# Foundations of Machine Learning Al2000 and Al5000

FoML-09 Underfitting and Overfitting Regularized Least Squares

> <u>Dr. Konda Reddy Mopuri</u> Department of AI, IIT Hyderabad July-Nov 2025





#### So far in FoML

- What is ML and the learning paradigms
- Probability refresher
- MLE, MAP, and fully Bayesian treatment
- Linear Regression with basis functions geometric interpretation





## Under and Over fitting





#### Linear Regression

- Complex functions can be fit to the data
  - Using the basis functions





#### Linear Regression with basis functions

- Complex functions can be fit to the data
  - Using the basis functions
- There are some choices (hyper parameters) to be made
  - What kind of basis functions?
  - How many of them?





#### Linear Regression with basis functions

- Complex functions can be fit to the data
  - Using the basis functions
- There are some choices (hyper parameters) to be made
  - What kind of basis functions?
  - How many of them?
- They have consequences
  - over/under fitting



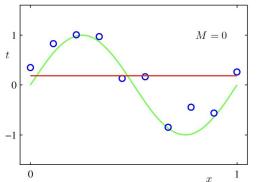


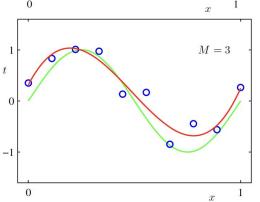
### Polynomial basis functions

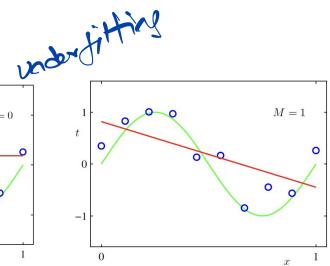
Target t =  $\sin(2\pi x) + \sigma.\epsilon$ 

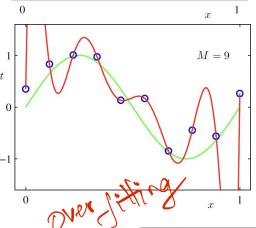
Noise  $\epsilon \sim N(0, 1)$ 

$$y(x, \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + w_1 x + w_2 x^2 + \ldots + w_M x^M = \sum_{j=0}^M w_j x^j$$









Data-driven Intelligence
& Learning Lab







 Can the weight values provide some insight?





 Can the weight values provide some insight?

	M=0	M = 1	M = 3	M = 9
$w_0^{\star}$	0.19	0.82	0.31	0.35
$w_1^{\star}$		-1.27	7.99	232.37
$w_2^\star$			-25.43	-5321.83
$w_3^{\tilde{\star}}$			17.37	48568.31
$w_4^\star$			/	-231639.30
$w_5^{\star}$				640042.26
$w_6^{\star}$				-1061800.52
$w_7^{\star}$				1042400.18
$w_8^\star$				-557682.99
$w_9^\star$				125201.43
J	- CI		\	
	B, X			





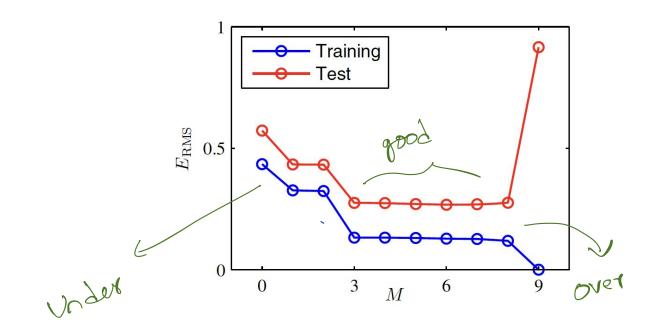
Why didn't our M = 9 model realize a mapping similar to that of M = 3 model?





#### Better way to spot under/over fitting

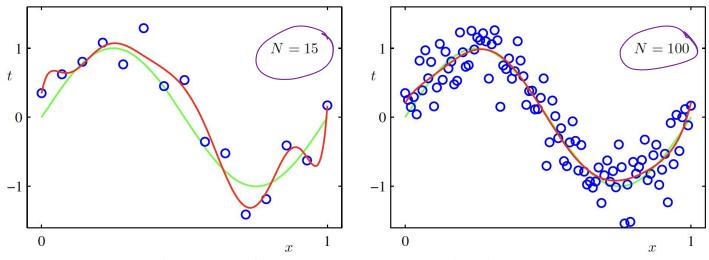
• Plot the error  $(E_{RMS})$ 



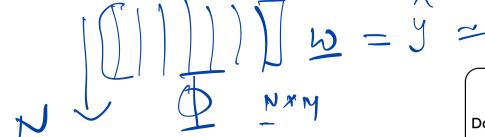




#### Effect of dataset size on overfitting



M = 9 model fitting to dataset of different sizes

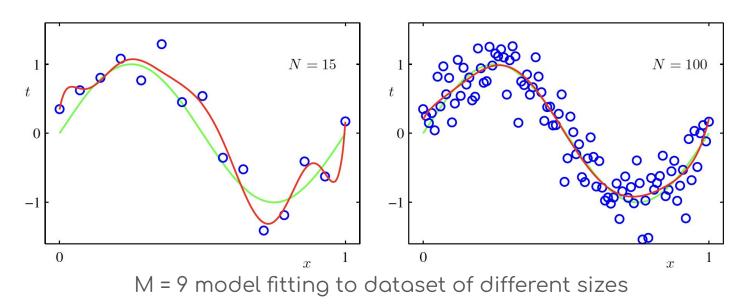




భారతీయ సాంకేతిక విజ్ఞాన సంస్థ హైదరాబాద్ भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad



#### Effect of dataset size on overfitting



For a given model complexity, the overfitting problem becomes less severe as the dataset size increases

Data-driven Intelligence

& Learning Lab



#### What if it is not easy to collect a lot of data?

- More data helps to avoid overfitting
- But, it may be challenging to collect a lot of data
- Then, what?





## Regularization





- Large weight values indicate overfitting
- Higher complexity models lead to overfitting

	M=0	M = 1	M = 3	M = 9
$\overline{w_0^\star}$	0.19	0.82	0.31	0.35
$w_1^\star$		-1.27	7.99	232.37
$w_2^{\star}$			-25.43	5321.83
$w_3^{\star}$			17.37 /	48568.31
$w_4^{\star}$				-231639.30
$w_5^{\star}$				640042.26
$w_2^{\star}$ $w_3^{\star}$ $w_4^{\star}$ $w_5^{\star}$ $w_6^{\star}$				-1061800.52
$w_7^{\star}$				1042400.18
$w_8^\star$				-557682.99
$w_9^\star$				125201.43
J	!		<b>→</b>	





- In case of smaller datasets, instead of manually restricting the number of parameters
  - o Add a penalty to avoid large weight values → 'weight decay' regularization







In case of smaller datasets, instead of manually restricting the number of parameters

Add a penalty to avoid large weight values → 'weight decay' regularization

Add a penalty to avoid large weight values 
$$\rightarrow$$
 'weight decay' regularization 
$$\tilde{E}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \{\mathbf{t}_i - \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_i)\}^2 + \lambda \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \{\mathbf{t}_i - \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_i)\}^2}_{\text{Vegularization}} + \lambda \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \{\mathbf{t}_i - \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}$$

భారతీయ సాంకేతిక విజ్జాన సంస్థ హైదరాబాద్ भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad



- In case of smaller datasets, instead of manually restricting the number of parameters
  - Add a penalty to avoid large weight values

Ridge Regression

$$\tilde{E}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \{ \mathbf{t_i} - \mathbf{w^T} \phi(\mathbf{x_i}) \}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{M-1} \mathbf{w_i}^2$$

Bias term w<sub>0</sub> may not be included in the regularization





$$\tilde{E}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \{ \mathbf{t_i} - \mathbf{w^T} \phi(\mathbf{x_i}) \}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{M-1} \mathbf{w_i}^2$$

Looks similar to what we saw during the MAP discussion

$$\frac{1}{12}\left(\frac{1}{12}\right) + \frac{1}{12}\left(\frac{1}{12}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{12}\left(\frac{1}{12}\right) + \frac{1}{12}\left(\frac{1}{12}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{12}\left(\frac{1}{12}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{12}\left(\frac{1}{12}\right)$$

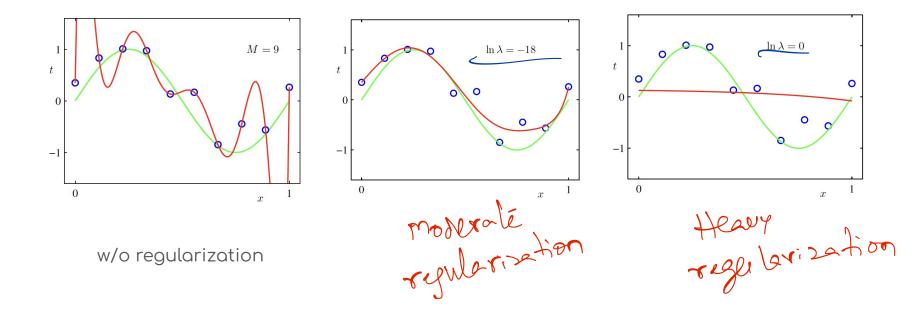
$$= \frac{1}{12}\left(\frac{1}{12}\right)$$

$$= \frac$$



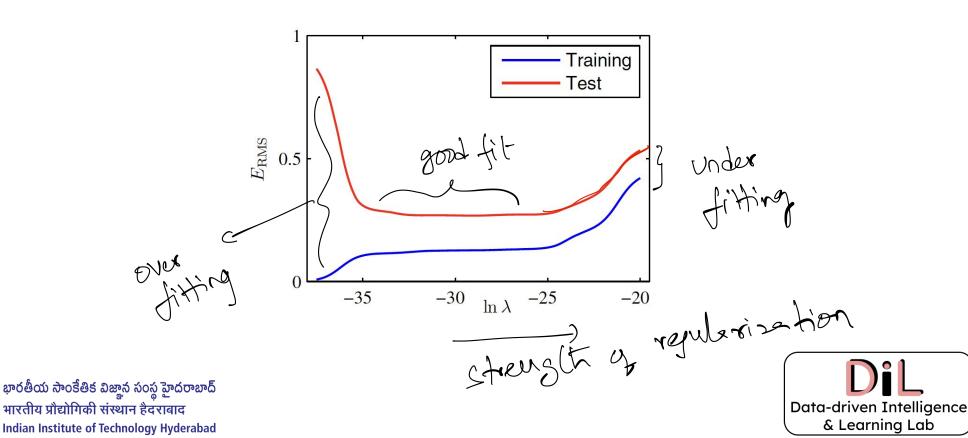












#### More general form of the regularization

$$\tilde{E}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \{\mathbf{t_i} - \mathbf{w^T} \phi(\mathbf{x_i})\}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{M-1} |\mathbf{w_i}|^q$$

• When  $q = 2 \rightarrow l_2$  norm penalty on the parameters





#### More general form of the regularization

$$\tilde{E}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \{ \mathbf{t_i} - \mathbf{w^T} \phi(\mathbf{x_i}) \}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{M-1} |\mathbf{w_i}|^q$$

Shows

- When  $q = 2 \rightarrow l_2$  norm penalty on the parameters
- When  $q = 1 \rightarrow l_1$  norm penalty (also, called Lasso)





#### Geometric interpretation

Equivalent to minimizing

$$\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^N\{t_i-\mathbf{w}^T\phi(\mathbf{x}_i)\}^2$$
 with  $\sum_{j=1}^M|w_j|^q\leq\eta$ 

$$\sum_{i=1}^{M} |w_j|^q \le \eta$$



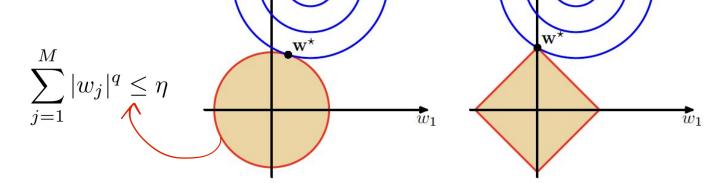


Geometric interpretation

> unregularized veros (msE)

Equivalent to minimizing

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \{t_i - \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_i)\}^2 \quad \text{with} \qquad \sum_{j=1}^{M} |w_j|^q \leq \eta$$

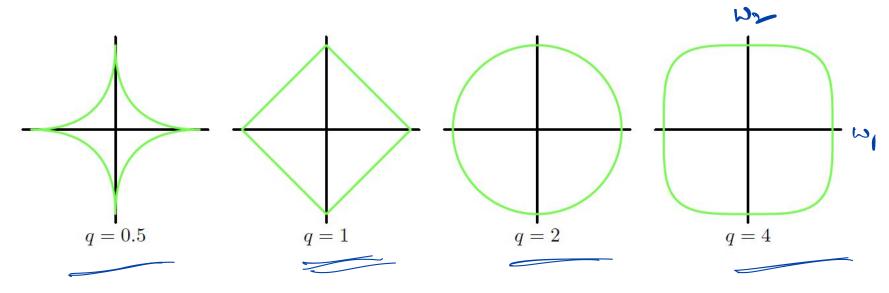


Plots of the 'unregularized' error and the 'regularization' term for q =1 and 2





#### Geometric interpretation

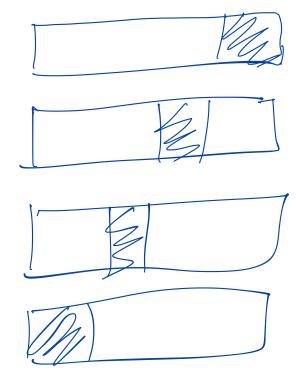


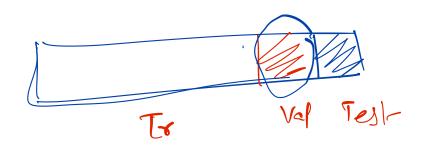
Contours of regularization term for different values of q





#### Rough work





model selection via



భారతీయ సాంకేతిక విజ్ఞాన సంస్థ హైదరాబాద్ भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad



## Next Model selection



