

Problem 1. Least Squares Approximation. We want to find the parabola $y = a + bx + cx^2$ that is a best fit for the data points $(x, y) = (1, 1), (2, 4), (3, 3), (4, 2)$.

- Let $\mathbf{a} = (a, b, c)$ be the unknown parameters. Set up the equation $X\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{y}$ that would be true if all four points were on the parabola. This equation has no solution.
- Solve the normal equation $X^T X\mathbf{a} = X^T \mathbf{y}$ to find the (OLS) best values of a, b, c .
- Draw the parabola and the data points.

Problem 2. Complementary Projections. Consider the following matrices:

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- Compute the matrix $P = \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{a})^{-1} \mathbf{a}^T$.
- Compute the matrix $Q = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$.
- Check that $P + Q = I$. Why does this happen?

Problem 3. Special Matrices. Consider the following matrices:

$$R_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}, \quad F_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & -\cos \theta \end{pmatrix}, \quad P_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \theta & \cos \theta \sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \sin \theta & \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

- Describe what each matrix does geometrically.
- Compute the determinant of each matrix.
- For each matrix that is invertible, compute the inverse.

Problem 4. Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors. Consider the following matrix:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- Solve the characteristic equation $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ to find the eigenvalues.
- For each eigenvalue find all of the corresponding eigenvectors.
- Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrices A^n and e^{At} . [Hint: You don't need to do any more work.]

Problem 5. Diagonalization. Let A be the same matrix from Problem 4.

- Express the vector $(5, 4)$ as a linear combination of eigenvectors of A .
- Suppose the numbers x_n and y_n are defined as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} x_{n+1} \\ y_{n+1} \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} x_n \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Use part (a) and Problem 4 to find explicit formulas for x_n and y_n . [Recall that the general solution looks like $\mathbf{x}_n = a\lambda^n \mathbf{u} + b\mu^n \mathbf{v}$.]

- Suppose the functions $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ are defined as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x(0) \\ y(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} x'(t) \\ y'(t) \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Use part (a) and Problem 4 to find explicit formulas for $x(t)$ and $y(t)$. [Recall that the general solution looks like $\mathbf{x}(t) = ae^{\lambda t} \mathbf{u} + be^{\mu t} \mathbf{v}$.]