



Discussion 14A Notes

① Polynomial Fitting

Suppose we have a function $y(x)$ which has been sampled as shown right.

x	y
0.0	24.0
0.5	6.61
1.0	0.0
1.5	-0.95
2.0	0.07
2.5	0.73
3.0	-0.12
3.5	-0.83
4.0	-0.04
4.5	6.42

The general fit we will choose is:

$$y(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + a_4x^4$$

a) What are the unknowns here?

Unknowns: $\vec{a} = \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix}$

In this case the 'x' values are part of the data; they're known!

(Technically we've "sampled" at various 'x' values; point is still valid)

b) Can you write out an equation for the 1st expression $\overset{x}{0.0} \overset{y}{24.0}$?

$$y(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + a_4x^4$$

$$24 = a_0 + \cancel{a_1 \cdot 0} + \cancel{a_2 \cdot 0} + \cancel{a_3 \cdot 0} + \cancel{a_4 \cdot 0}$$

First equation is pretty straight forward! Corresponds to y-intercept.

c) Write out the remaining equations!

$$y(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + a_4 x^4$$

From Above!

x	y
0.0	24.0
0.5	6.61
1.0	0.0
1.5	-0.95
2.0	0.07
2.5	0.73
3.0	-0.12
3.5	-0.83
4.0	-0.04
4.5	6.42

$$24 = a_0$$

$$6.61 = a_0 + a_1 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + a_2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + a_3 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + a_4 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4$$

$$0.0 = a_0 + a_1 (1) + a_2 (1)^2 + a_3 (1)^3 + a_4 (1)^4$$

$$-0.95 = a_0 + a_1 (1.5) + a_2 (1.5)^2 + a_3 (1.5)^3 + a_4 (1.5)^4$$

⋮

$$6.42 = a_0 + a_1 (4.5) + a_2 (4.5)^2 + a_3 (4.5)^3 + a_4 (4.5)^4$$

$$D \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 & \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 & \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1.5 & 1.5^2 & 1.5^3 & 1.5^4 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & 4.5 & 4.5^2 & 4.5^3 & 4.5^4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ 6.61 \\ 0.0 \\ -0.95 \\ \vdots \\ 6.42 \end{bmatrix}$$

Not feasible by hand, but we can find the \hat{a} coefficients using our least-squares formula that best fits $y(x)$ to the data!

Same as \hat{a} in lecture

$$\hat{a} = (D^T D)^{-1} D^T \vec{y}$$

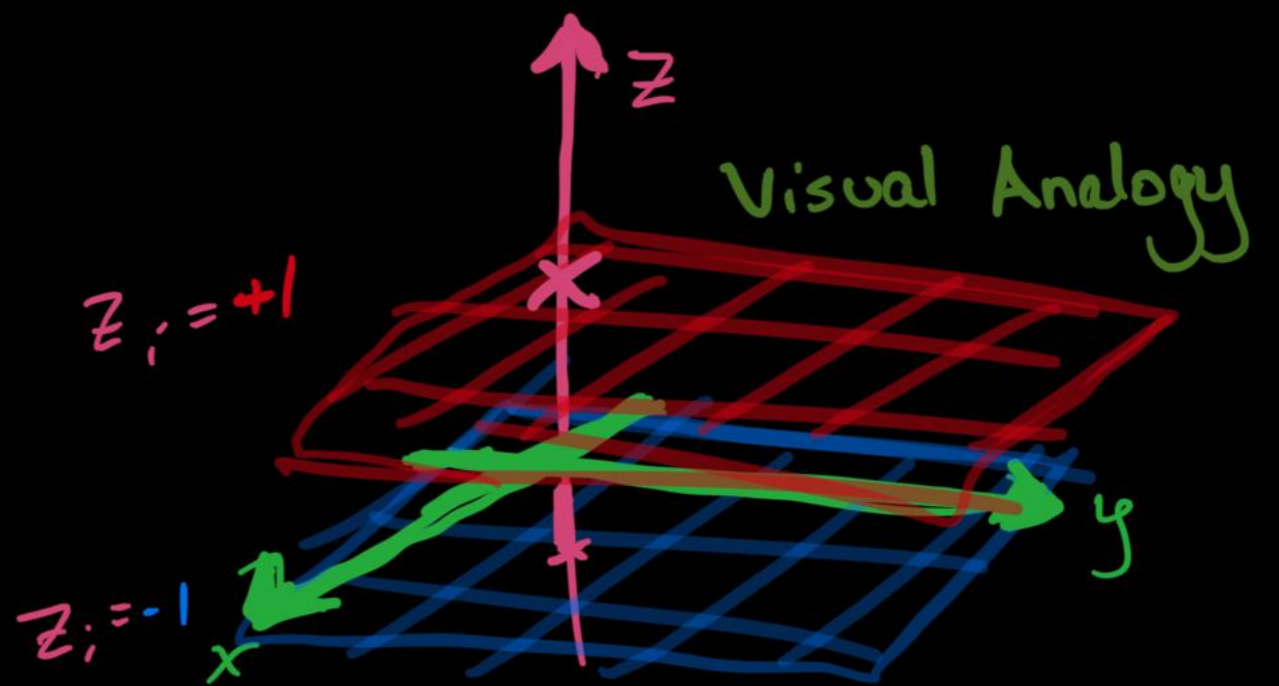
d) Identify the solution \hat{a} using Python notebook!

$$y(x) = 24 - 50x + 35x^2 - 10x^3 + 1x^4$$

$$\hat{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ -50 \\ 35 \\ -10 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(See Notebook!)

② Finding Classifiers:



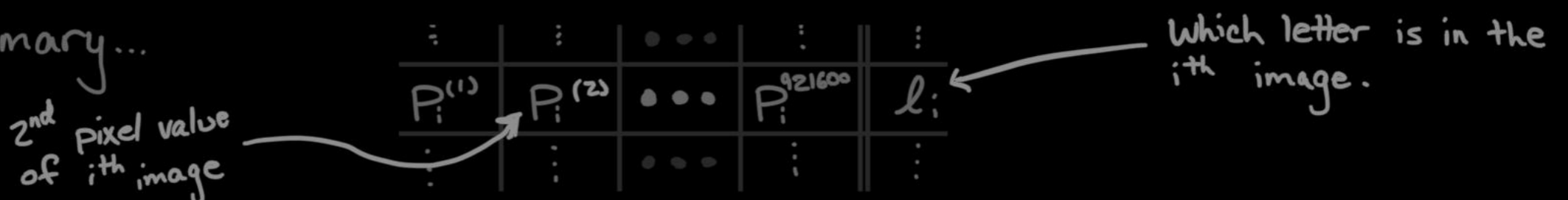
There are data $[x_i, y_i]$, and for each point there is a label l_i .

x_i	y_i	l_i
-2	1	-1
-1	1	1
1	1	1
2	1	-1

- Okay, so there are some new terms here. To ease into the problem, you can imagine l_i as a 3rd dimension z_i . In this context we are just playing the same game as above, but with a 2D function like this: $Z(x, y)$ in which we have sampled x_i and y_i at various points and would like to fit to $Z(x, y)$.
- But more generally, we could expand to MANY more dimensions! Another cool context: Machine Learning on hand-writing
- Instead of x and y , let there be $p^{(1)}$ and $p^{(2)}$, and keep going $p^{(3)}, p^{(4)}, \dots, p^{(1280 \times 720)}$ where $p^{(j)}$ is the j^{th} pixel of an image.

Now the l "label" would represent which letter is in the image. So if it's an 'a' then $l=1$, for 'b' then $l=2$, and so on.

In summary...



In this context, getting a fit for $l(p^{(1)}, p^{(2)}, \dots, p^{(921600)})$ is like building a scheme to predict the letter l from a brand new image!!!

a) Model 1: $l_i = \alpha x_i + \beta y_i + \gamma$

$$-1 = \alpha(-2) + \beta(1) + \gamma$$

$$1 = \alpha(-1) + \beta(1) + \gamma$$

$$1 = \alpha(1) + \beta(1) + \gamma$$

$$-1 = \alpha(2) + \beta(1) + \gamma$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_D \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Least squares solution! $\rightarrow \vec{v}' = (D^T D)^{-1} D^T \vec{w}$

Oh no! D has linearly-dependent columns

This means $D^T D$ does not have an inverse and we can't use our formula :-.

* What's going on??

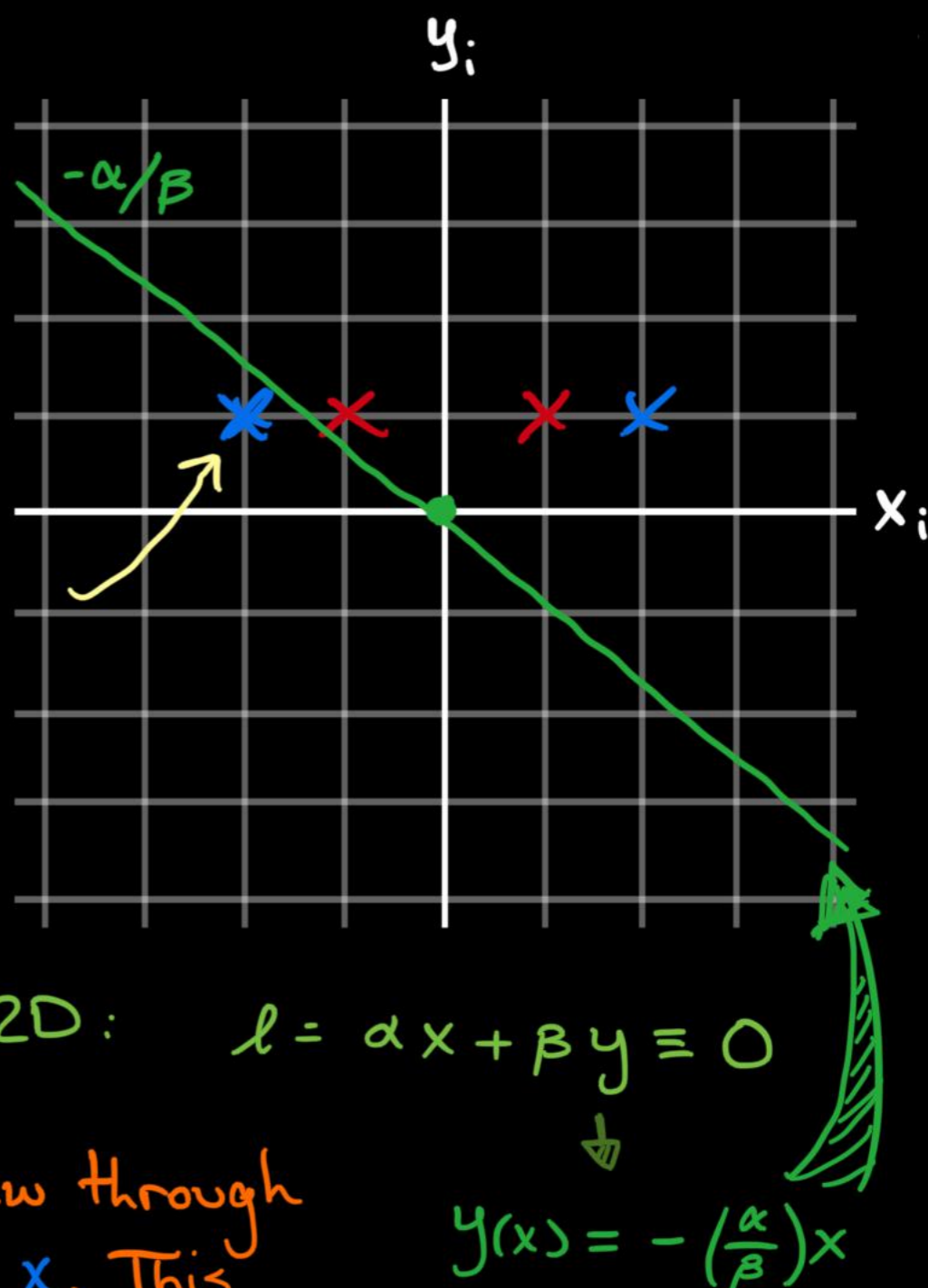
Basically β and γ have identical roles in the model due to how y_i is sampled. Thus there is no unique least-squares solution.

We can set $\beta=0$ or $\gamma=0$ in our model and then the machinery should work $\ddot{\cup}$ (in this case $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \gamma \end{bmatrix}$ or $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$)

b) Plot the labels here:

(See the header diagram for aid)

x_i	y_i	l_i
-2	1	-1
-1	1	1
1	1	1
2	1	-1



If we'd like to predict how to label new input data $[x, y] \rightarrow l$ as either $l = -1$ or $l = +1$, then it becomes a game of checking if $l < 0$ or $l > 0$. The dividing case of $l = 0$ can be visually shown in 2D:

$$l = \alpha x + \beta y = 0$$

$$y(x) = -\left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right)x$$

However, there is no line we can draw through the origin that parts x and x . This means our classifier is too limited to predict our current data regardless of the α, β parameters we choose.

We need a better classifier...

c) Model 2: $l_i = \alpha x_i + \beta x_i^2$

$$\begin{aligned} -1 &= \alpha(-2) + \beta(-2)^2 \rightarrow 4 \\ 1 &= \alpha(-1) + \beta(-1)^2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 1 &= \alpha(1) + \beta(1)^2 \rightarrow 1 \\ -1 &= \alpha(2) + \beta(2)^2 \rightarrow 4 \end{aligned}$$

Forget y_i !!!
Choose new term

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

x_i	y_i	l_i
-2	1	-1
-1	1	1
1	1	1
2	1	-1

d) Plot the labels here:

Same game as before, but now the vertical axis is x_i^2 .

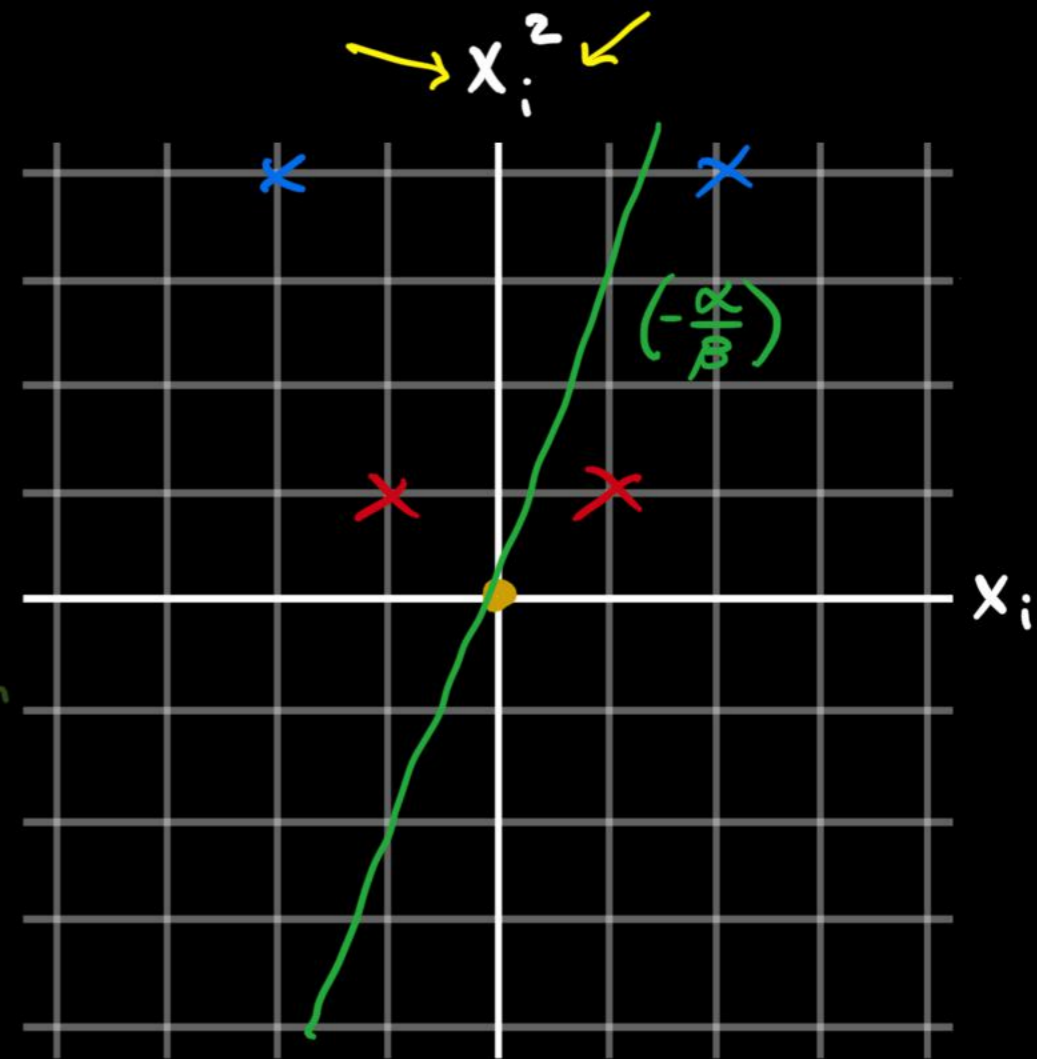
$$l = \alpha x + \beta q \equiv 0$$

$$q = -\left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right)x$$

$q = x^2$
Use a different name so we can plot in 2D, although this model is only 1D.

Still an issue, $\ddot{\smile}$
but we're getting closer!

It looks possible now, but not from the origin.
We need to bring back γ ...



e) Model 3: $l_i = \alpha x_i + \beta x_i^2 + \gamma$

Do you expect better performance here than in (c)?

$$\begin{aligned} -1 &= \alpha(-2) + \beta(-2)^2 + \gamma \\ 1 &= \alpha(-1) + \beta(-1)^2 + \gamma \\ 1 &= \alpha(1) + \beta(1)^2 + \gamma \\ -1 &= \alpha(2) + \beta(2)^2 + \gamma \end{aligned}$$

x_i	y_i	l_i
-2	-1	x
-1	1	x
1	1	x
2	-1	x

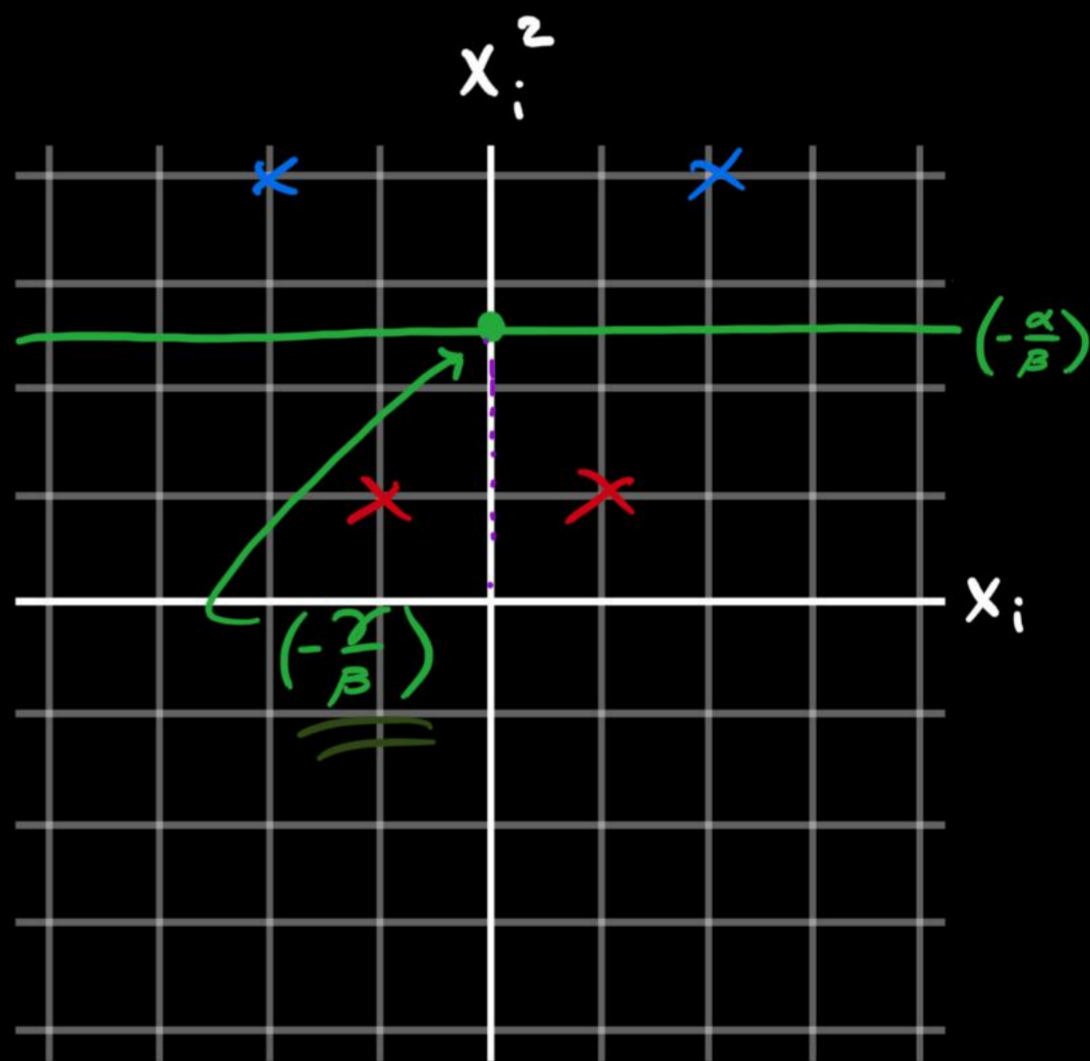
$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$l = \alpha x + \beta q + \gamma \equiv 0$$

$$q = x^2$$

$$q(x) = \left(-\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right)x + \left(-\frac{\gamma}{\beta}\right)$$

Graphically there is now a clear way to parameterize our classifier so it correctly assigns labels to our current data! 😊



Note: While the graph above suggests there is not a unique selection for α, β, γ (there is not, in fact), the least-squares method will give us unique parameters.

The catch here is the whole "l = -1 if l < 0 and l = +1 if l > 0" lousiness.