

Math for Machine Learning

Week 1.1: Vectors, matrices, and least squares regression

By: Samuel Deng

Lesson Overview

Vectors and matrices (an ML view). A single datapoint/sample in ML is represented as a **vector** $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$. A collection of samples is represented as a **matrix** $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$.

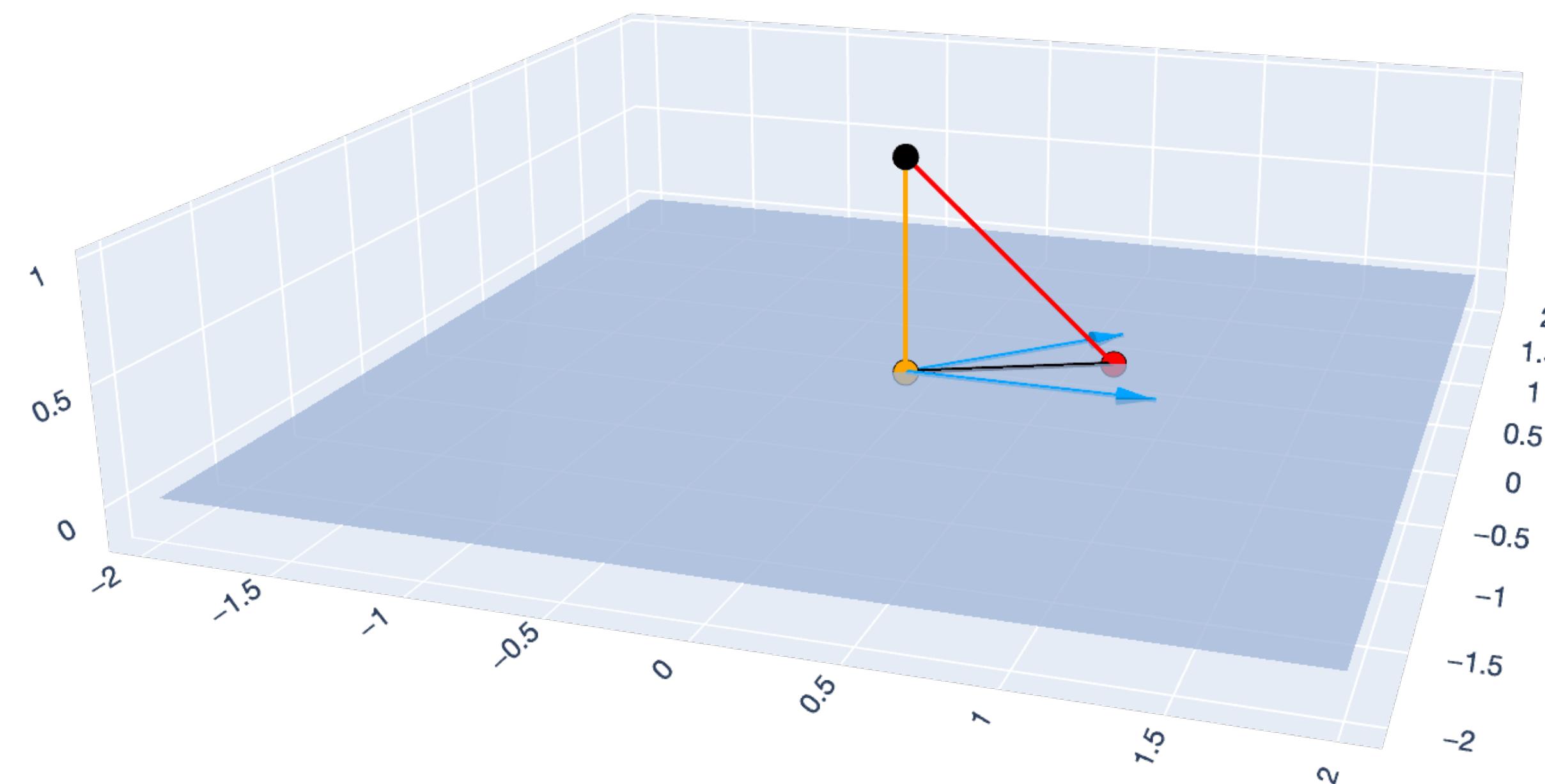
Regression (the basic ML problem). The basic problem in machine learning is **regression**: constructing a “best-fit” model from a collection of observed data $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and labels $y \in \mathbb{R}$: $(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$.

Linear independence. **Linearly independent** vectors are vectors that are not redundant; linearly dependent vectors can be expressed as simple (linear) combinations of other vectors.

Span. The **span** of a set of vectors includes all vectors we can form by simple (linear) combinations of the vectors in the set.

Lesson Overview

Big Picture: Least Squares

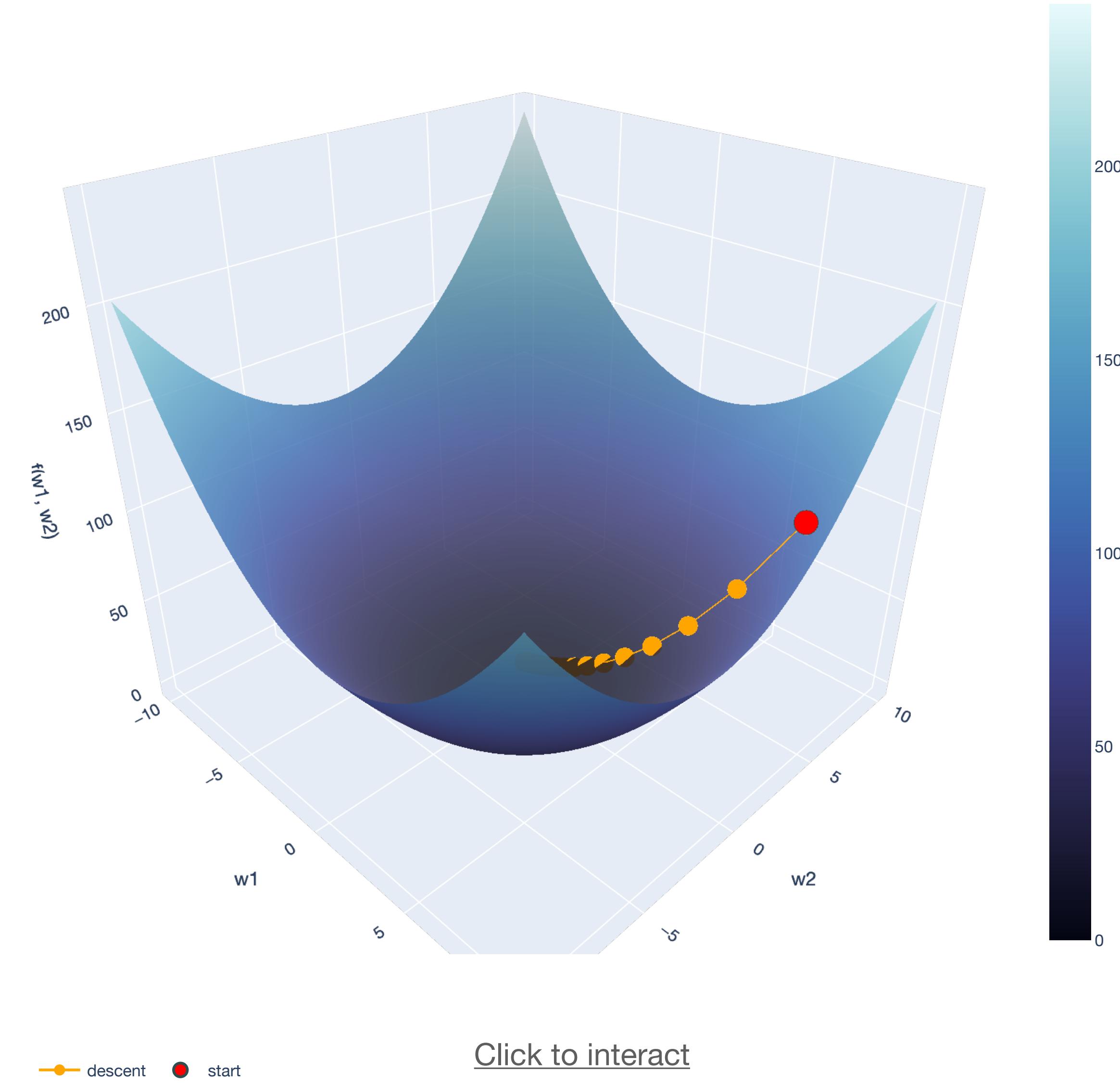
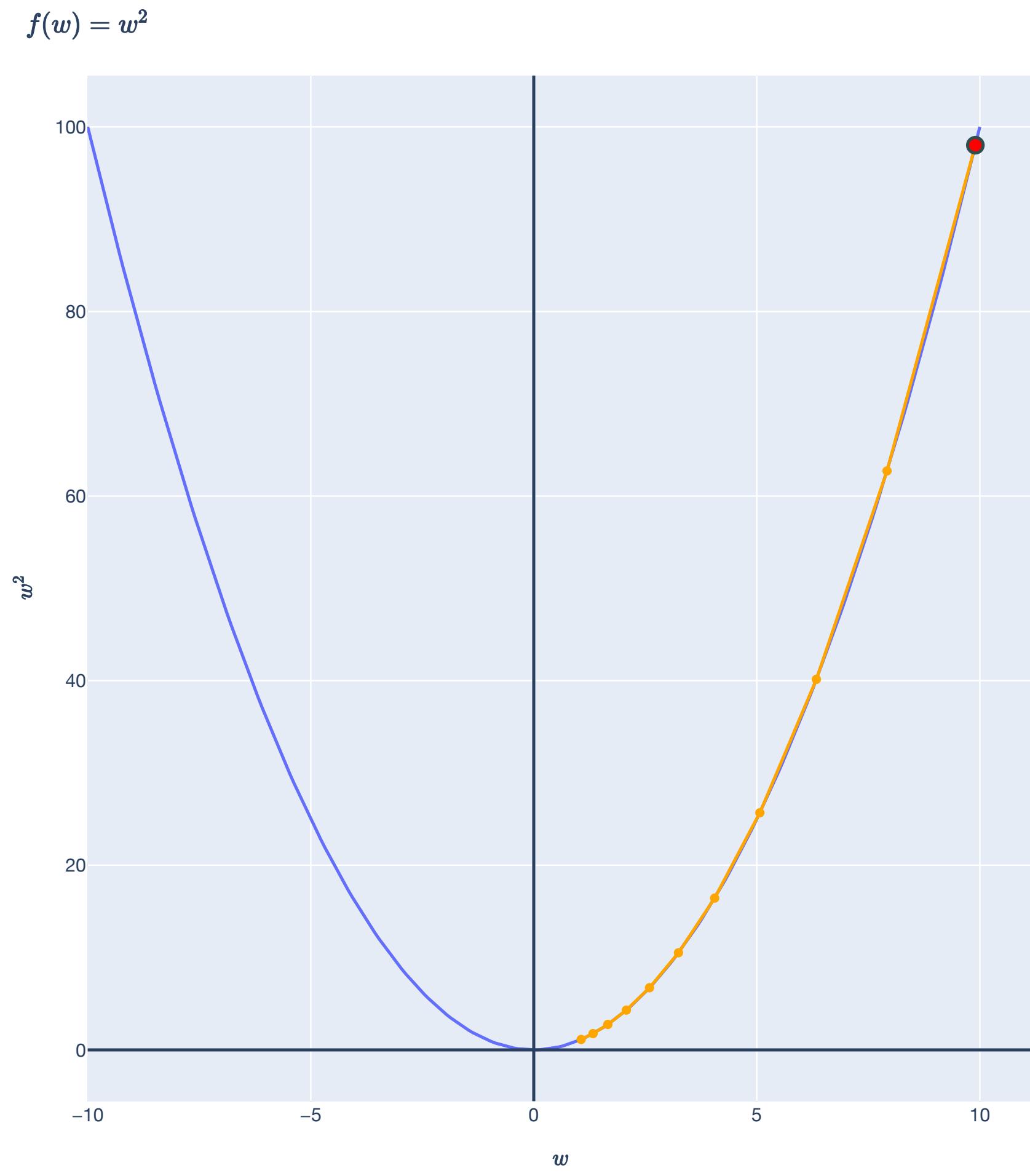


■ x1 ■ x2 ■ $y - \hat{y}$ ■ $\tilde{y} - \hat{y}$ ● y ○ \hat{y} ● \tilde{y}

Click to interact

Lesson Overview

Big Picture: Gradient Descent



Vectors & Matrices

Vectors

Review from linear algebra

A vector is a list of numbers. We write $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ as:

$$\mathbf{x} := \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \mathbf{x} := \underbrace{(x_1, \dots, x_d)}_{\text{underbrace}}$$

By convention, our vectors will be *column vectors*. A *row vector* looks like:

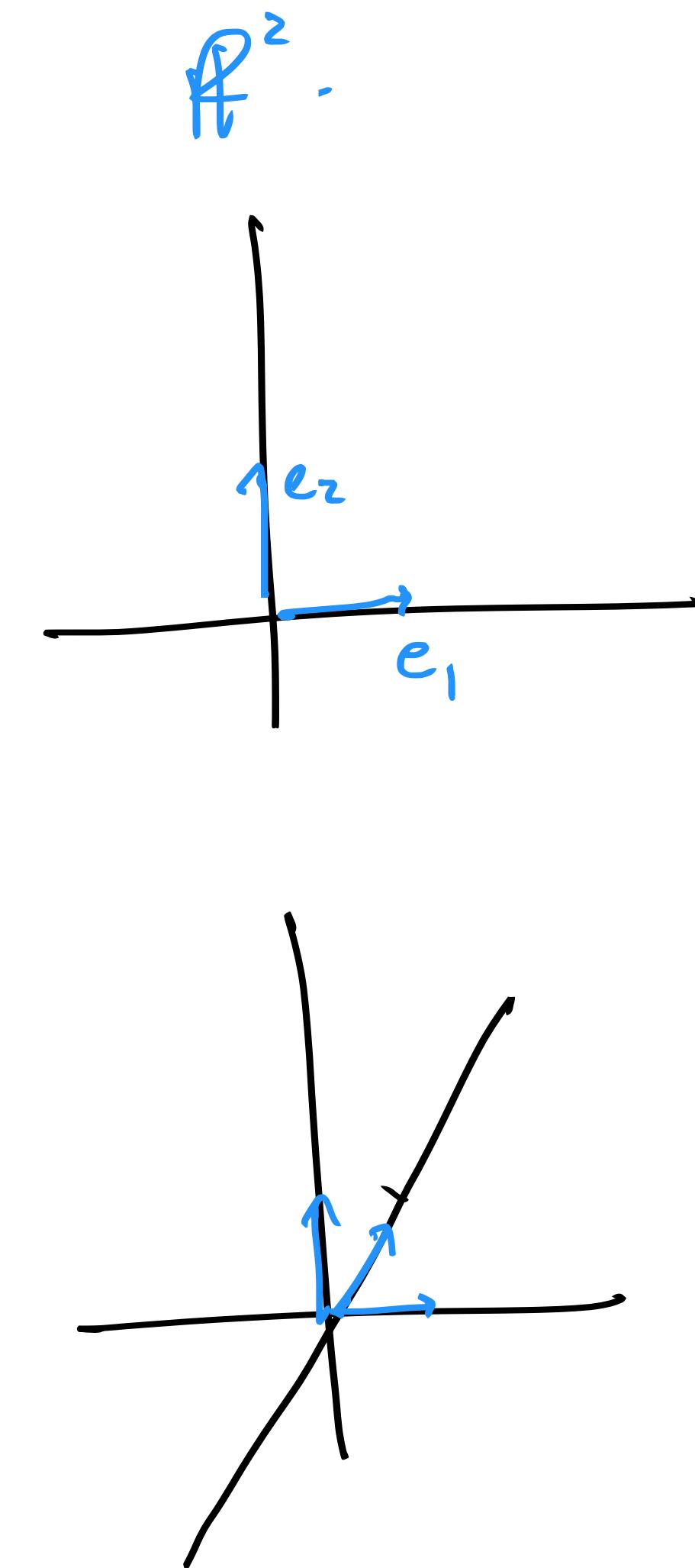
$$\mathbf{x}^\top = [x_1 \ \dots \ x_d] \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d}$$

Vectors

Review from linear algebra

In \mathbb{R}^n , a special set of vectors is the unit basis vectors:

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



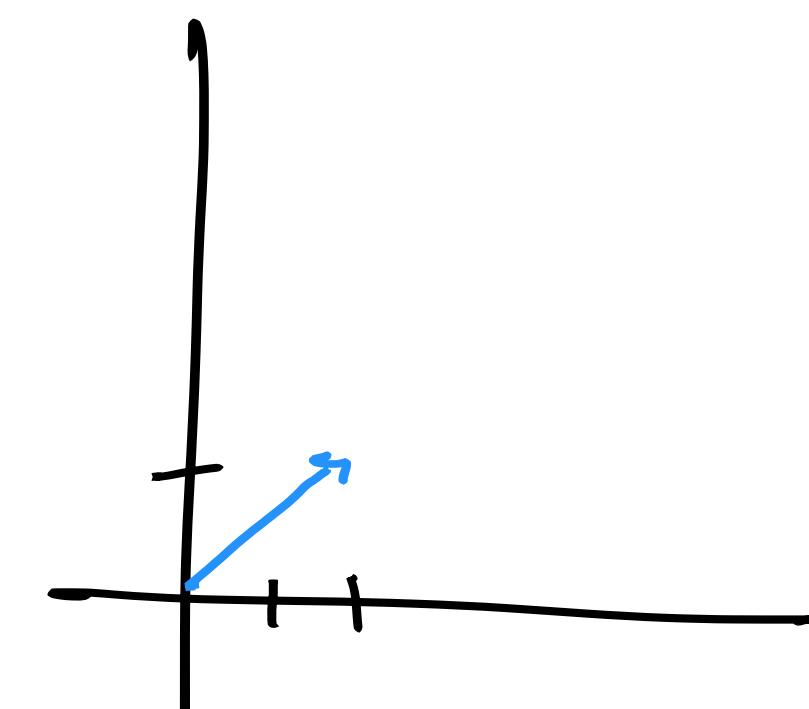
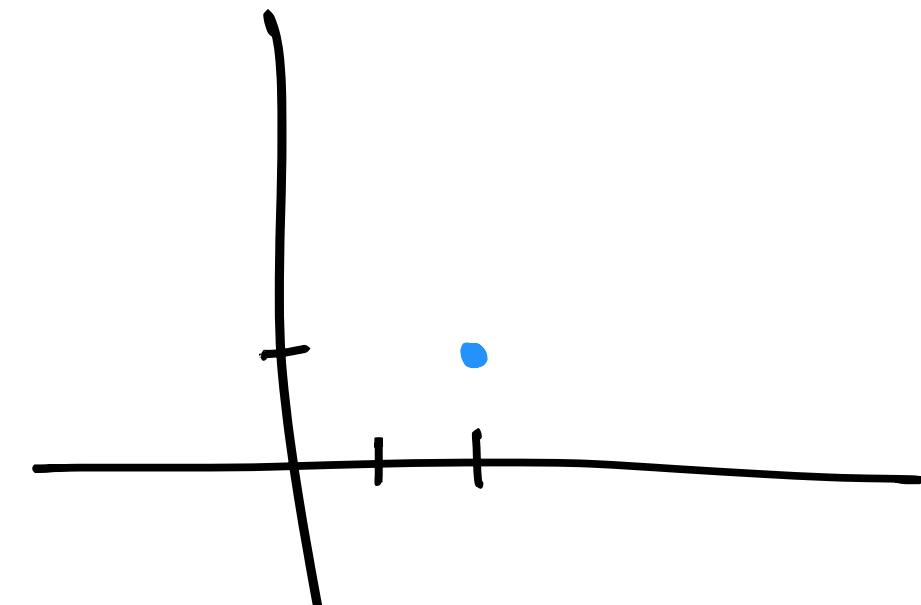
Vectors

Review from linear algebra

Vectors can interchangeably thought of as *points*:

$$x = (z_1) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

or “arrows”:



Matrices

Review from linear algebra

A matrix is a box of numbers, or a list of vectors. We write $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ as:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^\top \end{bmatrix}.$$

Refer to note w/ transpose.

The diagram illustrates the two common ways to represent a matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$. On the left, \mathbf{X} is shown as a horizontal vector composed of vertical column vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d$. On the right, \mathbf{X} is shown as a vertical vector composed of horizontal row vectors $\mathbf{x}_1^\top, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n^\top$. Handwritten blue annotations include arrows pointing to the transpose symbols (\top) and a note "Refer to note w/ transpose".

Matrices Transpose

eg

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow X^\top = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

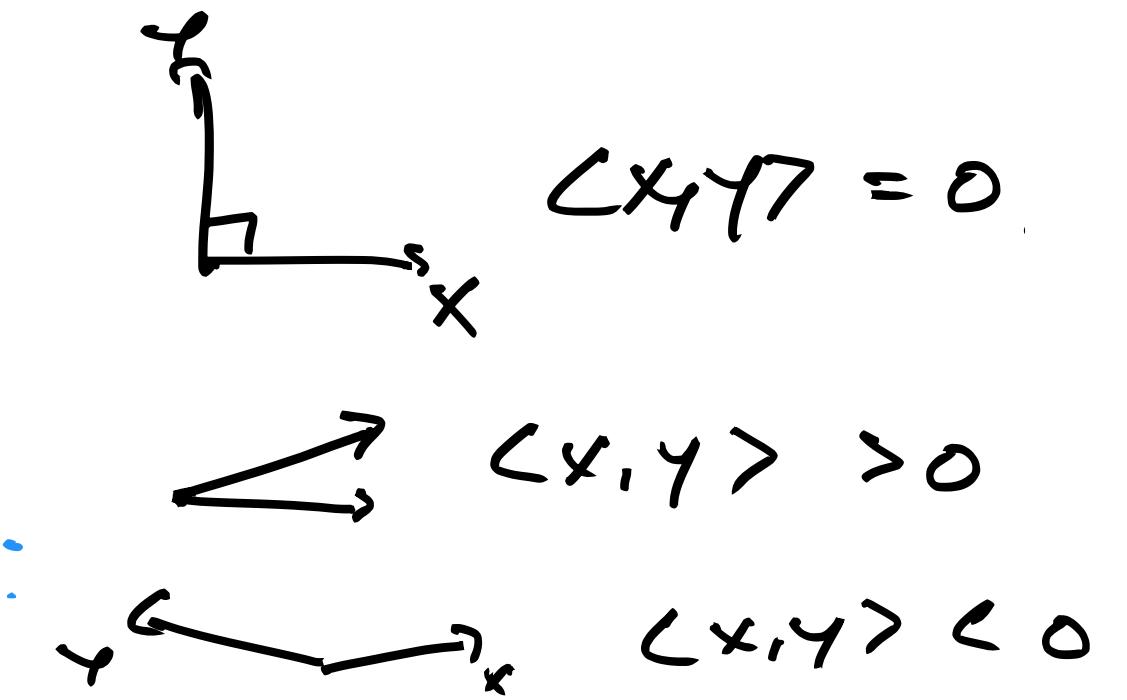
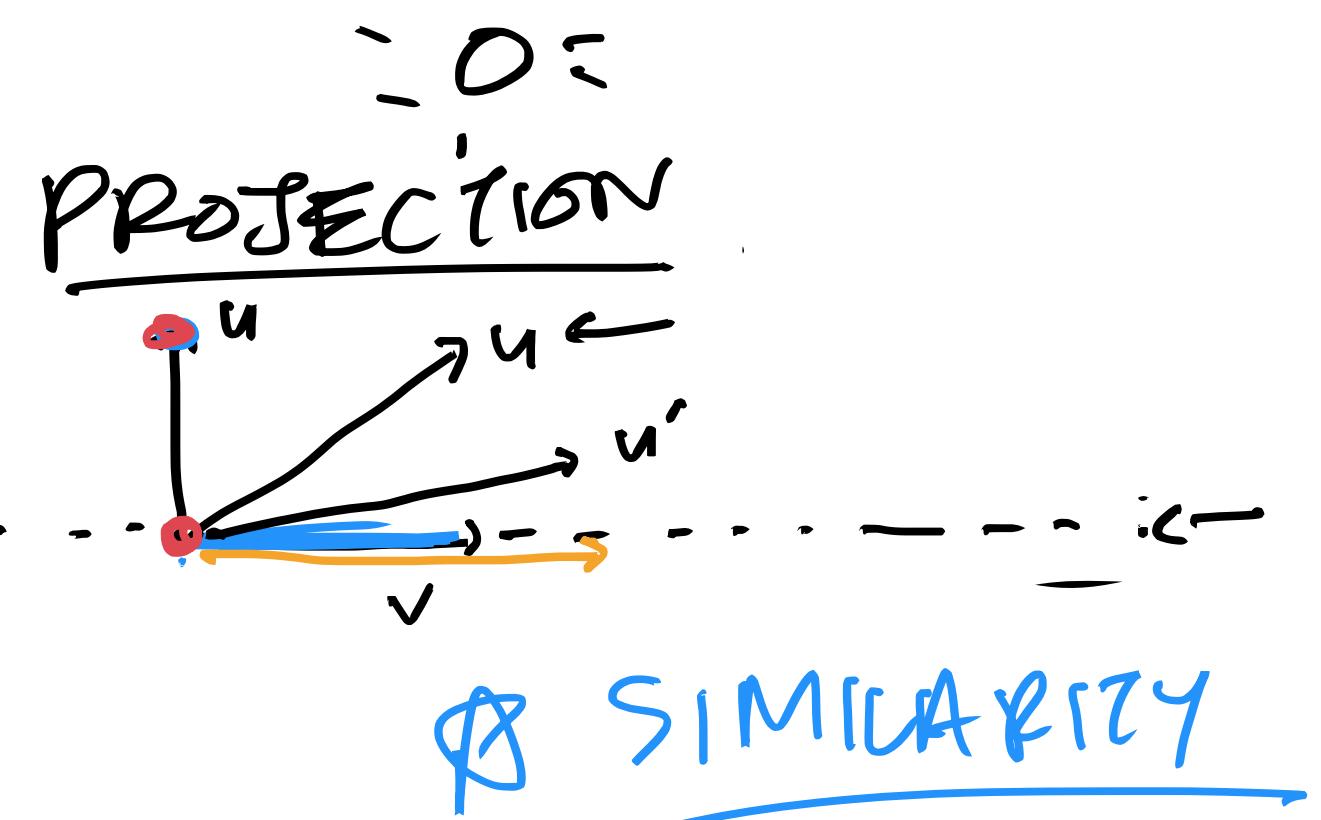
For a matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$, its transpose is the matrix $\mathbf{X}^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$ obtained from swapping $X_{ij}^\top = \underbrace{X_{ji}}$ for all $i \in [d], j \in [n]$.

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^\top & \rightarrow \\ & \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_n^\top & \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\mathbf{X}^\top = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_n \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^\top & \rightarrow \\ & \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_d^\top & \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}.$$

Multiplication

Vector-vector “multiplication”



Given two vectors $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$, their dot product (Euclidean inner product) is:

$$x \cdot y$$

$$\boxed{x^\top y := x_1y_1 + \dots + x_dy_d}$$

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \|x\| \|y\| \cos \theta$$

More generally, an inner product between two vectors is written as $\langle x, y \rangle$. If not specified otherwise, we will use the dot product as default in this course.

Multiplication

Properties of the inner product

$\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^n$ INNER PRODUCT SPACE.

For any two vectors $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ the inner product obeys the following:

1. **Symmetry.** $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v} \rangle$. $\rightarrow \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x}$

2. **Positive definiteness.** $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \geq 0$, and $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0$ if and only if $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$.

(note $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = \|\mathbf{v}\|^2$, the squared norm of any vector)

→ LENGTH

$$\|\mathbf{x}\| = \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle}$$

3. **Linearity.** Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ be a scalar and $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ be another vector. Then:

$$\langle \alpha \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \alpha \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{w} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle.$$

$$\mathbf{v}^\top (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{y}.$$

Multiplication

Vector-vector “multiplication”

Example. Compute the dot product between $\mathbf{x} = (2, 5, 3)$ and $\mathbf{y} = (-1, 0, 3)$.

$$\begin{aligned}(2, 5, 3) \cdot (-1, 0, 3) &= 2 \cdot -1 + 5 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 3 \\(-1, 0, 3) &= -2 + 0 + 9 = \boxed{7}.\end{aligned}$$

Multiplication

Matrix-vector multiplication (column view)

To multiply a matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ and a vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, we can think of the *column view*:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_d \end{bmatrix} = w_1 \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \end{bmatrix} + \dots + w_d \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_d \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^d w_i \mathbf{x}_i}_{w_i \in \mathbb{R}}$$

A LINEAR COMBINATION of the columns of X .

The result is $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Multiplication

Matrix-vector multiplication (equation view)

System of Lin Equations:

$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + 2x_2 &= 5 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To multiply a matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ and a vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, we can think of the **equation view**:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^\top \rightarrow \\ \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_n^\top \rightarrow \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top \mathbf{w} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^\top \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}}$$

Box of coefficients.

Unknowns

The result is $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

$$\mathbf{X} \begin{matrix} \mathbf{w} \\ \uparrow \\ \text{unnum} \end{matrix} = \gamma$$

Multiplication

Matrix-vector multiplication

Example. Compute the matrix-vector product:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

linear
combo
view

$$= 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \times \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

equation
view

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \times 2 - [(-1) + (2) \times (-1)] \\ 0 \times 2 + 2 \times 1 + 3 \times 1 \\ 1 \times 2 + 0 \times 1 + 1 \times (-1) \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplication

Matrix-matrix multiplication (matrix-vector view)

To multiply two matrices $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ and $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$, we just think of *d different matrix-vector products*:

$$\mathbf{UV} = \mathbf{U} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 & \mathbf{v}_2 & \dots & \mathbf{v}_d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}\mathbf{v}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{U}\mathbf{v}_d \end{bmatrix}$$

The diagram shows the multiplication \mathbf{UV} . A blue arrow labeled "must match" points from the width of the matrix \mathbf{U} to the height of the matrix \mathbf{v} . The matrix \mathbf{U} is multiplied by a column vector consisting of d columns, each labeled $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_d$. The result is a row vector consisting of d rows, each labeled $\mathbf{U}\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{U}\mathbf{v}_d$.

The result is $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$.

Multiplication

Matrix-matrix multiplication (inner product/entry view)

To multiply two matrices $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ and $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$, we just think of *nd different inner products*:

$$\mathbf{UV} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{u}_1^\top \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{u}_n^\top \rightarrow \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \mathbf{v}_1 & \dots & \uparrow \mathbf{v}_d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{v}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{v}_d \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_n^\top \mathbf{v}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{u}_n^\top \mathbf{v}_d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(\mathbf{UV})_{ij} = \mathbf{u}_i^\top \mathbf{v}_j \text{ for all } i \in [n], j \in [d].$$

$$(\mathbf{UV})_{ij} = \sum \sum \mathbf{U}_{ik} \mathbf{V}_{kj}$$

The result is $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$.

Multiplication

Matrix-matrix multiplication (outer product view)

To multiply two matrices $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ and $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$, we just think of *summing r different outer products ($n \times d$ matrices)*:

$$\mathbf{UV} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{u}_r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_1^\top \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_r^\top \rightarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\left[\begin{array}{c} \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_1^\top \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_r^\top \rightarrow \end{array} \right]}_{\text{rank } r} + \dots + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_r \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\left[\begin{array}{c} \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_r^\top \rightarrow \end{array} \right]}_{\text{rank } 1}.$$

The result is $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & 9 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrices

Inverses and Identity Matrix

*computationally
expensive!*

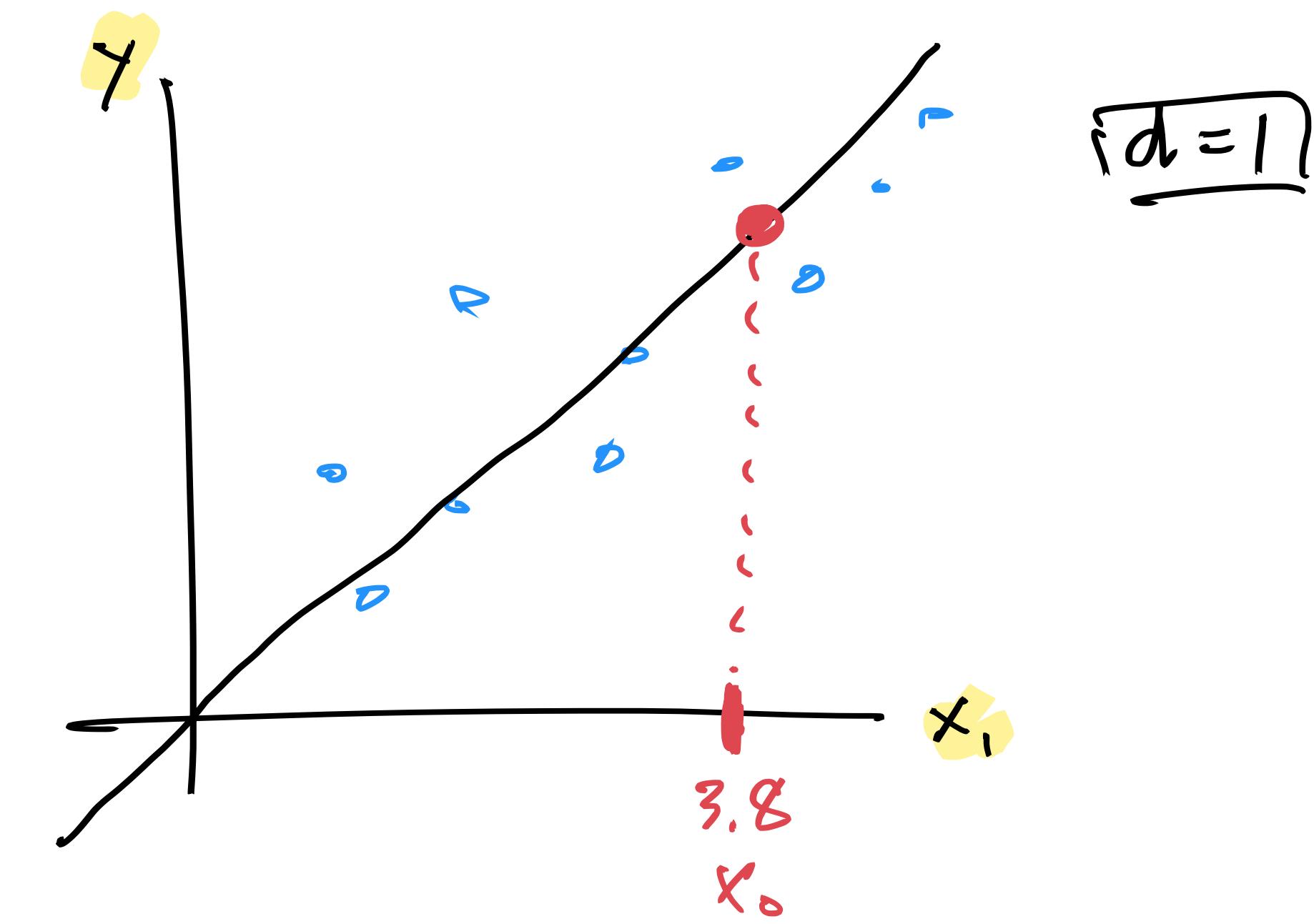
A square matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ is invertible if there exists a matrix $X^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ (the inverse) such that:

$$X^{-1}X = XX^{-1} = I,$$

where $I \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ is the identity matrix:

$$I := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Regression



Regression

The main problem of our course

$$\underline{x}_{\text{Sam}} = \begin{pmatrix} 15, \\ 1.2, \\ 3, \\ \vdots, \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

Collect d measurements $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ for n students...

where $\underline{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}$ denotes the test score of a student.

Given the measurements for a new student, $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$, what is their test score?

Regression

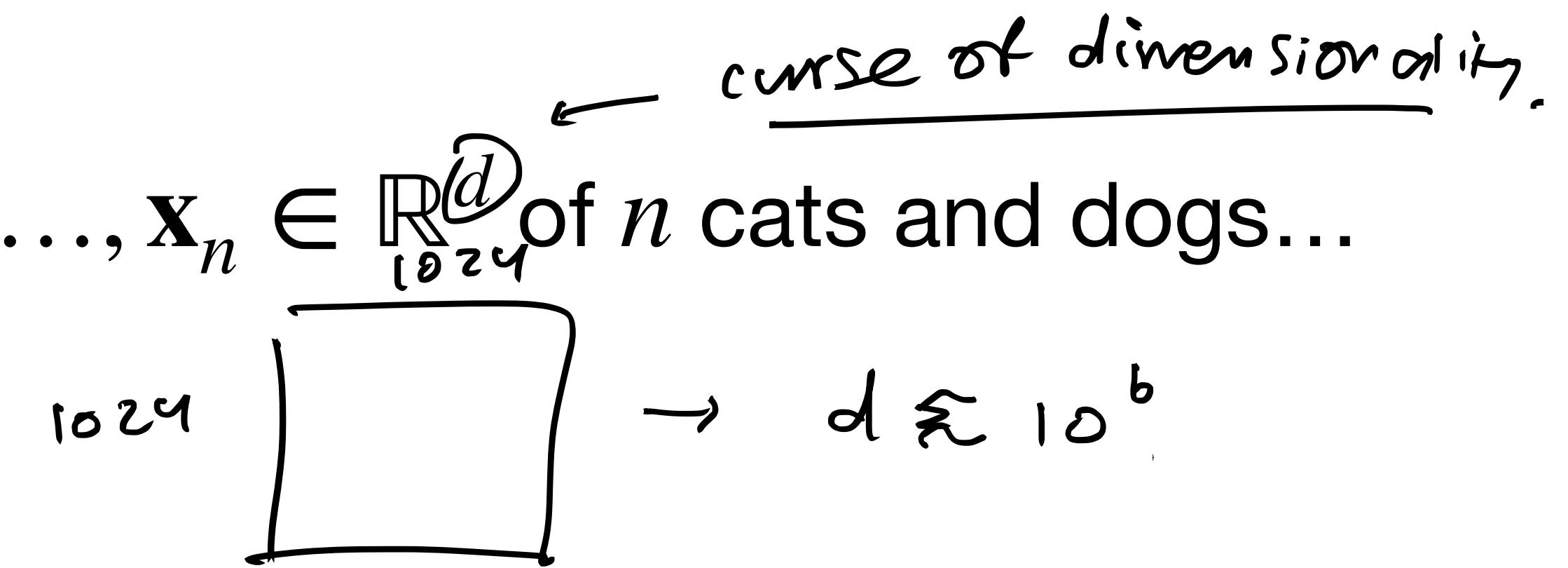
The main problem of our course

Bi-Mary

CLASSIFICATION

(Discrete values)
for y

Collect a bunch of images with d pixels $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}_{1024}^d$ of n cats and dogs...



where $y_i = 1$ denotes a dog and $y_i = -1$ denotes a cat.

Given a new image, $\underline{\mathbf{x}}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$, is it a cat or a dog?

Regression

The main problem of our course

We observe n samples of training (observed) features $\underline{\mathbf{x}}_1, \dots, \underline{\mathbf{x}}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$, with
labels $y_1, \dots, y_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

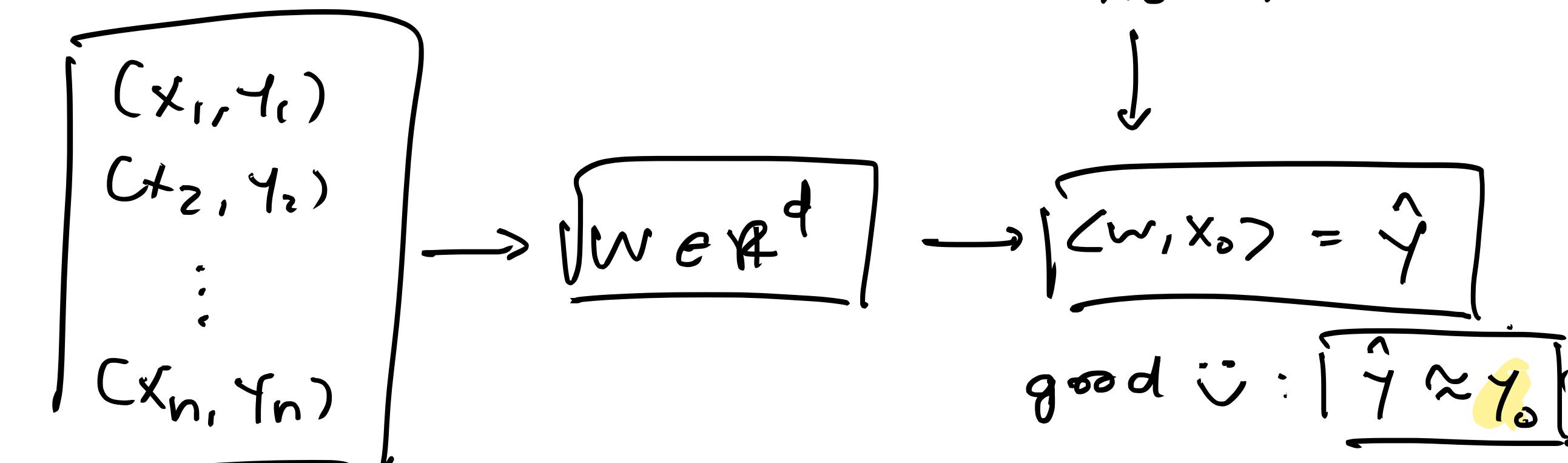
$$\mathbf{x}_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_{i1} \\ \vdots \\ x_{id} \end{bmatrix}$$

Goal: Given a new unlabelled sample, $\underline{\mathbf{x}}_0$, make a prediction \hat{y} such that $\hat{y} \approx \underline{y_0}$.

(x₀, y₀) → *we don't see.*

Regression

The main problem of our course



Goal: Given a new unlabelled sample, x_0 , make a prediction \hat{y} such that $\hat{y} \approx y_0$.

To do this, we will construct a model for the observed data.

$$x \rightarrow \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i}_{\in \mathbb{R}^d} \rightarrow \underbrace{f(x)}_{\in \mathbb{R}^d}$$

A *linear model* is represented with a **weight vector** $w \in \mathbb{R}^d$. To make a prediction with the weight vector, we take an inner product.

$$\hat{y} = \langle w, x_0 \rangle = w_1 x_{01} + \dots + w_d x_{0d}$$

$$\underline{d=1}: \quad \hat{y} = \underbrace{w_1}_{\in \mathbb{R}} \underbrace{x_0}_{\in \mathbb{R}}$$

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$$

 $w = (w_1, \dots, w_d)$
GPA
↓
state

Regression

The main problem of our course

How do we construct the weight vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$?

Learn it from the observed data $(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$.

For some weight vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, its predictions on the observed data are:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_n \end{bmatrix} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top & \mathbf{x}_2^\top & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_n^\top \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top \mathbf{w} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^\top \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{w} \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w} \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

Regression

The main problem of our course

For some weight vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, its predictions on the observed data are:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_n \end{bmatrix} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_1^\top \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_n^\top \rightarrow \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top \mathbf{w} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^\top \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{w} \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w} \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

Regression

The main problem of our course

$$\xrightarrow{\text{New}} \mathbf{x}_0 \rightarrow \langle \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \hat{y}_0$$

↓
found from
training data

Goal: Given a new unlabelled sample, \mathbf{x}_0 , make a prediction \hat{y} such that $\hat{y} \approx y_0$.

If the new sample (\mathbf{x}_0, y_0) is “distributed like” the training samples $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ and $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, then it’s not a bad idea to find $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ so:

$$\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d} \quad \boxed{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \approx \mathbf{y}}$$

This will be our new goal!

Regression Setup

Observed: Matrix of *training samples* $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ and vector of *training labels* $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^\top & \rightarrow \\ & \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_n^\top & \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}.$$

Unknown: *Weight vector* $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ with weights w_1, \dots, w_d .

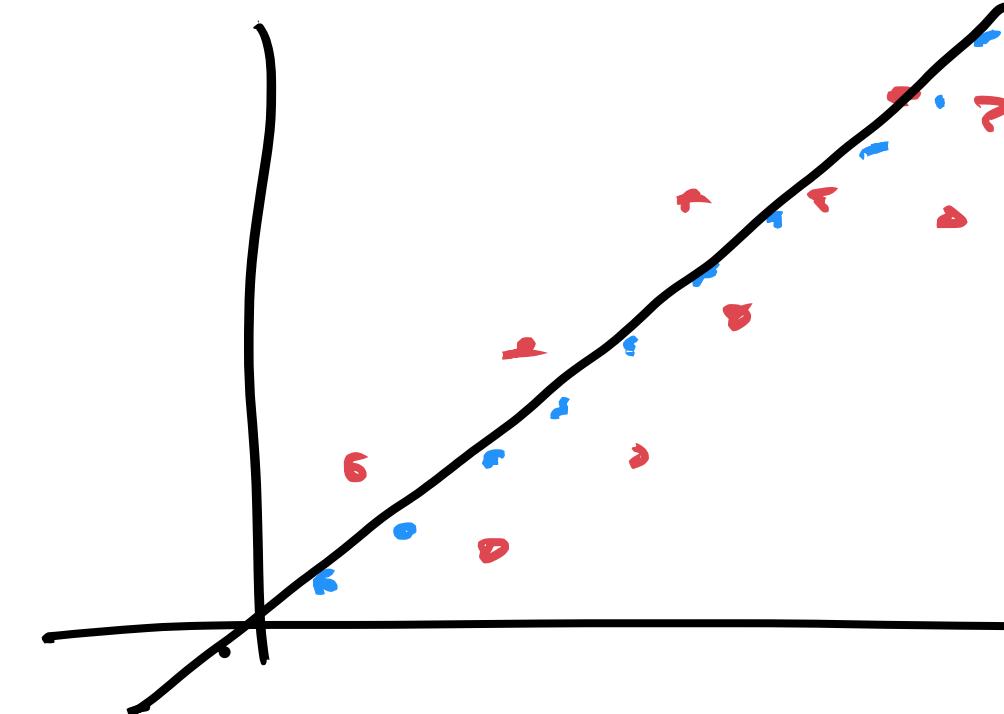
Goal: For each $i \in [n]$, we predict: $\hat{y}_i = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i = w_1 x_{i1} + \dots + w_d x_{id} \in \mathbb{R}$.

Choose a weight vector that “fits the training data”: $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ such that $y_i \approx \hat{y}_i$ for $i \in [n]$, or:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \approx \mathbf{y}.$$

$\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ \mathbf{y}
↑
Predictions Labels we have (Ground truths)

Regression Caveat



Choose a weight vector that “fits the training data”: $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ such that $y_i \approx \hat{y}_i$ for $i \in [n]$, or:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \approx \mathbf{y}.$$

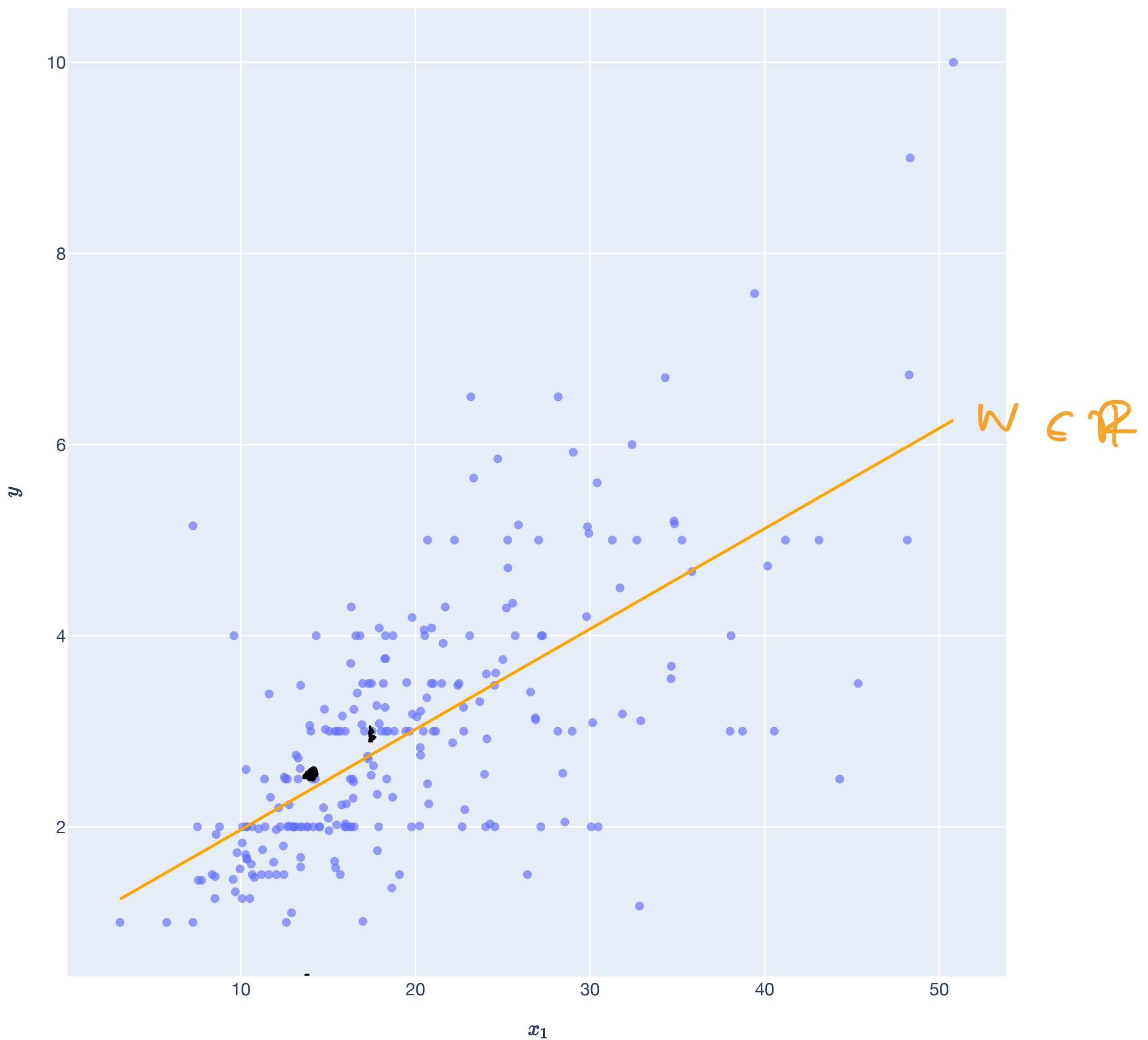
In general, it may not be the case that $\underline{\mathbf{y}} = \underline{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}}$ for any $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ (the labels y_i don't have a perfect linear relationship with the \mathbf{x}_i).

Regression

Example: $d = 1$

$d = 1$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 14.07 \\ \underline{\overline{17.51}} \\ 22.42 \\ 26.88 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 2.5 \\ \underline{\overline{3}} \\ 3.48 \\ 3.12 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

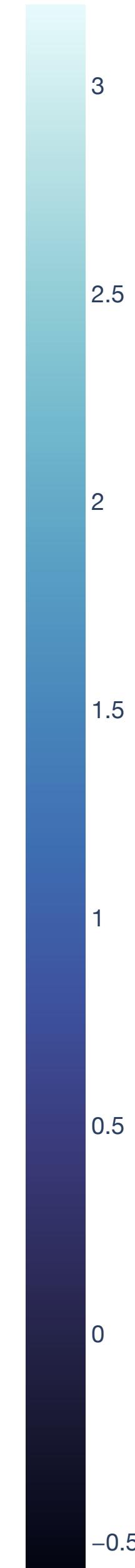
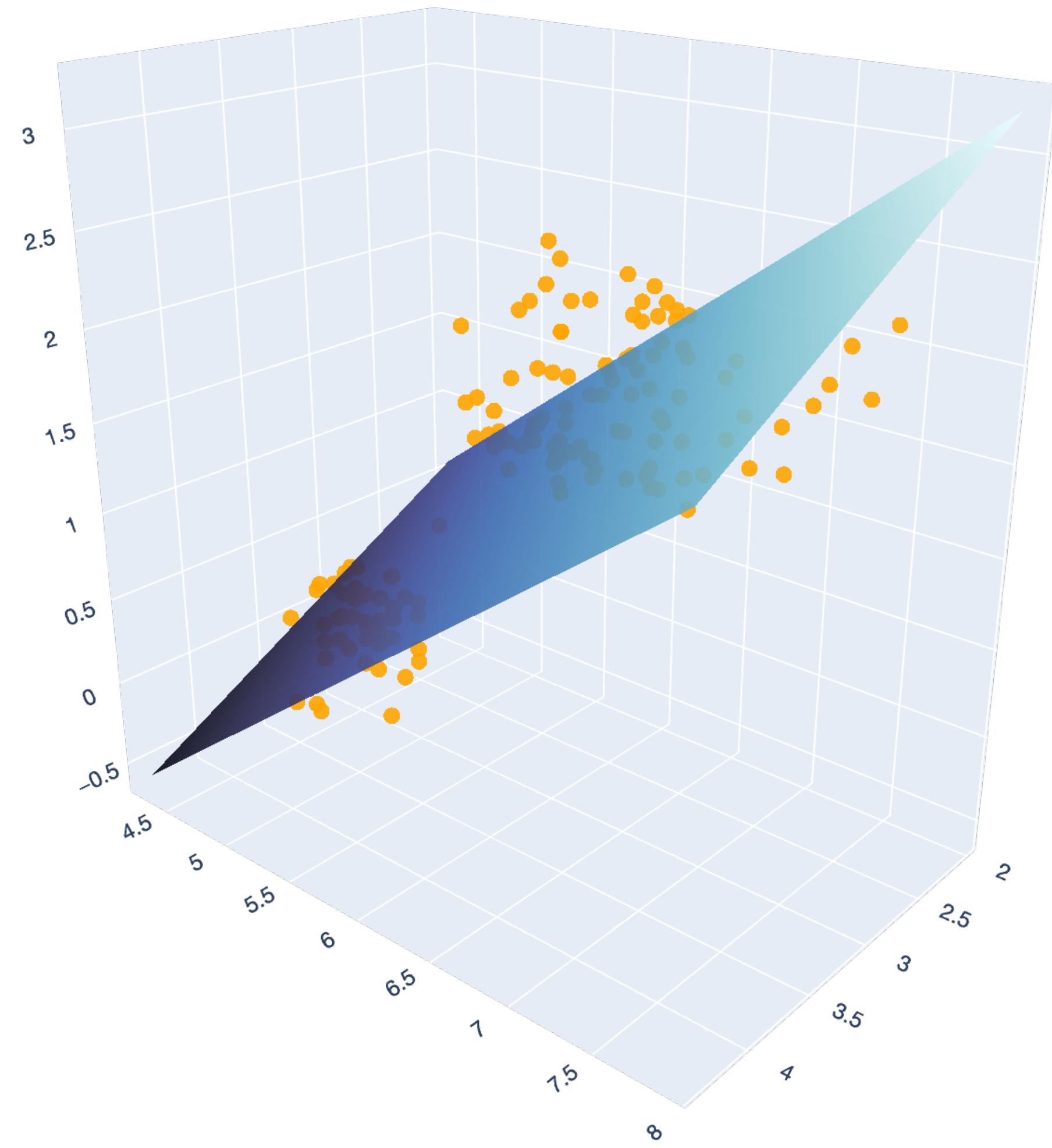


Regression

Example: $d = 2$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots \\ 3.4 & 5.4 \\ \hline 2.9 & 6.4 \\ 3.3 & 6.7 \\ 2.6 & 7.7 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 0.4 \\ 1.3 \\ 2.1 \\ 2.3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$w \in \mathbb{R}^d = \mathbb{R}^2$$



Least Squares

A Solution to Regression

Regression Setup

Observed: Matrix of *training samples* $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ and vector of *training labels* $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^\top & \rightarrow \\ & \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_n^\top & \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}.$$

Unknown: *Weight vector* $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ with weights w_1, \dots, w_d .

Goal: For each $i \in [n]$, we predict: $\hat{y}_i = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i = w_1 x_{i1} + \dots + w_d x_{id} \in \mathbb{R}$.

Choose a weight vector that “fits the training data”: $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ such that $y_i \approx \hat{y}_i$ for $i \in [n]$, or:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \approx \mathbf{y}.$$

Ordinary Least Squares

Notion of Error

In general, it may not be the case that $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}$ for any $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ (the labels y_i don't have a perfect linear relationship with the \mathbf{x}_i).

The residual $r_i(\mathbf{w})$ of the i th prediction with $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is .

$$r_i(\mathbf{w}) := \hat{y}_i - y_i = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_i \rangle - y_i.$$

We can write this as a vector $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

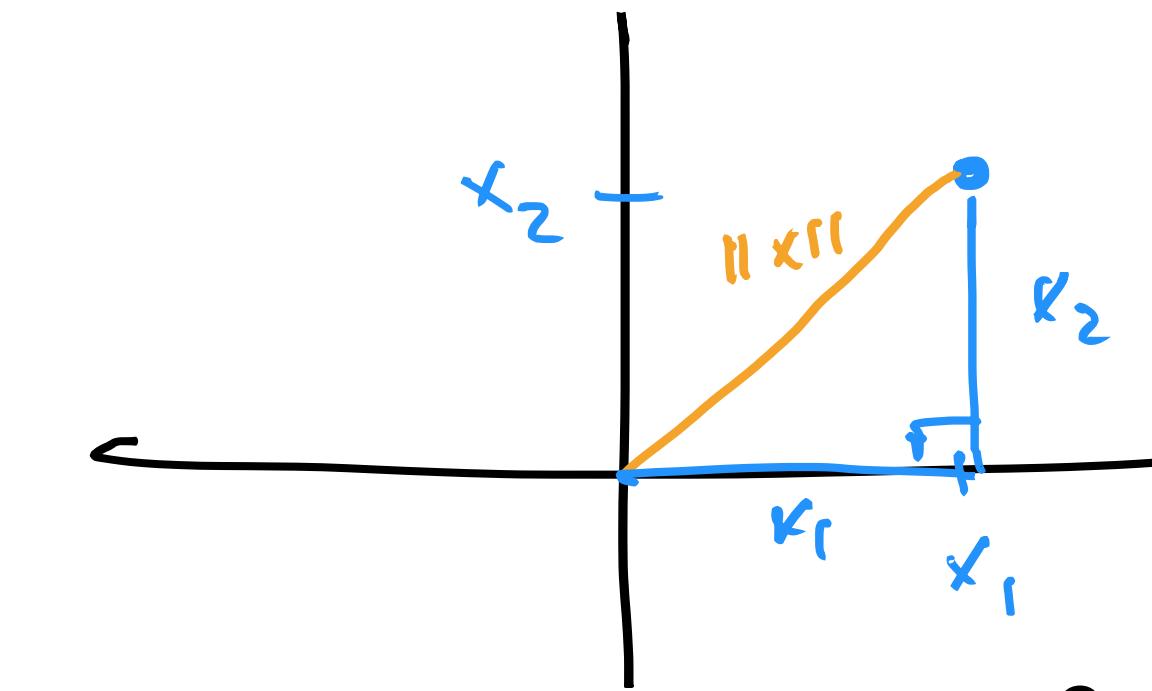
$$\begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ \vdots \\ r_n \end{bmatrix}$$

The *sum of squared residuals* is

$$SSR := \sum_{i=1}^n r_i(\mathbf{w})^2 = r_1(\mathbf{w})^2 + \dots + r_n(\mathbf{w})^2.$$

Norms and Inner Products

Euclidean Norm



Recall the notion of “length” from \mathbb{R}^2 . For a vector $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$,

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 := \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}.$$

$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$
 $c = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$

Generalizing this, for $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the Euclidean norm (ℓ_2 -norm) is:

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 := \sqrt{\underbrace{x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2}_{\text{sum of squares}}} = \sqrt{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}.$$

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

$\|\cdot\|_2$

2 is the default.

Ordinary Least Squares

Notion of Error

Residual: $\underline{r_i(\mathbf{w})} := \underline{\hat{y}_i} - \underline{y_i} = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_i \rangle - y_i$, or $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

The sum of squared residuals is

$$SSR := \sum_{i=1}^n r_i(\mathbf{w})^2 = r_1(\mathbf{w})^2 + \dots + r_n(\mathbf{w})^2.$$

$$SSR = \|\mathbf{r}\|^2 = \| \underline{\hat{\mathbf{y}}} - \mathbf{y} \|^2 = \| \underline{\mathbf{Xw}} - \mathbf{y} \|^2.$$

$$\|\mathbf{r}\|^2 = \mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{r}$$

$$= \mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{r} = \| \begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_n \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \|^2$$

$$\sqrt{x_n = \hat{y}}$$

Ordinary Least Squares

Principle of Least Squares

$$\underbrace{\begin{matrix} Xw \\ x \end{matrix}}_{\in \mathbb{R}^n} \xrightarrow{\gamma} \mathbb{R}^n$$

Goal: Find the $w \in \mathbb{R}^d$ that minimizes the sum of squared residuals:

$$\|\mathbf{r}\|^2 = \|\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2.$$

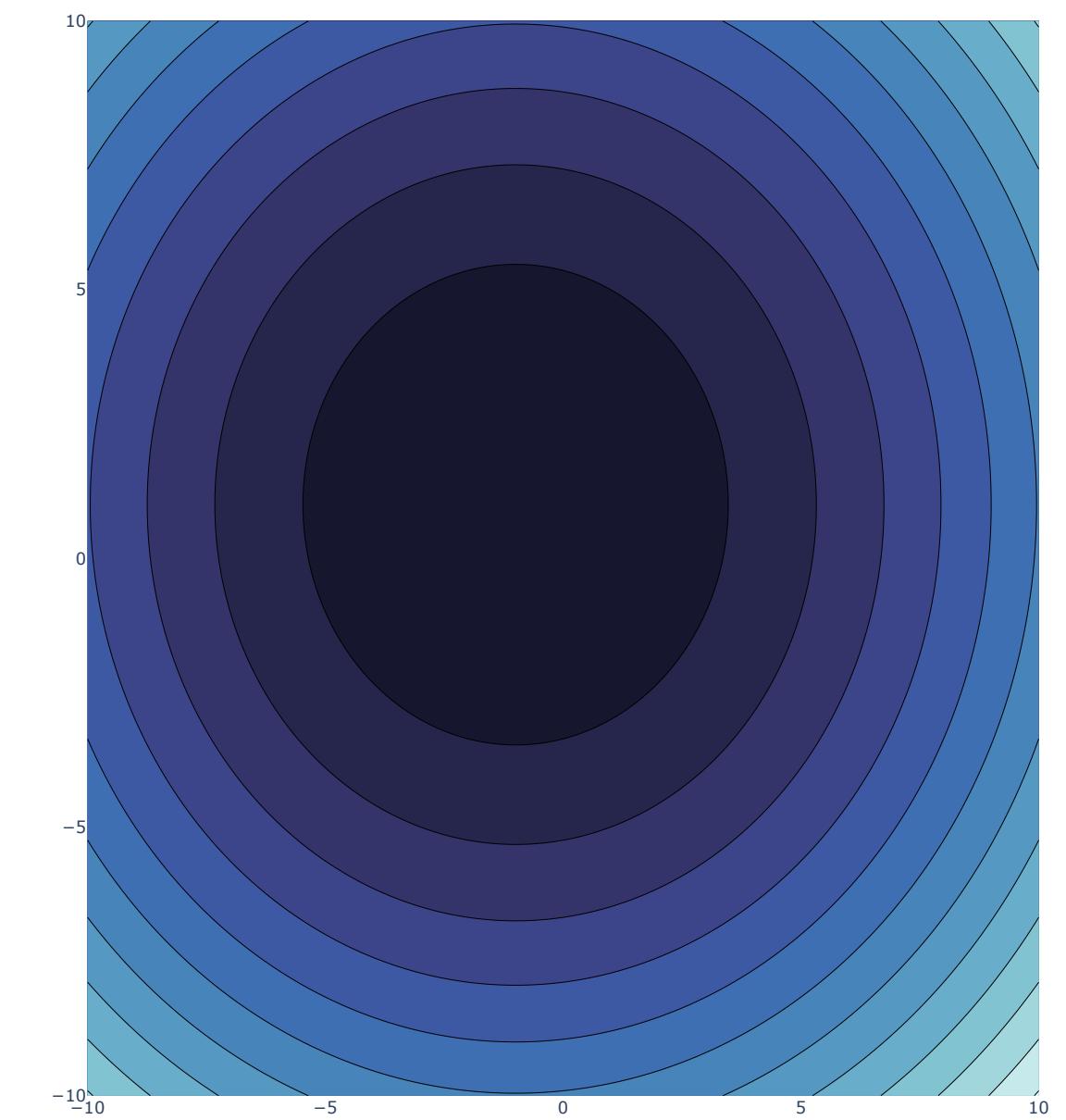
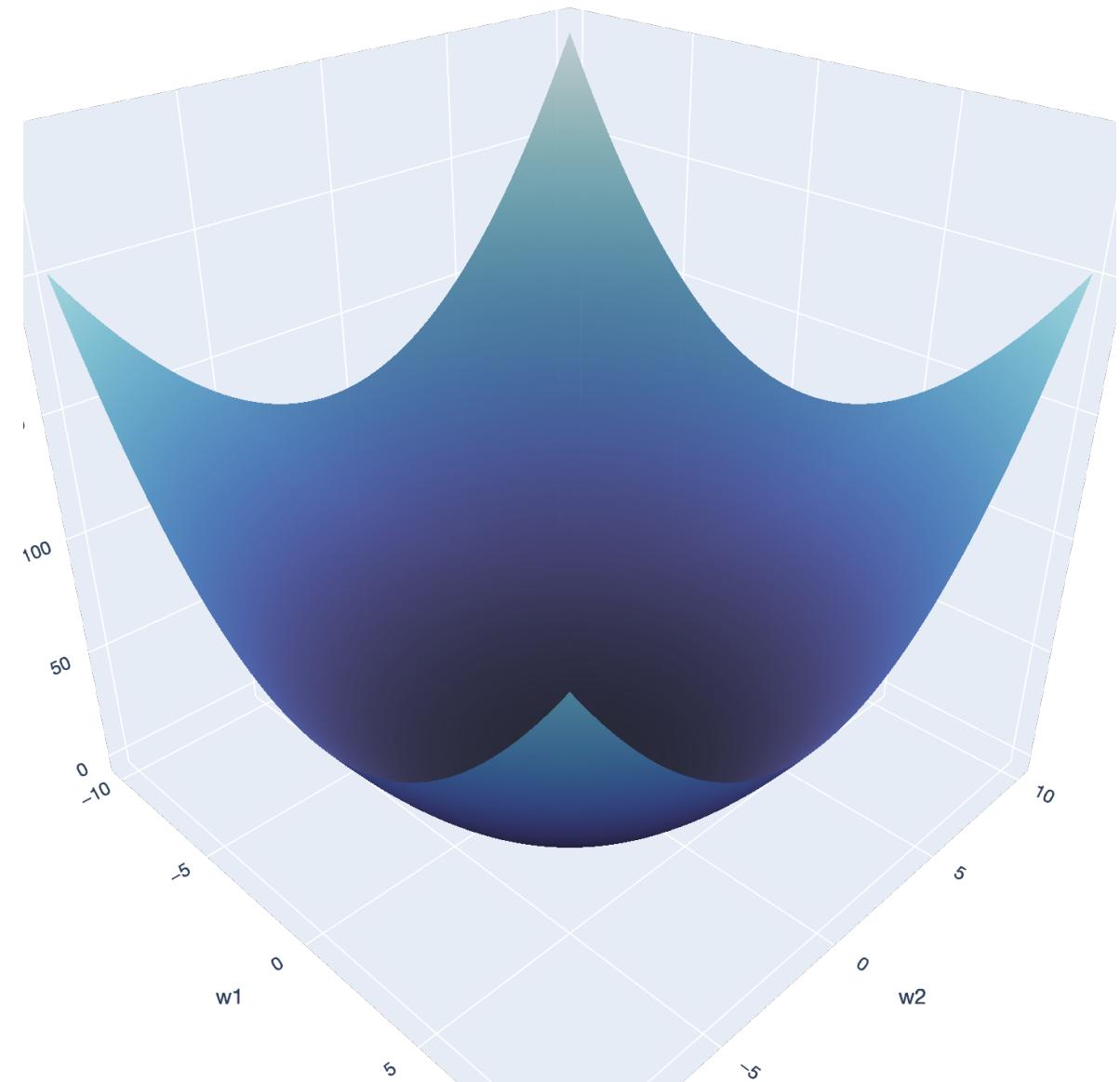
$w \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is the free variable in our setup.

MINIMIZE, $\|Xw - y\|^2 \leq \|X\tilde{w} - y\|^2$ for all $\tilde{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Ordinary Least Squares

Sum of Squared Residuals

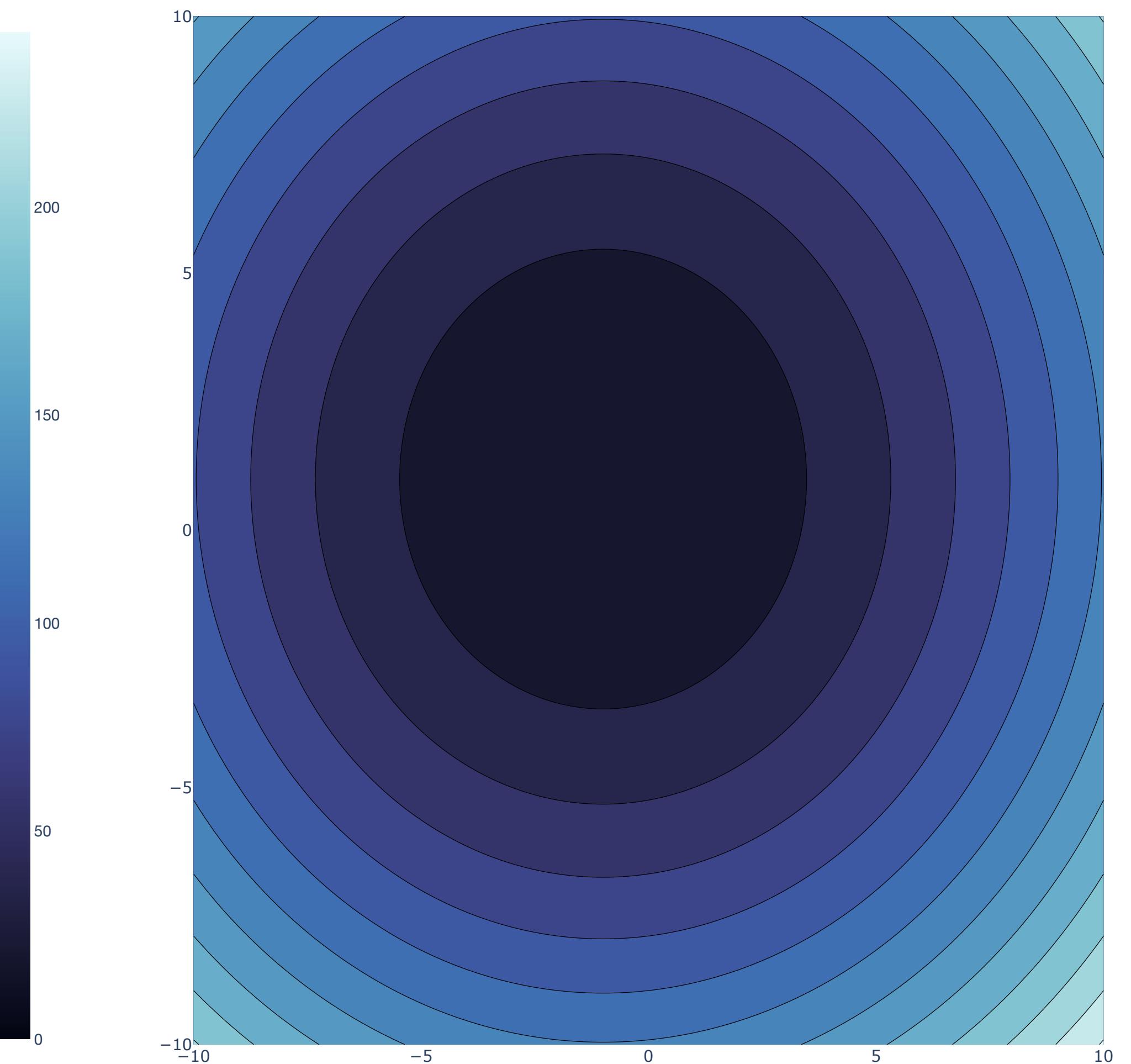
d=2.
Example: If $\underline{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\underline{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, what does $\underline{\underline{SSR}}(\underline{w}) = \|\underline{X}\underline{w} - \underline{y}\|^2$ look like?



$$\begin{aligned} SSR : \mathbb{R}^d &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ &\downarrow \\ &\|\underline{w} - \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\|^2 \\ &= \left\| \begin{bmatrix} w_1 + 1 \\ w_2 - 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 \\ &= (w_1 + 1, w_2 - 1)^T \\ &\quad (w_1 + 1, w_2 - 1) \\ &= \sqrt{(w_1 + 1)^2 + (w_2 - 1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

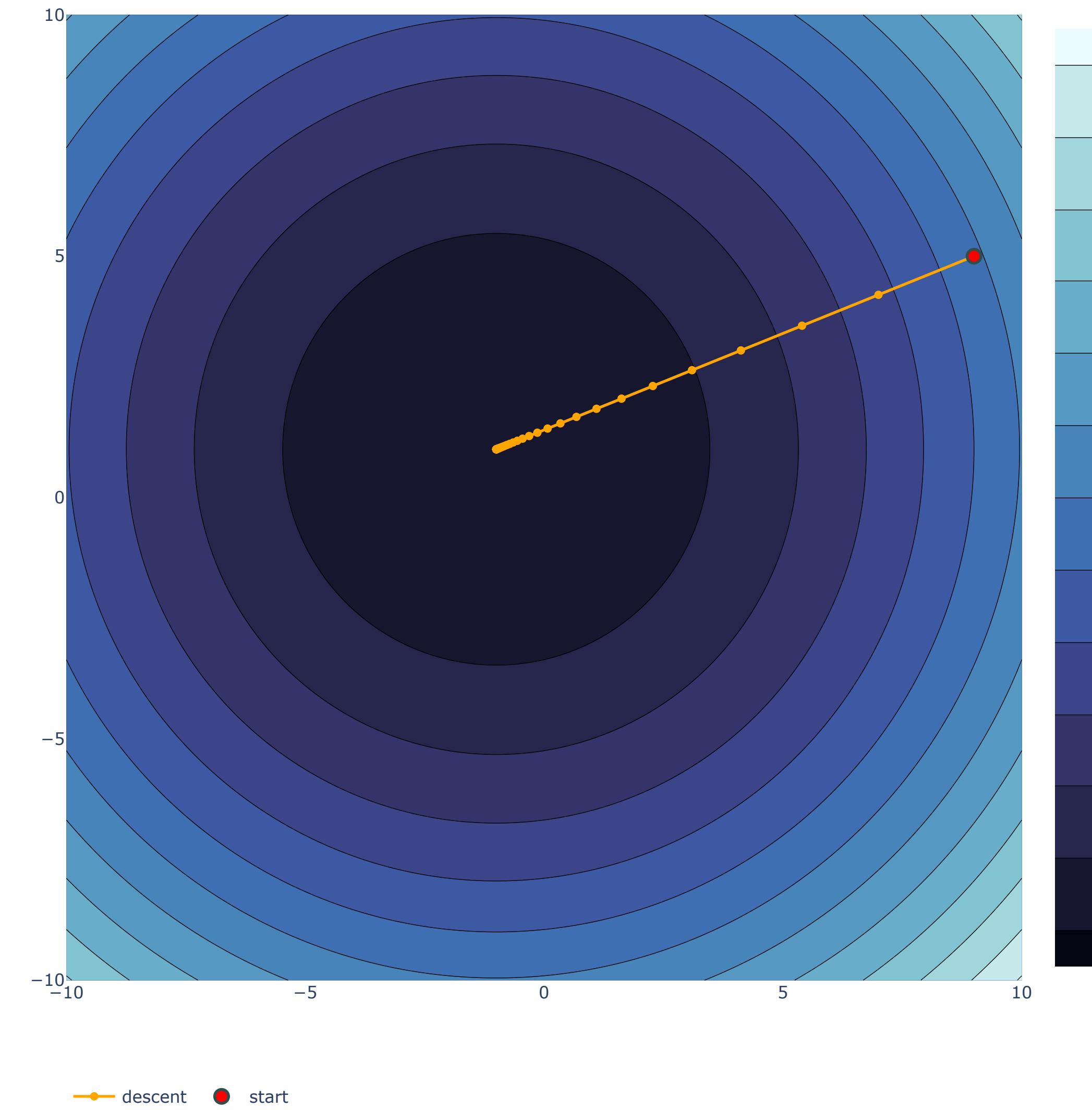
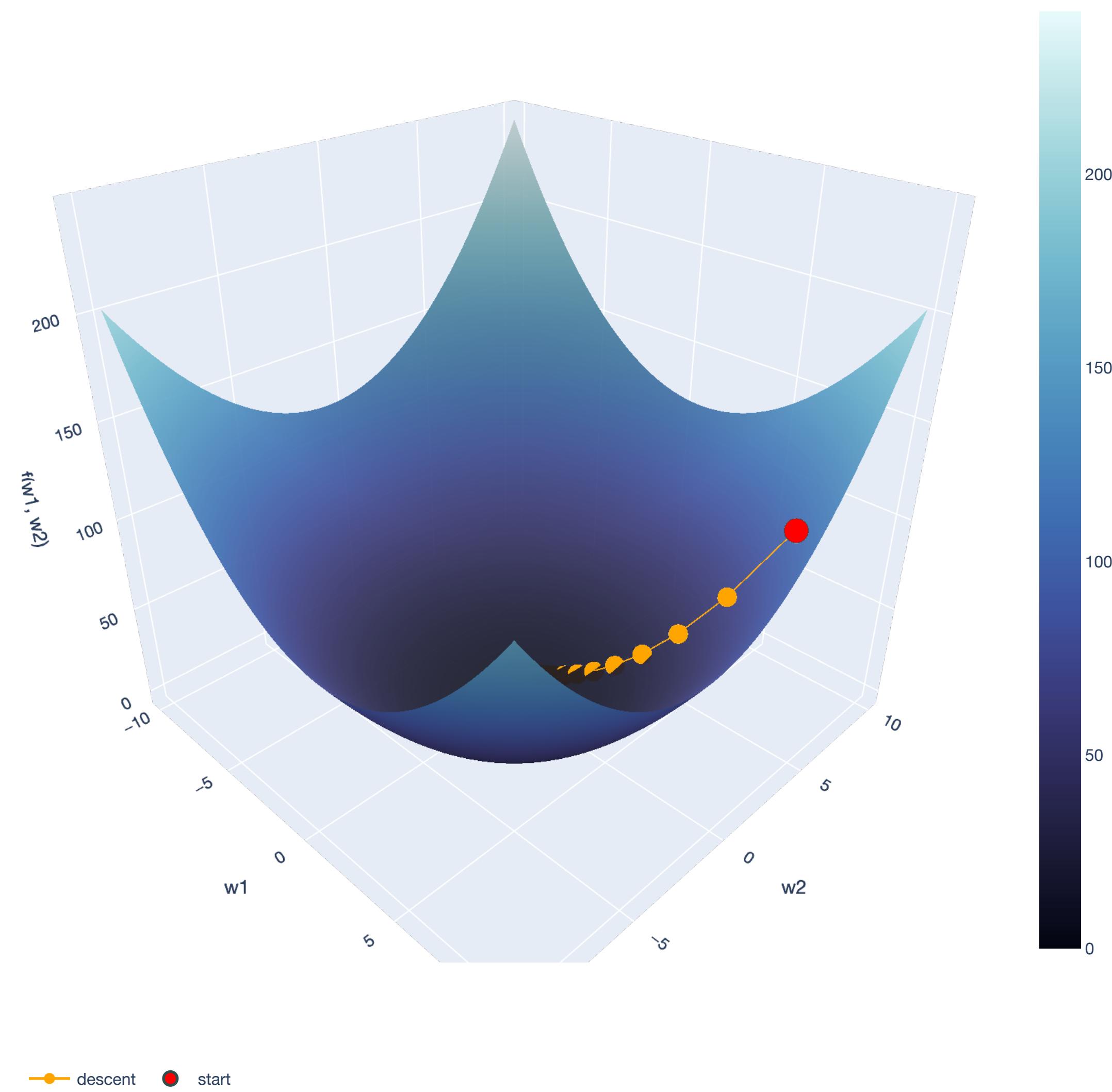
Ordinary Least Squares

Sum of Squared Residuals



Ordinary Least Squares

Sum of Squared Residuals



Ordinary Least Squares

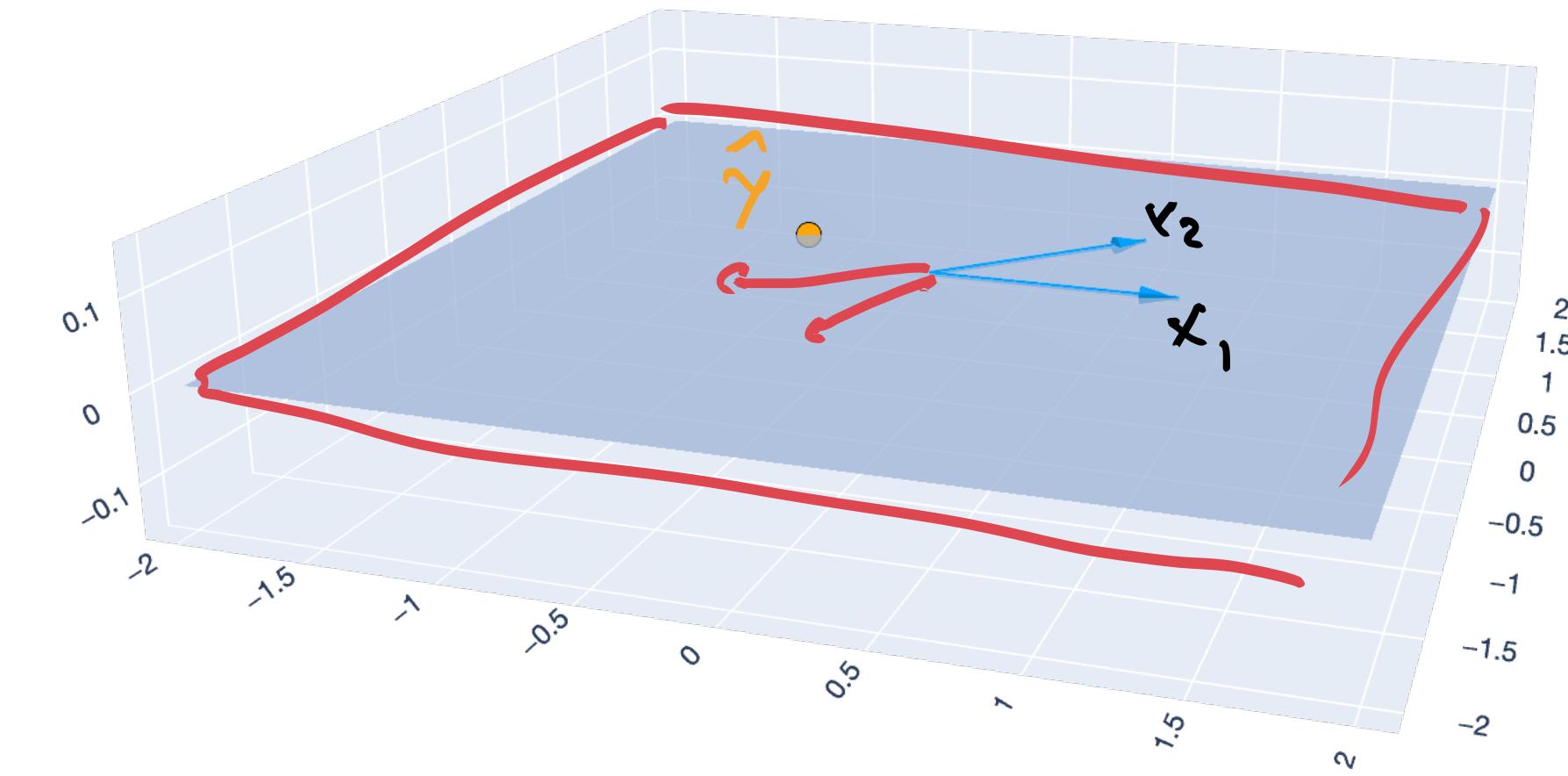
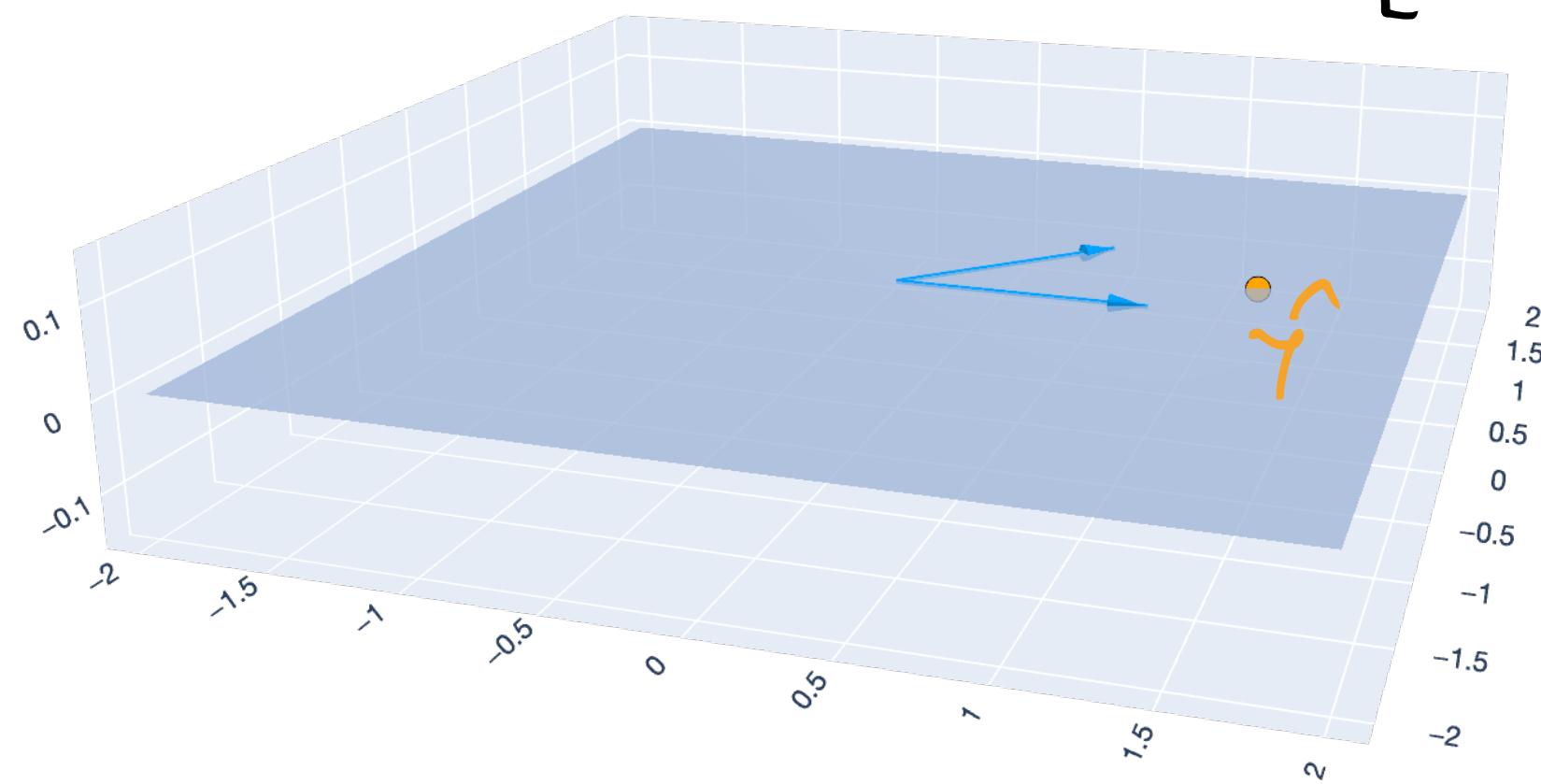
Geometry of Least Squares

$$\hat{y} = \sum_{i=1}^d \alpha_i x_i, \quad \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

Let $n = 3$ and $d = 2$. In this case $\hat{y} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is a *linear combination* of columns \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 .

$$\hat{y} = \underbrace{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}}_{n} = w_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + w_2 \mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

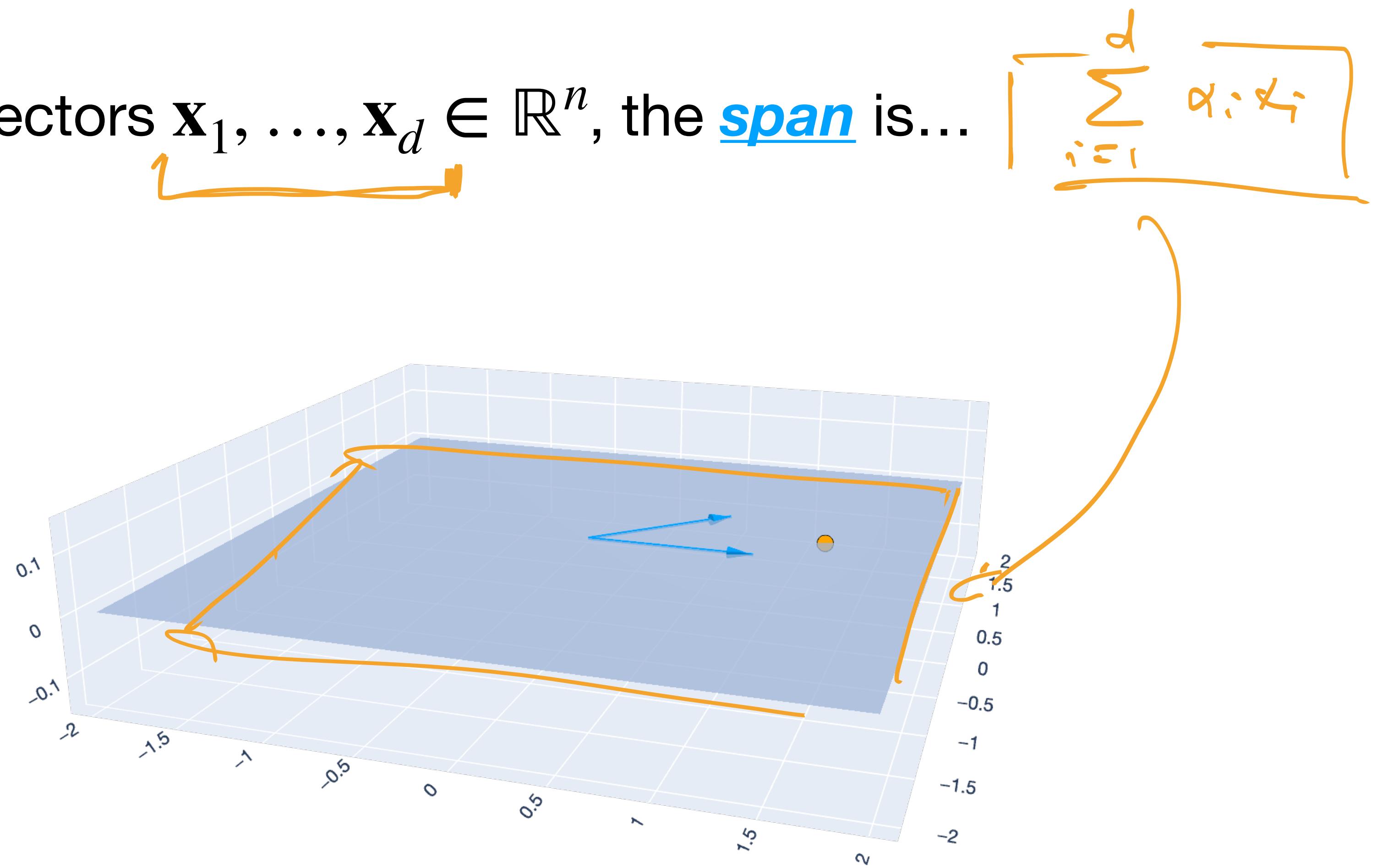
$$\begin{bmatrix} \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \downarrow & \downarrow \end{bmatrix}$$



Span

Idea

For a collection of vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the span is...



Span

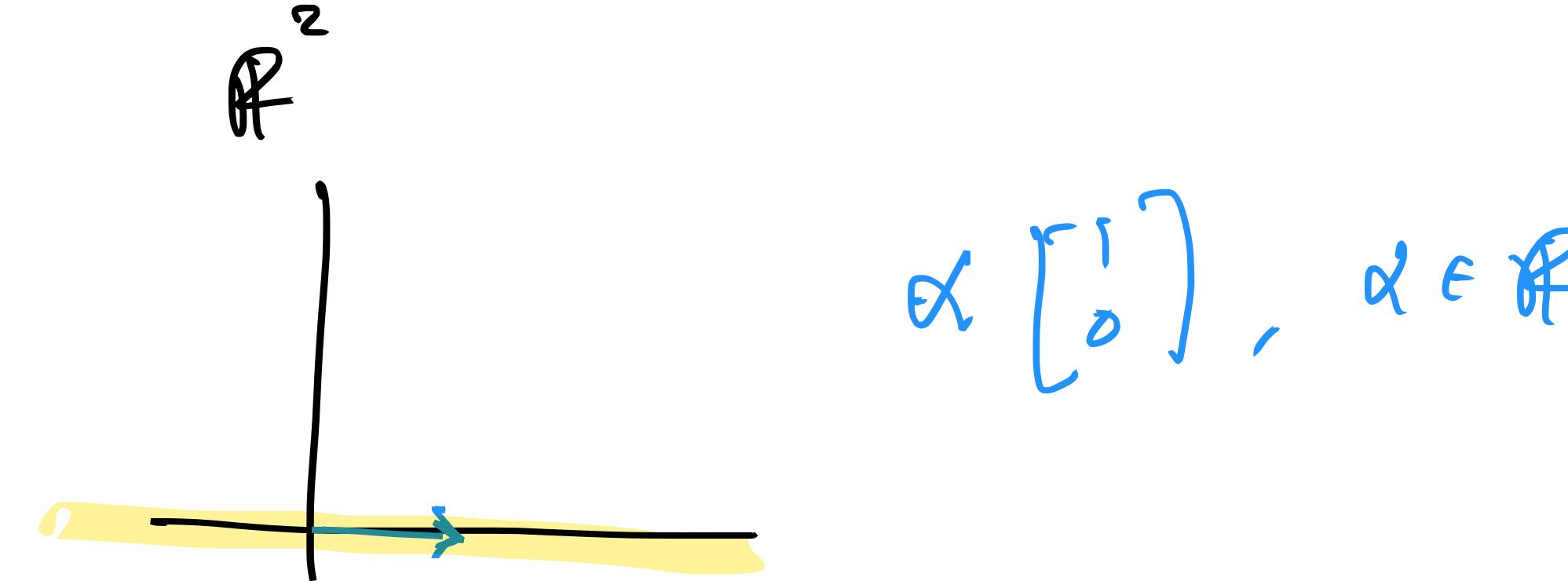
Definition

For a collection of vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the *span* is the set of vectors we can attain through linear combinations of $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d$:

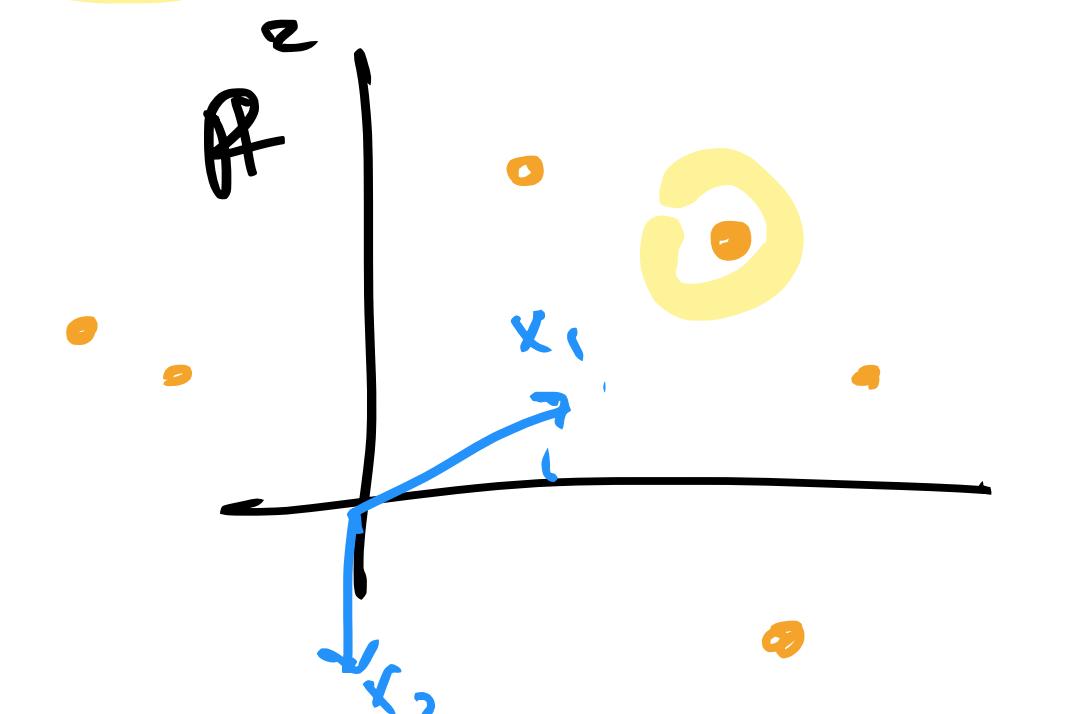
$$\text{span}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d) = \left\{ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^d \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i, \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

Span Examples

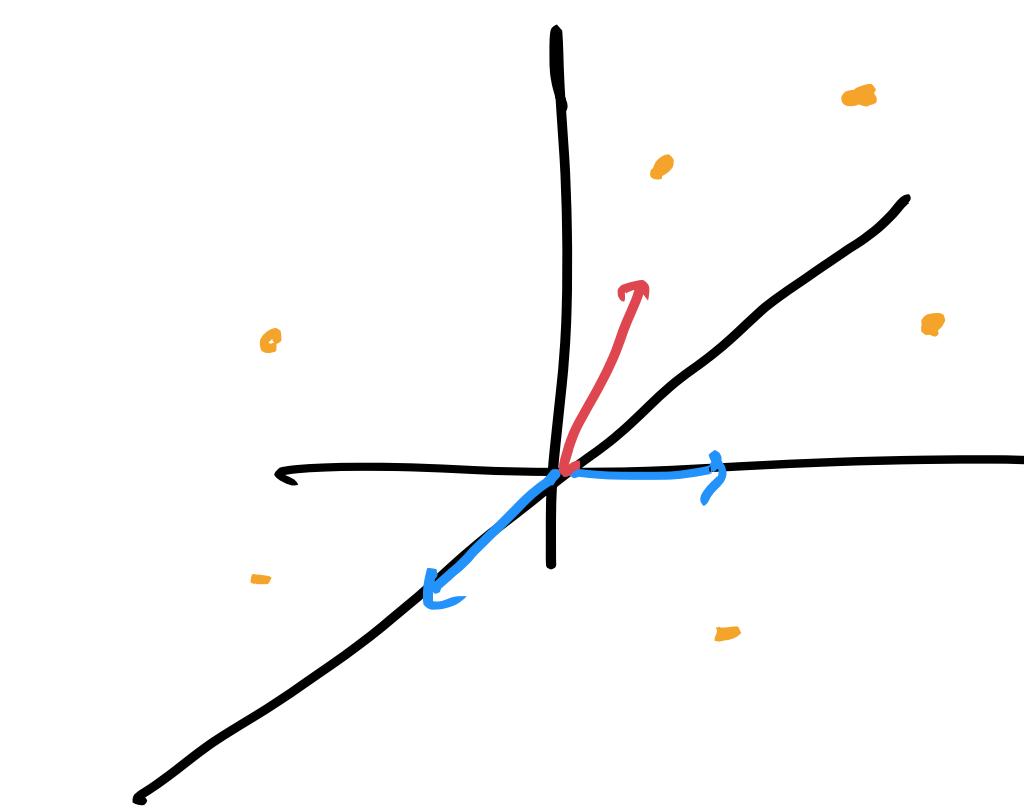
$$\text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$



$$\text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$



$$\text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$



MATRIX-VECTOR MULTIPLICATION

(Linear comb view)

To verify:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}}_X \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

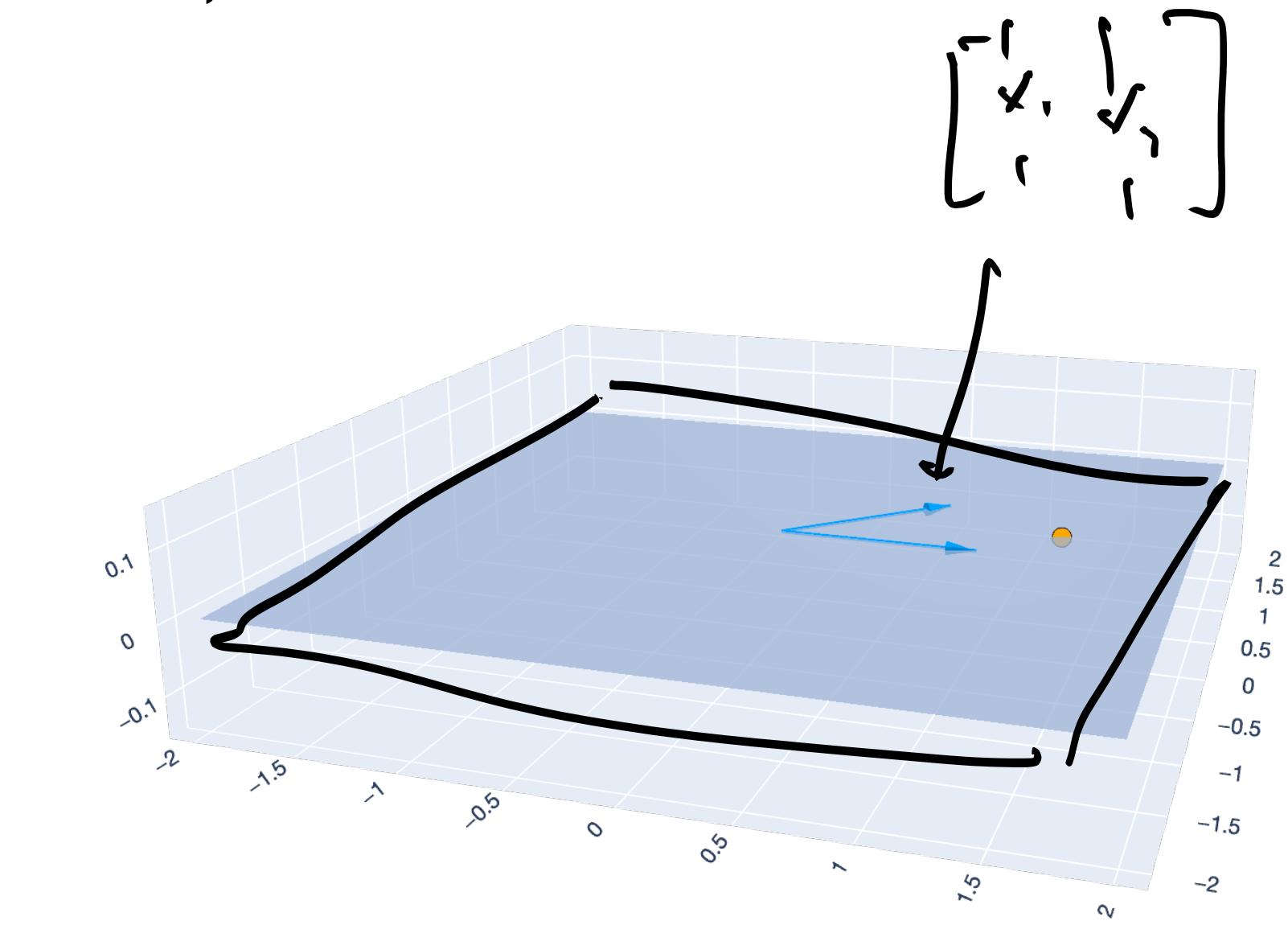
Let $n = 3$ and $d = 2$. In this case $\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is a *linear combination* of columns \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 .

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = w_1\mathbf{x}_1 + w_2\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

Let $\text{col}(\mathbf{X}) := \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d\}$ be the *columnspace* of $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$. Then,

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} & \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \hline & | & | & \cdots & | \\ & x_{11} & x_{21} & \cdots & x_{d1} \\ & | & | & \cdots & | \\ & x_{1n} & x_{2n} & \cdots & x_{dn} \end{array} \right]$$

$$\boxed{\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))}$$



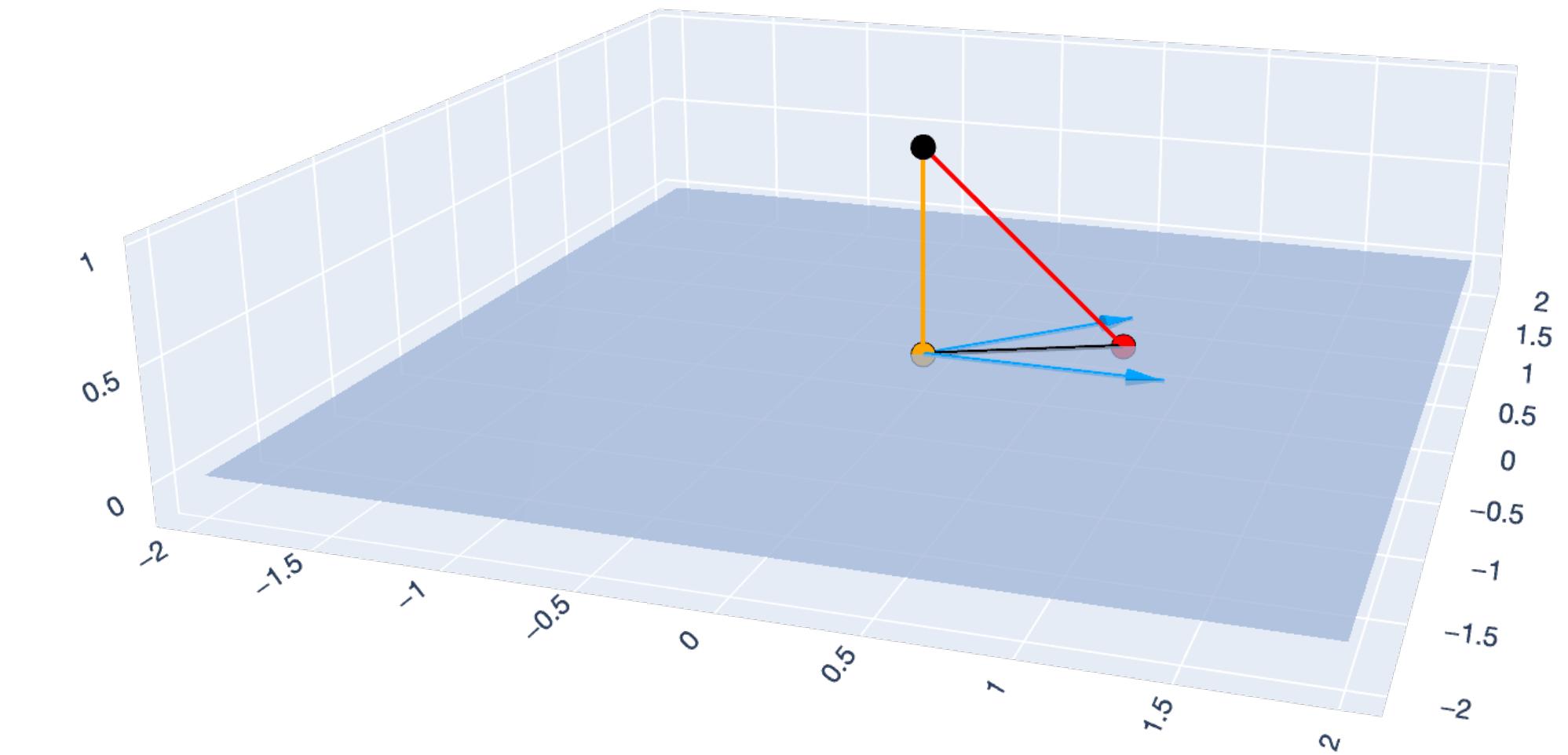
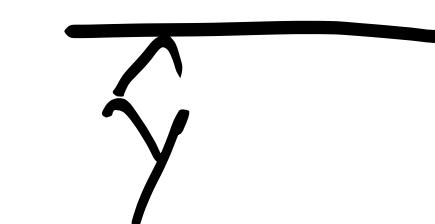
Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

So, $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \underline{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}} = w_1\mathbf{x}_1 + w_2\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3$, which we can write as: $\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$.

The true labels $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ might not be in $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$.

Goal: Find $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that minimizes $\|Xw - y\|^2$.



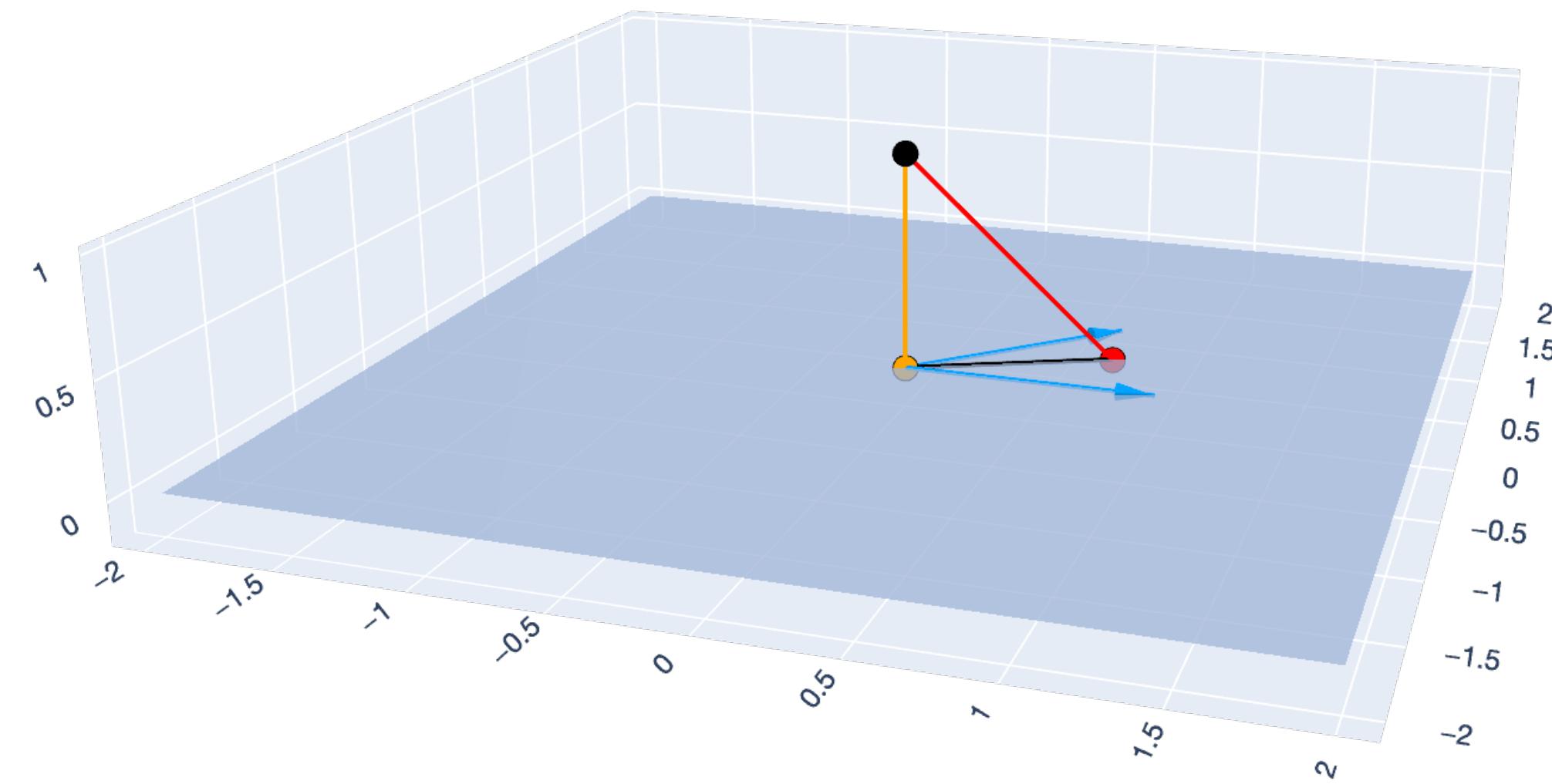
— x1 — x2 — y - ^y — ~y - ^y — ~y - y ● y ○ ^y ● ~y

Click to

Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

Goal: Find $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that minimizes $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$.



— x_1 — x_2 — $y - \hat{y}$ — $\hat{y} - \hat{y}$ — $\hat{y} - y$ ● y ● \hat{y} ● $\sim y$

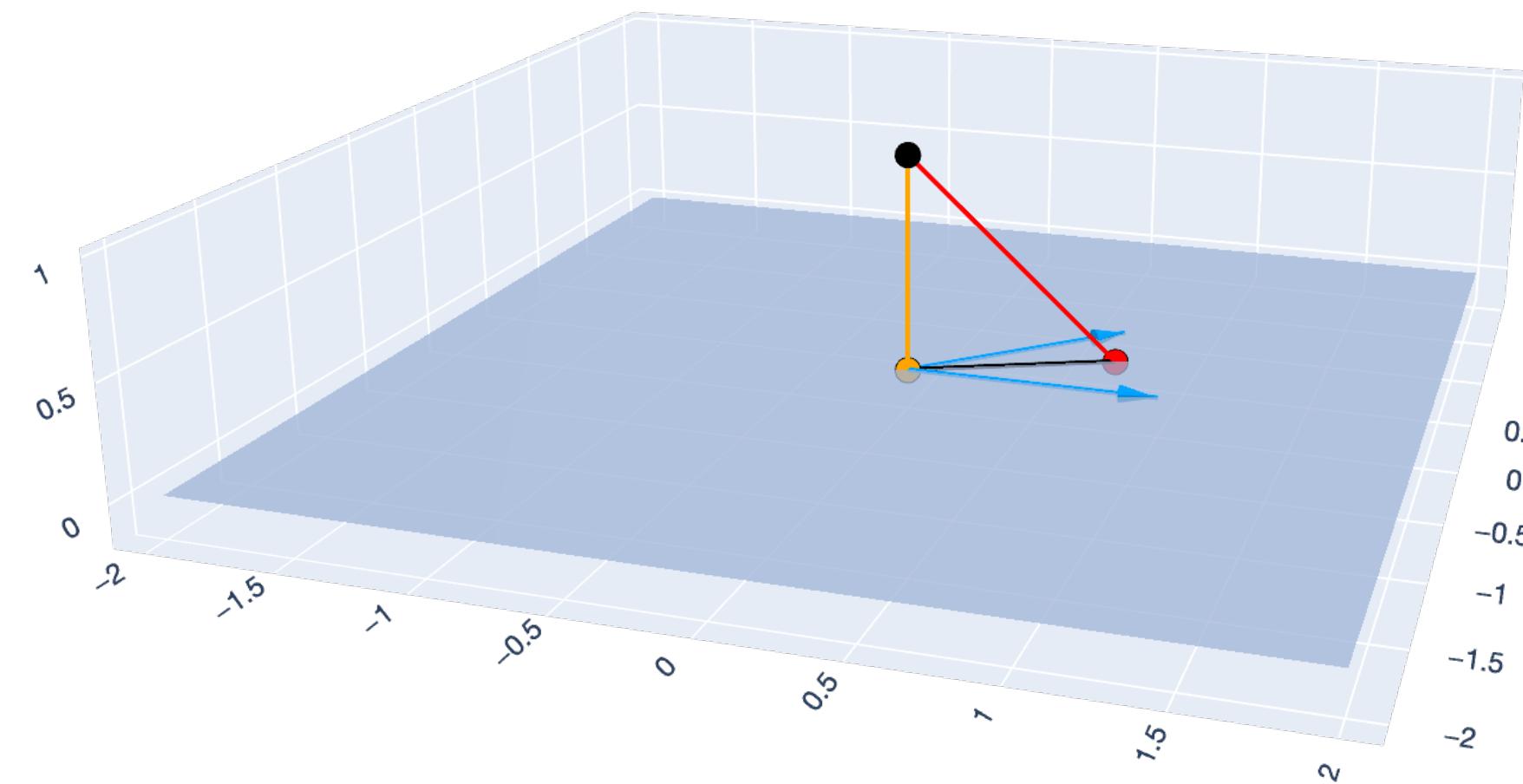
Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

Goal: Find $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that minimizes $\|Xw - y\|^2$.

→ PLANE

Which point on $\text{span}(\text{col}(X))$ minimizes the distance from y to $\text{span}(\text{col}(X))$?



— x1 — x2 — y - ^y — ^y - ^y ● y ○ ^y ● ~y

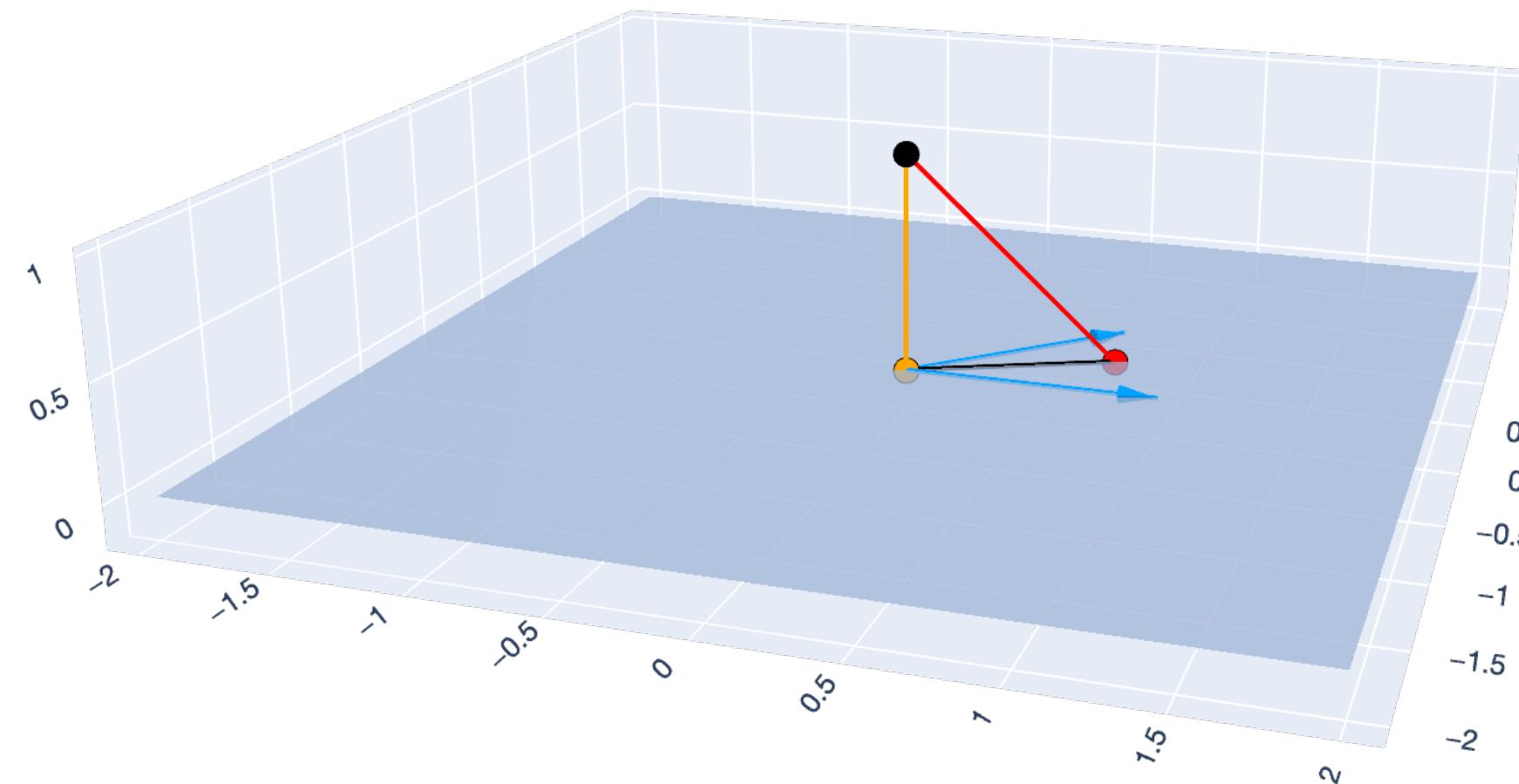
Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

Goal: Find $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that minimizes $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$.

Which point on $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ minimizes the distance from \mathbf{y} to $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$?

The point a perpendicular line down to $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$!



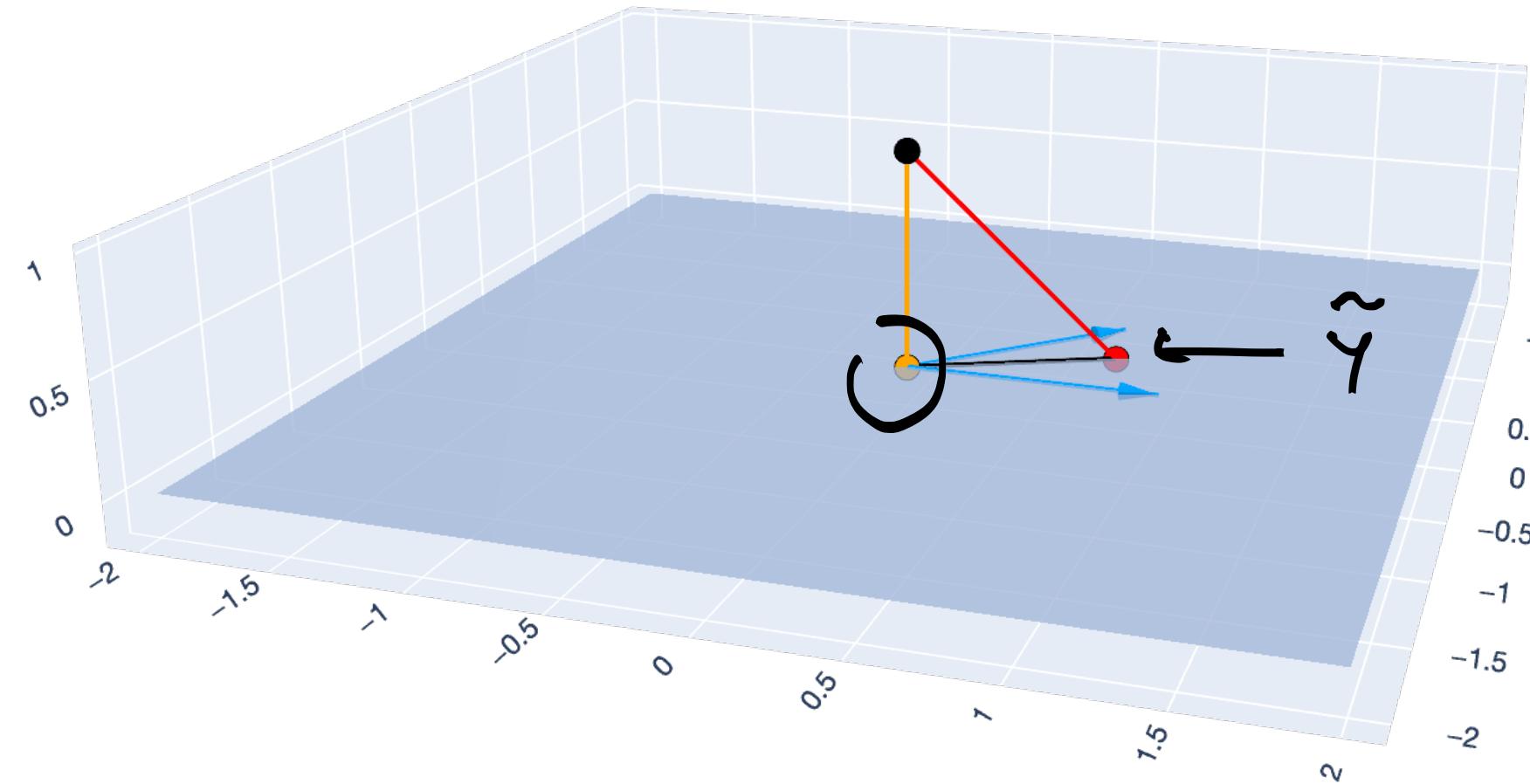
Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

A *projection* of $\underline{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ onto $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ gives us $\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and $\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$.

Let $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be any other vector in $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$, written $\mathbf{X}\tilde{\mathbf{w}} = \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$. \leftarrow

Also a
linear
combination!



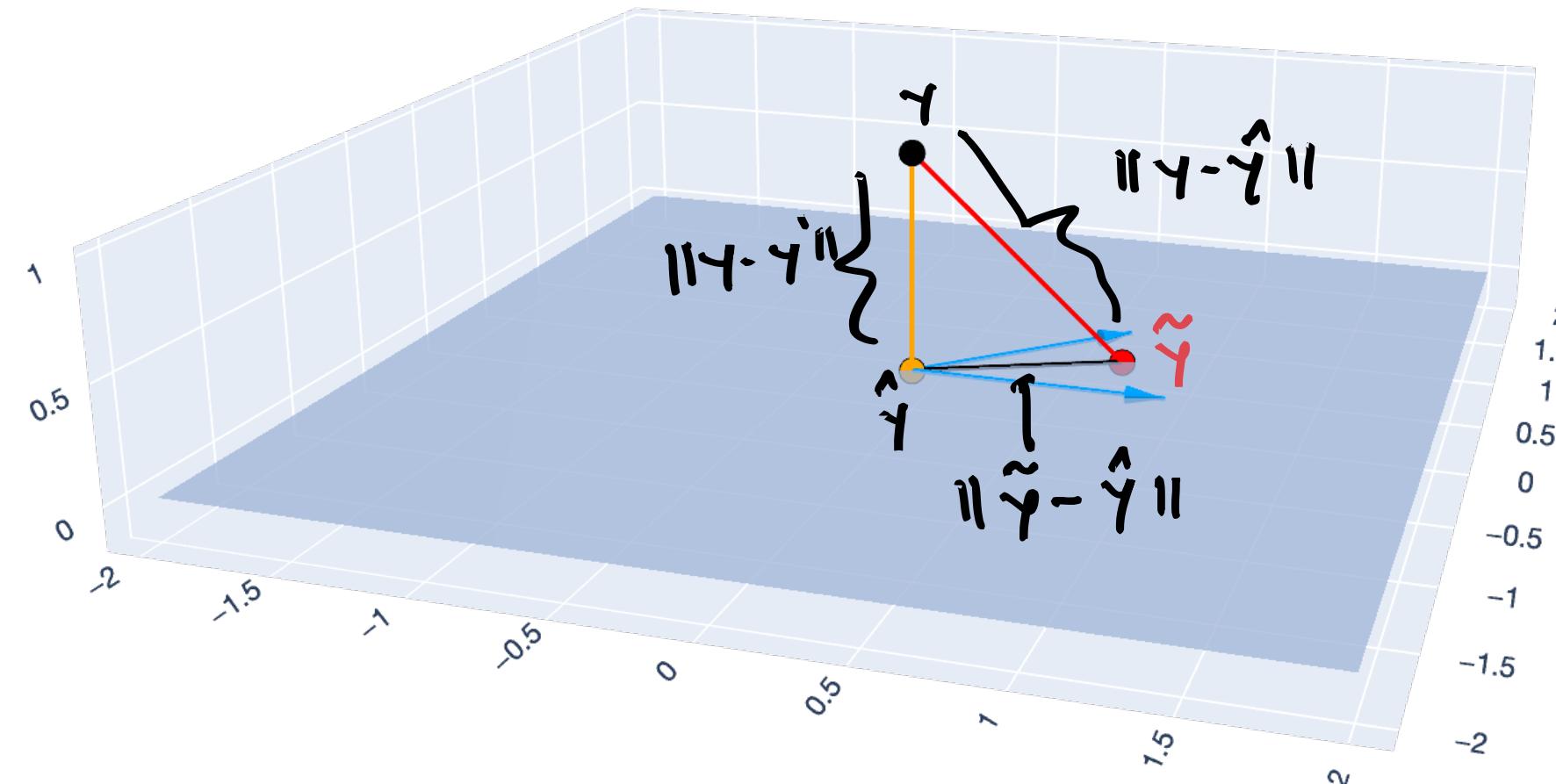
— x1 — x2 — $y - \hat{y}$ — $\hat{y} - \tilde{y}$ — $\tilde{y} - y$ ● y ○ \hat{y} ● \tilde{y}

Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

Let $\hat{y} = \mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ be the projection of y . Let $\tilde{y} = \mathbf{X}\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$ be any other \tilde{y} .

The distances $\|\underline{y - \hat{y}}\|$ and $\|\underline{\tilde{y} - \hat{y}}\|$ are the lengths of the residuals $\|\hat{r}\|$ and $\|\tilde{r}\|$.



— x1 — x2 — $y - \hat{y}$ — $\tilde{y} - \hat{y}$ — \hat{r} — \tilde{r}
● y ● \hat{y} ● \tilde{y}

Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

WANT: $\| \tilde{\mathbf{x}}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y} \| \leq \| \mathbf{x}\tilde{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y} \|^2$

$\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ is the minimum for any $\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Let $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$ be any other vector in $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$.

By the Pythagorean Theorem,

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{r}}\|^2 + \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\|^2 = \|\tilde{\mathbf{r}}\|^2.$$

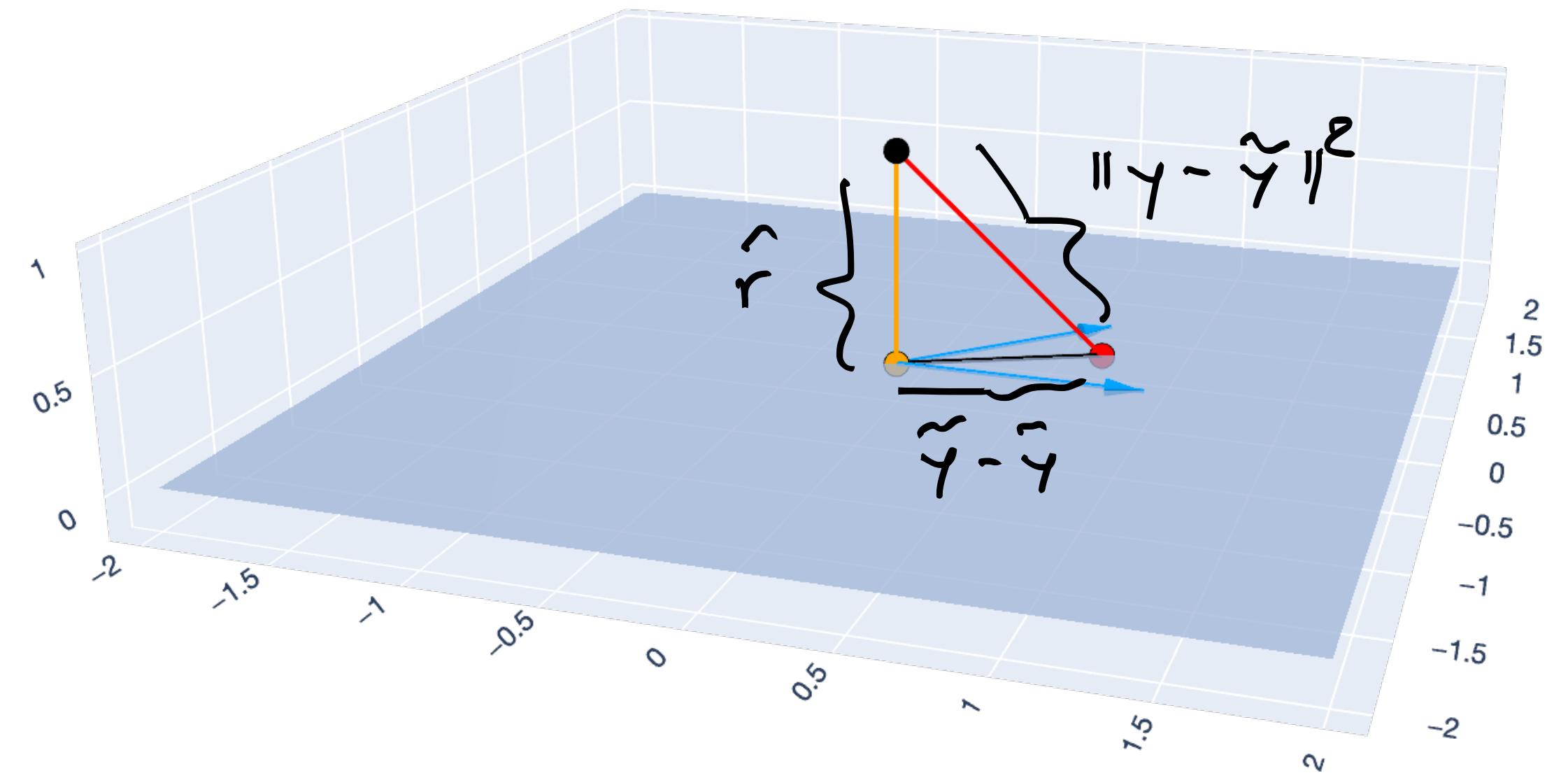
But $\|\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\|^2 \geq 0$, so: $\langle \tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} \rangle \geq 0$.

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{r}}\|^2 \leq \|\tilde{\mathbf{r}}\|^2.$$

By definition, $\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{X}\tilde{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}$.

Therefore,

$$\|\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 \leq \|\mathbf{X}\tilde{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}\|^2.$$



Legend: x1 (blue line), x2 (blue line), y - ^y (orange line), ~y - ^y (black line), ~y - y (red line), y (black dot), ^y (orange dot), ~y (red dot)

Ordinary Least Squares

Geometry of Least Squares

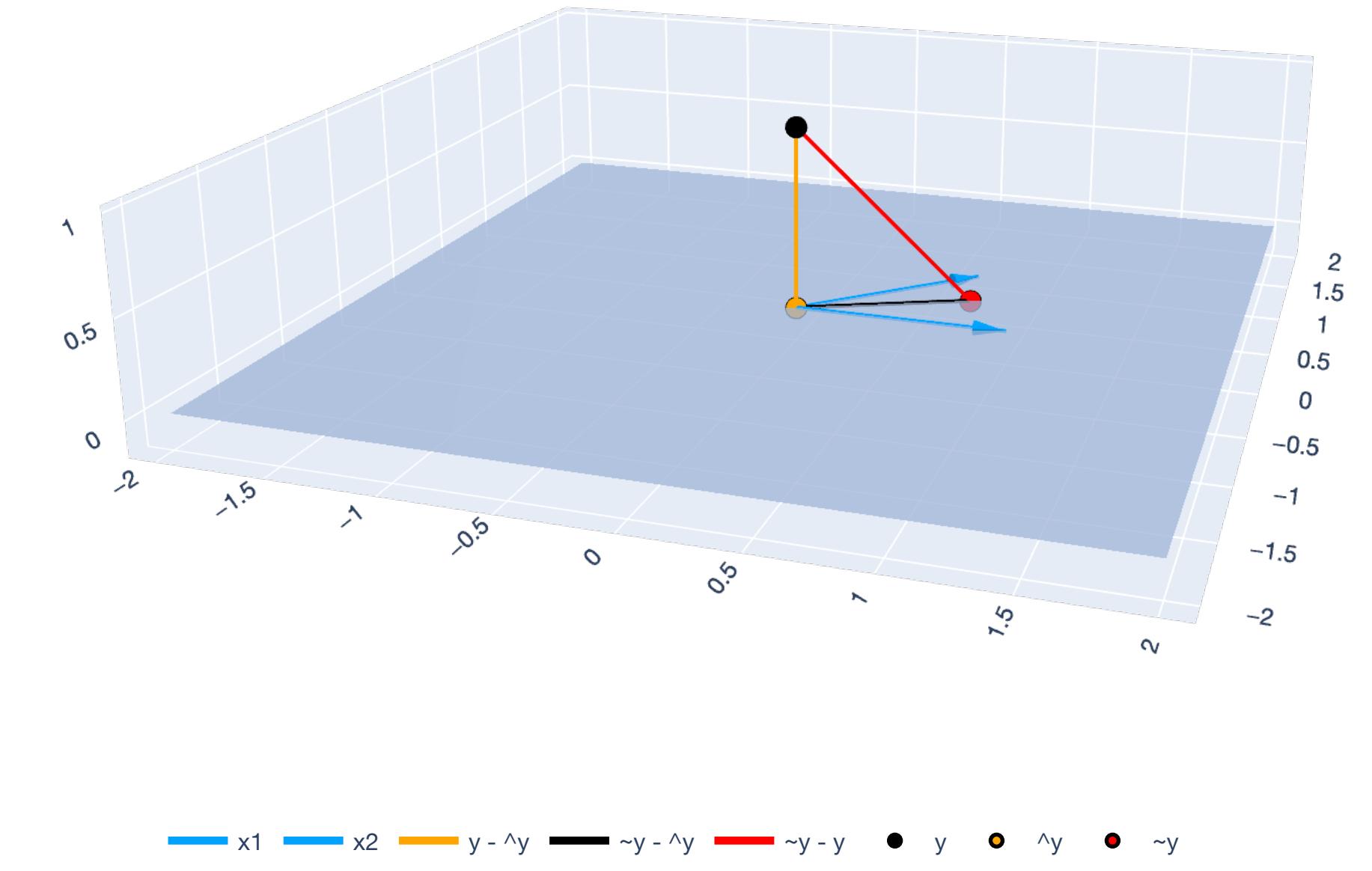
Therefore:

$$\|\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 \leq \|\mathbf{X}\tilde{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}\|^2,$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is obtained from the *projection* $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ of $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ onto $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$, and $\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is any other vector.

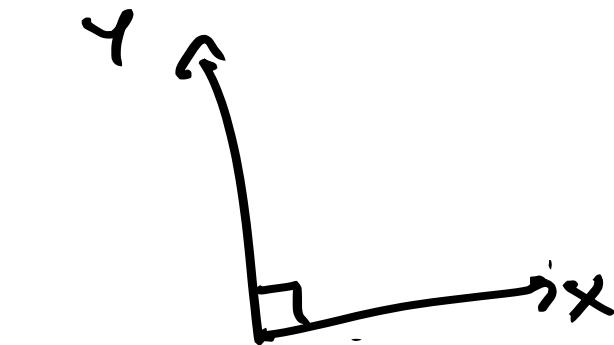
$$\mathbf{X}\hat{\underline{\mathbf{w}}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

But what is $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$?



Orthogonality

Definition



Two vectors $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are orthogonal if

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y} = 0.$$

So, if a vector $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is orthogonal to a whole set of vectors $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d\}$, we can write this in matrix form.

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{x}^\top = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1^\top - \\ \vdots \\ -x_d^\top - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^\top v \\ \vdots \\ x_d^\top v \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{v} = 0.$

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Ordinary Least Squares

The Normal Equations

From the picture, $\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}$ is orthogonal to $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$:

$$\underline{\mathbf{X}^T \hat{\mathbf{r}}} = 0 \implies \mathbf{X}^T (\underline{\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}}) = 0.$$

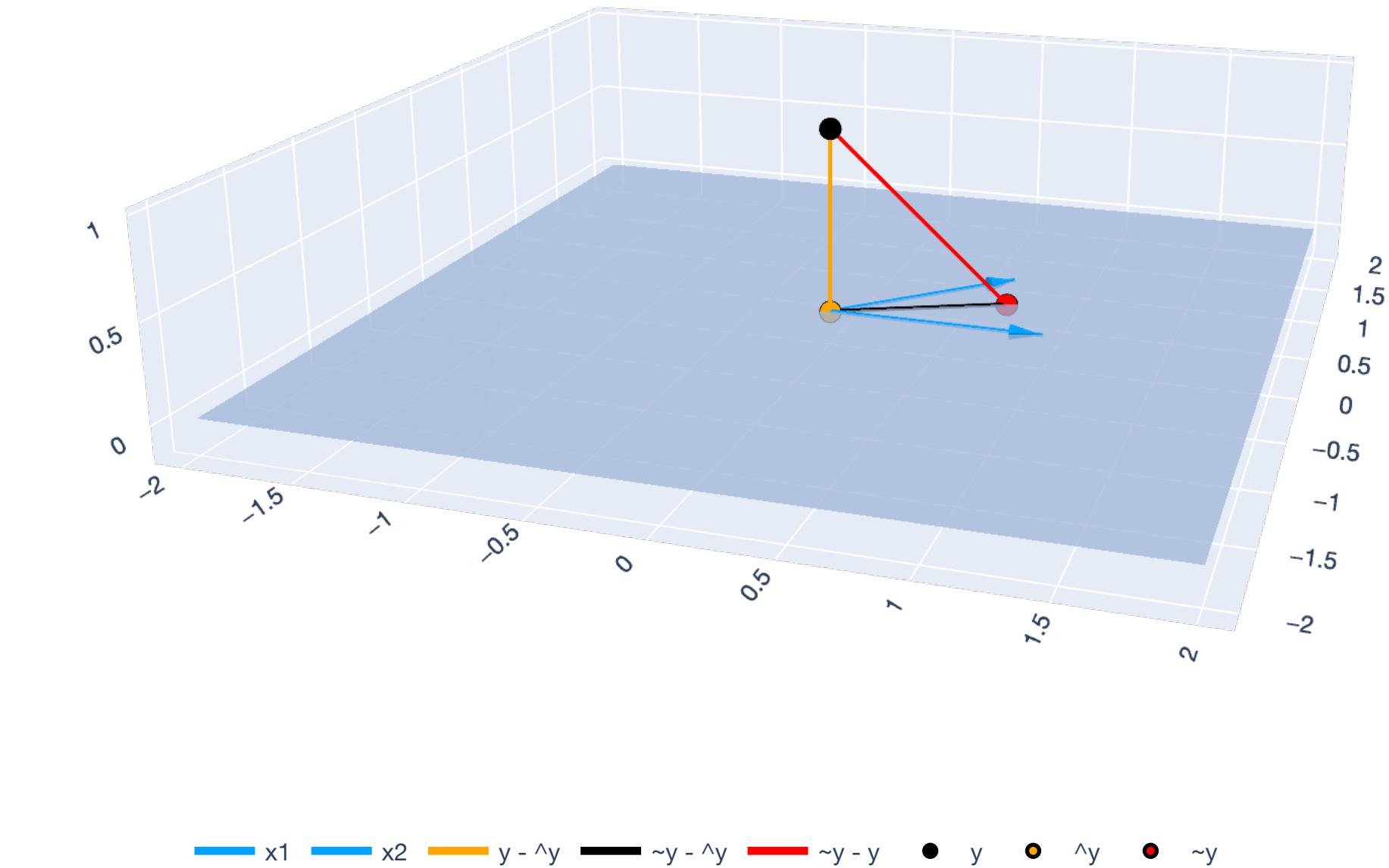
This gives us the **normal equations**:

$$\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \hat{\mathbf{w}}.$$

\mathbb{R}^d

$\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$ $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$



Ordinary Least Squares

The Normal Equations

Finally, we need to solve the normal equations:

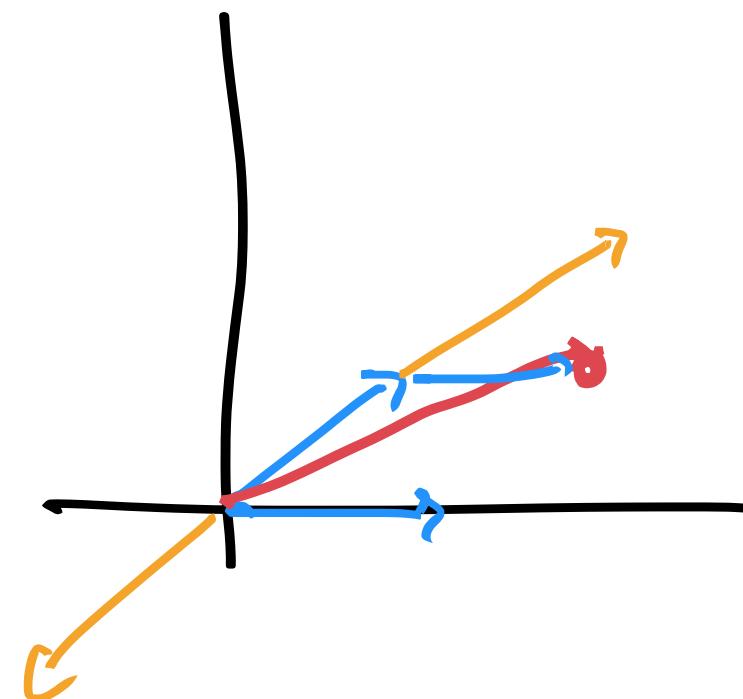
$$\underbrace{\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}}_{\mathbb{R}^d} = \underbrace{\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}}_{\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}} \underbrace{\hat{\mathbf{w}}}_{\mathbb{R}^d}.$$

Linear Independence

Idea

A collection of vectors $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is linearly independent if there are no redundancies – no vector \mathbf{a}_i can be written as a linear combination of the others.

$$\vec{a}_i = \alpha \vec{a}_j$$



Linear Independence

Definition

A collection of vectors $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is linearly independent if $\alpha_1\mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + \alpha_d\mathbf{a}_d = \mathbf{0}$ if and only if $\alpha_i = 0$ for all $i \in [d]$.

Equivalently, there exists \mathbf{a}_i that can be written in terms of the others:

$$\mathbf{a}_i = \alpha_1\mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + \alpha_{i-1}\mathbf{a}_{i-1} + \alpha_{i+1}\mathbf{a}_{i+1} + \dots + \alpha_d\mathbf{a}_d.$$

$$\left[\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_d \end{bmatrix} \right] = \vec{0}$$

KERNEL

$$\text{kernel}(A) = \{ \vec{0} \}$$

Linear Independence

Examples

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ 2\alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rank

Definition

Rank is the number of linearly independent columns in a matrix. This is always the same as the number of linearly independent rows in a matrix.

For $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$, it is always the case that: $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) \leq \min\{n, d\}$. If $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \min\{n, d\}$, then we say \mathbf{A} is full rank.

Remember this?



Ordinary Least Squares

The Normal Equations

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & \dots & x_d \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_1^T & \dots & x_n^T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1^T- \\ \vdots \\ -x_n^T- \end{bmatrix}$$

Finally, we need to solve the normal equations:

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}}_{\mathbb{R}^d} = \underbrace{\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}}_{\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}} \hat{\mathbf{w}}. \quad \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$x_3 = \underbrace{x_1 + x_2}_2$$

THRM:

For $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$, if $n \geq d$ and $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) = d$, then: $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}) = d \iff \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$ has d linearly independent columns $\iff (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$ exists.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x_1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow$$

$d = \text{measurements / features}$
(pixels, statistics ab. examples)
 $n = \# \text{ of samples.}$

Ordinary Least Squares

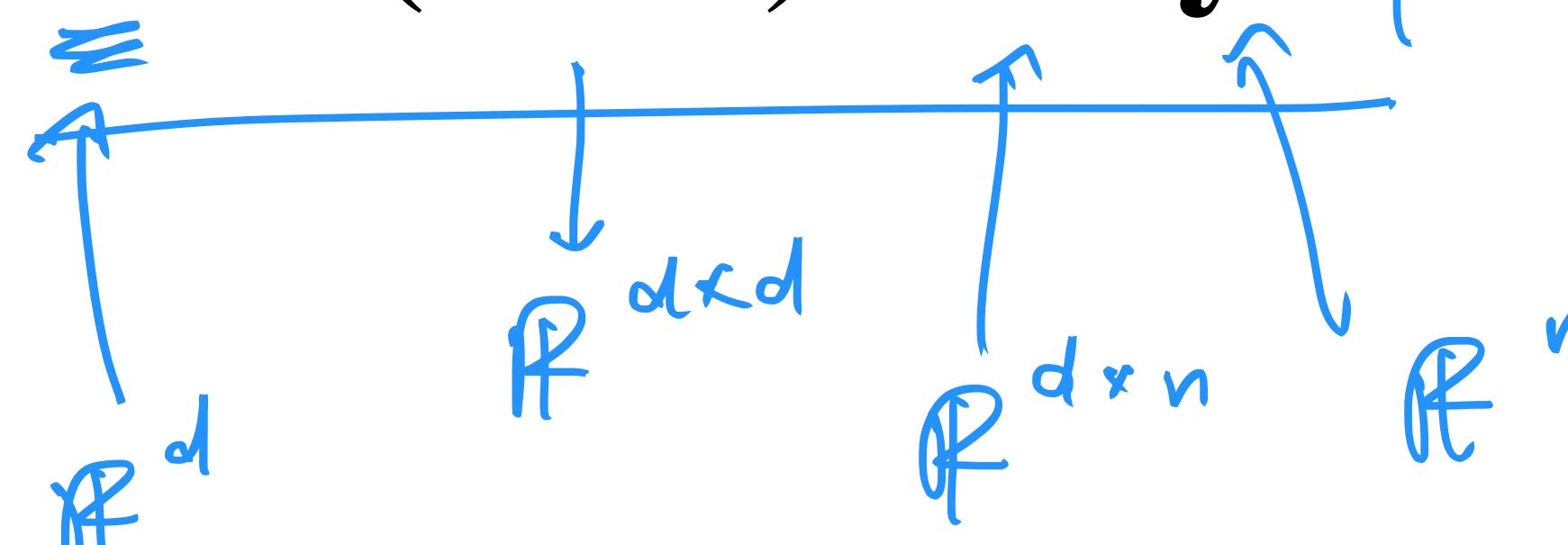
The Normal Equations

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}}_{\mathbb{R}^d} = \underbrace{\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}}_{\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}} \underbrace{\hat{\mathbf{w}}}_{\mathbb{R}^d}.$$

What if $\det(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}) \approx 0$

Finally, solving the normal equations:

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$$



Ordinary Least Squares

Main Theorem

EUCLID THEOREM.

Let $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ with $n \geq d$ and $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) = d$ (the columns of \mathbf{X} are linearly independent).

Then, the solution $\hat{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ that minimizes $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|$, i.e.

$$\|\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}\| \leq \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\| \text{ for all } \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

is given by:

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}.$$

$$(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}) \hat{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

Recap

Lesson Overview

Takeaways

Regression. The basic problem in machine learning is regression. We have *training data* in the form of a data matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ and labels $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. We seek a model $\hat{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ such that $\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} \approx \mathbf{y}$.

Least squares. One way to find a model for the data is through *least squares*: choose $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ that minimizes $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$.

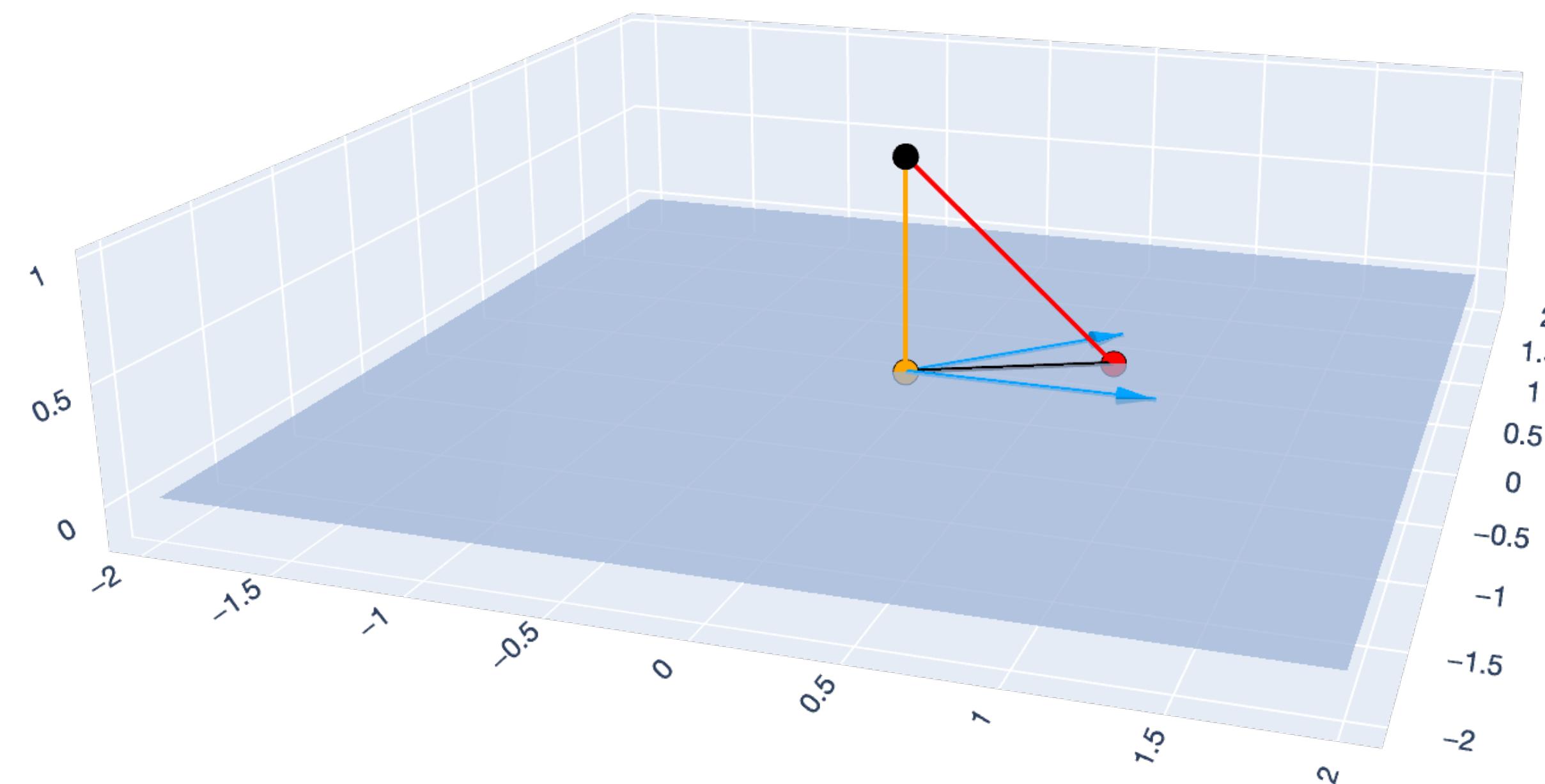
Span and orthogonality. We can solve least squares by noticing that $\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}$ is *orthogonal* to $\text{span}(\text{cols}(\mathbf{X}))$. This gives us the normal equations: $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$.

Linear independence. To solve the normal equations, we need \mathbf{X} to be full *rank* (its d columns are *linearly independent*). Then, we can invert and solve the normal equations.

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}.$$

Lesson Overview

Big Picture: Least Squares

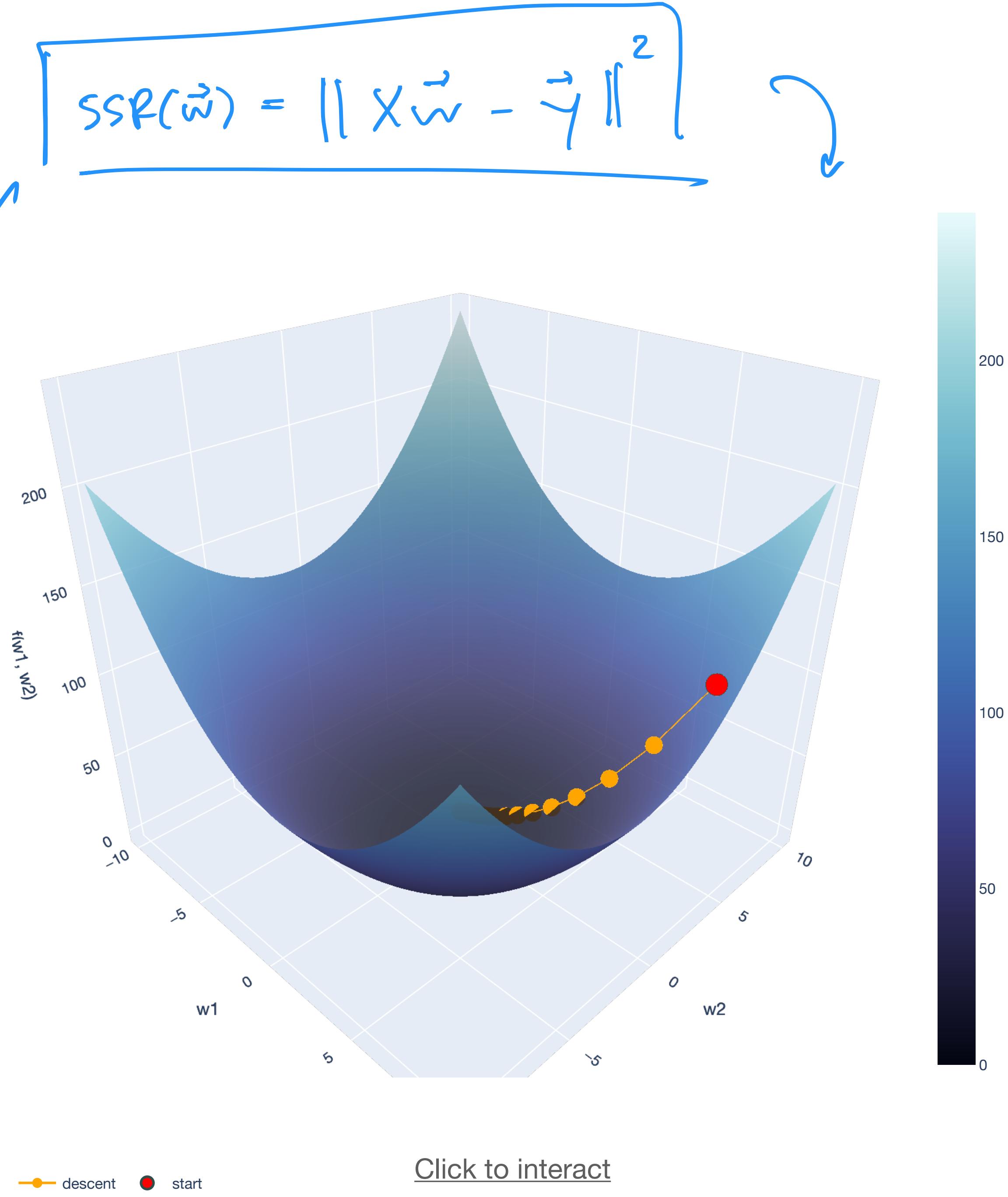
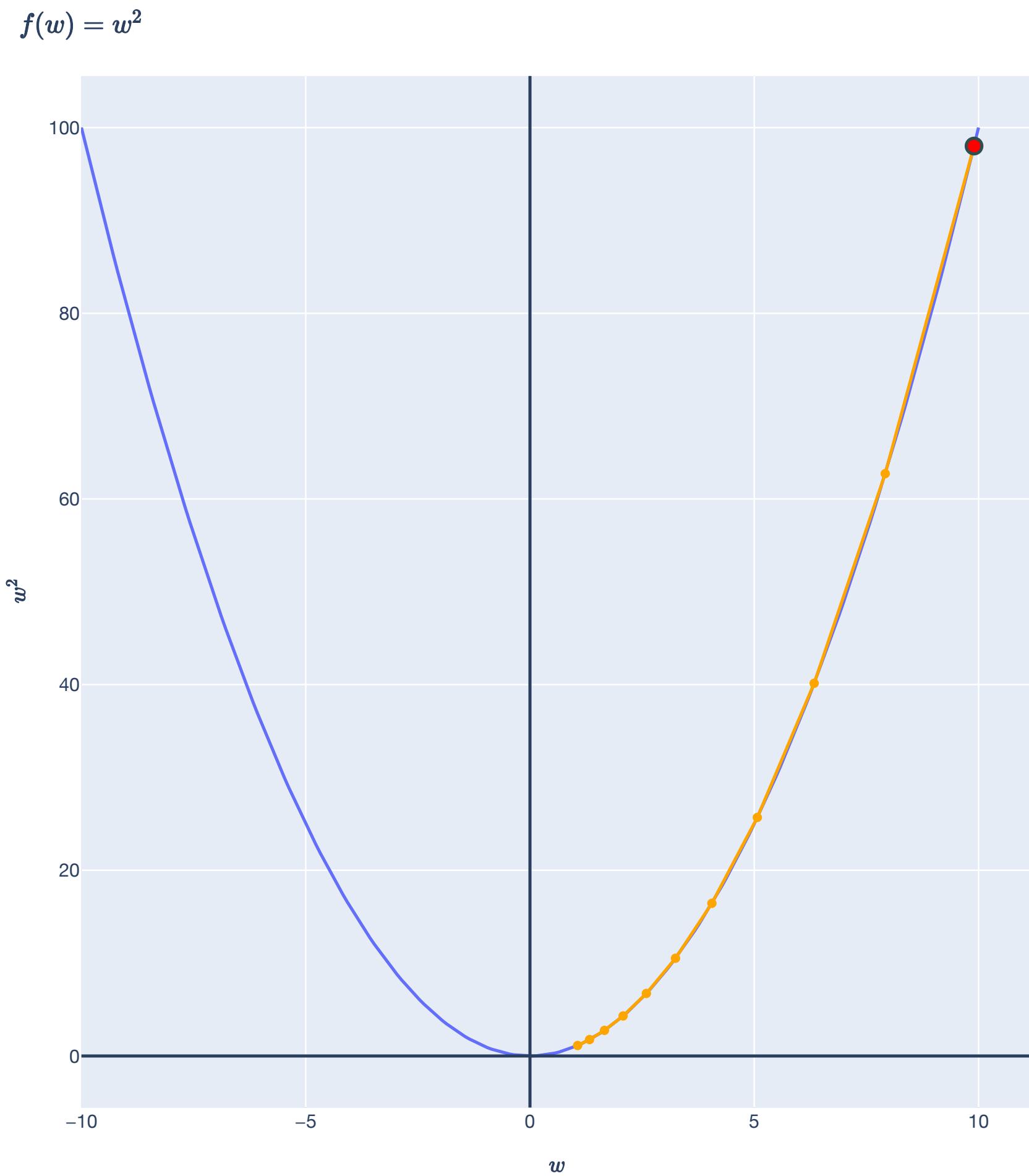


— x1 — x2 — $y - \hat{y}$ — $\hat{y} - \hat{y}$ — $\hat{y} - y$ ● y ○ \hat{y} ● $\hat{y} - y$

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Lesson Overview

Big Picture: Gradient Descent



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