

Linear Regression with Multiple Variables

5 questions

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1. Suppose $m=4$ students have taken some class, and the class had a midterm exam and a final exam. You have collected a dataset of their scores on the two exams, which is as follows:

midterm exam	(midterm exam) ²	final exam
89	7921	96
72	5184	74
94	8836	87
69	4761	78

You'd like to use polynomial regression to predict a student's final exam score from their midterm exam score. Concretely, suppose you want to fit a model of the form $h_{\theta}(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2$, where x_1 is the midterm score and x_2 is (midterm score)². Further, you plan to use both feature scaling (dividing by the "max-min", or range, of a feature) and mean normalization.

What is the normalized feature $x_1^{(3)}$? (Hint: midterm = 94, final = 87 is training example 3.) Please round off your answer to two decimal places and enter in the text box below.

Enter answer here

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2. You run gradient descent for 15 iterations with $\alpha = 0.3$ and compute $J(\theta)$ after each iteration. You find that the value of $J(\theta)$ **decreases slowly** and is still decreasing after 15 iterations. Based on this, which of the following conclusions seems most plausible?

- ☐ Rather than use the current value of α , it'd be more promising to try a smaller value of α (say $\alpha = 0.1$).
- ☐ $\alpha = 0.3$ is an effective choice of learning rate.
- ☐ Rather than use the current value of α , it'd be more promising to try a larger value of α (say $\alpha = 1.0$).

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3. Suppose you have $m = 14$ training examples with $n = 3$ features (excluding the additional all-ones feature for the intercept term, which you should add). The normal equation is $\theta = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$. For the given values of m and n , what are the dimensions of θ , X , and y in this equation?

- ☐ X is 14×3 , y is 14×1 , θ is 3×1
- ☐ X is 14×3 , y is 14×1 , θ is 3×3
- ☐ X is 14×4 , y is 14×1 , θ is 4×1
- ☐ X is 14×4 , y is 14×4 , θ is 4×4

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4. Suppose you have a dataset with $m = 1000000$ examples and $n = 200000$ features for each example. You want to use multivariate linear regression to fit the parameters θ to our data. Should you prefer gradient descent or the normal equation?

- ☐ Gradient descent, since $(X^T X)^{-1}$ will be very slow to compute in the normal equation.
- ☐ Gradient descent, since it will always converge to the optimal θ .
- ☐ The normal equation, since gradient descent might be unable to find the optimal θ .
- ☐ The normal equation, since it provides an efficient way to directly find the solution.

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5. Which of the following are reasons for using feature scaling?

- ☐ It is necessary to prevent gradient descent from getting stuck in local optima.
- ☐ It speeds up gradient descent by making it require fewer iterations to get to a good solution.
- ☐ It prevents the matrix $X^T X$ (used in the normal equation) from being non-invertable (singular/degenerate).
- ☐ It speeds up solving for θ using the normal equation.

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