

# THEORETICAL ANALYSIS ON FINITE IMPULSE RESPONSE

High Performance Computing Project Report

Problem Statement: Parallel simulation of moving average finite impulse response filter

Faculty guide : Dr. Noor Mahammad

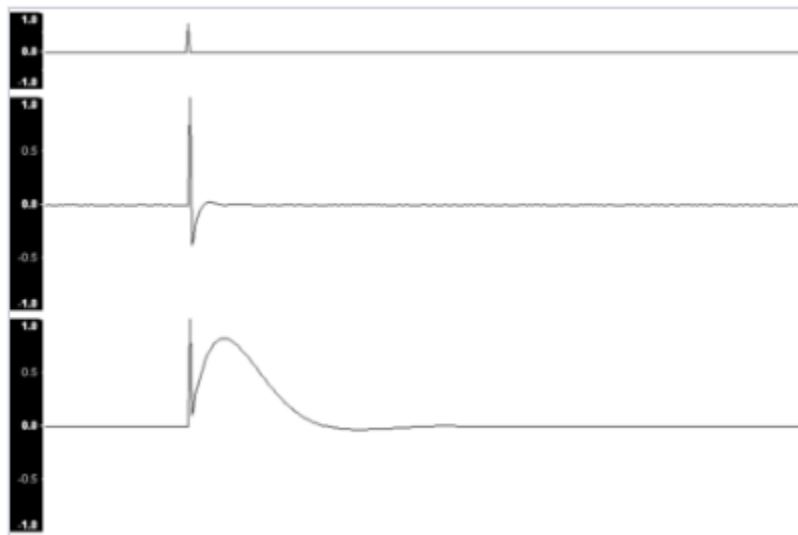
By,

PALETI KRISHNASAI

CED18I039

# INTRODUCTION

In signal processing, the impulse response, or impulse response function (IRF), of a dynamic system is its output when presented with a brief input signal, called an impulse. More generally, an impulse response is the reaction of any dynamic system in response to some external change. In both cases, the impulse response describes the reaction of the system as a function of time (or possibly as a function of some other independent variable that parametrizes the dynamic behavior of the system).



The Impulse response from a simple audio system. Showing, from top to bottom, the original impulse, the response after high frequency boosting, and the response after low frequency boosting.

In all these cases, the dynamic system and its impulse response may be actual physical objects, or may be mathematical systems of equations describing such objects.

Mathematically, how the impulse is described depends on whether the system is modeled in discrete or continuous time. The impulse can be modeled as a Dirac delta function for continuous-time systems, or as the Kronecker delta for discrete-time systems. The Dirac delta represents the limiting case of a pulse made very short in time while maintaining its area or integral (thus giving an infinitely high peak).

# FINITE IMPULSE RESPONSE FILTER

In signal processing, a finite impulse response (FIR) filter is a filter whose impulse response (or response to any finite length input) is of *finite* duration, because it settles to zero in finite time. This is in contrast to infinite impulse response (IIR) filters, which may have internal feedback and may continue to respond indefinitely (usually decaying).

The impulse response (that is, the output in response to a Kronecker delta input) of an  $N^{\text{th}}$ -order discrete-time FIR filter lasts exactly  $N + 1$  samples (from first nonzero element through last nonzero element) before it then settles to zero.

For a causal discrete-time FIR filter of order  $N$ , each value of the output sequence is a weighted sum of the most recent input values:

$$\begin{aligned} y[n] &= b_0 x[n] + b_1 x[n - 1] + \cdots + b_N x[n - N] \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^N b_i \cdot x[n - i], \end{aligned}$$

- $x[n]$  is the input signal,
- $y[n]$  is the output signal,
- $N$  is the filter order; an  $N^{\text{th}}$ -order filter has  $N + 1$  terms on the right-hand side
- $b_i$  is the value of the impulse response at the  $i^{\text{th}}$  instant for  $0 \leq i \leq N$  of an  $N^{\text{th}}$ -order FIR filter. If the filter is a direct form FIR filter then  $b_i$  is also a coefficient of the filter.

# PROPERTIES

An FIR filter has a number of useful properties which sometimes make it preferable to an infinite impulse response (IIR) filter. FIR filters:

- Require no feedback. This means that any rounding errors are not compounded by summed iterations. The same relative error occurs in each calculation. This also makes implementation simpler.
- Are inherently stable, since the output is a sum of a finite number of finite multiples of the input values, so can be no greater than  $\sum |b_i|$  times the largest value appearing in the input.
- Can easily be designed to be a linear phase by making the coefficient sequence symmetric. This property is sometimes desired for phase-sensitive applications, for example data communications, seismology, crossover filters, and mastering.

## MOVING AVERAGE FIR FILTER ANALYSIS

A moving average filter is a very simple FIR filter. It is sometimes called a boxcar filter, especially when followed by decimation. The filter coefficients,  $b_0, \dots, b_N$ , are found via the following equation:

$$b_i = \frac{1}{N+1}$$

To provide a more specific example, we select the filter order:

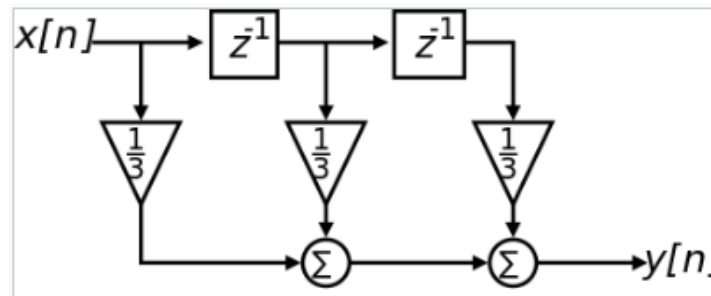
$$N = 2$$

The impulse response of the resulting filter is:

$$h[n] = \frac{1}{3}\delta[n] + \frac{1}{3}\delta[n-1] + \frac{1}{3}\delta[n-2]$$

The block diagram below shows the second-order moving-average filter discussed below. The transfer function is:

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}z^{-1} + \frac{1}{3}z^{-2} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{z^2 + z + 1}{z^2}.$$



Block diagram of a simple FIR filter (second-order/3-tap filter in this case, implementing a moving average smoothing filter)

## INSIGHTS AND CHALLENGES OBSERVED

- The major challenge with this filter is to generate the current output based on the 3 separate instances of input at 3 different time instances.
- This would cause a heavy computational load when executed serially given the input is a fairly large value ( both in magnitude and precision ).
- Another challenge would be to define how to represent the input signal and most importantly, how to determine the edge cases and initial and starting points.
- Based on the above mentioned arguments and the fact that the moving average FIR filter is the basis for the boxcar filter and the fact that it can be scaled or generalized for most FIR filters necessitates a parallel execution style .

# SOFTWARES

- C/C++, programming language
- OpenMP, API for shared-memory parallel programming
- MPI, High performance Message Passing library
- Cuda C/C++, API for utilizing CUDA-enabled GPU for computation

# APPLICATIONS

- Loudspeakers
- Electronic Processing :- impulse response analysis is a major facet of radar, ultrasound imaging, and many areas of digital signal processing.
- Control Systems :- In control theory the impulse response is the response of a system to a Dirac delta input.
- Acoustic and audio applications :- In acoustic and audio applications, impulse responses enable the acoustic characteristics of a location, such as a concert hall, to be captured.
- Economics :- In economics, and especially in contemporary macroeconomic modeling, impulse response functions are used to describe how the economy reacts over time to exogenous impulses, which economists usually call shocks, and are often modeled in the context of a vector autoregression.

# CONCLUSION

Based on the reading and searching for existing serial codes for the moving average FIR filter, it can be said that the current parallel execution of discrete time moving average FIR filter is not found by the student on an open-source platform. This gives a vast amount of room to work with given that there are no existing codes to base the current understanding on how to simulate/execute the filter parallelly.

The other major point to be noted is that the student will have to prepare a serial simulation of the discrete time moving average FIR filter. This would enable the student to understand how to represent the inputs and figure out how to tackle the edge cases ( cases where there is an interruption in the signal ) and the end point cases (  $y[0]$ ,  $y[n]$  ) .

The student has chosen this problem statement as he was intrigued by a TV channel show describing the physics of everyday events which showed the *impulse response* phenomena and how physicists and scientists model the said phenomena ( moving average is the most often used in filters ).

# REFERENCES

Wikipedia, "Impulse response - Wikipedia," Wikipedia, [Online].

Available: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Impulse\\_response](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Impulse_response)

Wikipedia, "Finite impulse response - Wikipedia," Wikipedia, [Online].

Available: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finite\\_impulse\\_response#Moving\\_average\\_example](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finite_impulse_response#Moving_average_example)