

# 4.3 — Nonlinearity & Transformation

ECON 480 • Econometrics • Fall 2022

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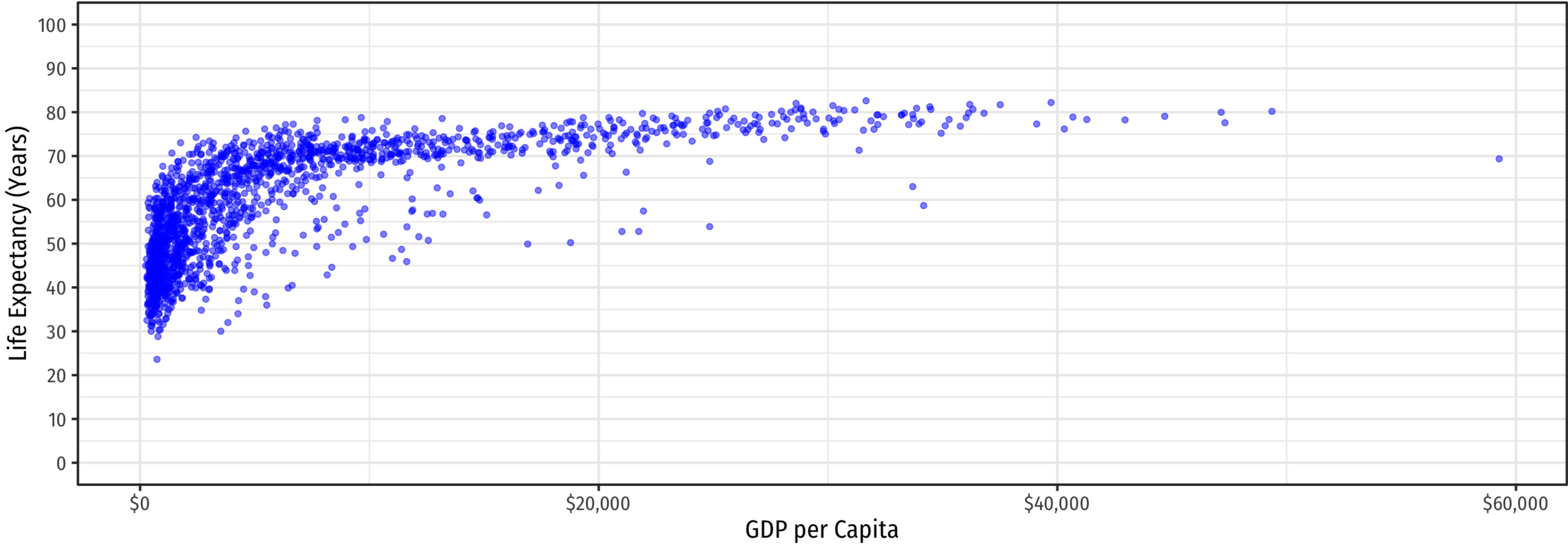
# Nonlinear Effects

# Linear Regression

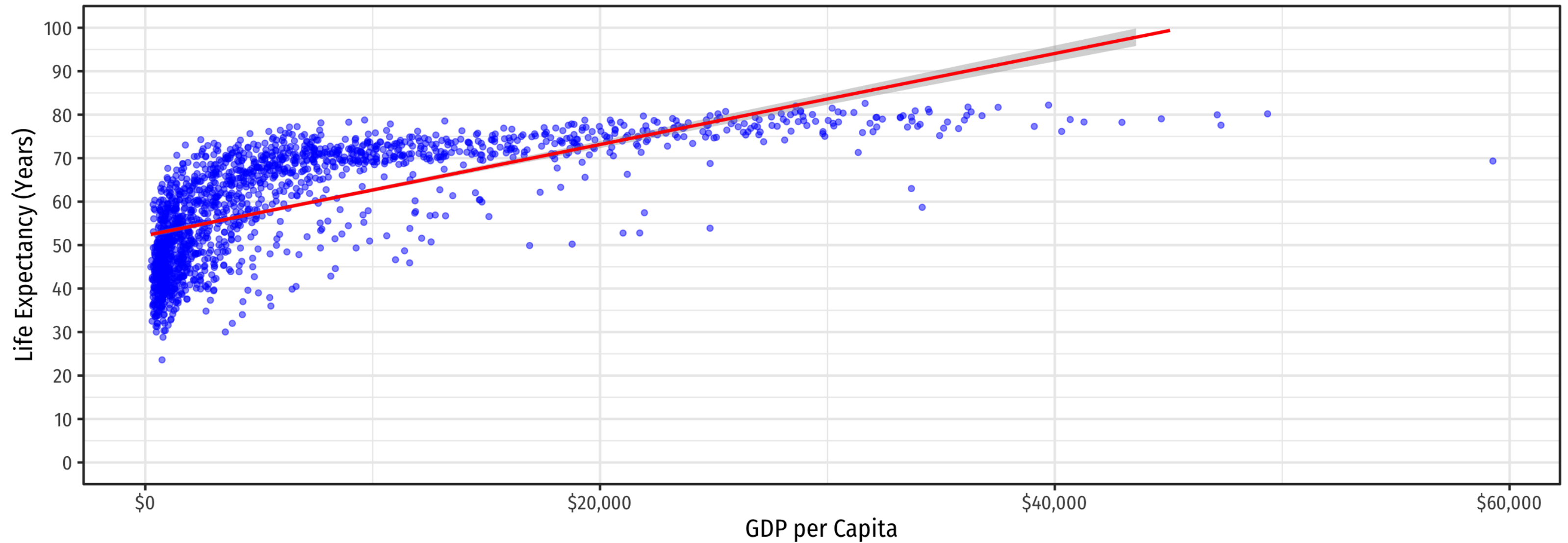
- OLS is commonly known as “**linear regression**” as it fits a **straight line** to data points
- Often, data and relationships between variables may *not* be linear



# Linear Regression



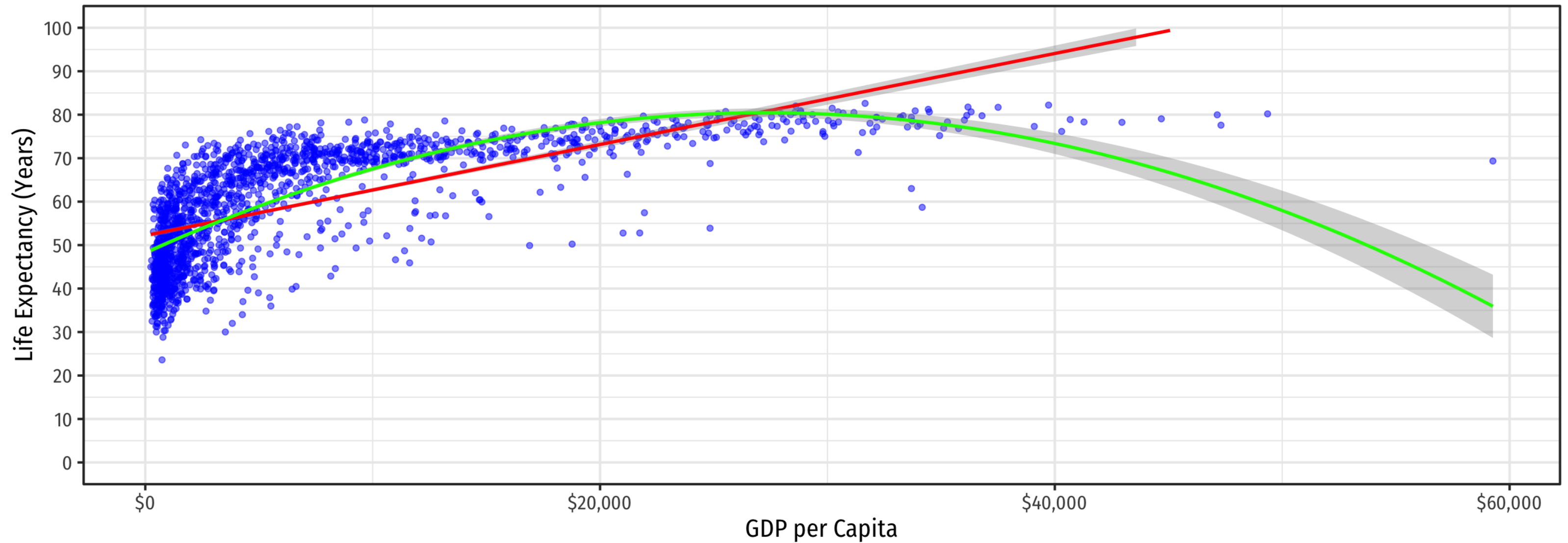
# Linear Regression



$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP}_i$$



# Linear Regression

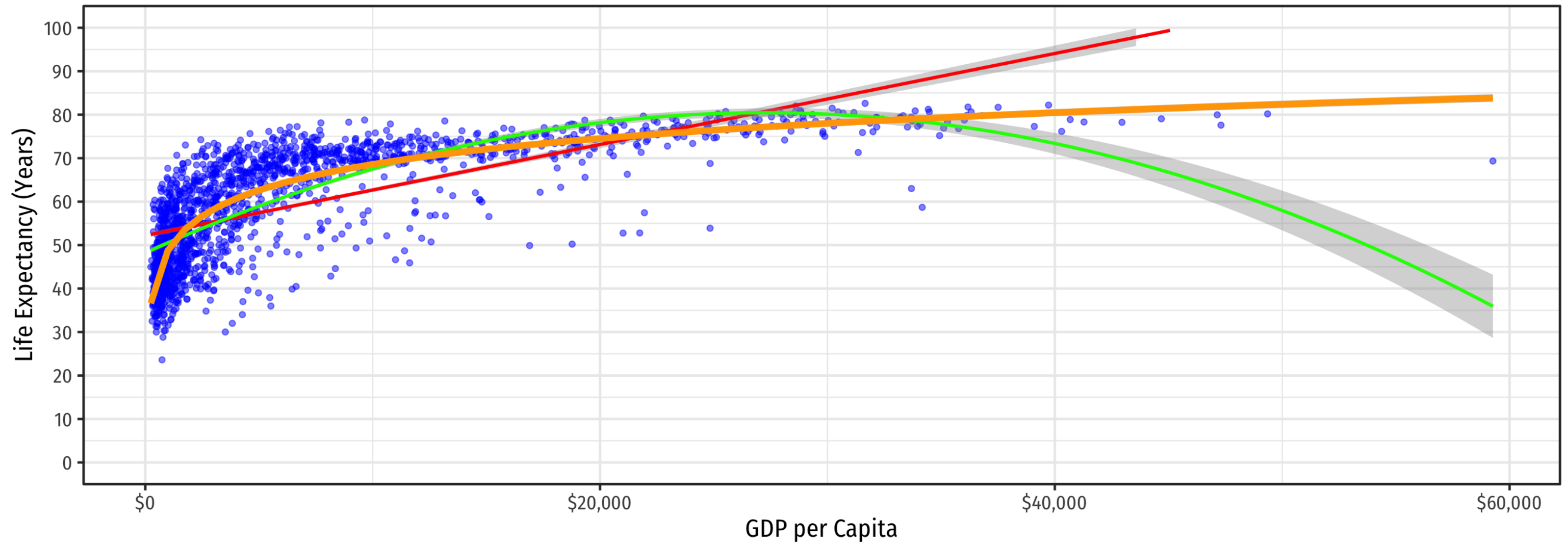


$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP}_i$$

$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{GDP}_i^2$$



# Linear Regression



$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP}_i$$

$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{GDP}_i^2$$

$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \ln \text{GDP}_i$$





# Sources of Nonlinearities

- Effect of  $X_1 \rightarrow Y$  might be nonlinear if:
  1.  $X_1 \rightarrow Y$  is different for different levels of  $X_1$ 
    - e.g. **diminishing returns**:  $\uparrow X_1$  increases  $Y$  at a *decreasing* rate
    - e.g. **increasing returns**:  $\uparrow X_1$  increases  $Y$  at an *increasing* rate
  2.  $X_1 \rightarrow Y$  is different for different levels of  $X_2$ 
    - e.g. interaction effects (last lesson)

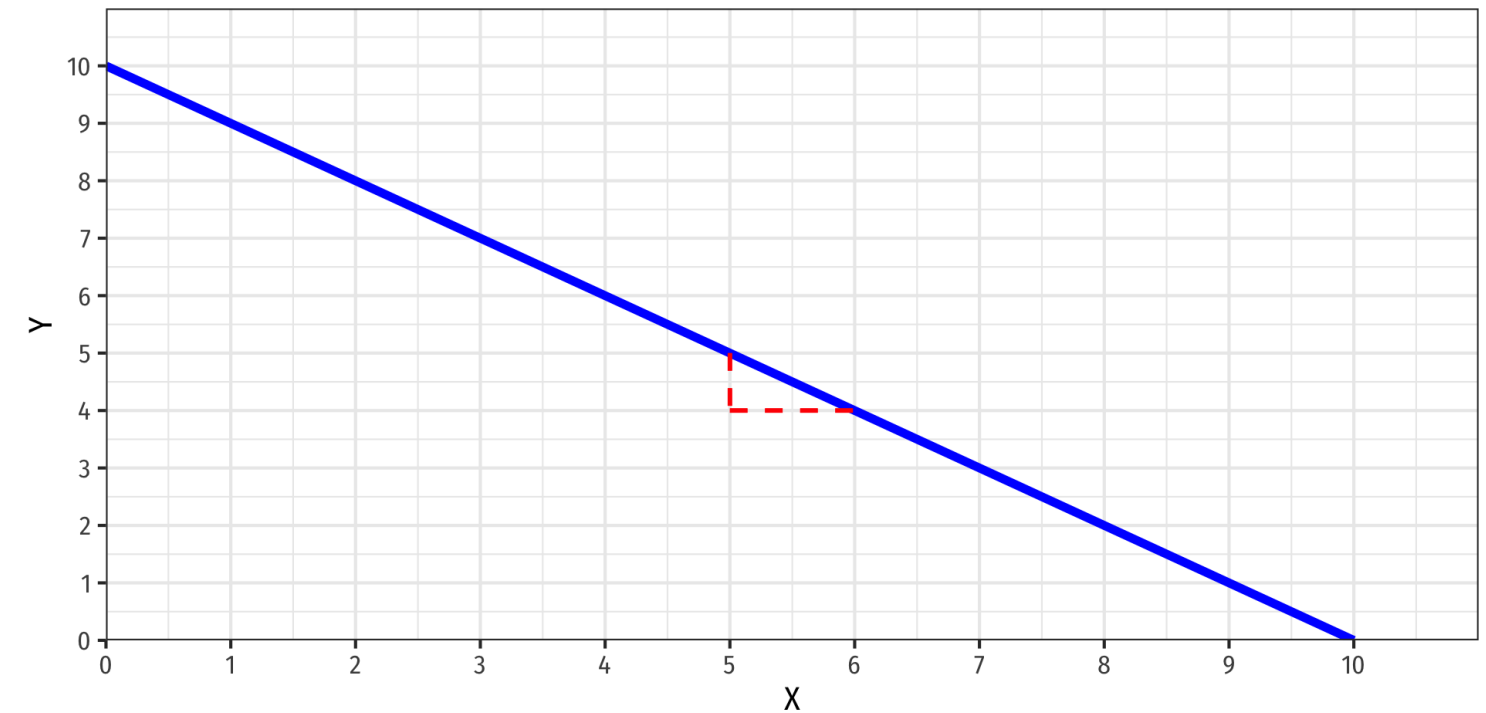


# Nonlinearities Alter Marginal Effects

- **Linear:**

$$Y = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X$$

- marginal effect (slope),  $(\hat{\beta}_1) = \frac{\Delta Y}{\Delta X}$  is constant for all  $X$

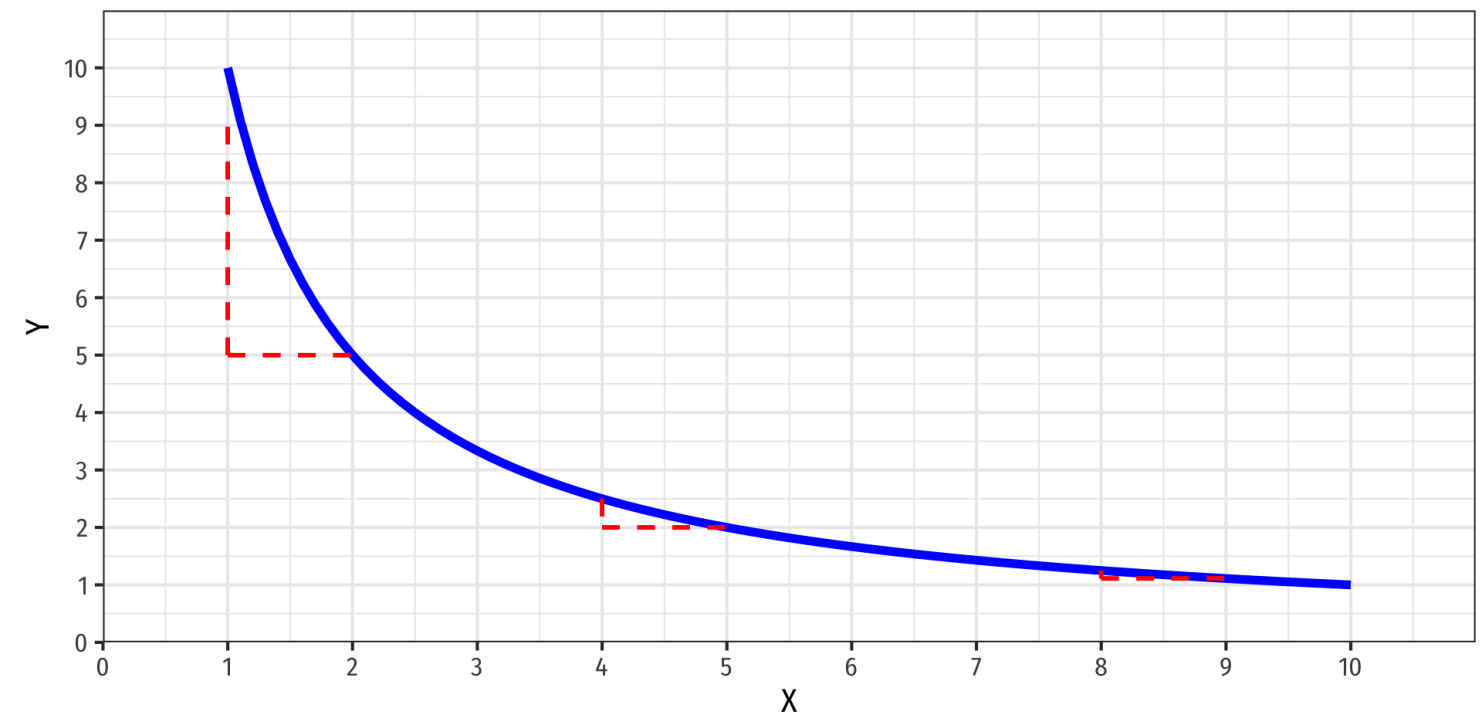


# Nonlinearities Alter Marginal Effects

- **Polynomial:**

$$Y = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X + \hat{\beta}_2 X^2$$

- Marginal effect, “slope” ( $\neq \hat{\beta}_1$ ) depends on the value of  $X$ !

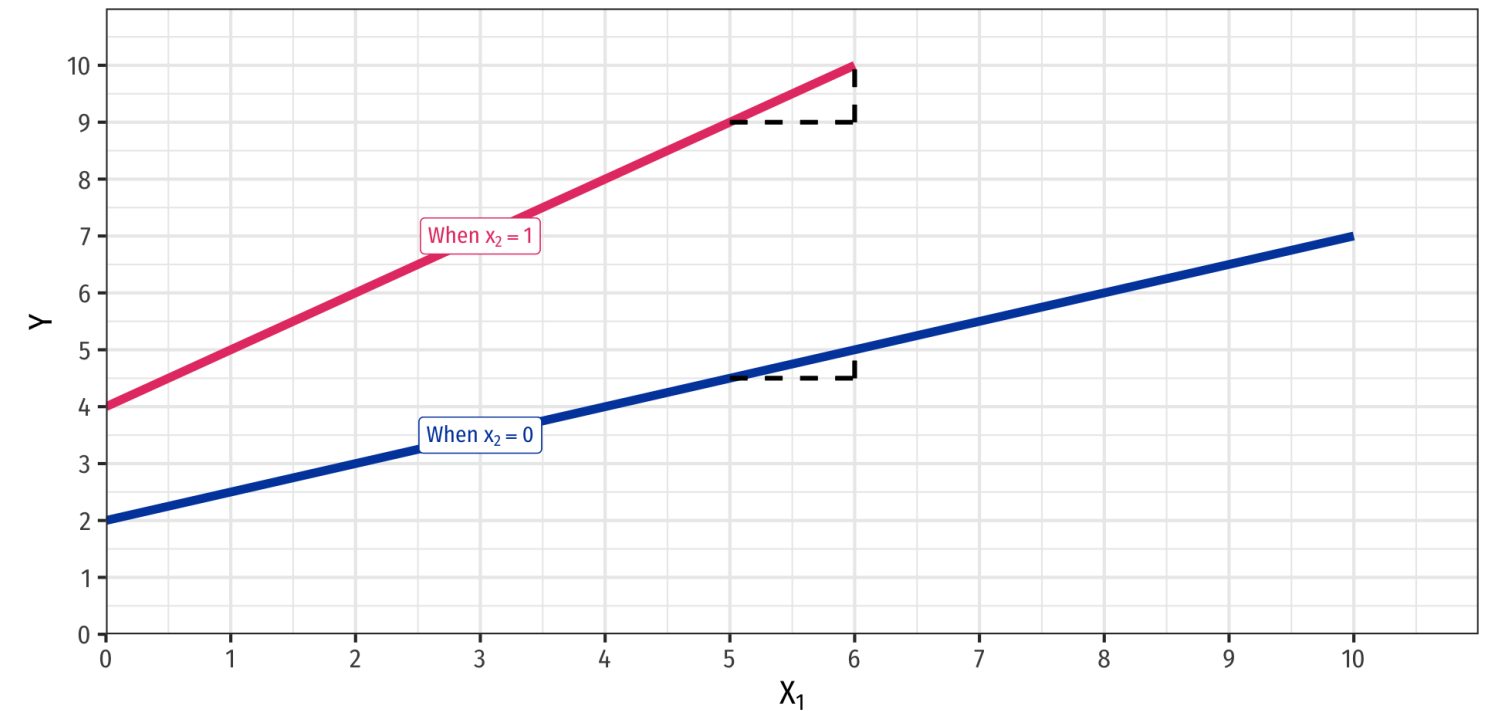


# Nonlinearities Alter Marginal Effects

- **Interaction Effect:**

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 X_2 + \hat{\beta}_3 X_1 \times X_2$$

- Marginal effect, “slope” *depends on the value of  $X_2$ !*
- Easy example: if  $X_2$  is a dummy variable:
  - $X_2 = 0$  (control) vs.  $X_2 = 1$  (treatment)

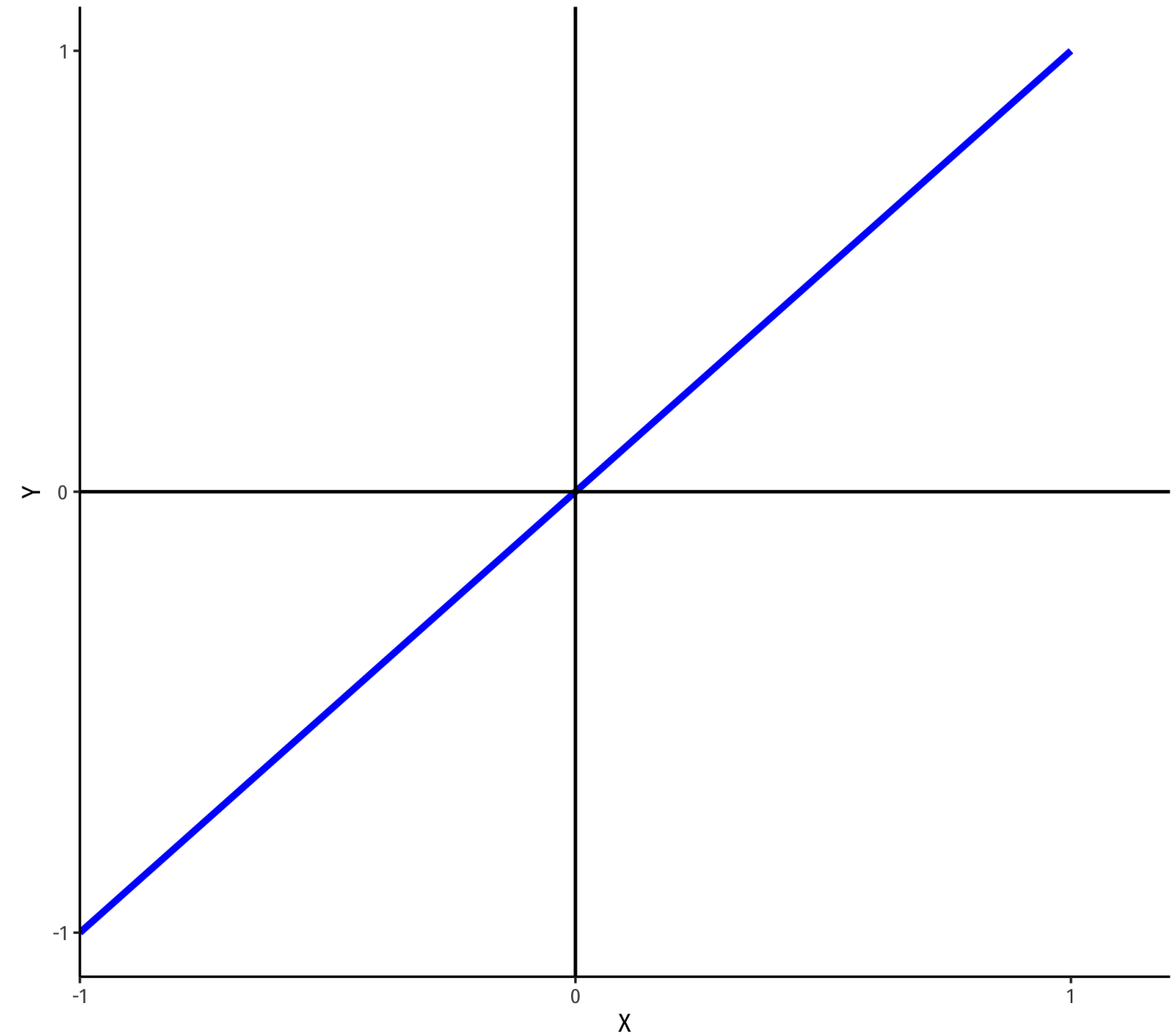


# Polynomial Models

# Polynomial Functions of $X$ I

- Linear

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X$$



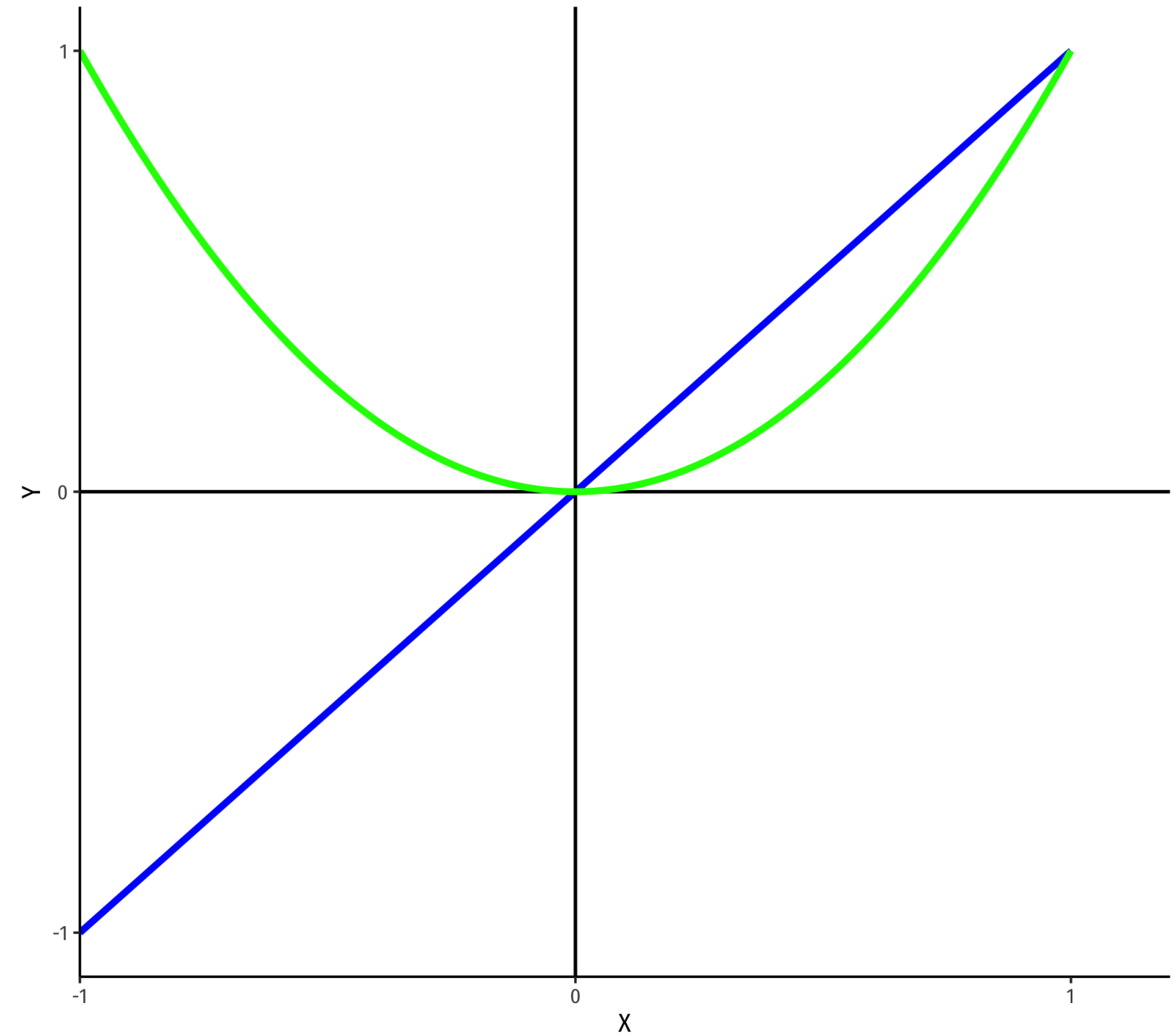
# Polynomial Functions of $X$ I

- Linear

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X$$

- Quadratic

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X + \hat{\beta}_2 X^2$$



# Polynomial Functions of $X$ I

- Linear

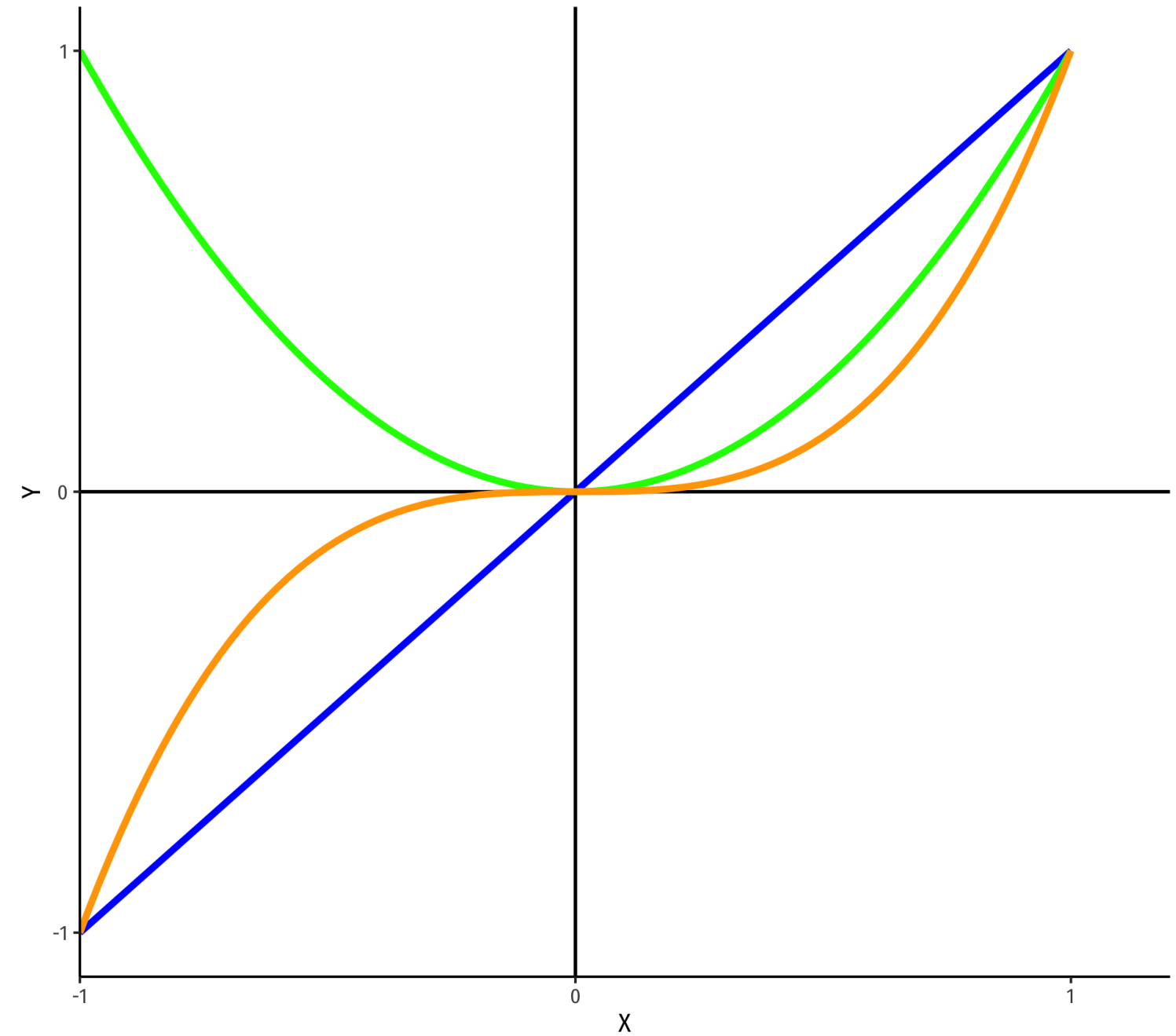
$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X$$

- Quadratic

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X + \hat{\beta}_2 X^2$$

- Cubic

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X + \hat{\beta}_2 X^2 + \hat{\beta}_3 X^3$$





# Polynomial Functions of $X$ I

- Linear

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X$$

- Quadratic

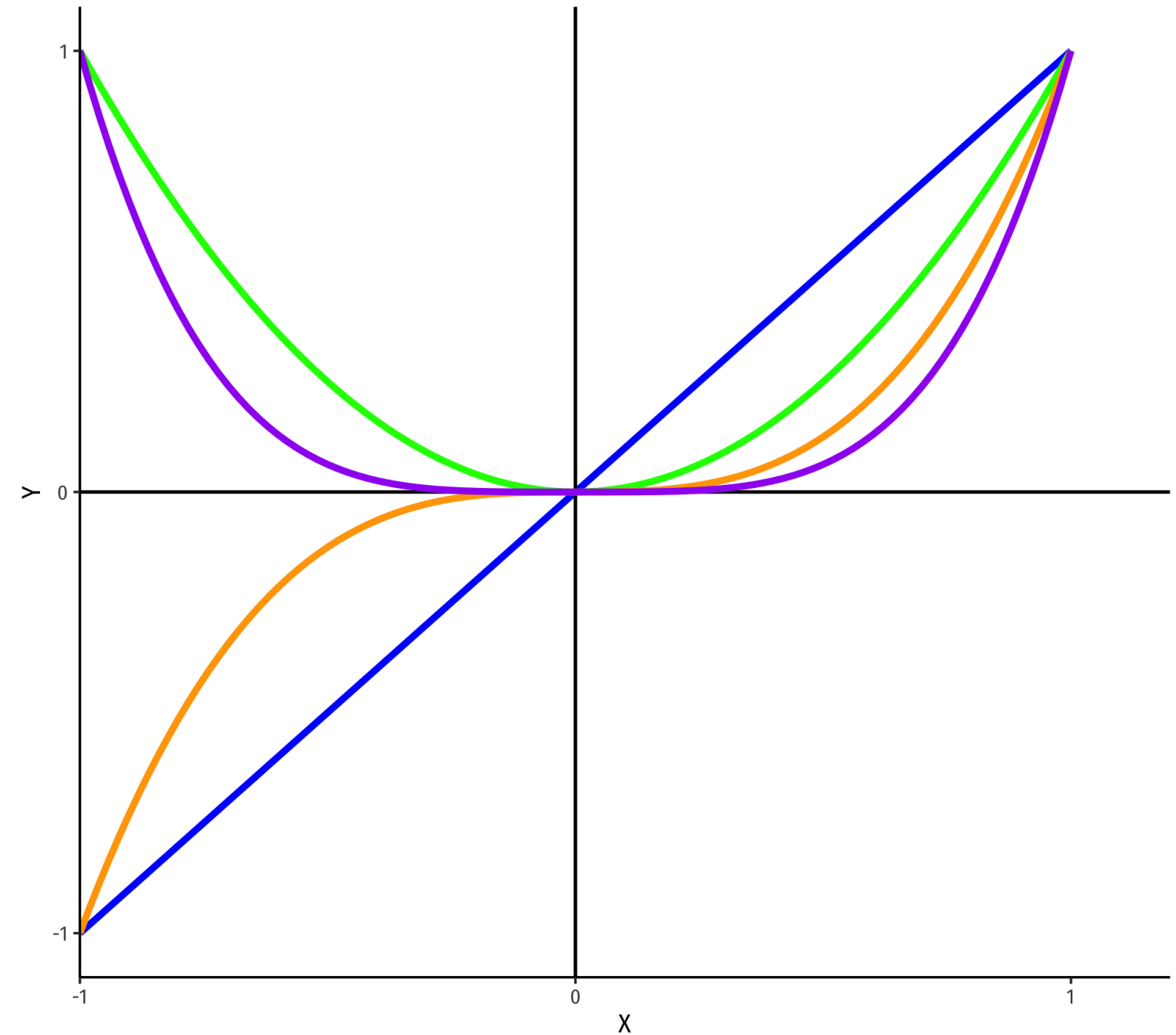
$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X + \hat{\beta}_2 X^2$$

- Cubic

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X + \hat{\beta}_2 X^2 + \hat{\beta}_3 X^3$$

- Quartic

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X + \hat{\beta}_2 X^2 + \hat{\beta}_3 X^3 + \hat{\beta}_4 X^4$$



# Polynomial Functions of $X$ II

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i + \hat{\beta}_2 X_i^2 + \cdots + \hat{\beta}_r X_i^r + u_i$$

- Where  $r$  is the highest power  $X_i$  is raised to
  - quadratic  $r = 2$
  - cubic  $r = 3$
- The graph of an  $r^{\text{th}}$ -degree polynomial function has  $(r - 1)$  bends
- Just another multivariate OLS regression model!



# Quadratic Model

# Quadratic Model

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i + \hat{\beta}_2 X_i^2$$

- **Quadratic model** has  $X$  and  $X^2$  variables in it (yes, need both!)
- How to interpret coefficients (betas)?
  - $\beta_0$  as “intercept” and  $\beta_1$  as “slope” makes no sense 🤔
  - $\beta_1$  as effect  $X_i \rightarrow Y_i$  holding  $X_i^2$  constant??<sup>1</sup>
- **Estimate marginal effects** by calculating predicted  $\hat{Y}_i$  for different levels of  $X_i$



# Quadratic Model: Calculating Marginal Effects

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i + \hat{\beta}_2 X_i^2$$

- What is the **marginal effect** of  $\Delta X_i \rightarrow \Delta Y_i$ ?
- Take the **derivative** of  $Y_i$  with respect to  $X_i$ :

$$\frac{\partial Y_i}{\partial X_i} = \hat{\beta}_1 + 2\hat{\beta}_2 X_i$$

- **Marginal effect** of a 1 unit change in  $X_i$  is a  $\left( \hat{\beta}_1 + 2\hat{\beta}_2 X_i \right)$  unit change in  $Y$



# Quadratic Model: Example I

## Example

$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP per capita}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{GDP per capita}_i^2$$

- Use `gapminder` package and data

```
1 library(gapminder)
```



# Quadratic Model: Example II

- These coefficients will be very large, so let's transform `gdpPerCap` to be in \$1,000's

```
1 gapminder <- gapminder %>%
2   mutate(GDP_t = gdpPerCap/1000)
3
4 gapminder %>% head() # look at it
```

<b>country</b> <fct>	<b>continent</b> <fct>	<b>year</b> <int>
Afghanistan	Asia	1952
Afghanistan	Asia	1957
Afghanistan	Asia	1962
Afghanistan	Asia	1967
Afghanistan	Asia	1972
Afghanistan	Asia	1977

6 rows | 1-3 of 7 columns



# Quadratic Model: Example II

- Let's also create a squared term, `gdp_sq`

```
1 gapminder <- gapminder %>%
2   mutate(GDP_sq = GDP_t^2)
3
4 gapminder %>% head() # look at it
```

<b>country</b> <fct>	<b>continent</b> <fct>	<b>year</b> <int>
Afghanistan	Asia	1952
Afghanistan	Asia	1957
Afghanistan	Asia	1962
Afghanistan	Asia	1967
Afghanistan	Asia	1972
Afghanistan	Asia	1977

6 rows | 1-3 of 8 columns





# Quadratic Model: Example IV

- Can “manually” run a multivariate regression with `GDP_t` and `GDP_sq`

```
1 library(broom)
2 reg1 <- lm(lifeExp ~ GDP_t + GDP_sq, data = gapminder)
3
4 reg1 %>% tidy()
```

<b>term</b>	<b>estimate</b>
<chr>	<dbl>
(Intercept)	50.52400578
GDP_t	1.55099112
GDP_sq	-0.01501927

3 rows | 1-2 of 5 columns



# Quadratic Model: Example IV

- OR use `gdp_t` and add the `I()` operator to transform the variable in the regression, `I(gdp_t^2)`<sup>1</sup>

```
1 reg1_alt <- lm(lifeExp ~ GDP_t + I(GDP_t^2), data = gapminder)
2
3 reg1_alt %>% tidy()
```

<b>term</b> <chr>	<b>estimate</b> <dbl>
(Intercept)	50.52400578
GDP_t	1.55099112
I(GDP_t^2)	-0.01501927

3 rows | 1-2 of 5 columns

1. [Here](#) is a decent explanation of what `I()` does. An alternative is to use `poly(GDP_t, 2)` to make the squared term, but this [has some issues](#)



# Quadratic Model: Example V

term <chr>	estimate <dbl>
(Intercept)	50.52400578
GDP_t	1.55099112
GDP_sq	-0.01501927

3 rows | 1-2 of 5 columns

$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = 50.52 + 1.55 \text{ GDP}_i - 0.02 \text{ GDP}_i^2$$

- Positive effect ( $\hat{\beta}_1 > 0$ ), with diminishing returns ( $\hat{\beta}_2 < 0$ )
- Marginal effect of GDP on Life Expectancy **depends on initial value of GDP!**



# Quadratic Model: Example VI

term <chr>	estimate <dbl>
(Intercept)	50.52400578
GDP_t	1.55099112
GDP_sq	-0.01501927

3 rows | 1-2 of 5 columns

- **Marginal effect** of GDP on Life Expectancy:

$$\frac{\partial Y}{\partial X} = \hat{\beta}_1 + 2\hat{\beta}_2 X_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \text{Life Expectancy}}{\partial \text{GDP}} \approx 1.55 + 2(-0.02) \text{GDP}$$

$$\approx 1.55 - 0.04 \text{GDP}$$



# Quadratic Model: Example VII

$$\frac{\partial \text{Life Expectancy}}{\partial \text{GDP}} = 1.55 - 0.04 \text{ GDP}$$

Marginal effect of GDP if GDP = 5 (\$ thousand):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \text{Life Expectancy}}{\partial \text{GDP}} &= 1.55 - 0.04 \text{GDP} \\ &= 1.55 - 0.04(5) \\ &= 1.55 - 0.20 \\ &= 1.35 \end{aligned}$$

- i.e. for every addition \$1 (thousand) in GDP per capita, average life expectancy increases by 1.35 years



# Quadratic Model: Example VIII

$$\frac{\partial \text{Life Expectancy}}{\partial \text{GDP}} = 1.55 - 0.04 \text{ GDP}$$

Marginal effect of GDP if GDP = 25 (\$ thousand):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \text{Life Expectancy}}{\partial \text{GDP}} &= 1.55 - 0.04 \text{GDP} \\ &= 1.55 - 0.04(25) \\ &= 1.55 - 1.00 \\ &= 0.55 \end{aligned}$$

- i.e. for every addition \$1 (thousand) in GDP per capita, average life expectancy increases by 0.55 years



# Quadratic Model: Example X

$$\frac{\partial \text{Life Expectancy}}{\partial \text{GDP}} = 1.55 - 0.04 \text{ GDP}$$

Marginal effect of GDP if GDP = 50 (\$ thousand):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \text{Life Expectancy}}{\partial \text{GDP}} &= 1.55 - 0.04 \text{GDP} \\ &= 1.55 - 0.04(50) \\ &= 1.55 - 2.00 \\ &= -0.45 \end{aligned}$$

- i.e. for every addition \$1 (thousand) in GDP per capita, average life expectancy *decreases* by 0.45 years



# Quadratic Model: Example XI

$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = 50.52 + 1.55 \text{ GDP per capita}_i - 0.02 \text{ GDP per capita}_i^2$$

$$\frac{\partial \text{Life Expectancy}}{\partial \text{GDP}} = 1.55 - 0.04 \text{GDP}$$

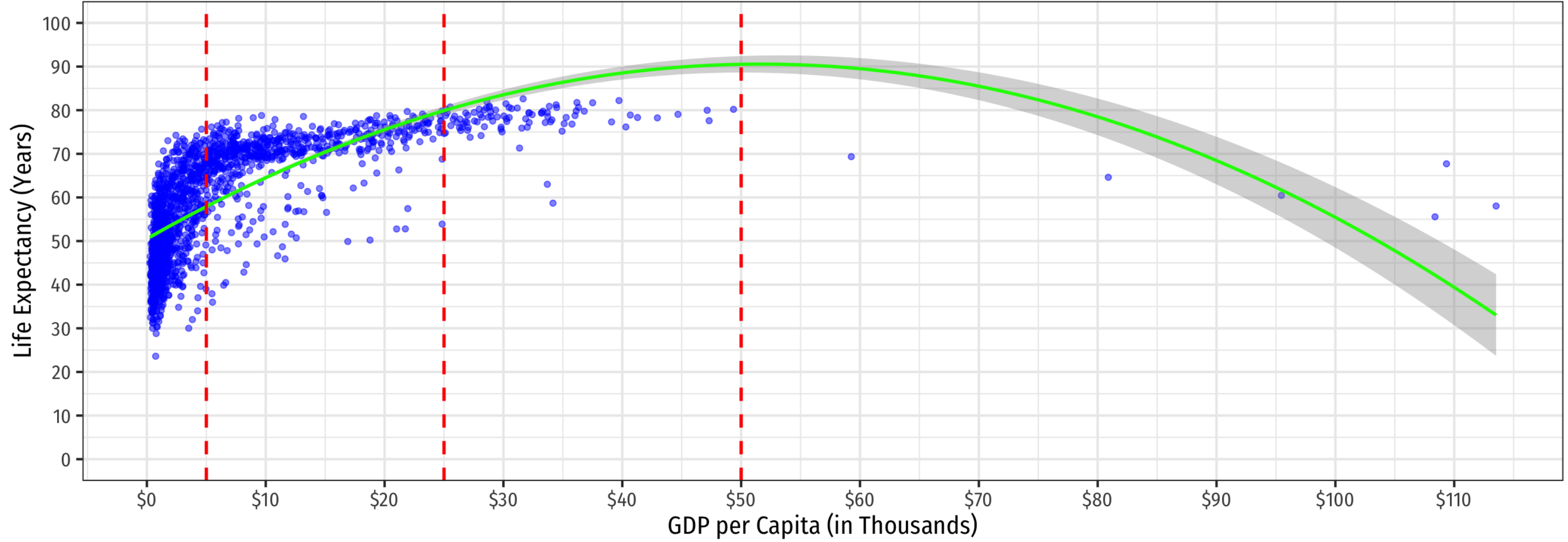
<i>Initial</i> GDP per capita	Marginal Effect <sup>1</sup>
\$5,000	1.35 years
\$25,000	0.55 years
\$50,000	-0.45 years





# Quadratic Model: Example XII

► Code



# Quadratic Model: Maxima and Minima I

- For a polynomial model, we can also find the predicted **maximum** or **minimum** of  $\hat{Y}_i$
- A quadratic model has a single global maximum or minimum (1 bend)
- By calculus, a minimum or maximum occurs where:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial Y_i}{\partial X_i} &= 0 \\ \beta_1 + 2\beta_2 X_i &= 0 \\ 2\beta_2 X_i &= -\beta_1 \\ X_i^* &= -\frac{\beta_1}{2\beta_2}\end{aligned}$$



# Quadratic Model: Maxima and Minima II

<b>term</b> <chr>	<b>estimate</b> <dbl>
(Intercept)	50.52400578
GDP_t	1.55099112
GDP_sq	-0.01501927

3 rows | 1-2 of 5 columns

$$GDP_i^* = -\frac{\beta_1}{2\beta_2}$$

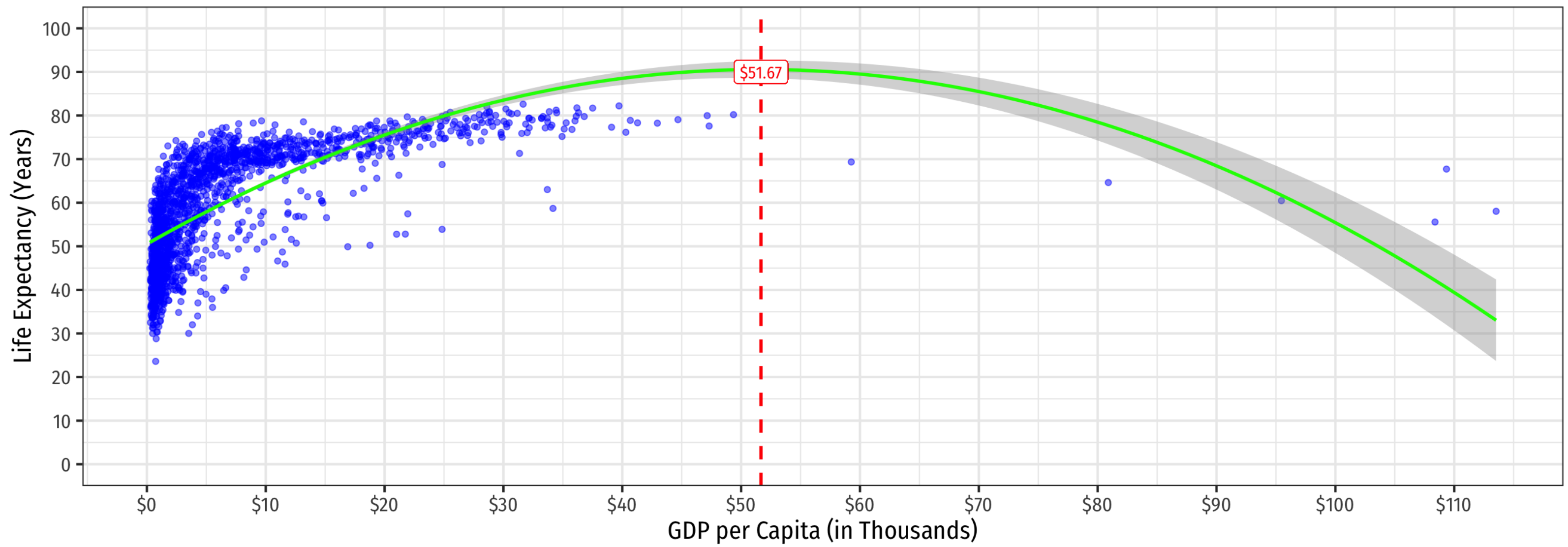
$$GDP_i^* = -\frac{(1.55)}{2(-0.015)}$$

$$GDP_i^* \approx 51.67$$



# Quadratic Model: Maxima and Minima III

► Code



# Determining If Polynomials Are Necessary I

term <chr>	estimate <dbl>
(Intercept)	50.52400578
GDP_t	1.55099112
GDP_sq	-0.01501927

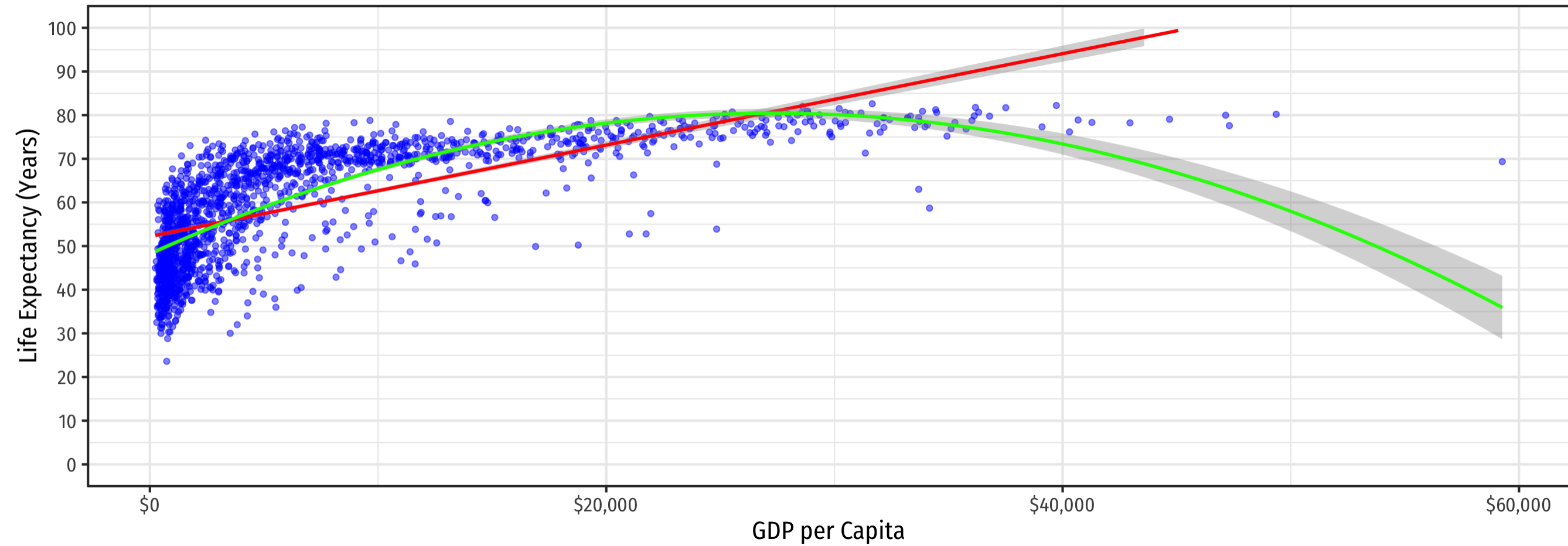
3 rows | 1-2 of 5 columns

- Is the quadratic term necessary?
- Determine if  $\hat{\beta}_2$  (on  $X_i^2$ ) is statistically significant:
  - $H_0 : \hat{\beta}_2 = 0$
  - $H_a : \hat{\beta}_2 \neq 0$



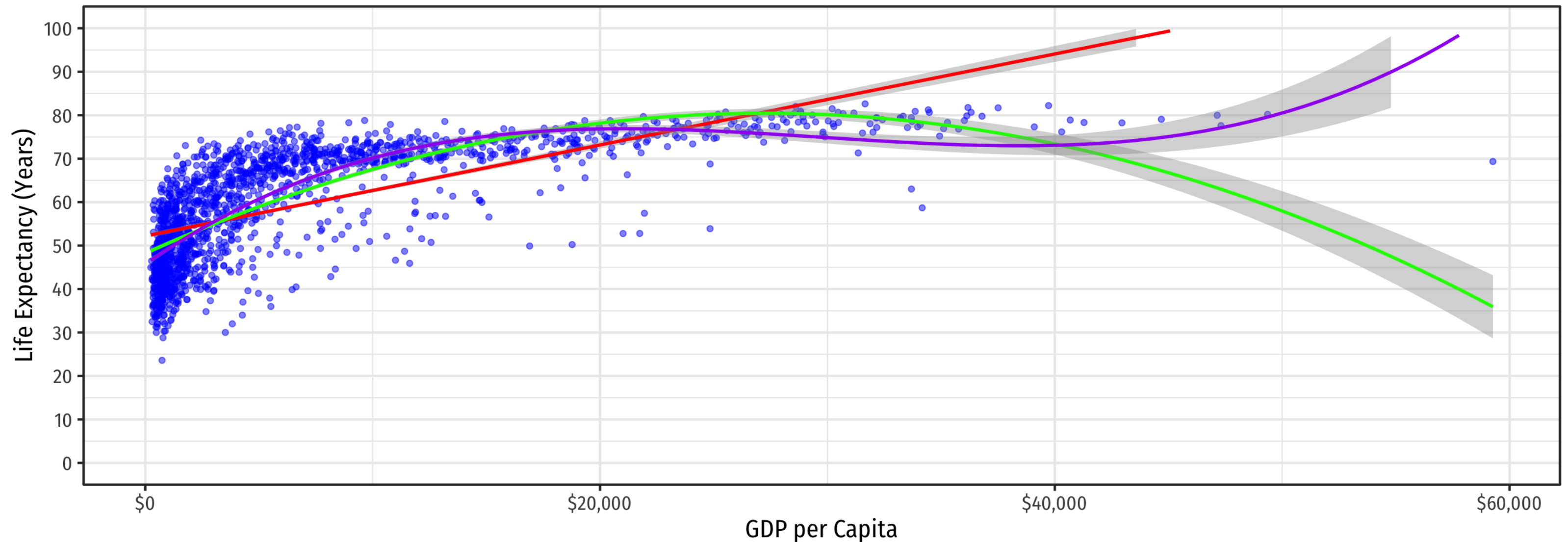
# Determining Polynomials are Necessary II

- Should we keep going up in polynomials?



# Determining Polynomials are Necessary II

- Should we keep going up in polynomials?

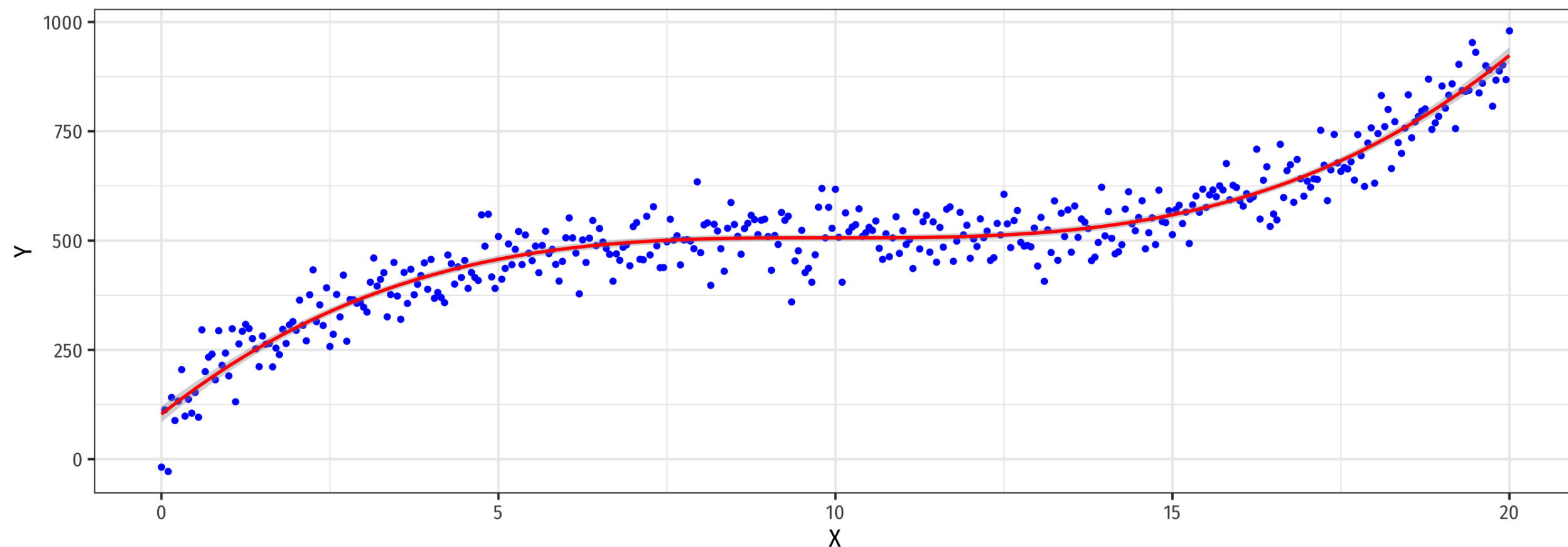


$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{GDP}_i^2 + \hat{\beta}_3 \text{GDP}_i^3$$



# Determining Polynomials are Necessary III

- In general, you should have a **compelling theoretical reason** why data or relationships should “**change direction**” multiple times
- Or clear data patterns that have multiple “bends”
- Recall, **we care more** about accurately measuring the causal effect of  $X \rightarrow Y$ , rather than getting the most accurate prediction possible for  $\hat{Y}$





# Determining Polynomials are Necessary IV

<b>term</b> <chr>	<b>estimate</b> <dbl>
(Intercept)	47.4755069510
GDP_t	2.7226370698
I(GDP_t^2)	-0.0681545071
I(GDP_t^3)	0.0004093149

4 rows | 1-2 of 5 columns

- $\hat{\beta}_3$  is statistically significant...
- ...but can we really think of a good reason to complicate the model?



# If You Kept Going...

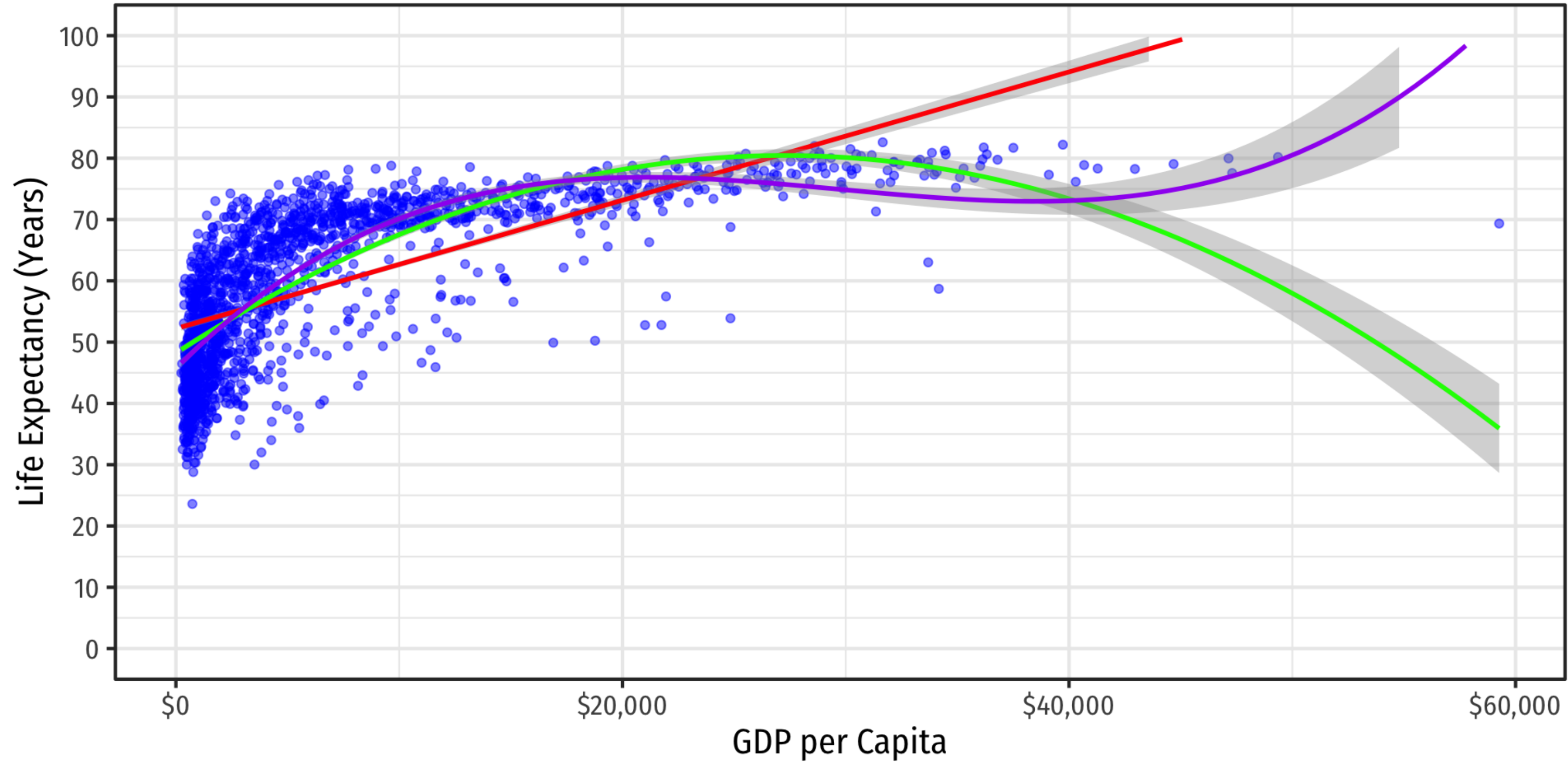
term <chr>	estimate <dbl>	std.error <dbl>
(Intercept)	4.003294e+01	5.846282e-01
GDP_t	8.722968e+00	5.290582e-01
I(GDP_t^2)	-1.081312e+00	1.294759e-01
I(GDP_t^3)	7.190930e-02	1.334295e-02
I(GDP_t^4)	-2.705563e-03	7.010624e-04
I(GDP_t^5)	6.063170e-05	2.056983e-05
I(GDP_t^6)	-8.254873e-07	3.495442e-07
I(GDP_t^7)	6.685309e-09	3.408241e-09
I(GDP_t^8)	-2.956581e-11	1.766287e-11
I(GDP_t^9)	5.490732e-14	3.765889e-14

1-10 of 10 rows | 1-3 of 5 columns

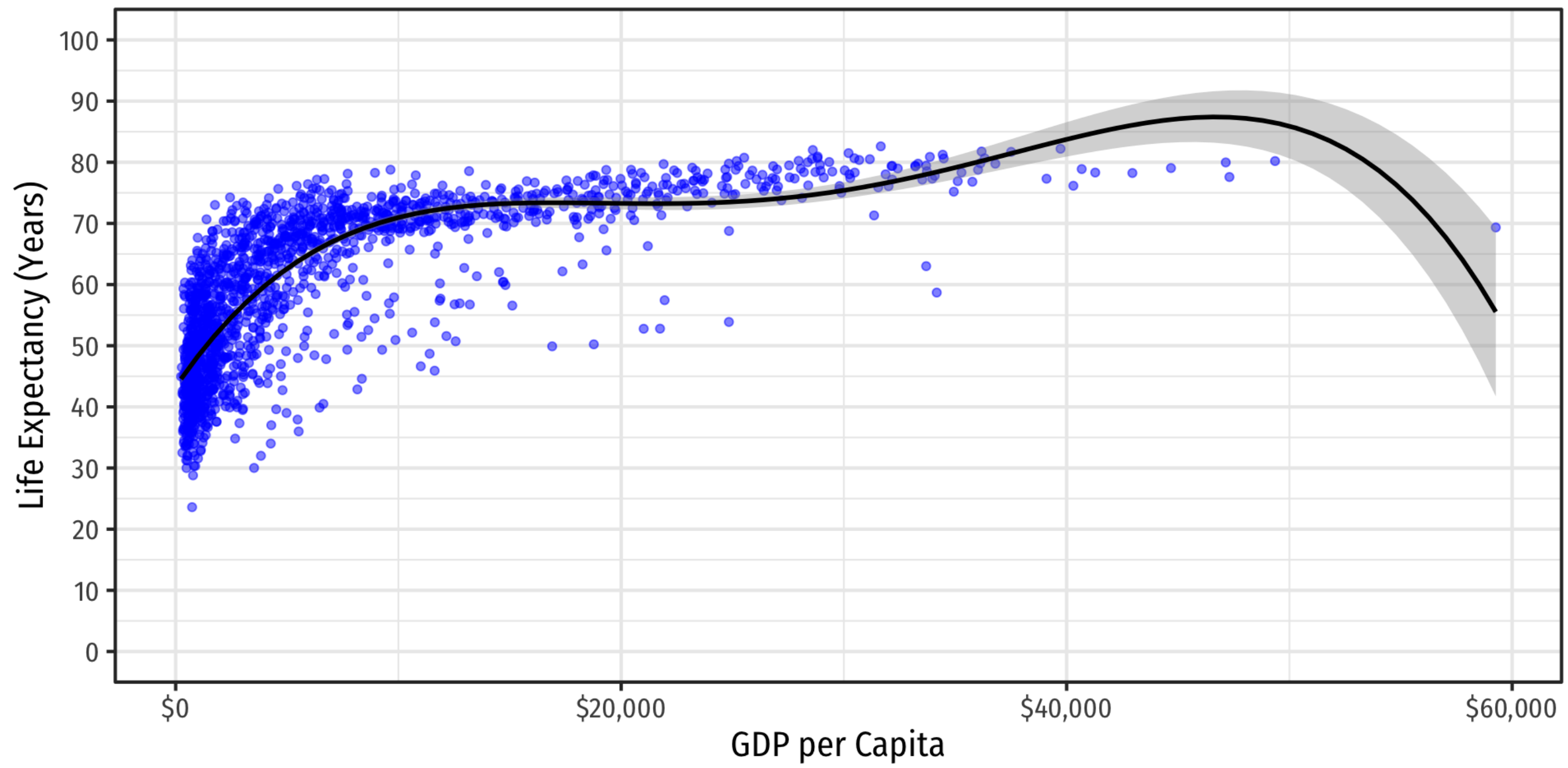
- It takes until a 9<sup>th</sup>-degree polynomial for one of the terms to become insignificant...
- ...but does this make the model *better? more interpretable?*
- A famous problem of **overfitting**



# If You Kept Going...Visually



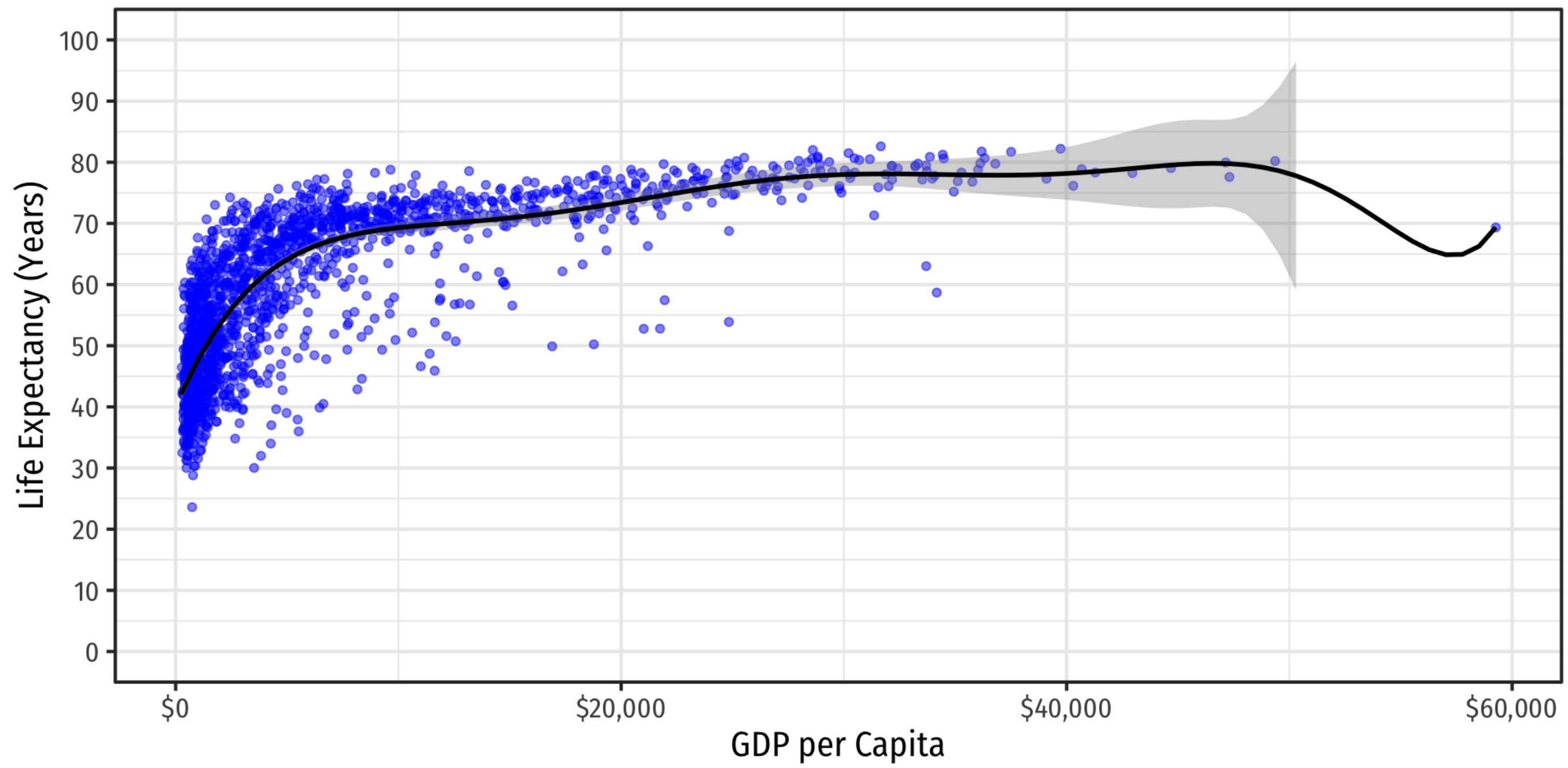
# If You Kept Going...Visually



A 4<sup>th</sup>-degree polynomial



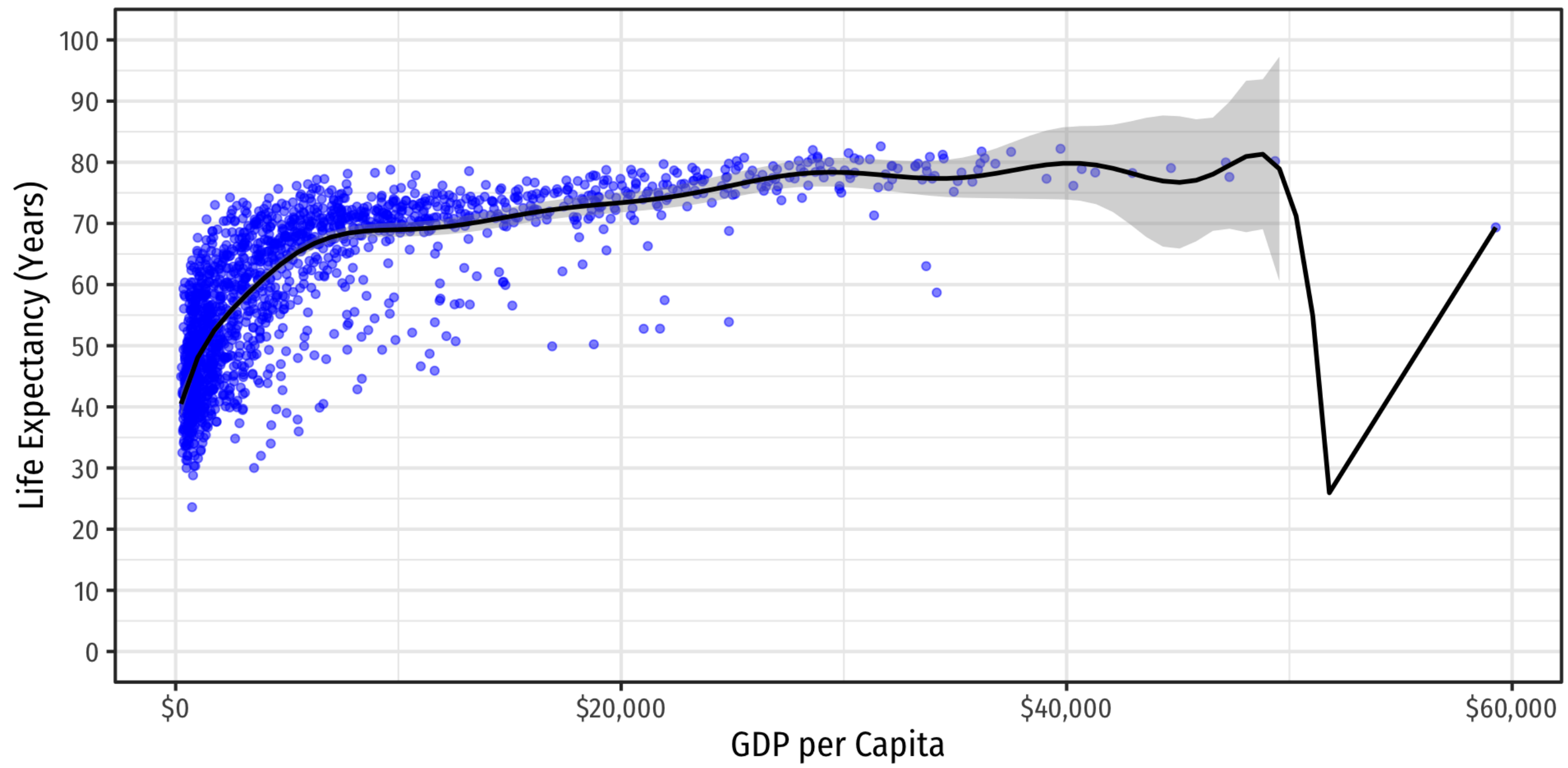
# If You Kept Going...Visually



A 9<sup>th</sup>-degree polynomial



# If You Kept Going...Visually



A 14<sup>th</sup>-degree polynomial



# Strategy for Polynomial Model Specification

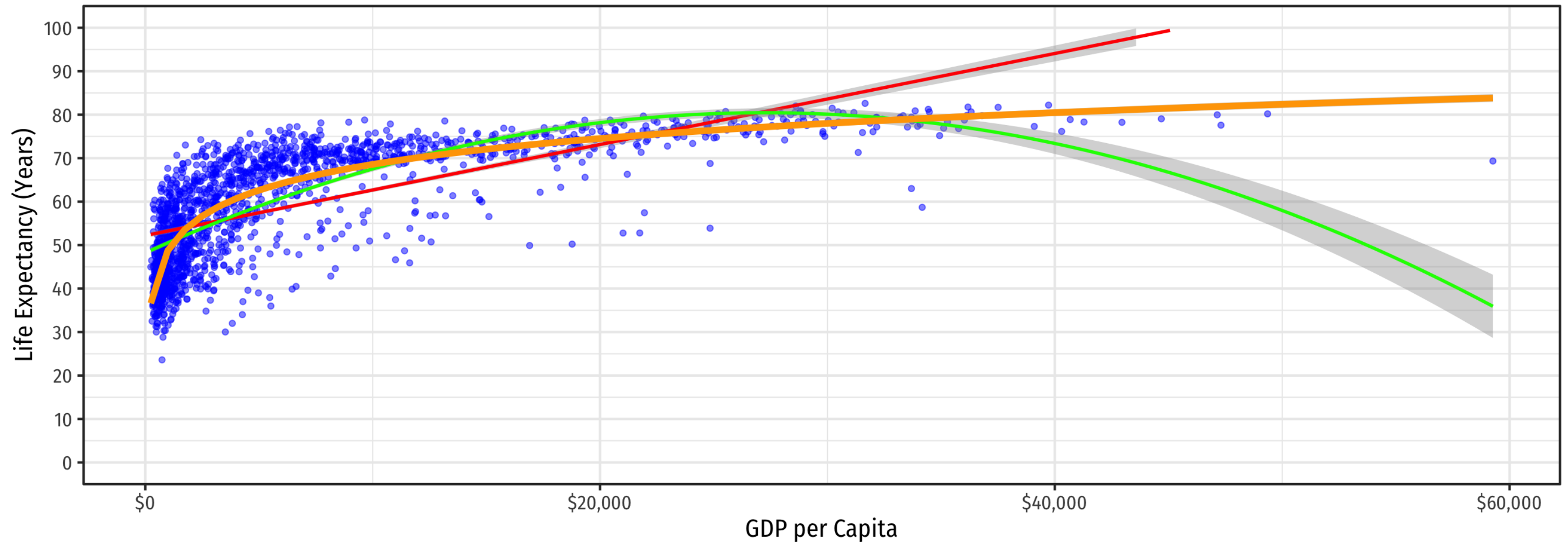
1. Are there good theoretical reasons for relationships changing (e.g. increasing/decreasing returns)?
2. Plot your data: does a straight line fit well enough?
3. Specify a polynomial function of a higher power (start with 2) and estimate OLS regression
4. Use  $t$ -test to determine if higher-power term is significant
5. Interpret effect of change in  $X$  on  $Y$
6. Repeat steps 3-5 as necessary (if there are good theoretical reasons)



# Logarithmic Models



# Linear Regression



$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP}_i$$

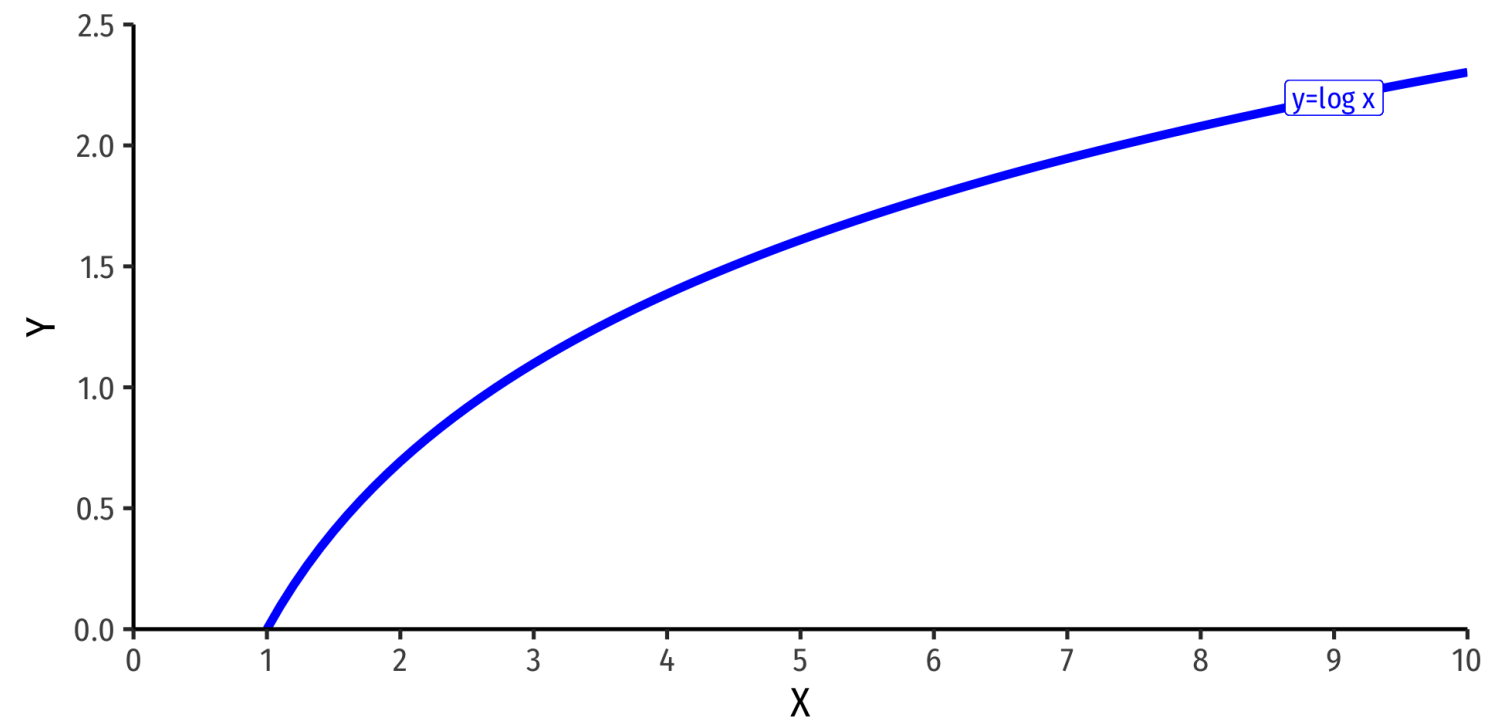
$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{GDP}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{GDP}_i^2$$

$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \ln \text{GDP}_i$$

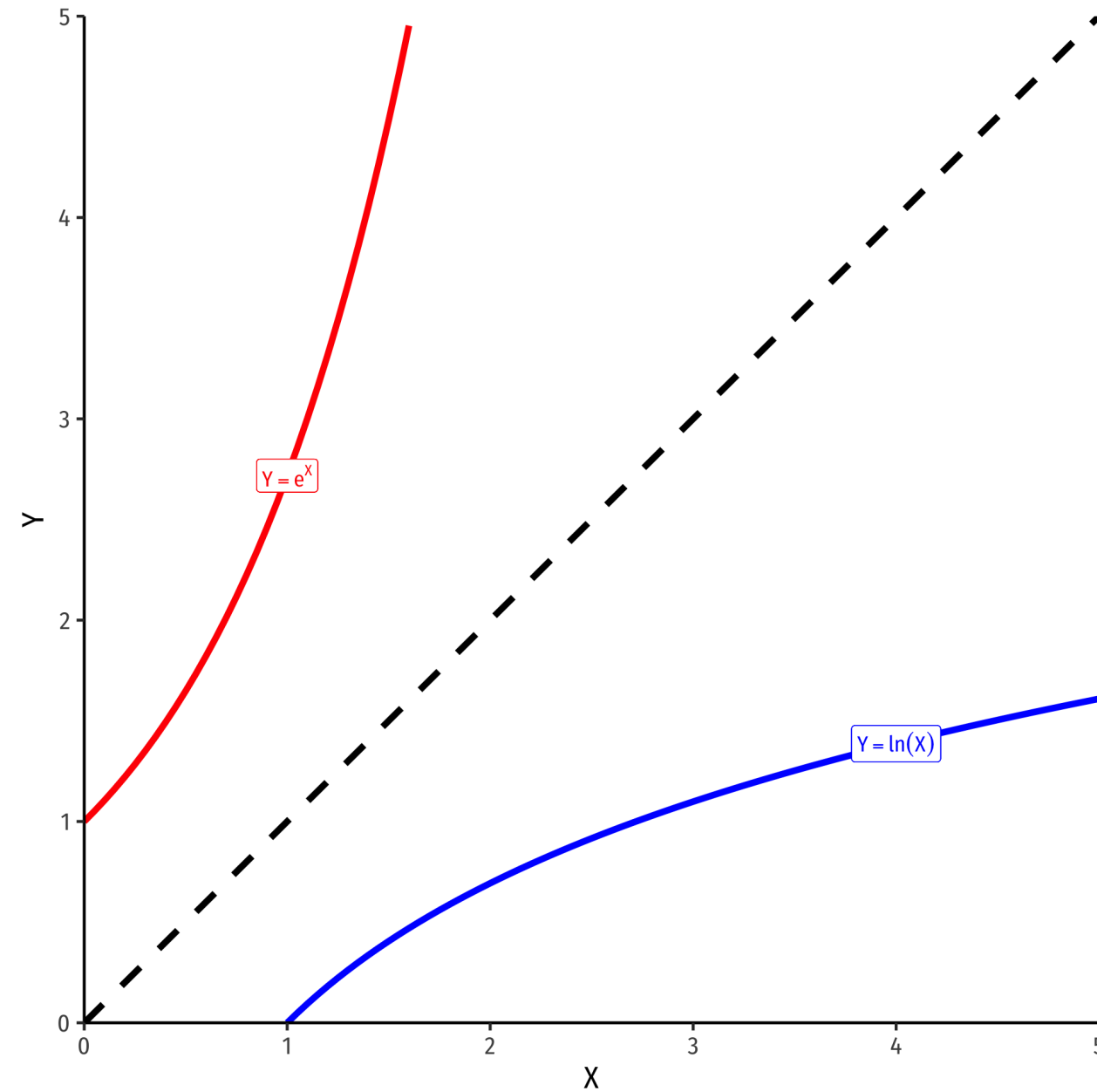


# Logarithmic Models

- Another useful model for nonlinear data is the **logarithmic model**<sup>1</sup>
  - We transform either  $X$ ,  $Y$ , or *both* by taking the **(natural) logarithm**
- Logarithmic model has two additional advantages
  1. We can easily interpret coefficients as **percentage changes** or **elasticities**
  2. Useful economic shape: diminishing returns (production functions, utility functions, etc)



# The Natural Logarithm



- The **exponential function**,  $Y = e^X$  or  $Y = \exp(X)$ , where base  $e = 2.71828\dots$
- **Natural logarithm** is the inverse,  $Y = \ln(X)$



# The Natural Logarithm: Review I

- **Exponents** are defined as

$$b^n = \underbrace{b \times b \times \cdots \times b}_{n \text{ times}}$$

- where base  $b$  is multiplied by itself  $n$  times

- **Example:**  $2^3 = \underbrace{2 \times 2 \times 2}_{n=3} = 8$

- **Logarithms** are the inverse, defined as the exponents in the expressions above

$$\text{If } b^n = y, \text{ then } \log_b(y) = n$$

- $n$  is the number you must raise  $b$  to in order to get  $y$
- **Example:**  $\log_2(8) = 3$



# The Natural Logarithm: Review II

- Logarithms can have any base, but common to use the **natural logarithm** ( $\ln$ ) with base  $e = 2.71828\dots$

$$\text{If } e^n = y, \text{ then } \ln(y) = n$$



# The Natural Logarithm: Properties

- Natural logs have a lot of useful properties:

$$1. \ln\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = -\ln(x)$$

$$2. \ln(ab) = \ln(a) + \ln(b)$$

$$3. \ln\left(\frac{x}{a}\right) = \ln(x) - \ln(a)$$

$$4. \ln(x^a) = a \ln(x)$$

$$5. \frac{d \ln x}{d x} = \frac{1}{x}$$



# The Natural Logarithm: Example

- Most useful property: for small change in  $x$ ,  $\Delta x$ :

$$\underbrace{\ln(x + \Delta x) - \ln(x)}_{\text{Difference in logs}} \approx \underbrace{\frac{\Delta x}{x}}_{\text{Relative change}}$$

## Example

Let  $x = 100$  and  $\Delta x = 1$ , relative change is:

$$\frac{\Delta x}{x} = \frac{(101 - 100)}{100} = 0.01 \text{ or } 1\%$$

- The logged difference:

$$\ln(101) - \ln(100) = 0.00995 \approx 1\%$$

- This allows us to very easily interpret coefficients as **percent changes** or **elasticities**



# Elasticity

- An **elasticity** between any two variables,  $\epsilon_{Y,X}$  describes the **responsiveness** (in %) of one variable ( $Y$ ) to a change in another ( $X$ )

$$\epsilon_{Y,X} = \frac{\% \Delta Y}{\% \Delta X} = \frac{\left( \frac{\Delta Y}{Y} \right)}{\left( \frac{\Delta X}{X} \right)}$$

- Numerator is relative change in  $Y$ , Denominator is relative change in  $X$
- **Interpretation:** a 1% change in  $X$  will cause a  $\epsilon_{Y,X}$ % change in  $Y$





# Math FYI: Cobb Douglas Functions and Logs

- One of the (many) reasons why economists love Cobb-Douglas functions:

$$Y = AL^\alpha K^\beta$$

- Taking logs, relationship becomes linear:

$$\ln(Y) = \ln(A) + \alpha \ln(L) + \beta \ln(K)$$

- With data on  $(Y, L, K)$  and linear regression, can estimate  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ 
  - $\alpha$ : elasticity of  $Y$  with respect to  $L$ 
    - A 1% change in  $L$  will lead to an  $\alpha\%$  change in  $Y$
  - $\beta$ : elasticity of  $Y$  with respect to  $K$ 
    - A 1% change in  $K$  will lead to a  $\beta\%$  change in  $Y$



# Math FYI: Cobb Douglas Functions and Logs

## Example

$$Y = 2L^{0.75} K^{0.25}$$

- Taking logs:

$$\ln Y = \ln 2 + 0.75 \ln L + 0.25 \ln K$$

- A 1% change in  $L$  will yield a 0.75% change in output  $Y$
- A 1% change in  $K$  will yield a 0.25% change in output  $Y$



# Logarithms in R I

- The `log()` function can easily take the logarithm

```
1 gapminder <- gapminder %>%
2   mutate(loggdp = log(gdpPercap)) # log GDP per capita
3
4 gapminder %>% head() # look at it
```

<b>country</b> <fct>	<b>continent</b> <fct>	<b>year</b> <int>
Afghanistan	Asia	1952
Afghanistan	Asia	1957
Afghanistan	Asia	1962
Afghanistan	Asia	1967
Afghanistan	Asia	1972
Afghanistan	Asia	1977

6 rows | 1-3 of 9 columns



# Logarithms in R II

- Note, `log()` by default is the **natural logarithm**  $\ln()$ , i.e. base  $e$ 
  - Can change base with e.g. `log(x, base = 5)`
  - Some common built-in logs: `log10`, `log2`

```
1 log10(100)
```

```
[1] 2
```

```
1 log2(16)
```

```
[1] 4
```

```
1 log(19683, base=3)
```

```
[1] 9
```



# Logarithms in R III

- Note when running a regression, you can pre-transform the data into logs (as I did above), or just add `log()` around a variable in the regression

<b>term</b> <chr>	<b>estimate</b> <dbl>	<b>std.error</b> <dbl>
(Intercept)	-9.100889	1.227674
loggdp	8.405085	0.148762

2 rows | 1-3 of 5 columns



# Types of Logarithmic Models

- Three types of log regression models, depending on which variables we log

1. **Linear-log model:**  $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X_i$

2. **Log-linear model:**  $\ln Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i$

3. **Log-log model:**  $\ln Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X_i$



# Linear-Log Model

# Linear-Log Model: Interpretation

- **Linear-log model** has an independent variable ( $X$ ) that is logged

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X_i$$
$$\beta_1 = \frac{\Delta Y}{\left(\frac{\Delta X}{X}\right)}$$

- **Marginal effect of  $X \rightarrow Y$ : a 1% change in  $X \rightarrow$  a  $\frac{\beta_1}{100}$  unit change in  $Y$**





# Linear-Log Model in R

term <chr>	estimate <dbl>	std.error <dbl>	statistic <dbl>
(Intercept)	-9.100889	1.227674	-7.413117
loggdp	8.405085	0.148762	56.500206

2 rows | 1-4 of 5 columns

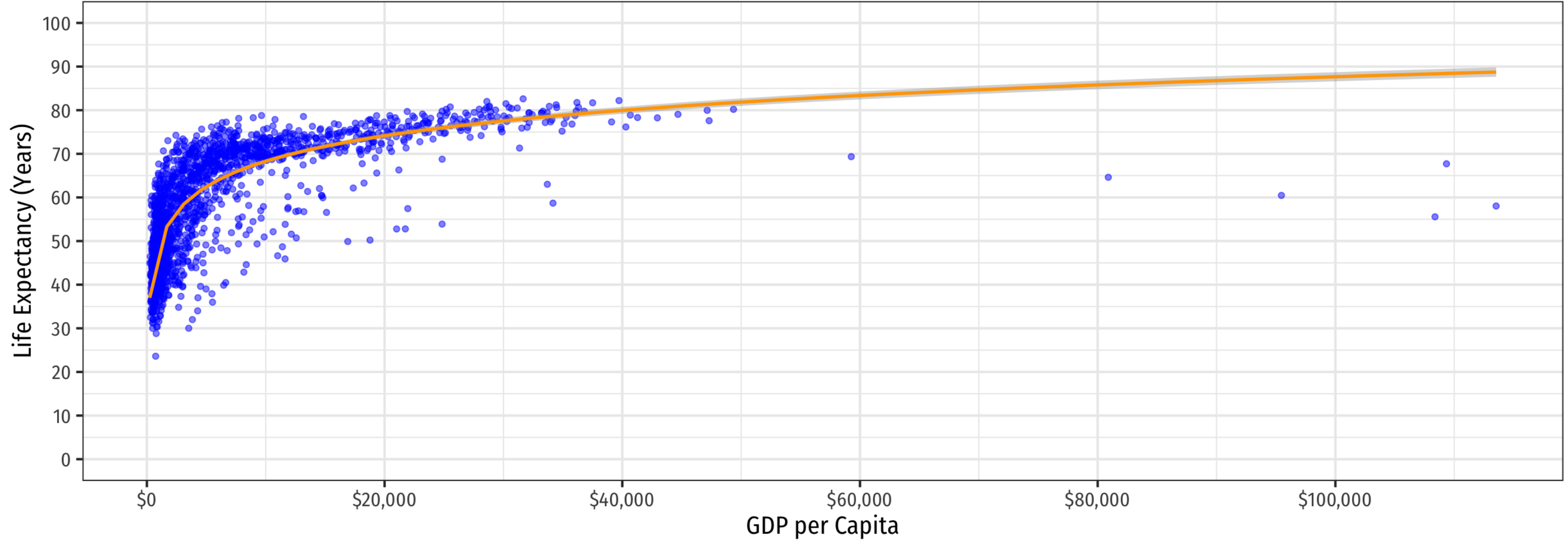
$$\widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = -9.10 + 8.41 \ln \text{GDP}_i$$

- A **1% change in GDP** → a  $\frac{9.41}{100} = \mathbf{0.0841}$  year increase in Life Expectancy
- A **25% fall in GDP** → a  $(-25 \times 0.0841) = \mathbf{2.1025}$  year *decrease* in Life Expectancy
- A **100% rise in GDP** → a  $(100 \times 0.0841) = \mathbf{8.4100}$  year increase in Life Expectancy



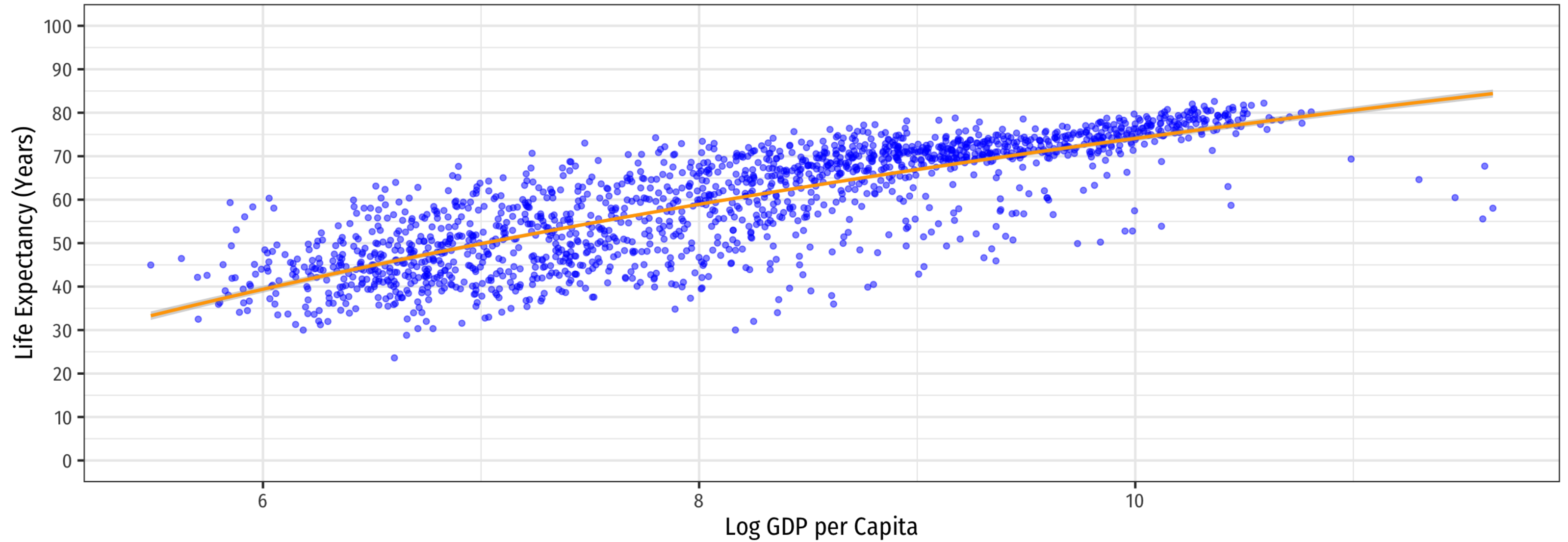
# Linear-Log Model Graph (Linear X-Axis)

► Code



# Linear-Log Model Graph (Log X-Axis)

► Code



# Log-Linear Model

# Log-Linear Model: Interpretation

- **Log-linear model** has the dependent variable ( $Y$ ) logged

$$\ln Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

$$\beta_1 = \frac{\left(\frac{\Delta Y}{Y}\right)}{\Delta X}$$

- **Marginal effect of  $X \rightarrow Y$ : a 1 unit change in  $X \rightarrow$  a  $\beta_1 \times 100\%$  change in  $Y$**



# Log-Linear Model in R (Preliminaries)

- We will again have very large/small coefficients if we deal with GDP directly, again let's transform `gdpPerCap` into \$1,000s, call it `gdp_t`
- Then log LifeExp

```
1 gapminder <- gapminder %>%
2   mutate(gdp_t = gdpPerCap/1000, # first make GDP/capita in $1000s
3          loglife = log(lifeExp)) # take the log of LifeExp
4 gapminder %>% head() # look at it
```

<b>country</b> <fct>	<b>continent</b> <fct>	<b>year</b> <int>
Afghanistan	Asia	1952
Afghanistan	Asia	1957
Afghanistan	Asia	1962
Afghanistan	Asia	1967
Afghanistan	Asia	1972



**country**

<fct>

**continent**

<fct>

**year**

<int>

Afghanistan

Asia

1977

6 rows | 1-3 of 11 columns



# Log-Linear Model in R

term <chr>	estimate <dbl>	std.error <dbl>	statistic <dbl>
(Intercept)	3.966639	0.0058345501	679.85339
gdp_t	0.012917	0.0004777072	27.03958

2 rows | 1-4 of 5 columns

$$\ln \widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = 3.967 + 0.013 \text{ GDP}_i$$

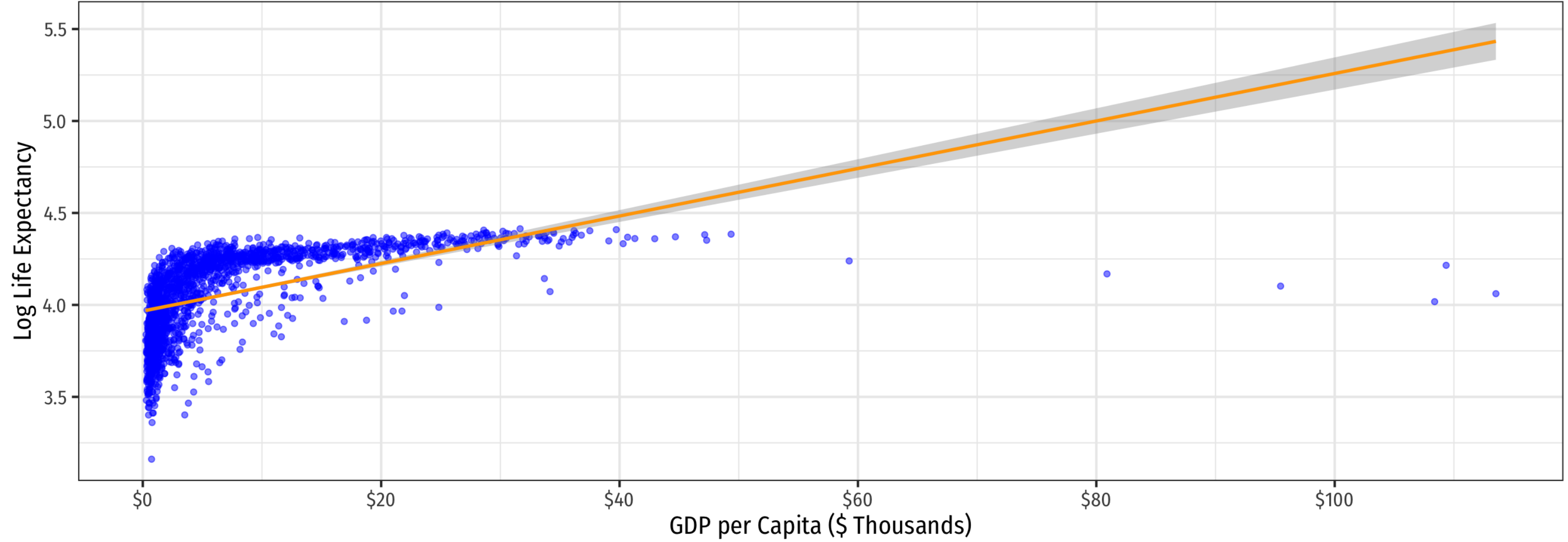
- A **\$1 (thousand) change in GDP** → a  $0.013 \times 100\% = 1.3\%$  **increase** in Life Expectancy
- A **\$25 (thousand) fall in GDP** → a  $(-25 \times 1.3\%) = 32.5\%$  **decrease** in Life Expectancy
- A **\$100 (thousand) rise in GDP** → a  $(100 \times 1.3\%) = 130\%$  **increase** in Life Expectancy





# Linear-Log Model Graph

► Code



# Log-Log Model

# Log-Log Model

- **Log-log model** has both variables ( $X$  and  $Y$ ) logged

$$\ln Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X_i$$

$$\beta_1 = \frac{\left(\frac{\Delta Y}{Y}\right)}{\left(\frac{\Delta X}{X}\right)}$$

- **Marginal effect of  $X \rightarrow Y$ : a 1% change in  $X \rightarrow$  a  $\beta_1$  % change in  $Y$**
- $\beta_1$  is the **elasticity** of  $Y$  with respect to  $X$ !



# Log-Log Model in R

term <chr>	estimate <dbl>	std.error <dbl>	statistic <dbl>
(Intercept)	2.864177	0.02328274	123.01718
loggdp	0.146549	0.00282126	51.94452

2 rows | 1-4 of 5 columns

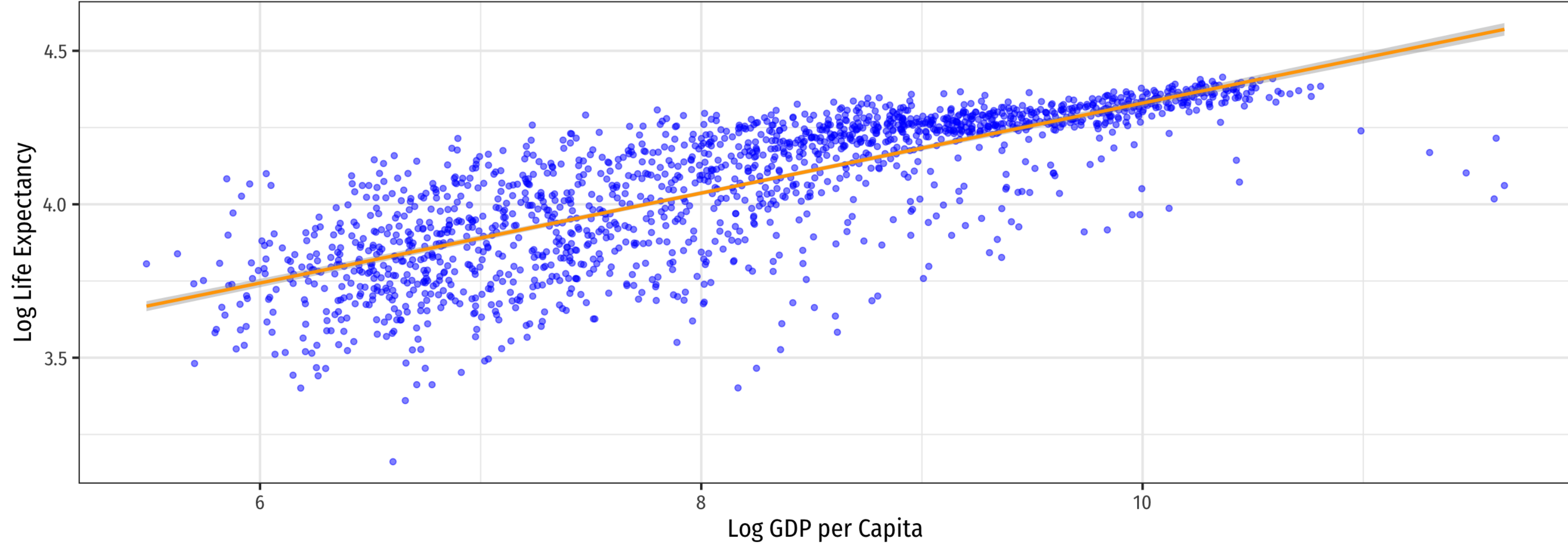
$$\ln \widehat{\text{Life Expectancy}}_i = 2.864 + 0.147 \ln \text{GDP}_i$$

- A **1% change in GDP** → a **0.147% increase** in Life Expectancy
- A **25% fall in GDP** → a  $(-25 \times 0.147\%) = \mathbf{3.675\% \text{ decrease}}$  in Life Expectancy
- A **100% rise in GDP** → a  $(100 \times 0.147\%) = \mathbf{14.7\% \text{ increase}}$  in Life Expectancy



# Log-Log Model Graph

► Code



# Comparing Log Models I

Model	Equation	Interpretation
Linear- <b>Log</b>	$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X$	1% change in $X \rightarrow \frac{\hat{\beta}_1}{100}$ <b>unit</b> change in $Y$
<b>Log</b> -Linear	$\ln Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$	1 <b>unit</b> change in $X \rightarrow \hat{\beta}_1 \times 100\%$ change in $Y$
<b>Log-Log</b>	$\ln Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X$	1% change in $X \rightarrow \hat{\beta}_1 \%$ change in $Y$

- Hint: the variable that gets **logged** changes in **percent** terms, the **linear** variable (not logged) changes in **unit** terms
  - Going from units  $\rightarrow$  percent: multiply by 100
  - Going from percent  $\rightarrow$  units: divide by 100



# Comparing Models II

► Code

	<b>Life Exp.</b>	<b>Log Life Exp.</b>	<b>Log Life Exp.</b>
Constant	-9.10***	3.97***	2.86***
	(1.23)	(0.01)	(0.02)
Log GDP per Capita	8.41***		0.15***
	(0.15)		(0.00)
GDP per capita (\$1,000s)		0.01***	
		(0.00)	
n	1704	1704	1704
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.65	0.30	0.61
SER	7.62	0.19	0.14

\* p < 0.1, \*\* p < 0.05, \*\*\* p < 0.01

- Models are very different units, how to choose?
  1. Compare intuition
  2. Compare  $R^2$ 's
  3. Compare graphs



# Comparing Models III

**Linear-Log**

**Log-Linear**

**Log-Log**

---

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \ln X_i$$

$$\ln Y_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i$$

$$\ln Y_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \ln X_i$$

---

$$R^2 = 0.65$$

$$R^2 = 0.30$$

$$R^2 = 0.61$$





# When to Log?

- In practice, the following types of variables are usually logged:
  - Variables that must always be **positive** (prices, sales, market values)
  - **Very large** numbers (population, GDP)
  - Variables we want to talk about as **percentage changes or growth rates** (money supply, population, GDP)
  - Variables that have **diminishing returns** (output, utility)
  - Variables that have nonlinear scatterplots
- *Avoid* logs for:
  - Variables that are less than one, decimals, 0, or negative
  - Categorical variables (season, gender, political party)
  - Time variables (year, week, day)



# Standardizing & Comparing Across Units

# Comparing Coefficients of Different Units I

$$\hat{Y}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2$$

- We often want to compare coefficients to see which variable  $X_1$  or  $X_2$  has a bigger effect on  $Y$
- What if  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are different units?

## Example

$$\widehat{\text{Salary}}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Batting average}_i + \beta_2 \text{Home runs}_i$$

$$\widehat{\text{Salary}}_i = -2,869,439.40 + 12,417,629.72 \text{ Batting average}_i + 129,627.36 \text{ Home runs}_i$$



# Comparing Coefficients of Different Units II

- An easy way is to **standardize**<sup>1</sup> the variables (i.e. take the  $Z$ -score)

$$X_Z = \frac{X_i - \bar{X}}{sd(X)}$$

- Note doing this will make the constant 0, as both distributions of  $X$  and  $Y$  are now centered at 0.

<sup>1</sup> Also called “centering” or “scaling”



# Comparing Coefficients of Different Units: Example

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev.
Salary	\$2,024,616	\$2,764,512
Batting Average	0.267	0.031
Home Runs	12.11	10.31

$$\widehat{\text{Salary}}_i = -2,869,439.40 + 12,417,629.72 \text{ Batting average}_i + 129,627.36 \text{ Home runs}_i$$

$$\widehat{\text{Salary}}_Z = 0.00 + 0.14 \text{ Batting average}_Z + 0.48 \text{ Home runs}_Z$$

- **Marginal effects** on  $Y$  (in *standard deviations of  $Y$* ) from 1 *standard deviation* change in  $X$ :
- $\hat{\beta}_1$ : a 1 standard deviation increase in Batting Average increases Salary by 0.14 standard deviations

$$0.14 \times \$2,764,512 = \$387,032$$

- $\hat{\beta}_2$ : a 1 standard deviation increase in Home Runs increases Salary by 0.48 standard deviations

$$0.48 \times \$2,764,512 = \$1,326,966$$



# Standardizing in R

Variable	Mean	SD
LifeExp	59.47	12.92
gdpPercap	\$7215.32	\$9857.46

- Use the `scale()` command inside `mutate()` function to standardize a variable

## ► Code

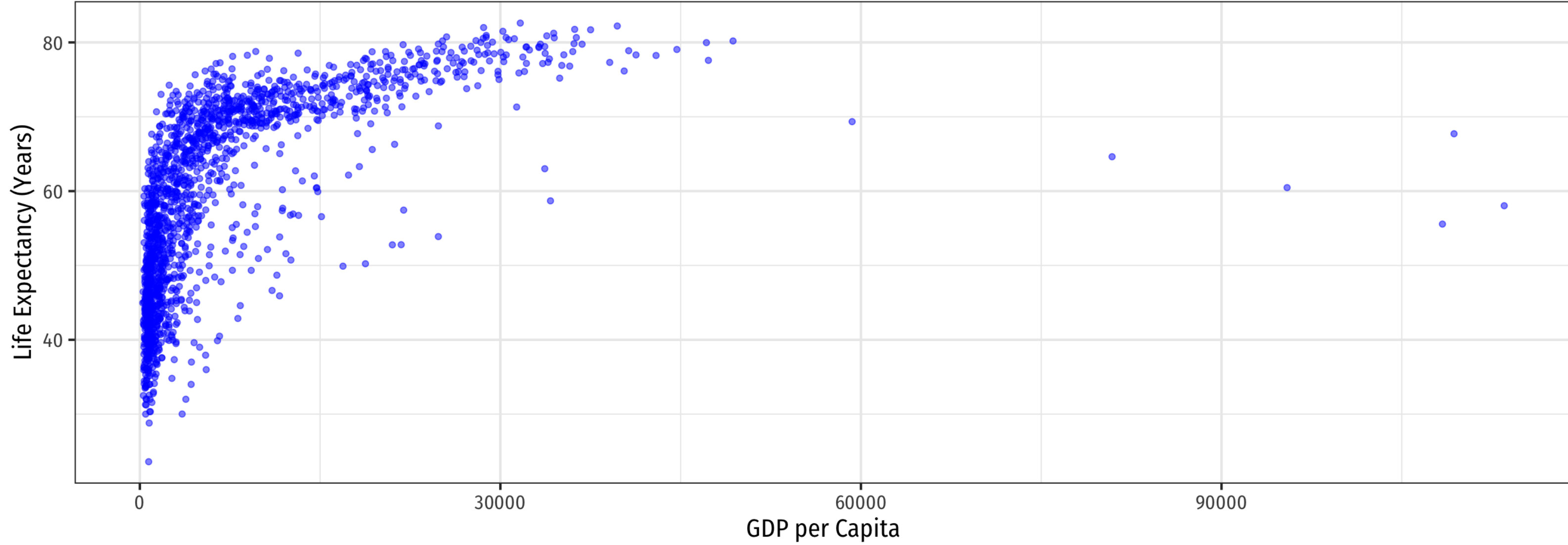
term	estimate
<chr>	<dbl>
(Intercept)	1.095650e-16
gdp_Z	5.837062e-01

2 rows | 1-2 of 5 columns



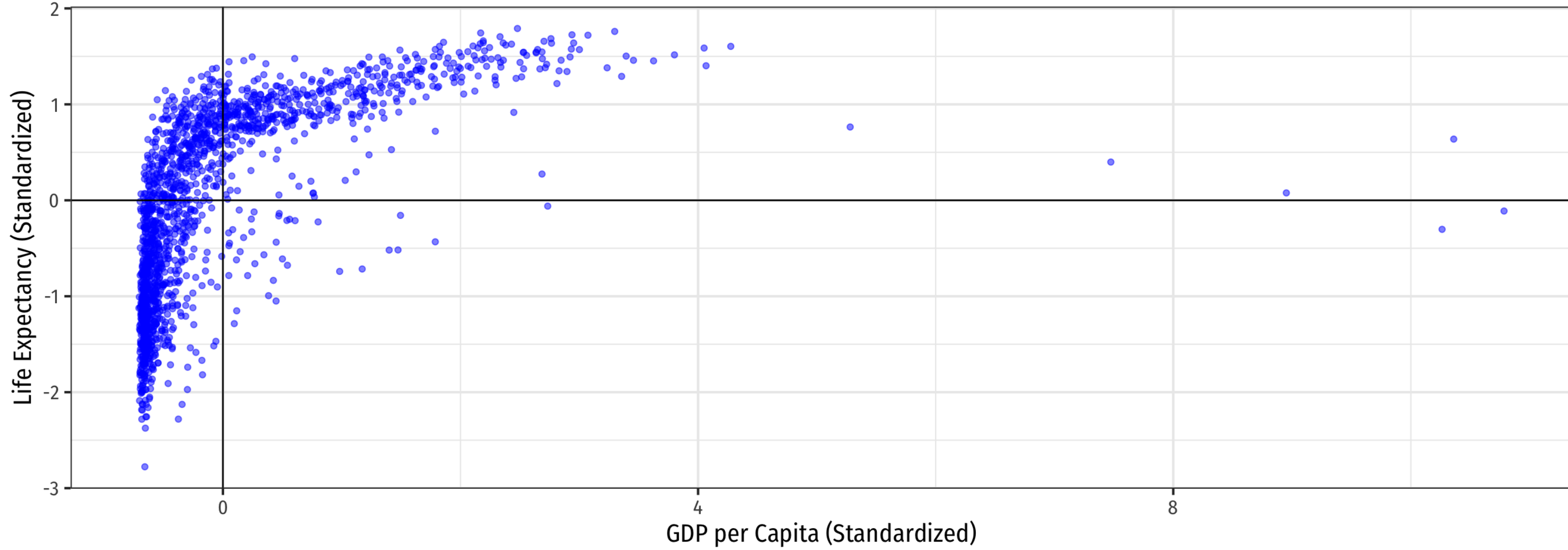
# Rescaling: Visually

► Code



# Rescaling: Visually

► Code





# Rescaling: Visually

- Both  $X$  and  $Y$  now have means of 0 and sd of 1

## ► Code

<b>mean_gdp</b> <dbl>	<b>sd_gdp</b> <dbl>	<b>mean_life</b> <dbl>
0	1	0

1 row | 1-3 of 4 columns



# Joint Hypothesis Testing

# Joint Hypothesis Testing I

## Example

Return again to:

$$\widehat{\text{Wage}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{Male}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{Northeast}_i + \hat{\beta}_3 \text{Midwest}_i + \hat{\beta}_4 \text{South}_i$$

- Maybe region doesn't affect wages *at all*?
- $H_0 : \beta_2 = 0, \beta_3 = 0, \beta_4 = 0$
- This is a **joint hypothesis** (of multiple parameters) to test



# Joint Hypothesis Testing II

- A **joint hypothesis** tests against the null hypothesis of a value for **multiple** parameters:

$$H_0 : \beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$$

the hypotheses that **multiple** regressors are equal to zero (have no causal effect on the outcome)

- Our **alternative hypothesis** is that:

$$H_1 : \text{either } \beta_1 \neq 0 \text{ or } \beta_2 \neq 0 \text{ or both}$$

or simply, that  $H_0$  is not true



# Types of Joint Hypothesis Tests

1.  $H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$

- Testing against the claim that multiple variables don't matter
- Useful under high multicollinearity between variables
- $H_a$ : at least one parameter  $\neq 0$

2.  $H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2$

- Testing whether two variables matter the same
- Variables must be the same units
- $H_a : \beta_1 (\neq, <, \text{ or } >) \beta_2$

3.  $H_0 : \text{ALL } \beta\text{'s} = 0$

- The “**Overall F-test**”
- Testing against claim that regression model explains *NO* variation in  $Y$



# Joint Hypothesis Tests: F-statistic

- The **F-statistic** is the test-statistic used to test joint hypotheses about regression coefficients with an **F-test**
- This involves comparing two models:
  1. **Unrestricted model**: regression with all coefficients
  2. **Restricted model**: regression under null hypothesis (coefficients equal hypothesized values)
- $F$  is an **analysis of variance (ANOVA)**
  - essentially tests whether  $R^2$  increases statistically significantly as we go from the restricted model  $\rightarrow$  unrestricted model
- $F$  has its own distribution, with *two* sets of degrees of freedom



# Joint Hypothesis F-test: Example I

## Example

$$\widehat{\text{Wage}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{Male}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{Northeast}_i + \hat{\beta}_3 \text{Midwest}_i + \hat{\beta}_4 \text{South}_i$$

- $H_0 : \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$
- $H_a : H_0$  is not true (at least one  $\beta_i \neq 0$ )



# Joint Hypothesis F-test: Example II

## Example

$$\widehat{\text{Wage}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{Male}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{Northeast}_i + \hat{\beta}_3 \text{Midwest}_i + \hat{\beta}_4 \text{South}_i$$

- **Unrestricted model:**

$$\widehat{\text{Wage}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{Male}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{Northeast}_i + \hat{\beta}_3 \text{Midwest}_i + \hat{\beta}_4 \text{South}_i$$

- **Restricted model:**

$$\widehat{\text{Wage}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{Male}_i +$$





# Calculating the F-statistic

$$F_{q,(n-k-1)} = \frac{\left( \frac{(R_u^2 - R_r^2)}{q} \right)}{\left( \frac{(1 - R_u^2)}{(n - k - 1)} \right)}$$



# Calculating the F-statistic

$$F_{q,(n-k-1)} = \frac{\left( \frac{(R_u^2 - R_r^2)}{q} \right)}{\left( \frac{(1 - R_u^2)}{(n - k - 1)} \right)}$$

- $R_u^2$ : the  $R^2$  from the **unrestricted model** (all variables)



# Calculating the F-statistic

$$F_{q,(n-k-1)} = \frac{\left( \frac{(R_u^2 - R_r^2)}{q} \right)}{\left( \frac{(1 - R_u^2)}{(n - k - 1)} \right)}$$

- $R_u^2$ : the  $R^2$  from the **unrestricted model** (all variables)
- $R_r^2$ : the  $R^2$  from the **restricted model** (null hypothesis)



# Calculating the F-statistic

$$F_{q,(n-k-1)} = \frac{\left( \frac{(R_u^2 - R_r^2)}{q} \right)}{\left( \frac{(1 - R_u^2)}{(n - k - 1)} \right)}$$

- $R_u^2$ : the  $R^2$  from the **unrestricted model** (all variables)
- $R_r^2$ : the  $R^2$  from the **restricted model** (null hypothesis)
- $q$ : number of restrictions (number of  $\beta' s = 0$  under null hypothesis)
- $k$ : number of  $X$  variables in .hi[unrestricted model] (all variables)
- $F$  has two sets of degrees of freedom:
  - $q$  for the numerator,  $(n - k - 1)$  for the denominator



# Calculating the F-statistic

$$F_{q,(n-k-1)} = \frac{\left( \frac{(R_u^2 - R_r^2)}{q} \right)}{\left( \frac{(1 - R_u^2)}{(n - k - 1)} \right)}$$

- **Key takeaway:** The bigger the difference between  $(R_u^2 - R_r^2)$ , the greater the improvement in fit by adding variables, the larger the  $F$ !
- This formula is (believe it or not) actually a simplified version (assuming homoskedasticity)
  - I give you this formula to **build your intuition of what F is measuring**



# F-test Example I

- We'll use the `wooldridge` package's `wage1` data again

```
1 # load in data from wooldridge package
2 library(wooldridge)
3 wages <- wage1
4
5 # run regressions
6 unrestricted_reg <- lm(wage ~ female + northcen + west + south, data = wages)
7 restricted_reg <- lm(wage ~ female, data = wages)
```



# F-test Example II

- **Unrestricted model:**

$$\widehat{\text{Wage}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{Male}_i + \hat{\beta}_2 \text{Northeast}_i + \hat{\beta}_3 \text{Midwest}_i + \hat{\beta}_4 \text{South}_i$$

- **Restricted model:**

$$\widehat{\text{Wage}}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 \text{Male}_i +$$

- $H_0 : \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$
- $q = 3$  restrictions (F numerator df)
- $n - k - 1 = 526 - 4 - 1 = 521$  (F denominator df)



# F-test Example III

- We can use the `car` package's `linearHypothesis()` command to run an  $F$ -test:
  - first argument: name of the (unrestricted) regression
  - second argument: vector of variable names (in quotes) you are testing

```
1 # load car package for additional regression tools
2 library(car)
3 # F-test
4 linearHypothesis(unrestricted_reg, c("northcen", "west", "south"))
```

	<b>Res.Df</b> <dbl>	<b>RSS</b> <dbl>	<b>Df</b> <dbl>
1	524	6332.194	NA
2	521	6174.831	3

2 rows | 1-4 of 7 columns

- $p$ -value on  $F$ -test  $< 0.05$ , so we can reject  $H_0$





# All F-test I

```
Call:
lm(formula = wage ~ female + northcen + west + south, data = wages)
```

```
Residuals:
    Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-6.3269 -2.0105 -0.7871  1.1898 17.4146
```

```
Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)   7.5654     0.3466  21.827 <2e-16 ***
female       -2.5652     0.3011  -8.520 <2e-16 ***
northcen     -0.5918     0.4362  -1.357  0.1755
west          0.4315     0.4838   0.892  0.3729
south        -1.0262     0.4048  -2.535  0.0115 *
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

```
Residual standard error: 3.443 on 521 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.1376,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.131
```

- Last line of regression output from `summary()` is an **All F-test**
  - $H_0 : \text{all } \beta' s = 0$ 
    - the regression explains no variation in  $Y$
  - Calculates an **F-statistic** that, if high enough, is significant (**p-value** < 0.05) enough to reject  $H_0$



# All F-test II

- Alternatively, if you use `broom` instead of `summary()`:
  - `glance()` command makes table of regression summary statistics
  - `tidy()` only shows coefficients

```
1 glance(unrestricted_reg)
```

<b>r.squared</b> <dbl>	<b>adj.r.squared</b> <dbl>	<b>sigma</b> <dbl>	<b>statistic</b> <dbl>
0.1376433	0.1310225	3.442656	20.78959

1 row | 1-4 of 12 columns

- `statistic` is the All F-test, `p.value` next to it is the p-value from the F test

