Debugging a learning algorithm:

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

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

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?

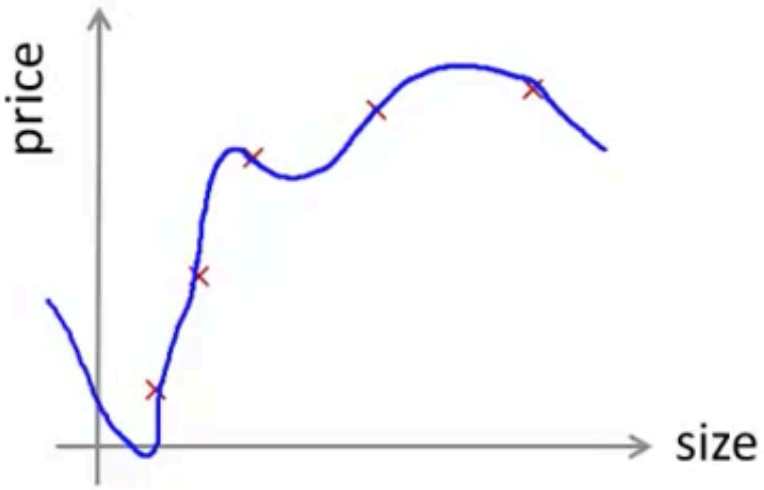
- Get more training examples
- Try smaller sets of features $x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots, x_{100}$
- Try getting additional features
- Try adding polynomial features $(x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1x_2, \text{etc.})$
- Try decreasing λ
- Try increasing λ

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.

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

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

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

m_{test} = no. of test example

$(x_{test}^{(1)}, y_{test}^{(1)})$

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Training/testing procedure for linear regression

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

70%

- Compute test set error:

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

Training/testing procedure for logistic regression

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

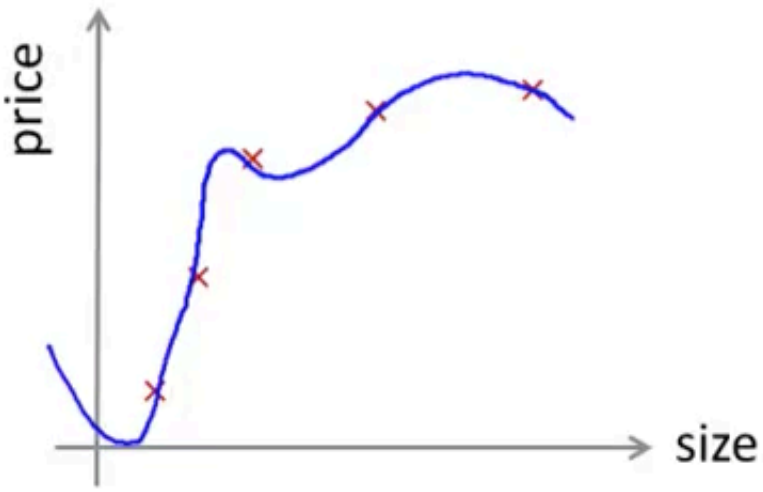
$$J_{test}(\theta) = -\frac{1}{m_{test}} \sum_{i=1}^{m_{test}} y_{test}^{(i)} \log h_\theta(x_{test}^{(i)}) + (1 - y_{test}^{(i)}) \log h_\theta(x_{test}^{(i)})$$

- Misclassification error (0/1 misclassification error):

$$err(h_\theta(x), y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } h_\theta(x) \geq 0.5, \; y = 0 \\ & \text{or if } h_\theta(x) < 0.5, \; y = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \text{error}$$

$$\text{Test error} = \frac{1}{m_{test}} \sum_{i=1}^{m_{test}} err(h_\theta(x_{test}^{(i)}), y_{test}^{(i)}).$$

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

1. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$ → $\theta^{(1)}$ → $J_{test}(\theta^{(1)})$
2. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2$ → $\theta^{(2)}$ → $J_{test}(\theta^{(2)})$
3. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \cdots + \theta_3 x^3$ → $\theta^{(3)}$ → $J_{test}(\theta^{(3)})$

⋮ ⋮ ⋮

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

Choose $\theta_0 + \ldots \theta_5 x^5$ ←

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

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

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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 (CV) set
	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 examples

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

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

m_{test}

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

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

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

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

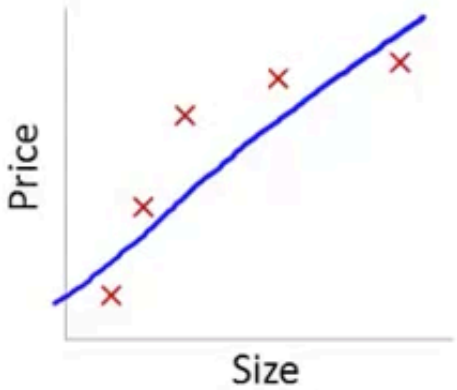
$d=10$ 10. $h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \cdots + \theta_{10} x^{10}$ $\longrightarrow$ $\theta^{(10)} \rightarrow J_{cv}(\theta^{(10)})$

$d = 4$ $\longrightarrow$

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

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

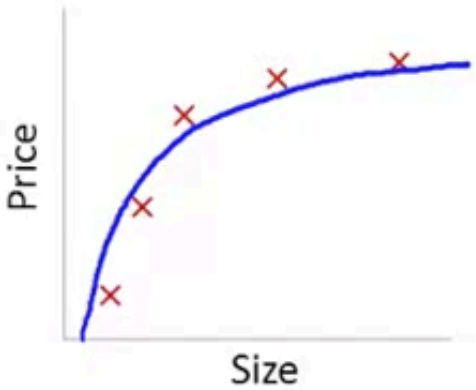
Bias/variance



$\theta_0 + \theta_1 x$

High bias
(underfit)

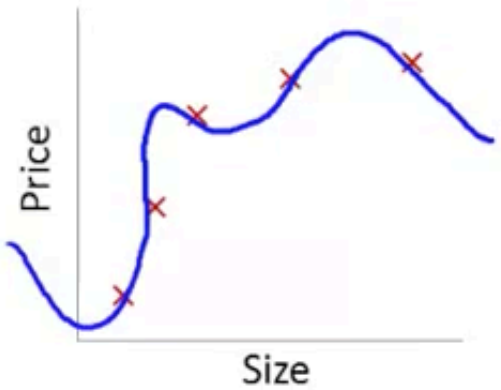
$d = 1$



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

"Just right"

$d = 2$



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

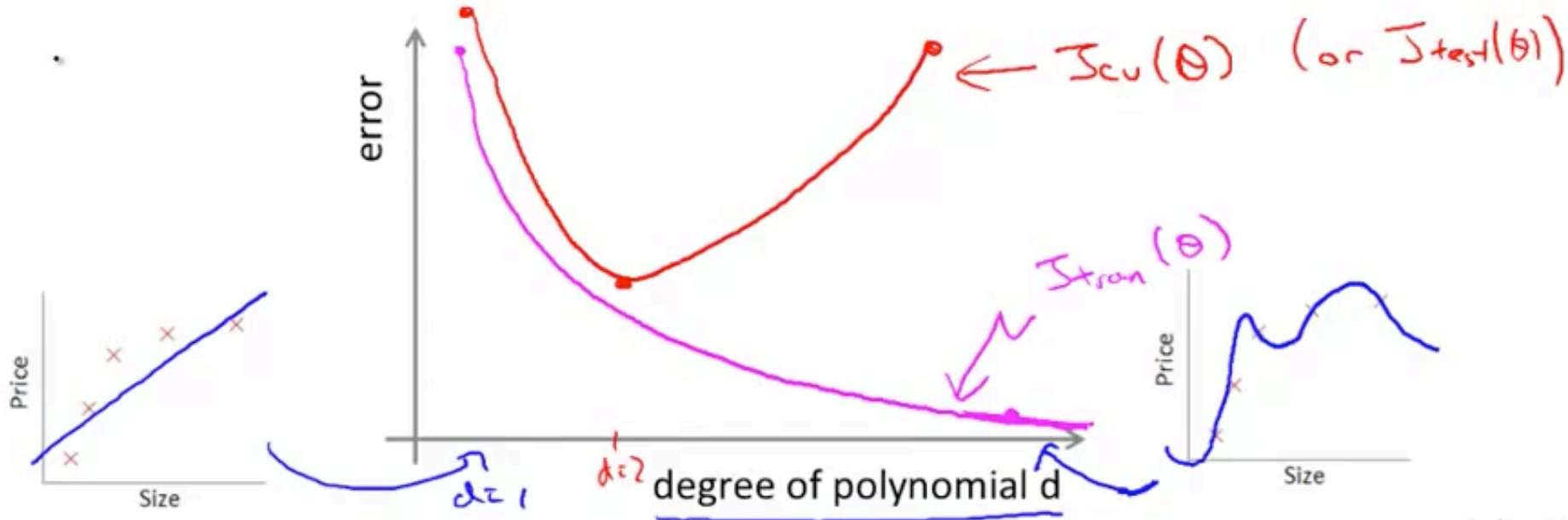
High variance
(overfit)

$d = 4$

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 $J_{test}(\theta)$)



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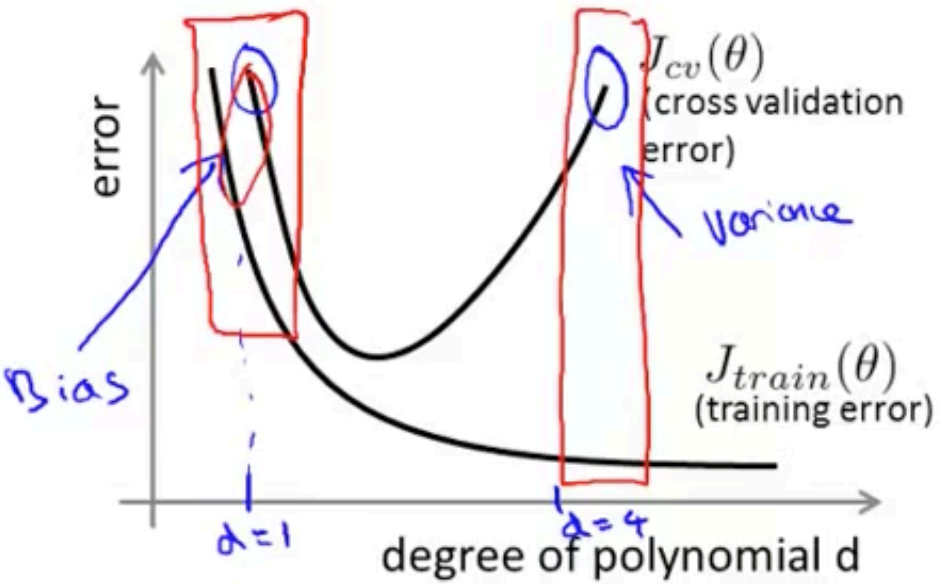
Diagnosing bias vs. variance

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

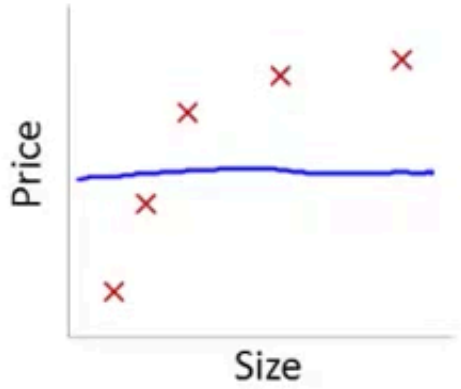
$J_{cv}(\theta) \gg J_{train}(\theta)$

>>

Linear regression with regularization

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

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

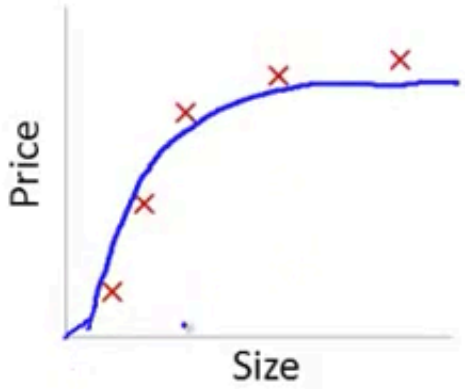


Large λ

High bias (underfit)

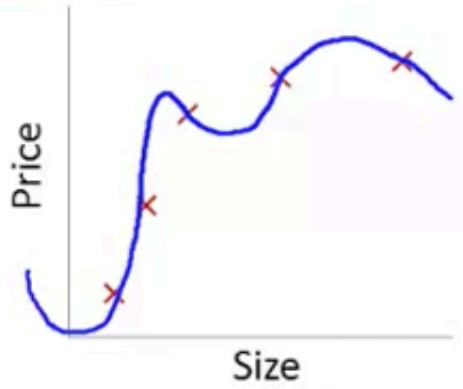
$\lambda = 10000.\ \theta_1 \approx 0, \theta_2 \approx 0, \ldots$

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



Intermediate λ

"Just right"



Small λ

High variance (overfit)

$\lambda = 0$

Choosing the regularization parameter λ

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

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

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

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

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

$J(\theta)$

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

⋮

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

$\uparrow$ 10.24

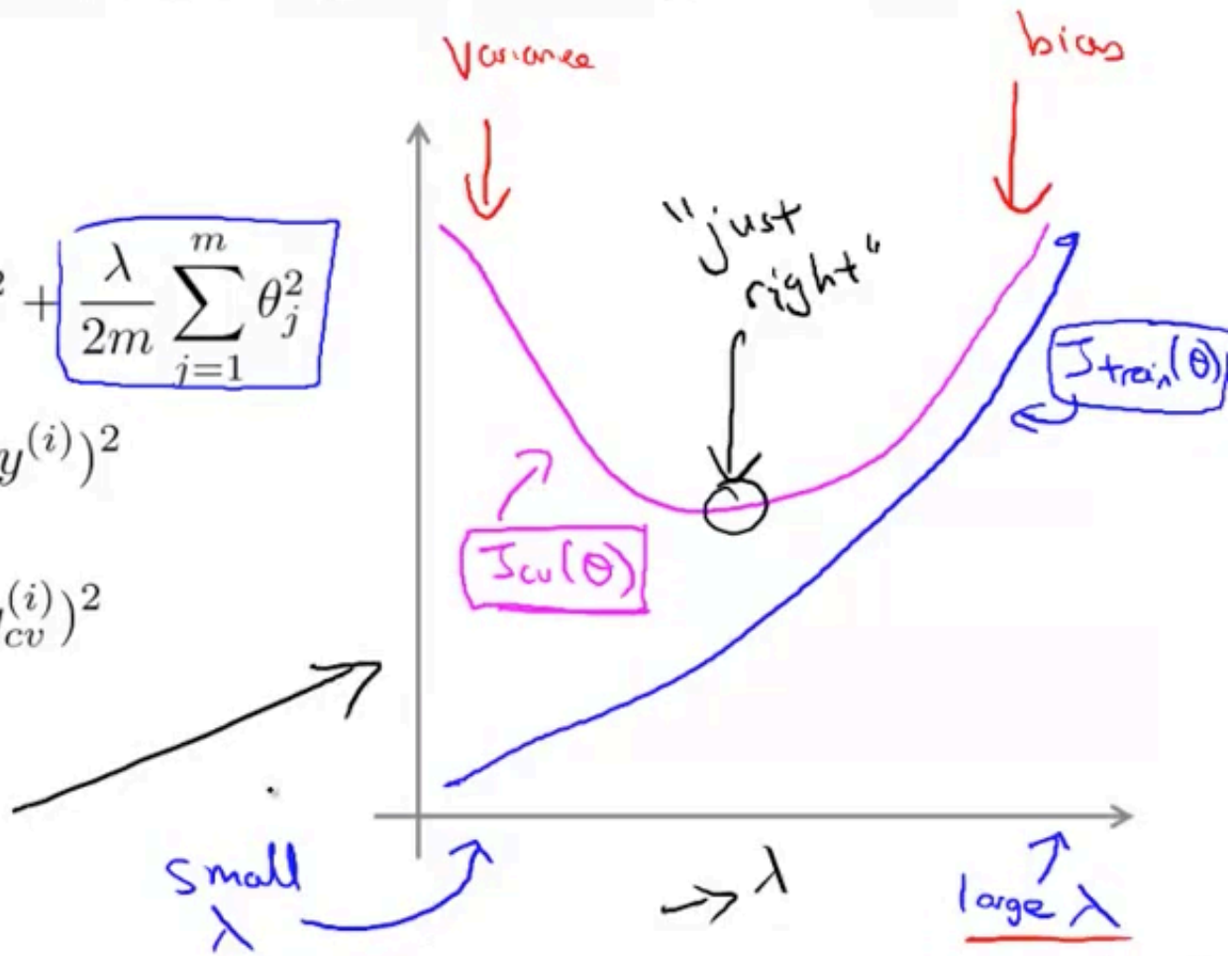
Pick (say) $\theta^{(5)}$. Test error: $J_{test}(\theta^{(5)})$

Bias/variance as a function of the regularization parameter λ

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

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

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



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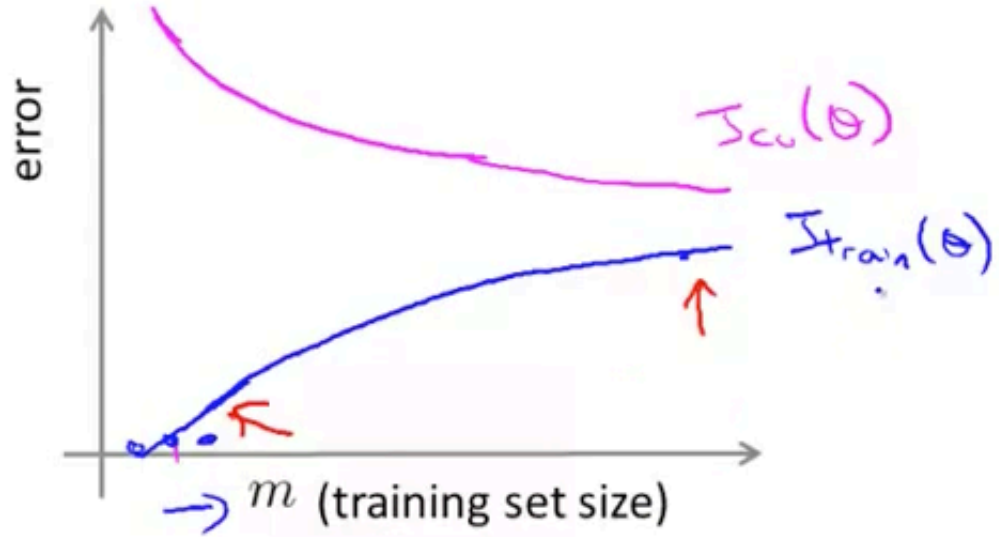
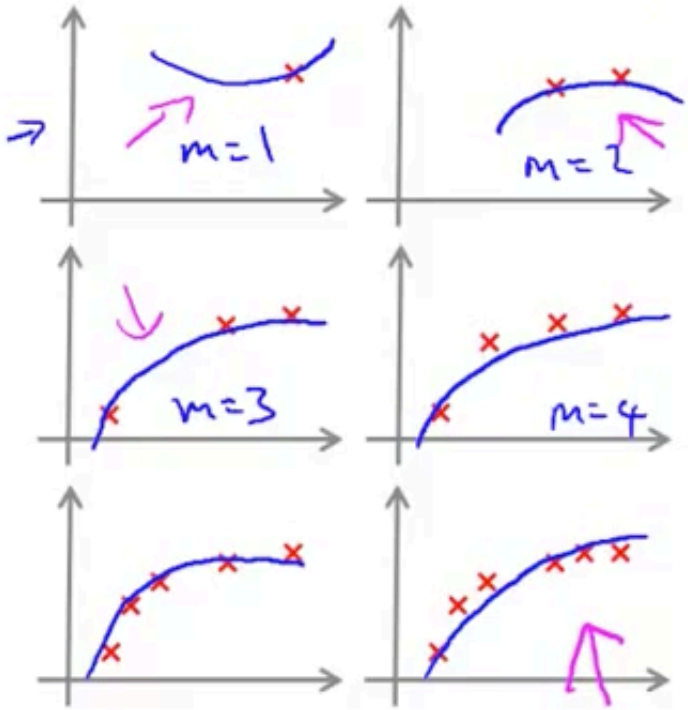
Learning curves

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

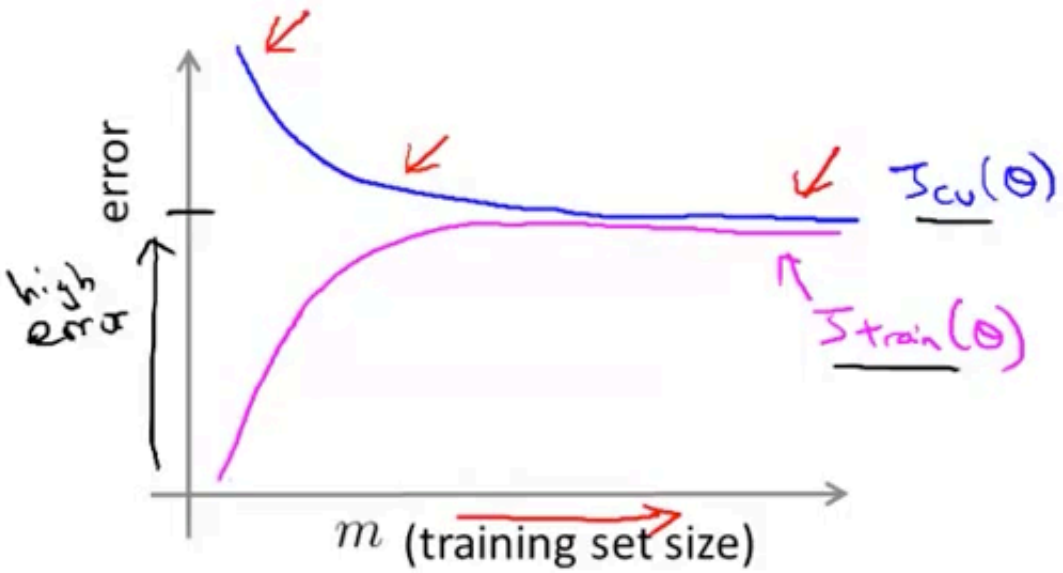
$$J_{cv}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m_{cv}}\sum_{i=1}^{m_{cv}}(h_\theta(x_{cv}^{(i)}) - y_{cv}^{(i)})^2$$

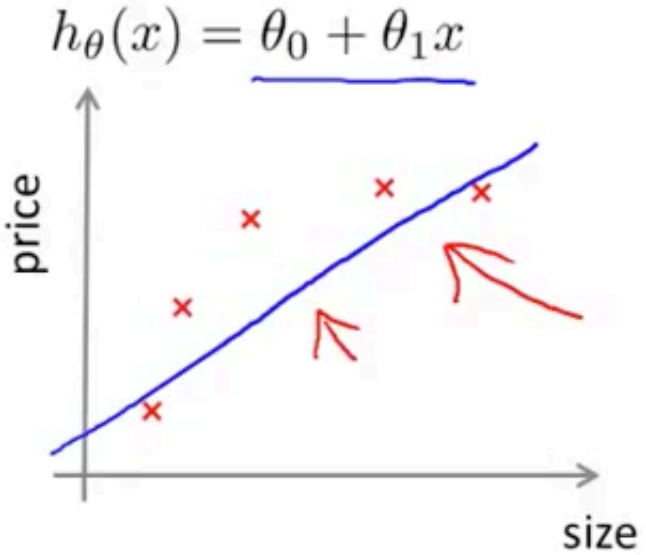


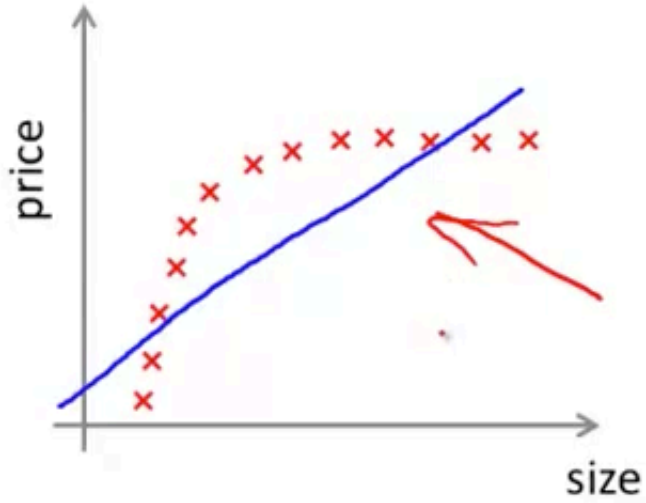
$$h_\theta(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2$$



High bias

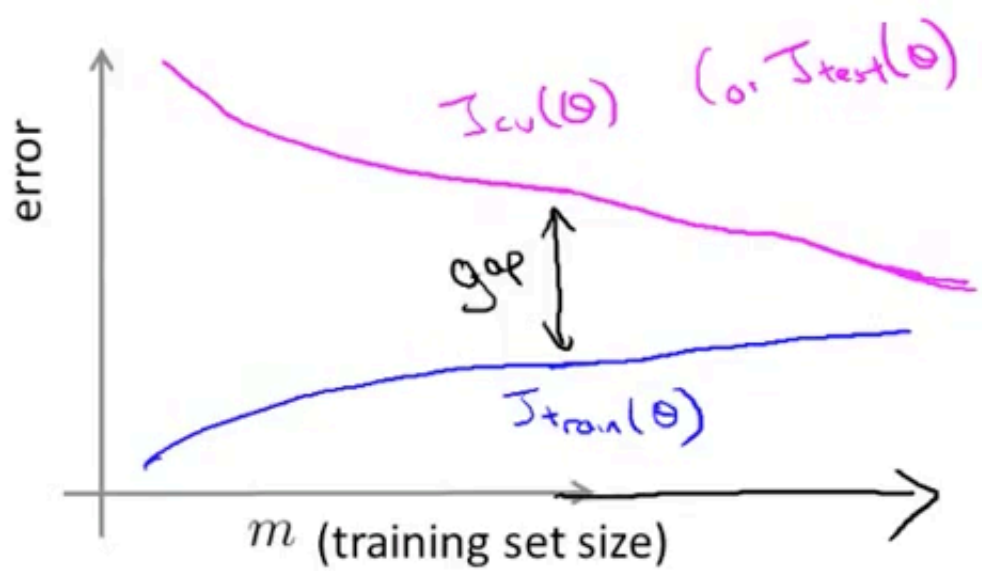






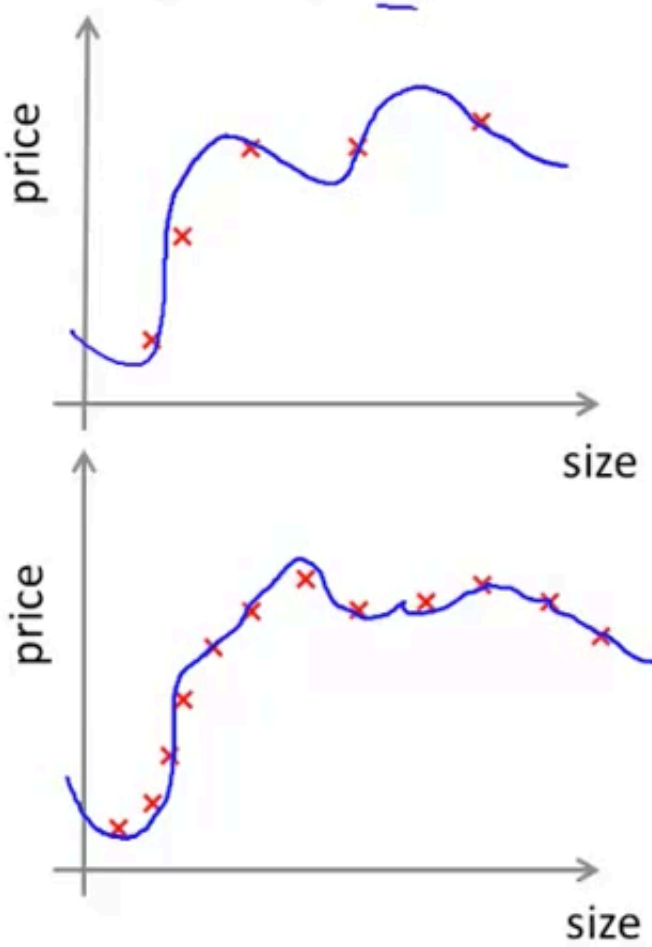
If a learning algorithm is suffering from high bias, getting more training data will not (by itself) help much.

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.

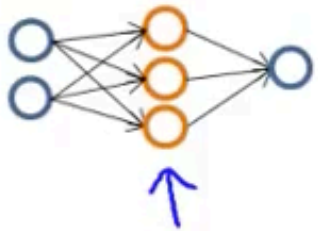
Debugging a learning algorithm:

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 $(x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1x_2, \text{etc})$ → fixes high bias.
- Try decreasing λ → fixes high bias
- Try increasing λ → fixes high variance

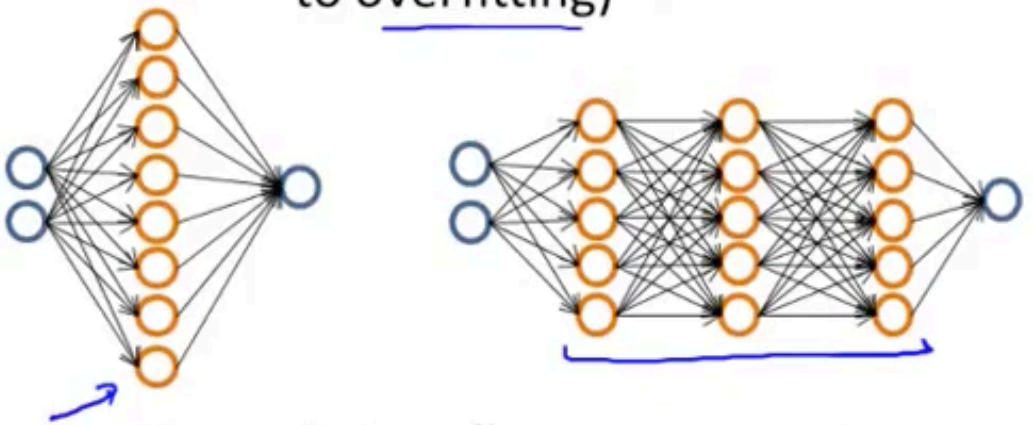
Neural networks and overfitting

"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.

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Building a spam classifier

Supervised learning. x = features of email. y = spam (1) or not spam (0).

Features x: Choose 100 words indicative of spam/not spam.

E.g. deal, buy, discont, andrew, now, ...

$$x_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if word } j \text{ appears in email} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{andrew} \\ \text{buy} \\ \text{deal} \\ \text{discont} \\ \vdots \\ \text{now} \\ \vdots \end{matrix} \qquad x \in \mathbb{R}^{100}$$

From: cheapsales@buystufffromme.com
To: ang@cs.stanford.edu
Subject: Buy now!

Deal of the week! Buy now!

Note: In practice, take most frequently occurring n words (10,000 to 50,000) in training set, rather than manually pick 100 words.

Building a spam classifier

How to spend your time to make it have low error?

- Collect lots of data
  - E.g. "honeypot" project.
- Develop sophisticated features based on email routing information (from email header).
- Develop sophisticated features for message body, e.g. should "discount" and "discounts" be treated as the same word? How about "deal" and "Dealer"? Features about punctuation?
- Develop sophisticated algorithm to detect misspellings (e.g. m0rtgage, med1cine, w4tches.)

Recommended approach

- Start with a simple algorithm that you can implement quickly. Implement it and test it on your cross-validation data.
- Plot learning curves to decide if more data, more features, etc. are likely to help.
- Error analysis: Manually examine the examples (in cross validation set) that your algorithm made errors on. See if you spot any systematic trend in what type of examples it is making errors on.

Error Analysis

m_{CV} = 500 examples in cross validation set

Algorithm misclassifies 100 emails.

Manually examine the 100 errors, and categorize them based on:

- (i) What type of email it is — pharma, replica, steal passwords, ...
- (ii) What cues (features) you think would have helped the algorithm classify them correctly.

Pharma: 12

Replica/fake: 4

Steal passwords: 53

Other: 31

Deliberate misspellings: 5
(m0rgage, med1cine, etc.)

Unusual email routing: 16

Unusual (spamming) punctuation: 32

The importance of numerical evaluation

Should discount/discounts/discounted/discounting be treated as the same word?

Can use "stemming" software (E.g. "Porter stemmer")

universe/university.

Error analysis may not be helpful for deciding if this is likely to improve performance. Only solution is to try it and see if it works.

Need numerical evaluation (e.g., cross validation error) of algorithm's performance with and without stemming.

Without stemming: 5% error With stemming: 3% error

Distinguish upper vs. lower case (Mom/mom): 3.2%

Cancer classification example

Train logistic regression model $h_\theta(x)$. ($y = 1$ if cancer, $y = 0$ otherwise)

Find that you got 1% error on test set.

(99% correct diagnoses)

Only 0.50% of patients have cancer.

→ skewed classes.

```
function y = predictCancer(x)
  y = 0; %ignore x!
return
```

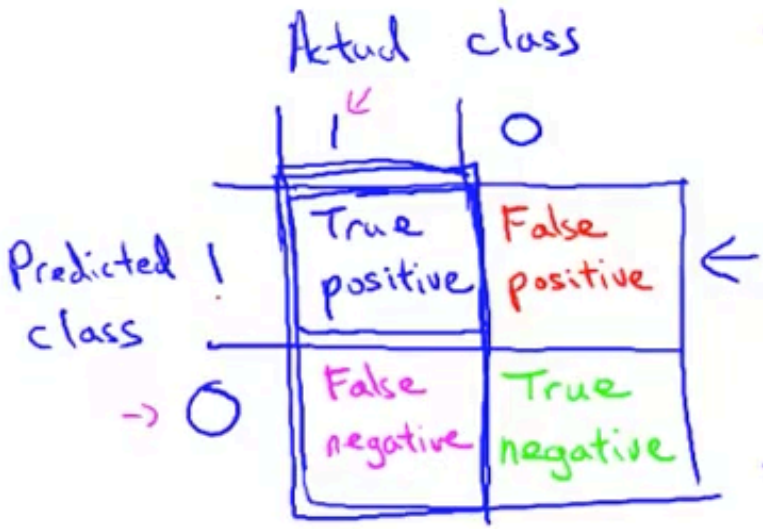
→ 0.5% error

→ 99.2% accuracy (0.8% error)

→ 99.5% accuracy (0.5% error)

Precision/Recall

$y = 1$ in presence of rare class that we want to detect



$y = 0$

recall = 0

→ **Precision**

(Of all patients where we predicted $y = 1$, what fraction actually has cancer?)

$$\frac{\text{True positives}}{\#\text{predicted positive}} = \frac{\text{True positive}}{\text{True pos + False pos}}$$

→ **Recall**

(Of all patients that actually have cancer, what fraction did we correctly detect as having cancer?)

$$\frac{\text{True positives}}{\#\text{actual positives}} = \frac{\text{True positives}}{\text{True pos + False neg}}$$

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Trading off precision and recall

→ precision = $\frac{\text{true positives}}{\text{no. of predicted positive}}$

→ recall = $\frac{\text{true positives}}{\text{no. of actual positive}}$

→ Logistic regression: $0 \le h_\theta(x) \le 1$

Predict 1 if $h_\theta(x) \ge 0.5$ 0.7 0.9 0.3

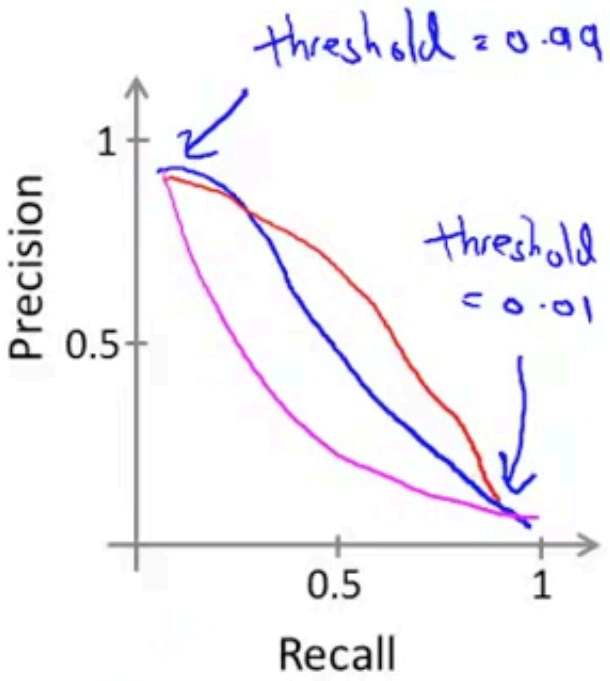
Predict 0 if $h_\theta(x) < 0.5$ 0.7 0.9 0.3

→ Suppose we want to predict $y = 1$ (cancer) only if very confident.

→ Higher precision, lower recall.

→ Suppose we want to avoid missing too many cases of cancer (avoid false negatives).

→ Higher recall, lower precision.



More generally: Predict 1 if $h_\theta(x) \ge$ threshold.

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F_1 Score (F score)

How to compare precision/recall numbers?

	Precision(P)	Recall (R)	Average	F_1 Score
Algorithm 1	0.5	0.4	0.45	0.444
Algorithm 2	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.175
Algorithm 3	0.02	1.0	0.51	0.0392

Predict $y=1$ all the time

Average: $\frac{P+R}{2}$

F_1 Score: $2\frac{PR}{P+R}$

$P=0$ or $R=0$ $\Rightarrow$ F-score $=0$

$P=1$ and $R=1$ $\Rightarrow$ F-score $=1$

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Designing a high accuracy learning system

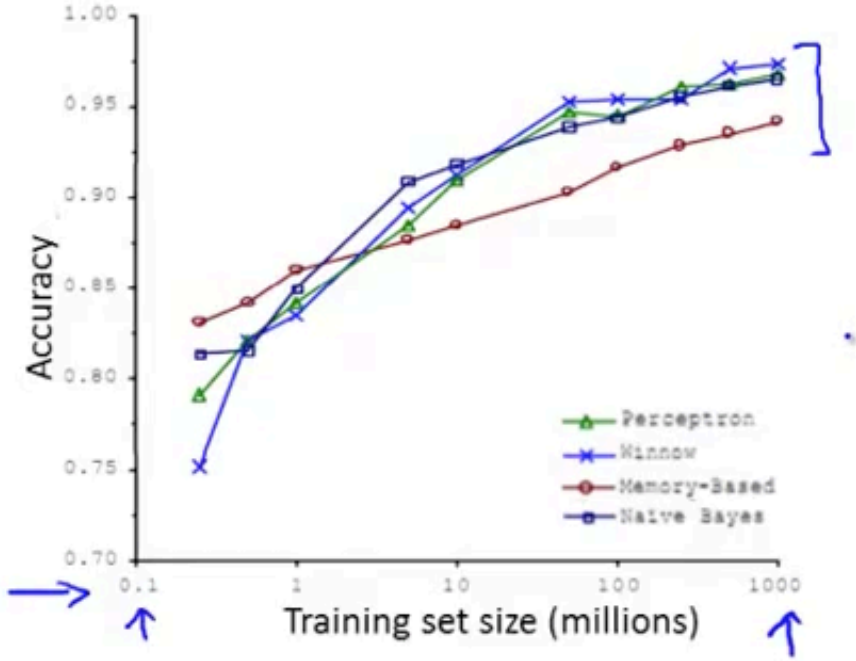
E.g. Classify between confusable words.

{to, two, too}, {then, than}

For breakfast I ate two eggs.

Algorithms

- Perceptron (Logistic regression)
- Winnow
- Memory-based
- Naïve Bayes



"It's not who has the best algorithm that wins.
It's who has the most data."

[Banko and Brill, 2001]

Large data rationale

Assume feature $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ has sufficient information to predict y accurately.

Example: For breakfast I ate _____ eggs.

Counterexample: Predict housing price from only size (feet^2) and no other features.

Useful test: Given the input x, can a human expert confidently predict y?

Large data rationale

→ Use a learning algorithm with many parameters (e.g. logistic regression/linear regression with many features; neural network with many hidden units). low bias algorithms. ←

→ $J_{train}(\theta)$ will be small.

Use a very large training set (unlikely to overfit) low variance ←

→ $J_{train}(\theta) \approx J_{test}(\theta)$

$J_{test}(\theta)$ will be small