

Notes on Kinematic Fit

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Assume that we have measured a momentum of two particles, which decay from a mother particle with an exact momentum P_0 . In the real world, every measurement inherently carries some errors. Consequently, the measured momentum may not satisfy momentum conservation:

$$P_0 = P_1 + P_2; \quad P_{1,meas} + P_{2,meas} \neq P_0$$
 (1)

However, since these measurements did not incorporate our prior knowledge from physics, we can make a more informed estimate of the measured parameters. If the momentum resolution of particles 1 and 2 is well-known, then we can express χ^2 as

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(P_1 - P_{1,meas})^2}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(P_2 - P_{2,meas})^2}{\sigma_2^2}$$
 (2)



By incorporating the *Kinematic Constraints*, specifically *momentum conservation*, into our example, we introduce additional terms known as *Lagrange Multiplier* to Equation (3):

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(P_1 - P_{1,meas})^2}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(P_2 - P_{2,meas})^2}{\sigma_2^2} + 2\lambda(\mathbf{P_{1,meas}} + \mathbf{P_{2,meas}} - \mathbf{P_0})$$
(3)

We then proceed to evaluate the conditions for local minima, i.e. setting the partial derivatives equal to zero:

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial\chi^2}{\partial P_1} = \frac{(P_1 - P_{1,meas})}{\sigma_1^2} + \lambda = 0 \tag{4}$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial P_2} = \frac{(P_2 - P_{2,meas})}{\sigma_2^2} + \lambda = 0$$
 (5)

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial \lambda} = (P_1 + P_2 - P_0) = 0 \tag{6}$$



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By solving the equations 4,5,6, we obtain the following expressions:

$$P_{1} = \frac{\sigma_{2}^{2} P_{1,meas} - \sigma_{1}^{2} P_{2,meas} + \sigma_{1}^{2} P_{0}}{\sigma_{1}^{2} + \sigma_{2}^{2}}$$
(7)

$$P_{2} = \frac{\sigma_{1}^{2} P_{2,meas} - \sigma_{2}^{2} P_{1,meas} + \sigma_{2}^{2} P_{0}}{\sigma_{1}^{2} + \sigma_{2}^{2}}$$
(8)

$$\lambda = \frac{P_{1,meas} + P_{2,meas} - P_0}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}.$$
 (9)

Now, we have obtained the 'corrected' measurements with minimized χ^2 , which incorporates momentum conservation. Let us delve into the interpretation of these equations.



In a straightforward interpretation, λ can be viewed as a kind of 'normalized variance' of the kinematic constraint. It quantifies the error in momentum conservation $(P_{1,meas} + P_{2,meas} - P_0)$ relative to the overall resolution $(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$. Equation (4) implies that

$$P_1 = P_{1,meas} + \sigma_1^2 \lambda, \tag{10}$$

suggesting that the corrected momentum(P_1) is essentially the measured momentum($P_{1,meas}$) augmented by a term proportional to the detector resolution and the normalized error of the kinematic constraint. Thus, we can assert that we have applied a statistically fair correction to the momentum, taking into account both the detector resolution and kinematic constraints.



Fitting in General

Assume that you have a set of measurements, $\mathbf{m}=\{m_1,m_2\dots m_N\}$, and some unmeasured data, $\mathbf{u}=\{u_1,u_2\dots u_J\}$ to be estimated. Kinematic constraints can be represented by sets of equations $\mathbf{f}=\{f_1(m_1,m_2,\dots m_N,u_1,u_2,\dots u_N),f_2,\dots f_K\}$. We will iteratively solve the problem by guessing the best parameter for each step and checking χ^2 . Let \mathbf{m}^0 denote our initial measured data, and \mathbf{m} represent the 'guess' of the data in each iterative step.

$$\chi^2(\mathbf{m}) = (\mathbf{m}^0 - \mathbf{m})^{\dagger} V^{-1}(\mathbf{m}^0 - \mathbf{m}) + 2\lambda^{\dagger} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{u}). \tag{11}$$

Here, the Lagrange multiplier $\lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots \lambda_K\}$ is not just a number but a column vector with k elements, corresponding to each kinematic constraint in \mathbf{f} . Our task is to minimize χ^2 to obtain the best guesses in statistically fair method.



χ^2 Minimization

By (partially)differentiating with respect to all variables involved, we obtain the gradients of χ^2 . Setting all of them to zero indicates that we have reached a minimum point of χ^2 . We have 3 sets of gradient equations:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{m}} = -2V^{-1}(\mathbf{m}^{0})(\mathbf{m}^{0} - \mathbf{m}) + 2\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{m}}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{u})\lambda = 0$$
 (12)

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{u}} = 2\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{u}}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{u})\lambda = 0 \tag{13}$$

$$\nabla_{\lambda} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{u}). \tag{14}$$

Here, the subscripts denote partial derivatives. i.e. $((\mathbf{F}_m)_{ki} \equiv \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial m_i})$.



Processing Iterative Steps.

We can express the following equations based on the ones provided above:

$$V^{-1}(\mathbf{m}^{0})(\mathbf{m}^{\nu+1} - \mathbf{m}^{0}) + (\mathbf{F}_{m}^{\dagger})^{\nu} \lambda^{\nu+1} = 0$$
 (15)

$$(\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\nu} \lambda^{\nu+1} = 0 \tag{16}$$

$$\mathbf{f}^{\nu} + \mathbf{F}_{m}^{\nu}(\mathbf{m}^{\nu+1} - \mathbf{m}^{\nu}) + \mathbf{F}_{u}^{\nu}(\mathbf{u}^{\nu+1} - \mathbf{u}^{\nu}) = 0.$$
 (17)

Equation (17) is not a direct consequence of Equation (13) but rather a linear approximation to proceed with our iteration step. Expanding the ∇_{λ} term with a Taylor series leads to this equation. Note that, as our parameters \mathbf{m} and \mathbf{u} are updated during the step, our constraint matrix \mathbf{f} should also be updated during the iteration. Here, λ should be indexed as $\nu+1$ since it is a parameter to be guessed in the next step.



Solving the Equation(1)

Multiplying **V** to Equation (15) leads to:

$$\mathbf{m}^{\nu+1} - \mathbf{m}^0 = -V(\mathbf{m}^0)(\mathbf{F}_m^\dagger)^{\nu} \lambda^{\nu+1}. \tag{18}$$

Substituting Equation (18) into Equation (17), we get:

$$\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{u}^{\mathbf{v}+1} - \mathbf{u}^{\mathbf{v}}) = -\mathbf{f}^{\mathbf{v}} - \mathbf{F}_{m}^{\mathbf{v}}(-V(\mathbf{m}^{0})(\mathbf{F}_{m}^{\dagger})^{\mathbf{v}}\lambda^{\mathbf{v}+1} + \mathbf{m}^{0} - \mathbf{m}^{\mathbf{v}})$$
$$= S\lambda^{\mathbf{v}+1} - R \tag{19}$$

where $S \equiv \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{m}}^{\gamma} V(\mathbf{m}^0) (\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{m}}^{\dagger})^{\gamma}$ and $R \equiv \mathbf{f}^{\gamma} + \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{m}}^{\gamma} (\mathbf{m}^0 - \mathbf{m}^{\gamma})$. Multiplying $(\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\gamma} S^{-1}$ and substituting Equation (16), we get:

$$(\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\mathsf{v}} S^{-1} \mathbf{F}_{u}^{\mathsf{v}} (\mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{v}+1} - \mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{v}}) = (\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\mathsf{v}} \lambda^{\mathsf{v}+1} - (\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\mathsf{v}} S^{-1} R. \tag{20}$$



Solving the Equation(2)

Then we naturally obtain:

$$\mathbf{u}^{\nu+1} = \mathbf{u}^{\nu} - ((\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\nu} S^{-1} \mathbf{F}_{u}^{\nu})^{-1} (\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\nu} S^{-1} R. \tag{21}$$

and from Equation (19)

$$\lambda^{\nu+1} = S^{-1}(\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\nu}(\mathbf{u}^{\nu+1} - \mathbf{u}^{\nu}) + R)$$
 (22)

. For a summary, we have obtained all equations to proceed to the next step. All other matrices in the equation can be calculated from parameters of the current step, and χ^2 can be evaluated from (11).

$$\begin{cases}
\mathbf{u}^{\nu+1} = \mathbf{u}^{\nu} - ((\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\nu} S^{-1} \mathbf{F}_{u}^{\nu})^{-1} (\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})^{\nu} S^{-1} R & (21) \\
\lambda^{\nu+1} = S^{-1} (\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\nu} (\mathbf{u}^{\nu+1} - \mathbf{u}^{\nu}) + R) & (22) \\
\mathbf{m}^{\nu+1} = \mathbf{m}^{0} - V(\mathbf{m}^{0}) (\mathbf{F}_{m}^{\dagger})^{\nu} \lambda^{\nu+1} & (18)
\end{cases}$$



Evolution of Variance Matrix

Take a look at Eq.(18). We see that $m^{\nu+1}$ is an addition(subtraction) of some parameters to the initially measured data. As we already know the error, i.e. Variance matrix, of initial data, we can estimate how error propagates through the fitting process.

$$V(m) = J_{m,m^0} V(m^0) J_{m,m^0}^{\dagger}$$
 (23)

We need to calculate the Jacobian,

$$J_{m,m^0(i,j)} = \frac{\partial m_i}{\partial m_j^0} \tag{24}$$



Evolution of Variance Matrix.

To begin with, let us express Eq (18) in terms of m^0 . At the moment we will drop the superscript ν . As $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{m},\mathbf{u})$ is a constant on m^0 , $\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{m}}$ also will be a constant to m^0 . Then we only need to consider the derivatives of λ . By substituting (21) ,

$$\lambda = S^{-1}(-\mathbf{F}_{u}(((\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})S^{-1}\mathbf{F}_{u})^{-1}(\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger})S^{-1}R) + R)$$
 (25)

and we have

$$R \equiv \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{F_m}(\mathbf{m}^0 - \mathbf{m}) \to \frac{\partial R}{\partial m^0} = \mathbf{F}_m$$
 (26)

so that

$$\mathcal{SH}_{\lambda} = \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial m^0} = S^{-1}(-\mathbf{F}_u((\mathbf{F}_u^{\dagger}S^{-1}\mathbf{F}_u)^{-1}\mathbf{F}_u^{\dagger}S^{-1}\mathbf{F}_m) + \mathbf{F}_m). \tag{27}$$



Evolution of Variance Matrix

Now define the symmetric matrices $G \equiv \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{m}}^{\dagger} S^{-1} \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{m}}$, $U \equiv (\mathbf{F}_{u}^{\dagger} S^{-1} \mathbf{F}_{u})^{-1}$ and $H \equiv \mathbf{F}_{m}^{\dagger} S^{-1} \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{u}}$. Then we have expressions for $\frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial m^{0}}$ hence

$$J_{m,m^0} = I - V(m^0) \mathbf{F}_m^{\dagger} \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial m^0} = I - V \mathbf{F}_m^{\dagger} (-S^{-1} \mathbf{F}_u U^{-1} H^{\dagger} + S^{-1} \mathbf{F}_m)$$
$$= I - V(G - HUH^{\dagger})$$
(28)

If we let $C = G - HUH^{\dagger}$, we obtain

$$V(m) = J_{m,m^0} V J_{m,m^0}^{\dagger} = V - 2VCV + VCVCV. \tag{29}$$

You might want to neglect higher order term, but please keep 2nd order term at the moment. Some materials like [1] had an error in this part.



Pull distribution

It is better to check the pull distribution to check the quality of a fit. By defining the residual $\epsilon=m-m^0$ and its variance $V(\epsilon)$, pull is defined as:,

$$P(\epsilon) = \epsilon / \sqrt{V(\epsilon)} \tag{30}$$

and

$$V(\epsilon) \equiv V(m) + V(m^0) - 2Cov(m, m^0). \tag{31}$$

We have already calculated J_{m,m^0} . Then we directly get the covariance matrix.



Pull distribution

The covariance can be estimated as:

$$Cov(m, m^0) = J_{m,m^0}V(m) = V - VCV.$$
 (32)

If we substitute this and Eq.(29) into Eq.(31), we get

$$V(\epsilon) = VCVCV. \tag{33}$$

Note that 2nd order term affects the variance.



Example: 3-C Fit

Assuming a decay of $\Lambda \to p\pi^-$, let's represent the momentum of those particles in spherical coordinates:

$$\vec{P}_{\Lambda} = (P_{\Lambda}, \theta_{\Lambda}, \phi_{\lambda}), \cdots \tag{34}$$

Then the kinematic constraints can be expressed as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \\ f_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -P_{\Lambda} \sin \theta_{\Lambda} \cos \phi_{\Lambda} + P_{p} \sin \theta_{p} \cos \phi_{p} + P_{\pi} \sin \theta_{\pi} \cos \phi_{\pi} \\ -P_{\Lambda} \sin \theta_{\Lambda} \sin \phi_{\Lambda} + P_{p} \sin \theta_{p} \sin \phi_{p} + P_{\pi} \sin \theta_{\pi} \sin \phi_{\pi} \\ -P_{\Lambda} \cos \theta_{\Lambda} + P_{p} \cos \theta_{p} + p_{\pi} \cos \theta_{\pi} \\ -\sqrt{P_{\Lambda}^{2} + m_{\Lambda}^{2}} + \sqrt{P_{p}^{2} + m_{p}^{2}} + \sqrt{P_{\pi}^{2} + m_{\pi}^{2}} \end{pmatrix}.$$
(35)



Example: 3-C Fit

We have unmeasured and measured variables as:

$$\mathbf{u} = \{P_{\Lambda}\}; \quad \mathbf{m} = \{\theta_{\Lambda}, \phi_{\Lambda}, P_{\rho}, \theta_{\rho}, \phi_{\rho}, P_{\pi}, \theta_{\pi}, \phi_{\pi}\}. \tag{36}$$

Since there is 1 unmeasured variable with 4 kinematical constraints, this is a 4-1 = 3-Constrained fit. Let us substitute Eq (35) and (36) into Eq (11)s and its resulting equations. We get $\mathbf{F_u}$ and $\mathbf{F_m}$ as

$$\mathbf{F_{u}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_{1}}{\partial P_{\Lambda}} \\ \frac{\partial f_{2}}{\partial P_{\Lambda}} \\ \frac{\partial f_{3}}{\partial P_{\Lambda}} \\ \frac{\partial f_{4}}{\partial P_{\Lambda}} \end{pmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{F_{m}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_{1}}{\partial \theta_{\Lambda}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_{1}}{\partial \phi_{\pi}} \\ \frac{\partial f_{2}}{\partial \theta_{\Lambda}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_{2}}{\partial \phi_{\pi}} \\ \frac{\partial f_{3}}{\partial \theta_{\Lambda}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_{3}}{\partial \phi_{\pi}} \\ \frac{\partial f_{4}}{\partial \theta_{\Lambda}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_{4}}{\partial \phi_{\pi}} \end{pmatrix}$$
(37)

The properties of the matrices to calculate in each step. By applying an appropriate variance matrix and employing χ^2 selection criteria, we can kinematically fit the particles.

References

