



上海交通大学  
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY



# Lecture 6

# Least Squares

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# Least Squares

## References for Least Squares

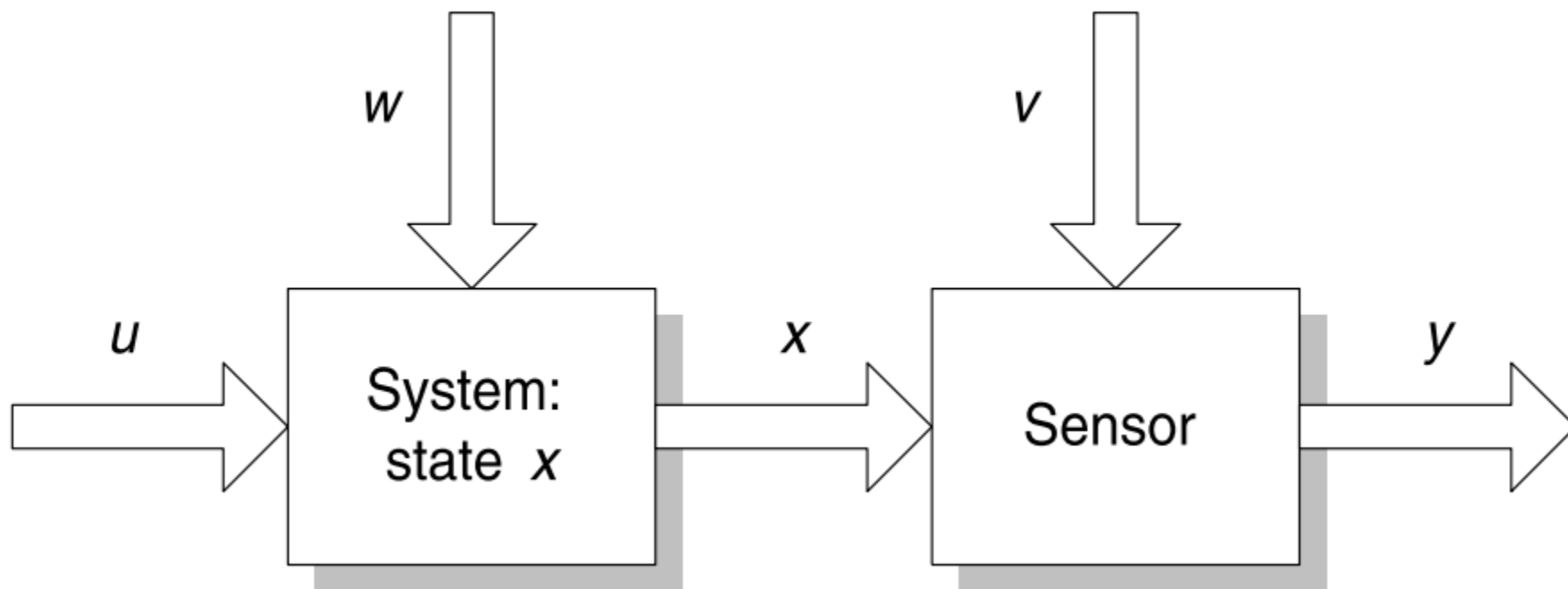
**[1]** Cleve Moler, Numerical Computing with MATLAB, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, 2004. **Chapter 5**

**[2]** Timothy Sauer, Numerical analysis (2nd ed.), Pearson Education, 2012. **Chapter 4**

**[3]** Stephen Boyd & Lieven Vandenberghe, Introduction to Applied Linear Algebra, Cambridge University Press, 2018.

# Least Squares

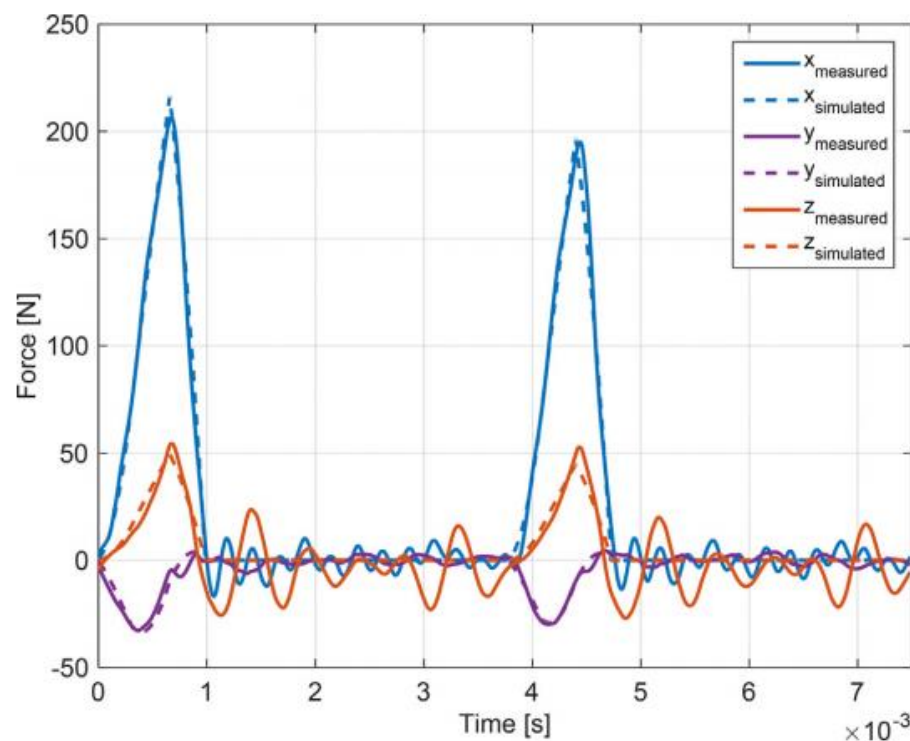
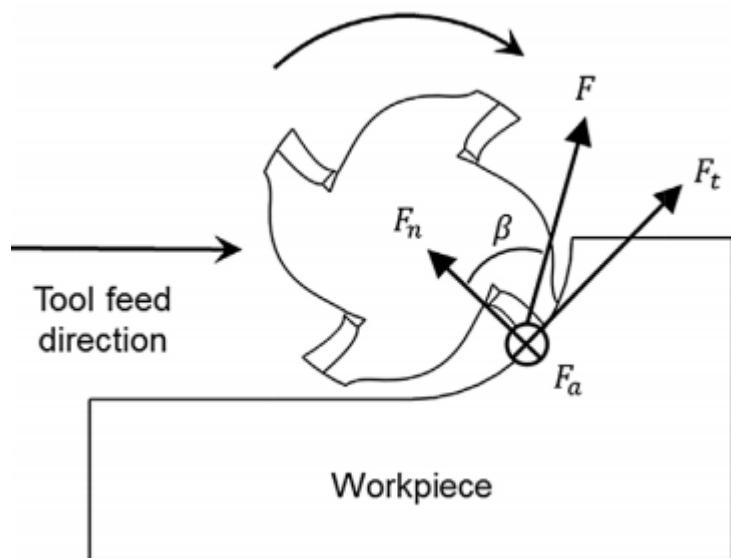
## ⊙ Motivation: System Parameter Identification



$$G(s) = \frac{K_M}{a_2 s^2 + a_1 s + a_0} e^{-sh}$$

# Least Squares

## ⊙ Motivation: Identification of force model coefficients



$$\bar{F}_x = \left\{ \frac{N_t b f_t}{8\pi} [-k_{tc} \cos(2\phi) + k_{nc}(2\phi - \sin(2\phi))] + \frac{N_t b}{2\pi} [k_{te} \sin(\phi) - k_{ne} \cos(\phi)] \right\}_{\phi_s}^{\phi_e}$$

➡
 $k_{tc}, k_{nc}, k_{te}, k_{ne}$

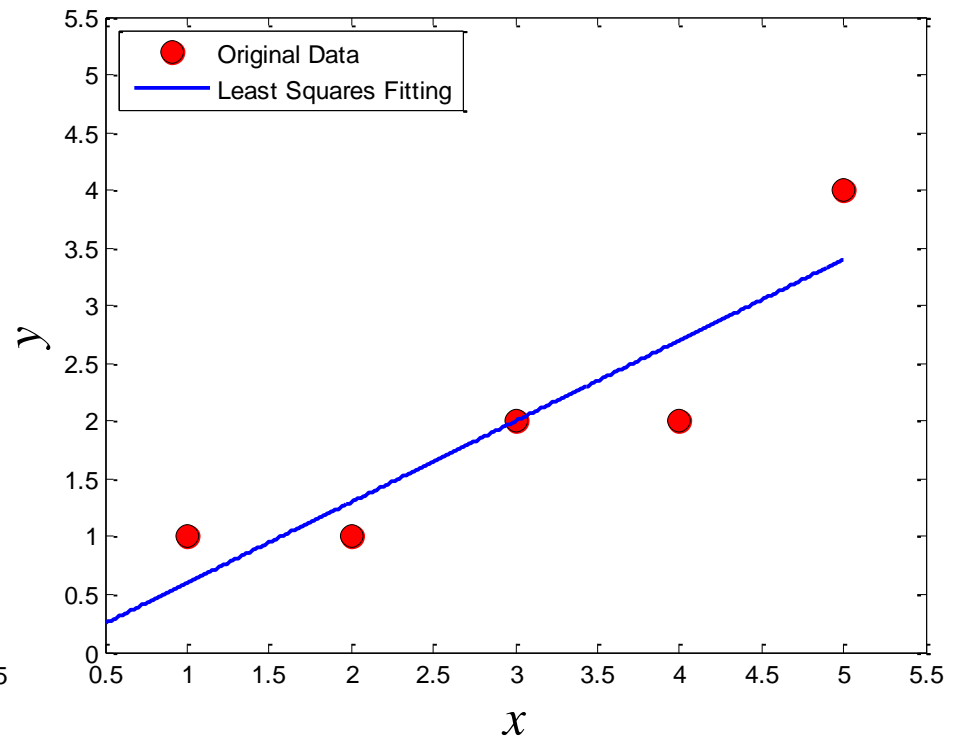
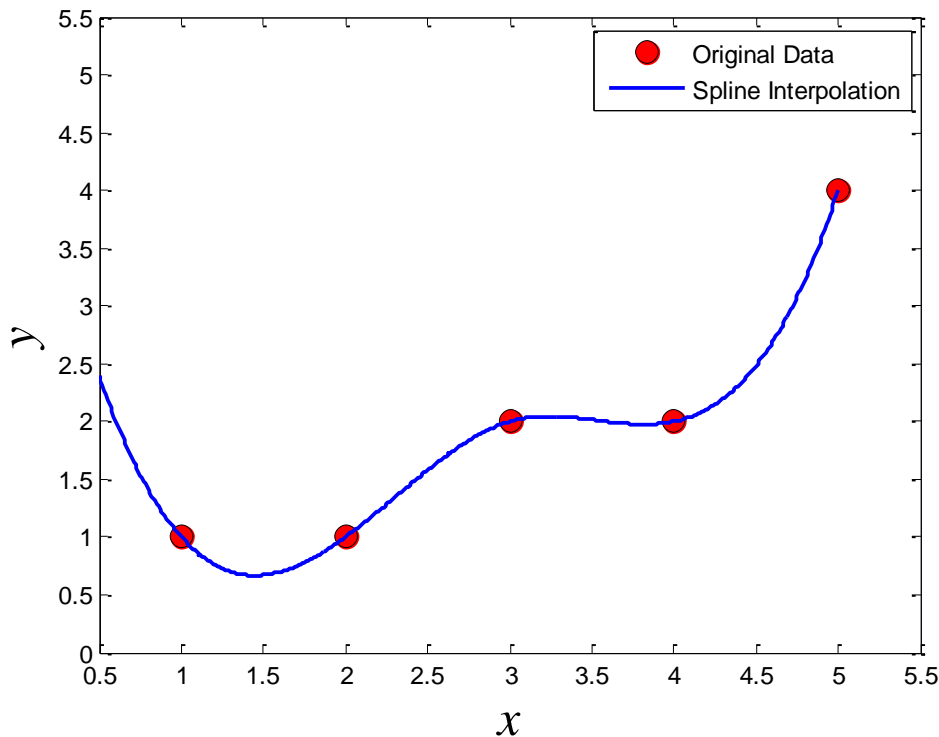
# Least Squares



## Motivation: Interpolation VS. Least Squares Fitting

Consider the experimental data below and find a way to best represent it:

$x$	1	2	3	4	5
$y$	1	1	2	2	4



# Least Squares

## ⊙ Motivation: Interpolation VS. Least Squares Fitting

- **Interpolation** means fitting some function to given data so that the function has the same values as the given data.
- **Least Squares Fitting** is to derive a single curve that represents the general trend of the data. The curve is designed to **follow *the pattern of the points taken as a group***. Any individual data point may be incorrect, we make no effort to intersect every point.

# Least Squares

## □ Linear Least Squares

- The Normal Equation
- QR Factorization

## □ Nonlinear Least Squares

- Gauss–Newton Method
- Levenberg–Marquardt Method

# Linear Least Squares

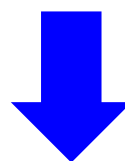
## The Normal Equation: Basic Idea

Consider the following three equations in two unknowns:

$$x_1 + x_2 = 2$$

$$x_1 - x_2 = 1$$

$$x_1 + x_2 = 3$$

  $Ax = b$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Basic Idea

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{A}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{b}}$$

$$x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \triangleq \mathbf{b}$$

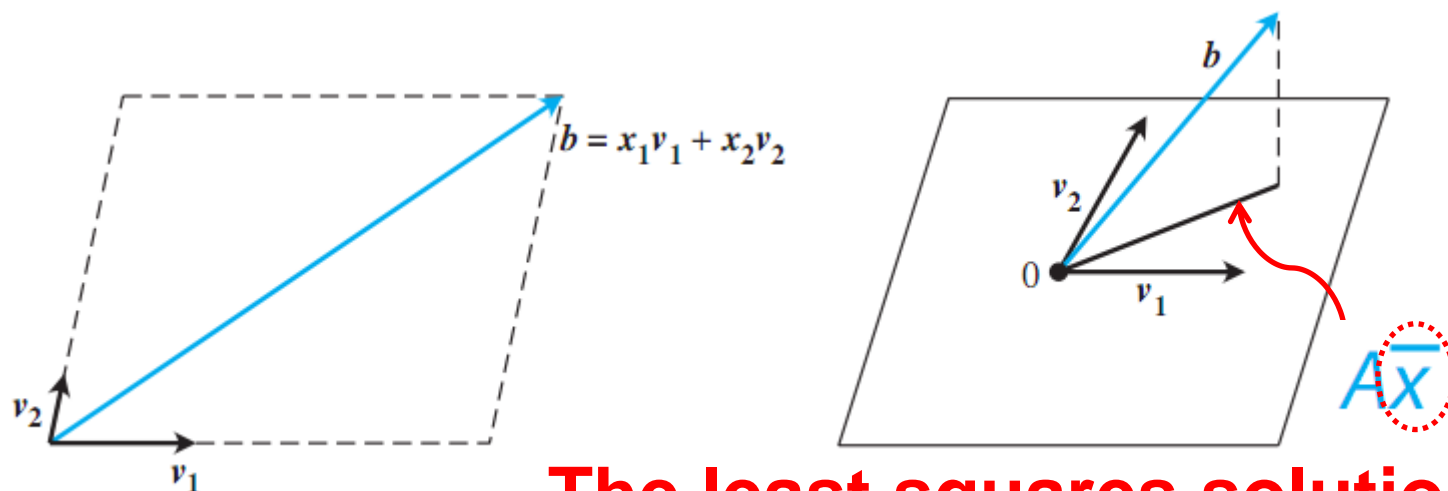
Combinations of two three-dimensional vectors

# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Basic Idea

$$x_1 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{V}_1} + x_2 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{V}_2} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \triangleq \mathbf{b}$$

Combinations of two three-dimensional vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$



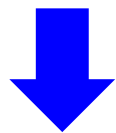
**The least squares solution**

# Linear Least Squares

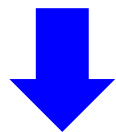
## • The Normal Equation: Basic Idea

Search for a formula for  $\bar{x}$

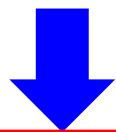
$$(b - A\bar{x}) \perp \{Ax \mid x \in R^n\}$$



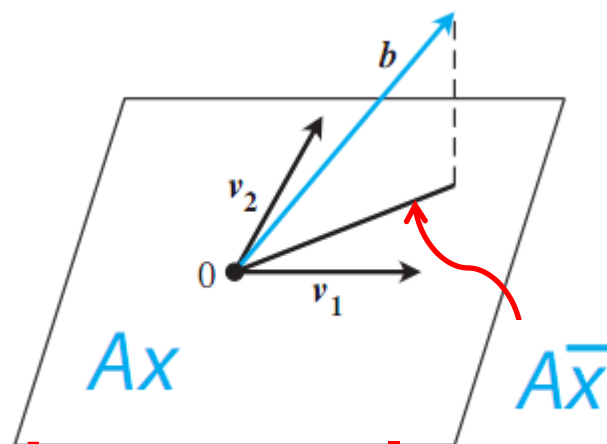
$$(Ax)^T (b - A\bar{x}) = 0 \text{ for all } x \text{ in } R^n$$



$$A^T (b - A\bar{x}) = 0$$



$$A^T A\bar{x} = A^T b$$



the normal equations

# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Example 1

Consider the following three equations in two unknowns:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 &= 2 \\ x_1 - x_2 &= 1 \\ x_1 + x_2 &= 3 \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^T b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Example 1

Consider the following three equations in two unknowns:

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 = 2 \\ x_1 - x_2 = 1 \\ x_1 + x_2 = 3 \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The normal equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \bar{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{7}{4} \\ \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Example 1

Substituting the least squares solution into the original problem yields:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{7}{4} \\ \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2.5 \\ 1 \\ 2.5 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The residual of the least squares solution:

$$r = b - A\bar{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2.5 \\ 1 \\ 2.5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.5 \\ 0.0 \\ 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Linear Least Squares

- **The Normal Equation: the size of the residual**

**The 2-norm of the residual vector:**

$$||r||_2 = \sqrt{r_1^2 + \cdots + r_m^2}$$

**The squared error:**

$$SE = r_1^2 + \cdots + r_m^2$$

**The root mean squared error:**

$$RMSE = \sqrt{SE/m} = \sqrt{(r_1^2 + \cdots + r_m^2) / m}$$

# Linear Least Squares

- **The Normal Equation: the size of the residual**

**The 2-norm of the residual vector:**

$$||r||_2 = \sqrt{r_1^2 + \cdots + r_m^2}$$

**The least squares solution of a linear system of equations  $Ax = b$  minimizes the Euclidean norm of the residual**

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



# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: General Procedure

Given a set of  $m$  data points  $(t_1, y_1), \dots, (t_m, y_m)$ .

**STEP 1. Choose a model.** Identify a parameterized model, such as  $y = c_1 + c_2 t$ ,  $y = c_1 + c_2 t + c_3 t^2$

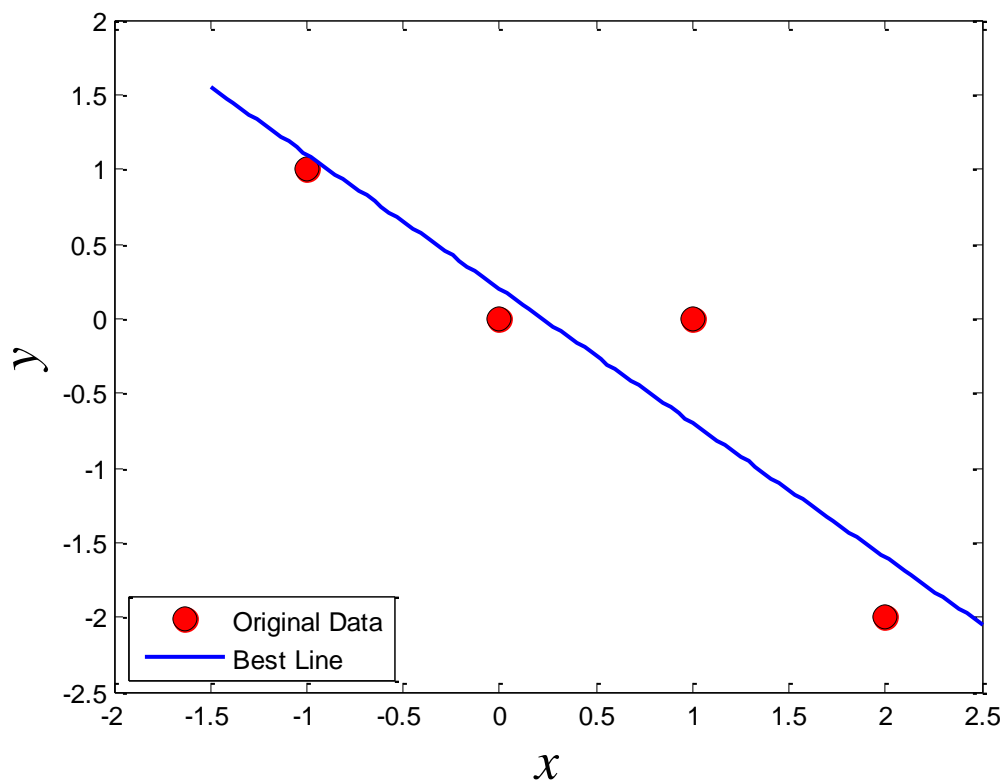
**STEP 2. Force the model to fit the data.** Substitute the data points into the model, resulting in a system  $Ax = b$

**STEP 3. Solve the normal equations.** The least squares solution will be found as the solution to the system of normal equations  $A^T Ax = A^T b$

# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Example 2

Find the best line and best parabola for the four data points  $(-1,1)$ ,  $(0,0)$ ,  $(1,0)$ ,  $(2,-2)$ .



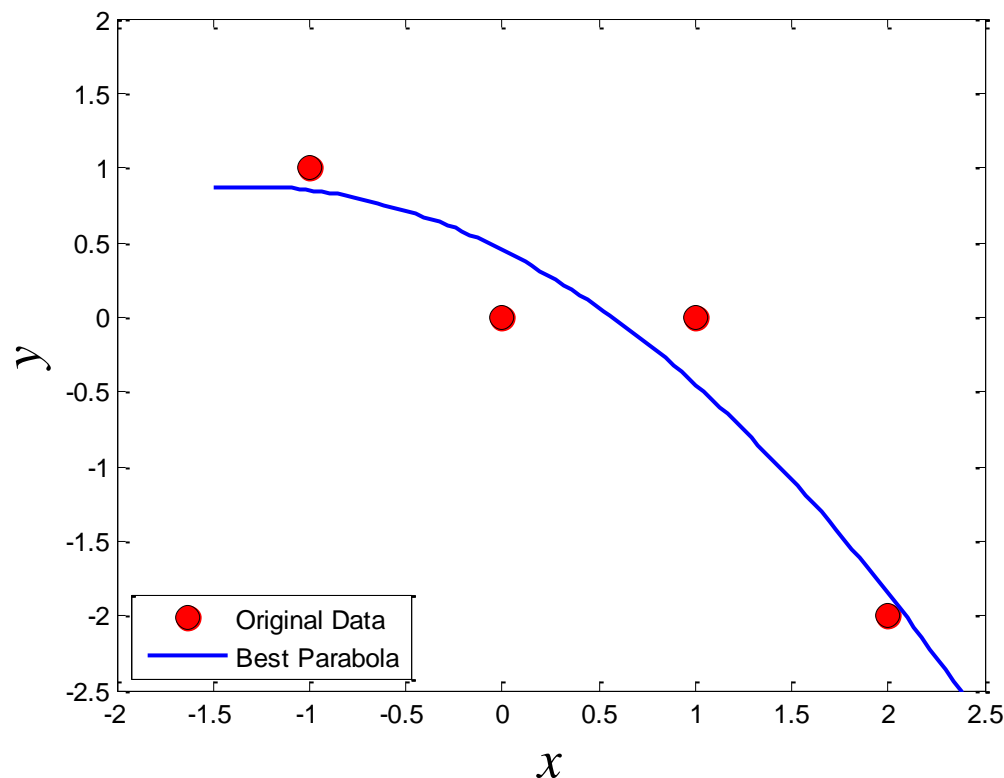
$$\begin{aligned} y &= c_1 + c_2 t \\ &= 0.2 - 0.9t \end{aligned}$$

The squared error:  
**SE = 0.7**

# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Example 2

Find the best line and best parabola for the four data points  $(-1,1)$ ,  $(0,0)$ ,  $(1,0)$ ,  $(2,-2)$ .



$$\begin{aligned}y &= c_1 + c_2 t + c_3 t^2 \\ &= 0.45 - 0.65t - 0.25t^2\end{aligned}$$

The squared error:  
**SE = 0.45**

# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Example 3

Let  $x_1 = 2.0, x_2 = 2.2, x_3 = 2.4, \dots, x_{11} = 4.0$  be equally spaced points in  $[2, 4]$ , and set

$$y_i = 1 + x_i + x_i^2 + x_i^3 + x_i^4 + x_i^5 + x_i^6 + x_i^7$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq 11$ .

Use the normal equations to find the least squares polynomial

$$P(x) = c_1 + c_2x + \cdots + c_8x^7$$

fitting the  $(x_i, y_i)$ .

# Linear Least Squares

## ⊙ The Normal Equation: Example 3

$$\mathbf{x}_{NE} = (\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{A}) \backslash (\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{b})$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{backslash} = \mathbf{A} \backslash \mathbf{b}$$

$\mathbf{x}_{NE} =$

4.985448776320641  
-8.842392139312931  
11.312052465639942  
-4.942514793003778  
3.034575762766727  
0.586051762312912  
1.046351797098351  
0.997795828974419

$\mathbf{x}_{backslash} =$

1.000000015989120  
0.9999999965715620  
1.0000000030766503  
0.9999999985089027  
1.0000000004186126  
0.9999999999326902  
1.0000000000056217  
0.9999999999998201

# Linear Least Squares

## QR Factorization: Basic Idea

To find the least squares solution **without** forming the normal equations.

$$\boxed{A} = \boxed{Q} \boxed{R}$$

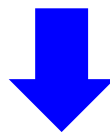
$R$  is the same size as  $A$  and  $Q$  is a square matrix with as many rows as  $A$ . The letter **Q** is a substitute for the letter **O** in **orthogonal** and the letter **R** is for **right triangular matrix**.

# Linear Least Squares

## QR Factorization: Basic Idea

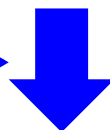
To find the least squares solution **without** forming the normal equations.

To minimize  $\|Ax - b\|_2$



$$\|QRx - b\|_2$$

$$\|Qx\|_2 = \|x\|_2 \quad \text{-----} \rightarrow$$



$$\|Rx - Q^T b\|_2$$

# QR Factorization

## Least squares by QR factorization: Procedure

Given the  $m \times n$  inconsistent system

$$Ax = b,$$

find the full QR factorization  $A = QR$  and set

$\hat{R}$  = upper  $n \times n$  submatrix of  $R$

$\hat{d}$  = upper  $n$  entries of  $d = Q^T b$

Solve  $\hat{R}\bar{x} = \hat{d}$  for least squares solution  $\bar{x}$ .



# QR Factorization

## Least squares by QR factorization: Example 3

Let  $x_1 = 2.0, x_2 = 2.2, x_3 = 2.4, \dots, x_{11} = 4.0$  be equally spaced points in  $[2, 4]$ , and set

$$y_i = 1 + x_i + x_i^2 + x_i^3 + x_i^4 + x_i^5 + x_i^6 + x_i^7$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq 11$ .

Use the normal equations to find the least squares polynomial

$$P(x) = c_1 + c_2x + \dots + c_8x^7$$

fitting the  $(x_i, y_i)$ .

# QR Factorization

## Least squares by QR factorization: Example 3

$$x_{NE} = (A' * A) \backslash (A' * b)$$

$x_{NE} =$

4.985448776320641  
-8.842392139312931  
11.312052465639942  
-4.942514793003778  
3.034575762766727  
0.586051762312912  
1.046351797098351  
0.997795828974419

$$[Q,R]=qr(A);d = Q' * b;$$
$$x_{qr} = R(1:8,:) \backslash d(1:8)$$

$x_{qr} =$

0.9999999837023661  
1.000000399264445  
0.9999999585059873  
1.000000237157606  
0.9999999919481018  
1.000000016242281  
0.9999999998197170  
1.0000000000084963

# QR Factorization

## ⊙ How QR factorization? Basic Idea

$$(A_1 | \cdots | A_n) = (q_1 | \cdots | q_m) \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & \cdots & r_{1n} \\ & r_{22} & \cdots & r_{2n} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & r_{nn} \\ 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$A$  is  $m \times n$

$Q$  is an orthogonal square matrix with  $m \times m$

$R$  is the upper triangular matrix with  $m \times n$

# QR Factorization

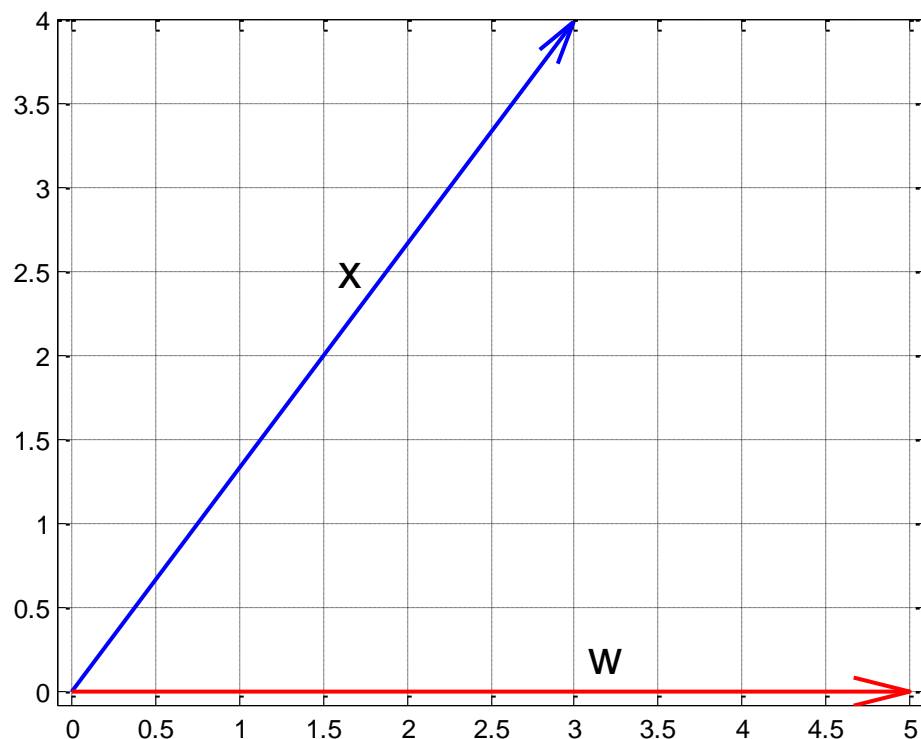
## ⦿ How QR factorization? A Simple Example

Given **a vector  $x$**  in the plane, to relocate it to **a vector  $w$**  of equal length, e.g.,

$$x = [3, 4] \text{ and } w = [5, 0]$$

How to find **a matrix  $H$** , such that

$$Hx = w$$



# QR Factorization

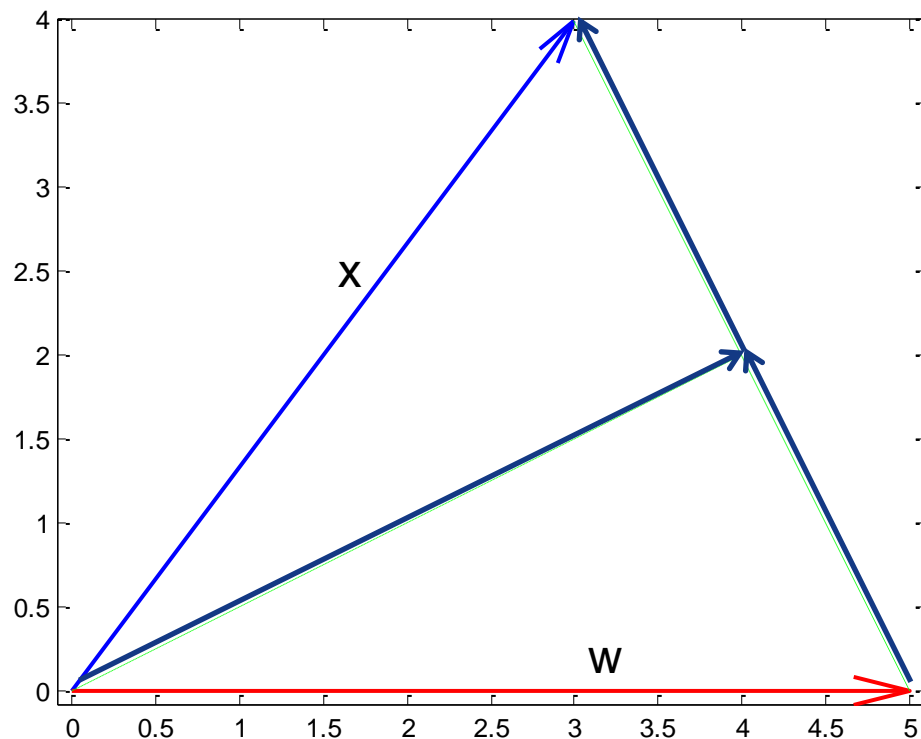
## ⦿ How QR factorization? A Simple Example

Given **a vector  $x$**  in the plane, to relocate it to **a vector  $w$**  of equal length, e.g.,

$x = [3, 4]$  and  $w = [5, 0]$ .

How to find **a matrix  $H$** , such that

$$Hx = w$$



# QR Factorization

## How QR factorization? A Simple Example

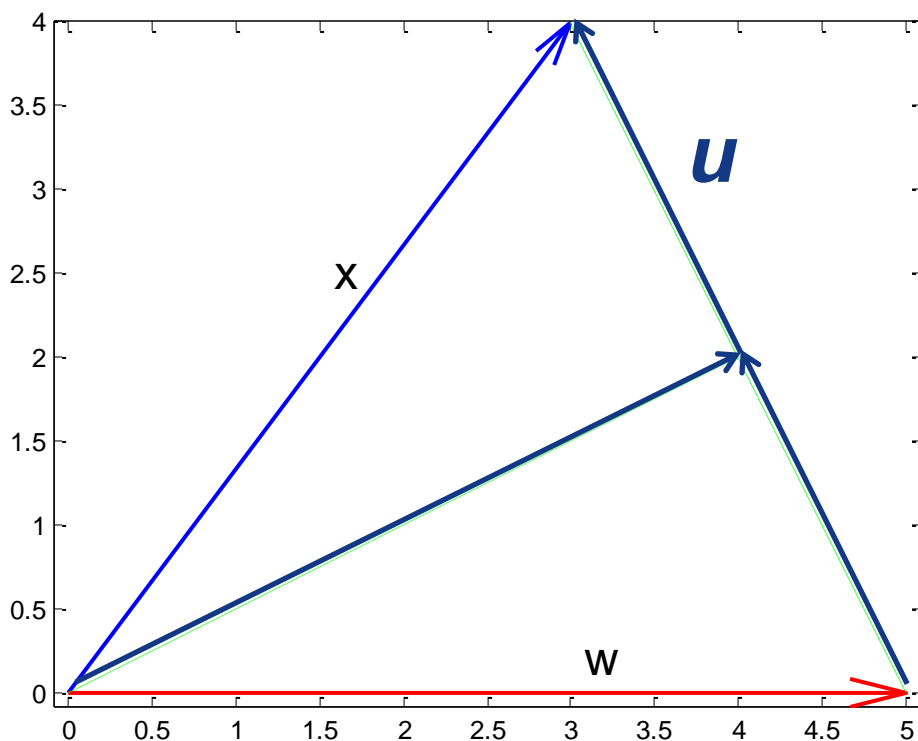
Given a vector  $x$  in the plane, to relocate it to a vector  $w$  of equal length, e.g.,

$$x = [3, 4] \text{ and } w = [5, 0]$$

$$v = x - w$$

$$e = \frac{v}{\sqrt{v^T v}}$$

$$u = e(e \cdot x) = \frac{v}{v^T v} (v^T x)$$



# QR Factorization

## How QR factorization? A Simple Example

Given a vector  $x$  in the plane, to relocate it to a vector  $w$  of equal length, e.g.,

$$x = [3, 4] \text{ and } w = [5, 0]$$

$$v = x - w$$

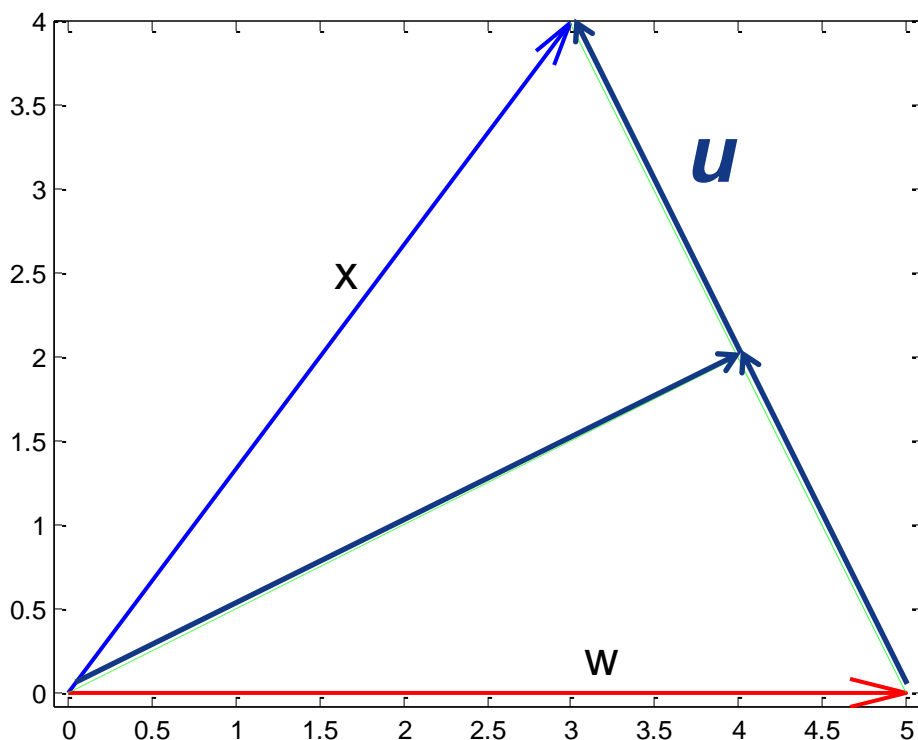


$$u = \frac{vv^T}{v^T v} x \triangleq Px$$



$$x - 2Px = w$$

$$H = I - 2P$$



# QR Factorization

## ⊙ How QR factorization? A Simple Example

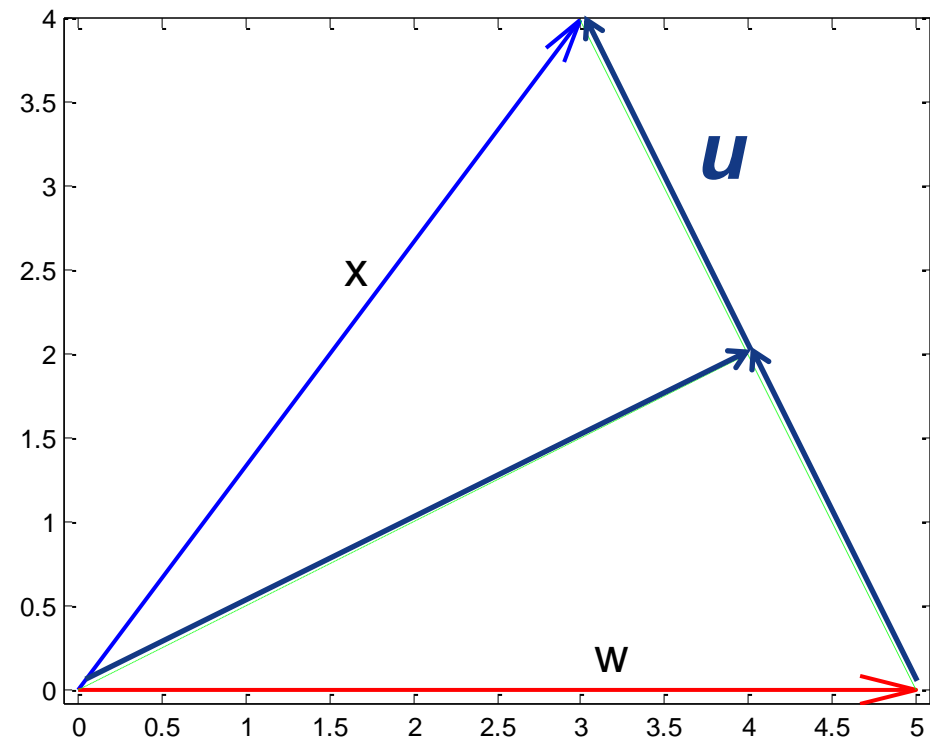
Given a vector  $x$  in the plane, to relocate it to a vector  $w$  of equal length, e.g.,

$$x = [3, 4] \text{ and } w = [5, 0]$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & -0.4 \\ -0.4 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 0.8 \\ 0.8 & -0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Hx = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = w$$





# QR Factorization

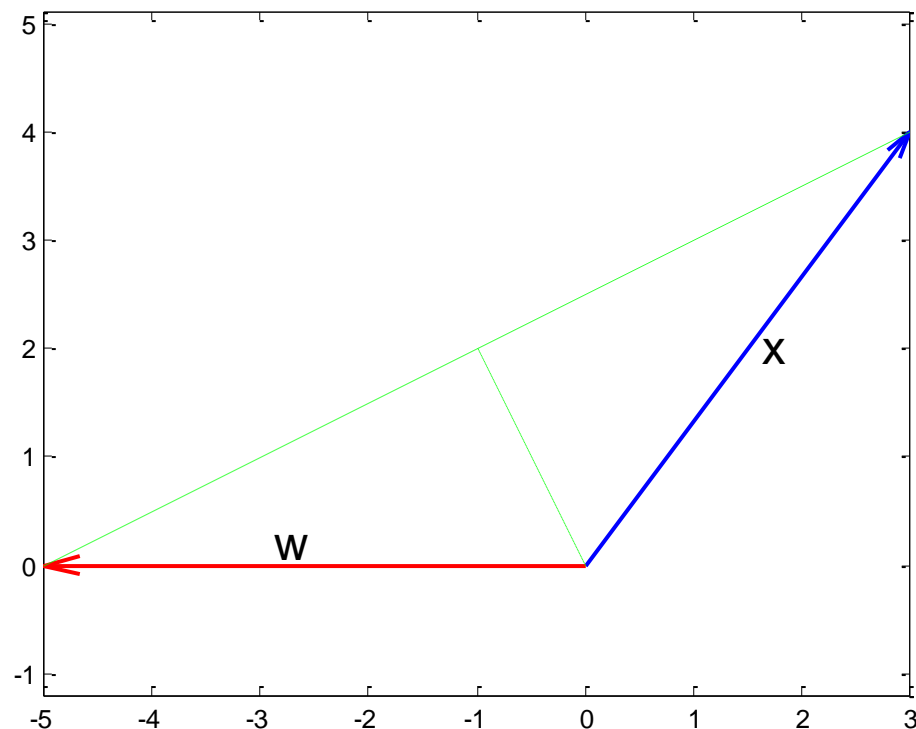
## ⦿ How QR factorization? A Simple Example

Given a vector  $x$  in the plane, to relocate it to a vector  $w$  of equal length, e.g.,

$$x = [3, 4], \quad w = [-5, 0]$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} -0.6000 & -0.8000 \\ -0.8000 & 0.6000 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Hx = \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = w$$



# QR Factorization

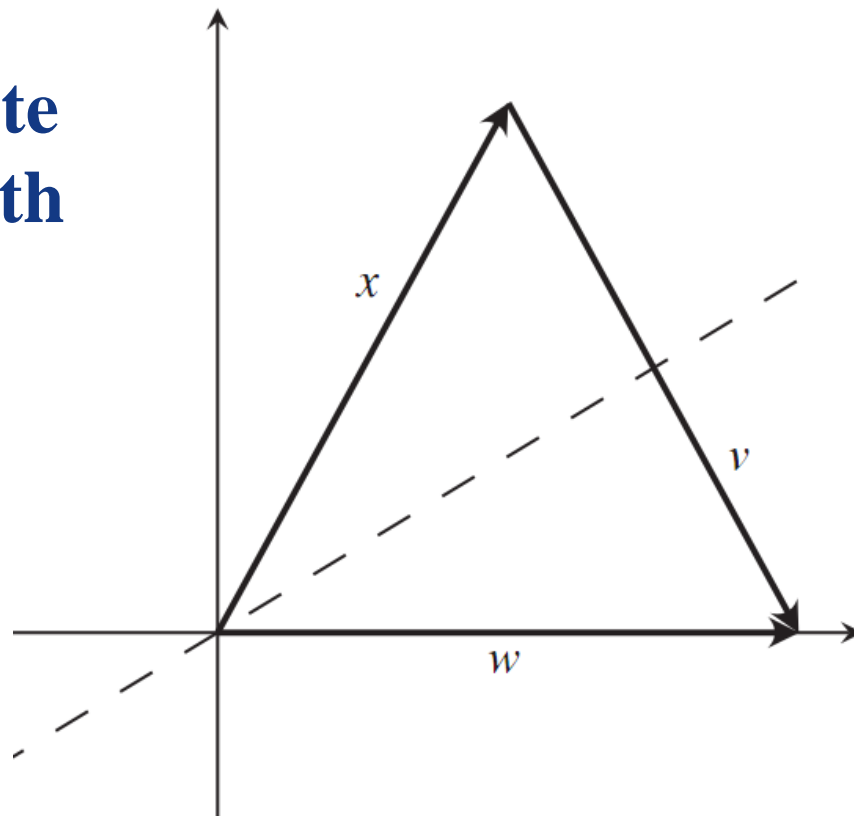
## ⊙ How QR factorization? Householder reflector

A Householder reflector is an orthogonal matrix that reflects all  $m$ -vectors through an  $m - 1$  dimensional plane.

Given a vector  $x$ , to relocate to a vector  $w$  of equal length

Householder reflectors:

$$Hx = w$$



# QR Factorization

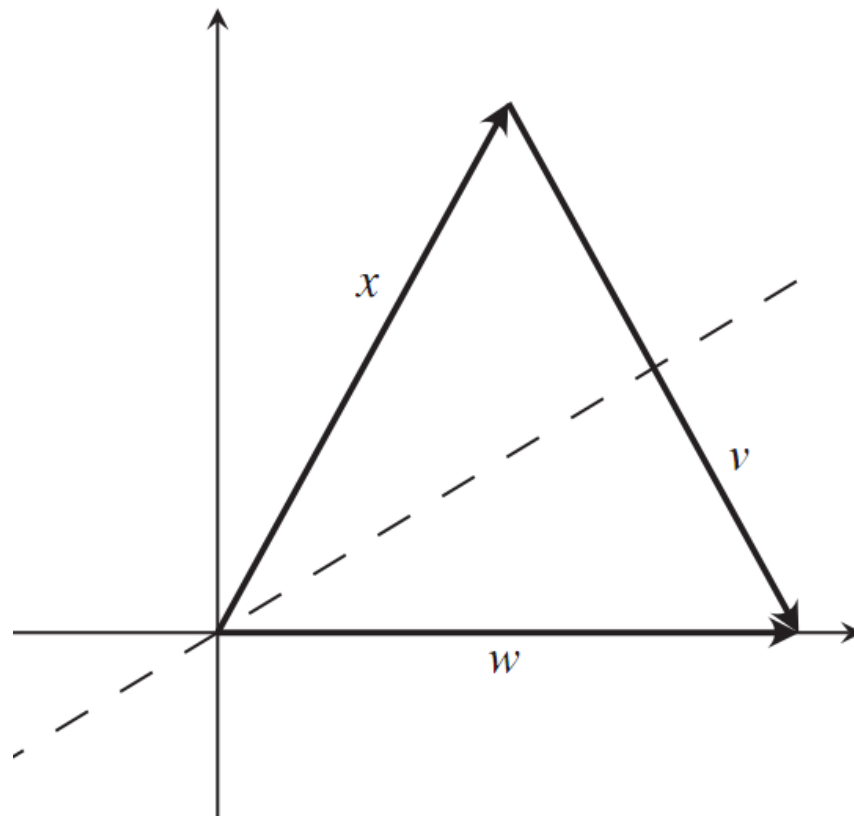
## Householder Reflector: Basic Idea

Assume that  $x$  and  $w$  are vectors of the same Euclidean length,

$$||x||_2 = ||w||_2$$

Then  $w - x$  and  $w + x$  are perpendicular.

$$\begin{aligned} & (w - x)^T (w + x) \\ &= ||w||^2 - ||x||^2 \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



# QR Factorization

## Householder Reflector: Basic Idea

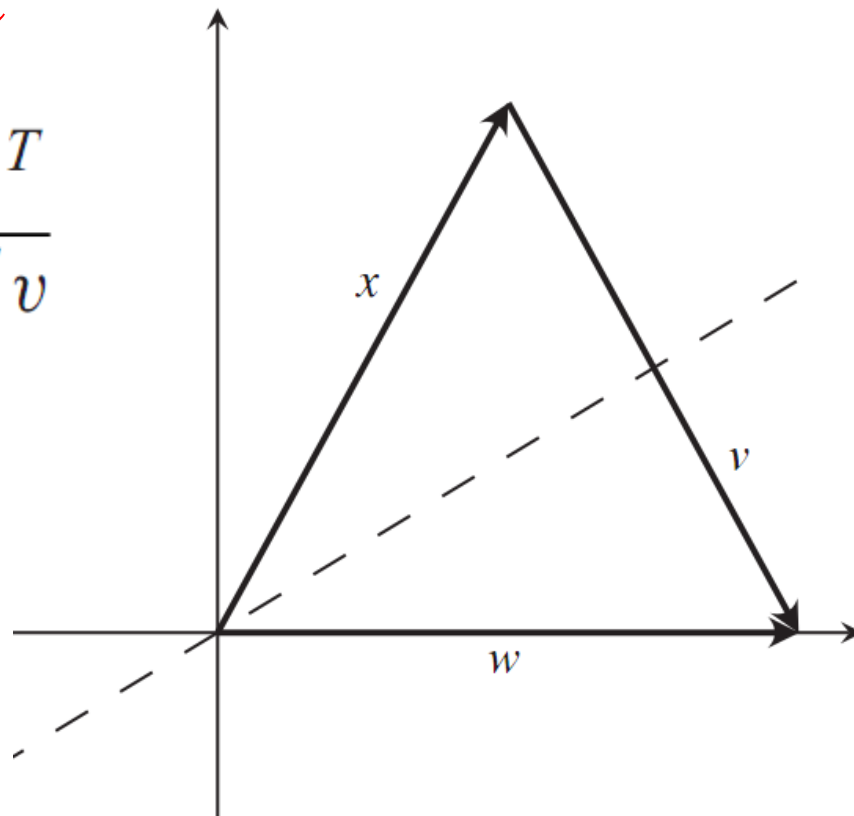
Assume that  $x$  and  $w$  are vectors of the same Euclidean length,  $\|x\|_2 = \|w\|_2$

Define the vector  $v = w - x$

Projection matrix  $P = \frac{vv^T}{v^T v}$

Householder reflector

$$H = I - 2P$$



# QR Factorization

## Householder Reflector: Basic Idea

Assume that  $x$  and  $w$  are vectors of the same Euclidean length,  $\|x\|_2 = \|w\|_2$

Projection matrix  $P = \frac{vv^T}{v^T v}$

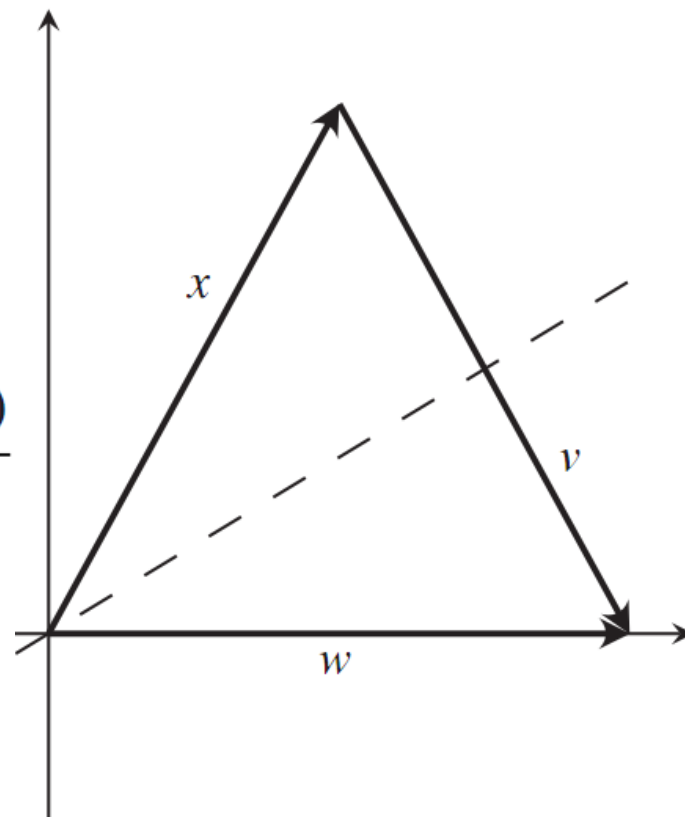
$$Hx = x - 2Px$$

$$= w - v - \frac{2vv^T x}{v^T v}$$

$$= w - v - \frac{vv^T x}{v^T v} - \frac{vv^T (w - v)}{v^T v}$$

$$= w - \frac{vv^T (w + x)}{v^T v}$$

$$= w$$



# QR Factorization

## Householder Reflector: Theory

Assume that  $x$  and  $w$  are vectors of the same Euclidean length,

$$\|x\|_2 = \|w\|_2$$

and define the vector  $v = w - x$ .

Then

$$H = I - 2vv^T / v^T v$$

is a **symmetric and orthogonal** matrix and  $Hx = w$ .

# QR Factorization

## Householder Reflector: Theory

Projection matrix  $P = \frac{vv^T}{v^T v}$ ,  $P^2 = P$

$$H = I - 2vv^T / v^T v$$

is a **symmetric and orthogonal** matrix and  $Hx = w$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} H^T H &= HH = (I - 2P)(I - 2P) \\ &= I - 4P + 4P^2 \\ &= I. \end{aligned}$$

# QR Factorization

## QR Factorization Using Householder Reflector

Given a matrix  $A$ , to write it in the form  $A = QR$

Let  $x_1$  be the first column of  $A$

Let  $w = \pm(\|x_1\|_2, 0, \dots, 0)$  be a vector along the first coordinate axis of identical Euclidean length

 Householder reflector  $H_1$

$$H_1 A = H_1 \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \end{bmatrix}$$



# QR Factorization

## QR Factorization Using Householder Reflector

Given a matrix  $A$ , to write it in the form  $A = QR$

Let  $x_2$  be the lower  $m - 1$  entries in column 2 of  $H_1 A$

Let  $w_2$  be  $\pm(\|x_2\|_2, 0, \dots, 0)$

Householder reflector  $\hat{H}_2$

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & & & \\ 0 & \hat{H}_2 & & \\ 0 & & & \end{pmatrix}}_{H_2} \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \hline 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \hline 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

$H_2 H_1 A$

# QR Factorization

## QR Factorization Using Householder Reflector

Given a matrix  $A$ , to write it in the form  $A = QR$

One more step gives

↓ Householder reflector  $\hat{H}_3$

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & & \\ 0 & 0 & & \hat{H}_3 \end{pmatrix}}_{H_3} \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$H_3$

$$H_3 H_2 H_1 A = R$$

# QR Factorization

## QR Factorization Using Householder Reflector

Given a matrix  $A$ , to write it in the form  $A = QR$

One more step gives

↓ Householder reflector  $\hat{H}_3$

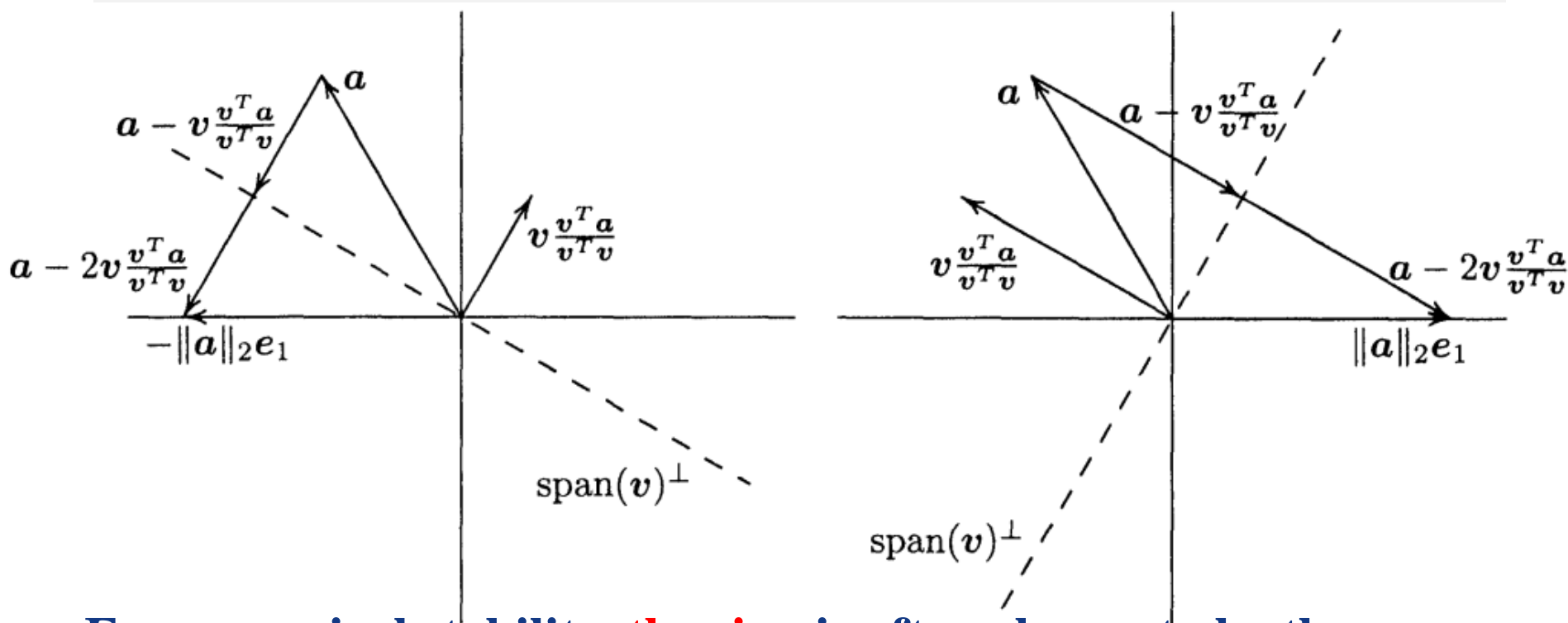
$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & & \\ 0 & 0 & & \hat{H}_3 \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ \hline 0 & 0 & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ \hline 0 & 0 & \times \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$Q = H_1 H_2 H_3 \quad \leftarrow \quad H_3 H_2 H_1 A = R$$

# QR Factorization

## Householder Reflector: More Details

### Geometric Interpretation of Householder Reflector



For numerical stability, **the sign** is often chosen to be the **opposite of the sign of the first component of  $a$**  to avoid the possibility of subtracting nearly equal numbers when forming  $v$ .

# QR Factorization

## Householder QR Factorization: Procedure

Given a matrix  $A$ , to write it in the form  $A = QR$

```

for  $k = 1$  to  $n$                                      { loop over columns }
     $\alpha_k = -\text{sign}(a_{kk})\sqrt{a_{kk}^2 + \cdots + a_{mk}^2}$ 
     $\mathbf{v}_k = [0 \quad \cdots \quad 0 \quad a_{kk} \quad \cdots \quad a_{mk}]^T - \alpha_k \mathbf{e}_k$  { compute Householder vector for current col }
     $\beta_k = \mathbf{v}_k^T \mathbf{v}_k$ 
    if  $\beta_k = 0$  then                                   { skip current column if it's already zero }
        continue with next  $k$ 
    for  $j = k$  to  $n$                                    { apply transformation to remaining submatrix }
         $\gamma_j = \mathbf{v}_k^T \mathbf{a}_j$ 
         $\mathbf{a}_j = \mathbf{a}_j - (2\gamma_j/\beta_k)\mathbf{v}_k$ 
    end
end
end
    
```

# QR Factorization

## QR Factorization: Example 4

Use Householder reflectors to find the QR factorization of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 0.8 \\ 0.8 & -0.6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & -14/15 & -2/15 \\ 2/3 & 1/3 & -2/3 \\ 2/3 & 2/15 & 11/15 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Motivation: Example 5

Use model linearization to find the best least squares exponential fit

$$y = c_1 e^{c_2 t}$$

to the following world automobile supply data:

year	cars ( $\times 10^6$ )
1950	53.05
1955	73.04
1960	98.31
1965	139.78
1970	193.48
1975	260.20
1980	320.39

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Motivation: Example 5

$$y = c_1 e^{c_2 t}$$



applying the natural logarithm

$$\ln y = \ln(c_1 e^{c_2 t}) = \ln c_1 + c_2 t$$



$$c_1 = e^k$$

$$\ln y = k + c_2 t$$

Now both coefficients  $k$  and  $c_2$  are linear in the model.

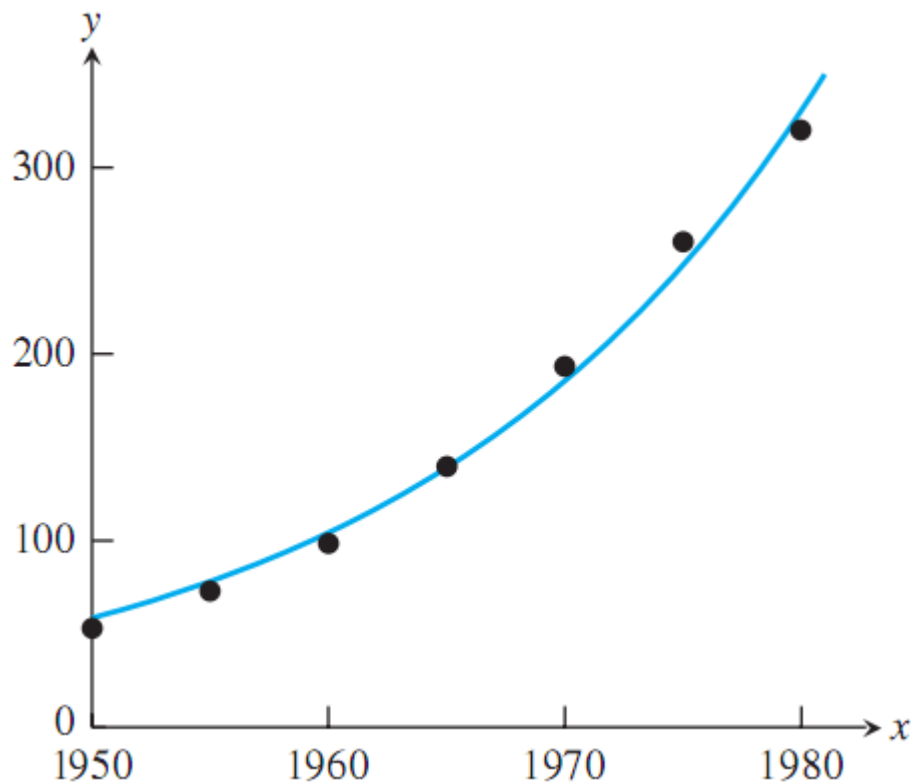


# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Motivation: Example 5

Use model linearization to find the best least squares exponential fit

$$y = c_1 e^{c_2 t}$$



$$y = 54.03e^{0.06152t}$$

The RMSE in log space:  
**RMSE = 0.0357.**

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Gauss–Newton Method

Consider the system of  $m$  equations in  $n$  unknowns

$$r_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$$

$$\vdots$$

$$r_m(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$$

The sum of the squares of the errors is represented by the function

$$E(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{1}{2}(r_1^2 + \dots + r_m^2) = \frac{1}{2}r^T r$$

where  $r = [r_1, \dots, r_m]^T$ .

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Review of the derivative of a vector-valued function

Let  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a scalar-valued function of  $n$  variables. **The derivative of  $f$**  is the vector-valued function

$$Df(x_1, \dots, x_n) = [f_{x_1}, \dots, f_{x_n}] \quad (1 \times n)$$

Let 
$$F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ \vdots \\ f_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

be a vector-valued function of  $n$  variables.

**The Jacobian of  $F$ :** 
$$DF(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \begin{bmatrix} Df_1 \\ \vdots \\ Df_n \end{bmatrix}$$

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Review of the derivative of a vector-valued function

### Vector dot product rule

$$D(u^T v) = v^T Du + u^T Dv$$

### Matrix/vector product rule

$$D(Av) = A \cdot Dv + \sum_{i=1}^n v_i Da_i,$$

where  $a_i$  denotes the  $i$ th column of  $A$ .

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Gauss–Newton Method

The sum of the squares of the errors is represented by the function

$$E(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{1}{2}(r_1^2 + \dots + r_m^2) = \frac{1}{2}r^T r$$

To minimize  $E$ , we set the derivative of  $E$  to zero

$$0 = F(x) = DE(x) = D \left( \frac{1}{2} r(x)^T r(x) \right) = r(x)^T Dr(x).$$

$1 \times m \quad m \times n$

where  $Dr(x)$  is the Jacobian matrix of  $r(x)$ .

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## Newton's Method for Nonlinear Equations: Review

Systems of Equations:

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$$

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ **Newton's Method for Nonlinear Equations: Review**

Newton's method for the  $n \times n$  nonlinear system  
 $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$

**Step 1: Choose a starting point  $\mathbf{x}_0$  ;  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$ ; let  $k = 0$ ;**

**Step 2: Calculate  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_k)$  and  $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_k)$ ;**

**Step 3: Solve the linear system  $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_k) \delta = -\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_k)$  ;**

**Step 4: Set  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_k + \delta$ ;**

**Step 5: Check  $\|\mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_k\| < \varepsilon_1$  and  $\|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_k)\| < \varepsilon_2$  ; if they are satisfied, stop and  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{x}_{k+1}$  , else, go to Step 6;**

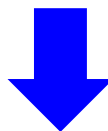
**Step 6: Set  $k = k + 1$ , go to Step 2.**

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Gauss–Newton Method

To use the Newton's Method

$$0 = F(x) = DE(x) = D\left(\frac{1}{2}r(x)^T r(x)\right) = r(x)^T Dr(x).$$



$$F(x)^T = (r^T Dr)^T = (Dr)^T r$$



the Jacobian

$$DF(x)^T = D((Dr)^T r) = (Dr)^T \cdot Dr + \sum_{i=1}^m r_i Dc_i$$



# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Gauss–Newton Method

**To use the Newton's Method**

$$DF(x)^T = D((Dr)^T r) = (Dr)^T \cdot Dr + \sum_{i=1}^m r_i Dc_i$$

where  $c_i$  is the  $i$ th column of  $Dr$ .

**The Hessian matrix:**

$$Dc_i = H_{r_i} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 r_i}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 r_i}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 r_i}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 r_i}{\partial x_n \partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Nonlinear Least Squares

- **Gauss–Newton Method: General Procedure**  
To minimize

$$r_1(x)^2 + \cdots + r_m(x)^2.$$

Set  $x^0$  = initial vector,

**for**  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$A = Dr(x^k)$$

$$\underline{A^T A v^k = -A^T r(x^k)} \quad \% \text{The normal equation}$$

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + v^k$$

**end**

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Gauss–Newton Method: Example 5 revisited

Use the Gauss–Newton Method to fit the world automobile supply data of Example 5 with a (nonlinearized) exponential model.

year	cars ( $\times 10^6$ )
1950	53.05
1955	73.04
1960	98.31
1965	139.78
1970	193.48
1975	260.20
1980	320.39

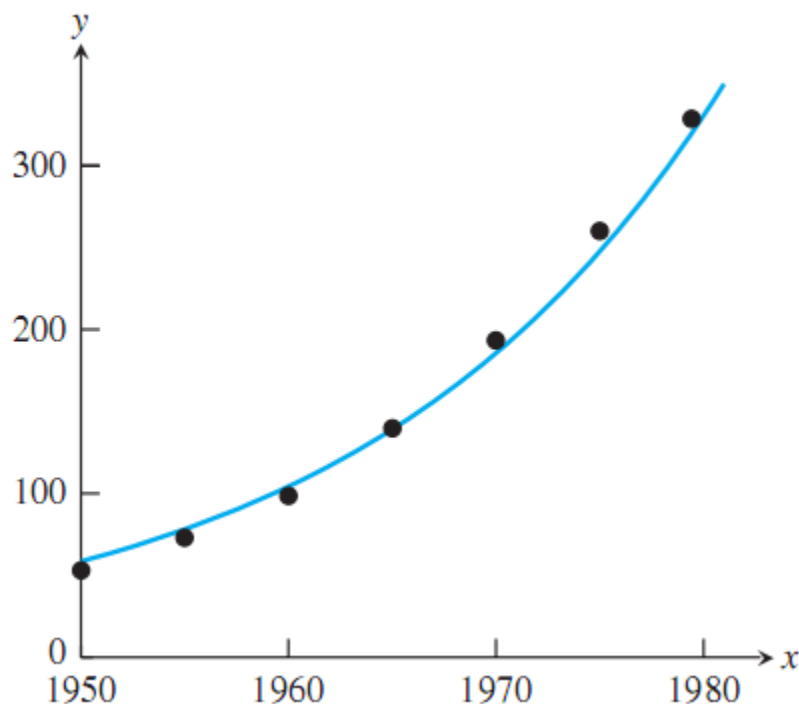
$$y = f_c(t) = c_1 e^{c_2 t}$$

$$r = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^{c_2 t_1} - y_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_1 e^{c_2 t_m} - y_m \end{bmatrix}$$

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## ⊙ Gauss–Newton Method: Example 5 revisited

Use the Gauss–Newton Method to fit the world automobile supply data of Example 5 with a (nonlinearized) exponential model.



$$Dr = \begin{bmatrix} e^{c_2 t_1} & c_1 t_1 e^{c_2 t_1} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ e^{c_2 t_m} & c_1 t_m e^{c_2 t_m} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = 58.51 e^{0.05772t}$$

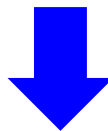
# Nonlinear Least Squares

## Levenberg–Marquardt Method: Motivation

Least squares minimization is especially challenging when the coefficient matrix turns out

Many plausible model definitions yield **poorly conditioned  $D$**  matrices.

$$A^T A v^k = -A^T r(x^k)$$



$$(\underbrace{A^T A + \lambda \operatorname{diag}(A^T A)}_{\text{regularization term}}) v^k = -A^T r(x^k)$$

***regularization term***

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## Levenberg–Marquardt Method: Procedure

To minimize

$$r_1(x)^2 + \cdots + r_m(x)^2.$$

Set  $x^0$  = initial vector,  $\lambda$  = constant  
**for**  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$A = Dr(x^k)$$

$$(A^T A + \lambda \operatorname{diag}(A^T A))v^k = -A^T r(x^k)$$

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + v^k$$

**end**

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## Levenberg–Marquardt Method: Example 6

Use Levenberg–Marquardt method to fit the model

$$y = c_1 e^{-c_2(t-c_3)^2}$$

to the data points

$$(t_i, y_i) = \{(1, 3), (2, 5), (2, 7), (3, 5), (4, 1)\}$$

$$r = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^{-c_2(t_1-c_3)^2} - y_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_1 e^{-c_2(t_5-c_3)^2} - y_5 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Nonlinear Least Squares

## Levenberg–Marquardt Method: Example 6

Use Levenberg–Marquardt method to fit the model

$$y = c_1 e^{-c_2(t-c_3)^2}$$

to the data points

$$(t_i, y_i) = \{(1, 3), (2, 5), (2, 7), (3, 5), (4, 1)\}$$

$$Dr = \begin{bmatrix} e^{-c_2(t_1-c_3)^2} & -c_1(t_1 - c_3)^2 e^{-c_2(t_1-c_3)^2} & 2c_1c_2(t_1 - c_3)e^{-c_2(t_1-c_3)^2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ e^{-c_2(t_5-c_3)^2} & -c_1(t_5 - c_3)^2 e^{-c_2(t_5-c_3)^2} & 2c_1c_2(t_5 - c_3)e^{-c_2(t_5-c_3)^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

with initial guess  $(c_1, c_2, c_3) = (1, 1, 1)$  and  $\lambda$  fixed at 50

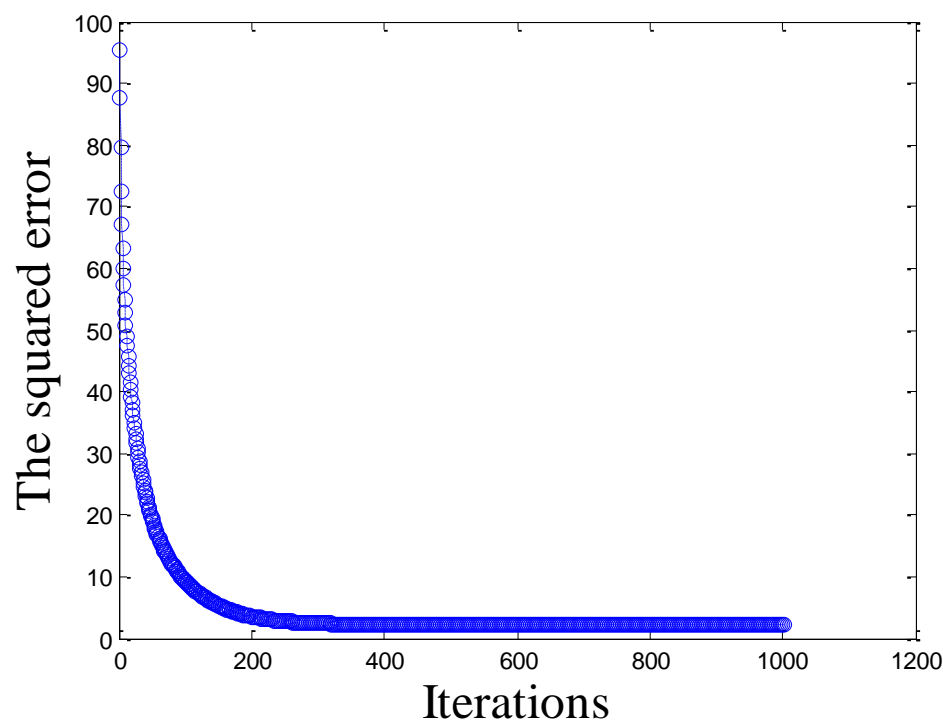
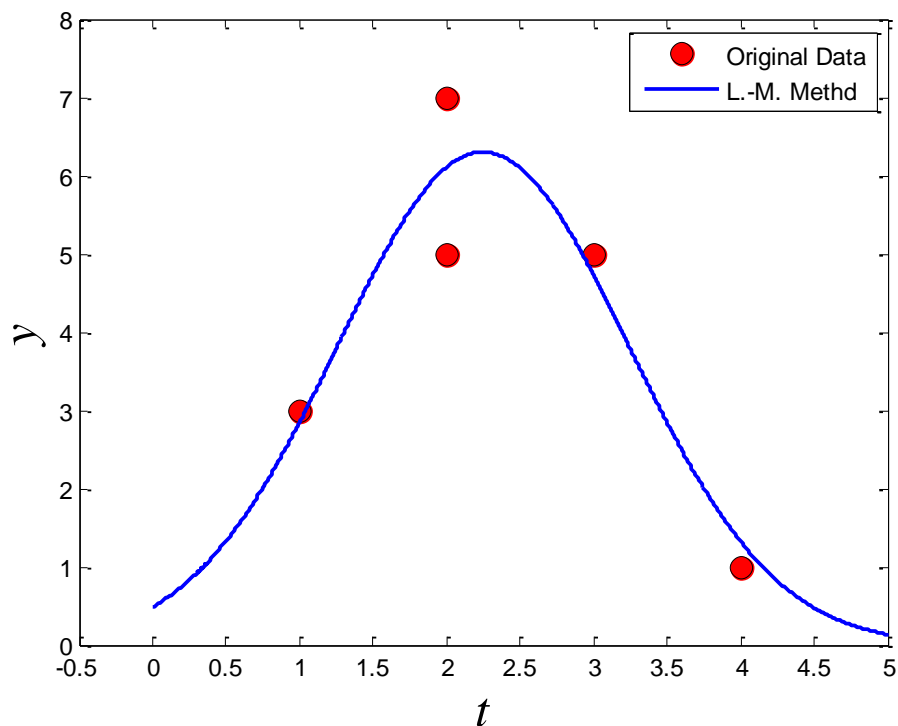


# Nonlinear Least Squares

## Levenberg–Marquardt Method: Example 6

Use Levenberg–Marquardt method to fit the model

$$y = c_1 e^{-c_2(t-c_3)^2}$$



$$y = 6.301e^{-0.5088(t-2.249)^2}$$

# MATLAB Built-in Functions

## ⊙ MATLAB Built-in Functions for Least Squares

- ✓ Polynomial curve fitting: *polyfit*
- ✓ Solve nonlinear least-squares (nonlinear data-fitting) problems: *lsqnonlin*
- ✓ Solve nonlinear curve-fitting (data-fitting) problems in least-squares sense: *lsqcurvefit*
- ✓ Find minimum of unconstrained multivariable function using derivative-free method: *fminsearch*

# Summary

This lecture introduces a number of methods for least squares fitting problems.

## □ Linear Least Squares

- ✓ The Normal Equation
- ✓ QR Factorization

## □ Nonlinear Least Squares

- ✓ Gauss–Newton Method
- ✓ Levenberg–Marquardt Method

# Thank You !