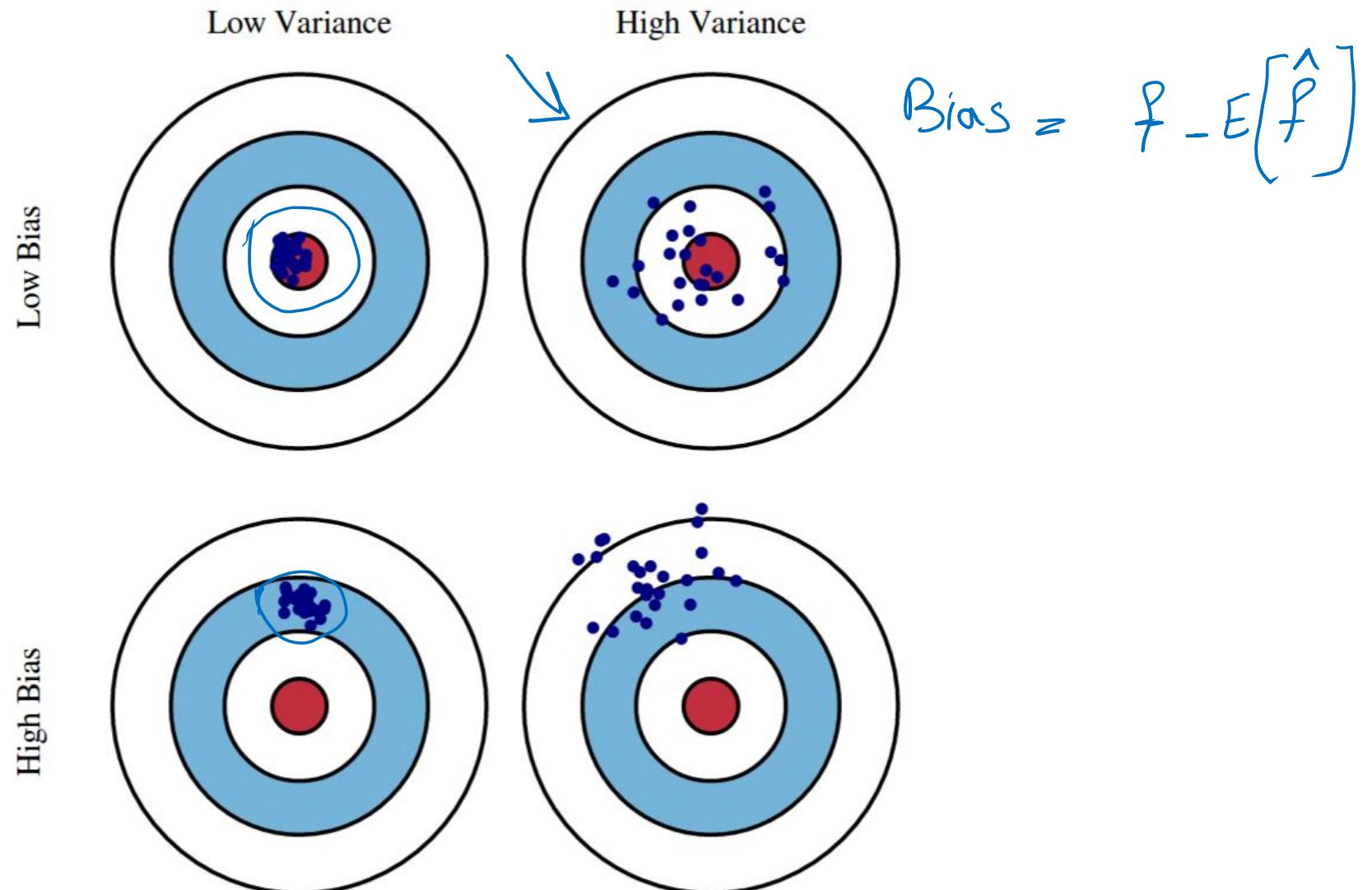


Bias-Variance Tradeoff and Generalization

Mostafa Tavassolipour

Bias-Variance Tradeoff

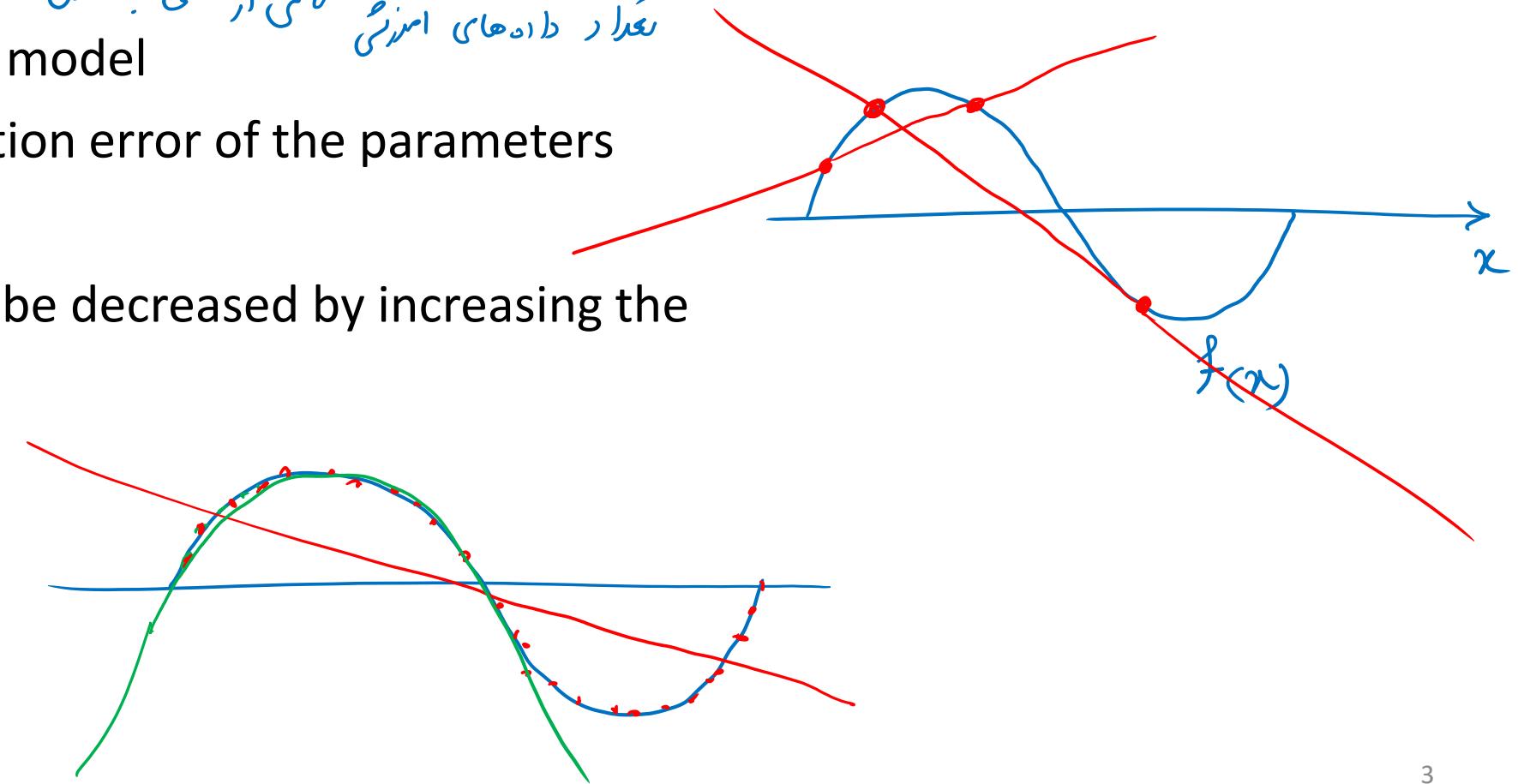
$$\text{Error} = \text{Bias} + \text{Variance}$$



Sources of Error: Bias and Variance

$$\text{Error} = \text{Bias}^2 + \underbrace{\text{Variance}}_{\substack{\text{انحراف احتمالي} \\ \text{انحراف احتمالي}}} + \text{Bayes Error}$$

- **Bias:** Error of the model
- **Variance:** Estimation error of the parameters
- The variance can be decreased by increasing the training samples.



Error Decomposition

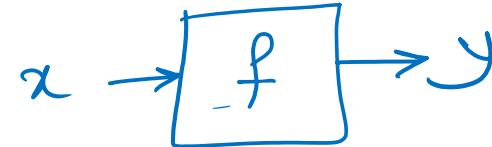
x : input

y : output

f : true function

\hat{f} : ML model

$$\boxed{y = f(x) + \epsilon}$$



$$y = f(x) + \epsilon$$

$$\underline{E[\epsilon] = 0}, \quad \text{var}(\epsilon) = \sigma^2$$

$$\text{MSE} = E[(y - \hat{f}(x))^2] = E[y^2 - 2y\hat{f} + \hat{f}^2] = E[y^2] - 2E[y\hat{f}] + E[\hat{f}^2]$$

$$E[y^2] = E[(f + \epsilon)^2] = E[f^2 + 2f\epsilon + \epsilon^2] = \underline{E[f^2]} + 2\underline{f E[\epsilon]} + E[\epsilon^2] = \boxed{\underline{f^2} + \sigma^2}$$

$$E[y\hat{f}] = E[(f + \epsilon)\hat{f}] = f E[\hat{f}] + \underbrace{E[\epsilon\hat{f}]}_0 = \boxed{f E[\hat{f}]}$$

$$E[\hat{f}^2] \xrightarrow{\text{Var}(X) = E[X^2] - \underbrace{E[X]^2}_{0}} \Rightarrow \boxed{E[\hat{f}^2] = \text{var}(\hat{f}) + E[\hat{f}]^2}$$

$$E[\hat{f}^2] \xrightarrow{\quad \quad \quad E[X^2] = \text{var}(X) + E[X]^2} \Rightarrow \boxed{E[\hat{f}^2] = \text{var}(\hat{f}) + E[\hat{f}]^2}$$

$$\text{Error} = \underbrace{\left(f - E[\hat{f}]\right)^2}_{\text{Bias}^2} + \underbrace{\text{var}(\hat{f})}_{\text{variance}} + \sigma^2 \xrightarrow{\text{Bayes Error}}$$

$$E_x[\hat{f}(x)]$$

$$\hat{f}(E[x])$$

$$\text{Error} = \left(f(x) - E_{\text{train data}}[\hat{f}(x)] \right)^2 + \dots$$

Example: Mean estimation

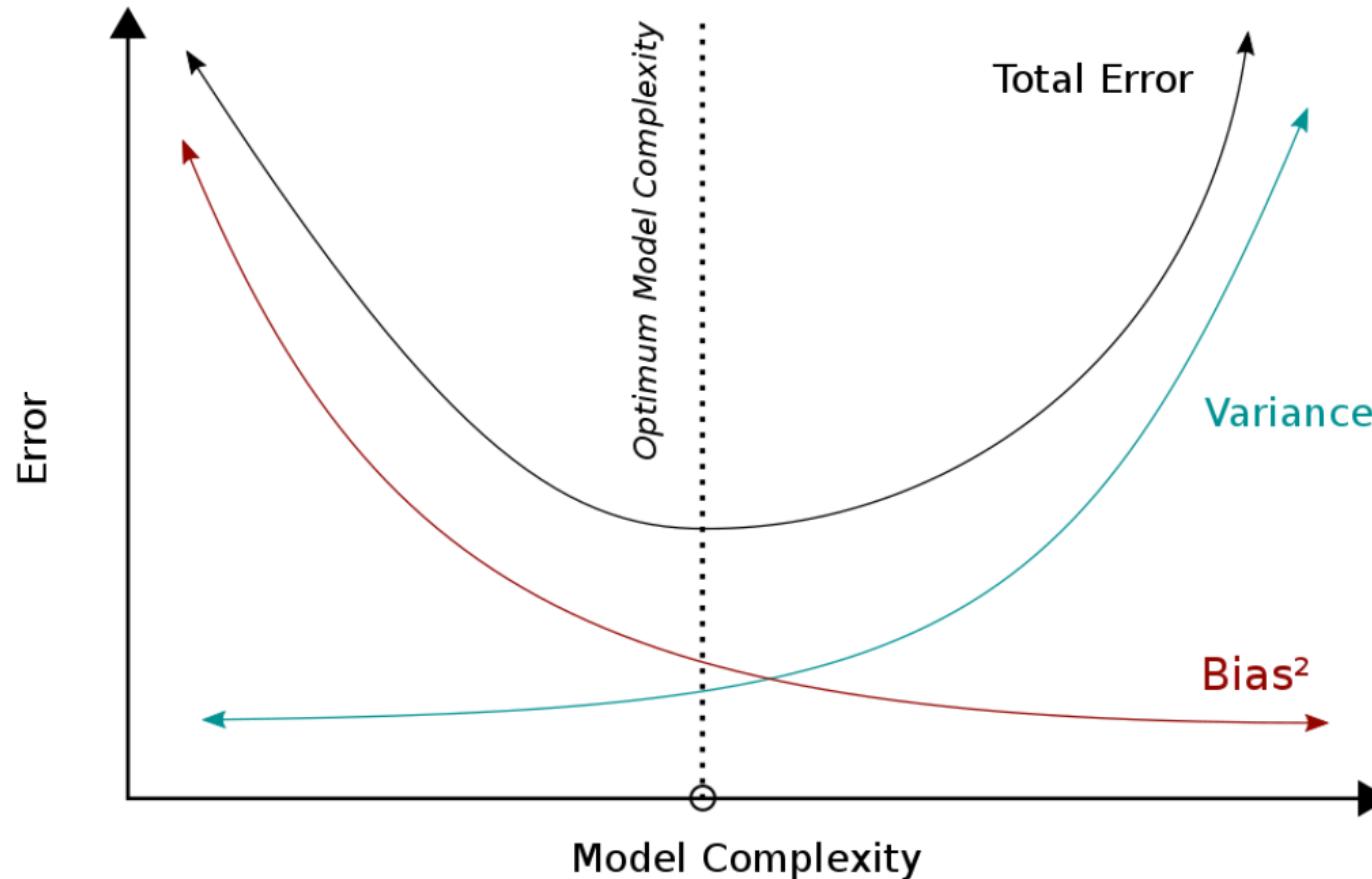
$$\hat{\mu} \rightarrow \hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \quad \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \text{ i.i.d.}$$

$$\text{bias} = 0$$

$$\text{var}(\hat{\mu}) = \frac{1}{n} \text{var}(x)$$

Bias-Variance Tradeoff

- Dimensionality reduction decreases the model complexity.
- Adding feature increases the model complexity.
- The **more complex** model, the **larger sample size** is needed.



Generalization Error

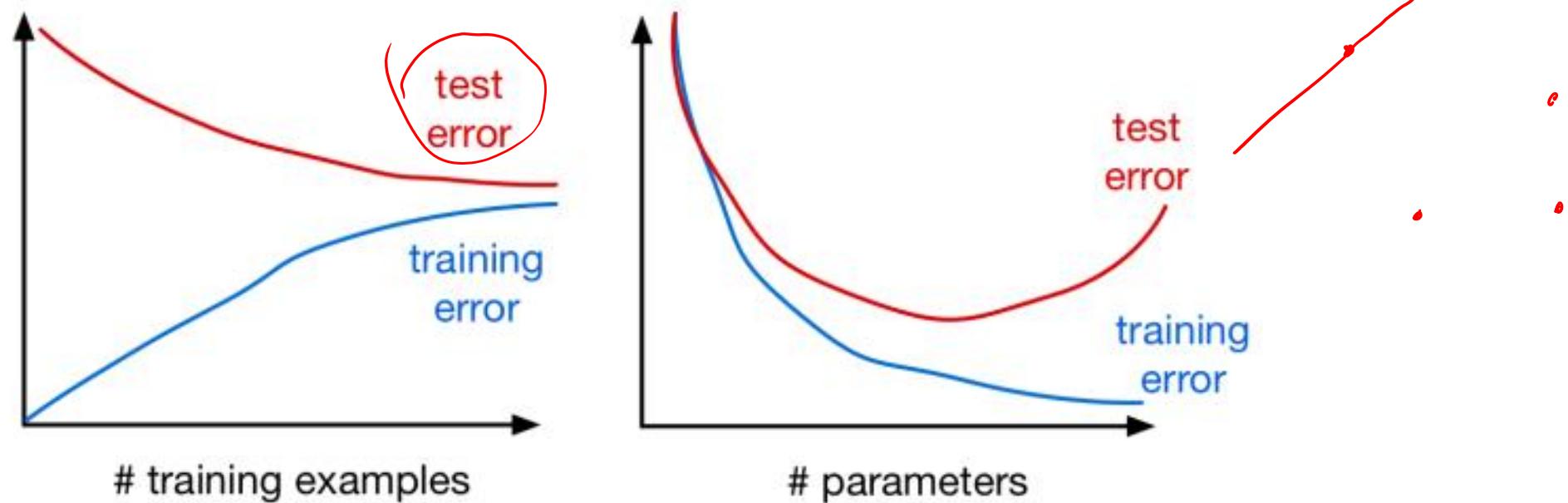
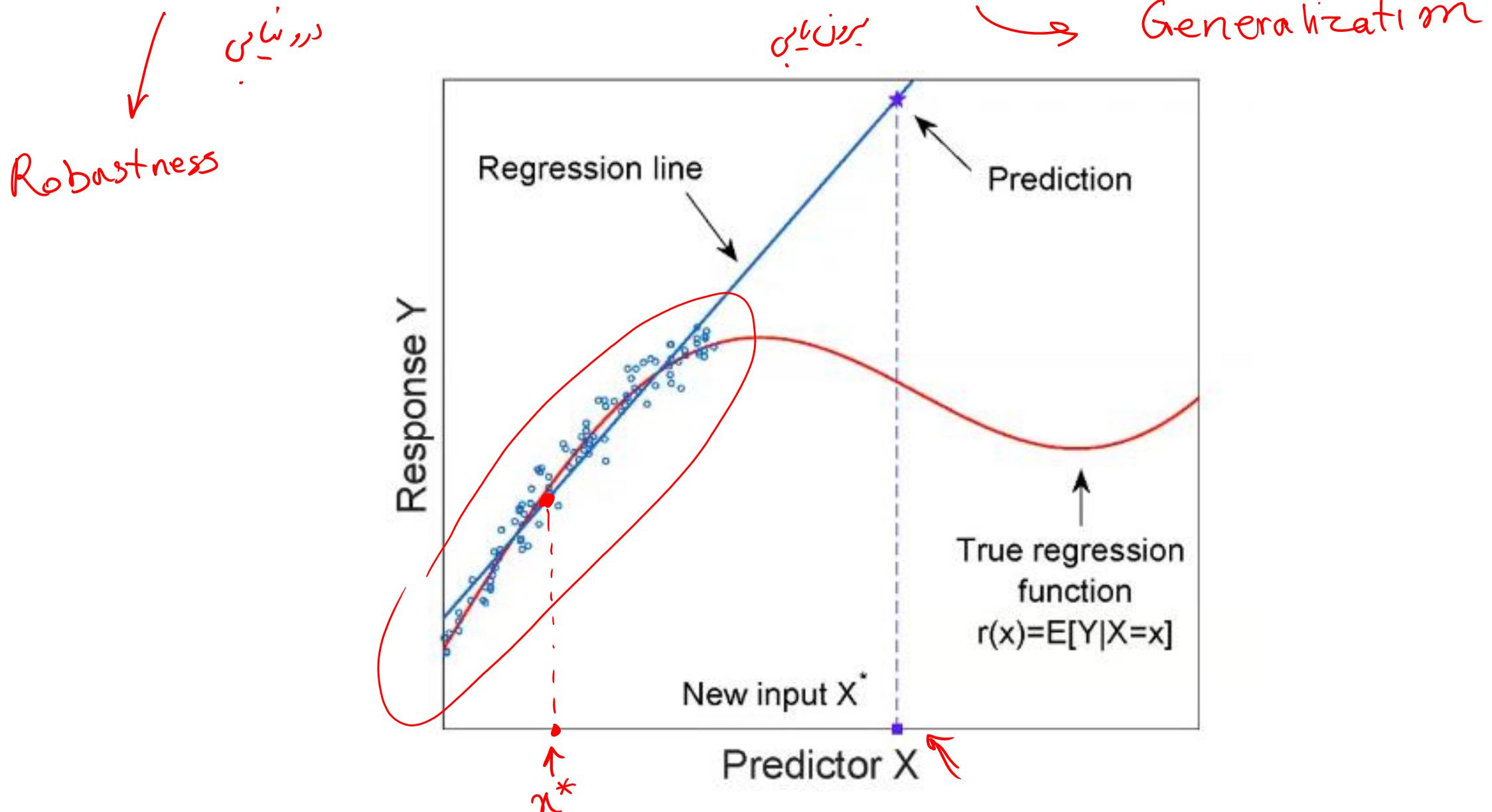
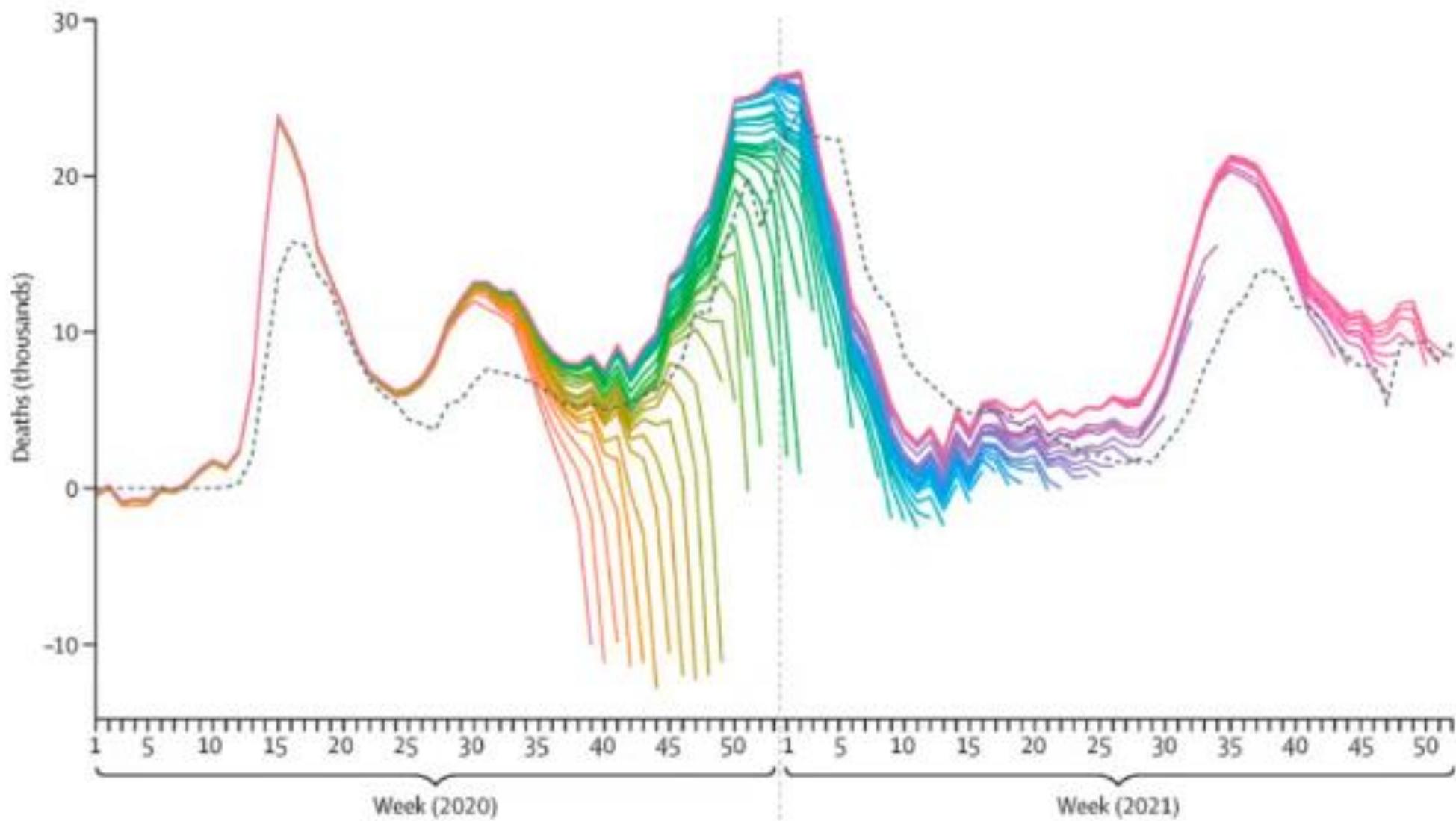


Figure 1: **(left)** Qualitative relationship between the number of training examples and training and test error. **(right)** Qualitative relationship between the number of parameters (or model capacity) and training and test error.

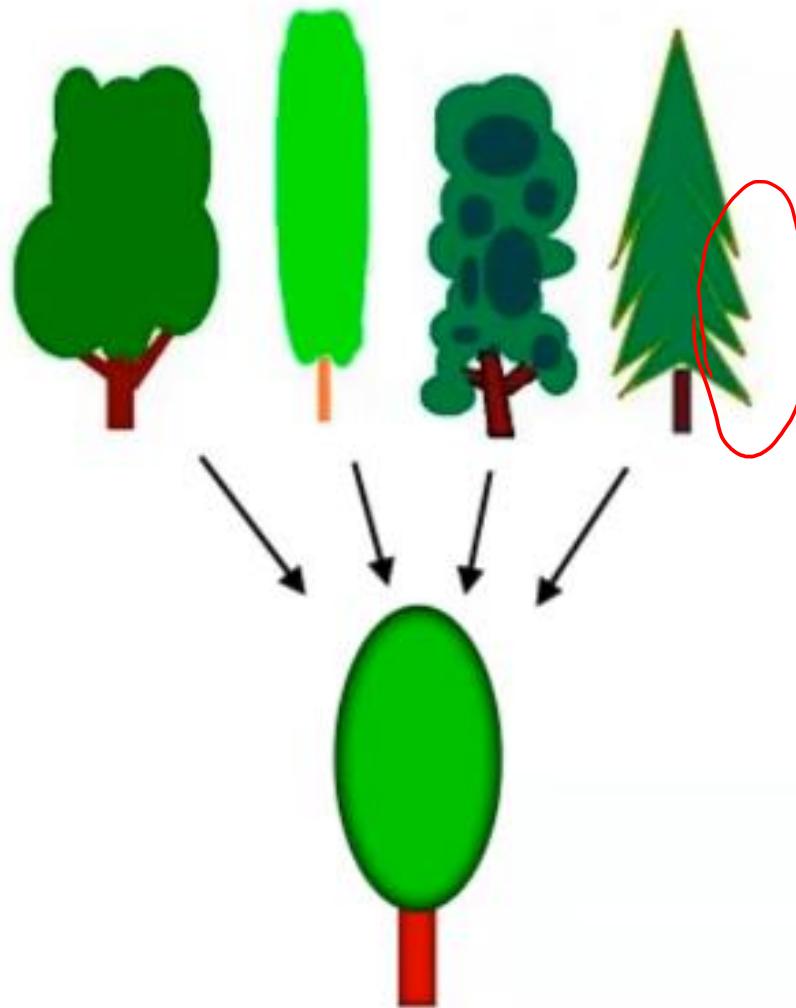
Interpolation vs Extrapolation



Covid prediction



Generalization



Inductive Bias

- The set of assumptions that a learning algorithm uses to predict outputs.
- These biases shape how the model generalized from the training data to unseen data.
- Models:
 - Linear models
 - Decision tree
 - Neural network

Inductive Bias

