## 5. Least square method and line fitting

- Pseudoinverse
- Overdetermined system of linear equations
- Line fitting


## Pseudoinverse (aka Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse or generalized inverse)

- Assuming that a $m \times n$ matrix $A$ is a real matrix and $A^{\top} A$ is invertible, the pseudoinverse $A^{+}$for matrix $A$ is defined to be

$$
\mathbf{A}^{\dagger} \equiv\left(\mathbf{A}^{\top} \mathbf{A}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{\top}
$$



- The following always holds:

$$
\mathbf{A}^{\dagger} \mathbf{A}=\mathbf{I}
$$

- This is because:

$$
\mathbf{A}^{\dagger} \mathbf{A}=\left(\left(\mathbf{A}^{\top} \mathbf{A}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{\top}\right) \mathbf{A}=\left(\mathbf{A}^{\top} \mathbf{A}\right)^{-1}\left(\mathbf{A}^{\top} \mathbf{A}\right)=\mathbf{I}
$$

- Note that if $m \neq n$, the following always holds:

$$
\mathbf{A A}^{\dagger} \neq \mathbf{I}
$$

## Calculating a pseudoinverse

- Function pinv gives the pseudoinverse of a given matrix

```
>> A=randn(5,3)
A =
    -1.000354 0.027611 0.065035
    -3.013282 -0.687265 -0.462170
    -1.345817 -0.410357 1.915242
    -0.480726 0.027323 1.544261
    -0.512782 0.230256 -0.269629
>> pinv(A)
ans =
    -0.3005504 -0.1638335 0.0394693 -0.1490451 -0.3649408
    1.1103074 -0.5201691 -0.5397881 0.7475318 1.6065569
    0.0075412 -0.1606289 0.2720726 0.2571976 -0.0259860
```

- The left multiplication to $A$ yields an identity matrix

```
>> pinv(A)*A
ans =
    1.0000e+00 2.7756e-16 -1.5266e-16
    -5.5511e-16 1.0000e+00 7.2164e-16
    2.9490e-17 7.9797e-17 1.0000e+00
```

Remark: the right multiplication does not yield an identity

## Overdetermined system of linear equations

- Consider a system of linear equations with a more number of equations than unknowns
- A: m x n matrix (m>n)

$m>n \rightarrow$ Called overdetermined
$m<n \rightarrow$ Called underdetermined
- In general, an overdetermined system does not have a solution
- We calculate a "solution" as follows:

$$
\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{A}^{\dagger} \mathbf{b}
$$

- It can be shown that this solution $x$ minimizes $\|\mathbf{A x}-\mathbf{b}\|^{2}$
- This solution is thus called the least square solution


## Line fitting: an example

- Salary and years of service of employees in Japan

| Years of service | $<5$ | $<10$ | $<15$ | $<20$ | $<25$ | $<30$ | $<35$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Salary (mil. JPY) | 370.8 | 459.4 | 533.8 | 597.7 | 669.7 | 719.7 | 753.8 |

```
>> years=5:5:35
years =
    5
>> income=[371,460,534,598,670,720,754];
>> plot(years,income,"o")
>> axis([0,40,0,900])
>> set(gca,"fontsize",14)
```



## Line fitting: least square method (1/2)

- Fit a line $y=a x+b$ to a set of points $\left\{\left(x_{1}, y_{1}\right), \cdots,\left(x_{N}, y_{N}\right)\right\}$ so that the difference in $y$ axis will be small for each $\left(x_{i} y_{i}\right)$

$$
\varepsilon_{i} \equiv\left\|y_{i}-\hat{y}_{i}\right\|=\left\|y_{i}-\left(a x_{i}+b\right)\right\|
$$

- To do so, find $(a, b)$ that minimizes the sum of the differences for all the points

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{N} \varepsilon_{i}^{2}=\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left\|y_{i}-\left(a x_{i}+b\right)\right\|^{2}
$$

The right hand side can be rewritten as:

$$
\sum_{i}\left\|y_{i}-\left(a x_{i}+b\right)\right\|^{2}=\|\left[\begin{array}{c}
{\left[\begin{array}{c}
y_{1} \\
y_{2} \\
\vdots \\
y_{N}
\end{array}\right]-\left[\begin{array}{c}
a x_{1}+b \\
a x_{2}+b \\
\vdots \\
a x_{N}+b
\end{array}\right]\left\|^{2}=\right\|\left[\begin{array}{c}
{\left[\begin{array}{c}
y_{1} \\
y_{2} \\
\vdots \\
y_{N}
\end{array}\right]-\left[\begin{array}{cc}
x_{1} & 1 \\
x_{2} & 1 \\
\vdots & \\
x_{N} & 1
\end{array}\right]} \\
\qquad\left[\begin{array}{l}
a \\
b
\end{array}\right] \|^{2}
\end{array} \|^{2}\right.} \\
\end{array}\right.
$$

## Line fitting: least square method (2/2)

- Thus, the problem reduces to solution of a linear equation $X p=y$

$$
\|\mathbf{X p}-\mathbf{y}\|^{2} \rightarrow \min \quad \mathbf{X} \equiv\left[\begin{array}{cc}
x_{1} & 1 \\
x_{2} & 1 \\
\vdots & \\
x_{N} & 1
\end{array}\right], \quad \mathbf{p} \equiv\left[\begin{array}{l}
a \\
b
\end{array}\right], \mathbf{y}=\left[\begin{array}{c}
y_{1} \\
y_{2} \\
\vdots \\
y_{N}
\end{array}\right]
$$

- Its solution (i.e., least square solution) is given using pseudoinverse X + as

$$
\hat{\mathbf{p}} \equiv \mathbf{X}^{\dagger} \mathbf{y}
$$

```
>> X=ones(7,2);
>> X(:,1)=years';
>> y=income';
>> p=pinv(X)*y;
>> hold on
>> xx=0:1:40;
>> plot(xx,p(1)*xx+p(2))
```



## Exercises 5.1

- The table to the right shows the number of Nobel laureates per capita (i.e., divided by population) and chocolate consumption per capita for different countries
- It has been discovered that there is a strong link between these two cultural traits (Nobel laureates and chocolate consumption)
- Franz H. Messerli, Chocolate Consumption, Cognitive Function, and Nobel Laureates, the New England Journal of Medicine, 367, 1562-1564, 2012
- Fit a line to the data and plot the results
- You can download a file ('Nobel_vs_choco.txt') from the course page

|  | Nobel laureates <br> per capita | Chocolate consumption <br> per capita (kg/y/head) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Sweden | 31.855 | 6.6 |
| Switzerland | 31.544 | 10.8 |
| Denmark | 25.255 | 8.6 |
| Austria | 24.332 | 7.9 |
| Norway | 23.368 | 9.8 |
| UK | 18.875 | 10.3 |
| Ireland | 12.706 | 8.8 |
| Germany | 12.668 | 11.4 |
| USA | 10.706 | 5.1 |
| Hungary | 9.038 | 3.5 |
| France | 8.99 | 7.4 |
| Belgium | 8.622 | 6.8 |
| Finland | 7.6 | 7 |
| Australia | 5.451 | 6 |
| Italy | 3.265 | 3.3 |
| Poland | 3.124 | 4.5 |
| Lithuania | 2.836 | 6.1 |
| Greece | 1.857 | 4.5 |
| Portugal | 1.855 | 4.5 |
| Spain | 1.701 | 3.3 |
| Japan | 1.492 | 2.2 |
| Bulgaria | 1.421 | 2.2 |
| Brazil | 0.05 | 2.5 |
|  |  |  |

