CS480 ML A1 Fall 2025

Q2. (1)

$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d, \ b \in \mathbb{R}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{2n} \|Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y\|_2^2 + \lambda \|w\|_2^2}_{\text{error}}, \tag{1}$$

where $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ and $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are the given dataset and $\lambda \geq 0$ is the regularization hyperparameter. If $\lambda = 0$, then this is the standard linear regression problem. Observe the distinction between the *error* (which does not include the regularization term) and the *loss* (which does).

Prove (1) is equivalent to

$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2n} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} X & \mathbf{1}_n \\ \sqrt{2\lambda n} I_d & 0_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w \\ b \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0_d \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2$$

Simplifying the expression inside the norm,

$$\begin{bmatrix} X & \mathbf{1}_n \\ \sqrt{2\lambda n} I_d & 0_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w \\ b \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0_d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} Xw + b\mathbf{1}_n \\ \sqrt{2\lambda n} I_d w + 0_d \cdot b \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0_d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} Xw + b\mathbf{1}_n - y \\ \sqrt{2\lambda n} w - 0_d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} Xw + b\mathbf{1}_n - y \\ \sqrt{2\lambda n} w \end{bmatrix}$$

So the full expression becomes

$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2n} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} X & \mathbf{1}_n \\ \sqrt{2\lambda n} I_d & 0_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w \\ b \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0_d \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2$$

$$= \min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2n} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} Xw + b\mathbf{1}_n - y \\ \sqrt{2\lambda n} w \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2$$

$$= \min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2n} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} Xw + b\mathbf{1}_n - y \\ \sqrt{2\lambda n} w \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2$$

(2) We have that the loss function is:

$$L(w,b) = \frac{1}{2n}||Xw + b1 - y||_2^2 + \lambda||w||_2^2$$

We will first calculate the partial derivative with respect to w:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w}L(w,b) = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \left[\frac{1}{2n} \|Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y\|_2^2 + \lambda \|w\|_2^2 \right]$$

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$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \left[\frac{1}{2n} (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y)^T (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y) + \lambda(w)^T (w) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \left[(Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y)^T (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y) \right] + \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \left[(w)^T (w) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n} 2(Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y) \frac{\partial}{\partial w} (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y)^T + 2\lambda w$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} X^T (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y) + 2\lambda w$$

Now, we will calculate the partial derivative with respect to b:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial b}L(w,b) = \frac{\partial}{\partial b} \left[\frac{1}{2n} \|Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y\|_2^2 + \lambda \|w\|_2^2 \right]$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial b} \left[\frac{1}{2n} (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y)^T (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y) + \lambda (w)^T (w) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n} \frac{\partial}{\partial b} \left[(Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y)^T (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y) \right] + \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial b} \left[(w)^T (w) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n} 2(Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y) \frac{\partial}{\partial b} (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y)^T + \lambda 0$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1}^T (Xw + b\mathbf{1} - y)$$