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Approximation Theory. Discrete Least Squares
Approximation.

Least Squares Error:

$$E(a,b) = \sum_{i=1}^m [y_i - (ax_i + b)]^2 \quad (1)$$

Necessary condition to minimize (1).

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a}(a,b) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial E}{\partial b}(a,b) = 0.$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - (ax_i + b))(-x_i) = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial b} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - (ax_i + b))(-1) = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{From (2): } - \sum_{i=1}^m x_i y_i + a \sum_{i=1}^m x_i^2 + b \sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 0$$

$$\text{From (3): } - \sum_{i=1}^m y_i + a \sum_{i=1}^m x_i + \sum_{i=1}^m b = 0$$

or equivalently,

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \textcircled{a} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i^2 + \textcircled{b} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i &= \sum_{i=1}^m x_i y_i \end{aligned} \right. \quad (4)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \textcircled{a} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i + \textcircled{b} m &= \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \end{aligned} \right. \quad (5)$$

Two linear equations - two unknowns "a" and "b".

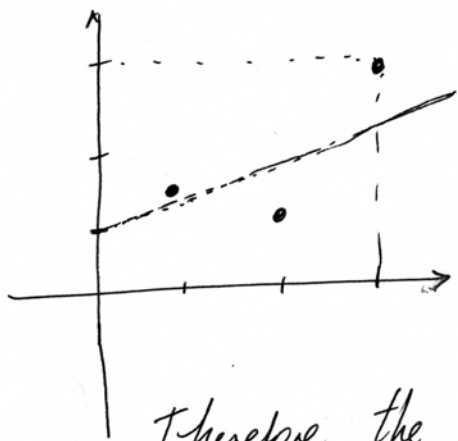
In matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i^2 & \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^m x_i & m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i y_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \end{bmatrix}$$

These two equations are called
"Normal Equations"

Example: Consider the three points

$$(x_1, y_1) = (1, 3/2), \quad (x_2, y_2) = (2, 1), \quad (x_3, y_3) = (3, 3)$$



x_i	y_i	x_i^2	$x_i y_i$
1	$3/2$	1	$3/2$
2	1	4	2
3	3	9	9
Σ	$11/2$	14	$25/2$

Therefore, the normal equations are

$$\begin{cases} 14a + 6b = \frac{25}{2} \\ 6a + 3b = \frac{11}{2} \end{cases}$$

Solns:

$$a = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$b = 1$$

So the least squares line approximating this data is given by

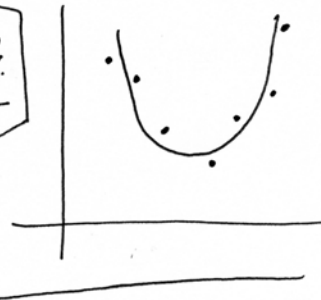
$$y = \frac{3}{4}x + 1$$

Look for general formulas in book.

Least squares ^{Approx.} with higher degree polynomials.

Parabola $y = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2$

DATA POINTS
DISTRIBUTION.



$$E(a_0, a_1, a_2) = \sum_{i=1}^{m \geq 3} [y_i - (a_0 + a_1 x_i + a_2 x_i^2)]^2$$

Necessary Condition:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a_i} = 0, \quad \text{for all } i = 0, 1, 2.$$

This means,

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a_0} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^m [y_i - (a_0 + a_1 x_i + a_2 x_i^2)](-1) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a_1} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^m [y_i - (a_0 + a_1 x_i + a_2 x_i^2)](-x_i) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a_2} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^m [y_i - (a_0 + a_1 x_i + a_2 x_i^2)](-x_i^2) = 0$$

Normal equations:

$$\begin{cases} a_0 m + a_1 \sum x_i + a_2 \sum x_i^2 = \sum y_i \\ a_0 \sum x_i + a_1 \sum x_i^2 + a_2 \sum x_i^3 = \sum x_i y_i \\ a_0 \sum x_i^2 + a_1 \sum x_i^3 + a_2 \sum x_i^4 = \sum x_i^2 y_i \end{cases}$$

In matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} m & \sum x_i & \sum x_i^2 \\ \sum x_i & \sum x_i^2 & \sum x_i^3 \\ \sum x_i^2 & \sum x_i^3 & \sum x_i^4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum y_i \\ \sum x_i y_i \\ \sum x_i^2 y_i \end{bmatrix}$$

In general for polynomials degree n .

$$P_n(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_n x^n$$

$$E(a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \sum_{i=1}^m [y_i - P_n(x_i)]^2$$

Normal equations are given in matrix form as

$$\begin{matrix}
 & = A & & = \vec{a} & & = \vec{b} \\
 \begin{bmatrix} m & \sum x_i & \dots & \sum x_i^n \\ \sum x_i & \sum x_i^2 & \dots & \sum x_i^{n+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sum x_i^n & \sum x_i^{n+1} & \dots & \sum x_i^{2n} \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} & = & \begin{bmatrix} \sum y_i \\ \sum x_i y_i \\ \sum x_i^2 y_i \\ \vdots \\ \sum x_i^n y_i \end{bmatrix}
 \end{matrix}$$

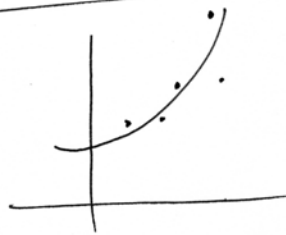
Theorem: If $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$ are distinct with $m > n+1$ then the matrix A (above) is symmetric and non-singular. Therefore, there is a unique polynomial of degree " n " fitting the given data.

Proof:- Exercise # 14.

If data is exponentially related

use $\boxed{y = b e^{ax}}$

as a "fitting curve"



Least Squares error:

$$E(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - b e^{ax_i})^2$$

Normal equations:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial b} = 0 \Rightarrow 2 \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - b e^{ax_i}) (-e^{ax_i}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a} = 0 \Rightarrow 2 \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - b e^{ax_i}) (-bx_i e^{ax_i}) = 0$$

Nonlinear system for "a" and "b".

$$\begin{cases} b e^{2ax_i} - e^{ax_i} y_i = 0 \\ b^2 e^{2ax_i} x_i - x_i e^{ax_i} y_i b = 0 \end{cases}$$

Hard to find solutions!

Alternative: Consider logarithm of the "fitting curve"

$$y = b e^{ax} \Rightarrow \boxed{\ln y = \ln b + ax.}$$

then, normal equations are

$$\begin{cases} (a) \sum x_i^2 + (\ln(b)) \sum x_i = \sum x_i \ln y_i \\ (a) \sum x_i + (\ln(b)) m = \sum \ln y_i \end{cases}$$

Unknowns are "a" and " $\ln(b)$ ".

if $a = 2.5$ and $\ln(b) = 3 \Rightarrow b = e^3$

then $y = be^{ax} = e^3 e^{2.5x} = e^{(2.5x+3)}$
