Imaging Radar - The One Sensor To Rule Them All



Amit Benjamin, Texas Instruments

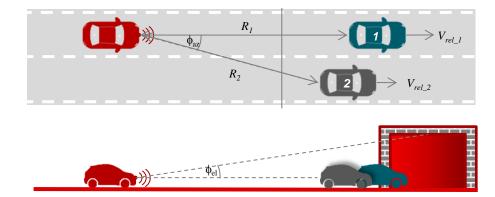


- Radar in Automotive Today What is Missing?
- Camera Vs Lidar Vs Radar Strength & Weakness
- Which Sensors in Which AV Level?
- Imaging Sensor Why is it a Game Changer?
- Imaging Radar Use Case Analysis Step Function in Radar performance



Radar in Automotive

- Determine object range
- Determine object (relative) velocity
- Determine object azimuth & elevation angle



- Object discrimination (multi-target capability)
- Object classification (shape, size)
- Robust against environmental conditions such as bad light & weather

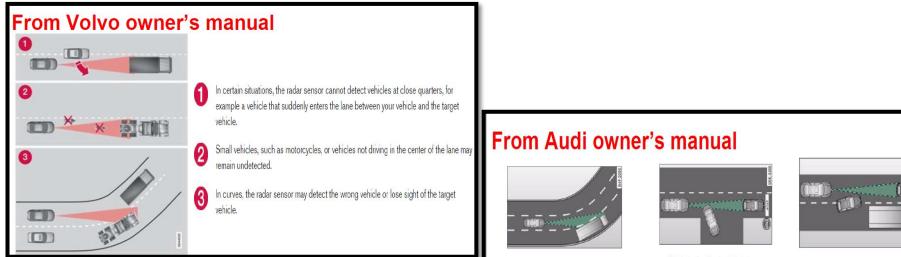


Sounds Simple – But Something doesn't work Right





Sounds Simple – But Something is missing



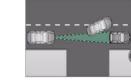
venicle turnin

Driving into a bend

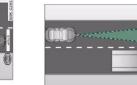
Driving out of a bend

Vehicle turning off and vehicle stationary

A vehicle is changing lanes

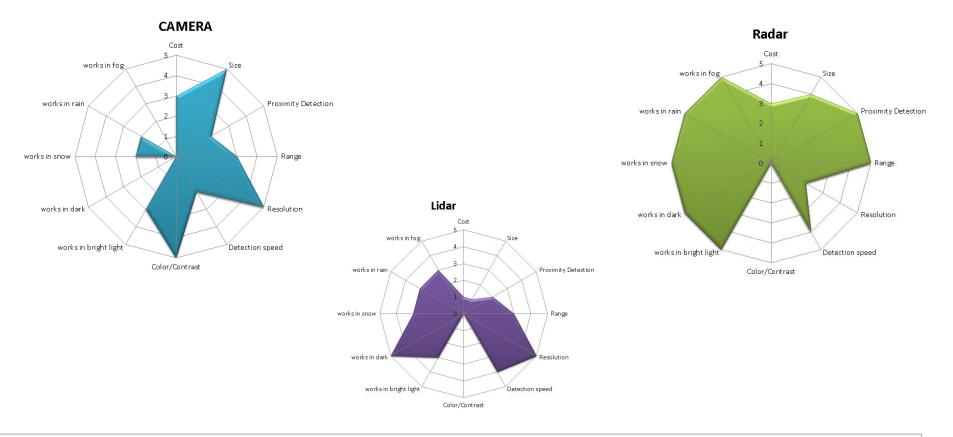


Vehicle changing lane and vehicle stationary

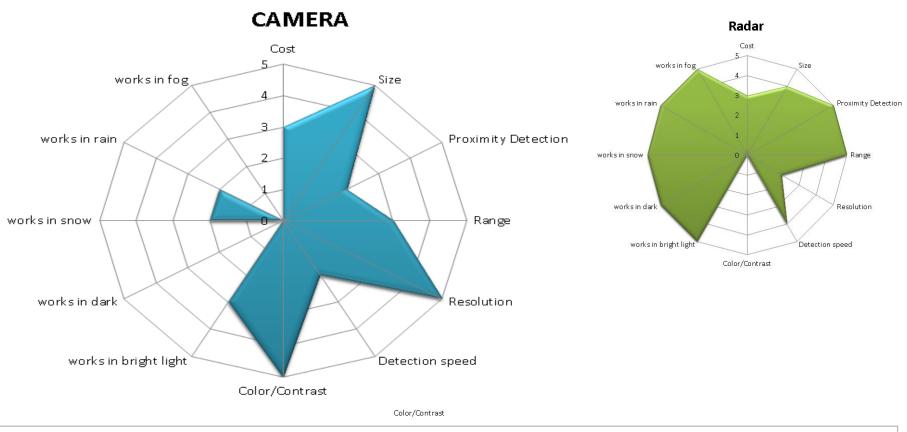


Motorcycle in front

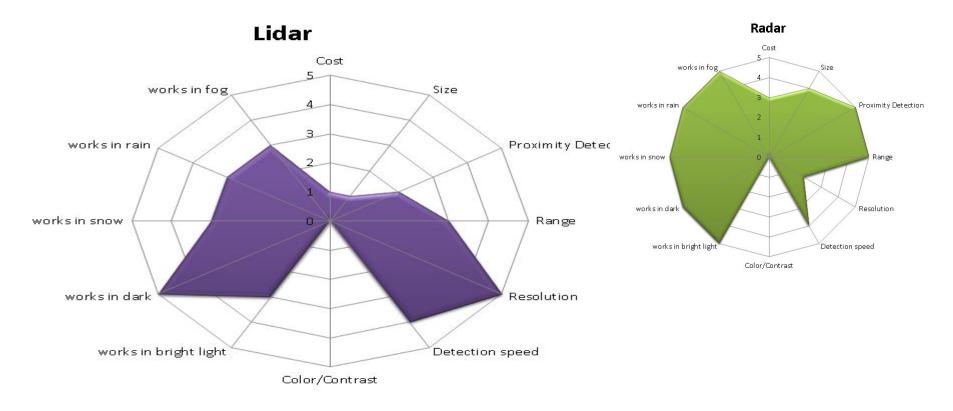




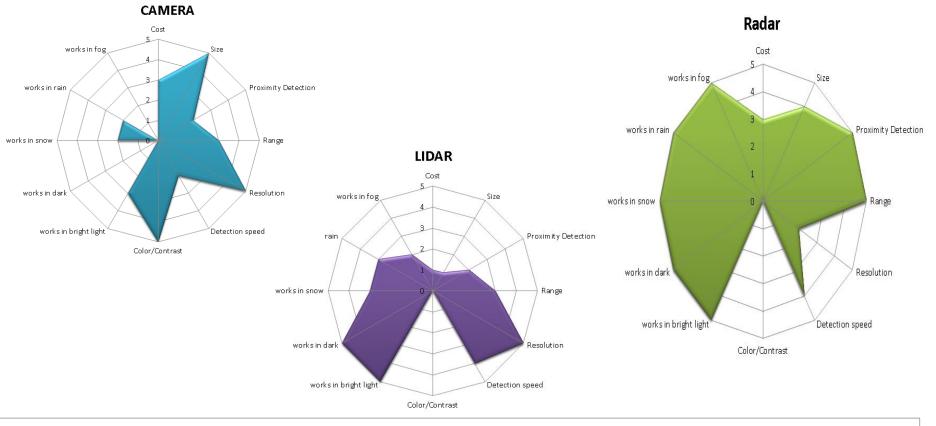




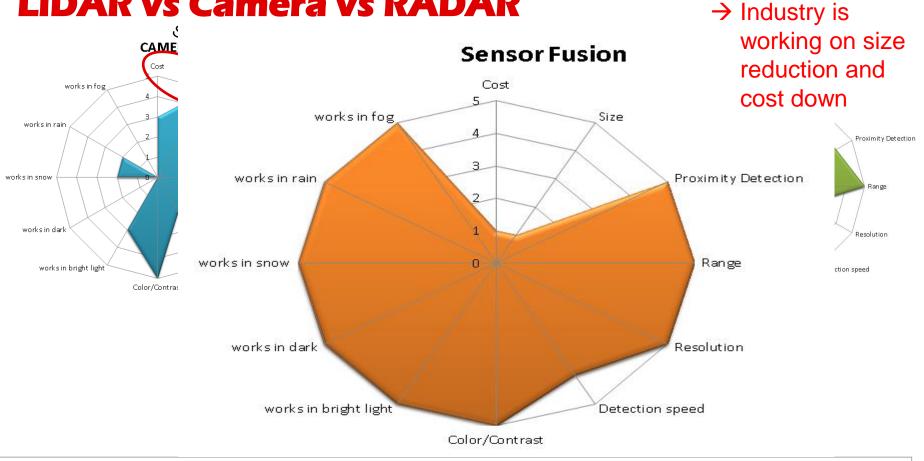






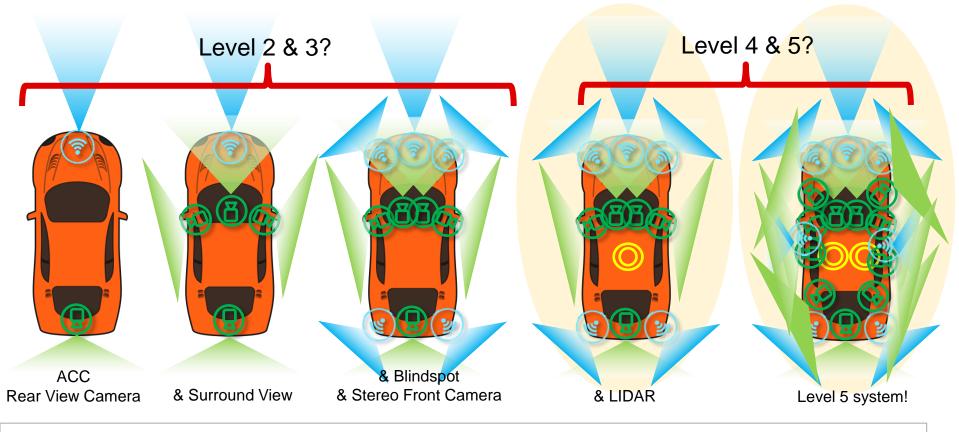








Does all Sensors are needed for level 2 & 3? For 4 & 5?





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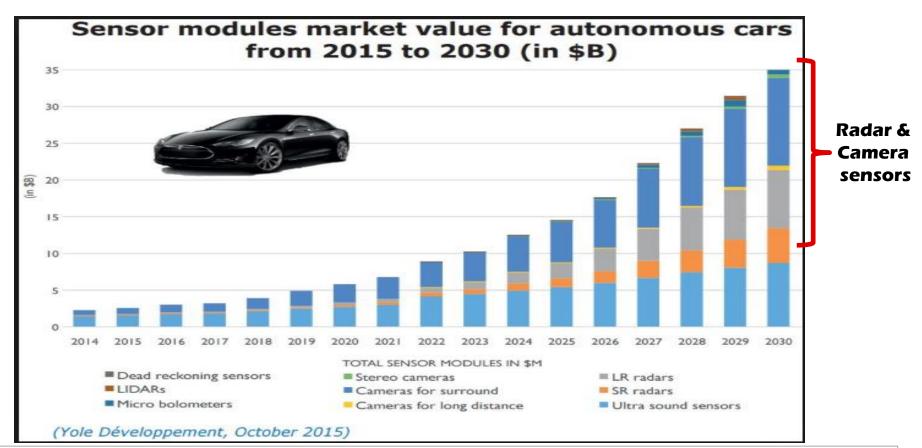


Photo by Asa Mathat



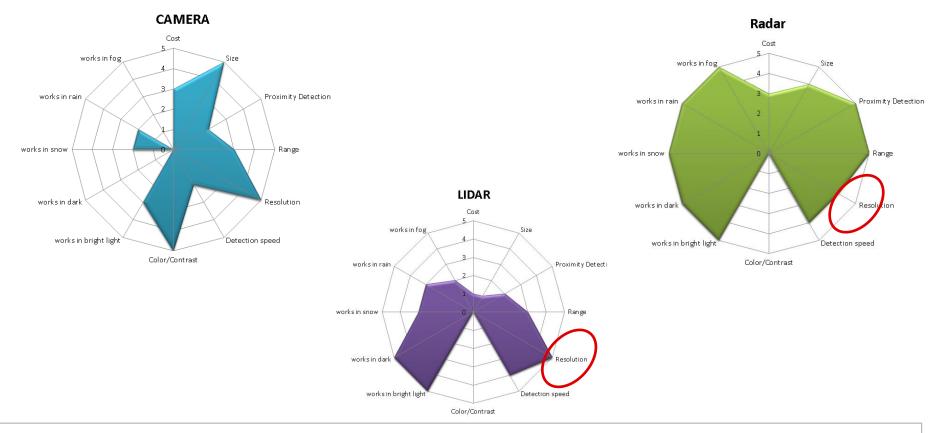


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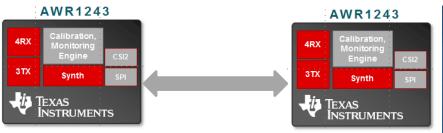


Why Imaging Radar is a Game Changer?



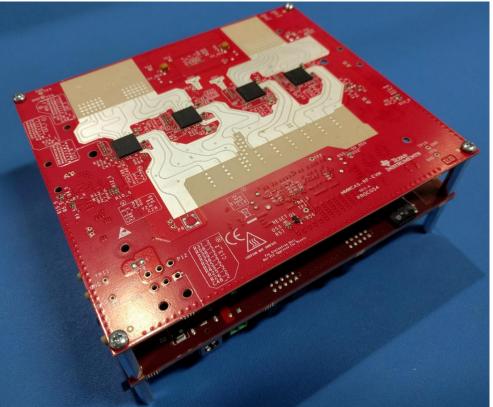
🜵 Texas Instruments

Imaging Radar – First RF CMOS Cascade solution



The four devices are synchronized and work as a single unit, coherently processing data from all the antennas

- Pedestrian detection at > 140m
- Car detection at > 350m
- Azimuth / Elevation* angular resolution < 1°



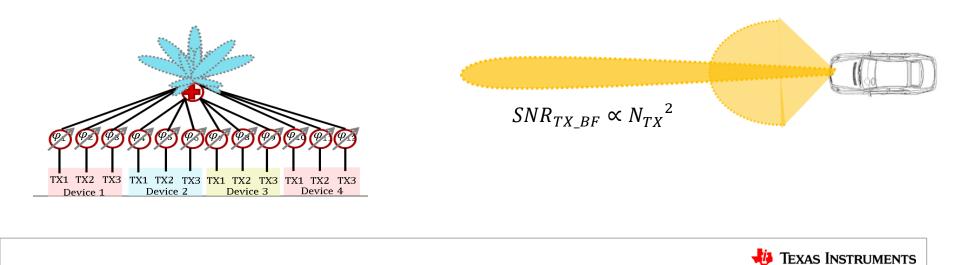


* Might require Super Resolution

Why Cascading?

BeamForming

- Multiple TX antennas transmit simultaneously & coherently to create a focused beam.
- Phase shifts across TX antennas can steer the beam in a desired direction
- Coherent gain across the N_{TX} antennas improves SNR (20log₁₀(N_{TX}) vs. 10log₁₀(N_{TX}) in MIMO)
 - → Maximum detection range 350m Vs 120m with single chip



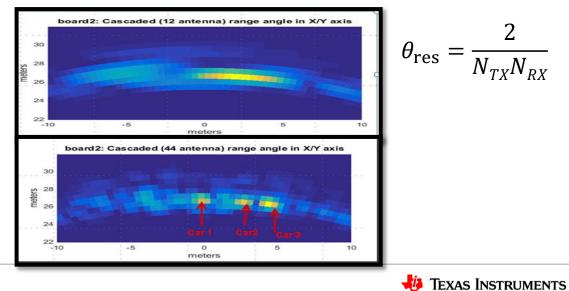
16

Why Cascading?

- MiMo Angle resolution (θres) is the minimum angle separation for two objects to appear as separate peaks in the angle-FFT.
- Improving angle resolution
- A 2 TX / 4 RX can achieve a theoretical angle resolution of only 15°
- TI imaging Radar with 192 virtual channels (four chip cascade) can achieve down to 0.6 degree of Azimuth and Elevation* Angle resolution

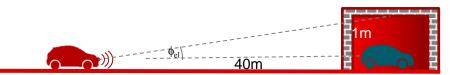


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17

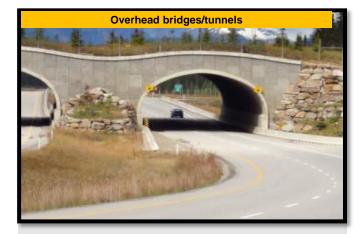
Why Imaging Radar is a Game Changer?



static truck stalled under a bridge $\phi_{el} = 1.4^{o} = \arctan(1m/40m)$

<u>Today</u>: Typical 5^{o*} Angle Resolution Front Radar \rightarrow Tan(5^o) = X/40 \rightarrow X = 3.5meter

Imaging Radar < 1° both Azimuth & Elevation



"...radar system is programmed to ignore high-mounted objects such as road signs and, possibly, the flanks of a semi truck, to avoid undesired braking events..."

The Radar Sensor will become the primary sensor in the car

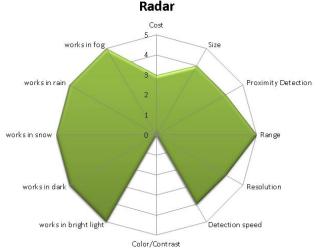
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Summary - Why Imaging Radar is a Game Changer?

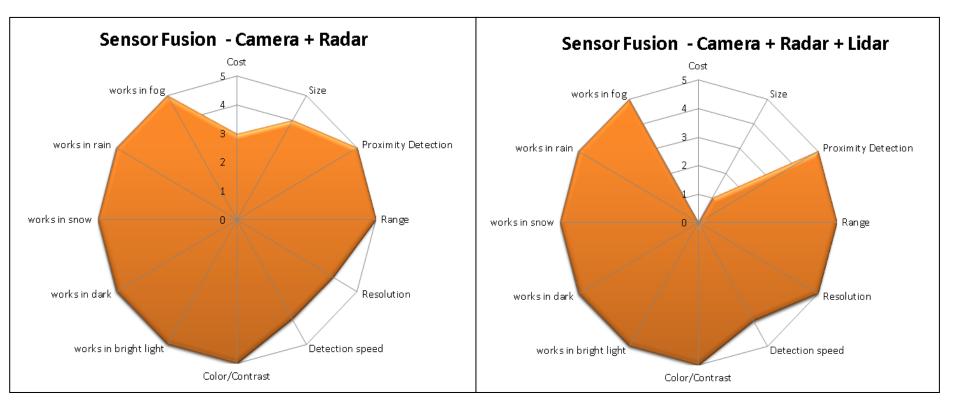
With Imaging Radar we are able to:

- ✓ Improve the Angle Resolution by a factor of ~ $N_{TX}N_{RX}$
- ✓ Improves SNR (20log10(NTX) vs. 10log10(NTX) in MIMO) to significantly increase the range
- Significantly improve AV level 2 & 3 system cost by potentially Eliminate few of the sensor





Summary - Why Imaging Radar is a Game Changer?





Questions? Thank You

