



EECS 16A

Least Squares Algorithm

Inner Product

- Provide a measure of “similarity” between vectors
- (Euclidian) inner product is also called ‘dot product’

For two vectors $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the inner product is:

$$\langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle = \vec{x}^T \vec{y}$$



Norm

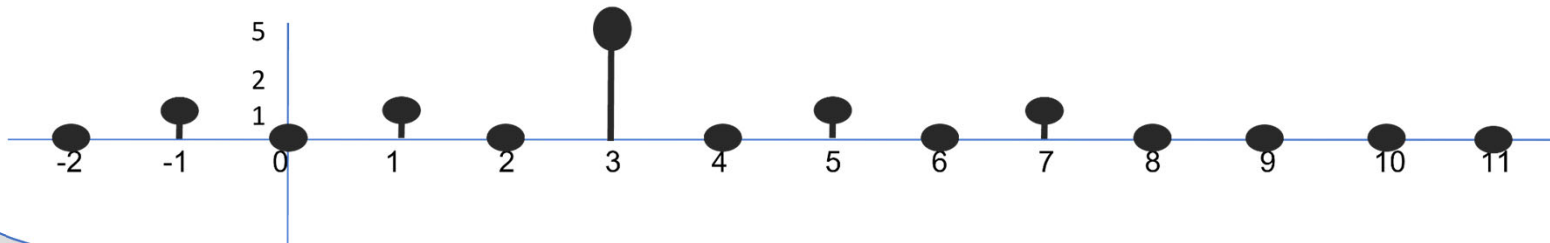
- Provides a measure of “length” of elements in the vector space

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{\langle \vec{v}, \vec{v} \rangle}$$



The cross-correlation between vectors \vec{r} and \vec{s} is:

$$\text{corr}_{\vec{r}}(\vec{s})[k] = \langle r[n], s[n - k] \rangle = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} r[n]s[n - k]$$



How to solve for GPS coordinates:

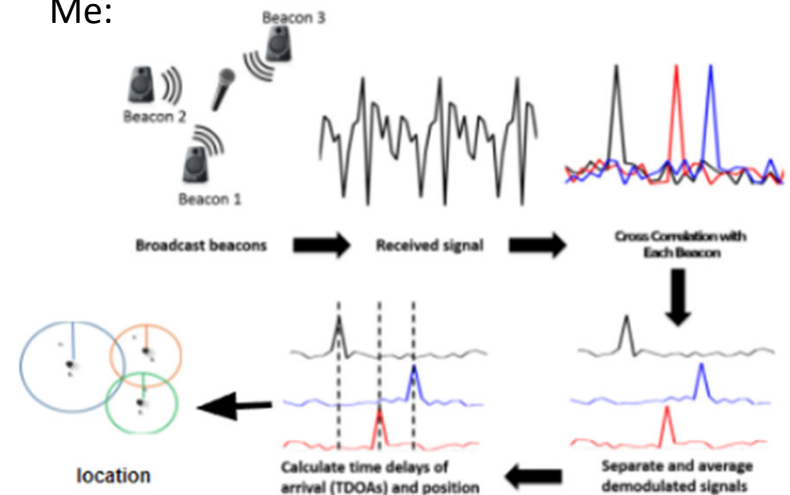
- 1 **Identify** which satellites are 'on'
- 2 Find the **delay/shift** for each satellite
- 3 Use shifts to find **distances** to each satellite
- 4 ~~**Trilateralation**~~ to find my coordinates
Multilateration

Friend: Come over!

Me: I have no idea where i am and all I have is this recording that sounds like trash

Friend: I have chocolate 😊

Me:

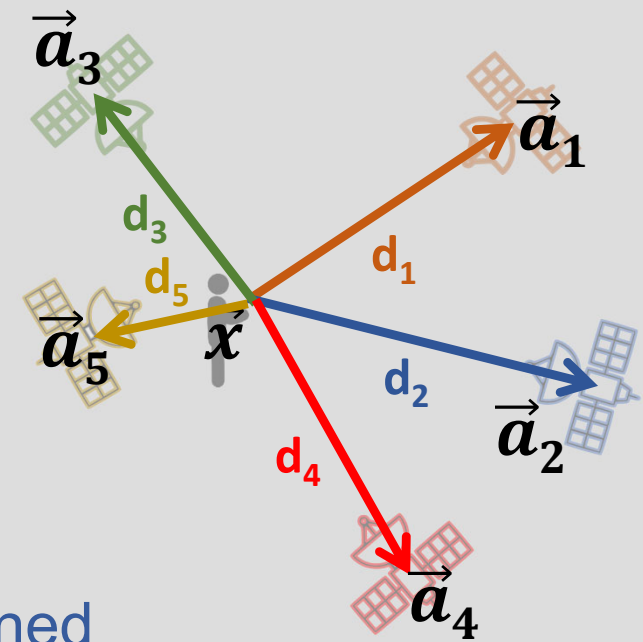


Last time: Multi-Lateration

$$\begin{aligned}2(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2)^T \vec{x} - 2C^2 \Delta\tau_2 \tau_1 &= \|\vec{a}_1\|^2 - \|\vec{a}_2\|^2 + C^2 (\Delta\tau_2)^2 \\2(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_3)^T \vec{x} - 2C^2 \Delta\tau_3 \tau_1 &= \|\vec{a}_1\|^2 - \|\vec{a}_3\|^2 + C^2 (\Delta\tau_3)^2 \\2(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_4)^T \vec{x} - 2C^2 \Delta\tau_4 \tau_1 &= \|\vec{a}_1\|^2 - \|\vec{a}_4\|^2 + C^2 (\Delta\tau_4)^2 \\2(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_5)^T \vec{x} - 2C^2 \Delta\tau_5 \tau_1 &= \|\vec{a}_1\|^2 - \|\vec{a}_5\|^2 + C^2 (\Delta\tau_5)^2\end{aligned}$$

More equations than unknowns!

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \text{Over-determined}$$



Q: What if equations are inconsistent due to noise?

A: Find closest solution with Least-Squares!

Last time: Orthogonal projections

- finding the component along a particular direction
- key idea in Machine learning, Signal processing

Given vectors \vec{a}, \vec{b} , we say that the orthogonal projection of \vec{b} onto \vec{a} is:

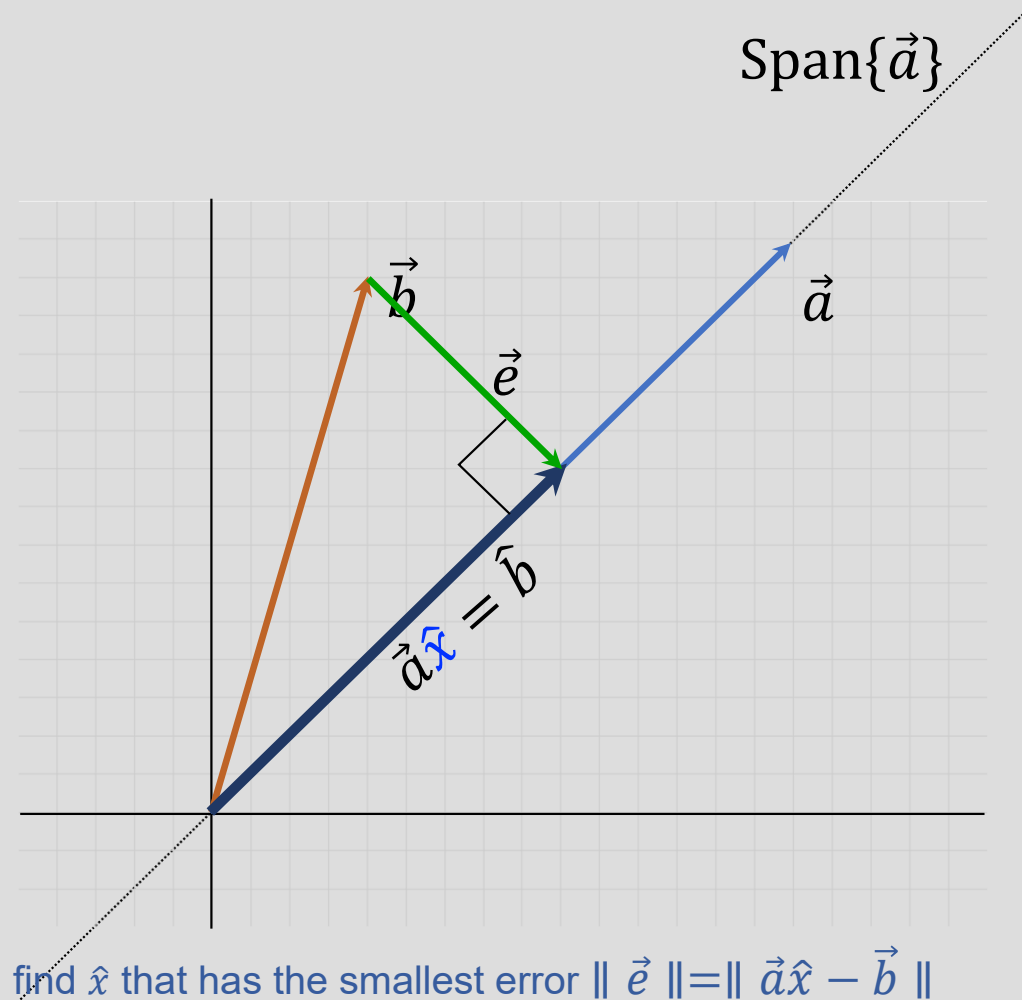
$$\text{Proj}_{\vec{a}}(\vec{b}) = \frac{\vec{a}^T \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|^2} \vec{a}$$

$$\hat{\vec{b}} = \frac{\vec{a}^T \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|^2} \vec{a}$$

$$\hat{\vec{b}} = \vec{a} \hat{x}$$

$$\hat{x} = \frac{\vec{a}^T \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|^2}$$

Least squares solution!



Least squares in 2D

3 equations 2 unknowns:

$$\begin{matrix} & A & \vec{x} & = & \vec{b} \\ \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ a_{31} \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ a_{32} \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} & = & \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad \text{+error}$$

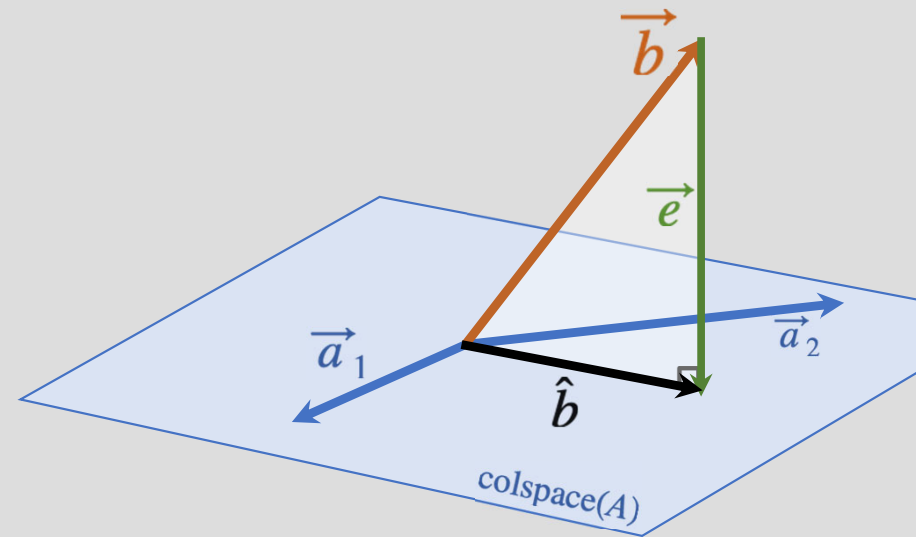
\vec{a}_1 \vec{a}_2

Find \hat{x} that is a solution and has smallest error:

$$\|\vec{e}\| = \|A\hat{x} - \vec{b}\|$$

sol'n will be orthogonal proj. onto $\text{colspace}(A)$

$\vec{b} \notin \text{colspace}(A) \rightarrow$ No solution!
(inconsistent)



Least squares in many-D

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_2 & \dots & \vec{a}_N \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A\vec{x} \in \text{colspace}(A)$$

Find $\hat{\vec{b}} = A\hat{\vec{x}}$ *← estimate that min. error*
← closest measurements that fit model

← column view of $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

$$\vec{e} = \vec{b} - \hat{\vec{b}}$$

The error vector will be $\perp \text{col}(A)$, so $\langle \vec{a}_i, \vec{e} \rangle = 0$
← for all i

$$\langle \vec{a}_i, \vec{b} - \hat{\vec{b}} \rangle = 0$$

$$\vec{a}_i^T (\vec{b} - \hat{\vec{b}}) = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\vec{a}_1^T \\ -\vec{a}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \vec{a}_n^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | \\ \vec{b} - \hat{\vec{b}} \\ | \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0}$$

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

$$A^T \vec{b} - A^T A \hat{\vec{x}} = \vec{0}$$

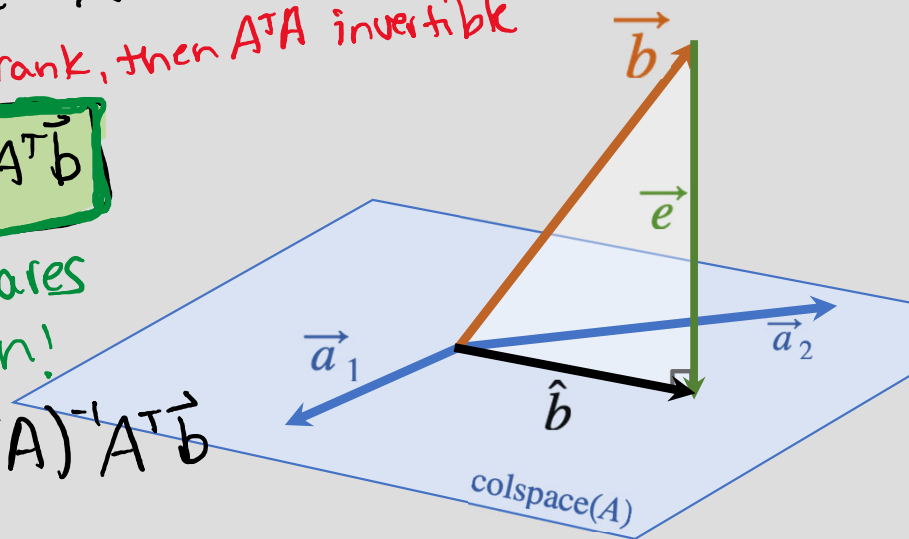
$$A^T A \hat{\vec{x}} = A^T \vec{b}$$

if A full rank, then $A^T A$ invertible

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

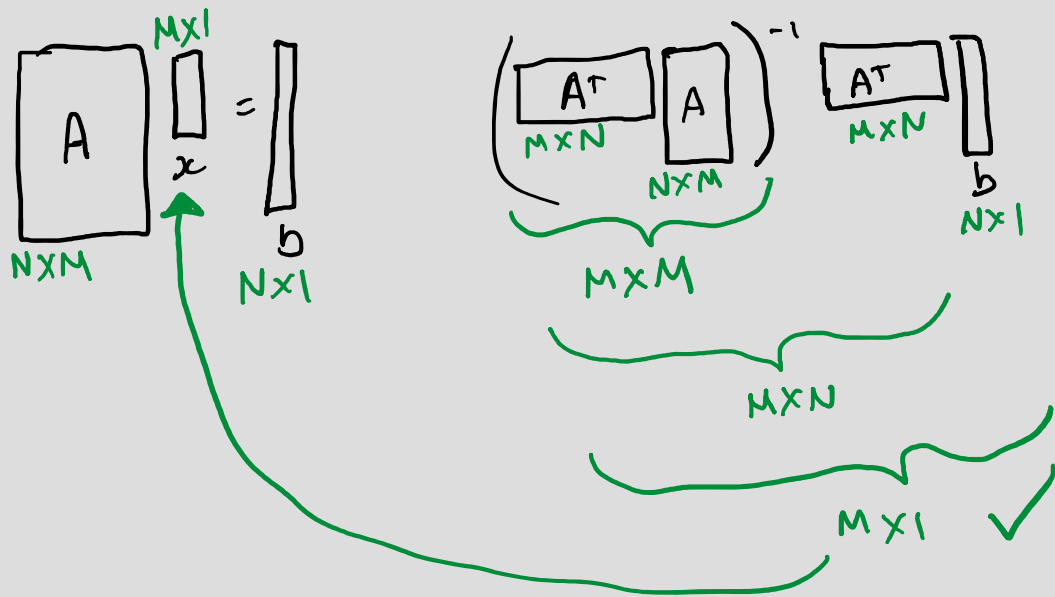
Least squares solution!

$$\hat{\vec{b}} = A (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{b}$$



Least Squares Algorithm

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



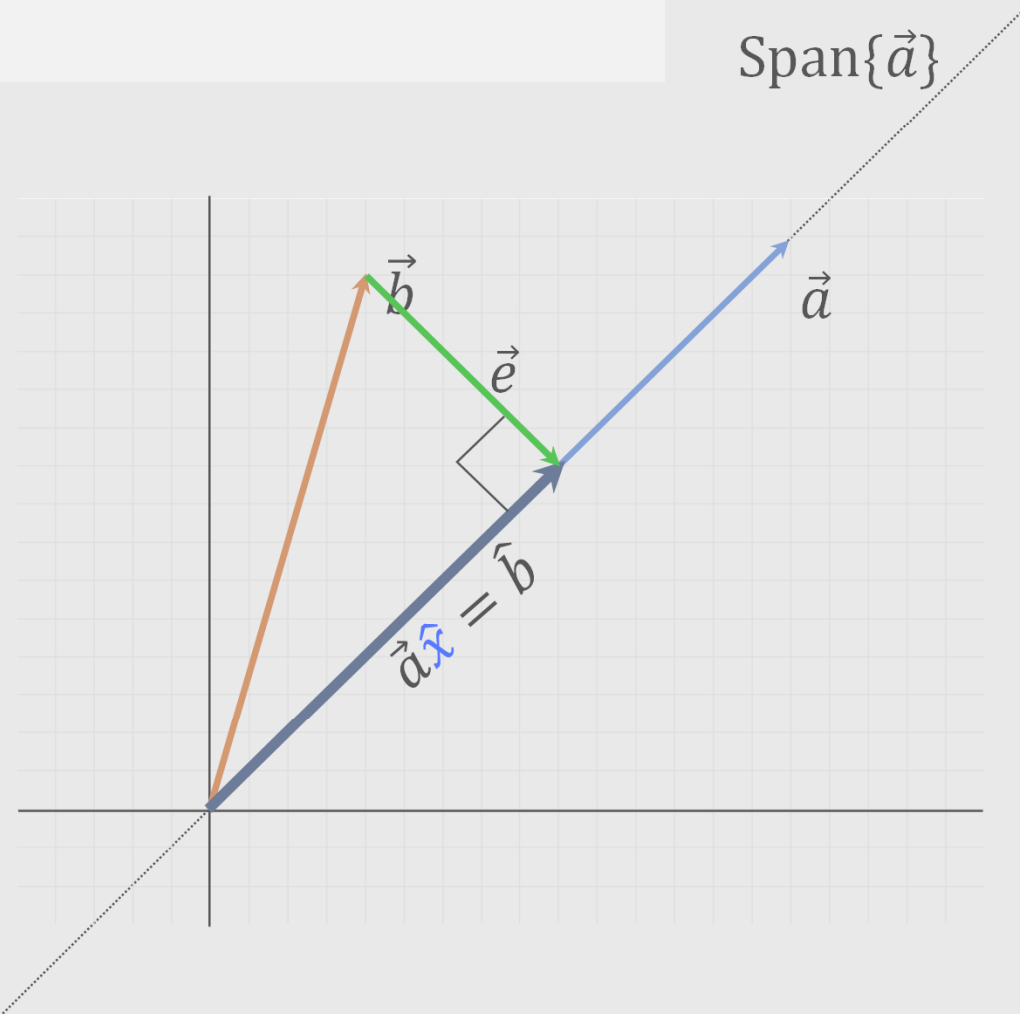
Does it fit with the 1D least squares solution we derived earlier??

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

$$\hat{x} = \frac{\vec{a}^T \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|^2} \text{ Least squares solution!}$$

check:

$$(A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{b} = \left(\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \vec{a}^T \vec{b} = (a_1^2 + a_2^2)^{-1} \vec{a}^T \vec{b} = \vec{a}^T \vec{b} / \|\vec{a}\|^2 \checkmark$$



A vector \perp cols (A) is also \perp to anything else in colspace(A)

Theorem: Consider matrix A, and $\vec{y} \in \text{colspace}(A)$

If $\exists \vec{z}$, such that $\langle \vec{z}, \vec{a}_i \rangle = 0$, then $\langle \vec{z}, \vec{y} \rangle = 0$.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_2 & \dots & \vec{a}_n \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix}$$

col view

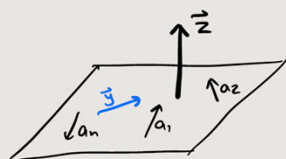
Theorem: Consider matrix A, vector $\vec{y} \in \text{colspace}(A)$

Then, consider vector \vec{z}

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \langle \vec{z}, \vec{a}_1 \rangle = 0 \\ \langle \vec{z}, \vec{a}_2 \rangle = 0 \\ \vdots \\ \langle \vec{z}, \vec{a}_n \rangle = 0 \end{array} \right\} \vec{z} \text{ is orthogonal to all vectors in colspace}(A)$$

then

$$\langle \vec{z}, \vec{y} \rangle = 0$$



Proof: we know $\vec{y} \in \text{colspace}(A)$, so it's a lin. combo. of cols:

$$\vec{y} = c_1 \cdot \vec{a}_1 + c_2 \cdot \vec{a}_2 + c_3 \cdot \vec{a}_3 + \dots + c_n \cdot \vec{a}_n$$

scalar coeffs

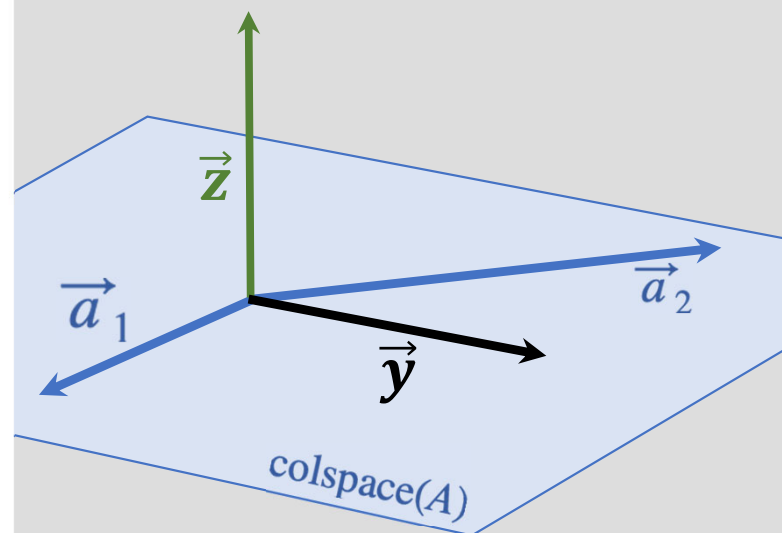
we want

$$\langle \vec{z}, \vec{y} \rangle = 0 \rightarrow \langle \vec{z}, \vec{y} \rangle = \langle \vec{z}, c_1 \vec{a}_1 + c_2 \vec{a}_2 + \dots + c_n \vec{a}_n \rangle$$

$$= \langle \vec{z}, c_1 \vec{a}_1 \rangle + \langle \vec{z}, c_2 \vec{a}_2 \rangle + \dots + \langle \vec{z}, c_n \vec{a}_n \rangle$$

$$= c_1 \langle \vec{z}, \vec{a}_1 \rangle + c_2 \langle \vec{z}, \vec{a}_2 \rangle + \dots + c_n \langle \vec{z}, \vec{a}_n \rangle$$

$$= c_1 (0) + c_2 (0) + \dots + c_n (0) = 0 \quad \checkmark \text{ yay! } \text{ 😊}$$



Least squares: Example 1

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

$$A \vec{x} = \vec{b}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} [x] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 2x=1 \rightarrow x=0.5 \\ 1x=1 \rightarrow x=1 \end{array} \right\} ?? \text{ Inconsistent}$$

Try Gaussian Elimination: $\left[\begin{array}{c|c} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{c|c} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{c|c} 1 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$

No sol'n

Inconsistent

Find Least Squares sol'n:

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

$$= \left(\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (5)^{-1} (3) = \boxed{\frac{3}{5}}$$

$$\hat{b} = A \hat{x}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \frac{3}{5}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 6/5 \\ 3/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{e} = \vec{b} - \hat{b}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 6/5 \\ 3/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1/5 \\ -2/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|\vec{e}\| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{25} + \frac{4}{25}} = \sqrt{\frac{5}{25}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{5}}$$

Why wasn't it average $x=0.75$?

if $\hat{b}' = \begin{bmatrix} 6/4 \\ 3/4 \end{bmatrix}$

$\hat{b}' = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1.5 \end{bmatrix} \frac{3}{4}$

$\vec{e}' = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ -1/4 \end{bmatrix}$

Bigger $\rightarrow \|\vec{e}'\| = \sqrt{\frac{4}{16} + \frac{1}{16}} = \sqrt{\frac{5}{16}}$

Least squares: Example 2

$$A \quad \vec{x} \quad \vec{b}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 2$$

$$x_2 = 3$$

Inconsistent!

Least squares sol'n:

$$(A^T A)^{-1} A^T b = \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

invert diagonals

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

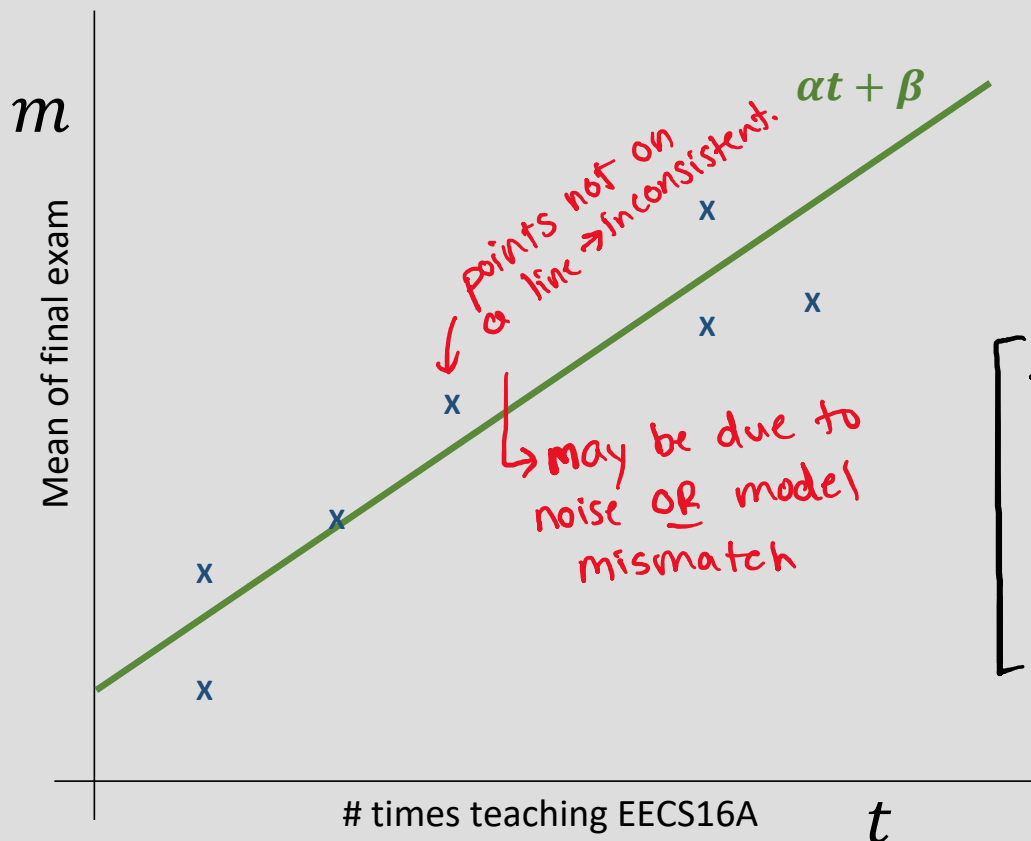
Gauss. Elim.

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

inconsistent

Example 3: Linear Regression

$$\vec{e} = A\hat{p} - \vec{y}$$



Model: $m = \alpha t + \beta$ (fit model params (unknown))

Known:

- Waller: (t_1, m_1)
- Sahai: (t_2, m_2)
- Alon: (t_3, m_3)
- Stojanovic: (t_4, m_4)
- Ranade: (t_5, m_5)
- Courtade: (t_6, m_6)
- Liu: (t_7, m_7)

known data

$$\begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \\ \vdots \\ t_7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \\ m_3 \\ \vdots \\ m_7 \end{bmatrix}$$

A $\vec{x} = \vec{b}$

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

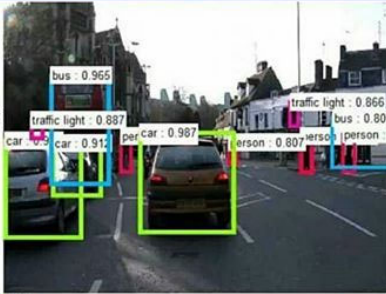
times taught

mean of final exam

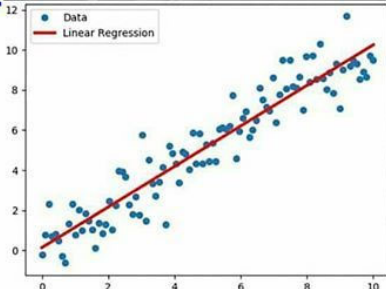
BUT, not everything fits to a line!?!

Online Courses

What they promise you will learn



What you actually learn



The top image shows a street scene with several objects highlighted by bounding boxes. Each box is labeled with a classification score: 'bus : 0.965', 'traffic light : 0.887', 'car : 0.912', 'per car : 0.987', 'person : 0.807', 'traffic light : 0.866', and 'bus : 0.807'. The bottom image is a scatter plot with 'Data' points (blue dots) and a 'Linear Regression' line (red line). The x-axis ranges from 0 to 10, and the y-axis ranges from 0 to 12. The data points show a strong positive correlation, but there is significant scatter around the regression line.



“Using a term like nonlinear science is like referring to the bulk of zoology as the study of non-elephant animals.” – S. Ulam

Example 4: Regression

↙ planet

Gauss found Ceres by using Kepler's laws:

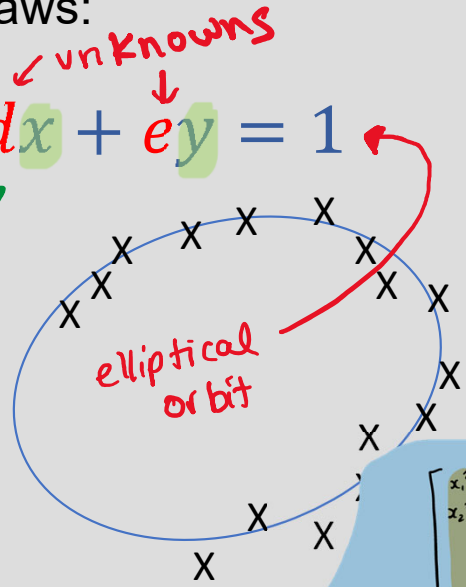
Model: $ax^2 + by^2 + cxy + dx + ey = 1$

↙ unknowns

↗ knows!

Q: Is this a linear fit?

A: Yes!

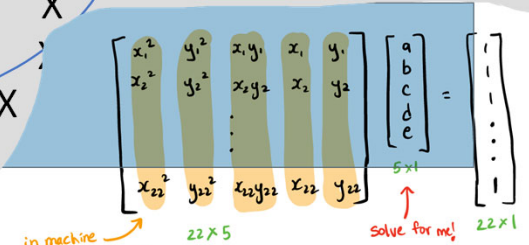


$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 & y_1^2 & x_1 y_1 & x_1 & y_1 \\ x_2^2 & y_2^2 & x_2 y_2 & x_2 & y_2 \\ x_3^2 & y_3^2 & x_3 y_3 & x_3 & y_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_N^2 & y_N^2 & x_N y_N & x_N & y_N \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \\ e \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\vec{p} \vec{y}

$$\hat{p} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T y$$

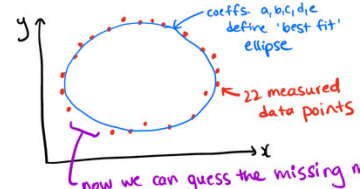
↳ get computer to do it!



22 equations, 5 unknowns
'Overdetermined'

in machine learning, cols are called 'features'

solve for me!



*Gauss did this by hand!
We have Jupyter notebooks so can be lazy 😊 yay!
(see slides or 'Ceres-orbit' notebook)

Least-squares is building block for all of signal processing/machine learning/pattern matching

Example 5: Exponential Regression

Model: $y = ce^{ax}$

Q: Is this a linear fit?

A: No! But, can be made linear.....

New Model: $\log(y) = \log c + ax = b + ax$

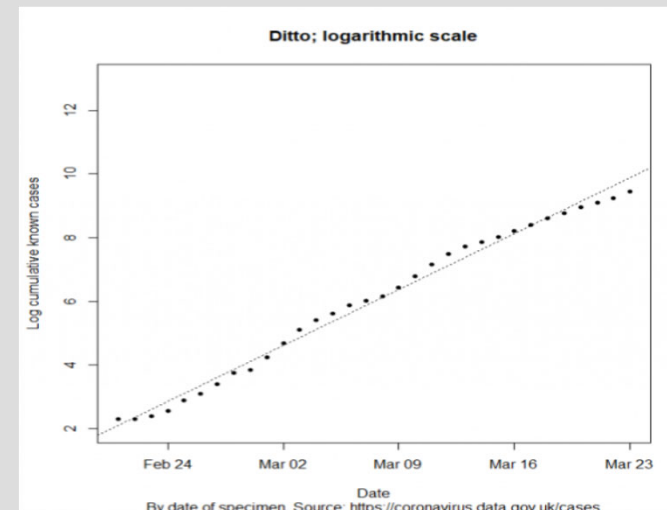
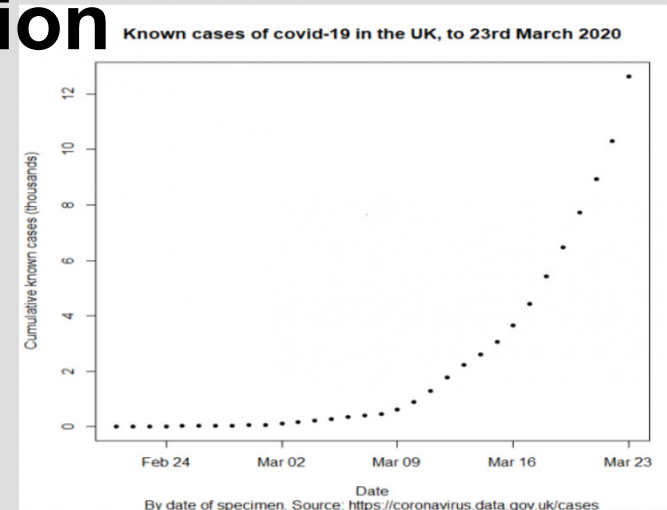
Knowns: $(x_1, \log(y_1))(x_2, \log(y_2))..(x_N, \log(y_N))$

Unknowns: $\vec{p} = [a \ b]^T$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_N & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \log y_1 \\ \log y_2 \\ \vdots \\ \log y_N \end{bmatrix}$$

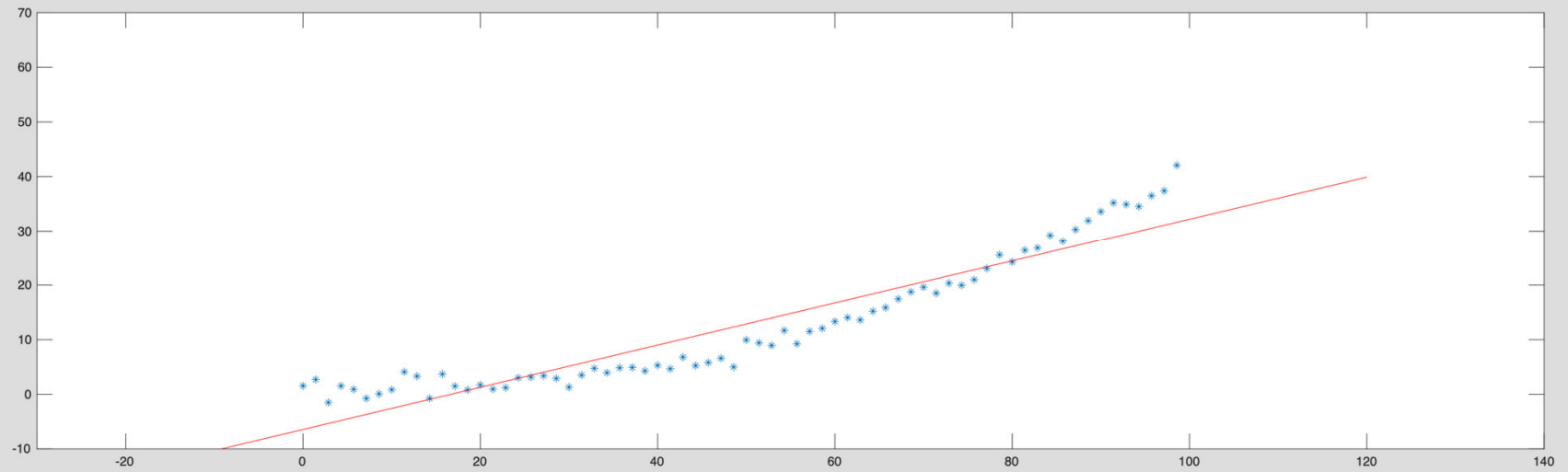
$$\hat{p} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{y}$$

$$\hat{c} = e^{\hat{b}}$$



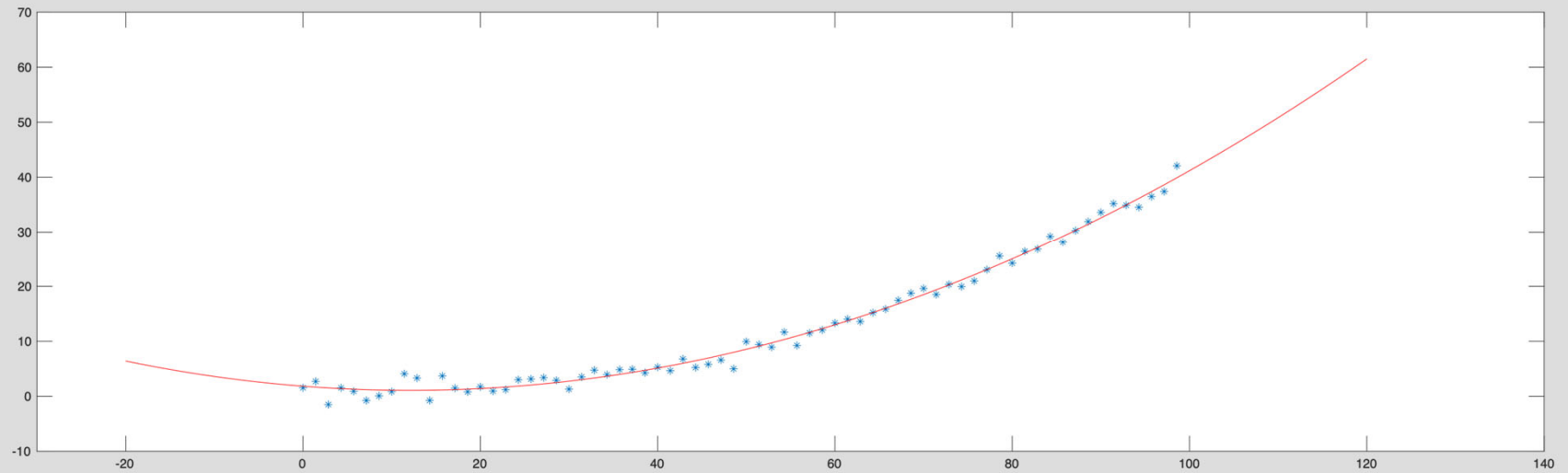
Example 6: Model Order Selection

Model: $y = ax + b$



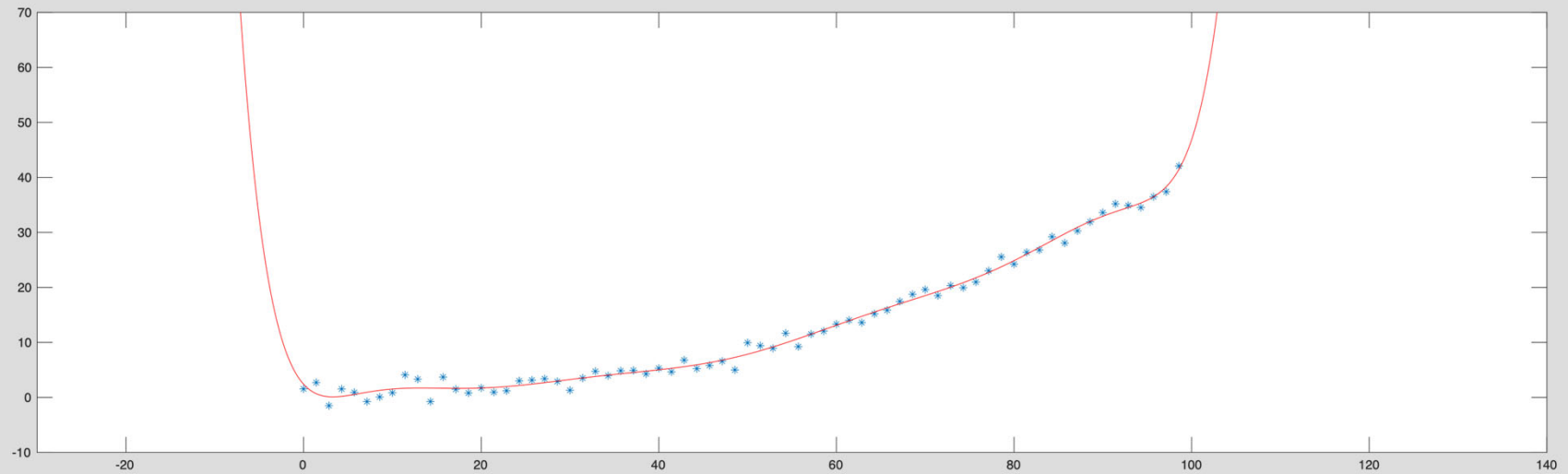
Example 6: Model Order Selection

Model: $y = ax^2 + bx + c$



Example 6: Model Order Selection

Model: $y = ax^{10} + bx^9 + cx^8 + dx^7 + ex^6 + fx^5 + gx^4 + hx^3 + ix^2 +$



Example 6: Model Order Selection

