

Solution to 18.06 Challenge Problem Set 5, Spring 2005

$$\begin{aligned}
 1. \text{ Minimize } \int_0^1 (c + dt - t^2)^2 dt &= \int_0^1 (c^2 + 2cd + d^2 t - 2ct^2 - 2dt^3 + t^4) dt \\
 &= c^2 + cd + \frac{1}{3}d^2 - \frac{2}{3}c - \frac{2}{4}d + \frac{1}{5}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$c\text{-derivative: } 2c + d = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$d\text{-derivative: } c + \frac{2}{3}d = \frac{2}{4}$$

Solution: $c = -\frac{1}{6}$ and $d = 1$: Best line $y = t - \frac{1}{6}$.

Note: Dividing by 2 shows the 2 by 2 Hilbert matrix with $h_{ij} = 1/(i+j-1)$:

$$\text{hilb}(2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. The 10 by 2 matrix is $A = [\text{ones}(10,1) \quad (1:10)'/10]$ and the column vector is $b = (1:10)' * (1:10)'/100$.

$$A^T A \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = A^T b \quad \text{is} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 5.5 \\ 5.5 & 3.85 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.85 \\ 3.02 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{giving} \quad \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -.22 \\ 1.1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. The same calculation with 10 changed to 20 (and 100 to 400) comes closer to $c = -\frac{1}{6}, d = 1$:

$$A^T A \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = A^T b \quad \text{is} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 20 & 10.5 \\ 10.5 & 7.175 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7.175 \\ 5.5125 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{giving} \quad \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -.1925 \\ 1.0500 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The error in comparing D to $d = 1$ dropped from .1 to .05 (exactly in half). The error in comparing C to $c = -\frac{1}{6}$ dropped from $c - C = .0533$ to $c - C = .0258$ (almost exactly half).