

weekk14-springs-bridges

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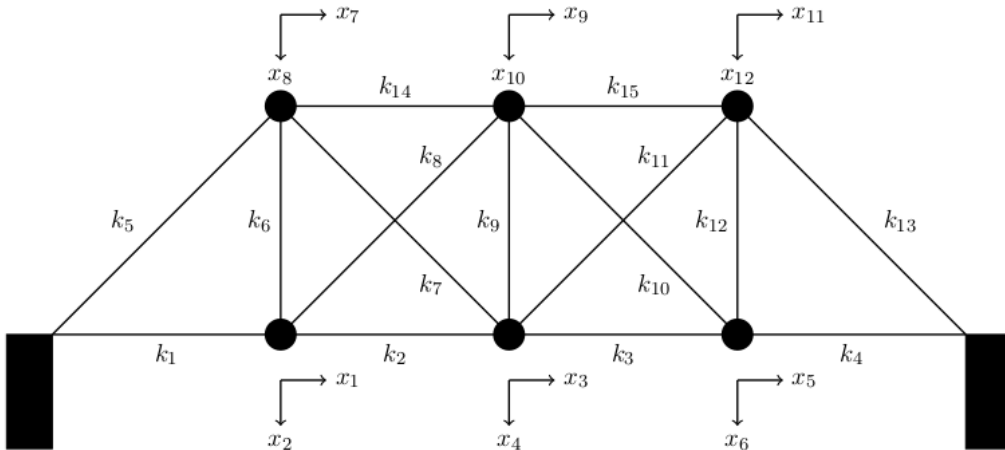
1 Least squares and bridges

```
[1]: import numpy as np
import numpy.linalg as la

def sbv(i,n):
    return np.array([1 if j == i else 0 for j in range(n)])

def makeK(kar):
    n = len(kar)
    return np.array([kar[i]*sbv(i,n) for i in range(n)])
```

Suppose we are building a bridge, which we'll view as a spring-system as before:



For simplicity we are going to assume that all angles in the diagram are $\pi/2$ or $\pi/4$.

Using the same material for each “beam” of the bridge, the spring constants are inversely proportional to their length.

There are 15 springs/beams in total, and we take them as follows:

$$k_i = \begin{cases} 9.7500 \cdot 10^6 \text{ N/m} & \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 12, 14, 15 \\ 6.8943 \cdot 10^6 \text{ N/m} & \text{for } i = 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 \end{cases}$$

In order to test the bridge for structural integrity, we load the three lower masses (where traffic would be) individually with forces of $2 \cdot 10^6$ N, and measure the resulting displacements.

Remark The average car in the US weighs about 4,000 lbs ($\approx 1,814$ kg), which corresponds to $\approx 1.778 \cdot 10^4$ N. The average semi-truck weighs about 80,000 lbs ($\approx 36,287$ kg), which corresponds to $\approx 3.556 \cdot 10^5$ N.

```
[7]: # The matrix B with  $Bx = e$  is given as follows:
def sbv(i,n):
    return np.array([1 if i == j else 0 for j in range(n)])

def sbvarray(x,l):
    return sbv(l.index(x),len(l))

a = list(range(1,13))

k = np.sqrt(2)/2

B_bridge = np.array([ sbvarray(1,a),                                #  $e_1 = x_1$ 
    ↪x1
                        sbvarray(3,a) - sbvarray(1,a),              #  $e_2 = x_3 - x_1$ 
                        sbvarray(5,a) - sbvarray(3,a),              #  $e_3 = x_5 - x_3$ 
                        sbvarray(5,a),                              #  $e_4 = x_5$ 
                        k*(sbvarray(7,a) - sbvarray(8,a)),          #  $e_5 = k*x_7 - x_8$ 
    ↪k*x8
                        sbvarray(2,a) - sbvarray(8,a),              #  $e_6 = x_2 - x_8$ 
                        k*(sbvarray(3,a) + sbvarray(4,a)
                          - sbvarray(7,a) - sbvarray(8,a)),          #  $e_7 = k*x_3 + x_4 - x_7 - x_8$ 
    ↪k*x4 - k*x7 - k*x8
                        k*(-sbvarray(1,a) + sbvarray(2,a)
                          + sbvarray(9,a) - sbvarray(10,a)),          #  $e_8 = -k*x_1 + x_2 + x_9 - k*x_{10}$ 
    ↪k*x2 + k*x9 - k*x10
                        sbvarray(4,a) - sbvarray(10,a),              #  $e_9 = x_4 - x_{10}$ 
    ↪x10
                        k*(sbvarray(5,a) + sbvarray(6,a)
                          - sbvarray(9,a) - sbvarray(10,a)),          #  $e_{10} = k*x_5 + x_6 - k*x_9 - k*x_{10}$ 
    ↪k*x6 - k*x9 - k*x10
                        k*(-sbvarray(3,a) + sbvarray(4,a)
                          + sbvarray(11,a) - sbvarray(12,a)),          #  $e_{11} = -k*e_3 + k*e_4 + k*e_{11} - k*e_{12}$ 
    ↪+ k*e4 + k*e11 - k*e12
                        sbvarray(6,a) - sbvarray(12,a),              #  $e_{12} = x_6 - x_{12}$ 
    ↪x12
                        k*(-sbvarray(11,a) - sbvarray(12,a)),          #  $e_{13} = -k*x_{11} - k*x_{12}$ 
    ↪+ -k*x12
                        -sbvarray(7,a) + sbvarray(9,a),              #  $e_{14} = -x_7 + x_9$ 
    ↪x9
```

$\hookrightarrow x11$

```

[ 0.      , 0.      , -0.70710678, 0.70710678, 0.      , 0.
, 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.70710678, -0.70710678],
[ 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 1.
, 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , -1.      ],
[ 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.
, 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , -0.70710678, -0.70710678],
[ 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.
, -1.     , 0.      , 1.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      ],
[ 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.      , 0.
, 0.      , 0.      , -1.     , 0.      , 1.      , 0.      ],
]]))

```

all three masses in the bottom row.)

```
ff = 10**6*np.array([0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0])
```

```

K2 = makeK([ 9.7* 10**6 if i in [1,2,3,4,6,9,12,14,15] else 6.8943 * 10**6 for
↪ i in range (1,16)])

A2 = B_bridge.transpose() @ K2 @ B_bridge
la.solve(A2,ff)

```

```

[8]: array([-0.0245008 ,  1.48884085, -0.          ,  1.74923139,  0.0245008 ,
  1.48884085,  0.36336953,  1.23365368,  0.          ,  1.65122818, -0.36336953,
  1.23365368])

```

1.1 inverse problem

The above shows that, given knowledge of the “spring constants” k_i , and the applied forces f_i , we can estimate the displacements x_i . This is the “*forward problem*”.

The inverse problem is this: given measurements of the displacements x_i , find the spring constants k_i .

There are many applications of such *inverse problems*.

For our bridge problem, note that consider the system

$$B^T K B \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}$$

We consider a general case where there are m springs and $n/2$ masses, so that there are n “displacement components” (in 2 dimensions).

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned}
 K B \mathbf{x} &= \begin{bmatrix} k_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & k_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & k_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \cdots & b_{1n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \cdots & b_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_{m1} & b_{m2} & \cdots & b_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \text{diag}(B \mathbf{x}) \begin{bmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ \vdots \\ k_m \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

where for a vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, we obtain an $m \times m$ matrix

$$\text{diag}(\mathbf{w}) = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & w_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & w_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus we have

$$B^T K B \mathbf{x} = B^T \text{diag}(B \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{f}$$

which gives some hope for finding the vector \mathbf{k} given knowledge of \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{f} .

1.2 the difficulty

Note that in the case of our bridge example, the number of “displacement components” we are tracking is $n = 12$, while the number of springs is $m = 15$.

Note that B^T is an $n \times m$ matrix, that $B\mathbf{x}$ is in \mathbb{R}^m , so that $B^T \text{diag}(B\mathbf{x})$ is an $n \times m$ matrix.

In our example, the linear equation $B^T \text{diag}(B\mathbf{x})\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{f}$ amounts to a system of 12 linear equations in 15 unknowns.

In general, if $n < m$, the system is *underdetermined*. As a consequence, the linear equation does not uniquely determine the spring constants k_i – i.e. the entries in the vector \mathbf{k} .

One way to fix this:

take measurements \mathbf{x} for *various different force loads* \mathbf{f} .

More precisely, consider different force loads $\mathbf{f}_1, \dots, \mathbf{f}_p$. For each of these force loads, determine the displacement vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p$.

We now obtain a $pn \times m$ matrix system

$$\begin{bmatrix} B^T \text{diag}(B\mathbf{x}_1) \\ B^T \text{diag}(B\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \vdots \\ B^T \text{diag}(B\mathbf{x}_p) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ \vdots \\ k_m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_1 \\ \mathbf{f}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}_p \end{bmatrix}.$$

If we choose p sufficiently large and if we make sure that the $np \times m$ coefficient matrix has rank at least m , we expect to find a solution.

```
[4]: def diag(w):  
      n = len(w)  
      return np.array([ w[i]*sbv(i,n) for i in range(n) ])  
  
diag([1,2,3,4])  
  
[4]: array([[1, 0, 0, 0],  
          [0, 2, 0, 0],  
          [0, 0, 3, 0],  
          [0, 0, 0, 4]])
```

Let's consider some data. We have collected displacement measurements for three different force loads. The displacement measurements are outside of engineering tolerances!

We want to know which spring (=bridge component) is defective.

```
[11]: # measurements  
  
# for these forces  
f1 = 10**6*np.array([0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0])  
f2 = 10**6*np.array([0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0])  
f3 = 10**6*np.array([0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0])
```

```

# measured the following displacements
x1 = np.array([ 0.04465819,  0.69735727,  0.08117014,  0.49972439,  0.0584346 ,
               0.29520329,  0.09315958,  0.52830165, -0.04706315,  0.50115528,
               -0.11445688,  0.25950424])

x2 = np.array([-0.03453953,  0.49972439,  0.01867222,  0.76169019,  0.03453953,
               0.49283618,  0.16411865,  0.45421336,  0.0034441 ,  0.66577233,
               -0.15233463,  0.44242935])

x3 = np.array([-0.04465819,  0.29520329, -0.08117014,  0.49283618, -0.0584346 ,
               0.69735727,  0.11302599,  0.25807335,  0.04706315,  0.49140529,
               -0.09172868,  0.52687076])

(f1,x1,f2,x2,f3,x3)

```

```

[11]: (array([      0, 2000000,      0,      0,      0,      0,      0,      0,
              0,      0,      0,      0]),
       array([ 0.04465819,  0.69735727,  0.08117014,  0.49972439,  0.0584346 ,
              0.29520329,  0.09315958,  0.52830165, -0.04706315,  0.50115528, -0.11445688,
              0.25950424]),
       array([      0,      0,      0, 2000000,      0,      0,      0,      0,
              0,      0,      0,      0]),
       array([-0.03453953,  0.49972439,  0.01867222,  0.76169019,  0.03453953,
              0.49283618,  0.16411865,  0.45421336,  0.0034441 ,  0.66577233, -0.15233463,
              0.44242935]),
       array([      0,      0,      0,      0,      0,      0, 2000000,      0,      0,
              0,      0,      0]),
       array([-0.04465819,  0.29520329, -0.08117014,  0.49283618, -0.0584346 ,
              0.69735727,  0.11302599,  0.25807335,  0.04706315,  0.49140529, -0.09172868,
              0.52687076]))

```

```

[6]: coeffMatrix = np.concatenate([ B_bridge.transpose() @ diag( B_bridge @ x ) for
    ↪ x in [x1,x2,x3] ] )

kvalues,_,_,_ = la.lstsq(coeffMatrix , np.concatenate([f1,f2,f3]),rcond=None)

[ f"k{i+1} = {kvalues[i]}" for i in range(len(kvalues))]

```

```

[6]: ['k1 = 9699998.607722549',
      'k2 = 2000000.4090927793',
      'k3 = 9700000.122052612',
      'k4 = 9699998.86756195',
      'k5 = 6894300.281687661',
      'k6 = 9700000.126240244',
      'k7 = 6894300.249842933',
      'k8 = 6894299.831309714',

```

```
'k9 = 9699998.96686751',  
'k10 = 6894300.258596171',  
'k11 = 6894299.903274672',  
'k12 = 9700000.298712648',  
'k13 = 6894300.008658496',  
'k14 = 9700000.174220743',  
'k15 = 9700000.624519458']
```

We see that **k2** is different than expected and needs to be replaced!