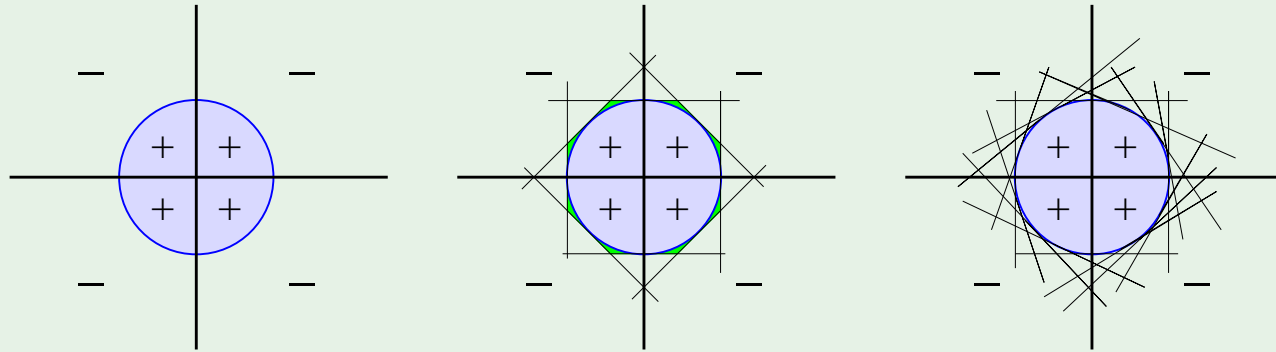


Review of Lecture 10

- Multilayer perceptrons

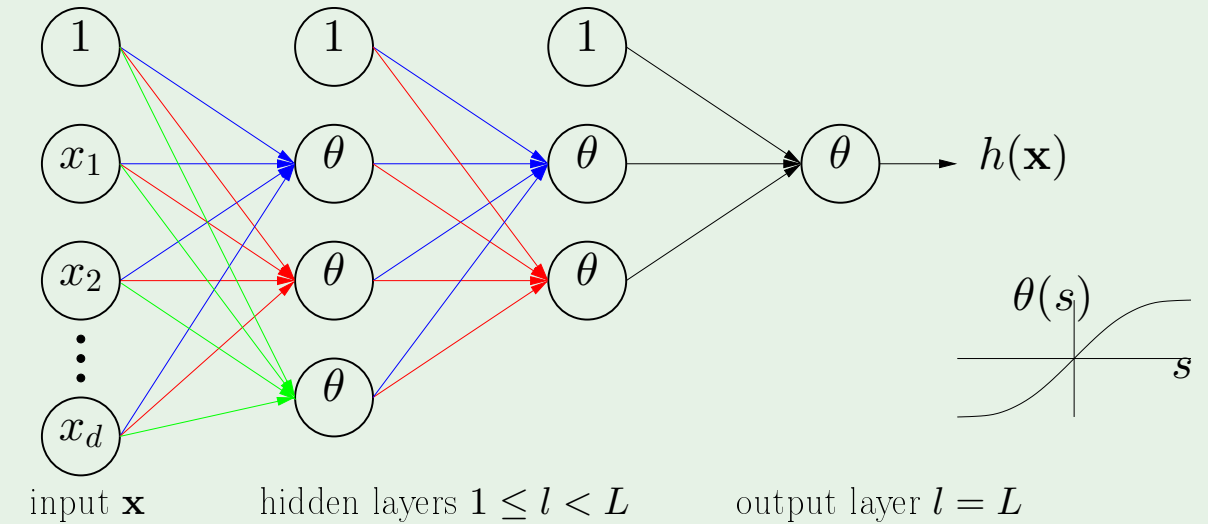


Logical combinations of perceptrons

- Neural networks

$$x_j^{(l)} = \theta \left(\sum_{i=0}^{d^{(l-1)}} w_{ij}^{(l)} x_i^{(l-1)} \right)$$

where $\theta(s) = \tanh(s)$



- Backpropagation

$$\Delta w_{ij}^{(l)} = -\eta x_i^{(l-1)} \delta_j^{(l)}$$

where

$$\delta_i^{(l-1)} = (1 - (x_i^{(l-1)})^2) \sum_{j=1}^{d^{(l)}} w_{ij}^{(l)} \delta_j^{(l)}$$

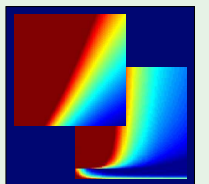
Learning From Data

Yaser S. Abu-Mostafa
California Institute of Technology

Lecture 11: Overfitting



Sponsored by Caltech's Provost Office, E&AS Division, and IST • Tuesday, May 8, 2012



Outline

- What is overfitting?
- The role of noise
- Deterministic noise
- Dealing with overfitting

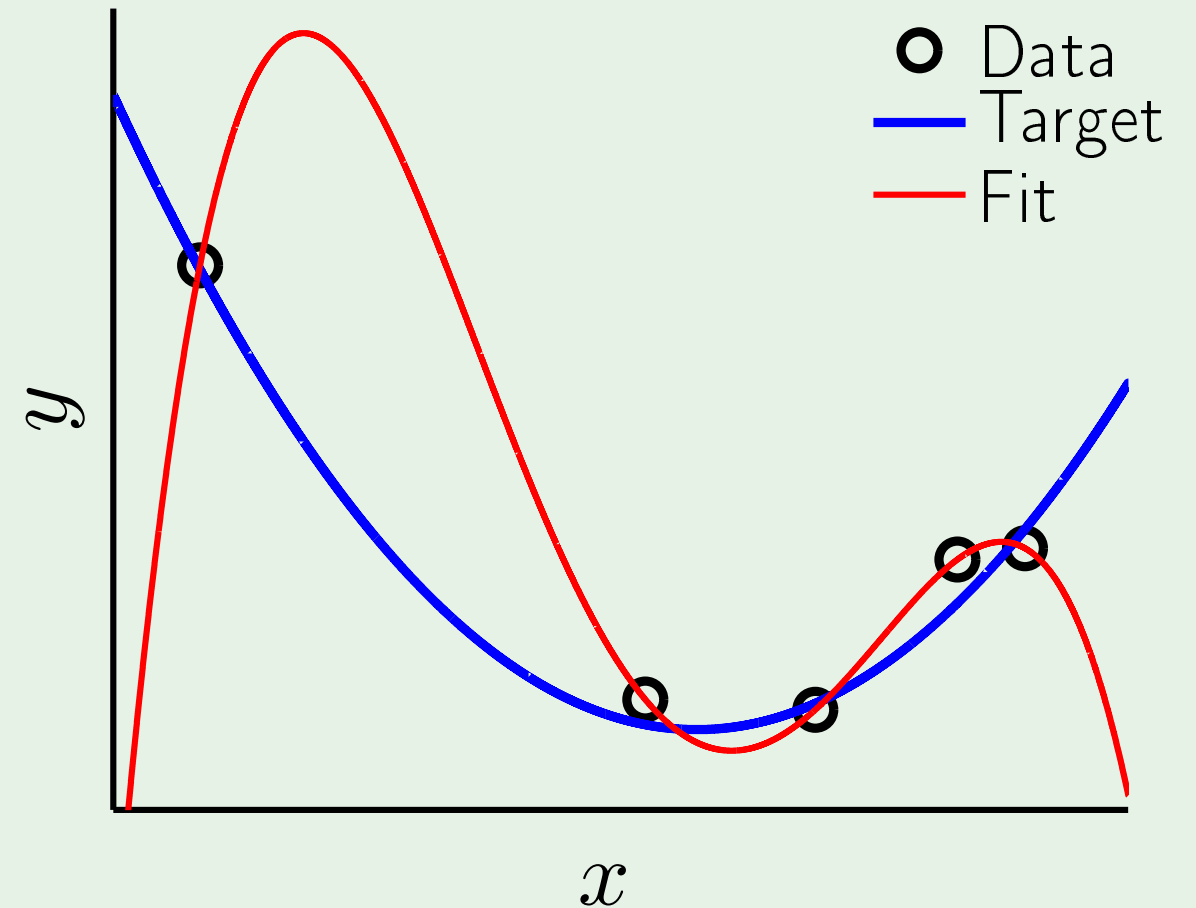
Illustration of overfitting

Simple target function

5 data points- **noisy**

4th-order polynomial fit

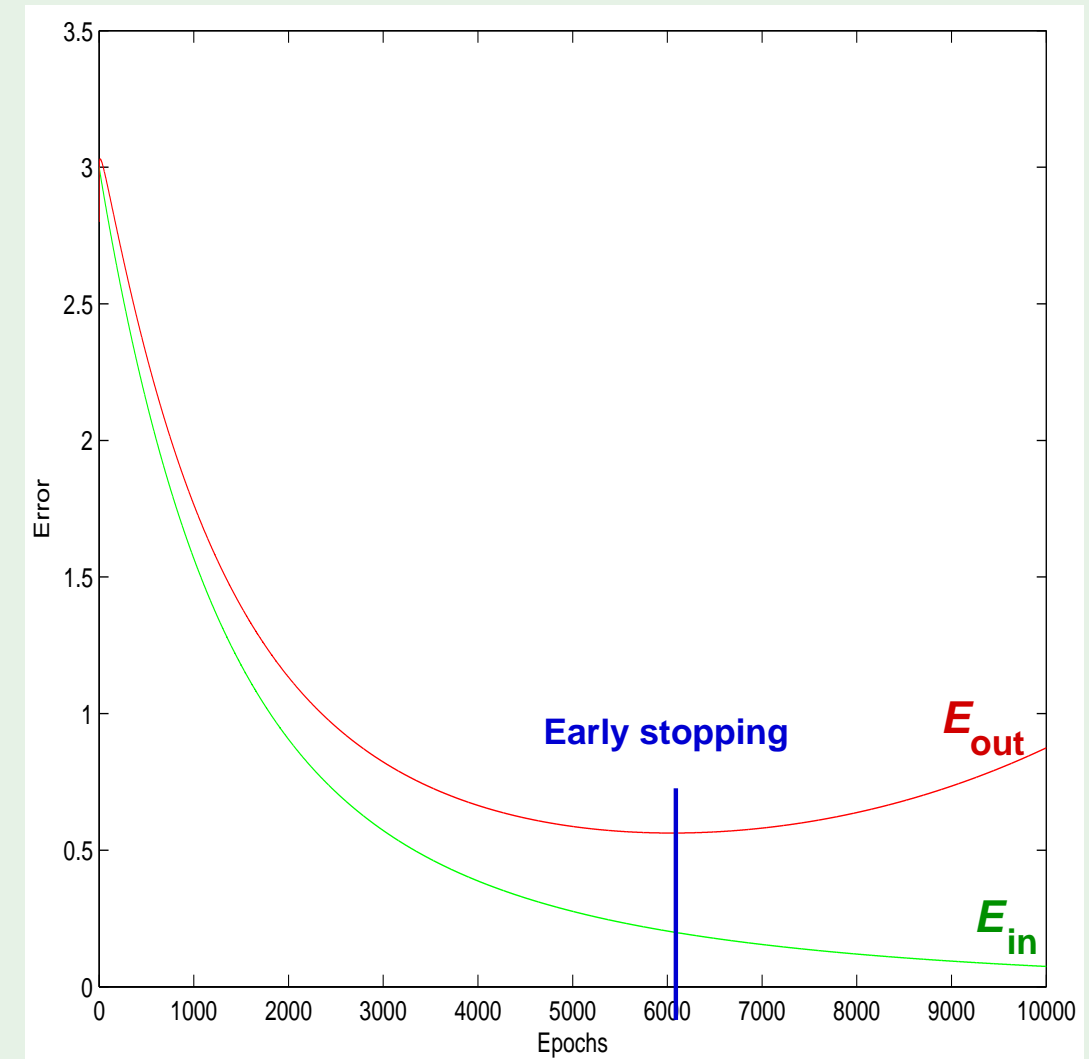
$$E_{\text{in}} = 0, \quad E_{\text{out}} \text{ is huge}$$



Overfitting versus bad generalization

Neural network fitting noisy data

Overfitting: $E_{\text{in}} \downarrow$ $E_{\text{out}} \uparrow$



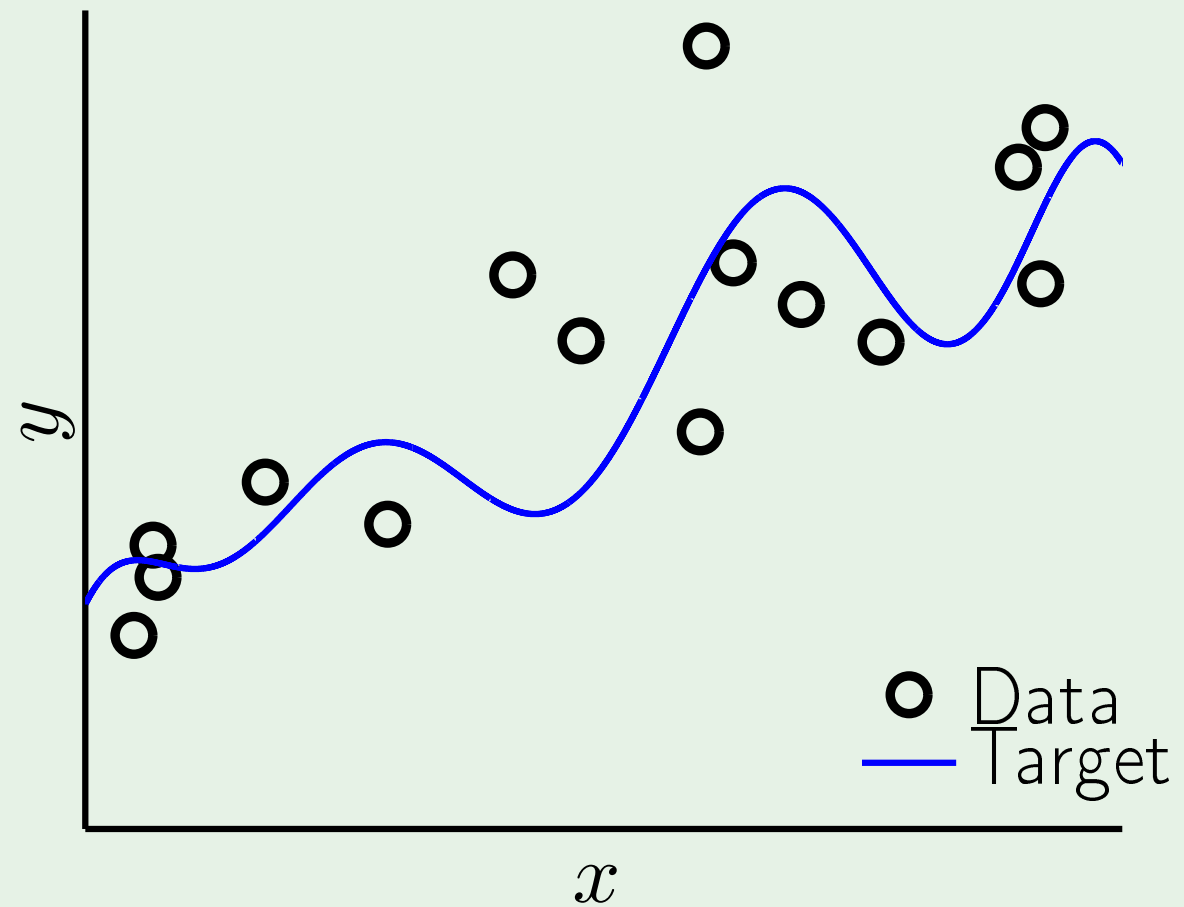
The culprit

Overfitting: “fitting the data more than is warranted”

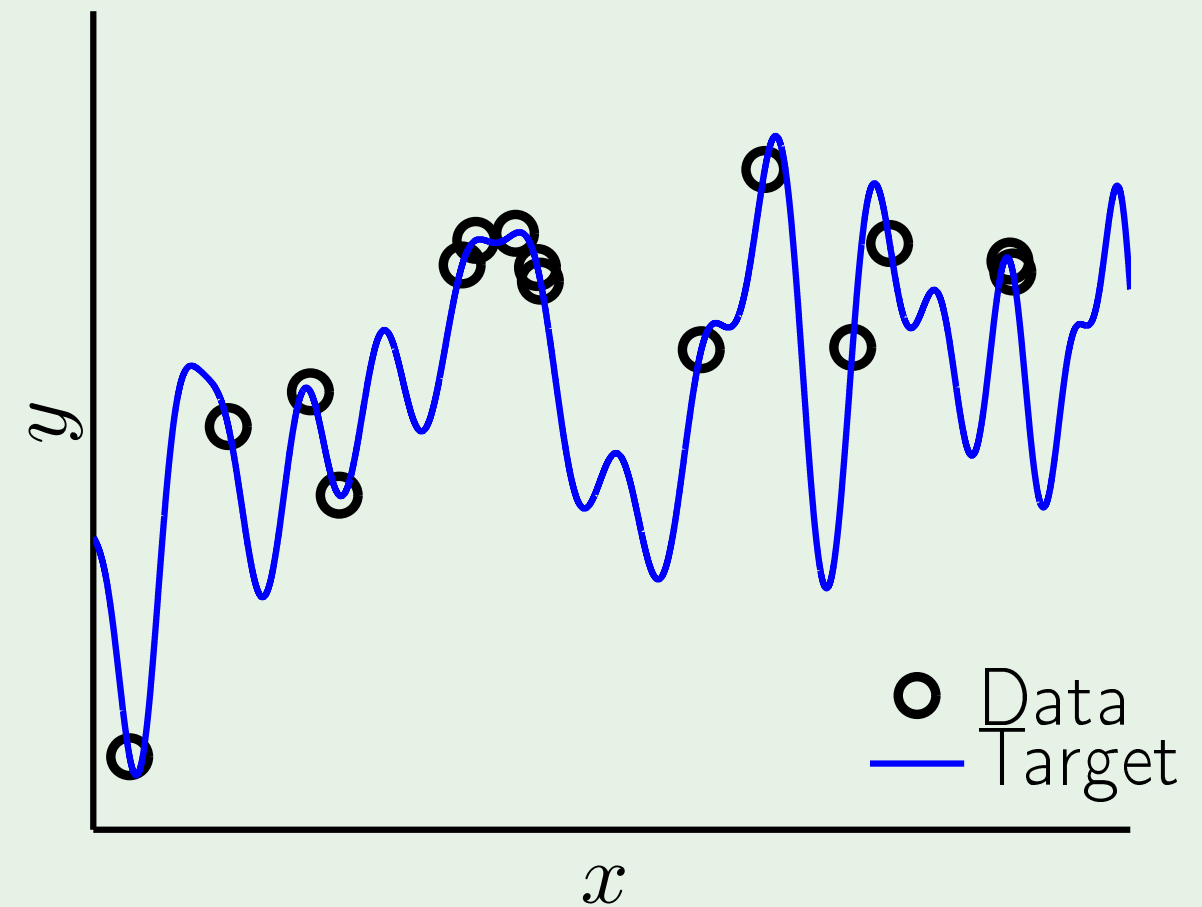
Culprit: fitting the noise - harmful

Case study

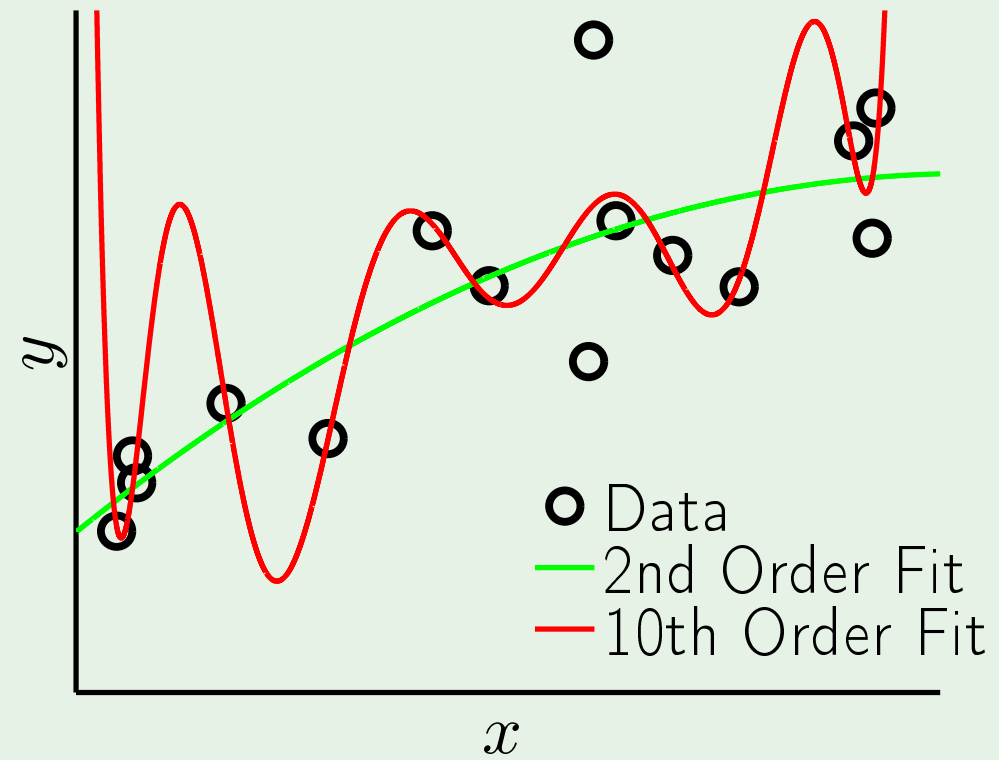
10th-order target + noise



50th-order target

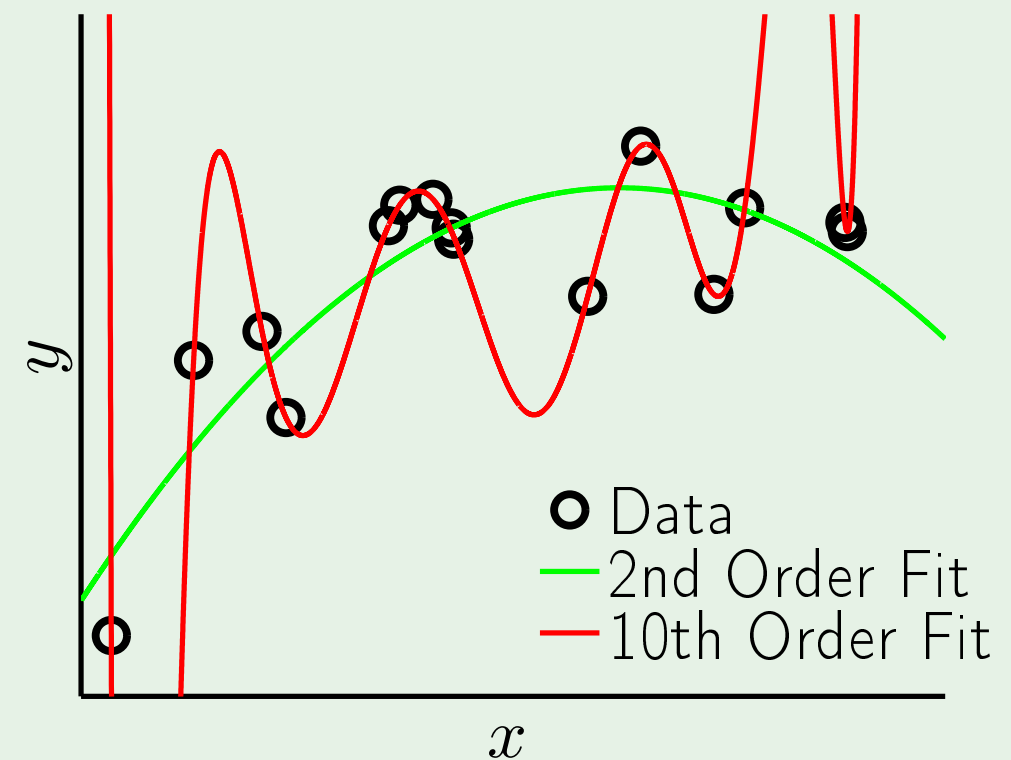


Two fits for each target



Noisy low-order target

	2nd Order	10th Order
E_{in}	0.050	0.034
E_{out}	0.127	9.00



Noiseless high-order target

	2nd Order	10th Order
E_{in}	0.029	10^{-5}
E_{out}	0.120	7680

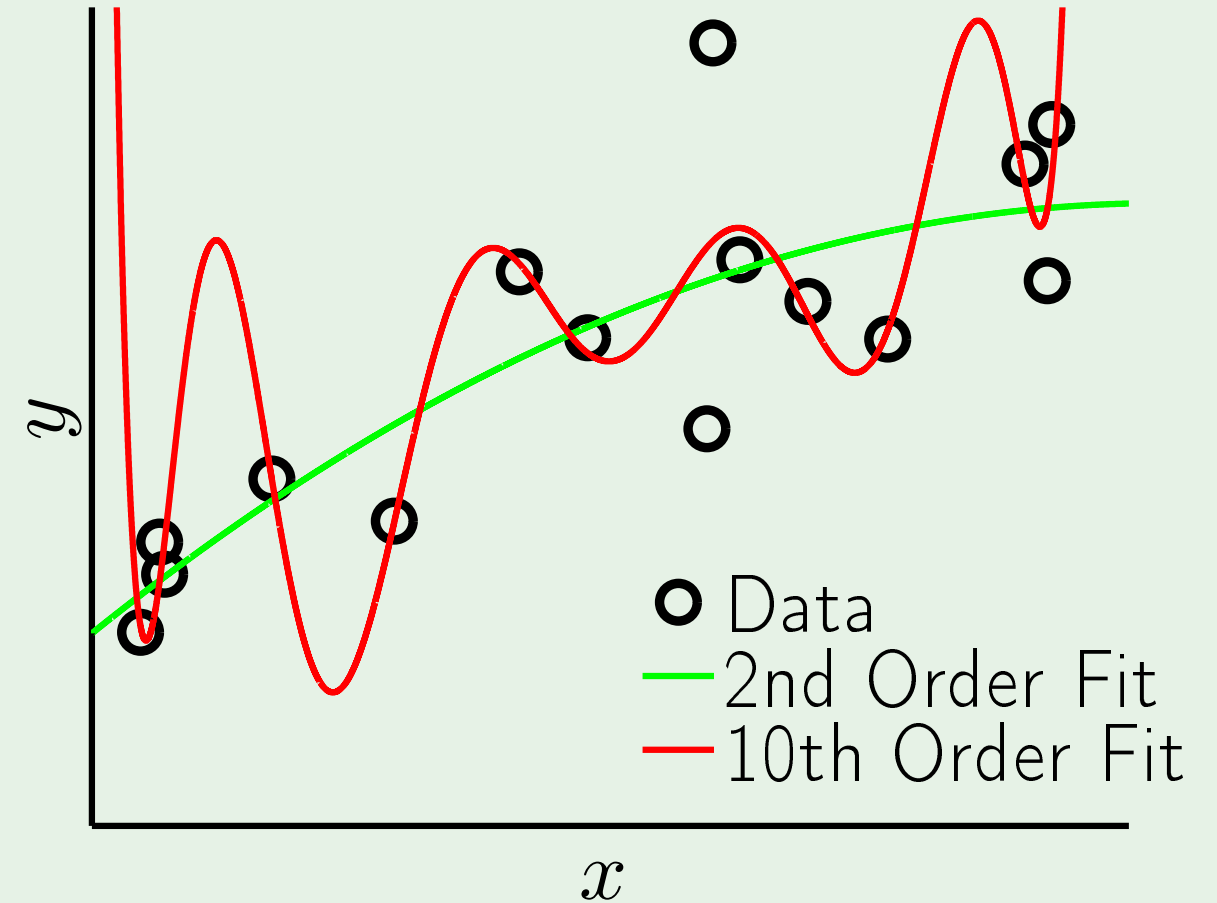
An irony of two learners

Two learners O and R

They know the target is 10th order

O chooses \mathcal{H}_{10}

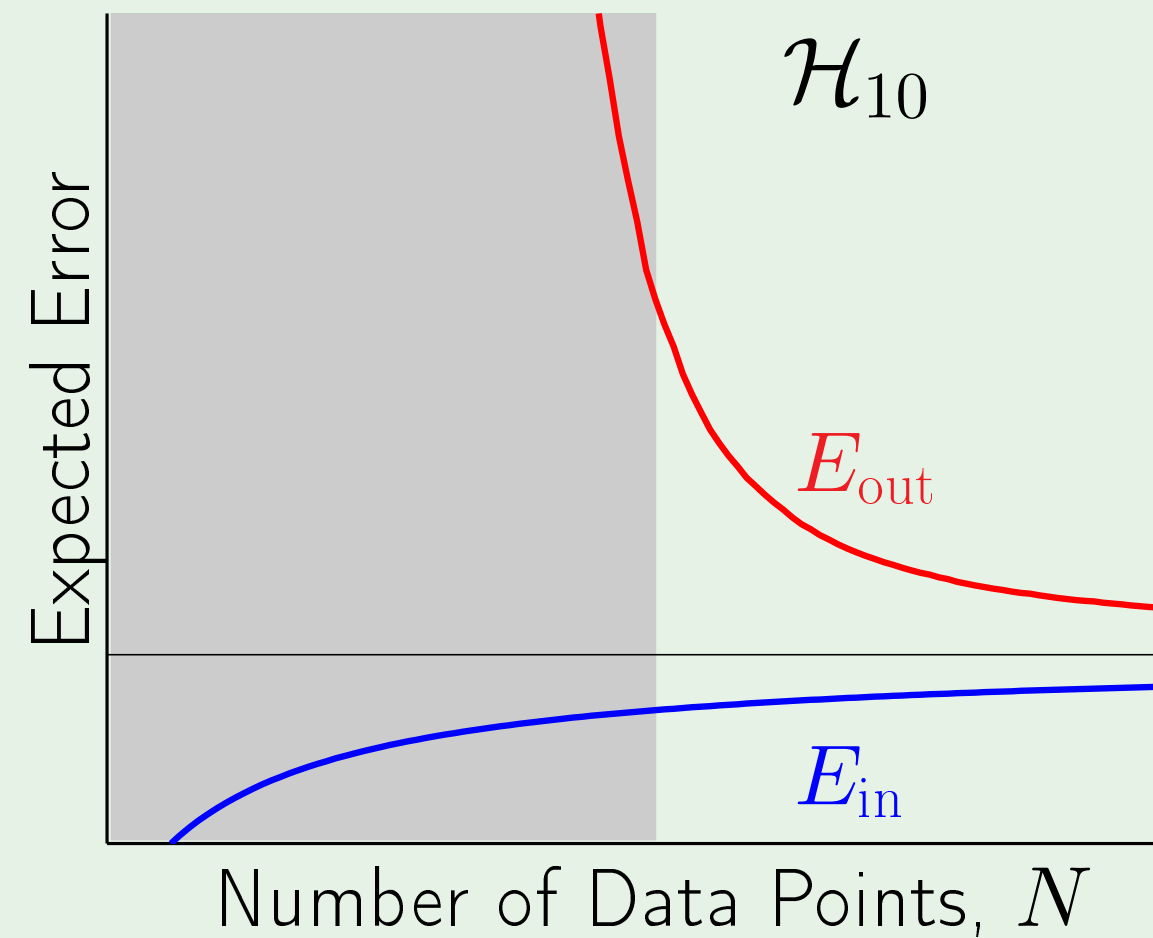
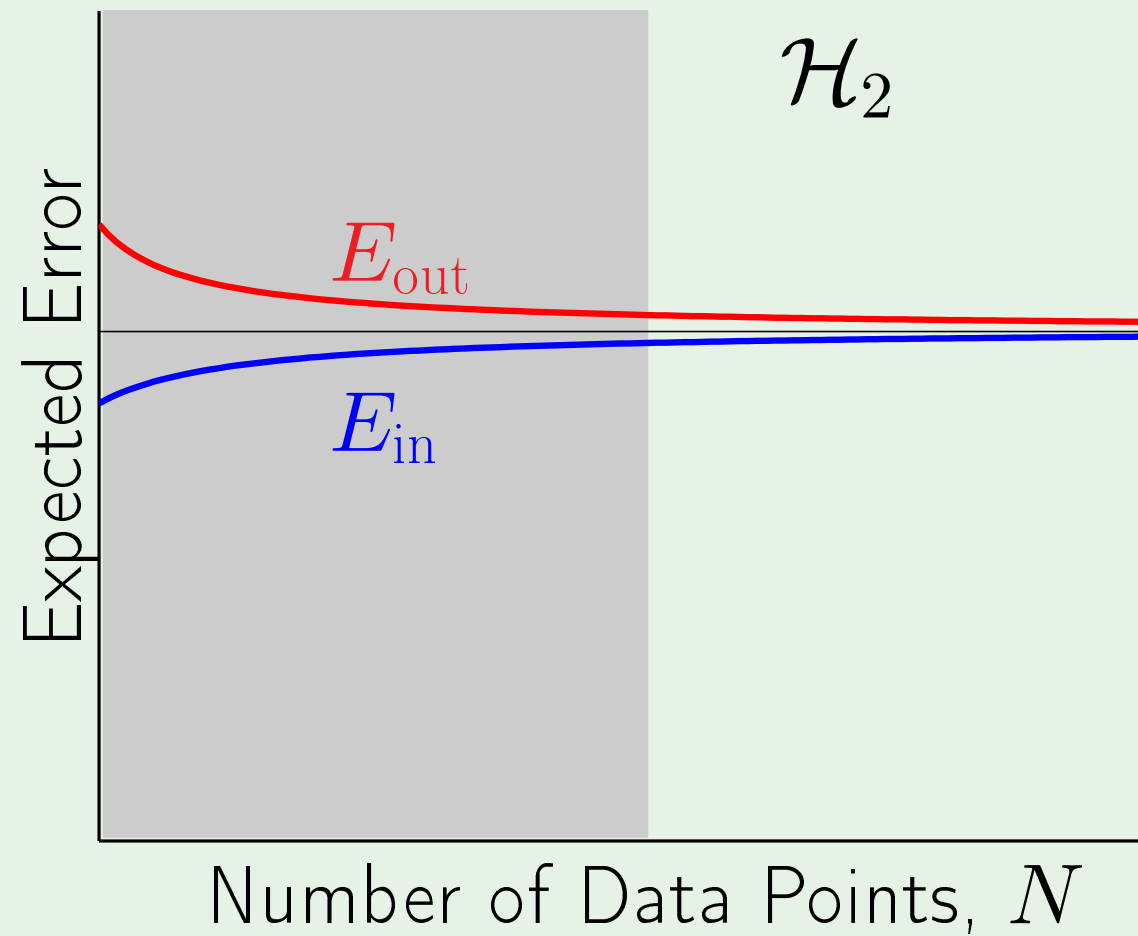
R chooses \mathcal{H}_2



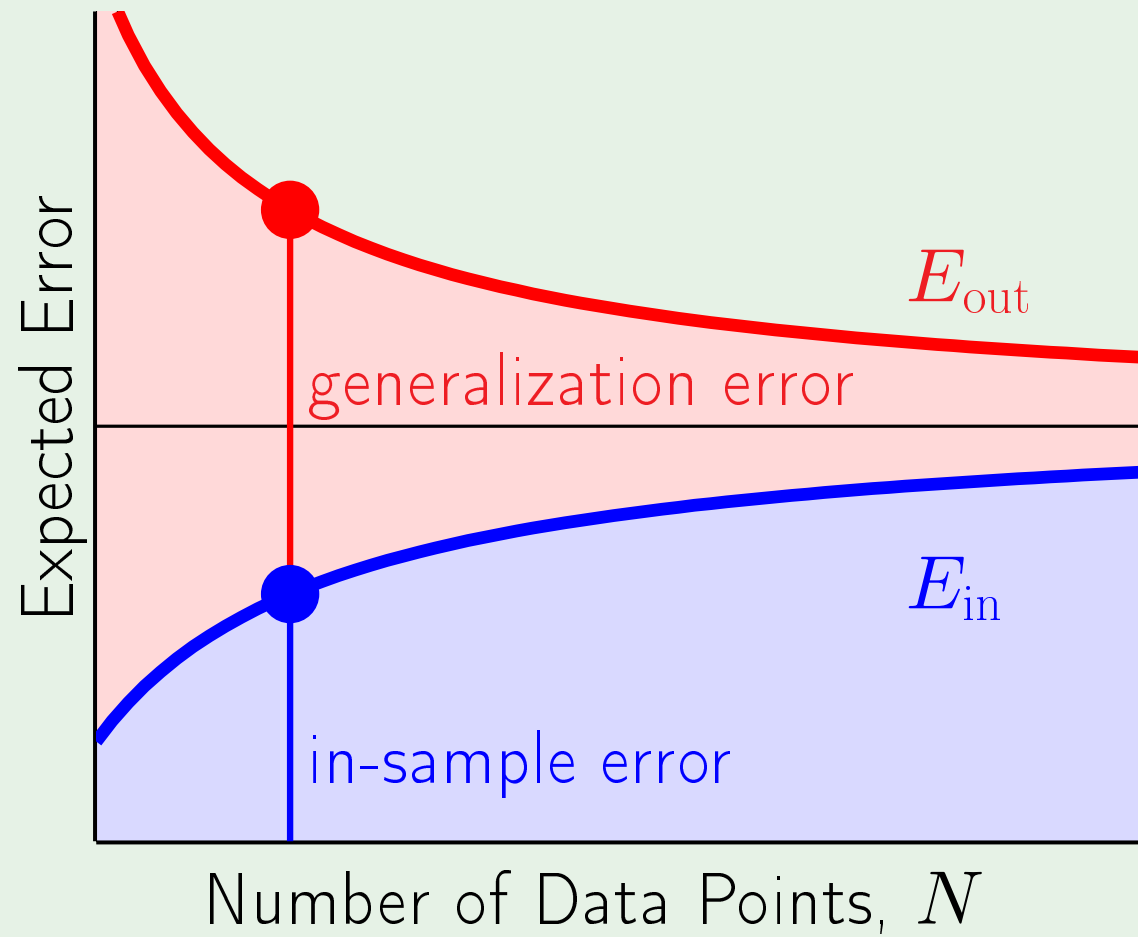
Learning a 10th-order target

We have seen this case

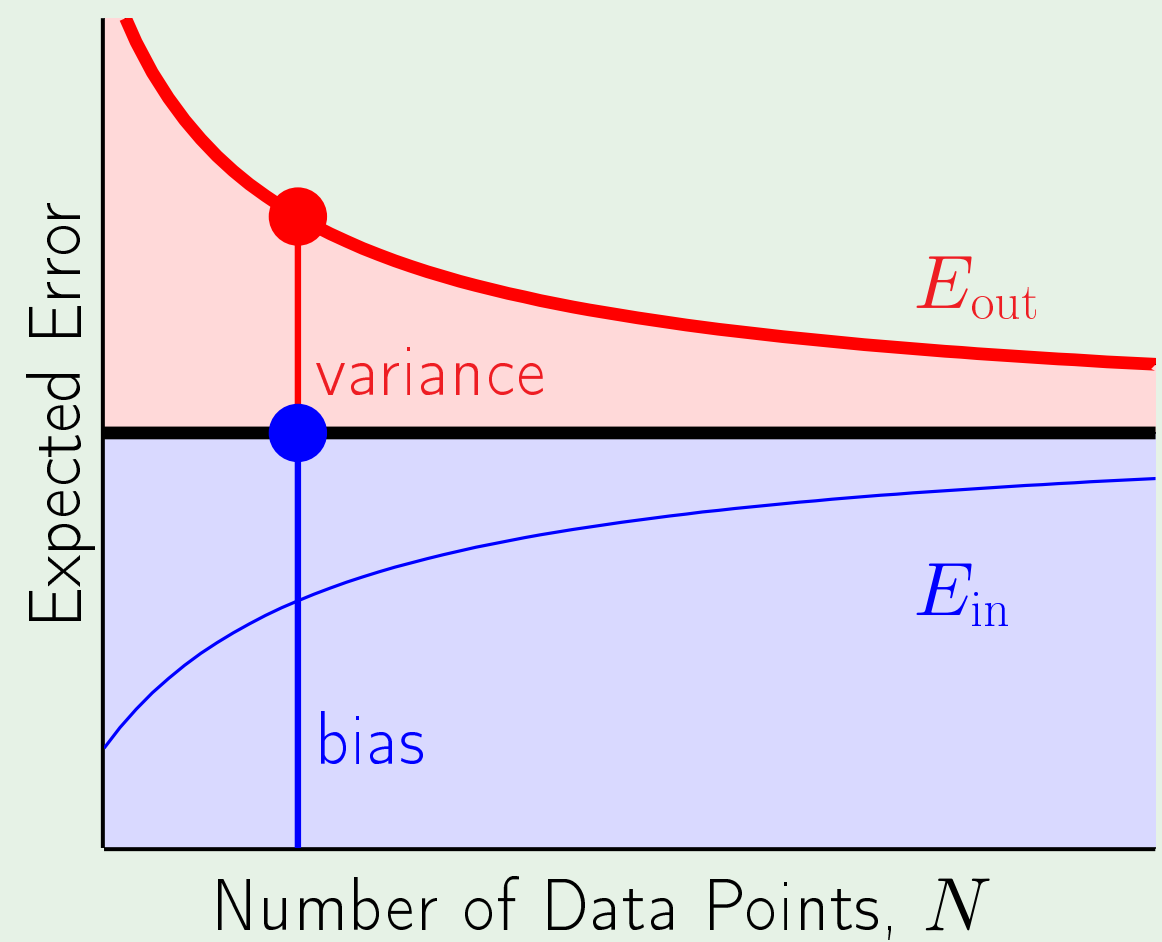
Remember learning curves?



VC versus bias-variance



VC analysis



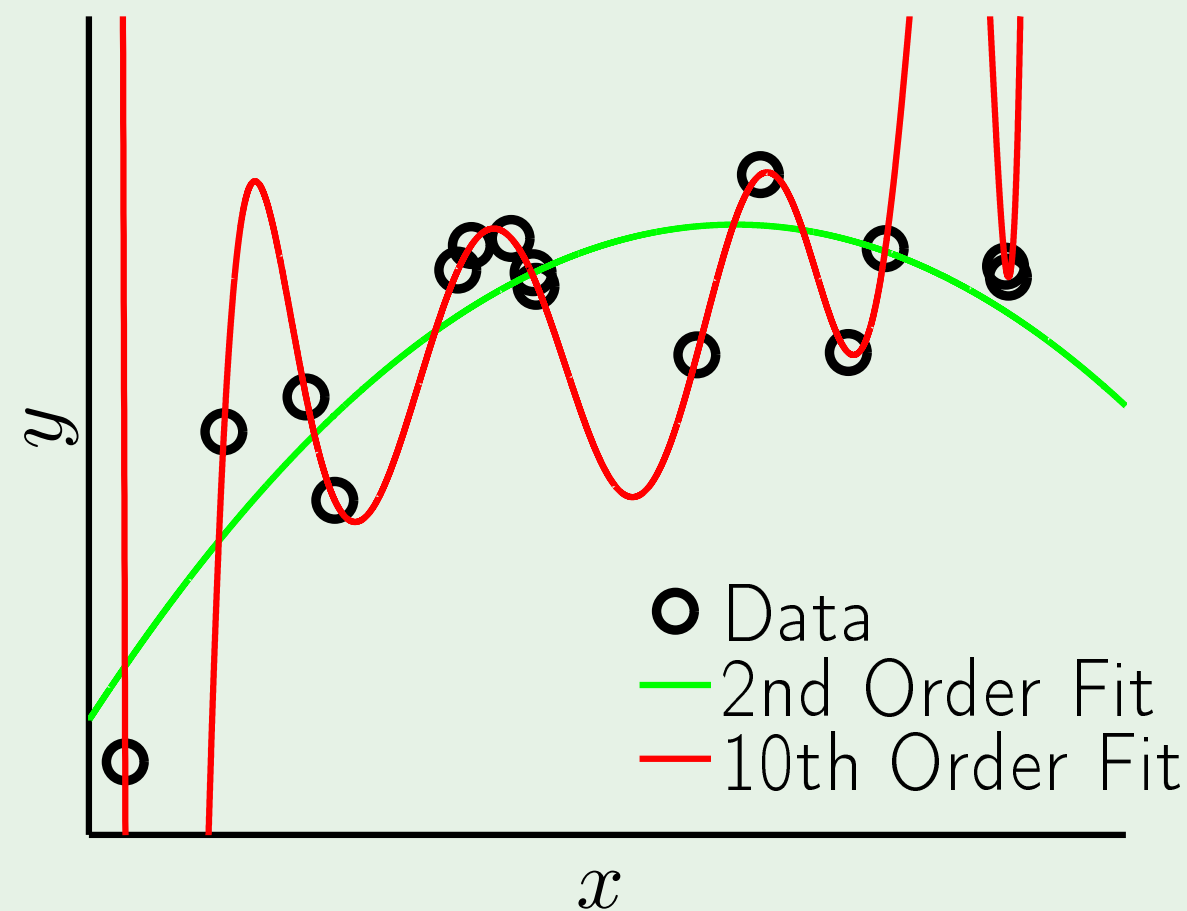
bias-variance

Even without noise

The two learners \mathcal{H}_{10} and \mathcal{H}_2

They know there is no noise

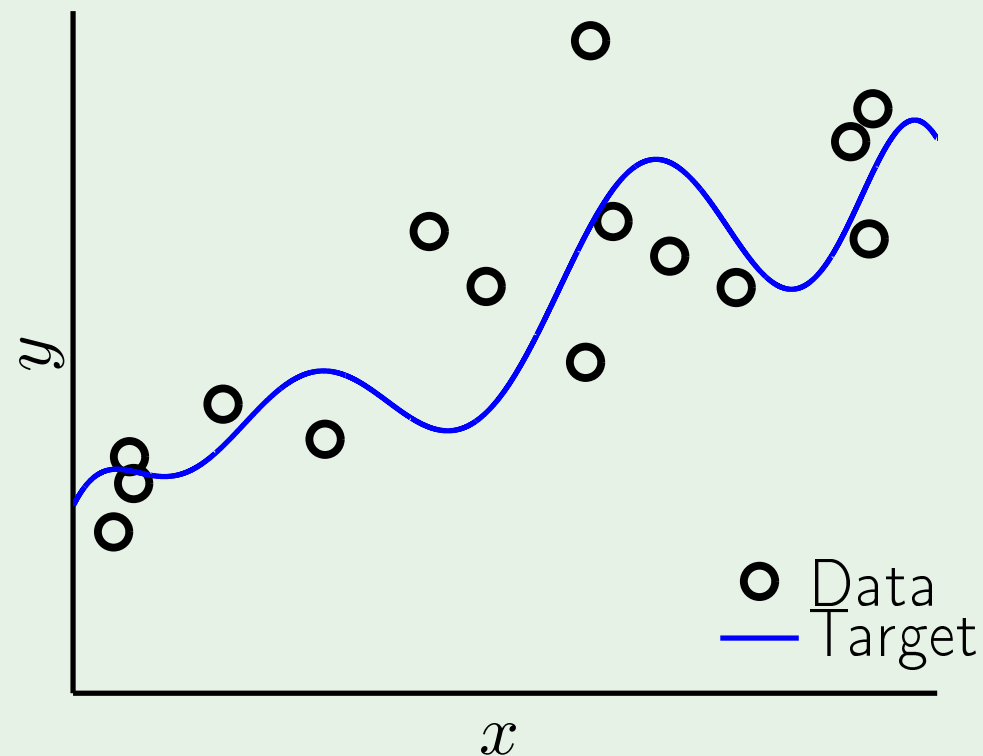
Is there really no noise?



Learning a 50th-order target

A detailed experiment

Impact of **noise level** and **target complexity**



$$y = f(x) + \underbrace{\epsilon(x)}_{\sigma^2} = \underbrace{\sum_{q=0}^{Q_f} \alpha_q x^q}_{\text{normalized}} + \epsilon(x)$$

noise level: σ^2

target complexity: Q_f

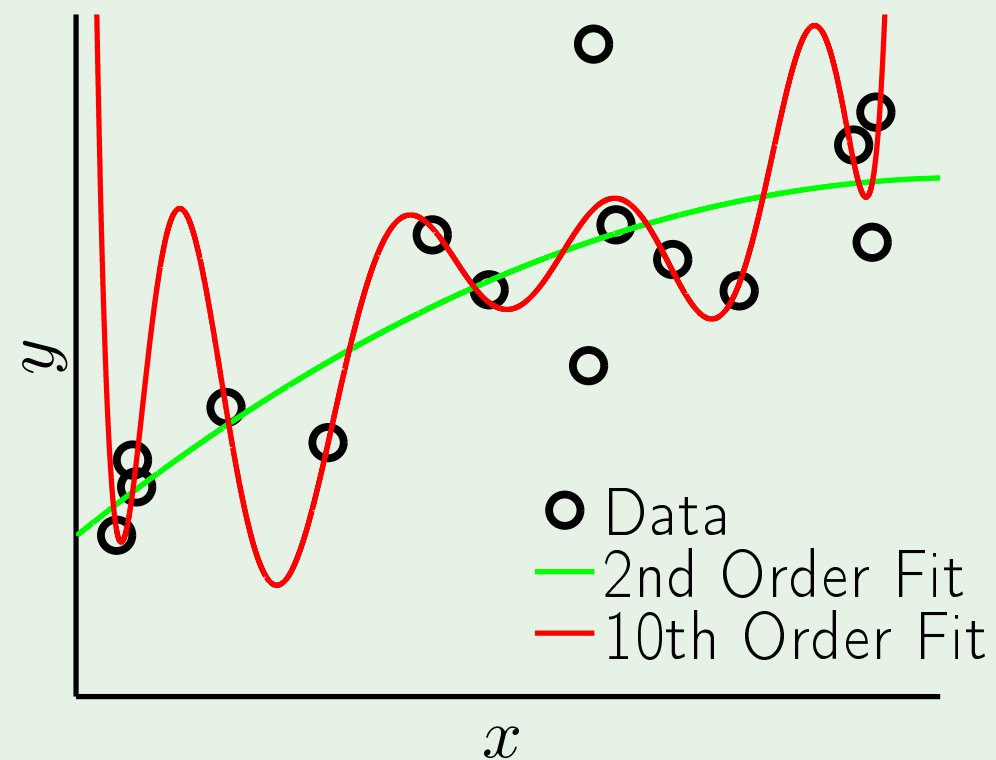
data set size: N

The overfit measure

We fit the data set $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)$ using our two models:

\mathcal{H}_2 : 2nd-order polynomials

\mathcal{H}_{10} : 10th-order polynomials

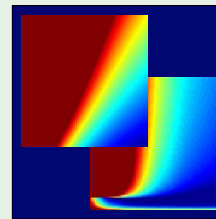
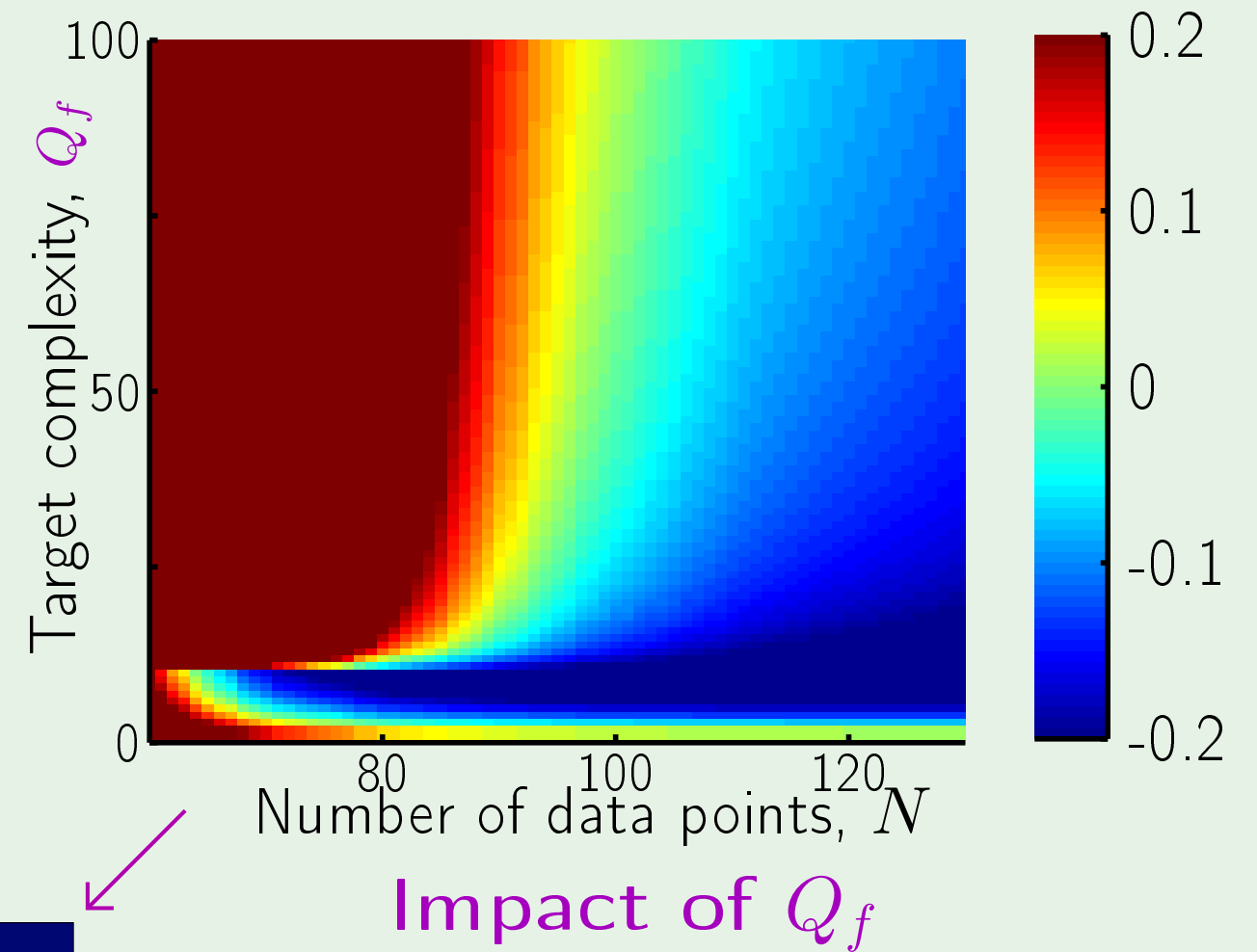
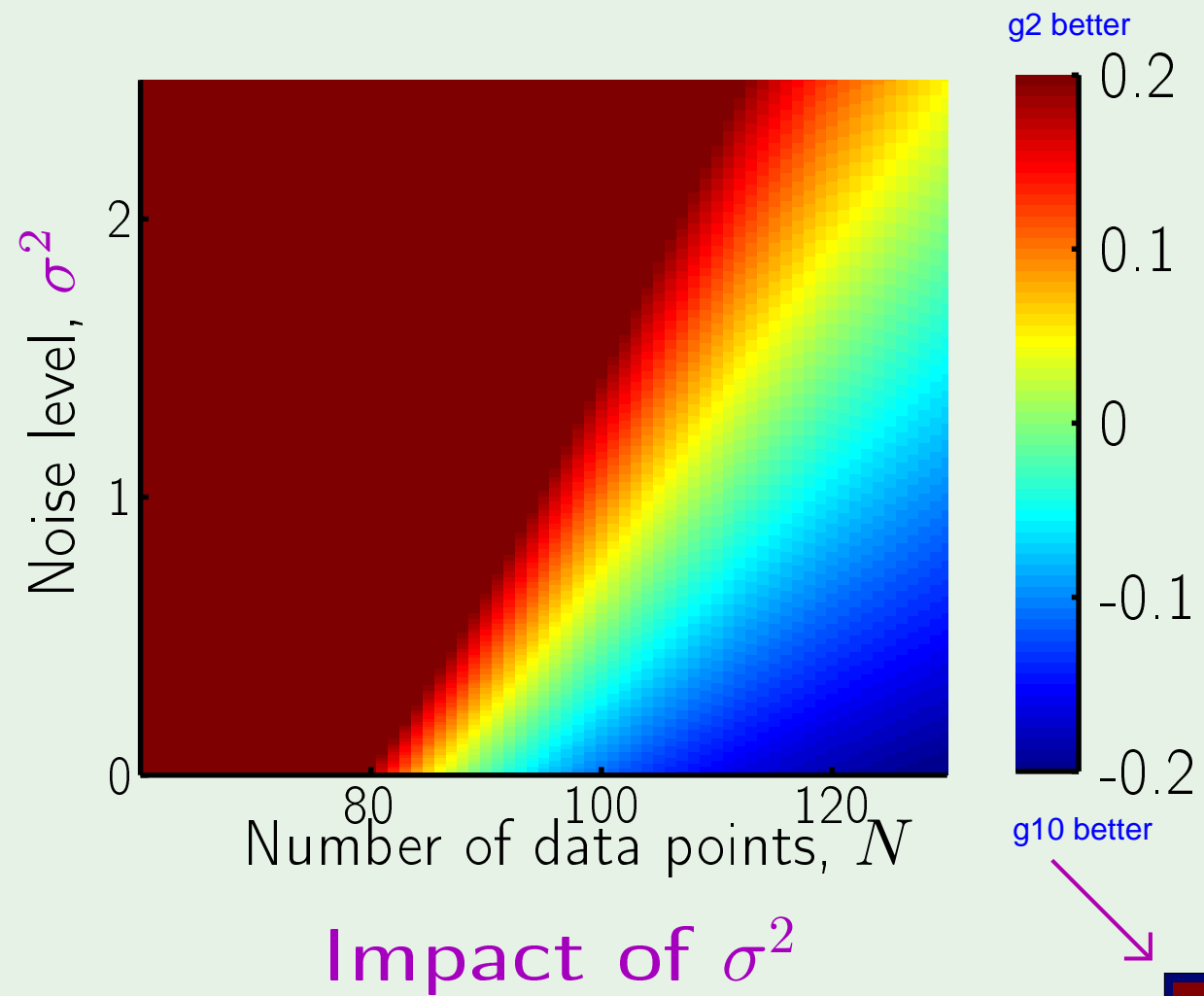


Compare out-of-sample errors of

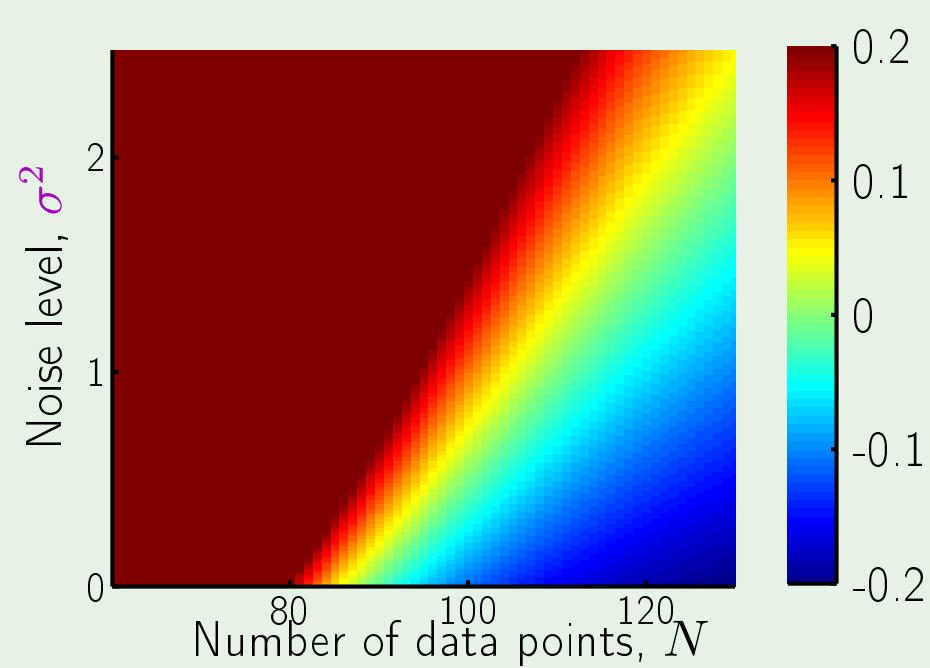
$g_2 \in \mathcal{H}_2$ and $g_{10} \in \mathcal{H}_{10}$

overfit measure: $E_{\text{out}}(g_{10}) - E_{\text{out}}(g_2)$

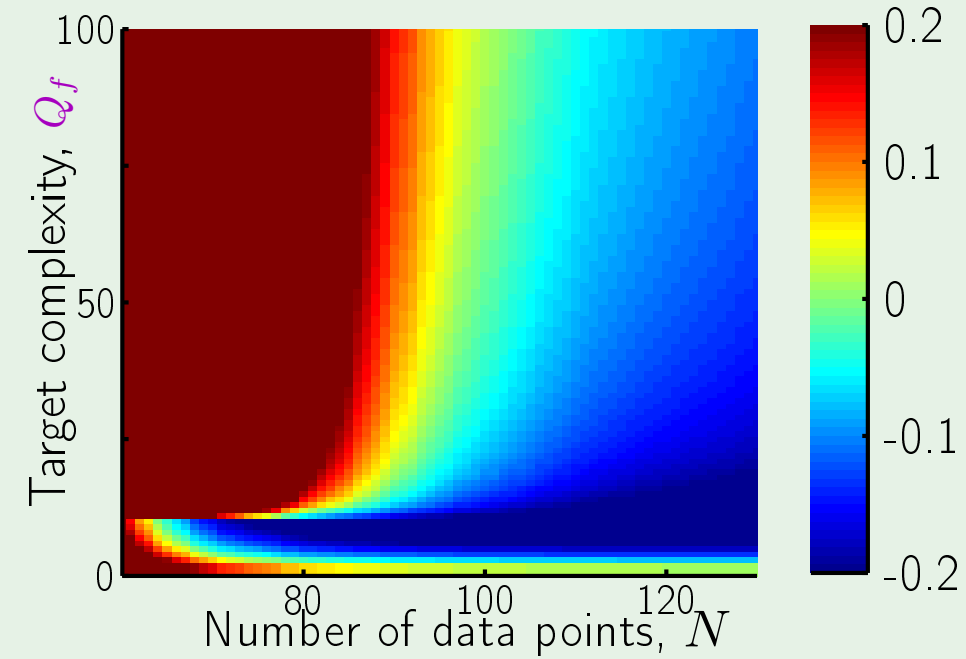
The results



Impact of “noise”



Stochastic noise



Deterministic noise

number of data points	↑	Overfitting	↓
stochastic noise	↑	Overfitting	↑
deterministic noise	↑	Overfitting	↑

Outline

- What is overfitting?
- The role of noise
- Deterministic noise
- Dealing with overfitting

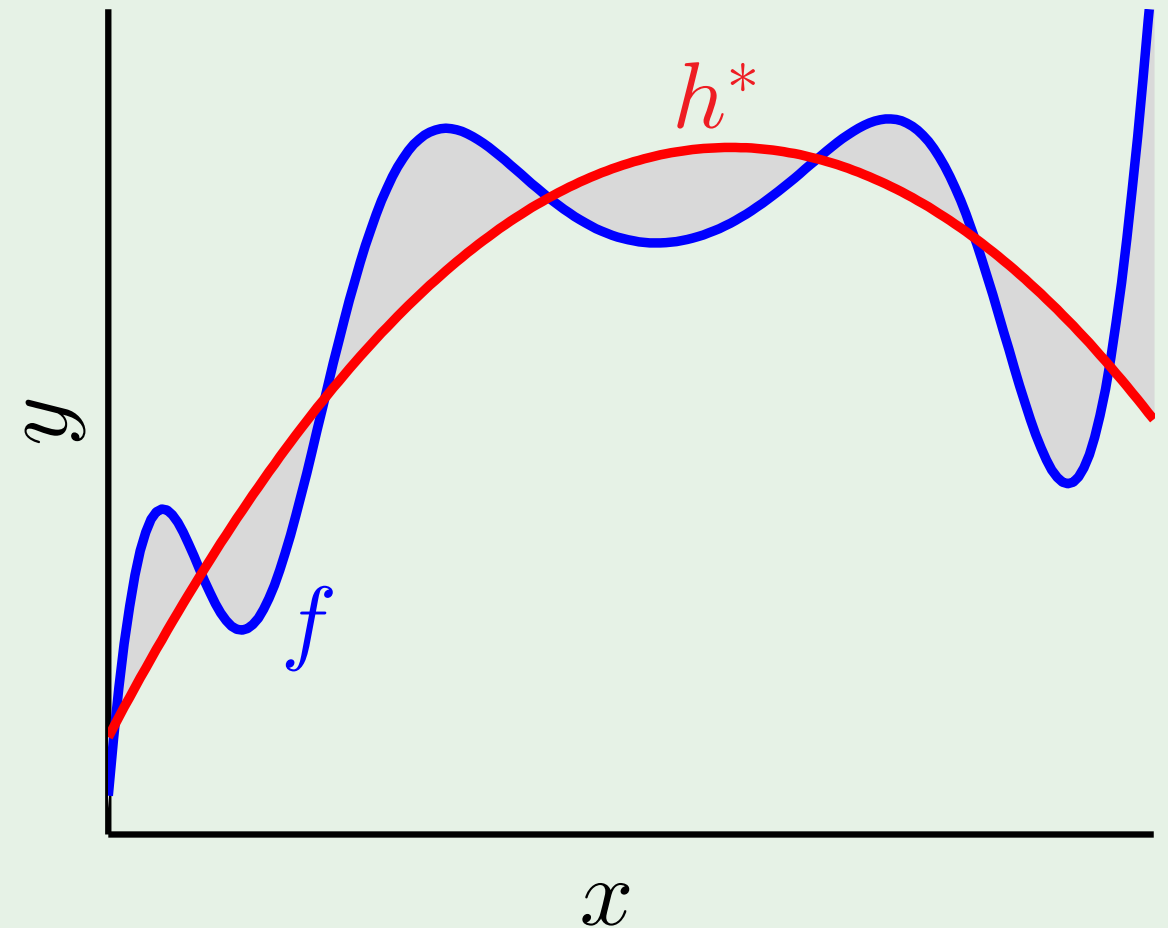
Definition of deterministic noise

The part of f that \mathcal{H} cannot capture: $f(\mathbf{x}) - h^*(\mathbf{x})$

Why “noise”?

Main differences with stochastic noise:

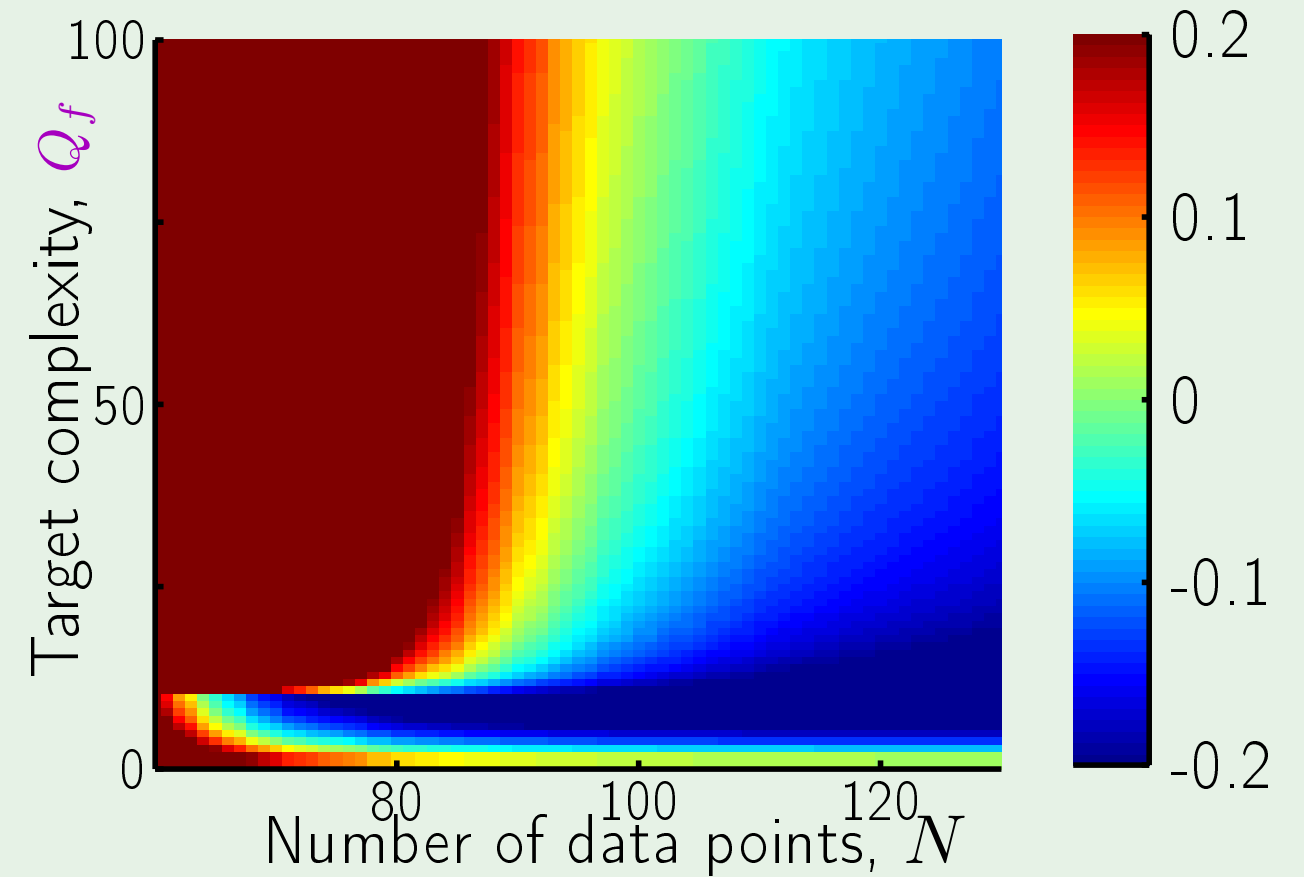
1. depends on \mathcal{H}
2. fixed for a given \mathbf{x}



Impact on overfitting

Deterministic noise and Q_f

Finite N : \mathcal{H} tries to fit the noise



how much overfit

Noise and bias-variance

Recall the decomposition:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}} \left[\left(g^{(\mathcal{D})}(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right] = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}} \left[\left(g^{(\mathcal{D})}(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{g}(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right]}_{\text{var}(\mathbf{x})} + \underbrace{\left[\left(\bar{g}(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right]}_{\text{bias}(\mathbf{x})}$$

What if f is a noisy target?

$$y = f(\mathbf{x}) + \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \right] = 0$$

A noise term

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}, \epsilon} \left[\left(g^{(\mathcal{D})}(\mathbf{x}) - y \right)^2 \right] &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}, \epsilon} \left[\left(g^{(\mathcal{D})}(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}) - \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right] \\&= \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}, \epsilon} \left[\left(g^{(\mathcal{D})}(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{g}(\mathbf{x}) + \bar{g}(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}) - \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right] \\&= \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}, \epsilon} \left[\left(g^{(\mathcal{D})}(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{g}(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 + \left(\bar{g}(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 + \left(\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right. \\&\quad \left. + \text{cross terms} \right]\end{aligned}$$

Actually, two noise terms

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}, \mathbf{x}} \left[\left(g^{(\mathcal{D})}(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{g}(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right]}_{\text{var}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}} \left[\left(\bar{g}(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right]}_{\substack{\text{bias} \\ \uparrow \\ \text{deterministic noise}}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon, \mathbf{x}} \left[\left(\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \right)^2 \right]}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{stochastic noise}}} = \sigma^2$$

because of data you still haven't seen.
it will reduce to 0 (if noiseless)

Outline

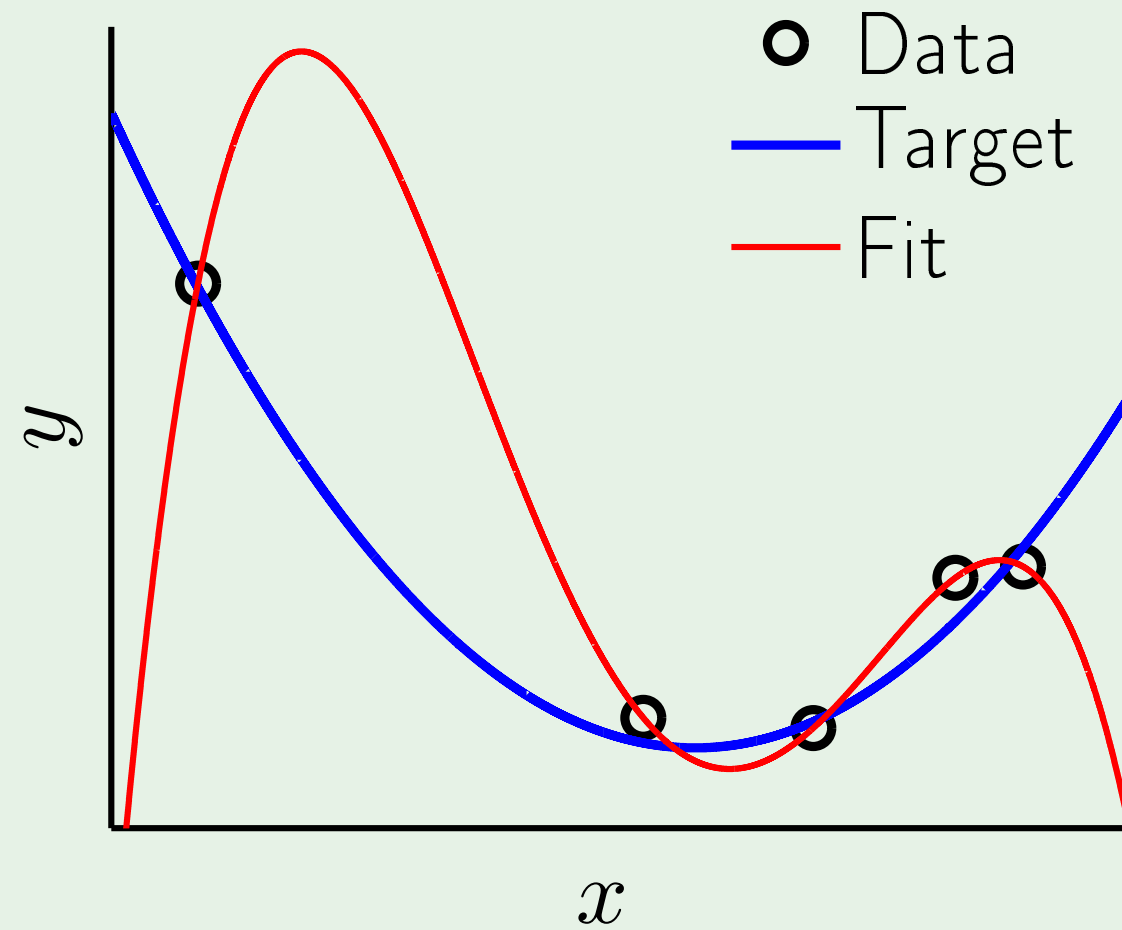
- What is overfitting?
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Two cures

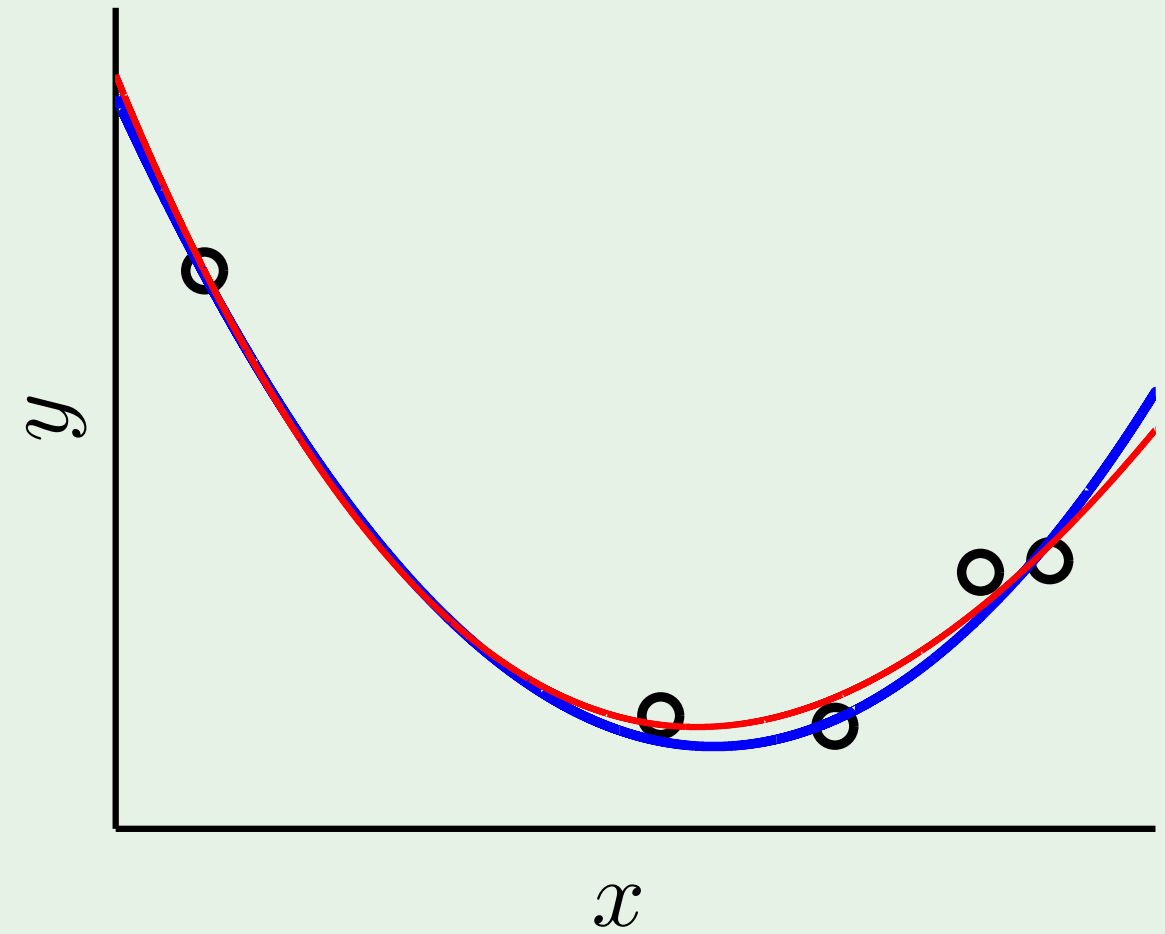
Regularization: Putting the brakes

Validation: Checking the bottom line

Putting the brakes



free fit



restrained fit