

Metodi Numerici dell'Informatica

Polynomial regression

Emanuele Rodolà
rodola@di.uniroma1.it

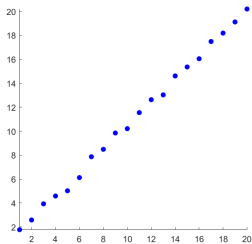


SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Motivation

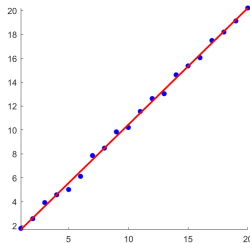
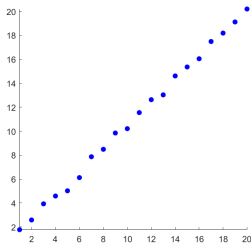
Linear regression

Consider the following fitting problem:



Linear regression

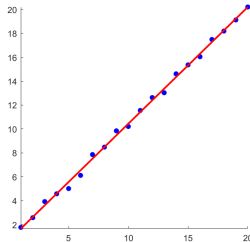
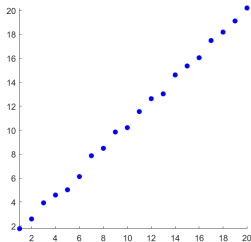
Consider the following fitting problem:



$$y_i = ax_i + b$$

Linear regression

Consider the following fitting problem:



$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

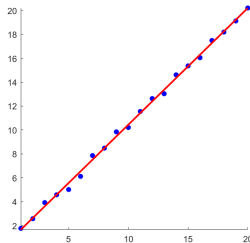
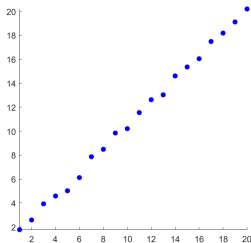
Model: linear + bias

Unknown parameters: $\Theta = \{a, b\}$

Data: n pairs (x_i, y_i) ; the x_i are called the **regressors**

Linear regression

Consider the following fitting problem:



$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

Model: linear + bias

Unknown parameters: $\Theta = \{a, b\}$

Data: n pairs (x_i, y_i) ; the x_i are called the **regressors**

Given a and b , we have a **mapping** that gives new output from new input.

Linear regression

The equations:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

must approximately hold for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Linear regression

The equations:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

must approximately hold for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Problem: Choose a and b that minimize the **mean squared error (MSE)** between input and predicted output:

$$\epsilon = \min_{a,b \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f_{\Theta}(x_i))^2$$

Linear regression

The equations:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

must approximately hold for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Problem: Choose a and b that minimize the **mean squared error (MSE)** between input and predicted output:

$$\epsilon = \min_{a, b \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f_{\Theta}(x_i))^2$$

vinyl scratch

What is this weird mathematical expression?

Optimization

We are looking at what is typically called a **minimization** problem.

The general form for a minimization problem is:

$$\epsilon = \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$$

Optimization

We are looking at what is typically called a **minimization** problem.

The general form for a minimization problem is:

$$\epsilon = \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$$

Solving the problem means to find:

- A **minimizer** $\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$

Optimization

We are looking at what is typically called a **minimization** problem.

The general form for a minimization problem is:

$$\epsilon = \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$$

Solving the problem means to find:

- A **minimizer** $\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$
- A **minimum** $\epsilon = f(\mathbf{x}^*)$

Optimization

We are looking at what is typically called a **minimization** problem.

The general form for a minimization problem is:

$$\epsilon = \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$$

Solving the problem means to find:

- A **minimizer** $\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$
- A **minimum** $\epsilon = f(\mathbf{x}^*)$

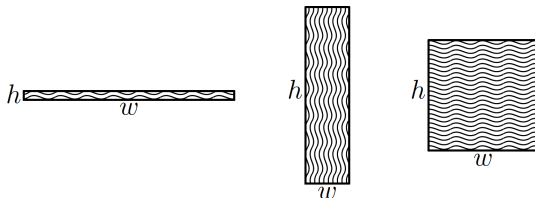
There are no general recipes that work well for all problems!

In general, the algorithm you choose depends on the properties of f .

The research area is broadly called **optimization**.

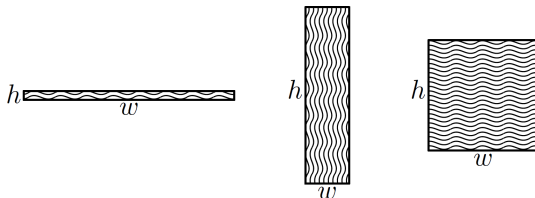
Example

Suppose a rectangle has width w and height h . A classic geometry problem is to maximize area with a fixed perimeter equal to 1:



Example

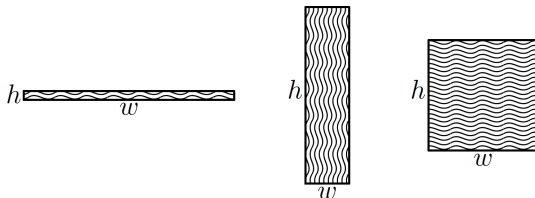
Suppose a rectangle has width w and height h . A classic geometry problem is to maximize area with a fixed perimeter equal to 1:



$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{w, h \in \mathbb{R}} wh \\ & \text{subject to } 2w + 2h = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Example

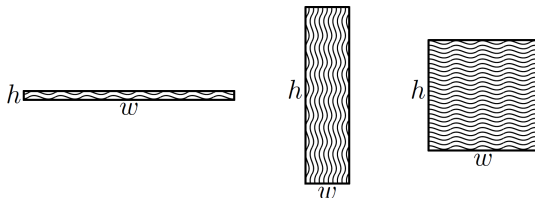
Suppose a rectangle has width w and height h . A classic geometry problem is to maximize area with a fixed perimeter equal to 1:



$$\begin{aligned} \max_{w, h \in \mathbb{R}} \quad & wh \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 2w + 2h - 1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Example

Suppose a rectangle has width w and height h . A classic geometry problem is to maximize area with a fixed perimeter equal to 1:

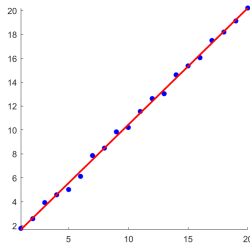
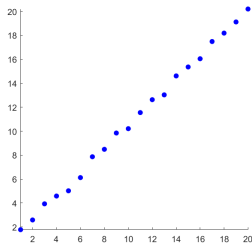


$$\begin{aligned} \max_{w, h \in \mathbb{R}} \quad & wh \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 2w + 2h - 1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

This is an example of a **constrained** problem.

Linear regression

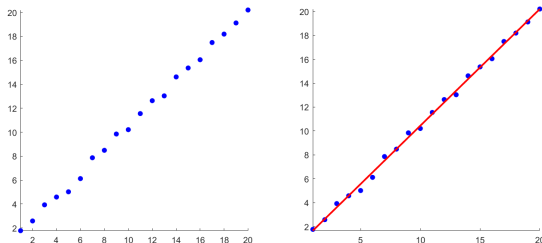
Back to our initial example of the linear fitting problem:



$$y_i = ax_i + b$$

Linear regression

Back to our initial example of the linear fitting problem:



$$y_i = ax_i + b$$

For cleaner and more generic formulas, we simply wrote:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

where $f_{\Theta}(x_i) = ax_i + b$.

Linear regression

The equations:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

must approximately hold for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Linear regression

The equations:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

must approximately hold for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Problem: Choose a and b that minimize the **mean squared error (MSE)** between input and predicted output:

$$\epsilon = \min_{a,b \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f_{\Theta}(x_i))^2$$

where $\Theta = \{a, b\}$.

Linear regression

The equations:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

must approximately hold for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Problem: Choose a and b that minimize the **mean squared error (MSE)** between input and predicted output:

$$\epsilon = \min_{a, b \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f_{\Theta}(x_i))^2$$

where $\Theta = \{a, b\}$.

Recall that, in our example, f_{Θ} is linear:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = ax_i + b$$

Linear regression

The equations:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = y_i$$

must approximately hold for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Problem: Choose a and b that minimize the **mean squared error (MSE)** between input and predicted output:

$$\epsilon = \min_{a, b \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f_{\Theta}(x_i))^2$$

where $\Theta = \{a, b\}$.

Recall that, in our example, f_{Θ} is linear:

$$f_{\Theta}(x_i) = ax_i + b$$

This is called a **least-squares approximation** problem.

Finding a solution

To find a solution to the least-squares approximation problem that arises in linear regression, we need to introduce two more ingredients:

The notion of **convexity**

The definition of **gradient**

Convexity

Convex functions

Jensen's inequality:

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

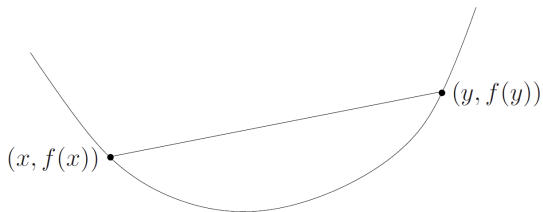
for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Convex functions

Jensen's inequality:

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

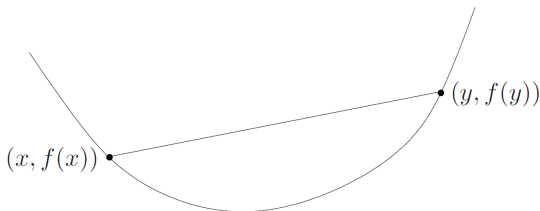


Convex functions

Jensen's inequality:

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$



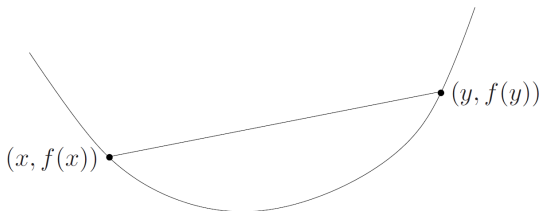
Let us further assume that f is a **differentiable** function, so that we can compute its **derivative** $\frac{df}{dx}$ at all points x .

Convex functions

Jensen's inequality:

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$



Let us further assume that f is a **differentiable** function, so that we can compute its **derivative** $\frac{df}{dx}$ at all points x .

Intuition tells us that the minimizer x is where $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = 0$.

Convex functions: Global minima

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Convex functions: Global minima

$$f(x + \alpha(y - x)) \leq (1 - \alpha)f(x) + \alpha f(y)$$

for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Convex functions: Global minima

$$\frac{f(x + \alpha(y - x))}{\alpha} \leq \frac{(1 - \alpha)f(x) + \alpha f(y)}{\alpha}$$

for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Convex functions: Global minima

$$\frac{f(x + \alpha(y - x))}{\alpha} \leq \frac{f(x)}{\alpha} - f(x) + f(y)$$

for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Convex functions: Global minima

$$\frac{f(x + \alpha(y - x)) - f(x)}{\alpha} + f(x) \leq f(y)$$

for all x, y and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Convex functions: Global minima

$$\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \alpha(y - x)) - f(x)}{\alpha} + f(x) \leq f(y)$$

Convex functions: Global minima

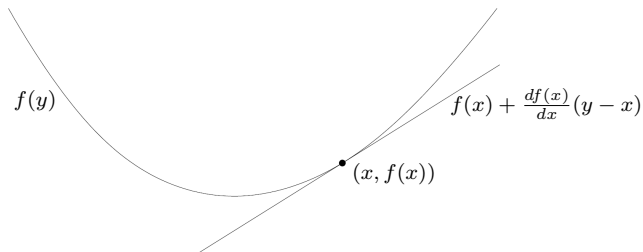
$$\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \alpha(y - x)) - f(x)}{\alpha(y - x)}(y - x) + f(x) \leq f(y)$$

Convex functions: Global minima

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx}(y-x) + f(x) \leq f(y)$$

Convex functions: Global minima

$$\underbrace{\frac{df(x)}{dx}(y-x) + f(x)}_{\text{1st-order Taylor of } f(y) \text{ at } x} \leq f(y)$$



Thus, if $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = 0$:

$$f(x) \leq f(y)$$

which means that x is a **global minimizer** of f .

Convex functions: Global minima

To summarize:

If $f(x)$ is **convex**, then a **global minimizer** is found by setting $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = 0$ and solving for x .

Convex functions: Global minima

To summarize:

If $f(x)$ is **convex**, then a **global minimizer** is found by setting $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = 0$ and solving for x .

The above only makes sense if $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Convex functions: Global minima

To summarize:

If $f(x)$ is **convex**, then a **global minimizer** is found by setting $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = 0$ and solving for x .

The above only makes sense if $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

If $f(\mathbf{x})$ is multi-dimensional, i.e. $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, do we have a notion of **convexity** and **derivative**?

Convex functions: Global minima

To summarize:

If $f(x)$ is **convex**, then a **global minimizer** is found by setting $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = 0$ and solving for x .

The above only makes sense if $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

If $f(\mathbf{x})$ is multi-dimensional, i.e. $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, do we have a notion of **convexity** and **derivative**?

If yes, can we find global minimizers as easily as in the former case?

The gradient

Convex functions on \mathbb{R}^n

In general we will deal with functions of $n \gg 1$ variables:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Convex functions on \mathbb{R}^n

In general we will deal with functions of $n \gg 1$ variables:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

The notion of derivative is replaced by the notion of **gradient**:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

which is the vector of **partial derivatives** of f .

Convex functions on \mathbb{R}^n

In general we will deal with functions of $n \gg 1$ variables:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

The notion of derivative is replaced by the notion of **gradient**:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

which is the vector of **partial derivatives** of f .

Convexity is defined as before:

$$f(\alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{y}) \leq \alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha) f(\mathbf{y})$$

Convex functions on \mathbb{R}^n

In general we will deal with functions of $n \gg 1$ variables:

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

The notion of derivative is replaced by the notion of **gradient**:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

which is the vector of **partial derivatives** of f .

Convexity is defined as before:

$$f(\alpha \mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{y}) \leq \alpha f(\mathbf{x}) + (1 - \alpha) f(\mathbf{y})$$

and we also have the **global optimality** condition:

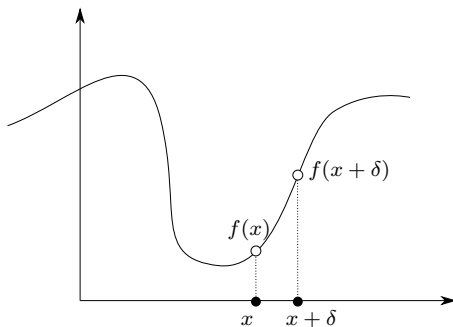
$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0} \implies f(\mathbf{x}) \leq f(\mathbf{y}) \text{ for all } \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

The gradient

The gradient $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$ encodes the **direction** of **steepest ascent** of f at point \mathbf{x} .

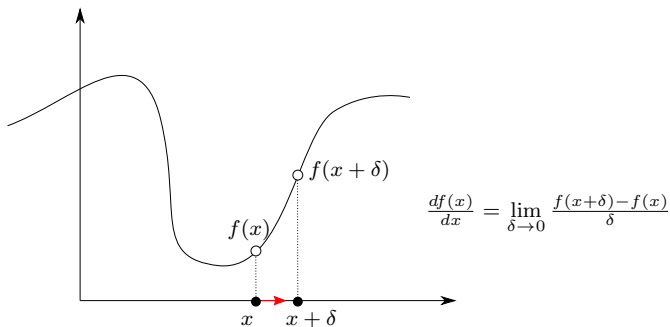
The gradient

The gradient $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$ encodes the **direction** of **steepest ascent** of f at point \mathbf{x} . In the simple 1D case:



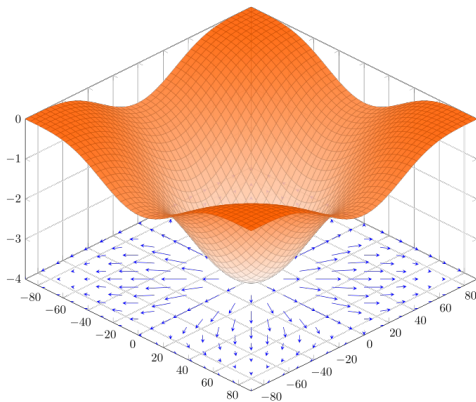
The gradient

The gradient $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$ encodes the **direction** of **steepest ascent** of f at point \mathbf{x} . In the simple 1D case:



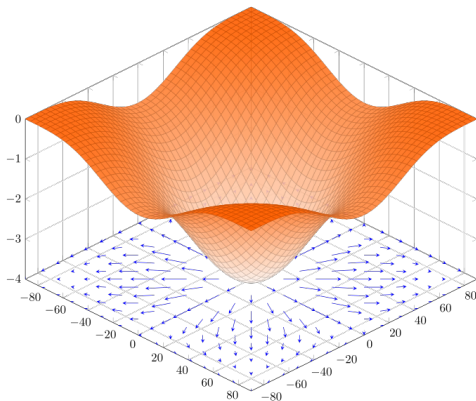
The gradient

The gradient $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}f(\mathbf{x})$ encodes the **direction** of **steepest ascent** of f at point \mathbf{x} . In the more general case:



The gradient

The gradient $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}f(\mathbf{x})$ encodes the **direction** of **steepest ascent** of f at point \mathbf{x} . In the more general case:



The **length** of the gradient vector encodes its steepness.

Convex functions: Global minima

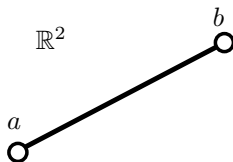
To summarize:

If $f(x)$ is **convex**, then a **global minimizer** is found by setting $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = 0$ and solving for x .

If $f(\mathbf{x})$ is **convex**, then a **global minimizer** is found by setting $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$ and solving for \mathbf{x} .

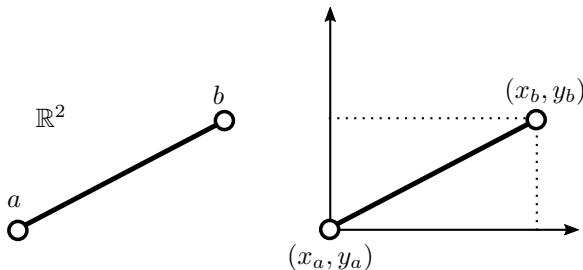
Vector lengths

How to measure the length of the gradient? Let's first start from the definition of **Euclidean distance**, which measures the length of any straight line connecting two points:



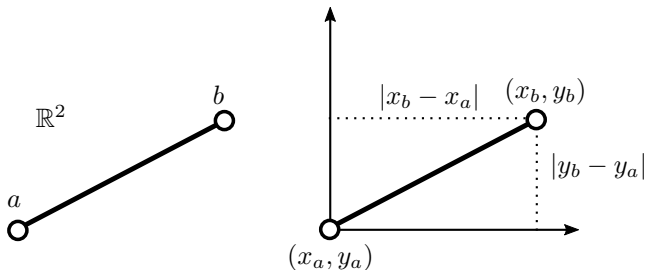
Vector lengths

How to measure the length of the gradient? Let's first start from the definition of **Euclidean distance**, which measures the length of any straight line connecting two points:



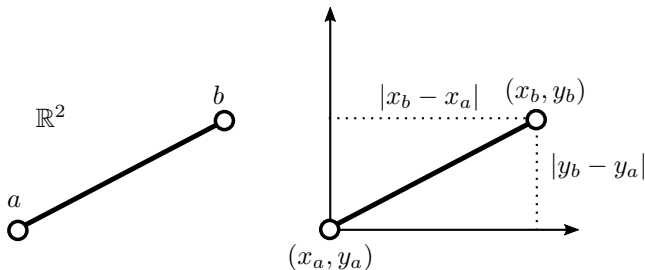
Vector lengths

How to measure the length of the gradient? Let's first start from the definition of **Euclidean distance**, which measures the length of any straight line connecting two points:



Vector lengths

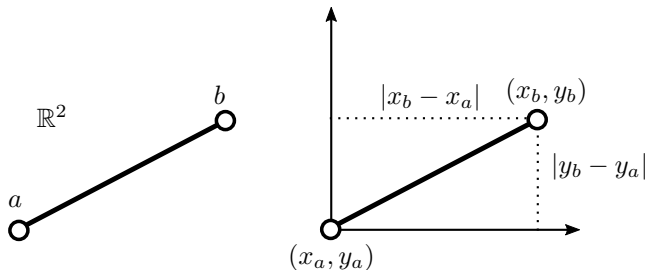
How to measure the length of the gradient? Let's first start from the definition of **Euclidean distance**, which measures the length of any straight line connecting two points:



Apply Pythagoras' theorem: $d(a, b) = (|x_b - x_a|^2 + |y_b - y_a|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$

Vector lengths

How to measure the length of the gradient? Let's first start from the definition of **Euclidean distance**, which measures the length of any straight line connecting two points:



Apply Pythagoras' theorem: $d(a, b) = (|x_b - x_a|^2 + |y_b - y_a|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$

In matrix notation:

$$d(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}\|_2$$

where $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} x_a \\ y_a \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} x_b \\ y_b \end{pmatrix}$

Vector lengths

Thus, with this definition of distance:

$$d(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}\|_2$$

We can simply define the length of a vector \mathbf{x} as the distance from the origin to \mathbf{x} :

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{0}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \sqrt{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}$$

Vector lengths

Thus, with this definition of distance:

$$d(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}\|_2$$

We can simply define the length of a vector \mathbf{x} as the distance from the origin to \mathbf{x} :

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{0}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \sqrt{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}$$

Often, for simplicity and to avoid computing square roots, we will consider squared distances and norms:

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}$$

Least squares

Linear regression: Finding a solution

$$\min_{a,b \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2$$

Linear regression: Finding a solution

$$\Theta^* = \arg \min_{\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^2} \ell(\Theta)$$

where $\ell : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined as:

$$\ell(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2$$

Linear regression: Finding a solution

$$\Theta^* = \arg \min_{\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^2} \ell(\Theta)$$

where $\ell : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined as:

$$\ell(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2$$

A solution is found by setting $\nabla_{\Theta} \ell(\Theta) = \mathbf{0}$:

$$\nabla_{\Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\Theta} (y_i - ax_i - b)^2$$

Linear regression: Finding a solution

$$\Theta^* = \arg \min_{\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^2} \ell(\Theta)$$

where $\ell : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined as:

$$\ell(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2$$

A solution is found by setting $\nabla_{\Theta} \ell(\Theta) = \mathbf{0}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\Theta} (y_i - ax_i - b)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\Theta} (y_i^2 + a^2 x_i^2 + b^2 - 2ax_i y_i - 2by_i + 2abx_i) \end{aligned}$$

Linear regression: Finding a solution

$$\Theta^* = \arg \min_{\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^2} \ell(\Theta)$$

where $\ell : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined as:

$$\ell(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2$$

A solution is found by setting $\nabla_{\Theta} \ell(\Theta) = \mathbf{0}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\Theta} (y_i - ax_i - b)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\Theta} (y_i^2 + a^2 x_i^2 + b^2 - 2ax_i y_i - 2by_i + 2abx_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \begin{pmatrix} 2ax_i^2 - 2x_i y_i + 2bx_i \\ 2b - 2y_i + 2ax_i \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Linear regression: Finding a solution

$$\Theta^* = \arg \min_{\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^2} \ell(\Theta)$$

where $\ell : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined as:

$$\ell(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2$$

A solution is found by setting $\nabla_{\Theta} \ell(\Theta) = \mathbf{0}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\Theta} (y_i - ax_i - b)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\Theta} (y_i^2 + a^2 x_i^2 + b^2 - 2ax_i y_i - 2by_i + 2abx_i) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n 2ax_i^2 - 2x_i y_i + 2bx_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^n 2b - 2y_i + 2ax_i \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Linear regression: Finding a solution

$$\Theta^* = \arg \min_{\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^2} \ell(\Theta)$$

where $\ell : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined as:

$$\ell(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2$$

A solution is found by setting $\nabla_{\Theta} \ell(\Theta) = \mathbf{0}$:

$$\nabla_{\Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - ax_i - b)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n 2ax_i^2 - 2x_iy_i + 2bx_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^n 2b - 2y_i + 2ax_i \end{pmatrix}$$

We get 2 linear equations in the 2 unknowns a, b :

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n ax_i^2 + bx_i - x_iy_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^n ax_i + b - y_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Linear regression: Matrix notation

We need to familiarize with matrix calculus.

When we use a numerical method, we manipulate matrices and vectors.

Linear regression: Matrix notation

The linear regression problem is so called, because it is **linear in the parameters** a, b .

This is evident if we switch to matrix notation:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

Linear regression: Matrix notation

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

This expresses all the equations $y_i = ax_i + b$ at once and makes the linearity w.r.t. a, b evident.

The MSE is simply:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2$$

Linear regression: Matrix notation

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

This expresses all the equations $y_i = ax_i + b$ at once and makes the linearity w.r.t. a, b evident.

The MSE is simply:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta})^\top (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

Linear regression: Matrix notation

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

This expresses all the equations $y_i = ax_i + b$ at once and makes the linearity w.r.t. a, b evident.

The MSE is simply:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta} + \boldsymbol{\theta}^\top \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

Linear regression: Matrix notation

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

This expresses all the equations $y_i = ax_i + b$ at once and makes the linearity w.r.t. a, b evident.

The MSE is simply:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta} + \boldsymbol{\theta}^\top \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

Setting the gradient w.r.t. $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ to zero:

$$-2\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} + 2\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta} = \mathbf{0}$$

Linear regression: Matrix notation

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

This expresses all the equations $y_i = ax_i + b$ at once and makes the linearity w.r.t. a, b evident.

The MSE is simply:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta} + \boldsymbol{\theta}^\top \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

Setting the gradient w.r.t. $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ to zero:

$$\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

Linear regression: Matrix notation

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

This expresses all the equations $y_i = ax_i + b$ at once and makes the linearity w.r.t. a, b evident.

The MSE is simply:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta} + \boldsymbol{\theta}^\top \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

Setting the gradient w.r.t. $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ to zero:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

We get a **closed form solution** to our problem.

Linear regression: Higher dimensions

In the general case, the data points $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$ are vectors in \mathbb{R}^d :

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{b} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Linear regression: Higher dimensions

In the general case, the data points $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$ are vectors in \mathbb{R}^d :

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{b} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Stacking all data points into matrices $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}_2 & \cdots \end{array} \right)$ and \mathbf{Y} , we get:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_{11} & \cdots & y_{1d} \\ y_{21} & \cdots & y_{2d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ y_{n1} & \cdots & y_{nd} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{Y}^\top} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1d} & 1 \\ x_{21} & \cdots & x_{2d} & 1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & \cdots & x_{nd} & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}^\top := (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top | \mathbf{1})} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{d1} & \cdots & a_{dd} \\ b_1 & \cdots & b_d \end{pmatrix}}_{\Theta}$$

According to which, for each output data point \mathbf{y}_i we have:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_{i1} \\ \vdots \\ y_{id} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}_i} = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{j=1}^d a_{j1}x_{ij} + b_1 \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{j=1}^d a_{jd}x_{ij} + b_d \end{pmatrix}$$

Linear regression: Higher dimensions

In the general case, the data points $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$ are vectors in \mathbb{R}^d :

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{b} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Stacking all data points into matrices $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}_2 & \cdots \end{array} \right)$ and \mathbf{Y} , we get:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_{11} & \cdots & y_{1d} \\ y_{21} & \cdots & y_{2d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ y_{n1} & \cdots & y_{nd} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{Y}^\top} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1d} & 1 \\ x_{21} & \cdots & x_{2d} & 1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & \cdots & x_{nd} & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}^\top := (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top | \mathbf{1})} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{d1} & \cdots & a_{dd} \\ b_1 & \cdots & b_d \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}$$

The MSE reads:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) = \|\mathbf{Y}^\top - \mathbf{X}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}\|_2^2 = \text{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^\top \mathbf{Y}) - 2\text{tr}(\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}) + \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^\top \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta})$$

Linear regression: Higher dimensions

In the general case, the data points $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$ are vectors in \mathbb{R}^d :

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{b} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Stacking all data points into matrices $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}_2 & \cdots \end{array} \right)$ and \mathbf{Y} , we get:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_{11} & \cdots & y_{1d} \\ y_{21} & \cdots & y_{2d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ y_{n1} & \cdots & y_{nd} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{Y}^\top} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1d} & 1 \\ x_{21} & \cdots & x_{2d} & 1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & \cdots & x_{nd} & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}^\top := (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^\top | \mathbf{1})} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{d1} & \cdots & a_{dd} \\ b_1 & \cdots & b_d \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}$$

The MSE reads:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) = \|\mathbf{Y}^\top - \mathbf{X}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}\|_2^2 = \text{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^\top \mathbf{Y}) - 2\text{tr}(\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta}) + \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^\top \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta})$$

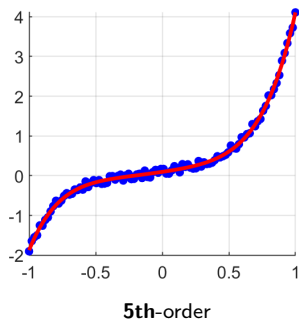
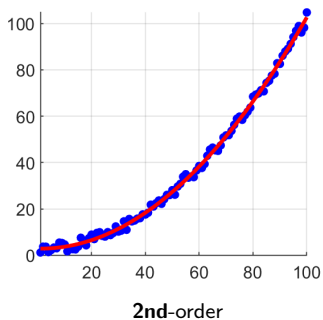
The closed form solution of $\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\Theta}} \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) = \mathbf{0}$ is:

$$\boldsymbol{\Theta} = (\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top)^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{Y}^\top$$

Fitting polynomials

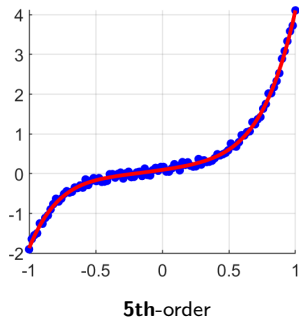
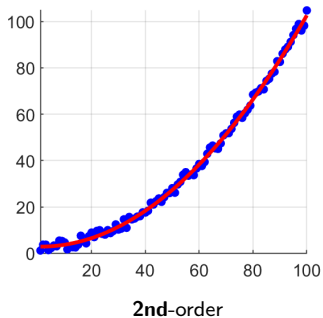
Polynomial regression

Instead of linear functions, can we fit higher-order **polynomials**?



Polynomial regression

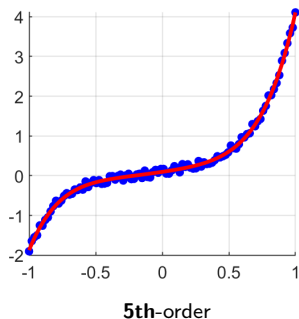
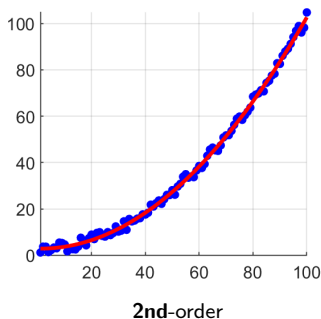
Instead of linear functions, can we fit higher-order **polynomials**?



The number of **parameters** grows with the order.

Polynomial regression

Instead of linear functions, can we fit higher-order **polynomials**?



The number of **parameters** grows with the order.

More data are needed to make an informed decision on the order.

Polynomial regression

Remark: Despite the name, polynomial regression is still **linear in the parameters**. It is polynomial with respect to the data.

Linear regression with polynomial features

Remark: Despite the name, polynomial regression is still **linear in the parameters**. It is polynomial with respect to the data.

Linear regression with polynomial features

Remark: Despite the name, polynomial regression is still **linear in the parameters**. It is polynomial with respect to the data.

$$y_i = a_3x_i^3 + a_2x_i^2 + a_1x_i + b \quad \text{for all data points } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Linear regression with polynomial features

Remark: Despite the name, polynomial regression is still **linear in the parameters**. It is polynomial with respect to the data.

$$y_i = b + \sum_{j=1}^k a_j x_i^j \quad \text{for all data points } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Linear regression with polynomial features

Remark: Despite the name, polynomial regression is still **linear in the parameters**. It is polynomial with respect to the data.

$$y_i = b + \sum_{j=1}^k a_j x_i^j \quad \text{for all data points } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Linear regression with polynomial features

Remark: Despite the name, polynomial regression is still **linear in the parameters**. It is polynomial with respect to the data.

$$y_i = b + \sum_{j=1}^k a_j x_i^j \quad \text{for all data points } i = 1, \dots, n$$

In matrix notation:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1^k & x_1^{k-1} & \cdots & x_1 & 1 \\ x_2^k & x_2^{k-1} & \cdots & x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n^k & x_n^{k-1} & \cdots & x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_k \\ a_{k-1} \\ \vdots \\ a_1 \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

Linear regression with polynomial features

Remark: Despite the name, polynomial regression is still **linear in the parameters**. It is polynomial with respect to the data.

$$y_i = b + \sum_{j=1}^k a_j x_i^j \quad \text{for all data points } i = 1, \dots, n$$

In matrix notation:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1^k & x_1^{k-1} & \cdots & x_1 & 1 \\ x_2^k & x_2^{k-1} & \cdots & x_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_n^k & x_n^{k-1} & \cdots & x_n & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_k \\ a_{k-1} \\ \vdots \\ a_1 \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

The same exact **least-squares** solution as with linear regression applies, with the requirement that $k < n$.

Polynomial fitting

An application of the [Stone-Weierstrass theorem](#) tells us:

If f is continuous on the interval $[a, b]$, then for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a polynomial p such that $|f(x) - p(x)| < \epsilon$ for all x .

Polynomial fitting

An application of the [Stone-Weierstrass theorem](#) tells us:

If f is continuous on the interval $[a, b]$, then for every $\epsilon > 0$ [there exists a polynomial \$p\$](#) such that $|f(x) - p(x)| < \epsilon$ for all x .

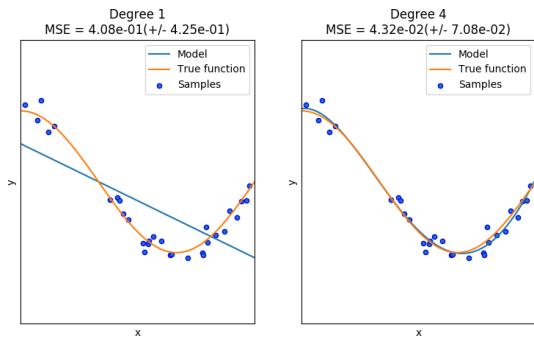
Thus, we can try to fit a polynomial in many cases.

Polynomial fitting

An application of the [Stone-Weierstrass theorem](#) tells us:

If f is continuous on the interval $[a, b]$, then for every $\epsilon > 0$ [there exists a polynomial \$p\$](#) such that $|f(x) - p(x)| < \epsilon$ for all x .

Thus, we can try to fit a polynomial in many cases.

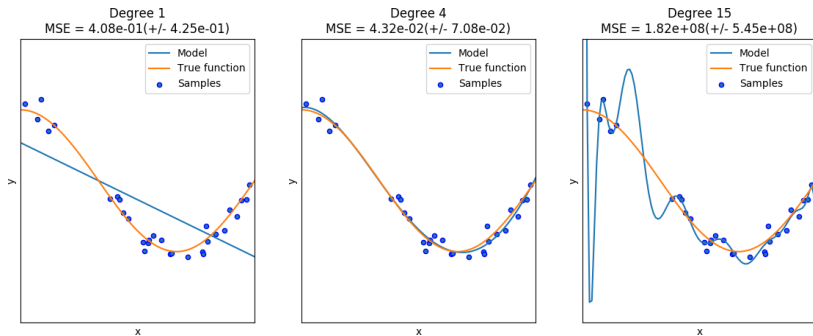


Polynomial fitting

An application of the [Stone-Weierstrass theorem](#) tells us:

If f is continuous on the interval $[a, b]$, then for every $\epsilon > 0$ [there exists a polynomial \$p\$](#) such that $|f(x) - p(x)| < \epsilon$ for all x .

Thus, we can try to fit a polynomial in many cases.



Suggested reading

For convexity and optimality, read Sections 3.1.1 and 3.1.3 of the book:

S. Boyd & L. Vandenberghe, “Convex optimization”. Cambridge University Press, 2009

Public download link: https://web.stanford.edu/~boyd/cvxbook/bv_cvxbook.pdf