

## Decision and Estimation in Data Processing

## Chapter II. Elements of Signal Detection Theory

## II.1 Introduction

# Introduction

- ▶ Signal detection = the problem of deciding which signal is present from 2 or more possibilities
  - ▶ one possibility may be that there is no signal
- ▶ Based on **noisy** observations
  - ▶ signals are affected by noise

# The model for signal detection

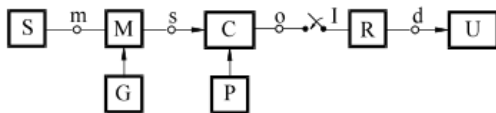


Figure 1: Signal detection model

## ► Contents:

- Information source: generates messages  $a_n$  with probabilities  $p(a_n)$
- Modulator: transmits a signal  $s_n(t)$  for message  $a_n$
- Channel: adds random noise
- Sampler: takes samples from the signal  $s_n(t)$
- Receiver: **decides** what message  $a_n$  has been transmitted

# Practical scenarios

## ► Data transmission

- constant voltage levels (e.g.  $s_n(t) = \text{constant}$ )
- PSK modulation (Phase Shift Keying):  $s_n(t) = \text{cosine}$  with same frequency but various initial phase
- FSK modulation (Frequency Shift Keying):  $s_n(t) = \text{cosines}$  with different frequencies
- OFDM modulation (Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing): particular case of FSK

## ► Radar

- a signal is emitted; if there is an obstacle, the signal gets reflected back
- the receiver waits for possible reflections of the signal and must decide
  - no reflection is present -> no object
  - reflected signal is present -> object detected

# Generalizations

- ▶ Decide between more than two signals
- ▶ Number of observations:
  - ▶ use only one sample
  - ▶ use multiple samples
  - ▶ observe the whole continuous signal for some time  $T$

## II.2 Detection of constant signals based on 1 sample



# Detection of a constant signal, 1 sample

- ▶ Simplest case: detection of a constant signal contaminated with white normal noise, using 1 sample
  - ▶ two messages  $a_0$  and  $a_1$
  - ▶ messages are encoded as constant signals
    - ▶ for  $a_0$ : send  $s_0(t) = 0$
    - ▶ for  $a_1$ : send  $s_1(t) = A$
  - ▶ over the signals there is additive noise
  - ▶ receiver takes just 1 sample
  - ▶ decision: compare sample with a threshold

# Threshold-based decision

- ▶ The value of the sample taken is  $r = s + n$ 
  - ▶  $s$  is the true underlying signal ( $s_0 = 0$  or  $s_1 = A$ )
  - ▶  $n$  is a sample of the noise
- ▶  $n$  is a (continuous) random variable
- ▶  $r$  is a random variable also
  - ▶ what distribution does  $r$  have compared to  $n$ ?
- ▶ Decision is taken by comparing with a threshold  $T$ :
  - ▶ if  $r < T$ , take decision  $D_0$ : decide the true signal is  $s_0$
  - ▶ if  $r \geq T$ , take decision  $D_1$ : decide the true signal is  $s_1$

# Hypotheses

- ▶ Receiver chooses between **two hypotheses**:
  - ▶  $H_0$ : true signal is  $s_0$  ( $a_0$  has been transmitted)
  - ▶  $H_1$ : true signal is  $s_1$  ( $a_1$  has been transmitted)
- ▶ Possible results
  1. **Correct rejection**: no signal present, no signal detected.
    - ▶ Decision  $D_0$  when hypothesis is  $H_0$
    - ▶ Probability is  $P_n = P(D_0 \cap H_0)$
  2. **False alarm**: no signal present, signal detected (error)
    - ▶ Decision  $D_1$  when hypothesis is  $H_0$
    - ▶ Probability is  $P_{fa}P(D_1 \cap H_0)$
  3. **Miss**: signal present, no signal detected (error)
    - ▶ Decision  $D_0$  when hypothesis is  $H_1$
    - ▶ Probability is  $P_m = P(D_0 \cap H_1)$
  4. **Hit**: signal present, signal detected
    - ▶ Decision  $D_1$  when hypothesis is  $H_1$
    - ▶ Probability is  $P_d = P(D_1 \cap H_1)$

# Maximum likelihood criterion

- ▶ Choose the hypothesis that **seems most likely** given the observed sample  $r$
- ▶ The **likelihood** of an observation  $r$  = the probability density of  $r$  given a hypothesis  $H_0$  or  $H_1$
- ▶ Likelihood in case of hypothesis  $H_0$ :  $w(r|H_0)$ 
  - ▶  $r$  is only noise, so value is taken from the noise distribution
- ▶ Likelihood in case of hypothesis  $H_1$ :  $w(r|H_1)$ 
  - ▶  $r$  is  $A + \text{noise}$ , so value is taken from the distribution of  $(A + \text{noise})$
- ▶ **Likelihood ratio** test:

$$\frac{w(r|H_1)}{w(r|H_0)} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} 1$$

# Graphical interpretation

- ▶ Consider noise having a normal distribution
- ▶ Plot the two density functions for  $H_0$ ,  $H_1$

# Decision via threshold

- ▶ Likelihood ratio test for ML = comparing  $r$  with a threshold  $T$
- ▶ The threshold = the cross-over point of the two distributions

# Normal noise

- ▶ Particular case: the noise has normal distribution  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$
- ▶ Likelihood ratio is  $\frac{w(r|H_1)}{r|H_0} = \frac{e^{-\frac{(r-A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{e^{-\frac{r^2}{2\sigma^2}}} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} 1$
- ▶ For normal distribution, it is easier to apply *natural logarithm* to the terms
  - ▶ logarithm is a monotonic increasing function, so it won't change the comparison
  - ▶ if  $A < B$ , then  $\log(A) < \log(B)$
- ▶ The **log-likelihood** of an observation = the logarithm of the likelihood value
  - ▶ usually the natural logarithm, but any one can be used

# Log-likelihood test for ML

- ▶ For normal noise, the ML decision means the log-likelihood test

$$\frac{(r - A)^2}{r^2} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} 1$$

- ▶ Applying square root

$$\frac{|r - A|}{|r|} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} 1$$

- ▶  $|r - A|$  = distance from  $r$  to  $A$ ,  $|r|$  = distance from  $r$  to 0
- ▶ ML decision with normal noise: choose the value 0 or  $A$  which is **nearest** to  $r$ 
  - ▶ very general principle, encountered in many other scenarios
  - ▶ also known as **nearest neighbor** principle / decision
  - ▶ ML receiver is also known as **minimum distance receiver**
  - ▶ equivalent with setting a threshold  $T = \frac{A}{2}$



# Generalizations

- ▶ What if the noise has another distribution?
  - ▶ Threshold  $T$  is still the cross-over point, whatever that is
  - ▶ There can be more cross-overs, so multiple thresholds
  - ▶ Can think that  $\mathbb{R}$  axis is split into **decision regions**  $R_0$  and  $R_1$
- ▶ What if the noise distributions are different for  $H_0$  and  $H_1$ ?
  - ▶ Threshold  $T$  is the cross-over point, whatever that is
- ▶ What if the signal  $s_0(t)$  (for  $H_0$ ) is not 0, but another constant value  $B$ ?
  - ▶  $T$  is the crossover point, the distributions are centered on  $B$  and  $A$
  - ▶ In case of normal noise, choose  $B$  or  $A$  whichever is nearest (threshold is at middle point)

# Generalizations

- ▶ What if we have more than two signal levels?
  - ▶ e.g. 4 possible signals: -6, -2, 2, 6
  - ▶ Just choose the most likely hypothesis, out of 4 likelihood functions
  - ▶ Not a single threshold value, now there are more

# Exercises

- ▶ A signal can have two possible values, 0 or 5. The receiver takes one sample with value  $r = 2.25$ 
  1. Considering that the noise is white gaussian noise, what signal is decided based on the Maximum Likelihood criterion?
  2. What if the signal 0 is affected by gaussian noise  $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.5)$ , while the signal 5 is affected by uniform noise  $\mathcal{U}[-4, 4]$ ?
  3. Repeat a. and b. assuming the value 0 is replaced by  $-1$
- ▶ A signal can have four possible values:  $-6, -2, 2, 6$ . Each value lasts for 1 second. The signal is affected by white noise with normal distribution. The receiver takes 1 sample per second. Using ML criterion, decide what signal has been transmitted, if the received samples are:

4, 6.6,  $-5.2$ , 1.1, 0.3,  $-1.5$ , 7,  $-7$ , 4.4

# Computing conditional error probabilities

- ▶ We can compute the conditional probabilities of errors
- ▶ Consider the decision regions:
  - ▶  $R_0$ : when  $r \in R_0$ , decision is  $D_0$ , i.e.  $(-\infty, T)$  for gaussian noise
  - ▶  $R_1$ : when  $r \in R_1$ , decision is  $D_1$ , i.e.  $[T, \infty)$  for gaussian noise
- ▶ Probability of false alarm **if** original signal is  $s_0(t)$

$$P(D_1|H_0) = \int_{R_1} w(r|H_0)dx$$

- ▶ Probability of miss **if** original signal is  $s_1(t)$

$$P(D_0|H_1) = \int_{R_0} w(r|H_1)dx$$

- ▶ These probabilities do not account for the probability that the signal actually is  $s_0(t)$  or  $s_1(t)$ 
  - ▶ they are **conditional** (“if”)

# Computing conditional error probabilities

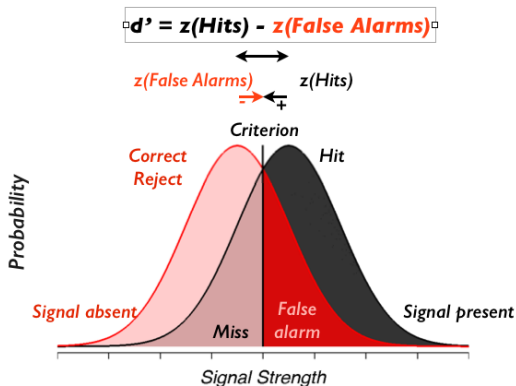


Figure 2: Conditional error probabilities

[image from <http://gru.stanford.edu/doku.php/tutorials/sdt>]

# Reminder: the Bayes rule

- ▶ Reminder: the Bayes rule

$$P(A \cap B) = P(B|A) \cdot P(A)$$

- ▶ Interpretation
  - ▶ The probability  $P(A)$  is taken out from  $P(B|A)$
  - ▶  $P(B|A)$  gives no information on  $P(A)$ , the chances of  $A$  actually happening
  - ▶ Example:  $P(\text{score} \mid \text{shoot}) = \frac{1}{2}$ . How many goals are scored?

# Exercise

- ▶ A signal can have two possible values, 0 or 5. The signal 0 is affected by gaussian noise  $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.5)$ , while the signal 5 is affected by uniform noise  $\mathcal{U}[-4, 4]$ . The receiver performs ML decision based on a single sample.
  1. Compute the probability of a wrong decision when the original signal is  $s_0(t)$
  2. Compute the probability of a wrong decision when the original signal is  $s_1(t)$

# Pitfalls of ML decision criterion

- ▶ The ML is based on comparing **conditional** probability density functions
  - ▶ conditioned by  $H_0$  or by  $H_1$
- ▶ Conditioning by  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  ignores the probability of  $H_0$  or  $H_1$  actually happening
  - ▶ We don't know how  $p(H_0)$  or  $P(H_1)$
- ▶ If  $p(H_0) > p(H_1)$ , we may want to move the threshold towards  $H_1$ , and vice-versa
  - ▶ because it is more likely that the signal is  $s_0(t)$
  - ▶ and thus we want to “encourage” decision  $D_0$



# The minimum error probability criterion

- ▶ Takes into account the probabilities  $P(H_0)$  and  $P(H_1)$
- ▶ Goal is to **minimize the total probability of error**  $P_e$ 
  - ▶ errors = false alarms and misses
- ▶ We need to find the decision regions  $R_0$  and  $R_1$

# Probability of error

- ▶ Probability of false alarm

$$\begin{aligned}P(D_1 \cap H_0) &= P(D_1|H_0) \cdot P(H_0) \\&= \int_{R_1} w(r|H_0) dx \cdot P(H_0) \\&= (1 - \int_{R_0} w(r|H_0) dx) \cdot P(H_0)\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Probability of miss

$$\begin{aligned}P(D_0 \cap H_1) &= P(D_0|H_1) \cdot P(H_1) \\&= \int_{R_0} w(r|H_1) dx \cdot P(H_1)\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ The sum is

$$P_e = P(H_0) + \int_{R_0} [w(r|H_1) \cdot P(H_1) - w(r|H_0) \cdot P(H_0)] dx$$

# Minimum probability of error

- ▶ We want to minimize  $P_e$ , i.e. to minimize the integral
- ▶ To minimize the integral, we choose  $R_0$  such that for all  $r \in R_0$ , the term inside the integral is **negative**
  - ▶ because integrating over all the interval where the function is negative ensures minimum value of integral
- ▶ So, when  $w(r|H_1) \cdot P(H_1) - w(r|H_0) \cdot P(H_0) < 0$  we have  $r \in R_0$ , i.e. decision  $D_0$
- ▶ Conversely, when  $w(r|H_1) \cdot P(H_1) - w(r|H_0) \cdot P(H_0) > 0$  we have  $r \in R_1$ , i.e. decision  $D_1$
- ▶ Therefore

$$w(r|H_1) \cdot P(H_1) - w(r|H_0) \cdot P(H_0) \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} 0$$

$$\frac{w(r|H_1)}{w(r|H_0)} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} \frac{P(H_0)}{P(H_1)}$$

# Interpretation

- ▶ Similar to ML, but threshold depends on probabilities of the two hypotheses
  - ▶ When one hypotheses is more likely than the other, the threshold is pushed in its favor, towards the other
- ▶ Also based on a **likelihood ratio** test, just like ML

# Minimum probability of error - gaussian noise

- ▶ Assuming the noise is gaussian (normal),  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

$$w(r|H_1) = e^{-\frac{(r-A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$w(r|H_0) = e^{-\frac{r^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- ▶ Apply natural logarithm

$$-\frac{(r-A)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{r^2}{2\sigma^2} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} \ln \left( \frac{P(H_0)}{P(H_1)} \right)$$

- ▶ Equivalently

$$2rA - A^2 \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} 2\sigma^2 \cdot \ln \left( \frac{P(H_0)}{P(H_1)} \right)$$

$$r \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} \underbrace{\frac{A^2 + 2\sigma^2 \cdot \ln \left( \frac{P(H_0)}{P(H_1)} \right)}{2A}}_T$$

# Decision regions

- ▶ We still compare with a threshold  $T$ , but its value is shifted towards the less probable hypothesis
  - ▶  $T$  depends on the ratio  $\frac{P(H_0)}{P(H_1)}$
- ▶ Decision regions
  - ▶  $R_0 = (-\infty, T]$
  - ▶  $R_1 = [T, \infty)$
  - ▶ will be different for other noise distributions (non-gaussian)

- An information source provides two messages with probabilities  $p(a_0) = \frac{2}{3}$  and  $p(a_1) = \frac{1}{3}$ . The messages are encoded as constant signals with values  $-5$  ( $a_0$ ) and  $5$  ( $a_1$ ). The signals are affected by gaussian noise  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 = 1)$ . The receiver takes one sample  $r$ . Decision is done by comparing  $r$  with a threshold value  $T$ , as follows: if  $r < T$  it is decided that the transmitted message is  $a_0$ , otherwise it is  $a_1$ .
1. Find the threshold value  $T$  according to the minimum probability of error criterion
  2. What if the signal  $5$  is affected by uniform noise  $\mathcal{U}[-4, 4]$ ?
  3. What are the probabilities of false alarm and of miss?

# Minimum risk (cost) criterion

- ▶ What if we care more about one type of errors (e.g. false alarms) than other kind (e.g. miss)?
- ▶ Minimum risk (cost) criterion: assign costs to decisions, minimize average cost
  - ▶  $C_{ij}$  = cost of decision  $D_i$  when true hypothesis was  $H_j$
  - ▶  $C_{00}$  = cost for good detection  $D_0$  in case of  $H_0$
  - ▶  $C_{10}$  = cost for false alarm (detection  $D_1$  in case of  $H_0$ )
  - ▶  $C_{01}$  = cost for miss (detection  $D_0$  in case of  $H_1$ )
  - ▶  $C_{11}$  = cost for good detection  $D_1$  in case of  $H_1$
- ▶ The risk = the average cost

$$R = C_{00}P(D_0 \cap H_0) + C_{10}P(D_1 \cap H_0) + C_{01}P(D_0 \cap H_1) + C_{11}P(D_1 \cap H_1)$$

- ▶ Minimum risk criterion: **minimize the risk R**



# Computations

- ▶ Proof on table:
  - ▶ Use Bayes rule
  - ▶ Notations:  $w(r|H_j)$  (*likelihood*)
  - ▶ Probabilities:  $\int_{R_i} w(r|H_j)dV$
- ▶ Conclusion, **decision rule is**

$$\frac{w(r|H_1)}{w(r|H_0)} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} \frac{(C_{10} - C_{00})p(H_0)}{(C_{01} - C_{11})p(H_1)}$$

# Interpretation

- ▶ Similar to ML and to minimum probability of error criteria
  - ▶ also uses a **likelihood ratio** test
- ▶ Both probabilities and the assigned costs can move threshold towards one side or the other
- ▶ If  $C_{10} - C_{00} = C_{01} - C_{11}$ , reduces to previous criterion (minimum probability of error)
  - ▶ e.g. if  $C_{00} = C_{11} = 0$ , and  $C_{10} = C_{01}$

# In gaussian noise

- ▶ If the noise is gaussian (normal), then similar to other criteria, apply logarithm
- ▶ Equivalently

$$-(r - A)^2 + r^2 \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} \underbrace{2\sigma^2 \cdot \ln \left( \frac{(C_{10} - C_{00})p(H_0)}{(C_{01} - C_{11})p(H_1)} \right)}_C$$

$$r \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} \underbrace{\frac{A^2 + 2\sigma^2 \cdot \ln \left( \frac{(C_{10} - C_{00})p(H_0)}{(C_{01} - C_{11})p(H_1)} \right)}{2A}}_T$$

# Example

- ▶ Example at blackboard: 0 / 5, random noise with  $N(0, \sigma^2)$ , one sample

# Neymar-Pearson criterion

- ▶ Neymar-Pearson criterion: maximize probability of a hit ( $P(D_1 \cap H_1)$ ) while keeping probability of false alarms smaller than a limit ( $P(D_1 \cap H_0) \leq \lambda$ )
- ▶ Deduce the threshold  $T$  from the limit condition  $P(D_1 \cap H_0) = \lambda$

# Exercise

- ▶ An information source provides two messages with probabilities  $p(a_0) = \frac{2}{3}$  and  $p(a_1) = \frac{1}{3}$ .
- ▶ The messages are encoded as constant signals with values  $-5$  ( $a_0$ ) and  $5$  ( $a_1$ ).
- ▶ The signals are affected by noise with triangular distribution  $[-5, 5]$ .
- ▶ The receiver takes one sample  $r$ .
- ▶ Decision is done by comparing  $r$  with a threshold value  $T$ , as follows: if  $r < T$  it is decided that the transmitted message is  $a_0$ , otherwise it is  $a_1$ .
  1. Find the threshold value  $T$  according to the Neyman-Pearson criterion, considering  $P_{fa} \leq 10^{-2}$
  2. What is the probability of hit?

## Two non-zero levels

- ▶ What if the  $s_0$  signal is not 0, but another constant signal  $s_0 = B$ ?
- ▶ Noise distribution  $w(r|H_0)$  is centered on  $B$ , not 0
- ▶ Otherwise, everything else stays the same
- ▶ Performance is defined by the gap between the two levels ( $A - B$ )
  - ▶ same performance if  $s_0 = 0$ ,  $s_1 = A$  or if  $s_0 = -\frac{A}{2}$  and  $s_1 = \frac{A}{2}$
- ▶ Valid for all decision criteria

# Differential vs single-ended signalling

- ▶ Single-ended signaling: one signal is 0, other is non-zero
  - ▶  $s_0 = 0, s_1 = A$
- ▶ Differential signaling: use two non-zero levels with different sign, same absolute value
  - ▶  $s_0 = -\frac{A}{2}, s_1 = \frac{A}{2}$
- ▶ Which is better?



# Differential vs single-ended signalling

- ▶ If gap difference between levels is the same, performance is the same
- ▶ Average power of a signal = average squared value
- ▶ For differential signal:  $P = \left(\pm \frac{A}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{A^2}{4}$
- ▶ For signal ended signal:  $P = P(H_0) \cdot 0 + P(H_1) (A)^2 = \frac{A^2}{2}$ 
  - ▶ assuming equal probabilities  $P(H_0) = P(H_1) = \frac{1}{2}$
- ▶ Differential uses half the power of single-ended (i.e. better)

# Summary of criteria

- ▶ We have seen decision based on 1 sample  $r$ , between 2 constant levels
- ▶ All decisions are based on a likelihood-ratio test

$$\frac{w(r|H_1)}{w(r|H_0)} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} K$$

- ▶ Different criteria differ in the chosen value of  $K$  (likelihood threshold)
- ▶ Depending on the noise distributions, the real axis is partitioned into regions
  - ▶ region  $R_0$ : if  $r$  is in here, decide  $D_0$
  - ▶ region  $R_1$ : if  $r$  is in here, decide  $D_1$
  - ▶ e.g.  $R_0 = (-\infty, \frac{A+B}{2}]$ ,  $R_1 = (\frac{A+B}{2}, \infty)$  (ML)

# Receiver Operating Characteristic

- ▶ The receiver performance is usually represented with “**Receiver Operating Characteristic**” (ROC) graph
- ▶ It is a graph of hit probability  $P_d = P(D_1 \cap H_1)$  (correct detection) as a function of false alarm probability  $P_{fa} = P(D_1 \cap H_0)$

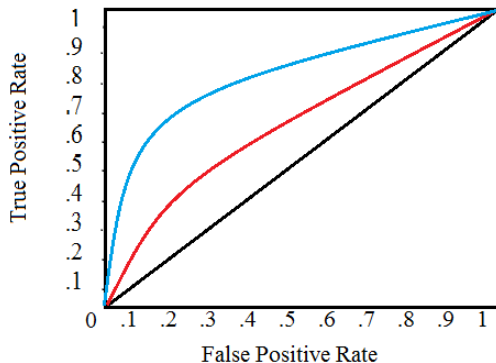


Figure 3: Sample ROC curves

# Receiver Operating Characteristic

- ▶ There is always a **tradeoff** between good  $P_d$  and bad  $P_{fa}$ 
  - ▶ to increase  $P_d$  one must also increase  $P_{fa}$
  - ▶ if we want to make sure we don't miss any real detections (increase  $P_d$ ), we pay by increasing the chances of false alarms
- ▶ Different criteria = different likelihood thresholds  $K$  = different points on the graph = different tradeoffs
  - ▶ but the tradeoff cannot be avoided
- ▶ How to improve the receiver?
  - ▶ i.e. increase  $P_D$  while keeping  $P_{fa}$  the same

# Performance of likelihood-ratio decoding in WGN

- ▶ WGN = “White Gaussian Noise”
- ▶ Assume equal probabilities  $P(H_0) = P(H_1) = \frac{1}{2}$
- ▶ All decisions are based on a likelihood-ratio test

$$\frac{w(r|H_1)}{w(r|H_0)} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} K$$

- ▶ Hit probability is

$$\begin{aligned} P_{hit} &= P(D_1|H_1)P(H_1) \\ &= P(H_1) \int_T^\infty w(r|H_1) \\ &= P(H_1)(F(\infty) - F(T)) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( 1 - \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{T - A}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} \right) \right) \\ &= Q \left( \frac{T - A}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Performance of likelihood-ratio decoding in WGN

- False alarm probability is

$$\begin{aligned}P_{fa} &= P(D_1|H_0)P(H_0) \\&= P(H_0) \int_T^\infty w(r|H_0) \\&= P(H_0)(F(\infty) - F(T)) \\&= \frac{1}{4} \left( 1 - \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{T - 0}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} \right) \right) \\&= Q \left( \frac{T}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} \right)\end{aligned}$$

- Therefore  $\frac{T}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} = Q^{-1}(P_{fa})$
- Replacing in  $P_{hit}$  yields

$$P_{hit} = Q \left( \underbrace{Q^{-1}(P_{fa})}_{\text{constant}} - \frac{A}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} \right)$$

# Signal-to-noise ratio

- ▶ **Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)** =  $\frac{\text{power of original signal}}{\text{power of noise}}$
- ▶ Average power of a signal = average squared value =  $\overline{X^2}$ 
  - ▶ Original signal power is  $\frac{A^2}{2}$
  - ▶ Noise power is  $\overline{X^2} = \sigma^2$  (when noise mean value  $\mu = 0$ )
- ▶ In our case,  $\text{SNR} = \frac{A^2}{2\sigma^2}$

$$P_{hit} = Q \left( \underbrace{Q^{-1}(P_{fa})}_{\text{constant}} - \sqrt{\text{SNR}} \right)$$

- ▶ For a fixed  $P_{fa}$ ,  $P_{hit}$  increases with SNR
  - ▶  $Q$  is a monotonic decreasing function

# Performance depends on SNR

- ▶ Receiver performance increases with SNR increase
  - ▶ high SNR: good performance
  - ▶ poor SNR: bad performance

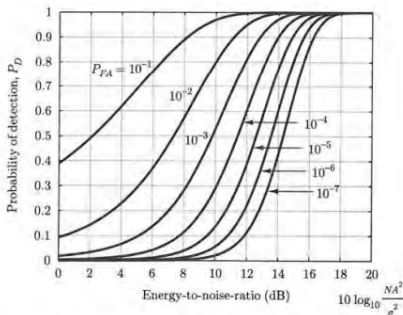


Figure 4: Detection performance depends on SNR

[source: *Fundamentals of Statistical Signal Processing*, Steven Kay]



# Decision between hypotheses

- ▶ Statistical decision is not useful merely for detecting signals
- ▶ We are in fact deciding between two different probability distributions
  - ▶ regardless of what the two distributions mean
- ▶ For detection of constant signals, we choose between two distributions with **different average value**, generally
  - ▶ one distribution has average value 0, the other one  $A$
- ▶ But we can choose between distributions that differ in other parameters
  - ▶ average value, or
  - ▶ variance, or
  - ▶ shape, etc

# Decision between hypotheses

- ▶ Example: We have a sample with value  $r = 2.5$ . It can come from a distribution  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 = 1)$  (hypothesis  $H_0$ ) or from  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 = 2)$  (hypothesis  $H_1$ ). Which hypothesis do we think is true?
  - ▶ It is the variance that differs, not the average value
- ▶ We can use the exact same criteria as before
  - ▶ Draw the two distributions
  - ▶ Compute the likelihoods  $w(r|H_0)$  and  $w(r|H_1)$  for  $r$
  - ▶ Decide based on likelihood ratio using some criterion

## II.3 Detection of constant signals with multiple samples

# Multiple samples from a constant signal

- ▶ Suppose we have multiple samples, not just 1
- ▶ The samples are arranged in a **sample vector**

$$\mathbf{r} = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N]$$

- ▶ In each hypotheses, the signal is a **random process**
  - ▶  $H_0$ : random process with average value 0
  - ▶  $H_1$ : random process with average value A
- ▶ Assuming the noise is stationary and ergodic, the signal random process is stationary and ergodic (signal = constant + noise)
- ▶ The values of  $\mathbf{r}$  are described by the **distribution of order  $N$**  of the random processes,  $w_N(\mathbf{r}) = w_N(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N)$
- ▶ Assuming the noise is white noise, the sample times don't matter

# Likelihood-based of vector samples

- ▶ We can apply **the same criteria** based on likelihood ratio as for 1 sample

$$\frac{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_0)}{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_1)} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} K$$

- ▶ Notes
  - ▶  $\mathbf{r}$  is a vector; we consider the likelihood of all the samples
  - ▶ the hypotheses  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  are the same as for 1 sample
  - ▶  $w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_0)$  = likelihood of the whole vector  $\mathbf{r}$  being obtained in hypothesis  $H_0$
  - ▶  $w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_1)$  = likelihood of the whole vector  $\mathbf{r}$  being obtained in hypothesis  $H_1$
  - ▶ the value of  $K$  is given by the actual decision criterion used
- ▶ Interpretation: we choose the hypothesis that is most likely to have produced the observed data
  - ▶ the same, but now the data = multiple samples

- ▶ Assuming the noise is white noise, the samples  $r_i$  are **multiple independent realizations of the same distribution**
- ▶ In that case the joint distributions  $w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_j)$  can be decomposed as a product

$$w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_j) = w(r_1|H_j) \cdot w(r_2|H_j) \cdot \dots \cdot w(r_N|H_j)$$

- ▶ The  $w(r_i|H_j)$  are just the likelihoods of each individual sample
  - ▶ e.g. the likelihood of obtaining  $[5.1, 4.7, 4.9]$  = likelihood of obtaining 5.1  $\times$  likelihood of getting 4.7  $\times$  likelihood of getting 4.9

- ▶ Then all likelihood ratio criteria can be written as

$$\frac{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_1)}{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_0)} = \frac{w(r_1|H_1)}{w(r_1|H_0)} \cdot \frac{w(r_2|H_1)}{w(r_2|H_0)} \cdots \frac{w(r_N|H_1)}{w(r_N|H_0)} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} K$$

- ▶ The likelihood ratio of a vector of samples = product of likelihood ratio for each sample

## Particular case: AWGN

- ▶ AWGN = “Additive White Gaussian Noise”
- ▶ In hypothesis  $H_1$ :  $w(r_i|H_1) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(r_i-A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- ▶ In hypothesis  $H_0$ :  $w(r_i|H_1) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{r_i^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- ▶ Likelihood ratio for vector  $\mathbf{r}$

$$\frac{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_1)}{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_0)} = \frac{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i-A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}$$

- ▶ We can interpret this likelihood ratio in two ways



# Interpretation 1: average value of samples

- Interpretation 1: average value of samples

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_1)}{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_0)} &= \frac{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i - A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i - A)^2 - \sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i^2 - 2r_i A + A^2) - \sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{\sum (-2r_i A + A^2)}{2\sigma^2}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{-2A \sum (r_i) + N A^2}{2\sigma^2}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{-2A \frac{\sum (r_i)}{N} + A^2}{2 \frac{\sigma^2}{N}}}\end{aligned}$$

# Average value of N gaussian random variables

- ▶ Let  $U_r$  = average value of the samples  $r_i$

$$U_r = \frac{1}{N} \sum r_i$$

- ▶ What distribution does it have?
- ▶ Consider the sum  $S_r = \sum r_i$  of the N samples  $r_i$ 
  - ▶ From chapter 1: the sum of normal r.v.  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  has:
    - ▶ normal distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\mu_S, \sigma_S^2)$  with
    - ▶ average value:  $\mu_S = N \cdot \mu$
    - ▶ variance:  $\sigma_S^2 = N \cdot \sigma^2$
- ▶ Then  $U_r = \frac{1}{N} S_r$ , and from the properties of average values we have
  - ▶  $U_r$  has normal distribution with:
  - ▶ average value  $= \frac{1}{N} \mu_S = \frac{1}{N} N \mu = \mu$
  - ▶ variance  $= \left(\frac{1}{N}\right)^2 \sigma_S^2 = \left(\frac{1}{N}\right)^2 N \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sigma^2$

# Average value of $N$ gaussian random variables

- ▶ The mean value of  $N$  realizations of a normal distribution has a normal distribution with
  - ▶ same average value
  - ▶ variance  $N$  times smaller
- ▶ If  $N$  gets very large, the mean value is a very good **estimator** of the distribution's average value
  - ▶ its distribution gets very narrow around the average value

## Interpretation 1: average value of samples

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_1)}{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_0)} &= e^{\frac{-2AU_r + A^2}{2\frac{\sigma^2}{N}}} \\ &= \frac{e^{\frac{U_r^2 - 2AU_r + A^2}{2\frac{\sigma^2}{N}}}}{e^{\frac{U_r^2}{2\frac{\sigma^2}{N}}}} \\ &= \frac{e^{\frac{(U_r - A)^2}{2\frac{\sigma^2}{N}}}}{e^{\frac{U_r^2}{2\frac{\sigma^2}{N}}}} \\ &= \frac{w(U_r|H_1)}{w(U_r|H_0)}\end{aligned}$$

- The likelihood ratio of  $N$  gaussian samples = the likelihood ratio of **the mean of the samples**

## Interpretation 1: average value of samples

- ▶ The likelihood ratio of  $N$  gaussian samples = the likelihood ratio of **the mean of the samples**
  - ▶ the mean has smaller variance  $\frac{1}{N}\sigma^2$ , so is more accurate
  - ▶ it is like the noise distribution gets  $N$  times narrower (due to averaging)
- ▶ Detection of constant signals with  $N$  samples is the same as detection with 1 sample, but:
  - ▶ use the average value of the samples  $r_i$
  - ▶ its distributions are  $N$  times narrower (variance is  $N$  times smaller)
- ▶ As  $N$  increases, the probability of errors decrease  $\Rightarrow$  better performance

# Exercise

Exercise:

- ▶ A signal can have two values, 0 (hypothesis  $H_0$ ) or 6 (hypothesis  $H_1$ ). The signal is affected by AWGN  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 = 1)$ . The receiver takes 5 samples with values  $\{1.1, 4.4, 3.7, 4.1, 3.8\}$ .
  1. What is decision according to Maximum Likelihood criterion?
  2. What is decision according to minimum probability of error criterion, assuming  $P(H_0) = 2/3$  and  $P(H_1) = 1/3$ ?

## Interpretation 2: geometrical

- ▶ Useful mainly for Maximum Likelihood criterion
- ▶ Likelihood ratio for vector  $\mathbf{r}$

$$\frac{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_1)}{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_0)} = \frac{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i - A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}}} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} K$$

- ▶ For Maximum Likelihood we compare to 1

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i - A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}}} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} 1 \\ & e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i - A)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{\sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} 1 \\ & -\sum (r_i - A)^2 + \sum (r_i)^2 \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} 0 \\ & \sum (r_i)^2 \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\geq}} \sum (r_i - A)^2 \end{aligned}$$

## Interpretation 2: geometrical

- ▶  $\sqrt{\sum (r_i)^2}$  is the geometrical (Euclidian) distance between point  $\mathbf{r} = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N]$  and point  $\mathbf{0} = [0, 0, \dots, 0]$
- ▶  $\sqrt{\sum (r_i - A)^2}$  is the geometrical (Euclidian) distance between point  $\mathbf{r} = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N]$  and point  $\mathbf{A} = [A, A, \dots, A]$
- ▶ ML decision chooses **the closest signal vector (point)** to the received vector (point), in a N-dimensional space
  - ▶ it is known as “minimum distance receiver”
  - ▶ same interpretation as in the 1-D case
- ▶ Question: what is the geometrical interpretation for the other criteria?



# Exercise

Exercise:

- ▶ A signal can have two values, 0 (hypothesis  $H_0$ ) or 6 (hypothesis  $H_1$ ). The signal is affected by AWGN  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 = 1)$ . The receiver takes 2 samples with values  $\{1.1, 4.4\}$ .
  1. What is decision according to Maximum Likelihood criterion? Use the geometrical interpretation.

## Interpretation 3: correlation value

- Likelihood ratio for vector  $\mathbf{r}$

$$\frac{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_1)}{w_N(\mathbf{r}|H_0)} = \frac{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i - A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}}} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} K$$

$$e^{-\frac{\sum (r_i - A)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{\sum (r_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} K$$

$$-\sum (r_i - A)^2 + \sum (r_i)^2 \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} 2\sigma^2 \ln K$$

$$2\sum r_i A - NA^2 \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} 2\sigma^2 \ln K$$

$$\frac{1}{N}\sum r_i A \underset{H_0}{\overset{H_1}{\gtrless}} \underbrace{\frac{A^2}{2} + \frac{1}{N}\sigma^2 \ln K}_{const}$$

## Interpretation 3: correlation value

- ▶ The **correlation value** (sometimes just “the correlation”) of two signals  $x$  and  $y$  is

$$C_{x,y} = \frac{1}{N} \sum x[n]y[n]$$

- ▶ It is the value of the correlation function in 0

$$C_{x,y} = R_{xy}[0] = \overline{x[n]y[n+0]}$$

- ▶ For continuous signals

$$C_{x,y} = \frac{1}{T} \int_{T/2}^{T/2} x(t)y(t)dt$$

- ▶  $\frac{1}{N} \sum r_i A$  is the correlation value of the received samples  $\mathbf{r} = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N]$  with the **target** samples  $\mathbf{A} = [A, A, \dots, A]$

## Interpretation 3: correlation value

- ▶ If the correlation value of the received samples with the target samples  $\mathbf{A} = [A, A, \dots A]$  is greater than a certain threshold