

# Backward Perturbation Analysis for Scaled Total Least Squares Problems

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# Outline

- The scaled total least squares problem
- Backward perturbation analysis
- A pseudo-minimal backward error  $\mu$
- A lower bound for  $\mu$
- An asymptotic estimate for  $\mu$
- Numerical experiments and conclusion



# Notation

**Matrices:**  $A, \Delta A, E, \dots$

**Vectors:**  $b, \Delta b, f, \dots$

**Scalars:**  $\gamma, \beta, \xi, \dots$



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**Matrix norms:**  $\|A\|_2 \equiv \sigma_{\max}(A), \quad \|A\|_F^2 \equiv \text{trace}(A^T A)$



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$\sigma_{\min}(A)$ : smallest singular value of  $A$

$\lambda_{\min}(A)$ : smallest eigenvalue of (real symmetric)  $A$

$A^\dagger$ : Moore-Penrose generalized inverse of  $A$   
(for a non-zero vector  $v^\dagger = v^T / \|v\|_2^2$ )



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# The scaled total least squares problem

Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , the least squares problem is

$$\min_{f, x} \left\{ \|f\|_2^2 : Ax = b + f \right\}$$



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The scaled total least squares (STLS) problem is

$$\min_{E,f,x} \left\{ \|[E, \gamma f]\|_F^2 : (A + E)x = b + f \right\}$$





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The STLS problem reduces to

- the least squares (LS) problem as  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$
- the total least squares (TLS) problem if  $\gamma = 1$
- the data least squares (DLS) problem as  $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$



# STLS optimality conditions

The STLS problem is equivalent to

$$\min_x \frac{\|b - Ax\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|x\|_2^2}$$



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Lemma (Paige and Strakoš, 2002)

- *under mild conditions on  $A$  and  $b$ , a unique STLS solution exists*



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Lemma (Paige and Strakoš, 2002)

- *under mild conditions on  $A$  and  $b$ , a unique STLS solution exists*
- *assuming these conditions hold,  $\hat{x}$  is optimal **if and only if***

$$A^T(b - A\hat{x}) = -\frac{\|b - A\hat{x}\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|\hat{x}\|_2^2}\hat{x} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\|b - A\hat{x}\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|\hat{x}\|_2^2} < \sigma_{\min}^2(A)$$



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# Backward perturbation analysis

## Recent research:

- **Consistent linear systems:**  
Oettli & Prager (64), Rigal & Gaches (67),  
D. Higham & N. Higham (92), Varah (94),  
J.G. Sun & Z. Sun (97), Sun (99), etc.



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- **DLS problems:** Chang, Golub & Paige (06)





# Backward perturbation analysis for STLS

Given an **approximate** STLS solution  $0 \neq y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we seek **minimal** perturbations  $\Delta A$  and  $\Delta b$  such that  $y$  is the **exact** STLS solution of the perturbed problem:

$$y = \arg \min_x \frac{\|(b + \Delta b) - (A + \Delta A)x\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|x\|_2^2}$$



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## Applications:

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- this can be used to design **stopping criteria** for iterative methods for large sparse problems



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# The minimal backward error problem

The minimal backward error problem:

$$\min_{[\Delta A, \Delta b] \in \mathcal{G}} \{ \|\Delta A, \Delta b\|_F \}$$

where

$$\mathcal{G} \equiv \left\{ [\Delta A, \Delta b] : y = \arg \min_x \frac{\|(b + \Delta b) - (A + \Delta A)x\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|x\|_2^2} \right\}$$



# The set $\mathcal{G}$

Recall the STLS optimality conditions:

$$\begin{cases} h(A, b, \hat{x}) \equiv A^T(b - A\hat{x}) + \frac{\|b - A\hat{x}\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|\hat{x}\|_2^2} \hat{x} = 0, \\ \frac{\|b - A\hat{x}\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|\hat{x}\|_2^2} < \sigma_{\min}^2(A) \end{cases}$$



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Therefore

$$\mathcal{G} \equiv \left\{ [\Delta A, \Delta b] : y = \arg \min_x \frac{\|(b + \Delta b) - (A + \Delta A)x\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|x\|_2^2} \right\}$$



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Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G} &\equiv \left\{ [\Delta A, \Delta b] : y = \arg \min_x \frac{\|(b + \Delta b) - (A + \Delta A)x\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|x\|_2^2} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ [\Delta A, \Delta b] : \begin{aligned} h(A + \Delta A, b + \Delta b, y) &= 0, \\ \frac{\|(b + \Delta b) - (A + \Delta A)y\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|y\|_2^2} &< \sigma_{\min}^2(A + \Delta A) \end{aligned} \right\} \end{aligned}$$





# The superset $\mathcal{G}^+$

The inequality makes the problem difficult...

$$\mathcal{G} = \left\{ [\Delta A, \Delta b] : \begin{array}{l} h(A + \Delta A, b + \Delta b, y) = 0, \\ \frac{\|(b + \Delta b) - (A + \Delta A)y\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|y\|_2^2} < \sigma_{\min}^2(A + \Delta A) \end{array} \right\}$$



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We ignore it, and define

$$\mathcal{G}^+ \equiv \{ [\Delta A, \Delta b] : h(A + \Delta A, b + \Delta b, y) = 0 \}$$

We will consider the following **pseudo**-minimal backward error  $\mu$ :

$$\mu \equiv \min_{[\Delta A, \Delta b] \in \mathcal{G}^+} \{ \|[ \Delta A, \Delta b ]\|_F \}$$



# Can we really ignore the inequality?

We are ignoring the inequality in the set  $\mathcal{G}$  and solving

$$\mu \equiv \min_{[\Delta A, \Delta b] \in \mathcal{G}^+} \{ \|\Delta A, \Delta b\|_F \}$$

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## Theorem

*Let  $\hat{x}$  be the true STLS solution.*

*There exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that when  $\|y - \hat{x}\|_2 < \epsilon$ ,*

*$\mu(y)$  is indeed the true minimal backward error.*



# A pseudo-minimal backward error

We can find an **explicit** representation of  $\mathcal{G}^+$  and minimize over this set.

## Theorem

Define  $r \equiv b - Ay$  and

$$M \equiv A(I - yy^\dagger)A^T - \frac{rr^T}{1 + \|y\|_2^2} + \frac{(Ay + \gamma^2\|y\|_2^2b)(Ay + \gamma^2\|y\|_2^2b)^T}{\|y\|_2^2 + \gamma^4\|y\|_2^4}$$

Then

$$\mu^2 = \frac{\|r\|_2^2}{1 + \|y\|_2^2} + \min \{ \lambda_{\min}(M), 0 \}$$



Limits  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$  and  $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$ 

When  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$M \rightarrow AA^T - \frac{rr^T}{1 + \|y\|_2^2}$$

This is consistent with the result of Waldén, Karlson & Sun (95).



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When  $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$M \rightarrow A(I - yy^\dagger)A^T - \frac{rr^T}{1 + \|y\|_2^2} + bb^T$$

This is consistent with the result of Chang, Golub & Paige (06).





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# A lower bound for $\mu$

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For any  $[\Delta A, \Delta b] \in \mathcal{G}^+$ ,  $h(A + \Delta A, b + \Delta b, y) = 0$ .

Rearranging terms and taking the 2-norm:

$$\|[\Delta A, \Delta b]\|_2^2 + \beta_1 \cdot \|[\Delta A, \Delta b]\|_2 - \beta_0 \geq 0$$

where  $\beta_0, \beta_1 \geq 0$  are independent of  $\Delta A$  and  $\Delta b$ .



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## Theorem

$$\mu \geq 2\beta_0 \left( \beta_1 + \sqrt{\beta_1^2 + 4\beta_0} \right)^{-1} \equiv \mu_{lb}$$



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This lower bound can be estimated in  $\mathcal{O}(mn)$  flops.



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## Theorem

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow \hat{x}} \tilde{\mu} / \mu = 1$$



# Computing the asymptotic estimate

## Theorem

Define  $r \equiv b - Ay$ ,

$$\xi_0 \equiv \sqrt{1 + \|y\|_2^2}, \quad \xi_1 \equiv \sqrt{\gamma^{-2} + \|y\|_2^2}, \quad \xi_2 \equiv \frac{\|y\|_2^2 - \gamma^{-2} + 2}{\xi_0 \xi_1^2},$$

and

$$B \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \xi_0 A + \xi_2 r y^T \\ \xi_0^{-1} \|r\|_2 I \\ \xi_0^{-1} \|r\|_2 \|y\|_2 (I - y y^\dagger) \end{bmatrix}, \quad c \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \xi_0^{-1} r \\ -\xi_1 \|r\|_2 y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



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Then

$$\tilde{\mu} = \|BB^\dagger c\|_2$$



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# Sample numerical test

## Tests:

- When is  $\mu$  actually the minimal backward error?  
(How close does  $y$  have to be to the true STLS solution for

$$\frac{\|(b + \Delta b) - (A + \Delta A)y\|_2^2}{\gamma^{-2} + \|y\|_2^2} < \sigma_{min}^2(A + \Delta A)$$

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to hold?)

- Are  $\mu_{lb}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}$  good estimates of  $\mu$ ?



# Sample numerical test

## Data:

- $\gamma = 1$
- $100 \times 40$  “random”  $A$  with  $\|A\|_F = 1$  and  $\kappa_2(A) = 10^5$
- $E$  and  $f$  are “random” with  $\|E\|_F, \|f\|_2 \leq 10^{-2}$
- $b = (A + E)x + f$  where  $x = [1, 1, \dots, 1]^T$



# Sample numerical test

## Data:

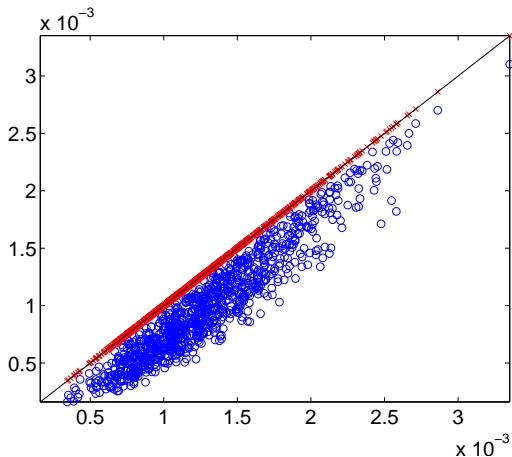
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- $b = (A + E)x + f$  where  $x = [1, 1, \dots, 1]^T$
- Obtain the STLS solution  $\hat{x}$
- Perturb  $\hat{x}$  “randomly” to obtain  $y$ , with  $\frac{\|y - \hat{x}\|_2}{\|\hat{x}\|_2} \leq \delta_x$
- Run 1000 tests with  $\delta_x = 10^{-2}$  and  $\delta_x = 10^{-1}$





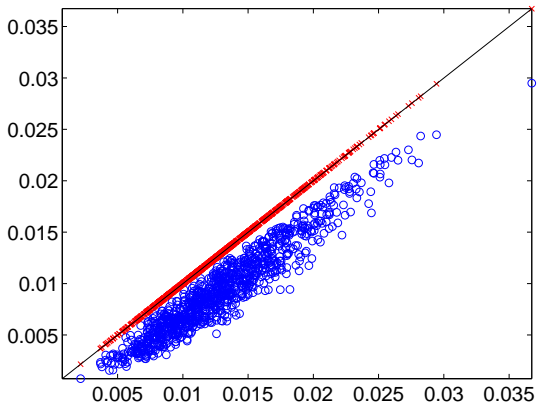
Sample test result:  $\delta_x = 10^{-2}$ 

$\mu_{lb}$  vs  $\mu$ : blue dots;  $\tilde{\mu}$  vs  $\mu$ : red stars



Sample test result:  $\delta_x = 10^{-1}$ 

$\mu_{lb}$  vs  $\mu$ : blue dots;  $\tilde{\mu}$  vs  $\mu$ : red stars



# Summary and future work

Given an approximate STLS solution  $0 \neq y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we have found:

- a **pseudo-minimal backward error**  $\mu$   
(if  $y$  is close enough to  $\hat{x}$ , this is the minimal backward error)
- a **lower bound** for  $\mu$  (a good, cheap estimate)
- an **asymptotic estimate** for  $\mu$  (an excellent estimate)



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- find a cheap way to compute the asymptotic estimate
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**Thank you for your attention!**

