## **HOW TO USE**





This PowerPoint presentation shows you how to use the **NRM 1.0.xls** Excel Workbook to fit several regression models to experimental data.

The models may be used to estimate nutritional requirements *or* the most economical feeding levels of critical nutrients.

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A workbook to fit a	lata from nutritional experiments to several models
Dmitry Vedenov	Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
Gene Pesti	Department of Poultry Science
	The University of Georgia
	Athens, Georgia 30602

All you need is MicroSoft Excel, the NRM 1.0.xls file, and some input / output data.

# First, a short explanation of the types of models that NRM 1.0.xls fits.

Experiments designed to estimate nutritional requirements result in a series of ordered pairs of data, the observed points.

The points come from feeding several concentrations of the limiting nutrient, with all other nutrients present in adequate amounts.

The measured responses may include growth, feed efficiency, carcass lean accumulation, egg and milk production, etc.



Several different interpretations of nutritional response data are sometimes made:

Multiple Range Tests "Broken-Line" or Spline Models Non-Linear, Continuous Models Quadratic Polynomials Saturation Kinetics Many Others



DIETARY NUTRIENT CONCENTRATION

There are several multiple range tests that may be used to determine which responses are significantly different from the maximum response.

More **conservative** multiple range tests will only indicate that large differences are 'significantly different', and therefore suggest that lower input levels result in maximum responses.

The result is lower requirement estimates with more conservative multiple range tests. But higher requirement estimates are generally considered more conservative by nutritionists.



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The result is lower requirement estimates with more conservative multiple range tests. But higher requirement estimates are generally considered more conservative by nutritionists.

The "requirement" is between the input levels that give maximum and sub-maximum responses



Quadratic, or second order, polynomials are easy to fit to input-output data sets using ordinary least squares methods. They fit most data sets fairly well.

Quadratic polynomials have no ability to represent a plateau. A higher order polynomial should fit data with a plateau better.



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The "requirement" is the nutrient input level that gives the maximum output level, or response. Broken-Line Models are commonly fitted to nutritional response data.

These models are also called "spline" models where one segment has a slope = 0.

Broken-Line Models have a feature for a plateau, but no feature for toxic levels should the nutrient input level become excessive.

The ascending segment is a first order, or straight line.



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The ascending segment is most often a first order, or straight line.



The "requirement" is the lowest nutrient input level that gives the maximum output level, or response. Another form of spline model has a second order polynomial for the ascending segment.

It has the same features as the first order model except for the curved ascending segment.

The curved ascending segment more realistically represents biological responses.



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The "requirement" is the lowest nutrient input level that gives the maximum output level, or response. There are a large number of possible non-linear response models that can be fitted to nutritional response data.

The NRM.xls Workbook fits several logistics, compartmental and exponential models.

The example shown here is the Saturation Kinetics Model.

This model asymptotically approaches the maximum, so the maximum is never reached.



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This model asymptotically approaches the maximum, so the maximum is never reached.



The "requirement" for maximum output is not defined with models that approach, but never attain, a maximum. Many non-linear models exhibit *"The law of diminishing returns"* or *"The law of diminishing marginal productivity"*.

Economic theory must be applied to these models to find the feeding level (Input) that maximizes profits (not necessarily the maximum output level).

This example is from a 1955 book "The Scientific Feeding of Chickens"



### With diminishing returns models, the *"requirement"* is for maximizing profits instead of maximum performance





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# H.J. Almquist Poultry Science 32:1001(1953)

### Application of The Law of Diminishing Returns to Estimation of B-vitamins Requirements of Growth

- "The principles described are not new, but have been employed only rarely by workers in nutrition"
- "The several examples to be given below will further emphasize the broad utility of the principles in the estimation of requirements..."

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## NRM 1.0.xls can fit several models to nutritional response data

- Broken Line
- Broken Quadratic
- Saturation Kinetics
- Logistics, 3 Parameters
- Logistics, 4 Parameters
- Compartmental
- Robbins, Norton & Baker, Model 1 Robbins, Norton & Baker, Model 2

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### Each has a spreadsheet in the workbook





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#### Model

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Instructions 1. Copy data in cells **B4:C103** 

 View the data and estimate values for the Maximum and Requirement in cells F8 and H8

3. Guess the **Rate Constant** values in cell **G8** until the predicted line is close to the observed points

4. Press the button below to run solver with current settings

Fit Broken Line Model to Current Data

5. Solver will attempt to minimize SSE (red cell) by changing cells **F8:H8** 

Follow the instructions that are found in the upper right of each page.

You will need to guess at the parameters for the new data set before the program can solve for the best solution

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Max or Min	Rate Constant	Requirement	SSE
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0.9140	0.9681	0.9208	p-values
	21.256%		Goodness of Fit (R $^2$ )









#### Instructions

1. Copy data in cells B4:C103

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Now it's time to let Excel's Solver function make the final fit by further adjusting the parameter estimates to minimize the value in cell I9.

Press this button.



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When the axes are set to the right scale and titles are added, nice graphs are easy to print.





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All of these regression models may be helpful to describe simple input / output relationships to estimate nutrient requirements.

The big challenge for producers is to decide whether the requirement is for maximum performance or maximum profits. Even when nutritional requirements are well known, nutritionists don't necessarily know how much to supplement to feeds.

Because of ingredient variability, nutritionists may decide to add a margin of safety to cover the risk of feeding the 50% of feeds that are below average for any nutrient.

### We hope this program is of value to you

Gene Pesti Dmitry Vedenov

Reviewed by **Esendugue Greg Fonsah**, Agribusiness Extension Economist Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

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#### Research Bulletin 440 (Instructions)

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