
TTT4275 Summary for January 25th Spring 2019

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The Best Linear Unbiased Estimator (BLUE) - 1

- The linear model gave an LSE-estimator which was linear in the observations $x = [x(0), \dots, x(N-1)]$.

This indicates that we should investigate linear estimators independent of the type of problem!

- Again we assume that we do not know the distribution $p(x; \theta)$
- It turns out that in order to find such an estimator we need to know the following (for a scalar case):

a) The covariance matrix C_x

b) The mean $E\{x(n)\} = s_n \theta$ $n = 0, \dots, N-1$ where all s_n are known

- The linear estimator is given by

$$\hat{\theta} = \sum_n a_n x(n) = a^T x \quad (1)$$

where a must be found.



- Forcing the estimator to be unbiased results in the constraint $a^T s = 1$
- We also found the variance : $var(\hat{\theta}) = a^T C_x a$
- To find the best estimator we need to minimise $var(\hat{\theta})$, however while fulfilling the constraint. Thus we have to introduce the Lagrangian λ

$$L(\theta, \lambda) = a^T C_x a + \lambda(a^T s - 1) \quad (2)$$

- Minimizing $L(\theta, \lambda)$ results in

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{s^T C_x^{-1} x}{s^T C_x^{-1} s} \quad (3)$$

$$var(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{1}{s^T C_x^{-1} s} \quad (4)$$

- Note that since we do not know $p(x; \theta)$ we do not know how close this variance is to the CRLB!

