

Homework 1: Accuracy, Precision and Learning to Interpret Numbers

- For the first problem we had to identify the type of error made in two example sentences.
 - The first was “the average man in the United States is 178.2134 cm or 5' 10.1628””. The problem here is that the number appears to be overly precise and potentially misleading. Misleading Presentation
 - The other statement, “Company XYZ's profits increased by 200 percent! The actual return on investment increased from 2 percent to 6 percent.” Is confusing because they use the same numerical facts represented in two ways, which attempts to draw different conclusions.
- Huff calls it a ‘gee-whiz-graph’ because it overly exaggerates the data. There are a couple problems with this graph, the biggest being that there is no zero point shown. Also the fact that the Quarterly Reporting (Y Axis) is only given between 8.1 and 8.7 makes it appear more dramatic than it really was.
- I intend to use Microsoft Visual Studio 2013 on a PC, and then use Matlab for my graphs.
- Write a C-function that computes precision for a given reference value.

```
double PrecisionVersusBase( double Base )
{
    double Precision = Base;

    //Loops until Precision is negligible
    while ( Base + Precision > Base )
        Precision /= 2.0;

    Precision *= 2.0;           //Multiply by two to become accurate

    return Precision;
}
```

Need commenting before
function along with through the
function and at the end
-1

Commenting
-1

- The fifth problem had us compute epsilon for a base value ranging from 1.0 to $1e^{-30}$ by reducing the base by a factor of 10 each iteration.

```
void ComputeEpsilon( double base )
{
    FILE *fout;

    double Precision = 0.00;
    double Epsilon = 0.00;
    double Ratio = 0.00;

    double Exponent = pow( 10.0, -30.0 );
    fout = fopen( "Output.csv", "w" );
```

```

//This calls the ComputeEpsilon function, calculates the ration,
//and then updates the base until it reaches 1e-30
while ( base >= Exponent )
{
    Epsilon = PrecisionVersusBase( base );
    Ratio = Epsilon / base;
    printf( "\n\nBase: %.60lf \nEpsilon: %.68lf\nratio: %.50lf",
            base, Epsilon, Ratio );
    fprintf( fout, "%.60lf %.60lf, %.60lf\n", base, Epsilon,
            Ratio );
    base /= 10;
}
fclose( fout );
}

```

Charts

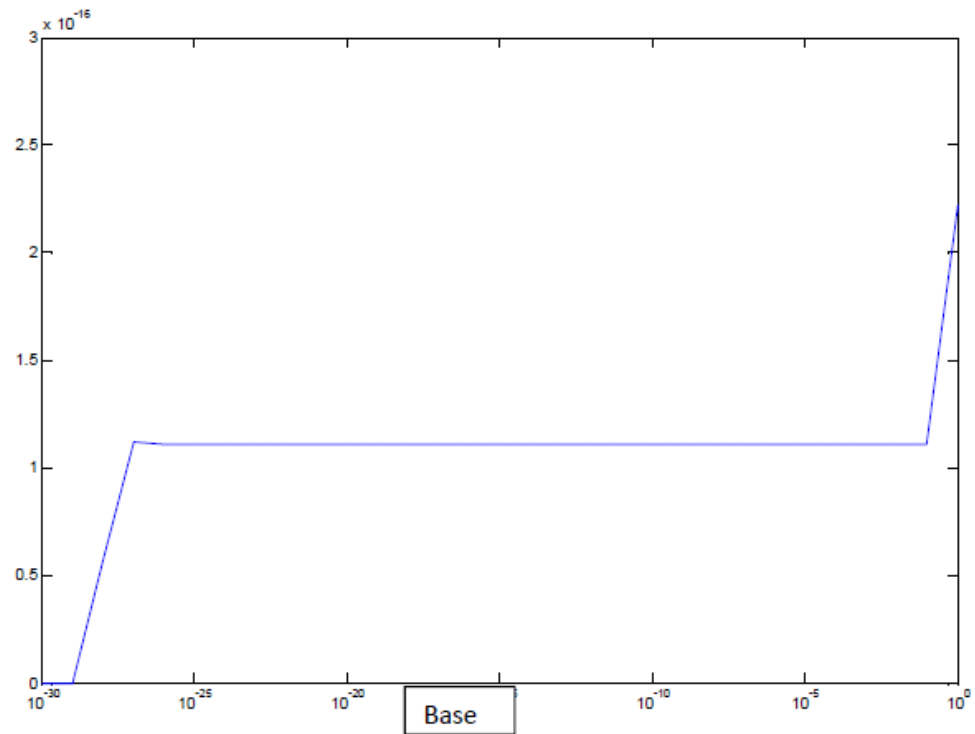
Ratio vs Base

(Figure 5a)

wrong
plus need
more data



Ratio

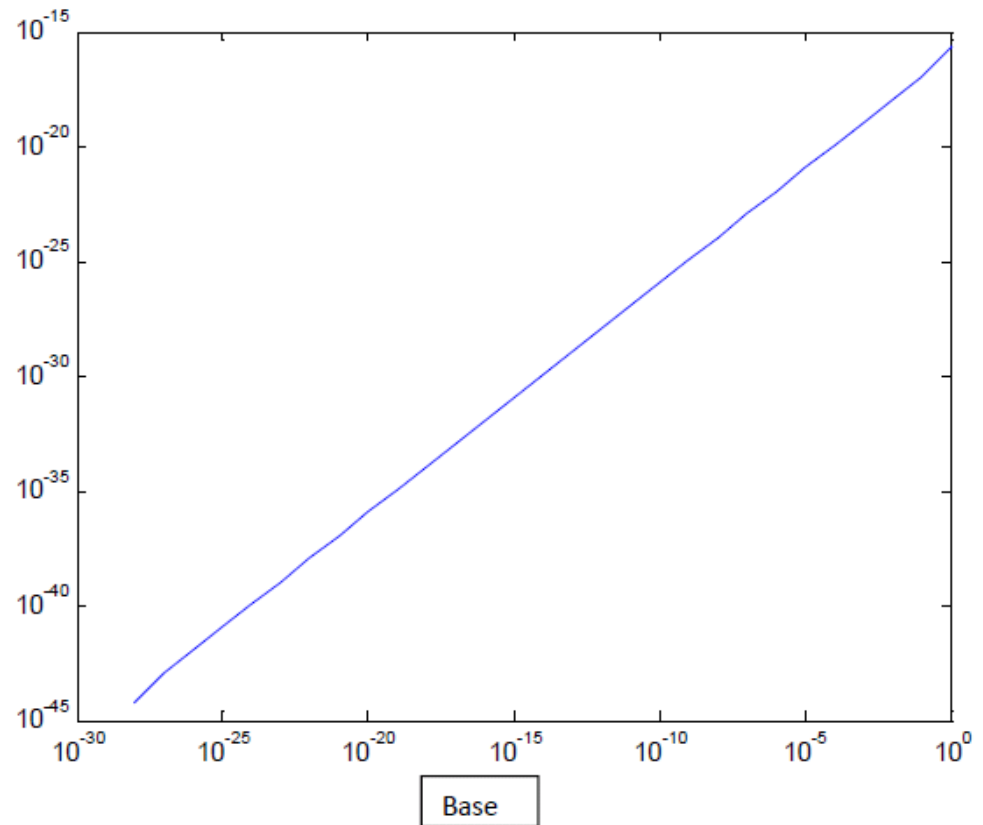


Epsilon vs Base

(Figure 5b)

Need grid,
legend, and
also more data
on both plots

Epsilon



1-a) False Precision	3/3
1-b) Miss Leading Presentation	0/3
2) Gee-Whiz Graph	1/1
Add zero to y axis	1/1
3) Describing system	2/2
4) Function	
a) Commenting	1/1
b) Prototype Correct	1/1
c) Proper implementation	1/1
5) Test Program and plotting.	
a) Code properly works through base	1/1
b) Commenting	0/1
c) Plots	
Labels of axis and Titles	0/1
Grid and Legend	0/1
Log Log plots showing details	0/1
Total	11/18