## Family of Multicarrier Bi-Phase Radar Signals Represented by Ternary Arrays

MESHULIM B. SVERDLIK Israel NADAV LEVANON, Life Fellow, IEEE Tel Aviv University

A  $K \times L$  ternary array, comprised of the elements  $\{0, 1, -1\}$ , with some unique features, represents a multicarrier radar signal with favorable autocorrelation and ambiguity functions. Constructing such an array using Galois fields is described. As in a Costas binary array, only one frequency is transmitted at any time slot, but in our array the same frequency is repeated in several time slots, yielding a signal with considerably larger pulse compression than a Costas signal that uses the same number of frequencies.

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Authors' addresses: M. B. Sverdlik, 37 Hareshet St., Bat Yam, 59462, Israel; N. Levanon, Dept. of Electrical Engineering—Systems, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, 69978, Israel.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Multicarrier (or multifrequency) signals can be divided into two categories: 1) signals in which at any given time only one frequency is transmitted, and 2) signals with simultaneous transmission on several subcarriers. Costas signals [1] belong to the first category. Orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signals [2] used in communications, and multicarrier complementary phase-coded (MCPC) signals [3] suggested for radar, belong to the second category. Signals in the first category usually (but not necessarily) exhibit constant amplitude, while signals of the second category exhibit variable amplitude.

A multicarrier signal can be described by a 2 dimensional array in which the rows represent frequencies and the columns represent time slots (which we refer to as bits). The array could be binary, as in Costas, where a 1 in the k,l element implies that the *k*th frequency is transmitted during the *l*th bit. A 0 implies no transmission corresponding to that element.

In OFDM and MCPC the array elements are complex numbers, usually with unity magnitude, implying phase coding. In all three signals mentioned, the frequency spacing  $\Delta f$  between subcarriers is related to the bit duration  $t_h$  according to

$$\Delta f = \frac{1}{t_h}.\tag{1}$$

This relationship implies orthogonality between the signals on the different subcarriers, when the integration time is a multiple of  $t_b$ .

The signal suggested here is based on a ternary array comprised of the elements  $\{0, 1, -1\}$ . This vocabulary allows for frequency coding, as in Costas, but with additional binary phase coding. A -1 in the *k*,*l* element implies that the *k*th frequency is transmitted during the *l*th bit, with reversed polarity (i. e., with a phase shift of  $\pi$ ). An example of a  $4 \times 12$  ternary array is given in (2), and a graphic representation is shown in Fig. 1.

A concise representation of the signal appears in Table I. It lists the bit location of each frequency (row). A negative sign indicates polarity reversal. The only requirement from the ternary array in (2) is that the discrete 2-D autocorrelation of the array, obtained, for example, by the MATLAB instruction xcorr 2(**A**), will have in its central row (no vertical shift) sidelobe levels of only 0 or  $\pm 1$ .

It is interesting to compare the discrete autocorrelation (Fig. 2) of the simple  $4 \times 12$  array

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Fig. 1. Graphic representation of ternary array in (2).



Fig. 2. Discrete autocorrelation of ternary array A.



Fig. 3. Magnitude of autocorrelation function of signal based on ternary array A.

in (2) with the continuous autocorrelation functions (ACFs) of the actual signal based on it (Fig. 3). In the discrete array **A** the rows are decoupled and the central row of the discrete 2-D autocorrelation is the sum of the autocorrelations of the individual rows. On the other hand, when calculating the ACF of the corresponding multicarrier signal, we cannot assume such decoupling, except at delays equal to multiples of the bit duration. Indeed, at such delays the ACF in Fig. 3 exhibits either the value zero (at  $\tau/t_b = 1,2,4,6,7,9,11$ ) or 1/12 = 0.083 (at  $\tau/t_b = 3,5,8,10$ ), which are the same values as in the corresponding delays of Fig. 2.

 TABLE I

 Concise Representation of Ternary Matrix in (2)

4	5	-7	
6	10	-11	
2	8	-12	
1	3	-9	

Another major difference between Figs. 2 and 3 is the width of the mainlobe. From the signal's ACF (Fig. 3), we learn, as expected, that the first null appears at a delay equal to the inverse of the bandwidth  $K\Delta f$ . Thus, since the number of

frequencies is K = 4, we get

$$\frac{\tau_{\text{null}}}{t_b} = \frac{1}{K\Delta f} \frac{1}{t_b} = \frac{1}{K} = 0.25.$$
 (3)

Since the number of bits is L = 12, the pulse compression ratio is

$$CR = \frac{Lt_b}{\tau_{\text{null}}} = LK = 48.$$
<sup>(4)</sup>

The construction of a multicarrier bi-phase signal is described in Section II. It is based on an early work by the first author [4]. In Section III we demonstrate the performances of a  $40 \times 120$  signal. Section IV is dedicated to the construction of a family of multicarrier bi-phase signals. A comparison with a Costas signal is given in Section V, and conclusions in Section VI. Appendix A contains a Matlab program that implements the construction algorithm and yields one (or all)  $40 \times 120$  basic signals. All possible 22 basic signals (arrays) are listed in Appendix B.

# II. CONSTRUCTION OF MULTICARRIER BI-PHASE SIGNAL

Our discussion is limited to a construction based on Galois field  $GF(p^z)$  where *p* is a prime and *z* is an integer  $\ge 1$ . The construction can be divided into four steps.

## A. Construction of Ensemble with Property of No More Than One Coincidence

The first stage of the construction algorithm is based on  $GF(p^z)$ . It calls for the creation of a balanced ensemble of pulse sequences with the feature of not more than one coincidence (ENMOC) [4]. By "balanced" we mean that every sequence in the ensemble has the same number of unity elements. A balanced ensemble of pulse sequences with the ENMOC feature is a family of binary sequences

$$a_j^i: j = 0, 1, \dots, N_i - 1,$$
  
 $i = 1, 2, \dots, Q, \quad a_j^i \in \{0, 1\}, \quad a_0^i = a_{N_i - 1}^i = 1$ 
(5)

where  $N_i$  is the length of sequence number *i*, and the sequences obey the following two properties.

1) Each sequence exhibits a "no more than one coincidence" (NMOC) feature, which implies that the sidelobes of the discrete ACF of every NMOC sequence should not exceed unity, i.e.,

$$r(k) = \sum_{j=0}^{N_i - 1 - |k|} a_j a_{j+|k|} = \begin{cases} N_0, & k = 0\\ 0 \text{ or } 1, & |k| \neq 0 \end{cases}$$
(6)

where  $N_0$  is the number of 1 elements in the NMOC sequence.

2) The cross-correlation between the *i*th and the *l*th sequences should obey

$$x_{i,l}(k) = \begin{cases} \sum_{j=0}^{B-1-k} a_j^i a_{j+k}^l, & k \ge 0\\ \\ \sum_{j=-k}^{B-1} a_j^i a_{j+k}^l, & k < 0 \end{cases} = 0 \text{ or } 1,$$
  
for  $i, l = 1, 2, \dots, Q, \quad i \ne l$  (7)

where  $B = \max(N_i, N_l)$  is the size of the basis of the ensemble. Q in (5) and (7) is the number of the different pulse sequences that obey properties 1 and 2. The resulted ENMOC is said to be of power Q.

A detailed description for constructing an ENMOC is given in [4]. It is based on using the property of linear dependence of p + 1 elements of the extended Galois field GF( $p^z$ ) [4, 5]. A construction example of an ENMOC is also given in [4] and Table II of [4] lists some ENMOCs.

For the remainder of our paper we need to cite from [4] the following three equations:

$$N_0 = p + 1 \tag{8}$$

$$Q = p^{(z-3)} + p^{(z-5)} + \dots + 1, \qquad z > 3, \quad z \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$
(9)  
$$Q = \{p^{(z-4)} + p^{(z-6)} + \dots + 1\}p, \qquad z > 4, \quad z \equiv 0 \pmod{2}.$$
(10)

It is known [4] that the elements of the field  $GF(p^z)$  are separated from each other by

$$N = \frac{p^z - 1}{p - 1}.$$
 (11)

Therefore the numbers of elements of the field  $GF(p^z)$  will be reduced modulo *N*. The number of bits in the signal will be

$$L = N - 1. \tag{12}$$

For constructing a multicarrier signal with L bits, it is first necessary to form from the ENMOC an array that uses the results of automorphic transformation of all sequences of the ENMOC and exclude all unity elements that are placed at the zero time position. Then the number of all elements in the array become

$$N_{ar} = Q(p+1)p.$$
 (13)

Therefore to construct a signal with L bits we need to equate L and  $N_{ar}$ , namely

$$\frac{p^z - 1}{p - 1} - 1 = Q(p + 1)p.$$
(14)

For  $z \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , solutions of (14) (using (9)) exist if *p* is a prime and

$$z = 5 + 2n, \qquad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
 (15)

It can be shown that increasing p will decrease the ratio K/L and raise the level of peak ACF sidelobes (without bi-phase modulation), and vice versa.

TABLE II Sequences of ENMOC and Their Automotphism Results

$D_1 = (0, 1, 36, 102)$	$D_2 = (0, 35, 101, 120)$	$D_3 = (0, 66, 85, 86)$	$D_4 = (0, 19, 20, 55)$
$D_5 = (0, 2, 10, 17)$	$D_6 = (0, 8, 15, 119)$	$D_7 = (0, 7, 111, 113)$	$D_8 = (0, 104, 106, 114)$
$D_9 = (0, 3, 64, 108)$	$D_{10} = (0, 61, 105, 118)$	$D_{11} = (0, 44, 57, 60)$	$D_{12} = (0, 13, 16, 77)$
$D_{13} = (0, 4, 27, 92)$	$D_{14} = (0, 23, 88, 117)$	$D_{15} = (0, 65, 94, 98)$	$D_{16} = (0, 29, 33, 56)$
$D_{17} = (0, 5, 43, 80)$	$D_{18} = (0, 38, 75, 116)$	$D_{19} = (0, 37, 78, 83)$	$D_{20} = (0, 41, 46, 84)$
$D_{21} = (0, 6, 30, 51)$	$D_{22} = (0, 24, 45, 115)$	$D_{23} = (0, 21, 91, 97)$	$D_{24} = (0, 70, 76, 100)$
$D_{25} = (0, 9, 71, 82)$	$D_{26} = (0, 62, 73, 112)$	$D_{27} = (0, 11, 50, 59)$	$D_{28} = (0, 39, 48, 110)$
$D_{29} = (0, 12, 34, 81)$	$D_{30} = (0, 22, 69, 109)$	$D_{31} = (0, 47, 87, 99)$	$D_{32} = (0, 40, 52, 74)$
$D_{33} = (0, 14, 72, 103)$	$D_{34} = (0, 58, 89, 107)$	$D_{35} = (0, 31, 49, 63)$	$D_{36} = (0, 18, 32, 90)$
$D_{37} = (0, 25, 53, 79)$	$D_{38} = (0, 28, 54, 96)$	$D_{39} = (0, 26, 68, 93)$	$D_{40} = (0, 42, 67, 95)$

Taking into consideration the limited size of a journal paper, we choose for the remainder of the paper the case in which:

$$p = 3, \qquad z = 5.$$
 (16)

Using (9), (11), and (12), this choice will result in Q = 10, L = 120. As will be deduced shortly the number of frequencies *K* is given by

$$K = (p+1)Q \tag{17}$$

yielding K = 40 frequencies.

The construction algorithm described in [4] requires an exhaustive search of all the sequences that can create the ENMOC. With a relatively large value of L (such as L = 120), the exhaustive search becomes very computing intensive. Instead, we propose here an improved algorithm.

In the process of our work on this family of signals it became clear that every ensemble fits three different primitive polynomials. Or, in other words, three different polynomials can create the same ensemble. These are known as *p*-conjugate polynomials [6]. This property can be written as follows:

Let  $f^{(1)}(x)$ ,  $f^{(2)}(x)$  and  $f^{(3)}(x)$  be *p*-conjugate primitive polynomials. Of course they form different isomorphic extended GFs, with coordinates columns  $A_i^{(1)}$ ,  $A_i^{(2)}$  and  $A_i^{(3)}$ , i = 0, 1, ..., 120. If we denote the companion matrices corresponding to the three *p*-conjugate polynomials by  $H_1$ ,  $H_2$ ,  $H_3$ , then for arbitrary *u* and *t* [4]

$$A_{u+t}^{(1)} = H_1^u A_t^{(1)}, \qquad A_{u+t}^{(2)} = H_2^u A_t^{(2)}, \qquad A_{u+t}^{(3)} = H_3^u A_t^{(3)},$$
$$u + t = 1, 2, \dots, 120. \tag{18}$$

In (18) the subscript of *A* represents the degree of the primitive elements of the polynomials. It is clear that the coordinates (columns) obey  $A_{u+t}^{(1)} \neq A_{u+t}^{(2)} \neq A_{u+t}^{(3)}$ , u + t > 4. Note that if the set  $A_u^{(1)}$ ,  $A_q^{(1)}$ ,  $A_r^{(1)}$  belongs to the ENMOC  $\tilde{s}$  then the sets  $A_u^{(2)}$ ,  $A_q^{(2)}$ ,  $A_r^{(2)}$  and  $A_u^{(3)}$ ,  $A_q^{(3)}$ ,  $A_r^{(3)}$  also belong to the ENMOC  $\tilde{s}$ .

<sup>4</sup> The improved algorithm for constructing an ENMOC uses simultaneously the properties of linear dependence and of the *p*-conjugate primitive polynomials. It is much less computational intensive

than the original construction. A Matlab version of it is given in Appendix A. The ENMOC listed in the first column of Table II was obtained with this program.

#### B. Construction of $40 \times 120$ Element Array

In the second step we find a 120 element array, in which all integers are different from each other. From the algorithm for constructing the ENMOC it became clear that the sequences resulted from the automorphism of the Q sequences that belong to an ENMOC, do not intersect with the Q sequences of the ENMOC. If a sequence that belongs to the ENMOC is designated by  $D_i$ ,

$$D_i = (d_i^1, d_i^2, d_i^3, d_i^4) \tag{19}$$

the corresponding  $N_0 - 1$  (= 3) automorphism results  $D_{i+k}$  can be obtained by

$$D_{i+k} = (d_i^1 - d_i^{k+1}, d_i^2 - d_i^{k+1}, d_i^3 - d_i^{k+1}, d_i^4 - d_i^{k+1}) [\text{mod} (L+1)],$$
  

$$k = 1, 2, \dots, N_0 - 1.$$
(20)

So, for example, from  $D_1 = (0, 1, 36, 102)$  we get

$$D_2 = (0 - 1, 1 - 1, 36 - 1, 102 - 1)[mod (121)]$$
  
= (120, 0, 35, 101)

which, after sorting, becomes  $D_2 = (0,35,101,120)$ . Similarly we will get  $D_3 = (0,66,85,86)$  and  $D_4 = (0,19,20,55)$ . In Table II the sequences of the ENMOC  $D_i$ ,  $i = 1,5,9,\ldots,37$  are listed in the first column, and the sequences created by automorphism,  $D_i$ ,  $i = (2,3,4), (6,7,8),\ldots, (38,39,40)$  are listed in columns 2 to 4. Note that the sequences resulted from automorphism satisfy condition (6) but not (7).

The 120 element binary array described above fits three different primitive polynomials of degree 5, irreducible above the field GF(3):

$$f^{(1)}(x) = x^{5} - x - 2$$

$$f^{(2)}(x) = x^{5} - 2x^{3} - 2x - 2$$

$$f^{(3)}(x) = x^{5} - x^{4} - 2x^{3} - 2x^{2} - 2x - 2.$$
(21)

For more details look at Table VI.

All together there are K = (p + 1)Q = 40 sequences in Table II. If we exclude from all sequences the unity elements at the common location of zero, leaving p(= 3) unity elements in each sequence, we obtain in the modified Table II a total of L = p(p + 1)Q = 120numbers, all different from each other. In other words we find all the numbers from 1 to 120 and each one appears only once.

## C. Frequency Allocations

Converting the modified Table II (without the locations at 0) to a multicarrier signal involves assigning 40 carrier frequencies to the 40 sequences. One option for the assignment rule is that the normalized frequency  $t_b f_n$  corresponding to the *k*th sequence will be

$$t_b f_k = 20.5 - k, \qquad k = 1, 2, \dots, 40.$$
 (22)

With this choice, for example, during time slots 1, 36, and 102 (which appear in sequence  $D_1$ ) the transmitted subcarrier will be the one shifted  $19.5/t_b$  off the center frequency. The resulted structure appears as the array **B** on the left hand half of Table III. Array **C**, on the right hand half of Table III, lists the delay differences within each row of **B**. Note that in **C** no number appears more than twice.

Representing a transmission of frequency k during bit (time slot) l, by placing a 1 in the (k,l) element of a 40 × 120 array, and writing 0 at unused elements, will create a binary array with exactly one 1 in each column and three 1s in each row.

The sidelobes of the central row of the discrete 2-D autocorrelation of a binary array created in this way will have values of 0, 1, or 2, relative to a mainlobe height of 120 (see Fig. 4), at locations specified by the numbers in array **C**, on the right hand half of Table III. The highest autocorrelation value is 2 because no number in array **C** appears there more than twice. For reasons that will become clear shortly, it is also required (and achieved by the above construction) that if a number in **C** is repeated twice, the repetition must not occur in the same row of **C**.

Note in Table III that we split the two arrays into 10 groups of 4 rows each. Each group of 4 rows corresponds to one row in Table II. Each row in Table II contains an NMOC sequence and its corresponding automorphism products. On the top group of 4 rows in array C, we marked all the repeats of delay differences in order to show that they occur within the group. This property appears in all the other groups (of 4 rows) in array C. This is an important structural feature of the synthesized signal. We name this property "separability." Separability provides the following two important properties. 1) It allows to change polarities of frequencies within a group in array **B**, that will affect only the sidelobes at delays listed in the corresponding group in array **C**.

TABLE III Frequency-Delay Array (Left) and Corresponding Delay Differences

Bit location	_	Delay differences
$\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 36 & 102 \\ 35 & 101 & 120 \\ 66 & 85 & 86 \\ \underline{19 & 20 & 55} \\ 2 & 10 & 17 \\ 8 & 15 & 119 \\ 7 & 111 & 113 \\ \underline{104 & 106 & 114} \\ 3 & 64 & 108 \\ 61 & 105 & 118 \\ 44 & 57 & 60 \\ \underline{13 & 16 & 77} \\ 4 & 27 & 92 \\ 23 & 88 & 117 \\ 65 & 94 & 98 \\ \underline{29 & 33 & 56} \\ 5 & 43 & 80 \\ 38 & 75 & 116 \\ 37 & 78 & 83 \\ \underline{41 & 46 & 84} \\ 6 & 30 & 51 \\ 24 & 45 & 115 \\ 21 & 91 & 97 \\ \underline{70 & 76 & 100} \\ 9 & 71 & 82 \\ 62 & 73 & 112 \\ 11 & 50 & 59 \\ \underline{39 & 48 & 110} \\ 12 & 34 & 81 \\ 22 & 69 & 109 \\ 47 & 87 & 99 \\ \underline{40 & 52 & 74} \\ 14 & 72 & 103 \\ 58 & 89 & 107 \\ 31 & 49 & 63 \\ \underline{18 & 32 & 90} \\ 25 & 53 & 79 \\ 28 & 54 & 96 \\ 26 & 68 & 93 \\ 42 & 67 & 95 \end{bmatrix}$	Lequency F	$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$

2) It allows adding amplitude weighting to the different frequencies, that will not affect the cancellation of ACF sidelobes of level 2, as long as the frequencies of each group are clustered together. This "separability" property exists for other signals constructed in this way, with other values of p and z that satisfy (15), and the number of coincidences will remain p - 1.

In addition to the separability property, the binary array exhibits a discrete autocorrelation (e.g., Fig. 4) with exactly  $N_0Q$  (= 40) sidelobes of level 2,  $N_0Q$ sidelobes of level 1, and  $N_0Q - 1$  (= 39) sidelobes of level 0. This implies that after nullifying the sidelobes of level 2 (by converting the binary array into a ternary array) only  $N_0Q$  (= 40) non-zero sidelobes (all of them ±1) will remain.







Fig. 5. Central row of 2-D autocorrelation of ternary array.

TABLE IV SL Polarity Versus Matrix Element Polarity

<i>b</i> <sub>1</sub>	$b_2$	$b_3$	$c_1$	<i>c</i> <sub>2</sub>	<i>c</i> <sub>3</sub>	
+	+	+	+	+	+	
—	+	+	—	+	—	
+	-	+	—	—	+	
+	+	-	+	-	-	

#### D. Polarity Reversal Locations

The polarity reversal is intended to transform some of the 1 elements in the binary array, into -1elements, in order to nullify all the ACF sidelobes of height 2. After polarity reversal the binary matrix will become a ternary matrix.

There are many different ways in which this could be achieved. With the construction algorithm discussed above, reversing the polarity of the bits corresponding to the third column of array **B** in Table III, will nullify all the sidelobes of height 2. The resulted discrete ACF (magnitude) is plotted in Fig. 5. This simple rule is not the only one applicable

to binary arrays constructed by the algorithm, and it usually does not work with randomly generated arrays. Nullifying the level 2 sidelobes by polarity reversal can be done for any binary array that meets the four requirements: 1) exactly one 1 in each column, 2) exactly three 1s in each row, 3) any specific difference between locations of 1s within a row will not occur more than twice, in the entire array, and 4) if a location difference appears twice it must be in different rows.

The rules summarized in Table IV show how to reverse the polarity of a sidelobe. The first three columns in Table IV refer to the columns of array **B** in Table III, while the last three columns of Table IV refer to the columns of array **C** in Table III.

An example will show how to apply the polarity reversal rule. Consider, for example, the top four rows in Table III. From the top four rows in **C** we note that four delay differences appear twice: 1, 19, 35, and 66. These repetitions will cause ACF sidelobes of height 2 at these four delays. Starting from row 1, reversing the polarity of  $b_3$  (= 102) will reverse the polarity of the sidelobes at delays  $c_2$  (= 66) and  $c_3$  (= 101), as



Fig. 6. Ternary array of  $40 \times 120$  signal.

TABLE V Relating Frequency Element Polarity to Sidelobe Polarity

<i>b</i> <sub>1</sub>	$b_2$	$b_3$	$c_1$	<i>c</i> <sub>2</sub>	<i>c</i> <sub>3</sub>	
<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>x</i> <sub>2</sub>	<i>x</i> <sub>3</sub>	$x_1 x_2$	$x_2 x_3$	$x_1 x_3$	
<i>x</i> <sub>4</sub>	<i>x</i> <sub>5</sub>	<i>x</i> <sub>6</sub>	$x_4x_5$	$x_5 x_6$	$x_4 x_6$	
$x_{10}^{7}$	$x_{8} x_{11}$	x <sub>12</sub>	$x_{10}x_{11}$	$x_{11}x_{12}$	$x_{10}x_{12}$	

indicated by the last row of Table IV. Repeating the same reversal in the second row of Table III, namely of  $b_3$  (= 120), will reverse the polarity of  $c_2$  (= 19) and  $c_3$  (= 85). After reversing  $b_3$  in the 3rd and 4th rows as well, we find out that we caused opposite polarities in one of the two repetitions of each of the four delays (1, 19, 35, and 66). Thus the sidelobes of height 2 will disappear. It is interesting to note that applying the rule of reversing the polarity at the bit locations corresponding to the 3rd column of array **B**, will cause all the remaining autocorrelation sidelobes to be -1. Note that reversing the polarity at bits 55, 85, and 102 will yield the same nullifying result, but the remaining sidelobes could be both -1 or +1.

The described method of finding the location of polarity changes may be generalized with the help of Table V. The table refers, for example, to the top four rows of Table III. The variables  $x_i$  in the first three columns of Table V can take the values  $\pm 1$ , representing the polarity of the corresponding time slot. The resulted products in the last three columns will also have values of  $\pm 1$ , representing the polarity of the corresponding the top four rows of array **C** in Table III, in order to nullify the four "level 2" sidelobes at delays 66, 19, 1, and 35, we require the following four corresponding

equations to hold

$$x_{2}x_{3} + x_{4}x_{5} = 0$$

$$x_{5}x_{6} + x_{7}x_{8} = 0$$

$$x_{8}x_{9} + x_{10}x_{11} = 0$$

$$x_{11}x_{12} + x_{1}x_{2} = 0.$$
(23)

This is a set of 4 equations with 12 variables, for which there are many possible solutions. Few examples are setting to -1 only the following elements:  $[x_2, x_8]$  or  $[x_5, x_{11}]$  or  $[x_3, x_6, x_{11}]$  or  $[x_3, x_8, x_{12}]$  or  $[x_5, x_9, x_{12}]$  or  $[x_2, x_6, x_9]$  or  $[x_3, x_6, x_9, x_{12}]$ .

The same approach has to be applied to the remaining nine groups of four rows in Table III. An identical solution can be applied to all groups, or to some of the groups, while other solutions are applied to the remaining groups.

## III. SIGNAL BASED ON 40 × 120 TERNARY ARRAY—DETAILS AND PERFORMANCES

An example of a  $40 \times 120$  ternary array, whose frequency locations follow the array **B** in Table III, is shown graphically in Fig. 6. The phase reversal law is reversing  $b_3$ , which results the discrete ACF shown in Fig. 5. The empty diamonds in Fig. 6 represent those elements in which the polarity is reversed.

The details of the corresponding transmitted signal appear in Fig. 7. The three subplots represent (from top) amplitude, normalized frequency, and phase coding. Because only one frequency is transmitted during any bit, the amplitude would normally be a constant. However, in the signal described in Fig. 7, frequency weighting was added, by setting the amplitudes of bits corresponding to a given frequency, according to the weight assigned to that frequency.



Fig. 7. Amplitude, frequency, and phase coding of  $40 \times 120$  signal corresponding to ternary array in Fig. 6.



Fig. 8. Top: ACF of signal described in Fig. 7. Bottom: Zoom on first 4 bits.

The weight law was square root of Hamming. Such frequency weighting reduces the ACF sidelobes during the first bit. The resulted ACF of this signal is plotted in Fig. 8. The delay axis of the top ACF plot covers the full length (120 bits). The lower plot zooms on the first 4 bits. Two quadrants of the ambiguity function (AF) (positive Doppler only) are shown in Fig. 9. Because of limits on the density of the mesh, details of the AF in the first bit can be seen only in the bottom part of Fig. 9, which zooms on the first 6 bits.

Considering hardware issues, instead of using square root of the weight window, in both the transmitted and reference signals, it may be preferable



Fig. 9. Top: Ambiguity function of 120 bit signal described in Fig. 7. Bottom: Zoom on first 6 bits.

to transmit a constant amplitude signal and apply the full weight window in the reference signal at the receiver. The delay-Doppler response of such a mismatched receiver will be very similar to the AF of the amplitude weighted signal. The penalty will be a small SNR loss.

Theoretically, such frequency weighting should degrade the nullifying of level 2 sidelobes. A sidelobe of level 2 was created by two different rows (frequencies), and the polarity reversals caused the contribution from these two frequencies to cancel each other. If their amplitudes are different, then the cancellation is not perfect. However, observing the lower part of Fig. 8, we note that the nulls at multiples of  $t_b$  are below -50 dB, implying nearly perfect cancellation. This resulted in from the "separability" discussed earlier, which caused any two rows (frequencies) that contribute sidelobes at the

same delay, to be within a group of four contiguous frequencies, thus have similar amplitudes. As long as we do not reshuffle the frequencies (or reshuffle but keep each group of four together) the nullifying will be maintained despite the added frequency weighting. Because of the symmetry of the weight function, another frequency shuffling approach, that will minimize the weight effect on the sidelobe nullifying, is to split each group of four rows into two pairs and place them in symmetrical frequency locations. For example, assign rows 1, 2, 3, and 4 of array **B**, to the frequencies 1, 2, 39, and 40, respectively.

### IV. CONSTRUCTION OF A FAMILY OF MULTICARRIER BI-PHASE SIGNALS

It is known [7] that the number of different primitive polynomials of degree 5 irreducible above

		TABLE	VI			
Correspondence	Between	Primitive	Polynomials	and	Signal	Arrays

	<b>S</b> 1	<b>S</b> 2	<b>S</b> 3	<b>S</b> 4	S5	<b>S</b> 6	<b>S</b> 7	<b>S</b> 8	<b>S</b> 9	S10	S11	S12	S13	S14	S15	S16	S17	S18	S19	S20	S21	S22
21000	+													+						+		
2 2 1 0 0				+	+												+					
2 2 0 2 0	+														+						+	
20120						+					+							+				
21120										+					+							+
20210					+									+		+						
22110						+			+										+			
21002												+						+	+			
20202		+	+				+															
22202																			+		+	+
22022		+		+				+														
21222			+								+		+									
22122							+				+	+										
20012									+									+				+
22212															+	+				+		
20112								+						+			+					
20001			+			+						+										
22001					+			+												+		
21101		+											+				+					
22221	+									+						+						
2 1 0 1 1									+	+											+	
20211				+			+						+									

GF(3) is R

$$R = \frac{\varphi(3^5 - 1)}{5} = 22 \tag{24}$$

where  $\varphi$  is Euler's function. If the primitive polynomial of degree 5 is written as

$$f(x) = x^5 - a_4 x^4 - a_3 x^3 - a_2 x^2 - a_1 x - a_0$$
 (25)

and the companion matrix of f(x) as

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -a_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -a_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -a_4 \end{bmatrix}$$
(26)

then the strings in the last column of the matrix H, for all the 22 primitive polynomials, are listed in the first column of Table VI.

There are two methods to construct the family of all 22 ensembles. The first method is through the algorithm implemented in the Matlab program in Appendix A. But it is faster, once that algorithm finds the first ensemble, to calculate the remaining 21 ensembles by using isomprphic multipliers. This approach is based on the use of the formula

$$D_t = tD(\text{mod}\,L + 1) \tag{27}$$

where *t* and L + 1 are mutually prime, L = 120,  $T = \{t\}$  is a set of coefficients, and *D* is a known ENMOC. Clearly, using this second method is possible only if one ENMOC is known. If the resulted  $D_t$  is the same as the original *D* (disregarding a change in the order of elements) then the coefficients *t* are named automorphic, otherwise—isomorphic.

In order to find  $T = \{t\}$  it is necessary to form a multiplicative group in Galois field GF(3<sup>5</sup>) with the order 5, which will be named  $G_5$ . The multiplicative group is

$$G_5 = (1, 3, 9, 27, 81).$$
 (28)

It is easy to check that the results of all multiplicative operations modulo L + 1 belong to  $G_5$ . The multiplicative group can be divided into adjacent classes  $h_i$ , i = 1, 2, ..., 22 by multiplying the elements of  $G_5$  by the elements of the multiplicative group  $G_{120} = (1, 2, ..., 120)$ , modulo 121. The adjacent classes that contain identical elements are excluded.



Fig. 10. Amplitude and normalized frequency of signal corresponding to  $69 \times 69$  binary Costas array with square root of Hamming frequency weighting.

Appendix B presents 22 tables corresponding to 22 arrays of signals. The top rows in the tables contain  $G_5$  (in the first table) and all the adjacent classes (in the remaining tables). The set  $T = \{t\}$  of isomorphic coefficients will consist from one integer (any) from every such row. The 21 arrays (S2, S3,..., S22) in Appendix B were found from the ENMOC of S1 (the first column in Table II), using (27). Note that the arrays described by the tables in Appendix B are binary arrays that can describe a multicarrier signal. They still have to be modified into ternary arrays in order to represent a multicarrier bi-phase signal. The simplest modification will be to add a negative sign in front of all the elements in the last (third) column of each table.

It was found that each array fits three polynomials, and each polynomial fits three arrays. The correspondence between arrays and polynomials is outlined in Table VI. The rows represent polynomials and the columns represent arrays.

The 22 tables in Appendix B are listed in a particular way. The first row always starts with 1, and it is followed by the rows obtained through its automorphism. The 5th row starts with 2 (if it did not appear already in an earlier row), and so on. Many variations to each one of the 22 signals can be obtained by reordering the rows (but keeping each group of 4 rows together). Cross correlation between pairs of signals in Appendix B yielded a typical level of -35 dB relative to an autocorrelation peak.

Recall that all the 22 signals in Appendix B posses the important "separability" property. If we are willing to give it up, then it is possible (using random search) to generate many more  $40 \times 120$  binary arrays with the following properties:

- 1) There is exactly one 1 in each column.
- 2) There are exactly three 1s in each row.

3) A specific difference between locations of 1 within a row will not occur more than twice in the entire array.

4) If a specific difference occurs twice, the occurrence will be in different rows.

Arrays obtained by such a random search will usually result in (after the nullifying of sidelobes of magnitude 2) more than 40 remaining sidelobes of magnitude 1.

## V. COMPARISON WITH COSTAS SIGNAL

Our  $40 \times 120$  ternary signal yields a pulse compression factor of 4800. It will be interesting to compare its properties with those of a Costas signal with the same compression factor. The compression of an *L* element Costas signal is  $L^2$ , hence we should compare our  $40 \times 120$  ternary signal with a  $69 \times 69$ binary Costas signal. The Costas signal used was picked randomly from the many (> 24) Costas signals known at this length. Its frequency coding is:

46 7 20 63 25 14 65 48 30 36 34 11 66 24 38 57 27 37 10 19 16 17 64 1 22 15 41 56 51 29 60 26 61 2 69 23 62 49 6 44 55 4 21 39 33 35 58 3 45 31 12 42 32 59 50 53 52 5 68 47 54 28 13 18 40 9 43 8 67.

The same frequency weighting function (square root of Hamming) was applied to the Costas signal. The signal's amplitude and frequency modulation are plotted in Fig. 10. The resulted ACF is shown in Fig. 11, and the AF in Fig. 12.

The delay axis of the zoom on the ACF plot (Fig. 11, bottom) extends as far as 2.3 bits out of 69 bits in order to cover the same relative portion of the pulse as in Fig. 8 (bottom), which extends as far as 4 bits out of a signal of length 120. Comparing Figs. 8 and 11 reveals similar mainlobe width. The peak sidelobe level in the Costas case is slightly lower, due probably to the larger number of frequencies. The zoom in Fig. 12 is also proportional to that of Fig. 9 (bottom). In both AF plots the delay axis extends as



Fig. 11. Top: ACF of 69 bit Costas signal. Bottom: Zoom on first 2.3 bits.



Fig. 12. Ambiguity function of 69 bit Costas signal with zoom on first 3.5 bits.

far as 1/20 of the pulse duration. In general we see similar performances of our 40 frequency ternary signal and the 69 frequency Costas signal.

## VI. CONCLUSIONS

A new multicarrier radar signal was described. As in Costas, only one frequency is transmitted during any given time slot. Contrary to Costas, each frequency is repeated several times (3 in the examples given). Another difference is the addition of polarity reversal (180° phase shift) in some of the bits. Thus, while Costas signal can be described by a binary array, our signal has to be described by a ternary array. The given example, of 40 frequencies and 120 bits, yields pulse compression of 4800. To obtain such pulse compression with a Costas signal would have required 69 frequencies. The ordering of the sequences in frequency, and the law of polarity reversals, can have many variations, which calls for further study in order to optimize the AF off the zero-Doppler cut. APPENDIX A. MATLAB PROGRAM FOR CONSTRUCTING THE ARRAYS

```
% "all_ensemble.m" - Creats all 40x120 Sverdlik/Levanon arrays
clear all
hh_4=[0 0 0 0; 1 0 0 0; 0 1 0 0; 0 0 1 0; 0 0 0 1 ]; % first 4 columns
h_last_col=[2 1 0 0 0; 2 2 1 0 0; 2 2 0 2 0; 2 0 1 2 0; 2 1 1 2 0; 2 0 2 1 0; 2 2 1 1 0;...
    2 1 0 0 2; 2 0 2 0 2; 2 2 2 0 2; 2 2 0 2 2; 2 1 2 2 2; 2 2 1 2 2; 2 0 0 1 2;...
    2 2 2 1 2; 2 0 1 1 2; 2 0 0 0 1; 2 2 0 0 1; 2 1 1 0 1; 2 2 2 2 1; 2 1 0 1 1; 2 0 2 1 1]';
% mp are all the possible multipliers to check linear dependence
2 1 1 1; 2 1 1 2; 2 1 2 1; 2 1 2 2; 2 2 1 1; 2 2 1 2; 2 2 2 1]';
[ss,tt]=size(mp);
for pol=1:22
    hh(:,:,pol)=[hh_4 h_last_col(:,pol)];
    aa(:,1,pol)=[1 0 0 0 0]';
    bb(:,1,pol)=[1 0 0 0 0]';
    for k=1:120
        bb(:,k+1,pol)=hh(:,:,pol)*(:,k,pol);
        aa(:,k+1,pol)=mod(bb(:,k+1,pol),3);
    end
end % of for pol=1:22
% aa are 22 arrays each 5x121. The columns are all the powers of x in the corresponding polynom
pa=1; pb=2; pc=2;
flag_result=0;
results=input('How many ensembles to search for (1 to 22)=? ');
while flag_result<results
    if pc<22
        pc=pc+1;
    else
        pb=pb+1;
        pc=pb+1;
    end
    poly3=[pa pb pc];
    disp(' ')
    disp(' Polynomials used ' ), disp(poly3)
    enssig_temp=[];
    enssig=[];
    r=[1:120];
    Ir=length(r);
    aap=aa(:,:,poly3);
    while Ir>11
        m=1+min(r);
        for pol=1:3
             d=1; % the row number
             for n=(m+1):120
                 for p=(n+1):121
                     qq(:,:,pol)=[aap(:,1,pol) aap(:,m,pol) aap(:,n,pol) aap(:,p,pol)]';
                     t=1:
                     while t<(tt+1) % tt is the number of columns of mp (The multiplying options)
                          qqq(:,:,pol)=diag(mp(:,t))*qq(:,:,pol);
                          sq=mod(sum(qqq(:,:,pol)),3);
                          if sq==zeros(1,5) % implying linear dependence
                              t=tt+1; % a multiplier was found. No need to try other multipliers
                              dd(d,:,pol)=sort([0 m-1 n-1 p-1]);
                              d=d+1;
                          else
                              t=t+1;
                          end
                     end % while t
```

```
end % the loop for p
             end % the loop for n
             ddd(:,:,pol)=dd(:,2:4,pol);
        end % the loop for pol=
        dmax=d:
        for p1=1:dmax-1
             for p2=1:dmax-1
                 same_ens(p1,p2)=sum(ddd(p1,:,1)==ddd(p2,:,2));
                 if same_ens(p1,p2)==3 % all three elements identical
                      for p3=1:dmax-1
                          samep1p3(p3)=sum(ddd(p1,:,1)==ddd(p3,:,3));
                          if samep1p3(p3)==3
                              enssig_temp=ddd(p1,:,1);
                              % creating the automorphisms
                              for k=1:3
                                   stemp(k,:)=mod( [dd(p1,:,1)-dd(p1,k+1,1)], 121);
                                   stemp(k,:)=sort(stemp(k,:));
                                   enssig_temp=[enssig_temp;stemp(k,2:4)];
                              end % of creating automorphism
                          end
                      end
                 end
             end
        end
        if length(enssig_temp)<4
             disp(' No results ')
             enssig=[];
             break
        end
        enssig=[enssig;enssig_temp];
        dline=reshape(enssig_temp,1,12);
        enssig_temp=[ ];
        flag=0;
        for q=1:12
            el=find(r==dline(q));
             [s1 s2]=size(el);
             if s2==1 % implying not an empty matrix
                 elim(q)=el;
             else
                 elim(q)=0;
                 flag=1; % implying that at least one element was already used
             end
        end
        if flag==0
             r(elim)=[]; % removing the elements used now
             Ir=length(r); % updating the length of r
        end % the elements used were taken out of the vector r
        if flag==1
             disp(' No results ')
                 break
        end
    end % of while Ir>11
    if length(enssig)==40
        disp(' ')
        disp(' Resulted array ')
        disp('')
        disp(enssig) % displays the entire signal
        flag_result=flag_result+1;
    end
end % of while flag_result==results-1
```

## APPENDIX B. ALL 22 ARRAYS

1, 3	6, 9, 27	, 81		20
	<b>S</b> 1			
1	36	102		
35	101	120		5
66	85	86		e
19	20	55		
2	10	17		
8	15	119		4
7	111	113		2
104	106	114		4
3	64	108		
61	105	118		2
44	57	60		7
13	16	77		1
4	27	92		
23	88	117		2
65	94	98		8
29	33	56		1
5	43	80		
38	75	116		
37	78	83		7
41	46	84		2
6	30	51		
24	45	115		2
21	91	97		3
70	76	100		5
9	71	82		1
62	73	112		3
11	50	59		1
39	48	110		
12	34	81	-	1
22	69	109		1
47	87	99		7
40	52	74		2
14	72	103		1
58	89	107		2
31	49	63		4
18	32	90		3
25	53	79		2
28	54	96		4
26	68	93		2
42	67	95		3

20, 47,	, 56,	59, 60
	<b>S</b> 2	
1	53	117
52	116	120
64	68	69
4	5	57
2	49	77
47	75	119
28	72	74
44	46	93
3	38	109
35	106	118
71	83	86
12	15	50
6	26	110
20	104	115
84	95	101
11	17	37
7	16	92
9	85	114
76	105	112
29	36	45
8	30	62
22	54	113
32	91	99
59	67	89
10	43	61
33	51	111
18	78	88
60	70	103
13	27	100
14	87	108
73	94	107
21	34	48
19	42	82
23	63	102
40	79	98
39	58	81
24	65	90
41	66	97
25	56	80
31	55	96

			_
40, 94,	112, 1	18, 120	
	<b>S</b> 3		
1	20	86	
19	85	120	
66	101	102	
35	36	55	
2	106	113	_
104	111	119	
7	15	17	
8	10	114	
3	16	60	
13	57	118	
44	105	108	
61	64	77	_
4	33	98	
29	94	117	
65	88	92	
23	27	56	
5	46	83	
41	78	116	
37	75	80	
38	43	84	
6	76	97	_
70	91	115	
21	45	51	
24	30	100	
9	48	59	_
39	50	112	
11	73	82	
62	71	110	
12	52	99	_
40	87	109	
47	69	81	
22	34	74	
14	32	63	
18	49	107	
31	89	103	
58	72	90	
25	67	93	_
42	68	96	
26	54	79	
28	53	95	

85	113	120	
28	35	36	
7	8	93	
2	19	79	
17	77	119	
60	102	104	
42	44	61	
3	16	100	
13	97	118	
84	105	108	
21	24	37	
4	30	98	
26	94	117	
68	91	95	
23	27	53	
 5	11	62	
6	57	116	
51	110	115	
59	64	70	
9	48	58	
39	49	112	
10	73	82	
63	72	111	
12	52	90	
40	78	109	
38	69	81	
 31	43	83	
 14	55	101	
41	87	107	
46	66	80	
 20	34	75	
 15	33	65	
18	50	106	
32	88	103	
 56	71	89	
22	67	96	
45	74	99	
29	54	76	
25	17	00	

19, 29, 50, 57, 87

**S**4

86

114

25, 70	, 75, 8	9, 104	
	S5		
1	70	100	
69	99	120	
30	51	52	
21	22	91	
2	15	49	
13	47	119	
34	106	108	
72	74	87	
3	58	89	
55	86	118	
31	63	66	
32	35	90	
4	64	107	
60	103	117	
43	57	61	
14	18	78	
5	41	97	
36	92	116	
56	80	85	
24	29	65	
6	26	45	
20	39	115	
19	95	101	
76	82	102	
7	88	111	
81	104	114	
23	33	40	
10	17	98	
8	50	62	
42	54	113	
12	71	79	
59	67	109	
9	25	53	
16	44	112	
28	96	105	
68	77	93	
11	48	94	
37	83	110	
46	73	84	
27	38	75	

67, 80,	103,	115, 119
	<b>S</b> 6	
1	7	33
6	32	120
26	114	115
88	89	95
2	40	51
38	49	119
11	81	83
70	72	110
3	21	99
18	96	118
78	100	103
22	25	43
4	91	105
87	101	117
14	30	34
16	20	107
5	28	64
23	59	116
36	93	98
57	62	85
8	66	75
58	67	113
9	55	63
46	54	112
10	45	92
35	82	111
47	76	86
29	39	74
12	31	73
19	61	109
42	90	102
48	60	79
13	50	65
37	52	108
15	71	84
56	69	106
17	41	94
24	77	104
53	80	97
27	44	68

38,	53	, 58, 1	00, 114	
		<b>S</b> 7		
	1	84	88	
:	83	87	120	
	4	37	38	
	33	34	117	
	2	51	107	_
4	49	105	119	
:	56	70	72	
	14	16	65	
	3	10	22	_
	7	19	118	
	12	111	114	
	99	102	109	
	5	23	101	
	18	96	116	
,	78	98	103	
	20	25	43	_
	6	32	79	
	26	73	115	
4	47	89	95	
	42	48	74	
	8	60	75	
:	52	67	113	
	15	61	69	
	46	54	106	
	9	30	66	
	21	57	112	
	36	91	100	
	55	64	85	
	11	39	92	
	28	81	110	
:	53	82	93	
	29	40	68	
	13	44	71	
	31	58	108	
	27	77	90	
:	50	63	94	_
	17	41	76	
	24	59	104	
	35	80	97	
4	45	62	86	

10, 2	8, 30,	84, 90	
	<b>S</b> 8		_
1	85	99	_
84	98	120	
14	36	37	
22	23	107	
2	63	89	
61	87	119	
26	58	60	
32	34	95	
3	13	55	
10	52	118	
42	108	111	
66	69	79	
4	15	31	
11	27	117	
16	106	110	
90	94	105	
5	82	91	
77	86	116	
9	39	44	
30	35	112	
6	25	68	
19	62	115	
43	96	102	
53	59	78	
7	54	104	
47	97	114	
50	67	74	
17	24	71	_
8	46	64	
38	56	113	
18	75	83	
57	65	103	
12	45	93	
33	81	109	
48	76	88	
28	40	73	_
20	49	100	
29	80	101	
51	72	92	
21	41	70	
			_

13, 39,	85, 10	)9, 117
	<b>S</b> 9	
1	38	97
37	96	120
59	83	84
24	25	62
2	14	66
12	64	119
52	107	109
55	57	69
3	49	114
46	111	118
65	72	75
7	10	56
4	80	102
76	98	117
22	41	45
19	23	99
5	18	110
13	105	116
92	103	108
11	16	29
6	42	77
36	71	115
35	79	85
44	50	86
8	61	89
53	81	113
28	60	68
32	40	93
9	26	100
17	91	112
74	95	104
21	30	47
15	54	88
39	73	106
34	67	82
33	48	87
20	63	90
43	70	101
27	58	78
31	51	94

26, 49,	78,	97, 113	
	<b>S</b> 10	)	
1	16	57	
15	56	120	
41	105	106	
64	65	80	
2	73	76	
71	74	119	
3	48	50	
45	47	118	
4	11	28	
7	24	117	
17	110	114	
93	97	104	
5	40	59	
35	54	116	
19	81	86	
62	67	102	
6	98	107	
92	101	115	
9	23	29	
14	20	112	
8	39	83	
31	75	113	
44	82	90	
38	46	77	
10	36	99	
26	89	111	
63	85	95	
22	32	58	
12	33	84	
21	72	109	
51	88	100	
37	49	70	
13	43	68	
30	55	108	
25	78	91	
53	66	96	
18	52	79	
34	61	103	
27	69	87	
42	60	94	

	16, 23	3, 48, 0	59, 86	
		<b>S</b> 11		
_	1	37	54	
	36	53	120	
	17	84	85	
	67	68	104	
	2	9	91	
	7	89	119	
	82	112	114	
	30	32	39	
_	3	41	111	
	38	108	118	
	70	80	83	
	10	13	51	
	4	94	100	
	90	96	117	
	6	27	31	
	21	25	115	
	5	57	77	
	52	72	116	
	20	64	69	
	44	49	101	
	8	73	107	
	65	99	113	
	34	48	56	
	14	22	87	
_	11	26	61	
	15	50	110	
	35	95	106	
	60	71	86	
	12	40	58	
	28	46	109	
	18	81	93	
	63	75	103	
	16	59	92	
	43	76	105	
	33	62	78	
	29	45	88	
	19	42	66	
	23	47	102	
	24	79	98	
	55	74	97	

76, 79,	106,	107, 116	
	S12		
1	17	30	
16	29	120	
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12	37	64	
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7	24	74	7	18	79
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	S21		-		S22	
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64	116	117		28	113	114
52	53	57		85	86	93
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44	72	119		42	102	119
28	75	77		60	77	79
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12	83	118		21	105	118
71	106	109		84	97	100
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11	95	115		23	91	117
84	104	110		68	94	98
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41	65	96	_	45	67	92

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**Meshulim B. Sverdlik** was born in Rovno, Poland, in 1925. He actively participated in WWII. He received the Dipl. Eng. degree in electronics in 1951 from the Electro-Technical Institute in Odessa, the degree of Candidate of Sciences (which corresponds to the Ph.D. in the West) in 1959, in theoretical communication, and a D.Sc. in radar and navigation engineering in 1974, from the Polytechnic University in Odessa.

From 1952 to 1964 he worked on radar systems at the Novosibirsk Scientific complex. From 1964 to 1994 he was Chairman of the Department of Radio Systems at the Polytechnic University in Odessa.

Dr. Sverdlik has published more than 100 papers (of which about 50 appeared in foreign journals), 15 books, and has 18 patents. He has guided 33 doctoral candidates and 3 Doctor of Science candidates. In 1994 he immigrated to Israel, were he continued his research activity as a free lance.



**Nadav Levanon** (S'67—M'70—SM'83—F'98—LF'06) received the B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees from the Technion–Israel Institute of Technology, in 1961 and 1965, and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, in 1969, all in electrical engineering.

He has been a faculty member at Tel Aviv University since 1970, where he is a professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering—Systems. He was chairman of that department during 1983–1985. At Tel Aviv University he is also head of the Weinstein Research Institute for Signal Processing and incumbent of the Chair for Radar, Navigation and Electronic Systems. He spent sabbatical years at the University of Wisconsin, The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, and at Qualcomm Inc., San Diego, CA.

Dr. Levanon is a member of the ION and AGU, and a Fellow of the IET. He is the author of the book *Radar Principles* (Wiley, 1988) and coauthor of *Radar Signals* (Wiley, 2004).