

# ECE 712 Assignment on Least Squares

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1. Show that the rank of a projector is equal to its trace.
2. Data  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathfrak{R}^m$  are observed according to the over-determined model

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\nu}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathfrak{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m > n$ . The quantity  $\boldsymbol{\nu}$  is an error vector with zero mean and covariance matrix  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ , which is an arbitrary symmetric positive definite matrix. In this case, the LS solution is derived by minimizing the quantity  $\|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1/2}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b})\|_2^2$ .

- (a) Derive the LS estimate of  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- (b) What is  $\mathbf{P}$  so that  $\mathbf{r}_{LS} = \mathbf{P}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1/2}\mathbf{b})$ ? ( $\mathbf{r}_{LS}$  is the LS residual  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1/2}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_{LS})$ ). Does  $\mathbf{P}$  satisfy all the properties of a projector?
- (c) Give a geometrical interpretation.

3. Consider the over-determined set of equations

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n} \quad (2)$$

where  $\text{cov}(\mathbf{n}) = \sigma^2\mathbf{I}$ . Suppose in a given experiment, we had control over the values of the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , so that  $\|\mathbf{a}_i\|_2^2 = k, i = 1, \dots, n$ , where  $k$  is an arbitrary constant  $> 0$ , and  $\mathbf{a}_i$  is the  $i$ th column of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Explain how to choose  $\mathbf{A}$  so that the variance of each element of the LS estimate  $\mathbf{x}_{LS}$  of  $\mathbf{x}$  is minimum.

*Hint:* use the Hadamard inequality: For a positive definite square symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathfrak{R}^{n \times n}$ ,

$$\det(\mathbf{X}) \leq \prod_{i=1}^n x_{ii}, \quad (3)$$

with equality iff  $\mathbf{X}$  is diagonal.

4. a. Given  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathfrak{R}^{m \times n}$ , and a set  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathfrak{R}^m, \mathbf{y}_i \in \mathfrak{R}^n, i = 1, \dots, k$ , find a set of coefficients  $a_i$  so that

$$\left\| \mathbf{A} - \sum_{i=1}^k a_i \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{y}_i^T \right\|_F^2 \quad (4)$$

is minimized.

- b. What are the set  $\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i$  that minimize the minimum in (4)?
- c. What constraint is there on  $k$  so that the solution is unique?
5. Consider a non-white noise process  $x[k]$  of duration  $m$  with a known covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ . The sequence  $f[k]$  of duration  $n \ll m$  operates on  $x[k]$  to give an output sequence  $y[k]$  according to

$$y[k] = \sum_i f[i]x[k-i].$$

- a. Show that this operation (convolution) can be expressed as a matrix-vector multiplication.
- b. Find  $f[k]$  so that  $\|y[k]\|_2$  is minimized, subject to  $\|f\|_2 = 1$ .
6. (From *Applied Numerical Linear Algebra*, by James W. Demmel.)  
Let  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  be matrices with dimensions such that the product  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{B}^T$  is defined. Let  $\chi$  be the set of matrices  $\mathbf{X}$  minimizing  $\|\mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}\|_F$ , and let  $\mathbf{X}_o$  be the unique member of  $\chi$  minimizing  $\|\mathbf{X}\|_F$ . Show that  $\mathbf{X}_o = \mathbf{A}^+ \mathbf{C} \mathbf{B}^+$ . *Hint:* use the SVDs of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ .
7. Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , and  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Find  $\mathbf{x}$  so that  $\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{x} \mathbf{b}^T\|_F$  is minimized. *Hint:* For matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  of compatible dimension,  $\text{trace}(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{B}) = \text{trace}(\mathbf{B} \mathbf{A})$ .
8. We have observations of data  $\mathbf{z}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m, t = 1, \dots, L$  which are generated according to

$$\mathbf{z}(t) = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{n}(t) \tag{5}$$

where  $\mathbf{x}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are known vectors, and  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is unknown and to be estimated. The noise  $\mathbf{n}(t)$  is a Gaussian-distributed random variable with zero mean and covariance matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$ , which is also to be estimated.

The matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$  can be estimated by maximizing the logarithm of the probability distribution  $p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{x}(t))$  with respect to  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$ . The log of this distribution is given through (5) as

$$\log p(\mathbf{z}(t)|\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{x}(t)) = \sum_{t=1}^L (\mathbf{z}(t) - \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(t))^T \mathbf{Q}^{-1} (\mathbf{z}(t) - \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(t)) + \log \det \mathbf{Q} \tag{6}$$

Show that the maximization of (6) with respect to  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$  yields

$$\hat{\mathbf{A}} = \left( \sum_{t=1}^L \mathbf{z}(t) \mathbf{x}^T(t) \right) \left( \sum_{t=1}^L \mathbf{x}(t) \mathbf{x}^T(t) \right)^{-1} \tag{7}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{Q}} = \left( \sum_{t=1}^L \mathbf{z}(t) \mathbf{z}^T(t) \right) - \left( \sum_{t=1}^L \hat{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{x}(t) \mathbf{z}^T(t) \right) \tag{8}$$

respectively. The distribution  $p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{x}(t))$  is referred to as the *likelihood function* and the values given by (7) and (8) are *maximum likelihood* estimates.

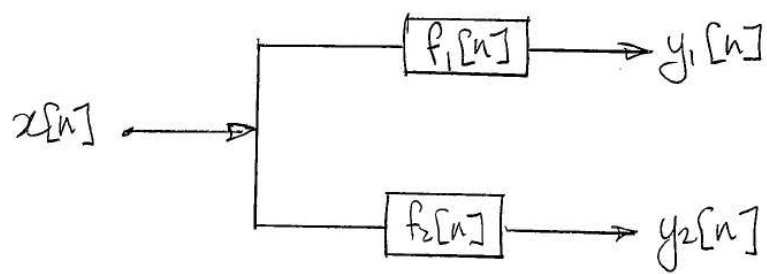
9. Download the file q1.mat from the course website. The first column of the variable  $z$  is an array of  $x$ -variables and the second column contains the corresponding  $y$ -variables. The  $(x, y)$  pairs are points taken from a circle. Using methods taken in class, calculate the centre and radius of the circle. Explain your method fully. Include your matlab code.

10. Consider the projector  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T$  where  $\mathbf{X}$  is a tall matrix, and let  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  be an inverse square root factor of  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$ ; i.e.,  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-\frac{T}{2}} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-\frac{1}{2}} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$ . What special property does the matrix  $\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  possess? Use this property to explain how the projector eliminates the orthogonal component of a vector projected onto  $R(\mathbf{X})$ .
11. In file `assig1Q4.mat` on the course website, you will find three variables,  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 4}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^6$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 4}$ . (Do NOT use the pseudo-inverse to solve this problem.)
- Using the SVD, find an expression for  $\mathbf{x}$  s.t.  $\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|_2$  is minimized. Explain how this technique may be used for solving an overdetermined system of equations. Find an expression for the value of this 2-norm difference for the optimal value of  $\mathbf{x}$ . Using Matlab, provide specific values for these quantities.
  - Is  $\mathbf{b} \in R(\mathbf{A})$ ? If not, suggest a method of finding the closest  $\mathbf{b}_o$  to  $\mathbf{b}$  (in the 2-norm sense), which is. Repeat part **a** using  $\mathbf{b}_o$  instead of  $\mathbf{b}$  and comment.
  - Repeat parts **a** and **b** above using the matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  instead of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
12. Consider the configuration shown in Fig. 1a. The sequence  $x[n]$  is of length  $m$  and  $f_1[n]$  and  $f_2[n]$  are sequences of length  $n \ll m$ . The outputs  $y_1[n]$  and  $y_2[n]$  are the convolution of  $x[n]$  with  $f_1[n]$  and  $f_2[n]$  respectively; i.e.,

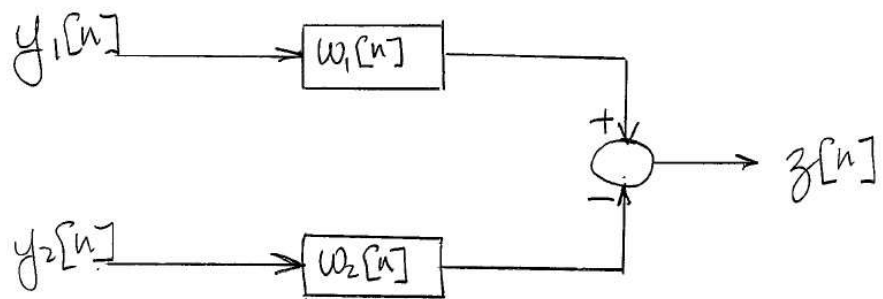
$$y_i[n] = \sum_k f_i[k]x[n-k], \quad i \in [1, 2].$$

We observe only the sequences  $y_1[n]$  and  $y_2[n]$ .

- Show that the convolution operation can be expressed as a matrix-vector multiplication.
- Show how  $f_1[n]$ ,  $f_2[n]$  and  $x[n]$  can all be determined, based ONLY on the observations  $y_1[n]$  and  $y_2[n]$ . *Hint: Consider the configuration of Fig. 1b. What are  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  so that the output  $z[n] = 0$ ?*
- Are there any required conditions on  $x[n]$ , or on  $f_1[n]$ ,  $f_2[n]$ ?



(a)



(b)

Figure 1: Configuration for Question 10.