## Chi-squared - generalized

$$\chi_{dof}^2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{x_i - \overline{x}}{\sigma_i} \right)^2$$

Here we assumed that  $x_i$  are scattered around the mean value. Equivalently, our model for x is a constant value.

Now, imagine that there is another variable, independent of x, say time, and x is a function of time. Now we can have a model, e.g.  $m(t) = a^*t + b$  that gives us the model value for each  $x_i$ . We can estimate model parameters a and b by minimizing  $\chi^2_{dof}$ ! We will do this next time.