

# Error Correction over Optical Transmission

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**Abstract:** Reducing bit error rate and improving performance of modern coherent optical communication system is a significant issue. As the distance travelled by the information signal increases, bit error rate will degrade. Support Vector Machines are the most up to date machine learning method for error correction in optical transmission systems. Wavelet transform has been a popular method to signals processing. In this study, the properties of most used Haar and Daubechies wavelets are implemented for signals correction. Our results show that the bit error rate can be improved by using classification based on wavelet transforms (WT) and support vector machine (SVM).

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Improving the bit error rate (the number of bit errors divided by the total number of transmitted bits) in optical transmission systems is a crucial and challenging problem. There are many different causes of the transmitted signal degradation in optical communication systems, for instance optical losses, fiber nonlinearity, dispersive properties of the medium etc (Bernstein et al., 2003). Increasing the distance travelled by the optical pulses along long-haul fiber links also leads to an increase in the number of error bits. In optical telecommunications an information signal may be encoded by amplitude or the phase of the optical pulses. In this work, we consider phase encoding signals. Metaxas et al. demonstrates that linear Support Vector Machines (SVM) outperformed other trainable classifiers, such as using neural networks, for error correction in optical data transmission; besides that it is easier to build the hardware for an SVM in real time (Metaxas et al., 2013).

The purpose of signal decomposition is to extract the relevant information from the signal and reduce the level of interfering noise. The wavelet transform has become widespread in analyzing and processing signals. Wavelet signal processing can be applied to extract the underlying information of the signal (Rioul and Vetterli, 1991). For various kinds of signals, different kinds of wavelets can be selected. In this pa-

per, we investigate whether wavelets can be used on the distorted optical signals to extract the reliable information of the original signals or not. Especially, we look into whether wavelets can deal with noise in phase and/or frequency of optical signals.

## 2 PROBLEM DOMAIN

Typical optical communication systems consist of three main components, see Figure 1: an optical transmitter (Tx in Figure 1) that converts the electrical signal into an optical signal, an optical fiber as the propagation medium of the optical signal and an optical receiver (Rx in Figure 1) that converts the received optical signal into an electrical signal again. During the transmission, the optical signals are exposed to many kinds of impairments such as attenuation, dispersion broadening and nonlinear distortion (Kanchra, 1999).

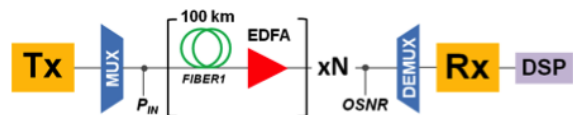


Figure 1: The optical fiber link configuration (Binjumah et al., 2015).

These impairments generate some error informa-

tion bits at the receiver of the fiber link. Increasing the distance travelled by the signal leads to a loss in the quality of the signal and further bit error rate (BER) degradation (Binjumah et al., 2015). With the increase in speed currently achievable, the complexity of reduction in bit error rates increases. The high-speed and long distance data transmission in optical systems needs to be accompanied with as low bit error rate as possible (Metaxas et al., 2013). Therefore, the reduction of bit error rate in optical data transmission is a significant issue and is difficult to be achieved.

In earlier work, we investigated how a linear SVM classifier can be trained to automatically detect and correct bit errors. We took into consideration the most important neighbouring information, which can be used for training the linear SVM classifier, from each signal (Binjumah et al., 2015).

In this paper, a linear SVM classifier was used to classify the bits accurately, which reduces the error rate while transmitting the data across a specific distance. In addition, we investigate using wavelet transforms to remove noise from the signals prior to classification in order to improve the system performance.

### 3 METHODS

#### 3.1 Representation of Signals using Wavelet Transforms

Wavelet transform is a mathematical tool that can be used for the extraction of information from a variety of data forms, such as images and audio signals (Lee and Lim, 2012). The theory of wavelet stands out amongst the present day scientific techniques in producing effective methods for the extraction of optimal data. It was mostly created by French scientists, according to (Plonka et al., 2013). This theory is currently utilized as an essential technique in specialized research in electronics, mechanical, computers, communications, medicine, biology, astronomy etc. In the field of image and signal handling, the fundamental uses of wavelet is to compress and de-noise them (Liu et al., 2013). In this work, we started with the simplest wavelet transforms: Haar wavelet transform. We have also used Daubechies wavelet transforms, which have been successfully applied in many engineering related works (Williams and Amaratunga, 1994).

##### 3.1.1 Haar Wavelet Transforms

Haar wavelets have been used extensively as examples in teaching due to its simplicity. In fact, it is the simplest wavelet and has been a prototype for all

other types of wavelet transforms. The Haar transform can be used for signal decomposition. It can be carried out at several levels. At the top level that is 1-level, a signal is transformed to two sub-signals, which are the approximation part and the details part. The approximation part is obtained by calculating the inner (scalar) product between the signal and the Haar scaling signals, while the details part is obtained by calculating the inner product between the signal and the Haar wavelets. Both Haar scaling signals and Haar wavelets are defined as basis functions, which can be seen in most of textbooks for wavelets (for example (Walker, 2008)). Once 1-level Haar transform is carried out, we can continue with the same process to work on the next level, where the signal is always the approximation part obtained from the previous/preceding level.

##### 3.1.2 Daubechies Wavelet Transforms

The only difference between Daubechies and Haar transform is the definition of their scaling signals and the wavelets (Walker, 2008). All Daubechies wavelet transforms are similar to each other. The simplest type, that is Daub4 wavelet transform, is used in this work.

#### 3.2 Linear SVM

Support Vector Machines (SVM) defines a class of machine learning algorithms and method used for classification, recognition and regression analysis. It is arguably the most successful method in machine learning. SVMs can be both linear and non-linear models. The SVM is a soft maximum margin classifier. Linear SVM has only one non-learnable parameter, which is the regularising cost parameter  $C$  (Smola and Schölkopf, 1998). This parameter allows the cost of mis-classification to be specified. The Linear SVM model is trained on a set of training data; the training data are linearly separable by a margin (supervised learning) and categorized into groups. Each input data sample is tested against the margin while the model tries to maximize the margin as much as possible (Wang et al., 2012).

#### 3.3 The Threshold Method

The threshold method is based on using the middle point of the signal, where the signal (pulse) reaches the peak at the initial state. In this method, each signal is classified to one of four classes by measuring the phase value of its central sample. More details can be seen in section 4.3.

## 4 DESCRIPTION OF DATA

Optical signal data once it has been transmitted is subjected to a distortion in its amplitude, frequency and phase. As far as we can tell wavelet transformations have not been applied to data of this type, in particular when the data is to be subsequently analysed using an SVM. In order to fully quantify how effective wavelets might be with this distorted data we started by analysing how effective wavelet transformation would be on very simple data that had simulated noise added to its amplitude, frequency or to its phase. After that we then applied the wavelet transformation to our optical data. So the data we are analyzing is divided into two types, which have been transformed using wavelets and then used as input to the linear SVM classifier. The first type is sinusoidal waves/signals (simple data), and the second type is simulating optical signals (complex data).

### 4.1 Simple Data with Frequency and Amplitude Noise

Four classes A, B, C and D of Sinusoidal signals were generated with simulated noise added to its frequency via a Gaussian distribution based on a different mean frequency. Each class has a different mean value of frequency that is 10 (A), 15 (B), 20 (C) and 12 (D) respectively. All of them have the same standard deviation for the added 'noise', which is 2. Each class of data consists of 500 data points (each data point being a wave form/signal), and each wave consists of a vector of 640 y coordinates (samples). Each vector (wave) has a corresponding label. We then added Gaussian amplitude 'noise' with a mean value of 0 and standard deviation of 0.5 to the signal, this was added at each y coordinate of each generating signal.

### 4.2 Simple Data with Phase and Amplitude Noise

This time phase 'noise' was simulated, but no frequency 'noise'. Two classes of Sinusoidal signals were generated. Each class was initialized with different mean value of phase that is 0 radians (first class), and  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  radians (second class). The Gaussian 'noise' has the same standard deviation in each class, which is 0.5. Again each class of data consists of 500 data points (wave forms/signals). Each wave has a corresponding label, and is represented as a 640 vector (samples). We then added Gaussian amplitude noise with a mean value of 0 and standard deviation of 1, this was again added at each y coordinate of each gen-

erating signal. The signal was generated according to the following equation:

$$s = \sin(t + a) + AN \quad (1)$$

where  $s$  is the signal,  $t$  is the index for the total number of time series,  $a$  is the phase value and  $AN$  is the amplitude noise of the signal.

### 4.3 Optical Signals (Simulated Data)

This part of data was generated using a simulating optical fibre link. It consists of 32,768 symbols per one WDM channel encoded by the quadrature phase shift keying (QPSK) modulation scheme. We consider a dual-polarization optical communication system (X and Y polarization). The simulation process was repeated 10 times with different random realizations of Amplified Spontaneous Emission (ASE) noise and input pseudorandom binary sequence (PRBS), each run generates 32,768 symbols.

The signal was detected at intervals of 1,000 km to a maximum distance 10,000 km. Each pulse was decoded into one of four symbols according to its phase. Signals that their phase values were bigger than  $-\frac{\pi}{4}$  and smaller than  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  will belong to the class 00. Signals that their phase values were bigger than  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  and smaller than  $\frac{3\pi}{4}$  will belong to the class 01. The class 11 have all signals that their phase values were bigger than  $\frac{3\pi}{4}$  and smaller than  $\pi$ , or were smaller than  $-\frac{3\pi}{4}$  and bigger than  $-\pi$ . And the last class 10 has all pulses that their phase values were bigger than  $-\frac{3\pi}{4}$  and smaller than  $-\frac{\pi}{4}$  (Binjumah et al., 2015). Each data point has a corresponding two-bit label for each run. Each run generates one data set. Each pulse is represented by 64 equally spaced phase samples. In this paper we focus on X-Polarization data at the distance 8,000 km. Furthermore, neighbouring information was used as input to the linear SVM classifier as well. The neighbouring information is using different numbers of samples from the symbol (signals) that will being decoded and different symbols either side.

## 5 EXPERIMENTAL SET-UP AND RESULTS

The aim of these experiments is to observe whether using wavelets can extract the original information from the distorted signals, and remove the noise that corrupts them. A linear SVM classifier was used to help decode the received signals with or without using wavelets. Linear SVM results that obtained using the noisy signals were compared to the results

obtained using the extracted signals after using the wavelet transforms.

## 5.1 Experiments and Results using Simple Data

### 5.1.1 Simple Data with Frequency and Amplitude Noise

The aim of these experiments is to investigate whether using wavelet transforms can enable the SVM to better distinguish between the two sets of noisy data than without using the transforms. The data sets that were used in these experiments consist of a combination of two classes of data; they are AC, AB, AD and BD. For example, AC is a combination of the two classes of data A and C, and so on. Each pair of classes have different distances between their means and so represent a different level of difficulty when attempting to classify the noisy data. The 1,000 data points (500 from each class) was randomly selected to give 700 data points (signals) that were used to train the model, and the rest of the data (300 data points) were used as a test set.

Six tests were made: the signals with no added amplitude 'noise', without and with two types of wavelet transforms; the signals with added amplitude 'noise', without and with two types of wavelet transforms. The two wavelet transforms were: Haar and DB4 wavelet transforms, both at level 2. Then, the results were compared with each other to see if using wavelet transforms can help in improving the classification process or not.

Table 1 shows the linear SVM results for four different data sets with and without using wavelet transforms. As we see from the final column, the difference between the mean values of the frequency for class A and C is quite high (a difference of 10) and consequently the data could be partitioned with 98.67% accuracy. As a result, using the wavelet transforms on the test set AC did not give any improvement, with or without amplitude 'noise'. Essentially 1.33% of the waves were ambiguous even with no amplitude noise added. However, on the classes with closer means the data were more overlapping and the accuracy rates were further reduced. Significantly the use of wavelets did not have any effect on the data with just frequency noise in any of the tests. However, once the Amplitude noise was added the use of wavelets did improve the accuracy back towards the values obtained with the Frequency noise only version. For instance with classes A and B the wavelet transformed waves nearly brought the fully noisy wave performance up to that of the Frequency

only noisy wave (from 84.33% to 90.67%, which is very close to the 91% Frequency only-noisy version), this being the best result obtained.

### 5.1.2 Simple Data with Phase and Amplitude Noise

The aim of these kind of experiments is to investigate whether using wavelet transforms can improve the signals that have phase noise or not. The data set used herein consists of 1,000 data points/signals, and 640 samples for each data point. Half of the data set has the phase value of zero, and the other half has phase value of 90 degrees. In this experiment, a linear SVM was applied on the data set for classification of the received signals. 600 data points (signals) were used to train the model as a training set, and the rest of the data (400 data points) were used as a test set. Tests that were made are three types: the signals with no amplitude noise, noisy signals, and signals after using wavelet transforms (extracted signals).

Here we also tried to normalize the extracted signals to see if that would help in improving the classification process or not. The average of difference between the original and extracted signal got bigger after increasing the level of wavelet transforms. In the normalization process, the range of the extracted signals is re-scaled to be between -1 and 1 as the original signals. Figure 2 shows two original signals without any noise from two classes using solid lines (Red for phase of 0 and blue for phase of 90 degrees), and ten signals of each class after adding random phase and amplitude noise. Figure 3, shows ten extracted signals, using Haar wavelet transform at level 2 without normalisation, and Figure 4 shows the same with normalization. As we can see from the Figures, the signal samples become between the range [-1,1] after the normalization.

In this section, Haar wavelet transform at different levels from 1 to 5, and db4 wavelet transform at level 2 were implemented. Then, the linear SVM classifier was applied using the extracted signals. The classification process was done using two types of input. The first type using the whole samples (i.e the vector of all 640 points), and the second type using the central sample (the middle point of the wave) of the extracted signals. Results were obtained without normalisation and with normalisation.

#### 1) Linear SVM Results using Extracted Signals without Normalization

Table 1 presents the accuracy rate of prediction using linear SVM classifier on the non-normalized extracted signals. Table 1 (A), shows the linear SVM re-

Table 1: Linear SVM results on 4 different data sets.

Group of Data	Type of data	Type of (WT)	Level of (WT)	Accuracy rate%
AC (10)	F-noise only	-	-	98.67%
		Haar wavelet	2	98.67%
		db4 wavelet	2	98.67%
	F + A noise	-	-	98.67%
		Haar wavelet	2	98.67%
		db4 wavelet	2	98.67%
AB (5)	F-noise only	-	-	91%
		Haar wavelet	2	91%
		db4 wavelet	2	91%
	F + A noise	-	-	<b>84.33%</b>
		<b>Haar wavelet</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>90%</b>
		<b>db4 wavelet</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>90.67%</b>
AD (2)	F-noise only	-	-	69%
		Haar wavelet	2	69%
		db4 wavelet	2	69%
	F + A noise	-	-	65.33%
		Haar wavelet	2	67.67%
		db4 wavelet	2	67%
BD (3)	F-noise only	-	-	79%
		Haar wavelet	2	79%
		db4 wavelet	2	79%
	F + A noise	-	-	73%
		Haar wavelet	2	77.33%
		db4 wavelet	2	76.67%

Note: The number in the brackets underneath the data is the difference between the means of the frequency. F-noise means Frequency noise only. F + A noise means both Frequency and Amplitude noise were used. (-) denotes corresponding results are obtained without applying wavelets.

sults using the whole samples of the non-normalized extracted signals. Unfortunately, the results in Table 1 (A) did not show a noticeable improvement, where the accuracy rate before using wavelet transform (using noisy signals) is 92.5%, and after using wavelet transform is improved to 92.75% using Haar wavelets at levels 1, 2 and 5. Table 1 (B) demonstrated the linear SVM results using just the central sample of the non-normalized extracted signals. With less input information these values are lower than those in Table 1 (A). Interestingly, the best result obtained was using db4 wavelet transform at level 2, which is 93% from the noisy signal level of 91.75%. Whereas Haar wavelet transform did not show any improvement in the result.

## 2) Linear SVM Results using Normalized Extracted Signals

Table 2 presents the accuracy rate of prediction using linear SVM classifier on the normalized extracted signals. Table 2 (A), shows the linear SVM results using the whole samples of the extracted normalized signals. Again, unfortunately, the linear SVM results using the whole samples did not show any improve-

ment, where the accuracy rate was only improved from 92.5% to 92.75% after using wavelet transform. Table 2 (B) show the linear SVM results using the central sample of the extracted normalized signals. Here the wavelet transformations did have an effect, perhaps representing that they had more work to do when only using the central sample. The best result was obtained using DB4 wavelet transform at level 2, where the accuracy rate is 93.75% (from 91.75%). Comparing Tables 1 and 2 we see that generally, using the normalization improved the results, especially when using the central sample of the signals as inputs. However the overall results show the difficulty that wavelets have with phase distorted data.

## 5.2 Experiments and Results using Optical Signals (Complex Data)

Finally we experiment on the full optical data. The purpose of this experiment is to figure out whether using wavelet transforms can process the distorted optical signals or not. In this experiment, a linear SVM was implemented using lots of different input vectors: just the central sample, the whole set of samples from



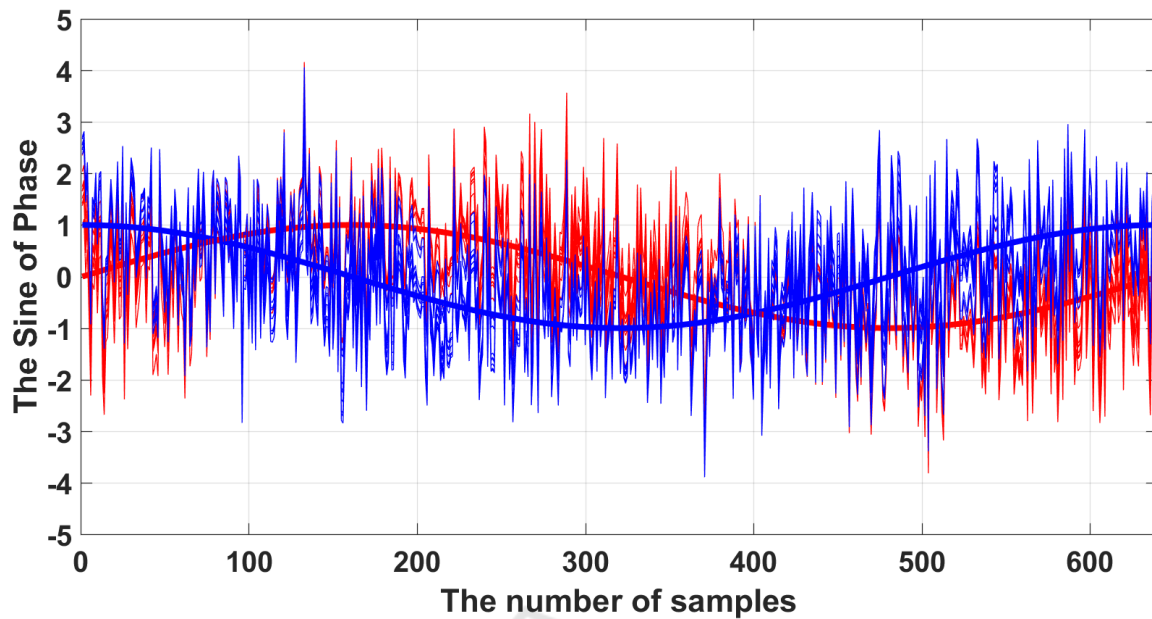


Figure 2: Ten Sinusoid signals with phase and amplitude noise compared with non-noisy signals (solid lines). Blue signals has phase of 90 and red signals has phase of 0 degrees.

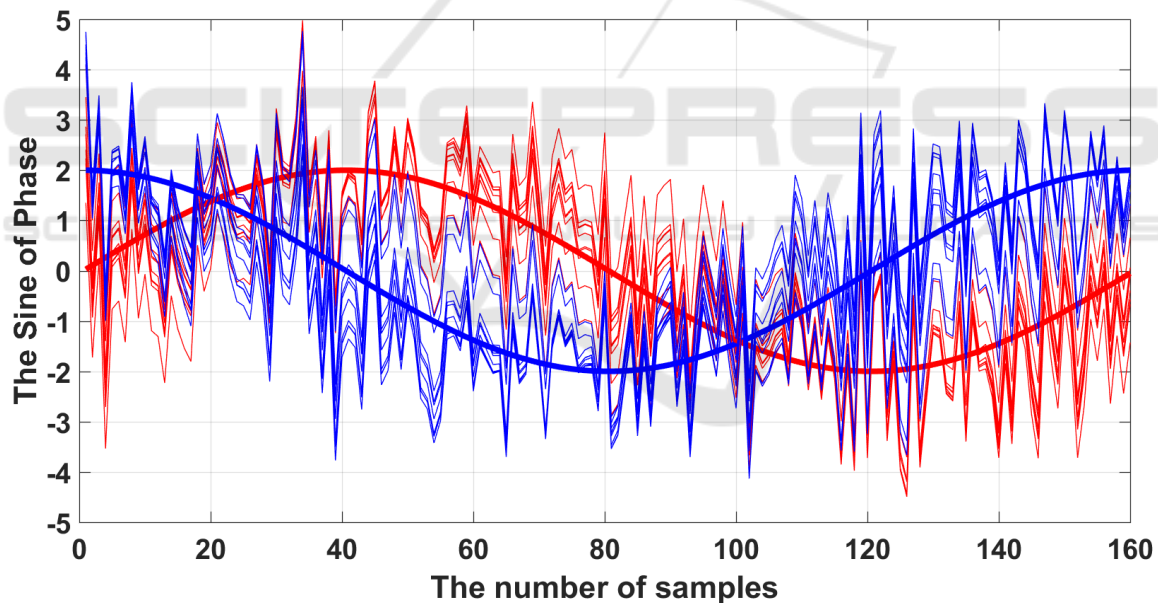


Figure 3: Ten extracted signals using Haar wavelet transform, level 2 (Approximation part). Blue signals has phase of 90 and red signals has phase of 0 degrees.

the wave (all 64 values) and neighbouring information from waves before and after the wave being classified. A selection of different transformations were tried, from none at all (original signal) to Haar level 1 and 2 and db4 level 2 wavelets. Regarding using the neighbouring information, we focused on using 7 central samples from 7 adjacent symbols (from the target symbol and three symbols either sides). We have found that using 7 central samples from 7 neigh-

bouring symbols gave the best linear SVM results when we have used neighbouring information previously. In this experiment,  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the symbols/signals were used to train the linear SVM model, and the rest of the data (a third of the symbols) was used as a test set.

Table 3 shows the linear SVM results using the optical signals at the distance 8,000 km, with and without using wavelet transform. These results were

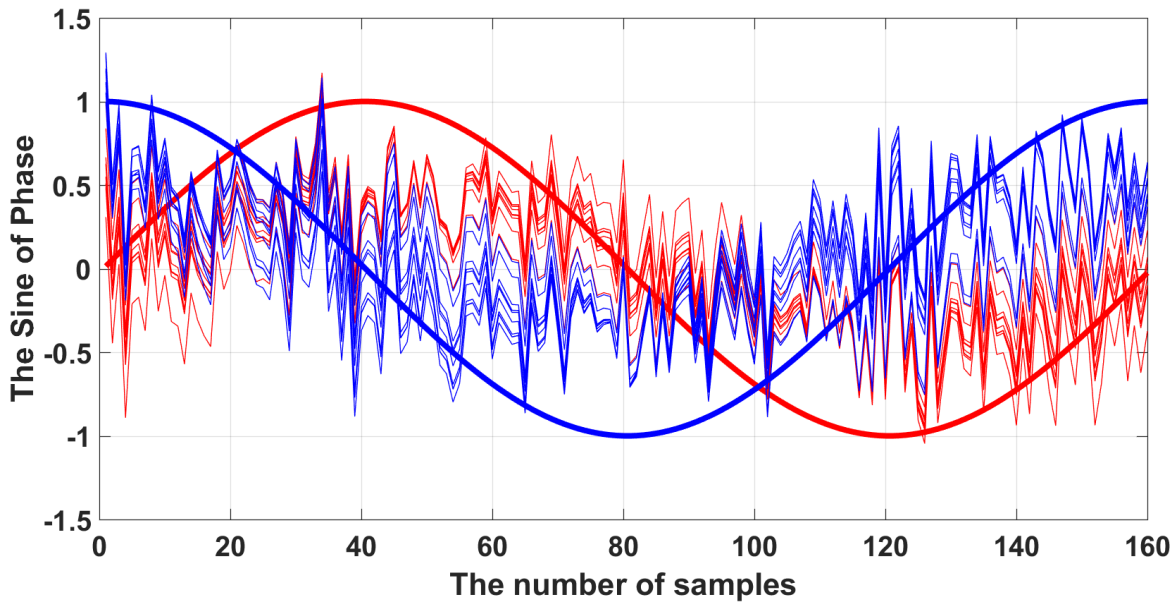


Figure 4: Ten extracted normalized signals using Haar wavelet transform, level 2 (Approximation part). Blue signals has phase of 90 and red signals has phase of 0 degrees.

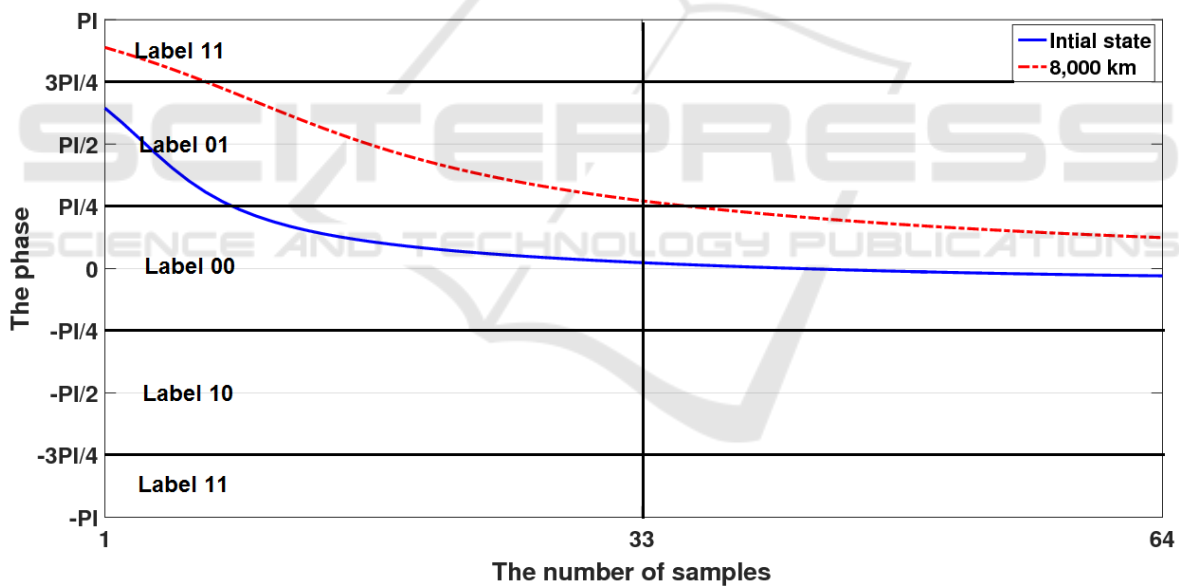


Figure 5: An optical signal has been classified incorrectly using both linear SVM using central samples from 7 symbols, Haar transforms at level 2, and the threshold method (the first data set).

compared with the results obtained by measuring the phase of the mid-point of the signal (threshold method) which is the current hardware implemented method. The Table presents the symbol accuracy rate (SAR%), number of bit errors (NBE) and bit error rate (BER%), which are an average over ten data sets. As we can see from Table 3, the results using samples from 7 consecutive symbols (using 3 either side of the target symbol) were best, even though they only used the central value of each of the 7 waves. This

is the result we have obtained before. Using a linear SVM using the extracted signals obtained from DB4 wavelet transform did not improve the classification process. The best result we have got so far is the linear SVM result using 7 central samples from 7 neighbouring extracted signals, obtained from Haar wavelet transform, level 2 which is a 1.68 BER.

Figures 5, 6 and 7 show some examples of optical signals at the initial state (blue solid line), and after 8,000 km (red dotted line). The mid-point of the sig-

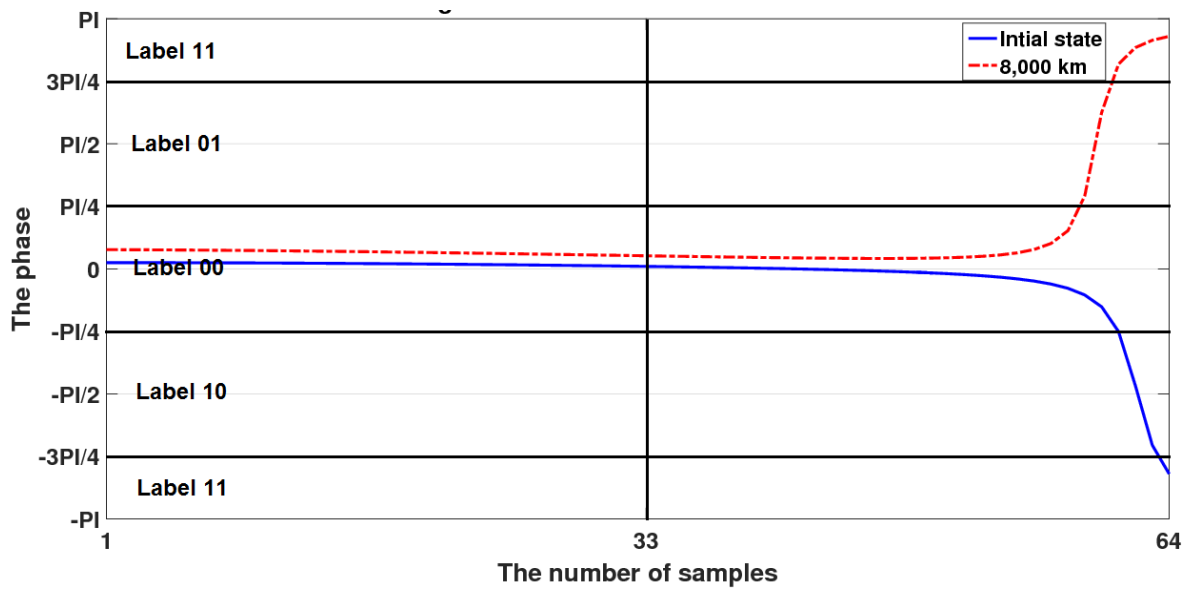


Figure 6: An optical signal has been classified correctly using both linear SVM using central samples from 7 symbols, Haar transforms at level 2, and the threshold method (the first data set).

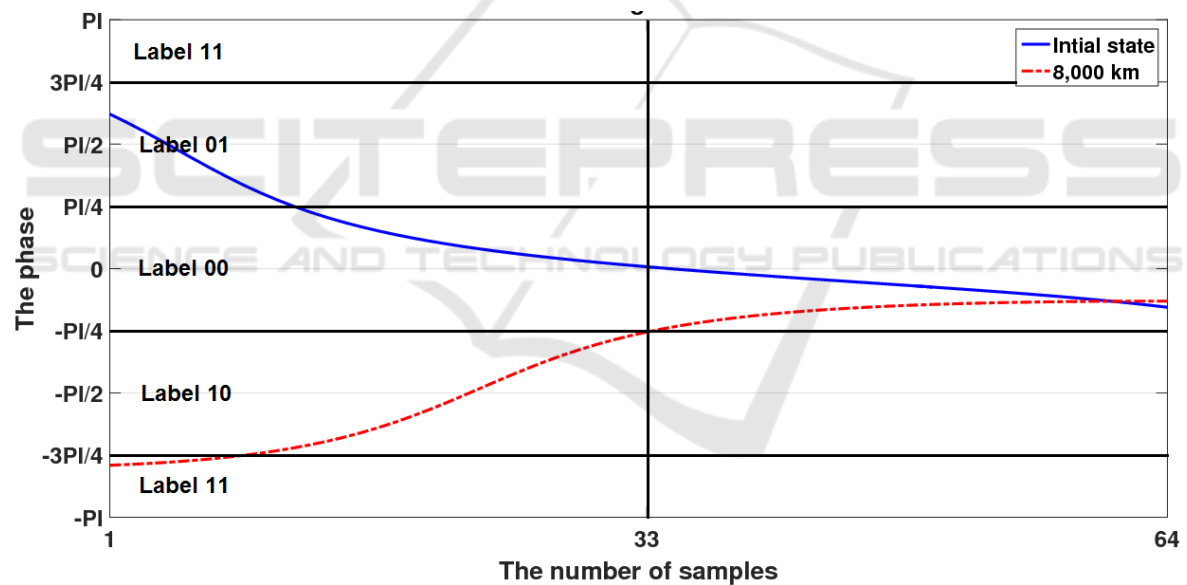


Figure 7: An optical signal has been classified correctly using linear SVM using central samples from 7 symbols, Haar transforms at level 2, and misclassified using the threshold method (the first data set).

nal is the 33<sup>rd</sup> sample, where the phase is measured, because that represents the highest power level. These figures were selected from the best linear result using the Haar wavelet at level 2, from the target signal and three signals either side. From Figure 5, we can see an optical signal that has been mis-classified as class 01, using both linear SVM and the threshold method, where it belongs to class 00. Figure 6 presents an optical signal that has been detected correctly as class 00, using both linear SVM and the threshold method. Fig-

ure 7 shows an optical signal that has been detected correctly using linear SVM, but incorrectly using the threshold method. As we can see, the signal should belong to the class 00, but was mis-classified as class 10 by the threshold method, at the distance 8,000 km. From our observation, we can say that using linear SVMs based on wavelets transformations can ensure some types of distorted signals be classified correctly (for example, Figure 7).



Table 4: The linear SVM results using optical signals before and after using wavelet transforms at the distance 8,000 km, compared with the threshold method result.

Method	Number of samples	Signal types	SAR %	NBE	BER %
Threshold	Central sample	Original signal	96.3 ± 0.15	403.3 ± 16.55	1.87 ± 0.08
Linear SVM	Central sample	Original signal	96.29 ± 0.16	403.6 ± 18.001	1.87 ± 0.08
Linear SVM	Central sample	Haar level 1	96.36 ± 0.16	396.2 ± 17.37	1.84 ± 0.08
Linear SVM	Central sample	Haar level 2	96.41 ± 0.16	390.9 ± 17.15	1.82 ± 0.09
Linear SVM	Central sample	db4 level 2	93.95 ± 0.47	661.9 ± 50.71	3.07 ± 0.24
Linear SVM	Whole samples	Original signal	96.44 ± 0.14	387.3 ± 15.85	1.8 ± 0.07
Linear SVM	Whole samples	Haar level 1	96.44 ± 0.13	387.5 ± 14.22	1.8 ± 0.07
Linear SVM	Whole samples	Haar level 2	96.45 ± 0.13	386.2 ± 13.86	1.79 ± 0.07
Linear SVM	Central samples from 7 symbols	Original signal	96.6 ± 0.1	370.2 ± 11.65	1.72 ± 0.05
<b>Linear SVM</b>	<b>Central samples from 7 symbols</b>	<b>Haar level 2</b>	<b>96.67 ± 0.11</b>	<b>362.4 ± 13.21</b>	<b>1.68 ± 0.06</b>
Linear SVM	Central samples from 7 symbols	db4 level 2	95.75 ± 0.22	465.3 ± 23.45	2.16 ± 0.12

Table 2: A comparison between linear SVM results using noisy signals and the extracted signals.

A) The whole samples of the extracted signal were used as input to the linear SVM classifier.

Data set	Type of (WT)	(WT) level	Accuracy rate %
P-noise	-	-	92.5 %
	Haar	2	91.5 %
P + A noise	-	-	92.5 %
	<b>Haar</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>92.75 %</b>
	Haar	2	92.75 %
	Haar	3	92.5 %
	Haar	4	92.5 %
	<b>Haar</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>92.75 %</b>
	Db4	2	92.25 %

B) The central sample of the extracted signals was used as input to the linear SVM classifier.

Data set	Type of (WT)	(WT) level	Accuracy rate %
P-noise	-	-	91.75 %
	Db4	2	91.75 %
P + A noise	-	-	91.75%
	Haar	1	91.75%
	Haar	2	91%
	Haar	3	91%
	Haar	4	90%
	Haar	5	87.25%
	<b>Db4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>93%</b>

Note: P-noise means Phase noise only. P + A noise means both Phase and Amplitude noise were used. (-) denotes corresponding results are obtained without applying wavelets.

Table 3: A comparison between linear SVM results using noisy signals and the extracted normalized signals.

A) The whole samples of the extracted normalized signal were used as input to the linear SVM classifier.

Data set	Type of (WT)	(WT)	Accuracy rate %
P-noise	-	-	92.5 %
	Haar	3	92.5 %
P + A noise	-	-	92.5%
	Haar	1	92.5%
	Haar	2	92.5%
	<b>Haar</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>92.75%</b>
	Haar	4	92.5%
	Haar	5	92.5%
	<b>Db4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>92.75%</b>

B) The central sample of the extracted normalized signal were used as input to the linear SVM classifier.

Data set	Type of (WT)	(WT)	Accuracy rate %
P-noise	-	-	91.75 %
	Db4	2	91.75 %
P + A noise	-	-	91.75%
	Haar	1	93.5%
	Haar	2	93.5%
	Haar	3	90.5%
	Haar	4	93%
	Haar	5	88%
	<b>Db4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>93.75%</b>

Note: P-noise means Phase noise only. P + A noise means both Phase and Amplitude noise were used. (-) denotes corresponding results are obtained without applying wavelets.

## 6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In this work, we have demonstrated that the bit error rate can be improved by using classification based on wavelet transforms (WT) and support vector machine (SVM). From the results obtained using the simple data with frequency noise in Table 1, we can see that the best linear SVM result was when we used the data set (AB) after using wavelet transform level 2. Regarding the results obtained using the simple data with phase noise in Table 2, the best linear SVM result

was when we used the central sample of the extracted normalized signals resulted from DB4 wavelet transform at level 2, which was 93.75%. Wavelets were more beneficial with the frequency distorted data than with the phase distorted data. However, overall the use of wavelet transforms was disappointing.

The second part of the results were obtained using wavelets on the optical signals at a distance of 8,000 km. The best result was when using a linear SVM trained on the extracted data (using Haar wavelet level 2) from the target symbol and three symbols either side. So wavelet transforms did have a small effect on the accuracy, and in this work small effects can be worth a lot. In particular using the combination of

neighbourhood information and wavelets gave much better results than using the threshold method, see Table 3. This is crucial since Bit Error Rates less than 2 are required for optical data and the further we can drive this rate down the better. Furthermore, this work shows that wavelet transforms can help a little with the noise on both frequency and phase since optical data has both.

In this paper, our initial work on wavelets has been presented; different types of the wavelets will be investigated in the future.

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