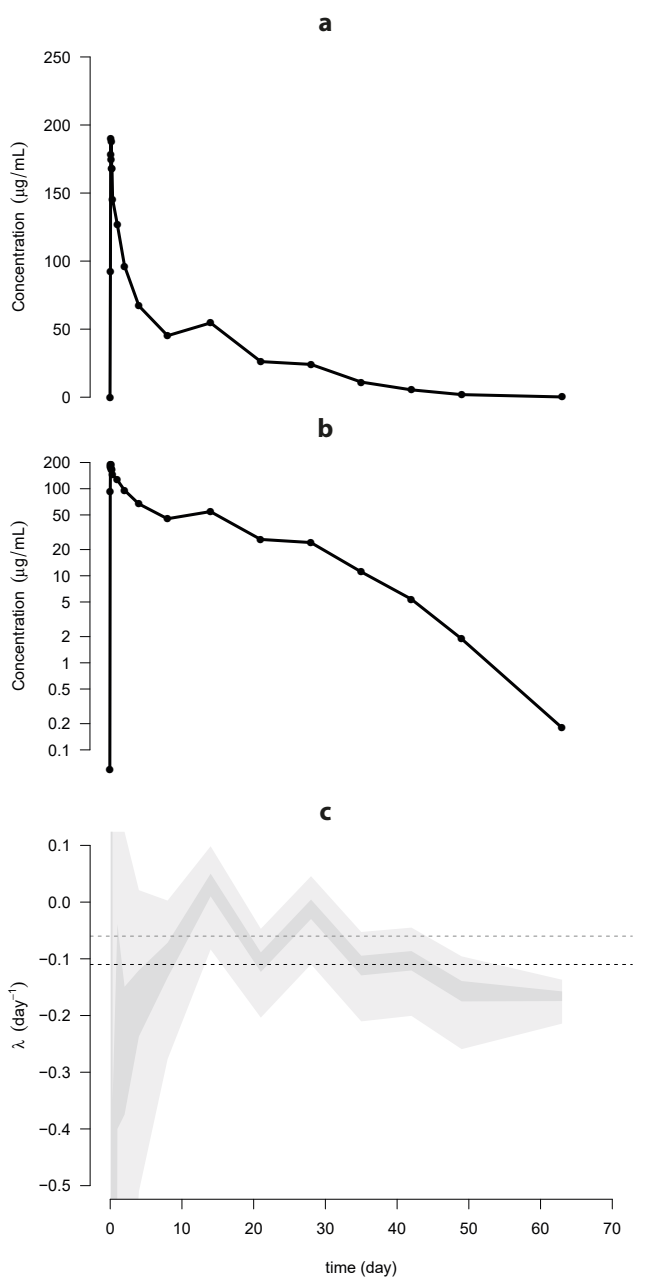

Example individual pharmacokinetic profile on linear scale (*a*) and logarithmic scale (*b*). The margins of the exponential growth constant, λ, are displayed in *c* and are based on the formula $A \pm CV_i = B \cdot e^{\lambda \cdot t}$, where A is the observed plasma concentration, CV_i the chosen intra-subject variability, B the plasma concentration of the previous sample, and t the difference in sample collection time between A and B. At a CV_i of 8% (dark gray area) no single λ can describe both the relative maximum at day 14 and the surrounding curve (black dashed line). However, at a CV_i of 50% (light gray area) a common λ can be found (gray dashed line). Hence, the additional peak is counted at a CV_i of 8% but not at a CV_i of 50%.