Advice for applying machine learning

Deciding what to try next

Debugging a learning algorithm:

Suppose you have implemented regularized linear regression to predict housing prices.

$$\rightarrow \quad J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{m}(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2 + \lambda\sum_{j=1}^{m}\theta_j^2\right]$$

However, when you test your hypothesis on a new set of houses, you find that it makes unacceptably large errors in its predictions. What should you try next?

- $\rightarrow$ Get more training examples
- Try smaller sets of features $\quad x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots, x_{100}$
- $\rightarrow$ Try getting additional features
- Try adding polynomial features $(x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1x_2, \text{etc.})$
- Try decreasing λ
- Try increasing λ

Machine learning diagnostic:

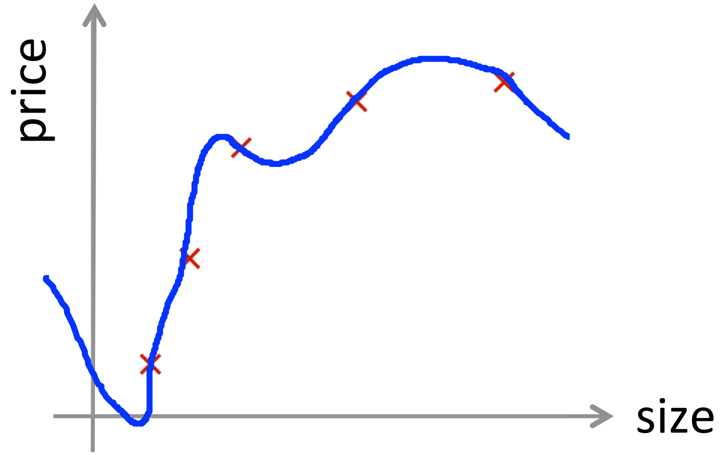
Diagnostic: A test that you can run to gain insight what is/isn’t working with a learning algorithm, and gain guidance as to how best to improve its performance.

Diagnostics can take time to implement, but doing so can be a very good use of your time.

Advice for applying machine learning

Evaluating a hypothesis

Evaluating your hypothesis



$$h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4$$

Fails to generalize to new examples not in training set.

$x_1 =$ size of house
$x_2 =$ no. of bedrooms
$x_3 =$ no. of floors
$x_4 =$ age of house
$x_5 =$ average income in neighborhood
$x_6 =$ kitchen size
$\vdots$
x_{100}

Evaluating your hypothesis

Dataset:

Size	Price
2104	400
1600	330
2400	369
1416	232
3000	540
1985	300
1534	315
1427	199
1380	212
1494	243

70%

Training set

30%

Test set

$$(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)})$$
$$(x^{(2)}, y^{(2)})$$
$$\vdots$$
$$(x^{(m)}, y^{(m)})$$

$$(x^{(1)}_{test}, y^{(1)}_{test})$$
$$(x^{(2)}_{test}, y^{(2)}_{test})$$
$$\vdots$$
$$(x^{(m_{test})}_{test}, y^{(m_{test})}_{test})$$

m_{test} = no. of test example

$(x^{(1)}_{test}, y^{(1)}_{test})$

Training/testing procedure for linear regression

- Learn parameter θ from training data (minimizing training error $J(\theta)$)

70%

- Compute test set error:

$$J_{test}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m_{test}} \sum_{i=1}^{m_{test}} \left(h_\theta(x^{(i)}_{test}) - y^{(i)}_{test} \right)^2$$

Training/testing procedure for logistic regression

- Learn parameter θ from training data
- Compute test set error:

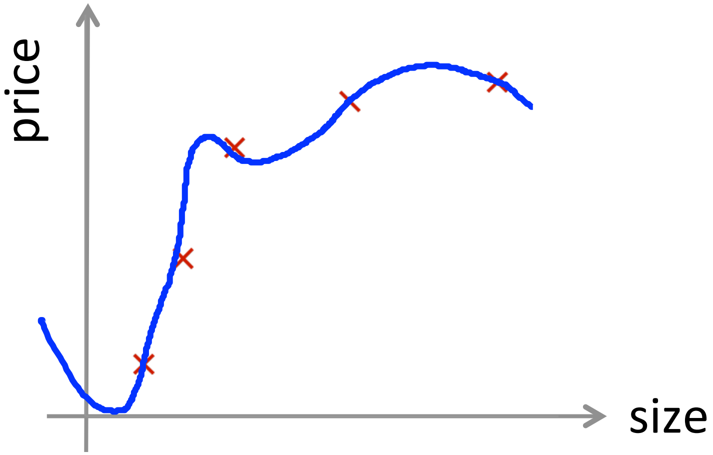
$$J_{test}(\theta) = -\frac{1}{m_{test}} \sum_{i=1}^{m_{test}} y_{test}^{(i)} \log h_\theta(x_{test}^{(i)}) + (1 - y_{test}^{(i)}) \log h_\theta(x_{test}^{(i)})$$

- Misclassification error (0/1 misclassification error):

Advice for applying machine learn ing

Model selection and training/ validation/test sets

Overfitting example



$$h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4$$

Once parameters $\theta_0, \theta_1, \ldots, \theta_4$ were fit to some set of data (training set), the error of the parameters as measured on that data (the training error $J(\theta)$) is likely to be lower than the actual generalization error.

Model selection

d = degree of polynomial

$d=1$ 1. $\underline{h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x}$ $\rightarrow \Theta^{(1)} \rightarrow J_{test}(\Theta^{(1)})$

$d=2$ 2. $\underline{h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2}$ $\rightarrow \Theta^{(2)} \rightarrow J_{test}(\Theta^{(2)})$

$d=3$ 3. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \cdots + \theta_3 x^3$ $\rightarrow \Theta^{(3)} \rightarrow J_{test}(\Theta^{(3)})$

$\vdots$

$d=10$ 10. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \cdots + \theta_{10} x^{10}$ $\rightarrow \Theta^{(10)} \rightarrow J_{test}(\Theta^{(10)})$

Choose $\boxed{\theta_0 + \ldots \theta_5 x^5}$

$\boxed{\Theta_0, \Theta_1, \ldots}$

How well does the model generalize? Report test set error $\underline{J_{test}(\theta^{(5)})}$.

$\Theta^{(5)}$

Problem: $J_{test}(\theta^{(5)})$ is likely to be an optimistic estimate of generalization error. I.e. our extra parameter ($\underline{d}$ = degree of polynomial) is fit to test set.

Evaluating your hypothesis

Dataset:

	Size	Price	
60%	2104	400	Training set
	1600	330	
	2400	369	
	1416	232	
	3000	540	
	1985	300	
20%	1534	315	Cross validation set (cv)
	1427	199	
20%	1380	212	test set
	1494	243	

$$(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)})$$
$$(x^{(2)}, y^{(2)})$$
$$\vdots$$
$$(x^{(m)}, y^{(m)})$$

$$(x_{cv}^{(1)}, y_{cv}^{(1)})$$
$$(x_{cv}^{(2)}, y_{cv}^{(2)})$$
$$\vdots$$
$$(x_{cv}^{(m_{cv})}, y_{cv}^{(m_{cv})})$$

m_{cv} = no. of cv example

$(x_{cv}^{(i)}, y_{cv}^{(i)})$

$$(x_{test}^{(1)}, y_{test}^{(1)})$$
$$(x_{test}^{(2)}, y_{test}^{(2)})$$
$$\vdots$$
$$(x_{test}^{(m_{test})}, y_{test}^{(m_{test})})$$

m_{test}

Train/validation/test error

Training error:

$$J_{train}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2$$

$J(\theta)$

Cross Validation error:

$$J_{cv}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m_{cv}}\sum_{i=1}^{m_{cv}}(h_\theta(x_{cv}^{(i)}) - y_{cv}^{(i)})^2$$

Test error:

$$J_{test}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m_{test}}\sum_{i=1}^{m_{test}}(h_\theta(x_{test}^{(i)}) - y_{test}^{(i)})^2$$

Model selection

$d=1$ 1. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x \to \min_\theta J(\theta) \to \theta^{(1)} \to J_{cv}(\theta^{(1)})$

$d=2$ 2. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 \to \theta^{(2)} \to J_{cv}(\theta^{(2)})$

$d=3$ 3. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \cdots + \theta_3 x^3 \to \theta^{(3)}$

$J_{cv}(\theta^{(4)})$

$\vdots$

$d=10$ 10. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \cdots + \theta_{10} x^{10} \to \theta^{(10)} \to J_{cv}(\theta^{(10)})$

$d=4$

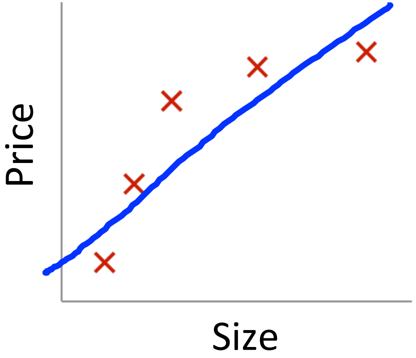
Pick $\theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \cdots + \theta_4 x^4$

Estimate generalization error for test set $J_{test}(\theta^{(4)})$

Advice for applying machine learning

Diagnosing bias vs. variance

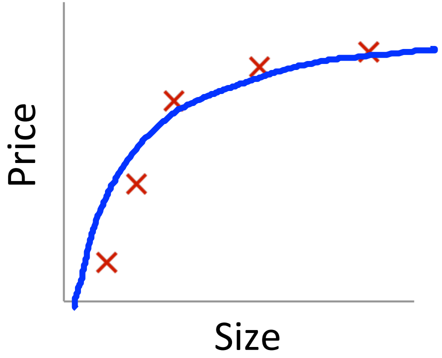
Bias/variance



$$\theta_0 + \theta_1 x$$

High bias
(underfit)

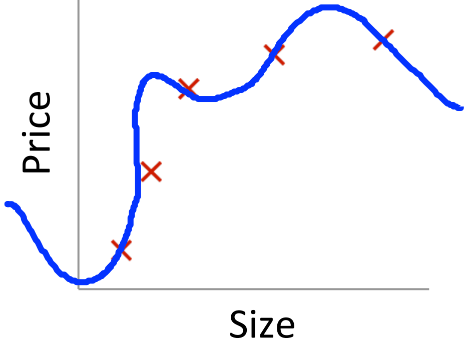
$d=1$



$$\theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2$$

"Just right"

$d=2$



$$\theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4$$

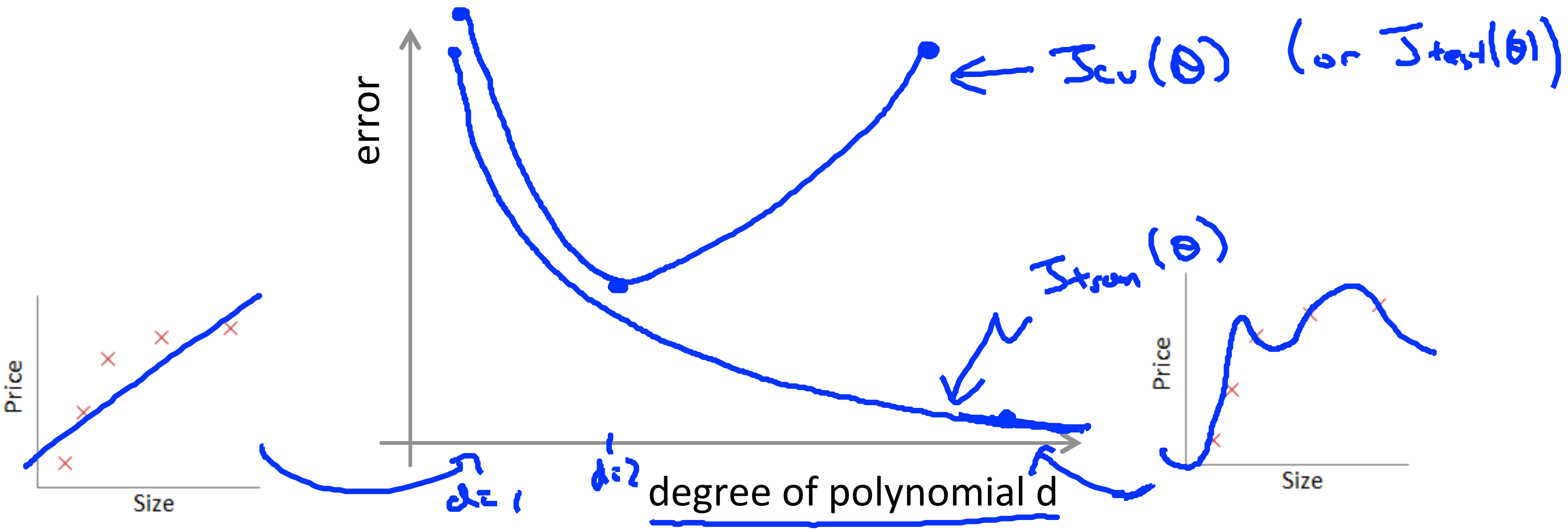
High variance
(overfit)

$d=4$

Bias/variance

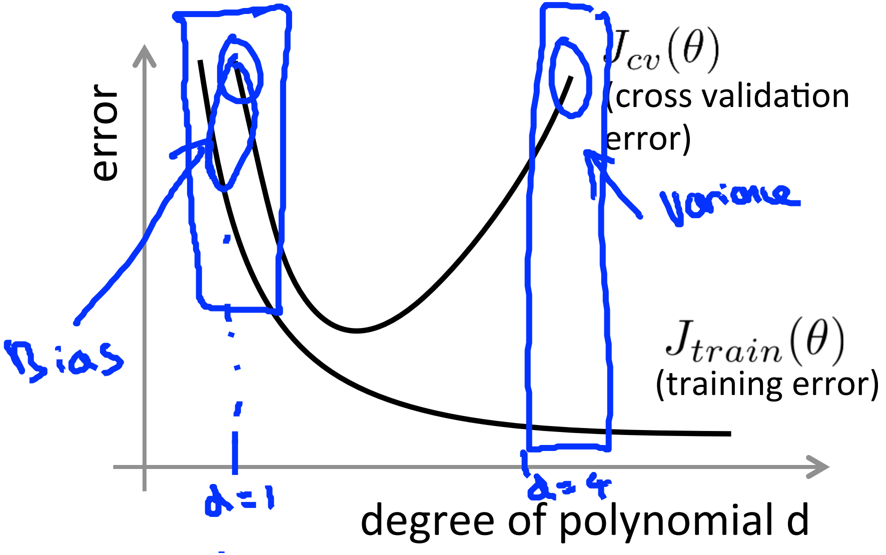
Training error: $$J_{train}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2$$

Cross validation error: $$J_{cv}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m_{cv}}\sum_{i=1}^{m_{cv}}(h_\theta(x_{cv}^{(i)}) - y_{cv}^{(i)})^2$$ (or $J_{test}(\theta)$)



Diagnosing bias vs. variance

Suppose your learning algorithm is performing less well than you were hoping. ($J_{cv}(\theta)$ or $J_{test}(\theta)$ is high.) Is it a bias problem or a variance problem?



Bias (underfit):

→ $J_{train}(\theta)$ will be high

$J_{cv}(\theta) \approx J_{train}(\theta)$

Variance (overfit):

→ $J_{train}(\theta)$ will be low

$J_{cv}(\theta) \gg J_{train}(\theta)$

$\gg$

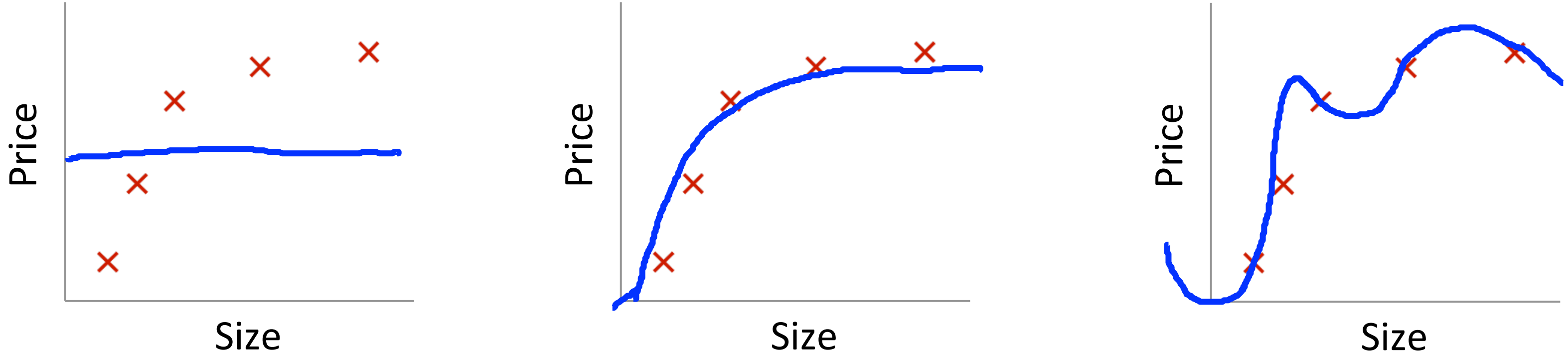
Advice for applying machine learning

Regularization and bias/variance

Linear regression with regularization

Model: $\boxed{h_\theta(x) = \theta_0} + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4$

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)}\right)^2 + \boxed{\frac{\lambda}{2m}\sum_{j=1}^{m}\theta_j^2}$$



Large λ	Intermediate λ	Small λ
High bias (underfit)	"Just right"	High variance (overfit)

$\lambda = 10000.\ \theta_1 \approx 0, \theta_2 \approx 0, \ldots$

$h_\theta(x) \approx \theta_0$

$\lambda = 0$

Choosing the regularization parameter λ

$$h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4$$

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2 + \underline{\frac{\lambda}{2m}\sum_{j=1}^{m}\theta_j^2}$$

$$J_{train}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2$$

$$J_{cv}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m_{cv}}\sum_{i=1}^{m_{cv}}(h_\theta(x_{cv}^{(i)}) - y_{cv}^{(i)})^2$$

$$J_{test}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m_{test}}\sum_{i=1}^{m_{test}}(h_\theta(x_{test}^{(i)}) - y_{test}^{(i)})^2$$

$J(\theta)$

J_{train}

J_{cv}

J_{test}

Choosing the regularization parameter λ

Model: $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4$

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2m}\sum_{j=1}^{m}\theta_j^2$$

1. Try $\lambda = 0$ $\longrightarrow \min_\theta J(\theta) \rightarrow \theta^{(1)} \rightarrow J_{cv}(\theta^{(1)})$
2. Try $\lambda = 0.01$ $\longrightarrow \min_\theta J(\theta) \rightarrow \theta^{(2)} \rightarrow J_{cv}(\theta^{(2)})$
3. Try $\lambda = 0.02$ $\longrightarrow \theta^{(3)} \rightarrow J_{cv}(\theta^{(3)})$
4. Try $\lambda = 0.04$
5. Try $\lambda = 0.08$ $\longrightarrow \theta^{(5)}$ $J_{cv}(\theta^{(5)})$

$\vdots$

12. Try $\lambda = 10$ $\longrightarrow \theta^{(12)} \rightarrow J_{cv}(\theta^{(12)})$

$\boxed{0.24}$

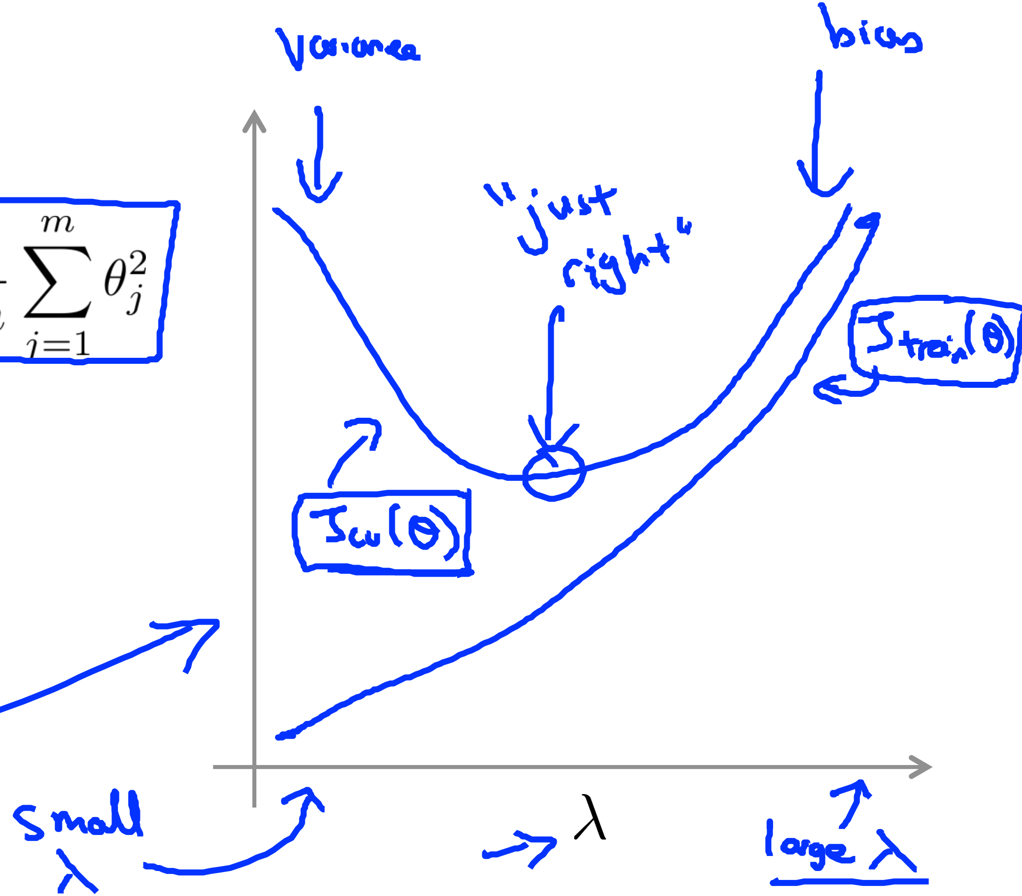
Pick (say) $\theta^{(5)}$. Test error: $J_{test}(\theta^{(5)})$

Bias/variance as a function of the regularization parameter λ

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)}\right)^2 + \boxed{\frac{\lambda}{2m}\sum_{j=1}^{m}\theta_j^2}$$

$$\underline{J_{train}(\theta)} = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)}\right)^2$$

$$\boxed{J_{cv}(\theta)} = \frac{1}{2m_{cv}}\sum_{i=1}^{m_{cv}}\left(h_\theta(x_{cv}^{(i)}) - y_{cv}^{(i)}\right)^2$$



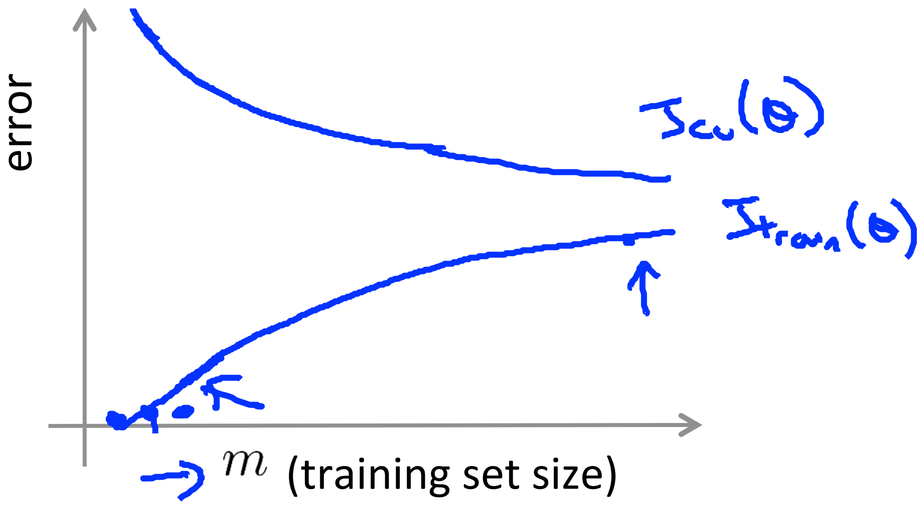
Advice for applying machine learning

Learning curves

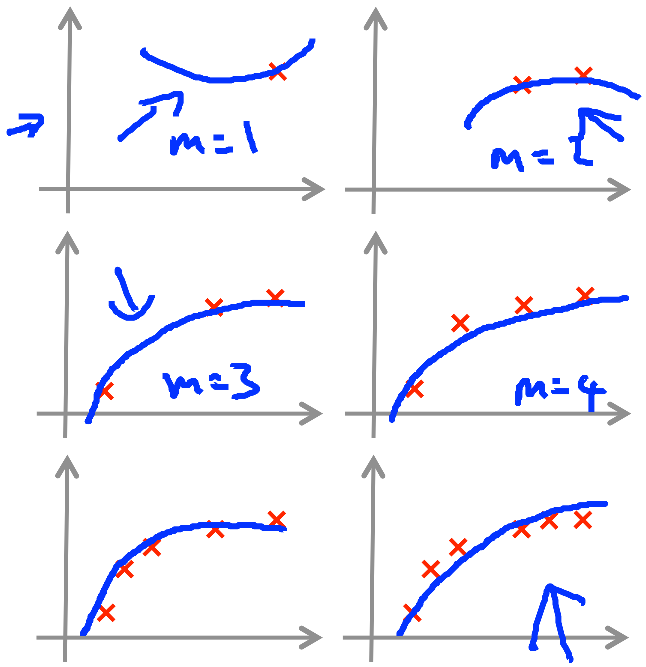
Learning curves

$$J_{train}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}(h_\theta(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2$$

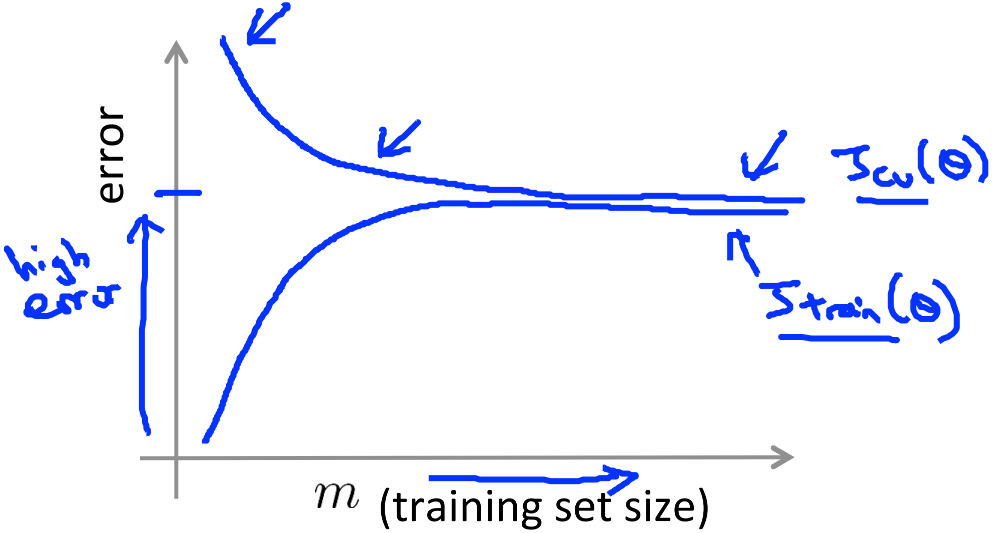
$$J_{cv}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m_{cv}}\sum_{i=1}^{m_{cv}}(h_\theta(x_{cv}^{(i)}) - y_{cv}^{(i)})^2$$

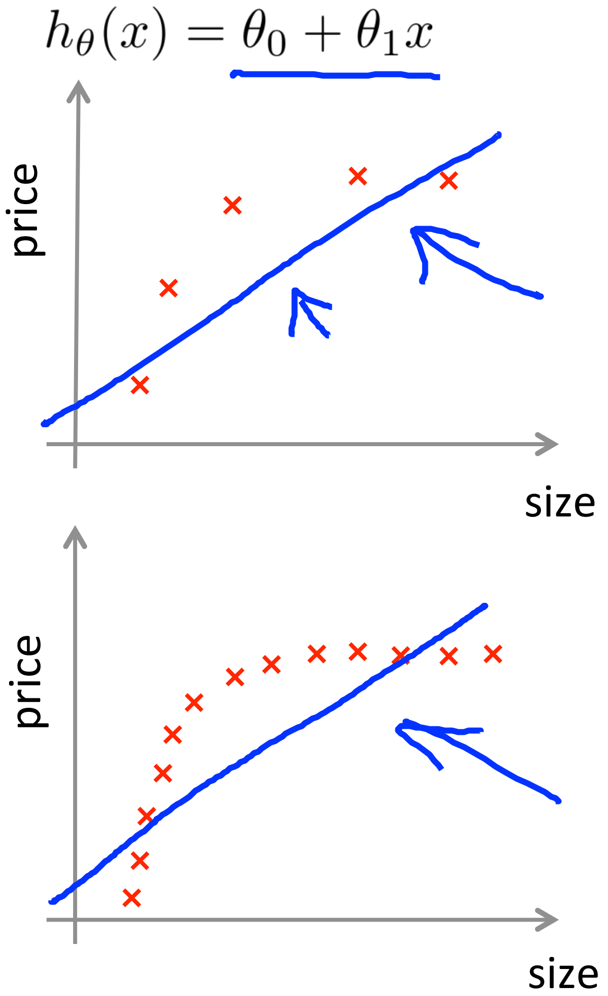


$$h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2$$



High bias



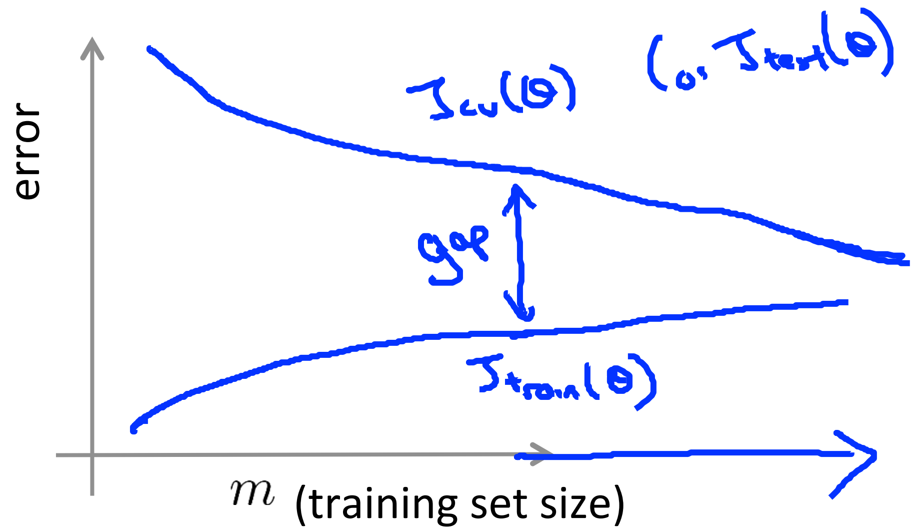


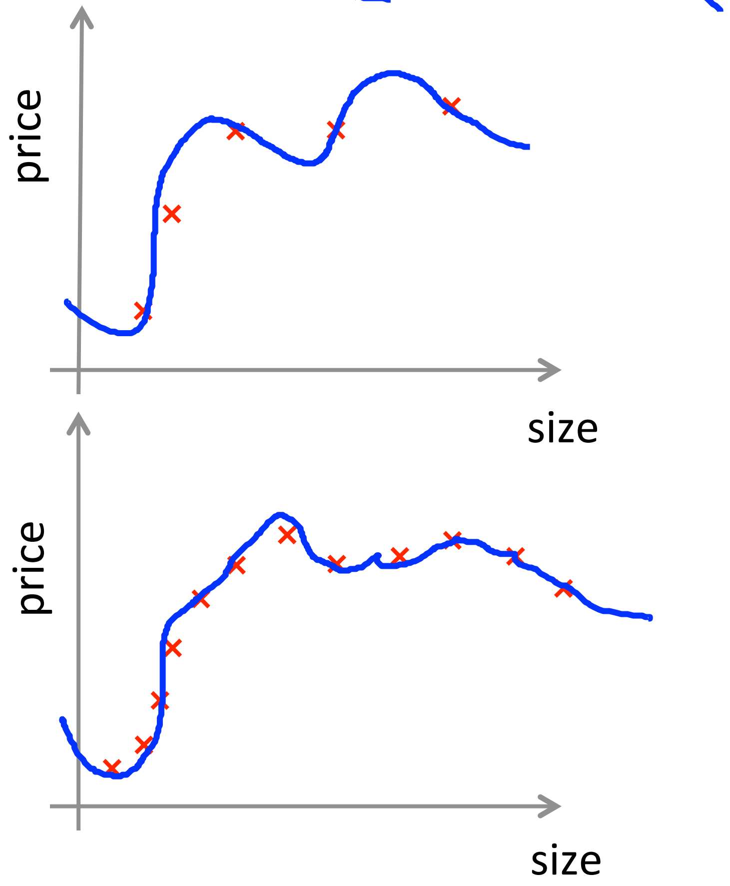
If a learning algorithm is suffering from high bias, getting more training data will not (by itself) help much.

High variance

$$h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \cdots + \theta_{100} x^{100}$$

(and small λ)





If a learning algorithm is suffering from high variance, getting more training data is likely to help. ←

Advice for applying machine learning

Deciding what to try next (revisited)

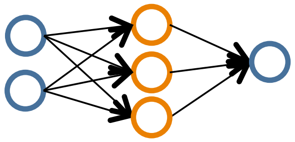
Debugging a learning algorithm:

Suppose you have implemented regularized linear regression to predict housing prices. However, when you test your hypothesis in a new set of houses, you find that it makes unacceptably large errors in its prediction. What should you try next?

- Get more training examples → fixes high variance
- Try smaller sets of features → fixes high variance
- Try getting additional features → fixes high bias
- Try adding polynomial features $(x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1 x_2, \text{etc})$ → fixes high bias.
- Try decreasing λ → fixes high bias
- Try increasing λ → fixes high variance

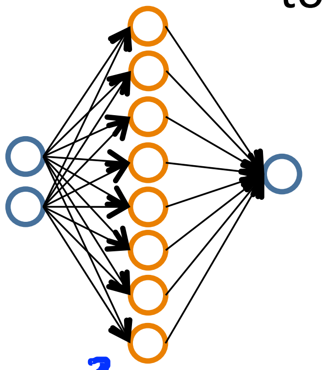
Neural networks and overfitting

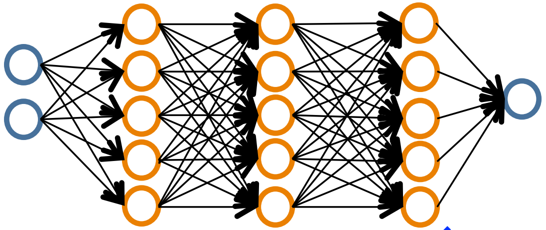
"Small" neural network
(fewer parameters; more
prone to underfitting)



Computationally cheaper

"Large" neural network
(more parameters; more prone
to overfitting)





Computationally more expensive.

Use regularization (λ) to address overfitting.

$J_{cv}(\Theta)$