

iii) Assume each $y^{(i)}$ is drawn from a Gaussian distribution with mean $\theta^T x^{(i)}$ and variance $(\sigma^{(i)})^2$; σ is constant.

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

Show that finding the maximum likelihood estimate of θ reduces to solving a weighted linear regression.

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(y^{(i)} | x^{(i)}; \theta)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \left(-\log \sqrt{2\pi} - \log \sigma^{(i)} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2(\sigma^{(i)})^2} (y^{(i)} - \theta^T x^{(i)})^2}_{J(\theta)} \right)$$

This is equivalent to minimize $J(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sigma^2} (y^{(i)} - \theta^T x^{(i)})^2$

$$\text{so, here } w^{(i)} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$$