

Exercise series N°1

Exercise 1

1. Which of the following statements best describes a nonlinear model in statistical analysis?
 - a) A model in which the dependent variable is linearly related to the independent variables.
 - b) A model that cannot be expressed as a straight line when plotted on a graph, often involving transformations or interactions of variables.
 - c) A model in which all the independent variables are categorical.
 - d) A model that exclusively uses polynomial functions to describe relationships between variables.
2. A nonlinear model can be transformed into a linear model by:
 - a) Adding interaction terms.
 - b) Applying mathematical transformations such as logarithms.
 - c) Increasing the sample size.
 - d) Removing independent variables.
3. Which of the following is an example of a nonlinear model?
 - a) $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2$
 - b) $Y = \beta_0 e^{\beta_1 X}$
 - c) $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \beta_2 X^2$
 - d) $Y = \ln(\beta_0) + \beta_1 X$
4. A key advantage of nonlinear models is:
 - a) They are always easier to interpret than linear models.
 - b) They can capture complex relationships that linear models cannot.
 - c) They do not require initial guesses for parameter estimation.
 - d) They always have higher predictive accuracy than linear models.
5. Which of the following statements correctly differentiates between the **logarithmic model**, **exponential growth model**, and **power law model**?
 - a) In a **logarithmic model**, the dependent variable increases at a decreasing rate as the independent variable increases, and the model takes the form $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X$.
 - b) In an **exponential growth model**, the dependent variable grows at a constant percentage rate relative to its current value, and the model takes the form $Y = \beta_1 e^X$.
 - c) In a **power law model**, the relationship follows a proportional scaling rule, meaning a percentage increase in X leads to a fixed percentage change in Y, and the model takes the form $Y = \beta_0 X^{\beta_1}$.
 - d) All of the above are correct.

6. Which model would be most appropriate for studying the relationship between years of education and income growth over time?
 - a. Logarithmic Model
 - b. Exponential Growth Model
 - c. Power Law Model
 - d. None of the above
7. Which model is best suited for analyzing a situation where the population of a city doubles every 10 years?
 - a. Logarithmic Model
 - b. Exponential Growth Model
 - c. Power Law Model
 - d. None of the above
8. Which of the following models represents a logarithmic relationship between X and Y?
 - a) $Y = \ln(\beta_0) + \ln(\beta_1) \ln(X)$
 - b) $Y = \beta_1 e^X$
 - c) $Y = \beta_0 X^{\beta_1}$
 - d) $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X$
9. Which of the following statements best describes an exponential growth model?
 - a) A 1% increase in X leads to a **fixed percentage increase** in Y.
 - b) A 1% increase in X leads to a **decreasing increase** in Y over time.
 - c) A **fixed increase** in X leads to a **fixed increase** in Y.
 - d) A **fixed increase** in X leads to a **decreasing percentage increase** in Y.
10. You are analyzing the relationship between advertising expenditure and sales revenue. Initially, a small increase in advertising leads to a large increase in sales, but at higher levels of advertising, the increase in sales slows down. Which model is most appropriate?
 - a) $sales = \ln(\beta_0) + \ln(\beta_1) \ln(adv)$
 - b) $sales = \beta_1 e^{adv}$
 - c) $sales = \beta_0 adv^{\beta_1}$
 - d) $sales = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln adv$
11. In a logarithmic model of the form $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X$, what does the coefficient β_1 represent?
 - a) The absolute change in Y for a one-unit increase in X.
 - b) The percentage change in Y for a one-unit increase in X.
 - c) The change in Y associated with a **1% increase** in X.
 - d) The exponential growth rate of Y.
12. Which of the following real-world examples is best modeled using an exponential growth model $Y = \beta_1 e^X$?
 - a) The relationship between the length of a side of a square and its area.
 - b) The population of a bacteria culture that doubles every hour.
 - c) The relationship between advertising spending and sales, where initial spending has a large impact but diminishes over time.
 - d) The relationship between the speed of a car and the
13. In economics, the **Cobb-Douglas production function** is often used to model output as a function of labor and capital. This function is given by: $Y = \alpha K^\beta L^\gamma$, which type of model does this equation represent?
 - a) Logarithmic Model

- b) Exponential Growth Model
- c) Power Law Model
- d) None of the above

14. You are analyzing data on social media followers of a brand over time. Initially, the number of followers grows very quickly, but over time, the rate of growth slows down. Which model would best describe this trend?

- a) Logarithmic Model
- b) Exponential Growth Model
- c) Power Law Model
- d) Linear Model

15. The value of an investment grows continuously at a constant percentage rate over time. Which model best describes this scenario?

- a) Logarithmic Model
- b) Exponential Growth Model
- c) Power Law Model
- d) Quadratic Model

16. A company notices that each additional \$1,000 spent on advertising results in a smaller increase in sales than the previous \$1,000. Which model best describes this relationship?

- a) Linear Model
- b) Logarithmic Model
- c) Exponential Growth Model
- d) Power Law Model

17. Researchers found that as a city's population increases, the number of gas stations follows a power law. If the equation is: $G = \beta_0 P^{\beta_1}$ where G is the number of gas stations and P is the population, what does β_1 represent?

- a) The **percentage change** in G when P increases by 1%.
- b) The **absolute change** in G when P increases by 1 unit.
- c) The **base number of gas stations** in the city.
- d) The **rate of decline** in gas stations over time.

18. A researcher studies the relationship between employee experience (years) and productivity using a logarithmic model: $Y = 2 + 1.5 \ln(X)$ where:

Y is productivity (in efficiency units),

- X is years of experience.

What is the estimated productivity for an employee with **8 years of experience**?

- a) 2.5
- b) 3.5
- c) 4.7
- d) 5.2

19. The number of COVID-19 cases in a city follows an exponential growth model: $C_t = 100e^{0.1t}$ where:

- C_t is the number of cases at time t (in days),
- $t=0$ corresponds to **Day 0** with **100 cases**.

Estimate the number of cases after **10 days**.

- a) 200
- b) 271
- c) 500
- d) 1,000

Case Study 1: E-Commerce Growth

An **e-commerce company** tracks the number of users visiting its website. The data shows **rapid initial growth**, which later slows down as the market reaches saturation.

Discussion Questions:

1. Based on this trend, which model (logarithmic, exponential, or power law) would best describe website traffic?
2. Suppose the company estimates a model $V=200+50\ln(T)$, where V is the number of visitors and T is time in months. Predict the number of visitors in **month 12**.
3. How would the interpretation change if the model was **exponential instead of logarithmic**?

Case Study 2: Energy Consumption & Population

Researchers are studying how **energy consumption (E)** scales with **population size (P)** in different countries. They estimate the following **power law model**: $E = 0.5P^{0.75}$.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does the exponent **0.75** tell us about the relationship between energy and population?
2. If Country A has **50 million** people and Country B has **100 million**, does Country B use **twice as much** energy?
3. Why might a **power law** be more appropriate than a **linear model** for this relationship?

Practical Work

Exercise 2 :

Problem Statement:

A company tracks the sales Y (in thousands of dollars) of a product based on advertising expenditure X (in thousands of dollars). The relationship between sales and advertising is believed to follow the nonlinear model, The company collects the following data:

Advertising Expenditure (X)	Sales (Y)
1.5	4.8
2.0	6.3
2.5	7.5
3.0	8.5
3.5	9.4
4.0	10.2
4.5	11.0
5.0	11.9
5.5	12.6
6.0	13.3

Tasks:

1. Perform the model that show the relationship between these two variables?
2. Transform the nonlinear model into a linearized form suitable for estimation.
3. Estimate β_0 and β_1 ?
4. Predict the sales when the advertising expenditure is $X = 0$ or 10 .

Exercise 3

The **Federal Reserve** is studying the relationship between **inflation** and **GDP growth** in the **United States**. Some economists believe that inflation has an **exponential power effect** on economic growth:

Year	Inflation (%)	GDP Growth (%)
1980	13.5	-0.3
1985	3.6	4.2
1990	5.4	1.9
1995	2.8	2.7
2000	3.4	4.1
2005	3.2	3.5
2010	1.6	2.5
2015	0.1	2.9
2020	1.2	-3.4
2023	4.5	2.0

1. Which nonlinear model is appropriate to test this relationship.
2. Estimate the parameters β_0 and β_1 using nonlinear regression.
3. Interpret the results .
4. How does **GDP growth** respond to an **increase in inflation** from 2% to 8%?
5. Predict **GDP growth** if inflation reaches **10%**.

Exercise 4: An investment analyst is studying the relationship between **Apple Inc.’s market capitalization** and its **stock market return** over the past **30 years**. The hypothesis is that as Apple grows, its returns **diminish**, following a **logarithmic model**. Dataset: Apple Inc. (1994-2023, 30 Years of Data) is as follow :

Year	Market Cap (\$B)	Annual Return (%)
1994	3.0	110.2
1995	5.2	82.5
2000	8.5	65.7
2005	35.0	49.8
2010	190.0	34.2
2015	650.0	20.3
2020	2,000.0	15.8
2023	2,900.0	12.5

- Write the model that represent the relationship between the variable under study
- Estimate the parameters β_0 and β_1 .
How does **Apple’s market cap** affect **its annual stock returns**?
Predict Apple’s **stock return** if its **market cap** reaches **\$4 trillion**.
Does the **logarithmic model** explain why Apple’s **growth rate slowed over time**?
Compare Apple’s **early growth phase (1994-2010)** to its **mature phase (2010-2023)**—has the relationship changed?

Exercise 5 :

A national telecommunications company wants to understand whether larger branch customer bases yield proportionally higher revenue or if the relationship follows a scaling law. Preliminary analyses suggest that revenue and customer count follow a **power law relationship**. The company has collected data from 10 of its branches over the past fiscal year.

Dataset (10 Branches of the Company)

Branch ID	Customers (in thousands)	Annual Revenue (million USD)
1	1	1.2
2	2	2.5
3	3	3.3
4	4	4.8
5	5	6.2
6	6	7.5
7	7	8.6
8	8	9.8
9	9	11.0
10	10	12.3

1. Write the model that represent the relationship between the variables.
2. Use the logarithmic transformation to perform a linear regression
3. Estimate the parameters β , Interpret the estimated β (discuss what the value of β indicates about the relationship between customer count and revenue)
4. Use the estimated model, to predict the annual revenue for a branch serving 12,000 customers
Show your calculation and interpret the result in practical terms
5. Based on the model findings, discuss potential strategies for the company:
 - If $\beta < 1$ (diminishing returns), how should the company plan for new branch openings or expansions?