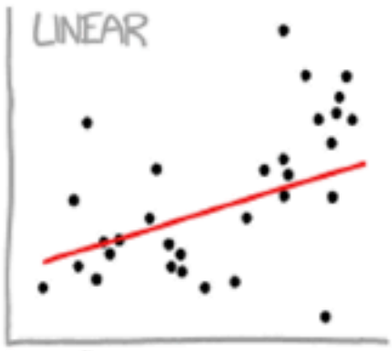
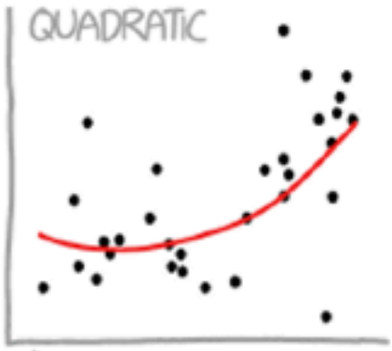
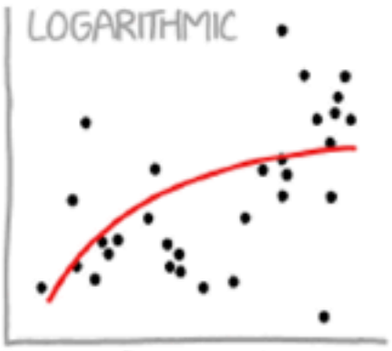
CURVE-FITTING METHODS
AND THE MESSAGES THEY SEND



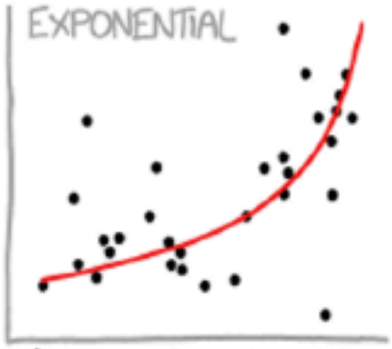
"HEY, I DID A REGRESSION."



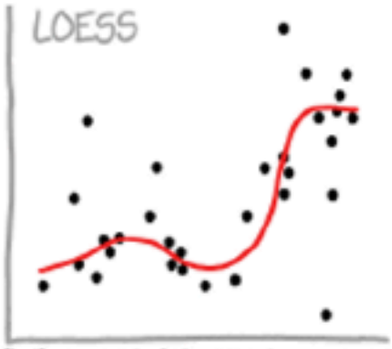
"I WANTED A CURVED LINE, SO I MADE ONE WITH MATH."



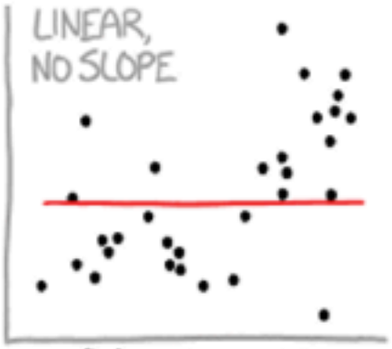
"LOOK, IT'S TAPERING OFF!"



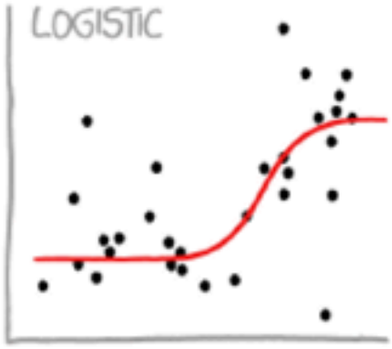
"LOOK, IT'S GROWING UNCONTROLLABLY!"



"I'M SOPHISTICATED, NOT LIKE THOSE BUMBLING POLYNOMIAL PEOPLE."

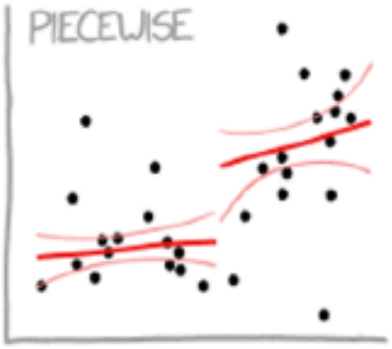


"I'M MAKING A SCATTER PLOT BUT I DON'T WANT TO."

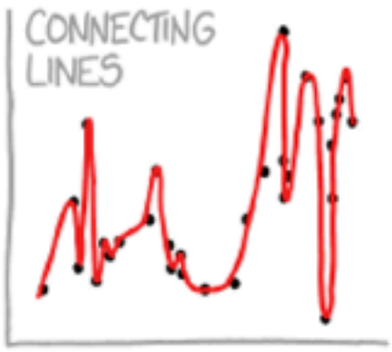


"I NEED TO CONNECT THESE TWO LINES, BUT MY FIRST IDEA DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH MATH."

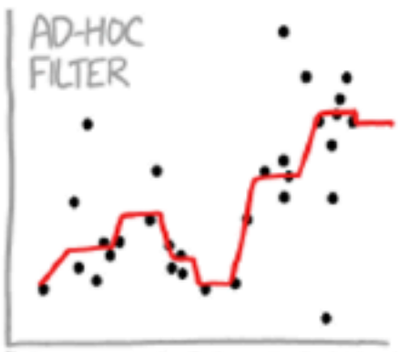
"LISTEN, SCIENCE IS HARD. BUT I'M A SERIOUS PERSON DOING MY BEST."



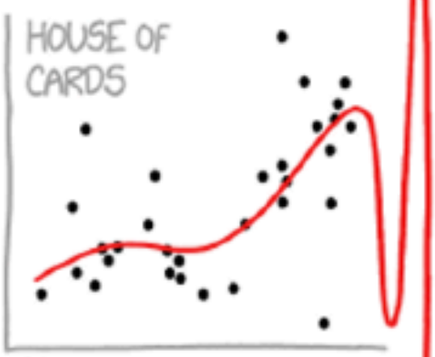
"I HAVE A THEORY, AND THIS IS THE ONLY DATA I COULD FIND."



"I CLICKED 'SMOOTH LINES' IN EXCEL."



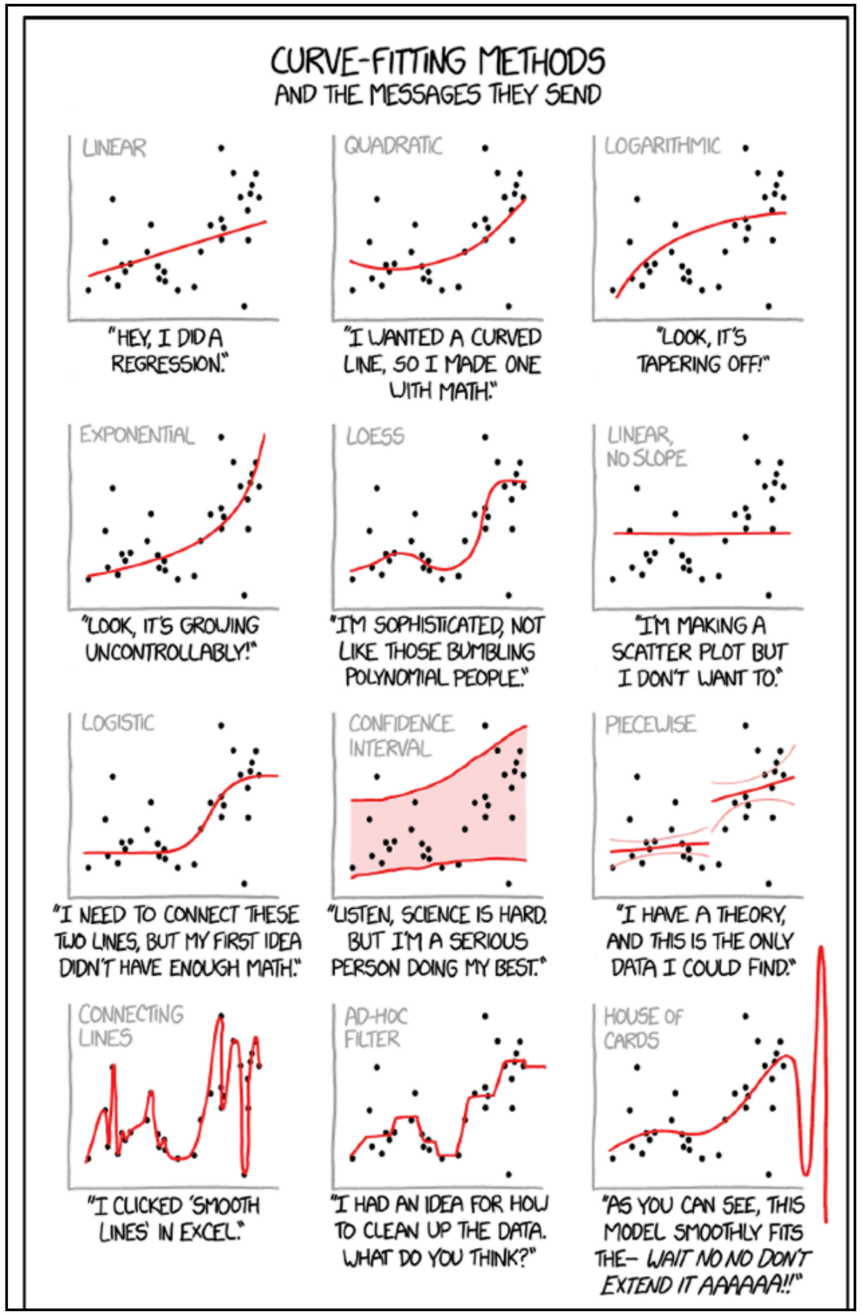
"I HAD AN IDEA FOR HOW TO CLEAN UP THE DATA. WHAT DO YOU THINK?"



"AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS MODEL SMOOTHLY FITS THE- *WAIT NO NO DON'T EXTEND IT AAAAAA!!*"

“it’s just a linear model…”

“it’s just a linear model…”



What?