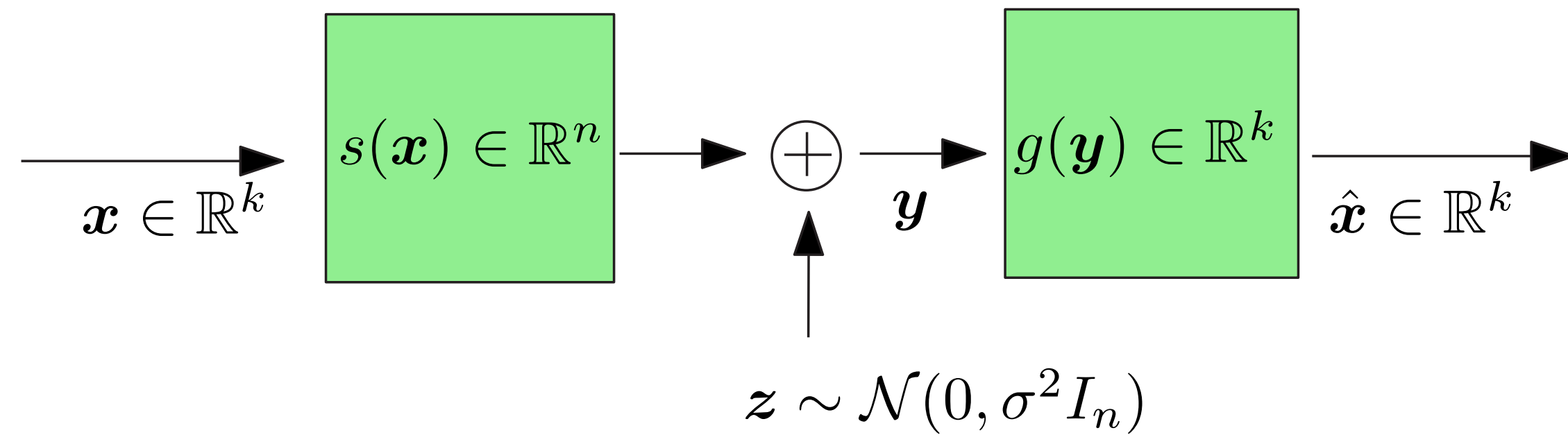


Communication system

- Vector $\mathbf{x} \in [0, 1]^k$ drawn from a discrete-time continuous alphabet source transmitted over an n -dimensional Gaussian channel



- Bandwidth expansion ratio n/k .
- Under constraint $E[\|\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x})\|^2] \leq P$, minimize MSE

$$\text{MSE} = \frac{1}{k} E[\|\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}\|^2].$$

Information-Theoretical Limits

- Rate-Distortion Theory + Separation Principle:

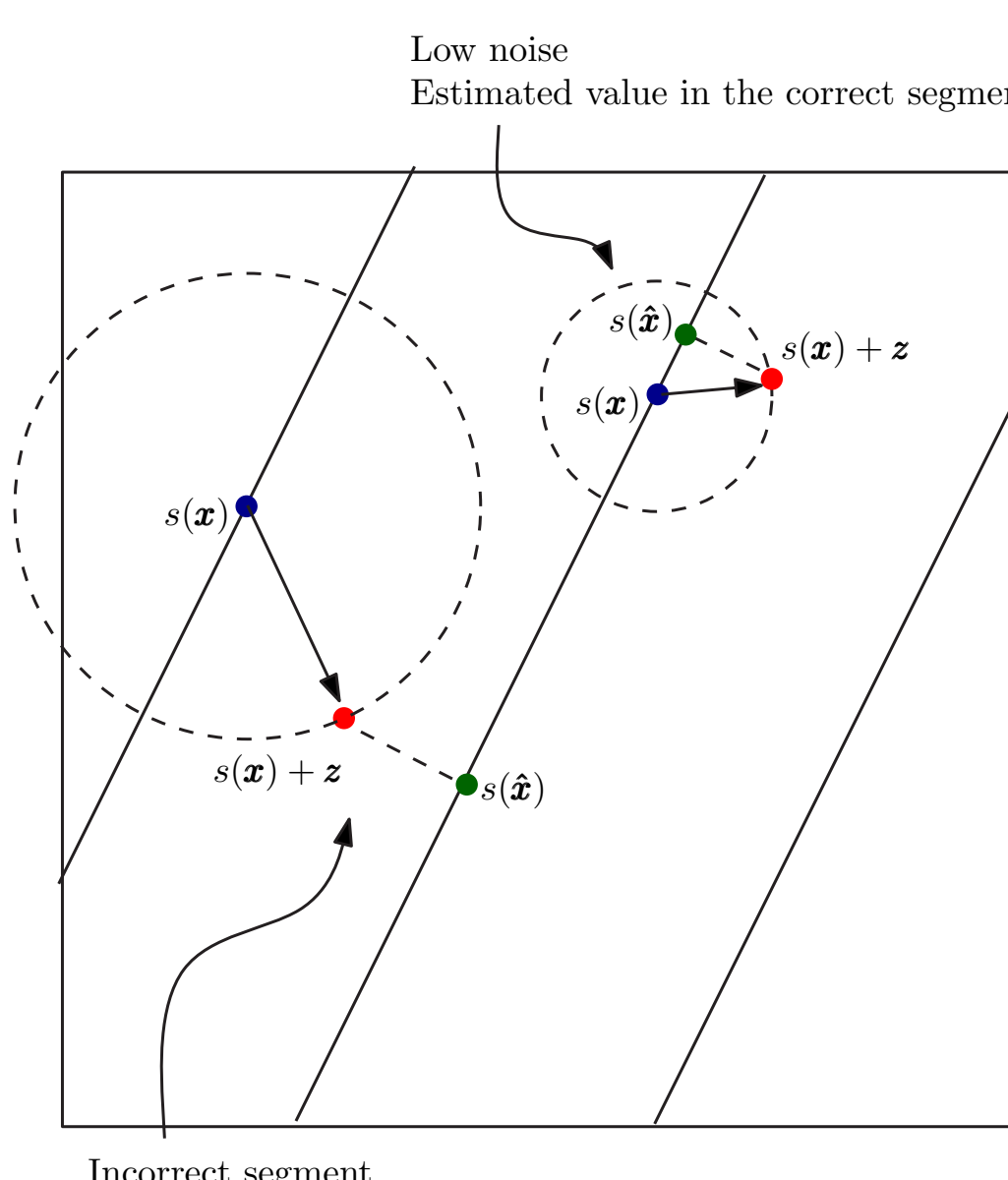
$$D \geq \frac{1}{2\pi e(1 + \text{SNR})^{n/k}}$$

- Achievable with arbitrarily long (digital) block codes and infinite delay
- Question:** How to design *explicit* and *efficient* analog mappings $\mathbf{s} : [0, 1]^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ with asymptotically optimal behavior $\text{MSE} = \Theta(\text{SNR}^{-n/k})$?
- If $\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x})$ is linear, then $\text{MSE} = \Theta(\text{SNR}^{-1})$. Thus we must consider *non-linear* functions.

Threshold Effect

Design criteria:

- Maximize distance between “segments” of the locus $\mathbf{s}([0, 1]^k)$.
- “Stretch” the locus as much as possible.

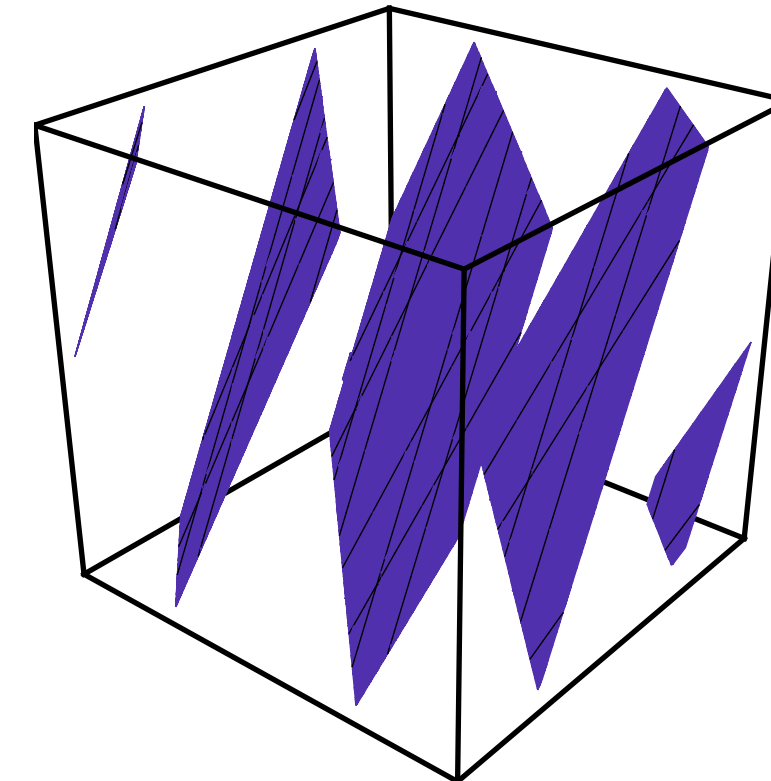


The mod-1 map

For $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}^{n \times k}$, we consider the piecewise linear map

$$\mathbf{s}_1(\mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}))_1 := \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \pmod{1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \lfloor \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \rfloor.$$

The map is injective iff \mathbf{A} is *primitive set of vectors* in \mathbb{Z}^n (i.e., can be completed to a basis). Images are parallel “planes” inside the box $[-1/2, 1/2]^n$.



Distance between two segments:

$$\delta = \min_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{n} \notin \mathbf{A}^\perp} \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^k} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{n}\|.$$

= the norm of the shortest vector in the lattice obtained by the projection of \mathbb{Z}^n onto \mathbf{A}^\perp . Tradeoff between minimum distance/determinant:

$$\rho = \frac{\alpha \delta}{2} = \frac{2\sqrt{3P}\Delta^{1/(n-k)}}{\sqrt{n} \det(\mathbf{A}^t \mathbf{A})^{1/2(n-k)}}.$$

Analysis of the map

When there are no large errors:

$$\text{MSE} \approx \frac{\sigma^2 n \text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^t \mathbf{A})^{-1}}{12kP},$$

but to meet the small error conditions we need ρ to be large $\Rightarrow \det(\mathbf{A}^t \mathbf{A})$ small. To achieve optimal exponent we need a family of matrices with:

- (Injectivity) The columns of \mathbf{A} are *primitive*.
- (Minimum distance) The density of the projections of \mathbb{Z}^n onto \mathbf{A}^\perp is bounded away from zero.
- (MSE Exponent) $\text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^t \mathbf{A})^{-1} = O(\det(\mathbf{A}^t \mathbf{A})^{-1/k})$
(3.) is trivially satisfied if \mathbf{A} is orthogonal. For some parameters ($k = n - 2, n - 1$) constructions are possible. However, orthogonality + primitivity + good projections are hard to ensure simultaneously.

An Alternative Mapping: Modifying the support

By a matrix factorization, we can find \mathbf{Q} and \mathbf{R} , where $\det \mathbf{R} = 1$ and columns of \mathbf{Q} orthogonal, such that $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R}$. Then the mapping:

$$\mathbf{s}_Q : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

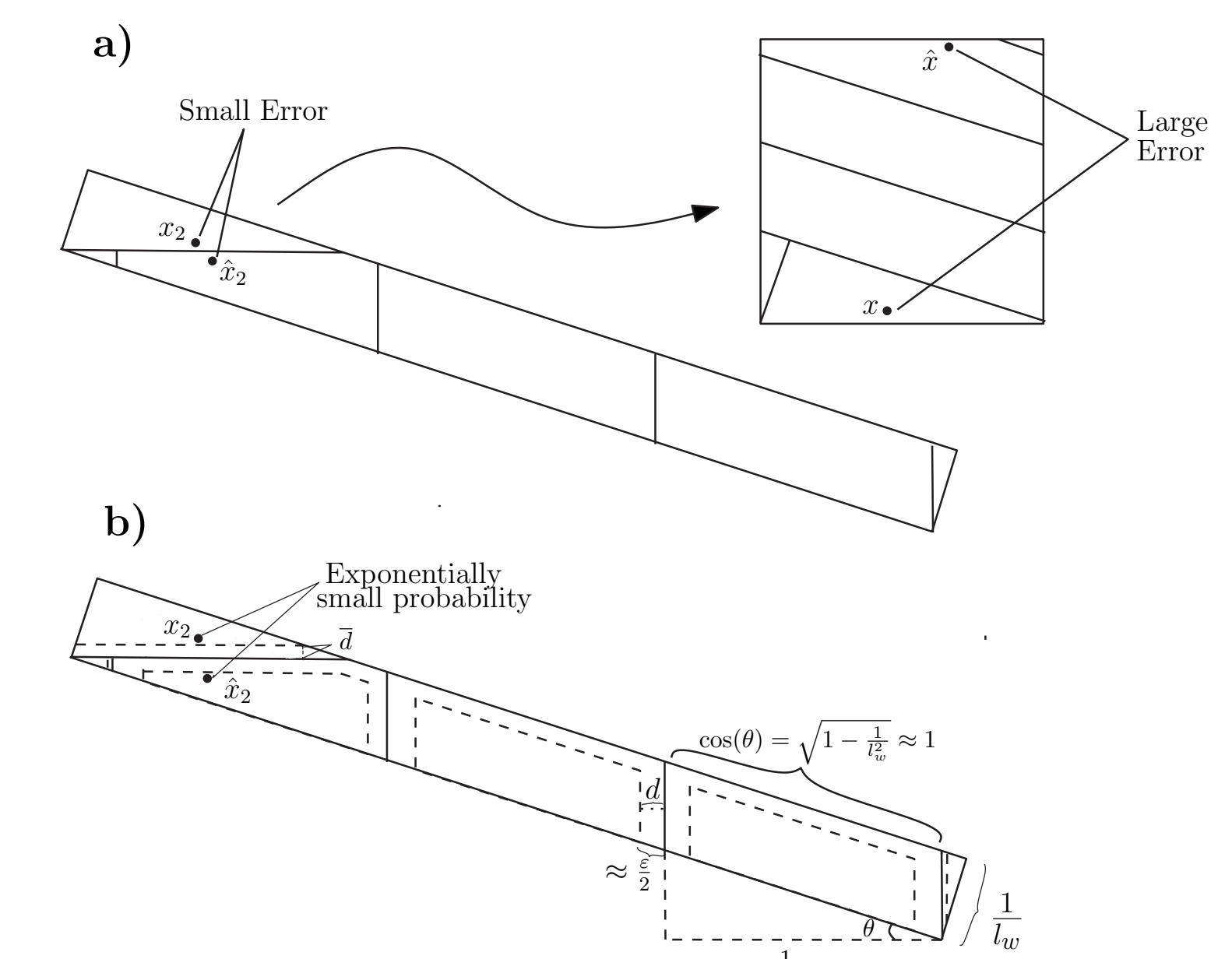
$$\mathbf{s}_Q(\mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{x}_2 \pmod{1}.$$

where $\mathcal{S} = \mathbf{R}[0, 1]^k$ yields an asymptotically optimal family (provided that \mathbf{A} is chosen according to good projections). However the source is now $\mathcal{S} \neq [0, 1]^k$.

Dissections of polyhedra

Idea: use \mathbf{s}_Q and a bijection between the cube $[0, 1]^k$ and \mathcal{S} provided by a *dissection* to come back to the original support.

- Dissect $[0, 1]^k$ and \mathcal{S} into m non-overlapping polyhedra T_1, T_2, \dots, T_m and $\tilde{T}_1, \tilde{T}_2, \dots, \tilde{T}_m$ so that $[0, 1]^k = \bigcup_{i=1}^m T_i$, $\mathcal{S} = \bigcup_{i=1}^m \tilde{T}_i$ and $\tilde{T}_i = \phi_i(T_i)$. Define the map $\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{s}_Q(\phi_i(\mathbf{x}))$ if $\mathbf{x} \in T_i$. Discontinuities can cause large errors. Solution: shrinking factor.



Proposition: For $k = 2$, there is a family of matrices and a proper choice of the “shrinking factor” such that the MSE degradation caused by the dissection is exponentially small and $\text{MSE} = \Theta(\text{SNR}^{-n/2})$.

Acknowledgments

This work was partially supported by São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) Grant 2012/09167-2. Antonio Campello would like to thank AT&T Shannon Laboratory, where this work was developed.