



# **Data Driven Modeling 1**

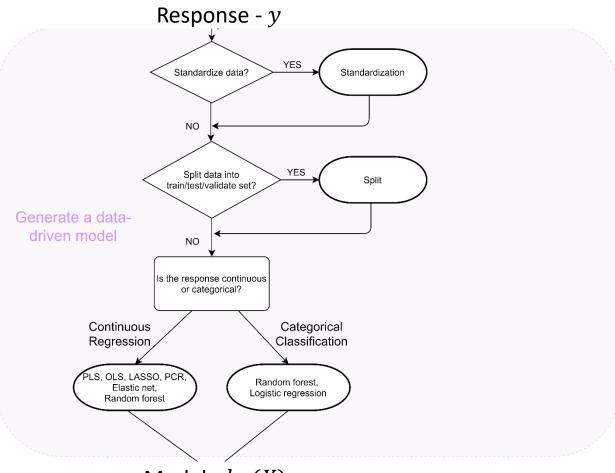
Data processing, loss function and the problem of overfitting





# **Data Driven Modeling Flowchart**

Features - X



Model -  $h_{\theta}(X)$ 

The problem: design the features  $m{X}$  and choose the best set of parameters  $m{ heta}$ 





### **Notations Recap**

- Number of features n
- Number of data points m
- Target/response/dependent variable y
- Features/descriptors/independent variables X ( $x_0$ , ...,  $x_i$ , ...,  $x_n$ )
- Feature value of the  $i^{\mathrm{th}}$  data point  $x_j^{(i)}$
- The parameters  $\theta_0$ , ...,  $\theta_j$ ,...,  $\theta_n$
- The model (e.g. polynomial regression)-

$$h_{\theta}(X) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2 + \theta_3 x_3 + \dots + \theta_n x_n$$

The problem: design the features  $m{X}$  and choose the best set of parameters  $m{ heta}$ 





## **Preprocessing Data**

- Normalization rescale data into the range of [0,1]
- Standardization rescale data to have a mean of 0 and standard deviation of 1

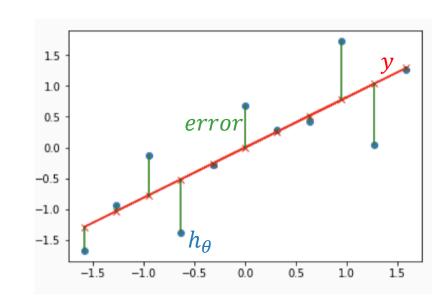
When to preprocess the data?

- Features are of different scales
- Depends on the sensitivity of the model
- Experiment with and without preprocessing data



# Loss Function in regression – $I(\theta)$

- Loss function
  - the difference between prediction and real values (errors)
- Mean absolute error (MAE)  $MAE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} |y_i h_{\theta}(x)|$
- Root mean square error (RMSE)  $RMSE = \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} (y_i h_{\theta}(x))^2 \right|$
- MAE <= RMSE
- RMSE penalize large errors (outliers) more

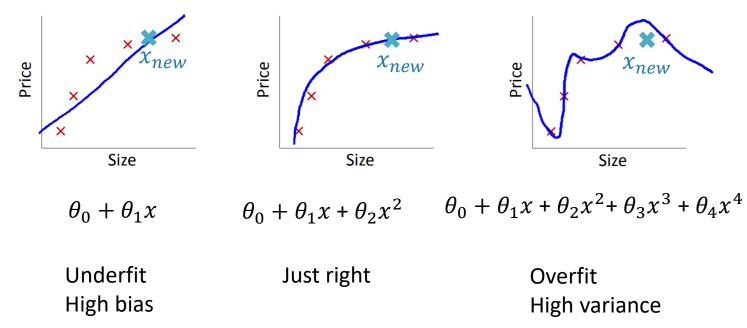






# **Example: polynomial regression (housing price)**

Housing price \$ (y) is a function of size ft²(x)





• Overfitting: if we have too many features, the model fit the training set very well, but fail to generalize to new examples (predict prices on new examples)





# How to prevent overfitting?

- 1) Reduce the number of features:
- Manually select which features to keep.
- Use a model selection algorithm (studied later in the course).
- 2) Regularization
- Keep all the features but reduce the magnitude of parameters  $\theta_i$ .
- Regularization works well when we have a lot of slightly useful features.



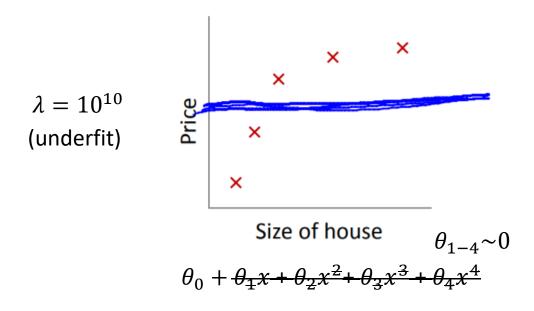


# Regularization

- Small values for parameters  $\theta_0, ..., \theta_i, ..., \theta_n$
- The updated loss function

$$J_{new}(\theta) = J_{old}(\theta) + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{n} \theta_{i}^{2}$$

 $J_{new}(\theta) = J_{old}(\theta) + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^n \theta_j^2$ • Regularization parameter -  $\lambda$ ; the larger  $\lambda$ ; the smaller the  $\theta$ s







# Training Set – Model Building; Test set – Model Evaluation

Question 1: how do we know the model can be generalized to a new dataset?



- Test set: a subset of the data not used during the training but used to evaluate the final model after the training, selected randomly
- Typical train/test split 90/10, 80/20, 75/25
- General rule: test/training set distributions should be similar to the target distribution

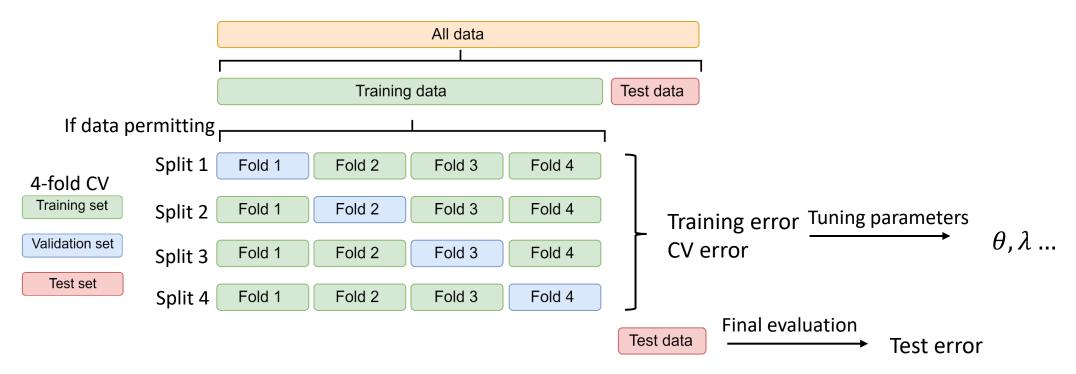
Question 2: how to pick the best model during training?





# Cross Validation (CV) - Model Checking and Selection

- K-fold CV
  - Typical k values = 3, 4, 5, 10



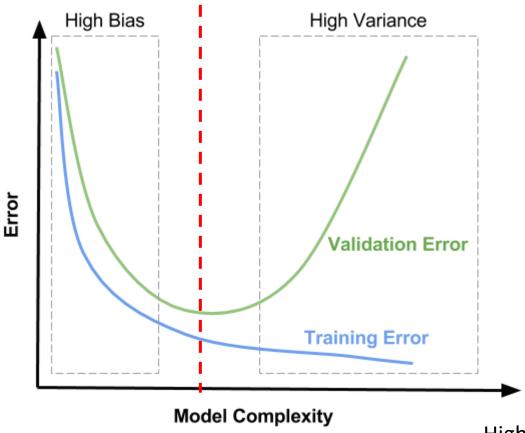
- LOOCV (leave one out cross validation) k = n (dataset size)
  - Use when limited data is available (<100)



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#### **Bias-variance tradeoff**





#### High bias (underfit)

- High training error
- Validation error is similar in magnitude to the training error

#### High variance (overfit)

- Low training error
- Very high validation error





# Improving model performance

To fix high variance (complex model, less data)

- Get more data points
- Try smaller set of features
- Try increasing regularization  $\lambda$

To fix high bias (simple model, sufficient data)

- Try getting additional features
- Try decreasing regularization  $\lambda$





# **Practice Time!**