



## Workshop2. Functional Form

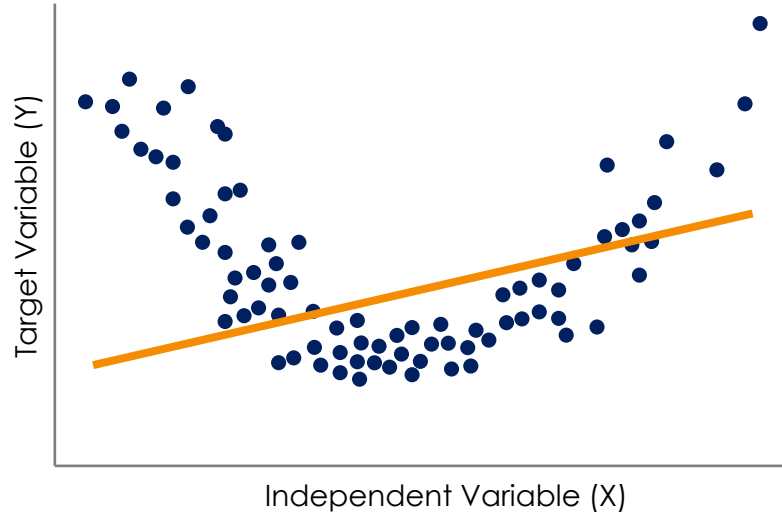
UNAM – FE Econometrics I

Esp. Humberto Acevedo Assistant. Emilio Sandoval

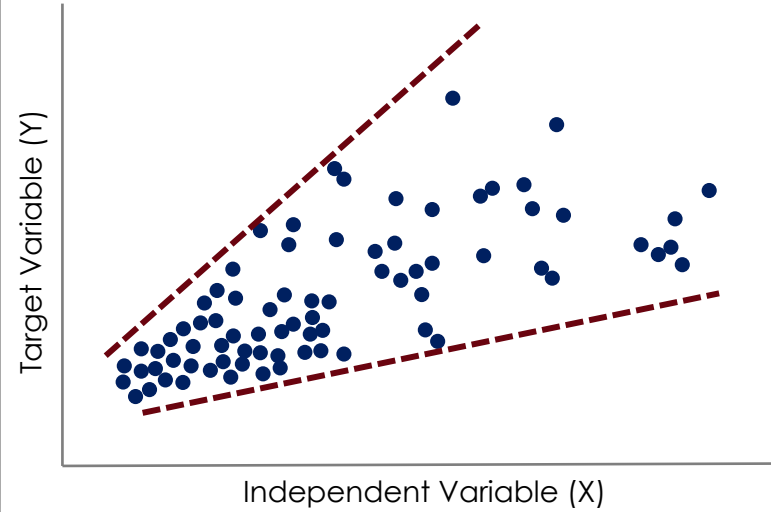
Aug 22, 2022

## OLS Assumptions

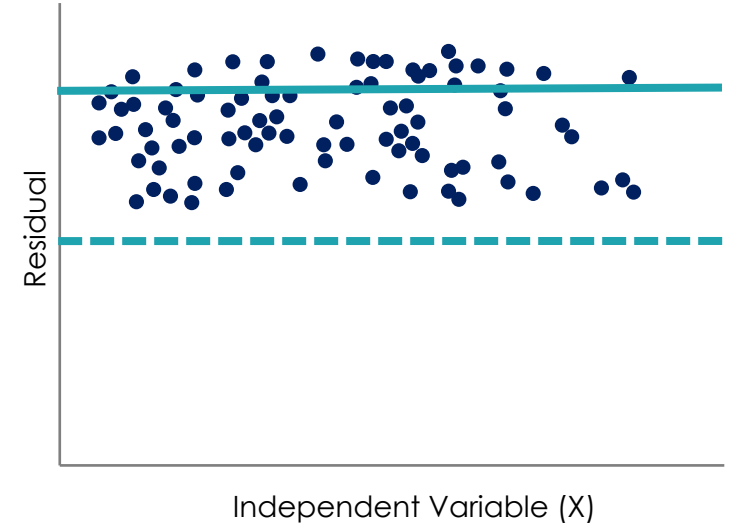
### Linearity



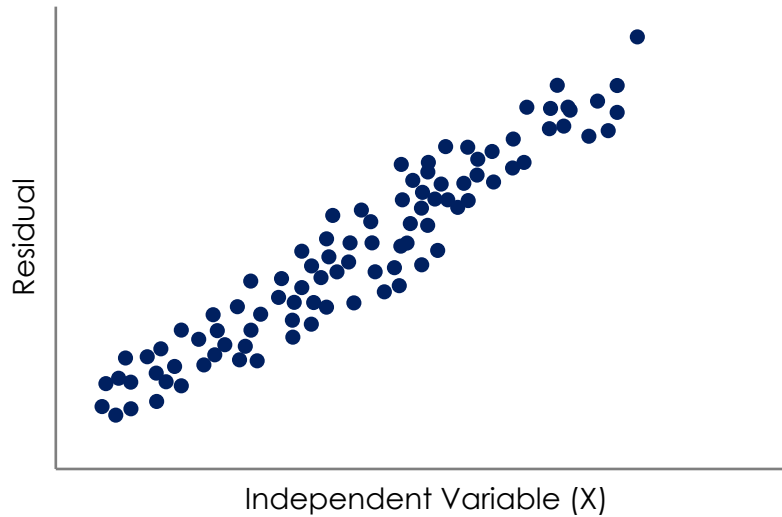
### Homoscedasticity



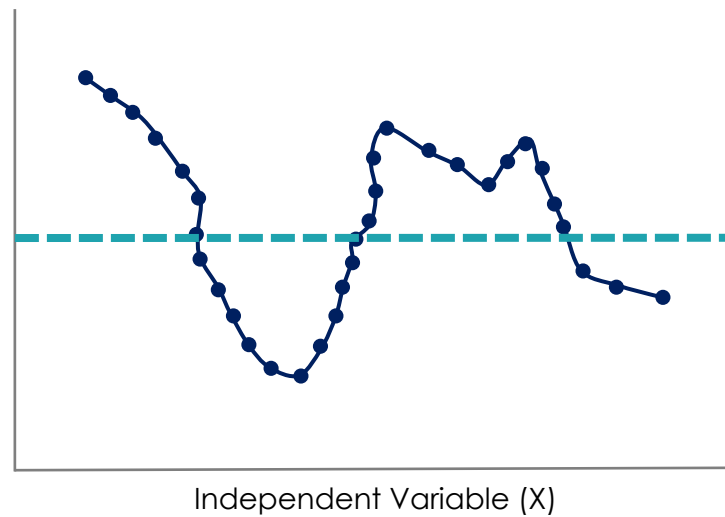
### Zero-Mean Errors



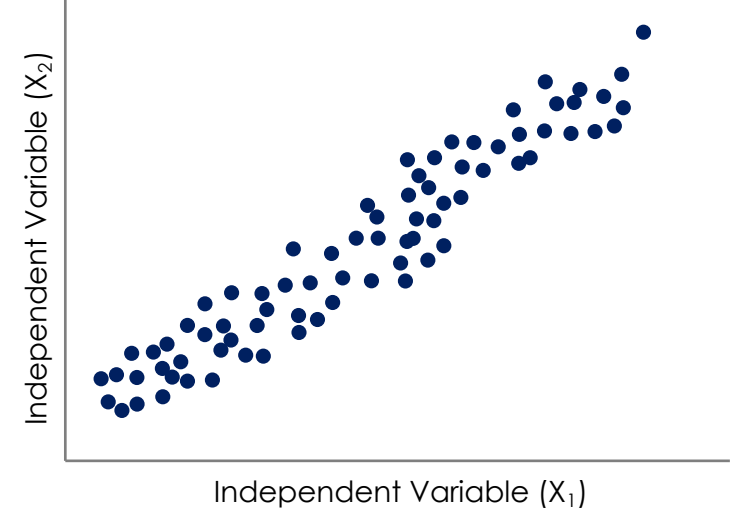
### Endogeneity



### Autocorrelation of Errors



### Multicollinearity



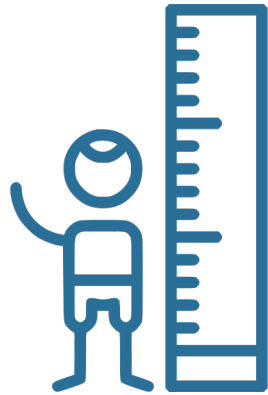
## Properties of **estimators**

### Unbiasedness



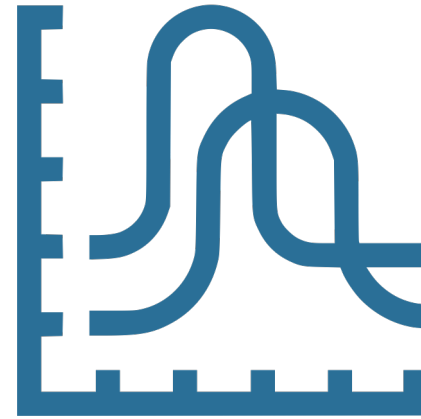
If expected value is identical to population parameter

### Consistency



Estimator approaches parameter as sample size increases

### Efficiency



If two estimator are unbiased, we choose the one with smaller variance (it is efficient)

### Sufficiency



It is sufficient if information in it about the parameter is enough

Okay but...what is the  
importance of functional  
form?

Think about the complex world  
which is not always linear...how  
can we show a relationship that  
is not linear in a linear  
regression?



## Importance of **functional form**

*“linearity in parameters but  
not necessarily in variables”*

$$Y_1 = b_0 + b_1 X_{1i} + b_2 X_{2i}^2 + u_i$$

For example:

$$Wage_1 = \underbrace{b_0}_{\text{Linear}} + \underbrace{b_1}_{\text{Linear}} exp_i + \underbrace{b_2}_{\text{Linear}} \overbrace{exp_i}^{\text{Not Linear}} + \underbrace{b_3}_{\text{Linear}} \overbrace{exp_i^2}^{\text{Not Linear}} + u_i$$

## Importance of **functional form**

Let's check several **functional forms** used in econometrics and other **related fields**

Linear

$$Y = \beta_1 + \beta_2 X$$

Log-Linear (log-log)

$$\ln Y = \beta_1 + \beta_2 \ln X$$

Log-lin

$$\ln Y = \beta_1 + \beta_2 X$$

Lin-log

$$Y = \beta_1 + \beta_2 \ln X$$

Reciprocal

$$Y = \beta_1 + \beta_2 \left( \frac{1}{x} \right)$$

Log-Reciprocal

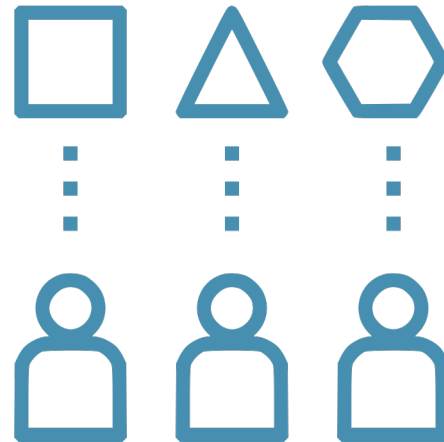
$$\ln Y = \beta_1 - \beta_2 \left( \frac{1}{x} \right)$$

## Models

You have to [ask](#) yourself about



Why this  
model?



Characteristics

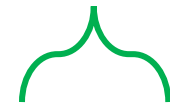


Appropriate  
cases

Economists look for **the rate of growth** in some economic variables such as population, GDP, monetary supply, employment...

Notice that **just one side** of the equation is logarithmic

Log side



$$\ln Y_1 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} + \beta_2 X_{2i}^2 + u_i$$

or

$$Y_1 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X_{1i} + \beta_2 \ln X + u_i$$

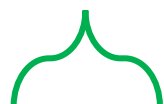


Log side



The difference is on the assigned variable

Log side



$$\ln Y_1 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} + \beta_2 X_{2i}^2 + u_i$$

log - lin

or

$$Y_1 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X_{1i} + \beta_2 \ln X + u_i$$

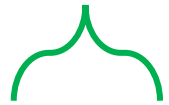
lin - log



Log side

## Log-Linear **model**

Log side



$$\ln Y_1 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} + \beta_2 X_{2i}^2 + u_i$$

Estimated percentage change in your dependent variable for a unit change in your independent variable

$$Y_1 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln X_{1i} + \beta_2 \ln X + u_i$$



Log side

Estimated unit change in your dependent variable for a percentage change in your independent variable

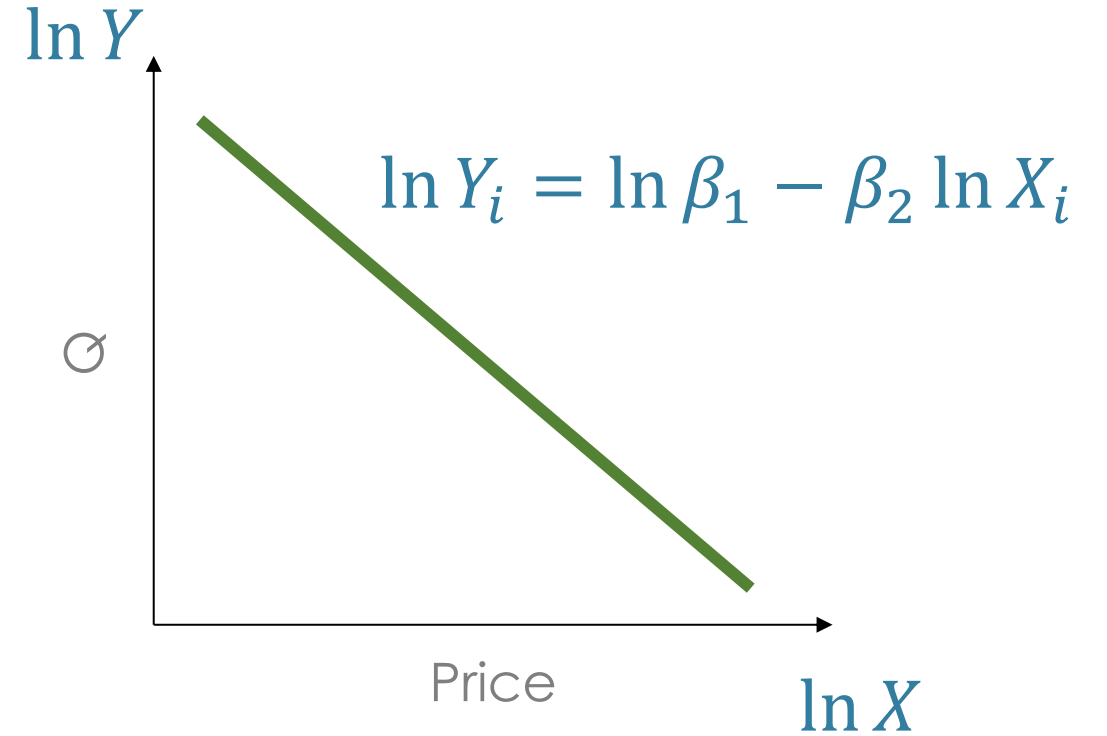
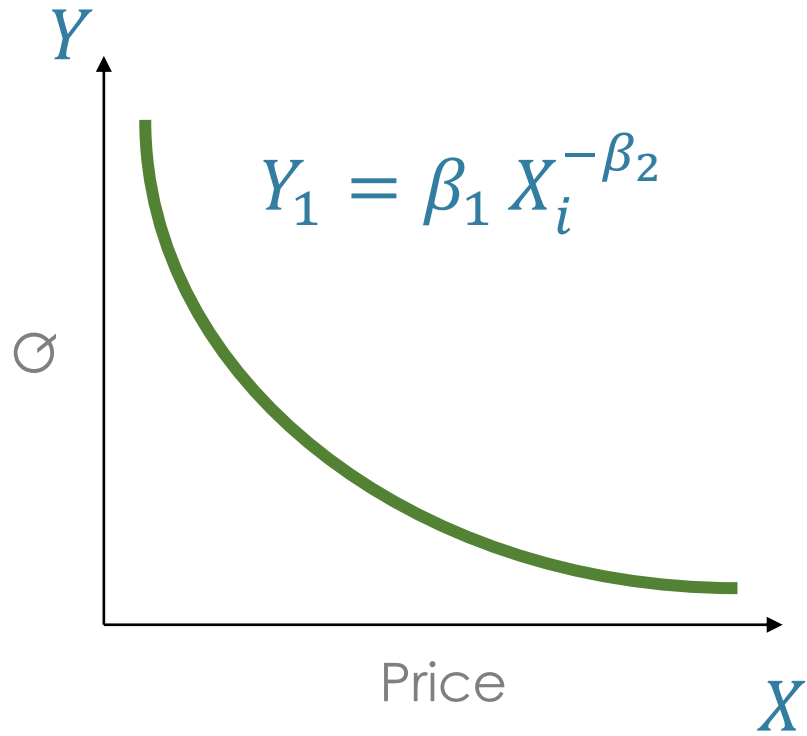
On the other hand,  
if we want to use  
elasticities we adopt  
a log-log model

$$Y_i = \beta_1 X_i^{\beta_2} + e^{u_i}$$

or

$$\ln Y_i = \alpha + \beta_2 \ln X_i + u_i$$

## Log-Log model



What we may focus on is the slope  $\beta_2$  which measures the elasticity of  $Y$  respect to  $X$

or

the percentage change in  $Y$  for a small percentage change in  $X$

**NOTE:** there is a difference between percentage change and percentage points

For example, the rate of unemployment is stated as percentage

Imagine that Mexico unemployment rate for 2019 is 4%, but in 2020 it grows to 8%

It is said that the percentage point change in unemployment rate is 2

but

The percentage change is  $\frac{8-4}{4}$  or  $\approx 100\%$



## Log-Log **model**

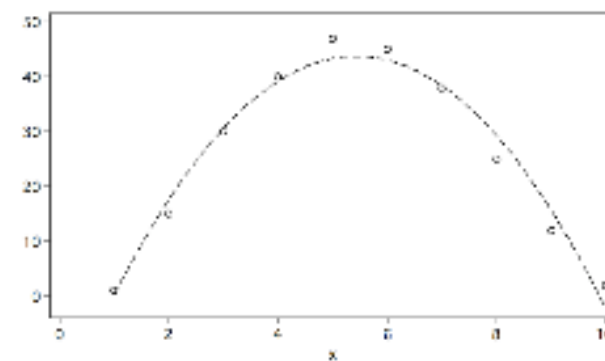
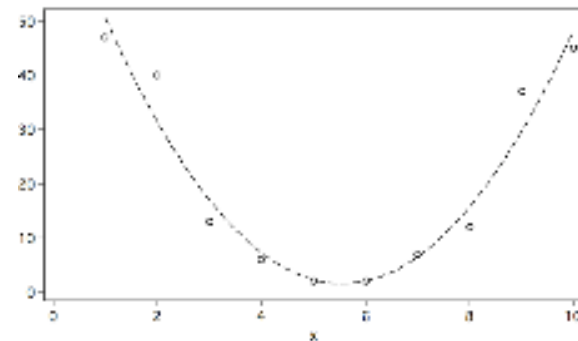
Suppose we have the following equation

$$y = \alpha + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2^2$$

Stata will output these coefficients

Model A		Coef.
x		-.1839751
x2		1.016747
constant		.2076584

Model D		Coef.
x		.1839751
x2		-1.016747
constant		99.79234



The data set in [MUS08](#) contains data panel information about [wages and salaries](#) in the USA from 1976-1982.

Then we plot the [relationship between salary and experience](#).

Finally, generate [linear regression](#) with `lwage` as dependent and `exp`, `exp2`, `wks` and `ed` as independent.

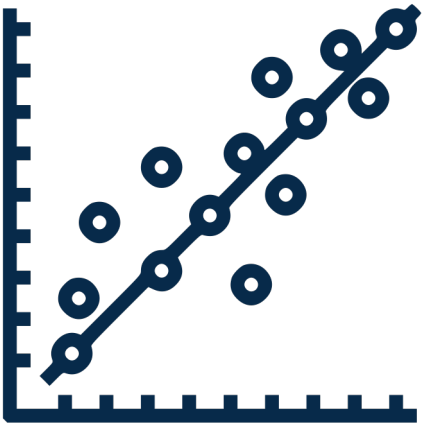
## STATA COMMANDS

1. `graph twoway (scatter lwage exp) (qfit lwage exp)`  
`(lowess lwage exp)`
2. `regress lwage exp exp2 wks ed`



## Practice (**Quadratic**)

We can **read** the output as:



$$R^2 = 0.28$$



Salaries **increase** in 0.6% for each **additional work week**



Salaries **increase** in 0.6% for each **additional year of education**

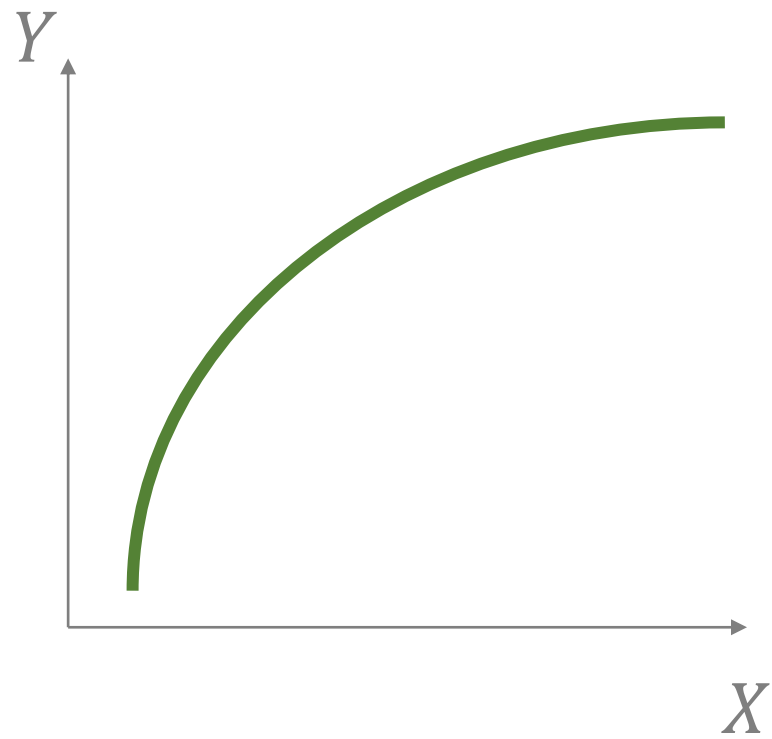
How to find the **slope** of  
the curve?

Hint: look into  $x_2^2$

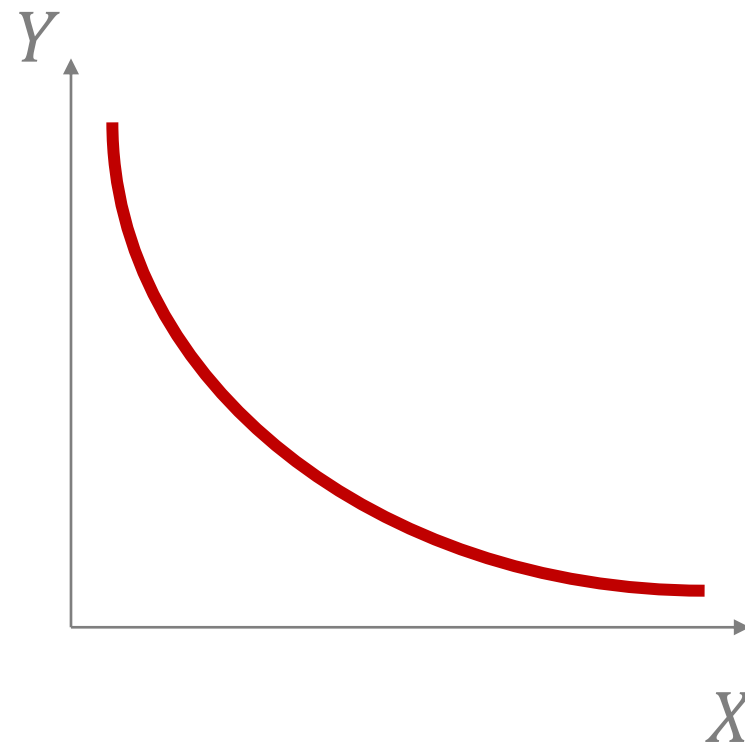
$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2^2$$

Practice (Tipping point)

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 \boxed{+} \beta_2 \boxed{X_2^2}$$



$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 \boxed{-} \beta_2 \boxed{X_2^2}$$



$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2^2$$

How to find the **tipping point**?

By **solving** for it

Then calculate the **derivative**  
with respect to  $X$

$$y' = \beta_1 + 2\beta_2 X_2^2$$

Finally, **equal to zero** and solve  
for finding tipping points

Practice (**Tipping point**)

1. State the output in **econometrics** terms

$$\hat{y} = 4.097 + 0.44675 \exp - 0.00072 \exp^2 + 0.0058wks + 0.7604ed + \varepsilon$$

2. If we take **first derivative** respect to exp we have

$$y' = 0.4467 - (2 \times (0.00072) \exp)$$

3. If we **solve** for exp we have:

$$\exp = \frac{0.4467}{2 \times 0.00072} = 31$$

## Practice (Tipping point)

We can read the output as:



Salaries increase as experience grows up to 31 years

$\frac{0.0447}{(2 \times 0.00072)}$  and from there it decreases

# Functional forms

```
graph TD; A[Functional forms] --> B[Linear model]; A --> C[Model Lin-Log]; A --> D[Model Log-Lin]; A --> E[Model Log-Log]; B --> F["Absolut change of  $Y$  with respect to a change in  $X$ "]; C --> G["Absolut change of  $Y$  with respect to a percentage change in  $X$ "]; D --> H["Percentage change of  $Y$  with respect to an absolute change in  $X$ "]; E --> I["Percentage change of  $Y$  with respect to a percentage change in  $X$ "]; I --> J["Coefficient  $\beta_2$  measures elasticity of  $Y$  with respect to  $X$ "];
```

Linear model

**Absolut change** of  $Y$   
with respect to a  
change in  $X$

Model Lin-Log

**Absolut change** of  $Y$   
with respect to a  
**percentage change**  
in  $X$

Model Log-Lin

**Percentage change** of  
 $Y$  with respect to an  
**absolute change** in  $X$

Model Log-Log

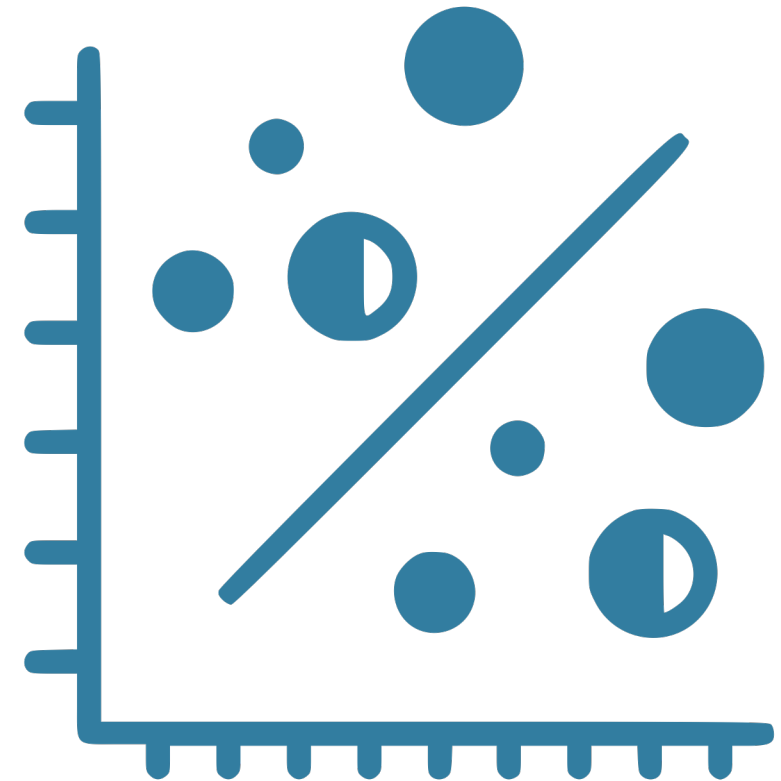
**Percentage change** of  
 $Y$  with respect to a  
**percentage change** in  
 $X$

Coefficient  $\beta_2$   
measures **elasticity** of  $Y$   
with respect to  $X$

Ramsey Regression Equation Specification Error Test (RESET) is a general specification test for linear regression models

It tries to prove if non-linear combinations of adjusted values have any explanatory force over dependent variable

If any of this non-linear combinations have explanatory influence over  $Y$ , then model is specified incorrectly





We use `auto.dat` dataset. We will try to explain `car prices` depending on `mileage`, `weight`, `engine capacity`, and whether car was `produced in USA` or not.

Run a linear regression.

Standardize data (mean 0 and variance 1).

Then we generate powers over adjusted values ( $y^2, y^3, y^4$ ).

Finally we run the regression using powers.

## STATA COMMANDS

1. `reg price mpg weight foreign`
2. `predict y`
3. `sum y`
4. `replace y = (y-r(mean))/r(sd)`
5. `gen y2 = y^2`
6. `gen y3 = y^3`
7. `gen y4 = y^4`
8. `reg price mpg weight foreign y2 y3 y4`

We will prove coefficient significance in order to inspect powers using F test (apply test over linear constraint)

Due to output, we cannot reject  $H_0$ , our model is well specified.

Then, apply Ramsey test over well specified form.

What is the conclusion?

## STATA COMMANDS

```
9. test y2 y3 y4
```

```
10. reg price mpg weight foreign
```

```
11. ovtest
```

## References

- **Salvatore, D., & Sarmiento, J. C.** (1983). *Econometría* (No. HB141 S39). McGraw-Hill.
- **Kumari K., J. Pract Cardiovasc, Wooldridge, J.** (2020). *Introductory econometrics : a modern approach*. Boston, MA: Cengage. Gujarati, D. & Porter, D. (2009). *Basic econometrics*. Boston: McGraw-Hill Irwin.
- **Gujarati, D. N.** (2009). *Basic econometrics*. Tata McGraw-Hill Education.