

Chap 2 : Linear regression with least square estimate

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Exercise 2.1 Ellipses

Description

We collect a dataset of measurements (for exemple positions) and they are plotted in a 2 axis graph shown bellow :

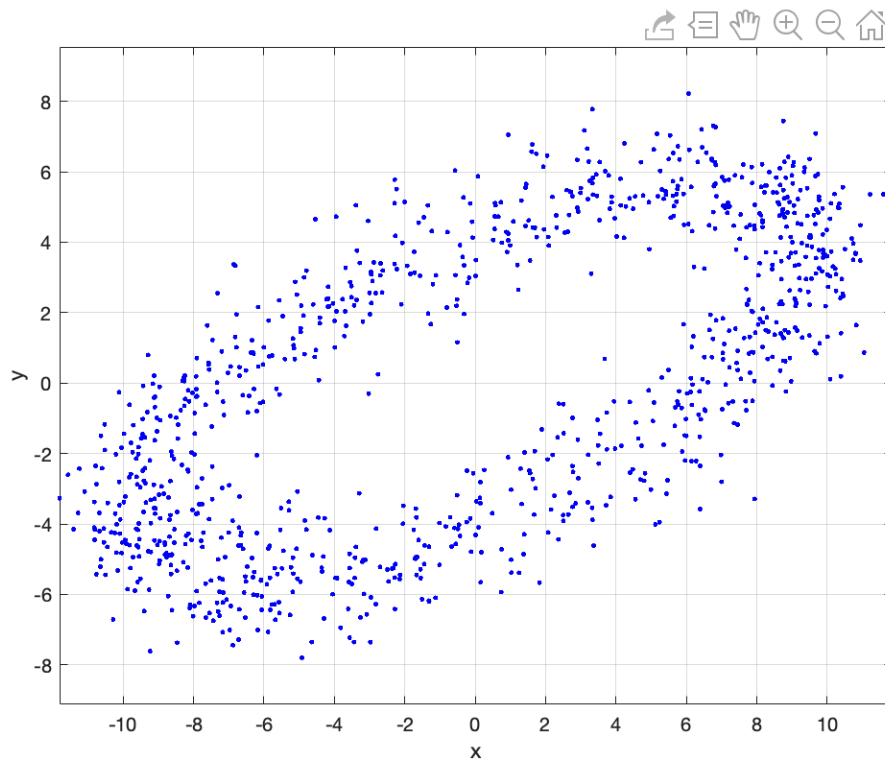


Figure 1

The goal is to find the best Ellipse approximation with the minimum of the L2 norm. and then plot it like in the figure 2:

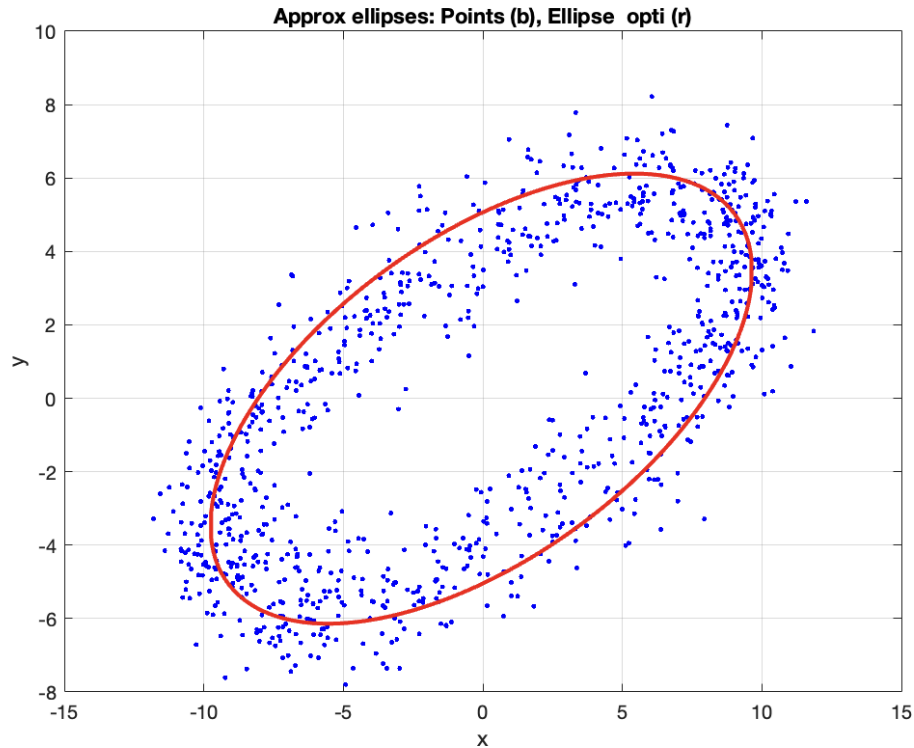


Figure 2

Theory

The ellipses equations are given by :

$$ax^2 + by^2 + cx + dy + exy = 1 \quad (1)$$

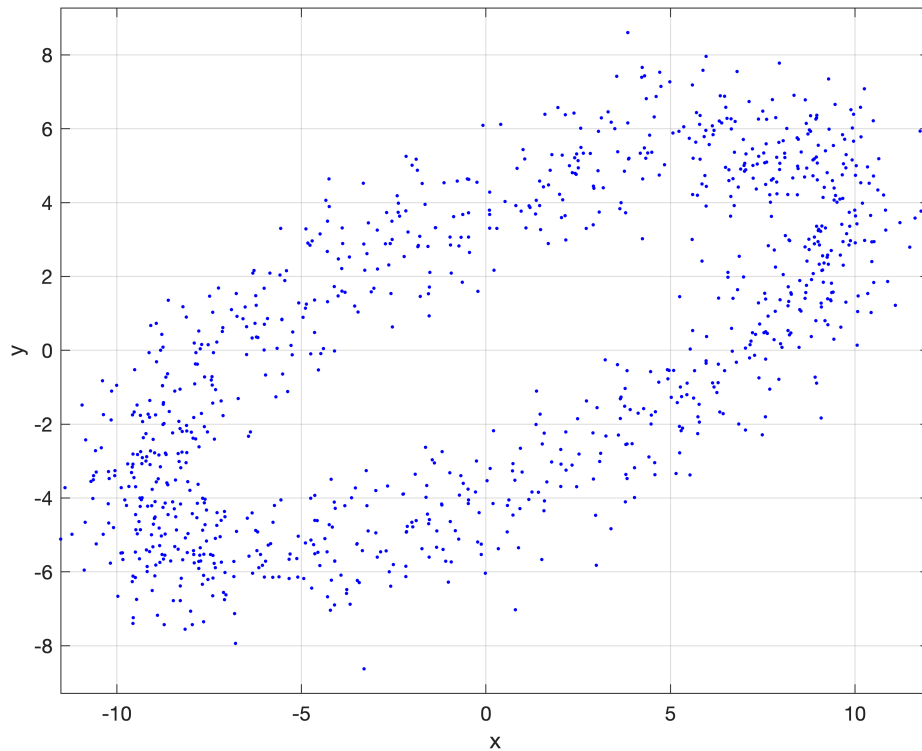
the constants values a, b, c, d, e are the parameters to be found, in this case they are the unknown of the problem to solve. we need only 5 points $P(x_i, y_i)$ to determine the constants a, b, c, d, e , but here we want to find the best approximation that minimize the L2 norm of the error between the points $P(x_i, y_i)$ and the best Ellipse approximation.

For each point $P_i = P(x_i, y_i)$ we could write the equation (1), for N points we have the overdetermined system of equations with N equations and 5 unknowns.

Data import and plot

First import the data from the file `EllipseData.mat`, the points are in the matrix P_i , the column number is the point number i the first row contains the x_i values and the second row contains the y_i values.

Next plot the points in a graph like this shown in figure 1



Compute the parameters for the best Ellipse

Build the matrix A and the vector b representing the system of N equations like the equation (1):

to find the best parameters Θ we need to solve the over-determined system :

$$A\Theta = b \quad (2)$$

It is no solution Θ that satisfies all the conditions (all points) so we could only find an approximation $\hat{\Theta}$, solving eq (2) by pseudo inverse will give $\hat{\Theta}$:

$$\hat{\Theta} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b \quad (3)$$

Compute the approximation parameters :

```
Thetahat = 5x1
    0.0162
    0.0395
   -0.0019
    0.0003
   -0.0296
```

Compute the best Ellipse points

With those parameters it is possible to plot the approximation of the Ellipse that fit the measurement points P_i but it is not trivial because y coordinates depends of x coordinates as shown by the Ellipse equation (1) so we need compute for each possible x (in the same range than in the dataset) the corresponding y on the best Ellipse given by the approximation parameters. From the equation (1) we need to solve $\hat{y} = f(x, \hat{\Theta})$ and this is a second order equation with 2 or 1 or 0 real possible values of y for each x .

Let's re-write the eq (1) like this:

$by^2 + (d + ex)y + (ax^2 + cx - 1) = 0$ we need to exprime y and to simplify the notation we call : $V = d + ex$ and $W = (ax^2 + cx - 1)$ and $Z = b$

the equation would be : $Zy^2 + Vy + W = 0$ so y is find by solving this second order equation:

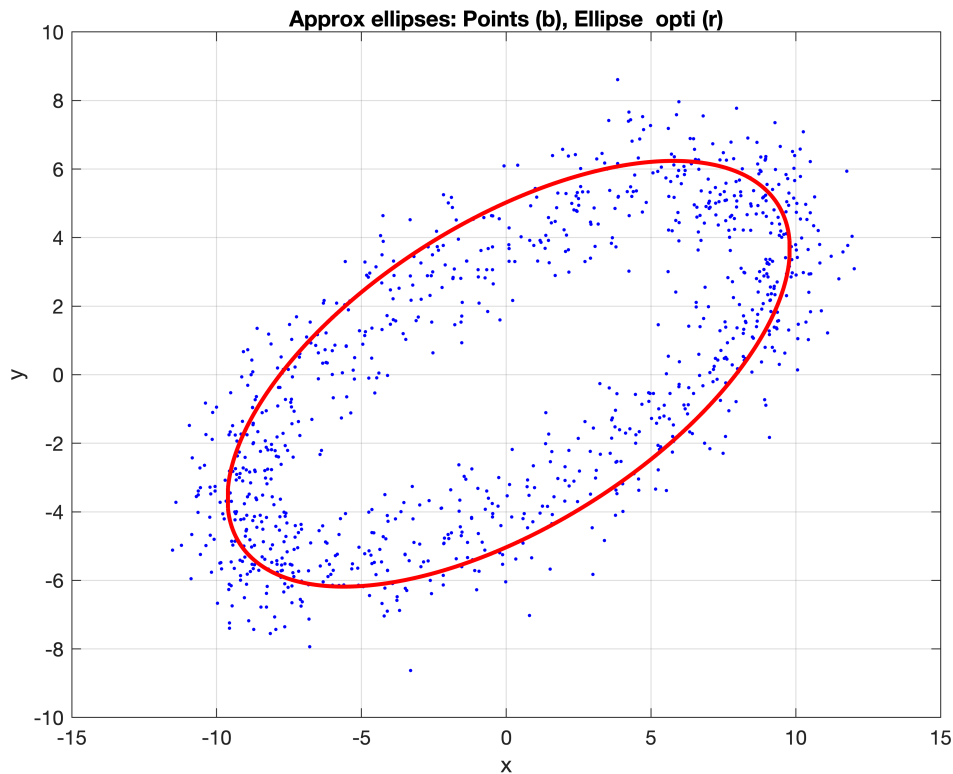
$$y = -V \pm \frac{\sqrt{V^2 - 4ZW}}{2Z} \quad (4)$$

First create a x vectos with the enough points to plot an Ellipse trajectory and with the same span than the x_i values in the data set:

Create the variables Z , V and W with the data x_i and the parameters in the vector $\hat{\Theta}$:

Next compute the \hat{y}_i values by solving (4) for positive and negative case (be careful to not take the non-real values):

Plot the best Ellipse



Eigen Vectors and eigenvalues application

To find the principal axis of the Ellipse we could compute the covariance matrix of the coordinate points :

The Covariance matrix C_p is given by , the size is 2×2

$$C_p = \frac{1}{N} (P_i^T - m_p)^T (P_i^T - m_p) \quad \text{where } m_p \text{ is the vector of mean values of the columns of } P_i$$

We obtain the same result with `cov()` function

```
mp = 1x2
    -0.0037    -0.0265
```

```
Cp = 2x2
    46.8203    18.5040
    18.5040    17.1023
```

The covariance matrix is Hermitian (the complex transpose is equal to himself) that gives some particularity, the eigen values and the eigen vectors are real.

Now we compute the eigen vectors and the eigen values :

```
V = 2x2
    0.9017    -0.4324
    0.4324     0.9017
D = 2x2
    55.6929     0
     0      8.2297
```

the eigenvector corresponding to the largest eigenvalue is the bigger axis of the Ellipse.

You could notice the two eigenvectors are perpendicular.

The Eigenvector that corresponds to the largest value of the eigenvalue corresponds with the largest axis of the ellipse.