

## Why is Scaling important?

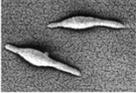
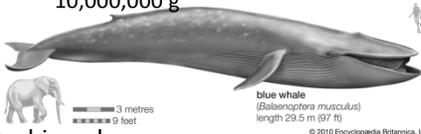
“You can drop a mouse down a thousand-yard mine shaft; and, on arrival at the bottom it gets a slight shock and walks away, provided that the ground is fairly soft. A rat is killed, a man is broken and a horse splashes.” J. B. S. Haldane.

## Why is Scaling important?

- Scaling affects everything from metabolic heat production and exchange to circulation.
- Think of nutrient dispersal throughout a small prokaryote versus a blue whale.

SURFACE AREA and VOLUME

## Huge Range of Sizes!

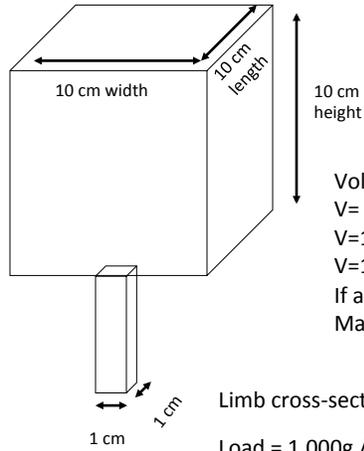
- Single celled organisms (*Mycoplasma*)
  - 0.1 pg      ( $1 \times 10^{-13}$  g)      0.0000000000001 g
- Rotifers
  - 0.01 µg      ( $1 \times 10^{-8}$  g)      0.00000001 g
- Blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*)
  - 10,000 kg      ( $1 \times 10^8$  g)      10,000,000 g

blue whale  
(*Balaenoptera musculus*)  
length 29.5 m (97 ft)  
© 2010 Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.
- Giant Redwood Trees (*Sequoia* spp.) = bigger!
- Living organisms range  $1 \times 10^{21+}$  in size
- Animals range  $1 \times 10^{16}$  in size

## How does getting bigger influence physiology

- Gravity
  - Circulation
  - Movement and Locomotion
- Surface Area/Volume Ratio
  - Respiration
  - Digestion
  - Water Balance
  - Thermoregulation

## Getting bigger for terrestrial organisms



Assume this animal is a cube!

$$\text{Volume (V)} = L \times L \times L$$

$$V = L^3$$

$$V = 10 \text{ cm} \times 10 \text{ cm} \times 10 \text{ cm}$$

$$V = 10^3 = 1,000 \text{ cm}^3$$

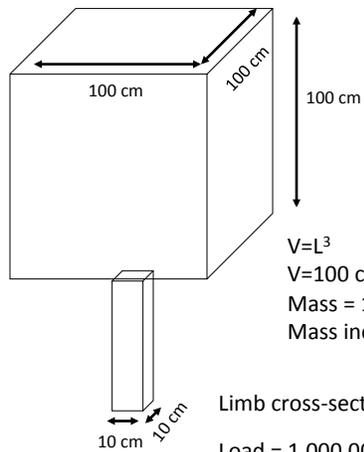
If animal density is  $1000 \text{ kg/m}^3 \dots 1 \text{ kg/dm}^3 \dots 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$

$$\text{Mass} = 1,000 \text{ g (1 kg)}$$

$$\text{Limb cross-sectional area} = L \times L \dots L^2 \dots 1 \text{ cm} \times 1 \text{ cm} = 1 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\text{Load} = 1,000 \text{ g} / 1 \text{ cm}^2$$

## 10 times bigger!



$$V = L^3$$

$$V = 100 \text{ cm} \times 100 \text{ cm} \times 100 \text{ cm} = 1,000,000 \text{ cm}^3$$

$$\text{Mass} = 1,000,000 \text{ g (1,000 kg)}$$

Mass increased 1000x with a 10x increase in length

$$\text{Limb cross-sectional area} = L^2 \dots 10 \text{ cm} \times 10 \text{ cm} = 100 \text{ cm}^2$$

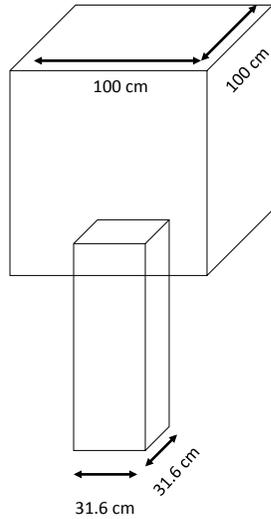
$$\text{Load} = 1,000,000 \text{ g} / 100 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$= 1,000 \text{ kg} / 100 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$= 10 \text{ kg} / \text{cm}^2$$

$$= 10,000 \text{ g/cm}^2 \quad 10\text{x more load even if the limb is 10x bigger}$$

How much bigger does the limb need to get to take the same load as when it was 10x smaller?



$V = L^3 = 100 \text{ cm} \times 100 \text{ cm} \times 100 \text{ cm} = 1,000,000 \text{ cm}^3$   
 Estimated mass = 1,000,000 g (1,000 kg)

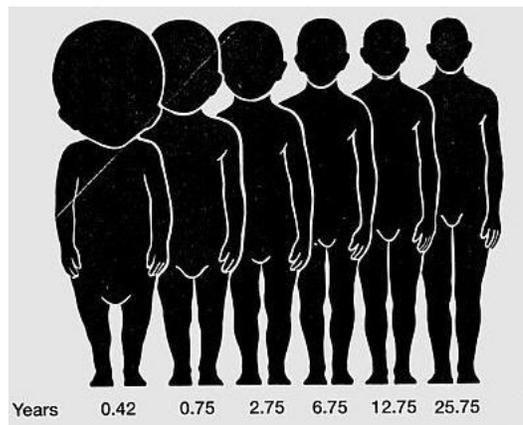
100 cm

Target load = 1,000 g / cm<sup>2</sup> (1kg / cm<sup>2</sup>)  
 if the animal weighs 1,000,000g then it needs

$1,000,000 \text{ g} / X \text{ cm}^2 = 1000 \text{ g/cm}^2$   
 $1,000,000 \text{ g} = 1,000 \text{ cm}^2 * X$   
 $1,000,000 \text{ g} / 1,000 \text{ cm}^2 = X$   
 $1,000 \text{ g/cm}^2 = X$

Thus: Limb cross-sectional area =  $L \times L = L^2 \dots L = \sqrt{L^2}$   
 $\sqrt{1,000 \text{ cm}^2} = 31.622 \text{ cm}$   
 $31.622 \text{ cm} \times 31.622 \text{ cm} = 1,000 \text{ cm}^2$

Need increase length from 10 cm to 31.6 cm (3x)



## Cells are sphere-like

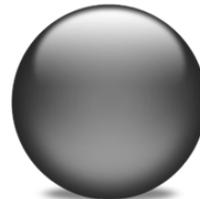
- Surface area of cube:  $L^2$
- Volume of cube:  $L^3$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= L^2 & L &= (\text{Area})^{1/2} \\ \text{Volume} &= L^3 & \text{Length} &= (\text{Volume})^{1/3} \\ \text{Area} &= \text{Volume}^{1/3} * \text{Volume}^{1/3} \\ \text{Area} &= \mathbf{(\text{Volume})}^{2/3} \end{aligned}$$

$$(x^a)(x^b) = x^{a+b}$$



- Surface area of sphere:  $4\pi r^2$
- Volume of sphere:  $4/3 \pi r^3$
- $SA/V = 4\pi r^2 / 4/3\pi r^3 = 3/r$



Things to remember from math 101

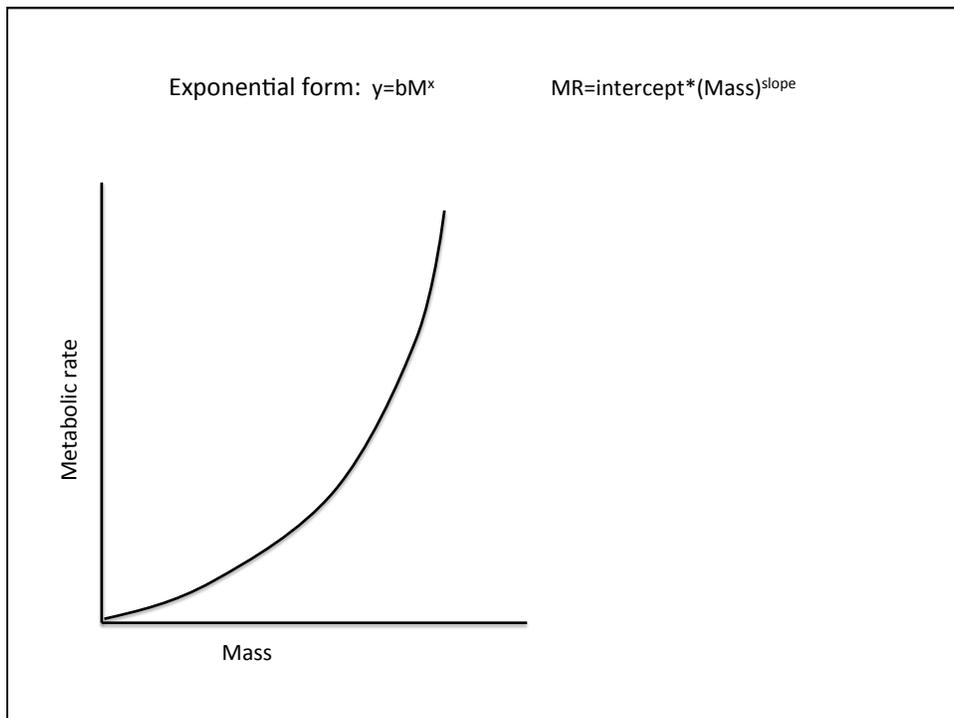
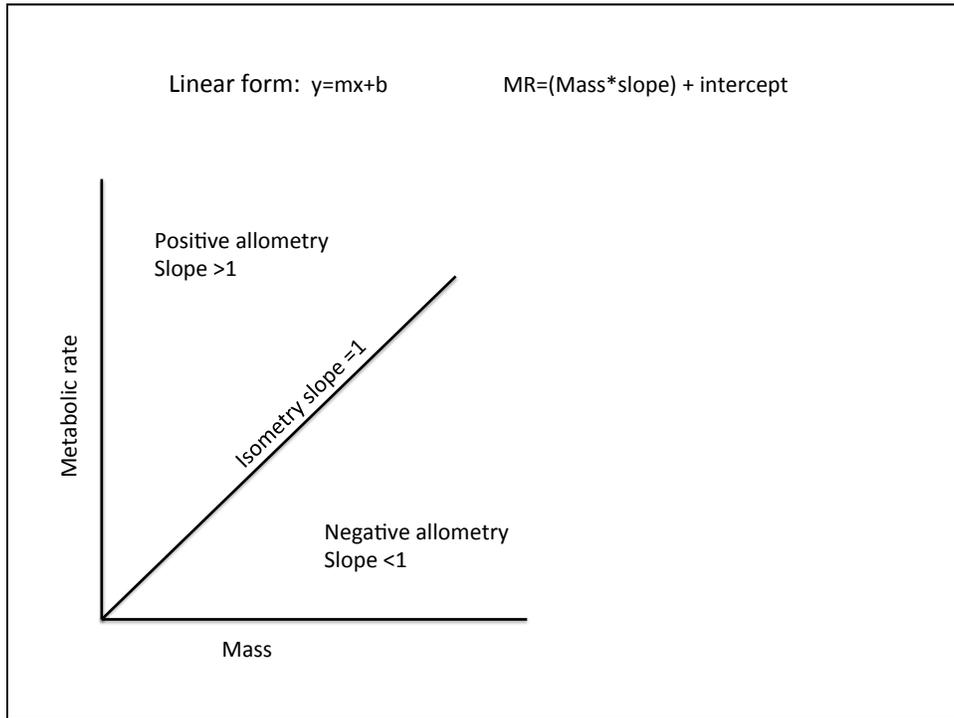
$$(x^a)(x^b) = x^{a+b}$$

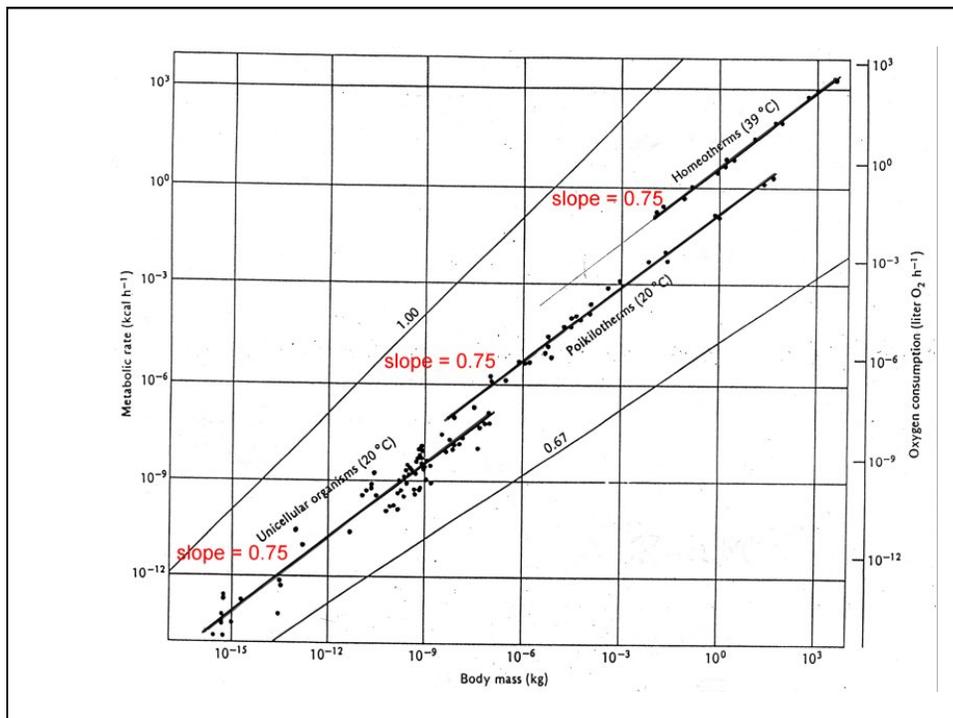
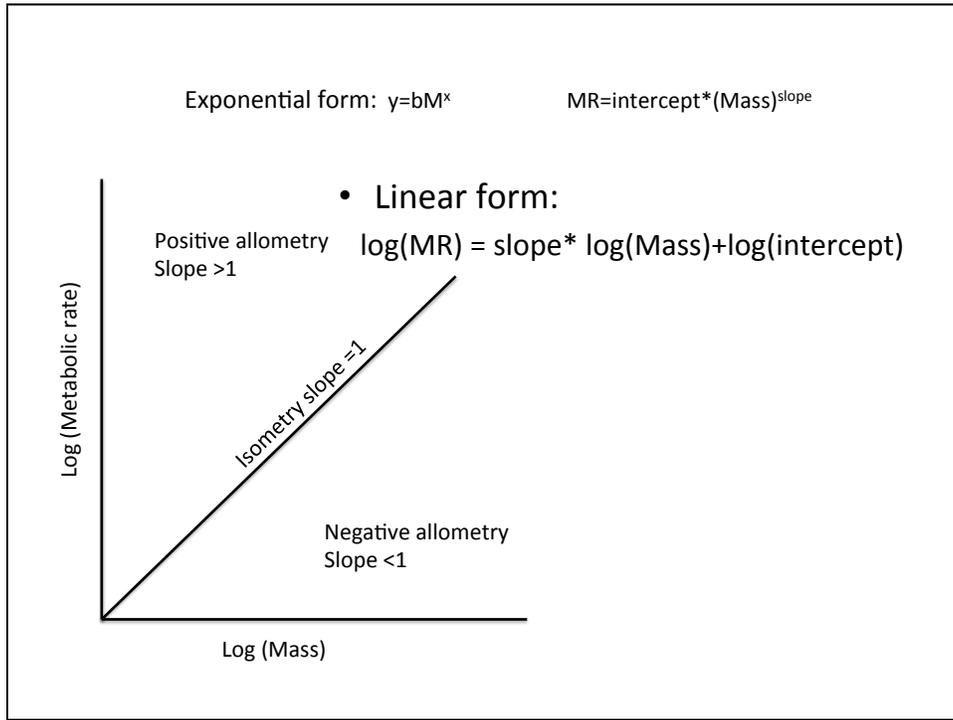
$$1/x^a = x^{-a}$$

$$x^a/x^b = x^{a-b}$$

$$(x^a)^b = x^{ab}$$

$$x^0 = 1$$





### Metabolic rate

The rate of energy consumption : Total energy use over time

1. indicates how much food animal needs
2. is a measure of total physiological activity
3. measures demand animals can place on an ecosystem

Ways to measure MR

- A. Direct Calorimetry-measure heat output of an animal  
*calorie = energy needed to elevate 1g water by 1°C*
- B. Indirect Calorimetry- by way of oxygen consumption or CO<sub>2</sub> production  
*1 liter of oxygen consumed = 4.83kcal production (depending on diet)*

Respiratory exchange ratio, *R*:

$R = \text{Moles of CO}_2 \text{ produced per time} / \text{Moles of O}_2 \text{ consumed per time}$

Value of 1= pure carbohydrate diet, = 0.7 lipid based diet

### Metabolic rate

Standard Metabolic Rate (SMR) no activity, no digestion assimilation, no stress

Basal Metabolic Rate (BMR) usually applied to endotherms

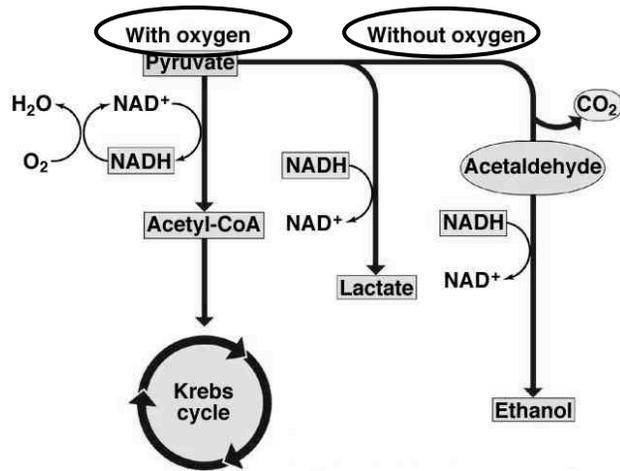
Routine Metabolic Rate (RMR) averaged for all time

Maximum Metabolic rate (MMR) peak value or mean peak value

What affects MR:

*Age*  
*Gender*  
*Body temperature*  
*Environmental temperature*  
*Type amount of food*  
*Activity level*  
*Homeostasis*  
*Time of day*  
*Body size*

## The fate of pyruvate



How do we measure metabolic rate?

In the field: telemetry  
activity  
radioactive labels

In the lab: Open systems  
Closed systems

