

Eng. 100: Music Signal Processing

DSP Lecture 2: Lab 2 overview

Curiosity: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qybUFnY7Y8w>

Announcements:

- DSP lecture notes on [Google Drive](#)
- Lab 1
 - Finish RQ on [Canvas](#) by Thu. at 10:30AM (usually due *before* lab)
 - Finish Lab 1 this week; due Friday 5PM on [Gradescope](#) (grace)
- Read Lab 2 before next week's lab!
Finish RQ on [Canvas](#) by next Thu. at 10:30AM.
- Midterm (on schedule): Wed. Mar. 20, in class
- See [syllabus](#) for office hours. Come say hi!

Outline

- Previous class summary (TC, A/D, frequency, Julia)
- Part 0. Lab 1 questions? (cut-and-paste vs understanding / HW0)
- Part 1: Terminology

Lab 2: Computing and visualizing the frequencies of musical tones

- Part 2. Sampling signals, especially sinusoids
- Part 3: Computing the frequency of a sampled sinusoid
(with a computer, rather than by hand and eye like in previous class)
- Part 4: Visualizing, modeling and interpreting data
using semi-log and log-log plots
- Part 5: Basic dimension analysis (units)

Part 1: Terminology

Terminology

Help me remember to define each new term!

(First overview class may have been rushed but not now...)

Course title: Music Signal Processing

What is a **signal**?

Wikipedia (electronics) 2012:

a signal is any time-varying or spatial-varying quantity

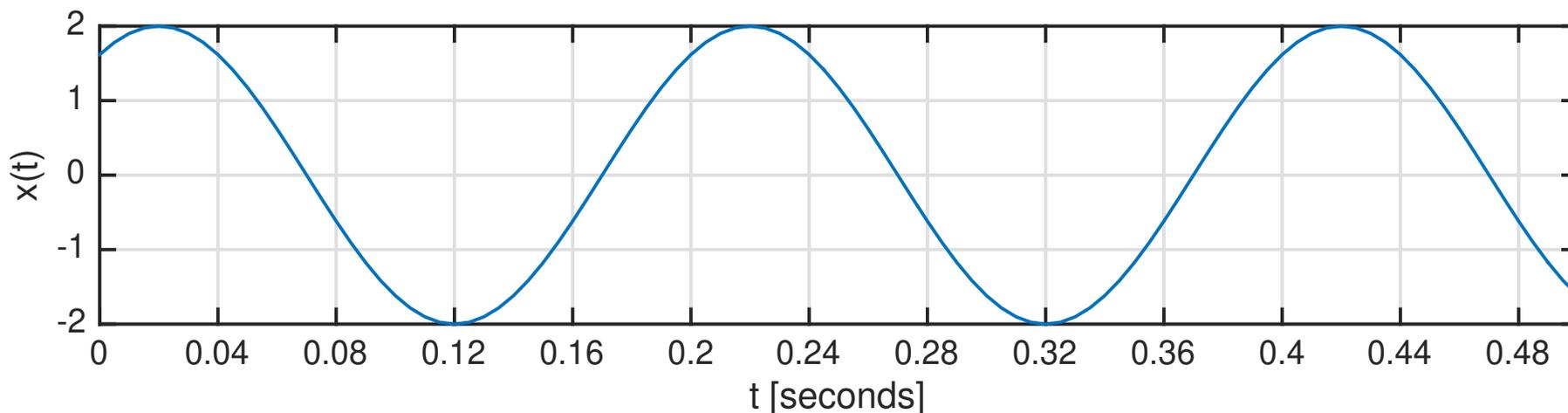
2021: *"In signal processing, a signal is a function that conveys information about a phenomenon."*

Q0.1 Common use of "signal" ? (short answer; introduce neighbors)

??

Part 2:
Sampling analog signals,
especially sinusoidal signals

Sinusoidal “pure” tones (simple signal)



From Lab 1:

$$x(t) = 2 \cos(2\pi 5 (t - 0.02)) = 2 \cos(2\pi 5t - \pi/5)$$

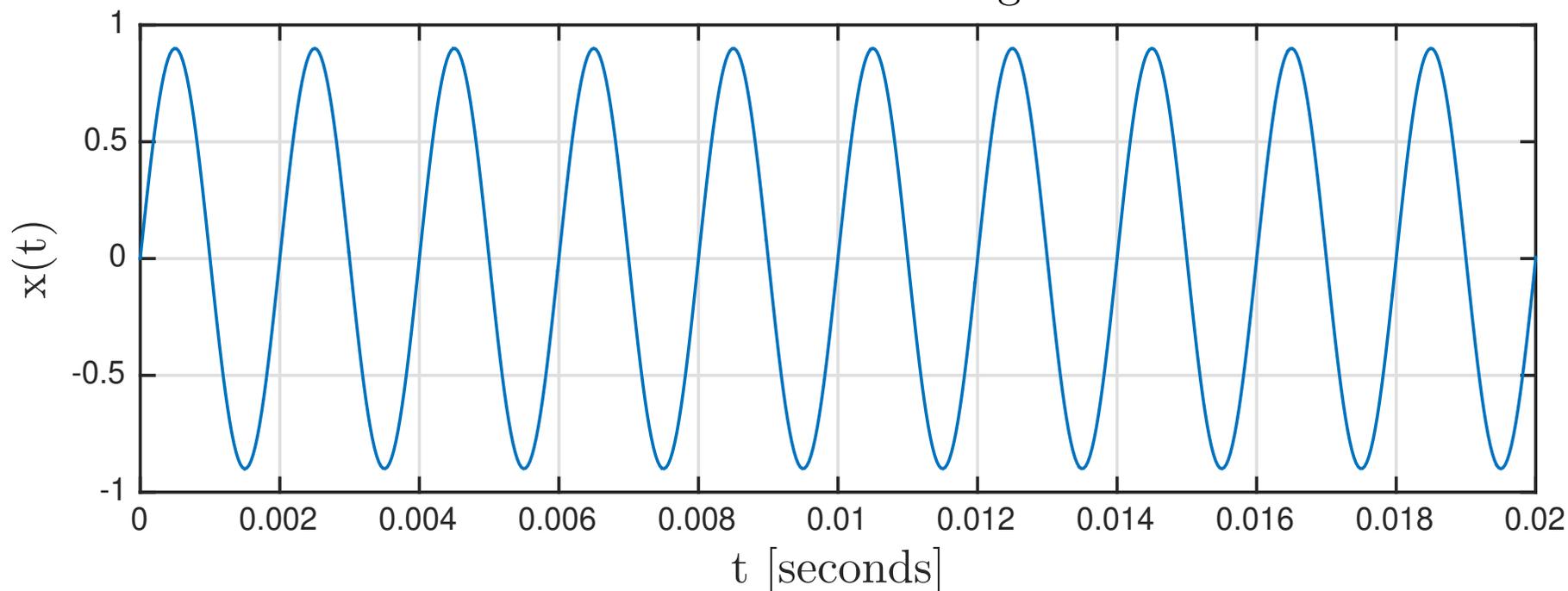
- Amplitude: $A = 2$
- Frequency: $f = 5$ Hz (cycles per second)
- Period: $T = 1/f = 0.2$ s
- Phase: $\theta = -\pi/5$ radians

“musical?” (*cf.* instruments, *cf.* hearing range)

Sinusoidal signal at 500 Hz

$$x(t) = 0.9 \cos(2\pi 500t - \pi/2)$$

500 Hz sinusoidal signal



Q0.2 What is the period of this signal (in seconds)?

A: 2

B: 0.2

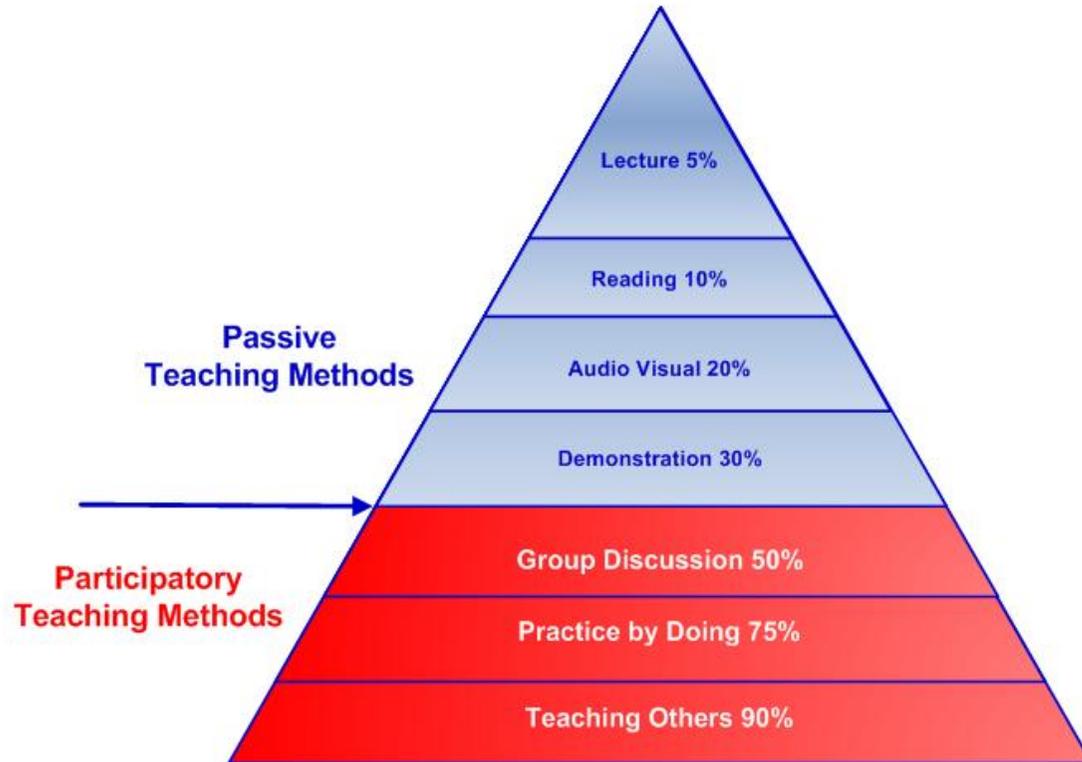
C: 0.02

D: 0.002

E: 500

Learning pyramid

The Learning Pyramid



Q0.3 What are the units of “ n ” above? (Choose best answer.)

A: unitless B: seconds C: Hz D: $\frac{\text{Sample}}{\text{Second}}$ E: none of these

Q0.4 What are the units of “ n/S ” ?

A: unitless B: seconds C: Hz D: $\frac{\text{Sample}}{\text{Second}}$ E: none of these

Analog signal $x(t)$ and digital signal $x[n]$ are related but quite different!

Terminology:

Q0.5 Common use of term *sample* or *sampling*?

Example: Sampled sinusoidal signal

Analog signal

$$x(t) = 2 \cos(2\pi(5\text{Hz})t - \pi/5)$$

Choose sampling rate: $S = 50$ Hz.

Q0.6 What is the sampling interval Δ ?

A: 20

B: 2

C: 0.2

D: 0.02

E: None of these

??

Mars Climate Orbiter loss 1999-08-23 (\approx \$190 M)

<https://science.nasa.gov/mission/mars-climate-orbiter>

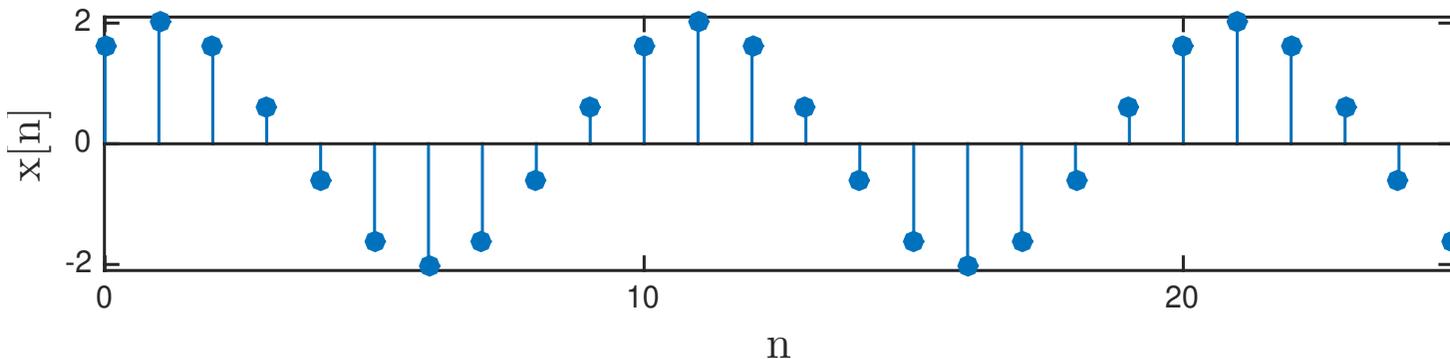
Analog signal:

$$x(t) = 2 \cos(2\pi(5\text{Hz})t - \pi/5)$$

For $S = 50$ Hz, we substitute $t = n/S = n/(50\text{Hz})$ to emulate A/D.

Digital signal:

$$\begin{aligned} x[n] &= x(0.02n) = 2 \cos(2\pi(5\text{Hz})(n/50\text{Hz}) - \pi/5) \\ &= 2 \cos(0.2\pi n - \pi/5) \text{ after simplifying} \end{aligned}$$



Q0.7 What are the units of " $0.2\pi n - \pi/5$ " above? (Choose best.)

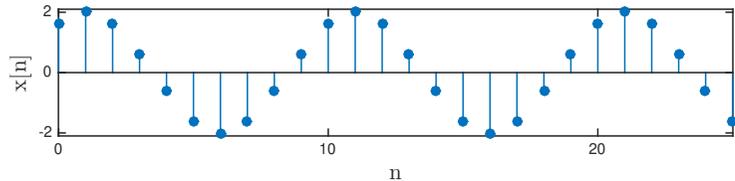
A: unitless B: radians C: Hz D: $\frac{\text{Sample}}{\text{Second}}$ E: degrees

??

Example: Sampled sinusoidal signal (continued)

Digital signal as a formula: $x[n] = 2 \cos(0.2\pi n - \pi/5)$

Digital signal as a plot:



But in a computer (or DSP chip in phone) it is an array (list) of numbers:

n	$x[n]$ (value)	$x[n]$ (formula)
0	1.62	$2 \cos(0.2\pi 0 - \pi/5)$
1	2.00	$2 \cos(0.2\pi 1 - \pi/5)$
2	1.62	$2 \cos(0.2\pi 2 - \pi/5)$
3	0.62	\vdots
4	-0.62	
5	-1.62	
\vdots	\vdots	

(Actually stored in binary (base 2) not in decimal.)

Sampling a sinusoid in general

Given a pure sinusoidal (analog) signal: $x(t) = A \cos(2\pi ft + \theta)$.

Q0.8 Units of the product ft ? (not feet)

A: unitless B: seconds C: Hz D: $\frac{\text{Sample}}{\text{Second}}$ E: none of these

If we sample it at $S \frac{\text{Sample}}{\text{Second}}$ (by substituting $t = n/S$),
we get a digital sinusoidal signal (formula):

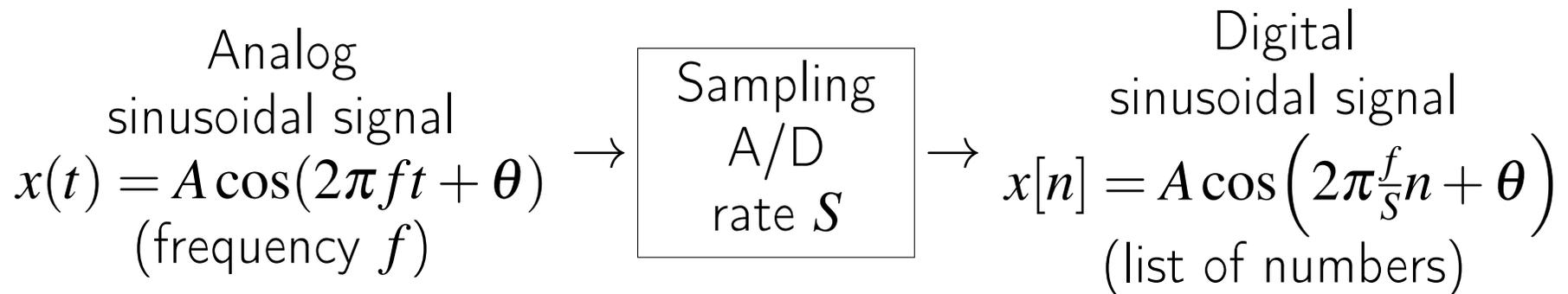
$$x[n] = A \cos(2\pi fn/S + \theta) = A \cos\left(2\pi \frac{f}{S}n + \theta\right)$$

Q0.9 Units of f/S ?

A: unitless B: seconds C: Hz D: $\frac{\text{Sample}}{\text{Second}}$ E: none of these

The quantity $\Omega = 2\pi f/S$ is called the *digital frequency* in DSP.

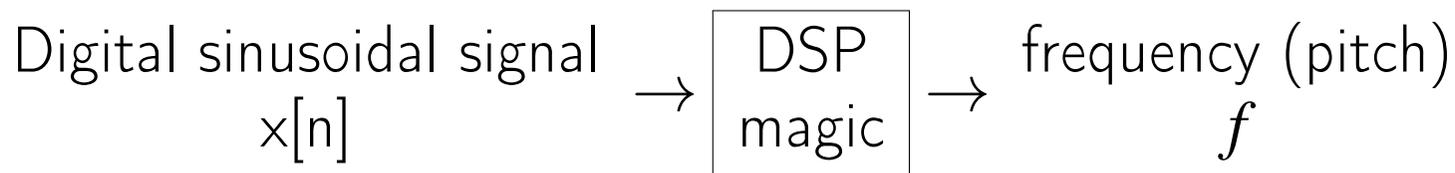
Sampling a sinusoid - summary



Real world:

- A computer sound card samples a microphone input signal.
- Applications like Shazam/Zoom/TikTok use digital audio signals.

Basic music **transcription** requires that we *reverse* this process!



Part 3:
Computing the frequency
of a sampled sinusoidal signal

Reconstructing a sinusoid from its samples

Given samples of a digital sinusoid in a computer:

$$x[n] = A \cos(\Omega n + \theta), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

(Stored as a list of N numbers, not as a formula, for known rate S .)

How can we find the frequency f of the original analog sinusoidal signal?

- Step 1. Determine the “digital frequency” Ω
- Step 2. Relate Ω to the original (analog) frequency. (cf. “ $F = ma$ ”)

This step is easy because $\Omega = 2\pi \frac{f}{S}$, so rearranging: $f = \frac{\Omega}{2\pi} S$.

Example. $x[n] = 3 \cos(0.0632n + 5)$ with $S = 8192$ Hz.

Original frequency is $f = \frac{0.0632}{2\pi} 8192 \text{ Hz} = 82.4 \text{ Hz}$ (low E)

But what if we are given an array of signal values instead of a formula?

Finding a digital frequency

(The computer or DSP chip perspective)

Given:

- Signal values:

n	0	1	2	3	4	5	...
$x[n]$	1.62	2.00	1.62	0.62	-0.62	-1.62	...

- Sinusoidal assumption (model): $x[n] = A \cos(\Omega n + \theta)$

Goal: Determine the digital frequency Ω , a **model parameter**.

This problem arises in many applications, including music DSP.

EE types have proposed many solutions.

Lab 2 uses an elegantly simple method based on trigonometry.

Everything in signal processing / data science / statistics starts with arrays of numbers (data) and uses models to extract (hopefully useful) information.

Key trigonometric identities

Angle sum and difference formulas [\[wiki\]](#)

$$\cos(a + b) = \cos a \cos b - \sin a \sin b$$

$$\cos(a - b) = \cos a \cos b + \sin a \sin b$$

Product-to-sum identities:

$$2 \cos a \cos b = \cos(a - b) + \cos(a + b)$$

$$2 \sin a \sin b = \cos(a - b) - \cos(a + b)$$

Wikipedia says these identities date from 10th century Persia. [\[wiki\]](#)

We will use these (ancient) identities repeatedly!

Practical example: Tuning a piano

Rewriting product-to-sum identity:

$$\cos(a + b) + \cos(a - b) = 2 \cos a \cos b.$$

Substitute $a = 2\pi 442t$ and $b = 2\pi 2t$:

$$\cos(2\pi 444t) + \cos(2\pi 440t) = 2 \cos(2\pi 442t) \cos(2\pi 2t).$$

The sum of two sinusoids having close frequencies is a sinusoid at the average of the frequencies with a (sinusoidally) time-varying amplitude!

440:	play	444:	play	440&444:	play
		441:	play	440&441:	play

The combined (sum) signal gets louder and softer, “beating” with period = 0.25 sec. Why do we consider the sum? ??

The slower the period, the closer the 2 frequencies.

Why is this relevant to tuning a piano (or guitar or ...)? ??

Back to finding a digital frequency

Repeating product-to-sum identity:

$$\cos(a + b) + \cos(a - b) = 2 \cos a \cos b.$$

As another practical application of this identity, some clever DSP expert suggested substituting $a = \Omega n + \theta$ and $b = \Omega$:

$$\cos(\Omega(n + 1) + \theta) + \cos(\Omega(n - 1) + \theta) = 2 \cos(\Omega) \cos(\Omega n + \theta).$$

Now use sinusoidal model assumption: $x[n] = A \cos(\Omega n + \theta)$, yielding:

$$x[n + 1] + x[n - 1] = 2 \cos(\Omega) x[n].$$

Rearranging yields $\cos(\Omega) = \frac{x[n + 1] + x[n - 1]}{2x[n]}$, or equivalently:

$$\Omega = \arccos \left(\frac{x[n + 1] + x[n - 1]}{2x[n]} \right).$$

Example: find a sinusoid's digital frequency

Q0.10 How many signal samples do we need to find Ω ?

A: 1 B: 2 C: 3 D: 4 E: 5

??

Earlier example:

n	0	1	2	3	4	5	...
$x[n]$	1.62	2.00	1.62	0.62	-0.62	-1.62	...

Apply the arccos formula to this data using $n = 2$:

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega &= \arccos\left(\frac{x[n+1] + x[n-1]}{2x[n]}\right) = \arccos\left(\frac{x[3] + x[1]}{2x[2]}\right) \\ &= \arccos\left(\frac{0.62 + 2}{2 \cdot 1.62}\right) = \arccos(0.8086) = 0.629 \approx 0.2\pi.\end{aligned}$$

cf. sampled sinusoidal signal on p. 13.

Is this useful for a guitar tuner app yet? ??

Example of finding a sinusoid's frequency

Recall from “Step 2” on p. 17 that $f = \frac{\Omega}{2\pi} S$

Combining Step 1 and Step 2:

$$f = \frac{S}{2\pi} \arccos \left(\frac{x[n+1] + x[n-1]}{2x[n]} \right).$$

Use this formula in Lab 2 to compute the frequency from a digital signal corresponding to samples of a sinusoid.

Example: $S = 1500$ Hz and $x[n] = (\dots, ?, ?, ?, 3, 7, 4, ?, ?, ?, \dots)$

The signal values denoted “?” are, say, lost or garbled.

Solution: $f = \frac{1500}{2\pi} \arccos \left(\frac{3+4}{2 \cdot 7} \right) = \frac{1500}{2\pi} \arccos \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1500}{2\pi} \frac{\pi}{3} = 250 \text{ Hz}.$

Historical note: this approach is a simplification of [Prony's method](#) from (!) 1795.

Exercise

Suppose $S = 8000$ Hz and the signal samples are $x[n] = (\dots, 0, 5, 0, -5, 0, 5, 0, -5, 0, \dots)$

Q0.11 What is the frequency f of the sinusoid (in **Hz**)?

A: 1000 B: 2000 C: 4000 D: 8000 E: None of these

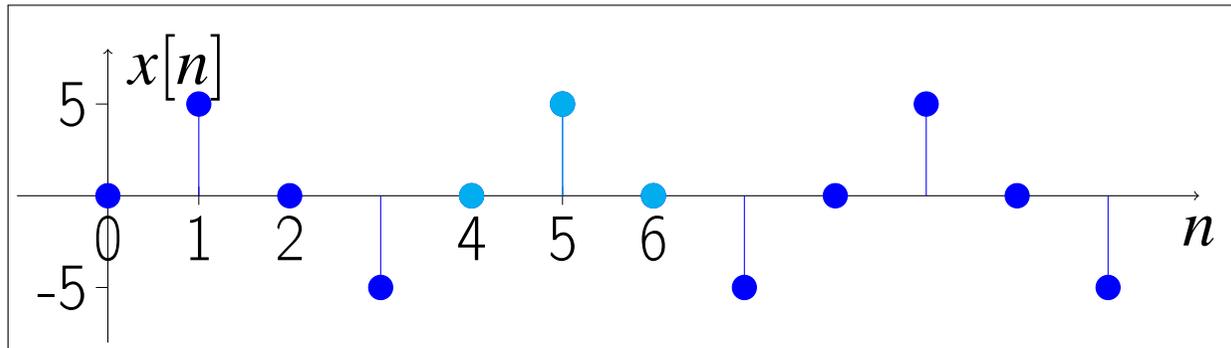
??

Hint. Here is the arccos frequency formula repeated for convenience:

$$f = \frac{S}{2\pi} \arccos \left(\frac{x[n+1] + x[n-1]}{2x[n]} \right).$$

Illustration

Stem plot of the signal $x[n]$ from previous page.



(Dis)Advantages of this method

Many frequency estimation methods have been proposed. Apparently not everyone just uses this one; why not?

Advantages of this method:

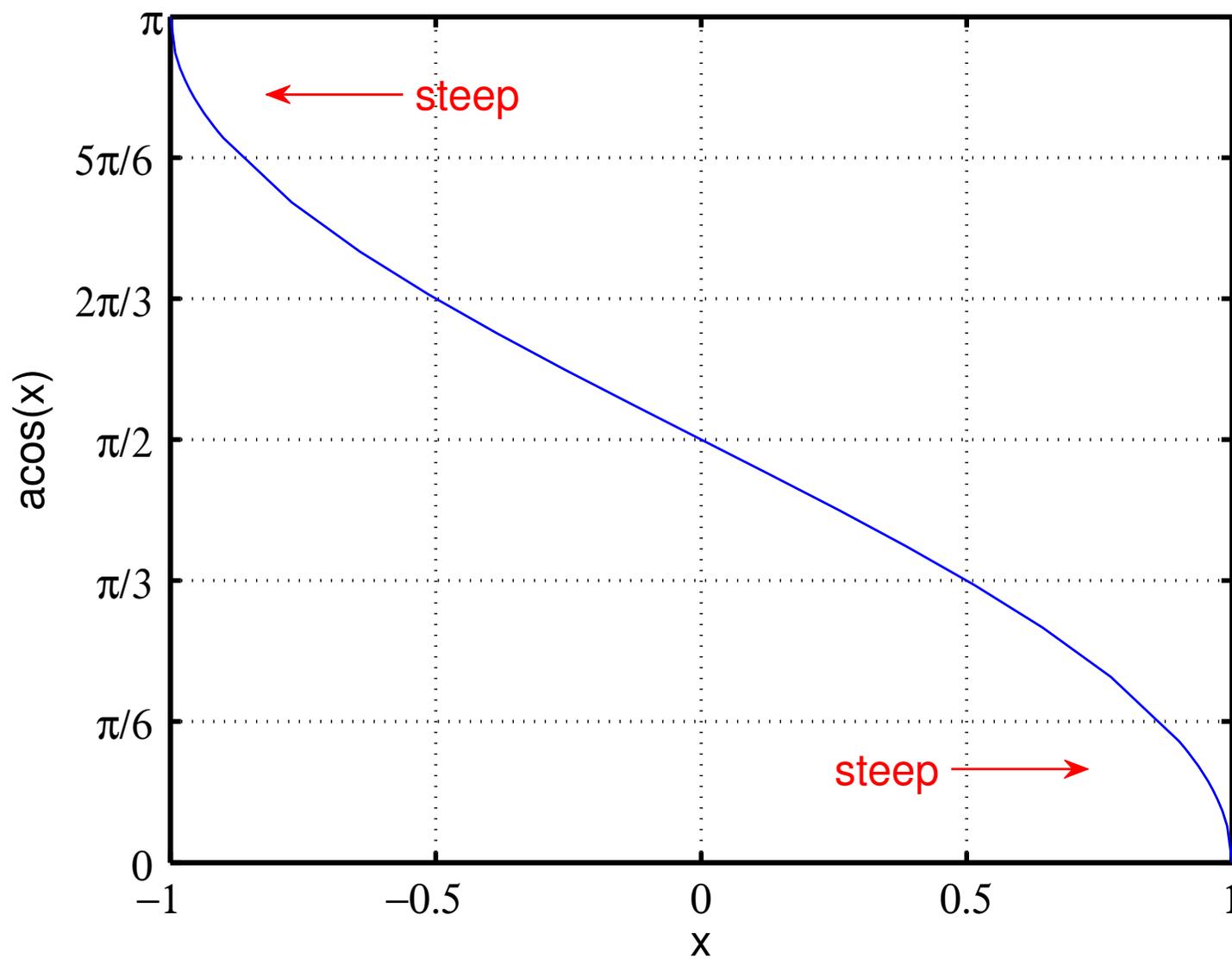
- Very simple to implement, can use simple DSP chip.
- Fast tracking of sudden frequency changes.
- Can use outliers (weird values) to segment long signals.
- Requires knowledge of trigonometry only.

Disadvantages of this method

- Very sensitive to additive noise in the data $x[n]$.
- What if $x[n] = 0$ for some n ? Divide by 0!
- Arc-cosine function is sensitive to small changes.

A useful starting point for music DSP...

Arc-cosine



Part 4:
Visualizing, modeling, and interpreting data
using semi-log and log-log plots

Data visualization and modeling

Given: N pairs of data values: $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_N, y_N)$

Goal: Find a relationship between the values (a model):

- $y = g(x)$
- $y_n = g(x_n), n = 1, \dots, N$

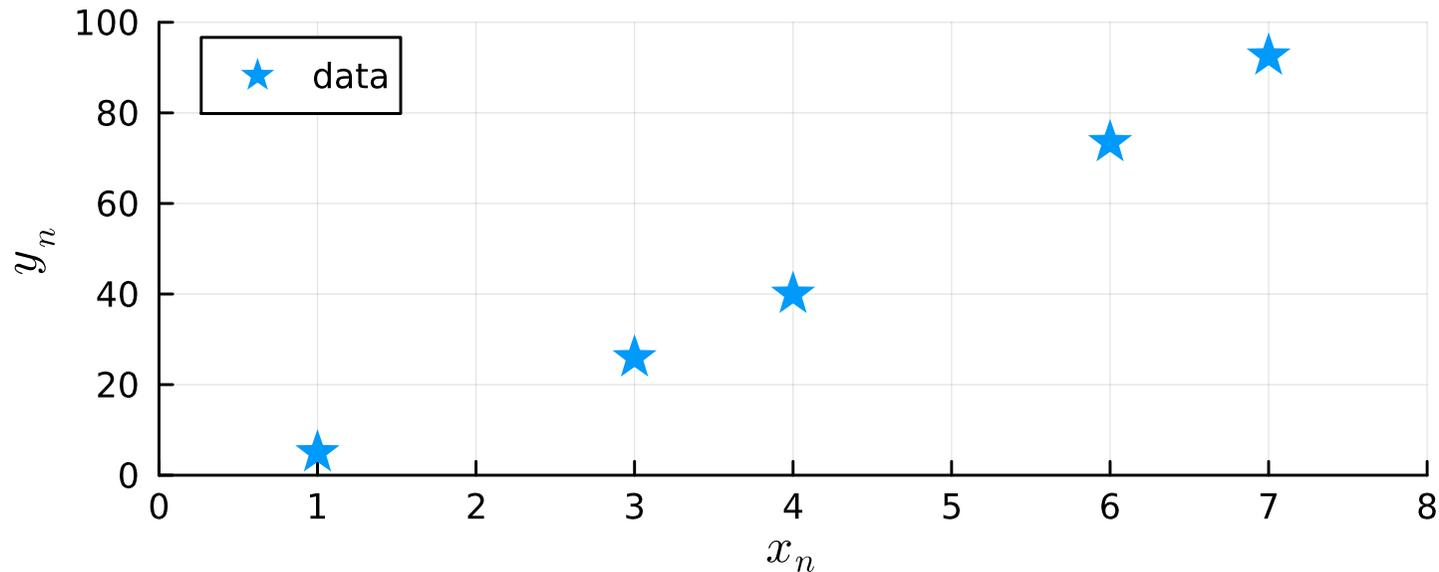
- Example (Physics 140):
 - x = height above ground a ball is released
 - y = velocity on impact with ground.

- Example (Physics 240):
 - x = electrical current through a light bulb
 - y = energy released in the form of heat by the bulb

- Example (Engin 100-430):
 - x = piano key “number” (1 to 88)
 - y = frequency of note played by a key

Visualizing data using scatter plots

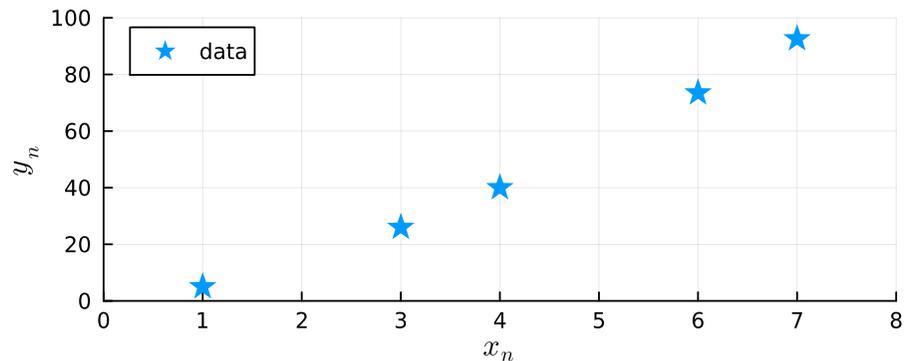
Example (scatter plot of 5 pairs of data values):



Do your eyes try to “connect the dots?”

Your brain is trying to build a model!

Making a scatter plot in Julia



```
using Plots; default(markerstrokecolor=:auto, markersize=8)
using LaTeXStrings # optional: for plot labels with equations
x = [1, 3, 4, 6, 7]
y = [5.00, 25.98, 40.00, 73.48, 92.60]
scatter(x, y; marker=:star, label="data", size=(500,200),
        xaxis=(L"x_n", (0,8), 0:8), yaxis=(L"y_n", (0,100)))
# savefig("scatter1.pdf")
```

Julia notes:

- The arguments `x`, `y` here are called “positional arguments” and their order matters.
- The arguments `xlabel=L"x_n"` etc. are called **named keyword arguments** or **named parameters** or **name-value pairs** in Julia and Python. (Matlab has some such capability in recent versions.) They are optional and they can appear in any order (after the semicolon).
- The `:star` value here is a **Symbol** based on **string interning**.

Common mathematical models

Linear model:

$$y = ax$$

one parameter: slope a

Affine model:

$$y = ax + b$$

two parameters: slope a and intercept b

Quadratic (parabola) model:

$$y = ax^2 + bx + c$$

Simple “power” model:

$$y = bx^p$$

power parameter p , scale factor b

Simple “exponential” model:

$$y = ba^x$$

Note that the independent variable x is in the exponent here.

Q0.12 How many *parameters* does the quadratic model have?

A: 0 B: 1 C: 2 D: 3 E: 4

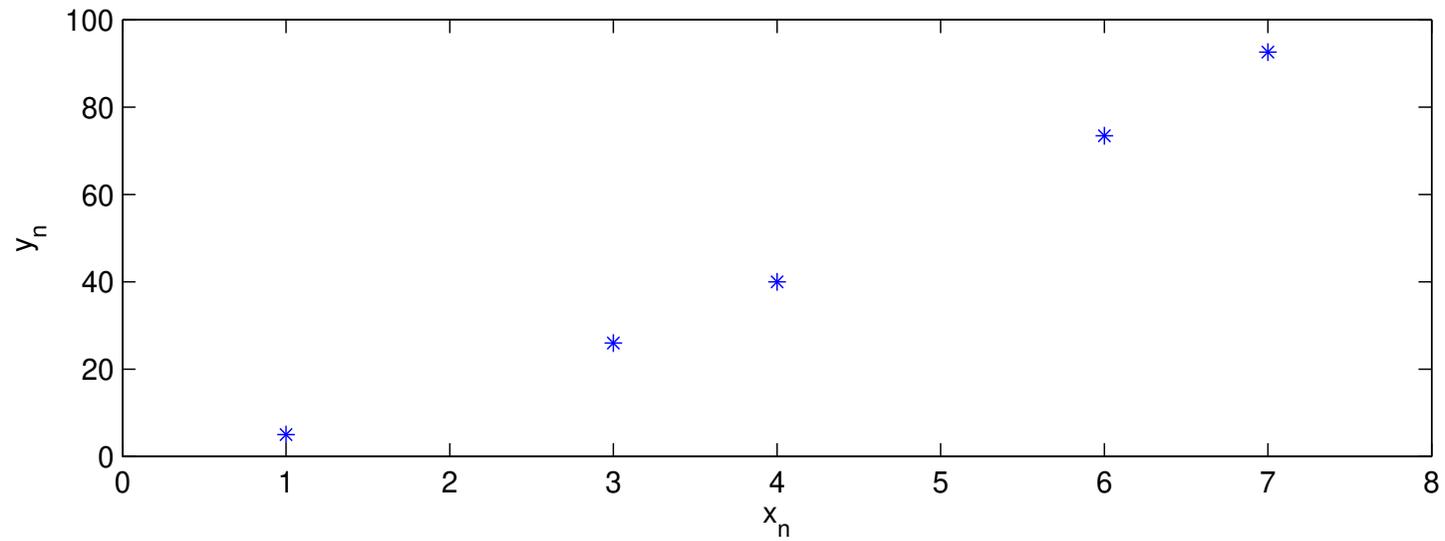
Q0.13 Which model is appropriate for height/velocity example?

(skip: Phys 140)

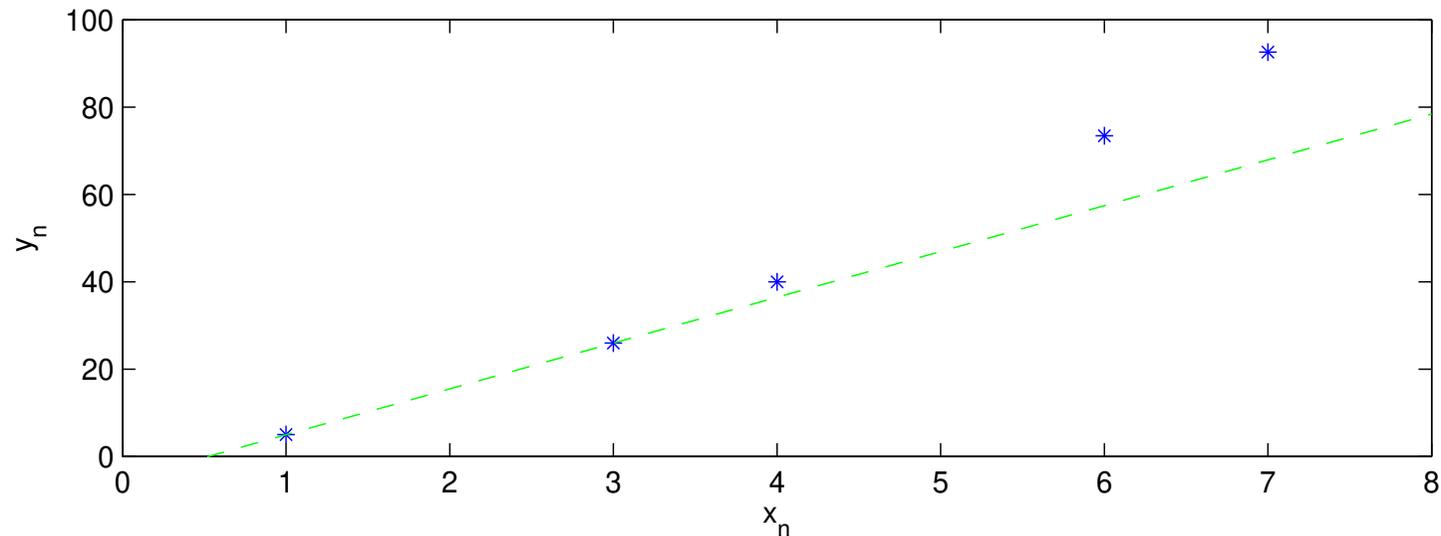
A: linear B: affine C: quadratic D: power E: exponential

How do we choose among these models *given data*?

Example: Linear or affine model?



Example: Linear or affine model?



Any two points determine the equation for a line.

Does a line **fit** this data?

So we rule out both linear and affine models by **visualization**.

For power and exponential model, we need **logarithms**.

Review of logarithms

- In Julia, C, C++, python, Matlab and in this class, `log` means **natural log**, (base e), which might be `ln` on your calculator.
- For base-10 logarithm use `log10` in Julia, C, C++, Matlab, python, ..., and write \log_{10} on paper.
- Properties of logarithms (for any base $b > 0$): (Math 105)
 - $b^{\log_b(x)} = x$ if $x > 0$ (the defining property)
 - $\log_b(xy) = \log_b(x) + \log_b(y)$ if $x > 0$ and $y > 0$ log of product
 - $\log_b(x^p) = p \log_b(x)$ if $x > 0$ log of power
- Other related properties:
 - $e^{\log(x)} = x$ and $10^{\log_{10}(x)} = x$ if $x > 0$
 - $\log(e) = 1$ and $\log_{10}(10) = 1$ and $\log_b(1) = 0$
 - $e^{a+b} = e^a e^b$

Q0.14 Exercise: Simplify $e^{c \log(z)}$ for $z > 0$.

A: z^c

B: c^z

C: $z e^c$

D: $c z$

E: None of these

Simple “exponential” model

$$y = b a^x$$

Take the logarithm (any base) of both sides:

$$\log(y) = \log(b a^x) = \log(b) + \log(a^x) = \log(b) + x \log(a)$$

$$\log(y) = \log(a) x + \log(b)$$

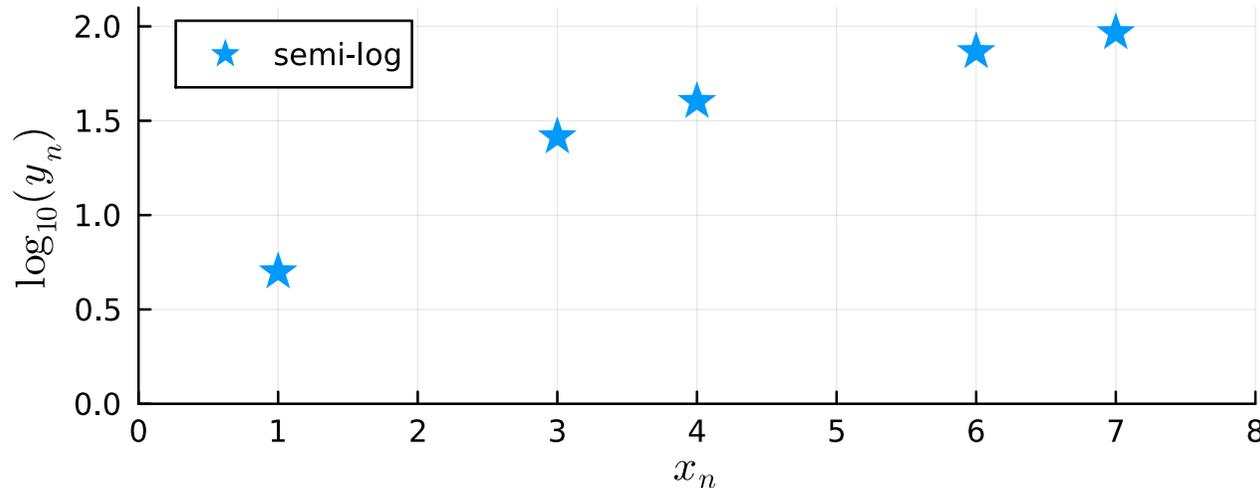
This is the equation of a line on a **log** scale:

$$\underbrace{\log(y)}_{\tilde{y}} = \underbrace{\log(a)}_{\text{slope}} x + \underbrace{\log(b)}_{\text{intercept}}$$

To see if the **exponential model** fits some data, make a scatter plot of $\log(y_n)$ versus x_n and see if it looks like a straight line.

This is called a **semi-log plot**.

Making a semi-log plot in Julia



```
using Plots; default(markerstrokecolor=:auto, markersize=8)
using LaTeXStrings
x = [1, 3, 4, 6, 7]
y = [5.00, 25.98, 40.00, 73.48, 92.60]
scatter(x, log10.(y); marker=:star, size=(500,200), label="semi-log",
        xaxis=(L"x_n", (0,8), 0:8), yaxis=(L"\log_{10}(y_n)", (0,2.1)))
# savefig("scatter2.pdf")
```

Q0.15 The **exponential model** provides a good fit for this data.

A: True

B: False

??

Simple “power” model

$$y = bx^p$$

Take the logarithm (any base) of both sides:

$$\log(y) = \log(bx^p) = \log(b) + \log(x^p) = \log(b) + p\log(x)$$

$$\log(y) = p\log(x) + \log(b)$$

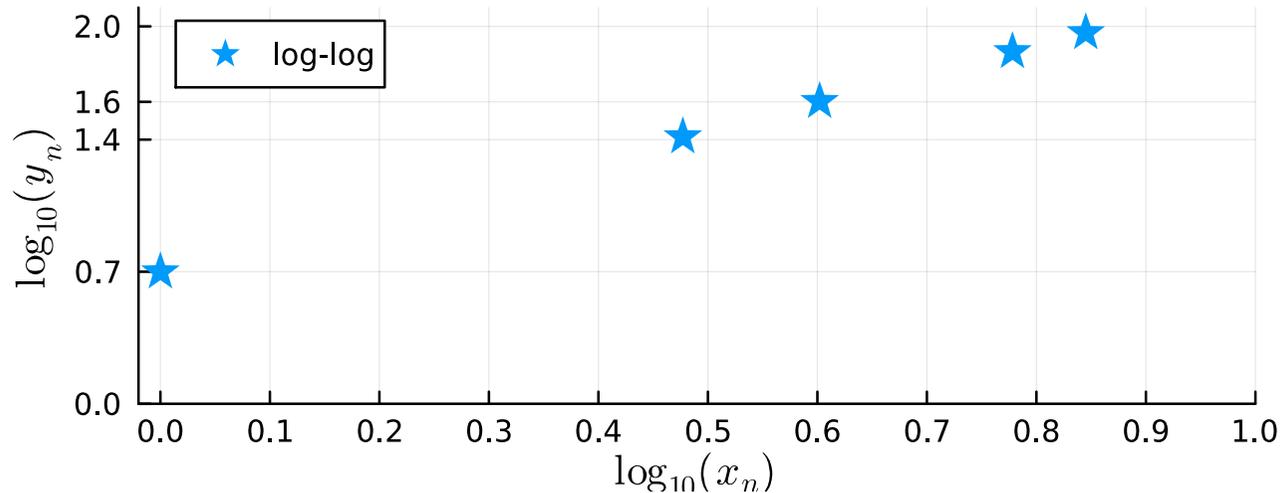
This is the equation of a line on a **log-log** scale:

$$\underbrace{\log(y)}_{\tilde{y}} = \underbrace{p}_{\text{slope}} \underbrace{\log(x)}_{\tilde{x}} + \underbrace{\log(b)}_{\text{intercept}}$$

To see if the **power model** fits some data, make a scatter plot of $\log(y_n)$ versus $\log(x_n)$ and see if it looks like a straight line.

What do you suppose this type of plot is called? ??

Making a log-log plot in Julia



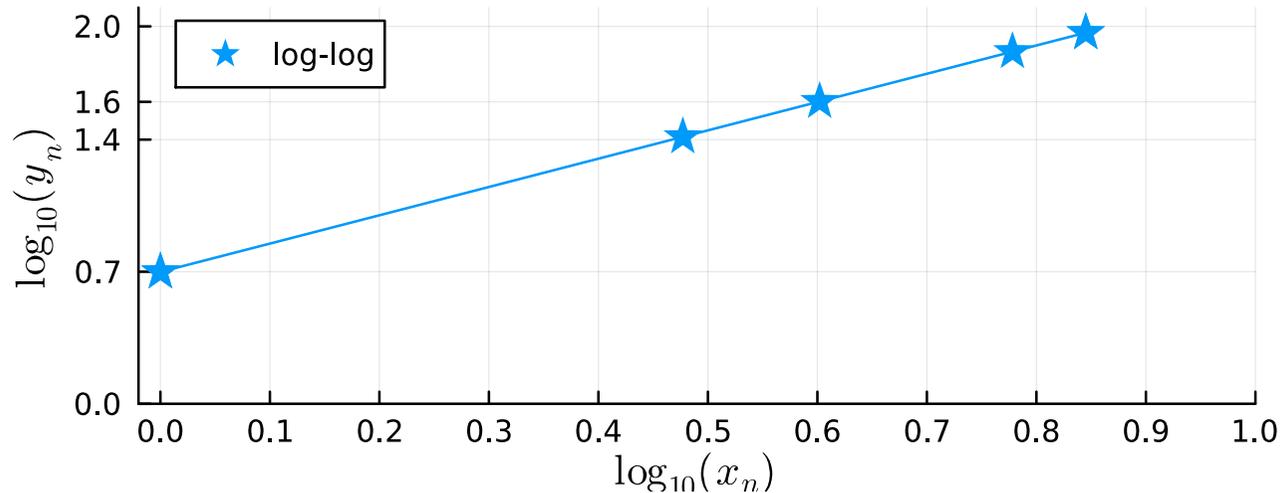
```
using Plots; default(markerstrokecolor=:auto, markersize=8)
using LaTeXStrings
x = [1, 3, 4, 6, 7]
y = [5.00, 25.98, 40.00, 73.48, 92.60]
scatter(log10.(x), log10.(y); marker=:star, size=(500,200), label="log-log",
        xaxis=(L"\log_{10}(x_n)", (-0.02,1), 0:0.1:1),
        yaxis=(L"\log_{10}(y_n)", (0.,2.1), [0, 0.7, 1.4, 1.6, 2]), )
# savefig("scatter3.pdf")
```

Q0.16 The **power model** provides a good fit for this data.

A: True

B: False

Checking a log-log scatter plot in Julia



```
scatter!(log10.(x), log10.(y); smooth=true) # along with other style args...
```

`smooth=true` : adds “least squares best-fit line” to scatter plot

Yes! log-log plot lies along a line \implies **power model** is a good fit.

Now we just need the parameters to write our equation model.

◦ intercept $\approx 0.7 = \log_{10}(b) \implies b = 10^{0.7} \approx 5.0$

◦ slope $= \frac{\Delta \tilde{y}}{\Delta \tilde{x}} \approx \frac{1.6 - 0.7}{0.6 - 0.0} = 1.5 \implies p = 1.5$

Model: $y = bx^p = 5x^{1.5}$

Checking a model

Recall given data:

```
x = [1, 3, 4, 6, 7]
```

```
y = [5.00, 25.98, 40.00, 73.48, 92.60]
```

Model found on previous slide: $y = 5x^{1.5}$

To check model in Julia (using **broadcast**):

```
5 * (x .^ 1.5)
```

Output is:

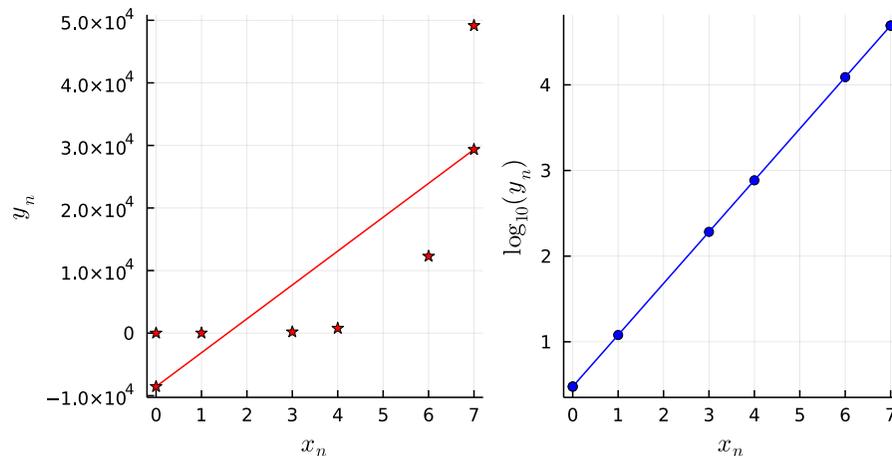
```
5-element Vector{Float64}:
```

```
5.0 25.981 40.0 73.485 92.601
```

So our power model fits the given data very well.

A semi-log example

```
using Plots; default(label="")
x = [0, 1, 3, 4, 6, 7]
y = [3, 12, 192, 768, 12288, 49152]
p1 = scatter(x, y; color=:red, marker=:star, smooth=true)
p2 = scatter(x, log10.(y); color=:blue, marker=:circle, smooth=true)
plot(p1, p2)
```



Q0.17 Exercise: determine a model for this data.

(after Lab 2 overview)

??

Summary of two important models

- Simple **exponential model**: $y = b a^x$

Use semi-log plot:

$$\underbrace{\log(y)}_{\tilde{y}} = \underbrace{\log(a)}_{\text{slope}} x + \underbrace{\log(b)}_{\text{intercept}}$$

- Simple **power model**: $y = b x^p$

Use log-log plot:

$$\underbrace{\log(y)}_{\tilde{y}} = \underbrace{p}_{\text{slope}} \underbrace{\log(x)}_{\tilde{x}} + \underbrace{\log(b)}_{\text{intercept}}$$

Even though Lab 2 uses these models for musical notes, they are ubiquitous in science and engineering and more.

Models with missing data (read yourself)

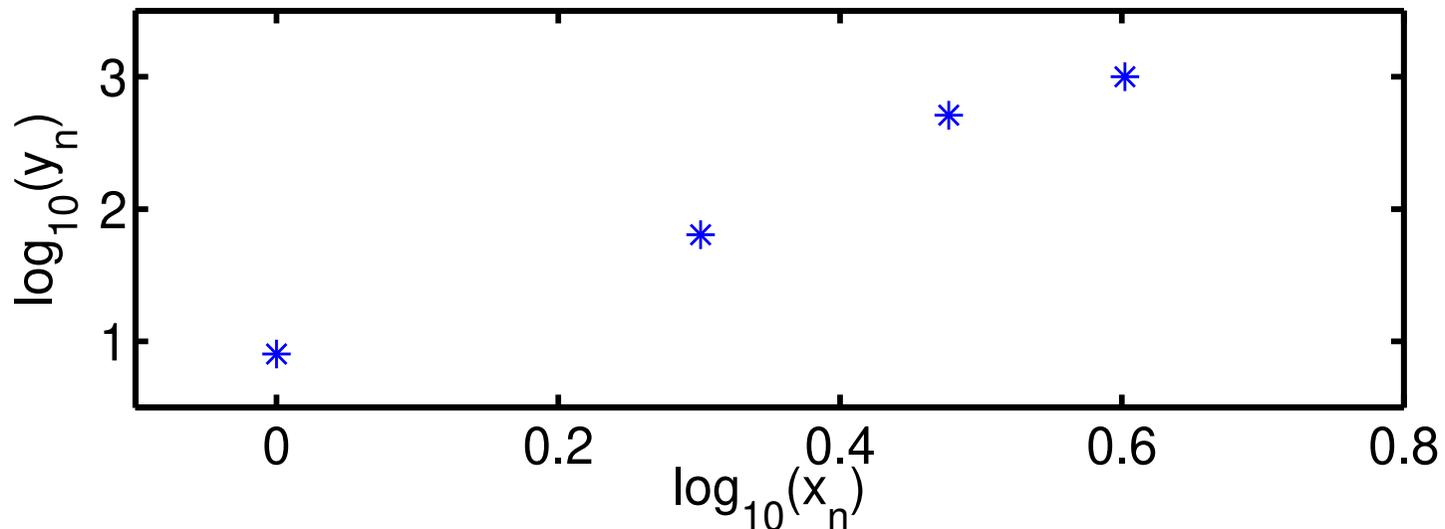
Musical context: song without all 88 notes

Given: $y = [8, 64, 512, 1000]$

Given: x is *four values* (in order) from the set $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

i.e.: $[1, 2, 3, 4]$ or $[1, 2, 3, 5]$ or $[1, 2, 4, 5]$ or $[1, 3, 4, 5]$ or $[2, 3, 4, 5]$

First try: $x = 1:4$; `scatter(log10.(x), log10.(y))`



Looks like a “gap” or “jump” at 3rd value

Example with missing data continued

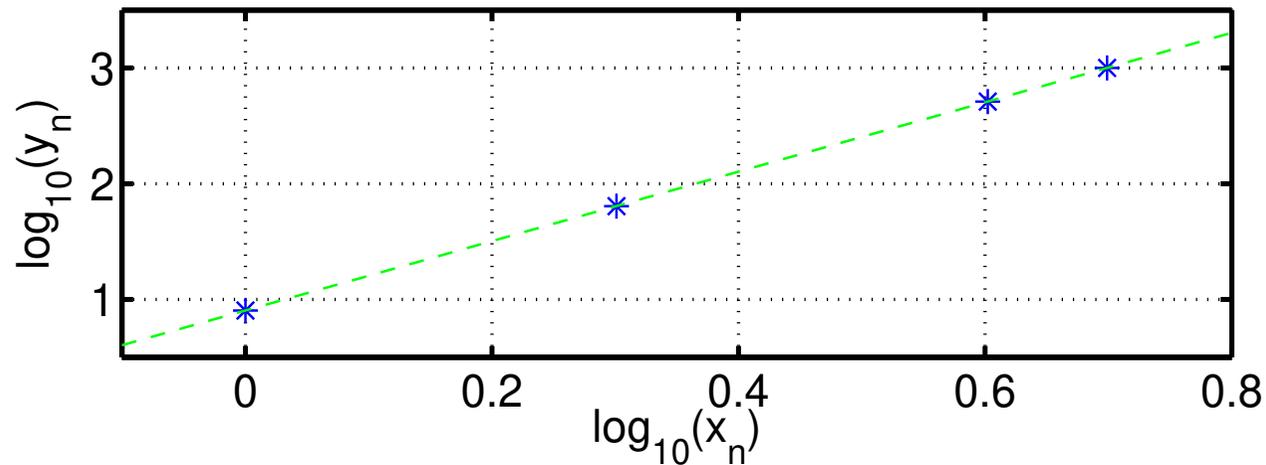
Second try:

using Plots

```
y = [8, 64, 512, 1000]
```

```
x = [1, 2, 4, 5]
```

```
scatter(log10.(x), log10.(y); smooth=true)
```

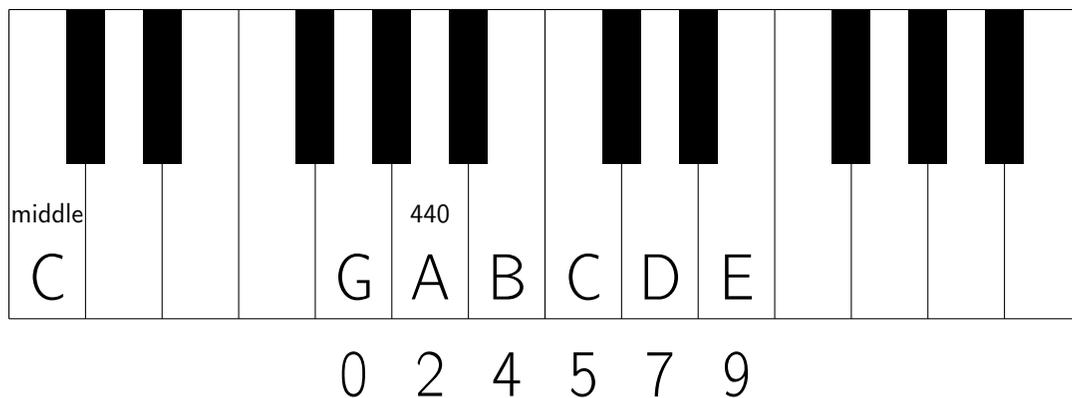


$$\text{slope} = (3 - 0.9) / (0.7 - 0) = 3 = p$$

$$\text{intercept} = 0.9 = \log_{10}(b) \implies b = 10^{0.9} = 8$$

$$\text{Model: } y = 8x^3$$

Missing frequencies in “The Victors”



Missing: 1 3 6 8 10 11 12 13 ... -1 -2 -3 ...

Lab 2 has lots of missing data!

“The Victors” only uses a few of the 88 keys on a piano.

Example: $y = [1, 4, 16, 32, 128, 512]$

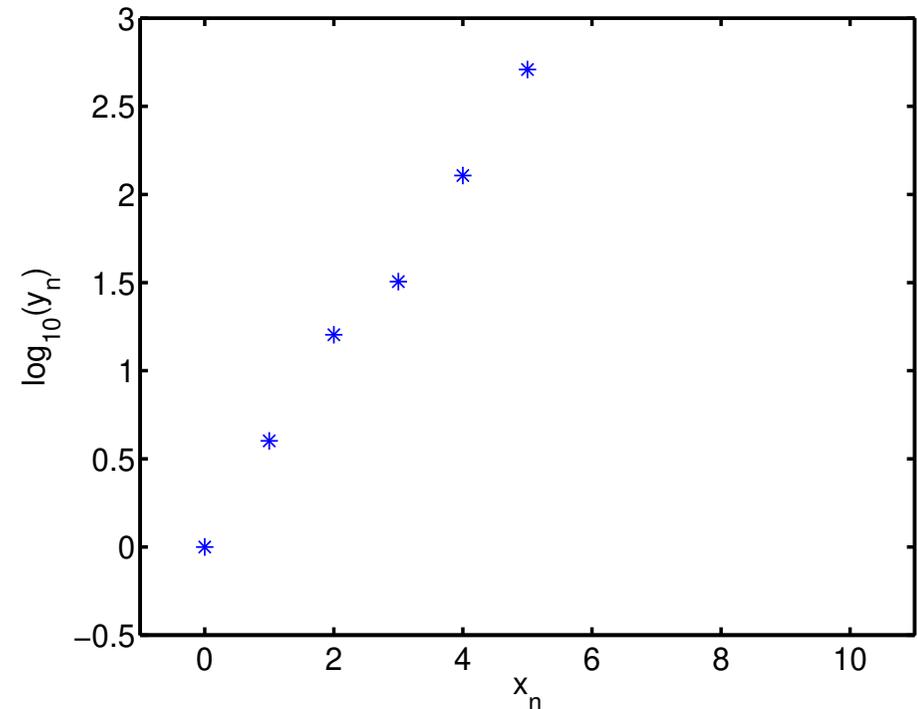
where each x_n is one of the numbers in the set $\{0, 2, \dots, 87\}$

First try:

```
x = 0:5
```

```
scatter(x, log10.(y))
```

Lots of jumps!



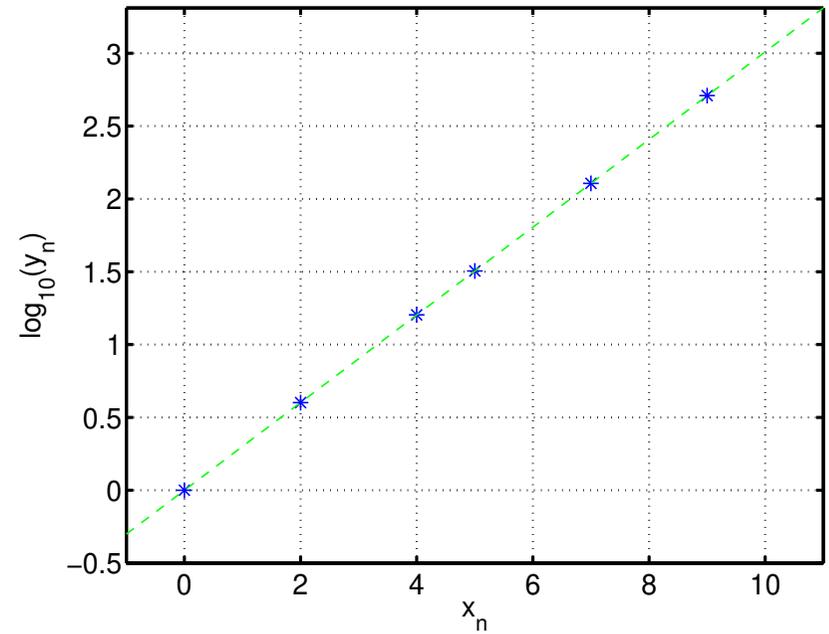
Lots of missing data continued

Second try:

```
y = [1, 4, 16, 32, 128, 512]
```

```
x = [0, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9]
```

```
scatter(x, log10.(y))
```



$$\text{slope} = (2.7 - 0)/(9 - 0) = 0.3 = \log_{10}(a) \implies a = 10^{0.3} = 2$$
$$\text{intercept} = 0 = \log_{10}(b) \implies b = 10^0 = 1$$

Model: $y = 2^x$

You will see a similar situation in Lab 2 (with different data).

What you will do in Lab 2

- Download a sampled signal from [Canvas](#) site:
A tonal version of the chorus of "The Victors."
- Load into Julia; segment (chop up) into notes using `reshape`.
- Apply arccos formula to compute frequency of each note.
- Make log-log and semi-log plots of frequencies.
- Determine the formula relating frequencies of notes.
- Note: "Accidentals" are all missing; but you can infer their existence & frequencies from your plot!

Part 5:
Basic dimension analysis
by example
(read yourself if time runs out in class)

Dimensional Analysis Example 1

- Goal: Determine formula for the period of a swinging pendulum, without any physics!
- Find ingredients: mass, length, gravity
- Model: $\text{Period} = (\text{mass})^a (\text{length})^b g^c$
 where $g = \text{acceleration of gravity } 9.80665\text{m/s}^2$
 a, b, c are unknown constants to be found
- Approach: Find exponents using dimensional analysis:

$$\text{time} = (\text{mass})^a (\text{length})^b (\text{length}/\text{time}^2)^c$$
 - No “mass” on LHS so $a = 0$
 - No “length” on LHS so $0 = b + c$
 - For time: $1 = -2c \implies c = -1/2$, so $b = 1/2$

Model: $\text{period} = \text{length}^{1/2} g^{-1/2} = (\text{length} / g)^{1/2}$

From physics: $\text{period} = 2\pi (\text{length} / g)^{1/2}$

(2π is a unitless constant; cannot be found from dimension analysis.)

Dimensional Analysis Example 2

Prof. Yagle asks:

- If 1.5 people can build 1.5 cars in 1.5 days, how many cars can 9 people build in 9 days?
- Do problems like this give you a headache?
- Would you like to solve problems like this with minimal thinking?

Dimensional Analysis Example 2

Prof. Yagle asks:

- If 1.5 people can build 1.5 cars in 1.5 days, how many cars can 9 people build in 9 days?
- Do problems like this give you a headache?
- Would you like to solve problems like this with minimal thinking?

Given:

$$(1.5 \text{ cars}) / (1.5 \text{ days}) / (1.5 \text{ people}) = 2/3 \text{ cars} / \text{day} / \text{people}$$

Now match units:

$$(2/3 \text{ cars} / \text{day} / \text{people}) (9 \text{ days}) (9 \text{ people}) = 54 \text{ cars}$$

Simply matching the units suffices.

Summary

- Sampling: a computer can determine frequency of a pure sinusoid from 3 consecutive samples.
- Semi-log plot of $y = ba^x$ (exponential model) is a straight line.
- Log-log plot of $y = bx^p$ (power model) is a straight line.
- Dimensional analysis often gives you correct answers.

Assignment: Read Lab 2 before (next week's) lab!

References

- [1] M-Z. Poh, N. C. Swenson, and R. W. Picard. A wearable sensor for unobtrusive, long-term assessment of electrodermal activity. *IEEE Trans. Biomed. Engin.*, 57(5):1243–52, May 2010.