

L17 Least square solutions

1. Least square solutions

(1) Definition of least square solutions

Regardless if $Ax = b$ is consistent or inconsistent, define

$\hat{x}$ is a least square solution (LSS) to $Ax = b \stackrel{def}{\iff} \|b - A\hat{x}\|^2 \leq \|b - Ax\|^2$ for all x .

Then the collection of all LSSs to $Ax = b$ is $A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A)$.

Proof: $\hat{x}$ is a LSS to $Ax = b \iff \|b - A\hat{x}\|^2 \leq \|b - Ax\|^2$ for all $x \in C^n$
 $\iff A\hat{x} = \pi(b|\mathcal{R}(A)) = AA^+b$
 $\iff A(\hat{x} - A^+b) = 0 \iff \hat{x} - A^+b \in \mathcal{N}(A)$
 $\iff \hat{x} \in A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A)$.

Comment: $A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A) = A^+b + \mathcal{R}(I - A^+A) = \{A^+b + (I - A^+A)h : h \in C^n\}$.

(2) A relation

Suppose $Ax = b$ is consistent. Then

$\hat{x}$ is a LSS to $Ax = b \iff \hat{x}$ is an ordinary solution to $Ax = b$.

Pf: $Ax = b$ is consistent $\implies \exists x_0$ such that $Ax_0 = b$.

$\implies$ If $\hat{x}$ is a LSS to $Ax = b$, then $\|b - A\hat{x}\|^2 \leq \|b - Ax_0\|^2 = 0$. So $A\hat{x} = b$.

Thus $\hat{x}$ is an ordinary solution to $Ax = b$.

$\Leftarrow$: If $\hat{x}$ is an ordinary solution to $Ax = b$, $\|b - A\hat{x}\|^2 = 0 \leq \|b - Ax\|^2$ for all x ,
 So $\hat{x}$ is a LSS to $Ax = b$.

(3) The collection of all solutions

to consistent $Ax = b$ is $A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A) = A^+b + \mathcal{R}(I - A^+A) = \{A^+b + (I - A^+A)h : h \in C^n\}$.

Ex1: For regression $y = X\beta + \epsilon$ with $E(\epsilon) = 0$, $E(y) = X\beta \in \mathcal{R}(X)$. Define

$\hat{\beta}$ is a least square estimator LSE for $\beta \iff \|y - X\hat{\beta}\|^2 \leq \|y - X\beta\|^2$ for all β .

Let $\text{LSE}(\beta)$ be the collection of all LSEs of β . Then

$\hat{\beta} \in \text{LSE}(\beta) \iff \hat{\beta}$ is a LSS to $X\beta = y$.

So $\text{LSE}(\beta) = X^+y + \mathcal{N}(X)$.

2. Minimum norm LSS

(1) Other expressions for the collection of all LSSs

Let x_0 be a LSS to $Ax = b$. Then $A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A) = x_0 + \mathcal{N}(A)$

Proof Note that x_0 is a LSS to $Ax = b \iff Ax_0 = \pi(b|\mathcal{R}(A)) \iff Ax_0 = AA^+b$.

$\subset$: $\hat{x} \in A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A) \implies \hat{x} = A^+b + z_1$ where $z_1 \in \mathcal{N}(A)$.

So $\hat{x} = x_0 + (A^+b - x_0 + z_1)$.

But $A(A^+b - x_0 + z_1) = (AA^+b - Ax_0) + Az_1 = 0 + 0 = 0$.

Thus $A^+b - x_0 + z_1 \in \mathcal{N}(A)$. Hence $\hat{x} \in x_0 + \mathcal{N}(A)$.

$\supset$: $\hat{x} \in x_0 + \mathcal{N}(A) \implies \hat{x} = x_0 + z_2$ where $z_2 \in \mathcal{N}(A)$.

So $\hat{x} = A^+b + (x_0 - A^+b + z_2)$.

But $A(x_0 - A^+b + z_2) = (Ax_0 - AA^+b) + Az_2 = 0 + 0 = 0$.

Thus $x_0 - A^+b + z_2 \in \mathcal{N}(A)$. Hence $\hat{x} \in A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A)$.

Comment: In terms of expressing the collection of all LSSs to $Ax = b$, the role of A^+b can be replaced by any LSS x_0 to $Ax = b$. But A^+b is special in the sense of (2) below.

(2) Minimum norm LSS

For $Ax = b$, A^+b is the minimum norm LSS.

Proof First $A^+b = A^+b + 0 \in A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A)$. So A^+b is a LSS to $Ax = b$.

Secondly for LSS $\hat{x}$ to $Ax = b$, $\hat{x} \in A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A)$. So $\hat{x} = A^+b + z$ where $z \in \mathcal{N}(A)$.

But $A^+b \in \mathcal{R}(A^+) = \mathcal{N}^\perp((A^+)^*) = \mathcal{N}^\perp(A)$. Thus $A^+b \perp z$.

By Pythagorean theorem

$$\|\hat{x}\|^2 = \|A^+b + z\|^2 = \|A^+b\|^2 + \|z\|^2 \geq \|A^+b\|^2.$$

So A^+b is the minimum norm LSS to $Ax = b$.

2. Linear space restricted LSSs

(1) Definition and iff conditions

$A \in C^{m \times n}$ and $\mathcal{S}$ is a subspace in C^n .

$\hat{x}$ is a LSS to $Ax = b$ restricted by $x \in \mathcal{S}$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \hat{x} \in \mathcal{S} \text{ and } \|b - A\hat{x}\|^2 \leq \|b - Ax\|^2 \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{S}$$

$$\iff \hat{x} \in \mathcal{S} \text{ and } A\hat{x} = \pi(b | A\mathcal{S}).$$

Comment: $A\mathcal{S} = \{As : s \in \mathcal{S}\}$ is a linear space.

(2) LSSs to $Ax = b$ under $Bx = 0$

The collection of all LSSs to $Ax = b$ under $Bx = 0$ is $[A(I - B^+B)]^+b + \mathcal{N}(A) \cap \mathcal{N}(B)$.

Proof $Bx = 0 \iff x \in \mathcal{N}(B) = \mathcal{R}(I - B^+B) = \{(I - B^+B)h : h \in C^n\} = \mathcal{S}$.

So $A\mathcal{S} = A\mathcal{R}(I - B^+B) = \mathcal{R}(A(I - B^+B))$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \hat{x} \text{ is a LSS to } Ax = b \text{ under } Bx = 0 \\ \iff & \hat{x} \in \mathcal{N}(B) \text{ and } A\hat{x} = \pi(y | \mathcal{R}(A(I - B^+B))) = A[A(I - B^+B)]^+b \\ \iff & \hat{x} \in \mathcal{N}(B) \text{ and } A\{\hat{x} - [A(I - B^+B)]^+b\} = 0 \\ \iff & \hat{x} \in \mathcal{N}(B) \text{ and } \hat{x} - [A(I - B^+B)]^+b \in \mathcal{N}(A) \\ \iff & \hat{x} \in \mathcal{N}(B) \text{ and } \hat{x} \in [A(I - B^+B)]^+b + \mathcal{N}(A) \\ \iff & \hat{x} \in \{[A(I - B^+B)]^+b + \mathcal{N}(A)\} \cap \mathcal{N}(B) \\ \iff & \hat{x} \in [A(I - B^+B)]^+b + \mathcal{N}(A) \cap \mathcal{N}(B). \end{aligned}$$

Ex2: With $B = 0$, $\mathcal{N}(B) = \mathcal{R}(I - B^+B) = \mathcal{R}(I_n) = C^n$.

With $B = 0$, there is no restriction on x , $A(I - B^+B) = A$ and $\mathcal{N}(A) \cap \mathcal{N}(B) = \mathcal{N}(A)$.

Thus $[A(I - B^+B)]^+b + \mathcal{N}(A) \cap \mathcal{N}(B) = A^+b + \mathcal{N}(A)$.

L18: Matrix spaces

1. $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$

(1) A linear transformation

With $A \in C^{m \times p}$ and $B \in C^{q \times n}$, $Y = f(X) = AXB$ is a linear transformation from $X \in C^{p \times q}$ to $Y \in C^{m \times n}$.

Proof $f(\alpha X + \beta Z) = A(\alpha X + \beta Z)B = \alpha(AXB) + \beta(AZB) = \alpha f(X) + \beta f(Z)$.

(2) Range $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$

The range of the LT in (1)

$$\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \{AXB \in C^{m \times n} : X \in C^{p \times q}\}$$

is a subspace of $C^{m \times n}$.

Proof $Y_1, Y_2 \in \mathcal{R}(A, B) \implies Y_1 = AX_1B$ and $Y_2 = AX_2B$

$\implies \alpha Y_1 + \beta Y_2 = A(\alpha X_1 + \beta X_2)B \in \mathcal{R}(A, B)$. So $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$ is a subspace of $C^{m \times n}$.

(3) $\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \mathcal{R}(A, I_n) \cap \mathcal{R}(I_m, B)$.

Proof $\subset$: $Y \in \mathcal{R}(A, B) \implies Y = AXB = I_m(AX)B \in \mathcal{R}(I_m, B)$

$Y \in \mathcal{R}(A, B) \implies Y = AXB = A(XB)I_n \in \mathcal{R}(A, I_n)$.

So $Y \in \mathcal{R}(A, I_n) \cap \mathcal{R}(I_m, B)$.

$\supset$: $Y \in \mathcal{R}(A, I_n) \cap \mathcal{R}(I_m, B) \implies Y = AX_1I_n = I_mX_2B$.

So $Y = AA^+AX_1I_n = AA^+I_mX_2B \in \mathcal{R}(A, B)$.

Ex1: With $A \in C^{m \times n}$, $\mathcal{R}(A) = \{Ax : x \in C^n\} = \{Ax1 : x \in C^{n \times 1}\} = \mathcal{R}(A, 1)$.

Thus vector space $\mathcal{R}(A)$ is a special case of $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$.

2. $\mathcal{N}(A, B)$

(1) Kernel $\mathcal{N}(A, B)$.

For the LT in (1) of 1, the Kernel

$$\mathcal{N}(A, B) = \{X \in C^{p \times q} : AXB = 0\}$$

is closed under LCs and hence is a subspace of $C^{p \times q}$, also called the null space associated with A and B .

(2) $\mathcal{N}(A, B) = \mathcal{N}(A, I_q) + \mathcal{N}(I_p, B)$

Proof $\subset$: If $X \in \mathcal{N}(A, B)$, then $AXB = 0$. So

$$X = (I - A^+A)X + A^+AX(I - BB^+).$$

Here $(I - A^+A)X \in \mathcal{N}(A, I_q)$ since $A[(I - A^+A)X]I_q = 0$; and

$A^+AX(I - BB^+) \in \mathcal{N}(I_p, B)$ since $I_p[A^+AX(I - BB^+)]B = 0$.

Thus $X \in \mathcal{N}(A, I_q) + \mathcal{N}(I_p, B)$.

$\supset$: If $X \in \mathcal{N}(A, I_q) + \mathcal{N}(I_p, B)$, then $X = X_1 + X_2$ where $X_1 \in \mathcal{N}(A, I_q)$ and $X_2 \in \mathcal{N}(I_p, B)$.

Thus $AXB = A(X_1B)I_q + I_p(AX_2)B = 0 + 0 = 0$. So $X \in \mathcal{N}(A, B)$.

Ex2: With $A \in C^{m \times n}$,

$\mathcal{N}(A) = \{x \in C^n : Ax = 0\} = \{x \in C^{n \times 1} : Ax1 = 0\} = \mathcal{N}(A, 1)$.

Thus vector space $\mathcal{N}(A)$ is a special case of $\mathcal{N}(A, B)$.

3. Equivalent expressions

(1) In $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$

- (i) A can be replaced by AA^- , AA^+ , AA^* , $(A^+)^*$
- (ii) B can be replaced by B^-B , B^+B , B^*B , $(B^+)^*$
- (iii) A and B can be simultaneously replaced

Proof (i) We show $\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \mathcal{R}(AA^-, B)$.

$$\subset: Y \in \mathcal{R}(A, B) \implies Y = AXB = AA^-(AX)B \in \mathcal{R}(AA^-, B).$$

$$\supset: Y \in \mathcal{R}(AA^-, B) \implies Y = AA^+XB \in \mathcal{R}(A, B).$$

(ii) We show $\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \mathcal{R}(A, B^-B)$.

$$\subset: Y \in \mathcal{R}(A, B) \implies Y = AXB = A(XB)B^-B \in \mathcal{R}(A, B^-B).$$

$$\supset: Y \in \mathcal{R}(A, B^-B) \implies Y = A(XB^-)B \in \mathcal{R}(A, B).$$

(iii) We show $\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \mathcal{R}(AA^-, B^-B)$

$$\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \mathcal{R}(AA^-, B) = \mathcal{R}(AA^-, B^-B).$$

(2) In $\mathcal{N}(A, B)$

- (i) A can be replaced by A^-A , A^+A , A^*A , $(A^+)^*$
- (ii) B can be replaced by BB^- , BB^+ , BB^* , $(B^+)^*$
- (iii) A and B can be simultaneously replaced

Proof (i) We show $\mathcal{N}(A, B) = \mathcal{N}(A^-A, B)$.

$$\subset: X \in \mathcal{N}(A, B) \implies AXB = 0 \implies A^-AXB = 0 \implies X \in \mathcal{N}(A^-A, B).$$

$$\supset: X \in \mathcal{N}(A^-A, B) \implies A^-AXB = 0 \implies AXB = 0 \implies X \in \mathcal{N}(A, B).$$

(ii) We show $\mathcal{N}(A, B) = \mathcal{N}(A, BB^-)$.

$$\subset: X \in \mathcal{N}(A, B) \implies AXB = 0 \implies A(XB)B^- = 0 \implies X \in \mathcal{N}(A, BB^-B).$$

$$\supset: X \in \mathcal{N}(A, BB^-) \implies AXBB^- = 0 \implies AXB = 0 \implies X \in \mathcal{N}(A, B).$$

(iii) We show $\mathcal{N}(A, B) = \mathcal{N}(A^-A, BB^-)$

$$\mathcal{N}(A, B) = \mathcal{N}(A^-A, B) = \mathcal{N}(A^-A, BB^-).$$

Ex3: $\mathcal{R}(AD_1, D_2B) \subset \mathcal{R}(A, B)$ since

$$Y \in \mathcal{R}(AD_1, D_2B) \implies Y = A(D_1XD_2)B \in \mathcal{R}(A, B).$$

$$\text{Thus } \mathcal{R}(A, B) = \mathcal{R}(AA^-A, BB^-B) \subset \mathcal{R}(AA^-, B^-B) \subset \mathcal{R}(A, B).$$

$$\text{So } \mathcal{R}(A, B) = \mathcal{R}(AA^-, B^-B).$$

Ex4: $\mathcal{N}(A, B) \subset \mathcal{N}(D_1A, BD_2)$ since

$$X \in \mathcal{N}(A, B) \implies AXB = 0 \implies D_1AXBD_2 = 0 \implies X \in \mathcal{N}(D_1A, BD_2).$$

$$\text{Thus } \mathcal{N}(A, B) \subset \mathcal{N}(A^-A, BB^-) \subset \mathcal{N}(AA^-A, BB^-B) = \mathcal{N}(A, B).$$

$$\text{So } \mathcal{N}(A, B) = \mathcal{N}(A^-A, BB^-).$$

Ex5: $\mathcal{R}(A) = \mathcal{R}(A, 1) = \mathcal{R}((A^+)^*, 1) = \mathcal{R}((A^+)^*)$.

$$\mathcal{N}(A) = \mathcal{N}(A, 1) = \mathcal{N}(A^*A, 1) = \mathcal{N}(A^*A)$$