

# AESB2440: Geostatistics & Remote Sensing

## Least Squares

Lecture 6, May 1, 2015,

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# Least Squares

## Least Squares

- Measurement redundancy
- Optimal fit
- Minimizing fit error
- Least Squares Solution

## Fit examples

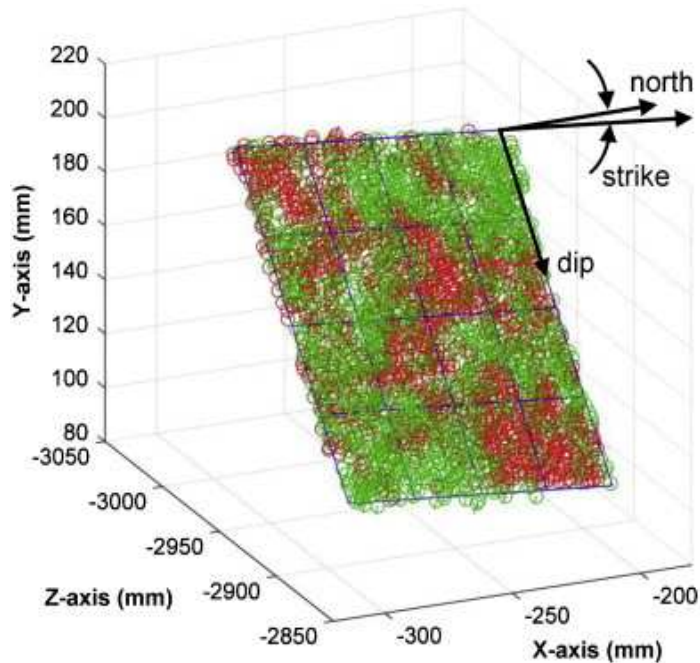
- Velocity example
- Plane examples
- Curve fitting
- Changes in the Texel dunes

## Weighted least squares

- incorporating measurement quality

# Digital Terrain Analysis

First start: look at planes!



Planes give you:

- Surface Approximation
- Surface Orientation
- Surface Slope
- Surface Roughness

Later: look at derivatives.

Image source: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1365160912001724>

# A. Least Squares

# Least Squares References

Linear Algebra and its applications, Lay, D.C.,  
3rd edition, Addison Wesley (2003).

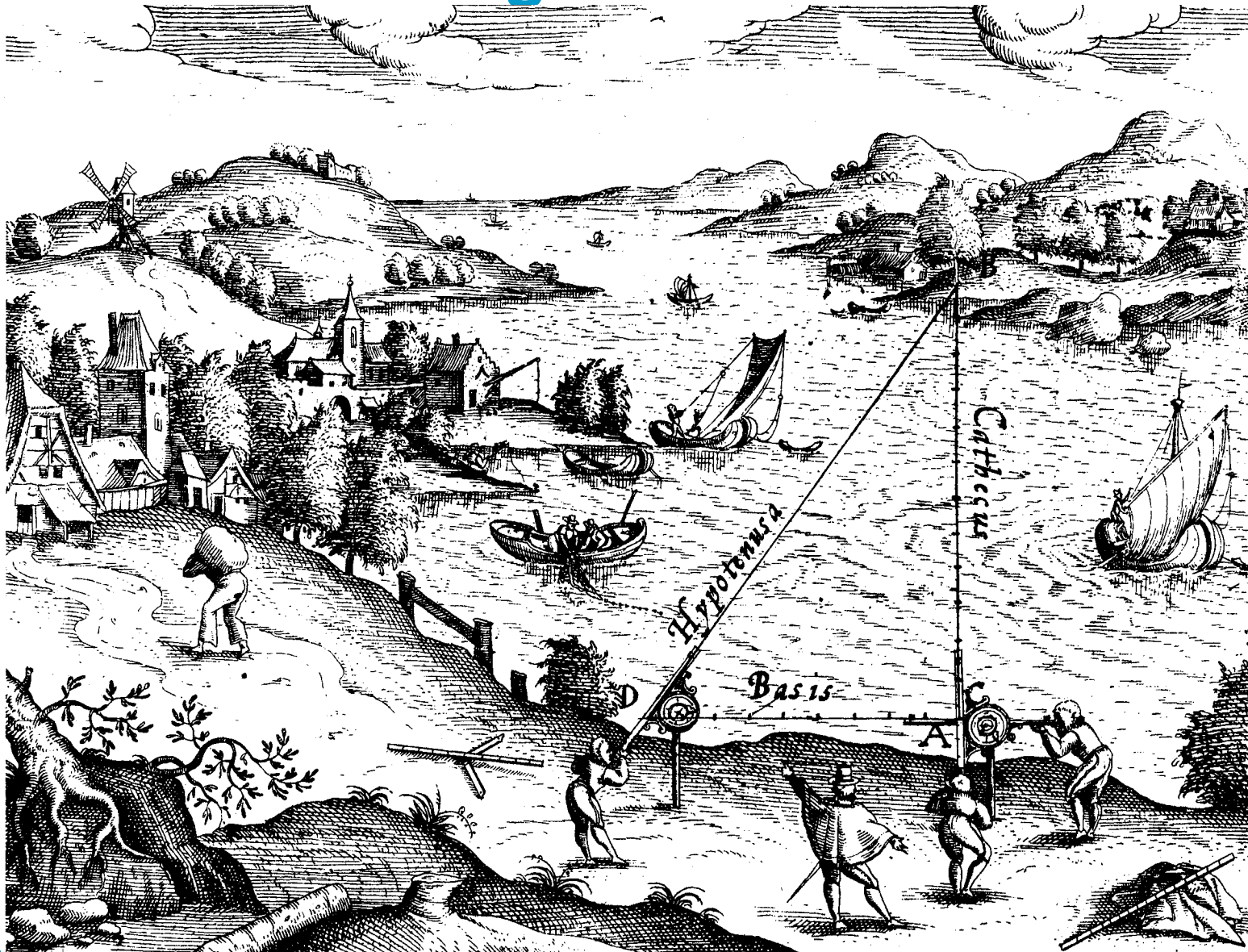
Notably Chapter 6.5: Least-Squares Problems

Primer on Mathematical Geodesy, C.C.J.M. Tiberius,  
TU Delft, Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geosciences, (2014).

Available as pdf via Blackboard

(Notably Chapter 4)

# Gauss: measuring the Earth



Source [http://www.ajaloomuseum.ut.ee/vvebook/pages/85\\_51.html](http://www.ajaloomuseum.ut.ee/vvebook/pages/85_51.html)

# Measurement Redundancy

## Question.

How many points in 3D are needed to estimate a plane?

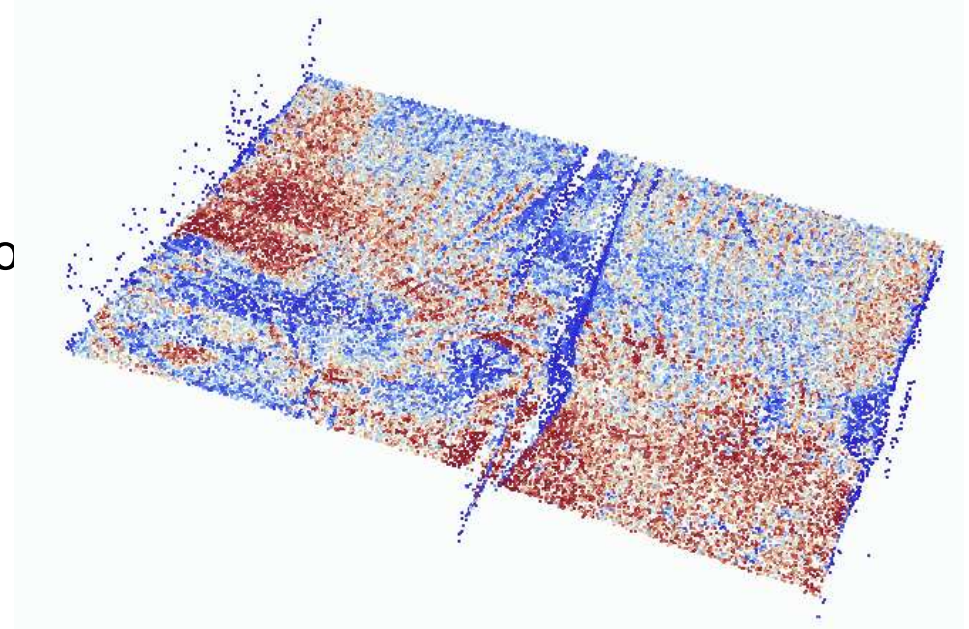
## Question.

How many parameters are needed to fix an arbitrary plane in 3D?

The (measurement) **redundancy** is:

- the number of observations,  $m$ , used for an estimation
- minus the number of parameters,  $n$ , used to describe the geometric model

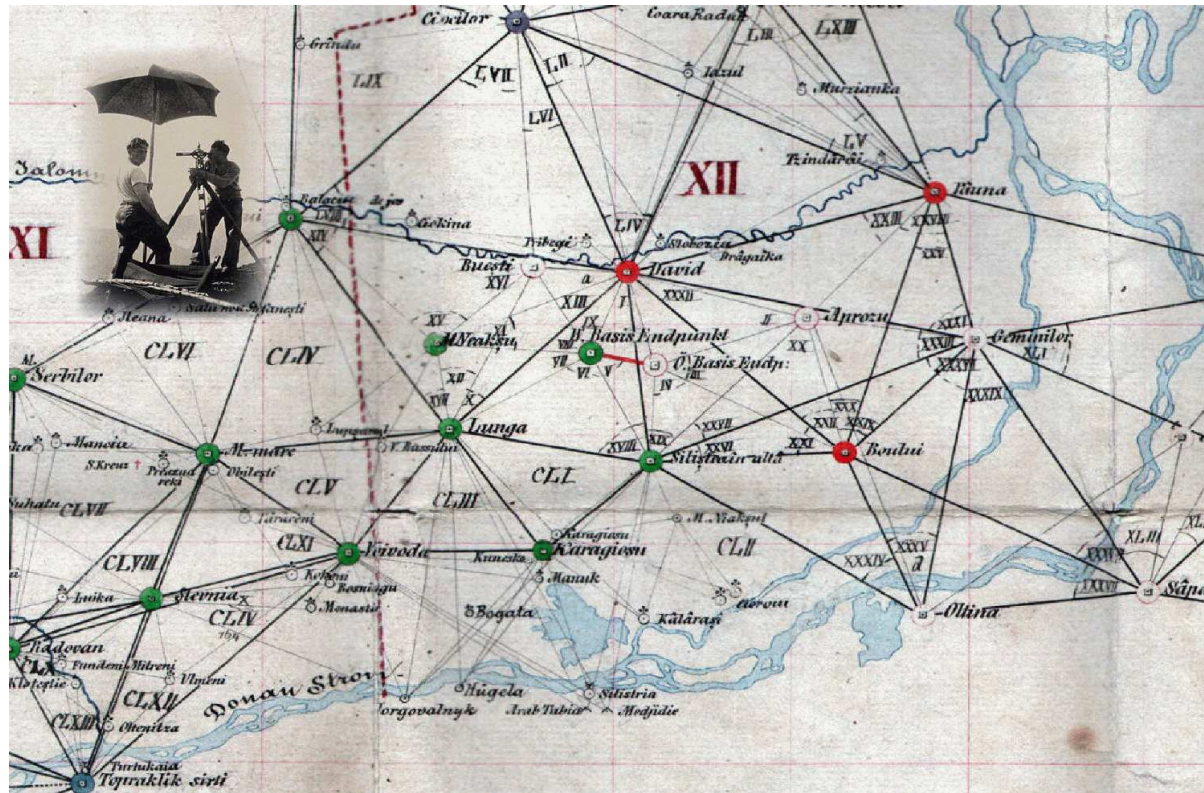
Often,  $m \gg n$ .



## Example.

Wooden (planar) beam face sampled by 50 000 laser scan points.

# Redundancy in triangulation networks



Measuring more than strictly necessary enables **error identification**

Source <https://confluence.gps.nl/display/KBE/Howto+Computation+Setup>



# Linear system

**Input:**  $m$  measurements  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m$

**Output:** (Wished)  $n$  parameters  $x_1, \dots, x_n$

**Assumption:** Measurements have a **linear** relationship with the parameters.

That is, for each  $y_i, i = 1, \dots, m$  we may write

$$y_i = a_{i1}x_1 + a_{i2}x_2 + \dots + a_{in}x_n$$

To establish the relation: determine the unknown values of the **coefficients**

$$a_{ij}, \quad \text{with} \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad \text{and} \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

In matrix form: with  $A = a_{ij}$  the **matrix of coefficients**,  $\mathbf{y} = \{y_1, \dots, y_m\}$  the **vector of observations**, and  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  the **parameter vector** we get:

$$\mathbf{y} = A\mathbf{x}$$

# Least Squares

- $\mathbf{y}$  - Vector of observations
- $A$  - Model matrix
- $\mathbf{x}$  - Vector of model parameters
- $\mathbf{e}$  - Vector of residuals, or, mismatches between observations and model

Given: the observations

Assumed: a model, describing the physical or mathematical reality or geometry, so

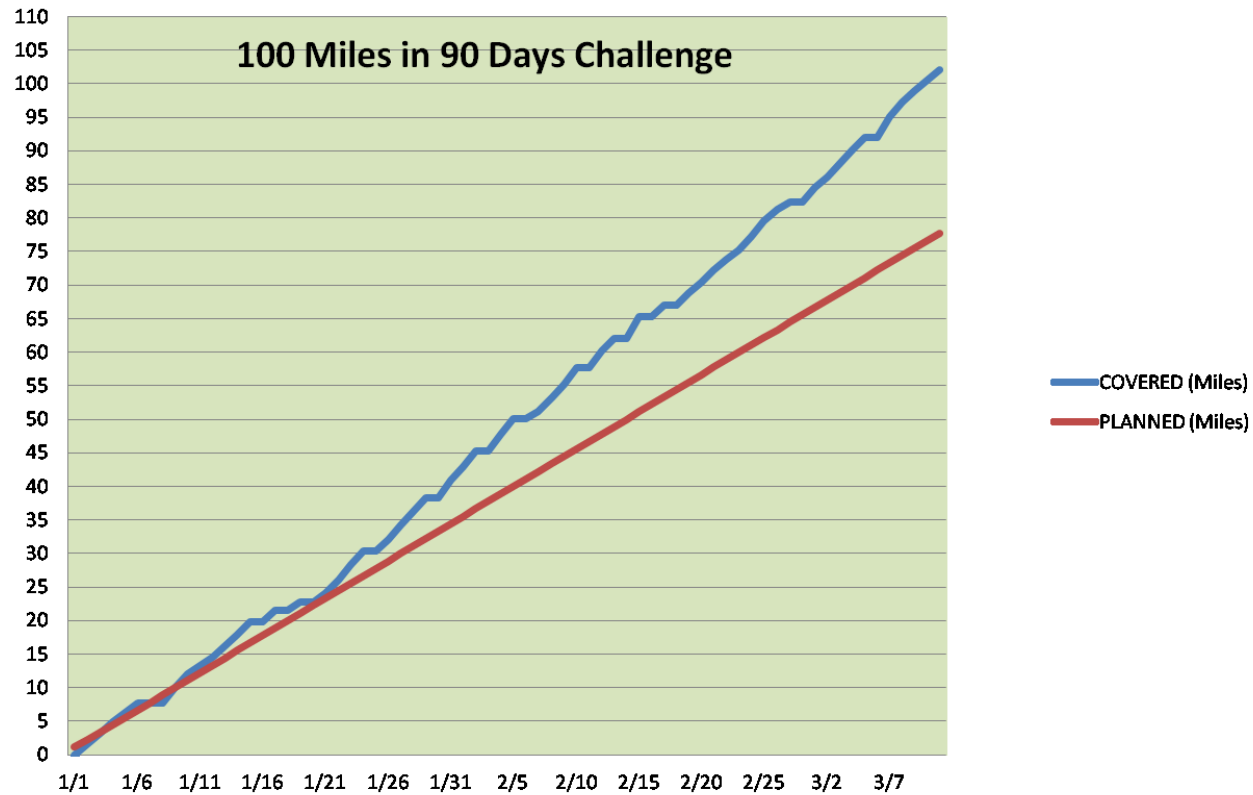
$$\mathbf{y} = A \cdot \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}$$

Wanted: best choice for the parameters of the model

⇒ Minimize the errors in some sense

**Definition.** **Best:** Minimize the squares of the errors:  $\mathbf{e}^T \cdot \mathbf{e}$

# Covered distance example



Source <http://personapaper.com/article/26547-100-miles-in-90-days---final-progress-report>

# Velocity Example

The covered distance  $d(t)$  is assumed to depend linearly on the constant velocity:

$$d(t) = v \cdot t$$

Suppose covered distances  $y_1$ ,  $y_2$  and  $y_3$  are observed at moments  $t = 2$ ,  $t = 3$  and  $t = 4$ . What was the velocity  $v$ ?

[Proof.]

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x} = x = v$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{y} - A \cdot x = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 - 2v \\ y_2 - 3v \\ y_3 - 4v \end{pmatrix}$$

We try to minimize the mean error in the least squares sense:

# Solution velocity example

[Proof.] So find  $v$  such that

$$\mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{e}(v) = (y_1 - 2v)^2 + (y_2 - 3v)^2 + (y_3 - 4v)^2$$

is minimal. The expression  $\mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{e}(v)$  has a minimum  $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dv} \mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{e}(v) &= 0 \\ -2[(y_1 - 2v)2 + (y_2 - 3v)3 + (y_3 - 4v)4] &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Or, after reordering:

$$2y_1 + 3y_2 + 4y_3 = 2 \cdot 2v + 3 \cdot 3v + 4 \cdot 4v$$

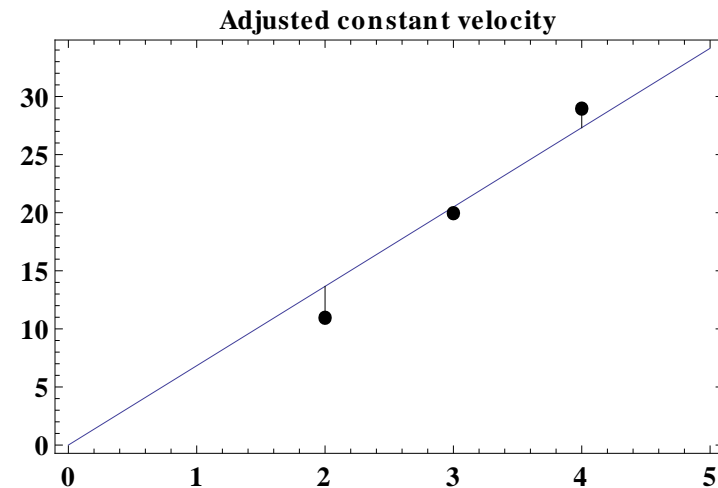
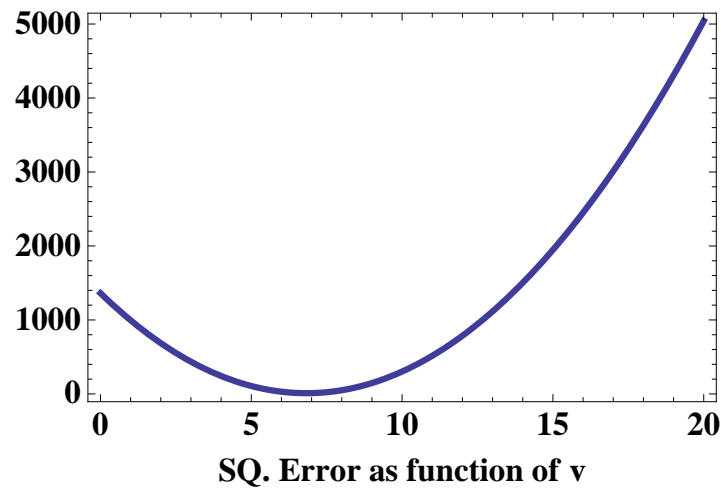
So,

$$v = \frac{2y_1 + 3y_2 + 4y_3}{2 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 3 + 4 \cdot 4} = \frac{A^T \mathbf{y}}{A^T A}$$

# Illustration, velocity example

[Proof.] Take  $y_1 = 11$ ,  $y_2 = 20$  and  $y_3 = 29$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{e}(v) &= (y_1 - 2v)^2 + (y_2 - 3v)^2 + (y_3 - 4v)^2 \\ &= 1362 - 396v + 29v^2 \end{aligned}$$



[Proof.]  $\frac{d}{dv} \mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{e} = 58v - 396 = 0 \Rightarrow v \approx 6.83$ .

# Least Squares Geometry

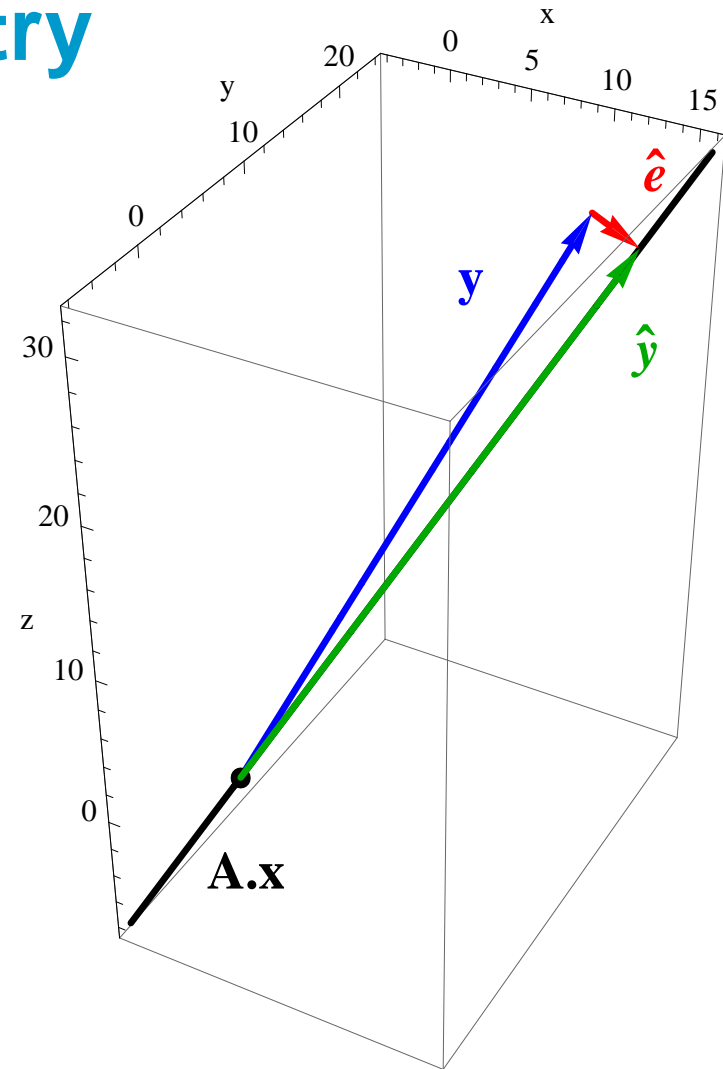
Model is spanned by  $A$ . Every choice for parameter vector  $x$  corresponds to another location in the **model space** of  $A$ .

Observations  $y$  are generally not in the model space of  $A$ .

Goal: Find point  $\hat{x}$  in model space that minimizes distance to observations  $y$ .

Solution: the perpendicular projection of  $y$  in the model space, the **adjusted vector of observations**  $\hat{y} = A \cdot \hat{x}$

Shortest vector between observations  $y$  and adjusted observations  $\hat{y}$  is the **error vector**  $\hat{e}$ :  $\hat{e} = y - \hat{y}$



# Example: Errors in observed distances

[Proof.] We got  $v \approx 6.83$ . Therefore the corrected or adjusted distances are:

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \begin{pmatrix} 13.66 \\ 20.48 \\ 27.31 \end{pmatrix}$$

And the errors, or the differences between observed and corrected distances:

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{y} - A \cdot x = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 - 2v \\ y_2 - 3v \\ y_3 - 4v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 11 - 2 \cdot 6.83 \\ 20 - 3 \cdot 6.83 \\ 29 - 4 \cdot 6.83 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2.66 \\ -.48 \\ 1.69 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Least Squares Principle

Project vector of observations into model, that is, error vector  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}$  should be **perpendicular** to model space:

$$A^T \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}} = 0$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} A^T \cdot (\mathbf{y} - A\hat{\mathbf{x}}) &= 0 \\ A^T \mathbf{y} - A^T A\hat{\mathbf{x}} &= 0 \\ A^T \mathbf{y} &= A^T A\hat{\mathbf{x}} \end{aligned}$$

Which gives the general solution

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

# Least Squares - Calculus

Let  $\mathbf{y} \approx A\mathbf{x}$  with  $A$  an  $m \times n$  matrix of  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ . The **least squares solution** of the system  $\mathbf{y} \approx A\mathbf{x}$  is defined as

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} (\mathbf{y} - A \cdot \mathbf{x})^T (\mathbf{y} - A \cdot \mathbf{x})$$

The difference between the vector of observations  $\mathbf{y}$  and the adjusted vector of observations  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = A\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is the **least squares residual vector**

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}} = \mathbf{y} - A \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

The size of the squared norm

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{e}}\|^2 = \hat{\mathbf{e}}^T \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}$$

is a scalar measure for the **inconsistency** of the linear system.

**Question** What is  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}$  in case the system is consistent?

# Least Squares - Solution

The least squares solution of the linear system on the previous slide is given by

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

[Proof.] Consider the function

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) &= (\mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x})^T (\mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T A\mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

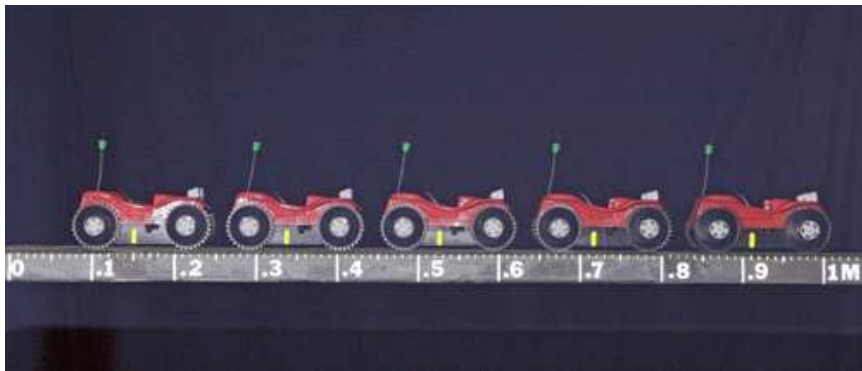
$\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  minimizes  $f(\mathbf{x}) \Rightarrow$

1.  $\nabla f = 0$  ( $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is a singular point).
2. The Hessian of  $f$  is positive definite. (The singular point is a minimum).

The gradient of  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is given by:  $\nabla f = -2A^T \mathbf{y} + 2A^T A\mathbf{x}$  and the Hessian of  $f(\mathbf{x})$  by  $H(f) = 2A^T A$ . The  $H(f)$  is a quadratic form and therefore positive definite for all  $x$ , so the solution of  $\nabla f = 0$  is indeed the minimum.

$\nabla f = 0$  implies  $A^T A\mathbf{x} = A^T \mathbf{y}$ . Because the matrix  $A^T A$  is positive definite, it is also invertible, so the solution follows as  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{y}$ .

# A more complicated A model



Source [www.adformatie.nl](http://www.adformatie.nl)



Source <http://www.be.wednet.edu/Page/2720>

# Second Velocity Example

The position of a car **is assumed** to depend linearly on the unknown (constant) velocity  $v$ :

$$x_i = x_0 + v \cdot t_i \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

with  $x_i$  - the distance measurement at time  $t_i$ , and  
 $x_0$  - the unknown initial position of the car.

How do we formulate the estimation of velocity and initial position as a least squares problem?

## General Recipe

- What is your vector of observations?
- Identify the parameters that you want to estimate
- Examine how these parameters relate to the observations
- Use this relation to fix the model matrix  $A$
- Check: are all dimensions OK?

# Solution

[Proof.]

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ 1 & t_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & t_m \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ v \end{pmatrix} = A \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

and the solution is given by  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{y}$

# Numerical second velocity example

Assume for example:  $x_1 = x_2 = 1$  at  $t = -1, 1$  and,  
 $x_3 = 3$  at  $t = 2$ .

[Proof.]

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ v \end{pmatrix} = A \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

Therefore

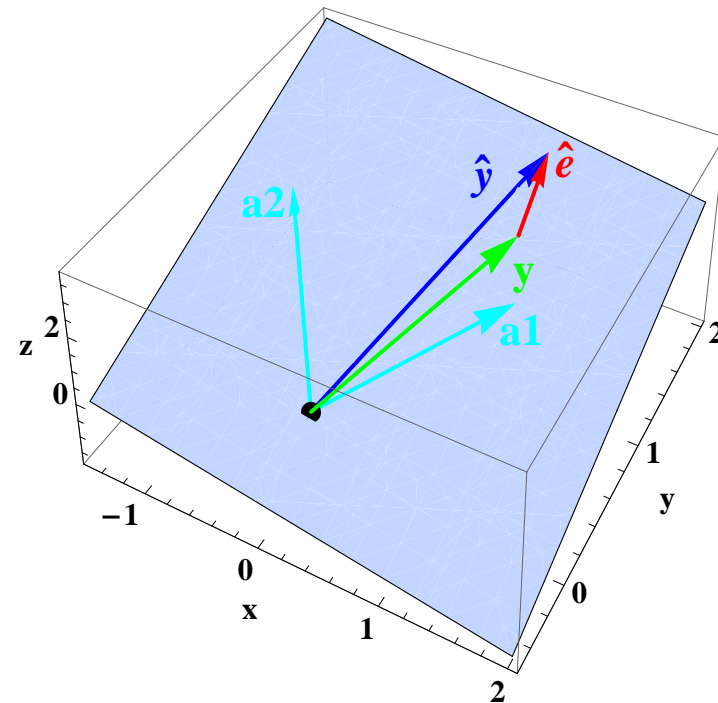
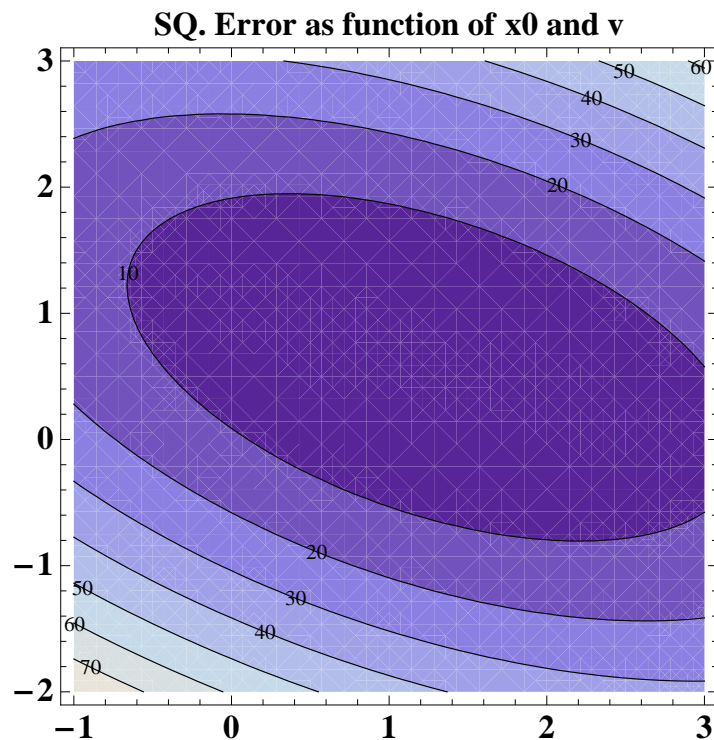
$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad A^T \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

So,

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_0 \\ \hat{v} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 13 \\ 17 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\mathbf{e}} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -6 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Note that indeed  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}$  is orthogonal to the columns of matrix  $A$ !

# Sum of squared errors



$a_1$ : 1st column of matrix  $A$

$a_2$ : 2nd column of matrix  $A$

Everything blue: in  $\mathcal{R}(A)$



# B. Plane Fitting

# Local 3 x 3 window

## Input:

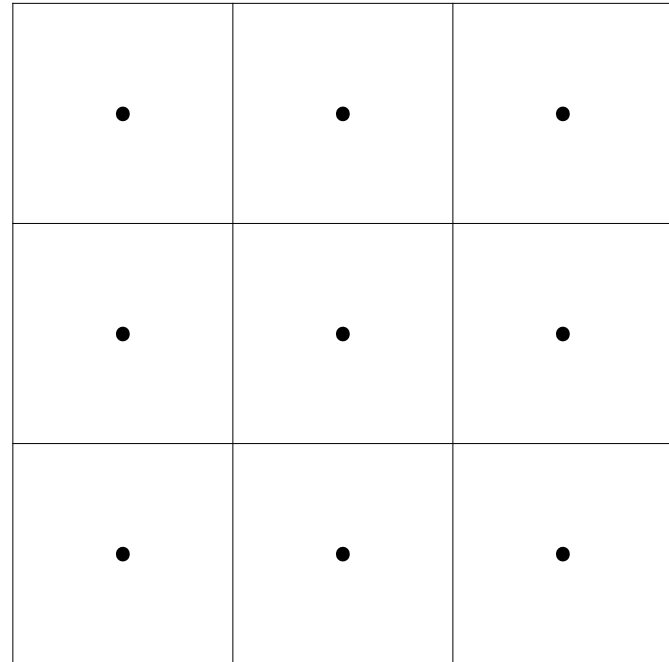
raster file/regular grid of elevations

## Output:

- Local normal
- Local roughness

## Method:

Local planar fit



**Question.** What is the effect of choosing a larger (e.g.  $6 \times 6$ ) window size?

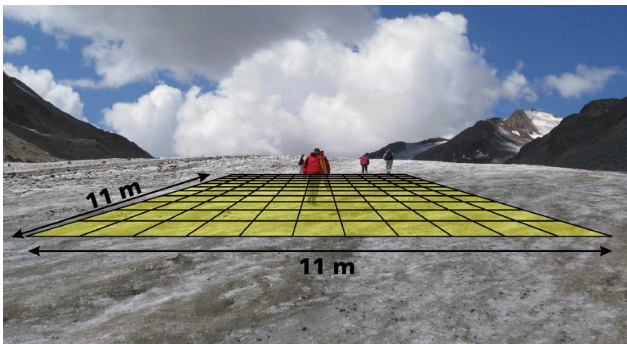
**Question.** How do you get the local normal?

**Question.** How do you get the/a local roughness

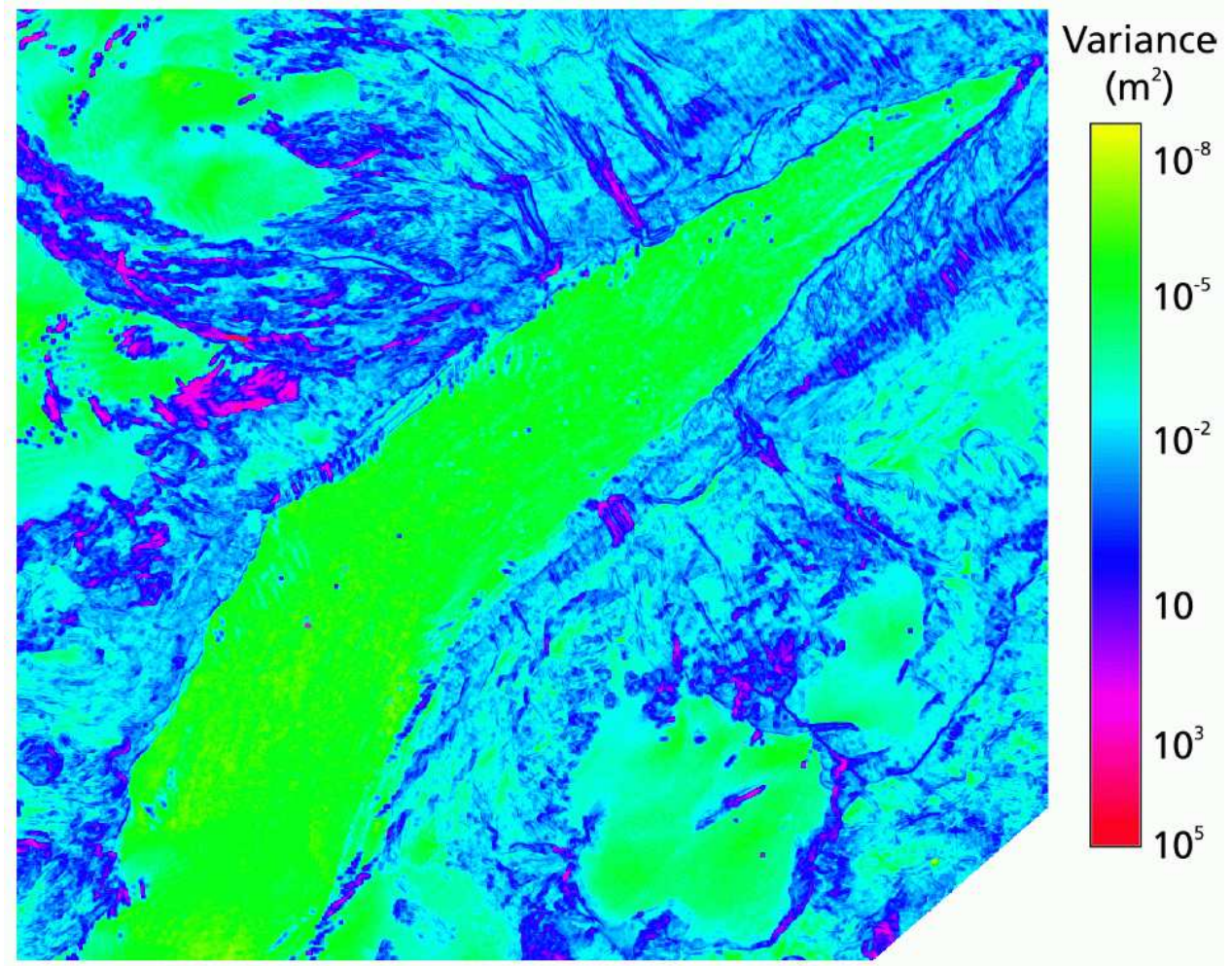
# Variance or Glacier Roughness



Hintereisferner - Tirol

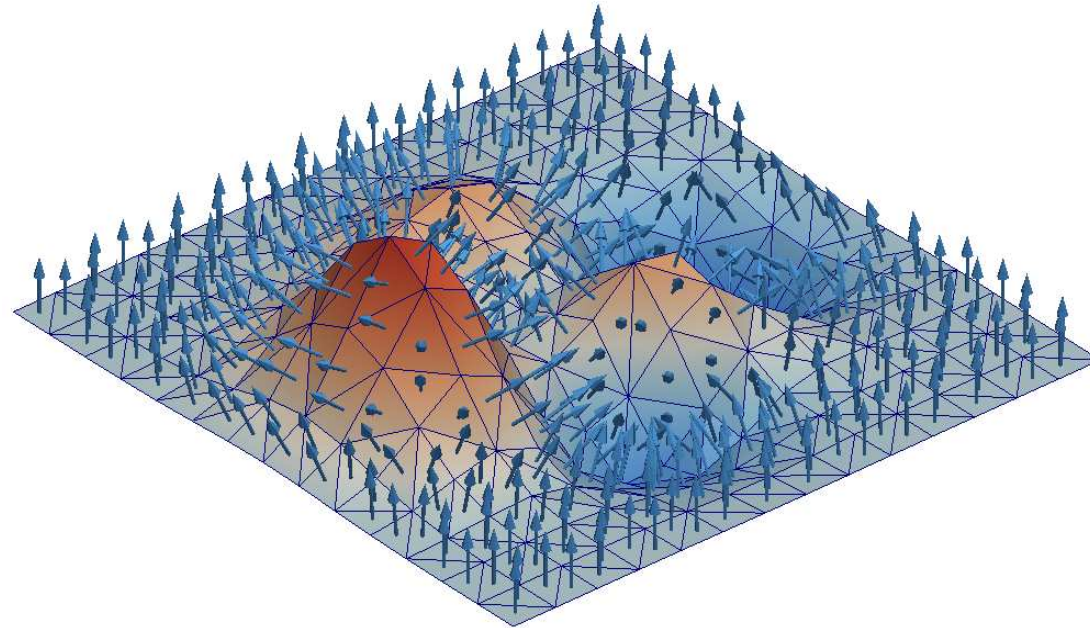


Variance window



(Images: Martin Kodde)

# Local normals



Here computed for a simulated TIN (Triangulated Irregular Network)

Source <http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/authors/37194>

# Example, 3x3 window

Given: Elevation data  $\Rightarrow$

Obtain an equation of the best fitting plane

$$z = a \cdot x + b \cdot y + c$$

From that, derive:

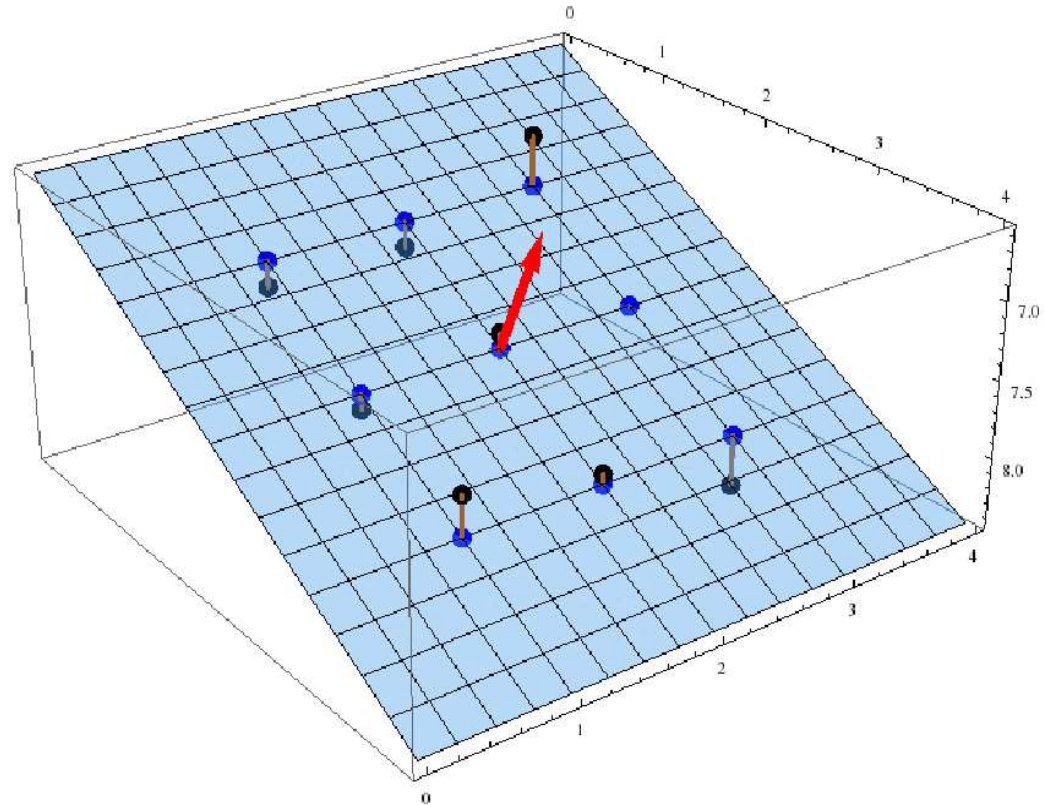
1. **Normal**: vector  $\mathbf{n} = (a, b, -1)^T$
2. **Roughness**: deviations from the local plane

3	7.7	7.9	8.3
2	7.6	7.4	7.5
1	7.2	7.2	6.7
	1	2	3

## Exercise

Obtain the plane equations, the normal and the roughness using the least squares framework

# Resulting plane



**Black points:** input elevations

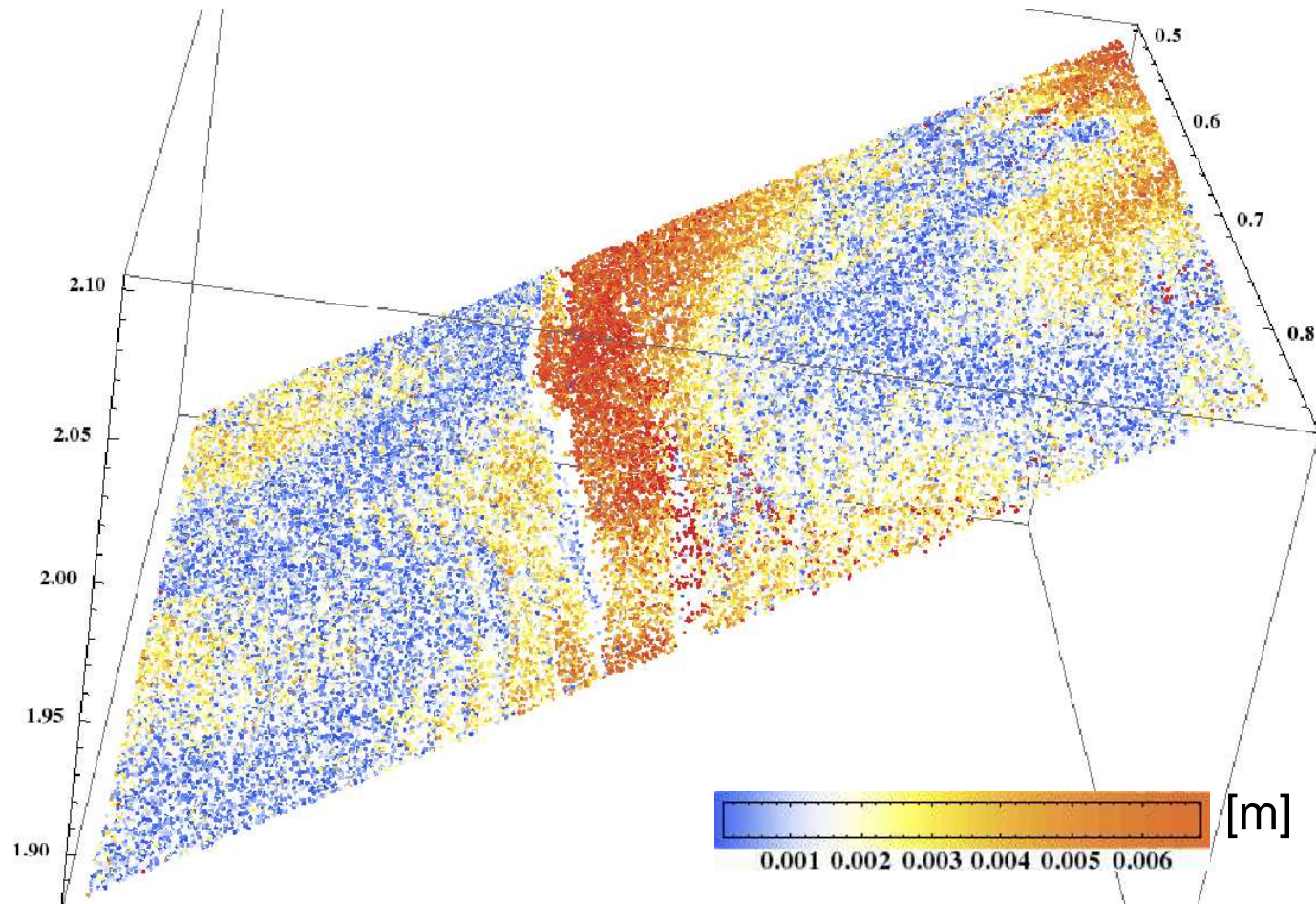
**Blue plane:** plane fitting the elevations best in the least squares sense

**Blue points:** adjusted elevations

**Brown lines:** elevation residuals

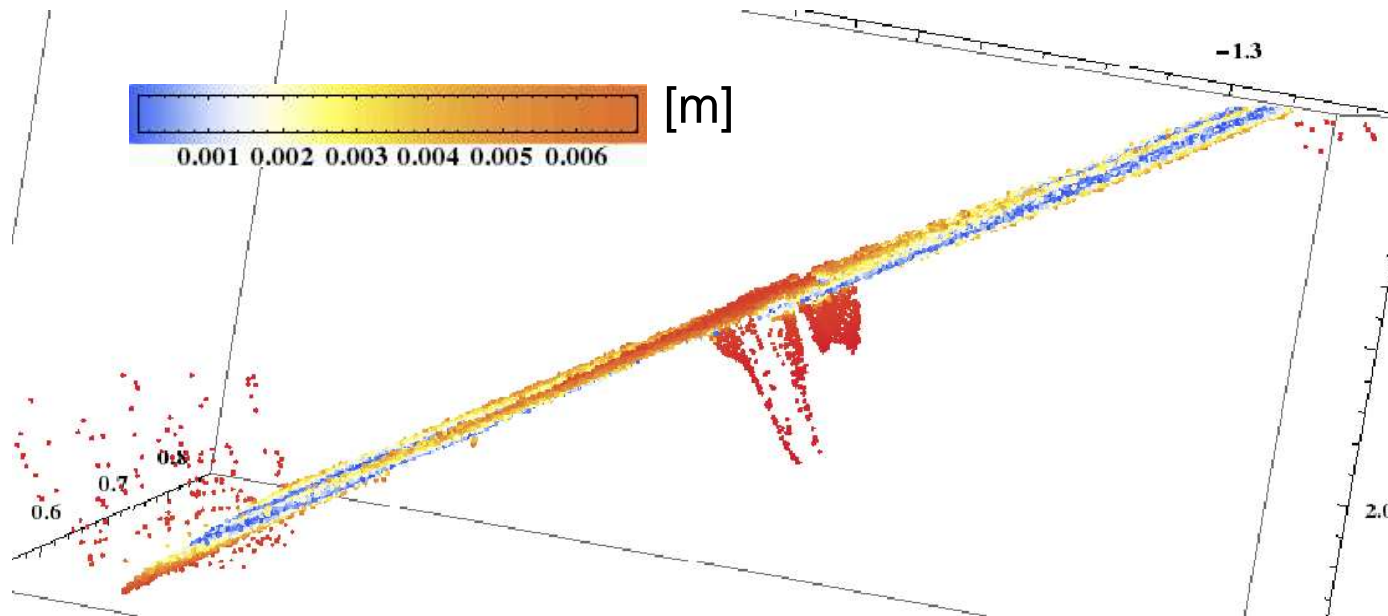
**Red arrow:** surface normal

# Results, planar fit, wooden beam



Plot shows beam points, adjusted to plane by least squares  
The coloring indicates the absolute size of the error  $e_i$

# 3D Results, planar fit, wooden beam

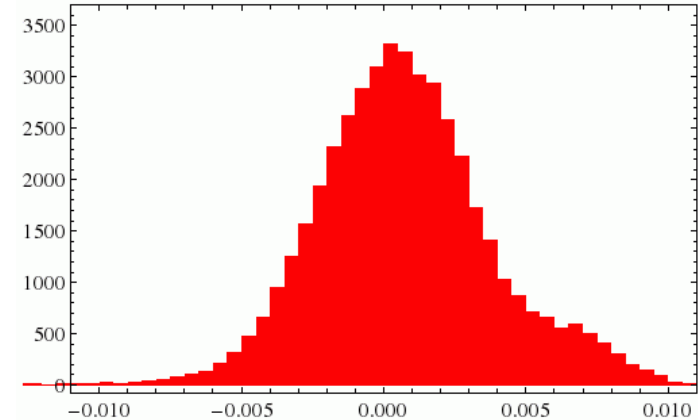
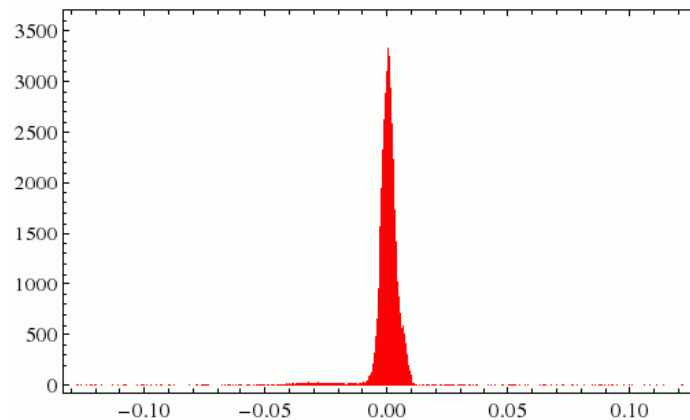


Plot shows original 3D beam points, with coloring indicating the absolute size of the error  $e_i$ .

**Question.** What 3 choices did the fitter had to choice as vector of observations?



# Distribution of LSQ adjustment errors



**Question.** Why are the errors distributed around zero?

**Question.** Why is the (cropped) histogram not symmetric? Are the residuals normally distributed?

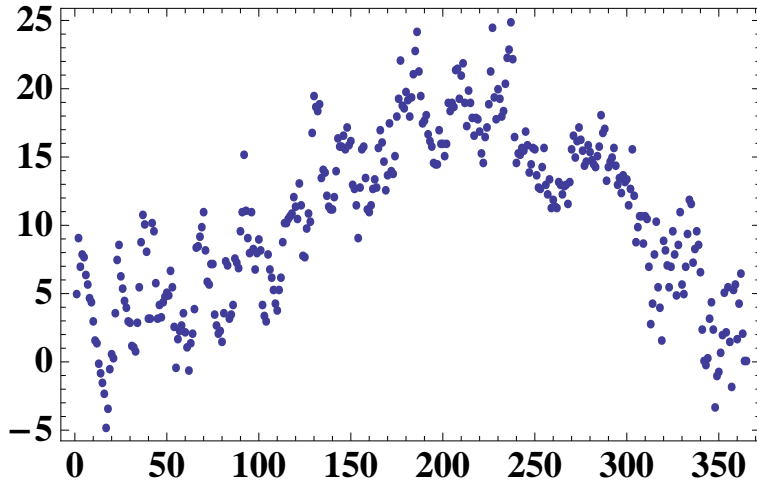
**Question.** What does the histogram tell us on the quality of the measurements?

**Question.** How to determine the sample standard deviation of the residuals?

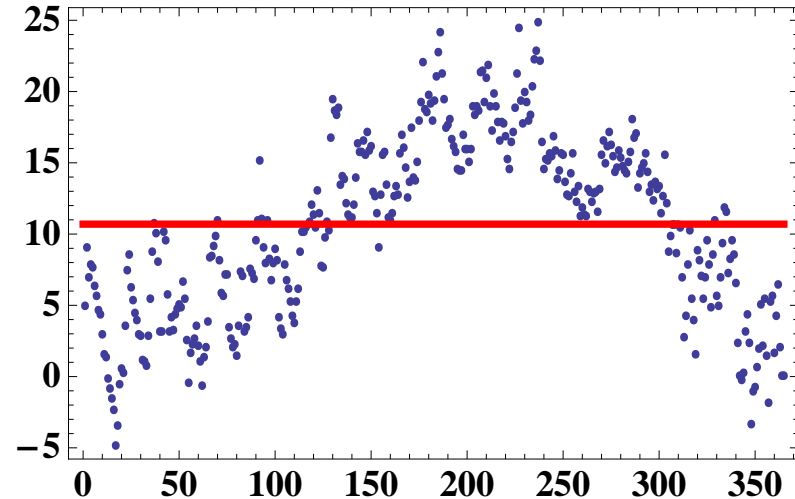
# C. Least Squares Curve fitting

# Introduction Weather data

Mean daily temperature in Rotterdam in 2001, in deg. C.



In red: mean temperature in 2001



**Question:** How do we use Least Squares to estimate the mean temperature in 2001?

[Proof.] For  $i = 1, \dots, 365$  write

$$y_i = 1 \cdot x,$$

so,  $\mathbf{y} = \{y_1, \dots, y_{365}\}^T$ ,  $\mathbf{x} = \{x\}$ , and  $A = \{1, 1, \dots, 1\}^T$ . Now  $\bar{x} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{y} = 10.6^\circ$ .

# Fitting polynomials

How can we fit a general (not necessarily linear) polynomial to the weather data?

Write, with  $T_i = y_i$ , the temperature at day  $t_i = 1, \dots, 365$ ,

$$T_i = a_0 + a_1 t_i + a_2 t_i^2 + a_3 t_i^3 + \dots$$

**Question:** what is the vector of observations, the parameter vector and the  $A$ -matrix?

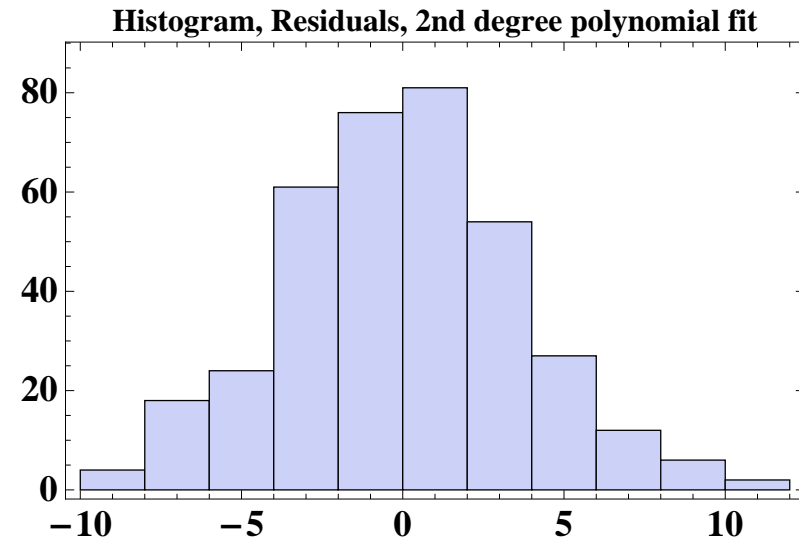
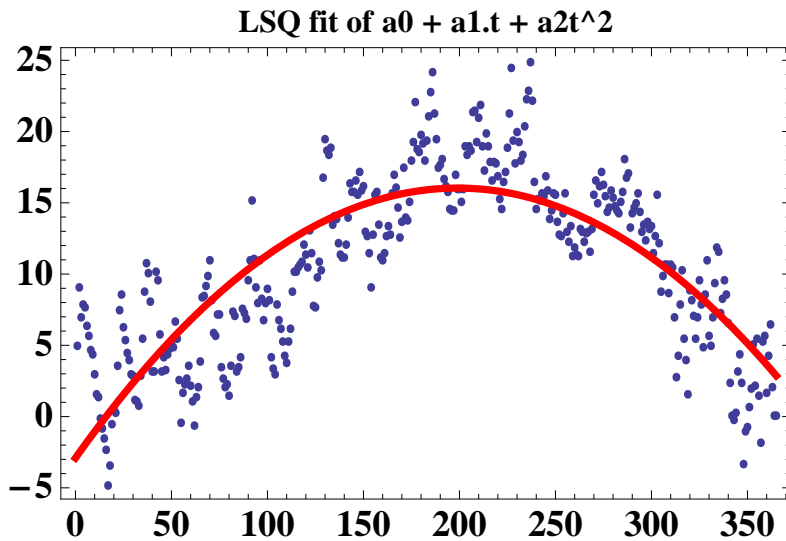
[Proof.] so,  $\mathbf{y} = \{T_1, T_2, \dots, T_{365}\}^T$ ,  $\mathbf{x} = \{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots\}^T$  and

$$\begin{aligned} A_i &= \{1, t_i, t_i^2, t_i^3, \dots\}, & \text{for } i = 1, \dots, 365 \\ &= \{1, i, i^2, i^3, \dots\} \end{aligned}$$

**Question:** what is the redundancy of the resulting least squares system?

[Proof.] Nr. observations - Nr. parameters = 365 - (degree of polynomial + 1)

# Result: polynomial of degree 2



$$\sqrt{(\mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{e})/365} = 3.7$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} \approx (-2.90, 0.19, -0.00048)^T$$

**Question:** Other method to check whether this  $A$ -model fits well?

# General curve fitting

Suppose  $f(t)$  is an unknown function of which we measure  $m$  function values

$$y_i \approx f(t_i) \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

It is considered **known** that  $f(t)$  can be written as a linear combination of  $n$  base functions:

$$f(t) = \sum_{j=1}^n c_j \phi_j(t),$$

with  $c_j$  the coefficient that expresses the contribution of base function  $\phi_j(t)$  to  $f(t)$ .

The vector of coefficients

$$\mathbf{x} = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$$

is estimated by solving the following Least Squares system:

# Estimating base coefficients

Solve  $y = Ax$ , given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} f(t_1) \\ f(t_2) \\ \vdots \\ f(t_m) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1(t_1) & \phi_2(t_1) & \dots & \phi_n(t_1) \\ \phi_1(t_2) & \phi_2(t_2) & \dots & \phi_n(t_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \phi_1(t_i) & \phi_2(t_i) & \dots & \phi_n(t_i) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}$$

# Fitting trigonometric function

How to fit

$$h(t) = a_0 + a_1 \cos(\omega t) + a_2 \sin(\omega t) :$$

to the annual weather data:

1. What is  $\omega$ ?
2. What value of  $\omega$  should we take?
3. What is the  $A$ -model?

[Proof.]

1.  $\omega$  is the 'angular velocity' and determines the period of the trigonometric function. If  $\omega = 1$ , the period  $T$  is  $2\pi$ . So, in general  $T = (2\pi)/\omega$ .
2. For the weather data, we have  $T = 365$ . So we should take

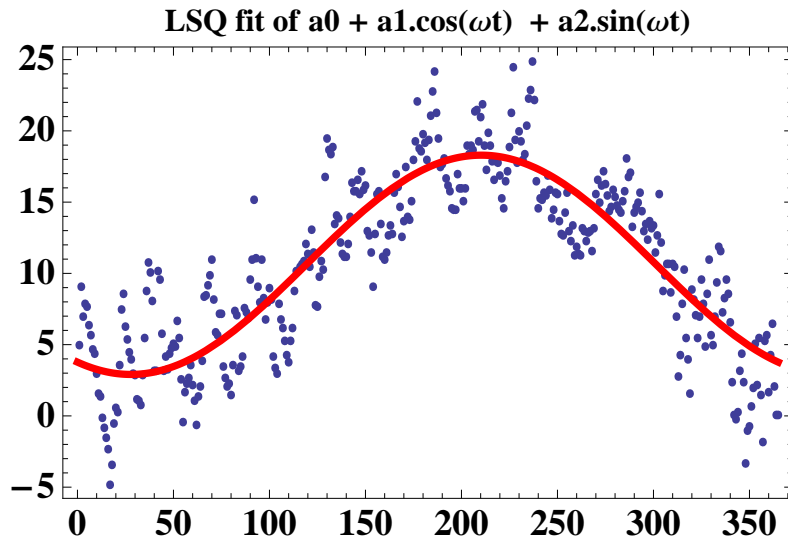
$$\omega = (2\pi)/T = (2\pi)/365 = \pi/182.5.$$

3. The  $i$ -th column of the  $A$ -matrix reads:

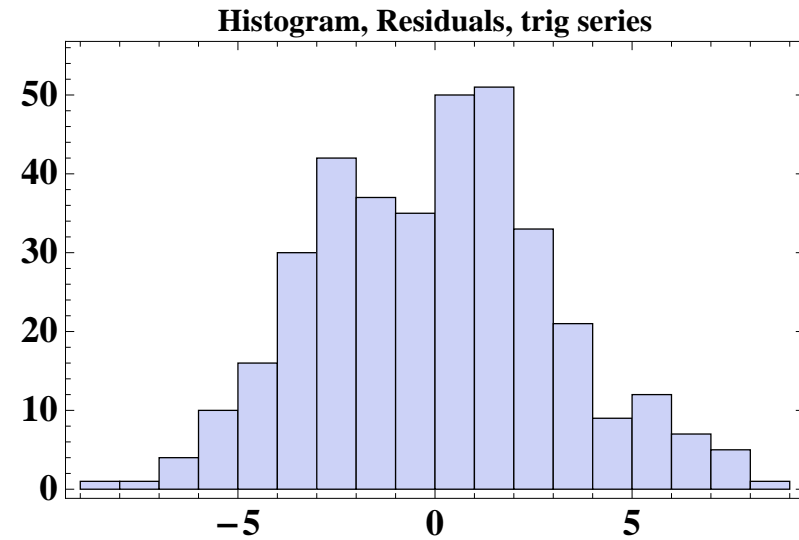
$$A_i = (1, \cos(\omega i), \sin(\omega i))$$



# Trigonometric fit results



$$\sqrt{(\mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{e})/365} = 3.04$$



$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} \approx (10.6, -6.83, -3.54)^T$$

# Trigo questions

**Question:** Why is  $a_0$  similar to the mean temperature in 2001?

[Proof.] Model is the mean + seasonal deviation from the mean

**Question:** Why can we conclude in this **special case** that our trigonometric model fits better than the polynomial of degree 2?

[Proof.] Redundancy is the same

**Question:** can we also obtain  $\omega$  using least squares fitting?

[Proof.] No, we used an **ad-hoc** method to obtain a value for  $\omega$

# D. Texel case study

# Case study: South-West Texel

Airborne laser data from 1996 to 2001 covering beach and dunes.

year	# heights
1996	224 521
1997	3 577 200
1998	1 054 817
1999	607 860
2000	2 914 654
2001	2 810 642

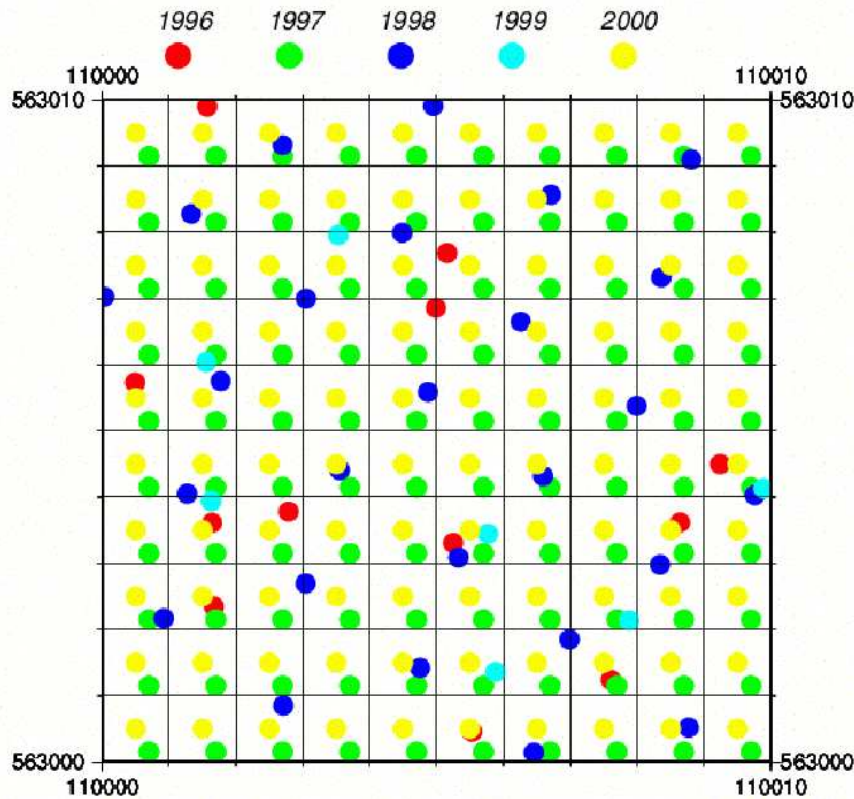


Source: [www.kustfoto.nl](http://www.kustfoto.nl)



# Different ground-points in distinct years.

Grid-point wise analysis after interpolation to **regular grid**.



# Single position modeling.

Assume that for every grid point position  $(x, y)$  a full **observation vector**  $\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is given

We look for a **linear model**  $A$  such that

$$\mathbf{h} = \begin{pmatrix} h_{96} \\ h_{97} \\ \vdots \\ h_{01} \end{pmatrix}, \quad E\{\mathbf{h}\} = A \cdot \mathbf{x},$$

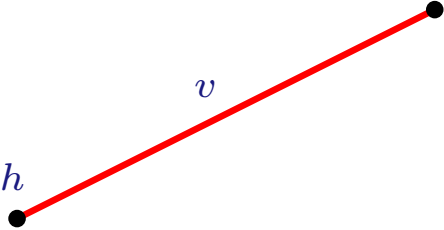
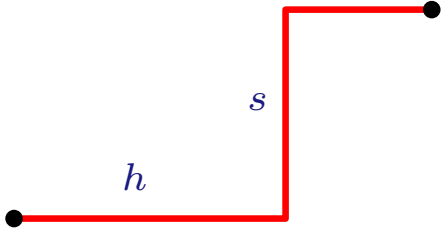
where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  denotes the **vector of model parameters**.

# Model expressing no deformation

Question: what  $A$  model expresses *stability*?



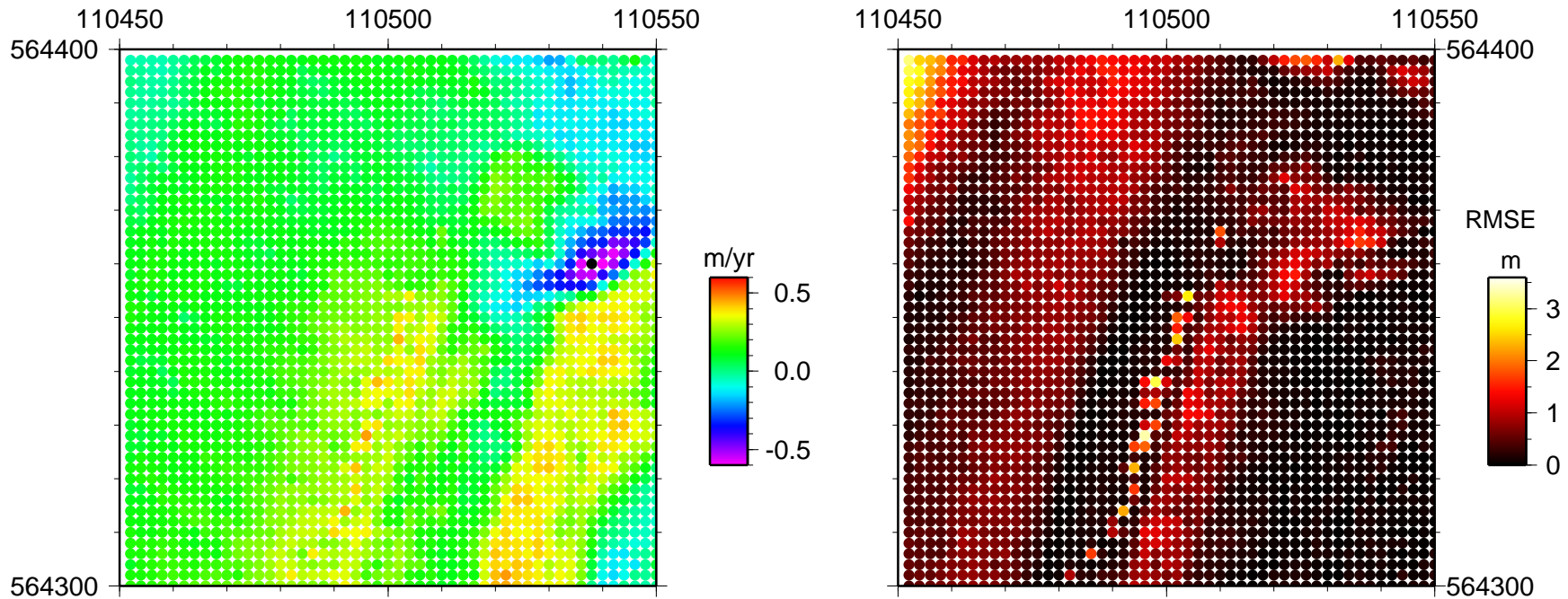
# Kinematic model alternatives.

Constant velocity model	Instantaneous suppletion model
	
$A = \begin{pmatrix} t_1 & 1 \\ t_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ t_m & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} v \\ h \end{pmatrix};$	$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} h \\ s \end{pmatrix}.$

$h$  = height;  $v$  = velocity;  $s$  = suppletion.

**Question:** Other 2-parameter models??

# Example: 2500 velocities and residuals.



Number of 'observations' per grid-point:  $m = 7$

Number of model parameters:  $n = 2$

Redundancy:  $q := m - n = 5$ .

# Conclusions

## Plane fitting

- Easy starting point for e.g. terrain analysis
- Gives surface approximation, orientation and a measure of roughness
- Use a lot or less points for a fit

## Least Squares

- Method to incorporate redundant observations in geometric fitting
- Minimizes error in the least squares sense
- Model used to fit may be more or less appropriate
- So far, didn't incorporate quality of observations

# Exercises

**Exercise 6.1** Find the least-squares solution of the following two linear systems of equations:

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 5$$

$$2x_1 - x_2 = 0$$

$$5x_1 + x_2 = 6$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 - 3x_3 = 8$$

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 3$$

$$2x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 = -1$$

**Exercise 6.2** Consider the linear system of equations  $y \approx Ax$  with

$$\text{matrix } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and vector } y = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the least-squares solution  $\hat{x}$  and the projection  $\hat{y}$  of vector  $y$  onto the column space of  $A$ .

# Exercises

**Exercise 6.3** Consider the inconsistent linear system of equations  $y \approx Ax$  with

$$\text{matrix } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and vector } y = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\hat{y}$  be the projection of vector  $y$  onto the column space of  $A$ , i.e., the least-squares solution of the ‘measurements’  $y$ . Find the least-squares residual vector  $\hat{e} = y - \hat{y}$ .

**Exercise 6.4** An object is moving along a straight line. The following measurements  $y_i$  of the object’s position have been made at corresponding times  $t_i$ .

Time $t_i$ , in [s]	-1	0	1	2
Position $y_i$ , in [m]	2	0	-3	-6

To the data a parabolic model  $y = x_0 + vt + \frac{1}{2}at^2$  is fitted using least squares. What is the (unweighted) least squares solution for the acceleration  $a$ ?

# Exercises

**Exercise 6.5** An object is moving along a straight line. The following measurements  $y_i$  of the object's position have been made at corresponding times  $t_i$ .

Time $t_i$ , in [s]	-1	0	1	2
Position $y_i$ , in [m]	-2	0	3	5

To the data a linear model  $y = x_0 + vt$  is fitted using least squares. Find the (unweighted) least squares solution for the speed  $v$ ?

# Exercises

**Exercise 6.6** The monthly sales of a certain product are subject to seasonal fluctuations. The sales data might be modeled by a function of the form

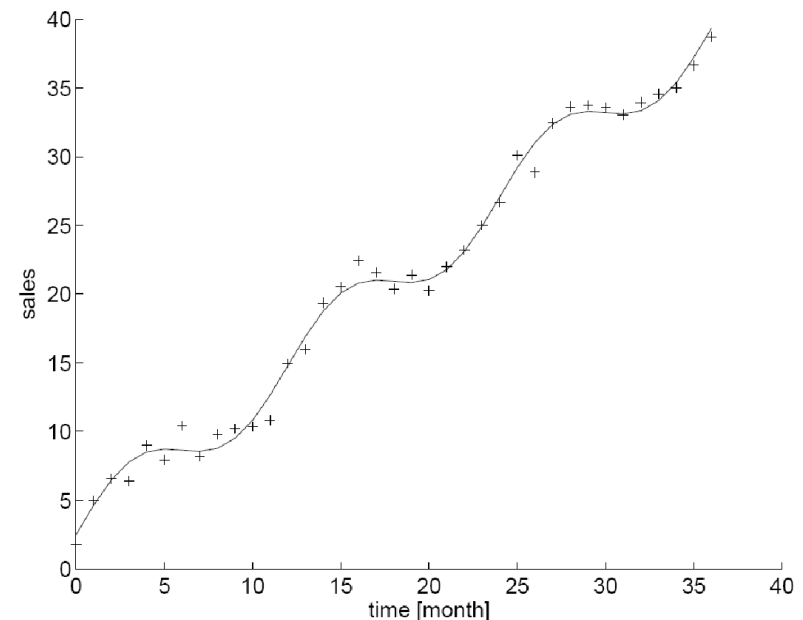
$$y = x_1 + x_2(t) + x_3 \sin(2\pi t/12)$$

with  $t$  the time in months. The term  $x_1 + x_2 t$  gives the basic sales trend, whereas the term  $x_3 \sin(2\pi t/12)$  is representing the seasonal changes, see figure below.

Assume that sales data  $y_i$  are available at times  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m$ . Find the design matrix of the linear system of equations that leads to a least-squares fit of

$$y = x_1 + x_2(t) + x_3 \sin(2\pi t/12)$$

to the sales data.



# Exercises

**Exercise 6.7** Consider an airplane taking laser height measurements. In part of the surveyed area gas is extracted from the subsurface. The airplane flies along a straight line. It takes measurements at positions  $x = 0, 2, 4, 6$  and  $8$  km along this line. The measurements taken are distances  $h_i$  from the airplane to the ground and are listed below:

$x_i$ (m)	0	2000	4000	6000	8000
$h_i$ (m)	50.334	50.595	51.144	55.226	58.648

From independent measurements it is known that the area is flat from  $0$  m to  $x_{\text{start}} = 3000$  m. From  $x_{\text{start}}$  on the area is subsiding due to the gas extraction. This subsidence shows a linear behavior,

$$h = c_0 + c_1(x - x_{\text{start}}).$$

Apply least-squares curve fitting to the data to determine the slope  $c_1$  in the area  $x > x_{\text{start}}$ .



# Exercise, plane fitting

**Exercise 6.8** In this exercise we will fit a plane using least squares to the following 3D points:

$$p_1 = (1, 1, 7.2), p_2 = (2, 1, 7.2), p_3 = (3, 1, 6.7), p_4 = (1, 2, 7.6), p_5 = (2, 2, 7.4), \\ p_6 = (3, 2, 7.5), p_7 = (1, 3, 7.7), p_8 = (2, 3, 7.9), p_9 = (3, 3, 8.3)$$

Compare also Slides 29 and 30.

- What is the number of observations, and how many parameters need to be estimated?
- What is the vector of observations  $\mathbf{y}$  in this case?
- What is the vector of (yet unknown) plane parameters  $\mathbf{x}$ ?
- Rewrite the plane equation  $z = a \cdot x + b \cdot y + c$  as an inner product  $z = r_A \cdot (a, b, c)$ . So notably, how does the vector  $r_A$  look like?

The only ingredient still needed for a least squares fit is the model matrix  $A$ . The  $i$ -th row of this  $9 \times 3$  matrix is a copy of the vector  $r_A$  corresponding to the  $i$ -th observation. For example, the sixth row of the  $A$  matrix looks like  $A_6 = (3, 2, 1)$ .

- Write down the full model matrix  $A$ .
- Now get the plane parameters  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  by solving

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

*Hint: this can be easily done in Matlab: <http://www.mathworks.nl/help/matlab/ref/mldivide.html>*

# Exercise, Plane fitting, continued

**Exercise 6.9** This exercise is a continuation of Exercise 6.8. In the following we will use the plane parameters to evaluate the quality of fit and to obtain a normal of the plane.

a). Determine the vector of adjusted observations

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = A \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

b). Where are the adjusted observations situated?

c). Determine the vector of residuals  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}$ , i.e. the distances between observations and adjusted observations:

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

d). Determine the standard deviation of your plane fit result by determining

$$\sigma = \frac{\sqrt{\hat{\mathbf{e}}^T \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}}}{n},$$

where  $n$  denotes the number of observations.

e). Determine a normal  $\mathbf{n}_P$  of the plane from the plane parameter vector  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ .

f). Verify that  $\mathbf{n}_P$  is indeed a normal by evaluating the inner product with two independent vectors in the plane  $P$ . Take for example two suitable difference vectors between adjusted observations.

# Answers, Exercise 6.1

Find the least-squares solution of the following two linear systems of equations:

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 5$$

$$2x_1 - x_2 = 0$$

$$5x_1 + x_2 = 6$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 - 3x_3 = 8$$

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 3$$

$$2x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 = -1$$

[Proof.] 1st system

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \\ 5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 30 & 5 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}, A^T \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 35 \\ 16 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.84 \\ 1.97 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Answer, 2nd system

[Proof.]

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 5 & -1 \\ 5 & 21 & -19 \\ -1 & -19 & 19 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^T \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 17 \\ 37 \\ -30 \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_1 \end{pmatrix} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ 0.5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Answers, Exercise 6.2

Consider the linear system of equations  $y \approx Ax$  with

$$\text{matrix } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and vector } y = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the least-squares solution  $\hat{x}$  and the projection  $\hat{y}$  of vector  $y$  onto the column space of  $A$ .

[Proof.]

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 5 & 13 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^T y = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 23 \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T y = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{y} = y - A\hat{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Answers, Exercise 6.3

Consider the inconsistent linear system of equations  $y \approx Ax$  with

$$\text{matrix } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and vector } y = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\hat{y}$  be the projection of vector  $y$  onto the column space of  $A$ , i.e., the least-squares solution of the 'measurements'  $y$ . Find the least-squares residual vector  $\hat{e} = y - \hat{y}$ .

[Proof.]

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 2.5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 3.5 \\ 6 \\ 8.5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{e} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ -1 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Answers, Exercise 6.4

An object is moving along a straight line. The following measurements  $y_i$  of the object's position have been made at corresponding times  $t_i$ .

Time $t_i$ , in [s]	-1	0	1	2
Position $y_i$ , in [m]	2	0	-3	-6

To the data a parabolic model  $y = x_0 + vt + \frac{1}{2}at^2$  is fitted using least squares. What is the (unweighted) least squares solution for the acceleration  $a$ ?

[Proof.]

$$\begin{cases} 2 & = & x_0 + (-1)v + \frac{1}{2}(-1)^2 a \\ 0 & = & x_0 + 0v + \frac{1}{2}(0)^2 a \\ -3 & = & x_0 + 1v + \frac{1}{2}(1)^2 a \\ -6 & = & x_0 + 2v + \frac{1}{2}(2)^2 a \end{cases}$$

PTO

# Answers, Exercise 6.4, continued

[Proof.] So,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_0 \\ \hat{v} \\ \hat{a} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -.15 \\ -2.45 \\ -.5 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Answers, Exercise 6.5

An object is moving along a straight line. The following measurements  $y_i$  of the object's position have been made at corresponding times  $t_i$ .

Time $t_i$ , in [s]	-1	0	1	2
Position $y_i$ , in [m]	-2	0	3	5

To the data a linear model  $y = x_0 + vt$  is fitted using least squares. Find the (unweighted) least squares solution for the speed  $v$ ?

[Proof.]

$$\begin{cases} -2 & = & x_0 + (-1)v \\ 0 & = & x_0 + 0v \\ 3 & = & x_0 + 1v \\ 5 & = & x_0 + 2v \end{cases}$$

So  $\mathbf{y} = (-2, 0, 3, 5)^T$  and  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . Therefore  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{y} = (0.3, 2.4)^T$ .

We are looking for the speed, which is the 2nd parameter, so the answer is  $v = 2.4$ .

# Answers, Exercise 6.6

The monthly sales... Find the design matrix ... to the sales data

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 & \sin(2\pi t_1/12) \\ 1 & t_2 & \sin(2\pi t_2/12) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & t_m & \sin(2\pi t_m/12) \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ \vdots \\ s_m \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Answers, Exercise 6.7

Consider an airplane taking laser height measurements. In part of the surveyed area gas is extracted from the subsurface. The airplane flies along a straight line. It takes measurements at positions  $x = 0, 2, 4, 6$  and  $8$  km along this line. The measurements taken are distances  $h_i$  from the airplane to the ground and are listed below:

$x_i$ (m)	0	2000	4000	6000	8000
$h_i$ (m)	50.334	50.595	51.144	55.226	58.648

From independent measurements it is known that the area is flat from  $0$  m to  $x_{\text{start}} = 3000$  m. From  $x_{\text{start}}$  on the area is subsiding due to the gas extraction. This subsidence shows a linear behavior,  $h = c_0 + c_1(x - x_{\text{start}})$ . Apply least-squares curve fitting to the data to determine the slope  $c_1$  in the area  $x > x_{\text{start}}$ .

*Matlab answer, Exercise 6.7:*

```
close all
clear all
```

```
A = [1 0; 1 0; 1 1000; 1 3000; 1 5000]
y = [50.334; 50.595; 51.144; 55.226; 58.648]
```

```
xhat = inv((A'*A))*(A'*y);
yhat = A*xhat;
ehat = y-yhat;
```

```
c0 = xhat(1,:)
c1 = xhat(2,);
```

# Answers, Exercise 6.8

a) Observations: 9; Nr. of parameters: 3, as you can write a plane as

$$z = ax + by + c.$$

Parameters to be estimated:  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ .

b) Vector of observations:

$$\text{vecy} = (7.2, 7.2, 6.7, 7.6, 7.4, 7.5, 7.7, 7.9, 8.3).$$

c) Vector of parameters

$$\text{vecx} = (a, b, c).$$

d)  $r_A = (x, y, 1)$ .

e) ->

f)  $\text{vecxhat} =$

$\text{Inverse}(\text{Transpose}(\text{matA}) \cdot \text{matA}) \cdot \text{Transpose}(\text{matA}) \cdot \text{vecy}$

is

$$(0, 0.466667, 6.56667)$$

```
vecy = {7.2, 7.2, 6.7, 7.6, 7.4, 7.5, 7.7, 7.9, 8.3};
matA = {{1, 1, 1}, {2, 1, 1}, {3, 1, 1}, {1, 2, 1},
        {2, 2, 1}, {3, 2, 1}, {1, 3, 1}, {2, 3, 1}, {3, 3, 1}};
MatrixForm[
  %]
MatrixForm=
  ( 1 1 1
    2 1 1
    3 1 1
    1 2 1
    2 2 1
    3 2 1
    1 3 1
    2 3 1
    3 3 1 )
```

# Answers, Exercise 6.9

a)  $\text{vecyhat} = \text{matA} \cdot \text{vecxhat}$  gives

$\text{vecyhat} = (7.03, 7.03, 7.03, 7.5, 7.5, 7.5, 7.97, 7.97, 7.97)$

b) The adjusted observations are inside the determined plane

c)  $\text{ehat} = \text{vecy} - \text{vecyhat}$ , gives

$\text{ehat} = (0.17, 0.17, -0.33, 0.1, -0.1, 0, -0.27, -0.07, 0.33)$ .

d) There is a mistake in this exercise, the sqrt should be taken of everything, so

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{e}}{n}}$$

The resulting st.dev is therefore  $\sigma = 0.20$

e) A normal of the plane is given by  $(a, b, -1)$ :

Coefficient  $c$  is just the offset from the origin. If  $c=0$ , it would follow that  $ax + by - z = 0$ . So,  $(a, b, -1)$  is perpendicular to each point  $(x, y, z)$  fulfilling the plane equation.

So a normal is:  $(0, 0.466667, -1)$

f) Take for example  $q1, q2, q4$ , the adjusted versions of  $p1, p2$  and  $p4$ .

$q1 = (1, 1, 7.033)$ ;  $q2 = (2, 1, 7.033)$  and  $q3 = (1, 2, 7.5)$

$\text{normal} \cdot (q2 - q1) = 0$  and  $\text{normal} \cdot (q4 - q1) = 0$