



STANFORD

Supplementary Lecture 3

Minimum Mean-Square Estimation

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Agenda

- Agenda
 - General minimum-mean-square error (MMSE) & Gaussian
 - Autocorrelation/Cross-Correlation
 - Linear MMSE & The Orthogonality Principle
 - Biases and SNRs



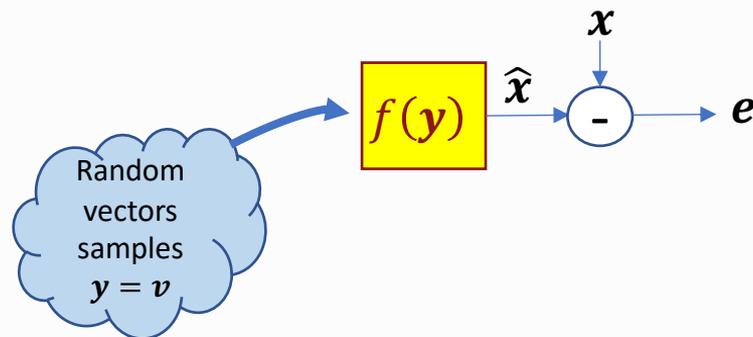
General MMSE and Gaussian

Section D.1

**When all random processes are (stationary) Gaussian,
Linear MMSE is the overall best MMSE.**

The MMSE Estimation Problem

- Estimate \mathbf{x} from \mathbf{y} , $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = f(\mathbf{y})$.
 - Designer knows $p_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}}$ and specific observed $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{v}$.
 - \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} 's distributions are continuous. (e.g., a random code on \mathbf{x} .)
- The **error** is:
 - $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{x} - f(\mathbf{y})$.



- The **mean-square error (MSE)** is
 - $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}}[\|\mathbf{e}\|^2] = \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{x} - f(\mathbf{y})\|^2]$.
- Its minimum over f is the **MMSE**.

$$MMSE = \min_f \mathbb{E} [\|\mathbf{x} - f(\mathbf{y})\|^2].$$

- Solution [D.1] is
 - the conditional mean of \mathbf{x} given \mathbf{y} ; $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}/\mathbf{y}]$,
 - from $p_{\mathbf{x}/\mathbf{y}}$ the *à posteriori* distribution (also used for MAP detector).
 - It's, it's an expectation, always linear: $(\widehat{\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}_1 + \hat{\mathbf{x}}_2$.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}} &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}/\mathbf{y}] \\ &= \mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{y} \text{ (if Gaussian)} \end{aligned}$$



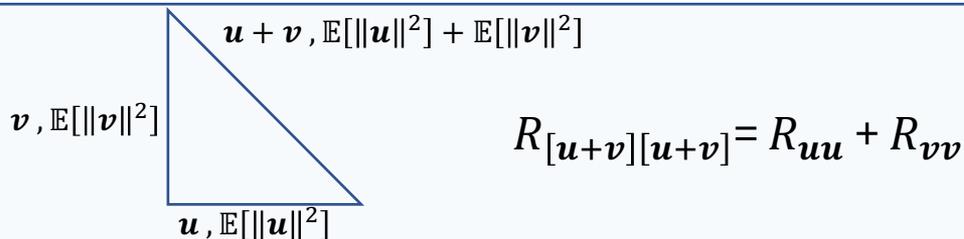
Auto- & Cross- correlation

- **Autocorrelation** generalizes mean-square for random process. When stationary:
 - it samples $R_{xx}(\tau) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}(t) \cdot \mathbf{x}^*(t - \tau)]$; where time is the dimension, and $\tau = kT'$ is **correlation interval**.
 - Vector process samples may correspond to:
 - **frequency-time** – **time samples** $x(kT)$ are the vector elements (Toeplitz). $R_{xx} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}^*]$ $R_{yy} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{y}^*]$
 - **space time** usually sets $\tau = 0$ – **spatial samples** (think antennas),
 - often at each $n \cdot (\frac{\lambda}{r})$.

- **Energy** is over a symbol, including space dimensions:
 - Both cases $\tau = 0$ (non xtalk/energy) terms are on diagonal. $\mathcal{E}_x = \text{trace}\{R_{xx}\} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}^* \cdot \mathbf{x}] = \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{x}\|^2]$

- **Cross correlation** generalizes inner product:
 - It samples $R_{xy}(\tau) = \mathbb{E}[x(t) \cdot y^*(t - \tau)]$. $R_{xy} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}^*]$ $R_{yx} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{x}^*]$
 - Vectors can be different lengths L_x and L_y .
 - “uncorrelated” (=0) → **orthogonal**.
 - There are nondiagonal dimensions.

- **Pythagorus** IF uncorrelated $R_{uv} = 0$.
 - Generalizes “variances of uncorrelated random variables add.”
 - $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{y})] = 0$ always, so $\mathbf{u} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{e}$ works.



The Joint Gaussian Distribution

- is completely specified by its autocorrelation (and cross correlation) with zero mean:

$$R \triangleq R_{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}^* & \mathbf{y}^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{xx} & R_{xy} \\ R_{yx} & R_{yy} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- A Gaussian's marginal distributions for \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y}
 - are also Gaussian.
- Its conditional distributions are Gaussian.
 - In particular with non-zero mean $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}/\mathbf{y}]$.

$$\text{real: } p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{N_x+N_y}{2}} \cdot |R|^{-1/2} \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}^* & \mathbf{y}^* \end{bmatrix} \cdot R^{-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix} \right\}}$$

$$\text{complex: } p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = (\pi)^{-[N_x+N_y]} \cdot |R|^{-1} \cdot e^{-\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}^* & \mathbf{y}^* \end{bmatrix} \cdot R^{-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix} \right\}}$$

- Singularity?
 - $|R_{yy}| > 0$ with nonsingular noise on $\mathbf{y} = H \cdot \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$.
 - $|R_{xx}|$? $|R|$? – use pseudoinverse, and determinant redefines as product of **nonzero** eigenvalues.

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}/\mathbf{y}] = R_{xy} \cdot R_{yy}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{y}$$

It's linear
(for Gaussian).

$W = R_{xy} \cdot R_{yy}^+$ if \mathbf{y} is singular.

MMSE and AWGN's best transmission are fundamentally connected.



Linear MMSE & The Orthogonality Principle

Section D.2

Decomposition into pass spaces and null spaces becomes critical in canonical design (think Vector Coding).

Linear MMSE: any joint distribution of x and y

- Given random x and y , receiver estimates x , $\hat{x} = W \cdot y$.
 - It knows both $p_{x,y}$ and specific observed $y = v$.

- The error simplifies to:

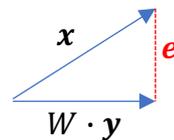
$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{x} - \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbf{w}_n \cdot \mathbf{y}_n = \mathbf{x} - W \cdot \mathbf{y}.$$

- The linear MMSE is

- $\mathbb{E}_{x,y}[\|\mathbf{e}\|^2] = \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{x} - W \cdot \mathbf{y}\|^2]$.

Orthogonality Principle

- Its minimum occurs when $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{y}_n^*] = 0$ for all n :
 - Proof is in Appendix D.2.
 - That is, the error and the estimator's input are uncorrelated.



- Minimum $\hat{x} = \underbrace{R_{xy} \cdot R_{yy}^{-1}}_W \cdot y$, linear in y , **so true MMSE if Gaussian**.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MMSE Matrix: } R_{ee} &= R_{xx} - R_{xy} \cdot R_{yy}^{-1} \cdot R_{yx} = R_{x/y}^\perp \\ &= R_{xx} - W \cdot R_{yx} \end{aligned}$$

- The true MMSE $f(y)$ may not be linear if non-Gaussian.

- Always: $(\widehat{x_1 + x_2}) = \widehat{x_1} + \widehat{x_2}$ or $\widehat{A \cdot x} = A \cdot \widehat{x}$.



Vector and Matrix Norms

- An autocorrelation matrix' trace is its norm (and also equal to mean-squared length of random vector).
 - $\text{MMSE} = \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{e}\|^2] = \text{trace}\{R_{ee}\}$.
- The **trace** of a square autocorrelation matrix is also equal to the **sum** of its eigenvalues $\mathcal{E}_{e',n}$:
 - $R_{ee} = Q^* \cdot R_{e'e'} \cdot Q$ is a symmetric matrix' eigen decomposition with $\text{diag}\{R_{e'e'}\}$ holding eigenvalues, columns of Q = eigenvectors.

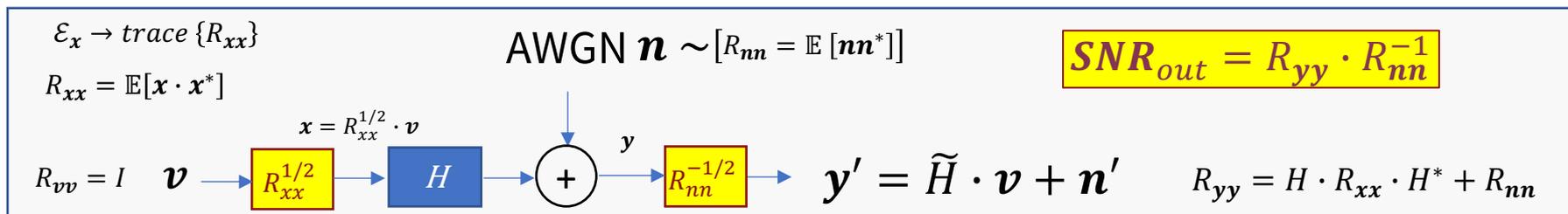
$$\mathbf{e}' = Q \cdot \mathbf{e} \quad \text{diagonal: } R_{e'e'} = Q \cdot R_{ee} \cdot Q^* .$$

$$\|\mathbf{e}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{e}'\|^2 \text{ because } QQ^* = Q^*Q = I .$$

- An autocorrelation matrix' **determinant** is the **product** of its eigenvalues $\mathcal{E}_{e',n}$:
- $\text{MMSE} = \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{e}\|^2]$ and $\ln|R_{ee}| = \sum_n \ln \mathcal{E}_{e',n}$.
- The minimization of each component of \mathbf{e} is *variables separable* (has its own row of W),
 - so then the sum is minimized,
 - but this means each of the \mathbf{e}' also ($W \rightarrow Q \cdot W$) is minimized,
 - so then $|R_{ee}| = |R_{e'e'}|$ is also minimized
 - \rightarrow Minimizing sum (trace) here **is same as minimizing product (determinant)**. **MMSE as trace or determinant.**



Matrix SNR?



$$\tilde{H} \triangleq R_{nn}^{-1/2} \cdot H \cdot R_{xx}^{1/2} = F \cdot \Lambda \cdot M^*$$

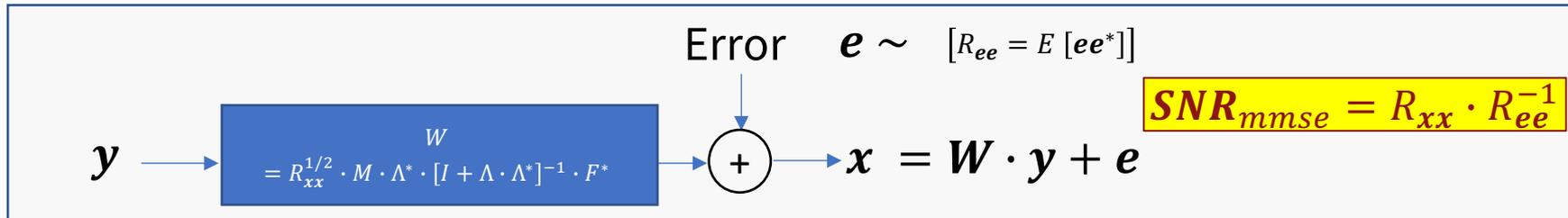
- It's like L2's parallel channels (take determinants) $SNR_{out} = |R_{yy}| \cdot |R_{nn}^{-1}| = \frac{|R_{yy}|}{|R_{nn}|}$.
 - Vector code from \mathbf{v} to \mathbf{y}' .
 - Bit rate is then $b = \log_2(SNR_{out})$.

$$SNR_{out} = \frac{|R_{yy}|}{|R_{nn}|} = \frac{|H \cdot R_{xx} \cdot H^* + R_{nn}|}{|R_{nn}|} = |\tilde{H} \cdot \tilde{H}^* + I| = |\Lambda^2 + I| = \prod_{n=1}^N (SNR_n + 1)$$

- This SNR_{out} set depends on R_{xx} choice, likely with fixed $\text{trace}\{R_{xx}\}$.
 - Water-fill $R_{xx} = M \cdot \text{diag}\{\mathcal{E}_{\text{water-fill}}\} \cdot M^*$ maximizes the matrix SNR, or effectively, its determinant.



Backward Channel and Matrix SNR



- How about “backward channel’s,” $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{e}$, (MMSE) SNR?

$$SNR_{mmse} = \frac{|R_{xx}|}{|R_{ee}|} = |W \cdot R_{yy} \cdot W^* + R_{ee}| / |R_{ee}| = |\Lambda^2 + I| = \prod_{n=1}^N (1 + SNR_n)$$

$$= SNR_{out}$$

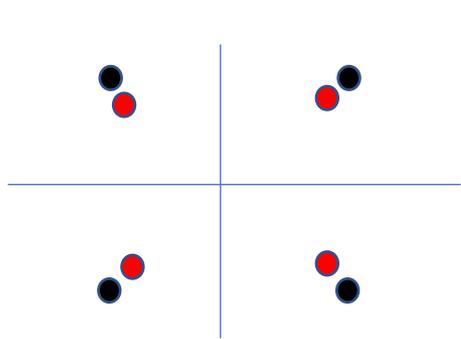
- Bit rate is again $b = \log_2(SNR_{mmse})$, same as L3’s $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{y})$, is symmetric.
- $M^* \cdot W$ is MMSE estimate of \mathbf{v} (linearity of MMSE estimates).
- Optimizing determinants is same as optimizing MSE, or traces.

Forward and backward have same SNR and “bit rate” (continuous x distribution, or Random AEP good-code sense.)

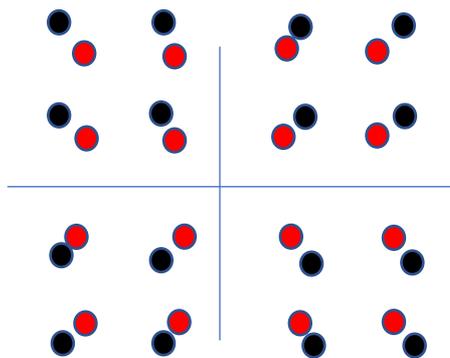


MMSE is always a Biased Estimate

- Biased-Estimate Definition: $\mathbb{E} [\hat{x}/x] \neq x$.
- MMSE estimates always have bias (if noise is nonzero), See Appendix D.2:
 - $\mathbb{E} [\hat{x}/x] = (I - R_{e|e|} \cdot R_{xx}^{-1}) \cdot x = (I - SNR^{-1}) \cdot x$



decision regions same



decision regions change

MMSE trades a little signal reduction for simultaneous noise reduction when minimizing the error, now on every dimension.

[See PS2.1 \(Prob 4.29\)](#)

- For scalar case above, removal is scale up (by $\frac{SNR_{mmse}}{SNR_{mmse}-1}$).
- MIMO case, same per dimension, scale up (by $\frac{SNR_{mmse,n}}{SNR_{mmse,n}-1}$) **WHEN** MMSE $R_{e|e|}$ is diagonal (vector coding).
 - IF not diagonal? (See L11 later in 379B.)





End Supplementary Lecture 3