Solving linear equations via QR factorization

- assuming A is invertible, let's solve $Ax = b$, *i.e.*, compute $x = A^{-1}b$
- with QR factorization $A = QR$, we have

$$A^{-1} = (QR)^{-1} = R^{-1}Q^T$$

- compute $x = R^{-1}(Q^T b)$ by back substitution

Outline

Left and right inverses

Inverse

Solving linear equations

Examples

Pseudo-inverse

Polynomial interpolation

- let's find coefficients of a cubic polynomial

$$p(x) = c_1 + c_2 x + c_3 x^2 + c_4 x^3$$

  that satisfies

$$p(-1.1) = b_1, \qquad p(-0.4) = b_2, \qquad p(0.1) = b_3, \qquad p(0.8) = b_4$$

- write as $Ac = b$, with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1.1 & (-1.1)^2 & (-1.1)^3 \\ 1 & -0.4 & (-0.4)^2 & (-0.4)^3 \\ 1 & 0.1 & (0.1)^2 & (0.1)^3 \\ 1 & 0.8 & (0.8)^2 & (0.8)^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Polynomial interpolation

- (unique) coefficients given by $c = A^{-1}b$, with

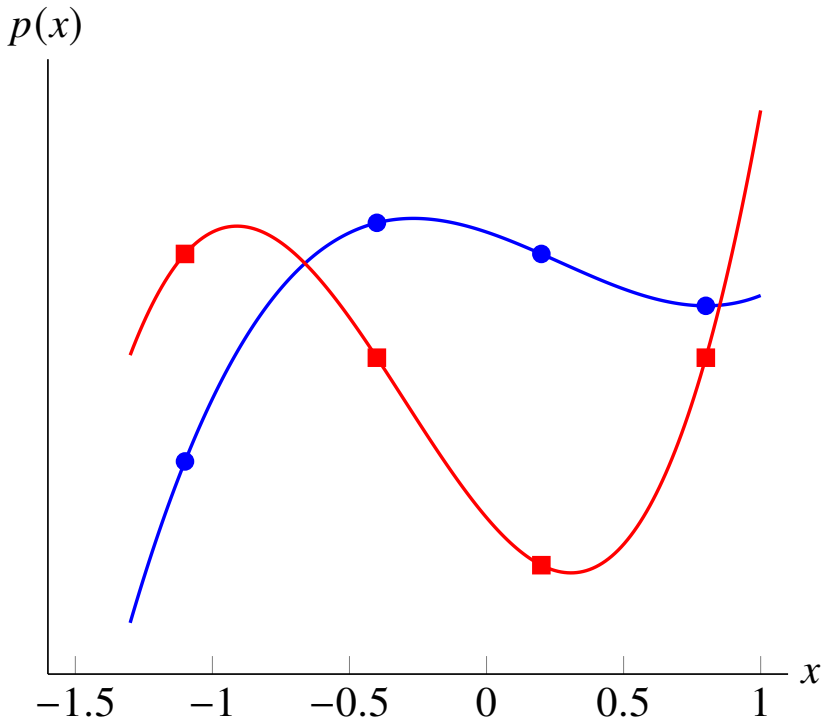
$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.0370 & 0.3492 & 0.7521 & -0.0643 \\ 0.1388 & -1.8651 & 1.6239 & 0.1023 \\ 0.3470 & 0.1984 & -1.4957 & 0.9503 \\ -0.5784 & 1.9841 & -2.1368 & 0.7310 \end{bmatrix}$$

- so, *e.g.*, c_1 is not very sensitive to b_1 or b_4
- first column gives coefficients of polynomial that satisfies

$$p(-1.1) = 1, \qquad p(-0.4) = 0, \qquad p(0.1) = 0, \qquad p(0.8) = 0$$

  called (first) *Lagrange polynomial*

Example



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Invertibility of Gram matrix

- A has linearly independent columns if and only if A^TA is invertible
- to see this, we'll show that $Ax = 0 \Leftrightarrow A^TAx = 0$
- $\Rightarrow$: if $Ax = 0$ then $(A^TA)x = A^T(Ax) = A^T0 = 0$
- $\Leftarrow$: if $(A^TA)x = 0$ then

$$0 = x^T(A^TA)x = (Ax)^T(Ax) = \|Ax\|^2 = 0$$

so $Ax = 0$

Pseudo-inverse of tall matrix

- the *pseudo-inverse* of A with independent columns is

$$A^\dagger = (A^TA)^{-1}A^T$$

- it is a left inverse of A:

$$A^\dagger A = (A^TA)^{-1}A^TA = (A^TA)^{-1}(A^TA) = I$$

  (we'll soon see that it's a very important left inverse of A)

- reduces to A^{-1} when A is square:

$$A^\dagger = (A^TA)^{-1}A^T = A^{-1}A^{-T}A^T = A^{-1}I = A^{-1}$$

Pseudo-inverse of wide matrix

- if A is wide, with linearly independent rows, AA^T is invertible
- pseudo-inverse is defined as

$$A^\dagger = A^T(AA^T)^{-1}$$

- $A^\dagger$ is a right inverse of A:

$$AA^\dagger = AA^T(AA^T)^{-1} = I$$

  (we'll see later it is an important right inverse)
- reduces to A^{-1} when A is square:

$$A^T(AA^T)^{-1} = A^TA^{-T}A^{-1} = A^{-1}$$

Pseudo-inverse via QR factorization

- suppose A has linearly independent columns, $A = QR$
- then $A^TA = (QR)^T(QR) = R^TQ^TQR = R^TR$
- so

$$A^\dagger = (A^TA)^{-1}A^T = (R^TR)^{-1}(QR)^T = R^{-1}R^{-T}R^TQ^T = R^{-1}Q^T$$

- can compute $A^\dagger$ using back substitution on columns of Q^T
- for A with linearly independent rows, $A^\dagger = QR^{-T}$