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**Shedding a little (sun)light on data analysis and technology.**

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Summary: We present background and an activity meant to show both instructors and students that mere button pushing with technology is insufficient for success, but that additional thought and preparation will permit the technology to serve as an excellent tool in the understanding and learning of mathematics.

*Classification:* K45 R25 U55 M55

*Keywords:* modelling; data; curve fitting; trigonometry; sunshine; mathematical models; parameter estimation; spreadsheets; computer algebra

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