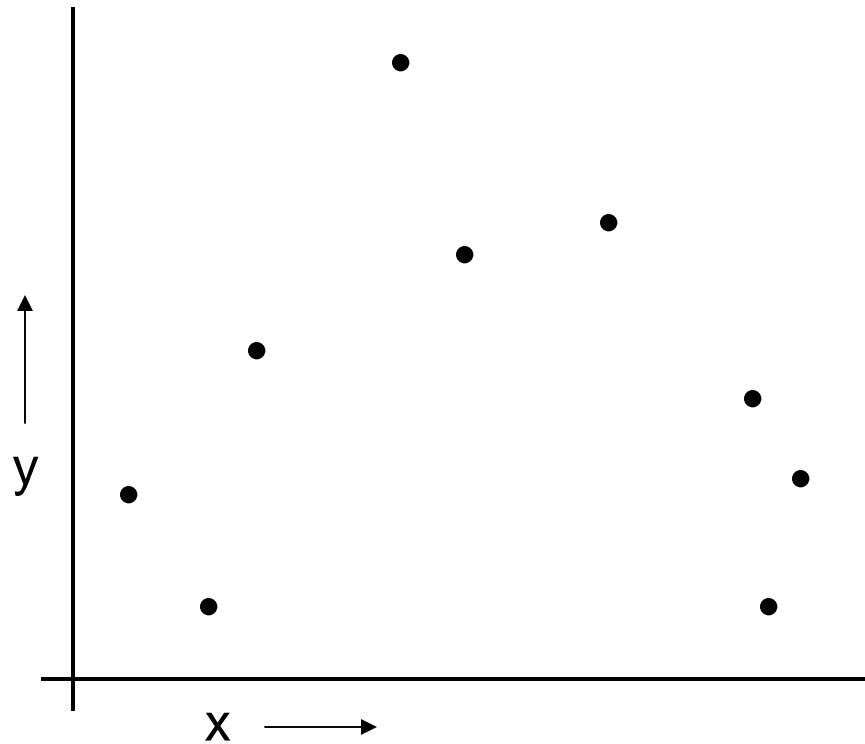


# **Cross-validation for detecting and preventing overfitting**

**Andrew W. Moore  
Professor  
School of Computer Science  
Carnegie Mellon University**

**Some edits by MW**

# A Regression Problem

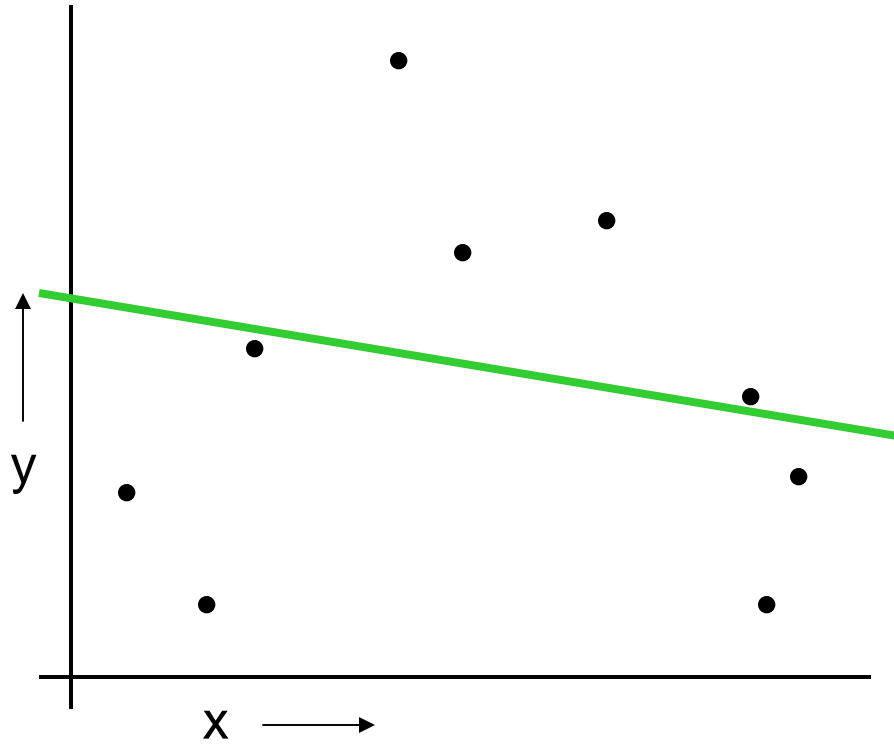


$$y = f(x) + \text{noise}$$

Can we learn  $f$  from this data?

Let's consider three methods...

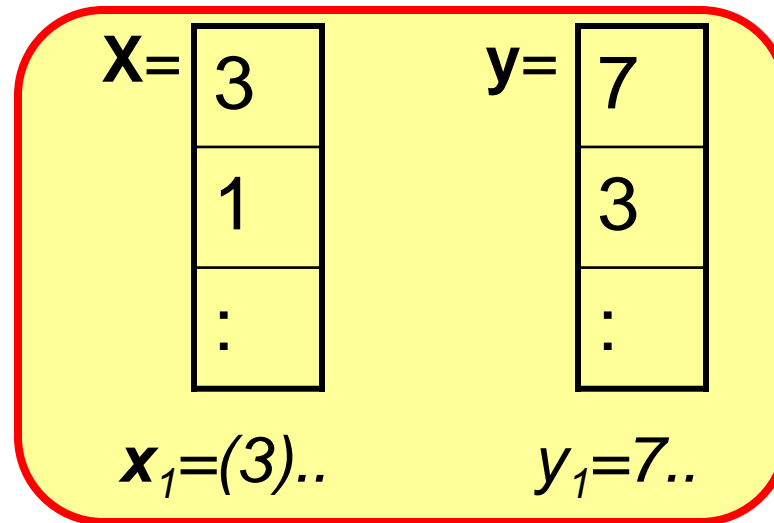
# Linear Regression



# Linear Regression

Univariate Linear regression with a constant term:

X	Y
3	7
1	3
:	:

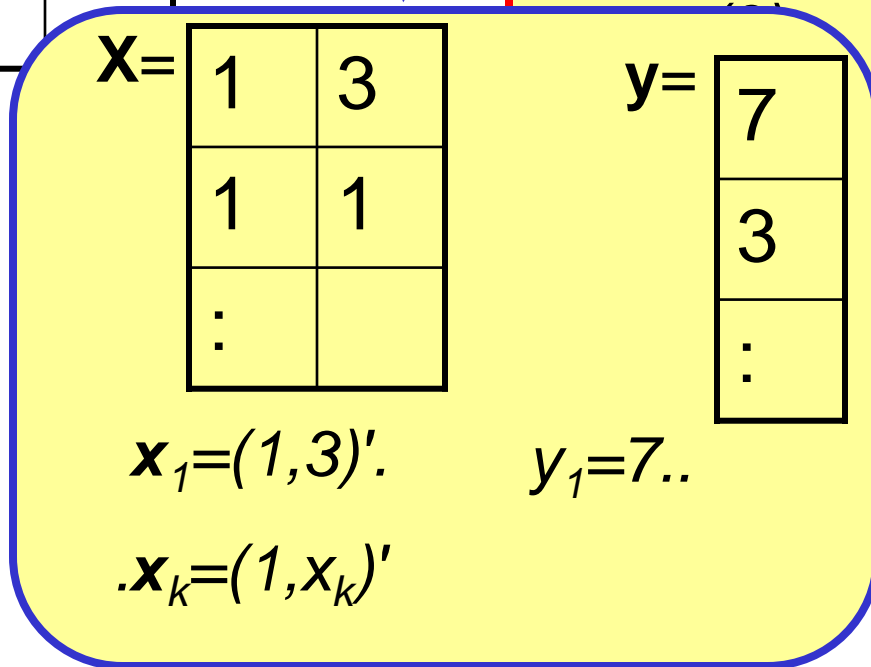
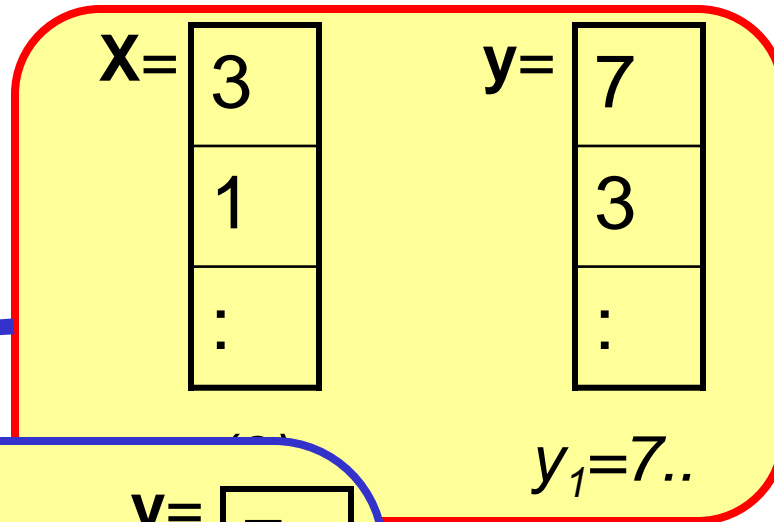


Originally  
discussed in the  
previous Andrew  
Lecture: "Neural  
Nets"

# Linear Regression

Univariate Linear regression with a constant term:

X	Y
3	7
1	3
⋮	⋮



# Linear Regression

Univariate Linear regression with a constant term:

X	Y
3	7
1	3
⋮	⋮

$X =$

3
1
⋮

$y =$

7
3
⋮

$y_1 = 7..$

$X' =$

1	3
1	1
⋮	⋮

$y =$

7
3
⋮

$\mathbf{x}_1 = (1, 3) ..$

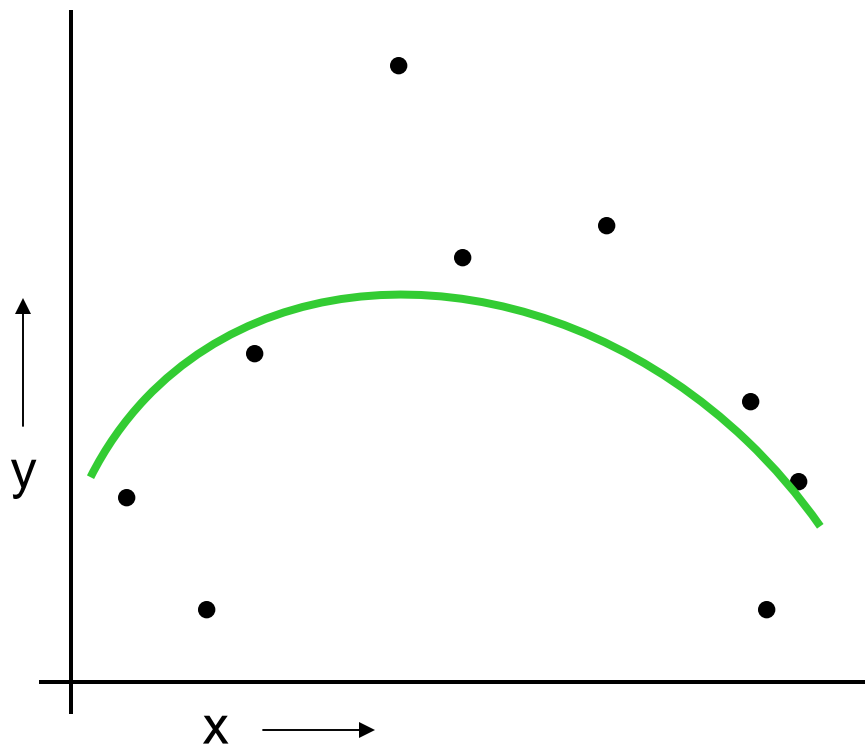
$y_1 = 7 ..$

$\mathbf{x}_k = (1, x_k)$

$$\beta = (XX')^{-1}(Xy)$$

$$y^{est} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$$

# Quadratic Regression



# Quadratic Regression

X	Y
3	7
1	3
⋮	⋮

$X = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$

$y = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$

$y_1 = 7..$

$X' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$

$y = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$

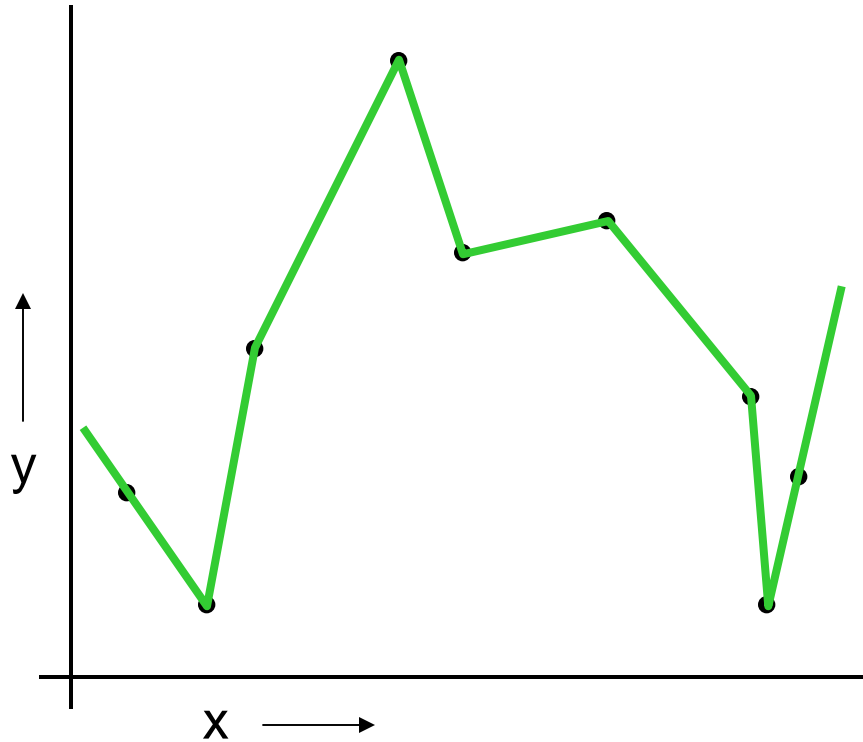
$x = (1, x, x^2)'$

$$\omega = (XX')^{-1}(Xy)$$

$$y^{est} = \omega_0 + \omega_1 x + \omega_2 x^2$$

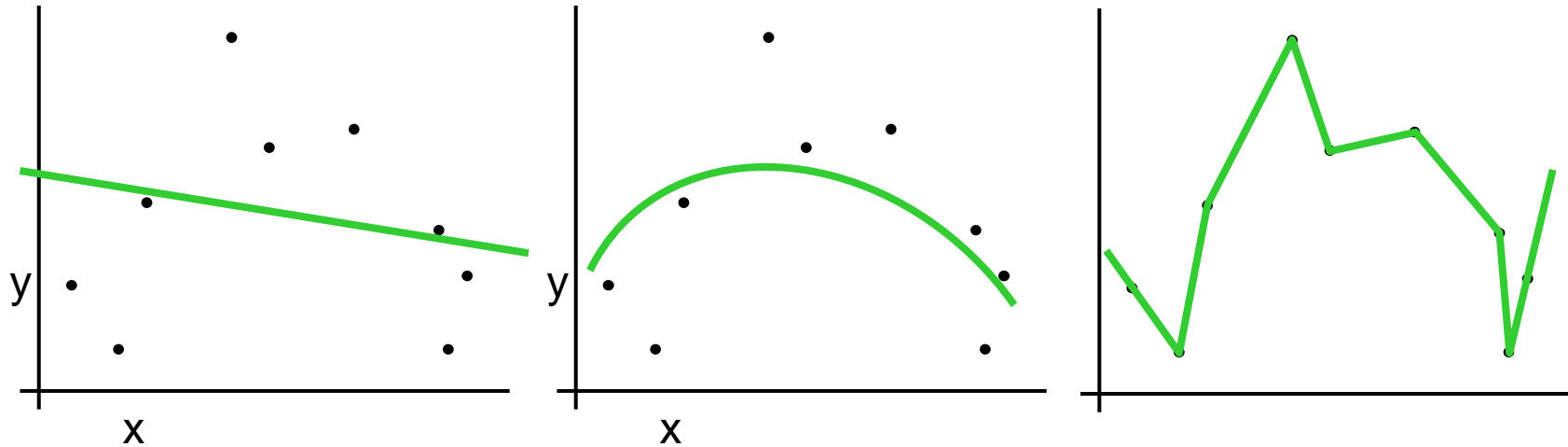


# Join-the-dots



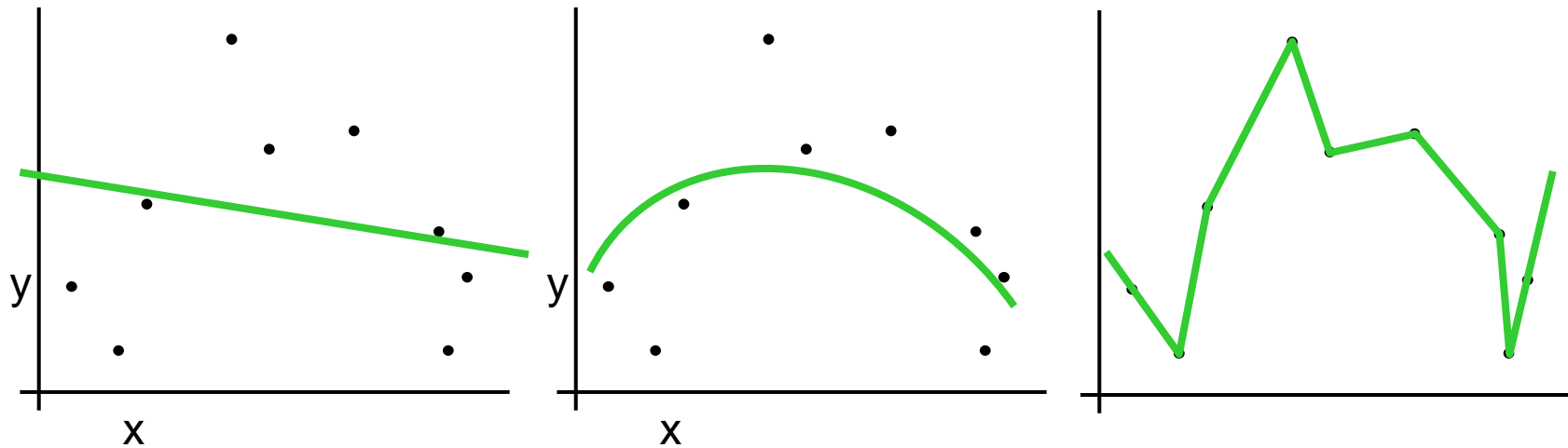
Also known as **piecewise linear nonparametric regression** if that makes you feel better

# Which is best?



Why not choose the method with the best fit to the data?

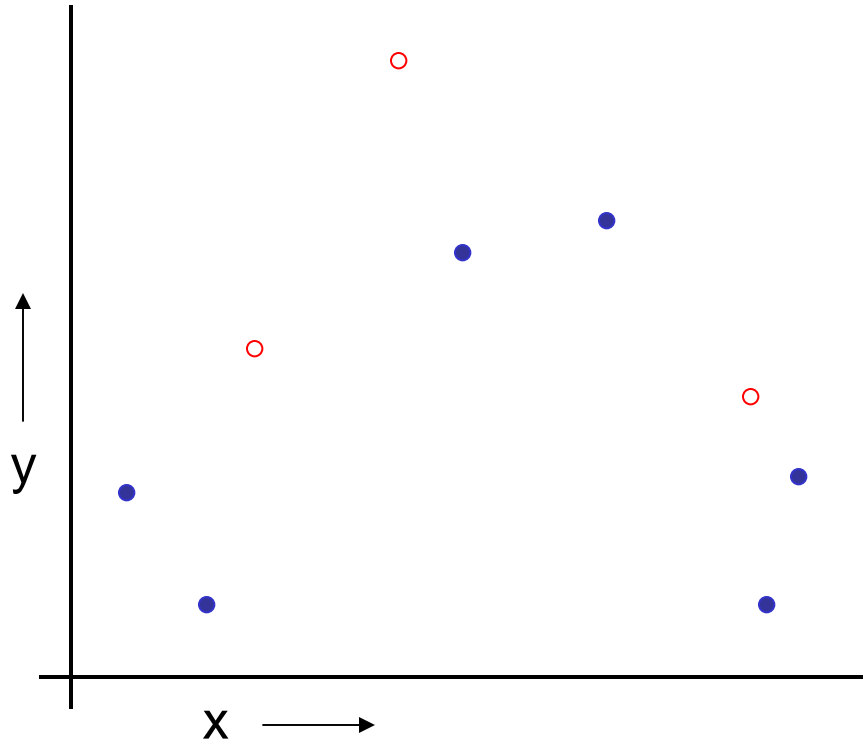
# What do we really want?



Why not choose the method with the best fit to the data?

“How well are you going to predict future data drawn from the same distribution?”

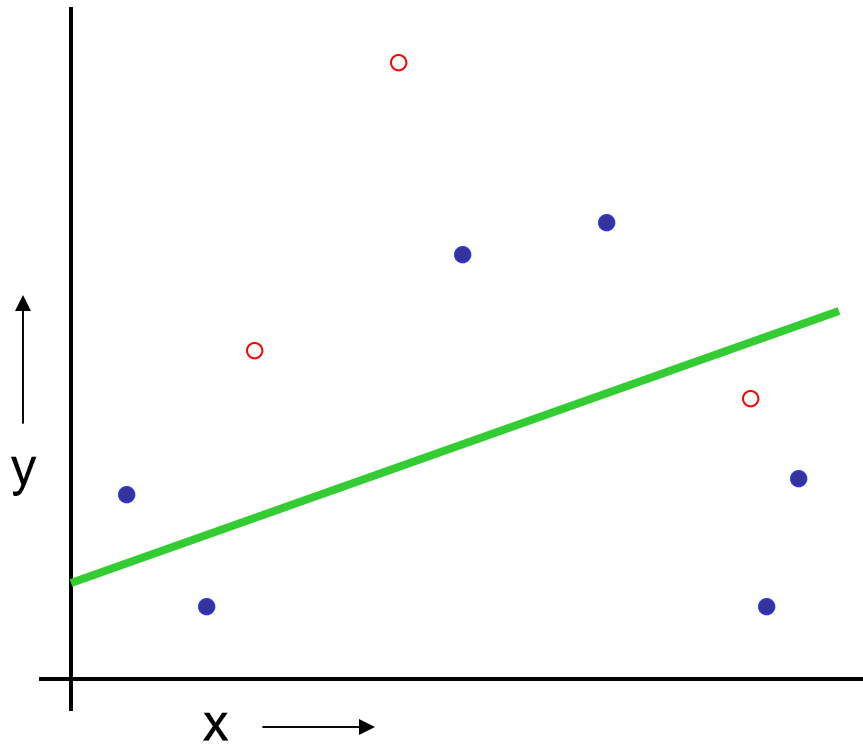
# The single split method



1. Randomly choose  
30% of the training set to  
be in a **validation set**

2. The remainder is a  
**actual training set**

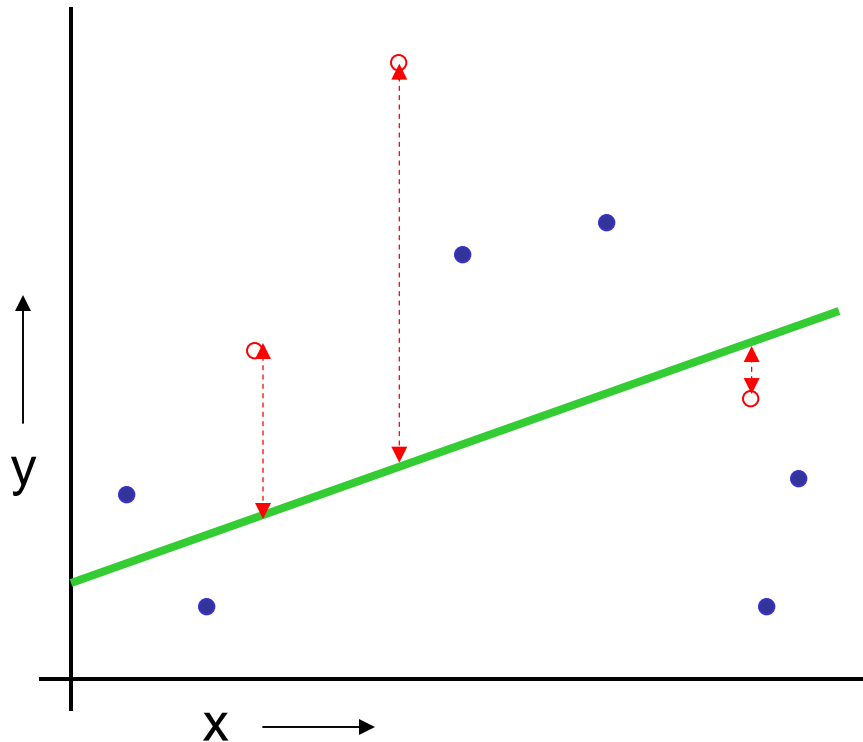
# The single split method



(Linear regression example)

1. Randomly choose 30% of the training set to be in a **validation set**
2. The remainder is a **actual training set**
3. Perform your regression on the actual training set

# The single split method



(Linear regression example)

Mean Squared Error = 2.4

0. Split in to training and test set

1. Randomly choose 30% of the training set to be in a **validation set**

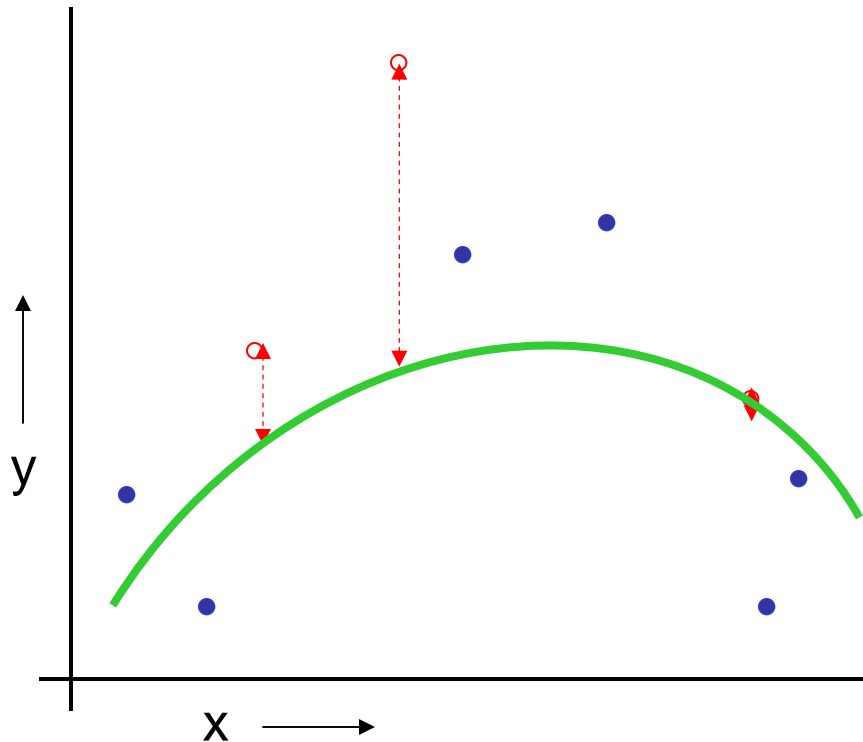
2. The remainder is a **actual training set**

3. Perform your regression on the **actual training set**

4. **Choose best model based on validation set**

5. **Report performance on test set**

# The single split method



(Quadratic regression example)

Mean Squared Error = 0.9

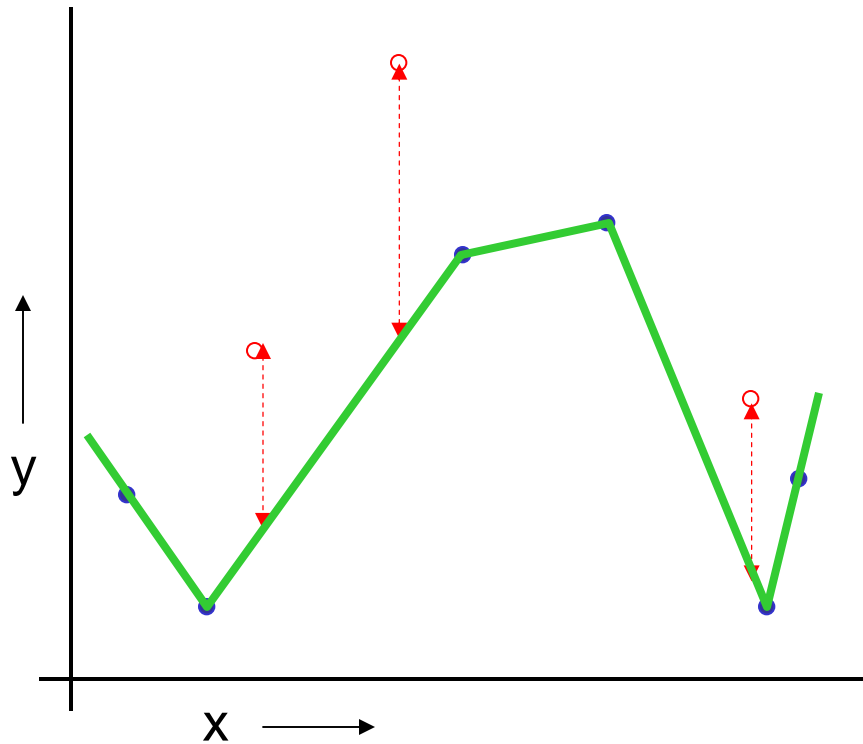
1. Randomly choose  
30% of the data to be in a  
**test set**

2. The remainder is a  
**training set**

3. Perform your  
regression on the training  
set

4. **Estimate your future  
performance with the test  
set**

# The single split method



(Join the dots example)

Mean Squared Error = 2.2

1. Randomly choose 30% of the training set to be in a **validation set**
2. The remainder is a **actual training set**
3. Perform your regression on the actual training set
4. **Estimate your future performance with the test set**



# The single split method

Good news:

- Very very simple
- Can then simply choose the method with the best validation-set score

Bad news:

- What's the downside?

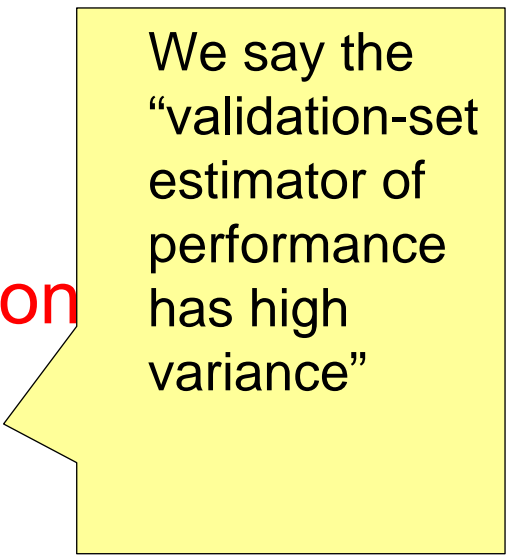
# The single split method

## Good news:

- Very very simple
- Can then simply choose the method with the best validation-set score

## Bad news:

- Wastes data: we get an estimate of the best method to apply to 30% less data
- If we don't have much data, our validation might just be lucky or unlucky

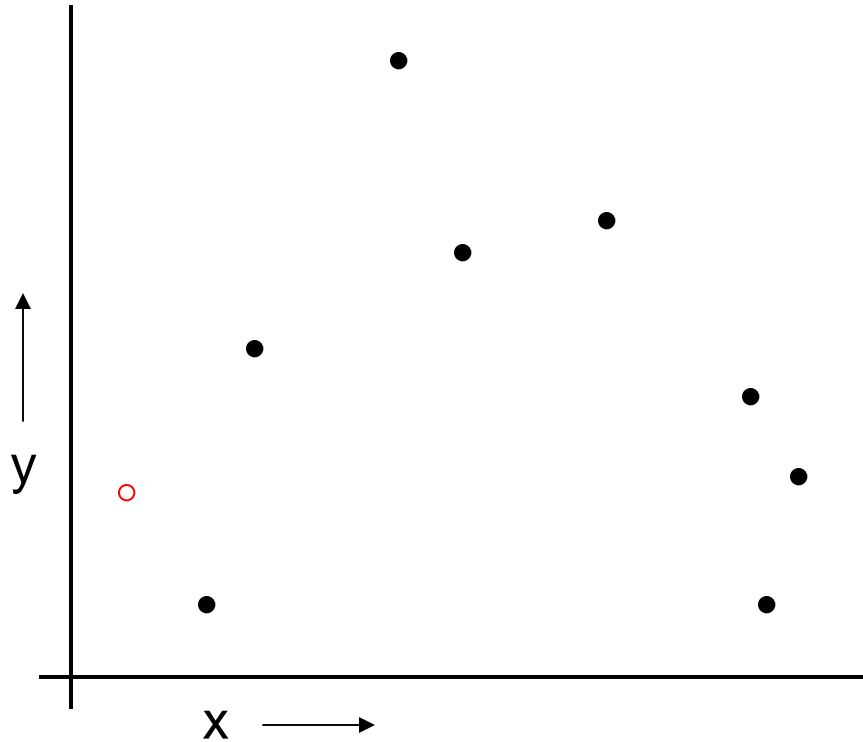


We say the “validation-set estimator of performance has high variance”

# LOOCV (Leave-one-out Cross Validation)

For  $k=1$  to  $R$

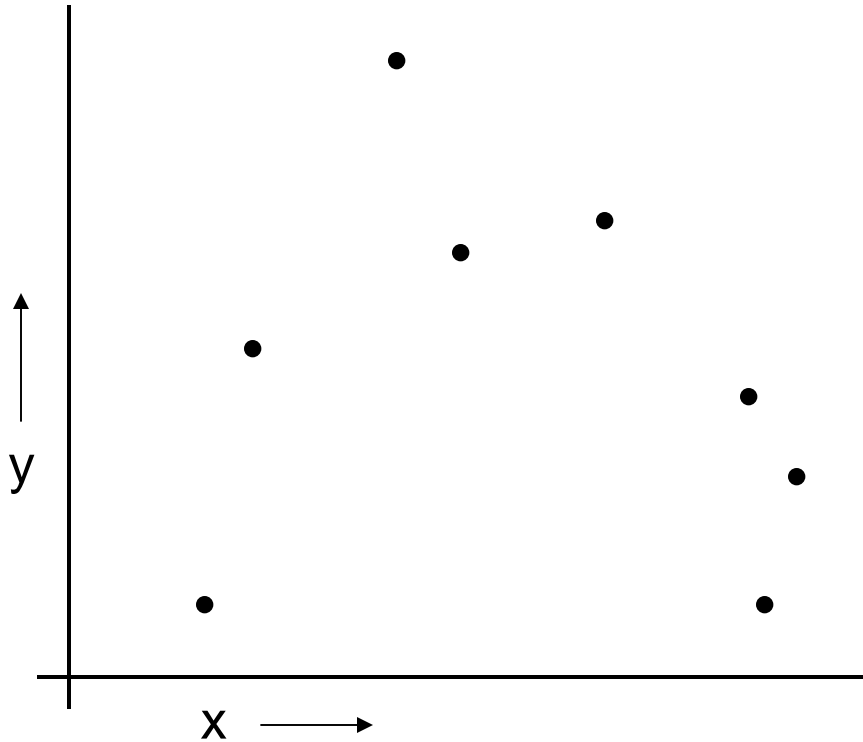
1. Let  $(x_k, y_k)$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record



# LOOCV (Leave-one-out Cross Validation)

For  $k=1$  to  $R$

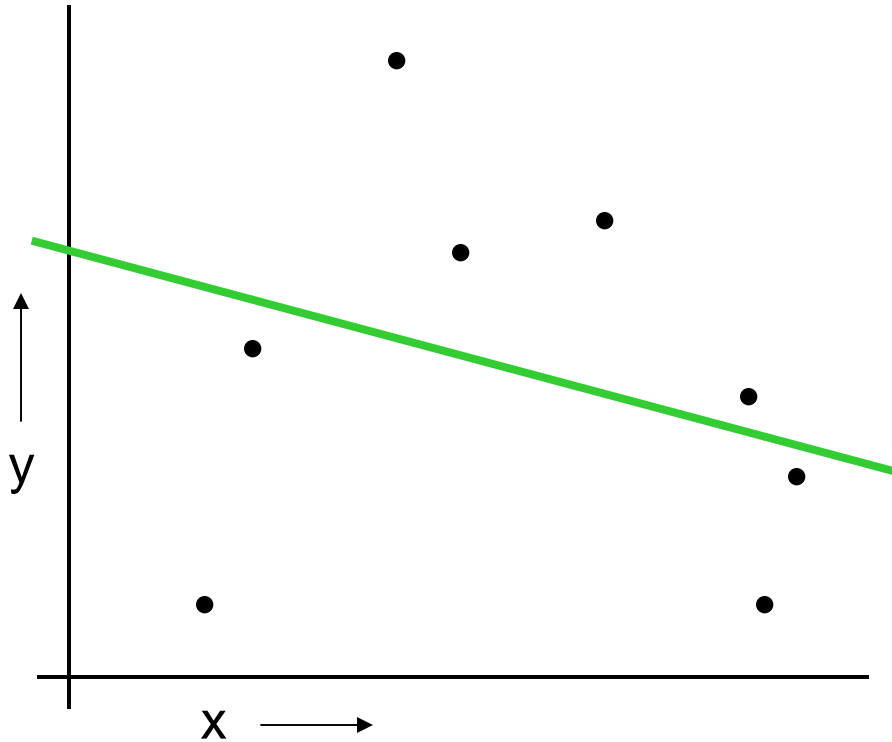
1. Let  $(x_k, y_k)$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record
2. Temporarily remove  $(x_k, y_k)$  from the dataset



# LOOCV (Leave-one-out Cross Validation)

For  $k=1$  to  $R$

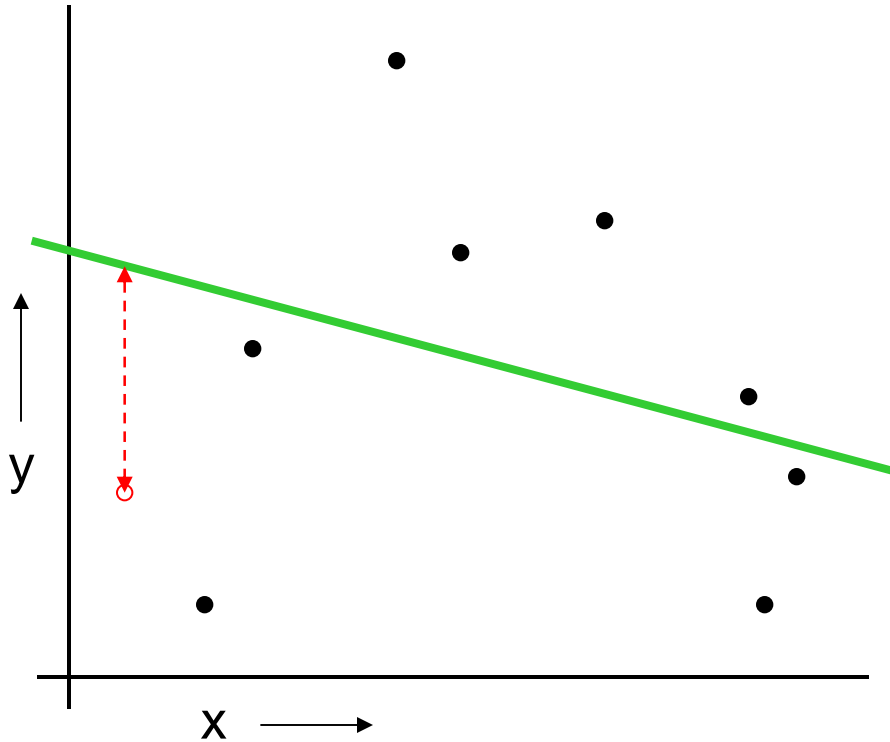
1. Let  $(x_k, y_k)$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record
2. Temporarily remove  $(x_k, y_k)$  from the dataset
3. Train on the remaining  $R-1$  datapoints



# LOOCV (Leave-one-out Cross Validation)

For  $k=1$  to  $R$

1. Let  $(x_k, y_k)$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record
2. Temporarily remove  $(x_k, y_k)$  from the dataset
3. Train on the remaining  $R-1$  datapoints
4. Note your error  $(x_k, y_k)$

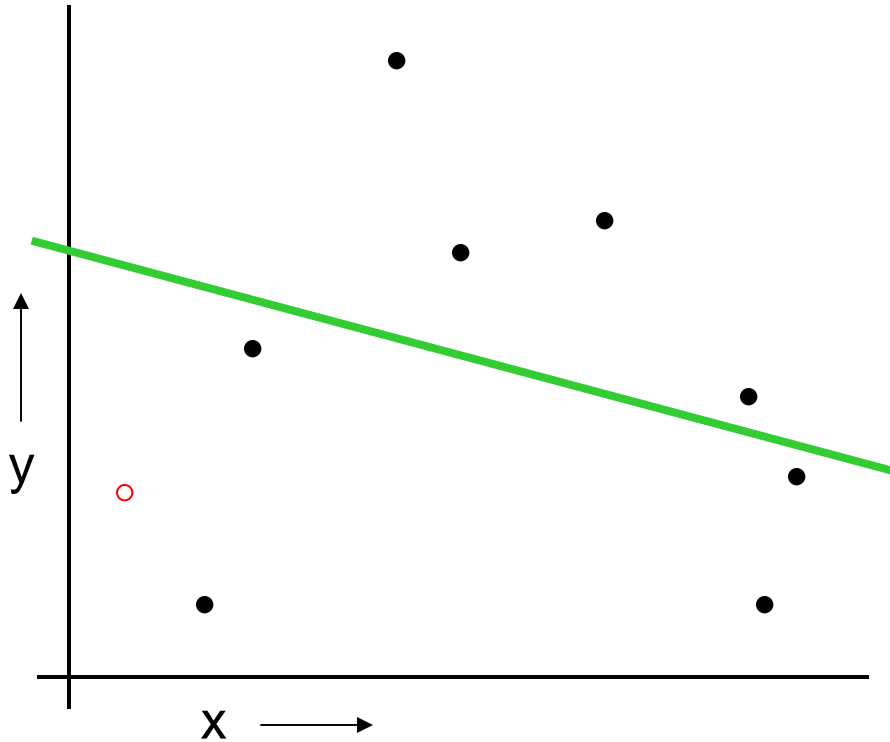


# LOOCV (Leave-one-out Cross Validation)

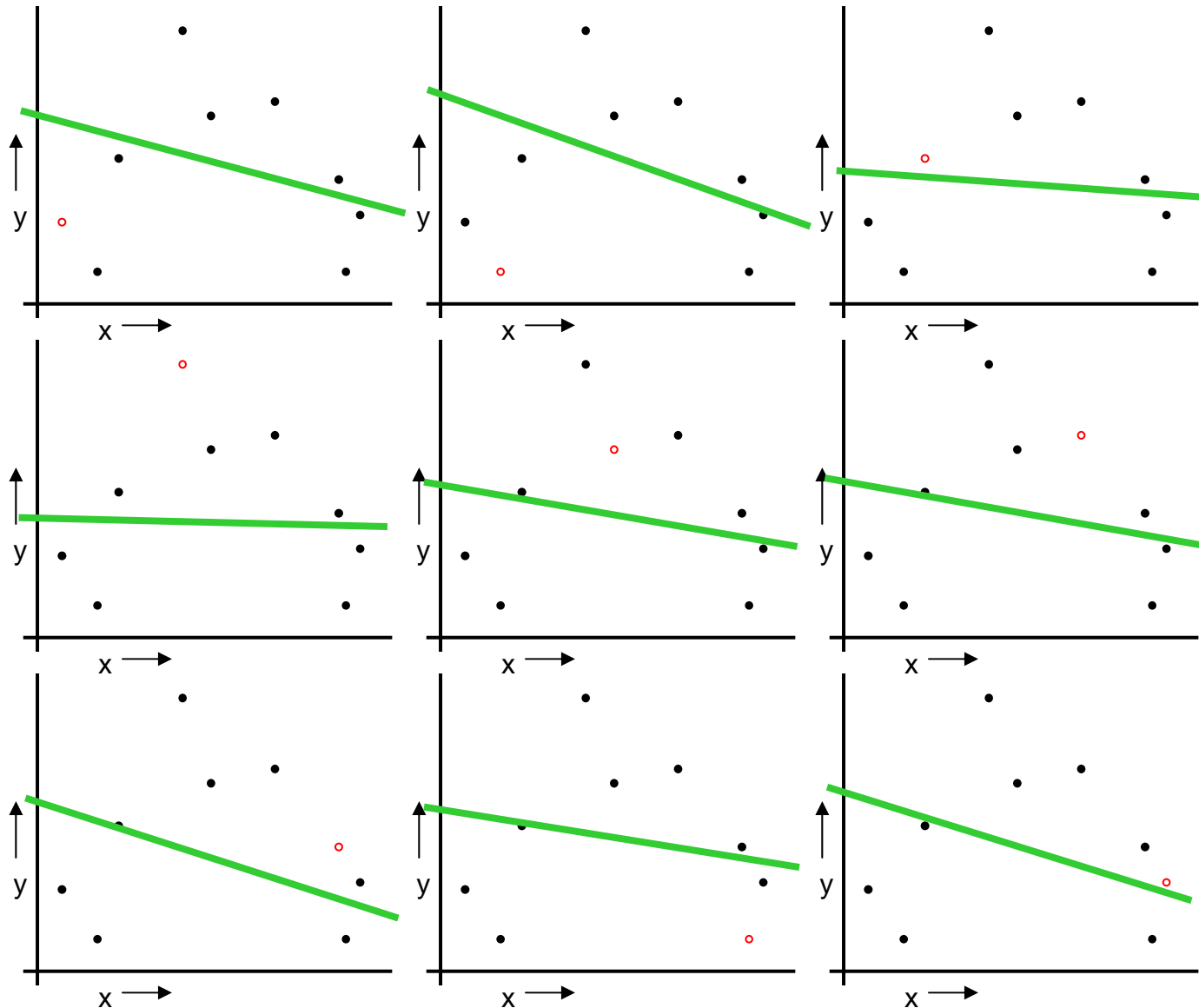
For  $k=1$  to  $R$

1. Let  $(x_k, y_k)$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record
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When you've done all points, report the mean error.



# LOOCV (Leave-one-out Cross Validation)



For  $k=1$  to  $R$

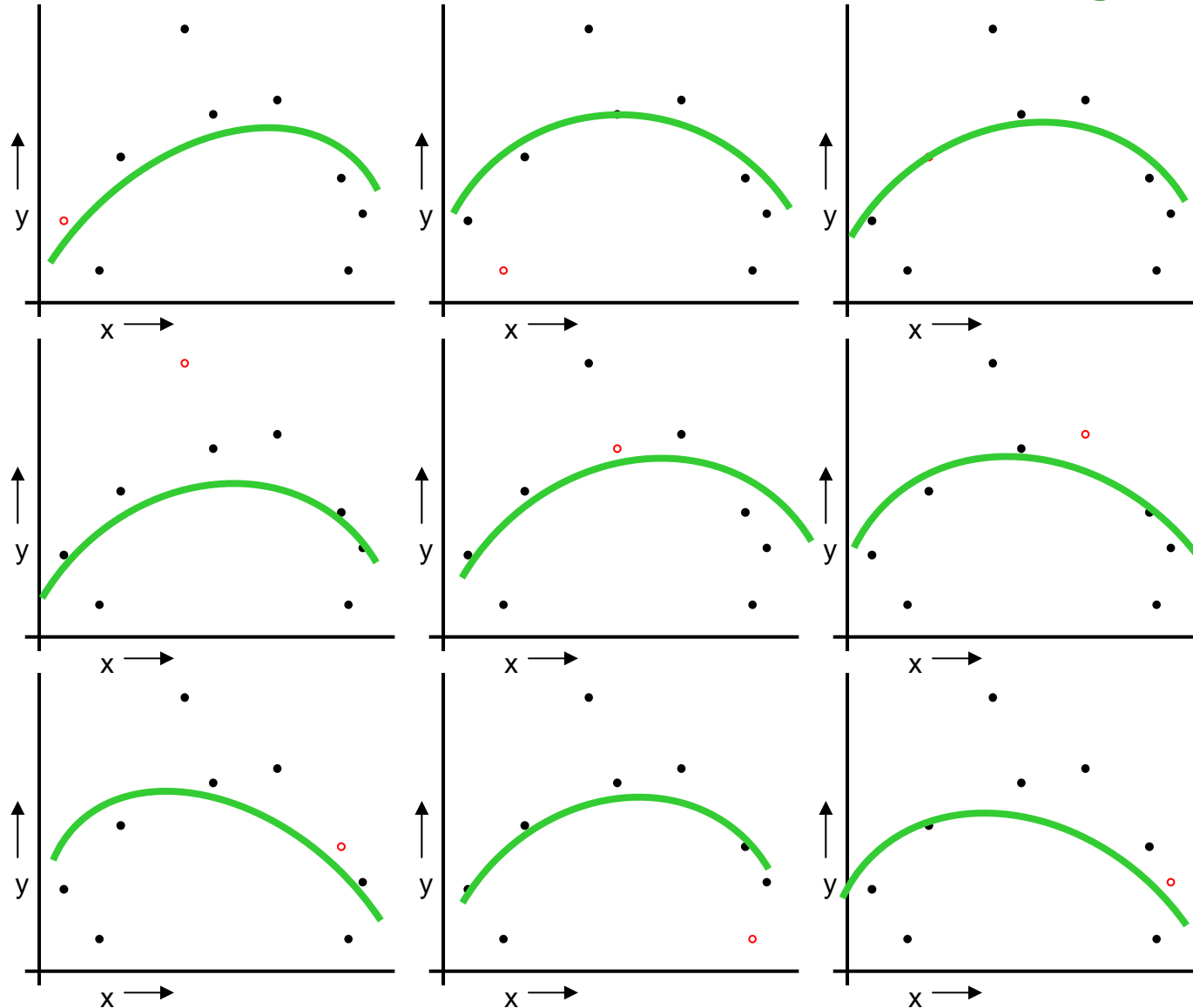
1. Let  $(x_k, y_k)$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record
2. Temporarily remove  $(x_k, y_k)$  from the dataset
3. Train on the remaining  $R-1$  datapoints
4. Note your error  $(x_k, y_k)$

When you've done all points, report the mean error.

$$MSE_{\text{LOOCV}} = 2.12$$



# LOOCV for Quadratic Regression



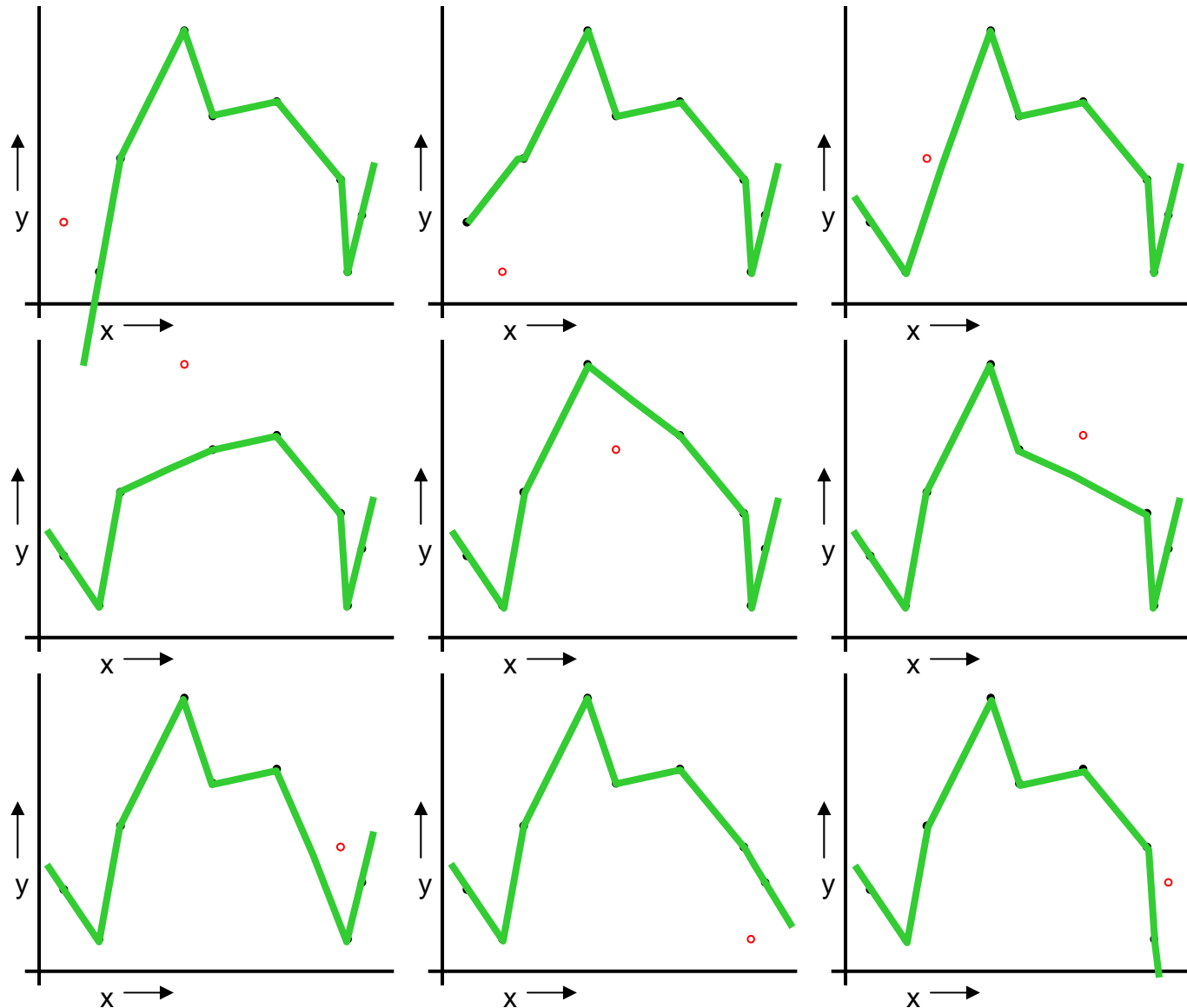
For  $k=1$  to  $R$

1. Let  $(x_k, y_k)$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record
2. Temporarily remove  $(x_k, y_k)$  from the dataset
3. Train on the remaining  $R-1$  datapoints
4. Note your error  $(x_k, y_k)$

When you've done all points, report the mean error.

$$MSE_{LOOCV} = 0.962$$

# LOOCV for Join The Dots



For  $k=1$  to  $R$

1. Let  $(x_k, y_k)$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  record
2. Temporarily remove  $(x_k, y_k)$  from the dataset
3. Train on the remaining  $R-1$  datapoints
4. Note your error  $(x_k, y_k)$

When you've done all points, report the mean error.

$$MSE_{LOOCV} = 3.33$$

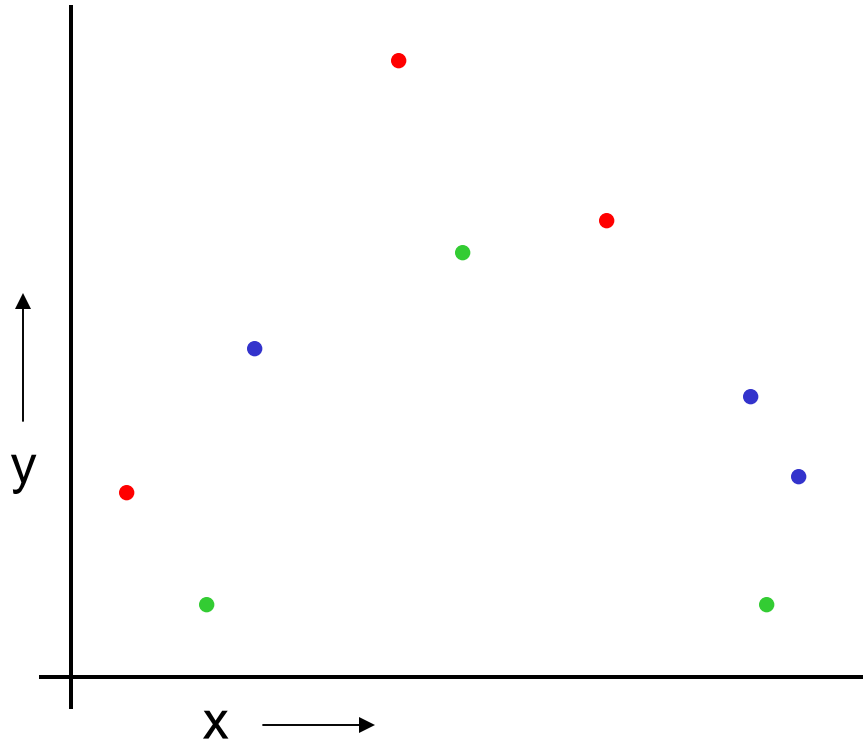
# Which kind of Cross Validation?

	Downside	Upside
<b>Single split</b>	Variance: unreliable estimate of future performance-wasteful	Cheap
<b>Leave-one-out</b>	Expensive Has some weird behavior	Doesn't waste data

..can we get the best of both worlds?

# k-fold Cross Validation

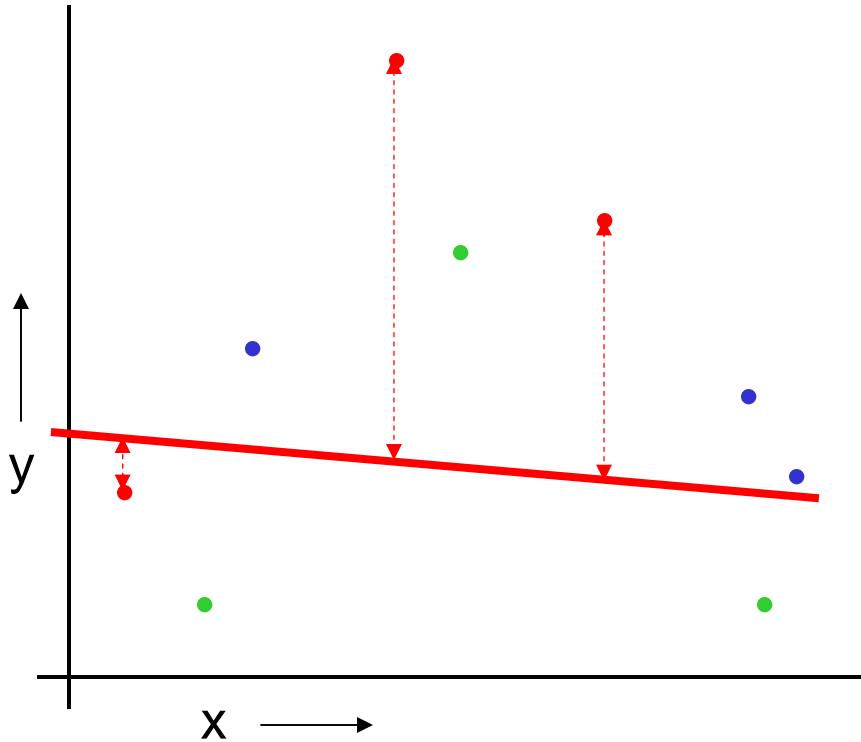
Randomly break the dataset into  $k$  partitions (in our example we'll have  $k=3$  partitions colored Red Green and Blue)



# k-fold Cross Validation

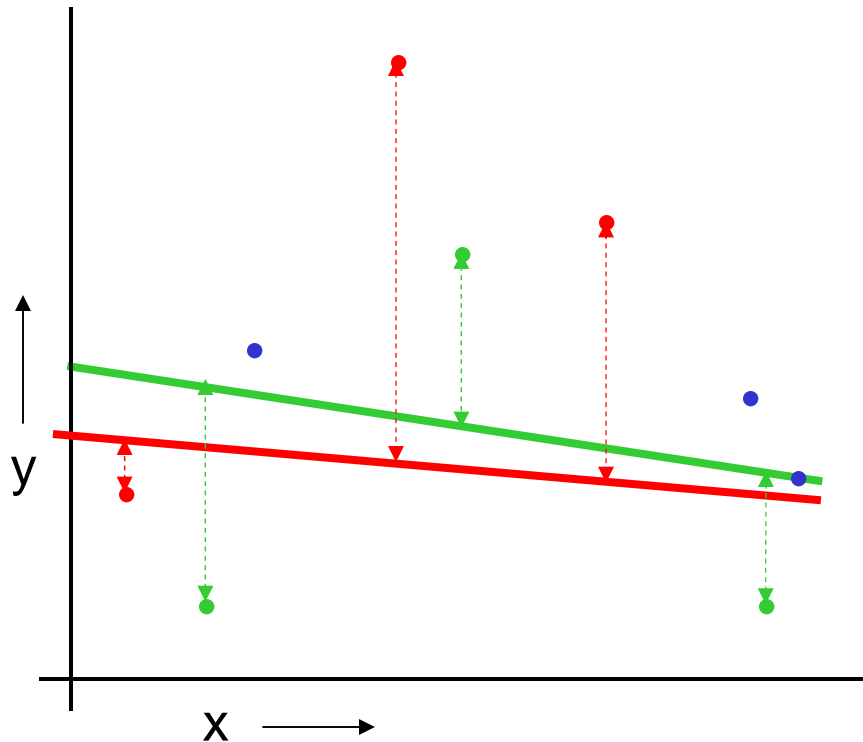
Randomly break the dataset into  $k$  partitions (in our example we'll have  $k=3$  partitions colored Red Green and Blue)

For the red partition: Train on all the points not in the red partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the red points.



# k-fold Cross Validation

Randomly break the dataset into  $k$  partitions (in our example we'll have  $k=3$  partitions colored Red Green and Blue)

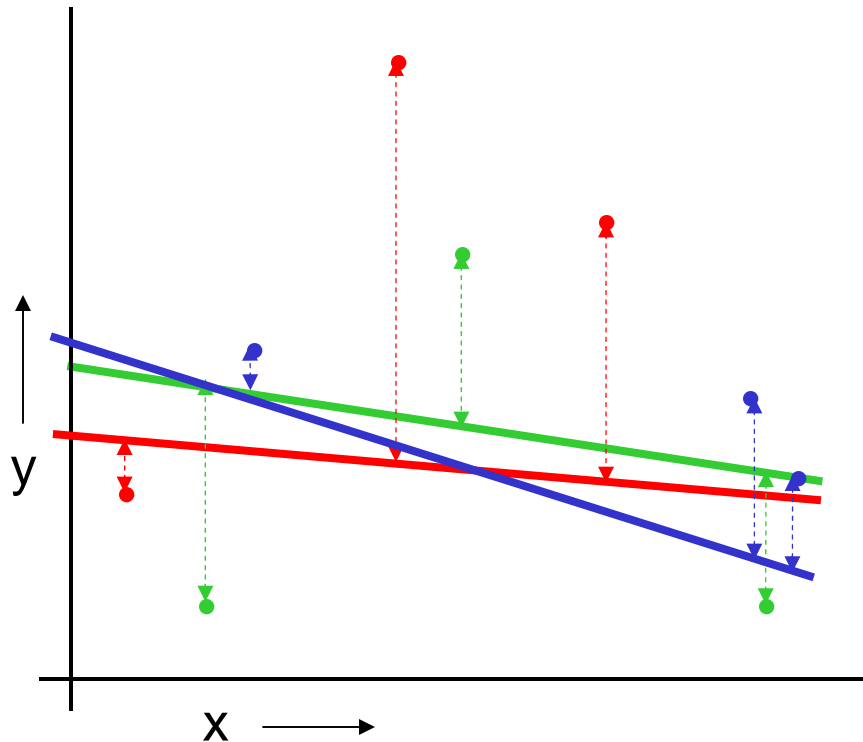


For the red partition: Train on all the points not in the red partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the red points.

For the green partition: Train on all the points not in the green partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the green points.

# k-fold Cross Validation

Randomly break the dataset into  $k$  partitions (in our example we'll have  $k=3$  partitions colored Red Green and Blue)



For the red partition: Train on all the points not in the red partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the red points.

For the green partition: Train on all the points not in the green partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the green points.

For the blue partition: Train on all the points not in the blue partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the blue points.

# k-fold Cross Validation

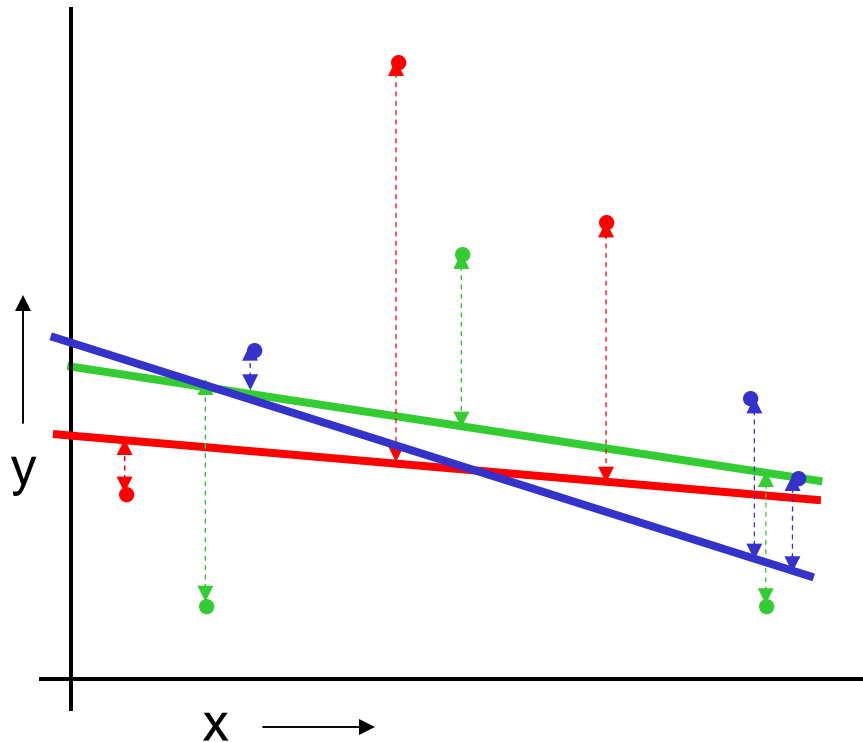
Randomly break the dataset into k partitions (in our example we'll have k=3 partitions colored Red Green and Blue)

For the red partition: Train on all the points not in the red partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the red points.

For the green partition: Train on all the points not in the green partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the green points.

For the blue partition: Train on all the points not in the blue partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the blue points.

Then report the mean error



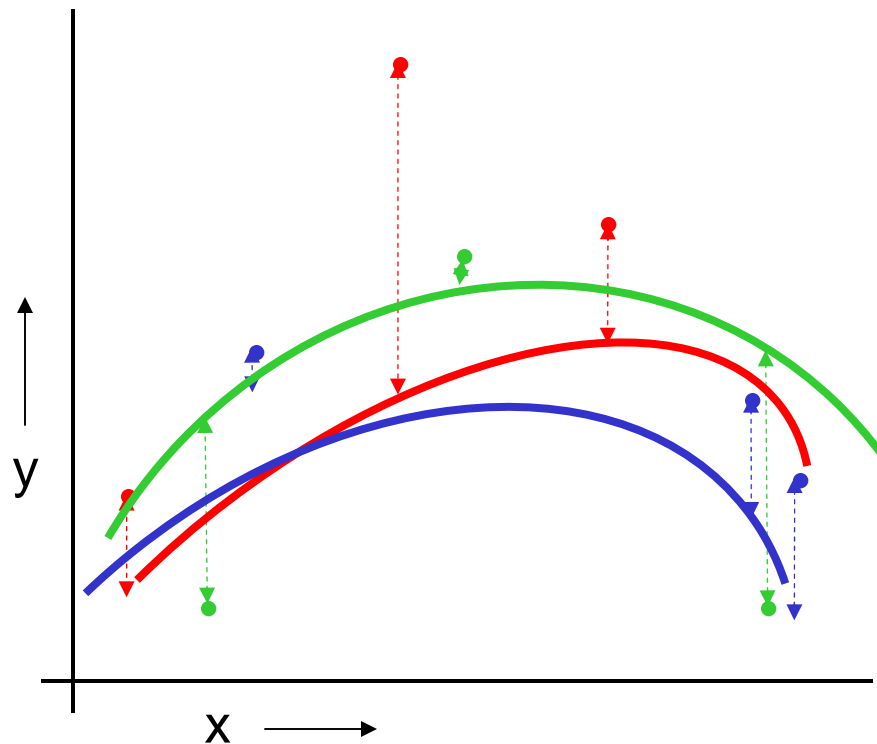
Linear Regression

$$MSE_{3FOLD}=2.05$$



# k-fold Cross Validation

Randomly break the dataset into k partitions (in our example we'll have k=3 partitions colored Red Green and Blue)



For the red partition: Train on all the points not in the red partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the red points.

For the green partition: Train on all the points not in the green partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the green points.

For the blue partition: Train on all the points not in the blue partition. Find the test-set sum of errors on the blue points.

Quadratic Regression

$$MSE_{3FOLD}=1.11$$

Then report the mean error

# k-fold Cross Validation

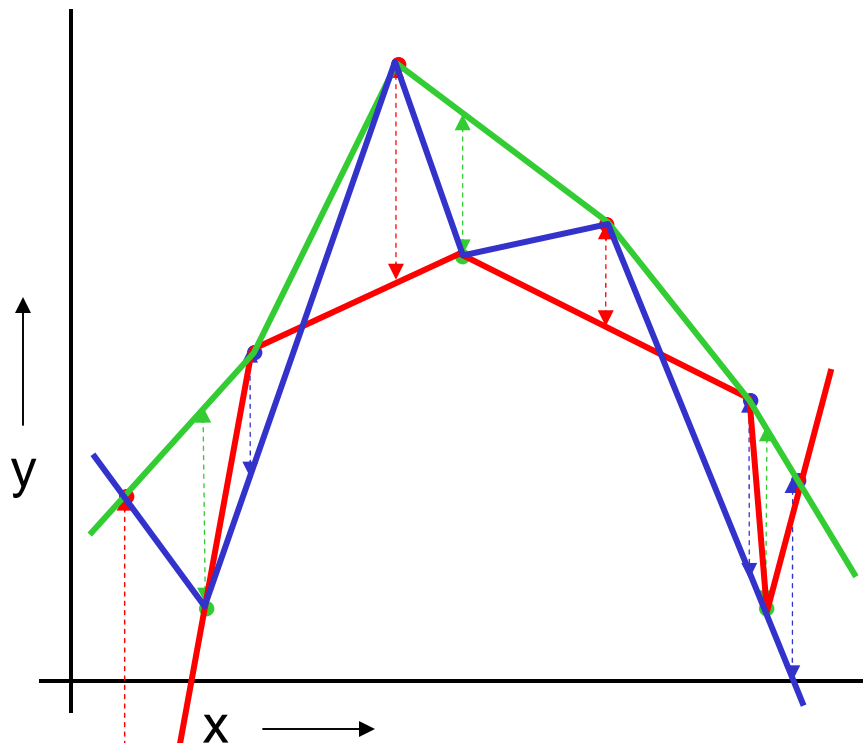
Randomly break the dataset into k partitions (in our example we'll have k=3 partitions colored Red Green and Blue)

For the red partition: Train on all the points not in the red partition. Find the validation-set sum of errors on the red points.

For the green partition: Train on all the points not in the green partition. Find the validation-set sum of errors on the green points.

For the blue partition: Train on all the points not in the blue partition. Find the validation-set sum of errors on the blue points.

Then report the mean error



Joint-the-dots  
 $MSE_{3FOLD}=2.93$

# Which kind of Cross Validation?














	Downside	Upside
<b>Test-set</b>	Variance: unreliable estimate of future performance	Cheap
<b>Leave-one-out</b>	Expensive. Has some weird behavior	Doesn't waste data
<b>10-fold</b>	Wastes 10% of the data. 10 times more expensive than test set	Only wastes 10%. Only 10 times more expensive instead of R times.
<b>3-fold</b>	Wastier than 10-fold. Expensivier than test set	Slightly better than test-set
<b>R-fold</b>	Identical to Leave-one-out	

# Which kind of Cross Validation?

	Downside	Upside
<b>Test-set</b>	Variance: unreliable estimate of future performance	Cheap
<b>Leave-one-out</b>	Expensive. Has some weird behavior	
<b>10-fold</b>	Wastes 10% of the data. 10 times more expensive than testset	10 times more expensive instead of R times.
<b>3-fold</b>	Wastier than 10-fold. Expensivier than testset	Slightly better than test-set
<b>R-fold</b>	Identical to Leave-one-out	













# CV-based Model Selection

- We're trying to decide which algorithm to use.
- We train each machine and make a table...

$i$	$f_i$	TRAINERR	10-FOLD-CV-ERR	Choice
1	$f_1$			
2	$f_2$			
3	$f_3$			
4	$f_4$			
5	$f_5$			
6	$f_6$			

# CV-based Model Selection













- Example: Choosing number of hidden units in a one-hidden-layer neural net.
- Step 1: Compute 10-fold CV error for six different model classes:

Algorithm	TRAINERR	10-FOLD-CV-ERR	Choice
0 hidden units			
1 hidden units			
2 hidden units			⊠
3 hidden units			
4 hidden units			
5 hidden units			

- Step 2: Whichever model class gave best CV score: train it with all the data, and that's the predictive model you'll use.

# CV-based Model Selection













- Example: Choosing “k” for a k-nearest-neighbor regression.
- Step 1: Compute LOOCV error for six different model classes:

Algorithm	TRAINERR	10-fold-CV-ERR	Choice
$K=1$			
$K=2$			
$K=3$			
$K=4$			
$K=5$			
$K=6$			

- Step 2: Whichever model class gave best CV score: train it with all the data, and that's the predictive model you'll use.

# CV-based Algorithm Choice

- Example: Choosing which regression algorithm to use
- Step 1: Compute 10-fold-CV error for six different model classes:

Algorithm	TRAINERR	10-fold-CV-ERR	Choice
1-NN			
10-NN			
Linear Reg'n			
Quad reg'n			
LWR, KW=0.1			
LWR, KW=0.5			

- Step 2: Whichever algorithm gave best CV score: train it with all the data, and that's the predictive model you'll use.