

Subject § 5.3

Given $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$. Consider solving

$$Ax = b$$

1) consistent. Already studied

2) inconsistent. no solution. It is natural to find $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that Ax is closest to b .

For each $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the residual to $Ax = b$ is

$$r(x) = b - Ax.$$

The norm $\|r(x)\| = \|b - Ax\|$. Consider the problem: find $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\|r(x)\| = \|b - Ax\|$ is minimized. Such a solution x is called a least square solution to $Ax = b$.

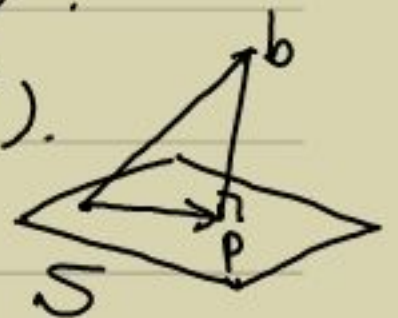
$$* \min \|r(x)\| \iff \min \|r(x)\|^2.$$

THM. Let S be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^m . For each $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$, there is a unique p in S such that

$$\|b - p\| < \|b - y\| \quad \forall y \in S, y \neq p. \quad (1)$$

Furthermore, a vector p in S satisfying (1) if and only if $b - p \perp S$ or $b - p \in S^\perp$.

(p is called the projection of b onto S).



Proof: we have $\mathbb{R}^m = S \oplus S^\perp$.

$b \in \mathbb{R}^m$. $b = \underbrace{p + p^\perp}_{\text{unique}}$ for some $p \in S, p^\perp \in S^\perp$.

$$\Rightarrow b - p = p^\perp \perp S.$$

To verify $\|b - p\| < \|b - y\| \quad \forall y \in S, y \neq p$.

we have

$$\|b - y\|^2 = \|b - p + p - y\|^2 \quad \begin{array}{l} b - p \perp S \\ p - y \in S \end{array} \text{ by Pythagorean's Law}$$

$$= \|b - p\|^2 + \|p - y\|^2 > \|b - p\|^2 \text{ if } y \neq p.$$

Thus any $y \neq p$ cannot be a solution. \Rightarrow uniqueness. *

consider $Ax = b$.

$S = \mathcal{R}(A) = \mathcal{C}(A)$ a subspace of \mathbb{R}^m ,

$x^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a least square solution if and only if

$p = Ax^*$ is closest to b , $\Leftrightarrow p = Ax^*$ is the projection

of b onto $S = \mathcal{R}(A)$, or if and only if

$$b - p = b - Ax^* \perp S = \mathcal{R}(A) \Rightarrow$$

$$b - Ax^* \in S^\perp = \mathcal{R}(A)^\perp = \mathcal{N}(A^T), \text{ i.e.}$$

$$A^T(b - Ax^*) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad A^T A x^* = A^T b \dots \text{normal equation,}$$

from which we can solve for a least square solution x^* .

Steps to find a least square solution to $Ax=b$.

1) set $L = A^T A_{n \times n}$ always symmetric;

2) compute $d = A^T b$

3) solve the normal equation $Lx=d$ for x^* .

it is always consistent.

we may have x_1^*, x_2^* . But $Ax_1^* = Ax_2^*$ unique in $\mathcal{R}(A)$. Both x_1^* and x_2^* are least square solutions.

If $A_{m \times n}$ has rank $=n$, then $(A^T A)_{n \times n}$ has rank $=n$ thus invertible. The unique least square solution

$$x^* = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b.$$

The projection of b onto $\mathcal{R}(A)$ is

$$p = Ax^* = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T b.$$

$P = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$ --- projection operator matrix.

$Pb =$ projection of b onto $\mathcal{R}(A)$.

Ex. Find the least square solution to
$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 = 3 \\ -2x_1 + 3x_2 = 1 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 = 2 \end{cases}$$

sol: we have $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $b = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$L = A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -7 \\ -7 & 11 \end{bmatrix} \text{ symmetric}$$

$$d = A^T b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve the normal equation $Lx = d$ or

$$\begin{bmatrix} 9 & -7 \\ -7 & 11 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{99-49} \begin{bmatrix} 11 & 7 \\ 7 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{50} \begin{bmatrix} 83 \\ 77 \end{bmatrix}$$

Curve Fitting:

If experimental (sample) data have been collected

x	x_1	...	x_m
y	y_1	...	y_m

where $x = \text{time, position or sequential index}$

wish to find a polynomial $p(x) = c_0 + c_1 x + \dots + c_n x^n$ of degree n , where $m \gg n$, such that

$$p(x_i) = y_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \gg n \text{ — overdetermined or inconsistent.}$$

$$\begin{matrix} x^0 & x^1 & x^2 & \dots & x^n \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 & \dots & x_1^n \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 & \dots & x_2^n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & x_m & x_m^2 & \dots & x_m^n \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} & = & \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}, \text{ denoted by } AC = Y$$

Since $m \gg n$, most time, it is inconsistent. So find the best

least square polynomial by solving $A^T A C = A^T Y$ — normal equation.

for C_0, C_1, \dots, C_n , and then $p(x) = C_0 + C_1x + \dots + C_nx^n$,

Ex: Given

x	0	1	2	3
y	3	2	4	4

. Find the best quadratic least square fitting.

Sol: $n=2$, $x^0 \quad x^1 \quad x^2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_0 \\ C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 9 \end{bmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^T y = \begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ 22 \\ 54 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 & 14 \\ 6 & 14 & 36 \\ 14 & 36 & 98 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solve the normal equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 & 14 \\ 6 & 14 & 36 \\ 14 & 36 & 98 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_0 \\ C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ 22 \\ 54 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow (C_0, C_1, C_2) = (2.75, -0.25, 0.25).$$

$$\Rightarrow p(x) = 2.75 - 0.25x + 0.25x^2.$$

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