

# Modelling train delays

Keith Briggs `keith.briggs@bt.com`

Mobility Research Centre, BT Innovate

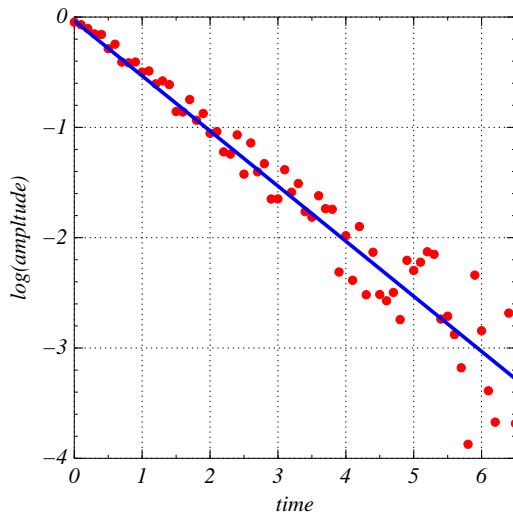
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# Exponential decay law

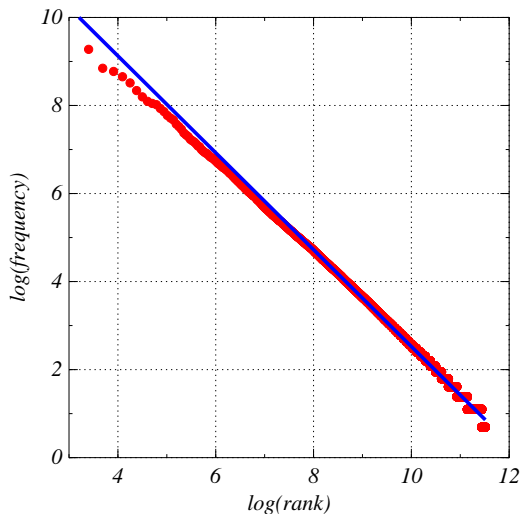
$\log(\text{amplitude})$   
vs. time is a  
straight line.



# Zipf's law - OE corpus

## *Old English corpus*

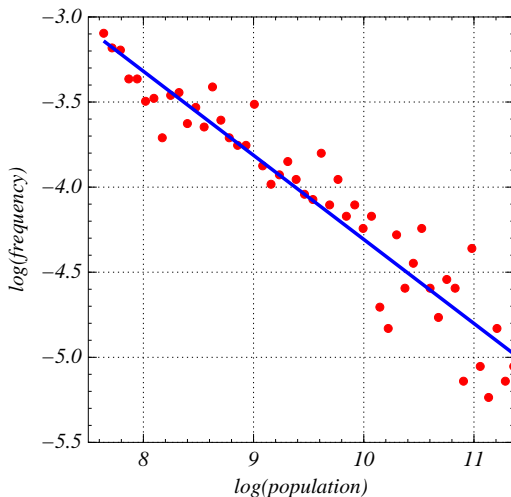
$\log(\text{frequency})$   
vs.  $\log(\text{rank})$   
is a straight  
line.



# Population distribution

## *UK towns and villages*

$\log(\text{frequency})$   
vs.  
 $\log(\text{population})$   
is a straight  
line.



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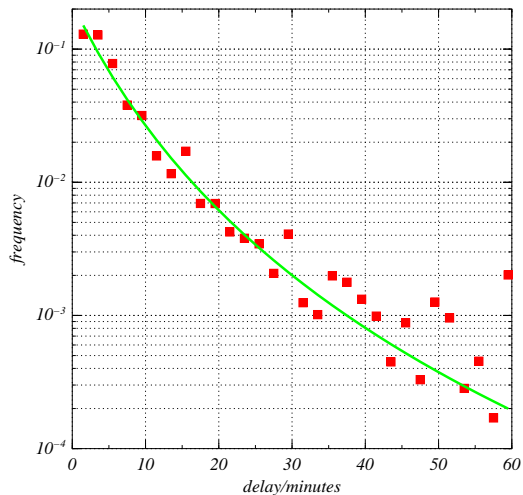


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- large  $q$  gives a power-law (long tail)

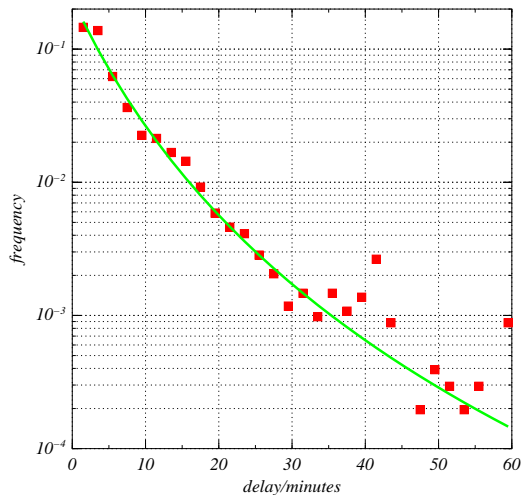
# Manchester, all departures

$$q = 1.207 \pm 0.0028,$$
$$\beta = 0.265 \pm 8.8e-07.$$



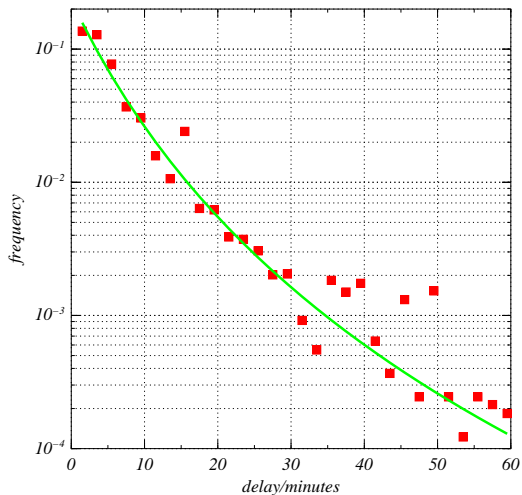
# Manchester to Liverpool

$$q=1.19$$
$$\pm 0.012,$$
$$\beta=0.273$$
$$\pm 2.4e-06.$$



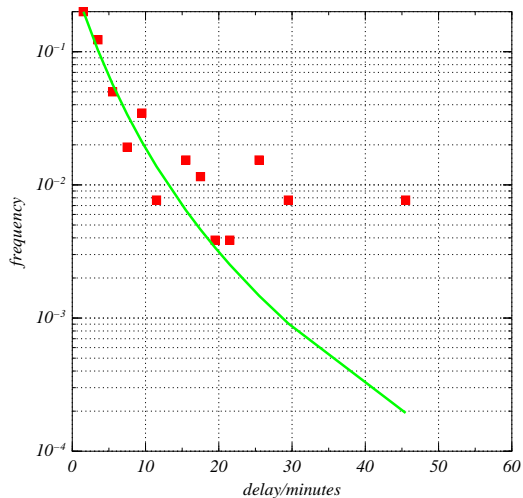
## Manchester to airport

$$q = 1.181$$
$$\pm 0.006,$$
$$\beta = 0.268 \pm$$
$$1.3e-06.$$

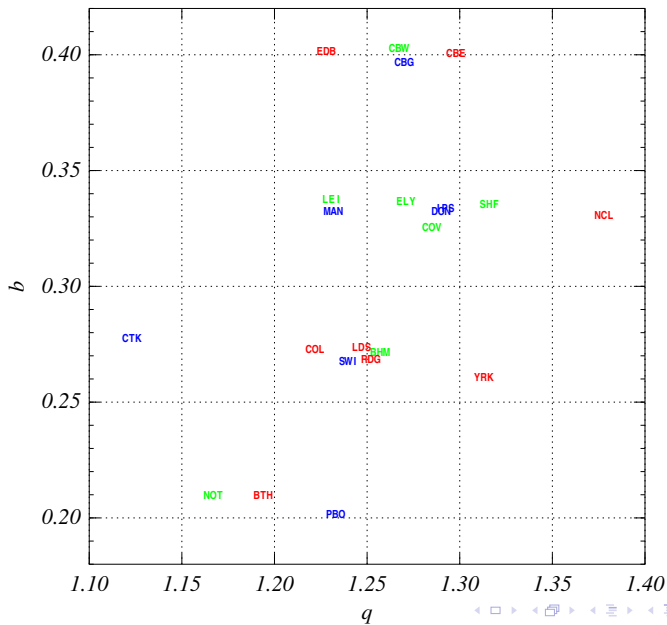


## Manchester to London Euston

$$q = 1.214$$
$$\pm 0.097,$$
$$\beta = 0.411 \pm$$
$$0.00014.$$



## Estimated parameters



## Reference

K M Briggs & C Beck, *Modelling train delays with  $q$ -exponential functions* Physica **A 378**, 498–504 (2007).