Using the Insert Function capability:
There are three ways to get the Insert Function menu.

Any of the ways will get you the Insert Function menu.

Here the select a category drop down menu has been extended to show all the categories. Notice you can select All to get an alphabetical list of all functions.

On selecting a function, notice that below the Select a Function list is the syntax of that function. If this is not enough information, you can click on the Help on this function to get more information and an example of the function's use.
Here is the EXP function or $e^x$.

Hence in a cell if you want $e^{-0.050x}$ where $x$ is cell A1, you would type:

$$=\text{EXP}(-0.050\times A1)$$
in the appropriate cell.

In Excel, here are some common math functions used:

- **Common logarithm** - LOG10() put number between the parentheses
- **Natural logarithm** - LN() put number between the parentheses
- **$\pi$** - PI() with *nothing added* between the parentheses
- **Find the slope of a line** - SLOPE(y list, x list)
- **Find the intercept of a line** - INTERCEPT(y list, x list)

The slope and intercept functions allow the values to show on the worksheet and can be used in calculations (in a formula). This is independent of the trendline on a graph.

These functions can be directly typed in without going the Insert Function.

Sometimes a good example of the function is the best way to see how it works. A Google search of the function name with the word “excel” included will get instructions for most anything.

Remember that more functions are available if the Analysis ToolPak is loaded (see Loading the Analysis ToolPak).