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# The Choice of the Smoothing Parameter for Alpha Stable Signals

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**Abstract**—In this work we consider the class of symmetric alpha stable processes which are a particular family of processes with infinite energy. These processes used in modeling the random signals with indefinitely growing variance. The spectral density estimator of such signals is given in the literature by smoothing the periodogram by a spectral window. Thus, the estimator depends on the width of the spectral window considered as a smoothing parameter. The choice of this parameter plays an important role since the rate of convergence of the estimator is a function of this parameter. The objective of this paper is to propose a method giving the optimal parameter based on the cross validation technique (minimization of MISE: Mean Integrate Square of Error). We establish a criterion function and we prove that the mean of this criterion converges to MISE. Thus, we show that the value minimizing this criterion is the optimal smoothing parameter. The rate of convergence of the estimator has been studied in order to prove that the smoothing parameter obtained by this method gives the fastest convergence of the estimator towards the spectral density.

**Index Terms**—alpha stable, cross validation, spectral density, spectral window

## I. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, a class of symmetric alpha stable signals has been considered. It is a particular family of processes with infinite energy. Theory of these processes have been covered in a numerous papers including [1]-[6] to name a few.

Symmetric alpha processes are considerably accurate model for many phenomenon in several fields such as: physics, biology, electronic and electric, hydrology, economics, communications and radar applications, (see [7]-[17]). In this work, a symmetric stable harmonizable process is precisely discussed  $Z = \{Z_n; n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  Alternatively  $Z$  has the integral representation:

$$Z_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \exp[in\lambda] d\xi(\lambda)$$

where  $1 < \alpha < 2$  and  $\xi$  is a complex valued symmetric  $\alpha$ -stable random measure on  $R$  with independent and isotropic increments. The measure defined by  $m(A) = |\xi(A)|_{\alpha}^{\alpha}$  (see [4]) is called the control measure or spectral measure. Suppose that this measure is absolutely continuous with respect to Lebesgue measure:  $md(x) =$

$\phi(x)dx$ . The function  $\phi$  is called the spectral density. The spectral density function was already estimated when the time of the process is continuous by [4], when the time of the process is discrete by [18] and when the time of the process is p-adic by [19].

The estimators of the spectral density proposed in literature use a smoothing parameter that satisfies certain conditions. The rate of convergence depends on this smoothing parameter. The choice of this parameter becomes problematic insofar as there are several parameters that satisfy these conditions. Few works deal with the choice of this parameter. The contribution of this work consists in giving, from the data, a criterion for choosing the optimal smoothing parameters allowing the estimators to converge as quickly as possible towards the spectral density. The originality of this work is the use of cross-validation to set up a criterion to choose the smoothing parameter minimizing the quadratic error in the spectral estimates for alpha stable processes. Cross validation has proven its worth in several situations, but this work uses it for the first time in the estimations of the spectral density of stable alpha processes.

This paper is organized as follows: section I is reserved to recall the periodogram and its smoothing to obtain a spectral density estimator. In section II we give the cross validation criterion. Section III show that criterion give the optimum parameter. The section IV is reserved for the numerical studies and simulation

## II. PERIODOGRAM AND ITS PROPRIETIES

This paper considers a (SaS) process where its spectral representation is

$$Z_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{in\lambda} d\xi(\lambda) \quad (1)$$

where  $\xi$  is a isotropic symmetric  $\alpha$ -stable with independent increments

The measure defined by:  $\mu([s, t]) = |\xi(t) - \xi(s)|_{\alpha}^{\alpha}$  is Lebesgue-Stiel measure called the spectral measure (see [1] and [3]). When  $\mu$  is absolutely continuous  $d\mu(x) = f(x)dx$ , the function  $f$  is called the spectral density of the process  $Z$ .

As in [18], [20] and [21], we give the definition of the Jackson polynomial kernel:

Let  $Z_1, \dots, Z_N$  observations of the process  $Z : (Z_n)_{0 \leq n \leq N-1}$ , where  $N$  satisfies:

$$N - 1 = 2k(n - 1) \text{ with } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ } k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{1/2\}$$

$$\text{If } = 1/2 \text{ then } n = 2n_1 - 1, n_1 \in \mathbb{N}.$$

The Jackson's polynomial kernel is defined by:

$$|H_N(\lambda)|^\alpha = |A_N H^{(N)}(\lambda)|^\alpha \quad (2)$$

where

$$H^{(N)}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{q_{k,n}} \left( \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n\lambda}{2}\right)}{\sin\left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)} \right)^{2k}$$

$$\text{with } q_{k,n} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left( \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n\lambda}{2}\right)}{\sin\left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)} \right)^{2k} d\lambda.$$

and  $A_N = (B_{\alpha,N})^{-\frac{1}{\alpha}}$  with  $B_{\alpha,N} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |H^{(N)}(\lambda)|^\alpha d\lambda$ .  
We give the following lemmas proved in [18].

**Lemma 1.**

There is a nonnegative function  $h_k$  such as:

$$H^{(N)}(\lambda) = \sum_{m=-k(n-1)}^{k(n-1)} h_k\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) \cos(m\lambda)$$

Let

$$B'_{\alpha,N} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n\lambda}{2}\right)}{\sin\left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)} \right|^{2k\alpha} d\lambda$$

and  $J_{N,\alpha} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |u|^\gamma |H_N(\lambda)|^\alpha d\lambda$ , where  $\gamma \in ]0,2]$ .

$$\text{Then } B'_{\alpha,N} \begin{cases} \geq 2\pi \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^{2k\alpha} n^{2k\alpha-1} \text{ if } 0 < \alpha < 2 \\ \leq \frac{4\pi k\alpha}{2k\alpha-1} n^{2k\alpha-1} \text{ if } \frac{1}{2k} < \alpha < 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{and } J_{N,\alpha} \leq \begin{cases} \frac{\pi^{\gamma+2k\alpha}}{2^{2k\alpha}(\gamma-2k\alpha+1)} n^{2k\alpha-1} \text{ if } \frac{1}{2k} < \alpha < \frac{\gamma+1}{2k}, \\ \frac{2k\alpha\pi^{\gamma+2k\alpha}}{2^{2k\alpha}(\gamma+1)(2k\alpha-\gamma-1)} \frac{1}{n^\gamma} \text{ if } \frac{\gamma+1}{2k} < \alpha < 2. \end{cases}$$

The following lemma is proved in [1].

**Lemma 2.**

If  $\xi$  is a  $(S, \alpha, S)$  process with independent and isotropic increments, then

$$E \left[ \exp \left( i \operatorname{Re} \left[ i \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(u) d\xi(u) \right] \right) \right] = \exp \left( -C_\alpha \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |f(u)|^\alpha d\mu(u) \right)$$

where  $C_\alpha = (2\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\cos(\theta)|^\alpha d\mu(u)$ .

In this paper, we propose the following periodogram defined by

$$d_N(\lambda) = A_N \sum_{n'=-k(n-1)}^{k(n-1)} h_k(n'/n) (e^{-in'\lambda}) X(n' + k(n' - 1)).$$

Using the lemma 2 we show that

$$E \exp(i \operatorname{Re} d_N(\lambda)) = \exp(-C_\alpha |r|^\alpha \psi_N(\lambda))$$

where

$$\psi_N(\lambda) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| A_N \sum_{n'=-k(n-1)}^{k(n-1)} h_k(n'/n) e^{-in'\lambda} e^{in'u} \right|^\alpha \phi(u) du$$

Thus

$$\psi_N(\lambda) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |H_N(\lambda - u) - H_N(u)|^\alpha \phi(u) du$$

We modify this periodogram by taking the power  $p$ ,  $0 < p < \frac{\alpha}{2}$ , and multiplying by a normalization constant:

$$I_N(\lambda) = C_{(p,\alpha)} |d_N(\lambda)|^p$$

The normalization constant is given by

$$C_{(p,\alpha)} = \frac{D_p}{F_{p,\alpha} C_\alpha^{p/\alpha}}$$

where  $D_p = \int \frac{1-\cos(u)}{|u|^{1+p}} du$  and  $F_{p,\alpha} = \int \frac{1-e^{-|u|^\alpha}}{|u|^{1+p}} du$

As in [3] and [18], we show that

$$E I_N(\lambda) = (\psi_N(\lambda))^\frac{p}{\alpha}$$

$$\text{and } \operatorname{Var}(I_N(\lambda)) = V_{\alpha,p} \psi_N(\lambda)^\frac{2p}{\alpha}$$

III. SMOOTHED PERIODOGRAM

In order to give an unbiased consistent estimate of  $\phi$ , we smooth  $\hat{I}_N$  by a the following spectral window:

$$f_N(\lambda) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} W_N(\lambda - u) I_N(u) du$$

where the spectral window is defined by  $W_N(x) = M_N W(M_N x)$  where  $W$  is a nonnegative even continuous function vanishing for  $|x| > 1$  with  $\int_{-1}^1 W(x) dx = 1$  and  $M_N$  is sequence converging to infinity such that  $\frac{M_N}{N} \rightarrow 0$ .

As in [20] for giving the best rate of convergence of this estimator, we introduce on  $\phi$  two hypothesis  $(h_1)$  and  $(h_2)$  called regularity hypothesis:

$$(h_1): |\phi(\lambda - u) - \phi(\lambda)| \leq C_1 |u|^\gamma \text{ where } 0 < \gamma \leq 1$$

$$(h_2) : |\phi(\lambda - u) - \phi(\lambda) - u\phi'(\lambda)| \leq C_2 |u|^\gamma \text{ where } 1 \leq \gamma \leq 2$$

$C_1$  and  $C_2$  being nonnegative constants.

$$\text{Note by } f(\lambda) = \phi(\lambda)^\frac{p}{\alpha}$$

**Theorem 1.**

Let  $\lambda$  a real number. Then

(i)  $f_N(\lambda)$  is an asymptotically unbiased estimator of the  $f(\lambda)$

(ii) Choosing  $k$  so large that  $+1 < 2kan$  we have

$$E f_N(\lambda) - f(\lambda) = \begin{cases} O\left(\frac{1}{M_N^\gamma}\right) \text{ if } \phi \text{ satisfies } (h_1) \\ O\left(\frac{1}{M_N}\right) \text{ if } \phi \text{ satisfies } (h_2) \end{cases}$$

(iii)  $\operatorname{Var}(f_N(\lambda))$  converges to zero.

(vi) If  $\phi$  satisfies  $(h_1)$  or  $(h_2)$  and  $M_N^2/n$  converges to zero then  $\operatorname{Var}(f_N(\lambda)) = O\left(\frac{M_N^4}{n^2}\right)$

The proof of this theorem is inspired by the demonstration used in [18].

**Theorem 2.**

Let  $\lambda$  a real number such that  $\phi(\lambda) > 0$ . Then

$(f_N(\lambda))^{\frac{\alpha}{p}}$  converges in probability to  $\phi(\lambda)$ .

Proof

We show that  $f_N(\lambda)$  converges in mean quadratic to  $f(\lambda)$ . Indeed

$$E \left| f_N(\lambda) - \phi(\lambda)^{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \right|^2 = (E f_N(\lambda) - \phi(\lambda)^{\frac{p}{\alpha}})^2 + Var(f_N(\lambda)).$$

Then from theorem 1,  $E \left| f_N(\lambda) - \phi(\lambda)^{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \right|^2$  converges to zero. Thus  $(f_N(\lambda))^{\frac{\alpha}{p}}$  converges in probability to  $(\phi(\lambda))^{\frac{\alpha}{p}} = f(\lambda)$ .

It is clear that the choice of  $M_N$  plays an important role since the convergence speeds depend on this smoothing parameter. The paper [22] gave a criterion of choice of  $h$  in the one-dimensional case, they were restricted to the parametric case. The objective of this work is to give a criterion for the selection of these parameters by non-parametric methods. Let's note by  $h = \frac{1}{M_N}$  the width of the spectral window. We are therefore looking for a criterion  $CV(h)$  allowing us to select  $h$  minimize the mean integrated square error (MISE), where

$$MISE(h) = \int E[f_N(x) - f(x)]^2 \rho(x) dx \quad (3)$$

$\rho$  being a weight function that is assumed to be known and null outside of  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

Although  $MISE(h)$  it is a good measure of the quality of  $f_N$ , it can not help us to choose  $h$ , since it depends on the unknown function  $f$ . We will therefore try to estimate it. For this, we adopt the method of cross validation that has been proposed by [22]. Indeed, consider the integrated square error (ISE) defined by:

$$ISE(h) = \int [f_N(x) - f(x)]^2 \rho(x) dx = A - 2C + B$$

$$\text{where } A = \int_0^{2\pi} f_N^2(x) \rho(x) dx$$

$$C = \int_0^{2\pi} f_N(x) f(x) \rho(x) dx$$

$$B = \int_0^{2\pi} f^2(x) \rho(x) dx.$$

Since  $B$  is Independent of  $h$ , to choice  $h$ , minimizing  $ISE(h)$  is to choose  $h$  minimising  $A - 2C$ . We can calculate the term  $A$  since we know  $f_N$ , whereas, in the term  $C$ , since  $f$  is unknown. We proceed by the principle of "leave-out- $I$ ".

IV. CONSTRUCTION OF THE CROSS VALIDATED ESTIMATOR

In this section, we will define the estimator and give some results in the form of a proposition or theorem.

Let  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ . The construction of "leave-out- $I$ " consist of find an estimator  $f_N^j(\omega_j)$  that replace  $f_N(\omega_j)$  in the expression of  $C$  and such that  $I_N(\omega_j)$  and

$f_N^j(\omega_j)$  are asymptotically independent. Thus, we can estimate  $C$  by:

$$\frac{1}{\bar{N}} \sum_{j=1}^{\bar{N}} f_N^j(\omega_j) I_N(\omega_j) \rho(\omega_j)$$

$$\frac{1}{\bar{N}} \sum_{j=1}^{\bar{N}} f_N^j(\omega_j) I_N(\omega_j) \rho(\omega_j) \text{ where } \omega_j = \frac{2\pi j}{\bar{N}},$$

$$\bar{N} = \left[ \frac{N-1}{2} \right], f_N^j(x) = \int_0^{2\pi} I_N^j(u) W_N(x-u) du \text{ with}$$

$$I_N^j(u) = I_N(u) \text{ si } u \notin A_j$$

$$I_N^j(u) = \theta_1(u) I_N(\omega_{j+1}) + \theta_2(u) I_N(\omega_{j-1}) \text{ sinon}$$

$$A_j = ]\omega_{j-1}, \omega_{j+1}[,$$

where

$$\theta_1(u) = \alpha; \theta_2(u) = (1 - \alpha) \text{ with } \alpha = \frac{u - \omega_{j+1}}{\omega_{j-1} - \omega_{j+1}}.$$

The following proposition shows that  $f_N^j$  and  $f_N$  have asymptotically same limit.

**Proposition 1.** We obtain that

$$E[f_N^j(x) - f_N(x)] = O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right).$$

From this result, we establish our criterion, noted  $CV$  "cross validation", defined by:

$$CV(h) = CV_1(h) + \int_0^{2\pi} f^2(u) \rho(u) du \text{ where}$$

$$CV_1(h) = \int_0^{2\pi} f_N^2(u) \rho(u) du - \frac{2}{\bar{N}} \sum_{j=1}^{\bar{N}} f_N^j(\omega_j) I_N(\omega_j) \rho(\omega_j)$$

We choose the optimal widths of spectral window  $\hat{h}$  the value of  $h$  minimizing the criterion  $CV(h)$ :

$$\hat{h} = \underset{h}{\operatorname{argmin}} CV(h) = \underset{h}{\operatorname{argmin}} CV_1(h) \quad (4)$$

Subsequently, to facilitate writing and without losing generality, we will take  $\rho(u) = \frac{1}{2\pi}$  sur  $[0, 2\pi]$  and null outside.

V. OPTIMALITY OF THE CRITERION

In this section, we establish results similar to those given by [23] and [24], concerning the estimation of the intensities of a punctual process. It is to show that, on average, when  $N$  are large enough, the criterion  $CV(h)$  is approximately equal to the integrated quadratic error  $ISE(h)$  and that the variance of  $CV(h)$  is asymptotically zero. This allows us to confirm that the parameters  $\hat{h}$  minimizing the criterion  $CV(h)$  are close to those that minimize the integral squared error (ISE) when  $N$  are large enough. These results are stated in the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.** We have

$$|E\{CV(h) - ISE(h)\}| = O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right).$$

$$\operatorname{var}\{CV(h)\} = O\left(\frac{1}{Nh}\right)$$

Thus, since

$$E\{[CV(h) - MISE(h)]^2\} = \text{var}\{CV(h)\} + [E\{CV(h) - MISE(h)\}]^2 = O\left(\frac{1}{Nh}\right).$$

The widths of the spectral window  $\hat{h}$  obtained by cross validation, defined in (6), are asymptotically optimal, i.e. the integrated square error at  $\hat{h}$  converges in probability to the small integrated square error:

**Theorem 2.** The width of the spectral window  $\hat{h}$  obtained by cross validation are asymptotically optimal:

$\frac{ISE(\hat{h})}{ISE(\hat{h}_1)} \rightarrow 1$  en probabilité, where

$$\hat{h} = \underset{h}{\operatorname{argmin}} CV(h) \text{ and } (\hat{h}_1) = \underset{h}{\operatorname{argmin}} ISE(h).$$

To show this result we use the similar technique used in [25] and [26].

### VI. SUMILATION

The proposed estimator can be applied to concrete situations. For example, the transmission signal for the future generation of wireless and radio communication systems where multipath propagation leads to a significant degradation of the quality of the transmission. To solve this problem, the paper [11] proposed an arrival time model based on Poisson distributions. The paper [27] provided a model based on stable alpha distributions. The sum of arrival times modeled by independent and isotropic Poisson distributions can be represented by a stable harmonizable process like that given in (1), see [28].

Throughout this section, we give the simulation of the studied process:

$$Z_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{in\lambda} d\xi(\lambda)$$

where  $1 < \alpha < 2$  and  $\xi$  is a complex symmetric  $\alpha$ -stable measure on  $R$  with independent and isotropic increments and with control measure  $m$  such that  $m dx = \phi(x) dx$ .

In order to achieve this, we use the series representation defined in [28]. Therefore, the process  $Z$  given in (8) can be expressed as follows:

$$Z_n = C_\alpha \left( \int \phi(x) dx \right)^{1/\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \varepsilon_j \Gamma_j^{-1/\alpha} e^{inV_j} e^{i\theta_j}$$

- $\varepsilon_j$  is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables such as  $P[\varepsilon_j = 0] = P[\varepsilon_j = 1] = 1/2$ ,

- $\Gamma_k$  is a sequence of arrival times of Poisson process,

- $V_j$  is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables independent of  $\varepsilon_k$  and of  $\Gamma_k$  having the same distribution of control measure  $m$ , which has probability density  $\phi$

- $\theta_j$  are independent random variables, having the uniform distribution on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ , independent of  $\varepsilon_j$ ,  $\Gamma_j$  and  $V_j$ .

To generate  $N$  values ( $N = 5001$ ) of the process  $Z_n$ , we use the following steps:

- generate 5000 values of  $\varepsilon_j$
- generate 5000 values of  $\Gamma_j$
- generate 5000 values of  $V_j$
- generate 5000 values of  $\theta_j$

Then we calculate for all  $0 \leq n \leq N$ :

$$Z_n = C_\alpha \left( \int \phi(x) dx \right)^{1/\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^{2000} \varepsilon_j \Gamma_j^{-1/\alpha} e^{inV_j} e^{i\theta_j}$$

where the spectral density is chosen as  $f(x) = (\phi(x))^{1/\alpha} = |x|^2 e^{-|x|}$  for  $x \in [-\pi, \pi]$  and  $f(x) = 0$  otherwise and  $\alpha = 1,7$ .

We calculate the function  $CV_1(h)$  for  $h \in [0,1]$ . The curve of  $CV_1$  is plotted on  $[0,1]$  in Fig. 1.

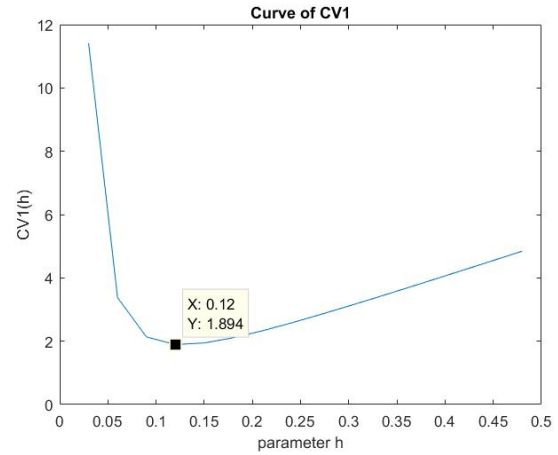


Figure 1. Curve of  $CV_1$ .

From the curve of  $CV_1$  we determine the value of  $h$  where  $CV_1$  is minimum:  $\hat{h} = \underset{h}{\operatorname{argmin}} CV_1(h) = 0.12$ . Thus we deducing the optimal value of  $M_N = \frac{1}{\hat{h}}$ .

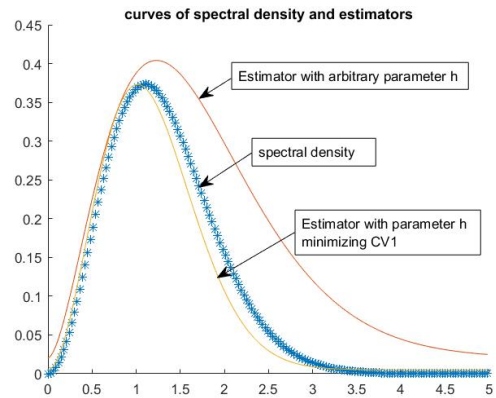


Figure 2. Curves of spractral density, its estimators.

Fig. 2 gives the curves of spectra density  $f$ , estimator of  $f$  with arbitrary parameter  $h$  and estimator of  $f$  with arbitrary parameter  $\hat{h}$ . We find that the estimator with the parameter  $\hat{h}$  gives a better estimate.

### VII. CONCLUSION

We give an estimator of the constant additive error in spectral representation of (S  $\alpha$  S) process. This work could be applied to several cases when processes have an infinite variance and the observation of these processes are perturbed by a constant noise. For example:

- the decomposition of audio signals with background noise by separating the different musical instruments.
- the denoising of a degraded historical record. The signal is considered infinitely variable.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author declare no conflict of interest.

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