

# **CS6375: Machine Learning**

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## **Linear Regression**



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# Example: Pattern Analysis in 17<sup>th</sup> Century Astronomy



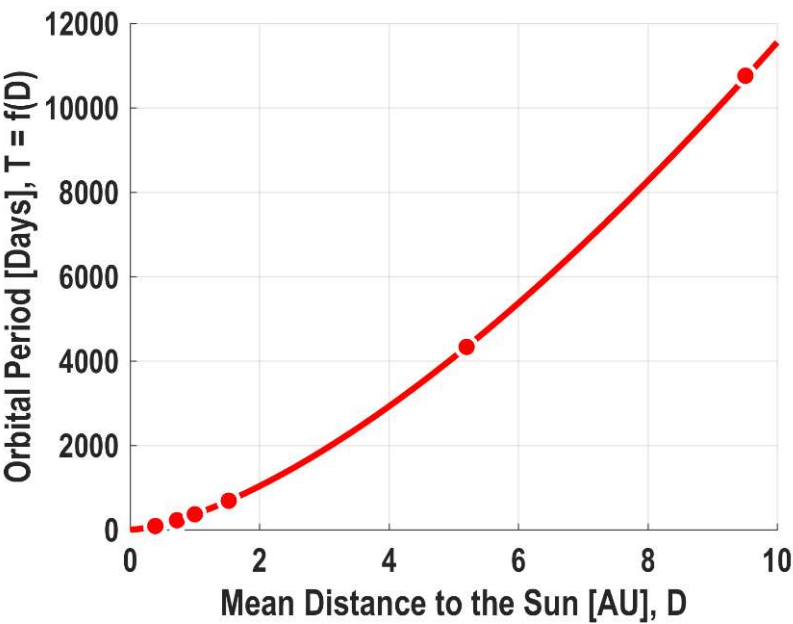
The German astronomer **Johannes Kepler** published his laws of planetary motion in 1609 & 1619, and discovered them by **analyzing** the astronomical observations of **Tycho Brahe**

| Planet  | Mean dist. to sun [AU], D | Orbital Period [days], T | D <sup>3</sup> /T <sup>2</sup> |
|---------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mercury | 0.389                     | 87.77                    | 7.64                           |
| Venus   | 0.724                     | 224.70                   | 7.52                           |
| Earth   | 1                         | 365.25                   | 7.50                           |
| Mars    | 1.524                     | 686.95                   | 7.50                           |
| Jupiter | 5.2                       | 4332.62                  | 7.49                           |
| Saturn  | 9.510                     | 10759.2                  | 7.43                           |

**Kepler's 3<sup>rd</sup> Law:** the **square of the orbital period** of a planet (**T<sup>2</sup>**) is **proportional** to the **cube of the semi-major axis** of its orbit (**D<sup>3</sup>**).

$$T = f(D) = cD^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

# Example: Pattern Analysis in 17<sup>th</sup> Century Astronomy



Kepler's 3<sup>rd</sup> Law is an example of a **model** that relates data (*D*) to labels (*T*)

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| Jupiter | 5.2                       | 4332.62                  | 7.49                           |
| Saturn  | 9.510                     | 10759.2                  | 7.43                           |
| Uranus  | 19.191                    | ?                        | ~7.50                          |
| Neptune | 30.069                    | ?                        | ~7.50                          |

**Kepler's 3<sup>rd</sup> Law:** the **square of the orbital period** of a planet (**T<sup>2</sup>**) is **proportional** to the **cube of the semi-major axis** of its orbit (**D<sup>3</sup>**).

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This is an example of a **supervised machine-learning** problem, where **labels** (*T*) are available for learning the **model**. This is, in fact, a (non-linear) **regression problem**.

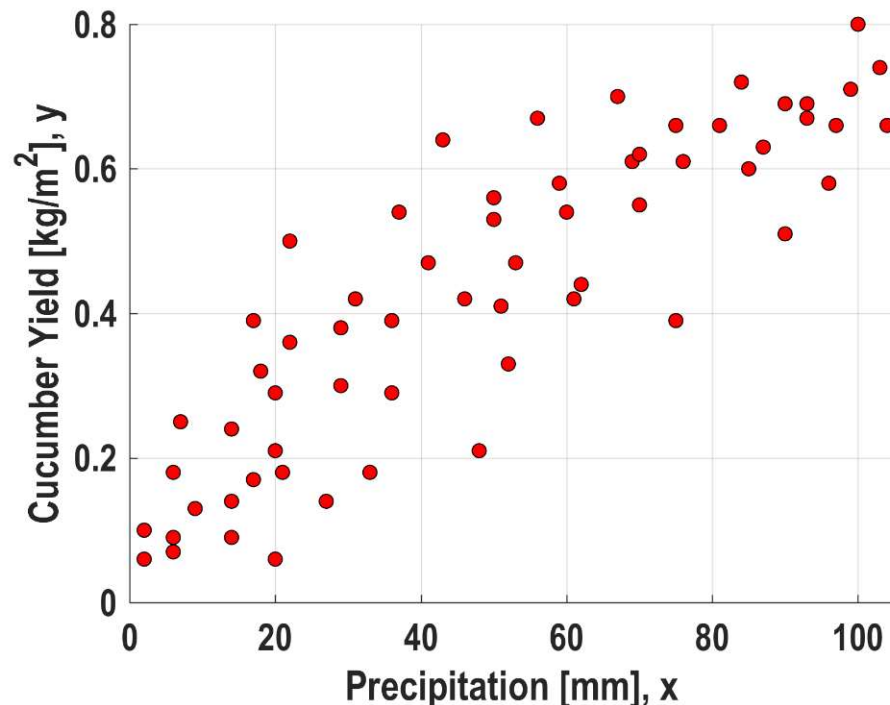
If we know the **model**, we can use it to **predict** the orbital periods of newly-discovered planets. This property of machine-learning models is called **generalization**.

# Univariate Linear Regression

**Problem Setup:** Given data  $(x_i)$  and real-valued labels  $(y_i)$ , find the best model that **fits current data and predicts future data**

**Example:** Develop a model to predict produce yield depending on the precipitation this year.

Here, the independent variable (training data) is precipitation  $(x_i)$  and the dependent variable (label) is yield  $(y_i)$ .



First, we select the **hypothesis class**, which is the set of allowable functions to model the relationship between data  $(x_i)$  and labels  $(y_i)$ :

$$y = f(x)$$

Our hypothesis class is the space of all **univariate linear functions**,  $y = f(x) = w \cdot x + b$

the model is **univariate** because there is only one independent (training) variable,  $x$

the model is **linear** because the highest allowed degree is  $x^1$ . Higher-order models will be nonlinear, for example, the quadratic hypothesis class:

$$y = u \cdot x^2 + w \cdot x + b$$

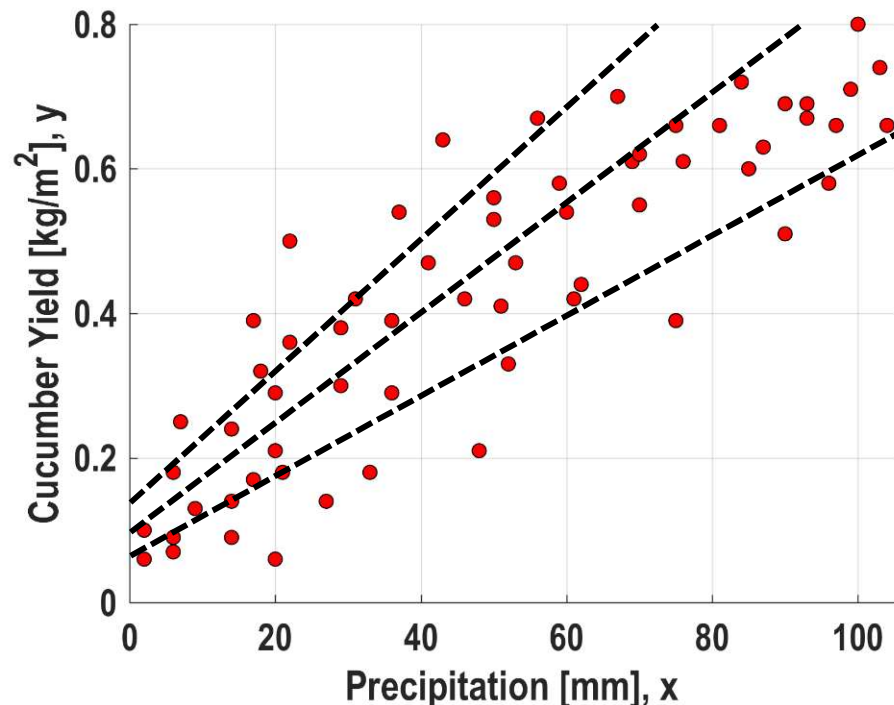
The goal is to learn the **parameters**  $w$  and  $b$  that **best fit** the training data.

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There are **infinitely many functions in the hypothesis class**:  $y = w \cdot x + b$  that can model the data. To identify the best, we must measure the **quality of fit**.

error = true - predicted

$$e_i = y_i - \underbrace{(w \cdot x_i + b)}_{f(x_i)}$$

The diagram shows a set of red data points and a green line representing a model. Vertical lines connect each red point to the green line, representing the error for each data point. The equation  $e_i = y_i - f(x_i)$  is shown, where  $y_i$  is the true value and  $f(x_i)$  is the predicted value.

The quality of fit can be measured using a **loss function** that depends on the **error** between the **true** and **predicted** labels

In linear regression, we measure fit using the squared loss over the error, that is, we use a **squared loss function**,  $\frac{1}{2} e_i^2$

$$L(f(x_i), y_i) = \frac{1}{2} (y_i - (w \cdot x_i + b))^2$$

# Formulating and Solving Linear Regression

**Problem Formulation:** the **best model** minimizes the **average squared loss** across all the data; that is, find the **best parameters**  $w$  and  $b$  such that their predictions **minimize the average squared loss**.

**Problem:** Given  $n$  training examples  $(x_i, y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , find the best model  $(w, b)$  by solving

$$\underset{w, b}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (w \cdot x_i + b))^2$$

This is an **(unconstrained) optimization problem** in the variables  $(w, b)$ . The **optimal solution** will be our model.

- **Solution Approach 1:** Take derivatives and solve analytically. This leads to a **closed-form solution**.

Note that closed-form solutions are **not always directly computable**.

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- Solution Approach 2:** Solve using optimization techniques, e.g., **gradient descent**.

**Initialize:**  $w = w_0, b = b_0, t = 0$

**Iterate until convergence**

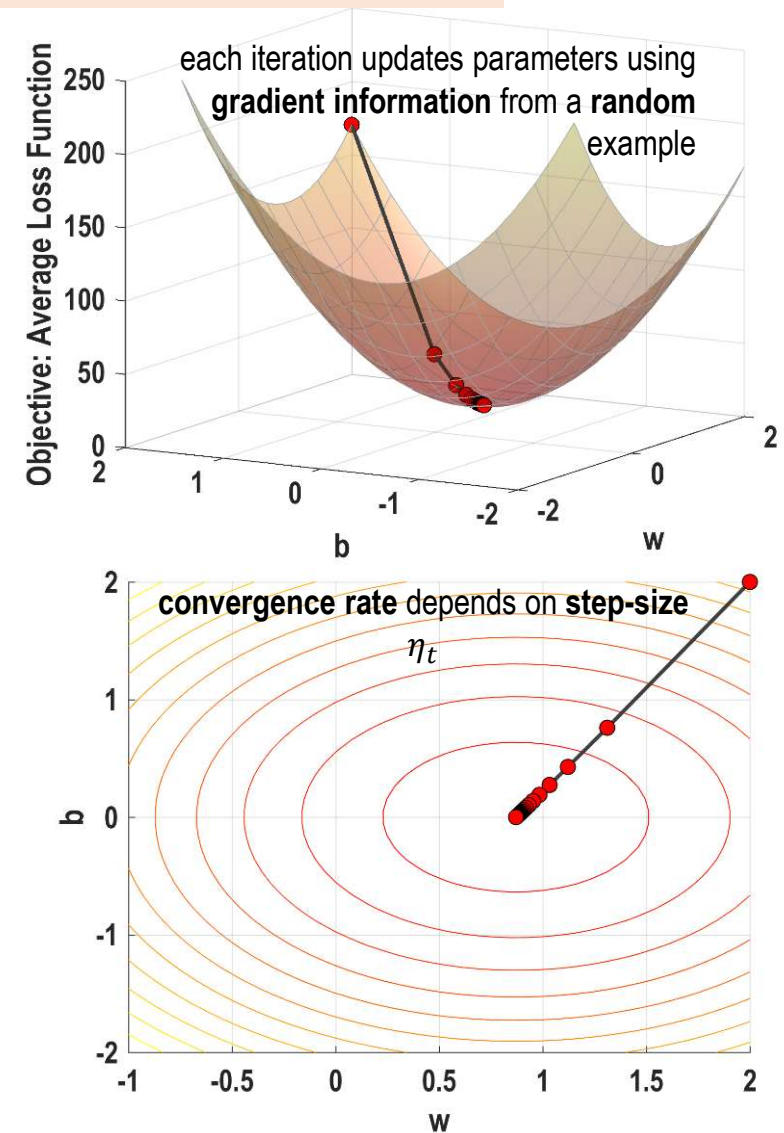
Compute updates:

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \eta_t \nabla_w L(f(x), y)$$

$$b_{t+1} = b_t - \eta_t \nabla_b L(f(x), y)$$

Check for convergence

Continue to next iteration:  $t = t + 1$





# Multivariate Linear Regression

**Problem Setup:** Given data  $(x_i)$  and real-valued labels  $(y_i)$ , find the best model that **fits current data and predicts future data**

**Example:** Develop a model to predict produce yield depending on **multiple factors** such as precipitation, average manure usage, temperature, plant spacing, and relative humidity.

Here, the independent variables (training data) are denoted  $x_i$  and the dependent variable (label) is yield  $(y_i)$ .

| Precip. [mm] | Manure [kg/m <sup>2</sup> ] | Temper at. [°C] | Spacing [m] | Humid. [%] | Yield [kg/m <sup>2</sup> ] |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|----------------------------|
| 22           | 1.5                         | 33.1            | 1.0         | 32.5       | 0.36                       |
| 11           | 0.75                        | 27.9            | 1.5         | 45.0       | 0.09                       |
| 94           | 0.85                        | 28.5            | 1.0         | 78.0       | 0.67                       |
| 62           | 3.0                         | 22.6            | 2.0         | 55.0       | 0.44                       |
| 84           | 4.25                        | 35.4            | 1.0         | 68.5       | 0.72                       |
| 14           | 1.25                        | 34.4            | 0.75        | 72.0       | 0.24                       |
| 104          | 2.75                        | 19.3            | 0.5         | 37.5       | 0.33                       |

each row  $x_i^T$  corresponds to a multi-dimensional training example, represented as a **column vector**,  $x_i$

Our hypothesis class is the space of all **multivariate linear functions**,  $y = f(x) = w^T x + b$

the model is **multivariate** because there are many independent (training) variables

the model is still **linear** because the highest allowed degree is  $x^1$  in each dimension of  $x$

the **intercept** can be absorbed into the inner-product by augmenting the data  $\hat{x} = [x, 1]$  and by augmenting the weights  $\hat{w} = [w, b]$  such that  $\hat{w}^T \hat{x} = w^T x + b \cdot 1$

the goal is to predict the label,  $y_i$ , as a function of the multiple factors



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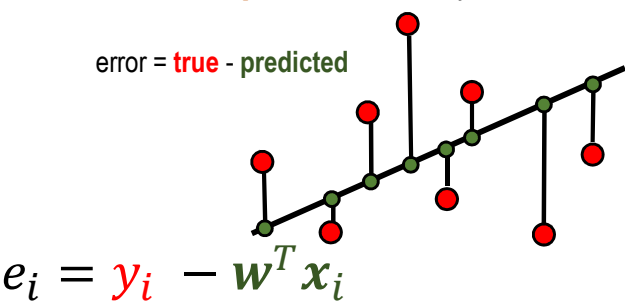
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All the training examples are collected into a **matrix of training data**  $X$ , where each row is a training example

The **loss function** is still the squared loss,  $\frac{1}{2} e_i^2$ , though the error is measured in  $d$ -dimensional space via the **inner-product**  $w^T x_i$



$$L(f(x_i), y_i) = \frac{1}{2} (y_i - w^T x_i)^2$$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ \vdots \\ x_i^T \\ \vdots \\ x_n^T \end{bmatrix}$$

Note the **transpose** to denote that multivariate training examples (which are column vectors) are transposed to rows in the data matrix

# Multivariate Linear Regression

**Problem Setup:** Given data  $(x_i)$  and real-valued labels  $(y_i)$ , find the best model that **fits current data and predicts future data**

**Problem:** Given  $n$  training examples  $(x_i, y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , find the best model  $w$  by solving

$$\underset{w}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - w^T x_i)^2$$

This expression can be written more compactly in **vector notation**

$$\underset{w}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{n} (y - Xw)^T (y - Xw)$$

and fully **expanded** into:

$$\underset{w}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{n} (y^T y - 2y^T Xw + w^T X^T Xw)$$

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$y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_i \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$  $X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ \vdots \\ x_i^T \\ \vdots \\ x_n^T \end{bmatrix}$

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$$\underset{\mathbf{w}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{n} (\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T X \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{w}^T X^T X \mathbf{w})$$

The solution to this problem is the **ordinary least squares estimator**

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

solution depends on the inverse of the **covariance matrix**  $C = X^T X$ , which can be **ill-conditioned**

**unique closed-form solution**, provided that number of data points ( $n$ ) exceeds data dimension ( $d$ )

$(X^T X)^{-1} X^T = X^+$  is called the **pseudo-inverse**

# Ridge Regression

**Problem Setup:** Given data  $(x_i)$  and real-valued labels  $(y_i)$ , find the best model that **fits current data and predicts future data**

**Problem:** Given  $n$  training examples  $(x_i, y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , find the most robust model  $\mathbf{w}$  by solving (for  $\lambda > 0$ )

$$\underset{\mathbf{w}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{n} (\mathbf{y} - X\mathbf{w})^T (\mathbf{y} - X\mathbf{w}) + \lambda \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}$$

$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}$  is a **regularization term** that is used to overcome ill-conditioning,  $\lambda > 0$  is the **regularization parameter**, which is **tunable**

The solution to this problem is the **regularized least squares estimator**

$$\mathbf{w} = (X^T X + \lambda I_d)^{-1} X \mathbf{y}$$

for  $\lambda > 0$ , inverse is can always be computed, algorithm more **robust**

**Exercise:** Derive the regularized least squares estimator from the optimization formulation for Ridge Regression.

# Ridge Regression and the Bias-Variance Tradeoff

**Problem Setup:** Given data  $(x_i)$  and real-valued labels  $(y_i)$ , find the best model that **fits current data and predicts future data**

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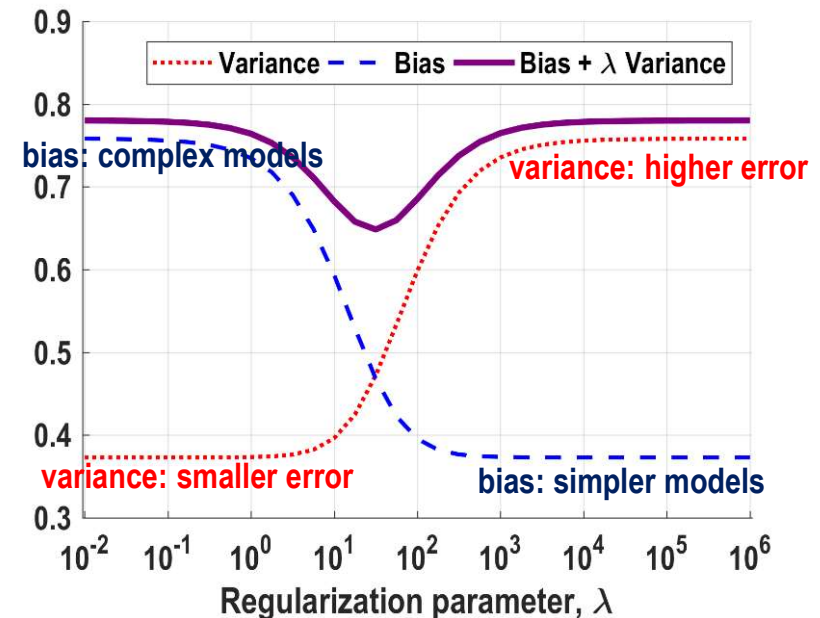
$\lambda > 0$  can be **tuned** to train different models with different behaviors:

- $\lambda$  controls the **amount of regularization**
- as  $\lambda \downarrow 0$ , the model focuses on **minimizing error (variance)** and **overfits** the data
  - when the model is too complex and trivially fits the data (i.e., too many parameters)
  - when the data is not enough to estimate the parameters
  - model captures the noise (or the chance)
- as  $\lambda \uparrow \infty$ , the model focuses on **shrinking the coefficients  $\mathbf{w}$  (bias)** and **underfits** the data

The solution to this problem is the **ordinary least squares estimator**

$$\mathbf{w} = (X^T X + \lambda I_d)^{-1} X \mathbf{y}$$

for  $\lambda > 0$ , inverse is can always be computed, algorithm more **robust**

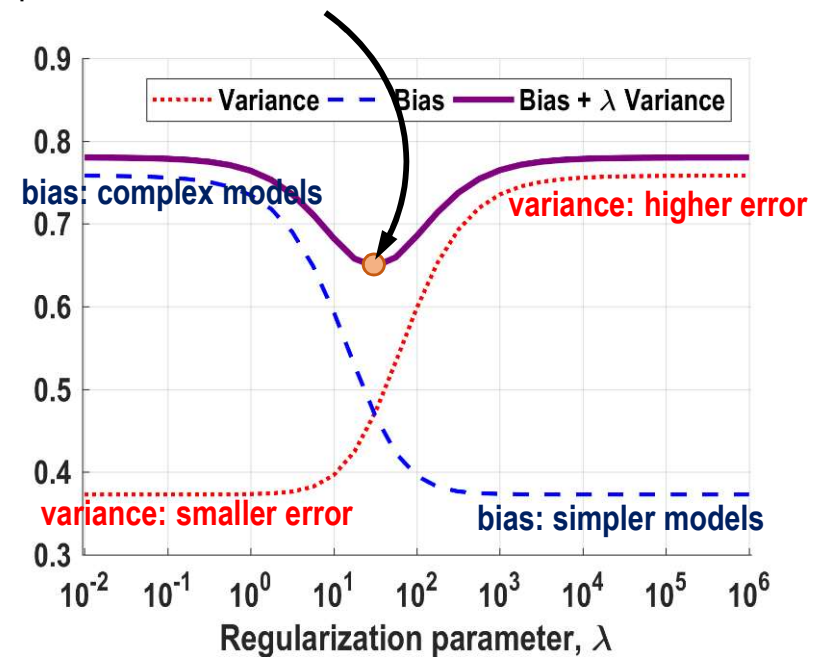


# Bias-Variance Tradeoff

The best model is the one that **generalizes well**, that is, the best model **trades-off effectively between bias and variance** and can be expected to perform well on **future data**.

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- $\lambda$  controls the **amount of regularization**
- as  $\lambda \downarrow 0$ , the model focuses on **minimizing error (variance)** and **overfits** the data
- as  $\lambda \uparrow \infty$ , the model focuses on **shrinking the coefficients  $w$  (bias)** and **underfits** the data



All machine-learning algorithms will exhibit this **bias-variance tradeoff**; selecting the **best model parameters** is an **important practical aspect** of machine-learning.