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Expression for the radius r of an AR(2) process used to model a wireless communication channel

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I. INTRODUCTION

This report applies to the context of the Kalman filter (KF) estimation of a flat fading channel with slow fading; i.e., normalized Doppler frequencies less than 10^{-2} . Note that this context corresponds to many practical applications, including vehicular applications. The principle of the channel estimation is to track the complex baseband equivalent flat fading coefficient, called the channel complex gain (CG), which will be denoted by α .

The design of the KF requires a linear recursive state-space model to be selected for the parameter to be tracked; i.e., α here. In this report, the selected state-space model is the conventional second order autoregressive model AR(2) [1]–[3]. Note that because the true CG does not follow a linear recursive model, the AR(2) model is considered to be an approximation.

The aim of this report is to obtain, in this context, the expression for the pole radius r of an AR(2) as a function of the state noise variance and the resonance frequency of the AR(2).

A. True channel model

We consider the estimation of a flat Rayleigh fading channel. The observation is that ¹

$$y_{(k)} = \alpha_{(k)} + w_{(k)},\tag{1}$$

1

where k is the time index, $w_{(k)}$ is a zero-mean additive white circular complex Gaussian noise with variance σ_w^2 , and $\alpha_{(k)}$ is a zero-mean correlated circular complex Gaussian channel gain with variance σ_α^2 . Note that this report is not limited to the conventional Jakes' Doppler spectrum for α [5].

B. Approximated channel model

The second order autoregressive AR(2) process $\tilde{\alpha}_{(k)}$ that is used to approximate the true CG $\alpha_{(k)}$ is:

$$\tilde{\alpha}_{(k)} = a_1 \tilde{\alpha}_{(k-1)} + a_2 \tilde{\alpha}_{(k-2)} + u_{(k)} \tag{2}$$

where $u_{(k)}$ is a white circular complex Gaussian state noise with variance $\sigma_u^2 = R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[0] - a_1 R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[1] - a_2 R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[2]$, with $R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[p]$ the autocorrelation coefficient of $\tilde{\alpha}$ for a lag p. This expression is calculated using Yule-Walker equations [6]. It is classically assumed that $R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[0] = \sigma_{\alpha}^2$ (i.e., $\tilde{\alpha}$) has the same power as α . These equations also give $R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[1] = \frac{a_1 R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[0]}{1 - a_2}$ and $R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[2] = a_1 R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[1] + a_2 R_{\tilde{\alpha}}[0]$. Using these expressions, we obtain σ_u^2 only as a function of a_1 and a_2 :

$$\sigma_u^2 = \sigma_\alpha^2 \frac{(1+a_2)(1-a_1-a_2)(1+a_1-a_2)}{(1-a_2)} \tag{3}$$

By passing to the z-transformation of the equation (2), the transfer function of the AR(2) model is:

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - a_1 z^{-1} - a_2 z^{-2}} \tag{4}$$

¹ Model (1) assumes that symbols are normalized and known (or decided), in addition to the flat fading assumption. Although this model is admittedly simplistic, it can be applied to different (more involved) contexts, such as pilot-aided multi-carrier systems in frequency-selective wireless channels [4].

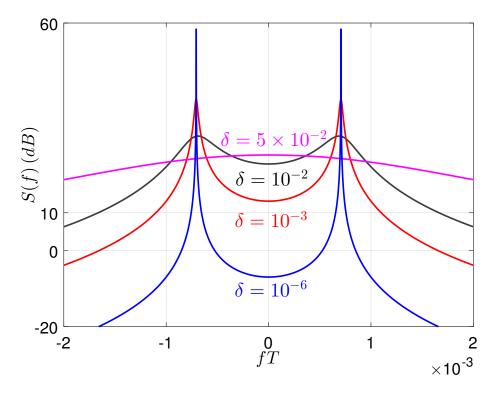


Fig. 1: PSD of the AR(2) model for different values of δ and $f_dT = 10^{-3}$.

This transfer function is also often expressed in the literature with a set of complex conjugate poles in the z-plane at z_1 $r \cdot e^{-j2\pi f_{AR(2)}T}$ and $z_2 = r \cdot e^{+j2\pi f_{AR(2)}T}$, where $r \in [0,1[$ is the radius of the poles, and $f_{AR(2)}T \in [0,1[$ is the normalized resonance frequency of the AR(2) process [7]:

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{(1 - z_1 z^{-1})(1 - z_2 z^{-1})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - 2r\cos(2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)z^{-1} + r^2 z^{-2}}$$
(5)

By comparing equations (4) and (5) we have :

$$a_1 = 2r\cos(2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)$$
 $a_2 = -r^2$ (6)

In our context of slow fading, $f_{AR(2)}T$ is chosen such that $f_{AR(2)}T \ll 1$.

Let us define $\delta=1-r$, which will be used in the following calculations. An example of the PSDs of the AR(2) process $S(f)=\sigma_u^2\,|H(\mathrm{e}^{j2\pi fT})|^2$ is given in Fig. 1 for four different values of $\delta\ll 1$. This figure shows that the AR(2) gives a wide variety of PSD shapes, depending on the value of δ , when assuming $\delta \ll 1$ (i.e., r close to one).

In the next section, analytical expression for r is given in terms of σ_u and $f_{{\rm AR}\;(2)}T$.

II. Approximation of σ_u^2 and expression for r

A. Approximation of σ_u^2

First, let us sum up the assumptions corresponding to our slow fading context : $f_{AR(2)}T \ll 1$, with $\delta \ll 1$. In this section, an approximate expression for σ_u^2 is given. Replacing r by $1-\delta$ in the expression (6) for a_2 yields

$$a_2 = -(1 - \delta)^2 = -(1 - 2\delta + \delta^2) \simeq -(1 - 2\delta).$$
 (7)

because $\delta^2 \ll \delta \ll 1$. We have

$$1 + a_2 \quad \cong \quad 2\delta \tag{8}$$

$$1 - a_2 \simeq (1 - \delta). \tag{9}$$

By inserting these equations into the expression for σ_u^2 defined in (3),

$$\sigma_{u}^{2} \simeq \sigma_{\alpha}^{2} \frac{2\delta}{2(1-\delta)} (2(1-\delta) - 2(1-\delta)\cos(2\pi f_{AR(2)}T))
\times (2(1-\delta) + 2(1-\delta)\cos(2\pi f_{AR(2)}T))
\simeq 4\sigma_{\alpha}^{2} \delta(1-\delta)(1-\cos(2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)^{2}).$$
(10)

However, $\cos(2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)^2 \simeq \left(1 - \frac{(2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)^2}{2}\right)^2 \simeq 1 - (2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)^2 \text{ since } (2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)^4 \ll (2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)^2 \ll 1, \text{ so (10) leads to}$

$$\sigma_u^2 \simeq 4\sigma_\alpha^2 r (1-r)(2\pi f_{AR(2)}T)^2.$$
 (11)

B. Expression for r

In this section, the expression for r is given in terms of σ_u^2 and $f_{AR(2)}T$. Using the expression for σ_u^2 defined in (11):

$$\frac{\sigma_u^2}{4\sigma_\alpha^2(\omega_{AR(2)}T)^2} \simeq (1-r)r,\tag{12}$$

where $\omega_{AR(2)}T = 2\pi f_{AR(2)}T$.

So r is one solution of the second degree equation

$$r^2 - r + \frac{\sigma_u^2}{4\sigma_\alpha^2(\omega_{AR(2)}T)^2} \simeq 0.$$
 (13)

By solving this equation, we found

$$r \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\sigma_u^2}{\sigma_\alpha^2(\omega_{AR(2)}T)^2}}$$
 (14)

Due to the fact that $\frac{\sigma_u^2}{\sigma_\alpha^2(\omega_{\rm AR(2)}T)^2}\simeq 4(1-r)r$ and $r\simeq 1$, we have

$$r \simeq 1 - \frac{\sigma_u^2}{4\sigma_\alpha^2(\omega_{\text{AR}(2)}T)^2}.\tag{15}$$

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