

IBM Research

# Anomaly Attribution with Likelihood Compensation

Tsuyoshi (“Ide-san”) Idé, Amit Dhurandhar, Jiří Navrátil, Moninder Singh, Naoki Abe  
{tide, adhuran, jiri, moninder, nabe}@us.ibm.com  
IBM T. J. Watson Research Center

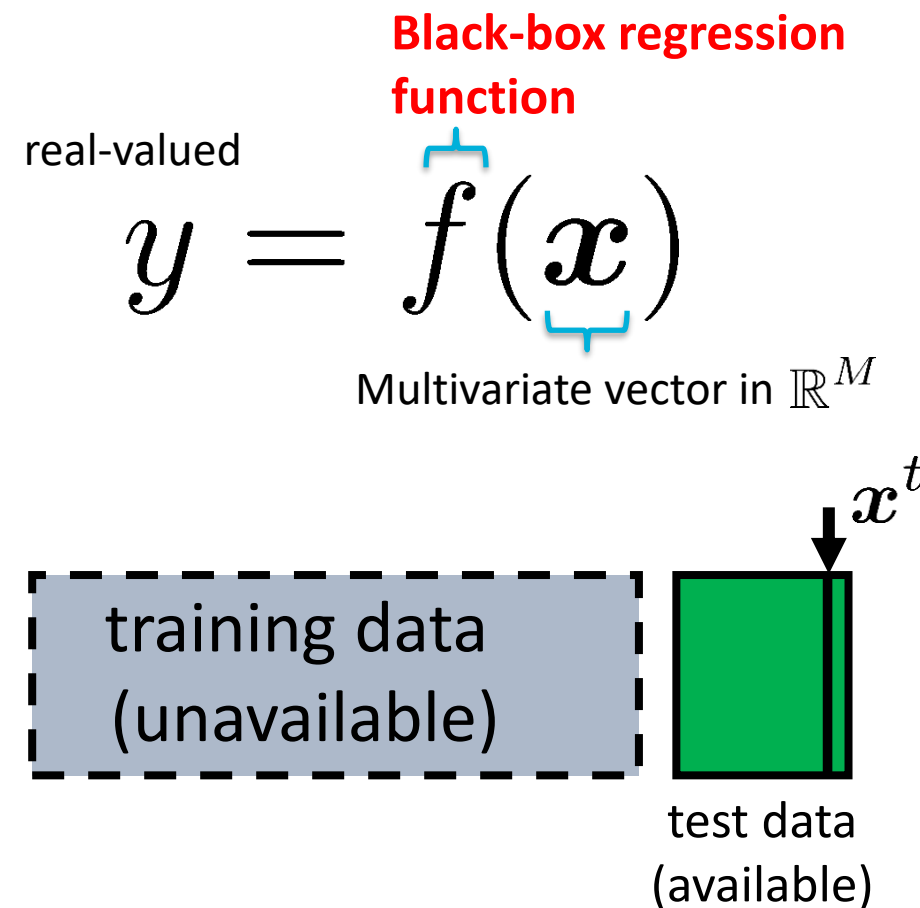
- To be presented at the Thirty-Fifth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-21, Feb 2-9, 2021)

## Contents

- Problem setting
- Introducing *Likelihood Compensation*
- Experimental results
- Summary

## Technical task: anomaly attribution for black-box regression

- **Task:** Attribute deviation from black-box prediction  $f(\mathbf{x})$  to each input variable
- **Background:** Most of XAI methods are designed to explain  $f(\mathbf{x})$ , not deviations
- **Solution:** New notion of “likelihood compensation”
  - Define the responsibility through perturbation to achieve the highest possible likelihood



# Technical task: anomaly attribution for black-box regression

## Input and output

### Input

Test sample(s)  
showing  
anomaly/deviation

$(\mathbf{x}^t, y^t)$

Black-box regression function

$$y = f(x)$$

Likelihood  
compensation  
algorithm

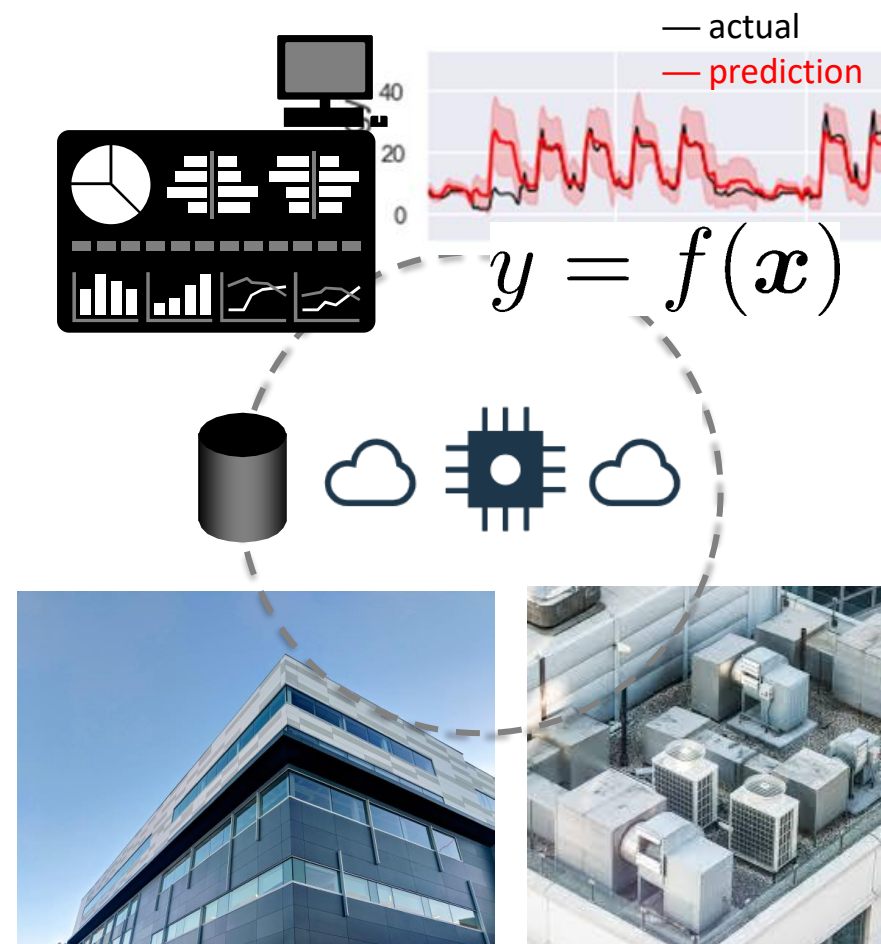
### Output

responsibility score  
computed locally at  $(\mathbf{x}^t, y^t)$ :  
 $\delta_1, \dots, \delta_M$



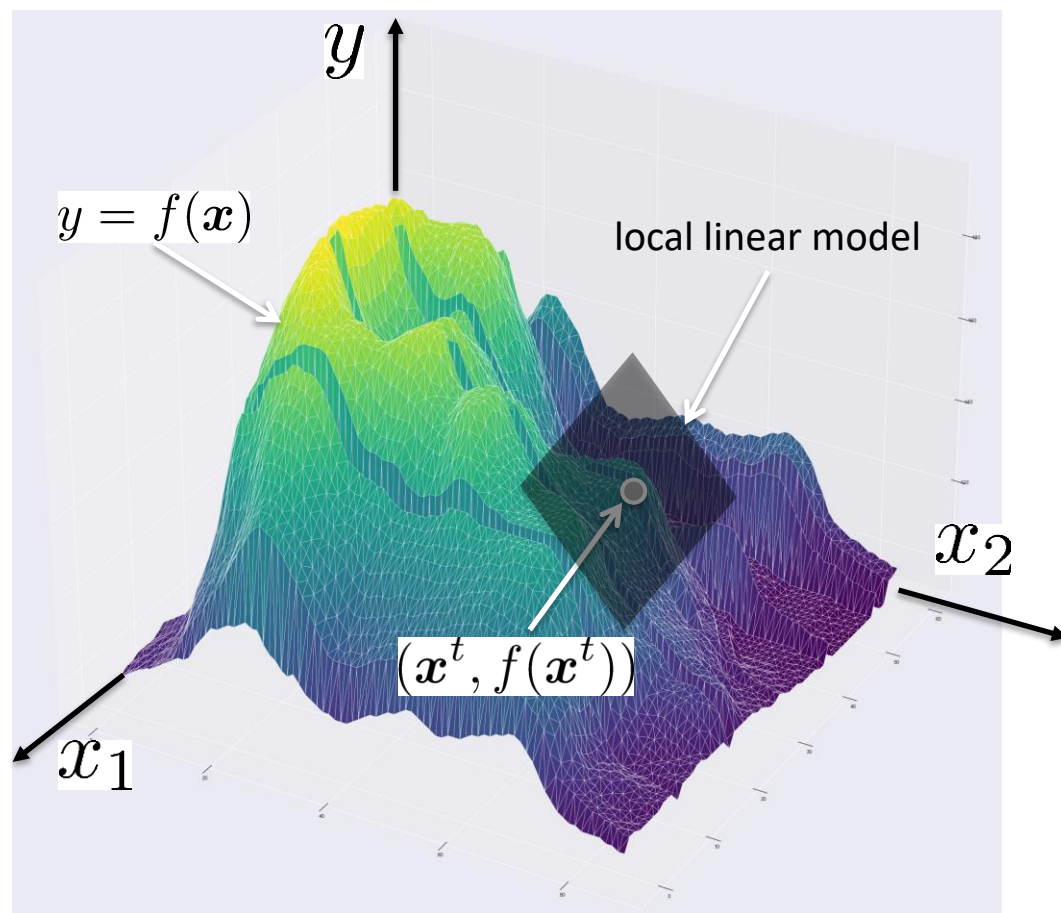
## Use-case example: Building energy management

- Use case example: building management
  - $y$ : building energy consumption
  - $x$ : Temperature, humidity, day of week, month, room occupancy, etc.
- Building admin (primary end-user) does not have full visibility of the model  $f$ , training data, and sensing system
  - AI vendor/SIer/HVAC constructor often use proprietary technologies
  - Only some amount of test data is accessible

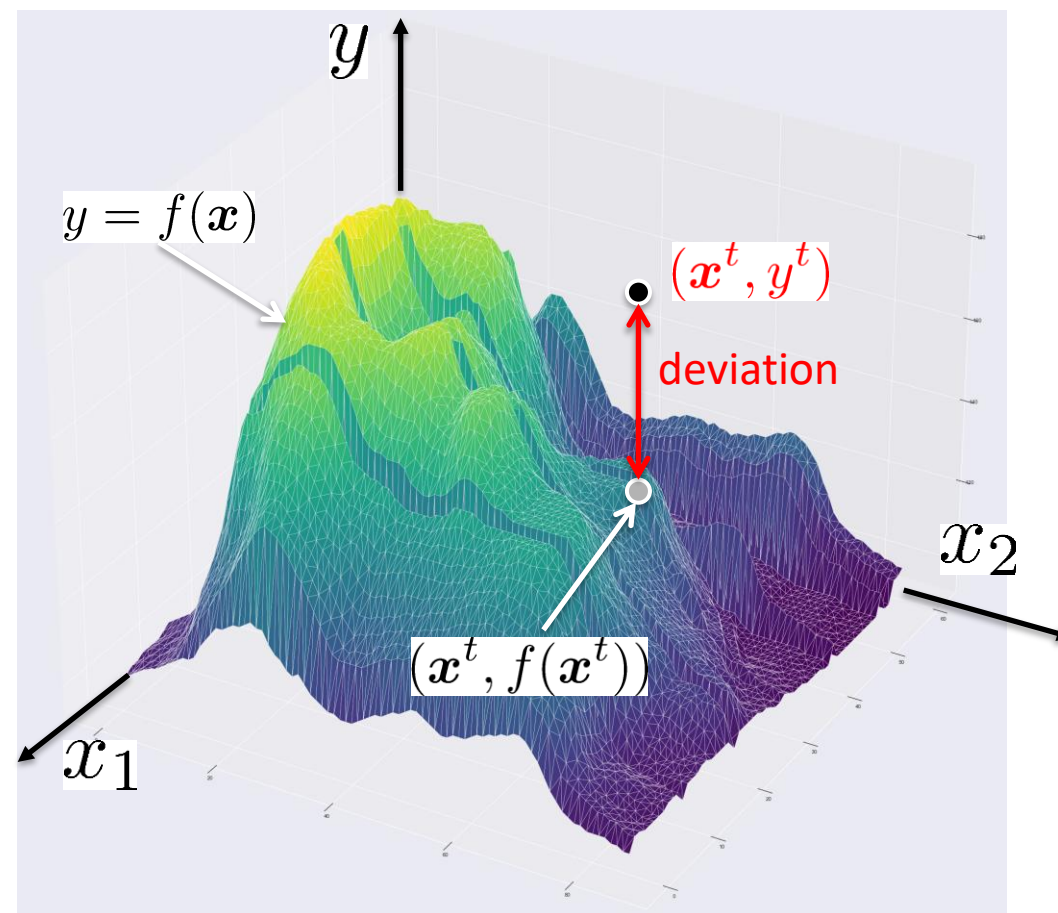


# Local surrogate model for $f(\mathbf{x})$ alone cannot explain deviations. We need a new idea.

Local surrogate model to explain  $f(\mathbf{x})$



Anomaly attribution needs to explain  $f(\mathbf{x}) - y$



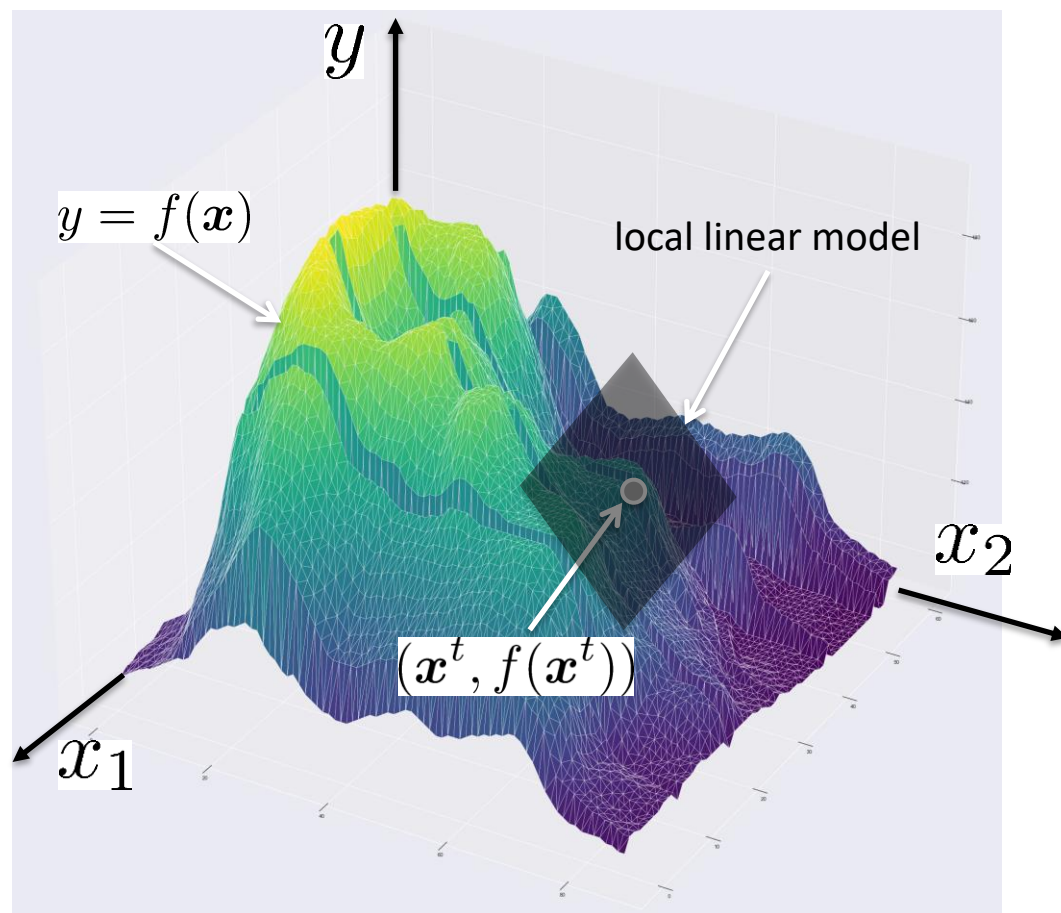
## Contents

- Problem setting
- Introducing *Likelihood Compensation*
- Experimental results
- Summary

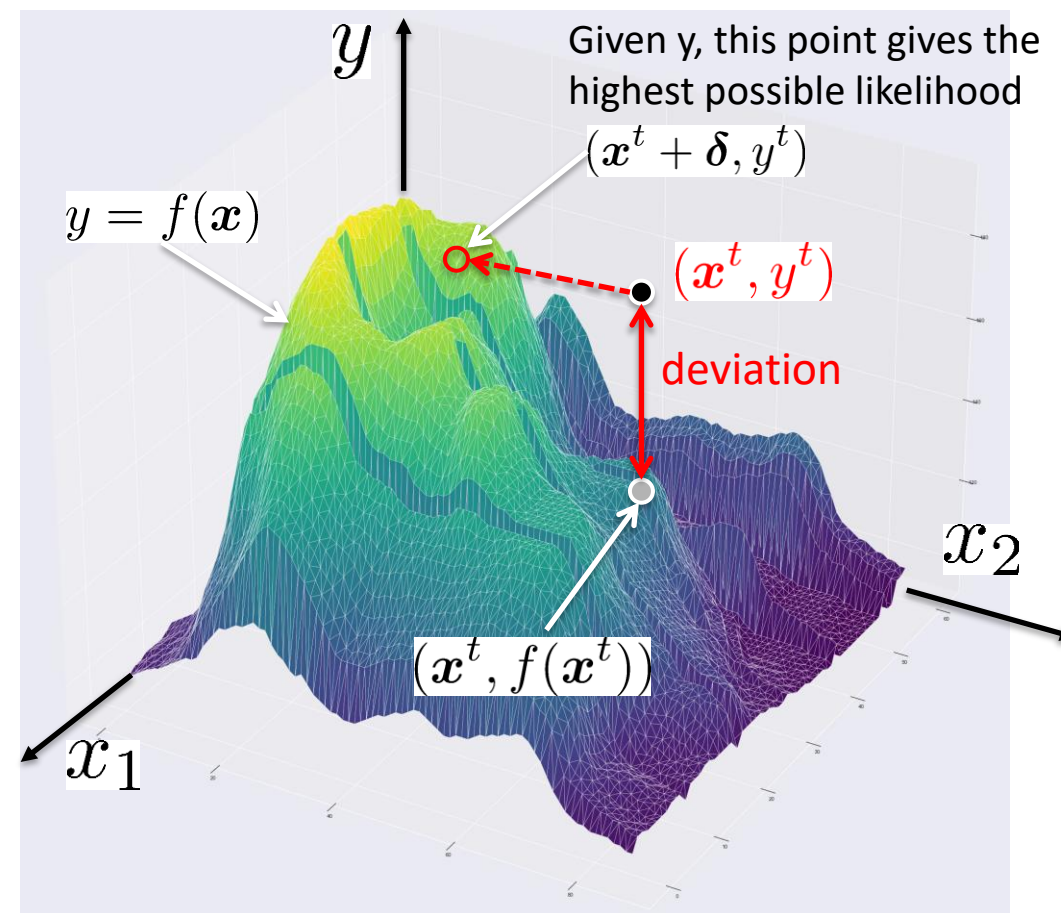


# High-level idea: Defining responsibility score through local perturbation as “horizontal deviation”

Local surrogate model to explain  $f(\mathbf{x})$



$\delta$  : responsibility score  
("likelihood compensation")





## Defining Likelihood Compensation (LC) as optimal perturbation

- **Likelihood compensation  $\delta$** : A perturbation to  $\mathbf{x}^t$  such that  $\mathbf{x}^t + \delta$  achieves the best possible fit to the model

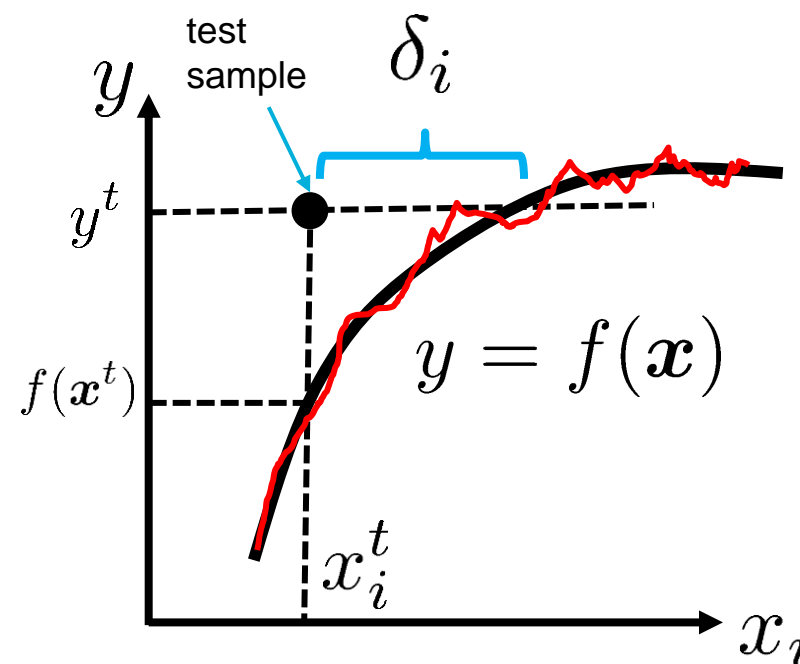
- The log likelihood  $\ln p(y^t | f(\mathbf{x}^t))$  is a measure of goodness-of-fit of a test sample  $(\mathbf{x}^t, y^t)$
- LC seeks a best possible fit by correcting  $\mathbf{x}^t$  under a certain regularization

$$\checkmark \delta = \arg \max_{\delta} \left[ \underbrace{\ln \{p(y^t | f(\mathbf{x}^t + \delta))\}}_{\text{Gaussian}} \underbrace{p(\delta)}_{\text{elastic net}} \right],$$

- The main optimization problem

$$\min_{\delta} \left\{ \frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{t=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} \frac{[y^t - f(\mathbf{x}^t + \delta)]^2}{2\sigma_t^2} + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \|\delta\|_2^2 + \nu \|\delta\|_1 \right\}, \quad (\lambda \text{ and } \nu \text{ are constant})$$

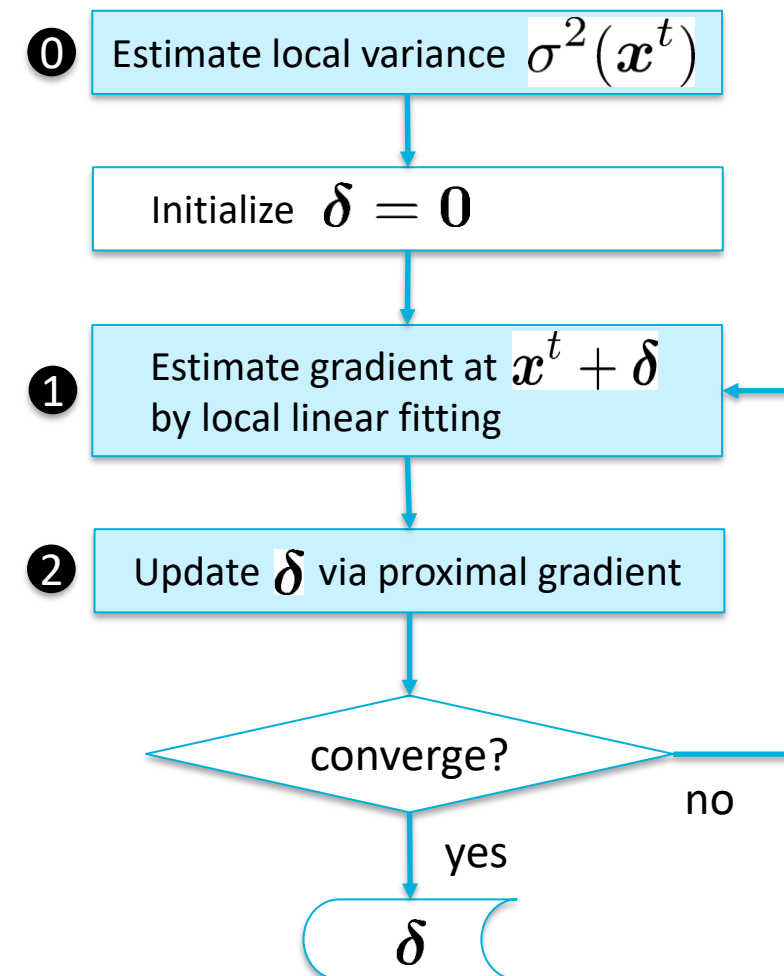
LC can be thought of as the  
'deviation measured horizontally'



## Iterating local smooth approximation and proximal gradient

- $f(\mathbf{x})$  is black-box. It may not be even smooth or continuous
- 0. Local variance estimation (only once)
  - Leverage available test data or prior knowledge
- 1. Local gradient estimation of  $f$ 
  - Amounts to smooth approximation of  $f$
- 2. Proximal gradient update for  $\delta$

} iterate

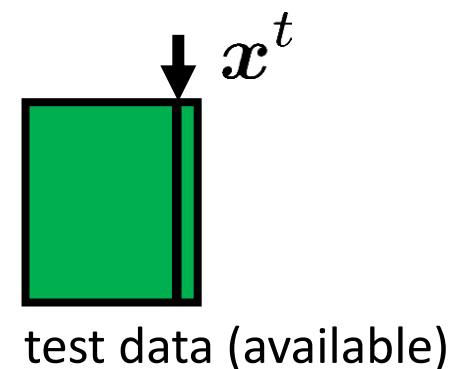
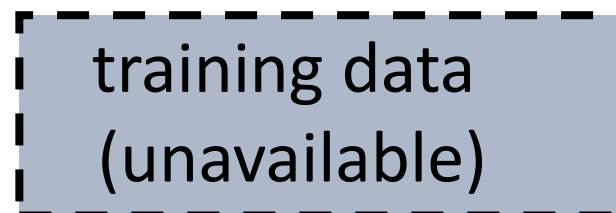


## 0. Local variance estimation

- If available test samples are too few, use a constant variance to define a Gaussian observation model
  - $p(y \mid \mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(y \mid f(\mathbf{x}), \sigma^2)$
- If some amount of test samples are available, use locally weighted maximum likelihood to estimate an input-dependent variance

$$\sigma^2(\mathbf{x}^t) = \max_{\sigma^2} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\text{heldout}}} \underbrace{w_n(\mathbf{x}^t)}_{\text{Gaussian kernel defined for the specific test sample } \mathbf{x}^t} \left\{ \ln \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} - \frac{(y^{(n)} - f(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}))^2}{2\sigma^2} \right\},$$

Gaussian kernel  
defined for the  
specific test sample  $\mathbf{x}^t$



# 1. Local gradient estimation of $f$

- We solve the problem with gradient ascent

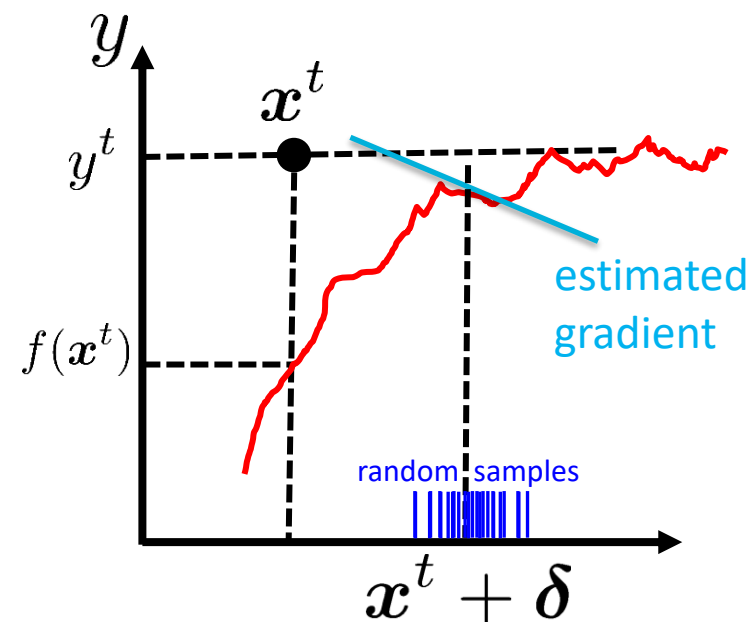
$$\min_{\delta} \left\{ \underbrace{\frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{t=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} \frac{[y^t - f(\mathbf{x}^t + \delta)]^2}{2\sigma_t^2}}_{\text{"gradient" of this part:}} + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \|\delta\|_2^2 + \nu \|\delta\|_1 \right\},$$

$$\frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{t=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} \frac{y^t - f(\mathbf{x}^t + \delta)}{\sigma_t^2} \left\| \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}^t + \delta)}{\partial \delta} \right\| + \lambda \delta$$

Smooth surrogate  
of gradient at  $\mathbf{x}^t + \delta$

- We use a simple sampling-based algorithm

- At a given test location  $\mathbf{x}^t$ , we random-sample  $N_s$  samples in the vicinity of  $\mathbf{x}^t$ , and fit a linear regression model
  - ✓  $N_s \sim 1000$ .
  - ✓ Assumption: evaluation of  $f(\mathbf{x})$  can be done cheaply
- The gradient is obtained as the regression coefficient.



## 2. Proximal gradient update for $\delta$

- The objective now looks like  $L_1$ -regularized convex-ish optimization

$$\ominus \min_{\delta} \left\{ \underbrace{\frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{t=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} \frac{[y^t - f(\mathbf{x}^t + \delta)]^2}{2\sigma_t^2}}_{\text{convex-ish function with the smoothed gradient}} + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \|\delta\|_2^2 + \nu \|\delta\|_1 \right\},$$

$$J(\delta) \triangleq \frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{t=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} \frac{[y^t - f(\mathbf{x}^t + \delta)]^2}{2\sigma_t^2} + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \|\delta\|_2^2$$

- Building an updating rule from  $\delta^{\text{old}}$  using prox gradient-like algorithm

$$\ominus \delta = \arg \min_{\delta} \left\{ \underbrace{J(\delta^{\text{old}}) + (\delta - \delta^{\text{old}}) \langle \nabla J(\delta^{\text{old}}) \rangle + \frac{1}{2\kappa} \|\delta - \delta^{\text{old}}\|_2^2}_{\text{smooth quadratic approximation of } J} + \nu \|\delta\|_1 \right\}$$

$$= \text{prox}_{\kappa\nu\|\cdot\|_1} \left( \delta^{\text{old}} - \kappa \langle \nabla J(\delta^{\text{old}}) \rangle \right) \quad \text{The } L_1 \text{ prox operator has an analytic solution! (} \rightarrow \text{paper)}$$

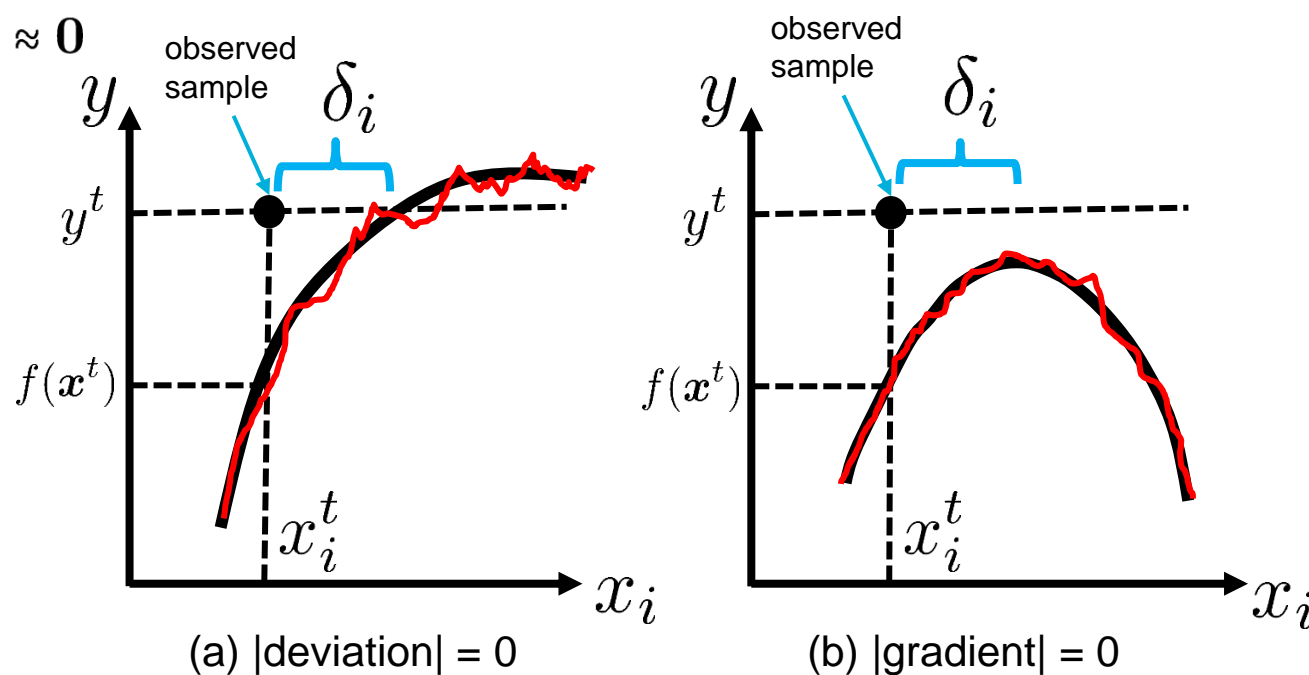
## Condition of convergence – where the intuition of “horizontal deviation” comes from

- The prox gradient-like update converges when

$$\bigcirc \frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{t=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} \frac{y^t - f(\mathbf{x}^t + \boldsymbol{\delta})}{\sigma_t^2} \left\| \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}^t + \boldsymbol{\delta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\delta}} \right\| \approx 0$$

- Condition (a):  $|\text{deviation}| = 0$ 
  - Met when  $y^t = f(\mathbf{x}^t + \boldsymbol{\delta})$
  - “Keep the height, move horizontally until you hit  $f$ ”
- Condition (b):  $|\text{gradient}| = 0$ 
  - In case there is no horizontal intersection, this warrants convergence

Illustration for  $N_{\text{test}} = 1$



## Contents

- Problem setting
- Introducing *Likelihood Compensation*
- Experimental results
- Summary



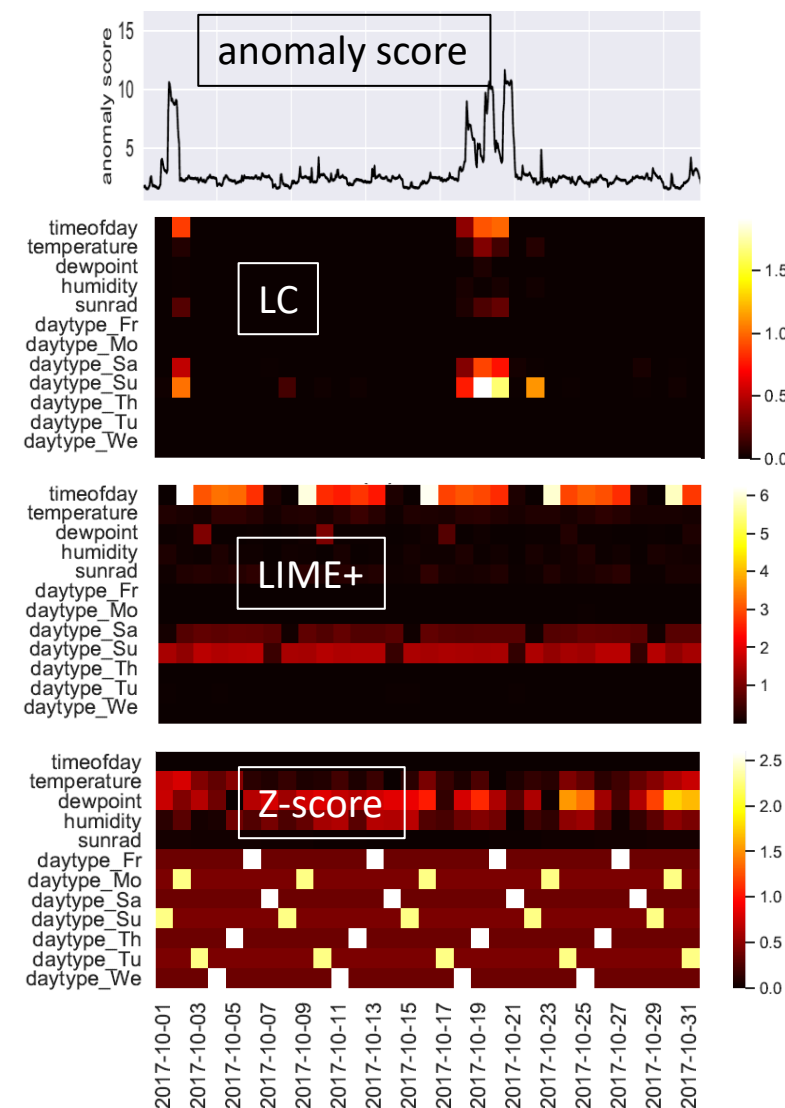
## Existing methods for anomaly attribution

- Few applicable approaches in the regression setting
  - Most methods are for classification (especially for images)
  - Very limited choice for explaining deviations/anomalies in the black-box regression setting
- Possible baselines
  - Z-score
    - ✓  $a_i(\mathbf{x}^t) = (x_i^t - \text{mean}_i) / \text{stddev}_i$
    - ✓ Does not depend on  $y^t$
  - LIME\* [Ribeiro 18], extended
    - ✓ Sampling-based **local** lasso fitting for of  $f(\mathbf{x}^t) - y^t$  rather than  $f(\mathbf{x}^t)$ 
      - To be able to explain deviations
    - ✓ Regression coefficient ( $\hat{=}$  gradient) is the score
  - Shapley value [Strumbelj+ 14], extended
    - ✓ SV computed for  $f(\mathbf{x}^t) - y^t$
    - ✓ Requires the true distribution for  $\mathbf{x}$  or the training data set to evaluate conditional local means

\* Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations

## Comparison with LIME+ and Z-score in building energy use-case

- One month-worth building energy data
  - $y$ : energy consumption
  - $x$ : time of day, temperature, humidity, sunrad, day of week (one-hot encoded)
- The score is computed based on hourly 24 test points for each day
  - The mean of the absolute values are visualized
  - SV+ was not computable due to lack of training data
- LIME+ is insensitive to outliers
  - LIME score remain the same for any outliers, making it less useful in anomaly attribution
- Z-score does not depend on  $y$  (by definition)
  - The artifact for the day-of-week variables is due to one-hot encoding



## Contents

- Problem setting
- Introducing *Likelihood Compensation*
- Experimental results
- Summary

## Summary

- LC is a principled framework designed to explain deviations from black-box regression function
- We empirically showed that LIME and Shapley values are insensitive to deviations
  - Is there any theoretical justification on this ? --- Yes.

## Backup

# Anomaly attribution as inverse problem of anomaly detection

- This is a statistical inverse problem
  - Forward problem: Given  $(\mathbf{x}^t, y^t)$ , tell whether it is anomalous
    - ✓ Simple: Just check the amount of deviation  $|f(\mathbf{x}) - y|$  to see if it is too big
  - Inverse is challenging: Quantify how each of  $\mathbf{x}$  contributes to a large  $|f(\mathbf{x}) - y|$
- Existing black-box explainability methods are not directly applicable
  - They are either:
  - (1) designed specifically for (image) classification, or
  - (2) focused only on characterizing  $f(\mathbf{x})$ , not the deviation between  $y$  and  $f$ ,
    - ✓ We are interested in anomaly diagnosis
    - ✓ Anomalies are defined by large  $|f(\mathbf{x}) - y|$  values, not  $f(\mathbf{x})$  alone

## Summarizing practical features of LC

- LC is directly interpretable (c.f. LIME)
  - It is defined as the amount of correction required to fit the observed  $y^t$
  - LC represents “what you could have done for the best fit” for each input
  - Naturally provides counterfactual explanations
    - ✓ LC > 0 for a temperature variable, for example, reads “To be consistent to the observed  $y^t$ , the temperature could have been higher.”
    - ✓ Or simply, “Your temperature was too low for  $y^t$ ”
- LC is model-agnostic
  - c.f. most of existing anomaly diagnosis methods, which assume full access to the model
- LC can characterize  $f(\mathbf{x}^t) - y^t$ , thus can produce outlier-specific explanations



## (For ref.) Algorithm for LIME+ and SV+

### ■ LIME+ (extended LIME)

- For a given test sample  $(\mathbf{x}^t, y^t)$ , populate  $N_s$  samples around  $\mathbf{x}^t$  as  $\{\mathbf{x}^{t[1]}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{t[N_s]}\}$
- Create a data set  $D^t = \{(z^{t[1]}, \mathbf{x}^{t[1]}), \dots, (z^{t[N_s]}, \mathbf{x}^{t[N_s]})\}$ , where  $z^{t[n]} = f(\mathbf{x}^{t[n]}) - y^t$
- Fit lasso regression to the data
- Your explainability score is the regression coefficients

### ■ SV+ (extended Shapley value)

- For a given test sample  $(\mathbf{x}^t, y^t)$ , the SV+ score for the  $j$ -th variable is

$$\text{sv}_j(\mathbf{x}^t) \triangleq \sum_{|S_j|=0}^{M-1} \frac{(M - |S_j| - 1)! |S_j|!}{M!} \left[ \langle f - y^t \mid x_j = x_j^t, \mathbf{x}_{S_j} = \mathbf{x}_{S_j}^t \rangle - \langle f - y^t \mid \mathbf{x}_{S_j} = \mathbf{x}_{S_j}^t \rangle \right]$$

✓ where  $S_j$  is the set of all the variable indices excluding  $j$ , and

✓ for an  $M$ -variate function  $g$ ,  $\langle g \mid x_j = x_j^t, \mathbf{x}_{S_j} = \mathbf{x}_{S_j}^t \rangle \triangleq \int d\mathbf{x} P(\mathbf{x}) g(x_j = x_j^t, \mathbf{x}_{S_j} = \mathbf{x}_{S_j}^t, \mathbf{x}_{\bar{S}_j})$

$$\langle g \mid \mathbf{x}_{S_j} = \mathbf{x}_{S_j}^t \rangle \triangleq \int d\mathbf{x} \underbrace{P(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{true (or empirical) distribution (problematic)}} g(x_j, \mathbf{x}_{S_j} = \mathbf{x}_{S_j}^t, \mathbf{x}_{\bar{S}_j})$$

true (or empirical) distribution (problematic)