

SQ2016 MAT 21C

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1. [14.3.90] **The heat equation** An important partial differential equation that describes the distribution of heat in a region at time  $t$  can be represented by the *one-dimensional heat equation*

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}.$$

Show that  $u(x, t) = \sin(\alpha x) \cdot e^{-\beta t}$  satisfies the heat equation for constants  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . What is the relationship between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  for this function to be a solution?

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2. [14.6.54] **The Wilson lot size formula** The Wilson lot size formula in economics says that the most economical quantity  $Q$  of goods (radios, shoes, brooms, whatever) for a store to order is given by the formula  $Q = \sqrt{2KM/h}$ , where  $K$  is the cost of placing the order,  $M$  is the number of items sold per week, and  $h$  is the weekly holding cost for each item (cost of space, utilities, security, and so on). To which of the variables  $K$ ,  $M$ , and  $h$  is  $Q$  most sensitive near the point  $(K_0, M_0, h_0) = (2, 20, 0.05)$ ? Give reasons for your answer.

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3. [14.7.68] **Least squares and regression lines** When we try to fit a line  $y = mx + b$  to a set of numerical data points  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ , we usually choose the line that minimizes the sum of the squares of the vertical distances from the points to the line. In theory, this means finding the values of  $m$  and  $b$  that minimize the value of the function

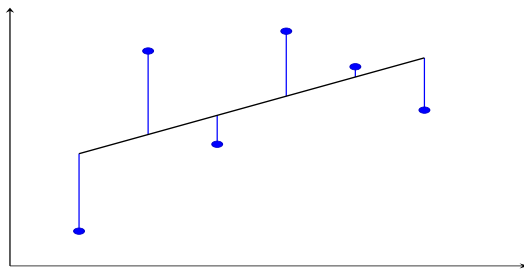
$$w = (mx_1 + b - y_1)^2 + \dots + (mx_n + b - y_n)^2. \tag{1}$$

The values of  $m$  and  $b$  that do this are

$$m = \frac{(\sum x_k)(\sum y_k) - n \sum x_k y_k}{(\sum x_k)^2 - n \sum x_k^2} \tag{2}$$

$$b = \frac{1}{n} \left( \sum y_k - m \sum x_k \right), \tag{3}$$

with all sums running from  $k = 1$  to  $k = n$ . Many scientific calculators have these formulas built in, enabling you to find  $m$  and  $b$  with only a few keystrokes after you have entered the data.



The line  $y = mx + b$  determined by these values of  $m$  and  $b$  is called the *least squares line*, *regression line*, or *trend line* for the data under study. Finding a least squares line lets you

- summarize data with a simple expression,
- predict values of  $y$  for other, experimentally untried values of  $x$ , and
- handle data analytically.

Use equations (2) and (3) to find the least squares line for the set of data points:  $(0, 0), (1, 2), (2, 3)$ . Then use the linear equation you obtain to predict the values of  $y$  that would correspond to  $x = 4$ .

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4. [14.Prac.85] **Minimizing cost of a box** A closed rectangular box is to have volume  $V$  cm<sup>3</sup>. The cost of the material used in the box is  $a$  cents/cm<sup>2</sup> for top and bottom,  $b$  cents/cm<sup>2</sup> for front and back and  $c$  cents/cm<sup>2</sup> for the remaining sides. What dimensions minimize the total cost of materials?

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5. [14.Adv.13] **Minimum volume cut from first octant** Find the minimum volume for a region bounded by the planes  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $z = 0$  and a plane tangent to the ellipsoid

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$$

at a point in the first octant.