

# Modelling 1

SUMMER TERM 2020



## LECTURE 14

# Least-Squares

# Least-Squares Fitting

# Approximation

## Common Situation:

- Many data points
  - Noisy data
  - Measurements, 3D scans, ...
- Approximate with simple curve / surface

## What we need:

- What is a good approximation?
- How to compute?


# Approximation Techniques

## Agenda:

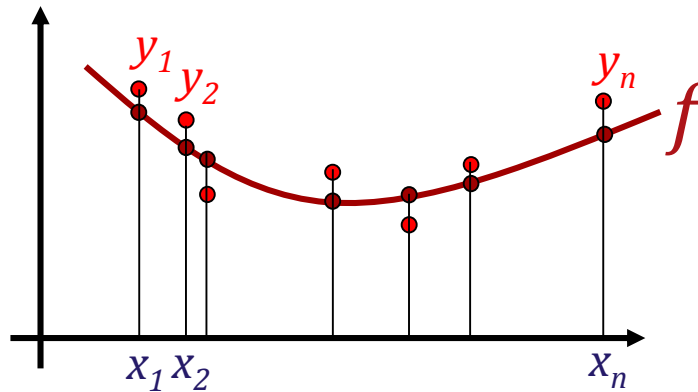
- Least-squares approximation  
(and why/when this makes sense)
- Iteratively reweighted least-squares  
(for nasty noise distributions)
- Total least-squares linear approximation  
(get rid of the coordinate system)

# Least-Squares

## Scenario for now:

- Function values  $y_i$  at positions  $x_i$  (1D  $\rightarrow$  1D)
    - Independent variables  $x_i$  known exactly.
    - Dependent variables  $y_i$  with some error.
  - Error Gaussian, i.i.d. 
    - *normal distributed*
    - *independent*
    - *same distribution* at every point
  - Class of functions (basis) known
- i.i.d. = "independent, identically distributed"*

# Situation



## Situation:

- Sample points taken at  $x_i$  from original  $f$ .
- Unknown Gaussian i.i.d. noise added to each  $y_i$ .
- Reconstruct  $\tilde{f}$ .

# Summary

**Statistical model:** least-squares criterion

$$\arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2$$

**Linear ansatz:** quadratic objective

$$\tilde{f}_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j(x) \rightarrow \arg \min_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \left( \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j(x_i) \right) - y_i \right)^2$$

**Critical point:** linear system

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{b}_k, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \mathbf{b}_k, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} \langle \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{b}_j \rangle := \sum_{t=1}^n b_i(x_t) \cdot b_j(x_t) \\ \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_i \rangle := \sum_{t=1}^n y_t \cdot b_i(x_t) \end{cases}$$

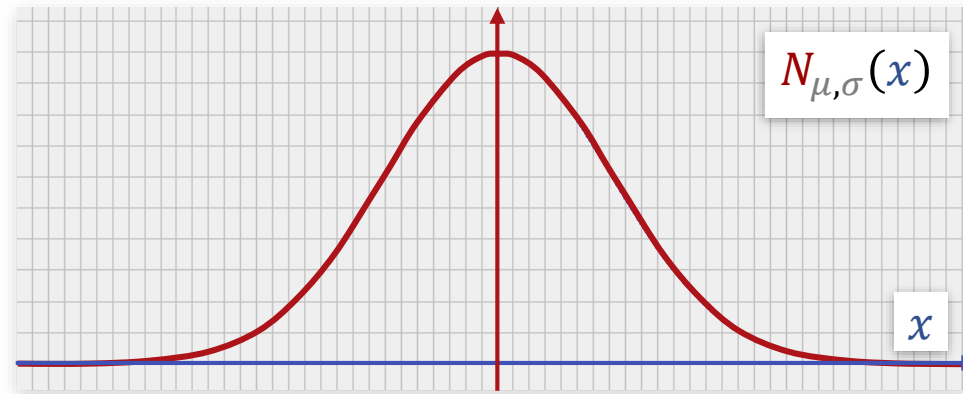
# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

## Goal:

- Maximize probability of  $\tilde{f}$ 
  - Probability that measured data originated from  $\tilde{f}$
- “Maximum likelihood estimation”



# Error Model



Gaussian  
normal  
distribution

$$N_{\mu, \sigma}(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

## Assumption

- Error normal distributed
  - Independent for each data point
- Gaussian noise: maximum entropy for given variance
  - Unstructured noise

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

$$\begin{aligned}\arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \prod_{i=1}^n N_{0,\sigma}(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i) &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \\ &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \ln \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \right] \\ &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \left( \ln \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) - \frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \\ &= \arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( + \frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \\ &= \arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2\end{aligned}$$

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

$$\begin{aligned}\arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \prod_{i=1}^n N_{0,\sigma}(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i) &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \\ &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \ln \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \right] \\ &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \left( \ln \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) - \frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \\ &= \arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma^2} \\ &= \arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2\end{aligned}$$

# Least-Squares Approximation

## We have shown

- *Maximum likelihood estimate minimizes sum of squared errors*

## Next: Compute optimal coefficients

- Linear ansatz:  $\tilde{f}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j(x)$
- Determine optimal  $\lambda_i$

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

## Notation

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ b_k(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}_i = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_i(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ b_i(x_n) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}$$

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ b_k(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}_i = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_i(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ b_i(x_n) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\tilde{f}(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)^2 &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i \right)^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{b}^T(\mathbf{x}_i) \right] \boldsymbol{\lambda} - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ b_k(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}_i = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_i(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ b_i(x_n) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2 &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j(x_i) - y_i \right)^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \mathbf{b}(x_i) - y_i)^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{b}(x_i) \mathbf{b}^T(x_i) \right] \boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}} - 2 \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \mathbf{b}(x_i)}_{\mathbf{b} \mathbf{x}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2}_c \\ &\rightarrow \text{quadratic optimization problem} \end{aligned}$$

# Critical Point

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ b_k(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}_i = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_i(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ b_i(x_n) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}$$

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$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \left( \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{b}(x_i) \mathbf{b}^T(x_i) \right] \boldsymbol{\lambda} - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \mathbf{b}(x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 \right) \longleftarrow \text{Find minimum (critical point)}$$

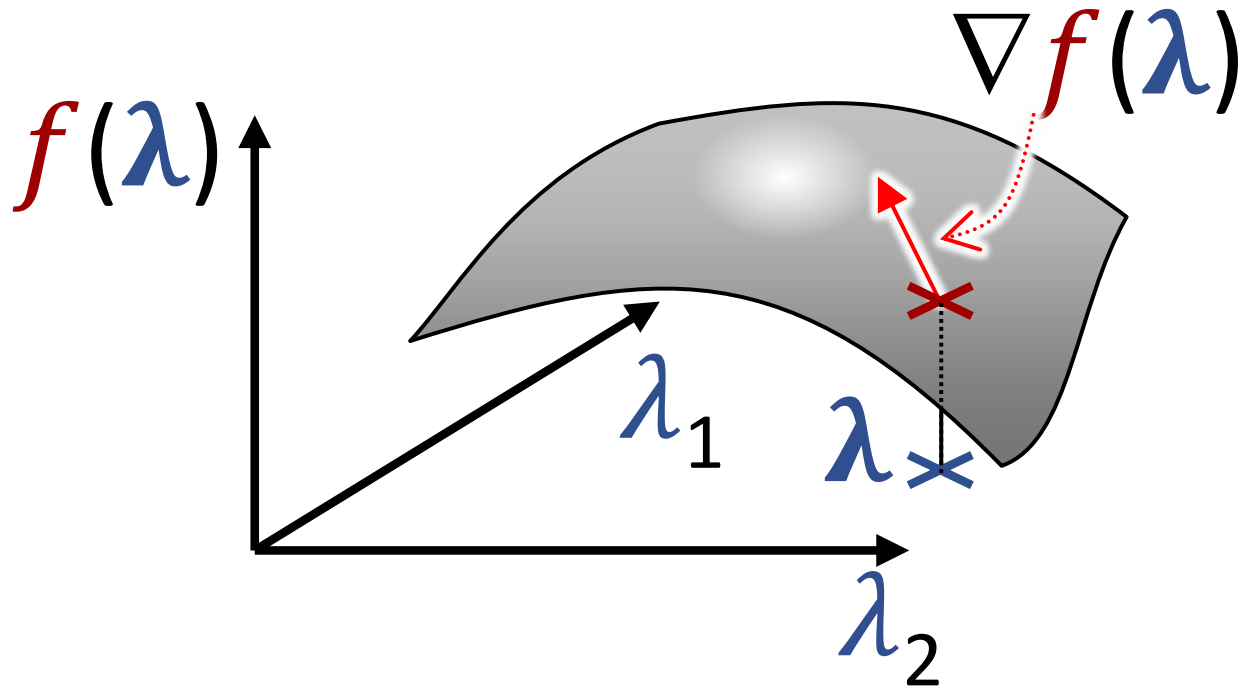
$$= 2 \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{b}(x_i) \mathbf{b}^T(x_i) \right] \boldsymbol{\lambda} - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \mathbf{b}(x_i)$$

**Linear System:**

$$\left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{b}(x_i) \mathbf{b}^T(x_i) \right] \boldsymbol{\lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{b}_k \end{pmatrix}$$



# Gradient



# Critical Point

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ b_k(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow k \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{b}_i = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_i(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ b_i(x_n) \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\updownarrow n \text{ entries}}$$

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## Linear System

$$\left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{b}(x_i) \mathbf{b}^T(x_i) \right] \boldsymbol{\lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{b}_k \end{pmatrix}$$

Can be written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{b}_k, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \mathbf{b}_k, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } \begin{cases} \langle \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{b}_j \rangle := \sum_{t=1}^n b_i(x_t) \cdot b_j(x_t) \\ \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_i \rangle := \sum_{t=1}^n y_t \cdot b_i(x_t) \end{cases}$$

# Summary (again)

**Statistical model:** least-squares criterion

$$\arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2$$

**Linear ansatz:** quadratic objective

$$\tilde{f}_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j(x) \rightarrow \arg \min_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \left( \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j(x_i) \right) - y_i \right)^2$$

**Critical point:** linear system

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{b}_k, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \mathbf{b}_k, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} \langle \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{b}_j \rangle := \sum_{t=1}^n b_i(x_t) \cdot b_j(x_t) \\ \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_i \rangle := \sum_{t=1}^n y_t \cdot b_i(x_t) \end{cases}$$

# Variants

## Weighted least squares:

- Varying noise level
  - Varying standard deviations  $\sigma_i$
- Weighted least squares problem
- Noisier points have smaller influence

Same procedure as prev. slides...

$$\begin{aligned} \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \prod_{i=1}^n N_{0, \sigma_i}(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i) &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right) \\ &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \ln \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right) \right] \\ &= \arg \max_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \left( \ln \frac{1}{\sigma_i \sqrt{2\pi}} \right) - \frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2} \right) \\ &= \arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2} \\ &= \arg \min_{\tilde{f}} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} (\tilde{f}(x_i) - y_i)^2 \end{aligned}$$

difference:

$$\sigma \rightarrow \sigma_i$$

# Result

**Linear system for the general case:**

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{b}_k, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \mathbf{b}_k, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} \langle \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{b}_j \rangle := \sum_{t=1}^n b_i(x_t) \cdot b_j(x_t) \cdot \omega^2(x_t) \\ \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{b}_i \rangle := \sum_{t=1}^n y_t \cdot b_i(x_t) \cdot \omega^2(x_t) \end{cases}$$

$$\omega^2(x_t) = \frac{1}{\sigma_t^2}, \text{ i.e. } \omega(x_t) = \frac{1}{\sigma_t}$$

**Larger  $\omega$   $\rightarrow$  larger influence of data point**

# Least-Squares Linear Systems

## Least-squares solution to general linear system

- Consider

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

- Least-squares formulation

$$\begin{aligned} & \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d} (\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b})^2 \\ & = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d} (\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{Ax} - 2\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{b}) \end{aligned}$$

- Critical point: gradient = zero

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$$

- “System of normal equations”

# SVD

## Problem with normal equations:

- *Condition number* for normal equations  
= (*condition number* of  $\mathbf{A}$ )<sup>2</sup>
- Proof
  - SVD:  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{V}^T$
  - $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{U} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{V}^T = \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{D}^2 \mathbf{V}$
- More stable (for bad problems)
  - Use SVD:
  - $\mathbf{A}^{-1} \approx \mathbf{A}^+ = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{D}^+ \mathbf{U}^T$   
( $^+$  = pseudo-inverse, do not invert zero singular values)
- Effect: Pick smallest solution to normal Equations



# Connection to Least-Squares Approx.

## Equivalent results:

- Least-squares fitting of basis functions to data  
*same as*
- Setting up over-constrained interpolation problem
- Then solve system of normal equations
  - Or pseudoinverse

## Proof

- Elementary: Compare resulting equations

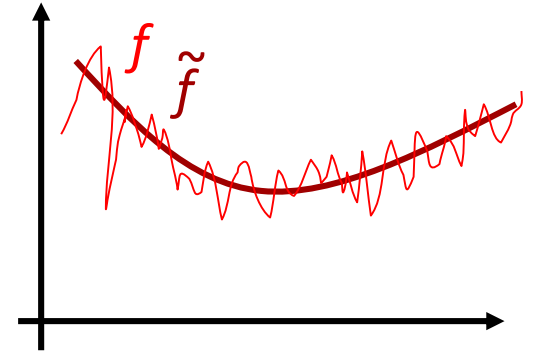
# One more Variant...

## Function Approximation

- Function given
  - $f: \Omega \supseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
  - Approximate by

$$\tilde{f}_\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i b_i$$

- Difference: Continuous function as “data”
- Almost the same solution...



# Function Approximation

## Objective function:

- $\|\tilde{f}(\mathbf{x}) - f\|^2 \rightarrow \min$
- Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i b_i - f \right\|^2 &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i b_i - f, \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i b_i - f \right\rangle \\ &= \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \begin{pmatrix} \langle b_1, b_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle b_k, b_1 \rangle \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \langle b_1, b_k \rangle & \cdots & \langle b_k, b_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\lambda} - \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \langle b_i, f \rangle + \langle f, f \rangle \end{aligned}$$

# Function Approximation

**Critical point (i.e., solution):**

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle b_1, b_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle b_k, b_1 \rangle \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \langle b_1, b_k \rangle & \cdots & \langle b_k, b_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle f, b_1 \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle f, b_k \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

**with:**

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{\Omega} f(\mathbf{x})g(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x}, (\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^D) \quad (\text{unweighted version})$$

**or**

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{\Omega} f(\mathbf{x})g(\mathbf{x})\omega^2(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x}, (\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^D) \quad (\text{weighted version})$$

# Galerkin Approximation

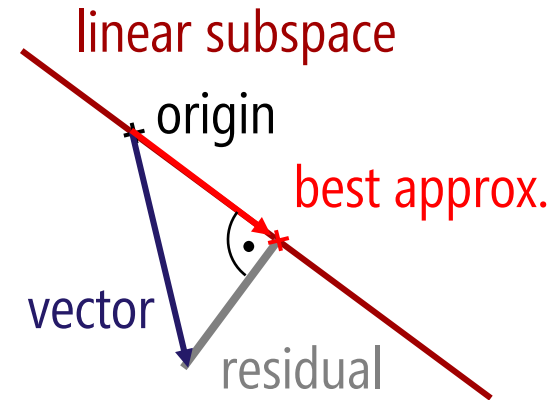
**Least-squares criterion (here) equivalent to:**

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, k\}: \left\langle \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j - f, b_i \right\rangle = 0$$

residual                      each basis function

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall i \in \{1, \dots, k\}: \left\langle \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j b_j, b_i \right\rangle = \langle f, b_i \rangle$$

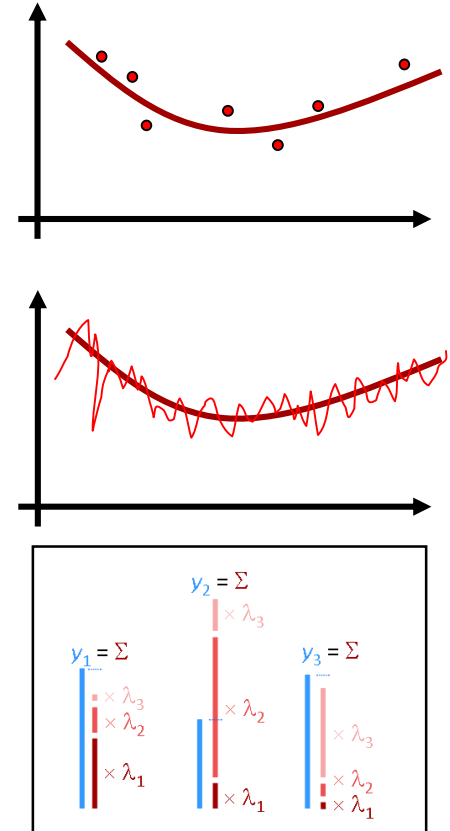
$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \langle b_1, b_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle b_k, b_1 \rangle \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \langle b_1, b_k \rangle & \cdots & \langle b_k, b_k \rangle \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle f, b_1 \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle f, b_k \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$



# Summary

## What we can do so far:

- Least-squares approximation:
  - Fit linear combination to data points
- Variants
  - Solve linear systems approximately
  - Fit functions to functions
- Extensions
  - Weights model varying uncertainty
  - The multi-dimensional case is similar



# Remaining problems

## What is missing:

- Gaussian noise only
  - Iteratively reweighted least-squares (M-estimators)
- Errors in  $\mathbf{x}$ -direction are ignored
  - Total least-squares