

Fractal interpolation functions with partial self similarity <sup>☆</sup>

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## ARTICLE INFO

## Article history:

Received 3 February 2016  
Available online 23 April 2018  
Submitted by B. Bongiorno

## Keywords:

Fractals  
Interpolation  
Fractal interpolation functions  
Fixed points  
Self similarity

## ABSTRACT

Let a data set  $\Delta = \{(t_i, y_i) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbf{Y} : i = 0, 1, \dots, N\}$  be given, where  $t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_N$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  is a complete metric space. In this article, fractal interpolation functions (FIFs) on  $I = [t_0, t_N]$  corresponding to the set  $\Delta$  are constructed by mappings  $W_1, \dots, W_N$ . Each  $W_k$  is of the form  $W_k = (L_k, M_k)$ , where  $L_k : J_k \rightarrow I_k$  is a homeomorphism and  $M_k : J_k \times \mathbf{Y} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$  is continuous. Here  $I_k = [t_{k-1}, t_k]$  and  $J_k = [t_{j(k)}, t_{l(k)}]$ ,  $j(k), l(k) \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ , are subintervals of  $I$  which depend on  $k$ . In this construction, the length of  $J_k$  is not assumed to be larger than the length of  $I_k$ , and each  $L_k$  is not supposed to be a contraction. A FIF established by this method has a property of self similarity between its graph on  $J_k$  and on  $I_k$ . In this paper we give a construction of FIFs with locally self similar graphs. The stability and sensitivity of FIFs established in this way are also discussed.

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## 1. Introduction

A fractal function is a function whose graph is the attractor of an iterated function system (IFS). A fractal interpolation function (FIF) is a continuous fractal function interpolating a given set of points. FIFs are the basis of a constructive approximation theory for nondifferentiable functions [5]. FIFs are also suitable to model experimental data with complicated structures in nature. For instance, the theory of FIFs can be applied to signal processing [23,24,39,40], and modeling coastlines and shapes [17–19]. See also the references given in these articles.

The concept of FIFs was first introduced by Barnsley [1,2] and has been developed by many researchers. Various types of FIFs have been constructed in different ways, including the hidden variable FIFs [2,7], the vector-valued FIFs [8,20], the bilinear FIFs [4], the spline FIFs [10,13], the Hermite FIFs [14,15,30], the rational FIFs [34,35], and the coalescence FIFs [11,12,32]. Many properties of FIFs, including box dimension, smoothness, calculus, stability, sensitivity, shape preservation, monotonicity preservation, convexity

<sup>☆</sup> This work was supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Taipei, ROC, under Grant MOST 104-2115-M-214-004.

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preservation, and approximation properties are also discussed in [1,3,4,12,16,25–29,31,33,36–38]. See also the books [2,21,22], and the references given in the literature.

Here we give a brief introduction to the construction of a FIF. The readers are referred to [2] for more details. Let  $(\mathbf{Y}, d_{\mathbf{Y}})$  be a complete metric space. Consider the set of points  $\Delta = \{(t_i, y_i) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbf{Y} : i = 0, 1, \dots, N\}$ , where  $N > 1$  and  $t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N$ . Suppose that all the data points in  $\Delta$  are non-collinear. Let  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbf{Y}$  and  $\theta > 0$ . Define a metric  $d$  on  $\mathbf{X}$  by  $d((t, y), (t^*, y^*)) = |t - t^*| + \theta d_{\mathbf{Y}}(y, y^*)$  for all points  $(t, y), (t^*, y^*)$  in  $\mathbf{X}$ . Then  $(\mathbf{X}, d)$  is a complete metric space. For each  $k = 1, \dots, N$ , define  $L_k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$L_k(t) = a_k t + b_k, \quad \text{where } a_k = \frac{t_k - t_{k-1}}{t_N - t_0}, b_k = \frac{t_N t_{k-1} - t_0 t_k}{t_N - t_0}. \quad (1.1)$$

Note that  $L_k([t_0, t_N]) = [t_{k-1}, t_k]$ . Let  $0 \leq s < 1$ ,  $c > 0$ , and let  $M_k : \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$  be a function that satisfies

$$d_{\mathbf{Y}}(M_k(t, y), M_k(t^*, y)) \leq c|t - t^*| \quad \text{for all } t, t^* \in \mathbb{R}, y \in \mathbf{Y}, \quad (1.2)$$

$$d_{\mathbf{Y}}(M_k(t, y), M_k(t, y^*)) \leq s d_{\mathbf{Y}}(y, y^*) \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}, y, y^* \in \mathbf{Y}, \quad (1.3)$$

$$M_k(t_0, y_0) = y_{k-1} \quad \text{and} \quad M_k(t_N, y_N) = y_k. \quad (1.4)$$

For each  $k = 1, \dots, N$ , define  $f_k : \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}$  by

$$f_k(t, y) = (L_k(t), M_k(t, y)) \quad \text{for all } (t, y) \in \mathbf{X}. \quad (1.5)$$

If we choose  $\theta = \frac{1-a}{2c}$ , where  $a = \max\{a_1, \dots, a_N\}$ , then by [2, Ch. VI, Theorem 4.1 and Theorem 4.2], each  $f_k$  is a contraction mapping on  $\mathbf{X}$  and there is exactly one attractor  $G \subseteq \mathbf{X}$  of the IFS  $\{\mathbf{X}; f_1, \dots, f_N\}$ . The set  $G$  is the graph of a continuous function  $f$  which satisfies  $f(t_k) = y_k$  for all  $k = 0, \dots, N$ . This function  $f$  is called a fractal interpolation function corresponding to the set of points  $\Delta$ .

In [1] Barnsley considered the case that  $\mathbf{Y} = [a, b]$ ,  $d_{\mathbf{Y}}(y, y^*) = |y - y^*|$ ,  $\mathbf{X} = [t_0, t_N] \times [a, b]$ , and  $d((t, y), (t^*, y^*)) = \max\{|t - t^*|, |y - y^*|\}$  for  $(t, y), (t^*, y^*) \in \mathbf{X}$ . A FIF is constructed by the IFS  $\{\mathbf{X}; f_1, \dots, f_N\}$  in [1, Theorem 1] under the conditions that, for each  $k = 1, \dots, N$ ,  $L_k : [t_0, t_N] \rightarrow [t_{k-1}, t_k]$  is a contractive homeomorphism such that  $L_k(t_0) = t_{k-1}$ ,  $L_k(t_N) = t_k$ , and  $M_k : \mathbf{X} \rightarrow [a, b]$  is a continuous function with (1.3)–(1.4) for some  $0 \leq s < 1$ . In particular, if  $L_k$  is of the form (1.1) and  $M_k(t, y) = c_k t + \alpha_k y + e_k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, N$ , then each  $f_k$  is an affine map and  $\alpha_k$  is called the vertical scaling factor in  $f_k$ . If  $|\alpha_k| < 1$  for  $k = 1, \dots, N$ , then each  $f_k$  is a contraction mapping on  $\mathbf{X}$  and the obtained FIFs are called linear FIFs [1, Example 1]. In [1, Example 2] a class of  $M_k$  is considered, where  $M_k(t, y) = \alpha_k y + q_k(t)$  and  $q_k(t) = u(L_k(t)) - \alpha_k b(t)$ . Here  $u$  and  $b$  are continuous functions such that  $u(t_k) = y_k$  for all  $k = 0, \dots, N$  and  $b(t_0) = y_0$ ,  $b(t_N) = y_N$ . In the case  $b = L(u)$ , where  $L$  is a bounded linear operator on the space of all continuous functions defined on  $[t_0, t_N]$ , the FIF associated with such a IFS is called  $\alpha$ -fractal function associated with  $u$  and is denoted by  $u^\alpha$ , where  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_N)$  is a vector. The operator  $\mathcal{F}^\alpha : u \mapsto u^\alpha$  is called an  $\alpha$ -fractal operator. The developments of properties of  $\mathcal{F}^\alpha$  delineated a theory which is referred to as fractal approximation theory. See [25–27,29,35]. To get FIFs with more flexibility in a general sense, Wang and Yu [38] considered a class of IFSs with variable vertical scaling parameters. Let  $[t_0, t_N] = [0, 1]$  and  $M_k(t, y) = \alpha_k(t)y + q_k(t)$  for each  $k = 1, \dots, N$ . Here  $\alpha_k$  and  $q_k$  are Lipschitz functions defined on  $[0, 1]$  such that  $\sup_{t \in [0, 1]} |\alpha_k(t)| < 1$  and  $q_k(0) = y_{k-1} - \alpha_k(0)y_0$ ,  $q_k(1) = y_k - \alpha_k(1)y_N$ . Moreover, in the case  $q_k(t) = u(L_k(t)) - \alpha_k(t)b(t)$ , where  $u$  is the piecewise linear interpolation function through the set of points  $\Delta$  and  $b$  is the linear function through the points  $(t_0, y_0)$  and  $(t_N, y_N)$ , the stability and sensitivity of FIFs were investigated.

In the literature mentioned above, various types of FIFs have been constructed by considering different forms of  $M_k$ , and  $L_k$  is usually assumed to be a contraction homeomorphism from  $[t_0, t_N]$  to  $[t_{k-1}, t_k]$  such that  $L_k(t_0) = t_{k-1}$  and  $L_k(t_N) = t_k$ . In the article [6], a recurrent structure for IFSs is introduced and

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