

dm25s1

## Topic 06 : Data Modelling

### Part 01 : Data Modelling - Introduction

Preparation

Data Handling

Exploring Data 1

Exploring Data 2

Building Models

Dr Bernard Butler

Department of Computing and Mathematics, WIT.  
(bernard.butler@setu.ie)

Prediction

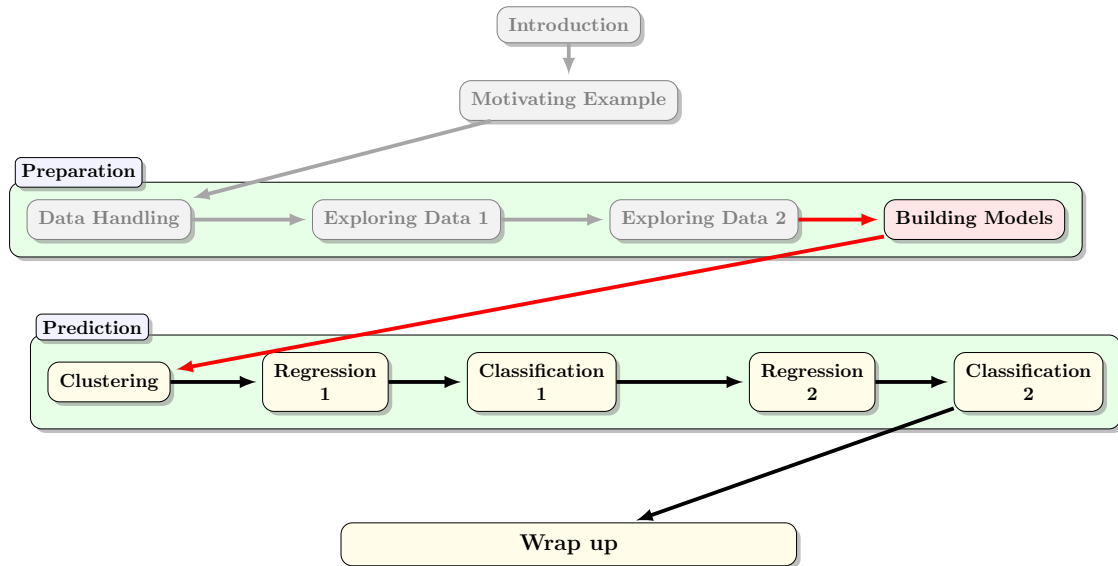
Autumn Semester, 2025

#### Outline

- Components of a machine learning problem
- Machine learning concepts and notation
- Bias vs variance

Wrap up

## Data Mining (Week 6)



# Outline

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1. Machine Learning (ML) Overview	3
1.1. Review of terminology and notation	4
1.2. Components of a Machine Learning Problem	5
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2.1. Models and error	16

# Terminology / Notation

PassengerId	Pclass	Name	Sex	Age	SibSp	Parch	Ticket	Fare	Cabin	Embarked	Survived
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$n + 1$  columns / variables

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$n$  features / attributes / dimensions

$y$  target

$m$  observations / instances / cases / rows

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- So  $x_j^{(i)}$  (or  $x_{i,j}$ ) is the  $i$ -th observation in the  $j$ -th feature .....  $x_j^{(i)}$



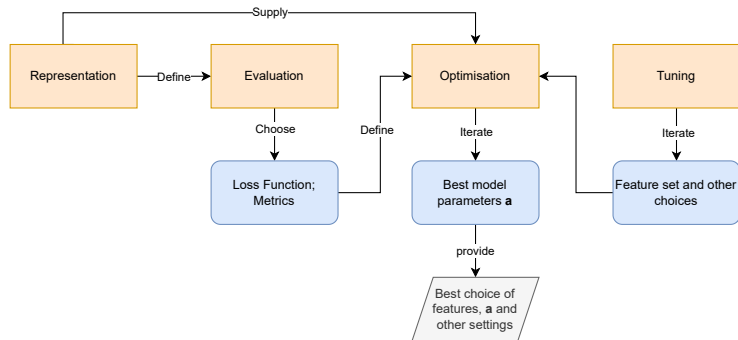
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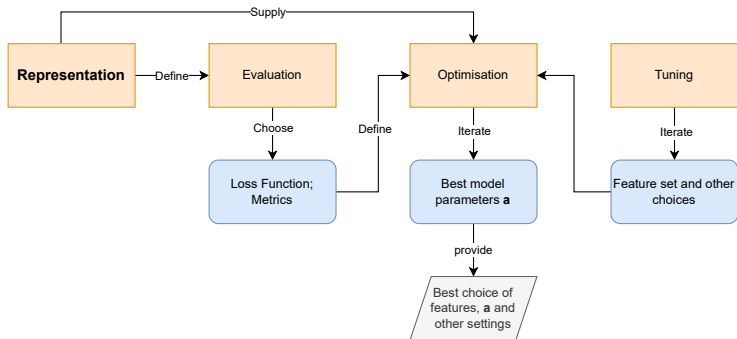
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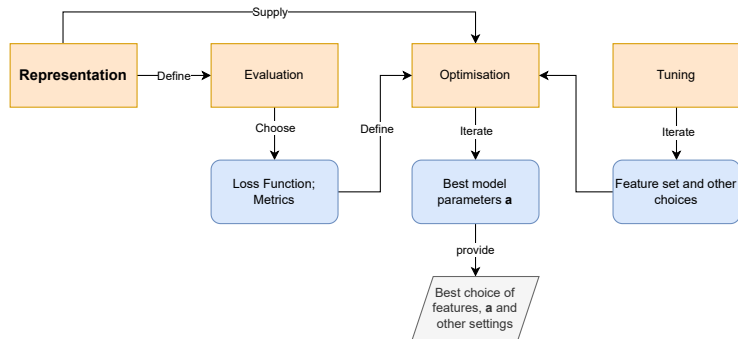
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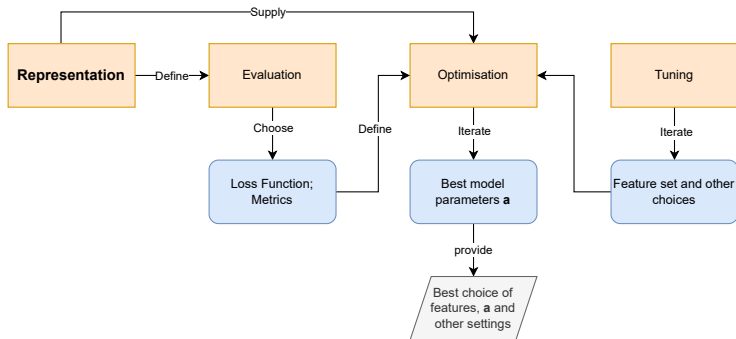


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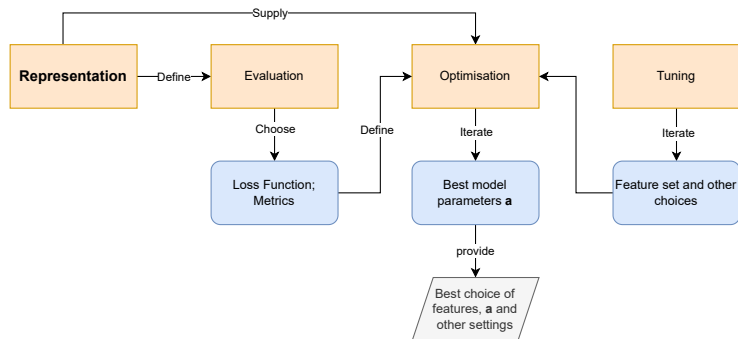
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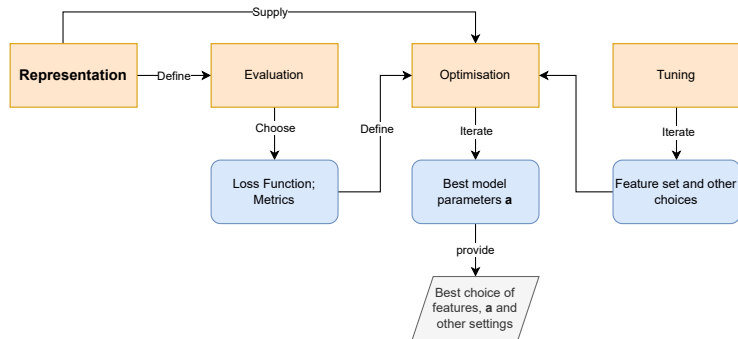
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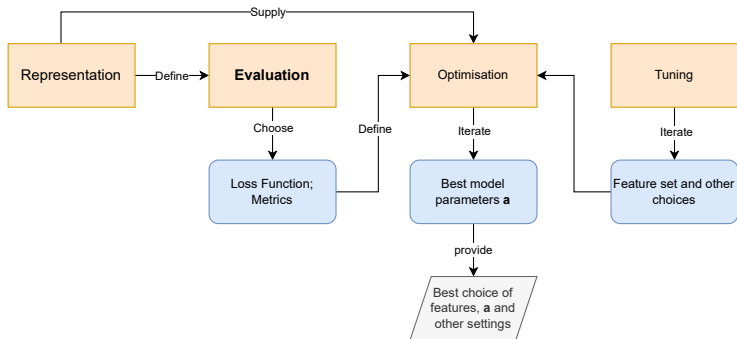
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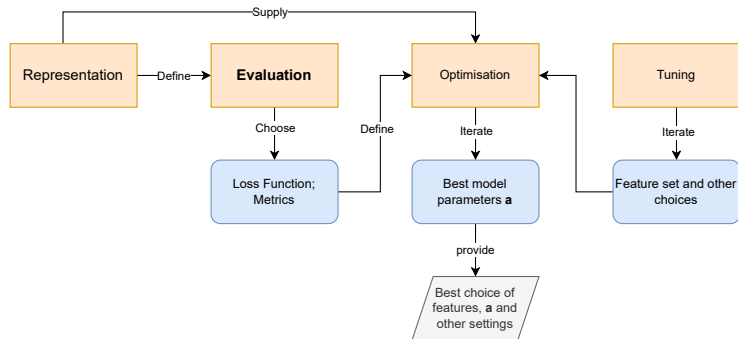
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- These choices are made once - they are foundational for what follows.

## Component 2: Evaluation



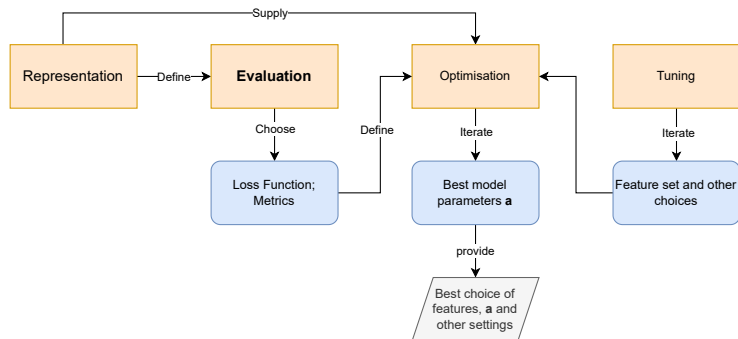


## Component 2: Evaluation



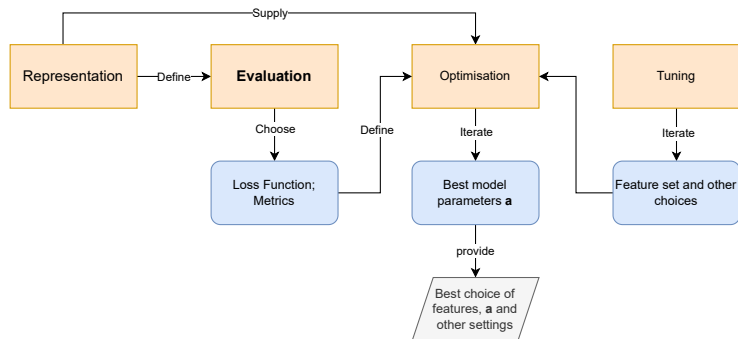
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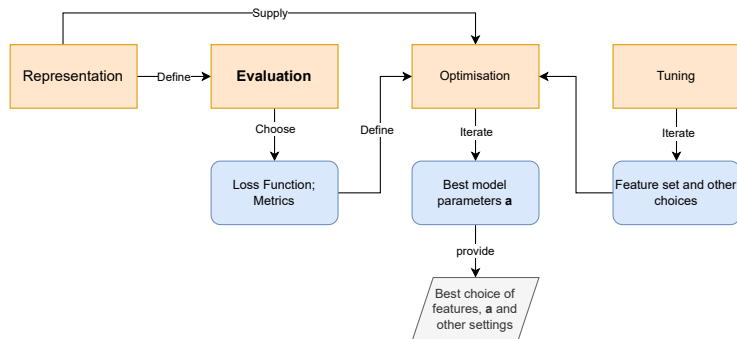
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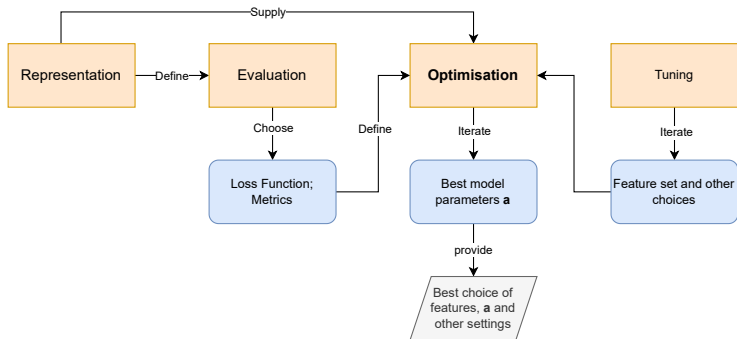
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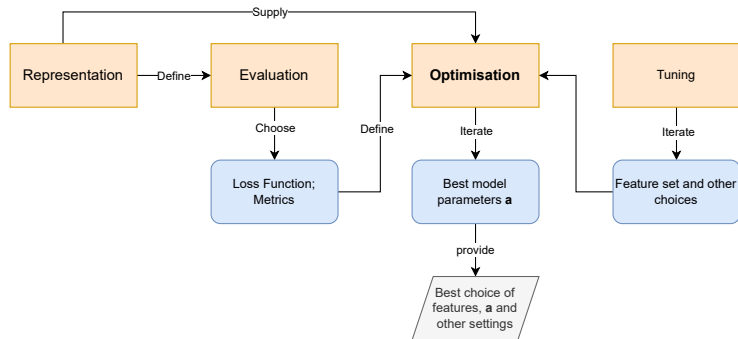


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- Generally the objective function takes actual and predicted target values and returns a single nonnegative number.

## Component 3: Optimisation

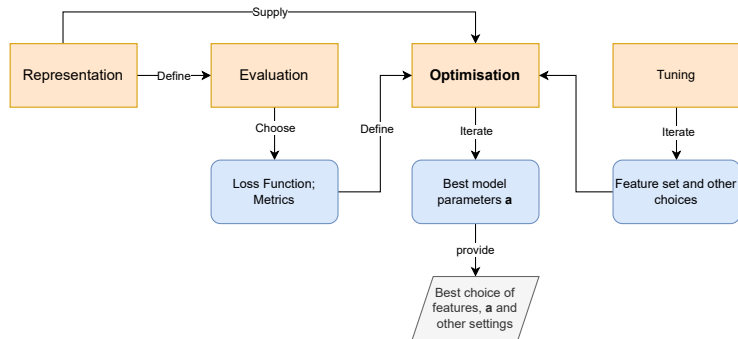


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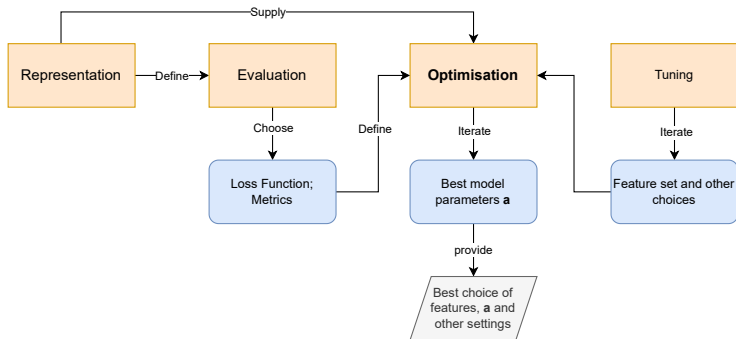
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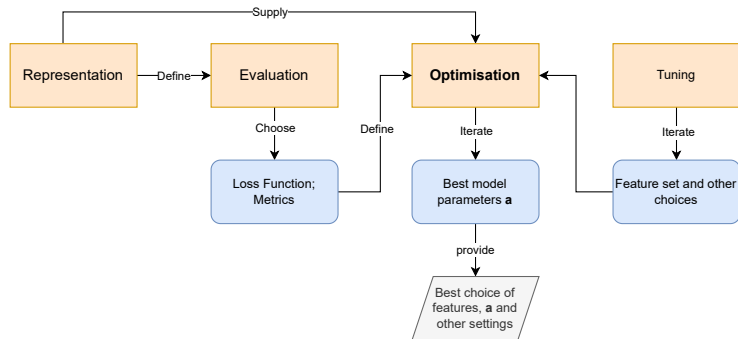
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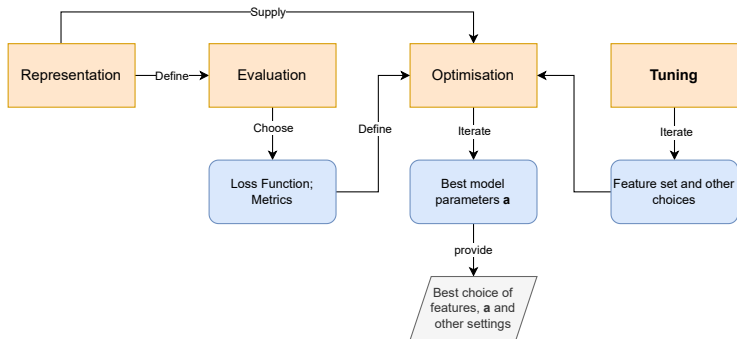


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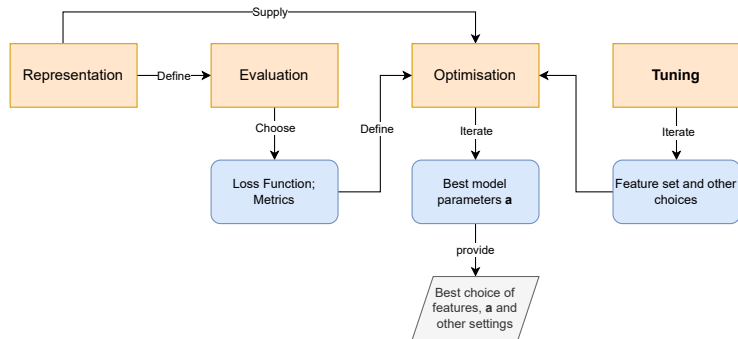


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- Most of the computational resources are needed for the **Optimisation** component.

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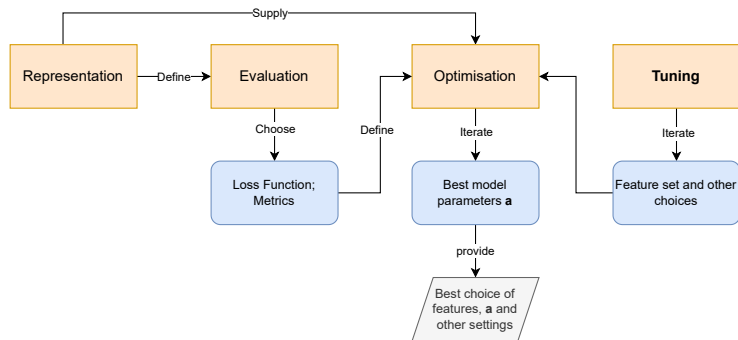


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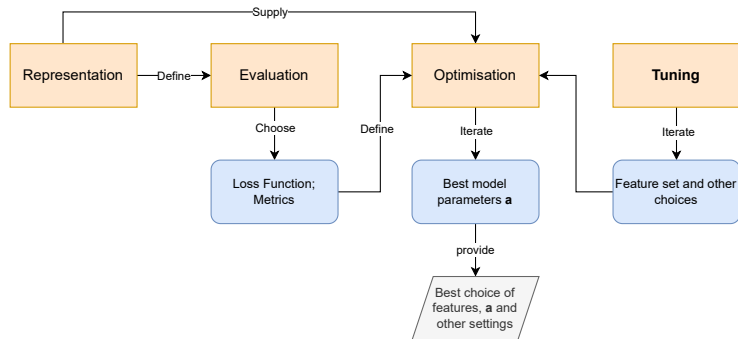
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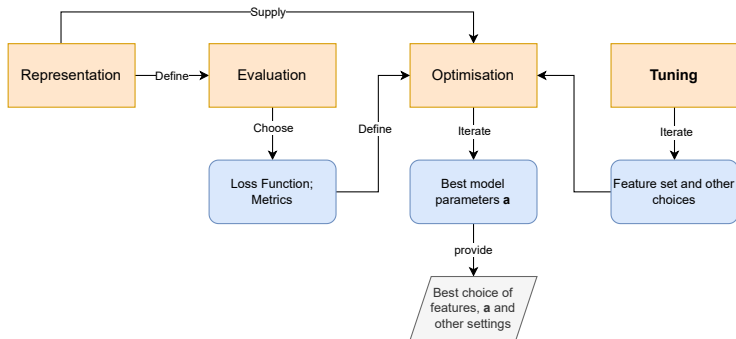
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- For **Tuning**, GridSearch (exhaustive over a range) and RandomSearch (pick representative values) are popular ways to search for the best hyperparameter values.

# Data Modelling (aka Machine Learning)

As alternative to the four component (Representation / Evaluation / Optimisation / Tuning) viewpoint we can think of a machine learning problem as

## Definition 1 (Machine Learning)

Study of algorithms that improve their performance  $P$  at some task  $T$  with experience  $E$ .

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- How many historical observations are needed?
- How accurate/noisy is the data?
- Do we have missing values?
- Is the data representative?

# Taxonomy of Machine Learning Models ...

...by Intuition/Motivation

...by Algorithmic Properties

...by Fixed/Variable Number of Parameters

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- **Geometric models** use intuitions from geometry such as separating (hyper-)planes, linear transformations and distance metrics.
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- **Tree-based models** (recursively) partition the data to make predictions.

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# Taxonomy of Machine Learning Models ...

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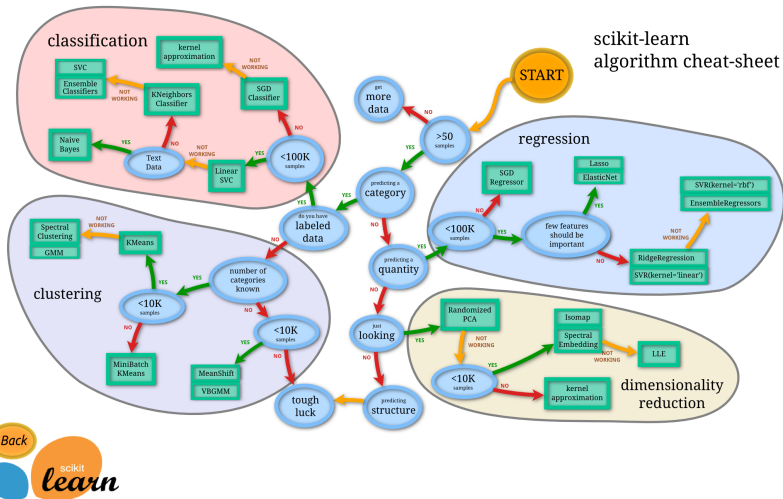
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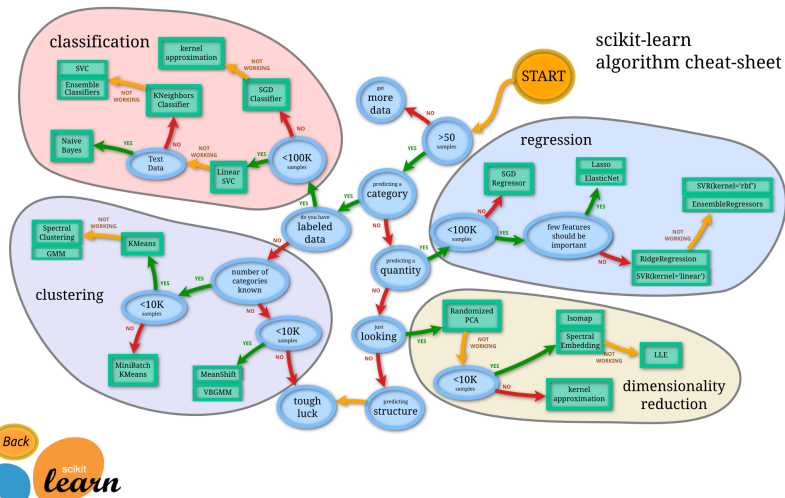
## ... by Fixed/Variable Number of Parameters

- **Parametric models** have a fixed number of parameters.
- In **non-parametric models** the number of parameters grows with the amount of training data.

## Aside: Scikit-learn Flowchart of Models (Shallow Learners)

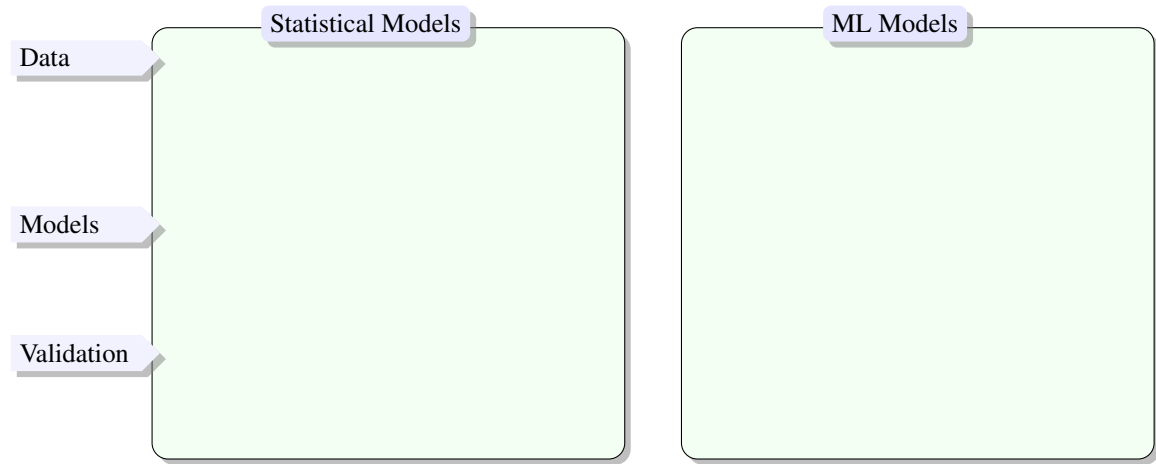


# Aside: Scikit-learn Flowchart of Models (Shallow Learners)



A neural network with more than one hidden layer is called a **deep learner**, all other learners are **shallow learners**.

# Statistical Models vs Machine Learning Models





# Statistical Models vs Machine Learning Models

## Statistical Models

### Data

- Usually small ( $< 1000$  observations)
- Low dimension ( $< 10$  variables)
- Can have detailed understanding of data
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### Validation

## ML Models

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Splitting data into train+test(+validation) is vital

# Outline

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1. Machine Learning (ML) Overview	3
1.1. Review of terminology and notation	4
1.2. Components of a Machine Learning Problem	5
1.3. Problem–Task–Experience Perspective	10
1.4. Taxonomy of Machine Learning Methods	11
1.5. Statistical Models vs Machine Learning Models	13
2. Modelling Process	14
2.1. Models and error	16

# The Pipeline Metaphor

## Model Building Pipeline



Defining the Goal



Building the Model



Interpreting the Model



Preparing the Dataset for ML



Evaluating the Model

*Source: Dataiku*

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## Comments

- We saw the first two stages in previous weeks
- This week we look at the remaining stages
- Of course this pipeline is a simplification. In reality it is iterative.



# What does a (supervised learning) model look like?

## Definition 2 (Linear Model)

General form of linear model used in this module looks like

$$y_i \sim f_i^{(1)} + f_i^{(2)} + \dots + f_i^{(n)}$$

where  $y_i$  is the value of the response variable (target) for row (observation)  $i$ , and  $f_i^{(j)}$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, n$  is the value of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  feature for that observation.

In words: each target value  $y_i$  in the data is modelled as a linear combination of the model parameters  $\mathbf{a}$  and the features, plus some error.

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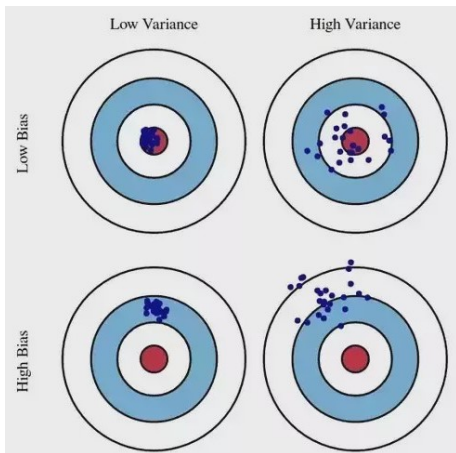
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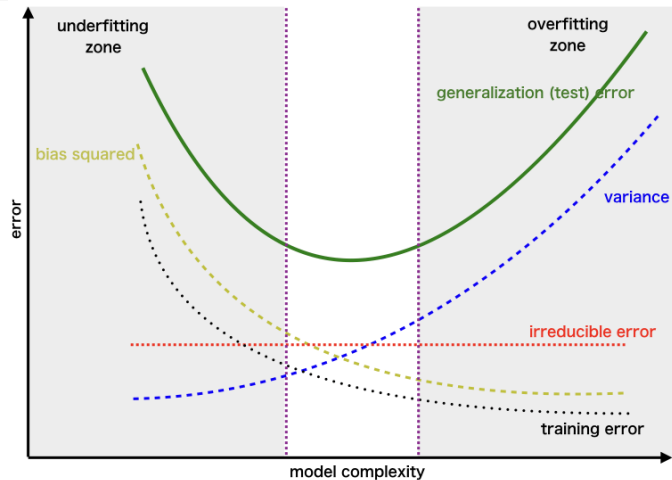
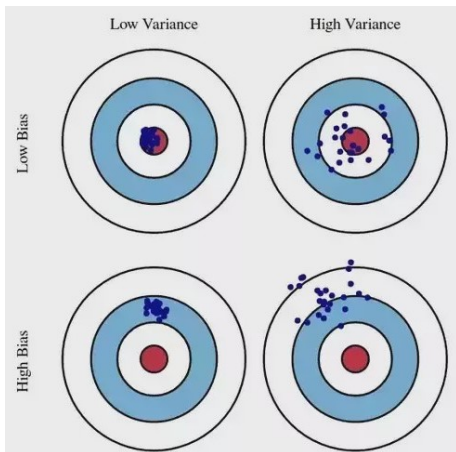
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The goal of modelling is to find  $\mathbf{a}$  so that the *prediction error* (loss function  $\sim \|\varepsilon\|$ ) is a minimum.

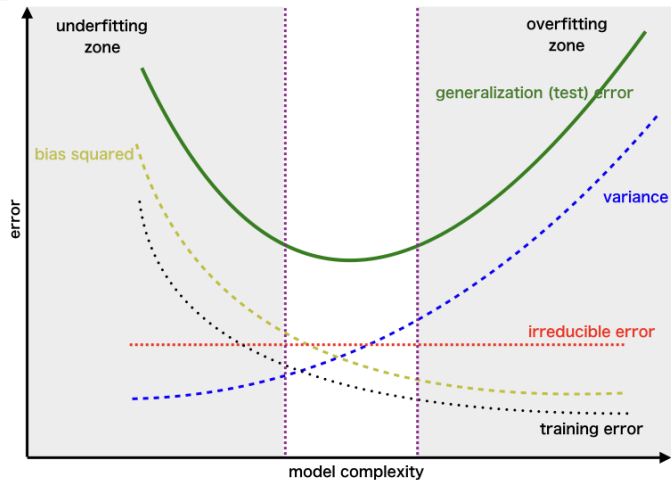
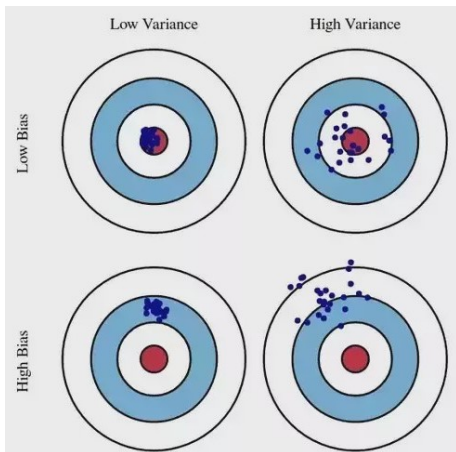
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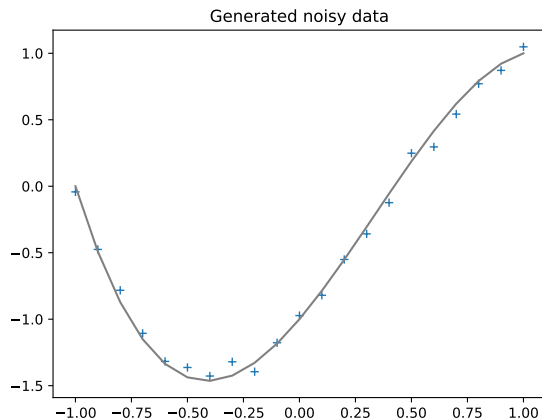


# Bias-Variance and Total Error



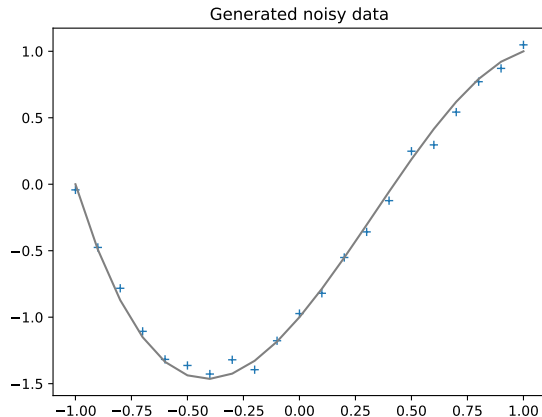
Look for parameters  $\alpha$  that minimise the generalization error (estimated using the test set that was not used during training)

# Example: Noisy data





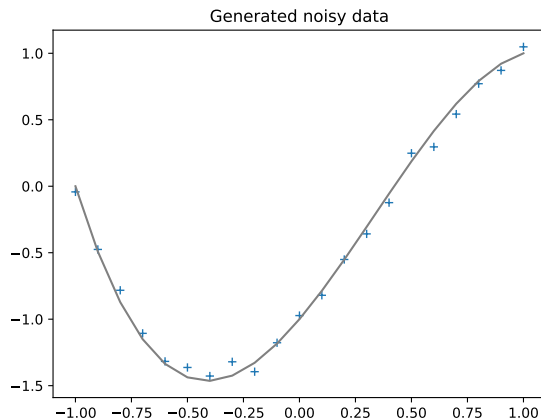
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### Comments

- Given data with some error (noise)
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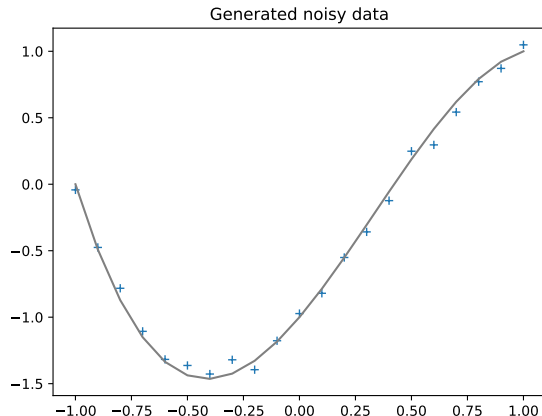


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Look for the number of features that minimise the loss function

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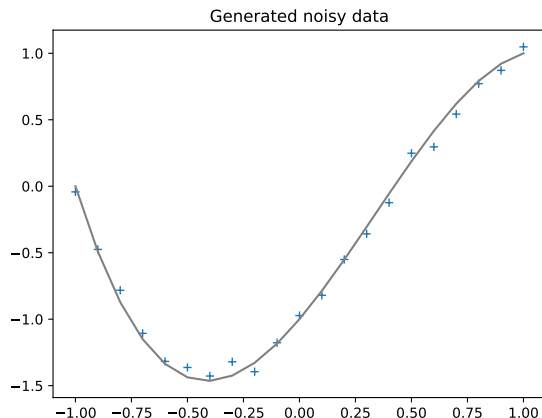


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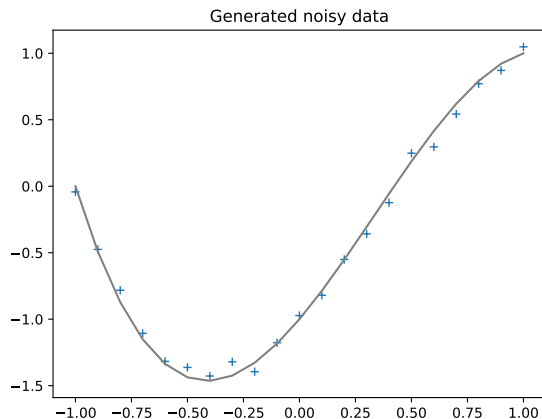


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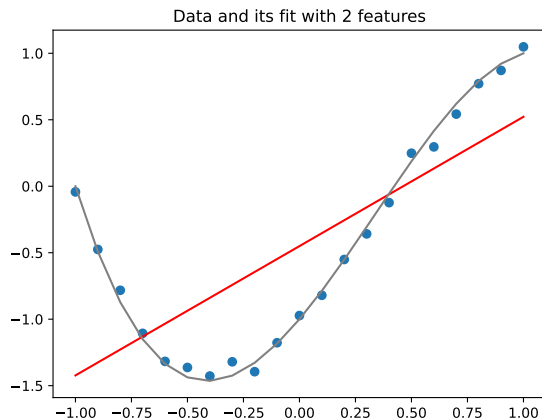


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- The values predicted by each model lie on the red curve
- The **loss function** is an estimate of how much the grey and red curves differ

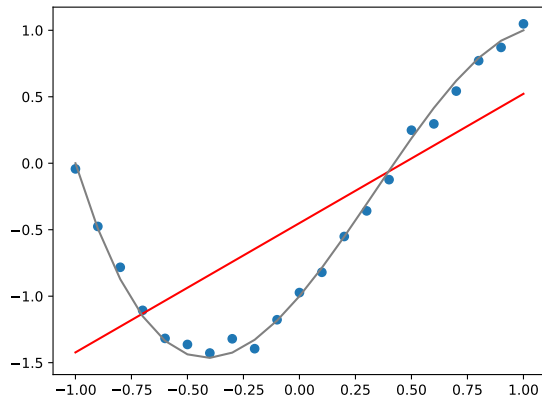
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# High Bias, Low variance

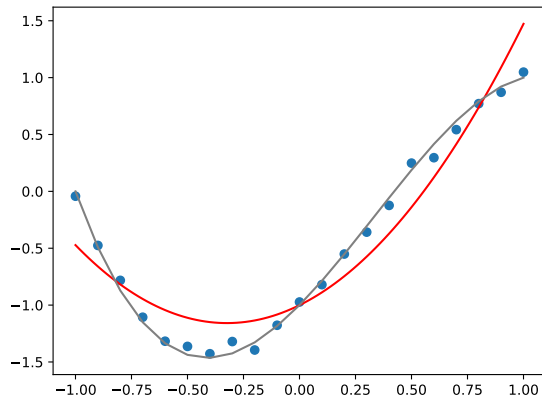


# High Bias, Low variance

Data and its fit with 2 features

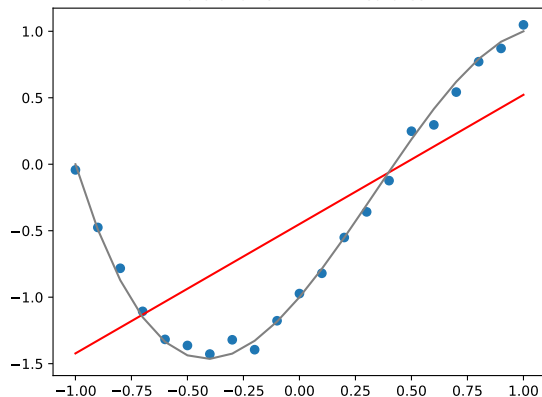


Data and its fit with 3 features

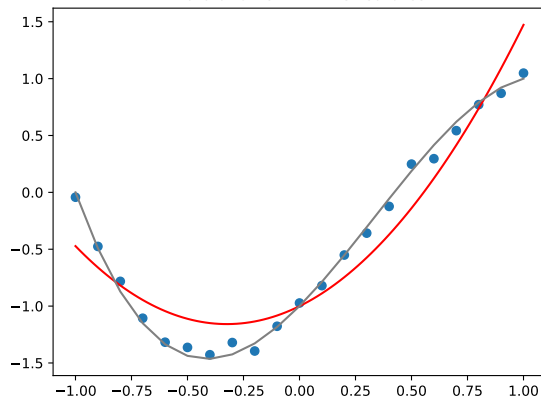


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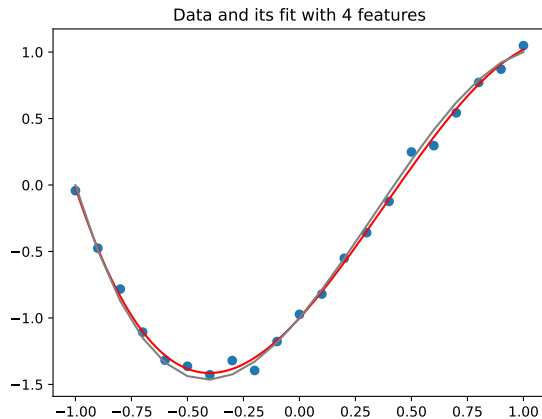
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Need more features: add more - but which ones?...

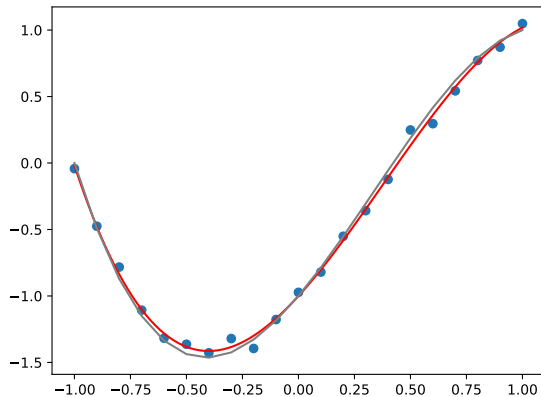


# Low Bias, Low variance

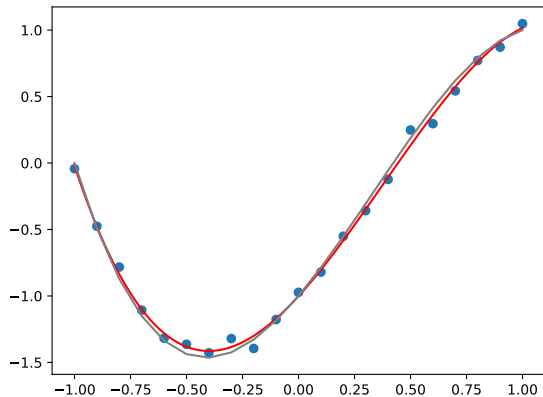


# Low Bias, Low variance

Data and its fit with 4 features

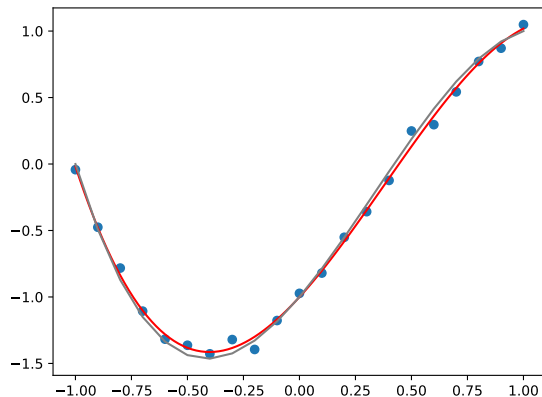


Data and its fit with 5 features

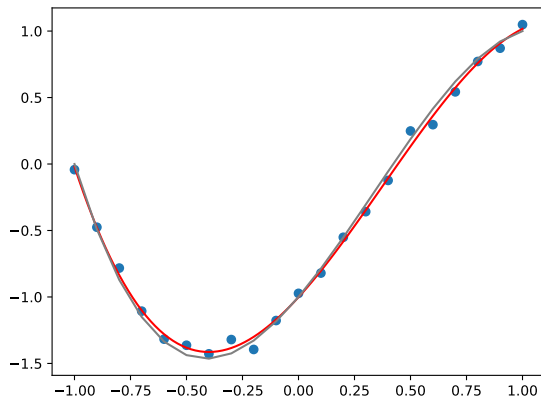


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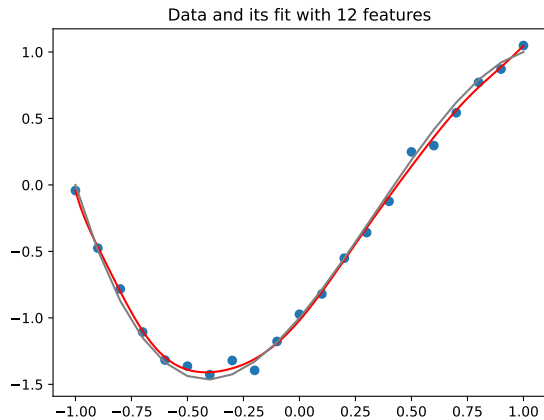


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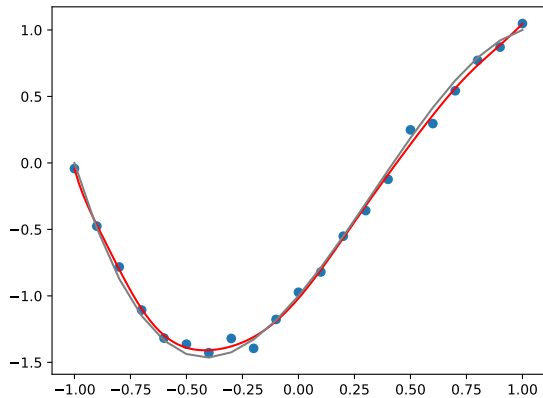
About the right number of features...

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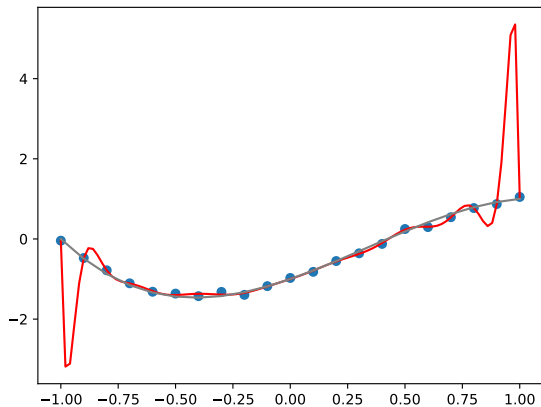


# Low Bias, High variance

Data and its fit with 12 features

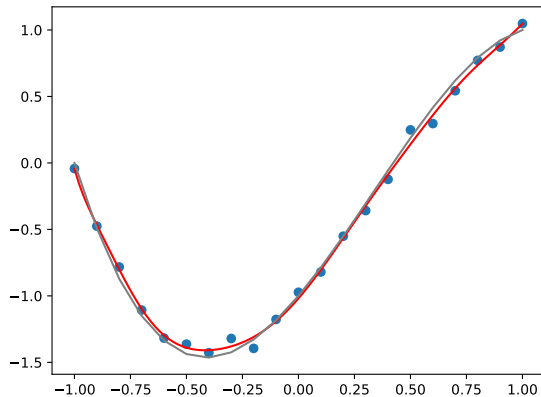


Data and its fit with 18 features

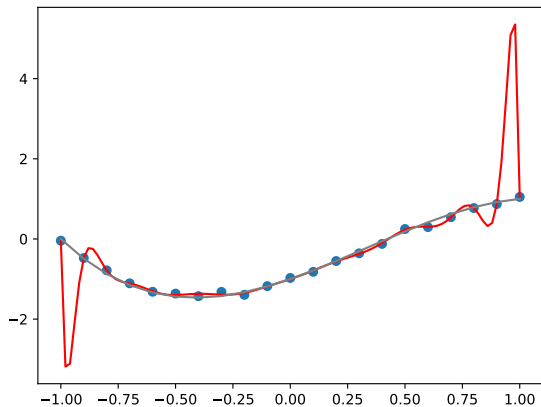


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Data and its fit with 12 features



Data and its fit with 18 features



Too many features: remove some, but which ones?...

# Example Model Types

Model	Applications	Concerns
Logistic Regression	X-ray classification	Regression with transformed variable
Fully connected networks	Classification	Classical ANN: choose encoding and size
Convolutional Neural Networks	Image processing	deep learning - choose segmentation
Recurrent Neural Networks	Voice recognition	ANN with feedback - how much?
Random Forest	Fraud Detection	Ensemble method - how many?
Reinforcement Learning	Learning by trial and error	Choose goal and penalties
Generative Models	Text, Image creation	Choose parameters
K-means	Segmentation	Choose distance function and $k$
k-Nearest Neighbors	Recommendation systems	Choose distance function and $k$
Bayesian Classifiers	Spam and noise filtering	Deal with imbalances

# Before you start...

Does a *pre-trained* model exist?

## Transfer Learning

- Building a model from scratch is resource-intensive
- Open source data and model exist, particularly for deep learning (not in this module)
- Most frameworks provide example models that can be used as a template
  - Select a similar model
  - Prune it (remove unnecessary terms)
  - Train using the pruned model as a starting point