



Feature Engineering

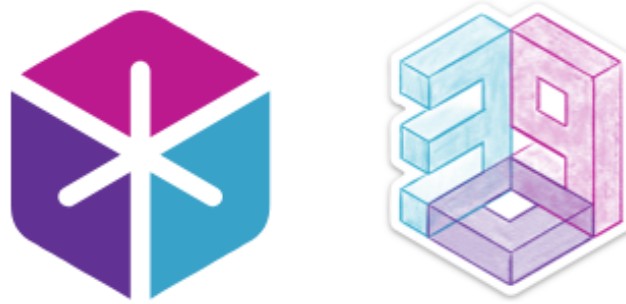
Rina BUOY, PhD



ChatGPT 4.0

Disclaimer

Adopted from



6.390

**Introduction to Machine Learning
(Fall 2024)**

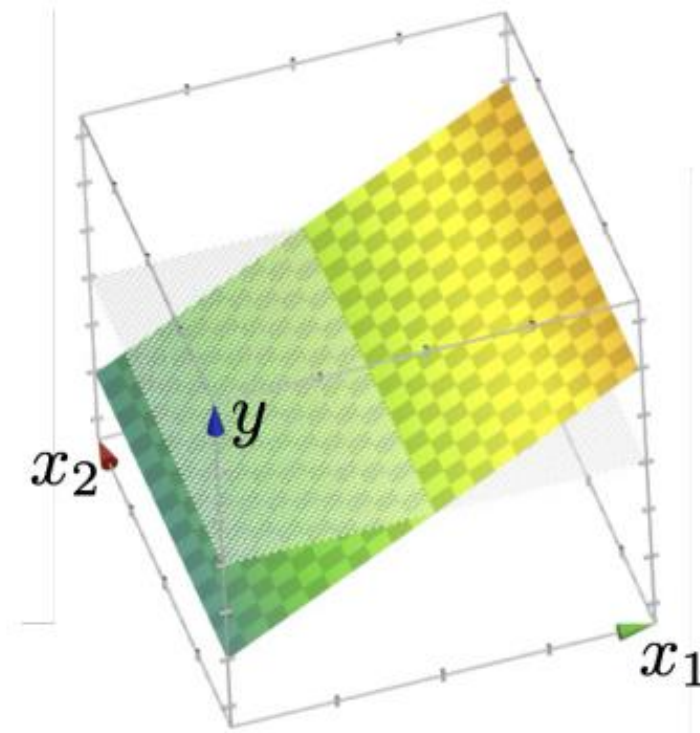
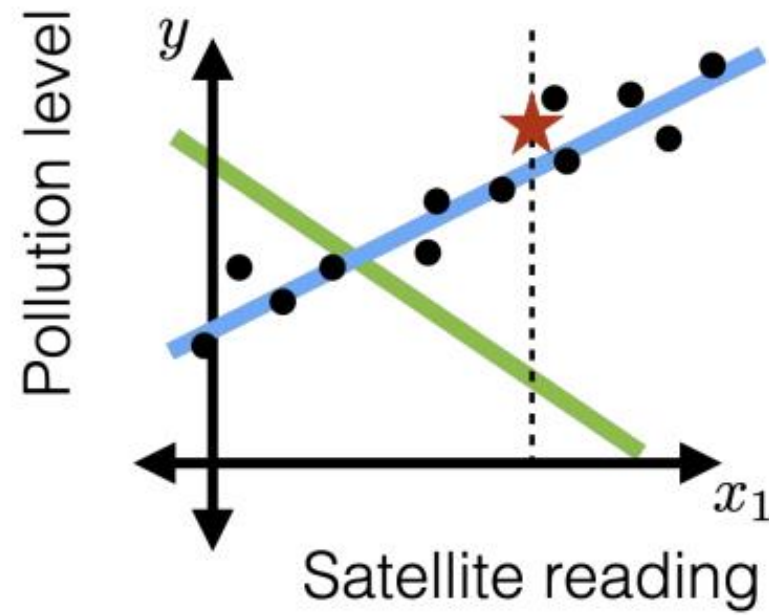
<https://introml.mit.edu/fall24>

Outline

- Recap, linear models and beyond
- Systematic feature transformations
 - Polynomial features
 - Expressive power
- Hand-crafting features
 - One-hot
 - Factored
 - Standardization/normalization
 - Thermometer

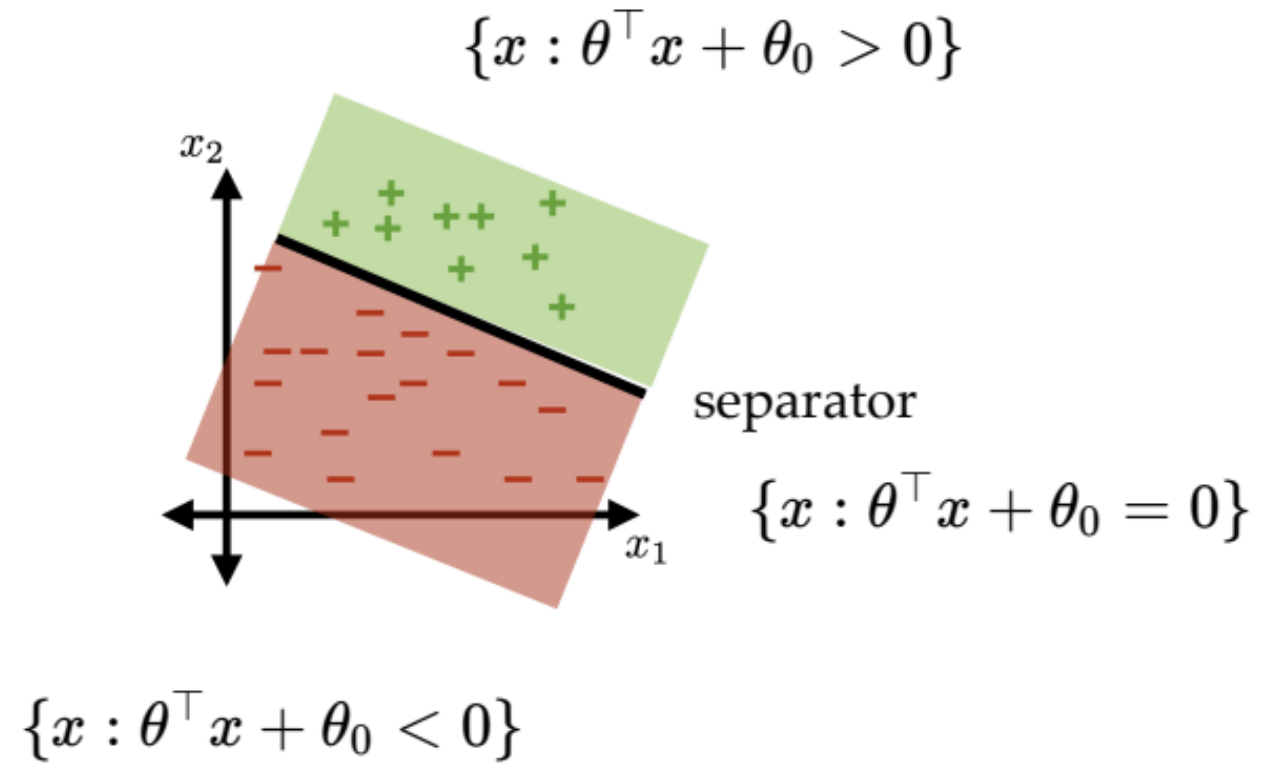
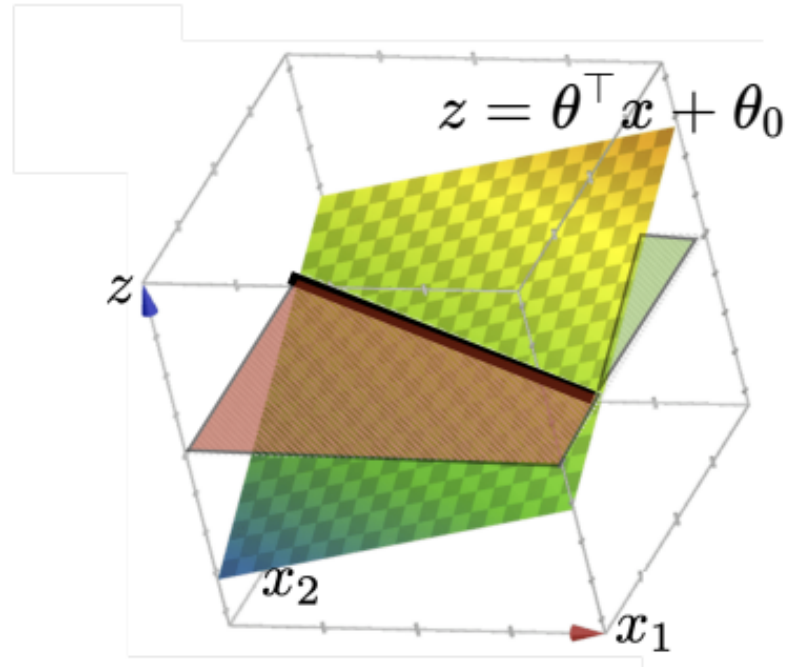
Recap:

linear regressor $y = \theta^\top x + \theta_0$



the regressor is **linear** in the feature x

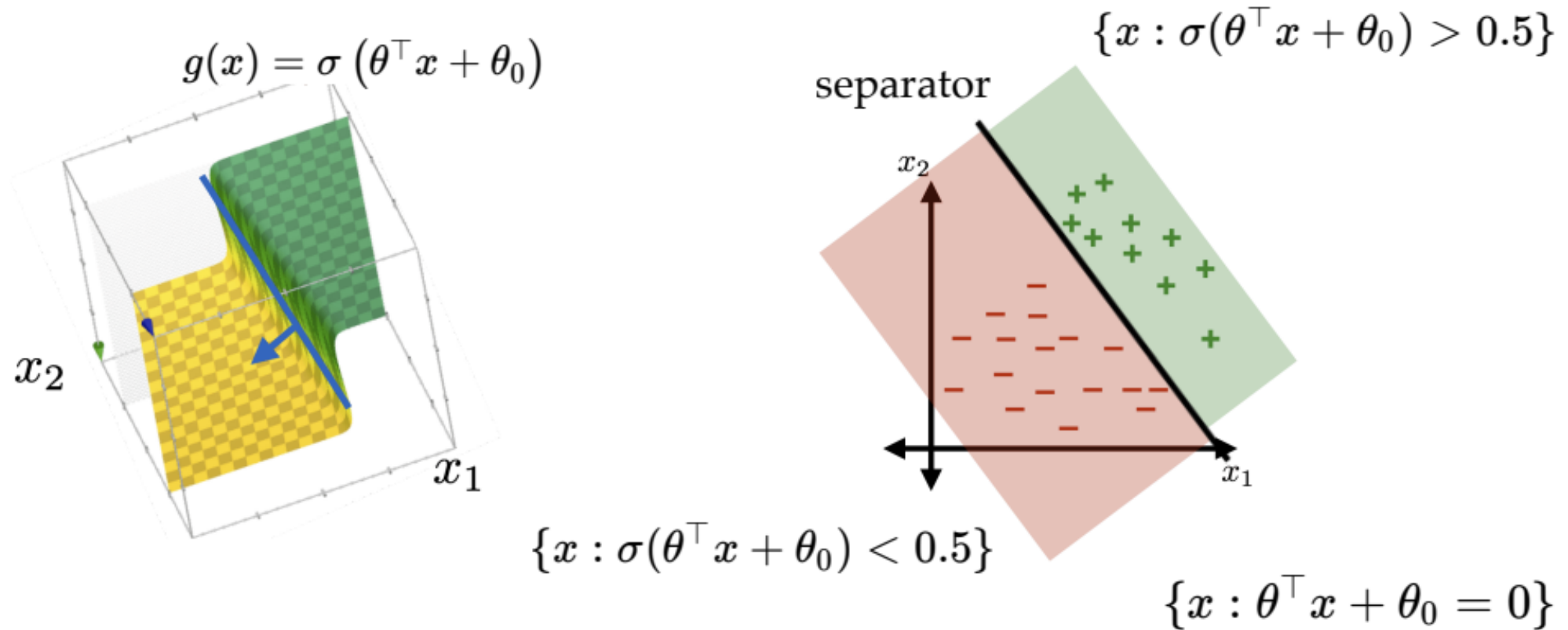
Recap: linear (sign-based) classifier



the separator is **linear** in the feature x

Recap:

linear logistic classifier



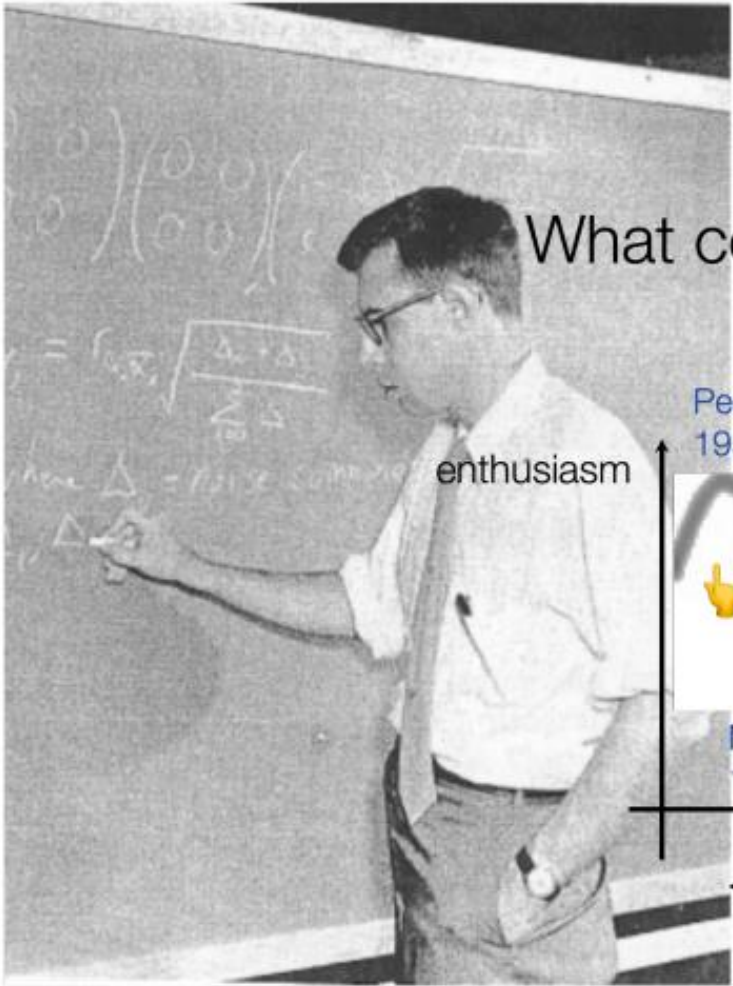
the separator is **linear** in the feature x

Linear classification played a pivotal role in kicking off the first wave of AI enthusiasm.

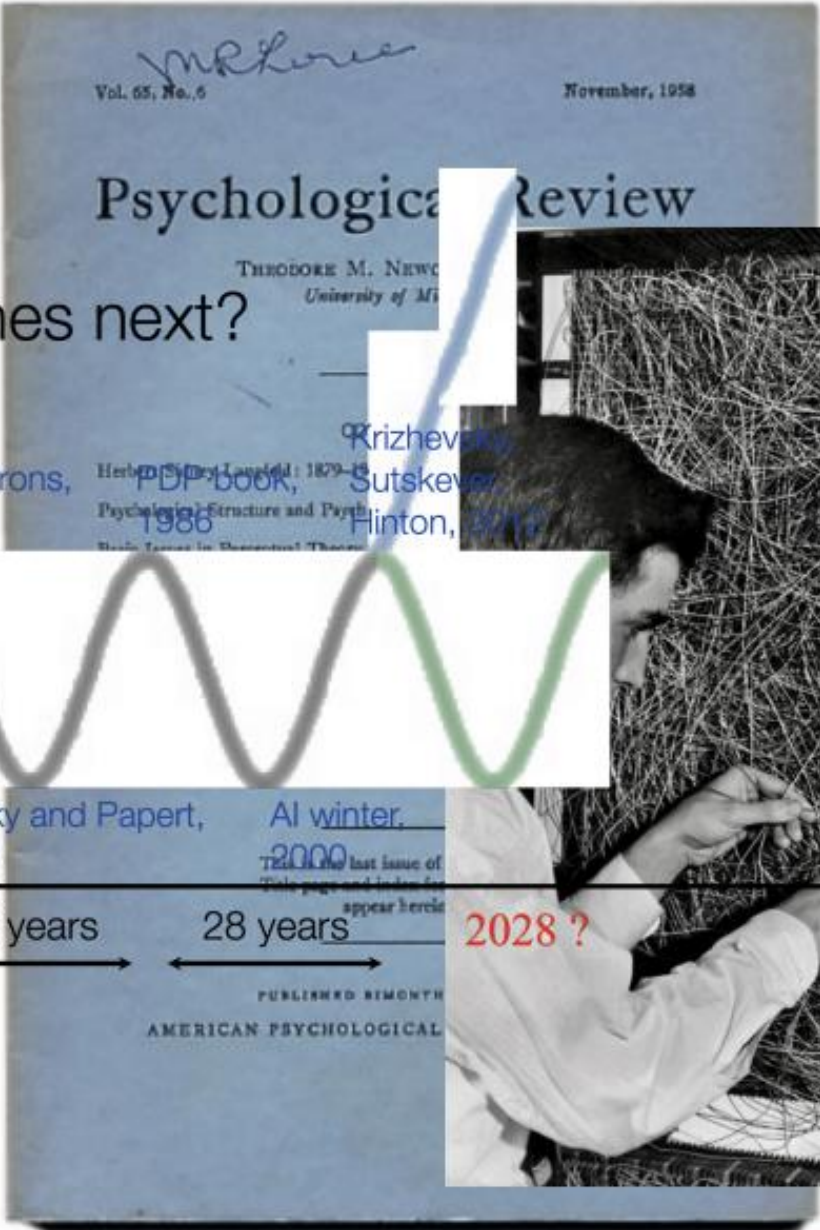
Image classification played a pivotal role in kicking off the current wave of AI enthusiasm.

What comes next?





http://www.ecse.rpi.edu/homepages/nagy/PDF_chrono/2011_Nagy_Pace_FR.pdf. Photo by George Nagy



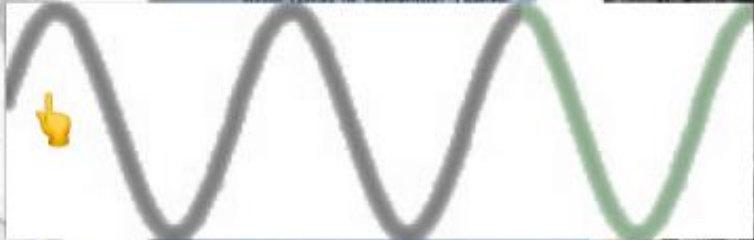
What comes next?

Perceptrons,
1958

PDP book,
1986

Krizhevsky,
Sutskever,
Hinton, 2012

enthusiasm



Minsky and Papert,
1972

AI winter,
2000

28 years

28 years

2028 ?

time

NEW NAVY DEVICE

Psychologist Shows Embryo of Computer Designed to Read and Grow Wiser

WASHINGTON, July 7 (UPI)
—The Navy revealed the embryo of an electronic computer today that it expects will be able to walk, talk, see, write, reproduce itself and be conscious of its existence.

During the demonstration, he said the machine would be the first device to think as the human brain. As do human be-

duce themselves on an assembly line and which would be conscious of their existence.

1958 New York
Times...

said.

Dr. Rosenblatt, a psychologist and aeronaut, said today's demonstration, the machine was fed two cards, one with squares marked on the left and the other with squares marked on the right side.

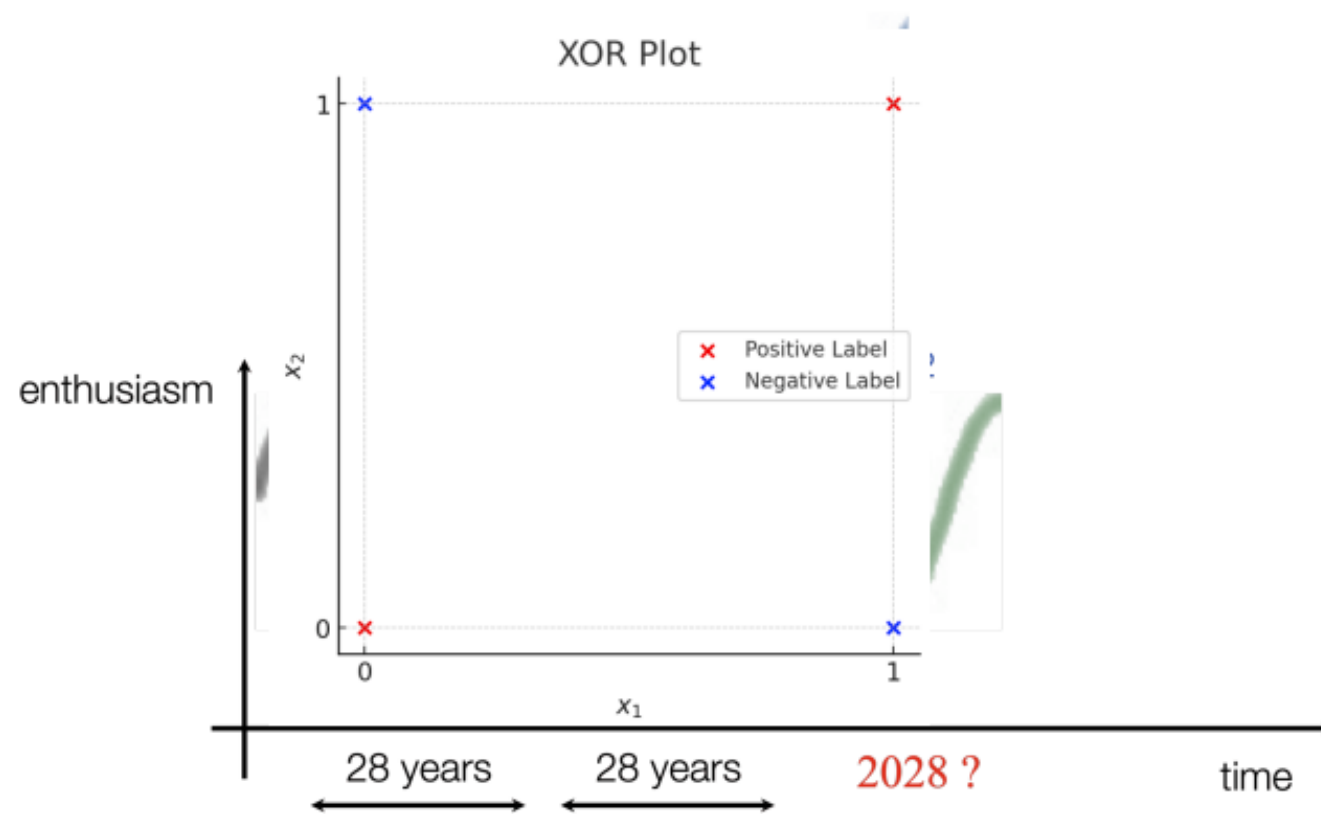
Learned by Doing

the first fifty trials, the machine made no distinction between them. It then started steering a "Q" for the left squares and "O" for the right squares.

Dr. Rosenblatt said he could explain why the machine learned only in highly technical terms. But he said the computer had undergone a "self-induced change in the wiring diagram."

The first Perceptron will have about 1,000 electronic "association cells" receiving electrical impulses from an eye-scanning device with 400 photo-cells. The human brain has 10,000,000,000 responsive cells, including 100,000,000 connections with the eyes.

Without The Navy would be mechanizing, recognizing its surroundings, human traits. The "I remember"



Not **linearly** separable.

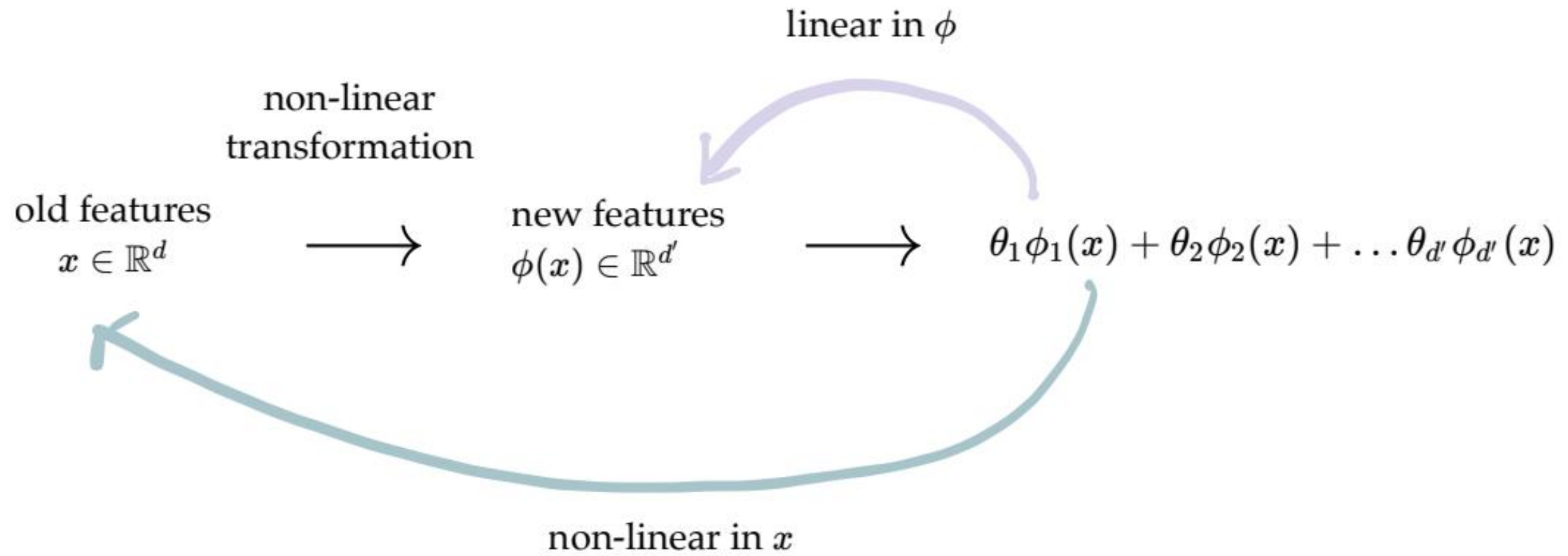
~~Linear tools cannot solve interesting tasks.~~

Linear tools cannot, *by themselves*, solve interesting tasks.

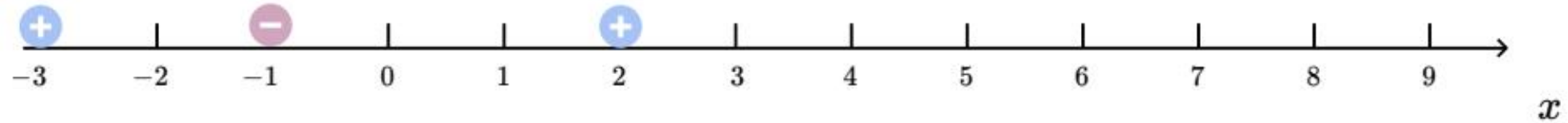
Many cool ideas can "help out" linear tools. We'll focus on one today.

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Not linearly separable in x space



\Downarrow transform via $\phi(x) = x^2$



Linearly separable in $\phi(x) = x^2$ space

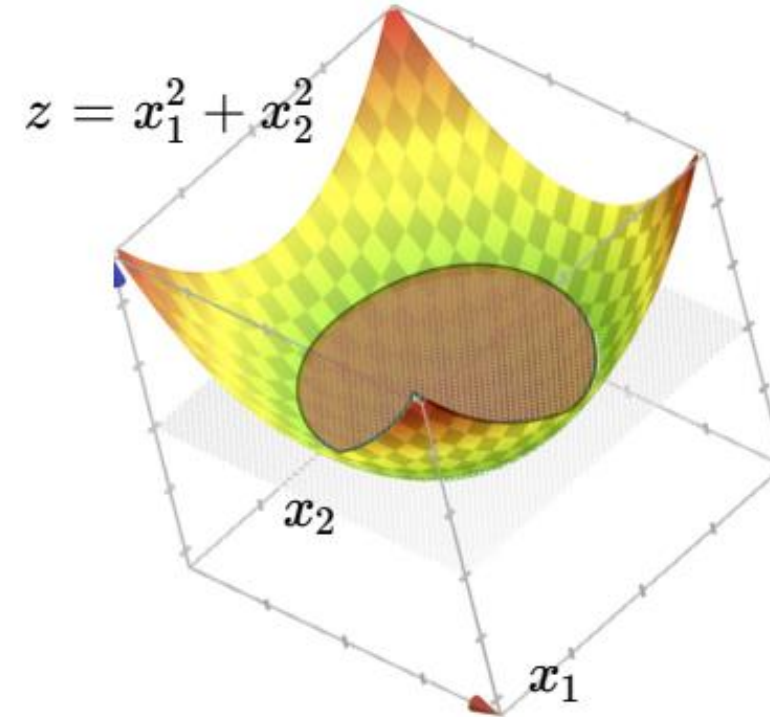
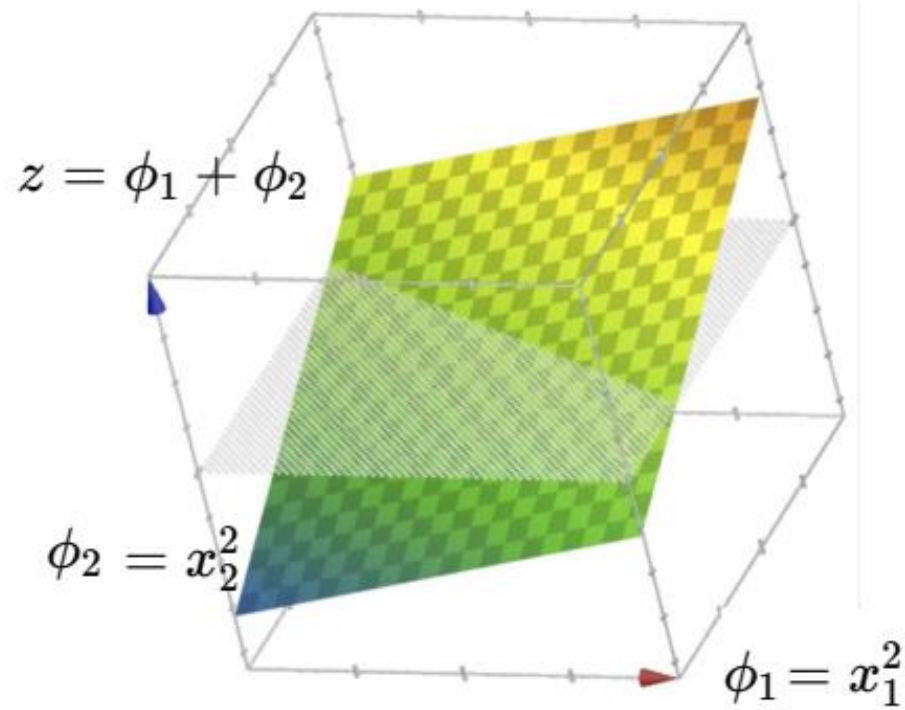
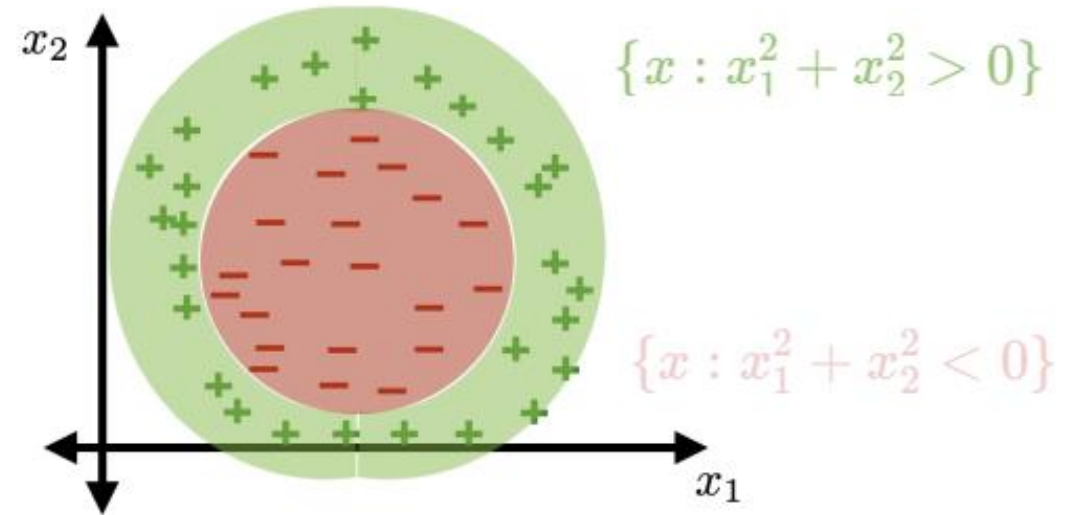
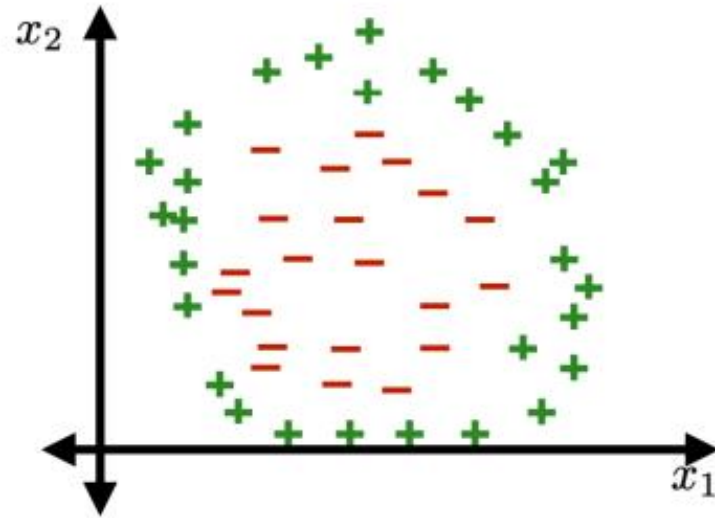
Non-linearly separated in x space, e.g. predict positive if $x^2 \geq 3$



\Downarrow transform via $\phi(x) = x^2$



Linearly separated in $\phi(x) = x^2$ space, e.g. predict positive if $\phi \geq 3$

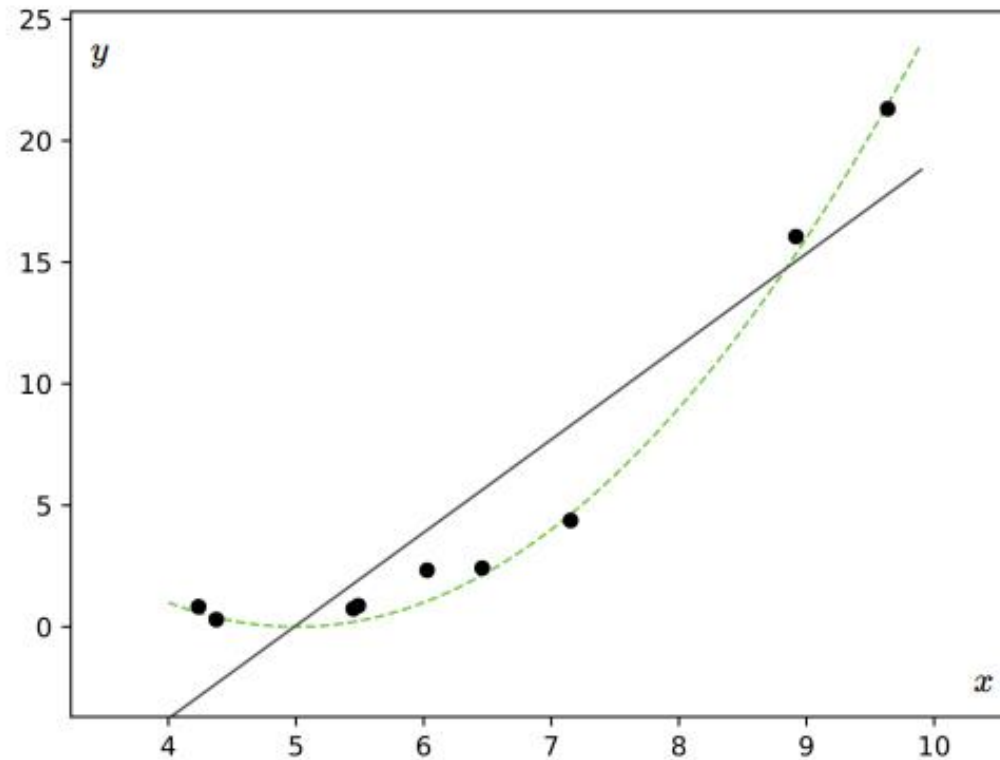


systematic polynomial feature transformation construction

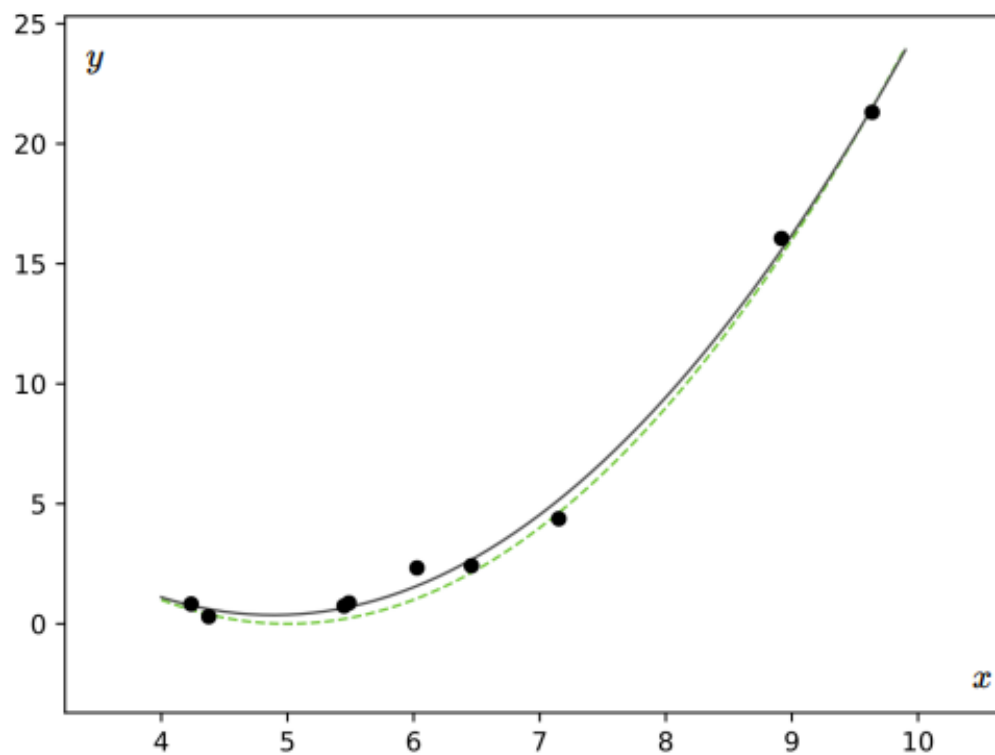
	$d = 1$	$d = 2$	\dots
$k = 0$	1	1	
$k = 1$	1, x_1	1, x_1, x_2	
$k = 2$	1, x_1, x_1^2	1, $x_1, x_2, x_1^2, x_1x_2, x_2^2$	
$k = 3$	1, x_1, x_1^2, x_1^3	1, $x_1, x_2, x_1^2, x_1x_2, x_2^2, x_1^3, x_1^2x_2, x_1x_2^2, x_2^3$	
\dots			

- Elements in the basis are the monomials of original features raised up to power k
- With a given d and a fixed k , the basis is **fixed**.

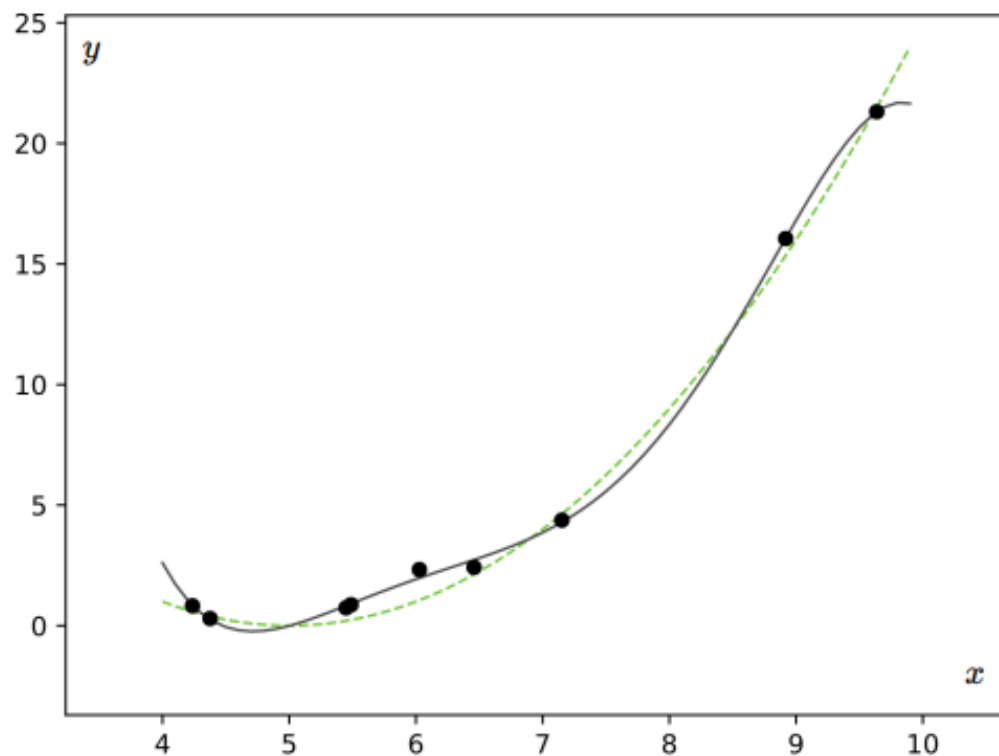
9 data points; each has feature $x \in \mathbb{R}$, label $y \in \mathbb{R}$



- Choose $k = 1$
- New features $\phi = [1; x]$
- $h(x; \theta) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$
- Learn 2 parameters for linear function

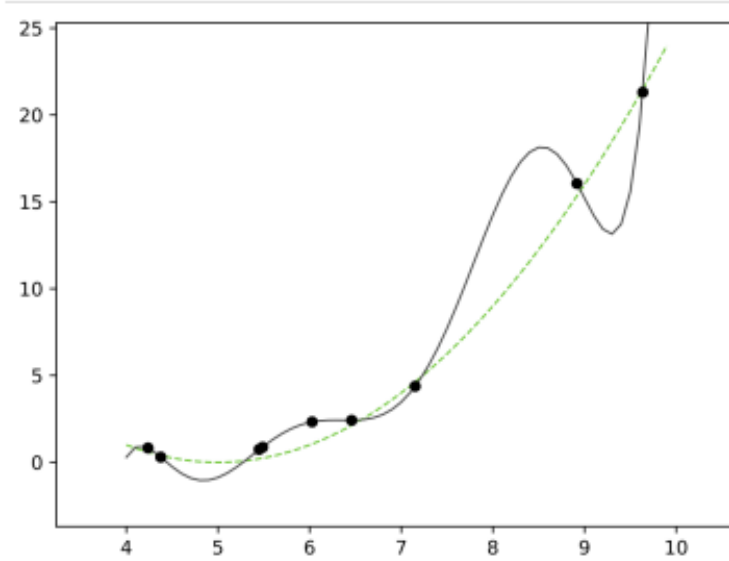


- Choose $k = 2$
- New features $\phi = [1; x; x^2]$
- $h(x; \theta) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2$
- Learn 3 parameters for quadratic function

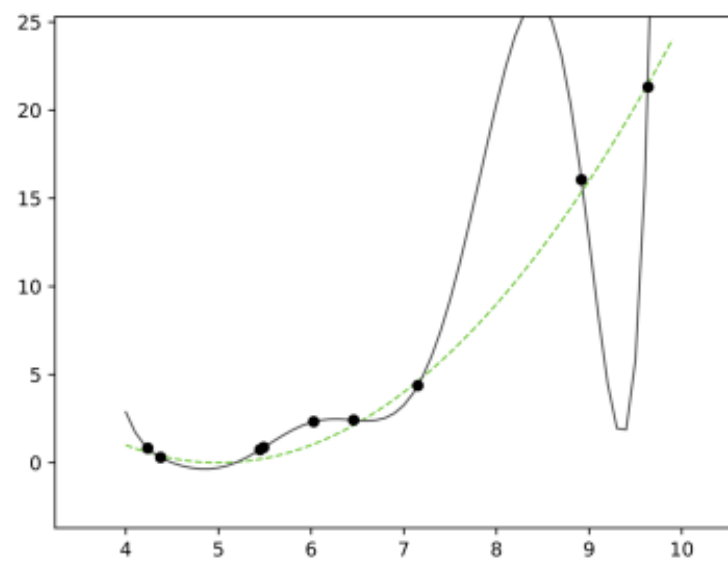


- Choose $k = 5$
- New features $\phi = [1; x; x^2; x^3; x^4; x^5]$
- $h(x; \theta) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4 + \theta_5 x^5$
- Learn 6 parameters for degree-5 polynomial function

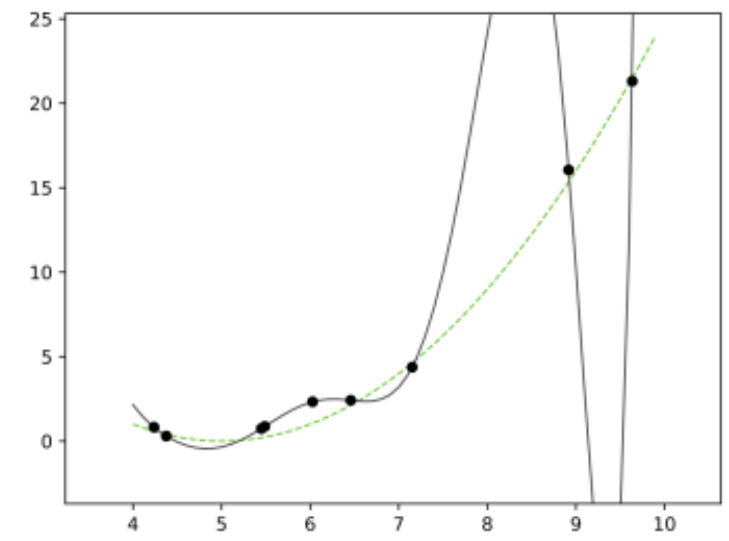
$k = 7$



$k = 8$

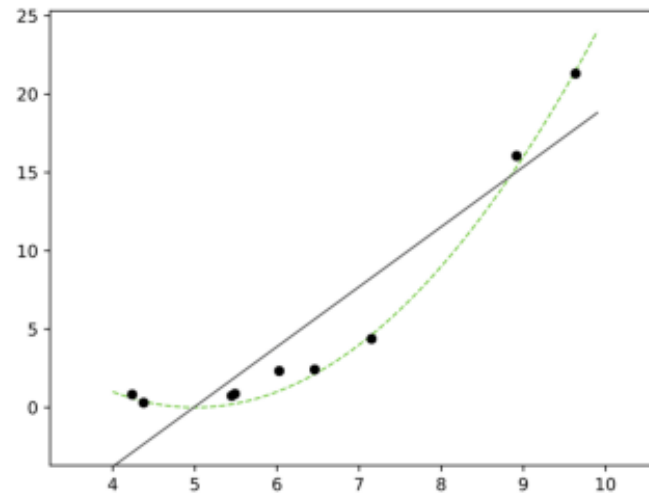


$k = 10$



Underfitting

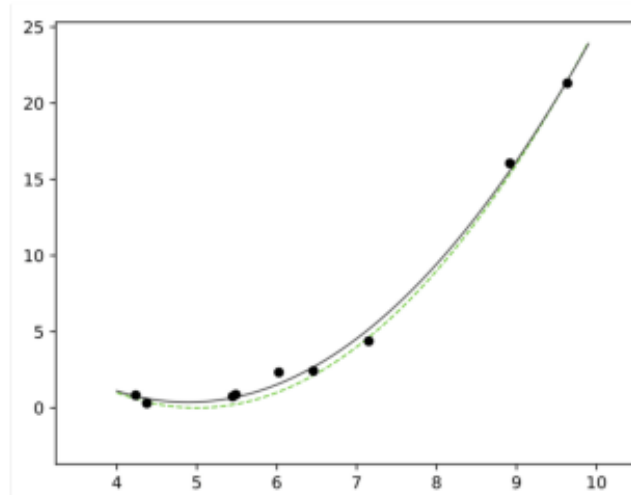
$$k = 1$$



high error on train set
high error on test set

Appropriate model

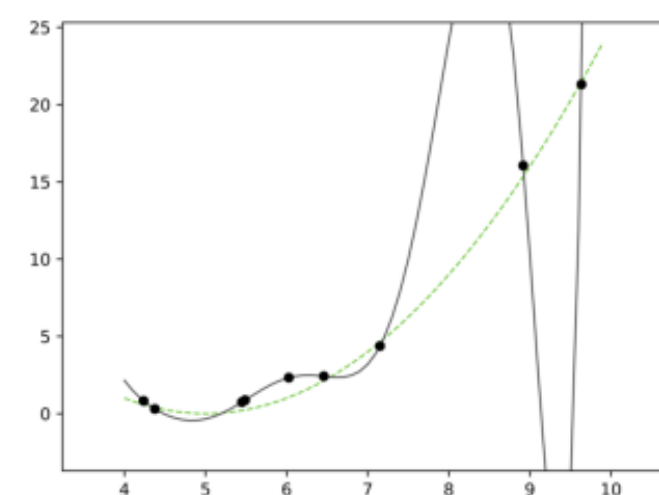
$$k = 2$$



low error on train set
low error on test set

Overfitting

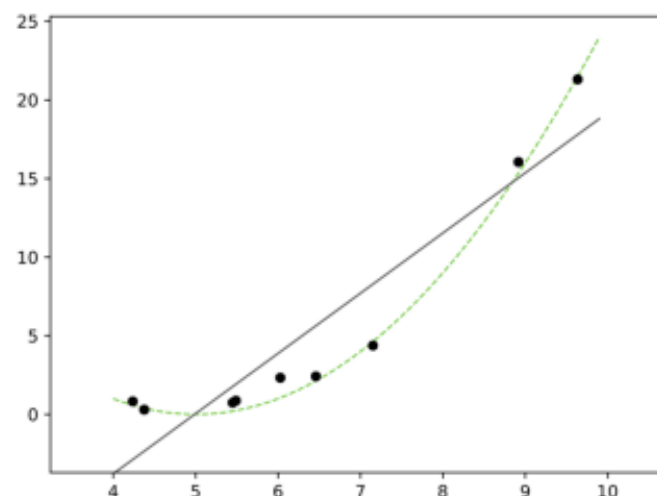
$$k = 10$$



very low error on train set
very high error on test set

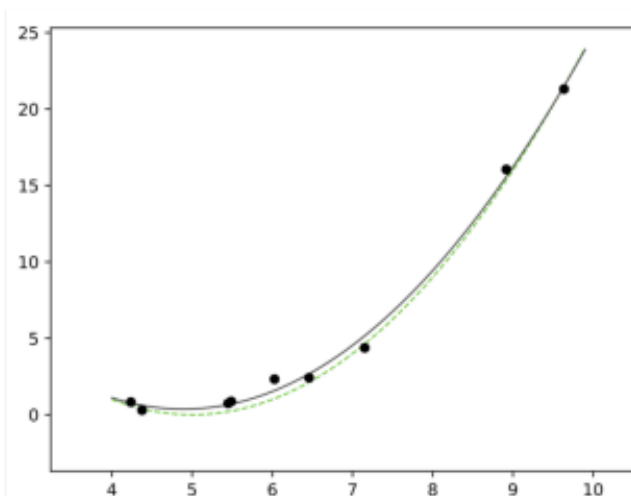
Underfitting

$$k = 1$$



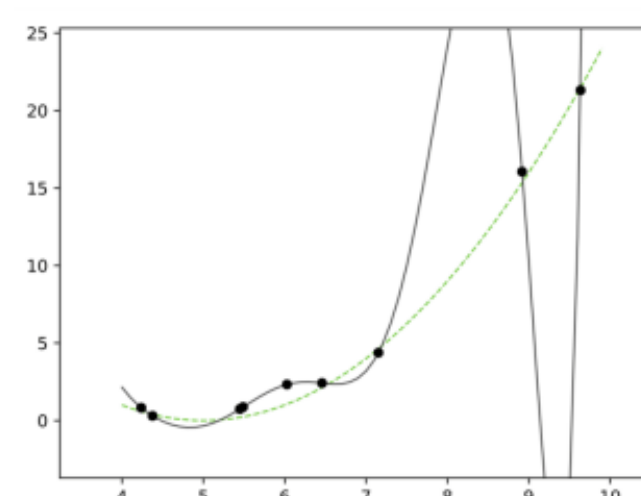
Appropriate model

$$k = 2$$



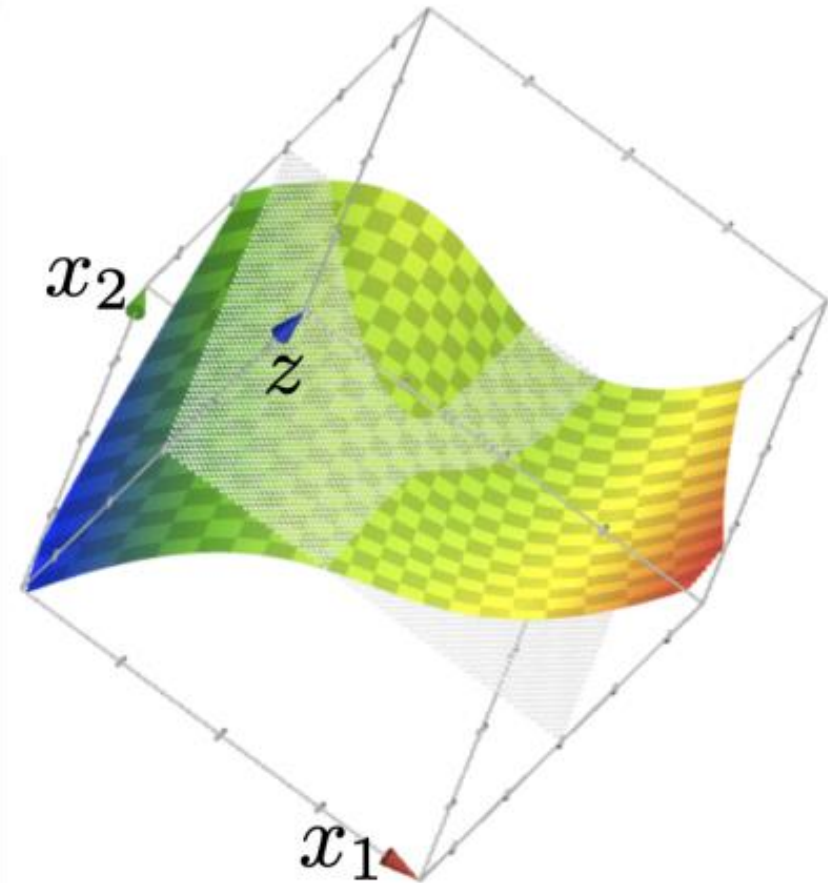
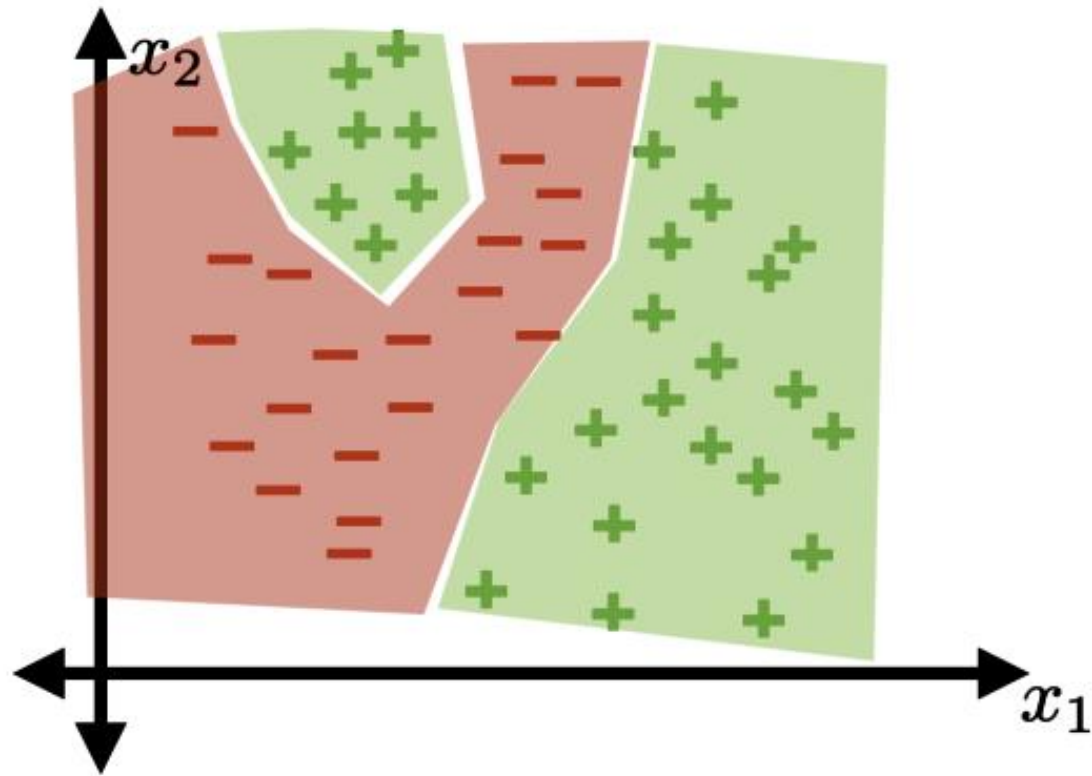
Overfitting

$$k = 10$$



- k is a hyperparameter that controls the capacity (expressiveness) of the hypothesis class.
- Complex models with many rich features and free parameters have high capacity.
- How to choose k ? Validation/cross-validation.

Similar overfitting can happen in classification
Using polynomial features of order 3



Quick summary

- Linear models are mathematically and algorithmically convenient but not expressive enough -- by themselves -- for most jobs.
- We can express really rich hypothesis classes by performing a **fixed** non-linear feature transformation first, then applying our linear regression or classification methods.
- Can think of fixed transformation as "adapters", enabling us to use old tools in broader situations.
- Standard feature transformations: polynomials; radial basis functions, absolute-value function.
- Historically, for a period of time, the gist of ML boils down to "feature engineering".
- Nowadays, neural networks can automatically extract out features.

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A more realistic ML analysis

1. Establish a high-level goal, and find good data.

(Example goal: diagnose if people have heart disease based on their available info.)

2. Encode data in useful form for the ML algorithm.

3. Choose a loss, and a regularizer. Write an objective function to optimize.

(Example: logistic regression. Loss: negative log likelihood. Regularizer: ridge penalty)

4. Optimize the objective function & return a hypothesis.

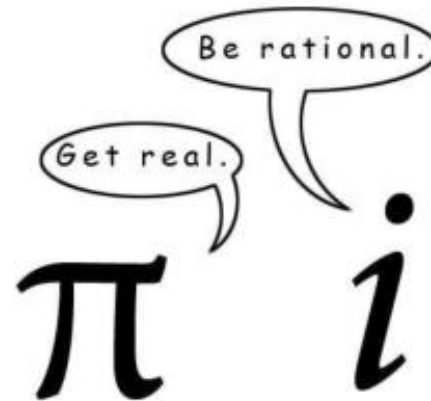
(Example: closed-form optimization, sgd)

5. Evaluate, validate, interpret, revisit or revise previous steps as needed.

Encode data in useful form for the ML algorithm.

Identify relevant info and
encode as **real** numbers

Encode in such a way that's
reasonable for the task.



Example: diagnose whether people have heart disease based on their available info.

- go collect training data.

	has heart disease?	pain?	job	medicines	resting heart rate (bpm)	family income (USD)
p1	no $y^{(1)}$	no	nurse	aspirin	55	133000
p2	no	no	admin	beta blockers, aspirin	71	34000
p3	yes	yes	nurse	beta blockers	89	40000
p4	no	no	doctor	none	67	120000

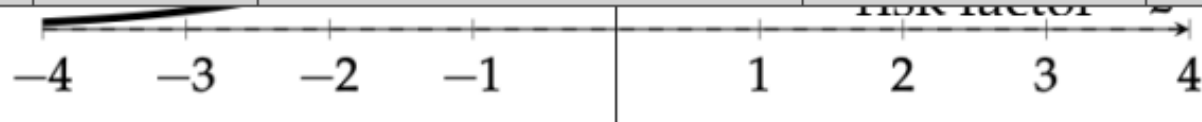
⋮
 ⋮
 ⋮

{ label features }

- Turn binary labels to {0,1}, save mapping to recover predictions of new points

```
encoding = {"yes": 1, "no": 0}
```

	has heart disease?	pain?	job	medicines	resting heart rate (bpm)	family income (USD)
p1	no	no	nurse	aspirin	55	133000
p2	no	no	admin	beta blockers, aspirin	71	34000
p3	yes	yes	nurse	beta blockers	89	40000
p4	no	no	doctor	none	67	120000



$$\sigma(z) = \sigma(\theta_{\text{pain}}x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}}x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}}x_{\text{income}})$$

- Encode binary feature answers to $\{0,1\}$, has nice interpretation

encoding = {"yes": 1, "no": 0}

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}}x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}}x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}}x_{\text{income}}$$



	pain?	job	medicines	resting heart rate (bpm)	family income (USD)
p1	0	nurse	aspirin	55	133000
p2	0	admin	beta blockers, aspirin	71	34000
p3	1	nurse	beta blockers	89	40000
p4	0	doctor	none	67	120000

person feeling pain has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}}x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}}x_{\text{income}}$

person not feeling pain has $z = \theta_{\text{job}}x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}}x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}}x_{\text{income}}$

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For "jobs", if use natural number encoding:



```
encoding = {"nurse": 1, "admin": 2, "pharmacist": 3, "doctor": 4, "social worker": 5}
```

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}} x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}} x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$$

$$\text{nurse has } z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}} x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$$

$$\text{admin has } z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + 2\theta_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}} x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$$

$$\text{pharmacist has } z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + 3\theta_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}} x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$$

problem with this idea:

- Ordering matters
- Incremental in job category affects z by a fixed θ_{job} amount



```
one_hot_encoding = {
  "nurse":      [1, 0, 0, 0, 0], #  $\Phi\{\text{job1}\}$ 
  "admin":      [0, 1, 0, 0, 0], #  $\Phi\{\text{job2}\}$ 
  "pharmacist": [0, 0, 1, 0, 0], #  $\Phi\{\text{job3}\}$ 
  "doctor":     [0, 0, 0, 1, 0], #  $\Phi\{\text{job4}\}$ 
  "social_worker": [0, 0, 0, 0, 1], #  $\Phi\{\text{job5}\}$ 
}
```

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}} x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$$

$$\theta_{\text{job1}} \phi_{\text{job1}} + \theta_{\text{job2}} \phi_{\text{job2}} + \theta_{\text{job3}} \phi_{\text{job3}} + \theta_{\text{job4}} \phi_{\text{job4}} + \theta_{\text{job5}} \phi_{\text{job5}}$$

nurse has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job1}} + \theta_{\text{pill}} x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$

admin has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job2}} + \theta_{\text{pill}} x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$

pharmacist has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job3}} + \theta_{\text{pill}} x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$



```
one_hot_encoding = {
  "nurse":      [1, 0, 0, 0, 0], #  $\Phi\{\text{job1}\}$ 
  "admin":      [0, 1, 0, 0, 0], #  $\Phi\{\text{job2}\}$ 
  "pharmacist": [0, 0, 1, 0, 0], #  $\Phi\{\text{job3}\}$ 
  "doctor":     [0, 0, 0, 1, 0], #  $\Phi\{\text{job4}\}$ 
  "social_worker": [0, 0, 0, 0, 1]} #  $\Phi\{\text{job5}\}$ 
```

	pain?	job	medicines	resting heart rate (bpm)	family income (USD)
p1	0	[1,0,0,0,0]	aspirin	55	133000
p2	0	[0,1,0,0,0]	beta blockers, aspirin	71	34000
p3	1	[1,0,0,0,0]	beta blockers	89	40000
p4	0	[0,0,0,1,0]	none	67	120000

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For medicines, hopefully obvious why natural number encoding isn't a good idea.
What about one-hot encoding?



```
one_hot_encoding = {
  "aspirin":      [1, 0, 0, 0], #Φ{combo1}
  "aspirin & bb": [0, 1, 0, 0], #Φ{combo2}
  "bb":           [0, 0, 1, 0], #Φ{combo3}
  "none":         [0, 0, 0, 1]} #Φ{combo4}
```

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$$

$$\theta_{\text{combo1}} \phi_{\text{combo1}} + \theta_{\text{combo2}} \phi_{\text{combo2}} + \theta_{\text{combo3}} \phi_{\text{combo3}} + \theta_{\text{combo4}} \phi_{\text{combo4}}$$

the natural "association" in combo1, combo2, and combo3 are lost

also, if a combo is very rare (which happens), say only 1 out of 1k surveyed person took combo2, then very hard to learn a meaningful θ_{combo2}



```
factored_encoding = {
  # encode as answer to
  # [taking aspirin?, taking bb?]
  # [ $\phi$ {aspirin},  $\phi$ {bb}]
  "aspirin":      [1, 0],
  "aspirin & bb": [1, 1],
  "bb":           [0, 1],
  "none":         [0, 0]}
```

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}}$$

$$\theta_{\text{aspirin}} \phi_{\text{aspirin}} + \theta_{\text{beta-blockers}} \phi_{\text{beta-blockers}}$$



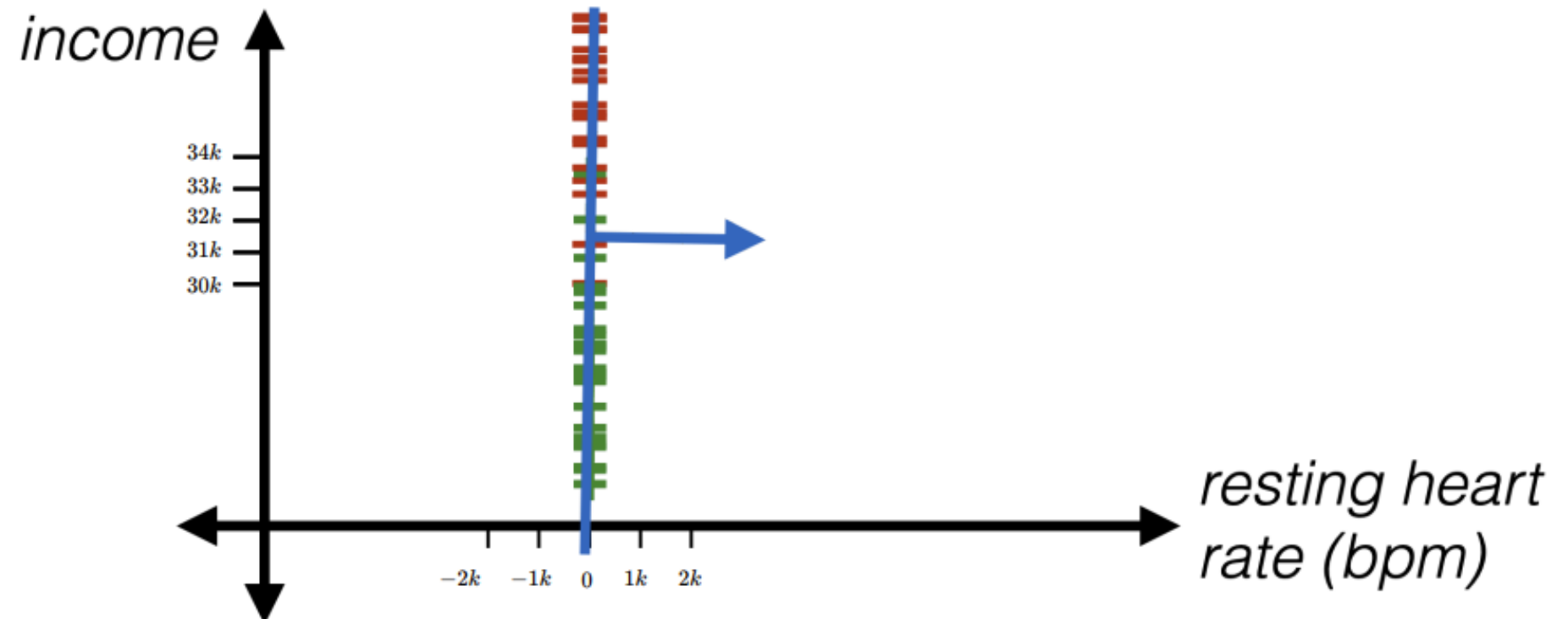
```
factored_encoding = {
  # encode as answer to
  # [taking aspirin?, taking bb?]
  # [ $\Phi$ {aspirin},  $\Phi$ {bb}]
  "aspirin":      [1, 0],
  "aspirin & bb": [1, 1],
  "bb":          [0, 1],
  "none":        [0, 0]}
```

	pain?	job	medicines	resting heart rate (bpm)	family income (USD)
p1	0	[1,0,0,0,0]	[1,0]	55	133000
p2	0	[0,1,0,0,0]	[1,1]	71	34000
p3	1	[1,0,0,0,0]	[0,1]	89	40000
p4	0	[0,0,0,1,0]	[0,0]	67	120000

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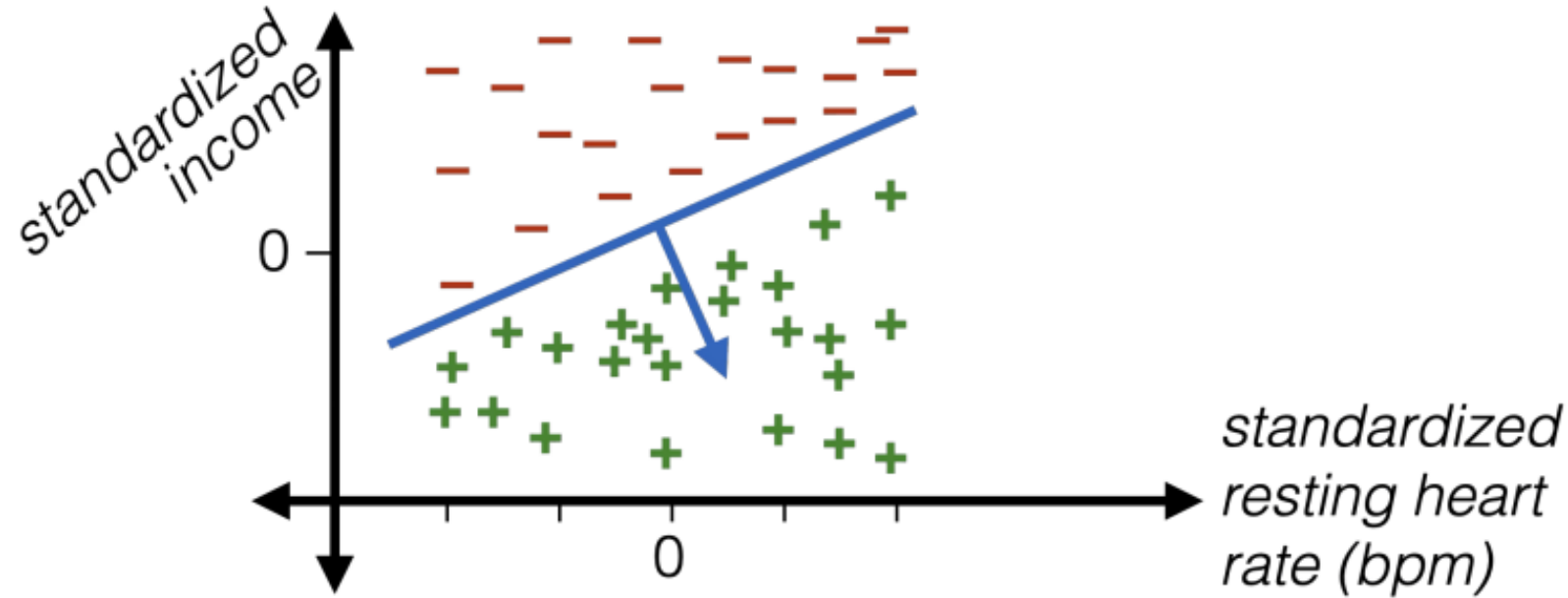
	resting heart rate (bpm)	family income (USD)
p1	55	133000
p2	71	34000
p3	89	40000
p4	67	120000



- Idea: standardize numerical data. For i th feature and data point j :



$$\phi_i^{(j)} = \frac{x_i^{(j)} - \text{mean}_i}{\text{stddev}_i}$$



may also be easier to visualize and interpret learned parameters if we standardize data.

	pain?	job	medicines	resting heart rate (bpm)	family income (USD)
p1	0	[1,0,0,0,0]	[1,0]	-1.5	2.075
p2	0	[0,1,0,0,0]	[1,1]	0.1	-0.4
p3	1	[1,0,0,0,0]	[0,1]	1.9	-0.25
p4	0	[0,0,0,1,0]	[0,0]	-0.3	1.75

Outline

- Recap, linear models and beyond
- Systematic feature transformations
 - Polynomial features
 - Expressive power
- Hand-crafting features
 - One-hot
 - Factored
 - Standardization/normalization
 - Thermometer

Imagine we added another question in survey: "how much do you agree that exercising could help preventing heart disease?"

	pain?	job	medicines	resting heart rate (bpm)	family income (USD)	agree exercising helps?
p1	0	[1,0,0,0,0]	[1,0]	-1.5	2.075	strongly disagree
p2	0	[0,1,0,0,0]	[1,1]	0.1	-0.4	disagree
p3	1	[1,0,0,0,0]	[0,1]	1.9	-0.25	neutral
p4	0	[0,0,0,1,0]	[0,0]	-0.3	1.75	agree

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + \theta_{\text{deg of agreement}} x_{\text{deg of agreement}}$$

🙄 For "degree of agreement", if use natural number encoding:

```
encoding = {"strongly agree": 1, "agree": 2, "neutral": 3, "disagree": 4, "strongly disagree": 5}
```

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + \theta_{\text{deg of agreement}} x_{\text{deg of agreement}}$$

disagreed has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + 4\theta_{\text{deg of agreement}}$

neutral has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + 3\theta_{\text{deg of agreement}}$

agreed has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + \theta_{\text{deg of agreement}}$

problem with this idea (again):

- Ordering matters
- Incremental in job category affects z by a fixed $\theta_{\text{deg of agreement}}$ amount



```
one_hot_encoding = {
  "strongly disagree": [1, 0, 0, 0, 0], #  $\phi\{\text{level1}\}$ 
  "disagree":         [0, 1, 0, 0, 0], #  $\phi\{\text{level2}\}$ 
  "neutral":          [0, 0, 1, 0, 0], #  $\phi\{\text{level3}\}$ 
  "agree":             [0, 0, 0, 1, 0], #  $\phi\{\text{level4}\}$ 
  "strongly agree":   [0, 0, 0, 0, 1], #  $\phi\{\text{level5}\}$ 
}
```

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + \theta_{\text{deg of agreement}} x_{\text{deg of agreement}}$$

$$\theta_{\text{level1}} \phi_{\text{level1}} + \theta_{\text{level2}} \phi_{\text{level2}} + \theta_{\text{level3}} \phi_{\text{level3}} + \theta_{\text{level4}} \phi_{\text{level4}} + \theta_{\text{level5}} \phi_{\text{level5}}$$

disagreed has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + \theta_{\text{level2}}$

neutral has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + \theta_{\text{level3}}$

agreed has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + \theta_{\text{level4}}$



```

thermometer_encoding = {
  "strongly disagree": [1, 0, 0, 0, 0], #  $\phi\{\text{level1}\}$ 
  "disagree":         [1, 1, 0, 0, 0], #  $\phi\{\text{level2}\}$ 
  "neutral":          [1, 1, 1, 0, 0], #  $\phi\{\text{level3}\}$ 
  "agree":            [1, 1, 1, 1, 0], #  $\phi\{\text{level4}\}$ 
  "strongly agree":   [1, 1, 1, 1, 1]} #  $\phi\{\text{level5}\}$ 

```

$$z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + \theta_{\text{deg of agreement}} x_{\text{deg of agreement}}$$

$$\theta_{\text{level1}} \phi_{\text{level1}} + \theta_{\text{level2}} \phi_{\text{level2}} + \theta_{\text{level3}} \phi_{\text{level3}} + \theta_{\text{level4}} \phi_{\text{level4}} + \theta_{\text{level5}} \phi_{\text{level5}}$$

disagreed has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + (\theta_{\text{level1}} + \theta_{\text{level2}})$

neutral has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + (\theta_{\text{level1}} + \theta_{\text{level2}} + \theta_{\text{level3}})$

agreed has $z = \theta_{\text{pain}} x_{\text{pain}} + \theta_{\text{job}}^T x_{\text{job}} + \theta_{\text{pill}}^T x_{\text{pill}} + \theta_{\text{heart rate}} x_{\text{heart rate}} + \theta_{\text{income}} x_{\text{income}} + (\theta_{\text{level1}} + \theta_{\text{level2}} + \theta_{\text{level3}} + \theta_{\text{level4}})$

Summary

- Linear models are mathematically and algorithmically convenient but not expressive enough -- by themselves -- for most jobs.
- We can express really rich hypothesis classes by performing a **fixed** non-linear feature transformation first, then applying our linear (regression or classification) methods.
- When we “set up” a problem to apply ML methods to it, it’s important to encode the inputs in a way that makes it easier for the ML method to exploit the structure.
- Foreshadowing of neural networks, in which we will learn complicated continuous feature transformations.