

Excursions in linear least squares

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ABSTRACT.

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Part 1

Rudiments

CHAPTER 1

Least Squares

1.1. Linear Systems

This story begins with the archetypal matrix-vector equation

$$\mathbf{A}x = b.$$

The matrix \mathbf{A} has m rows, n columns, and has rank ρ ; the vector b encodes m measurements. The solution vector x represents the n free parameters in the model. In mathematical shorthand,

$$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}_{\rho}^{m \times n}, \quad b \in \mathbb{C}^m, \quad x \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

with \mathbb{C} representing the field of complex numbers. The matrix \mathbf{A} and the vector b are given, and the task is to find the vector x .

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{L_1} & \frac{1}{L_1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{L_2} & \frac{1}{L_2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_0 \\ \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

1.2. Least Squares Solution

The solutions for the linear system in (1.1)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \varphi_0 \\ \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2L_1 & -L_2 \\ L_1 & -L_2 \\ L_1 & 2L_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Given $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$

1.3. Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra

TABLE 1.1. The Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra

$$\begin{aligned} \text{domain: } \mathbb{C}^n &= \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A}^*) \oplus \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}) \\ \text{codomain: } \mathbb{C}^m &= \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A}) \oplus \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^*) \end{aligned}$$

TABLE 1.2. The Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra in pictures

