

# Applied Machine Learning

Linear Regression

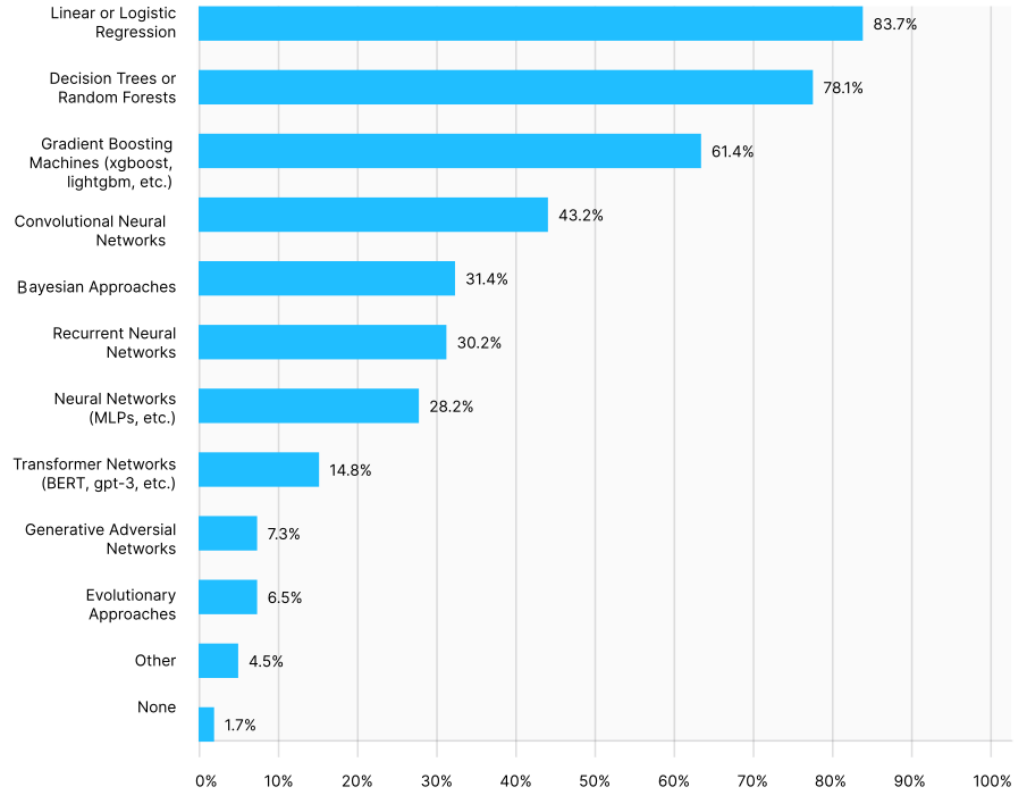
Isabeau Prémont-Schwarz



COMP 551 (Fall 2023)

# Sometimes all you need is a linear regression ...

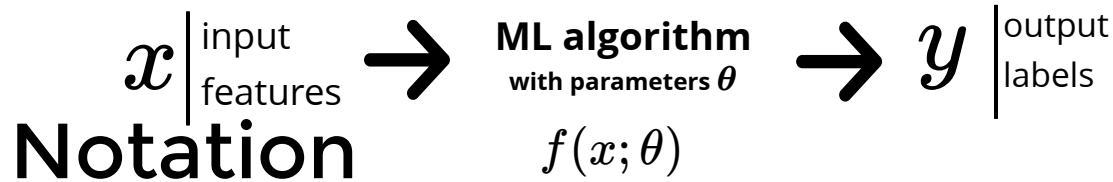
METHODS AND ALGORITHMS USAGE



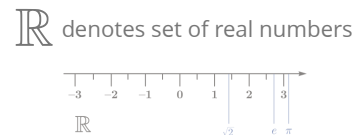
from 2020 Kaggle's survey on the state of Machine Learning and Data Science, you can read the full version [here](#)

# Learning objectives

- linear model
- evaluation criteria
- how to find the best fit
- geometric interpretation
- maximum likelihood interpretation



each instance:  $x \in \mathbb{R}^D$   
 $y \in \mathbb{R}$



vectors are assumed to be **column vectors**  $x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_D \end{bmatrix}$  = a feature =  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D]^T$

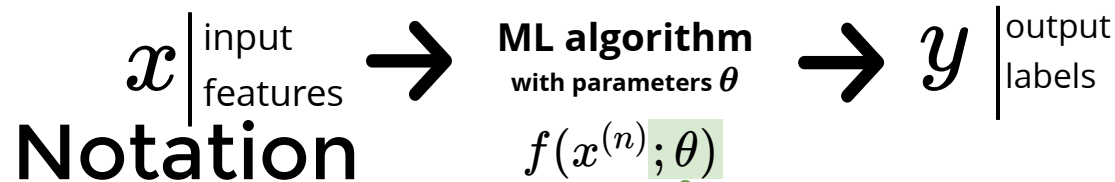
**example**

<tumorsize, texture, perimeter> = <18.2, 27.6, 117.5>  $\rightarrow$  growth = +2

$$x = [18.2, 27.6, 117.5]^T$$

$$x = [x_1, x_2, x_3]^T$$

$$y = 2$$



$\uparrow$  training: parameter estimation

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(x^{(n)}, y^{(n)})\}_{n=1}^N$$

each instance:  $x^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^D$   
 $y^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}$

we assume  $N$  instances in the dataset  $\mathcal{D} = \{(x^{(n)}, y^{(n)})\}_{n=1}^N$

each instance has  $D$  features indexed by  $d$

for example,  $x_d^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}$  is the feature  $d$  of instance  $n$

# Notation

**design matrix:** concatenate all instances  $\mathcal{D} = \{(x^{(n)}, y^{(n)})\}_{n=1}^N$   
 each row is a datapoint, each column is a feature

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x^{(1)\top} \\ x^{(2)\top} \\ \vdots \\ x^{(N)\top} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^{(1)}, & x_2^{(1)}, & \cdots, & x_D^{(1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_1^{(N)}, & x_2^{(N)}, & \cdots, & x_D^{(N)} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$$

one instance

one feature

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} y^{(1)} \\ y^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ y^{(N)} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times 1}$$

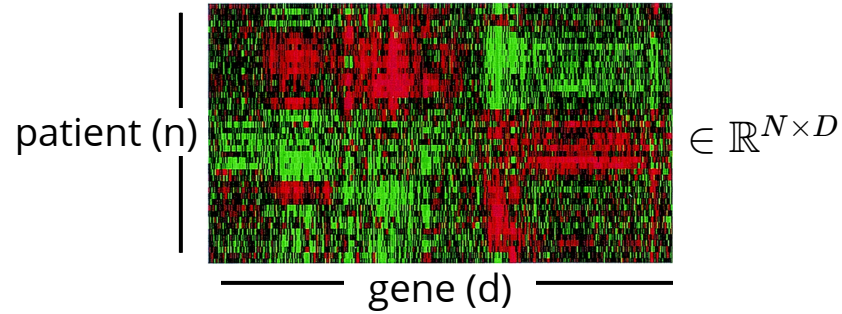
**Example:**

instances: 5 documents  
 features: 7 words

	it	is	puppy	cat	pen	a	this
it is a puppy	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
it is a kitten	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
it is a cat	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
that is a dog and this is a pen	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
it is a matrix	1	1	0	0	0	1	0

**Example:**

Micro array data (X), contains gene expression levels  
 labels (y) can be {cancer/no cancer classification} label for each patient, or how fast it is growing (regression)



# Regression: examples

## Age-estimating.

input: face  
output: age

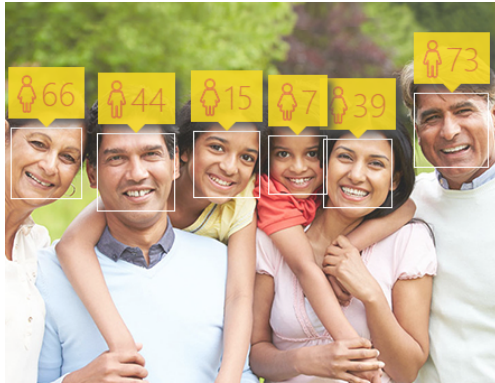


image from Microsoft  
age estimator [here](#)

## Protein folding.

input: sequences  
output: 3D structure

instead of is it cancer? yes, no  
How fast is it growing? 1.5

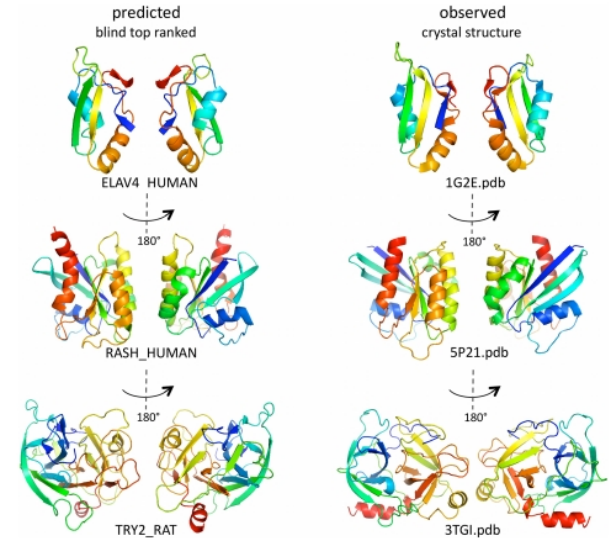


Image from Marks et al. [link](#)

## Colourization.

input: gray scale image  
output: colour image

Image from Zhang et al. [link](#)



# Origin of Regression

Method of least squares was invented by **Legendre** and **Gauss** (1800's)

Gauss used it to predict the future location of Ceres (largest asteroid in the asteroid belt)



ocean navigation  
image from wiki history of navigation



Gauss  
used it



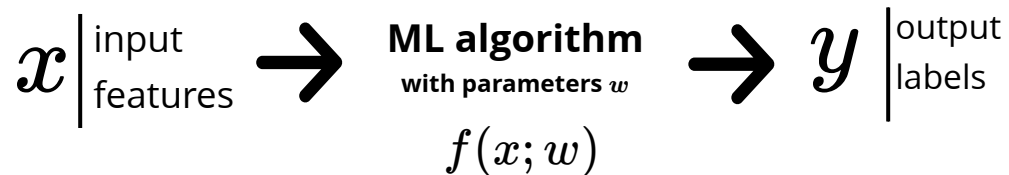
Legendre  
published it



Pearson  
named it regression



# Linear model of regression



$$f_w(x) = w_0 + w_1 x_1 + \dots + w_D x_D$$

model parameters or weights (we also called them  $\theta$  before)

$[w_0, w_1, \dots, w_D]$

bias or intercept

assuming a scalar output  $f_w : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

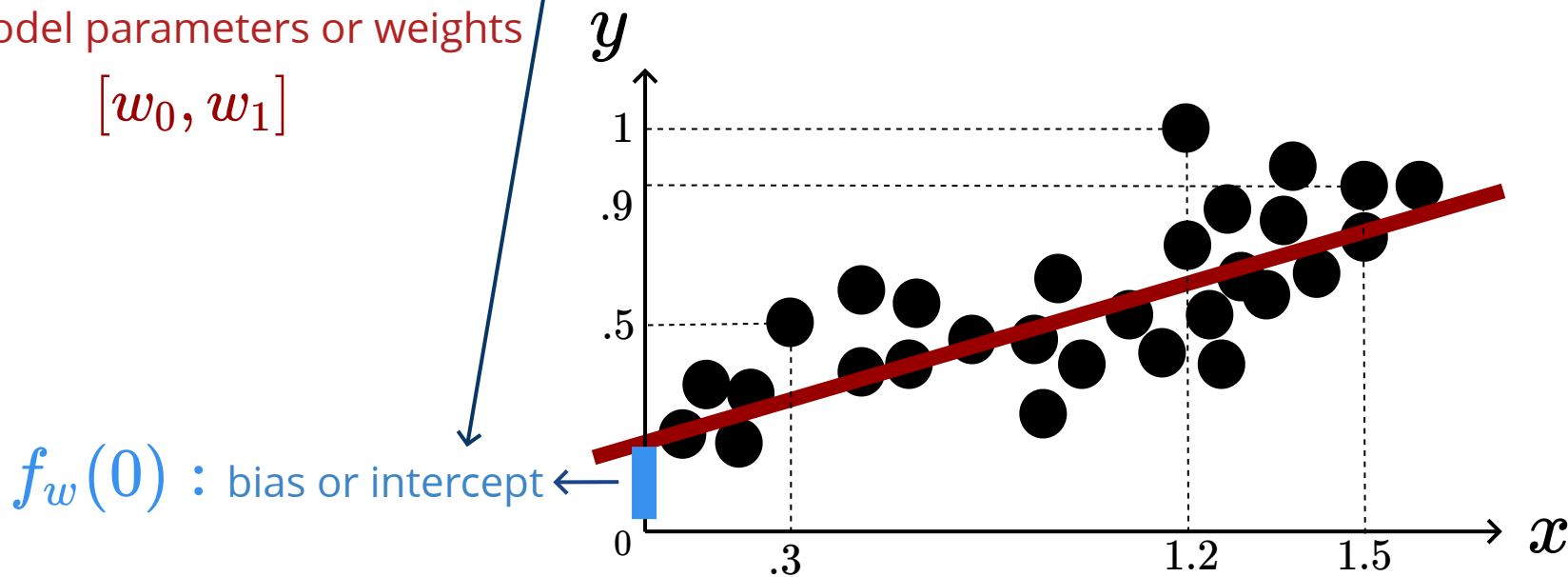
will generalize to a vector later

# Linear model of regression: example $D = 1$

$$f_w(x) = w_0 + w_1 x_1$$

model parameters or weights  
 $[w_0, w_1]$

forms a line in 1 dimension



$$X = \begin{bmatrix} .3 \\ 1.2 \\ 1.5 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}, Y = \begin{bmatrix} .5 \\ .9 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

# Linear model of regression

$$f_w(x) = w_0 + w_1 x_1 + \dots + w_D x_D$$

model parameters or weights

bias or intercept

## simplification

concatenate a 1 to  $x$   $\longrightarrow x = [1, x_1, \dots, x_D]^\top$

$$f_w(x) = w^\top x$$

$$w = [w_0, w_1, \dots, w_D]^\top$$

# Linear regression: Objective

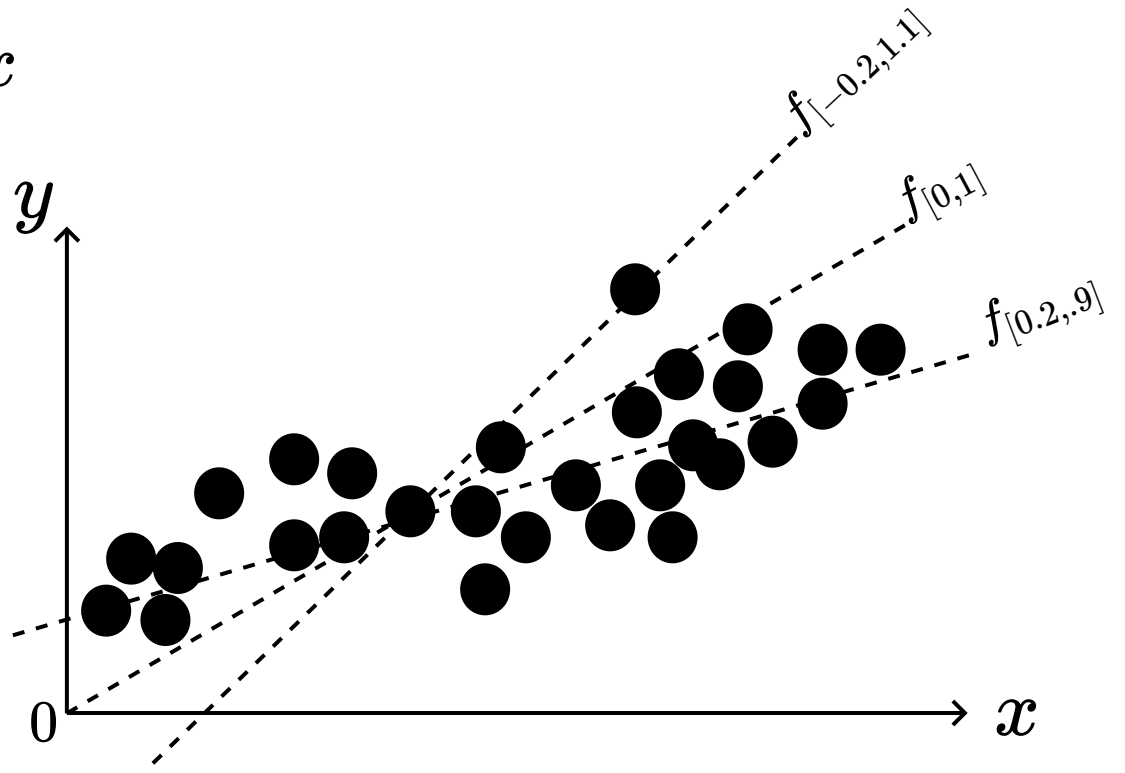
**objective:** find parameters to fit the data

**model:**  $f_w(x) = w^\top x$

example  $D = 1$

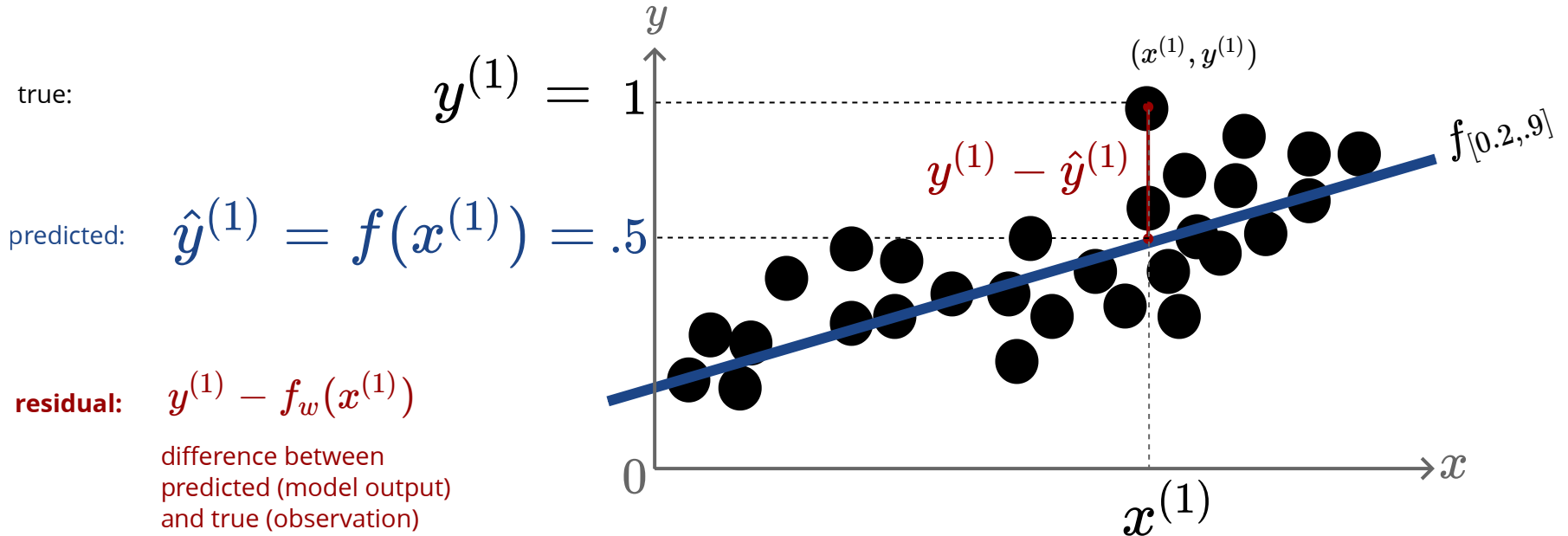
$w = [w_0, w_1]$

Which line is better?



# Linear regression: Objective

**objective:** find parameters to fit the data



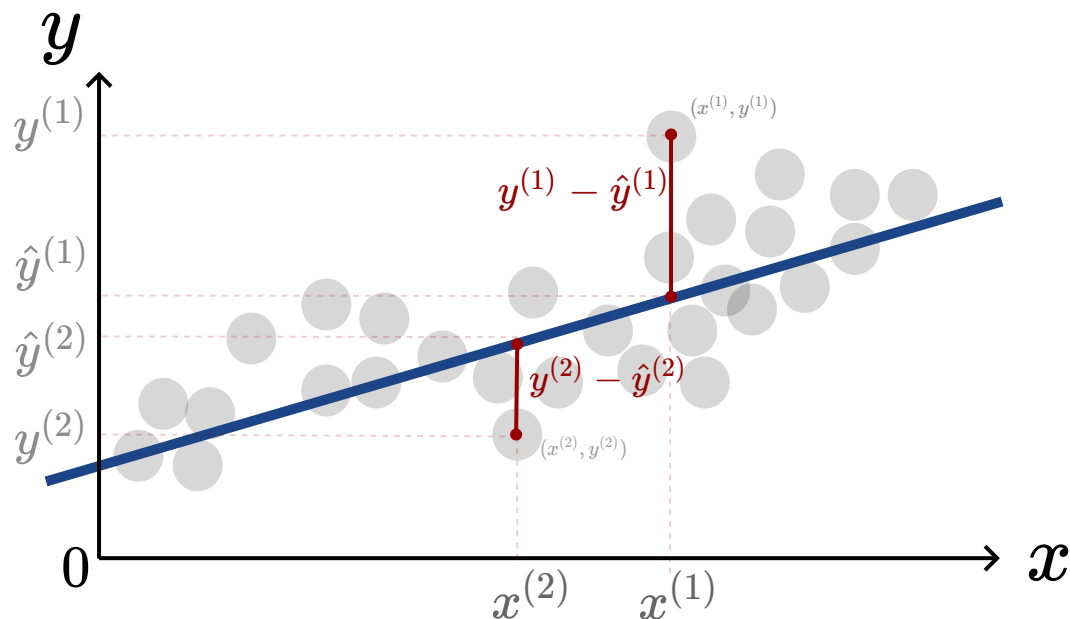
# Linear regression: Objective

**objective:** find parameters to fit the data

how to consider all observations? sum all residuals?

square error **loss**  
(a.k.a. **L2** loss)

$$L(y, \hat{y}) \triangleq (y - \hat{y})^2$$



# Linear regression: **cost function**

**objective:** find parameters to **fit the data**

$$f_w(x^{(n)}) \approx y^{(n)} \quad x^{(n)}, y^{(n)} \quad \forall n$$

minimize a measure of difference between  $\hat{y}^{(n)} = f_w(x^{(n)})$  and  $y^{(n)}$

square error **loss** (a.k.a. **L2** loss)  $L(y, \hat{y}) \triangleq \frac{1}{2}(y - \hat{y})^2$

for a single instance (a function of labels)

for future convenience

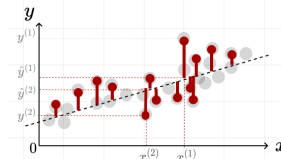
versus

for the whole dataset

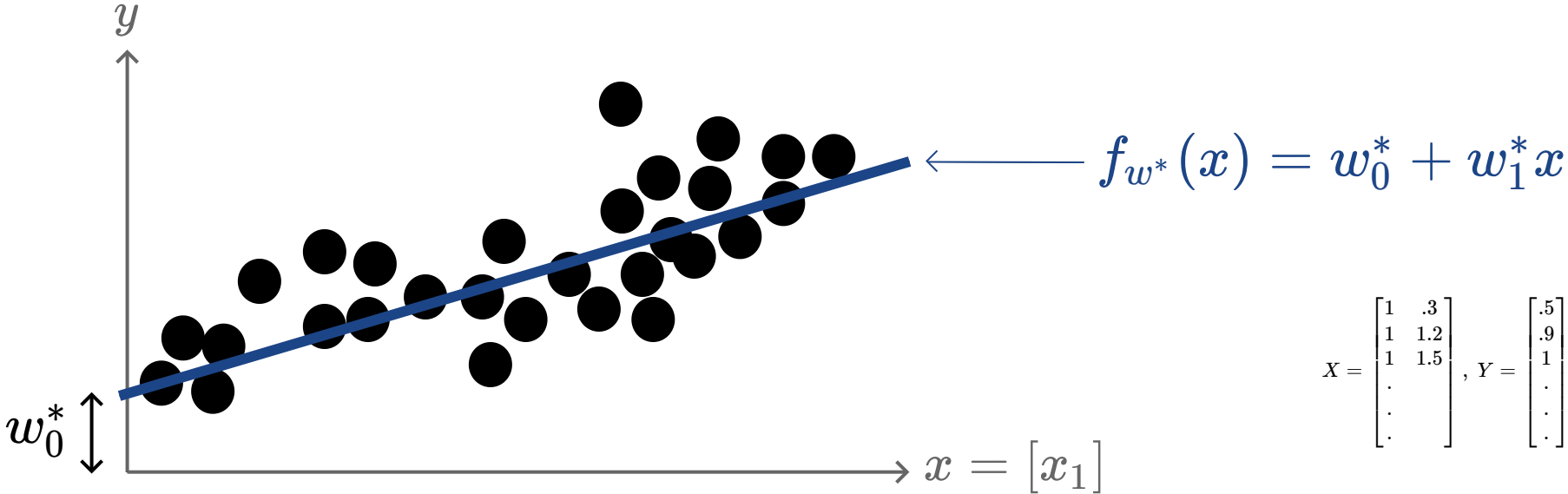
sum of squared errors **cost function**

$$J(w) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \left( y^{(n)} - w^\top x^{(n)} \right)^2$$

$$w^* = \arg \min_w J(w)$$



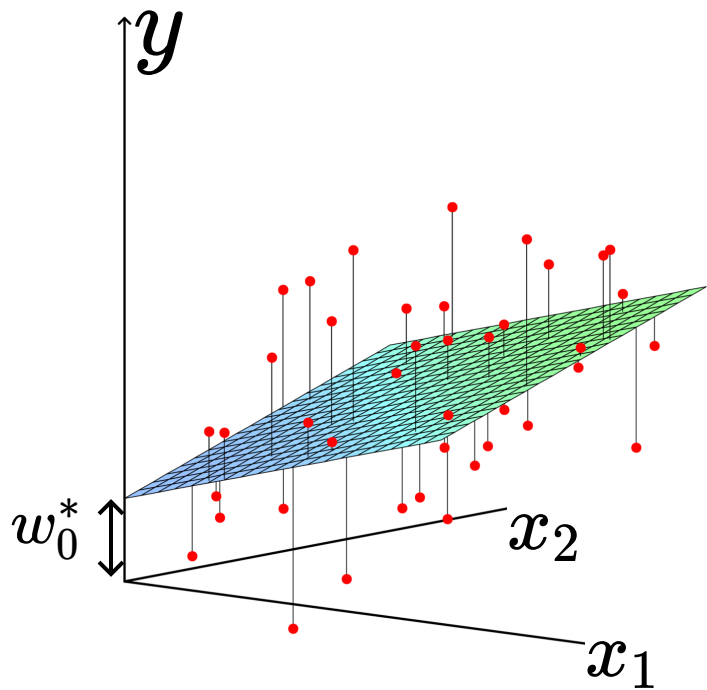
# Example (D = 1) +bias (D=2)!



Linear Least Squares solution:  $w^* = \arg \min_w \sum_n \frac{1}{2} \left( y^{(n)} - w^T x^{(n)} \right)^2$



# Example (D=2) +bias (D=3)!



$$f_{w^*}(x) = w_0^* + w_1^*x_1 + w_2^*x_2$$

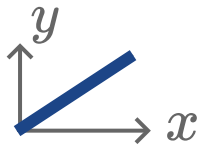
$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & .3 & .5 \\ 1 & 1.2 & 1.6 \\ 1 & 1.5 & 1.2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}, Y = \begin{bmatrix} .5 \\ .9 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Least Squares

$$w^* = \arg \min_w \sum_n \left( y^{(n)} - w^T x^{(n)} \right)^2$$

# Minimizing the cost

Simple case:  $D = 1$  (no intercept)



model:  $f_w(x) = wx$   
both scalar

cost function  $J(w) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_n (y^{(n)} - wx^{(n)})^2$

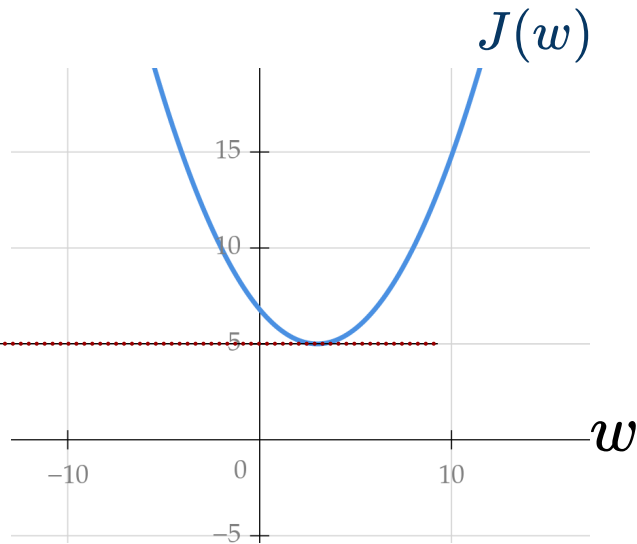
derivative:  $\frac{dJ}{dw} = \sum_n x^{(n)} (wx^{(n)} - y^{(n)})$

set to 0:  $0 = w \sum_n x^{(n)} x^{(n)} - \sum_n x^{(n)} y^{(n)}$

setting the derivative to zero  $w^* = \frac{\sum_n x^{(n)} y^{(n)}}{\sum_n x^{(n)2}}$

global minimum because the cost function is smooth and *convex*

more on convexity layer





# Minimizing the cost

for a multivariate function  $J(w_0, w_1)$

partial derivatives instead of derivative

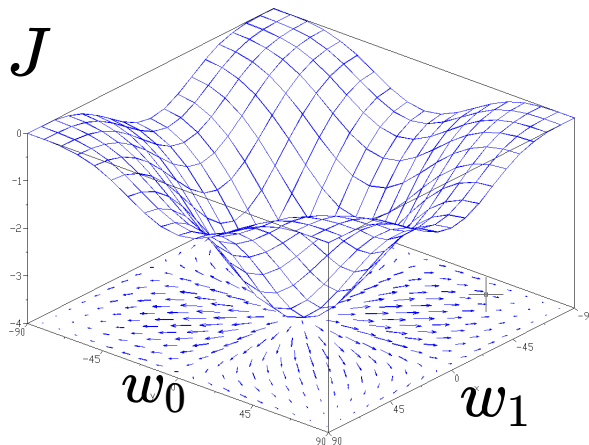
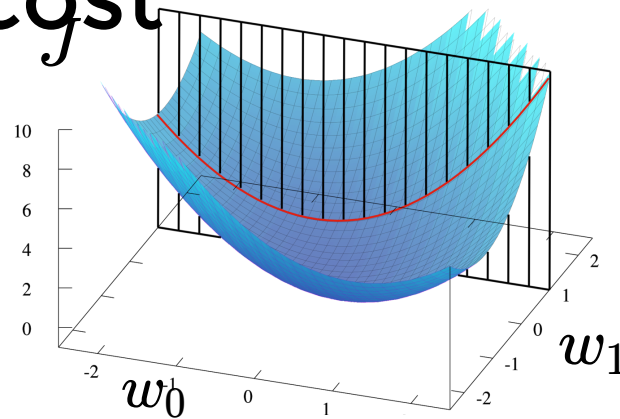
= derivative when other vars. are fixed

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_0} J(w_0, w_1) \triangleq \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{J(w_0 + \epsilon, w_1) - J(w_0, w_1)}{\epsilon}$$

**critical point:** all partial derivatives are zero

**gradient:** vector of all partial derivatives

$$\nabla J(w) = \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial w_1} J(w), \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial w_D} J(w) \right]^\top$$



# Minimizing the cost

## for general case (any D)

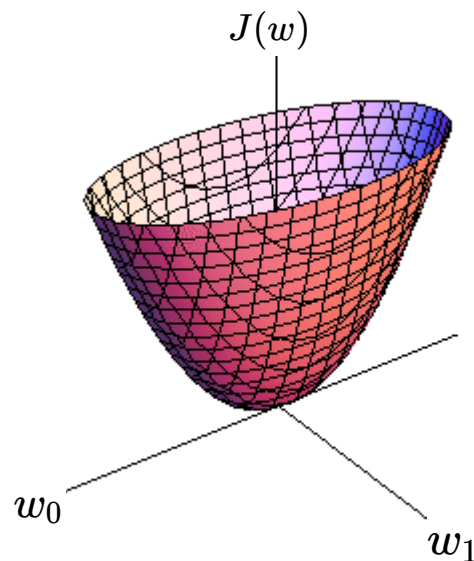
find the critical point by setting  $\frac{\partial}{\partial w_d} J(w) = 0$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_d} \sum_n \frac{1}{2} (y^{(n)} - f_w(x^{(n)}))^2 = 0$$

using **chain rule**:  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial w_d} = \frac{dJ}{df_w} \frac{\partial f_w}{\partial w_d}$

we get  $\sum_n (w^\top x^{(n)} - y^{(n)}) x_d^{(n)} = 0 \quad \forall d \in \{1, \dots, D\}$

$D$  equations with  $D$  unknowns



cost is a smooth and convex function of  $w$

we are ignoring the bias term here, with the bias term, it would be  $D+1$  equations and  $D+1$  unknown for  $d$  in  $[0, D]$

# Linear regression: Matrix form

instead of  $\hat{y}^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R} = \underset{1 \times D}{w}^\top \underset{D \times 1}{x^{(n)}}$

**Note:**  $D$  is in fact dimensions of the input +1 due to the simplification and adding the bias/intercept term

use **design matrix** to write  $\underset{N \times 1}{\hat{y}} = \underset{N \times D}{X} \underset{D \times 1}{w}$

$$\hat{y}^{(1)} = w_0 + x_1^{(1)} w_1 + x_2^{(1)} w_2 + \dots + x_D^{(1)} w_D$$
$$\hat{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}^{(1)} \\ \hat{y}^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}^{(N)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1^{(1)} & x_2^{(1)} & \dots & x_D^{(1)} \\ 1 & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_1^{(N)} & x_2^{(N)} & \dots & x_D^{(N)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_0 \\ w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_D \end{bmatrix}$$

**Linear least squares**

$$\arg \min_w \frac{1}{2} \|y - Xw\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} (y - Xw)^\top (y - Xw)$$

squared L2 norm of the **residual** vector

# Minimizing the cost: **Matrix form**

## Linear least squares

$$J(w) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - Xw\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)$$

$$y^T Xw = w^T X^T y$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} [y^T y + w^T X^T Xw - 2y^T Xw]$$

$$\frac{\partial Xw}{\partial w} = X^T$$

Using matrix differentiation

$$\frac{\partial w^T Xw}{\partial w} = 2Xw$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w} = 0 + X^T Xw - X^T y = X^T (Xw - y)$$

# Minimizing the cost: Matrix form

Linear least squares

$$\hat{y} = Xw$$

$N \times 1$        $N \times D$   $D \times 1$

$$J(w) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - Xw\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} [y^T y + w^T X^T X w - 2y^T X w]$$



# Minimizing the cost: Matrix form

Linear least squares

$$\hat{y} = Xw$$

$N \times 1$        $N \times D$   $D \times 1$

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$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} [y^T y + w^T X^T X w - 2y^T X w]$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} [\sum_j y_{j1} y_{j1} + \sum_{j,k,m} w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{km} w_{m1} - \sum_{j,k} 2y_{j1} X_{jk} w_{k1}]$$

# Minimizing the cost: Matrix form

Linear least squares

$$\hat{y} = Xw$$

$N \times 1$        $N \times D$   $D \times 1$

$$J(w) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - Xw\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} [y^T y + w^T X^T X w - 2y^T X w]$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} [\sum_j y_{j1} y_{j1} + \sum_{j,k,m} w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{km} w_{m1} - \sum_{j,k} 2y_{j1} X_{jk} w_{k1}]$$

✦✦ Einstein notation: implicit sum on repeated indices ✦✦  $(AB)_{ij} = A_{ik} B_{kj}$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{i1}} [y_{j1} y_{j1} + w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{km} w_{m1} - 2y_{j1} X_{jk} w_{k1}]$$

# Minimizing the cost: Matrix form

Linear least squares

$$\hat{y} = Xw$$

$N \times 1$        $N \times D$   $D \times 1$

$$J(w) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - Xw\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} [y^T y + w^T X^T X w - 2y^T X w]$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{i1}} [y_{j1} y_{j1} + w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{km} w_{m1} - 2y_{j1} X_{jk} w_{k1}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\delta_{ij} X_{kj} X_{km} w_{m1} + w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{km} \delta_{mi} - 2y_{j1} X_{jk} \delta_{ki}]$$

# Minimizing the cost: Matrix form

Linear least squares

$$\hat{y} = Xw$$

$N \times 1$        $N \times D$   $D \times 1$

$$J(w) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - Xw\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{i1}} [y_{j1} y_{j1} + w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{km} w_{m1} - 2y_{j1} X_{jk} w_{k1}] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [\delta_{ij} X_{kj} X_{km} w_{m1} + w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{km} \delta_{mi} - 2y_{j1} X_{jk} \delta_{ki}] \quad (AB)_{ij} = A_{ik} B_{kj} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [X_{ki} X_{km} w_{m1} + w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{ki} - 2y_{j1} X_{ji}] = \left( \frac{2}{2} X^T (Xw - y) \right)_{i1} \end{aligned}$$

# Minimizing the cost: Matrix form

Linear least squares

$$\hat{y} = Xw$$

$N \times 1$        $N \times D$   $D \times 1$

$$J(w) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - Xw\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)$$

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} [y^T y + w^T X^T X w - 2y^T X w]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\delta_{ij} X_{kj} X_{km} w_{m1} + w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{km} \delta_{mi} - 2y_{j1} X_{jk} \delta_{ki}] \quad (AB)_{ij} = A_{ik} B_{kj}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [X_{ki} X_{km} w_{m1} + w_{j1} X_{kj} X_{ki} - 2y_{j1} X_{ji}] = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial w} X^T (Xw - y) \right)_{i1}$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w} = X^T (Xw - y)$$

# Minimizing the cost: Matrix form

Linear least squares

$$\hat{y} = Xw$$

$N \times 1$        $N \times D$   $D \times 1$

$$0 = \frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w} = X^T (Xw - y)$$

$$0 = X^T Xw - X^T y \implies X^T Xw = X^T y$$
$$\implies w = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$$

# Closed form solution

$$\overbrace{X^\top}^{D \times N} \overbrace{(y - Xw)}^{N \times 1} = \vec{0} \quad \text{matrix form (using the design matrix)}$$

$$X^\top X w = X^\top y \quad \text{system of } D \text{ linear equations (} Aw = b \text{)}$$

each row enforces one of  $D$  equations

$$w^* = \underbrace{(X^\top X)^{-1}}_{D \times D} \underbrace{X^\top}_{D \times N} \underbrace{y}_{N \times 1}$$

pseudo-inverse of  $X$

closed form solution

similar to non-matrix form: optimal weights  $w^*$  satisfy

$$\sum_n (y^{(n)} - w^\top x^{(n)}) x_d^{(n)} = 0 \quad \forall d$$

$D$  equations with  $D$  unknowns

# Closed form solution

$$\overbrace{X^\top}^{D \times N} (\overbrace{y - Xw}^{N \times 1}) = \vec{0}$$

matrix form (using the design matrix)

**Normal equation:** because for optimal  $w$ , the residual vector is normal to column space of the design matrix

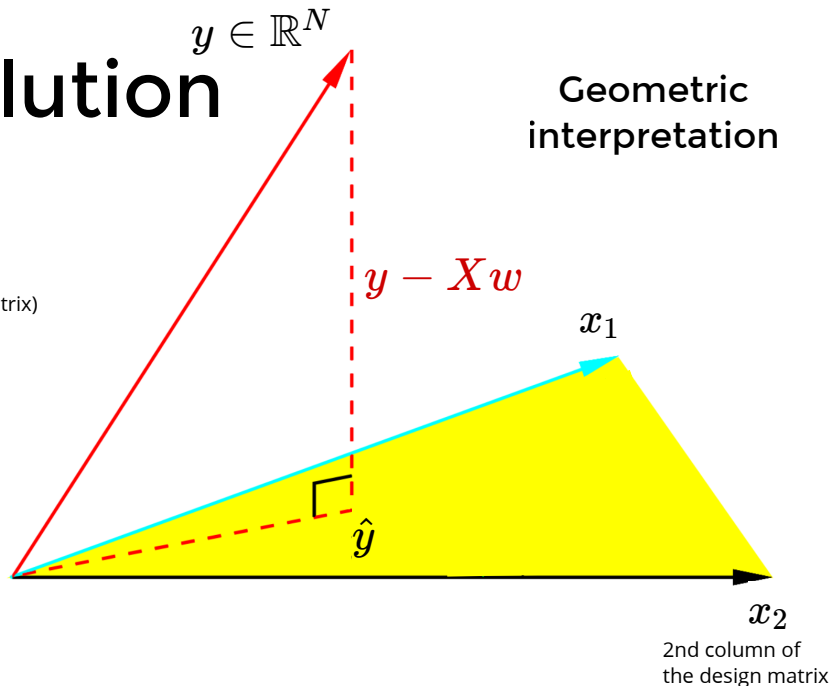
$$X^\top X w = X^\top y$$

system of  $D$  linear equations ( $Aw = b$ )

each row enforces one of  $D$  equations

$$w^* = \underbrace{(X^\top X)^{-1}}_{D \times D} \underbrace{X^\top}_{D \times N} \underbrace{y}_{N \times 1}$$

closed form solution



$$\hat{y} = Xw = X(X^\top X)^{-1}X^\top y$$

projection matrix into column space of  $X$



# Uniqueness of the solution

we can get a closed form solution!

$$w^* = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$$

unless  $D \geq N$

**or when** the  $X^T X$  **matrix** is not invertible

this matrix is not invertible when some of eigenvalues are zero!

that is, if features are completely correlated

... or more generally if features are **not linearly independent**

**examples** having a binary feature  $x_1$  as well as its negation  $x_2 = (1 - x_1)$

# Time complexity

$$w^* = \overbrace{(X^T X)^{-1}}^{D \times D} \overbrace{X^T y}^{D \times N \quad N \times 1}$$

$\mathcal{O}(D^3)$  matrix inversion

$\mathcal{O}(ND)$   $D$  elements, each using  $N$  ops.

$\mathcal{O}(D^2 N)$   $D \times D$  elements, each requiring  $N$  multiplications

total complexity for is  $\mathcal{O}(ND^2 + D^3)$  which becomes  $\mathcal{O}(ND^2)$  for  $N > D$

in practice we don't directly use matrix inversion (unstable)

however, other more stable solutions (e.g., Gaussian elimination) have similar complexity

# Multiple targets

instead of  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  we have  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D'}$

a different weight vectors for each target

*each column of  $\mathbf{Y}$  is associated with a column of  $\mathbf{W}$*

$$\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{W}$$

$N \times D'$     $N \times D$     $D \times D'$

$$\mathbf{W}^* = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{Y}$$

$D \times D$     $D \times N$     $N \times D'$

$$\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1^{(1)} & \hat{y}_2^{(1)} \\ \hat{y}_1^{(2)} & \hat{y}_2^{(2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \hat{y}_1^{(N)} & \hat{y}_2^{(N)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1^{(1)} & x_2^{(1)} & \cdots & x_D^{(1)} \\ 1 & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_1^{(N)} & x_2^{(N)} & \cdots & x_D^{(N)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_{0,1} & w_{0,2} \\ w_{1,1} & w_{1,2} \\ w_{2,1} & w_{2,2} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ w_{D,1} & w_{D,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{y}_1^{(1)} = w_{0,1} + x_1^{(1)} w_{1,1} + x_2^{(1)} w_{2,1} + \cdots + x_D^{(1)} w_{D,1}$$

$$\hat{y}_2^{(1)} = w_{0,2} + x_1^{(1)} w_{1,2} + x_2^{(1)} w_{2,2} + \cdots + x_D^{(1)} w_{D,2}$$

# Fitting non-linear data

so far we learned a linear function  $f_w = \sum_d w_d x_d$   
sometimes this may be too simplistic

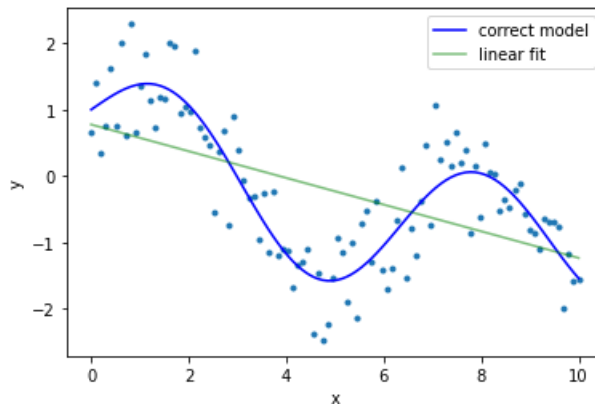
## example

Synthetic data when we generated data  
from a function

$$y^* = \sin(x) + \cos(\sqrt{x})$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(x^{(n)}, y^*(x^{(n)})) + \epsilon\}_{n=1}^N$$

small  
noise



we see linear fit is not close to correct model that  
the data is generated from, can we get a better fit?

idea

create new more useful features out of initial set of given features

e.g.,  $x_1^2, x_1 x_2, \log(x)$ ,

how about  $x_1 + 2x_3$  ?

# Nonlinear basis functions

so far we learned a linear function  $f_w = \sum_d w_d x_d$

let's denote the set of all features by  $\phi_d(x) \forall d$

the problem of linear regression doesn't change

$$f_w = \sum_d w_d \phi_d(x)$$

$\phi_d(x)$  is the new  $x$

solution simply becomes  $(\Phi^\top \Phi)w^* = \Phi^\top y$

replacing  $X$  with  $\Phi$

a (nonlinear) feature

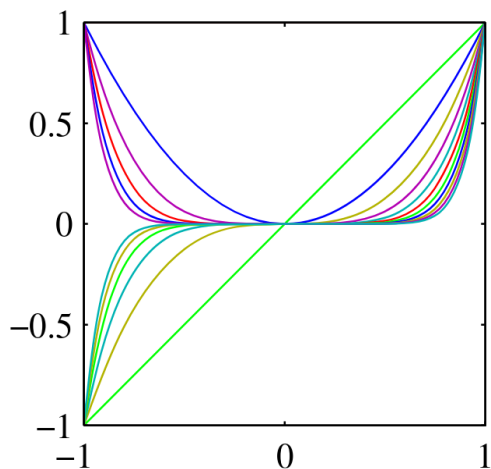
$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(x^{(1)}), & \phi_2(x^{(1)}), & \cdots, & \phi_D(x^{(1)}) \\ \phi_1(x^{(2)}), & \phi_2(x^{(2)}), & \cdots, & \phi_D(x^{(2)}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(x^{(N)}), & \phi_2(x^{(N)}), & \cdots, & \phi_D(x^{(N)}) \end{bmatrix}$$

one instance

# Nonlinear basis functions

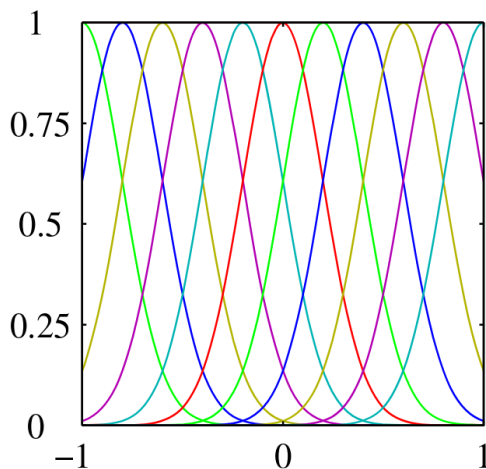
example

original input is scalar  $x \in \mathbb{R}$



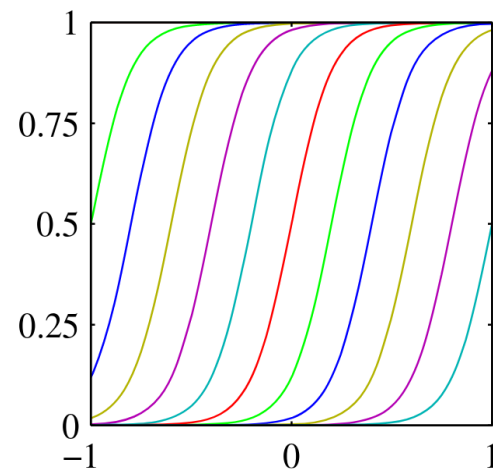
polynomial bases

$$\phi_k(x) = x^k$$



Gaussian bases

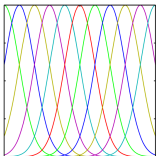
$$\phi_k(x) = e^{-\frac{(x-\mu_k)^2}{s^2}}$$



Sigmoid bases

$$\phi_k(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-\frac{x-\mu_k}{s}}}$$

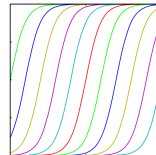
# Linear regression with nonlinear bases: **example**



Gaussian bases

$$\phi_k(x) = e^{-\frac{(x-\mu_k)^2}{s^2}}$$

we are using a fixed standard deviation of  $s=1$

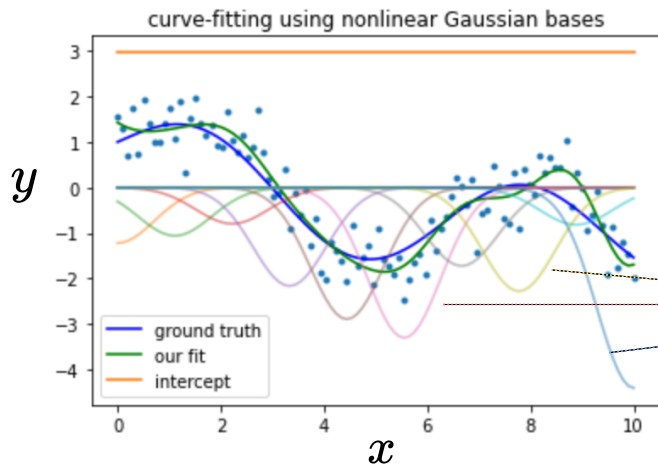


Sigmoid bases

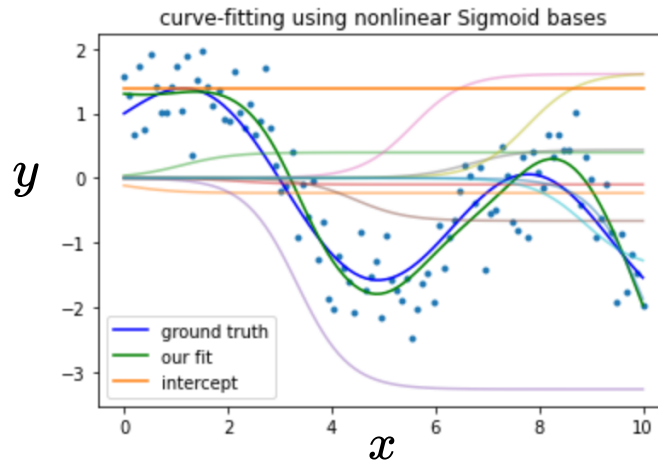
$$\phi_k(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-\frac{x-\mu_k}{s}}}$$

we are using a fixed standard deviation of  $s=1$

$$\hat{y}^{(n)} = w_0 + \sum_k w_k \phi_k(x)$$



the green curve (our fit) is the sum of these scaled Gaussian bases plus the intercept. Each basis is scaled by the corresponding weight



# Probabilistic interpretation

idea

given the dataset  $\mathcal{D} = \{(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)}), \dots, (x^{(N)}, y^{(N)})\}$

learn a probabilistic model  $p(y|x; w)$

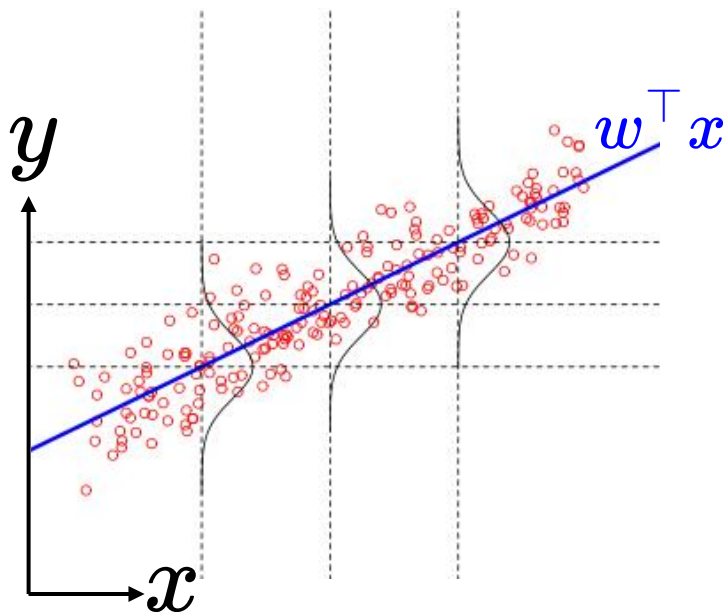


image from [here](#)

consider  $p(y|x; w)$  with the following form

$$p_w(y | x) = \mathcal{N}(y | w^\top x, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(y-w^\top x)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

assume a fixed variance, say  $\sigma^2 = 1$

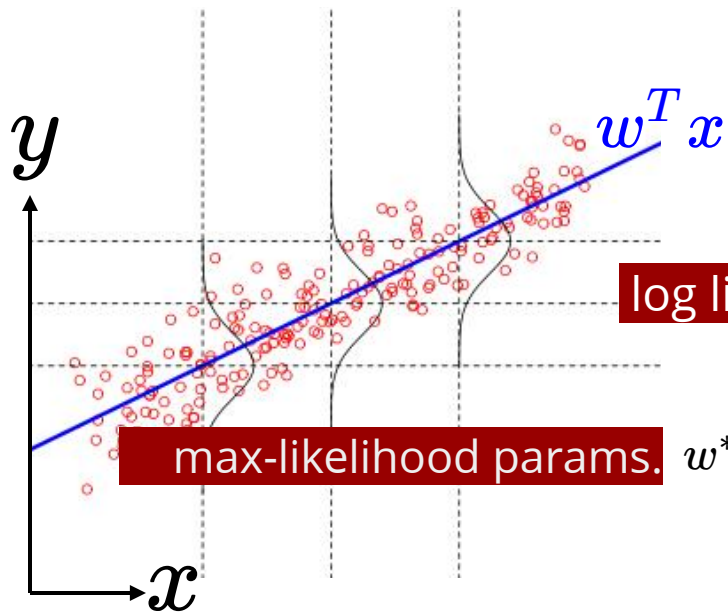
Q: how to fit the model?

A: maximize the conditional likelihood!



# Maximum likelihood & linear regression

cond. probability  $p(y | x; w) = \mathcal{N}(y | w^\top x, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(y-w^\top x)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$



likelihood  $L(w) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(y^{(n)} | x^{(n)}; w)$

log likelihood  $\ell(w) = \sum_n -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (y^{(n)} - w^\top x^{(n)})^2 + \text{constants}$

max-likelihood params.  $w^* = \arg \max_w \ell(w) = \arg \min_w \frac{1}{2} \sum_n (y^{(n)} - w^\top x^{(n)})^2$   
linear least squares!

image from [here](#)

whenever we use square loss, we are assuming Gaussian noise!

# Summary

linear regression:

- models targets as a **linear function of features**
- fit the model by **minimizing the sum of squared errors**
- has a **direct solution** with  $\mathcal{O}(ND^2 + D^3)$  complexity
- probabilistic interpretation

we can build more expressive models:

- using any number of **non-linear features**