Linear regression workbook

This workbook will walk you through a linear regression example. It will provide familiarity with Jupyter Notebook and Python. Please print (to pdf) a completed version of this workbook for submission with HW #1.

ECE C147/C247, Winter Quarter 2025, Prof. J.C. Kao, TAs: B. Qu, K. Pang, S. Dong, S. Rajesh, T. Monsoor, X. Yan

```
In [1]: 1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 #allows matlab plots to be generated in line
5 %matplotlib inline
```

Data generation

For any example, we first have to generate some appropriate data to use. The following cell generates data according to the model: $y = x + 2x^2 - 3x^3 + \epsilon$

Out[2]: Text(0, 0.5, '\$y\$')

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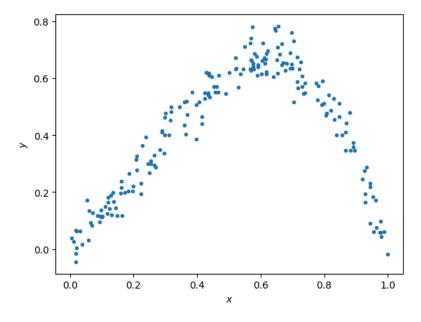
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QUESTIONS:

Write your answers in the markdown cell below this one:

- (1) What is the generating distribution of x?
- (2) What is the distribution of the additive noise ϵ ?

ANSWERS:

- (1) Values of x are sampled from a uniform distribution between 0 and 1.
- (2) The additive noise vlaues are derived from a normal distribution with mean 0 and standard deviation 0.05.

Fitting data to the model (5 points)

Here, we'll do linear regression to fit the parameters of a model y = ax + b.

[0.31325736 0.26474646]

Out[4]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x107703e90>]

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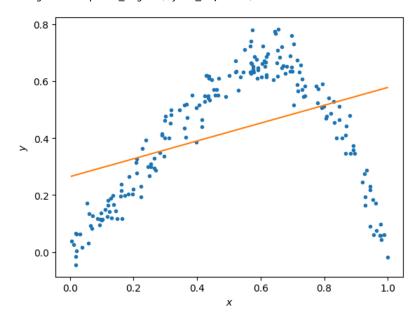
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QUESTIONS

ANSWERS

- (1) The linear model underfits the data. Looking at the generated data and the true model ($y = x + 2x^2 3x^3 + \varepsilon$), we can see the relationship is cubic, but we're trying to fit it with just a straight line. The linear model is too simple to capture the underlying nonlinear relationship.
- (2) We should use a higher-order polynomial model that can capture the nonlinear relationship. Since the true relationship is cubic, at minimum a third-order polynomial model would be appropriate. This would allow the model to capture both the linear and nonlinear components of the relationship.

Fitting data to the model (5 points)

Here, we'll now do regression to polynomial models of orders 1 to 5. Note, the order 1 model is the linear model you prior fit.

```
In [5]:
         1
         2 N = 5
         3 \times xhats = []
         4 thetas = []
            # For each polynomial order 1 to 5
         6
            for i in range(N):
                # Create feature matrix for current polynomial order
         8
         9
                if i == 0:
                    # First order: [x, 1]
         10
                    xhat = np.vstack((x, np.ones_like(x)))
         11
         12
                    # Higher orders: [x^n, x^n, x^n, x^n]
         13
                    xhat = np.vstack((x**(i+1), xhat))
         14
         15
         16
                xhats.append(xhat)
         17
         18
                # Model Coefficients
         19
                theta = np.linalg.inv(xhat.dot(xhat.T)).dot(xhat).dot(y)
         20
                thetas append(theta)
         21
         22 pass
         23
         24 print(thetas)
```

```
In [12]:
          1 # Plot the data
             f = plt.figure()
          3 \mid ax = f.gca()
          4 ax.plot(x, y, '.')
          5 ax.set_xlabel('$x$')
            ax.set_ylabel('$y$')
          8 # Plot the regression lines
          9
             plot_xs = []
          10
             for i in np.arange(N):
                 if i == 0:
          11
          12
                     plot_x = np.vstack((np.linspace(min(x), max(x), 50), np.ones(50)))
         13
                 else:
         14
                     plot_x = np.vstack((plot_x[-2]**(i+1), plot_x))
          15
                 plot_xs.append(plot_x)
         16
          17 for i in np.arange(N):
          18
                 ax.plot(plot_xs[i][-2,:], thetas[i].dot(plot_xs[i]))
          19
          20 labels = ['data']
          21 [labels.append('n={}'.format(i+1)) for i in np.arange(N)]
         22 bbox_to_anchor=(1.3, 1)
         23 | lgd = ax.legend(labels, bbox_to_anchor=bbox_to_anchor)
```

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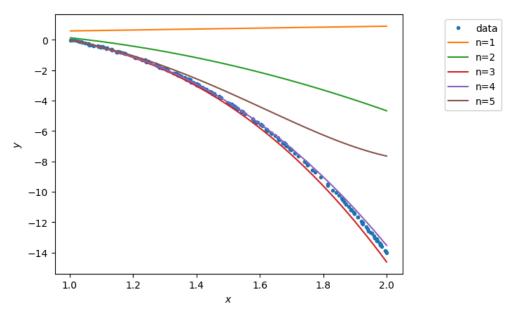
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Calculating the training error (5 points)

Here, we'll now calculate the training error of polynomial models of orders 1 to 5.

Training errors are: [54.246317716012236, 18.911159217529747, 0.08693862570546057, 0.03042966869910436, 5.954356339341897]

QUESTIONS

- (1) What polynomial has the best training error?
- (2) Why is this expected?

ANSWERS

- (1) The fifth order polynomial has the best traning error.
- (2) Using a higher-order polynomial helps the model capture more relationships compred to lower order ones. Therefore, we get a low training error for the fifth order polynomial.

Generating new samples and testing error (5 points)

Here, we'll now generate new samples and calculate testing error of polynomial models of orders 1 to 5.

Out[14]: Text(0, 0.5, '\$y\$')

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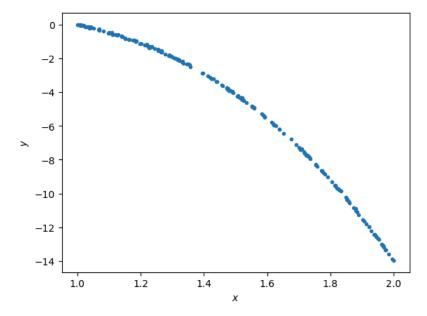
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```
In [15]:
          1 \times x = []
             for i in np.arange(N):
          3
                 if i == 0:
          4
                      xhat = np.vstack((x, np.ones_like(x)))
          5
                      plot_x = np.vstack((np.linspace(min(x), max(x), 50), np.ones(50)))
          6
                 else:
          7
                      xhat = np.vstack((x**(i+1), xhat))
                      plot_x = np.vstack((plot_x[-2]**(i+1), plot_x))
          8
          9
          10
                 xhats.append(xhat)
```

```
In [16]:
          1 # Plot the data
            f = plt.figure()
          3 \mid ax = f.gca()
          4 ax.plot(x, y, '.')
          5 ax.set_xlabel('$x$')
          6 ax.set_ylabel('$y$')
          8 # Plot the regression lines
          9
             plot_xs = []
          10 for i in np.arange(N):
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         14
          15
                 plot_xs.append(plot_x)
         16
         17 for i in np.arange(N):
          18
                 ax.plot(plot_xs[i][-2,:], thetas[i].dot(plot_xs[i]))
         19
         21 [labels.append('n={}'.format(i+1)) for i in np.arange(N)]
         22 bbox_to_anchor=(1.3, 1)
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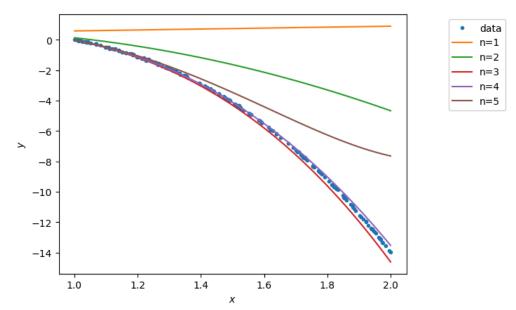
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fig.canvas.print_figure(bytes_io, **kw)



```
In [17]:
          1 testing_errors = []
          3
          5
             for i in np.arange(N):
                 y_pred = thetas[i].dot(xhats[i])
          7
          8
                 mse = np.mean((y - y_pred) ** 2)
          9
         10
                 testing_errors.append(mse)
         11
         12
         13 pass
         14
         15
         16
         17 print ('Testing errors are: \n', testing_errors)
```

Testing errors are: [51.595934377138384, 17.88767990466363, 0.08568137176745275, 0.02624925686033019, 5.438380112067071]

QUESTIONS

- (1) What polynomial has the best testing error?
- (2) Why polynomial models of orders 5 does not generalize well?

ANSWERS

- (1) Lower-order polynomials (e.g., orders 1 or 2) may underfit, leading to high training and testing errors. Higher-order polynomials (e.g., order 5) tend to overfit, capturing noise in the training data, which results in poor testing performance. The fourth order polynomial has the best testing error.
- (2) Polynomial models of order 5 may not generalize well because of overfitting, which occurs when the model becomes too flexible and fits the noise in the training data rather than the underlying trend.