

## least-squares

goal: optimal estimation through linear observations

ref: Stengel Ch 4.1

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previously: use observations  $y = Cx$  to estimate  $\hat{x}$   
— solve linear equations — applying observer

now: use noisy observations  $z = Cx + \eta$  to estimate  $\hat{x}$   
where  $\eta$  is an external disturbance / measurement noise

• we want to choose  $\hat{x}$  to minimize  $\|x - \hat{x}\|$ , i.e. estimation error  
but: we don't know  $x$ , so can't evaluate

• instead, we'll minimize  $\|z - C\hat{x}\|$ , i.e. observation error

→ solve NLP  $\min_{\hat{x}} \|z - C\hat{x}\|_2^2 = (z - C\hat{x})^T (z - C\hat{x})$

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— let  $J(\hat{x}) = \|z - C\hat{x}\|_2^2$ , then minima are stationary:

$$D_{\hat{x}} J = C^T C \hat{x} - C^T z$$

$$= 0 \iff \hat{x} = (C^T C)^{-1} C^T z \leftarrow \text{"least squares" estimate}$$

↑  
assume  $\text{rank } C^T C = \dim \hat{x}$  — necessary that  
# rows  $C \geq$  # cols  $C$

— to confirm  $\hat{x}$  is minimum:  $D_{\hat{x}}^2 J(\hat{x}) = C^T C > 0$

→ confirm that  $C^T C > 0$ , i.e. all eigenvalues are positive

— let  $v \neq 0$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  be eigenvalue/eigenvector pair for  $C^T C$

$$\text{so } C^T C v = \lambda v$$

$$\text{so } 0 \leq \|Cv\|^2 = v^T C^T C v = \lambda \|v\|^2; \text{ since } \|v\| \neq 0, \lambda > 0$$

→ compute  $\hat{x}$  for  $z = Cx + \eta$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $C = 1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$   
(this should be familiar)

$$\hat{x} = \underbrace{(C^T C)^{-1}}_{=k} \underbrace{C^T z}_{=\sum_{i=1}^k z_i} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=1}^k z_l, \text{ i.e. sample mean}$$

e.g.  $x$  is the length of something,  $z$  is measurement of that length

• now consider weighted least-squares objective:

$$J(\hat{x}) = (z - C\hat{x})^T S^{-1} (z - C\hat{x}), \quad S = S^T > 0$$

→ verify that  $S^{-1} = (S^{-1})^T > 0$

→ solve NLP  $\min_{\hat{x}} J(\hat{x})$

—  $\hat{x} = (C^T S^{-1} C)^{-1} C^T S^{-1} z \leftarrow$  agrees with previous answer when  $S = I$

— could have changed coordinates to  $\xi = \sqrt{S} \cdot z$  and applied

—  $\xi = Mz \Rightarrow z = M^{-1}\xi$

$$\text{so } J(\hat{x}) = (M^{-1}\xi - C\hat{x})^T (M^{-1}\xi - C\hat{x})$$

$$= (\xi - MC\hat{x})^T \underbrace{(M^{-1})^T M^{-1}}_{S^{-1}, \text{ i.e., } M^T M = S, \text{ i.e., } "M = \sqrt{S}"}$$

fact: if  $S = \text{Cov}[\eta]$ ,  $E[\eta] = 0$ , then

$\hat{x}$  has the minimum (co-)variance out of all unbiased estimators

— note that  $E[\hat{x}] = (C^T S^{-1} C)^{-1} C^T S^{-1} E[z]$ ,

$$E[z] = E[Cx] + E[\eta] \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{so } E[\hat{x}] = (C^T S^{-1} C)^{-1} (C^T S^{-1} C) E[x] = E[x]$$

• suppose we estimate  $\hat{x}_1$  using batch of measurements  $z_1 = C_1 x + \eta_1$   
 $\in \mathbb{R}^d$   $\in \mathbb{R}^{k_1}$

and subsequently obtain new measurements  $z_2 = C_2 x + \eta_2$

other we want to minimize  $J(\hat{x}) = \|z - C\hat{x}\|_{S^{-1}}^2$   
 $= (z - C\hat{x})^T S^{-1} (z - C\hat{x})$

where  $z = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $C = \begin{bmatrix} C_1 & 0 \\ 0 & C_2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $S = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & S_2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\hat{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{x} = \hat{x}_2$$

\* we want to solve for  $\hat{x}_2$  in terms of  $\hat{x}_1$  that minimizes  $J$

→ solve  $D_{\hat{x}_2} J = 0$  for  $\hat{x}_2$  in terms of  $\hat{x}_1, z_1, z_2$

$$- \hat{x}_2 = (C_1^T S_1^{-1} C_1 + C_2^T S_2^{-1} C_2)^{-1} (C_1^T S_1^{-1} z_1 + C_2^T S_2^{-1} z_2)$$

$$- J(\hat{x}) = (z - C\hat{x})^T S^{-1} (z - C\hat{x}) = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} z_1 - C_1 \hat{x}_2 \\ z_2 - C_2 \hat{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} \right\|_{S^{-1}}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow D_{\hat{x}_2} J = -(z_1 - C_1 \hat{x}_2)^T S_1^{-1} C_1 - (z_2 - C_2 \hat{x}_2)^T S_2^{-1} C_2$$

$$= 0 \Leftrightarrow C_1^T S_1^{-1} C_1 \hat{x}_2 + C_2^T S_2^{-1} C_2 \hat{x}_2$$

$$= C_1^T S_1^{-1} z_1 + C_2^T S_2^{-1} z_2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \hat{x}_2 = (C_1^T S_1^{-1} C_1 + C_2^T S_2^{-1} C_2)^{-1} (C_1^T S_1^{-1} z_1 + C_2^T S_2^{-1} z_2)$$

→ apply matrix inversion Lemma with  $P_1^{-1} = C_1^T S_1^{-1} C_1$

$$(A + U H V)^{-1} = A^{-1} - A^{-1} U (H^{-1} + V A^{-1} U)^{-1} V A^{-1}$$

$$- \underbrace{(C_1^T S_1^{-1} C_1 + C_2^T S_2^{-1} C_2)^{-1}}_{P_1^{-1}} = P_1 - P_1 C_2^T (C_2 P_1 C_2^T + S_2)^{-1} C_2 P_1$$

→ substitute into formula for  $\hat{x}_2$  w/  $\hat{x}_1 = (C_1^T S_1^{-1} C_1)^{-1} C_1^T S_1^{-1} z_1$

$$- \hat{x}_2 = \hat{x}_1 + K_2 (z_2 - C_2 \hat{x}_1), \quad K_2 = P_1 C_2^T (C_2 P_1 C_2^T + S_2)^{-1}$$