

## Outline

0. Syllabus
1. What is estimation theory?
2. Least squares approximation— a curve fitting example
3. Linear least squares— how to estimate parameters
4. Least squares approximation— linear system of equations example
5. Weighted least squares
6. Constrained least squares

Legendre



Gauss



\* Lecture notes are inspired by Prof. Kristi Morgansen,  
Prof. Steve Brunton, Dr. Dan Caldecone

# 1. What is estimation?

e.g.1: temperature of GUG 205

①  $\tilde{y}_1 = 70F$

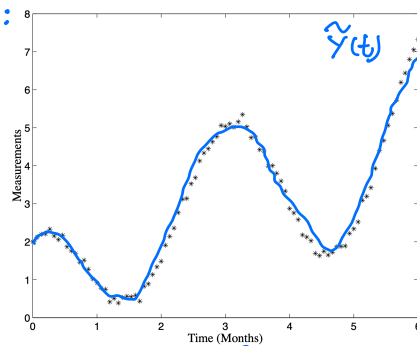
②  $\tilde{y}_1 = 70F \quad \tilde{y}_2 = 71 \quad \tilde{y}_3 = 68 \quad \tilde{y}_4 = 75$

taking average

③ add weight

? Can we know the true value of the temperature?

e.g.2:



Stock

? predict the price

$\hat{y}(t)$

some important quantities

$\tilde{x} \quad \tilde{y} \quad \tilde{z}$  : measured data

$\hat{x} \quad \hat{y} \quad \hat{z}$  : estimated variable

$x \quad y \quad z$  : true value

e.g.3

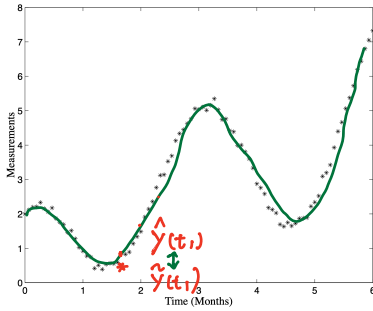


$\tilde{v}(t)$  measurements  
dynamics  $\dot{v} = \frac{dv}{dt} = a$  } Kalman filter

Prof. Mehran Mesbahi : Estimation is a process of

finding the best interpretation / representation of the practical world based on all the information you gathered

## 2. A curve fitting example (Least Squares Approximation)



measurements of a stock

**Goal:** develop a mathematical model in order to predict the price in 6 months

parameter estimation

Apply LS to obtain optimal parameter in a given mathematical model

Several quantities:

$\tilde{x}$ : measurement value       $x$ : true value (never know)

$\hat{x}$ : estimated value

Relations in these quantities:

$$\tilde{x} = x + v \quad v: \text{measurement error (stochastic properties)}$$

$$\tilde{x} = \hat{x} + e \quad e: \text{residual error}$$

minimize the difference between  $\tilde{x}$  and  $\hat{x}$   
which is the residual error

Requirements:  $\mu \leq 0.0075$

$$\sigma^2 \leq 0.125$$

sample mean      
$$\mu = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m [e_i]$$

sample standard deviation      
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{m-1} \sum_{i=1}^m \{e_i - \mu\}^2$$

Model 1:  $\hat{y}_1(t) = c_1 t + c_2 \sin t + c_3 \cos(2t)$

Model 2:  $\hat{y}_2(t) = d_1 (t+2) + d_2 t^2 + d_3 t^3$

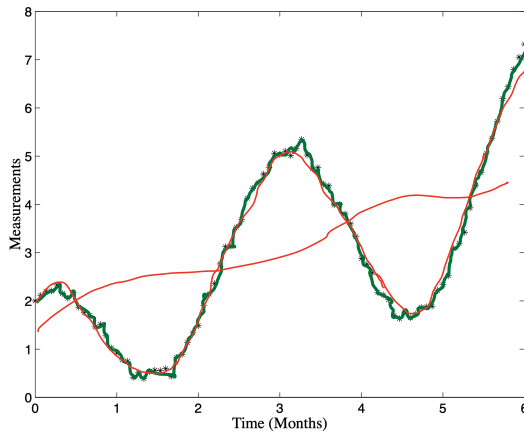
Apply LS to get  $c_1 \sim c_3$  /  $d_1 \sim d_3$

$t, \sin t, \cos(2t)$  /  $(t+2), t^2, t^3$  are basis functions

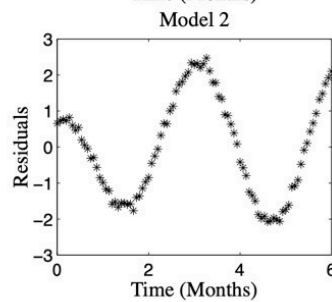
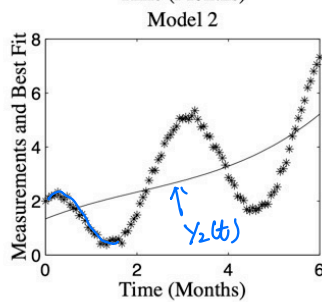
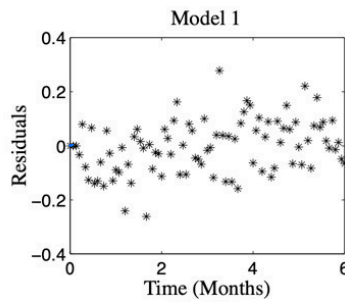
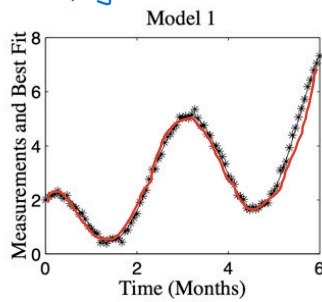
Principle of LS :

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{i=1}^m [\underbrace{\hat{y}(t_i) - \hat{y}(t_i)}_{e_i \text{ residual error}}]^2$$

(m: total number of measurements)



$\hat{y}_1(t) = 2t + 3 \sin t + 5 \cos(2t)$  red line  
 plug  $t=0, 0.1, \dots, 6$



Model 1:  $\mu = 1 \times 10^{-5}$

$\sigma^2 = 0.0921$

Model 2:  $\mu = 1 \times 10^{-5}$

$\sigma^2 = 1.3856$

### 3. Linear least squares approximation

Suppose we have a set of measured values,  $\tilde{y}_j$

$$\{\tilde{y}_1, t_1; \tilde{y}_2, t_2; \dots; \tilde{y}_m, t_m\}$$

and a proposed mathematical model

$$y(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i h_i(t) \quad m \geq n$$

where  $m$ : total number of measurements (data points)

$n$ : total number of unknown variables to be estimated

$h_i(t) \in \{h_1(t), h_2(t), \dots, h_n(t)\}$  basic functions

Goal: select the optimum  $x$ -values based upon a measure of "how well" the proposed model predicts the measurements

$$\tilde{y}_j \equiv \tilde{y}(t_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i h_i(t_j) + v_j$$

$$\hat{y}_j \equiv \hat{y}(t_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{x}_i h_i(t_j)$$

$j$ : time index

$i$ : unknown variable index

e.g.  $\hat{y}(t) = C_1 t + C_2 \sin t + C_3 \cos(2t)$

$C_1, C_2, C_3 \Rightarrow x_1, x_2, x_3$

$h_1(t) = t$

$h_2(t) = \sin t \quad h_3(t) = \cos(2t)$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{y}_j &= \hat{y}_j + e_j \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{x}_i h_i(t_j) + e_j \end{aligned}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{y}} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{y}_m \end{bmatrix} \quad \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{x}_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{e} = \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} h_1(t_1) & h_2(t_1) & \dots & h_n(t_1) \\ h_1(t_2) & h_2(t_2) & \dots & h_n(t_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ h_1(t_m) & h_2(t_m) & \dots & h_n(t_m) \end{bmatrix} \quad H \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{y}} = H \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \vec{e} \quad \text{compact form } (\vec{e}: \text{residual errors})$$

$$\vec{e} = \tilde{\mathbf{y}} - H \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

principles of LS: select  $\hat{\vec{x}}$  that minimize the sum square of the residual errors

$$\min J = \frac{1}{2} (e_1^2 + e_2^2 + \dots + e_m^2) \quad J \text{ is a scalar}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \vec{e}^T \vec{e}$$

$$J(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \vec{e}^T \vec{e}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\vec{y}} - H \hat{\vec{x}})^T (\tilde{\vec{y}} - H \hat{\vec{x}})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\vec{y}}^T \tilde{\vec{y}} - 2 \tilde{\vec{y}}^T H \hat{\vec{x}} + \hat{\vec{x}}^T H^T H \hat{\vec{x}})$$

Necessary condition

$$\nabla_{\hat{\vec{x}}} J = \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{\vec{x}}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{x}_1} \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{x}_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{x}_n} \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\nabla_{\hat{\vec{x}}} J}_{\text{Jacobian}} = H^T H \hat{\vec{x}} - H^T \tilde{\vec{y}} = 0 \Rightarrow H^T H \hat{\vec{x}} = H^T \tilde{\vec{y}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\vec{x}} = (H^T H)^{-1} H^T \tilde{\vec{y}}$$

if  $H^T H$  is invertible

Sufficient condition

$$\underbrace{\nabla_{\hat{\vec{x}}}^2 J}_{\text{Hessian}} = \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial \hat{\vec{x}}^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{\vec{x}}} \left( \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{\vec{x}}} \right) = H^T H \succ 0$$

\* Positive Definite (matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ) Definition

for any vector  $u \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} \neq 0$ ,  $u^T A u > 0$

\* A is Positive definite  $\Leftrightarrow$  all eigenvalues of A are positive

Statement:  $H^T H$  is always positive semidefinite ( $H^T H \succcurlyeq 0$ )

proof: for any vector  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$ , let  $\vec{u} = H \vec{v}$ , then  $\vec{u}^T \vec{u} = \vec{v}^T H^T H \vec{v}$

$$\|\vec{u}\|_2^2 = \vec{u}^T \vec{u} \geq 0 \quad \forall \vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$$

$$\text{hence } \vec{v}^T H^T H \vec{v} \geq 0 \quad \forall \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1} \Rightarrow H^T H \succcurlyeq 0$$

$H^T H \geq 0 \rightarrow$  if  $H$  has rank  $n$ , then  $H^T H > 0$

If  $H$  has rank  $n$ , then its null space is  $\{0\}$ , hence the only  $\vec{v}$  that makes  $H\vec{v} = 0$  is  $\vec{v} = 0$ . For all  $\vec{v} \neq 0$ ,  $\vec{v}^T H^T H \vec{v} > 0$

minimize

$$J(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \vec{e}^T \vec{e}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\vec{y}} - H\hat{\vec{x}})^T (\tilde{\vec{y}} - H\hat{\vec{x}})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\vec{y}}^T \tilde{\vec{y}} - 2 \tilde{\vec{y}}^T H \hat{\vec{x}} + \hat{\vec{x}}^T H^T H \hat{\vec{x}})$$

} objective

Necessary condition

$$\nabla_{\hat{\vec{x}}} J = \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{\vec{x}}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{x}_1} \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{x}_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{x}_n} \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\nabla_{\hat{\vec{x}}} J = H^T H \hat{\vec{x}} - H^T \tilde{\vec{y}} = 0 \Rightarrow H^T H \hat{\vec{x}} = H^T \tilde{\vec{y}}$$
$$\Rightarrow \hat{\vec{x}} = (H^T H)^{-1} H^T \tilde{\vec{y}}$$

Jacobian

if  $H^T H$  is invertible

Sufficient condition

$$\nabla_{\hat{\vec{x}}}^2 J = \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial \hat{\vec{x}}^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{\vec{x}}} \left( \frac{\partial J}{\partial \hat{\vec{x}}} \right) = \underline{\underline{H^T H > 0}}$$

Hessian

we need  $\hat{\vec{x}}$  to satisfy both necessary conditions and sufficient condition

$$\hat{\vec{x}} = (H^T H)^{-1} H^T \tilde{\vec{y}}$$

optimal solution to  
 $\min J(\hat{\vec{x}})$

#### 4. Weighted least squares approximation

unweighted one :  $J = \min \frac{1}{2} e^T e$

weighted one :  $J = \min \frac{1}{2} (w_1 e_1^2 + w_2 e_2^2 + \dots + w_m e_m^2)$

$$= \min \frac{1}{2} e^T W e$$

(W is a diagonal matrix)

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & & \\ & w_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & w_m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla_{\hat{X}} J = H^T W H \hat{X} - H^T W \tilde{Y} = 0 \quad (\text{necessary})$$

$$\nabla_{\hat{X}}^2 J = H^T W H \quad (\text{sufficient}) \quad \geq 0$$

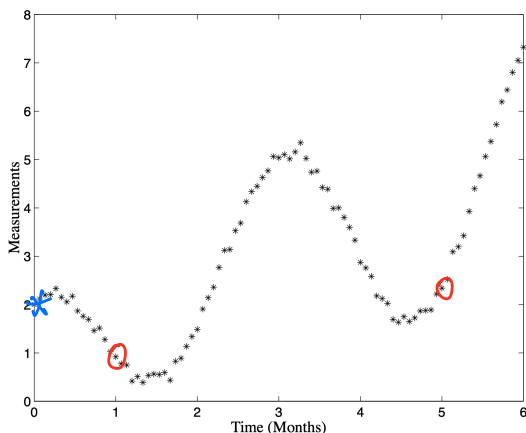
$$\hat{X} = (H^T W H)^{-1} H^T W \tilde{Y}$$

#### 5. Constrained least squares approximation

$$\{ \tilde{Y}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times 1} ; \tilde{Y}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{m_2 \times 1} \}$$

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{Y}_1 = H_1 \hat{X} + e_1 \\ \tilde{Y}_2 = H_2 \hat{X} \quad (\text{perfect measurement}) \end{cases}$$

$$m_1 \geq n \quad m_2 \leq n$$



$$\tilde{Y}_2 = \{ \tilde{Y}(t=1), \tilde{Y}(t=2) \}$$

$$\tilde{Y}(t=6)$$

$$\text{require } \hat{X}_2 = H_2 \hat{X} = \tilde{Y}_2$$



Problem statement for optimization set up

$$\begin{aligned} \min J &= \frac{1}{2} e_1^T W_1 e_1 && \text{objective} \\ \text{subject to } \tilde{y}_2 &= H_2 \hat{x} && \text{constraint 1.} \end{aligned}$$

$\hat{x}$  is the variable we need to select to optimize  $J$

Using the method of Lagrangian multipliers

$$J = \frac{1}{2} e_1^T W_1 e + \tilde{\lambda}^T (\tilde{y} - H_2 \hat{x})$$

In this new  $J$ , we now have two variables  $\hat{x}$  and  $\lambda$

$$\nabla_{\hat{x}} J = (H_1^T W_1 H_1) \hat{x} - H_1^T W_1 \tilde{y}_1 - H_2^T \lambda = 0 \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$\nabla_{\tilde{\lambda}} J = \tilde{y}_2 - H_2 \hat{x} = 0 \quad \text{Constraint } \textcircled{2}$$

$$\text{From } \textcircled{1} \Rightarrow (H_1^T W_1 H_1) \hat{x} = H_1^T W_1 \tilde{y}_1 + H_2^T \lambda$$

$$\hat{x} = (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_1^T W_1 \tilde{y}_1 + (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_2^T \lambda$$

2) plug  $\hat{x}$  into  $\textcircled{2}$  term  $\textcircled{5}$

$$\tilde{y}_2 = H_2 \hat{x}$$

$$\tilde{y}_2 = \underbrace{H_2 (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_1^T W_1 \tilde{y}_1}_{\text{term } \textcircled{3}} + \underbrace{H_2 (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_2^T \lambda}_{\text{term } \textcircled{4}}$$

$$\underbrace{H_2 (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_2^T \lambda}_{\text{term } \textcircled{4}} = \tilde{y}_2 - H_2 (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_1^T W_1 \tilde{y}_1$$

$$\lambda = \underbrace{\left[ H_2 (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_2^T \right]^{-1}}_{\text{term } \textcircled{6}} \left\{ \tilde{y}_2 - \underbrace{H_2 (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_1^T W_1 \tilde{y}_1}_{\text{term } \textcircled{3}} \right\}$$

$$\text{Let } \bar{x} = (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_1^T W_1 \tilde{y}_1$$

$$K = (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_2^T \left[ H_2 (H_1^T W_1 H_1)^{-1} H_2^T \right]^{-1}$$

$$\hat{x} = \bar{x} + K (\tilde{y}_2 - H_2 \bar{x})$$