

Linear Algebra

Seminar 8: Orthogonal projections and least square solutions (make sure you can write on the board)

Problem 1. For the vectors $\mathbf{a} = (1, 0, 1)$ and $\mathbf{b} = (-1, 2, 1)$

- (a) find the matrix of the orthogonal projection P_V onto the line $V := \text{ls}\{\mathbf{a}\}$;
- (b) find the matrix of the orthogonal projection P_{V^\perp} onto the plane V^\perp ;
- (c) find the components of the vector \mathbf{b} with respect to the decomposition $\mathbb{R}^3 = V \oplus V^\perp$.

Problem 2. For the vectors $\mathbf{a}_1 = (1, 0, 1)$, $\mathbf{a}_2 = (0, 1, 2)$ and $\mathbf{b} = (-1, 2, 1)$

- (a) find the matrix of the orthogonal projection P_W onto the plane $W := \text{ls}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2\}$;
- (b) find the matrix of the orthogonal projection P_{W^\perp} onto the plane W^\perp ;
- (c) find the components of the vector \mathbf{b} with respect to the decomposition $\mathbb{R}^3 = W \oplus W^\perp$.

Problem 3. Let W be the plane given by the equation $5x - 3y + z = 0$.

- (a) Find a basis for W
- (b) Find the standard matrix for the orthogonal projection on W .
- (c) Use the matrix obtained in part (b) to find the orthogonal projection of a point $P_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ on W .
- (d) Find the distance between the point $P_0(1, -2, 4)$ and the plane W .
- (e) Prove that the distance D between the point $P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ and the plane $ax + by + cz + d = 0$ is

$$D = \frac{|ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0 + d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

- (f) Find the distance between two parallel planes $2x - y - z = 5$ and $-4x + 2y + 2z = 12$.
- (g) Find the distance between two planes $2x - y - z = 5$ and $-4x + y + 2z = 12$.

Problem 4. Let W be the line with parametric equations $x = 2t$, $y = -t$, $z = 4t$

- (a) Find a basis for W .
- (b) Find the standard matrix for the orthogonal projection on W .
- (c) Use the matrix obtained in part (b) to find the orthogonal projection of a point $P_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ on W .
- (d) Find the distance between the point $P_0(2, 1, -3)$ and the line W .
- (e) Find the formula for the distance between $P_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ and line

$$\frac{x - x_1}{a} = \frac{y - y_1}{b} = \frac{z - z_1}{c}$$

- (f) Find the distance between two parallel lines $\frac{x-1}{1} = \frac{y-1}{2} = \frac{z-1}{3}$ and $\frac{x-2}{1} = \frac{y-1}{2} = \frac{z-1}{3}$
- (g) Find the distance between two lines $\frac{x-1}{1} = \frac{y-1}{2} = \frac{z-1}{3}$ and $\frac{x-2}{1} = \frac{y-1}{2} = \frac{z-1}{1}$

Problem 5. Given the system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$,

- (a) write the normal equation $A^\top A\mathbf{x} = A^\top \mathbf{b}$;
- (b) find the least squares solution of $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$;
- (c) find the smallest error $\|\mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}\|$ and its length

for

$$(i) \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (ii) \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Problem 6. (a) Find the least squares straight line fit to the three points $(0, 1)$, $(1, 2)$, and $(2, 7)$.

- (b) Find the quadratic polynomial that best fits the four points $(2, 0)$, $(3, -10)$, $(5, -48)$, and $(6, -76)$.
- (c) Find the cubic polynomial that best fits the four points $(2, 0)$, $(3, -10)$, $(5, -48)$, and $(6, -76)$.

Extra problems (to be discussed if time permits)

Problem 7. Assume that $\mathbf{a}_1 = (-\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$, $\mathbf{a}_2 = (\frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$, $\mathbf{a}_3 = (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3})$, and $\mathbf{b} = (0, 1, 2)$.

- (a) Explain why $\mathbf{a}_1^\top \mathbf{a}_1 + \mathbf{a}_2^\top \mathbf{a}_2 + \mathbf{a}_3^\top \mathbf{a}_3 = I_3$.
- (b) Find the orthogonal projections of \mathbf{b} onto the spaces $\text{ls}\{\mathbf{a}_1\}$ and $\text{ls}\{\mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3\}$.

Problem 8. Let W be a subspace in \mathbb{R}^2 given by the equation $ax + by = 0$

- (a) Find a basis for W and W^\perp and the standard matrices of the orthogonal projections onto W and W^\perp
- (b) Use the matrices obtained in part (a) to find the orthogonal projections of a vector $\mathbf{p} = (x_0, y_0)^\top$ on W and W^\perp
- (c) Show that the distance between the point $P(x_0, y_0)$ and the line W is equal to

$$\frac{ax_0 + by_0}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

- (d) comment on the changes to be made for the distance between P and the line $ax + by = c$

Problem 9. (a) In \mathbb{R}^3 , consider the line l given by the equations

$$x = 0, \quad y = t, \quad z = 2t$$

and the line m given by the equations

$$x = s, \quad y = 1 - s, \quad z = 1.$$

Let P be a point on l , and let Q be a point on m . Find the values of t and s that minimize the distance between the lines by minimizing the squared distance $\|P - Q\|^2$, and find that minimal distance.

- (b) Now denote by W the plane through the line l that is parallel to m . Find the distance from m to W and compare the result to that of part (a)

Problem 10. Is there any value of s for which $x_1 = 1$ and $x_2 = 2$ is the least squares solution of the following linear system?

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - x_2 &= 1, \\ 2x_1 + 3x_2 &= 1, \\ 4x_1 + 5x_2 &= s. \end{aligned}$$

Explain your reasoning

