Lecture 15
Regularized Linear Regression

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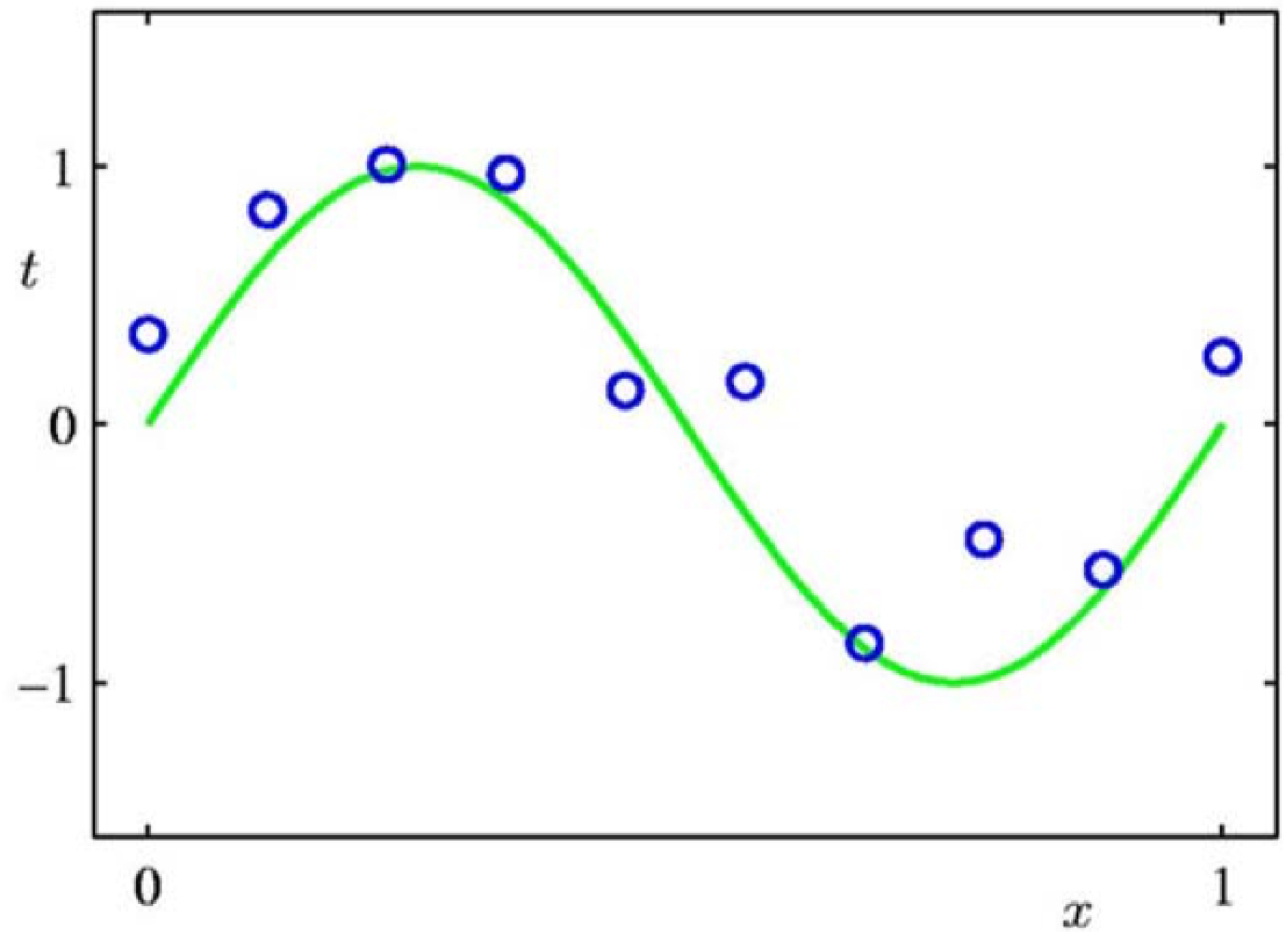
These slides are adopted based on slides from Andrew Zisserman, Jonathan Taylor, Chao Zhang and Yaser Abu-Mostafa.

Outline

- Overfitting and regularized learning
- Ridge regression
- Lasso regression
- Determining regularization strength

Regression: Recap

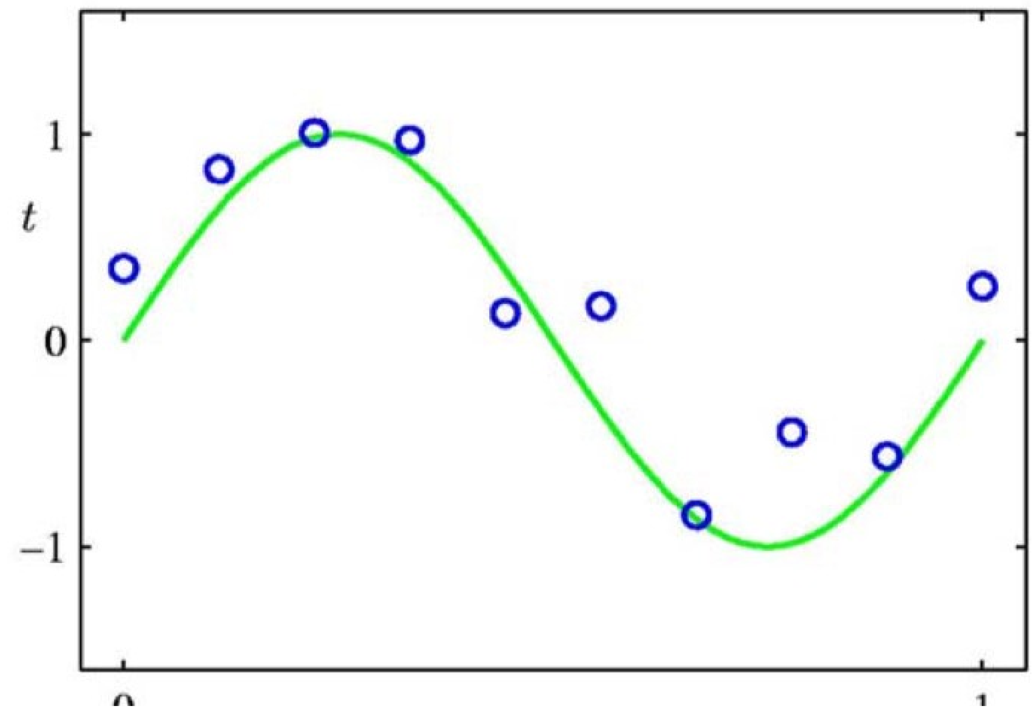


- Suppose we are given a training set of N observations

$$(x_1, \ldots, x_N) \text{ and } (y_1, \ldots, y_N)$$

- Regression problem is to estimate y(x) from this data

Regression: Recap



- Want to fit a polynomial regression model

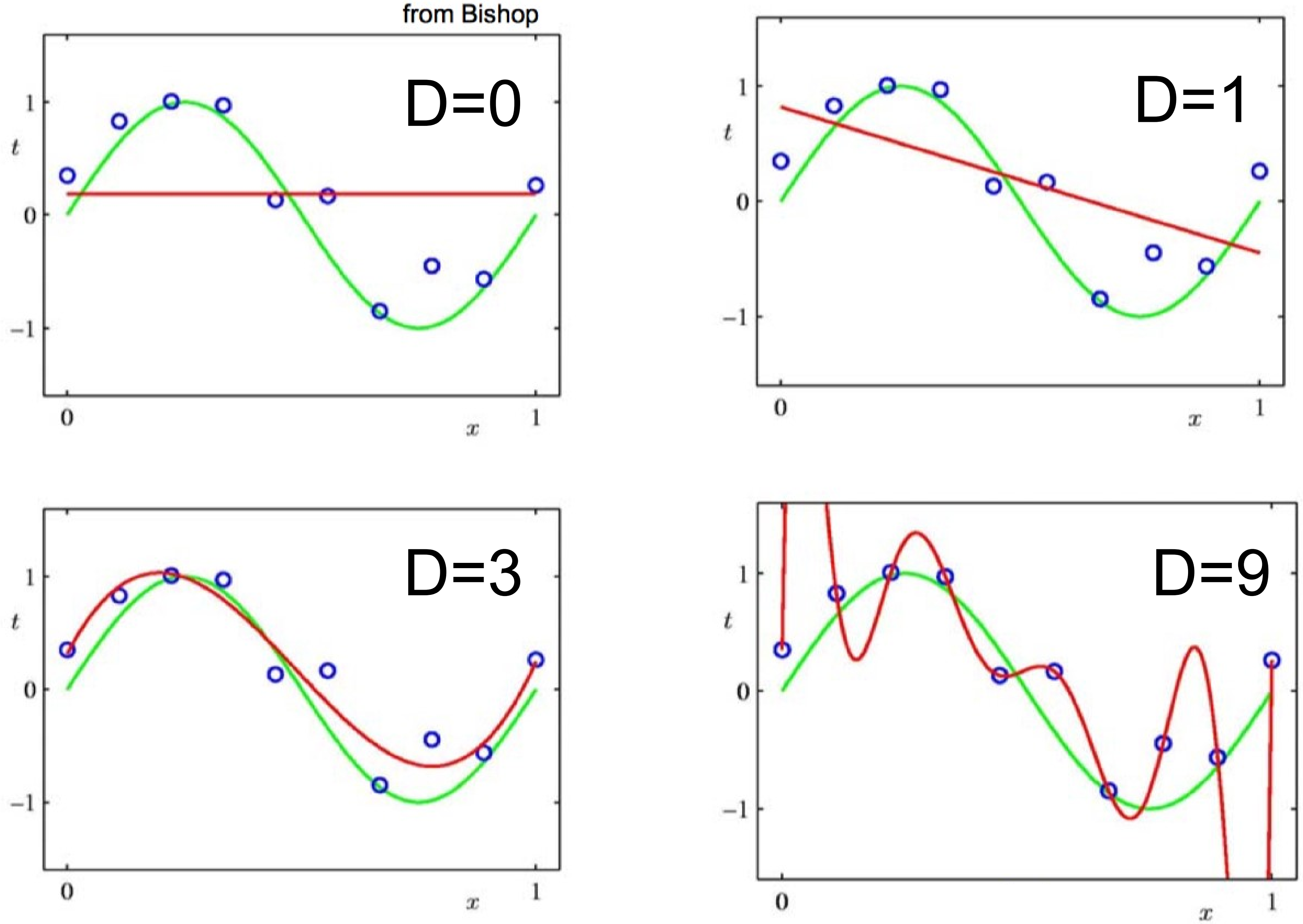
$$y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \cdots + \theta_d x^d + \epsilon$$

- $z = \{1, x, x^2, \ldots, x^d\} \in R^d$ and $\theta = (\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_d)^T$

$$y = z\theta$$

Which One is Better?

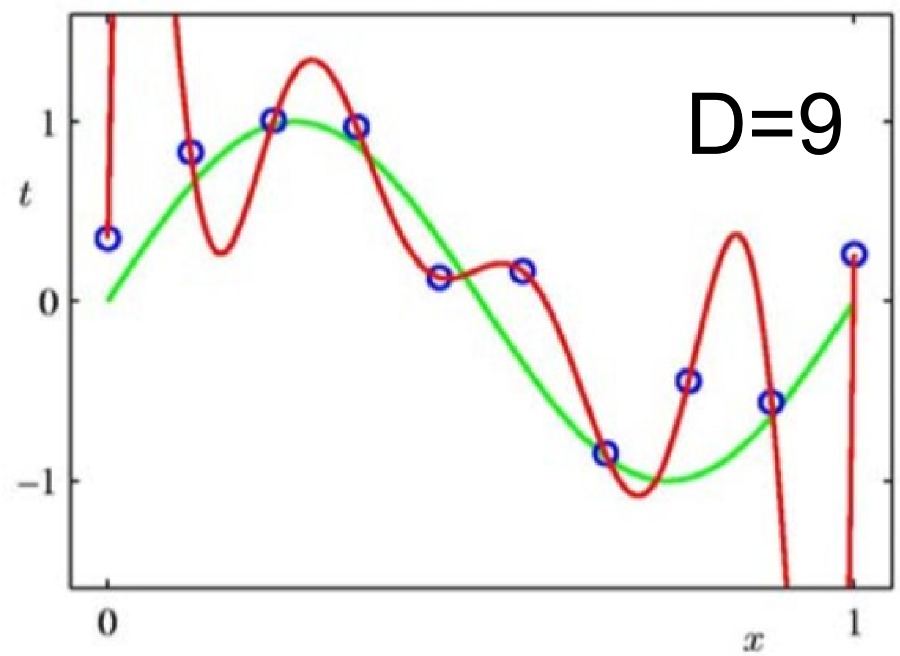
from Bishop

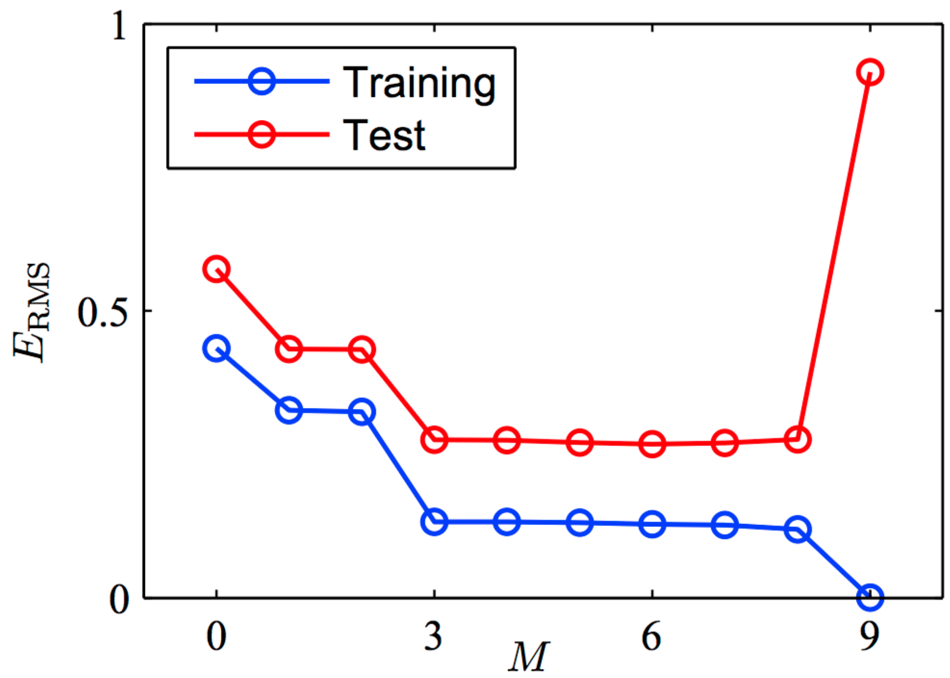


- Can we increase the maximal polynomial degree to very large, such that the curve passes through all training points?

No, this can lead to **overfitting**!

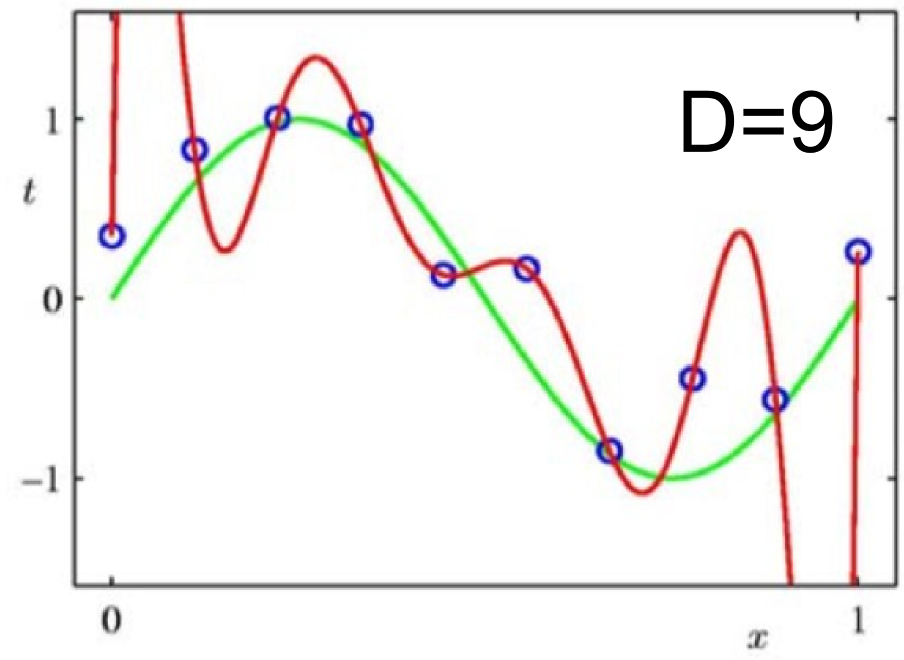
The Overfitting Problem





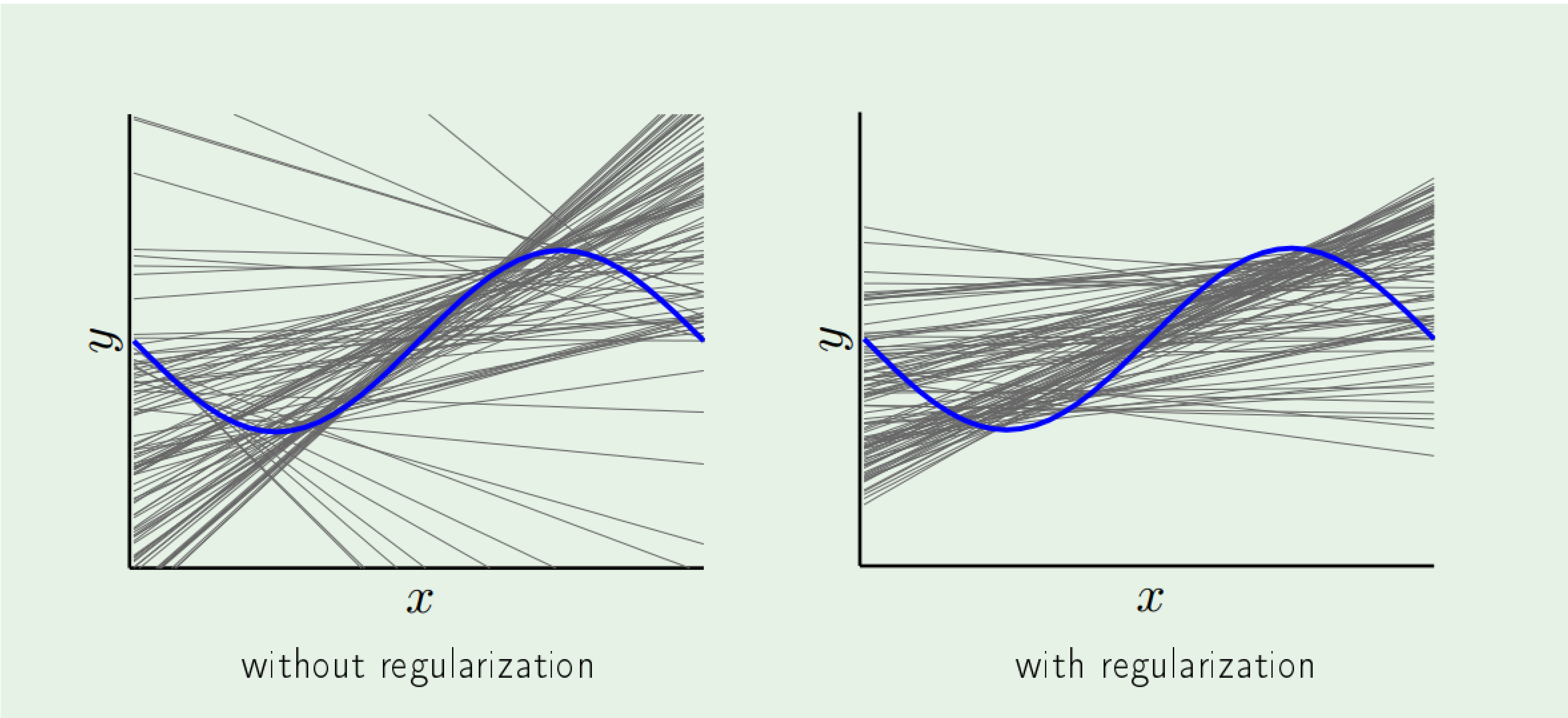
- The training error is very low, but the error on test set is large.
- The model captures not only patterns but also noisy nuisances in the training data.

The Overfitting Problem



- In regression, overfitting is often associated with large W (severe oscillation)
- How can we address overfitting?

Regularization
(smart way to cure overfitting disease)

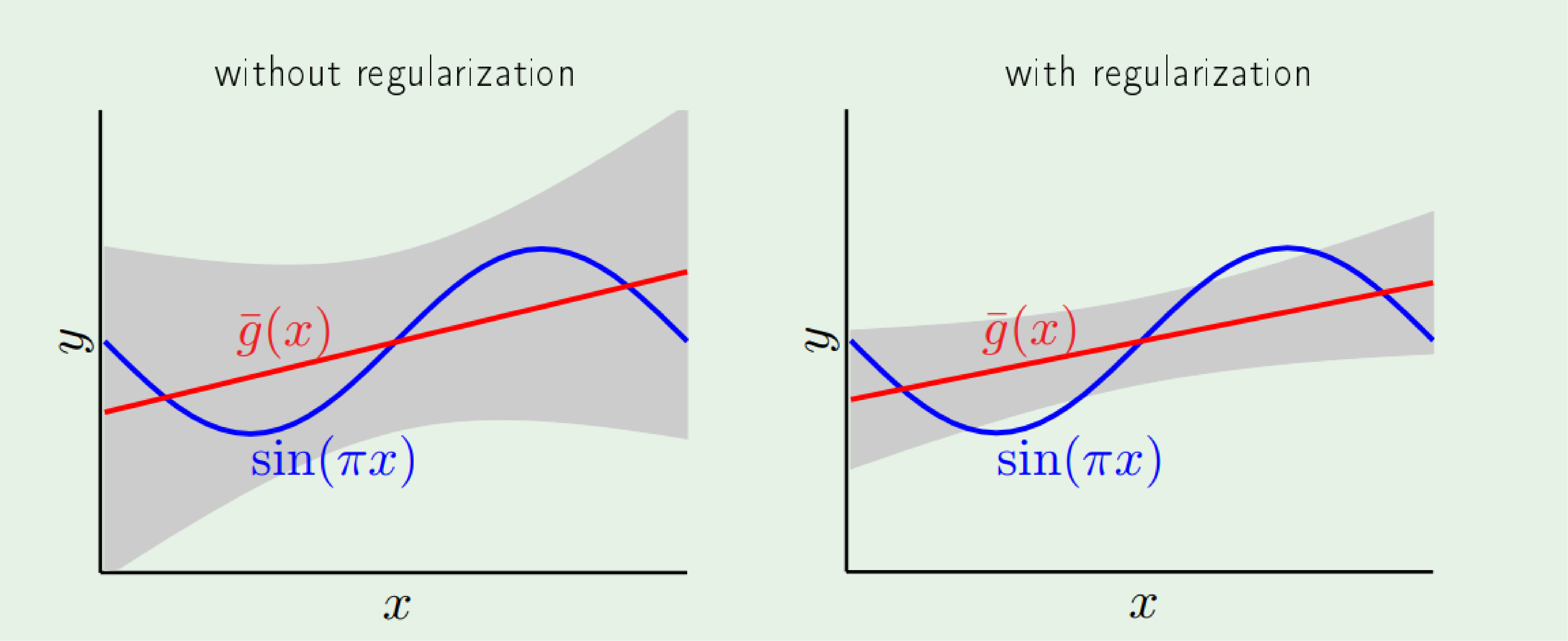


Put a brake on fitting →

Fit a linear line on sinusoidal with just two data points

Who is the winner?

$\bar{g}\,(x)$: average over all lines



bias=0.21; var=1.69

bias=0.23; var=0.33

Regularized Learning

Why this term leads to regularization of parameters

Minimize $$E(\theta) + \frac{\lambda}{N}\theta^T\theta$$

- Cost function – squared loss:

target value

$$\widetilde{E}(\theta) = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\underbrace{\{f(x_i,\theta) - y_i\}^2}_{\text{loss function}} + \underbrace{\frac{\lambda}{N}\|\theta\|^2}_{\text{regularization}}$$

Polynomial Model

Want to fit a polynomial regression model

$$y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \cdots + \theta_d x^d + \epsilon$$

Let's rewrite it as:

$$y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 z_1 + \theta_2 z_2 + \cdots + \theta_d z_{\mathrm{d}} + \epsilon = \boldsymbol{z\theta}$$

Regularizing is just constraining the weights ($\boldsymbol{w}$)

For example: let's do a **hard** constraining

$$y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 z_1 + \theta_2 z_2 + \cdots + \theta_d z_{\mathrm{d}}$$

subject to

$$\theta_d = 0 \; for \; d > 2$$

$$y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 z_1 + \theta_2 z_2 + 0 + \cdots + 0$$

Let's not penalize θ in such a harsh way

let's cut them some slack

$$\theta = argmin_{\theta} E(\theta) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(y^{i} - z_i\theta\right)^2$$

$$Minimize\ \frac{1}{N}(z\theta - y)^T(z\theta - y)$$

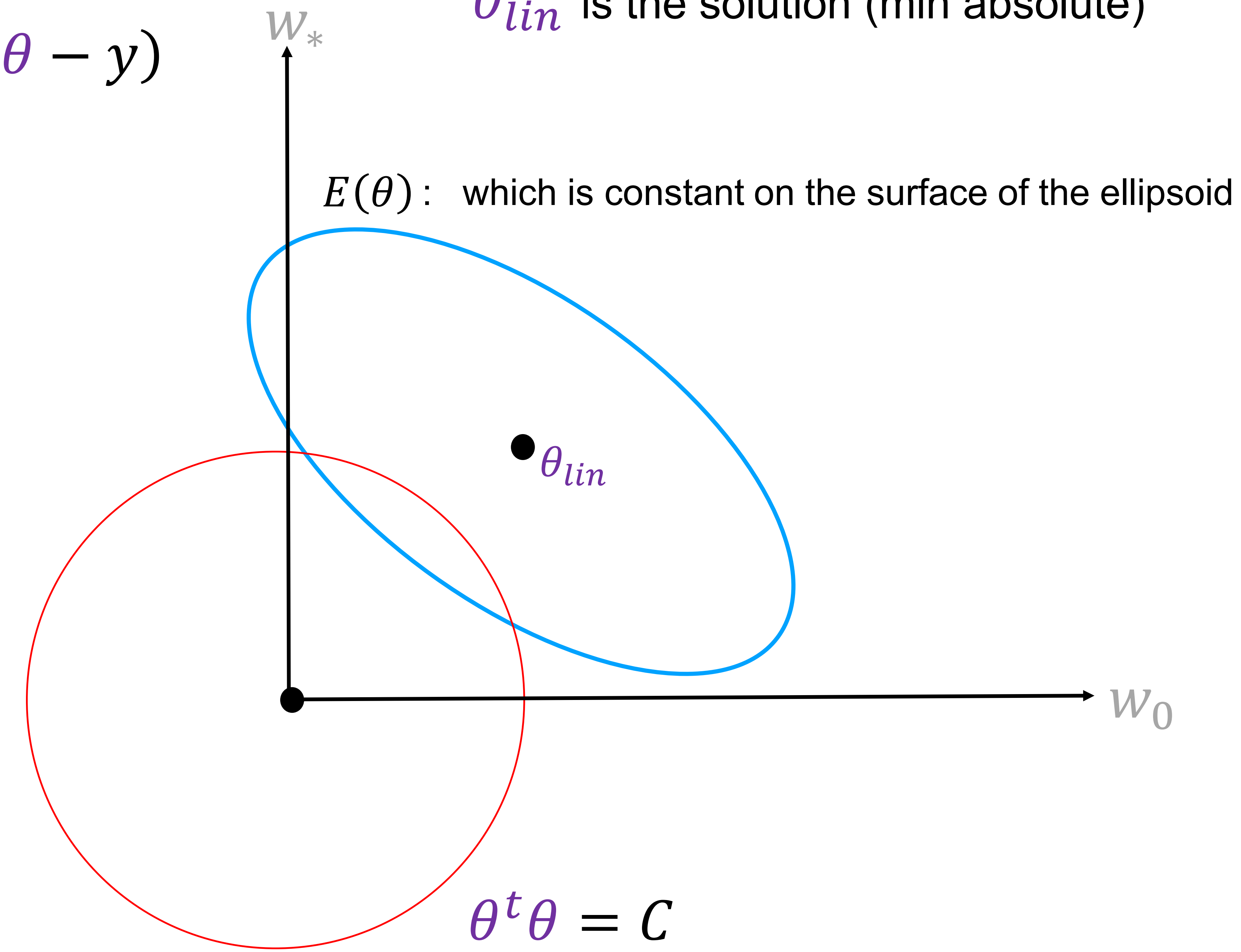
Subject to $\theta^t\theta \leq C$

For simplicity let's call θ_{lin} as weights' solution for non constrained one and θ_{reg} for the constrained model.

$$E(\theta) = \frac{1}{N}(z\theta - y)^T(z\theta - y)$$

θ_{lin} is the solution (min absolute)

Subject to $\theta^t\theta \le C$



Find a solution in $\theta^t\theta$ that minimizes $E(\theta)$

Applying a constrain $\theta^t\theta$, where the best solution happens?

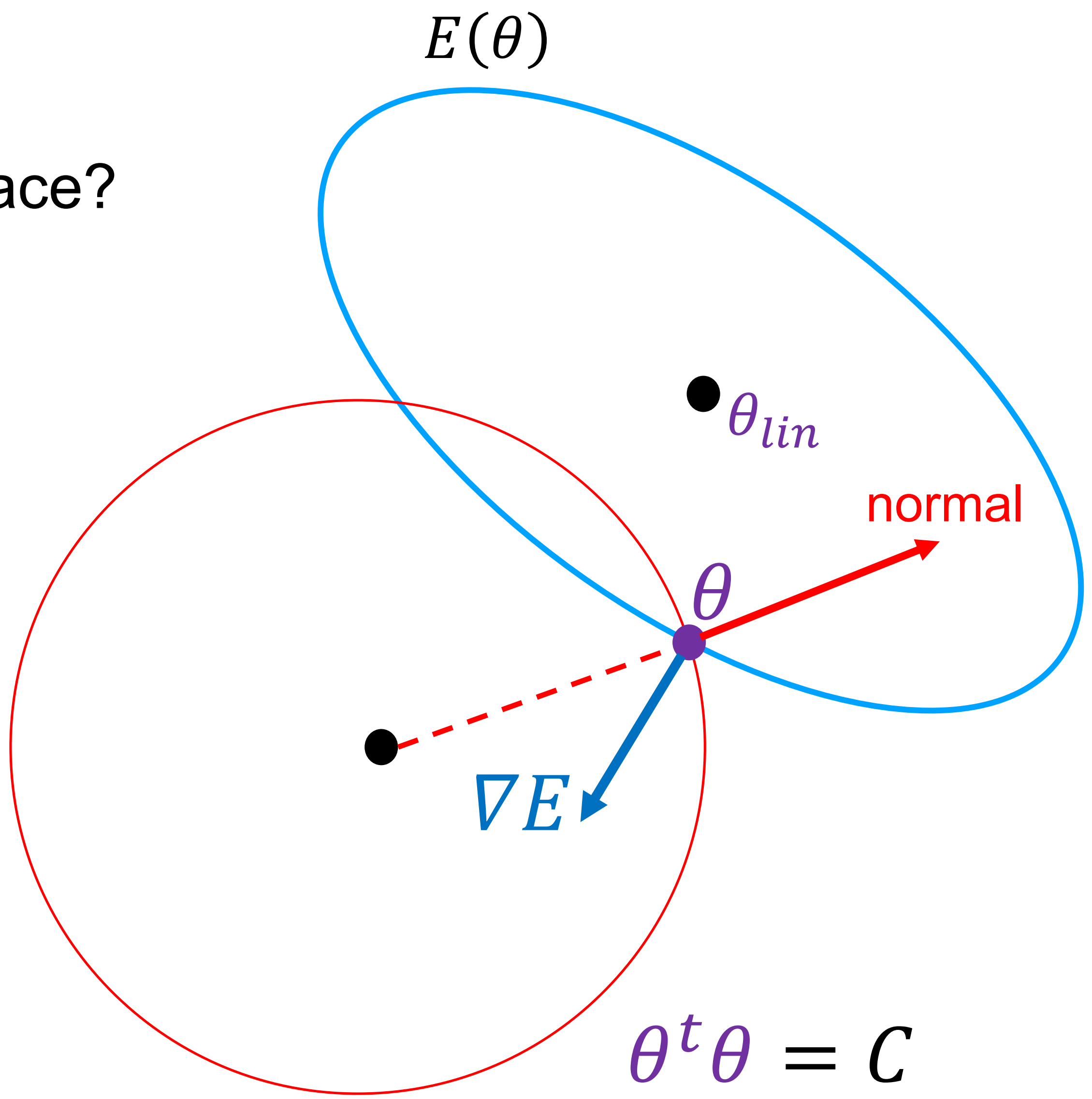
On the boundary of the circle, as it is the closest one to the minimum absolute

Considering the below $E(\theta)$ and C what is a θ candidate here?

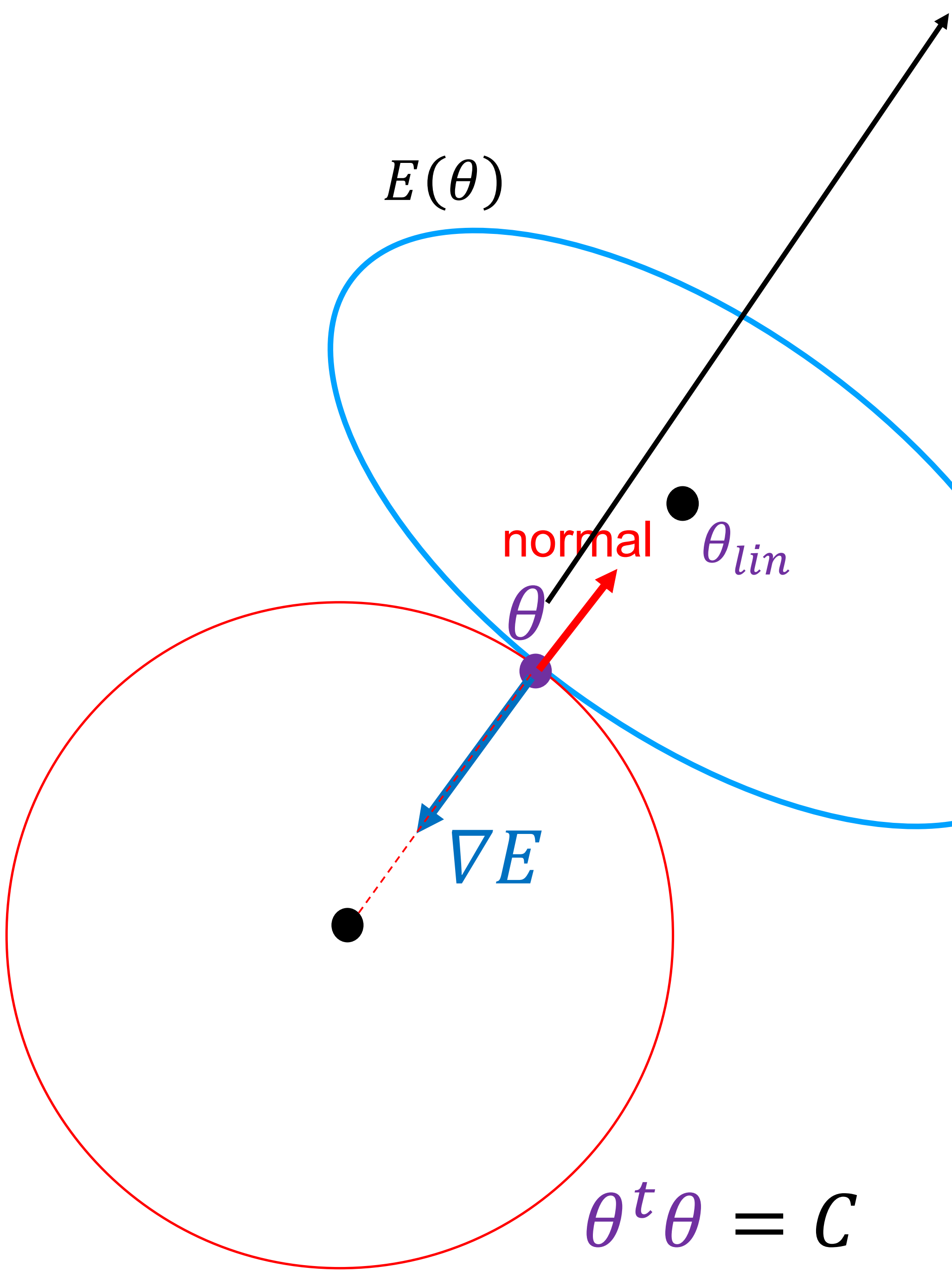
∇E: the gradient (rate) in objective function which minimizes error (orthogonal to ellipse. Changes happen in orthogonal direction)

What is the orthogonal direction on the other surface?

It is nothing just θ



Considering the below $E(\theta)$ and C what is the bew θ solution here?



$$\nabla E(\theta_{\text{reg}}) \propto -\theta_{\text{reg}}$$

$$= -2\frac{\lambda}{N}\theta_{\text{reg}}$$

$$\underbrace{\nabla E(\theta_{\text{reg}}) + 2\frac{\lambda}{N}\theta_{\text{reg}} = 0}_{\text{Let's do integration}}$$

Minimize $E(\theta) + \frac{\lambda}{N}\theta^T\theta$

$$C \uparrow \lambda \downarrow$$

Outline

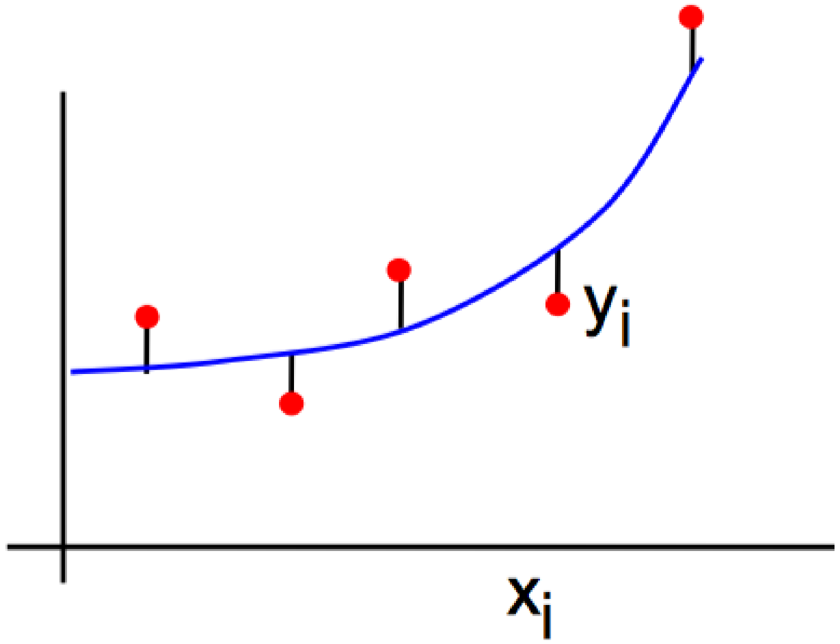
- Overfitting and regularized learning
- Ridge regression
- Lasso regression
- Determining regularization strength

Ridge Regression

- Cost function – squared loss:

target value

$$\widetilde{E}(\theta) = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\underbrace{\{f(x_i,\theta) - y_i\}^2}_{\text{loss function}} + \underbrace{\frac{\lambda}{N}\|\theta\|^2}_{\text{regularization}}$$



- Regression function for x (1D):

$$f(x,\theta) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 z_1 + \theta_2 z_2 + \cdots + \theta_d z_{\mathrm{d}} + \epsilon = \boldsymbol{z\theta}$$

Solving for the Weights θ

Notation: write the target and regressed values as N-vectors

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ y_N \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{f} = \begin{pmatrix} z(x_1)\theta \\ z(x_2)\theta \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ z(x_n)\theta \end{pmatrix} = z\theta = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & z_1(x_1) & \dots & z_d(x_1) \\ 1 & z_1(x_2) & \dots & z_d(x_2) \\ \cdot & & & \\ \cdot & & & \\ 1 & z_1(x_n) & \dots & z_d(x_n) \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \theta_0 \\ \theta_1 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \theta_d \end{pmatrix}$$

z is an $N \times$ D design matrix

e.g. for polynomial regression with basis functions up to x^2

$$z\theta = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 \\ \cdot & & \cdot \\ \cdot & & \cdot \\ 1 & x_N & x_N^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \theta_0 \\ \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\widetilde{E}(\theta) &= \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\{f(x_i,\theta) - y_i\}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{N}\|\theta\|^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(y_i - z_i\theta)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{N}\|\theta\|^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{N}(y_i - z\theta)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{N}\|\theta\|^2
\end{aligned}
$$

Now, compute where derivative w.r.t. θ is zero for minimum

$$
\frac{\widetilde{E}(\theta)}{d\theta} = -z^T(y - z\theta) + \lambda\theta
$$

Hence

$$
(z^T z + \lambda I)\theta = z^T y
$$

$$
\theta = (z^T z + \lambda I)^{-1} z^T y
$$

D basis functions, N data points

$$\theta \;=\; (z^T z + \lambda I)^{-1} z^T \; y$$

= assume N>D

Dx1 DxD DxN Nx1

- This shows that there is a unique solution.

- If $\lambda = 0$ (no regularization), then

$$\theta = (z^T z)^{-1} z^T y = z^+ y$$

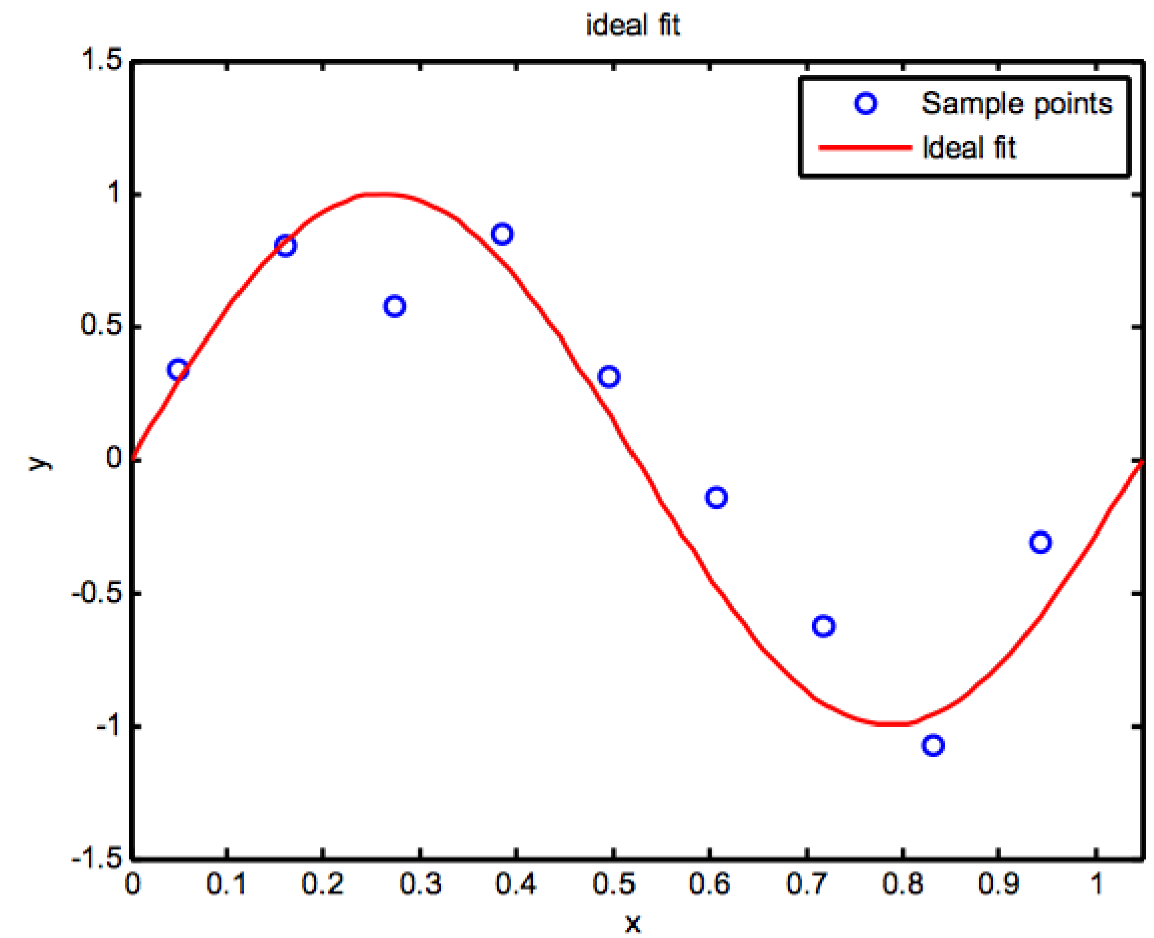
where z^+ is the pseudo-inverse of z (`pinv` in Matlab)

- Adding the term λI improves the conditioning of the inverse, since if z is not full rank, then $(z^T z + \lambda \mathrm{I})$ will be (for sufficiently large λ)

- As $\lambda \to \infty$, $\theta \to \frac{1}{\lambda} z^T y \to \mathbf{0}$

Ridge Regression Example

- The red curve is the true function (which is not a polynomial)
- The data points are samples from the curve with added noise in y.
- There is a choice in both the degree, D, of the basis functions used, and in the strength of the regularization

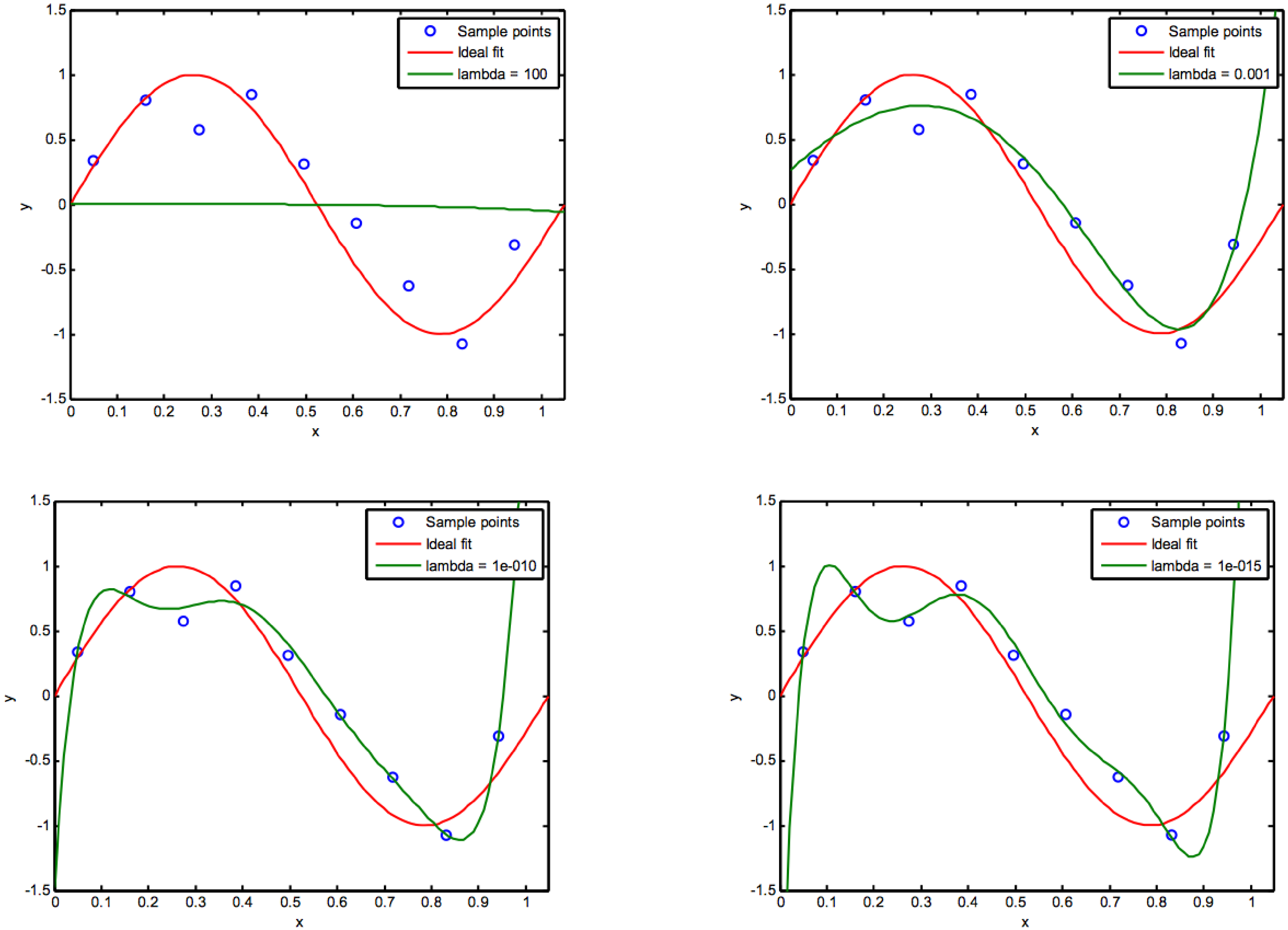


$$f(x, \theta) = z\theta \qquad z: x \to z \qquad \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^{D+1}$$

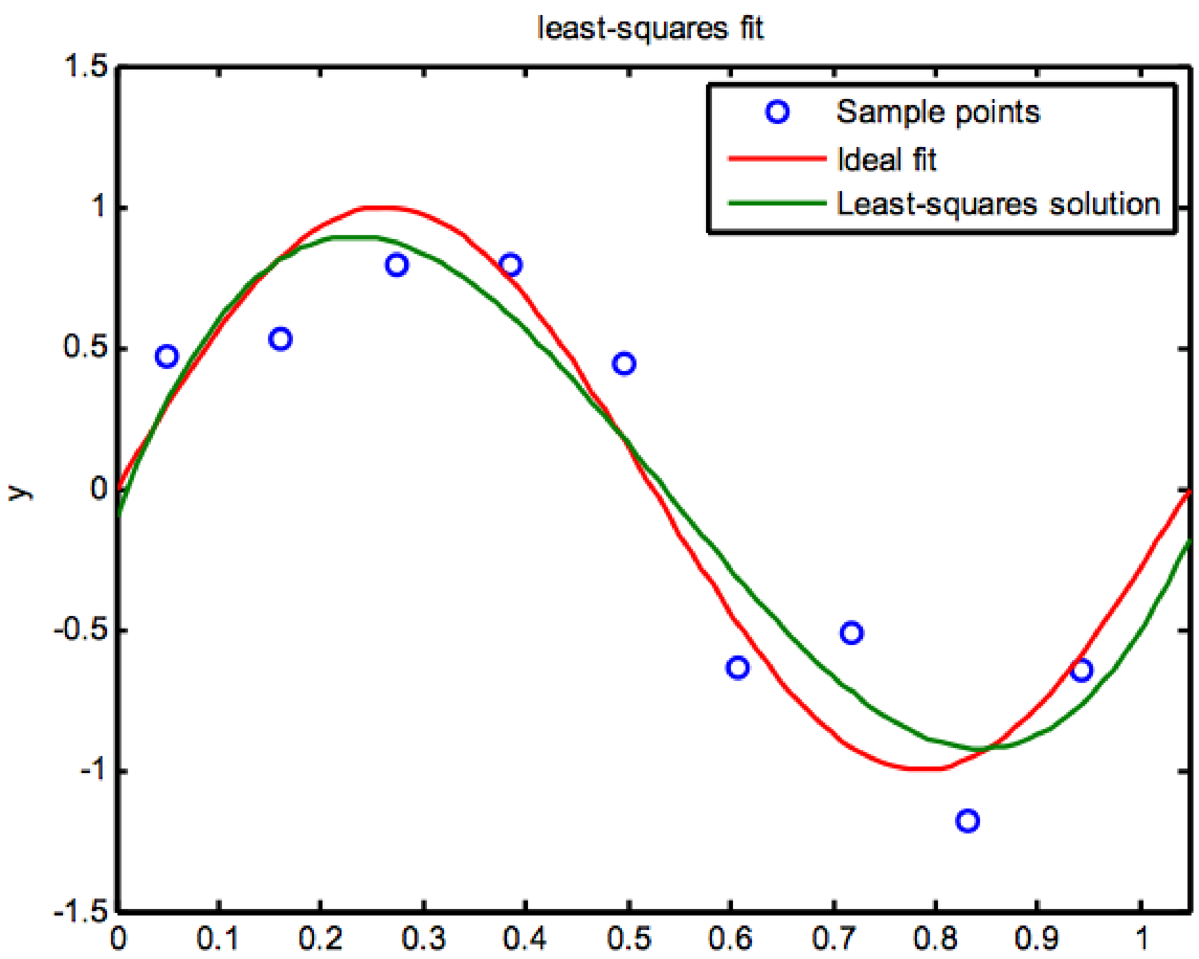
$$\tilde{E}(\theta) = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\{f(x_i, \theta) - y_i\}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{N}\|\theta\|^2$$

θ is a D+1 dimensional vector

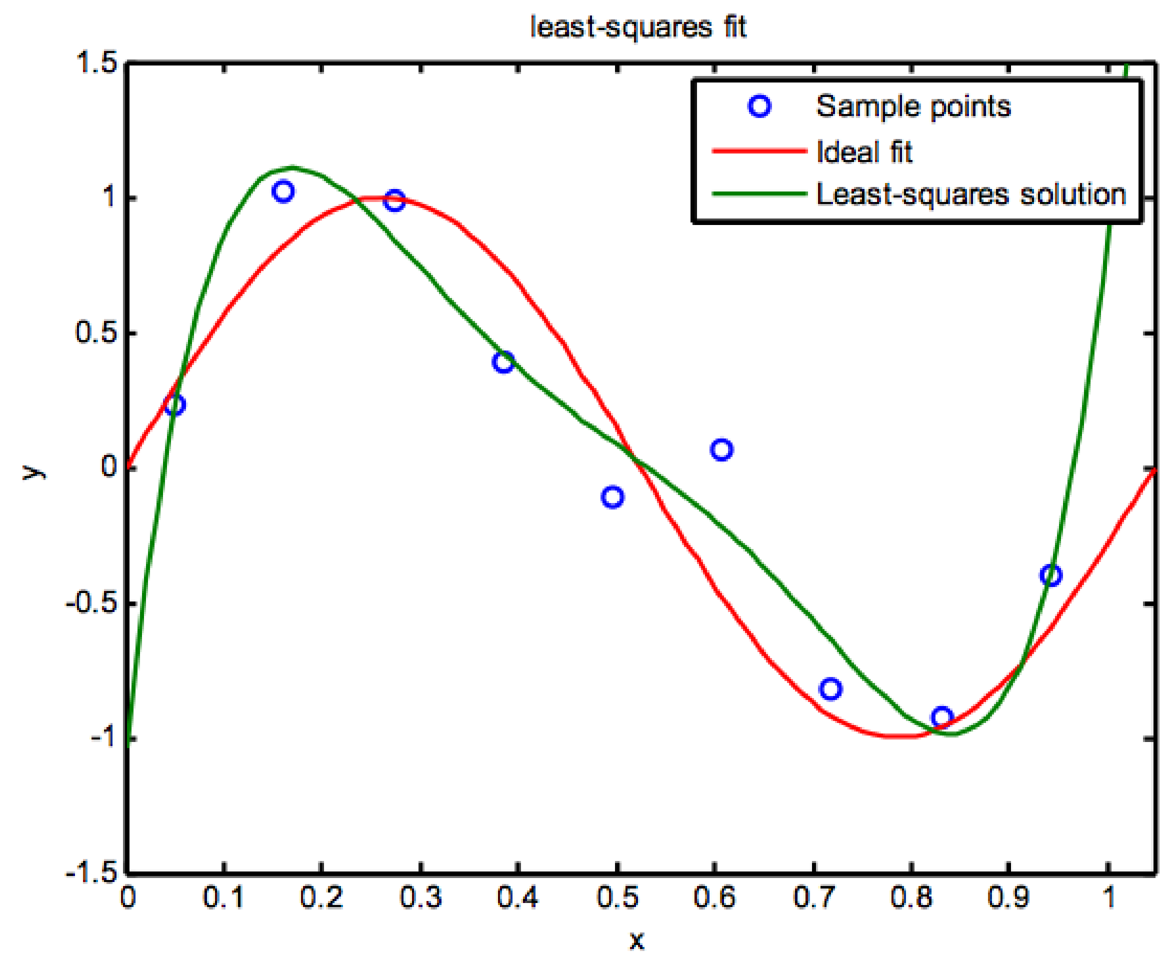
N = 9 samples, D = 7



D = 3


least-squares fit
Sample points
Ideal fit
Least-squares solution
y
1.5
1
0.5
0
-0.5
-1
-1.5
0
0.1
0.2
0.3
0.4
0.5
0.6
0.7
0.8
0.9
1

D = 5


least-squares fit
Sample points
Ideal fit
Least-squares solution
y
x
1.5
1
0.5
0
-0.5
-1
-1.5
0
0.1
0.2
0.3
0.4
0.5
0.6
0.7
0.8
0.9
1

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Regularized Regression

Minimize with respect to θ

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \underbrace{l\left(f(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta), y_i\right)}_{\text{loss function}} + \lambda \underbrace{R(\theta)}_{\text{regularization}}$$

- There is a choice of both loss functions and regularization
- So far we have seen – "ridge" regression
  - squared loss: $\sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - f(x_i, \theta))^2$
  - squared regularizer: $\lambda \|\theta\|^2$

Now let's look at another regularization choice.

The Lasso Regularization

- LASSO = Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection

Minimize with respect to θ

$$\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N} l\,(f(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta\ ), y_i)}_{\text{loss function}} + \underbrace{\lambda R\,(\ \theta\ )}_{\text{regularization}}$$

- This is a quadratic optimization problem
- There is a unique solution
- p-Norm definition: $\|\ \theta\|_p = \left(\sum_{j=1}^{d} |\ \theta_i|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$

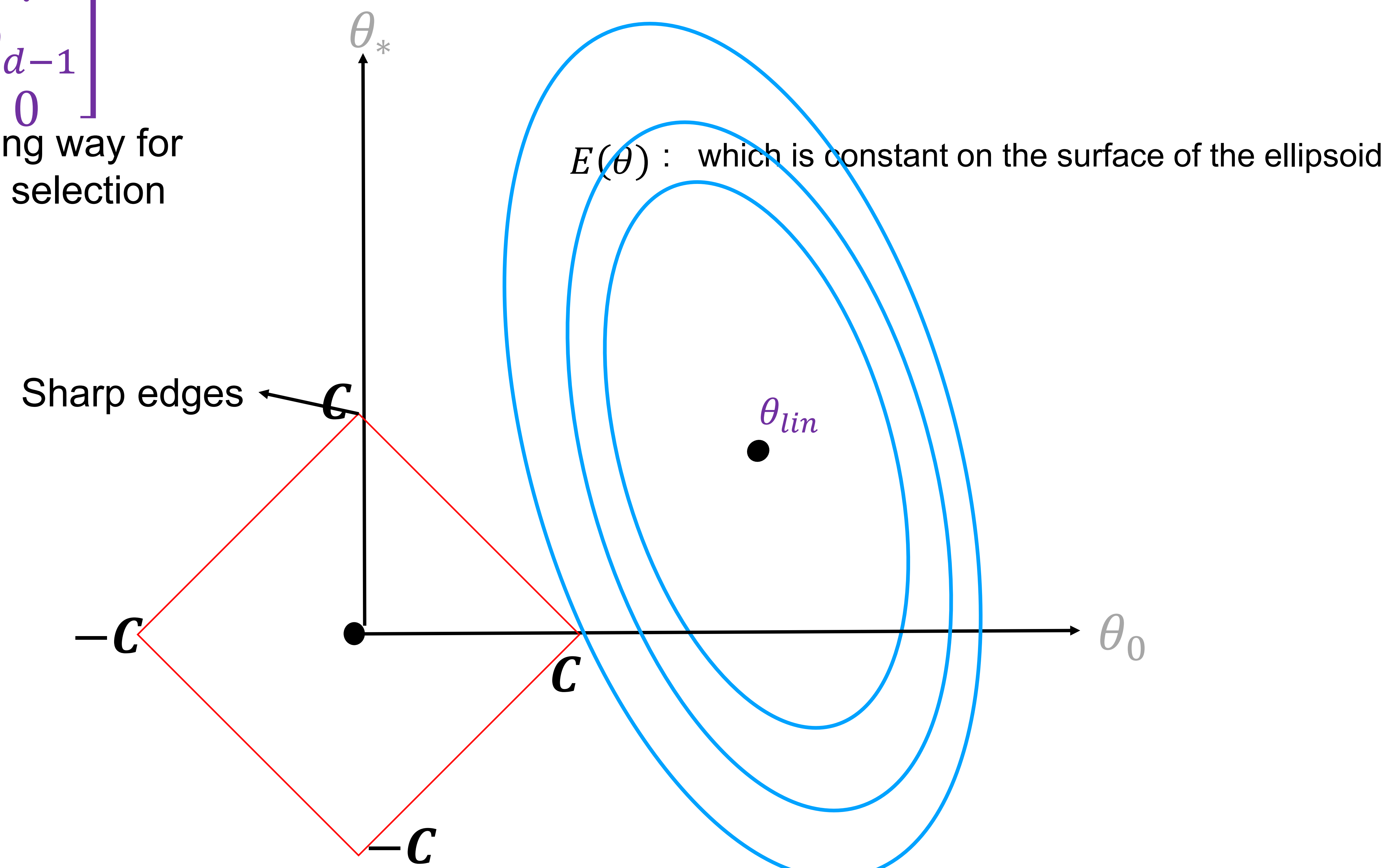
Let's say we have two parameters (θ_0 and θ_1)

$$Minimize\ E(\theta) = \frac{1}{N}(\mathrm{z}w - y)^T(\mathrm{z}\theta - y)$$

Subject to $\boldsymbol{\theta} \leq \boldsymbol{C}$

$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_{d-1} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Interesting way for feature selection



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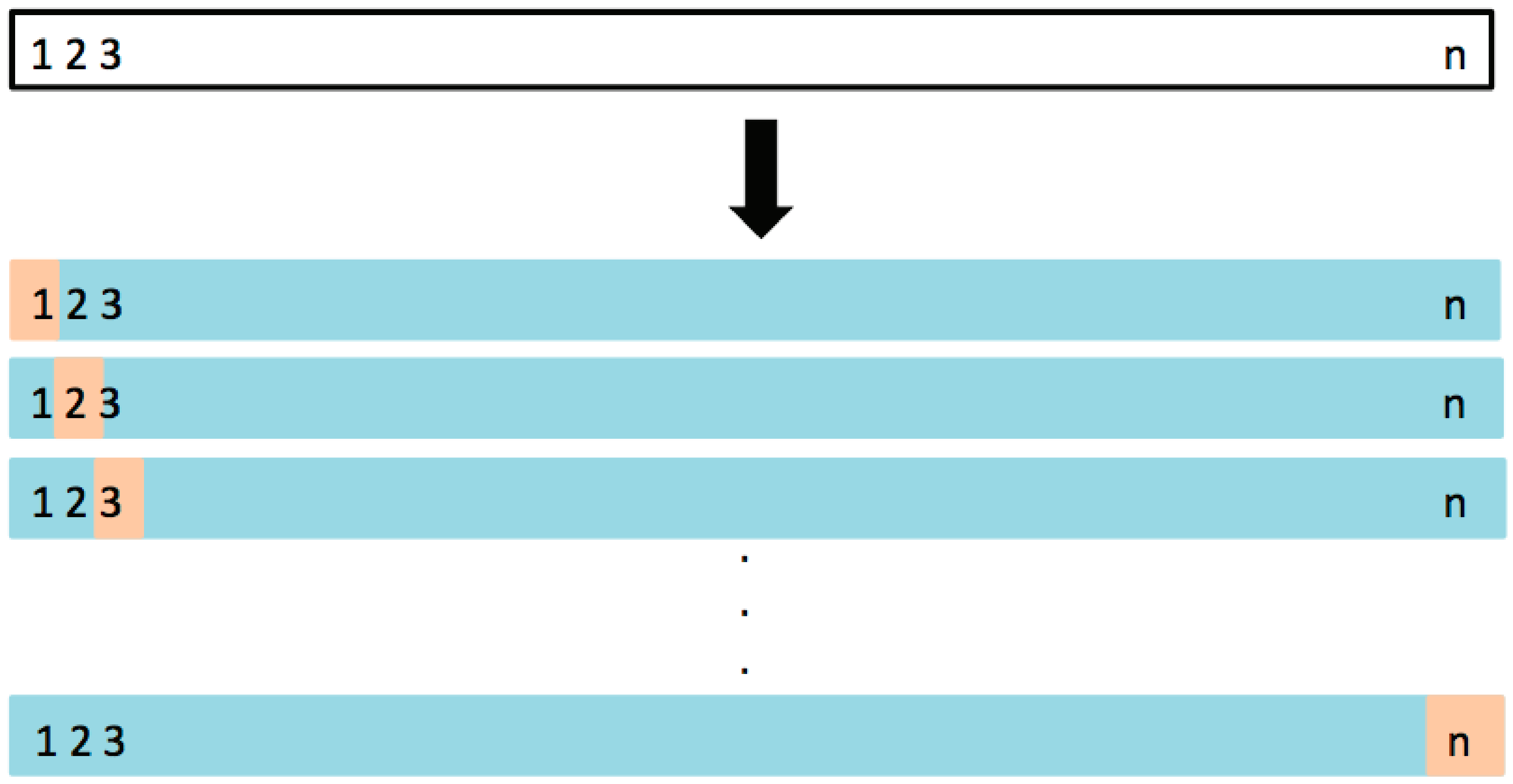
Leave-One-Out Cross Validation

For every $i = 1, \ldots, n$:

- train the model on every point except i,
- compute the test error on the held out point.

Average the test errors. $$\mathrm{CV}_{(n)} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(y_i - \hat{y}_i^{(-i)})^2$$



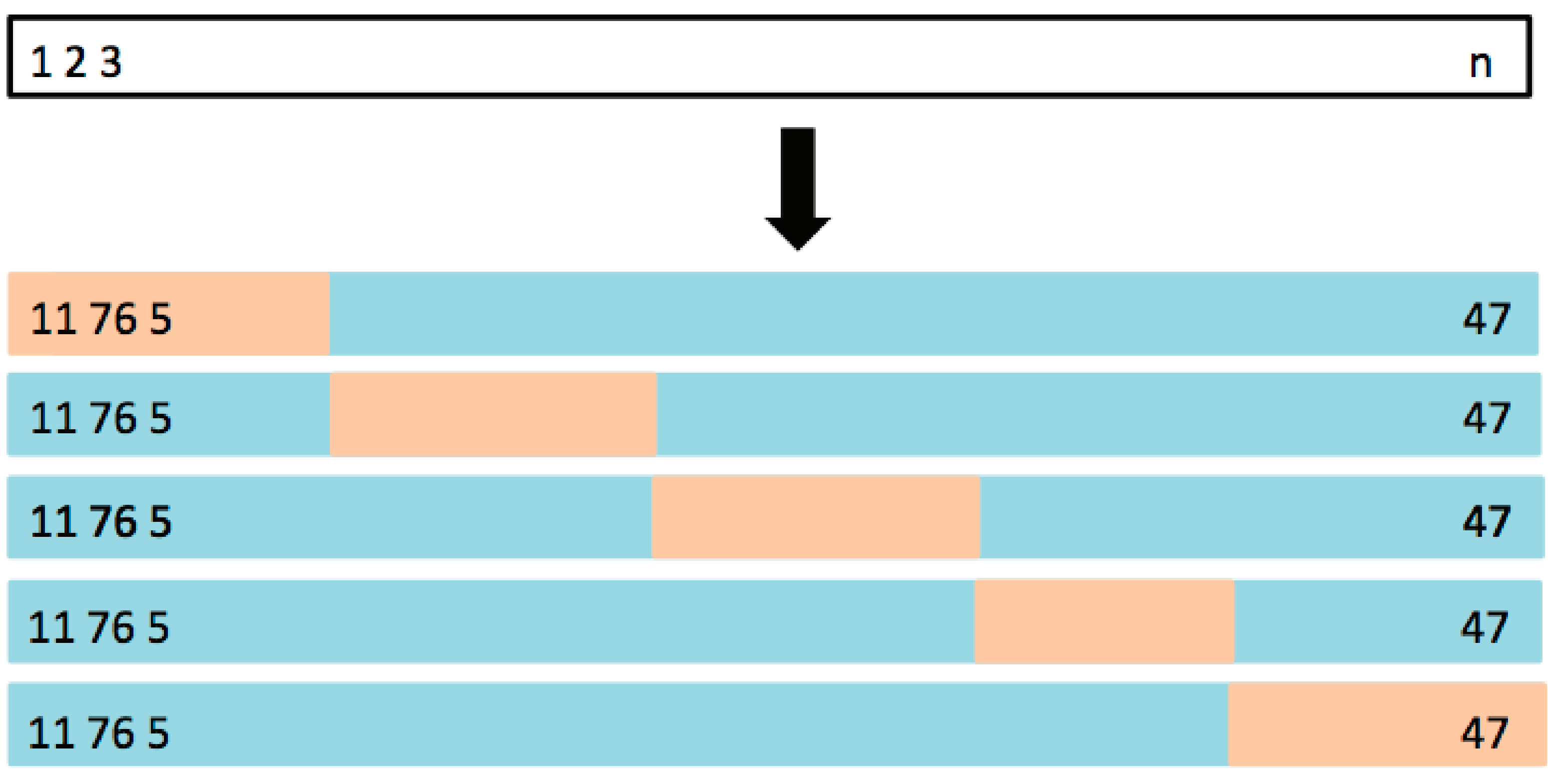
K-Fold Cross Validation

Split the data into k subsets or *folds*.

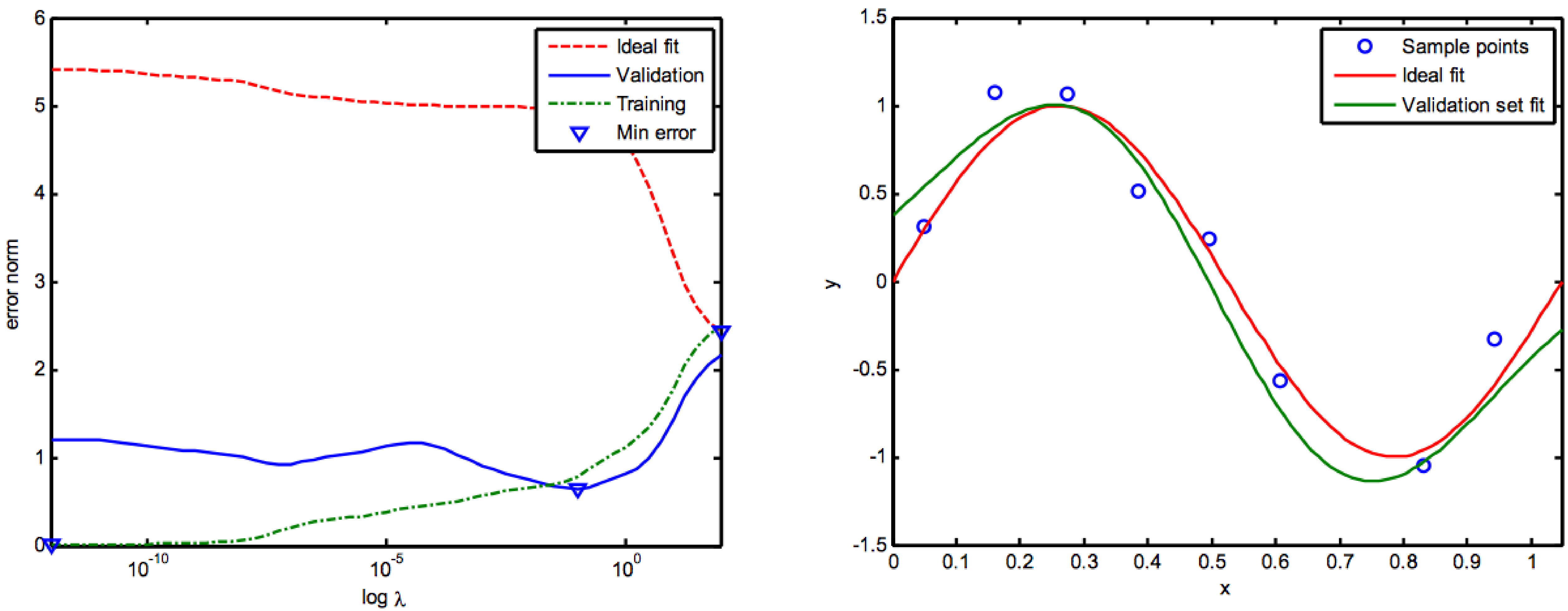
For every $i = 1, \ldots, k$:

- train the model on every fold except the ith fold,
- compute the test error on the ith fold.

Average the test errors.



Choosing λ Using Validation Dataset



Pick up the lambda with the lowest mean value of rmse calculated by Cross Validation approach

Take-Home Messages

- What is overfitting
- What is regularization
- How does Ridge regression work
- Sparsity properties of Lasso regression
- How to choose the regularization coefficient λ