

MATH 380

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We have already seen models based on "proportionality"

e.g. change in population  $\propto$  current population gives  $P_{n+1} = k P_n$

$\rightarrow$  Linear relation  $\rightarrow$  exponential growth

e.g.  $\Delta P_n \propto (K - P_n) P_n$  gives  $P_{n+1} = P_n + k(K - P_n) P_n$

$\rightarrow$  Nonlinear relation  $\rightarrow$  logistic growth

$P_{n+1}$  vs  $P_n$

$P_n$  vs  $n$

Recall  $y \propto x \Rightarrow y = kx$  for some constant  $k \neq 0$



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•  $y \propto x \Leftrightarrow x \propto y$

•  $y \propto x$  and  $x \propto z \Rightarrow y \propto z$



We have already seen models based on "proportionality"

e.g. change in population  $\propto$  current population gives  $P_{t+1} = k P_t$

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e.g.  $\Delta P_t \propto (K - P_t) P_t$  gives  $P_{t+1} = P_t + k(K - P_t) P_t$

$\rightarrow$  Nonlinear relation  $\rightarrow$  logistic growth  
 $P_{t+1}$  vs  $P_t$   $P_t$  vs  $n$

Recall  $y \propto x \Rightarrow y = kx$  for some constant  $k \neq 0$

- $y \propto x \Leftrightarrow x \propto y$  ( $y = kx \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{k}y$ , and conversely)
- $y \propto x$  and  $x \propto z \Rightarrow y \propto z$  ( $y = k_1x$ ,  $x = k_2z \Rightarrow y = k_1k_2z$ )
- $y \propto x^2 \Leftrightarrow x \propto y^{1/2}$   $\leftarrow$  Be careful! (not always invertible)
- $y \propto x^n$
- $y \propto f(x)$



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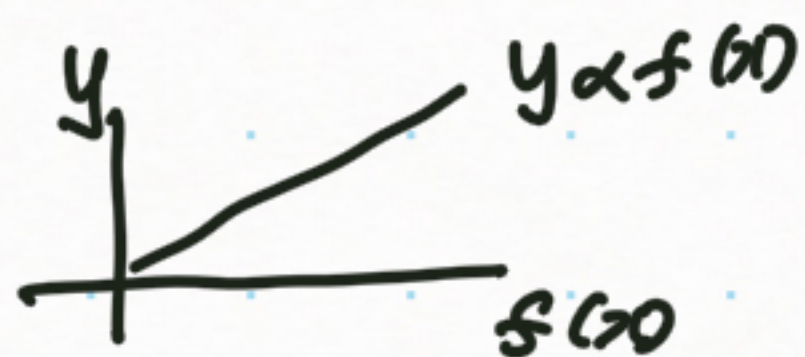
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- $y \propto x^2 \Leftrightarrow x \propto y^{1/2}$  ( $y = kx^2 \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{\frac{y}{k}}$  if  $k > 0$ )

- $y \propto x^n$

- $y \propto f(x)$





Many famous laws from Physics are "proportionalities"

- Hooke's Law:  $F \propto S$ , Force for restoring a spring stretched distance  $S$
- Newton's Law:  $F \propto a$ , in fact  $F = ma$
- Ohm's Law:  $V = iR$
- Boyle's law:  $V \propto \frac{1}{P}$ , volume of gas is inversely proportional to pressure  $P$  at fixed temperature  $k$ .  
 $V = k/P$
- Einstein:  $E \propto m$ , in fact  $E = c^2 M$
- Kepler's Third law:  $T \propto R^{3/2}$ ,  $T$  period (days) &  $R$  mean distance to sun



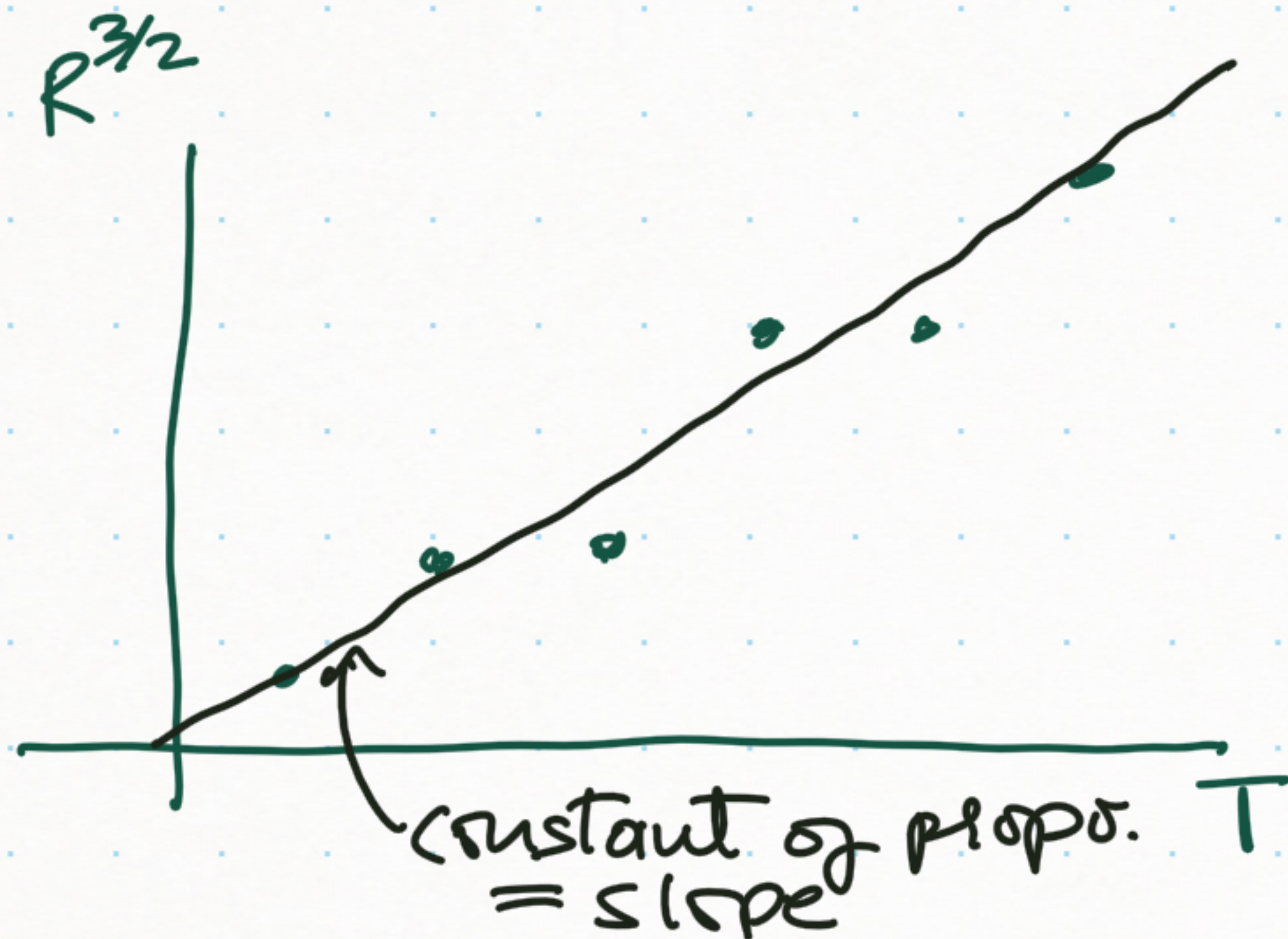
# Kepler's Third Law of Planetary Motion



The square of orbital period of a planet is directly proportional to the cube of the semi-major axis of its orbit.

$$T^2 \propto R^3$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{T_{\text{Earth}}^2}{R_{\text{Earth}}^3} = \frac{T_{\text{Mars}}^2}{R_{\text{Mars}}^3} = \frac{T_{\text{Planet}}^2}{R_{\text{Planet}}^3}$$



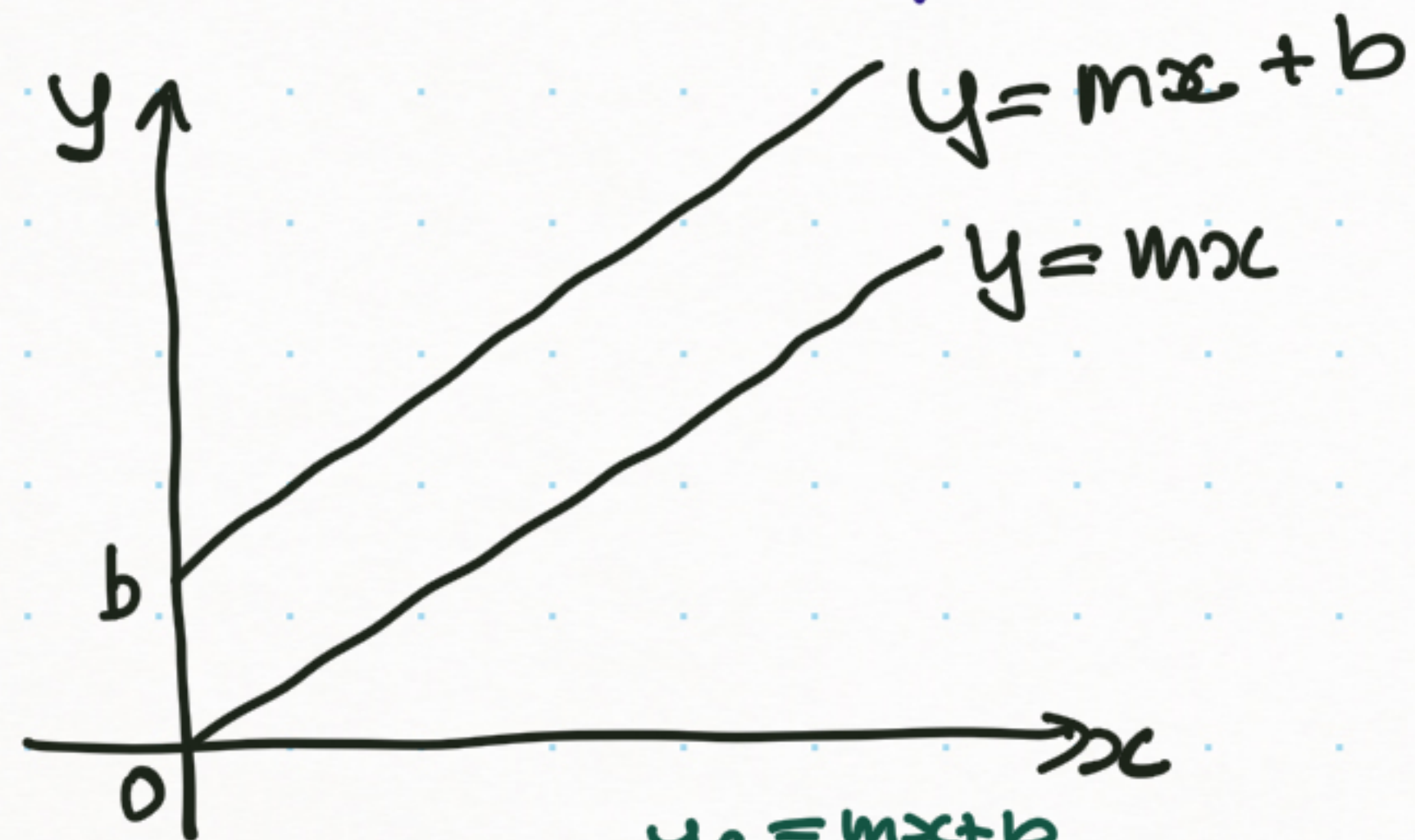
| Planet  | T (period) | R (mean dist.) |
|---------|------------|----------------|
| Mercury | 88         | 36             |
| Venus   | 224.7      | 67.25          |
| Earth   | 365.3      | 93             |
| Mars    | 687.0      | 141.75         |
| Jupiter | 4331.8     | •              |
| •       | •          | •              |
| •       | •          | •              |
| •       | •          | •              |
| •       | •          | •              |



## Comment

Actual relation:  $y = mx + b$

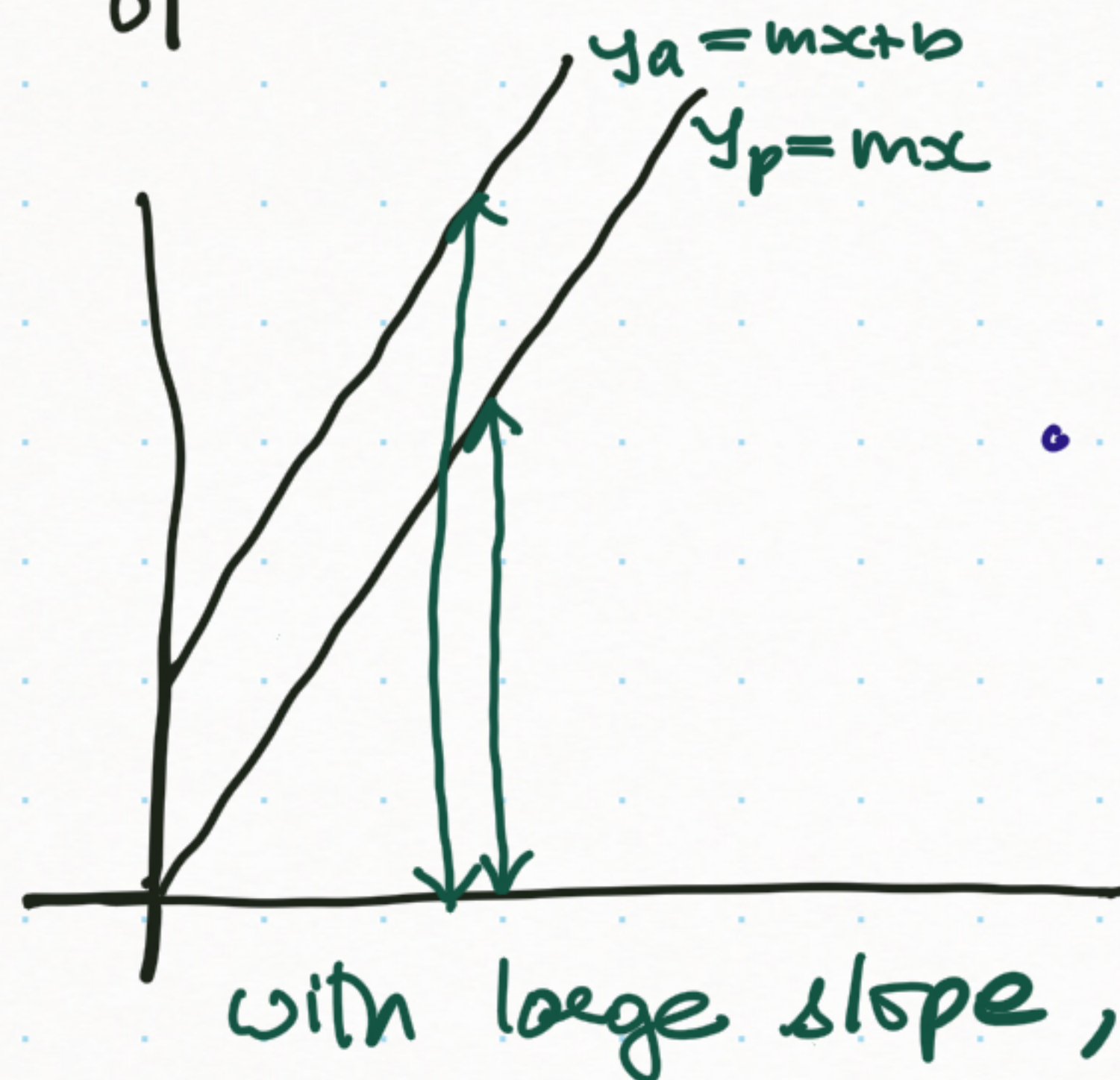
Simplified Proportionality model:  $y = mx$



Let's give these different names for comparison:

$$y_a = mx + b$$

$$y_p = mx$$



$$\text{Relative Error} = \frac{y_a - y_p}{y_a} = \frac{b}{y_a}$$

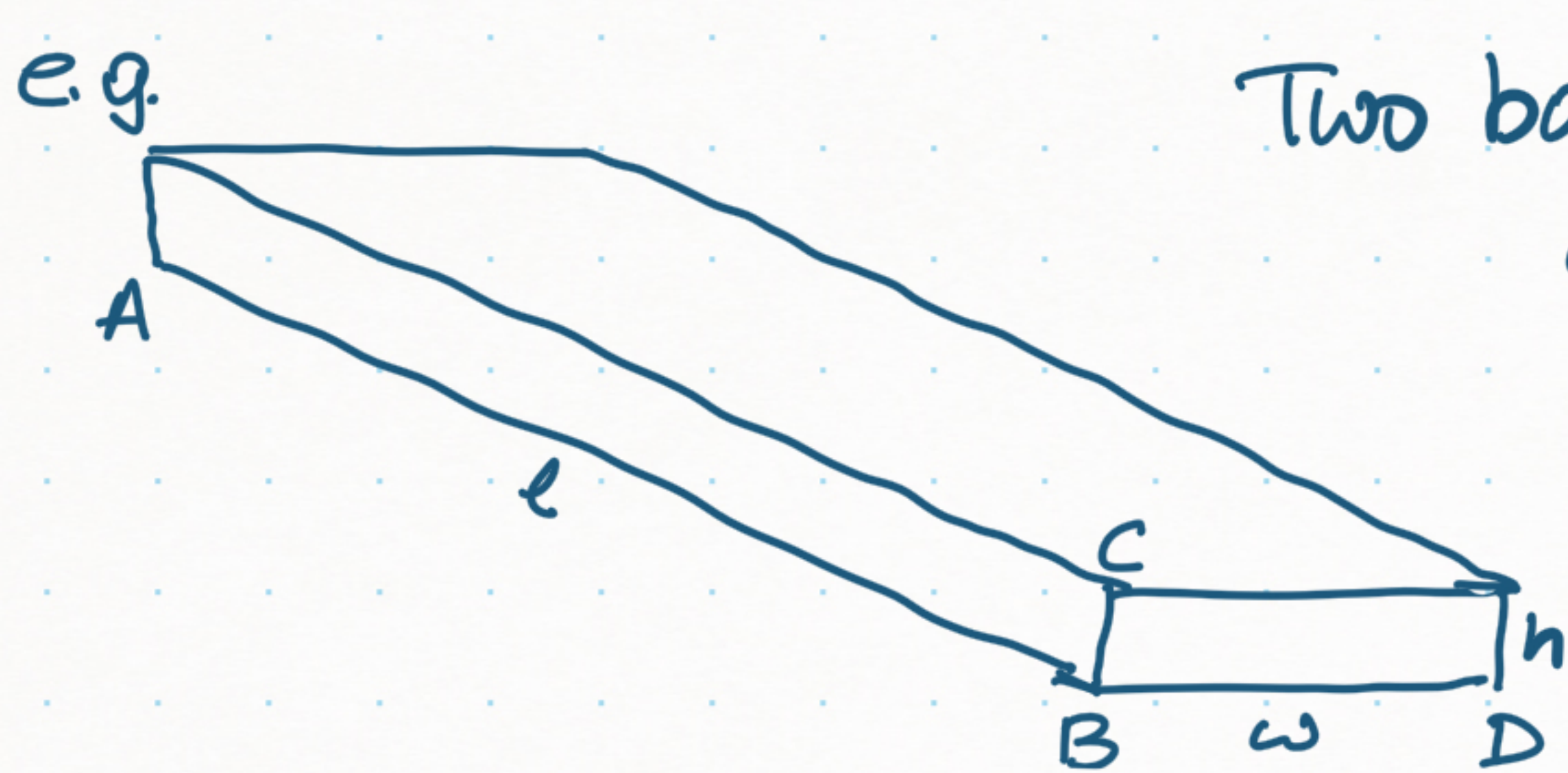
- If slope  $m$  is relatively large (compared to 1) then  $\frac{b}{y_a} \approx 0$ , i.e.,  $\frac{y_a - y_p}{y_a} \approx 0$ , i.e.,  $y_a - y_p \approx 0$   
i.e.  $y_a \approx y_p$

with large slope,  $b$  (small) becomes irrelevant to  $y_a$  vs.  $y_p$



# Modeling using Geometric Similarity

Defn Two objects are geometrically similar if there is a one-to-one correspondence between points of the objects s.t. the ratio of distances is constant for every pair of corresponding points

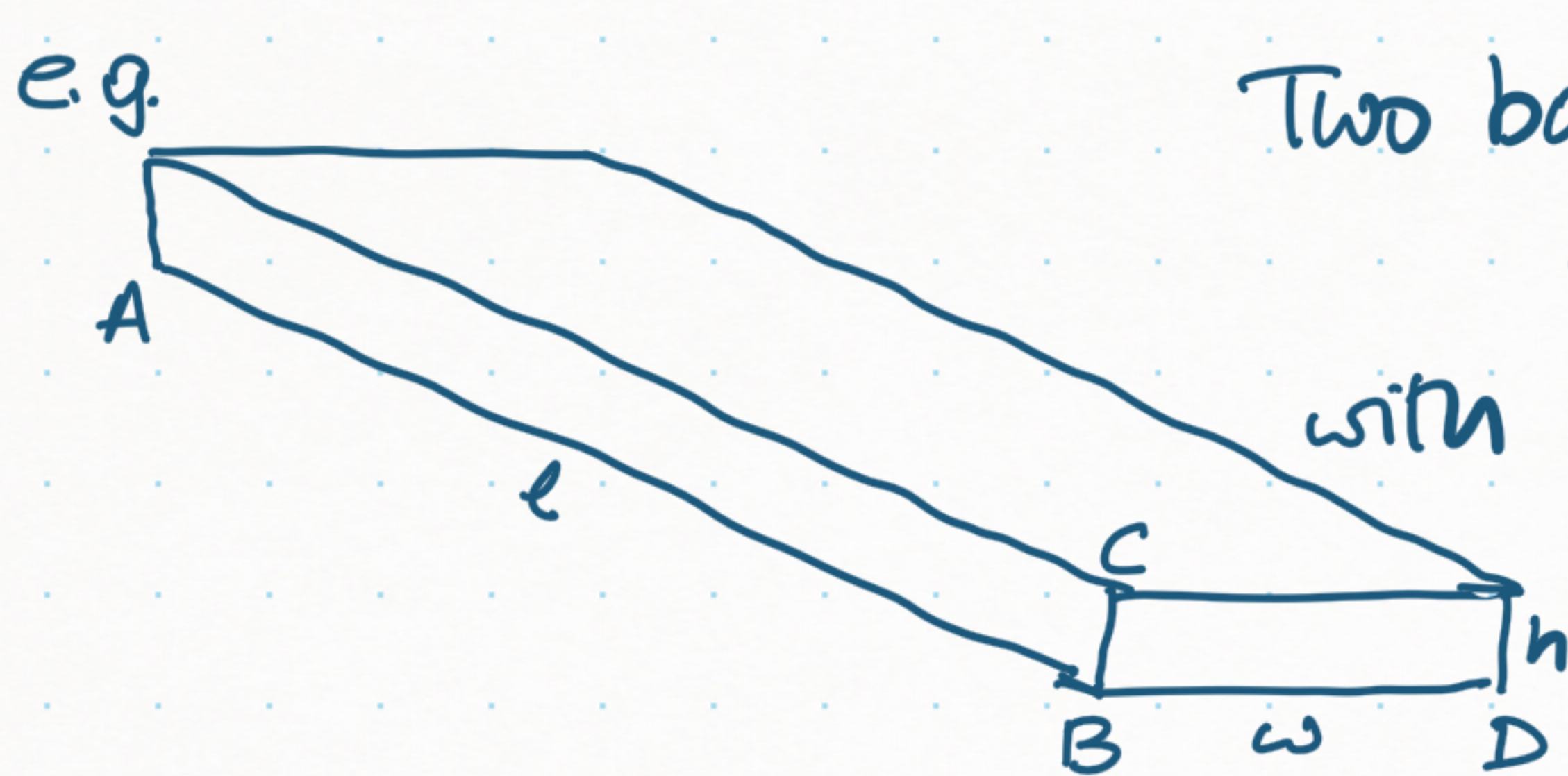


Two boxes  $X$  and  $X'$  of length  $l$  &  $l'$ , width  $w$  &  $w'$ , & height  $h$  &  $h'$ ,



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Two boxes  $X$  and  $X'$  of length  $l$  &  $l'$ , width  $w$  &  $w'$ , & height  $h$  &  $h'$ ,

with 
$$\frac{l}{l'} = \frac{w}{w'} = \frac{h}{h'} = k$$

where  $k > 0$  is the

"scaling factor".

Any geometric objects within these boxes will be geom. similar, including straight lines, Triangles, etc.



For the two geom. similar boxes  $X$  and  $X'$ ,

$$\text{Volume}(X) = V_X = lwh, \quad \text{Volume}(X') = V_{X'} = l'w'h'$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{V_X}{V_{X'}} = \frac{lwh}{l'w'h'} = \left(\frac{l}{l'}\right)\left(\frac{w}{w'}\right)\left(\frac{h}{h'}\right) = k^3, \quad \text{ie, } V_X = k^3 V_{X'}$$

ie,  $V_X \propto V_{X'}$



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i.e.,  $V_X \propto V_{X'}$

Similarly for surface area,

$$\frac{S_X}{S_{X'}} = \frac{2(lw + wh + hl)}{2(l'w' + w'h' + h'l')} = \frac{(kl')(kw') + (kw')(kh') + (kh')(kl)}{l'w' + w'h' + h'l'} = k^2$$

$$\text{i.e., } S_X = k^2 S_{X'}, \quad \text{i.e., } S_X \propto S_{X'}$$

& so on.



Let's pick a "characteristic dimension"  $l$   
that dominates / determines the overall shape of  $X$

In our example,  $l$  could be one of length, height, width  
depending on the overall shape & assumptions about  $X$ .

We <sup>can</sup> express the ratios in terms of  $l$  &  $l'$ .

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$$\frac{S_X}{S_{X'}} = k^2 = \frac{l^2}{l'^2}, \quad \text{ie.,} \quad \frac{S_X}{l^2} = \frac{S_{X'}}{l'^2} = \text{constant}$$

$$\text{ie.,} \quad S_X = (\text{constant}) l^2, \quad \text{ie.,}$$

$$\text{Similarly,} \quad S_{X'} \propto l'^2$$

$$S_X \propto l^2$$



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We <sup>can</sup> express the ratios in terms of  $l$  &  $l'$ .

$$\frac{V_X}{V_{X'}} = k^3 = \frac{l^3}{l'^3}, \text{ i.e., } \frac{V_X}{l^3} = \frac{V_{X'}}{l'^3} (\text{constant})$$

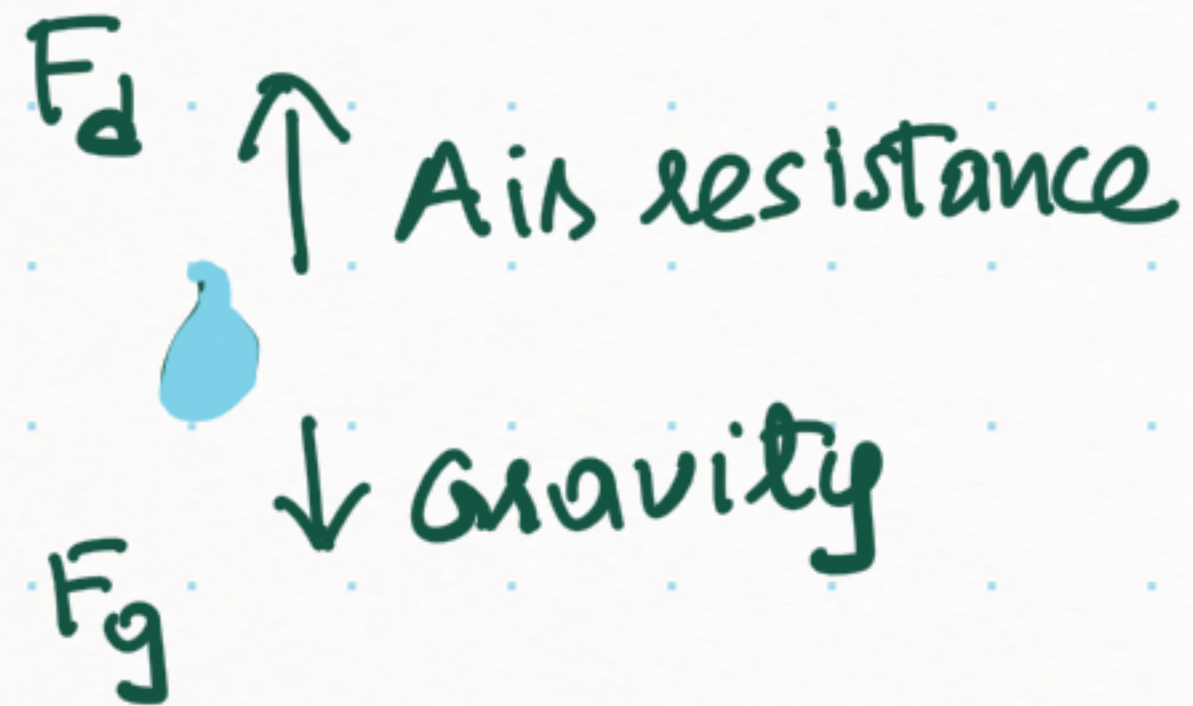
$$\text{i.e., } \boxed{V_X \propto l^3} \quad \& \quad V_{X'} \propto l'^3$$

When we assume objects under study are geometrically  
similar, we get  $\text{Volume} \propto l^3$  &  $\text{Surf. Area} \propto l^2$   
for a characteristic dim.  $l$ .



## example Raindrop from a motionless cloud

Want to understand Terminal velocity of a raindrop from a motionless cloud.



By Newton's second law of motion

Net Force  $F = ma$

i.e.,  $F_g - F_d = ma$

$m = \text{mass}$

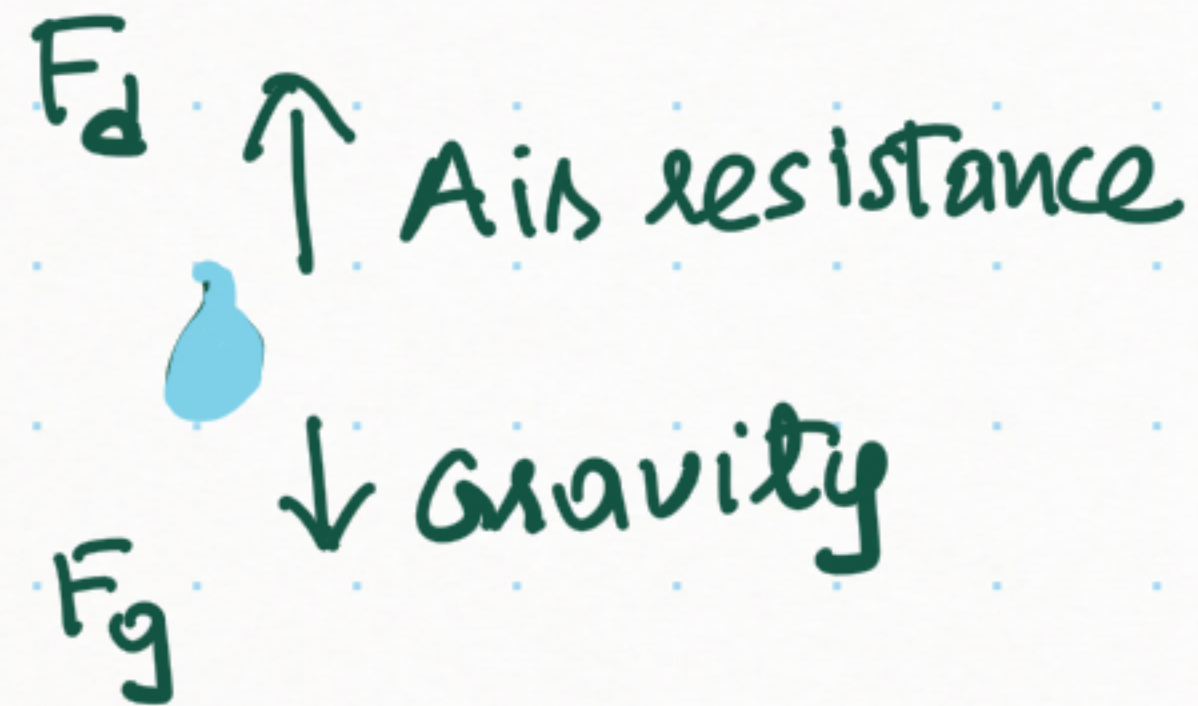
$a = \text{acceleration}$

At terminal velocity (max velocity),  $a = ?$



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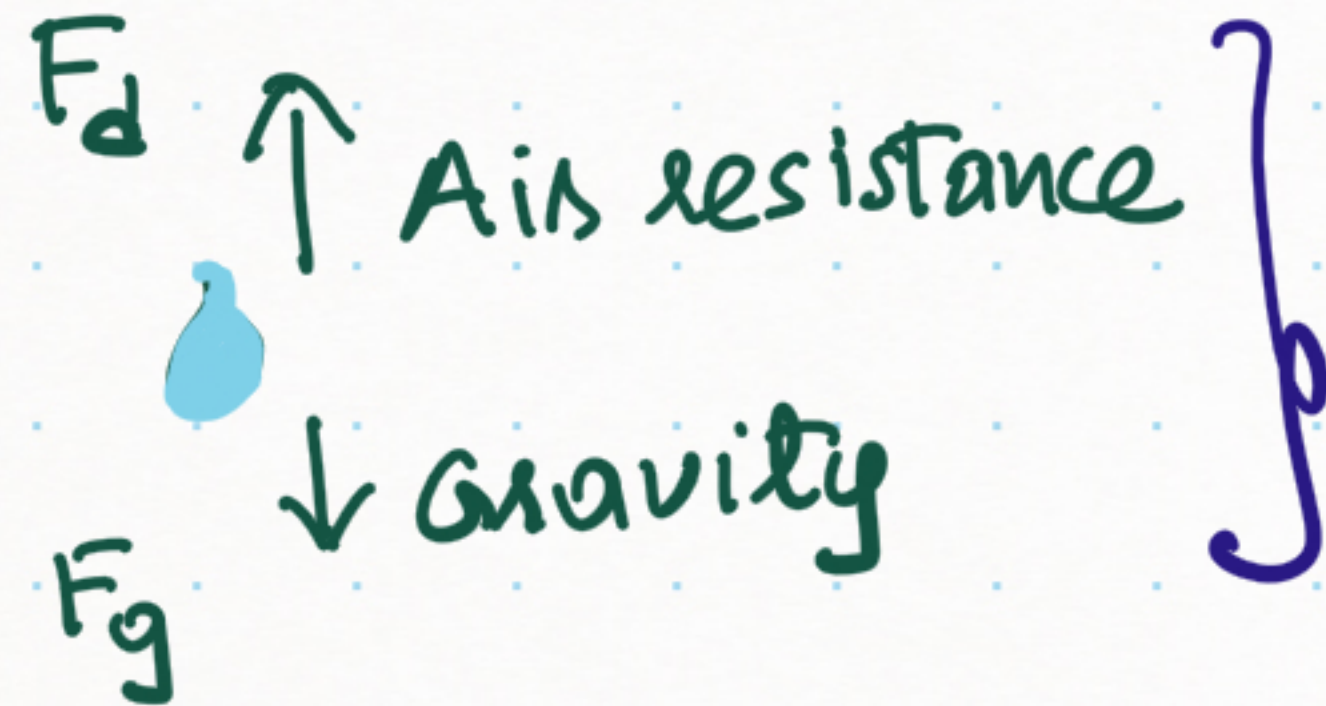
At terminal velocity (max velocity),  $a = 0$ , so  $F_g - F_d = 0$

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Assumptions ①  $F_d \propto Sv^2$ ,  $S = \text{surface area}$ ,  $v = \text{velocity}$

②  $F_g \propto w$ , weight

③ Mass  $m \propto w$ , weight

④ All raindrops are geometrically similar.



Since  $f_g \propto \omega$  and  $m \propto \omega$ , we have  $f_g \propto m$  — ①  
we need an useful formulation for  $f_d$  (which is  $\propto Sv^2$ )



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If diameter

Let  $l$  be a characteristic dimension for the raindrops, then  
 $S \propto l^2$  and Volume  $V \propto l^3$ , ie,  $S \propto V^{2/3}$

Can we relate volume ( $V$ ) to mass ( $m$ )?



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Assuming constant water density,  $V \propto m$  ( $\because m = \rho V$ )

$\therefore S \propto m^{2/3}$

So,  $f_d \propto Sv^2 \Rightarrow f_d \propto m^{2/3} v^2$  — ②



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By ① & ②,  $f_g = k_1 m$  and  $f_d = k_2 m^{2/3} v^2$  for constants  $k_1, k_2$

At terminal velocity,  $f_g = f_d$ ,



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i.e.  $m^{1/3} = \frac{k_2 v^2}{k_1}$ , i.e.,  $m^{1/3} \propto v^2$ , i.e.,  $v \propto m^{1/6}$



# Catch & Release Fishing Tournament

Fishers release fish soon after catching them.

Fishing award based on total weight of fish caught.

Weighing a live fish is not easy.

Problem Predict weight of a fish in terms of some easily measurable dimension.

## Assumptions



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Problem Predict weight of a fish in terms of some easily measurable dimension.

Assumptions ① Single species of fish (often Bass)

② All geometrically similar



③ Uniform (avg.) density

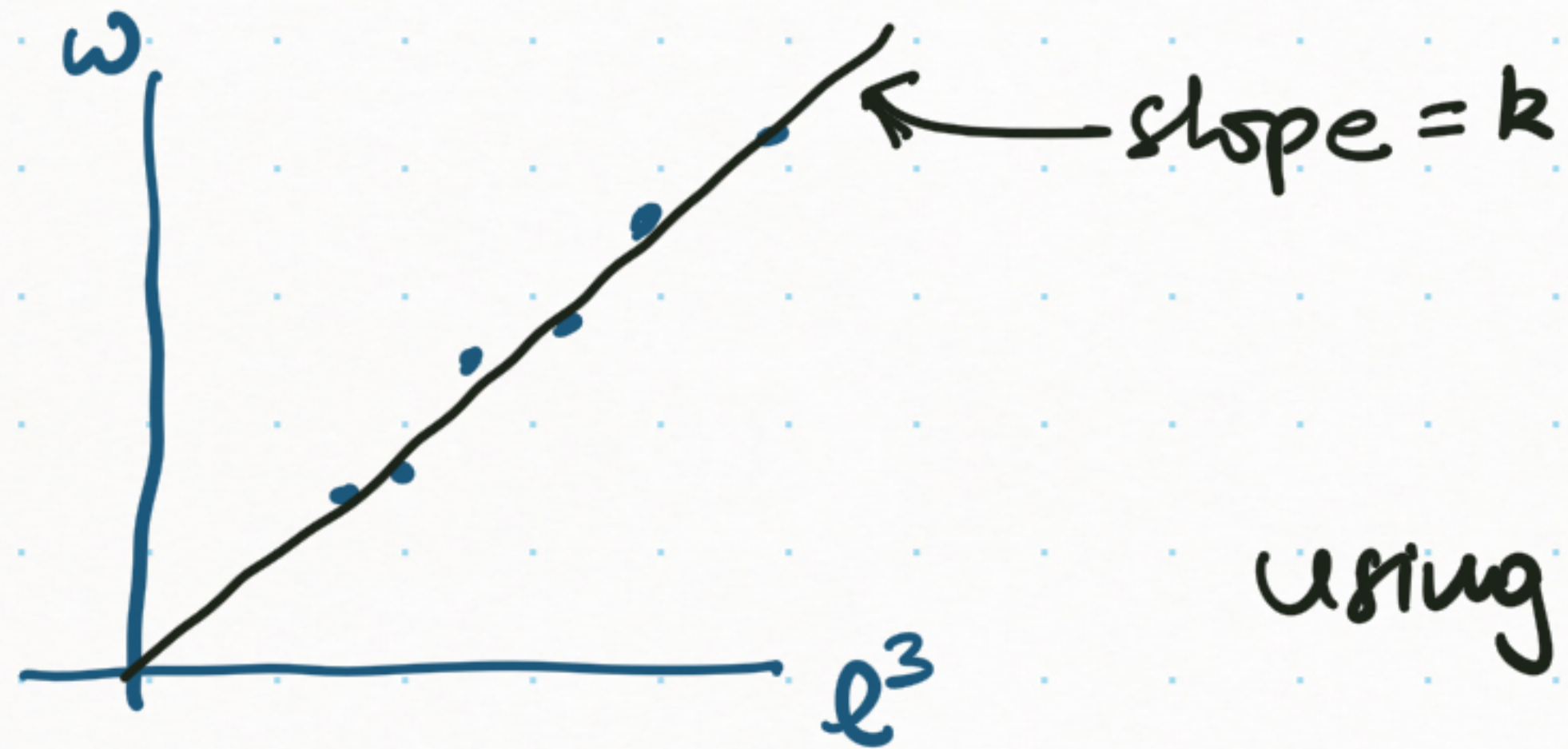
④ There is a characteristic dimension, say length  $l$ .



By Geom. similarity, volume  $V \propto l^3$

By assumption of constant density, weight,  $W \propto V$   
(since  $W = \rho V$ )

$\therefore W \propto l^3$  i.e.,  $W = k l^3$



using actual data to estimate  $k \approx 0.00853$

Finally, check the error = |actual wt. - predicted wt.]

using the given data & the model  $W = (0.00853)l^3$

Potential problems?



Model  $w = (0.00853) l^3$ , where the  $l = \text{length}$  is characteristic dimension

treats skinny and fat fish alike if their length is same.



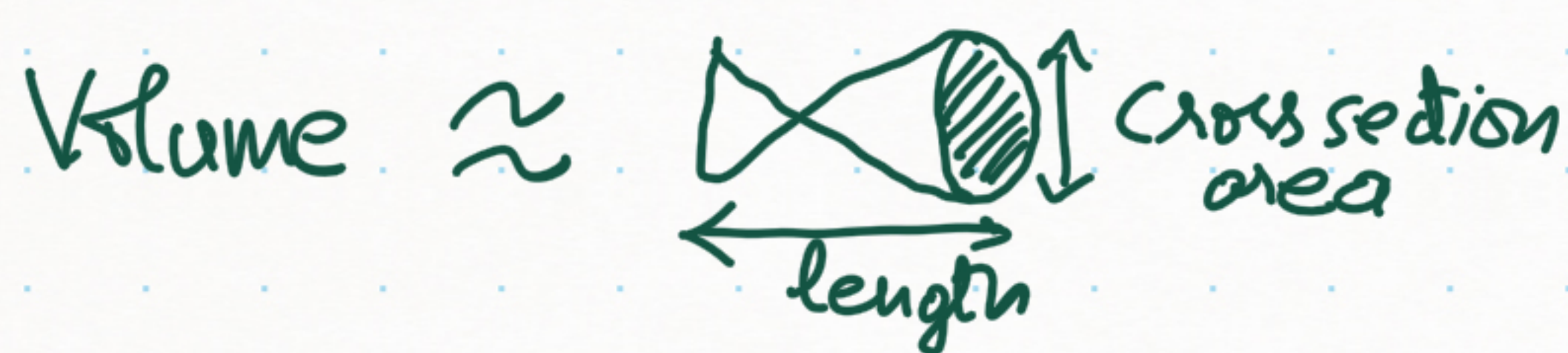
What "characteristic dimension" would capture this difference?



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What "characteristic dimension" would capture this difference?



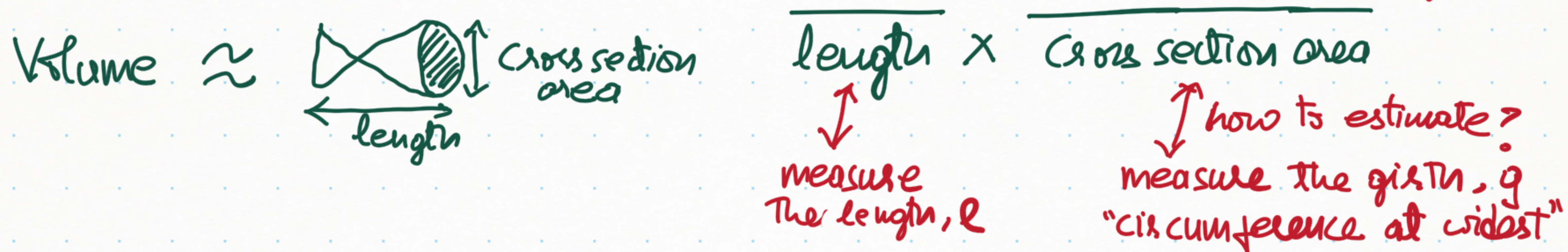
length  $\times$  Cross section area  
 $\downarrow$   $\uparrow$   
measure  $\uparrow$  how to estimate?  
The length,  $l$



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What "characteristic dimension" would capture this difference!



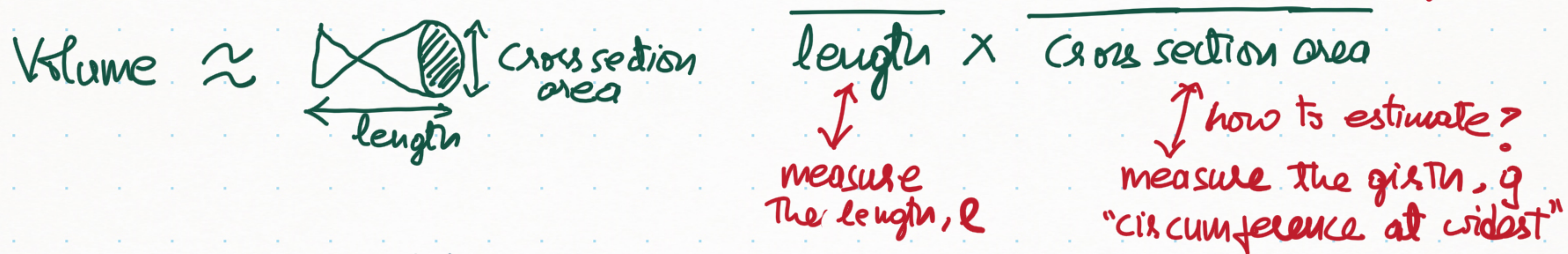
Then, Volume,  $V \propto l g^2$   $\leftarrow$  why? "girth  $\propto$  circumference  $\propto$  radius"



Model  $\omega = (0.00853) l^3$ , where the  $l = \text{length}$  is characteristic dimension  
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What "characteristic dimension" would capture this difference!



Then, Volume,  $V \propto l g^2$  why? "girth  $\propto$  circumference  $\propto$  radius"

As before, assuming constant density,  $\omega \propto V$

$\therefore \omega = k l g^2$  & estimate  $k$  as usual using available data, ...



Have you been doing the 'Reading HW'?

Particularly, Section 1.4 has many interesting models.

→ How <sup>rental</sup> cars move between and within two locations.

$$O_{n+1} = 0.6O_n + 0.3T_n \quad \text{and} \quad T_{n+1} = 0.4O_n + 0.7T_n$$

→ Ship survival in a naval battle.

$$B_{n+1} = B_n - 0.1F_n \quad \text{and} \quad F_{n+1} = F_n - 0.1B_n$$

→ Passenger transfer between airlines at an airport.

→ Spread of disease (Epidemic) models.

Recovered / Removed →  $R(n+1) = R(n) + 0.6I(n)$

Infected →  $I(n+1) = I(n) - 0.6I(n) + 0.0014I(n)S(n)$

Susceptible →  $S(n+1) = S(n) - 0.0014S(n)I(n)$

$I(0), S(0), R(0)$  given.



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## Strategy for Astronaut Docking Procedure

- Astronauts have to train in a manual docking procedure: bring a spacecraft to rest relative to another craft.
- Hand controls for variable acceleration and deceleration, and a device that measures the rate of closing between two crafts.
- Proposed strategy:



## Strategy for Astronaut Docking Procedure

- Astronauts have to train in a manual docking procedure: bring a spacecraft to rest relative to another craft.
- Hand controls for variable acceleration and deceleration, and a device that measures the rate of closing between two crafts.
- Proposed strategy:
  - Look at closing velocity. If zero then done, else
  - Move the acceleration control opposite to closing velocity (i.e., positive closing velocity means decelerate, ...)
  - and in proportion to magnitude of the closing velocity (i.e., brake twice as hard if we are closing twice as fast, ...)
  - Pause, and repeat.

Is this a reasonable strategy? Under what circumstances?



Problem Find the relation between velocity & time (under this strategy) and determine if/when velocity goes to zero.

Variables & Assumptions



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### Variables & Assumptions

$t_n$  = time of  $n^{\text{th}}$  velocity observation (s)

$v_n$  = velocity at time  $t_n$  (m/s)

$c_n$  = time to make  $n^{\text{th}}$  control adjustment (s)

$a_n$  = acceleration after  $n^{\text{th}}$  adjustment (m/s<sup>2</sup>)

$w_n$  = wait time before repeating &  $(n+1)^{\text{th}}$  observation (s)



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- $t_{n+1} = t_n + c_n + w_n$  (in words?)

- $v_{n+1} = v_n + a_{n-1}c_n + a_n w_n$  (in words?)

- Spacecraft follows standard control law,  $a_n \propto -v_n$ , i.e.,  $a_n = -k v_n$

- With training, we ensure  $c_n = c$  &  $w_n = w$  constants.



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- With training, we ensure  $c_n = c$  &  $w_n = w$  constants.

Combining:  $t_{n+1} - t_n = c + w$ , fixed.

$$v_{n+1} - v_n = (-k v_{n-1})c + (-k v_n)w.$$



## Model

$$v_{n+1} - v_n = (-Rv_{n-1})C + (-Rv_n)W$$

can be expressed as

Define  $x_1(n) = v_n$  and  $x_2(n) = v_{n-1}$

(in our eqn.  $v_{n+1}$  depends on both  $v_n$  &  $v_{n-1}$ )

Then

$$x_1(n+1) - x_1(n) = -RWx_1(n) - RCx_2(n)$$

$$x_2(n+1) - x_2(n) = x_1(n) - x_2(n)$$

we want to relate  $x_1(n)$  to  $x_2(n)$



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Solve & Interpret the Model Find equilibrium values  $(x_{1e}, x_{2e})$

that is, solve 
$$\begin{aligned} x_{1e} - x_{1e} &= -RWx_{1e} - RCx_{2e} \\ x_{2e} - x_{2e} &= x_{1e} - x_{2e} \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_{1e} = 0 \\ x_{2e} = 0 \end{cases} \text{ if } \underline{C \neq W}$$



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 $x_{2e} = 0$  if  $C \neq W$

Ques Is this eq. value stable? "Starting close to 0 brings us to 0."  
Impossible to analyze unless we make more assumptions.



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Suppose  $C \ll w$ . Make quick/short adjustments & wait inbetween.

then  $v_{n+1}$  &  $v_n$  are close by &  $v_{n+1} - v_n \approx -Rw v_n$



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Solving gives  $v_n = v_0 (1 - Rw)^n$  if  $0 < Rw < 2$  then  $v_n \rightarrow 0$ .



Model  $v_{n+1} - v_n = (-Rv_{n-1})C + (-Rv_n)\omega$

can be expressed as

Define  $x_1(n) = v_n$  and  $x_2(n) = v_{n-1}$  (in our eqn.  $v_{n+1}$  depends on both  $v_n$  &  $v_{n-1}$ )

Then  $x_1(n+1) - x_1(n) = -R\omega x_1(n) - RCx_2(n)$   
 $x_2(n+1) - x_2(n) = x_1(n) - x_2(n)$

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Solve & Interpret the Model Find equilibrium values  $(x_{1e}, x_{2e})$

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then  $v_{n+1}$  &  $v_n$  are close by &  $v_{n+1} - v_n \approx -R\omega v_n$   
Solving gives  $v_n = v_0 (1 - R\omega)^n$  if  $0 < R\omega < 2$  then  $v_n \rightarrow 0$ .

Control strategy will work if  $C$  is small;  $\omega$  is a bit larger &  $\approx 1/2$ .



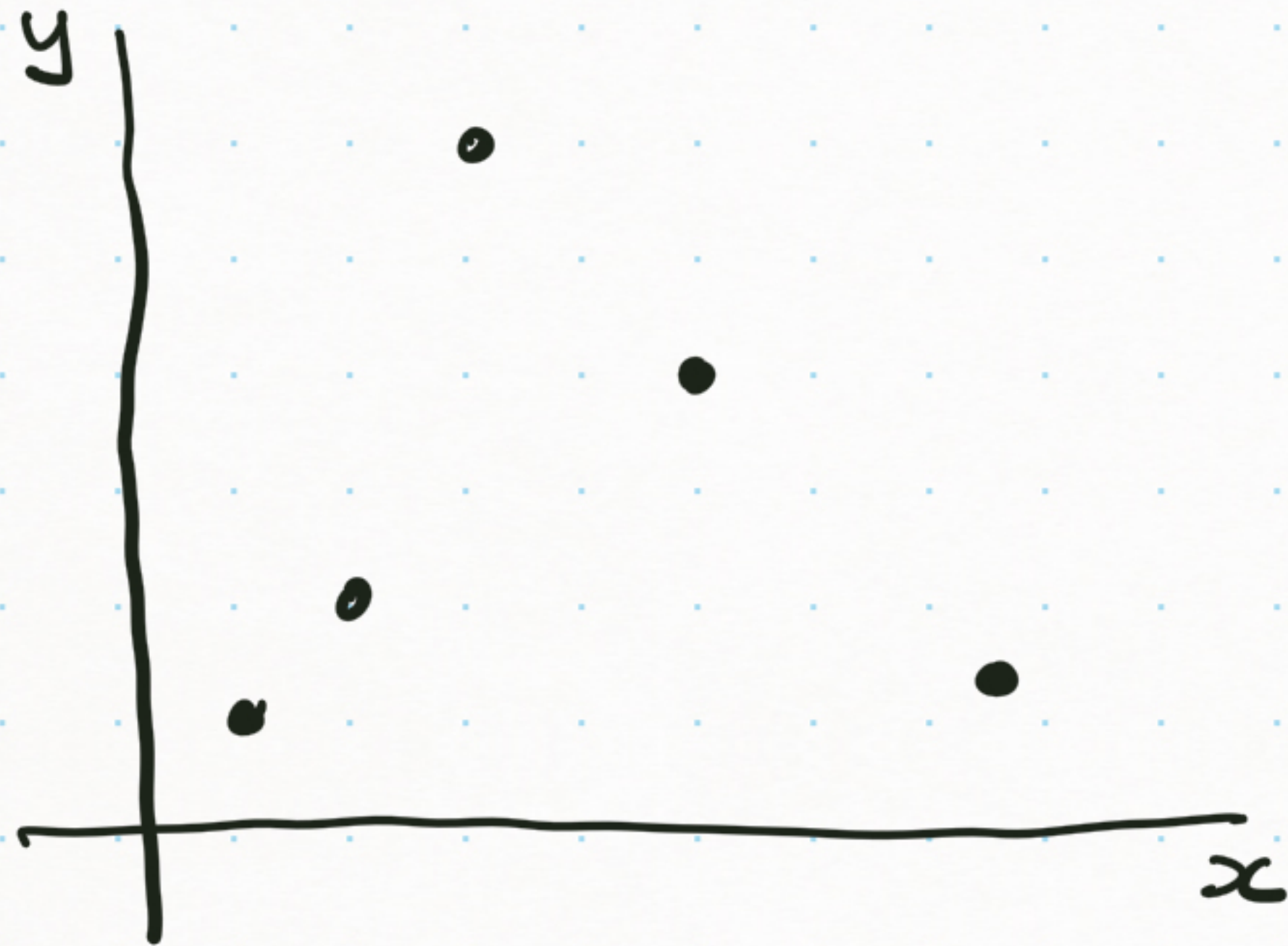
What does it mean to find a model that best fits the data?  
And how do we find it?

Given some observations (data) of a phenomenon under study, we want to:

- ① Find one or more models that describe that phenomenon
- ② Find the best "parameters"/constants for the models based on given data/information.
- ③ Make predictions based on these "fitted" models & test how well they do compared to actual observations.  
Is one model "better" than the other?  
Is it a reasonable model?

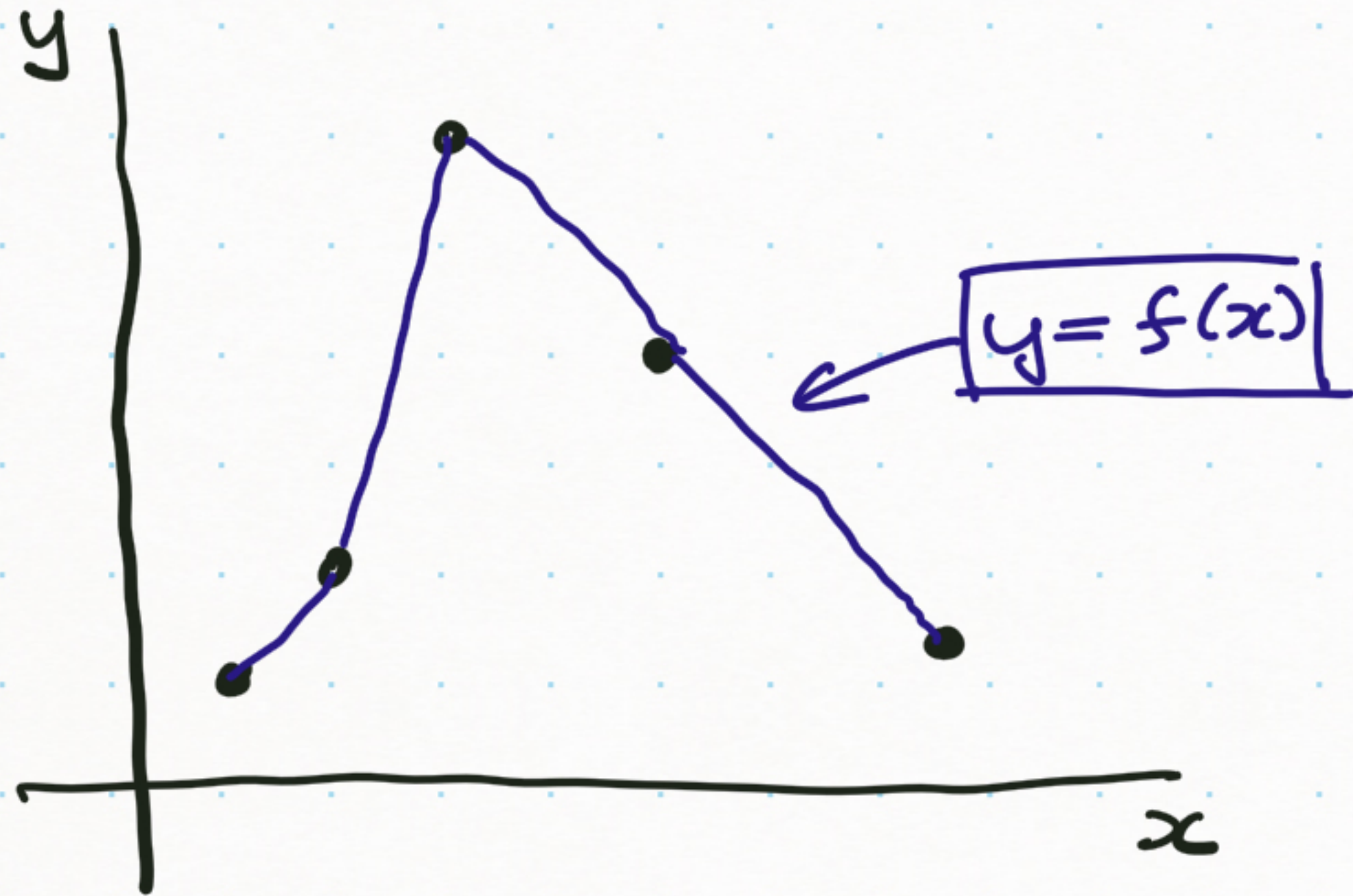


We can create a purely empirical model based purely on the given data.





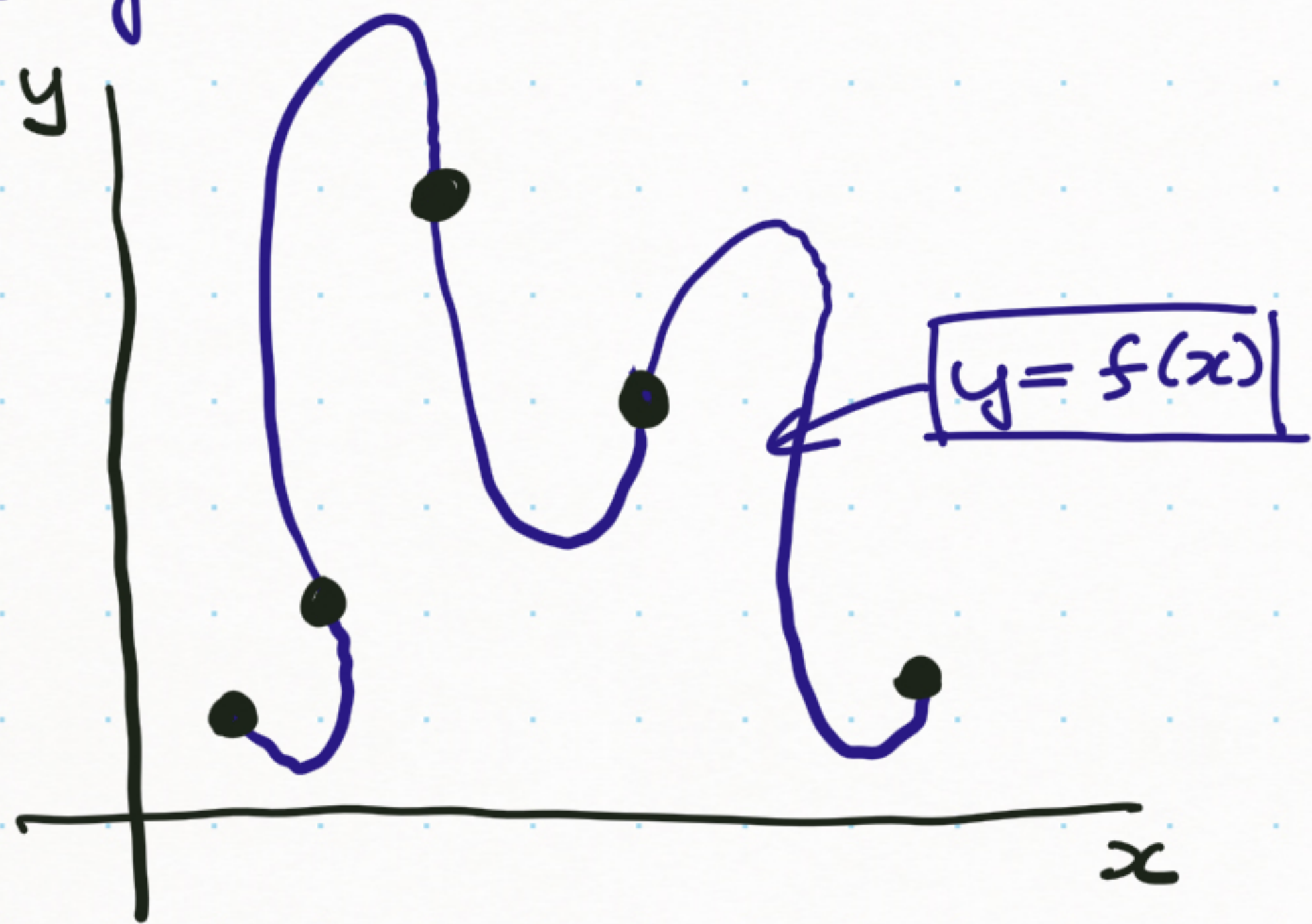
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Interpolation Actual function passing through these points is unknown (there are infinitely many such functions), so we pick a function passing through these points which satisfies some additional "nice" properties (e.g. piecewise linear, polynomial, etc.)



We can create a purely empirical model based purely on the given data.



A model like this is rarely "explanatory" or generalizable, it only tries to be "predictive" but that's also tricky due to "overfitting".

Interpolation Actual function passing through these points is unknown (there are infinitely many such functions), so we pick a function passing through these points which satisfies some additional "nice" properties (e.g. piecewise linear, polynomial, spline (polynomials of degree  $\# \text{pts} - 1$ ), etc.)



# Sources of error in the Modeling process

## I Qualitative

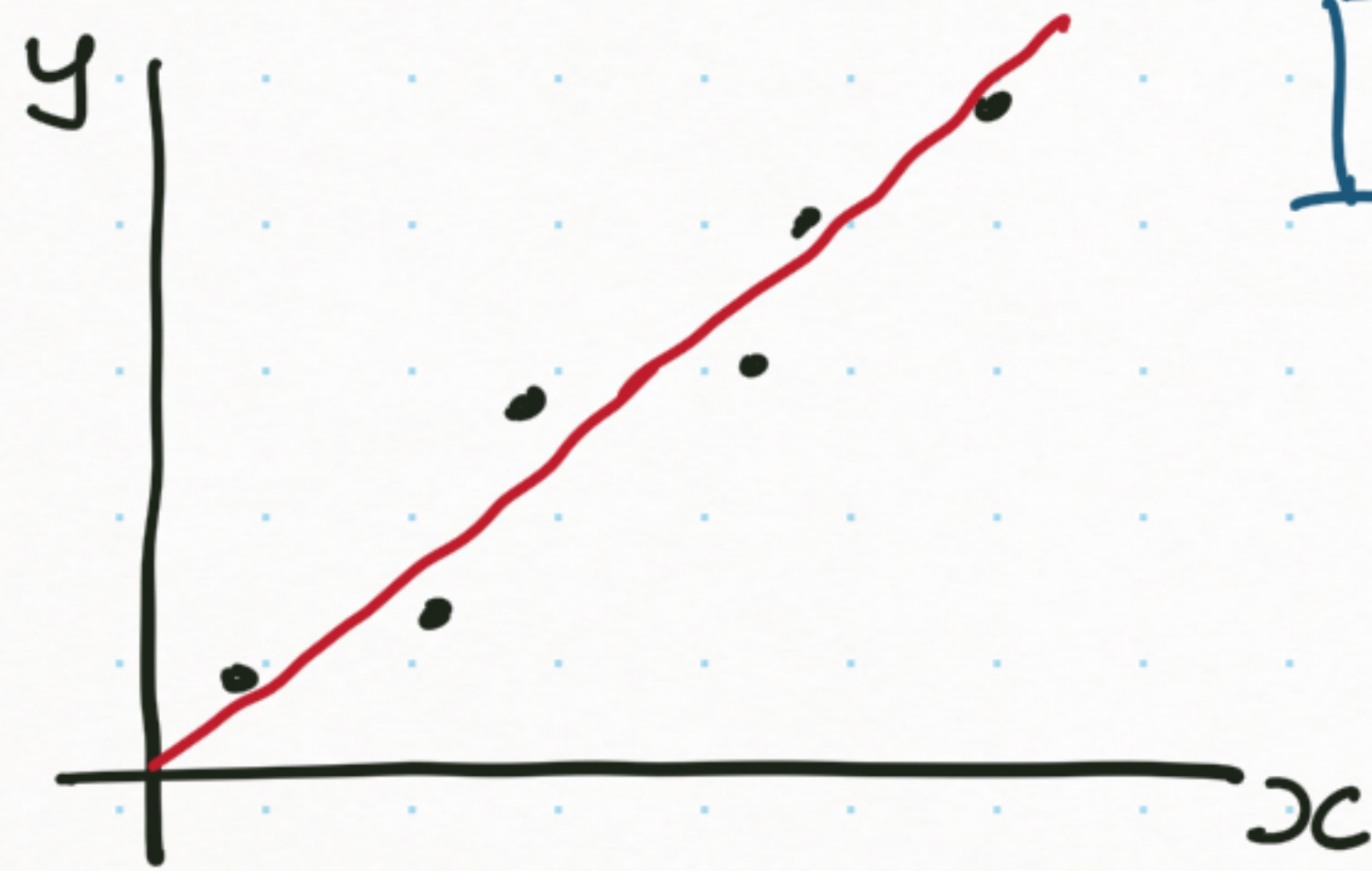
1. Oversimplification / Incorrect assumptions.
2. Missing variables / parameters.

## II Quantitative

1. Truncation error.  
e.g. use  $\sin x \approx x - \frac{x^3}{3!}$
2. Round-off error.  
e.g.  $0.333333 - \frac{1}{3} \neq 0$
3. Measurement error.  
e.g. human / instrument error in making observations.



To fit our model to given data, we have so far been doing it "visually" / "ad hoc" manner.



$$y \propto x, \text{ i.e., } y = kx$$

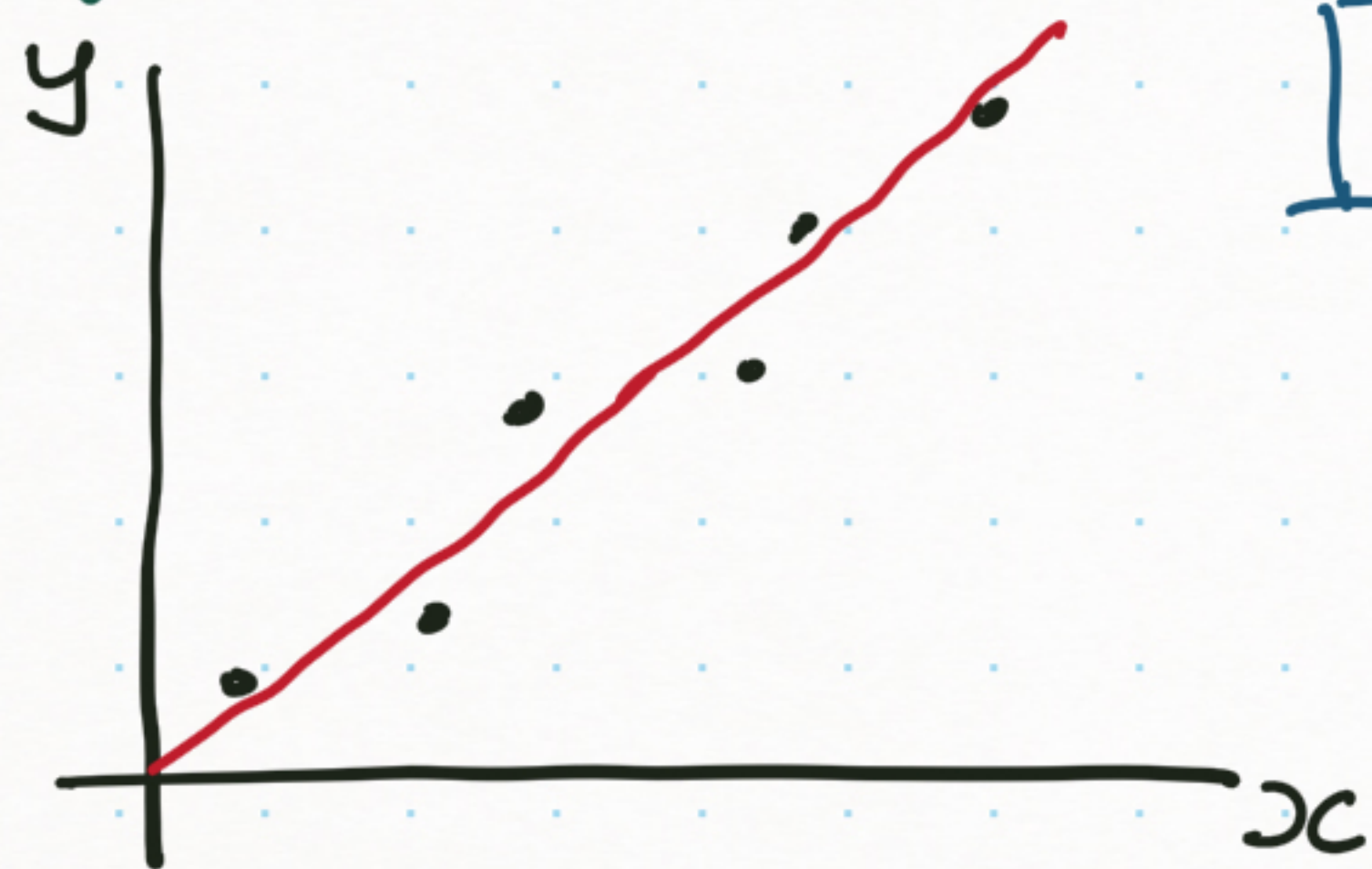
we estimate  $k$  as the slope of a line visually close to the data points

or we estimate  $k$  by taking the average of

$$\frac{y_1}{x_1}, \frac{y_2}{x_2}, \dots, \frac{y_n}{x_n}$$



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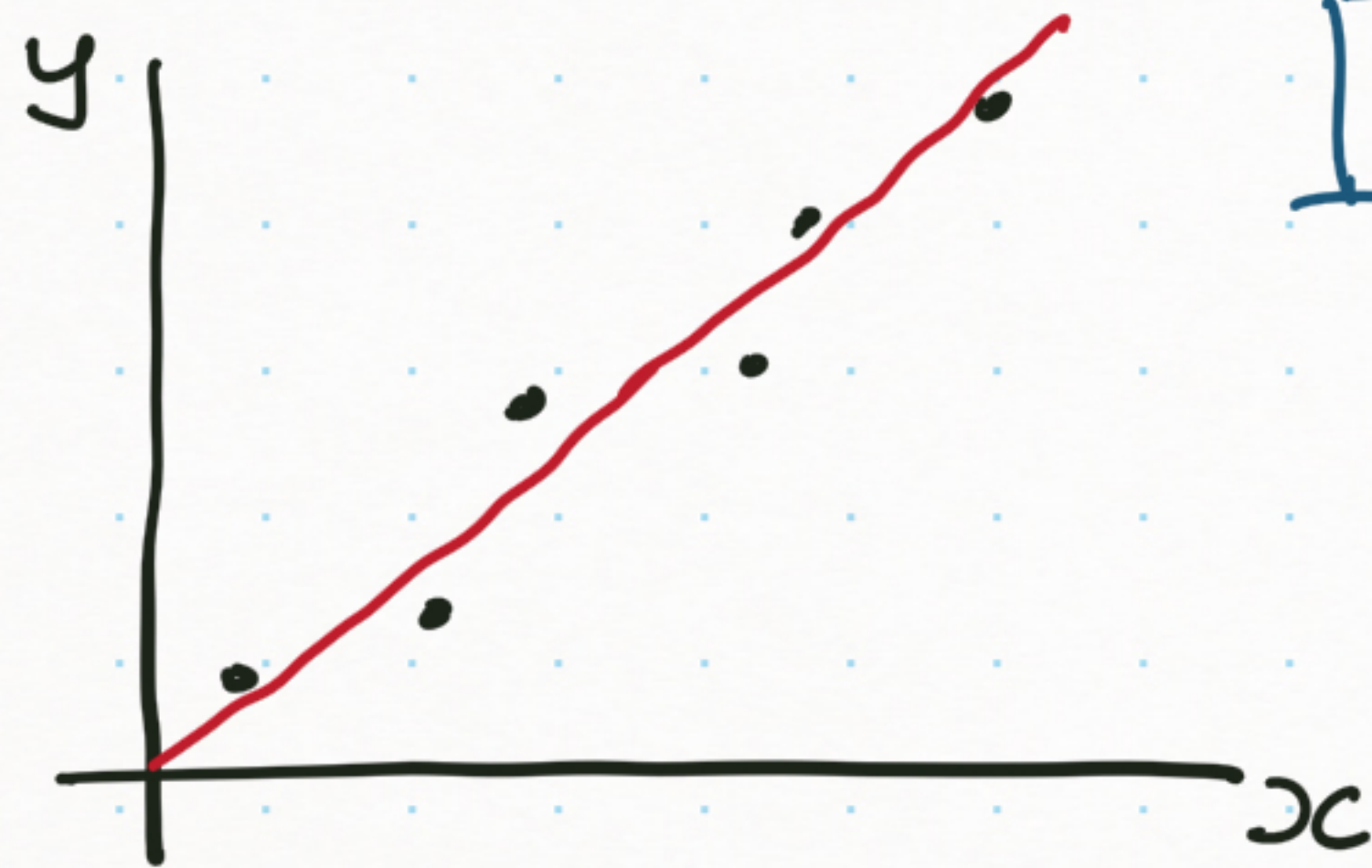
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Of course, as we saw earlier, we can fit nonlinear models also this way by transforming a variable / data appropriately.





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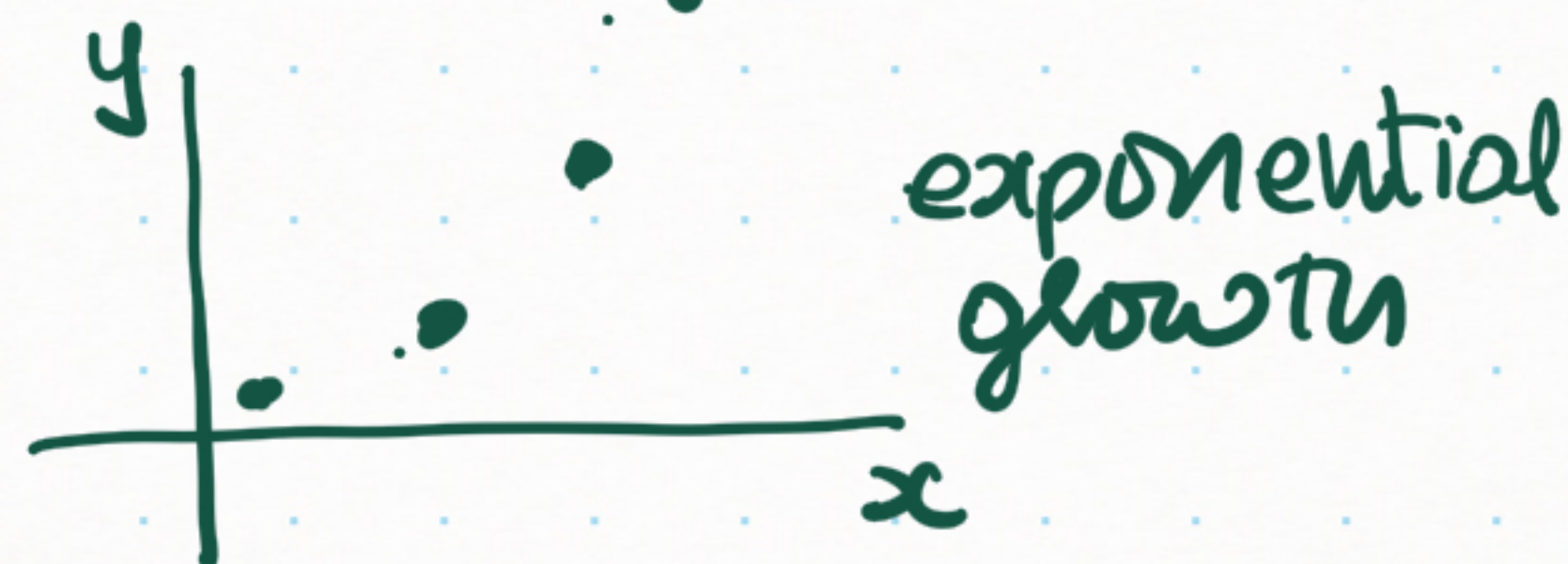
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e.g.

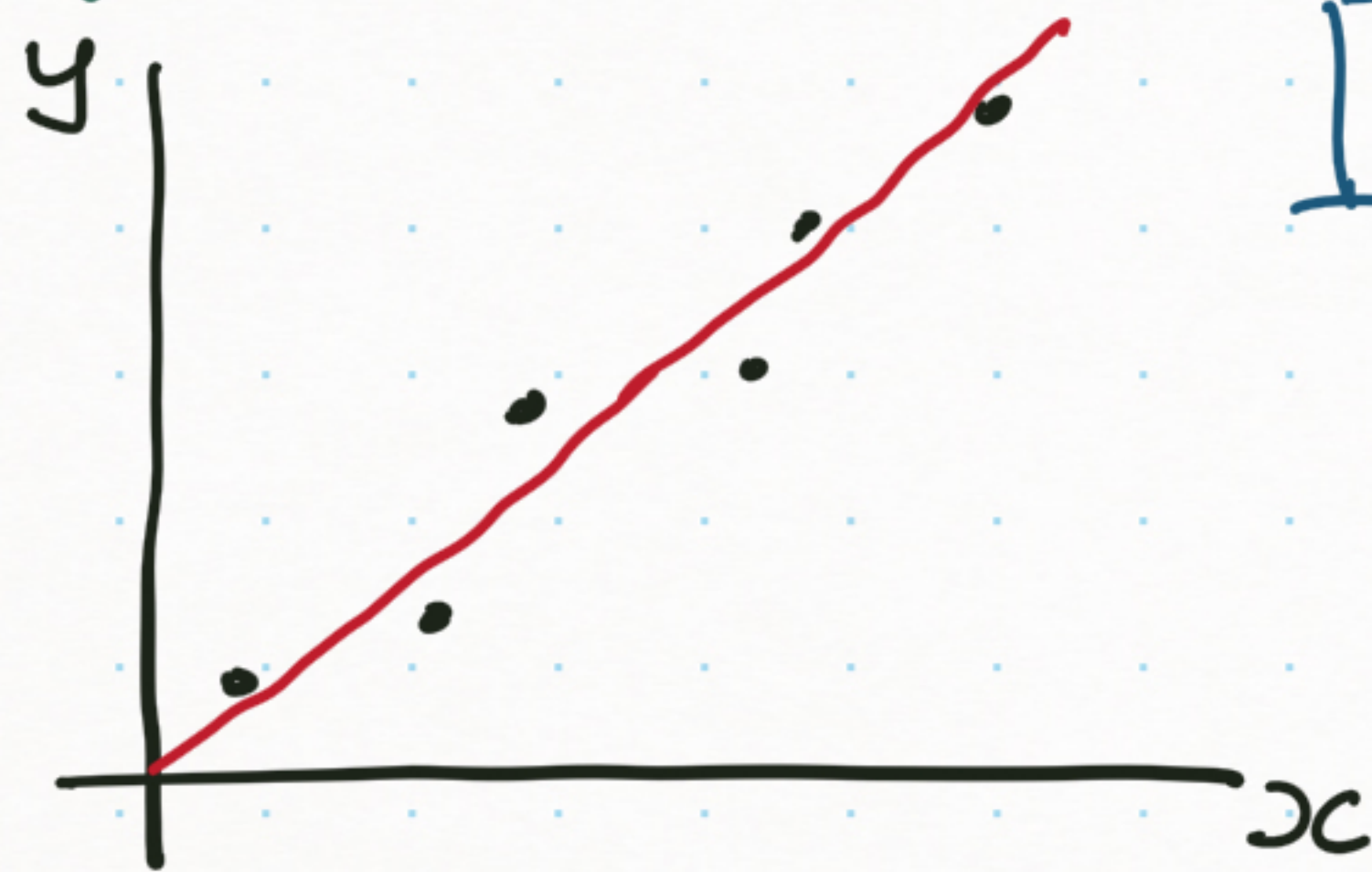
| x | 1   | 2  | 3  | 4   |
|---|-----|----|----|-----|
| y | 8.1 | 23 | 61 | 162 |



exponential growth  $\Rightarrow$  Model?  
 $y \propto e^x$   
 i.e.  $y = ke^x$  How to find it?



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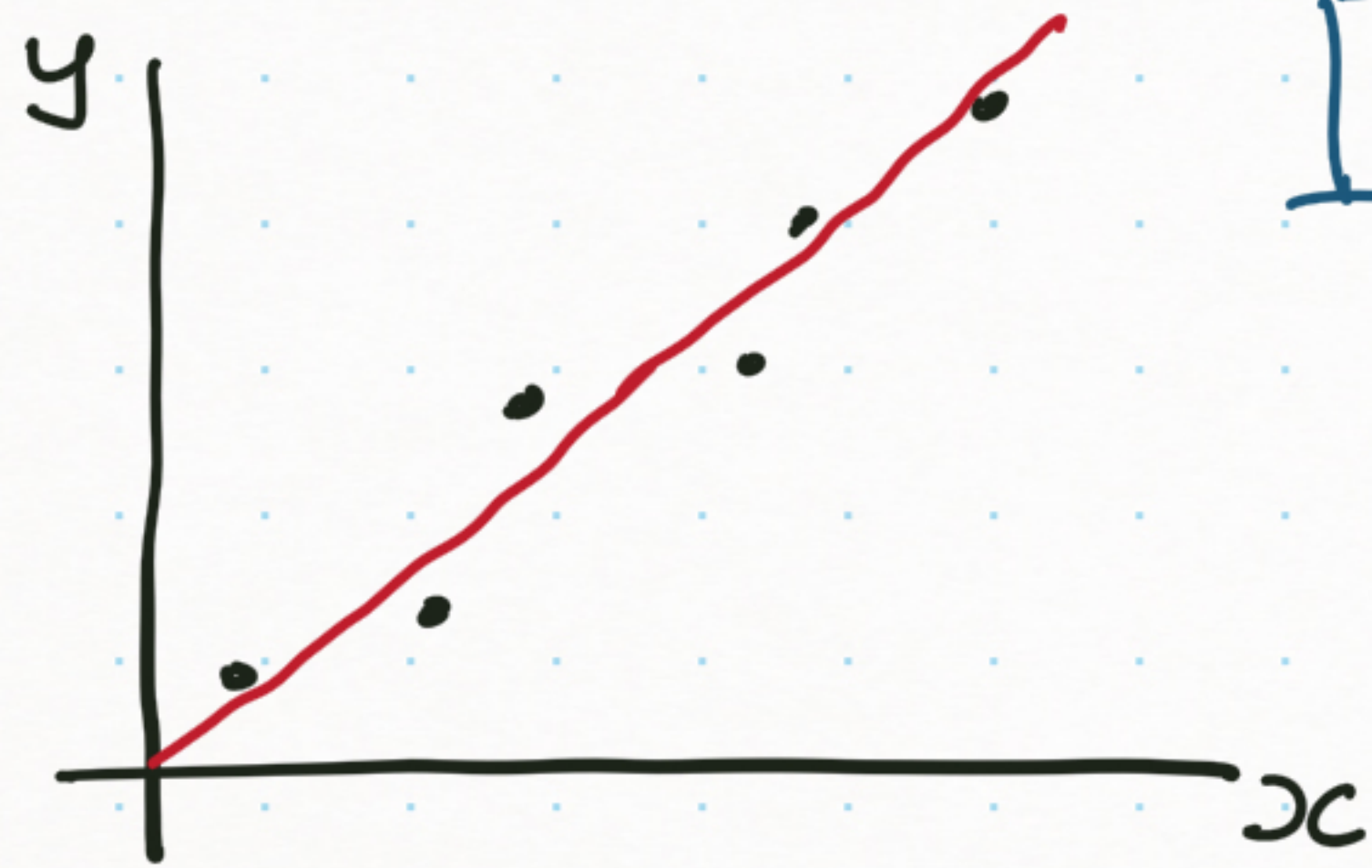
$y = ke^x$   
 i.e.  $\log y = x + \log k$

Transformed data

| $x$      | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4 |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| $\log y$ | 2.1 | 3.1 | 4.1 | 5 |



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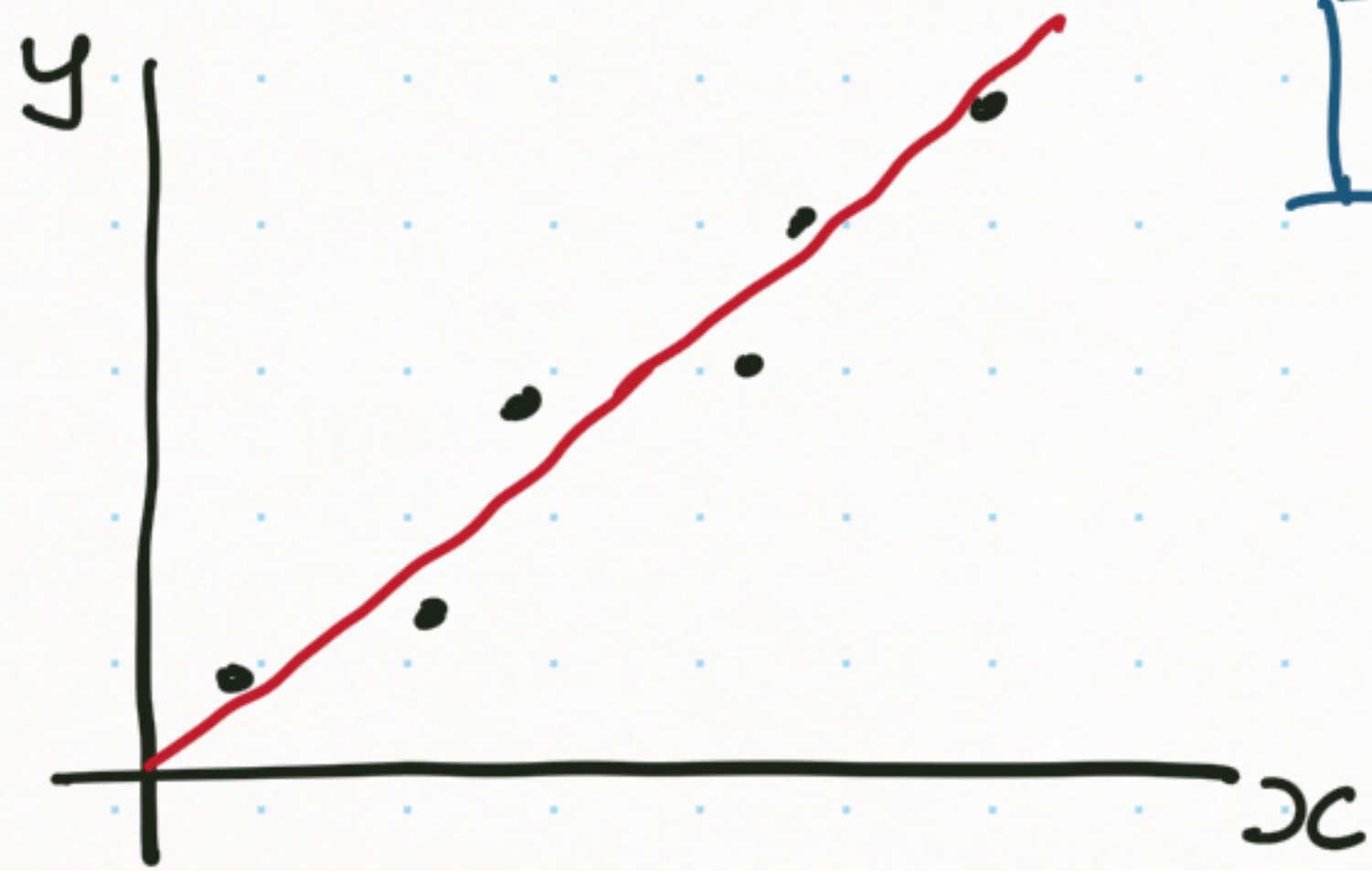
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