

# Partial regression and partial residual plots

FW8051 Statistics for Ecologists

Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology



# Learning Objective

Understand approaches for visualizing fitted multiple regression models

# Visualizing Multiple Regression

$$Y \sim \beta_0 + X_1\beta_1 + X_2\beta_2 + \epsilon$$

$\beta_1$  reflects the “effect” of  $X_1$  after accounting for  $X_2$ .

How can we visualize this “effect”?

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How can we visualize this “effect”?

- Added variable or partial *regression* plots
- Component + residual or partial *residual* plots

See the paper by Larano and Corcobado (2008) and description of visreg package (also on Canvas)

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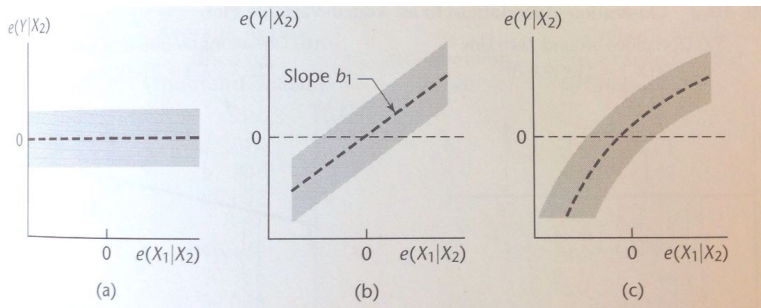
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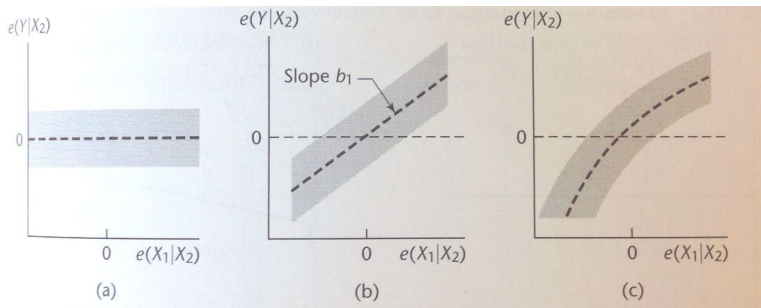
Lets us visualize the effect of  $X_i$  after accounting for all other predictors.

## Added variable plot for $X_1$ (with one other predictor, $X_2$ )



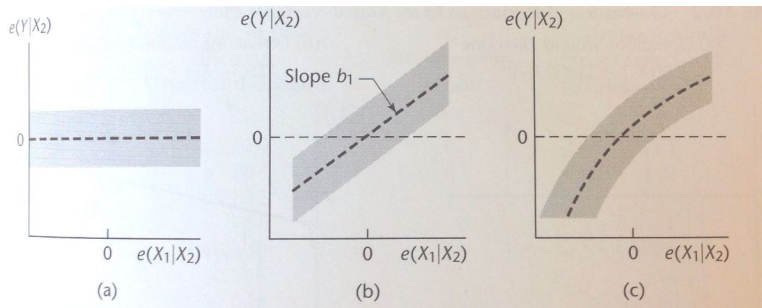
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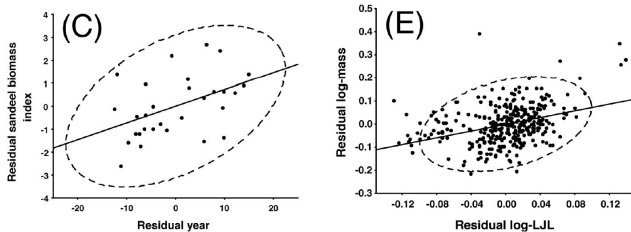
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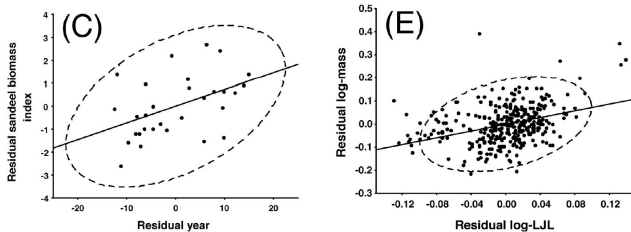
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- Panel (a) suggests  $X_1$  provides no additional information useful for predicting  $Y$  beyond that contained in  $X_2$
- Panel (c) suggests we may need to allow for a non-linear relationship between  $X_1$  and  $Y$

## Partial regression plots



Shows the slope and the true scatter of points around the partial line in an analogous way to bi-variate plots in simple linear regression

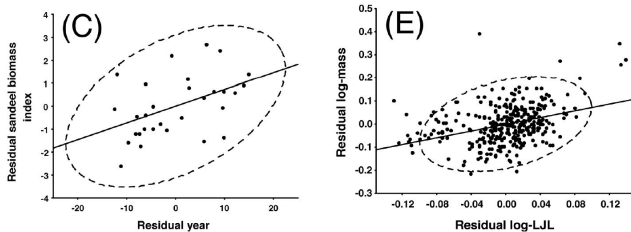
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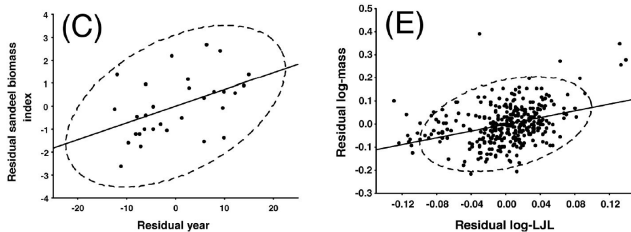
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- Tells us about the importance of  $X_2$  (given everything else already in the model)
- Can help with diagnosing non-linearities
- Helps visualize influential points and outliers

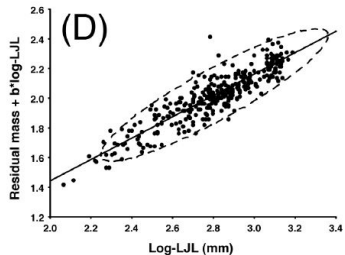
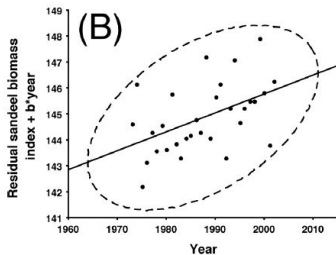


# Component + residual plots or partial residual plot

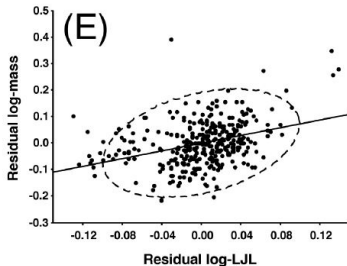
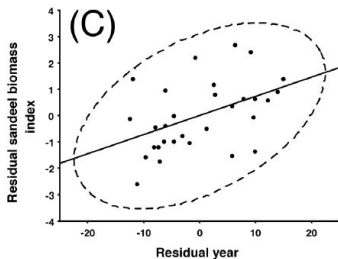
Plots  $X_i\beta_i + \hat{\epsilon}_i$  versus  $X_i$ .

- Better for diagnosing non-linearities
- Not as good at depicting the amount of variability explained by the predictor (given everything else in the model).
- Easy to generalize to other regression models (see visreg package on Canvas)

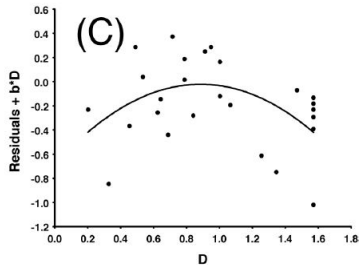
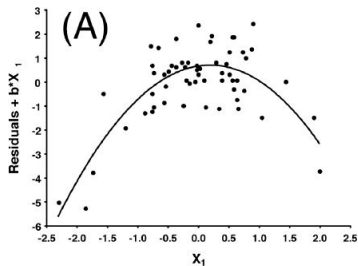
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