Least Squares Fitting of Data

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Contents

This document describes some algorithms for fitting 2D or 3D point sets by linear or quadratic structures using least squares minimization.

1 Linear Fitting of 2D Points of Form $(x, f(x))$

This is the usual introduction to least squares fit by a line when the data represents measurements where the y-component is assumed to be functionally dependent on the x-component. Given a set of samples $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^m$, determine A and B so that the line $y = Ax + B$ best fits the samples in the sense that the sum of the squared errors between the y_i and the line values $Ax_i + B$ is minimized. Note that the error is measured only in the y-direction.

Define $E(A, B) = \sum_{i=1}^m [(Ax_i + B) - y_i]^2$. This function is nonnegative and its graph is a paraboloid whose vertex occurs when the gradient satistfies $\nabla E = (0, 0)$. This leads to a system of two linear equations in A and B which can be easily solved. Precisely,

$$(0, 0) = \nabla E = 2 \sum_{i=1}^m [(Ax_i + B) - y_i](x_i, 1)$$

and so

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i^2 & \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^m x_i & \sum_{i=1}^m 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i y_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \end{bmatrix}.$$

The solution provides the least squares solution $y = Ax + B$.

If implemented directly, this formulation can lead to an ill-conditioned linear system. To avoid this, you should first compute the averages $\bar{x} = \sum_{i=1}^m x_i$ and $\bar{y} = \sum_{i=1}^m y_i$ and subtract them from the data, $x_i \leftarrow x_i - \bar{x}$ and $y_i \leftarrow y_i - \bar{y}$. The fitted line is of the form $y - \bar{y} = A(x - \bar{x})$.

2 Linear Fitting of nD Points Using Orthogonal Regression

It is also possible to fit a line using least squares where the errors are measured *orthogonally* to the proposed line rather than measured vertically. The following argument holds for sample points and lines in n dimensions. Let the line be $\mathbf{L}(t) = t\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{A}$ where $\mathbf{D}$ is unit length. Define $\mathbf{X}_i$ to be the sample points; then

$$\mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{A} + d_i \mathbf{D} + p_i \mathbf{D}_i^{\perp}$$

where $d_i = \mathbf{D} \cdot (\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{A})$ and $\mathbf{D}_i^{\perp}$ is some unit length vector perpendicular to $\mathbf{D}$ with appropriate coefficient p_i. Define $\mathbf{Y}_i = \mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{A}$. The vector from $\mathbf{X}_i$ to its projection onto the line is

$$\mathbf{Y}_i - d_i \mathbf{D} = p_i \mathbf{D}_i^{\perp}.$$

The squared length of this vector is $p_i^2 = (\mathbf{Y}_i - d_i \mathbf{D})^2$. The energy function for the least squares minimization is $E(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{D}) = \sum_{i=1}^m p_i^2$. Two alternate forms for this function are

$$E(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{D}) = \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\mathbf{Y}_i^{\mathsf{T}} \left[I - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{\mathsf{T}} \right] \mathbf{Y}_i \right)$$

and

$$E(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{D}) = \mathbf{D}^{\mathsf{T}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \left[(\mathbf{Y}_i \cdot \mathbf{Y}_i) I - \mathbf{Y}_i \mathbf{Y}_i^{\mathsf{T}} \right] \right) \mathbf{D} = \mathbf{D}^{\mathsf{T}} M(A) \mathbf{D}.$$

Using the first form of E in the previous equation, take the derivative with respect to A to get

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial A} = -2 \left[I - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^{\mathsf{T}} \right] \sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{Y}_i.$$

This partial derivative is zero whenever $\sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{Y}_i = 0$ in which case $\mathbf{A} = (1/m) \sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{X}_i$ (the average of the sample points).

Given $\mathbf{A}$, the matrix $M(A)$ is determined in the second form of the energy function. The quantity $\mathbf{D}^{\mathsf{T}} M(A) \mathbf{D}$ is a quadratic form whose minimum is the smallest eigenvalue of $M(A)$. This can be found by standard eigensystem solvers. A corresponding unit length eigenvector $\mathbf{D}$ completes our construction of the least squares line.

For $n = 2$, if $\mathbf{A} = (a, b)$, then matrix $M(A)$ is given by

$$M(A) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - b)^2 \right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)^2 & \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)(y_i - b) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)(y_i - b) & \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - b)^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

For $n = 3$, if $\mathbf{A} = (a, b, c)$, then matrix $M(A)$ is given by

$$M(A) = \delta \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)^2 & \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)(y_i - b) & \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)(z_i - c) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)(y_i - b) & \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - b)^2 & \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - b)(z_i - c) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)(z_i - c) & \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - b)(z_i - c) & \sum_{i=1}^{m} (z_i - c)^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\delta = \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - a)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - b)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} (z_i - c)^2.$$

3 Planar Fitting of 3D Points of Form $(x, y, f(x, y))$

The assumption is that the z-component of the data is functionally dependent on the x- and y-components. Given a set of samples $\{(x_i, y_i, z_i)\}_{i=1}^{m}$, determine A, B, and C so that the plane $z = Ax + By + C$ best fits the samples in the sense that the sum of the squared errors between the z_i and the plane values $Ax_i + By_i + C$ is minimized. Note that the error is measured only in the z-direction.

Define $E(A, B, C) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} [(Ax_i + By_i + C) - z_i]^2$. This function is nonnegative and its graph is a hyperparaboloid whose vertex occurs when the gradient satistfies $\nabla E = (0, 0, 0)$. This leads to a system of three linear equations in A, B, and C which can be easily solved. Precisely,

$$(0, 0, 0) = \nabla E = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{m} [(Ax_i + By_i + C) - z_i](x_i, y_i, 1)$$

and so

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i^2 & \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i y_i & \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i \\
\sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i y_i & \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i^2 & \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i \\
\sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i & \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i & \sum_{i=1}^{m} 1
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \\ C \end{bmatrix}
=
\begin{bmatrix}
\sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i z_i \\
\sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i z_i \\
\sum_{i=1}^{m} z_i
\end{bmatrix}.
$$

The solution provides the least squares solution $z = Ax + By + C$.

If implemented directly, this formulation can lead to an ill-conditioned linear system. To avoid this, you should first compute the averages $\bar{x} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i$, $\bar{y} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i$, and $\bar{z} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} z_i$, and then subtract them from the data, $x_i \leftarrow x_i - \bar{x}$, $y_i \leftarrow y_i - \bar{y}$, and $z_i \leftarrow z_i - \bar{z}$. The fitted plane is of the form $z - \bar{z} = A(x - \bar{x}) + B(y - \bar{y})$.

4 Hyperplanar Fitting of nD Points Using Orthogonal Regression

It is also possible to fit a plane using least squares where the errors are measured *orthogonally* to the proposed plane rather than measured vertically. The following argument holds for sample points and hyperplanes in n dimensions. Let the hyperplane be $\mathbf{N} \cdot (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{A}) = 0$ where $\mathbf{N}$ is a unit length normal to the hyperplane and $\mathbf{A}$ is a point on the hyperplane. Define $\mathbf{X}_i$ to be the sample points; then

$$
\mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{A} + \lambda_i \mathbf{N} + p_i \mathbf{N}_i^{\perp}
$$

where $\lambda_i = \mathbf{N} \cdot (\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{A})$ and $\mathbf{N}_i^{\perp}$ is some unit length vector perpendicular to $\mathbf{N}$ with appropriate coefficient p_i. Define $\mathbf{Y}_i = \mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{A}$. The vector from $\mathbf{X}_i$ to its projection onto the hyperplane is $\lambda_i \mathbf{N}$. The squared length of this vector is $\lambda_i^2 = (\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{Y}_i)^2$. The energy function for the least squares minimization is $E(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{N}) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i^2$. Two alternate forms for this function are

$$
E(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{N}) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left(\mathbf{Y}_i^{\mathsf{T}} \left[\mathbf{N} \mathbf{N}^{\mathsf{T}} \right] \mathbf{Y}_i \right)
$$

and

$$
E(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{N}) = \mathbf{N}^{\mathsf{T}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{Y}_i \mathbf{Y}_i^{\mathsf{T}} \right) \mathbf{N} = \mathbf{N}^{\mathsf{T}} M(A) \mathbf{N}.
$$

Using the first form of E in the previous equation, take the derivative with respect to A to get

$$
\frac{\partial E}{\partial A} = -2 \left[\mathbf{N} \mathbf{N}^{\mathsf{T}} \right] \sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{Y}_i.
$$

This partial derivative is zero whenever $\sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{Y}_i = 0$ in which case $\mathbf{A} = (1/m) \sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{X}_i$ (the average of the sample points).

Given $\mathbf{A}$, the matrix $M(A)$ is determined in the second form of the energy function. The quantity $\mathbf{N}^{\mathsf{T}} M(A) \mathbf{N}$ is a quadratic form whose minimum is the smallest eigenvalue of $M(A)$. This can be found by standard eigensystem solvers. A corresponding unit length eigenvector $\mathbf{N}$ completes our construction of the least squares hyperplane.

For $n = 3$, if $\mathbf{A} = (a, b, c)$, then matrix $M(A)$ is given by

$$M(A) = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{m}(x_i - a)^2 & \sum_{i=1}^{m}(x_i - a)(y_i - b) & \sum_{i=1}^{m}(x_i - a)(z_i - c) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{m}(x_i - a)(y_i - b) & \sum_{i=1}^{m}(y_i - b)^2 & \sum_{i=1}^{m}(y_i - b)(z_i - c) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{m}(x_i - a)(z_i - c) & \sum_{i=1}^{m}(y_i - b)(z_i - c) & \sum_{i=1}^{m}(z_i - c)^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

5   Fitting a Circle to 2D Points

Given a set of points $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^{m}$, $m \geq 3$, fit them with a circle $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = r^2$ where (a, b) is the circle center and r is the circle radius. An assumption of this algorithm is that not all the points are collinear. The energy function to be minimized is

$$E(a, b, r) = \sum_{i=1}^{m}(L_i - r)^2$$

where $L_i = \sqrt{(x_i - a)^2 + (y_i - b)^2}$. Take the partial derivative with respect to r to obtain

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial r} = -2\sum_{i=1}^{m}(L_i - r).$$

Setting equal to zero yields

$$r = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}L_i.$$

Take the partial derivative with respect to a to obtain

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a} = -2\sum_{i=1}^{m}(L_i - r)\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial a} = 2\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left((x_i - a) + r\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial a}\right)$$

and take the partial derivative with respect to b to obtain

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial b} = -2\sum_{i=1}^{m}(L_i - r)\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial b} = 2\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left((y_i - b) + r\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial b}\right).$$

Setting these two derivatives equal to zero yields

$$a = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}x_i + r\frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial a}$$

and

$$b = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}y_i + r\frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial b}.$$

Replacing r by its equivalent from $\partial E/\partial r = 0$ and using $\partial L_i/\partial a = (a - x_i)/L_i$ and $\partial L_i/\partial b = (b - y_i)/L_i$, we get two nonlinear equations in a and b:

$$a = \bar{x} + \bar{L}\bar{L}_a =: F(a, b)$$
$$b = \bar{y} + \bar{L}\bar{L}_b =: G(a, b)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{x} &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i \\
\bar{y} &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i \\
\bar{L} &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} L_i \\
\bar{L}_a &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \tfrac{a - x_i}{L_i} \\
\bar{L}_b &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \tfrac{b - y_i}{L_i}
\end{aligned}$$

Fixed point iteration can be applied to solving these equations: $a_0 = \bar{x}$, $b_0 = \bar{y}$, and $a_{i+1} = F(a_i, b_i)$ and $b_{i+1} = G(a_i, b_i)$ for $i \geq 0$. *Warning. I have not analyzed the convergence properties of this algorithm. In a few experiments it seems to converge just fine.*

6   Fitting a Sphere to 3D Points

Given a set of points $\{(x_i, y_i, z_i)\}_{i=1}^{m}$, $m \geq 4$, fit them with a sphere $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 + (z - c)^2 = r^2$ where (a, b, c) is the sphere center and r is the sphere radius. An assumption of this algorithm is that not all the points are coplanar. The energy function to be minimized is

$$E(a, b, c, r) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} (L_i - r)^2$$

where $L_i = \sqrt{(x_i - a)^2 + (y_i - b)^2 + (z_i - c)}$. Take the partial derivative with respect to r to obtain

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial r} = -2 \sum_{i=1}^{m} (L_i - r).$$

Setting equal to zero yields

$$r = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} L_i.$$

Take the partial derivative with respect to a to obtain

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a} = -2 \sum_{i=1}^{m} (L_i - r) \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial a} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left((x_i - a) + r \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial a} \right),$$

take the partial derivative with respect to b to obtain

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial b} = -2 \sum_{i=1}^{m} (L_i - r) \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial b} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left((y_i - b) + r \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial b} \right),$$

and take the partial derivative with respect to c to obtain

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial c} = -2 \sum_{i=1}^{m} (L_i - r) \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial c} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left((z_i - c) + r \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial c} \right).$$

Setting these three derivatives equal to zero yields

$$a = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i + r \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial a}$$

and

$$b = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i + r \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial b}.$$

and

$$c = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} z_i + r \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial c}.$$

Replacing r by its equivalent from $\partial E / \partial r = 0$ and using $\partial L_i / \partial a = (a - x_i)/L_i$, $\partial L_i / \partial b = (b - y_i)/L_i$, and $\partial L_i / \partial c = (c - z_i)/L_i$, we get three nonlinear equations in a, b, and c:

$$a = \bar{x} + \bar{L}\bar{L}_a =: F(a, b, c)$$

$$b = \bar{y} + \bar{L}\bar{L}_b =: G(a, b, c)$$

$$c = \bar{z} + \bar{L}\bar{L}_c =: H(a, b, c)$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
\bar{x} &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i \\
\bar{y} &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i \\
\bar{z} &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} z_i \\
\bar{L} &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} L_i \\
\bar{L}_a &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \tfrac{a - x_i}{L_i} \\
\bar{L}_b &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \tfrac{b - y_i}{L_i} \\
\bar{L}_c &= \tfrac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \tfrac{c - z_i}{L_i}
\end{aligned}
$$

Fixed point iteration can be applied to solving these equations: $a_0 = \bar{x}$, $b_0 = \bar{y}$, $c_0 = \bar{z}$, and $a_{i+1} = F(a_i, b_i, c_i)$, $b_{i+1} = G(a_i, b_i, c_i)$, and $c_{i+1} = H(a_i, b_i, c_i)$ for $i \geq 0$. *Warning. I have not analyzed the convergence properties of this algorithm. In a few experiments it seems to converge just fine.*

7   Fitting an Ellipse to 2D Points

Given a set of points $\{\mathbf{X}_i\}_{i=1}^{m}$, $m \geq 3$, fit them with an ellipse $(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{U})^{\mathsf{T}} R^{\mathsf{T}} D R (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{U}) = 1$ where $\mathbf{U}$ is the ellipse center, R is an orthonormal matrix representing the ellipse orientation, and D is a diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries represent the reciprocal of the squares of the half-lengths lengths of the axes of the ellipse. An axis-aligned ellipse with center at the origin has equation $(x/a)^2 + (y/b)^2 = 1$. In this setting, $\mathbf{U} = (0, 0)$, $R = I$ (the identity matrix), and $D = \text{diag}(1/a^2, 1/b^2)$. The energy function to be minimized is

$$E(\mathbf{U}, R, D) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} (L_i - r)^2$$

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where L_i is the distance from $\mathbf{X}_i$ to the ellipse with the given parameters.

This problem is more difficult than that of fitting circles. The distance L_i is computed according to the algorithm described in Distance from a Point to an Ellipse, an Ellipsoid, or a Hyperellipsoid. The function E is minimized iteratively using Powell's direction-set method to search for a minimum. An implementation is GteApprEllipse2.h.

8   Fitting an Ellipsoid to 3D Points

Given a set of points $\{\mathbf{X}_i\}_{i=1}^m$, $m \geq 3$, fit them with an ellipsoid $(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{U})^{\mathsf{T}} R^{\mathsf{T}} D R(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{U}) = 1$ where $\mathbf{U}$ is the ellipsoid center and R is an orthonormal matrix representing the ellipsoid orientation. The matrix D is a diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries represent the reciprocal of the squares of the half-lengths of the axes of the ellipsoid. An axis-aligned ellipsoid with center at the origin has equation $(x/a)^2 + (y/b)^2 + (z/c)^2 = 1$. In this setting, $\mathbf{U} = (0,0,0)$, $R = I$ (the identity matrix), and $D = \mathrm{diag}(1/a^2, 1/b^2, 1/c^2)$. The energy function to be minimized is

$$E(\mathbf{U}, R, D) = \sum_{i=1}^m (L_i - r)^2$$

where L_i is the distance from $\mathbf{X}_i$ to the ellipse with the given parameters.

This problem is more difficult than that of fitting spheres. The distance L_i is computed according to the algorithm described in Distance from a Point to an Ellipse, an Ellipsoid, or a Hyperellipsoid. The function E is minimized iteratively using Powell's direction-set method to search for a minimum. An implementation is GteApprEllipsoid3.h.

9   Fitting a Paraboloid to 3D Points of the Form $(x, y, f(x, y))$

Given a set of samples $\{(x_i, y_i, z_i)\}_{i=1}^m$ and assuming that the true values lie on a paraboloid

$$z = f(x, y) = p_1 x^2 + p_2 xy + p_3 y^2 + p_4 x + p_5 y + p_6 = \mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{Q}(x, y)$$

where $\mathbf{P} = (p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6)$ and $\mathbf{Q}(x, y) = (x^2, xy, y^2, x, y, 1)$, select $\mathbf{P}$ to minimize the sum of squared errors

$$E(\mathbf{P}) = \sum_{i=1}^m (\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{Q}_i - z_i)^2$$

where $\mathbf{Q}_i = \mathbf{Q}(x_i, y_i)$. The minimum occurs when the gradient of E is the zero vector,

$$\nabla E = 2 \sum_{i=1}^m (\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{Q}_i - z_i)\mathbf{Q}_i = \mathbf{0}.$$

Some algebra converts this to a system of 6 equations in 6 unknowns:

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{Q}_i \mathbf{Q}_i^{\mathsf{T}} \right) \mathbf{P} = \sum_{i=1}^m z_i \mathbf{Q}_i.$$

The product $\mathbf{Q}_i\mathbf{Q}_i^\mathsf{T}$ is a product of the 6×1 matrix $\mathbf{Q}_i$ with the 1×6 matrix $\mathbf{Q}_i^\mathsf{T}$, the result being a 6×6 matrix.

Define the 6×6 symmetric matrix $A = \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{Q}_i\mathbf{Q}_i^\mathsf{T}$ and the 6×1 vector $\mathbf{B} = \sum_{i=1}^m z_i\mathbf{Q}_i$. The choice for $\mathbf{P}$ is the solution to the linear system of equations $A\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{B}$. The entries of A and $\mathbf{B}$ indicate summations over the appropriate product of variables. For example, $s(x^3 y) = \sum_{i=1}^m x_i^3 y_i$:

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
s(x^4) & s(x^3y) & s(x^2y^2) & s(x^3) & s(x^2y) & s(x^2) \\
s(x^3y) & s(x^2y^2) & s(xy^3) & s(x^2y) & s(xy^2) & s(xy) \\
s(x^2y^2) & s(xy^3) & s(y^4) & s(xy^2) & s(y^3) & s(y^2) \\
s(x^3) & s(x^2y) & s(xy^2) & s(x^2) & s(xy) & s(x) \\
s(x^2y) & s(xy^2) & s(y^3) & s(xy) & s(y^2) & s(y) \\
s(x^2) & s(xy) & s(y^2) & s(x) & s(y) & s(1)
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \\ p_4 \\ p_5 \\ p_6
\end{bmatrix}
=
\begin{bmatrix}
s(zx^2) \\ s(zxy) \\ s(zy^2) \\ s(zx) \\ s(zy) \\ s(z)
\end{bmatrix}
$$