

# Linear Regression

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# Recap

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- Learning is...
  - Collect some data
    - E.g., coin flips

Data  $\{x_i\}$

# Recap

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  - Choose a hypothesis class or model
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    - E.g., data likelihood

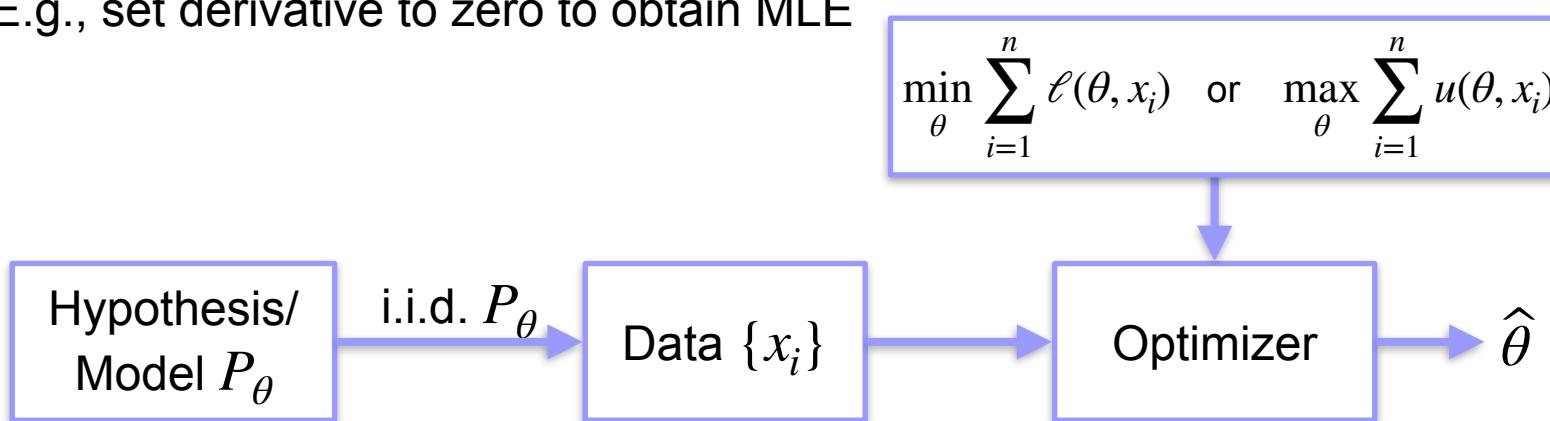
$$\min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(\theta, x_i) \quad \text{or} \quad \max_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n u(\theta, x_i)$$



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  - Choose an optimization procedure
    - E.g., set derivative to zero to obtain MLE

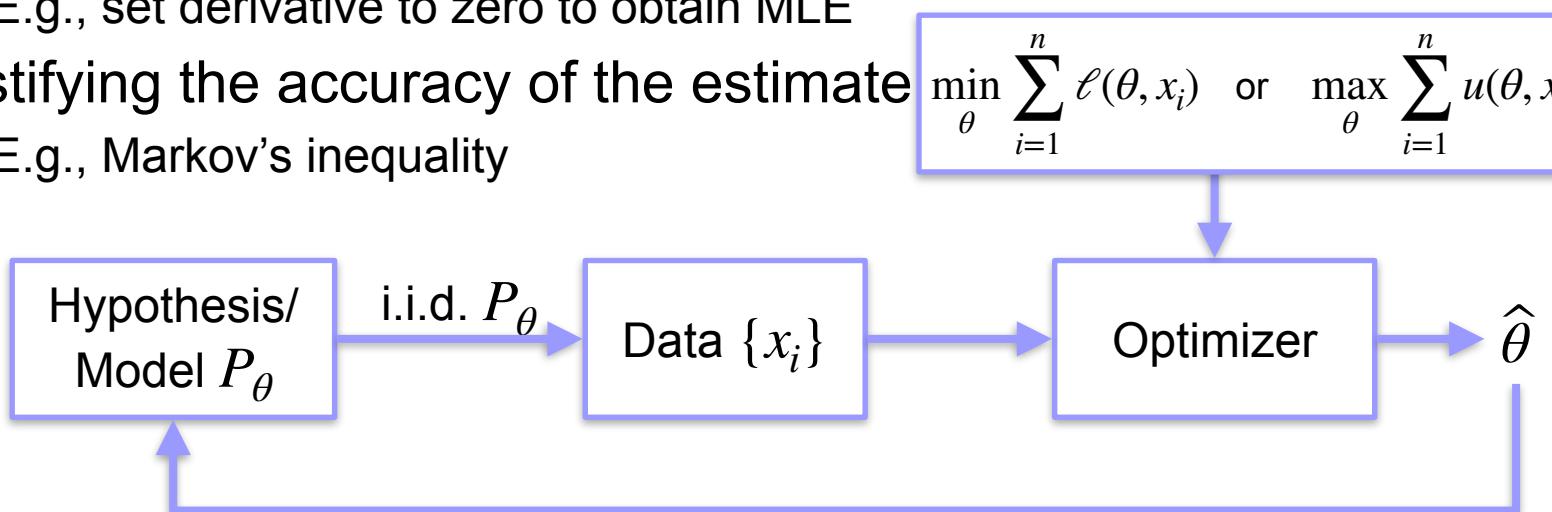
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# Recap

- Learning is...
  - Collect some data
    - E.g., coin flips
  - Choose a hypothesis class or model
    - E.g., binomial
  - Choose a loss function
    - E.g., data likelihood
  - Choose an optimization procedure
    - E.g., set derivative to zero to obtain MLE
  - Justifying the accuracy of the estimate
    - E.g., Markov's inequality

$$\min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(\theta, x_i) \quad \text{or} \quad \max_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n u(\theta, x_i)$$



# Linear Regression

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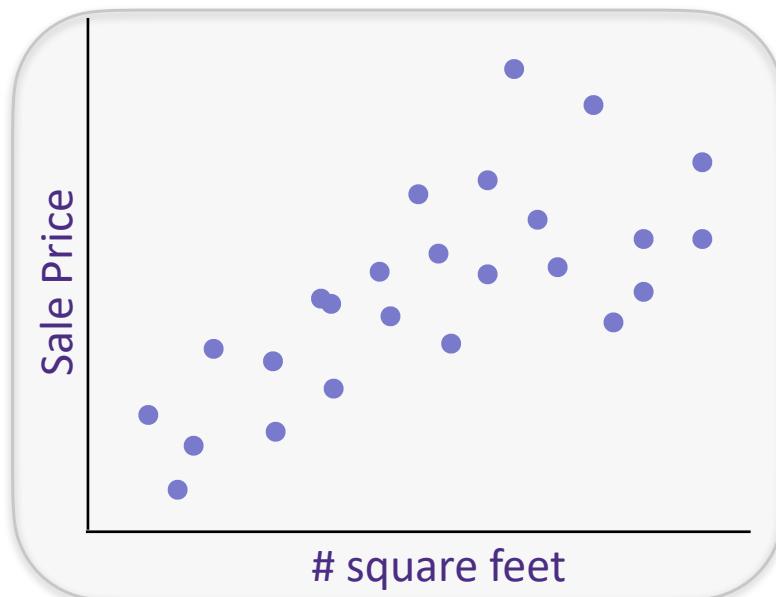
# The regression problem, 1-dimensional

You want to sell your house that is 2,500 sq.ft.

Q. What is the right price?

Collect past sales data on [zillow.com](https://www.zillow.com):

$y = \text{House sale price}$  and  $x = \{\# \text{ sq. ft.}\}$



**Training Data:**  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$   $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$   
 $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$

# Process

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## 1. Decide on a **model/hypothesis class**

***assume*** house sale price is a linear function of square feet.

## 2. Find the function/model/hypothesis which explains/fits the data best

## 3. Use function to make prediction on new examples

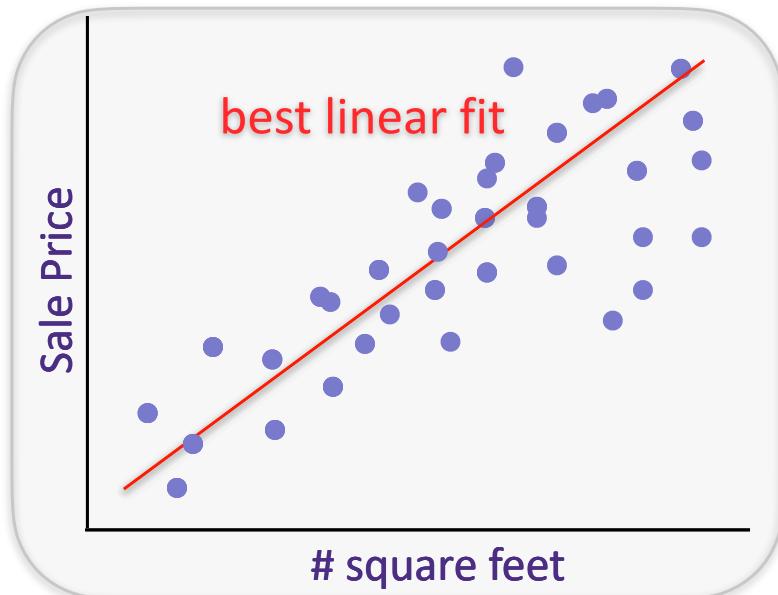
How much should you put your house on the market?

# Fit a function to our data, 1-dimension

Given past sales data on [zillow.com](#), predict:

$y$  = House sale price from

$x$  = {# sq. ft.}



1. Training Data:  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$   
 $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n \quad y_i \in \mathbb{R}$

2. Hypothesis/Model: linear  
$$y_i = w \cdot x_i + \epsilon_i$$

3. Measure of good fit:  $\ell_2$ -loss

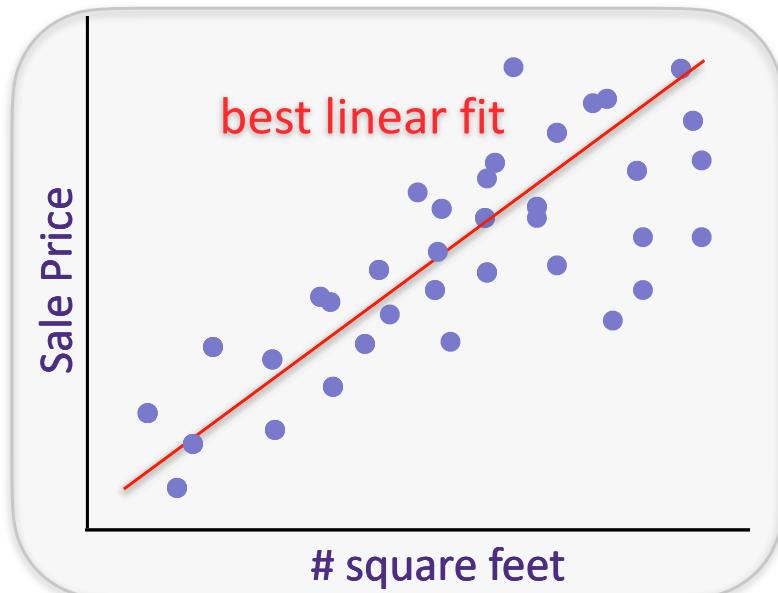
$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - wx_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_i^2$$

# The regression problem, d-dimensions

Given past sales data on [zillow.com](#), predict:

$y$  = House sale price from

$x$  = {# sq. ft., zip code, date of sale, etc.}



1. Training Data:  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n \quad y_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

2. Hypothesis/Model: linear

$$y_i = w^T x_i + \epsilon_i$$

3. Measure of good fit:  $\ell_2$ -loss

$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - w^T x_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon_i^2$$

# The regression problem in matrix notation

**Data:**

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

d : # of features/size of the input  
n : # of examples/datapoints

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**Linear  
Model:**

$$y_1 = x_1^T w + \epsilon_1$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}w + \epsilon$$

$$y_2 = x_2^T w + \epsilon_2$$

•

•

•

$$y_n = x_n^T w + \epsilon_n$$

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.

.

$$y_n = x_n^T w + \epsilon_n$$

**$\ell_2$ -norm of a vector:  
(also known as Euclidean norm)**

$$\|\boldsymbol{\epsilon}\|_2 = \sqrt{\epsilon_1^2 + \epsilon_2^2 + \cdots + \epsilon_d^2}$$

**it follows that**

$$\sum_{i=1}^d \epsilon_i^2 = \|\boldsymbol{\epsilon}\|_2^2 = \boldsymbol{\epsilon}^T \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

**$\ell_2$ -Loss:**  $\widehat{\mathbf{w}}_{\text{LS}} = \arg \min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - x_i^T w)^2$

this is also known as **Least Squares** solution

# The regression problem in matrix notation

**Data:**

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

d : # of features/size of the input  
n : # of examples/datapoints

**Linear Model:**

$$\begin{aligned} y_1 &= x_1^T w + \epsilon_1 & \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{X}w + \epsilon \\ y_2 &= x_2^T w + \epsilon_2 \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ y_n &= x_n^T w + \epsilon_n \end{aligned}$$

**$\ell_2$ -norm of a vector:**

$$\|\epsilon\|_2 = \sqrt{\epsilon_1^2 + \epsilon_2^2 + \cdots + \epsilon_d^2}$$

**it follows that**

$$\sum_{i=1}^d \epsilon_i^2 = \|\epsilon\|_2^2 = \epsilon^T \epsilon$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ $\ell_2$ -Loss: } \widehat{w}_{\text{LS}} &= \arg \min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - x_i^T w)^2 = \arg \min_w \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w\|_2^2 \\ &= \arg \min_w (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w)^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w) \end{aligned}$$

# The regression problem in matrix notation

$$\hat{w}_{\text{LS}} = \arg \min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w)^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w)$$

Set gradient w.r.t.  $w$  to zero to find the minima:

## A few reminders on vector calculus

- Gradient of a function:

$$\nabla_w f(w) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{df(w)}{dw_1} \\ \frac{df(w)}{dw_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{df(w)}{dw_d} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Example:

$$f(w) = w^T w \implies \nabla_w f(w) = 2w$$

$$f(w) = (Aw)^T(Aw) \implies \nabla_w f(w) = 2AA^T w$$

$$f(w) = (Aw + b)^T(Aw + b) \implies \nabla_w f(w) = 2A^T(Aw + b)$$

# The regression problem in matrix notation

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{w}_{LS} &= \arg \min_w \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w\|_2^2 \\ &= \arg \min_w (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w)^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w) \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}\end{aligned}$$

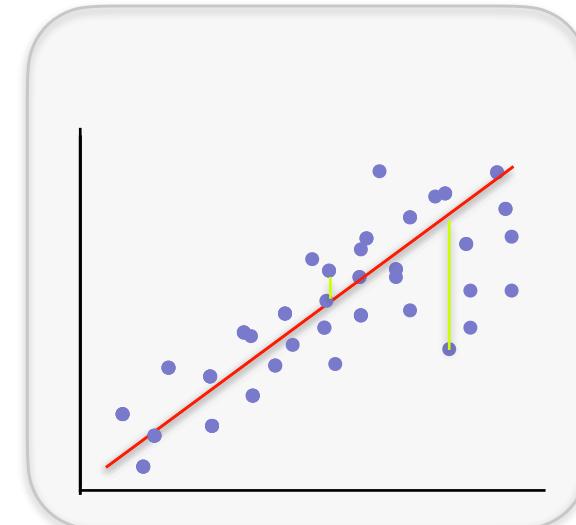
“Closed form” solution!

# The regression problem in matrix notation

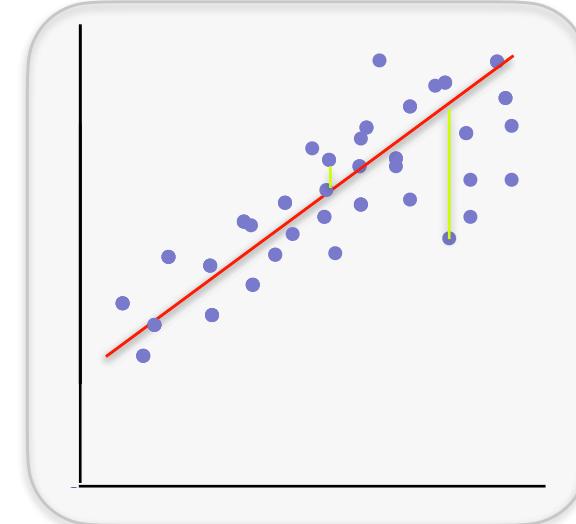
**Linear model:**  $y_i = x_i^T w + \epsilon_i$

**Least squares solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{w}_{LS} &= \arg \min_w \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w\|_2^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}\end{aligned}$$



What about an offset  
(a.k.a intercept)?

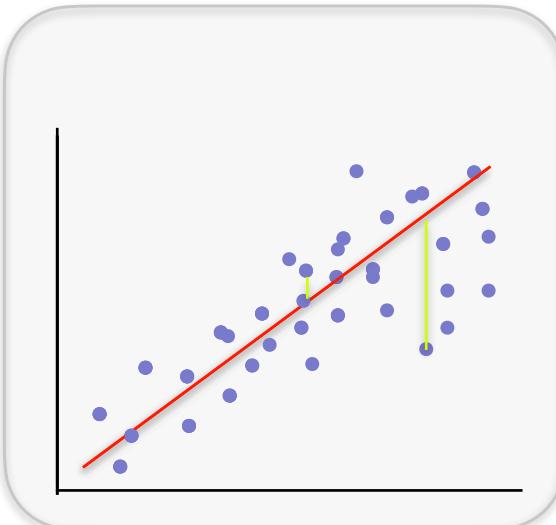


# The regression problem in matrix notation

**Linear model:**  $y_i = x_i^T w + \epsilon_i$

**Least squares solution:**

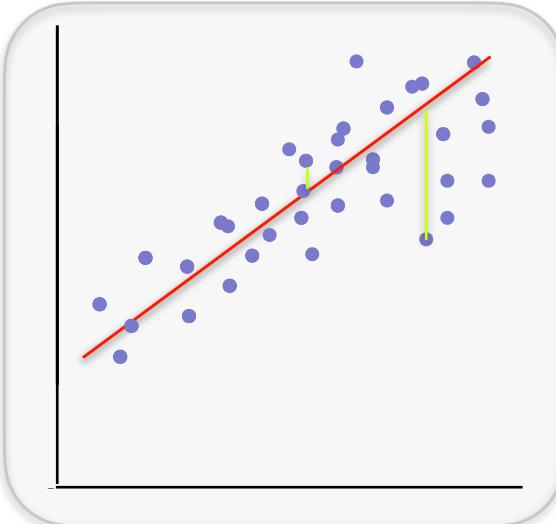
$$\begin{aligned}\hat{w}_{LS} &= \arg \min_w \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w\|_2^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}\end{aligned}$$



**Affine model:**  $y_i = x_i^T w + b + \epsilon_i$

**Least squares solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{w}_{LS}, \hat{b}_{LS} &= \arg \min_{w,b} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (x_i^T w + b))^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{w,b} \|\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}w + \mathbf{1}b)\|_2^2\end{aligned}$$



# Dealing with an offset

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{w}}_{\text{LS}}, \hat{b}_{\text{LS}} &= \arg \min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}} \|\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}w + \mathbf{1}b)\|_2^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}} \underbrace{(\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}w + \mathbf{1}b))^T(\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}w + \mathbf{1}b))}_{\mathcal{L}(w, b)}\end{aligned}$$

Set gradient w.r.t.  $w$  and  $b$  to zero to find the minima:

## A reminder on vector calculus

$$f(w) = (Aw + b)^T(Aw + b) \implies \nabla_w f(w) = 2A^T(Aw + b)$$

# Dealing with an offset

$$\hat{w}_{LS}, \hat{b}_{LS} = \arg \min_{w,b} \|\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}w + \mathbf{1}b)\|_2^2$$

$$\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \hat{w}_{LS} + \hat{b}_{LS} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{X} \hat{w}_{LS} + \hat{b}_{LS} \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{y}$$

If  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{1} = 0$ , if the features have zero mean,

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

$$\hat{b}_{LS} = (\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{1})^{-1} \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

# Dealing with an offset

$$\hat{w}_{LS}, \hat{b}_{LS} = \arg \min_{w,b} \|\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}w + \mathbf{1}b)\|_2^2$$

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In general, when  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{1} \neq 0$ ,

# Dealing with an offset

$$\hat{w}_{LS}, \hat{b}_{LS} = \arg \min_{w,b} \|\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}w + \mathbf{1}b)\|_2^2$$

$$\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \hat{w}_{LS} + \hat{b}_{LS} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{X} \hat{w}_{LS} + \hat{b}_{LS} \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{y}$$

If  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{1} = 0$ ,

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

$$\hat{b}_{LS} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

In general, when  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{1} \neq 0$ ,

$$\mu = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{1}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{1}\mu^T$$

$$\hat{w}_{LS} = (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{y}$$

$$\hat{b}_{LS} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \mu^T \hat{w}_{LS}$$

# Process for linear regression with intercept

Collect data:  $\mathcal{D} = \{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$

Decide on a **model**:  $y_i = x_i^T w + b + \epsilon_i$

Choose a loss function - least squares

**Pick the function which minimizes loss on data**

$$\hat{w}_{LS}, \hat{b}_{LS} = \arg \min_{w,b} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (x_i^T w + b))^2$$

Use function to make prediction on new examples  $x_{\text{new}}$

$$\hat{y}_{\text{new}} = x_{\text{new}}^T \hat{w}_{LS} + \hat{b}_{LS}$$

# Another way of dealing with an offset

$$\hat{w}_{LS}, \hat{b}_{LS} = \arg \min_{w,b} \|\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}w + \mathbf{1}b)\|_2^2$$

reparametrize the problem as  $\bar{\mathbf{X}} = [\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{1}]$  and  $\bar{w} = \begin{bmatrix} w \\ b \end{bmatrix}$

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}} \bar{w} =$$

# Why do we use least squares (i.e. $\ell_2$ -loss)?

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$$\begin{aligned}\hat{w}_{LS} &= \arg \min_w \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w\|_2^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}\end{aligned}$$

$$\implies y_i \sim$$

$$\implies P(y_i; x_i, w, \sigma) =$$

# Why do we use least squares (i.e. $\ell_2$ -loss)?

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{w}_{LS} &= \arg \min_w \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}w\|_2^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}\end{aligned}$$

Consider  $y_i = x_i^T w + \epsilon_i$  where  $\epsilon_i \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

$\implies y_i \sim$

$\implies P(y_i; x_i, w, \sigma) =$

# Why do we use least squares (i.e. $\ell_2$ -loss)?

Maximum Likelihood Estimator:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{w}_{\text{MLE}} &= \arg \max_w \log P(\{y_i\}_{i=1}^n; \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n, w, \sigma) \\ &= \arg \max_w -n \log(\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}) + \sum_{i=1}^n -\frac{(y_i - x_i^T w)^2}{2\sigma^2}\end{aligned}$$

# Why do we use least squares (i.e. $\ell_2$ -loss)?

**Maximum Likelihood Estimator:**

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$$= \arg \min_w \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - x_i^T w)^2$$

**Recall:**  $\hat{w}_{LS} = \arg \min_w \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - x_i^T w)^2$

$$\boxed{\hat{w}_{LS} = \hat{w}_{MLE} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y}}$$

# Recap of linear regression

Data  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$

**Minimize the loss  
(Empirical Risk Minimization)**

Choose a loss  
e.g.,  $\ell_2$ -loss:  $(y_i - x_i^T w)^2$

Solve  $\hat{w}_{\text{LS}} = \arg \min_w \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - x_i^T w)^2$

**Maximize the likelihood  
(MLE)**

Choose a Hypothesis class  
e.g.,  $y_i = x_i^T w + \epsilon_i$ ,  $\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

Maximize the likelihood,  
 $\hat{w}_{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_w \left\{ -n \log(\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}) - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y_i - x_i^T w)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right\}$

# Analysis of Error under additive Gaussian noise

Let's suppose  $y_i = x_i^T w^* + \epsilon_i$  and  $\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ , then this can be written as  
 $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}w^* + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{w}_{\text{MLE}} &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T (\mathbf{X}w^* + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) \\ &= w^* + (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \boldsymbol{\epsilon}\end{aligned}$$

**Maximum Likelihood Estimator is unbiased:**

# Analysis of Error under additive Gaussian noise

Let's suppose  $y_i = x_i^T w^* + \epsilon_i$  and  $\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ , then this can be written as  
 $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}w^* + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{w}_{\text{MLE}} &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T (\mathbf{X}w^* + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) \\ &= w^* + (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \boldsymbol{\epsilon}\end{aligned}$$

Covariance is:

# Analysis of Error under additive Gaussian noise

Let's suppose  $y_i = x_i^T w^* + \epsilon_i$  and  $\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ , then this can be written as  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}w^* + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$ , and the MLE is

$$\hat{w}_{\text{MLE}} = w^* + (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

This random estimate has the following distribution:

$$\mathbb{E}[\hat{w}_{\text{MLE}}] = w^*, \text{Cov}(\hat{w}_{\text{MLE}}) = \mathbb{E}[(\hat{w} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{w}])(\hat{w} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{w}])^T] = \sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$$

$$\hat{w}_{\text{MLE}} \sim \mathcal{N}(w^*, \sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1})$$

**Interpretation:** consider an example with  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

The covariance of the MLE,  $\sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$ , captures how each sample gives information about the unknown  $w^*$ , but each sample gives information about different (linear combination of) coordinates and of different quality/strength

# Questions?

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