

Machine Learning Concepts: Training, Testing, Overfitting, Underfitting, and Regularization

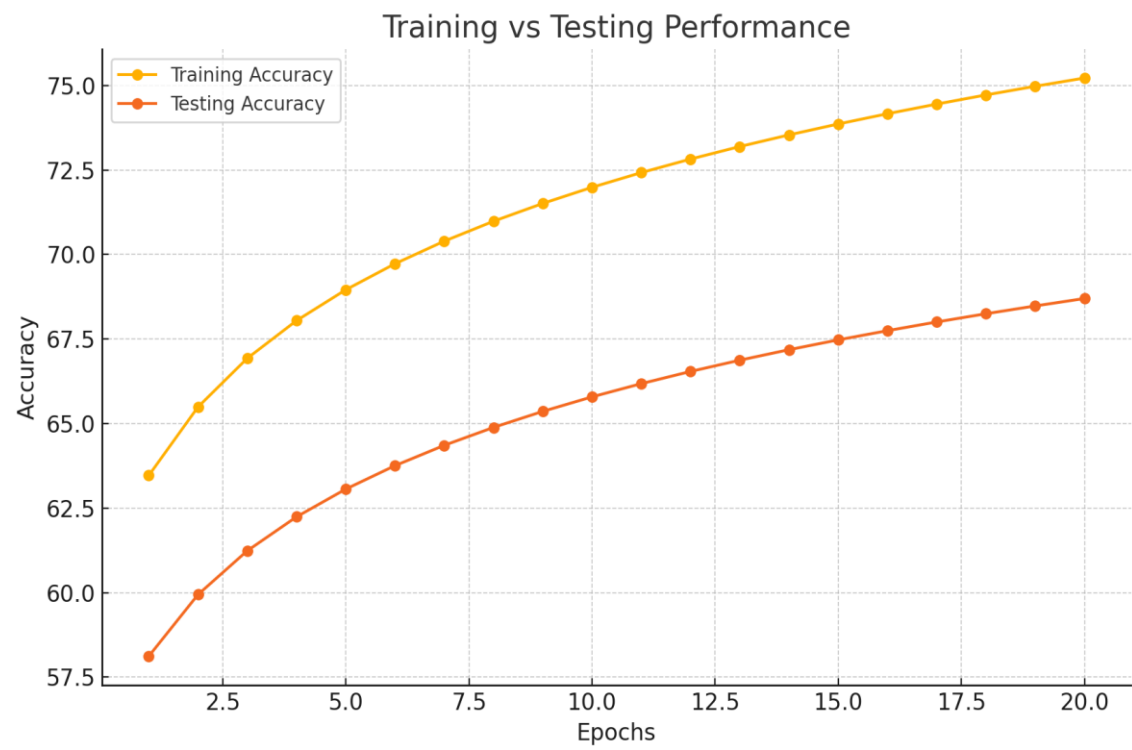
Understanding Core Principles

Training Data

- **Training data** is the dataset on which a machine learning model is trained.
- **Purpose:** Helps the model learn patterns and make predictions.
- **Process:**
 1. Collect data.
 2. Preprocess data (cleaning, normalization).
 3. Train the model using this data.
- **Example:** Image recognition - training on labeled images.

Testing Data

- **Testing data** is the dataset used to evaluate the performance of the trained model.
- **Purpose:** Measures the accuracy and generalization of the model.
- **Process:**
 1. Split dataset into training and testing sets (e.g., 80-20 split).
 2. Evaluate the model on the testing set.
- **Example:** Image recognition - testing on unseen labeled images.



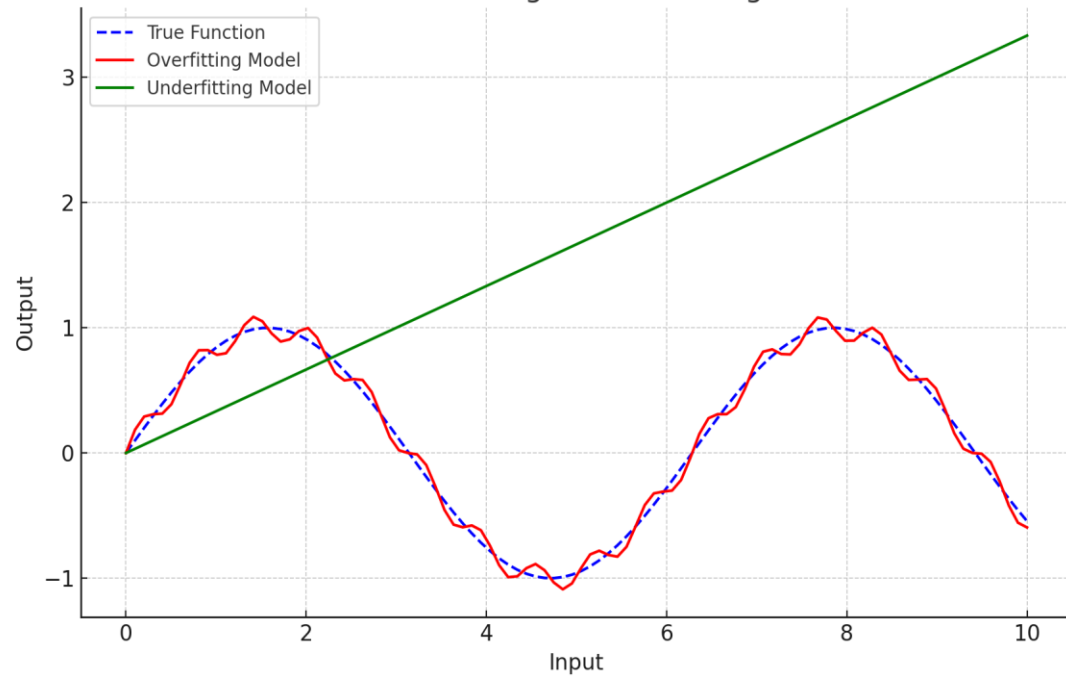
Overfitting

- **Overfitting** occurs when a model learns not only the underlying patterns but also the noise in training data.
- **Symptoms:** High accuracy on training data but poor performance on testing data.
- **Causes:**
 - Too complex model.
 - Insufficient training data.
- **Example:** A decision tree with too many branches fitting every single data point.

Underfitting

- **Underfitting** occurs when a model is too simple to capture the underlying patterns in the data.
- **Symptoms:** Poor performance on both training and testing data.
- **Causes:**
 - Model is too simple.
 - Insufficient training time.
- **Example:** A linear regression model applied to non-linear data.

Overfitting vs Underfitting

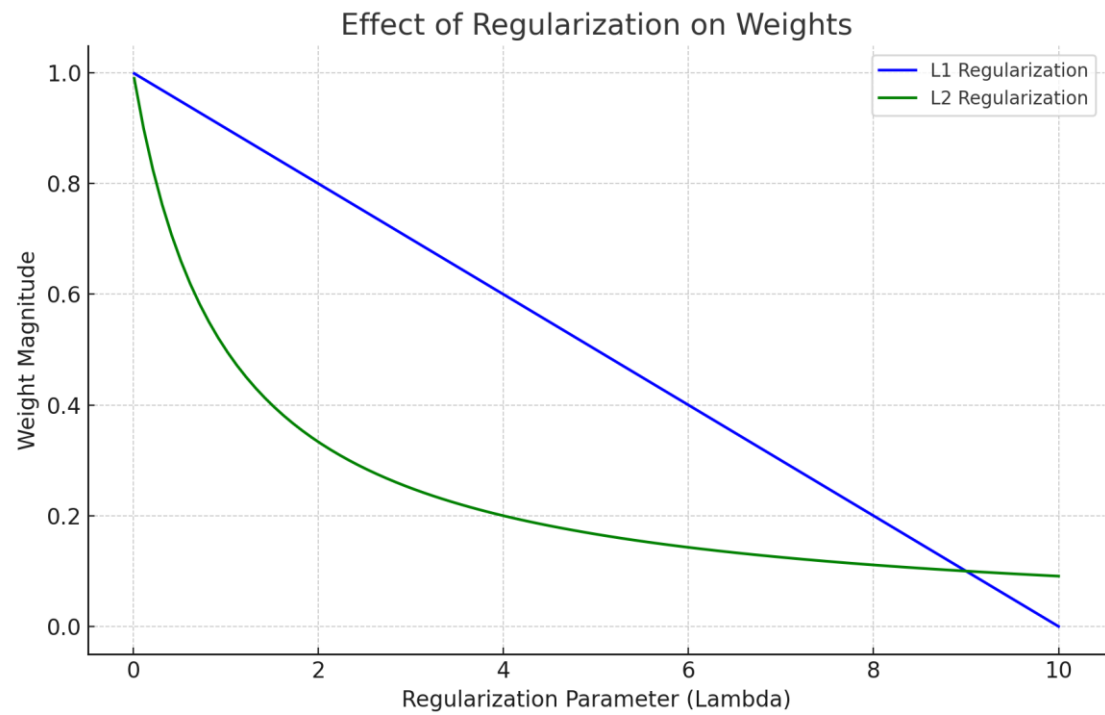


Regularization

- Utilize regularization to improve model performance.
- Regularization techniques are used to prevent overfitting by adding a penalty to the loss function.
- Types:
 - L1 Regularization (Lasso): Adds the absolute value of coefficients as penalty.
 - L2 Regularization (Ridge): Adds the squared value of coefficients as penalty.
- Process:
 1. Apply regularization during model training.
 2. Adjust regularization parameter to balance bias and variance.
- Example: Logistic regression with L2 regularization to prevent overfitting.

Regularization Techniques

- **L1 Regularization:** Encourages sparsity (many zero coefficients).
- **L2 Regularization:** Distributes error across all terms.
- **Elastic Net:** Combines L1 and L2 regularization.
- **Dropout (in neural networks):** Randomly drops neurons during training to prevent co-adaptation.
- **Example:** Regularization applied to neural network training.





Comparing Overfitting and Underfitting

- **Overfitting:**
 - Complex model.
 - High variance.
 - Low bias.
 - Poor generalization.
- **Underfitting:**
 - Simple model.
 - Low variance.
 - High bias.
 - Poor generalization.

