

# Session 25

## Coded Radar Signals

25.1

A coded waveform  $s(t)$  is a signal of the form

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{NT}} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} p(t - nT) \exp \{j2\pi d_n t/T\} \exp \{j\phi_n\},$$

Unit Energy

where

$$p(t) = 1_{[0,T]}(t),$$

$\{d_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1}$  = a sequence of integer frequency modulating indices,

$\{\phi_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1}$  = a sequence of real valued phases,

$T$  = duration of a single waveform “chip,”

$NT$  = total duration of the coded waveform.

We will initially take

$$\phi_0 = \phi_1 = \phi_2 = \cdots = \phi_{N-1} = 0,$$

which will give us a *frequency-coded signal*

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{NT}} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} p(t - nT) \exp \left\{ j2\pi \left( \frac{d_n}{T} \right) t \right\}.$$

## Frequency-Coded Waveforms

A frequency coded waveform  $s(t)$  is a signal of the form

$$s(t) = \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} p(t - lT) e^{-j2\pi\Omega_l t},$$

where

$T = \text{chip duration},$

$p(t) = 1_{[0,T]}(t)$  (chip waveform),

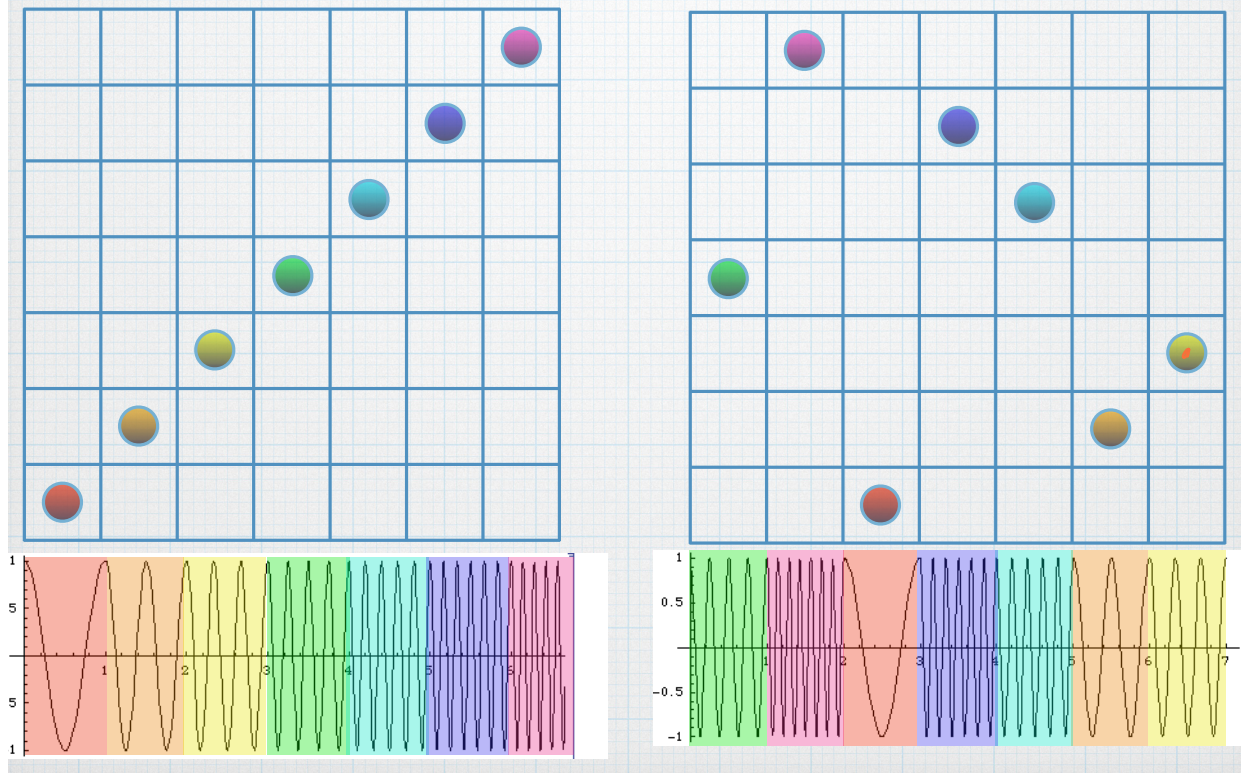
and

$\Omega_l = d_l/T, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, N,$

where  $\{d_l\}$  is a permutation of the integers  $1, 2, \dots, N$ .

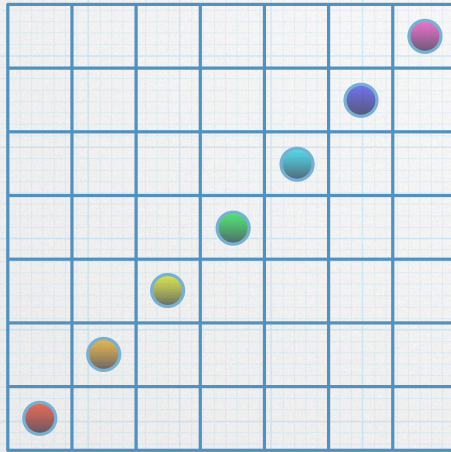
## Frequency-Coded Waveforms

*Geometric Array or Binary Matrix Representation*

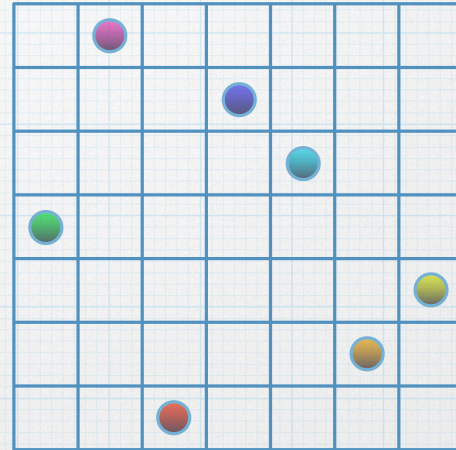




## Frequency Coding Matrices for Frequency-Coded Signals



Stepped Frequency Approximation  
to a Chirp (LFM)



Costas Sequence

## The Ambiguity Function of Frequency-Coded Waveforms

The ambiguity function of  $s(t) = \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} p(t - lT)e^{-j2\pi\Omega_l t}$  is

$$\chi_s(\tau, \nu) = \chi_s^{(1)}(\tau, \nu) + \chi_s^{(2)}(\tau, \nu),$$

where

$$\chi_s(\tau, \nu) \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} s(t) s^*(t - \tau) e^{+i2\pi\nu\tau} dt$$

$$\chi_s^{(1)}(\tau, \nu) = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} e^{-j2\pi m\nu T} e^{-j2\pi\Omega_m \tau} \chi_p(\tau, \nu),$$

and

$$\chi_s^{(2)}(\tau, \nu) = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} \sum_{n=0, n \neq m}^{N-1} e^{-j\pi(\Omega_m + \Omega_n)\tau} e^{-j\pi(m+n)T} \cdot \chi_p(\tau + (m - n)T, \nu + (\Omega_n - \Omega_m))$$

n.b.  $\beta_s(\tau, \nu) = \chi_s(\tau, -\nu).$



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$$\chi_s^{(2)}(\tau, \nu) = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} \sum_{n=0, n \neq m}^{N-1} e^{-j\pi(\Omega_m + \Omega_n)\tau} e^{-j\pi(m+n)T} \cdot \chi_p(\tau + (m - n)T, \nu + (\Omega_n - \Omega_m))$$

n.b.  $\chi_s(\tau, \nu) = \chi_s^*(\tau, -\nu)$ .

The sidelobes are given by

$$\chi_s^{(2)}(\tau, \nu) = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} \sum_{n=0, n \neq m}^{N-1} e^{-j\pi(\Omega_m + \Omega_n)\tau} e^{-j\pi(m+n)T} \cdot \chi_p(\tau + (m - n)T, \nu + (\Omega_n - \Omega_m))$$

$$\chi_p(\tau + (m - n)T, \nu + (d_n - d_m)/T)$$

Large contribution when these equal zero!

$$\tau = (n - m)T \quad \text{and} \quad \nu = (d_n - d_m)/T$$

or taking  $T = 1$  for simplicity...

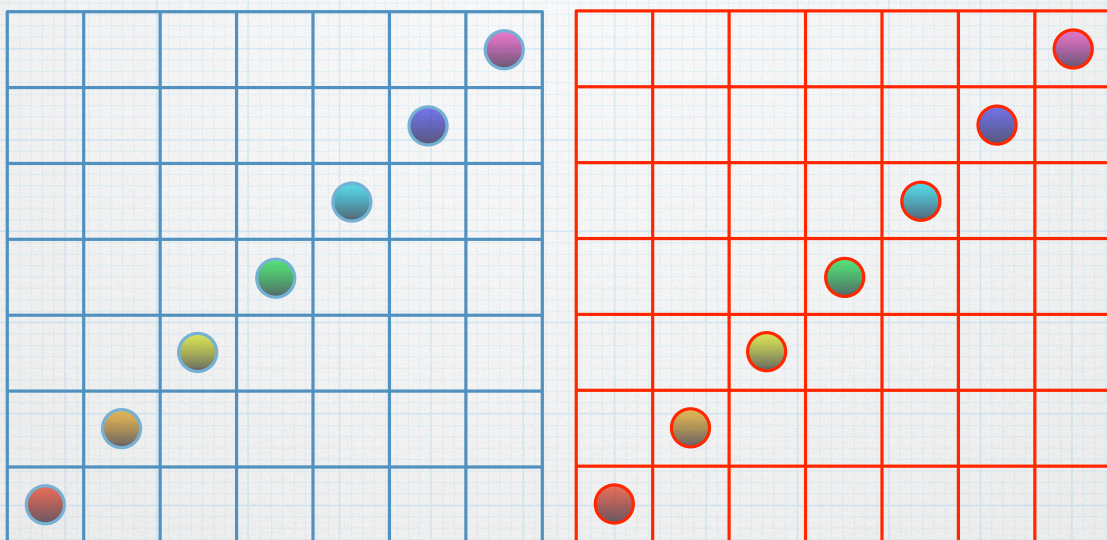
$$\tau = n - m \quad \text{and} \quad \nu = d_n - d_m$$



## Coincident Sidelobe Approximation

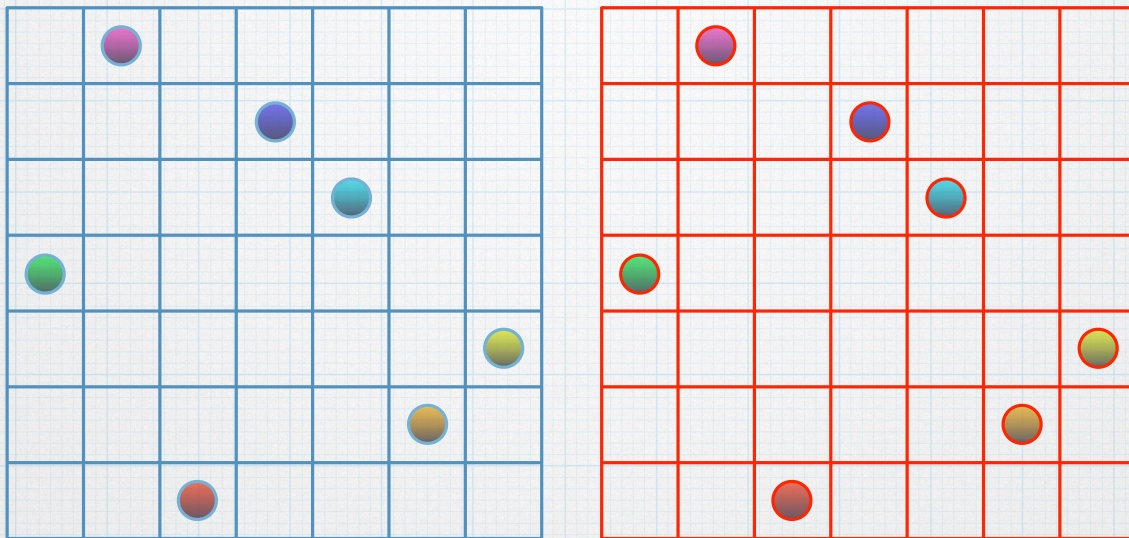
- If we consider only the sidelobe contributions due to the situations where both arguments of the ambiguity function is zero, we want to minimize the number of situations where this occurs.
- We especially want to minimize multiple “hits” for any given delay and Doppler shift.
- While this approach only minimizes an approximation of the ambiguity function sidelobes, it is surprisingly effective.
- It is, in fact, the approach John Costas used in designing Costas sequences.

## LFM Chirp Sidelobe Overlay Demo





## Costas Sidelobe Overlay Demo

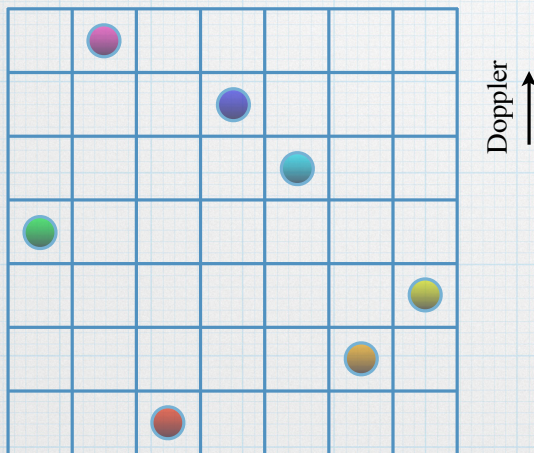


## Characteristics of Stepped-Frequency Waveforms

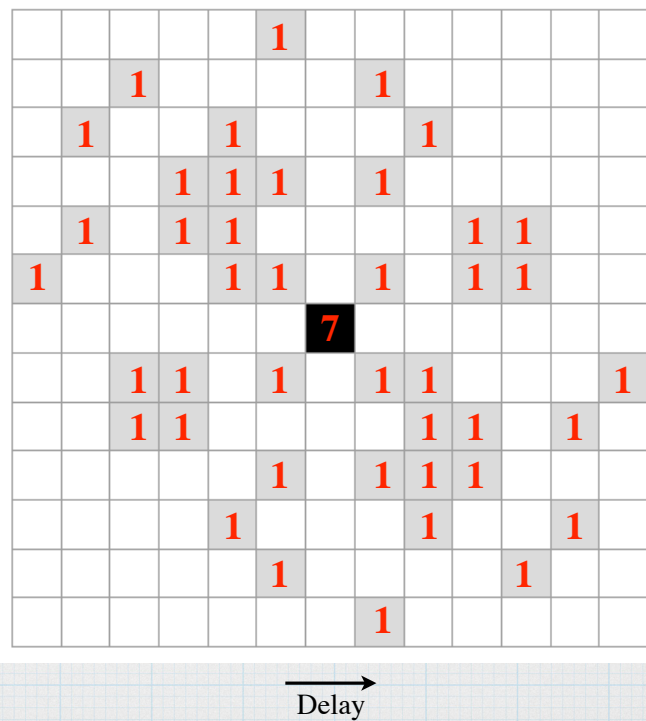
- A wide variety of waveforms with different ambiguity functions can be generated.
- These waveforms can be easily generated and amplified for transmission.
- The ambiguity characteristics of these waveforms can be easily visualized because of their localization in time and frequency.
- Provides a straightforward approach to characterizing “ambiguity state” of a target environment.
- These characteristics make them ideal for adaptive waveform radar.



- If we count up the number of sidelobe coincidences for each combination of integer delay-Doppler shifts, we can tabulate the coincidences in an array called the *sidelobe array*.



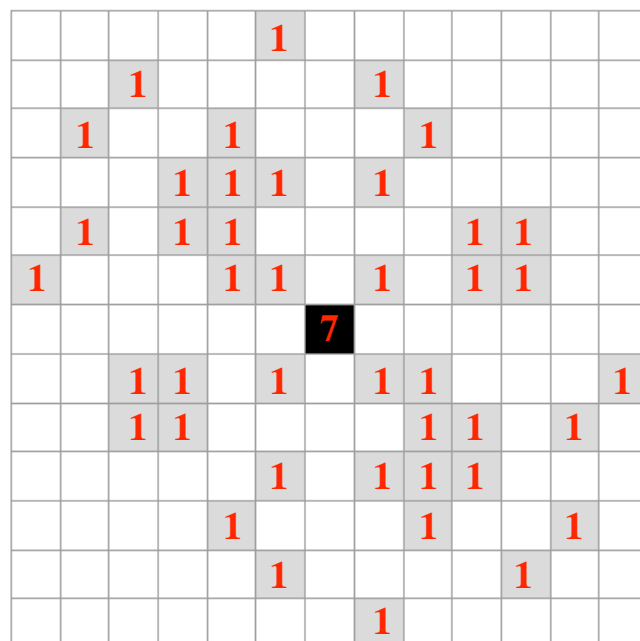
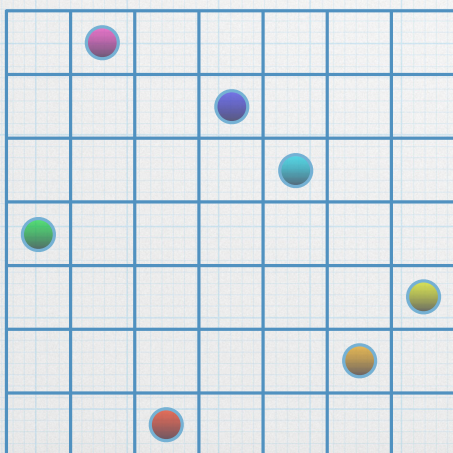
## The Sidelobe Array



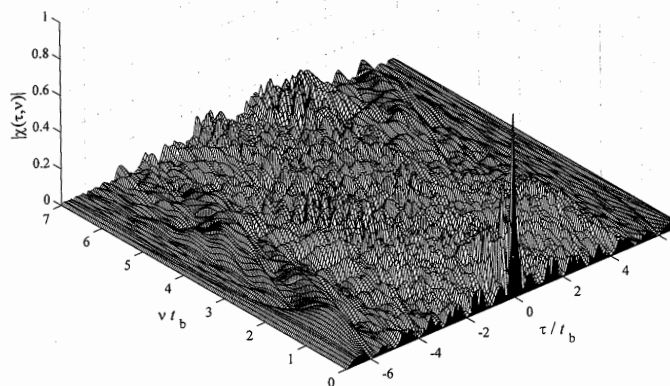
## Costas Sequences

**Definition:** A **Costas sequence** of length  $N$  is a integer frequency firing sequence  $\{d_1, \dots, d_N\}$  (or  $\{d_0, \dots, d_{N-1}\}$ ) that is a permutation of the integers  $1, \dots, N$  (or  $0, \dots, N-1$ ) such that the maximum sidelobe height or coincidence number in the sidelobe array is 1 for any nonzero integer delay-Doppler shift.

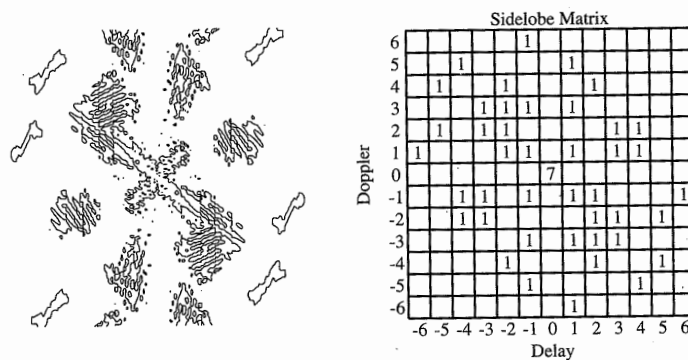
### An Example ...





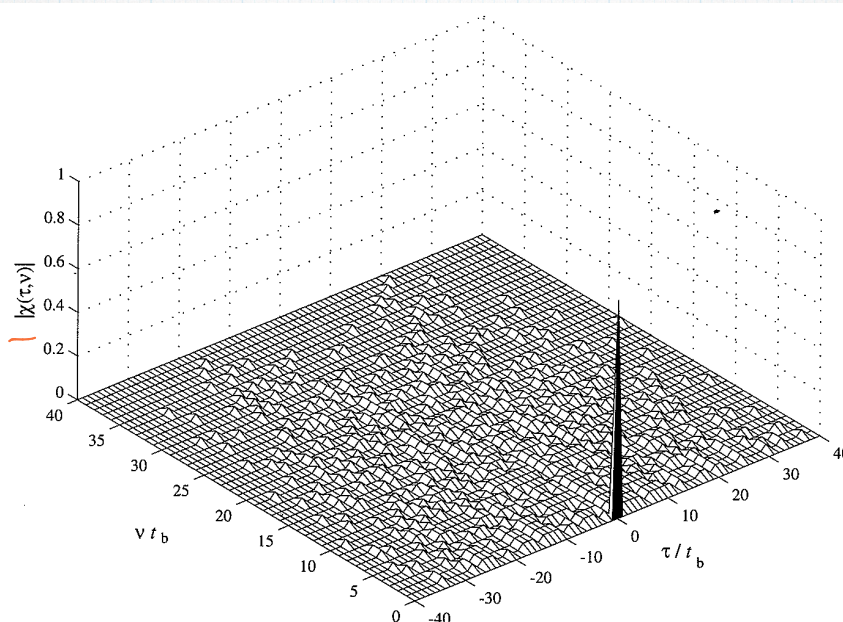


**FIGURE 5.4** Partial ambiguity function of a Costas signal with code sequence {4 7 1 6 5 2 3}.



**FIGURE 5.5** Ambiguity function contour at 0.125 (left) compared with the sidelobe matrix (right).

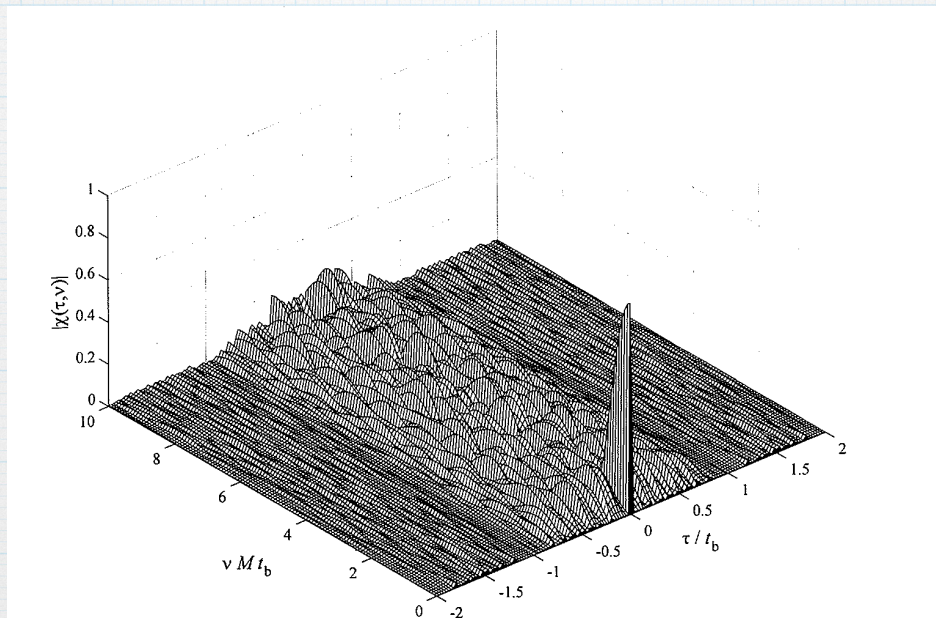
## • A Length 40 Costas Sequence:



**FIGURE 5.9** Ambiguity function of a Costas signal (length  $M = 40$ ) at all relevant grid points.



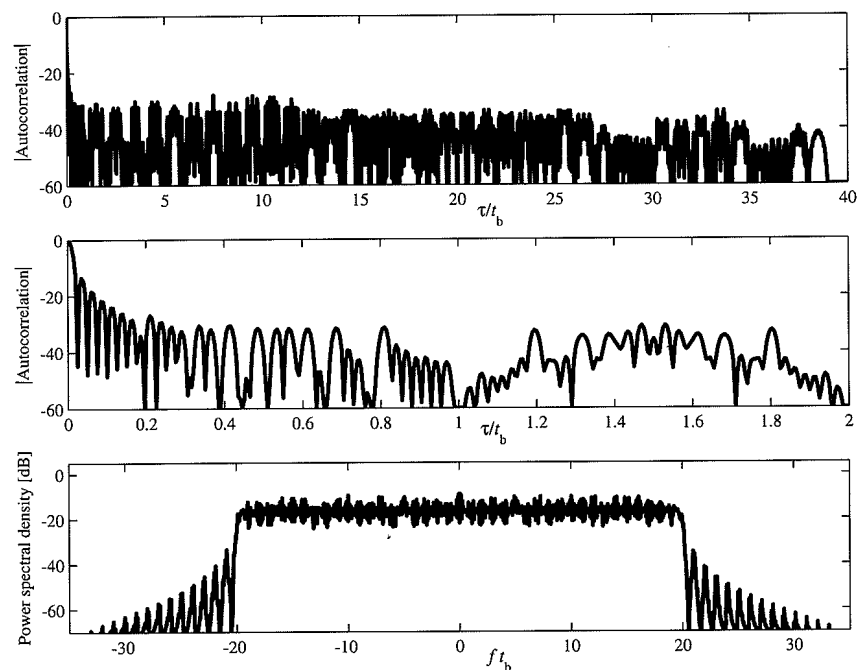
- A Length 40 Costas Sequence:



**FIGURE 5.10** Ambiguity function of a Costas signal (length  $M = 40$ ) zoom near the origin.

Reference: N. Levanon and E. Mozeson, *Radar Signals*, Wiley, 2004 (ISBN 0-471-47378-2)

- A Length 40 Costas Sequence:



**FIGURE 5.11** ACF (top and middle) and the spectrum (bottom) of a Costas signal (length 40).

Reference: N. Levanon and E. Mozeson, *Radar Signals*, Wiley, 2004 (ISBN 0-471-47378-2)