

# Least Square Approximation

by

Jens Hee

<https://jenshee.dk>

November 2020

# Change log

10. November 2020

1. Rewritten

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Linear approximation</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Polynomial fit . . . . .	3
2.1.1	Linear regression . . . . .	3
2.2	Exponential fit example . . . . .	4
2.3	Low pass FIR filter design example . . . . .	4
<b>3</b>	<b>Non-linear approximation</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1	Power values approximation . . . . .	6

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

In the following Linear and non linear least square methods are described. If the problem is linear it can be solved by solving at set of linear equations. For non-linear problems iterative methods are are used. Several examples are given as well as C-code for solving the problems

Approximation is the problem of finding a function that in some sense fits a given data set. Sometimes a minimax approximation is required, but often a least square approximation is used because the minimax problem is too hard to solve. The minimax problem is not covered here. The least square problem can be formulated as finding a set of  $\bar{\mathbf{a}} = (a_0, \dots, a_{K-1})$  that minimizes:

$$m(\bar{\mathbf{a}}) = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_j |f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j) - y_j|^2$$

$y_j$  are the values to be approximated and  $w_j$  is a weighting function.

Letting:

$$\frac{\partial m(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} = 0$$

we have  $K$  equations for finding the  $K$  values of  $\bar{\mathbf{a}}$ :

$$Re \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_j (f^*(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j) - y_j^*) \frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} = 0, \quad k = 0, \dots, K - 1$$

For real data the equations becomes:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_j (f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j) - y_j) \frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} = 0, \quad k = 0, \dots, K - 1$$

# Chapter 2

## Linear approximation

If  $f$  is linear in  $a_i$  then:

$$f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x) = \sum_{i=0}^{K-1} a_i f_i(x)$$

and the  $K$  equations are given by:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_j \left( \sum_{i=0}^{K-1} a_i f_i(x_j) - y_j \right) f_k(x_j) = 0$$

or

$$\sum_{i=0}^{K-1} a_i \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_j f_k(x_j) f_i(x_j) = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_j f_k(x_j) y_j$$

### 2.1 Polynomial fit

In this case:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{K-1} a_i x^i$$

and the set of linear equations becomes:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{K-1} a_i \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_j x_j^k x_j^i = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_j x_j^k y_j$$

#### 2.1.1 Linear regression

If  $f$  can be written:

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1 x$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_j (a_0 + a_1 x_j) &= \sum_j y_j \\ \sum_j (a_0 x_j + a_1 x_j^2) &= \sum_j x_j y_j \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_1 = \frac{N \sum_j x_j y_j - \sum_j x_j \sum_j y_j}{N \sum_j x_j^2 - (\sum_j x_j)^2}$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{N} (\sum_j y_j - a_1 \sum_j x_j)$$

where N is the number of values to be approximated.

## 2.2 Exponential fit example

If  $f$  can be written:

$$f(x) = a_0 x + a_1 e^{-0.2x}$$

then

$$\sum_j (a_0 x_j^2 + a_1 x_j e^{-0.2x_j}) = \sum_j x_j y_j$$

$$\sum_j (a_0 x_j e^{-0.2x_j} + a_1 e^{-0.4x_j}) = \sum_j e^{-0.2x_j} y_j$$

An example is given in Figure 2.1.

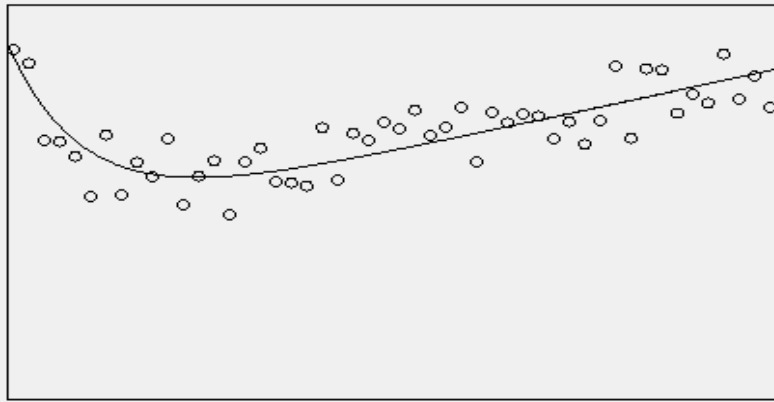


Figure 2.1: Exponential fit example

## 2.3 Low pass FIR filter design example

If a linear phase FIR filter with length  $L = 2P + 1$  is given by

$$H(z) = \sum_{i=0}^{L-1} b_i z^{-i}$$

$$b_i = b_{N-1-i}$$

then

$$H(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{i=0}^{L-1} b_i e^{-j\omega i} = e^{-j\omega P} (b_P + 2 \sum_{i=0}^{P-1} b_i \cos(\omega(i - P))) = \sum_{i=0}^P a_i f_i(\omega)$$

where

$$a_i = b_i$$

$$f_i(\omega) = \begin{cases} 2e^{-j\omega P} \cos(\omega(i - P)) & \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq P - 1 \\ e^{-j\omega P} & \text{for } i = P \end{cases}$$

If the desired response is given by:

$$y_j = \begin{cases} e^{-j\omega_j P} & \text{for } 0 \leq \omega \leq \frac{\pi}{3} \\ 0 & \text{for } \frac{2\pi}{3} \leq \omega \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

and  $L = 25$

then the response is shown in Figure 2.2.

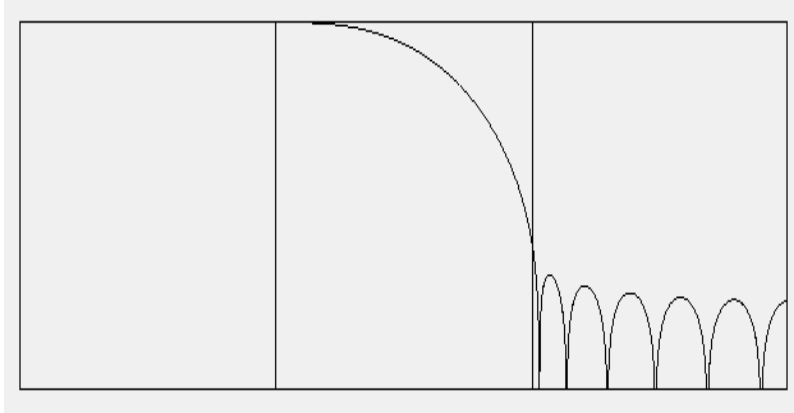


Figure 2.2: LP filter example

# Chapter 3

## Non-linear approximation

$$m(\bar{\mathbf{a}}) = \sum_j |f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j) - y_j|^2$$

$$\frac{\partial m(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} = \sum_j ((f^*(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j) - y_j^*) \frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} + (f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j) - y_j) \frac{\partial f^*(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k}) =$$

$$2\text{Re} \sum_j (f^*(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j) - y_j^*) \frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} = 0$$

$f$  can be approximated by:

$$f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x) = f_0(x) + \sum_i \frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x)}{\partial a_i} \Delta a_i$$

$$\sum_j \text{Re}((f_0^*(x_j) + \sum_i \frac{\partial f^*(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_i} \Delta a_i - y_j) \frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k}) = 0$$

$$\sum_i \Delta a_i \sum_j \text{Re}(\frac{\partial f^*(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} \frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_i}) = \sum_j \text{Re}(\frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} (y_j - f_0(x_j)))$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{a}}_n = \bar{\mathbf{a}}_{n-1} + \alpha \Delta \bar{\mathbf{a}}$$

This leads to slow convergence. Levenberg-Marquard solves the problem:

$$\sum_i \Delta a_i \sum_j \text{Re}(\frac{\partial f^*(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} \frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_i}) + \gamma I = \sum_j \text{Re}(\frac{\partial f(\bar{\mathbf{a}}, x_j)}{\partial a_k} (y_j - f_0(x_j)))$$

### 3.1 Power values approximation

$$\frac{d}{da_k} \sum_j W(j) f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})^2 = 0$$

$$\sum_j W(j) f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}}) \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k} = 0$$



$f$  can be approximated by:

$$f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}}) \approx f_0(j) + \sum_i \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_i} \Delta a_i$$

$$\sum_j W(j) (f_0(j) + \sum_i \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_i} \Delta a_i) \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k} = 0$$

$$\sum_j W(j) \sum_i \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_i} \Delta a_i \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k} = - \sum_j W(j) f_0(j) \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k}$$

$$\sum_i \Delta a_i \sum_j W(j) \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_i} \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k} = - \sum_j W(j) f_0(j) \frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k}$$

Let:

$$f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}}) = H(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})H^*(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}}) - D(j)D(j)^*$$

Then:

$$\frac{\partial f(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_i} = H(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}}) \frac{\partial H^*(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k} + H^*(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}}) \frac{\partial H(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k} = 2\text{Re}(H^*(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}}) \frac{\partial H(j; \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial a_k})$$

If  $H$  can be written:

$$H(z) = \frac{B(z)}{A(z)} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^N b_i z^{-i}}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^M a_i z^{-i}}$$

then:

$$\frac{\partial H(z; \bar{\mathbf{b}}, \bar{\mathbf{a}})}{\partial c_k} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{A(z)} z^{-k}, & \text{for } c_k = b_k \\ -\frac{H(z)}{A(z)} z^{-k}, & \text{for } c_k = a_k \end{cases}$$

If  $H$  can be written:

$$H(z) = \frac{B(z)}{A(z)} = s \frac{\prod_{i=0}^N z^i - z_i}{\prod_{i=1}^N z^i - p_i}$$

where  $z_i$  and  $p_i$  are real, then:

$$\frac{\partial H(z; s, \bar{\mathbf{z}}, \bar{\mathbf{p}})}{\partial c_k} = \begin{cases} \frac{H(z)}{s}, & \text{for } c_k = s \\ \frac{-H(z)}{z - z_k}, & \text{for } c_k = z_k \\ \frac{H(z)}{z - p_k}, & \text{for } c_k = p_k \end{cases}$$