Example 4.8 (Elephants)

 It has been determined that for any elephant, surface area of the body can be estimated as an allometric function of trunk length:

$$surface \ area = \left(some \ number\right) \times \left(trunk \ length\right)^{\left(some \ number\right)}$$

For African elephants the allometric exponent is 0.74:

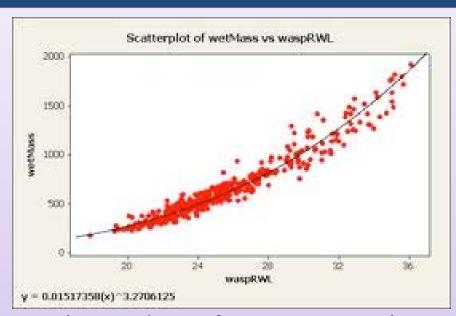
$$y = ax^{0.74}$$

y = surface area
x = truck length

 If a particular elephant has a surface area of 200 ft² and a trunk length of 6 ft, what is the expected surface area of an elephant with a trunk length of 7 ft?

Overview

Mass Vs. Right Wing Length Non-Linear Model for Wasps



- As pointed out above, data often appear to have a strong relationship, but that relationship is not linear
- We would like to apply the same analysis as before, but we would need to develop a new method to get the best fit curve
- In some situations, however, a *rescaling* of the data could transform it in such a way that the new relationship is linear

Rewriting Equations

We start with an exponential equation:

$$y = a \cdot c^{x}$$

$$\ln(y) = \ln(a \cdot c^{x})$$

$$\ln(y) = \ln a + \ln c^{x}$$

$$\ln(y) = \ln a + x \ln c$$

$$\ln(y) = (\ln c)x + \ln a$$

Rewriting Equations

$$\ln(y) = (\ln c)x + \ln a$$

$$Y = mx + b$$

The new equation is a linear equation with

$$Y = In (y), m = In c, b = In a$$

Rewriting Equations

Now consider an allometric equation:

$$y = a \cdot x^{c}$$

$$\ln(y) = \ln(ax^{c})$$

$$\ln(y) = \ln a + \ln x^{c}$$

$$\ln(y) = \ln a + c \ln x$$

$$\ln(y) = c \ln x + \ln a$$

- Again, we obtain a linear equation with Y = In (y) and
- $X = \ln(x)$... line $Y = c X + \ln(a)$

Rescaling Data

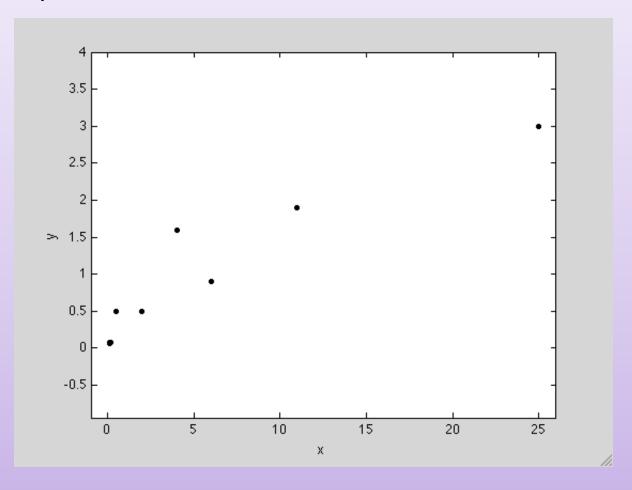
Exponential Allometric $y = a \cdot c^{x}$ $y = a \cdot x^{c}$ $\ln(y) = (\ln c)x + \ln a$ $\ln(y) = c \ln x + \ln a$

- If we have data that are exponentially related, we rescale
 the y coordinates of the data by taking their logarithm (x,y)
 → (x, lny), and then the scatter plot of the rescaled data will
 be linear
- If we have data that are allometrically related, we rescale the x and y coordinates of the data by taking their logarithm (lnx, lny), and then the scatter plot of the rescaled data will be linear

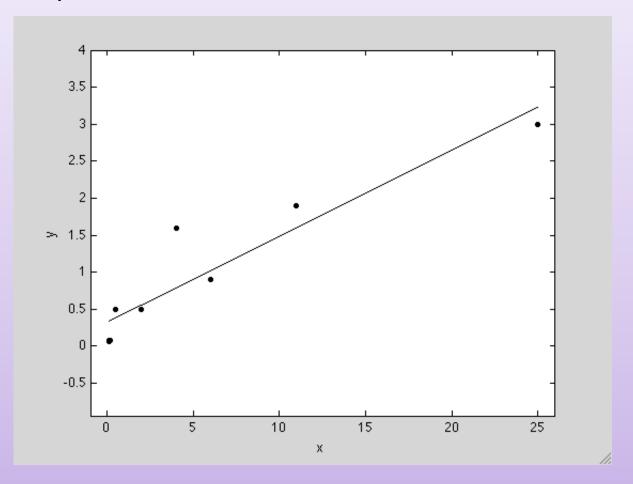
 Researchers studying the relationship between the generation time of a species and the mutation rate for genes that cause deleterious effects gathered the following data:

	Generation	Genomic
Species	Time	Mutation Rate
	(in years)	(per generation)
D. melanogaster/D. pseudoobscura	0.1	0.070
D. melanogaster/D. simulans	0.1	0.058
D. picticornis/D. silvestris	0.2	0.071
Mouse/rat	0.5	0.50
Chicken/old world quail	2	0.49
Dog/cat	4	1.6
Sheep/cow	6	0.90
Macaque/New World Monkey	11	1.9
Human/chimpanzee	25	3.0

A scatterplot of the data:



A scatterplot of the data with LSR:

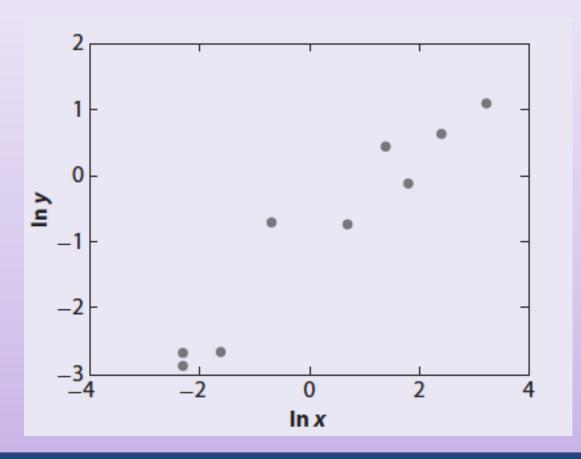


- Is this a good fit?
- The MATLAB output:
 - Eqn for LSR: y = 0.116079 x + 0.323640
 - rho = 0.934107 ... $R^2 = 0.8726$
 - The regression line accounts for 87.26% of the variance in the data.
- Suppose we rescale the data:

$$\log$$
 - \log rescale \Rightarrow allometric

$\ln x$	$\ln y$	
-2.3	-2.659	
-2.3	-2.847	
-1.6	-2.645	
-0.7	-0.693	
0.7	-0.713	
1.4	0.470	
1.8	-0.105	
2.4	0.642	
3.2	1.099	

A scatterplot of the transformed data: LOG-LOG plot



- Is this a good fit?
- The MATLAB output:
 - Eqn for LSR: ln y = 0.709705 ln x + -1.031581
 - rho = 0.962501
 - The regression line accounts for 92.64% of the variance in the data
- Which model should we choose?
- Log-log

 If we choose the allometric model, we need to solve for y in terms of x:

$$\ln y = 0.7097 \ln x - 1.0316$$

$$e^{\ln y} = e^{0.7097 \ln x - 1.0316}$$

$$y = e^{\ln x^{0.7097}} e^{-1.0316}$$

$$y = x^{0.7097} e^{-1.0316}$$

$$y = 0.3564 x^{0.7097}$$

 Now we can use the model to predict. Suppose we know a certain species has a generation time of 10 years, we could interpolate the genomic mutation rate of this species:

$$y = 0.3564(10)^{0.7097} \approx 1.8268$$
 mutations per generation