

# Least Squares Method

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**Abstract**—This manual introduces the least squares method.

## 1 ALGEBRA

1.1 Find the equation of the plane  $P$  containing the vectors

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1)$$

1.2 Show that the vector

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.2)$$

lies outside  $P$ .

1.3 Find the point  $\mathbf{b}_0 \in P$  closest to  $\mathbf{b}$ .

## 2 APPLICATION

2.1 The Steinhart–Hart equation is a model of the resistance of a thermistor at different temperatures. The equation is given by

$$\frac{1}{\tau} = w_1 + w_2 \ln(R) + w_3 [\ln(R)]^3 \quad (2.1)$$

Let

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \ln(R_1) \\ [\ln(R_1)]^3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.2)$$

$$y_1 = \frac{1}{\tau_1} \quad (2.3)$$

$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.4)$$

Show that

$$y_1 = \mathbf{a}_1^T \mathbf{w} \quad (2.5)$$

2.2 Suppose for  $n > 3$

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{A}^T = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 & \mathbf{a}_2 & \vdots & \mathbf{a}_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.6)$$

show that

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{w} \quad (2.7)$$

2.3 For  $\tau = 10^\circ \text{C} - 100^\circ \text{C}$ , use the PT-100 resistance table in

[https://github.com/gadepall/EE1390/blob/master/refs/5pt100sensoren\\_e.pdf?raw=true](https://github.com/gadepall/EE1390/blob/master/refs/5pt100sensoren_e.pdf?raw=true)

to estimate  $\mathbf{w}$  using the relation

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \quad (2.8)$$

2.4 Verify your result by finding the temperature when the resistance is  $175.86\Omega$ .

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