

# Generalized Inverses & Least Squares Problems

B. Wayne Bequette

# Two Related Problems

## Problem 1

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x x^T x \\ \text{s.t. } Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

Usually  $\dim(x) > \dim(b)$   
Similar to “coincidence  
pt. problem”

## Problem 2

$$\min_x \|Ax - b\|$$

Usually  $\dim(x) < \dim(b)$   
Similar to “least squares”  
curve fit

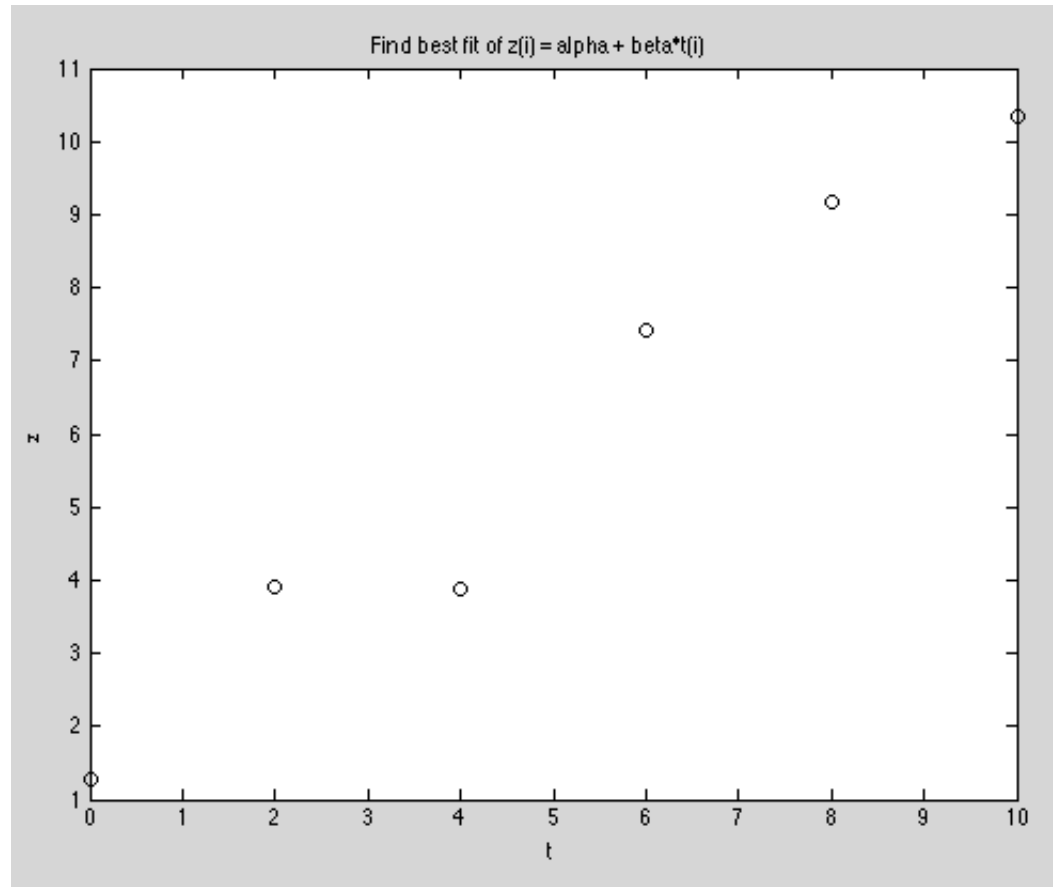
## Same Solution

$$x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$$

$$x = A^T (A A^T)^{-1} b$$

Not exactly true, as  
shown later:

# Problem 2 example



$$\hat{z}_i = \alpha + \beta t_i$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & t_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Ax = b$$

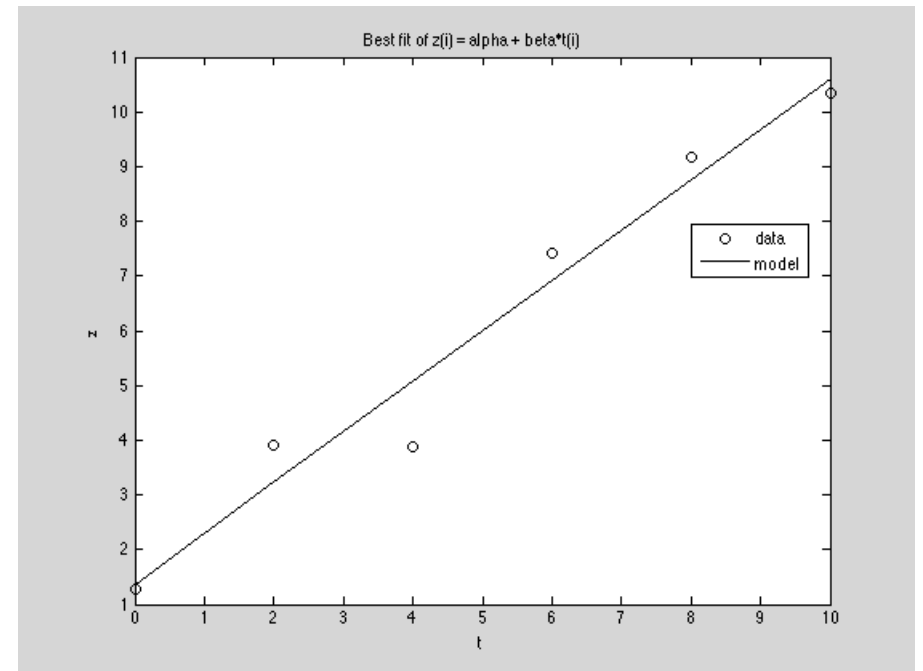
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 6 \\ 1 & 8 \\ 1 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.27 \\ 3.92 \\ 3.87 \\ 7.43 \\ 9.16 \\ 10.35 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$$

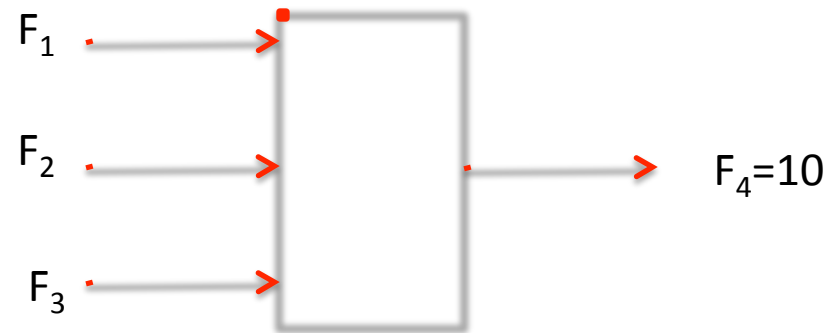
$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_m \end{bmatrix}$$

(2x1)                      (2xm)                      (mx1)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.279 \\ 0.9239 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Problem 1 Example



**Objective Function**

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^3 F_i^2$$

s.t.  $F_1 + F_2 + F_3 = F_4$

**Material Balance**

$$\min_x x^T x$$

$$x^T x = [F_1 \ F_2 \ F_3] \begin{bmatrix} F_1 \\ F_2 \\ F_3 \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^3 F_i^2$$

s.t.  $Ax = b$

$$[1 \ 1 \ 1] \begin{bmatrix} F_1 \\ F_2 \\ F_3 \end{bmatrix} = [10]$$

$Ax = b$

Blue arrows point from the matrix  $A$  and vector  $b$  to the corresponding parts of the equation above.

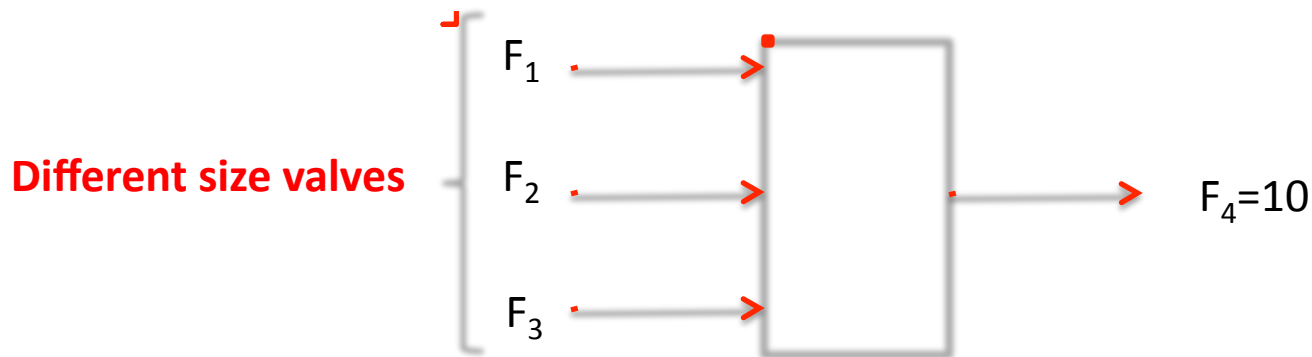
$$x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$$

(3x1)      (3x1)(1x3)    (3x1)(1x1)

$$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Use SVD (MATLAB pinv)**  $\begin{bmatrix} F_1 \\ F_2 \\ F_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.333 \\ 3.333 \\ 3.333 \end{bmatrix}$

# Problem 1 Example – Weighted LS



**Objective Function**  $\min_{F_1, F_2, F_3} \sum_{i=1}^3 w_i F_i^2$     **s.t.**     $F_1 + F_2 + F_3 = F_4$     **Material Balance**

$$\min_x x^T W x \quad x^T W x = [F_1 \quad F_2 \quad F_3] \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & w_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & w_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_1 \\ F_2 \\ F_3 \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^3 w_i F_i^2$$

**s.t.**  $Ax = b$      $[1 \quad 1 \quad 1] \begin{bmatrix} F_1 \\ F_2 \\ F_3 \end{bmatrix} = [10]$     **Weights**  $\begin{bmatrix} w_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & w_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & w_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$

$Ax = b$

$$x = (W^{-1} A^T) (A W^{-1} A^T)^{-1} b \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} F_1 \\ F_2 \\ F_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7.6190 \\ 1.9048 \\ 0.4762 \end{bmatrix}$$

(3x1)    (3x3)    (3x1) (1x3)(3x3)    (3x1)    (1x1)

# Following (Handwritten) Slides

- Derivation of least squares solutions
- Singular value decomposition (SVD) – method used by MATLAB pinv
- m-files for examples

$$\min_{\underline{x}} \underline{x}^T \underline{x} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \underline{A} \underline{x} = \underline{b} \quad \text{Using Lagrange multipliers}$$

$$L(\underline{x}, \underline{\lambda}) = \underline{x}^T \underline{x} + \underline{\lambda}^T (\underline{A} \underline{x} - \underline{b})$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \underline{x}} = 2\underline{x} + \underline{\lambda}^T \underline{A} = \underline{0} \quad \left( \text{also, } \underline{\lambda}^T \underline{A} = \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda} \right)$$

$$= 2\underline{x} + \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda} = \underline{0} \implies \underline{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \underline{\lambda}} = \underline{A} \underline{x} - \underline{b} = \underline{0} \implies -\frac{1}{2} \underline{A} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda} - \underline{b} = \underline{0}$$

$$\underline{A} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda} = -2\underline{b} \implies \underline{\lambda} = -2(\underline{A} \underline{A}^T)^{-1} \underline{b}$$

$$\text{but } \underline{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda}, \text{ so } \underline{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \underline{A}^T (-2)(\underline{A} \underline{A}^T)^{-1} \underline{b}$$

$$\implies \boxed{\underline{x} = \underline{A}^T (\underline{A} \underline{A}^T)^{-1} \underline{b}} \stackrel{?}{=} \boxed{(\underline{A}^T \underline{A})^{-1} \underline{A}^T \underline{b}}$$

$$\text{pre \& post multiply by } \underline{A} \implies \underbrace{\underline{A} \underline{A}^T (\underline{A} \underline{A}^T)^{-1} \underline{A}}_{\underline{I}} \stackrel{?}{=} \underbrace{\underline{A} (\underline{A}^T \underline{A})^{-1} \underline{A}^T \underline{A}}_{\underline{I}}$$

✓  
See below  
✓



$$\min_{\underline{x}} \underline{x}^T \underline{W} \underline{x} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \underline{A} \underline{x} = \underline{b}$$

$$L(\underline{x}, \underline{\lambda}) = \underline{x}^T \underline{W} \underline{x} + \underline{\lambda}^T (\underline{A} \underline{x} - \underline{b})$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \underline{x}} = 2 \underline{W} \underline{x} + \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda} = \underline{0} \Rightarrow \underline{W} \underline{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda}$$

$$\underline{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \underline{\lambda}} = \underline{A} \underline{x} - \underline{b} = \underline{0} \Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \underline{A} \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda} - \underline{b} = \underline{0}$$

$$\underline{A} \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda} = -2 \underline{b} \Rightarrow \underline{\lambda} = -2 (\underline{A} \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T)^{-1} \underline{b}$$

$$\text{† since } \underline{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T \underline{\lambda} \Rightarrow \underline{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T (-2) (\underline{A} \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T)^{-1} \underline{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{x} = \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T (\underline{A} \underline{W}^{-1} \underline{A}^T)^{-1} \underline{b}$$

# SVD

## Singular Value Decomposition

$$\underline{A} = \underline{U} \underline{\Sigma} \underline{V}^T$$

$(n \times m)$        $(n \times n)$   $(n \times m)$   $(m \times m)$

$\underline{U}$  = columns are orthonormal (left singular vector matrix)

$$\Rightarrow \underline{U}^T \underline{U} = \underline{I}$$

$(m \times n)(n \times m)$        $(n \times n)$

$\underline{V}$  = columns are orthonormal (right sing. vec. matrix)

$$\Rightarrow \underline{V}^T \underline{V} = \underline{I}$$

$(m \times m)(m \times m)$        $(m \times m)$

$\underline{\Sigma}$  = matrix of singular values

$n \times m$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & \sigma_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \sigma_n & 0 & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$n < m$

We can solve  $\underline{A} \underline{x} = \underline{b}$

(4)

$$(\underline{U} \underline{\Sigma} \underline{V}^T) \underline{x} = \underline{b}$$

$$(\underbrace{\underline{V} \underline{\Sigma}^{-1} \underline{U}^T}_{\underline{I}}) (\underbrace{\underline{U} \underline{\Sigma} \underline{V}^T}_{\underline{I}}) \underline{x} = \underbrace{\underline{V} \underline{\Sigma}^{-1} \underline{U}^T}_{\underline{I}} \underline{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\underline{x} = \underline{V} \underline{\Sigma}^{-1} \underline{U}^T \underline{b}}$$

pinv in MATLAB

for  $n \times n$

$$\underline{\Sigma}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sigma_1 & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 1/\sigma_2 & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & 1/\sigma_n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$n \times n$

## **% parameter fitting as a least squares problem**

```
%
a = 1;
b = 1;
%
t = 0:2:10; % independent variable (creates row vector)
t = t'; % creates column vector
% add some noise
rng('default') % same random sequence each time the script is run
noise = 0.5*randn(6,1);
z = a + b.*t + noise; % measured dependent variable
%
figure(1) % plot of data
plot(t,z,'ko') % black circles for data points
xlabel('t') % xaxis label
ylabel('z') % yaxis label
title('Find best fit of  $z(i) = \alpha + \beta * t(i)$ ')
%
A = [ones(6,1) t];
b = z;
x = inv(A'*A)*A'*b % least squares solution for alpha & beta
%
alpha = x(1);
beta = x(2);
%
zhat = alpha + beta.*t; % model dependent variable
%
figure(2) % compare data and model on same plot
plot(t,z,'ko',t,zhat,'k')
legend('data','model')
xlabel('t')
ylabel('z')
title('Best fit of  $z(i) = \alpha + \beta * t(i)$ ')
%
% alternative to inv in MATLAB
%
xcheck = (A'*A)\A'*b
%
% use pinv -- based on SVD
%
xpinv = pinv(A)*b
%
% note that all three results yielded the same alpha and beta
```

## % flow example

% outlet flow, F4, equals sum of inlet flows, F1+F2+F3

%

% minimize the sum  $F1^2 + F2^2 + F3^2$

% s.t.  $F1+F2+F3 = F4$

% that is,  $\min x'x$ , s.t.  $Ax=b$

%

Aflow = [1 1 1]

bflow = 10

Aflow'\*Aflow

rank(Aflow'\*Aflow)

% Flowvec = (Aflow'\*Aflow)\Aflow'\*bflow (\*\* not invertible! \*\*)

%

% the alternative  $x = A'(AA')^{-1}b$  is better!

%

Flowv = Aflow'\*inv(Aflow\*Aflow')\*bflow

%

% now, use the SVD based method (pinv)

%

Flowvec = pinv(Aflow)\*bflow % pseudo-inverse uses SVD

sum(Flowvec)

%

% illustrate SVD to calculate the generalized inverse

%

[U,S,V] = svd(Aflow)

% using knowledge of dimensions for the next line

FlowvecSVD = V(:,1)\*(1/S(1,1))\*U'\*bflow

%

% -----

% weighted flow example

% valves sized such that valve 1 can handle 4 times as much

% flow as valve 2

% which can handle 4 times as much flow as valve 3

% The following weight matrix is then used

Wflow = [1 0 0; 0 4 0; 0 0 16]

%

% FlowvecW = (Aflow'\*Wflow\*Aflow)\Aflow'\*Wflow\*bflow

Winv = inv(Wflow);

FlowvecW = Winv\*Aflow'\*inv(Aflow\*Winv\*Aflow')\*bflow

sum(FlowvecW)