

Ch01. Linear Regression

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POSTECH

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Outline

- Regression and linear models
- Ordinary least squares (OLS)
 - Least squared method
 - Maximum likelihood perspective
- Regularization
 - Ridge regression
 - Sparse regression (LASSO)
- Bias-Variance Dilemma

Regression?

Problem Setup

Given a set of N labeled examples, $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}_{n=1}^N$ ($\mathbf{x}_n \in X \subset \mathbb{R}^D$ and $y_n \in Y \subset \mathbb{R}$), the goal is to learn a mapping

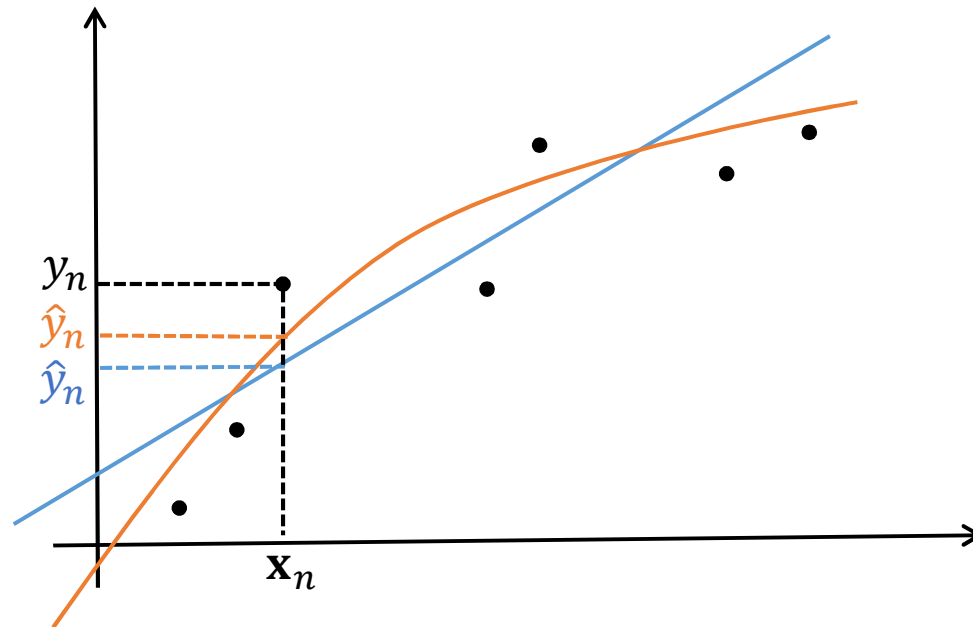
$$f(\mathbf{x}): X \rightarrow Y,$$

which associates \mathbf{x} with y , such that we can make prediction about y^* , when a new input $\mathbf{x}^* \notin \mathcal{D}$ is provided.

- **Linear models:** $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^M w_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x}) + w_0$.
- **Neural networks:** $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^M w_j^{(2)} \phi \left(\sum_k W_{j,k}^{(1)} x_k + b_j^{(1)} \right)$.
- **Kernel regression:** $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{n=1}^N w_n k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_n) + w_0$.
- Regression model: $y = f(\mathbf{x}) + \epsilon$.
- \mathbf{x} : input, independent variable, predictor, regressor, covariate
- y : output, dependent variable, response
- $\phi_j(\mathbf{x})$: basis function, feature
- w_j : weight, coefficient, learning parameter

Why Linear Models?

$$y_n = w_1 x_{1,n} + w_2 x_{2,n} + \cdots + w_M x_{M,n} + w_0 + \epsilon_n, \quad \forall n = 1, \dots, N.$$



- Easy to solve (can be solved analytically)
- Interpretable (in contrast to deep learning)

Linear Regression

Linear regression refers to a model in which the conditional mean of y_n given the value of \mathbf{x}_n is an **affine function** of $\phi(\mathbf{x}_n)$

$$f(\mathbf{x}_n) = \sum_{j=1}^M w_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x}_n) + w_0 \phi_0(\mathbf{x}_n) = \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n),$$

where $\phi_j(\mathbf{x}_n)$ are known as **basis functions** and

- $\mathbf{w} = [w_0, w_1, \dots, w_M]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{M+1}$
- $\boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n) = [\phi_0(\mathbf{x}_n), \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_n), \dots, \phi_M(\mathbf{x}_n)]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{M+1}$
- $\phi_0(\mathbf{x}_n) = 1$

By using nonlinear basis functions, we allow the function $f(\mathbf{x}_n)$ to be a nonlinear function of the input vector \mathbf{x}_n (but a linear function of $\boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n)$).

Polynomial Regression: $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=0}^M w_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=0}^M w_j \mathbf{x}^j$

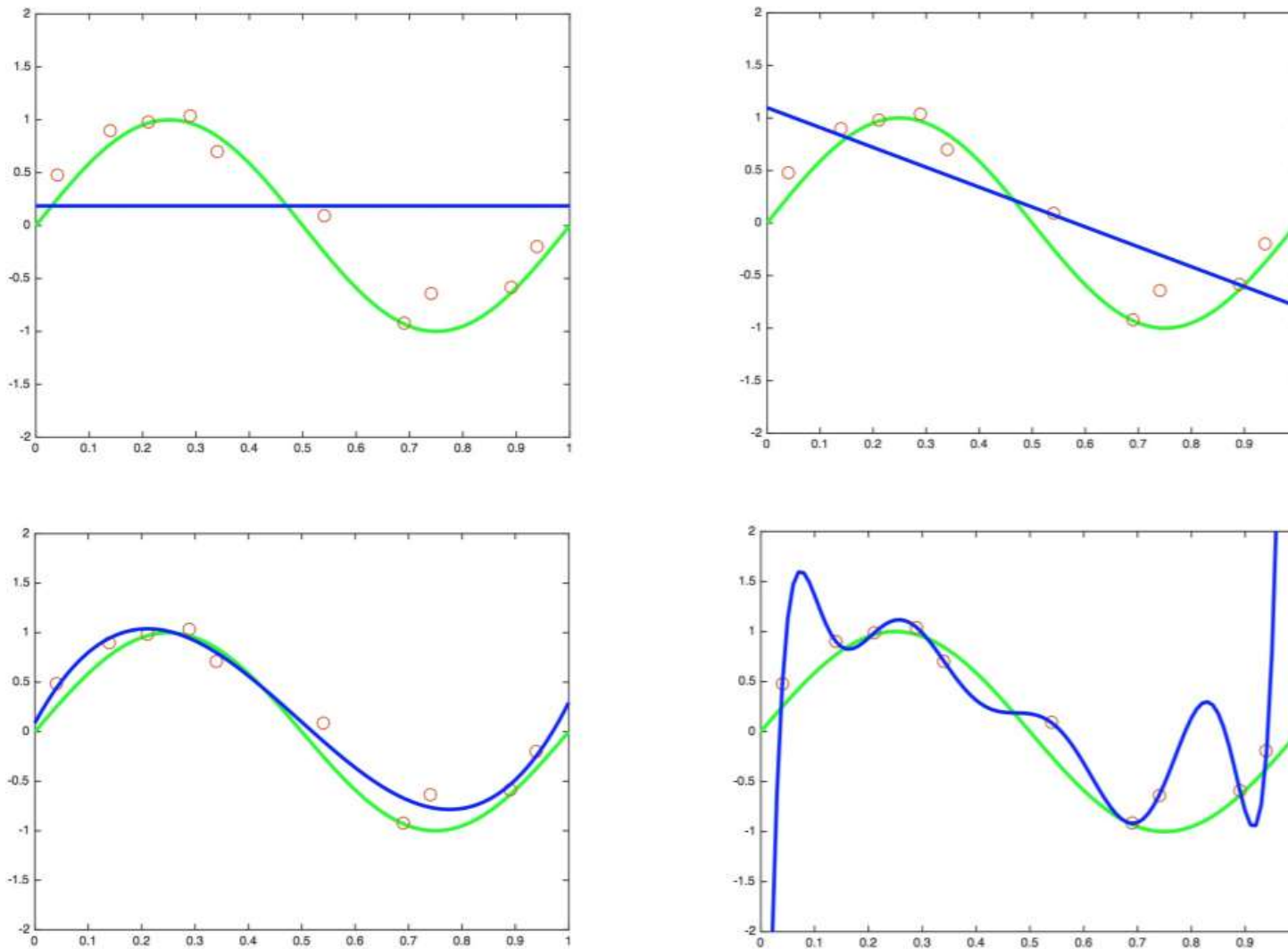


Figure: $M = 0, 1, 3, 9$

Ordinary Least Squares (OLS)

Least Squared Method

Given a set of training data $\{(\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}_{n=1}^N$, we determine the weight vector $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{M+1}$ which minimizes

$$J_{LS}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \left(y_n - \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n) \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2,$$

where $\mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_N]^T \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and $\boldsymbol{\Phi} \in \mathbb{R}^{(M+1) \times N}$ is known as the **design matrix** with $\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{j,n} = \phi_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_n)$ for $j = 1, \dots, M+1$ and $n = 1, \dots, N$, i.e.,

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_0(\mathbf{x}_1) & \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \dots & \phi_M(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \phi_0(\mathbf{x}_2) & \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_2) & \dots & \phi_M(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_0(\mathbf{x}_N) & \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_N) & \dots & \phi_M(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note that

$$\|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w})^T (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w})$$

Least Squared Method (2)

Find the estimate $\hat{\mathbf{w}}_{LS}$ such that

$$\mathbf{w}_{LS} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2$$

where both \mathbf{y} and $\boldsymbol{\Phi}$ are given.

How do you find the minimizer \mathbf{w}_{LS} ?

Solve $\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \right) = 0$ for \mathbf{w} .

Least Squared Method (3)

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2 &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w})^T (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w})\end{aligned}$$

Then, we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \right) = \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w} - \boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{y}.$$

Least Squared Method (4)

Therefore, $\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \right) = 0$ leads to the normal equation that is of the form

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w} = \boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{y}.$$

Thus, LS estimate of \mathbf{w} is given by

$$\mathbf{w}_{LS} = (\boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T)^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{y} = \boldsymbol{\Phi}^\dagger \mathbf{y}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^\dagger$ is known as **Moore-Penrose pseudo-inverse**

Maximum Likelihood Perspective

We consider a linear model where the target variable y_n is assumed to be generated by a deterministic function $f(\mathbf{x}_n; \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n)$ with additive Gaussian noise:

$$y_n = \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n) + \epsilon_n,$$

for $n = 1, \dots, N$ and $\epsilon_n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$.

In a compact form, we have

$$\mathbf{y} = \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}.$$

In other words, we model $p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\Phi}, \mathbf{w})$ as

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\Phi}, \mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}).$$

Maximum Likelihood Perspective (2)

The log-likelihood is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= \log p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\Phi}, \mathbf{w}) = \log \prod_{n=1}^N p(y_n|\phi(\mathbf{x}_n), \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log p(y_n|\phi(\mathbf{x}_n), \mathbf{w}) \\&= \sum_{n=1}^N \log \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_n), \sigma^2) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(y_n - \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_n))^2}{2\sigma^2}} \\&= \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\log \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} + \log e^{-\frac{(y_n - \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_n))^2}{2\sigma^2}} \right) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} - \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{(y_n - \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_n))^2}{2\sigma^2} \\&= \sum_{n=1}^N \log(2\pi\sigma^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_n))^2 = -\frac{N}{2} \log \sigma^2 - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \sigma^{-2} J_{LS}.\end{aligned}$$

MLE is given by

$$\mathbf{w}_{ML} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \log p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\Phi}, \mathbf{w})$$

Leading to

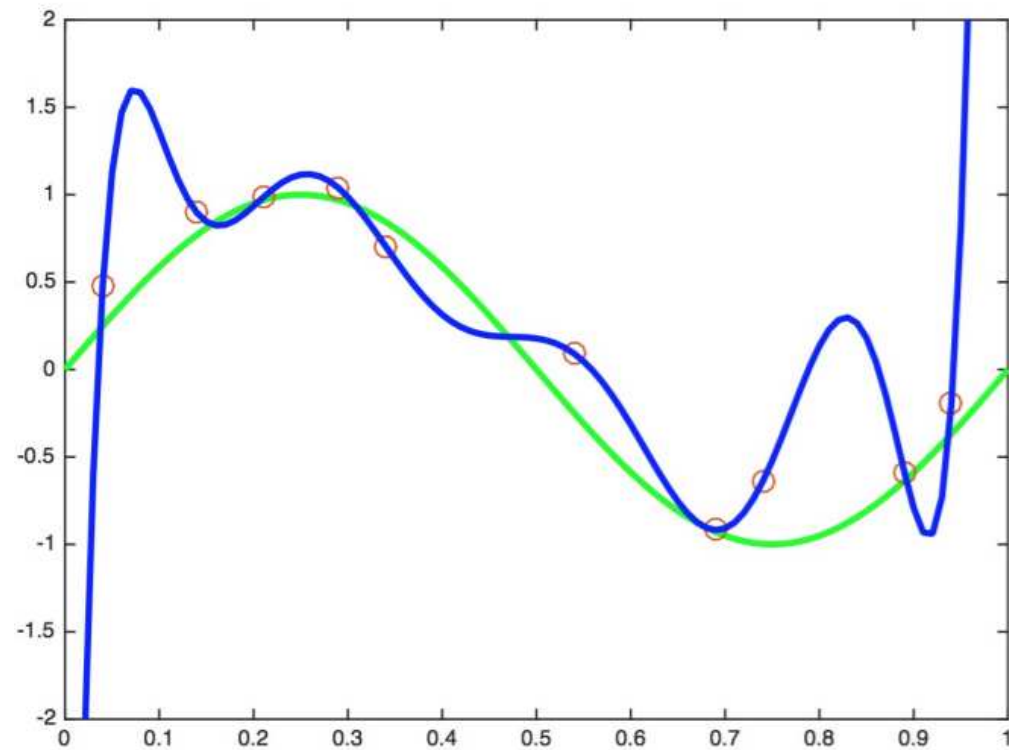
$$\mathbf{w}_{ML} = \mathbf{w}_{LS}$$

which we arrived at under **Gaussian noise assumption**.

Regularization

- Ridge regression: L_2 norm regularization
- LASSO: L_1 norm regularization

Why Regularization?



Improve the generalization of the learned model.

Regularization

Interested in: Inferring a function of any \mathbf{x} , given N examples $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}_{n=1}^N$

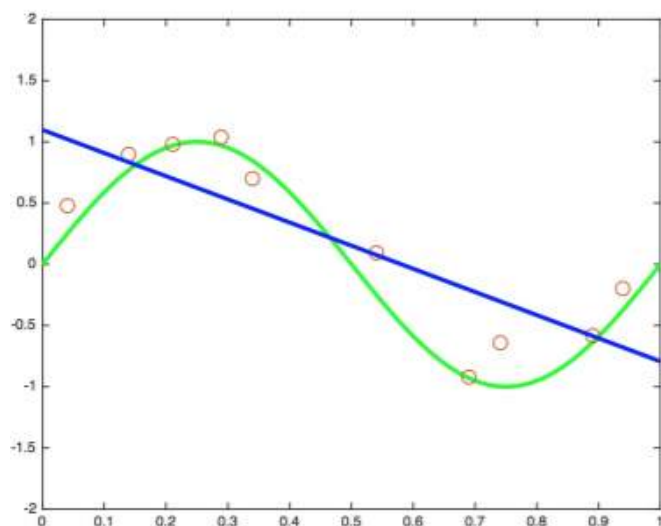
Consider a loss function $\ell(f(\mathbf{x}_n; \mathbf{w}), y_n)$. For instance, LS regression uses the square loss:

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \ell(f(\mathbf{x}_n; \mathbf{w}), y_n) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2$$

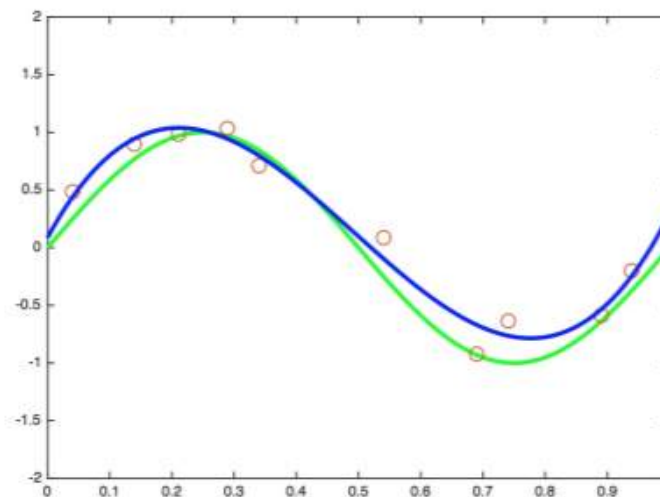
A **regularizer** (which imposes a penalty on the **complexity** of f) is added to the loss function, leading to

$$\underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^N \ell(f(\mathbf{x}_n; \mathbf{w}), y_n)}_{\text{bss}} + \lambda \underbrace{R(f)}_{\text{regularizer}},$$

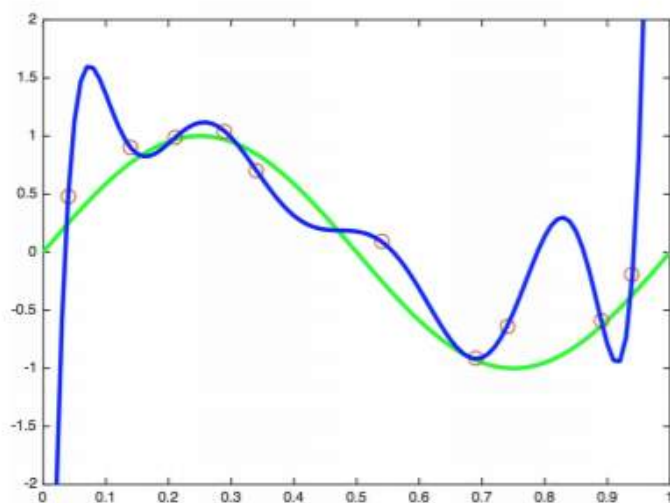
where λ controls the importance of the regularization term (**hyperparameter**)



(a) $M = 1$



(b) $M = 3$



(c) $M = 9$

	$M = 0$	$M = 1$	$M = 3$	$M = 9$
w_0	0.1861	1.0977	0.0880	-8.1
w_1		-1.8913	9.9135	401.2
w_2			-29.8721	-6326.3
w_3			20.1642	49778.9
w_4				-222555.2
w_5				599603.0
w_6				-990507.7
w_7				980248.7
w_8				-532736.3
w_9				122122.1

(d)

Ridge Regression

Ridge Regression

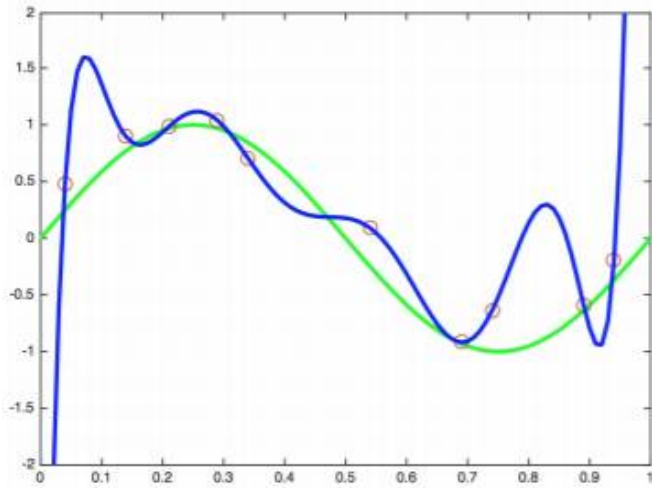
The ridge regression can be written as

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2,$$

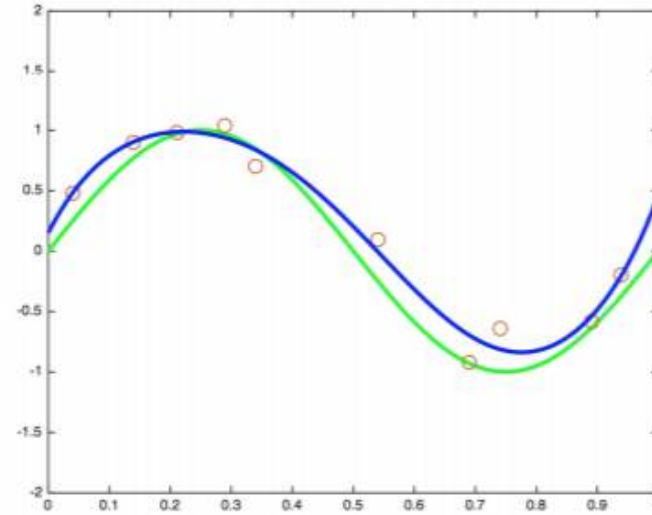
or as a bounded constrained form:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2, \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \leq B.$$

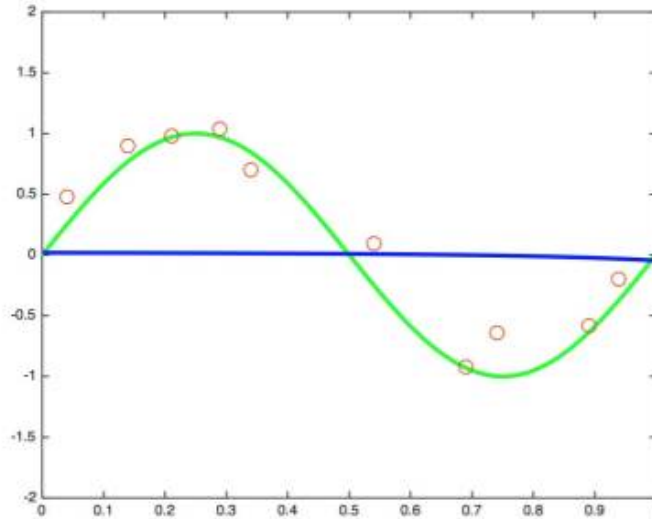
A small (tight) bound B corresponds to the penalty λ and vice versa.



(a) $\log \lambda = -\infty$ ($\lambda = 0$)



(b) $\log \lambda = -18$



(c) $\log \lambda = 0$

	$\log \lambda = -\infty$	$\log \lambda = -18$	$\log \lambda = 0$
w_0	-8.1	0.1503	0.0183
w_1	401.2	9.8564	-0.0083
w_2	-6326.3	-43.3276	-0.0112
w_3	49778.9	98.8418	-0.0101
w_4	-222555.2	-127.4478	-0.0085
w_5	599603.0	-8.6068	-0.0071
w_6	-990507.7	139.2564	-0.0059
w_7	980248.7	19.9290	-0.0050
w_8	-532736.3	-165.8182	-0.0042
w_9	122122.1	77.6305	-0.0036

(d)

Ridge Regression

$$\begin{aligned}\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w})^T (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}\end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}&\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left[\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left[\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} \right] \\ &= -\boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{w} + \lambda \mathbf{w} = -\boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{y} + (\boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{w}\end{aligned}$$

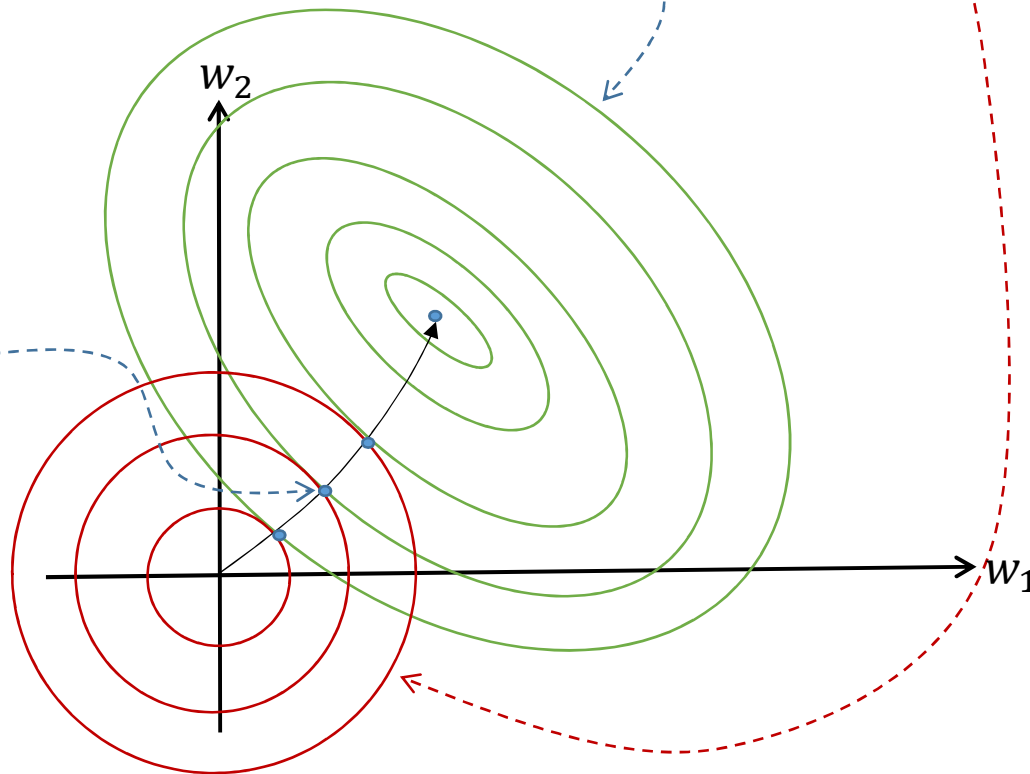
Equating to zero yields

$$\mathbf{w}_{ridge} = (\boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{y}$$

Ridge Regression: Illustration

Square loss + L_2 norm regularizer: $\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi^T \mathbf{w}\|_2^2}_{\text{LS f}} + \underbrace{\frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2}_{\text{regularizer}}$

Solutions with different values of λ

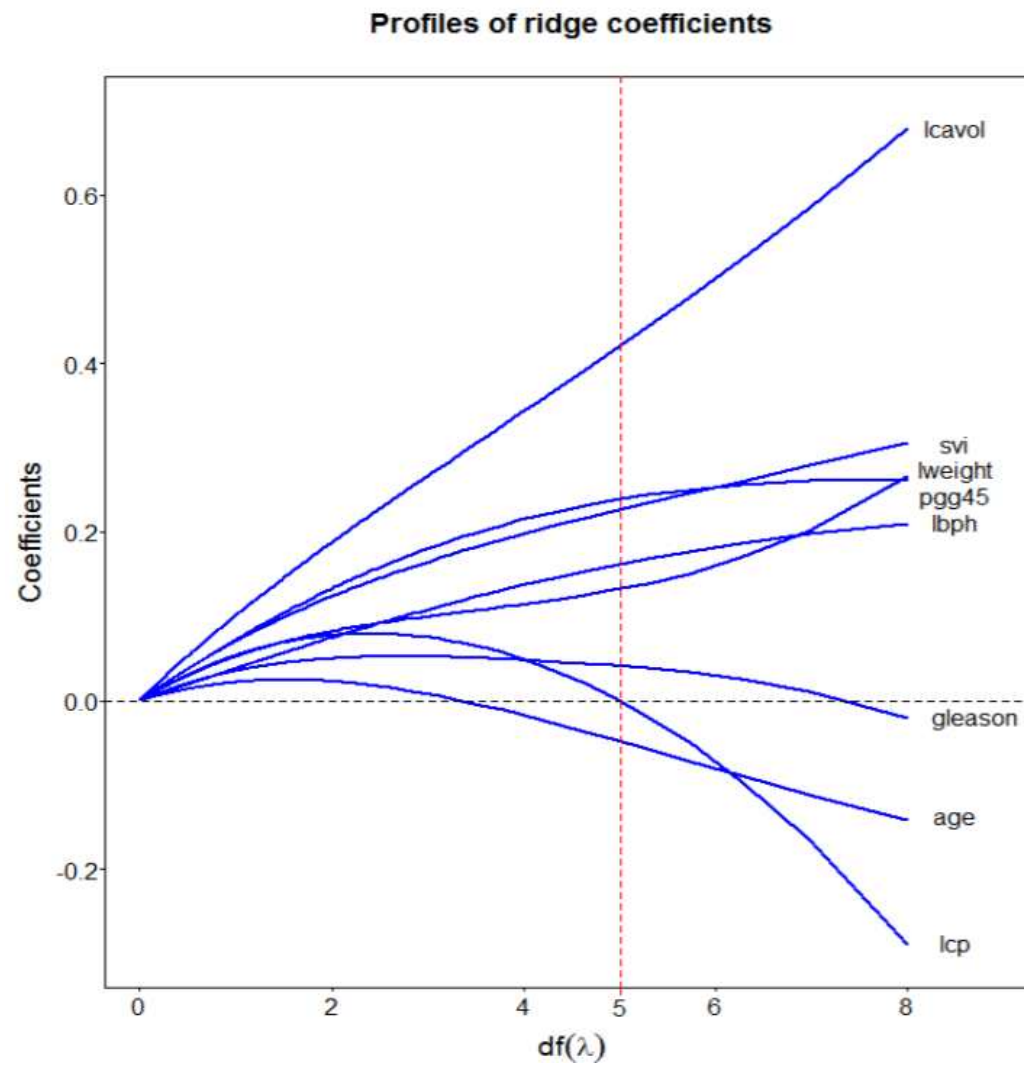


Dataset Description: Prostate Data

A study of 97 men with prostate cancer examined the correlation between (log of) PSA (prostate specific antigen) and a number of clinical measurements (lcavol, lweight, lbph, svi, lcp, gleason, pgg45) and age.

- lcavol: log-cancer volume
- lweight: log prostate weight
- age: age in years
- lbph: log benign prostatic hyperplasia
- svi: seminal vesicle invasion
- lcp: log of capsular penetration
- gleason: Gleason score
- pgg45: percent of Gleason scores 4 or 5

Stamey, T.A., Kabalin, J.N., McNeal, J.E., Johnstone, I.M., Freiha, F., Redwine, E.A. and Yang, N. (1989) Prostate specific antigen in the diagnosis and treatment of adenocarcinoma of the prostate: II. radical prostatectomy treated patients, *Journal of Urology* 141(5), 1076–1083.



$df(\lambda)$: effective degree of freedom ($\propto \frac{1}{\lambda}$)

LASSO

- Robert Tibshirani (1996), "Regression shrinkage and selection via the LASSO," Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. Series B (Methodological).

Not satisfied with OLS estimates?

- Prediction accuracy
 - Often have low bias but large variance
 - Can sometimes improve the prediction accuracy by shrinking or setting to zero some coefficients. (sacrifice a little bias to reduce the variance of the predicted values)
- Interpretability
 - Often would like to determine a smaller subset of covariates that exhibit the strongest effects.
 - The larger the number of covariates is, the less interpretable the model is.

LASSO (Least Absolute Selection and Shrinkage operator)

The LASSO regression can be written as

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1,$$

or as a bounded constrained form (a quadratic function with linear constraints):

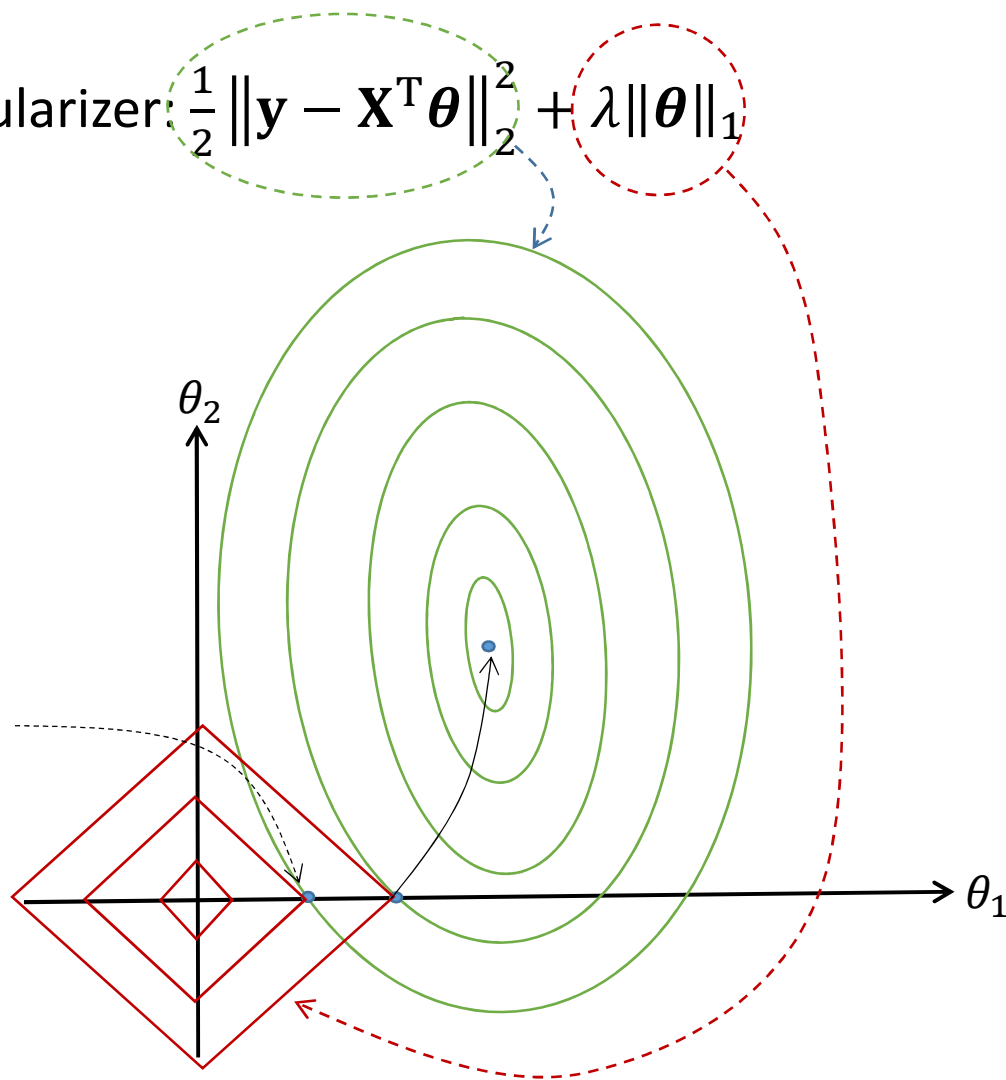
$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2, \quad \text{s.t. } \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 \leq B.$$

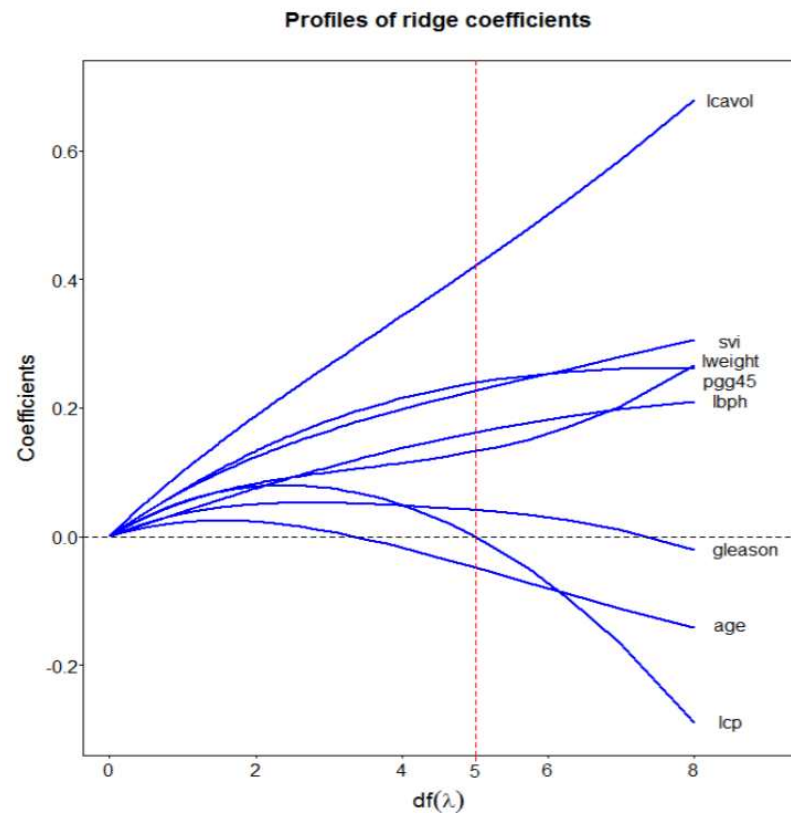
A small (tight) bound B corresponds to the penalty λ and vice versa.

LASSO: Illustration

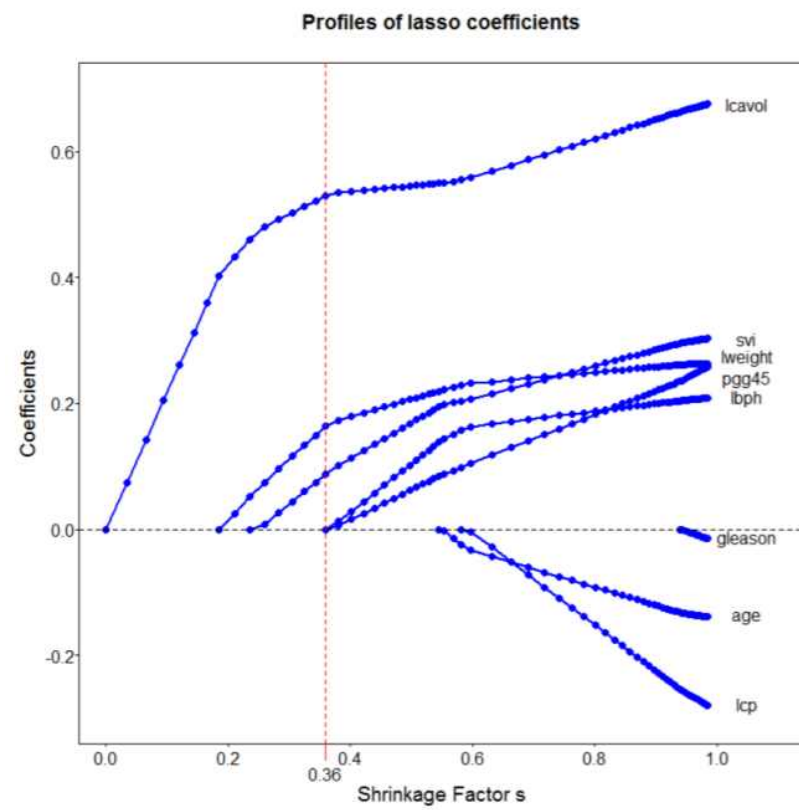
Square loss + L_1 norm regularizer: $\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1$

Solutions with different
values of λ





(a) Ridge



(a) LASSO

LASSO calculation

Now we calculate the derivative of

$$\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1,$$

to find the LASSO solution.

$\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 = |\theta_1| + |\theta_2| + \dots$ is not differentiable!

Coordinate descent: optimize one by one

To this end, we rewrite the objective function:

$$\begin{aligned} J_{LASSO} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mathbf{x}_n^T \boldsymbol{\theta})^2 + \lambda \sum_{d=1}^D |\theta_d| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - x_{n,d} \theta_d - \mathbf{x}_{n,-d}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-d})^2 + \lambda \sum_{d'=1}^D |\theta_{d'}| \end{aligned}$$

Calculate the derivative:

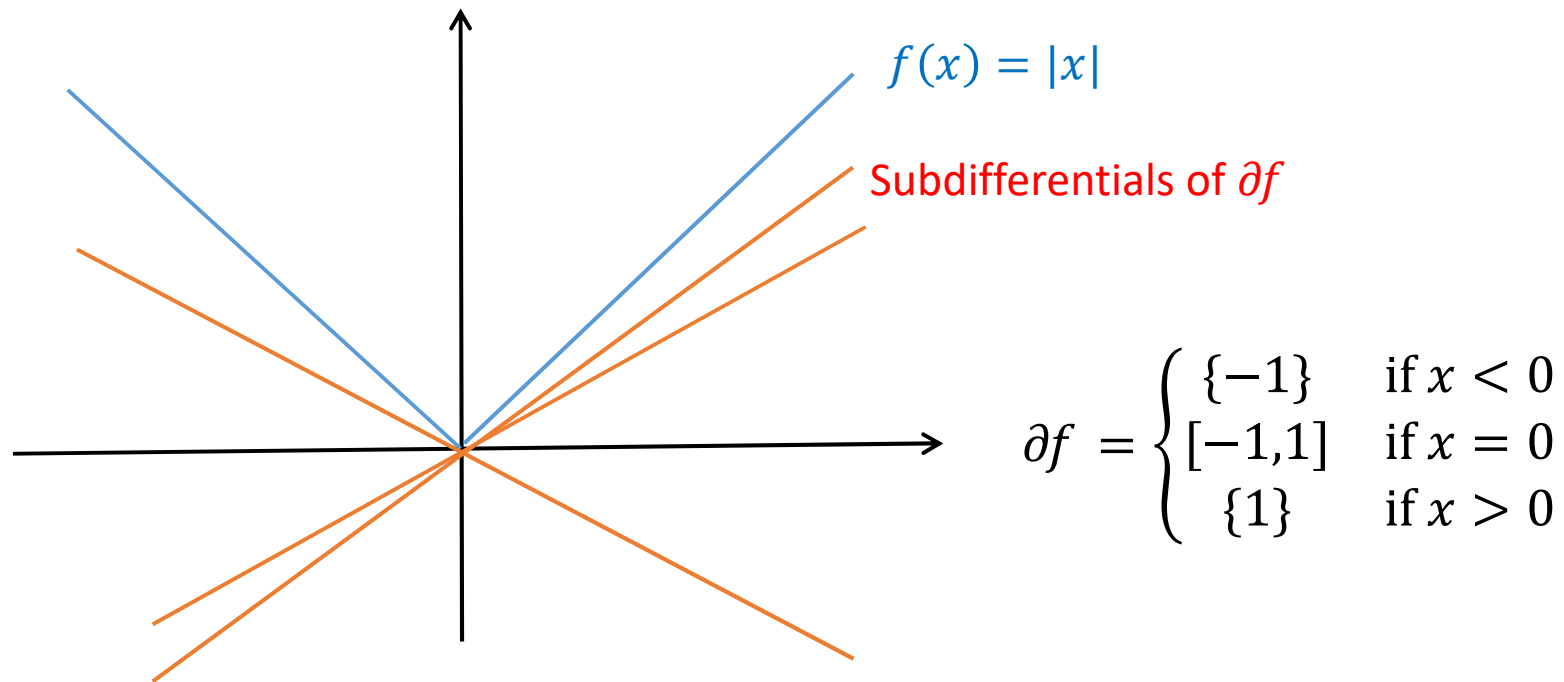
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_d} J_{LASSO} &= \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - x_{n,d} \theta_d - \mathbf{x}_{n,-d}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-d}) (-x_{n,d}) + \lambda \frac{\partial |\theta_d|}{\partial \theta_d} \\ &= \underbrace{\left(\sum_{n=1}^N x_{n,d}^2 \right)}_{\alpha_d} \theta_d - \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mathbf{x}_{n,-d}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-d}) x_{n,d}}_{\beta_d} + \lambda \frac{\partial |\theta_d|}{\partial \theta_d} \end{aligned}$$

Subdifferentials

The subdifferential (subderivative, subgradient) $\partial f(x_0)$ of a convex function f at a point x_0 is the set defined by

$$\partial f(x_0) = \{z \in \mathbb{R} \mid f(x) - f(x_0) \geq z(x - x_0), \forall x \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

As a special case, if $f(x_0)$ is differentiable, then $\partial f(x_0) = \{f'(x_0)\}$.



Thus, we have

$$\partial \mathcal{J}_{LASSO} = \alpha_d \theta_d - \beta_d + \lambda \partial |\theta_d| = \begin{cases} \{\alpha_d \theta_d - \beta_d - \lambda\} & \text{if } \theta_d < 0 \\ [-\beta_d - \lambda, -\beta_d + \lambda] & \text{if } \theta_d = 0 \\ \{\alpha_d \theta_d - \beta_d + \lambda\} & \text{if } \theta_d > 0 \end{cases}$$

Thus, the estimate of θ_d given the other parameters is calculated as:

$$\hat{\theta}_d = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta_d + \lambda}{\alpha_d} & \text{if } \beta_d < -\lambda \\ 0 & \text{if } \beta_d \in [-\lambda, \lambda], \\ \frac{\beta_d - \lambda}{\alpha_d} & \text{if } \beta_d > \lambda \end{cases}$$

where

$$\alpha_d = \sum_{n=1}^N x_{n,d}^2,$$

$$\beta_d = \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mathbf{x}_{n,-d}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-d}) x_{n,d}.$$

Shooting Algorithm

The coordinate descent algorithm for LASSO, is also known as shooting algorithm.

- I W. J. Fu (1998), "Penalized regressions: The bridge versus the LASSO," Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics.
- I T. T. Wu and K. Lange (2008), "Coordinate descent algorithms for LASSO penalized regression," The Annals of Applied Statistics.

Algorithm: Coordinate Descent for Sparse Regression

Input: Initialize parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ (e.g. use $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{LS} = (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{y}$)

- repeat
 - for $d = 1, 2, \dots, D$ do
 - Compute $\alpha_d = \sum_{n=1}^N x_{n,d}^2$
 - Compute $\beta_d = \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mathbf{x}_{n,-d}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-d}) x_{n,d}$
 - if $\beta_d < -\lambda$ then $\theta_d = \frac{\beta_d + \lambda}{\alpha_d}$
 - else if $\beta_d > \lambda$ then $\theta_d = \frac{\beta_d - \lambda}{\alpha_d}$
 - else $\theta_d = 0$
 - end if
 - end for
- until convergence
- return $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{LASSO} = [\theta_1, \dots, \theta_D]^T$

Bias-Variance Trade-off

There is a trade-off between bias and variance:

- Flexible models: low bias but high variance
- Rigid models: high bias but low variance

