Reproducible Science and Figures in R Assignment

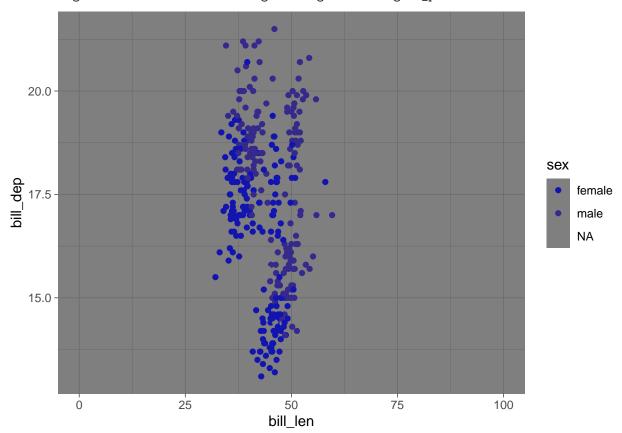
2023-12-08

To create a PDF, first install tinytex and load the package. Then press the Knit arrow and select "Knit to PDF".

QUESTION 01: Data Visualisation for Science Communication

a) My bad figure:

Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (`geom_point()`).



b) Write about how your design choices mislead the reader about the underlying data (200-300 words).

The difference in colour between female and male dots is small, making it difficult to distinguish them. The "NA" dots are the same colour as the background, making them invisible. This is not because the background and "NA" dots are specified to the same colour in the code; rather, it is because the default colour that "NA" dots are set to and the colour of the *dark* theme background in ggplot2 happen to be the same, which could possibly be overlooked when writing the code.

Additionally, the axis labels are abbreviated, from "bill_length_mm" and "bill_depth_mm" to "bill_len"

and "bill_dep". This leaves it up to the reader to interpret the meaning of "len" as "length" and "dep" as "depth", which might not be obvious to them, especially, I would imagine, for "dep". Also, the abbreviation of the axis labels leaves out the units (mm), so the reader cannot tell the real value of any of the measurements. This is made worse by possibly not knowing what "len" or "dep" mean, and therefore not knowing how the x and y variables might possibly compare or interact.

The x axis scale is unreasonably wide, squashing the data points together in the x direction. This obscures the trend that male bill length is greater than female bill length on average, making it seem like male and female bill length are not significantly different, and leaves discernible only the trend that male bill depth is greater on average than female bill depth.

There is no title or caption giving context. Even with context, there is no mention or visual representation of the fact that the data points come from three different penguin species, not one species as might possibly be inferred without contradictory information.

QUESTION 2: Data Pipeline

Write a data analysis pipeline in your .rmd RMarkdown file. You should be aiming to write a clear explanation of the steps as well as clear code.

INTRODUCTION

1. Cleaning the Data

I started by "cleaning" the DataFrame the data are stored in to make them easier to investigate and use. The full dataset in the "palmerpenguins" package – "penguins_raw" – contains columns that I would not need for any data analysis. Also, the column names are inconsistently punctuated, making them confusing to include in code, and some column names contain spaces, which is inconvenient for use in code, as incorrect syntax could result in the computer thinking one table column is two objects.

```
# head(penguins_raw)
names(penguins_raw)
                                        # Old column titles
    [1] "studyName"
                               "Sample Number"
                                                       "Species"
                                                       "Stage"
    [4] "Region"
                               "Island"
##
    [7] "Individual ID"
                               "Clutch Completion"
                                                       "Date Egg"
## [10] "Culmen Length (mm)"
                               "Culmen Depth (mm)"
                                                       "Flipper Length (mm)"
  [13] "Body Mass (g)"
                               "Sex"
                                                       "Delta 15 N (o/oo)"
## [16] "Delta 13 C (o/oo)"
                               "Comments"
```

I removed the columns that I would not need and standardised the column names so they are less confusing to use, including making sure there are no spaces.

```
penguins clean <- penguins raw %>%
  select(-starts_with("Delta")) %>%
                                       # Removes columns starting with "Delta"
  select(-Comments) %>%
                                       # Removes "Comments" column
  clean_names()
                                       # Standardises column titles
names(penguins_clean)
                                       # New column titles
    [1] "study_name"
                             "sample_number"
                                                  "species"
##
    [4] "region"
                             "island"
                                                  "stage"
```

```
## [7] "individual_id" "clutch_completion" "date_egg"
## [10] "culmen_length_mm" "culmen_depth_mm" "flipper_length_mm"
## [13] "body_mass_g" "sex"
```

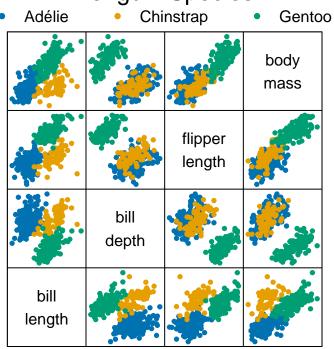
2. Exploring the Data

To explore the data, I plotted matrices of scatter plots comparing the four continuous numeric measurements in the dataset: bill (culmen) length, bill (culmen) depth, flipper length, and body mass. Each scatter plot matrix groups the data points into colours by a different categorical measurement: species, sex, island, and year.

```
# Checking the class of the different columns
sapply(penguins_clean, class)
```

```
##
          study_name
                          sample_number
                                                                      region
                                                   species
##
         "character"
                              "numeric"
                                               "character"
                                                                 "character"
##
              island
                                            individual_id clutch_completion
                                  stage
##
         "character"
                            "character"
                                               "character"
                                                                 "character"
##
            date_egg
                      culmen_length_mm
                                          culmen_depth_mm flipper_length_mm
##
              "Date"
                              "numeric"
                                                 "numeric"
                                                                    "numeric"
##
         body_mass_g
                                    sex
           "numeric"
##
                            "character"
# Columns 10:13 are numeric measurements.
# Making scatter plot matrices...
super.sym <- trellis.par.get("superpose.symbol")</pre>
# 1. ... by SPECIES:
splom(~penguins_clean[10:13], groups = species, data = penguins_clean,
      panel = panel.superpose, pscales=NULL,
      varnames = c("bill\nlength", "bill\ndepth", "flipper\nlength", "body\nmass"),
      pch = 20,
      key = list(title = "Penguin Species",
                 columns = 3,
                 points = list(pch = c(20, 20, 20),
                                col = super.sym$col[1:3]),
                 text = list(c("Adélie", "Chinstrap", "Gentoo"))))
```

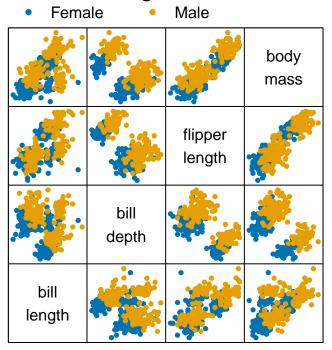
Penguin Species



Scatter Plot Matrix

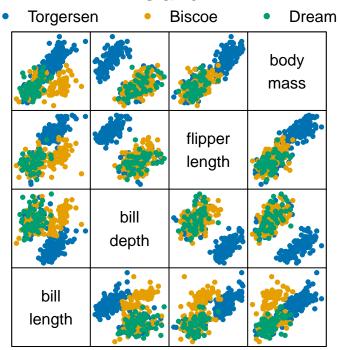
Warning in fun(key = base::quote(list(title = "Penguin Sex", columns = 3, : not
enough rows for columns

Penguin Sex

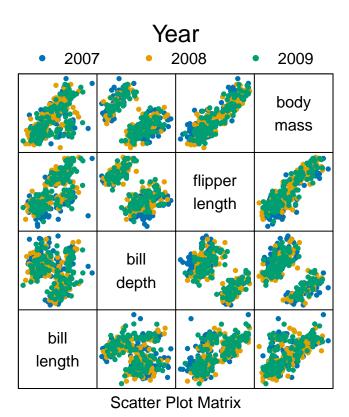


Scatter Plot Matrix

Island



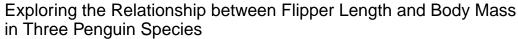
Scatter Plot Matrix

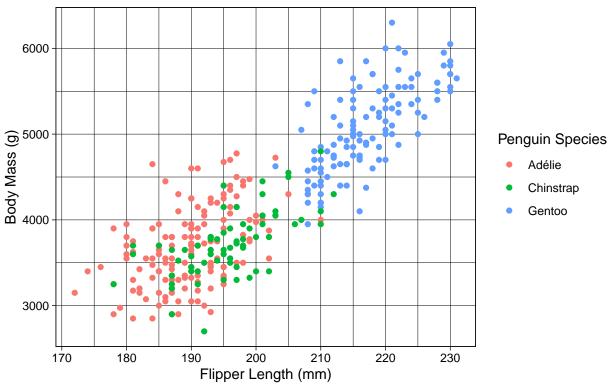


It seems that the data points are most distinctly grouped between species and sex. Differences between islands seem to coincide with differences between species (not all species were recorded on the same islands), and there appears to be little significant difference between different years across the other categorical variables.

The most interesting scatter plot to me was that of flipper length against body mass. I plotted a larger version of this graph to have a closer look.

Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (`geom_point()`).





Gentoos are grouped away from Adélies and chinstraps, which are mostly overlapping. Also, the gradient of the relationship between flipper length and body mass looks slightly steeper in gentoos than in Adélies and chinstraps, and might even be steeper in Adélies than in chinstraps. It would be interesting to see if the difference in the relationship between flipper length and body mass between the three penguin species is statistically significant.

3. Saving the Figure

Saving the above plot as a PNG file in the working directory:

```
ggsave("figures/mass_len_plot.png",
  plot = mass_len_plot,
  scale = 1,
  dpi = 300,
  height = 7, width = 9, unit = "in")
```

Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (`geom_point()`).

HYPOTHESES

- 1. Body mass can be predicted from flipper length.
- 2. Mean body mass is different between species.
- 3. The relationship between flipper length and body mass is different between species.

STATISTICAL METHODS

To investigate the relationship between body mass, flipper length, and species, I plan on performing an ANCOVA – analysis of covariance – because I have a continuous response variable, body mass; a continuous explanatory variable (covariate), flipper length; and a categorical explanatory variable (factor), species.

The hypotheses above rephrased as the hypotheses being tested in an ANCOVA are:

For x = flipper length and y = body mass,

Null hypotheses:

- 1. There is no significant relationship between flipper length and body mass: the fitted gradient is 0 for all species.
- 2. There is no significant relationship between species and body mass: the mean body mass, and fitted y-intercept, is the same for all species.
- 3. There is no interaction between flipper length and species: the fitted gradient is the same for all species.

Alternative hypotheses:

- 1. There is a significant relationship between flipper length and body mass: the fitted gradient is different from 0 in a given species.
- 2. There is a significant relationship between species and body mass: the mean body mass, and fitted y-intercept, is different between species.
- 3. There is an interaction between flipper length and species: the fitted gradients are different between species.

Testing the ANCOVA's assumptions

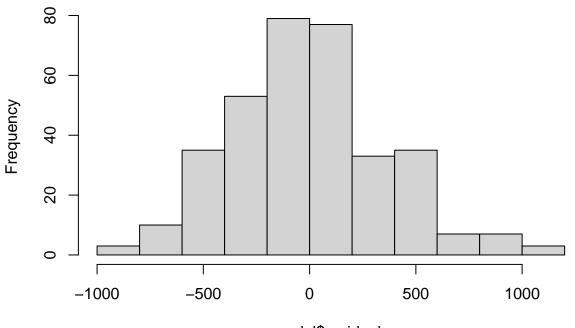
An ANCOVA has assumptions that must be met for its results to hold. These are:

- 1. A linear relationship between the two continuous variables.
- 2. Normally distributed residuals.
- 3. Constant variance of residuals (homoscedasticity).

I created an ANCOVA model for the data and tested whether the data fit the ANCOVA's assumptions. I took the first assumption to be true from the graph I plotted. I tested the other two assumptions with a Shapiro-Wilk test for the normality assumption and Levene's test for the homoscedasticity assumption. These assumptions did not hold for the data if they were not transformed or if they were log-transformed, but if they were square root-transformed, both assumptions held.

```
# ANCOVA model:
model <- lm(body_mass_g ~ species * flipper_length_mm, data = penguins_clean)
# Testing normality of residuals:
hist(model$residuals)</pre>
```

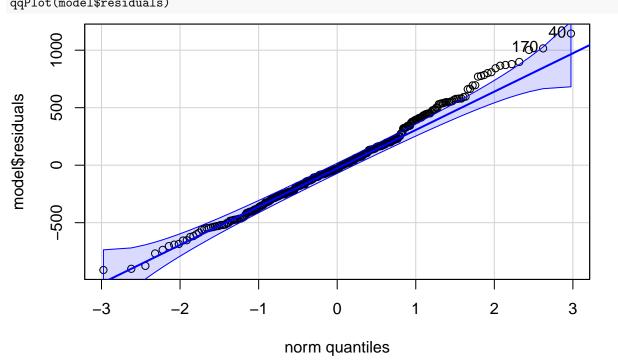
Histogram of model\$residuals



model\$residuals

Looks pretty normal.

qqPlot(model\$residuals)

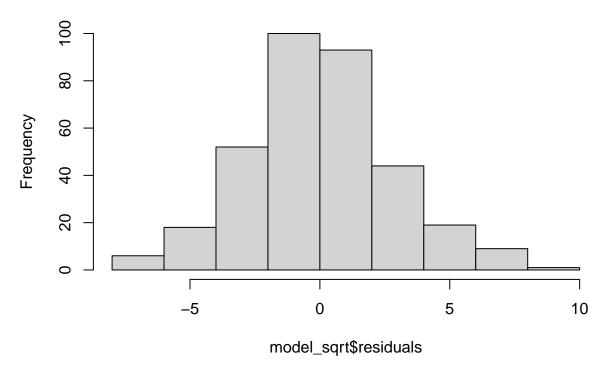


40 170 39 169

Straying from normal at the far end.

```
shapiro.test(model$residuals)
##
##
   Shapiro-Wilk normality test
##
## data: model$residuals
## W = 0.99099, p-value = 0.03465
\# p = 0.03465 < 0.05, so NOT significantly similar to normal distribution.
# Testing homoscedasticity:
leveneTest(body_mass_g ~ species, data = penguins_clean)
## Warning in leveneTest.default(y = y, group = group, ...): group coerced to
## factor.
## Levene's Test for Homogeneity of Variance (center = median)
         Df F value
                       Pr(>F)
## group 2 5.1203 0.006445 **
        339
##
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
\# p = 0.006445 < 0.05, so variances NOT significantly similar.
# New model with SQUARE ROOT-TRANSFORMED data:
model_sqrt <- lm(sqrt(body_mass_g) ~ species * flipper_length_mm, data = penguins_clean)</pre>
hist(model_sqrt$residuals)
```

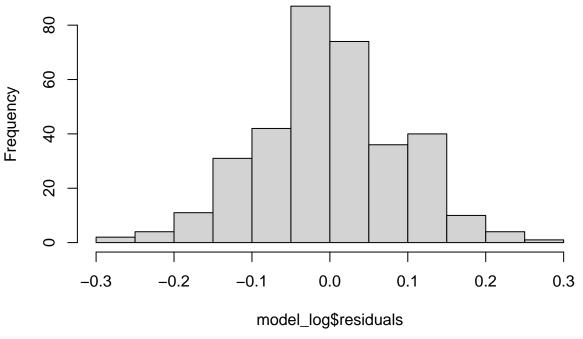
Histogram of model_sqrt\$residuals



```
# Looks pretty normal.
qqPlot(model_sqrt$residuals)
                                                                               400
                                                                  M 0000000
model_sqrt$residuals
      2
      0
     -5
            -3
                       -2
                                   -1
                                               0
                                                                      2
                                                                                  3
                                        norm quantiles
## 40 315
## 39 313
# Looks pretty normal.
shapiro.test(model_sqrt$residuals)
##
    Shapiro-Wilk normality test
##
## data: model_sqrt$residuals
## W = 0.9955, p-value = 0.4305
\# p = 0.4305 > 0.05, so significantly similar to normal distribution!
leveneTest(sqrt(body_mass_g) ~ species, data = penguins_clean)
## Warning in leveneTest.default(y = y, group = group, ...): group coerced to
## factor.
## Levene's Test for Homogeneity of Variance (center = median)
        Df F value Pr(>F)
## group 2 2.7301 0.06665 .
##
         339
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
# p = 0.06665 > 0.05, so variances significantly similar!
# New model with LOG-TRANSFORMED data:
```

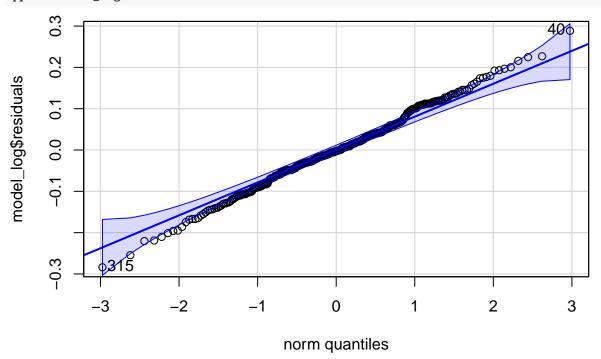
model_log <- lm(log(body_mass_g) ~ species * flipper_length_mm, data = penguins_clean)
hist(model_log\$residuals)</pre>

Histogram of model_log\$residuals



Looks pretty normal.

qqPlot(model_log\$residuals)



```
## 40 315
## 39 313
# Looks pretty normal.
shapiro.test(model_log$residuals)
##
## Shapiro-Wilk normality test
##
## data: model_log$residuals
## W = 0.99682, p-value = 0.7411
# p = 0.7411 > 0.05, so significantly similar to normal distribution!
leveneTest(log(body_mass_g) ~ species, data = penguins_clean)
## Warning in leveneTest.default(y = y, group = group, ...): group coerced to
## factor.
## Levene's Test for Homogeneity of Variance (center = median)
        Df F value Pr(>F)
         2 4.1409 0.01672 *
## group
##
        339
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
\# p = 0.01672 < 0.05, so variances NOT significantly similar.
```

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

ANCOVA Results

I compared the results of my model with untransformed data and my model with square root-transformed data.

Untransformed data model:

```
summary(model)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = body_mass_g ~ species * flipper_length_mm, data = penguins_clean)
##
## Residuals:
##
       Min
                1Q Median
                                3Q
## -911.18 -251.93 -31.77 197.82 1144.81
##
## Coefficients:
                                                                        Estimate
##
## (Intercept)
                                                                       -2535.837
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)
                                                                        -501.359
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)
                                                                       -4251.444
## flipper length mm
                                                                          32.832
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper_length_mm
                                                                           1.742
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper_length_mm
                                                                          21.791
                                                                       Std. Error
## (Intercept)
                                                                          879.468
```

```
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)
                                                                         1427.332
## flipper length mm
                                                                            4.627
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper_length_mm
                                                                            7.856
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper_length_mm
                                                                            6.941
##
                                                                      t value
## (Intercept)
                                                                       -2.883
                                                                       -0.329
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)
                                                                        -2.979
                                                                        7.095
## flipper_length_mm
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper_length_mm
                                                                        0.222
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper_length_mm
                                                                        3.139
                                                                      Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                                                                       0.00419 **
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)
                                                                       0.74229
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)
                                                                       0.00311 **
                                                                      7.69e-12 ***
## flipper_length_mm
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper_length_mm 0.82467
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper_length_mm
                                                                       0.00184 **
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 370.6 on 336 degrees of freedom
     (2 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared: 0.7896, Adjusted R-squared: 0.7864
## F-statistic: 252.2 on 5 and 336 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
Square root-transformed data model:
summary(model_sqrt)
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = sqrt(body_mass_g) ~ species * flipper_length_mm,
##
       data = penguins_clean)
##
## Residuals:
##
       Min
                1Q Median
                                3Q
## -7.9850 -1.8143 -0.1713 1.7159 9.0728
##
## Coefficients:
##
                                                                       Estimate
## (Intercept)
                                                                        9.67775
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)
                                                                       -3.60451
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)
                                                                      -21.88974
## flipper length mm
                                                                        0.26870
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper_length_mm
                                                                        0.01189
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper_length_mm
                                                                        0.11517
##
                                                                      Std. Error
## (Intercept)
                                                                         6.87611
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)
                                                                         11.91115
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)
                                                                         11.15959
## flipper_length_mm
                                                                         0.03618
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper_length_mm
                                                                         0.06142
```

1523.459

0.05427

speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)

speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper_length_mm

```
##
                                                                      t value
## (Intercept)
                                                                        1.407
                                                                       -0.303
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)
                                                                       -1.962
## flipper length mm
                                                                        7.427
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper length mm
                                                                        0.194
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper length mm
                                                                        2.122
##
                                                                      Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                                                                        0.1602
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)
                                                                        0.7624
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)
                                                                        0.0506
                                                                      9.23e-13 ***
## flipper_length_mm
## speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper_length_mm
                                                                        0.8466
## speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper_length_mm
                                                                        0.0346 *
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 2.898 on 336 degrees of freedom
     (2 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared: 0.7787, Adjusted R-squared: 0.7754
## F-statistic: 236.4 on 5 and 336 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

Statistical Significance of the Models' Terms

- 1. The y-intercept term for Adélie penguins "(Intercept)" is significantly different from 0 in the untransformed model (p = 0.00419 < 0.05) but is *not* significantly different from 0 in the square root-transformed model (p = 0.1602 > 0.05). I do not think I have to be worried about this as the y-intercept is quite close to 0 in this latter model (9.67775). A y-intercept equalling 0 is not a sign of nothing happening like a gradient equalling 0 is.
- 2. The difference in y-intercept between Adélies and chinstraps "speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica)" is not significant in either model (p = 0.74229 > 0.05 and p = 0.7624 > 0.05). Thus, body mass is not significantly different between Adélies and chinstraps.
- 2nd null hypothesis NOT rejected with respect to Adélies and chinstraps.
- 3. The difference in y-intercept between Adélies and gentoos "speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua)" is significant in the untransformed model (p = 0.00311 < 0.05) and only *just* insignificant in the square root-transformed model (p = 0.0506 > 0.05). Thus, body mass may be significantly different between Adélies and gentoos.
- 2nd null hypothesis REJECTED with respect to Adélies and gentoos.
- 4. The gradient term for the regression line between the y-variable and the x-variable flipper length in Adélies "flipper_length_mm" is significantly different from 0 in both models (p = 7.69x10^-12 « 0.05 and p = 9.23x10^-13 « 0.05). Thus, body mass can be predicted from flipper length.
- 1st null hypothesis REJECTED.
- 5. The difference in gradient between Adélies and chinstrapss "speciesChinstrap penguin (Pygoscelis antarctica):flipper_length_mm" is not significant in both models (p = 0.82467 > 0.05 and p = > 0.05). Thus, the relationship between flipper length and body mass is not significantly different between Adélies and chinstraps.
- 3rd null hypothesis NOT rejected with respect to Adélies and chinstraps.
- 6. The difference in gradient between Adélies and gentoos "speciesGentoo penguin (Pygoscelis papua):flipper_length_mm" is significant in both models (p = 0.00184 < 0.05 and p = 0.0346 < 0.05

0.05). Thus, the relationship between flipper length and body mass is significantly different between Adélies and gentoos.

• 3rd null hypothesis REJECTED with respect to Adélies and gentoos.

Model Formulae

```
Adélie penguins:
```

```
• body mass = 32.832 * flipper length - 2535.837
• R squared =
```

[1] 0.2192128

- $\operatorname{sqrt}(\operatorname{body} \operatorname{mass}) = 0.26870 * \operatorname{flipper} \operatorname{length} + 9.67775$
- R squared =
- ## [1] 0.2189457

Chinstrap penguins:

```
• body mass = 34.574 * flipper length - 3037.196
```

• R squared =

[1] 0.4115985

- $\operatorname{sqrt}(\operatorname{body} \operatorname{mass}) = 0.28059 * \operatorname{flipper} \operatorname{length} + 6.07324$
- R squared =
- ## [1] 0.4055003

Gentoo penguins:

- body mass = 54.623 * flipper length 6787.281
- R squared =

[1] 0.4937402

- $\operatorname{sqrt}(\operatorname{body} \operatorname{mass}) = 0.38387 * \operatorname{flipper} \operatorname{length} 12.21199$
- R squared =
- ## [1] 0.4936614

Plotting the Results

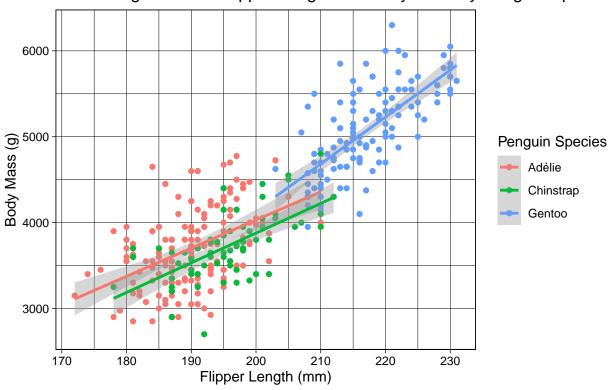
To illustrate the regression models visually against the data, I plotted scatter plots, as above, with the addition of regression lines for each species for the untransformed and square root-transformed models.

```
## `geom_smooth()` using formula = 'y ~ x'
```

```
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing non-finite values (`stat_smooth()`).
```

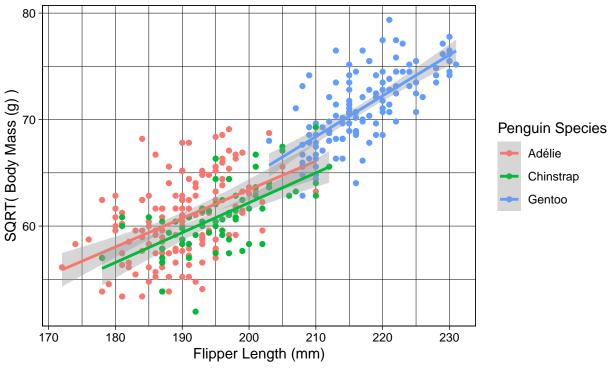
Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (`geom_point()`).

Linear Regression of Flipper Length and Body Mass by Penguin Species



Regression lines with 95% confidence intervals

Linear Regression of Flipper Length and Square Root of Body Mass by Penguin Species



Regression lines with 95% confidence intervals

Saving these two figures as PNG files in the working directory:

```
ggsave("figures/results_plot_unt.png",
 plot = results_plot_unt,
 scale = 1,
  dpi = 300,
 height = 7, width = 9, unit = "in")
## `geom_smooth()` using formula = 'y ~ x'
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing non-finite values (`stat_smooth()`).
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (`geom_point()`).
ggsave("figures/results_plot_sqrt.png",
  plot = results_plot_sqrt,
  scale = 1,
 dpi = 300,
 height = 7, width = 9, unit = "in")
## `geom_smooth()` using formula = 'y ~ x'
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing non-finite values (`stat_smooth()`).
## Removed 2 rows containing missing values (`geom_point()`).
```

Discussion

In the analysis, comparison is made between Adélie penguins and chinstrap penguins and between Adélie penguins and gentoo penguins, but not between chinstrap penguins and gentoo penguins. Nevertheless, I think the conclusion of significantly different regression intercepts and slopes can be very reasonably extended

to chinstraps and gentoos (rejection of the 2nd and 3rd null hypotheses with respect to those two species). If the regression model is not significantly different for chinstraps and Adélies, but it is significantly different for Adélies and gentoos, then reasonably it is different between chinstraps and gentoos. Also, the difference in mean flipper length and in the slope of the regression line are quite evident from the graph above.

The R squared values for the models for Adélie penguins are quite low (both 0.219 to 3 d.p.), suggesting that flipper length is potentially not a very reliable predictor of body mass in Adélie penguins. For the other two species, R squared values are between 0.4 and 0.5, which, although still not very high, are appreciably great for models of such variable biological systems as penguins and other large animals.

CONCLUSION

There is a linear relationship between flipper length and body mass in all three species of *Pygoscelis* penguins. Adélie penguins and chinstrap penguins have a very similar flipper length—body mass relationship that is different to that of gentoo penguins. Additionally, Adélie penguins and chinstrap penguins have very similar average body mass, whereas gentoo penguins have distinctly greater average body mass.

The body mass of chinstrap and gentoo penguins could be estimated from their flipper length using a regression model with an appreciable degree of accuracy for such a biological model, but the body mass of Adélie penguins could perhaps not be quite so reliably estimated from their flipper length. Researchers could estimate the body mass of chinstrap or gentoo penguins from their flipper length in situations where they can only easily or accurately measure flipper length and not body mass.

QUESTION 3: Open Science

a) GitHub

Upload your RProject you created for **Question 2** and any files and subfolders used to GitHub. Do not include any identifiers such as your name. Make sure your GitHub repo is public.

GitHub link:

You will be marked on your repo organisation and readability.

b) Share your repo with a partner, download, and try to run their data pipeline.

Partner's GitHub link:

You must provide this so I can verify there is no plagiarism between you and your partner.

- c) Reflect on your experience running their code. (300-500 words)
 - What elements of your partner's code helped you to understand their data pipeline?
 - Did it run? Did you need to fix anything?
 - What suggestions would you make for improving their code to make it more understandable or reproducible, and why?
 - If you needed to alter your partner's figure using their code, do you think that would be easy or difficult, and why?
- d) Reflect on your own code based on your experience with your partner's code and their review of yours. (300-500 words)
 - What improvements did they suggest, and do you agree?
 - What did you learn about writing code for other people?