

# High Spatial Resolution Radar using Thinned Arrays

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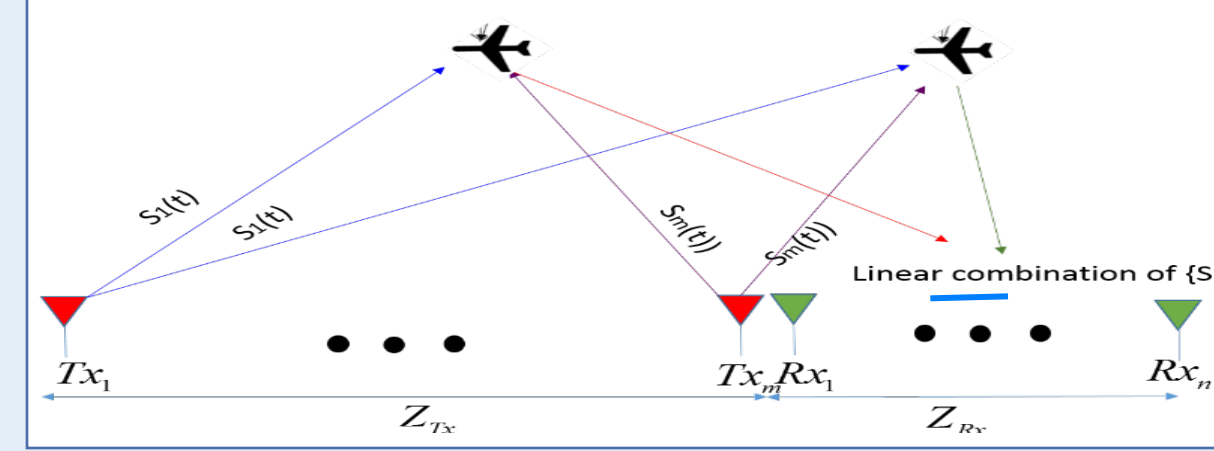
## Main Contributions

- Spatial Compressive Sensing** framework is employed for a high angular resolution radar that uses fewer elements than a uniform linear array (ULA)
- Previous work on thinned phased arrays lacks efficient direction-of-arrival (DoA) recovery algorithms
- We use multi-branch matched pursuit (MBMP) to recover DoA for a thinned phased array and thinned phased-MIMO hybrid array
- Theoretical performance guarantees** to suggest minimum number of array elements for perfect DoA recovery
- Numerical experiments show MBMP outperforms classical beamforming and orthogonal matching pursuit

## Antenna Arrays

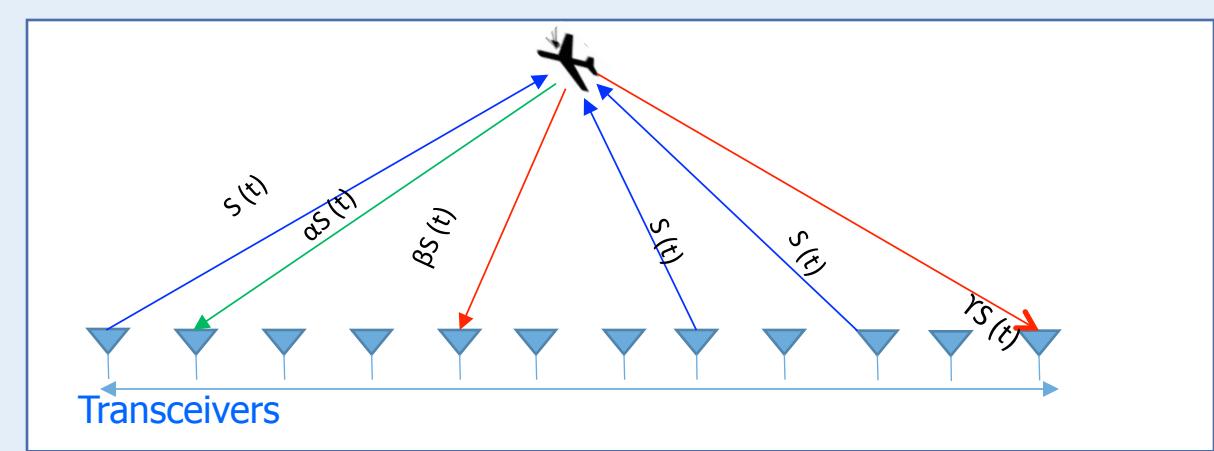
### Multiple-Input-Multiple-Output Array

- Uses separate arrays for Tx and Rx
- Each Tx sends a mutually orthogonal waveform
- High parameter identifiability, good for searching large volumes



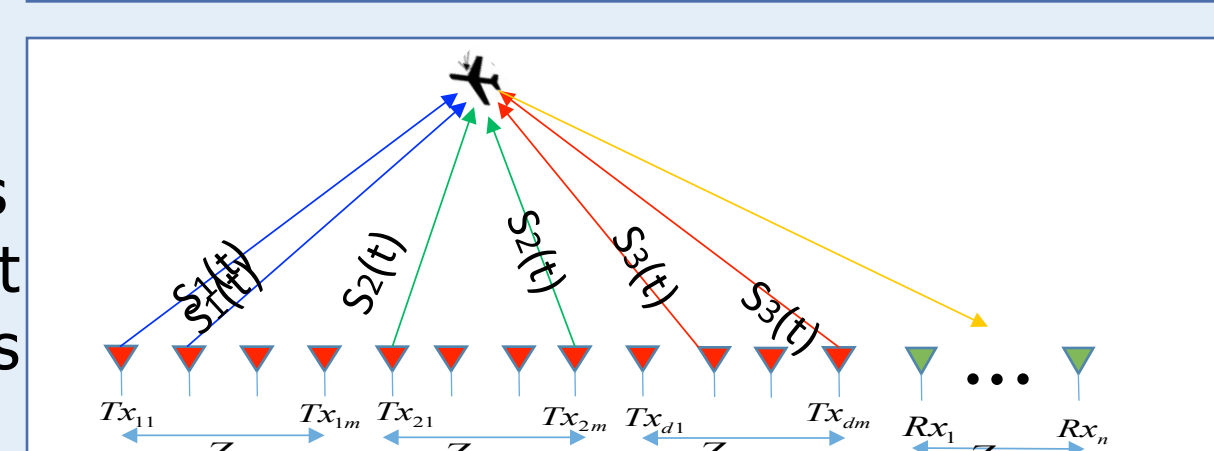
### Phased Array (PA)

- Each transmitter sends out same waveform
- High coherent gain, good for tracking targets by forming a focused beam



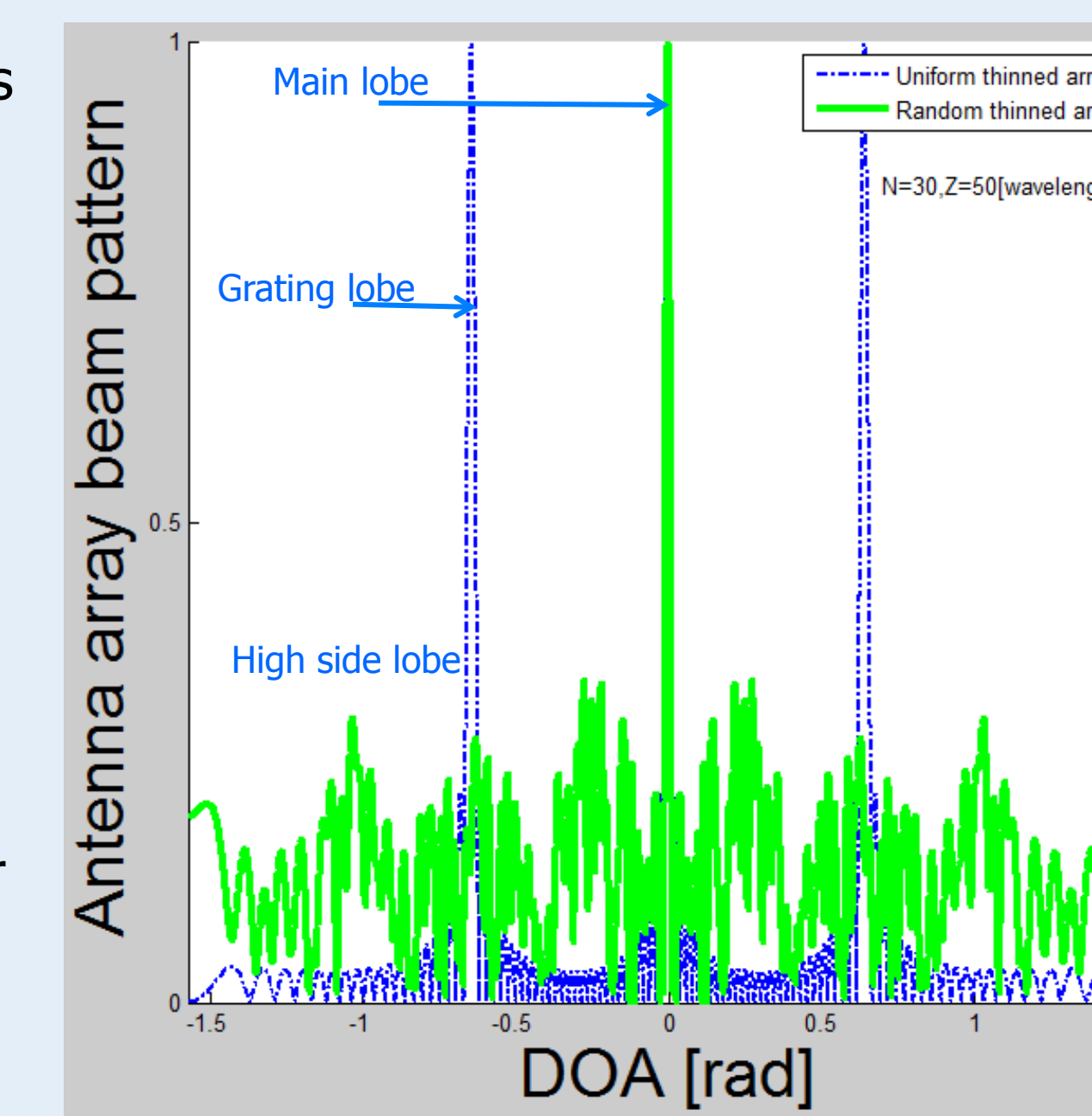
### Phased-MIMO Hybrid (PMH)

- Tx array is divided into several subarrays
- Each subarray acts as a PA but sends out waveforms orthogonal to other subarrays
- Combines advantages of MIMO and PA
- Robust to interference



## Previous Work

- Uniform thinning of ULA produces grating lobes (multiple beams)
- Random thinning raises sidelobe levels
- Other thinning methods are computationally expensive, control only nearer sidelobes or applicable to small arrays
- Prior DoA recovery algorithms (Beamforming, ESPRIT, MUSIC or OMP) for random arrays are inefficient or inaccurate



## Thinned Transmit Array Configurations

### ULA



### Randomly thinned phased array



### Variably thinned PMH



### Identically thinned PMH



## Signal Model – Phased Array

- Received signal vector for P pulses and K targets:

$$r(t) = \sum_{p=0}^{P-1} \sum_{k=1}^K x_{k,p} b(\theta_k) c^T(\theta_k) w^T s(t-pT) + e(t)$$

- Received pth signal after matched filtering:

$$y_p = \text{vec} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^K x_{k,p} g(\theta_k) b(\theta_k) + \int e(t) s^H(t-pT) dt \right]$$

- Received signal matrix:

$$Y = \tilde{A}(\theta) \tilde{X} + E, \text{ where } \tilde{A}(\theta) = [a(\theta_1), \dots, a(\theta_K)],$$

$$a(\theta) = g(\theta) b(\theta), E = [e_1, \dots, e_P], e_p = \text{vec}[\int e(t) s^H(t-pT) dt]$$

## Signal Model – PMH

- Transmit signal of the kth subarray:

$$s_k(t) = \sum_{m=1}^M x_{k,m} w_m^T s(t)$$

- Transmit steering vector:

$$c(\theta) = [w_1^H h_1(\theta), \dots, w_M^H h_M(\theta)]^T$$

- Received pth signal after matched filtering:

$$r(t) = \sum_{p=0}^{P-1} \sum_{k=1}^K \sqrt{\frac{M}{D}} x_{k,p} b(\theta_k) c(\theta_k) \odot f^T s(t-pT) + e(t)$$

- Received signal matrix:

$$Y = \tilde{A}(\theta) \tilde{X} + E, \text{ where } \tilde{A}(\theta) = [a(\theta_1), \dots, a(\theta_K)],$$

$$a(\psi_p) = (c(\psi_p) \odot f(\psi_p)) \otimes b(\theta), f(\theta) = [e^{-j\Delta_1(\theta)}, \dots, e^{-j\Delta_M(\theta)}]^T$$

## Spatial Compressive Sensing

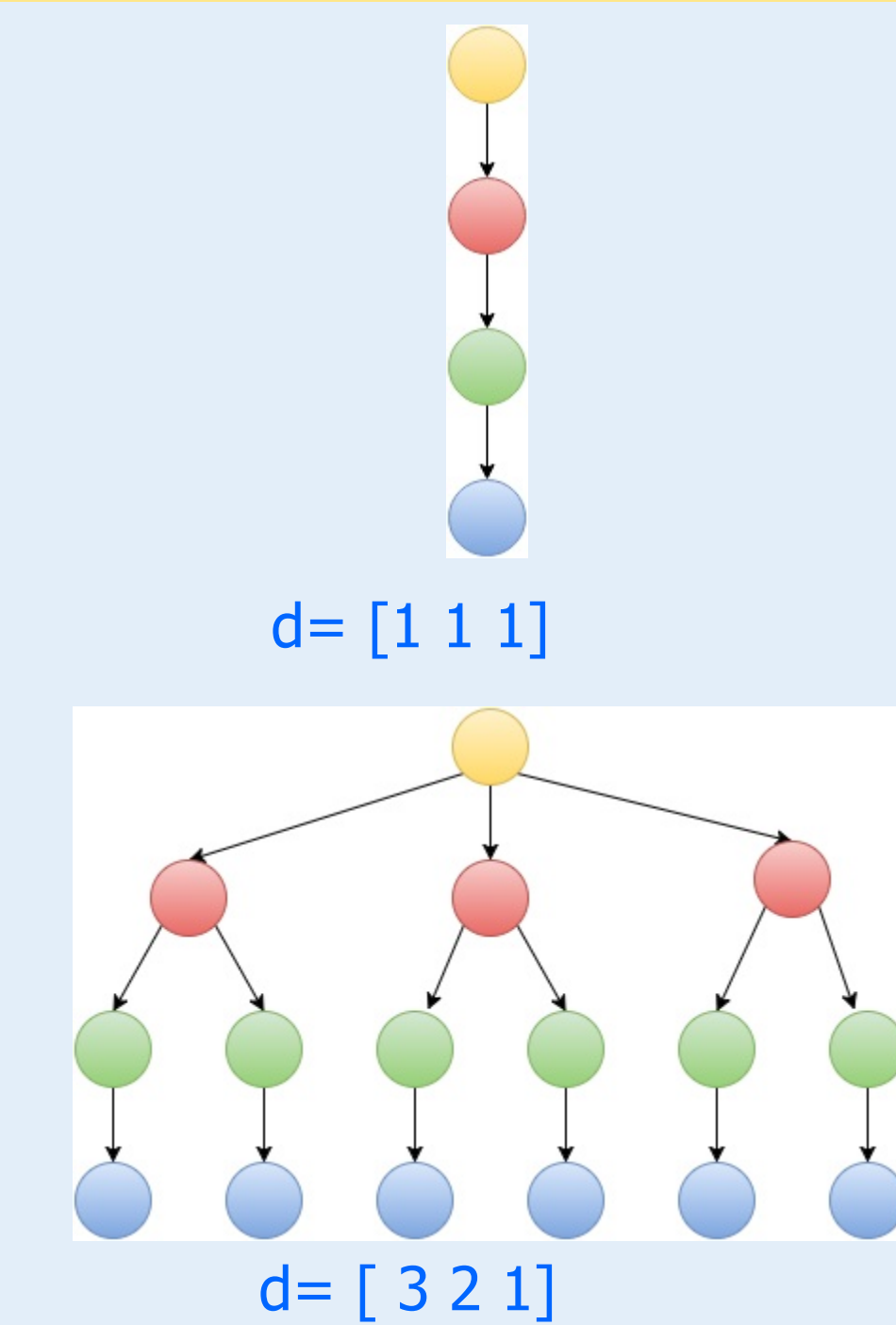
- Assume the target locations lie on a dense grid of G points
  - Measurements in the discretization framework (**X** is sparse):
- $$Y = AX + E$$
- Nyquist arrays: **A** is a square matrix and G=N
    - Beamforming can retrieve the support of **X**
  - When A is a fat matrix, SCS framework solves optimization problem

$$\text{minimize } \|x\|_1$$

$$\text{subject to } \|y - Ax\|_2 \leq \epsilon.$$

## MBMP Algorithm- Visualization

- The branching structure is defined by the branching vector d.
- The vector determines the number of branches in each iteration.
- In each iteration, the MBMP algorithm choose number of peaks (maximum value of the inner product) determined by the branching vector d.
- Highly efficient than other greedy algorithms and well-suited for tree-based search.



## Theoretical Performance Guarantees

- We use probabilistic theory of antenna arrays (Lo, 1964) to guarantee SCS performance for PA

**Theorem** Let the locations  $\{\zeta\}_{i=1}^N$  of the transmit and receive elements of a phased array be drawn i.i.d. from a distribution  $p(\zeta)$ . Let  $\hat{x}$  be the solution of (15). Then, with probability at least  $1 - \epsilon$ , we have

$$\|x - \hat{x}\|_2 \leq C_0 \epsilon / C_N(w),$$

as long as the number of elements N satisfies

$$N \geq C(K - 0.5)^2 \ln \left( \frac{G}{\epsilon} \right)^4,$$

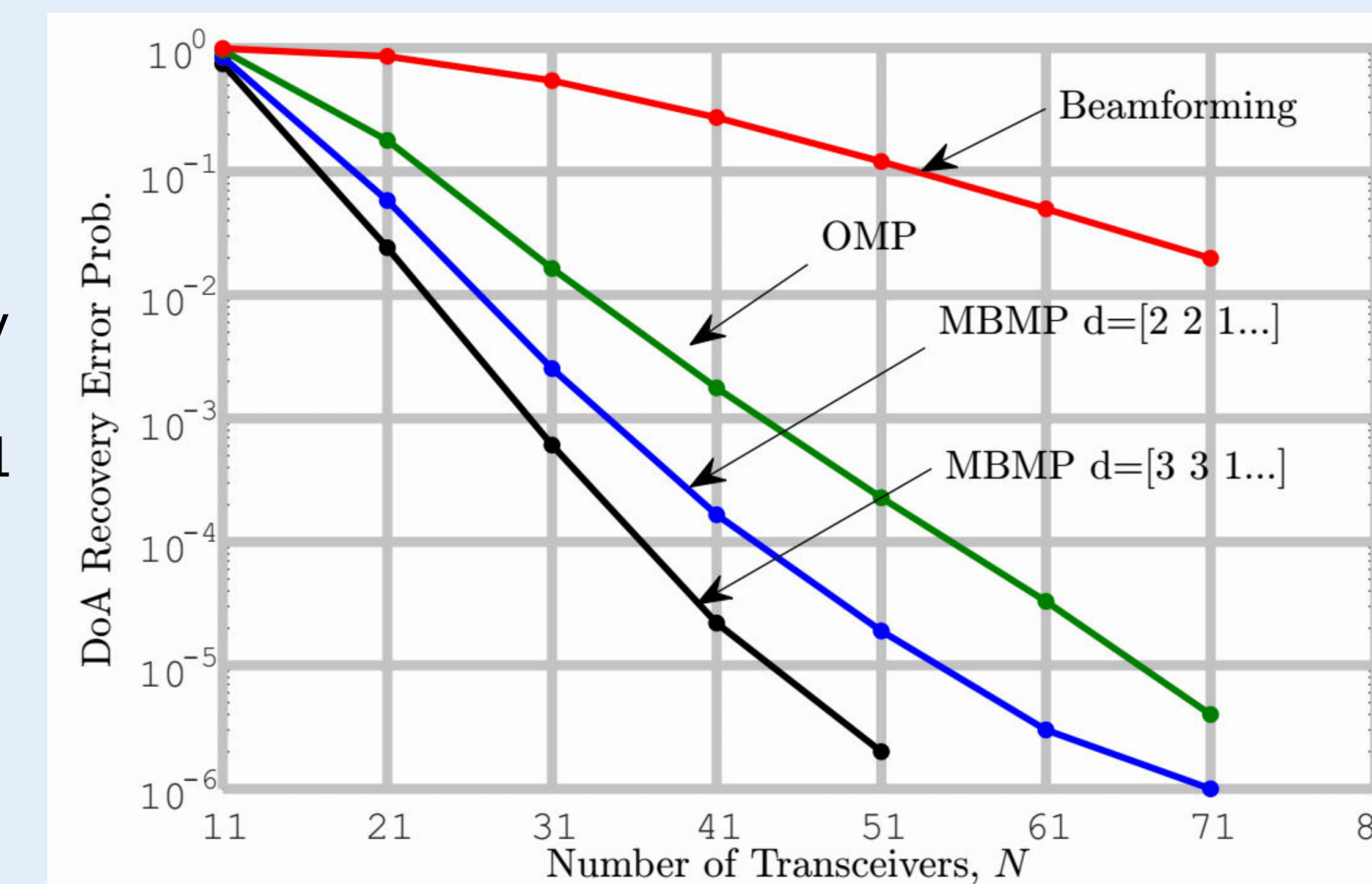
where  $C = (43 + 12\sqrt{7})/16$ ,  $C_0$  is a positive constant that depends only on  $\epsilon$ ,  $C_N(w)$  is the directivity or the gain that depends on the choice of w, G is the grid size, and K is the sparsity of the vector x.

## Comparison of MIMO and PA performance guarantees

Type of arrays	Uniform	Non-uniform
Thinned MIMO	$MN \geq C \left( K - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \left[ \ln \frac{\sqrt{\pi} G}{2\epsilon} + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( 2 \ln \frac{\sqrt{\pi} G}{2\epsilon} \right) \right]$	$MN \geq CK \log^2 \left( \frac{CG}{\epsilon} \right)$
Thinned PA	$N \geq C \left( K - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \left[ 4 \ln \left( \frac{G}{\epsilon} \right) \right]$	$N \geq C_1 \left( K \left( \ln(G/\epsilon) + \ln(K \ln(K/\epsilon)) \right) \right)$

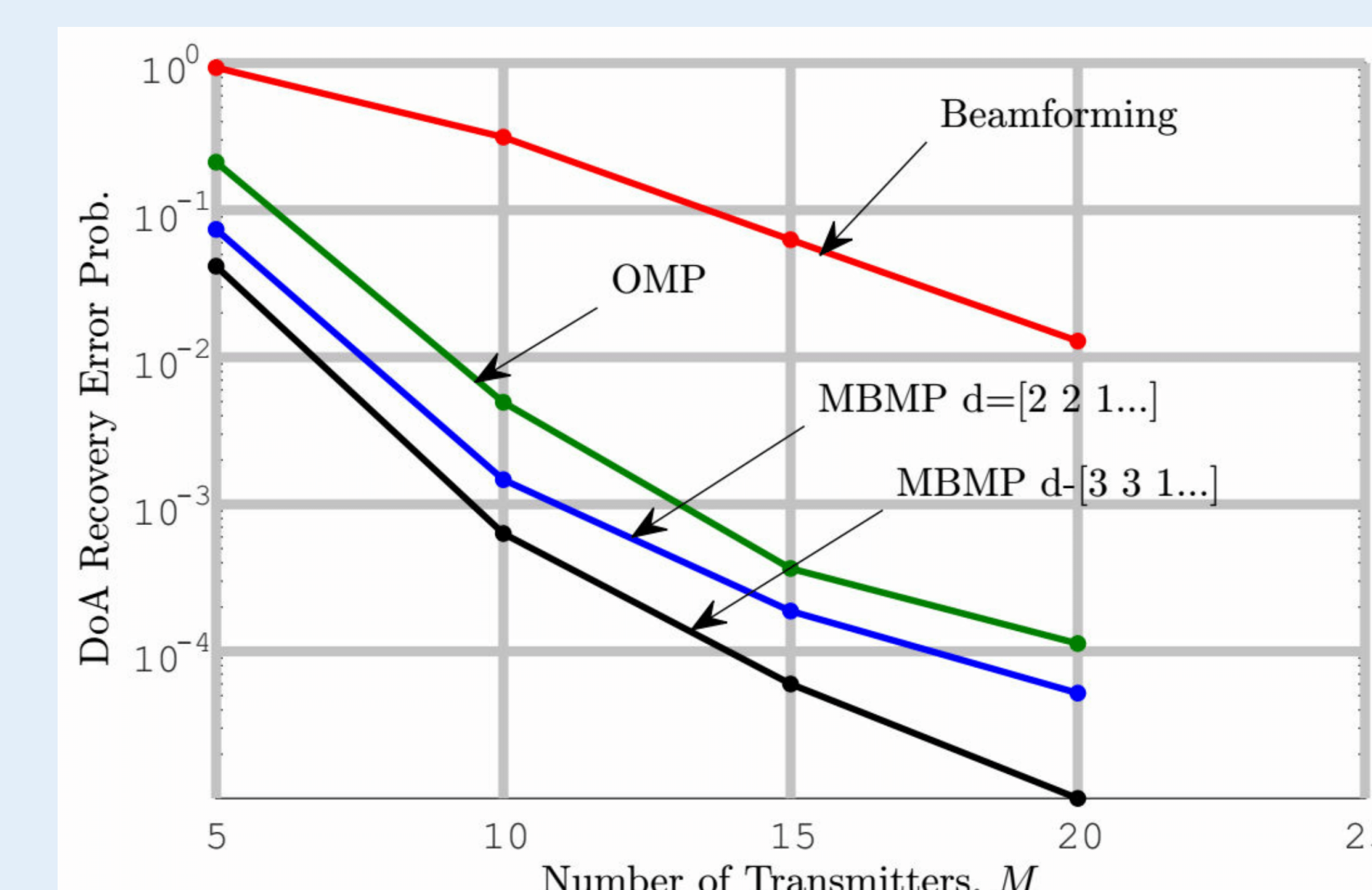
## NE1 - Phased Array

- DoA recovery error vs. number of transceivers
- Absolute recovery via ULA corresponds to 81 transceivers.



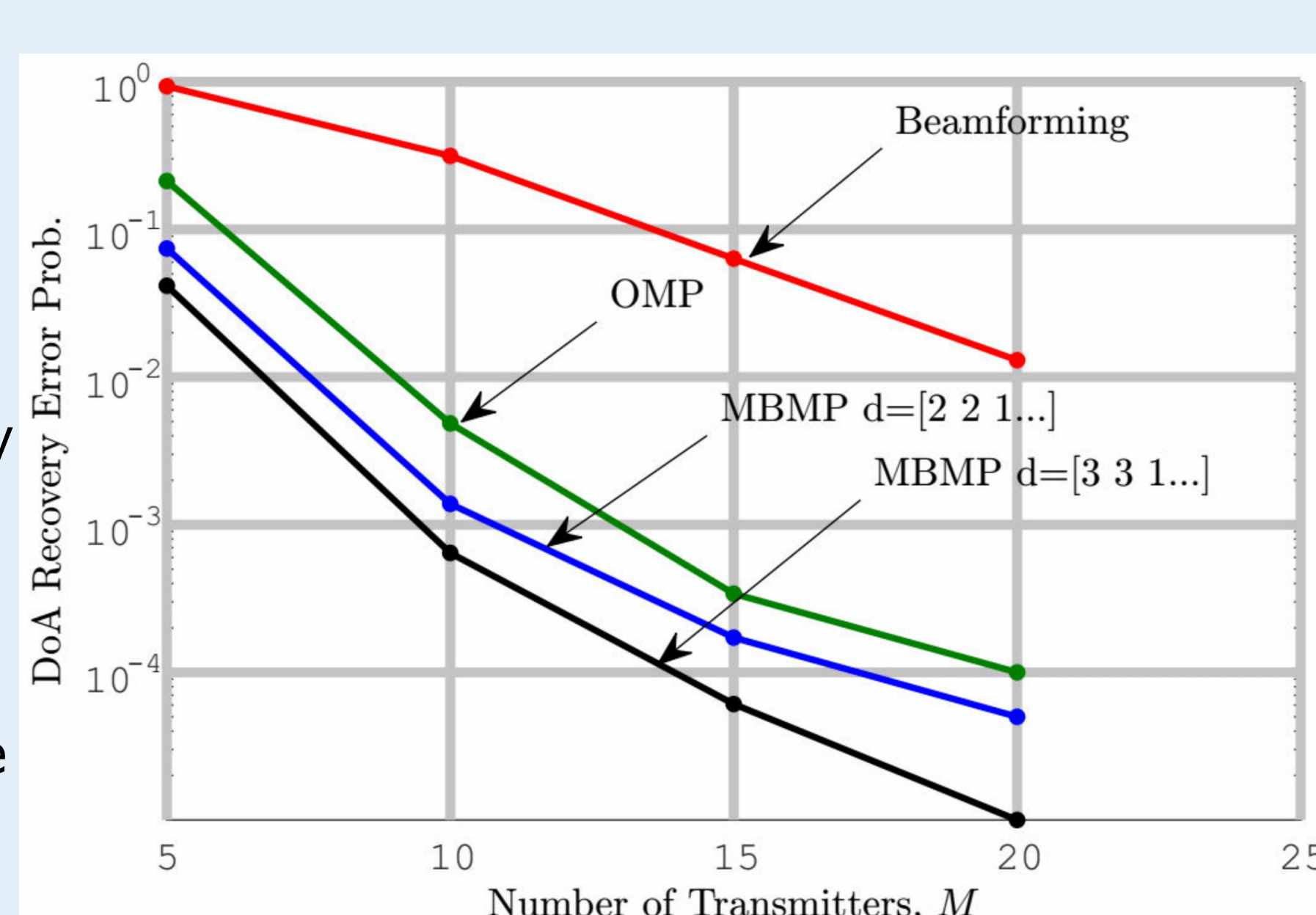
## NE2 – Variably Thinned Hybrid

- DoA recovery error vs. number of transmitters, divided into 5 subarrays.
- Absolute recovery is achieved using a ULA with 25 transmitters.
- CDM signals were used here.



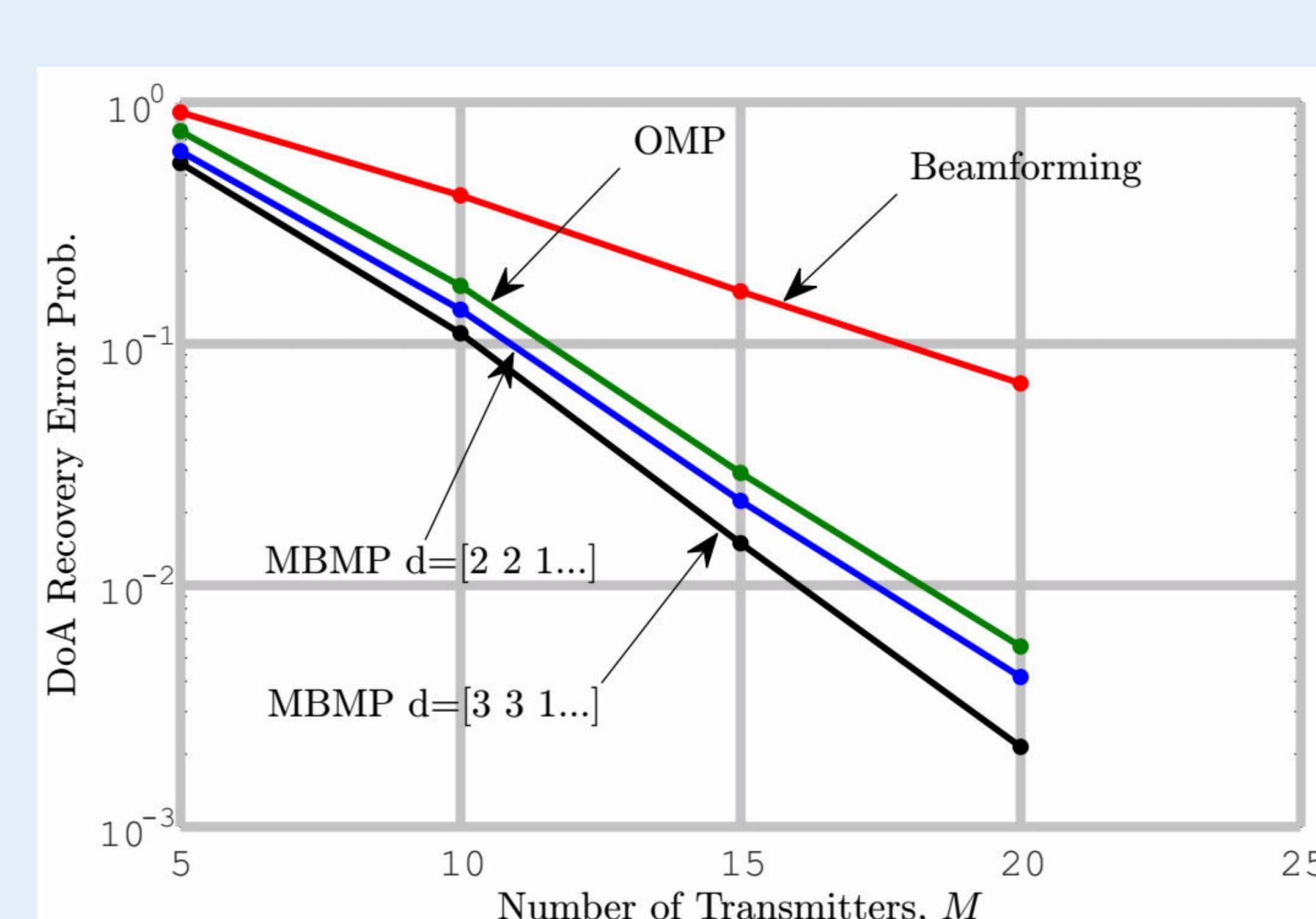
## NE3 – Variably Thinned Hybrid

- DoA recovery error vs. number of transmitters, divided into 5 subarrays.
- Absolute recovery is achieved using a ULA consists of 25 transmitters.
- FDM signals were used.



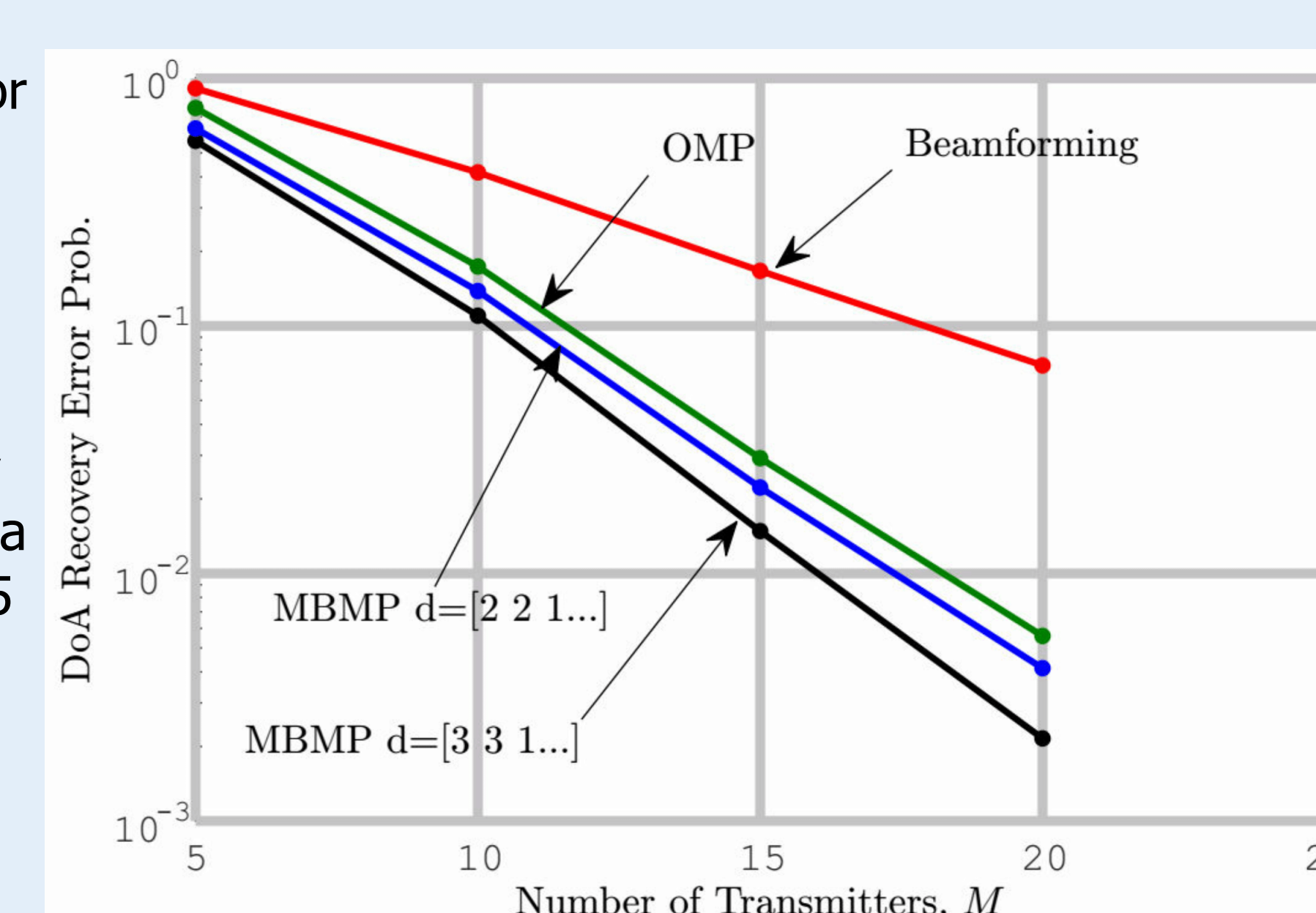
## NE4 – Identically Thinned Hybrid

- DoA recovery error vs. number of transmitters, divided into 5 subarrays.
- Absolute recovery is achieved using a ULA consists of 25 transmitters.
- CDM signals were used.



## NE5 – Uniform Thinned Hybrid

- DoA recovery error vs. number of transmitters, divided into 5 subarrays.
- Absolute recovery is achieved using a ULA consists of 25 transmitters.
- FDM signals were used.



## Summary

- Examined various array architectures for DoA recovery with few elements.
- Theoretical performance guarantees derived for thinned PA.
- MBMP outperforms classic beamforming, MUSIC and OMP algorithms.
- Further investigation into theoretical performance and other array architectures required.