

# Rank-deficient and Ill-conditioned Nonlinear Least Squares Problems

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# Outline

## Motivating Application

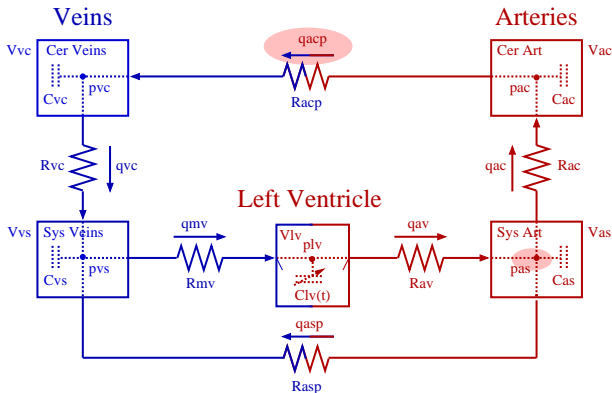
- Obvious approach
- Does it work?

## Rank-Deficient Nonlinear Least Squares Problems

- Theory
- Subset Selection
- Examples

## Conclusions

# Motivating Application: Pope, Olufsen, Ellwein, Novak



- ▶ Compartmental Model of Cardio-Vascular System
- ▶ Integrate dynamics with ode15s
- ▶ Leads to nonlinear least squares problem  $\min f$  where

$$f(p) = R(p)^T R(p)/2; R : R^N \rightarrow R^M$$

- ▶ Too many (16) fitting parameters  
nonlinear dependencies  
insensitive model output
- ▶ Problems with optimization
  - ▶ Levenberg-Marquardt decreases function then stagnates,
  - ▶ BUT difference gradients at “solution” are not small,
  - ▶ so there’s no reason to believe the results.

# Iteration geography and Levenberg-Marquardt

- ▶ Current iterate:  $p_c$
- ▶ Updated iterate:  $p_+$
- ▶ Algorithms get you from  $p_c$  to  $p_+$ .

Levenberg-Marquardt Method: Trial step  $s_t$ .

From a current point  $p_c$ ,

$$s_t = -(\nu I + R'(p_c)^T R'(p_c))^{-1} R'(p_c)^T R(p_c)$$

Your job: decide

- ▶ to reject  $s_t$  (change  $\nu$ ) or
- ▶ accept  $s_t$ , set  $p_+ = p_c + s_t$ , manage  $\nu$

$\nu = 0$  is Gauss-Newton.

# Objectives

You would like

- ▶  $\nu \rightarrow 0$  (or at last  $\nu \not\rightarrow \infty$ ), so
- ▶ Levenberg-Marquardt converges to a minimizer  
or at least a place where  $\nabla f(p) = R'(p)^T R(p) = 0$ .

Instead,

- ▶ convergence is poor and
- ▶ neither the classical or recent theory helps.

# What can you do?

Obvious thing: “Regularize” the Jacobian

- ▶ Compute SVD of  $R'$ ; set “small” singular values to zero;
  - ▶ Compute  $R' = U\Sigma V^T$ ,  $U, V$  orthonormal columns,  $\Sigma$  diagonal
  - ▶ Set “small entries” in  $\Sigma$  to zero.
- ▶ Use the regularized Jacobian in place of  $R'$  in the Levenberg-Marquardt Step

$$(\nu I + R'(p)^T R'(p))s = -R'(p)^T R(p) = -\nabla f(p)$$

# So, does it work?

Does exactly what you want if you have

- ▶ small residual,
- ▶ clear gap in singular values, and
- ▶ highly accurate computation of  $R$  and  $R'$ .

Otherwise, you can (and we did) get very poor results.

Very old problem for fixed  $\nu$ :

Ben-Israel 66, Boggs 76, Boggs-Dennis 76, Tanabe 79



## Analysis in Ideal Case: nonlinear dependence

Assume we can factor  $R$  as

$$R(p) = \tilde{R}(B(p))$$

where  $B : R^K \rightarrow R^N$ ,  $K < N$  and  $\tilde{R} : R^N \rightarrow R^M$ .

This says “we have too many parameters”.

Technical Assumptions

- ▶  $\tilde{R}$  and  $B$  are Lipschitz continuously differentiable,
- ▶  $B'$  and  $\tilde{R}'$  have full column/row rank.

Note: You do not know  $B$ , only that it exists.

So,  $R' = U\Sigma V^T$  has exactly  $K$  nonzero singular values

# Optimality assumptions

Assume that

$$\tilde{f} = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{R}^T \tilde{R}$$

has a unique minimizer  $b^* \in R^K$ .

So  $f$  is minimized on the set

$$\mathcal{Z} = \{p \mid f(p) = f^*\} = \{p \mid B(p) = b^*\},$$

where  $f^* = (1/2)(R^*)^T R^*$  and  $R^* = \tilde{R}(b^*)$ .

Let

$$\mathcal{Z}_\delta = \{p \mid \|p - p^*\| \leq \delta, \text{ for some } p^* \in \mathcal{Z}\}.$$

# Classical Result, Boggs 76

Set  $\nu = 0$  (ie use Gauss-Newton). Make assumptions above and assume that

$$d(p_0) = \min_{p^* \in \mathcal{Z}} \|p_0 - p^*\|$$

is sufficiently small. Then  $d(p_n) \rightarrow 0$ .

# Estimate for Levenberg-Marquardt step

$$s_t = (\nu I + R'(p)^T R'(p))^{-1} R'(p)^T R(p)$$

If  $p_c \in \mathcal{Z}_\delta$  for sufficiently small  $\delta$ , then

$$s_t = -(\nu I + R'(p_c)^T R'(p_c))^\dagger R'(p_c)^T R(p_c) e_c + \Delta_S,$$

where

$$\|\Delta_S\| \leq \frac{\gamma \|e_c\|^2}{2\sigma_K} + \frac{\gamma \|e_c\| \|R^*\|}{\nu + \bar{\sigma}_K^2}.$$

Here  $\gamma$  is the Lipschitz constant of  $R'$ .

# Convergence Analysis

Let

$$d(p) = \min_{p^* \in \mathcal{Z}} \|p - p^*\|$$

The estimate for the Levenberg-Marquardt step implies

$$d(p_+) = O\left(\left[\frac{\nu}{\nu + \sigma_K^2} + \|R(p^*)\| + d(p_c)\right] d(p_c)\right)$$

## Why is this good?

- ▶ Nonlinear equations:  $N = M = K$  is Newton.
- ▶ Full rank case  $K = N$  is Gauss-Newton.
- ▶  $K < N$  leads to convergence in exact arithmetic:
  - ▶  $\nu \rightarrow 0$  (so you're getting close to Gauss-Newton).
  - ▶  $s_t$  approaches minimum norm solution of

$$R'(p_c)s_t = -R(p_c)$$

as it should.

- ▶ Levenberg-Marquardt iterates converge to a point in  $\mathcal{Z}$  (but you can't predict which one).

## Errors in $R$ and $R'$

- ▶ If you have **small** errors in  $R$  and  $R'$ ,
- ▶  $\|R^*\|$  is small, and
- ▶ you know what  $K$  is (clear gap in computed  $\sigma$ ),

then nothing goes wrong.

Replace the computed  $R'$  with  $J$ , where

$$R'_{\text{compute}}(p) = U\Sigma V^T, \text{ let } \Sigma_J = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_K, 0, \dots, 0).$$

Set  $J = U\Sigma_J V^T$ , and use  $J^T R$  for the gradient.

# Error Analysis

Let

$$J = R' + E, \tilde{s} = -(\nu + J^T J)^{-1} J^T R, \text{ and } \eta(\nu) = \max_{\sigma_k \leq \sigma \leq \sigma_1} \frac{\sigma}{\nu + \sigma^2}$$

Assume that

$$\gamma = \frac{2\|E\|_F}{\sigma_k - 2\|E\|} < 1/2 \text{ and } \|E\| \left( 2\eta(\nu) + \frac{\|E\|}{\nu + \sigma_k^2} \right) < 1.$$

Then

$$\|s - \tilde{s}\| \leq \|R\| \left( 2\eta(\nu)(1 + \gamma + \gamma^2) + \frac{2\|E\|}{\nu + \sigma_k^2} \right).$$



# What can go wrong?

- ▶ If the gap between  $\sigma_K$  and  $\sigma_{K+1}$  is small,
  - ▶ you may have trouble identifying  $K$ , and, even if you know  $K$ ,
  - ▶ the span of the first  $K$  singular vectors may change significantly with each nonlinear iteration,
  - ▶ so the error  $E$  in  $J$  could be  $\approx \sigma_K$
- ▶ If  $\|R^*\|$  is too large then the convergence estimate is a problem
- ▶ Small  $J^T R$  may be a poor indicator of convergence.

So there's a problem here. We got a good idea from Thomas Heldt who's been using ...

## Subset Selection: Linear Least Squares

Find “optimal” linearly independent set of  $K$  columns for  $M \times N$  matrix  $A$  i. e.

- ▶ span of columns you keep includes ones you discard
- ▶ condition of  $M \times K$  smaller matrix is good

So you transform a nearly rank deficient matrix into a full rank one.

- ▶ Golub/Klema/Stewart 1976
- ▶ Vèlez-Reyes 1992
- ▶ Chandrasekaran/Ipsen 1994
- ▶ Gu/Eisenstat 1996

## Subset Selection for us

- ▶ Assume prior knowledge of  $K$
- ▶ Apply to computed  $R'$  at the start
  - ▶ extract  $K$  design variables
  - ▶ set other  $N - K$  to nominal values
  - ▶ do full-rank computation
- ▶ Query span of  $K$  columns and conditioning at the end.

Conditioning is much less sensitive to perturbation.

# Example: Parameter ID for IVP

Dynamics:

$$y' = F(t, y : p), \quad y(0) = y_0, \quad p \in R^N.$$

Fit numerical solution of IVP to data vector  $d \in R^M$ ,

$$f(p) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^M (\tilde{y}(t_i : p) - d_i)^2$$

We compute  $\tilde{y}$  with `ode15s`.

# Jacobian and sensitivities

$$R_i(p) = \tilde{y}(t_i : p) - d_i,$$

and we compute the columns of the Jacobian by computing the sensitivities,

$$w_p = \partial y / \partial p, \text{ so } R'_{ij}(p) = w_{p_j}(t_i).$$

$w_p$  is the solution of the initial value problem

$$w'_p + F_y(y, p)w_p + F_p(y, p) = 0, \quad w_p(0) = 0.$$

Solve for  $w$  and  $y$  simultaneously, so accuracy in  $R$  and  $R'$  is roughly the same.

# Driven Harmonic Oscillator

$$(1+10^{-3}\delta_m)y''+(c_1+c_2)y'+ky = A\sin(\omega t), \quad y(0) = y_0, y'(0) = y'_0.$$

With  $p = (\delta_m, c_1, c_2, k)^T \in R^4$ . Small singular value from  $p_1$  and one zero singular value since

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial c_1} = \frac{\partial R}{\partial c_2}.$$

Data come from exact solution with

$$p^* = (1.23, 1, 0, 1)^T, \text{ and we use } p_0 = (0, 1, 1, .3)^T.$$

# Highly Accurate Integration: SS improves performance

Accuracy tolerances to ode15s were

$$\tau_a = \tau_r = 10^{-8}$$

and we got

$$p = (1.22, .5, .5, 1)^T \text{ (no SS) and } (1.23, 0, 1, 1)^T \text{ (with SS)}$$

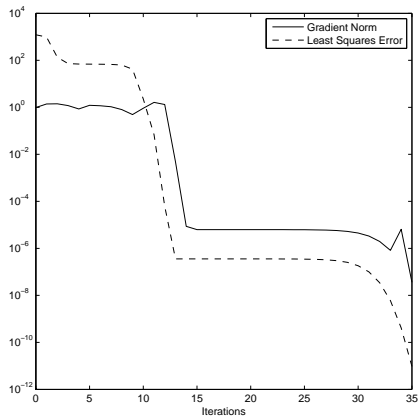
which is very good.

The singular values were

$$(1.13e + 02, 2.16e + 00, 5.57e - 04, 1.68e - 15)$$

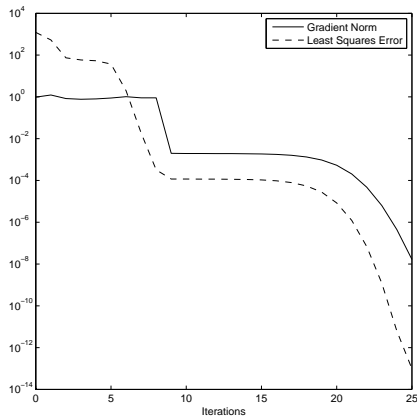
so there is a clear gap.

# Driven Oscillator: High Accuracy





# Driven Oscillator: High Accuracy: SS, faster convergence



# Large residual: Right vs Wrong

Perturb data component wise by  $1 + 10^{-4} \text{rand}$ . Results:

$$p = (.636, .5, .5, .998)^T \text{ (no SS) and } (1.27, 0, 1, 1)^T \text{ (with SS)}$$

So  $\delta_m$  is completely wrong without SS.

## Driven Oscillator; Low Resolution

In this example we set

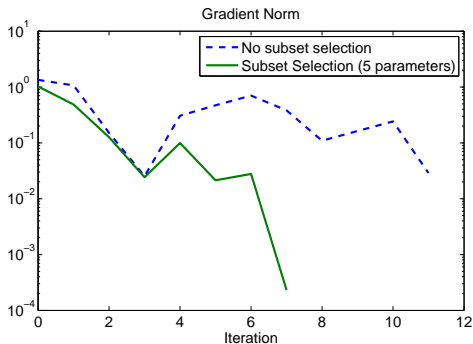
$$\tau_a = \tau_r = 10^{-4}$$

and get

$$p = (.09, .5, .5, 1)^T \text{ (no SS) and } (.97, 0, 1, 1)^T \text{ (with SS)}$$

So we can recover one figure with poor accuracy and SS.

# What about the cardio model?



# Conclusions

- ▶ Cardiovascular modeling leads to
- ▶ too many parameters, which produces a
- ▶ nearly rank-deficient nonlinear least squares problem.
  - ▶ Special structure from dependent design variables
  - ▶ Great (and classic) results in exact arithmetic
  - ▶ Less great results with errors
  - ▶ Subset selection can help