EE 521: Instrumentation and Measurements

Aly El-Osery

Electrical Engineering Department, New Mexico Tech Socorro, New Mexico, USA

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- C.W. De Silva, Sensors and Actuators: Control System Instrumentation, CRC Press, 2007.
- R. Northrop, Introduction to Instrumentation and Measurements, 2nd Edition, CRC Press, 2005.



Topics Covered

- Measurement systems
- Error Analysis
- Signal conditioning
- Noise and interference
- Survey of different types of sensor input mechanisms
- Sensor Applications
- Data acquisition and digital signal processing



Outline

Measurement System

Grading

- Homework: 30%
- Final: 20%
- Project and Research Paper: 20%
- Presentations: 20%
- Class Participation: 10%





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Noise Sources

- Environment noise: associated with the physical quantity being measured.
- Measurement noise: due to the measurement system.
- Quantization noise: due to digitizing the analog signal.





Error in Measurement

Gross Errors

- Taking measurement during transient time of the instrument.
- Mistakes recording data or calculating a derived measurand.
- Misuse of the instrument.

System Errors

- Calibration errors.
- Random noise both internal and external.
- Drift.

Outline	Course Overview	Measurement System	Noise	Error Analysis
		Error		

It is important to find a way to describe errors in measurements in terms of some accepted concepts. For example, accuracy, precision, limiting error and error statistics.

Error

$$\epsilon_n \equiv X_n - Y_n \tag{1}$$

and

$$\%\epsilon \equiv \left|\frac{\epsilon_n}{Y_n}\right| \times 100$$
 (2)

where Y_n is the true value and X_n is the actual measurement.

Error

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and

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where Y_n is the true value and X_n is the actual measurement.

Dilemma

To compute the error we need to know the true value. If the true value is known, why measure it?



Accuracy

$$A_n \equiv 1 - \left| \frac{Y_n - X_n}{Y_n} \right| \tag{3}$$

or

$$\% A_n \equiv 100 - \% \epsilon \tag{4}$$





(6)

Precision

$$P_n \equiv 1 - \left| \frac{X_n - \bar{X}}{\bar{X}} \right| \tag{5}$$

where





Deviation

Deviation

$$d_n \equiv X_n - \bar{X} \tag{7}$$

Average Deviation

$$D_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N d_n \tag{8}$$

Standard Deviation

$$S_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N d_n^2 = \sigma_x \tag{9}$$

$$S_N^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n^2 - (\bar{X})^2 = \sigma_x^2$$
(10)

Limiting Error (LE)

A term frequently used by manufacturers to describe worst case error

Taylor's Series

$$f(X \pm \Delta X) = f(X) + \frac{df}{dX} \frac{\Delta X}{1!} + \dots + \frac{d^{n-1}f}{dX^{n-1}} \frac{(\Delta X)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$$



Course Overview

Measurement System

Noise

Limiting Error (LE)

Assuming that QUM is a function of N variables

$$Q = f(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N) \tag{11}$$

but due to measurement errors

$$\hat{Q} = f(X_1 \pm \Delta X_1, X_2 \pm \Delta X_2, \dots, X_n \pm \Delta X_N)$$
(12)

Using Taylor series and ignoring the higher order terms.

$$\Delta Q_{MAX} = |Q - \hat{Q}| = \sum_{j=1}^{N} \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial X_j} \Delta X_j \right|$$
(13)

Linear Regression - Least Mean Square Linear Fitting

Fit a line with equation y = mx + b to a set of *N* noisy measurements.

Minimize

$$\sigma_y^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left[(mX_k + b) - Y_k \right]^2$$
(14)

Linear Regression - Least Mean Square Linear Fitting

Differentiating with respect to *m* and equating to zero

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_y^2}{\partial m} = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left[(mX_k + b) - Y_k \right] X_k = 0$$
(15)

Differentiating with respect to *b* and equating to zero

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_y^2}{\partial b} = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left[(mX_k + b) - Y_k \right] = 0$$
(16)



Linear Regression - Least Mean Square Linear Fitting

Solving the previous two equations of *m* and *b*

$$m = \frac{R_{xy}(0) - \bar{Y}\bar{X}}{\sigma_x^2} \tag{17}$$

$$b = \frac{\bar{Y}\bar{X}^2 - \bar{X}R_{xy}(0)}{\sigma_x^2}$$
(18)

where R_{xy} is the cross-correlation of X and Y evaluated at zero

$$R_{xy}(0) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} X_k Y_k$$
(19)



(Error Analysis)

Linear Regression - Goodness of fit

Using the correlation coefficient

$$r \equiv \frac{R_{xy}(0) - \bar{X}\bar{Y}}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}, \qquad 0 \le r \le 1$$
 (20)

Perfect fit if r = 1.

