

# EECS16A DIS14A

## Learning Objectives

- How to set up least squares problems (Identify  $A, \vec{x}, \vec{b}$ )
- Condition on problem to set up as a least squares problem  
↳ What kind of models? (When can we express as  $A\vec{x}$ ?)
- Condition on whether least squares has a unique solution  
↳ Also to be covered in lecture tomorrow/picked up on from last week's lecture (Has to do with  $A, A^T A$ )
- If time, some ML implications

## Music

- Esperanza Spalding  
Black Gold
- Robert Glasper  
Ako Blue

EECS 16A  
Fall 2020

## Designing Information Devices and Systems I

## Discussion 14A

**1. Polynomial Fitting**

Let's try an example. Say we know that the output,  $y$ , is a quartic polynomial in  $x$ . This means that we know that  $y$  and  $x$  are related as follows:

$$y = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + a_4x^4$$

We're also given the following observations:

	$x$	$y$
$x_0 \rightarrow$	0.0	24.0
$x_1 \rightarrow$	0.5	6.61
$x_2 \rightarrow$	1.0	0.0
$\vdots$	1.5	-0.95
$\vdots$	2.0	0.07
$\vdots$	2.5	0.73
$\vdots$	3.0	-0.12
$\vdots$	3.5	-0.83
$\vdots$	4.0	-0.04
$\vdots$	4.5	6.42

(a) What are the unknowns in this question? What are we trying to solve for?

$$\Rightarrow \underline{a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4}$$

(b) Can you write an equation corresponding to the first observation  $(x_0, y_0)$ , in terms of  $a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3$ , and  $a_4$ ? What does this equation look like? Is it linear in the unknowns?

$$(x_0, y_0) = (0, 24) \rightarrow y_0 = a_0 + a_1x_0 + a_2x_0^2 + a_3x_0^3 + a_4x_0^4$$

$$24 = a_0 + a_1 \cdot 0 + a_2 \cdot 0 + \dots$$

$$\rightarrow 24 = a_0 \quad \text{Linear? Yes - linear comb. of } a_i\text{'s}$$

(c) Now, write a system of equations in terms of  $a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3$ , and  $a_4$  using *all of the observations*.

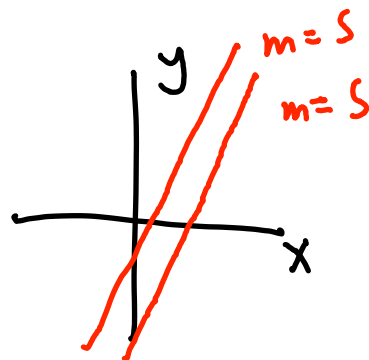
$$A\hat{x} = \vec{b}$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_q \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_0 & x_0^2 & x_0^3 & x_0^4 \\ 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 & x_1^3 & x_1^4 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_q & x_q^2 & x_q^3 & x_q^4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_q \end{bmatrix}$$

$\vec{x}$        $\vec{b}$



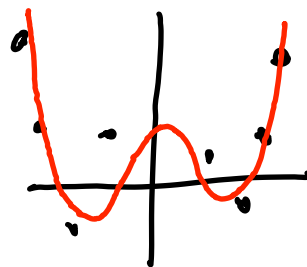
$$y = 1 \cdot a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + a_4 x^4$$

Linear in the  $a_i$ 's

Substitute values of  $x$ 's and  $y$ 's

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{1}{16} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ \vdots \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ 6.61 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$A$        $\vec{x}$        $\vec{b}$



error :

$$\|A\vec{x} - \vec{b}\|^2$$

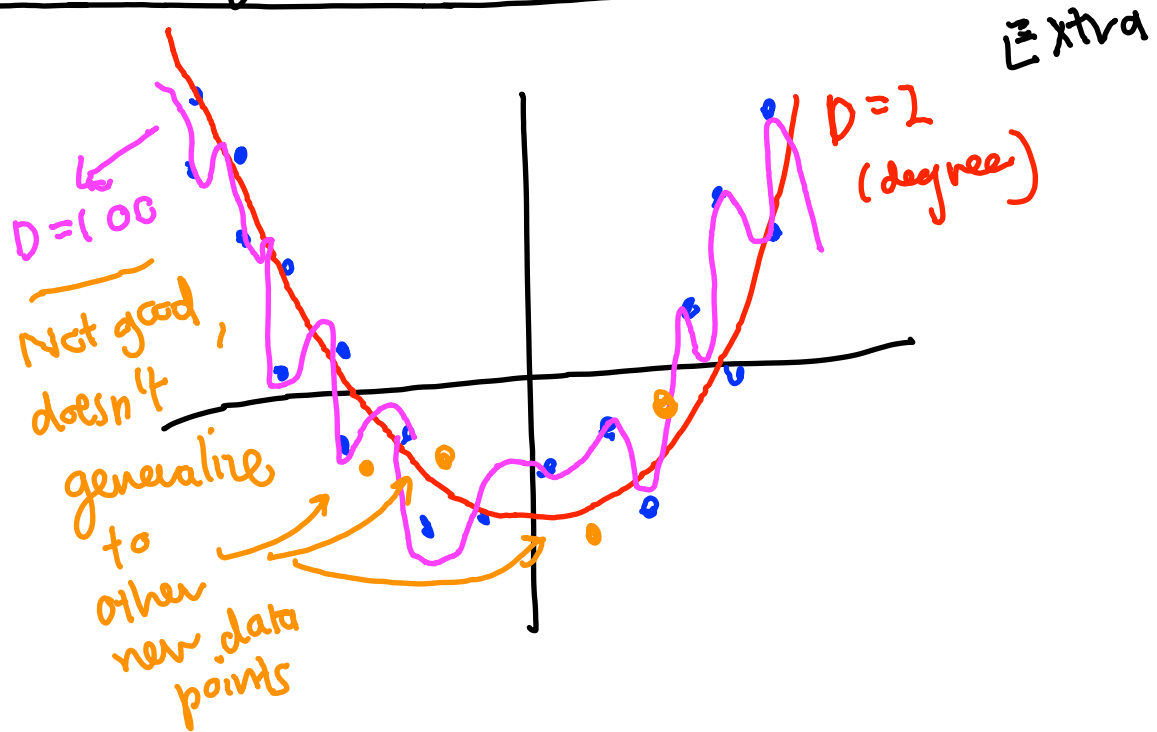
$$\hat{x} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{b}$$

↳ inverse not always defined  
 need to know  $A^T A$  is invertible  
 $A^T A \hat{x} = A^T \vec{b} \leftarrow$  always has a solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{no inverse}$$

- (d) Finally, solve for  $a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3$ , and  $a_4$  using IPython. You have now found the quartic polynomial that best fits the data!

Look @ Notebook!  $a_0 \approx 2.4$ !  $a_1 = \dots$



## 2. Building a classifier (Final - Fall 2019)

Least squares are often used in practice to classify data. In this scenario, we would like to develop a classifier to classify points based on their distance from the origin.

You are presented with the following data. Each data point  $\vec{d}_i^T = [x_i \ y_i]^T$  has the corresponding label  $l_i \in \{-1, 1\}$ .

	$x_i$	$y_i$	$l_i$
→	-2	1	-1
→	-1	1	1
→	1	1	1
→	2	1	-1

Table 1: \*

Labels for data you are classifying

- (a) (6 points) You want to build a model to understand the data. You first consider a linear model, i.e. you want to find  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $l_i \approx \alpha x_i + \beta y_i + \gamma$ .

Set up a least squares problem to solve for  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$ . If this problem is solvable, solve it, i.e. find the best values for  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ . If it is not solvable, justify why.

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_i & y_i \\ -2 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{c} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{d} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

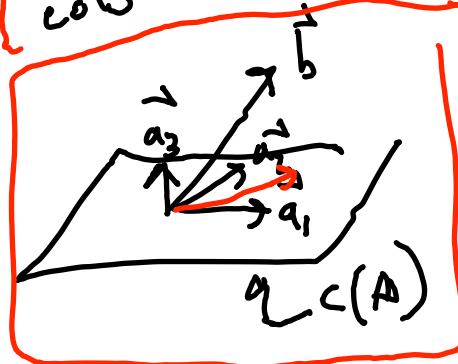
$$X\vec{c} = \vec{d}$$

$$\vec{c} \Rightarrow \text{estimate}$$

Not solvable  
(No unique solution  
to  $X^T X \vec{c} = X^T \vec{d}$ ,  
( $X^T X$ )<sup>-1</sup> doesn't exist)

**Formula**  

$$\hat{\vec{c}} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T \vec{d}$$
**Condition when formula works**  
 $X$  has linearly independent cols  $\Rightarrow (X^T X)^{-1}$  exists



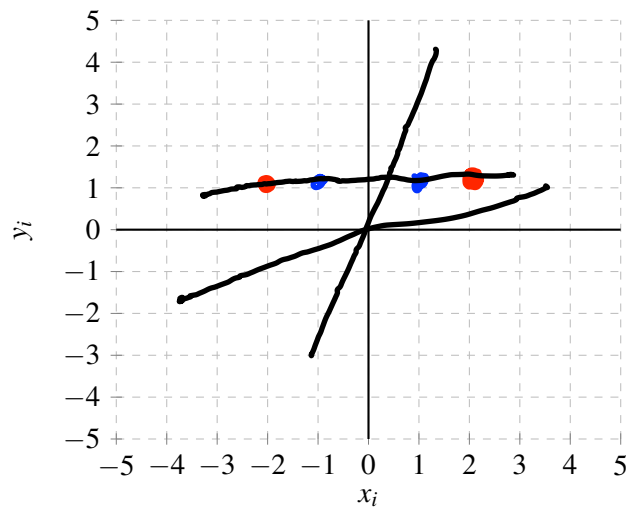
↳ Geometric intuition for why linear independence matters

- (b) (3 points) **Plot** the data points in the plot below with axes  $(x_i, y_i)$ . **Is there a straight line such that the data points with a  $+1$  label are on one side and data points with a  $-1$  label are on the other side? Answer yes or no, and if yes, draw the line.**

$x_i$	$y_i$	$l_i$
-2	1	-1
-1	1	1
1	1	1
2	1	-1

Table 2: \*

Table repeated for your convenience: Labels for data you are classifying



No line (straight) separates the points of different categories

- (c) (6 points) You now consider a model with a quadratic term:  $l_i \approx \alpha x_i + \beta x_i^2$  with  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ . *Read the equation carefully!*

**Set up a least squares problem to fit the model to the data. If this problem is solvable, solve it, i.e., find the best values for  $\alpha, \beta$ . If it is not solvable, justify why.**

$x_i$	$y_i$	$l_i$
-2	1	-1
-1	1	1
1	1	1
2	1	-1

Table 3: \*

Table repeated for your convenience: Labels for data you are classifying

$$\vec{l} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} x_i & x_i^2 \\ -2 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{c} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Solve: } X\vec{c} \approx \vec{l}$$

↑ lin. indep. cols

$$\vec{\hat{c}} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T \vec{l} = \dots \text{ can compute}$$

(look @ answers)  
not computed here

Computation by hand:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\hat{c}} &= \left( \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \left( \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 34 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{10} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{34} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\frac{3}{17} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- (d) (3 points) **Plot** the data points in the plot below with axes  $(x_i, x_i^2)$ . **Is there a straight line such that the data points with a +1 label are on one side and data points with a -1 label are on the other side? Answer yes or no, and if yes, draw the line.**

$x_i^2$   
 $(-1, 1)$   
 $(1, 1)$

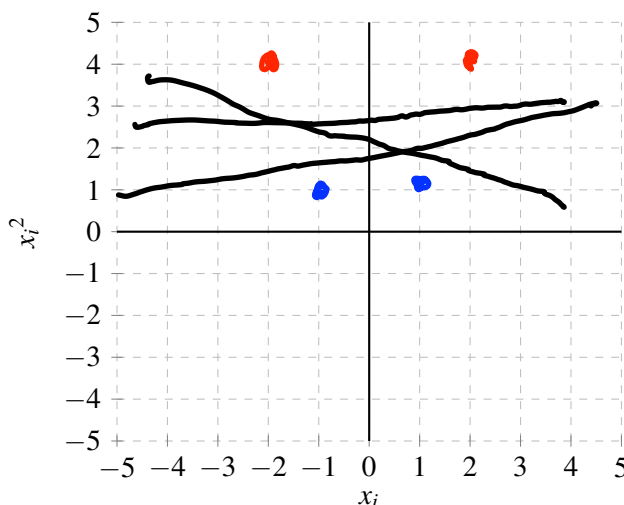
$x_i$	$y_i$	$l_i$
-2	1	-1
-1	1	1
1	1	1
2	1	-1

$x_i^2$   
 $(-2, 4)$

$(2, 4)$

Table 4: \*

Table repeated for your convenience: Labels for data you are classifying



← not separable by a line many choices

Extra:

ML Type perspective

Imagine your data is on a line:

.....

Can't separate red and blue!  
 (with a straight line)

.....

Can separate with a single line

Maybe we're looking at it in a way that doesn't help us  
 (choice of model).

What if we can change the shape by using a different  
 model to gain separability by a line?

..... → Cast into 2-D! Now separable by a line! Example of why model choice is important



- (e) (4 points) Finally you consider the model:  $l_i \approx \alpha x_i + \beta x_i^2 + \gamma$ , where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ . Independent of the work you have done so far, **would you expect this model or the model in part (c) (i.e.  $l_i \approx \alpha x_i + \beta x_i^2$ ) to have a smaller error in fitting the data? Explain why.**

$x_i$	$y_i$	$l_i$
-2	1	-1
-1	1	1
1	1	1
2	1	-1

Table 5: \*

Table repeated for your convenience: Labels for data you are classifying

Smaller error than the previous model  
in (d).

We can chip more off of  $\vec{l}$  with another  
column/  
direction  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_1^2 & 1 \\ x_2 & x_2^2 & 1 \\ x_3 & x_3^2 & 1 \\ x_4 & x_4^2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{bmatrix} \approx \vec{l}$$

some part of  $\vec{l}$   
may lie in  
the direction of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$