

# Linear Models

**Geometric Algorithms**

**Lecture 24**

# Practice Problem

$$A = \begin{matrix} & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} & & & \end{matrix} \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find the <sup>orthogonal</sup> projection of  $\mathbf{b}$  onto  $\text{Col}(A)$ .

hint.  $a_3 = a_2 - a_1$

# Answer

① Find basis

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

① Find LS solution

$$B^T B \hat{x} = B^T \vec{b} \quad (\text{normal})$$

$$\hat{x} = (B^T B)^{-1} B^T \vec{b}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B \hat{x} = \hat{b}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \hat{b} = B \hat{x}$$

$$= B (B^T B)^{-1} B^T \vec{b}$$

# Objectives

1. Use the least square method to build linear *models* of noisy data.
2. Show how we can use linear algebraic methods to model with non-linear models.

# Keywords

line of best fit

independent/dependent variables

residuals

prediction

simple least squares regression

multiple regression

polynomial regression

models

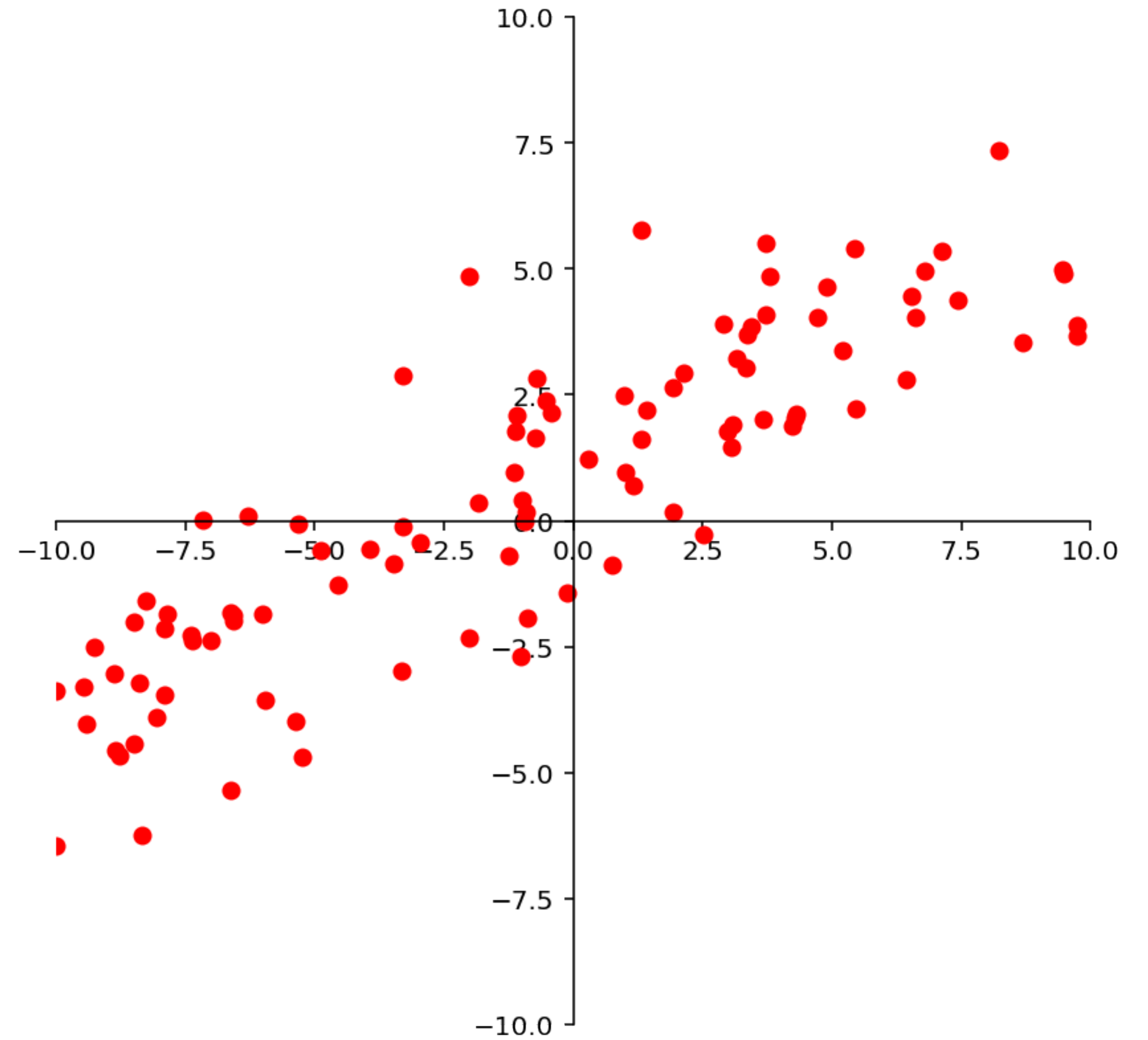
model fitting

model parameters

design matrices

# Warm-up: Line of Best Fit

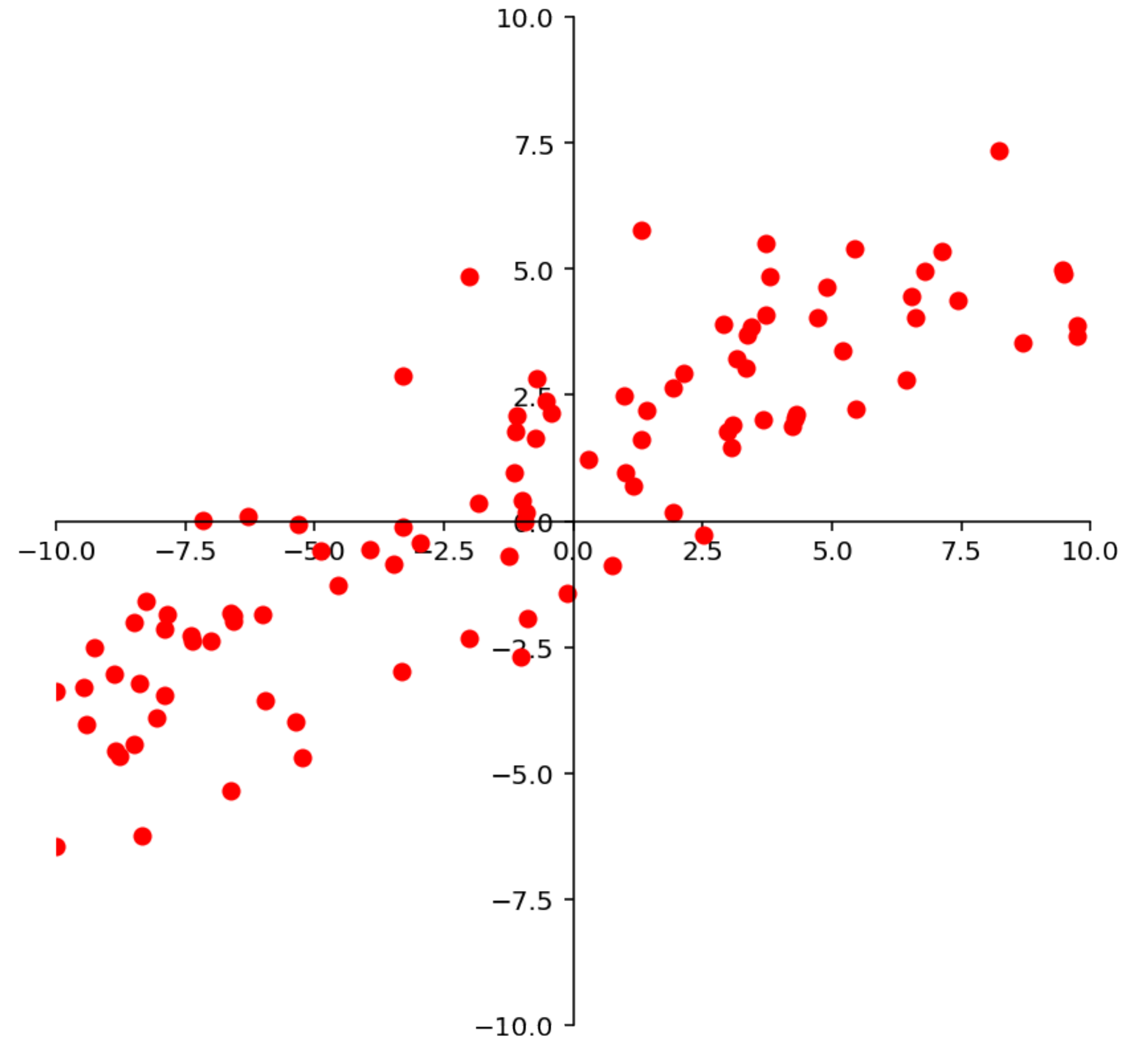
# The Setup



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You're given a set of points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_k, y_k)\}$$



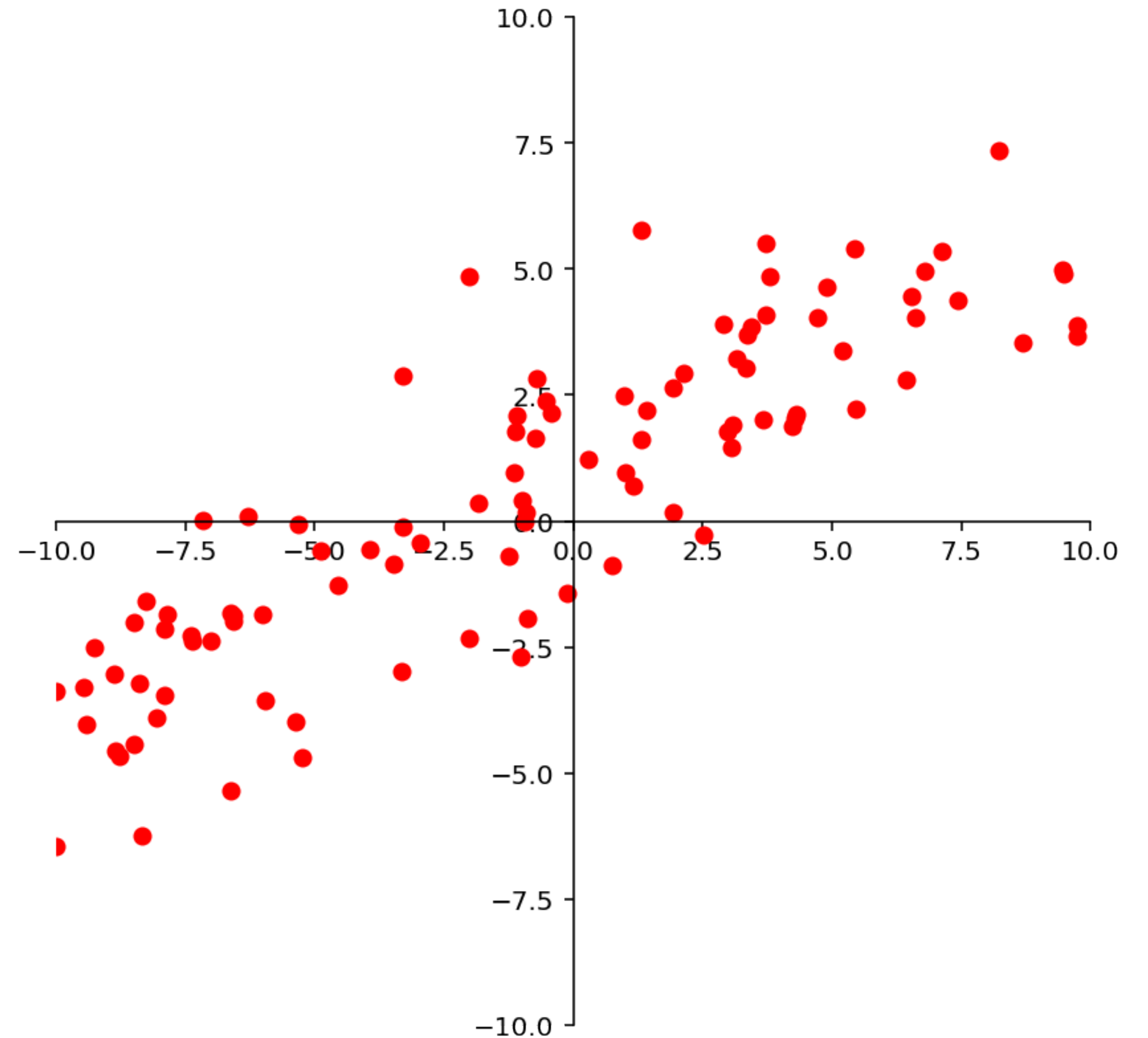


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**Example.** You collect (height, weight) data for a population.



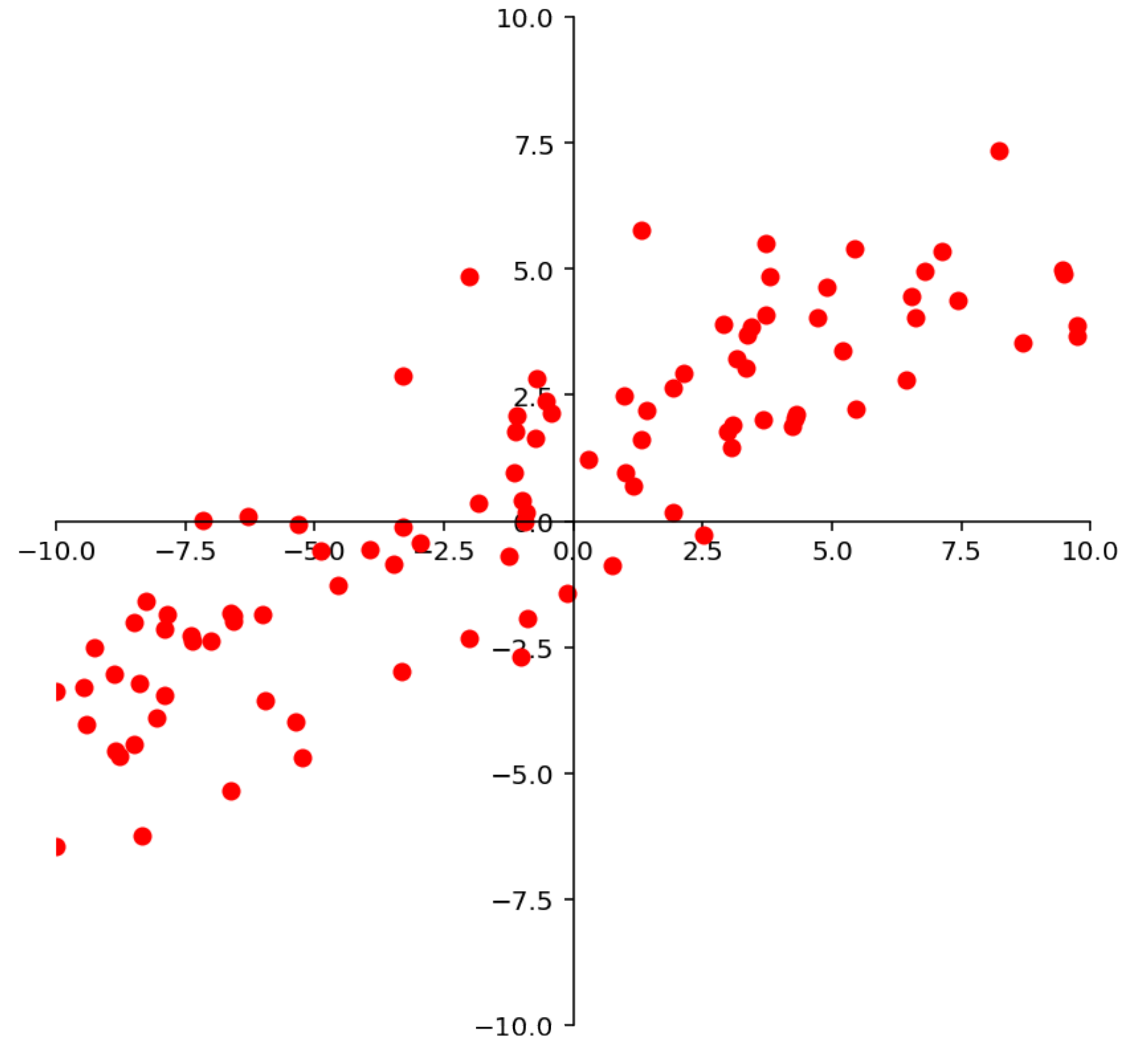
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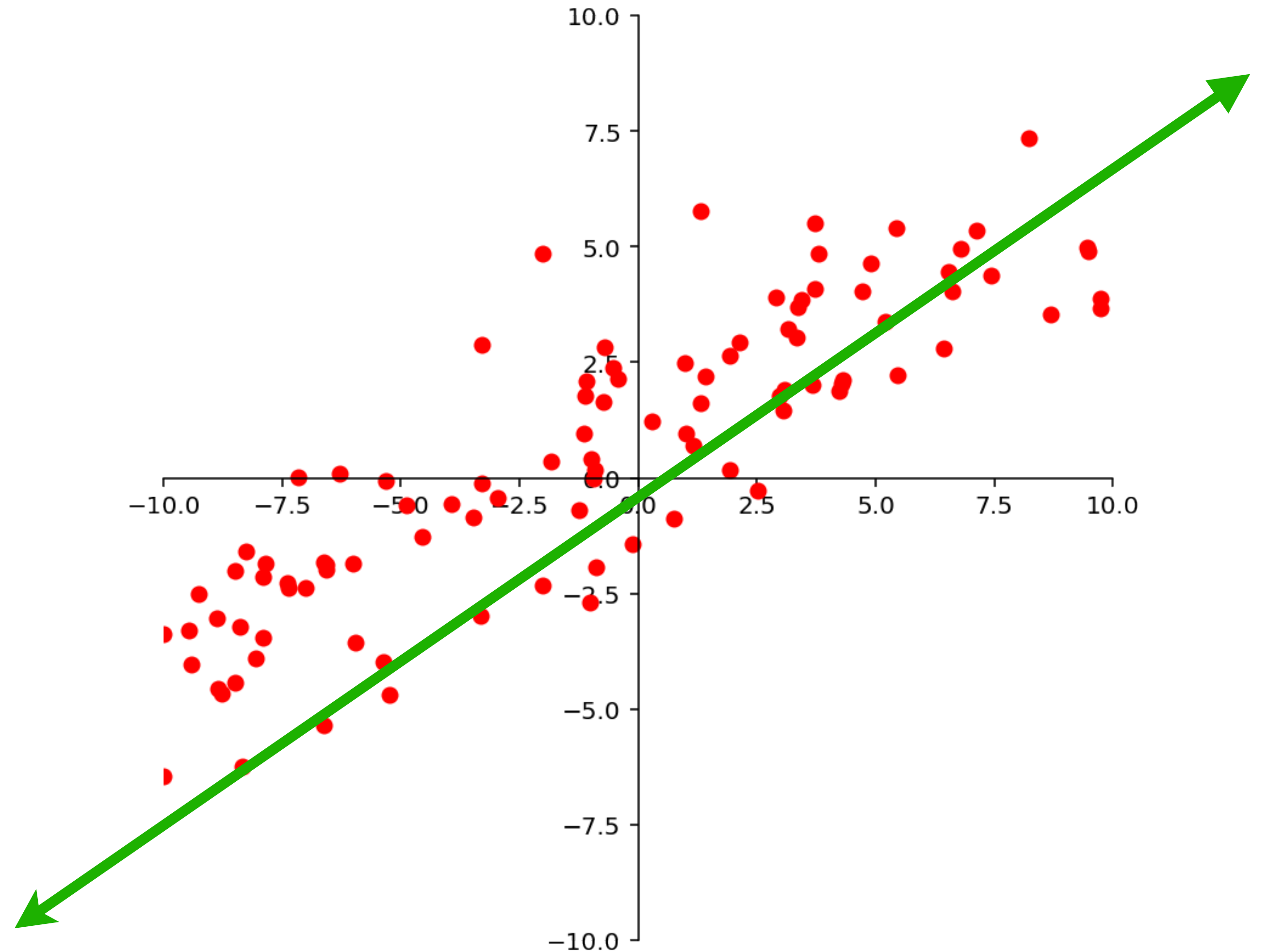
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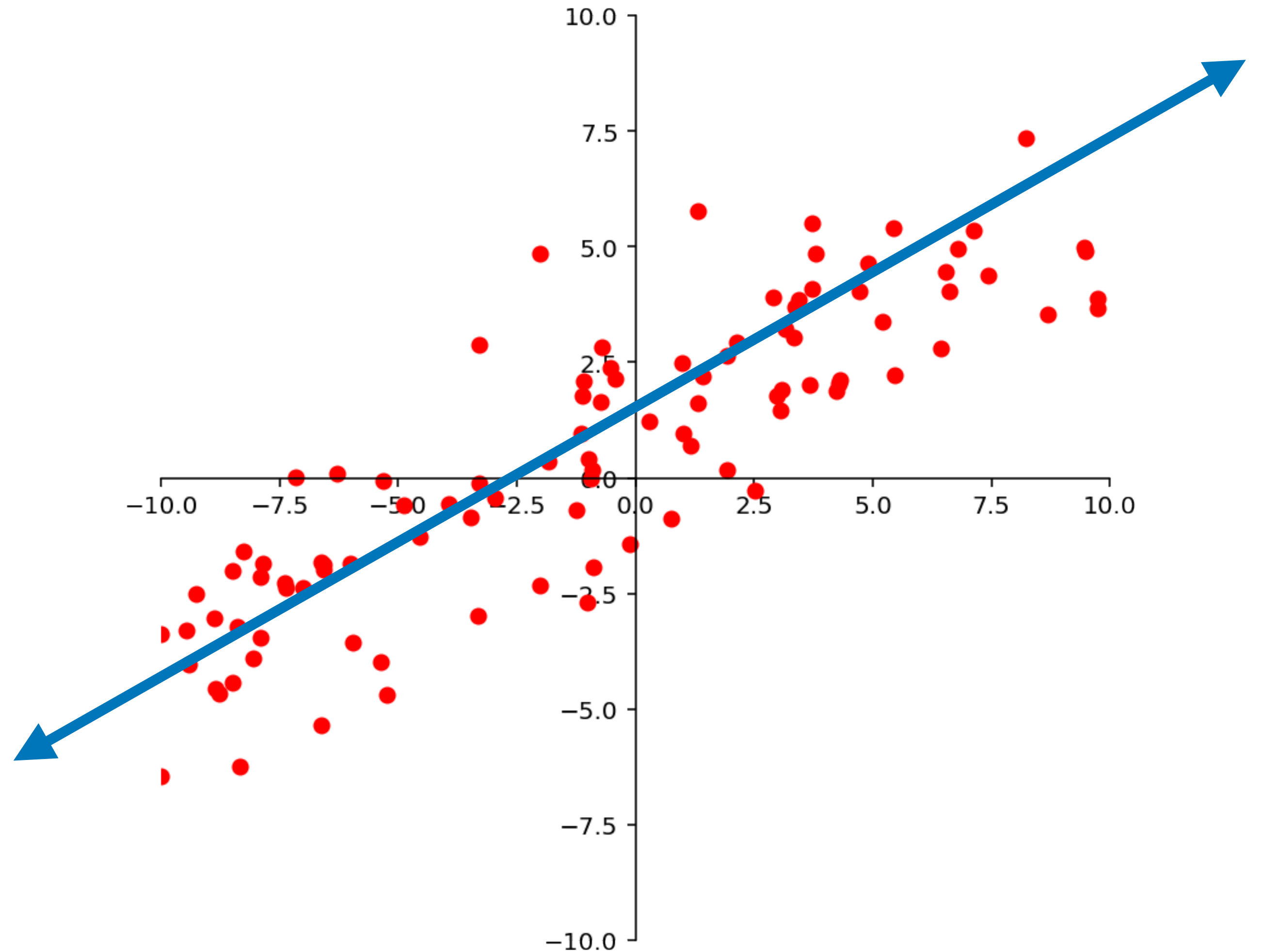
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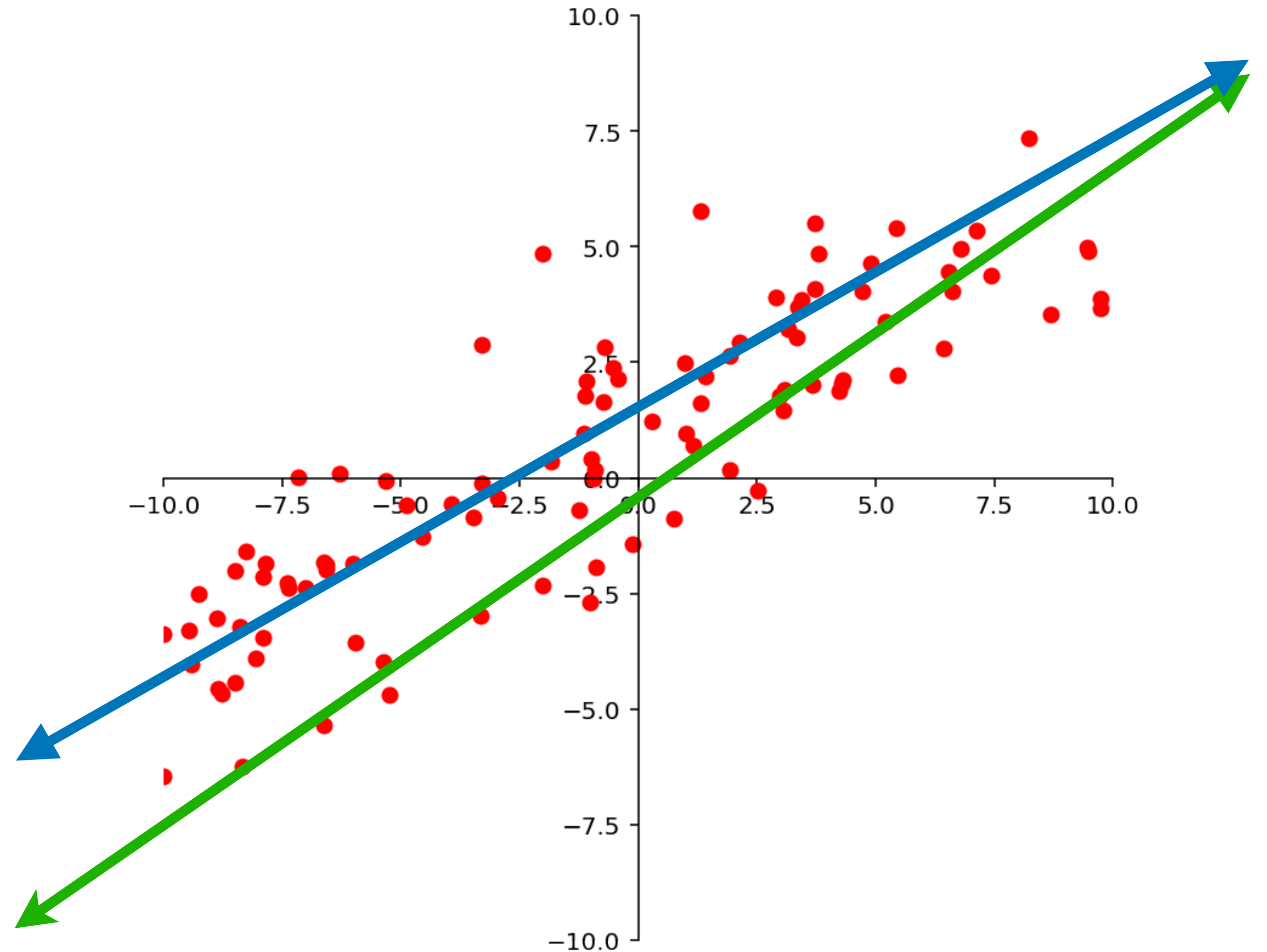
You notice they *kind of* trend as a line.



# The Setup

**Question.** Which line "best" describes the trend of the dataset?

Which one *best models* the dataset?



# Two Important Questions

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1. What is a model?

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**We'll come back to this...**



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2. What does "best" mean?

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1. What is a model?

**We'll come back to this...**

2. What does "best" mean?

**This is a make-or-break question.**

# Least Squares Simple Linear Regression

**Problem.** Given a set of points  $\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ , find the line

$$f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$$

which minimizes

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

# Least Squares Simple Linear Regression

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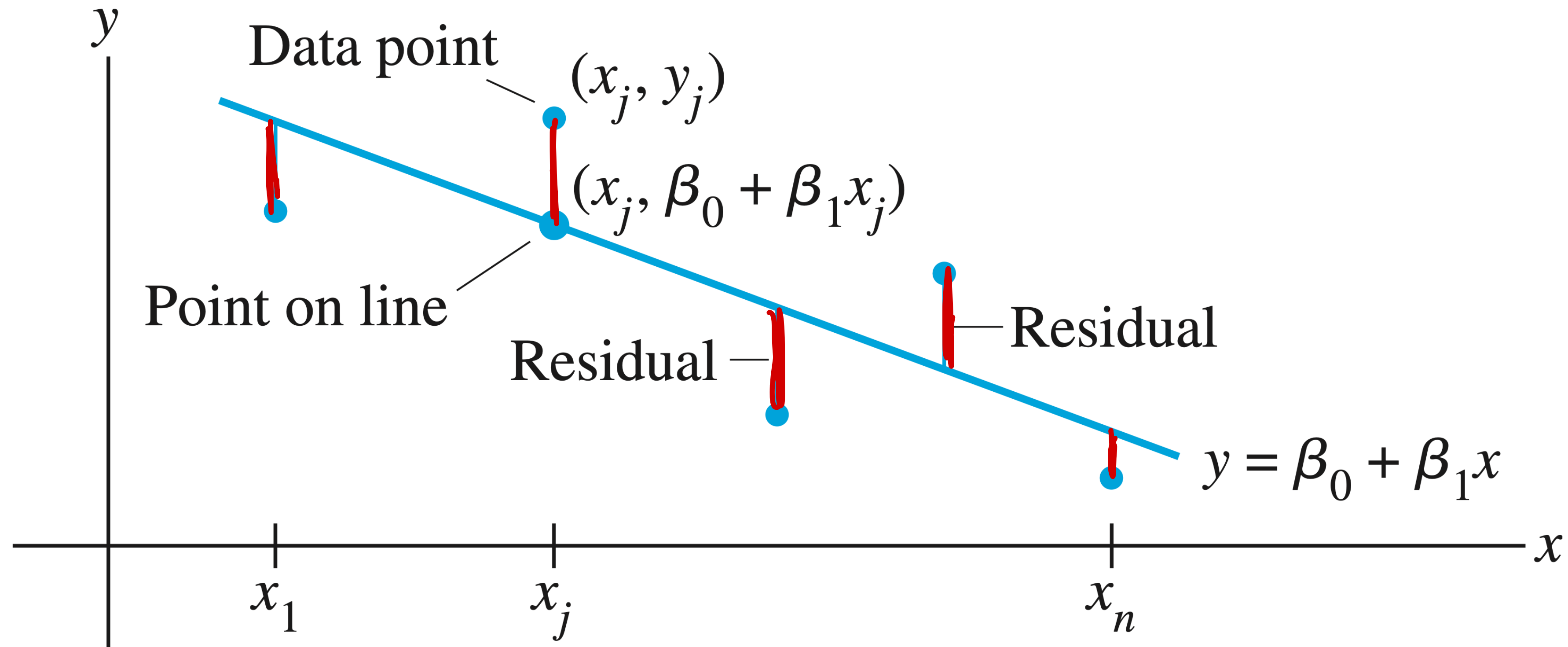
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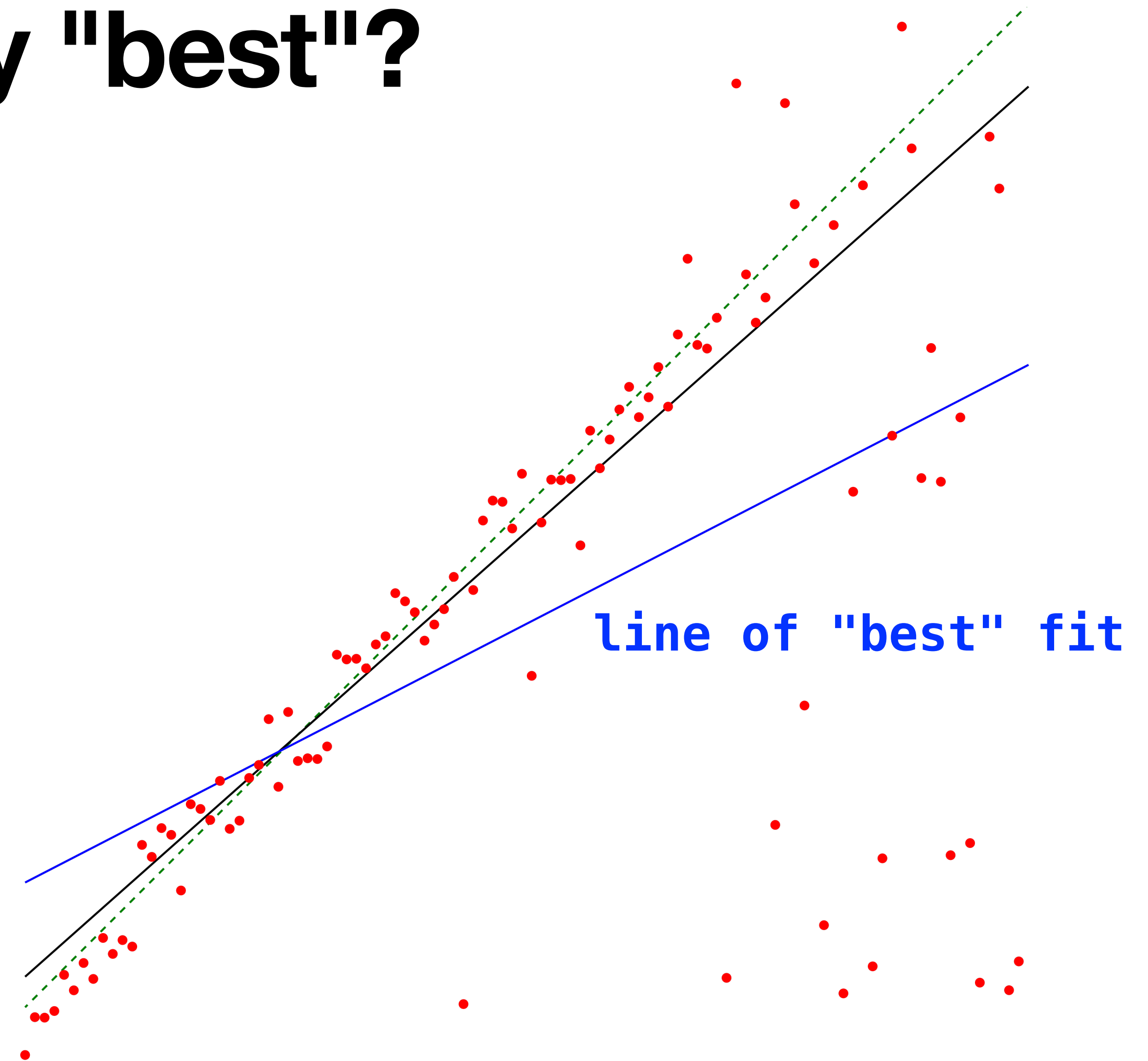
**The "best" line minimizes  
the *sum of squares of  
differences.***

# The Picture



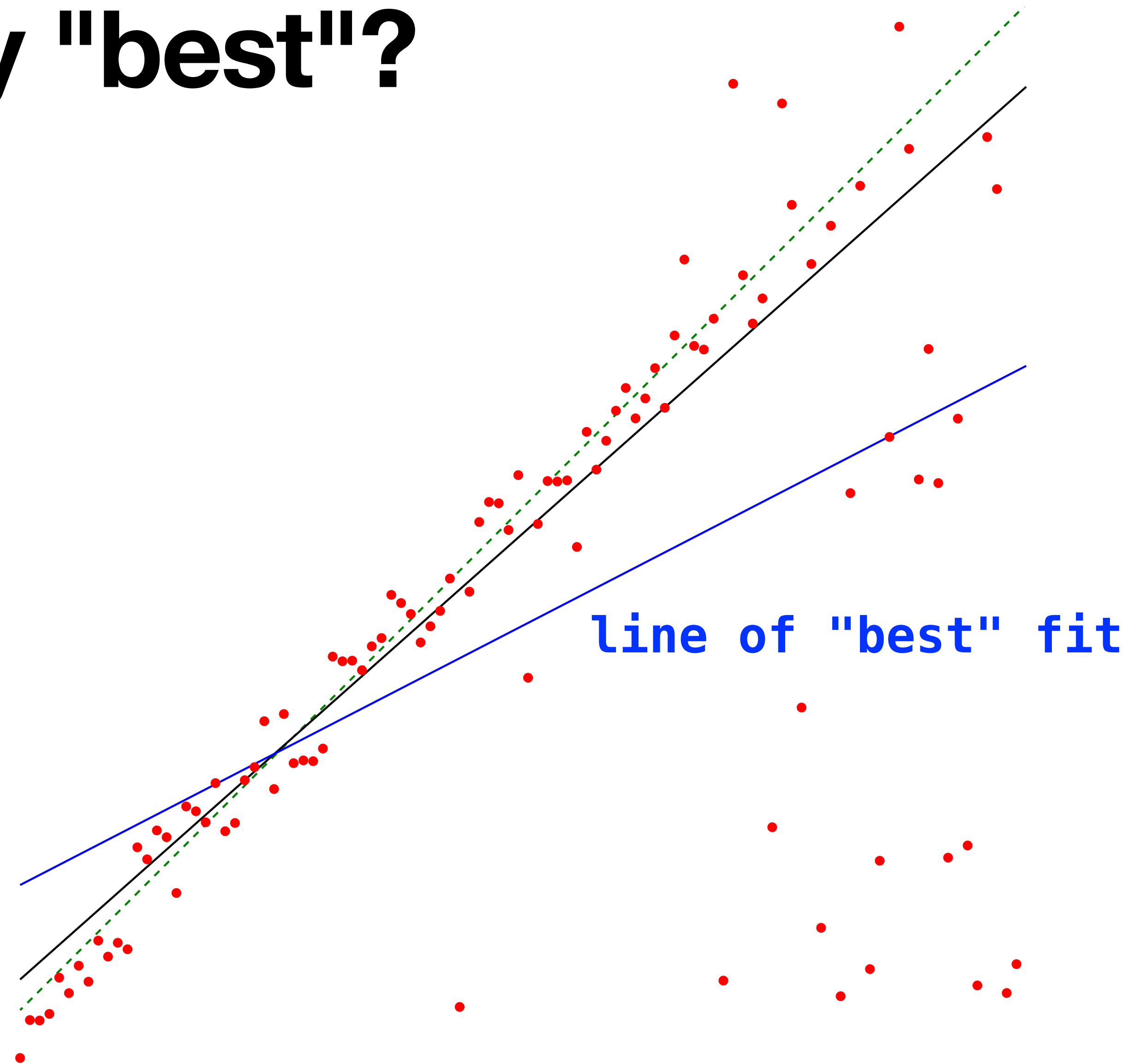
We want to find the line which makes the sum of these differences *as small as possible*.

# An Aside: Is this really "best"?



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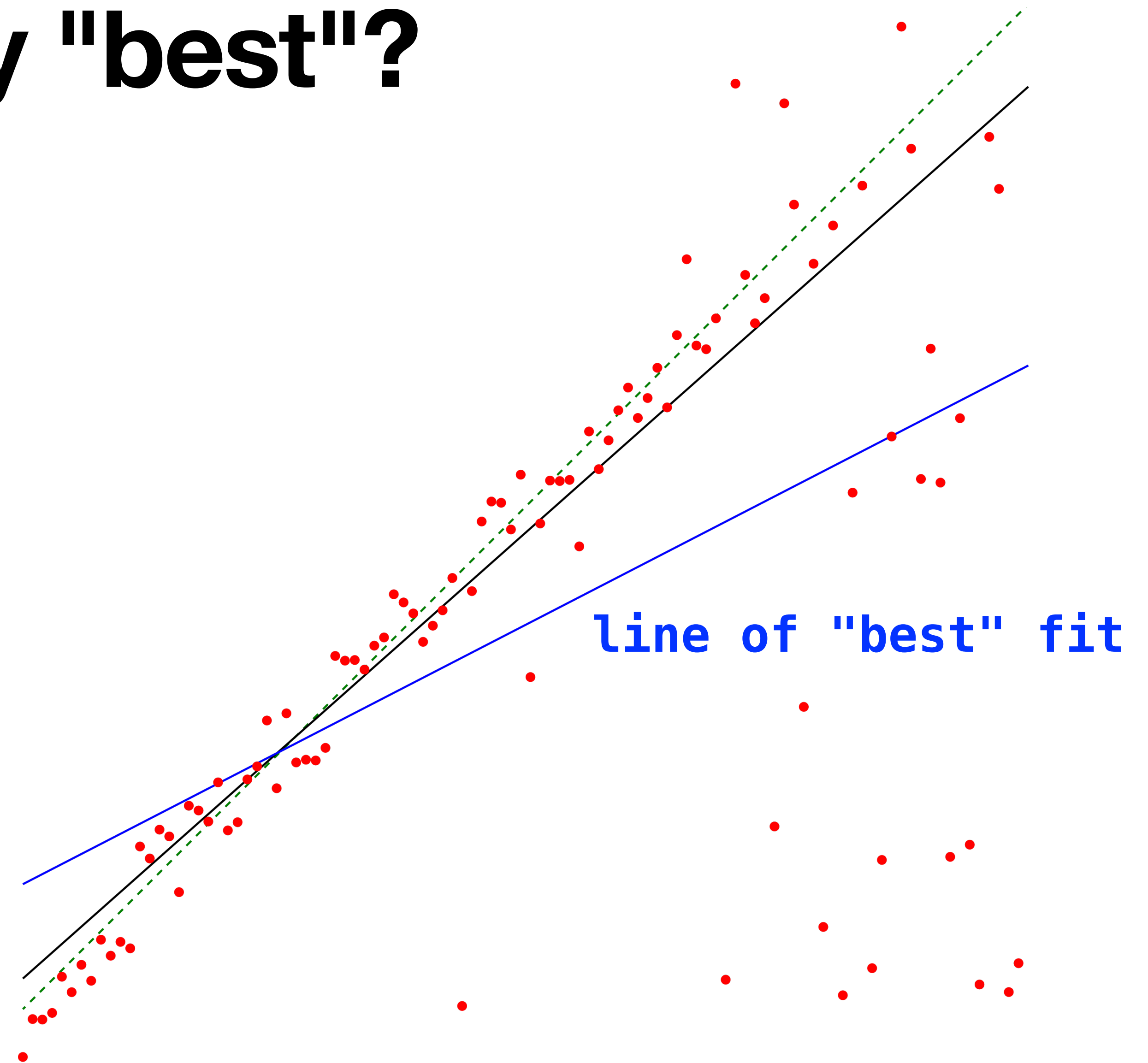
Who's to say...



# An Aside: Is this really "best"?

Who's to say...

It depends on the data,  
on the application  
domain, etc.



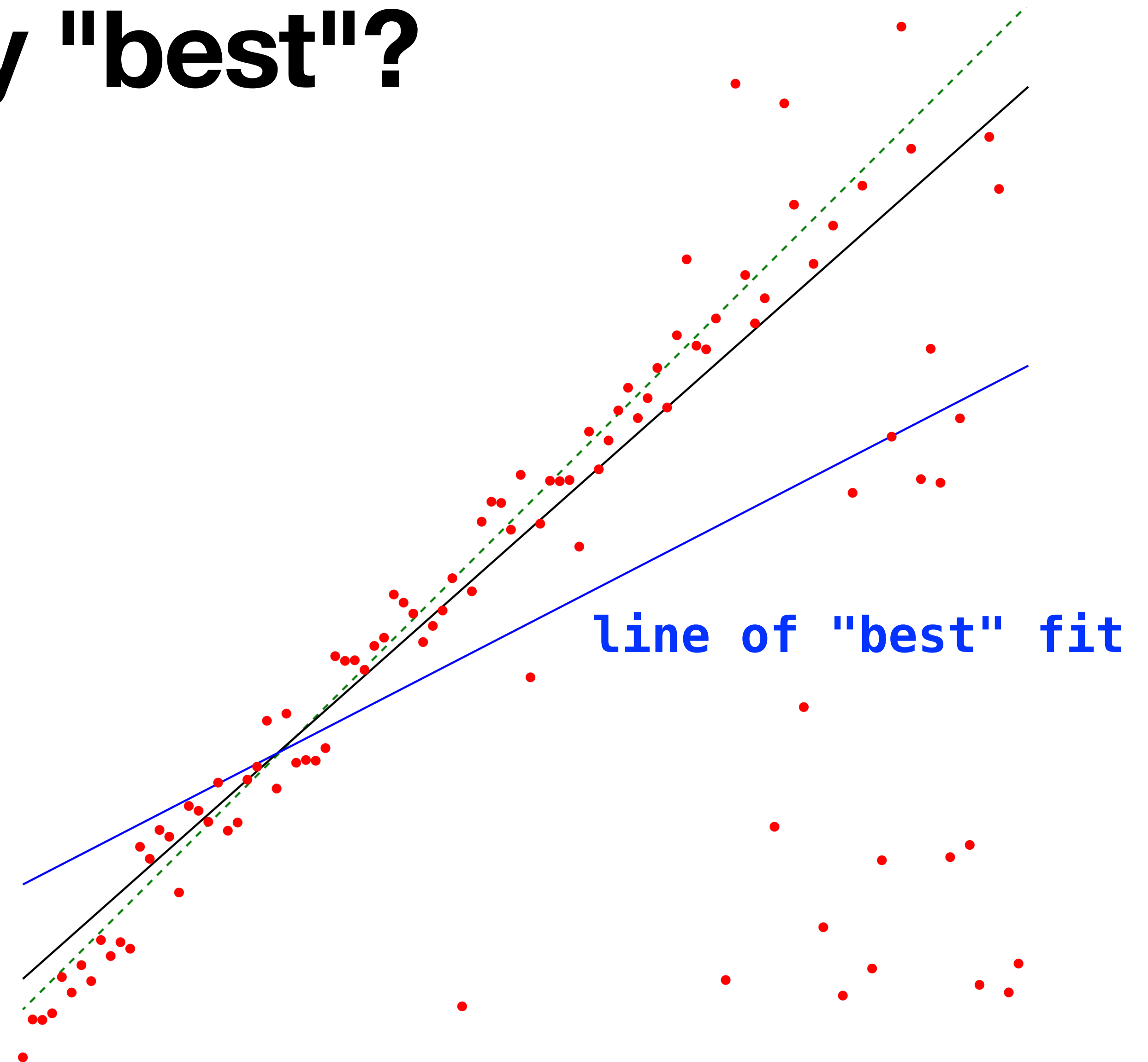


# An Aside: Is this really "best"?

Who's to say...

It depends on the data,  
on the application  
domain, etc.

**The point.** We fix our  
notion of "best" first,  
and then we do  
calculations and  
derivations from there.



# Terminology: Datasets

$$\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_i, y_i), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$$

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$\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_i, y_i), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$   
dataset

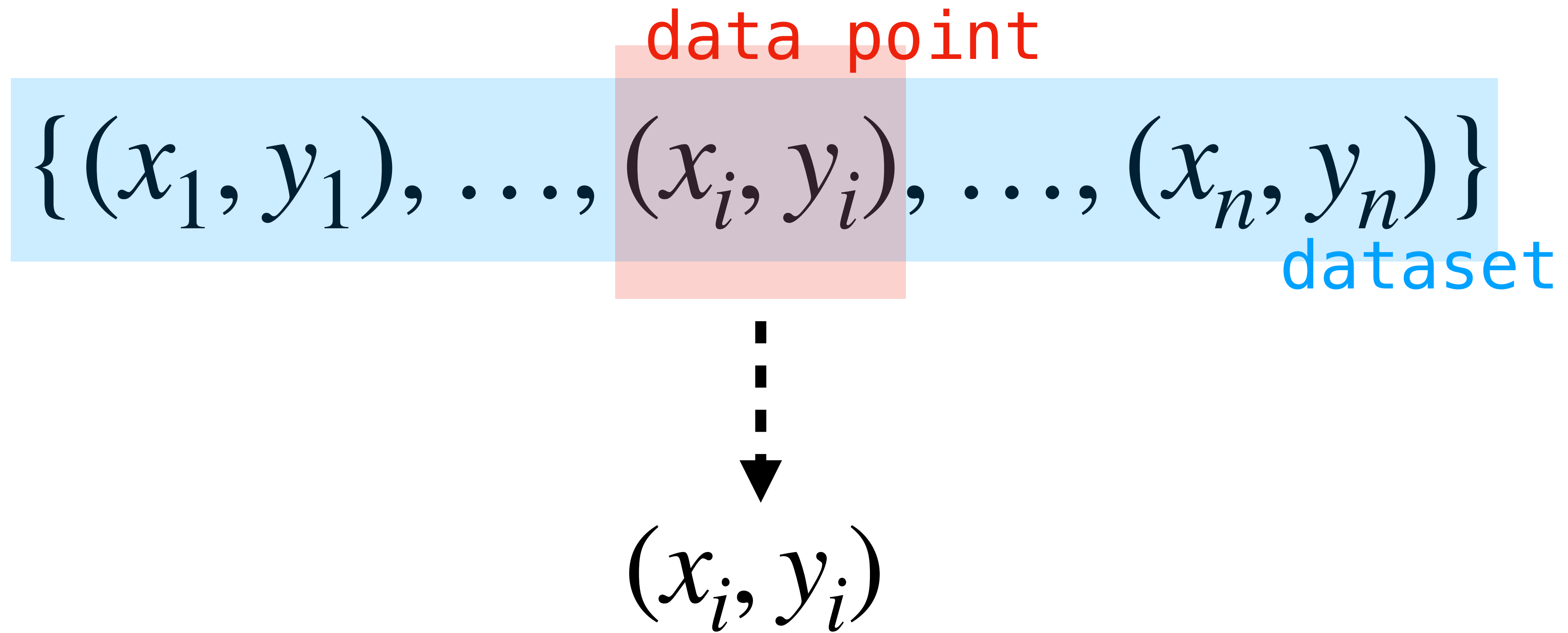
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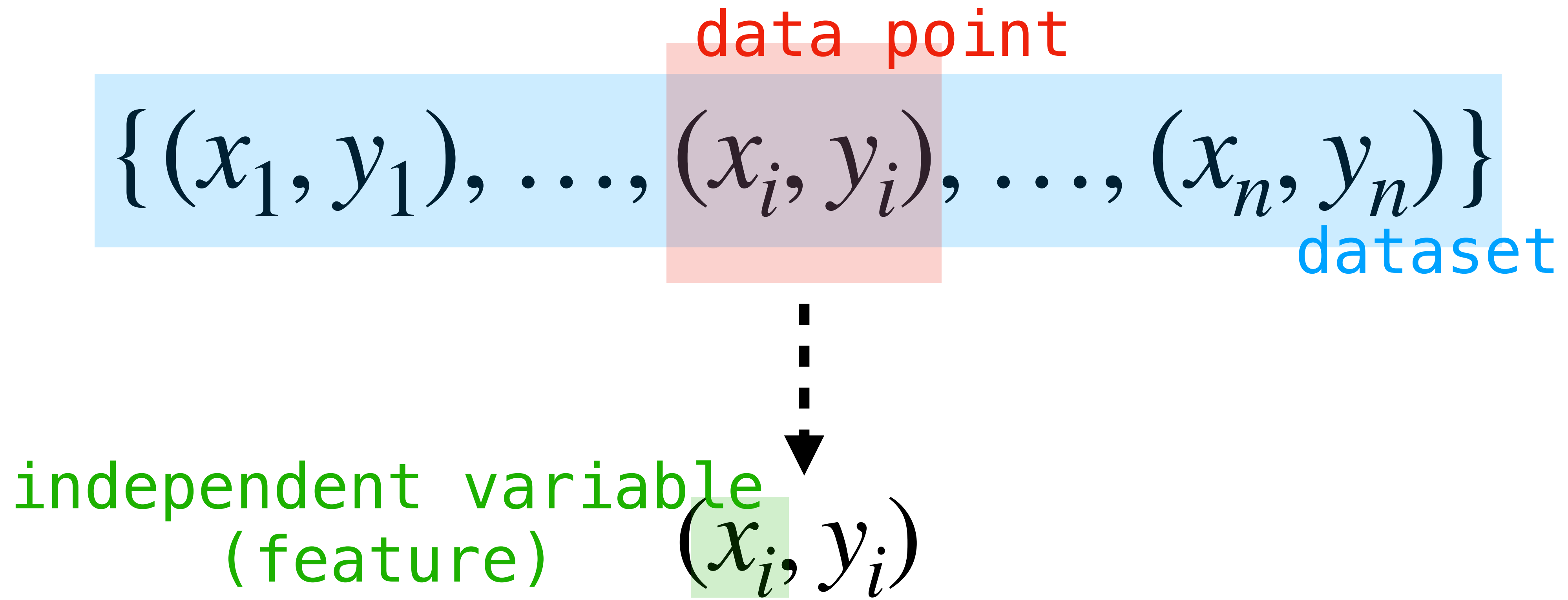
data point

dataset

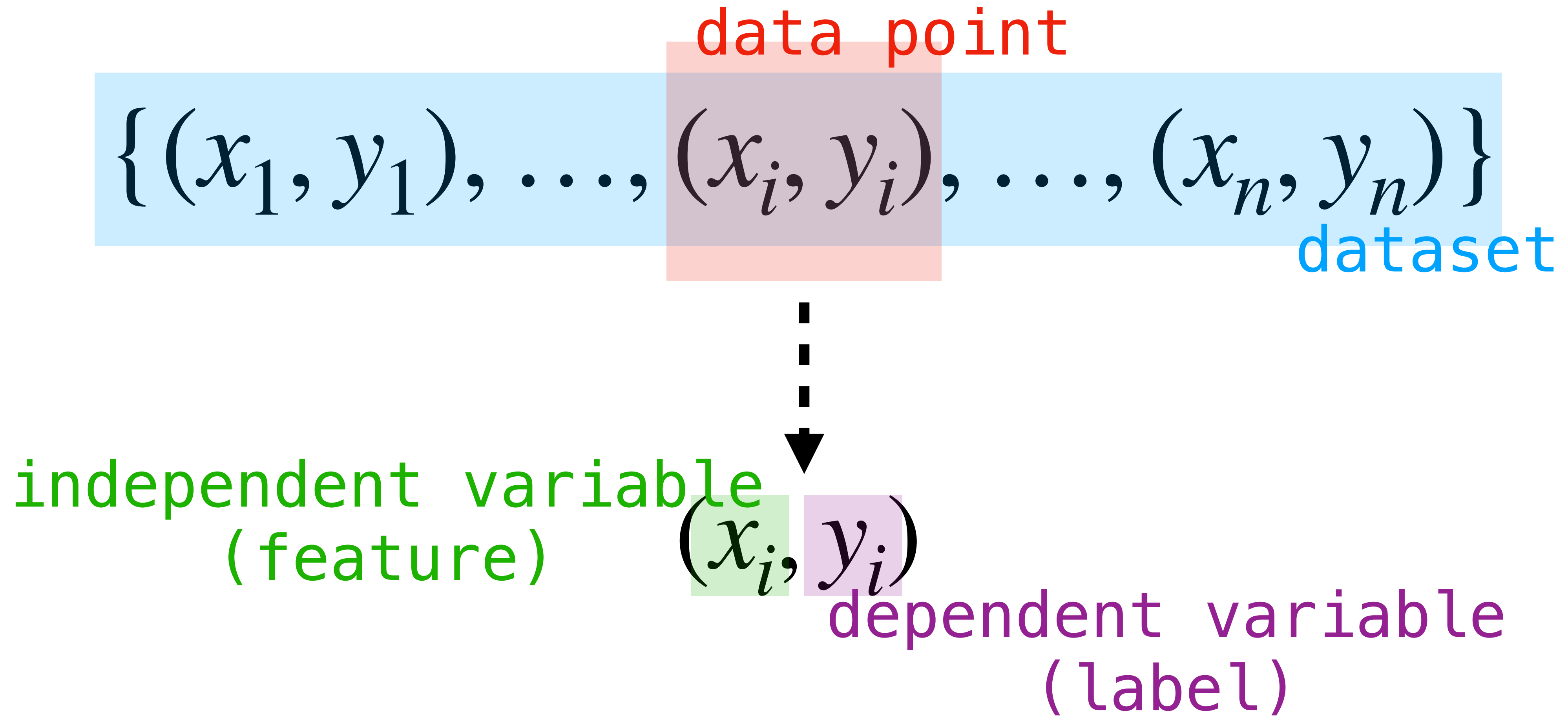
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$$f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$$



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model

# Terminology: Models

model parameters/  
regression coefficients

$$f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$$

model

# Terminology: Least-Squares Error

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

# Terminology: Least-Squares Error

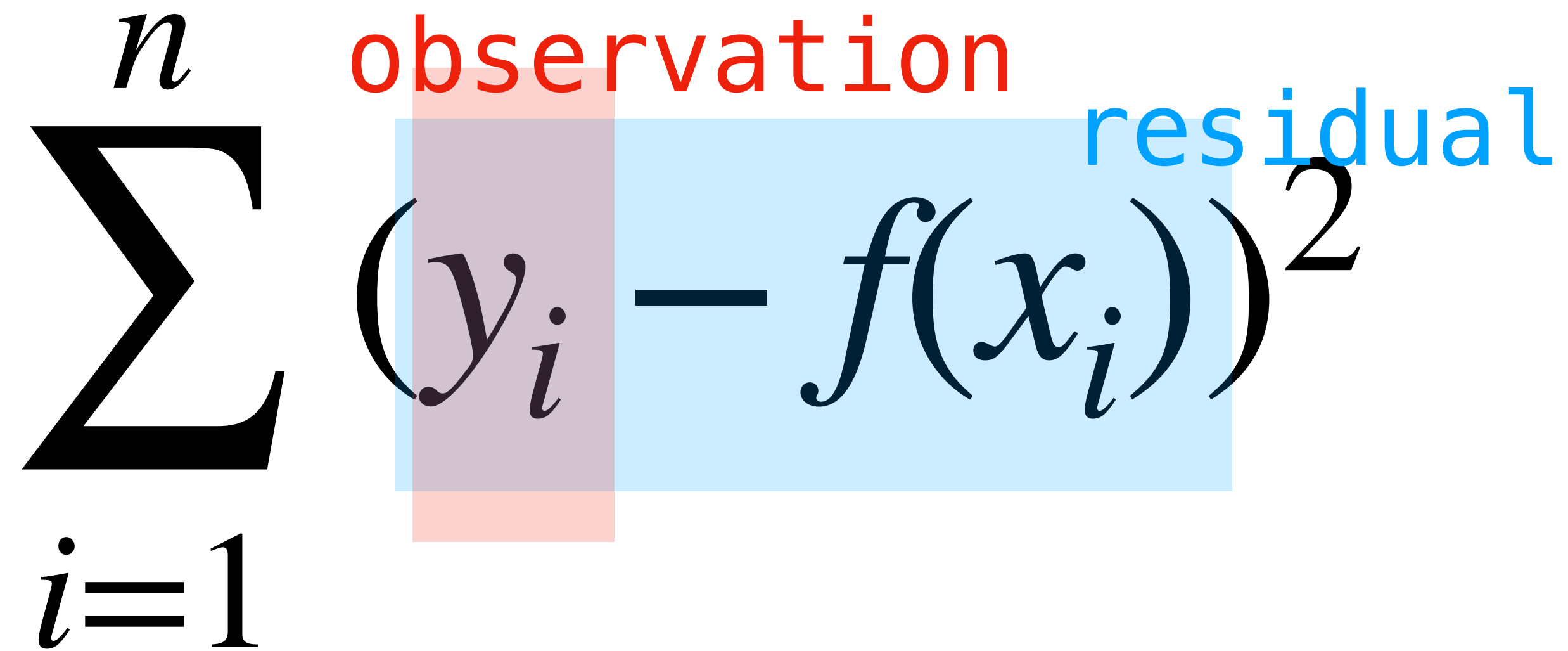
$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

residual

# Terminology: Least-Squares Error

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

observation residual

The diagram shows the least-squares error formula with two highlighted regions. A light red rectangular box highlights the term  $y_i$ , which is labeled "observation" in red text above it. A light blue rectangular box highlights the term  $f(x_i)$ , which is labeled "residual" in blue text above it. The entire expression  $(y_i - f(x_i))^2$  is enclosed in a larger, semi-transparent light blue box.

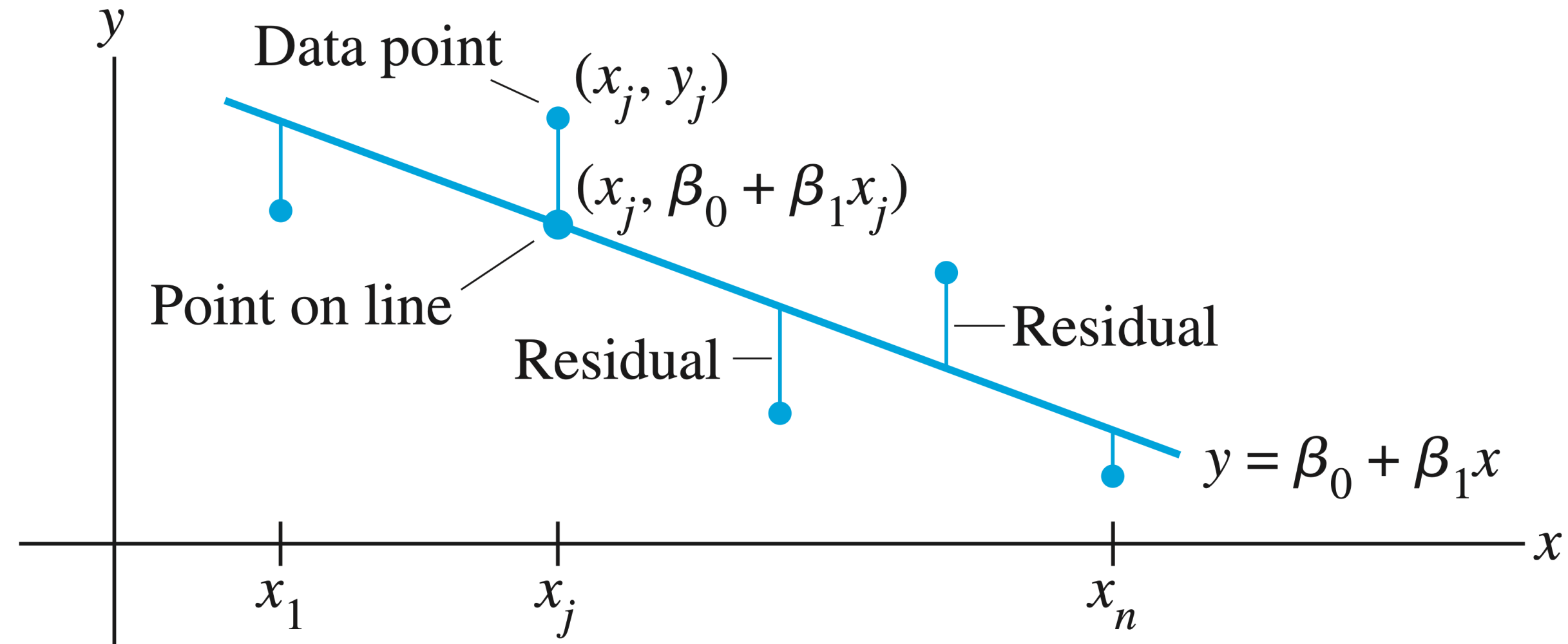
# Terminology: Least-Squares Error

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

The diagram illustrates the least-squares error formula with color-coded components:

- observation**: The term  $y_i$  is highlighted in a light red box.
- prediction**: The term  $f(x_i)$  is highlighted in a light green box.
- residual**: The entire expression  $(y_i - f(x_i))^2$  is highlighted in a light blue box.

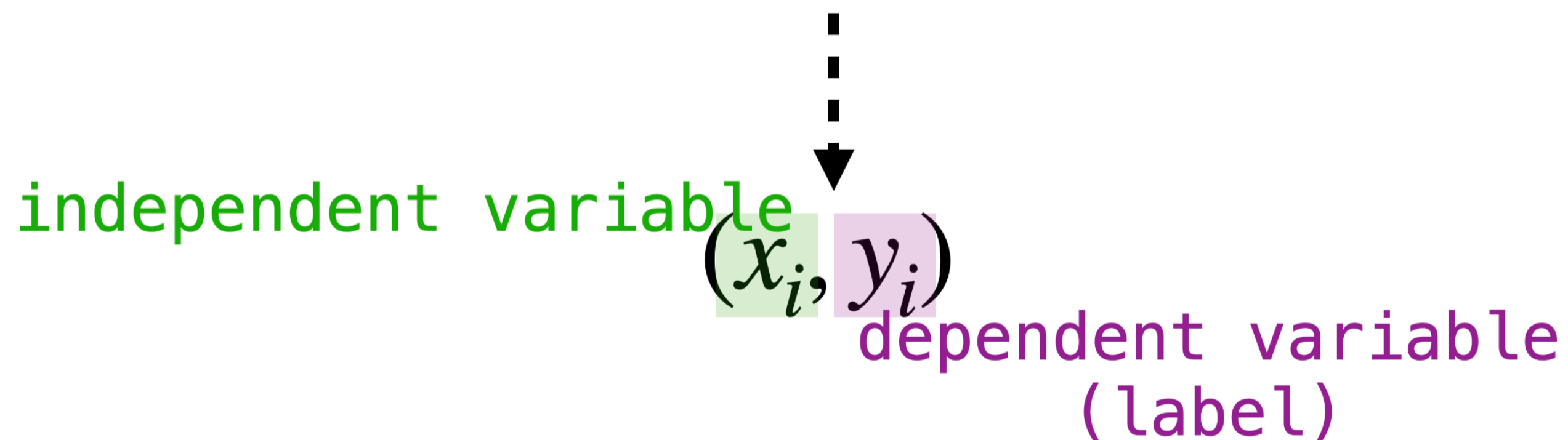
# Terminology



$$\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, \overset{\text{data point}}{(x_i, y_i)}, \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$$

dataset

$$f(x) = \overset{\text{model parameters/ regression coefficients}}{\beta_0} + \overset{\text{model}}{\beta_1 x}$$



$$\sum_{i=1}^n \overset{\text{observation}}{(y_i - \overset{\text{prediction}}{f(x_i)})}^2$$

residual

# How to: Finding the Least Squares Line

$$\beta_1 = \frac{n \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i - \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \right)}{n \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right)^2} \quad \beta_0 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \beta_1 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n}$$



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**Problem.** Find the least squares line for the dataset  $\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ .

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**Solution (First attempt).** Use these equations...

# How to: Finding the Least Squares Line

Don't memorize these.

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# An Observation

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

$$\|A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n ((A\mathbf{x})_i - \mathbf{b}_i)^2$$

# An Observation

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

minimize for least-squares line

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These expressions look very similar.

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$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

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minimize for least-squares method

These expressions look very similar.

Can we design a matrix where finding a least squares solution gives us a least squares line?

# A Least Squares Problem

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 = y_1$$

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_2 = y_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_n = y_n$$



# A Least Squares Problem

In the "ideal" world, we could find parameters  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  such that all of these equations hold.

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# A Least Squares Problem

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**This is a linear system in the variables  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$**

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 5.2 = 7.9$$

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 = y_1$$

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_2 = y_2$$

⋮

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_n = y_n$$

# A Least Squares Problem

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} 1(\beta_0) + x_1\beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ 1(\beta_0) + x_n\beta_1 \end{array} \right] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

# A Least Squares Problem

In the "ideal" world,  
*this matrix equation  
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# A Least Squares Problem

In the "ideal" world,  
*this matrix equation  
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In reality this system  
is unlikely to have a  
solution, **but maybe we  
can find an  
approximate solution.**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\|X\vec{\beta} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n ((\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i) - y_i)^2$$

# A Least Squares Problem

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The sum of squares of residuals is the squared distances between  $X\beta$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ .



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The sum of squares of residuals is the squared distances between  $X\beta$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ .

*Least squares solutions to this system give us parameters for least squares lines.*

# Recall: The Normal Equations

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**Theorem.** The set of least-squares solutions of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is the same as the set of solutions to

$$A^T A\mathbf{x} = A^T \mathbf{b}$$

# Recall: The Normal Equations

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**In particular, this set of solutions is nonempty**

# Recall: The Normal Equations

**Theorem.** The set of least-squares solutions of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is the same as the set of solutions to

$$A^T A\mathbf{x} = A^T \mathbf{b}$$

**In particular, this set of solutions is nonempty**

(We just showed that if  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is a least squares solution then  $A^T A\hat{\mathbf{x}} = A^T \mathbf{b}$ )

# Recall: Unique Least Squares Solutions

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \mathbf{b}$$

If  $A$  has linearly independent columns, then its unique least squares solution is defined as above.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

# Just for Fun

$$\beta_1 = \frac{n \sum_i x_i y_i - \left( \sum_i x_i \right) \left( \sum_i y_i \right)}{n \sum_i x_i^2 - \left( \sum_i x_i \right)^2}$$

Let's derive it:

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & x_1 \\ & x_2 \\ & \vdots \\ & x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X^T = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{1}^T \\ \vec{x}^T \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{1} \\ \vec{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X^T X = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{1}^T \vec{1} & \vec{1}^T \vec{x} \\ \vec{1}^T \vec{x} & \vec{x}^T \vec{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X^T X = \begin{bmatrix} n & \sum_i x_i \\ \sum_i x_i & \sum_i x_i^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

$$(X^T X)^{-1} = \frac{1}{n \sum_i x_i^2 - \left( \sum_i x_i \right)^2} \begin{bmatrix} \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

# How To: Least Squares Line

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$



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**Problem.** Find the least squares line for the dataset  $\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ .

# How To: Least Squares Line

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**Problem.** Find the least squares line for the dataset  $\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ .

**Solution.** Find the least squares solution to the above equation.

# Question

*Find the line of best fit for the dataset*

$$\{(0,3), (1,1), (-1,1), (2,3)\}$$

*by using the the least-squares method.*

*If you have time, graph your result and use it to "predict" the corresponding value for the input 4.*

$\{(0, 3), (1, 1), (-1, 1), (2, 3)\}$

$$X^T Y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

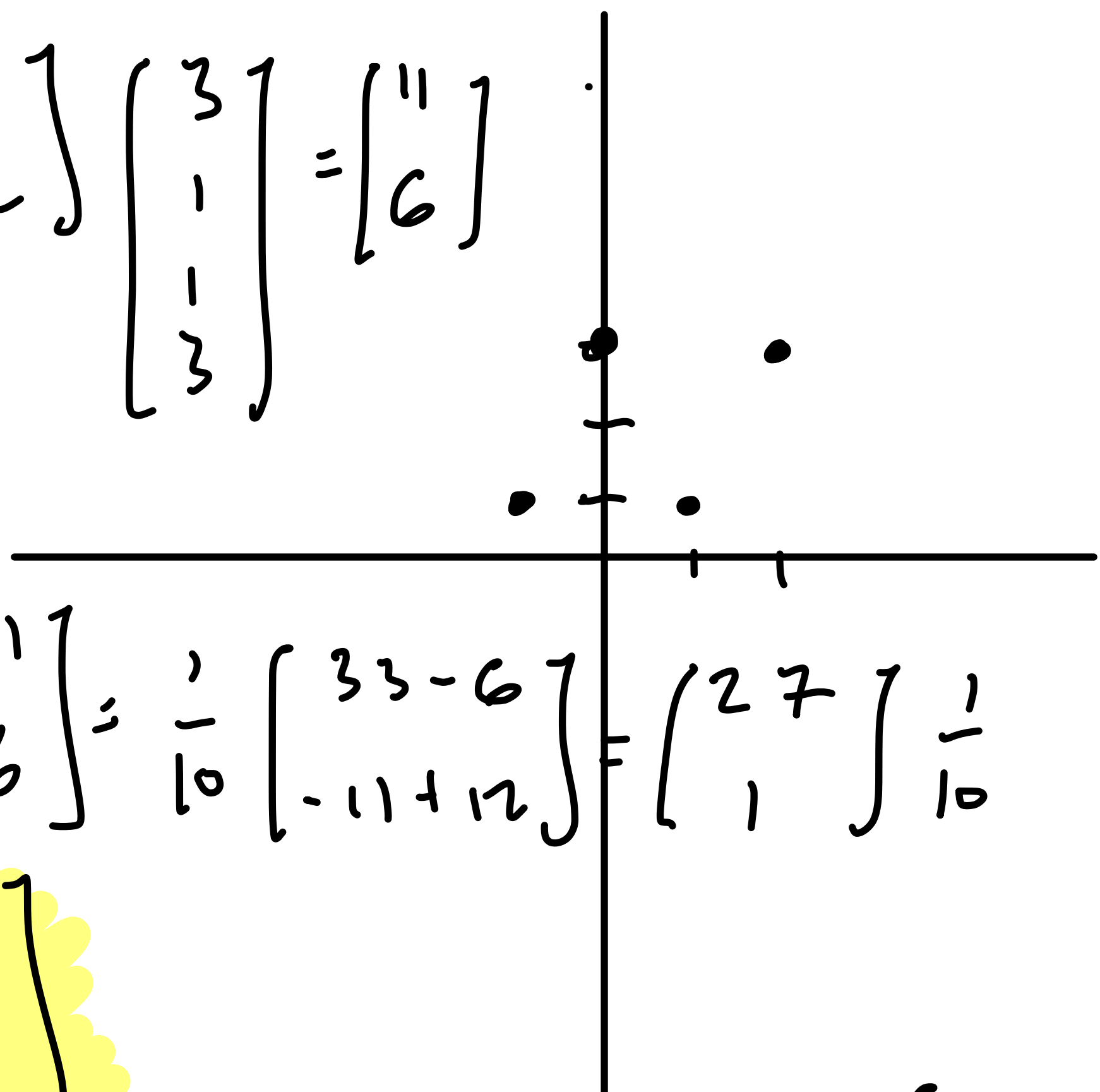
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\beta} = \frac{1}{10} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{10} \begin{bmatrix} 33 - 6 \\ -11 + 12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 27 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{10}$$

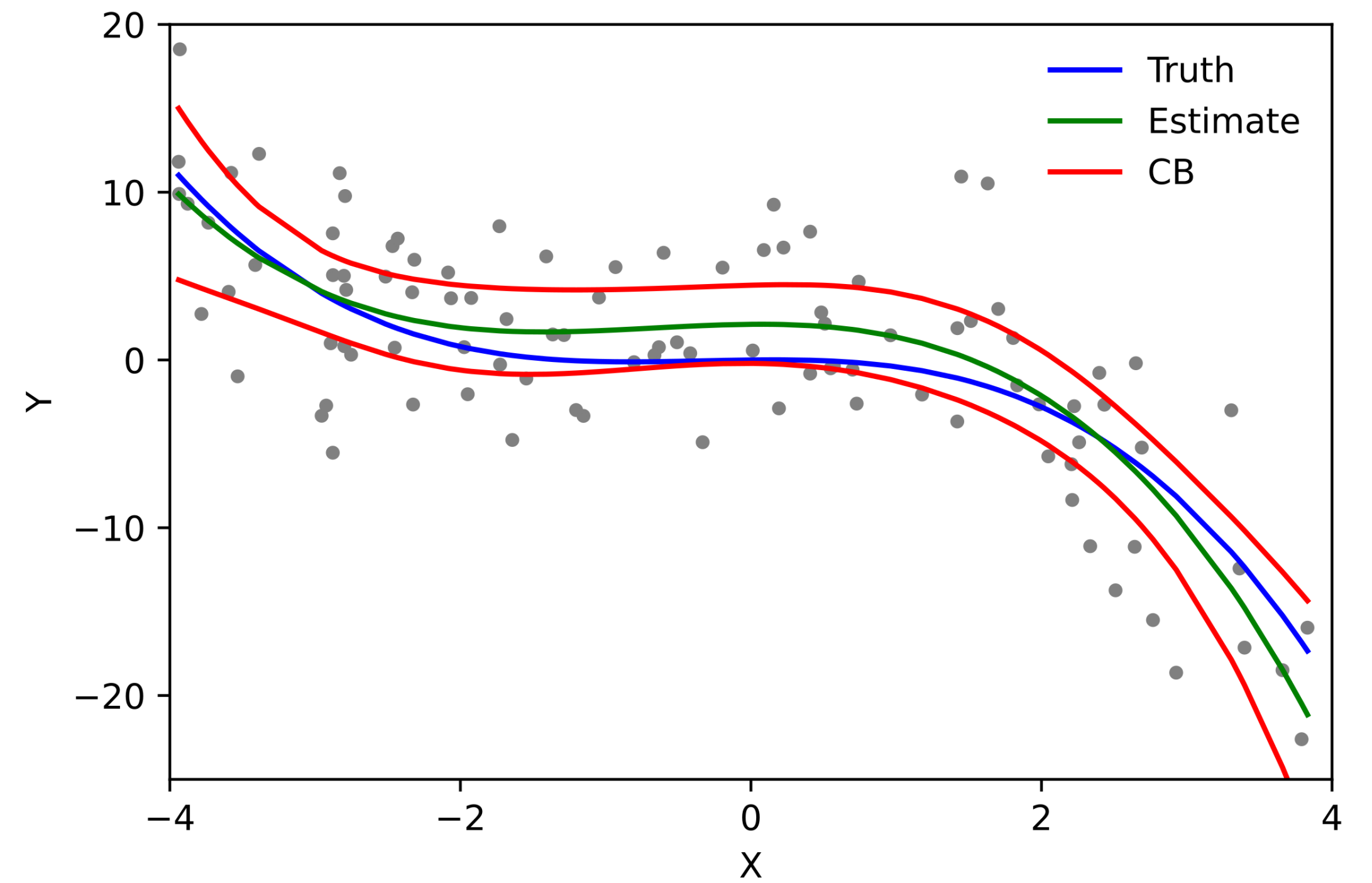
$$\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y \quad \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2.7 \\ 0.1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$(X^T X)^{-1} = \frac{1}{24 - 4} \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 \\ -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{10} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

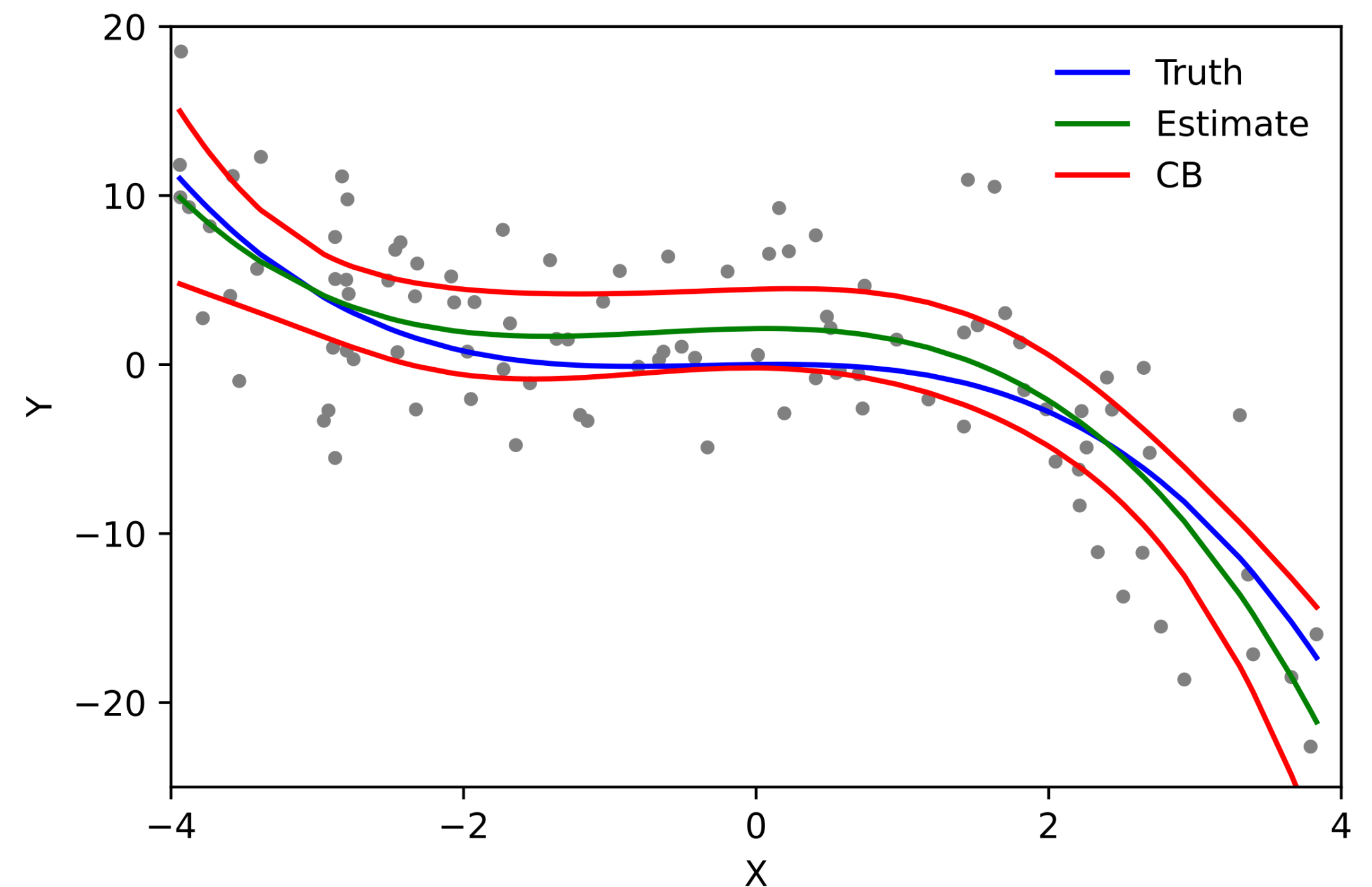


# General Regression



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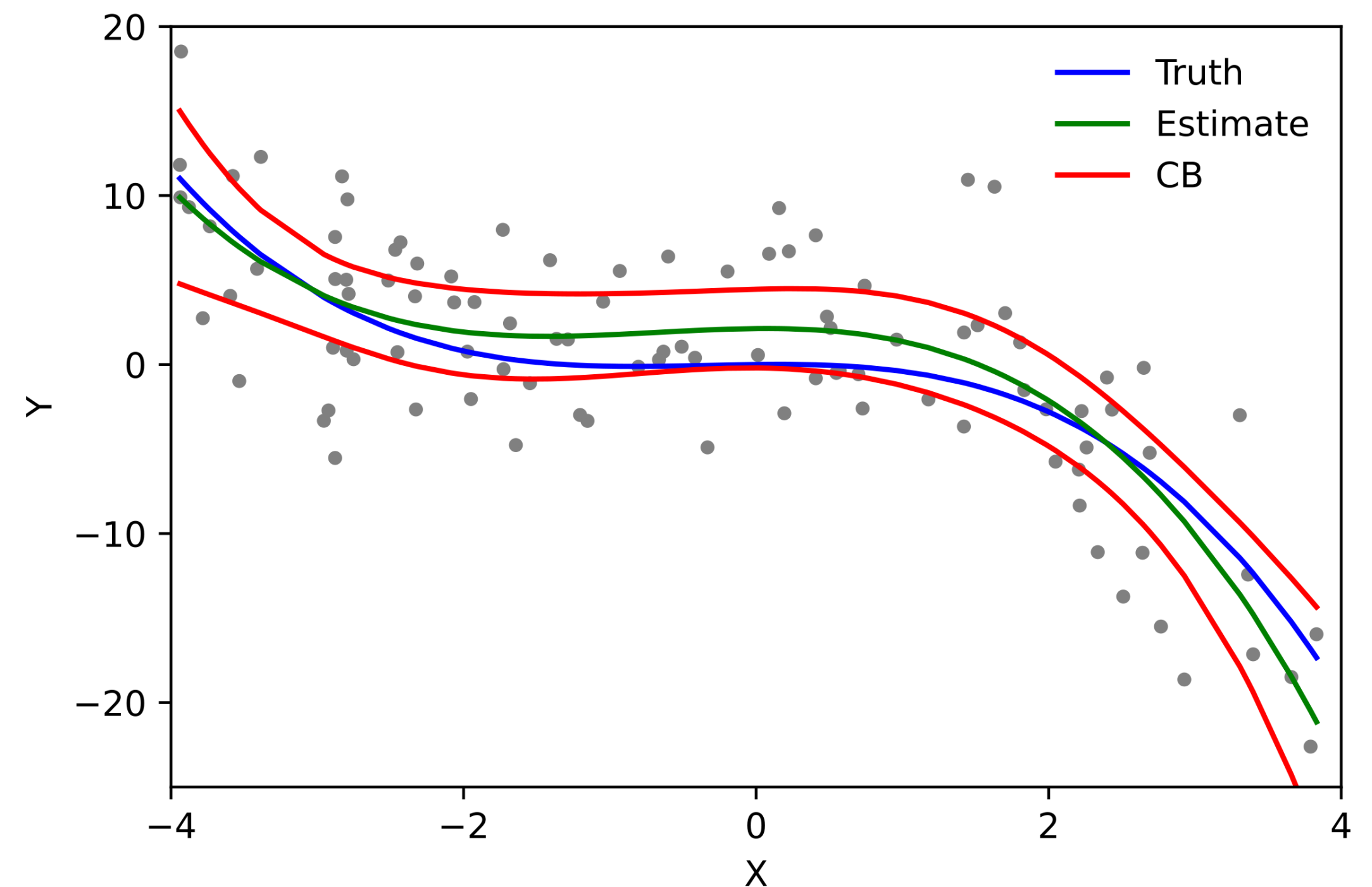
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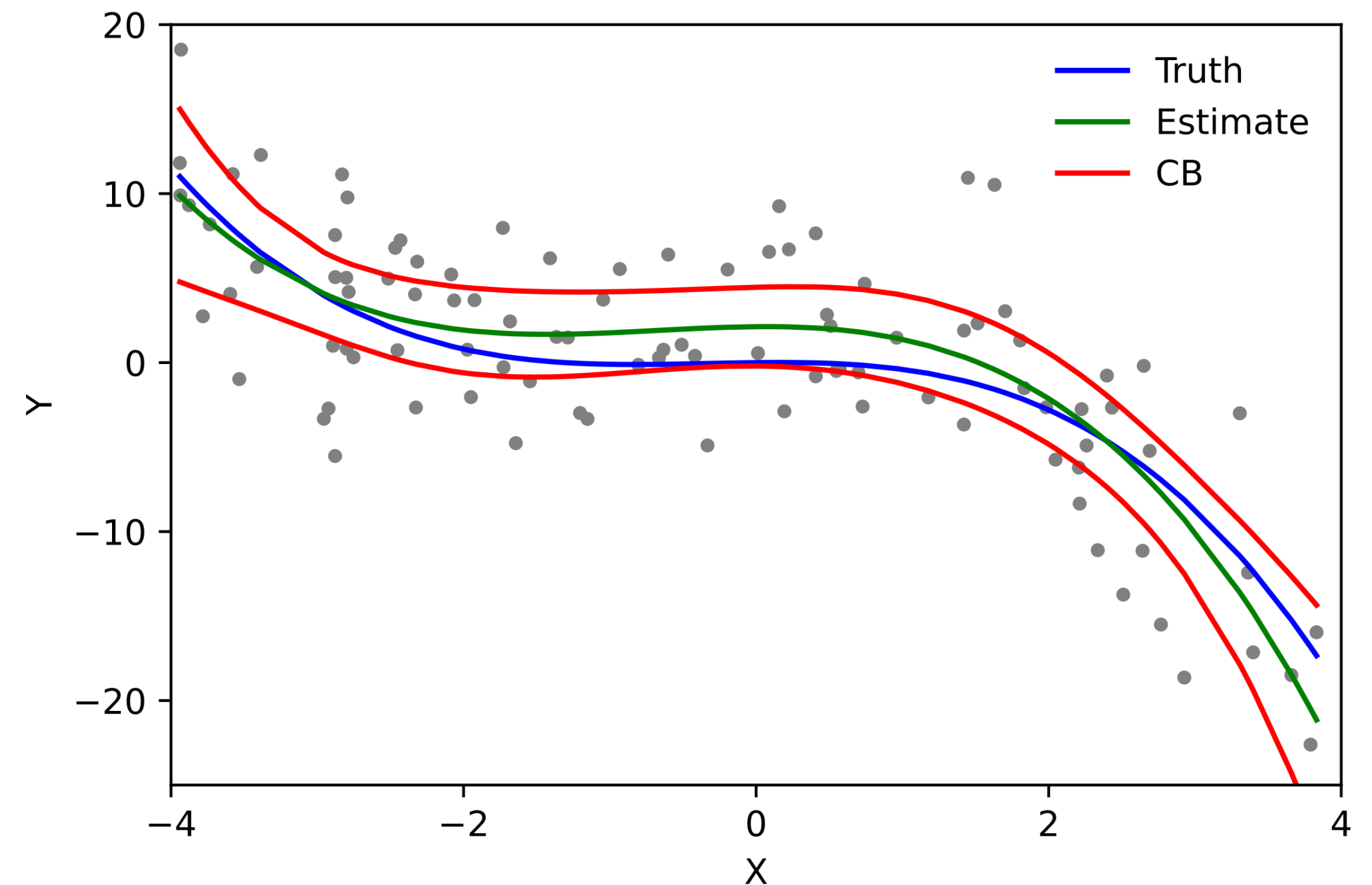


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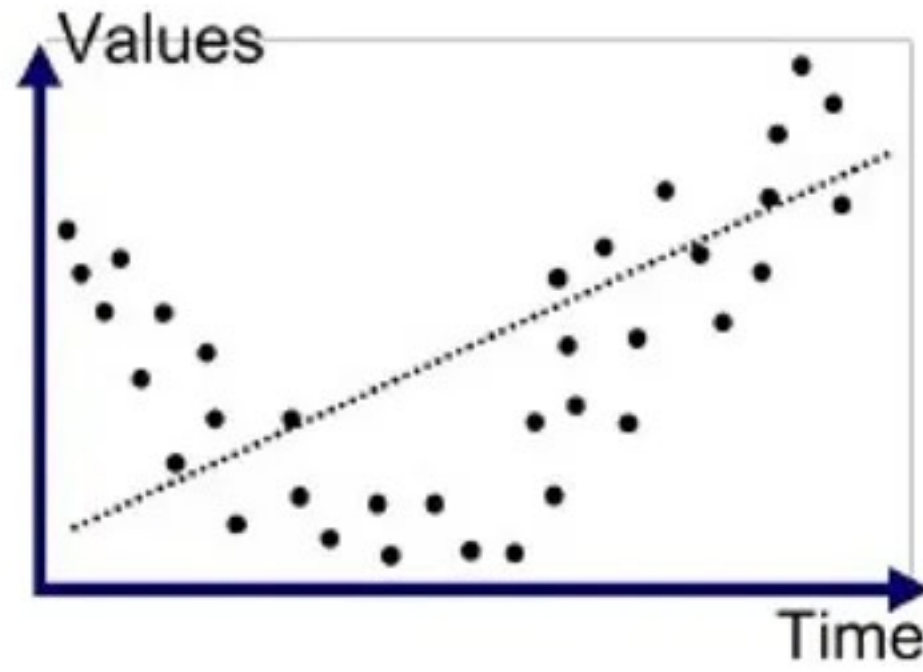
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We think of the environment has providing us a function from our independent variables to our dependent variables.

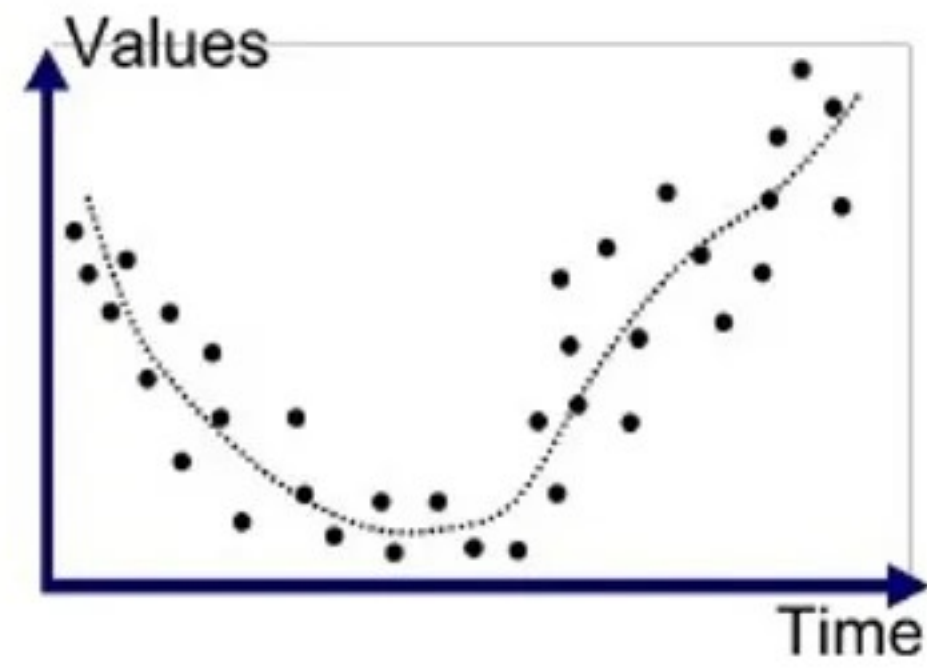




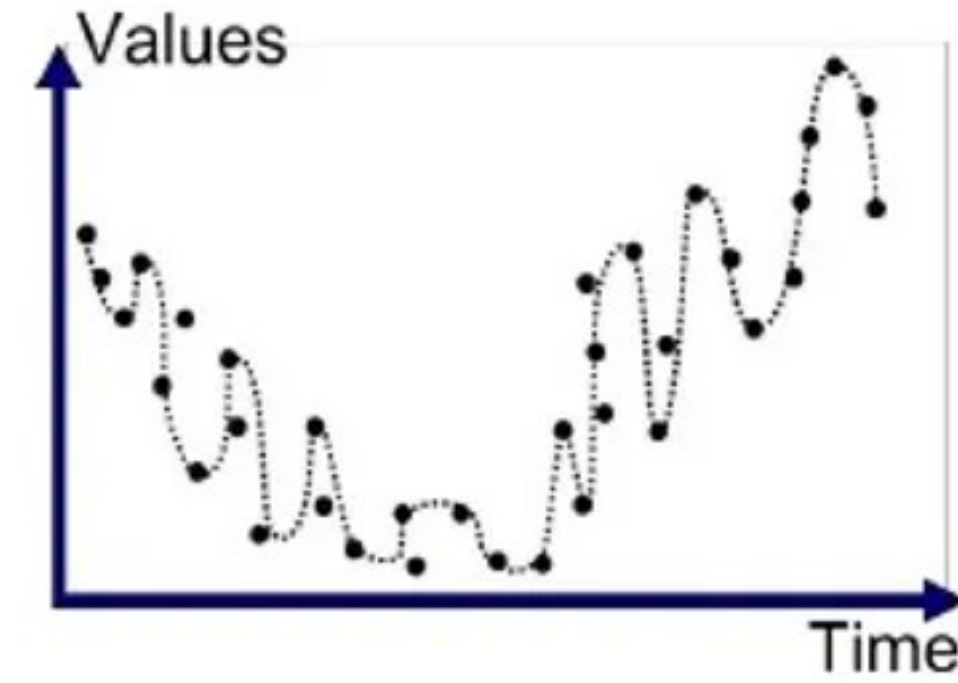
# Models



Underfitted

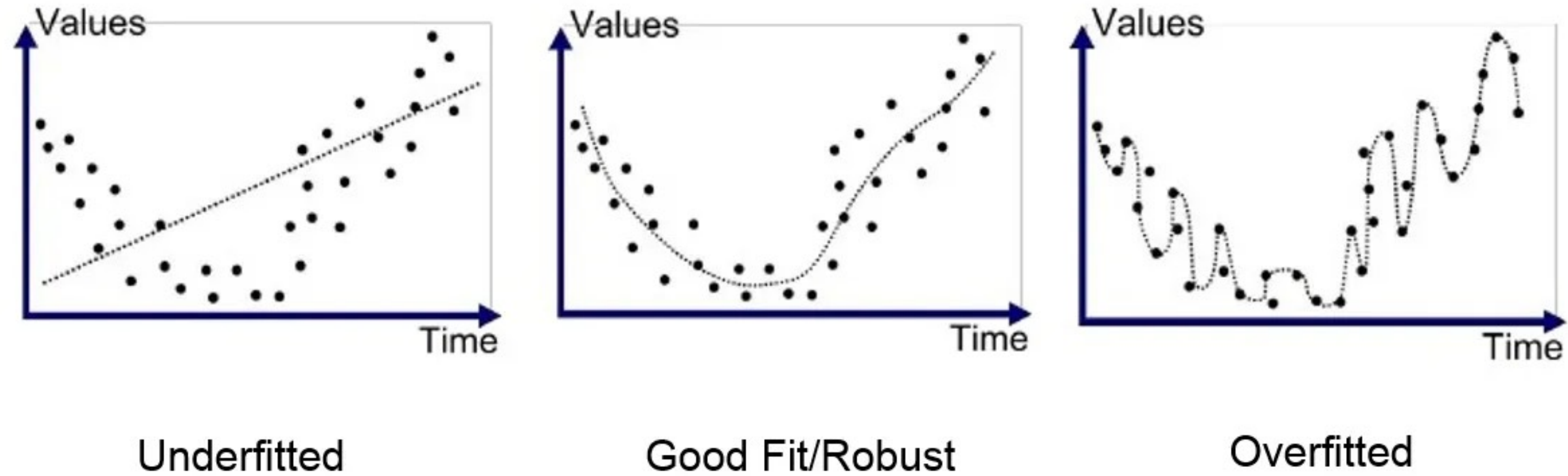


Good Fit/Robust



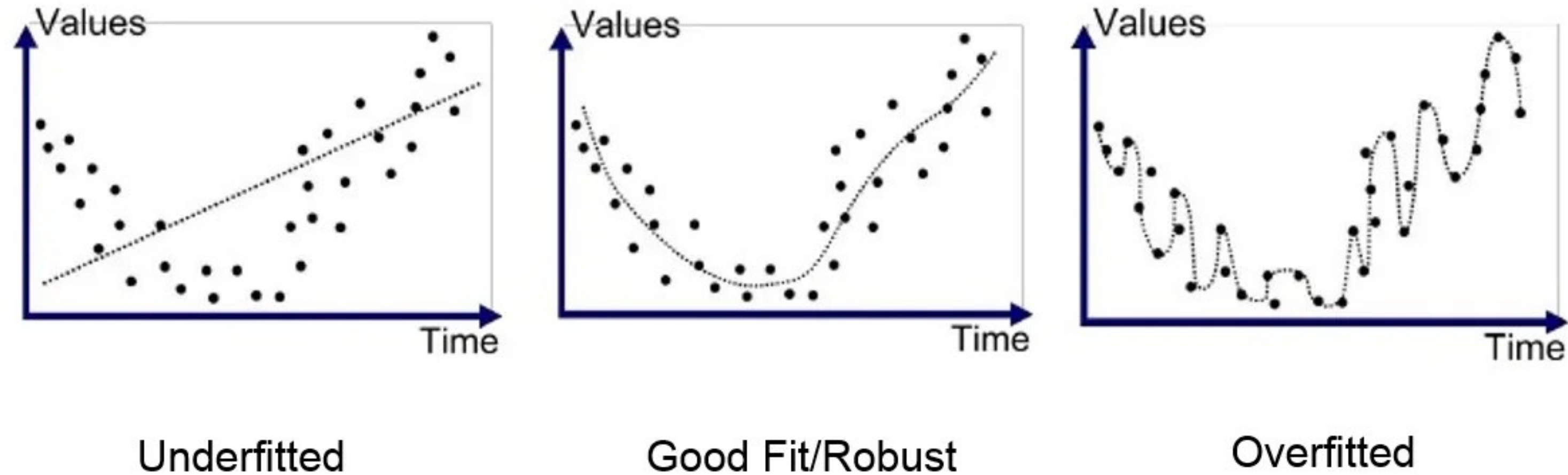
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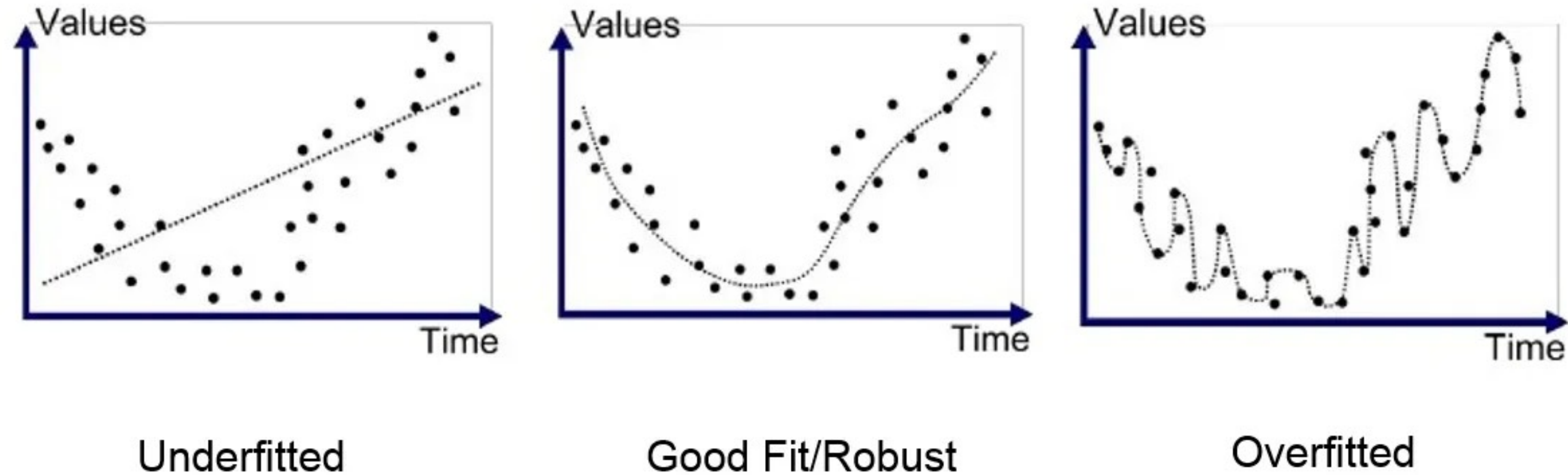
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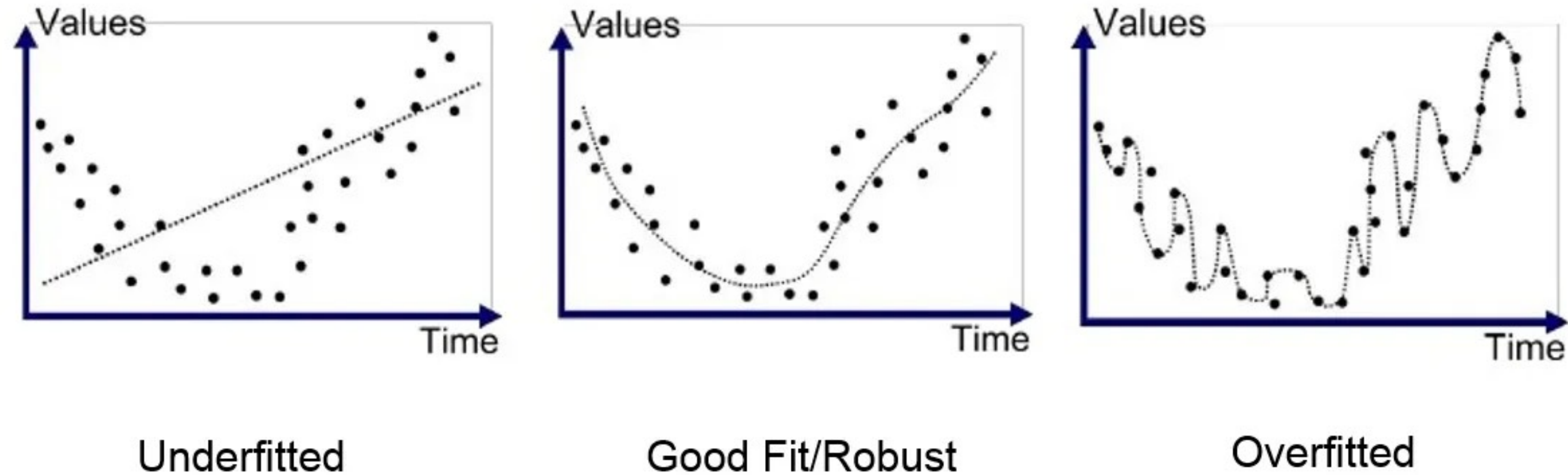


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*(Advanced) We pick models from weaker classes of functions so that they are more robust when we **predict** values using the model.*

# How To: Prediction



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**Problem.** Given the data  $\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_k, y_k)\}$  use the line of best fit to predict the value of  $y'$  for the input  $x'$ .

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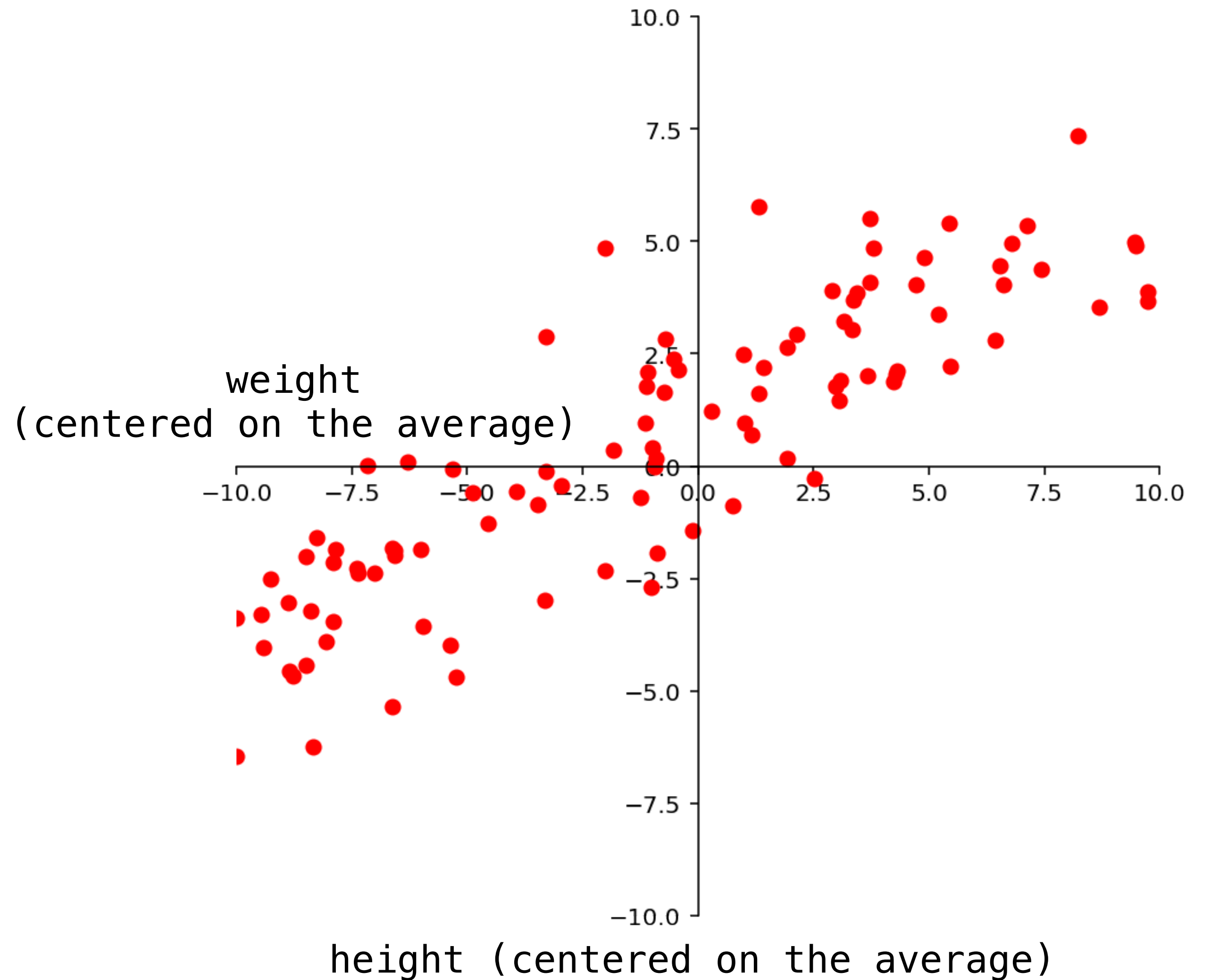
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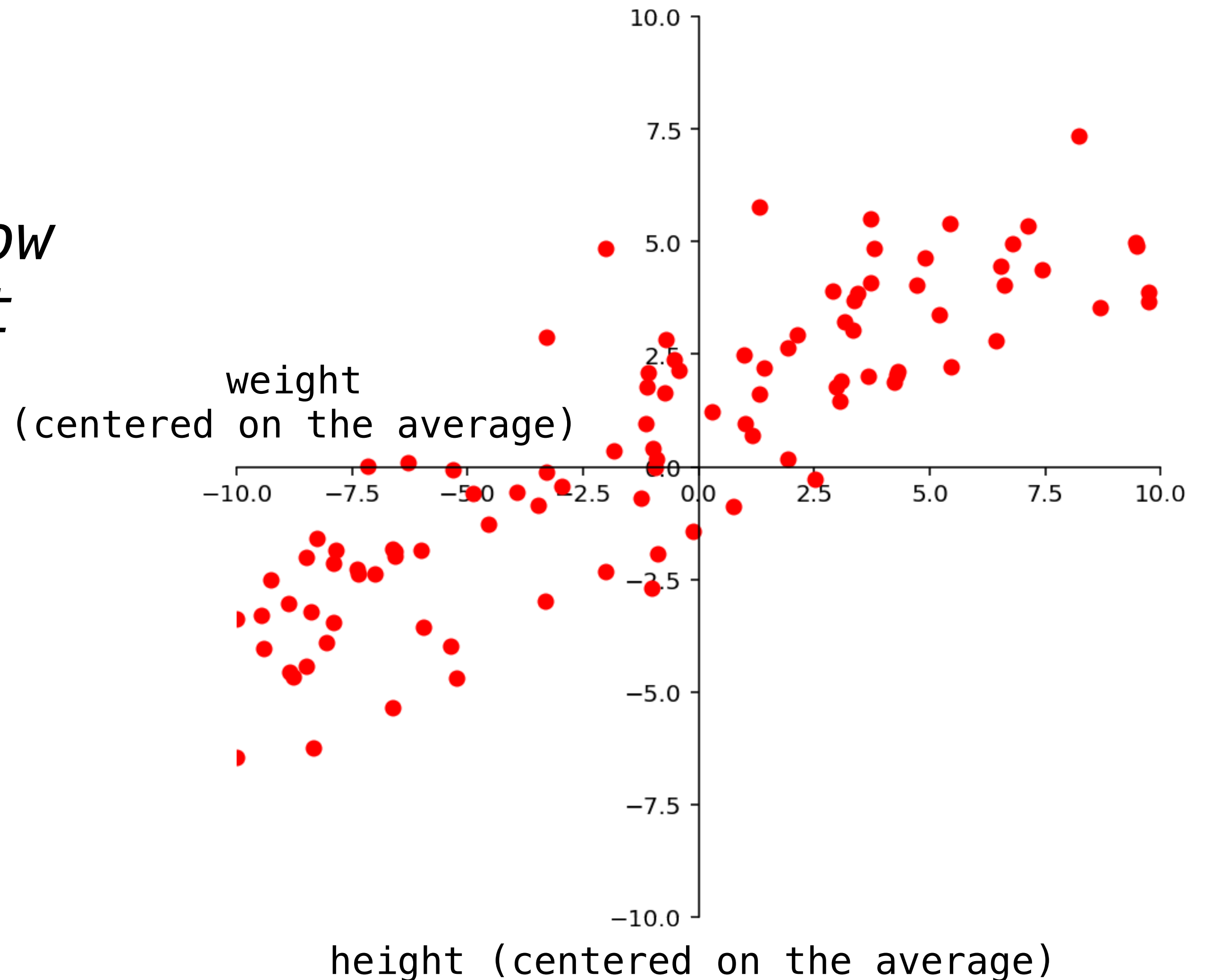
**This generalizes to any  
model fitting problem**

# Example: Height from Weight



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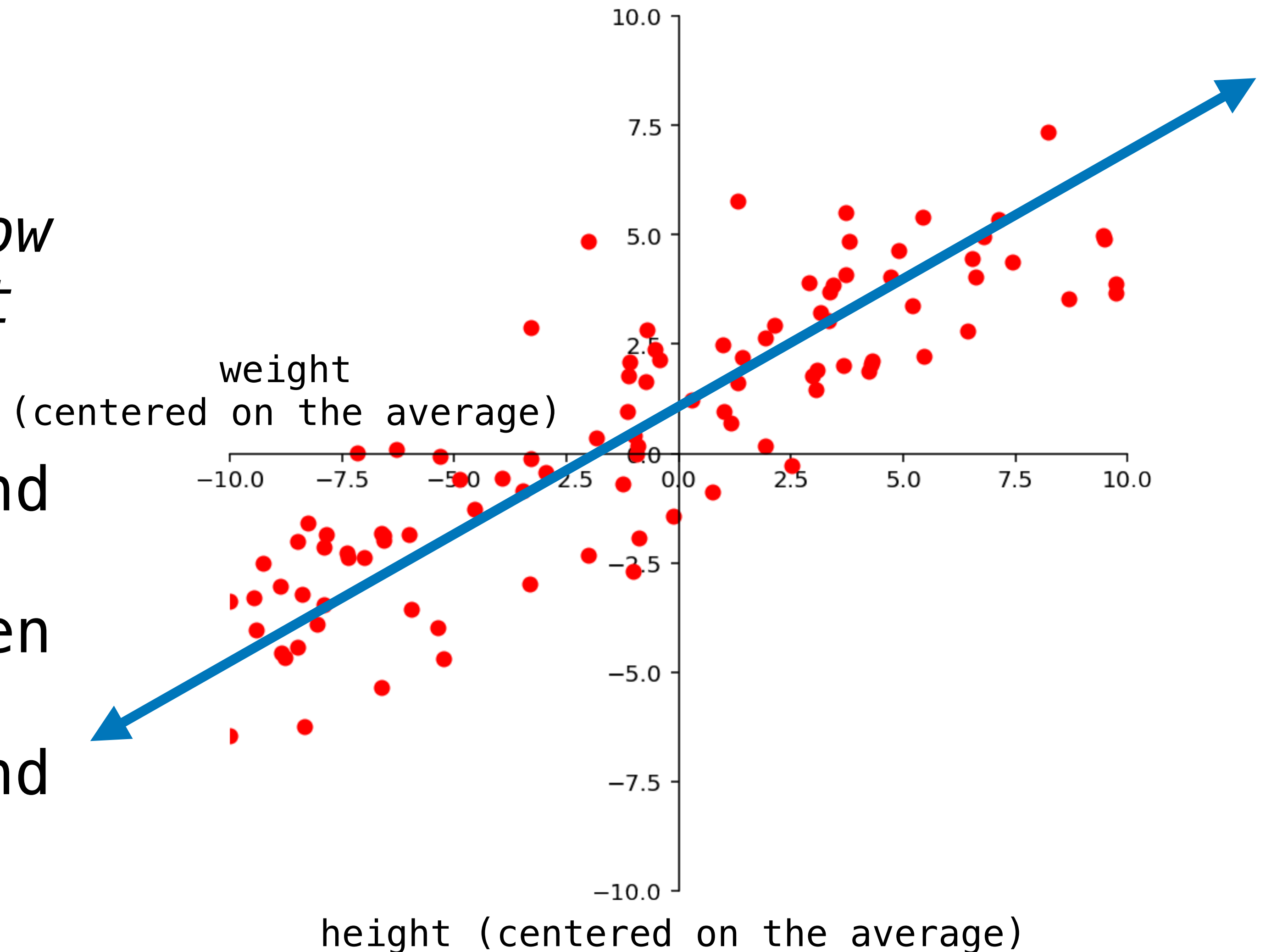
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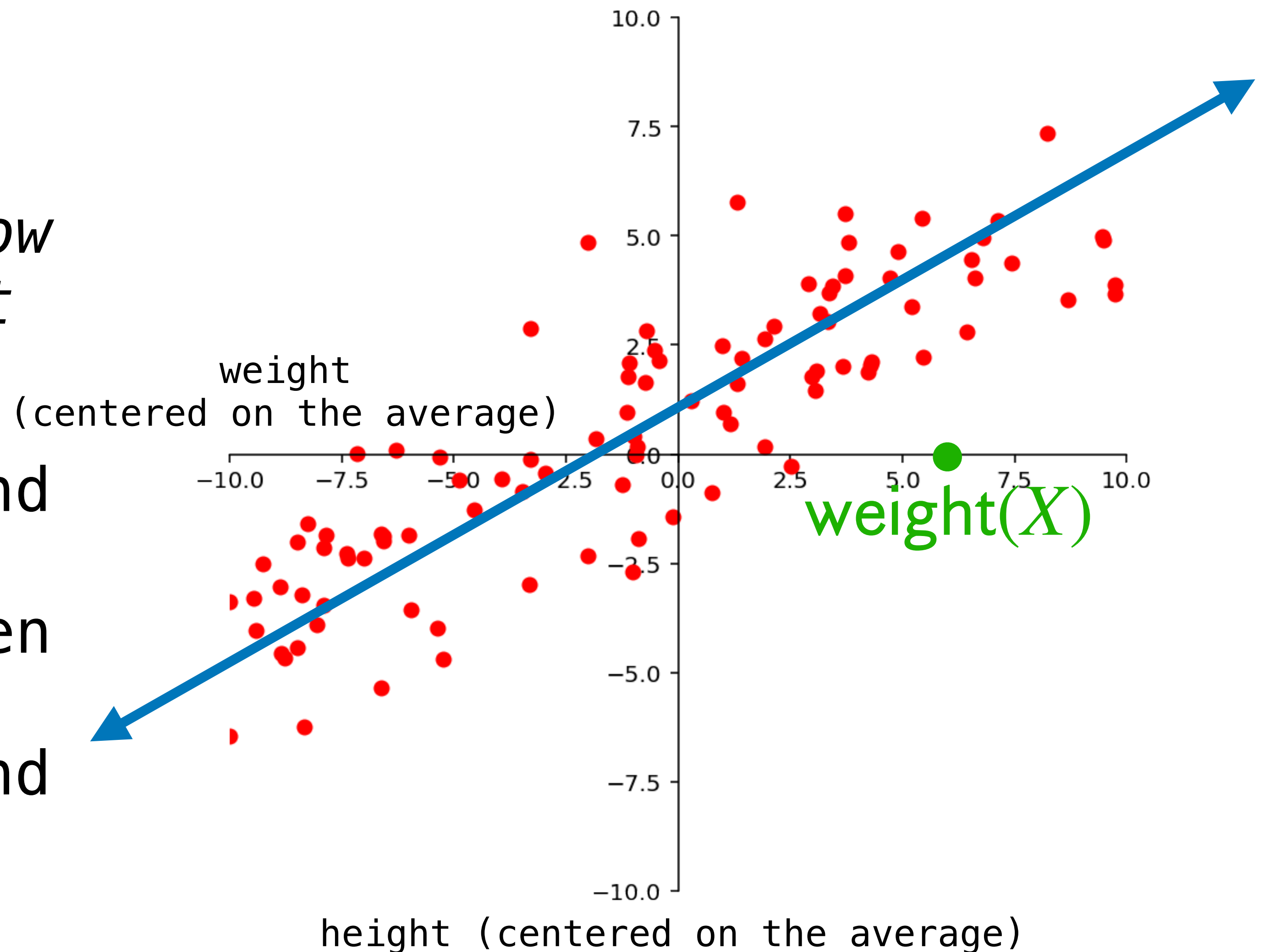
If we know the heights and weights of a population (from which  $X$  comes), then we can **find the line of best fit for that data** and then use that function.



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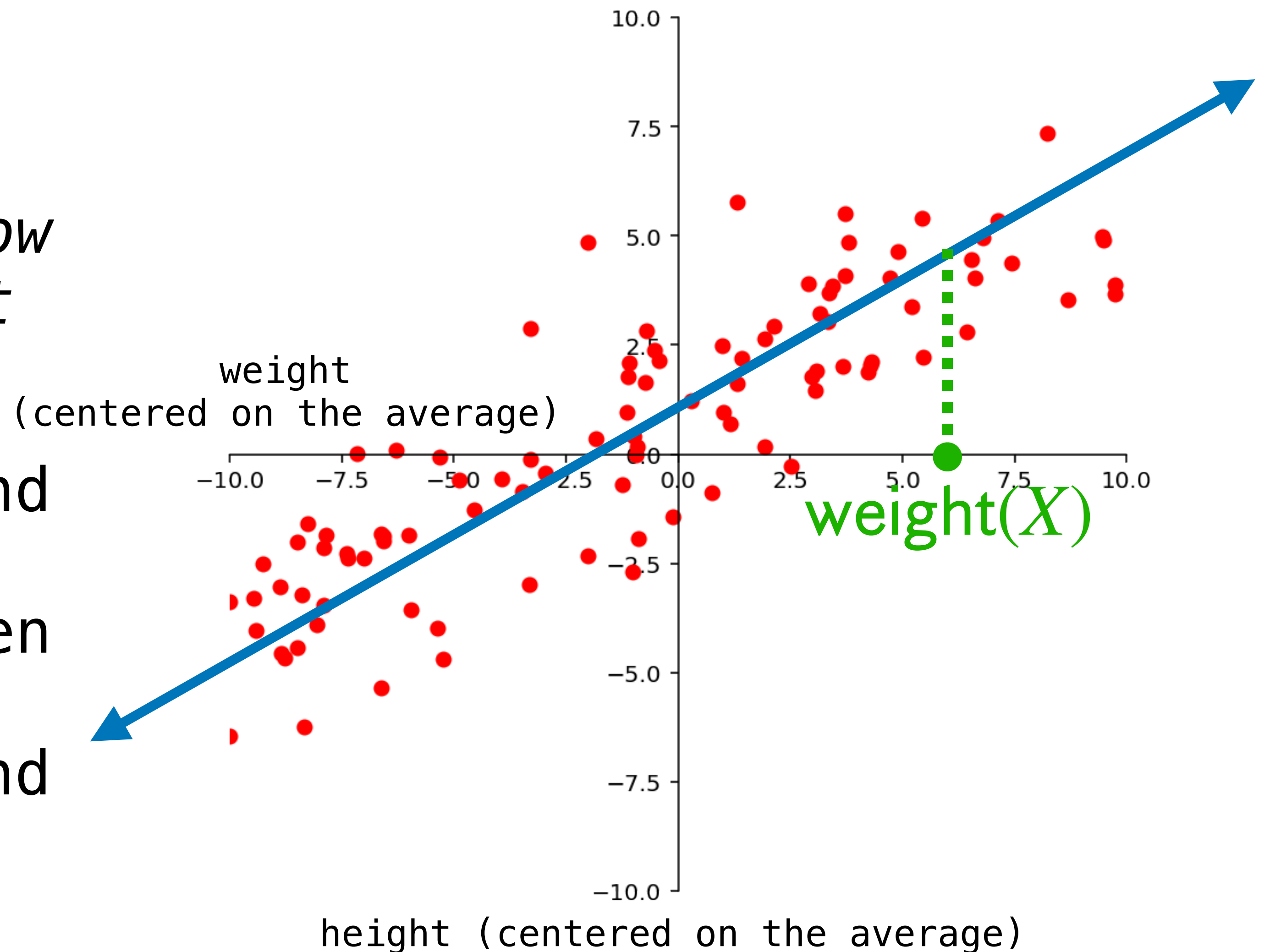
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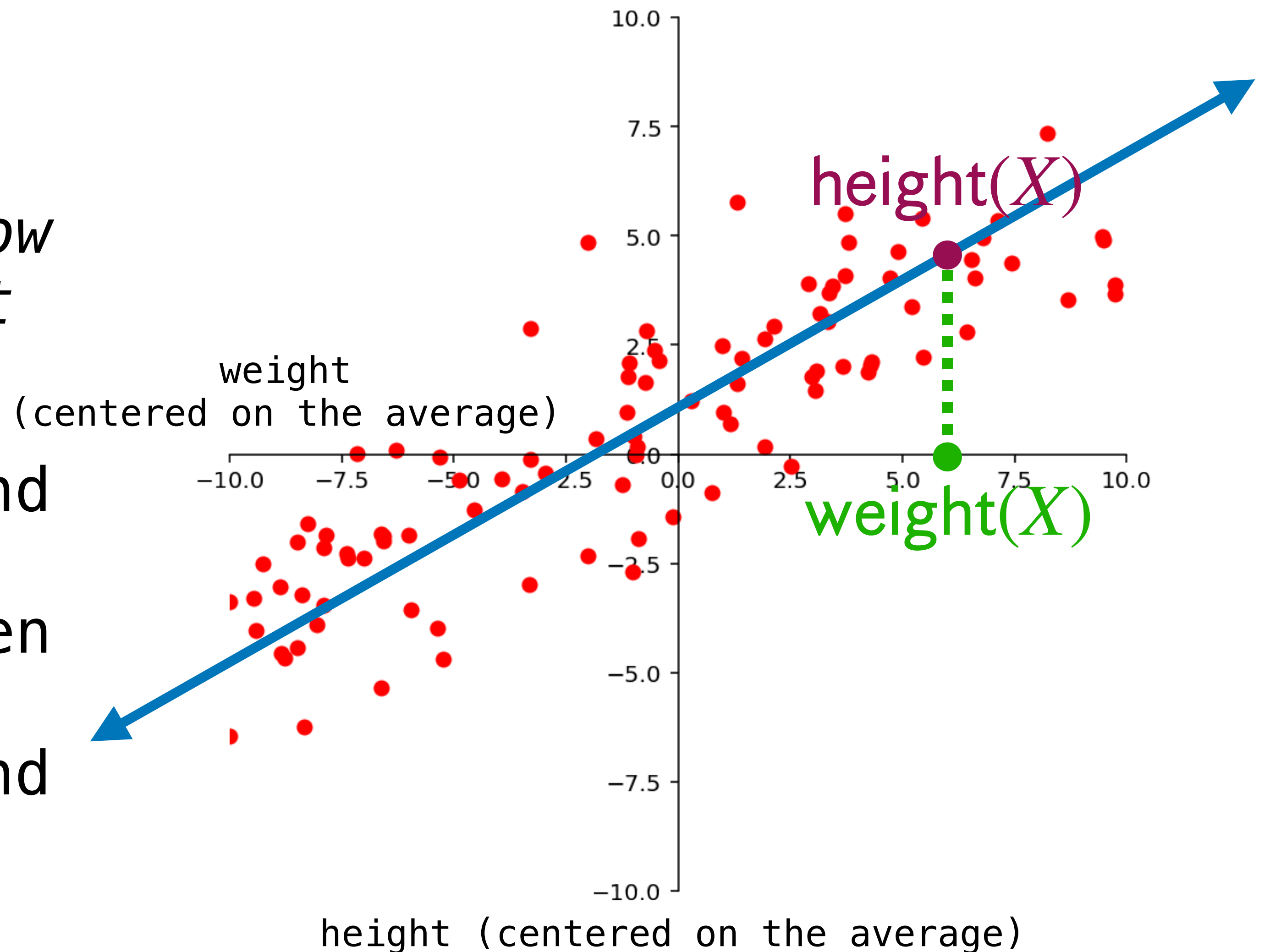




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# Linear Models and Least Squares Regression



# **"Vectors" of Generalization**

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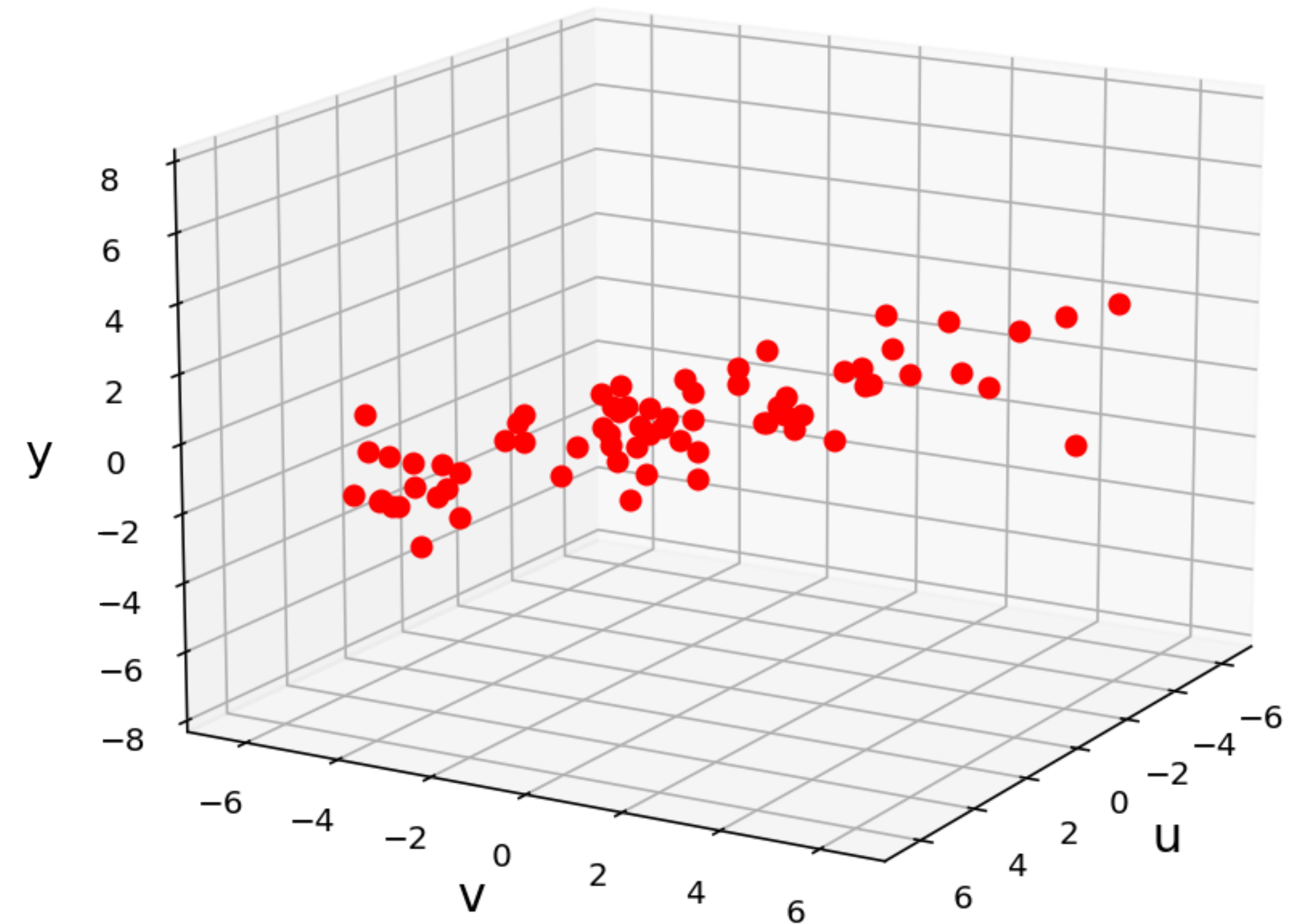
# Example: Terrain Data

**Dataset:**  $\{(x_1, y_1, z_1), \dots, (x_k, y_k, z_k)\}$   
where  $(x_i, y_i)$  is an longitude  
and latitude and  $z_i$  is an  
altitude.

**Problem:** Find the plane  
which "best" fits the  
data.

Figure 23.1

Terrain Data for Multiple Regression



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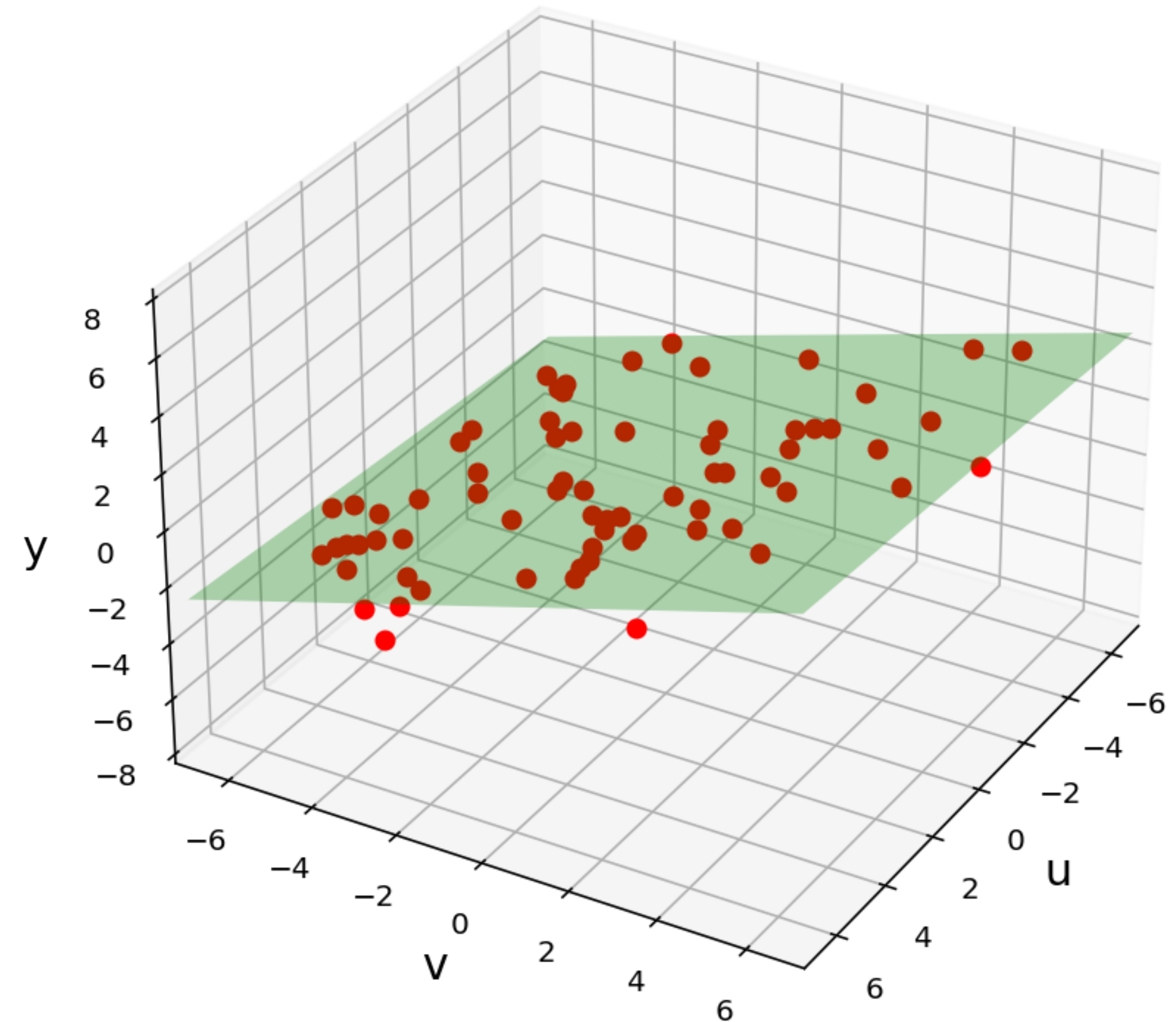
$$f(x, y) = \beta_0 + \beta_1x + \beta_2y$$

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$$\sum_{i=1}^k (f(x_i, y_i) - z_i)^2$$

Figure 23.2

Multiple Regression Fit to Data





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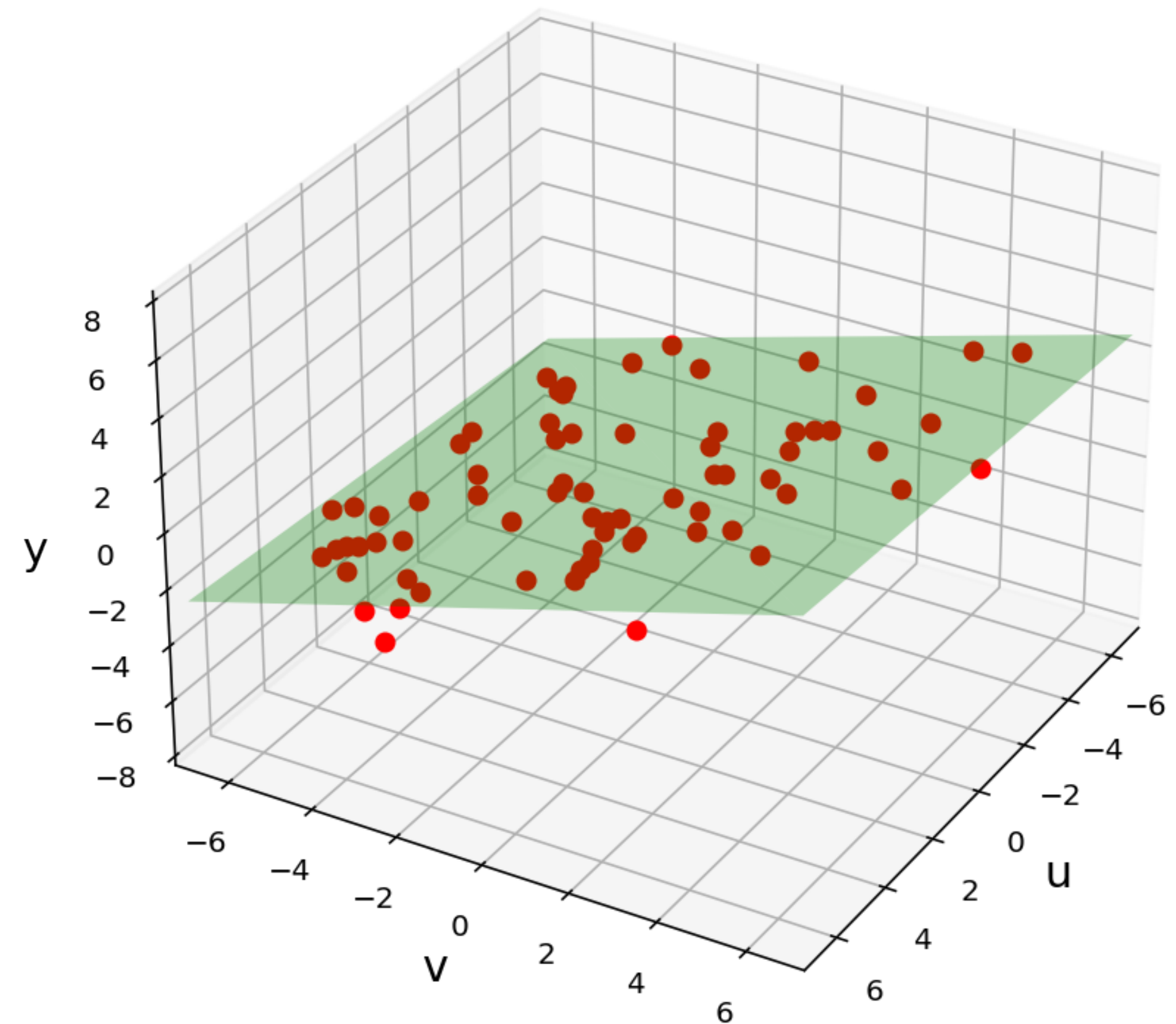
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*$f(x, y)$  is a good approximation of the altitude.*

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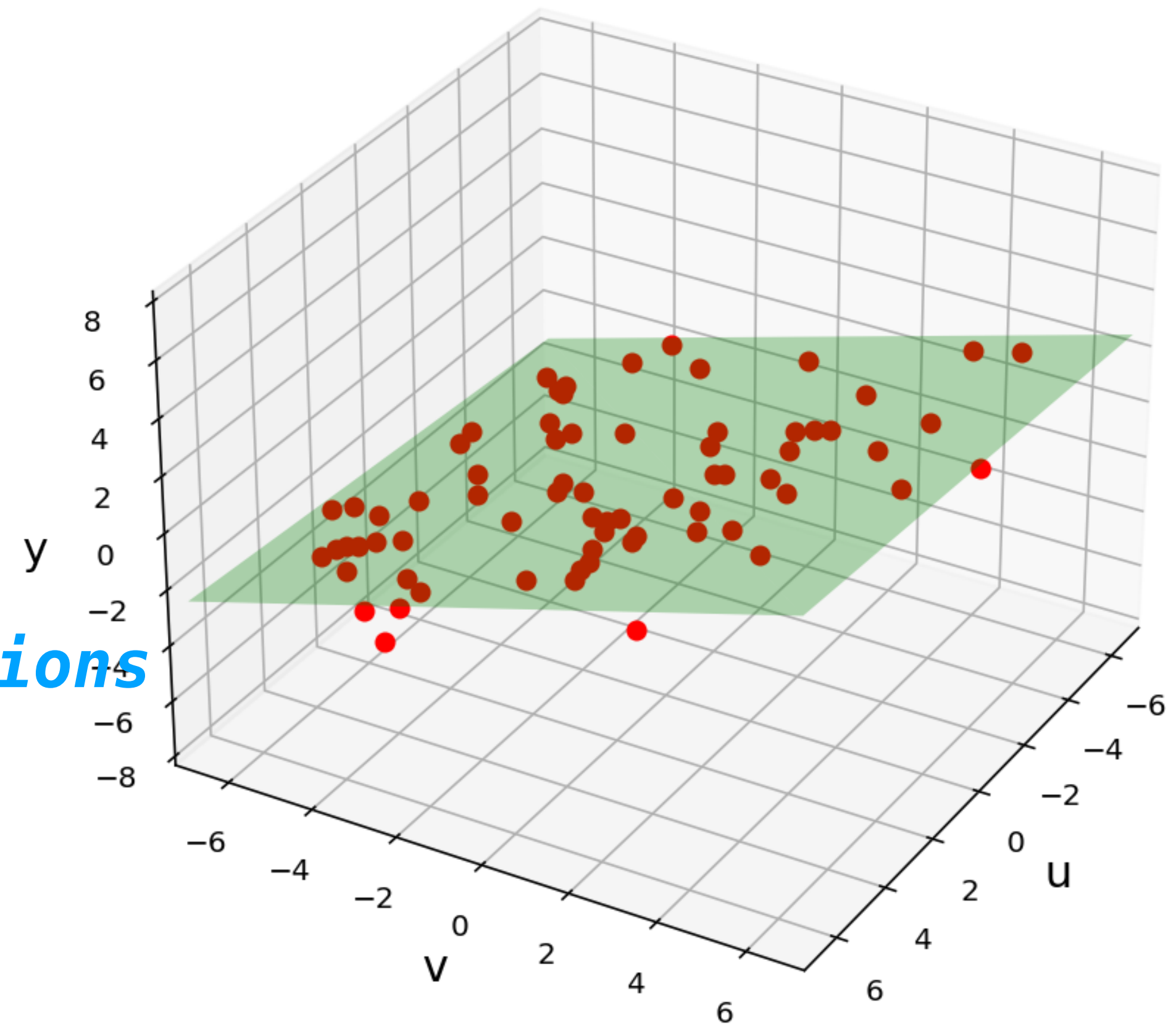
*recall: planes are given by linear equations*  
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**Step 2:** Rewrite the system as a matrix equation.



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# An Aside: Unique Least Squares

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**Question (Conceptual).** *Why can almost always assume that the columns of this matrix are linearly independent?*

**Answer**



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Second, this variable could be then be thought of as a *dependent* variable.

It wouldn't contribute anything when using the least squares method.

# "Vectors" of Generalization


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**multiple regression, (hyper)plane of best fit**

2. What if our data is not *exactly* linear.

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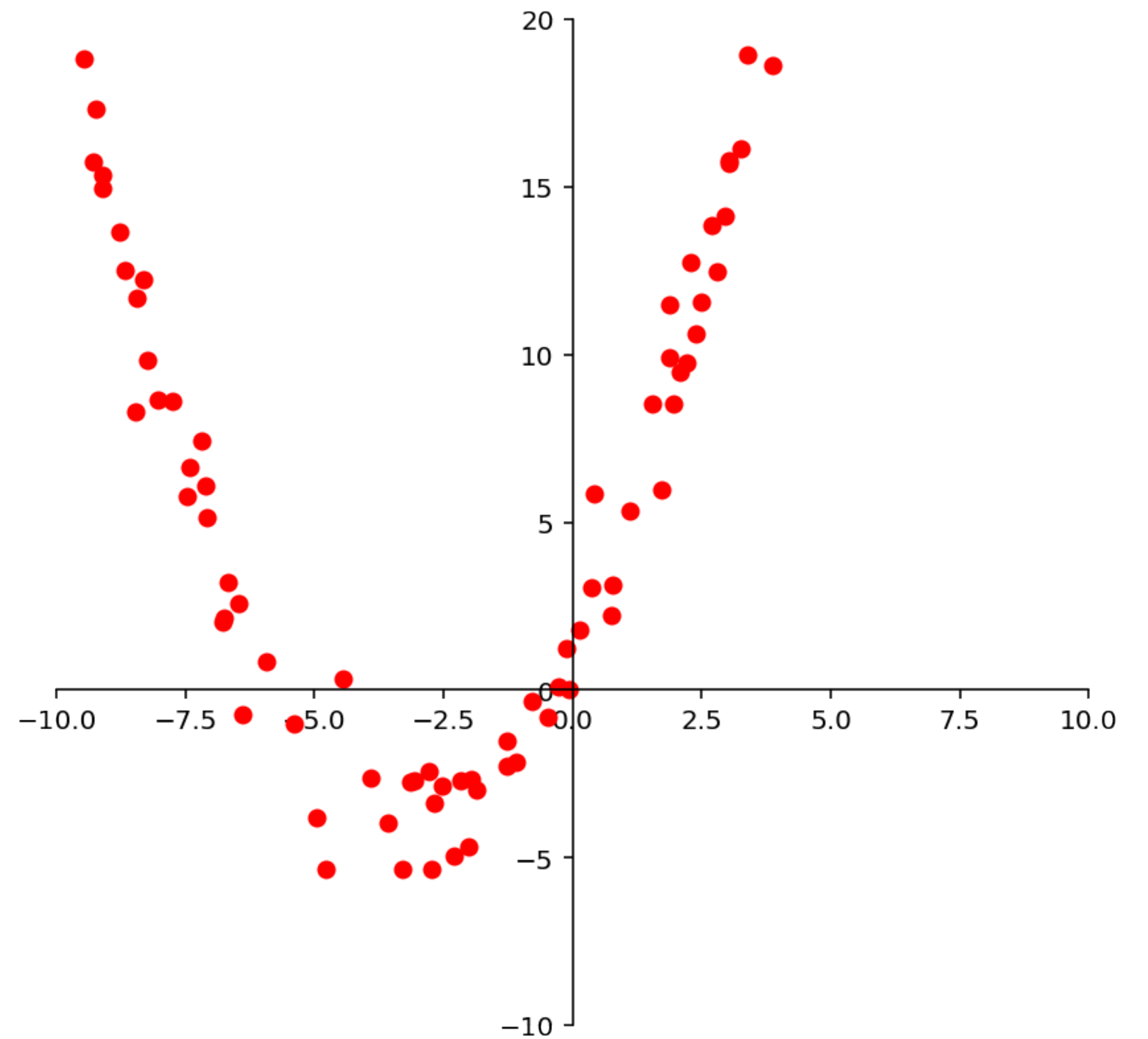
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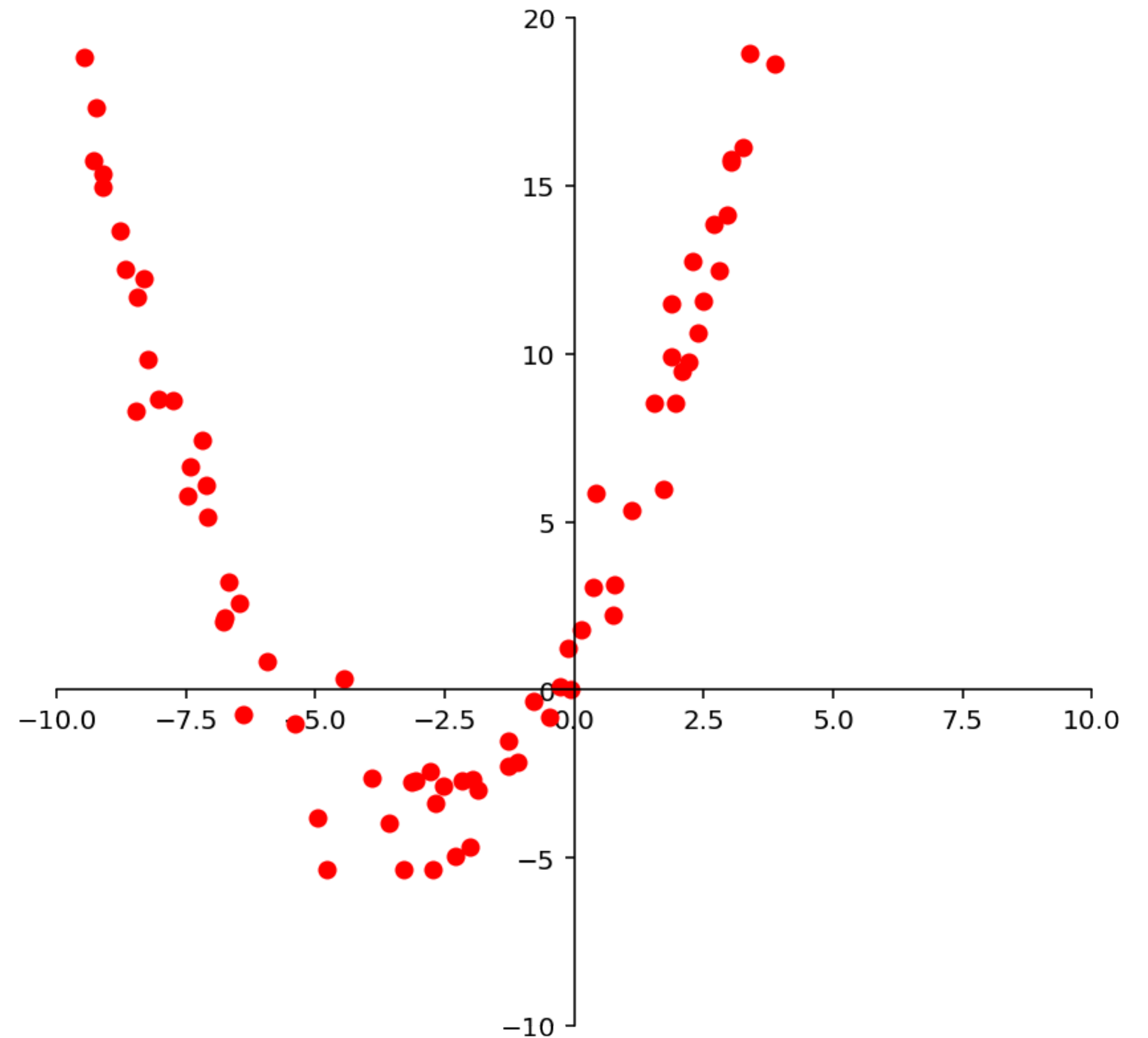
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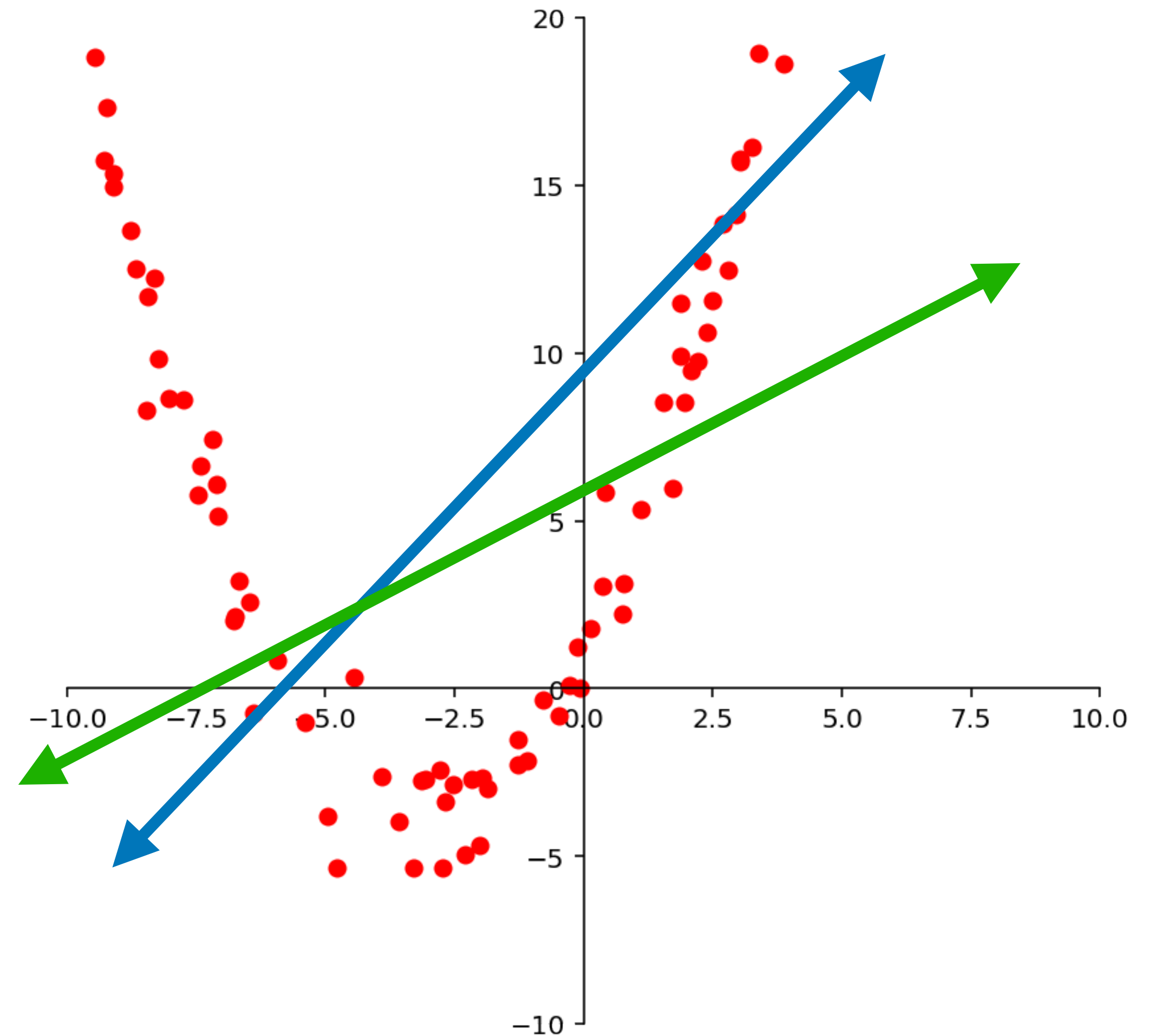




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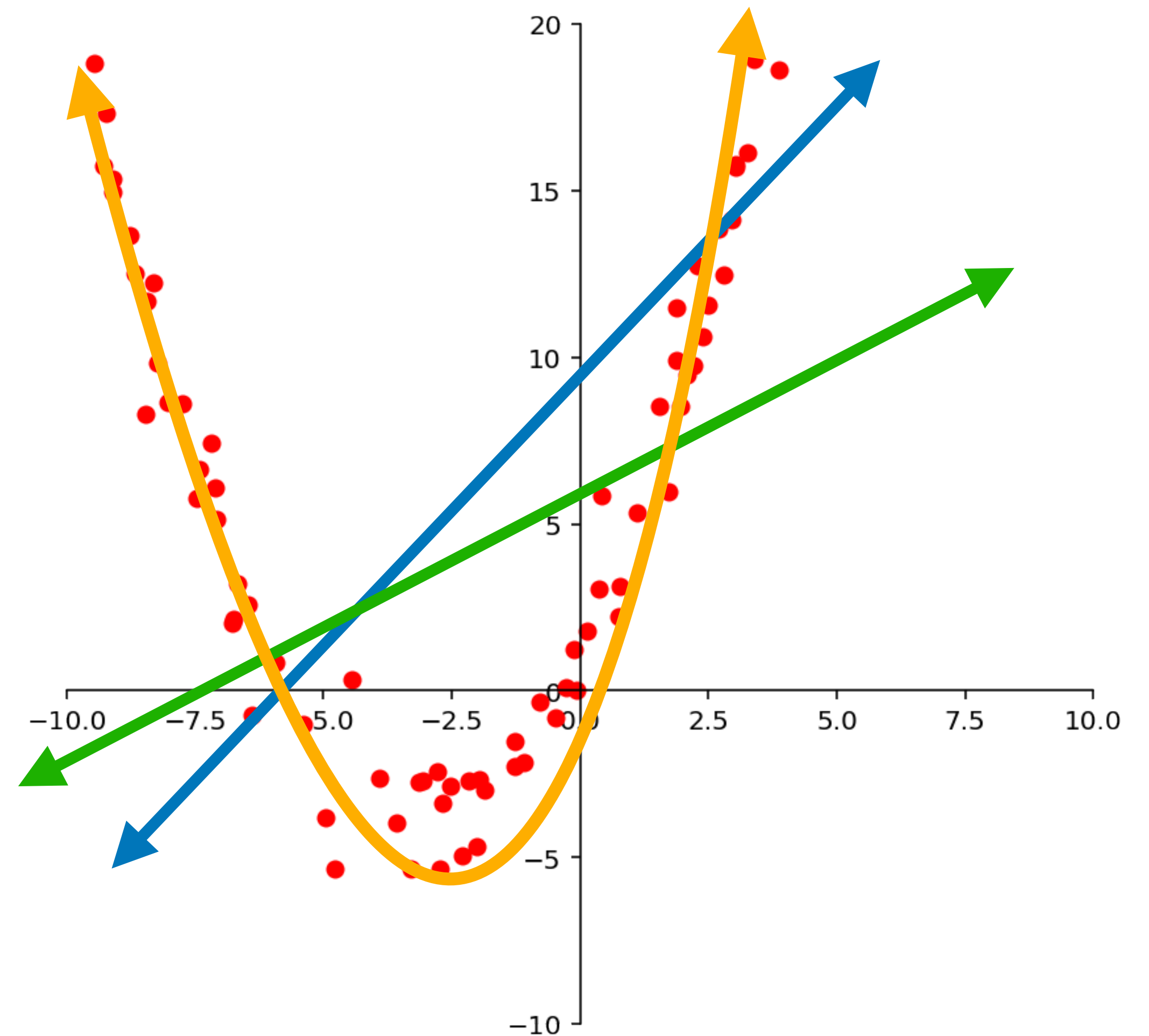


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**What about a parabola?**



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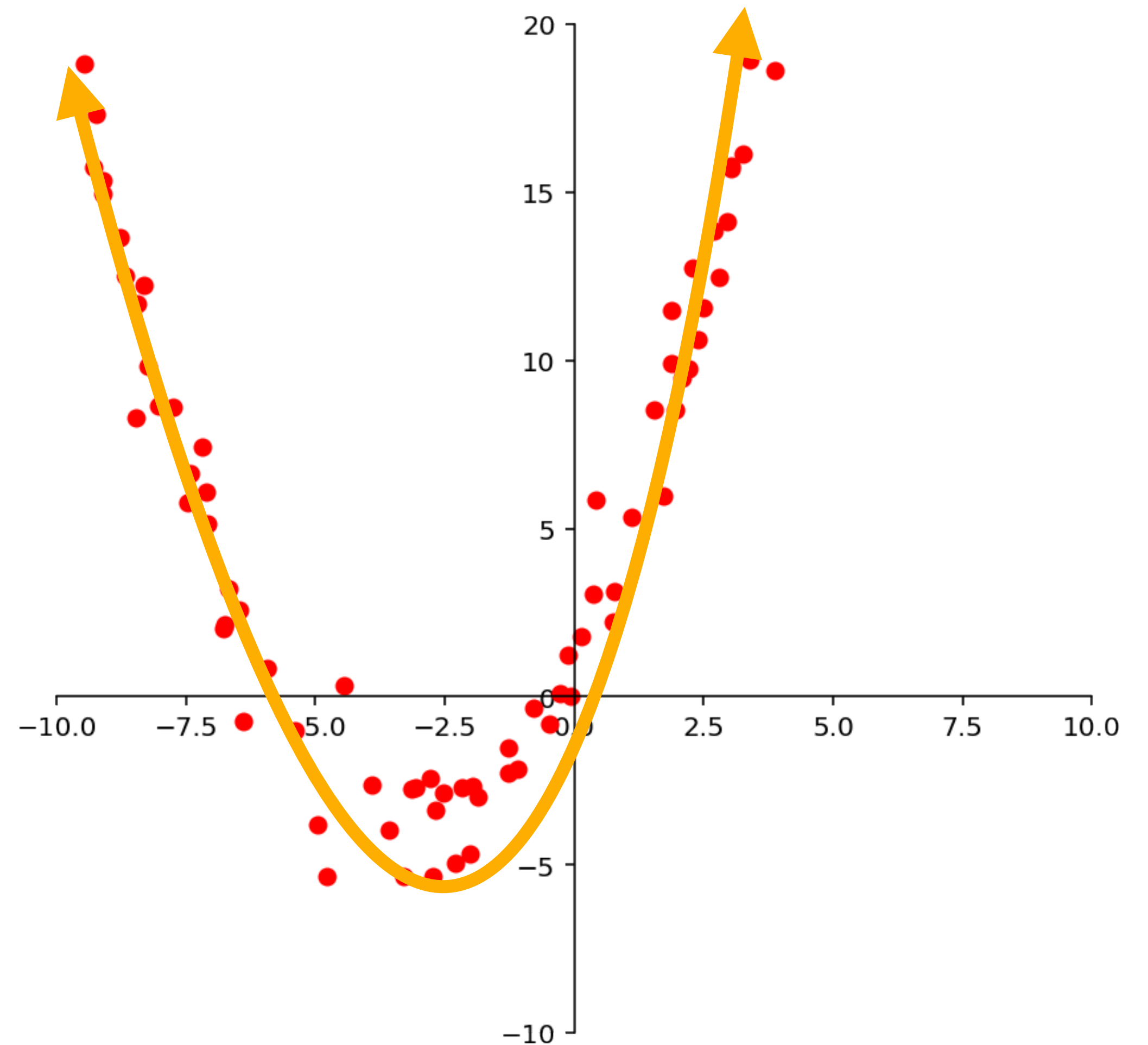
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# The Takeaway

We can use non-linear modeling functions as long as they are linear in the parameters.



# Linear in Parameters

**Definition.** A function  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **linear in the parameters**  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k$  if it can be written as

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \beta_1 \phi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \beta_2 \phi_2(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + \beta_k \phi_k(\mathbf{x})$$

for functions  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Example:  $f(x, y, z) = \beta_0 z^{x+y} \log z + \beta_1 (x^2 + y^2) + \beta_2$

We can build design matrices for function which are linear in their parameters.

# General Linear Regression

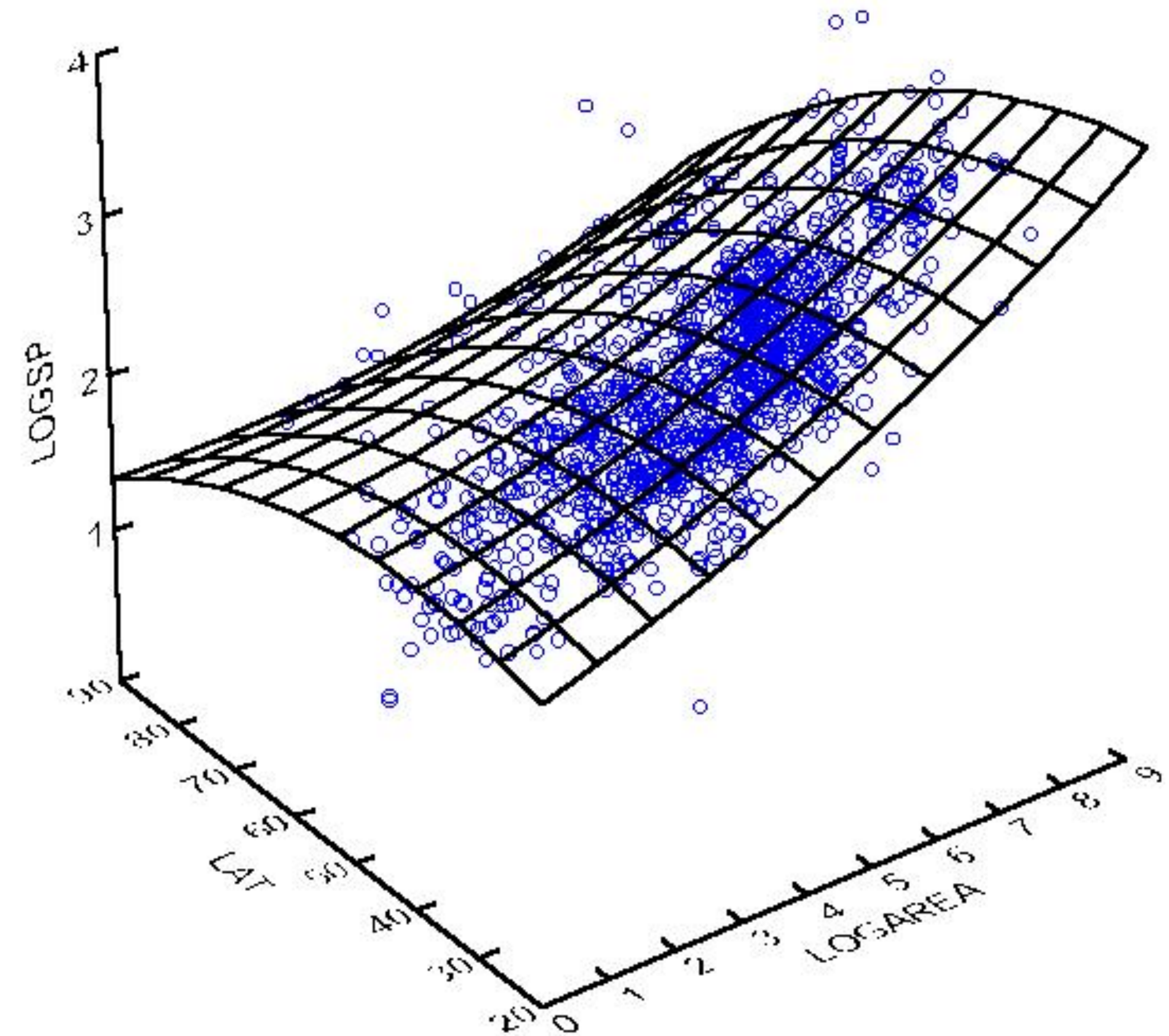
**dataset:**  $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\}$  where  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$

**Problem.** Given a function

$$f_{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

which is *linear in the parameters*  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k$ , find values for  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k$  which minimize

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$$f_{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

which is *linear in the parameters*  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k$ , find values for  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k$  which minimize

$$\sum_{i=1}^k (f_{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k}(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)^2$$

design matrix

$$\begin{matrix} X \\ \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_1) & \dots & \phi_k(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_2) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) & \dots & \phi_k(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_m) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_m) & \dots & \phi_k(\mathbf{x}_m) \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{\beta} \\ \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_k \end{bmatrix}$$

**Step 2:** Rewrite the system as a matrix equation.

# General Linear Regression

**dataset:**  $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\}$  where  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$

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

**Step 3:** Find the least squares solution of this system and use as the parameters of your model.

# How To: Design Matrices



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**Problem.** Find the design matrix for least squares regression with the function  $f$  in terms of the parameters  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_k$  given the dataset  $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\}$ .

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**Solution.** First write  $f(\mathbf{x})$  as  $\beta_1\phi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + \beta_k\phi_k(\mathbf{x})$  where  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k$  are potentially non-linear functions. Then build the matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_1) & \dots & \phi_k(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_2) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) & \dots & \phi_k(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_m) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_m) & \dots & \phi_k(\mathbf{x}_m) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Question

*Find the design matrix for the least squares regression with the function*

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \beta_1 \cos(x_1) + \beta_2 e^{-x_1 x_2} - \beta_1 x_3 + \beta_3$$

*for the dataset*

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = (0, 0, 0) \quad y_1 = 5$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = (\pi, 3, 1) \quad y_2 = 3$$

**Answer:** 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & e^{-3\pi} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\beta_1 \cos x + \beta_2 e^{-x_1 x_2} - \beta_1 x_3 + \beta_3$$

$$\beta_1 (\cos x - x_3) + \beta_2 e^{-x_1 x_2} + \beta_3$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & e^{-3\pi} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \beta_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Practical Considerations

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Many functions require large design matrices, e.g. multivariate polynomials have *a lot* of possible terms.

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**Concerns for another class.**