

# GROWTH

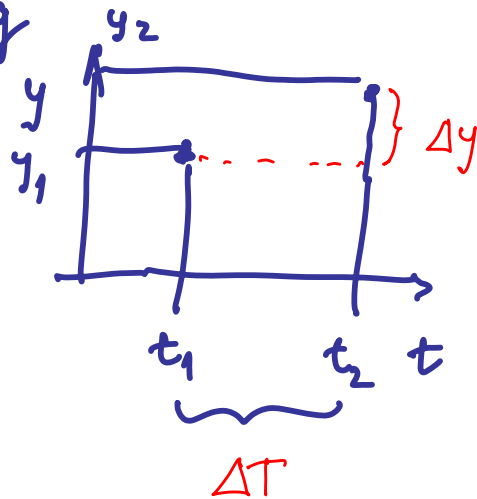
- 1) Growth rates
- 2) Modelling growth

length  
weight

## 1) GROWTH RATES

- a) Absolute average growth rate,  $t_{ma}$
- b) Relative average growth rate,  $t_{mr}$
- c) Specific growth rate,  $g$

$$\underline{t_{ma}} = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta T}$$



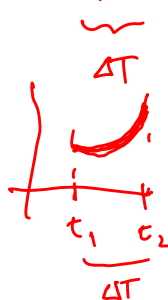
$y = \begin{cases} \text{length} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{weight} \end{cases}$

$$\underline{t_{mr}} = \frac{1}{y^*} \cdot \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta T}$$

Normally  $y^* = y_1$

$$g = \frac{\ln y_2 - \ln y_1}{\Delta T}$$

$t_{ma}$  and  $t_{mr}$



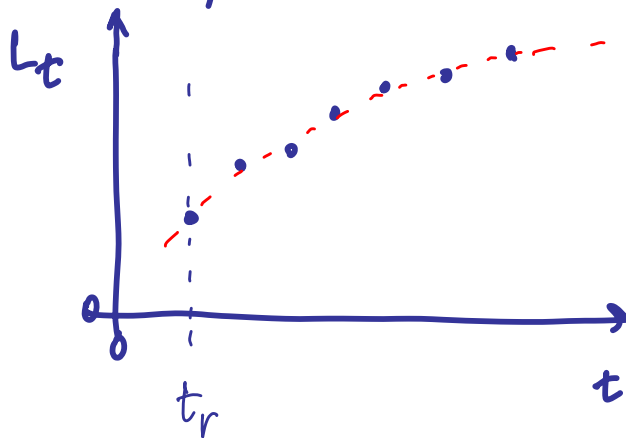
# GROWTH MODELLING

Approach > To model growth in length and obtain the model on weight afterwards by using the length-weight relationship

## Data

Mean length at age,  $L_t$

$t$	$L_t$
$t_1$	$L_1$
$t_2$	$L_2$
$t_3$	$L_3$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$

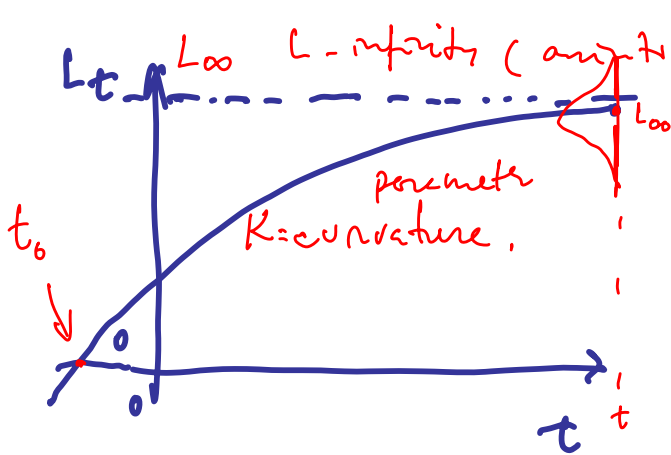


- age-length keys data
- backcalculated data
- length frequency analysis data

# ≠ MODELS to describe growth

## VON BERTALANFFY growth curve

the most important model, the most used to model marine species

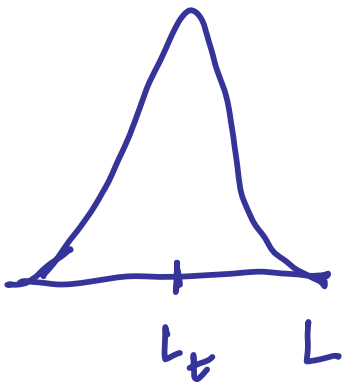


$$L_t = L_{\infty} \cdot \left[ 1 - e^{-K(t-t_0)} \right]$$

where  $L_t$ ,  $t$  are variables  
 $L_{\infty}$ ,  $K$ ,  $t_0$  are parameters

$L_{\infty}$  = asymptotic length  
 $K$  = curvature parameter or growth coefficient  
 $t_0$  = theoretical age at which  $L_t = 0$

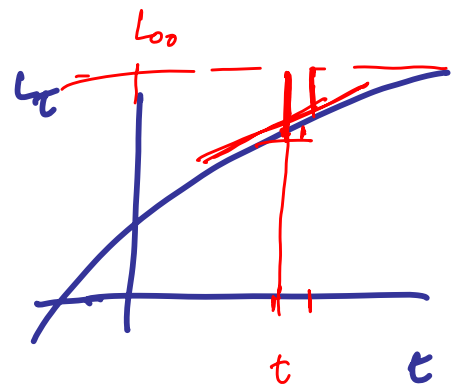
ex  
age  $t$



## Basic assumption

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = K (L_{\infty} - L_t)$$

$$K = \frac{1}{(L_{\infty} - L_t)} \frac{dL}{dt}$$



# MODEL GROWTH IN WEIGHT

given a length-weight relationship

$$W = q \times L^b$$

$q$  = allometric condition coeff.  
 $b$  = allometric coefficient

and the model in length

$$L_t = L_{\infty} [1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)}]$$

$$W_{\infty} = q L_{\infty}^b$$

when

$$b = 3 \quad W_t = W_{\infty} \cdot [1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)}]^3$$

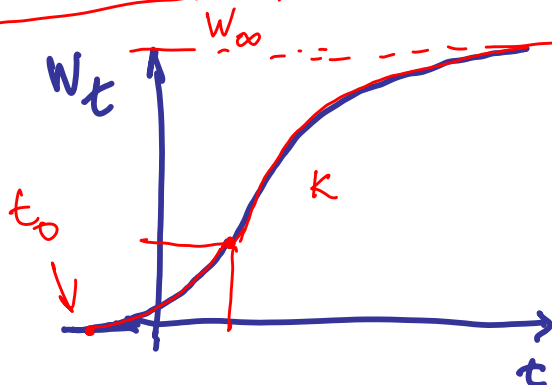
Mean weight at age

von Bertalanffy growth curve in weight

$$b \neq 3 \quad W_t = W_{\infty} \cdot [1 - e^{-k(t-t_0)}]^b$$

Richards growth curve (in weight)

graphic



$$W_{inflex} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{b}\right)^b \times W_{\infty}$$

$$t_{inflex} = t_0 - \frac{1}{K} \ln\left(\frac{1}{b}\right)$$

CANIMA  
SPARLE & VENTMA

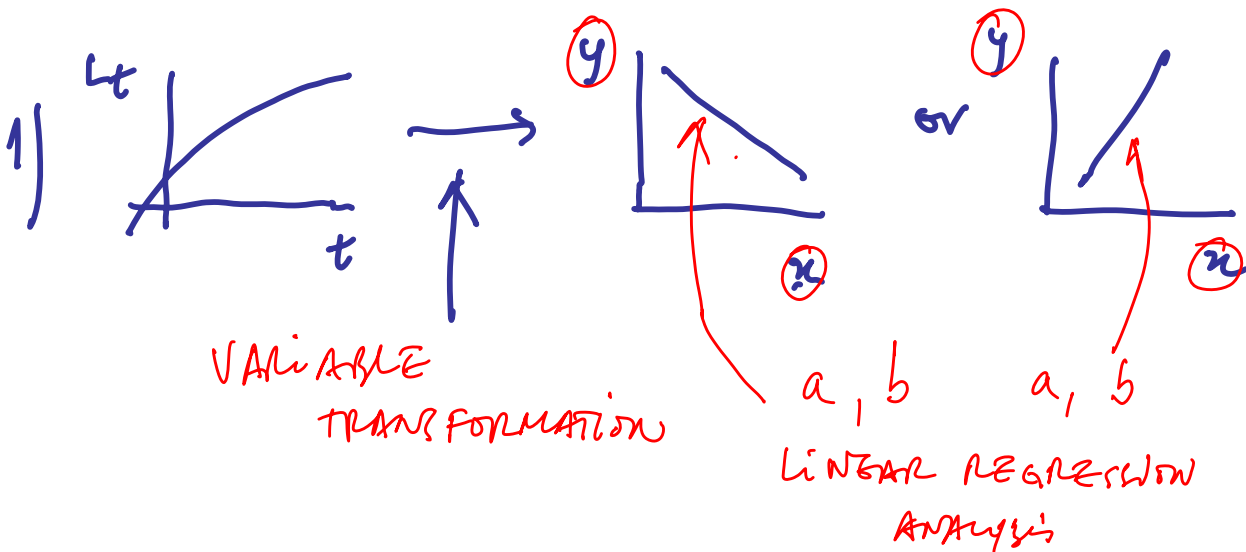
when  $b = 3$

$$W_{inflex} = 0,2963 \cdot W_{\infty}$$

$$t_{inflex} = t_0 + \frac{1}{K} \ln 3 \text{ or } \left( t_0 - \frac{1}{K} \ln\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \right)$$

## PARAMETER ESTIMATION

- 1) LINEAR ESTIMATION (GRAPHIC METHODS)
- 2) NON-LINEAR ESTIMATION (ITERATIVE METHODS)



$K, L_{\infty}$  or given  $L_{\infty}, K, t_0$   
 can be obtained from  $a$  and  $b$   
*intercept* *Slope*  
 of the regression line

GUARD-HOLT PLOT

to estimate  $L_{\infty}$  and  $K$

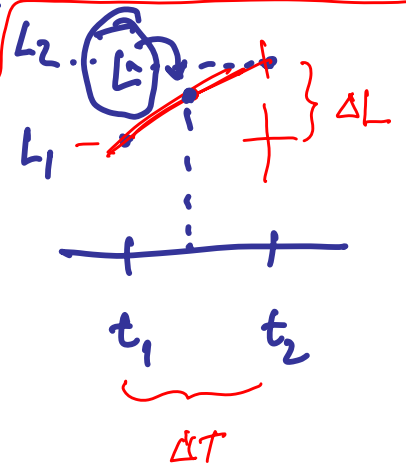
$$\frac{\Delta L}{\Delta T} = K (L_{\infty} - \bar{L}) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{\Delta L}{\Delta T} = K L_{\infty} - K \bar{L}$$

where  $\bar{L} = \frac{L_1 + L_2}{2}$

$$\Delta L = L_2 - L_1$$

$$\Delta T = t_2 - t_1$$



*AT can be  $\neq$  count*

$$\frac{\Delta L}{\Delta T} = K L_{\infty} - K \bar{L}$$

$$\frac{\Delta L}{\Delta T}$$

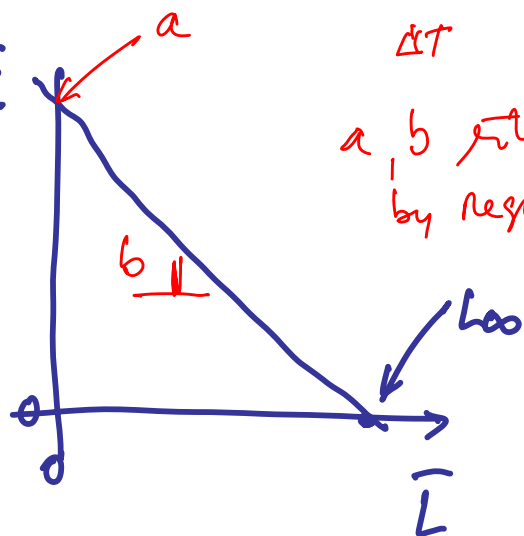
$$y = a + b x$$

$$a = K L_{\infty}$$

$$b = -K \therefore$$

$$L_{\infty} = -\frac{a}{b}$$

$$K = -b$$



*a, b estimated by regression*



# VON BERTALANFFY PLOT

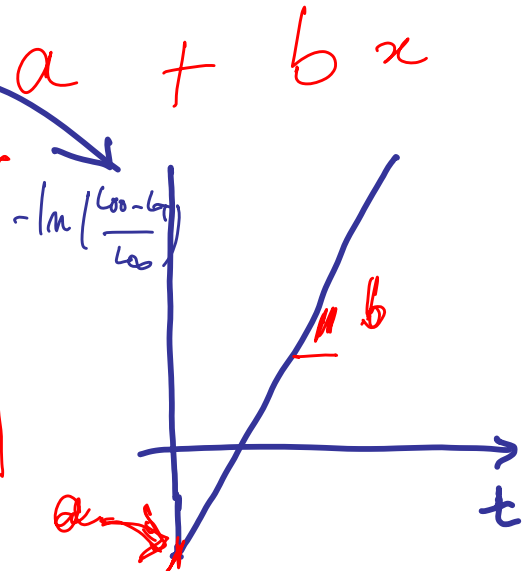
Given  $L_{\infty}$   
to estimate  $K$  and  $t_0$

$$-\ln \left( \frac{L_{\infty} - L_t}{L_{\infty}} \right) = -Kt_0 + Kt$$

$y$

$$a = -Kt_0$$
$$b = K \quad \therefore$$

$$t_0 = -\frac{a}{b}$$
$$K = b$$



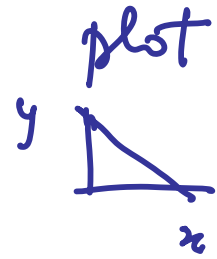
Ex

observed data

$t$	$L_t$
$t_1$	$L_{t_1}$
$t_2$	$L_{t_2}$
$t_3$	$L_{t_3}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$

Gullond - Holt plot

$y$	$\frac{\Delta L}{\Delta T}$	$\bar{L}$	$x$
	$\frac{L_{t_2} - L_{t_1}}{t_2 - t_1}$	$\frac{L_{t_1} + L_{t_2}}{2}$	
	$\frac{L_{t_3} - L_{t_2}}{t_3 - t_2}$	$\frac{L_{t_2} + L_{t_3}}{2}$	
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	



regression analysis

$a$  }  $L_0, K$   
 $b$  }  
 $r^2$   
 $n$



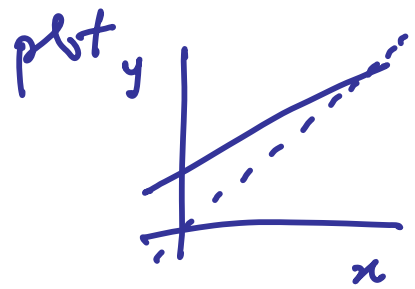
observed data

$t$	$L_t$
$t_1$	$L_{t_1}$
$t_2$	$L_{t_2}$
$t_3$	$L_{t_3}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$

FORD - WARFORD

$L_t$	$L_{t+\Delta T}$
$L_{t_1}$	$L_{t_2}$
$L_{t_2}$	$L_{t_3}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$

$\Delta T = \text{const}$



regression analysis

$n$   
 $r^2$  }  $K, L_0$   
 $a$  }  
 $b$  }

# BERTALANFFY NOT

GIVEN

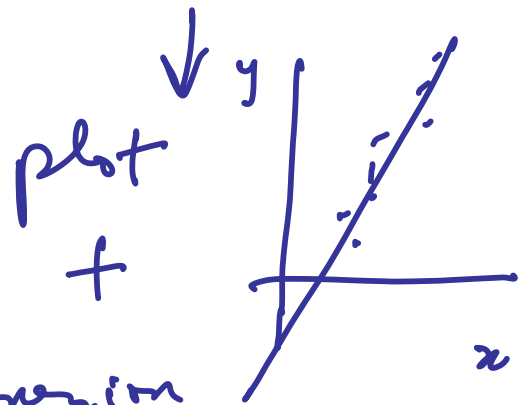
Ex

observed data

$t$	$L_t$
$t_1$	$L_{t_1}$
$t_2$	$L_{t_2}$
$t_3$	$L_{t_3}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$

$-\ln \left( \frac{L_{\infty} - L_t}{L_{\infty}} \right)$	$t$
$-\ln \left( \frac{L_{\infty} - L_{t_1}}{L_{\infty}} \right)$	$t_1$
$-\ln \left( \frac{L_{\infty} - L_{t_2}}{L_{\infty}} \right)$	$t_2$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$

Mean point  
of the  
age  
group



Regression  
analysis

$a$  }  $K, t_0$   
 $b$  }

$n$   $r^2$

## 2) NON-LINEAR ESTIMATION (ITERATIVE METHODS)

observed data

EX

t	L <sub>t</sub>
t <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>t<sub>1</sub></sub>
t <sub>2</sub>	L <sub>t<sub>2</sub></sub>
t <sub>3</sub>	L <sub>t<sub>3</sub></sub>
⋮	⋮

from GRAPHICAL METHODS

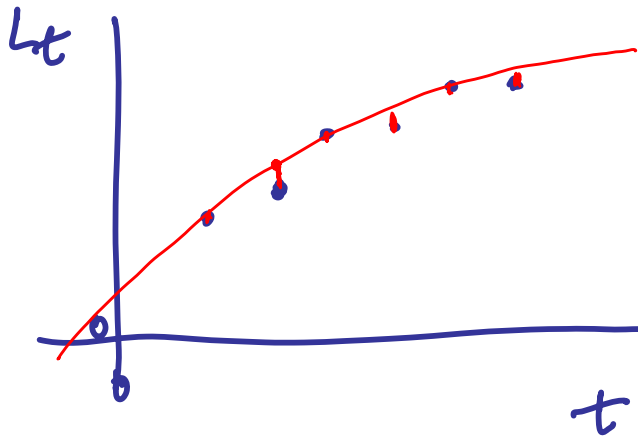
initial values for parameter

$$L_{\infty}^{(0)}$$

$$K^{(0)}$$

$$t_0^{(0)}$$

$$L_t = L_{\infty}^{(0)} \left[ 1 - e^{-K^{(0)}(t - t_0^{(0)})} \right]$$



CRITERIA TO OBTAIN THE BEST CURVE

$$\phi = \sum (\text{obs} - \text{exp})^2 = \underline{\underline{\text{Minimum!}}}$$

SSR → "least squares" criteria

WITH NUMERICAL ALGORITHMS COMPUTER FIND THROUGH ITERATION THE BEST COMBINATION OF THE 3 PARAMETERS THAT FITS SSR MINIMUM

EXCEL → SOLVER