

Introduction to distributed speech enhancement algorithms for ad hoc microphone arrays and wireless acoustic sensor networks

Part III: GSC-based distributed speech enhancement in WASNs

Sharon Gannot¹ and Alexander Bertrand²

¹Faculty of Engineering, Bar-Ilan University, Israel

²KU Leuven, E.E. Department ESAT-STADIUS, Belgium



Bar-Ilan University
אוניברסיטת בר-אילן

KU LEUVEN

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Shmulik Markovich-Golan



Outline

Goal

Develop recursive and distributed speech enhancement algorithms based on the generalized sidelobe canceller (GSC) structure.

Two Algorithms

- Distributed single constraint GSC (DS-GSC):
 - N (#nodes) broadcast channels.
 - 2 alternating GSC blocks per node.
- Distributed GSC (D-GSC):
 - $N + P$ (#nodes+#constraints) broadcast channels.
 - 1 GSC block per node (with extended input).

LCMV & MVDR

[Er and Cantoni, 1983]; [Van Veen and Buckley, 1988]

LCMV Criterion and Solution

- **Minimize** noise power $\mathbf{w}^H \Phi_{nn} \mathbf{w}$
Such that a **linear** constraint set is satisfied: $\mathbf{C}^H \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{g}$.
- Closed-form solution: $\mathbf{w}(\ell, k) = \Phi_{nn}^{-1} \mathbf{C} (\mathbf{C}^H \Phi_{nn}^{-1} \mathbf{C})^{-1} \mathbf{g}$.

MVDR Criterion and Solution

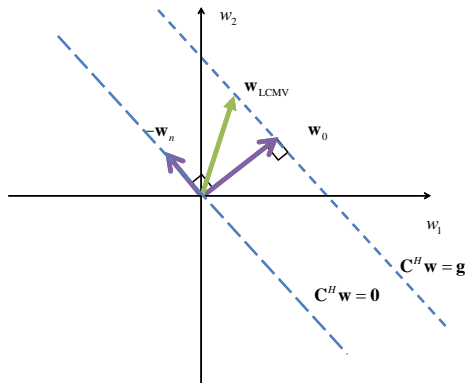
- One desired signal \Rightarrow Single constraint ($P = 1$).
- **Minimize** noise power $\mathbf{w}^H \Phi_{nn} \mathbf{w}$
Such that $(\mathbf{h}^d)^H \mathbf{w} = 1$.
- Closed-form solution: $\mathbf{w}(\ell, k) = \frac{\Phi_{nn}^{-1} \mathbf{h}^d}{(\mathbf{h}^d)^H \Phi_{nn}^{-1} \mathbf{h}^d}$.

The Generalized Sidelobe Canceller Implementation

For Constrained Minimization [Griffiths and Jim, 1982]

Split the Beamformer

- $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{w}_n$.
- Constraints Subspace: $\mathbf{q} \in \text{Span}\{\mathbf{C}\}$.
- Null Subspace: $\mathbf{w}_n \in \mathcal{N}\{\mathbf{C}\}$.
- $\mathbf{w}_n \triangleq \mathbf{B}\mathbf{f}$.
- \mathbf{B} : $M \times (M - P)$ matrix. Spans the Null Subspace.
- \mathbf{f} : vector of $M - P$ filters.
- $\Rightarrow \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{f}$.



The Generalized Sidelobe Canceller Implementation

GSC Output

$$y = \mathbf{q}^H \mathbf{z} - \mathbf{f}^H \underbrace{\mathbf{B}^H \mathbf{z}}_{\mathbf{u}(\ell, k)}$$

Constraints Subspace ($\mathbf{q} \in \text{Span}\{C\}$):

$$\mathbf{q}(\ell, k) \triangleq \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{C}^H \mathbf{C})^{-1} \mathbf{g}$$

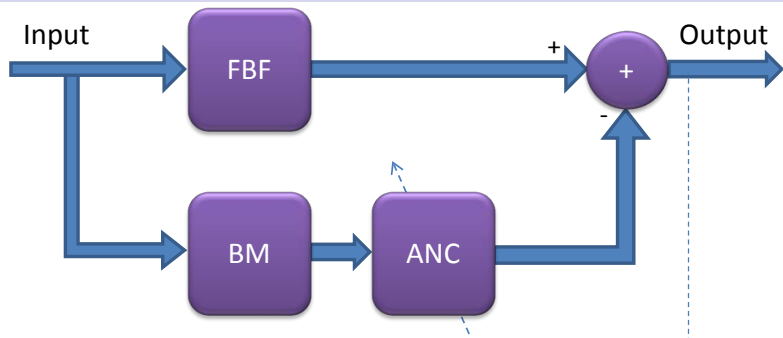
Null Subspace (columns of \mathbf{B} span $\mathcal{N}\{C\}$):

$$\mathbf{B}(\ell, k) \triangleq \mathbf{I}_{M \times M} - \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{C}^H \mathbf{C})^{-1} \mathbf{C}^H; \text{ (verify } \mathbf{B}^H \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{0}\text{).}$$

Noise Cancelling Filters (orthogonality principle):

$$E \left\{ \mathbf{u} \left(\mathbf{z}^H \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{u}^H \mathbf{f} \right) \right\} \Rightarrow \mathbf{f}(\ell, k) = \left(\mathbf{B}^H \Phi_{zz} \mathbf{B} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{B}^H \Phi_{zz} \mathbf{q}$$

The GSC Structure [Griffiths and Jim, 1982]



GSC Blocks

- Fixed beamformer (FBF) - satisfies the constraints (\mathbf{q}).
- Blocking matrix (BM) - generates $M - P$ unconstrained signals (\mathbf{B}).
- Noise canceller (ANC) - adaptively (LMS) suppresses the residual noise utilizing $M - P$ **degrees of freedom (DoF)** (\mathbf{f}) [Widrow et al., 1975];

[Shynk, 1992].

The Relative Transfer Function GSC (TF-GSC) [Gannot et al., 2001]

MVDR Implementation with RTF:

RTF :

$$\tilde{\mathbf{h}}^d(\ell, k) \triangleq \frac{\mathbf{h}^d}{h_1^d} = \left[1 \quad \frac{h_2^d}{h_1^d} \quad \dots \quad \frac{h_M^d}{h_1^d} \right]^T$$

Constraint:

$$\mathbf{w}^H(\ell, k) \tilde{\mathbf{h}}^d(\ell, k) = 1.$$

Closed-form solution:

$$\mathbf{w}(\ell, k) = \frac{\Phi_{nn}^{-1} \mathbf{h}^d}{(\mathbf{h}^d)^H \Phi_n^{-1} \mathbf{h}^d}$$

Output signal:

$$y(\ell, k) = \underbrace{h_1^d s^d}_{\tilde{s}_1^d(\ell, k)} + \text{residual noise and interference signals}$$

The Transfer Function GSC utilizing RTF

[Gannot et al., 2001]

Fixed beamformer:

$$\mathbf{w}_0(\ell, k) = \tilde{\mathbf{h}}^d / \|\tilde{\mathbf{h}}^d\|^2$$

Blocking matrix:

$$\mathbf{B}(\ell, k) = \begin{bmatrix} -(\tilde{h}_2^d)^* & -(\tilde{h}_3^d)^* & \dots & -(\tilde{h}_M^d)^* \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ & \dots & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Distributed single constraint GSC (DS-GSC) [Markovich-Golan et al., 2012a]

Problem Statement

Goal

Develop a distributed version of the TF-GSC.

WASN structure

- N nodes, fully connected.
- M_n microphones in the n th node.
- Total $M = \sum_{n=1}^N M_n$ microphones.

Signals in the STFT domain

- Desired source: $s(\ell, k)$.
- Acoustic transfer function (ATF) of desired source: $\mathbf{h}(\ell, k)$.
- Received interferences: $\mathbf{v}(\ell, k)$, covariance: $\Phi_{vv}(\ell, k)$.
- Microphone signals: $\mathbf{z}(\ell, k) = \mathbf{h}(\ell, k)s(\ell, k) + \mathbf{v}(\ell, k)$.

Local notation

n th node

- Microphone signals: $\mathbf{z}_n(\ell) = \mathbf{U}_n^H \mathbf{z}(\ell)$.
- \mathbf{U}_n - an $M \times M_n$ matrix which extracts the M_n elements of the n th node from an M dimensional vector.

$$\bullet \begin{bmatrix} z_{n,1}(\ell) \\ \vdots \\ z_{n,M_n}(\ell) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \underbrace{0 \cdots 0}_{\sum_{n'=1}^{n-1} M_{n'}} & \underbrace{1}_{M_n} & \underbrace{0 \cdots 0}_{\sum_{n'=n+1}^N M_{n'}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \underbrace{0 \cdots 0}_{\sum_{n'=1}^{n-1} M_{n'}} & \underbrace{1}_{M_n} & \underbrace{0 \cdots 0}_{\sum_{n'=n+1}^N M_{n'}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1(\ell) \\ \vdots \\ z_M(\ell) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Goal

Enhance a filtered version of the desired signal $h_1(\ell, k)s(\ell, k)$.

N local BFs I

Applied Independently at each Node

The n th Node

- RTF:

$$\dot{\mathbf{h}}_n = \mathbf{U}_n^H \mathbf{h} / (\mathbf{U}_n^H \mathbf{h})_1.$$

Can be estimated from the local mics.

- $\dot{\mathbf{w}}_n = \dot{\mathbf{q}}_n - \dot{\mathbf{B}}_n \dot{\mathbf{f}}_n$,
satisfying the constraint
 $\dot{\mathbf{h}}_n^H \dot{\mathbf{w}}_n = 1$.

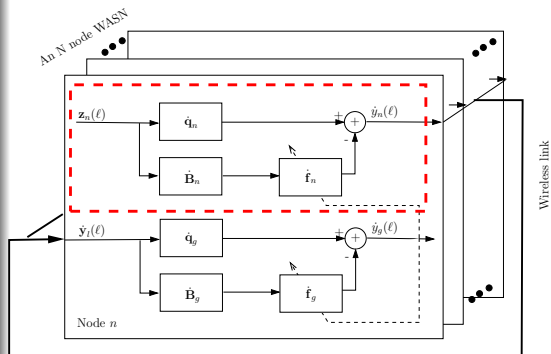
- FBF: $\dot{\mathbf{q}}_n = \frac{\dot{\mathbf{h}}_n}{\|\dot{\mathbf{h}}_n\|^2}$.

- BM: $\dot{\mathbf{B}}_n$ from $\text{SVD}(\dot{\mathbf{h}}_n)$.

- Noise references:

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}}_n(\ell) = \dot{\mathbf{B}}_n^H \mathbf{z}_n(\ell).$$

- ANC: $\dot{\mathbf{f}}_n$.



N local BFs II

Applied Independently at each Node

Concatenation

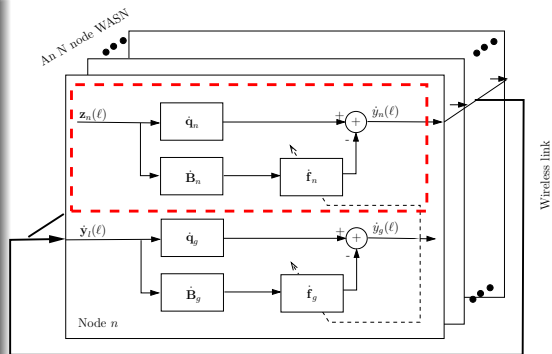
- Broadcast the n th node

$$\dot{y}_n(\ell) = \dot{\mathbf{w}}_n^H \mathbf{z}_n(\ell).$$

- Concatenation of all N nodes:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{y}}_I(\ell) &= [\dot{y}_1(\ell) \cdots \dot{y}_N(\ell)]^T \\ &= \dot{\mathbf{W}}_I^H \mathbf{z} = \dot{\mathbf{W}}_I^H (\mathbf{h}\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{v}) \end{aligned}$$

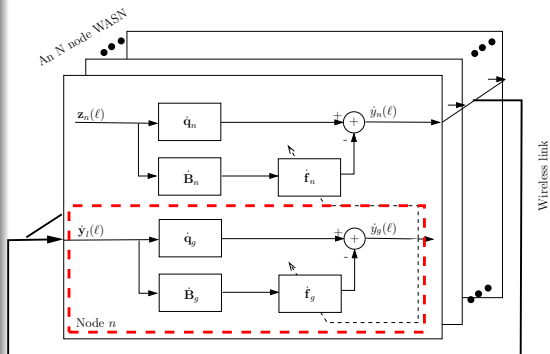
$$\dot{\mathbf{W}}_I = [\mathbf{U}_1 \dot{\mathbf{w}}_1 \cdots \mathbf{U}_N \dot{\mathbf{w}}_N]$$



Global BF

A replica is Concurrently Applied in all Nodes

- $\dot{y}_g(\ell) = \dot{\mathbf{w}}_g^H \dot{\mathbf{y}}_l(\ell)$ with input $\dot{\mathbf{y}}_l(\ell)$.
- Global RTF:
$$\dot{\mathbf{h}}_g = \frac{\dot{\mathbf{w}}_l^H \mathbf{h}}{(\dot{\mathbf{w}}_l^H \mathbf{h})_1} = \frac{\dot{\mathbf{w}}_l^H \mathbf{h}}{h_1}.$$
 Can be estimated from the global signals.
- $\dot{\mathbf{w}}_g = \dot{\mathbf{q}}_g - \dot{\mathbf{B}}_g \dot{\mathbf{f}}_g$ satisfying the constraint $\dot{\mathbf{h}}_g^H \dot{\mathbf{w}}_g = 1.$
- FBF:
$$\dot{\mathbf{q}}_g = \frac{\dot{\mathbf{h}}_g}{\|\dot{\mathbf{h}}_g\|^2}.$$
- BM: $\dot{\mathbf{B}}_g$ from $\text{SVD}(\dot{\mathbf{h}}_g).$
- Noise references:
$$\dot{\mathbf{u}}_g(\ell) = \dot{\mathbf{B}}_g^H \dot{\mathbf{y}}_l(\ell).$$



Derivation of the Iterative Version I

$$\dot{y}_g(\ell) = \dot{\mathbf{w}}_g^H \dot{\mathbf{W}}_l^H \mathbf{z}(\ell) = \dot{\mathbf{w}}_l^H \dot{\mathbf{W}}_g^H \mathbf{z}(\ell)$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}_1 \dot{\mathbf{w}}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{U}_N \dot{\mathbf{w}}_N \end{bmatrix}}_{\dot{\mathbf{w}}_l} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{w}_{g,1} \\ \vdots \\ \dot{w}_{g,N} \end{bmatrix}}_{\dot{\mathbf{w}}_g} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{w}_{g,1} \mathbf{I}_{M_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \dot{w}_{g,N} \mathbf{I}_{M_N} \end{bmatrix}}_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}_g} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{w}}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{\mathbf{w}}_N \end{bmatrix}}_{\dot{\mathbf{w}}_l}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{w}}_l = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{q}}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{\mathbf{q}}_N \end{bmatrix}}_{\dot{\mathbf{q}}_l} - \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{B}}_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \dot{\mathbf{B}}_N \end{bmatrix}}_{\dot{\mathbf{B}}_l} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{f}}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{\mathbf{f}}_N \end{bmatrix}}_{\dot{\mathbf{f}}_l}$$

Derivation of the Iterative Version II

$$\dot{\mathbf{v}}(\ell) = \dot{\mathbf{w}}_g^H \dot{\mathbf{W}}_l^H \mathbf{v}(\ell) = \dot{\mathbf{w}}_l^H \dot{\mathbf{W}}_g^H \mathbf{v}(\ell)$$

$$\gamma = E\{|\dot{\mathbf{v}}|^2\}$$

$$= \dot{\mathbf{w}}_l^H \dot{\mathbf{W}}_g^H \Phi_{vv} \dot{\mathbf{W}}_g \dot{\mathbf{w}}_l = (\dot{\mathbf{q}}_l - \dot{\mathbf{B}}_l \dot{\mathbf{f}}_l)^H \dot{\mathbf{W}}_g^H \Phi_{vv} \dot{\mathbf{W}}_g (\dot{\mathbf{q}}_l - \dot{\mathbf{B}}_l \dot{\mathbf{f}}_l)$$

$$= \dot{\mathbf{w}}_g^H \dot{\mathbf{W}}_l^H \Phi_{vv} \dot{\mathbf{W}}_l \dot{\mathbf{w}}_g = (\dot{\mathbf{q}}_g - \dot{\mathbf{B}}_g \dot{\mathbf{f}}_g)^H \dot{\mathbf{W}}_l^H \Phi_{vv} \dot{\mathbf{W}}_l (\dot{\mathbf{q}}_g - \dot{\mathbf{B}}_g \dot{\mathbf{f}}_g)$$

Derivation of the Iterative Version III

Alternately optimizing local and global filters

- Local filters update:

$$\dot{\mathbf{f}}_g^{(i+1)} = \left(\dot{\mathbf{B}}_g^H \left(\dot{\mathbf{W}}_l^{(i)} \right)^H \Phi_{vv} \dot{\mathbf{W}}_l^{(i)} \dot{\mathbf{B}}_g \right)^{-1} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}_g^H \left(\dot{\mathbf{W}}_l^{(i)} \right)^H \Phi_{vv} \dot{\mathbf{W}}_l^{(i)} \dot{\mathbf{q}}_g.$$

- Global filters update:

$$\dot{\mathbf{f}}_l^{(i+1)} = \left(\dot{\mathbf{B}}_l^H \left(\dot{\mathbf{W}}_g^{(i)} \right)^H \Phi_{vv} \dot{\mathbf{W}}_g^{(i)} \dot{\mathbf{B}}_l \right)^{-1} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}}_l^H \left(\dot{\mathbf{W}}_g^{(i)} \right)^H \Phi_{vv} \dot{\mathbf{W}}_g^{(i)} \dot{\mathbf{q}}_l.$$

Derivation of the Time-recursive Version

Stochastic Gradient Minimization

- Replace iteration index i with time index ℓ .
- Local step (applied at each node L_u times):

$$\dot{\mathbf{f}}_n(\ell + 1) = \dot{\mathbf{f}}_n(\ell) + \frac{\mu}{\lambda_{u,l}^n(\ell)} (\dot{\mathbf{w}}_{g,n}^* \dot{\mathbf{u}}_n(\ell)) \dot{y}_g^*(\ell)$$
- Global step (applied at the replica of each node L_u times):

$$\dot{\mathbf{f}}_g(\ell + 1) = \dot{\mathbf{f}}_g(\ell) + \frac{\mu}{\lambda_{u,g}(\ell)} \dot{\mathbf{u}}_g(\ell) \dot{y}_g^*(\ell).$$
- Power normalization factors: $\dot{\lambda}_{u,l}^n(\ell)$, $\dot{\lambda}_{u,g}(\ell)$.

Algorithm summary (at the n th node)

Initialization

- Estimate local RTF $\hat{\mathbf{h}}_n$.
- Construct local FBF, $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_n$, and BM $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_n$.
- Estimate global RTF $\hat{\mathbf{h}}_g$.
- Construct global FBF, $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_g$, and BM $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_g$.

Perform repeatedly

- Broadcast output of local beamformer.
- Alternately, update local and global ANC's $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_n$ and $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_g$.
 - L_u local filter updates.
 - L_u global filter updates.
- Converges to the centralized TF-GSC.

Distributed LCMV

Formulation

- N nodes with M_n microphones.
- $\sum_{n=1}^N M_n = M$.
- $\mathbf{z} \triangleq [\mathbf{z}_1^T \cdots \mathbf{z}_N^T]^T$.
- Closed-form LCMV necessitates the inversion of $\Phi_{\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}}$.
A cumbersome task in distributed networks.

Naïve GSC Implementation

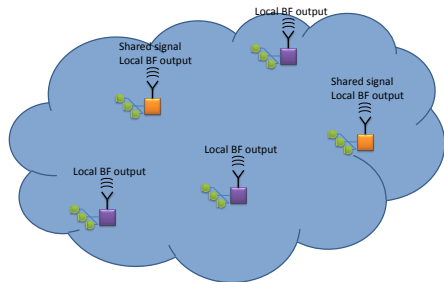
- Summation of local BFs: $y = \sum_{n=1}^N y_n$.
- Implement a local GSC at each node:
 - $M_n - P$ outputs of the BM at the n th node (**might go negative!**).
 - Total number of BM outputs: $\sum_{n=1}^N (M_n - P) = M - (N \times P)$.
 - $M - (N \times P) < (M - P) \Rightarrow$ degrees of freedom (DoF) lost
 \Rightarrow incomplete minimization \Rightarrow **performance degradation**.

Distributed GSC

[Markovich-Golan et al., 2013]

Overview

- Introduce P **shared signals**:
 - Broadcast by a subset of the nodes.
 - Retrieve degrees of freedom.
- Extended inputs at each node:
 - Local microphones plus shared signals.
 - Purely local FBF, BM, ANC.
- DGSC **adaptively converges** to the centralized solution.



Total of $N + P$ broadcast channels.

Nodes Connectivity

Sources “Owned” by the n th Node:

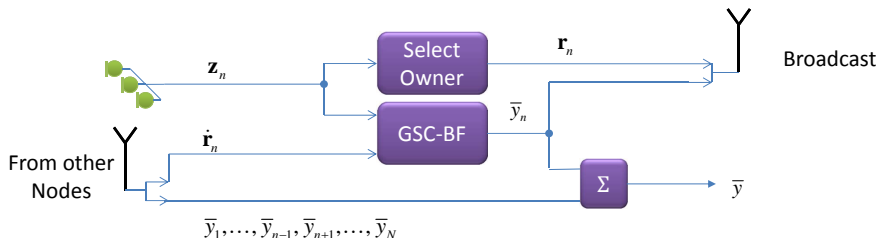
- A node n that receives the p th source with the highest SNR is declared its “owner”.
- The **shared signals** broadcast by the n th node: $\mathbf{r}_n = \mathbf{D}_n^H \mathbf{z}_n$.
- \mathbf{D}_n : an $M_n \times P_n$ selection matrix.
- A shared signal (one component of \mathbf{r}_n) is responsible for only one source.
- Shared signals serve as a reference for RTF estimation in each node.

Extended Inputs at the n th Node

- $P - P_n$ shared signals (excluding self-owned signals): $\hat{\mathbf{r}}_n$.
- Total number of signals: $\bar{M}_n = M_n + P - P_n$.
- Signals: $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n = [\mathbf{z}_n^T \hat{\mathbf{r}}_n^T]^T$.

DGSC at the n th Node

High Level Block-Diagram



Local & Global BF

- An $\bar{M}_n \times 1$ local GSC-BF at the n th node: $\bar{\mathbf{w}}_n$.
- Outputs of local GSC-BFs: $\bar{y}_n = \bar{\mathbf{w}}_n^H \bar{\mathbf{z}}_n; \forall n = 1, 2, \dots, N$.
- Global BF: $\bar{\mathbf{w}} \triangleq [\bar{\mathbf{w}}_1^T \dots \bar{\mathbf{w}}_N^T]^T$.
- Global output (available at each node): $\bar{y} = \sum_{n=1}^N \bar{y}_n$.

Blocks of the DGSC at the n th Node

Fixed Beamformer (Local)

- $\hat{\mathbf{H}}_n$: the RTF relating the extended inputs and the **shared signals**.
- Build local FBF $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_n$ using only local RTFs.
- $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_n \triangleq \frac{1}{N} \hat{\mathbf{H}}_n \left(\hat{\mathbf{H}}_n^H \hat{\mathbf{H}}_n \right)^{-1} \mathbf{g} \Rightarrow \bar{\mathbf{H}}_n^H \bar{\mathbf{q}}_n = \mathbf{g}$.

Blocking Matrix (Block Diagonal)

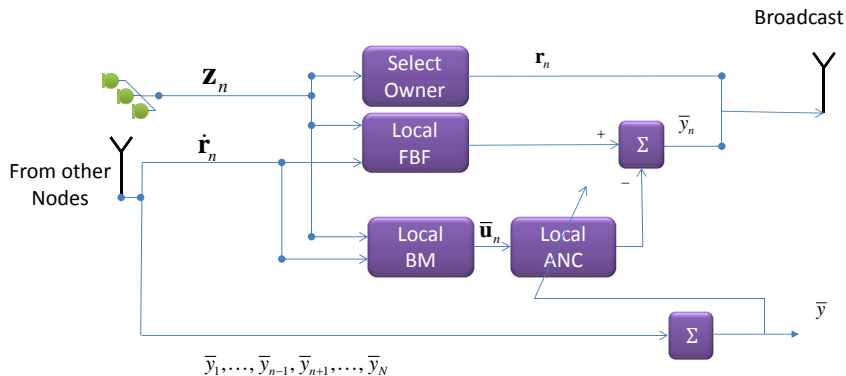
- $\bar{\mathbf{B}}_n$: $\bar{M}_n \times (\bar{M}_n - P)$ BM.
- Noise references: $\bar{\mathbf{u}}_n = \bar{\mathbf{B}}_n^H \bar{\mathbf{z}}_n$
- $\sum_{n=1}^N (\bar{M}_n - P) = \sum_{n=1}^N (M_n - P_n) = M - P \Rightarrow$ **DoF fully utilized**.

Adaptive Noise Canceler (Local)

- Least Mean Squares: $\bar{\mathbf{f}}_n(\ell) = \bar{\mathbf{f}}_n(\ell - 1) + \mu \frac{\bar{\mathbf{u}}_n(\ell) \bar{\mathbf{y}}^*(\ell)}{\bar{P}_{u,n}(\ell)}$.
- Power normalization $\bar{P}_{u,n}(\ell)$.

DGSC at the n th Node

Low Level Block-Diagram



DGSC Features

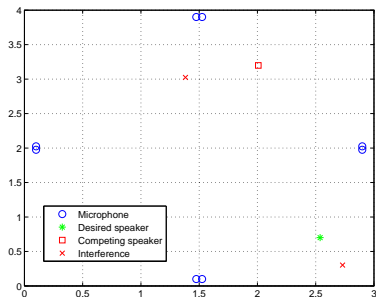
- Distributed processing for distributed constellation.
- It is shown [Markovich-Golan et al., 2013] that the distributed and centralized LCMV implementations identifies.
- **Proof** is based on: constraint set is a subspace of the M -dimensional linear space. Extending the linear space dimensions to \bar{M} does not alter the sub-space.
- Local input signals selection (quasi-) fixed:
 - Original inputs.
 - Shared signals selected by the system.
 - Hence RTF estimation valid until the acoustics changes.
- The DGSC sequentially converges to the centralized solution using local ANC updates.
- Different from the LC-DANSE [Bertrand and Moonen, 2012].

Important Practical Considerations

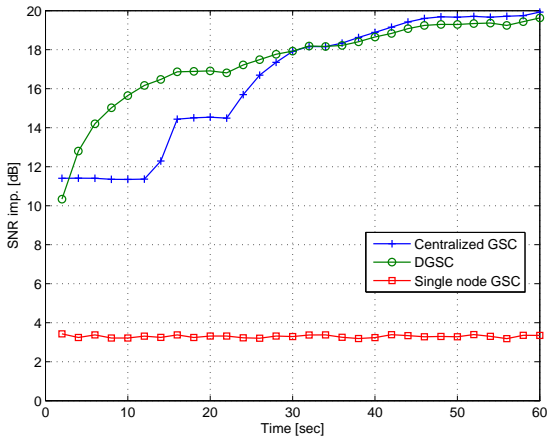
- Latency in the communication channel might require large buffering in each node.
- Owner selection is a cumbersome task if several speakers are concurrently active, since it is not clear how to identify each speaker.
- RTF can be very long for remote nodes.
- Number of nodes and constraints can dynamically change (see [Markovich-Golan et al., 2012b] for possible cure).

Scenario

- $4\text{m} \times 4\text{m} \times 3\text{m}$ room.
- Reverberation time $T_{60} = 300\text{ms}$.
- $N=4$ nodes.
- $M_n = 2$ microphones $\forall n$.
- Desired and competing speaker with the same level.
- 2 point source Gaussian noises, 13dB lower than the speech signals.
- Sensors noise.
- 90 Monte-Carlo experiments (sources' positions).

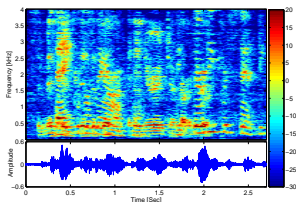


Convergence

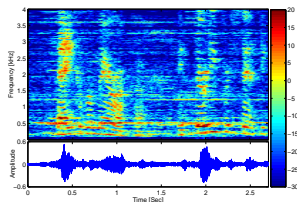


The convergence of the tested algorithms versus time.

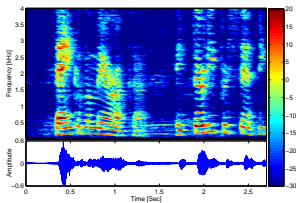
Speech Samples



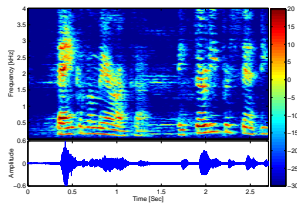
(a) Noisy at mic. #1



(b) Single node GSC



(c) Centralized GSC



(d) Distributed GSC

References and Further Reading I



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