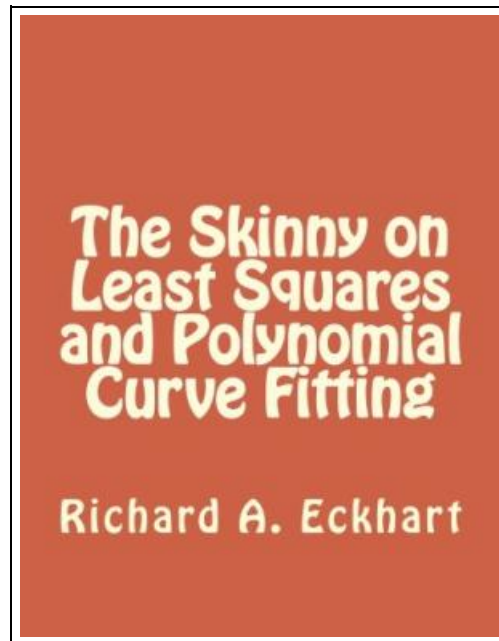


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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2013. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand new Book. THE SKINNY This book gives you the skinny.the inside information, the real facts.about the method of least squares and polynomial curve fitting in a skinny.very thin, compact.format. This is a 'How to.' book presented in a format resembling a cookbook. As a consequence, mathematical derivations, proofs, theory, etc. are relegated to the Appendix. GENERAL BACKGROUND AND REVIEW Curve fitting is generally of interest for one of two reasons: (1) to allow the interpolation of an array or table of data; or (2) to allow the extrapolation of those data. In this book we focus on fitting data with an analytical polynomial in two dimensions, so that the data can either be interpolated or extrapolated. More specifically, we focus on the method of least squares where it is desired to represent the entire data array with a single smooth analytical function. LEAST SQUARES METHOD The least squares method is not new. The method finds the best line to represent a set of data points such that the sum of the squares of the vertical distances of each data point from the proposed line is a minimum. Discussion of the method is frequently limited to a discussion of the use of least squares for establishing a linear trend or straight-line model of the data. In this book, we show how the least squares criterion can be used to find the best quadratic and cubic polynomial data models in addition to the linear model. Higher-order polynomial models also follow from the development presented here. The method is frequently described or classified as a regression analysis technique. Regression implies the application of statistical methods in its analysis. However, there are no statistical methods applied to the development in this...



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