Linear Regression & Gradient Descent

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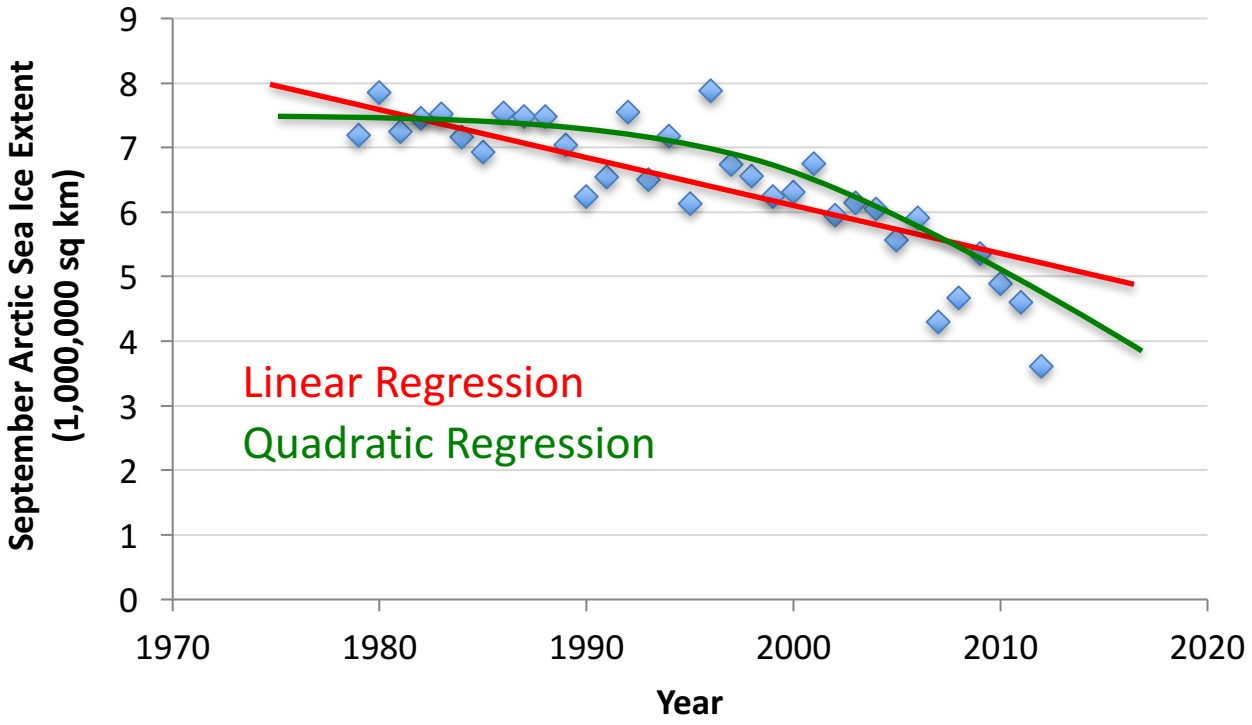
Regression

Given:

- Data $\boldsymbol{X} = \left\{\boldsymbol{x}^{(1)}, \ldots, \boldsymbol{x}^{(n)}\right\}$ where $\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Corresponding labels $\boldsymbol{y} = \left\{y^{(1)}, \ldots, y^{(n)}\right\}$ where $y^{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}$



Data from G. Witt. Journal of Statistics Education, Volume 21, Number 1 (2013)

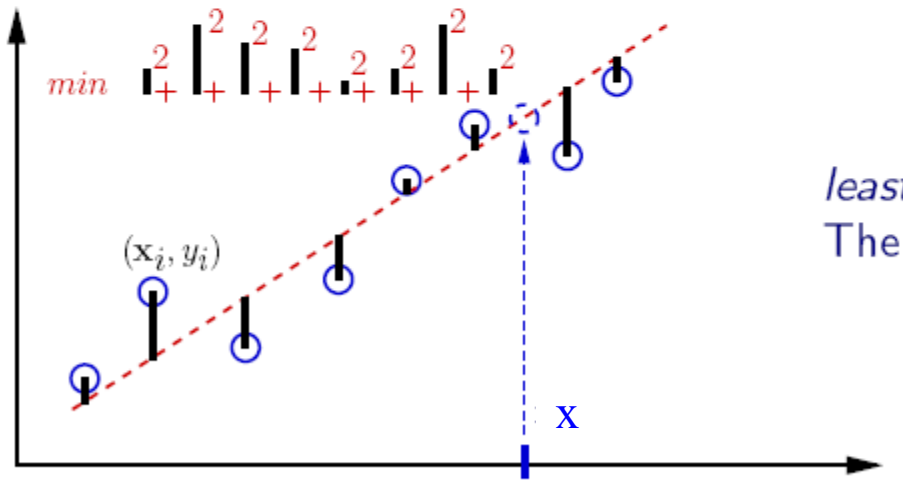
Linear Regression

- Hypothesis:

$$y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2 + \ldots + \theta_d x_d = \sum_{j=0}^{d} \theta_j x_j$$

Assume $x_0 = 1$

- Fit model by minimizing sum of squared errors



least squares (LSQ)
The fitted line is used as a predictor

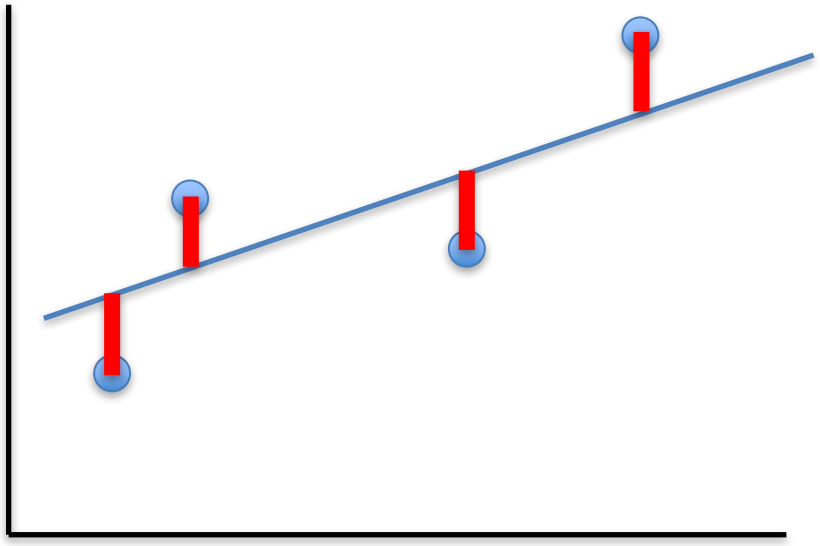
Figures are courtesy of Greg Shakhnarovich

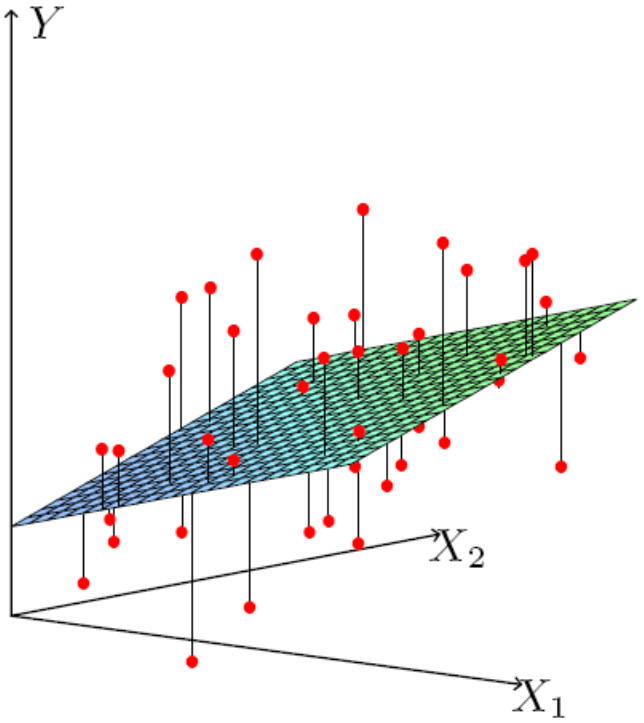
Least Squares Linear Regression

- Cost Function

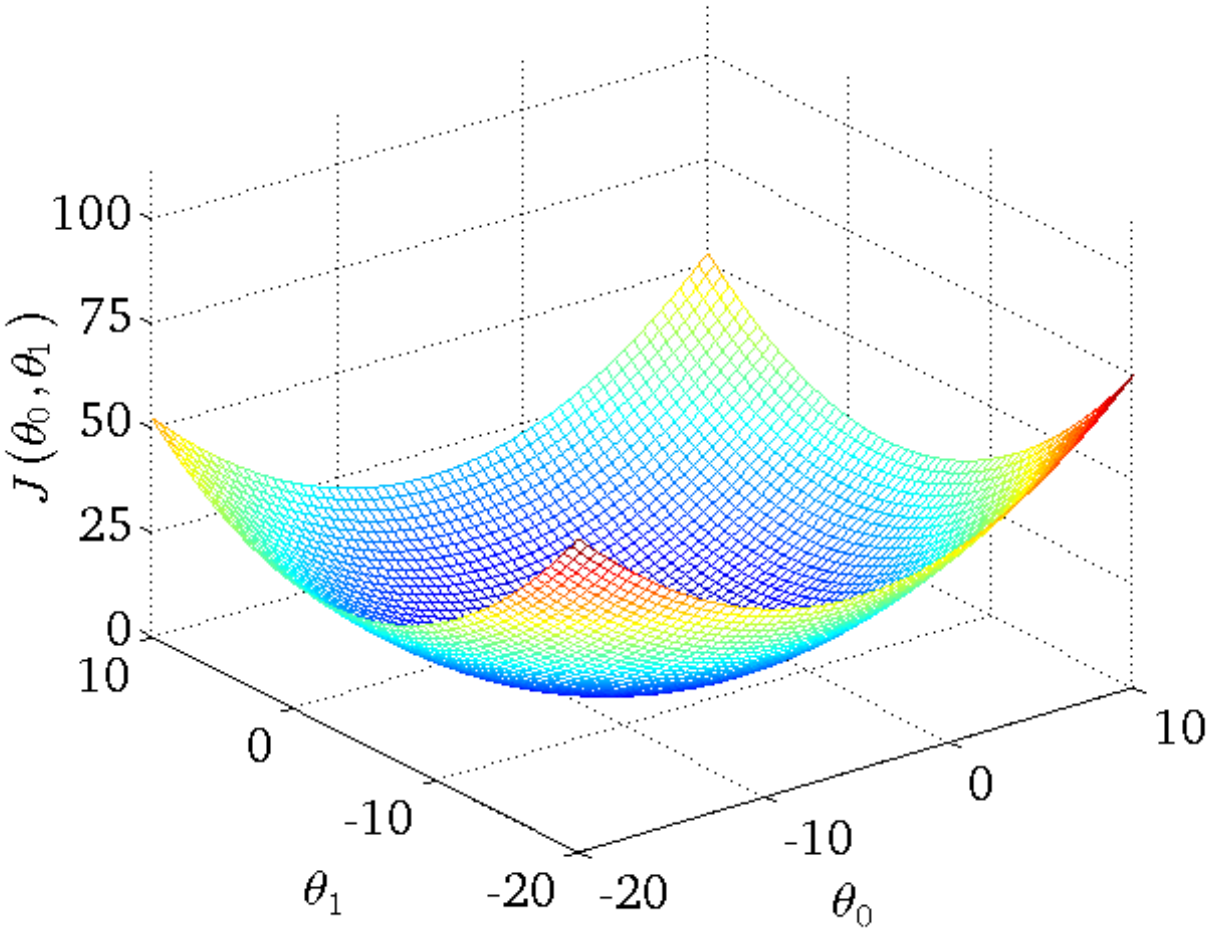
$$J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} \right) - y^{(i)} \right)^2$$

- Fit by solving $\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta})$





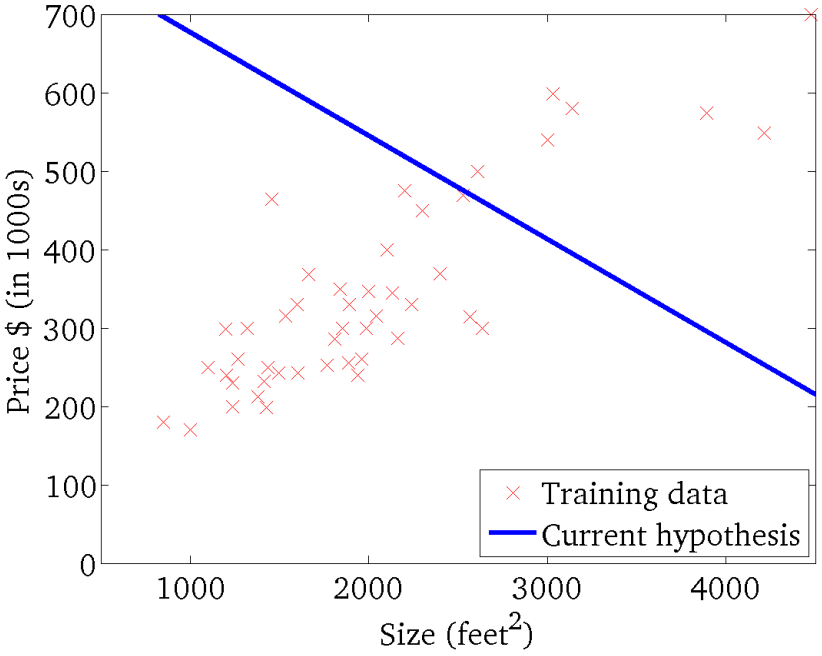
Intuition Behind Cost Function



Intuition Behind Cost Function

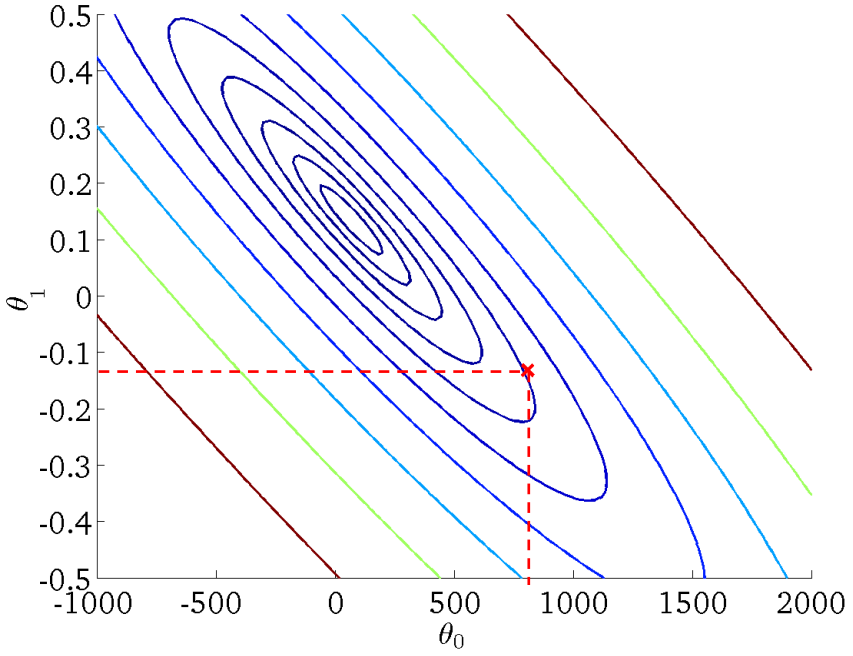
$h_\theta(x)$

(for fixed θ_0, θ_1, this is a function of x)



$J(\theta_0, \theta_1)$

(function of the parameters θ_0, θ_1)



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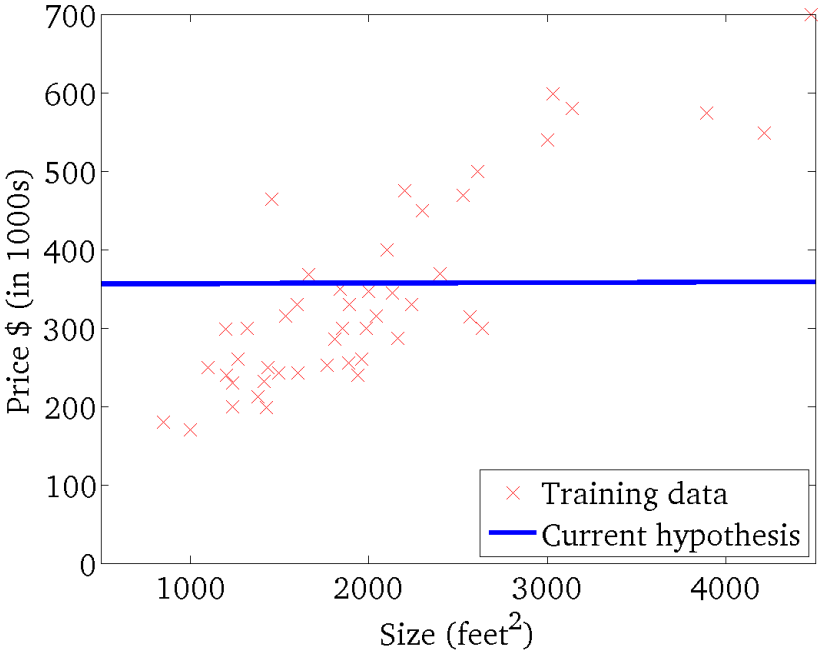

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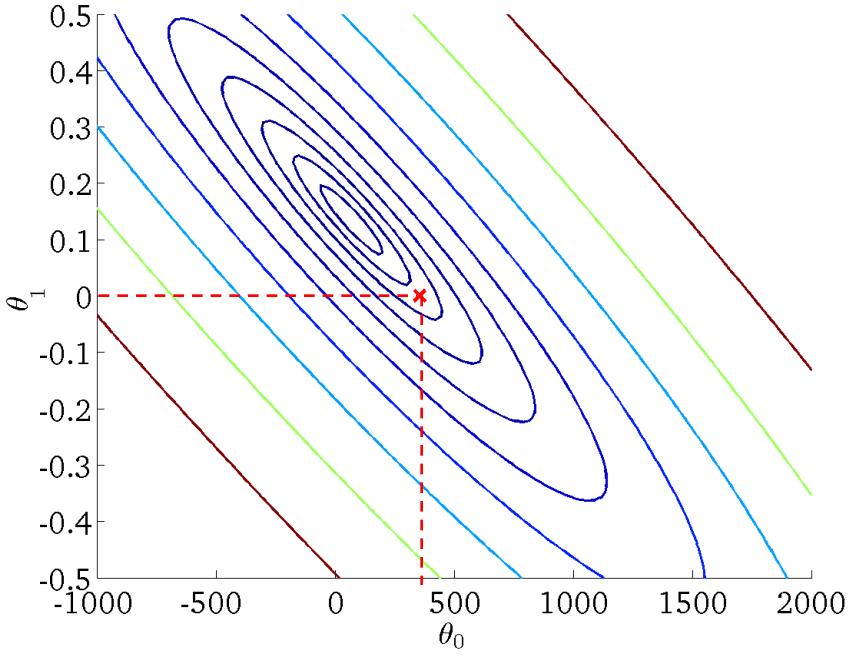

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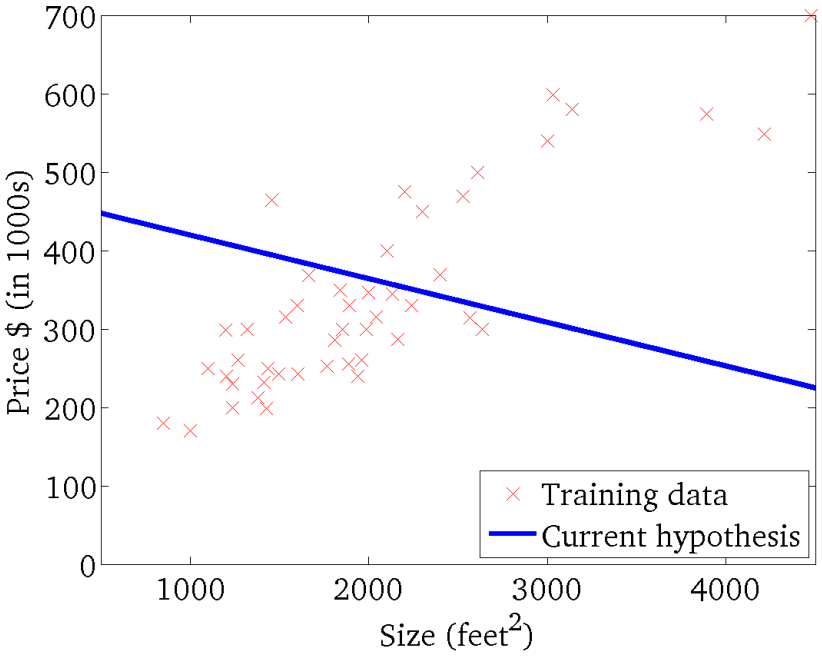

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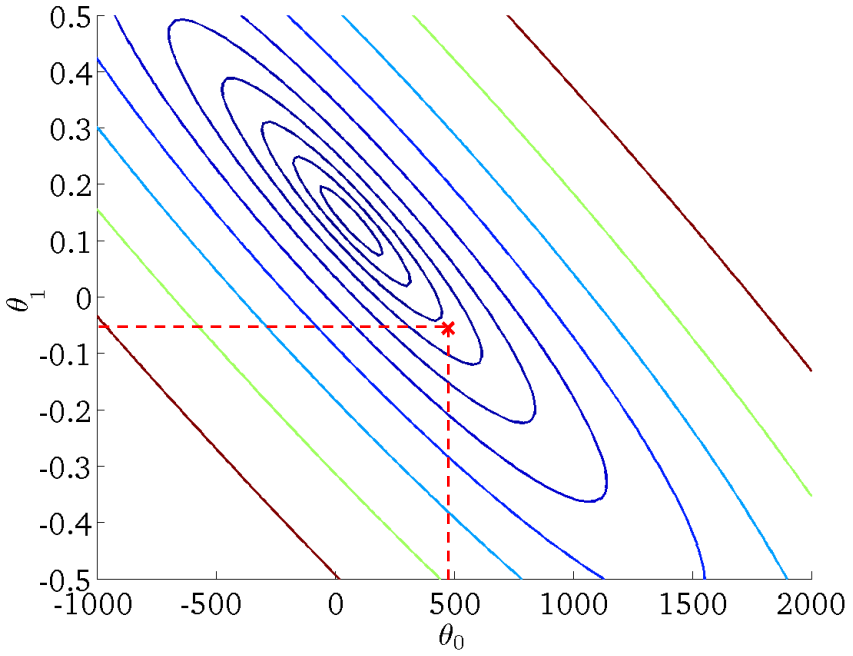

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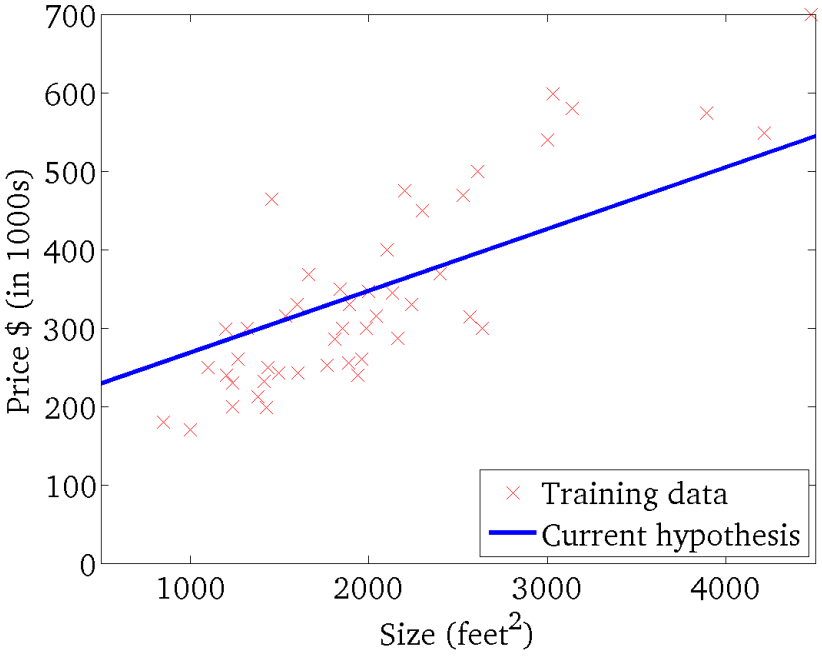

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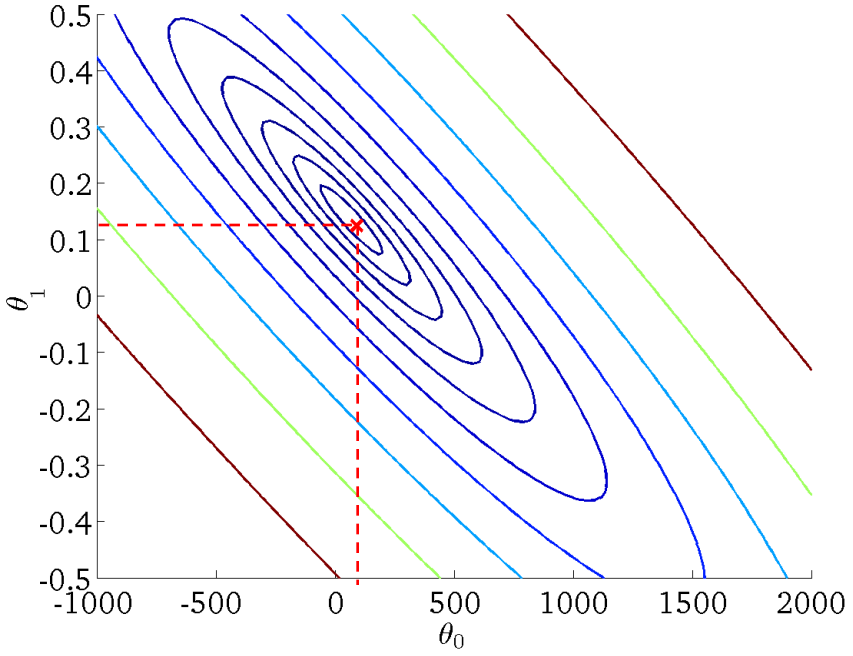

Basic Search Procedure

- Choose initial value for $\boldsymbol{\theta}$
- Until we reach a minimum:
  - Choose a new value for $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ to reduce $J(\boldsymbol{\theta})$

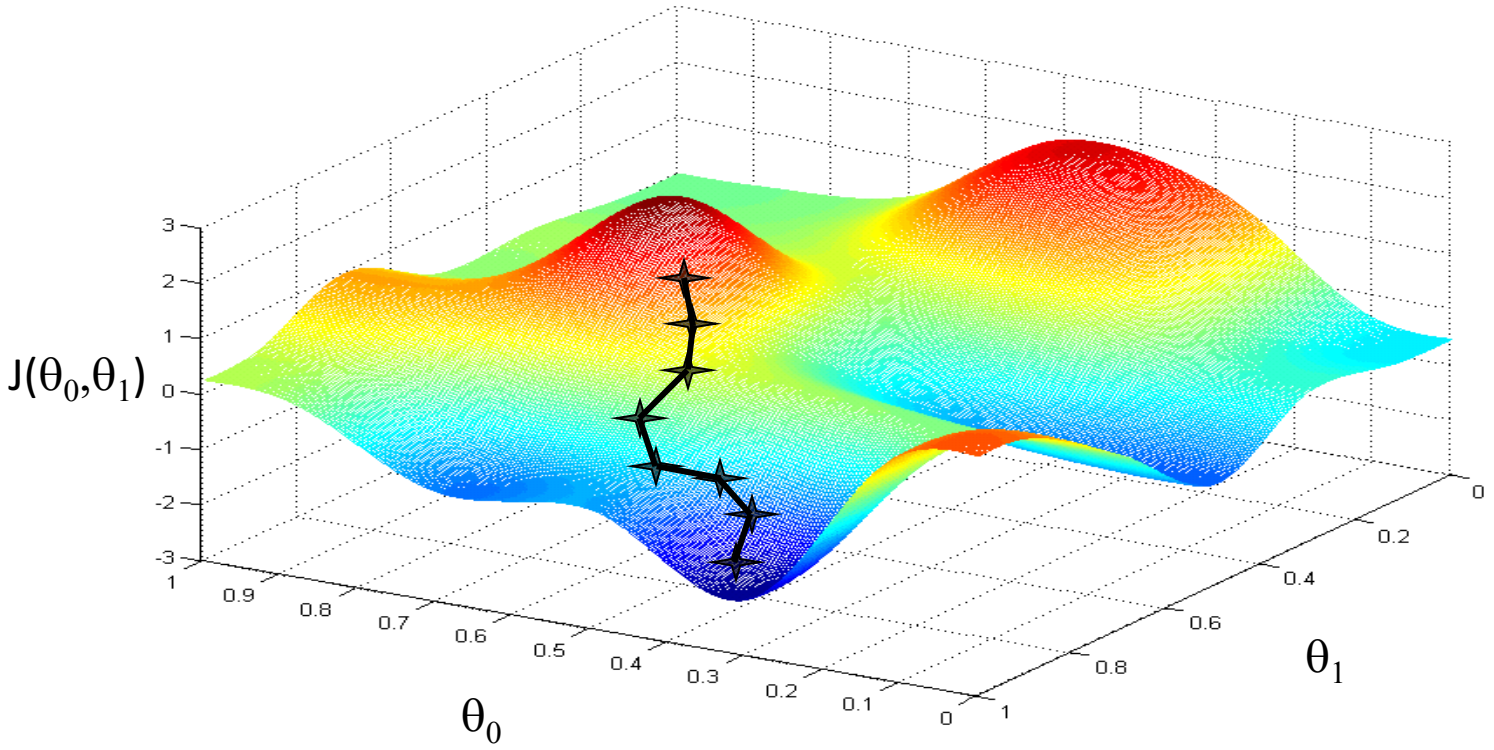

Figure by Andrew Ng

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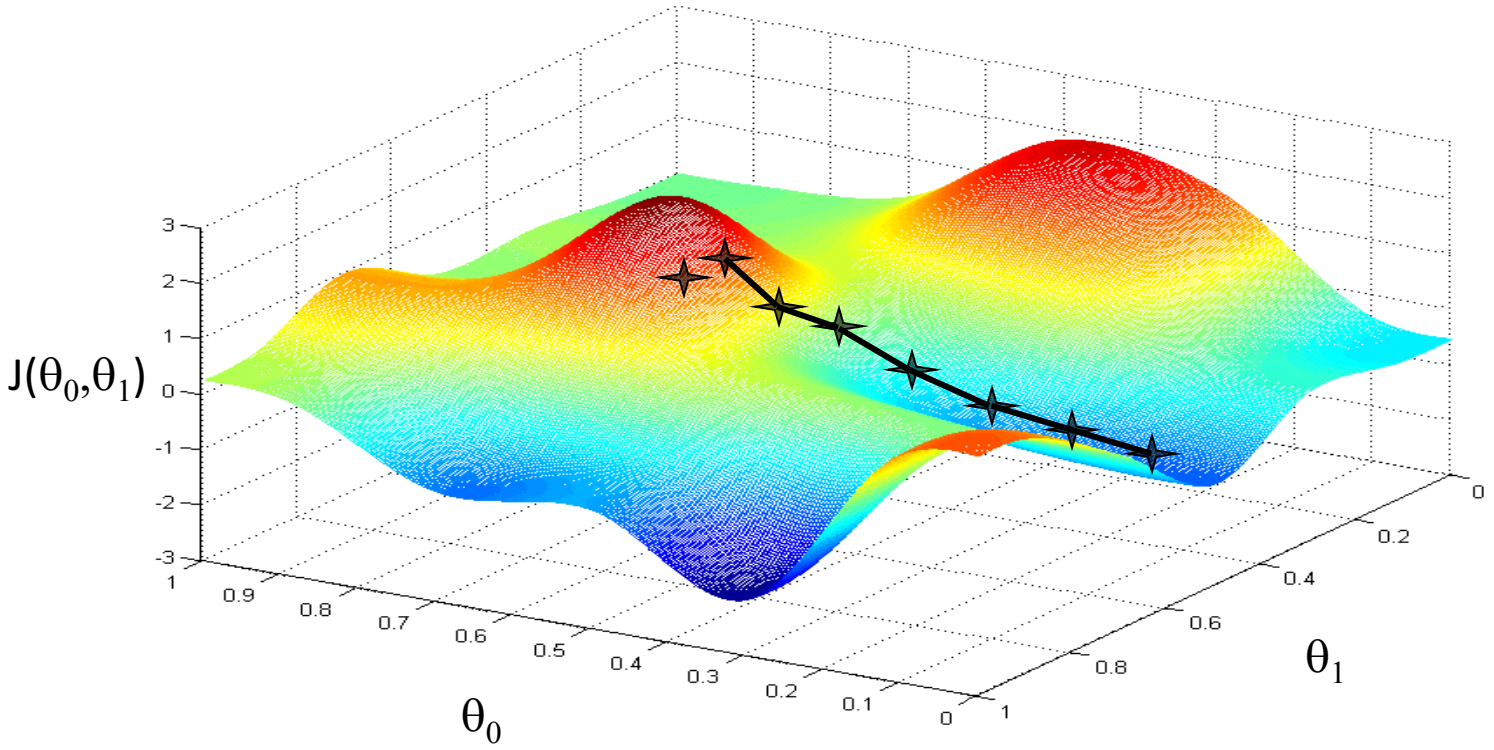

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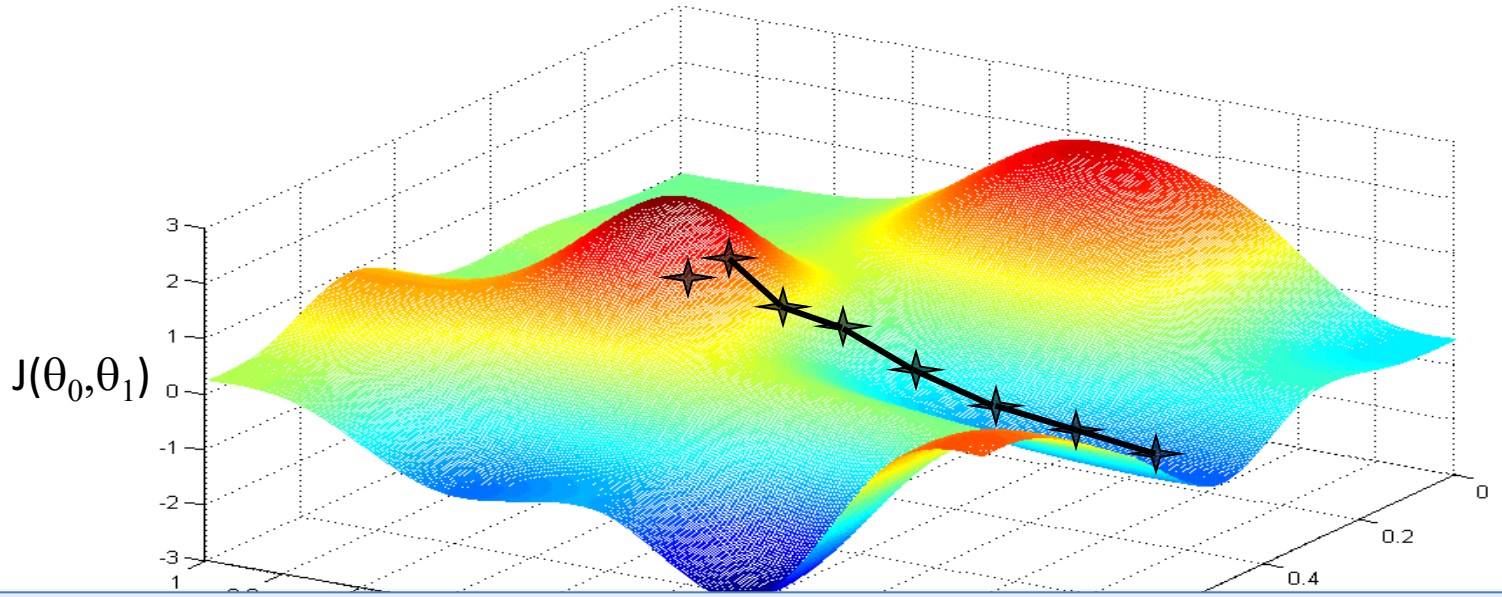


Since the least squares objective function is convex (concave), we don't need to worry about local minima in linear regression

Figure by Andrew Ng

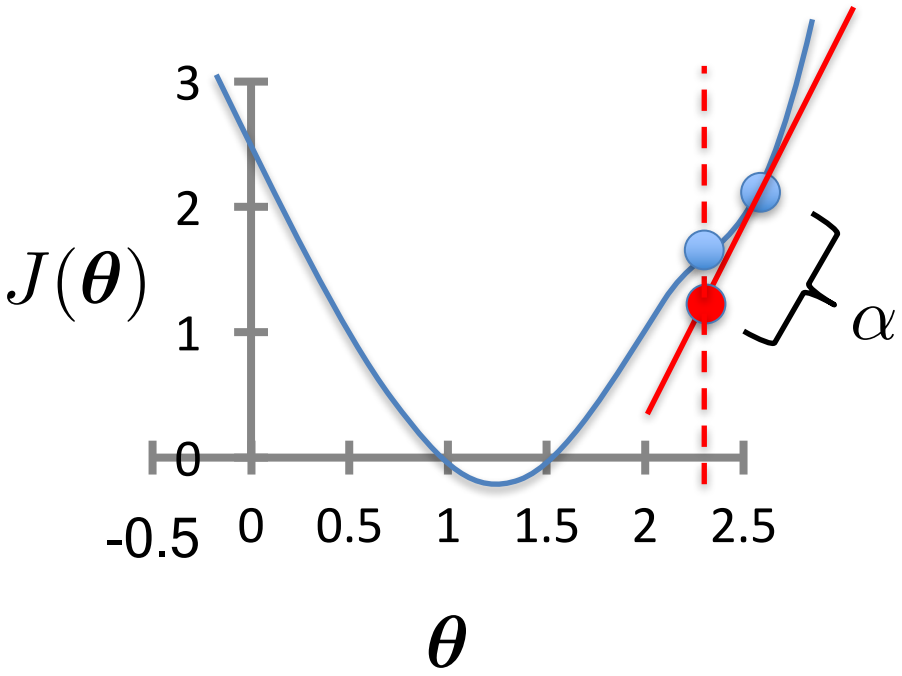
Gradient Descent

- Initialize $\boldsymbol{\theta}$
- Repeat until convergence

$$\theta_j \leftarrow \theta_j - \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j} J(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

simultaneous update
for j = 0 ... d

learning rate (small)
e.g., α = 0.05



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For Linear Regression:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} \right) - y^{(i)} \right)^2 \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{d} \theta_k x_k^{(i)} - y^{(i)} \right)^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{d} \theta_k x_k^{(i)} - y^{(i)} \right) \times \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{d} \theta_k x_k^{(i)} - y^{(i)} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{d} \theta_k x_k^{(i)} - y^{(i)} \right) x_j^{(i)}
\end{aligned}$$

Gradient Descent for Linear Regression

- Initialize $\boldsymbol{\theta}$
- Repeat until convergence

$$\theta_j \leftarrow \theta_j - \alpha \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} \right) - y^{(i)} \right) x_j^{(i)}$$

simultaneous update for j = 0 ... d

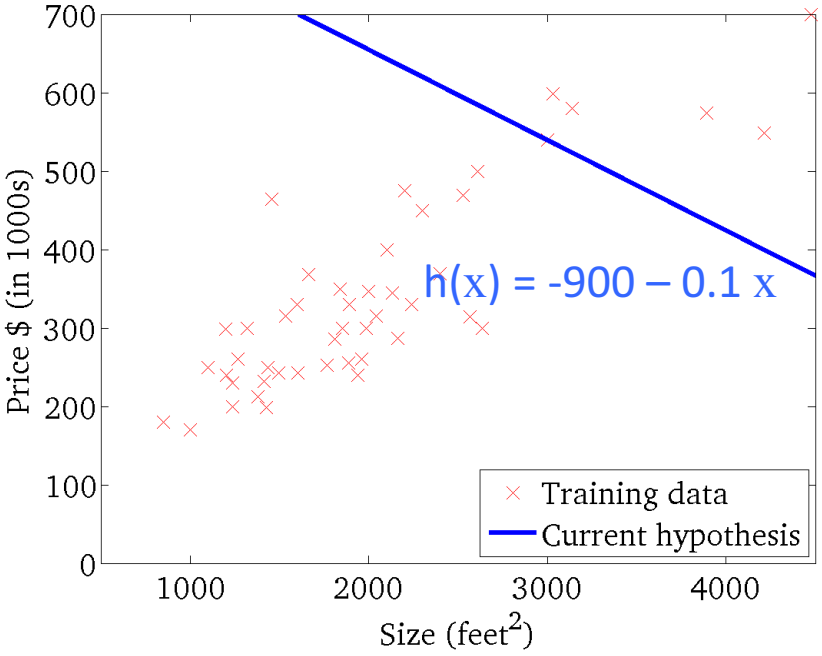
- To achieve simultaneous update
  - At the start of each GD iteration, compute $h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} \right)$
  - Use this stored value in the update step loop
- Assume convergence when $\left\| \boldsymbol{\theta}_{new} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_{old} \right\|_2 < \epsilon$

L_2 norm: $\|\boldsymbol{v}\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_i v_i^2} = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \ldots + v_{|v|}^2}$

Gradient Descent

$h_\theta(x)$

(for fixed θ_0, θ_1, this is a function of x)



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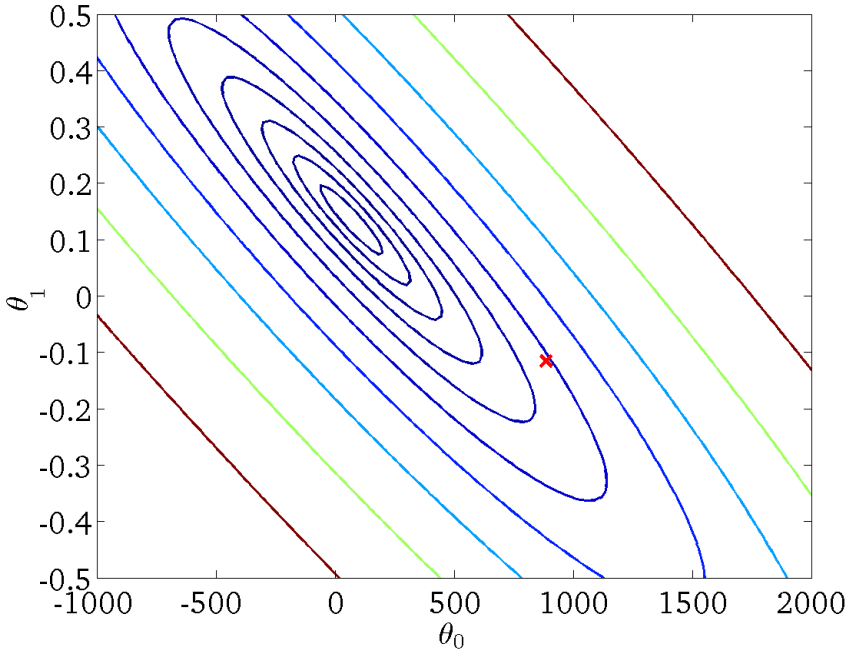
(function of the parameters θ_0, θ_1)



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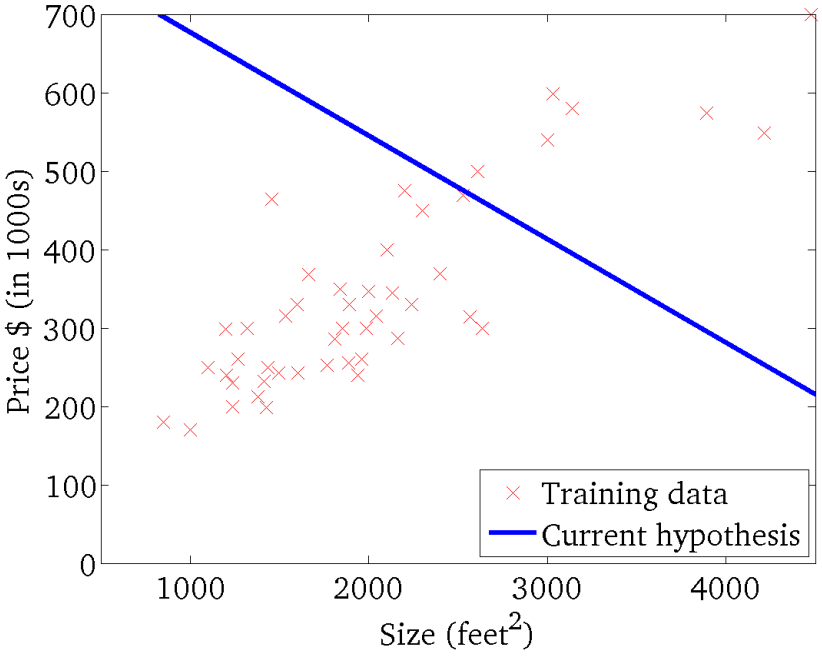

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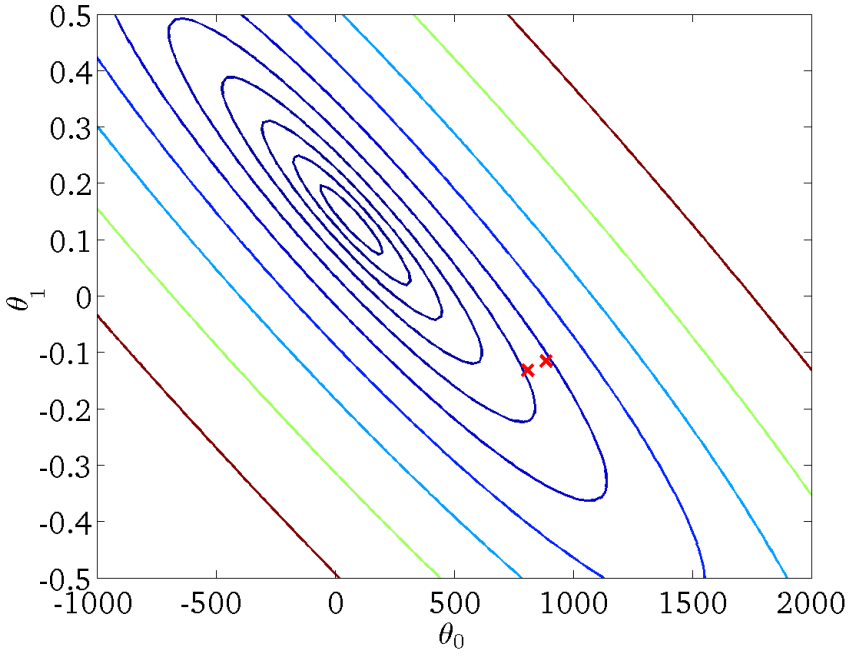

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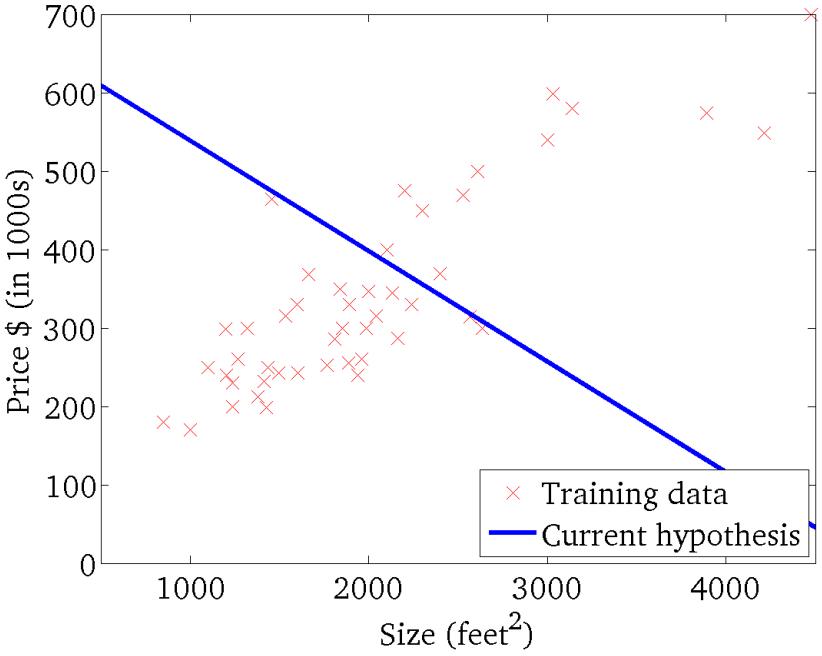

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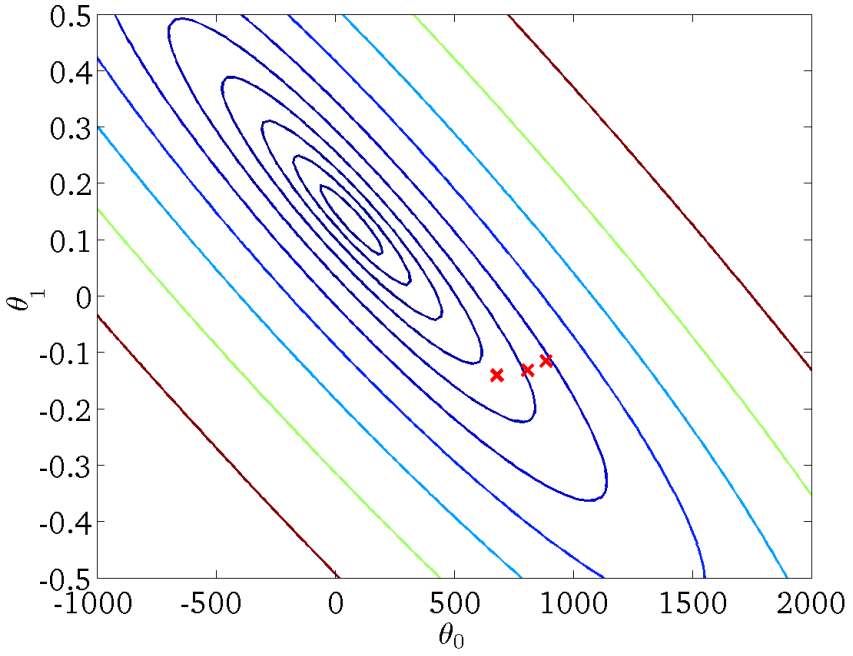

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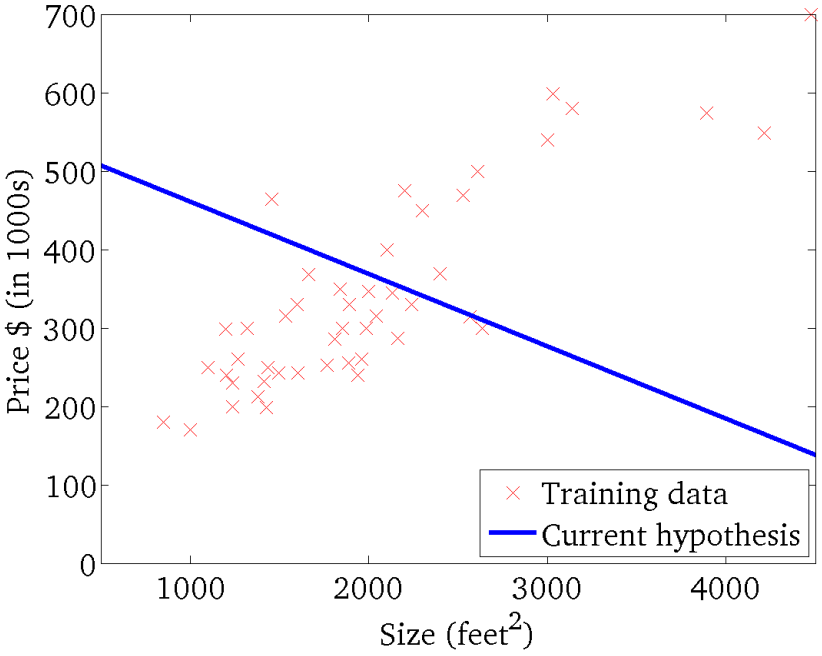

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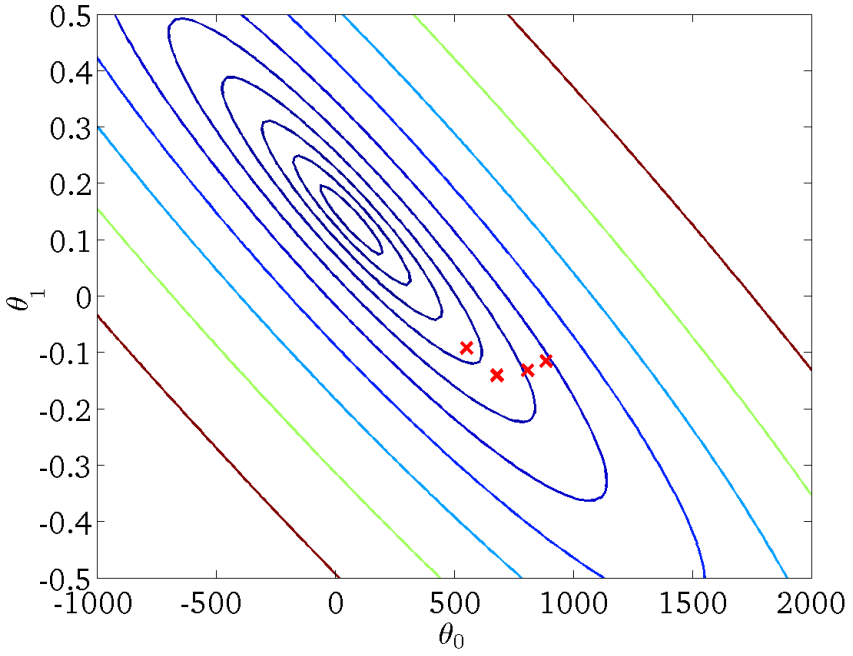

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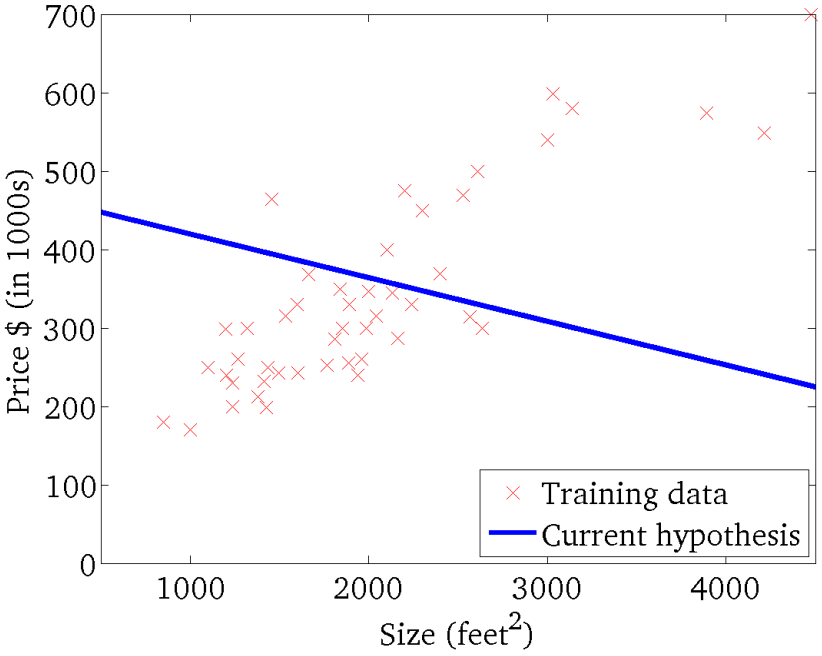

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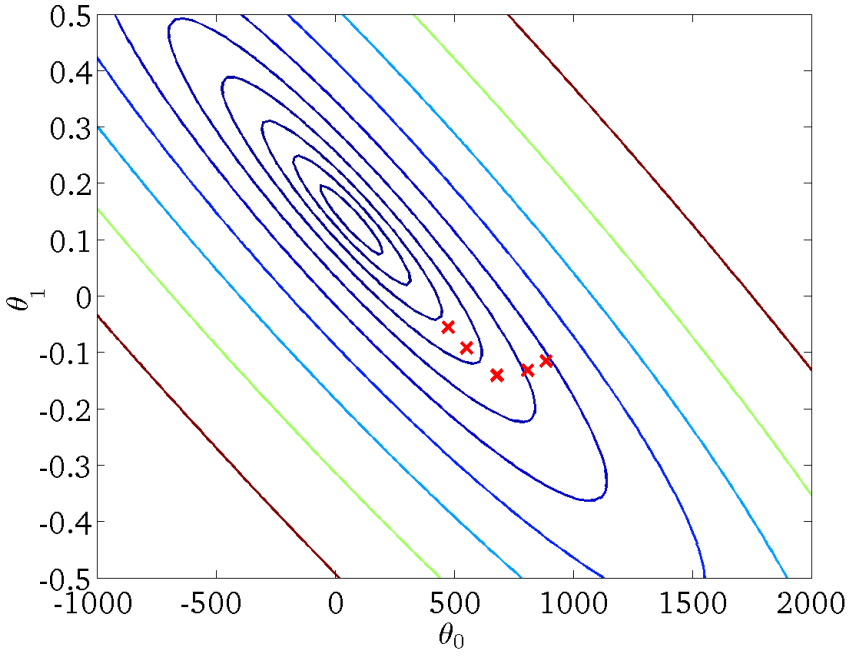

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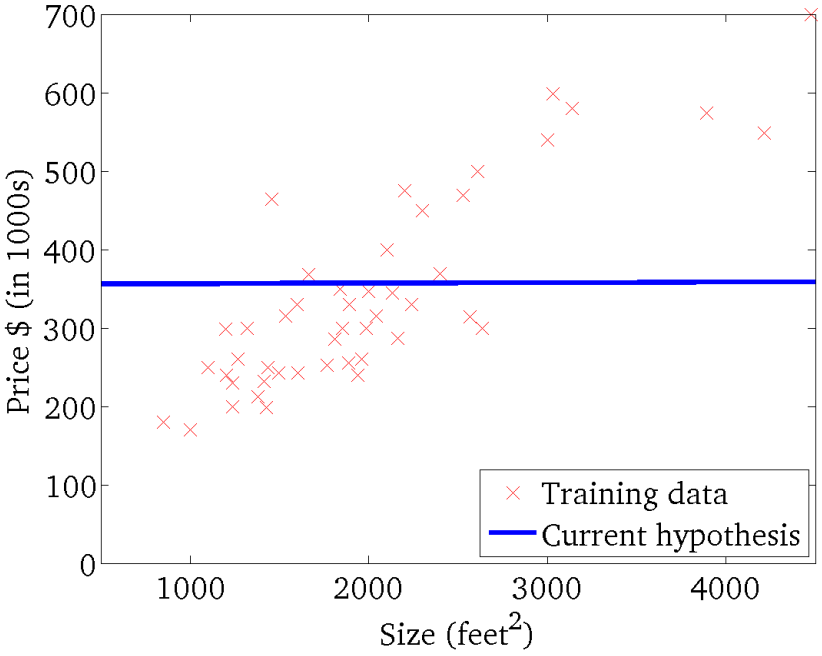

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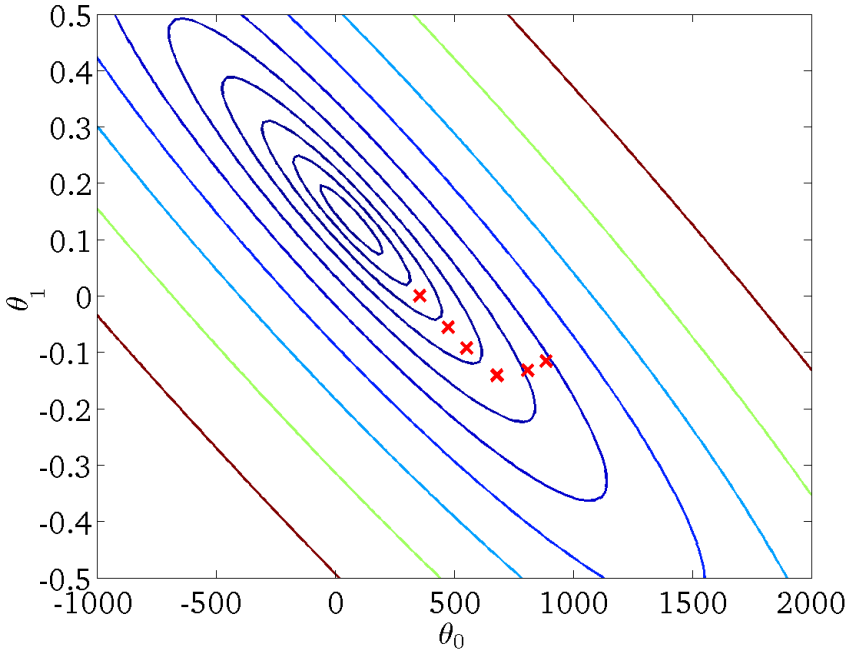

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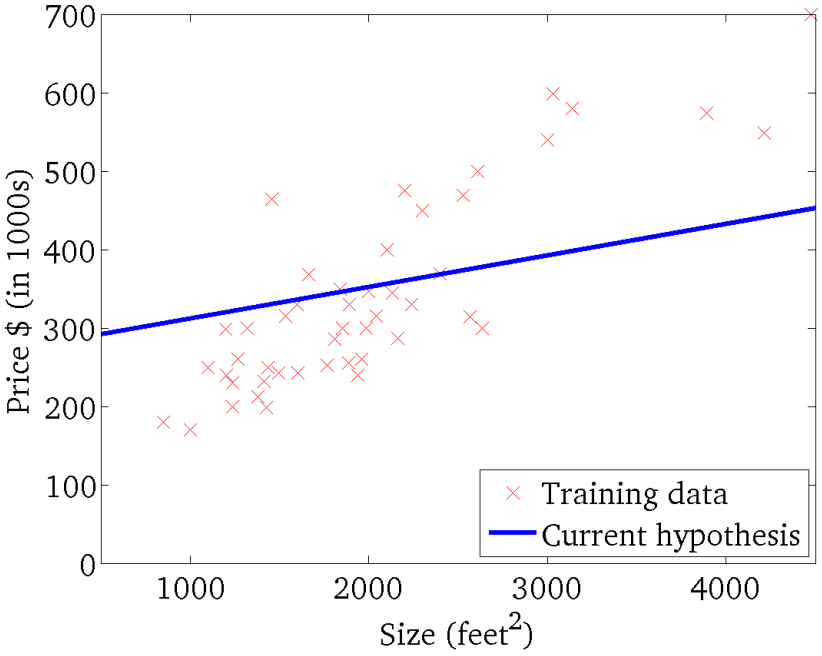

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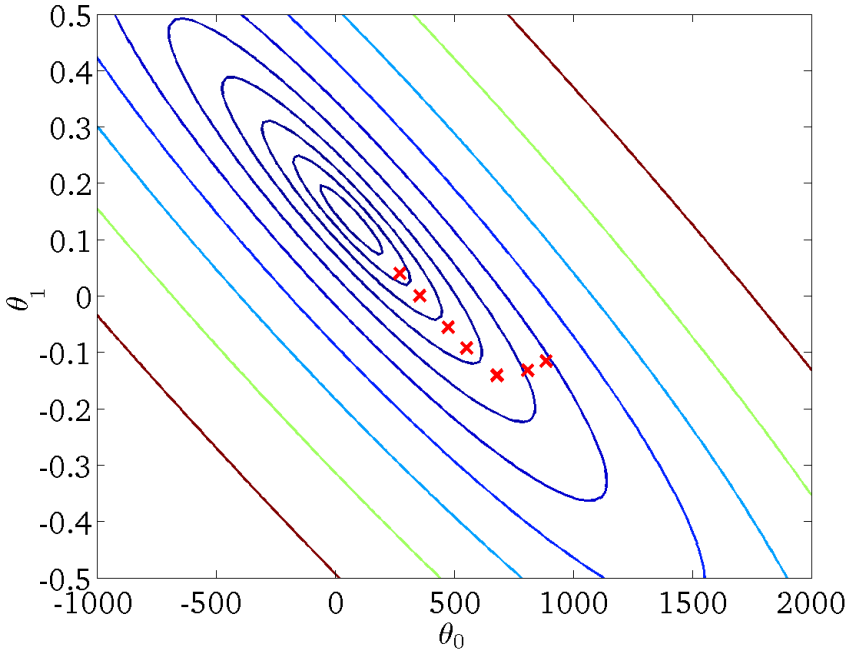

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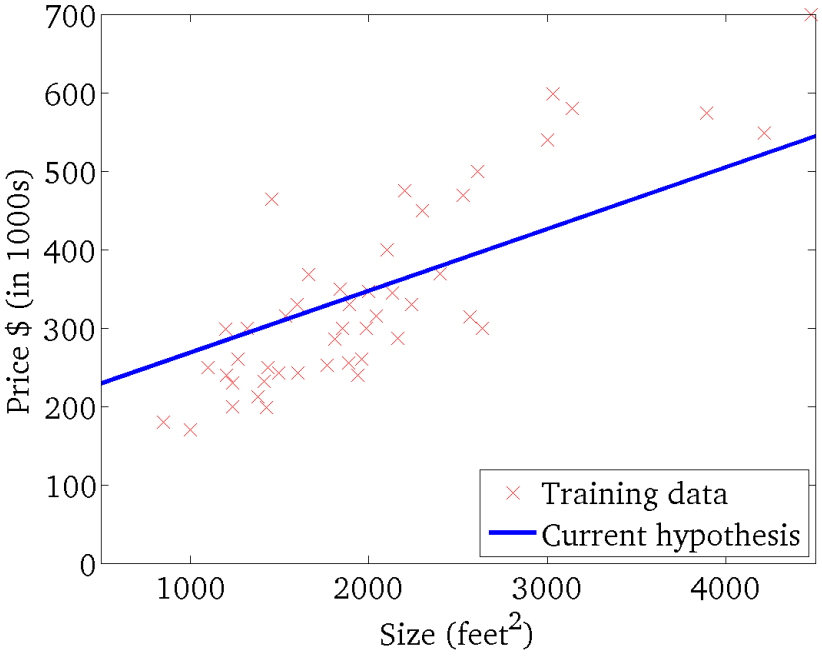

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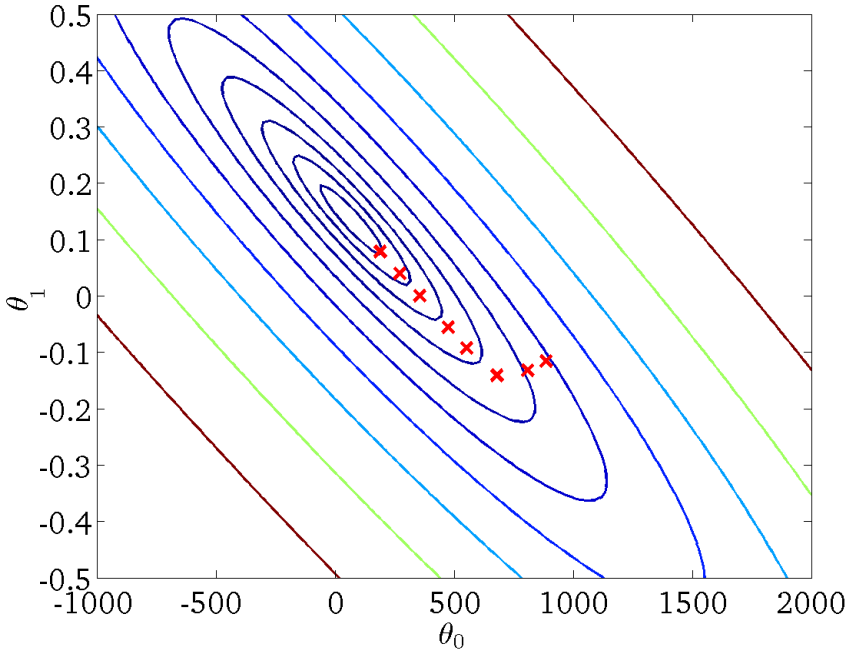

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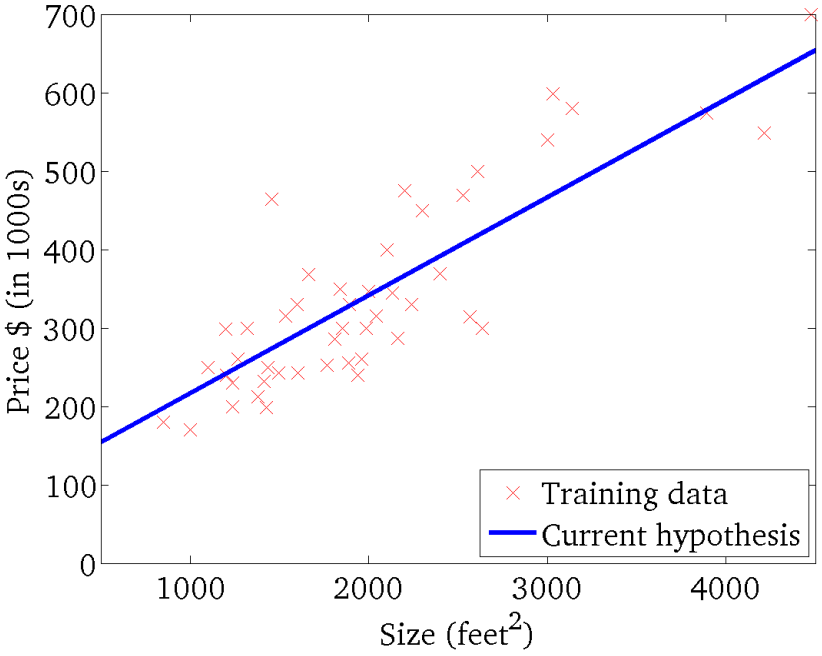

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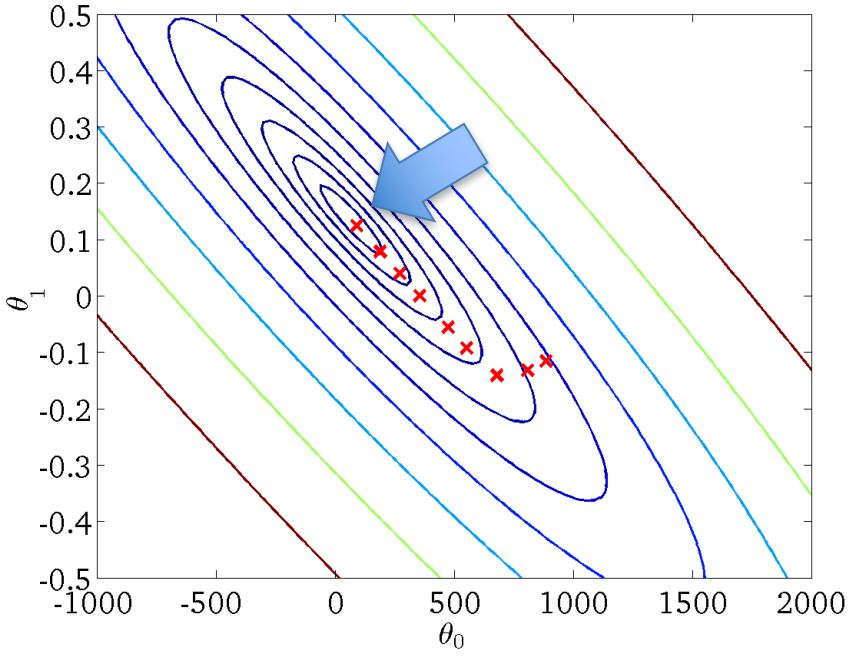
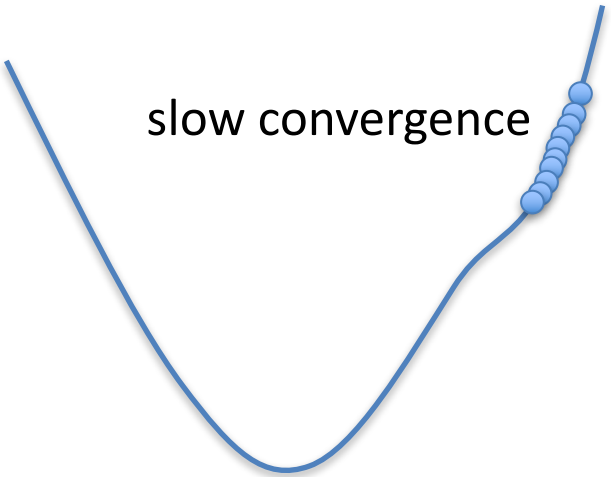
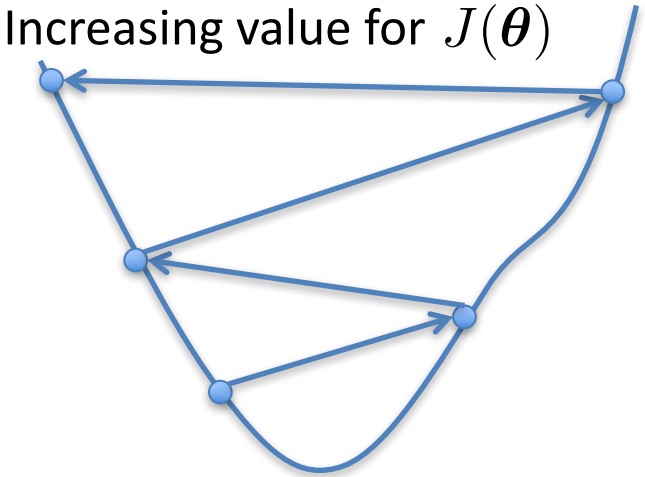


Choosing α

α too small



α too large



- May overshoot the minimum
- May fail to converge
- May even diverge

To see if gradient descent is working, print out $J(\theta)$ each iteration

- The value should decrease at each iteration
- If it doesn't, adjust α

Extending Linear Regression to More Complex Models

- The inputs **X** for linear regression can be:
  - Original quantitative inputs
  - Transformation of quantitative inputs
    - e.g. log, exp, square root, square, etc.
  - Polynomial transformation
    - example: $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot x + \beta_2 \cdot x^2 + \beta_3 \cdot x^3$
  - Basis expansions
  - Dummy coding of categorical inputs
  - Interactions between variables
    - example: $x_3 = x_1 \cdot x_2$

This allows use of **linear** regression techniques to fit **non-linear** datasets.

Linear Basis Function Models

- Generally,

$$h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{j=0}^{d} \theta_j \underbrace{\phi_j(\boldsymbol{x})}_{\text{basis function}}$$

- Typically, $\phi_0(\boldsymbol{x}) = 1$ so that θ_0 acts as a bias
- In the simplest case, we use linear basis functions :

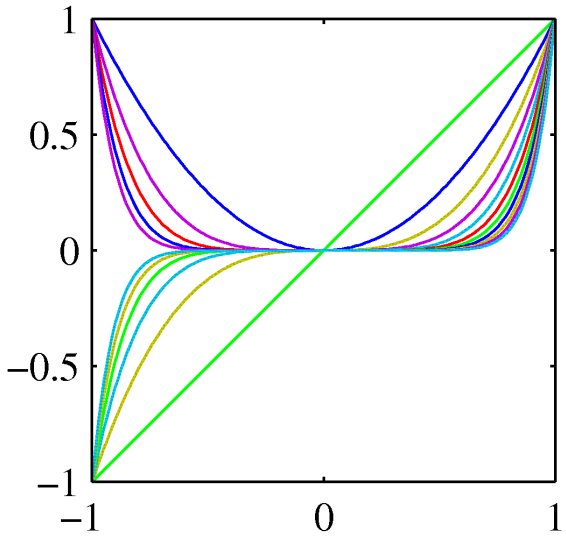
$$\phi_j(\boldsymbol{x}) = x_j$$

Linear Basis Function Models

- Polynomial basis functions:

$$\phi_j(x) = x^j$$

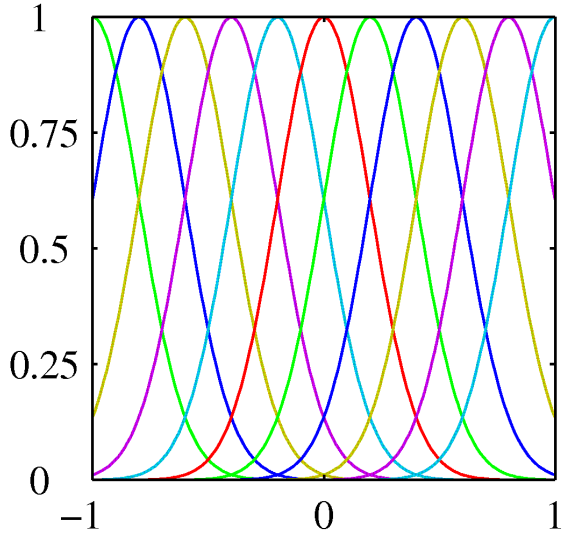
  - These are global; a small change in x affects all basis functions



- Gaussian basis functions:

$$\phi_j(x) = \exp\left\{-\frac{(x-\mu_j)^2}{2s^2}\right\}$$

  - These are local; a small change in x only affect nearby basis functions. μ_j and s control location and scale (width).



Based on slide by Christopher Bishop (PRML)

Linear Basis Function Models

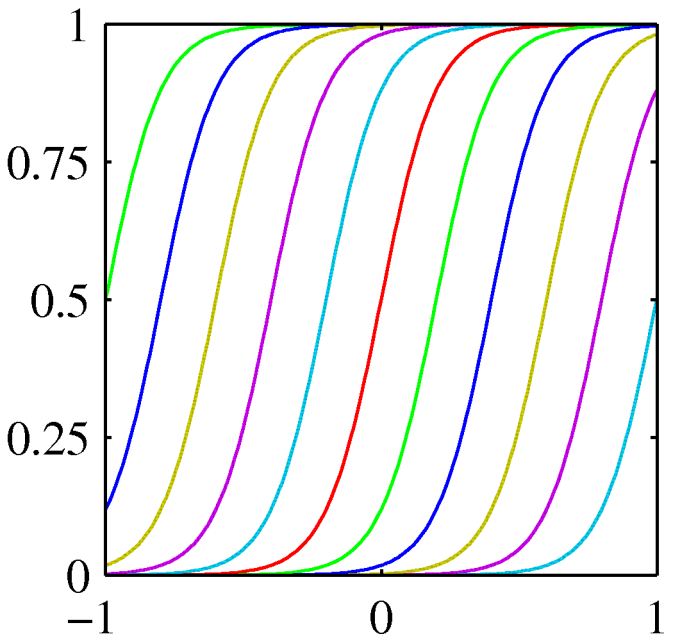
- Sigmoidal basis functions:

$$\phi_j(x) = \sigma\left(\frac{x - \mu_j}{s}\right)$$

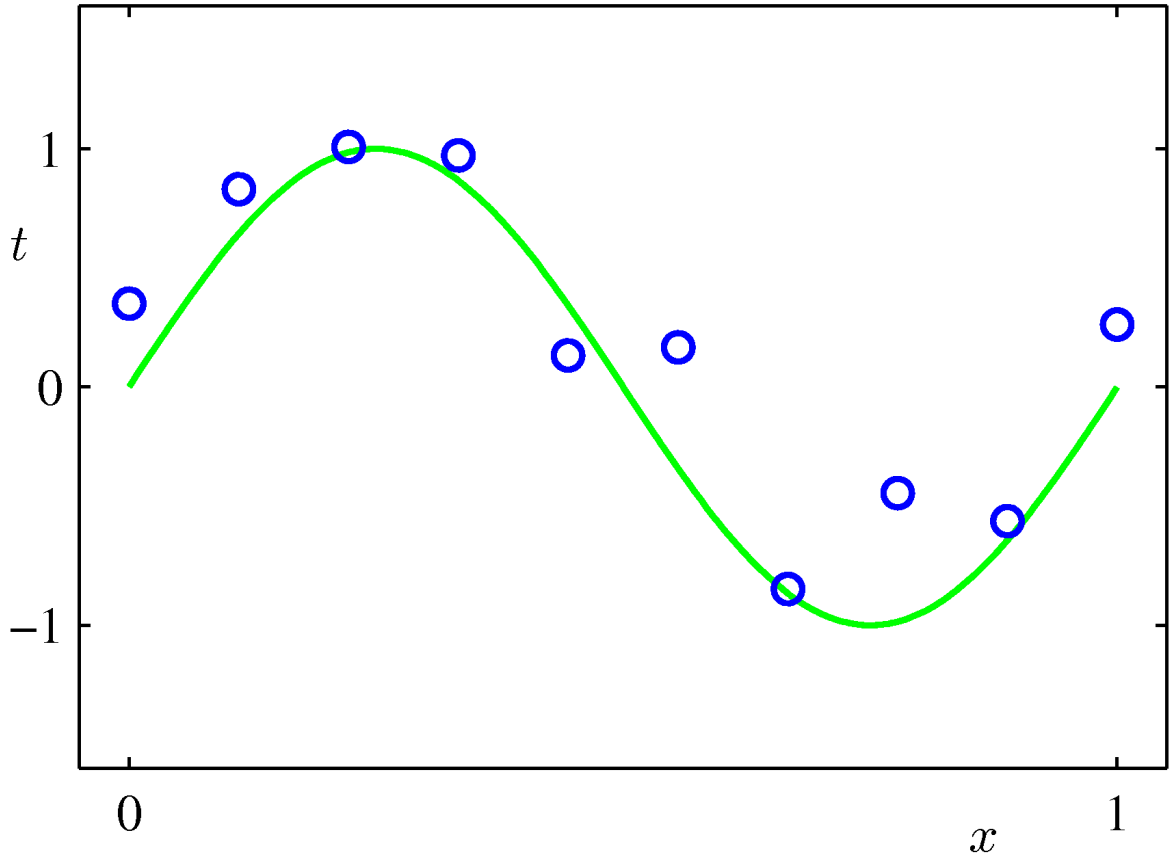
where

$$\sigma(a) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-a)}$$

  - These are also local; a small change in x only affects nearby basis functions. μ_j and s control location and scale (slope).

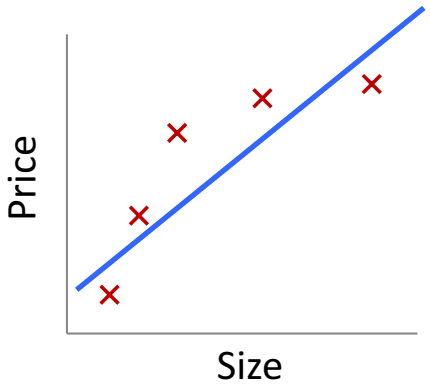


Example of Fitting a Polynomial Curve with a Linear Model



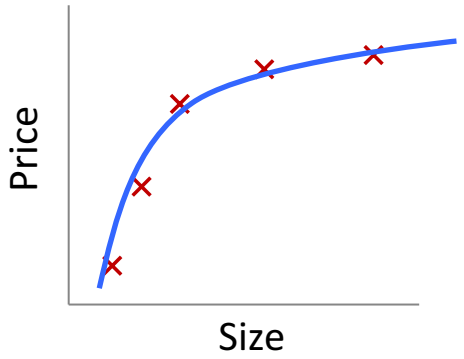
$$y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \ldots + \theta_p x^p = \sum_{j=0}^{p} \theta_j x^j$$

Quality of Fit



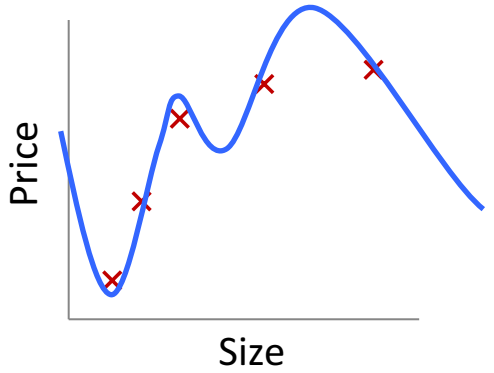
$\theta_0 + \theta_1 x$

Underfitting
(high bias)



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

Correct fit



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

Overfitting
(high variance)

Overfitting:

- The learned hypothesis may fit the training set very well ($J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx 0$)
- ...but fails to generalize to new examples

Based on example by Andrew Ng

Regularization

- A method for automatically controlling the complexity of the learned hypothesis
- **Idea**: penalize for large values of θ_j
  - Can incorporate into the cost function
  - Works well when we have a lot of features, each that contributes a bit to predicting the label
- Can also address overfitting by eliminating features (either manually or via model selection)

Regularization

- Linear regression objective function

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

model fit to data | regularization

  - λ is the regularization parameter ($\lambda \geq 0$)
  - No regularization on θ_0!

Understanding Regularization

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

- Note that $\sum_{j=1}^{d}\theta_j^2 = \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{1:d}\|_2^2$
  - This is the magnitude of the feature coefficient vector!

- We can also think of this as:

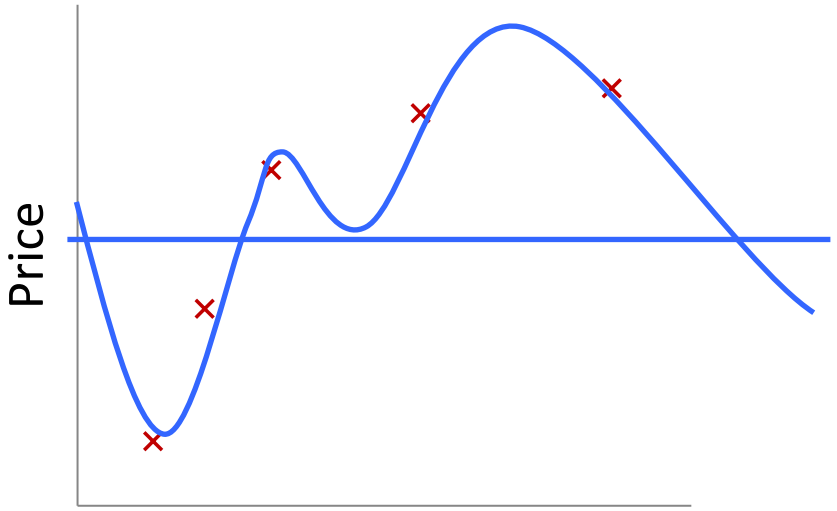
$$\sum_{j=1}^{d}(\theta_j - 0)^2 = \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{1:d} - \vec{\mathbf{0}}\|_2^2$$

  - L_2 regularization pulls coefficients toward 0

Understanding Regularization

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

- What happens if we set λ to be huge (e.g., 10^{10})?



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

0 0 0 0

Regularized Linear Regression

- Cost Function

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

- Fit by solving $\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta})$

- Gradient update:

$\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta_0}J(\theta)$

$$\theta_0 \leftarrow \theta_0 - \alpha\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}\right) - y^{(i)}\right)$$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta_j}J(\theta)$

$$\theta_j \leftarrow \theta_j - \alpha\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}\right) - y^{(i)}\right)x_j^{(i)} - \lambda\theta_j$$

regularization

Regularized Linear Regression

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

$$\theta_0 \leftarrow \theta_0 - \alpha\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}\right) - y^{(i)}\right)$$

$$\theta_j \leftarrow \theta_j - \alpha\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}\right) - y^{(i)}\right)x_j^{(i)} - \lambda\theta_j$$

- We can rewrite the gradient step as:

$$\theta_j \leftarrow \theta_j\left(1 - \alpha\lambda\right) - \alpha\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\left(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}\right) - y^{(i)}\right)x_j^{(i)}$$