

## Books

- B. Borden, Radar Imaging of Airborne Targets, Institute of Physics, 1999.
- C. Elachi, Spaceborne Radar Remote Sensing: Applications and Techniques, IEEE Press, New York, 1987.
- W. C. Carrara, R. G. Goodman, R. M. Majewski, Spotlight Synthetic Aperture Radar: Signal Processing Algorithms, Artech House, Boston, 1995.
- G. Franceschetti and R. Lanari, Synthetic Aperture Radar Processing, CRC Press, New York, 1999.
- L.J. Cutrona, “Synthetic Aperture Radar”, in Radar Handbook, second edition, ed. M. Skolnik, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1990.
- C.V. Jakowatz, D.E. Wahl, P.H. Eichel, D.C. Ghiglia, and P.A. Thompson, Spotlight-Mode Synthetic Aperture Radar: A Signal Processing Approach, Kluwer, Boston, 1996.
- I.G. Cumming and F.H. Wong, Digital Processing of SAR Data: Algorithms and Implementation, Artech House, 2005

# Outline

1. introduction, history, frequency bands, dB, real-aperture imaging
2. radar systems: stepped-frequency systems, I/Q demodulation
3. 1D scattering by perfect conductor
4. receiver design, matched filtering
5. ambiguity function & its properties
6. range-doppler (unfocused) imaging
7. introduction to 3D scattering
8. ISAR
9. antenna theory
10. spotlight SAR
11. stripmap SAR
12. time permitting: deramp processing, Doppler from successive pulses

# 3D Mathematical Model

- We *should* use Maxwell's equations;  
but instead we use

$$\left( \nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2(\mathbf{x})} \partial_t^2 \right) \mathcal{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{j(t, \mathbf{x})}_{\text{source}}$$

- Scattering is due to a perturbation in the wave speed  $c$ :

$$\frac{1}{c^2(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{1}{c_0^2} - \underbrace{V(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{reflectivity function}}$$

- For a moving target, use  $V(\mathbf{x}, t)$ .

## Basic facts about the wave equation

- fundamental solution  $g$

$$(\nabla^2 - c_0^{-2} \partial_t^2) g(t, \mathbf{x}) = -\delta(t) \delta(\mathbf{x})$$

$$g(t, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\delta(t - |\mathbf{x}|/c_0)}{4\pi|\mathbf{x}|} = \int \frac{e^{-i\omega(t-|\mathbf{x}|/c_0)}}{8\pi^2|\mathbf{x}|} d\omega$$

- $g(t, \mathbf{x})$  = field at  $(t, \mathbf{x})$  due to a source at the origin at time 0
- Solution of

$$(\nabla^2 - c_0^{-2} \partial_t^2) u(t, \mathbf{x}) = j(t, \mathbf{x}),$$

is

$$u(t, \mathbf{x}) = - \int g(t - t', \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) j(t', \mathbf{y}) dt' d\mathbf{y}$$

- frequency domain:  $k = \omega/c_0$

$$(\nabla^2 + k^2) G = -\delta \quad G(\omega, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{e^{ik|\mathbf{x}|}}{4\pi|\mathbf{x}|}$$

# Introduction to scattering theory

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla^2 - c^{-2}(\mathbf{x})\partial_t^2) \mathcal{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) &= j(t, \mathbf{x}) \\ (\nabla^2 - c_0^{-2}\partial_t^2) \mathcal{E}^{in}(t, \mathbf{x}) &= j(t, \mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$$

write  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}^{in} + \mathcal{E}^{sc}$ ,  $c^{-2}(\mathbf{x}) = c_0^{-2} - V(\mathbf{x})$ , subtract:

$$(\nabla^2 - \partial_t^2) \mathcal{E}^{sc}(t, \mathbf{x}) = -V(\mathbf{x})\partial_t^2 \mathcal{E}(t, \mathbf{x})$$

use fundamental solution  $\Rightarrow$

$$\mathcal{E}^{sc}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \int g(t - \tau, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z})V(\mathbf{z})\partial_\tau^2 \mathcal{E}(\tau, \mathbf{z})d\tau d\mathbf{z}.$$

*Lippman-Schwinger integral equation*

frequency domain Lippman-Schwinger equation:

$$E^{sc}(\omega, \mathbf{x}) = - \int G(\omega, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z})V(\mathbf{z})\omega^2 E(\omega, \mathbf{z})d\mathbf{z}$$

single-scattering or *Born* approximation

$$\mathcal{E}^{sc}(t, \mathbf{x}) \approx \mathcal{E}_B^{sc} := \int g(t - \tau, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}) V(\mathbf{z}) \partial_\tau^2 \mathcal{E}^{in}(\tau, \mathbf{z}) d\tau d\mathbf{z}$$

useful: makes inverse problem linear

not necessarily a good approximation!

In the frequency domain,

$$E_B^{sc}(\omega, \mathbf{x}) = - \int \frac{e^{ik|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{z}|}}{4\pi|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{z}|} V(\mathbf{z}) \omega^2 E^{in}(\omega, \mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z}$$

$E^{in}$  is obtained by solving  $(\nabla^2 + k^2)E^{in} = J$

For now, suppose  $J(\omega, \mathbf{x}) = P(\omega)\delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^0) \quad \Rightarrow$

$$E^{in}(\omega, \mathbf{x}) = - \int G(\omega, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) P(\omega) \delta(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}^0) dt' d\mathbf{y} = -P(\omega) \frac{e^{ik|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^0|}}{4\pi|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0|}$$

Then the scattered field back at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  is

$$E_B^{sc}(\omega, \mathbf{x}^0) = P(\omega) \omega^2 \int \frac{e^{2ik|\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|}}{(4\pi)^2 |\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|^2} V(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z}$$

In the time domain this is

$$\mathcal{E}_B^{sc}(t, \mathbf{x}^0) = \int \frac{e^{-i\omega(t-2|\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|/c)}}{2\pi(4\pi|\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|)^2} k^2 P(\omega) V(\mathbf{z}) d\omega d\mathbf{z}$$

Note  $1/R^2$  geometrical decay  $\Rightarrow$  power decays like  $1/R^4$

## Matched filtering

$$\begin{aligned}\eta(t, \mathbf{x}^0) &\approx \int p^*(t' - t) \mathcal{E}_B^{sc}(t', \mathbf{x}^0) dt' \\ &= \int \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int e^{i\omega'(t' - t)} P(\omega') d\omega' \right) \\ &\quad \cdot \int \frac{e^{-i\omega(t' - 2|\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|/c)}}{2\pi(4\pi|\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|)^2} k^2 P(\omega) V(\mathbf{z}) d\omega d\mathbf{z} dt' \\ &\quad \vdots \quad \text{do } t' \text{ and } \omega' \text{ integrations}\end{aligned}$$

$$= \int \frac{e^{-i\omega(t - 2|\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|/c)}}{2\pi(4\pi|\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|)^2} k^2 |P(\omega)|^2 V(\mathbf{z}) d\omega d\mathbf{z}$$

Effect of matched filter is to replace  $P(\omega)$  by  $|P(\omega)|^2$ .

## Far-field expansion

$$|z| \ll |x^0| \quad \Rightarrow \quad |x^0 - z| = |x^0| - \widehat{x^0} \cdot z + O(|x^0|^{-1})$$

where  $\widehat{x} = x/|x|$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} |x^0 - z| &= \sqrt{(x^0 - z) \cdot (x^0 - z)} = \sqrt{|x^0|^2 - 2x^0 \cdot z + |z|^2} \\ &= |x^0| \sqrt{1 - 2\frac{x^0 \cdot z}{|x^0|^2} + \frac{|z|^2}{|x^0|^2}} \quad \text{use } \sqrt{1 - a} = 1 - \frac{a}{2} + \dots \\ &= |x^0| \left( 1 - \frac{\widehat{x^0} \cdot z}{|x^0|} + O(|x^0|^{-2}) \right) \\ &= |x^0| - \widehat{x^0} \cdot z + O\left(\frac{|z|}{|x^0|}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Note: Whether  $|z| \ll |x^0|$  depends on location of origin of coordinates.

$$\frac{e^{ik|x^0-z|}}{|x^0 - z|} = \frac{e^{ik|x^0|}}{|x^0|} e^{-ik\widehat{x^0} \cdot z} \left( 1 + O\left(\frac{|z|}{|x^0|}\right) \right) \left( 1 + O\left(\frac{k|z|^2}{|x^0|}\right) \right)$$

## Far-field approximation to data

applies to smallish target

(Born-approximated) output of correlation receiver is:

$$\eta_B(t, \mathbf{x}^0) = \int \frac{e^{-i\omega(t-2|\mathbf{x}^0-\mathbf{z}|/c)}}{2\pi(4\pi|\mathbf{x}^0 - \mathbf{z}|)^2} k^2 |P(\omega)|^2 V(\mathbf{z}) d\omega d\mathbf{z}$$

put origin of coordinates in target, use far-field expansion  $\Rightarrow$

$$\eta_B(t, \mathbf{x}^0) \approx \frac{1}{32\pi^2|\mathbf{x}^0|^2} \int e^{-i\omega(t-2|\mathbf{x}^0|/c + 2\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0} \cdot \mathbf{z}/c)} k^2 |P(\omega)|^2 V(\mathbf{z}) d\omega d\mathbf{z}$$

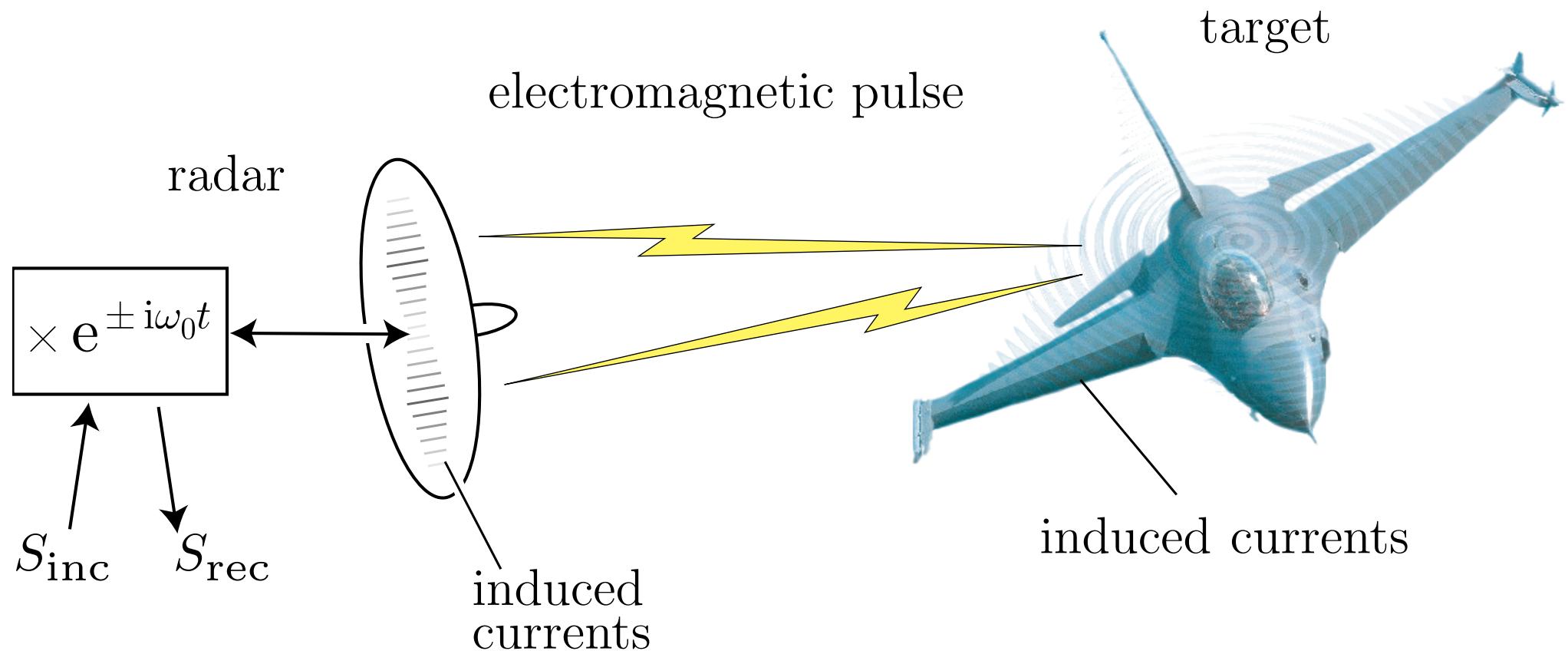
in the frequency domain:

$$D_B(\omega, \mathbf{x}^0) \approx \frac{e^{2ik|\mathbf{x}^0|}}{32\pi^2|\mathbf{x}^0|^2} k^2 |P(\omega)|^2 \underbrace{\int e^{2ik\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0} \cdot \mathbf{z}} V(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z}}_{\mathcal{F}[V](2k\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0}) !}$$

# Outline

1. introduction, history, frequency bands, dB, real-aperture imaging
2. radar systems: stepped-frequency systems, I/Q demodulation
3. 1D scattering by perfect conductor
4. receiver design, matched filtering
5. ambiguity function & its properties
6. range-doppler (unfocused) imaging
7. introduction to 3D scattering
8. ISAR
9. antenna theory
10. spotlight SAR
11. stripmap SAR
12. time permitting: deramp processing, Doppler from successive pulses

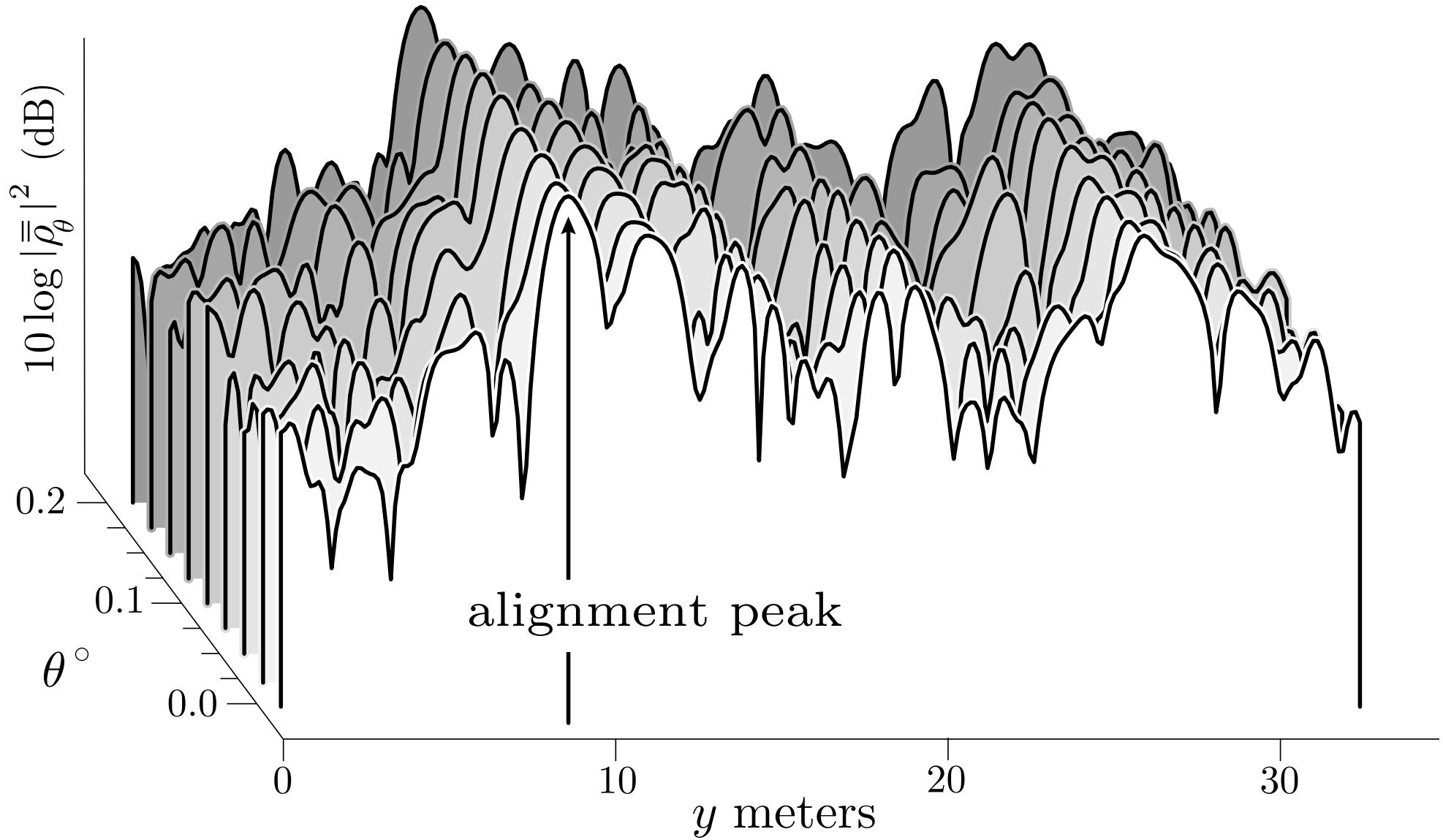
# Airborne targets



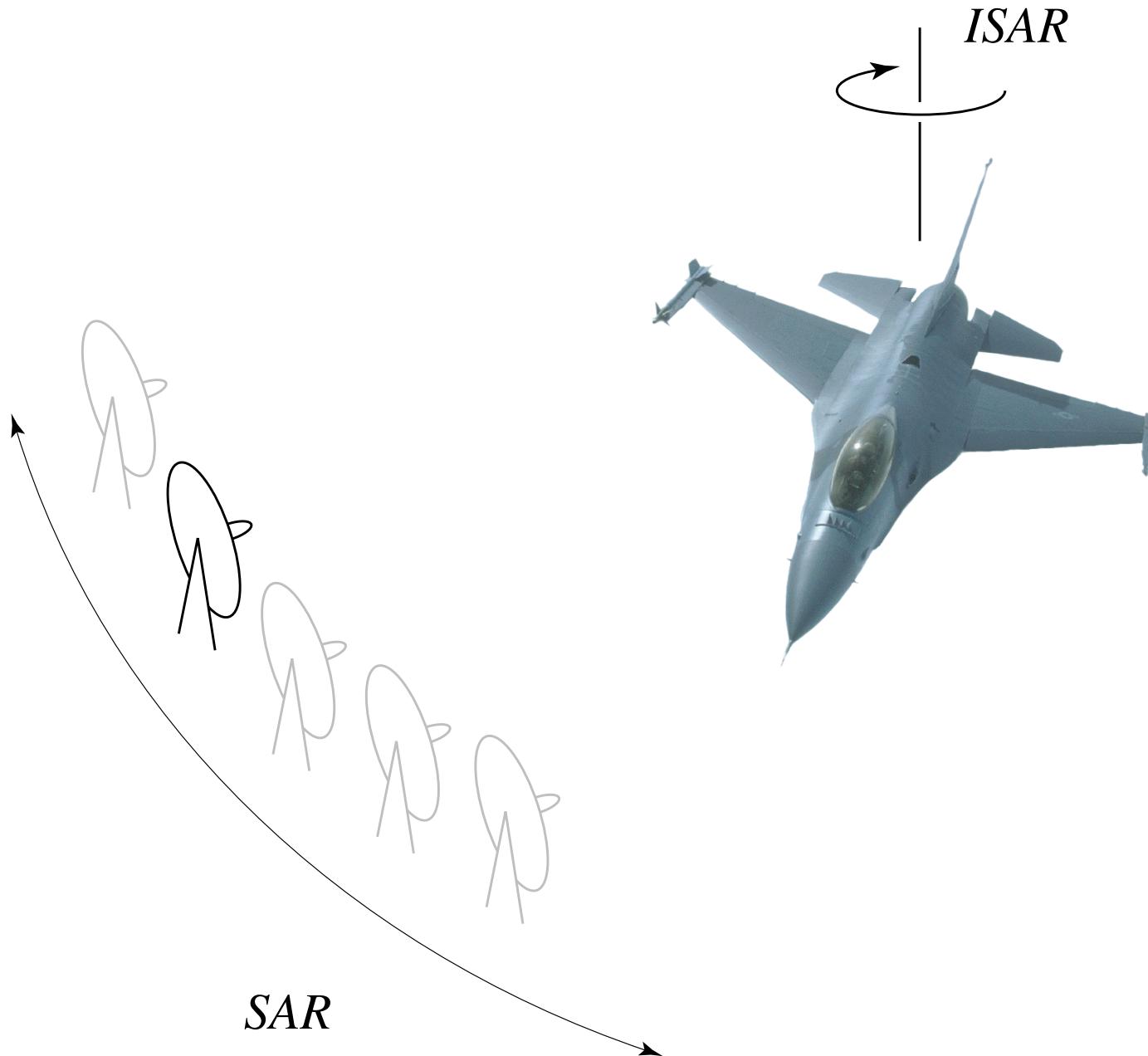
## Inverse Synthetic Aperture Radar (ISAR)

- fixed radar, moving target (usually airplane or ship)
- transmit pulse train
- typical pulse length  $\approx 10^{-4}$  sec,  
rotation rate  $\Omega = 10^\circ/\text{sec} \approx 1/6 \text{ R/sec}$ , target radius  $\approx 10\text{m} \Rightarrow$   
distance traveled during pulse  $\approx 10^{-4}\text{m} \Rightarrow$  start-stop approximation
- for airborne target, measurements from  $n$ th pulse contain no  
reflections from earlier pulses
- take out translational motion via tracking and *range alignment*,  
leaving only rotational motion

# Range alignment



# ISAR vs SAR



# Mathematics of ISAR

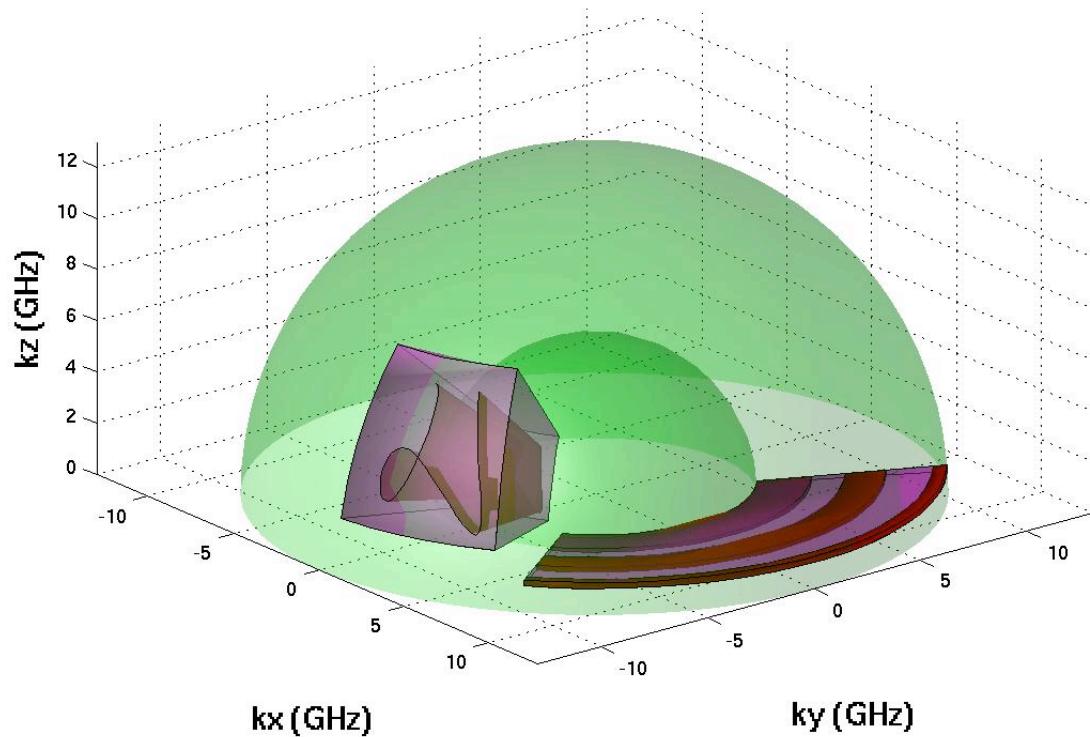
at start of  $n$ th pulse,  $V(\mathbf{x}) = q(\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\mathbf{x})$  where  $\mathcal{O}$  is an orthogonal matrix

For example: if radar is in plane  $\perp$  to axis of rotation (“turntable geometry”),

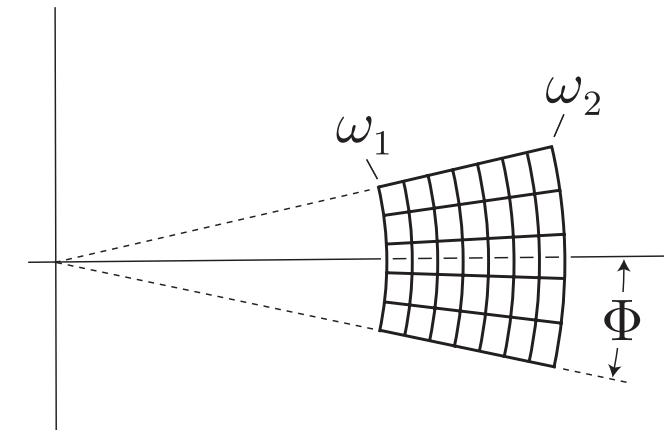
$$\mathcal{O}(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} D_B(\omega, \theta_n) &\approx \frac{e^{2ik|\mathbf{x}^0|}}{32\pi^2|\mathbf{x}^0|^2} k^2 |P(\omega)|^2 \int e^{2ik\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0} \cdot \mathbf{z}} \underbrace{q(\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\mathbf{z})}_{\mathbf{y}} d\mathbf{z} \\ &\quad (\text{use } \mathbf{x}^0 \cdot \mathcal{O}^{-1}(\theta_n)\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\mathbf{x}^0 \cdot \mathbf{y}) \\ &= \frac{e^{2ik|\mathbf{x}^0|}}{32\pi^2|\mathbf{x}^0|^2} k^2 |P(\omega)|^2 \underbrace{\int e^{2ik \mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0} \cdot \mathbf{y}} V(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}}_{\mathcal{F}[q](2k\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0})} ! \end{aligned}$$

# Region in Fourier space where we have data



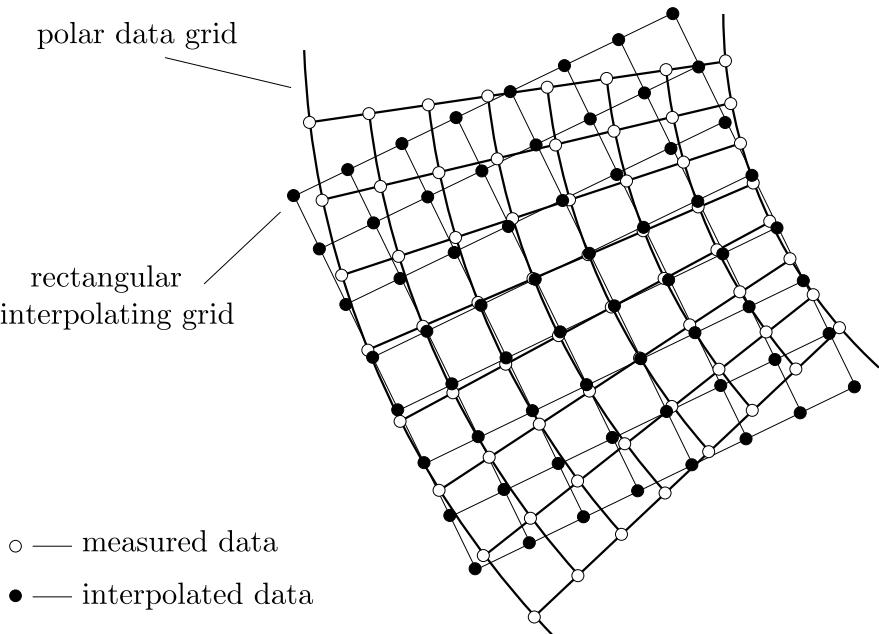
The backhoe data dome



$\Omega$  (turntable geometry)

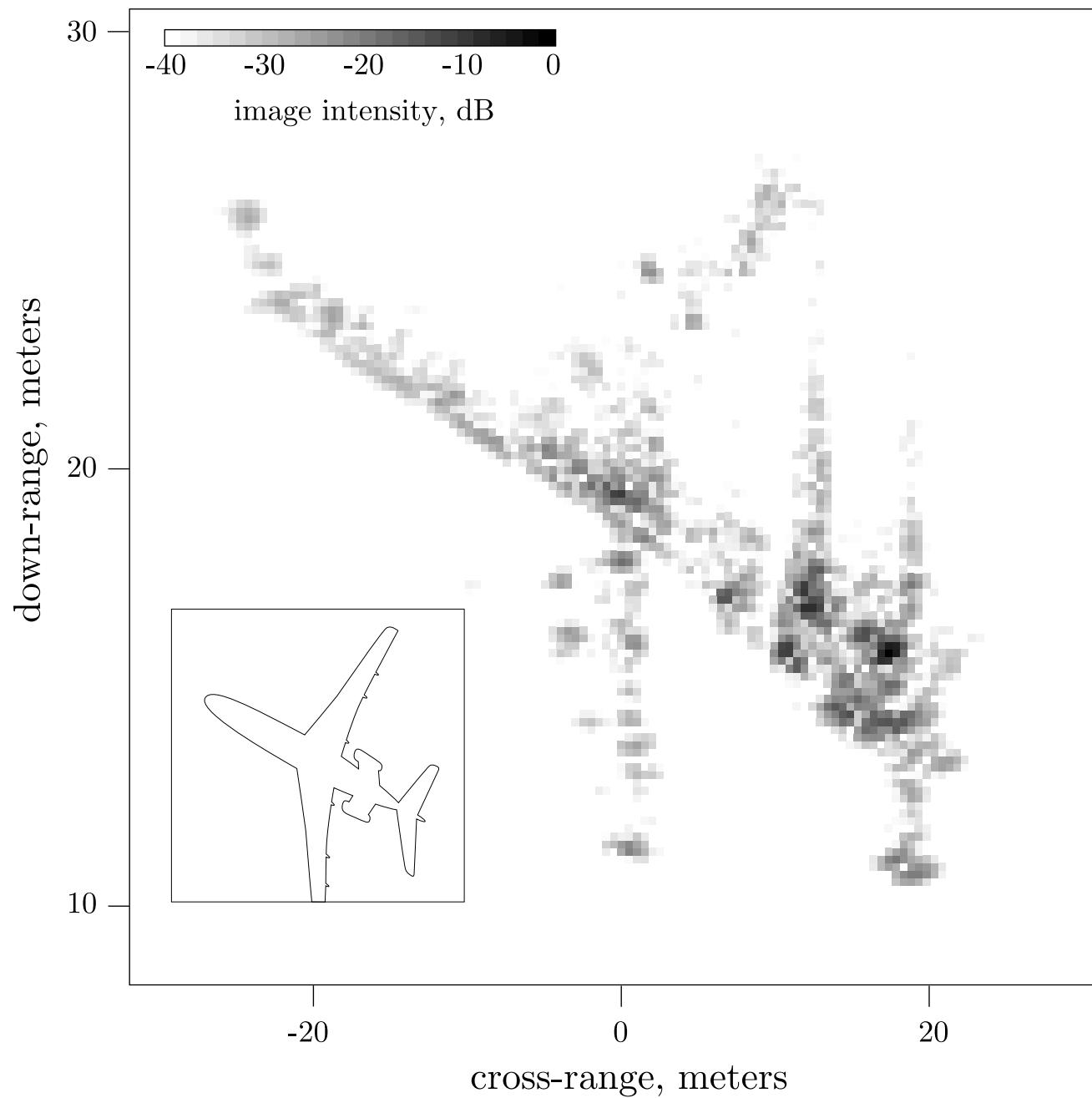
# Polar Format Algorithm (PFA)

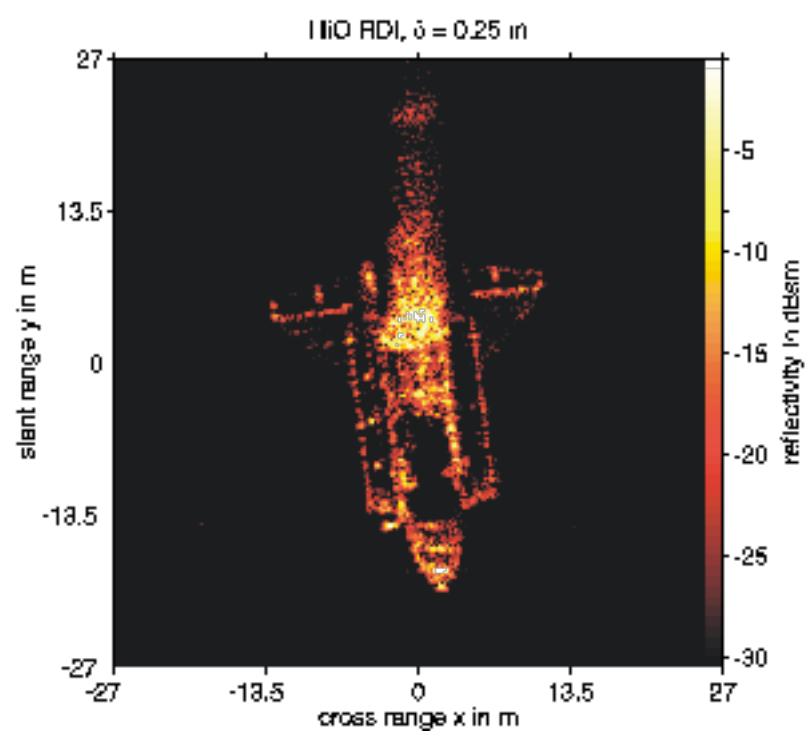
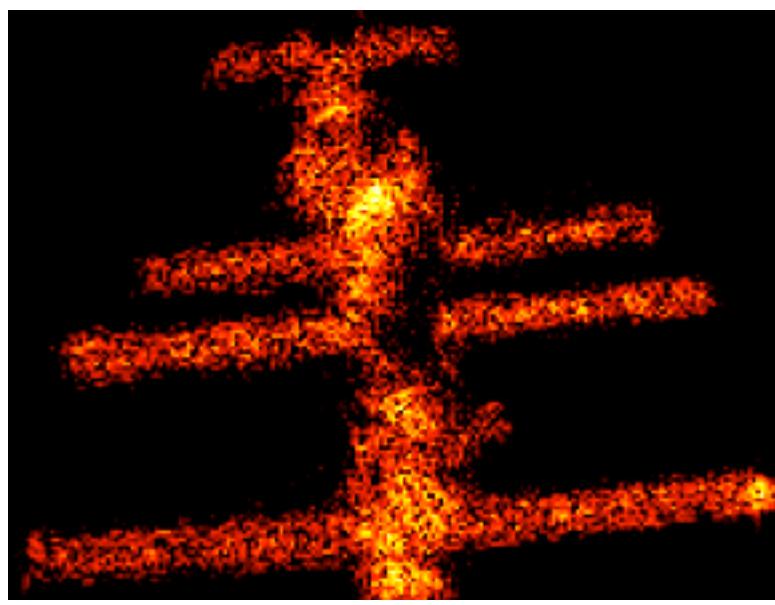
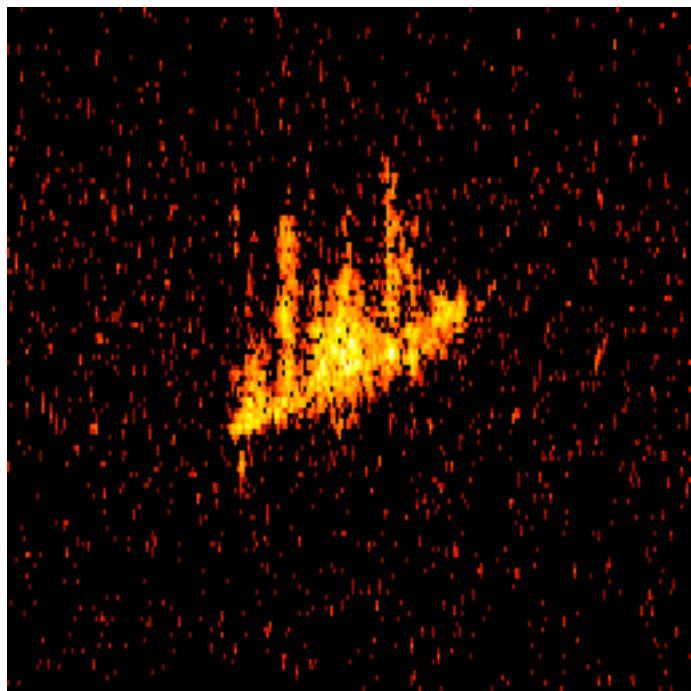
applies to turntable geometry, frequency-domain data



1. interpolate to rectangular grid
2. use 2D Fast Fourier Transform

# An ISAR image of a Boeing 727 taking off from LAX

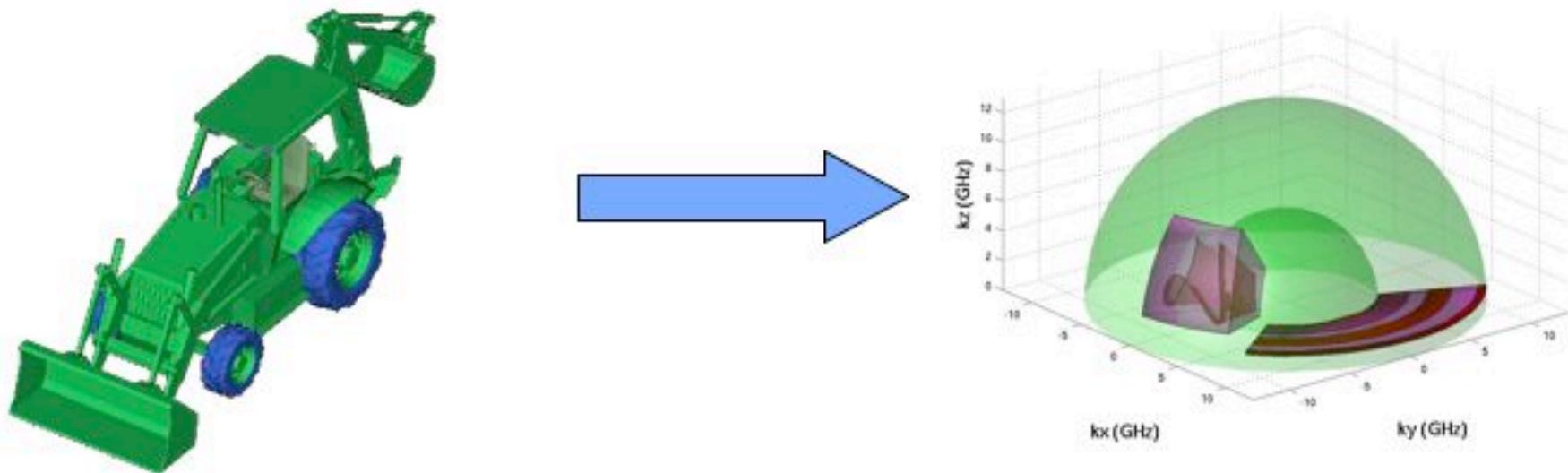


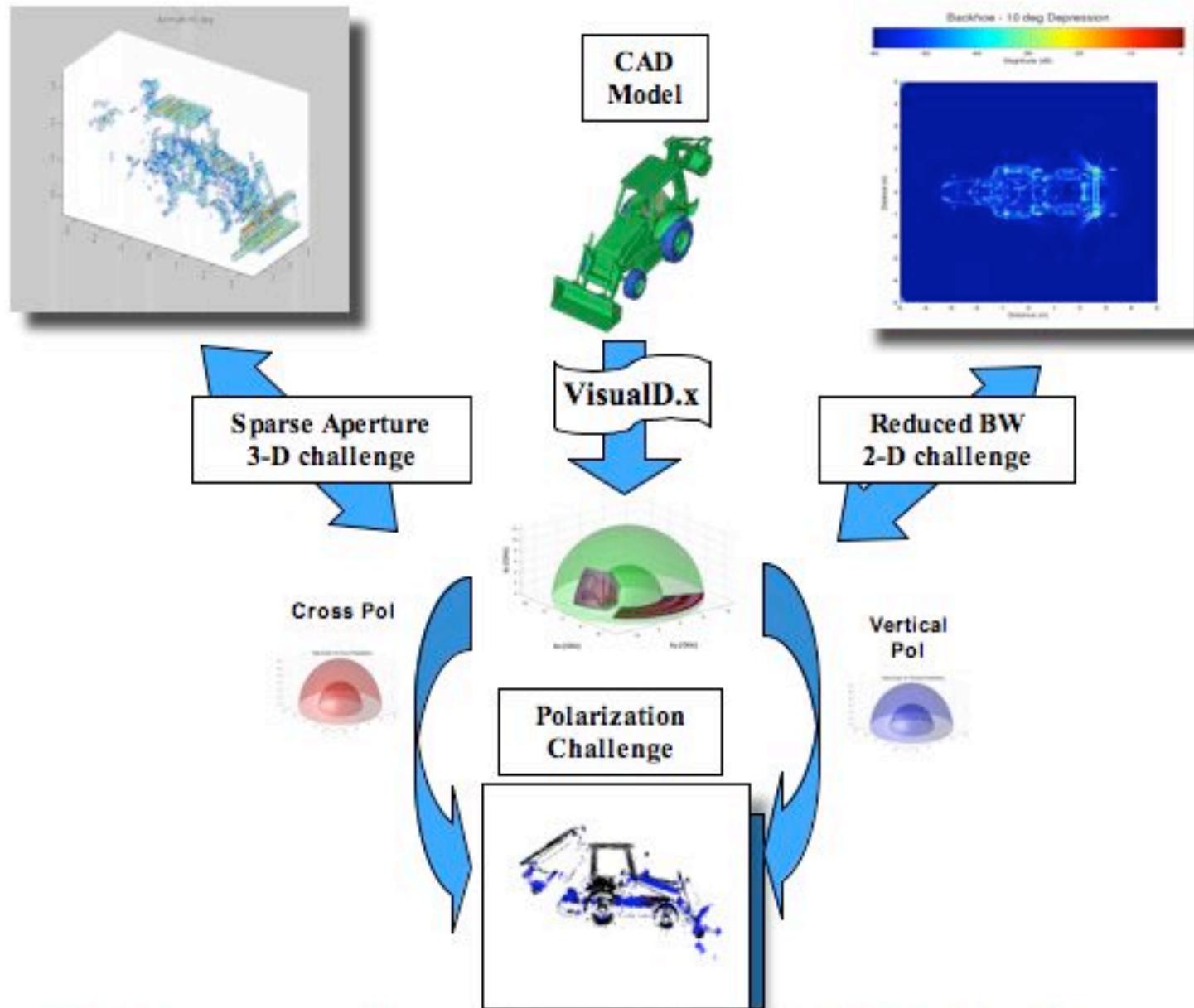


Mir



# *Backhoe Sample Public Release VISUAL-D Challenge Problem*





The material on this DVD was made possible with help from the following VISUAL-D DARPA seedling team members and their affiliations: Gerard Titi of DARPA; Edmund Zelnio, Ronald Dilsavor, Michael Minardi, Kiranmai Naidu, Tom Majumder, Steve Sawtelle and 2nd Lt. Bill Keichel of AFRL/SNAS; Rhonda Vickery and John Nehrbass of ASC/HPTI; Wayne Williams, Eric Keydel, Luke Lin, and Rajan Bhalla, of SAIC-Champaign and SAIC-Ann Arbor; Joe Burns of Altarum; Lee Potter, Randy Moses, and Emre Ertin of the Ohio State University; Donna Fitzgerald and Dave Doty of General Dynamics; and Leroy Gorham of MRC.

# ISAR Resolution – Notation

Assume turntable geometry

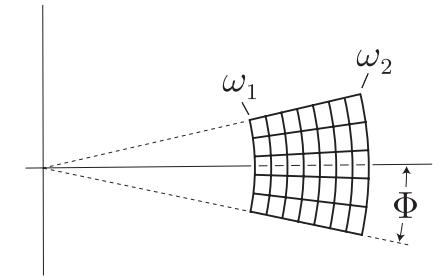
Take  $\mathbf{x}^0 = (1, 0, 0)$ , write  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_\theta = \mathcal{O}(\theta)\mathbf{x}^0$ .

$$\tilde{D}(k, \theta) = \int e^{-2ik(y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta)} q(y_1, y_2, y_3) dy_1 dy_2 dy_3$$
$$\int e^{-2ik(y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta)} \underbrace{\int q(y_1, y_2, y_3) dy_3}_{\tilde{q}(y_1, y_2)} dy_1 dy_2$$

get 2D image of  $\tilde{q}$  = target projected onto plane containing radar

# ISAR Resolution, continued

$$\tilde{D}(k, \theta) = \chi_{\Omega}(k \hat{e}_{\theta}) \mathcal{F}[q](k \hat{e}_{\theta})$$



to form image, take 2D inverse Fourier transform

$$\begin{aligned}
 I(\mathbf{x}) &= \int e^{i\mathbf{x} \cdot k \hat{e}_{\theta}} \tilde{D}(k, \theta) k dk d\theta = \int e^{i\mathbf{x} \cdot k \hat{e}_{\theta}} \int_{\Omega} e^{-i\mathbf{y} \cdot k \hat{e}_{\theta}} \tilde{q}(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y} k dk d\theta \\
 &= \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} \int e^{i(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot k \hat{e}_{\theta}} k dk d\theta}_{K(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})} \tilde{q}(\mathbf{y}) d^2 \mathbf{y}
 \end{aligned}$$



point spread function (PSF), imaging kernel, ambiguity function

# ISAR Resolution: analysis of PSF

$$K(\mathbf{z}) = \int_{\Omega} e^{i\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{k} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\theta}} k dk d\theta$$

Take  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\theta} = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) \approx (1, \theta)$  (small-angle approx.)

$$\mathbf{z} = r(\cos \psi, \sin \psi) \quad b = k_2 - k_1 \quad k_c = \omega_c/c$$

## Down-range resolution

$$K(r, 0) \approx \frac{2\Phi}{i} \frac{d}{dr} \left[ e^{ik_c r} \frac{b}{2} \text{sinc}(br/2) \right]$$

$$K(r, 0) \approx b\omega_c \Phi e^{ik_c r} \text{sinc} \frac{br}{2}$$

down-range resolution is  $4\pi/b$

note oscillatory factor

# Cross-range Resolution

$$K(0, r) \approx 2bk_c\Phi \operatorname{sinc}\left(\frac{br\Phi}{2}\right) \operatorname{sinc}(k_cr\Phi)$$

$$k_c \gg b \Rightarrow$$

$$K(r, 0) \approx 2bk_c\Phi \operatorname{sinc}(k_cr\Phi)$$

cross-range resolution is  $2\pi/(k_c\Phi)$

# ISAR in the time domain

$$D_B(\omega, \theta_n) \approx \frac{e^{2ik|\mathbf{x}^0|}}{32\pi^2|\mathbf{x}^0|^2} k^2 |P(\omega)|^2 \underbrace{\int e^{2ik\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0} \cdot \mathbf{y}} q(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}}_{\mathcal{F}[q](2k\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0})}$$

↓ Fourier transform

$$\eta_B(t, \theta_n) \propto \int \int e^{-i\omega(t-2|\mathbf{x}^0|/c+2\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0} \cdot \mathbf{y}/c)} \omega^2 |P(\omega)|^2 d\omega q(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$

$$\eta_B \left( t + \frac{2|\mathbf{x}^0|}{c}, \theta_n \right) = \underbrace{\int \int e^{-i\omega(t+2\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0} \cdot \mathbf{y}/c)} \omega^2 |P(\omega)|^2 d\omega q(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}}_{\int \delta(s-\tau) \underbrace{\int e^{-i\omega(t-s)} \omega^2 |P(\omega)|^2 d\omega ds}_{\chi(t-s)}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\eta_B \left( t + \frac{2|\mathbf{x}^0|}{c}, \theta_n \right) &= \int \chi(t-s) \underbrace{\int \delta \left( s - \frac{2\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0}}{c} \cdot \mathbf{y} \right) q(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}}_{\mathcal{R}[q] \left( s, \frac{2\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0}}{c} \right)} ds \\
&= \chi * \mathcal{R}[q] \left( \frac{2\mathcal{O}(\theta_n)\widehat{\mathbf{x}^0}}{c} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{R}[q](s, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}) = \int \delta(s - \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \cdot \mathbf{x}) q(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$  is the *Radon transform*

For ISAR, use waveform so that  $\chi \approx \delta$  (high range-resolution waveform)

# Radon transform

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_{\hat{\mu}}[q](s) = \mathcal{R}[q](s, \hat{\mu}) &= \int \delta(s - \hat{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{x}) q(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \int_{s=\hat{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{x}} q(\mathbf{x}) d^n \mathbf{x} \\ &= \int_{\mathbf{x}' \perp \hat{\mu}} q(s\hat{\mu} + \mathbf{x}') d^{n-1} \mathbf{x}'\end{aligned}$$

## Properties

- Projection-slice theorem:

$$\mathcal{F}_{s \rightarrow \sigma}(\mathcal{R}_{\hat{\mu}}[f])(\sigma) = (2\pi)^{(n-1)/2} \mathcal{F}_n[f](\sigma \hat{\mu})$$

↑

1D Fourier transform

↑

$n$ D Fourier transform

here Fourier transforms have symmetric  $1/\sqrt{2\pi}$  convention

- Filtered backprojection (FBP):

$$(\mathcal{R}^\# h) * f = \mathcal{R}^\# (h * \mathcal{R}[f])$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \nearrow & \uparrow \\ \text{backprojection operator} & & \text{filter} \end{array}$$

where  $\mathcal{R}^\#$  operates on  $h(s, \mu)$  via

$$(\mathcal{R}^\# h)(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{S^{n-1}} h(\mathbf{x} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}) d\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$$

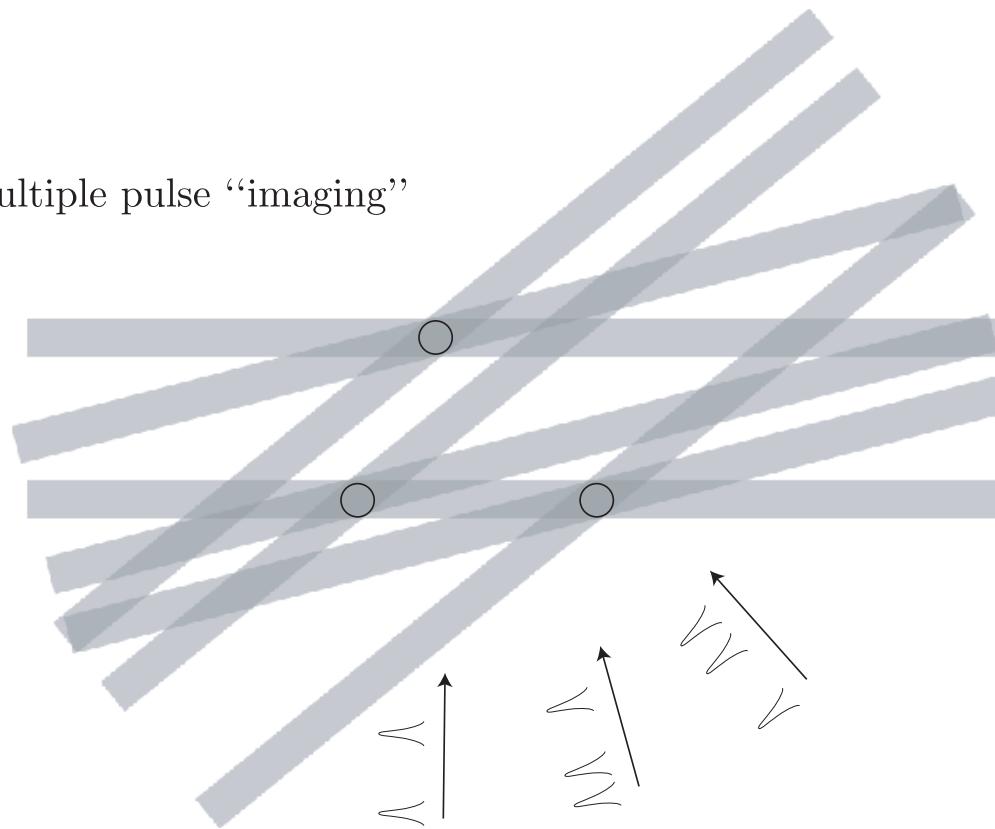
- $\mathcal{R}^\#$  integrates over part of  $h$  corresponding to all lines through  $\mathbf{x}$
- $\mathcal{R}^\#$  is the formal adjoint of  $\mathcal{R}$ , i.e.,  
 $\langle \mathcal{R}f, h \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R} \times S^{n-1})} = \langle f, \mathcal{R}^\# h \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}$

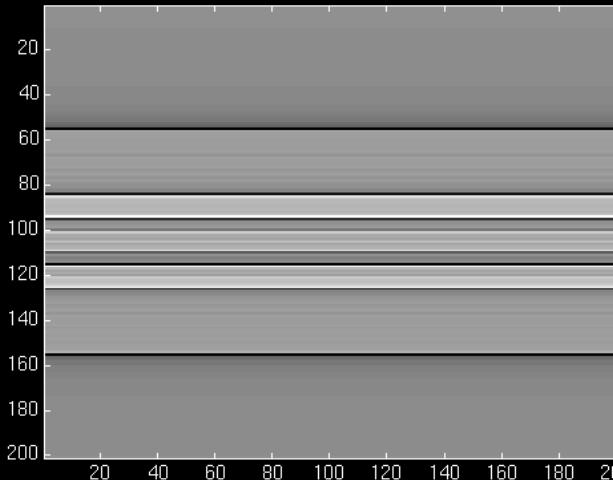
# Radon transform



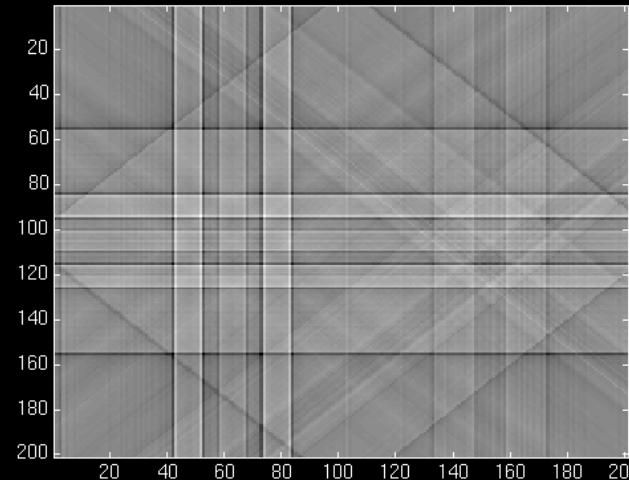
Single pulse ambiguity

Multiple pulse “imaging”

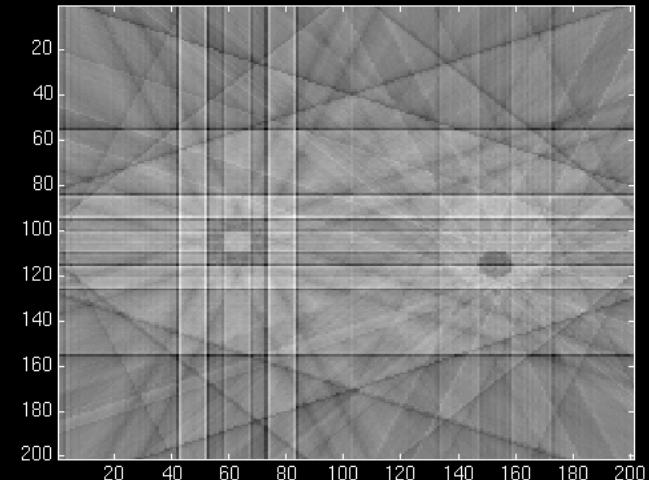




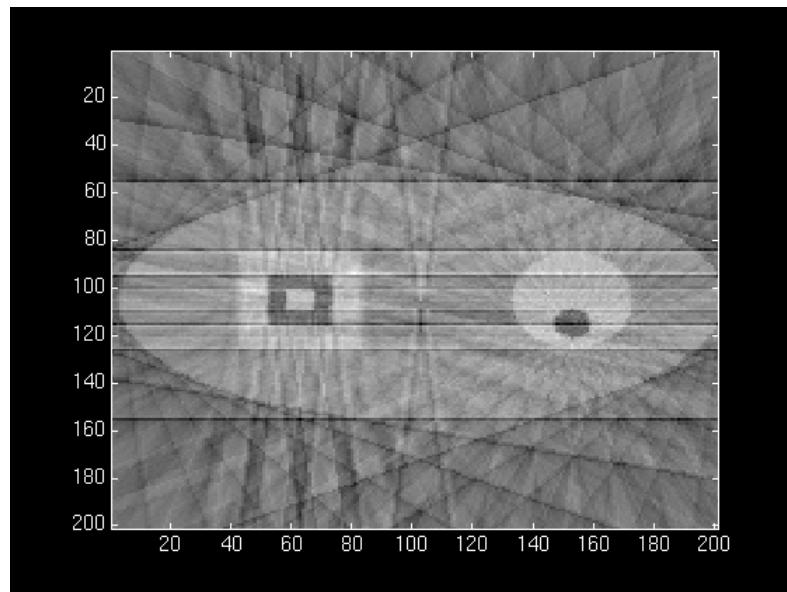
1 view



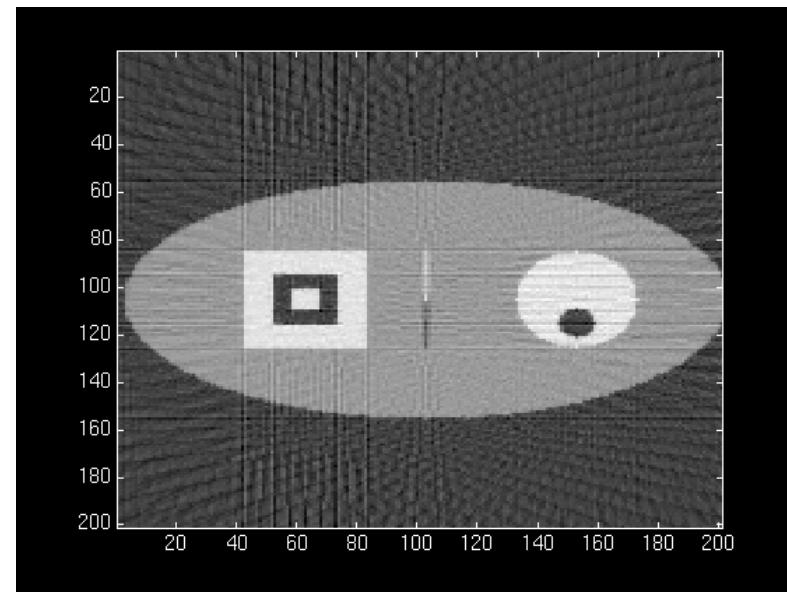
4 views



8 views



16 views



60 views

## ISAR summary

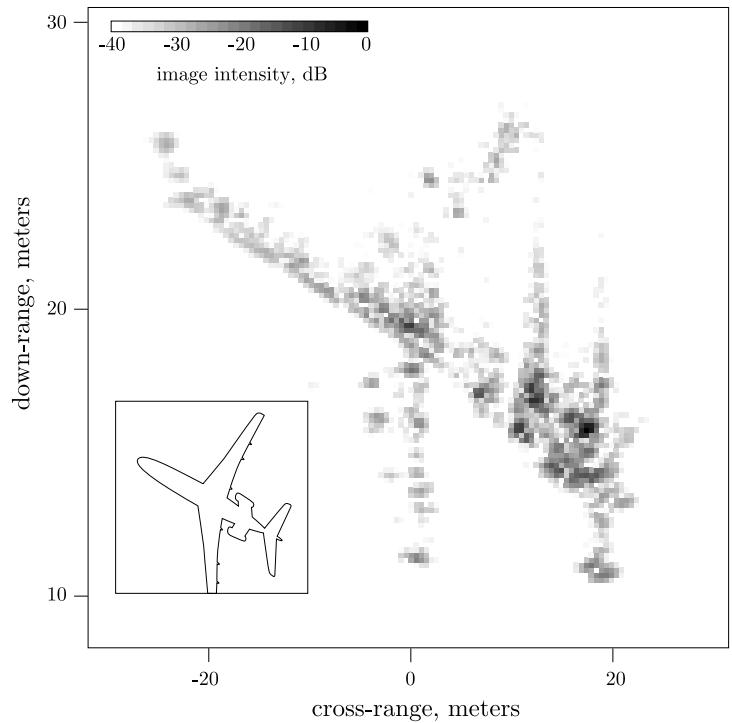
- use high range-resolution waveform (broad frequency band)
- time-domain formulation gives rise to Radon transform
  - invert via FBP or ...
- frequency-domain formulation gives Fourier transform of target on polar grid
  - interpolate to cartesian grid, use FFT
- can make images from an aperture of a few degrees because of high carrier frequency

ISAR is sometimes called range-doppler imaging

Doppler shift can be *inferred* from phase of successive measurements

# Where more work is needed on ISAR

- model; Born approximation leaves out:
  - multiple scattering
  - shadowing
  - creeping waves
- find target/sensor motion
- 3D imaging
- template library look-up
- fast algorithms



# Outline

1. introduction, history, frequency bands, dB, real-aperture imaging
2. radar systems: stepped-frequency systems, I/Q demodulation
3. 1D scattering by perfect conductor
4. receiver design, matched filtering
5. ambiguity function & its properties
6. range-doppler (unfocused) imaging
7. introduction to 3D scattering
8. ISAR
9. antenna theory
10. spotlight SAR
11. stripmap SAR
12. time permitting: deramp processing, Doppler from successive pulses