



# Linear Algebra

## Lecture 4 (Chap. 4)

## Least Squares Fit (LSF)

Approximate Solution of  $Ax=b$  ( $A_{m \times n}$  with  $m > n$ )

Ling-Hsiao Lyu

*Institute of Space Science, National Central University  
Chung-Li, Taiwan, R. O. C.*

# Least Squares Fitting for Approximate Solutions

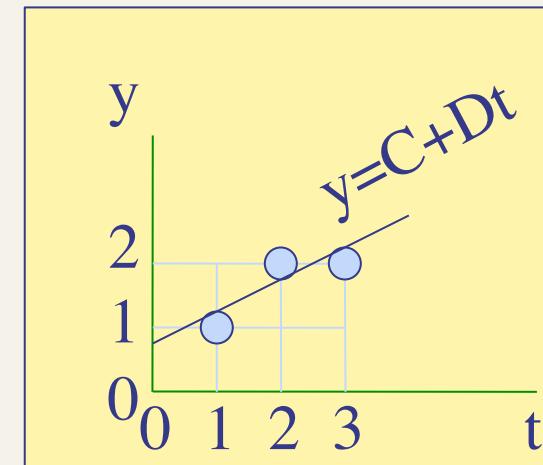
- Solve  $\mathbf{Ax}=\mathbf{b}$ 
  - If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix with  $m > n$  then we have more equations than unknowns.
  - When the number of equations is greater than the number of unknowns, we have one solution or no solution at all.
  - In most cases, we have no solution at all, we can only find an approximate solution!

# Solving $A_{mxn}x_{nx1} = b_{mx1}$

with  $m > n$  (No. of eqn. > No. of unknown)

- Consider a set of data

$i$	$t_i$	$y_i$
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	2



If  $y = C + Dt \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C + Dt_1 &= y_1 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 C + Dt_2 &= y_2 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_2 \end{bmatrix} \\
 C + Dt_3 &= y_3 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_3 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Ax = b$$

no solution!

# Best-Fit Approximate Solution $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$

$$A\mathbf{x} \approx \mathbf{b} \Rightarrow A\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{p}$$

If  $y = C + Dt \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned}C + Dt_1 &= y_1 & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ 1 & t_2 \\ 1 & t_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \\C + Dt_2 &= y_2 \Rightarrow & & & & \\C + Dt_3 &= y_3 \quad \text{no solution!} & & & &\end{aligned}$$

$A\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{p}$  is the best-fit approximate solution

$$A^T \mathbf{e} = 0 = A^T(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{p}) = A^T(\mathbf{b} - A\hat{\mathbf{x}}) \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{x}} &= (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\&= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ 6 & 14 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{6} \begin{bmatrix} 14 & -6 \\ -6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{6} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2/3 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

# General Forms of the Least Squares Fit

Find the approximate solution  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$  ( $A\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{p}$ )

$$A^T \mathbf{e} = 0 = A^T(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{b}) = A^T(A\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{b}) \Rightarrow$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots \\ x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} n & \sum x_i \\ \sum x_i & \sum x_i^2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \sum f_i \\ \sum f_i x_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix}$$

General form of the least square fit :

$$f = C + Dx$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} n & \sum x_i \\ \sum x_i & \sum x_i^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum f_i \\ \sum f_i x_i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f = C + Dx + Ey$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} n & \sum x_i & \sum y_i \\ \sum x_i & \sum x_i^2 & \sum x_i y_i \\ \sum y_i & \sum x_i y_i & \sum y_i^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \\ E \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum f_i \\ \sum f_i x_i \\ \sum f_i y_i \end{bmatrix}$$

and so on.

# Least Squares Fit: Minimize the Error

Error:  $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{b} - A\hat{\mathbf{x}}$

$$\Rightarrow \|\mathbf{e}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{b} - A\hat{\mathbf{x}}\|^2 = \|A\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 = \sum (C + Dx_i - f_i)^2$$

Least squares fit (LFS) minimize the error  $\|\mathbf{e}\|^2$

i.e., Find solution  $(C, D)$  such that  $\partial\|\mathbf{e}\|^2 / \partial C = \partial\|\mathbf{e}\|^2 / \partial D = 0$

$$\frac{\partial\|\mathbf{e}\|^2}{\partial C} = 0 = 2(Cn + D\sum x_i - \sum f_i) = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} n & \sum x_i \\ \sum x_i & \sum x_i^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum f_i \\ \sum f_i x_i \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\frac{\partial\|\mathbf{e}\|^2}{\partial D} = 0 = 2(C\sum x_i + D\sum x_i^2 - \sum f_i x_i) = 0$$