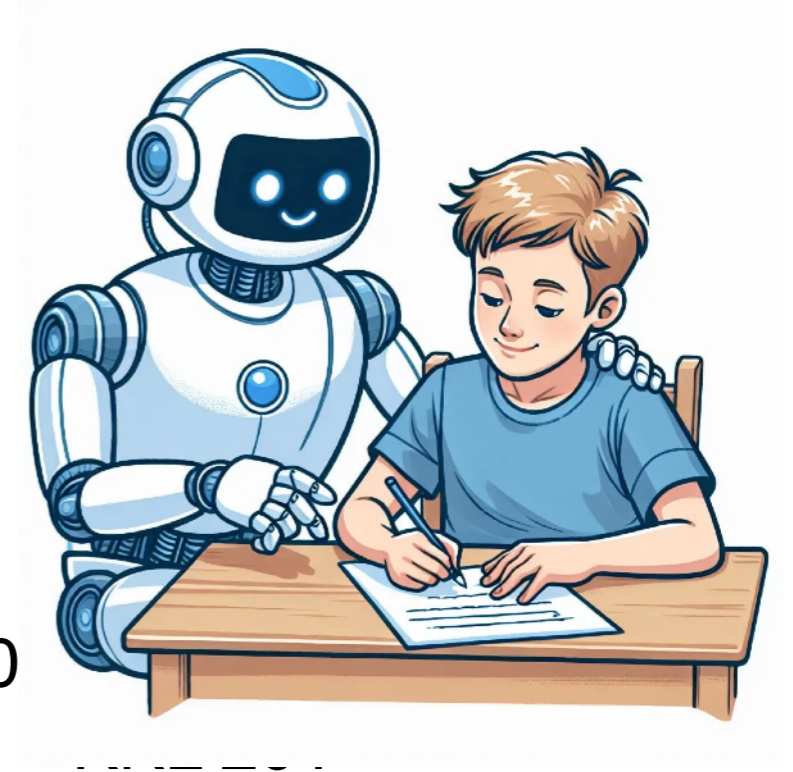


# AI & Machine Learning in Physics

PHYS3151 (6 credits)

Time & Place : Tue 16:30-17:20; 17:30-18:20  
Fri 17:30-18:20



Teachers: Zi Yang Meng ( [zymeng@hku.hk](mailto:zymeng@hku.hk) ), HOC 231

Tutor: Tim-Lok Chau (Justin) ( [justintlchau@connect.hku.hk](mailto:justintlchau@connect.hku.hk) )

# AI & Machine Learning in Physics

Teaching Materials:

<https://quantummc.xyz/teaching/hku-phys3151-machine-learning-in-physics-2025/>

Slides / Reading materials

Python notebooks

Assignments

## Assessment Methods and Weighting

- Assignments 30%
- Presentation 20%
- Project report 20%
- Exam. 30%

# Content

## 0. Introduction

## 1. Regression

1.1 Multivariate Linear Regression (curve fitting)

1.2 Regularization (Lagrange multiplier)

1.3 Logistic Regression (Fermi-Dirac distribution)

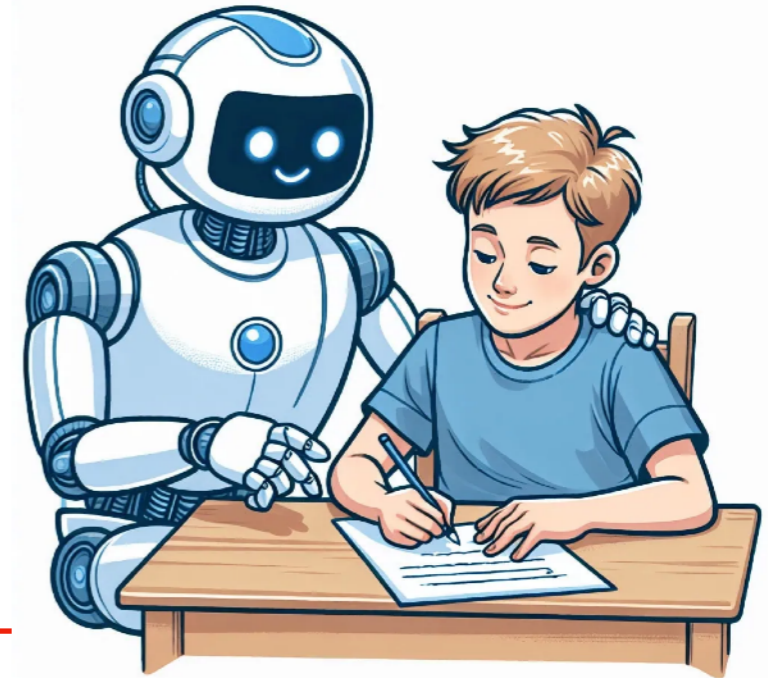
1.4 Support Vector Machine (high-school geometry)

## 2. Dimensionality Reduction/feature extraction

2.1 Principal Component Analysis (order parameters)

2.2 Recommender Systems

2.3 Clustering (phase transition)



# Content

## 3. Neural Networks

3.1 Biological neural networks

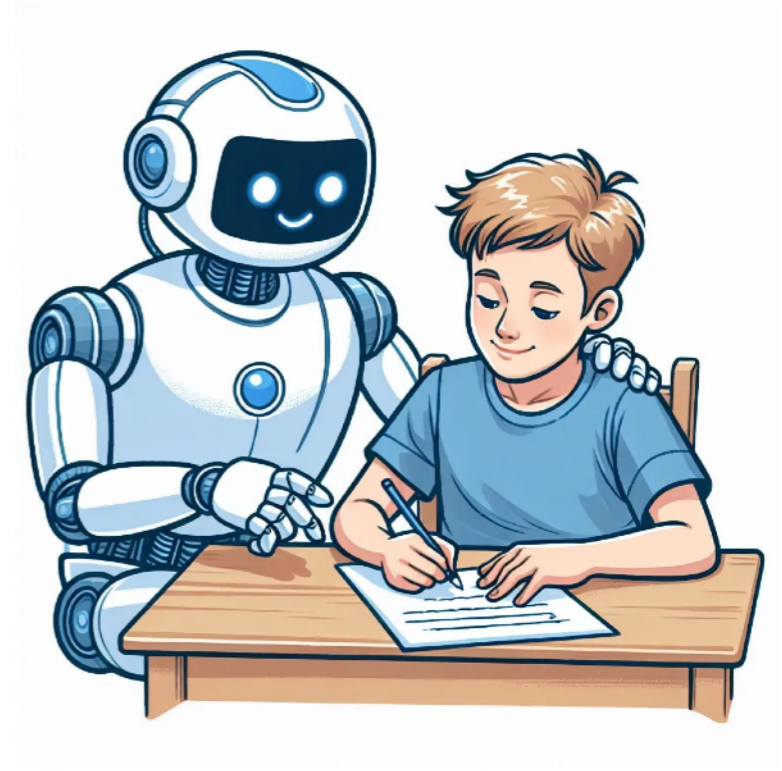
3.2 Mathematical representation

3.3 Factoring biological ingredient

3.4 Feed-forward neural networks

3.5 Learning algorithm

3.6 Universal Approximation Theorem



# Multivariate Linear Regression

- Ethem Alpaydin, Introduction to Machine Learning, Third Edition, MIT Press 2014

Chap. 4. Parametric Methods

4.6 Regression

4.7 Bias/Variance Dilemma

Chap. 5. Multivariate Methods

5.1 Multivariate data

5.8 Multivariate Regression

- Linear algebra books:

Gilbert Strang, Linear Algebra and its Applications, 1988

David Harville, Matrix Algebra from a Statistician's Perspective, 1997, Springer

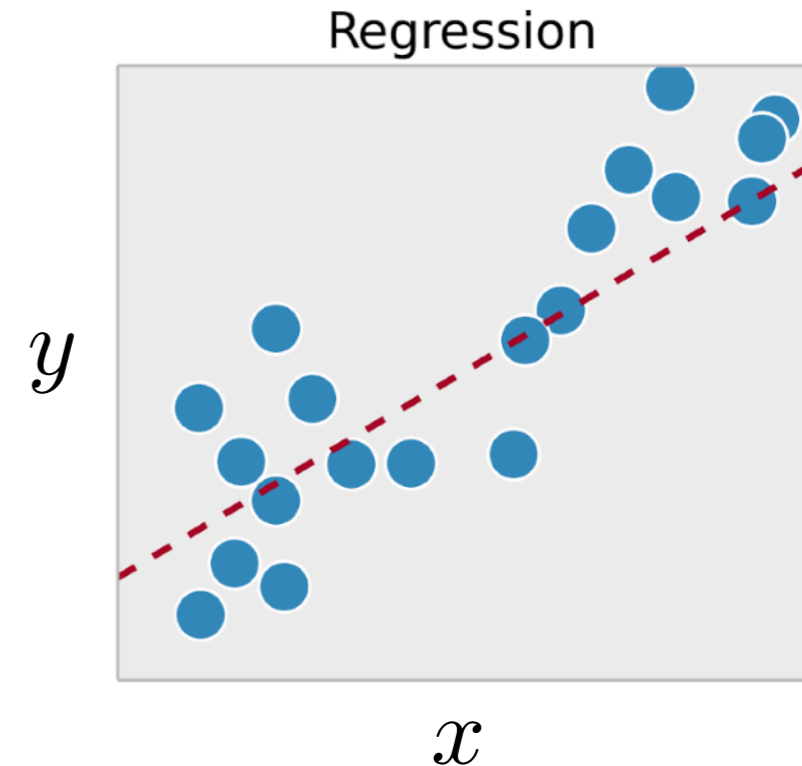
- Most important

<https://quantummc.xyz/teaching/hku-phys3151-machine-learning-in-physics-2025/>

# Multivariate Linear Regression

**Regression:**  $y = h_{\Theta}(x) = \Theta \cdot x$

Statistics	Machine Learning	Notation	Remarks
independent variable	feature	$x_j^{(i)}$	$j = 1, \dots, N$
dependent variable	outcome	$y^{(i)}$	
sample	example	$(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$	$i = 1, \dots, M$
model	hypothesis	$h_{\theta}(x)$	
parameter	parameter	$\theta_j$	
intercept	bias	$\theta_0$	



$$\{(x_j^{(i)}, y^{(i)}), \theta_j\}; j = 1, 2, \dots, N; i = 1, 2, \dots, M; N < M$$

$$y^{(i)} = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1^{(i)} + \theta_2 x_2^{(i)} + \dots + \theta_N x_N^{(i)}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{M \times (N+1)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1^{(1)} & x_2^{(1)} & \dots & x_N^{(1)} \\ 1 & x_1^{(2)} & x_2^{(2)} & \dots & x_N^{(2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_1^{(M)} & x_2^{(M)} & \dots & x_N^{(M)} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \theta_0 \\ \theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y^{(1)} \\ y^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ y^{(M)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\underline{X}} \cdot \underline{\underline{\Theta}} = \underline{\underline{Y}}$$

# Multivariate Linear Regression

Basic assumption: examples are independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.).

Likelihood function  $\mathcal{L}(\Theta|X) = \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y^{(i)} - \theta^T \cdot x^{(i)})^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$

$$\Theta^* = \arg \min_{\Theta} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{(y^{(i)} - \theta^T \cdot x^{(i)})^2}{2M} \right\}$$

Cost / Loss function  $J(\Theta) = \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{i=1}^M (h_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2$

Convex optimisation  $\Delta_{\theta} J(\theta) = \nabla_{\theta} \cdot \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta)$

$$= \nabla_{\theta} \cdot \nabla_{\theta} \left[ \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{i=1}^M \left( \theta^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i)} \right)^2 \right]$$
$$= \nabla_{\theta} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \left( \theta^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i)} \right) x^{(i)} \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \left| x^{(i)} \right|^2 \geq 0$$

There exist global minimum, our goal is to find it.

# Multivariate Linear Regression

Feature Scaling: 
$$x_j^{(i)} := \frac{x_j^{(i)} - \mu_j^x}{\sigma_j^x} \quad \mu_j^x = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M x_j^{(i)} \quad \sigma_j^x = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^M (x_j^{(i)} - \mu_j^x)^2}{M}}$$

Ensure all the features  $\theta_j$  lie in the same range

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{i=1}^M \left( h_{\theta} \left( x^{(i)} \right) - y^{(i)} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2M} \|X\Theta - Y\|^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2M} (\Theta^T X^T - Y^T)(X\Theta - Y)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left( \Theta^T \frac{1}{M} X^T X \Theta - 2Y^T X \Theta + Y^T Y \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Theta^T Q \Theta - b^T \Theta + c$$

$$Q = \frac{1}{M} X^T X \geq 0$$

$$b = \frac{1}{M} X^T Y$$

$$c = \frac{1}{2M} Y^T Y$$

**Paraboloid**



# Multivariate Linear Regression

Structure of  $Q = \frac{1}{M} X^T X$

$$\frac{1}{M} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ x_1^{(1)} & x_1^{(2)} & \cdots & x_1^{(M)} \\ x_2^{(1)} & x_2^{(2)} & \cdots & x_2^{(M)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_N^{(1)} & x_N^{(2)} & \cdots & x_N^{(M)} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbb{R}^{(N+1) \times M}} \cdot \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1^{(1)} & x_2^{(1)} & \cdots & x_N^{(1)} \\ 1 & x_1^{(2)} & x_2^{(2)} & \cdots & x_N^{(2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_1^{(M)} & x_2^{(M)} & \cdots & x_N^{(M)} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbb{R}^{M \times (N+1)}}$$

$$= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M 1}{M} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_1^{(i)}}{M} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_2^{(i)}}{M} & \cdots & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_N^{(i)}}{M} \\ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_1^{(i)}}{M} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M (x_1^{(i)})^2}{M} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_1^{(i)} x_2^{(i)}}{M} & \cdots & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_1^{(i)} x_N^{(i)}}{M} \\ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_2^{(i)}}{M} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_2^{(i)} x_1^{(i)}}{M} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M (x_2^{(i)})^2}{M} & \cdots & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_2^{(i)} x_N^{(i)}}{M} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_N^{(i)}}{M} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_N^{(i)} x_1^{(i)}}{M} & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M x_N^{(i)} x_2^{(i)}}{M} & \cdots & \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M (x_N^{(i)})^2}{M} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbb{R}^{(N+1) \times (N+1)}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \langle 1 \rangle & \langle x_1 \rangle & \langle x_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle x_N \rangle \\ \langle x_1 \rangle & \langle (x_1)^2 \rangle & \langle x_1 x_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle x_1 x_N \rangle \\ \langle x_2 \rangle & \langle x_2 x_1 \rangle & \langle (x_2)^2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle x_2 x_N \rangle \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle x_N \rangle & \langle x_N x_1 \rangle & \langle x_N x_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle (x_N)^2 \rangle \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbb{R}^{(N+1) \times (N+1)}}$$

Symmetric and positive semi-definite

# Multivariate Linear Regression

Positive semi-definite  $v^T Q v = v^T X^T X v = (Xv)^T (Xv) = u^T u \geq 0$

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{i=1}^M \left( h_{\theta} \left( x^{(i)} \right) - y^{(i)} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2M} \|X\theta - Y\|^2$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \frac{1}{M} \left( (X^T X) \theta - (X^T Y) \right)$$

$$Q = \frac{1}{M} X^T X \quad b = X^T Y$$

Normal Equation

$$Q\theta \equiv \frac{1}{M} (X^T X) \theta = \frac{1}{M} X^T Y$$

$$\theta = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y = Q^{-1} b$$

$$O((N + 1)^3)$$

# Multivariate Linear Regression

Gradient descent method

## Algorithm:

- 1 Set a precision  $\epsilon$ , learning rate  $\alpha$ , and set the initial guess  $\theta_0$
- 2 Let  $\theta_{j+1} := \theta_j - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta_j)$
- 3 Calculate  $J(\theta_{j+1})$ 
  - If  $|\theta_{j+1} - \theta_j| < \epsilon$ , stop and return  $\theta_{j+1}$
  - Else, return to step 2

The algorithm is based on the Taylor expansion

$$J(\theta_{j+1}) = J(\theta_j - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta_j)) = J(\theta_j) - \alpha (\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta_j))^2 + O(\alpha^2)$$

