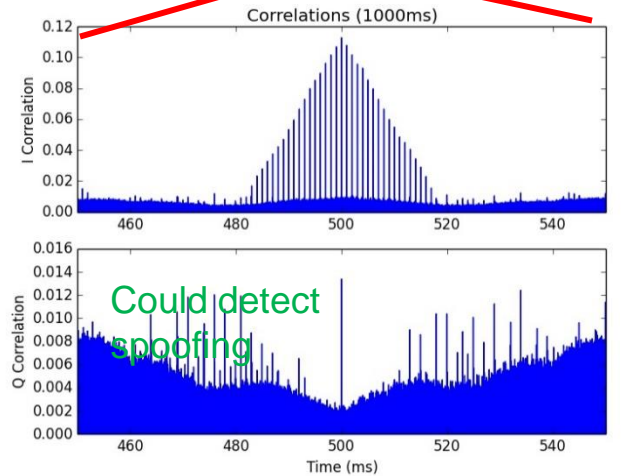
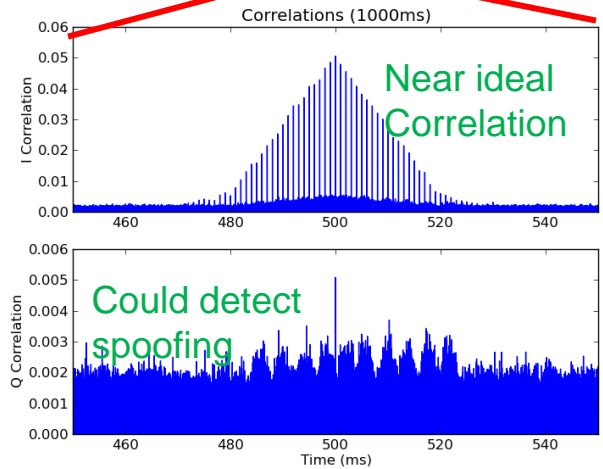
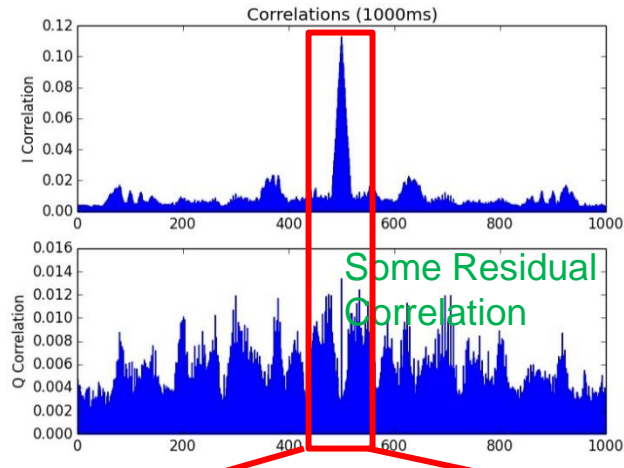
SiGe Sampler

Pairwise Results for Different Separations

3000km separation



22km separation



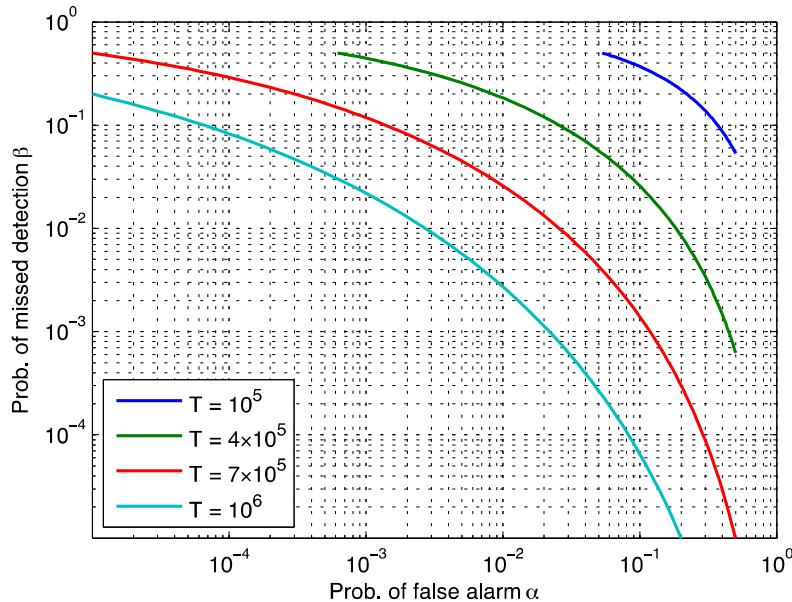
SNR Affects Pair-wise Check Performance

3000 km apart

one receiver in urban canyon

both receivers were static

$C/N_0 = 47$ dB-Hz

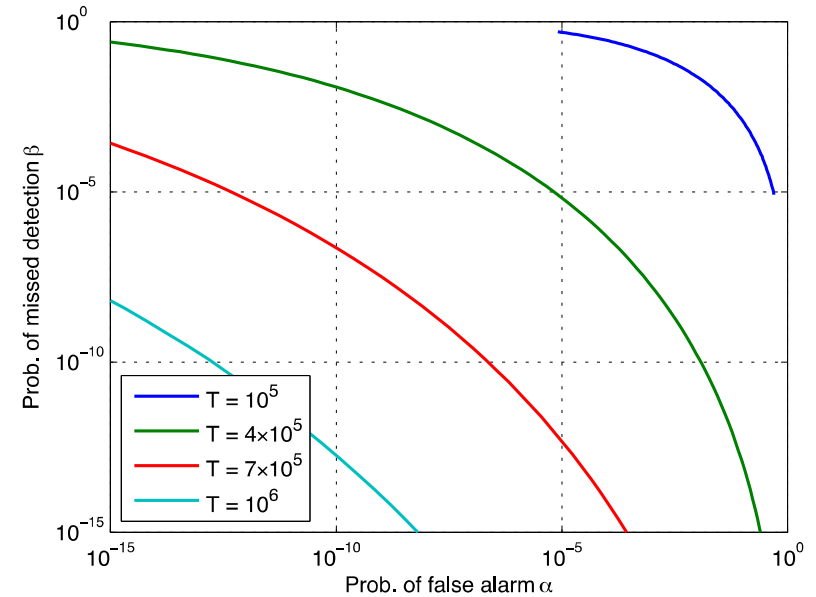


22 km apart

both receivers had an open sky

one receiver was moving at 45 mph

$C/N_0 = 51$ dB-Hz



Outline

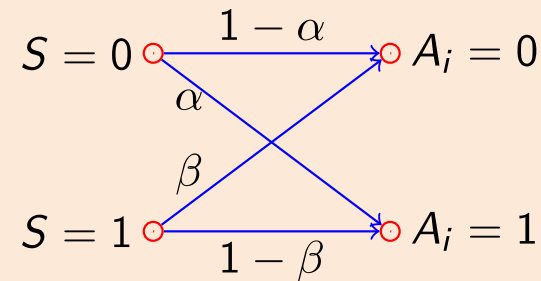
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Modeling Unreliable Cross-Check Receivers

Definition

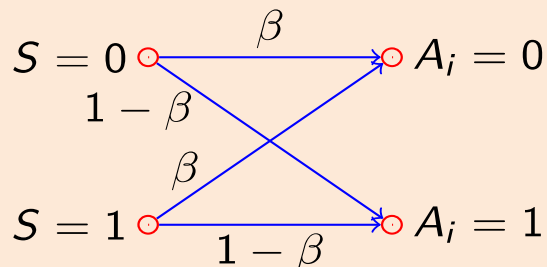
- S Actual status of user receiver
- A_i Authentication result using the i th cross-check receiver
 - $= 0$ authentic
 - $= 1$ spoofed

Cross-check receiver is authentic



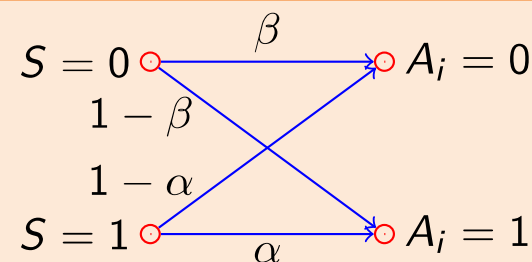
with a probability $1 - P_{SD} - P_{SS}$

Cross-check receiver is spoofed by a different spoofer



with a probability P_{SD}

Cross-check receiver is spoofed by the same spoofer



with a probability P_{SS}

Authentication Performance, Theoretical Results

$$P_{FA} = P_{MD} \leq \exp(-N\lambda^2).$$

$$\lambda = (1 - \alpha - \beta)(1 - P_{SD} - 2P_{SS}).$$

Pair-wise
false
alarm rate

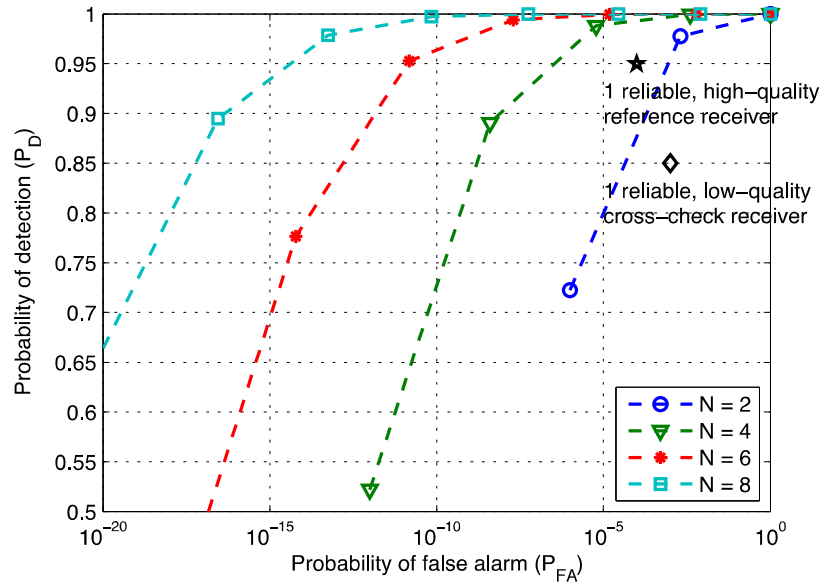
Pair-wise
missed
detection rate

Probability of being
spoofed by a
different spoofer

Probability of being
spoofed by the
same spoofer

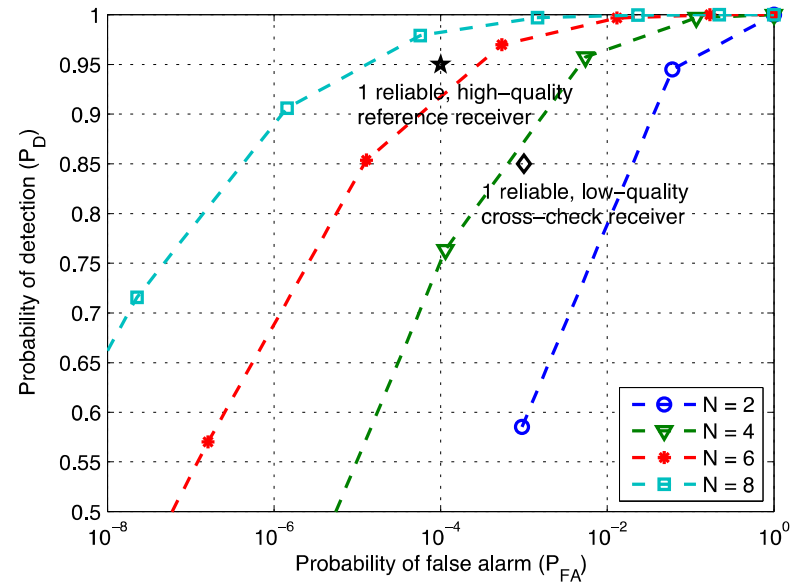
- Authentication performance improves **exponentially** with increasing number of cross-check receivers.
- P_{SS} causes twice as great performance deterioration as P_{SD} does.
 - Choose a cross-check receiver far from the user receiver.

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) Curves



(a) Reliable cross-check receivers

$$(P_{SS} = P_{SD} = 0)$$



(b) Unreliable cross-check receivers

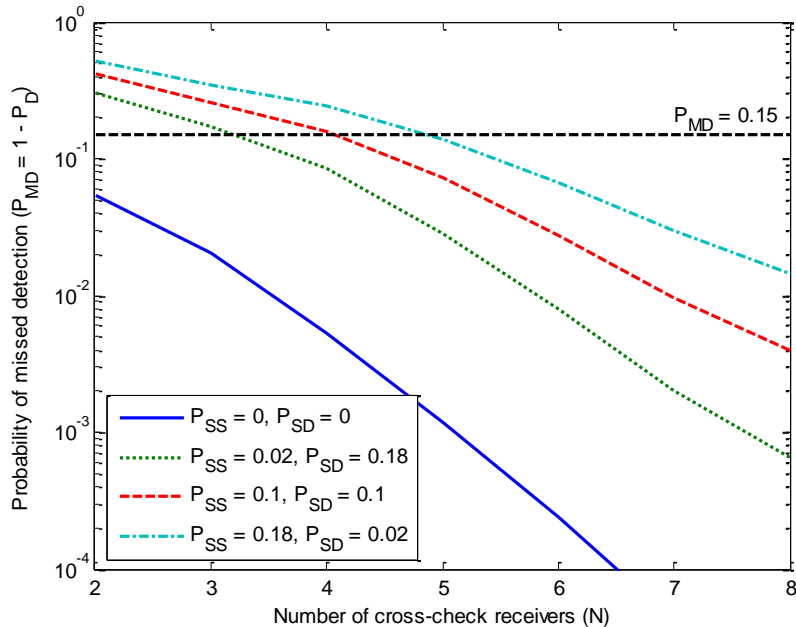
$$(P_{SS} = P_{SD} = 0.1)$$

Assumptions:

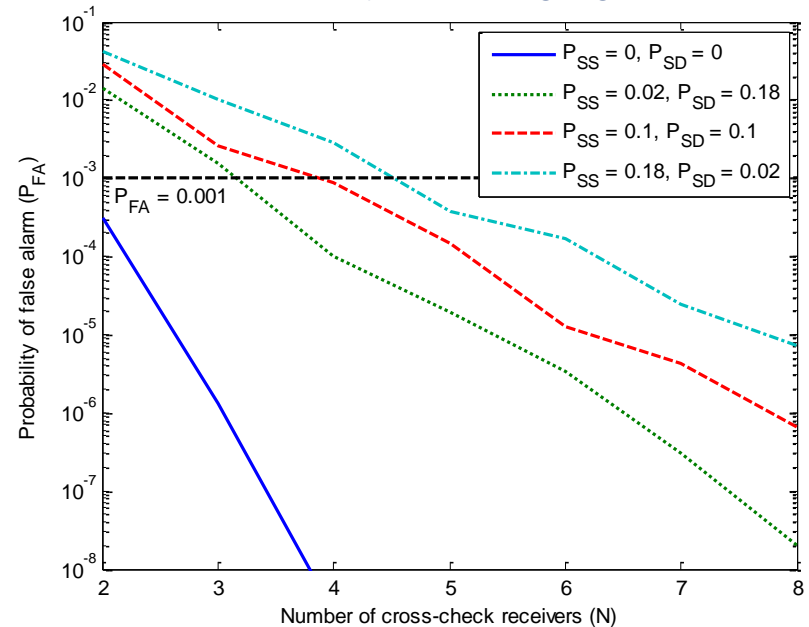
- ▶ High-quality reference receiver: $\alpha = 0.0001$ and $\beta = 0.05$.
- ▶ Low-quality cross-check receiver: $\alpha = 0.001$ and $\beta = 0.15$.

Performance of Cooperative Authentication

Assume 20% of the cross-check receivers are spoofed (an extremely challenging assumption)



Probability of missed detection



Probability of false alarm

- Robustness grows **exponentially** with the number of cross-check receivers
- A small number of unreliable cross-check receivers are on par with a reliable cross-check receiver.

Outline

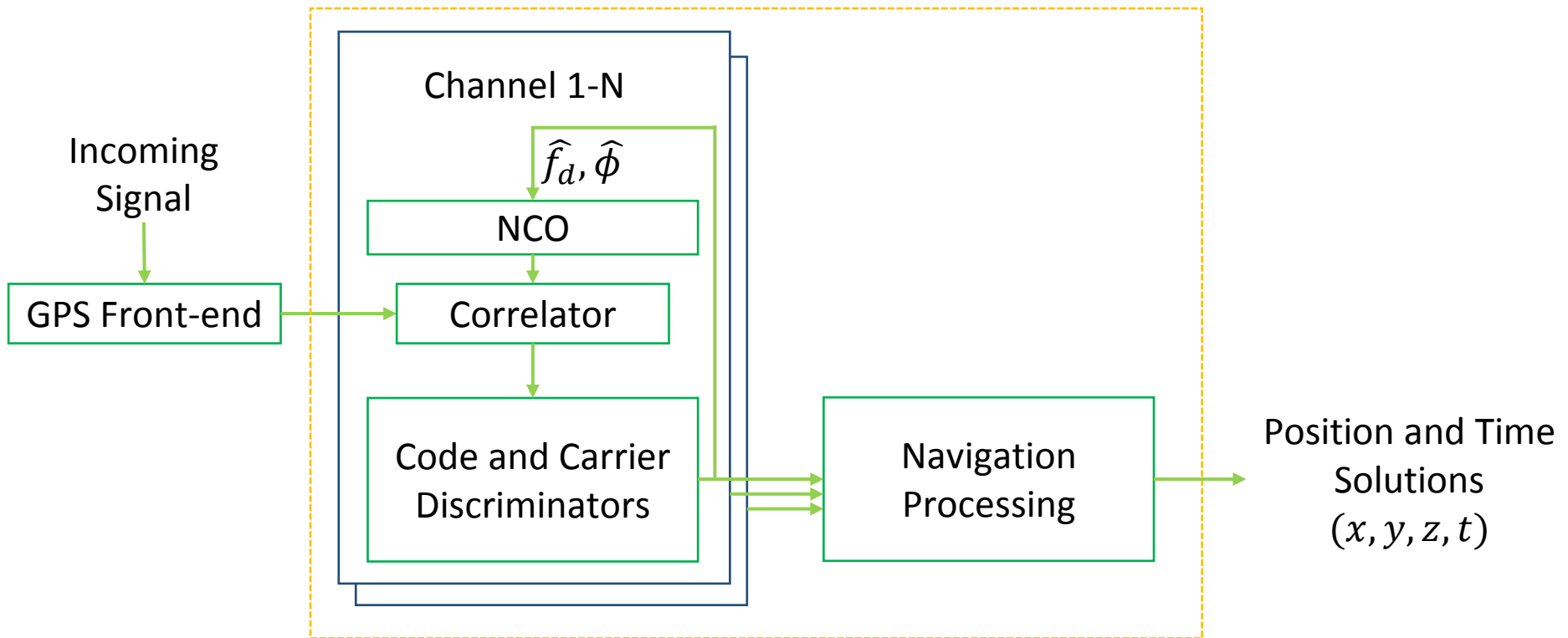
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Approach: Position-Information-Aided (P.I.A.) Vector Tracking

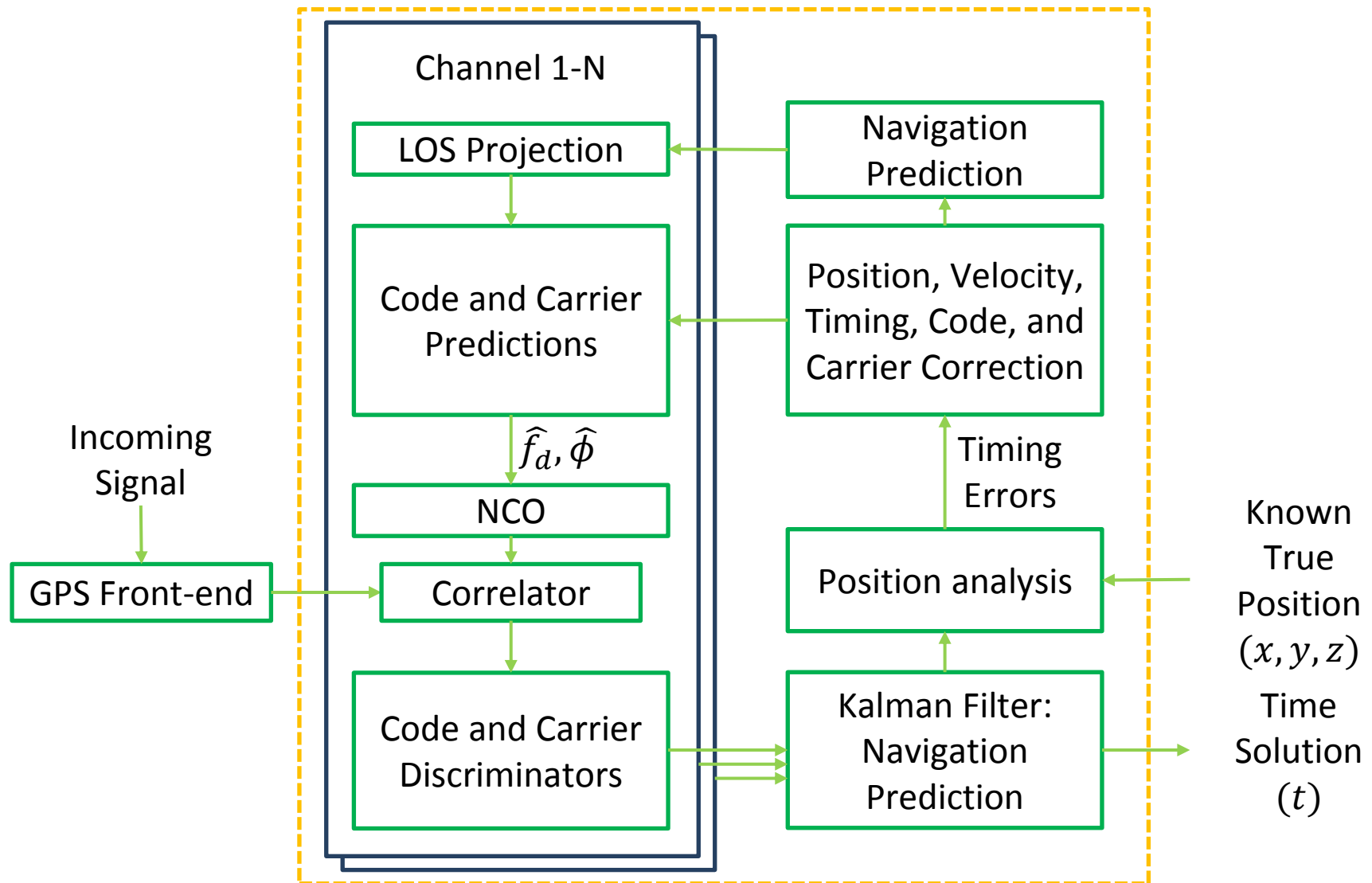
Approach:

- Vector tracking
- Reduces the search space
 - Aided by the true position
- Kalman filtering
 - Recursively predict and update the errors
- Narrowband loop filter

Scalar Tracking



Implementation: P.I.A. Vector Tracking



Implementation: Kalman Filter

- States: $\delta X, \delta V, \delta t_b, \delta t_d$
- State Transition Matrix

$$F_k = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta t & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta t & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta t & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad X_{state} = \begin{bmatrix} \delta x \\ \delta y \\ \delta z \\ \delta v_x \\ \delta v_y \\ \delta v_z \\ \delta t_b \\ \delta t_d \end{bmatrix}$$

- Predictions:
 - $\delta X_{k+1} = X_{True} - (X_k + V_k \Delta t)$
 - $\delta V_{k+1} = V_{True} - V_k$
- Calculation of receiver clock bias:

$$t_b = \frac{1}{\sum_{k=1}^K \omega_k} \sum_{k=1}^K \omega_k (\tilde{\rho}^{(k)} - |x^{(k)} - x|)$$

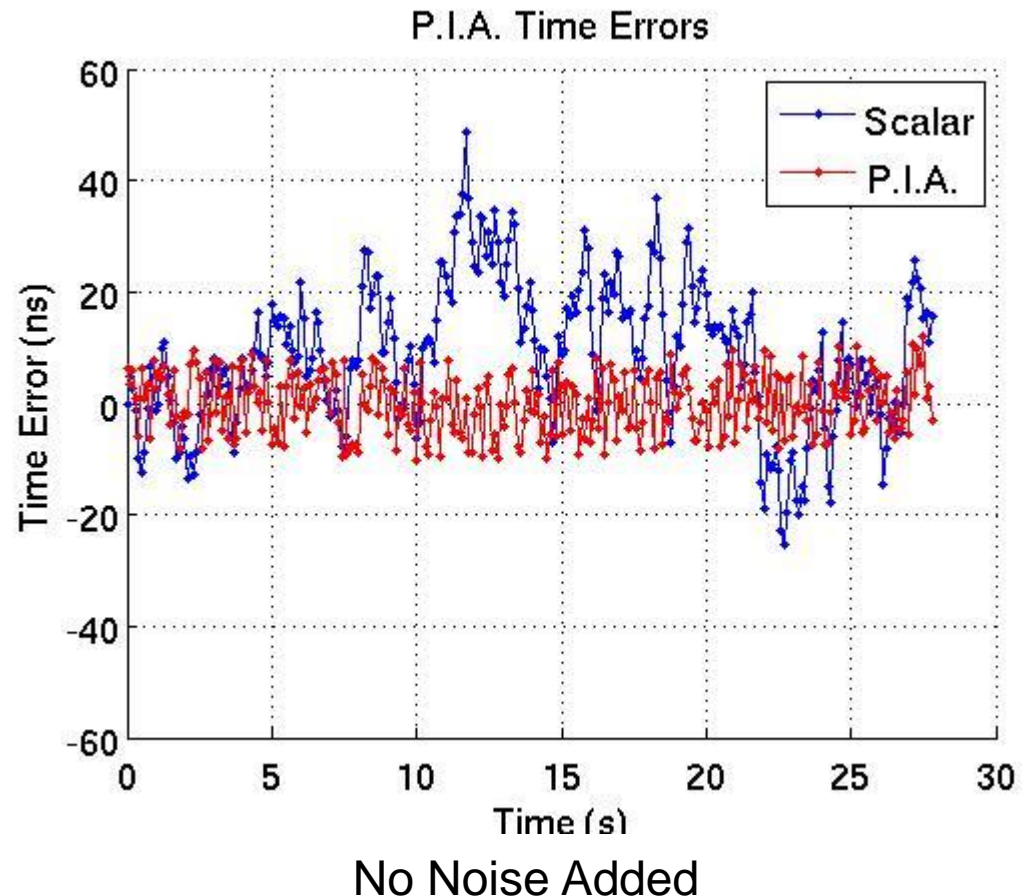
P.I.A. Vector Tracking Improves Accuracy

- Loop filter bandwidth of 5Hz for both scalar and P.I.A tracking loops.

- 9 satellites in view

Maximum errors:

- Traditional tracking
 - ~50ns
- Proposed vector tracking
 - ~15ns

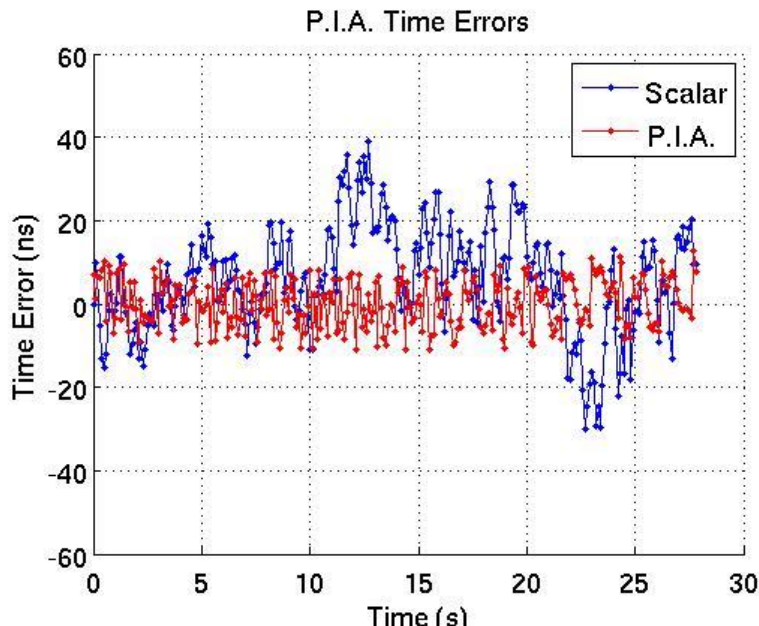


P.I.A. Tracking Increases Noise Tolerance

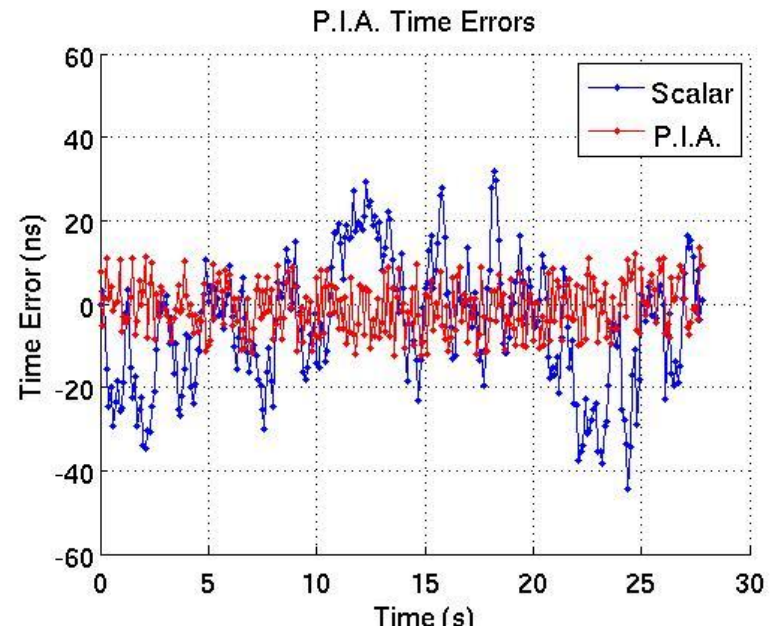
- Increased noise leads to loss of lock in scalar tracking.
- At 4 dB of additional noise, the scalar tracking was able to produce navigation bits for 4 satellites.

Noise Added	# of Satellites Tracked
0 dB	9
1 dB	8
3 dB	5
4 dB	4

1 dB Noise Added



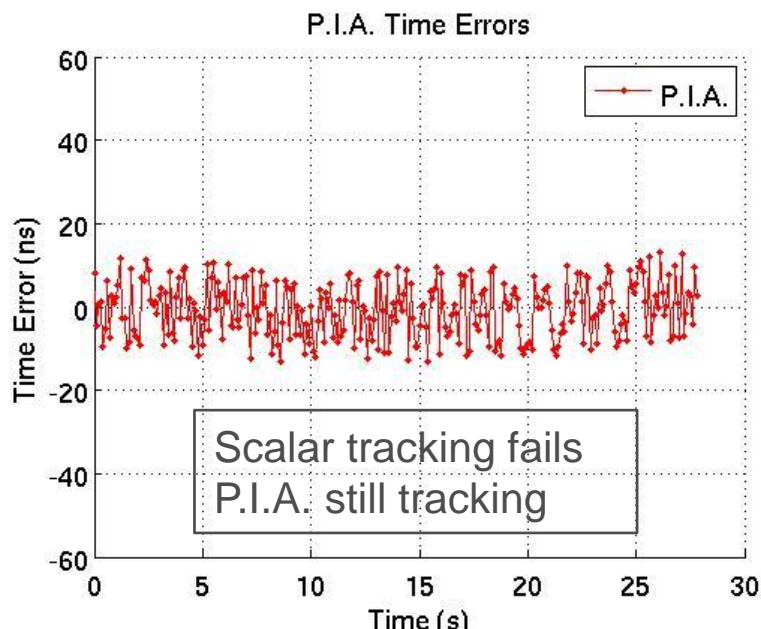
4 dB Noise Added



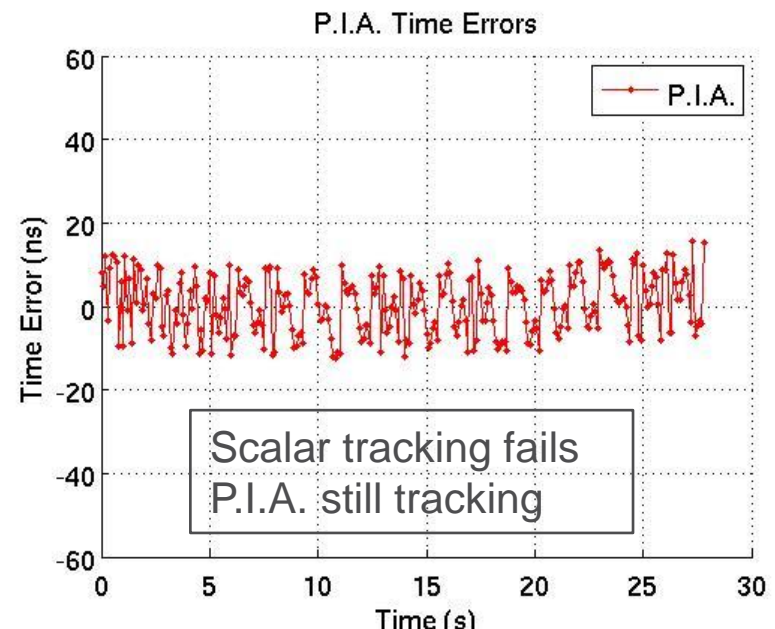
P.I.A. Tracking is Robust Against Jamming

- Scalar tracking fails at 5 dB of added noise.
- P.I.A. Vector Tracking continued to operate up until 9 dB of additional noise (5 dB more noise tolerance over scalar tracking)
- Reduces a jammer's effective radius.

5 dB Noise Added

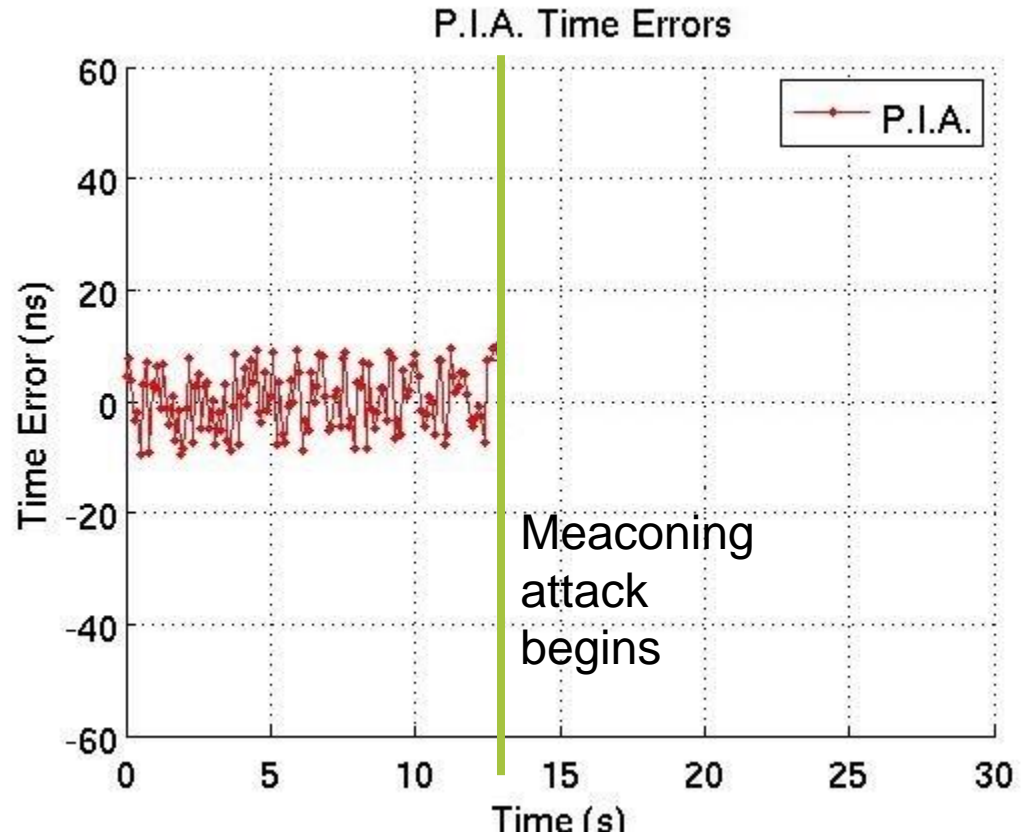


9 dB Noise Added



P.I.A. Tracking Detects Meaconing

- Meaconing: record and replay legitimate GPS signal.
- Meaconing attack simulated.
- P.I.A. Vector Tracking loop fails to converge in the event of a meaconing attack.
- 200 meter difference in known position and meaconing position.



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Conclusions

- GPS cooperative authentication
 - A modest number of low-reliable cross-check receivers outperform a high-quality reliable receiver.
 - Robustness grows exponentially with the number of cross-check receivers.
- Position-Information-Aided Vector
 - Robust against jamming (5dB more noise tolerance compared with scalar tracking);
 - Successfully detects meaconing attacks;
 - Improves the accuracy of the timing solutions (15 ns vs 50 ns).

Acknowledgement

- Prof. Jonathan Makela
- TCIPG

References

- Daniel Chou, Liang Heng, and Grace Xingxin Gao , “Robust GPS-Based Timing for Phasor Measurement Units: A Position-Information-Aided Vector Tracking Approach,” ION GNSS+ 2014, Tampa FL, Sep 2014, ***Best Presentation of the Session Award***.
- Liang Heng, Daniel Chou, and Grace Xingxin Gao , “Cooperative GPS Signal Authentication from Unreliable Peers,” ION GNSS+ 2014, Tampa FL, Sep 2014, ***Best Presentation of the Session Award***.
- Liang Heng, Jonathan Makela, Alejandro Dominguez-Garcia, Rakesh Bobba, William Sanders, and Grace Xingxin Gao, “Reliable GPS-based Timing for Power System Applications: A multi-Layered Multi-receiver Approach,” the 2014 IEEE Power and Energy Conference at Illinois (IEEE PECEI 2014), Champaign, IL, Feb 2014.
- Liang Heng, Daniel B. Work, and Grace Xingxin Gao, “Reliability from Unreliable Peers: Cooperative GNSS Authentication,” Inside GNSS Magazine, September–October 2013.
- Liang Heng, Daniel B. Work, and Grace Xingxin Gao, “GNSS Signal Authentication from Cooperative Peers,” IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems, submitted.

Backup Slides



Multi-layer Countermeasures

Signal conditioning

[C1] Check signal power

Code & carrier tracking

[C2] Cross-correlation of military P(Y) code between receivers

[C3] Narrow-band tracking loops

[C4] Multi-receiver vector tracking loops

Navigation data decoding

[C5] Check navigation data against external archives

[C6] Reverse-calculate satellite positions and compare them with navigation data

Position & time calculation

[C7] Check position solution against known PMU locations

[C8] Check time solution against learnt statistics of receiver clocks