

**Function Discovery – Fitting Parameters
for 2-parameter functions that are monotonic for positive x values**

Table 1: Basic Two-Parameter Models

1	2	3	4	5	6
Model type	Equation	Linearized form	Plot type (Matlab cmd.)	Fit	Coefficients
linear	$y = mx + b$	$y = mx + b$	linear (plot)	x vs y	b = B(1), m = B(2)
power	$y = bx^m$	$\log(y) = \log(b) + m \log(x)$	log-log (loglog)	$\log_{10}(x)$ vs $\log_{10}(y)$	b = $10^{B(1)}$ m = B(2),
exponential	$y = be^{mx}$	$\ln(y) = \ln(b) + mx$	semilog (semilogy)	x vs $\ln(y)$	b = $e^{B(1)}$ m = B(2),
	$y = b10^{mx}$	$\log(y) = \log(b) + mx$		x vs $\log_{10}(y)$	b = $10^{B(1)}$ m = B(2),

Fitting the parameters:

Model: Use graphs to decide if one of the two parameter models is appropriate. Write down the equation of the likely model (column 2) and its linear transform (column 3)

Setup: Use transformed variables from column 5 above to:
Create the design matrix, X (column of ones + a column of transformed x variable)
Create the response matrix, Y (column of transformed y-data)

Fit: Fit the linearized form in MATLAB.

- Determine parameter vector $B = X \backslash Y$
- B will be a column vector where the first element is the intercept and the second is the slope in the linearized equations in column 3 above

Predict: Now calculate predicted values. For a linear model simply use the resulting fitted values in the linear equation (column 2.) or use the matrix equation:

$$\gg \text{Yhat} = X * B$$

For a power or exponential model you must deal with the fact the parameters are transformed. For these two models you have two options:

- 1) Fit the linearized form (column 3) and then **untransform** the resulting predicted values; $y = 10^{\log(y)}$. For example, for a power law fit or a base-10 exponential fit:

$$\gg \log Yhat = X * B;$$

$$\gg Yhat = 10.^{\log Yhat}$$

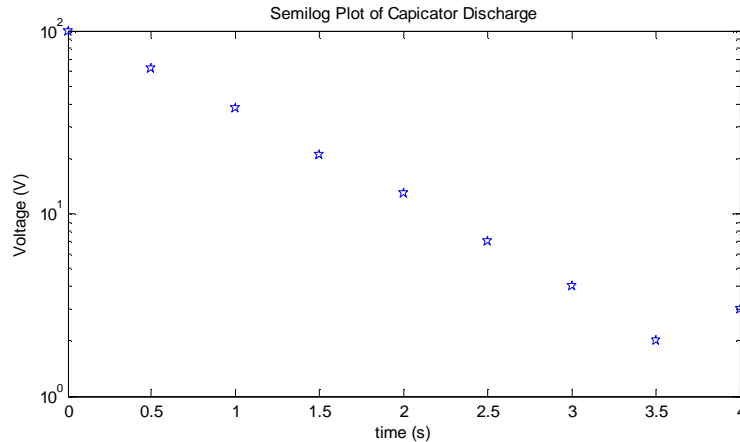
Be careful to use a dot operator for the power in this second equation.

- 2) **untransform** the $\log(b)$ and then use it in the original equation to get the predicted values. e.g. $\gg b = 10^{\log(B(1))}; m = B(2);$
 $\gg Yhat = m * X(:,2) + b;$

Plot: Check your fit by plotting both the data and the fitted values together on a single graph (experimental data should be points, the fitted equation a line).

E.G., Fitting the capacitor discharge data

Model: Last lecture we found the data was straight on a semilog plot implying an exponential model.



This implies either a base-ten or a base-e exponential model.
For the base-ten model the equations are:

$$V = b10^{mt} \quad \text{or} \quad \log(V) = \log(b) + mt$$

Setup: 1. Design Matrix: `>> X = [ones(length(t),1), t]`
2. Response Vector `>> Y = log10(V)`

Fit: `>> B = X \ Y`

Predict: `>> logVhat = X*B` or `>> b = 10^B(1), m = B(2)`
`>> Vhat = 10.^logVhat` `>> Vhat = b*10.^(m.*t)`

Plot: either on linear or semilog plot a
For the linear plot the commands would be:
`>> plot(t, V, 's', t, Vhat)`
`>> xlabel 'time (s.)', ylabel 'Voltage'`
`>> legend('Experimental data', 'Fit: V = (95.8)10^{-0.43*t}')`

Notice we are using the original untransformed variables.
For a semilog plot simply replace the *plot* function with *semilogy*

Note: you can show super scripts in the legend command by using the carrot (^), the character following the carrot symbol will be superscripted.

e.g. `>> legend('Data', 'Fit: y = 23*x^-3.^2')` or
`>> legend('Data', 'Fit: y = 23*x^{-3.2}')`

will display the following legend labels

