Assignment #1

Elements of Machine Learning

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Problem 2 (Bias Variance Trade-off)

- 2 In the first example, we are using only one house feature to predict the house price. This oversimplifies
- 3 the problem, resulting in high bias. Also, the number of data points in the dataset should be enough
- 4 to train two parameters of the model and should result in a low variance. However, the reduction
- $_{5}$ in RSS due to low variance is most likely nullified by a high bias, resulting in a high RSS due to
- 6 underfitting.
- 7 In the second example, in contrast to the first one, we are making use of all available predictors.
- 8 However, the number of samples is even lower this time, n = 50. So, we are in a situation where
- 9 the model has more parameters and less training samples. In this kind of scenario, the model would
- simply overfit the data. This means that the model would have **low bias** but **high variance**.
- In the third and final example, we are using only a subset of important predictors and a large dataset.
- 12 In this scenario, the model is complex enough to capture most of the complexity of the underlying
- 13 relationship between the predictors and the output and has plenty of training data to properly learn
- the underlying data distribution. This puts the model in a **low bias** and **low variance** regime.