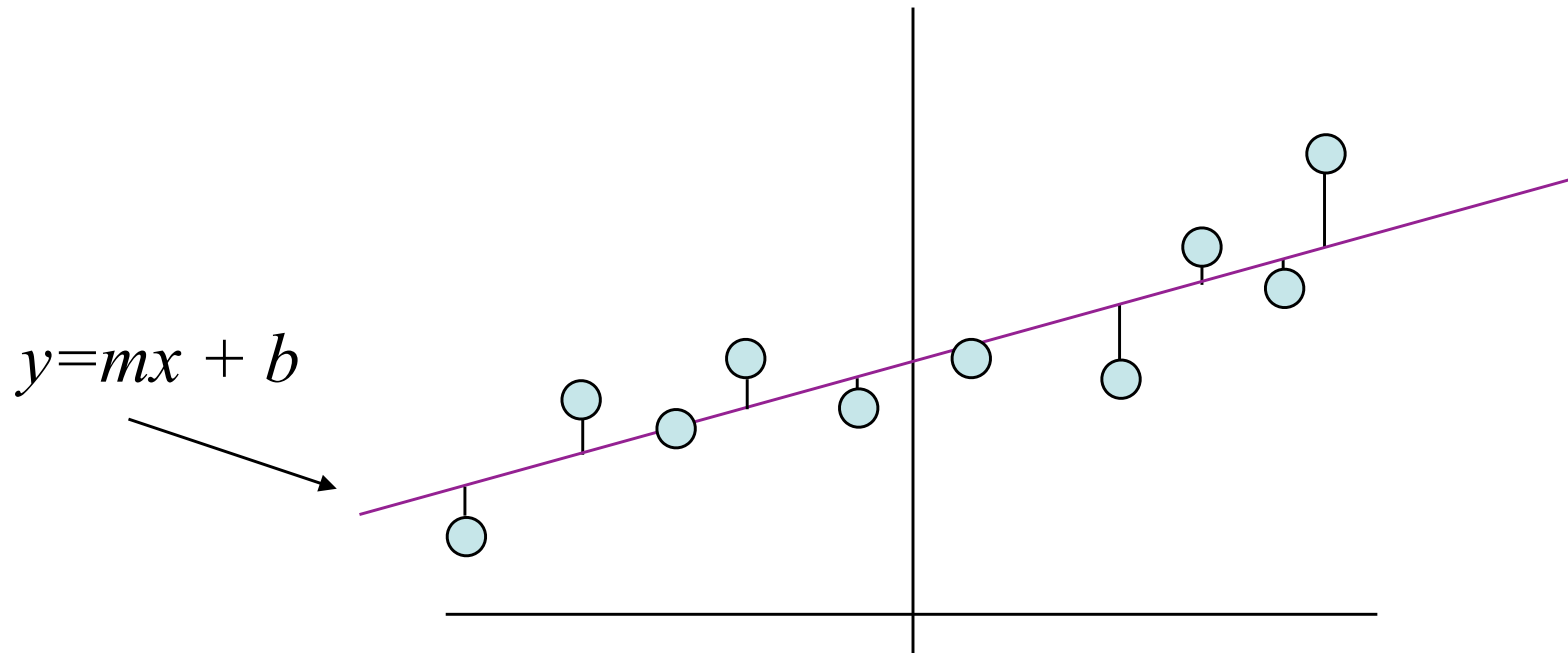


CS 477/577

Lecture Four

Homogenous least squares

Non-homogeneous linear least squares (example two---naïve line fitting)



The error contribution for each point is the vertical distance (illustrated) squared.

We fit the line by tweaking m and b so that the sum of the contributions is as small as possible.

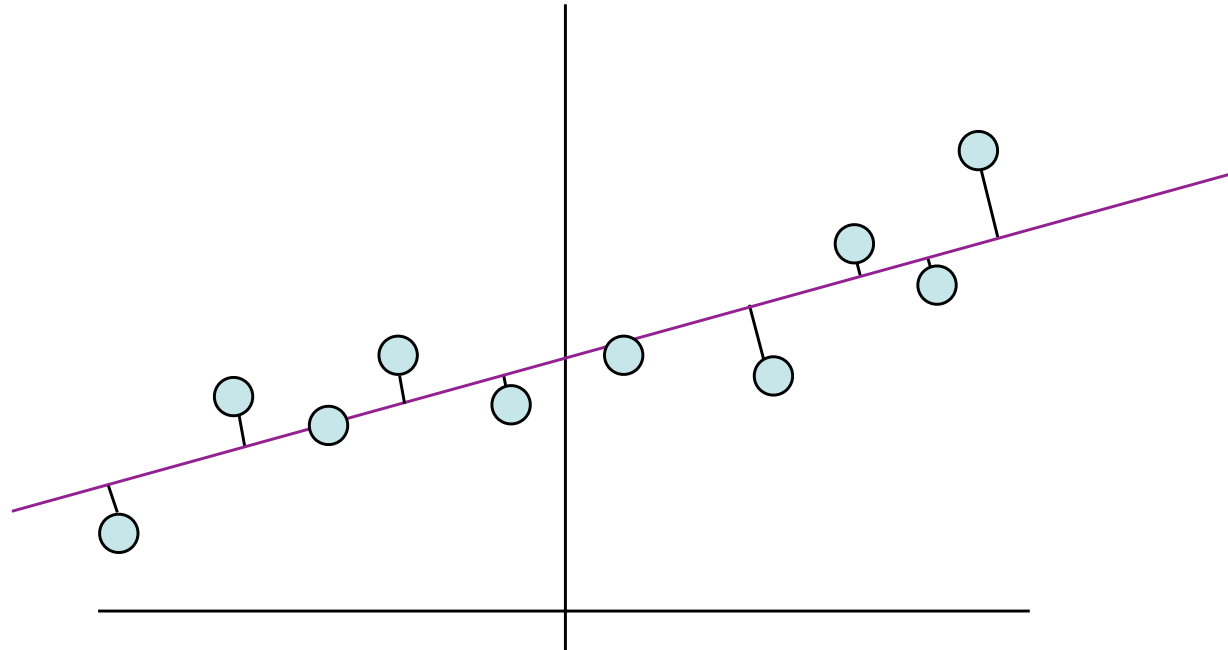
Line fitting using non-homogeneous linear least squares

- We are minimizing $\sum_i \left(y_i - (mx_i + b) \right)^2$
- Only the vertical deviations count
- Asymmetric with respect to the axis
 - If you switch x and y, you will get a different answer
- Terminology note: This is standard *linear regression*
- Modeling note: The assumption here is that y_i are generated from x_i, m, b , with added Gaussian noise.

Homogeneous linear least squares

- A more symmetric alternative for line fitting is homogeneous least squares
- We need it for geometric camera calibration, but we will do line fitting first so we can use it in HW3
- For line fitting, the error is will now be the **perpendicular** distance from the data point to line hypothesis
- Terminology note: This is sometimes called *total least squares* (TLS)

Homogeneous linear least squares



Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares

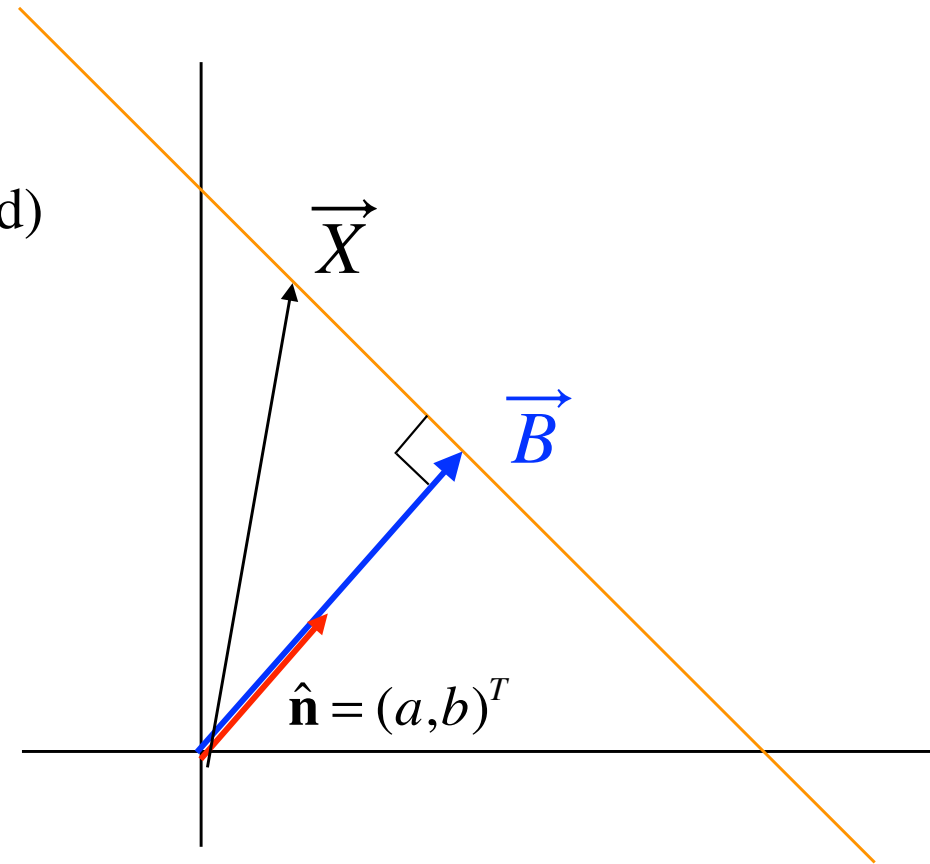
A symmetric representation of a line is to draw a perpendicular from the origin to the line.

There are two variables:

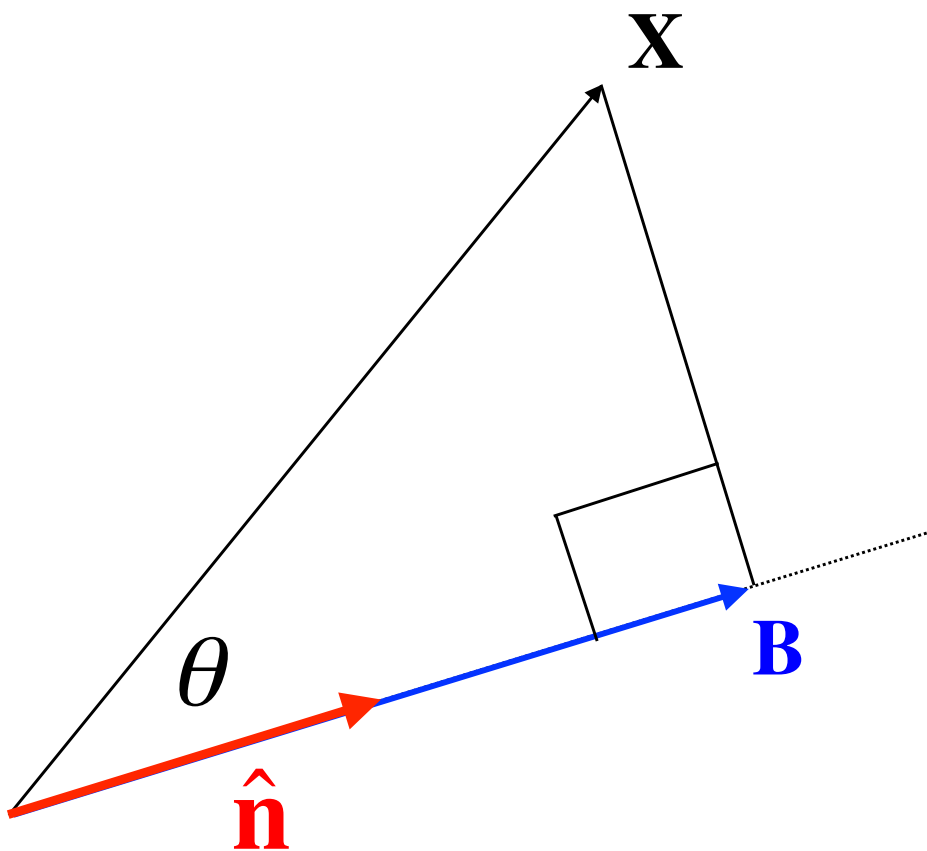
- 1) The direction of the perpendicular ($\hat{\mathbf{n}}$)
- 2) The distance from the origin to the line (d)

For a point $\vec{X} = (x, y)$ on the line
 $\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot (x, y) = d$, where $d = |\vec{B}|$

Equivalently,
 $ax + by = d$, where $a^2 + b^2 = 1$



Dot product geometry



\vec{B} is the perpendicular projection of \vec{X} onto the line extending the unit vector \hat{n} .

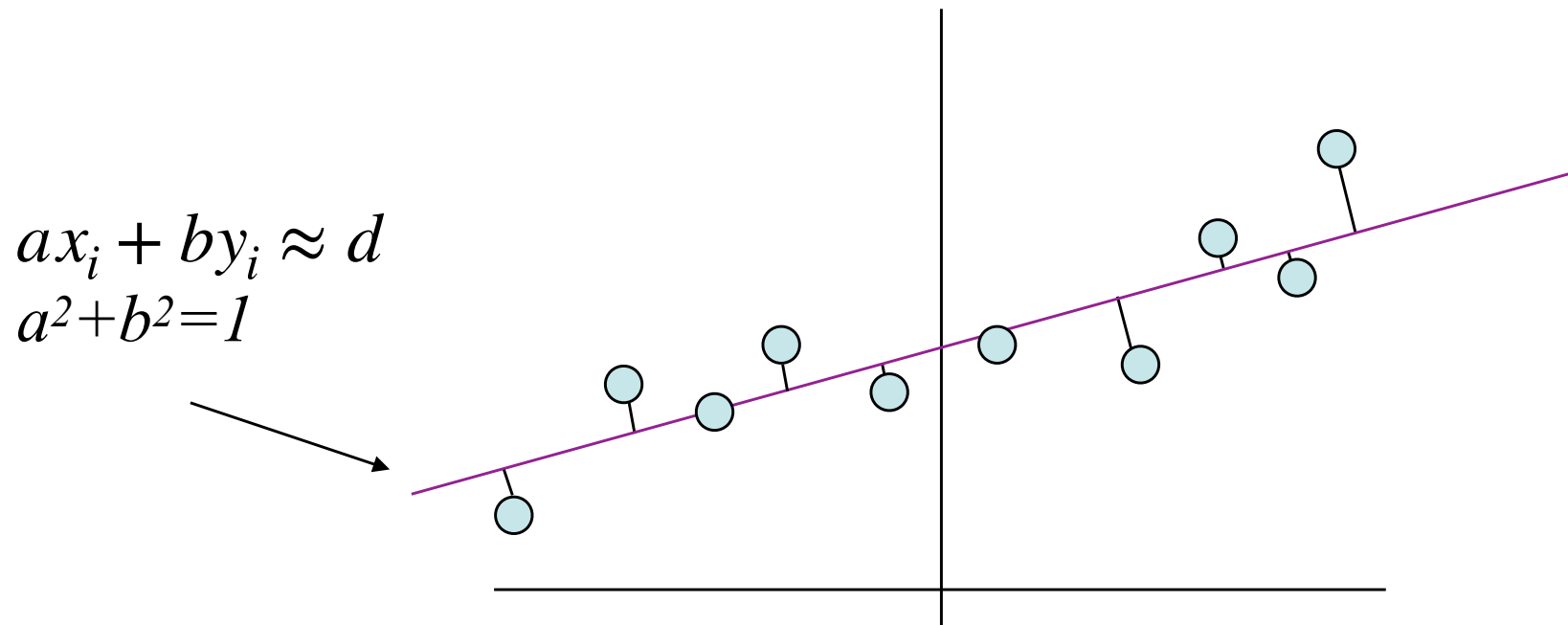
We derive that $\vec{X} \cdot \hat{n} = |\vec{B}|$

From trigonometry $|\vec{B}| = (\cos \theta) |\vec{X}|$

From the dot product $\vec{X} \cdot \vec{B} = (\cos \theta) |\vec{X}| |\vec{B}|$

and $\vec{X} \cdot \hat{n} = (\cos \theta) |\vec{X}| = |\vec{B}|$ (divide by $|\vec{B}|$)

Homogeneous linear least squares



The error contribution for each point is the perpendicular distance (illustrated) squared.

We fit the line by tweaking a , b , and d so that the sum of the contributions is as small as possible subject to $a^2 + b^2 = 1$.

Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares

Nice (symmetric) representation of a line:

$$ax + by = d, \text{ where } a^2 + b^2 = 1$$

So, for (x_i, y_i) on the line,

$$0 = |ax_i + by_i - d|$$

Key observation: The perpendicular distance from a point to that line is:

$$d_i = |ax_i + by_i - d|$$

(See upcoming slides for geometry)

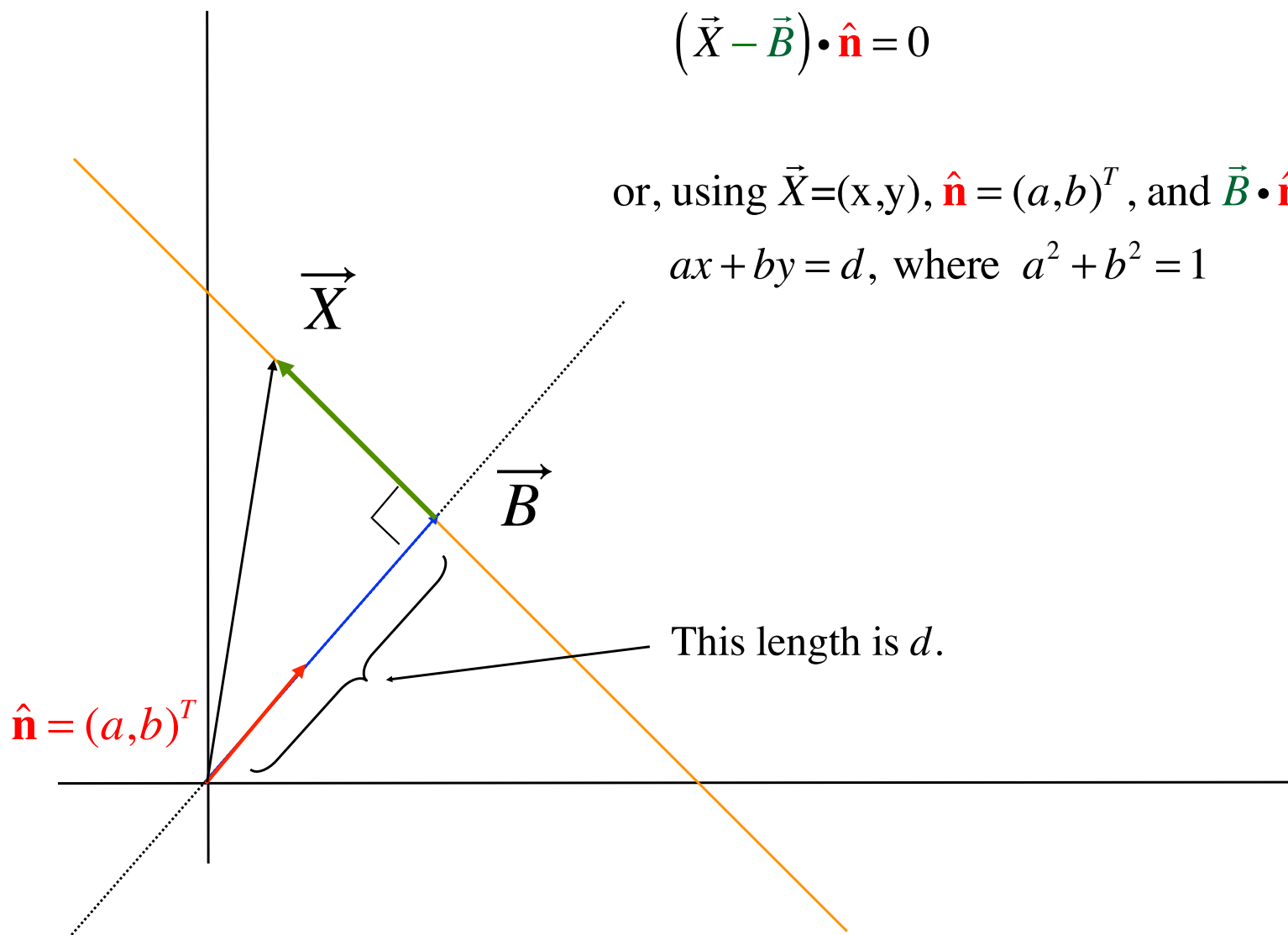
Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares

Equation for a point \mathbf{x} on the line is:

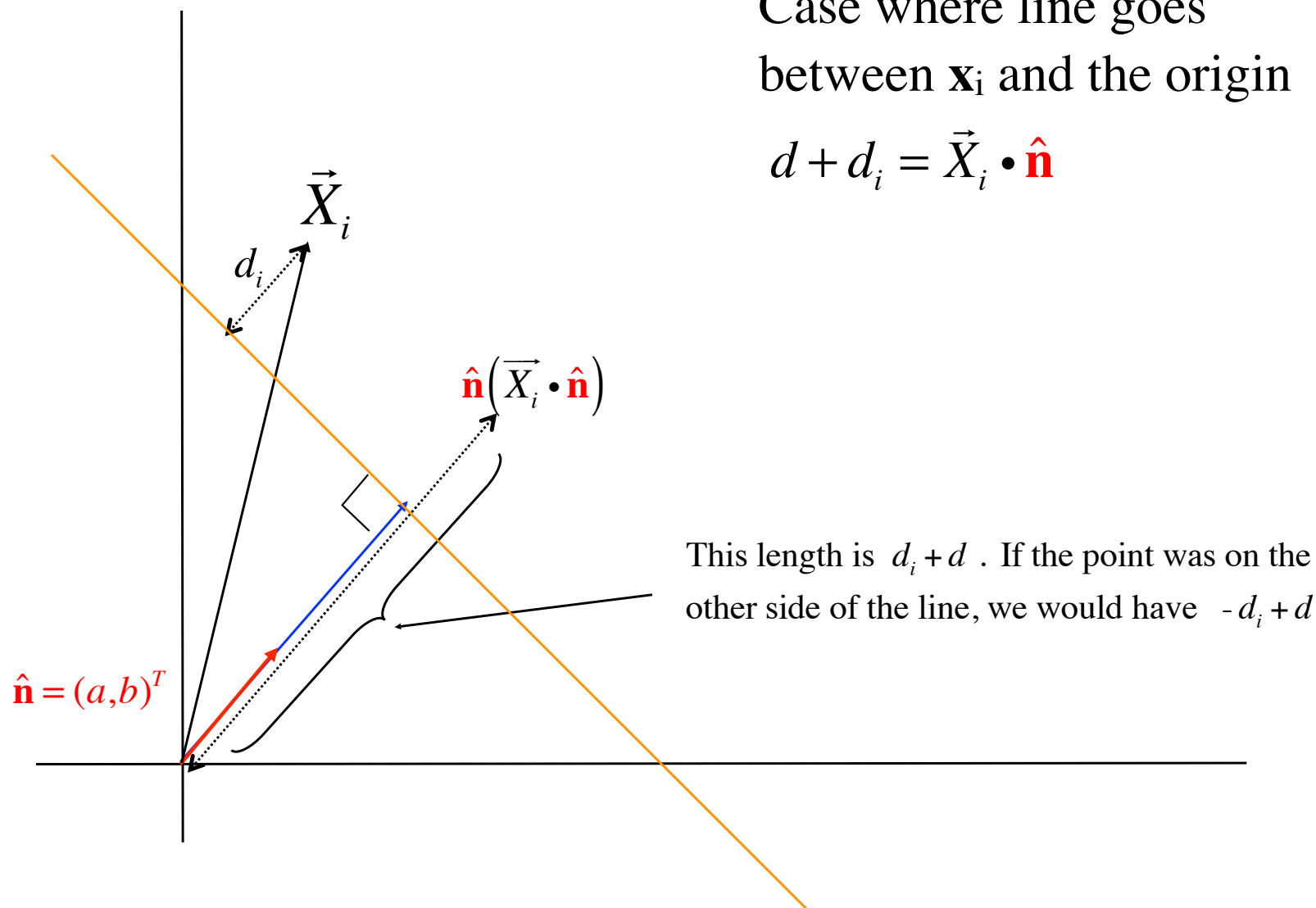
$$(\vec{X} - \vec{B}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = 0$$

or, using $\vec{X}=(x,y)$, $\hat{\mathbf{n}} = (a,b)^T$, and $\vec{B} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = d$,

$$ax + by = d, \text{ where } a^2 + b^2 = 1$$



Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares



Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares

Case where line goes
between \mathbf{x}_i and the origin

$$d + d_i = \vec{X}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

or

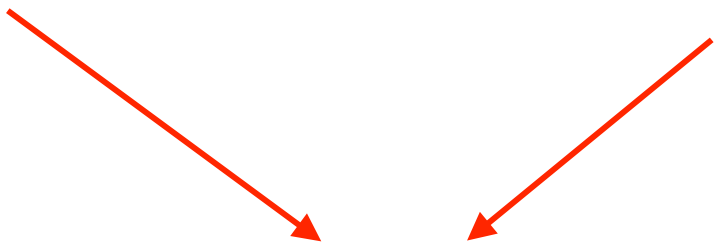
$$+d_i = \vec{X} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} - d$$

Case where \mathbf{x}_i is between
the line and the origin

$$d - d_i = \vec{X} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

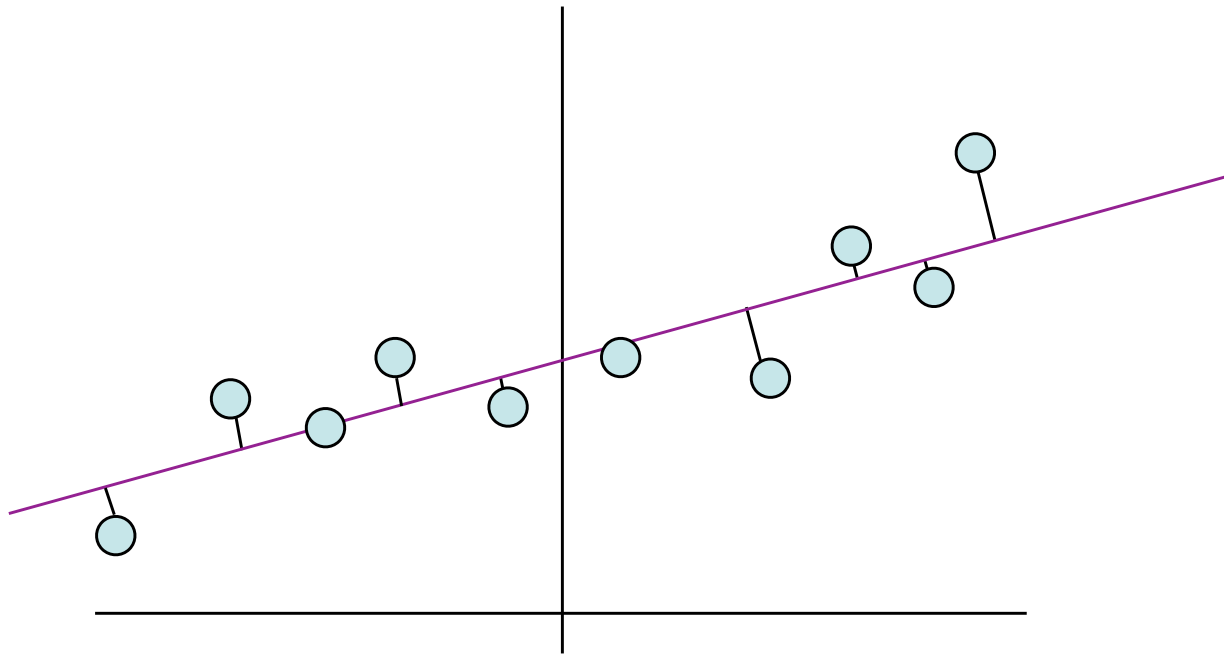
or

$$-d_i = \vec{X} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} - d$$


$$|d_i| = |\vec{X}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} - d|$$

Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares

$$E = \sum d_i^2 = \sum (d - ax_i - by_i)^2$$



Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares

$$E = \sum d_i^2 = \sum (d - ax_i - by_i)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial d} = 2 \sum (d - ax_i - by_i) = 0$$

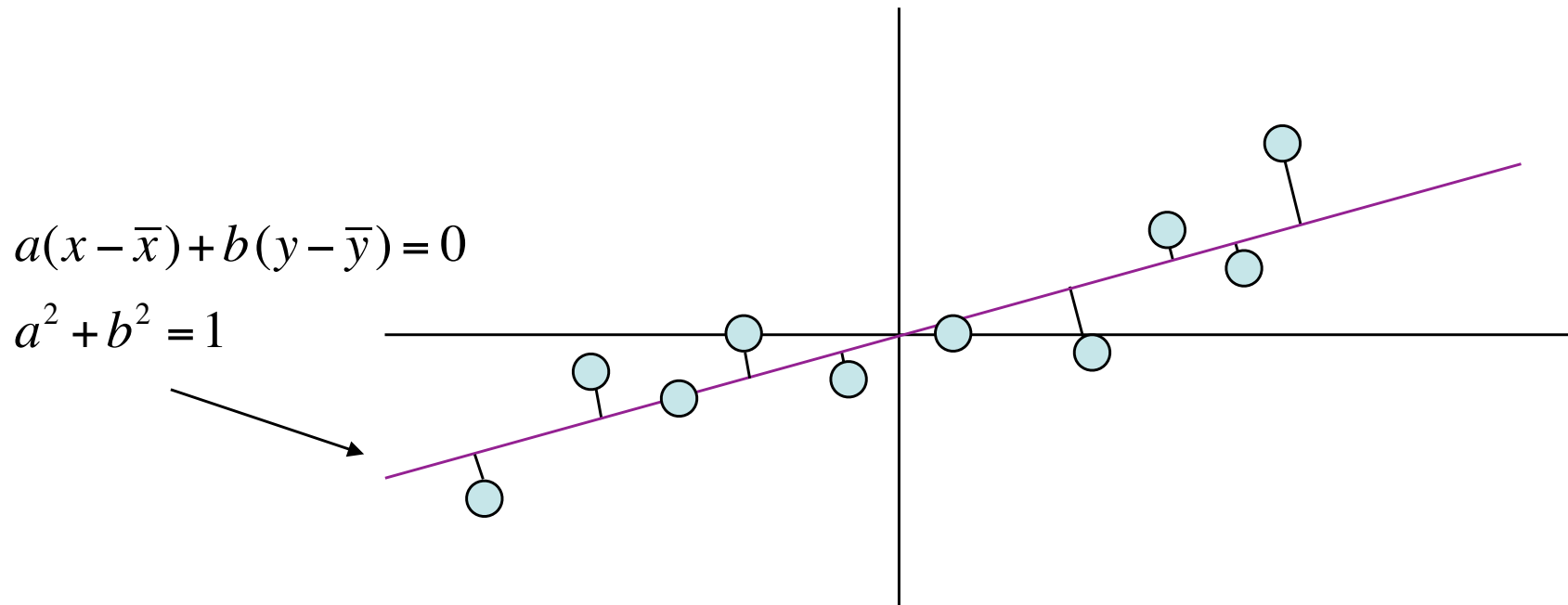
So, $d = a\bar{x} + b\bar{y}$

Note that this means that the average point is on the line

Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \sum d_i^2 \\ &= \sum (d - ax_i - by_i)^2 \\ &= \sum (ax_i + by_i - d)^2 && \text{(reverse for future clarity)} \\ &= \sum (ax_i - a\bar{x} + by_i - b\bar{y})^2 && (d = a\bar{x} + b\bar{y}) \\ &= \sum ((x_i - \bar{x}, y_i - \bar{y}) \bullet (a, b))^2 \end{aligned}$$

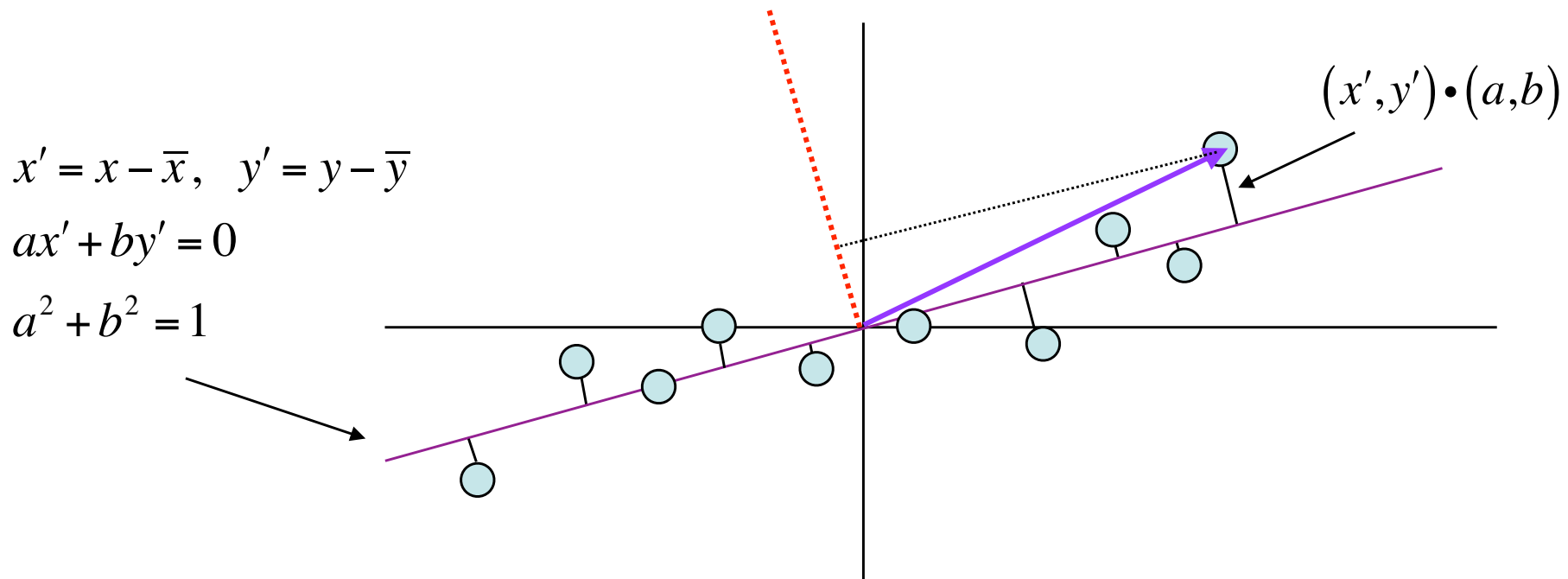
Homogeneous linear least squares (new origin)



The error contribution for each point is the perpendicular distance (illustrated) squared.

We fit the line by tweaking a , b , and d so that the sum of the contributions is as small as possible subject to $a^2 + b^2 = 1$.

Homogeneous linear least squares (new origin)



The error contribution for each point is the perpendicular distance (illustrated) squared.

We fit the line by tweaking a , b , and d so that the sum of the contributions is as small as possible subject to $a^2 + b^2 = 1$.

Line fitting with homogenous linear least squares

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \sum \left((x_i - \bar{x}, y_i - \bar{y}) \cdot (a, b) \right)^2 \\ &= |U\mathbf{n}|^2, \end{aligned}$$

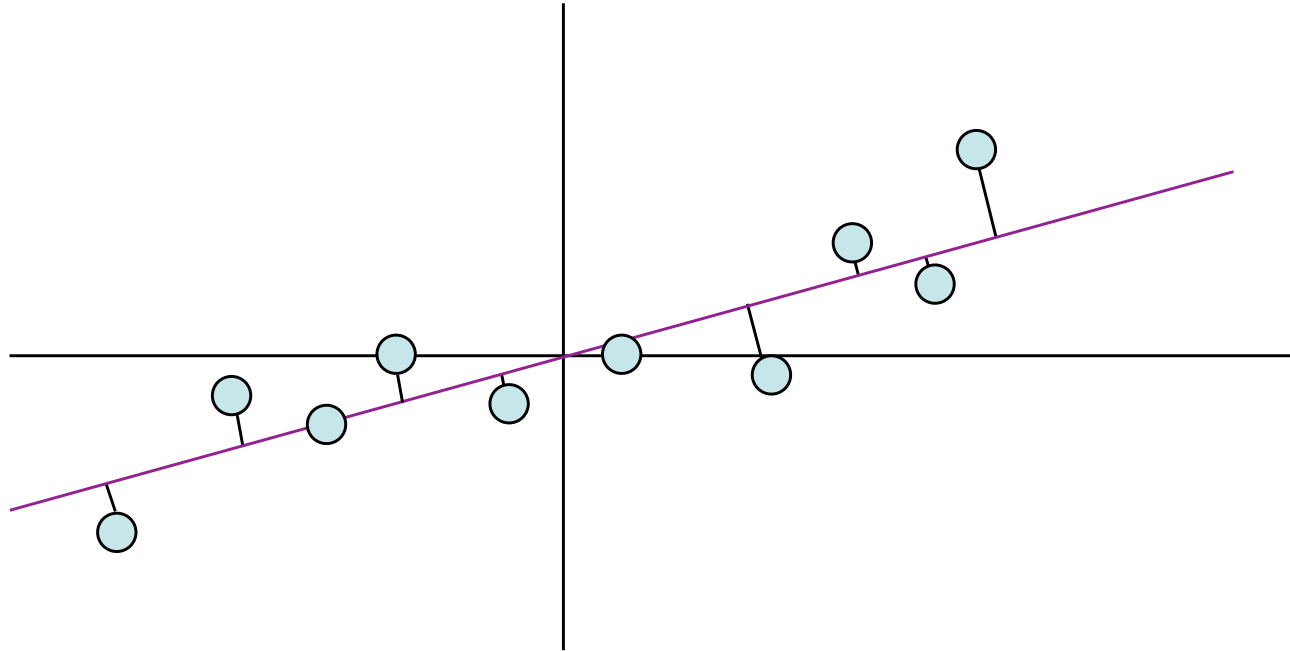
where $U = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - \bar{x} & y_1 - \bar{y} \\ \dots & \dots \\ x_n - \bar{x} & y_n - \bar{y} \end{pmatrix}$

and $\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$

So, we solve $U\mathbf{n}=0$ in the least squares sense, with the constraint that

$$|\mathbf{n}| = a^2 + b^2 = 1. \quad (\text{IE, use homogenous least squares})$$

Homogeneous linear least squares (new origin)



Does this look familiar (especially if you are a grad student)?

Homogenous linear least squares

Solve $U\mathbf{x} \cong \mathbf{0}$ subject to $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$

Again, **there is usually no exact solution.**

Least squares solution is the value of \mathbf{x} so that the magnitude of $U\mathbf{x}$ is as close zero as possible.

Homogenous linear least squares

The least squares problem is thus

$$\text{Minimize } \|U\mathbf{x}\| \text{ subject to } \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$$

This is solved by **magic** (but I can try to demystify this a little)

Wisdom from tea dipper handle

**Good
Earth®**

**In mathematics you
don't understand
things. You just get
used to them.**

**Johann von Neumann
(1903 - 1957)**

Homogenous linear least squares

The least squares problem is thus

$$\text{Minimize } \|U\mathbf{x}\| \text{ subject to } \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$$

This is solved by **magic** (but I will can try to demystify this a little)

Important

Specifically, the minimum is reached when \mathbf{x} is set to the eigenvector corresponding to the minimum eigenvalue of $U^T U$.

Pragmatic solution of homogenous systems

To solve $U\mathbf{x} \cong \mathbf{0}$ subject to $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$

In Matlab, form $Y = U^T U$

Then use `eig()` to get the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of Y .

\mathbf{x} is the eigenvector corresponding to the smallest eigenvalue. In Matlab, the smallest eigenvalue is usually first, but it pays to check.

(“proof” --- try 1,000,000 random solutions to see if you can do better)

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (précis)

Solve $U\mathbf{x} \approx \mathbf{0}$ subject to $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$

IE, minimize $(U\mathbf{x})^T (U\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T U^T U \mathbf{x}$ where $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = 1$

$U^T U = V D V^T$ (Eigenvector decomposition)

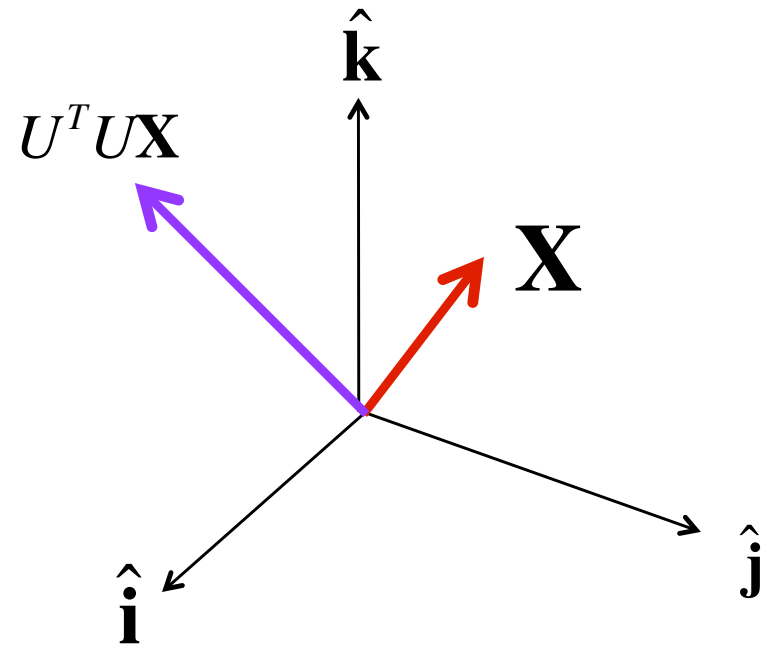
D is diagonal, with positive real eigenvalues as elements

V and V^T are orthogonal with eigenvector columns/rows

Orthogonal transforms do not change the magnitude of vectors

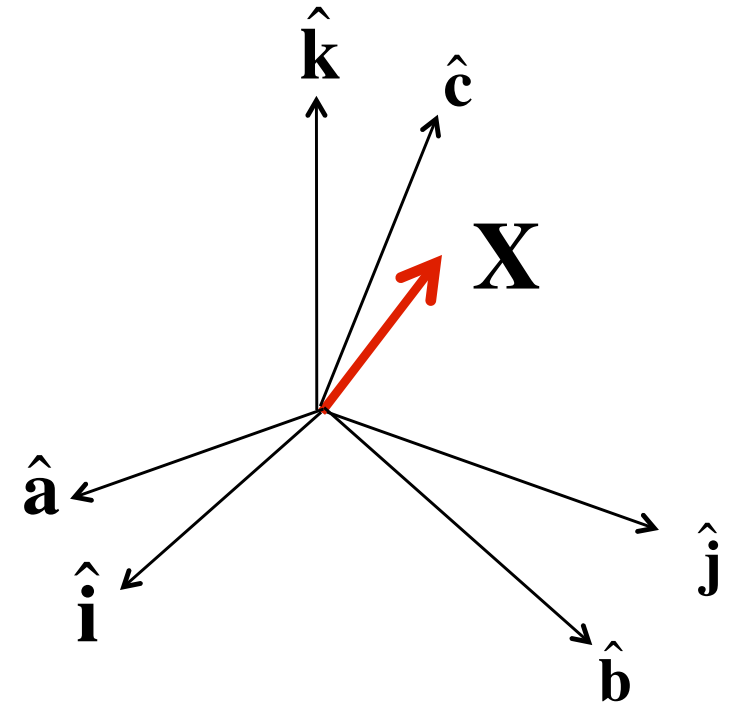
Review of linear operators

A matrix, e.g., $A=U^T U$,
transforms a vector



Review of Change of Basis

A change of orthonormal basis only rewrites the coordinates, it does not change \mathbf{X} , and in particular, does not change its length.

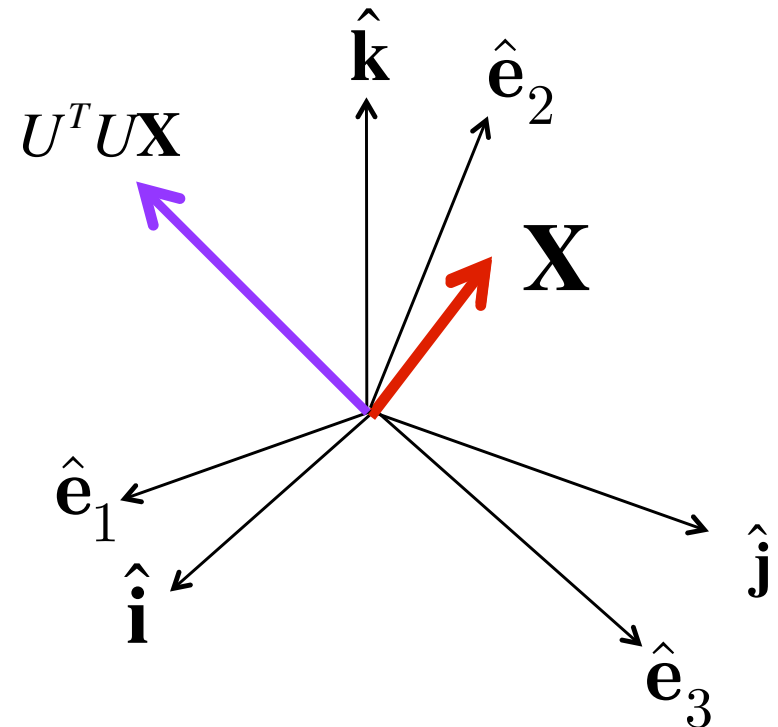


Using the Eigenvector Basis for $U^T U$

$$U^T U = V D V^T$$

(Eigenvector decomposition)

$$(U^T U) \mathbf{X} = \underbrace{V \left\{ D \left(\underbrace{V^T \mathbf{X}}_{\substack{\text{rewrite coordinates} \\ \text{in eigen-basis}}} \right) \right\}}_{\substack{\text{stretch coordinates} \\ \text{by eigenvalues} \\ \text{(changes magnitude)}}}_{\substack{\text{rewrite coordinates} \\ \text{as original coordinates}}}$$

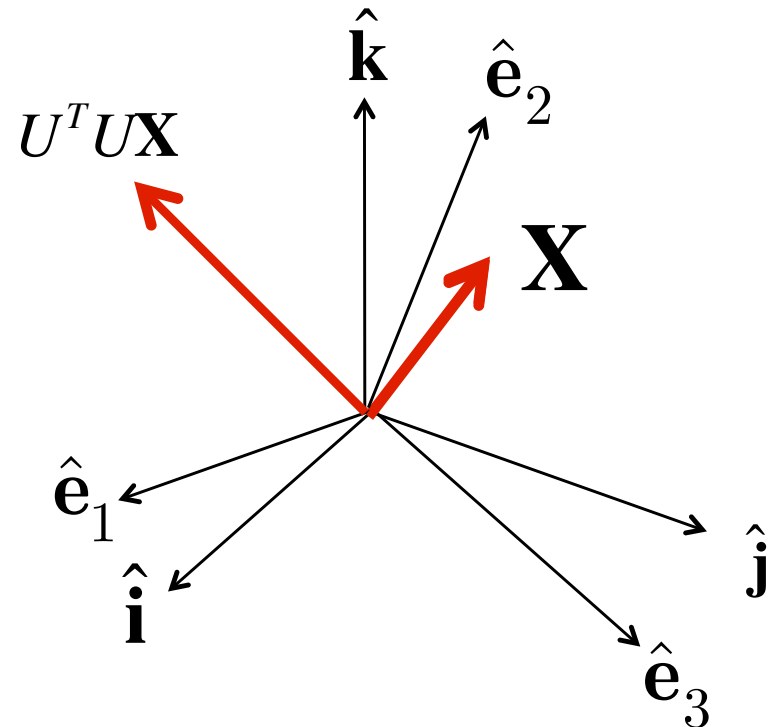


Using the Eigenvector Basis for $U^T U$

$$U^T U = V D V^T$$

(Eigenvector decomposition)

In this coordinate rewrite, we stretch the vector in each dimension according to D that has the eigenvalues for the entries.



Using the Eigenvector Basis for $U^T U$

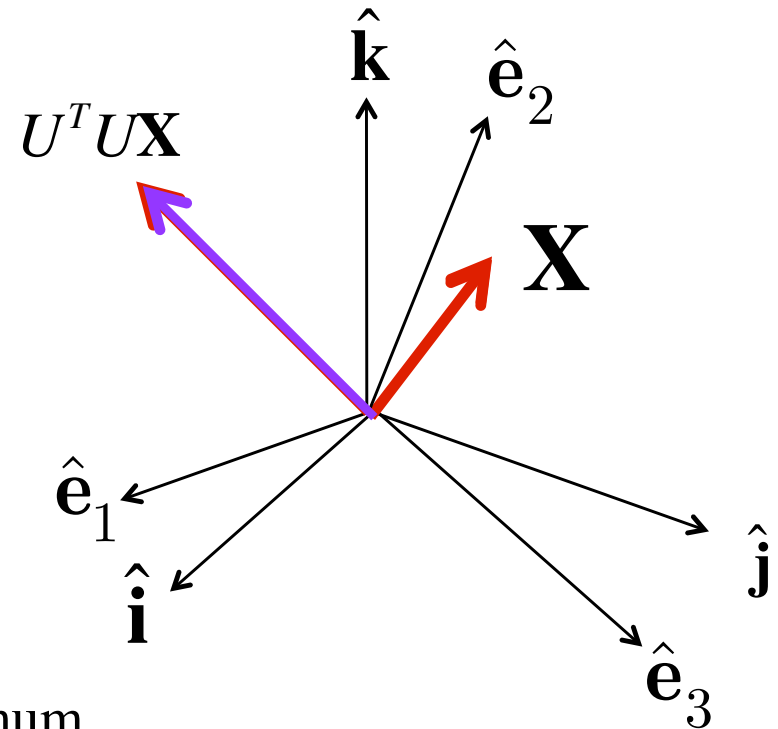
$$U^T U = V D V^T$$

(Eigenvector decomposition)

In this coordinate rewrite, we stretch the vector in each dimension according to D that has the eigenvalues for the entries.

So, assuming the first eigenvalue is the smallest, $(1,0,0)$ in eigenvector coordinates, gives the minimum.

So \mathbf{X} should be $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\min}$ in the original coordinates



Justifying homogenous linear least squares (précis)

Solve $U\mathbf{x} \approx \mathbf{0}$ subject to $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$

IE, minimize $(U\mathbf{x})^T (U\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T U^T U \mathbf{x}$ where $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = 1$

$U^T U = V D V^T$ (Eigenvector decomposition)

D is diagonal, with positive real eigenvalues as elements

V and V^T are orthogonal with eigenvector columns/rows

Orthogonal transforms do not change the magnitude of vectors

$$(U\mathbf{x})^T (U\mathbf{x}) = (V^T \mathbf{x})^T D (V^T \mathbf{x})$$

The effect in the eigenbasis is to stretch components by the (positive) values in D

The best you can do is to put all the weight on the smallest value of D .

This is achieved by the eigenvector corresponding to the minimal eigenvalue in D .

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (précis)

$$(U\mathbf{x})^T (U\mathbf{x}) = (V^T \mathbf{x})^T D (V^T \mathbf{x})$$

(from before)

$$= (V^T \mathbf{x})^T \sqrt{D} \sqrt{D} (V^T \mathbf{x})$$

(we *know* that the
elements of D are positive)

$$= (\sqrt{D} V^T \mathbf{x}) \bullet (\sqrt{D} V^T \mathbf{x})$$

$$= \left\| \sqrt{D} V^T \mathbf{x} \right\|^2$$

Additional supplementary material with further details justifying the formula for homogenous least squares (not covered in the asynchronous pre-recorded lecture).

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

Because we solve $U\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{0}$ as best we can, the error vector is $U\mathbf{x}$

The squared error is then

$$(U\mathbf{x})^T (U\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T (U^T U) \mathbf{x}$$

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

Since $U^T U$ is positive semidefinite, the eigenvalues are **non – negative**

Recall that a matrix A is positive semidefinite if $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}$ is never negative.

(Clearly $U^T U$ it is positive semidefinite because $\mathbf{x}^T U^T U \mathbf{x}$ is $|\mathbf{Ux}|^2$)

Further technical comments

If the model is good, then U will **approximate** a matrix of deficient column rank because there should exist a non-zero \mathbf{x} that solves $U\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{0}$.

We force the solution process to embody the assumption that the fact that $U^T U$ *appears* to be of full rank is due to measurement error. This assumption helps separate the part of U that is due to errors from the part that is due to the model.

This why we say that $U^T U$ is **semi**-positive definite, and *not* positive definite. We assume that there may a solution to $U\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{0}$, that is distinctly non-zero .

(A matrix, A , is positive definite if, $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}$ is never negative, **and** $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ means that $\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{0}$.)

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

Since $U^T U$ it is positive semidefinite, the eigenvalues are **non – negative**

Recall that a matrix A has an eigenvector, \mathbf{e} , with eigenvalue λ if

$$A\mathbf{e} = \lambda\mathbf{e}$$

Diagonalization:

$U^T U = V \Lambda V^T$ where V is an orthonormal basis made of the eigenvectors, \mathbf{e}_i , of $U^T U$, and Λ is a diagonal matrix of the eigenvalues

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

Since $U^T U$ it is positive semidefinite, the eigenvalues are **non – negative**

We will write them as $\lambda_i = \sigma_i^2$.

Note: The book (at least my copy) uses λ_i^2 in the equation at the top of page 41 which is confusing. The coefficients, normally denoted, λ_i are in fact equal to the **square** of the "singular values of U", which usually are denoted by σ_i

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

We can write \mathbf{x} in terms of the eigenvector basis:

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum u_i \mathbf{e}_i \quad \text{where} \quad \sum u_i^2 = 1 \quad (\text{why?})$$

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

We can write \mathbf{x} in terms of the eigenvector basis:

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum u_i \mathbf{e}_i \quad \text{where} \quad \sum u_i^2 = 1 \quad (\text{why?})$$

$$(\text{Because } \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = \sum u_j \mathbf{e}_j^T \sum u_i \mathbf{e}_i = \sum \sum u_i u_j \mathbf{e}_j^T \mathbf{e}_i = \sum u_i^2)$$

(and $|\mathbf{x}| = 1$)

(Alternatively, appeal to the fact that the new basis is orthonormal, and so the length of \mathbf{x} does not change).

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

The error to minimize is $\mathbf{x}^T (VDV^T) \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}^T V) D (V^T \mathbf{x})$

Recall that $\mathbf{x} = \sum u_i \mathbf{e}_i$

And that the columns of V are the eigenvectors \mathbf{e}_i

So the elements of $V^T \mathbf{x}$ are ?

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

The error to minimize is $\mathbf{x}^T (VDV^T) \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}^T V) D (V^T \mathbf{x})$

Recall that $\mathbf{x} = \sum u_i \mathbf{e}_i$

And that the columns of V are the eigenvectors \mathbf{e}_i

So the elements of $V^T \mathbf{x}$ are u_i

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

The error to minimize is $\mathbf{x}^T (VDV^T) \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}^T V) D (V^T \mathbf{x})$

And we have noted that the elements of $V^T \mathbf{x}$ are u_i

So the error is ?

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

The error to minimize is $\mathbf{x}^T (VDV^T) \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}^T V) D (V^T \mathbf{x})$

And we have noted that the elements of $V^T \mathbf{x}$ are u_i

So the error is $\sum u_i^2 \lambda_i = \sum u_i^2 \sigma_i^2$

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

From the previous slide the error to be minized is $\sum u_i^2 \sigma_i^2$

We are stuck with the values σ_i^2 and $\sum u_i^2 = 1$

To make the error small, what can we do?

Justifying homogenous linear least squares (pedantic)

From the previous slide the error to be minized is $\sum u_i^2 \sigma_i^2$

We are stuck with the values σ_i^2 and $\sum u_i^2 = 1$

The best we can do is to set $u_i = 1$

for the minimum value of $\lambda_i = \sigma_i^2$ and zero for the others.