

Assignment #13

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x	y	1st diff	2nd diff
0	200		
1	193	-7	
2	182	-11	-4
3	167	-15	-4
4	148	-19	-4

$c = 200$
 $a + b \Rightarrow b = -5$
 $2a \Rightarrow a = -2$

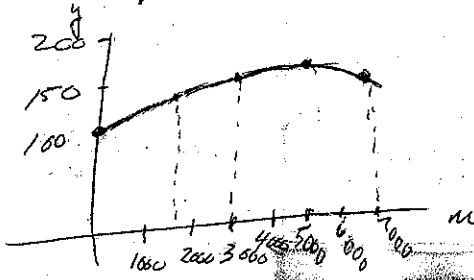
Because the 2nd differences are the same we have a quadratic relationship. The formula is

$$y = -2x^2 - 5x + 200$$

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Let m = gallons of manure per acre
 y = corn yield in bushels per acre

m	y
0	100
1750	145
3500	153
7000	153



It looks like the maximum yield would occur at $m = 5250$ half way between $m = 3500$ and $m = 7000$. If the relationship is quadratic the equation would look like $y = a(m - 5250)^2 + k$. We choose a and k so that $(0, 100)$ and $(3500, 153)$ are points on the graph. So we have

$$\begin{cases} 100 = a(0 - 5250)^2 + k \\ 153 = a(3500 - 5250)^2 + k \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 100 = 27562500a + k \\ 153 = 3062500a + k \end{cases} \text{ subtracting}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -53 &= 24500000a \\ a &\approx -2.163 \times 10^{-6} \\ k &\approx 159.625 \end{aligned}$$

$$y \approx -2.163 \times 10^{-6} (m - 5250)^2 + 159.625$$

or

$$y = -2.163 \times 10^{-6} m^2 + 0.022428m + 100$$

For this approximate function the optimal use of manure would be 5184 gallons/acre.