

**At the end of this chapter you should be able to**

1. Identify what types of functions (or linear combinations thereof) can be used for linear least square fitting.
2. Identify the criteria for obtaining a least squares fit. (What is minimized?)
3. Derive the transformations for fitting data to  $y = c_1 e^{c_2 x}$  and  $y = c_1 x^{c_2}$ .
4. Manually compute the  $R^2$  statistic for a fit.
5. Form the overdetermined system of equations for a straight line or for a linear combination of basis functions, and form the matrices required for solution of the normal equations.

*Note:* Sections of Chapter 9 *not* covered (and hence, you are not responsible for) are 9.2.3 (QR factorization) and 9.3 (multivariate linear least-squares fitting)