

The story so far...

- Quantifying errors in computation
- Floating-Point numbers (cancellation)
- The problem of solving  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  for  $\underline{x}$ , where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

(End of)

Today... Linear Least-Squares Problem:

$A\underline{x} \approx \underline{b}$   $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m > n$ . — an overdetermined system

we generally won't have  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$

or  $A\underline{x} - \underline{b} = \underline{0}$

but we can minimize  $\|A\underline{x} - \underline{b}\|_2$

We'll propose a solution to  $A\underline{x} \approx \underline{b}$   $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

to a special case of  $A'\underline{x} = \underline{b}'$   $A' \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

Agenda: -  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$   $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , symmetric positive definite.

↳ Cholesky Factorization.

- The problem  $A\underline{x} \approx \underline{b}$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

↳ Normal Equation Method.

Def: An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is symmetric if  $A^T = A$ .

or  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$  for all  $i, j$ .

Def: An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is positive definite if  $\underline{x}^T A \underline{x} > 0$ .

$y = A\underline{x}$   $\underline{x}^T A \underline{x} = \underline{x}^T y = \|\underline{x}\|_2 \|\underline{y}\|_2 \cos(\theta)$  for  $\underline{x} \neq \underline{0}$   
where  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{x^T y > 0} &\Rightarrow \cos(\theta) > 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \theta < \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ or } \cancel{45^\circ} \text{ or } 90^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Fact: Let  $M$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix with  $m > n$ , and  $\text{rank}(M) = n$ . Then  $M^T M$  is symmetric and positive definite.

Pf: Homework 3, Q5(d).

Symmetric Positive Definite matrices are "nice" because if  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is symmetric pos. def, we can solve  $Ax = b$  in a "better" way than G.E.

More specifically, the LU factorization of  $A = LU$  can be arranged so that  $U = L^T$  so  $A = L L^T$ . The factorization  $A = L L^T$  is called the Cholesky Factorization of  $A$ .

Computation of Cholesky Factorization.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} & a_{31} & \dots \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & 0 & \dots \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & l_{33} & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & l_{21} & l_{31} \\ 0 & l_{22} & l_{32} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & l_{33} \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$a_{11} = l_{11}^2 \Rightarrow l_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}}$$

$$a_{21} = l_{11} \cdot l_{21} \Rightarrow l_{21} = a_{21} / l_{11}$$

$$a_{31} = l_{11} \cdot l_{31} \Rightarrow l_{31} = a_{31} / l_{11}$$

$$a_{22} = l_{21}^2 + l_{22}^2 \Rightarrow l_{22} = \sqrt{a_{22} - l_{21}^2}$$

$$a_{33} = l_{21} \cdot l_{31} + l_{22} \cdot l_{32} \Rightarrow l_{32} = \frac{a_{33} - l_{21} \cdot l_{31}}{l_{22}}$$

!

## Properties

1. Square roots are all positive values  
↖ (because A is pos. def). ↘
2. We don't need to pivot for numerical stability
3. Half as much work as L-U factorization  
 because  $L = U^T$  ( $U = L^T$ )

## Linear Least Squares Example ( $Ax \approx b$ )

We want to predict a student's Assignment 2. mark given their midterm grade per question.  
 i.e. we want to build a model (linear model).

$$x_1 g_1 + x_2 g_2 + x_3 g_3 + x_4 g_4 + x_5 g_5 = h$$

$\uparrow$        $\uparrow$        $\uparrow$        $\uparrow$        $\uparrow$   
 midterm    Q2 mark    coefficients    A2 mark  
 Q1 mark

How do we find the value of  $x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix}$

We have data from students who wrote the midterm and submitted A2.

We have these constraints for each student.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} g_1^{(1)} & g_2^{(1)} & \cdots & g_5^{(1)} \\ g_1^{(2)} & g_2^{(2)} & \cdots & g_5^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$b = \begin{bmatrix} h^{(1)} \\ h^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}$$

— student 1.  
— student 2.

We want an  $\underline{x}$  such that  $\underbrace{Ax}_{m \times n \times n \times 1} \approx \underbrace{b}_{m \times 1}$ .

where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ .

$m$  = number of students  
 $n$  = number of features.  
 $= 5$

$$\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$b \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

Since  $m > n$  we have overdetermined system

Unless  $\underline{b} \in \text{span}(A)$  we won't have an  $\underline{x}$   
such that  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$ , or  $A\underline{x} - \underline{b} = 0$

Instead, we minimize the 2-norm of the residual

$$\min_{\underline{x}} \|A\underline{x} - \underline{b}\|_2$$

The existence of  $\underline{x}$  that minimize  $\|A\underline{x} - \underline{b}\|_2$   
is guaranteed, but  $\underline{x}$  may not be unique if  
 $\text{rank}(A) < n$ .

## Normal Equation (calculus)

$$\|A\underline{x} - \underline{b}\|_2 = \sqrt{(\underline{A}\underline{x} - \underline{b})^T \cdot (\underline{A}\underline{x} - \underline{b})}$$

minimizing  $\|A\underline{x} - \underline{b}\|_2$  is the same as  
minimizing  $(\underline{A}\underline{x} - \underline{b})^T (\underline{A}\underline{x} - \underline{b})$

So, let  $\phi(\underline{x}) = (\underline{A}\underline{x} - \underline{b})^T (\underline{A}\underline{x} - \underline{b})$

$$\nabla \phi(\underline{x}) = \underbrace{\underline{0}}_{nx1} = \underbrace{2\underbrace{\underline{A}^T \underline{A}\underline{x}}_{nx1} - 2\underbrace{\underline{A}^T \underline{b}}_{nx1}}_{(2 \cdot \underline{A}^T (\underline{A}\underline{x} - \underline{b}))}$$

$$\text{Set: } \underline{A}^T \underline{A}\underline{x} - \underline{A}^T \underline{b} = \underline{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\underline{A}^T \underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{A}^T \underline{b}} \quad \text{The Normal Equation}$$

If  $A$  is full rank, i.e.  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ .

then  $\underline{A}^T \underline{A}$  is symmetric positive definite.

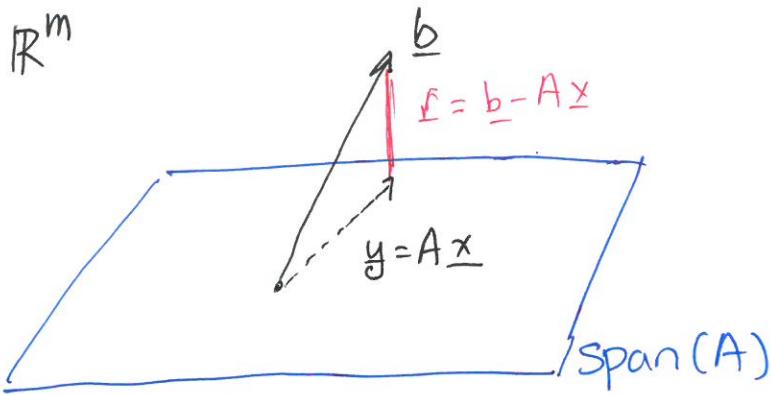
So we can solve  $\underline{A}^T \underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{A}^T \underline{b}$  using Cholesky Factorization

## Geometric Derivation of Normal Equation

Def: Two vectors  $\underline{u}, \underline{v} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  are orthogonal.

(perpendicular, normal) if  $\underline{u}^T \underline{v} = 0$ .  
angle between  $\underline{u}, \underline{v}$

Recall  $\underline{u}^T \underline{v} = \|\underline{u}\|_2 \cdot \|\underline{v}\|_2 \cos(\theta)$ , so  $\underline{u}^T \underline{v} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \cos(\theta) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$  or  $90^\circ$ .



Assume  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ .

we want  $\bar{x}$  s.t.

$$\|Ax - \underline{b}\|_2 \text{ is minimized}$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{y}$

- $\underline{b}$  does not lie in  $\text{span}(A)$
- $y = Ax$  closest vector in  $\text{span}(A)$  to  $\underline{b}$ .  
(to minimize  $\|Ax - \underline{b}\|_2$ )
- ⇒ If  $r \perp \text{span}(A)$ .

i.e.  $r$  is perpendicular to every column of  $A$ .

$$\Rightarrow A^T r = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A^T(\underline{b} - Ax) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{A^T A \underline{x} = A^T \underline{b}}$$

The normal equation.

### Normal Equation Method

To solve  $\min_{\underline{x}} \|Ax - \underline{b}\|_2$ .

We solve  $A^T A \underline{x} = A^T \underline{b}$  using Cholesky Factorization

We solve  $LL^T x = A^T b$ . using forward & backward substitution

Rectangular System → Square System → Triangular System

$$A\underline{x} \approx \underline{b} \quad (A^T A) \underline{x} = A^T \underline{b} \quad L L^T \underline{x} = A^T \underline{b}$$

In practice, the normal equation method

is problematized because ~~use them~~

the conditioning of the new problem  $(A^T A)x = A^T b$

$\beta$  worse than the original problem.

Specifically,  $\text{cond}(A^T A) = \text{cond}(A)^2$

↑  
???