

csci 1470

Eric Ewing

Friday,  
1/24/25

# Deep Learning

Day 2: Machine Learning Fundamentals

# What do you want to get out of the Class?

- Understanding Applications and Real-World Implementation (36.8% of responses)
- Theoretical Understanding of Deep Learning (why it works) (35.4% of responses)
- Career Development (a job) (28.5% of responses)
- Practical Programming Skills (22.9% of responses)
- Domain-Specific Applications (5.6% of responses)

# What do you want to get out of the Class?

- Additional notable patterns:
  - Interest in understanding both the **theoretical and practical** aspects together
  - Understand **modern AI technologies** better, especially in light of recent developments
  - **Independent projects** and gaining the confidence to implement systems without supervision
  - Interest in **ethical considerations and societal impacts** of deep learning

# What do you wish your professors knew about your experiences as a student?

1. Course Organization and Support (37.3% of responses)
  1. Access to resources/TAs, clear deadlines and expectations, etc.
2. Background and Experience Variation (23.0% of responses)
  2. For some people, this is their first course in Python
  3. For many students, this is their first course in AI
  4. Just because you've taken linear algebra doesn't mean you remember anything
3. Workload and Time Management (15.1% of responses)
  3. Students are stressed, especially around exam weeks
4. Learning Preferences and Styles (12.7% of responses)
  4. Many students prefer project-based learning
5. Career and Future Goals (6.3% of responses)
  5. Internship/job interviews can cause conflicts
  6. Goal of your education is to get a job after and want to work towards that goal
6. Accessibility Needs (4.0% of responses)

# What do you want to get out of the Class?

- A seat...

Any pending override approvals not accepted by 5pm today will be revoked and new overrides will be given out.

Aiming for ~225 students

# Recap: Machine Learning

Input: X



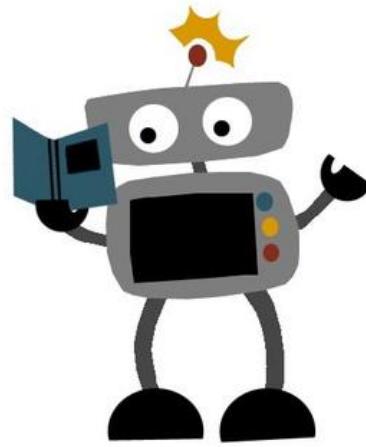
Function: f



$$f(X) \rightarrow Y$$

Output: Y

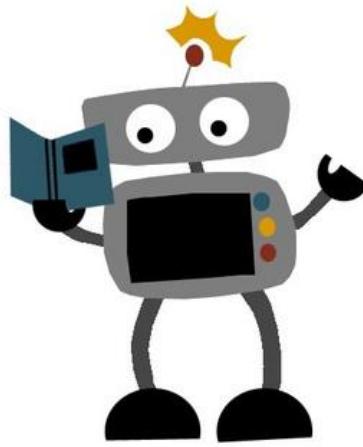
"Cooking?"



# Todays Goals

- 1) How do we represent Input/Output? What are X and y?
- 2) How can we learn a function f?
- 3) How do you know if a ML model is “Good”?

# How do we represent Input/Output?



Input: X



Output: Y

"Cooking?"



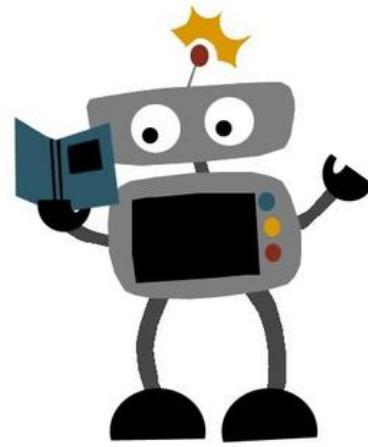
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# How do we represent Input/Output?



Input: X



Computers work  
with numbers!

Output: Y

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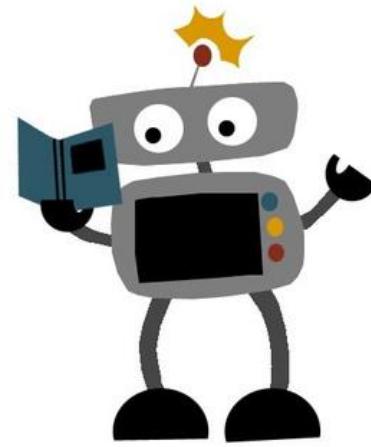
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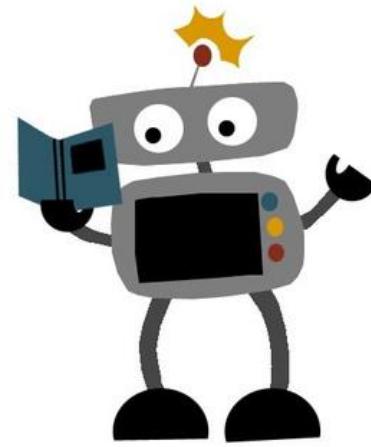
How can we represent  
output labels as numbers?



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# How do we represent Input/Output?



Input: X



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Function: f

$$f(X) \rightarrow Y$$

How can we represent  
Input with numbers?



Output: Y

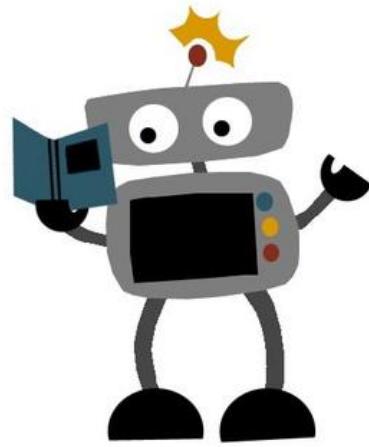
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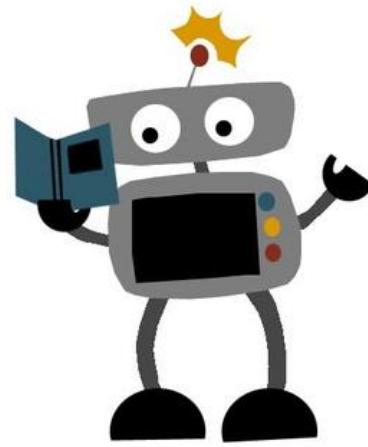
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Function: f

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"Cooking?"



1

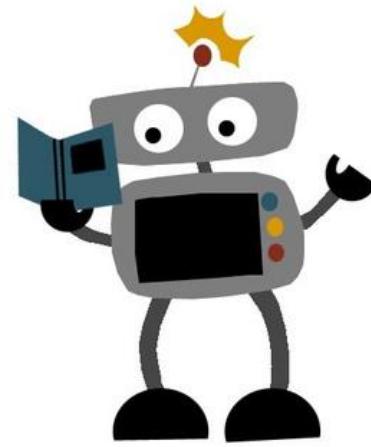


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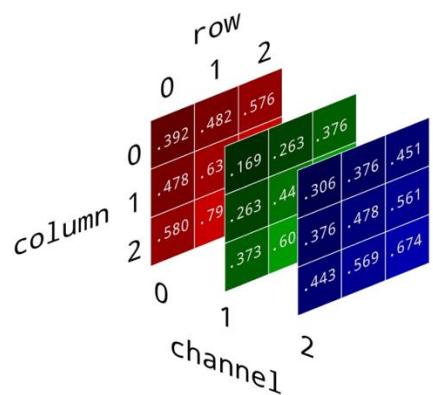


$y \in \{0,1\}$

# How do we represent Input/Output?



Input: X



$$X \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W \times 3}$$



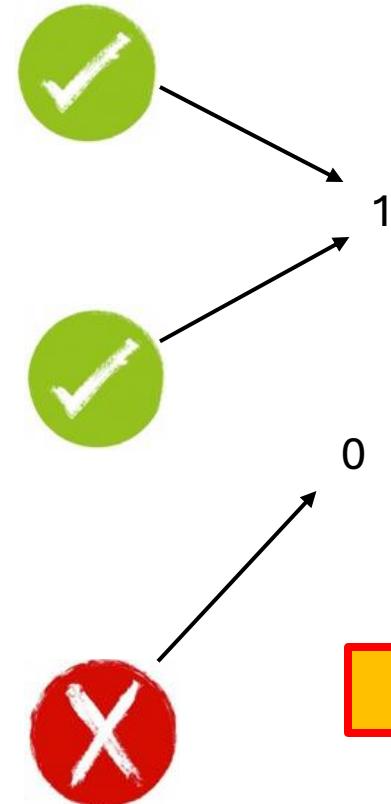
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$$f(X) \rightarrow Y$$

Output: Y

"Cooking?"



# Classification

When  $y$  is discrete, the task is **classification**

Input: X



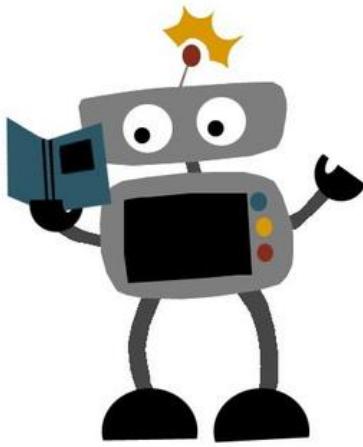
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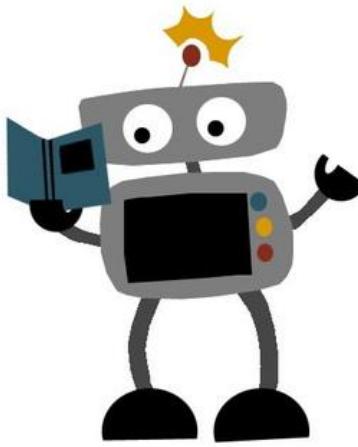
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When  $y \in \{0, 1\}$  the task is **Binary Classification**



Function: f



Output: Y

"Cooking?"



$$f(X) \rightarrow Y$$



# Classification

When  $y$  is discrete, the task is **classification**

Input: X



When  $y \in \{0, 1\}$  the task is **Binary Classification**



What's an example of **multi-class Classification**?

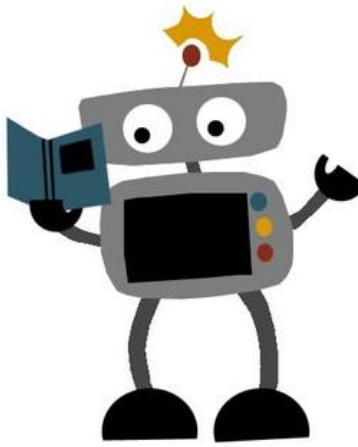


Function: f

$$f(X) \rightarrow Y$$

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"Cooking?"



# Some Notation

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$\mathbb{X}$ : A set of **input** data

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$\mathbb{Y}$ : A set of target variables (outputs/labels) for supervised learning

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$x^{(k)}$ :  $k$ 'th example (input) from dataset

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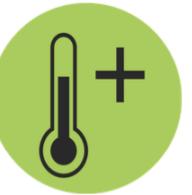
$\mathbb{X}$ : A set of **input** data

$\mathbb{Y}$ : A set of target variables (outputs/labels) for supervised learning

$x^{(k)}$ :  $k$ 'th example (input) from dataset

$y^{(k)}$ :  $k$ 'th example (output) associated with  $x^{(k)}$

# Simpler example: How do we represent input/output?



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

"Temperature"

$$x^{(1)} \quad 100.1 \text{ °F}$$

$$\mathbb{X} \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x^{(2)} \quad 80.0 \text{ °F}$$

$$x^{(3)} \quad 30.3 \text{ °F}$$

Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling lemonade"



$$y^{(1)} \quad \$200.0$$

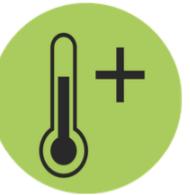
$$y^{(2)} \quad \$180.5$$

$$y^{(3)} \quad \$115.1$$

→ Function:  $f$  →

$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$   
(Numerical output)

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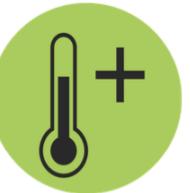
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Do you see a  
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Do you see a trend here?

What is different about the output here?

$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$   
(Numerical output)

# Simpler example: How do we represent input/output?



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

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$$x^{(1)} \quad 100.1 \text{ °F}$$

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$$x^{(2)} \quad 80.0 \text{ °F}$$

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Regression

Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling lemonade"



$$y^{(1)} \quad \$200.0$$

$$y^{(2)} \quad \$180.5$$

$$y^{(3)} \quad \$115.1$$

Function:  $f$

$f(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$

Do you see a trend here?

What is different about the output here?

$$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$$

(Numerical output)

# Learning function $f$



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

“Temperature”

$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$

$$\mathbb{X} \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x^{(2)} = 80.0$$

$$x^{(3)} = 30.3$$



$$y^{(1)} = 200.0$$

$$y^{(2)} = 180.5$$

$$y^{(3)} = 115.1$$

$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$   
(Numerical output)



Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

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# Learning function f



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

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$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$

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$$y^{(2)} = 180.5$$

$$y^{(3)} = 115.1$$

$$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$$

(Numerical output)

Step 1: Model Hypothesis:  
What function do we think  
best fits the data

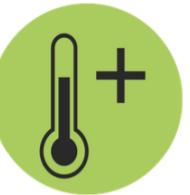
# Learning function $f$



$X \in \mathbb{R}$

$$x^{(2)} = 80.0$$

$$x^{(3)} = 30.3$$



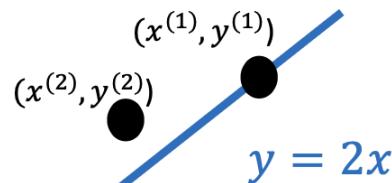
Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

"Temperature"

$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$

Linear function

$$y = wx + b$$



Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling lemonade"



$$y^{(1)} = 200.0$$

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$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$   
(Numerical output)

# Learning function f

Have you seen this  
equation before?



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

"Temperature"

$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$

$$\mathbb{X} \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x^{(2)} = 80.0$$

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Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling  
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$$y^{(1)} = 200.0$$

$$y^{(2)} = 180.5$$

$$y^{(3)} = 115.1$$

$$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$$

(Numerical output)

Linear function

$$y = wx + b$$

$$y = 2x$$

A graph illustrating a linear function. The vertical axis is labeled "Profit ( $\mathbb{Y}$ )" and the horizontal axis is labeled "Temperature ( $\mathbb{X}$ )". A blue line represents the function  $y = 2x$ , passing through the origin. Two data points are plotted on the line:  $(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)})$  and  $(x^{(2)}, y^{(2)})$ . The data points correspond to the input values  $x^{(1)} = 100.1$ ,  $x^{(2)} = 80.0$ , and  $x^{(3)} = 30.3$  and their respective target values  $y^{(1)} = 200.0$ ,  $y^{(2)} = 180.5$ , and  $y^{(3)} = 115.1$ .

Profit ( $\mathbb{Y}$ )

Temperature ( $\mathbb{X}$ )

# Learning function f



$X \in \mathbb{R}$

$$x^{(2)} = 80.0$$

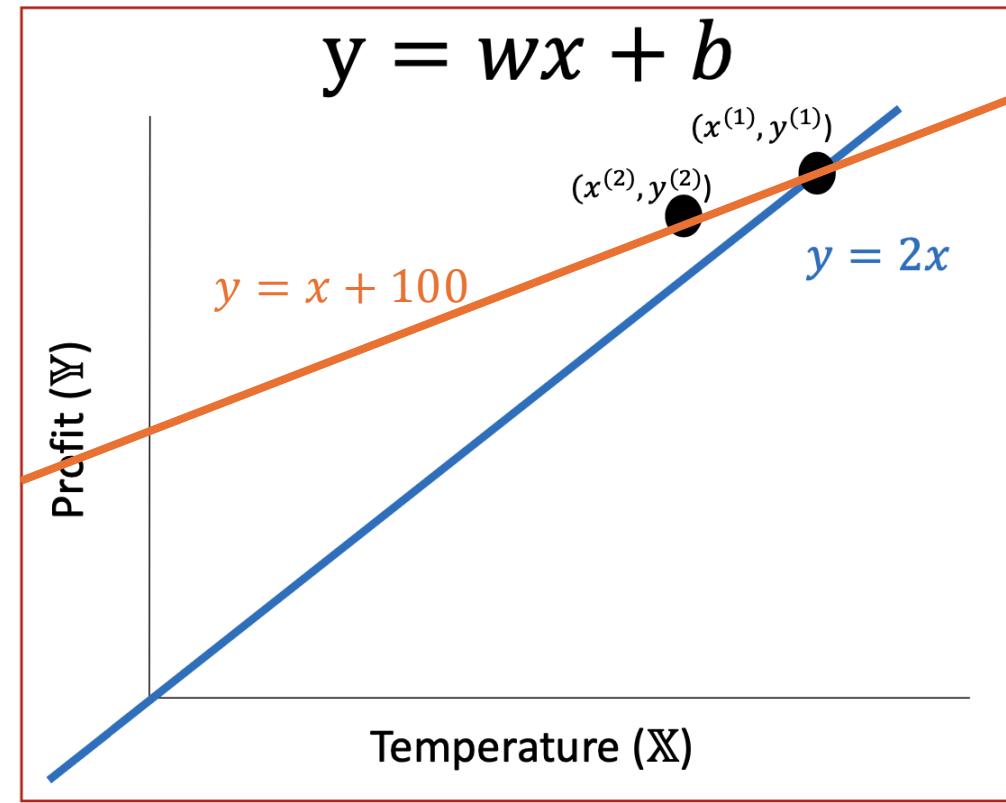
$$x^{(3)} = 30.3$$



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

"Temperature"

$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$



Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling lemonade"



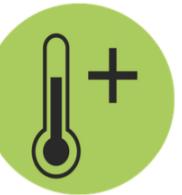
$$y^{(1)} = 200.0$$

$$y^{(2)} = 180.5$$

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$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$   
(Numerical output)

# Learning function f



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

"Temperature"

$\mathbb{X} \in \mathbb{R}$

$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$

$$x^{(2)} = 80.0$$

$$x^{(3)} = 20.2$$

Linear function

$$y = wx + b$$

$$y = x + 100$$

$(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)})$

$(x^{(2)}, y^{(2)})$

$$y = 2x$$

Profit ( $\mathbb{Y}$ )

Temperature ( $\mathbb{X}$ )

Bias term is necessary for  
best fit line to fit the data  
well

Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling  
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$$y^{(1)} = 200.0$$

$$y^{(2)} = 180.5$$

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$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$   
(Numerical output)



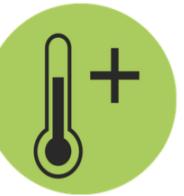
# Learning function $f$



$X \in \mathbb{R}$

$$x^{(2)} = 80.0$$

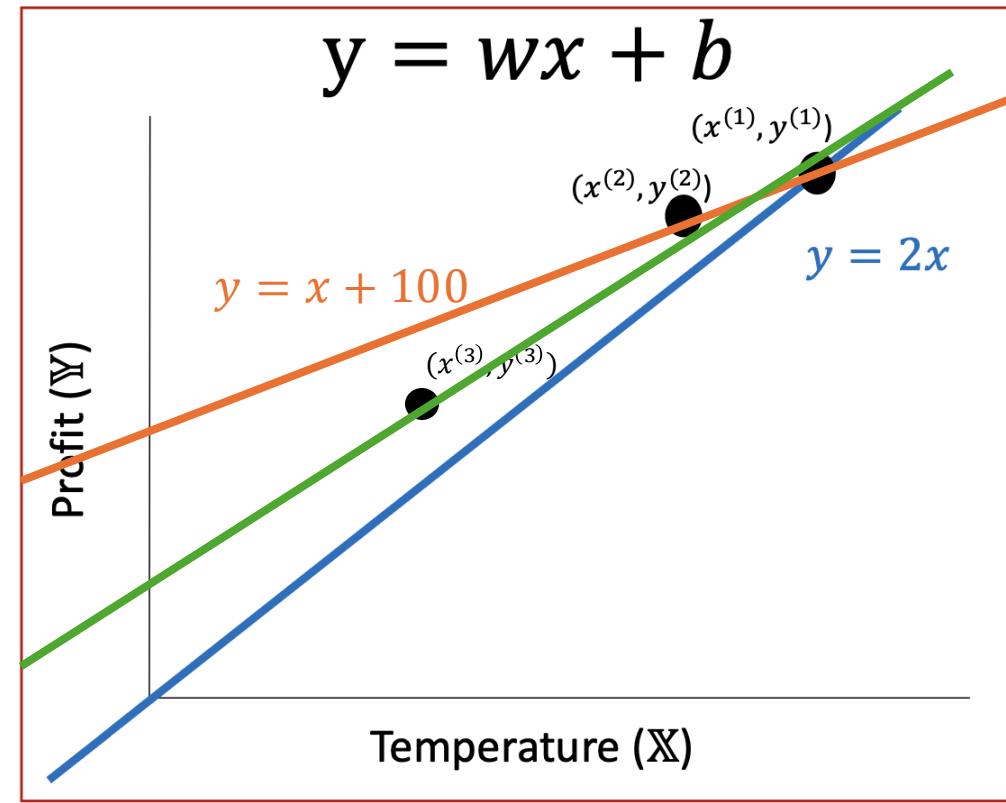
$$x^{(3)} = 30.3$$



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

"Temperature"

$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$



Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling lemonade"



$$y^{(1)} = 200.0$$

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(Numerical output)

# Learning function $f$



$X \in \mathbb{R}$

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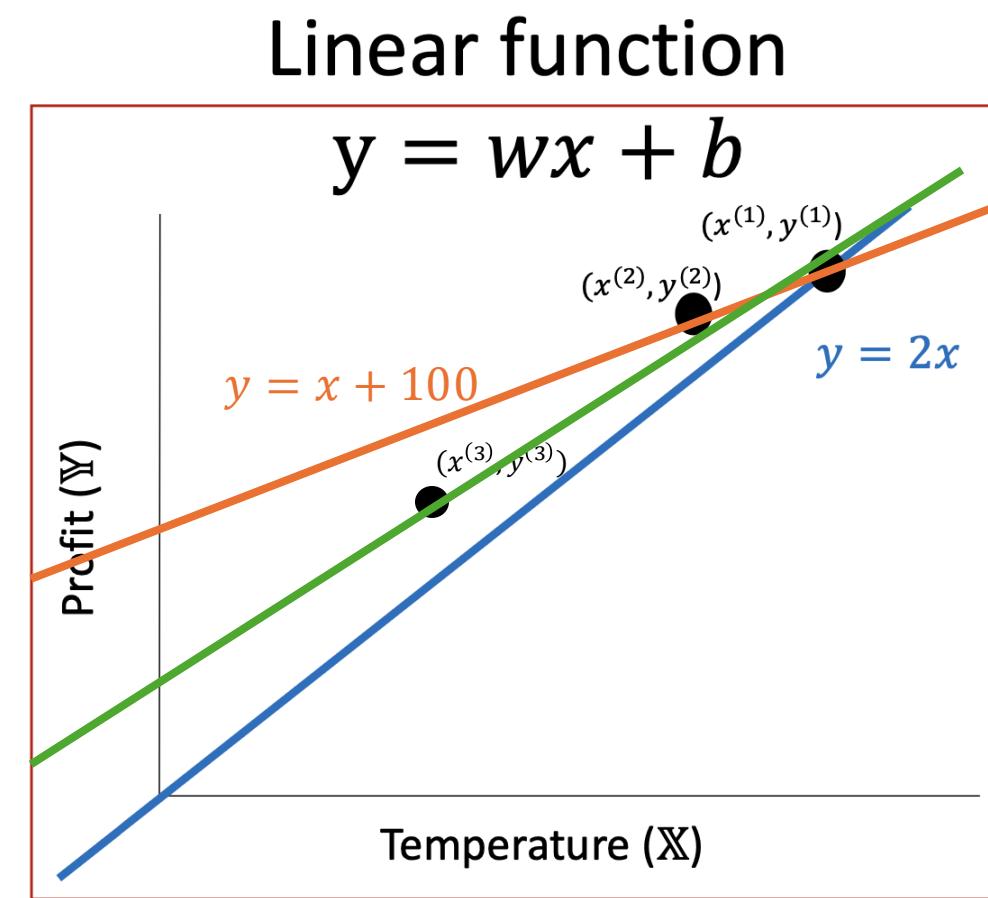
Hard to find these functions by hand...

Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

"Temperature"



$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$



Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling lemonade"



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$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$   
(Numerical output)

# Learning function $f$

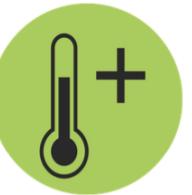


$X \in \mathbb{R}$

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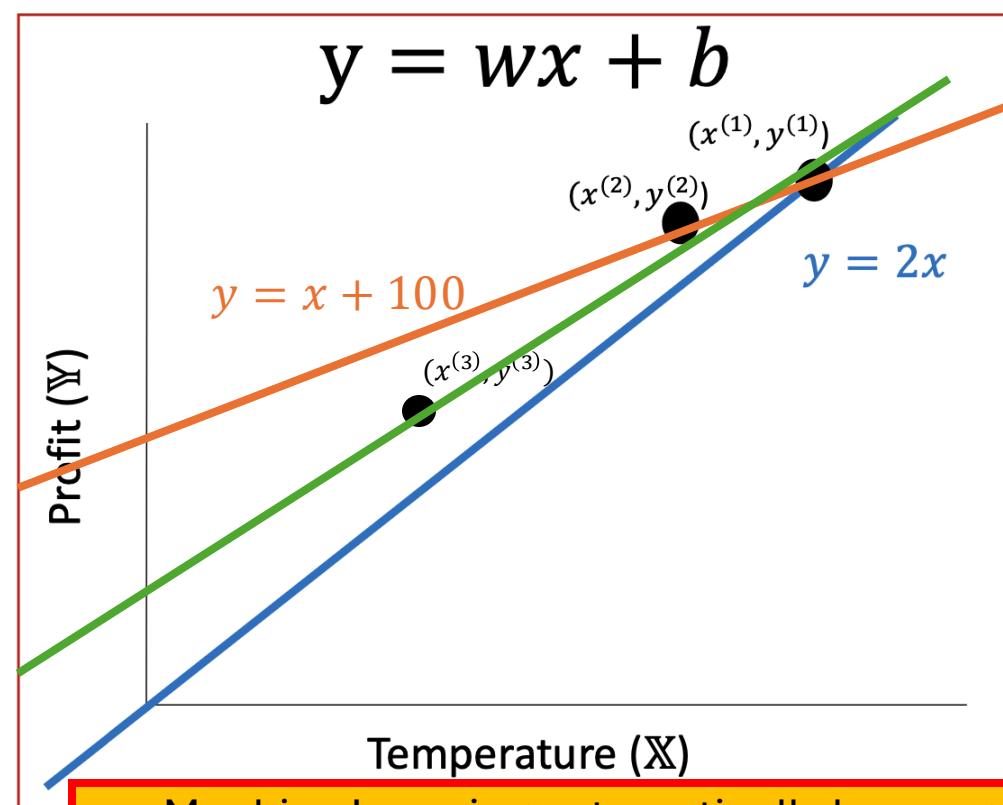
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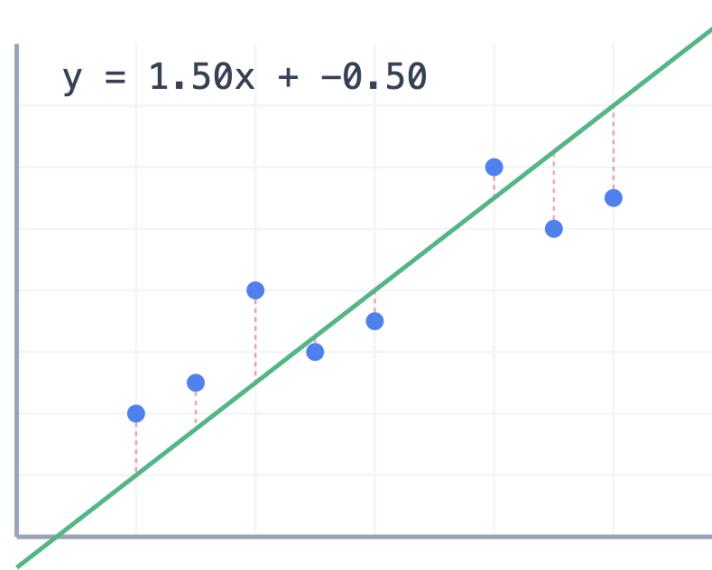
$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$   
(Numerical output)

Machine Learning automatically learns good approximations of  $f$  from data (or at least tries to)

# What makes a good approximation?

**Loss Function:** A function that describes how closely our approximation matches our data

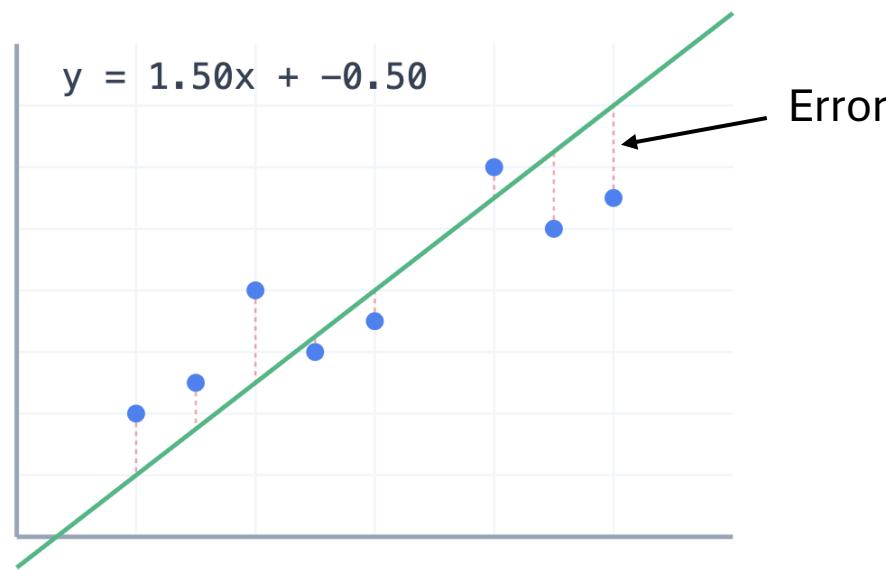
The standard loss function for Linear Regression is **Mean Squared Error (MSE)**



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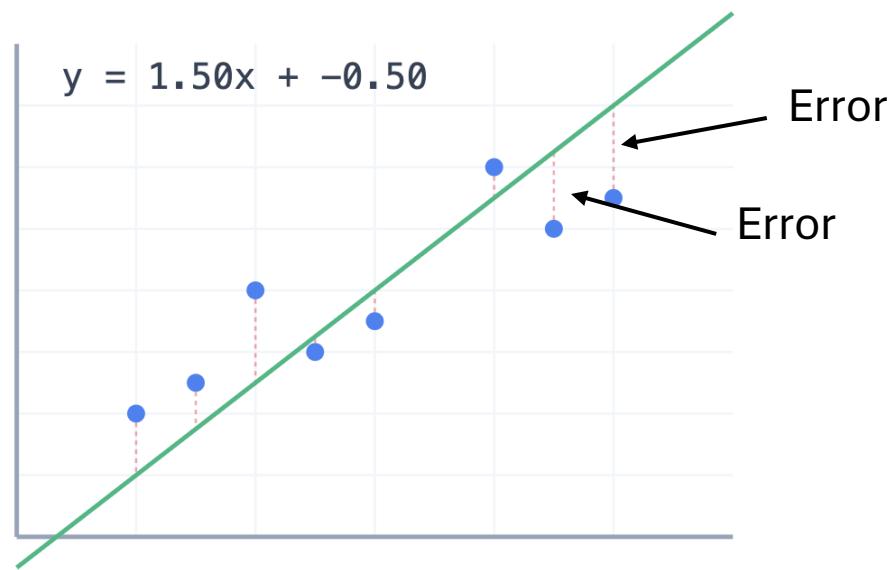
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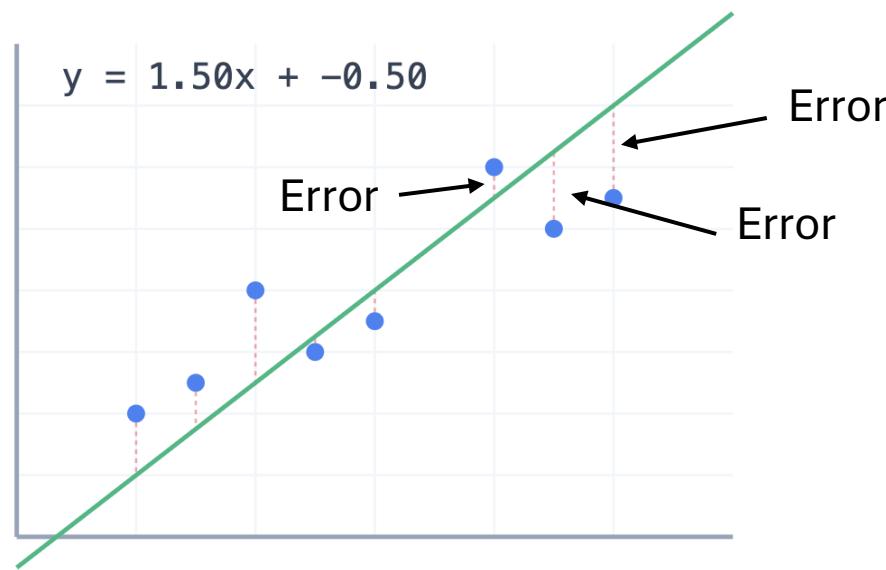
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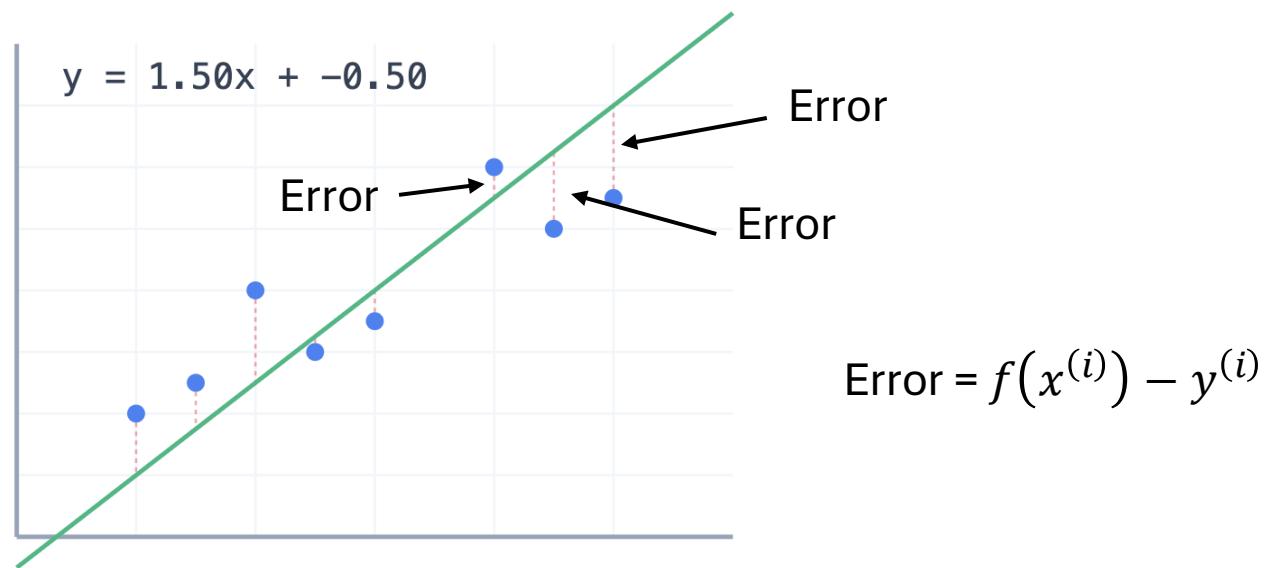
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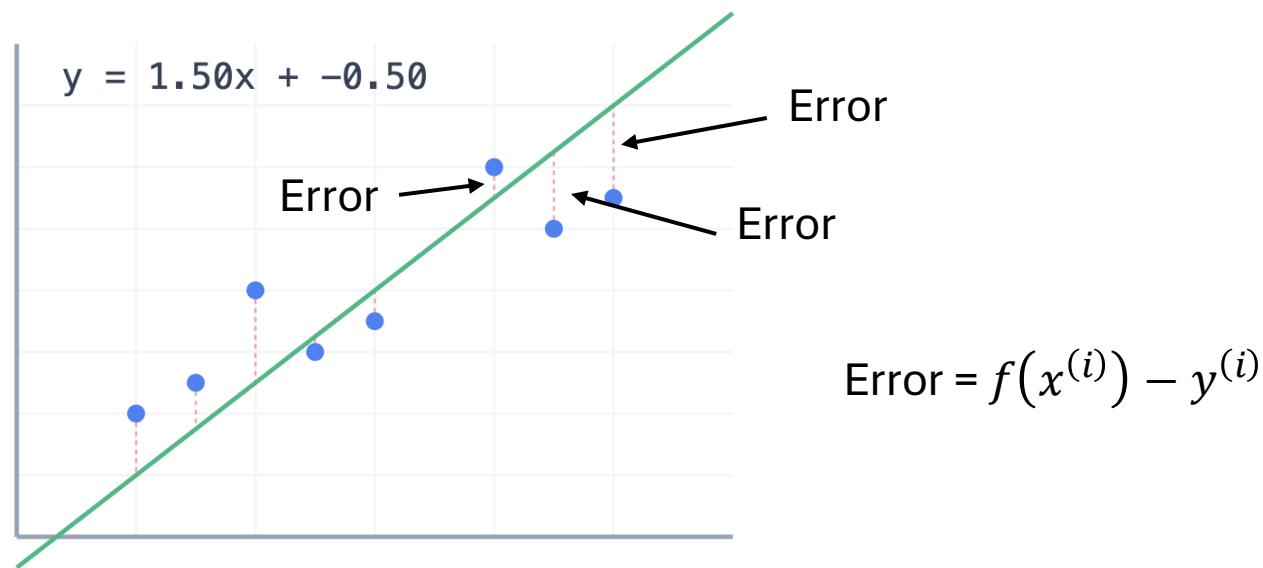


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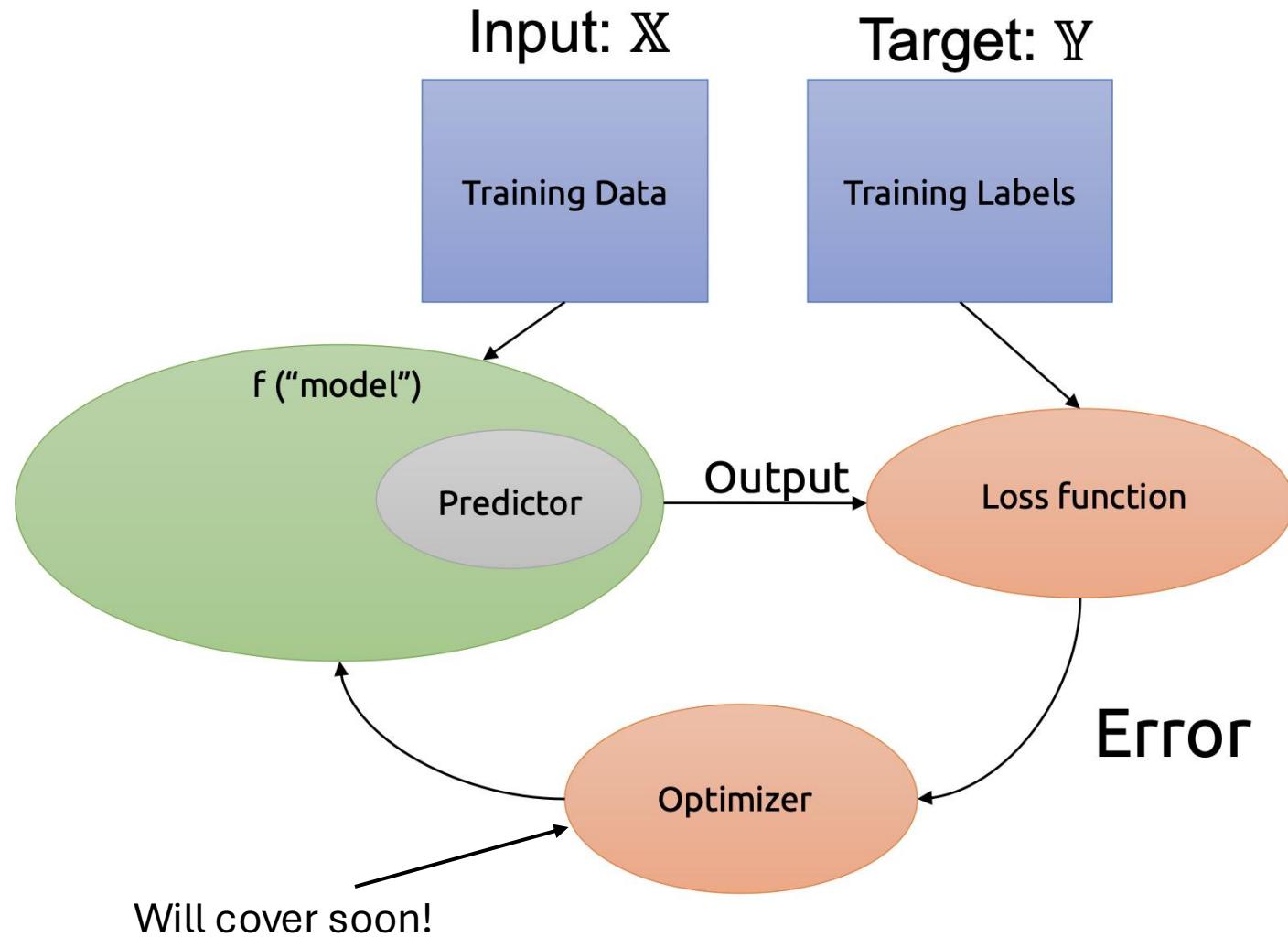
$$MSE = \frac{\sum_i^n (f(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2}{n}$$



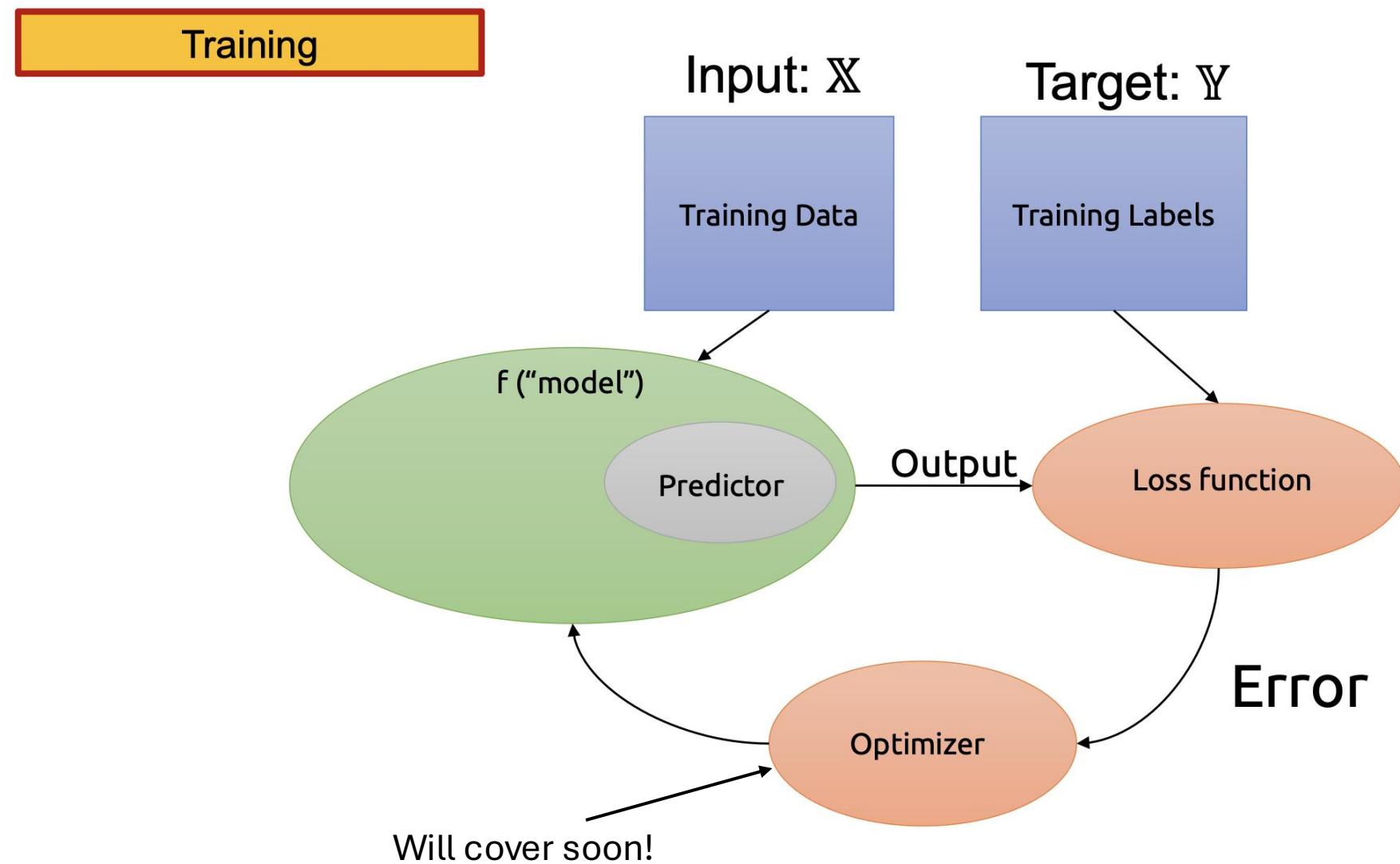
# What is the best approximation?

- <https://brown-deep-learning.github.io/dl-website-s25/visualizations/visualizations.html>

# “Classic” Supervised Learning in Machine Learning

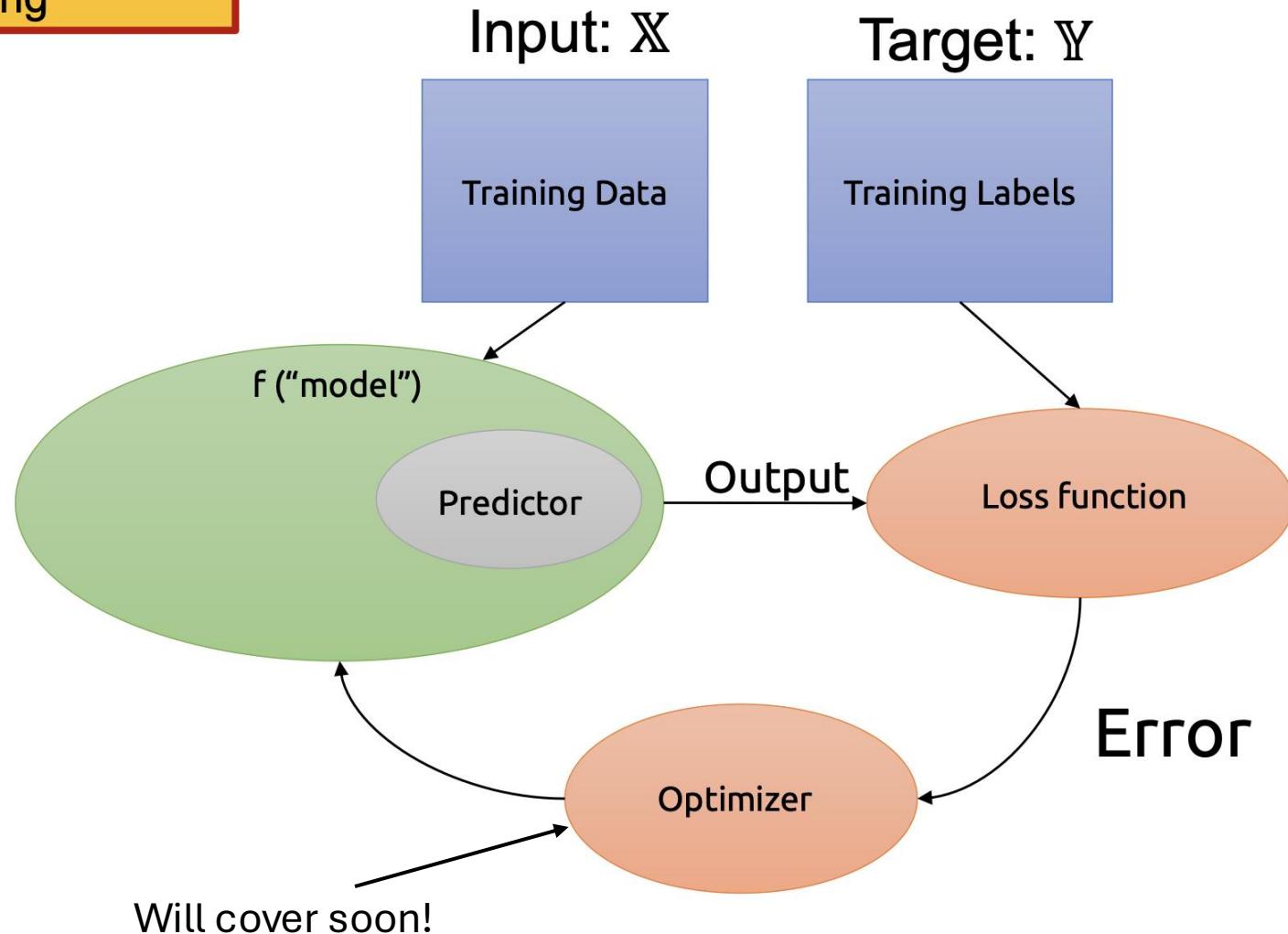


# “Classic” Supervised Learning in Machine Learning



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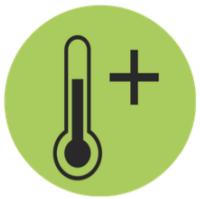
Training



Any questions?



# Testing our model

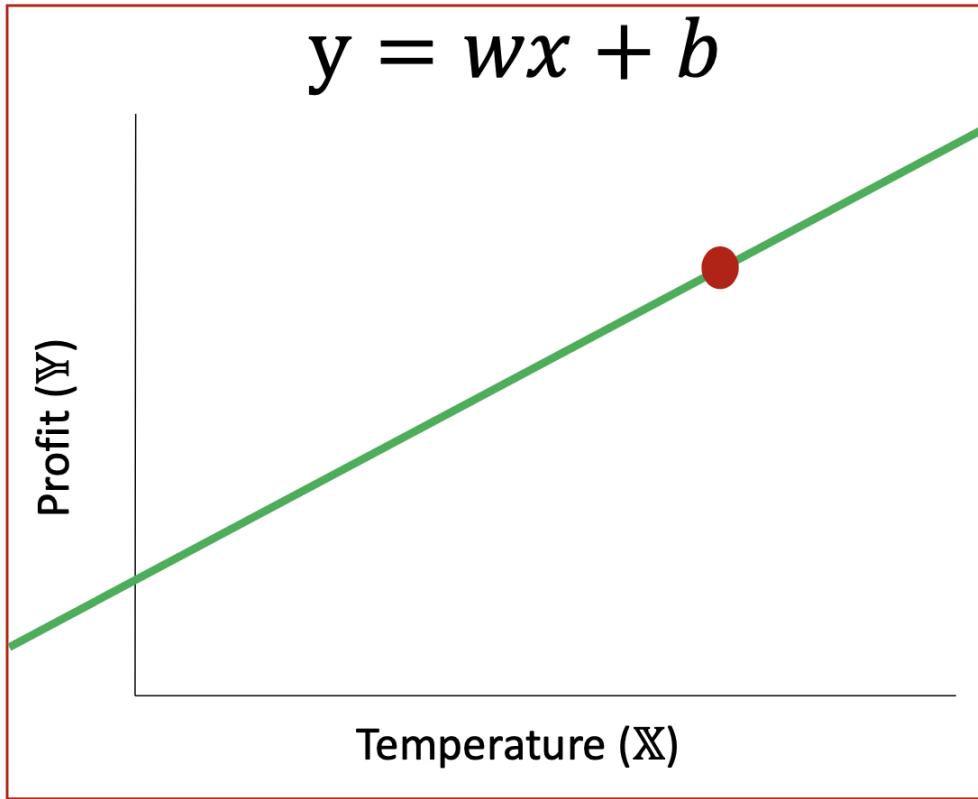


“Temperature”

$$x' = 70$$

Linear function

$$y = wx + b$$



“Profit made on selling lemonade”



Prediction

$$y' = 175$$

# Testing our model



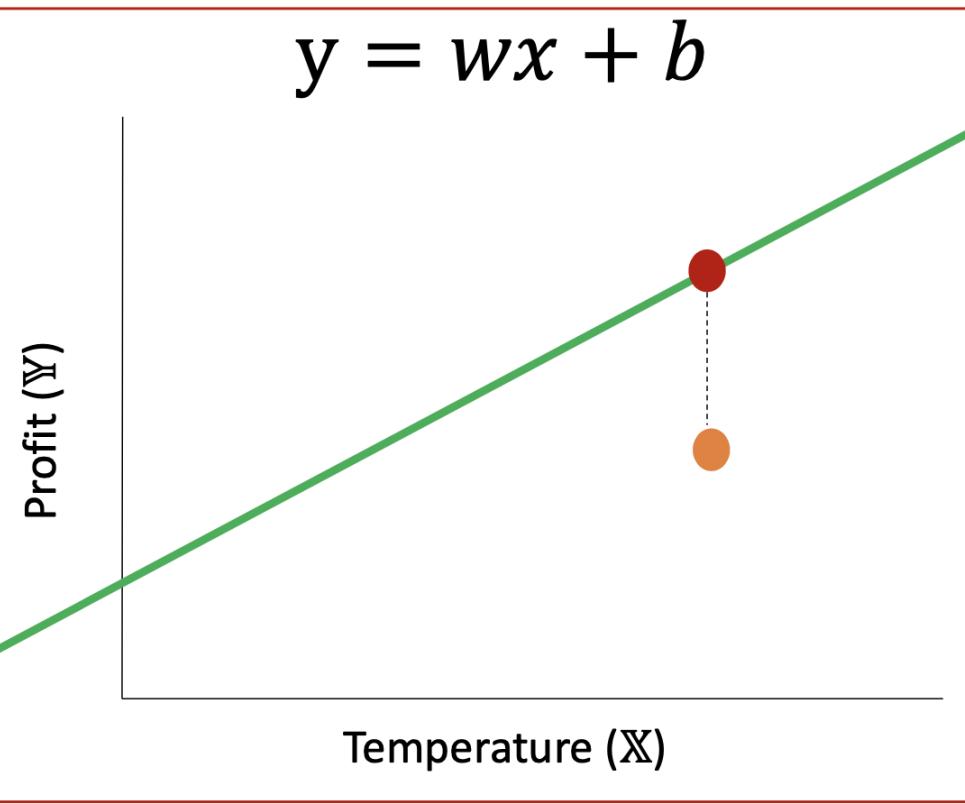
“Temperature”

$$x' = 70$$

$$\hat{x} = 70$$

Linear function

$$y = wx + b$$



“Profit made on selling lemonade”



Prediction

$$y' = 175$$

True observation

$$\hat{y} = 140$$

# Learning better models – Collect more data



$X \in \mathbb{R}$



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$

“Temperature”

$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$

$$x^{(2)} = 80.0$$

$$x^{(3)} = 30.3$$

.

.

.

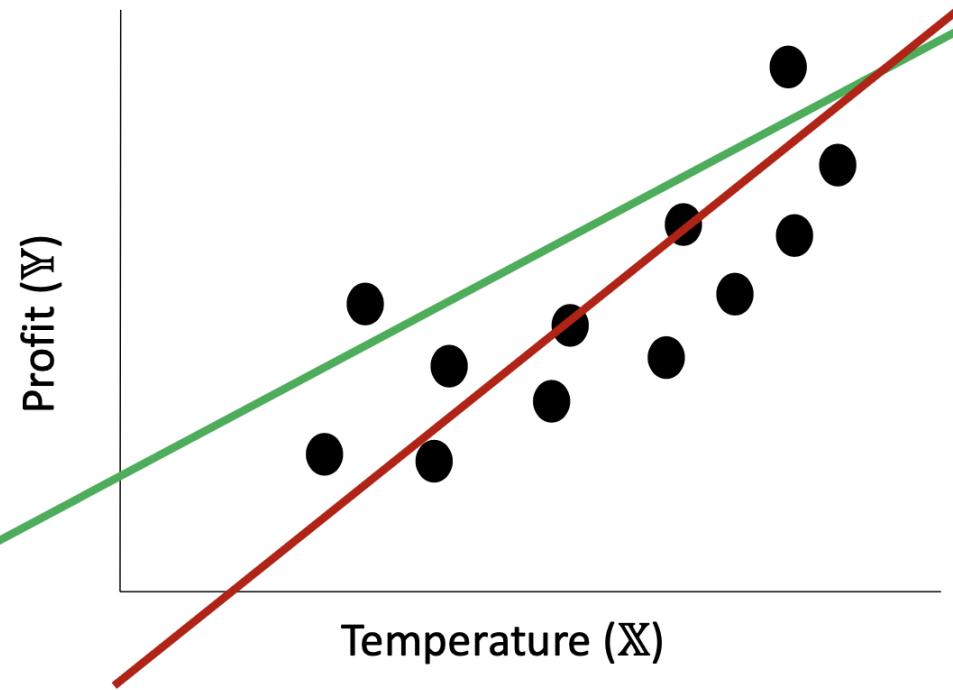
.

.

$$x^N = \dots$$

Linear function

$$y = wx + b$$



Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

“Profit made on selling lemonade”



$$y^{(1)} = 200.0$$

$$y^{(2)} = 180.5$$

$$y^{(3)} = 115.1$$

.

.

.

.

$$y^N = \dots$$

$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$

(Numerical output)

(Image only for explaining concept, not drawn accurately)

# Learning better models – Try different functions



$X \in \mathbb{R}$



Input:  $\mathbb{X}$   
"Temperature"

$$x^{(1)} = 100.1$$

$$x^{(2)} = 80.0$$

$$x^{(3)} = 30.3$$

.

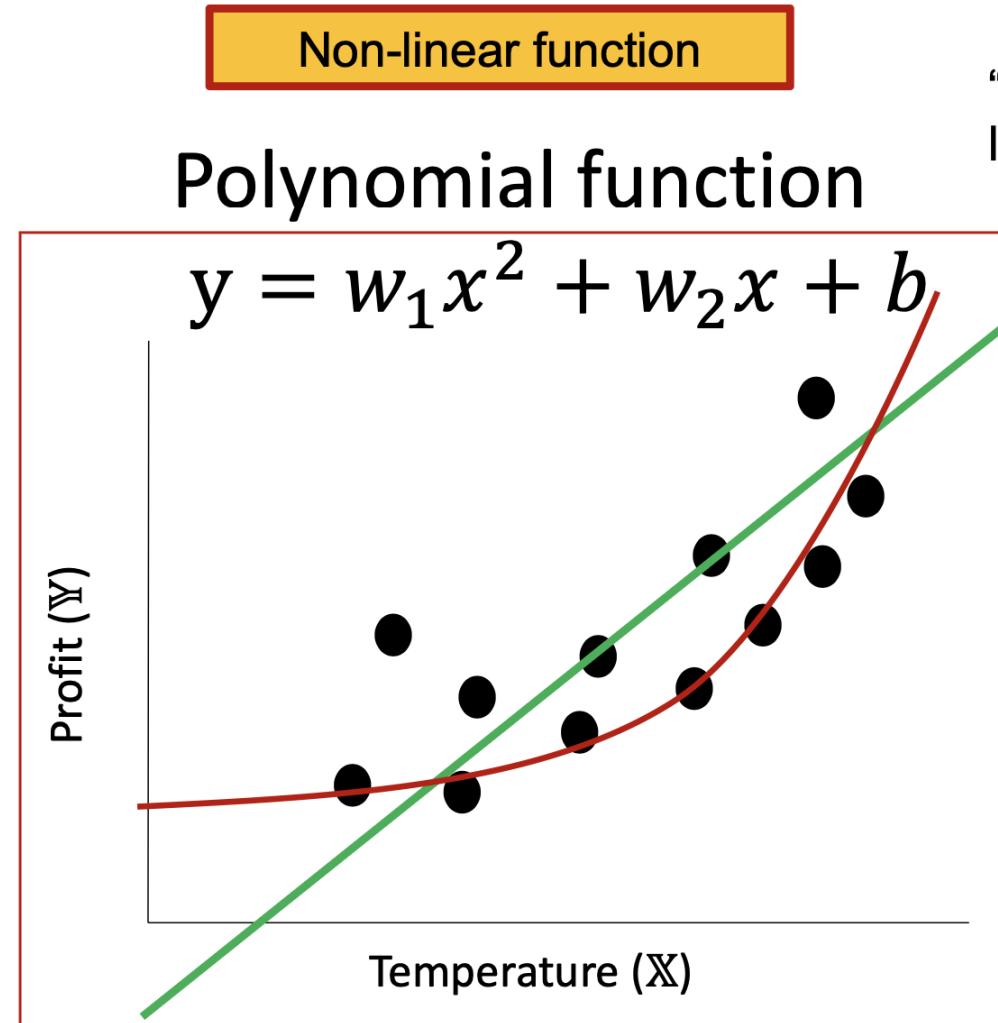
.

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.

.

$$x^N = \dots$$



Target:  $\mathbb{Y}$

"Profit made on selling lemonade"



$$y^{(1)} = 200.0$$

$$y^{(2)} = 180.5$$

$$y^{(3)} = 115.1$$

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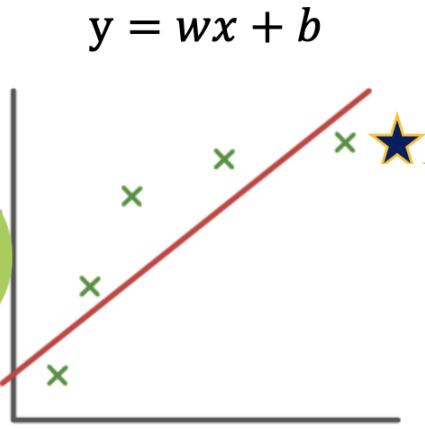
$$y^N = \dots$$

$\mathbb{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$

(Numerical output)

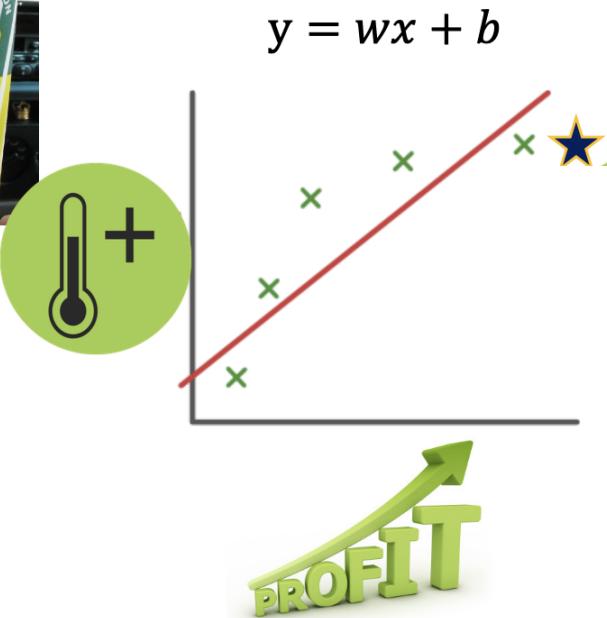
(Image only for explaining concept, not drawn accurately)

# How to know which function is the best?



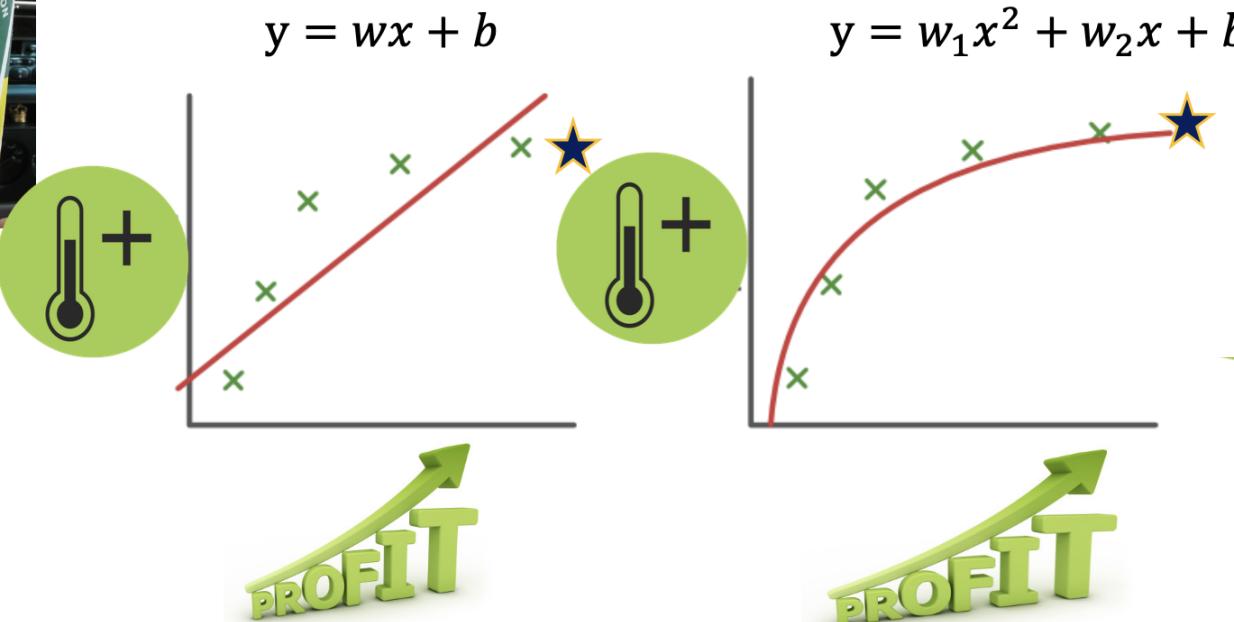
A large, stylized green arrow pointing upwards, with the word "PROFIT" written vertically along its side in a bold, green, blocky font.

# How to know which function is the best?



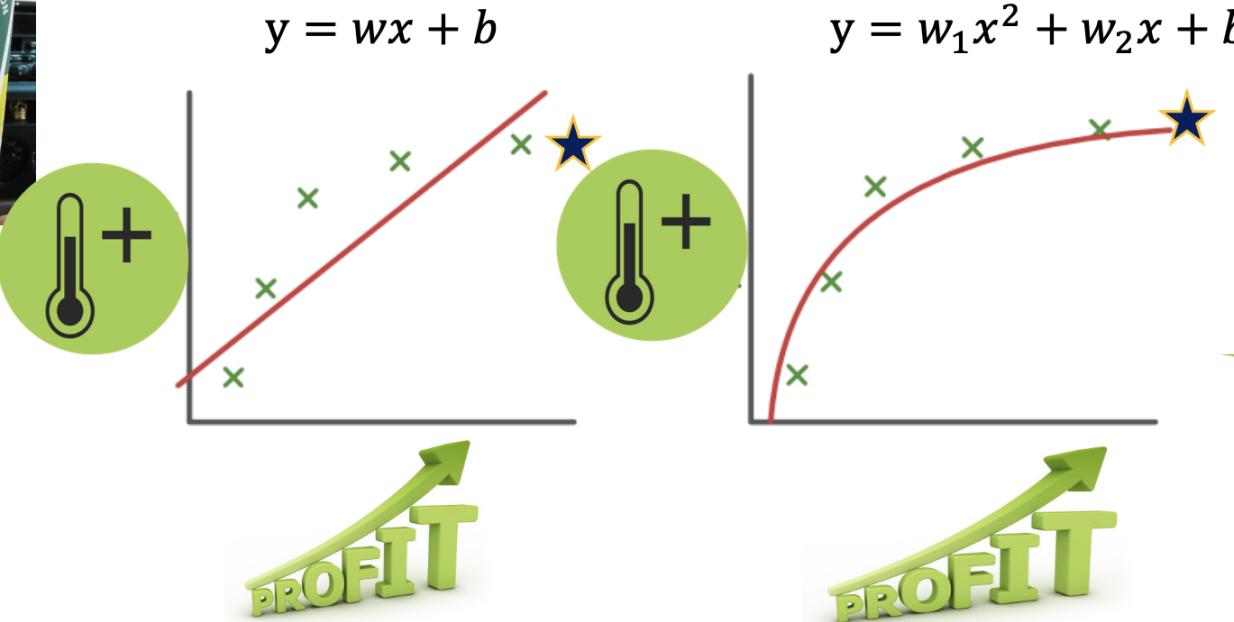
“My model is not doing  
that well on the given data  
and new data” ☹

# How to know which function is the best?



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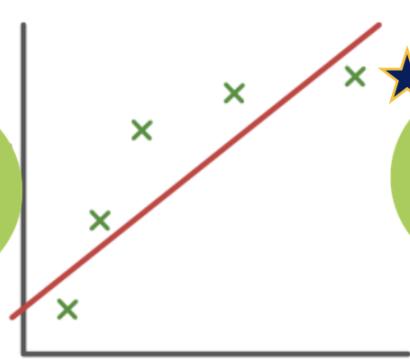
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“My model is doing well  
on the given data AND the  
new data point!! ☺

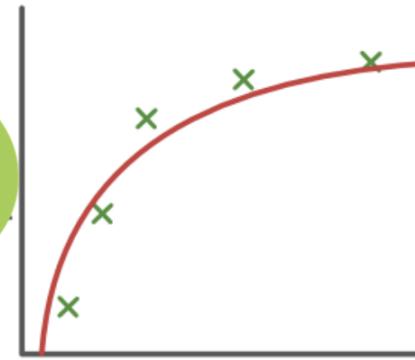
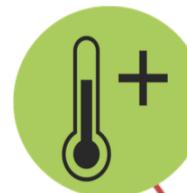
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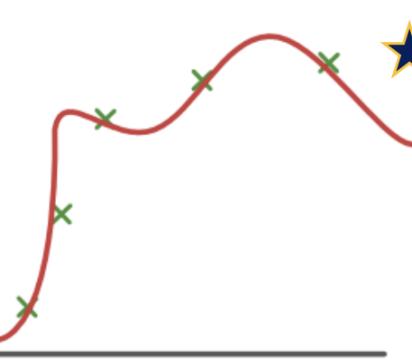
$$y = wx + b$$



$$y = w_1x^2 + w_2x + b$$



$$y = w_1x^4 + w_2x^3 + w_3x^2 + w_4x + b$$



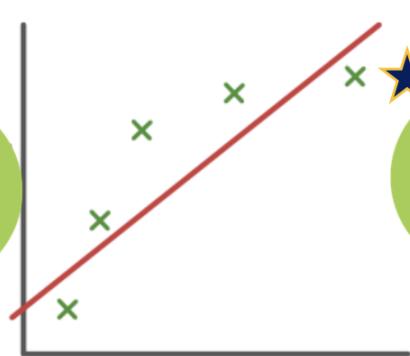
“My model is not doing that well on the given data and new data” ☹

“My model is doing well on the given data AND the new data point!! ☺

# How to know which function is the best?



$$y = wx + b$$



**PROFIT**

A green 3D-style word "PROFIT" with an upward-pointing arrow.

“My model is not doing that well on the given data and new data” ☹

$$y = w_1x^2 + w_2x + b$$

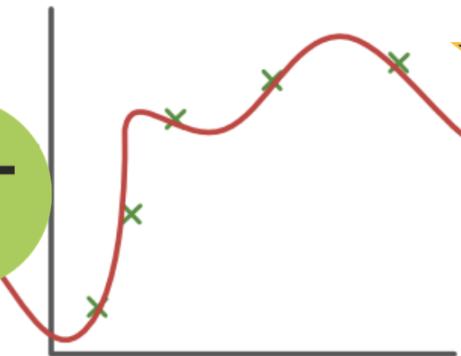
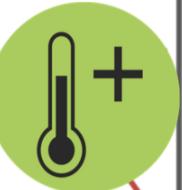


**PROFIT**

A green 3D-style word "PROFIT" with an upward-pointing arrow.

“My model is doing well on the given data AND the new data point!! 😊

$$y = w_1x^4 + w_2x^3 + w_3x^2 + w_4x + b$$



**PROFIT**

A green 3D-style word "PROFIT" with an upward-pointing arrow.

“My model is doing really well on the given data!! 😊

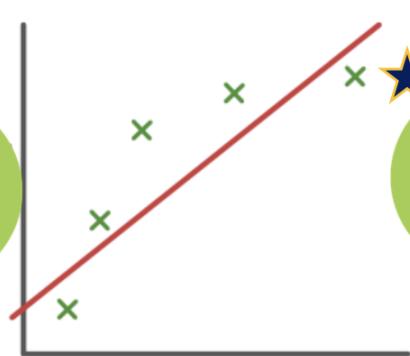
“The performance is bad on new data point” ☹

# How to know which function is the best?

Underfit

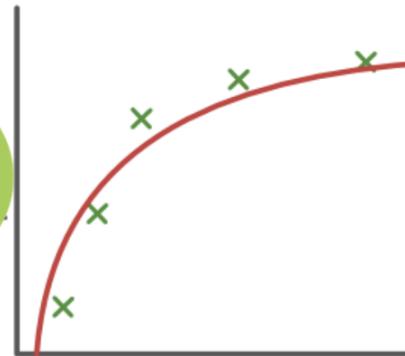


$$y = wx + b$$



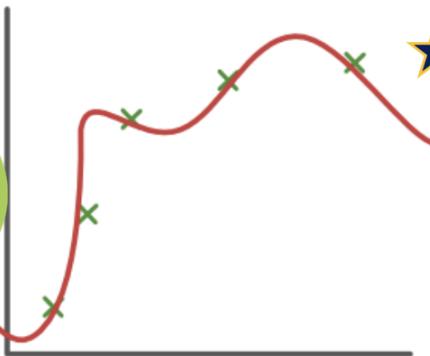
“My model is not doing that well on the given data and new data” ☹

$$y = w_1x^2 + w_2x + b$$



“My model is doing well on the given data AND the new data point!! 😊

$$y = w_1x^4 + w_2x^3 + w_3x^2 + w_4x + b$$



“My model is doing really well on the given data!! 😊

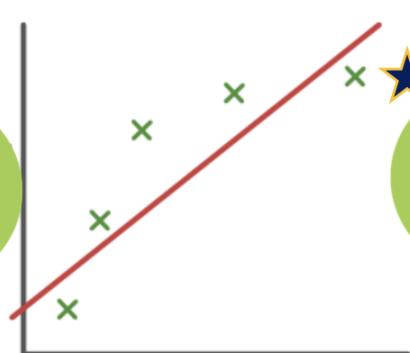
“The performance is bad on new data point” ☹

# How to know which function is the best?



Underfit

$$y = wx + b$$



PROFIT

“My model is not doing that well on the given data and new data” ☹

Overfit

$$y = w_1x^2 + w_2x + b$$



PROFIT

“My model is doing well on the given data AND the new data point!! 😊

$$y = w_1x^4 + w_2x^3 + w_3x^2 + w_4x + b$$



PROFIT

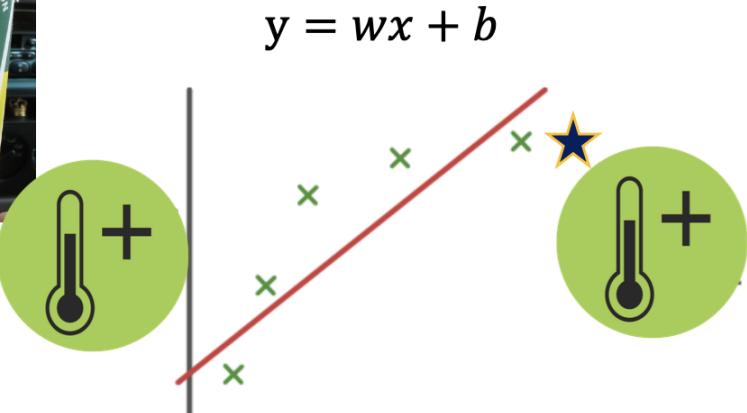
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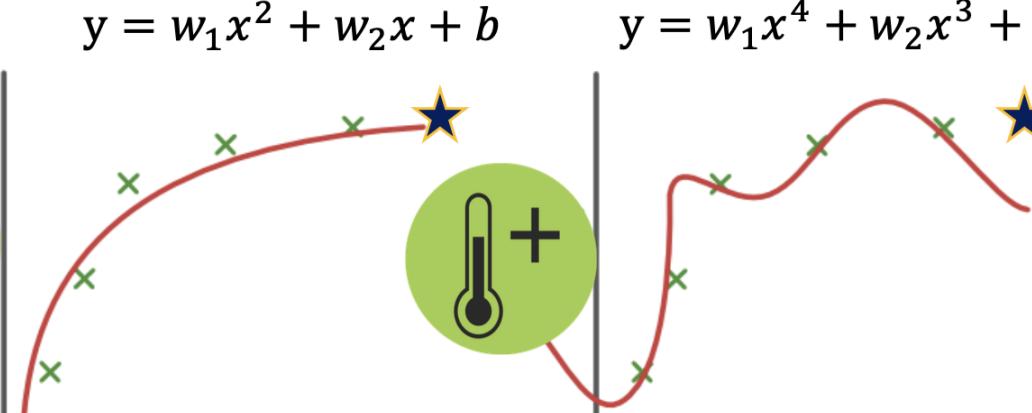
# How to know which function is the best?



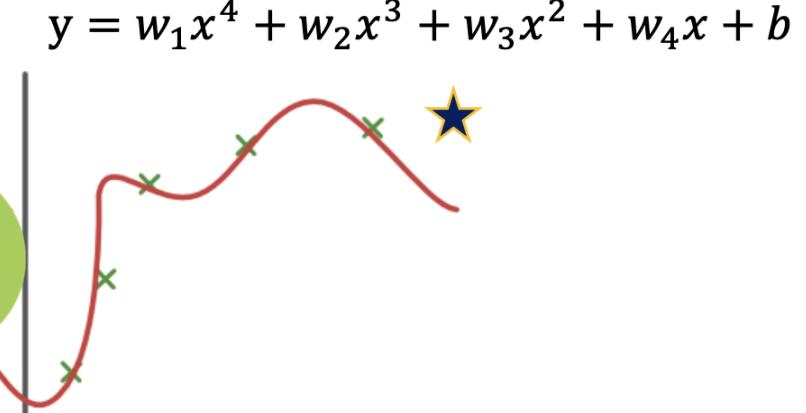
Underfit



Good fit



Overfit



"My model is not doing that well on the given data and new data" ☹

"My model is doing well on the given data AND the new data point!! 😊"

"My model is doing really well on the given data!! 😊"

"The performance is bad on new data point" ☹

# Model Complexity

- Model complexity refers to... the model's complexity
  - Polynomial regressions are more complex than linear regressions
- Models with higher complexity can approximate more function types well
- More complex functions also **tend** to overfit

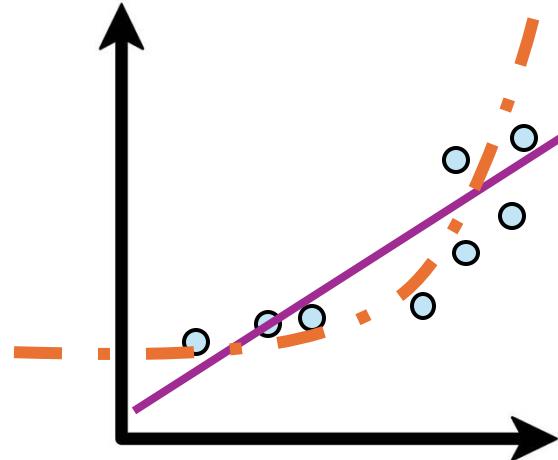
**Open Question:** A 100 degree polynomial tends to be way overfit. Neural Networks will be even more complex, why do neural networks not overfit?

# How to know which function is the best?

$\mathbb{X}$

$x^{(1)}$   
 $x^{(2)}$   
 $x^{(3)}$   
 $x^{(4)}$   
 $x^{(5)}$   
 $x^{(6)}$   
 $x^{(7)}$   
 $x^{(8)}$

$f_1$  or  $f_2$ ?



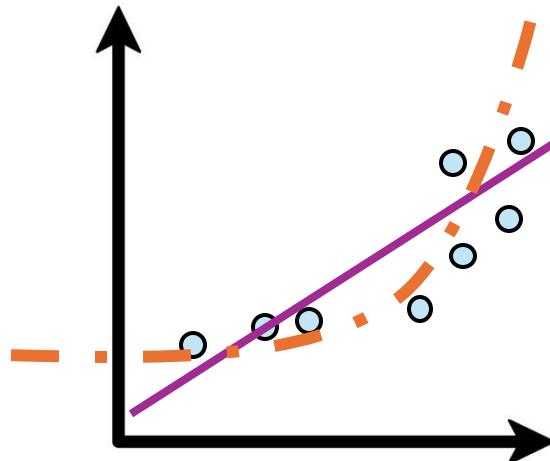
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$\mathbb{X}$

$x^{(1)}$   
 $x^{(2)}$   
 $x^{(3)}$   
 $x^{(4)}$   
 $x^{(5)}$   
 $x^{(6)}$   
 $x^{(7)}$   
 $x^{(8)}$

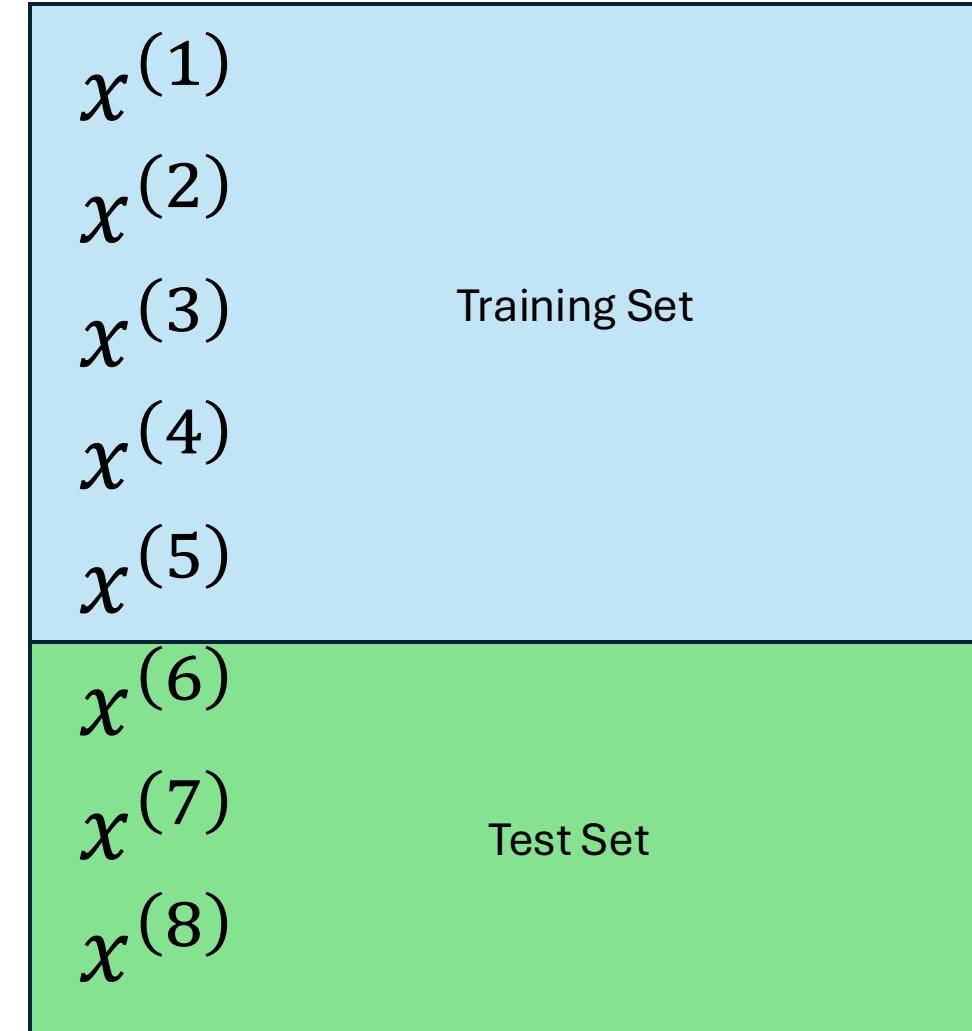
$f_1$  or  $f_2$ ?

Compare MSE between them?

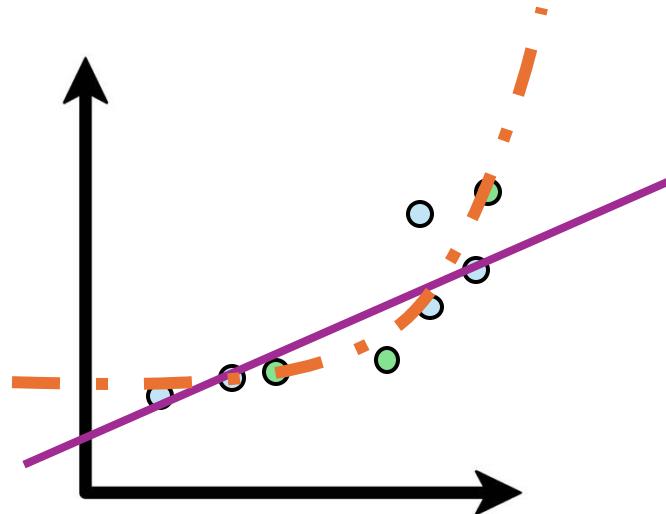


# How to know which function is the best?

$\mathbb{X}$

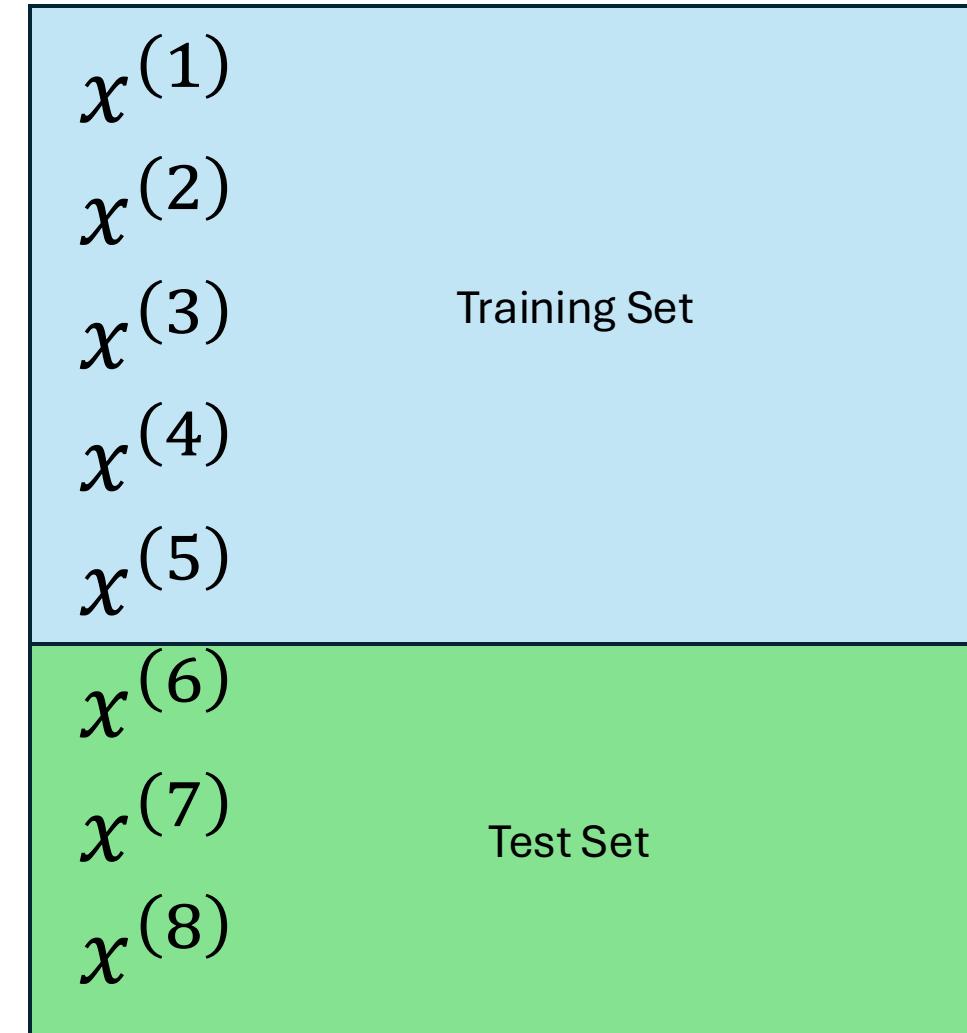


$f_1$  or  $f_2$ ?



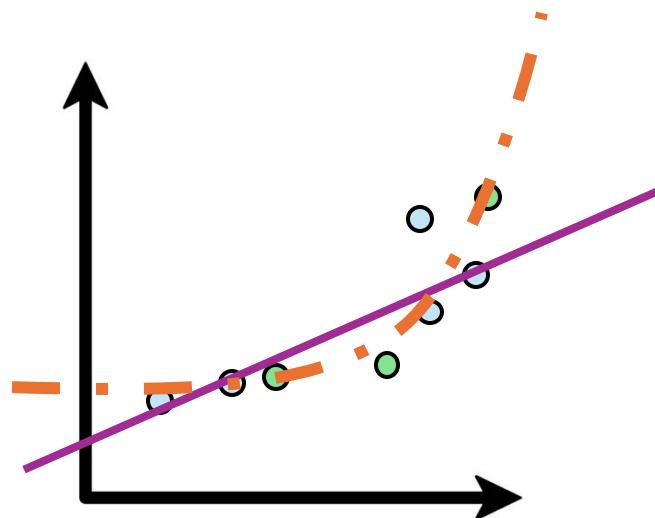
# How to know which function is the best?

$\mathbb{X}$



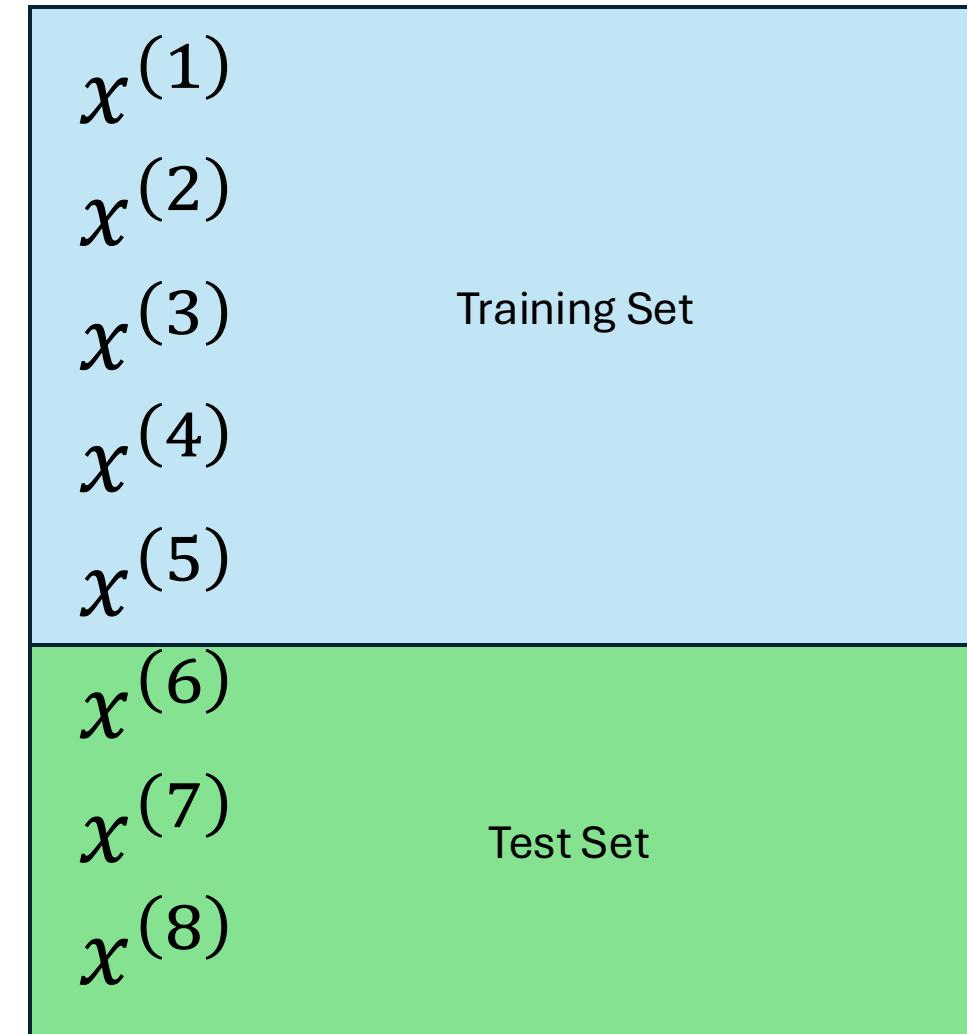
$f_1$  or  $f_2$ ?

Compare MSE on what data?



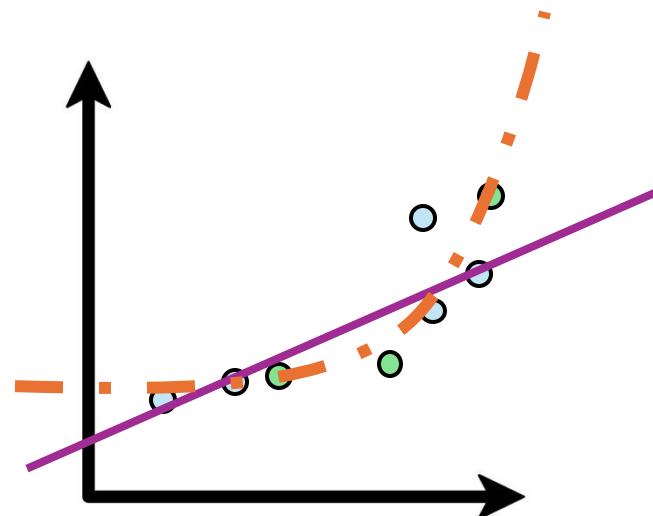
# How to know which function is the best?

$\mathbb{X}$



$f_1$  or  $f_2$ ?

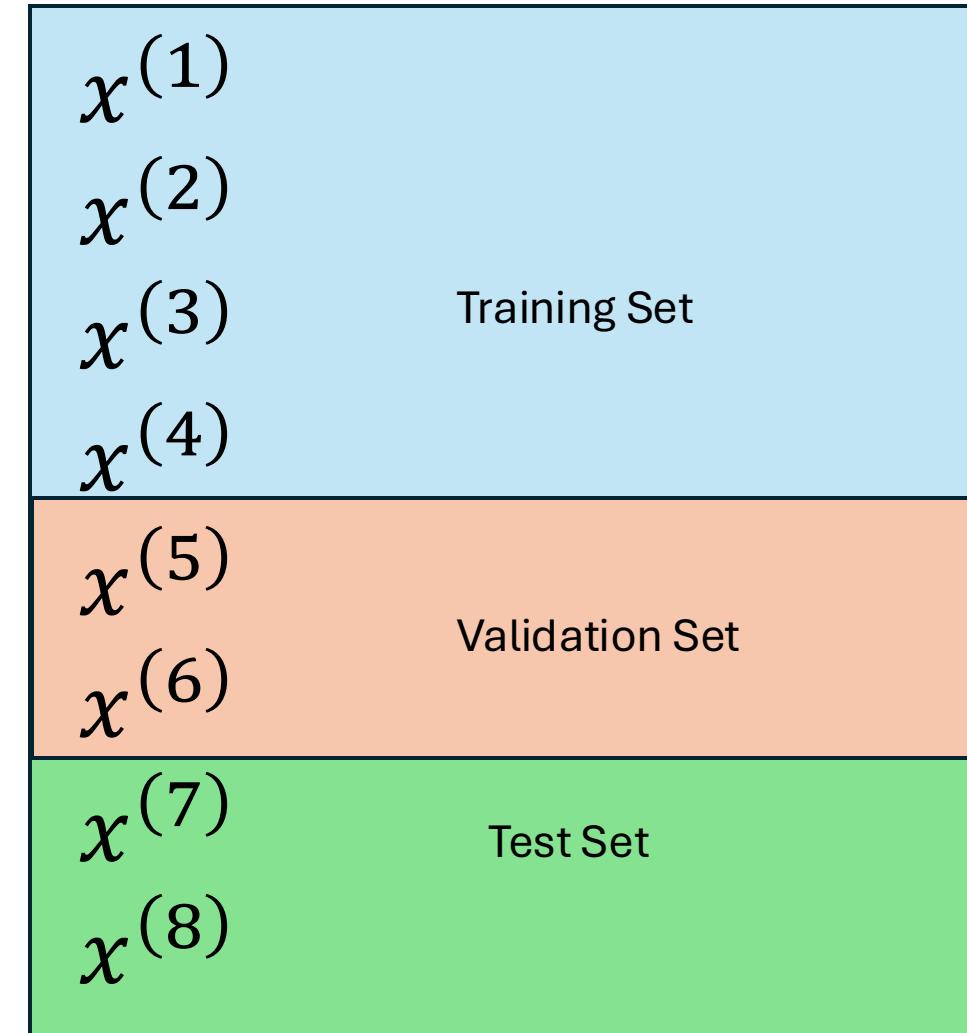
Compare MSE on what data?



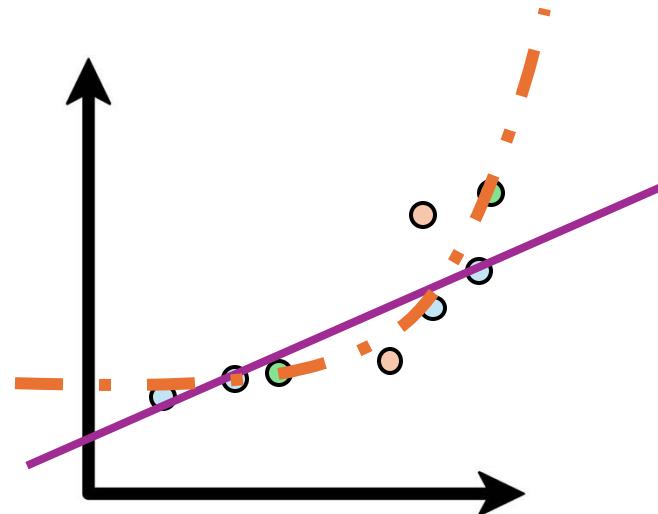
When might we want to overfit?

# How to know which function is the best?

$\mathbb{X}$



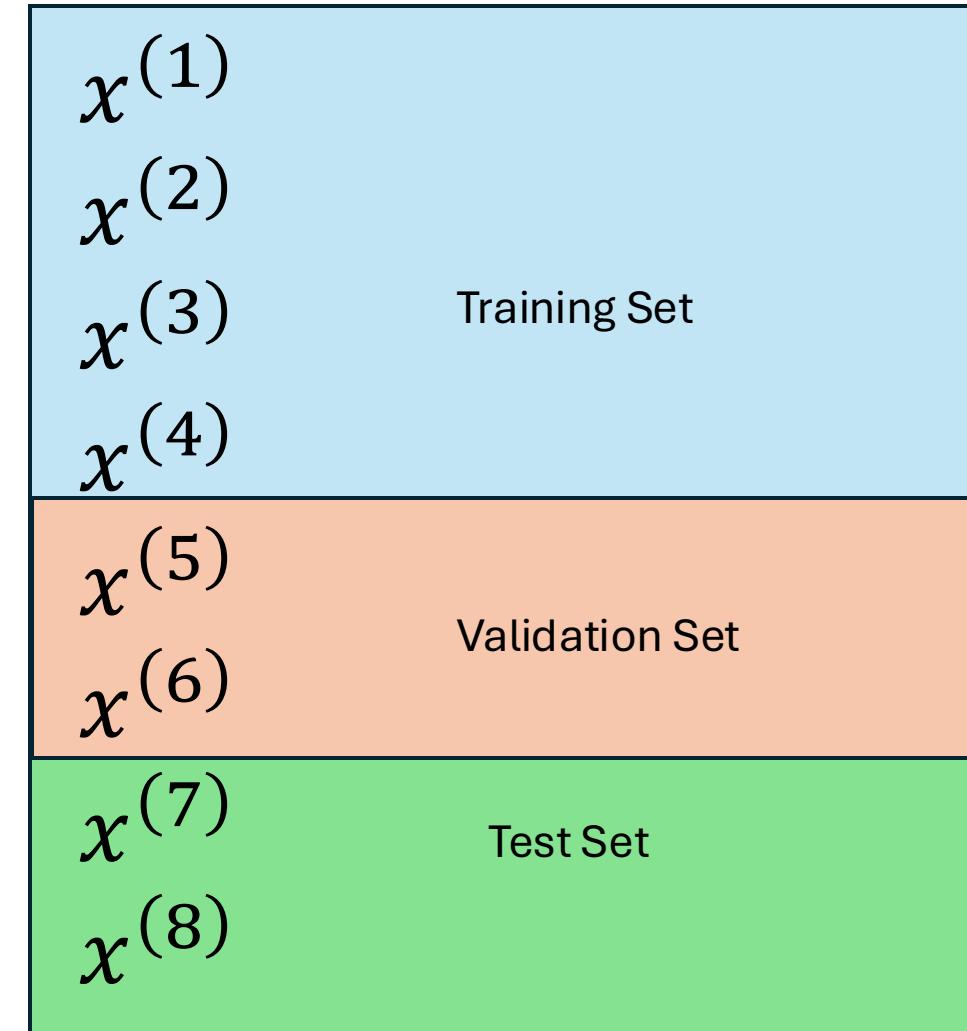
$f_1$  or  $f_2$ ?



1. Train model on training set
2. Validate performance on validation set
3. Report results on test set

# How to know which function is the best?

$\mathbb{X}$



In this class

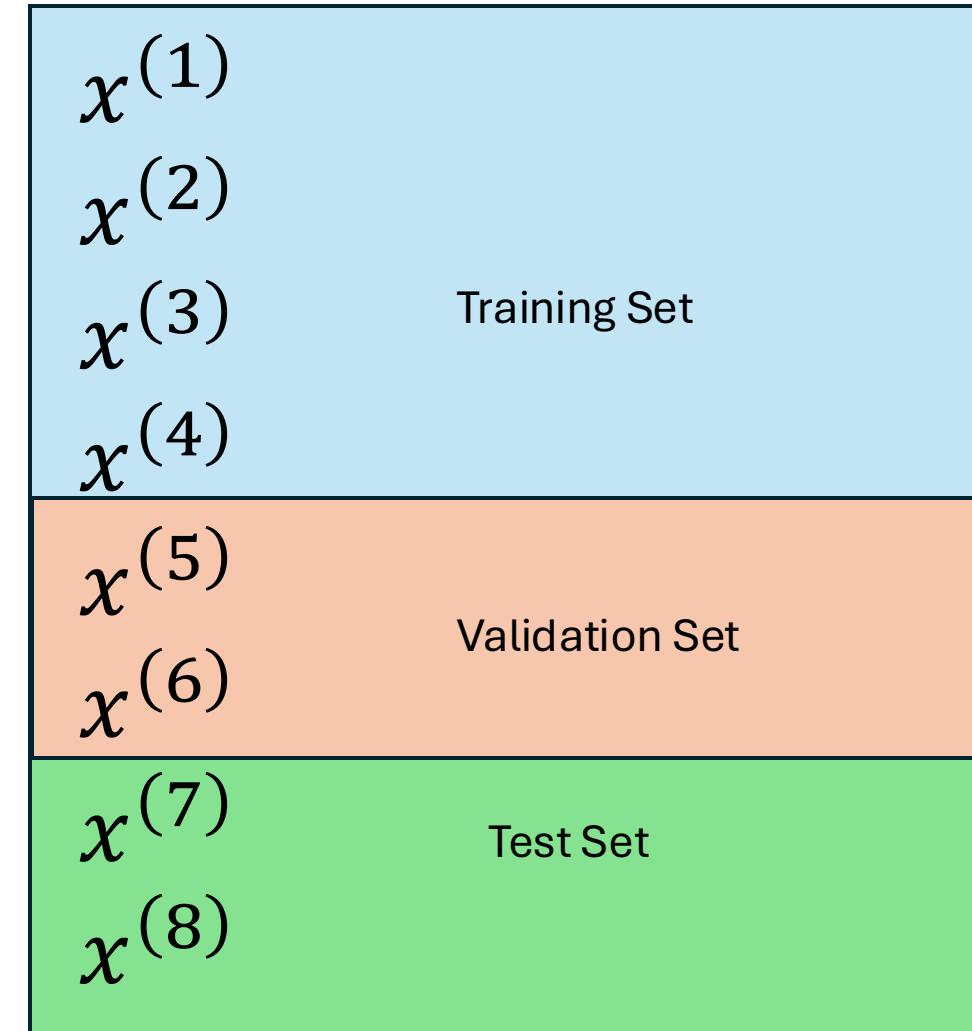
1. Train model on provided training data
2. Validate your model locally with validation set
3. Submit to Gradescope and we have a separate test set

In real world

1. Train model on provided training data
2. Validate your model locally with validation set
3. Deploy your model to real world and track performance

# How to know which function is the best?

X



In this class

1. Train model on provided training data
2. Validate your model locally with validation set

Any questions? Post it to Gradescope and we have a separate test set



In real world

1. Train model on provided training data
2. Validate your model locally with validation set
3. Deploy your model to real world and track performance

# Other ways to improve performance

Collect additional information

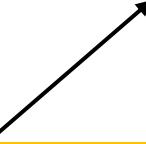
$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$y$
Temperature	Sunny?	Day of Week	Profit
$x^{(1)}$	90	Yes	\$200
$x^{(2)}$	80	No	\$91
$x^{(3)}$	62	No	\$54

# Other ways to improve performance

Collect additional information

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$y$
	Temperature	Sunny?	Day of Week	Profit
$x^{(1)}$	90	Yes	Sat	\$200
$x^{(2)}$	80	No	Mon	\$91
$x^{(3)}$	62	No	Wed	\$54

How can we  
represent binary  
variables?



# Other ways to improve performance

Collect additional information

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$y$
	Temperature	Sunny?	Day of Week	Profit
$x^{(1)}$	90	Yes	Sat	\$200
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How can we  
represent binary  
variables?

$$x_2^{(k)} \in \{0, 1\}$$

# Other ways to improve performance

Collect additional information

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$y$
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How can we represent binary variables?

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Idea 1: Mon=0, Tue=1, Wed.=2

$$x_2^{(k)} \in \{0, 1\}$$

# Other ways to improve performance

Collect additional information

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$y$
	Temperature	Sunny?	Day of Week	Profit
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How can we represent binary variables?

$$x_2^{(k)} \in \{0, 1\}$$

**Idea 1:** Mon=0, Tue=1, Wed.=2

**The problem:** Is Wednesday being 2x Tuesday meaningful?  
Why use this ordering and not a random ordering?

# Other ways to improve performance

Collect additional information

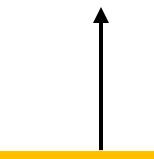
	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$y$
	Temperature	Sunny?	Day of Week	Profit
$x^{(1)}$	90	Yes	Sat	\$200
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How can we represent binary variables?

$$x_2^{(k)} \in \{0, 1\}$$

**Idea 1:** Mon=0, Tue=1, Wed.=2

**The problem:** Is Wednesday being 2x Tuesday meaningful?  
Why use this ordering and not a random ordering?



How can we represent binary variables?

**Idea 2:** Use a series of binary variables  
If day==Mon,  $x_4=1$ , else 0  
If day==Tue,  $x_5=1$ , else 0  
...

# Other ways to improve performance

Collect additional information

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$y$
	Temperature	Sunny?	Day of Week	Profit
$x^{(1)}$	90	Yes	Sat	\$200
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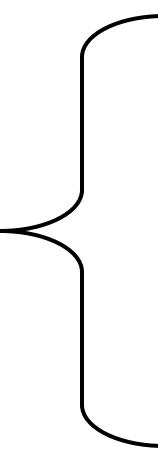
How can we represent binary variables?

**Idea 2:** Use a series of binary variables  
If day==Mon,  $x_4=1$ , else 0  
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...

“One-Hot Vector”: Turn categorical variables into a vector of binary variables

# Key Ideas Review

How to represent  
Input/Output



Input/Output need to be numbers

Classification: Predicting categorical  
outputs ( $y$  is discrete)

Regression: Predicting numerical  
outputs ( $y$  is continuous)

Supervised  
Learning

Goal of supervised learning: Find good  
approximation of data

Train on Training  
set

Evaluate on  
validation Set

But what we  
really care about  
is performance  
on test set

# Important Questions

- Linear Regression seeks to find a best fit function by minimizing MSE.
  - How can we find the **best** possible linear regression?
  - Are there **more than one** best fit line?
  - **Why did we choose MSE?** Why not Mean Error? Are there other loss functions that make sense?
- You can see how we can convert images to numbers, since pixels are stored as (r, g, b) values. But what about **other input types** like natural language? The protein for protein fold prediction? A chess board?