# oxml-lecture

May 2, 2024

### 1 Introduction to Statistical Machine Learning

### 1.0.1 Oxford ML School

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## 2 Part 1: What is Supervised Machine Learning?

We hear a lot about machine learning (or ML for short) in the news.

But what is it, really?

# 3 ML in Everyday Life: Search Engines

You use machine learning every day when use a search engine.

# 4 ML in Everyday Life: Personal Assistants

Machine learning also powers the speech recognition, question answering and other intelligent capabilities of smartphone assistants like Apple Siri.

# 5 ML in Everyday Life: Spam/Fraud Detection

Machine learning is used in every spam filter, such as in Gmail.

ML systems are also used by credit card companies and banks to automatically detect fraudulent behavior.

# 6 ML in Everyday Life: Self-Driving Cars

One of the most exciting and cutting-edge uses of machine learning algorithms is in autonomous vehicles.

# 7 A Definition of Machine Learning

In 1959, Arthur Samuel defined machine learning as follows.

Machine learning is a field of study that gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed.

What does "learn" and "explicitly programmed" mean here? Let's look at an example.

### 8 An Example: Self Driving Cars

A self-driving car system uses dozens of components that include detection of cars, pedestrians, and other objects.

### 9 Self Driving Cars: A Rule-Based Algorithm

One way to build a detection system is to write down rules.

```
[2]: # pseudocode example for a rule-based classification system
  object = camera.get_object()
  if object.has_wheels(): # does the object have wheels?
    if len(object.wheels) == 4: return "Car" # four wheels => car
    elif len(object.wheels) == 2:,
        if object.seen_from_back():
            return "Car" # viewed from back, car has 2 wheels
        else:
            return "Bicycle" # normally, 2 wheels => bicycle
    return "Unknown" # no wheels? we don't know what it is
```

In practice, it's almost impossible for a human to specify all the edge cases.

# 10 Self Driving Cars: Supervised ML Approach

The machine learning approach is to teach a computer how to do detection by showing it many examples of different objects.

No manual programming is needed: the computer learns what defines a pedestrian or a car on its own!

# 11 Revisiting Our Definition of ML

Machine learning is a field of study that gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed. (Arthur Samuel, 1959.)

This principle can be applied to countless domains: medical diagnosis, factory automation, machine translation, and many more!

# 12 Why Machine Learning?

Why is this approach to building software interesting?

- It lets us build practical systems for real-world applications for which other engineering approaches don't work.
- Learning is widely regarded as a key approach towards building general-purpose artificial intelligence systems.
- The science and engineering of machine learning offers insights into human intelligence.

### 13 Applications of Supervised Learning

Many important applications of machine learning are supervised: \* Classifying medical images. \* Translating between pairs of languages. \* Detecting objects in autonomous driving.

### 14 Supervised Learning: Object Detection

We previously saw an example of supervised learning: object detection.

- 1. We start by collecting a dataset of labeled objects.
- 2. We train a model to output accurate predictions on this dataset.
- 3. When the model sees new, similar data, it will also be accurate.

# Part 2: Ordinary Least Squares

In practice, there is a more effective way than gradient descent to find linear model parameters.

This method will produce our first non-toy algorithm: Ordinary Least Squares.

# 15 Components of a Supervised Machine Learning Problem

To apply supervised learning, we define a dataset and a learning algorithm.

$$\underbrace{\text{Dataset}}_{\text{Features, Attributes, Targets}} + \underbrace{\text{Learning Algorithm}}_{\text{Model Class + Objective + Optimizer}} \rightarrow \text{Predictive Model}$$

The output is a predictive model that maps inputs to targets. For instance, it can predict targets on new inputs.

### 16 Review: The Gradient

The gradient  $\nabla_{\theta} f$  further extends the derivative to multivariate functions  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ , and is defined at a point  $\theta_0$  as

$$\nabla_{\theta} f(\theta_0) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(\theta_0)}{\partial \theta_1} \\ \frac{\partial f(\theta_0)}{\partial \theta_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f(\theta_0)}{\partial \theta_d} \end{bmatrix}.$$

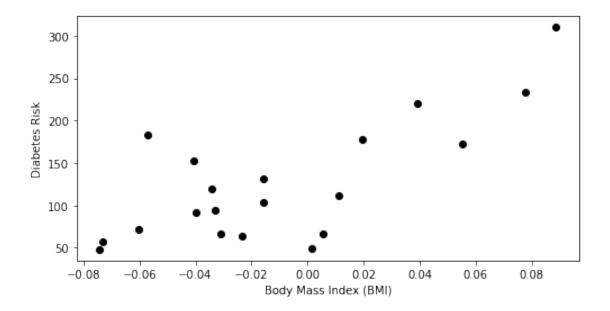
In other words, the j-th entry of the vector  $\nabla_{\theta} f(\theta_0)$  is the partial derivative  $\frac{\partial f(\theta_0)}{\partial \theta_j}$  of f with respect to the j-th component of  $\theta$ .

### 17 The UCI Diabetes Dataset

In this section, we are going to use the UCI Diabetes Dataset. \* For each patient we have a access to a measurement of their body mass index (BMI) and a quantiative diabetes risk score (from 0-300). \* We are interested in understanding how BMI affects an individual's diabetes risk.

```
[36]: %matplotlib inline
      import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
      plt.rcParams['figure.figsize'] = [8, 4]
      import numpy as np
      import pandas as pd
      from sklearn import datasets
      # Load the diabetes dataset
      X, y = datasets.load_diabetes(return_X_y=True, as_frame=True)
      # add an extra column of onens
      X['one'] = 1
      # Collect 20 data points
      X_train = X.iloc[-20:]
      y_train = y.iloc[-20:]
      plt.scatter(X_train.loc[:,['bmi']], y_train, color='black')
      plt.xlabel('Body Mass Index (BMI)')
      plt.ylabel('Diabetes Risk')
```

[36]: Text(0, 0.5, 'Diabetes Risk')



### 18 Notation: Design Matrix

Machine learning algorithms are most easily defined in the language of linear algebra. Therefore, it will be useful to represent the entire dataset as one matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , of the form:

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^{(1)} & x_2^{(1)} & \dots & x_d^{(1)} \\ x_1^{(2)} & x_2^{(2)} & \dots & x_d^{(2)} \\ \vdots & & & & \\ x_1^{(n)} & x_2^{(n)} & \dots & x_d^{(n)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} - & (x^{(1)})^\top & - \\ - & (x^{(2)})^\top & - \\ & \vdots & & \\ - & (x^{(n)})^\top & - \end{bmatrix}.$$

We can view the design matrix for the diabetes dataset.

#### X\_train.head() [37]: bmi bp s1 s2 s3 age sex 422 -0.078165 0.050680 0.077863 0.052858 0.078236 0.064447 0.026550 423 0.009016 0.050680 -0.039618 0.028758 0.038334 0.073529 -0.072854 0.011039 -0.019442 -0.016704 -0.003819 -0.047082 424 0.001751 0.050680 425 -0.078165 -0.044642 -0.040696 -0.081414 -0.100638 -0.112795 0.022869 0.030811 0.050680 -0.034229 0.043677 0.057597 0.068831 -0.032356 426 s4 s5 one 422 -0.002592 0.040672 -0.009362 1 423 0.108111 0.015567 -0.046641 1 424 0.034309 0.024053 0.023775 1

425 -0.076395 -0.020289 -0.050783 1 426 0.057557 0.035462 0.085907 1

### 19 Notation: Target Vector

Similarly, we can vectorize the target variables into a vector  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  of the form

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} y^{(1)} \\ y^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ y^{(n)} \end{bmatrix}.$$

### 20 Squared Error in Matrix Form

We may fit a linear model by choosing  $\theta$  that minimizes the squared error:

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y^{(i)} - \theta^{\top} x^{(i)})^{2}$$

We can write this sum in matrix-vector form as:

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} (y - X\theta)^{\top} (y - X\theta) = \frac{1}{2} ||y - X\theta||^2,$$

where X is the design matrix and  $\|\cdot\|$  denotes the Euclidean norm.

# 21 The Gradient of the Squared Error

We can compute the gradient of the mean squared error as follows.

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \nabla_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} (X\theta - y)^{\top} (X\theta - y)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\theta} \left( (X\theta)^{\top} (X\theta) - (X\theta)^{\top} y - y^{\top} (X\theta) + y^{\top} y \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\theta} \left( \theta^{\top} (X^{\top} X) \theta - 2(X\theta)^{\top} y \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left( 2(X^{\top} X) \theta - 2X^{\top} y \right)$$

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

We used the facts that  $a^{\top}b = b^{\top}a$  (line 3), that  $\nabla_x b^{\top}x = b$  (line 4), and that  $\nabla_x x^{\top}Ax = 2Ax$  for a symmetric matrix A (line 4).

### 22 Normal Equations

Setting the above derivative to zero, we obtain the *normal equations*:

$$(X^{\top}X)\theta = X^{\top}y.$$

Hence, the value  $\theta^*$  that minimizes this objective is given by:

$$\theta^* = (X^\top X)^{-1} X^\top y.$$

Note that we assumed that the matrix  $(X^{\top}X)$  is invertible; we will soon see a simple way of dealing with non-invertible matrices.

Let's apply the normal equations.

```
[21]: import numpy as np
    theta_best = np.linalg.inv(X_train.T.dot(X_train)).dot(X_train.T).dot(y_train)
    theta_best_df = pd.DataFrame(data=theta_best[np.newaxis, :], columns=X.columns)
    theta_best_df
```

```
[21]: age sex bmi bp s1 s2 \
0 -3.888868 204.648785 -64.289163 -262.796691 14003.726808 -11798.307781

s3 s4 s5 s6 one
0 -5892.15807 -1136.947646 -2736.597108 -393.879743 155.698998
```

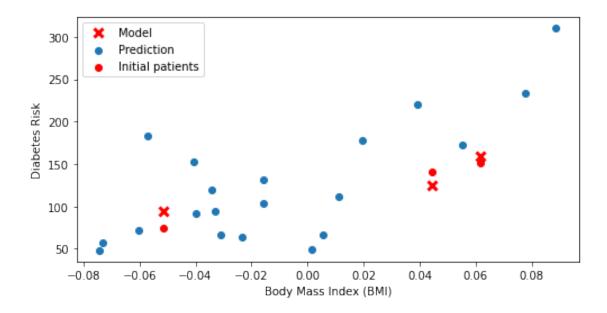
We can now use our estimate of theta to compute predictions for 3 new data points.

```
[22]: # Collect 3 data points for testing
X_test = X.iloc[:3]
y_test = y.iloc[:3]

# generate predictions on the new patients
y_test_pred = X_test.dot(theta_best)
```

Let's visualize these predictions.

[23]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x128d89668>



# Part 3: Non-Linear Least Squares

Ordinary Least Squares can only learn linear relationships in the data. Can we also use it to model more complex relationships?

# 23 Review: Polynomial Functions

Recall that a polynomial of degree p is a function of the form

$$a_p x^p + a_{p-1} x^{p-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0.$$

Below are some examples of polynomial functions.

```
import warnings
warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")

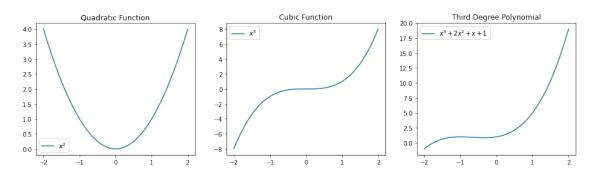
plt.figure(figsize=(16,4))
x_vars = np.linspace(-2, 2)

plt.subplot('131')
plt.title('Quadratic Function')
plt.plot(x_vars, x_vars**2)
plt.legend(["$x^2$"])

plt.subplot('132')
plt.subplot('132')
plt.title('Cubic Function')
plt.plot(x_vars, x_vars**3)
plt.legend(["$x^3$"])
```

```
plt.subplot('133')
plt.title('Third Degree Polynomial')
plt.plot(x_vars, x_vars**3 + 2*x_vars**2 + x_vars + 1)
plt.legend(["$x^3 + 2 x^2 + x + 1$"])
```

### [24]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x128ed2ac8>



# 24 Modeling Non-Linear Relationships With Polynomial Regression

Specifically, given a one-dimensional continuous variable x, we can define the *polynomial feature* function  $\phi: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^{p+1}$  as

$$\phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \\ x^2 \\ \vdots \\ x^p \end{bmatrix}.$$

The class of models of the form

$$f_{\theta}(x) := \sum_{j=0}^{p} \theta_{j} x^{j} = \theta^{\top} \phi(x)$$

with parameters  $\theta$  and polynomial features  $\phi$  is the set of p-degree polynomials.

- This model is non-linear in the input variable x, meaning that we can model complex data relationships.
- It is a linear model as a function of the parameters  $\theta$ , meaning that we can use our familiar ordinary least squares algorithm to learn these features.

### 25 Diabetes Dataset: A Non-Linear Featurization

Let's now obtain linear features for this dataset.

```
[26]: X_bmi = X_train.loc[:, ['bmi']]
     X_bmi_p3 = pd.concat([X_bmi, X_bmi**2, X_bmi**3], axis=1)
     X_bmi_p3.columns = ['bmi', 'bmi2', 'bmi3']
     X_{pi} = 1
     X_bmi_p3.head()
[26]:
               bmi
                        bmi2
                                  bmi3 one
     422 0.077863 0.006063 0.000472
                                          1
     423 -0.039618 0.001570 -0.000062
                                          1
     424 0.011039 0.000122 0.000001
                                         1
     425 -0.040696 0.001656 -0.000067
                                          1
     426 -0.034229 0.001172 -0.000040
                                          1
```

### 26 Diabetes Dataset: A Polynomial Model

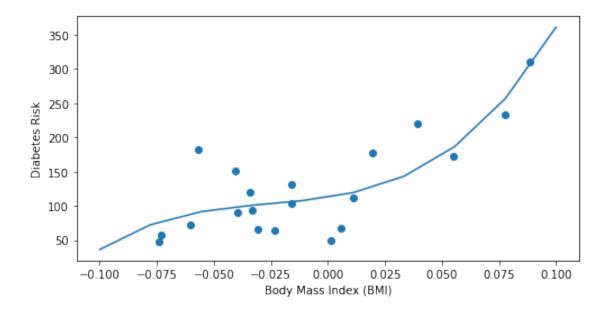
By training a linear model on this featurization of the diabetes set, we can obtain a polynomial model of diabetest risk as a function of BMI.

```
[27]: # Fit a linear regression
    theta = np.linalg.inv(X_bmi_p3.T.dot(X_bmi_p3)).dot(X_bmi_p3.T).dot(y_train)

# Show the learned polynomial curve
    x_line = np.linspace(-0.1, 0.1, 10)
    x_line_p3 = np.stack([x_line, x_line**2, x_line**3, np.ones(10,)], axis=1)
    y_train_pred = x_line_p3.dot(theta)

plt.xlabel('Body Mass Index (BMI)')
    plt.ylabel('Diabetes Risk')
    plt.scatter(X_bmi, y_train)
    plt.plot(x_line, y_train_pred)
```

[27]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x1292c99e8>]



### 27 Multivariate Polynomial Regression

We can construct non-linear functions of multiple variables by using multivariate polynomials. For example, a polynomial of degree 2 over two variables  $x_1, x_2$  is a function of the form

$$a_{20}x_1^2 + a_{10}x_1 + a_{02}x_2^2 + a_{01}x_2 + a_{11}x_1x_2 + a_{00}.$$

In general, a polynomial of degree p over two variables  $x_1, x_2$  is a function of the form

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{i,j \ge 0: i+j \le p} a_{ij} x_1^i x_2^j.$$

In our two-dimensional example, this corresponds to a feature function  $\phi: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^6$  of the form

$$\phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x_1 \\ x_1^2 \\ x_2 \\ x_2^2 \\ x_1 x_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The same approach can be used to specify polynomials of any degree and over any number of variables.

### 28 Towards General Non-Linear Features

Any non-linear feature map  $\phi(x): \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^p$  can be used in this way to obtain general models of the form

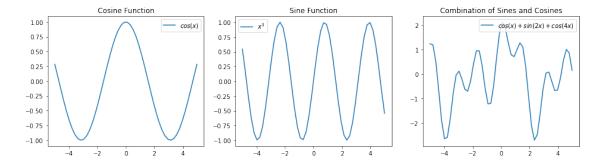
$$f_{\theta}(x) := \theta^{\top} \phi(x)$$

that are highly non-linear in x but linear in  $\theta$ .

For example, here is a way of modeling complex periodic functions via a sum of sines and cosines.

```
[28]: import warnings
      warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")
      plt.figure(figsize=(16,4))
      x_{vars} = np.linspace(-5, 5)
      plt.subplot('131')
      plt.title('Cosine Function')
      plt.plot(x_vars, np.cos(x_vars))
      plt.legend(["$cos(x)$"])
      plt.subplot('132')
      plt.title('Sine Function')
      plt.plot(x_vars, np.sin(2*x_vars))
      plt.legend(["$x^3$"])
      plt.subplot('133')
      plt.title('Combination of Sines and Cosines')
      plt.plot(x_vars, np.cos(x_vars) + np.sin(2*x_vars) + np.cos(4*x_vars))
      plt.legend(["$cos(x) + sin(2x) + cos(4x)$"])
```

### [28]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x129571160>



# 29 Part 4: Overfitting

Next, we are going to see some limitations of the above approach.

### 30 Polynomials Fit the Data Well

When we switch from linear models to polynomials, we can better fit the data and increase the accuracy of our models.

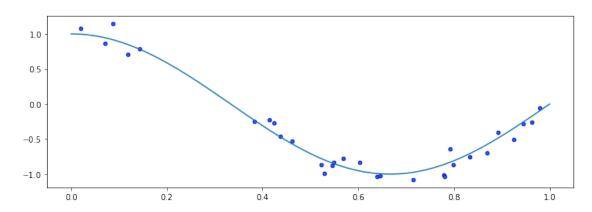
Let's generate a synthetic dataset for this demonstration.

```
[7]: from sklearn.pipeline import Pipeline
  from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
  from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression

np.random.seed(0)
n_samples = 30
X = np.sort(np.random.rand(n_samples))
y = true_fn(X) + np.random.randn(n_samples) * 0.1

X_test = np.linspace(0, 1, 100)
plt.plot(X_test, true_fn(X_test), label="True function")
plt.scatter(X, y, edgecolor='b', s=20, label="Samples")
```

### [7]: <matplotlib.collections.PathCollection at 0x12e0c58d0>

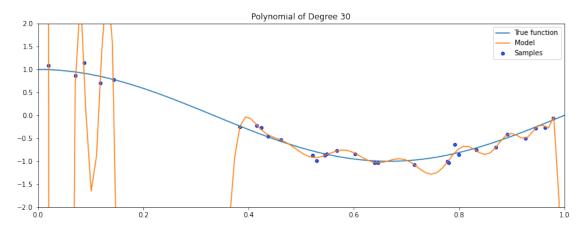


### 31 Towards Higher-Degree Polynomial Features?

As we increase the complexity of our model class  $\mathcal{M}$  to include even higher degree polynomials, we are able to fit the data even better.

What happens if we further increase the degree of the polynomial?

```
[10]: degrees = [30]
      plt.figure(figsize=(14, 5))
      for i in range(len(degrees)):
          ax = plt.subplot(1, len(degrees), i + 1)
          polynomial_features = PolynomialFeatures(degree=degrees[i],__
       →include bias=False)
          linear_regression = LinearRegression()
          pipeline = Pipeline([("pf", polynomial_features), ("lr", __
       →linear_regression)])
          pipeline.fit(X[:, np.newaxis], y)
          X \text{ test} = \text{np.linspace}(0, 1, 100)
          ax.plot(X_test, true_fn(X_test), label="True function")
          ax.plot(X_test, pipeline.predict(X_test[:, np.newaxis]), label="Model")
          ax.scatter(X, y, edgecolor='b', s=20, label="Samples")
          ax.set_xlim((0, 1))
          ax.set_ylim((-2, 2))
          ax.legend(loc="best")
          ax.set_title("Polynomial of Degree {}".format(degrees[i]))
```



As the degree of the polynomial increases to the size of the dataset, we are increasingly able to fit every point in the dataset.

However, this results in a highly irregular curve: its behavior outside the training set is wildly inaccurate.

# 32 Overfitting

Overfitting is one of the most common failure modes of machine learning. \* A very expressive model (e.g., a high degree polynomial) fits the training dataset perfectly. \* But the model makes highly incorrect predictions outside this dataset, and doesn't generalize.

### 33 Underfitting

A related failure mode is underfitting.

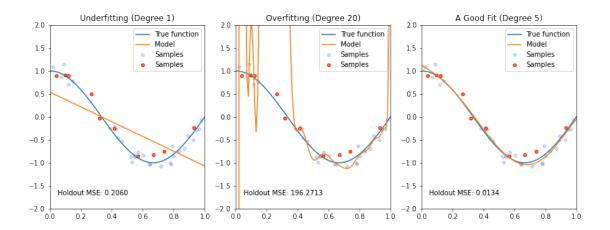
- A small model (e.g. a straight line), will not fit the training data well.
- Therefore, it will also not be accurate on new data.

Finding the tradeoff between overfitting and underfitting is one of the main challenges in applying machine learning.

### 34 Overfitting vs. Underfitting: Evaluation

We can diagnose overfitting and underfitting by measuring performance on a separate held out dataset (not used for training). \* If training perforance is **high** but holdout performance is **low**, we are overfitting. \* If training perforance is **low** and holdout performance is **low**, we are underfitting.

```
[11]: degrees = [1, 20, 5]
      titles = ['Underfitting', 'Overfitting', 'A Good Fit']
      plt.figure(figsize=(14, 5))
      for i in range(len(degrees)):
          ax = plt.subplot(1, len(degrees), i + 1)
          polynomial_features = PolynomialFeatures(degree=degrees[i],__
       →include_bias=False)
          linear_regression = LinearRegression()
          pipeline = Pipeline([("pf", polynomial_features), ("lr", __
       →linear_regression)])
          pipeline.fit(X[:, np.newaxis], y)
          ax.plot(X_test, true_fn(X_test), label="True function")
          ax.plot(X_test, pipeline.predict(X_test[:, np.newaxis]), label="Model")
          ax.scatter(X, y, edgecolor='b', s=20, label="Samples", alpha=0.2)
          ax.scatter(X_holdout[::3], y_holdout[::3], edgecolor='r', s=20,__
       →label="Samples")
          ax.set xlim((0, 1))
          ax.set_ylim((-2, 2))
          ax.legend(loc="best")
          ax.set_title("{} (Degree {})".format(titles[i], degrees[i]))
          ax.text(0.05,-1.7, 'Holdout MSE: %.4f' % ((y_holdout-pipeline.
       →predict(X_holdout[:, np.newaxis]))**2).mean())
```



### 35 How to Fix Underfitting

What if our model doesn't fit the training set well? Try the following: \* Create richer features that will make the dataset easier to fit. \* Use a more expressive model family (higher degree polynomials) \* Try to improve your optimization algorithm

### 36 How to Fix Overfitting

We will see many ways of dealing with overftting, but here are some ideas: \* Use a simpler model family (linear models vs. neural nets) \* Keep the same model, but collect more training data \* Modify the training process to penalize overly complex models.

# 37 Datasets for Model Development

When developing machine learning models, the first step is to usually split the data into three sets: \* Training set: Data on which we train our algorithms. \* Development set (validation or holdout set): Data used for tuning algorithms. \* Test set: Data used to evaluate the final performance of the model.

# 38 Model Development Workflow

The typical way in which these datasets are used is: 1. **Training:** Try a new model and fit it on the training set.

- 2. **Model Selection**: Estimate performance on the development set using metrics. Based on results, try a new model idea in step #1.
- 3. Evaluation: Finally, estimate real-world performance on test set.

# Part 5: Regularization

We will now see a very important way to reduce overfitting: regularization.

### 39 Regularization: Intuition

The idea of regularization is to penalize complex models that may overfit the data.

In the previous example, a less complex would rely less on polynomial terms of high degree.

### 40 Regularization: Definition

The idea of regularization is to train models with an augmented objective  $J: \mathcal{M} \to \mathbb{R}$  defined over a training dataset  $\mathcal{D}$  of size n as

$$J(f) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} L(y^{(i)}, f(x^{(i)}))}_{\text{Learning Objective}} + \underbrace{\lambda \cdot R(f)}_{\text{New Regularization Term}}$$

- The regularizer  $R: \mathcal{M} \to \mathbb{R}$  penalizes models that are complex.
- The hyperparameter  $\lambda > 0$  controls the strength of the regularizer.

Let's dissect the components of this objective:

$$J(f) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} L(y^{(i)}, f(x^{(i)})) + \lambda \cdot R(f).$$

- A loss function L(y, f(x)) such as the mean squared error.
- A regularizer  $R: \mathcal{M} \to \mathbb{R}$  that penalizes models that are overly complex.
- A regularization parameter  $\lambda > 0$ , which controls the strength of the regularizer.

When the model  $f_{\theta}$  is parametrized by parameters  $\theta$ , we also use the following notation:

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} L(y^{(i)}, f_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) + \lambda \cdot R(\theta).$$

# 41 L2 Regularization: Definition

How can we define a regularizer  $R: \mathcal{M} \to \mathbb{R}$  to control the complexity of a model  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ ?

In the context of linear models  $f_{\theta}(x) = \theta^{\top} x$ , a widely used approach is L2 regularization, which defines the following objective:

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} L(y^{(i)}, \theta^{\top} x^{(i)}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \cdot ||\theta||_{2}^{2}.$$

Let's dissect the components of this objective.

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} L(y^{(i)}, \theta^{\top} x^{(i)}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \cdot ||\theta||_{2}^{2}.$$

- The regularizer  $R: \Theta \to \mathbb{R}$  is the function  $R(\theta) = ||\theta||_2^2 = \sum_{j=1}^d \theta_j^2$ . This is also known as the L2 norm of  $\theta$ .
- The regularizer penalizes large parameters. This prevents us from relying on any single feature and penalizes very irregular solutions.
- L2 regularization can be used with most models (linear, neural, etc.)

### 42 L2 Regularization for Polynomial Regression

Let's consider an application to the polynomial model we have seen so far. Given polynomial features  $\phi(x)$ , we optimize the following objective:

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y^{(i)} - \theta^{\top} \phi(x^{(i)}) \right)^{2} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \cdot ||\theta||_{2}^{2}.$$

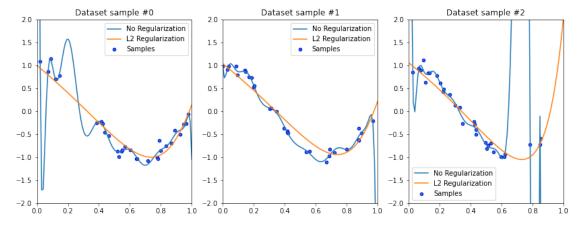
We implement regularized and polynomial regression of degree 15 on three random training sets sampled from the same distribution.

```
from sklearn.linear_model import Ridge

degrees = [15, 15, 15]
plt.figure(figsize=(14, 5))
for idx, i in enumerate(range(len(degrees))):
    # sample a dataset
    np.random.seed(idx)
    n_samples = 30
    X = np.sort(np.random.rand(n_samples))
    y = true_fn(X) + np.random.randn(n_samples) * 0.1

# fit a least squares model
    polynomial_features = PolynomialFeatures(degree=degrees[i],u
    include_bias=False)
    linear_regression = LinearRegression()
    pipeline = Pipeline([("pf", polynomial_features), ("lr",u
    inear_regression)])
```

```
pipeline.fit(X[:, np.newaxis], y)
   # fit a Ridge model
   polynomial_features = PolynomialFeatures(degree=degrees[i],__
→include_bias=False)
   linear regression = Ridge(alpha=0.1) # sklearn uses alpha instead of lambda
   pipeline2 = Pipeline([("pf", polynomial_features), ("lr", __
→linear regression)])
   pipeline2.fit(X[:, np.newaxis], y)
   # visualize results
   ax = plt.subplot(1, len(degrees), i + 1)
   # ax.plot(X_test, true_fn(X_test), label="True function")
   ax.plot(X_test, pipeline.predict(X_test[:, np.newaxis]), label="No_
→ Regularization")
   ax.plot(X_test, pipeline2.predict(X_test[:, np.newaxis]), label="L2"
→ Regularization")
   ax.scatter(X, y, edgecolor='b', s=20, label="Samples")
   ax.set_xlim((0, 1))
   ax.set ylim((-2, 2))
   ax.legend(loc="best")
   ax.set title("Dataset sample #{}".format(idx))
```



In order to define a very irregular function, we need very large polynomial weights.

Forcing the model to use small weights prevents it from learning irregular functions.

```
[14]: print('Non-regularized weights of the polynomial model need to be large to fit

→every point:')

print(pipeline.named_steps['lr'].coef_[:4])

print()
```

Non-regularized weights of the polynomial model need to be large to fit every point:

[-3.02370887e+03 1.16528860e+05 -2.44724185e+06 3.20288837e+07]

By regularizing the weights to be small, we force the curve to be more regular: [-2.70114811 -1.20575056 -0.09210716 0.44301292]

### 43 Normal Equations for Regularized Models

How, do we fit regularized models? As in the linear case, we can do this easily by deriving generalized normal equations!

Let  $L(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}(X\theta - y)^{\top}(X\theta - y)$  be our least squares objective. We can write the L2-regularized objective as:

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} (X\theta - y)^{\top} (X\theta - y) + \frac{1}{2} \lambda ||\theta||_{2}^{2}$$

This allows us to derive the gradient as follows:

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \nabla_{\theta} \left( \frac{1}{2} (X\theta - y)^{\top} (X\theta - y) + \frac{1}{2} \lambda ||\theta||_{2}^{2} \right)$$

$$= \nabla_{\theta} \left( L(\theta) + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \theta^{\top} \theta \right)$$

$$= \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta) + \lambda \theta$$

$$= (X^{\top} X) \theta - X^{\top} y + \lambda \theta$$

$$= (X^{\top} X + \lambda I) \theta - X^{\top} y$$

We used the derivation of the normal equations for least squares to obtain  $\nabla_{\theta} L(\theta)$  as well as the fact that:  $\nabla_x x^{\top} x = 2x$ .

We can set the gradient to zero to obtain normal equations for the Ridge model:

$$(X^{\top}X + \lambda I)\theta = X^{\top}y.$$

Hence, the value  $\theta^*$  that minimizes this objective is given by:

$$\theta^* = (X^\top X + \lambda I)^{-1} X^\top y.$$

Note that the matrix  $(X^{\top}X + \lambda I)$  is always invertible, which addresses a problem with least squares that we saw earlier.

# 44 How to Choose $\lambda$ ? Hyperparameter Search

We refer to  $\lambda$  as a **hyperparameter**, because it's a high-level parameter that controls other parameters.

How do we choose  $\lambda$ ? \* We select the  $\lambda$  with the best performance on the development set. \* If we don't have enough data, we select  $\lambda$  by cross-validation.