

# Announcements

1) Sections covered on the final:

1.1-1.4, 1.7, 1.10

2.1-2.3, 2.7, 3.1, 3.2,

4.1-4.8, 5.1-5.4,

6.1-6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 7.1

2) Applications guaranteed to be on the final:

PageRank, Circuits,  
Balancing chemical equations,  
Computer graphics, Signals,  
best fit lines/quadratics

3) Final replaces lowest test grade!

4) Math Colloquium

today, 3-4, CB 2046

"Intro to Multigrid Methods"

Recall! (least squares)

If  $Ax=b$  has no solution, we can try to find "best-fit solutions" that minimize

$$\|Ax - b\|_2$$

## Equivalence ( $A^t A x = A^t b$ )

A least squares solution  
to  $Ax = b$  satisfies

$$A^t A x = A^t b .$$

Moreover, if  $A^t A x = A^t b$ ,

then  $x$  is a least-squares  
solution to  $Ax = b$ .

# Applications of Least-Squares

(Section 6.6)

Given two points  
 $(x_0, y_0)$  and  $(x_1, y_1)$  in  
 $\mathbb{R}^2$ , if the points  
are not identical, then  
there is a unique line  
passing through  $(x_0, y_0)$   
and  $(x_1, y_1)$ .

What if I have  
three points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ?

Example 1: Is there

a line passing through

the points  $(1, 5)$

$(2, 56)$ ,  $(-1, 11)$ ?

If the line passes through

$(1, 5)$  and  $(2, 56)$ , then

its slope is 51.



The line through  
 $(2, 56)$  and  $(-1, 11)$   
has slope  $15 \neq 51$ .

So there is no line  
that connects all three  
points!

The best we can do:

Find a line that  
minimizes the distances  
from all three points -

this is a least-squares  
problem!

Back to Example:

There is no line

$$y = mx + b$$

satisfying

$$5 = m + b$$

$$56 = 2m + b$$

and

$$11 = -m + b$$

Rewrite as a matrix equation:

*b coefficients*

*m coefficients*

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b \\ m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 56 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

With  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,

We are solving the  
least-squares problem

$$Ax = w \quad \text{where } w = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 56 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Same as actual solutions

to  $A^t Ax = A^t w$

$$A^t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^t \omega = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 56 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 72 \\ 106 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^t A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A^t A) = 18 - 4 = 14 \neq 0$$

$$(A^t A)^{-1} = \frac{1}{14} \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

We then get

$$x = (A^t A)^{-1} A^t w$$

$$= \frac{1}{14} \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 72 \\ 106 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{14} \begin{bmatrix} 432 - 212 \\ -144 + 318 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{14} \begin{bmatrix} 220 \\ 174 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{7} \begin{bmatrix} 110 \\ 87 \end{bmatrix}$$

This says

$$m = \frac{87}{7}$$

$$b = \frac{110}{7}$$

gives the line that  
minimizes the distance  
from our three initial  
points.

# Best Fit Lines

(general)

Given points

$(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$

in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . To find the

best fit line, find the

least-squares solution for

$m, b$  in



$$\left. \begin{array}{c} n \text{ one's} \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ \vdots \\ | \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{array} \end{array} \right\} \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} b \\ m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$

$A$ , an  $n \times 2$  matrix

Example 2: Set up a matrix equation for the best-fit line through

$(2, -32)$ ,  $(6, 128)$ ,  $(-\pi, 11)$ ,

$(15, 56)$  -

Equation:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 6 \\ 1 & -\pi \\ 1 & 15 \end{bmatrix}}_A \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -32 \\ 128 \\ 11 \\ 56 \end{bmatrix}$$

The solution will be

$$(A^t A)^{-1} A^t \begin{bmatrix} -32 \\ 128 \\ 11 \\ 56 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Best-Fit Quadratics ?!

Through any 3 points  
in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , there is  
a unique quadratic  
equation that all  
three points satisfy.

If the points are  
 $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)$

We want  $a, b, c$  with

$$a x_1^2 + b x_1 + c = y_1$$

$$a x_2^2 + b x_2 + c = y_2$$

$$a x_3^2 + b x_3 + c = y_3$$

$$(x_1 \neq x_2, x_2 \neq x_3, x_3 \neq x_1)$$

Rewrite as a linear equation

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 \\ 1 & x_3 & x_3^2 \end{bmatrix}}_A \begin{bmatrix} c \\ b \\ a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{rref}(A) = I_3, \text{ so}$$

there is always a solution for  $a, b, c$ !

If you have more than 3 points, you are again doing least squares, except now the equation is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & x_n^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c \\ b \\ a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$A$  solve the same way as for lines!