
31606 Signals and Linear Systems in discrete time

Hands on 9
Group 1

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How finite should it be?

i) Like a hot knife through a Butterworth We are asked to design a filter meeting the following requirements:

- Passband from 0.2 to 0.3
- Stopbands from 0 to 0.1 and 0.4 to 1
- Ripples in passband no greater than 2dB
- Stopband attenuation min. 100dB

While the headline does imply that a butterworth filter could be used, this does not allow us to utilize that ripples in both the stop and passband are accepted.

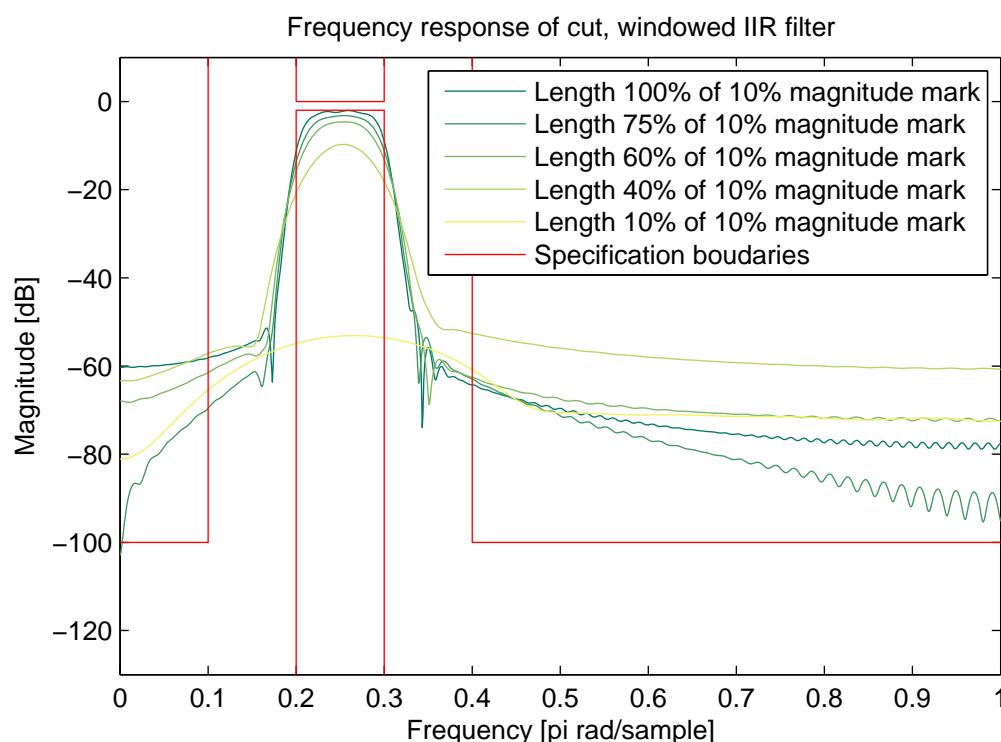


Figure 1: blablabla

1.2 Shorter and shorter

We are tasked with creating a filter for which the specification has been partly destroyed by a coffee addict. Luckily, the surviving information is sufficient to create the original information.

The filter should pass all frequencies between 0 and 5kHz with a gain on 0dB, this means the filter is a lowpass filter. As we can see from the sketched frequency response, 5kHz corresponds to one sixth of the sampling frequency since a normalised frequency of 1 corresponds to the nyquist frequency. The sampling frequency is 30kHz. Additionally the impulse response of the filter should be 601 samples long, meaning our filter is of the 600th order as it is a FIR filter where the length of the impulse response is $N + 1$ where N is the order of the filter.

The filter can be constructed in Matlab using the frequency domain equivalence method. This means we construct a perfect lowpass filter in the frequency domain, and sample it

at the frequency bins given by our signal length. Our signal is 601 samples long, which

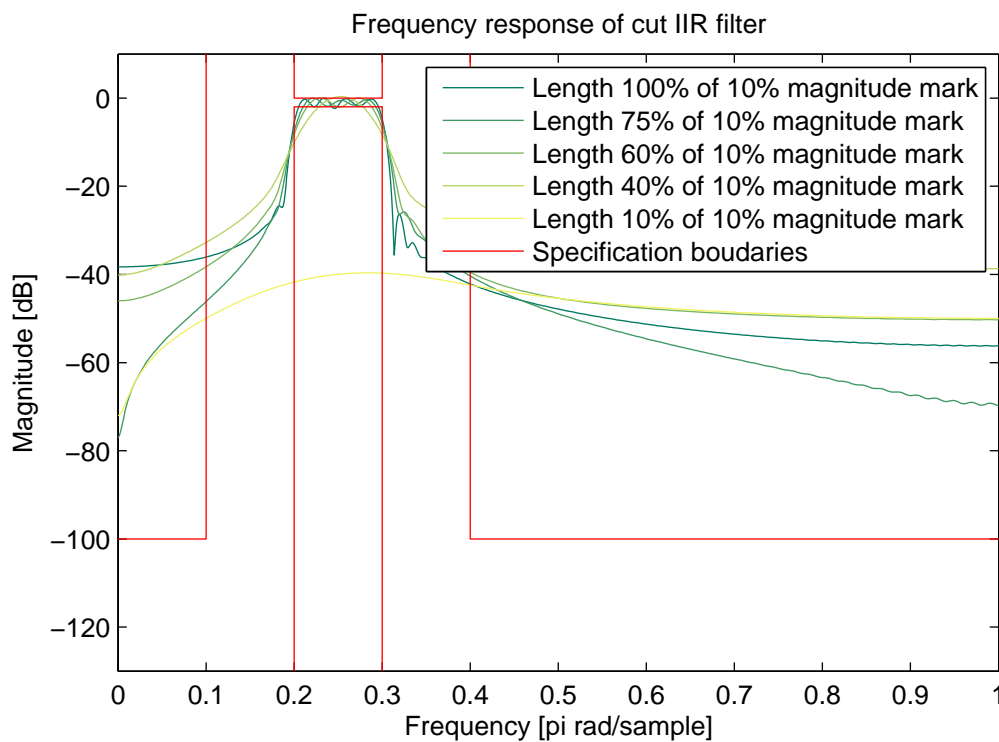


Figure 2: blablabla

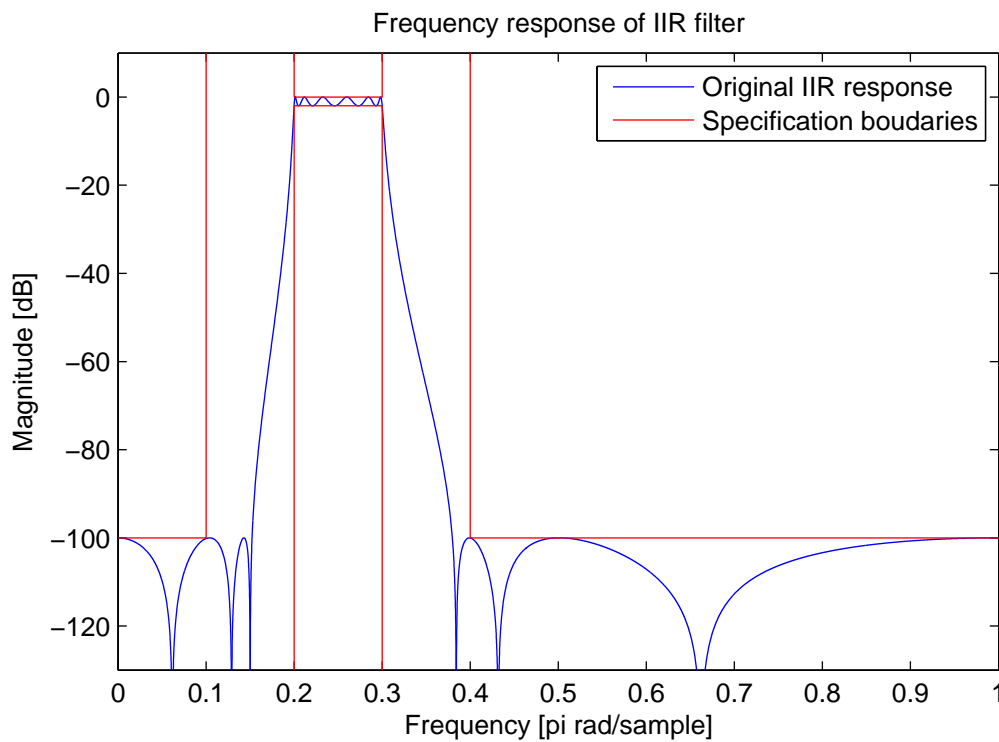


Figure 3: blablabla

at 30kHz yields a period of 0.02 seconds, meaning that bins in the frequency domain are separated by 50Hz. After sampling our perfect lowpass filter, we transform back to the time domain and delay by $\frac{N-1}{2}$ samples, obtaining the impulse response shown in figure 6 which is, not surprisingly, a time-shifted sinc function.

Since we want to please our boss, we decide to try minimizing the resources required to implement the filter. We do this by reducing the length of the impulse response and applying an appropriate window to reduce high-frequency components. We choose to use the hamming filter, applied to impulse responses of varying lengths shown in figure ???. In the end we conclude that the filter with an impulse response length of 201 samples is actually better when windowed than the original impulse response in terms of rolloff without sacrificing any significant gain in the passband.

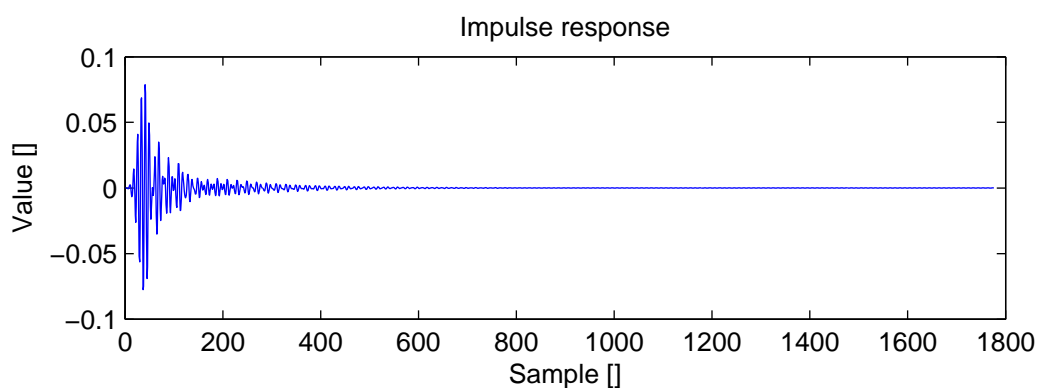


Figure 4: blablabla

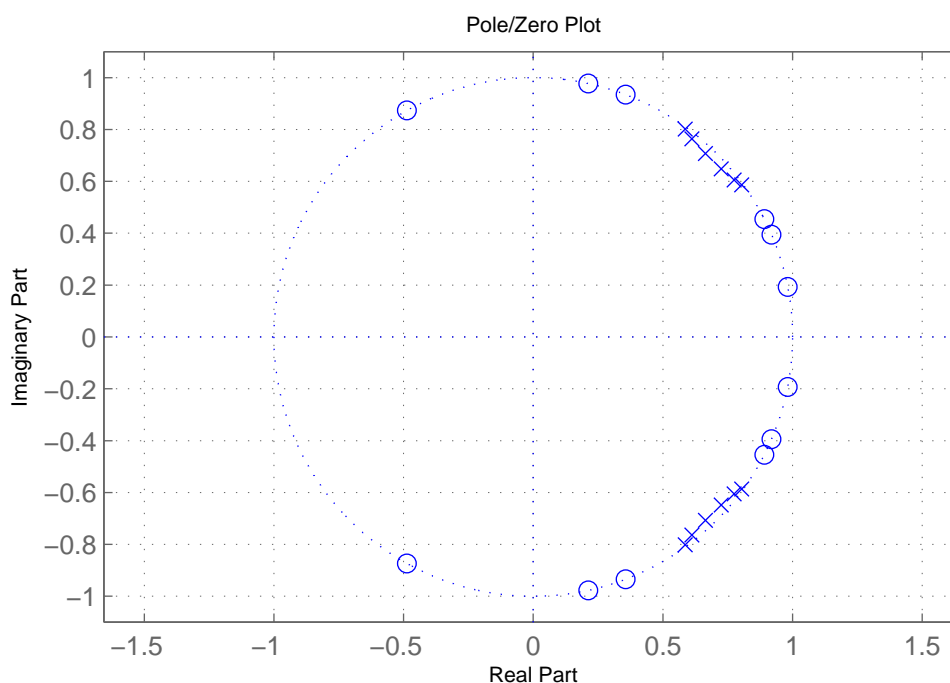


Figure 5: blablabla

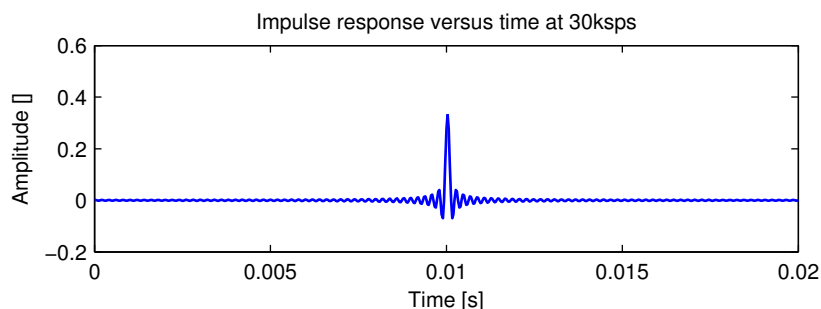


Figure 6: Impulse response of the 600th order FIR filter created by sampling a perfect low-pass filter in the frequency domain and transforming back to the time domain. It is a time-shifted sampled sinc function.

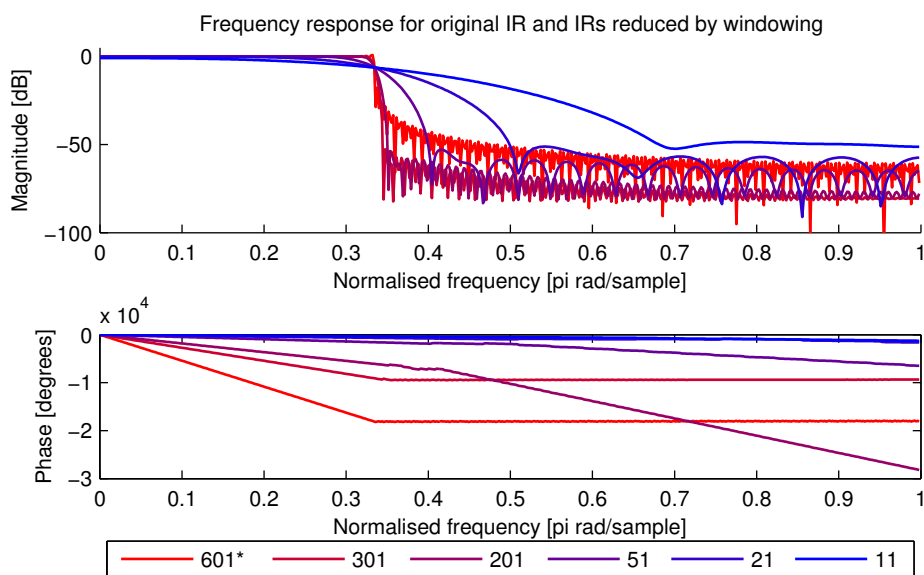


Figure 7: Frequency response of the *original impulse response as well as the impulse responses reduced in length by windowing with a hamming window. Legend shows the length of the impulse response in samples. It is clear that the windowed impulse responses have better maximum attenuation all the way to down to 11 samples, however the rolloff is worse for impulse responses shorter than 300 samples. Beyond 51 samples the filter behaviour is completely unsatisfactory for our purposes. 201 would be the best compromise between performance and cost. Note that the phase is linear until the cutoff frequency after which the sawtooth pattern is caused by the inability to represent small changes with floating point numbers at those magnitudes.

III From bass/treble to an equalizer

The task is to implement a tunable FIR equalizer with five equally spaced (linear scale) bands. Using the frequency domain equivalence method the FIR filter coefficients can be determined by defining the magnitude response, transforming to the time-domain, windowing and translating to obtain a causal response. A function that constructs the filter coefficients was implemented where filter order and window type are parameters. The code is shown in Figure 8.

```

1 function [h] = equalizer5band(G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, n, W);
   %INPUT: Band gains: G1, G2, G3, G4, G5. Approximate length: n. Window: W.
3 %OUTPUT: Impulse response/FIR filter coefficients: h.
   m = round(n/10);
5 H = [G1*ones(1, m) , G2*ones(1, m) , G3*ones(1, m) , G4*ones(1, m) , ...
      G5*ones(1, m) , G5*ones(1, m) , G4*ones(1, m) , G3*ones(1, m) , ...
      G2*ones(1, m) , G1*ones(1, m)];
7 h = ifftshift(ifft(H, 'symmetric'));
9 L = length(h);
   if W == 0 %rectangular window (technically unnecessary code)
11    h = h; %do nothing
   elseif W == 1
13    h = h.*hanning(L)';
   elseif W == 2
15    h = h.*hamming(L)';
   end
17 end %eof

```

Figure 8: The equalizer5band function used to generate the FIR filter coefficients.

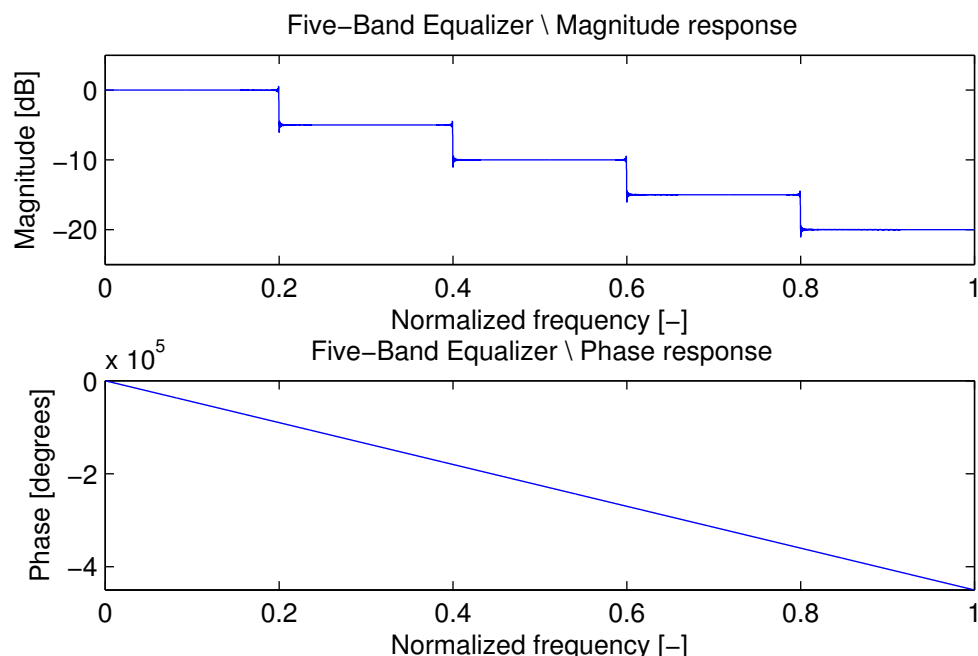


Figure 9: Magnitude and phase response of the transfer function of a five-band FIR equalizer with band gains decreasing in steps of 5 dB from the lowest to the highest normalized frequency. Ringing at the edges is caused by the use of a rectangular window in this case. See Figure 8. The filter order in this case is 4999 (IR length 5000).

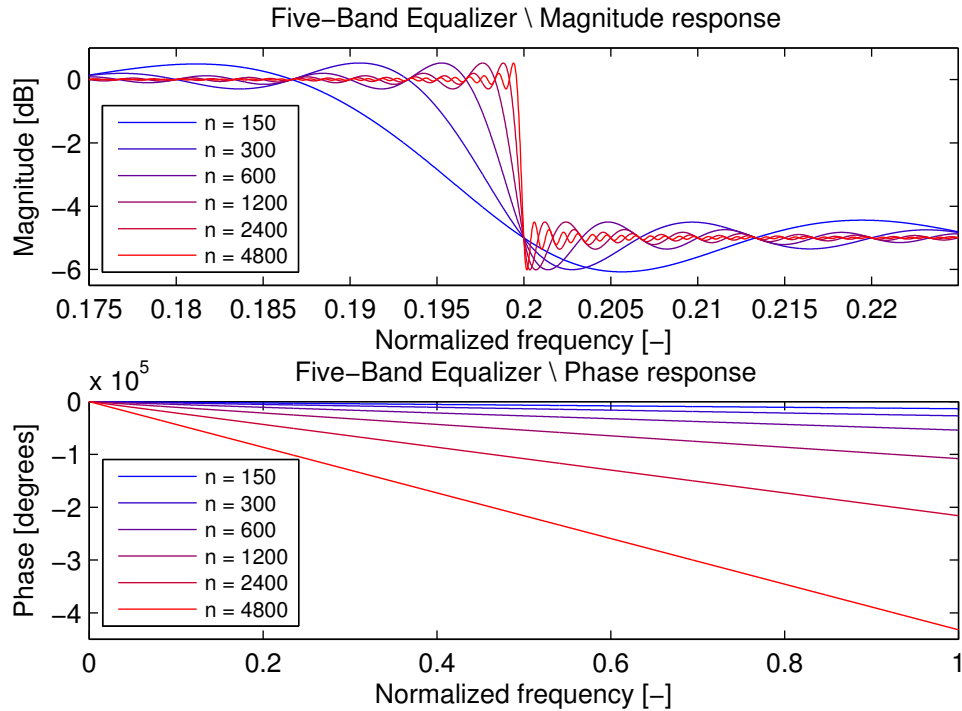


Figure 10: Equalizer frequency response (rectangular window function) for several IR lengths n . Ringing caused by the discontinuous rectangular window is clear and increases with the order. The phase response is linear, since the filter type is FIR and had zero-phase before translation.

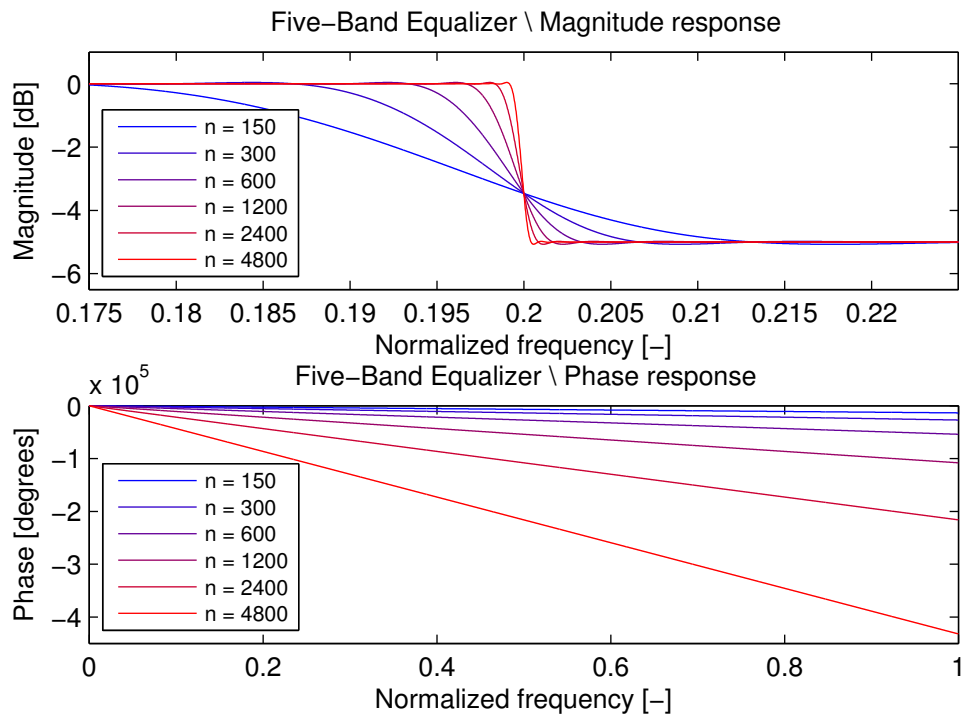


Figure 11: Equalizer frequency response (using Hann window function) for several IR lengths n . Compare with Figure 10 to see the clear improvement in smoothness of the magnitude response. Note also that the slope of the phase response is proportional to the IR length (also Figure 10). This is also as expected since a time translation by τ corresponds to a phase shift proportional to τ .

Higher order results in a greater phase slope and therefore more initial delay (besides the cost), but the approximation is much better. The relations between order, phase and approximation are illustrated in Figure 10 (rectangular window function) and Figure 11 (Hann window function). A filter order of 499 (corresponding to IR length $n = 500$) may be chosen for practical purposes (e.g. equalizing music), since an order of this size gives a somewhat reasonable approximation without too many samples (less processing time, less memory usage and less delay as benefits). The magnitude response in Figure 11 show that this choice is middle ground.

Zero-padding the IR increases samples in the time domain and hence in the frequency domain. The spectral resolution increases with the number of samples. By comparing the resulting plots this effect was observed in the magnitude response (but not in the phase response however). Choosing a smoother window gives a less pronounced effect (since there is less ringing).

The result of processing white noise using the equalizer settings in Figure 9 is shown in Figure 12. As expected, a stepwise descent corresponding to the magnitude response can be clearly seen.

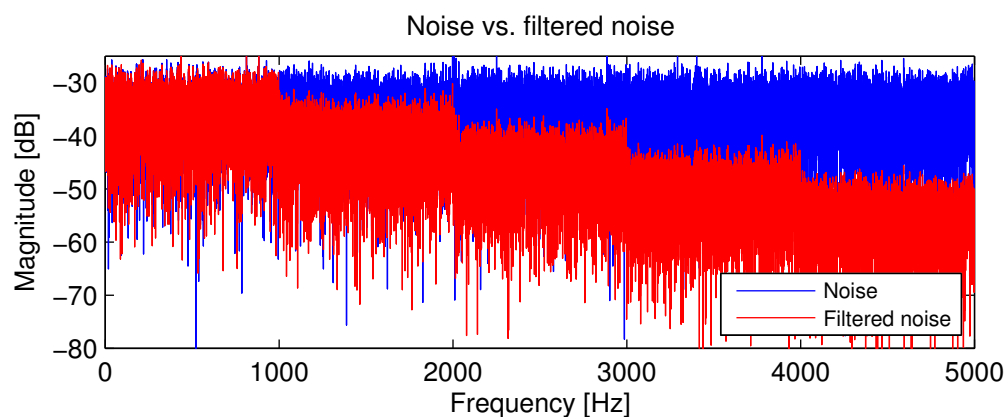


Figure 12: White noise signal filtered using the frequency response from Figure 9 (order 4999). The expected descent by 5 dB for each step is clearly visible in the output spectrum.

The result of processing `piano.wav` using the equalizer settings in Figure 9 is shown in Figure 13. A stepwise descent is no longer clear, but attenuation appears to increase steadily with frequency.

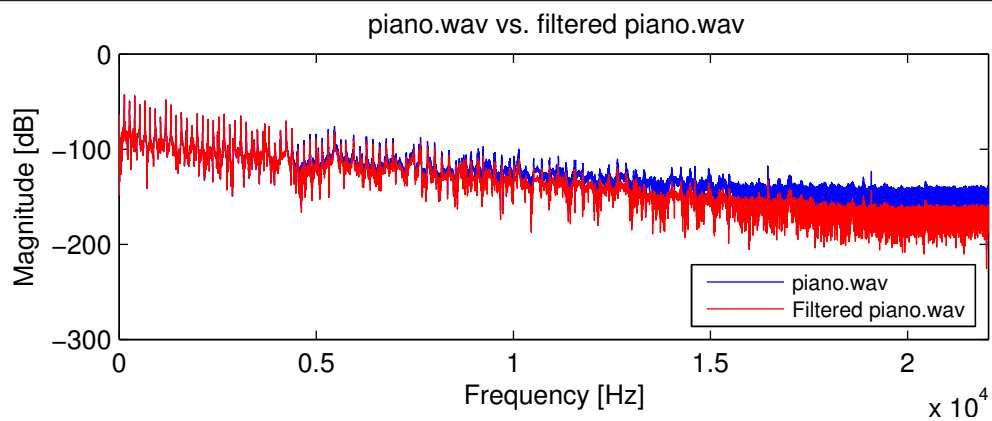


Figure 13: Sound `piano.wav` filtered using the frequency response from Figure 9 (order 4999). Attenuation increases steadily in accordance with the magnitude response of the applied filter.