Examples of Spurious Regression

("*Regression that does not make any sense.*")

Typical symptom: "High R^2, t-values, F-value, but **low D/W**"

1. Egyptian infant mortality rate (Y), 1971-1990, annual data,
   on Gross aggregate income of American farmers (I)
   and Total Honduran money supply (M)

   $\hat{Y} = 179.9 \ - .2952 \ I - .0439 \ M,$ $R^2 = .918, \ D/W = .4752, \ F = 95.17$
   (16.63) (-2.32) (-4.26)   Corr = .8858, -.9113, -.9445

2. US Export Index (Y), 1960-1990, annual data,
   on Australian males' life expectancy (X)

   $\hat{Y} = -2943. \ + 45.7974 \ X,$ $R^2 = .916, \ D/W = .3599, \ F = 315.2$
   (-16.70) (17.76)   Corr = .9570

3. US Defense Expenditure (Y), 1971-1990, annual data,
   on Population of South African (X)

   $\hat{Y} = -368.99 \ + .0179 \ X,$ $R^2 = .940, \ D/W = .4069, \ F = 280.69$
   (-11.34)   (16.75)   Corr = .9694

4. Total Crime Rates in the US (Y), 1971-1991, annual data,
   on Life expectancy of South Africa (X)

   $\hat{Y} = -24569 \ + 628.9 \ X,$ $R^2 = .811, \ D/W = .5061, \ F = 81.72$
   (-6.03)   (9.04)   Corr = .9008

5. Population of South Africa (Y), 1971-1990, annual data,
   on Total R&D expenditure in the US (X)

   $\hat{Y} = 21698.7 \ + 111.58 \ X,$ $R^2 = .974, \ D/W = .3037, \ F = 696.96$
   (59.44)   (26.40)   Corr = .9873