

Any questions? Do not hesitate to contact us!

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## Exercise 5.1: (Least-squares method)

a) Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  with  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ . The condition number of  $A$  is defined by

$$\kappa_2(A) := \frac{\max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2}}{\min_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2}}. \quad (1)$$

1) Show that when  $A$  is invertible (so that  $m = n$ ),  $\kappa_2(A) = \|A\|_2 \|A^{-1}\|_2$ , so the definitions of condition numbers coincide for quadratic matrices.

**Answer.** By definition we have

$$\|A\|_2 = \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2}$$

and

$$\kappa_2(A) = \frac{\max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2}}{\min_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2}} = \|A\|_2 \cdot \frac{1}{\min_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2}}$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} \|A^{-1}\|_2 &= \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|A^{-1}x\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \\ &= \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|A^{-1}x\|_2}{\|AA^{-1}x\|_2} \\ &= \max_{A^{-1}x \neq 0} \frac{\|A^{-1}x\|_2}{\|AA^{-1}x\|_2} \\ &= \max_{y \neq 0} \frac{\|y\|_2}{\|Ay\|_2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\min_{y \neq 0} \frac{\|Ay\|_2}{\|y\|_2}} \end{aligned}$$

and we can conclude that  $\kappa_2(A) = \|A\|_2 \|A^{-1}\|_2$ .

2) Prove from (1) that for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\frac{\|y\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \leq \kappa_2(A) \frac{\|Ay\|_2}{\|Ax\|_2}. \quad (2)$$

**Answer.** We know that

$$\begin{aligned}\kappa_2(A) &= \frac{\max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2}}{\min_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2}} = \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \cdot \max_{y \neq 0} \frac{\|y\|_2}{\|Ay\|_2} \\ &= \max_{x, y \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \frac{\|y\|_2}{\|Ay\|_2}\end{aligned}$$

Then we can conclude that

$$\kappa_2(A) \geq \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \frac{\|y\|_2}{\|Ay\|_2} \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}$$

with this we have

$$\frac{\|y\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \leq \kappa_2(A) \frac{\|Ay\|_2}{\|Ax\|_2}.$$

- b) Let  $\bar{x}$  be the least-squares solution to  $\|Ax - b\|_2 \rightarrow \min$ . Show that the vector  $A\bar{x} - b$  is perpendicular to the hyperplane spanned by the  $Ax$ 's, i.e.

$$A\bar{x} - b \perp Ax, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

and therefore  $\|A\bar{x} - b\|_2^2 + \|A\bar{x}\|_2^2 = \|b\|_2^2$  and  $\cos(\theta) := \frac{\|A\bar{x}\|_2}{\|b\|_2} \leq 1$  is well-defined.

**Answer.**

$$\begin{aligned}A\bar{x} - b &\perp Ax \\ \langle Ax, A\bar{x} - b \rangle &= 0 \iff \\ (Ax)^t (A\bar{x} - b) &= 0 \iff \\ x^t A^t (A\bar{x} - b) &= 0 \iff \\ x^t A^t A\bar{x} - x^t A^t b &= 0 \iff \\ x^t (A^t A\bar{x} - A^t b) &= 0 \quad (\text{Stelling 7})\end{aligned}$$

Take the particular  $\bar{x}$ , we just proved that  $(A\bar{x}, A\bar{x} - b) = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\|A\bar{x} - b\|_2^2 + \|A\bar{x}\|_2^2 &= (A\bar{x} - b, A\bar{x} - b) + (A\bar{x}, A\bar{x}) \\ &= (A\bar{x}, A\bar{x}) - 2(A\bar{x}, b) + (b, b) + (A\bar{x}, A\bar{x}) \\ &= 2(A\bar{x}, A\bar{x}) - 2(A\bar{x}, b) + (b, b) \\ &= 2(A\bar{x}, A\bar{x} - b) + (b, b) \\ &= (b, b) = \|b\|_2^2\end{aligned}$$

Using Pitagoras' theorem we have  $\cos(\theta) := \frac{\|A\bar{x}\|_2}{\|b\|_2} \leq \frac{\|b\|_2}{\|b\|_2} = 1$ .

- c) Notice that  $\Delta x$  is the least-square solution to system  $Ay = \Delta b$ . Then applying a) and b) above, you can now prove

$$\frac{\|\Delta x\|_2}{\|\bar{x}\|_2} \leq \frac{\kappa_2(A) \|\Delta b\|_2}{\cos(\theta) \|b\|_2}.$$

**Answer.** Using the part (1) we have

$$\frac{\|\Delta x\|_2}{\|\bar{x}\|_2} \leq \kappa_2(A) \frac{\|A\Delta x\|_2}{\|A\bar{x}\|_2}.$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\|\Delta x\|_2}{\|\bar{x}\|_2} &\leq \kappa_2(A) \frac{\|A\Delta x\|_2}{\|A\bar{x}\|_2} \\
&= \kappa_2(A) \frac{\|A\Delta x\|_2}{\|A\bar{x}\|_2} \frac{\|A\bar{x}\|_2}{\|b\|_2} \frac{\|b\|_2}{\|A\bar{x}\|_2} \\
&= \kappa_2(A) \frac{\|A\Delta x\|_2}{\|b\|_2} \frac{\|b\|_2}{\|A\bar{x}\|_2} \\
&= \frac{\kappa_2(A)}{\cos(\theta)} \frac{\|A\Delta x\|_2}{\|b\|_2} \\
&\leq \frac{\kappa_2(A)}{\cos(\theta)} \frac{\|\Delta b\|_2}{\|b\|_2}
\end{aligned}$$

### Exercise 5.2: (Least-squares method)

a) Find a solution to  $\|Ax - b\|_2 \rightarrow \min$  by solving the equation  $A^T A \bar{x} = A^T b$  for

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Compute the least-square error  $\|A\bar{x} - b\|_2$  associated with the least-squares solution you found.

**Answer.** Define the new system

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$A^T b = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 14 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then

$$A^T A \bar{x} = A^T b \longrightarrow \bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now we can compute the error

$$A\bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$\|A\bar{x} - b\|_2 = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2 = \sqrt{6} = 2.4495$$

b) Use the factorization  $A = QU$  to find the least-squares solution  $\|Ax - b\|_2 \rightarrow \min$  for

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Answer.** Using Given's rotations the factorization of  $A$  is  $A = QU$  with

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} -0.5774 & 0.7071 & -0.4082 \\ -0.5774 & -0.7071 & -0.4082 \\ -0.5774 & 0 & -0.8165 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} -1.7321 & -1.7321 \\ 0 & 2.8284 \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$\hat{b} = Q^T b = \begin{pmatrix} -3.4641 \\ 2.828 \\ \mathbf{2.4495} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1.7321 & -1.7321 \\ 0 & 2.8284 \end{pmatrix} \bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -3.4641 \\ 2.828 \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now we can compute the error

$$\|A\bar{x} - b\|_2 = \|\mathbf{-\sqrt{6}}\|_2 = 2.4495$$

### Exercise 5.3: Non-uniqueness of minimalization problems

Consider the problem

$$\left\| \begin{array}{c} x-1 \\ x \end{array} \right\|_1 \rightarrow \min .$$

Does it have a solution? Is it unique?

**Answer.**

Consider the problem

$$\left\| \begin{array}{c} x-1 \\ x \end{array} \right\|_1 \rightarrow \min .$$

First we can compute the norm-1 of the vector

$$\left\| \begin{array}{c} x-1 \\ x \end{array} \right\|_1 = |x-1| + |x|$$

- Case 1. If  $x \leq 0$  then  $|x-1| + |x| = -x+1-x = 1-2x \geq 1$ .
- Case 2. If  $0 < x < 1$  then  $|x-1| + |x| = x+1-x = 1$ .
- Case 3. If  $x \geq 1$  then  $|x-1| + |x| = x-1+x = 2x-1 \geq 1$ .

And we can conclude

$$\left\| \begin{array}{c} x-1 \\ x \end{array} \right\|_1 = |x-1| + |x| \geq 1 := \min, \quad \forall x$$

but the solution is not unique, because for every  $x \in [0, 1]$

$$\left\| \begin{array}{c} x-1 \\ x \end{array} \right\|_1 = 1 = \min .$$

### Exercise 5.4: Linear regression

Assume you are given a set of points  $(x_i, y_i)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq N$ , with  $x_i \neq x_j, i \neq j$ , and you want to find  $m \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that, for  $f(x) := mx + b$ , these parameters minimize

$$\sum_{i=1}^N |f(x_i) - y_i|^2.$$

Show how to obtain  $m$  and  $b$ .

**Answer.**

Using ex.4.2 we know that  $\|Ax - c\|_2 \rightarrow \min$  by solving  $A^t Ax = A^t c$  and now we want to minimize the following problem

$$\min_{m, b \in \mathbb{R}} \|mx - b - y\|_2^2$$

Define

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & \cdots & 1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_N & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } c = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_N \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$A^t A = \begin{pmatrix} \sum x_i^2 & \sum x_i \\ \sum x_i & N \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } A^t c = \begin{pmatrix} \sum x_i y_i \\ \sum y_i \end{pmatrix}$$

We can solve  $A^t Ax = A^t c$  using Gaussian reduction:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sum x_i^2 & \sum x_i & \sum x_i y_i \\ \sum x_i & N & \sum y_i \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[R_1: N \cdot R_1 \text{ and } R_2: -\sum x_i \cdot R_2]{} \begin{pmatrix} N \sum x_i^2 & N \sum x_i & N \sum x_i y_i \\ -(\sum x_i)^2 & -N \sum x_i & -\sum x_i \sum y_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[R_2: R_1 + R_2 \text{ and } R_1: 1/N \cdot R_1]{} \begin{pmatrix} \sum x_i^2 & \sum x_i & \sum x_i y_i \\ N \sum x_i^2 - (\sum x_i)^2 & 0 & N \sum x_i y_i - \sum x_i \sum y_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then } m = \frac{N \sum x_i y_i - \sum x_i \sum y_i}{N \sum x_i^2 - (\sum x_i)^2} \text{ and } b = \frac{\sum y_i - (m \sum x_i)}{N}.$$