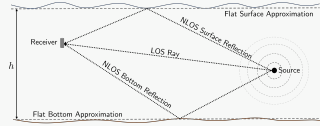


Phase 1: Simplified Model-Based Approach

1. **Devise** “compact” model amenable for analysis
2. **Solve** optimally for a chosen optimality criterion
3. **Analyze** the solution and **derive** performance bounds

Example 1: Underwater Acoustic Localization

1. Devise compact model: 3-ray propagation with AWGN [1]



2. Solve optimally: Least-squares estimator [1]

$$\hat{\mathbf{p}} = \arg \max_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 1}} \lambda_{\max} \left(\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_L) \right)$$

Position- and data-dependent matrix

3. Analyze performance: Cramér-Rao lower bound

Example 2: Interference Rejection in RF Digital Communication Systems

1. Devise compact model: Gaussian cyclostationary [2]

Temporal covariance of an OFDM signal



2. Solve optimally: MMSE and MAP-QLMMSE [3]

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}_{\text{MMSE}} = \sum_{m_s=1}^{K_s} \sum_{m_b=1}^{K_b} \Pr(k_s = m_s, k_b = m_b | \mathbf{y}) \hat{\mathbf{s}}_{\text{LMMSE}}(m_s, m_b)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}_{\text{MAP-QLMMSE}} \triangleq \hat{\mathbf{s}}_{\text{LMMSE}}(\hat{k}_b^{\text{MAP}})$$

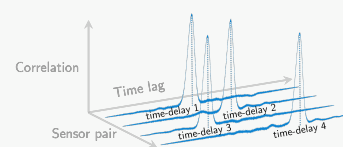
3. Performance bound: MMSE

Phase 2: Key Domain Knowledge

1. **Identify** key signal statistics (e.g., sufficient statistic)
2. **Pinpoint** weaknesses of optimal model-based solution
3. **Select** learning type based on measure of “goodness”

Example 1: Underwater Acoustic Localization

1. Sufficient statistics: empirical auto- cross-correlations [4]



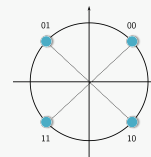
2. Model-based solution weaknesses: **High computational complexity** (eigenvalue problem for each point on the grid, nonlinear (and nonconvex) optimization), **sensitive to model mismatch, impractical for general bathymetry**

3. Learning type: Measure of goodness → **MSE** ⇒ **Regression**

Example 2: Interference Rejection in RF Digital Communication Systems

1. Key signal statistics: cyclostationarity → cyclic periods

OFDM → FFT size [5] and underlying discrete “nature” (alphabet)



2. Model-based solution weaknesses: **High computational complexity** (inversion of large matrices, brute-force search over all possible sequences), **Does not easily generalize when channel impairments are considered**

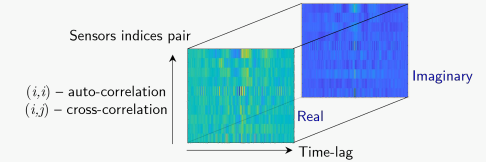
3. Learning type: Measure of goodness → **MSE / BER** ⇒ **Regression / Classification**

Phase 3: Architecture Design

1. **Determine** input structure informed by key statistics
2. **Choose/Develop** NN main structure / building block
3. **Set** key hyperparameters and training procedure
4. **Select** loss functions that are matched to estimands

Example 1: Underwater Acoustic Localization

1. Input structure: **second-order statistics tensor** [4]



2. Main building block: Conv2D → joint filtering of all correlation functions simultaneously

3. Key hyperparameters: **kernel size** of first layer → **maximum estimated time-delay** between different sensors
Training procedure: (i) per coordinate → (ii) 3D position

4. Loss functions: 3D position → squared-error in spherical coordinates (**gradients** of different coordinates **numerically dependent, periodic in azimuth/inclination angles**)

Example 2: Interference Rejection in RF Digital Communication Systems

1. Input structure: separated real and imaginary parts of the input mixture (widely linear estimation)

2. Chosen structure: UNet [3, 5]—down- and up-sampling operations (filtering at different temporal resolutions)

3. Key hyperparameters: **kernel size** of first layer → **capture nonlocal correlations** (e.g., cyclic prefix of OFDM)

4. Loss functions: source **separation** → **squared-error** signal-of-interest **demodulation** → **cross-entropy**

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