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「生態学基礎論 (生物多様性論 II)」の一部:  
Statistical Modeling for Ecology, Jan 11, 2011

Part 2 in 2

An introduction of GLM

**Better Data Analysis Using GLM**

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<http://goo.gl/lqFgH>

# Short course: an introduction of statistical modeling

## Statistical modeling using the generalised linear model (GLM)

### 1. **Modeling of observation** 1/17 (月)

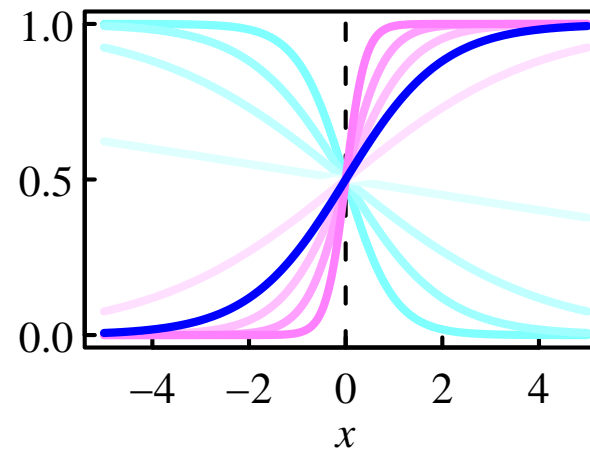
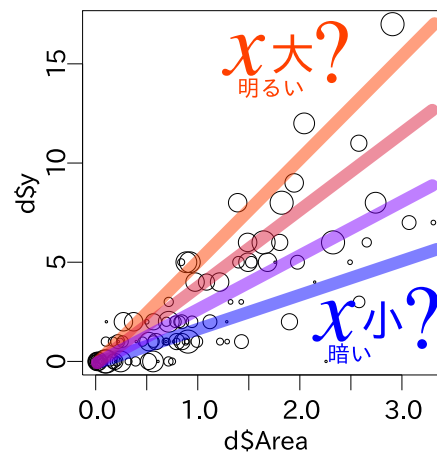
- What is statistical modeling? GLM?
- Poisson regression, a part of GLM

### 2. **Stop the “Data / Data” manner!** 1/19 (水)

- `offset` technique for Poisson regression
- Logistic regression, as a part of GLM

# Today's topics

1. Stop the “Data / Data” manner!
2. Enhancing Poisson regression with offset technique



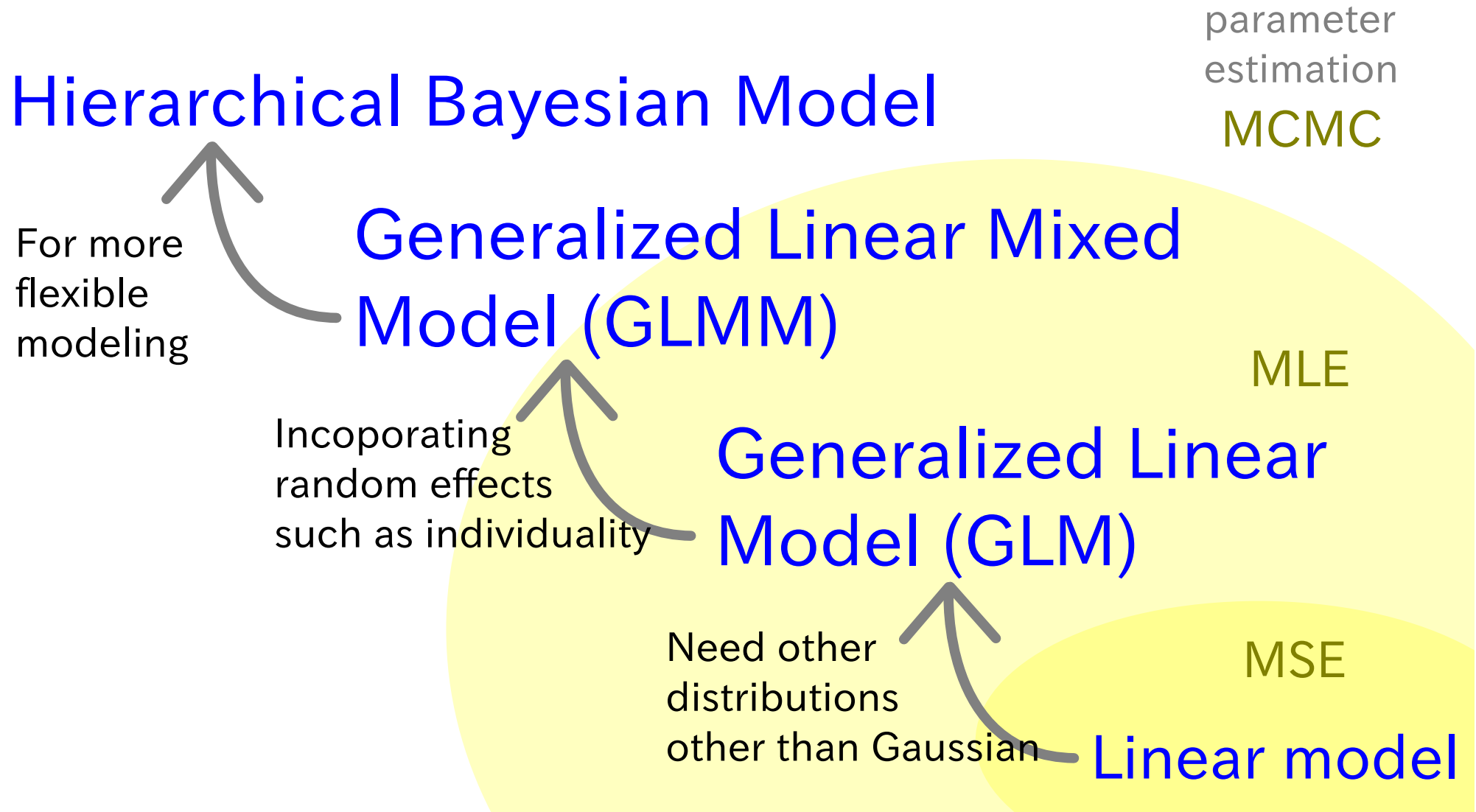
# 1. Stop the “Data / Data” manner

... plus, a short revision of the previous class

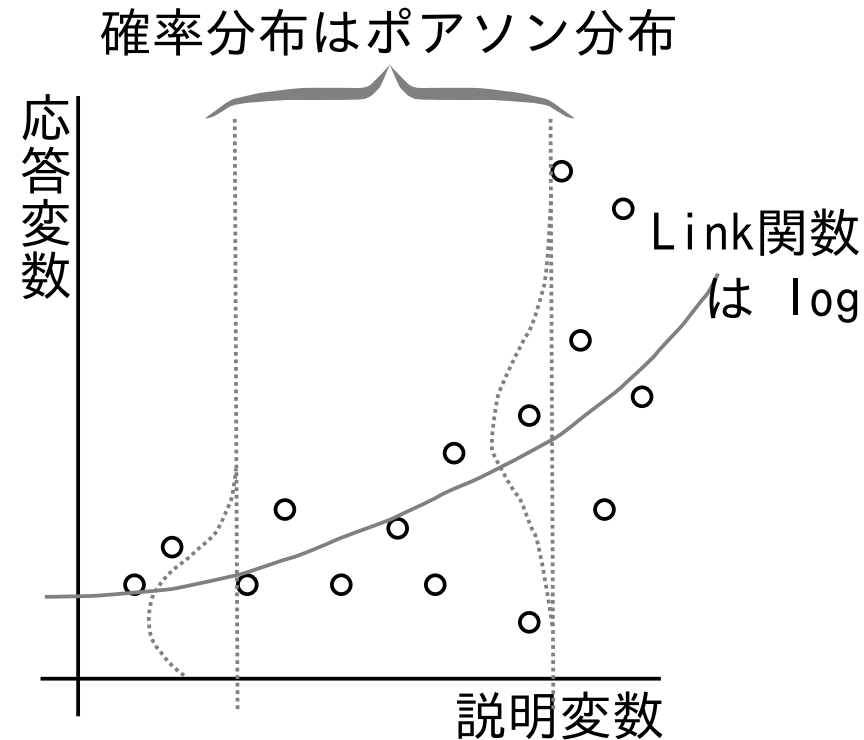
# Statistical modeling of your observation

- **Statistical modeling explains the patterns appeared in your data**
- **Probabilistic distribution, the most important component of statistical model**
- **Goodness of fit to your data is evaluated by statistical models**

# The development of linear models



# Poisson regression to represent patterns in “count data”



- Poisson regression is a part of GLM
- Variance of  $y$  depends on mean
- Non-negative model prediction

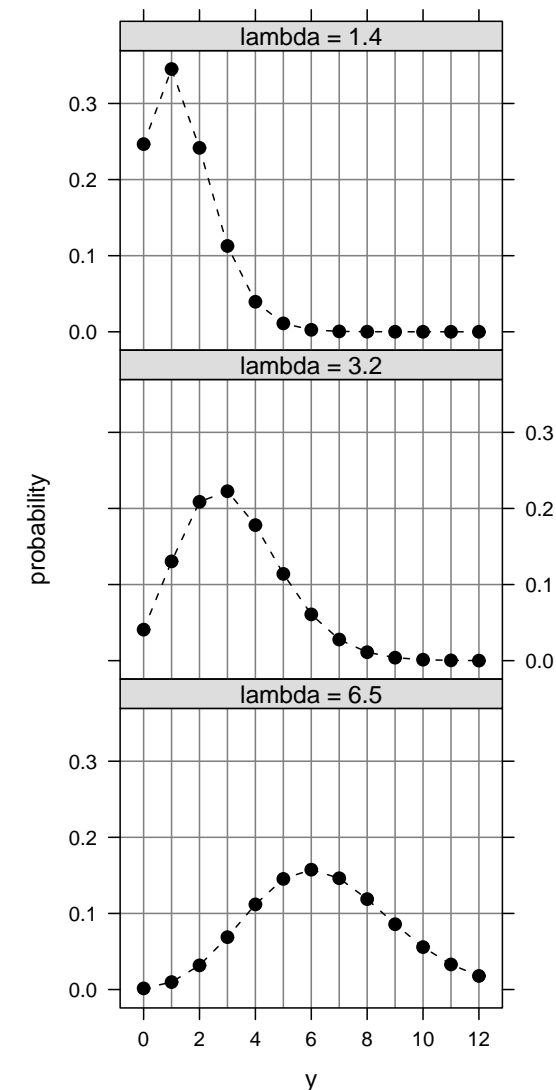
# What is the Poisson distribution?

- A discrete probabilistic distribution
- The functional form of Poisson distribution,

$$\frac{\lambda^y \exp(-\lambda)}{y!}$$

where  $\lambda$  is the mean of the distribution

- ... and the variance is equal to  $\lambda$
- For discrete data (count data), unbounded
- e.g. egg number, seed number, population abundance ...





# 一般化線形モデル (generalized linear model; GLM)

GLM can be specified by three components:

- Probabilistic distribution: Gaussian, Poisson, Binomial, and other distributions
- Link function  $f()$ : (mean of  $y$ ) =  $f$ (linear predictor)
- Linear predictor:  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots$  where  $x_i$  and  $\beta_i$  are an explanatory variable and its coefficient, respectively
  - The coefficient set  $\{\beta_i\}$  is estimated using the maximum likelihood method of which likelihood is defined by GLM and observed data

# glm() function in R

	確率分布	乱数生成	パラメーター推定
(離散)	ベルヌーイ分布	<code>rbinom()</code>	<code>glm(family = binomial)</code>
	二項分布	<code>rbinom()</code>	<code>glm(family = binomial)</code>
	ポアソン分布	<code>rpois()</code>	<code>glm(family = poisson)</code>
	負の二項分布	<code>rnbinom()</code>	<code>glm.nb()</code>
(連続)	ガンマ分布	<code>rgamma()</code>	<code>glm(family = gamma)</code>
	正規分布	<code>rnorm()</code>	<code>glm(family = gaussian)</code>

- some other family can be specified
- `glm.nb()` can be used by commanding `library(MASS)` in R

# How do you specify the options of `glm()`

```
fit <- glm(  
  y ~ log.x,  
  family = poisson(link = "log")  
  data = d  
)
```

結果を格納するオブジェクト

関数名

モデル式

確率分布の指定

リンク関数の指定 (省略可)

data.frame の指定

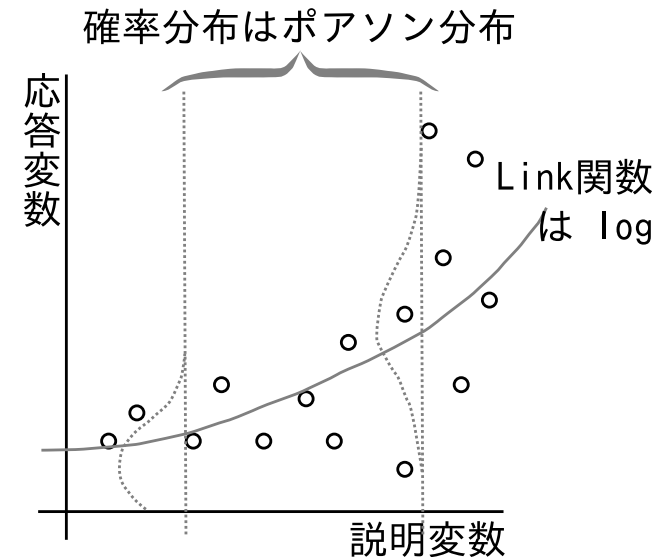
- model formula to specify response and explanatory variables
- link function: the functional form of  $y$ -mean
- family to represent the distribution of  $y$

# How to use `glm()` for Poisson regression

- family: `poisson`, Poisson distribution
- link function: "log" link function
- model formula:  $y \sim x$
- **linear predictor**  $z = a + bx$

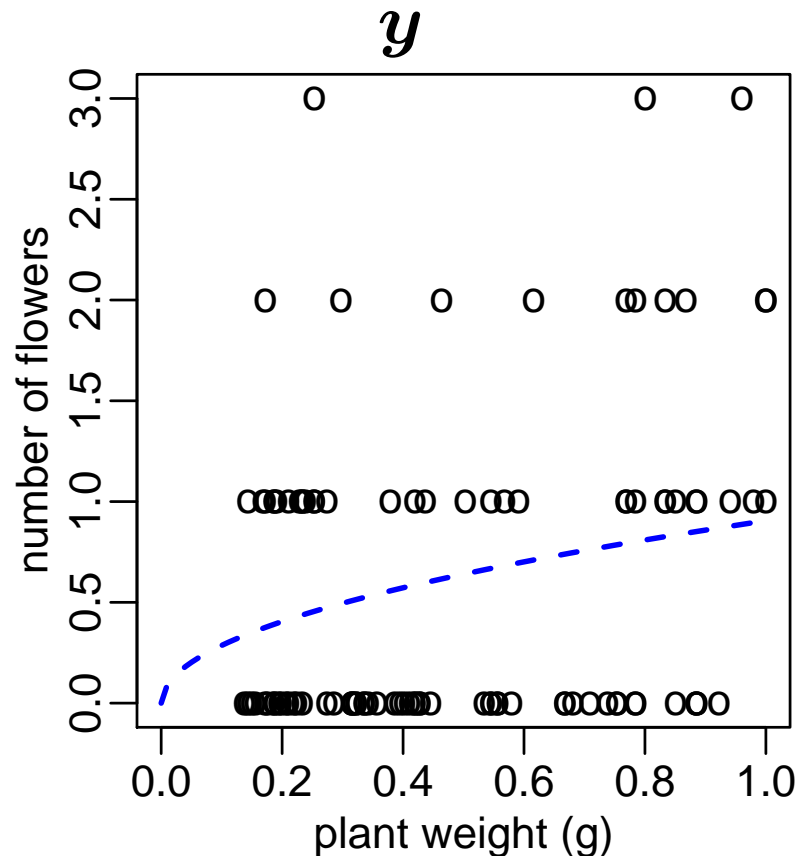
both  $a$  and  $b$  are parameters to be estimated

- $\log(\lambda) = z$  where  $\lambda$  is the mean of  $y$   
i.e.,  $\lambda = \exp(z) = \exp(a + bx)$
- response variable  $y$  follows the Poisson distribution of mean  $\lambda$ ,  
 $y \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$

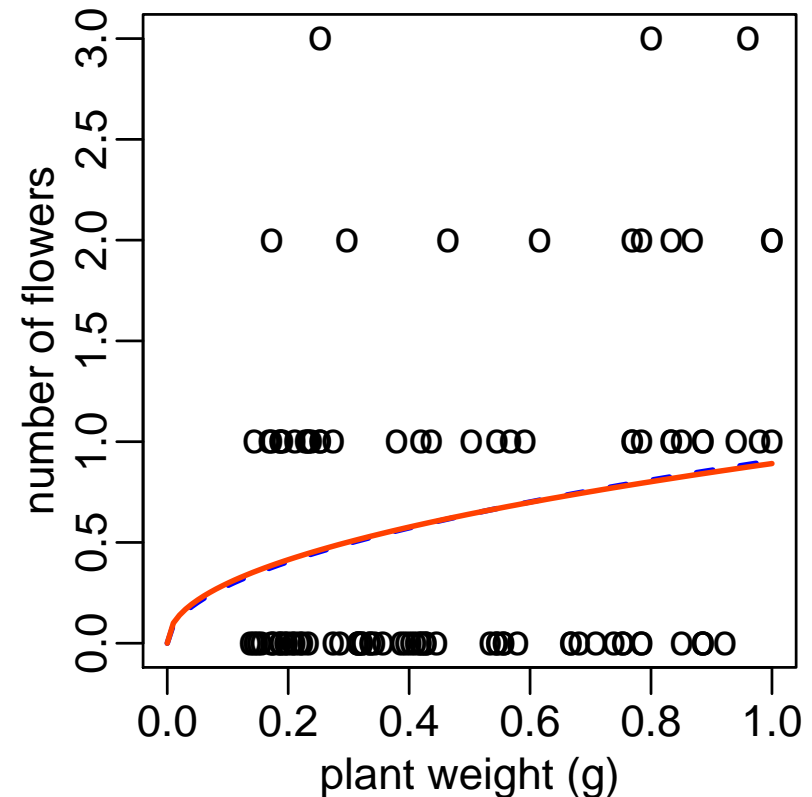


# Plotting the prediction based on GLM estimation

the “true” relationship  
between weight  $x$   
and the number of flowers



The estimated relationship



# Some recommendations for data analysis

- Make many figures to show patterns in data
- Consider the probabilistic distribution to represent data
- Stop “Data / Data” analysis! (next topic)

Cook your data without losing its flavor and texture

# How sad “Data / Data” analysis!

A frequently seen case in the **unrecommmendable** manner ...

- You counted the number of flowering trees  $k_i$  in  $N_i$  trees in plot  $i$
- You estimated the flowering probability  $p_i$  by evaluating  $k_i/N_i$
- In plot  $j$ ,  $p_j = k_j/N_j$
- To know the “significant difference” between  $p_i$  and  $p_j$ , you apply t-test in which you assumed  $p_*$  followed the Gaussian distribution ...

# Why “Data / Data” analysis sucks?

- The distribution of “Data / Data”
- **Information collaption**: Is  $3 / 10$  and  $60 / 200$  same?
- Using statistical modeling, you no longer have reason to use “Data / Data” analysis
- No advantage in “Data / Data” analysis



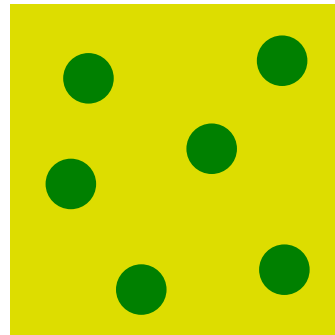
# How to stop “Data / Data” analysis?

- **avoidable “Data / Data”**
  - indices such as some densities
    - e.g. population, wood densities
    - escape technique: **offset term**
  - probabilities
    - e.g.  $k$  items in  $N$  samples
    - escape technique: logistic regression, for example
- **some quotients, hard to avoid**
  - some measurement devices output fractions or densities ...
  - we sometimes make graphs using fractions ...

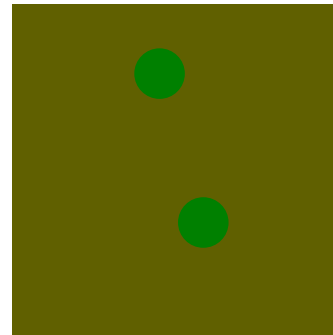
# 2. Offset Term Technique for Poisson Regression to Stop “Data / Data” Analysis

# An example: density depending on light intensity

- To know the dependency of plant population density  $y$  on local light index  $x$
- local light index  $x \in \{0.1, 0.2, \dots, 1.0\}$



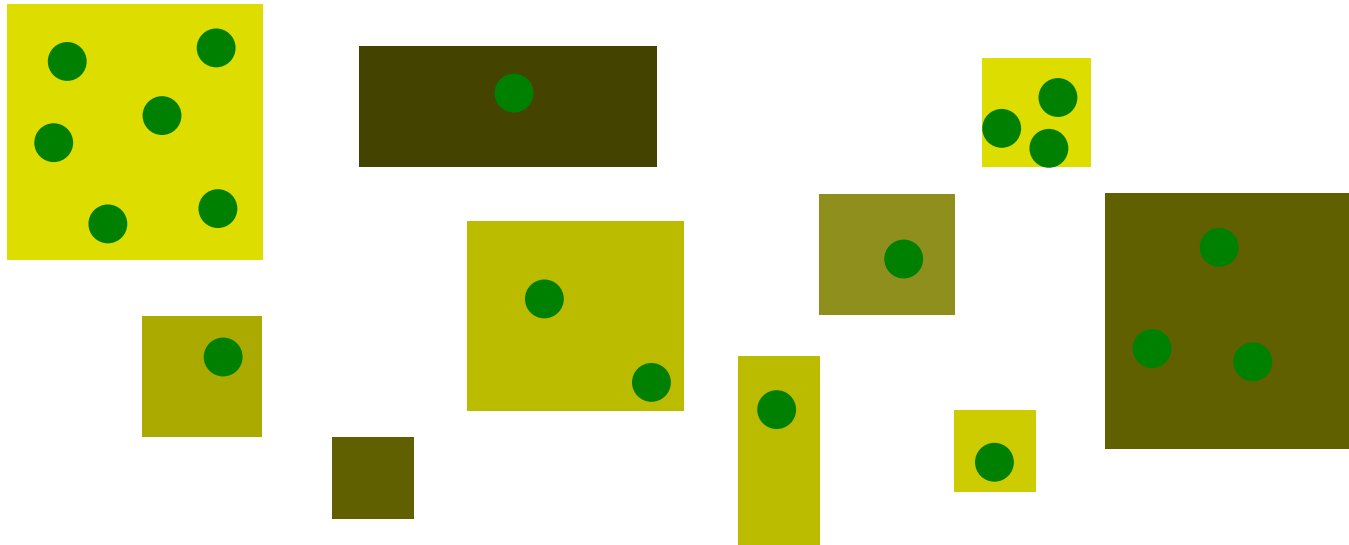
$x$ 大  
明るい



$x$ 小  
暗い

Can we just apply `glm()` to estimate the effects of  $x$ ?

# What? Differences in plot size?!



- We have to consider not only light index  $x$  but also plot area  $A$
- Stop “density =  $y/A$ ” estimation!
- We can manage it using `offset` technique for `glm()` function
- First, we have to draw figures of the data ...

# data.frame in R: Area, light index $x$ , plant abundance $y$

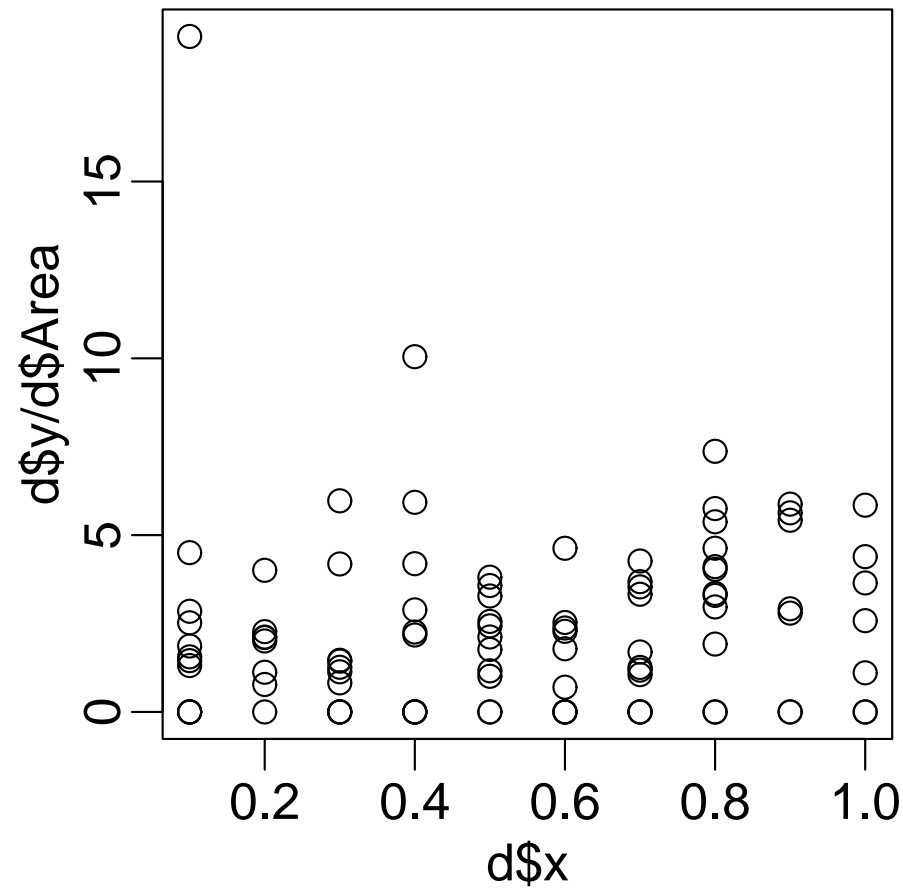
```
> load("d2.RData")
```

```
> head(d, 8) # 先頭 8 行の表示
```

	Area	x	y
1	0.017249	0.5	0
2	1.217732	0.3	1
3	0.208422	0.4	0
4	2.256265	0.1	0
5	0.794061	0.7	1
6	0.396763	0.1	1
7	1.428059	0.6	1
8	0.791420	0.3	1

# light index $x$ vs $y/A$

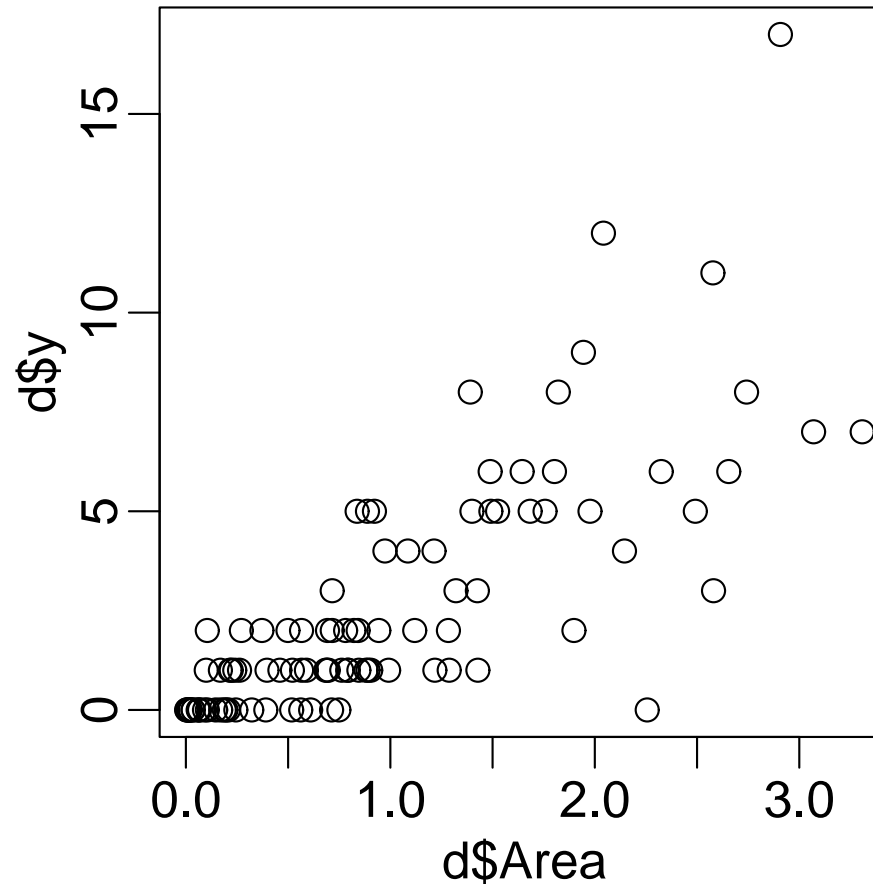
```
plot(d$x, d$y / d$Area)
```



- UNCLEAR!

# Area $A$ vs plant abundance $y$

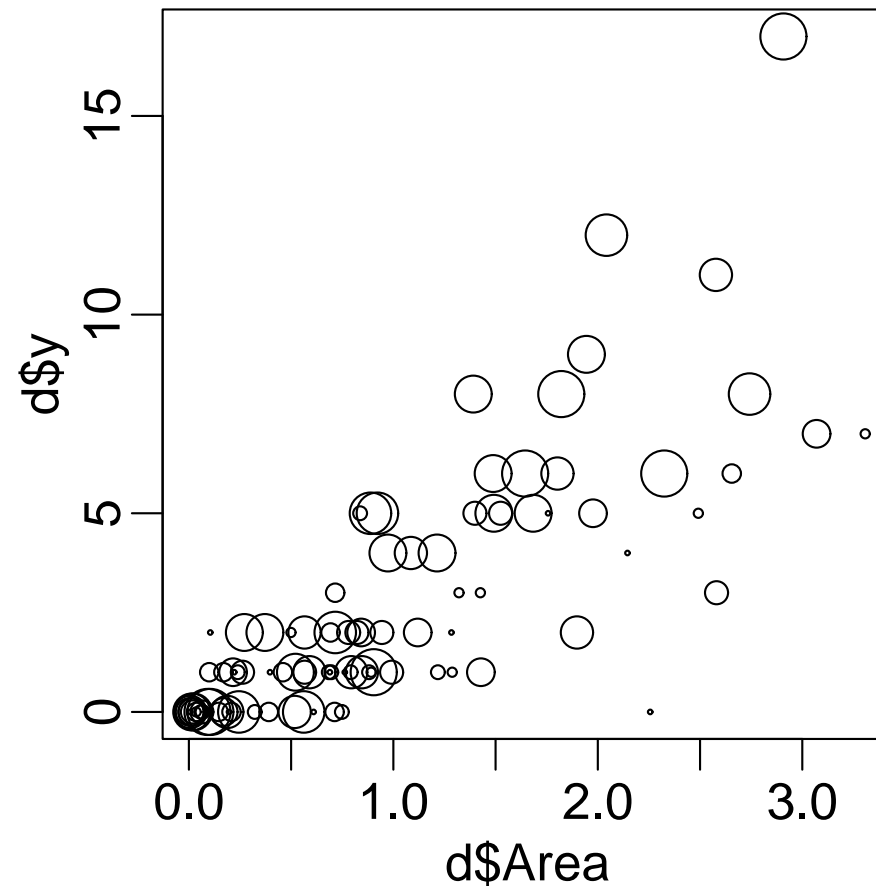
```
plot(d$Area, d$y)
```



- Naturally, positively correlated

# Adding $x$ information by changing point size

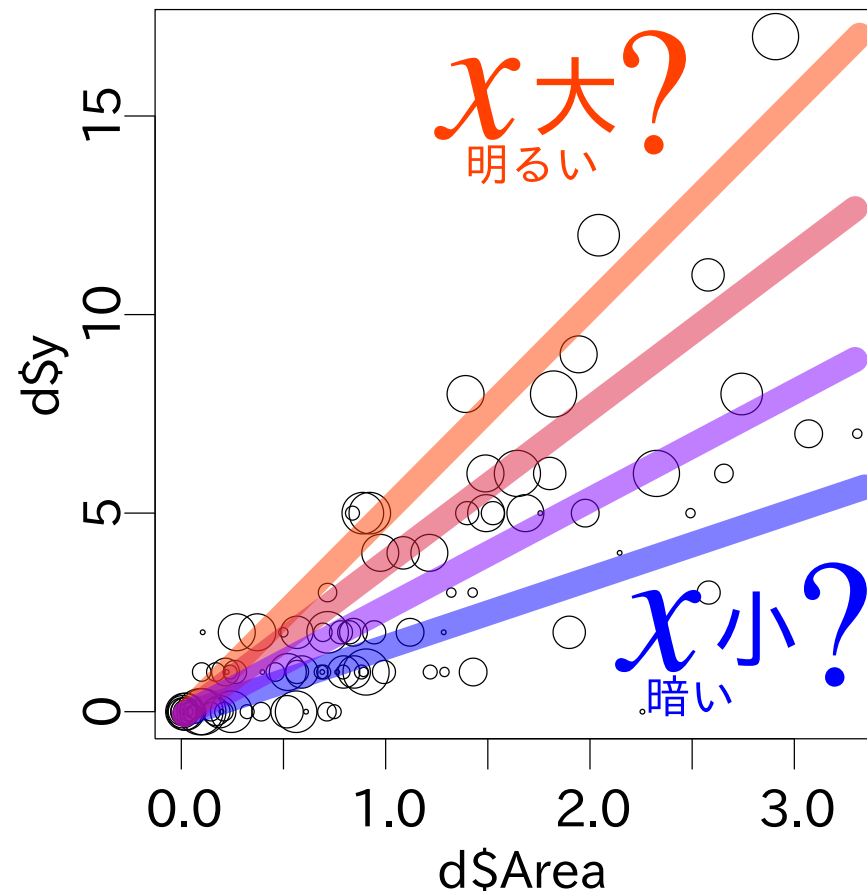
```
plot(d$Area, d$y, cex = d$x * 2)
```



- $y$  increases with  $x$  when fixing  $A$ ?



# A statistical model in which plant density depends on $x$



- the **mean** of population abundance is equal to  $A \times$  (population density)
- population density depends on local light index  $x$

# Assumptions for the model

1.  $y_i$  follows the Poisson distribution of mean  $\lambda_i$

$$y_i \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_i)$$

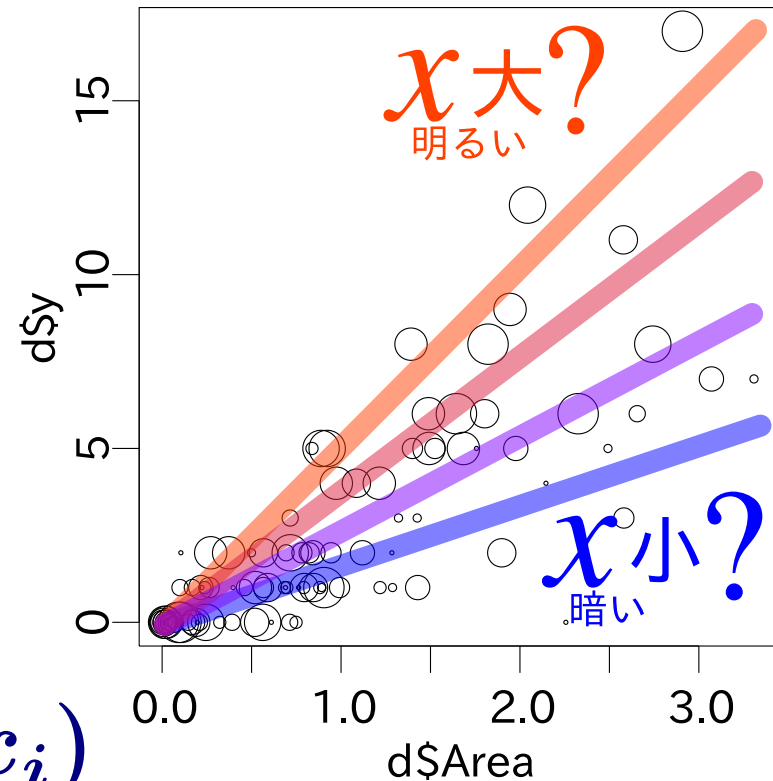
2.  $\lambda_i$  is proportional to area  $A_i$ , and density depends on  $x_i$

$$\lambda_i = A_i \exp(a + bx_i)$$

$$\lambda_i = \exp(a + bx_i + \log(A_i))$$

$$\log(\lambda_i) = a + bx_i + \log(A_i)$$

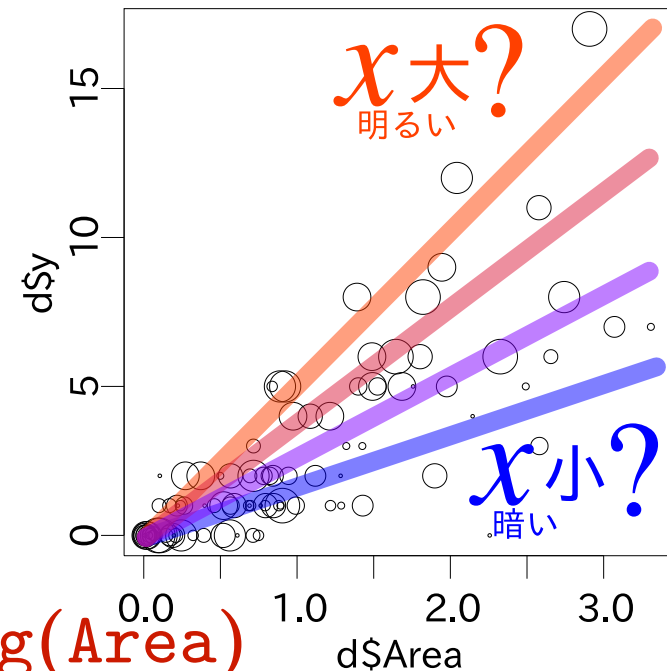
**term**



$\log(A_i)$  is referred to **offset**

# We can manage this mode using `glm()`!

- family: `poisson`, Poisson distribution
- link function: `"log"`
- model formula :  $y \sim x$
- offset term: `log(Area)`



- **linear predictor**  $z = a + b x + \log(\text{Area})$

both  $a, b$  are parameters to be estimated

- $\log(\lambda) = z$  where  $\lambda$  is mean of  $y$

i.e.,  $\lambda = \exp(z) = \exp(a + b x + \log(\text{Area}))$

# How to call glm()?

```
fit <- glm(  
  y ~ x,  
  family = poisson(link = "log")  
  data = d,  
  offset = log(Area)  
)
```

結果を格納するオブジェクト

関数名

モデル式

確率分布の指定

リンク関数の指定 (省略可)

offset の指定

# The estimated results using `glm()` of R

```
> fit <- glm(y ~ x, family = poisson(link = "log"), data = d,  
  offset = log(Area))  
> print(summary(fit))
```

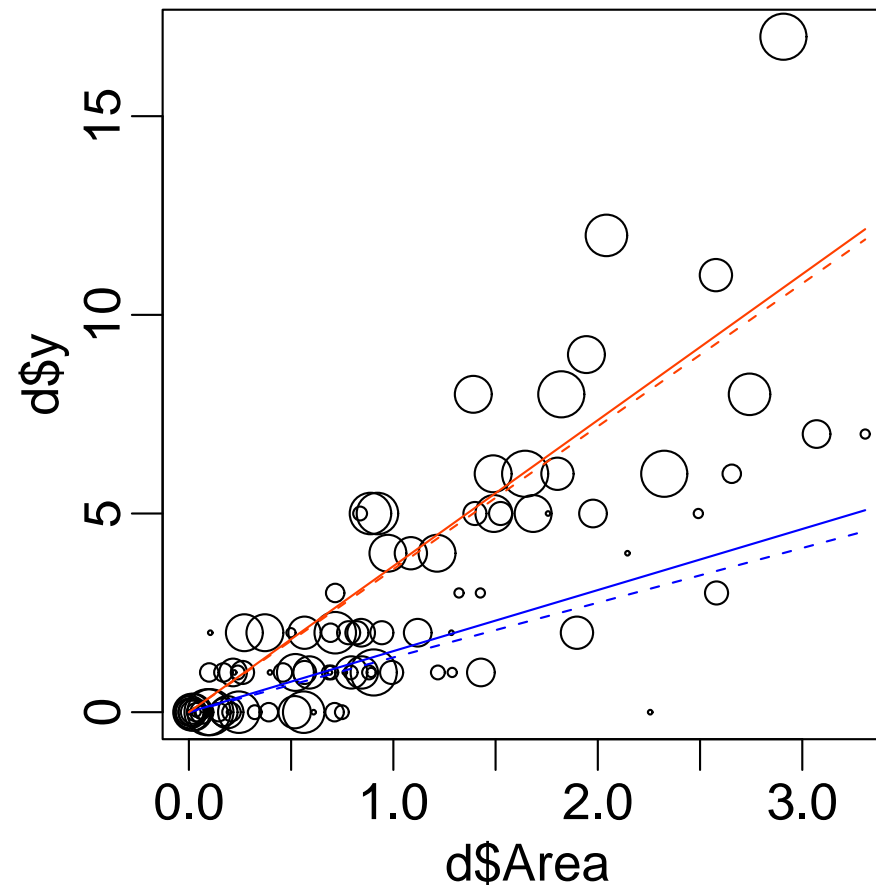
Call:

```
glm(formula = y ~ x, family = poisson(link = "log"), data = d,  
  offset = log(Area))
```

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	0.321	0.160	2.01	0.044
x	1.090	0.227	4.80	1.6e-06

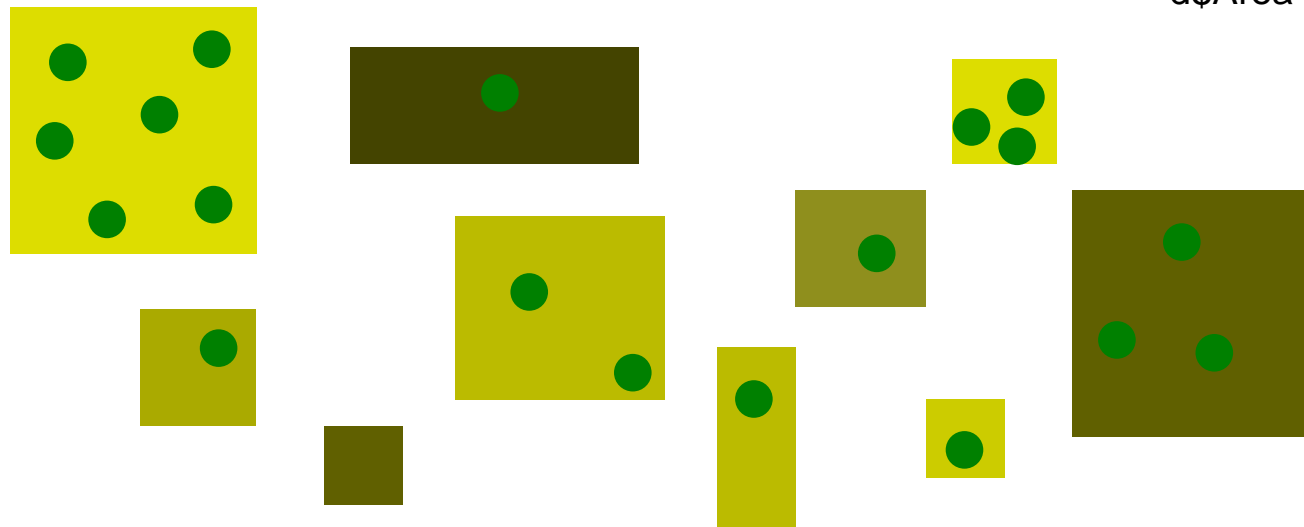
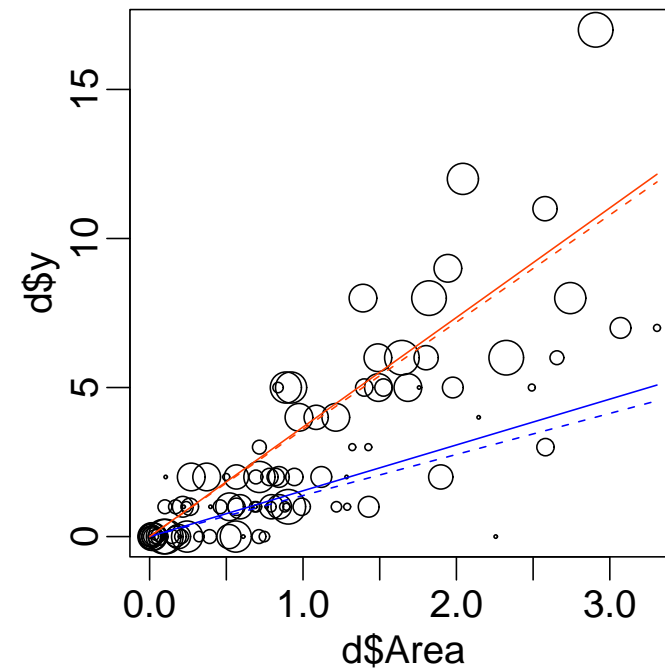
# Plotting the model prediction based on the estimated results



- solid red line for  $x = 0.9$ , blue for  $x = 0.1$
- dashed lines are “true” line generating the example data

# You can escape “Data / Data” analysis using `offset`

- In case that  $y$  is proportional to area  $A$ ,  $\log(A)$  must be specified as a offset term
- $\log(\text{population density})$  is equal to linear predictor

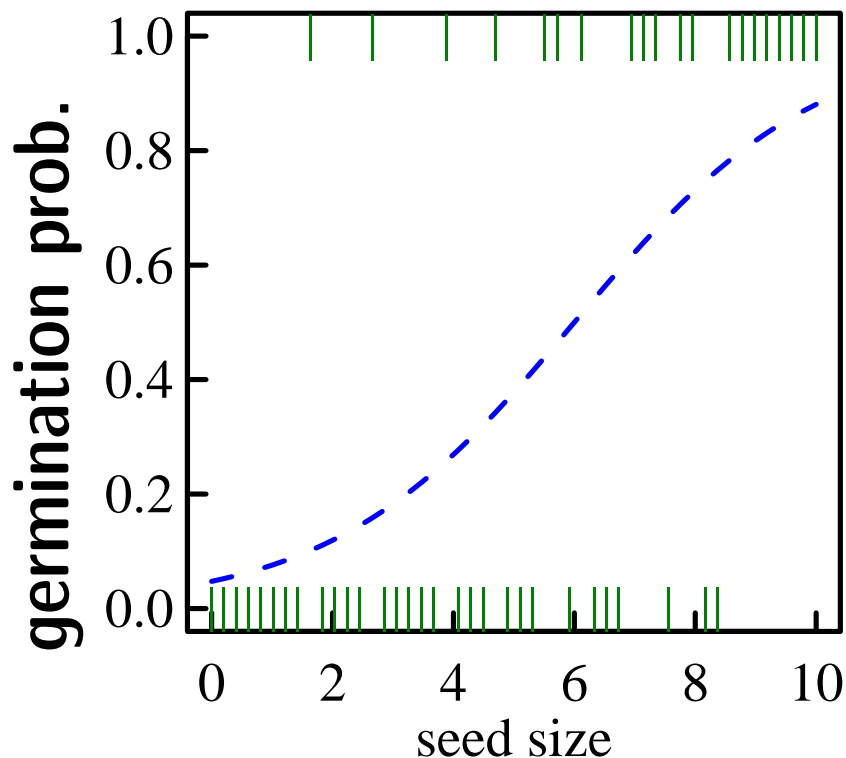


# **3. Logistic Regression vs Unrecommmendable Data Analysis**



# A fictitious example: germination data

Estimate the relationship between seed size and germination probability

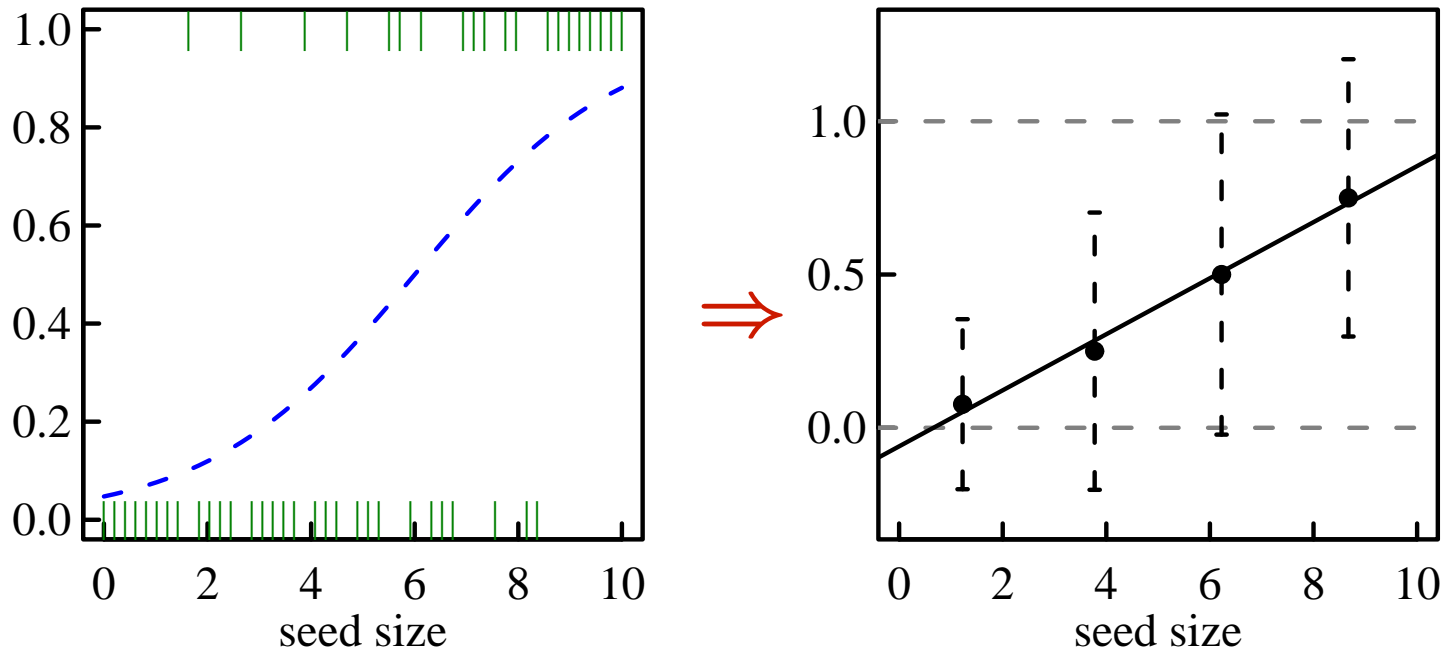


“true” germination curve

- germination prob.  $q$  increases with size  $x$ ?
- How do we estimate  $q$ -curve (blue)?

Estimate “true” curve (in blue) based on the finite data

# An uncommendable analysis, but frequently seen ...

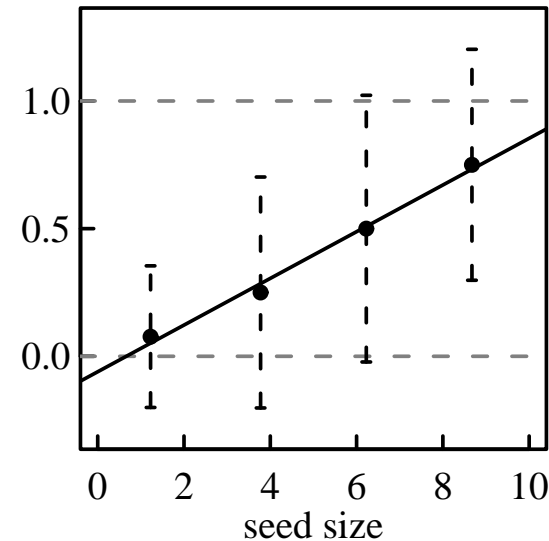


1. Data dividing and classifying along x-axis
2. Evaluating  $q$  for each size class using “Data / Data”
3. Throwing data into a black-box software

# Why sucks? You neglected **data characteristics**

Arbitrary classification  
Results depending on the arbitrariness

“Data / Data” erase information  
Difference between 1 / 2 and 100 / 200!

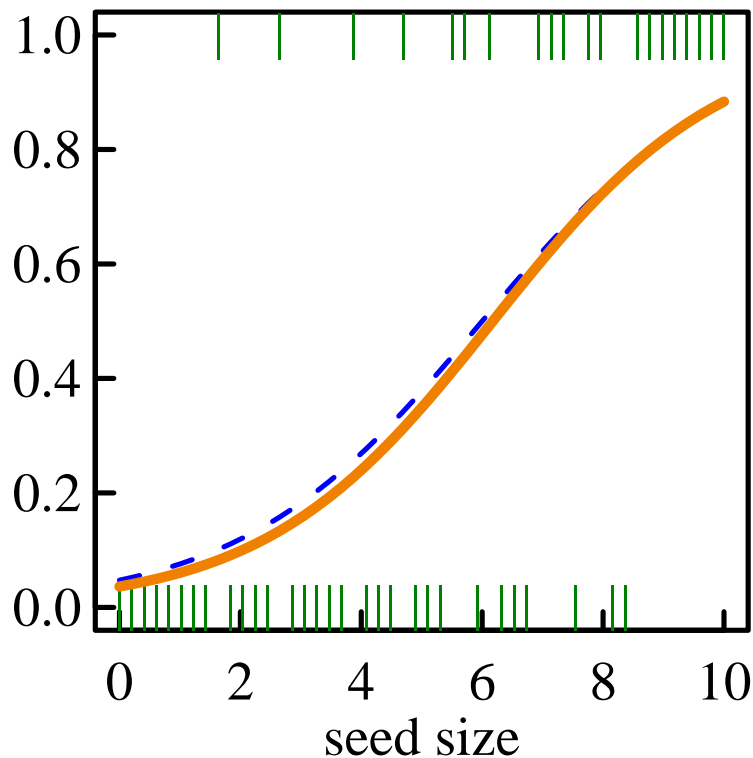


Neither normal nor homosedastic  
therefore you can not apply any statistical models based on the normal (Gaussian) distribution

Surreal model prediction: germination prob.  $q < 0$ ?!

# Logistic regression using `glm()` function in R

Germination  $y \in \{0, 1\}$  follows binomial distribution



- For each seed, germination prob.  $q$  is given as,

$$q = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(a + bx))}$$

(logistic equation)

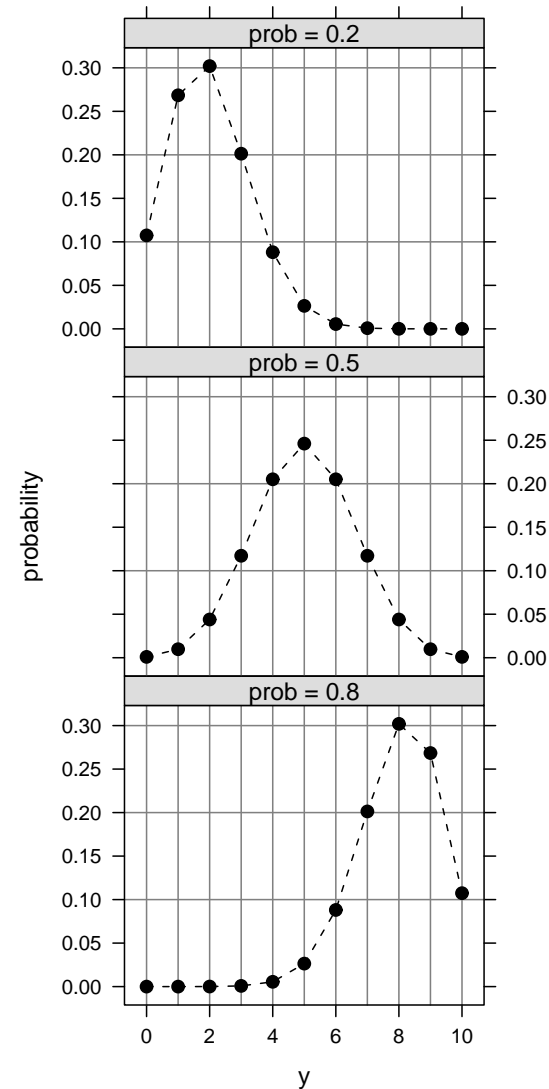
- Using `glm()` function of R, we can estimate both  $a$  and  $b$  based on the given data

# Binomial distribution

- Discrete random variable  $y_i \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, N\}$
- 確率分布 (parameter:  $q, N$ ) Probabilistic distribution function:

$$\binom{N}{y} q^y (1 - q)^{N-y}$$

- Mean  $Nq$ , Variance  $Nq(1 - q)$
- for upperbounded count data
- e.g.,  $y$  individuals responded in size  $N$  population

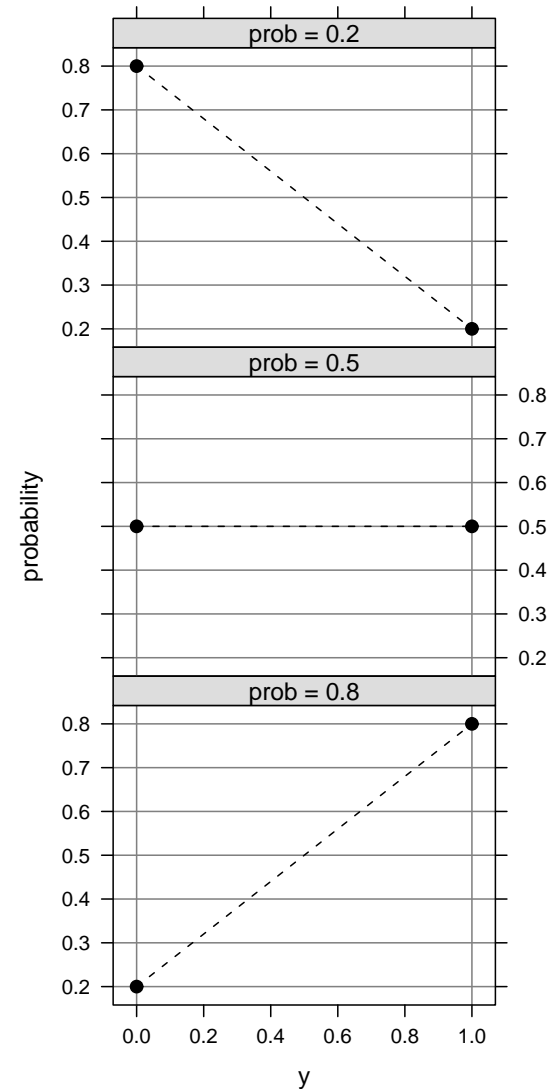


# Bernoulli distribution

- Discrete random number  $y_i \in \{0, 1\}$
- Probabilistic distribution function:

$$q^y (1 - q)^{1-y}$$

- Mean  $q$ , Variance  $q(1 - q)$
- Bernoulli distribution is a special case when  $N = 1$  in binomial distribution

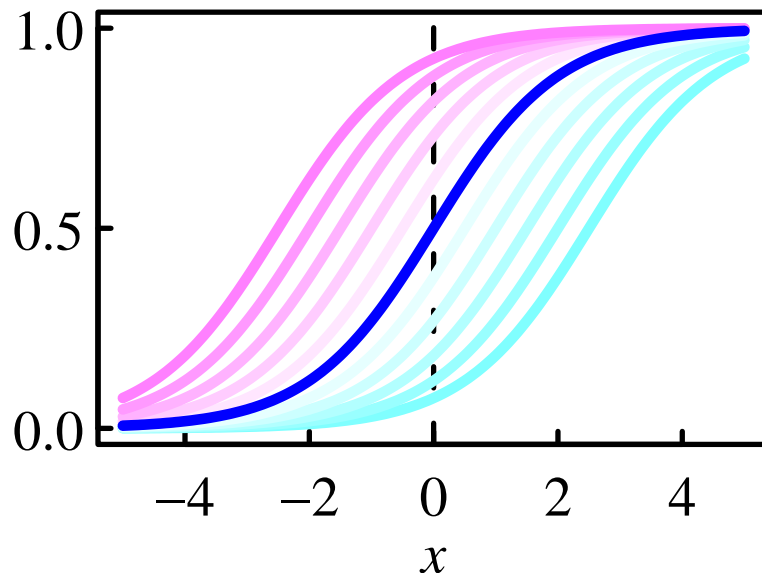


# Logistic function

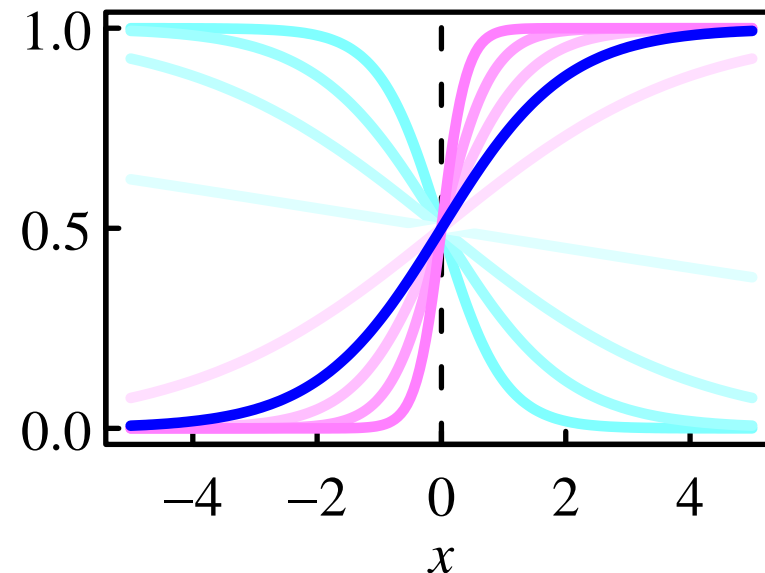
$$q = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(a + bx))}$$

$$(\exp(Z) = e^Z)$$

changing only  $a$



changing only  $b$



Variable  $q$  defined by a logistic function bounded in  $0 \leq q \leq 1$

# Logistic and logit functions

- logistic function

$$q = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(a + bx))} = \text{logistic}(a + bx)$$

- logit transformation (logit function)

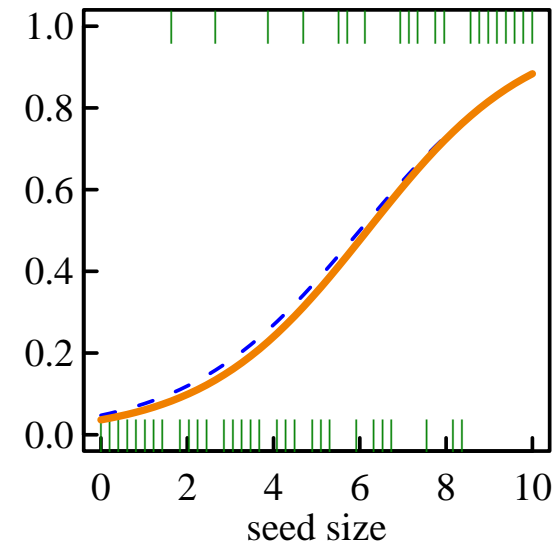
$$\text{logit}(q) = \log \frac{q}{1 - q} = a + bx$$

logit is the inverse function of logistic function, vice versa



# Use `glm()` function for logistic regression (1)

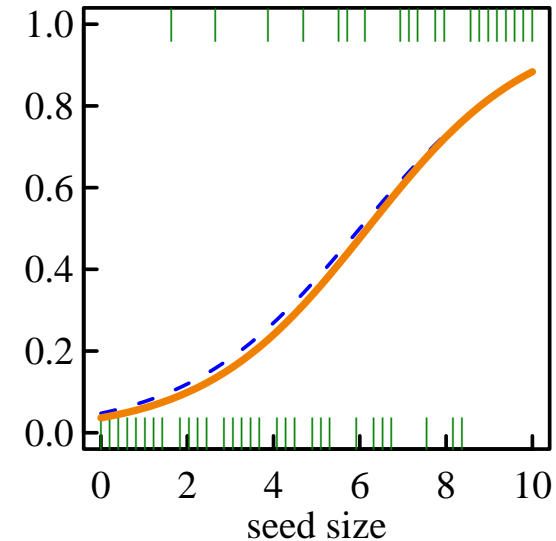
- `family`: `binomial`, 二項分布
  - $y \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, N\} \rightarrow$  binomial distribution
- `link` function: `"logit"`
  - `link = "logit"` is canonical under `family = binomial`
- model formula:  $y \sim x$



What is represented by `family = binomial(link = "logit")`

# Use `glm()` function for logistic regression (2)

- family: `binomial`, binomial distribution
- link function: `"logit"`
- model formula:  $y \sim x$



- **linear predictor**  $z = a + bx$

both  $a$  and  $b$  are parameters to be estimated based on data

- the relationship between germination probability  $q$  and seed size  $x$ ,

$$q = \frac{1}{\exp(-z)} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(a + bx))}$$

- **response variable**  $y$  follows ...

$$y \sim \text{Binom}(q, N)$$

In R, `glm()` must be specified as,

```
fit <- glm(  
  y ~ x,  
  family = binomial(link = "logit")  
  data = d  
)
```

結果を格納するオブジェクト

関数名

モデル式

確率分布の指定

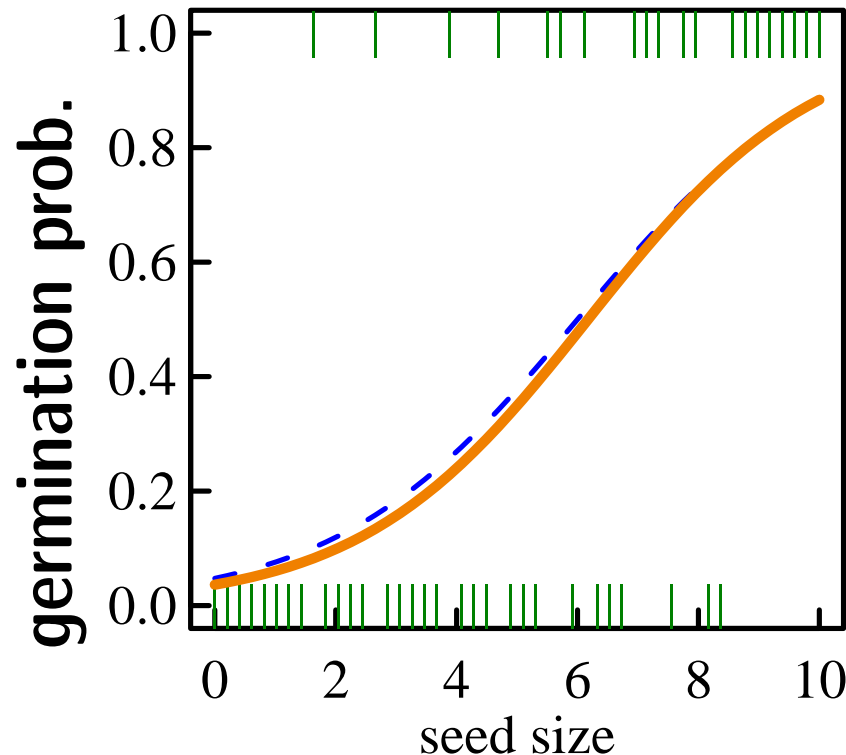
リンク関数の指定 (省略可)

data.frame の指定

- model formula: seed size `x`, explanatory variable
- link function: `logit`
- family: `binomial`, binomial distribution

# Ending

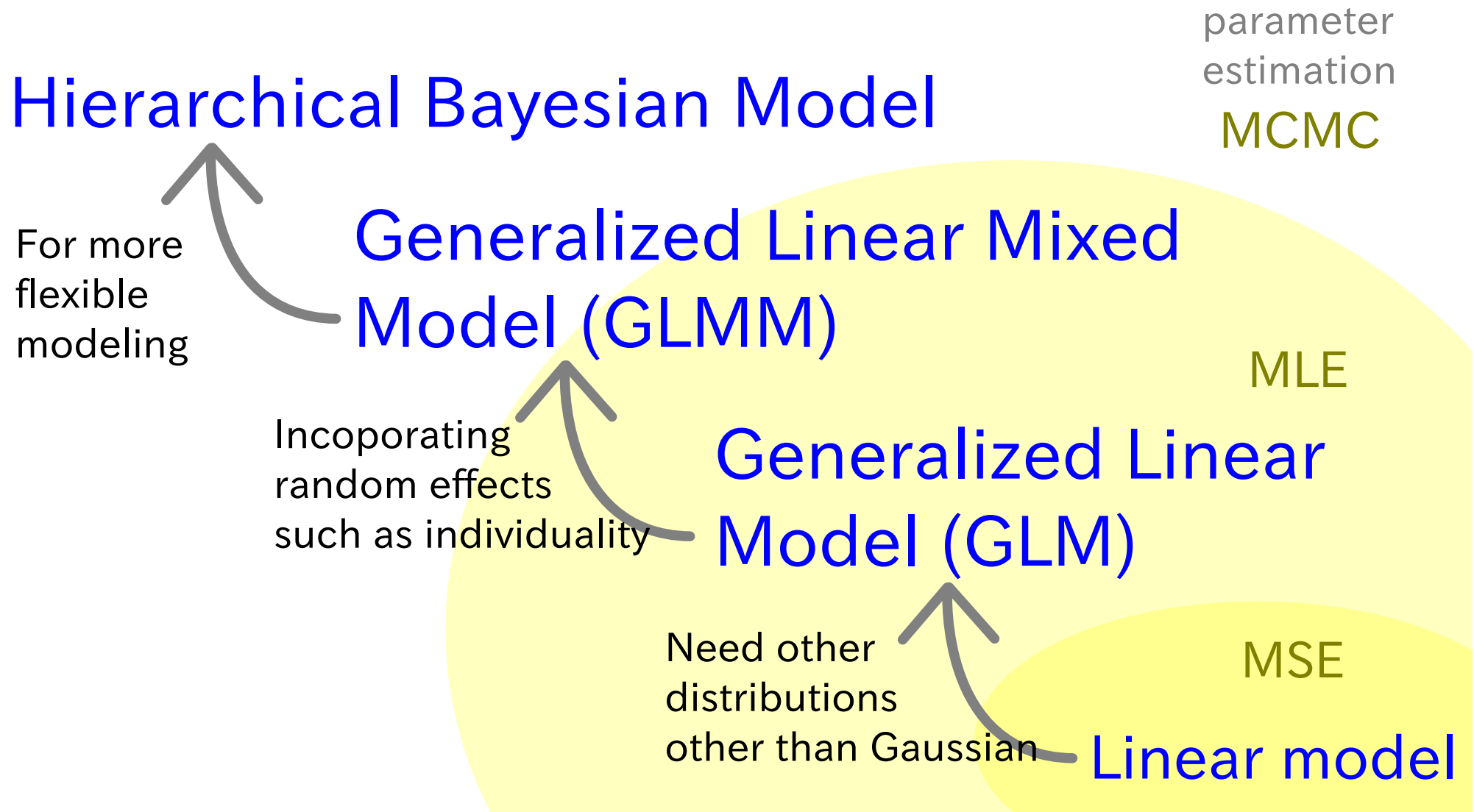
Closing: for your better data analysis



- Don't divide data arbitrarily
- No "Data / Data" analysis
- Plot your data in several way as many as you can
- Seek the best probabilistic distribution to represent your data

**Conclusion: Don't overcook your data,  
look at the natural aspect of your data**

# The development of linear models



**A learning plan: development of GLM family**