



# Proceedings of the NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Volume 65 • Number 2 • February 15, 1970

## Inference from Inadequate and Inaccurate Data, II\*

George Backus

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (LA JOLLA)

Communicated December 3, 1969

**Abstract.** Having measured  $D$  numerical properties of a physical object  $E$  which requires many more than  $D$  parameters for its complete specification, an observer seeks to estimate  $P$  other numerical properties of  $E$ . A previous paper discussed how he can proceed when  $E$  is adequately described by one member  $m_E$  of a Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{M}$  of possible models of  $E$  and when all the observed and sought-for properties of  $E$  are Fréchet differentiable functionals on  $\mathfrak{M}$ . The present paper describes a technique often available for reducing to this tractable case problems in which the functionals are discontinuous and are defined only on parts of  $\mathfrak{M}$ , and  $\mathfrak{M}$  is an arbitrary real linear space. Applications include geo-physical inverse problems and numerical differentiation, integration, interpolation, and extrapolation.

**1. Introduction.** The language introduced in the first paper<sup>1</sup> of this series is used, except that now  $\mathfrak{M}$ , the space of models, will be an arbitrary real linear space. The data functionals  $(g_1, \dots, g_D)$  and the prediction functionals  $(\tilde{g}_1, \dots, \tilde{g}_P)$  are now defined only on subsets  $\mathfrak{M}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{M}_D, \tilde{\mathfrak{M}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathfrak{M}}_P$  of  $\mathfrak{M}$  and, if  $\mathfrak{M}$  has a topology, may be discontinuous. For the moment the functionals need not be linear. I denote  $\mathfrak{M}_1 \cap \dots \cap \mathfrak{M}_D \cap \tilde{\mathfrak{M}}_1 \cap \dots \cap \tilde{\mathfrak{M}}_P$  by  $\mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{R}^*)$  and by  $\mathfrak{R}^*$  I mean  $\text{asp}\{g_1, \dots, g_D, \tilde{g}_1, \dots, \tilde{g}_P\}$ , the set of all functionals on  $\mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{R}^*)$  which are real linear combinations of  $g_1, \dots, g_D, \tilde{g}_1, \dots, \tilde{g}_P$ . Even if these functionals are nonlinear,  $\mathfrak{R}^*$  is a real linear space.

If  $\mathbf{R}$  denotes the real line and  $g : \mathfrak{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is any functional (real valued function) on the arbitrary set  $\mathfrak{B}$ , I will write  $[g, v]$  for the real number  $g(v)$  which the functional  $g$  assigns to the member  $v$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$ . This number depends linearly on  $g$  but need not be linear in  $v$ .

A real pre-Hilbert space is a real linear space  $\mathfrak{H}$  on which is defined a bilinear, positive-definite, real inner product. The real Hilbert space obtained by com-

pleting  $\mathfrak{H}$  I write as  $c\mathfrak{H}$ . If  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  are in  $c\mathfrak{H}$ , I write their inner product as  $\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle$  and define  $\|h_i\| = \sqrt{\langle h_i, h_i \rangle}$ .

A functional  $g^* : \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  on a pre-Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{H}$  is "Cauchy continuous" if for every Cauchy sequence  $\{h_1, h_2, \dots\}$  in  $\mathfrak{H}$ ,  $\{[g^*, h_1], [g^*, h_2], \dots\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbf{R}$ . If  $g^*$  is Cauchy continuous on  $\mathfrak{H}$ , it can be extended in exactly one way to a continuous functional  $g^* : c\mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ . Conversely, if  $g^* : c\mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is continuous then its restriction to  $\mathfrak{H}$  is Cauchy continuous.

**2. Quellings.** Suppose  $\mathfrak{M}$  and  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  are as in the *Introduction*,  $\mathfrak{H}$  is a pre-Hilbert space, and  $Q : \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$  is a possibly nonlinear mapping. Then if  $g$  is in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$ , a functional  $g^* : \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is defined by requiring that for each  $h$  in  $\mathfrak{H}$

$$[g^*, h] = [g, Qh]. \quad (1)$$

I will call  $Q$  " $\mathfrak{N}^*$ -Cauchy continuous" if for each  $g$  in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  the functional  $g^* : \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  defined by equation (1) is Cauchy continuous.

If  $Q : \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$  is  $\mathfrak{N}^*$ -Cauchy continuous and  $g$  is in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  then the functional  $g^*$  defined by equation (1) has a unique continuous extension to all of  $c\mathfrak{H}$ , which will be called  $Q^*g$ . Thus  $Q^*g : c\mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  and  $Q^* : \mathfrak{N}^* \rightarrow C(c\mathfrak{H})$  where  $C(c\mathfrak{H})$  is the linear space of continuous functionals on  $c\mathfrak{H}$ . The mapping  $Q^*$  is linear, whether  $g$  and  $Q$  are or not. By the definition of  $Q^*$ , if  $g$  is any member of  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  and  $h$  is any member of  $c\mathfrak{H}$  then  $[Q^*g, h] = [g, Qh]$ .

"Aquelling" of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$  is defined to be an ordered pair  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  with  $\mathfrak{H}$  a real pre-Hilbert space and  $Q : \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$  an  $\mathfrak{N}^*$ -Cauchy continuous injection ( $Q$  is an injection if  $Qh_1 = Qh_2$  implies  $h_1 = h_2$ ). Then  $Q$  has an inverse mapping,  $Q^{-1} : Q(\mathfrak{H}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}$ , and if  $g$  is any functional in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  and  $m$  is any model in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$ ,  $[g, m] = [Q^*g, Q^{-1}m]$ . If  $Q$  is a linear mapping,  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  is a linear quelling of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ .

If  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  is any quelling of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$  for which  $m_E$  is in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$ , we can replace  $\mathfrak{M}$  by  $\mathfrak{H}$ , replace  $m_E$  by  $Q^{-1}m_E$ , replace any  $g$  in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  by  $Q^*g$ , and thus reduce the problem of prediction to prediction on a Hilbert space, the problem treated in the first paper.<sup>1</sup> If we regard the members of  $c\mathfrak{H}$  as the possible models for  $E$ , the data and predictions now depend continuously on the model. Lack of such continuity for models in  $\mathfrak{M}$  is an inaptness of  $\mathfrak{M}$  to the problem.

If the nonlinear functionals  $\{Q^*g_1, \dots, Q^*g_D, Q^*\tilde{g}_1, \dots, Q^*\tilde{g}_P\}$  are Fréchet differentiable on  $c\mathfrak{H}$ , Section 6 of the first paper reduces the prediction problem locally to a linear problem. Therefore in the rest of the present paper it will be assumed that  $\{g_1, \dots, g_D, \tilde{g}_1, \dots, \tilde{g}_P\}$  and hence all members of  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  are linear functionals on  $\mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$ , and we shall consider only linear quellings of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ .

When all members of  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  are linear and  $\mathfrak{H}$  is a pre-Hilbert space, a linear injection  $Q : \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$  is a quelling of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$  if and only if for each  $g$  in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  the linear functional  $g^* : \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  defined by equation (1) is bounded. But if  $g^*$  is linear and bounded on  $\mathfrak{H}$  then  $Q^*g$ , the extension of  $g^*$  to  $c\mathfrak{H}$ , is linear and bounded on  $c\mathfrak{H}$ . Then there is a unique member  $h^*$  of  $c\mathfrak{H}$  such that for all  $h$  in  $c\mathfrak{H}$ ,  $[Q^*g, h] = \langle h^*, h \rangle$ . Following usual practice, we shall identify  $Q^*g$  with  $h^*$ . Thus when the data functionals, the prediction functionals and the quelling  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  are linear,  $Q^*g$  is defined for any  $g$  in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  as that member of  $c\mathfrak{H}$  such that for all  $h$  in  $\mathfrak{H}$ ,  $[g, Qh] = \langle Q^*g, h \rangle$ . It follows that if  $m$  is any model in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  and  $g$  is any functional in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  then

$$[g, m] = \langle Q^*g, Q^{-1}m \rangle \quad (2)$$

Now Paper I of this series<sup>1</sup> gives the limitations on the predictions,  $\tilde{\gamma}_1, \dots, \tilde{\gamma}_P$ , which are imposed by the data,  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_D$ , and the additional hypothesis that  $m_E$  satisfies

$$\|Q^{-1}m\| \leq M \quad (3)$$

or its probabilistic analog for some selected bound  $M$ . Quelling will usually be applied when some members of  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  are discontinuous, so if  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a function space,  $Q^*$  and hence  $Q$  will be, loosely speaking, smoothing operators, and  $Q^{-1}$  will "roughen." Then equation (3) will be a demand on the smoothness of  $m_E$  as well as on its general size.

**3. Extending Linear Quellings.** A linear quelling  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$  is useless if  $m_E$  is not in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$ . The present section gives one way to extend  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$ .

If  $\mathfrak{H}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{H}_2$  are pre-Hilbert spaces,  $\mathfrak{H}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{H}_2$  denotes the pre-Hilbert space consisting of all ordered pairs  $(h_1, h_2)$  with  $h_1$  in  $\mathfrak{H}_1$  and  $h_2$  in  $\mathfrak{H}_2$ ; the linear combination  $\alpha(h_1, h_2) + \alpha'(h'_1, h'_2)$  is defined to be  $(\alpha h_1 + \alpha' h'_1, \alpha h_2 + \alpha' h'_2)$ , and the inner product  $\langle (h_1, h_2), (h'_1, h'_2) \rangle$  is defined to be  $\langle h_1, h'_1 \rangle + \langle h_2, h'_2 \rangle$ . The real line  $\mathbf{R}$  is a real Hilbert space whose inner product is ordinary multiplication, and  $\mathbf{R}^N$  is the Hilbert space  $\mathbf{R} \oplus \mathbf{R} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{R}$  ( $N$  terms).

If  $(Q_1, \mathfrak{H}_1)$  and  $(Q_2, \mathfrak{H}_2)$  are linear quellings of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ , we can define a linear mapping  $Q: \mathfrak{H}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{H}_2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$  as  $Q(h_1, h_2) = Q_1 h_1 + Q_2 h_2$ . This mapping  $Q$ , which we write  $Q_1 \oplus Q_2$ , is  $\mathfrak{N}^*$ -Cauchy continuous; and  $Q(\mathfrak{H}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{H}_2)$  is  $Q_1(\mathfrak{H}_1) + Q_2(\mathfrak{H}_2)$ , the linear space of all those members of  $\mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$  which can be written  $m_1 + m_2$  with  $m_1$  in  $Q_1(\mathfrak{H}_1)$  and  $m_2$  in  $Q_2(\mathfrak{H}_2)$ . Therefore it may often happen that  $m_E$  is in  $Q(\mathfrak{H}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{H}_2)$  and in neither  $Q_1(\mathfrak{H}_1)$  nor  $Q_2(\mathfrak{H}_2)$ . However,  $Q_1 \oplus Q_2$  is an injection if and only if  $Q_1(\mathfrak{H}_1) \cap Q_2(\mathfrak{H}_2) = \{0\}$ ; if  $Q_1(\mathfrak{H}_1)$  and  $Q_2(\mathfrak{H}_2)$  share a nonzero element  $m = Q_1 h_1 = Q_2 h_2$ , then  $Q(0, h_2) = Q(h_1, 0) = m$ , and  $(0, h_2) \neq (h_1, 0)$ . When  $Q_1(\mathfrak{H}_1) \cap Q_2(\mathfrak{H}_2) = \{0\}$ , we will call  $(Q_1, \mathfrak{H}_1)$  and  $(Q_2, \mathfrak{H}_2)$  orthogonal linear quellings of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ . The pair  $(Q_1 \oplus Q_2, \mathfrak{H}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{H}_2)$  is a linear quelling of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$  if and only if  $(Q_1, \mathfrak{H}_1)$  and  $(Q_2, \mathfrak{H}_2)$  are orthogonal linear quellings of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ . (If  $Q_1^{-1}(Q_1(\mathfrak{H}_1) \cap Q_2(\mathfrak{H}_2))$  is complete, a similar construction not described here gives a linear quelling  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  with  $Q(\mathfrak{H}) = Q_1(\mathfrak{H}_1) + Q_2(\mathfrak{H}_2)$ .)

As an example, suppose that  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  is a linear quelling of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ , that  $m_E$  is not in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$ , but that there are finitely many models  $\{m_1', \dots, m_K'\}$  in  $\mathfrak{M}(\mathbf{R}^*)$  such that  $m_E$  is in  $Q(\mathfrak{H}) + \text{asp}\{m_1', \dots, m_K'\}$ . If  $\{m_1', \dots, m_K'\}$  is linearly dependent modulo  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  (i.e., if there are real numbers  $b_1, \dots, b_K$  not all zero such that  $b_1 m_1' + \dots + b_K m_K'$  is in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$ ) then  $\{m_1', \dots, m_K'\}$  contains a proper subset  $\{m_1, \dots, m_J\}$  which is linearly independent modulo  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  and such that  $Q(\mathfrak{H}) + \text{asp}\{m_1', \dots, m_K'\} = Q(\mathfrak{H}) + \text{asp}\{m_1, \dots, m_J\}$ . We work with  $\{m_1, \dots, m_J\}$ . Its linear independence modulo  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  means  $Q(\mathfrak{H}) \cap \text{asp}\{m_1, \dots, m_J\} = \{0\}$ . Define  $Q': \mathbf{R}^J \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$  as  $Q'(b_1, \dots, b_J) = \sum_{j=1}^J b_j m_j$ . Then since  $\{m_1, \dots, m_J\}$  is linearly independent,  $(Q', \mathbf{R}^J)$  is a linear quelling of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ . And since  $Q(\mathfrak{H}) \cap Q'(\mathbf{R}^J) = \{0\}$ ,  $(Q \oplus Q', \mathfrak{H} \oplus \mathbf{R}^J)$  is also a linear quelling of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ . Write  $\hat{Q} = Q \oplus Q'$ ,  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}} = \mathfrak{H} \oplus \mathbf{R}^J$ . If  $\hat{h}$  is in  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}}$ , then  $\hat{h} = (h, b_1, \dots, b_J)$  with  $h$  in  $\mathfrak{H}$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_J$  in  $\mathbf{R}$ , and  $Qh = Qh + \sum_{j=1}^J b_j m_j$ , so now there is an  $\hat{h}_E$  in  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}}$  with  $\hat{Q}\hat{h}_E = m_E$ .

**4. Quelling Derivatives of the Dirac Delta Function.** To illustrate the construction and extension of quellings, a single prediction problem will be treated by three different quellings, corresponding with three different ways to make a square-integrable function out of  $\delta^{(J-1)}(x)$ , the  $(J-1)$ 'st derivative of the Dirac delta distribution. Each of these three quellings will make Paper I applicable to the prediction problem if the observer accepts a bound, equation (3), on the measure of size and smoothness of  $m_E$  appropriate to the given quelling.

The prediction problem is this:  $\mathfrak{M} = C[0, 1]$ , the linear space of all real-valued continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$ , the closed unit interval. The data functionals  $g_1, \dots, g_D$  have kernels  $G_1, \dots, G_D$  which are themselves in  $C[0, 1]$ , so for any  $m$  in  $\mathfrak{M}$  and, for  $i = 1, \dots, D$ ,  $[g_i, m] = \int_0^1 G_i(x)m(x)dx$ . Only one "prediction,"  $\tilde{g} = [\tilde{g}, m_E]$ , is wanted, so  $P = 1$ . The prediction functional  $\tilde{g}$  is defined by  $[\tilde{g}, m] = m^{(J-1)}(x_o)$ , the  $(J-1)$ 'st derivative of  $m$  at a specified point  $x_o$  in  $[0, 1]$ . In the notation of distribution theory,  $[\tilde{g}, m] = \int_0^1 \tilde{G}(x)m(x)dx$  with  $\tilde{G}(x) = (-1)^{J-1}\delta^{(J-1)}(x - x_o)$ . The space  $\mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{R}^*)$  consists of those real functions which are continuous on  $[0, 1]$  and have a  $(J-1)$ 'st derivative at  $x_o$ . The functionals  $g$  in  $\mathfrak{R}^*$  can be expressed as  $[g, m] = \int_0^1 G(x)m(x)dx$  where the kernel  $G$  is any linear combination of  $G_1, \dots, G_D$  and  $\tilde{G}$ .

In the first two methods of quelling  $(\mathfrak{R}^*, \mathfrak{M})$  we take  $\mathfrak{H} = C[0, 1]$  with the inner product  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^1 f(x)g(x)dx$ . Then  $c\mathfrak{H}$  is  $L_2(0, 1)$ , the Hilbert space of square integrable functions on  $(0, 1)$ .

**Method 1. Quelling by multiplication:** In this quelling, if  $h$  is in  $\mathfrak{H}$  define  $Qh$  as the function  $(x - x_o)^J h(x)$ . Then  $Q: \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{R}^*)$  is a linear injection. If  $g$  is in  $\mathfrak{R}^*$ , the kernel of  $g$  can be written  $G = a_o \tilde{G} + G'$  where  $G' = \sum_{i=1}^D a_i G_i$  is in  $C[0, 1]$ . If  $h$  is in  $\mathfrak{H}$  then  $[g, Qh] = \int_0^1 G'(x)(x - x_o)^J h(x)dx$  because  $(x - x_o)^J \delta^{(J-1)}(x - x_o) = 0$ . Therefore, by Schwarz's inequality,  $[g, Qh]^2 \leq \|h\|^2 \int_0^1 G'(x)^2 (x - x_o)^{2J} dx$ . Then  $g^*$  defined by equation (1) is a bounded linear functional on  $\mathfrak{H}$ . Consequently  $Q$  is  $\mathfrak{R}^*$ -Cauchy continuous, so  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  is a quelling of  $(\mathfrak{R}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ . Clearly  $Q^*g$  is the function  $(x - x_o)^J G(x) = (x - x_o)^J G'(x)$  in  $C[0, 1]$ .

If  $m$  is in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  then  $m(x_o) = m^{(1)}(x_o) = \dots = m^{(J-1)}(x_o) = 0$ . If  $m_E$  were in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  the prediction problem would be trivial, so we must extend the quelling. We choose the  $J$  functions  $m_j(x) = (x - x_o)^{j-1}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, J$ . They are linearly independent modulo  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  so we take  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}} = \mathfrak{H} \oplus \mathbf{R}^J$  and if  $\hat{h} = (h, b_1, \dots, b_J)$  is in  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}}$  we take  $\hat{Q}\hat{h} = (x - x_o)^J h(x) + \sum_{j=1}^J b_j(x - x_o)^{j-1}$ . Then  $\hat{Q}(\hat{\mathfrak{H}})$  consists of those functions  $m$  which have  $J-1$  derivatives at  $x_o$  and such that  $h(x) = (x - x_o)^{-J} [m(x) - \sum_{j=1}^J (x - x_o)^{j-1} m^{(j-1)}(x_o)/(j-1)!]$  is continuous in  $[0, 1]$ . Moreover, if  $m$  is in  $\hat{Q}(\hat{\mathfrak{H}})$ ,

$$\|\hat{Q}^{-1}m\|^2 = \int_0^1 h(x)^2 dx + \sum_{j=1}^J [m^{(j-1)}(x_o)/(j-1)!]^2 \quad (4)$$

If the observer will accept an *a priori* bound, equation (3), for  $\|\hat{Q}^{-1}m_E\|$  as defined by equation (4), he can use Paper I of the series to estimate  $\tilde{\gamma} = m^{(J-1)}(x_o)$  from  $\gamma_i = \int_0^1 G_i(x)m_E(x)dx$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, D$ , and to assess the error of his estimate.

To discuss functions of depth defined in both the earth's core and mantle, we may want to permit  $m_E$  to be continuous except for a jump discontinuity of unknown amplitude  $\Delta m_E = m_E(a+) - m_E(a-)$  at a known position  $x = a$  in the open unit interval. As long as  $x_o \neq a$  we can modify  $\mathfrak{M}$  and  $\mathfrak{H}$  to consist of such piecewise continuous functions. However, for a fixed  $m$  with  $\Delta m \neq 0$ , as  $x_o$  approaches  $a$  the right side of equation (4) approaches  $+\infty$ , so for any fixed  $M$  in equation (3) if we let  $x_o$  approach  $a$  we force  $\Delta m$  to zero. The *a priori* bounds  $M$  acceptable in equation (3) when  $\Delta m \neq 0$  and  $x_o$  is close to  $a$  are too large to constrain usefully the prediction  $\tilde{\gamma}$ . The way out of this difficulty is a different extention of  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$ , which we describe only for  $\tilde{G}(x) = \delta(x - x_o)$ . Let  $H(x)$  be the Heaviside step function and let  $H_a(x) = H(x - a)$ . Let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be all functions  $m(x)$  continuous on  $0 \leq x \leq a$  and  $a < x \leq 1$  for which the limit  $m(a+)$  exists, and for any such  $m$  define  $\mathfrak{C}m$ , its continuous part, as  $\mathfrak{C}m = m - (\Delta m)H_a$  where  $\Delta m = m(a+) - m(a)$ . Take  $\mathfrak{H}$  and  $Q$  as before, but set  $m_1(x) = 1$ , and  $m_2(x) = H_a(x)$ . Then  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}} = \mathfrak{H} \oplus \mathbf{R}^2$ , and if  $\hat{h} = (h, b_1, b_2)$  is in  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}}$  then  $\hat{Q}\hat{h} = (x - x_o)h(x) + b_1 + b_2H_a(x)$ . Therefore  $Q(\hat{\mathfrak{H}})$  consists of those functions  $m$  in  $\mathfrak{M}$  such that  $[(\mathfrak{C}m)(x) - (\mathfrak{C}m)(x_o)]/(x - x_o)$  is in  $C[0, 1]$ , and for any such  $m$

$$\|\hat{Q}^{-1}m\|^2 = \int_0^1 \left[ \frac{(\mathfrak{C}m)(x) - (\mathfrak{C}m)(x_o)}{x - x_o} \right]^2 dx + [(\mathfrak{C}m)(x_o)]^2 + [\Delta m]^2.$$

When  $\Delta m \neq 0$ , this expression need not approach  $+\infty$  as  $x_o$  approaches  $a$ . In fact now the bound, equation (3), is simply an upper limit to the sizes of  $\Delta m$  and  $\mathfrak{C}m$  and the slopes of the secants to  $\mathfrak{C}m$  at  $x = a$ .

**Method 2. Quelling by integration:** Another way to make  $\delta^{(J-1)}(x - x_o)$  square integrable is to integrate it  $J$  times from 0 to  $x$ . We take  $\mathfrak{M} = \mathfrak{H} = C[0, 1]$ . The identity

$$(J-1)! \int_0^x d\xi_1 \int_0^{\xi_1} d\xi_2 \dots \int_0^{\xi_{J-1}} d\xi_J h(\xi_J) = \int_0^x d\xi (x - \xi)^{J-1} h(\xi)$$

permits us to define, for any  $h$  in  $\mathfrak{H}$ ,  $Qh = \int_0^x d\xi (x - \xi)^{J-1} h(\xi)$ . Then  $Q: \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{R}^*)$  is a linear injection and if  $g$  is any linear combination of  $g_1, \dots, g_D$  then  $g^*$  defined by equation (1) is a bounded linear functional on  $\mathfrak{H}$ . The crucial observation is that  $\tilde{g}^*$  is also a bounded linear functional on  $\mathfrak{H}$ . In fact,  $[\tilde{g}^*, h] = [g, Qh]$  is obtained by  $J-1$  differentiations of  $Qh$  at  $x_o$  and is  $(J-1)! \int_0^{x_o} h(\xi) d\xi$ . By Schwarz's inequality,  $|[\tilde{g}^*, h]| \leq (J-1)! \|h\|$ . It follows that  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  is a quelling of  $(\mathfrak{R}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ . If  $g$  in  $\mathfrak{R}^*$  has kernel  $G$  then  $J$  integrations by parts show that  $Q^*g = \int_x^1 d\xi (\xi - x)^{J-1} G(\xi)$ . As expected, this is always a square integrable function because  $Q^*\tilde{g} = (-1)^{J-1}(J-1)! H(x_o - x)$ .

If  $m$  is in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$ , then  $m(0) = m^{(1)}(0) = \dots = m^{(J-1)}(0) = 0$ ; the quelling  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  must be extended to eliminate these restrictions. We take  $m_j(x) = x^{j-1}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . Then  $\{m_1, \dots, m_J\}$  are linearly independent modulo  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  so we

define  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}} = \mathfrak{H} \oplus \mathbf{R}^J$  and if  $\hat{h} = (h, b_1, \dots, b_J)$  is in  $\hat{\mathfrak{H}}$  we define  $Q\hat{h} = \sum_{j=1}^J b_j x^{j-1} + \int_0^x d\xi (x - \xi)^{J-1} h(\xi)$ . Then  $m$  is in  $\hat{Q}(\hat{\mathfrak{H}})$  if and only if  $m^{(J)}$  is in  $C[0, 1]$ ; and then

$$\|\hat{Q}^{-1}m\|^2 = \int_0^1 \left[ \frac{m^{(J)}(x)}{(J-1)!} \right]^2 dx + \sum_{j=1}^J \left[ \frac{m^{j-1}(0)}{(j-1)!} \right]^2. \quad (5)$$

As with Method 1, a different extension of  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  is required if  $m_E$  is only piecewise continuously differentiable on  $[0, 1]$ .

**Method 3. Quelling by convolution:** Another way to make  $\delta^{(J-1)}(x - x_0)$  square integrable is to convolute it with a function  $s$  whose  $(J-1)$ 'st derivative is square integrable. For simplicity we assume now that  $\mathfrak{M}$  consists of all functions continuous, bounded and absolutely integrable on the whole real line. We take  $\mathfrak{H} = \mathfrak{M}$  and on  $\mathfrak{H}$  define the inner product  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)g(x)dx$ . For any  $f$  in  $\mathfrak{H}$  we define the Fourier transform  $\mathfrak{F}f$  by  $\mathfrak{F}f(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \exp(-2\pi i k x)dx$ , and if  $f$  and  $g$  are in  $\mathfrak{H}$  we define  $(f*g)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x - \xi)g(\xi)d\xi$ . Then  $\mathfrak{F}(f*g) = (\mathfrak{F}f)(\mathfrak{F}g)$ . We assume that the kernels  $G_1(x), \dots, G_D(x)$  for  $g_1, \dots, g_D$  are in  $\mathfrak{M}$ .

Let  $s$  be a function in  $\mathfrak{M}$  whose  $(J-1)$ 'st derivative is also in  $\mathfrak{M}$  and whose Fourier transform  $\mathfrak{F}s$  never vanishes. If  $h$  is in  $\mathfrak{H}$ , let  $Qh = s*h$ . Then  $\mathfrak{F}(Qh) = (\mathfrak{F}s)(\mathfrak{F}h)$  so  $h$  is uniquely determined by  $Qh$  and  $Q: \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}(\mathfrak{N}^*)$  is a linear injection. Furthermore, for  $i = 1, \dots, D$ ,  $g_i*$  as defined by equation (1) is known<sup>3</sup> to be a bounded linear functional on  $\mathfrak{H}$ . Finally,  $[g^*, h] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} s^{(J-1)}(x - \xi)h(\xi)d\xi$  so by Schwarz's inequality  $\tilde{g}^*$  is also a bounded linear functional on  $\mathfrak{H}$ . Therefore  $Q$  is  $\mathfrak{N}^*$ -Cauchy continuous and  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  is a quelling of  $(\mathfrak{N}^*, \mathfrak{M})$ . Let  $s_-(x) = s(-x)$ . Then if  $g$  in  $\mathfrak{N}^*$  has kernel  $G$ , a change of order of integration in  $[g, Qh]$  shows that  $Q^*g = s_-*G$ .

By the Plancherel theorem,<sup>3</sup> if  $m$  is in  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  then

$$\|Q^{-1}m\|^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\mathfrak{F}m)^2(\mathfrak{F}s)^{-2}dk \quad (6)$$

so with convolution quelling the *a priori* bound, equation (3), is a restriction on the amount of "energy" (squared amplitude) in  $m$ 's Fourier transform at high wave numbers.

Convolution quelling can be applied to the unit interval by using a function  $s$  which is  $(J-1)$  times continuously differentiable on  $\mathbf{R}$  and periodic with unit period. Then  $Qm = s*m$  is defined as  $\int_0^1 s(x - \xi)m(\xi)d\xi$  and Fourier coefficients replace the Fourier transform. In this case  $Q(\mathfrak{H})$  consists of functions  $m$  which are  $(J-1)$  times continuously differentiable on  $[0, 1]$  and satisfy  $m^{(j)}(0) = m^{(j)}(1)$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, J-1$ , so the quelling  $(Q, \mathfrak{H})$  must be extended to be useful. One extension is obtained by taking  $m_j(x) = x^j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ .

**5. Other Prediction Problems.** If  $P \geq 1$  and  $\{g_1, \dots, g_D, \tilde{g}_1, \dots, \tilde{g}_P\}$  involve  $\delta^{(J_1-1)}(x - x_1), \dots, \delta^{(J_P-1)}(x - x_P)$  then Quelling Method 1 in Section 4 will fail, but Methods 2 and 3 work if  $J \geq \max\{J_1, \dots, J_P\}$ . Method 1 can be repaired by defining  $Qh = (x - x_1)^{J_1} \dots (x - x_P)^{J_P}h(x)$ .

When  $G_i = \delta(x - x_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, D$  in Section 4, then that section gives three

different ways of estimating  $[\tilde{g}, m]$  from  $m(x_1), \dots, m(x_D)$ . If  $\tilde{G}(x) = 1$ ,  $[\tilde{g}, m] = \int_0^1 m(x)dx$ , and if  $\tilde{G}(x) = (-1)^{J-1}\delta^{(J-1)}(x - x_o)$  then  $[\tilde{g}, m] = m^{(J-1)}(x_o)$ , so we have three different methods of numerical integration, differentiation, extrapolation, and interpolation. All three quellings on  $[0, 1]$  must be extended to be useful, and with Method 1 when  $G_i = \delta(x - x_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, D$ , the extension requires  $D$  functions  $m_1, \dots, m_D$  and  $m^{(J-1)}(x_o)$  or  $\int_0^1 m(x)dx$  is estimated simply by fitting a linear combination of these  $D$  functions to the  $D$  data points. Even in Method 1, however, a bound on the error in this estimate is obtained which is applicable to a larger class of functions  $m$  than that usually considered in numerical analysis, and Methods 2 and 3 appear to be new ways to perform numerical integration, differentiation, interpolation and extrapolation.

All three quelling methods can be generalized to models  $m$  which are functions defined on subsets of  $\mathbf{R}^N$ . Method 1 needs no modification, nor does Method 3 for functions defined on all of  $\mathbf{R}^N$  or on the surface of the unit sphere in  $\mathbf{R}^N$ . The generalization of Method 2 takes  $Q^{-1}$  to be a differential operator. These generalizations will be discussed in detail elsewhere.

\* Supported in part by National Science Foundation grant GA-1225.

<sup>1</sup> Backus, G., these PROCEEDINGS, **65**, 281 (1970).

<sup>2</sup> Backus, G., and F. Gilbert, *Geophys. J. Roy. Astr. Soc.*, **16**, 169 (1968).

<sup>3</sup> Bochner, S., and K. Chandrasekharan, *Fourier Transforms* (Princeton, 1949), pp. 6 and 112.