

# Analysis of active decoy deployment against anti-radiation missiles

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## Abstract

Missile threats are the most dangerous ones and valuable platforms like ships and land based installation have become most vulnerable targets. To counter multiple or singular missile attacks, with radar terminal phase homing both hard kill in the form of anti missiles and soft kill in the form of decoys have been used with increasing success rate for protecting the vital installations and platforms. In this paper, active decoy deployment for most effective luring away of missiles from the installations and platforms is analyzed and discussed. Miss distance of the missiles from the vital targets is computed with various parametric studies and is analyzed. It is shown that maximum miss distance is obtained, when the active decoy is positioned around 1100 from the reference axis of the target platform. Optimum angular deployment positions for various J/S ratios have been analyzed and results presented.

**Keywords:** Radar; Electronic Warfare; Decoy; Monopulse.

## 1. Introduction

In a typical sea skimming missile engagement scenario in the terminal phase against a ship the reaction time available for defensive actions is typically 90 seconds. With this reaction time, soft kill option with an active cartridge fired decoy for luring away the missile during the terminal phase which is dealt with in this paper. Various parameters affecting deployment and effective luring away of the missile are considered. Decoys have been used widely to protect valuable platforms from incoming missiles. With the development of anti radiation missile (ARM) technology, serious threats have come into vogue, which are to be dealt with effectively. Similarly, the stealth platforms are also a serious threat to valuable assets. To counter these threats antimissile missile technologies have been developed for destroying the incoming missiles in mid air. While this is a hard kill option, there are soft kill options such as deploying of passive and active decoys, and other jamming techniques.

In this paper, we are concerned with active decoy deployment and effective jamming. The countermeasure techniques against ARM have been studied in recent times [1-7]. An anti ARM technique using random phase and amplitude active decoys has been reported [8]. In this paper, the optimum distance between decoys and radar was derived. In another paper, multi active source decoy system, using deceptive effect of blinking decoys against ARM have been discussed [9]. Performance evaluation of radar and decoy system against anti radiation missiles has also been reported [10]. In this paper, the effects of quadrangular topology for distribution of three decoys have been described [11]. In the radar terminal guidance, discriminating the target and decoy using frequency profile modeling has been studied [12]. An impact of multipath reflections from the sea surface on active decoy jamming has been analyzed [13].

In this paper section II describes deployment geometry, section III mathematical formulations, section IV simulations, results and analysis, section V conclusions. The reference paper for this analysis is the paper published by the author earlier [14].

## 2. Deployment model

The deployment model is shown in Fig. 1. The various parameters in the figure are as follows. Missile is located at the origin of the X – Y co-ordinate system. Target is assumed to be tracking the target in its terminal phase making near zero angles. Decoy is located at a length L from the target making an angle  $\gamma$  with respect to Missile to Target axis.  $\theta_d$  – Angle between target and decoy as seen from the missile;  $R_d$  – Range between missile and the decoy in meters;  $R_t$  – Range between missile and target in meters.

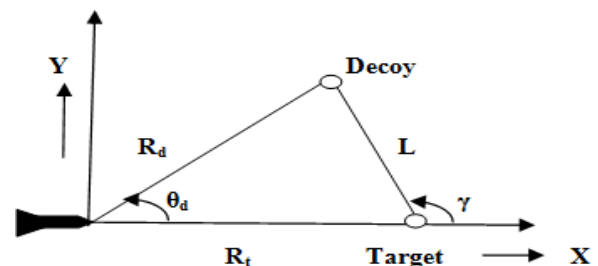


Fig. 1: Deployment Model of Target, Decoy and Missile.

The monopulse system transmits a sinusoidal pulse with additive noise. The signal traverses a distance  $R_t$  from the monopulse antenna and gets scattered back from the target and traverses a distance of  $R_t$  back to the monopulse antenna. Atmospheric noise as

well as amplitude and phase noise due to target movement is added to the signal as additive noise and is assumed to be Gaussian. The phase noise is assumed to have uniform distribution as every value of phase is equally probable.

### 3. Mathematical formulation

The radar echo signal enters the two horn monopulse radar system whose block diagram is shown in Fig. 2. Each horn is assumed to have a Gaussian power pattern which is a valid approximation to horn patterns, down to 10 dB level measured from the peak of the pattern. The voltage output of horn1 and horn 2 are down converted with a local oscillator and filter. The IF output is passed for getting azimuth angle tracking errors. In this formulation, coherent monopulse processing is assumed as this gives better SNR performance.

The voltage output of horns namely  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are given by [1-2].

$$V_{10t} = \sqrt{S * G_0 * \exp(-2.776 * ((\theta_t - \theta_0)/\theta_b)^2) + A_n} \tag{1}$$

$$V_{1t} = V_{10t} * \sin(\omega t + \Delta\phi) \tag{2}$$

$$V_{20t} = \sqrt{S * G_0 * \exp(-2.776 * ((\theta_t + \theta_0)/\theta_b)^2) + A_n} \tag{3}$$

$$V_{2t} = V_{20t} * \sin(\omega t + \Delta\phi) \tag{4}$$

$$V_{10d} = \sqrt{J * G_0 * \exp(-2.776 * ((\theta_d - \theta_0)/\theta_b)^2) + A_n} \tag{5}$$

$$V_{20d} = \sqrt{J * G_0 * \exp(-2.776 * ((\theta_d + \theta_0)/\theta_b)^2) + A_n} \tag{6}$$

$$V_{1d} = V_{10d} * \sin(\omega t + \Delta\phi) \tag{7}$$

$$V_{2d} = V_{20d} * \sin(\omega t + \Delta\phi) \tag{8}$$

$$V_1 = V_{1t} + V_{1d} \tag{9}$$

$$V_2 = V_{2t} + V_{2d} \tag{10}$$

Where

- $V_1$ - Time domain signal voltage at IF output
- $V_2$ - Time domain signal voltage at IF output
- $V_{10t}$ -Amplitude of the target echo signal at horn1
- $V_{20t}$ -Amplitude of the target echo signal at horn2
- $V_{10d}$ -Amplitude of the decoy signal at the output of horn1
- $V_{20d}$ -Amplitude of the decoy signal at the output of horn2
- S-signal power
- J-Decoy repeater power
- $\Delta\phi$ -Random phase of additive noise
- $G_0$ -Gain of receiving antennas 1 and 2, assumed to be equal
- $\theta_t$ - Angle between missile and target=0
- $\theta_0$ - Squint angle of the horns from missile-target axis
- $\theta_b$ - Half power beam width
- $\omega$ - Radian frequency at r. f.
- $A_n$ -Additive noise amplitude

The horn outputs are summed in a hybrid and the output is amplified, down converted to IF and passes through an AGC amplifier and then given to a PLL as in Fig. 2. Similarly, the difference of voltage outputs of the two horns is amplified down converted to IF and passes through an AGC amplifier. This is mixed with PLL corrected VCO output and passes through LPF and given to azimuth tracking servo system [3-4]. This output is normalized with respect to the sum channel output. The sum and difference outputs are given by,

$$V_{sum}(f, \theta, t) = V_1 + V_2 \tag{11}$$

$$V_{diff}(f, \theta, t) = V_1 - V_2 \tag{12}$$

The error voltage related to angular tracking error of radar is given by,

$$V_{error}(f, \theta, t) = \text{real}(V_{diff}/V_{sum}) \tag{13}$$

Where,  $\theta$ - Angle off bore sight axis of the monopulse antenna system  $T=n$ =Number of snap shots.

The VCO is locked to the incoming IF frequency in its steady state.

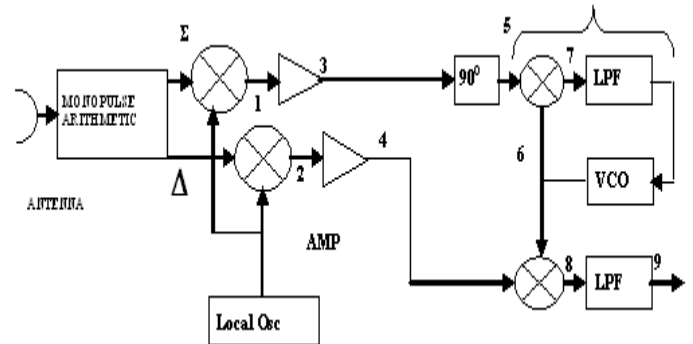


Fig. 2:Block Diagram of Two Horn Monopulse System.

Computer simulations have been carried out for studying variation of voltage error  $V_{err}$  for various values of active decoy jammer power to radar echo signal ratio  $J/S$  (as measured at receiver SUM channel R. F. output) against  $\gamma$  and  $L$ . Miss Distance  $D_m$  is the distance between target and the missile nearest to the target in the presence of decoy. Miss distance is computed as follows.

$R_d$  is obtained from the trigonometrical relation,

$$R_d^2 = R_t^2 + L^2 - 2 * R_t * L * \cos(180 - \gamma) \tag{14}$$

$$D_m = R_d * \theta_{err}$$

Where,  $\theta_{err}$  is the error in tracking angle introduced by the decoy's repeater jammer.

Miss distance is obtained from  $V_{error}(f, \theta, t)$  at eqn. (13) and computing the corresponding angle off boresight from the monopulse difference voltage to sum voltage ratios obtained for various angles off boresight at the IF output in the presence of missile radar echo signal only.

### 4. Simulations, results and analysis

The ranges of the parameters which are used in computer simulations are given below, and miss distance  $D_m$  versus  $J/S$  is computed.

$J/S$	-	0 to 30
$\gamma$	-	10° to 170°
$L$	-	100 to 600 meters
$R_t$	-	10 Km

The above have been repeated with typical r. f. SNRs of 5dB, 10dB and without noise. From the voltage error, the angular error produced by the monopulse system which is used for tracking with a single target has been computed and miss distance in meters is plotted. Two cases are analyzed for miss distance namely, one without noise and the other with noise. The plots of  $J/S$  versus Miss Distance are presented in Fig. 3-5.

Case (i) without additive noise, and  $\gamma=60^\circ, 70^\circ, 90^\circ, 110^\circ, 120^\circ$  and  $L=100$  to 600 meters.

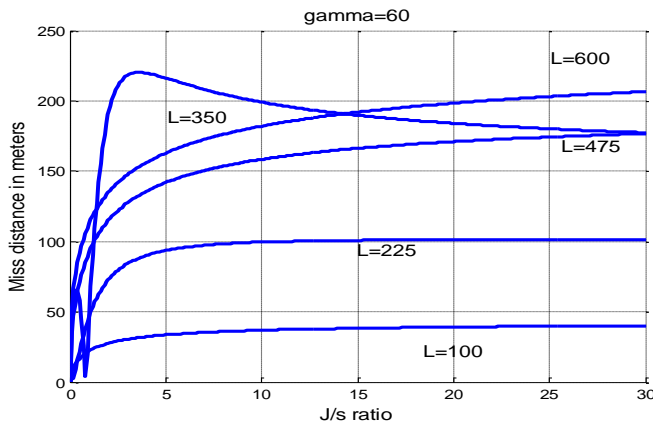


Fig. 3: A) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=60^\circ$ .

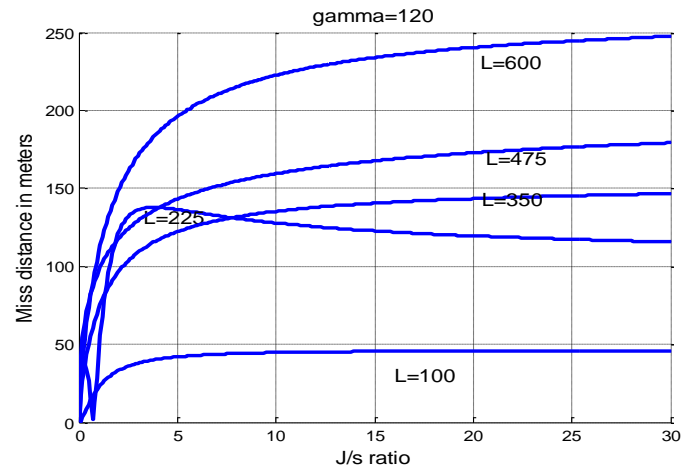


Fig. 3: E) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=120^\circ$ .

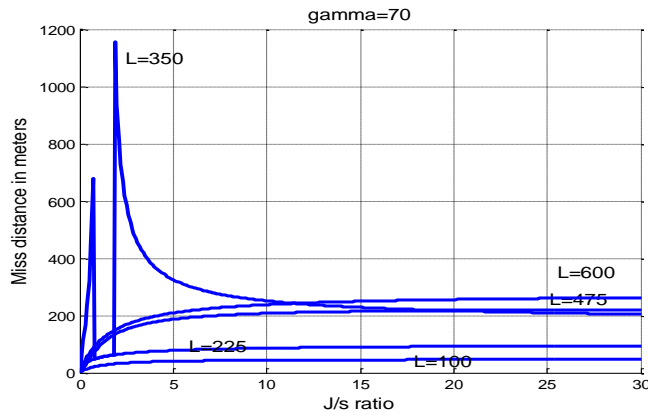


Fig. 3: B) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=70^\circ$ .

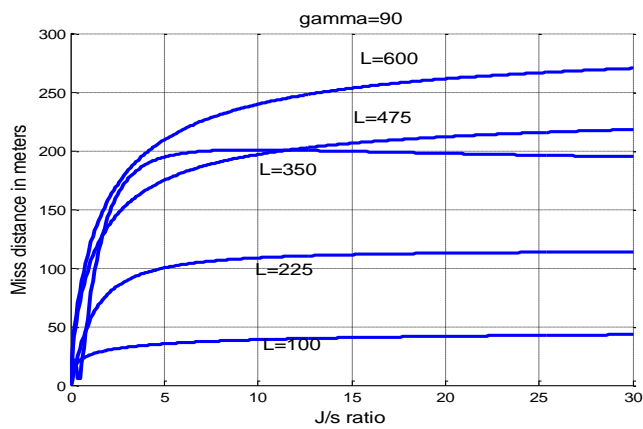


Fig. 3: C) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=90^\circ$ .

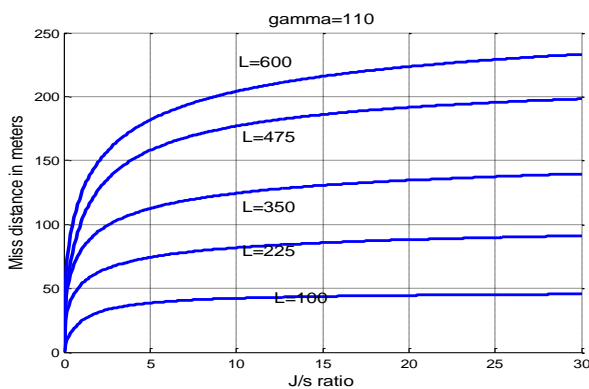


Fig. 3: D) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=110^\circ$ .

It can be seen that when the decoy is deployed at a distance of 600 meters, the miss distance is only around 200 to 250 meters for J/S ratios of more than 4. If J/S ratios are less than 4 the curves are not steady and cannot be depended upon.

Case (ii) With additive noise with SNR=5dB, and  $\gamma=60^\circ, 70^\circ, 90^\circ, 110^\circ, 120^\circ$  and L=100 to 600 meters.

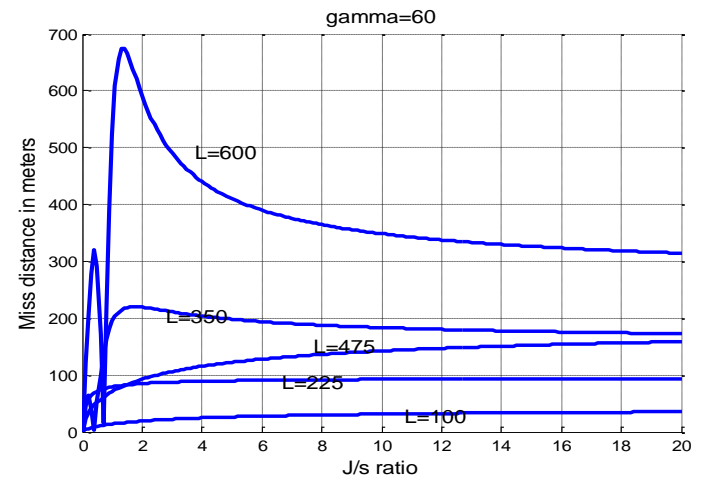


Fig. 4: A) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=60^\circ$ .

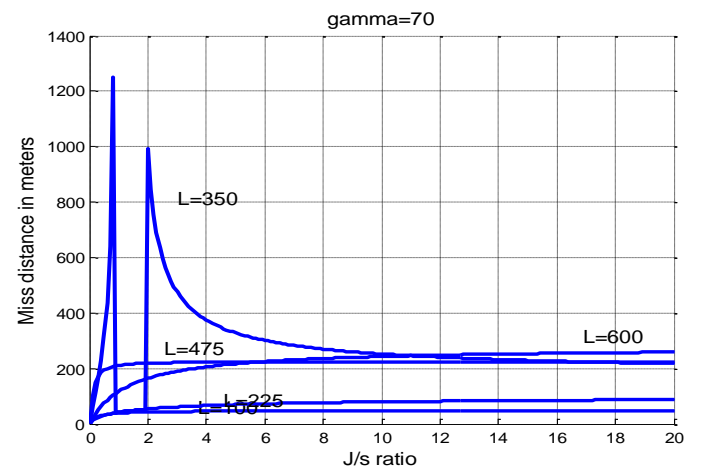


Fig. 4: B) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=70^\circ$ .

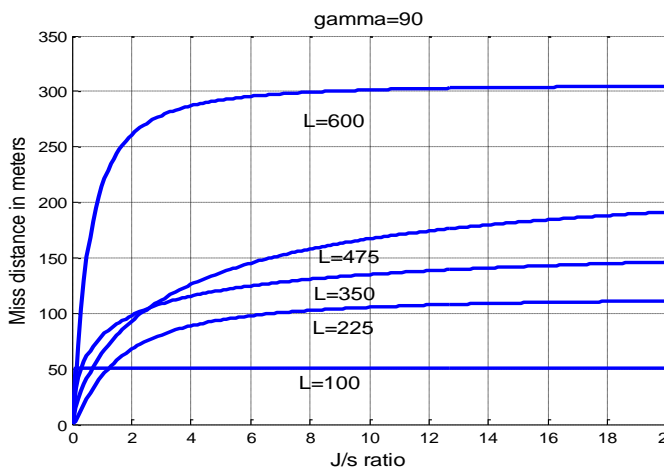


Fig. 4: C) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=90^\circ$ .

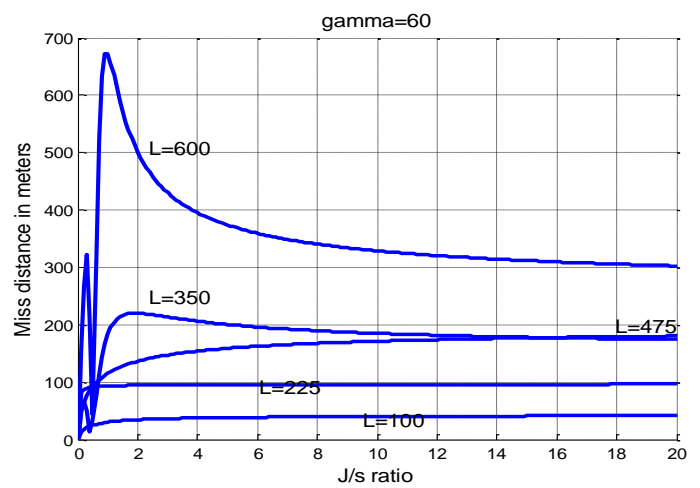


Fig. 5: A) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=60^\circ$ .

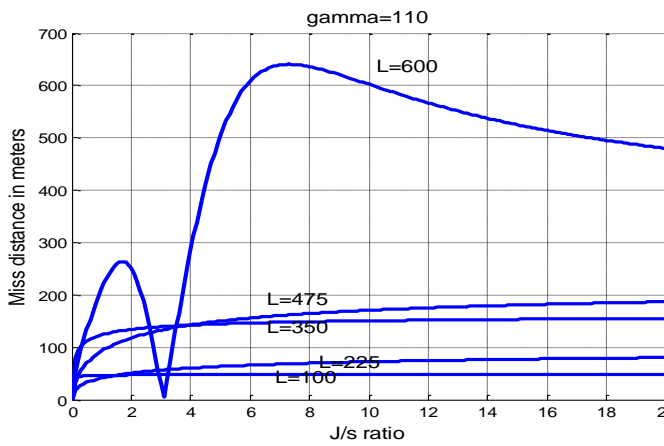


Fig. 4: D) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=110^\circ$ .

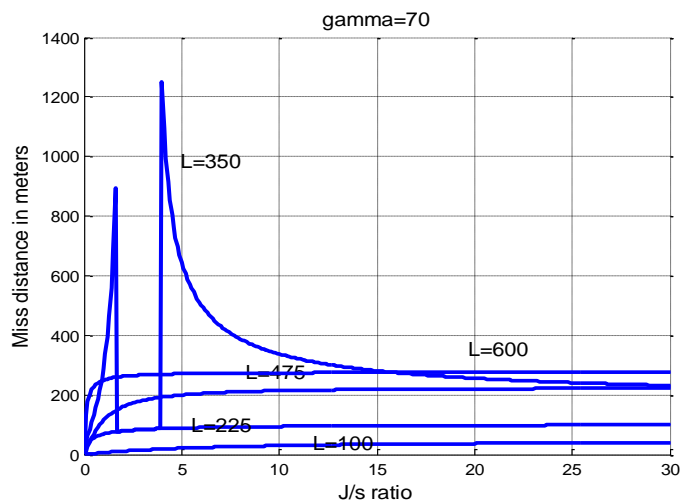


Fig. 5: B) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=70^\circ$ .

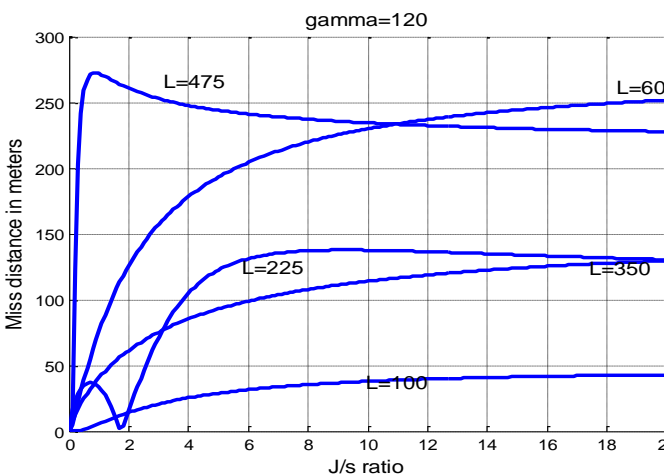


Fig. 4: E) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=120^\circ$ .

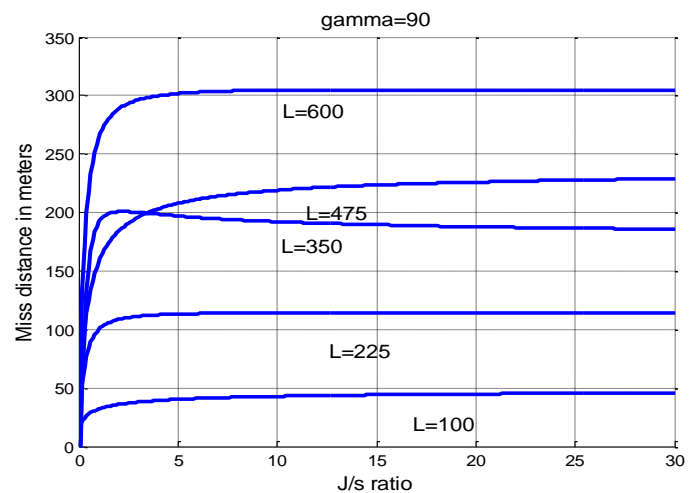


Fig. 5: C) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=90^\circ$ .

In the presence of additive noise with SNR of 5dB, the miss distance is only around 250 to 480 meters for J/S ratios of more than 4. If J/S ratios are less than 4 the curves are not steady and cannot be depended upon.  
 Case (iii) with additive noise with SNR=10dB, and  $\gamma=60^\circ, 70^\circ, 90^\circ, 110^\circ, 120^\circ$  and L=100 to 600 meters.

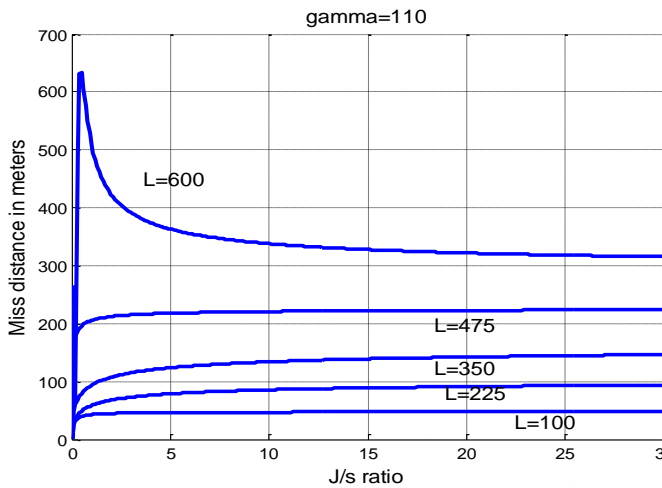


Fig. 5: D) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=110^\circ$ .

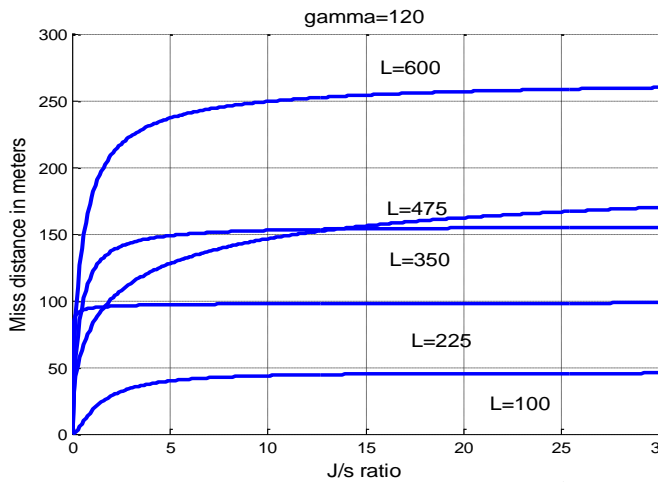


Fig. 5: E) Miss Distance Variation with J/S and L,  $\Gamma=120^\circ$ .

It can be seen that when the decoy is deployed at a distance of 600 meters, the miss distance is only around 250 to 320 meters for J/S ratios of more than 4 for all cases excepting L=350, wherein J/S required is greater than 6.0. Studies also have been carried out with decoy distance of 1Km and for  $\gamma=110^\circ$ , and a maximum miss distance of 730 meters is obtained with SNR of 5dB. A maximum miss distance of 819 meters is obtained for a  $\gamma$  of  $70^\circ$  without noise. The above simulations are given in the following TABLE I for various values of L.

Table 1:

L(meters)	Miss Distance (meters) with SNR=5dB	Miss distance (meters) with SNR=10dB	Miss distance (meters) without additive noise
100	47.96	47.43	45.34
500	330.4	325.8	28.67
600	487.3	315.3	233.1
1000	728.5	682.4	520.1

Miss distance without noise is the least and can be expected for obvious reasons. As the SNR reduces, miss distance increases.

### 5. Conclusions

Decoys with repeated jammers have been studied. In this paper, the optimum angle of fire  $\gamma$  for maximum miss distance has been computed. The computations are based upon, missile borne monopulse receiver outputs at the IF stage. Both the radar echo signal and the repeater jammer signal are compared at the IF output. For various fire angles  $\gamma$  of cartridges containing repeater jammer, miss distances have been obtained with J/S ratios varying from 0 to 30. Also the cases of signal plus additive noise with SNRs of 5dB, 10dB and with no additive noise have been ana-

lyzed. In all the above cases, the miss distance of the missile from the target is much less than the target to decoy distance. Also, in order to be effective J/S ratios of the order of 4 or more have to be employed. For  $\gamma=90^\circ$  the decoy is vertically above the target platform, and hence, should not be the choice.  $\gamma=110^\circ$  is found to be most optimum yielding maximum miss distance. This analysis is useful in EW applications in protecting valuable assets.

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