

Fundamentals of Wireless Communication

(D. Tse and P. Viswanath, *Fundamentals of Wireless Communications.*,)

Detection and Estimation in Additive Gaussian Noise

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Gaussian Random Variable

- **Scalar Real Gaussian Random Variable**
- A standard Gaussian random variable, w takes values over the real line and has the probability density function:

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{-w^2}{2}\right), \quad w \in \mathbb{R}$$

- The standard Gaussian random variable is denoted by $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$.
- This random variable is called a standard Gaussian random variable.

Gaussian Random Variable

- A general Gaussian random variable, x is of the form:

$$x = \sigma w + \mu$$

- The random variable x is a one-to-one function of w and thus the probability density function is:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

- Since the random variable is completely characterized by its mean and variance, we denote, x by $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$.

Gaussian Random Variable

- **Note:** Gaussianity is preserved by linear transformations: linear combinations of independent Gaussian random variables are still Gaussian.
- If x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are independent and $x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$, then:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n c_i \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2 \sigma_i^2\right)$$

Gaussian Random Variable

- **Real Gaussian Random Vector**

- A standard Gaussian random vector, \mathbf{w} is a collection of n independent and identically distributed (*i. i. d*) standard Gaussian random variables w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n .
- The vector $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)^t$ takes values in the vector space \mathbb{R}^n .
- The probability density function of \mathbf{w} is :

$$f(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi})^n} \exp\left(\frac{-\|\mathbf{w}\|^2}{2}\right), \quad \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

- In general, a Gaussian random vector is completely characterized by its mean μ and by the covariance matrix K ; we denote the random vector by $\mathcal{N}(\mu, K)$.

Detection in Gaussian Noise

- Consider the real additive Gaussian noise channel: $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{w}$
- The transmit symbol u is equally likely to be u_A or u_B ($u_A > u_B \in \mathbb{R}$) and $w \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{N_o}{2}\right)$ is real Gaussian noise.

The detection problem involves making a decision on whether u_A or u_B was transmitted based on the observation y .

- The optimal detector, with the least probability of making an erroneous decision, chooses the symbol that is most likely to have been transmitted given the received signal y , i.e., u_A is chosen if

$$\mathbb{P}\{\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_A | \mathbf{y}\} \geq \mathbb{P}\{\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_B | \mathbf{y}\}$$

Detection in Gaussian Noise

- Since the two symbols u_A, u_B are equally likely to have been transmitted, Bayes' rule lets us simplify this to the maximum likelihood (ML) receiver, which chooses the transmit symbol that makes the observation, y most likely. the decision rule is to choose u_A if

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi N_0}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y - u_A)^2}{N_0}\right) \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi N_0}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y - u_B)^2}{N_0}\right)$$

- Which can be simplified further as:

$$|y - u_A| < |y - u_B|$$

Detection in Gaussian Noise

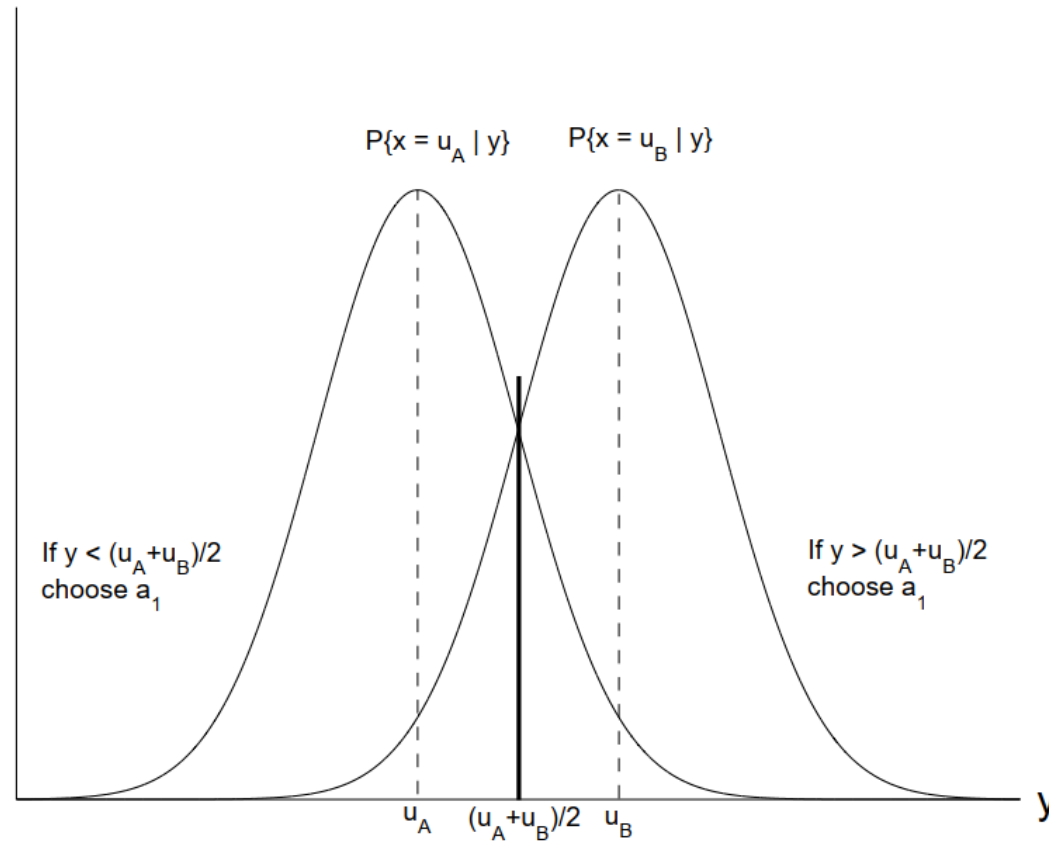


Figure A.4: The ML rule is to choose the symbol that is *closest* to the received symbol.

Detection in Vector Space

- Now consider detecting the transmit vector \mathbf{u} equally likely to be u_A or u_B (both elements of \mathbb{R}^n). The received vector is: $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{w}$

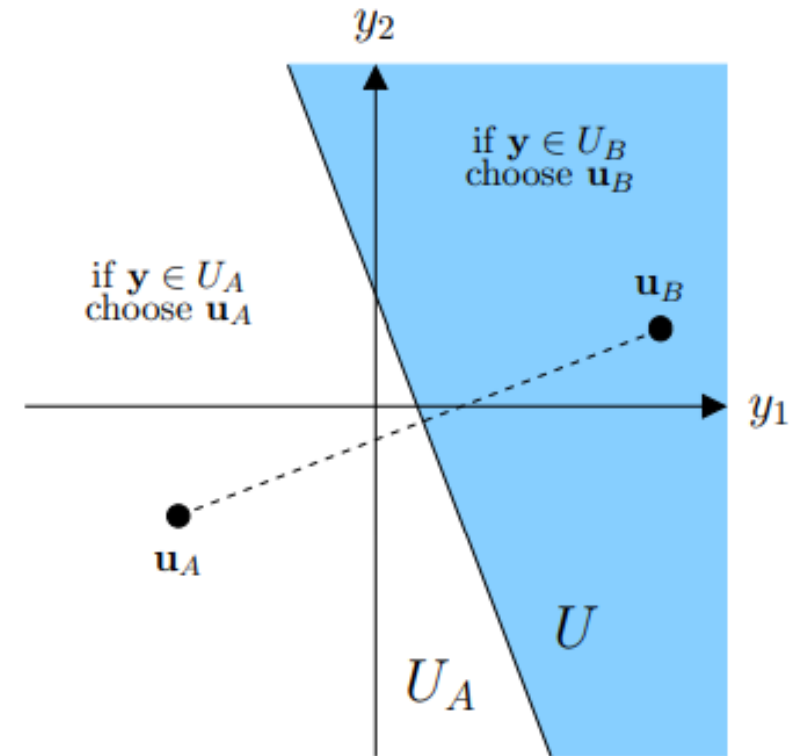
- The ML decision rule is to choose u_A if

$$\|\mathbf{y} - u_A\| < \|\mathbf{y} - u_B\|$$

- the same nearest neighbor rule.

Detection in a Vector Space

- Geometrically, this says that the decision regions are the two sides of the hyperplane perpendicular to the vector, $u_B - u_A$.
- An error occurs when the received vector lies on the side of the hyperplane opposite to the transmit vector.



Alternative View

- To see how we could have reduced the vector detection problem to the scalar one. We can write the transmit vector u as:

$$u = x(u_A - u_B) + \frac{1}{2}(u_A + u_B)$$

- where the information is in the scalar x , which is equally likely to be $\pm 1/2$

$$y - \frac{1}{2}(u_A + u_B) = x(u_A - u_A) + w$$

Alternative View

- We observe that the transmit symbol (a scalar x) is only in a specific direction:

$$v = (u_A - u_B) / ||u_A - u_B||$$

- Therefore, projecting the received vector along the signal direction v provides all the necessary information for detection:

$$\tilde{y} = v^t \left(y - \frac{1}{2}(u_A + u_B) \right)$$

Alternative View

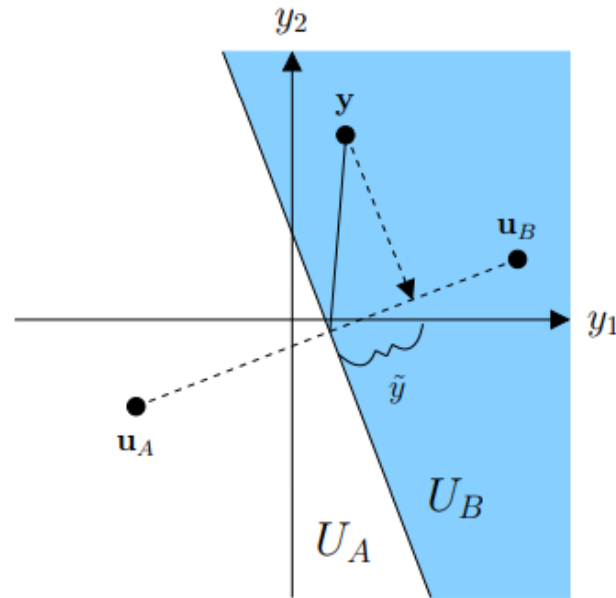


Figure A.6: Projecting the received vector \mathbf{y} onto the signal direction \mathbf{v} reduces the vector detection problem to the scalar one.

Estimation in Gaussian Noise

- Consider a zero mean real transmit signal x embedded in independent additive real Gaussian noise $\left(w \sim \mathcal{N}(0, N_0/2)\right)$

$$y = x + w$$

- Suppose we wish to come up with an estimate \hat{x} of x and we use the mean squared error (MSE) to evaluate the performance:

$$MSE = \mathbb{E}[(x - \hat{x})^2]$$

- The estimate that yields the smallest mean squared error is the classical conditional mean operator:

$$\hat{x} = \mathbb{E}[x|y]$$

Estimation in Gaussian Noise

- The classical conditional mean operator has the important orthogonality property: the error is independent of the observation. In particular, this implies that :

$$\mathbb{E}[(x - \hat{x})y] = 0$$

- The conditional mean operator is some complicated nonlinear function of y . To simplify the analysis, we use the restricted class of linear estimates that minimize the MSE.
- The corresponding minimum mean squared error (MMSE) is:

$$MMSE = \frac{\mathbb{E}[x^2] N_0/2}{\mathbb{E}[x^2] + N_0/2}$$

Any Questions?

