# Glossary

1. **Data**
   Data are values of qualitative or quantitative variables, belonging to a set of items

2. **Curve**
   In mathematics, a curve is, generally speaking, an object similar to a line but which is not required to be straight.

3. **Curve Fitting**
   Curve fitting is the process of constructing a curve, or mathematical function that has the best fit to a series of data points, possibly subject to constraints.

4. **Least squares**
   A method of estimating a quantity or fitting a graph to data so as to minimize the sum of the squares of the differences between the observed values and the estimated values

5. **Linear equation**
   An equation between two variables that gives a straight line when plotted on a graph

6. **Non-linear system**
   In mathematics, a nonlinear system is a system which is not linear, that is, a system which does not satisfy the superposition principle, or whose output is not directly proportional to its input

7. **Non-linear equation**
   An equation that is not linear.

8. **Simultaneous equation**
   In mathematics, simultaneous equations are a set of equations containing multiple variables.

9. **Log**
   A quantity representing the power to which a fixed number (the base) must be raised to produce a given number

10. **Antilog**
    The number to which a logarithm belongs

11. **Estimate**
    Estimation is the calculated approximation of a result which is usable even if input data may be incomplete or uncertain.

12. **Constant**
    In mathematics, a constant is a non-varying value, i.e. completely fixed or fixed in the context of use.

13. **Cramer's rule**

   In linear algebra, Cramer's rule is a theorem, which gives an expression for the solution of a system of linear equations with as many equations as unknowns, valid in those cases where there is a unique solution.

14. **Determinant**

   an array of elements written as a square, and denoted by two vertical lines enclosing the array.

15. **Sigma/ Summation**

   Mathematical sum