

Applied Machine Learning

Linear Regression

Reihaneh Rabbany



Learning objectives

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

Notation

recall

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

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

one instance

\mathbb{R} denotes set of real numbers



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

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

recall

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

design matrix: *concatenate all instances*

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

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

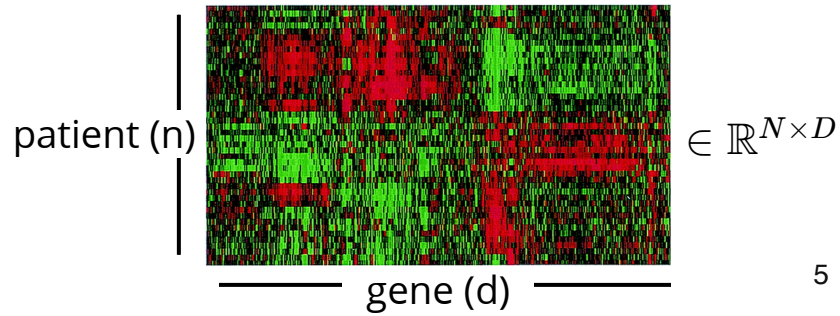
Example:

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)



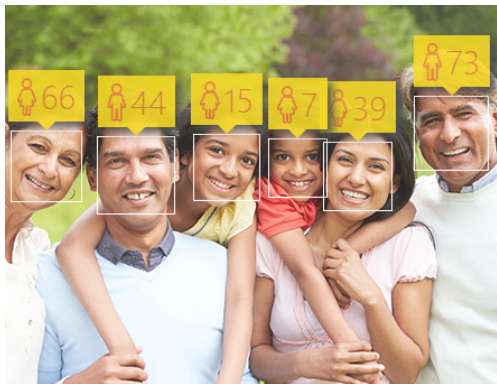
Regression: **examples**

Age-estimating.

input: face

output: age

image from Microsoft
age estimator [here](#)



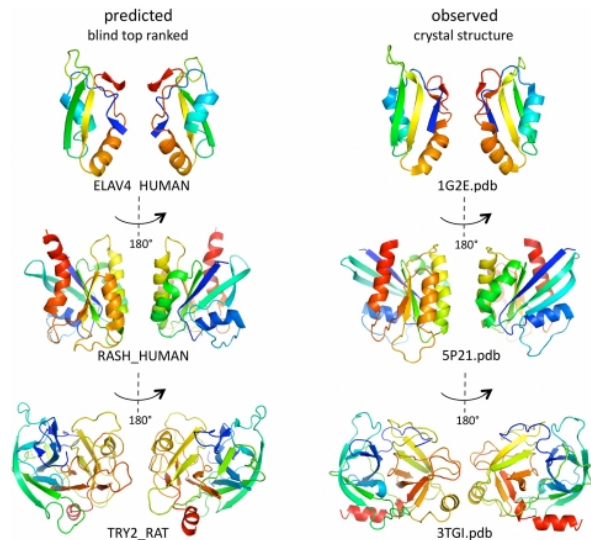
Protein folding.

input: sequences

output: 3D structure

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

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



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

$$f_w(x) = w_0 + w_1x_1 + \dots + w_Dx_D$$

model parameters or weights

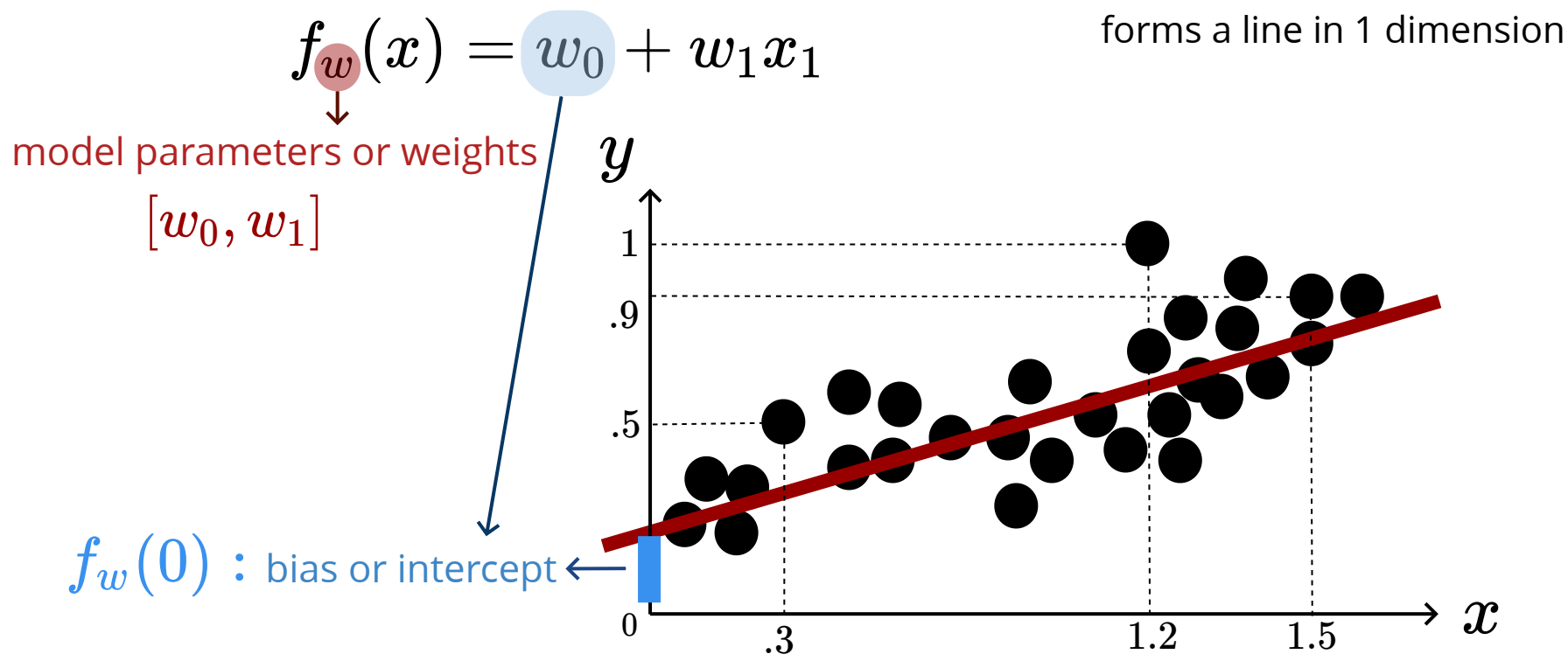
$[w_0, w_1, \dots, w_D]$

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 $D = 1$



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 $x \longrightarrow x = [\mathbf{1}, x_1, \dots, x_D]^\top$

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

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

Linear regression: Objective

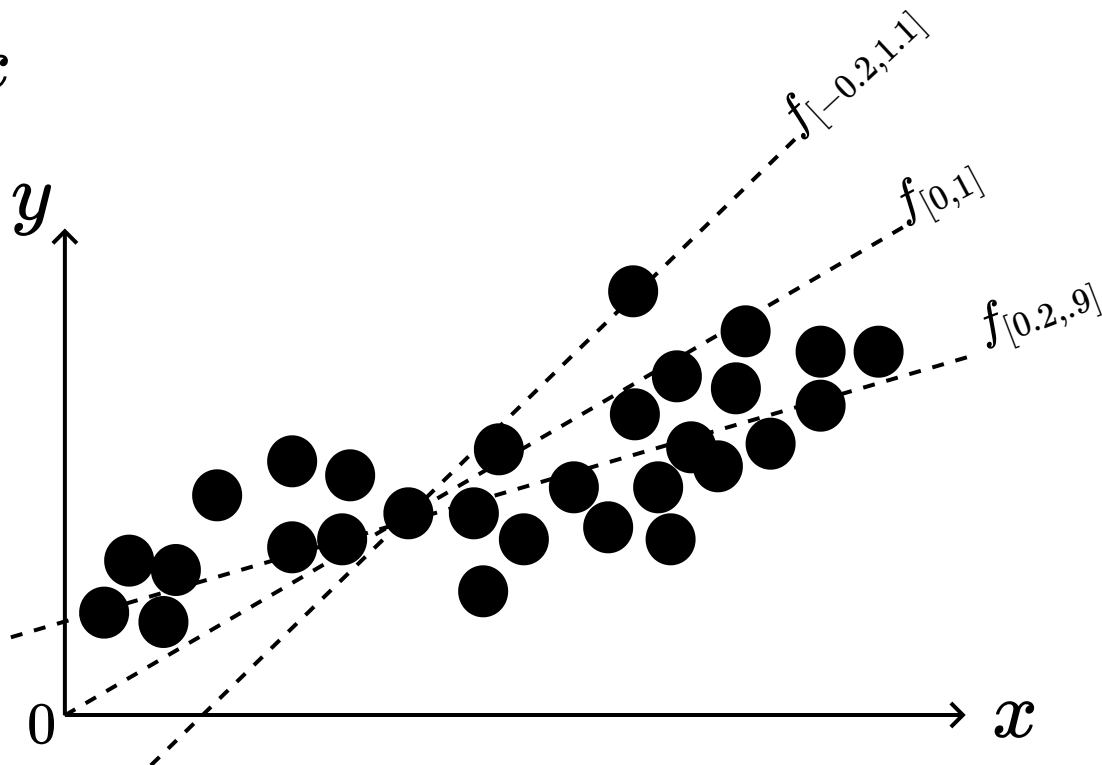
objective: find parameters to fit the data

model: $f_w(x) = w^T x$

example $D = 1$

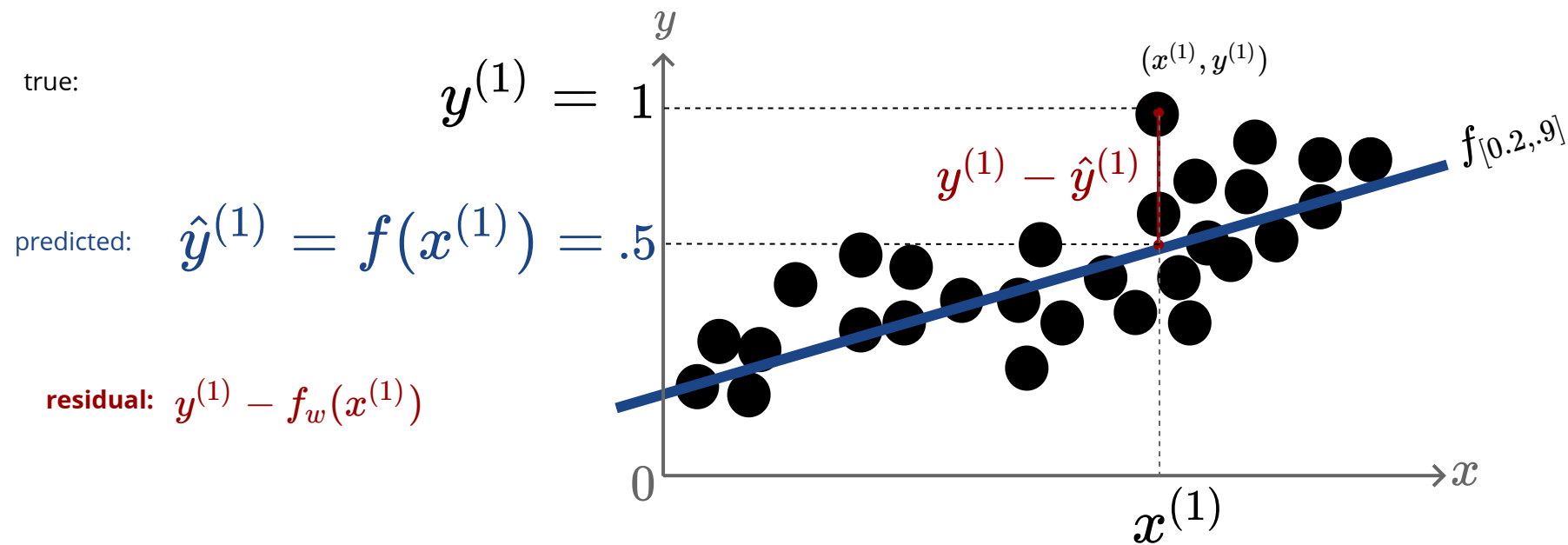
$$w = [w_0, w_1]$$

Which line is better?



Linear regression: Objective

objective: find parameters to fit the data



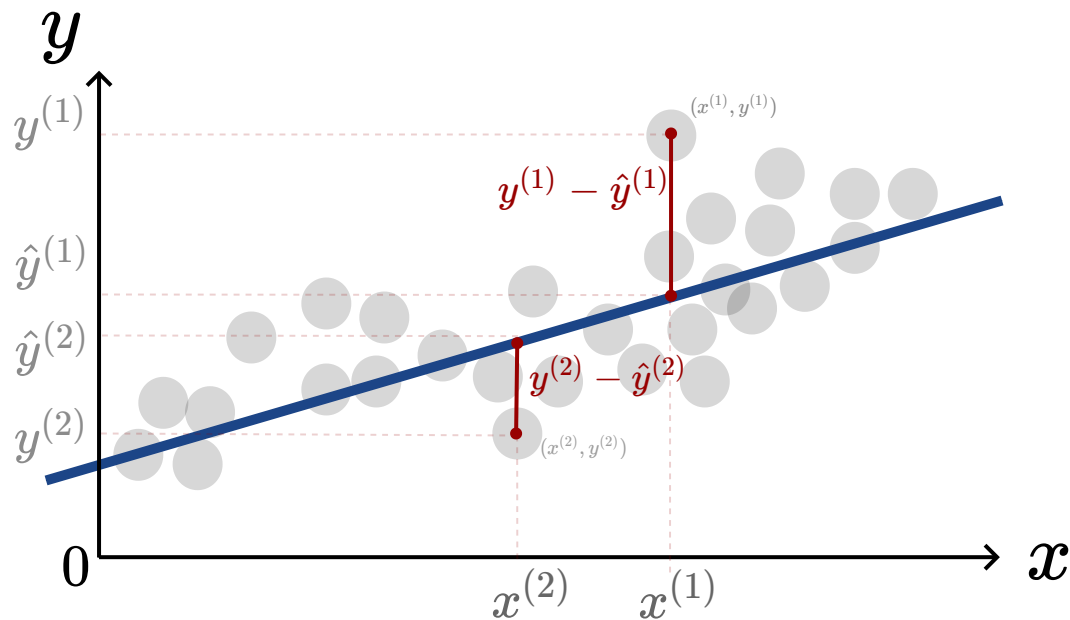
Linear regression: Objective

objective: find parameters to fit the data

how to 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**

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

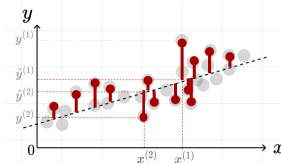
minimize a measure of difference between $\hat{y}^{(n)} = f_w(x^{(n)})$ and $y^{(n)}$

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

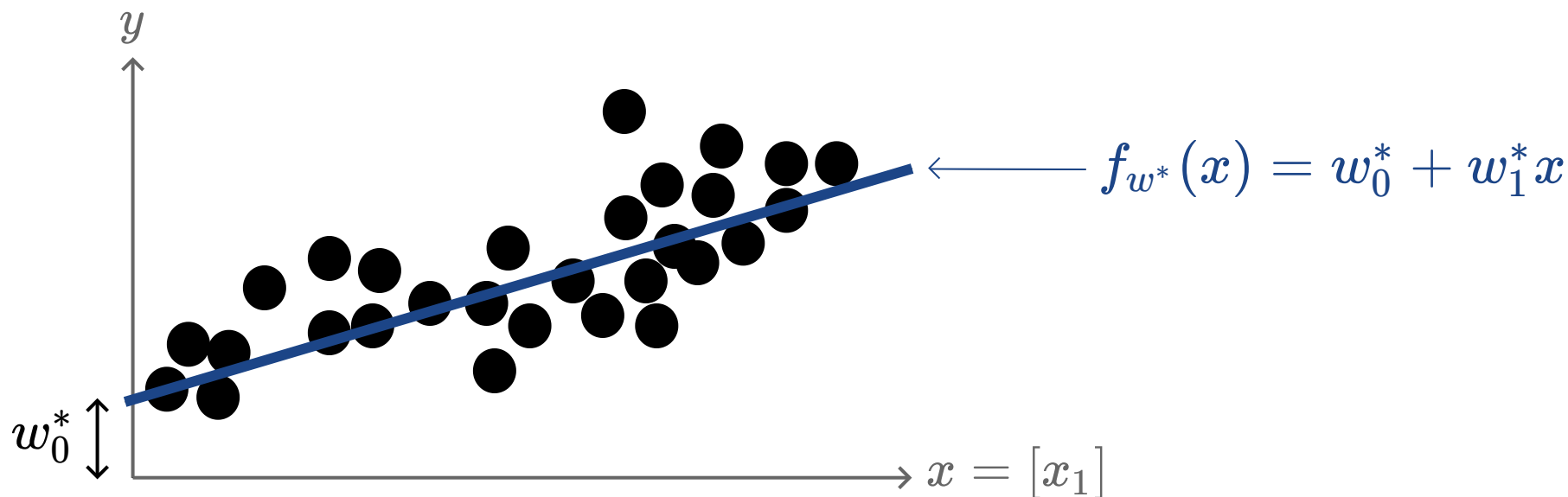
sum of squared errors **cost function**

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

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

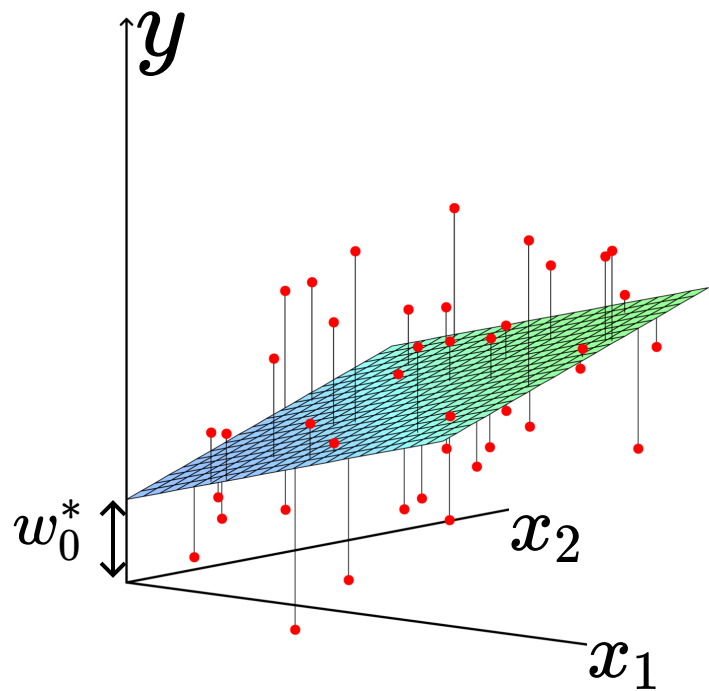


Example ($D = 1$) +bias ($D=2$)!



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)!



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

Linear Least Squares

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

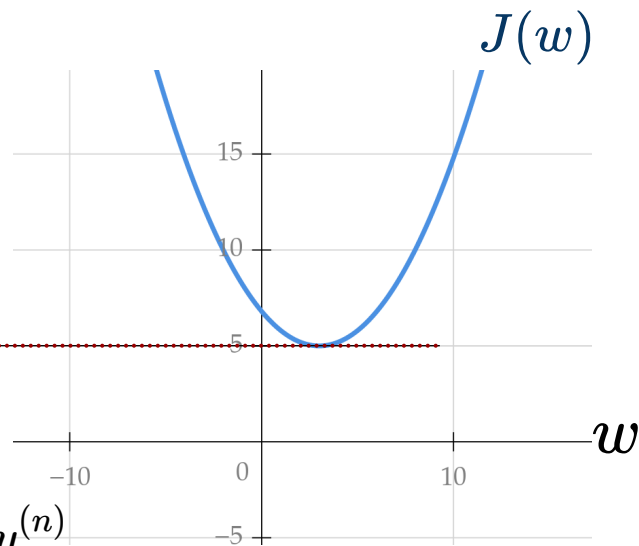
Minimizing the cost

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



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*

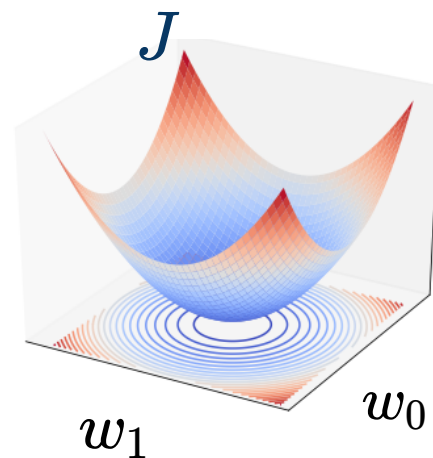
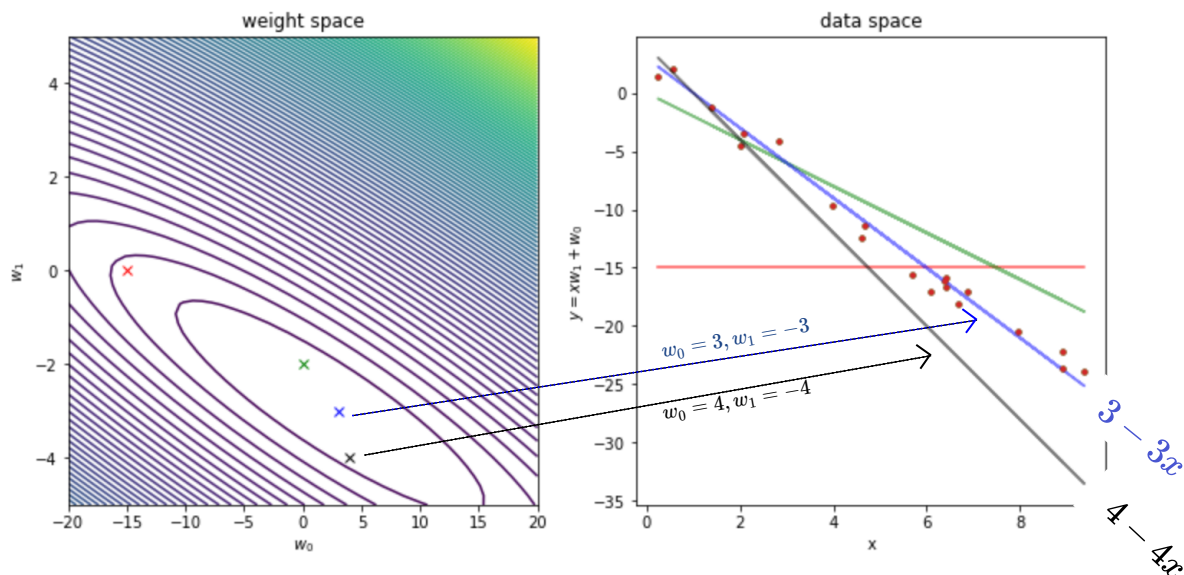
more on convexity layer

Minimizing the cost

$D = 1$ (with intercept)

model: $f_w(x) = w_0 + w_1 x$

cost: a multivariate function $J(w_0, w_1)$



the cost function is a smooth function of w
find minimum by setting partial derivatives to zero

Minimizing the cost

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

partial derivatives instead of derivative

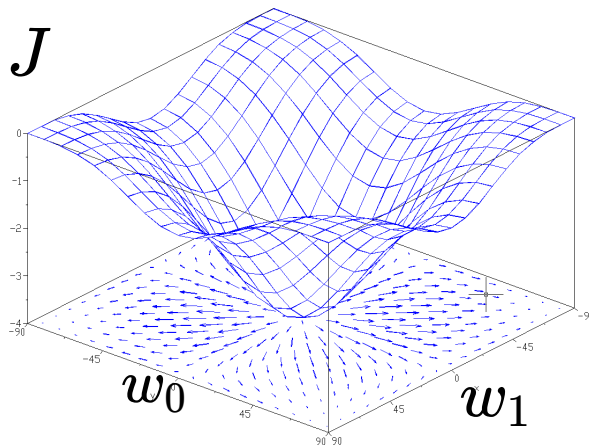
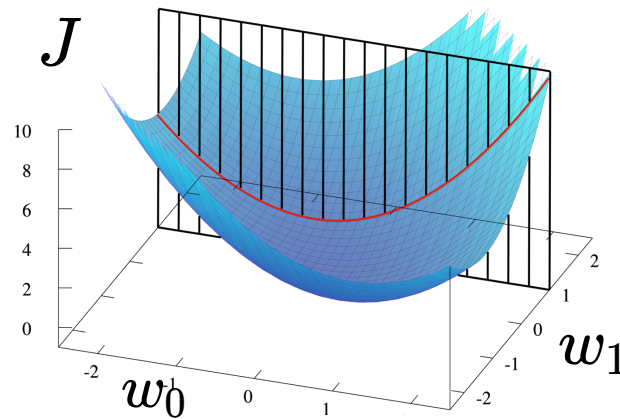
= derivative when other vars. are fixed

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

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)

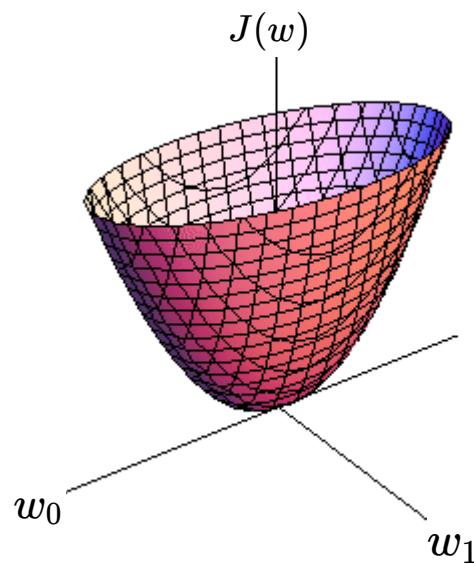
find the critical point by setting $\frac{\partial}{\partial w_d} J(w) = 0$

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

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

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

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

$$\frac{\partial J(w)}{\partial w} = 0 + 2X^T Xw - 2X^T y = 2X^T (Xw - y)$$

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

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

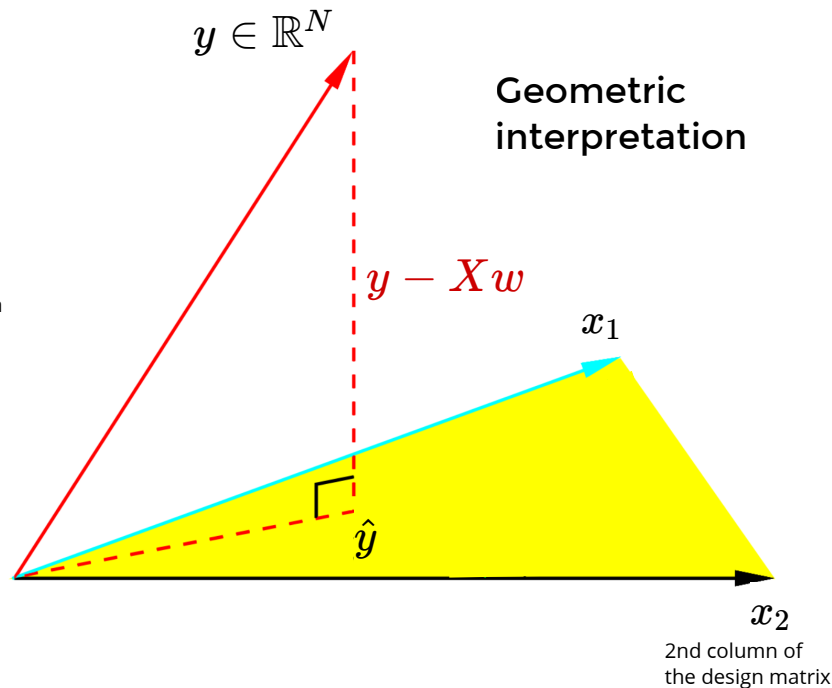
system of D linear equations ($Aw = b$)

each row enforces one of D equations

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

pseudo-inverse of X

closed form solution



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

projection matrix into column space of X

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

Uniqueness of the solution

we can get a closed form solution!

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

unless $D \geq N$

or when the $X^\top X$ **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 x 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 $y \in \mathbb{R}^N$ we have $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D'}$

a different weight vectors for each target

each column of Y is associated with a column of W

$$\hat{Y} = XW$$

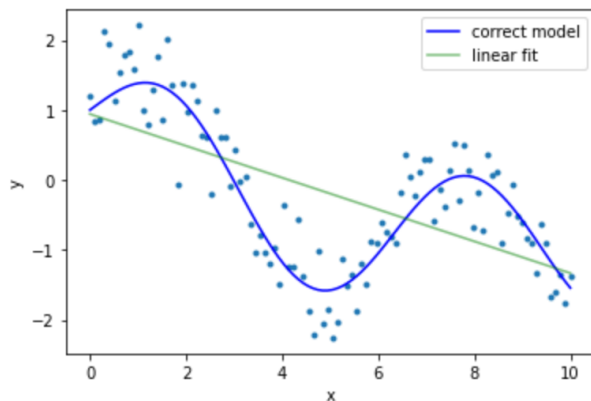
$N \times D'$ $N \times D$ $D \times D'$

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

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

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



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

solution simply becomes $(\Phi^\top \Phi) w^* = \Phi^\top y$ $\phi_d(x)$ is the new x

replacing X with Φ

a (nonlinear) feature

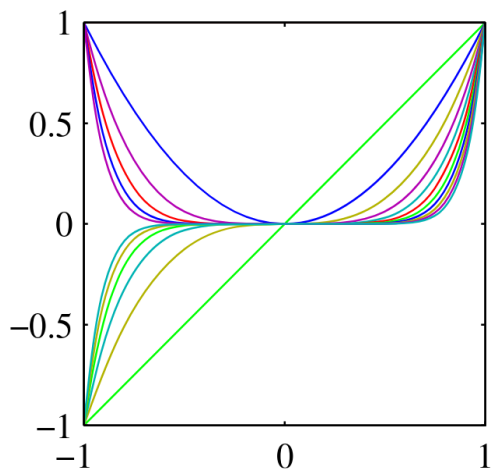
$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(x^{(1)}), & \phi_2(x^{(1)}), & \cdots, & \phi_D(x^{(1)}) \\ \phi_1(x^{(2)}), & \phi_2(x^{(2)}), & \cdots, & \phi_D(x^{(2)}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(x^{(N)}), & \phi_2(x^{(N)}), & \cdots, & \phi_D(x^{(N)}) \end{bmatrix}$$

one instance

Nonlinear basis functions

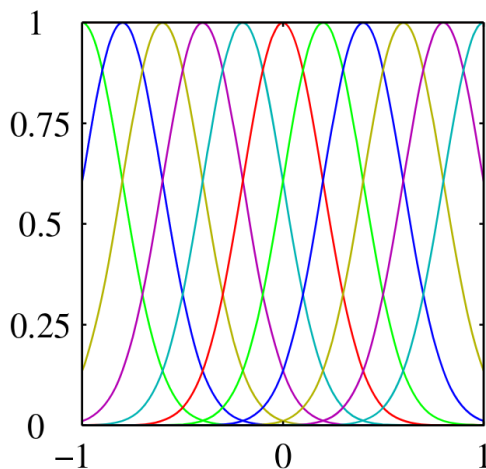
example

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



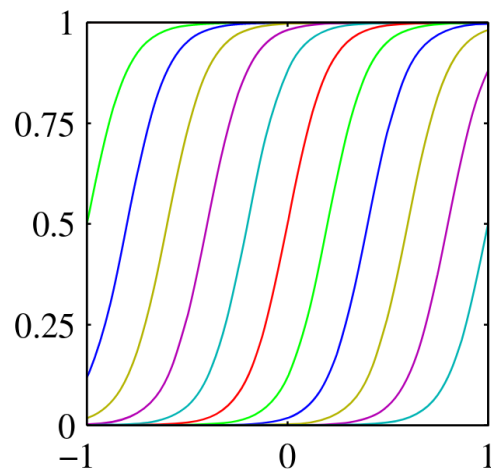
polynomial bases

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



Gaussian bases

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



Sigmoid bases

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

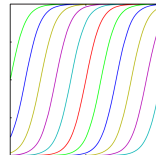
Linear regression with nonlinear bases: **example**



Gaussian bases

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

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

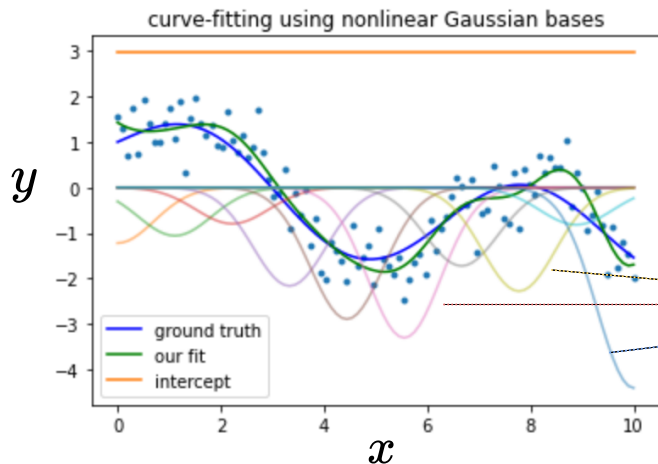


Sigmoid bases

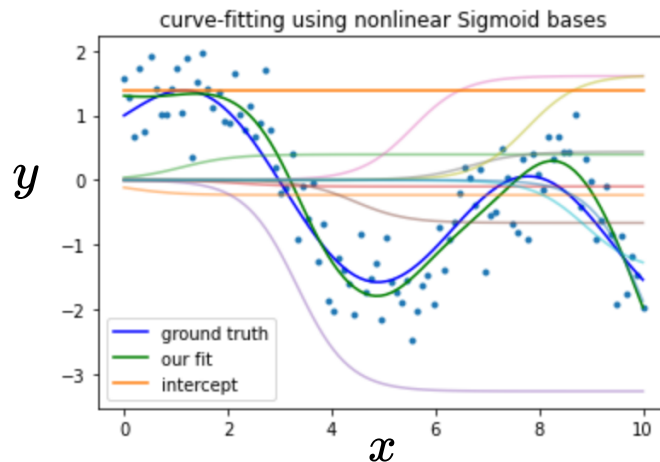
$$\phi_k(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-\frac{x-\mu_k}{s}}}$$

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

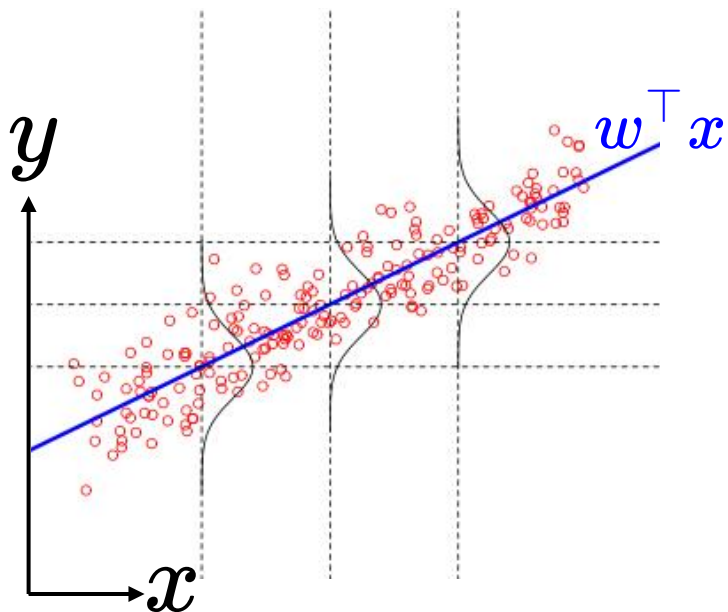


Probabilistic interpretation

idea

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

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



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

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

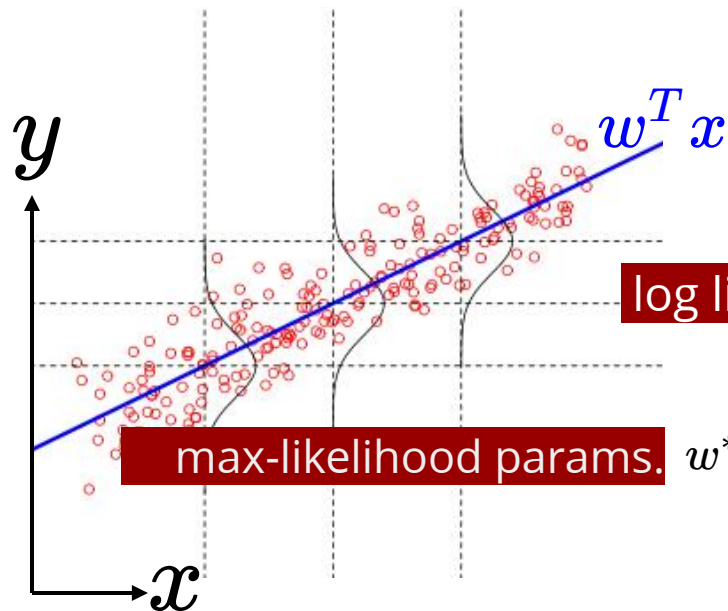
assume a fixed variance, say $\sigma^2 = 1$

Q: how to fit the model?

A: maximize the conditional likelihood!

Maximum likelihood & linear regression

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



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

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**