

**Non-Linear Least Squares**

- Existence and Uniqueness results.
- The Newton and Gauss-Newton Methods.

**Applications**

- Application: Data Assimilation of Temperature measurements.

**The Singular Value Decomposition**

- Definition. Basic Properties.
- Linear Systems of Equations.
- The Condition Number.

**Existence and Uniqueness**

Consider the minimization problem  $\min f(x), f(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ .

**Definition** A continuous function  $f(x)$  is *coercive* if

$$\lim_{\|x\| \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = +\infty.$$

**Lemma** A *coercive* function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  has a *global minimum*.

**Example**  $f_1(x) = e^{-x}, f_2(x) = x_1^2 - 2x_1x_2 + 3x_2^2$  and  $f_3(x) = x_1^2 + x_1e^{-x_2}$ .

**Definition** Let  $r : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^m, m > n$ , be a vector valued function. The *Least Squares Problem* is:

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} \|r(x)\|_2^2, \quad \frac{1}{2} \|r(x)\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} r(x)^T r(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m r_i^2(x).$$

**Questions** Existence and Uniqueness of Solution? Algorithms?

**Example** With  $r(x) = b - Ax$  we get the *linear least squares problem*.

**Definition** A set  $S$  is *convex* if,  $\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y \in S$ , for any  $x, y$  in  $S$ , and  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ .

**Definition** A function  $f(x)$  is *convex* if, for any  $x, y$ ,  
 $f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y), \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ .

If the inequality is *strict* then the  $f(x)$  is *strictly convex*.

**Lemma** A *strictly convex* function  $f(x)$  defined on a bounded convex set  $S$  has a unique *global minimum*.

## Optimality conditions

**Definition** Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  be twice differentiable. The *Hessian matrix* of  $f(x)$  is,

$$(H_f(x))_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq n.$$

**Example** The Taylor series is

$$f(x) = f(x^{(k)}) + (\nabla f(x^{(k)}))^T (x - x^{(k)}) + \frac{1}{2} (x - x^{(k)})^T H_f(x^{(k)}) (x - x^{(k)}) + \dots$$

**Remark** Locally  $f(x)$  is approximated by a quadratic polynomial.

## Newtons Method

Find a local minimum  $x^*$  of  $f(x)$  by solving the non-linear system of equations,

$$\nabla f(x) = 0,$$

using the Newton Method.

**Algorithm** Given a starting approximation  $x^{(0)} \approx x^*$  do

$$H_f(x^{(k)}) s^{(k)} = -\nabla f(x^{(k)}), \quad x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + s^{(k)}.$$

until convergence. Verify that  $x^{(k)}$  is a *local minimum* by checking if  $H_f(x^{(k)})$  is positive definite.

**Remark** Very good method provided that the Hessian matrix  $H_f$  is easy to compute.

**Definition** A point  $x^*$  such that  $\nabla f(x^*) = 0$  is called a *critical point*.

**Lemma** If  $x^*$  is a critical point and the Hessian  $H_f(x^*)$  is positive definite then  $x^*$  is a *local minimum*.

Recall that the *Least Squares Problem* is:

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} \|r(x)\|_2^2, \quad \frac{1}{2} \|r(x)\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} r(x)^T r(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m r_i^2(x).$$

where  $r : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $m > n$ , is a vector valued function.

**Questions** What is the corresponding gradient vector and Hessian matrix?

**Lemma** Let  $f(x) = r(x)^T r(x)$ ,  $r(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^m$ , then

$$\nabla f(x) = J_r^T(x)r(x),$$

and

$$H_f(x) = J_r^T J_r + \sum_{i=1}^m r_i(x) H_{r_i}(x),$$

where  $J_r$  is the Jacobian of  $r$  and  $H_{r_i}$  is the Hessian of the component function  $r_i$ .

**Remark** The Hessian  $H_f$  is usually very computationally demanding to compute. In the *Gauss-Newton* method we approximate

$$H_f(x) \approx J_r(x)^T J_r(x).$$

Minimize  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}r(x)^T r(x)$  by the following steps.

**Algorithm** Let  $x^{(0)}$  be a starting approximation and iterate  
for  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Minimize  $\|J_r(x^{(k)})s^{(k)} + r(x^{(k)})\|_2$ .

Update  $x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + s^{(k)}$ .

if  $\|s^{(k)}\| < tol$  then stop.

end

**Remark** The Jacobian can be computed using finite differences.

**Example** Fit a nonlinear model function,

$$f(t, x) = x_1 e^{x_2 t},$$

to the data

$t$	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0
$y$	2.0	0.7	0.3	0.1

using the Gauss-Newton method and the starting approximation  $x = (1, 0)^T$ .

What is  $r(x)$  and  $J_r(x)$ ?

The Gauss-Newton method applied to the problem gives

$k$	$x_1^{(k)}$	$x_2^{(k)}$	$\ r(x^{(k)})\ $	$\ s^{(k)}\ $
0	1.0000	0.0000	1.55e+00	9.21e-01
1	1.6900	-0.6100	4.61e-01	9.21e-01
2	1.9751	-0.9305	8.56e-02	4.29e-01
3	1.9941	-1.0036	4.50e-02	7.55e-02
4	1.9950	-1.0093	4.47e-02	5.81e-03
5	1.9950	-1.0095	4.47e-02	1.79e-04
6	1.9950	-1.0095	4.47e-02	4.76e-06
7	1.9950	-1.0095	4.47e-02	1.25e-07
8	1.9950	-1.0095	4.47e-02	3.26e-09
9	1.9950	-1.0095	4.47e-02	8.53e-11
10	1.9950	-1.0095	4.47e-02	2.23e-12

**Remark** Relatively quick convergence. Sometimes tricky to get the Gauss-Newton method to converge.

**Observation** The steady state temperature in a wall satisfies

$$(k(x)T_x)_x = 0, \quad \text{for } a < x < b,$$

where  $k(x)$  is the thermal conductivity.

If the wall consists of two different materials the function  $k(x)$  may be given by,

$$k(x) = \begin{cases} \kappa, & \alpha < x < \beta, \\ 1, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

If, in addition, we have *boundary values*  $T(a) = A, T(b) = B$  we can solve the problem and compute the steady state temperature

$$T(x) = f(u), \quad u = (A, B, \kappa, \alpha, \beta)^T.$$

Do the following:

1. Implement a numerical method that solves the boundary value problem given concrete values for the parameter vector  $u$ , i.e.

```
>> T = SteadyState( A, B, alpha, beta, kappa );
```

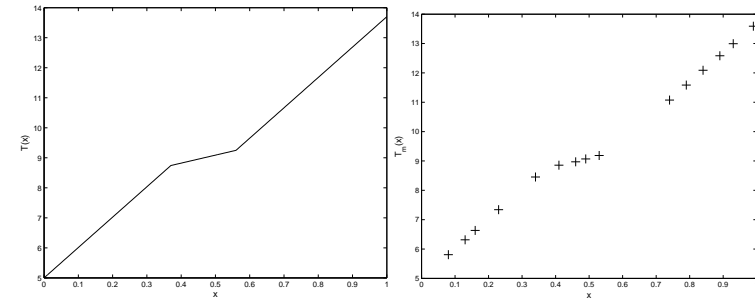
2. Let the measurement locations be given by  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^m$  and the measurement data be collected in a vector  $T_m$ .
3. Given a parameter vector  $u^{(k)}$  we can compute the numerical solution  $T(u^{(k)})$  and a residual vector,

$$r(u^{(k)}) = T_m - T(u^{(k)}),$$

4. Compute the Jacobian  $J_r$  numerically using finite differences.

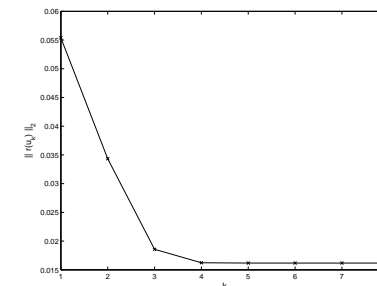
**Problem** Suppose we measure the temperature at certain locations inside the wall can we still determine  $T(x)$ ?

**Example** An exact temperature distribution  $T_e(x)$  and  $m = 15$  measurements in the interior of the wall.



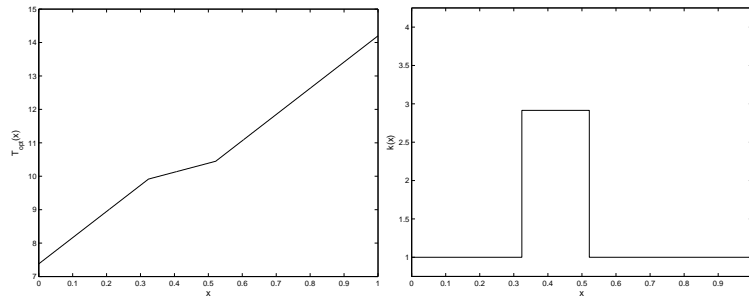
How to formulate as a non-linear least squares problem?

The convergence history  $\|r(u^{(k)})\|_2$  during the Gauss Newton iterations.



Initial guess was  $u^{(0)} = (7, 14, 0.28, 0.60, 3.02)^T$  and the final approximation  $u^{(8)} = (7.38, 14.20, 0.32, 0.52, 2.9)^T$ .

**Remark** A good initial guess is needed for convergence. The data points were constructed using  $u_e = (7.4, 14.2, 0.32, 0.52, 3)^T$  and noise of size  $10^{-2}$ .



The reconstructed temperature distribution  $T(u^{(8)})$  and the corresponding thermal conductivity  $k(x)$ .

**Remark** This technique is called *Data assimilation*. All available equations are put into a non-linear least squares problem that is solved numerically.

**Example** Compute the SVD in Matlab by

```
>> A=[1 -2 3 ; -2 3 1 ; 2 -4 6 ; -1 2 -3];
>> [U,S,V]=svd(A); U , S
```

```
U =
-0.4025  0.0684  0.9129 -0.0000
 0.1675  0.9859 -0.0000  0.0000
-0.8050  0.1368 -0.3651  0.4472
 0.4025 -0.0684  0.1826  0.8944
```

```
S =
 9.2780    0    0
    0  3.4524    0
    0    0  0.0000
    0    0    0
```

**Remark** The matrix  $A$  has rank 2.  $V$  is  $3 \times 3$  orthogonal.

**Proposition** Every matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  has a decomposition

$$A = U\Sigma V^T,$$

where  $U$  and  $V$  are orthogonal and  $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is *diagonal* with diagonal elements  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_{\min(n,m)} \geq 0$

**Remark** The diagonal elements  $\{\sigma_i\}$  are called *singular values* and the columns  $\{u_i\}$  of  $U$  and the columns  $\{v_i\}$  of  $V$  are called right and left singular vectors.

**Example** Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 3}$ . Then

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 & u_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \end{pmatrix}^T.$$

**Remark** The vectors  $\{u_i\}$  are a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^4$  and the vectors  $\{v_i\}$  are a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$

A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  represents a *linear mapping*

$$A : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^m.$$

**Remark** If  $U = (u_1, \dots, u_m) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  is *orthogonal* then the set of vectors  $\{u_i\}$  form an orthogonal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

**Observation** In the basis  $U, V$  the linear mapping is represented by the diagonal matrix  $D$ .

**Lemma** Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ . it holds that

$$Av_i = \sigma_i u_i \text{ and } A^T u_i = \sigma_i v_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, \min(m, n).$$

**Lemma** Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ . We can write

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^{\min(m,n)} \sigma_i u_i v_i^T.$$

## Linear Systems of Equations

**Lemma** Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be non-singular and  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ . Then the solution to the linear system  $Ax = b$  is given by

$$x = V\Sigma^{-1}U^T b = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{u_i^T b}{\sigma_i} v_i.$$

**Remarks** The solution exists, i.e.  $A$  is non-singular, if  $\sigma_n > 0$ . If  $\sigma_n$  is very small the system is *ill-conditioned*.

More expensive compared to using the  $LU$  factorization. Reveals linear dependencies among the columns of  $A$ .

## Norms and the Condition Number

**Recall** If  $U$  is orthogonal and  $x$  is a vector then  $\|Ux\|_2 = \|x\|_2$ .

**Lemma** The norm is  $\|A\|_2 = \sigma_1$ .

**Corollary** The condition number is  $\kappa_2(A) = \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_n}$ .

**Remark** Previously we used  $\|A\|_2 = (\lambda_{\max}(A^T A))^{1/2}$ . Since  $A^T A = U\Sigma^T \Sigma U^T$  we get  $\lambda_i(A^T A) = \sigma_i^2$ .