

# Least squares with the SVD

Note Title

2024-11-13

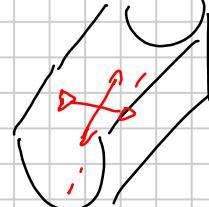
$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|Ax - y\|_2$$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

$$= U S V^T$$

$$x = v_1 \frac{1}{\sigma_1} u_1^T y + v_2 \frac{1}{\sigma_2} u_2^T y + \dots + v_n \frac{1}{\sigma_n} u_n^T y$$

Small  $\sigma_i$  are more sensitive to noise, computational errors  
 ↳ least important features



$$x_{\text{reg}} = v_1 \frac{1}{\sigma_1} u_1^T y + \dots + v_k \frac{1}{\sigma_k} u_k^T y$$

we stop at  $k$ , if  $\sigma_{k+1}$  is too small!!

"truncated SVD solution".

Variant: ridge regression, Tikhonov regularization.

$$x_{\text{tik}} = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|Ax - y\|^2 + \alpha^2 \|x\|^2$$

$$= \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} A \\ \alpha I_n \end{bmatrix} x - \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2$$

$$\left\| \begin{bmatrix} Ax - y \\ \alpha x \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A \\ \alpha I_n \end{bmatrix} x - \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\hat{A}$

$$x_{\text{tik}} = (\hat{A}^\top \hat{A})^{-1} \hat{A}^\top y = \left( [A^\top \alpha I] \begin{bmatrix} A \\ \alpha I \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} [A^\top \alpha I] \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (A^\top A + \alpha^2 I)^{-1} A^\top y$$

Similar to the formula for  $A^T$  with normal equations, but with an added  $\alpha^2 I$

$$A^T A + \alpha^2 I = V \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & \\ & \sigma_2^2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \sigma_n^2 \end{bmatrix} V^T + \alpha^2 I \stackrel{\text{VII}}{=} V \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 + \alpha^2 & & \\ & \sigma_2^2 + \alpha^2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \sigma_n^2 + \alpha^2 \end{bmatrix} V^T$$

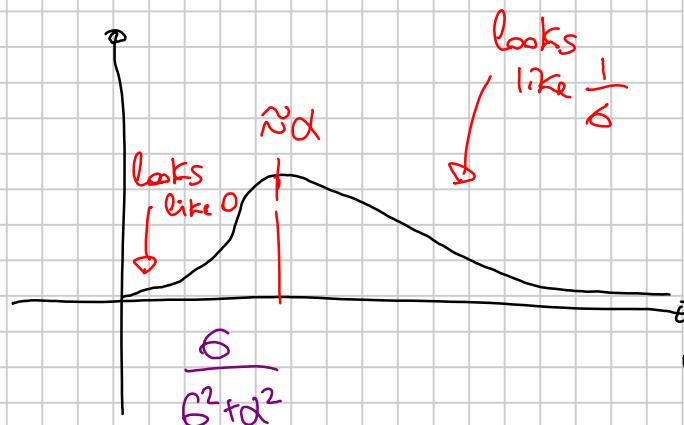
Eigenvalues  $\sigma_i^2$  can be very small in  $A^T A$

eigenvalues of  $A^T A + \alpha^2 I$  are at least  $\alpha^2$   
 $\Rightarrow$  can't be too close to 0

$\hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ \alpha I \end{bmatrix}$  always has full column rank!

$$x_{+k} = \sum_i \frac{\sigma_i}{\sigma_i^2 + \alpha^2} u_i^T y + \dots + \sum_n \frac{\sigma_n}{\sigma_n^2 + \alpha^2} u_n^T y$$

The inverses  $\frac{1}{\sigma_i}$  are replaced by  $\frac{\sigma_i}{\sigma_i^2 + \alpha^2}$



When  $\sigma \gg \alpha$ ,

$$\frac{6}{6^2 + \alpha^2} \approx \frac{6}{6^2} = \frac{1}{6}$$

When  $\sigma \ll \alpha$

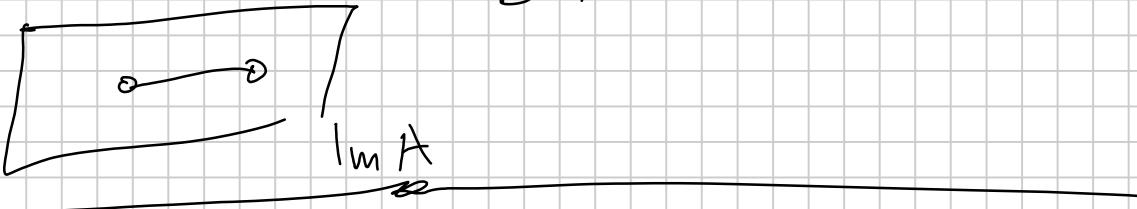
$$\frac{6}{6^2 + \alpha^2} \approx \frac{6}{\alpha^2} \approx 0$$

Similar effect to that of truncated SVD:

$$\frac{6}{6^2 + \alpha^2} \approx \begin{cases} \frac{1}{6} & \text{if } \sigma \text{ large} \\ 0 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ small} \end{cases}$$

$$[0, \|A\|]$$

$$b = Ax$$



Conditioning, sensitivity, accuracy of algorithms

Condition number of a problem:

$y = f(x)$  : computing  $y$  from  $x$

If I change  $x$  to a nearby  $\tilde{x}$ , how do  $\tilde{y} = f(\tilde{x})$  and  $y$  relate to each other?

ex:  $y = x^3 \quad \tilde{x} = x + \delta \quad \tilde{y} = (x + \delta)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2\delta + 3x\delta^2 + \delta^3$

$$\tilde{y} - y \approx 3x^2\delta$$

Error  $\delta$  is amplified to  $\frac{3x^2\delta}{|f'(x)|}$

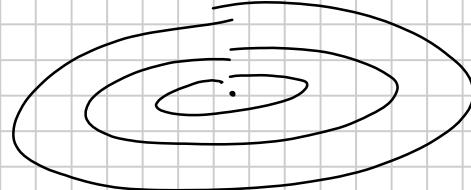
Absolute condition number: it's the number  $K$

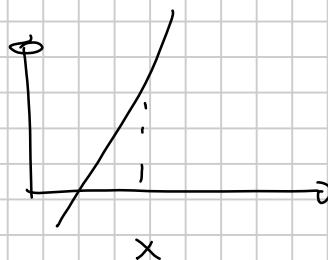
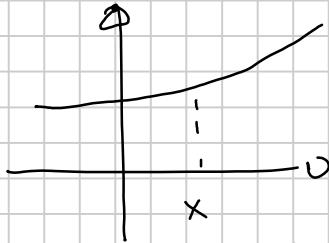
such that  $2\delta \quad 2x \quad \delta$

$$|\tilde{y} - y| = K \cdot (|\tilde{x} - x| + O(\delta^2))$$

$$K = |f'(x)|$$

Let us now assume  $F: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ . We can formulate similar computations, but now the result depends on direction:





depending on the tangency / direction chosen, the derivative changes.

Def:  $K$  (absolute cond. number) is the smallest number such that

$$\|\tilde{y} - y\| \leq K \|\tilde{x} - x\| + O(\delta^2) \quad \delta = \|\tilde{x} - x\|$$

$$y = F(x)$$

$$\tilde{y} = F(\tilde{x})$$

along all possible directions of approach.

$$K_{\text{abs}}(F, x) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\substack{\tilde{x} \text{ s.t.} \\ \|\tilde{x} - x\| \leq \delta}} \frac{\|F(\tilde{x}) - F(x)\|}{\|\tilde{x} - x\|}.$$

For regular functions,  $K_{\text{abs}}(F, x) = \|\mathcal{J}_{F,x}\|$ , norm of the Jacobian (Jacobian matrix, i.e. matrix of partial derivatives).

Absolute vs. relative errors:

$\frac{\|\tilde{x} - x\|}{\|x\|}$  better than  $\|\tilde{x} - x\|$ , as it gives

order-of-magnitude information

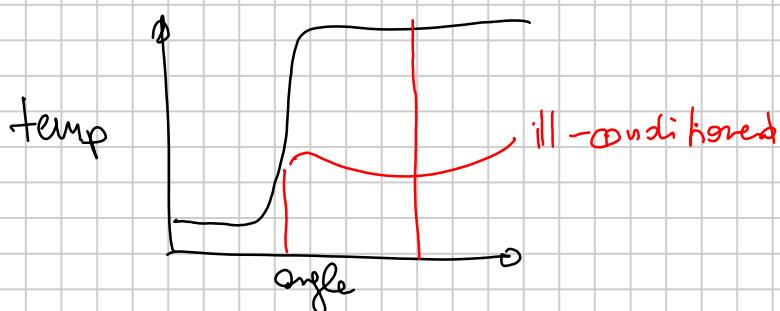
$$\frac{\|\tilde{x} - x\|}{\|x\|} \approx 10^{-5} \Leftrightarrow 5 \text{ exact digits (approximately)}$$

If  $\|\tilde{y} - y\| \leq K_{\text{obs}}(f, x) \|\tilde{x} - x\|$

$$\frac{\|\tilde{y} - y\|}{\|y\|} \leq \frac{K_{\text{obs}}(f, x) \cdot \|x\|}{\|y\|} \cdot \frac{\|\tilde{x} - x\|}{\|x\|}$$

$$K_{\text{rel}}(f, x) = \frac{\|J f, x\| \cdot \|x\|}{\|y\|}. \quad \left[ \text{cfr. } \frac{f'(x) \cdot x}{f(x)} \right]$$

well-conditioned



Condition numbers are properties of problems, not algorithms

Condition number of solving square linear systems:

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \quad Ax = y \quad A\tilde{x} = \tilde{y}$$

condition number of the solution  $\tilde{x}$  w.r.t. changes in the right-hand side  $\tilde{y}$ .

$$\|\tilde{x} - x\| = \|A^{-1}\tilde{y} - A^{-1}y\| = \|A^{-1}(\tilde{y} - y)\| \leq \|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|\tilde{y} - y\|$$

$$\|y\| = \|Ax\| \leq \|A\| \cdot \|x\| \Leftrightarrow \|x\| \geq \frac{\|y\|}{\|A\|}$$

$$\approx \frac{\|\tilde{x} - x\|}{\|x\|} \leq \underbrace{\|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\|}_{R(A)} \cdot \frac{\|\tilde{y} - y\|}{\|y\|}$$

"condition number of  $A'$ "

$\Leftrightarrow$  condition number of solving lin. systems w.r.t changes in  $y$

Condition number w.r.t. changes in  $A$ :

$$\tilde{A} = A + E \quad Ax = y \quad (\tilde{A} + E)\tilde{x} = y \quad \tilde{x} = x + \delta$$

$$y_f = (\tilde{A} + E)(x + \delta) = Ax + Ex + A\delta + E\delta$$

product of two errors,  
much smaller than the  
others if  $\|E\|, \|\delta\|$  are < 1

$$\delta = -A^{-1}E x$$

$$\frac{\|\tilde{x} - x\|}{\|x\|} = \frac{\|\delta\|}{\|x\|} \leq \frac{\|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|E\| \cdot \|x\|}{\|x\|} = \|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|A\| \cdot \frac{\|\tilde{A} - A\|}{\|A\|}$$

$\Rightarrow$  the cond. number w.r.t. changes in  $A$ , is once again  $k(A)$ .

Condition number and singular values

$$\|A\| = \sigma_1$$

$$A = U \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n \end{bmatrix} V^T$$

$$A^{-1} = V \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \frac{1}{\sigma_n} \end{bmatrix} U^T$$

orth.

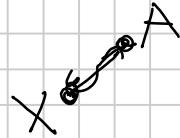
diag

orth

$$\|A^{-1}\| = \text{largest s.v. of } A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\sigma_n}$$

$$k(A) = \|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\| = \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_n}$$

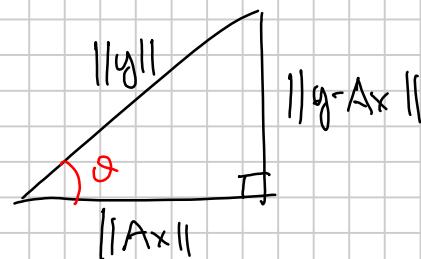
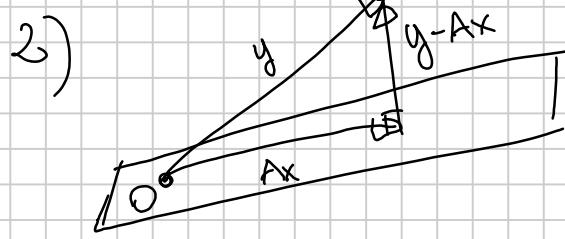
Property:  $\frac{1}{k(A)} = \min_{x \in \text{range}} \frac{\|x - Ax\|}{\|Ax\|}$



## Condition number of least squares problems

$$\min_x \|Ax - y\| \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \quad m > n$$

1)  $k(A) = \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_n}$  (definition)

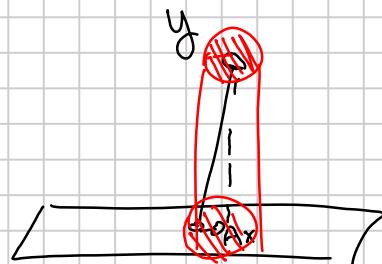


$$\theta = \arcsin \frac{\|y - Ax\|}{\|y\|}$$

## Theorem:

$$\text{cond. number w.r.t. changes in } y \leq \frac{k(A)}{\cos \theta}$$

$$\text{cond. number w.r.t. changes in } A \leq k(A) + (k(A))^2 \cdot \tan \theta$$

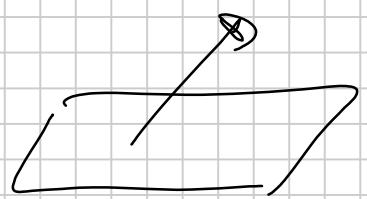


if  $\theta \approx 90^\circ$ ,  $Ax$  is much smaller  
than  $y$   
 $\Rightarrow$  small changes in  $y$   
become large in  $x$ .



If  $\theta \approx 0^\circ$ ,

$$k(A) + (k(A))^2 \tan \theta \approx k(A)$$



If  $\theta$  is neither  $\approx 0^\circ$  nor  $\approx 90^\circ$

$$k(A) + k(A)^2 \tan \theta \approx k(A)^2$$