

## 7.10 MLE Examples

We'll now apply the MLE theory to several examples of practical signal processing problems.

These are the same examples for which we derived the CRLB in Ch. 3

1. Range Estimation
  - sonar, radar, robotics, emitter location
2. Sinusoidal Parameter Estimation (Amp., Frequency, Phase)
  - sonar, radar, communication receivers (recall DSB Example), etc.
3. Bearing Estimation
  - sonar, radar, emitter location
4. Autoregressive Parameter Estimation
  - speech processing, econometrics

We  
Will  
Cover

See Book

# Ex. 1 Range Estimation Problem

Transmit Pulse:  $s(t)$  nonzero over  $t \in [0, T_s]$

Receive Reflection:  $s(t - \tau_o)$

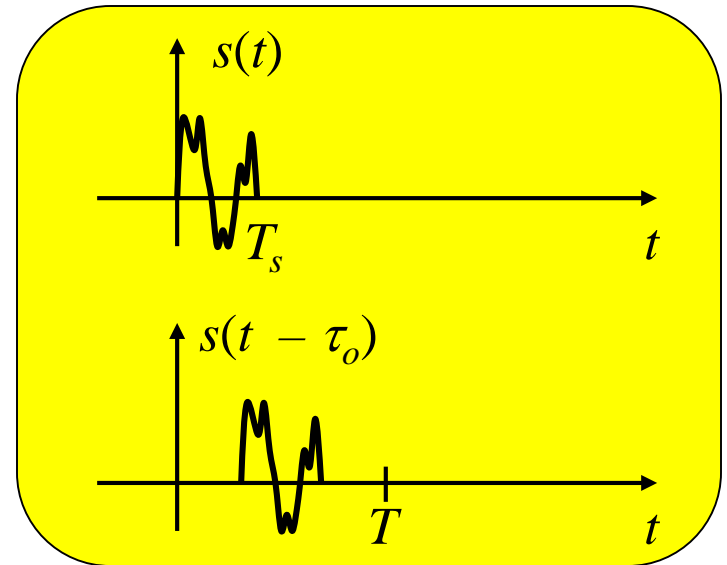
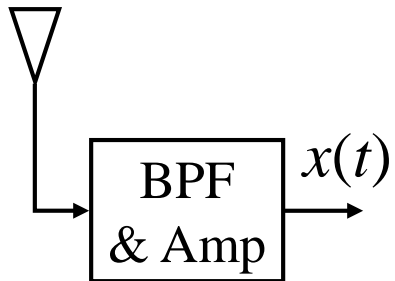
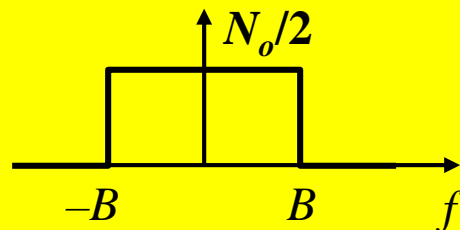
Measure Time Delay:  $\tau_o$

## C-T Signal Model

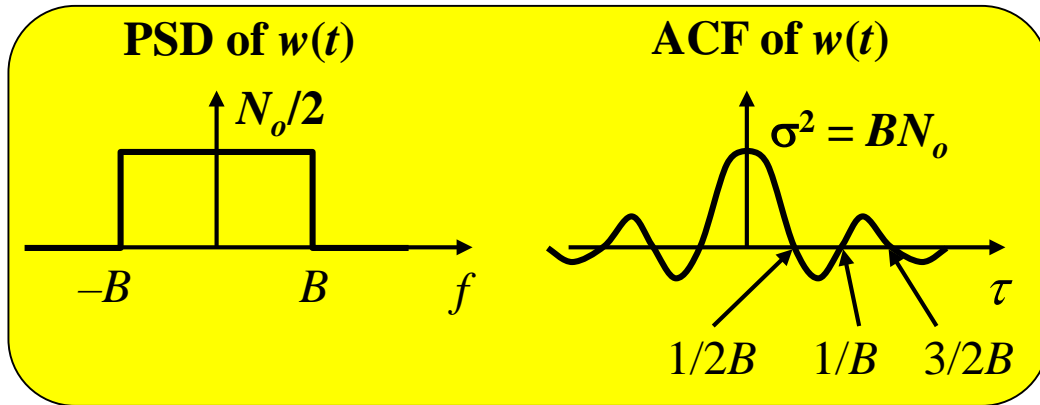
$$x(t) = \underbrace{s(t - \tau_o)}_{s(t; \tau_o)} + w(t) \quad 0 \leq t \leq T = T_s + \tau_{o, \max}$$

Bandlimited  
White Gaussian

PSD of  $w(t)$



# Range Estimation D-T Signal Model



Sample Every  $\Delta = 1/2B$  sec  
 $w[n] = w(n\Delta)$

DT White  
 Gaussian Noise  
 Var  $\sigma^2 = BN_o$

$$x[n] = \underbrace{s[n - n_o]}_{\text{signal}} + w[n] \quad n = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1$$

$s[n; n_o] \dots$  has  $M$  non-zero samples starting at  $n_o$

$n_o \approx \tau_o / \Delta$

$$x[n] = \begin{cases} w[n] & 0 \leq n \leq n_o - 1 \\ s[n - n_o] + w[n] & n_o \leq n \leq n_o + M - 1 \\ w[n] & n_o + M \leq n \leq N - 1 \end{cases}$$

# Range Estimation Likelihood Function

White and Gaussian  $\Rightarrow$  Independent  $\Rightarrow$  Product of PDFs  
 3 different PDFs – one for each subinterval

$$p(\mathbf{x}; n_o) = \underbrace{\left[ \prod_{n=0}^{n_o-1} C \exp \left[ -\frac{x^2[n]}{2\sigma^2} \right] \right]}_{\#1} \cdot \underbrace{\left[ \prod_{n=n_o}^{n_o+M-1} C \exp \left[ -\frac{(x[n] - s[n - n_o])^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] \right]}_{\#2} \cdot \underbrace{\left[ \prod_{n=n_o+M}^{n_o+M-1} C \exp \left[ -\frac{x^2[n]}{2\sigma^2} \right] \right]}_{\#3}$$

$$C = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}$$

Expand to get an  $x^2[n]$  term... group it with the other  $x^2[n]$  term

$$p(\mathbf{x}; n_o) = C^N \exp \left[ -\frac{\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x^2[n]}{2\sigma^2} \right] \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{n=n_o}^{n_o+M-1} (-2x[n]s[n - n_o] + s^2[n - n_o]) \right]$$

Does not depend on  $n_o$

must minimize this or maximize its negative over values of  $n_o$

# Range Estimation ML Condition

So maximize this:  $2 \underbrace{\sum_{n=n_o}^{n_o+M-1} x[n]s[n-n_o]} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=n_o}^{n_o+M-1} s^2[n-n_o]}$

Because  $s[n-n_o] = 0$   
outside summation range...  
so can extend it!

Doesn't depend on  $n_o$ !  
...Summand moves with  
the limits as  $n_o$  changes.

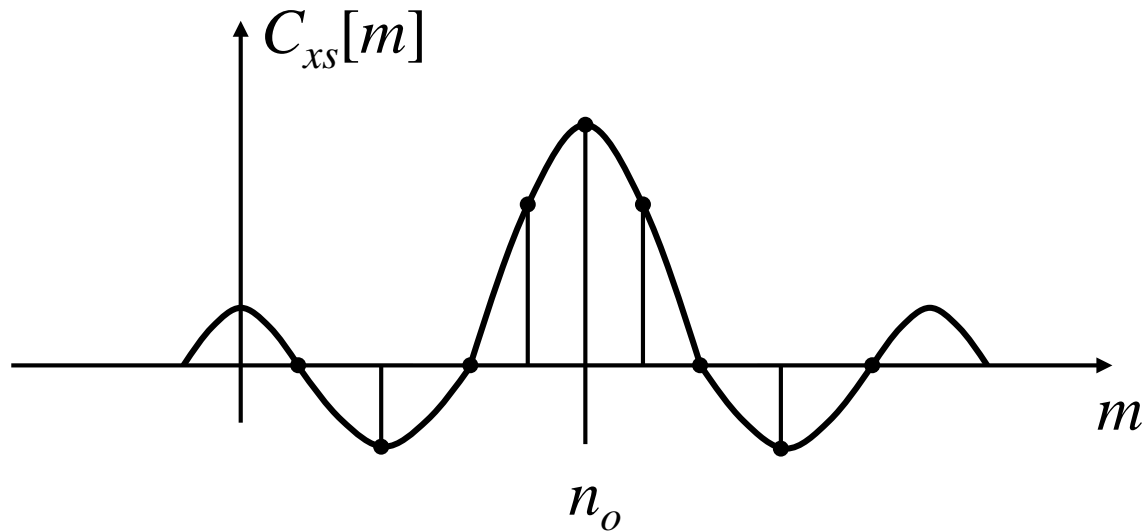
So maximize this:  $\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n]s[n-n_o]$

So.... MLE Implementation is based on Cross-correlation:

“Correlate” Received signal  $x[n]$  with transmitted signal  $s[n]$

$$\hat{n}_o = \arg \max_{0 \leq m \leq N-M} \{C_{xs}[m]\} \quad C_{xs}[m] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n]s[n-m],$$

# Range Estimation MLE Viewpoint



**Warning:** When signals are complex (e.g., ELPS) take find peak of  $|C_{xs}[m]|$

$$C_{xs}[m] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n]s[n-m],$$

- Think of this as an inner product for each  $m$
- Compare data  $x[n]$  to all possible delays of signal  $s[n]$ 
  - pick  $n_o$  to make them most alike

# Ex. 2 Sinusoid Parameter Estimation Problem

Given DT signal samples of a sinusoid in noise....

Estimate its amplitude, frequency, and phase

$$x[n] = A \cos(\Omega_o n + \phi) + w[n] \quad n = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

$\Omega_o$  is DT frequency in cycles/sample:  $0 < \Omega_o < \pi$

DT White Gaussian Noise  
Zero Mean & Variance of  $\sigma^2$

Multiple parameters... so parameter vector:  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = [A \quad \Omega_o \quad \phi]^T$

The likelihood function is:

$$p(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = C^N \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{(x[n] - A \cos(\Omega_o n + \phi))^2}_{\triangleq J(A, \Omega_o, \phi)} \right]$$

For MLE: Minimize This

# Sinusoid Parameter Estimation ML Condition

To make things easier...

Define an equivalent parameter set:

$$[\alpha_1 \quad \alpha_2 \quad \Omega_o]^T \quad \alpha_1 = A\cos(\phi) \quad \alpha_2 = -A\sin(\phi)$$

$$\text{Then... } J'(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \Omega_o) = J(A, \Omega_o, \phi) \quad \boldsymbol{\alpha} = [\alpha_1 \quad \alpha_2]^T$$

Define:

$$\mathbf{c}(\Omega_o) = [1 \quad \cos(\Omega_o) \quad \cos(\Omega_o 2) \quad \dots \quad \cos(\Omega_o(N-1))]^T$$

$$\mathbf{s}(\Omega_o) = [0 \quad \sin(\Omega_o) \quad \sin(\Omega_o 2) \quad \dots \quad \sin(\Omega_o(N-1))]^T$$

and...

$$\mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) = [\mathbf{c}(\Omega_o) \quad \mathbf{s}(\Omega_o)] \quad \text{an } N \times 2 \text{ matrix}$$



Then:  $J'(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \Omega_o) = [\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \boldsymbol{\alpha}]^T [\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \boldsymbol{\alpha}]$

Looks like the linear model case... except for  $\Omega_o$  dependence of  $\mathbf{H}(\Omega_o)$

Thus, for any fixed  $\Omega_o$  value, the optimal  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  estimate is

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = \left[ \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{x}$$

Then plug that into  $J'(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \Omega_o)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} J'(\hat{\alpha}_1, \hat{\alpha}_2, \Omega_o) &= [\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}]^T [\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}] \\ &= \left[ \mathbf{x}^T - \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}^T \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \right] [\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T \underbrace{\left[ \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \left[ \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \right]^2}_{= \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \left[ \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o)} \mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} - \underbrace{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \left[ \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{x}}_{\text{maximize w.r.t. } \Omega_o} \end{aligned}$$

# Sinusoid Params. Exact MLE Procedure

Step 1: Maximize “this term” over  $\Omega_o$  to find  $\hat{\Omega}_o$

$$\hat{\Omega}_o = \arg \max_{0 < \Omega_o < \pi} \left\{ \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \left[ \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{x} \right\}$$

Step 2: Use result of Step 1 to get

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = \left[ \mathbf{H}^T(\hat{\Omega}_o) \mathbf{H}(\hat{\Omega}_o) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T(\hat{\Omega}_o) \mathbf{x}$$

Could Do Numerically

Step 3: Convert Step 2 result by solving

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\alpha}_1 &= \hat{A} \cos(\hat{\phi}) \\ \hat{\alpha}_2 &= -\hat{A} \sin(\hat{\phi}) \end{aligned} \quad \text{for } \hat{A} \quad \& \quad \hat{\phi}$$

# Sinusoid Params. Approx. MLE Procedure

First we look at a specific structure:

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o) [\mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{H}(\Omega_o)]^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{x} \end{bmatrix}^T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{c}(\Omega_o) & \mathbf{c}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{s}(\Omega_o) \\ \mathbf{s}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{c}(\Omega_o) & \mathbf{s}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{s}(\Omega_o) \end{bmatrix}^{-1}}_{\approx \begin{bmatrix} \frac{N}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{N}{2} \end{bmatrix}^{-1}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s}^T(\Omega_o) \mathbf{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then... if  $\Omega_o$  is not near 0 or  $\pi$ , then approximately

$$\approx \begin{bmatrix} \frac{N}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{N}{2} \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

and Step 1 becomes

$$\hat{\Omega}_o = \arg \max_{0 < \Omega_o < \pi} \left\{ \frac{2}{N} \left| \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-j\Omega_o n} \right|^2 \right\} = \arg \max_{0 < \Omega < \pi} \left\{ |X(\Omega)|^2 \right\}$$

and Steps 2 & 3 become

$$\hat{A} = \frac{2}{N} |X(\hat{\Omega}_o)|$$

$$\hat{\phi} = \angle X(\hat{\Omega}_o)$$

DTFT of Data  $x[n]$

The processing is implemented as follows:

Given the data:  $x[n]$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$

1. Compute the DFT  $X[m]$ ,  $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, M-1$  of the data
  - Zero-pad to length  $M = 4N$  to ensure dense grid of frequency points
  - Use the FFT algorithm for computational efficiency

2. Find location of peak

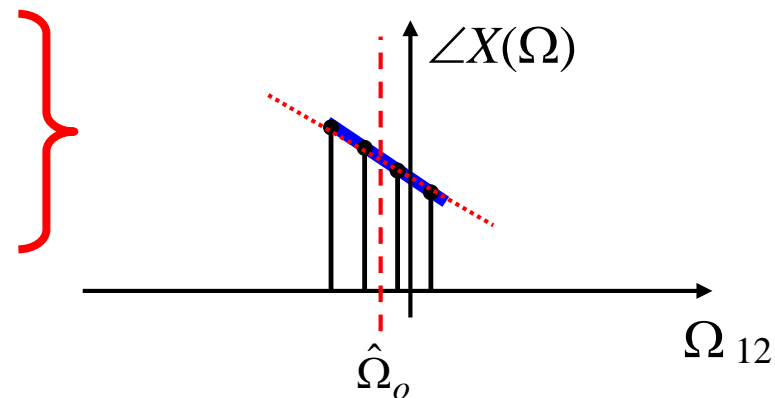
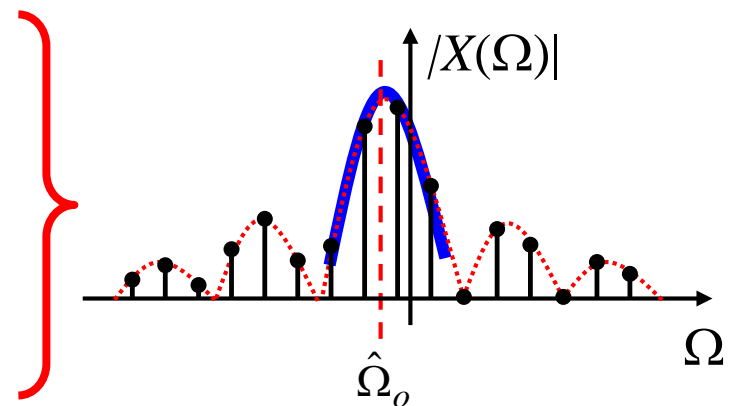
- Use quadratic interpolation of  $|X[m]|$

3. Find height at peak

- Use quadratic interpolation of  $|X[m]|$

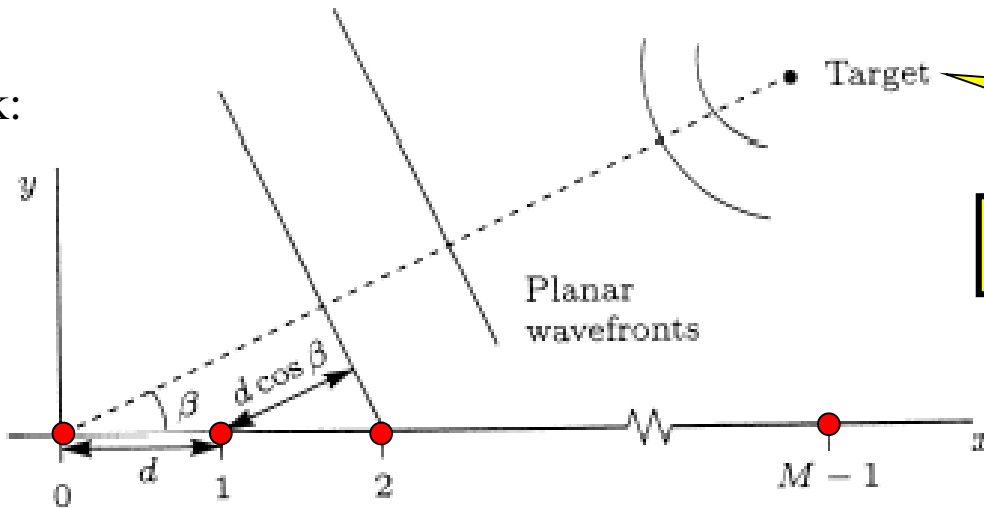
4. Find angle at peak

- Use linear interpolation of  $\angle X[m]$



# Ex. 3 Bearing Estimation MLE

Figure 3.8  
from textbook:



Emits or reflects  
signal  $s(t)$

$$s(t) = A_t \cos(2\pi f_o t + \phi)$$

Simple model

Grab one “snapshot” of all  $M$  sensors at a single instant  $t_s$ :

$$x[n] = s_n(t_s) + w[n] = A \cos(\Omega_s n + \tilde{\phi}) + w[n]$$

**Same as Sinusoidal Estimation!!**  
**So... Compute DFT and Find Location of Peak!!**

**If emitted signal is not a sinusoid... then you get  
a different MLE!!**