

## 5.4: Least Squares.

5.4  
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Ex1: Find a linear model to describe height as a fct of armspan.

$$c_0 R + c_1 = H$$

collect student data.

$$A \vec{x} = \vec{b}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1 & 1 \\ R_2 & 1 \\ R_3 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} H_1 \\ H_2 \\ H_3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

can't we solve  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ ? ... no, it's inconsistent.

since we can't find a perfect fit, let's look for the "best possible"  $\vec{x}$  ... call it  $\vec{x}^*$

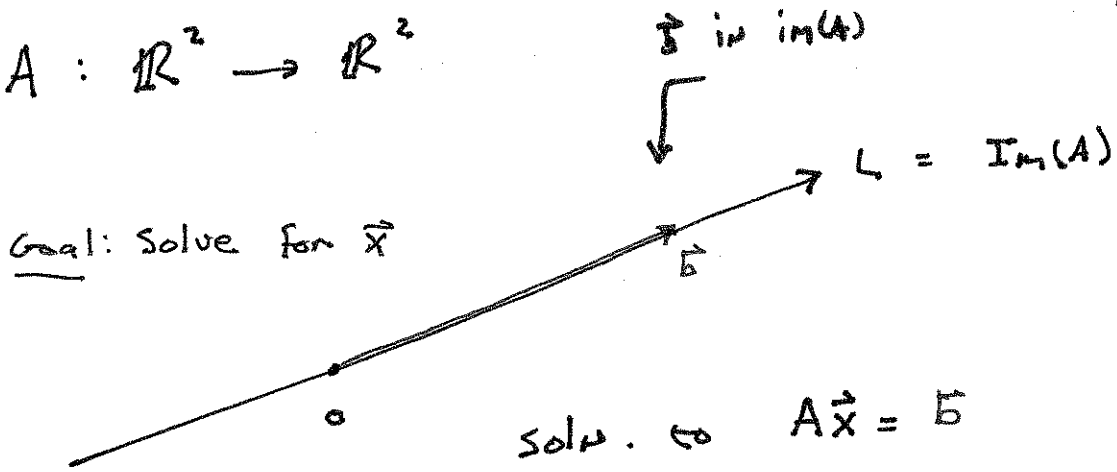
$$\vec{x}^* = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{b} \quad \text{or the solution to}$$

$$A^T A \vec{x}^* = A^T \vec{b} \dots$$

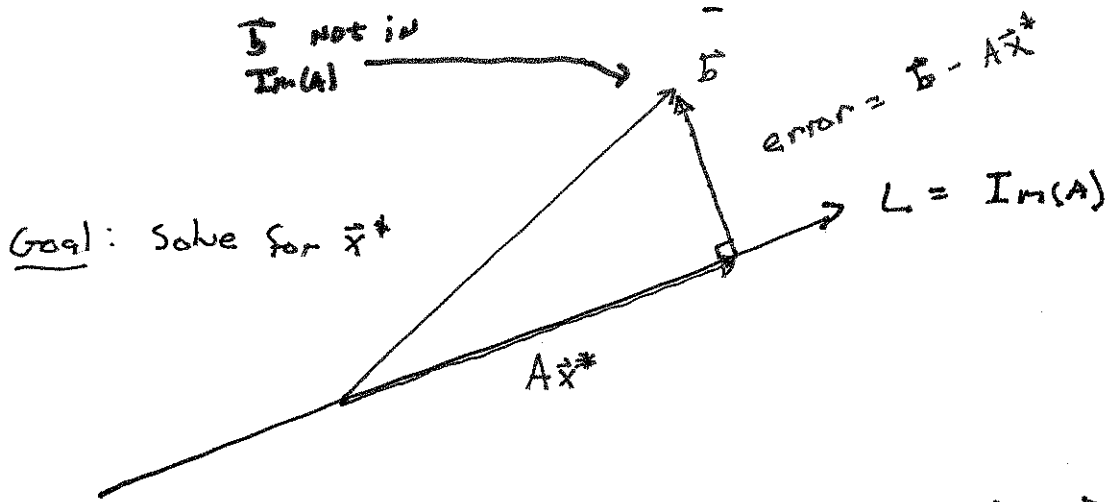
compare to the least squares sol. on the calculator...

wow! where did this come from?

2D:  $A: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$



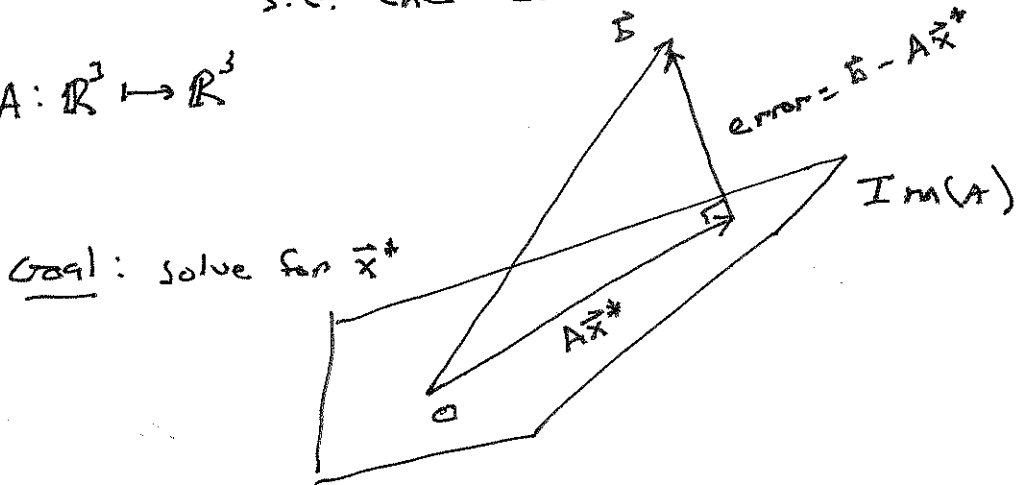
is the  $\vec{x}$  s.t.  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$



No soln. to  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$

The closest vector to  $\vec{b}$  in  $\text{Im}(A)$  is  $A\vec{x}^*$  and so we want to find this  $\vec{x}^*$  s.t. the error vector  $\vec{b} - A\vec{x}^*$  is minimized.

3D:  $A: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$



consider  $V = \text{Im}(A)$  where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \vec{v}_1 & \dots & \vec{v}_m \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix}$

$$V^\perp = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \vec{v}_i^T \vec{x} = 0 \text{ for } i=1, \dots, m \}$$

The solutions

to

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} - & \vec{v}_1^T & - \\ & \vdots & \\ - & \vec{v}_m^T & - \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = \vec{0} \text{ make up } V^\perp.$$

$$\Rightarrow V^\perp = (\text{Im}(A))^\perp = \text{Ker}(A^T).$$

Thm:

(a) if  $A$  is an  $n \times m$  matrix,  $\text{ker}(A) = \text{ker}(A^T A)$ .

\* key concept in the proof:

If  $\text{ker}(A) \subseteq \text{ker}(A^T A)$  and  $\text{ker}(A^T A) \subseteq \text{ker}(A)$   
Then  $\text{ker}(A) = \text{ker}(A^T A)$ .

(b) if  $A$  is an  $n \times m$  matrix w/  $\text{ker}(A) = \{ \vec{0} \}$   
Then  $A^T A$  is invertible.

\* This follows from A.

Defn: Consider a lin. sys.  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  where  $A$  is an  $n \times m$  matrix. A vector  $\vec{x}^* \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is called a least-squares sol. of this system if

$$\| \vec{b} - A\vec{x}^* \| \leq \| \vec{b} - A\vec{x} \| \text{ for all } \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

Q: Why is this called the "least-squares" soln.?

Logic

We want  $\vec{x}^*$  sol. to  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$\|\vec{b} - A\vec{x}^*\| \leq \|\vec{b} - A\vec{x}\| \quad \text{for all } \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

note:  $A\vec{x}^* = \text{proj}_V \vec{b}$

$$\vec{b} - A\vec{x}^* \in V^\perp = (\text{Im}(A))^\perp = \text{ker}(A^T)$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$A^T(\vec{b} - A\vec{x}^*) = \vec{0}$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$A^T A \vec{x}^* = A^T \vec{b}$$

(the normal eqs  
to  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ ).

If the cols of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$  form a basis for  $V \Rightarrow \text{ker}(A) = \{\vec{0}\} \Rightarrow A^T A$  is invertible.

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}^* = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{b}$$

and  $\text{proj}_V \vec{b} = A\vec{x}^* = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{b}$ .

Thm: Consider a subspace  $V$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

w/ basis  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$ . Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \vec{v}_1 & \dots & \vec{v}_m \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix}$ .

Then the matrix of the orthogonal projection onto  $V$  is  $A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$