

LEARNING CURVES

Levente Mályusz
 Budapest University of Technology and Economics
 Department of Construction Technology and Management

UNIT MODELL, CRAWFORD MODELL

x	y
cycles	unit
1	2,132
2	1,789
3	1,588
4	1,54
5	1,575
6	

estimation

$$y = ax^b \quad \text{or} \quad \ln y = \ln a + b \ln x;$$

$$\text{learning rate \%} = 100(2)^b$$

For example $b = -0,151$ if learning rate is 90%

“If there is learning in the production process, the cost of some *doubled unit* equals the cost of the undoubled unit times the slope of the learning curve”

WRIGHT MODELL CUMULATIVE AVERAGE MODEL

x	y
cycles	Cumulative av.
1	2,132
2	1,961
3	1,836
4	1,762
5	1,725
6	

$$CA_t = (Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots + Y_{t-1} + \dots + Y_t) / t.$$

estimation

$$y = ax^b \quad \text{or} \quad \ln y = \ln a + b \ln x;$$

“If there is learning in the production process, the cumulative average cost of some doubled unit equals the cumulative average cost of the undoubled unit times the slope of the learning curve”

REPETITIVE WORKS, WRIGTH 1936

Cycles	Cumulative	
	Time	Average
1	1	1
2	1,8	0,9
3	2,54	0,85
4	3,24	0,81
5	3,91	0,78
6	4,57	0,76
7	5,21	0,74
8	5,83	0,73



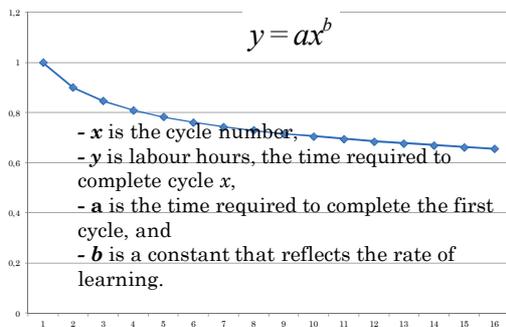
LEARNING CURVE, BASICS

$$y = ax^{\log_2 r}$$

- where
- „a” is the time required to complete the first cycle
- „y” is labour hours, the time required to complete cycle x
- „x” is the cycle number
- „r” rate of learning
- Since „x” monoton increasing, „r” < 1, „a” positive, „y” monoton decreasing.



LEARNING CURVES



TRANSFORMATIONS
 CUMULATIVE AVERAGE
 MOVING AVERAGE
 EXPONENTIAL AVERAGE

$$CA_t = (Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots + Y_{t-1} + \dots + Y_t) / t.$$

$$MA_t = (Y_t + Y_{t-1} + Y_{t-2}) / 3$$

$$EA_t = \alpha Y_t + (1 - \alpha) EA_{t-1}$$



STANFORD B MODEL

x	y
cycles	
1	2,132
2	1,961
3	1,836
4	1,762
5	1,725
6	

estimation

$$y = a(x + B)^b \quad \text{or} \quad \ln y = \ln a + b \ln(x + B);$$

Where "B" 0-10 refers to the experience



DEJONG MODEL

x	y
cycles	
1	2,132
2	1,961
3	1,836
4	1,762
5	1,725
6	

estimation

$$y = a \left[M + \frac{1-M}{x^b} \right] = a_0 + (a - a_0) x^{-b}$$

Ahol „M” kompressziós együttható



S CURVE MODEL

x	y
cycles	
1	2,132
2	1,961
3	1,836
4	1,762
5	1,725
6	

estimation

$$y = a_0 + (a - a_0)(x + B)^b$$

DeJong and Stanford model in one



REPETITIVE WORKS, WRIGTH 1936

Cycles	Cumulative	
	Time	Average
1	1	1
2	1,8	0,9
3	2,54	0,85
4	3,24	0,81
5	3,91	0,78
6	4,57	0,76
7	5,21	0,74
8	5,83	0,73

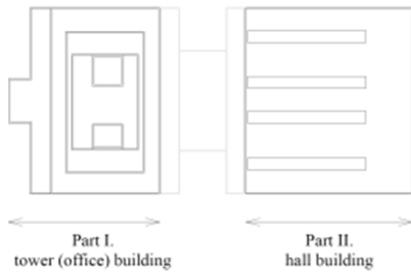


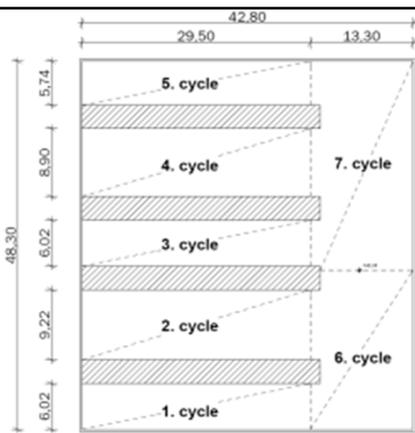
AIM

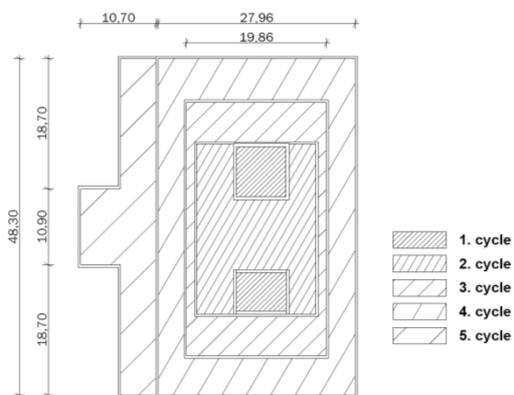
- Predict/Estimate the time required to complete a given cycle/product



RECONSTRUCTION WORK







INPUT DATA

cycles	Unit	CA	MA	Exp. Av. 0,5
1	2,132	2,132	2,132	2,132
2	1,789	1,961	1,961	1,961
3	1,588	1,836	1,836	1,775
4	1,54	1,762	1,639	1,658
5	1,575	1,725	1,568	1,617
6	1,546	1,608	1,554	1,582
7	1,541	1,558	1,554	1,562

ESTIMATION/Y VALUES

cycles	Original	UNIT	CA	MA	EA; 0,5
1	2,132	2,084	2,137	2,184	2,161
2	1,789	1,807	1,946	1,911	1,908
3	1,588	1,663	1,842	1,767	1,773
4	1,54	1,567	1,771	1,671	1,684
5	1,575	1,497	1,718	1,601	1,617
6	1,546	1,442	1,676	1,546	1,565
7	1,541	1,397	1,642	1,5	1,522

RESULTS FOR HALL

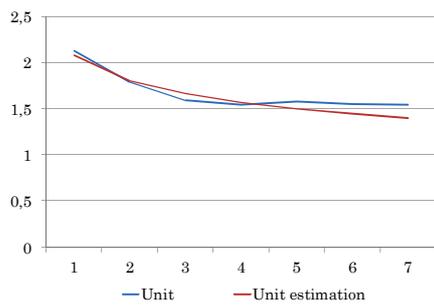
cycles	UNIT	CA	MA	EA; 0,3	EA; 0,5
1	0,048	0,005	0,052	0,038	0,029
2	0,018	0,015	0,05	0,051	0,053
3	0,075	0,006	0,069	0,024	0,002
4	0,027	0,009	0,032	0,013	0,026
5	0,078	0,007	0,033	0,024	0
6	0,104	0,068	0,008	0,035	0,017
7	0,144	0,084	0,054	0,039	0,04
Accuracy 1-5	0,246	0,042	0,236	0,15	0,11
Accuracy 6-7	0,248	0,05	0,062	0,074	0,057

RESULTS FOR TOWER

cycles	UNIT	CA	MA	WMA	EA; 0,5
1	0,122	0,009	0,088	0,074	0,052
2	0,144	0,012	0,062	0,082	0,065
3	0,061	0,01	0,144	0,057	0,023
4	0,025	0,002	0,058	0	0,008
5	0,069	0,009	0,058	0,063	0,03
Accuracy 1-5	0,421	0,042	0,41	0,276	0,178

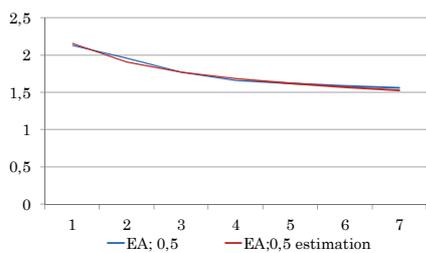
RESULT

Unit vs Unit function



RESULT

EA;0.5 vs EA;0.5 function



CONCLUSION

- Original time of cycle 6 =1,546
- Estimation based on EA: $Y_6=1,513$
- Estimation based on Unit: $Y_6=1,442$
- Original time of cycle 7 =1,541
- Estimation based on EA: $Y_7=1,479$
- Estimation based on Unit: $Y_7=1,379$

○ Transform data to an average brings better prediction



CONCLUSION

- Mathematical model
 - linear log x log y method is the most precise predictor
- Data presentation methods
 - cumulative average and exponential average were very reliable predictors
- Futher research
 - investigating more complex functions
 - involve more data



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION