

# Least Squares Frequently Used to Measure Error

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As we mentioned earlier, fitting data to any kind of curve requires a metric that can be minimized.

- Often**, these metrics **measure**
- **the square distance** between
  - the fit value and a data point
  - (called using **least squares**).

The benefit of such a choice is that **finding the “best” is then easy** using calculus: slope is proportional to distance.

