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# Non-compartmental PK-PD analysis

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email: [kasia.stepniewska@wwarn.org](mailto:kasia.stepniewska@wwarn.org)



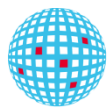
## Principles of NCA

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No assumptions made about kinetic model

Based on estimation of total drug exposure

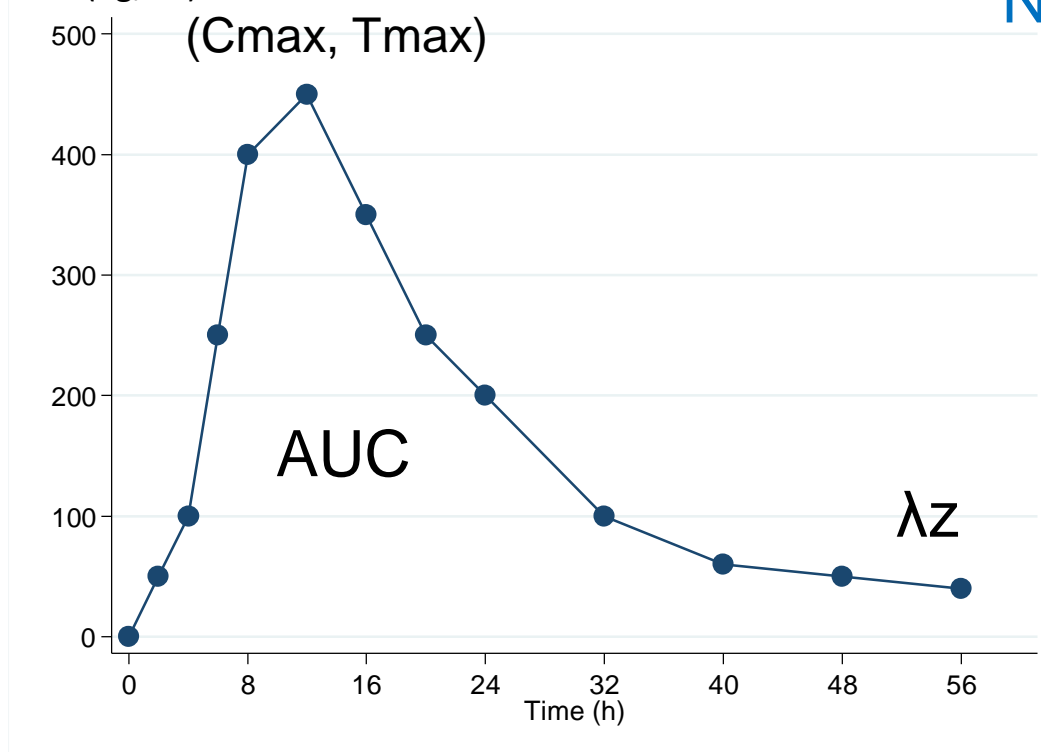
Dependent on sampling frequency and timing



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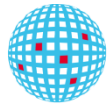
# Principles of NCA

Concentration (ng/ml)



NCA gives estimates of:

- Drug absorption
- Total drug exposure
- Drug elimination
- Total body clearance
- Volume of distribution



# First order process

**First-order** process = a fixed fraction of the drug is absorbed, metabolised or eliminated per unit time.

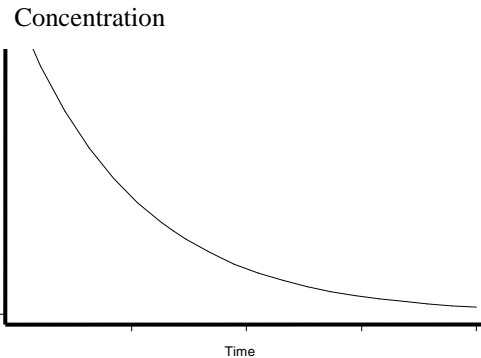
**Zero-order** process = a fixed amount of the drug is processed per unit time.

Original Scale

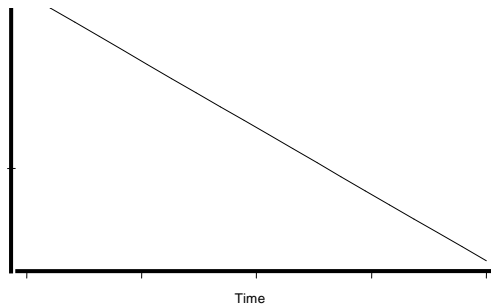


Log Scale

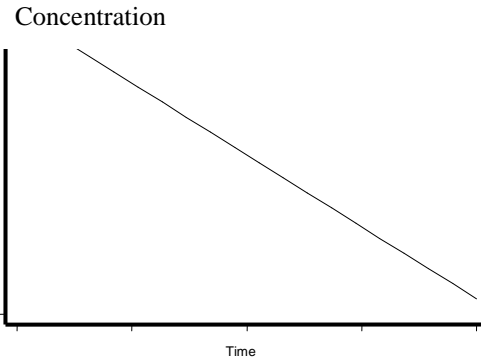
First-order



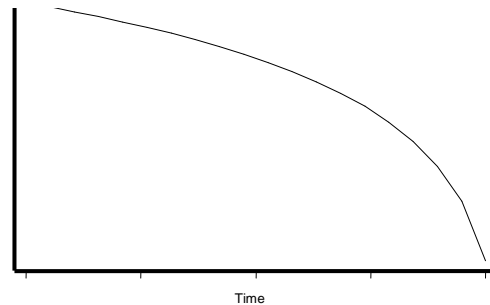
Log Concentration



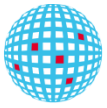
Zero - order



Log Concentration



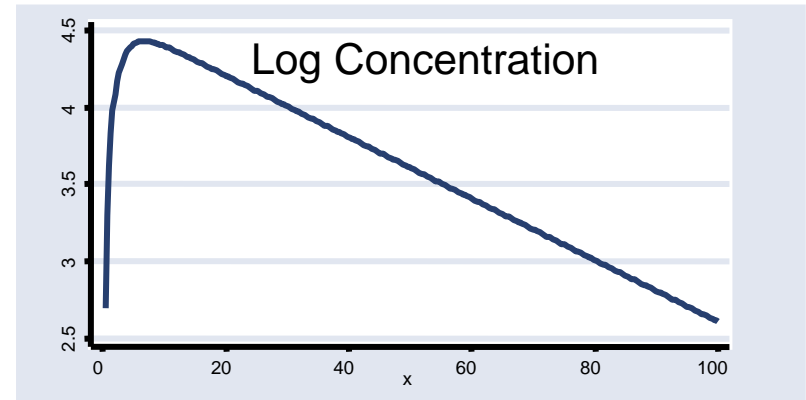
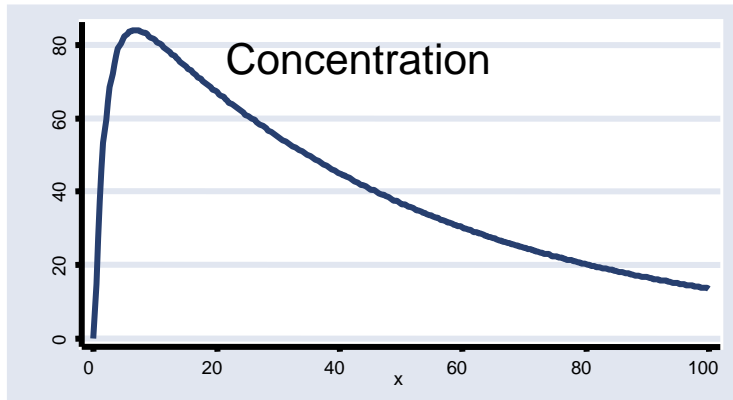
First order process: Time taken for the concentration to change by half (reduced by 50%) is always the same = Elimination half life  $T_{1/2}$



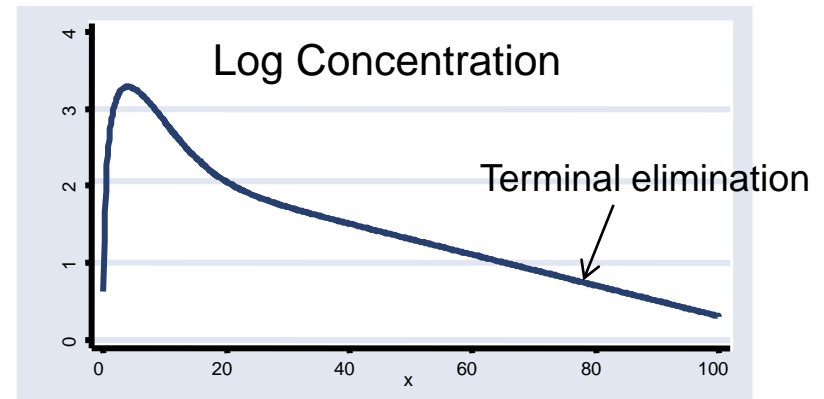
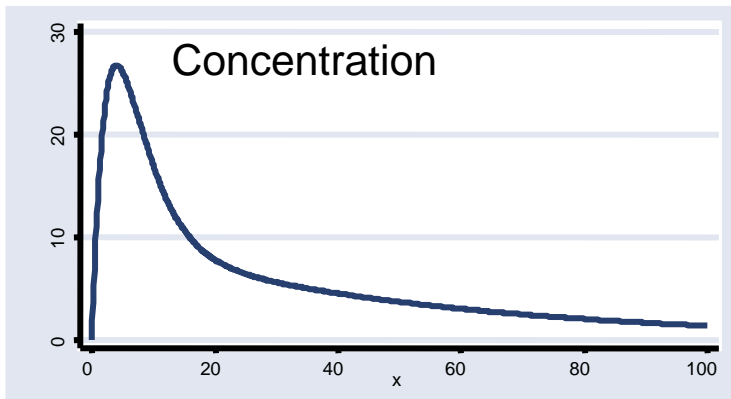
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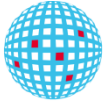
# Drug elimination – first order process

Constant elimination rate ~ One compartment model



Fast elimination rate initially ~ Two compartment model

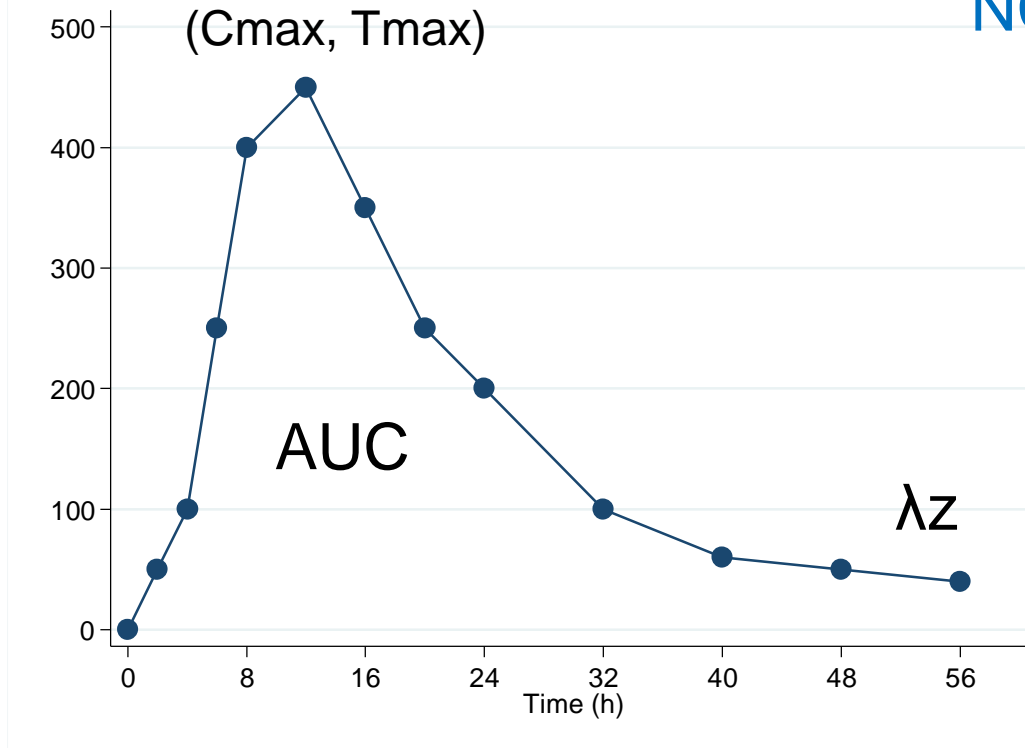




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# Principles of NCA

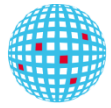
Concentration (ng/ml)



NCA gives estimates of:

Drug absorption  
Total drug exposure  
Drug elimination

Total body clearance  
Volume of distribution



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## Measures of absorption/exposure: $T_{max}$ $C_{max}$

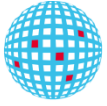
$C_{max}$  = maximum concentration

Peak drug concentration obtained directly from the data without interpolation

$T_{max}$  = time of maximum concentration

Actual time when the peak concentration was measured

- Sampling around expected concentration peak is required to provide adequate estimation of  $C_{max}$
- Precision of  $T_{max}$  determined by frequency of sampling

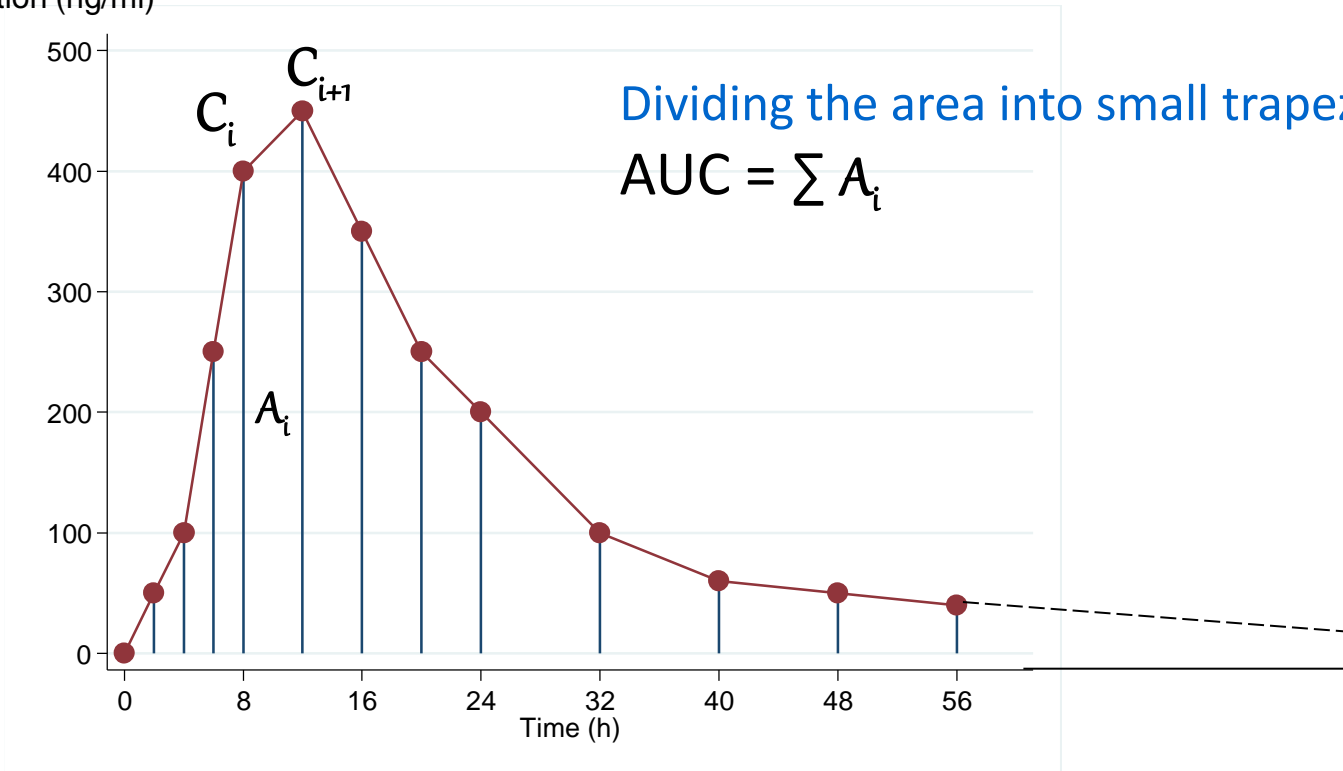


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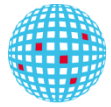
# Area under Concentration-Time curve

$$AUC = \int C dt$$

Concentration (ng/ml)







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# Estimation of AUC observed – trapezoid method

$$AUC = \sum A_i$$

Area of  $A_i$  can be calculated as:

**Linear trapezoid method**

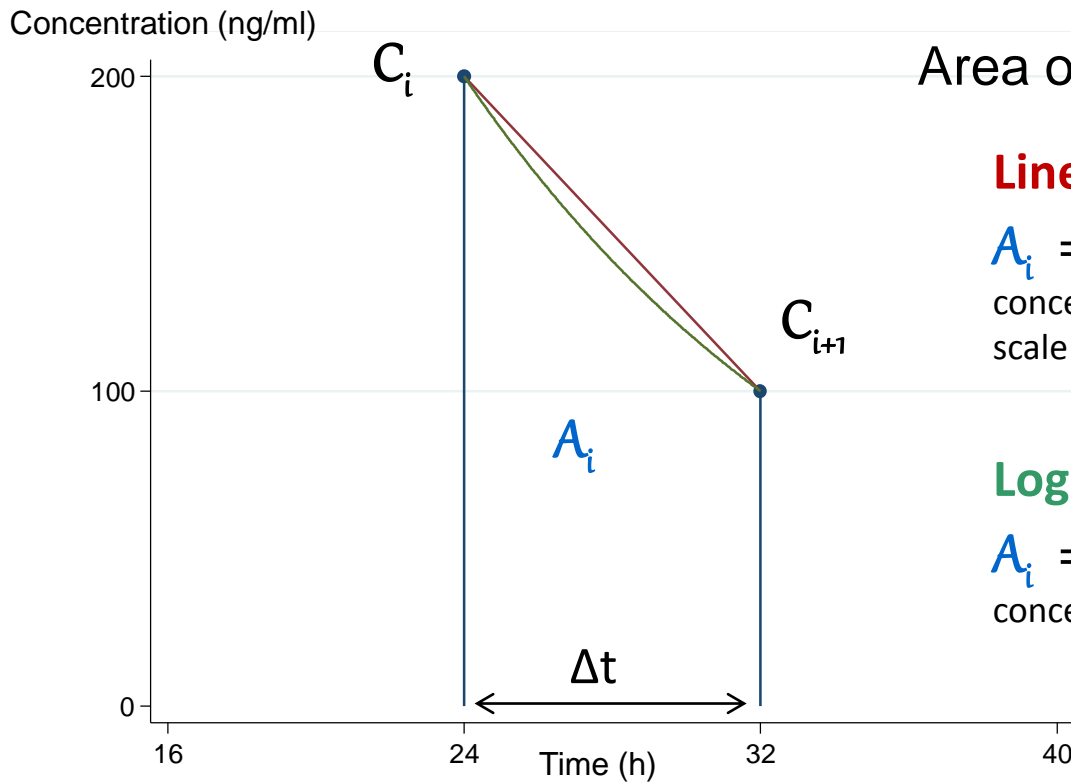
$$A_i = (C_i + C_{i+1}) / 2 \times \Delta t$$

concentrations connected by straight line on the original scale

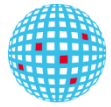
**Log-linear trapezoid method**

$$A_i = (C_i - C_{i+1}) / \ln(C_i / C_{i+1}) \times \Delta t$$

concentrations connected by straight line on the log scale

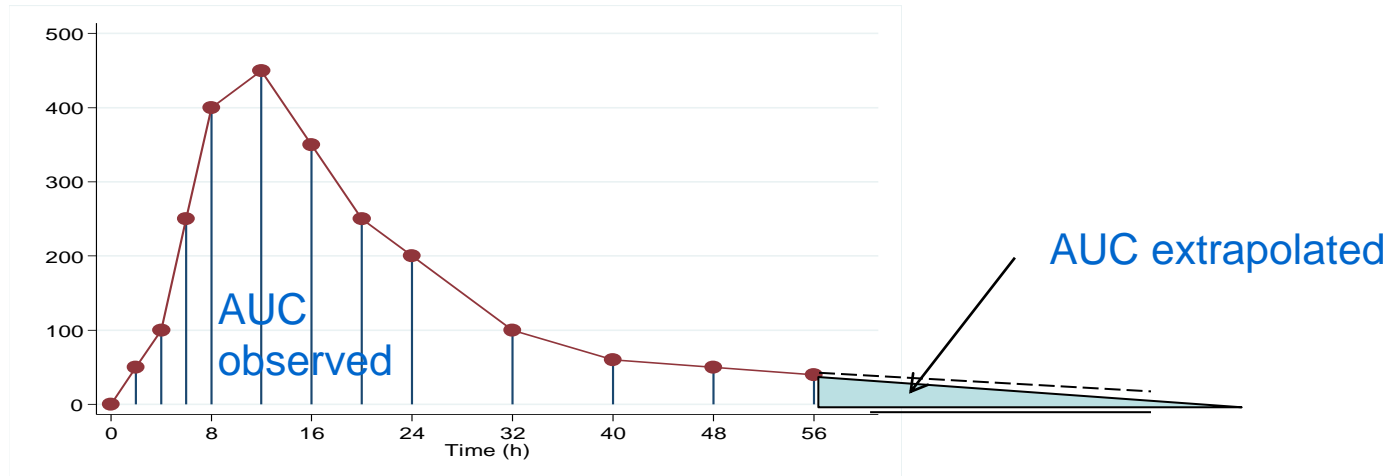


UNITS: concentration  $\times$  time so for example:  $\text{ng/ml} \times \text{h}$



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## Estimation of AUC to infinity: $AUC_{0-\infty}$



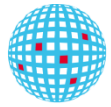
$$AUC_{0-\infty} = \text{AUC observed} + \text{AUC extrapolated}$$

$$AUC_{0-\infty} = AUC_{0-t_{\text{last}}} + C_{\text{last}} / \lambda_z$$

$AUC_{0-t_{\text{last}}}$  = AUC observed – calculated as before using trapezoid or log-trapezoid rule

$C_{\text{last}}$  = last measured concentration

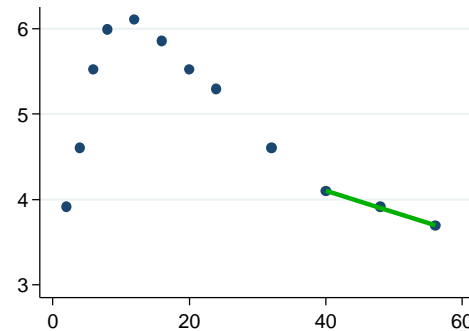
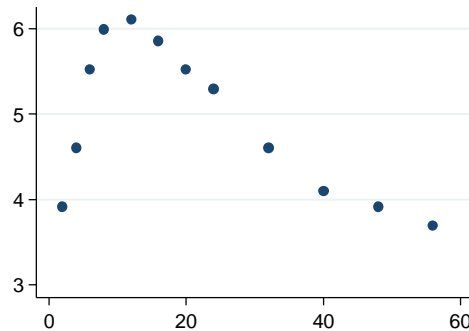
$\lambda_z$  = terminal elimination rate constant **NEED TO ESTIMATE**



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# Estimation of terminal elimination rate constant

Log Concentration

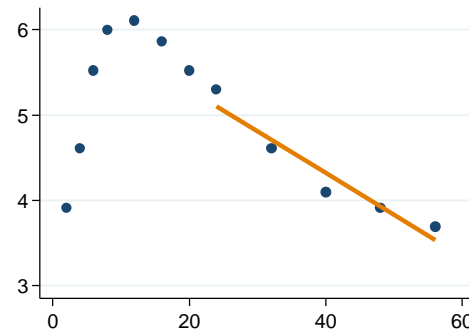
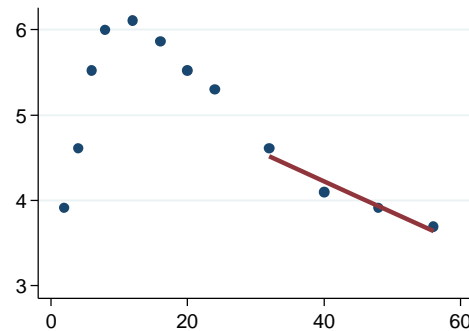


Slope = -0.0275

$T_{1/2} = 25\text{h}$

Slope = -0.0366

$T_{1/2} = 19\text{h}$



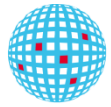
Slope = -0.0489

$T_{1/2} = 14\text{h}$

Regression line fitted to terminal phase datapoints on log-scale

Terminal elimination rate constant  $\lambda_z = -\text{slope}$  (UNITS:  $\text{h}^{-1}$ )

Elimination half life  $T_{1/2} = \log(2)/\lambda_z$  (UNITS:  $\text{h}$ )



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## Estimation of AUC to infinity: $AUC_{0-\infty}$

### ➤ Selection of points to estimate terminal rate constant:

very important; at least 3-4 points; strategy for selection should be clear; individual concentration profiles should be visually examined

### ➤ Measured last concentration can be different from the predicted terminal regression line

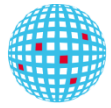
estimated last concentration should be used instead

### ➤ % AUC extrapolated is an useful measure of precision of estimates:

$$AUC_{\text{ext}} = AUC_{t_{\text{last}} - \infty} / AUC_{0-\infty} \times 100\%$$

<25% - good estimate

< 20% - required for bioequivalence studies



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## Physiological parameters

**Clearance** = volume of blood (or plasma) cleared completely of drug per unit time.

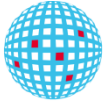
$$C_L = \text{Dose} / \text{AUC}_{0-\infty} \quad (\text{UNITS: L/s or L/s/kg if dose per kg})$$

any administration, model independent

**Volume of distribution** = apparent volume the drug is distributed in

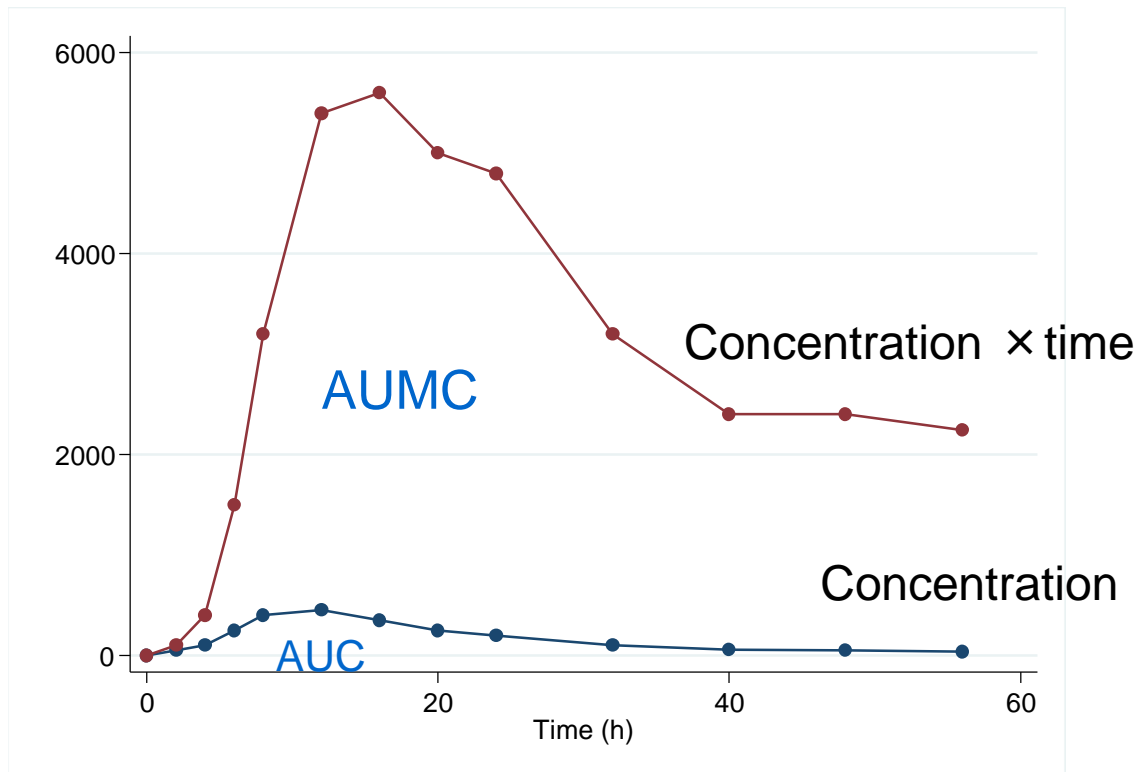
$$V = C_L / \lambda_z \quad (\text{UNITS: L or L/kg if dose per kg})$$

any administration,  
volume of distribution in one compartment model OR  
volume of distribution during the terminal phase



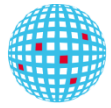
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## Mean Residence Time: MRT



**AUMC** = area under Concentration × time - time curve

**AUC** = area under Concentration - time curve



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## Mean Residence Time: MRT

### Mean residence time

$$\text{MRT} = \text{AUMC} / \text{AUC} \quad (\text{UNITS: } s)$$

$$\text{AUMC}_{t_{\text{last}} - \infty} = C_{\text{last}} \times t_{\text{last}} / \lambda z + C_{\text{last}} / \lambda z^2$$

**MRT** = average length of time a drug molecule stays in circulation.

**MRT** = time needed for 63.3% of the dose to be eliminated via all routes of elimination

$\text{MRT}_{\text{bolus}} = 1.44 T_{1/2}$  - one compartment model, bolus injection

$\text{MRT}_{\text{bolus}} \approx 1.44 T_{1/2\beta}$  - two compartment model,  $\alpha \gg \beta$

$\text{MRT}_{\text{oral}} = \text{MRT}_{\text{bolus}} + 1/K_a$   $K_a$ - absorption rate constant

Sampling schedule crucial for reliable NCA estimates

- Based on the shape of concentration-time curve, if known
- At least 3 half-lives covered
- Unevenly spaced over time
- More sampling points around the expected curve shape changes
- Depends on the primary aim of the study
- Record the real time