



# 10-315

## Introduction to ML

### Regularization

Instructor: Pat Virtue

# Plan

## Today

- Regularization

- (Make sure they aren't too powerful 😊)



- ■ Regularization with L2 norm

- ■ Regularization optimization

- Regularization with L1 norm

lin reg

# Regularization with L2 norm

Example: Linear regression with polynomial features

# Poll 1

Which is model do you prefer, assuming both have zero training error?

Model structure (for both models):

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4 + \theta_5 x^5 + \theta_6 x^6 + \theta_7 x^7 + \theta_8 x^8$$

Model parameters:

$$\theta = [\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5, \theta_6, \theta_7, \theta_8]^T$$

A.  $\theta_A =$   
 $[-190.0, -135.0, 310.0, 45.0, -62.0, 90.0, -82.0, -40.0, 29.0]^T$

B.  $\theta_B =$   
 $[25.5, -6.4, -0.8, 0.0, 6.6, -4.4, 0.2, -2.9, 0.1]^T$

# Poll 1

Which is model do you prefer, assuming both have zero training error?

Model structure (for both models):

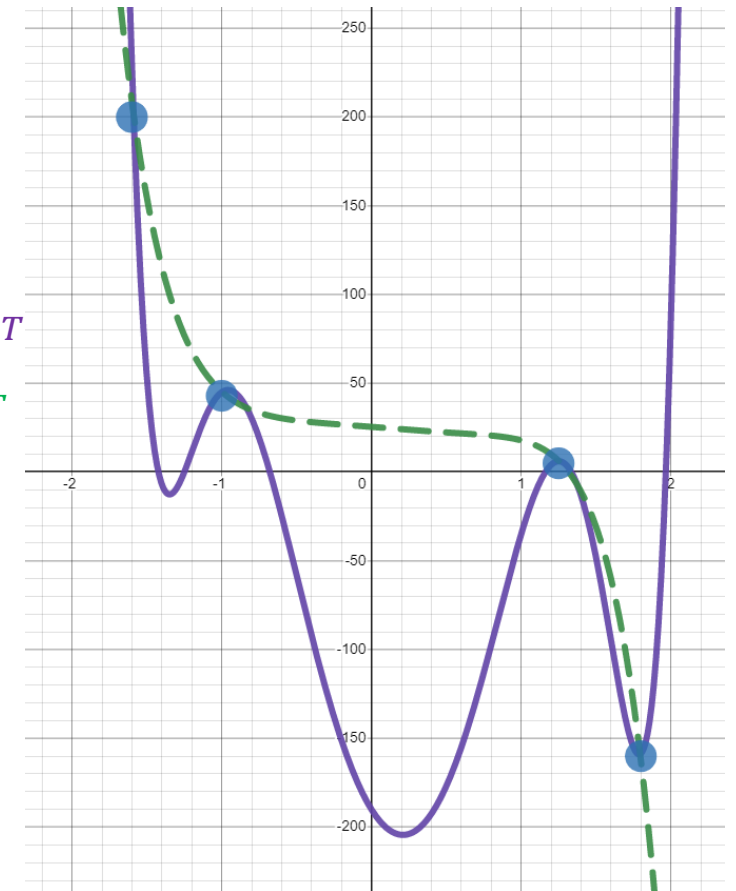
$$h_{\theta}(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3 + \theta_4 x^4 + \theta_5 x^5 + \theta_6 x^6 + \theta_7 x^7 + \theta_8 x^8$$

Model parameters:

$$\theta = [\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5, \theta_6, \theta_7, \theta_8]^T$$

**A.**  $\theta_A = [-190.0, -135.0, 310.0, 45.0, -62.0, 90.0, -82.0, -40.0, 29.0]^T$

**B.**  $\theta_B = [25.5, -6.4, -0.8, 0.0, 6.6, -4.4, 0.2, -2.9, 0.1]^T$



# Overfitting

Definition: The problem of **overfitting** is when the model captures the noise in the training data instead of the underlying structure



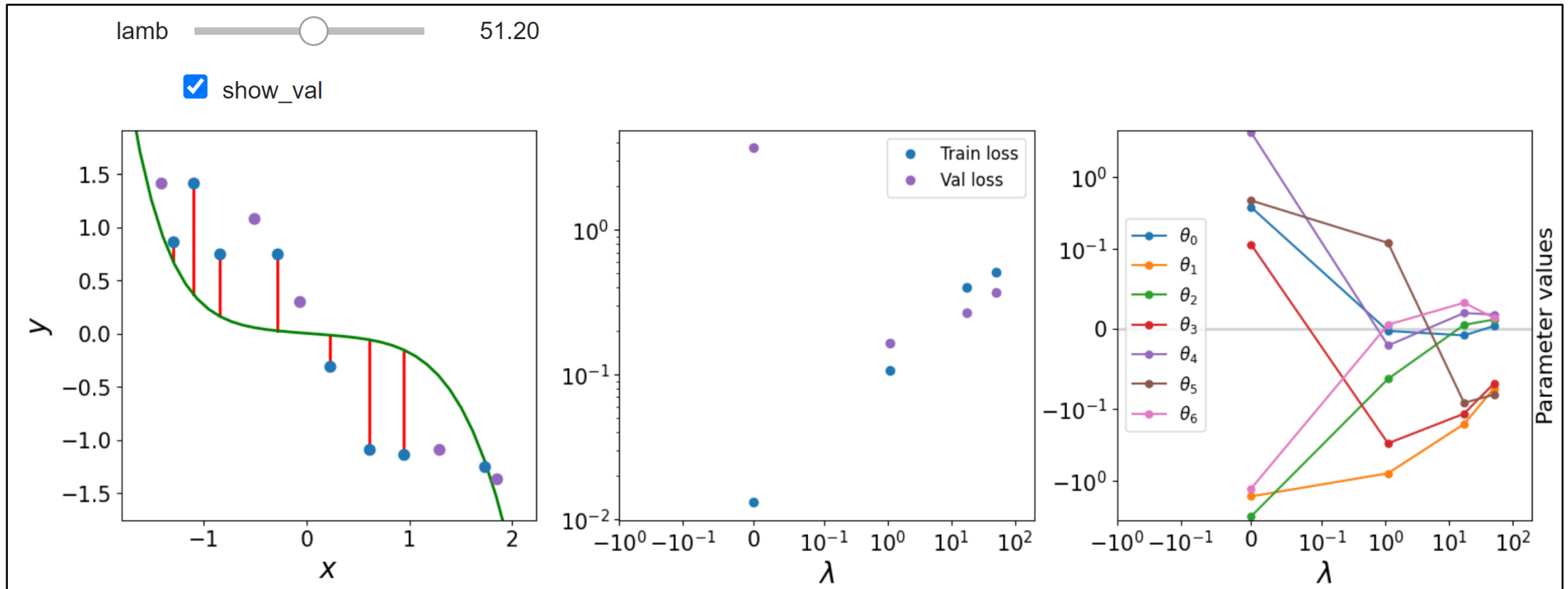
Overfitting can occur in all the models we've seen so far:

- Decision Trees (e.g. when tree is too deep)
- K-NN (e.g. when k is small)
- Linear Regression (e.g. with nonlinear features or extraneous features)
- Logistic Regression (e.g. with nonlinear features or extraneous features)
- Neural networks

# Best of both worlds

How can we keep the expressive power of a complex model while still avoiding overfitting?

Notebook demo: [regression\\_regularization.ipynb](#)

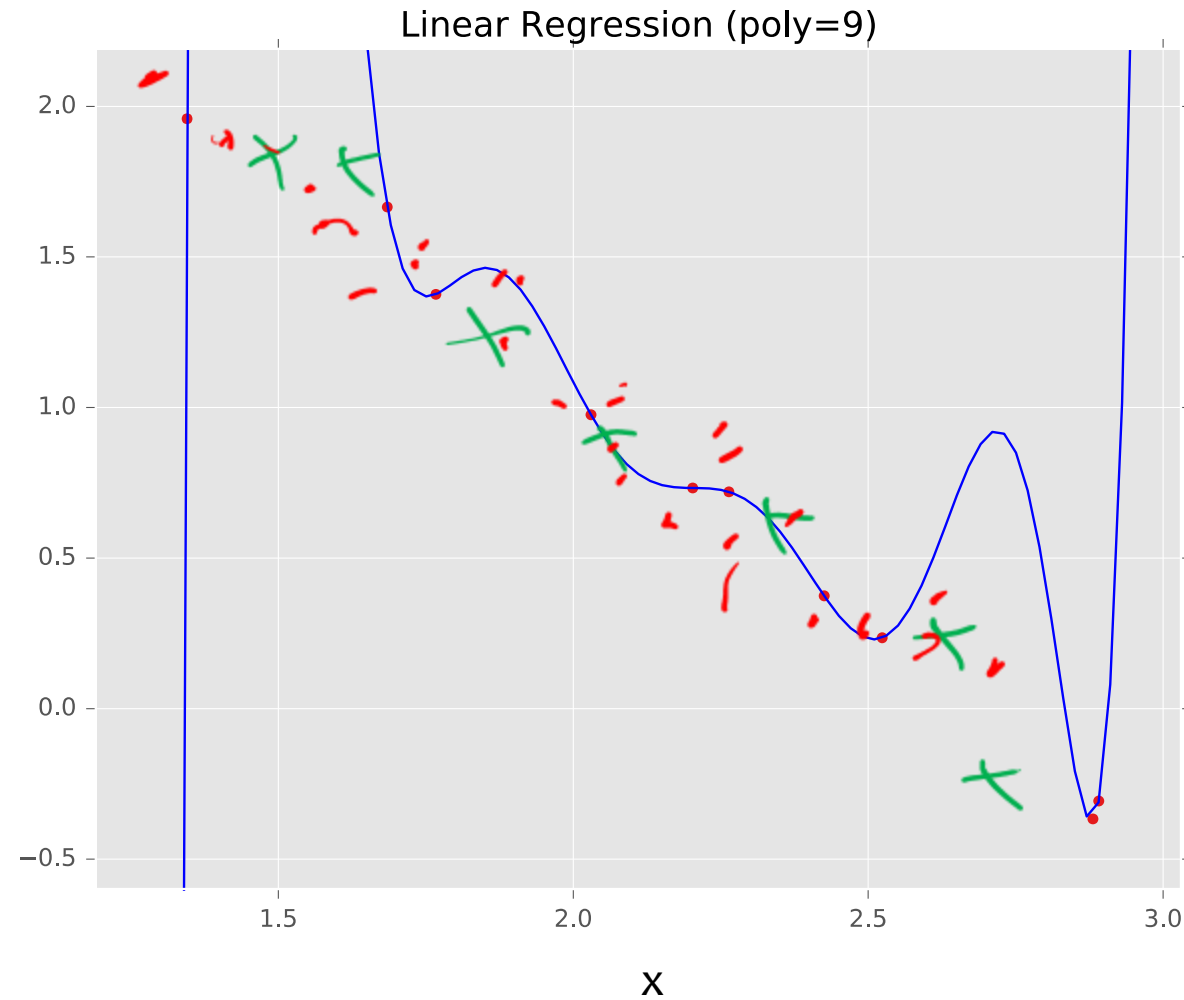


# Example: Linear Regression

**Goal:** Learn  $y = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + b$   
where  $\mathbf{f}(\cdot)$  is a polynomial  
basis function

| y   | x   | $x^2$     | ... | $x^9$     |
|-----|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|
| 2.0 | 1.2 | $(1.2)^2$ | ... | $(1.2)^9$ |
| 1.3 | 1.7 | $(1.7)^2$ | ... | $(1.7)^9$ |
| 0.1 | 2.7 | $(2.7)^2$ | ... | $(2.7)^9$ |
| 1.1 | 1.9 | $(1.9)^2$ | ... | $(1.9)^9$ |

true “unknown”  
target function is  
linear with  
negative slope  
and gaussian  
noise



# Symptoms of Overfitting

$x_1$   
 $x_2$   
 $x_1^2$   
 $x_2^2$

|       |            | $M = 0$ | $M = 1$ | $M = 3$ | $M = 9$     |
|-------|------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| $b$   | $\theta_0$ | 0.19    | 0.82    | 0.31    | 0.35        |
| $w_1$ | $\theta_1$ |         | -1.27   | 7.99    | 232.37      |
| $w_2$ | $\theta_2$ |         |         | -25.43  | -5321.83    |
| $w_3$ | $\theta_3$ |         |         | 17.37   | 48568.31    |
|       | $\theta_4$ |         |         |         | -231639.30  |
|       | $\theta_5$ |         |         |         | 640042.26   |
|       | $\theta_6$ |         |         |         | -1061800.52 |
|       | $\theta_7$ |         |         |         | 1042400.18  |
|       | $\theta_8$ |         |         |         | -557682.99  |
|       | $\theta_9$ |         |         |         | 125201.43   |

# Motivation: Regularization

Occam's Razor: prefer the simplest hypothesis

What does it mean for a hypothesis (or model) to be simple?

1. small number of features (**model selection**)
2. small number of “important” features (**feature reduction**)
3. small values for associated parameters

# Regularization

Key idea:

$$\underline{J(\theta)} + \underline{r(\theta)}$$

Define regularizer  $r(\theta)$  that we will add to our minimization objective to keep the model simple.

$r(\theta)$  should be:

- Small for a simple model
- Large for a complex model

L2 norm: square-root of sum of squares

$$r(\theta) = \|\theta\|_2^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \theta_j^2$$

L1 norm: sum of absolute values

L0 norm: count of non-zero values

# Regularization

$$r(\theta) = \|\theta\|_2^2$$

**A.**  $\theta_A = [6, 3, -4, -2]^T$   $36 + 9 + 16 + 4 = 65$

**B.**  $\theta_B = [0, 3, -4, 0]^T$   $0 + 9 + 16 + 0 = 25$

## Poll 2

Which model do you prefer?



**A.**  $\theta_A = [-190.0, -135.0, 310.0, 45.0]^T$  Training error: 0.0 =  $J(\theta) = \underline{0}$

**B.**  $\theta_B = [0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0]^T$  Training error: 34.2 =  $J(\theta) = \underline{34.2}$

$$r(\theta_B) = \underline{0}$$

$$h(\vec{x}) = 0.1 + 0 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + 0 \cdot x_3 \\ = 0$$

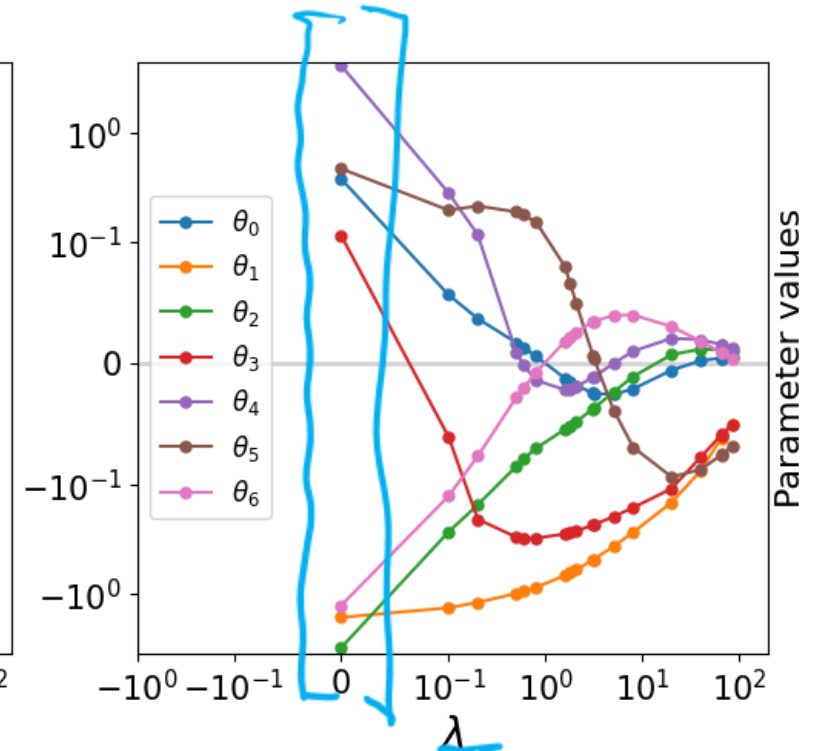
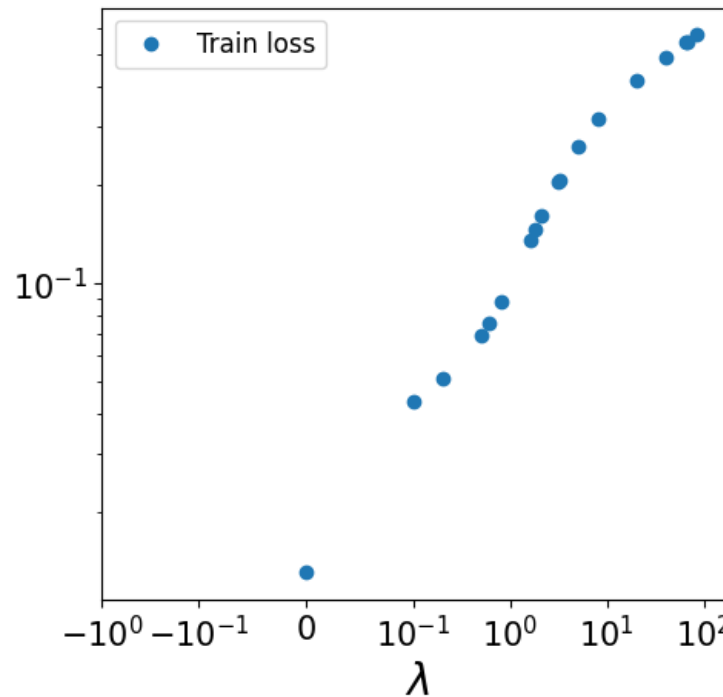
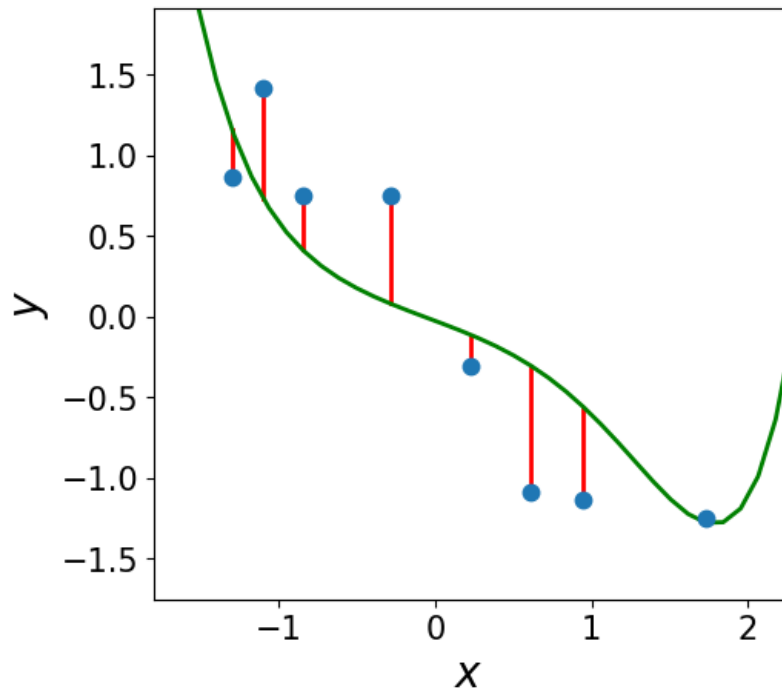
# Poll 3

Notebook demo: [regression\\_regularization.ipynb](#) on course website

What is the best value for lambda?

$$\hat{\theta} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} J(\theta) + \lambda r(\theta)$$

$$\theta_0 + \theta_1 x + \theta_2 x^2 + \theta_3 x^3$$

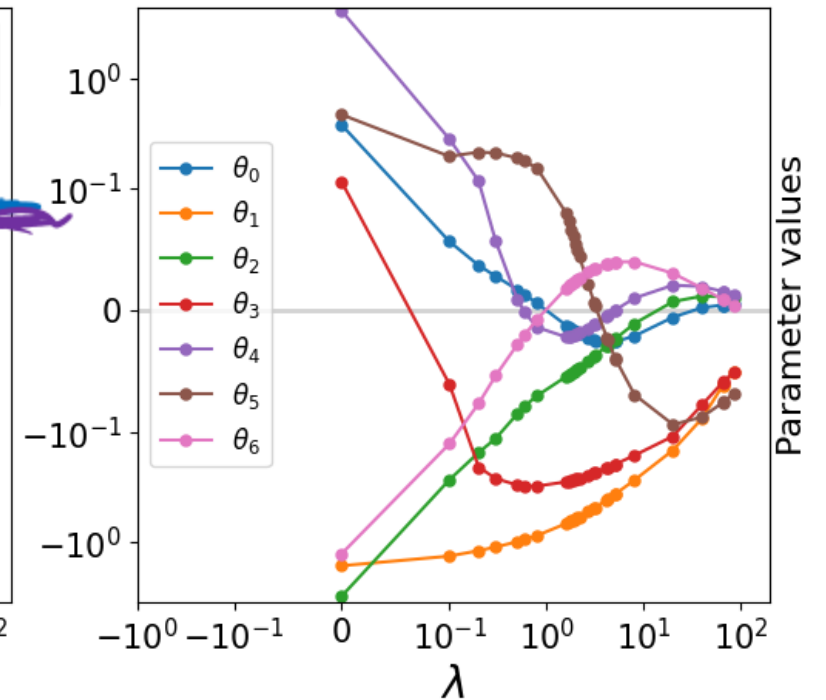
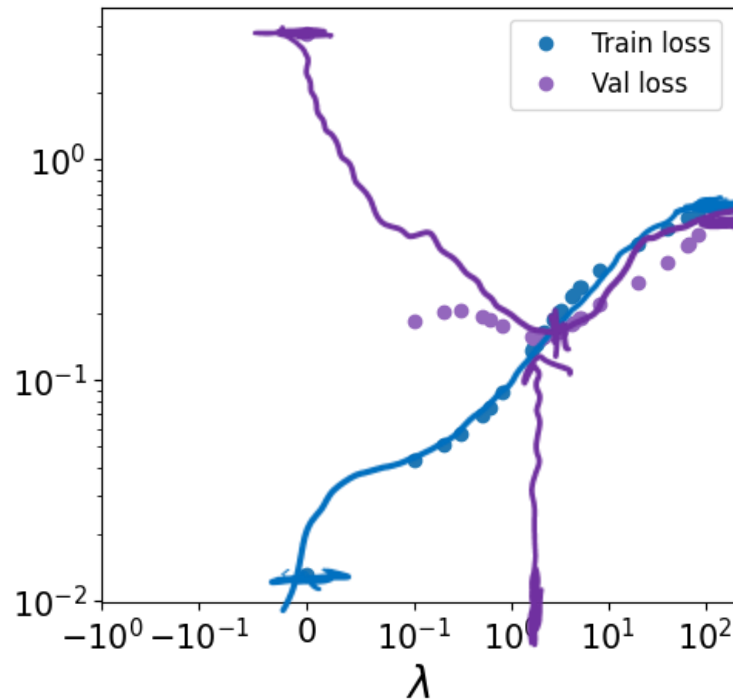
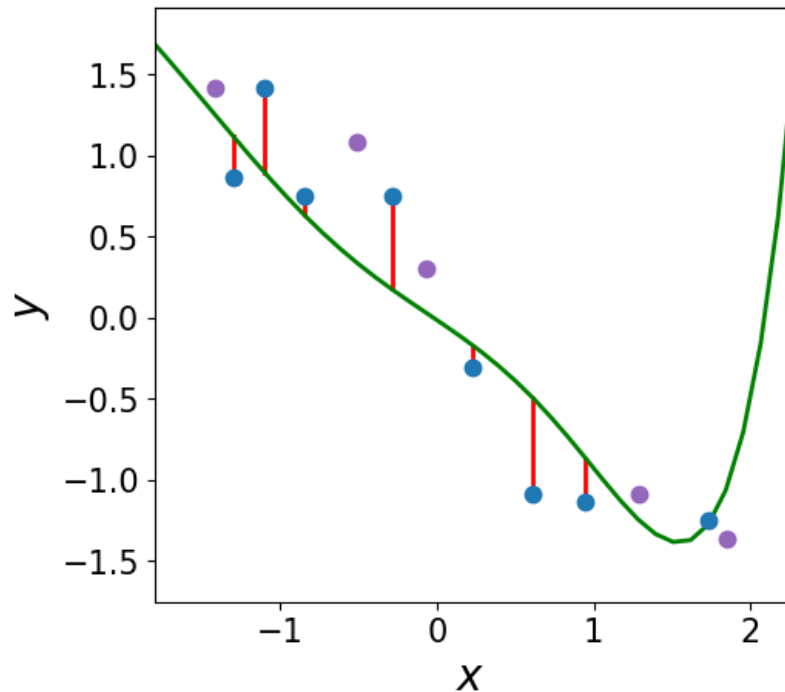


# Poll 3

Notebook demo: [regression\\_regularization.ipynb](#) on course website

What is the best value for lambda?

$$\hat{\theta} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} J(\theta) + \lambda r(\theta)$$



# Regularization

**Given** objective function:  $J(\theta)$

**Goal** is to find:  $\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} J(\theta) + \lambda r(\theta)$

$J'(\theta)$

**Key idea:** Define regularizer  $r(\theta)$  s.t. we tradeoff between fitting the data and keeping the model simple

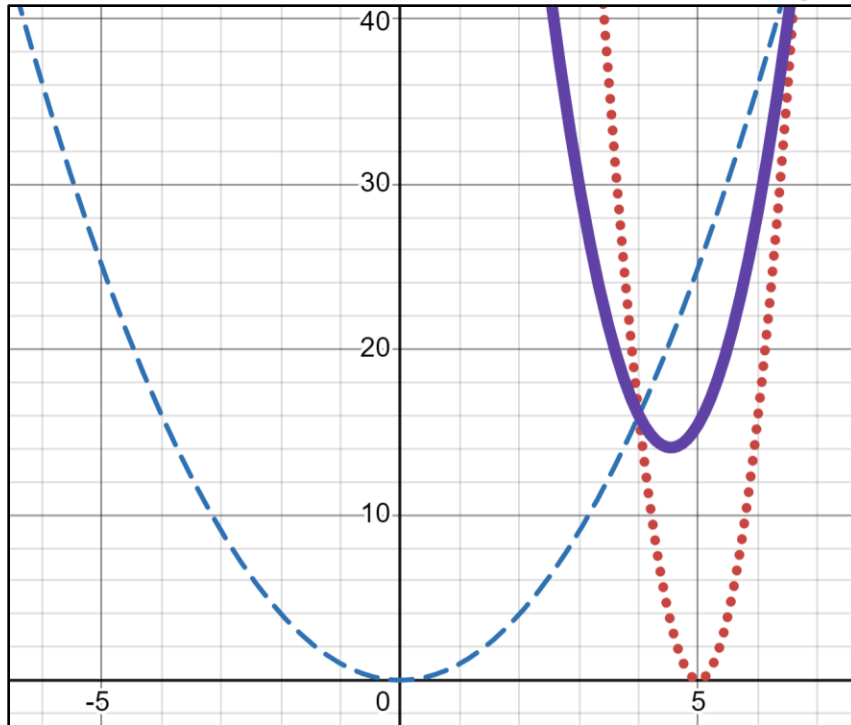
**Choose form of  $r(\theta)$ :**

# Regularization

## L2 Demos

Desmos: 1-D

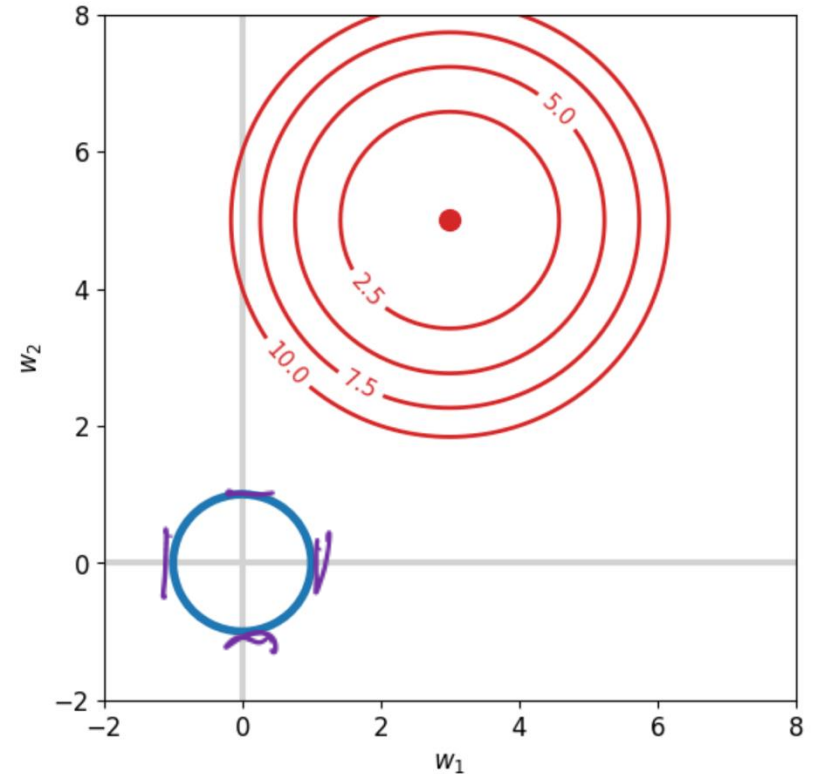
[Regularization Interpolation](#)



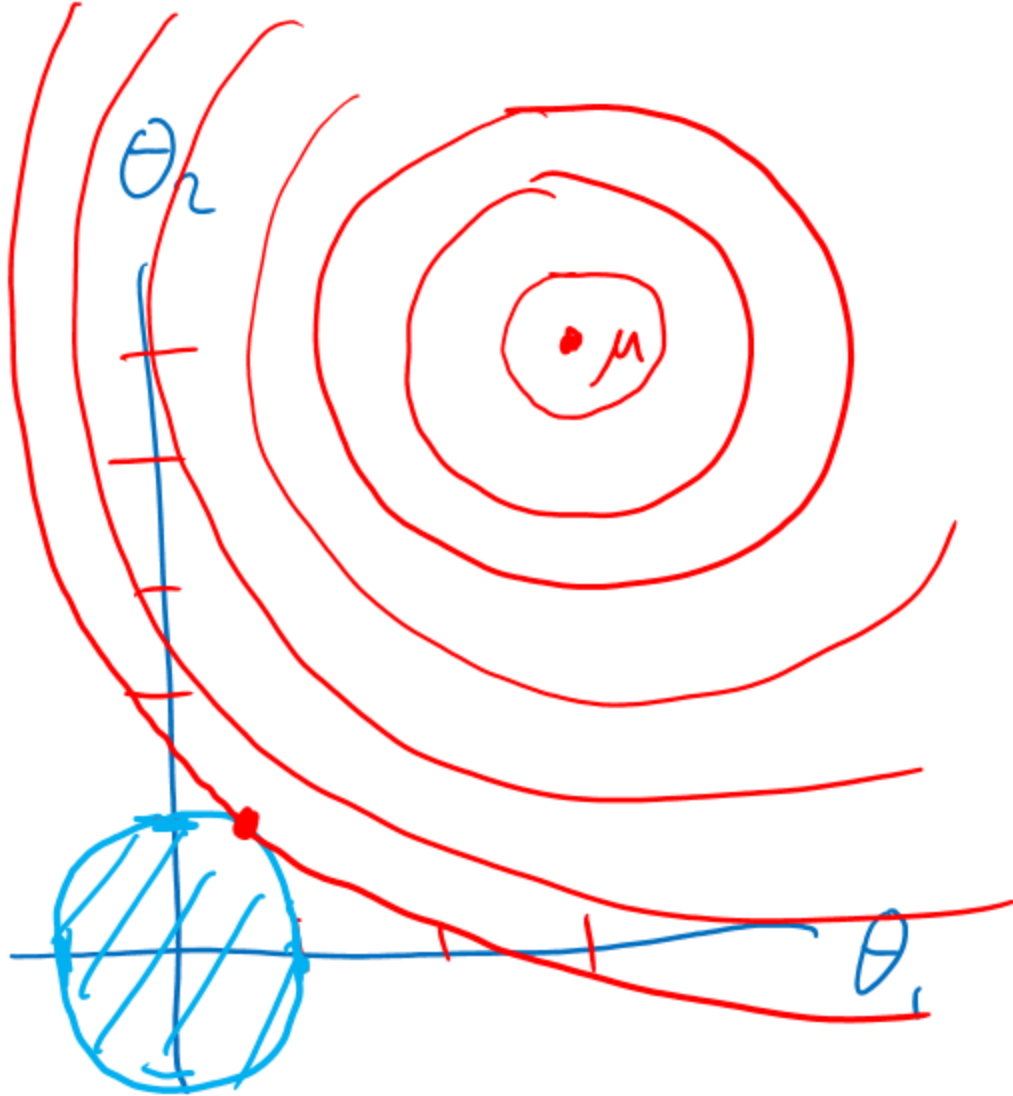
$$J'(\theta) =$$

Notebook: 2-D

[L1\\_sparsity.ipynb](#) (L2 part for now)



# Regularization



$$J(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \|\vec{\theta} - \vec{\mu}\| \quad \mu = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\min_{\theta} J(\theta_1, \theta_2)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \|\theta\|_2 \leq 1$$

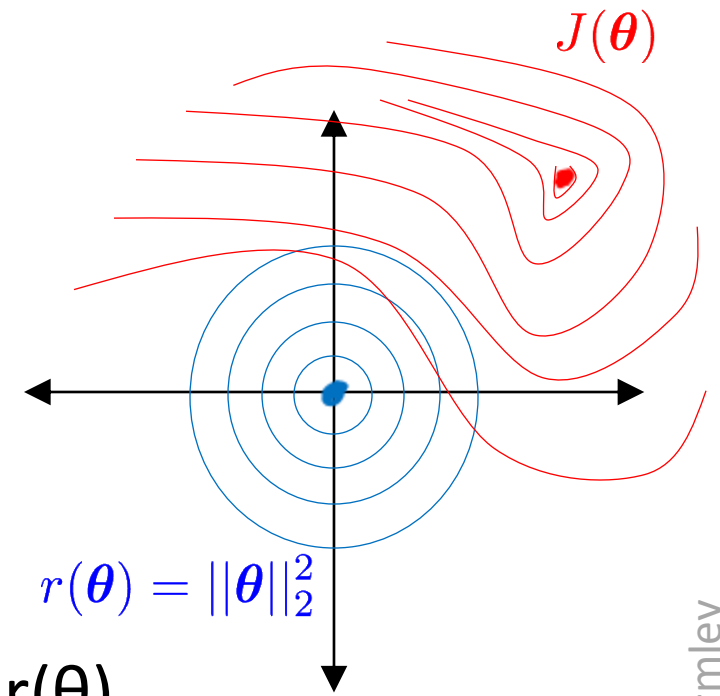
## Poll 4

Suppose we are minimizing  $J'(\theta)$  where

$$\underline{J'(\theta)} = J(\theta) + \lambda r(\theta)$$

As  $\lambda$  increases, the minimum of  $J'(\theta)$  will...

- A. ...move towards the midpoint between  $J'(\theta)$  and  $r(\theta)$
- B. ...move towards the minimum of  $J(\theta)$
- C. ...move towards the minimum of  $r(\theta)$
- D. ...move towards a theta vector of positive infinities
- E. ...move towards a theta vector of negative infinities
- F. ...stay the same



# Regularization Exercise

## *In-class Exercise*

1. Plot train error vs. regularization hyperparameter (cartoon)
2. Plot validation error vs. regularization hyperparameter (cartoon)



$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} J(\theta) + \lambda r(\theta)$$

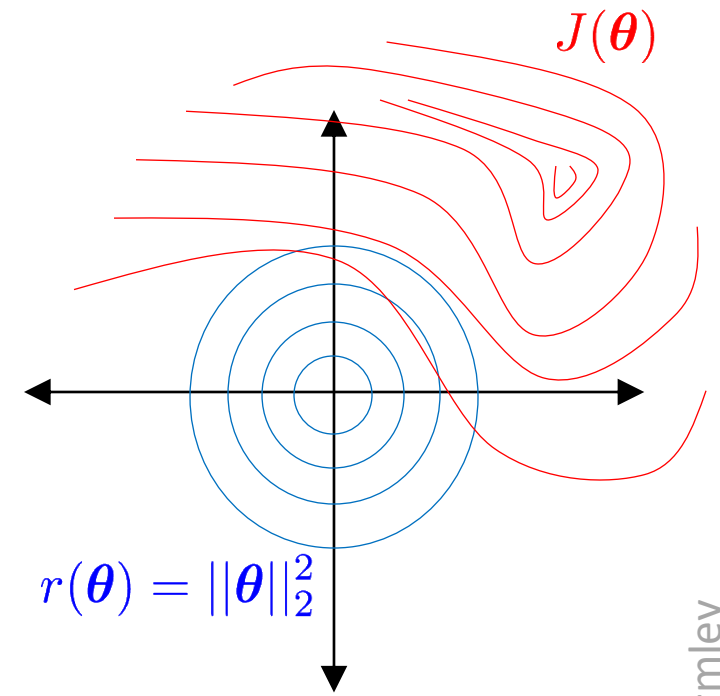
## Poll 5

Suppose we are minimizing  $J'(\theta)$  where

$$J'(\theta) = J(\theta) + \lambda r(\theta)$$

As we increase  $\lambda$  from zero, the **validation** error will...

- A. ...increase
- B. ...decrease
- C. ...first increase, then decrease
- D. ...first decrease, then increase
- E. ...stay the same



## Poll 6

As we increase  $\lambda$ , our model is more likely to:

- A. Overfit
- B. Underfit

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} J(\theta) + \lambda r(\theta)$$

# Regularization

## Don't Regularize the Bias (Intercept) Parameter

- In our models so far, the bias / intercept parameter is usually denoted by  $\theta_0$  - that is, the parameter for which we fixed  $x_0 = 1$
- Regularizers always avoid penalizing this bias / intercept parameter
- Why? Because otherwise the learning algorithms wouldn't be invariant to a shift in the y-values

## Whitening Data

- It's common to *whiten* each feature by subtracting its mean and dividing by its variance
- For regularization, this helps all the features be penalized in the same units (e.g. convert both centimeters and kilometers to z-scores)

# Regularization Optimization

# Linear Regression with L2 Regularization

a.k.a Ridge regression or Tychonov regression

$$\hat{y} = X\theta \quad \leftarrow$$

$$J(\theta) = \ell(y, \hat{y}) + \lambda \|\theta\|_2^2$$

$$\ell(\hat{y}) = \|y - \hat{y}\|_2^2$$

denom

$$\frac{M \times 1}{\uparrow} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \theta} = 0 = \frac{\frac{\partial \hat{y}}{\partial \theta} \left[ \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \hat{y}} \right]}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial (\lambda \|\theta\|_2^2)}{\partial \theta}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = X^T [-2(\hat{y} - y)] + 2\lambda \vec{\theta}$$

$$0 = -\cancel{2}X^T y + \cancel{2}X^T X \theta + \cancel{2}\lambda \theta$$

$$X^T y = X^T X \theta + \lambda \theta = (\cancel{X^T X + \lambda}) \theta = (X^T X + \lambda I_m) \theta$$

$$(X^T X + \lambda I_m)^{-1} X^T y = \theta$$

# Linear Algebra Timeout

$$Av + cv$$

Distribution of multiplication and addition with scalar involved

Original

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Av + cv$$

Broken

$$\left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \right) \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(A + c)v$$

Fixed

$$\left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(A + cI)v$$

Regularization with L1 norm

# Model Preference

Which is model do you prefer, assuming both have zero training error?

Model structure (for both models):

$$h_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2 + \theta_3 x_3 + \theta_4 x_4 + \theta_5 x_5 + \theta_6 x_6 + \theta_7 x_7 + \theta_8 x_8$$

Model parameters:

$$\theta = [\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5, \theta_6, \theta_7, \theta_8]^T$$

**A.**  $\theta_A =$

$$[-190.0, -135.0, 310.0, 45.0, -62.0, 90.0, -82.0, -40.0, 29.0]^T$$

**B.**  $\theta_B =$

$$[25.5, -6.4, -0.8, 0.0, 6.6, -4.4, 0.2, -2.9, 0.1]^T$$

What if  $\mathbf{x}$  was a vector of input feature measurements (rather than polynomial features)?

# Motivation: Regularization

## Example: Stock Prices

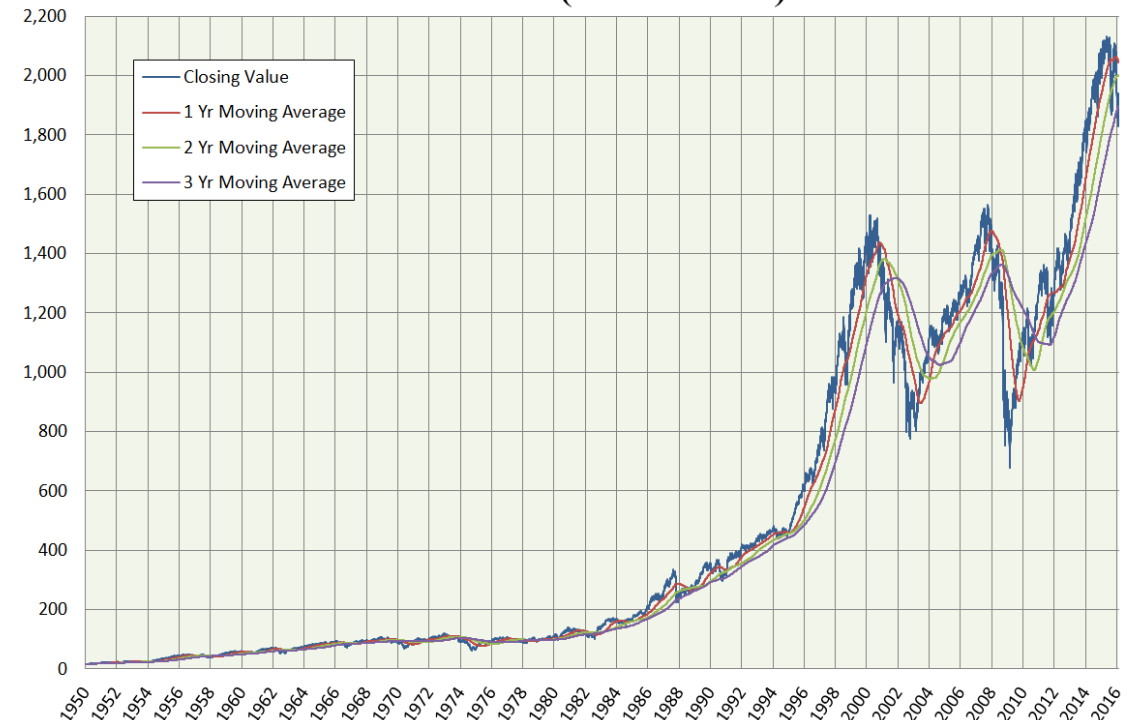
Suppose we wish to predict Google's stock price at time  $t+1$

What features should we use?  
(putting all computational concerns aside)

- Stock prices of all other stocks at times  $t$ ,  $t-1$ ,  $t-2$ , ...,  $t-k$
- Mentions of Google with positive / negative sentiment words in all newspapers and social media outlets

Do we believe that **all** of these features are going to be useful?

S&P 500 (1950-2016)



# Regularization

Key idea:

Define regularizer  $r(\theta)$  that we will add to our minimization objective to keep the model simple.

$r(\theta)$  should be:

- Small for a simple model
- Large for a complex model

L2 norm: square-root of sum of squares

$$\|\theta\|_2^2 = \sum \theta_j^2$$

L1 norm: sum of absolute values

$$\|\theta\|_1 = \sum |\theta_j|$$

L0 norm: count of non-zero values

$$\leftarrow \|\theta\|_0 = \sum \mathbb{1}(\theta_j \neq 0)$$

# Regularization

$$\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_2$$

$$\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1$$

$$\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_0$$

*A.*  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_A = [6, 3, -4, -2]^T$

15

4

*B.*  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_B = [0, 3, -4, 0]^T$

7

2 ←

# Regularization

Given objective function:  $J(\theta)$

Goal is to find:  $\hat{\theta} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} J(\theta) + \lambda \underline{r(\theta)}$

Key idea: Define regularizer  $r(\theta)$  s.t. we tradeoff between fitting the data and keeping the model simple

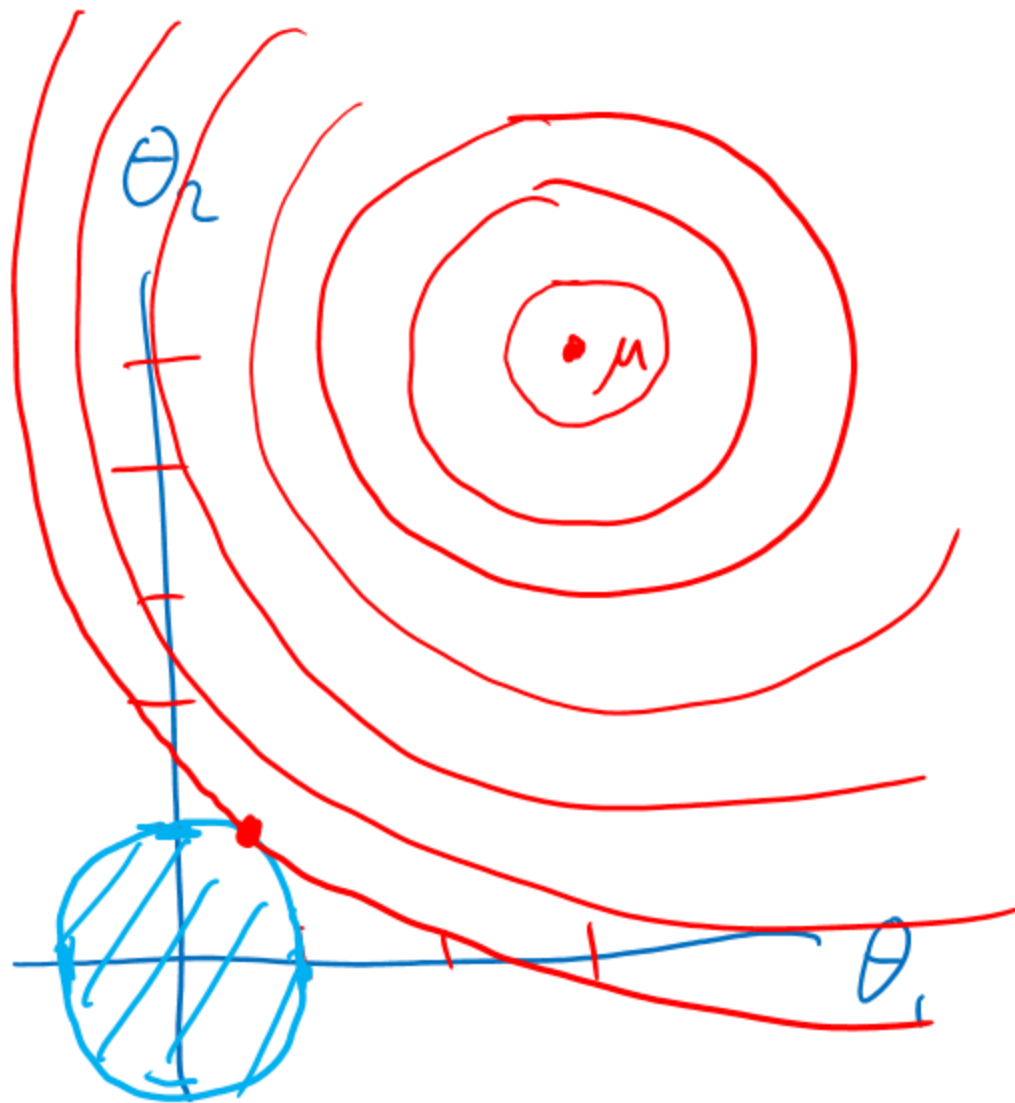
Choose form of  $r(\theta)$ :

- Example: q-norm (usually p-norm)

$$r(\theta) = ||\theta||_q = \left[ \sum_{m=1}^M ||\theta_m||^q \right]^{\left(\frac{1}{q}\right)}$$

| $q$ | $r(\theta)$                                       | yields parameters that are... | name    | optimization notes              |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| 0   | $  \theta  _0 = \sum \mathbb{1}(\theta_m \neq 0)$ | zero values                   | L0 reg. | no good computational solutions |
| 1   | $  \theta  _1 = \sum  \theta_m $                  | zero values                   | L1 reg. | subdifferentiable               |
| 2   | $(  \theta  _2)^2 = \sum \theta_m^2$              | small values                  | L2 reg. | differentiable                  |

# Regularization



$$J(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \|\bar{\theta} - \vec{\mu}\| \quad \mu = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

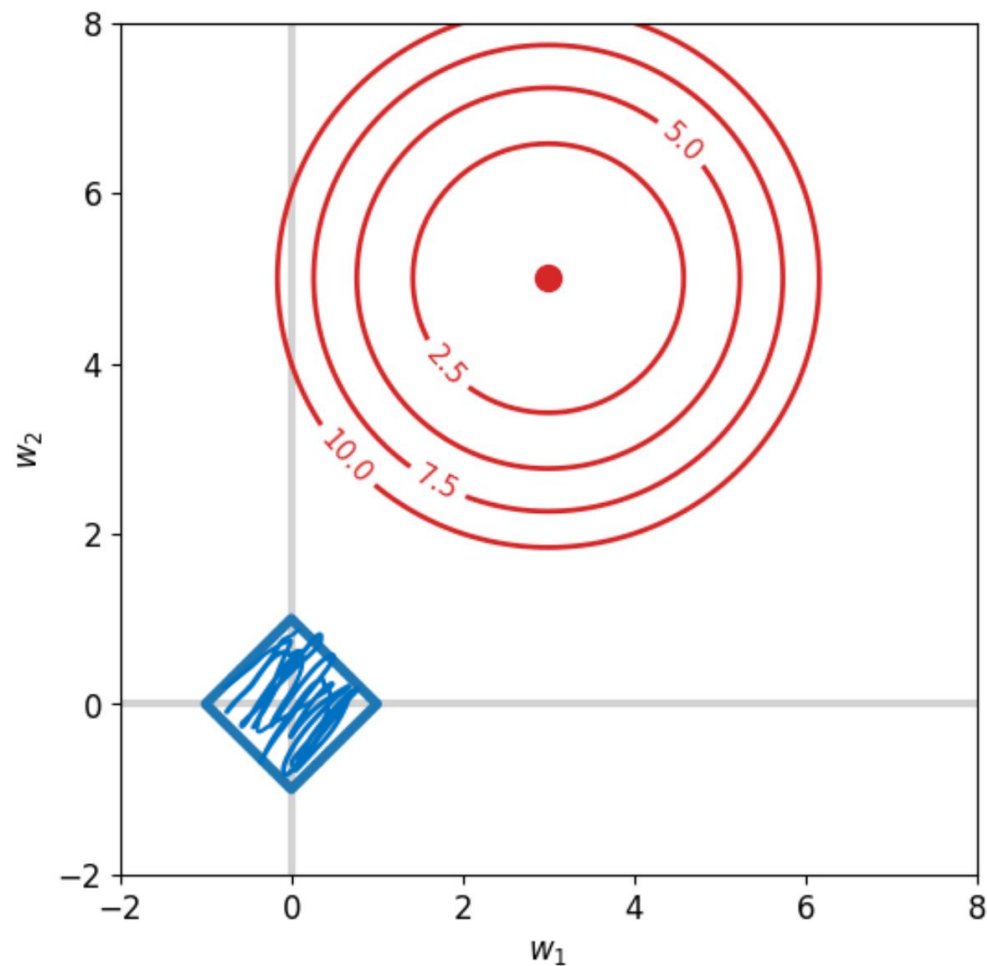
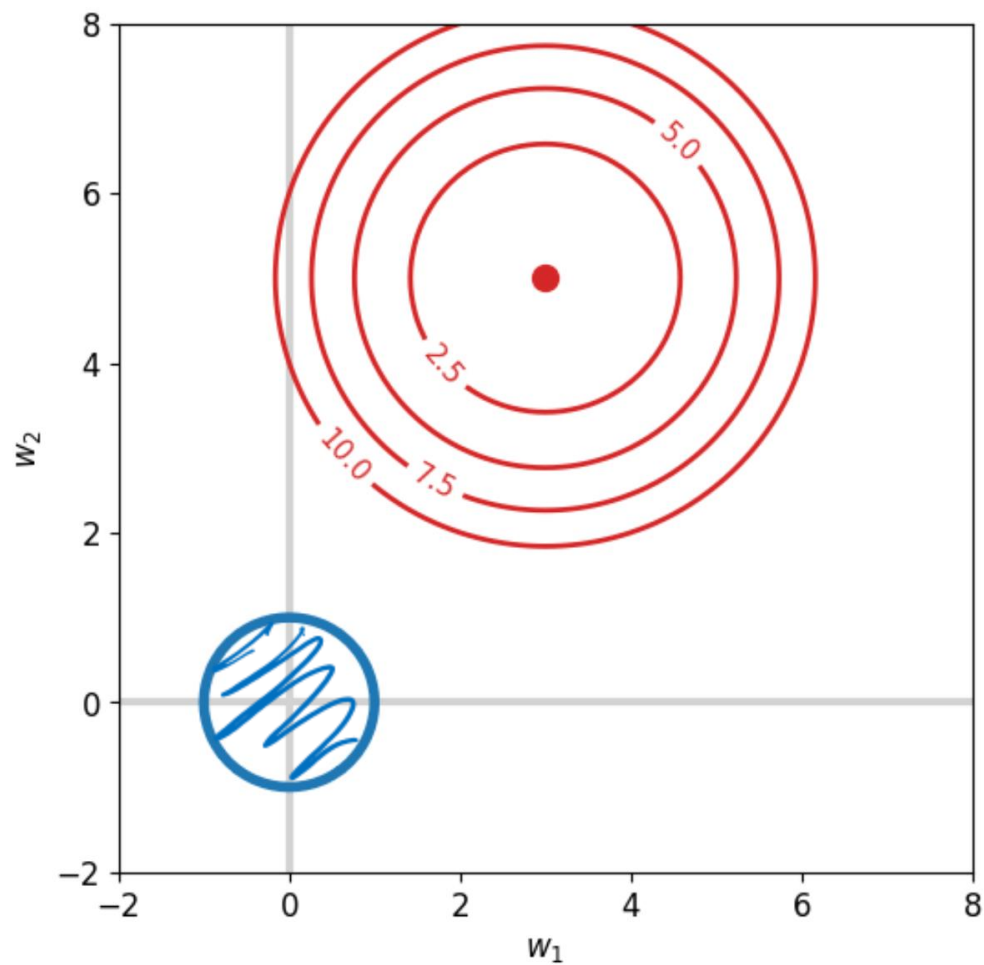
$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\theta} \quad & J(\theta_1, \theta_2) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|\theta\|_2^2 \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

# Regularization

L1 demo: [L1\\_sparsity.ipynb](#)

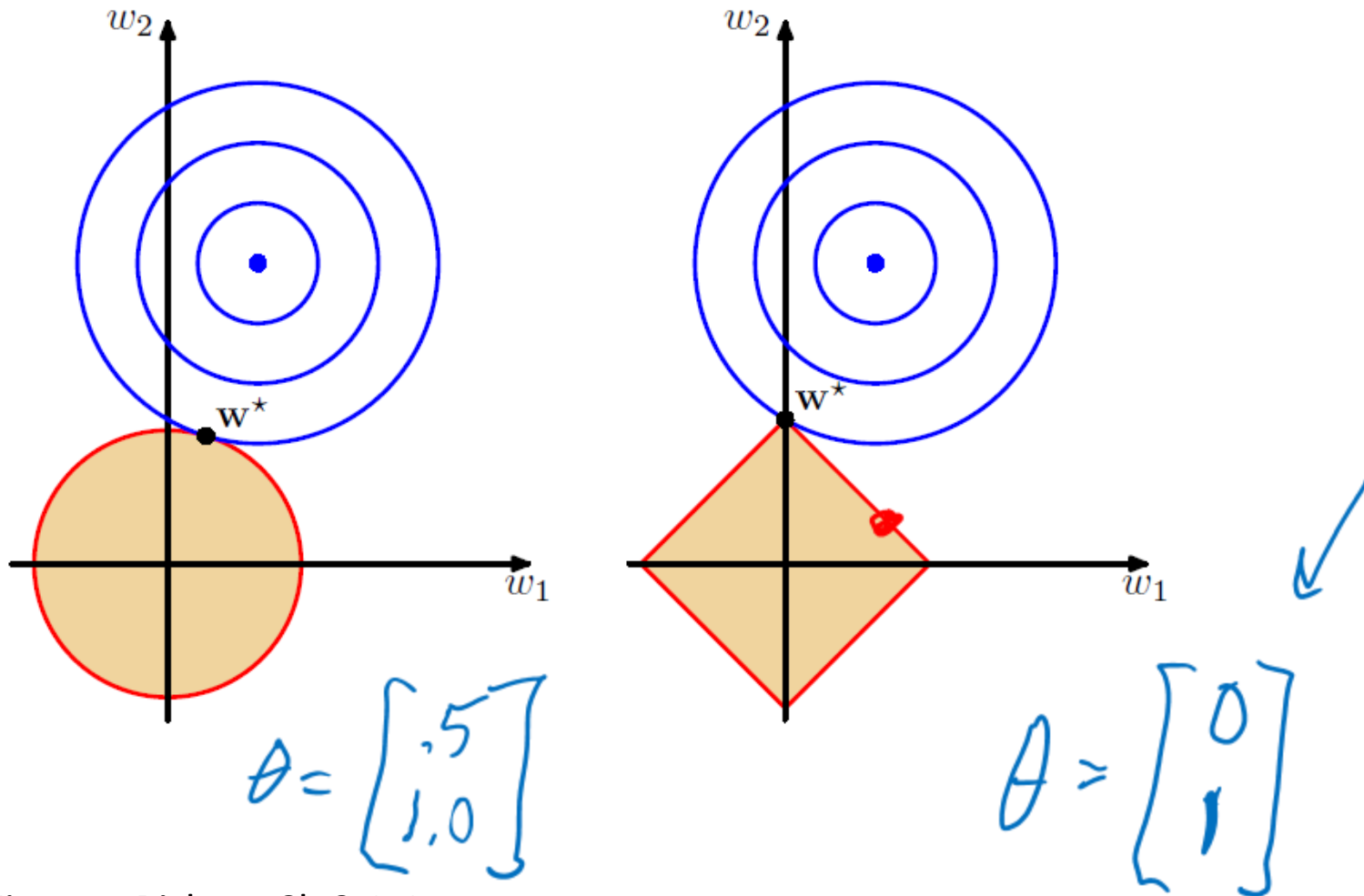
$$\underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} J(\theta)$$

s.t.  $\|\theta\|_2^2 \leq 1$



# L2 vs L1 Regularization

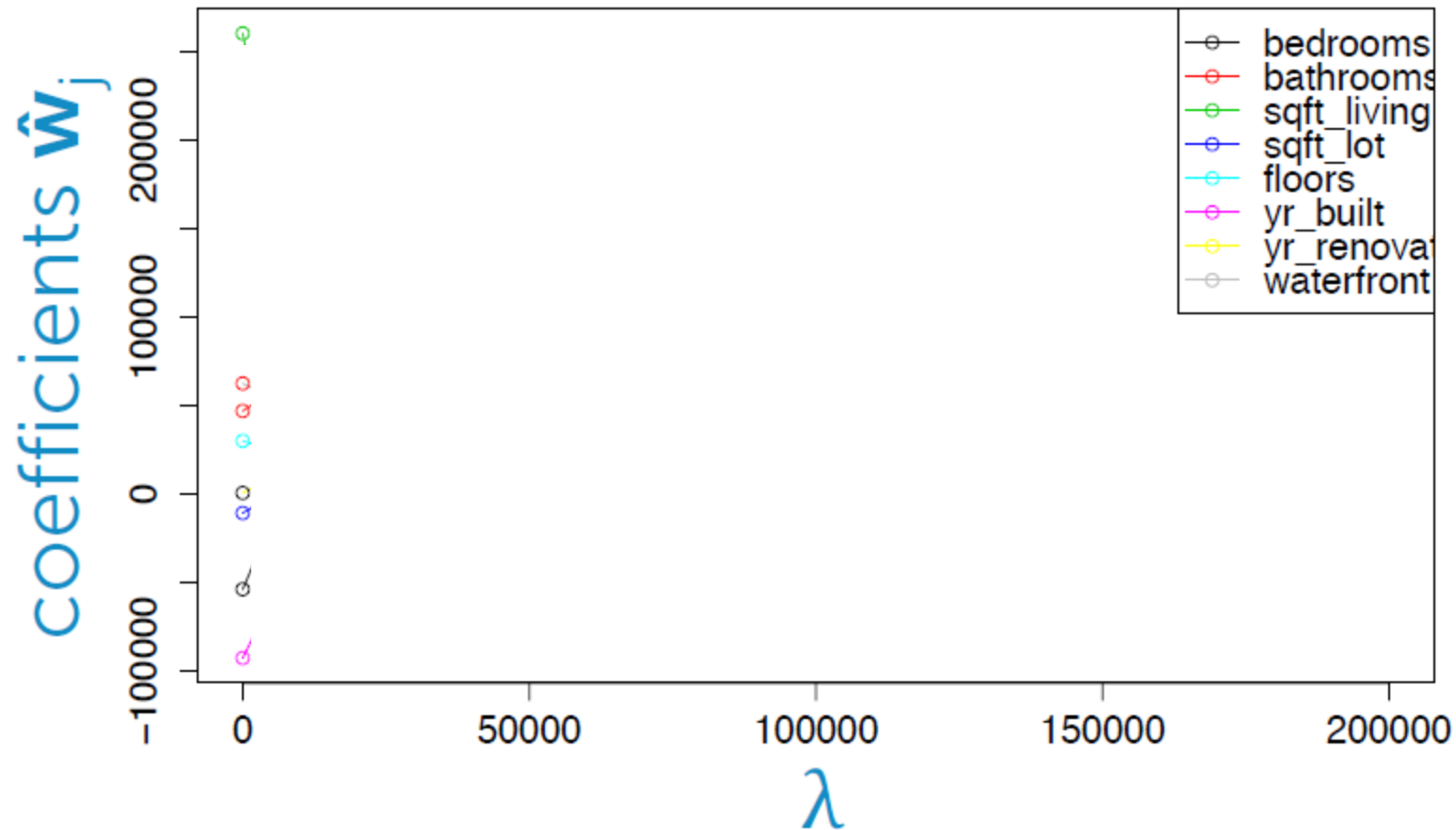
Combine original objective with penalty on parameters



$\|\theta\|_0 = \text{count on nonzeros}$

# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features



# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features

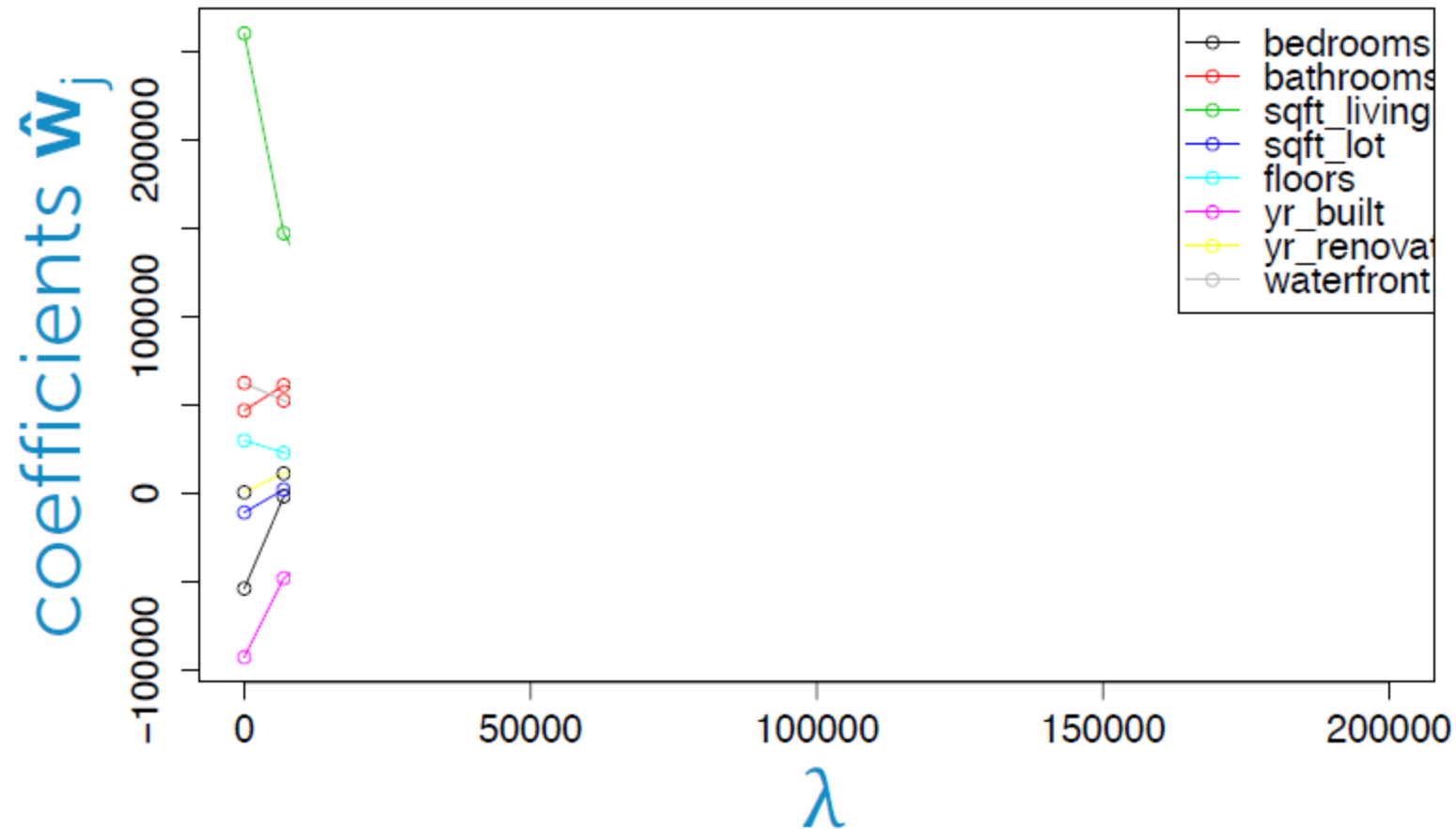
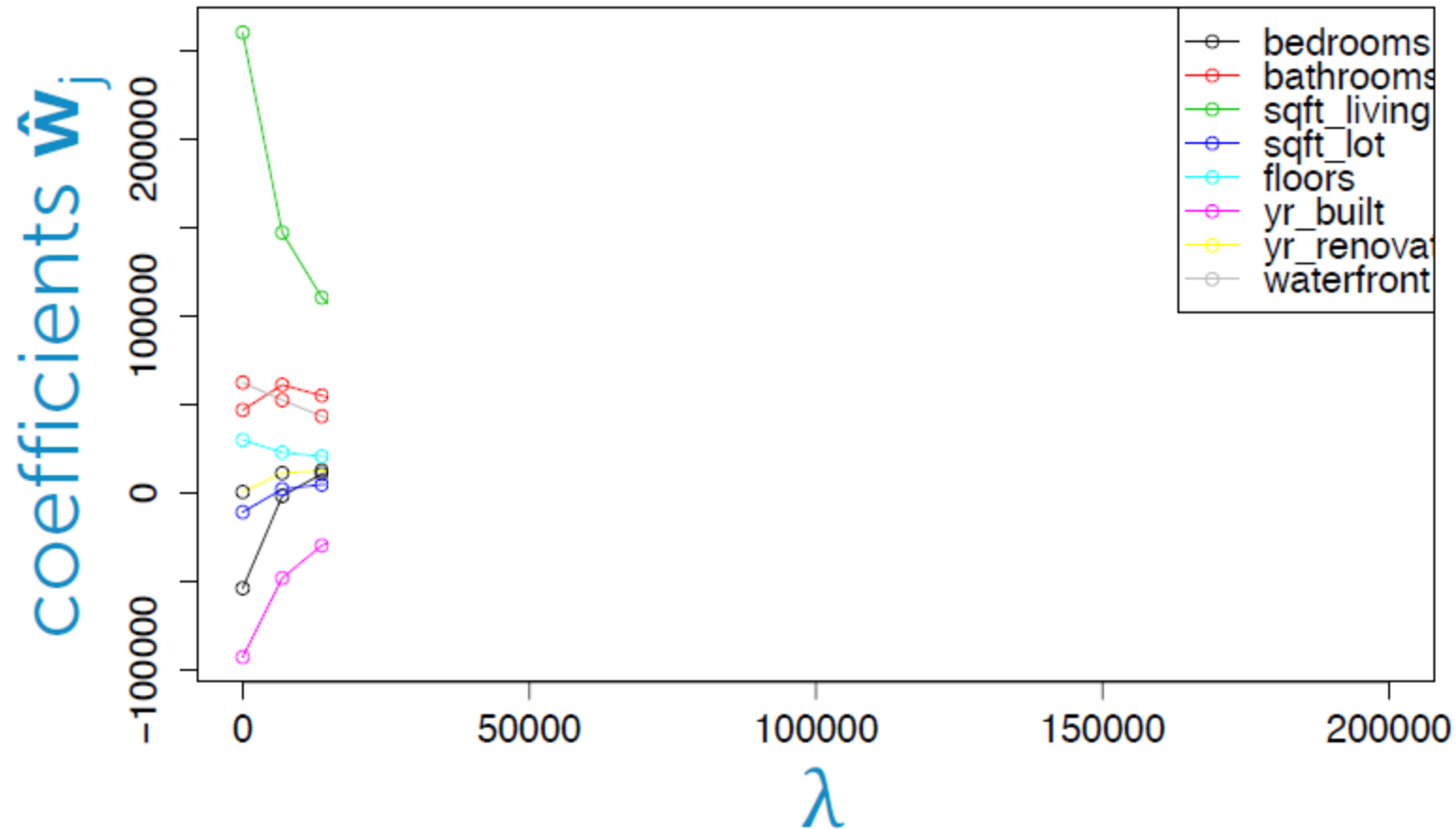


Figure: Emily Fox, University of Washington

# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features



# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features

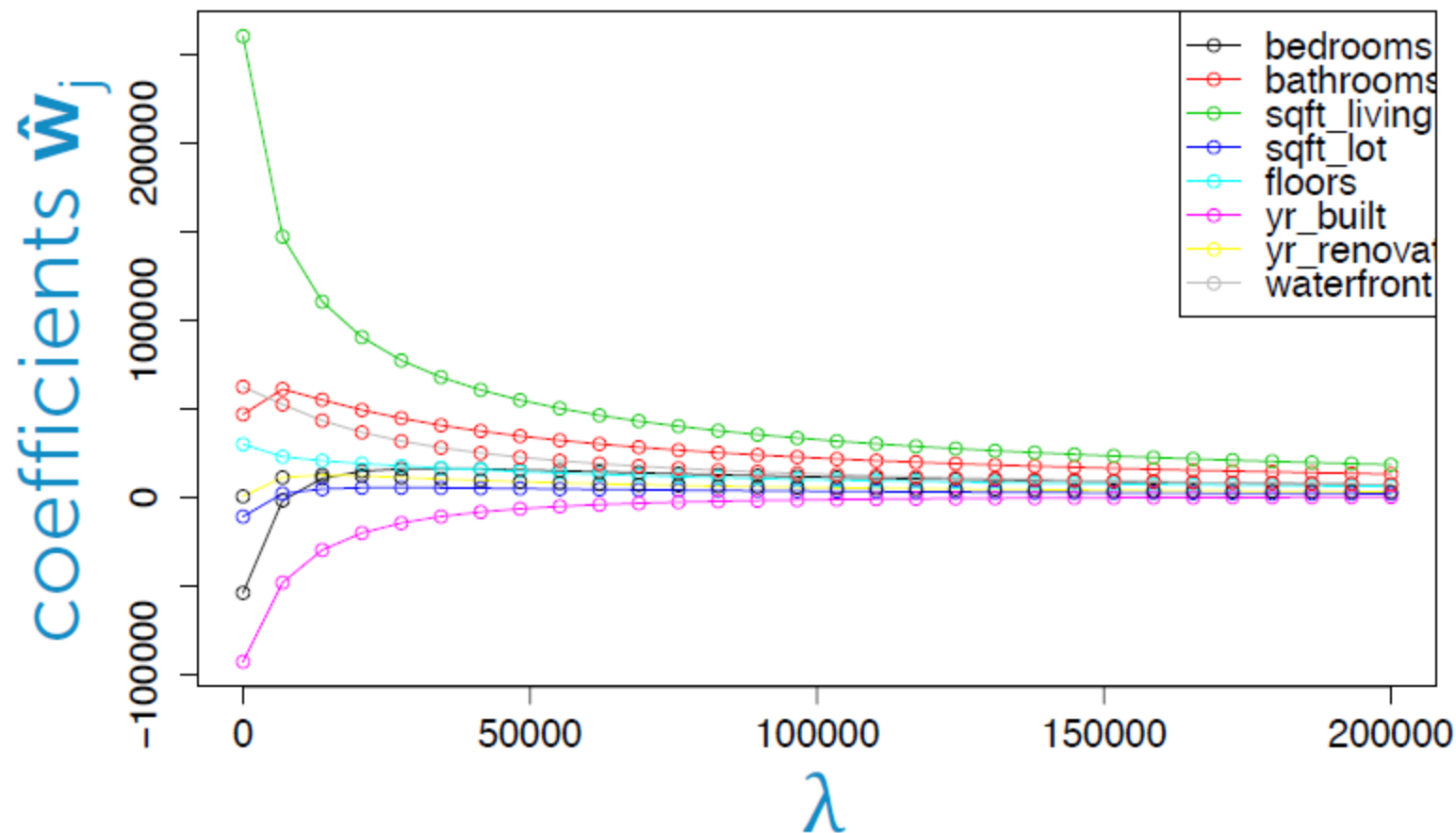


Figure: Emily Fox, University of Washington

# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features

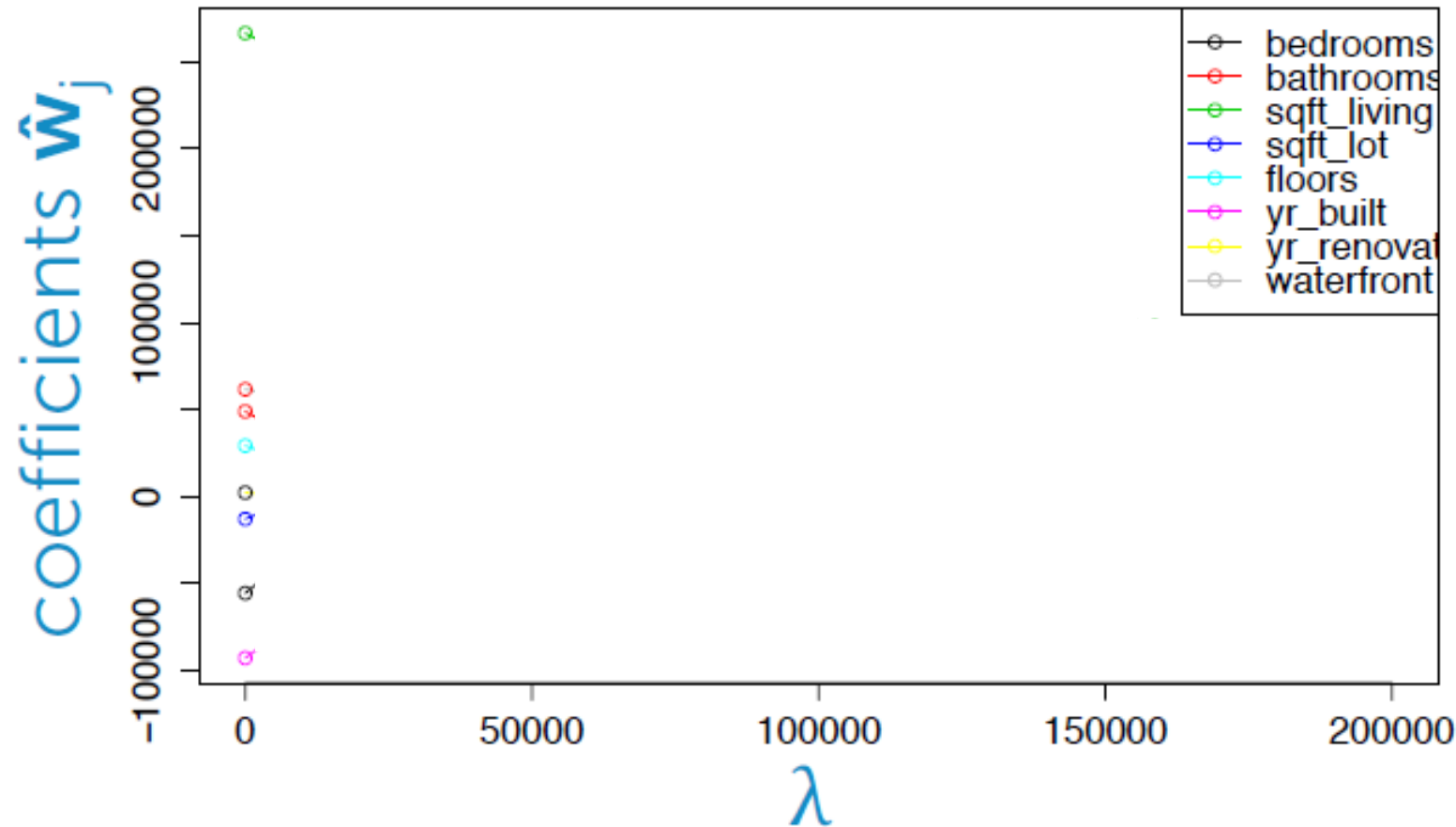


Figure: Emily Fox, University of Washington

# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features

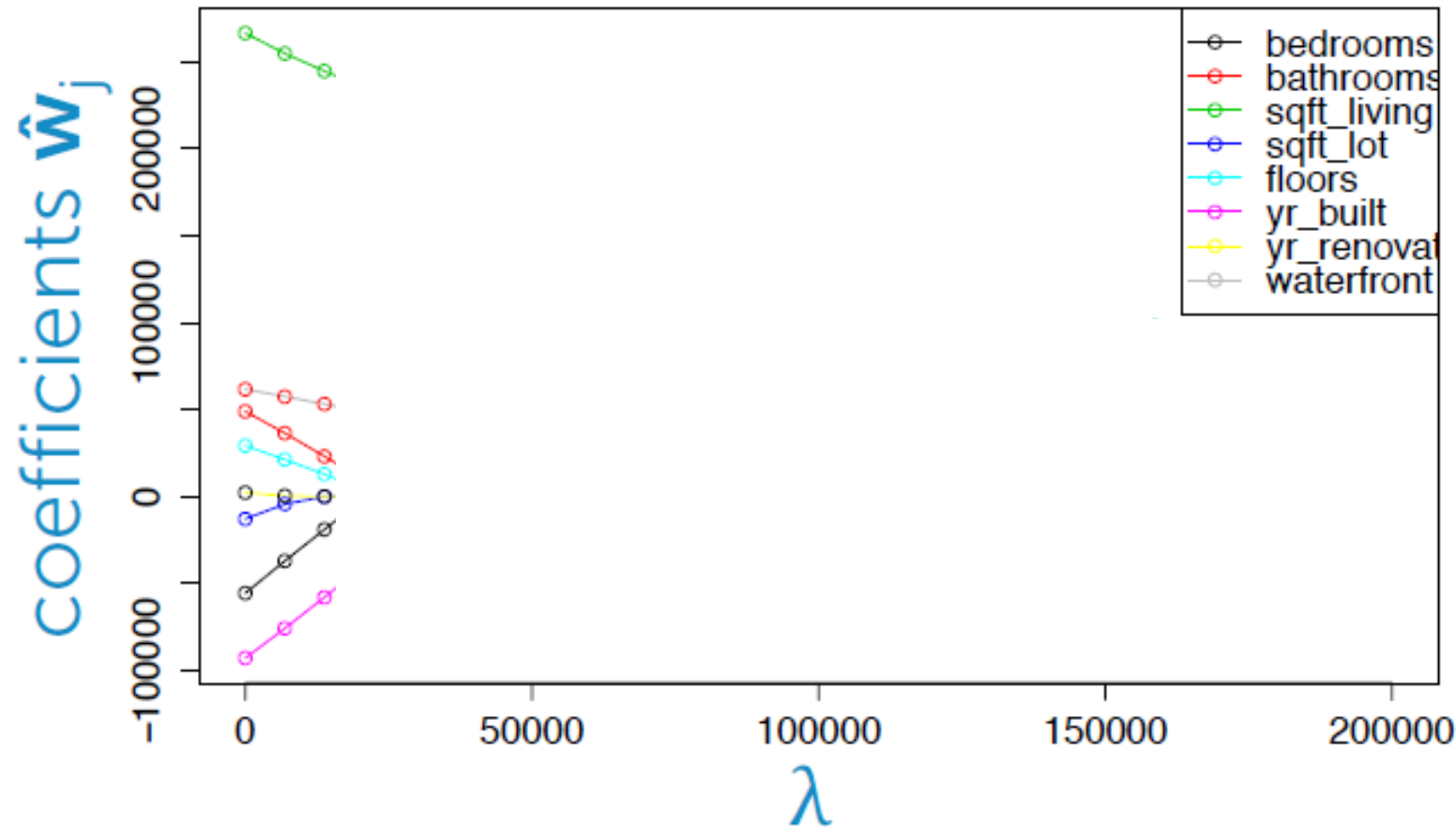


Figure: Emily Fox, University of Washington

# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features

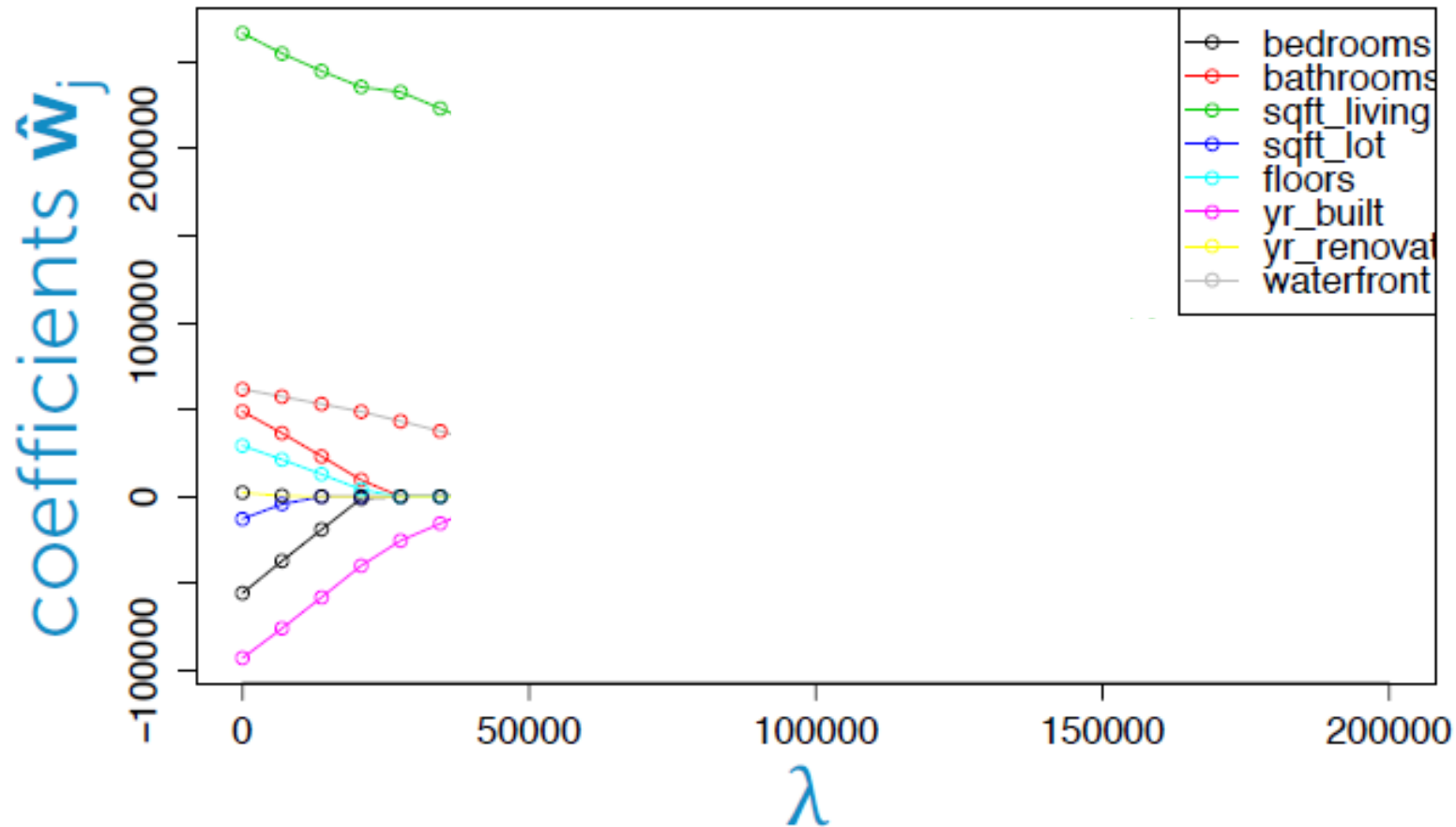


Figure: Emily Fox, University of Washington

# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features

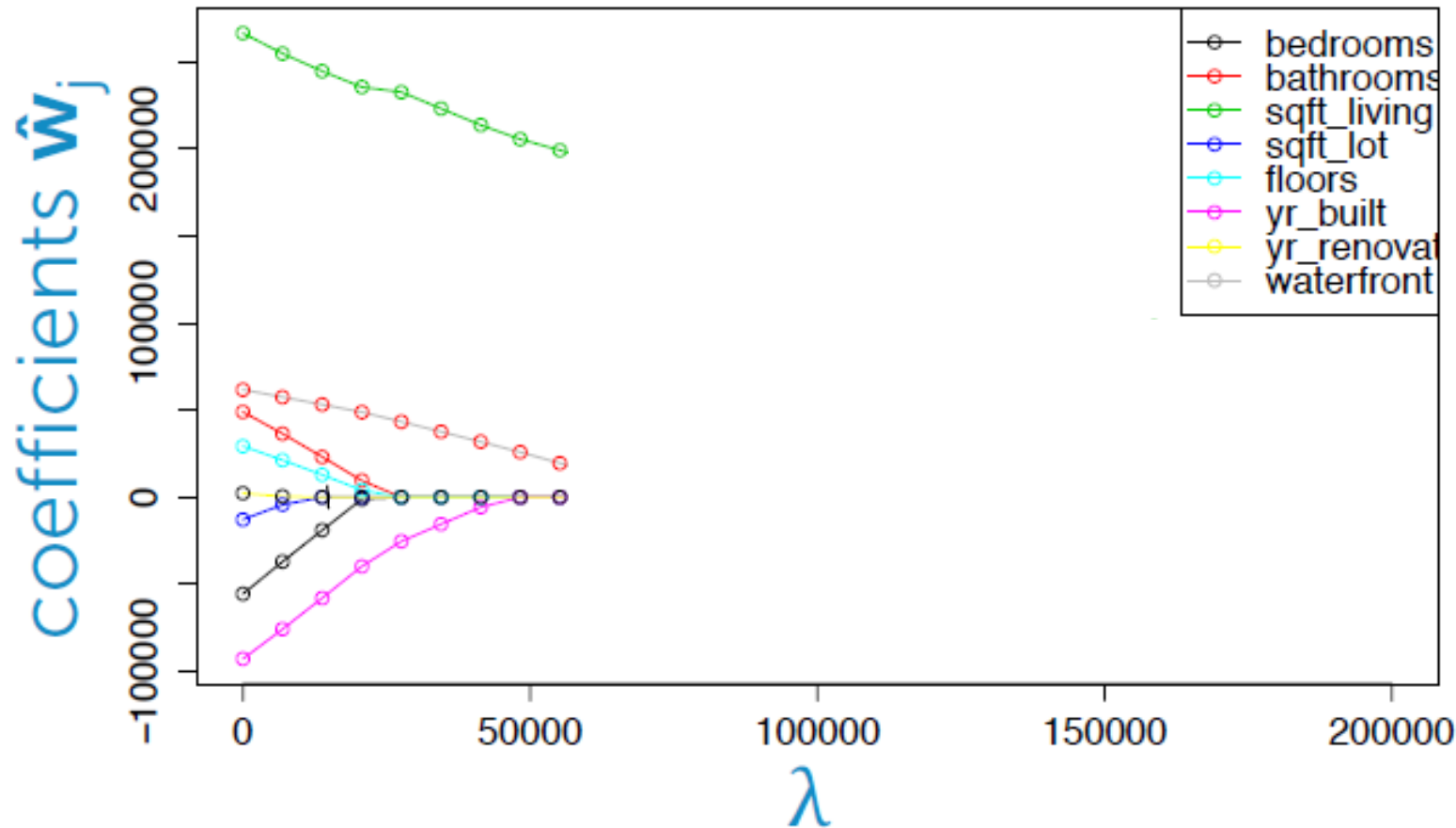


Figure: Emily Fox, University of Washington

# L2 vs L1: Housing Price Example

Predict housing price from several features

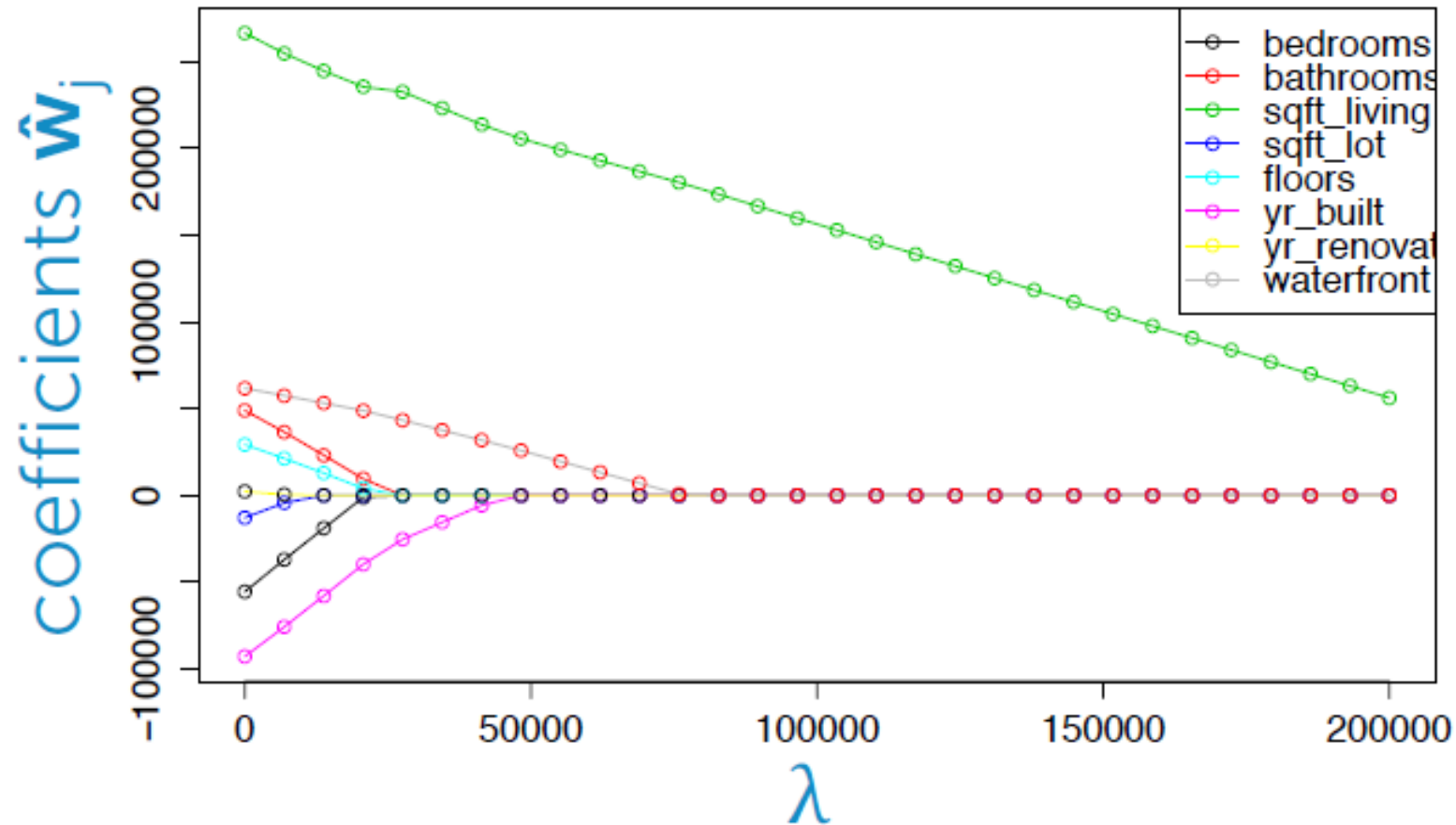


Figure: Emily Fox, University of Washington

# Regularization as MAP

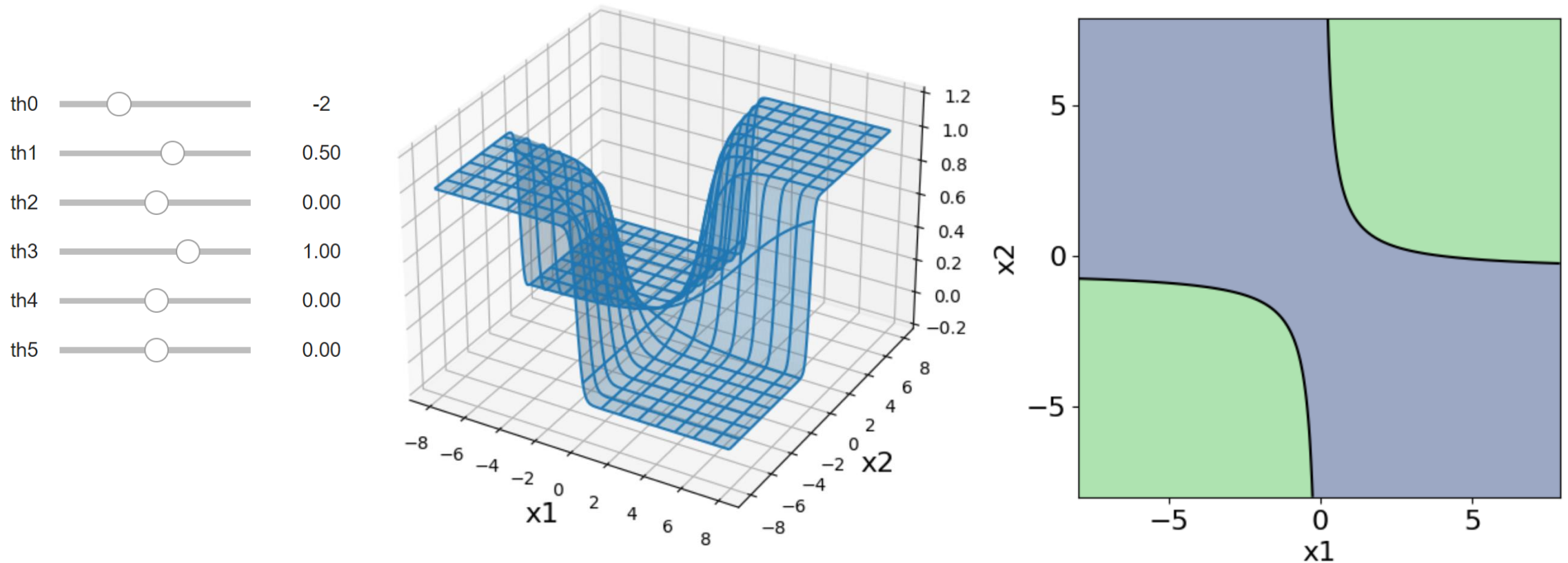
L1 and L2 regularization can be interpreted as **maximum a-posteriori (MAP) estimation** of the parameters

To be discussed later in the course...

Additional Slides

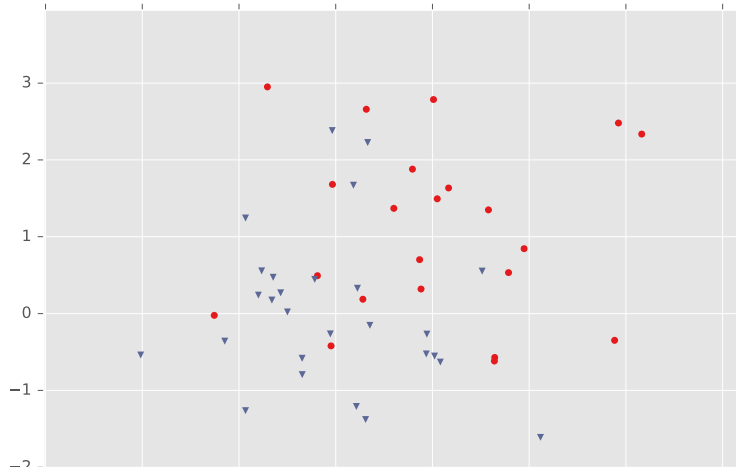
# Logistic Regression with Nonlinear Features

Jupyter notebook demo: [quadratic\\_logistic.ipynb](#)

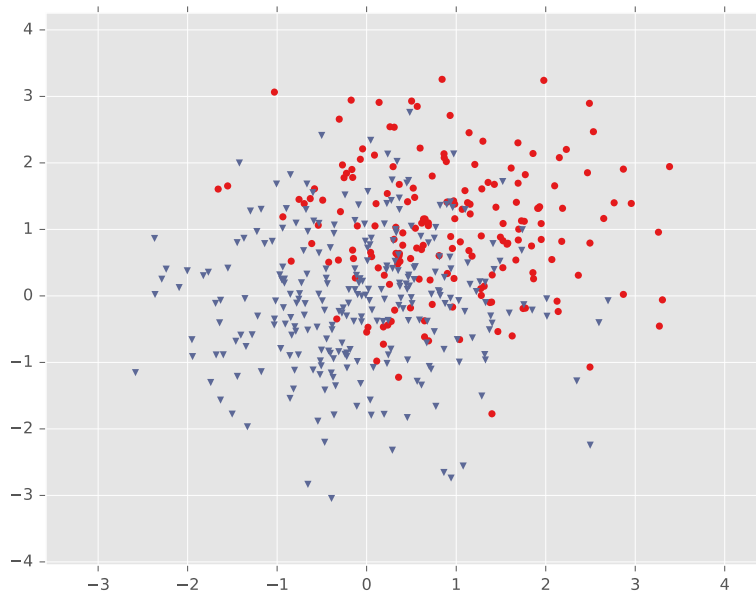


# Example: Logistic Regression

Training  
Data



Test  
Data

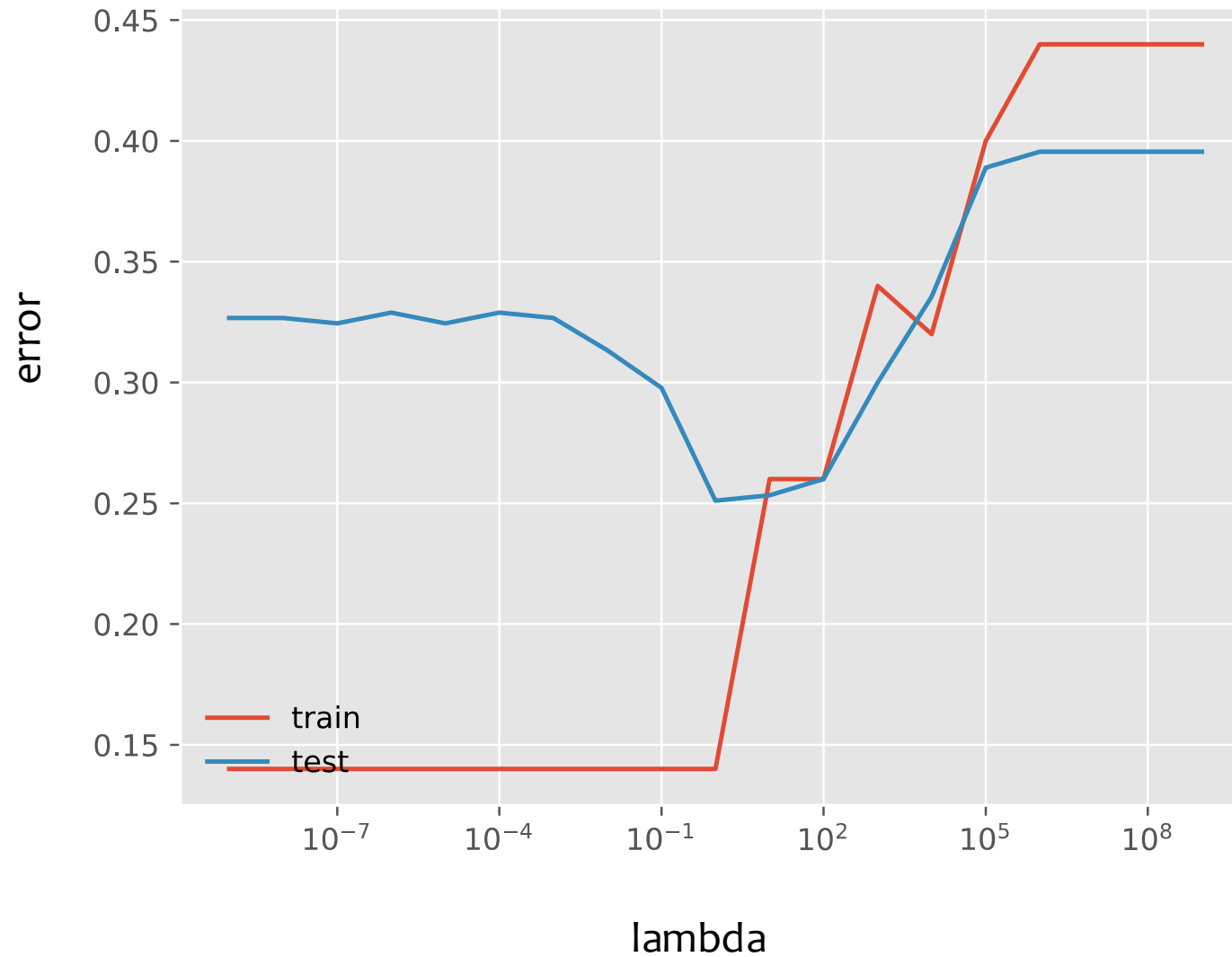


For this example, we construct **nonlinear features** (i.e. feature engineering)

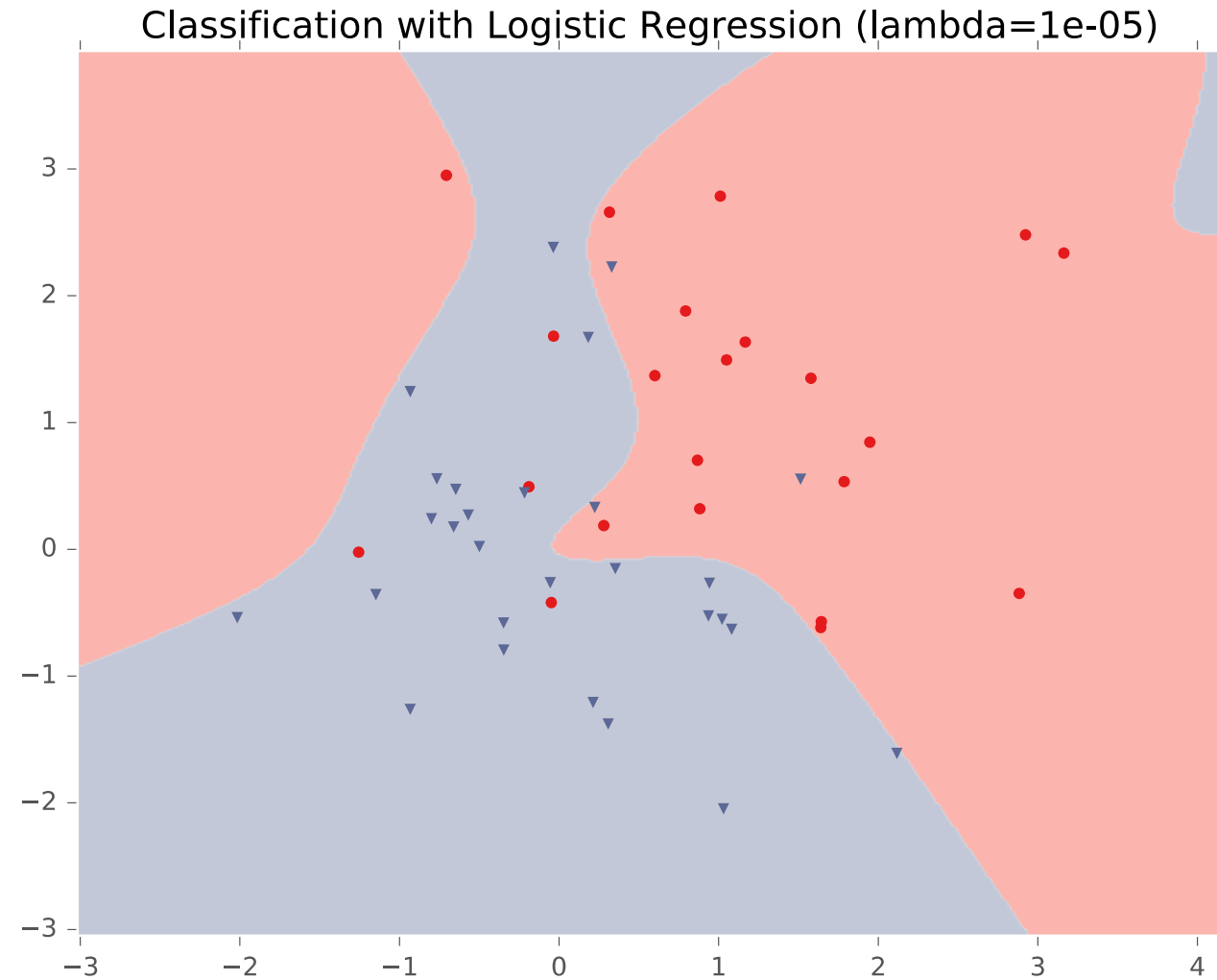
Specifically, we add **polynomials up to order 9** of the two original features  $x_1$  and  $x_2$

Thus our classifier is **linear** in the **high-dimensional feature space**, but the decision boundary is **nonlinear** when visualized in **low-dimensions** (i.e. the original two dimensions)

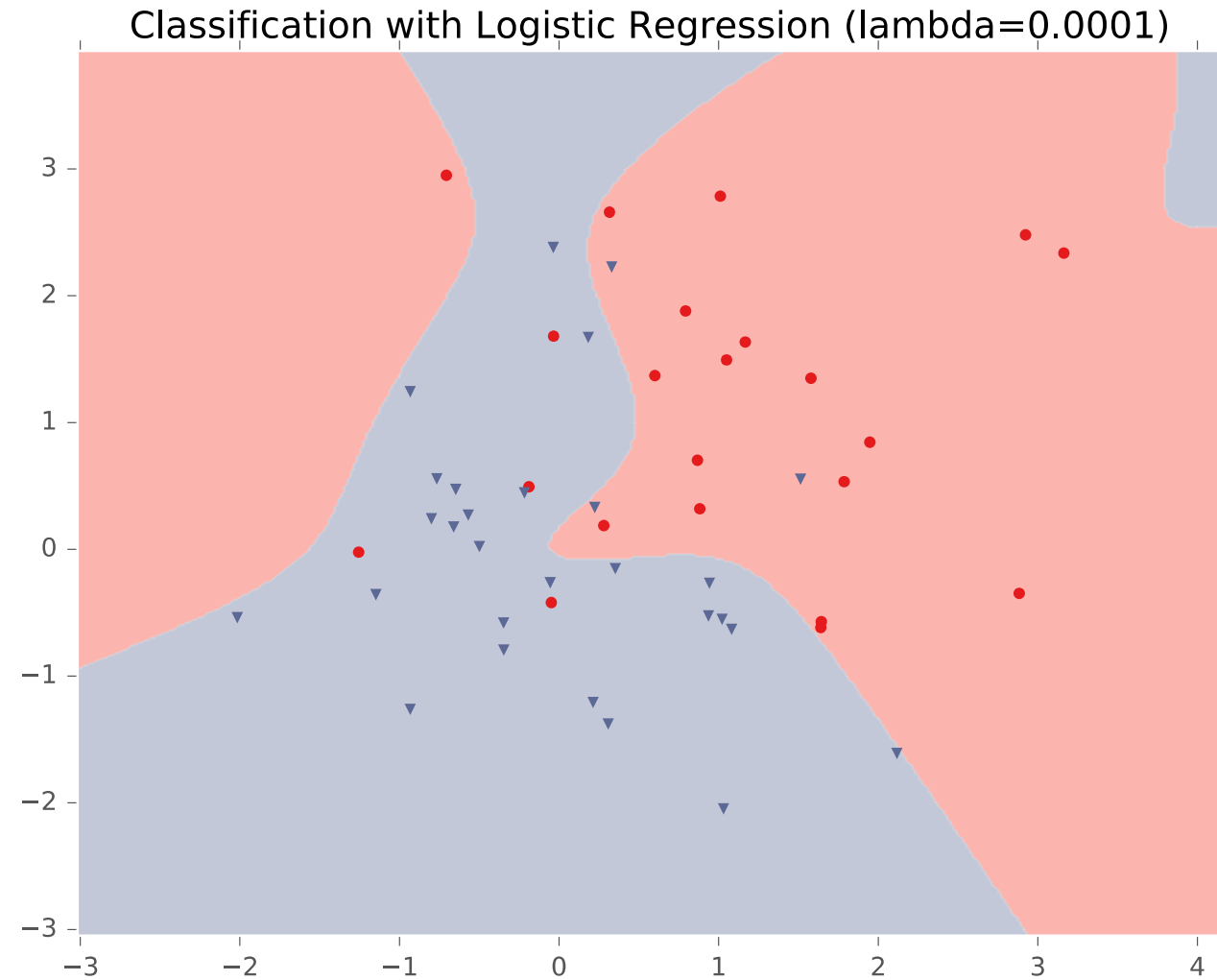
# Example: Logistic Regression



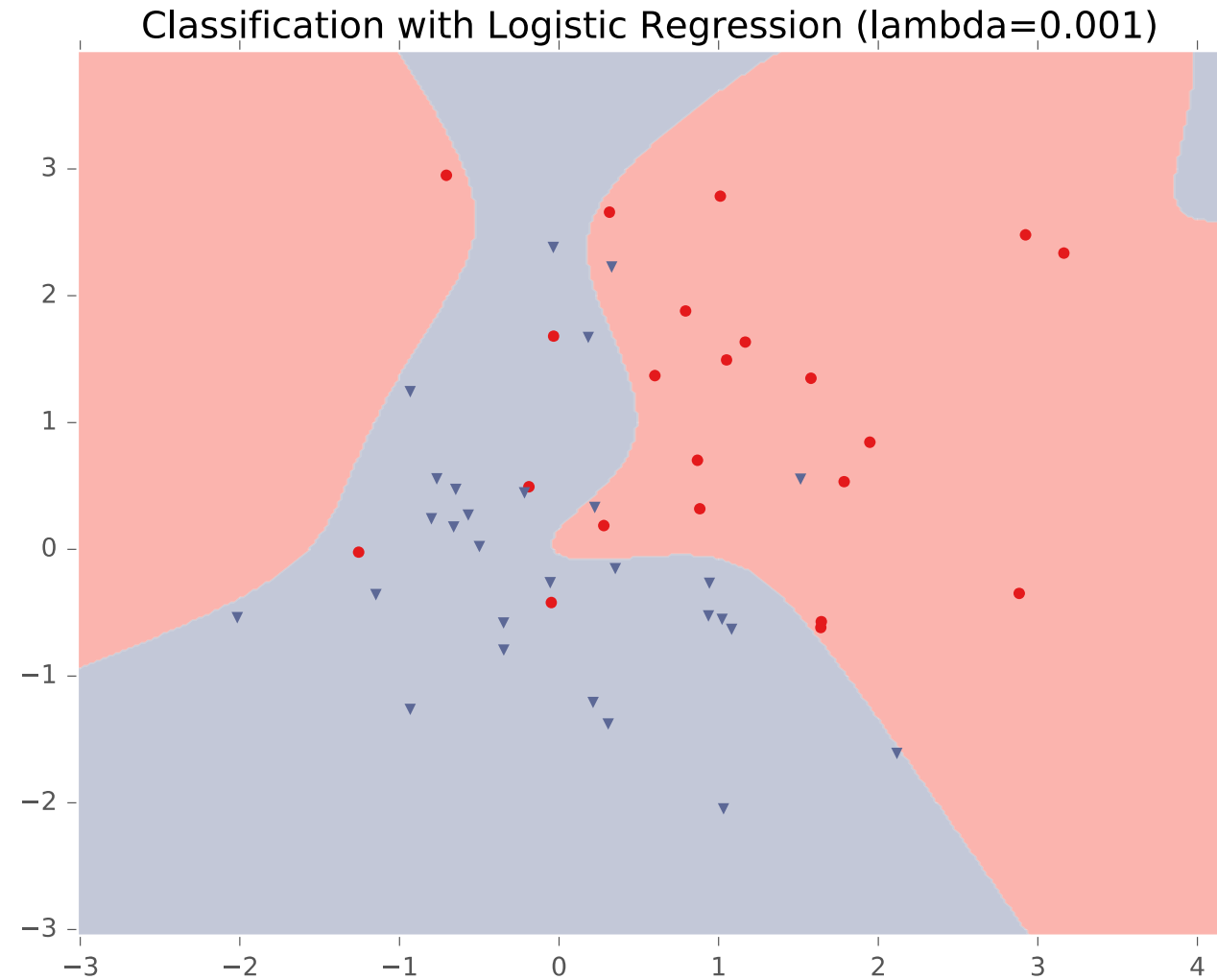
# Example: Logistic Regression



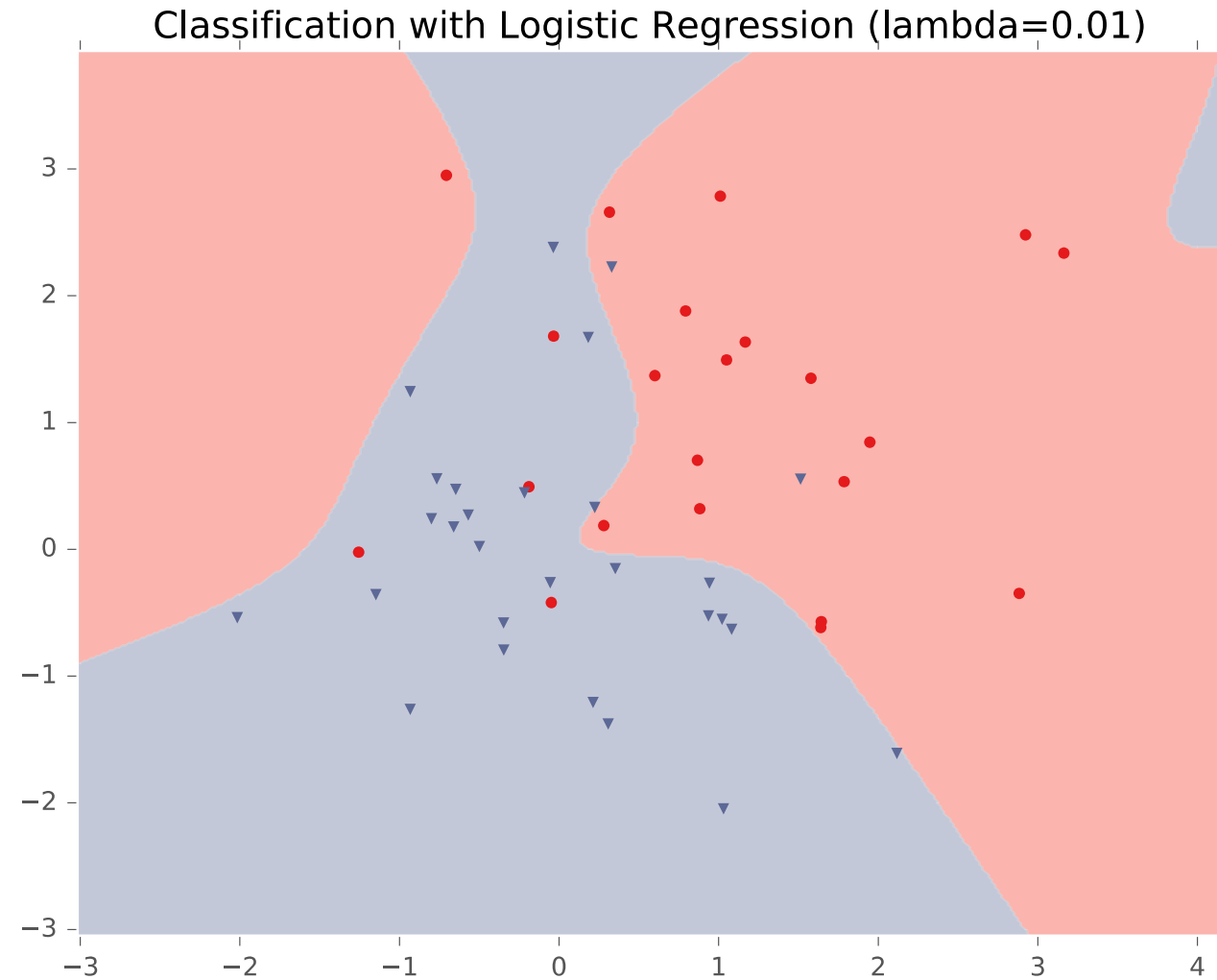
# Example: Logistic Regression



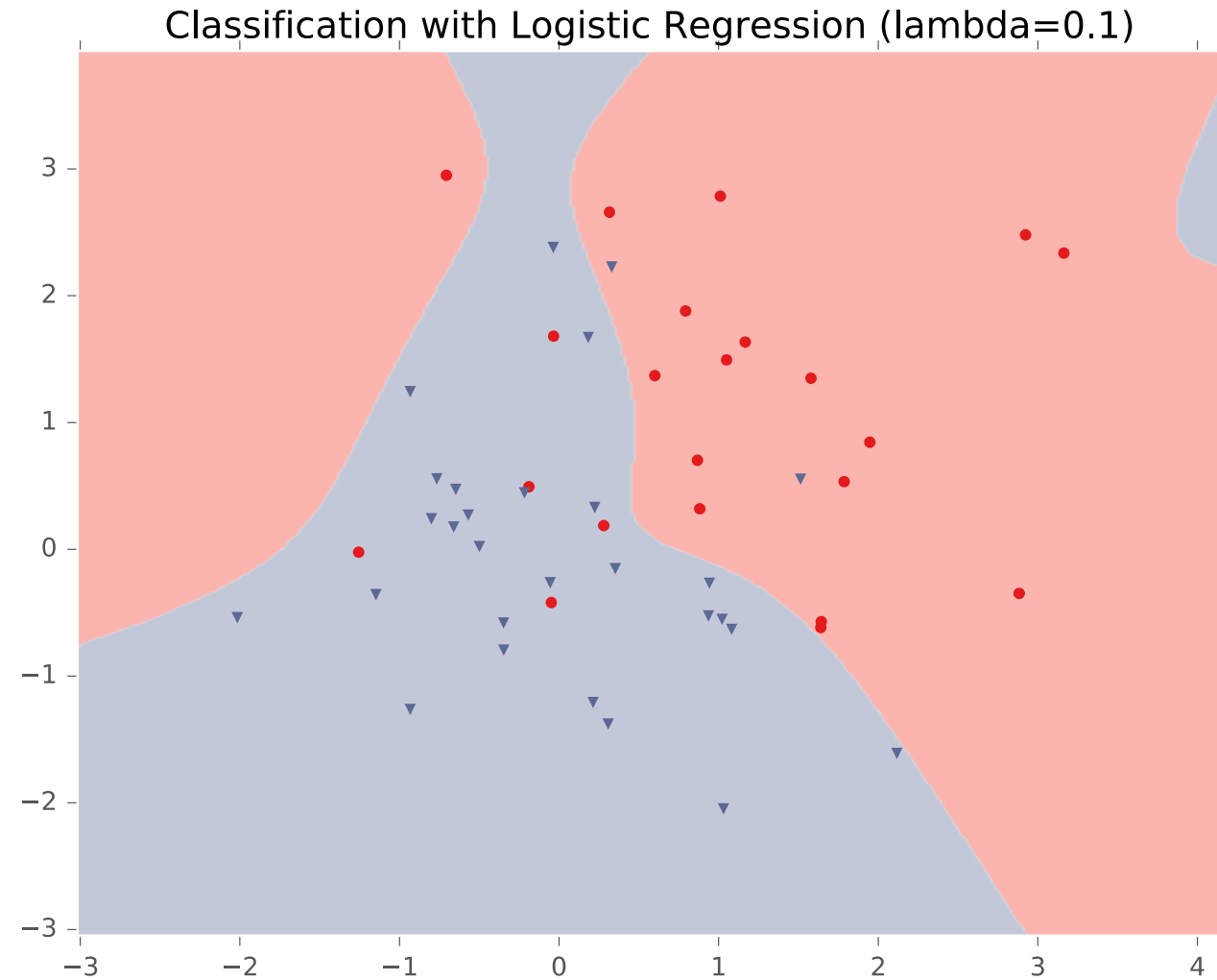
# Example: Logistic Regression



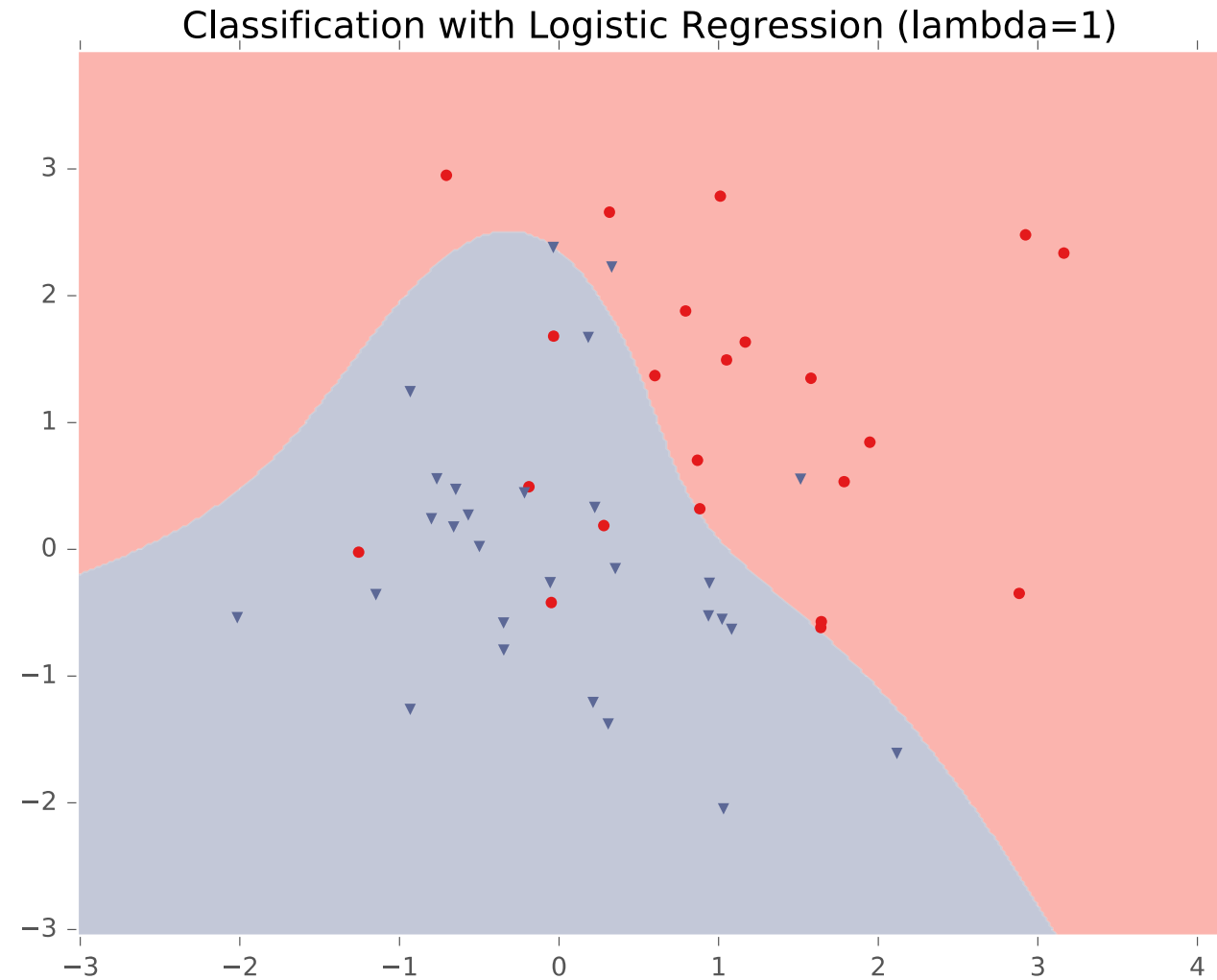
# Example: Logistic Regression



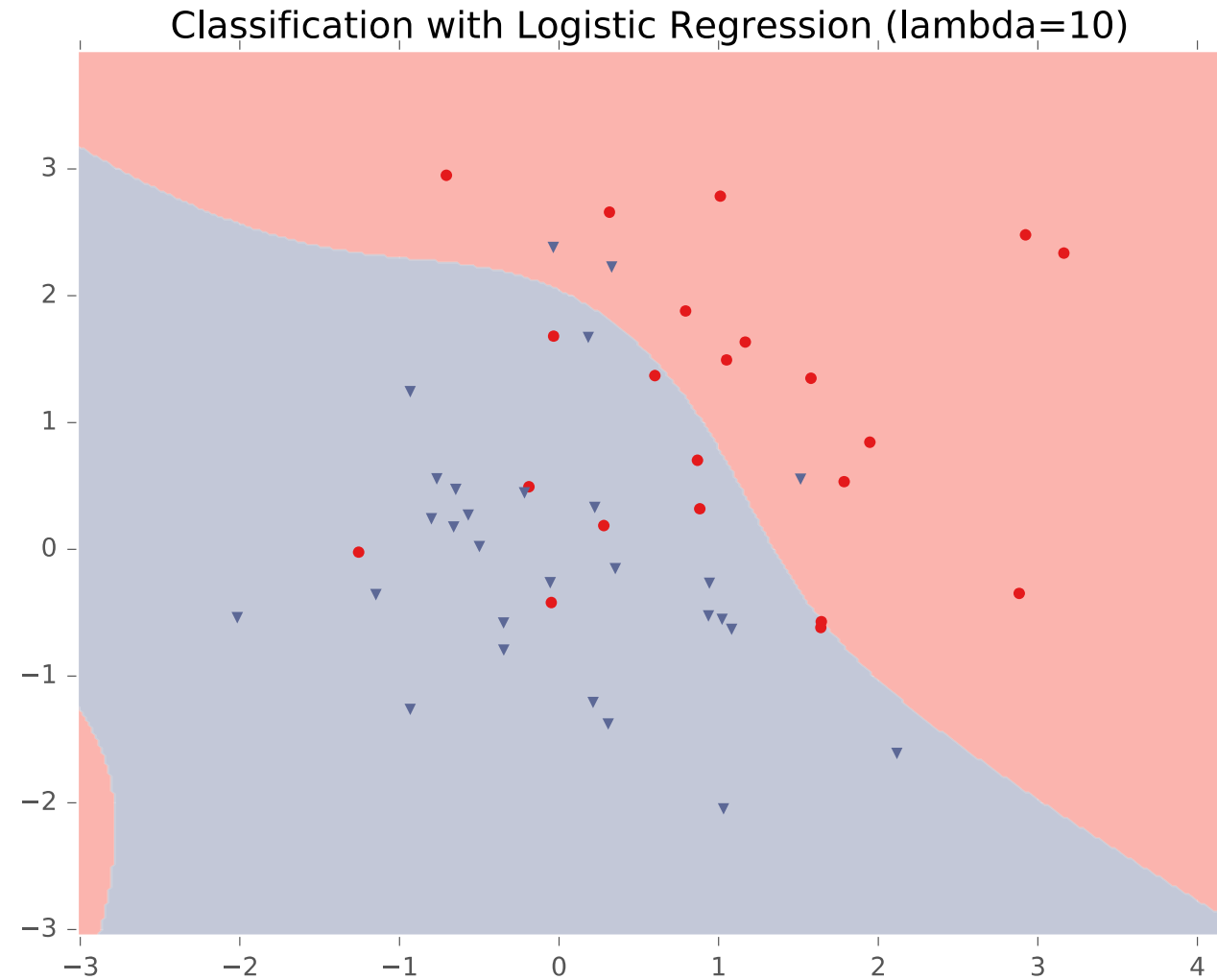
# Example: Logistic Regression



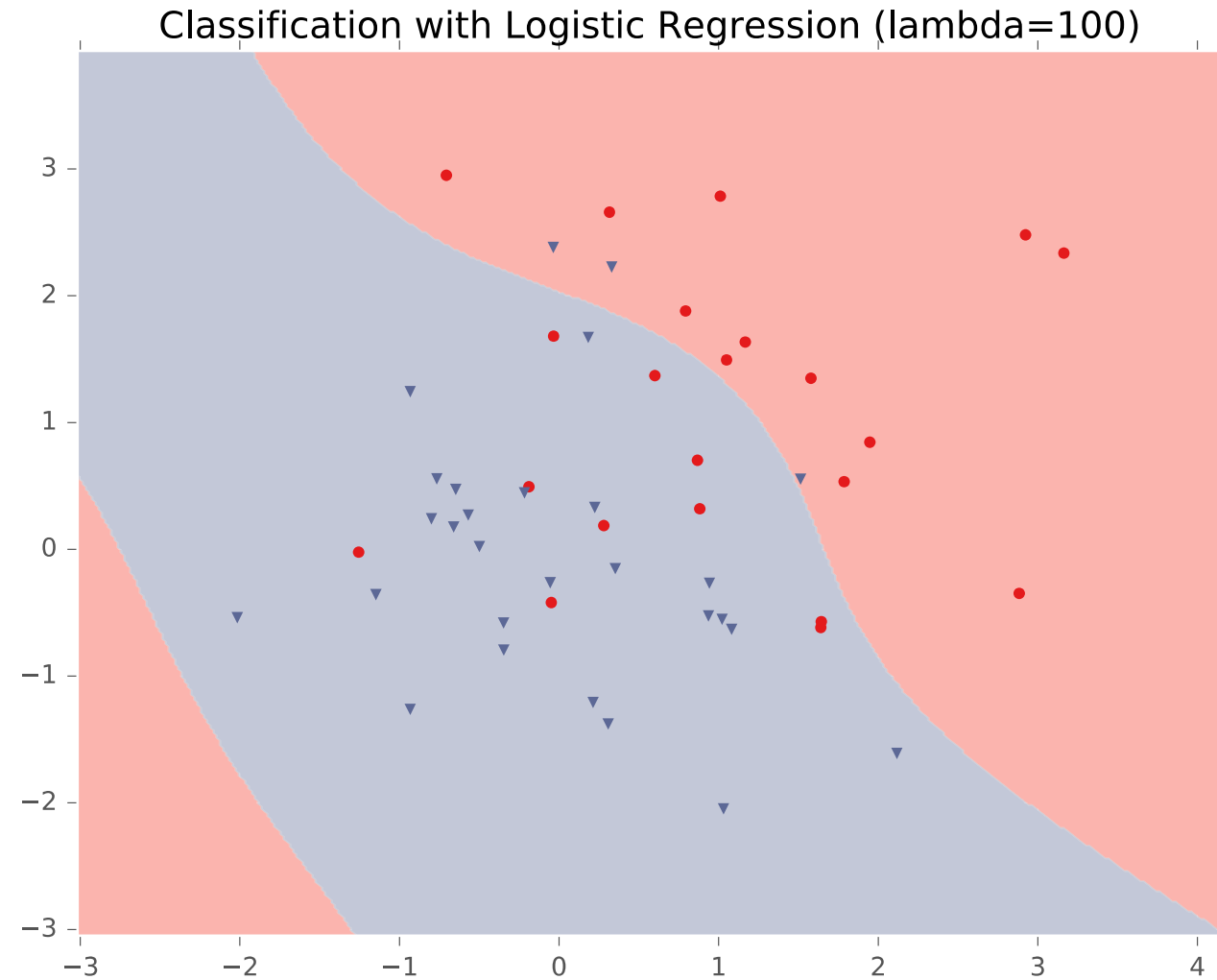
# Example: Logistic Regression



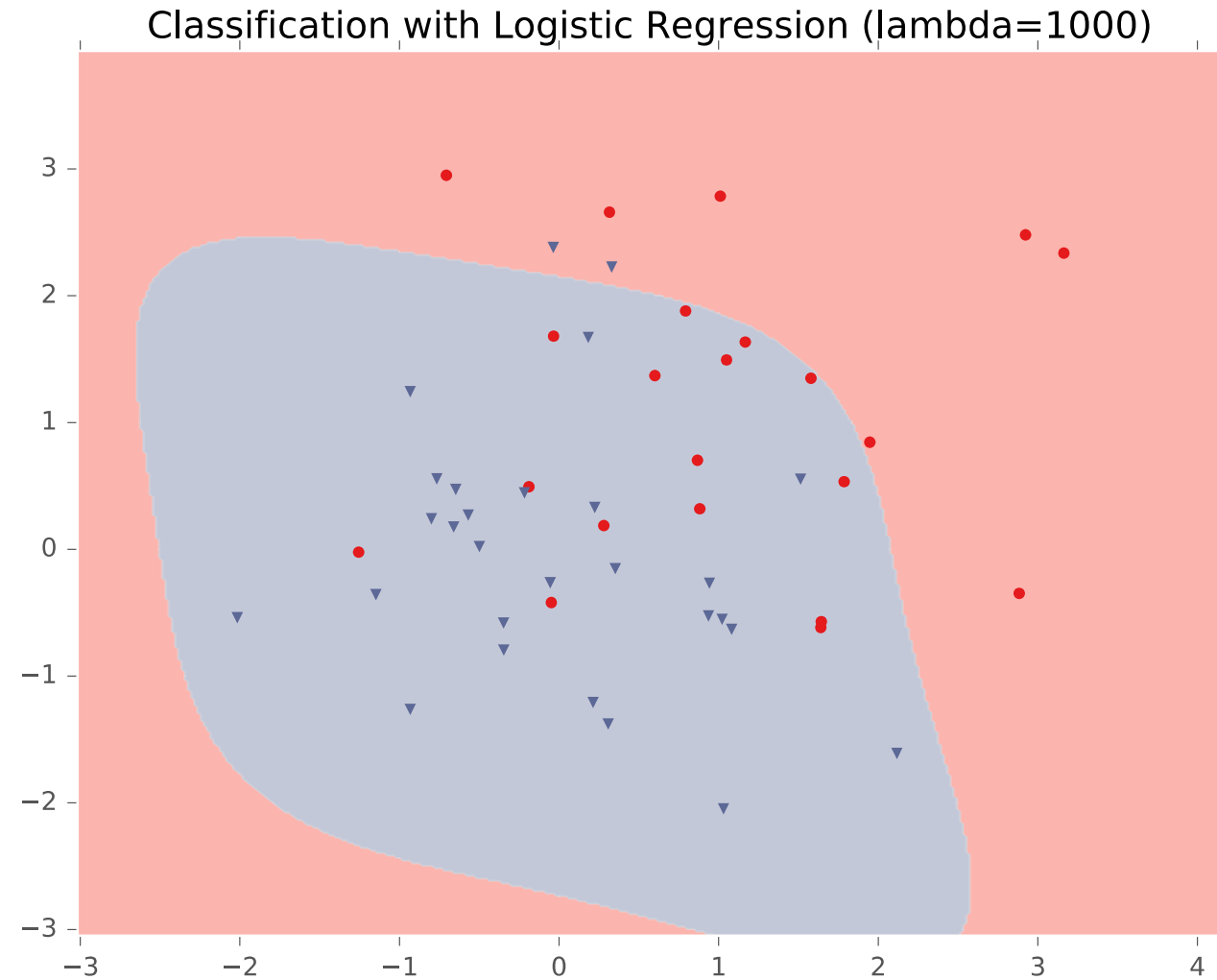
# Example: Logistic Regression



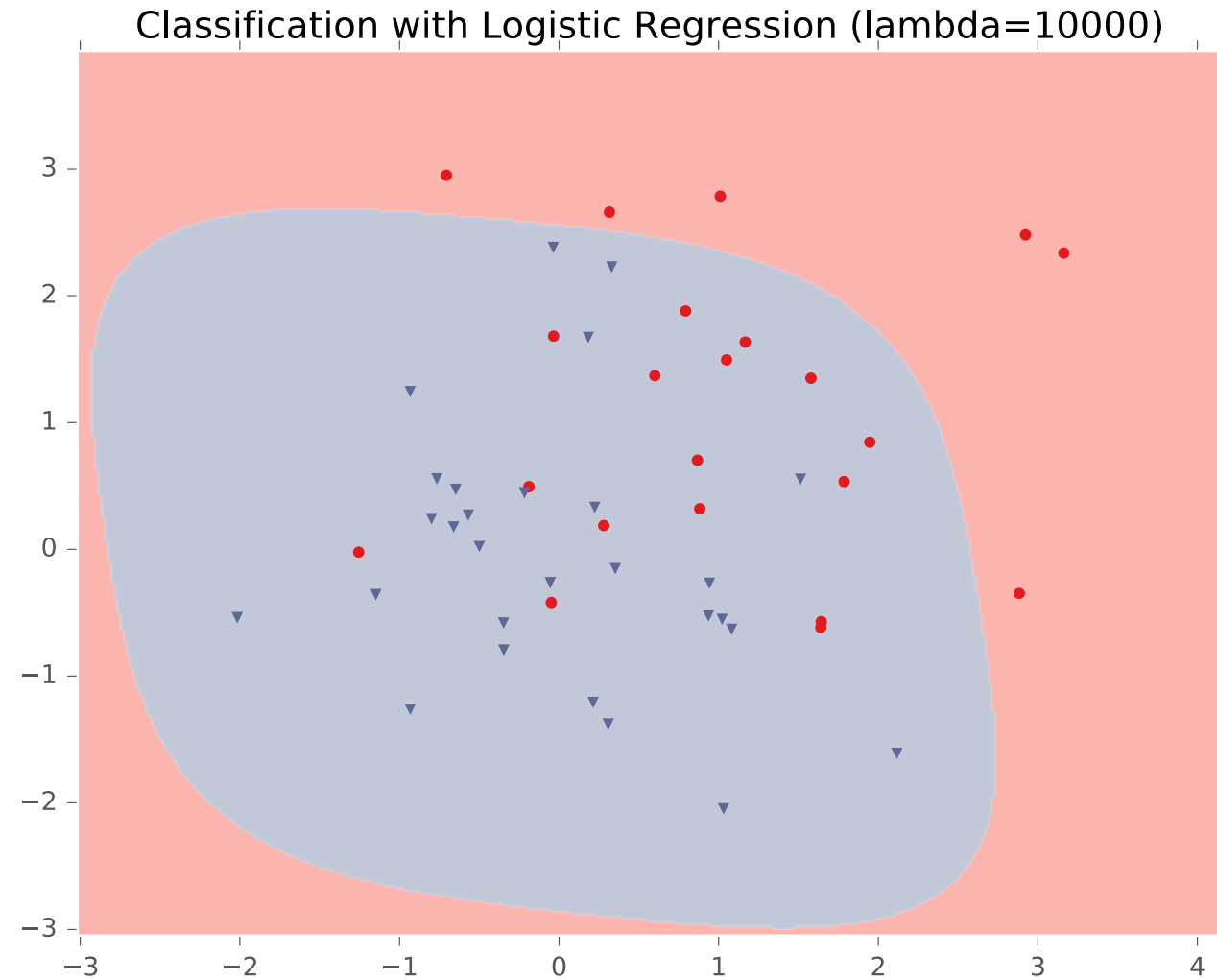
# Example: Logistic Regression



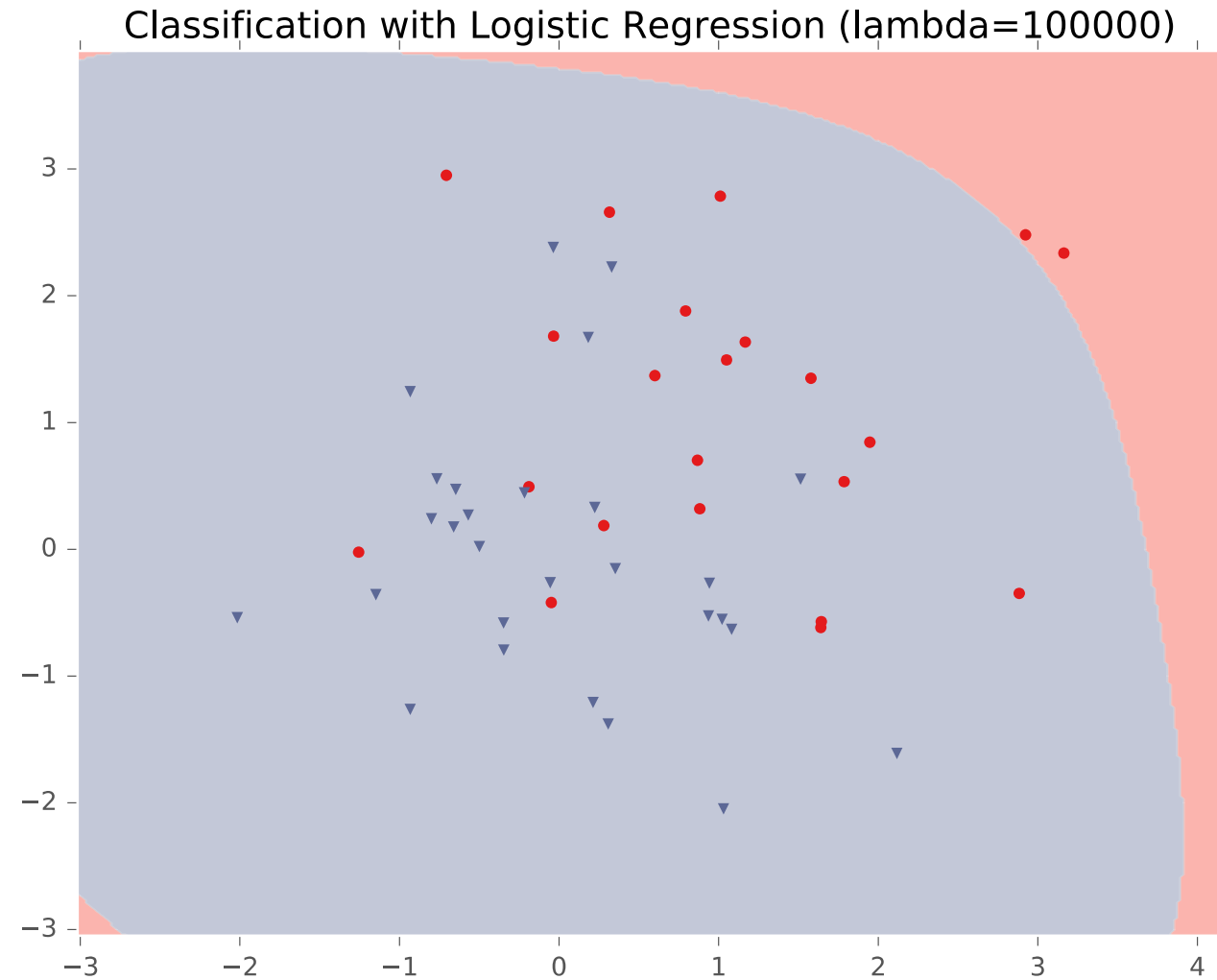
# Example: Logistic Regression



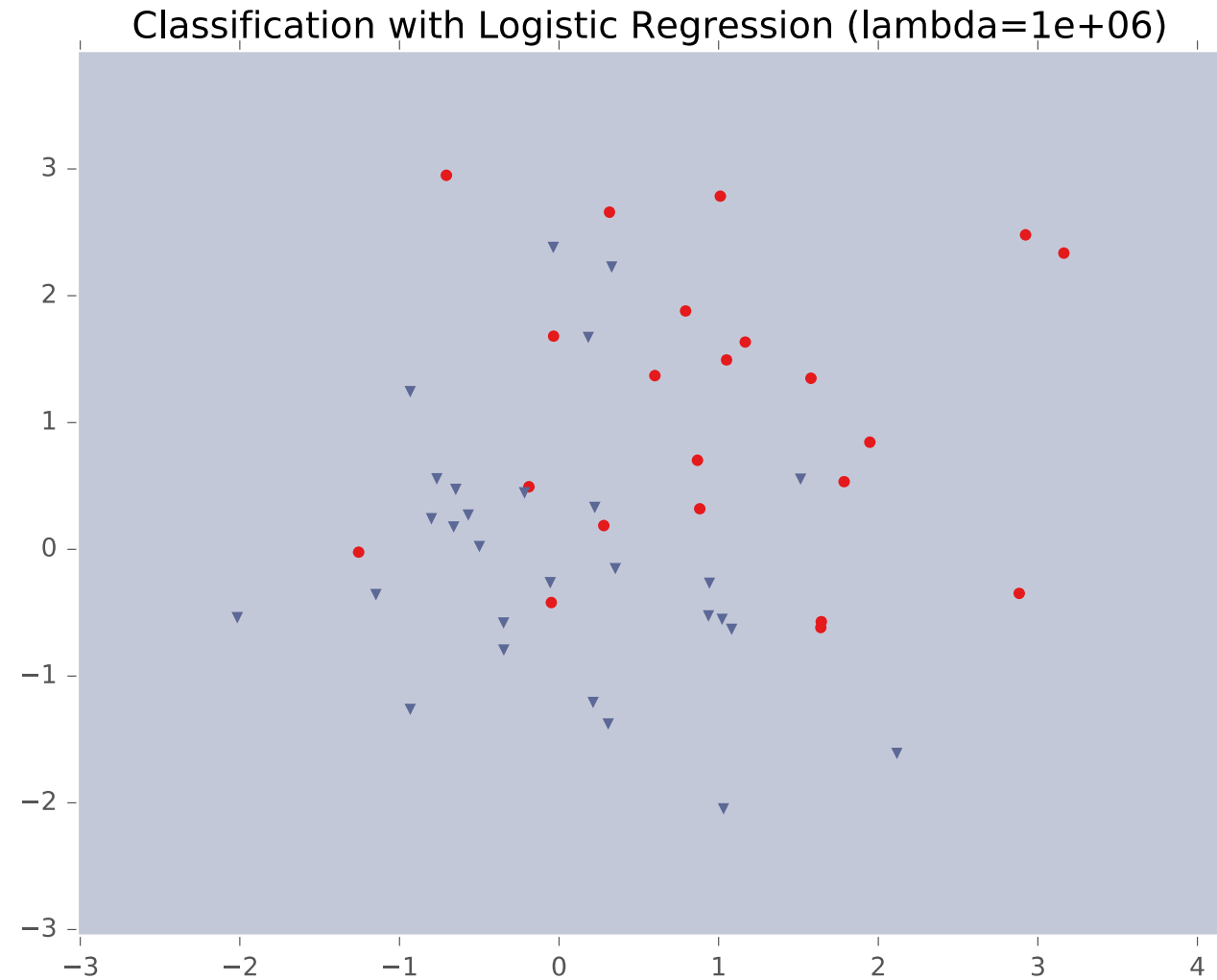
# Example: Logistic Regression



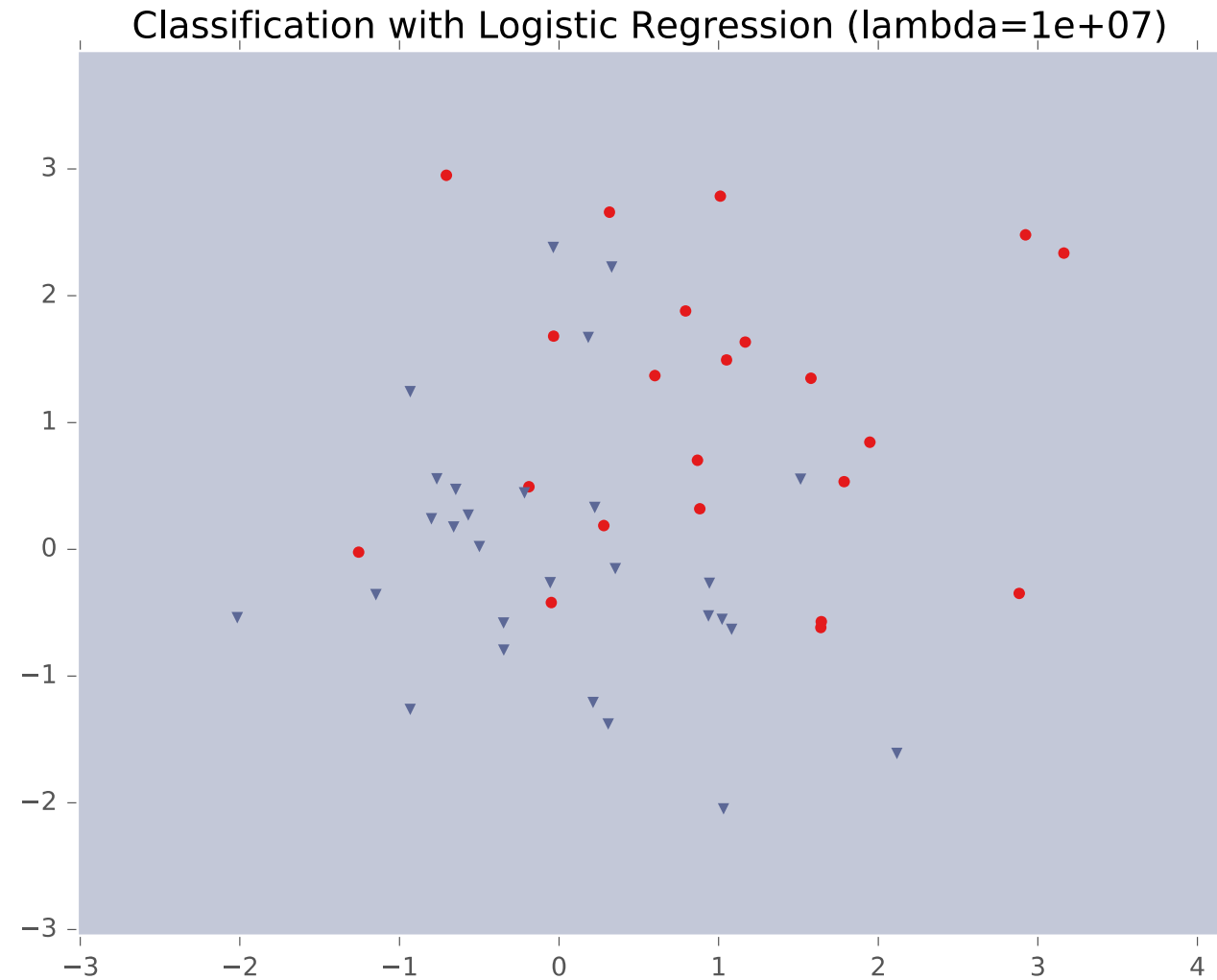
# Example: Logistic Regression



# Example: Logistic Regression



# Example: Logistic Regression



# Example: Logistic Regression

