



3.51 HOW LOESS WORKS. Loess employs robustness iterations that prevent outliers from distorting the fit. (Left panel) The open circles are the points of the graph; there is one outlier between $x = 15$ and $x = 20$. The initial loess curve has been distorted in the neighborhood of the outlier. (Right panel) The graphed curve is the fit after four robustness iterations. Now the fit follows the general pattern of the data.