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# Lecture 7

## Least Squares

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## Outline

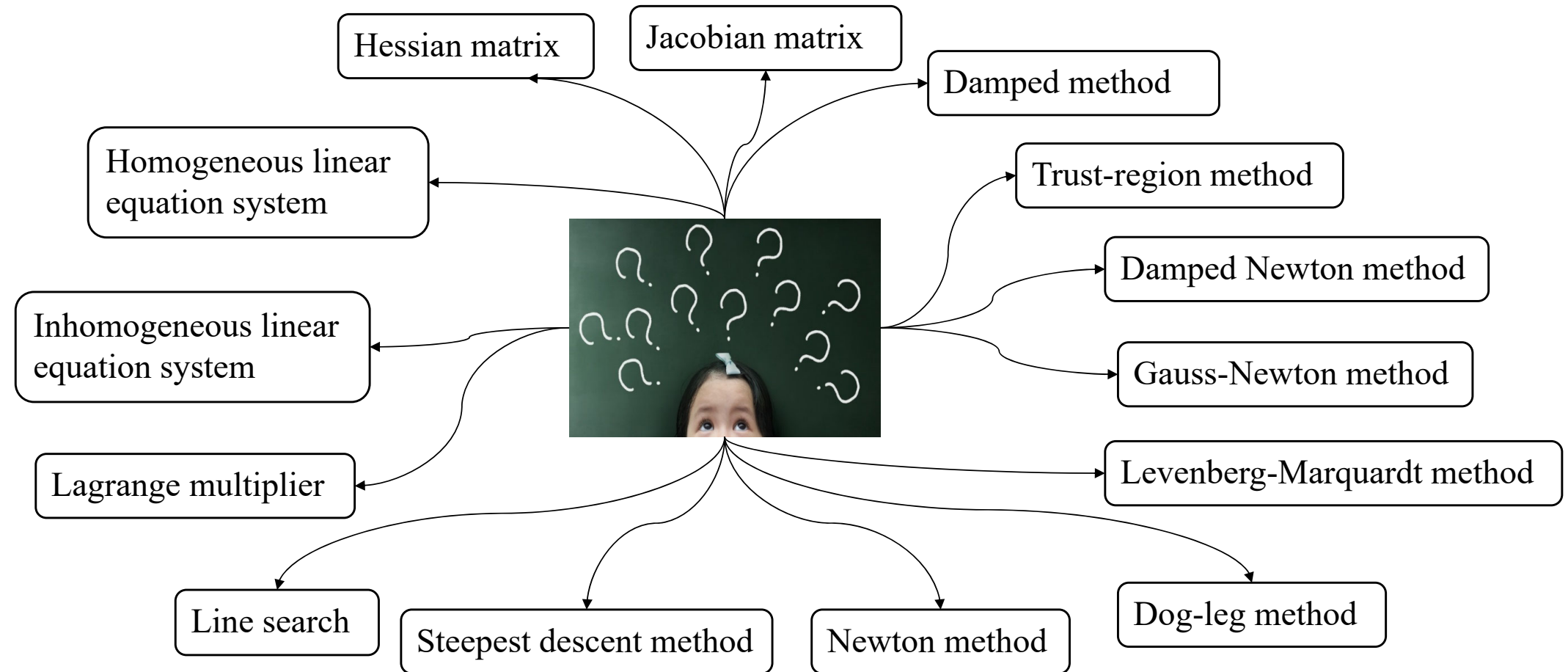
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- Why is least squares an important problem?
- Linear Least Squares
- Non-linear Least Squares



# Why is least squares an important problem?

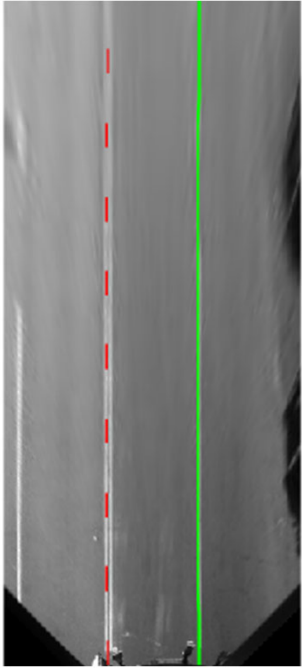
In intelligent automobile industry, some mathematical terminologies are often met



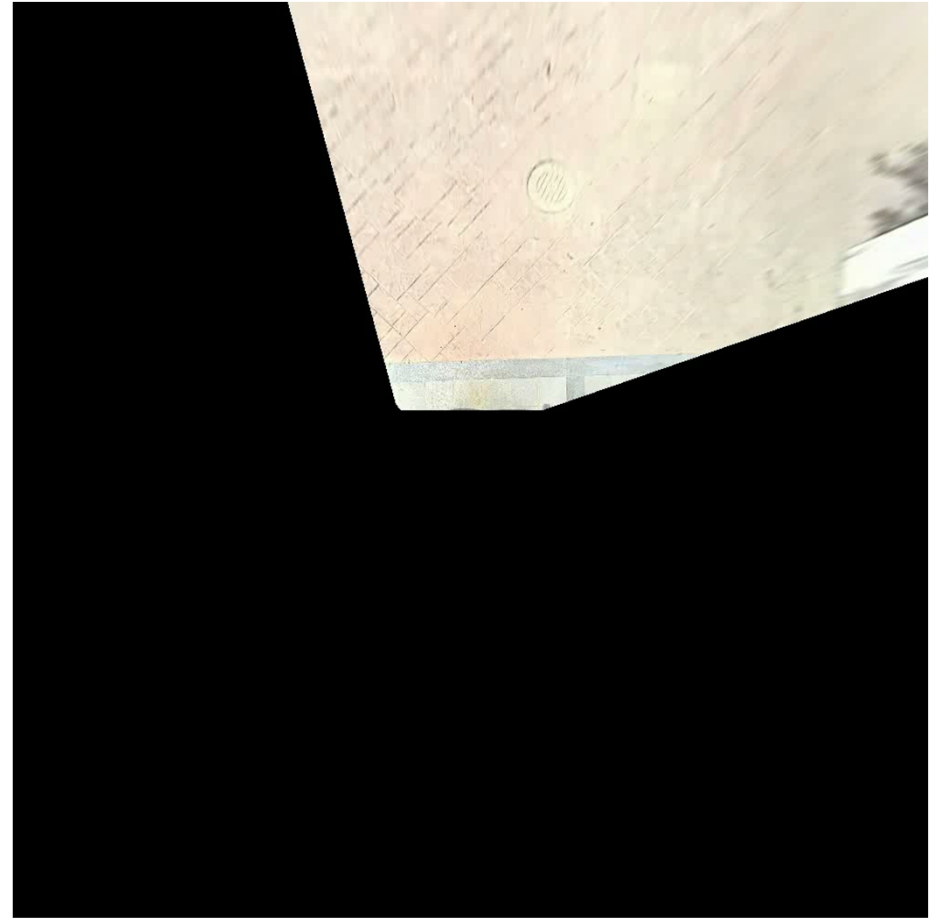


# Why is least squares an important problem?

## Ex1: bird's-eye-view calibration



bird's-eye-view image   original perspective image

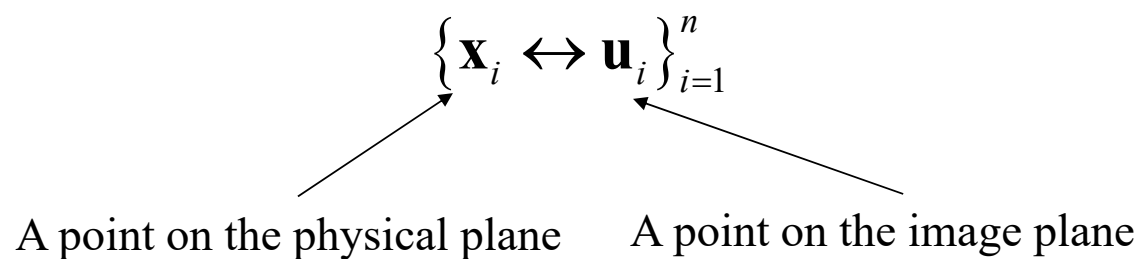




# Why is least squares an important problem?

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We need to estimate the **homography** between the image plane and the physical plane.  
This is achieved by an offline calibration process.



We know there existing an **H** satisfying

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{u}_i$$

We need to find **H** from  $\left\{ \mathbf{x}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{u}_i \right\}_{i=1}^n$



## Why is least squares an important problem?

For one point pair  $\mathbf{x} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{u}$ , we have

$$s \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{cases} h_{11}u + h_{12}v + h_{13} = sx \\ h_{21}u + h_{22}v + h_{23} = sy \\ h_{31}u + h_{32}v + h_{33} = s \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{h_{11}u + h_{12}v + h_{13}}{h_{31}u + h_{32}v + h_{33}} = x \\ \frac{h_{21}u + h_{22}v + h_{23}}{h_{31}u + h_{32}v + h_{33}} = y \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} u & v & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -ux & -vx & -x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & u & v & 1 & -uy & -vy & -y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_{11} \\ h_{12} \\ h_{13} \\ h_{21} \\ h_{22} \\ h_{23} \\ h_{31} \\ h_{32} \\ h_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

→ Since we have  $n$  point pairs, we get

$$\mathbf{A}_{2n \times 9} \mathbf{h}_{9 \times 1} = \mathbf{0}$$

How to solve this *homogeneous* linear equation system?



## Why is least squares an important problem?

Since only the ratios among the elements of  $\mathbf{H}$  take effect, in another way we can fix  $h_{33}=1$ ,

$$s \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} \begin{cases} h_{11}u + h_{12}v + h_{13} = sx \\ h_{21}u + h_{22}v + h_{23} = sy \\ h_{31}u + h_{32}v + 1 = s \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} \begin{cases} \frac{h_{11}u + h_{12}v + h_{13}}{h_{31}u + h_{32}v + 1} = x \\ \frac{h_{21}u + h_{22}v + h_{23}}{h_{31}u + h_{32}v + 1} = y \end{cases}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} \begin{pmatrix} u & v & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -ux & -vx \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & u & v & 1 & -uy & -vy \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_{11} \\ h_{12} \\ h_{13} \\ h_{21} \\ h_{22} \\ h_{23} \\ h_{31} \\ h_{32} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}}$  Since we have  $n$  point pairs, we get

$$\mathbf{A}_{2n \times 8} \mathbf{h}_{8 \times 1} = \mathbf{b}_{2n \times 1}$$

How to solve this *inhomogeneous* linear equation system?



# Why is least squares an important problem?

## Ex2: Camera calibration



The widely used Zhang Zhengyou's method actually needs to solve a non-linear minimization problem,

$$\mathbf{A}^*, \mathbf{R}_i^*, \mathbf{t}_i^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{t}_i} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m \left\| \mathbf{m}_{ij} - \hat{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{M}_j) \right\|^2$$

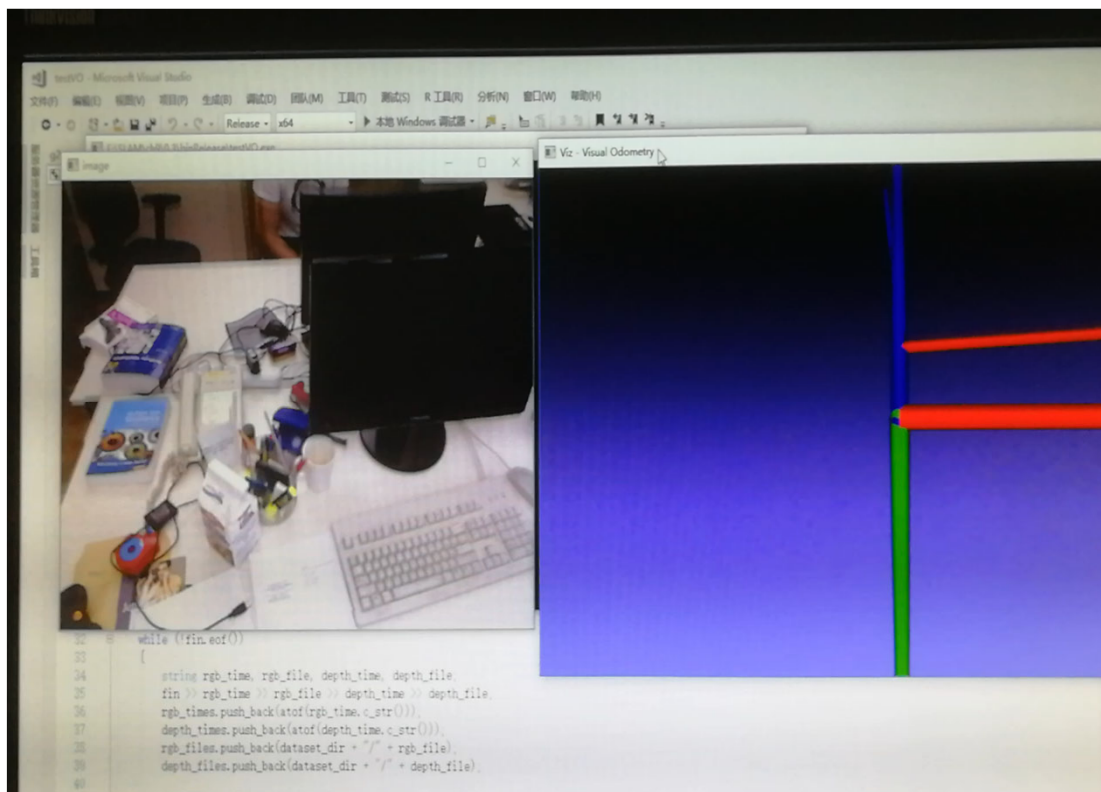
How to solve this non-linear minimization problem?





# Why is least squares an important problem?

## Ex3: visual SLAM



The core problem of visual slam is how to recover the poses of the camera from its observations (images)

One typical problem to solve in visual slam,

$$\xi^* = \arg \min_{\xi} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| \mathbf{u}_i - \frac{1}{s_i} \mathbf{K} \exp(\xi^{\wedge}) \mathbf{p}_i \right\|^2$$

where  $\mathbf{p}_i$  is a 3D feature point in the world coordinate system,  $\mathbf{u}_i$  is  $\mathbf{p}_i$ 's projection on the current frame, and  $\mathbf{K}$  is the intrinsic matrix of the camera. We need to identify the optimal pose  $\xi^*$  that best conforms to the observation

How to solve this non-linear minimization problem?



## Why is least squares an important problem?

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- All these problems can be summarized as three kinds of problems

Inhomogeneous linear equation system

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{b} \neq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$$

Homogeneous linear equation system

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$$

Non-linear least squares problem

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\|^2$$

where  $f_i(\mathbf{x})$  is a nonlinear function of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

} Linear least squares



# Outline

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- Why is least squares an important problem in autonomous driving?
- Linear Least Squares
  - LS for inhomogeneous linear system
  - LS for homogeneous linear system
- Non-linear Least Squares



# LS for Inhomogeneous Linear System

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{b} \neq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$$

The solution of the above problem can fall into three situations,

- 1) It has a unique solution
- 2) It has infinite solutions
- 3) It has no solution

*What are conditions  
for these three cases?*



We can solve the following linear least square problem to deal with all aforementioned three cases uniformly,

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2$$



# LS for Inhomogeneous Linear System

Linear least squares is a general idea for solving linear equations,

$$\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \mathbf{x}_{n \times 1} = \mathbf{b}_{m \times 1} \quad (1)$$

Using the idea of least squares, Eq. 1 is equivalent to the following problem,

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\| \mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \mathbf{x}_{n \times 1} - \mathbf{b}_{m \times 1} \right\|_2^2 \quad (\text{convex}) \quad (2)$$

Eq. 2 can be solved by finding the stationary point  $\mathbf{x}^*$  of  $\left\| \mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \mathbf{x}_{n \times 1} - \mathbf{b}_{m \times 1} \right\|_2^2$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{x}^*$  should satisfy,

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} \quad (3)$$

In Eq. 3, when  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = n$  (the columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  are linearly independent),

$\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}) = n \rightarrow \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  is invertible  $\rightarrow \mathbf{x}^*$  is uniquely determined as  $\mathbf{x}^* = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$

How about when  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) < n$ ?



## LS for Inhomogeneous Linear System

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- For solving the linear least squares numerically with a computer, usually we do not use the form of Eq. (3) (though it is elegant) for two reasons
  - When  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) < n$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^*$  can not be determined
  - Even though  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  is invertible, the formation of  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  can dramatically degrade the accuracy of the computation
- Instead, we can use the technique of SVD



# LS for Inhomogeneous Linear System

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Suppose the SVD form of  $A$  is,

$$\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} = U_{m \times m} \Sigma_{m \times n} V_{n \times n}^T$$



$$\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b} = U \Sigma V^T \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} = U (\Sigma V^T \mathbf{x}) - U (U^T \mathbf{b}) \triangleq U (\Sigma \mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} - \mathbf{c}_{m \times 1})$$

where  $\mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} = V^T \mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}_{m \times 1} = U^T \mathbf{b}$

Since  $U$  is an orthogonal matrix,

$$\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\| = \|U (\Sigma \mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} - \mathbf{c}_{m \times 1})\| = \|\Sigma \mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} - \mathbf{c}_{m \times 1}\|$$

Then, our objective is to identify  $\mathbf{y}$  that can make  $\|\Sigma \mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} - \mathbf{c}_{m \times 1}\|$  have minimum length



# LS for Inhomogeneous Linear System

$$\Sigma \mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} = \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \sigma_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \sigma_r \end{bmatrix} & \mathbf{0}_{r \times (n-r)} \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times r} & \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times (n-r)} \end{bmatrix}_{m \times n} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 y_1 \\ \sigma_2 y_2 \\ \vdots \\ \sigma_r y_r \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_{m \times 1} \rightarrow \Sigma \mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} - \mathbf{c}_{m \times 1} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 y_1 - c_1 \\ \sigma_2 y_2 - c_2 \\ \vdots \\ \sigma_r y_r - c_r \\ -c_{r+1} \\ \vdots \\ -c_m \end{bmatrix}_{m \times 1}$$

Then, we simply let  $y_i = \frac{c_i}{\sigma_i}, 1 \leq i \leq r$ ; then,  $\|\Sigma \mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} - \mathbf{c}_{m \times 1}\|$  can get the minimum length  $\sqrt{\sum_{i=r+1}^m c_i^2}$

Note that  $y_{r+1} \sim y_n$  can be arbitrary





# LS for Inhomogeneous Linear System

The operation  $y_i = \frac{c_i}{\sigma_i}, 1 \leq i \leq r$  can be simply completed by a matrix multiplication,

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_1} & & & \\ & \frac{1}{\sigma_2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \frac{1}{\sigma_r} \end{bmatrix} & \mathbf{0}_{r \times (m-r)} \\ \mathbf{0}_{(n-r) \times r} & \mathbf{0}_{(n-r) \times (m-r)} \end{bmatrix}_{n \times m} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_m \end{bmatrix}_{m \times 1} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 / \sigma_1 \\ c_2 / \sigma_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_r / \sigma_r \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1} \triangleq \Sigma^+ \mathbf{c}_{m \times 1}$$

where  $\Sigma^+$  means transposing  $\Sigma$  and inverting all non-zero diagonal entries

Finally,

$$\mathbf{x} = V \mathbf{y}_{n \times 1} = V \Sigma^+ \mathbf{c}_{m \times 1} = V \Sigma^+ U^T \mathbf{b}$$

Moore-Penrose inverse



# LS for Inhomogeneous Linear System

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- Some notes about the generalized inverse used in linear least squares
  - It does not have requirements for the rank of  $\mathbf{A}$
  - It can guarantee that the obtained solution can make  $\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\|$  having the minimum length; but **the solution may be not unique**



# LS for Homogeneous Linear System

Consider the following homogeneous linear equations,

$$\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \mathbf{x}_{n \times 1} = \mathbf{0}$$

The solution of the above problem can fall into two situations,

- 1) It only has the solution zero
- 2) It has both zero and non-zero solutions

*What are conditions  
for these three cases?*



In most cases, the trivial solution  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has no use and thus we add a constraint  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1$  (actually 1 can be any other integer)

We can solve the following linear least square problem to deal with all aforementioned two cases uniformly,

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2, s.t., \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1$$



## LS for Homogeneous Linear System

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$$\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2, \text{ s.t. }, \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1$$

Use the Lagrange multiplier to solve it,

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 + \lambda \left( 1 - \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \right) \right]$$

Solving the stationary point of the Lagrange function,

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \left[ \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 + \lambda \left( 1 - \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \right) \right]}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{0} \\ \frac{\partial \left[ \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 + \lambda \left( 1 - \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \right) \right]}{\partial \lambda} = 0 \end{cases}$$



## LS for Homogeneous Linear System

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$$\frac{\partial \left[ \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 + \lambda (1 - \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2) \right]}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{0}$$

Then, we have

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{Ax} = \lambda \mathbf{x}$$

$\mathbf{x}$  is the eigen-vector of  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda$

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{x}^T \lambda \mathbf{x} = \lambda$$

The unit vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is the eigenvector associated with the minimum eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$



# Outline

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- Why is least squares an important problem in autonomous driving?
- Linear Least Squares
- Non-linear Least Squares
  - General Methods for Non-linear Optimization
    - Basic Concepts
    - Descent Methods
  - Non-linear Least Squares Problems



## Basic Concepts

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### **Definition 1:** Local minimizer

Given  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ . Find  $\mathbf{x}^*$  so that

$$F(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq F(\mathbf{x}), \text{ for } \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*\| < \delta$$

where  $\delta$  is a small positive number



## Basic Concepts

Assume that the function  $F$  is differentiable and so smooth that the Taylor expansion is valid,

$$F(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) = F(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h} + O(\|\mathbf{h}\|^3)$$

where  $\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})$  is the gradient and  $\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})$  is the Hessian,

$$\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n}(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}) = \left[ \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}) \right]_{n \times n} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_2 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_n \partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}_{n \times n}$$





## Basic Concepts

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Assume that the function  $F$  is differentiable and so smooth that the Taylor expansion is valid,

$$F(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) = F(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h} + O(\|\mathbf{h}\|^2)$$

where  $\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})$  is the gradient and  $\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})$  is the Hessian,

It is easy to verify that,

$$\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{d\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})}{d\mathbf{x}^T}$$



## Basic Concepts

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**Theorem 1:** Necessary condition for a local minimizer

If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a local minimizer, then

$$\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$$

**Definition 2:** Stationary point

If  $\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}_s) = \mathbf{0}$ ,

then  $\mathbf{x}_s$  is said to be a stationary point for  $F$ .

A local minimizer (or maximizer) is also a stationary point. A stationary point which is neither a local maximizer nor a local minimizer is called a **saddle point**



## Basic Concepts

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**Theorem 2:** Sufficient condition for a local minimizer

Assume that  $\mathbf{x}_s$  is a stationary point and that  $\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}_s)$  is positive definite, then  $\mathbf{x}_s$  is a local minimizer

If  $\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}_s)$  is negative definite, then  $\mathbf{x}_s$  is a local maximizer. If  $\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}_s)$  is indefinite (ie. it has both positive and negative eigenvalues), then  $\mathbf{x}_s$  is a saddle point



# Outline

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- Why is least squares an important problem in autonomous driving?
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- Non-linear Least Squares
  - General Methods for Non-linear Optimization
    - Basic Concepts
    - Descent Methods
  - Non-linear Least Squares Problems



## Descent Methods

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- All methods for non-linear optimization are iterative: from a starting point  $\mathbf{x}_0$  the method produces a series of vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots$ , which (hopefully) converges to  $\mathbf{x}^*$
- The methods have measures to enforce the descending condition,

$$F(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) < F(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

Thus, these kinds of methods are referred to as “descent methods”

- For descent methods, in each iteration, we need to
  - Figure out a suitable **descent direction** to update the parameter
  - Find a **step length** giving good decrease in the  $F$  value



## Descent Methods

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Consider the variation of the  $F$ -value along the half line starting at  $\mathbf{x}$  and with direction  $\mathbf{h}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} F(\mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h}) &= F(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) + O(\alpha \|\mathbf{h}\|) \\ &\simeq F(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{for sufficiently small } \alpha > 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 3:** Descent direction

$\mathbf{h}$  is a descent direction for  $F$  at  $\mathbf{x}$  if

$$\mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) < 0$$



# Descent Methods

## Descent Methods

### 2-phase methods

(direction and step length are determined in 2 phases **separately**)

#### Phase I

Methods for computing descent direction

- ✓ Steepest descent method
- ✓ Newton's method
- ✓ SD and Newton hybrid

#### Phase II

Methods for computing the step length

- ✓ Line search

### 1-phase methods

(direction and step length are determined **jointly**)

✓ Trust region methods

✓ Damped methods

- Ex: Damped Newton method



## 2-phase methods: General Algorithm Framework

**Algo#1:** 2-phase Descent Method (a general framework )

**begin**

$k := 0; \mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x}_0; found := \mathbf{false}$  {Starting point}

**while** (**not** *found*) **and** ( $k < k_{\max}$ )

$\mathbf{h}_d := \text{search\_direction}(\mathbf{x})$  {From  $\mathbf{x}$  and downhill}

**if** (no such  $\mathbf{h}$  exists)

$found := \mathbf{true}$  { $\mathbf{x}$  is stationary}

**else**

$\alpha := \text{step\_length}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}_d)$  {from  $\mathbf{x}$  in direction  $\mathbf{h}_d$ }

$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h}_d; k := k + 1$  {next iterate}

**end**





## 2-phase methods: steepest descent to compute the descent direction

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When we perform a step  $\alpha \mathbf{h}$  with positive  $\alpha$ , the relative gain in function value satisfies,

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} \frac{F(\mathbf{x}) - F(\mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h})}{\alpha \|\mathbf{h}\|} &= \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} \frac{F(\mathbf{x}) - [F(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})]}{\alpha \|\mathbf{h}\|} = -\frac{\mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})}{\|\mathbf{h}\|} \\ &= -\frac{\|\mathbf{h}\| \|\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})\| \cos \theta}{\|\mathbf{h}\|} = -\|\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})\| \cos \theta\end{aligned}$$

where  $\theta$  is the angle between vectors  $\mathbf{h}$  and  $\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})$

This shows that we get the greatest relative gain when  $\theta = \pi$ , i.e., we use the steepest descent direction  $\mathbf{h}_{sd}$  given by  $\mathbf{h}_{sd} = -\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})$

This is called the **steepest gradient descent** method



## 2-phase methods: steepest descent to compute the descent direction

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- Properties of the steepest descent methods
  - The choice of descent direction is “the best” (locally) and we could combine it with an exact line search
  - A method like this converges, but the final convergence is linear and often very slow
  - For many problems, however, the method has quite good performance in the initial stage of the iterative; Considerations like this have lead to the so-called hybrid methods, which – as the name suggests – are based on two different methods. One of which is good in the initial stage, like the gradient method, and another method which is good in the final stage, like **Newton’s method**



## 2-phase methods: Newton's method to compute the descent direction

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Newton's method is derived from the condition that  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a stationary point, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$$

From the current point  $\mathbf{x}$ , along which direction moves how far (a vector  $\mathbf{h}_n$ ), will it be most possible to arrive at a stationary point? I.e., we solve  $\mathbf{h}_n$  from,

$$\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}_n) = \mathbf{0}$$

what is the solution to  $\mathbf{h}_n$ ?



## 2-phase methods: Newton's method to compute the descent direction

$$\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1} \big|_{\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}} \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2} \big|_{\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n} \big|_{\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}} \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} + \left( \nabla \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1} \right) \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^T \mathbf{h} \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} + \left( \nabla \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2} \right) \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^T \mathbf{h} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} + \left( \nabla \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n} \right) \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^T \mathbf{h} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \left( \nabla \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1} \right) \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^T \mathbf{h} \\ \left( \nabla \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2} \right) \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^T \mathbf{h} \\ \vdots \\ \left( \nabla \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n} \right) \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^T \mathbf{h} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_1} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_2} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_n} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_2 \partial x_2} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x_n \partial x_n} \big|_{\mathbf{x}} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{h}$$

So  $\mathbf{h}_n$  is the solution to,

$$\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{h}_n = -\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})$$

Suppose that  $\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})$  is positive definite, then,

$$\mathbf{h}_n^T \mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{h}_n = -\mathbf{h}_n^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) > 0$$

i.e.,

$$\mathbf{h}_n^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) < 0$$

indicates that  $\mathbf{h}_n$  is a **descent direction**

In classical Newton method, the update is (then it can be regarded as a 1-phase method),

$$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}_n$$

However, in most modern implementations,

$$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h}_n$$

where  $\alpha$  is determined by line search



## 2-phase methods: Newton's method to compute the descent direction

---

- Properties of the Newton's method
  - Newton's method is very good in the final stage of the iteration, where  $\mathbf{x}$  is close to  $\mathbf{x}^*$
  - Only when  $\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})$  is positive definite, it is sure that  $\mathbf{h}_n$  is a descent direction
  - So, we can build a hybrid method, based on Newton's method and the steepest descent method,

In Algo#1, we can use a hybrid method to get the descent direction

if  $\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})$  is positive definite

$\mathbf{h}_d := \mathbf{h}_n$

else

$\mathbf{h}_d := \mathbf{h}_{sd}$

$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h}_d$



## 2-phase methods: General Algorithm Framework

**Algo#1:** 2-phase Descent Method (a general framework )

**begin**

$k := 0; \mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x}_0; found := \mathbf{false}$  {Starting point}

**while** (**not** *found*) **and** ( $k < k_{\max}$ )

$\mathbf{h}_d := \text{search\_direction}(\mathbf{x})$  {From  $\mathbf{x}$  and downhill}

**if** (no such  $\mathbf{h}$  exists)

$found := \mathbf{true}$  { $\mathbf{x}$  is stationary}

**else**

$\alpha := \text{step\_length}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}_d)$  {from  $\mathbf{x}$  in direction  $\mathbf{h}_d$ }

$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h}_d; k := k + 1$  {next iterate}

**end**



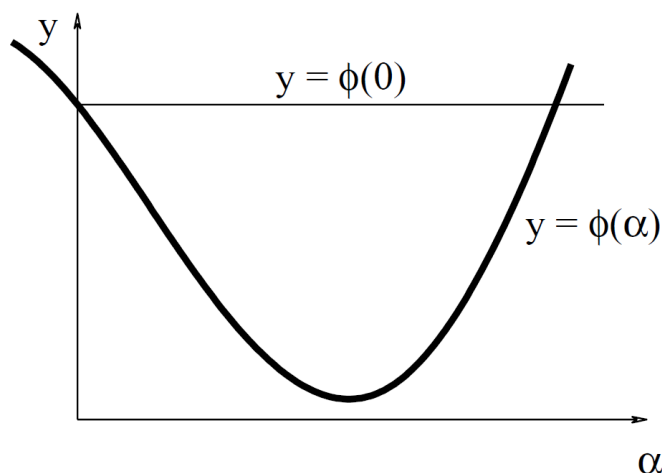
## 2-phase methods: Line search to find the step length

Given a point  $\mathbf{x}$  and a descent direction  $\mathbf{h}$ . The next iteration step is a move from  $\mathbf{x}$  in direction  $\mathbf{h}$ . To find out, how far to move, we study the variation of the given function along the half line from  $\mathbf{x}$  in the direction  $\mathbf{h}$ ,

$$\phi(\alpha) = F(\mathbf{x} + \alpha\mathbf{h}), \mathbf{x} \text{ and } \mathbf{h} \text{ are fixed, } \alpha \geq 0$$

Since  $\mathbf{h}$  is a descent direction, when  $\alpha$  is small  $\phi(\alpha) < \phi(0)$

An example of the behavior of  $\phi(\alpha)$ ,



Variation of the function value along the search line



## 2-phase methods: Line search to find the step length

---

- Line search to determine  $\alpha$ 
  - $\alpha$  is iterated from an initial guess, e.g.,  $\alpha = 1$ , then three different situations can arise
    1.  $\alpha$  is so small that the gain in value of the function is very small;  
 $\alpha$  should be increased
    2.  $\alpha$  is too large:  $\phi(\alpha) \geq \phi(0)$   
 $\alpha$  should be decreased to satisfy the descent condition
    3.  $\alpha$  is close to the minimizer of  $\phi(\alpha)$ . Accept this  $\alpha$  value





# Descent Methods

## Descent Methods

### 2-phase methods

(direction and step length are determined in 2 phases **separately**)

#### Phase I

Methods for computing descent direction

- ✓ Steepest descent method
- ✓ Newton's method
- ✓ SD and Newton hybrid

#### Phase II

Methods for computing the step length

- ✓ Line search

### 1-phase methods

(direction and step length are determined **jointly**)

✓ Trust region methods

✓ Damped methods

- Ex: Damped Newton method



## 1-phase methods: approximation model for $F$

---

Both trust region and damped methods assume that we have a model  $L$  of the behavior of  $F$  in the neighborhood of the current iterate  $\mathbf{x}$ ,

$$F(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \simeq L(\mathbf{h}) = F(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{c} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{h}$$

where  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is symmetric

For example, the model can be a second order Taylor expansion of  $F$  around  $\mathbf{x}$



## 1-phase methods: trust region method

In a *trust region method* we assume that we know a positive number  $\Delta$  such that the model is sufficiently accurate inside a ball with radius  $\Delta$ , centered at  $\mathbf{x}$ , and determine the step as

$$\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{h}_{tr} \equiv \arg \min_{\|\mathbf{h}\| \leq \Delta} \{L(\mathbf{h})\}$$



$$\mathbf{h}_{tr} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{h}} L(\mathbf{h}), \text{ s.t. }, \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{h} \leq \Delta^2 \quad (\text{Eq.1})$$

Usually, we do not need to solve Eq. (1); instead, we can compute  $\mathbf{h}_{tr}$  in an approximation way, such as Dog Leg method

**Note that:  $\mathbf{h}_{tr}$  consists of two parts of information, the direction and the step length**

So, basic steps to update using a trust region method are,

compute  $\mathbf{h}$  by (1)  
if  $F(\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}) < F(\mathbf{x})$   
 $\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}$   
update  $\Delta$

the core problem



## 1-phase methods: trust region method

- For each iteration, we modify  $\Delta$ 
  - If the step fails, the reason is  $\Delta$  is too large, and should be reduced
  - If the step is accepted, it may be possible to use a larger step from the new iterate
- The quality of the model with the computed step can be evaluated by the **gain ratio**,

**Definition 4:** Gain ratio

$$\rho = \frac{F(\mathbf{x}) - F(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h})}{L(\mathbf{0}) - L(\mathbf{h})}$$

the actual decrease

the predicted decrease

This part is constructed be positive. Why?



## 1-phase methods: trust region method

---

- If  $\rho$  is small, indicating that the step is too large
- If  $\rho$  is large, meaning that the approximation of  $L$  to  $F$  is good and we can try an even larger step

**Algo#2** The updating strategy for trust region radius  $\Delta$

if  $\rho < 0.25$

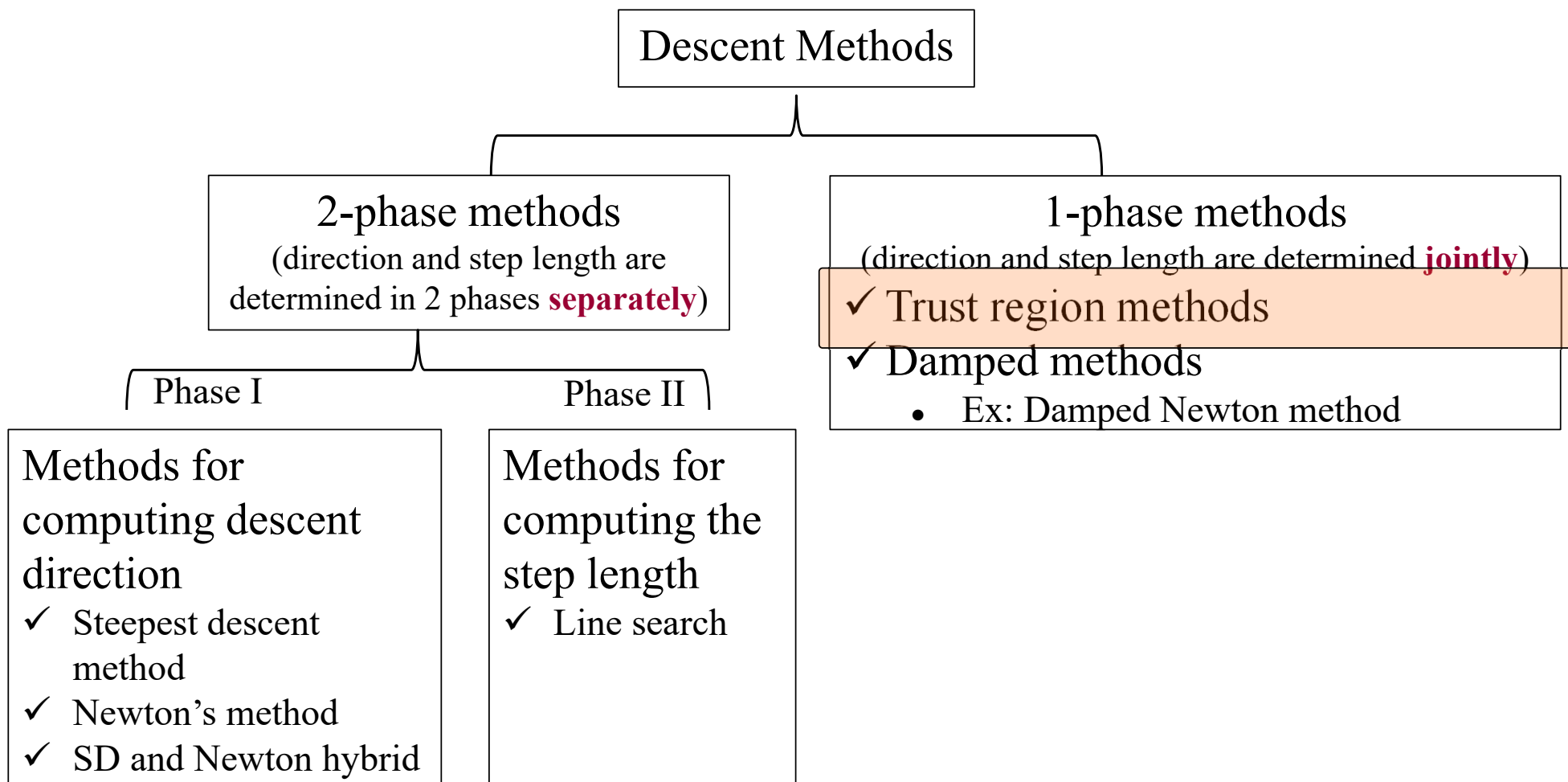
$\Delta := \Delta / 2$

elseif  $\rho > 0.75$

$\Delta := \max \{ \Delta, 3 \times \|\mathbf{h}\| \}$



# Descent Methods





## 1-phase methods: damped method

---

In a *damped method* the step is determined as,

$$\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{h}_{dm} \equiv \arg \min_{\mathbf{h}} \left\{ L(\mathbf{h}) + \frac{1}{2} \mu \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{h} \right\} \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

where  $\mu \geq 0$  is the damping parameter. The term  $\frac{1}{2} \mu \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{h}$  is used to penalize large steps.

The step  $\mathbf{h}_{dm}$  is computed as a stationary point for the function,

$$\phi_{\mu}(\mathbf{h}) = L(\mathbf{h}) + \frac{1}{2} \mu \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{h}$$

Indicating that  $\mathbf{h}_{dm}$  is a solution to,

$$\phi'_{\mu}(\mathbf{h}) = 0$$





## 1-phase methods: damped method

---

$$\begin{aligned}\phi'_\mu(\mathbf{h}) &= \frac{d\left(L(\mathbf{h}) + \frac{1}{2}\mu\mathbf{h}^T\mathbf{h}\right)}{d\mathbf{h}} = \frac{d\left(F(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{h}^T\mathbf{c} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{h}^T\mathbf{B}\mathbf{h} + \frac{1}{2}\mu\mathbf{h}^T\mathbf{h}\right)}{d\mathbf{h}} \\ &= \mathbf{c} + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}^T)\mathbf{h} + \mu\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{h} + \mu\mathbf{h} = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{h}_{dm} = -(\mathbf{B} + \mu\mathbf{I})^{-1}\mathbf{c} \quad (\text{Eq. 3})$$





## 1-phase methods: damped method

---

So, basic steps to update using a damped method are (similar to the trust region method),

### **Algo#3** Basic steps using a damped method

compute  $\mathbf{h}$  by Eq. 2

if  $F(\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h}) < F(\mathbf{x})$

$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}$

update  $\mu$

the core problem



## 1-phase methods: damped method

---

- If  $\rho$  is small, we should increase  $\mu$  and thereby increase the penalty on large steps
- If  $\rho$  is large, indicating that  $L(\mathbf{h})$  is a good approximation to  $F(\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{h})$  for the computed  $\mathbf{h}$ , and  $\mu$  may be reduced

### Algo#4

The 1<sup>st</sup> updating strategy for  $\mu$

**if**  $\rho < 0.25$

$\mu := \mu \times 2$

**elseif**  $\rho > 0.75$

$\mu := \mu / 3$

(Marquart 1963)

### Algo#5

The 2<sup>nd</sup> updating strategy for  $\mu$

$v = 2$

**if**  $\rho > 0$

$\mu := \mu \times \max \left\{ \frac{1}{3}, 1 - (2\rho - 1)^3 \right\}; v := 2$

**else**

$\mu := \mu \times v; v := 2 \times v$

(Nielsen 1999)



## 1-phase methods: damped method

### Ex: Damped Newton method

$$F(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \simeq L(\mathbf{h}) = F(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{c} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{h}$$

where  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is symmetric



if  $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})$

(Eq. 3) takes the form,

$$\mathbf{h}_{dn} = -(\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}) + \mu \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{the so-called damped Newton step}$$

If  $\mu$  is very large,

$$\mathbf{h}_{dn} \simeq -\frac{1}{\mu} \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}), \text{ a short step in a direction close to the deepest descent direction}$$

If  $\mu$  is very small,

$$\mathbf{h}_{dn} \simeq -[\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x})]^{-1} \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}), \text{ a step close to the Newton step}$$

We can think of the damped Newton method as a hybrid between the steepest descent method and the Newton method



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    - Basic Concepts
    - Gauss-Newton Method
    - Levenberg-Marquardt Method
    - Powell's Dog Leg Method



## Basic Concepts

---

- Formulation of non-linear least squares problems

Given a vector function  $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $m \geq n$

We want to find,

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \{F(\mathbf{x})\}$$

where,

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m (f_i(\mathbf{x}))^2 = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$$

- Non-linear least squares problems can be solved by general optimization methods, which will have some specific forms in this special case



## Basic Concepts

Taylor expansion for  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) &= \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) + (\nabla f_1(\mathbf{x}))^T \mathbf{h} + O(\|\mathbf{h}\|^2) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) + (\nabla f_2(\mathbf{x}))^T \mathbf{h} + O(\|\mathbf{h}\|^2) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(\mathbf{x}) + (\nabla f_m(\mathbf{x}))^T \mathbf{h} + O(\|\mathbf{h}\|^2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} (\nabla f_1(\mathbf{x}))^T \\ (\nabla f_2(\mathbf{x}))^T \\ \vdots \\ (\nabla f_m(\mathbf{x}))^T \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{h} + O(\|\mathbf{h}\|^2) \\ &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h} + O(\|\mathbf{h}\|^2) \quad (\text{Eq. 4})\end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is called the **Jacobian matrix** of  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$



## Basic Concepts

---

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m (f_i(\mathbf{x}))^2 = \frac{1}{2} [f_1^2(\mathbf{x}) + f_2^2(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + f_m^2(\mathbf{x})]$$



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial [f_1^2(\mathbf{x}) + f_2^2(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + f_m^2(\mathbf{x})]}{\partial x_j} \\ &= f_1(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} + f_2(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_2(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} + \dots + f_m(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_m(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ f_i(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} \right] \end{aligned}$$



## Basic Concepts

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} + f_2(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1} + \dots + f_m(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1} \\ f_1(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2} + f_2(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} + \dots + f_m(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ f_1(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} + f_2(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_n} + \dots + f_m(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_n} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}_{n \times m} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}))^T \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \quad (\text{Eq. 5})\end{aligned}$$





## Basic Concepts

$$\frac{\partial F(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} = \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ f_i(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial f_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} \right]$$



$$\frac{\partial^2 F(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} = \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \frac{\partial f_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial f_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_k} + f_i(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial^2 f_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \right]$$



$$\mathbf{F}''(\mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{(\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}))^T}_{n \times m} \underbrace{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})}_{m \times n} + \sum_{i=1}^m \underbrace{f_i(\mathbf{x})}_{1 \times 1} \underbrace{\mathbf{f}_i''(\mathbf{x})}_{n \times n} \quad (\text{addition of a stack of matrices})$$



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    - Levenberg-Marquardt Method
    - Powell's Dog Leg Method




## Gauss-Newton Method

The **Gauss-Newton** method is based on a linear approximation to the components of  $\mathbf{f}$  (a linear model of  $\mathbf{f}$ ) in the neighborhood of  $\mathbf{x}$  (refer to Eq. 4),

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \approx \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{h}$$

We suppose  $\mathbf{J}$  has full column rank


$$F(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \approx L(\mathbf{h}) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}))^T \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{h}$$

The Gauss-Newton step  $\mathbf{h}_{gn}$  minimizes  $L(\mathbf{h})$ ,

$$\mathbf{h}_{gn} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{h}} \{L(\mathbf{h})\}$$

$\mathbf{h}_{gn}$  is the solution to,

$$\frac{dL(\mathbf{h})}{d\mathbf{h}} = \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f} + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{h}_{gn} = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f}$$

It can be considered that the Gauss-Newton's updating step is obtained by using the trust-region method with  $\Delta = \text{inf}$ , or by the damped method with  $\mu = 0$  (compare with Eq. 3)



## Gauss-Newton Method

---

- Some notes about Gauss-Newton methods
  - The **classical Gauss-Newton method** uses  $\alpha = 1$  in all steps, then it can be regarded as a 1-phase method)

We can use  $\mathbf{h}_{gn}$  for  $\mathbf{h}_d$  in Algo#1.

$$\text{Solve } (\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}) \mathbf{h}_{gn} = -\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f}$$

$$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}_{gn}$$



## Gauss-Newton Method

---

- Some notes about Gauss-Newton methods
  - The **classical Gauss-Newton method** uses  $\alpha = 1$  in all steps, then it can be regarded as a 1-phase method)
  - If  $\alpha$  is elegantly searched by line search, it can be categorized as a 2-phase method

We can use  $\mathbf{h}_{gn}$  for  $\mathbf{h}_d$  in **Algo#1**.

$$\text{Solve } (\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}) \mathbf{h}_{gn} = -\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f}$$

$$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h}_{gn}$$

where  $\alpha$  is obtained by line search



## Gauss-Newton Method

- Some notes about Gauss-Newton methods
  - The **classical Gauss-Newton method** uses  $\alpha = 1$  in all steps, then it can be regarded as a 1-phase method)
  - If  $\alpha$  is elegantly searched by line search, it can be categorized as a 2-phase method
  - For each iteration step, it requires that the Jacobian  $\mathbf{J}$  has full column rank

If  $\mathbf{J}$  has full column rank,  $\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}$  is positive definite

Proof:

$\mathbf{J}$  has full column rank  $\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{J}$ 's columns are linearly unrelated

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{J}\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow 0 < \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{J}\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{J}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{x}$$

$\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}$  is positive definite



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## Levenberg-Marquardt Method

- L-M method can be considered as a *damped Gauss-Newton method*

Consider a linear approximation to the components of  $\mathbf{f}$  (a linear model of  $\mathbf{f}$ ) in the neighborhood of  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \simeq \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{h}$  **We don't require  $\mathbf{J}$  has full column rank**


$$F(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) \approx L(\mathbf{h}) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}))^T \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{h}$$

Based on damped method (refer to Eq. 2),

$$\mathbf{h}_{lm} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{h}} L(\mathbf{h}) + \frac{1}{2}\mu \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{h}, \text{ where } \mu > 0 \text{ is the damped coefficient}$$



$\mathbf{h}_{lm}$  is the solution to,

$$\frac{d\left(L(\mathbf{h}) + \frac{1}{2}\mu \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{h}\right)}{d\mathbf{h}} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{h}_{lm} = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} + \mu \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f}$$

**positive definite**





## Levenberg-Marquardt Method

Let  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}$ , then  $\mathbf{A} + \mu \mathbf{I}$  is positive definite for  $\mu > 0$

Proof:

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{J}\mathbf{x}$$

$$0 \leq \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A} \text{ is positive semi-definite}$$



All  $\mathbf{A}$ 's eigen-values  $\{\lambda_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, N\}$

$$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{v}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{v}_i$$



$$(\mathbf{A} + \mu \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{v}_i = (\lambda_i + \mu) \mathbf{v}_i$$



I.e., all  $(\mathbf{A} + \mu \mathbf{I})$ 's eigen-values  $\{\lambda_i + \mu\} > 0$



$\mathbf{A} + \mu \mathbf{I}$  is positive definite



## Levenberg-Marquardt Method

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- L-M method can be considered as a *damped Gauss-Newton method*

L-M's step:

$$\mathbf{h}_{lm} = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} + \mu \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f}$$

Gauss-Newton's step (if  $\alpha = 1$ ):

$$\mathbf{h}_{gn} = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f}$$

That's why we say L-M is a damped Gauss-Newton method



## Levenberg-Marquardt Method

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- Updating strategy of  $\mu$ 
  - $\mu$  influences both the direction and the size of the step, and this leads L-M **without** a specific line search
  - The initial  $\mu$ -value is related to the elements in  $(\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_0))^T \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_0)$  by letting,

$$\mu_0 = \tau \cdot \max_i \left\{ \left( \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \right)_{ii}^{(0)} \right\}$$

- During iteration,  $\mu$  can be updated by **Algo#4** or **Algo#5**



# Levenberg-Marquardt Method

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- Stopping criteria

- For a minimizer  $\mathbf{x}^*$ , ideally we will have  $\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$

So, we can use

$$\|\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})\|_{\infty} \leq \varepsilon_1$$

as the first stopping criterion

- If for the current iteration, the change of  $\mathbf{x}$  is too small,

$$\|\mathbf{x}_{new} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \varepsilon_2 (\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 + \varepsilon_2)$$

- Finally, we need a safeguard against an infinite loop,

$$k \geq k_{\max}$$

where  $k$  is the current iteration index



# Levenberg-Marquardt Method

## Algo#6: L-M Method

**begin**

$k := 0; \quad \nu := 2; \quad \mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x}_0$

$\mathbf{A} := \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}); \quad \mathbf{g} := \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

$found := (\|\mathbf{g}\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon_1); \quad \mu := \tau * \max\{a_{ii}\}$

**while** (**not**  $found$ ) **and** ( $k < k_{\max}$ )

$k := k+1; \quad \text{Solve } (\mathbf{A} + \mu \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{h}_{lm} = -\mathbf{g}$

**if**  $\|\mathbf{h}_{lm}\| \leq \varepsilon_2(\|\mathbf{x}\| + \varepsilon_2)$

$found := \mathbf{true}$

**else**

$\mathbf{x}_{\text{new}} := \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}_{lm}$

$\varrho := (F(\mathbf{x}) - F(\mathbf{x}_{\text{new}})) / (L(\mathbf{0}) - L(\mathbf{h}_{lm}))$

**if**  $\varrho > 0$

{step acceptable}

$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x}_{\text{new}}$

$\mathbf{A} := \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}); \quad \mathbf{g} := \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

$found := (\|\mathbf{g}\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon_1)$

$\mu := \mu * \max\{\frac{1}{3}, 1 - (2\varrho - 1)^3\}; \quad \nu := 2$

**else**

$\mu := \mu * \nu; \quad \nu := 2 * \nu$

**end**

$\mathbf{g}$  actually is  $\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})$ , see Eq. 5



# Outline

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- Why is least squares an important problem in autonomous driving?
- Linear Least Squares
- Non-linear Least Squares
  - General Methods for Non-linear Optimization
  - Non-linear Least Squares Problems
    - Basic Concepts
    - Gauss-Newton Method
    - Levenberg-Marquardt Method
    - Powell's Dog Leg Method



## Powell's Dog Leg Method

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- It works with combinations with the Gauss-Newton and the steepest descent directions
- It is a trust-region based method



Powell is a keen golfer!

Michael James David Powell (29 July 1936 – 19 April 2015) was a British mathematician, who worked at the University of Cambridge



## Powell's Dog Leg Method

Gauss-Newton **step**  $\mathbf{h}_{gn} = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f}$

The steepest descent direction  $\mathbf{h}_{sd} = -\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}) = -(\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}))^T \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

This is the direction, not a **step**, and to see how far we should go, we look at the linear model,

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h}_{sd}) \simeq \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h}_{sd}$$



$$F(\mathbf{x} + \alpha \mathbf{h}_{sd}) \simeq \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h}_{sd}\|^2 = F(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha \mathbf{h}_{sd}^T (\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}))^T \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \alpha^2 \mathbf{h}_{sd}^T (\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}))^T \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{h}_{sd}$$

This function of  $\alpha$  is minimal for,

$$\alpha = \frac{-\mathbf{h}_{sd}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{f}}{\mathbf{h}_{sd}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{h}_{sd}} = \frac{\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})}{\mathbf{h}_{sd}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{h}_{sd}} = \frac{\|\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x})\|^2}{\mathbf{h}_{sd}^T \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \mathbf{h}_{sd}} \quad (\text{Eq. 6})$$





## Powell's Dog Leg Method

Now, we have two candidates for the step to take from the current point  $\mathbf{x}$ ,

$$\mathbf{a} = \alpha \mathbf{h}_{sd}, \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{h}_{gn}$$

Powell suggested to use the following strategy for choosing the step, when the trust region has the radius  $\Delta$

### Algo#6

if  $\|\mathbf{h}_{gn}\| \leq \Delta$

$$\mathbf{h}_{dl} := \mathbf{h}_{gn}$$

elseif  $\|\alpha \mathbf{h}_{sd}\| \geq \Delta$

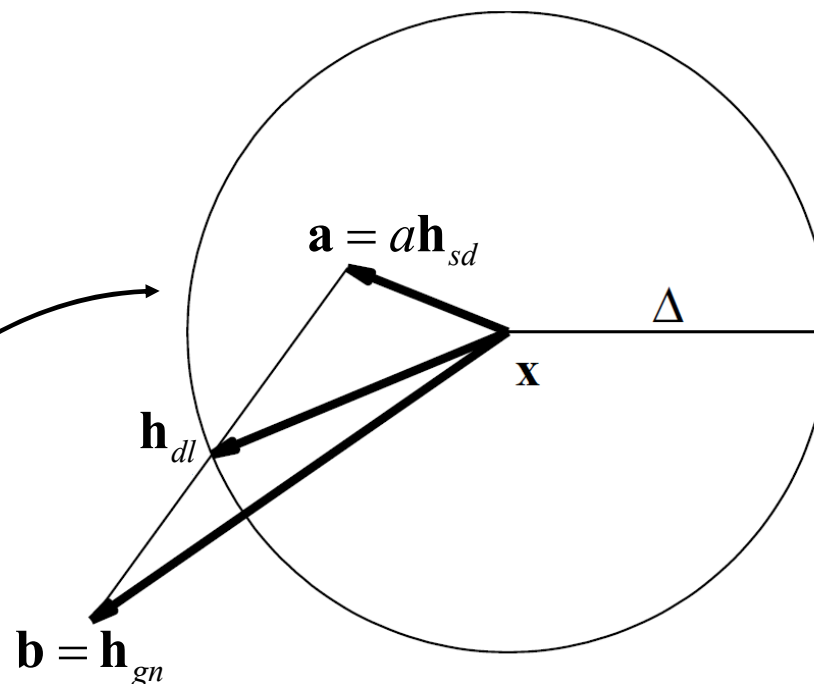
$$\mathbf{h}_{dl} := \frac{\Delta}{\|\mathbf{h}_{sd}\|} \mathbf{h}_{sd}$$

else

$$\mathbf{h}_{dl} := \alpha \mathbf{h}_{sd} + \beta (\mathbf{h}_{gn} - \alpha \mathbf{h}_{sd})$$

with chosen  $\beta$  so that  $\|\mathbf{h}_{dl}\| = \Delta$

the last case



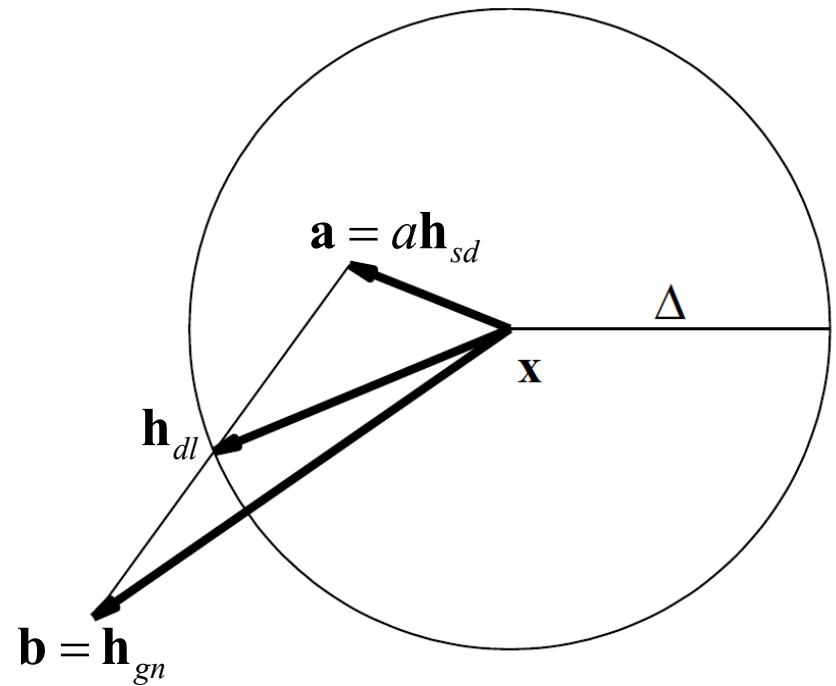


## Powell's Dog Leg Method

The name *Dog Leg* is taken from golf: The fairway at a “dog leg hole” has a shape as the line from  $\mathbf{x}$  (the tee point) via the end point of  $\mathbf{a}$  to the end point of  $\mathbf{h}_{dl}$  (the hole)



Dog Leg hole





# Powell's Dog Leg Method

## Algo#7: Dog Leg Method

**begin**

$k := 0; \quad \mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x}_0; \quad \Delta := \Delta_0; \quad \mathbf{g} := \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

$found := (\|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon_3) \text{ or } (\|\mathbf{g}\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon_1)$

**while** (**not**  $found$ ) **and** ( $k < k_{\max}$ )

$k := k+1; \quad$  Compute  $\alpha$  by (Eq. 6)

$\mathbf{h}_{sd} := -\alpha \mathbf{g}; \quad$  Solve  $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{h}_{gn} \simeq -\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

Compute  $\mathbf{h}_{dl}$  by (Algo# 6)

**if**  $\|\mathbf{h}_{dl}\| \leq \varepsilon_2(\|\mathbf{x}\| + \varepsilon_2)$

$found := \text{true}$

**else**

$\mathbf{x}_{\text{new}} := \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}_{dl}$

$\rho := (F(\mathbf{x}) - F(\mathbf{x}_{\text{new}})) / (L(\mathbf{0}) - L(\mathbf{h}_{dl}))$

**if**  $\rho > 0$

$\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x}_{\text{new}}; \quad \mathbf{g} := \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

$found := (\|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon_3) \text{ or } (\|\mathbf{g}\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon_1)$

**if**  $\rho > 0.75$

$\Delta := \max\{\Delta, 3*\|\mathbf{h}_{dl}\|\}$

**elseif**  $\rho < 0.25$

$\Delta := \Delta/2; \quad found := (\Delta \leq \varepsilon_2(\|\mathbf{x}\| + \varepsilon_2))$

**end**

