

CS 229: Machine Learning  
Problem Set 1

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## Question 1

### 1.a

We can calculate the Hessian,  $H$ , of the average empirical loss for logistic growth,

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \log(1 + e^{y^{(i)} \theta^T x^{(i)}}).$$

First, we let  $h_\theta(x) = g(\theta^T x)$ , where  $g(z) = 1/(1+e^{-z})$ , and calculate the partial derivative of  $h_\theta$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial h_\theta(x)}{\partial \theta_k} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_k} \log(1 + e^{-x^T \theta}) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-y x^T \theta}} (-x^T e^{-x^T \theta}) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{y x^T \theta}} (-y x^T) \\ &= -h_\theta(-x^T) x_k. \end{aligned}$$

With this, we can calculate the second partial derivative of each term.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 J(\theta)}{\partial \theta_k \partial \theta_l} &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta_k \partial \theta_l} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \log(1 + e^{y^{(i)} \theta^T x^{(i)}}) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_l} \frac{-1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m h_\theta(-y^{(i)} x^{(i)}) y^{(i)} x_k^{(i)} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m h_\theta(-y^{(i)} x^{(i)}) (1 - h_\theta(-y^{(i)} x^{(i)})) y^{(i)} x_k^{(i)} y^{(i)} x_l^{(i)} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $y^{(i)}$  is either 1 or  $-1$ ,  $(y^{(i)})^2 = 1$ . Also, since

$$\begin{aligned} h_\theta(-y^{(i)} x^{(i)}) (1 - h_\theta(-y^{(i)} x^{(i)})) &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-y x^T \theta^T}} \frac{e^{-y x^T \theta^T}}{1 + e^{-y x^T \theta^T}} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-y x^T \theta^T}} \frac{1}{1 + e^{y x^T \theta^T}}, \end{aligned}$$

$h_\theta(-y^{(i)} x^{(i)}) (1 - h_\theta(-y^{(i)} x^{(i)})) = h_\theta(x^{(i)}) (1 - h_\theta(x^{(i)}))$ . Thus,

$$\frac{\partial^2 J(\theta)}{\partial \theta_k \partial \theta_l} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m h_\theta(x^{(i)}) (1 - h_\theta(x^{(i)})) x_k^{(i)} x_l^{(i)}$$

Summing over  $k$  and  $l$ ,

$$H = \nabla^2 J(\theta) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m h_\theta(x^{(i)}) (1 - h_\theta(x^{(i)})) x^{(i)} (x^{(i)})^T$$

To show that  $H \in \mathbb{S}_+^{m \times m}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} z^T H z &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m h_{\theta}(x^{(i)})(1 - h_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) z^T x^{(i)} (x^{(i)})^T z \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m h_{\theta}(x^{(i)})(1 - h_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) (z^T x^{(i)})^2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $z^T H z \geq 0$ , which implies that  $H \in \mathbb{S}_+^{m \times m}$ .

## 1.b

Using the following implementation of Newton's method in MATLAB,

```
close all; clear all; clc;

% Read in data
X = load('logistic_x.txt');
Y = load('logistic_y.txt');

% Prepare for fitting
X = [ones(size(X, 1), 1) X];
theta = log_reg(X, Y, 20);

% Plot
figure; hold on;
plot(X(Y < 0, 2), X(Y < 0, 3), 'rx', 'linewidth', 2);
plot(X(Y > 0, 2), X(Y > 0, 3), 'go', 'linewidth', 2);
x1 = min(X(:, 2)):.01:max(X(:, 2));
x2 = -(theta(1) / theta(3)) - (theta(2) / theta(3)) * x1;
plot(x1, x2, 'linewidth', 2);
xlabel('x1');
ylabel('x2');

% Logistic regression fitting function
function f = log_reg(X, Y, maxiter)
m = size(X, 1);
n = size(X, 2);
theta = zeros(n, 1);

for i = 1 : maxiter
    expon = Y .* (X * https://www.overleaf.com/10385422rtmhvrzjdrzv#heta);
    h_theta = 1 ./ (1+exp(expon));
    grad = -(1/m) * (X' * (h_theta .* Y));
```

```

H = (1/m) * (X' * diag(h_theta .* (1-h_theta)) * X);
theta = theta - H \ grad;
end
f = theta;
end

```

we get  $\theta = \begin{bmatrix} -2.62051159718020 \\ 0.760371535897677 \\ 1.17194674156714 \end{bmatrix}$ .

### 1.c

The following is the plot of the training data and decision boundary from 1.b.

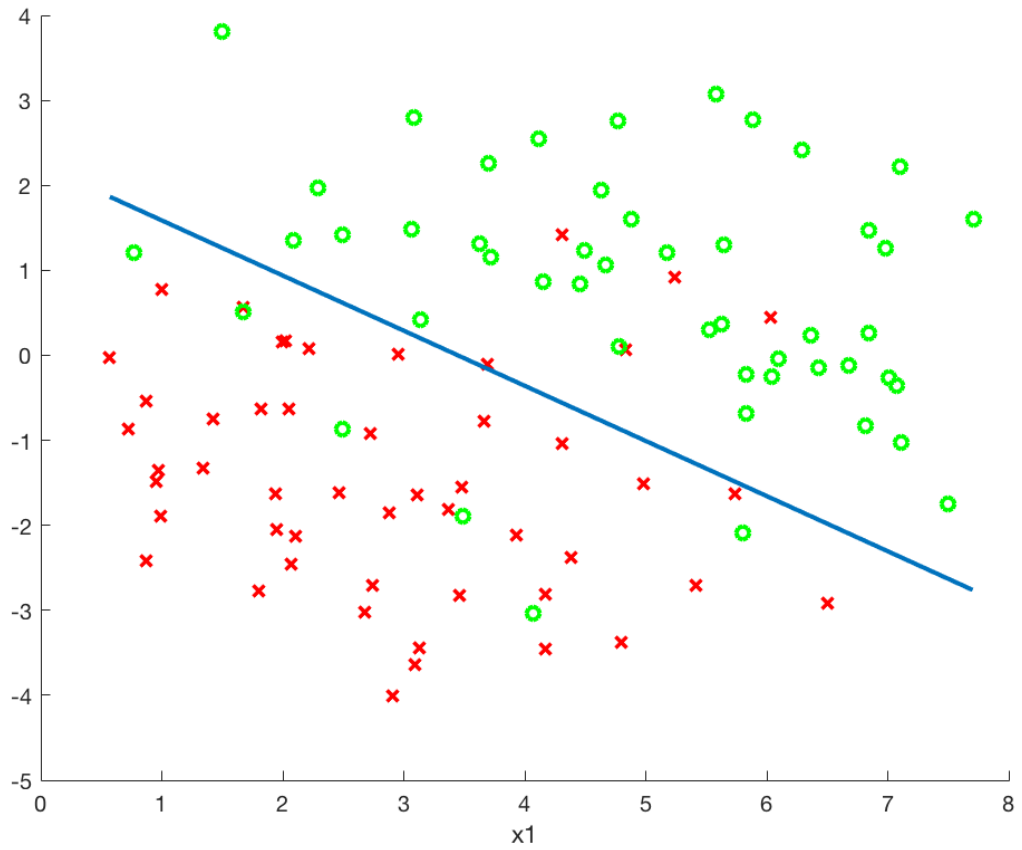


Figure 1: The green dots are where  $y^{(i)} = 1$  and the red X's are where  $y^{(i)} = -1$ .

## Question 2

### 2.a

We can demonstrate that the Poisson distribution is a member of the exponential family.

$$\begin{aligned} p(y; \lambda) &= \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^y}{y!} \\ &= \frac{1}{y!} \exp(\log e^{-\lambda} \lambda^y) \\ &= \frac{1}{y!} \exp(y \log \lambda - \lambda) \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $b(y) = \frac{1}{y!}$ ,  $T(y) = y$ ,  $\eta = \log \lambda$ , and  $a(\eta) = \lambda$ .

### 2.b

Since the Poisson distribution is in the exponential family, we can perform regression using GLM with it.

$$\begin{aligned} h_{\theta}(x) &= E[y|x; \theta] \\ &= \lambda \\ &= e^{\eta} \\ &= e^{\theta^T x} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the canonical response function of the Poisson distribution is  $h(x) = e^{\eta} = e^{\theta^T x}$ .

### 2.c

Given a training set  $\{(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)}); i = 1 \dots m\}$ , we can calculate the stochastic gradient ascent for a GLM with Poisson response  $y$  and the canonical response function  $h(x)$ . First, we calculate the conditional probability

$$p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}; \theta) = \frac{1}{y^{(i)}!} \exp(y^{(i)} \theta^T x^{(i)} - e^{\theta^T x^{(i)}}).$$

Then, we can calculate the derivative of the log-likelihood with respect to  $\theta_j$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j} \ell(\theta) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left( \frac{1}{y^{(i)}} \exp(y^{(i)} \theta^T x^{(i)} - e^{\theta^T x^{(i)}}) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n y^{(i)} x_j^{(i)} - x_j^{(i)} e^{\theta^T x^{(i)}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the stochastic gradient ascent update rule for a GLM with a Poisson response would be  $\theta_j := \theta_j - \alpha(h(x) - y)x_j$

## 2.d

*Proof.* Given a GLM with a response variable from any of the exponential family in which  $T(y) = y$  and a canonical response  $h(x)$ , we have that  $p(y; \eta) = b(y) \exp(\eta^T T(y) - a(\eta))$ , where  $a(x) = h(x)$  due to the moment property of exponential family. First, we let  $\eta_i = \theta^T x_i$  and calculate the derivative of the log-likelihood with respect to  $\theta_i$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \ell(y|x; \theta) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} y \theta^T x - a(\theta^T x) + \log(b(y)) \\ &= y x_i - \frac{\partial a(\theta^T x)}{\partial \theta_i} \\ &= y x_i - h(x) x_i \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the stochastic gradient ascent update rule would be  $\theta_i := \theta_i - \alpha(h(x) - y)x_i$ .  $\square$

## Question 3

### 3.a

We consider the case  $y = 1$  to calculate the posterior. Given the Bernoulli likelihood and multivariate Gaussian prior, we can calculate the posterior as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} p(y|x; \phi, \Sigma, \mu_1, \mu_{-1}) &= \frac{p(x|y)p(y)}{p(x)} \\ &= \frac{p(x|y=1)p(y)}{p(x|y=1)p(y=1) + p(x|y=-1)p(y=-1)} \end{aligned}$$

To simplify the algebra, we let  $\sigma = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}}$  and  $\mu'_y = \frac{-1}{2}(x - \mu_y)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu_y)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} p(y|x; \phi, \Sigma, \mu_1, \mu_{-1}) &= \frac{\sigma e^{\mu_1 \phi}}{\sigma e^{\mu_1 \phi} + \sigma e^{\mu_{-1} \phi} (1 - \phi)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1-\phi}{\phi} e^{\mu_{-1} - \mu_1}} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\log \frac{1-\phi}{\phi} - \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_{-1})^T \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu_{-1}) + \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu_1)\right)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\log \frac{1-\phi}{\phi} + \frac{1}{2} \mu_1^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_1 - \frac{1}{2} \mu_{-1}^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_{-1} + (\mu_{-1} - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} x\right)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-y(\theta^T x + \theta_0))} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\theta^T = (\mu_{-1} - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} x$  and  $\theta_0 = \log \frac{1-\phi}{\phi} + \frac{1}{2} \mu_1^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_1 - \frac{1}{2} \mu_{-1}^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_{-1}$ .

### 3.b

See 3.c but reduced down to one dimension.

### 3.c

We can calculate the maximum likelihood estimates given the log-likelihood

$$\begin{aligned}
\ell(\phi, \Sigma, \mu_1, \mu_{-1}) &= \log \prod_{i=1}^m p(x^{(i)}|y^{(i)}; \Sigma, \mu_1, \mu_{-1}) p(y^{(i)}; \phi) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m \log p(x^{(i)}|y = y^{(i)}; \Sigma, \mu_1, \mu_{-1}) + \log p(y^{(i)}; \phi) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m -\log \left( (2\pi)^{n/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2} \right) + \frac{-1}{2} (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}})^T \Sigma^{-1} (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}}) \\
&\quad + 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} \log \phi + (1 - 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\}) \log(1 - \phi)
\end{aligned}$$

To determine the maximum likelihood of each parameter, we take the derivative of each parameter individually and set the derivative equal to zero as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial \ell(\phi, \Sigma, \mu_1, \mu_{-1})}{\partial \phi} &= 0 \\
\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1\{y^{(i)} = 1\}}{\phi} - \frac{1 - 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\}}{1 - \phi} &= 0 \\
\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1\{y^{(i)} = 1\}}{\phi} &= \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1 - 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\}}{1 - \phi} \\
(1 - \phi) \sum_{i=1}^m 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} &= \phi \sum_{i=1}^m 1 - 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} \\
\sum_{i=1}^m 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} - \phi \sum_{i=1}^m 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} &= m\phi - \phi \sum_{i=1}^m 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} \\
\phi &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the maximum likelihood for  $\phi$  is given by  $\phi = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \{y^{(i)} = 1\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \ell(\phi, \Sigma, \mu_1, \mu_{-1})}{\partial \mu_{y^{(i)}}} &= 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{-1}{2} (-\Sigma^{-1} x^{(i)} - \Sigma^{-1} x^{(i)} + \Sigma^{-1} \mu_{y^{(i)}} + \Sigma^{-1} \mu_{y^{(i)}}) 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} &= 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^m (\Sigma^{-1} x^{(i)} - \Sigma^{-1} \mu_{y^{(i)}}) 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} &= 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^m (\Sigma^{-1} x^{(i)}) 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} &= \sum_{i=1}^m (\Sigma^{-1} \mu_{y^{(i)}}) 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\} \\ \mu_{y^{(i)}} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m x^{(i)} 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\}}{\sum_{i=1}^m 1\{y^{(i)} = 1\}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the maximum likelihood for  $\mu_{y^{(i)}}$  is given by  $\mu_{y^{(i)}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m x^{(i)} 1\{y^{(i)}=1\}}{\sum_{i=1}^m 1\{y^{(i)}=1\}}$ .

To calculate the maximum likelihood for  $\Sigma$ , we let  $S = \Sigma^{-1}$  to simplify the algebra.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \ell(\phi, \Sigma, \mu_1, \mu_{-1})}{\partial S} &= 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(2\pi)^{n/2}}{|S^{-1}|^{1/2}} \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^{n/2} |S^{-1}|^{1/2}} \nabla_S |S| & \\ -\nabla_S \frac{-1}{2} (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}})^T S (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}}) &= 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{2} (S^{-1})^T - \frac{1}{2} (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}})^T (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}}) &= 0 \\ (S^{-1})^T m &= \sum_{i=1}^m (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}})^T (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}}) \\ \Sigma &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}})^T (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the maximum likelihood for  $\Sigma$  is  $\Sigma = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}})^T (x^{(i)} - \mu_{y^{(i)}})$ .



## Question 4

### 4.a

*Proof.* Given a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , vectors  $x, z \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $x = Az$  and  $x^{(0)} = \vec{0}$ , and the function  $g(z) = f(Az)$ , we first need to find the gradient and Hessian of  $g(z)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla g(z) &= \sum_i \frac{\partial g(z)}{\partial z_i} \\ &= \sum_i \frac{\partial f(Az)}{\partial z_i} \\ &= \sum_i A_i \nabla f(Az) \\ &= A^T \nabla f(Az)\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\nabla g(z) = A^T \nabla f(Az)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^2 g(z) &= \sum_i \sum_j \frac{\partial^2 g(z)}{\partial z_i \partial z_j} \\ &= \sum_i \sum_j \frac{\partial^2 f(Az)}{\partial z_i \partial z_j} \\ &= \sum_i \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} A_i \nabla f(Az) \\ &= \sum_i \sum_j j A_i A_j \nabla^2 f(Az) \\ &= A^T A \nabla^2 f(Az)\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\nabla^2 g(z) = A^T A \nabla^2 f(Az)$ .

We can now show that Newton's method is invariant to linear reparametrization as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}z^{(i+1)} &:= z^{(i)} - (\nabla^2 g(z^{(i)}))^{-1} \bullet (\nabla g(z^{(i)})) \\ &= z^{(i)} - (A^T A \nabla^2 f(Az^{(i)}))^{-1} \bullet (A^T \nabla f(Az^{(i)})) \\ &= z^{(i)} - A^{-1} (\nabla^2 f(Az^{(i)}))^{-1} \bullet (\nabla f(Az^{(i)})) \\ Az^{(i+1)} &:= Az^{(i)} - (\nabla^2 f(Az^{(i)}))^{-1} \bullet (\nabla f(Az^{(i)})) \\ x^{(i+1)} &:= x^{(i)} - (\nabla^2 f(x^{(i)}))^{-1} \bullet (\nabla f(x^{(i)}))\end{aligned}$$

Since, when  $x^{(i)} = Az^{(i)}$ ,  $x^{(i+1)} = Az^{(i+1)}$  and it is obvious that  $x^{(0)} = \vec{0} = z^{(0)}$ , Newton's method is invariant to linear reparametrization.  $\square$

## 4.b

Using the same assumptions as in problem 4.a, we can show that gradient descent is not invariant to linear reparametrization.

$$\begin{aligned} z^{(i+1)} &:= z^{(i)} - \alpha \nabla g(z^{(i)}) \\ &= z^{(i)} - \alpha A^T \nabla f(Az^{(i)}) \\ (A^T)^{-1} z^{(i+1)} &:= (A^T)^{-1} z^{(i)} - \alpha f(Az^{(i)}) \end{aligned}$$

Since it is obvious that  $x^{(i+1)} \neq (A^T)^{-1} z^{(i+1)}$ , we are at an impasse. Thus, gradient descent is not invariant to linear reparametrization.

## Question 5

### Part a

#### 5.a.i

Given that  $X$ , the matrix of input vectors,  $\vec{y}$ , the output vector, and  $W$  is a diagonal matrix with the diagonal elements are  $\frac{1}{2}w^{(i)}$ , where  $w^{(i)}$  is the weight of the  $i$ -th element, are the proper dimensions,

$$\begin{aligned} J(\theta) &= (X\theta - \vec{y})^T W (X\theta - \vec{y}) \\ &= \sum_i (x^{(i)}\theta - y^{(i)})^2 \frac{1}{2} w_{ii} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_i w^{(i)} (\theta^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i)})^2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $(X\theta - \vec{y})^T W (X\theta - \vec{y}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i w^{(i)} (\theta^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i)})^2$ .

#### 5.a.ii

We can also extend the normal equation to include the weight matrix  $W$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial J(\theta)}{\partial \theta} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (X\theta - \vec{y})^T W (X\theta - \vec{y}) &= 0 \\ X^T W X \theta + (\theta^T X^T W X)^T - X^T W y^T - (y^T W X)^T &= 0 \\ X^T W X \theta + X^T W X \theta - X^T W y^T - X^T W y^T &= 0 \\ X^T W X \theta &= X^T W y^T \\ \theta &= (X^T W X)^{-1} X^T W y^T \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the normal equation including the weights is  $\theta = (X^T W X)^{-1} X^T W y^T$ .

### 5.a.ii

For the training set  $\{(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)}); i = 1, \dots, m\}$  and given that

$$p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}; \theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^{(i)}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y^{(i)} - \theta^T x^{(i)})^2}{2(\sigma^{(i)})^2}\right),$$

the maximum likelihood is simply solving a weighted linear regression as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \arg \max_{\theta} \ell(\theta) &= \log \prod_{i=1}^m p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}; \theta) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \log \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^{(i)}} - \frac{(y^{(i)} - \theta^T x^{(i)})^2}{2(\sigma^{(i)})^2} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{-1}{2(\sigma^{(i)})^2} (y^{(i)} - \theta^T x^{(i)})^2 \\ \arg \min_{\theta} \ell(\theta) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{\sigma^2} (y^{(i)} - \theta^T x^{(i)})^2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, fitting  $\theta$  for a normally distributed set is essentially solving a weighted linear regression with  $w^{(i)} = \frac{1}{(\sigma^{(i)})^2}$ .

### Part b

#### 5.b.i

We can fit an unweighted least squares regression to the first training example using the following code.

```
% Load in data
run('load_quasar_data.m');

% Non-weighted model fitted with the first training example
X = lambdas;
Y = train_qso(1, :)';
theta = inv(X' * X) * X' * Y;

% Plot non-weighted model and corresponding points
figure; hold on;
plot(X, Y, 'go', 'linewidth', 2);
x1 = min(X):1:max(X);
x2 = theta * x1;
plot(x1, x2, 'linewidth', 2);
xlabel('lambda');
ylabel('flux');
```

With this code, we get the following plot.

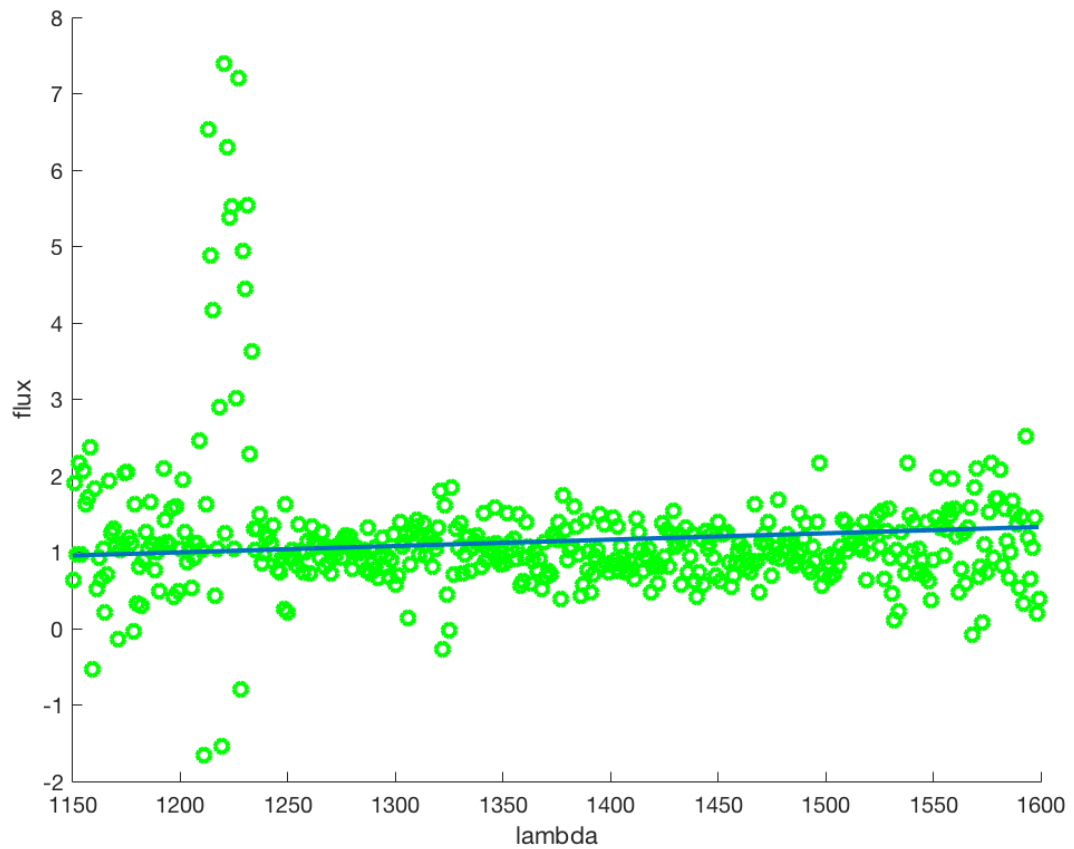


Figure 2: The green dots are where the true values and the line is the predicted values.

### 5.b.ii

We can also fit a weighted least squares regression to the first training example using the following code.

```
% Load in data
run('load_quasar_data.m');

% Weighted model fitted with the first training example
X = lambdas;
Y = train_qso(1,:)';
taus = [5];

% Make plot for weighted model
figure; hold on;
```

```

plot(lambdas, Y, 'kx', 'linewidth', 2);
x1 = min(lambdas):1:max(lambdas);
xlabel('lambda');
ylabel('flux');

% Fit weighted model for each value of tau
for tau = taus
    y = [];
    for xi = lambdas'
        w = exp(-(xi - X).^2/(2*tau^2));
        W = diag(w, 0);
        theta = inv(X' * W * X) * X' * W * Y;
        y = [y theta*xi];
    end
end
x2 = y';
plot(x1, x2, 'linewidth', 2);
end

```

With this code, we get the following plot.

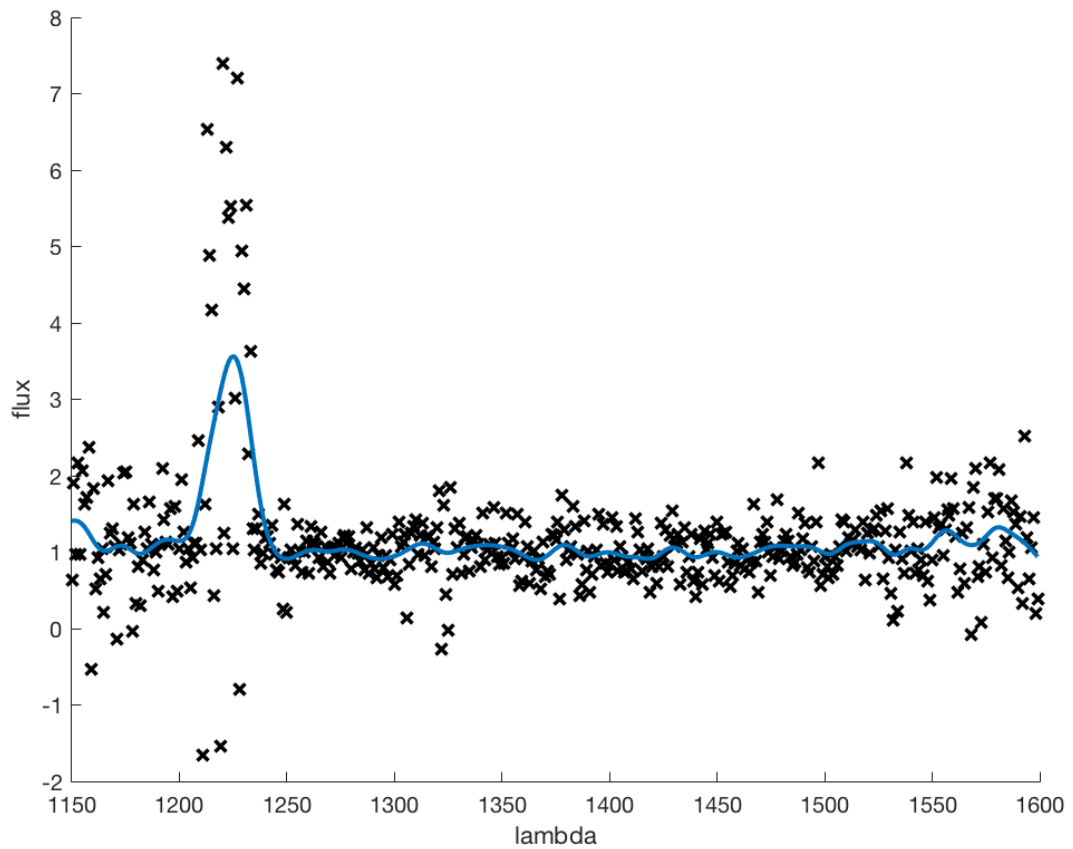


Figure 3: The black x's are where the true values and the line is the predicted values.

### 5.b.iii

We can also modify the code to be the following to explore the effect of  $\tau$ .

```
% Load in data
run('load_quasar_data.m');

% Weighted model fitted with the first training example
X = lambdas;
Y = train_qso(1,:)' ;
% taus = [5];
taus = [1, 10, 100, 1000];

% Make plot for weighted model
figure; hold on;
```

```

plot(lambdas, Y, 'kx', 'linewidth', 2);
x1 = min(lambdas):1:max(lambdas);
xlabel('lambda');
ylabel('flux');

% Fit weighted model for each value of tau
for tau = taus
    y = [];
    for xi = lambdas'
        w = exp(-(xi - X).^2/(2*tau^2));
        W = diag(w, 0);
        theta = inv(X' * W * X) * X' * W * Y;
        y = [y theta*xi];
    end
end
x2 = y';
plot(x1, x2, 'linewidth', 2);
end

```

With this code, we get the following plot.

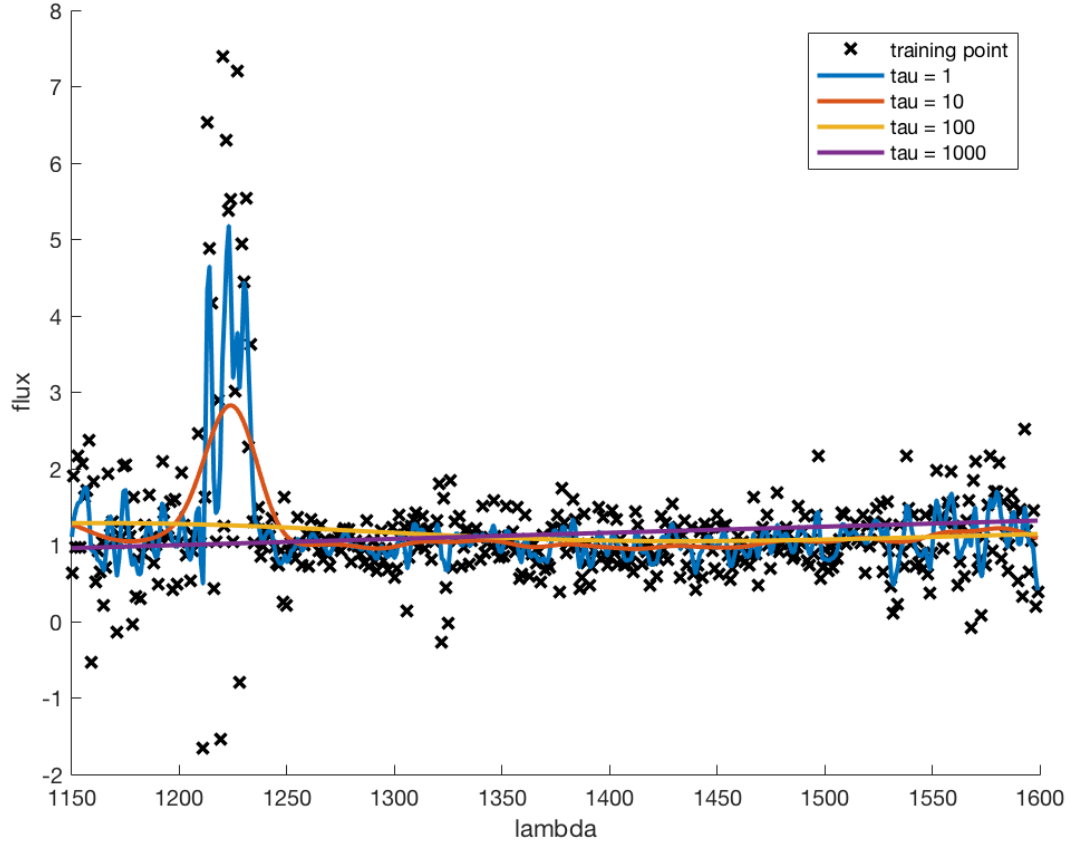


Figure 4: The black x's are where the true values and the lines are the different predicted values correlating to different values of  $\tau$ .

We notice that the larger the value of  $\tau$ , the "smoother" the line becomes. This is due to the fact that larger values of  $\tau$  reduce the weight of points. Thus, the larger the  $\tau$  the smaller effect the weights will have.