

# Math for Machine Learning

Week 1.1: Vectors, matrices, and least squares regression

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# Lesson Overview

**Vectors and matrices (an ML view).** A single datapoint/sample in ML is represented as a vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . A collection of samples is represented as a matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ .

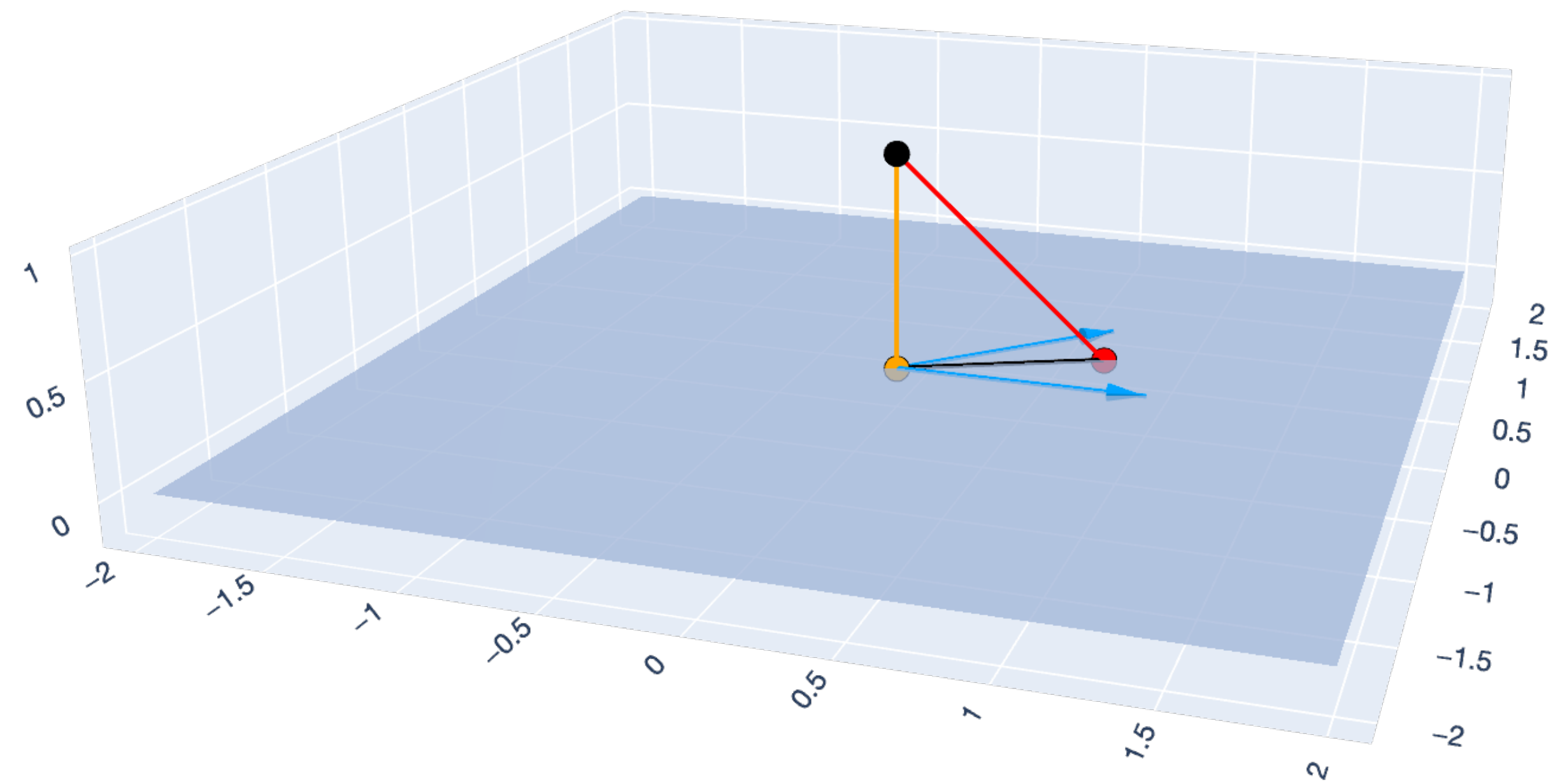
**Regression (the basic ML problem).** The basic problem in machine learning is regression: constructing a “best-fit” model from a collection of observed data  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and labels  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ :  $(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$ .

**Linear independence.** Linearly independent vectors are vectors that are not redundant; linearly dependent vectors can be expressed as simple (linear) combinations of other vectors.

**Span.** The span of a set of vectors includes all vectors we can form by simple (linear) combinations of the vectors in the set.

# Lesson Overview

## Big Picture: Least Squares

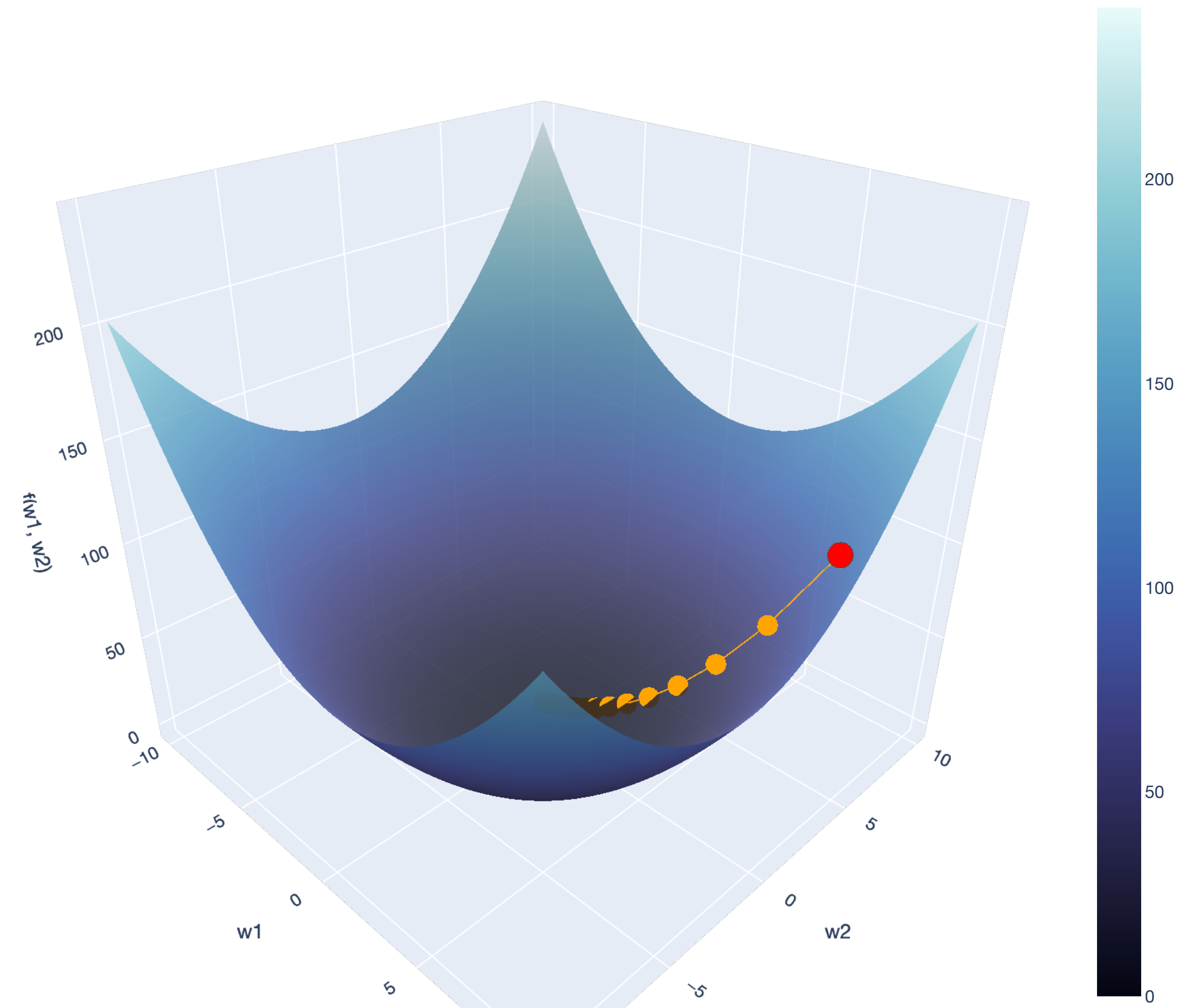
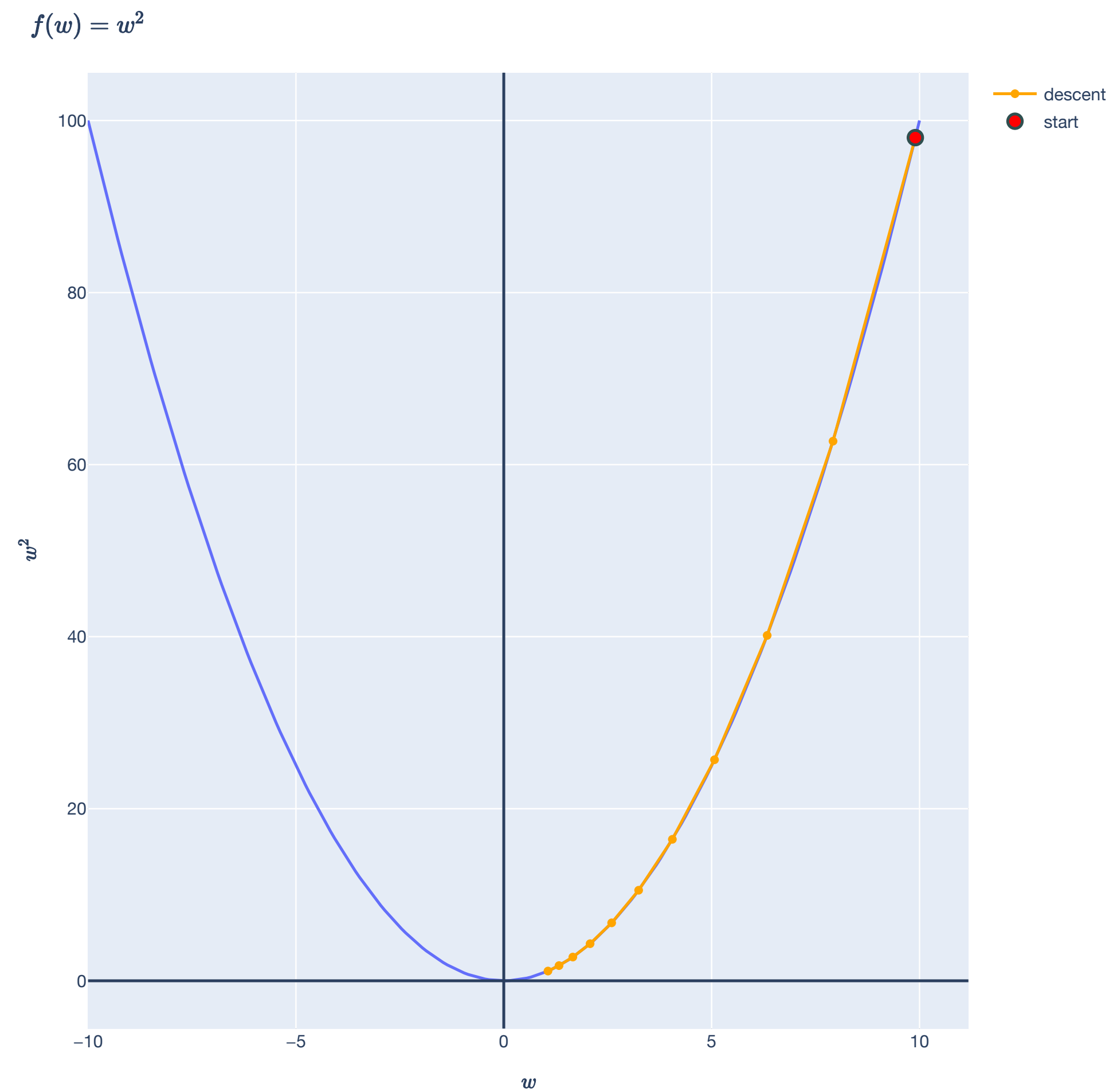


—  $x_1$  —  $x_2$  —  $y - \hat{y}$  —  $\tilde{y} - \hat{y}$  —  $\tilde{y} - y$  ●  $y$  ●  $\hat{y}$  ●  $\tilde{y}$

[Click to interact](#)

# Lesson Overview

## Big Picture: Gradient Descent



—●— descent ● start

[Click to interact](#)

# Vectors & Matrices

# Vectors

## Review from linear algebra

A vector is a list of numbers. We write  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  as:

$$\mathbf{x} := \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \mathbf{x} := \underline{(x_1, \dots, x_d)}.$$

By convention, our vectors will be *column vectors*. A *row vector* looks like:

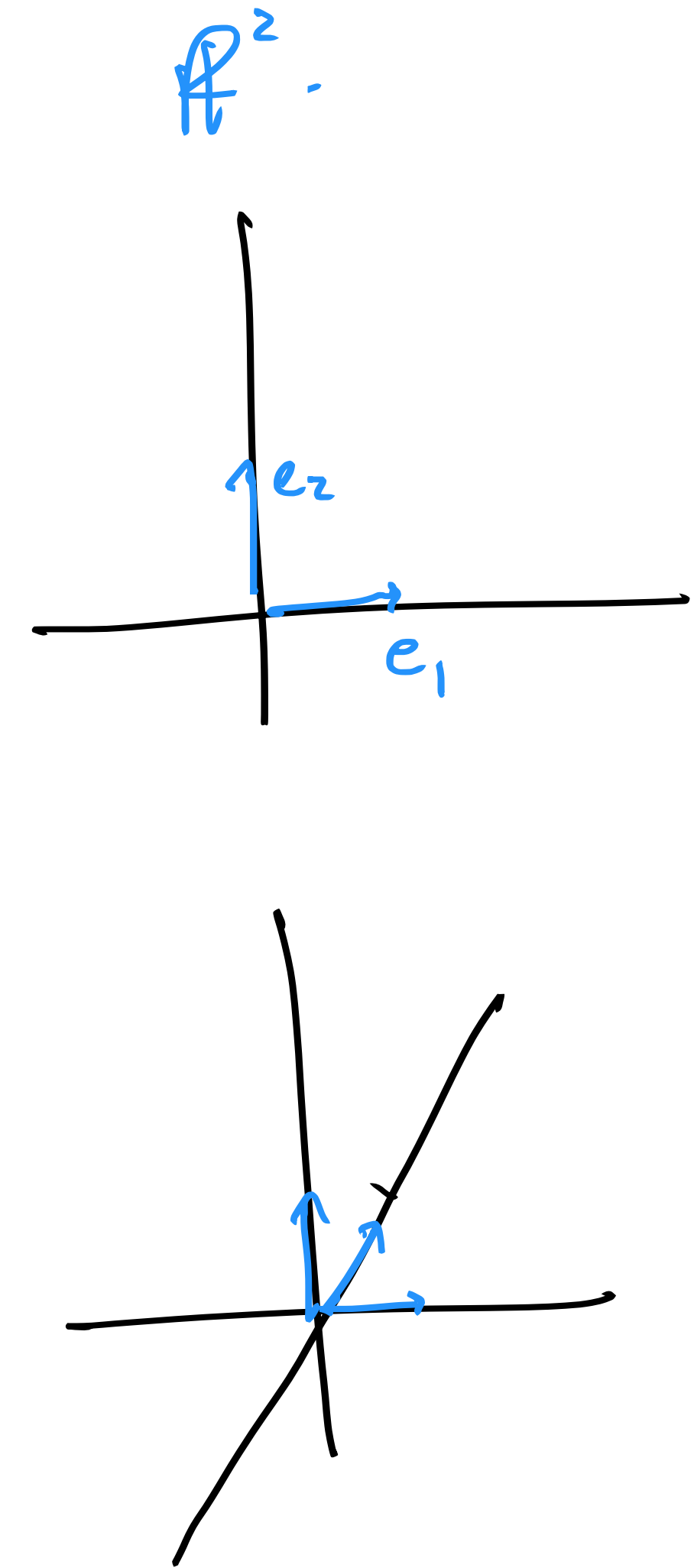
$$\underline{\mathbf{x}^T} = [x_1 \quad \dots \quad x_d] \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d}$$

# Vectors

## Review from linear algebra

In  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , a special set of vectors is the unit basis vectors:

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

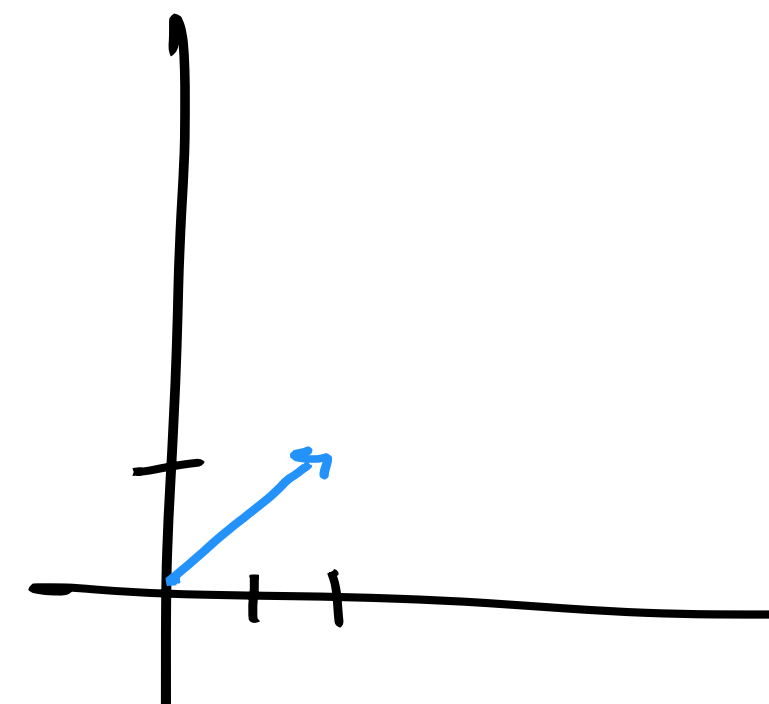
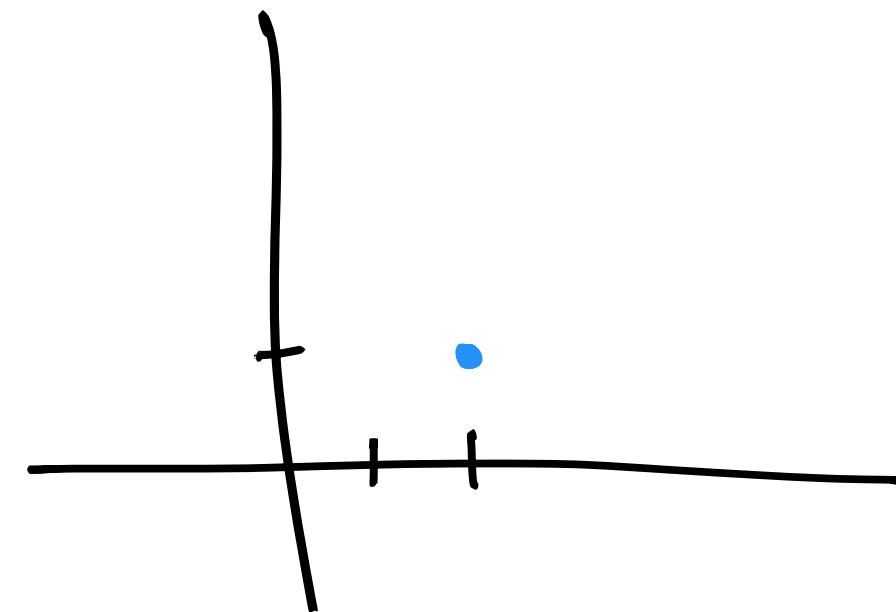


# Vectors

## Review from linear algebra

Vectors can interchangeably thought of as *points*:  $x = (2, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .

or “*arrows*”:





# Matrices

## Review from linear algebra

A matrix is a box of numbers, or a list of vectors. We write  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  as:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^T & \rightarrow \\ \vdots & & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_n^T & \rightarrow \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot$$

*Refer to rows w/ transpose.*

# Matrices

## Transpose

ex

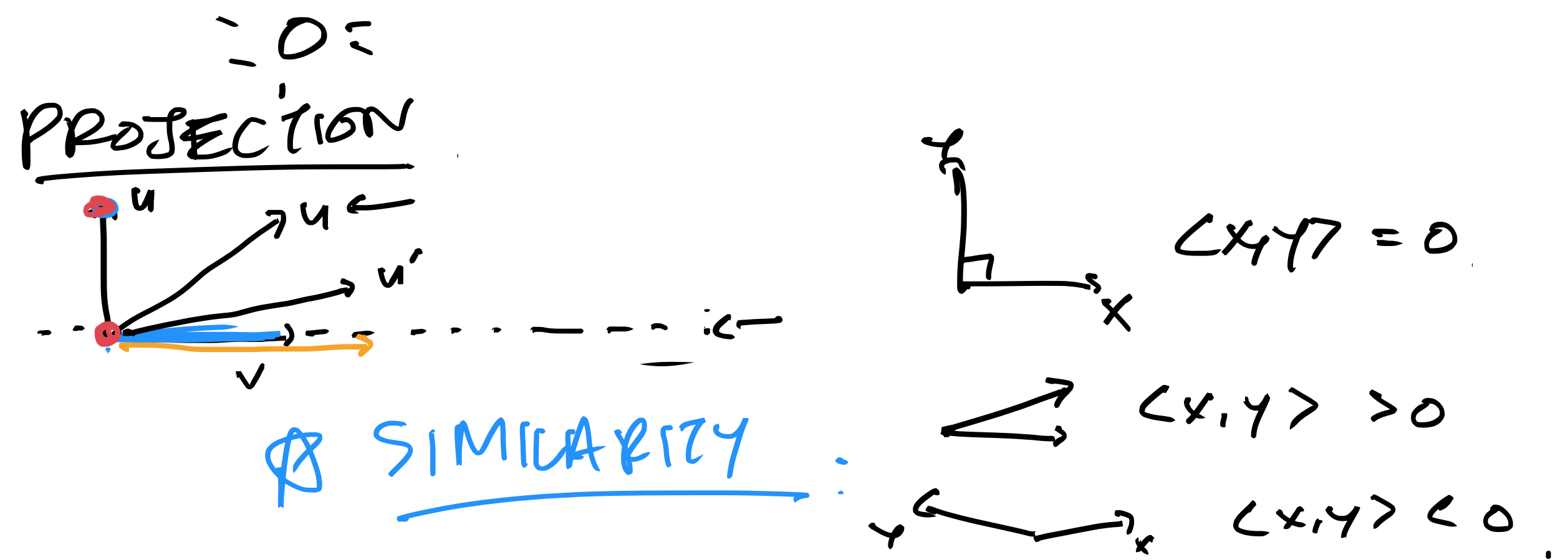
$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow X^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

For a matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , its **transpose** is the matrix  $\mathbf{X}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$  obtained from swapping  $X_{ij}^T = X_{ji}$  for all  $i \in [d], j \in [n]$ .

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^T & \rightarrow \\ & \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_n^T & \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}.$$
$$\mathbf{X}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_n \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^T & \rightarrow \\ & \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_d^T & \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}.$$

# Multiplication

## Vector-vector "multiplication"



Given two vectors  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , their dot product (Euclidean inner product) is:

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} := x_1 y_1 + \dots + x_d y_d}$$

$$\angle(x, y) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}}{\|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{y}\|} \right)$$

$\otimes$

More generally, an inner product between two vectors is written as  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$ . If not specified otherwise, we will use the dot product as default in this course.

$\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^n$  INNER PRODUCT SPACE.

# Multiplication

## Properties of the inner product

For any two vectors  $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  the inner product obeys the following:

1. **Symmetry.**  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v} \rangle.$   $\rightarrow x^T y = y^T x$

2. **Positive definiteness.**  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \geq 0$ , and  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ .

(note  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = \|\mathbf{v}\|^2$ , the squared norm of any vector)

$\rightarrow$  LENGTH  
 $\|\mathbf{x}\| = \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle}.$

3. **Linearity.** Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  be a scalar and  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  be another vector. Then:

$$\langle \alpha \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \alpha \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{w} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle.$$

$$\mathbf{v}^T (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{y}.$$

# Multiplication

## Vector-vector “multiplication”

Example. Compute the dot product between  $\mathbf{x} = (2, 5, 3)$  and  $\mathbf{y} = (-1, 0, 3)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} &= 2 \times -1 + 5 \times 0 + 3 \times 3 \\ &= -2 + 0 + 9 = \boxed{7}. \end{aligned}$$

# Multiplication

## Matrix-vector multiplication (column view)

To multiply a matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  and a vector  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , we can think of the *column view*:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_d \end{bmatrix} = w_1 \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix} + \dots + w_d \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^d w_i \mathbf{x}_i}_{w_i \in \mathbb{R}}$$

A LINEAR COMBINATION of the columns of  $\mathbf{X}$ .

The result is  $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

# Multiplication

System of Lin Equations:

$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + 2x_2 &= 5 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Matrix-vector multiplication (equation view)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To multiply a matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  and a vector  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , we can think of the *equation view*:

$$\mathbf{Xw} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_1^T \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_n^T \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Box of coefficients.}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{unknowns}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^T \mathbf{w} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^T \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{Xw}}$$

The result is  $\mathbf{Xw} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

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

↑  
unknown

# Multiplication

## Matrix-vector multiplication

Example. Compute the matrix-vector product:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear  
combo  
view

$$= 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \times \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Ⓟ

Equation  
view

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \times 2 - 1 \times 1 + (2) \times (-1) \\ 0 \times 2 + 2 \times 1 + 3 \times (-1) \\ 1 \times 2 + 0 \times 1 + 1 \times (-1) \end{bmatrix}$$



# Multiplication

## Matrix-matrix multiplication (matrix-vector view)

To multiply two matrices  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$  and  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$ , we just think of  *$d$  different matrix-vector products*:

$$\mathbf{UV} = \mathbf{U} \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \mathbf{v}_1 \downarrow & \dots & \uparrow \mathbf{v}_d \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \mathbf{U}\mathbf{v}_1 \downarrow & \dots & \uparrow \mathbf{U}\mathbf{v}_d \downarrow \end{bmatrix}$$

The result is  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ .

# Multiplication

## Matrix-matrix multiplication (inner product/entry view)

To multiply two matrices  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$  and  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$ , we just think of *nd different inner products*:

$$\mathbf{UV} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{u}_1^\top \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{u}_n^\top \rightarrow \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \mathbf{v}_1 \downarrow & \dots & \uparrow \mathbf{v}_d \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{v}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{v}_d \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_n^\top \mathbf{v}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{u}_n^\top \mathbf{v}_d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(\mathbf{UV})_{ij} = \mathbf{u}_i^\top \mathbf{v}_j \text{ for all } i \in [n], j \in [d].$$

$$\cancel{(\mathbf{UV})_{ij} = \sum_k \sum_l U_{ik} V_{kj}}$$

The result is  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ .

# Multiplication

## Matrix-matrix multiplication (outer product view)

To multiply two matrices  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$  and  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$ , we just think of *summing  $r$  different outer products ( $n \times d$  matrices)*:

$$\mathbf{UV} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{u}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{u}_r \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix}}_{n \times r} \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_1^T \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_r^T \rightarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_1 \rightarrow \\ \dots \end{bmatrix}}_{1 \times d} + \dots + \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{u}_r \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_r \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}}_{1 \times d}$$

$\text{Rank } k - 1$                        $\text{Rank } k - 1$

The result is  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 9 \\ 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Matrices

## Inverses and Identity Matrix

← computationally expensive!

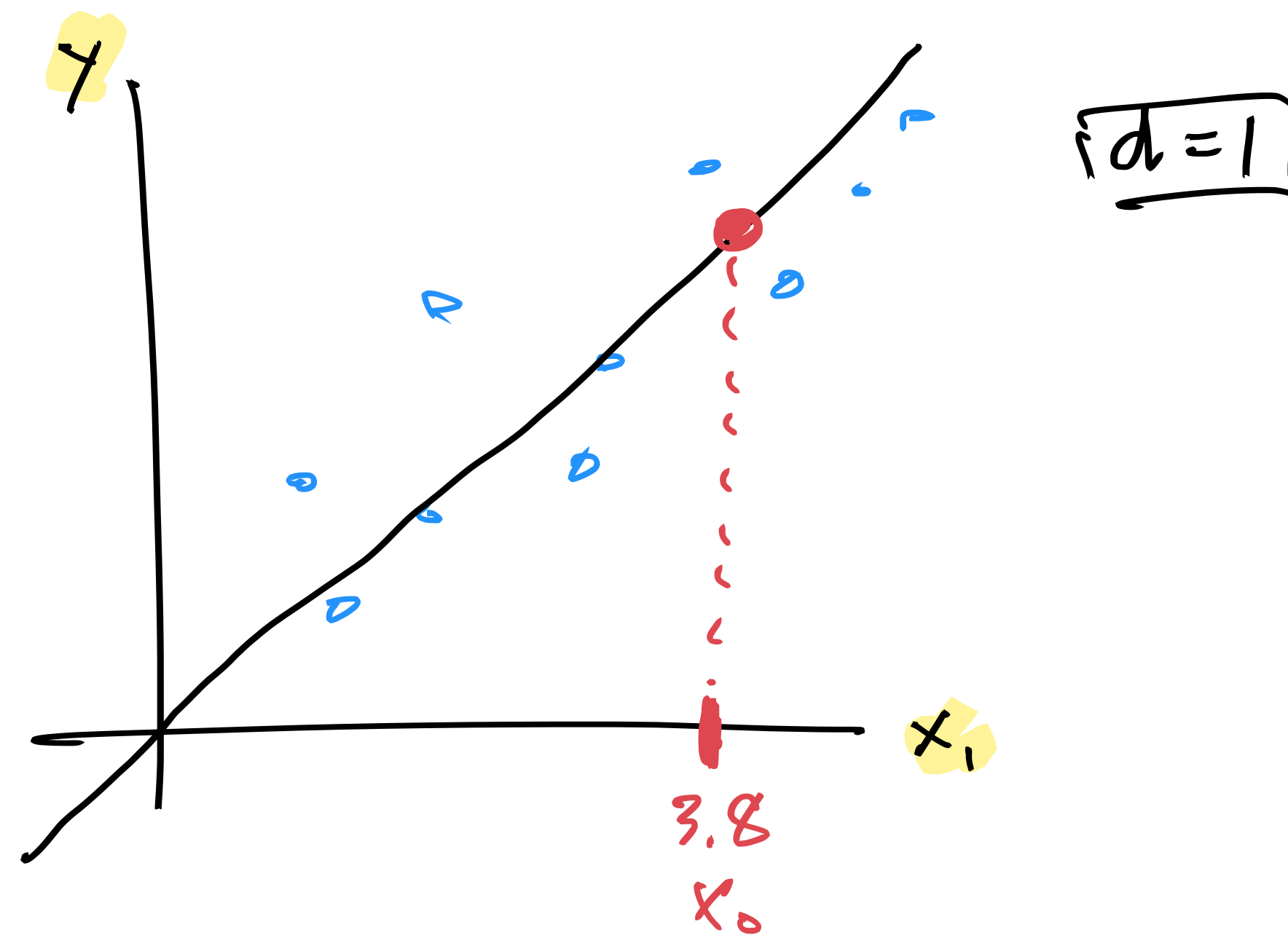
A square matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is invertible if there exists a matrix  $\mathbf{X}^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  (the inverse) such that:

$$\mathbf{X}^{-1}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^{-1} = \mathbf{I},$$

where  $\mathbf{I} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is the identity matrix:

$$\mathbf{I} := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

# Regression



# Regression

The main problem of our course

$$\begin{array}{l} \overbrace{(15, 1.2, 3, \dots)}^d \\ X_{\text{sam}} = \\ \vdots \end{array} \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

Collect  $d$  measurements  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  for  $n$  students...

where  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$  denotes the test score of a student.

Given the measurements for a new student,  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , what is their test score?

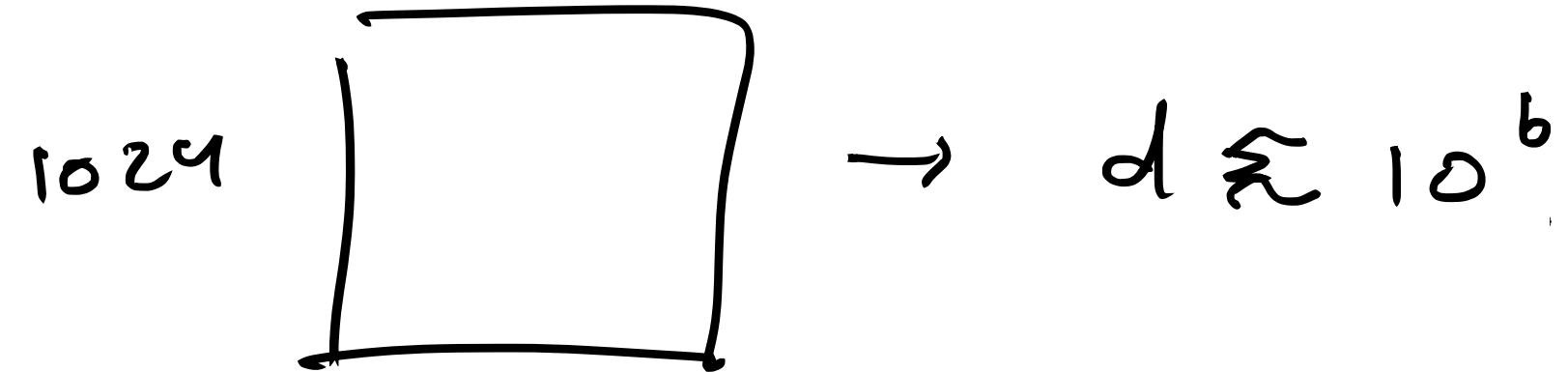
# Regression

The main problem of our course

BINARY  
CLASSIFICATION . (Discrete values)  
for  $y$ !

Collect a bunch of images with  $d$  pixels  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  of  $n$  cats and dogs...

← curse of dimensionality



where  $y_i = 1$  denotes a dog and  $y_i = -1$  denotes a cat.

Given a new image,  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , is it a cat or a dog?

# Regression

The main problem of our course

We observe  $n$  samples of training (observed) features  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , with labels  $y_1, \dots, y_n \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Handwritten notes:* "pixels" with an arrow pointing to the  $d$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ; "we don't see." with an arrow pointing to the  $y_0$  in the goal statement.

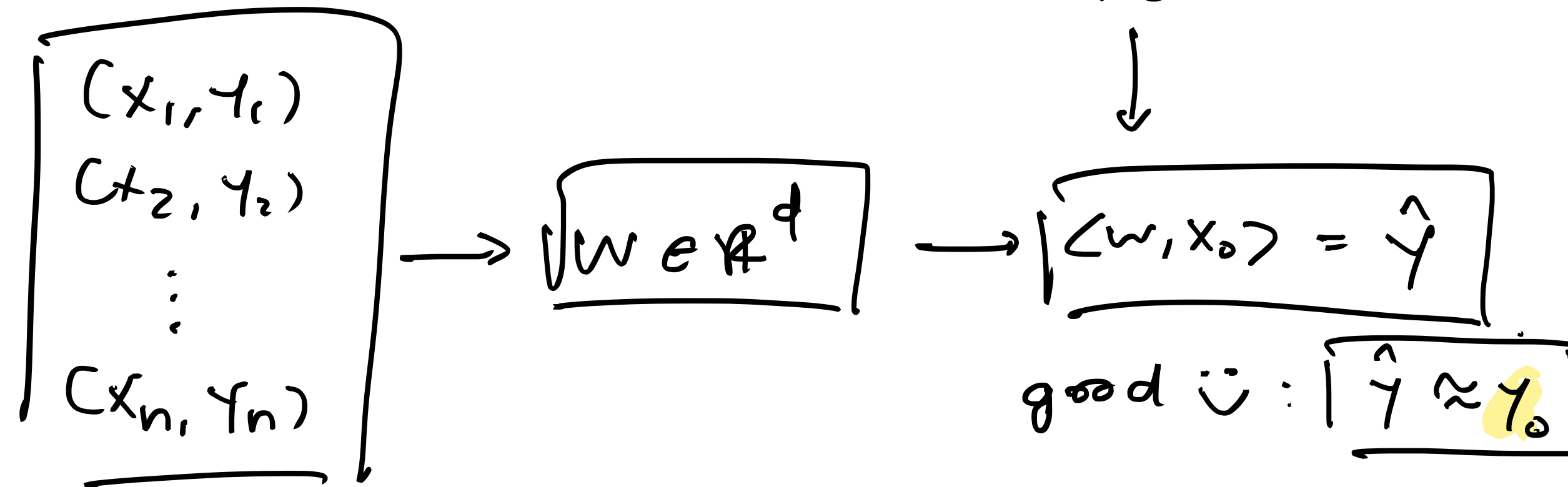
$$\mathbf{x}_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_{i1} \\ \vdots \\ x_{id} \end{bmatrix}$$

Goal: Given a new unlabelled sample,  $\mathbf{x}_0$ , make a prediction  $\hat{y}$  such that  $\hat{y} \approx y_0$ .



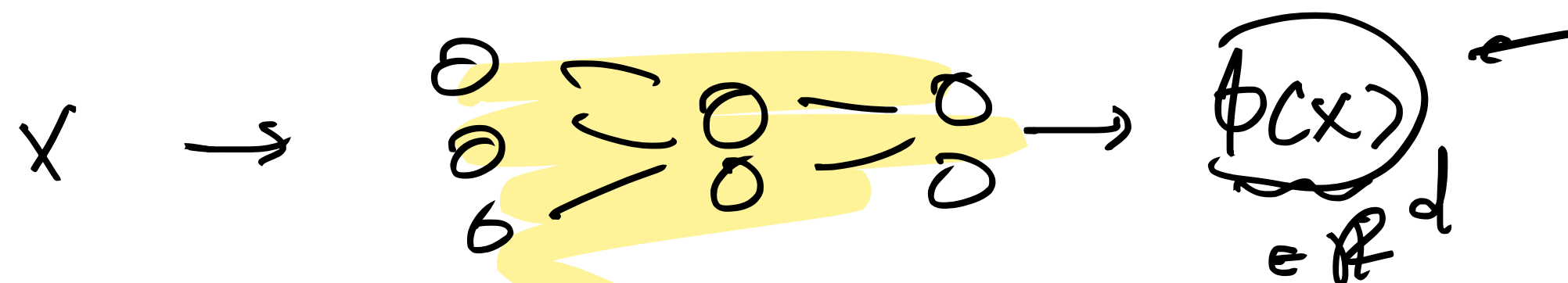
# Regression

The main problem of our course



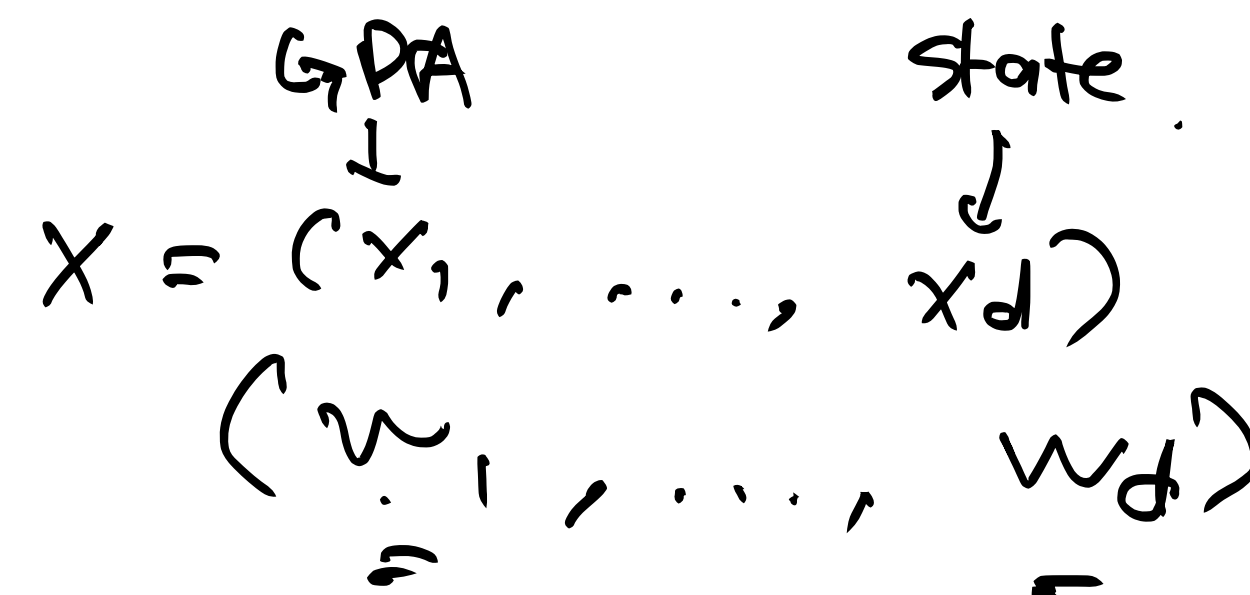
Goal: Given a new unlabelled sample,  $\mathbf{x}_0$ , make a prediction  $\hat{y}$  such that  $\hat{y} \approx y_0$ .

To do this, we will construct a model for the observed data.



A *linear model* is represented with a weight vector  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . To make a prediction with the weight vector, we take an inner product.

$$\hat{y} = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle = w_1 x_{01} + \dots + w_d x_{0d}$$



d=1:  $\hat{y} = w x_0$

$\uparrow$       $\uparrow$   
 $\in \mathbb{R}$     $\in \mathbb{R}$

# Regression

## The main problem of our course

How do we construct the weight vector  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ?

Learn it from the observed data  $(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$ .

For some weight vector  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , its predictions on the observed data are:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_n \end{bmatrix} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \overset{\in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}}{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_1^T \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_n^T \rightarrow \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^T \mathbf{w} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^T \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{w} \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w} \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

# Regression

## The main problem of our course

For some weight vector  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , its predictions on the observed data are:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_n \end{bmatrix} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_1^\top \rightarrow \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_n^\top \rightarrow \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top \mathbf{w} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^\top \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{w} \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w} \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

# Regression

The main problem of our course

$$\overset{\text{New}}{x_0} \rightarrow \langle x_0, \underset{\substack{\text{found from} \\ \text{training data}}}{w} \rangle = \hat{y}_0$$

**Goal:** Given a new unlabelled sample,  $x_0$ , make a prediction  $\hat{y}$  such that  $\hat{y} \approx y_0$ .

If the new sample  $(x_0, y_0)$  is “distributed like” the training samples  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then it’s not a bad idea to find  $w \in \mathbb{R}^d$  so:

$$X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d} \rightarrow \boxed{Xw = \hat{y} \approx y.}$$

*This will be our new goal!*

# Regression

## Setup

Observed: Matrix of *training samples*  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  and vector of *training labels*  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^\top & \rightarrow \\ & \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_n^\top & \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}.$$

Unknown: *Weight vector*  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  with weights  $w_1, \dots, w_d$ .

Goal: For each  $i \in [n]$ , we predict:  $\hat{y}_i = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i = w_1 x_{i1} + \dots + w_d x_{id} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Choose a weight vector that “fits the training data”:  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $y_i \approx \hat{y}_i$  for  $i \in [n]$ , or:

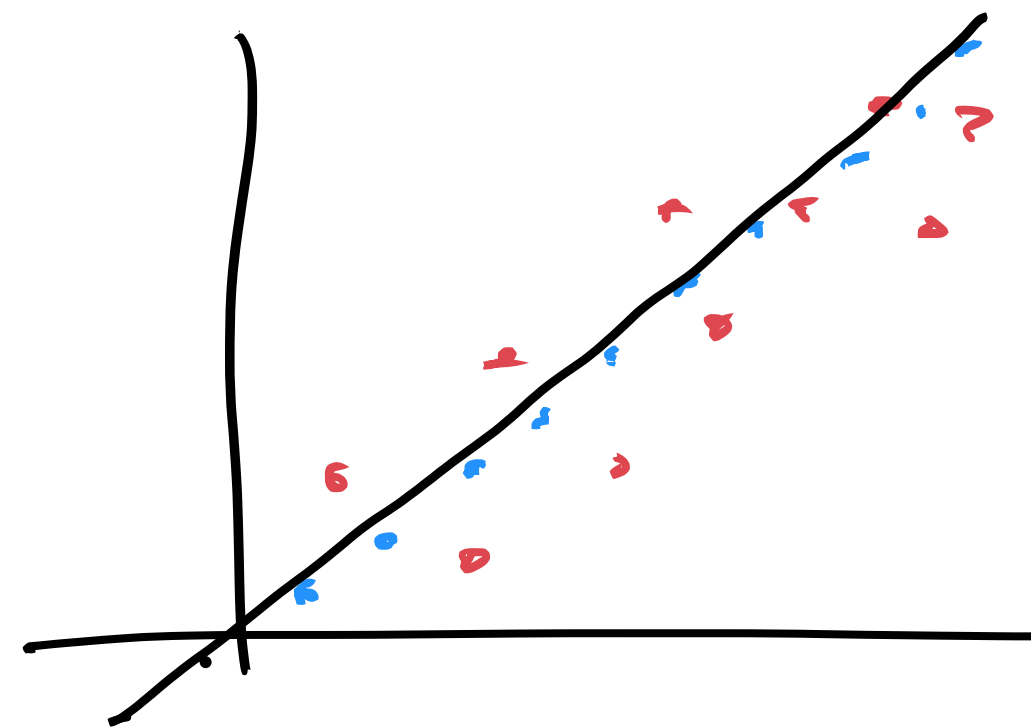
$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \approx \mathbf{y}.$$

↑  
Predictions

← labels we have (training labels)

# Regression

## Caveat



Choose a weight vector that “fits the training data”:  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $y_i \approx \hat{y}_i$  for  $i \in [n]$ , or:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \approx \mathbf{y}.$$

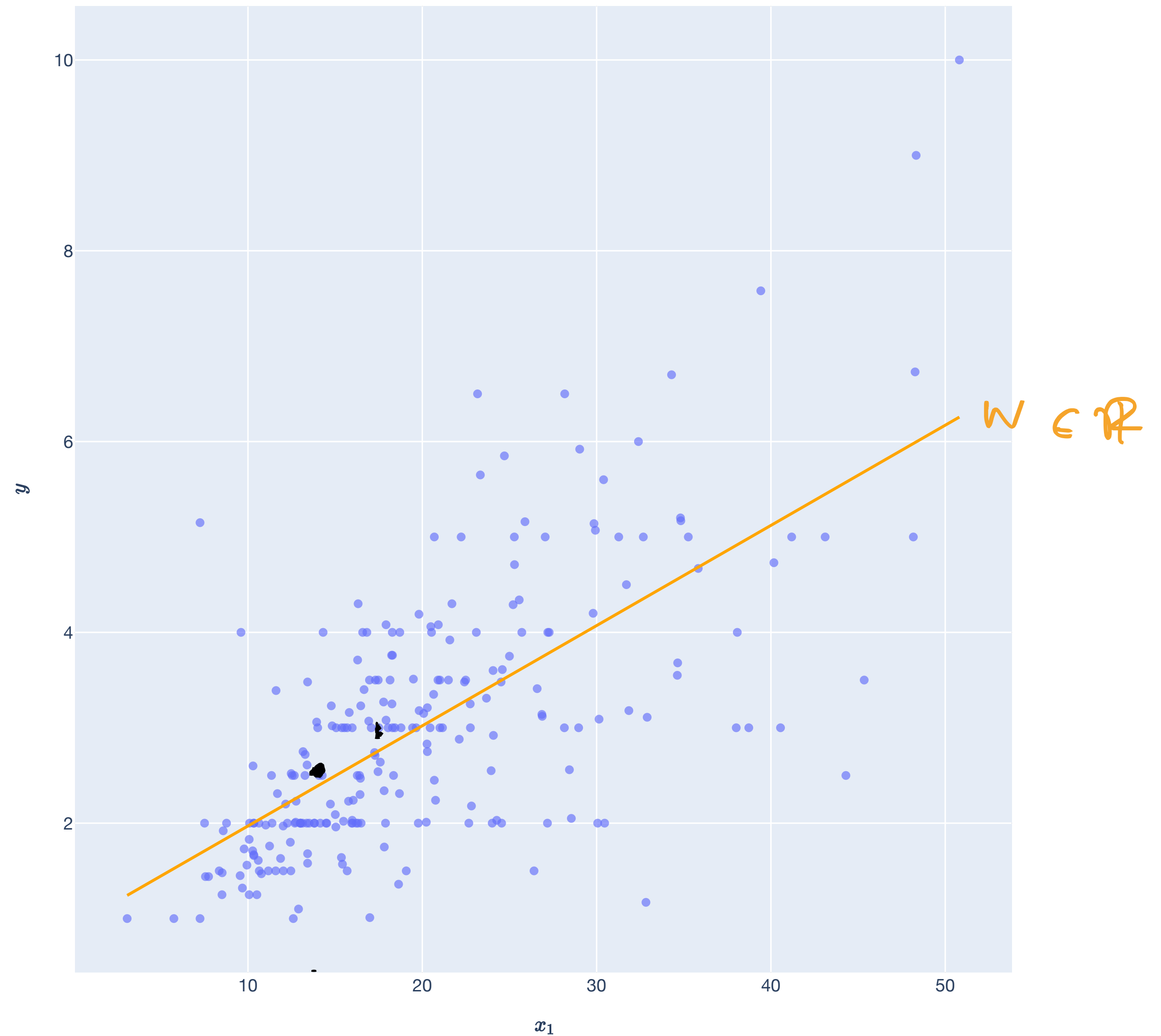
In general, it may not be the case that  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}$  for any  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  (the labels  $y_i$  don't have a perfect linear relationship with the  $\mathbf{x}_i$ ).

# Regression

Example:  $d = 1$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 14.07 \\ \underline{17.51} \\ 22.42 \\ 26.88 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 2.5 \\ \underline{3} \\ 3.48 \\ 3.12 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$d = 1$

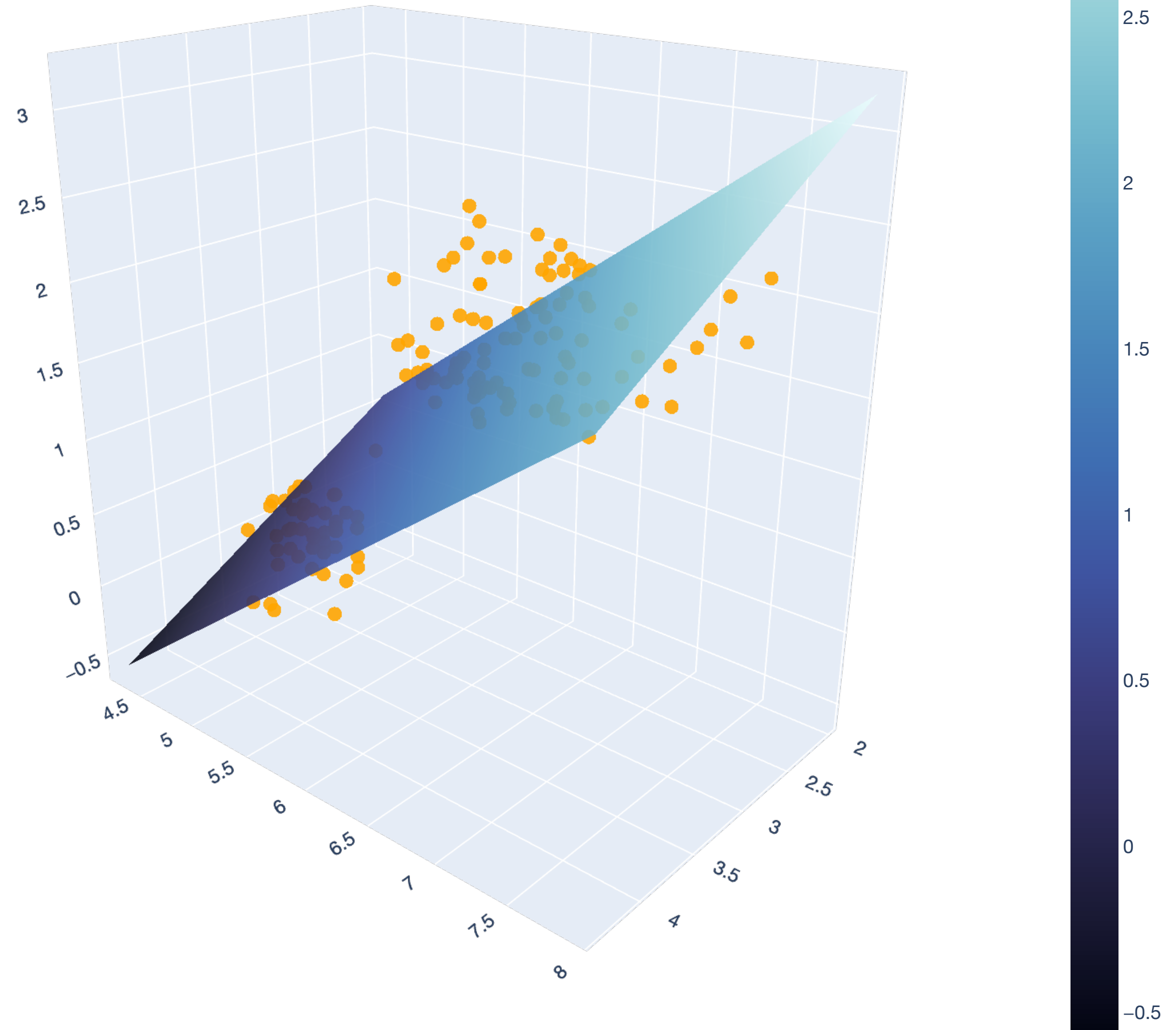


# Regression

Example:  $d = 2$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots \\ \underline{3.4} & \underline{5.4} \\ 2.9 & 6.4 \\ 3.3 & 6.7 \\ 2.6 & 7.7 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 0.4 \\ 1.3 \\ 2.1 \\ 2.3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$w \in \mathbb{R}^d = \mathbb{R}^2$$





# Least Squares

## A Solution to Regression

# Regression

## Setup

**Observed:** Matrix of *training samples*  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  and vector of *training labels*  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_1^\top & \rightarrow \\ & \vdots & \\ \leftarrow & \mathbf{x}_n^\top & \rightarrow \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Unknown:** *Weight vector*  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  with weights  $w_1, \dots, w_d$ .

**Goal:** For each  $i \in [n]$ , we predict:  $\hat{y}_i = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i = w_1 x_{i1} + \dots + w_d x_{id} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Choose a weight vector that “fits the training data”:  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $y_i \approx \hat{y}_i$  for  $i \in [n]$ , or:

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \approx \mathbf{y}.$$

# Ordinary Least Squares

## Notion of Error

In general, it may not be the case that  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}$  for any  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  (the labels  $y_i$  don't have a perfect linear relationship with the  $\mathbf{x}_i$ ).

The residual  $r_i(\mathbf{w})$  of the  $i$ th prediction with  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is — How wrong.

$$r_i(\mathbf{w}) := \hat{y}_i - y_i = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_i \rangle - y_i.$$

We can write this as a vector  $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

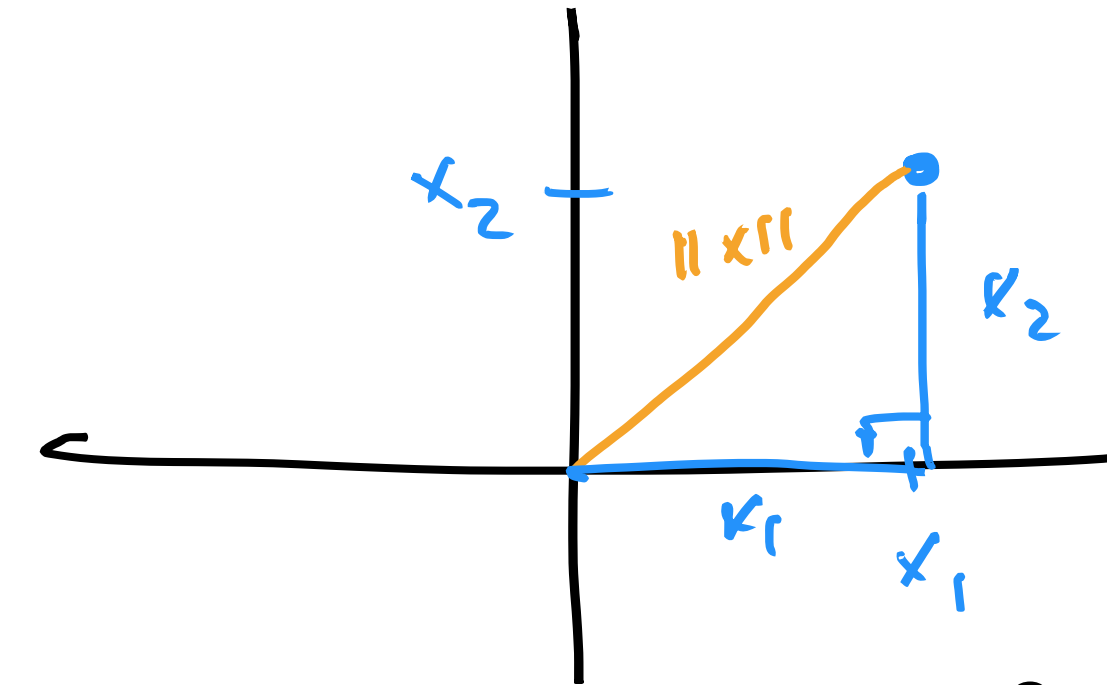
$$\begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ \vdots \\ r_n \end{bmatrix}$$

The *sum of squared residuals* is

$$SSR := \sum_{i=1}^n \underline{r_i(\mathbf{w})^2} = \underline{r_1(\mathbf{w})^2} + \dots + \underline{r_n(\mathbf{w})^2}.$$

# Norms and Inner Products

## Euclidean Norm



Recall the notion of “length” from  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . For a vector  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 := \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}.$$

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$
$$c = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

Generalizing this, for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the Euclidean norm ( $\ell_2$ -norm) is:

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 := \sqrt{x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2} = \sqrt{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}}.$$

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}.$$

2 is the default.

$\|\mathbf{x}\|$

# Ordinary Least Squares

## Notion of Error

*Residual:*  $r_i(\mathbf{w}) := \hat{y}_i - y_i = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_i \rangle - y_i$ , or  $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

The *sum of squared residuals* is

$$SSR := \sum_{i=1}^n r_i(\mathbf{w})^2 = r_1(\mathbf{w})^2 + \dots + r_n(\mathbf{w})^2.$$

$$SSR = \|\mathbf{r}\|^2 = \|\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2.$$

$$\|\mathbf{r}\|^2 = \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{r} = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_n \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2$$

# Ordinary Least Squares

## Principle of Least Squares

$$\underline{X}w \approx y$$

$\mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

**Goal:** Find the  $w \in \mathbb{R}^d$  that minimizes the sum of squared residuals:

$$\|r\|^2 = \|\hat{y} - y\|^2 = \|\underline{Xw} - y\|^2.$$

$w \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is the free variable in our setup.

MINIMIZE:  $\|Xw - y\|^2 \leq \|X\tilde{w} - y\|^2$  for all  $\tilde{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

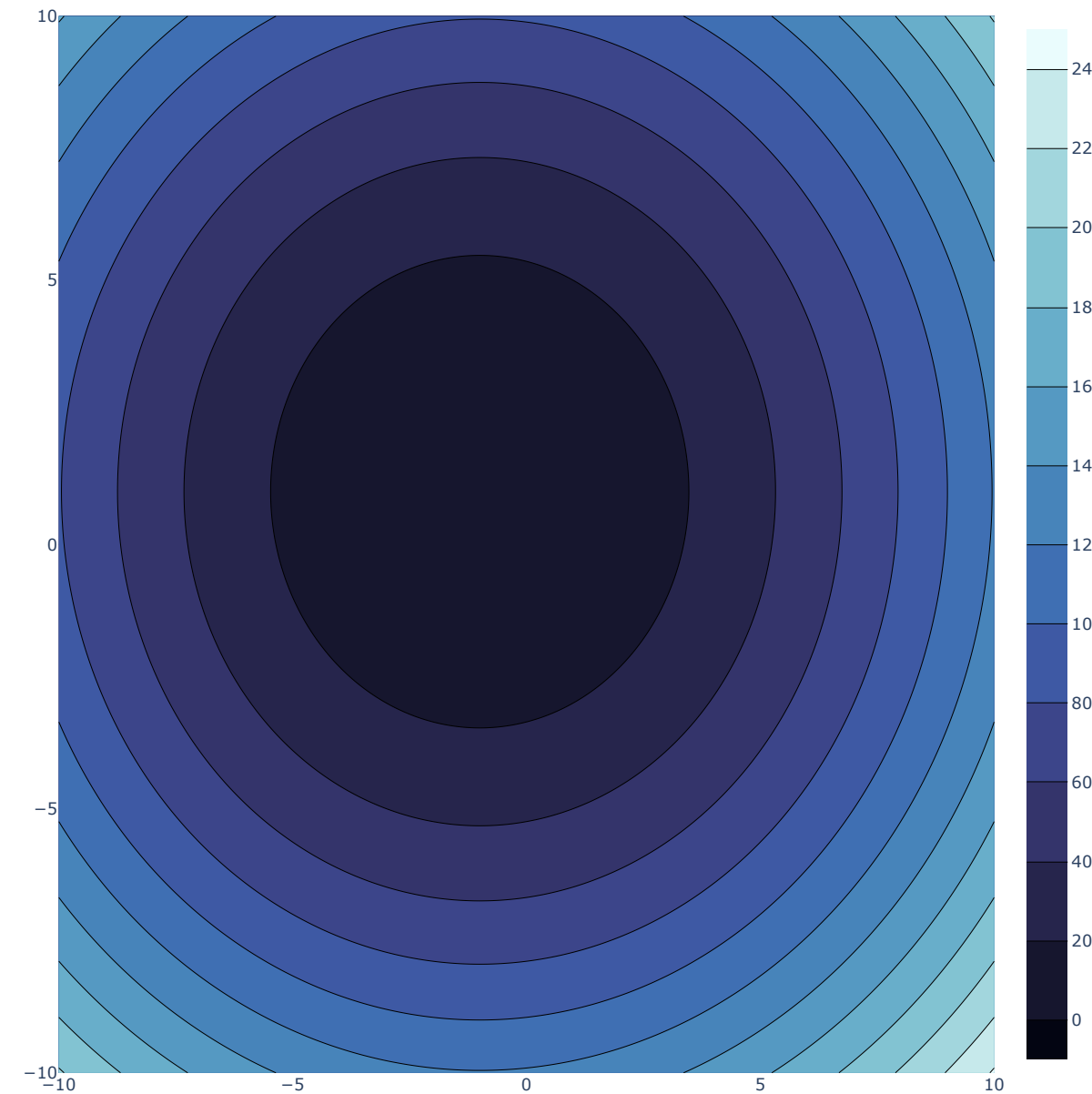
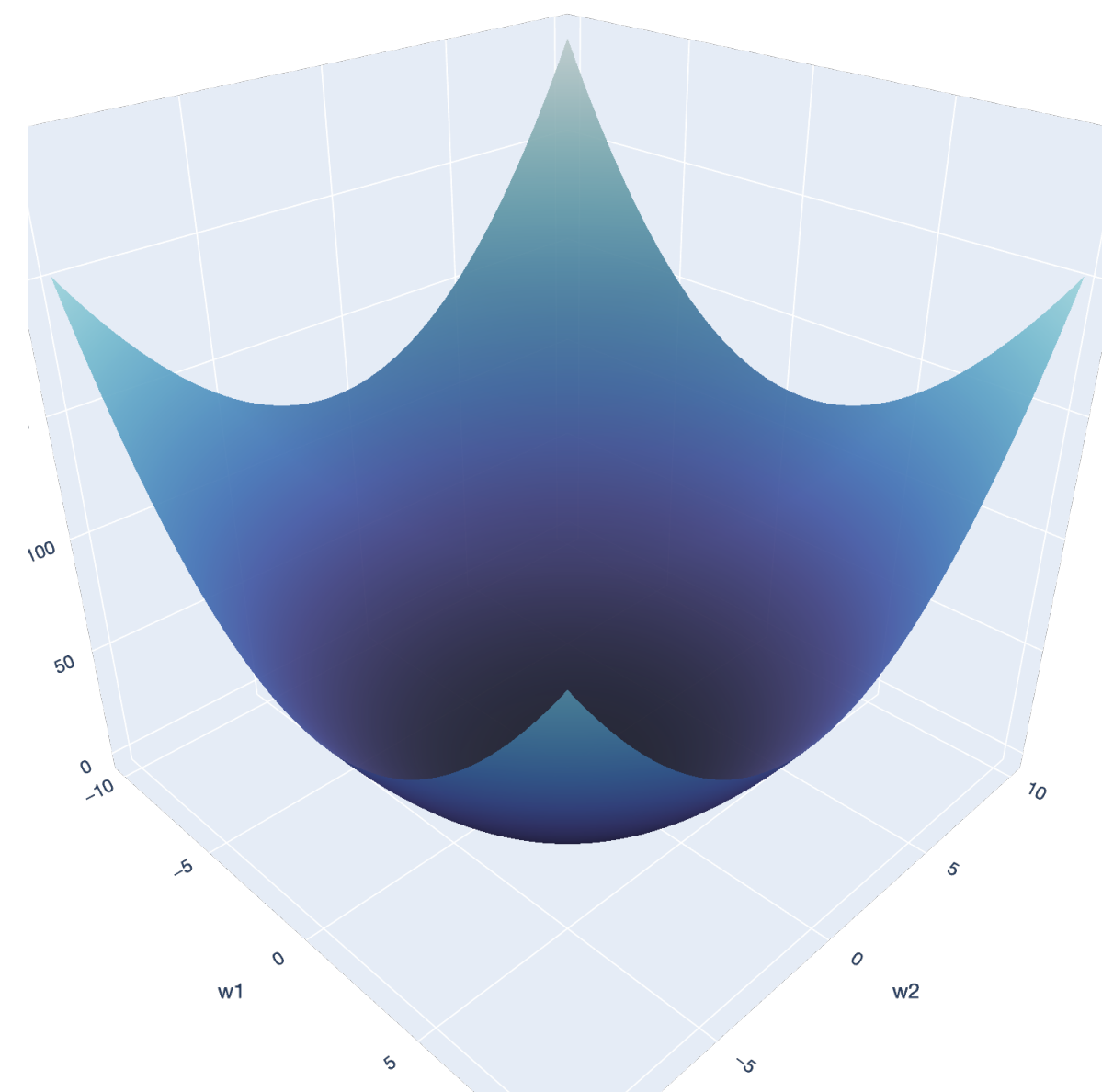
# Ordinary Least Squares

## Sum of Squared Residuals

$$SSR: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Example: If  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , what does  $SSR(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$  look like?

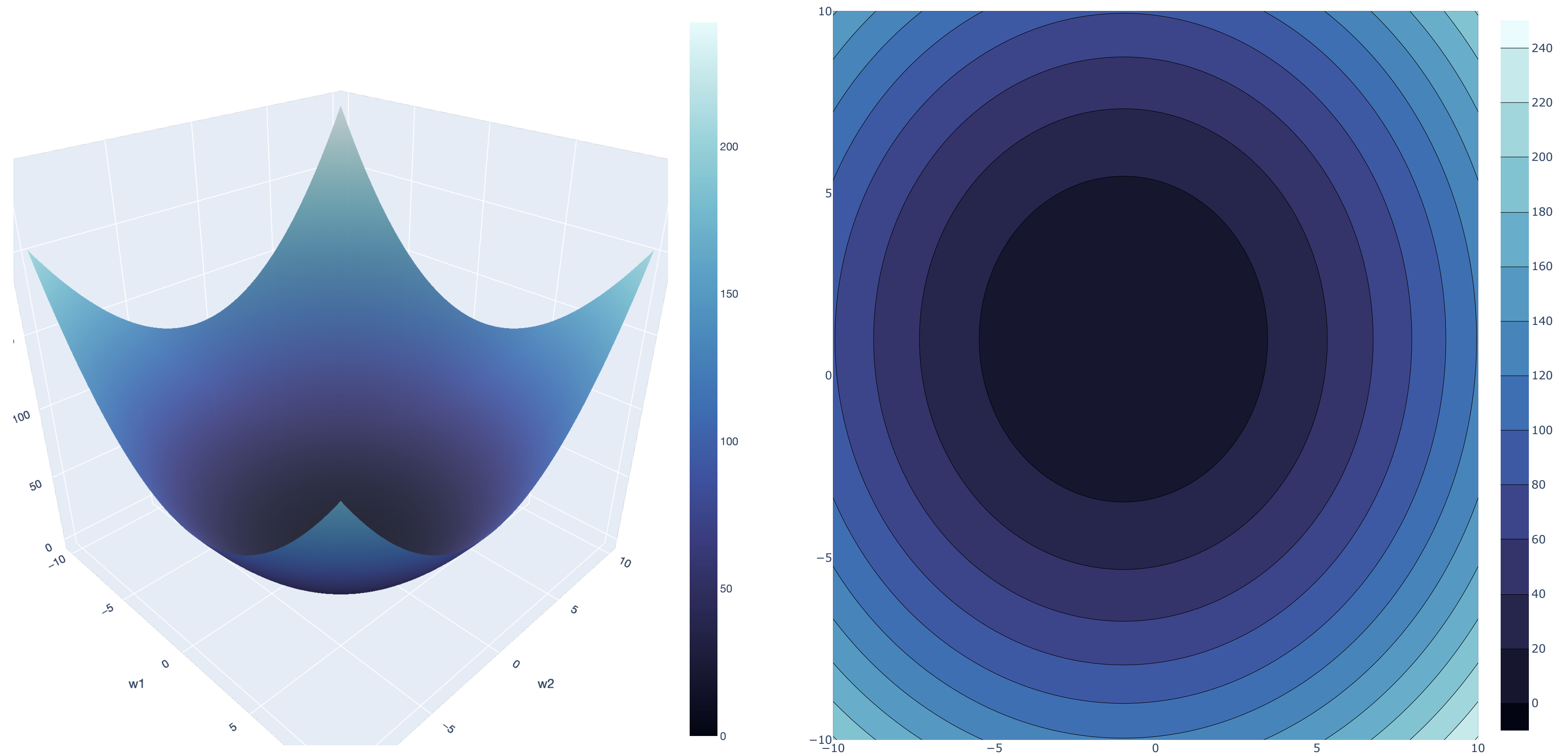
$d=2$



$$\begin{aligned} & \downarrow \\ & \|\mathbf{w} - \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\|^2 \\ & = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} w_1 + 1 \\ w_2 - 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 \\ & = (w_1 + 1, w_2 - 1)^T \\ & \quad (w_1 + 1, w_2 - 1) \\ & = \sqrt{(w_1 + 1)^2 + (w_2 - 1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

# Ordinary Least Squares

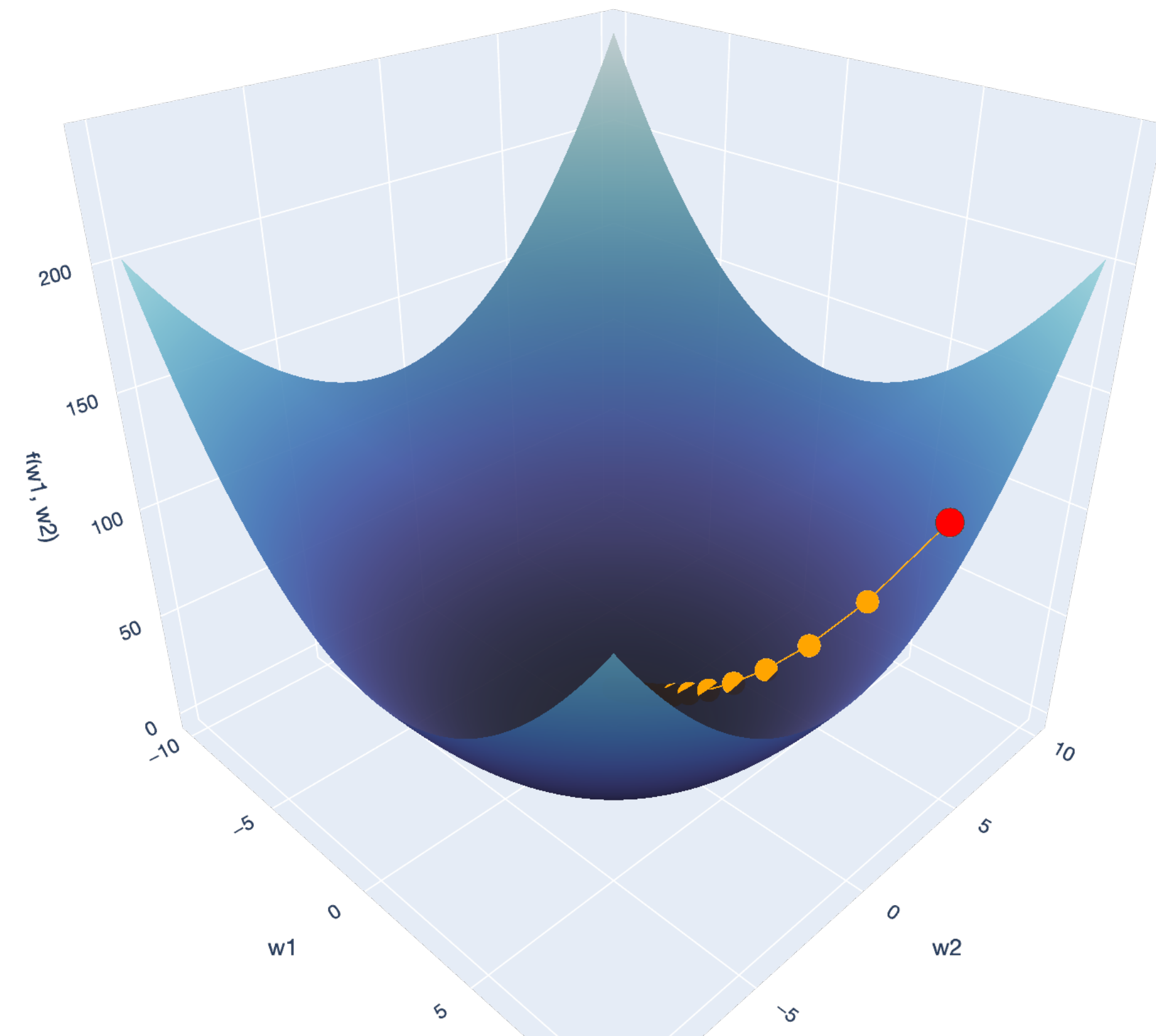
## Sum of Squared Residuals



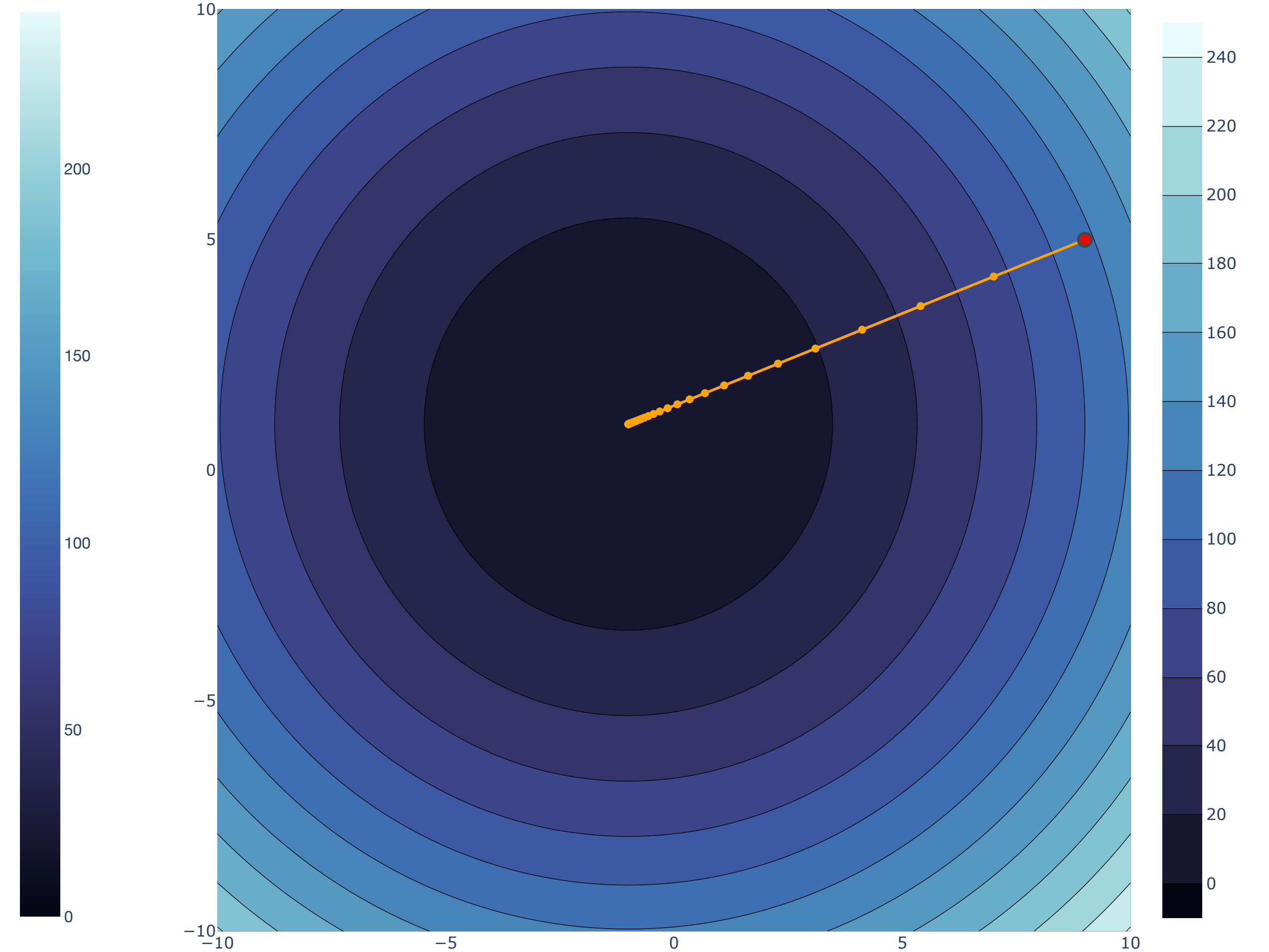


# Ordinary Least Squares

## Sum of Squared Residuals



—● descent ● start



—● descent ● start

# Ordinary Least Squares

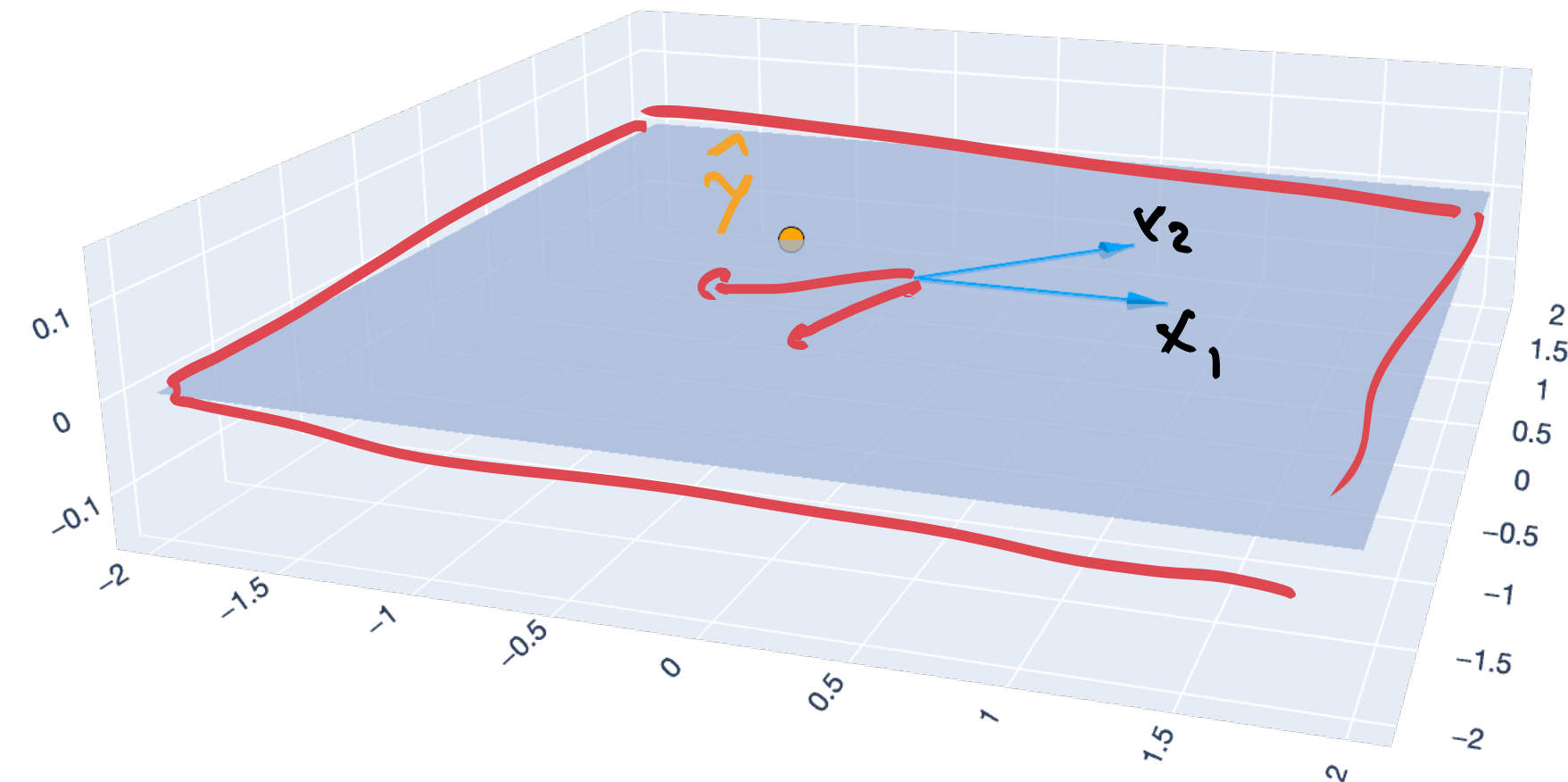
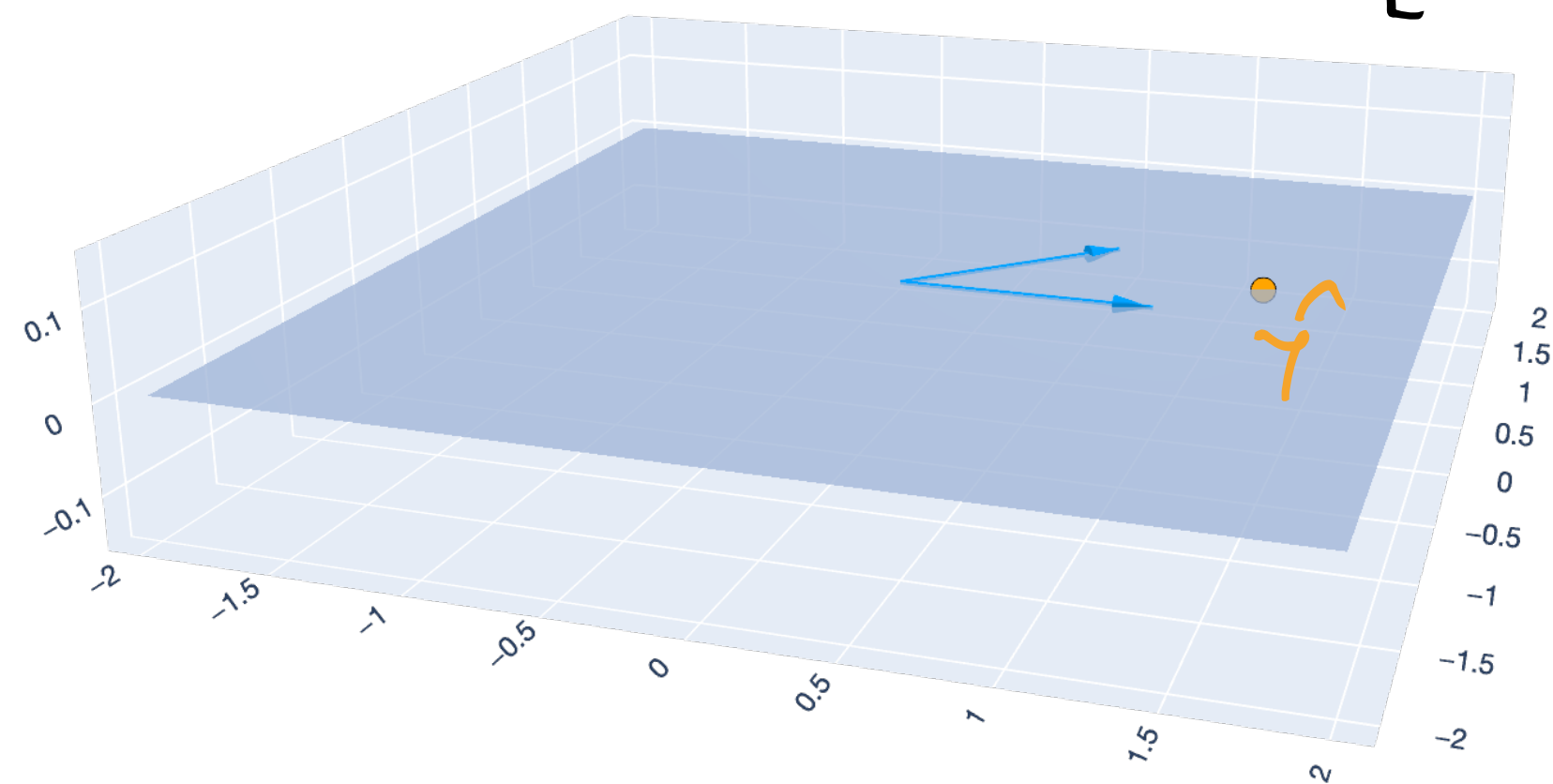
## Geometry of Least Squares

$$\rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^d \alpha_i x_i, \quad \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

Let  $n = 3$  and  $d = 2$ . In this case  $\hat{y} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is a *linear combination* of columns  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$ .

$$\hat{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = w_1\mathbf{x}_1 + w_2\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \downarrow \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \end{array} \right]$$

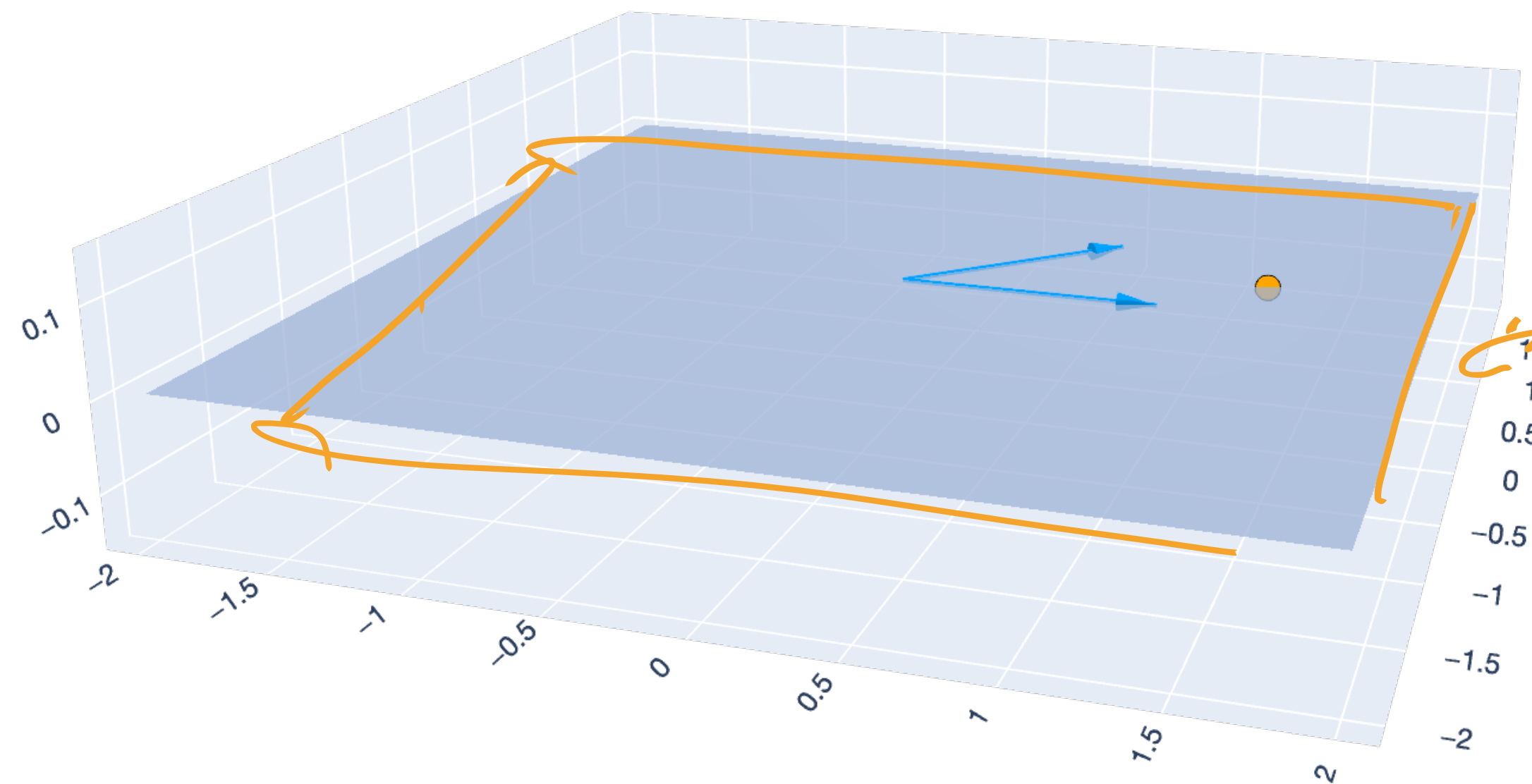


# Span

## Idea

For a collection of vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the span is...

$$\left[ \sum_{i=1}^d \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i \right]$$



# Span

## Definition

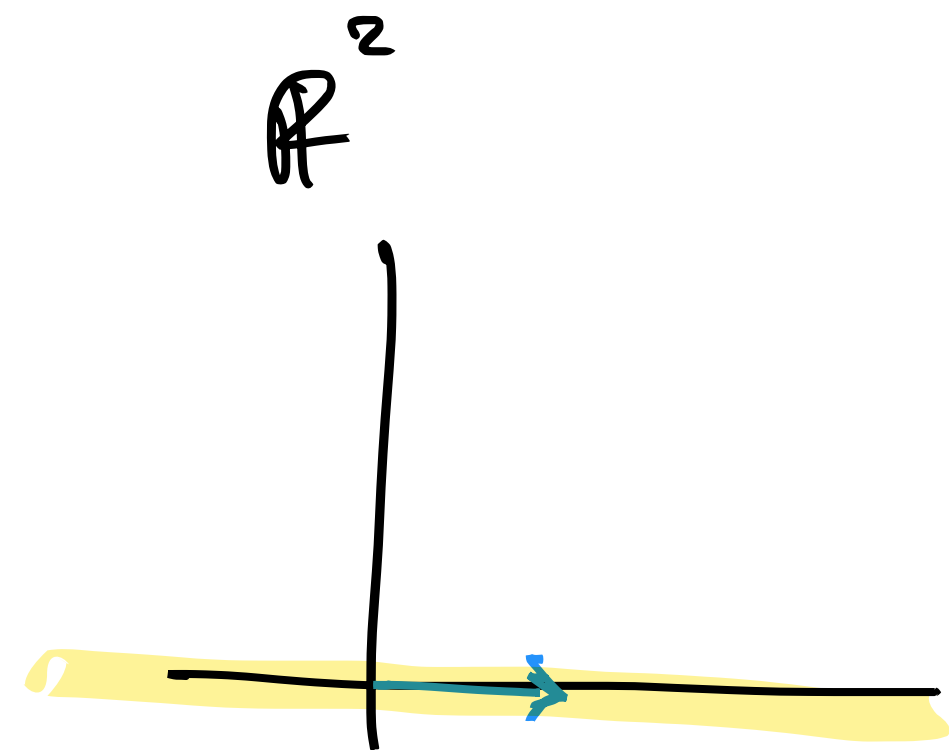
For a collection of vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the span is the set of vectors we can attain through linear combinations of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d$ :

$$\text{span}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d) = \left\{ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^d \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i, \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

# Span

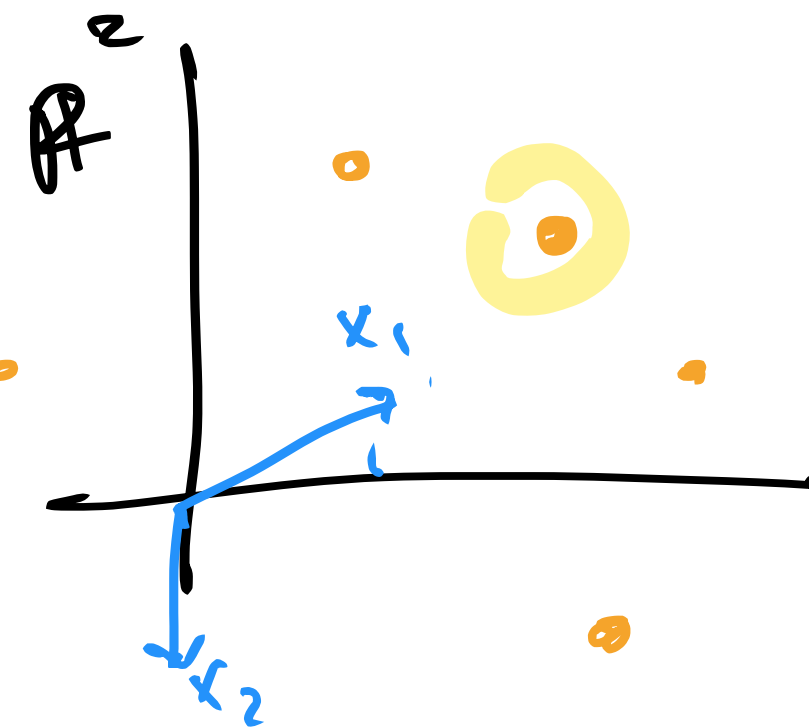
## Examples

$$\text{span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

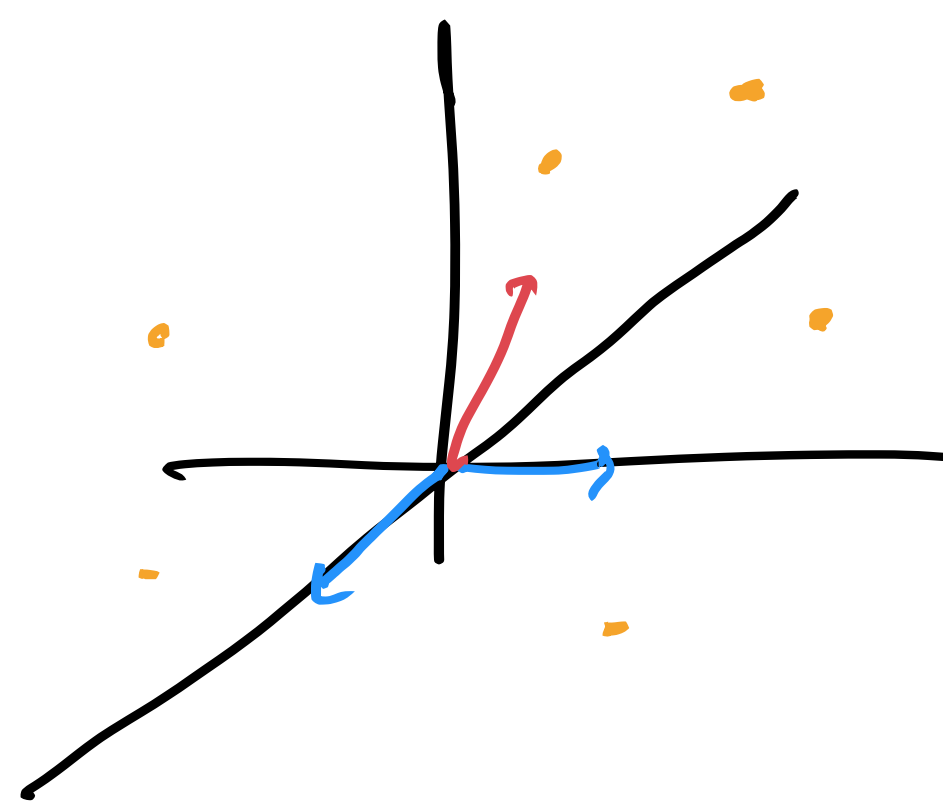


$$\alpha \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\text{span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$



$$\text{span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$



MATRIX-VECTOR MULTIPLICATION  
(Linear Combs view)

To verify:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}}_X \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

Let  $n = 3$  and  $d = 2$ . In this case  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is a *linear combination* of columns  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$ .

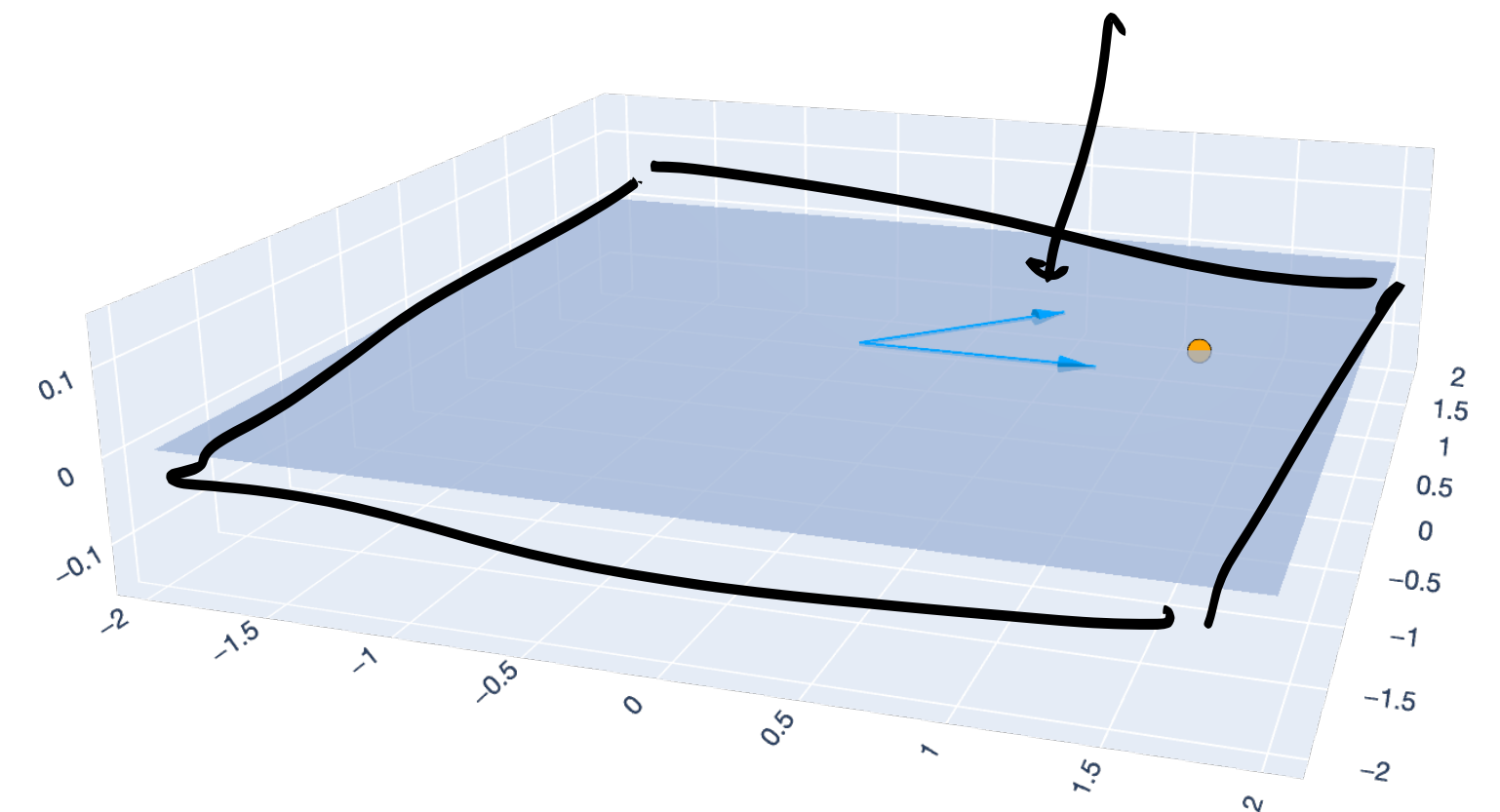
$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = w_1\mathbf{x}_1 + w_2\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

Let  $\text{col}(\mathbf{X}) := \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d\}$  be the *columnspace* of  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ . Then,

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X})).$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}_2 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \hline \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \hline \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$



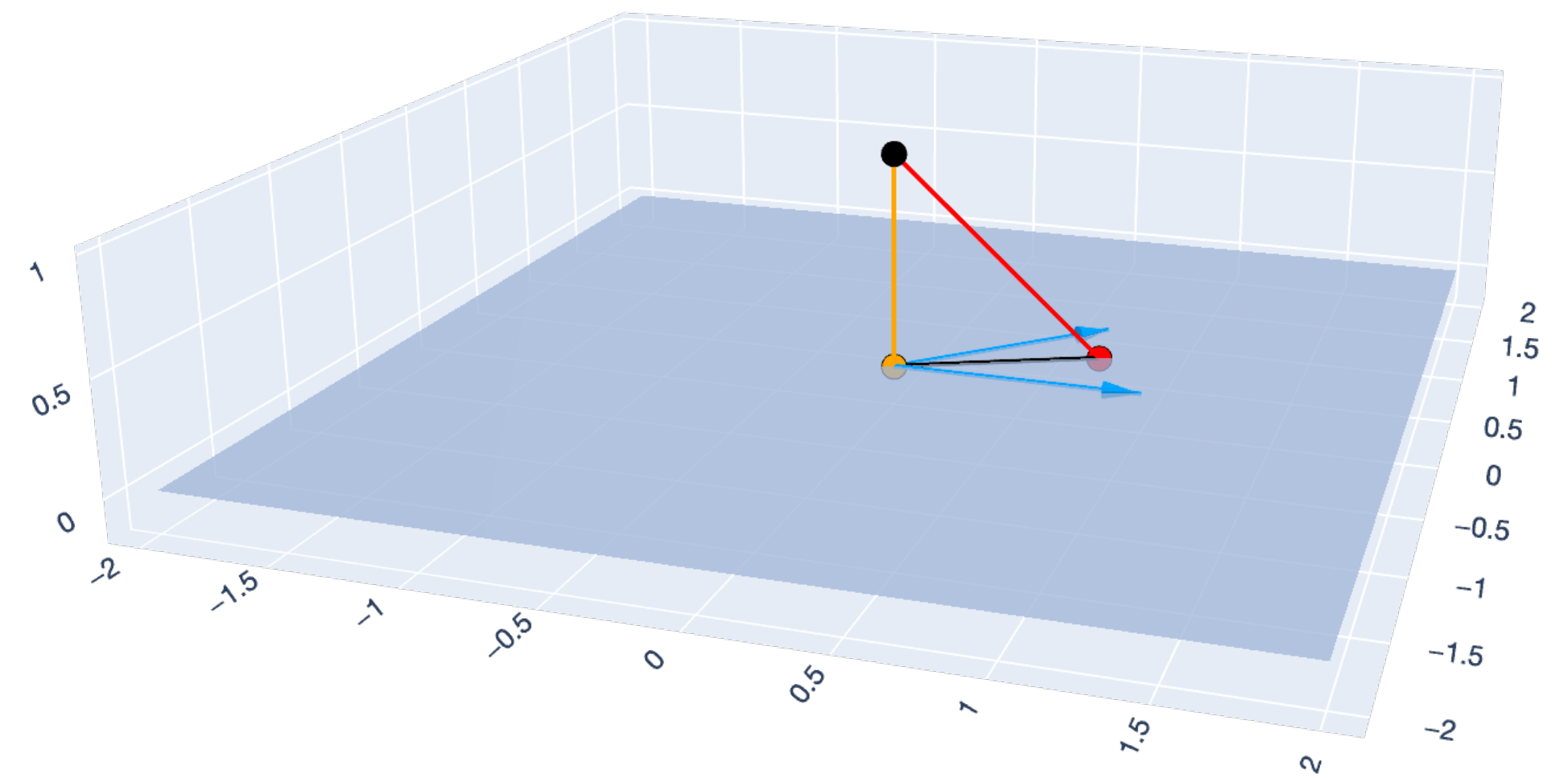
# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

So,  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = w_1\mathbf{x}_1 + w_2\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , which we can write as:  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ .

The true labels  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  might not be in  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ .

**Goal:** Find  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  that minimizes  $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$ .



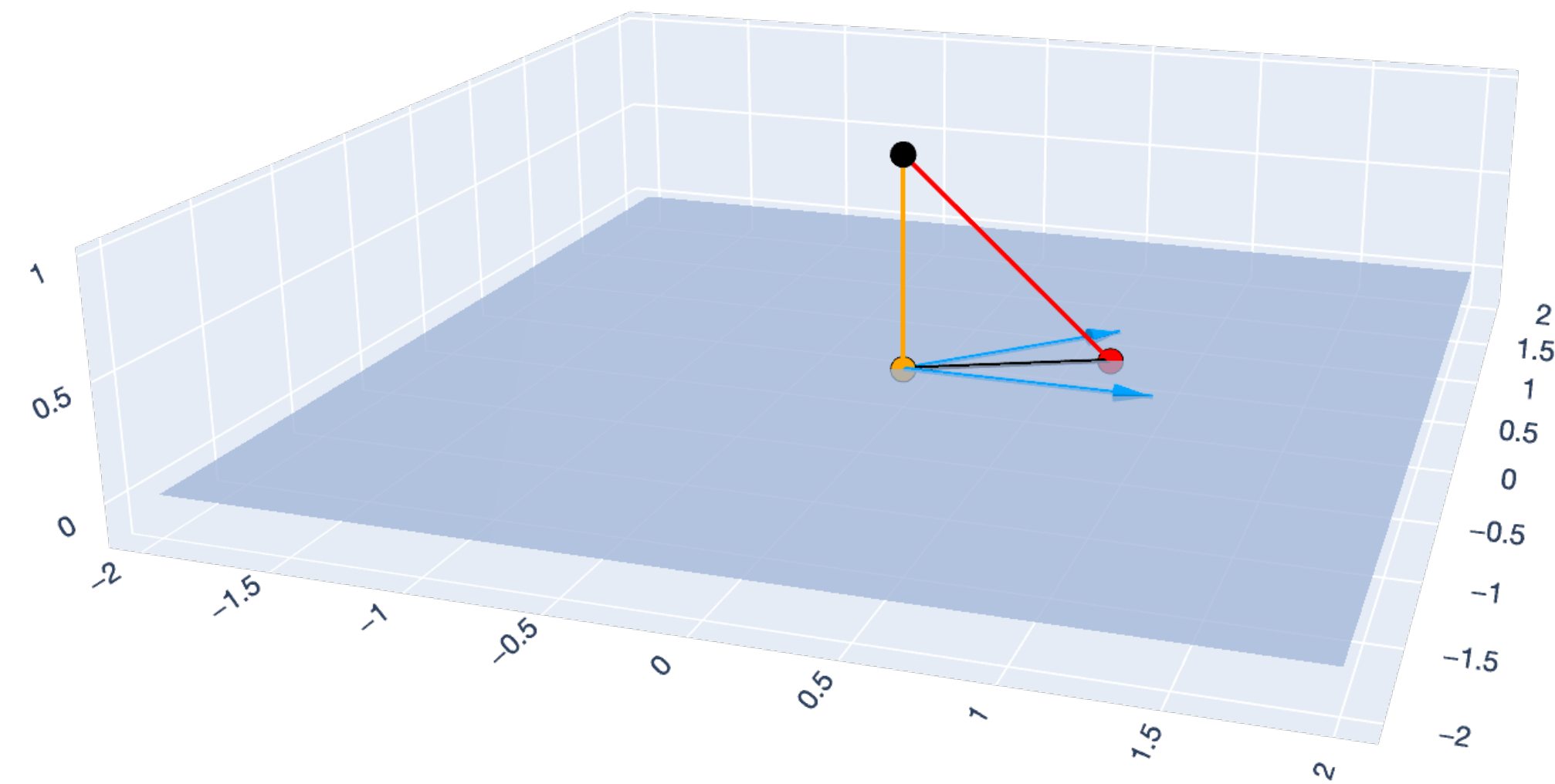
— x1 — x2 — y - ^y — ~y - ^y — ~y - y • y • ^y • ~y

Click to

# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

Goal: Find  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  that minimizes  $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$ .



—  $x_1$  —  $x_2$  —  $y - \hat{y}$  —  $\sim y - \hat{y}$  —  $\sim y - y$  •  $y$  •  $\hat{y}$  •  $\sim y$



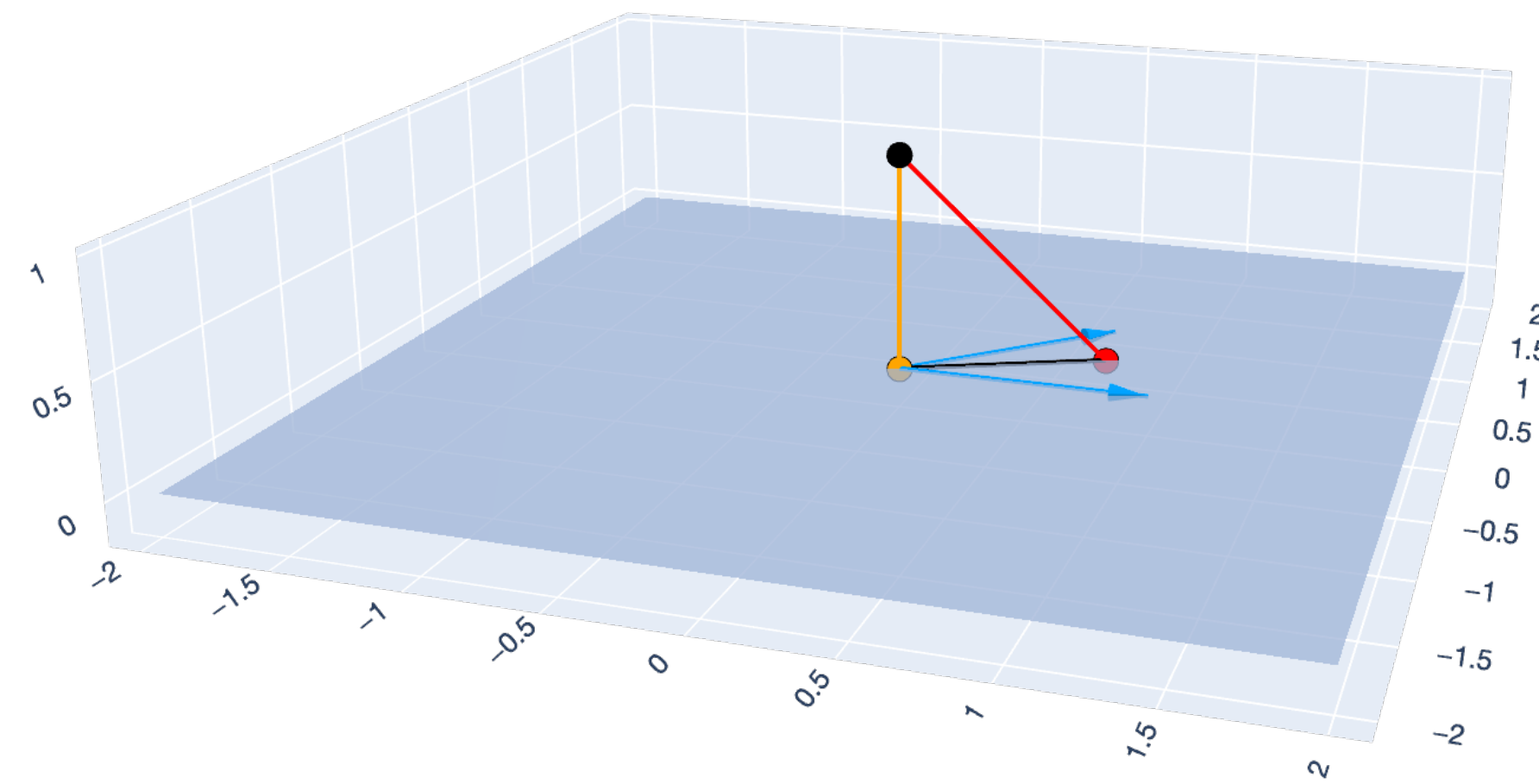
# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

Goal: Find  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  that minimizes  $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$ .

→ PLANE

*Which point on  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$  minimizes the distance from  $\mathbf{y}$  to  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ ?*



— x1 — x2 — y - ^y — ~y - ^y — ~y - y • y • ^y • ~y

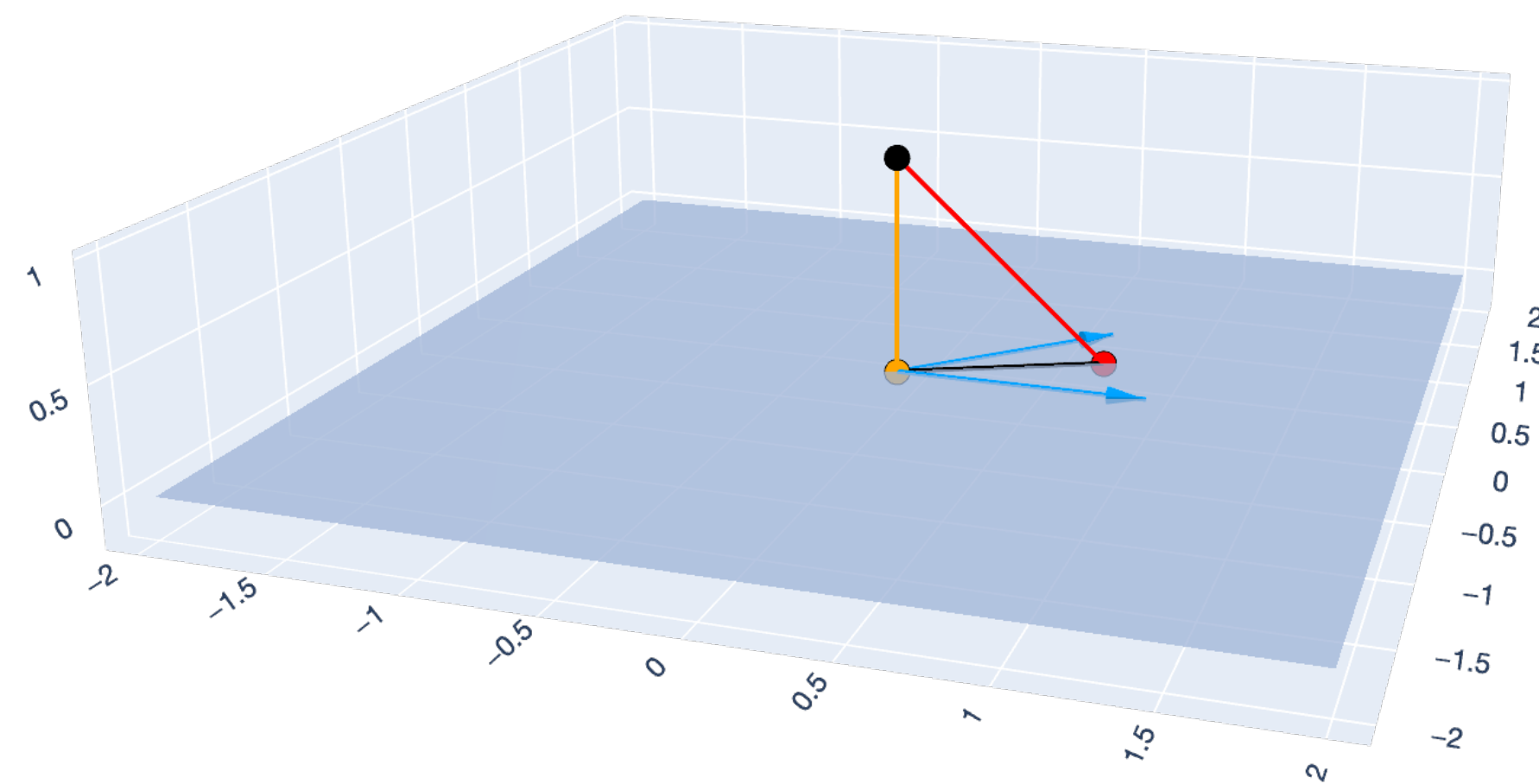
# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

**Goal:** Find  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  that minimizes  $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$ .

*Which point on  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$  minimizes the distance from  $\mathbf{y}$  to  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ ?*

*The point a perpendicular line down to  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ !*



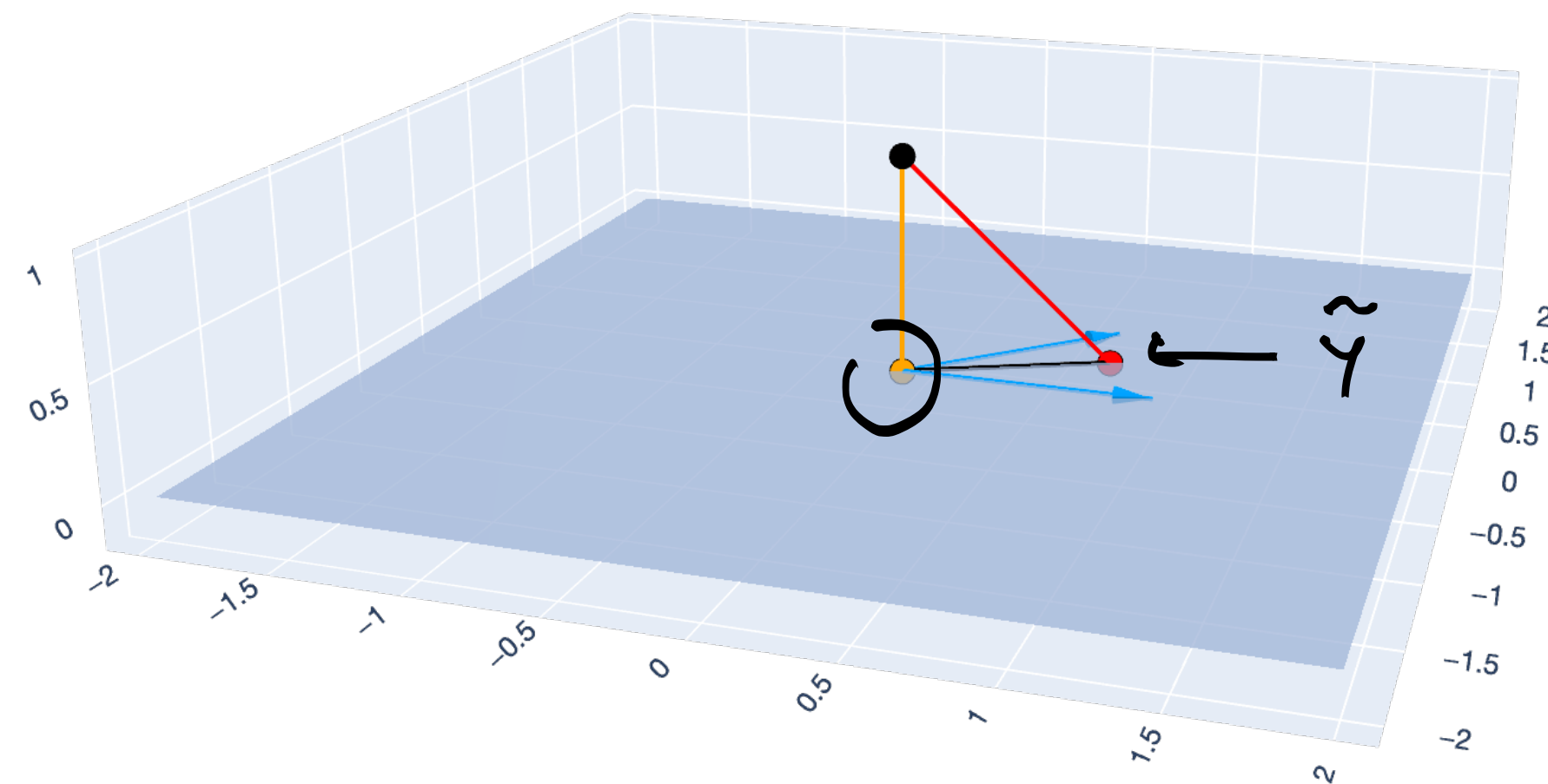
# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

A projection of  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  onto  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$  gives us  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$ .

Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be any other vector in  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ , written  $\mathbf{X}\tilde{\mathbf{w}} = \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ .

← Also a linear combination!



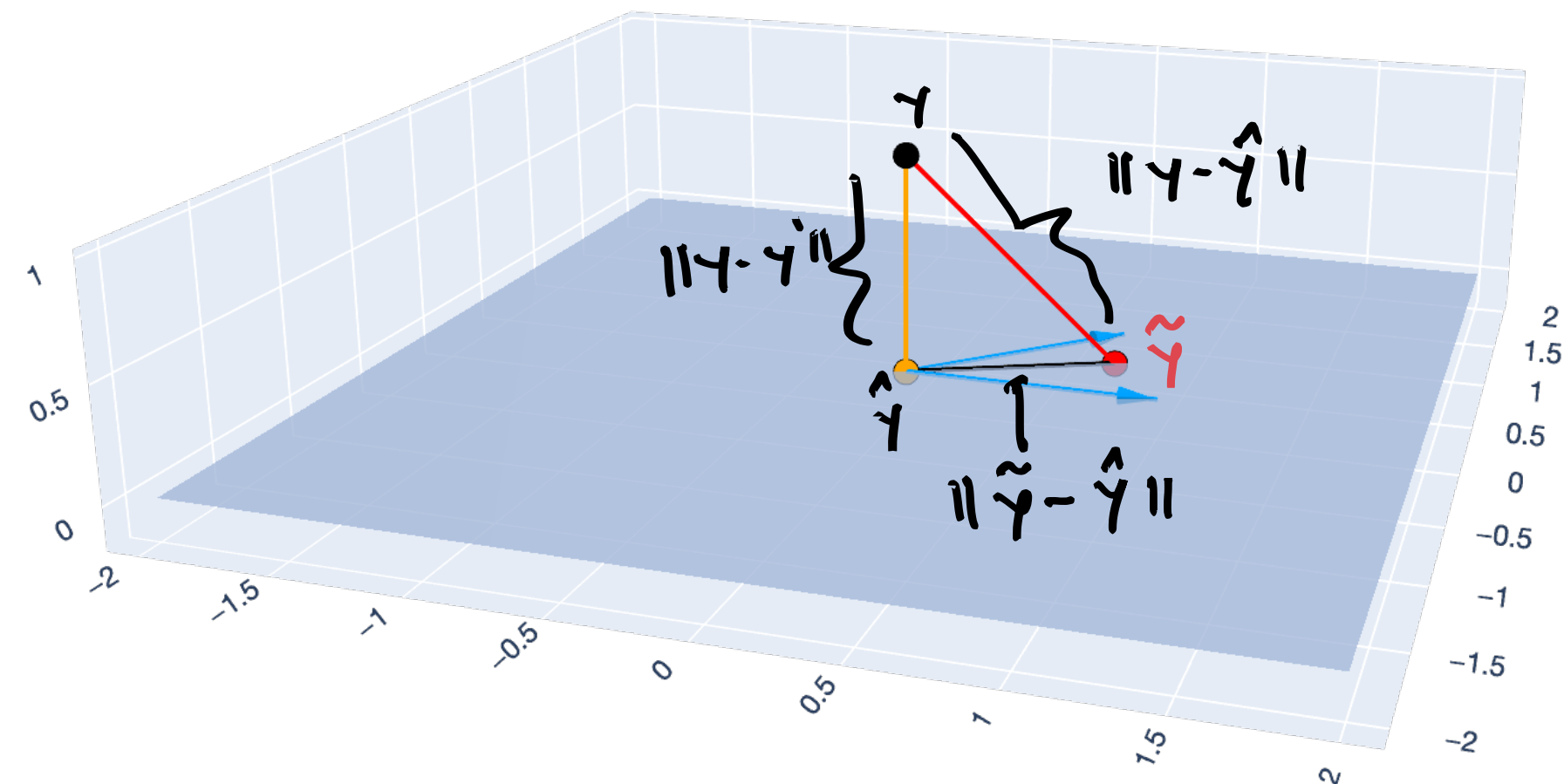
— x1 — x2 — y-hat — y-tilde-hat — y-y-hat • y • y-hat • y-tilde

# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

Let  $\hat{y} = \mathbf{X}\hat{w}$  be the projection of  $y$ . Let  $\tilde{y} = \mathbf{X}\tilde{w}$  be any other  $\tilde{y}$ .

The distances  $\|y - \hat{y}\|$  and  $\|y - \tilde{y}\|$  are the lengths of the residuals  $\|\hat{r}\|$  and  $\|\tilde{r}\|$ .



— x1 — x2 — y - ^y — ~y - ^y — ~y - y • y • ^y • ~y

# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

WANT:  $\|X\hat{w} - y\|^2 \leq \|X\tilde{w} - y\|^2$  for any  $\tilde{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$\hat{w}$  is the minimum.

Let  $\tilde{y} = X\tilde{w}$  be any other vector in  $\text{span}(\text{col}(X))$ .

By the Pythagorean Theorem,

$$\|\hat{r}\|^2 + \|\tilde{y} - \hat{y}\|^2 = \|\tilde{r}\|^2.$$

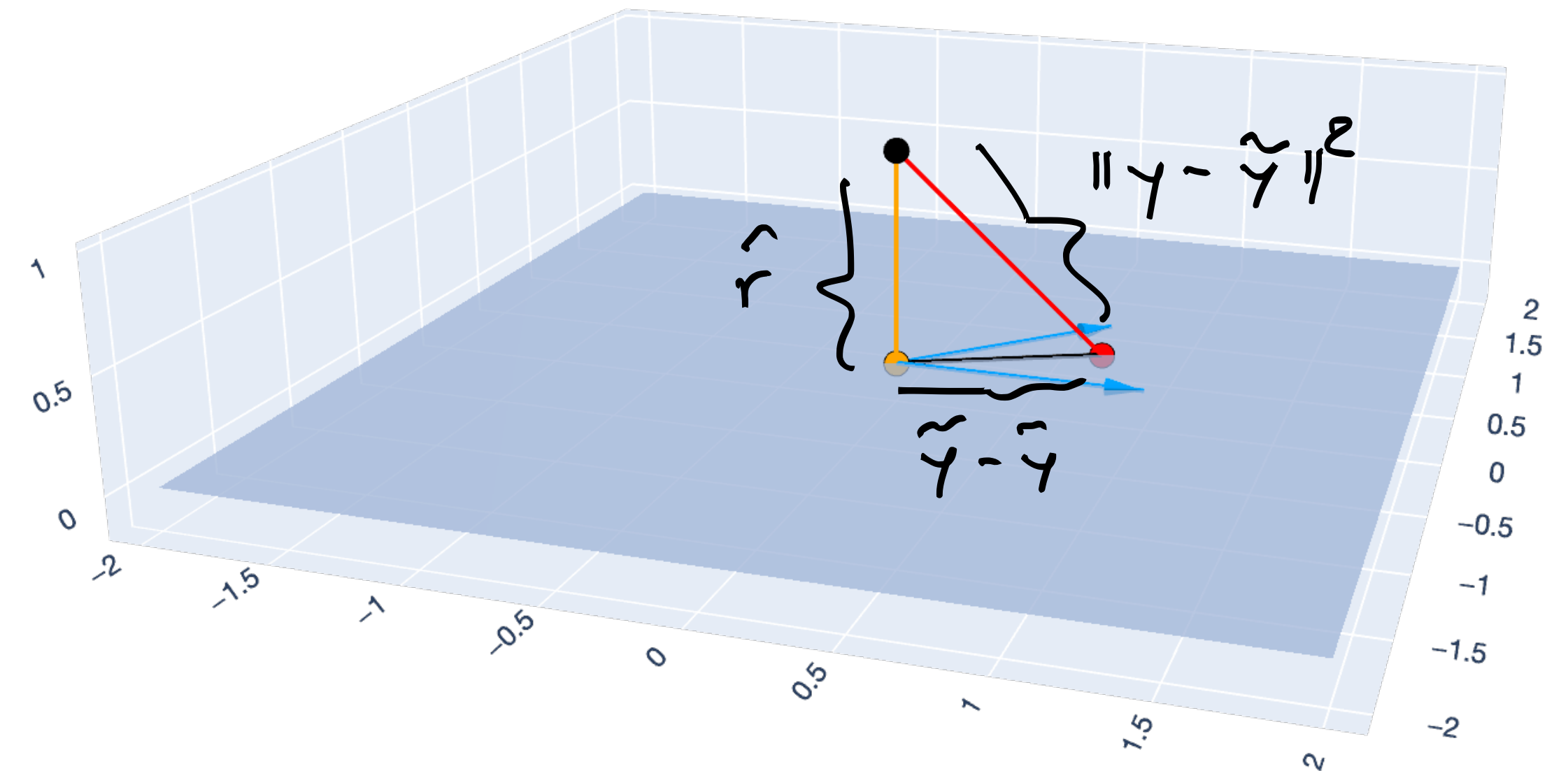
But  $\|\tilde{y} - \hat{y}\|^2 \geq 0$ , so:  $\langle \tilde{y} - \hat{y}, \tilde{y} - \hat{y} \rangle \geq 0$ .

$$\|\hat{r}\|^2 \leq \|\tilde{r}\|^2.$$

By definition,  $\hat{r} = X\hat{w} - y$  and  $\tilde{r} = X\tilde{w} - y$ .

Therefore,

$$\|X\hat{w} - y\|^2 \leq \|X\tilde{w} - y\|^2.$$



# Ordinary Least Squares

## Geometry of Least Squares

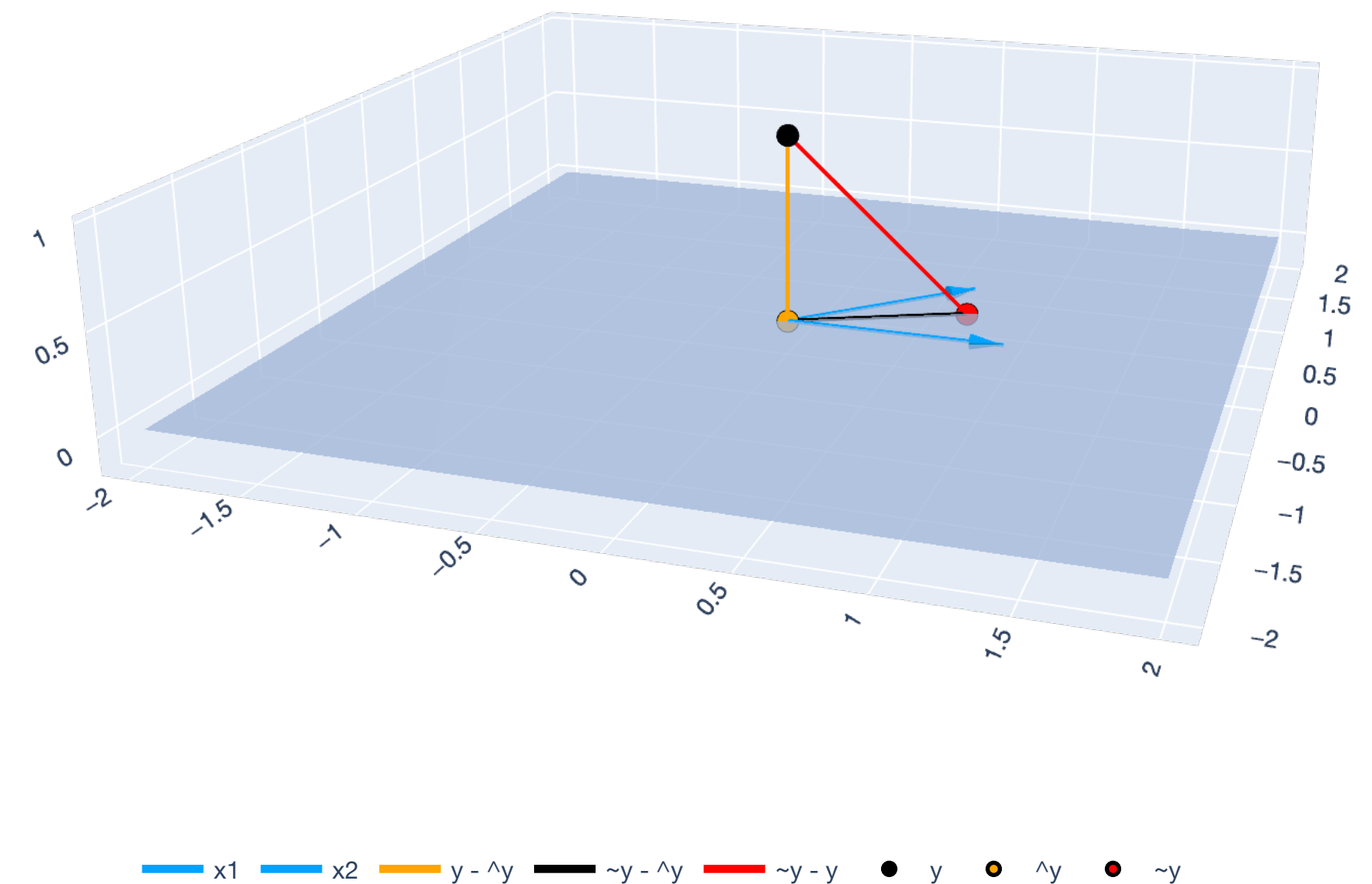
Therefore:

$$\|\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 \leq \|\mathbf{X}\tilde{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}\|^2,$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is obtained from the *projection*  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  of  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  onto  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ , and  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is any other vector.

$$\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

*But what is  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ ?*

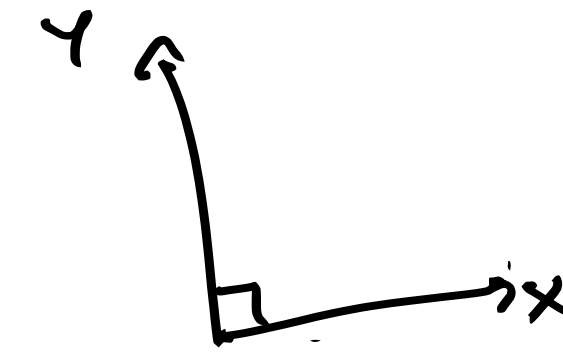


# Orthogonality

## Definition

Two vectors  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are orthogonal if

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = 0.$$



$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = 0$$

So, if a vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is orthogonal to a whole set of vectors  $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d\}$ , we can write this in matrix form.

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} \mathbf{x}_1^T \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} \mathbf{x}_d^T \text{---} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \downarrow \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \uparrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^T \mathbf{v} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_d^T \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$   $\uparrow$

$\downarrow$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

# Ordinary Least Squares

## The Normal Equations

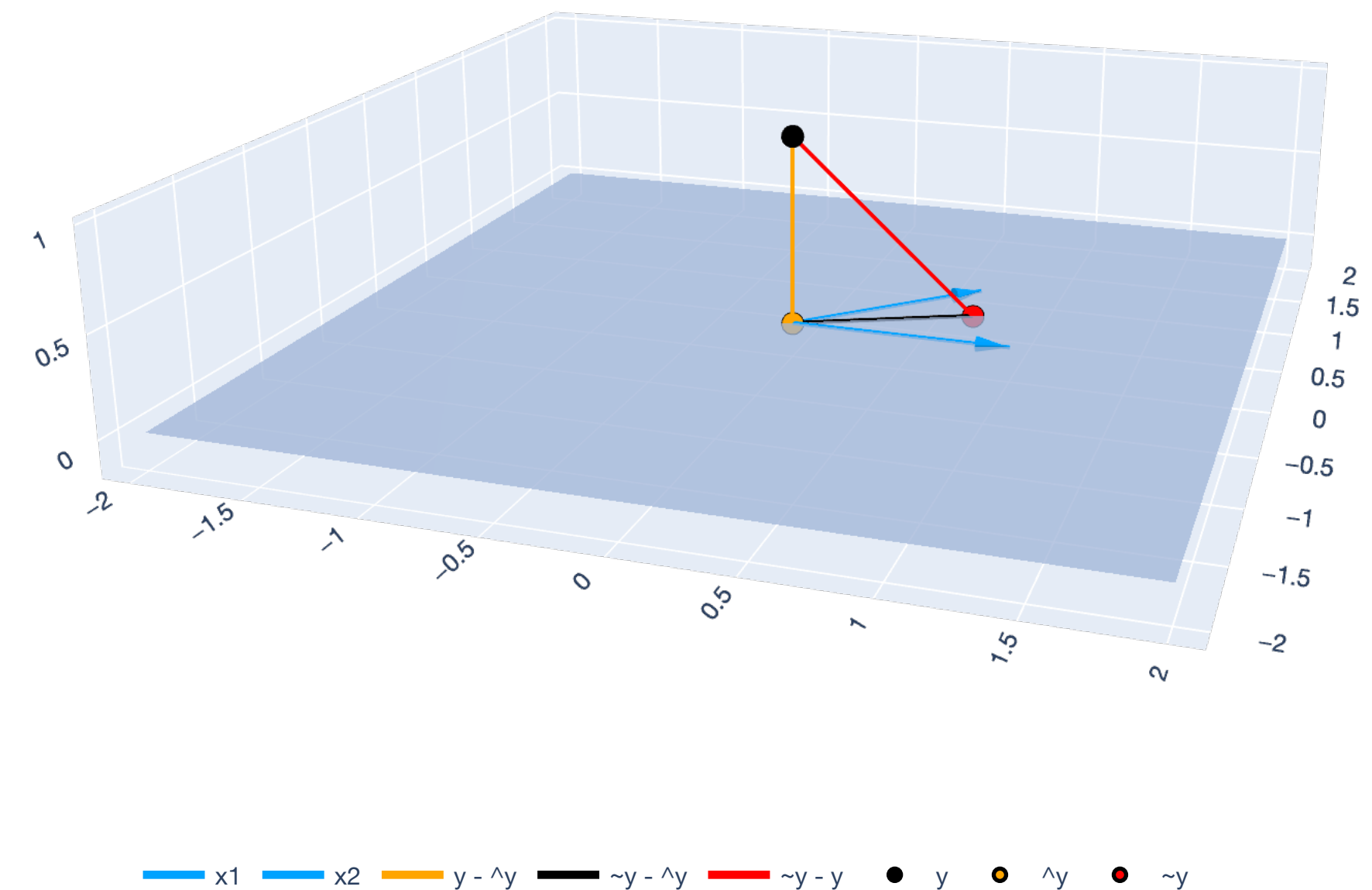
From the picture,  $\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}$  is orthogonal to  $\text{span}(\text{col}(\mathbf{X}))$ :

$$\mathbf{X}^T \hat{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{X}^T (\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{0}.$$

This gives us the **normal equations**:

$$\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \hat{\mathbf{w}}.$$

$d \times n$       $n$       $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$





# Ordinary Least Squares

## The Normal Equations

Finally, we need to solve the normal equations:

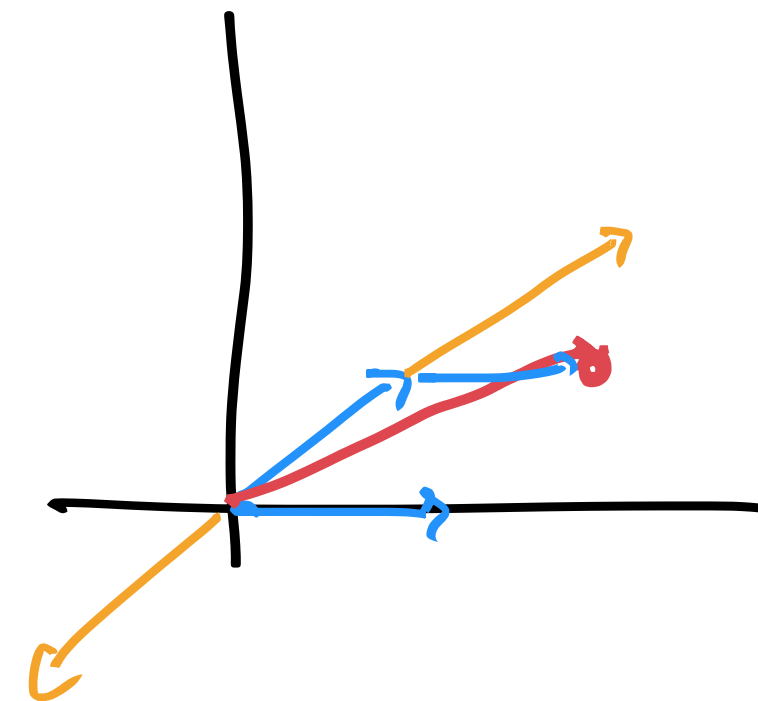
$$\underbrace{\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}}_{\mathbb{R}^d} = \underbrace{\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}}_{\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}} \underbrace{\hat{\mathbf{w}}}_{\mathbb{R}^d}.$$

# Linear Independence

## Idea

A collection of vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is linearly independent if there are no redundancies — no vector  $\mathbf{a}_i$  can be written as a linear combination of the others.

$$\vec{a}_i = \alpha \vec{a}_j$$



# Linear Independence

## Definition

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \mathbf{a}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{a}_d \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_d \end{bmatrix} = \vec{\mathbf{0}}$$

← KERNEL

$$\text{kernel}(A) = \{ \mathbf{0} \}$$

A collection of vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is linearly independent if  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + \alpha_d \mathbf{a}_d = \mathbf{0}$  if and only if  $\alpha_i = 0$  for all  $i \in [d]$ .

Equivalently, there exists  $\mathbf{a}_i$  that can be written in terms of the others:

$$\mathbf{a}_i = \alpha_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + \alpha_{i-1} \mathbf{a}_{i-1} + \alpha_{i+1} \mathbf{a}_{i+1} + \dots + \alpha_d \mathbf{a}_d.$$

# Linear Independence

## Examples

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ 2\alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Rank

## Definition

Rank is the number of linearly independent columns in a matrix. This is always the same as the number of linearly independent rows in a matrix.

For  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , it is always the case that:  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) \leq \min\{n, d\}$ . If  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \min\{n, d\}$ , then we say  $\mathbf{A}$  is *full rank*.

# Remember this?



# Ordinary Least Squares

## The Normal Equations

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ x_1 & \dots & x_d \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} - & x_1^T & - \\ \vdots & \vdots & \\ - & x_n^T & - \end{bmatrix}$$

Finally, we need to solve the normal equations:

$$x_3 = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}$$

$$\underbrace{X^T y}_{\mathbb{R}^d} = \underbrace{X^T X}_{\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}} \underbrace{\hat{w}}_{\mathbb{R}^d}$$

$d$  = measurements / features  
(pixels, statistics ab. examples)  
 $n$  = # of samples.

THRM:

Full Rank

For  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , if  $n \geq d$  and  $\text{rank}(X) = d$ , then:  $\text{rank}(X^T X) = d \iff X^T X$  has  $d$  linearly independent columns  $\iff (X^T X)^{-1}$  exists.

$$\begin{bmatrix} | \\ x_1 \\ | \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} | \\ x_2 \\ | \end{bmatrix}$$

# Ordinary Least Squares

## The Normal Equations

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}}_{\mathbb{R}^d} = \underbrace{\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}}_{\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}} \underbrace{\hat{\mathbf{w}}}_{\mathbb{R}^d}$$

what if  $\det(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}) \approx 0$

Finally, solving the normal equations:

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

Diagram illustrating the dimensions of the matrices in the normal equation solution:

- $\hat{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$
- $\mathbf{X}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$
- $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$



# Ordinary Least Squares

## Main Theorem

FULL THRM.

Let  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  with  $n \geq d$  and  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) = d$  (the columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  are linearly independent).

Then, the solution  $\hat{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  that minimizes  $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|$ , i.e.

$$\|\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}\| \leq \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\| \text{ for all } \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

is given by:

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

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

**Recap**

# Lesson Overview

## Takeaways

**Regression.** The basic problem in machine learning is regression. We have *training data* in the form of a data matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  and labels  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . We seek a model  $\hat{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} \approx \mathbf{y}$ .

**Least squares.** One way to find a model for the data is through *least squares*: choose  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$  that minimizes  $\|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$ .

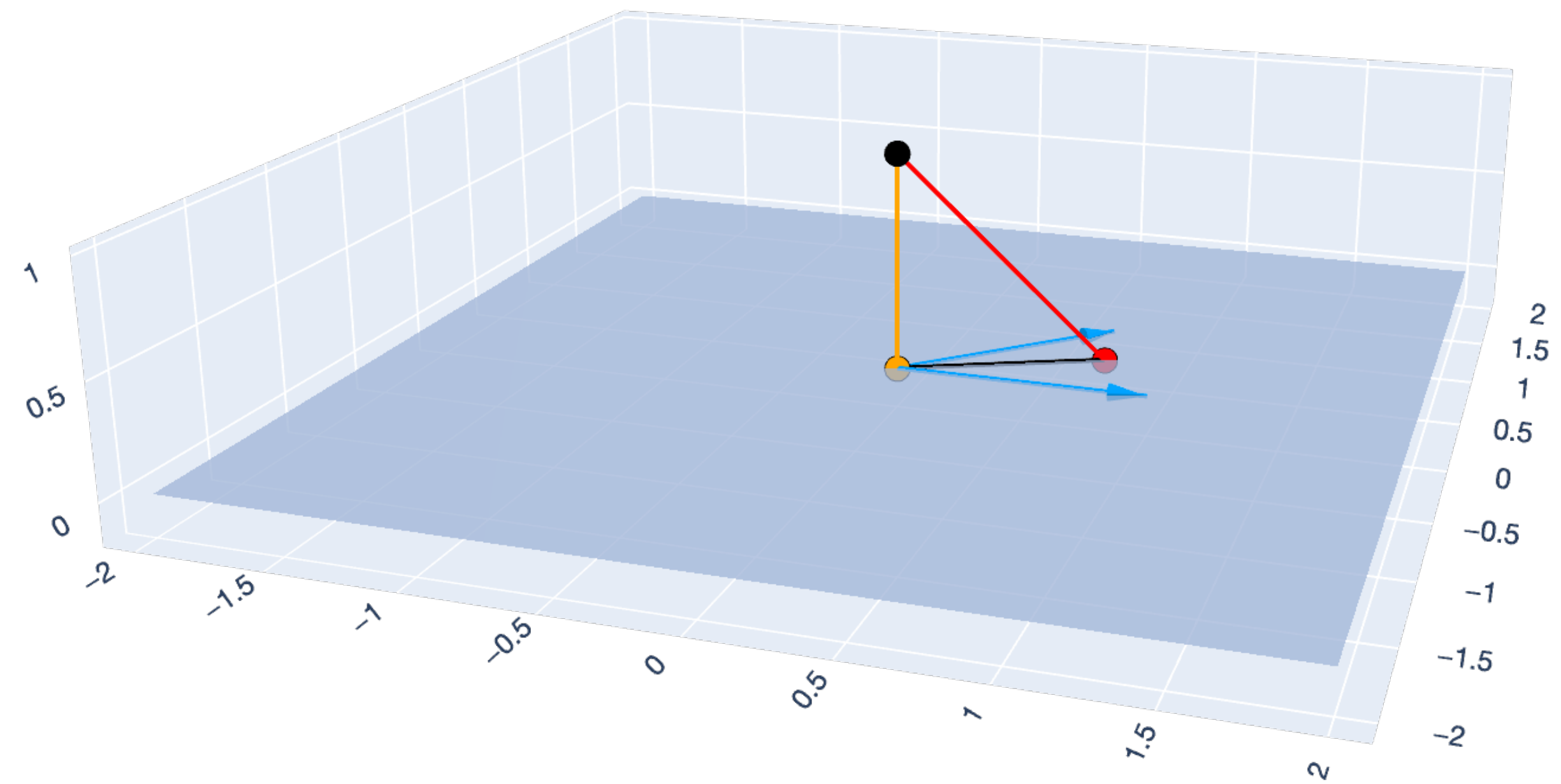
**Span and orthogonality.** We can solve least squares by noticing that  $\mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{y}$  is *orthogonal* to  $\text{span}(\text{cols}(\mathbf{X}))$ . This gives us the normal equations:  $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$ .

**Linear independence.** To solve the normal equations, we need  $\mathbf{X}$  to be full *rank* (its  $d$  columns are *linearly independent*). Then, we can invert and solve the normal equations.

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}.$$

# Lesson Overview

## Big Picture: Least Squares



— x1 — x2 —  $y - \hat{y}$  —  $\tilde{y} - \hat{y}$  —  $\tilde{y} - y$  ● y ●  $\hat{y}$  ●  $\tilde{y}$

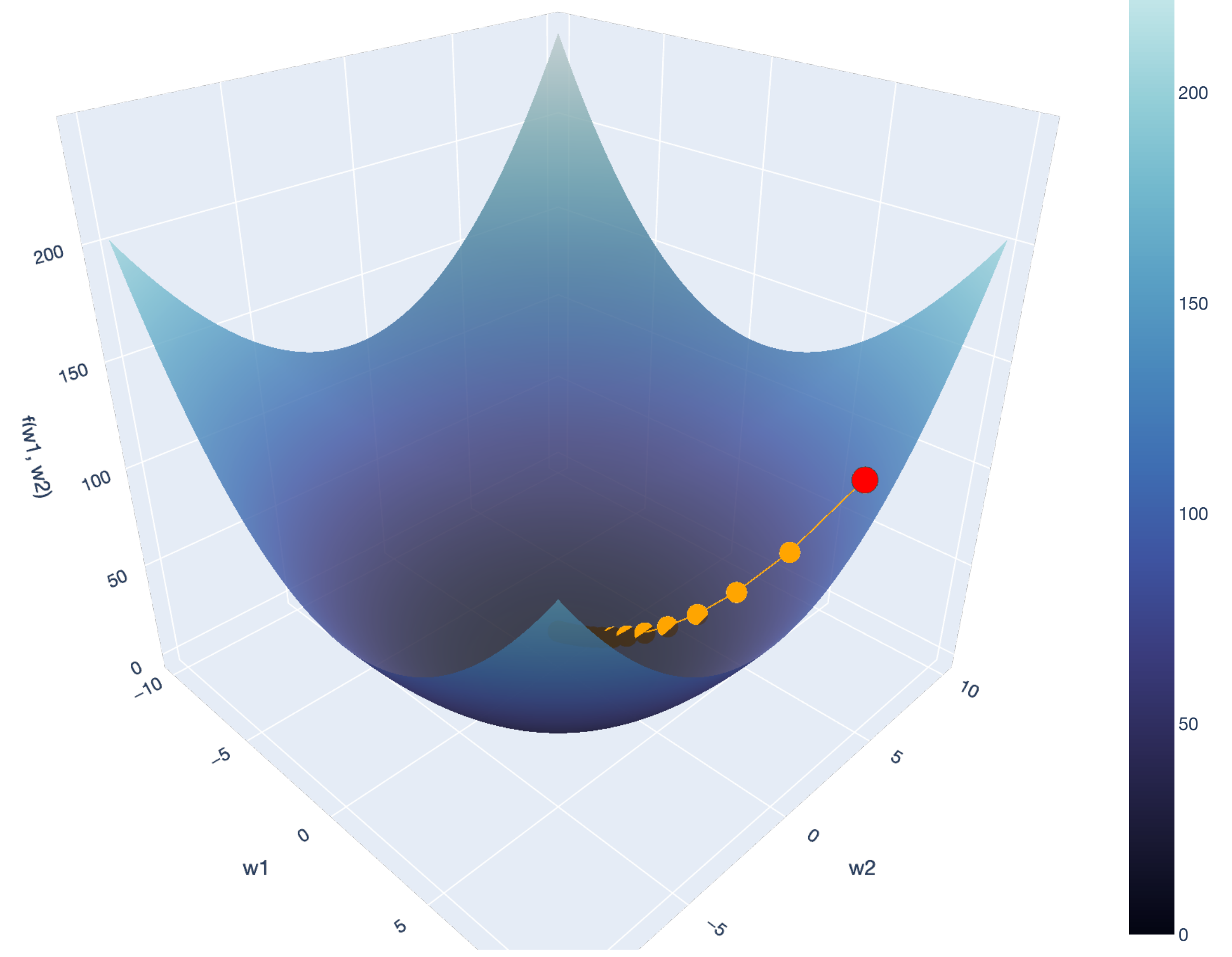
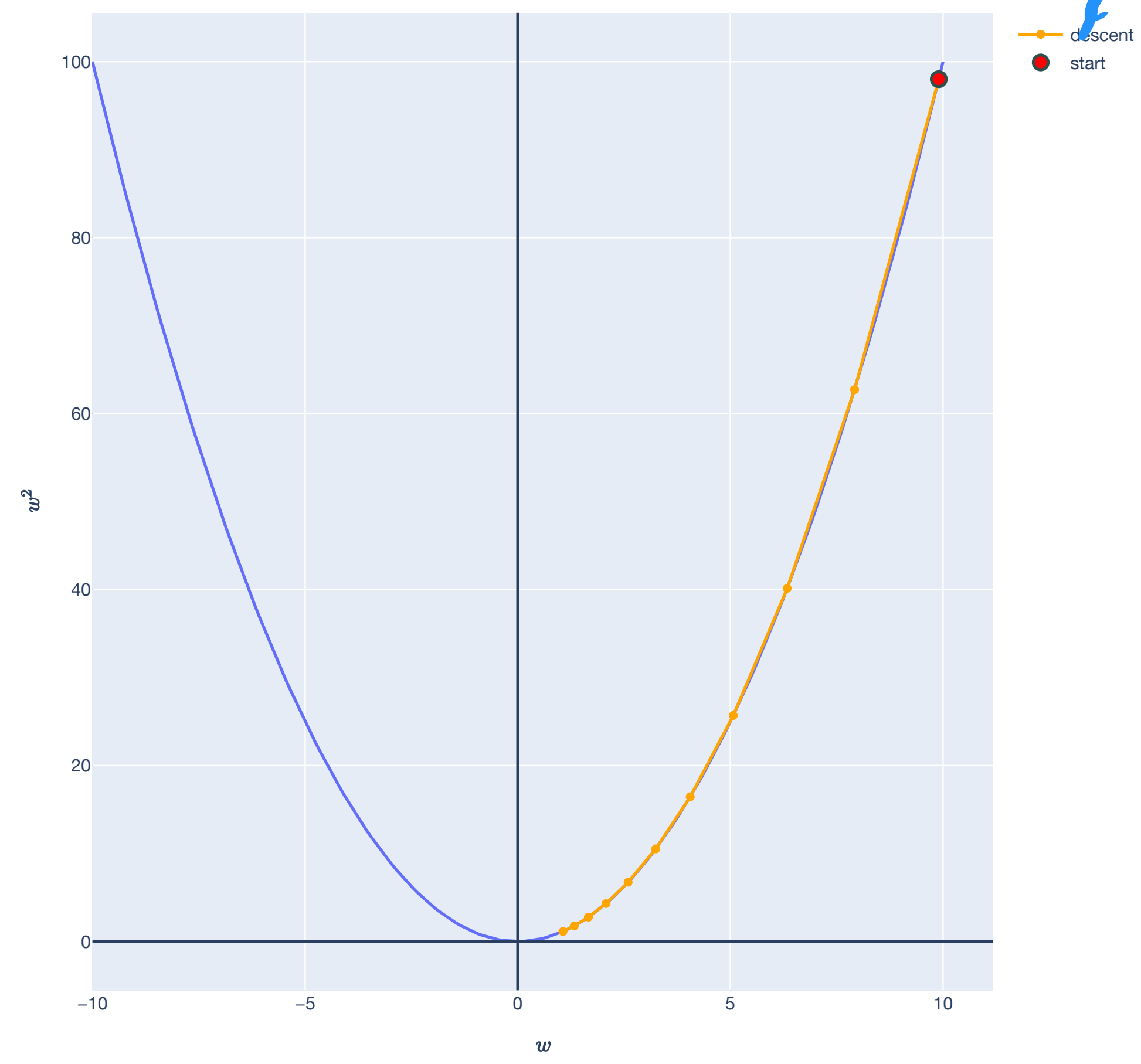
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# Lesson Overview

## Big Picture: Gradient Descent

$$SSR(\vec{w}) = \|X\vec{w} - \vec{y}\|^2$$

$$f(w) = w^2$$



—●— descent   ● start

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# References

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