

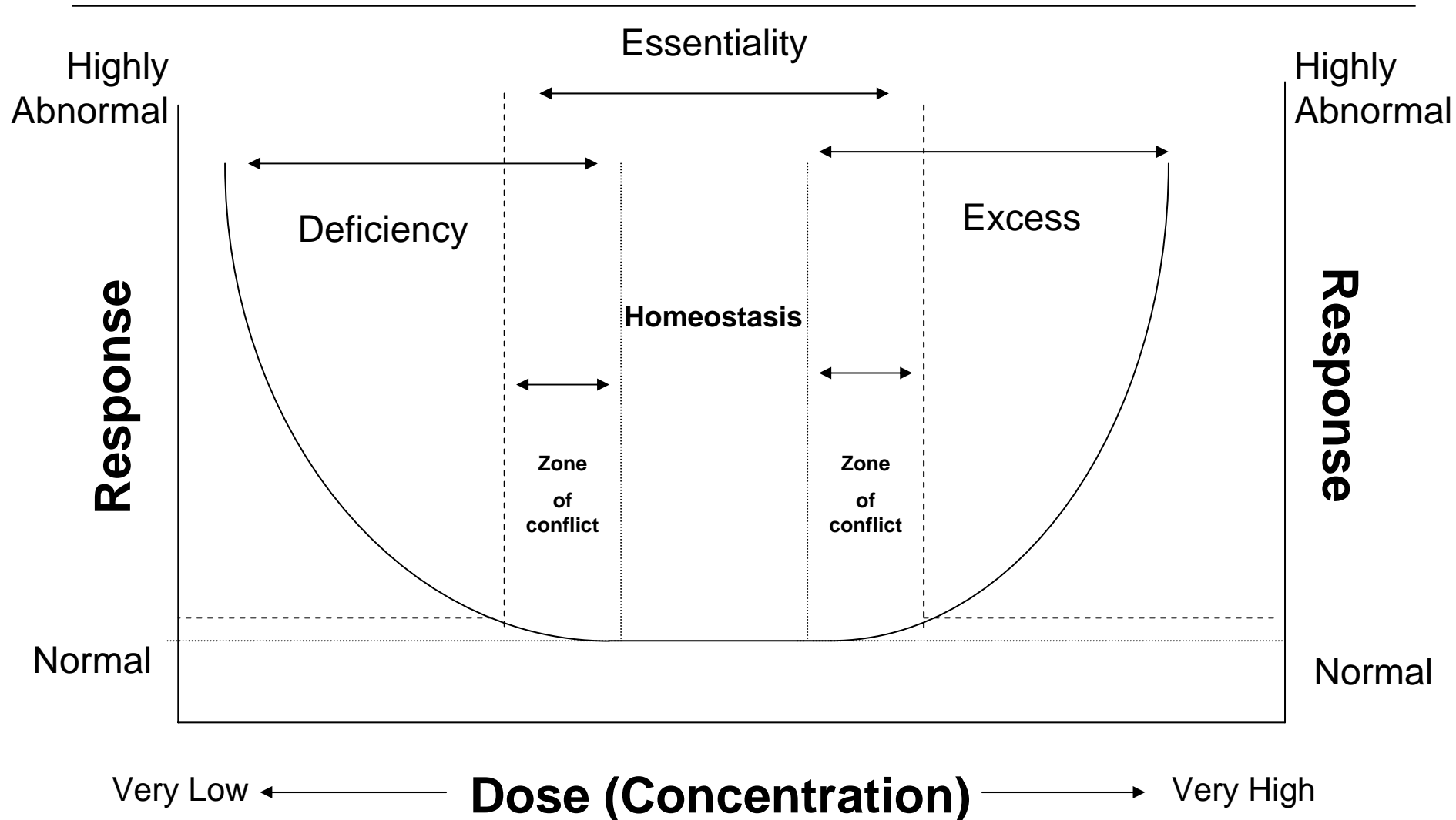
# Dose-Response Relationship of Essential Metallic Elements

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The Application of Categorical Regression

Example: Copper

# Problem: Dose-response relationship for essential trace elements is complex





# Outline

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- Modeling Methods
  - NOAEL/LOAEL
  - Benchmark Modeling
- Overview of Categorical Regression
  - Background
  - Applications
  - CatReg Software
- Copper Risk Assessment
  - JTEH Review
  - Copper Database
  - Preliminary Results
  - Future Directions

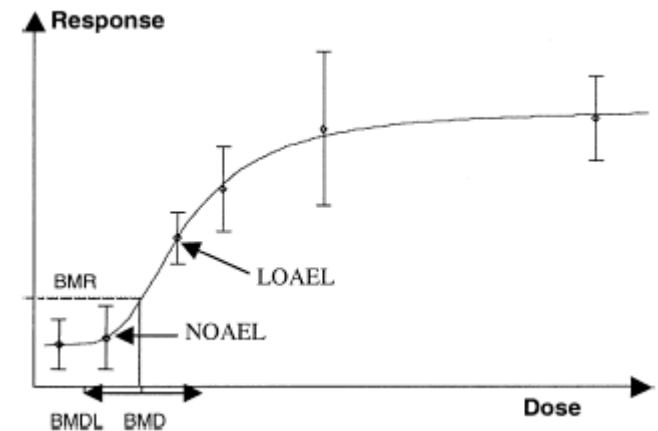
# Modeling Methods

## □ NOAEL/LOAEL

- Simple and traditional method
- Limited use of the available dose-response information
- Single dose-time data point
- Little uncertainty characterization

## □ Benchmark Dose

- Entire dose-response curve is utilized instead of a single dose
- Quantitative uncertainty characterization
- Responses within experimental range are used
- Empirical curve-fitting





# Categorical Regression

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- Can be used when mechanistic models are lacking & insufficient evidence is available to support a complex dose-response relationship
- Can be used to model multiple studies and endpoints simultaneously using a common toxicity metric
- A dose-response model may be fitted to data where only severity ratings are available

# Categorical Regression & Copper

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- Heterogeneity amongst available experimental studies on copper (specie, dose, endpoints, route of exposure), limits the application of traditional methods
- Traditional dose-response approaches where RfD: NOAEL/UF may bring the resulting value into the deficiency range

# Advantages of Categorical Regression

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- Define the relationship by increasing severity of response
- Ensures that the best available evidence is utilized and integrated into a single quantitative analysis
- Can combine data from multiple studies & utilize information on multiple species
- Curve no longer based on the most sensitive strain, specie, sex – may be more predictive of actual human risk
- Scatter demonstrated in regression provides useful information on the uncertainty in the dose-response model

# CatReg Capabilities

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- A computer program developed to support toxicologists & health scientists conduct exposure-response analyses
- Developed by U.S. EPA
- Executes a regression analysis of the severity scores and exposure parameters
- Three statistical models available:
  - Logistic (logit)
  - Normal (probit)
  - Gumbel (log-log)

# CatReg Capabilities

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- Determine whether the coefficients for concentration and time differ by severity level
- Methods for estimation and hypothesis testing of model parameters
- Range of options for sensitivity analysis
- Can produce graphical displays of data and fitted models
- Combine data sets from different experiments
  - Statistical testing for differences between combined experiments

# Monograph II: Copper Risk Assessment

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## COPPER AND HUMAN HEALTH: BIOCHEMISTRY, GENETICS, AND STRATEGIES FOR MODELING DOSE-RESPONSE RELATIONSHIPS

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# Data Collection Process

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- Review scientific literature
- Identifying papers on copper toxicity due to excess and deficiency
- Review papers for quality
- Select key studies using a consensus approach



# Hazard Identification Criteria

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- Consensus approach reviewed over 600 papers for hazard identification and dose response assessment
- Excluded studies included:
  - Exposures in utero
  - No reliable level of exposure
  - Depletion / repletion phases
  - Only pharmacokinetic data
  - Case reports with no known exposure duration

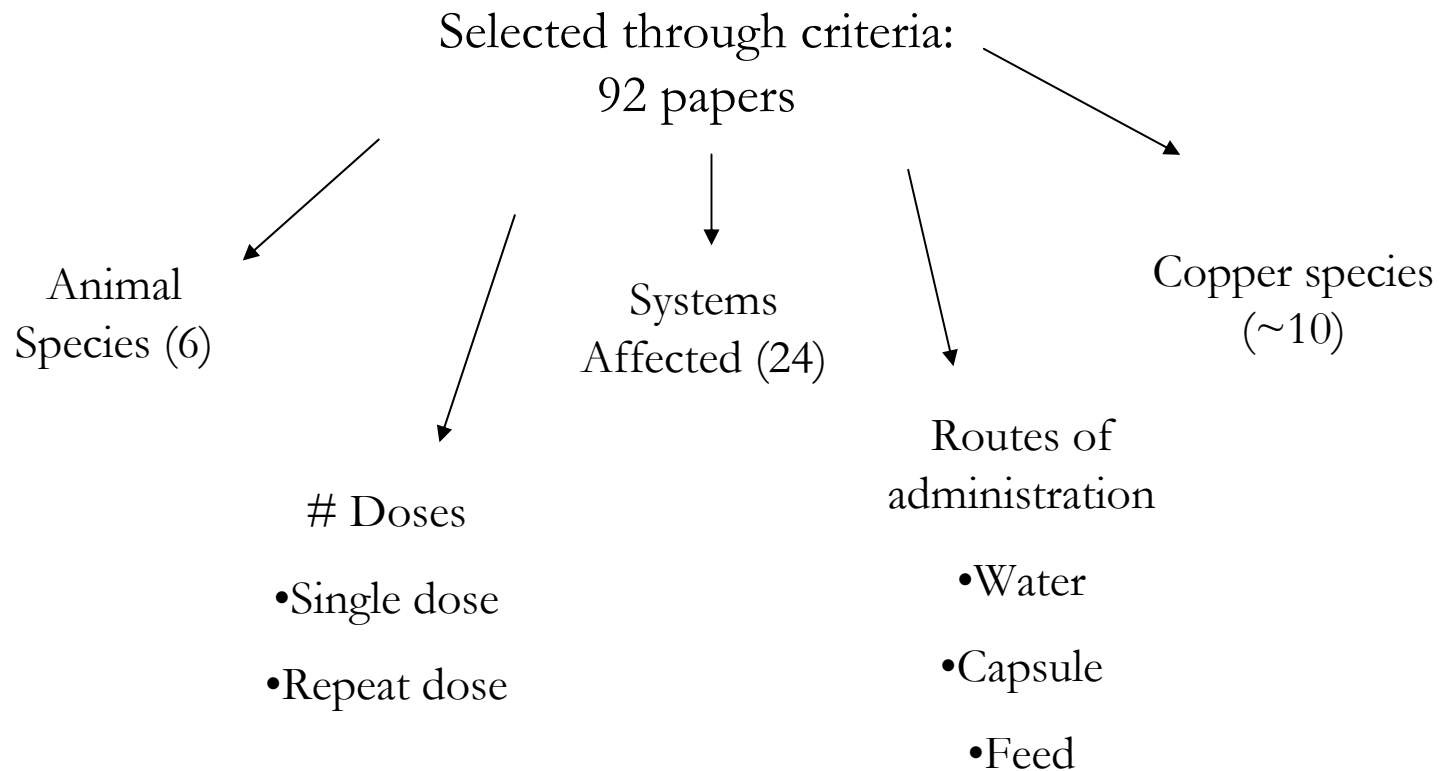
# Criteria Used for Exclusion

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <span>Most Useful</span> <span>←</span> <span>→</span> <span>Least Useful</span> </div>				
1	2	3	4	5
<p>Multiple dose or multiple outcomes from intact animals or humans</p> <p>Adequate Reporting</p> <p>Physiological Measures</p>	<p>Multiple or single dose from intact animals or humans</p> <p>Fairly Good Reporting</p> <p>Likely to yield useful information</p> <p>Change in time Points</p> <p>Cellular effects</p>	<p>Single dose or clinical study / case report with indeterminate dose</p> <p>Tracer or PK Study</p> <p>Info re. body burden or kinetics</p> <p>Mechanistic or cellular effects</p>	<p>No dose information</p> <p>Physiological information</p> <p>Review</p>	<p>No Utility</p>

# Results of the Hazard Identification

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~600 Papers



# Results of the Hazard Identification

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- 92 papers example closely and
  - NOAELs and Benchmark Doses were determined
  - Each endpoint assigned a severity score of either 0, 1, 2, or 3 for the categorical regression, where:
    - 0=homeostasis
    - 1=enzyme changes
    - 2=metabolic perturbations
    - 3=gross toxicity or deficiency
- Both excess and deficiency studies were based on the same scoring system

# Severity Scoring Summary

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<u>Deficiency Endpoints</u>	<u>Severity Score</u>	<u>Toxicity Endpoints</u>
Copper Burden; metallothionein; urine copper	0	Cu burden; metallothionein; urine Cu
Loss of Cu-dependent enzyme function (SOD); Changed blood cell # or function	1	Changes in cholesterol and triglyceride levels in blood/liver; large Cu burden; body weight; nausea; diarrhea; enzyme changes without histopathology
Organ weight changes; plasma glucose/insulin; heart rate; EKG changes; minor histopathology; white blood cell activity/counts	2	Body weight; anemia; hemolysis; vitamin levels; liver enzymes; inflammation; organ weight changes
Mortality; gross histopathology reproductive function changes	3	Death; gross histopathology

# Copper Database

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- Total of 3,844 severity scores assigned
- Maximum severity scores (312) selected from each dose group in each study

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Marker	Ref.id	Exp	Group	Species	Sex	mg/kg bw	Weeks	GpSize	BestNum
1	1	1	1	MU	F	0.06	5.6	1	1
2	1	1	2	MU	F	0.6	5.6	1	2
3	4	1	1	RA	M	0.02	6	1	1
4	4	1	2	RA	M	0.25	6	1	2
5	4	1	3	RA	M	0.8	6	1	3
6	8	1	1	MU	F	0	4	1	1
7	8	1	2	MU	F	1.5	4	1	3

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# Interspecies Scaling

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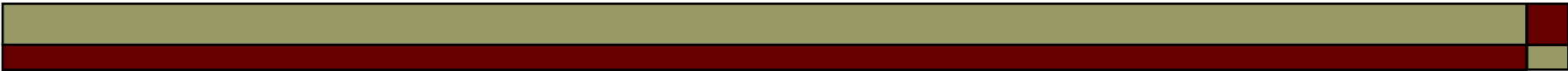
- Interspecies scaling based on four dose metrics:

body weight:           mg/kg bw/day

surface area:          $bw^{2/3}$

intermediate:          $bw^{3/4}$  (*Travis & White, 1988*)

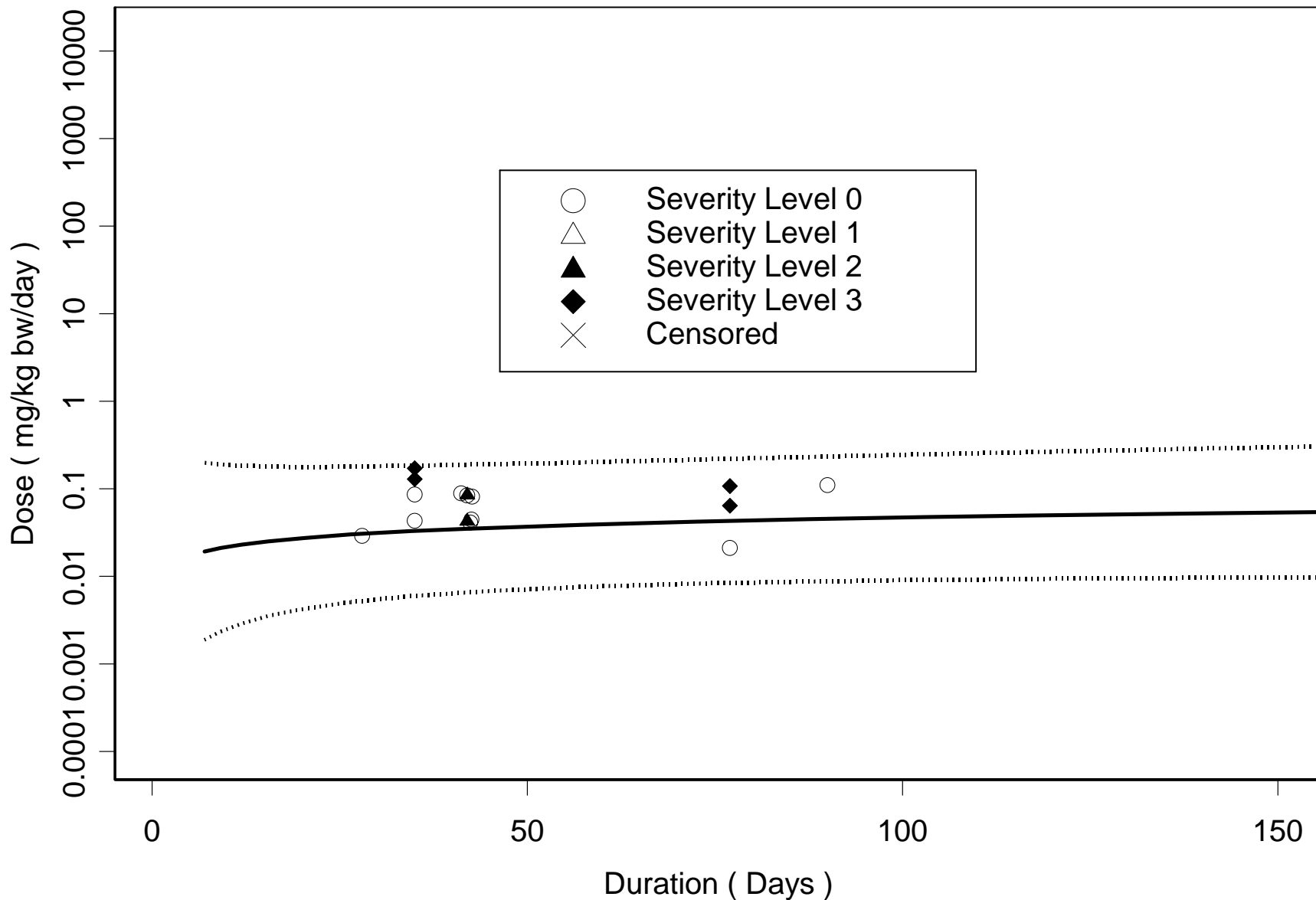
total intake:         mg/day



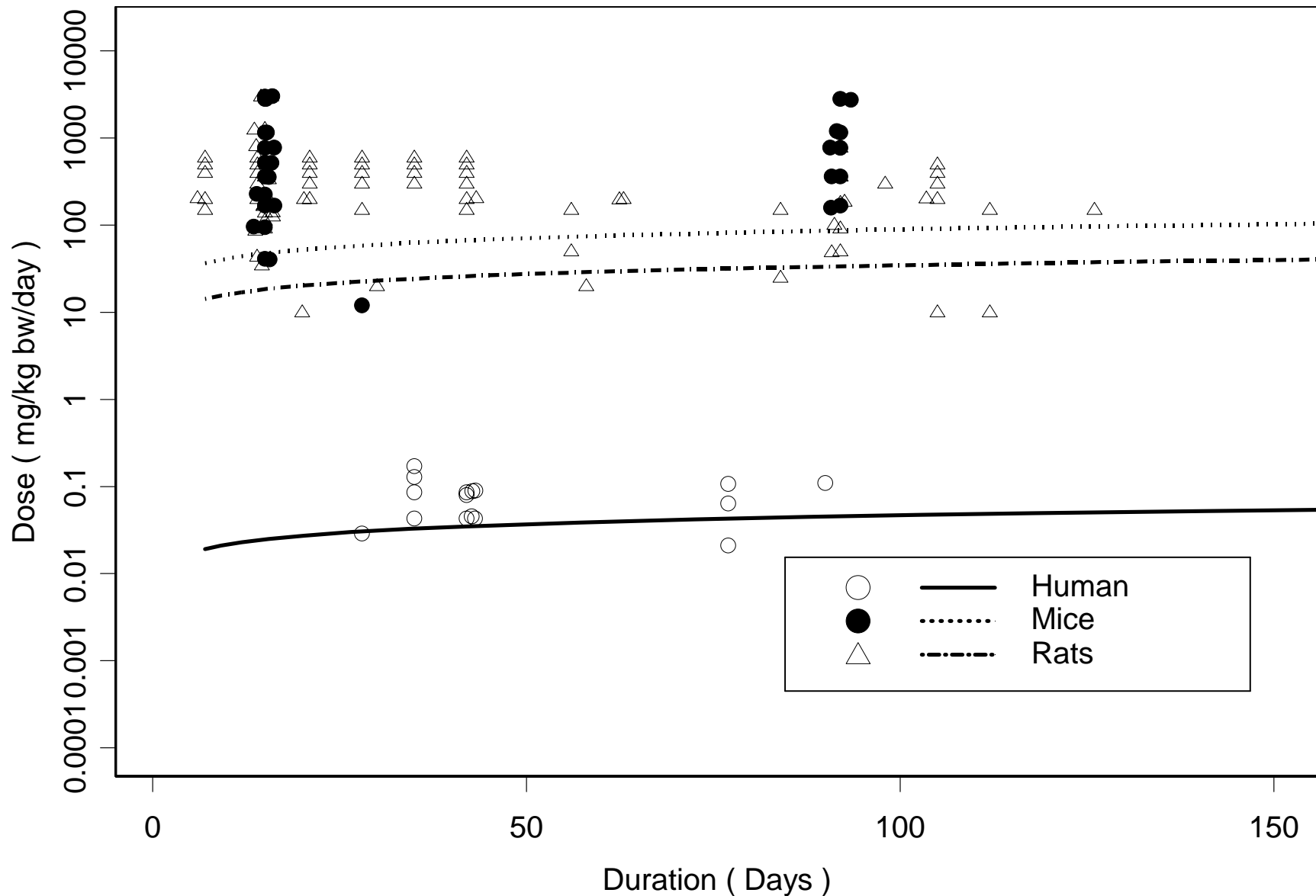
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Dose - Duration Curves  
for Toxicity due to  
Copper Excess

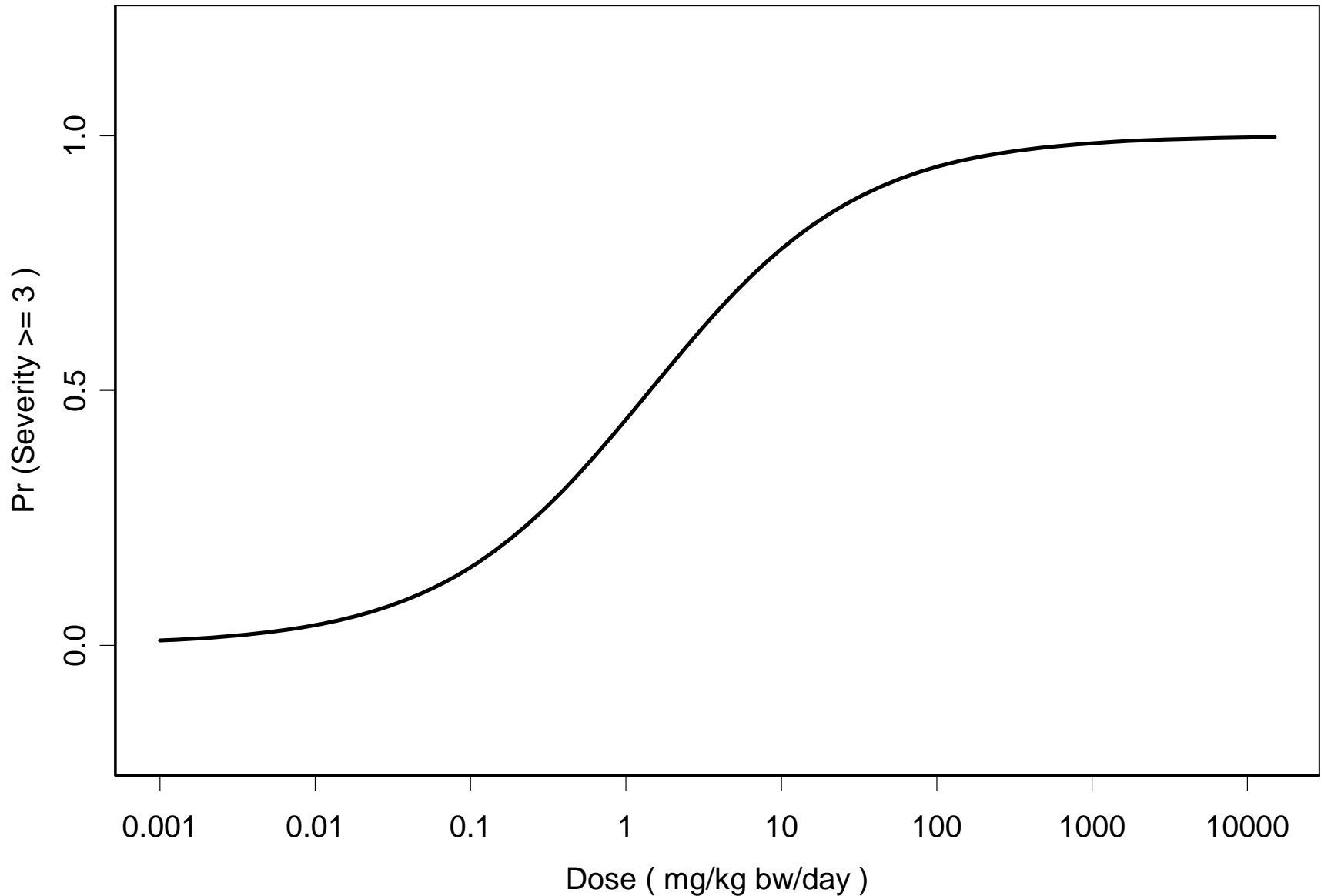
# ED10 Dose - Duration Curves for Severity Level 3 for Toxicity due to Copper Excess (with 95% confidence limits) for Human (n=20)



# ED10 Dose - Duration Curves for Severity Level 3 for Toxicity due to Copper Excess



# ED10 Dose Response Curves for Severity Level 3 for Toxicity due to Copper Excess following 100 Days Exposure for Human (n=20)

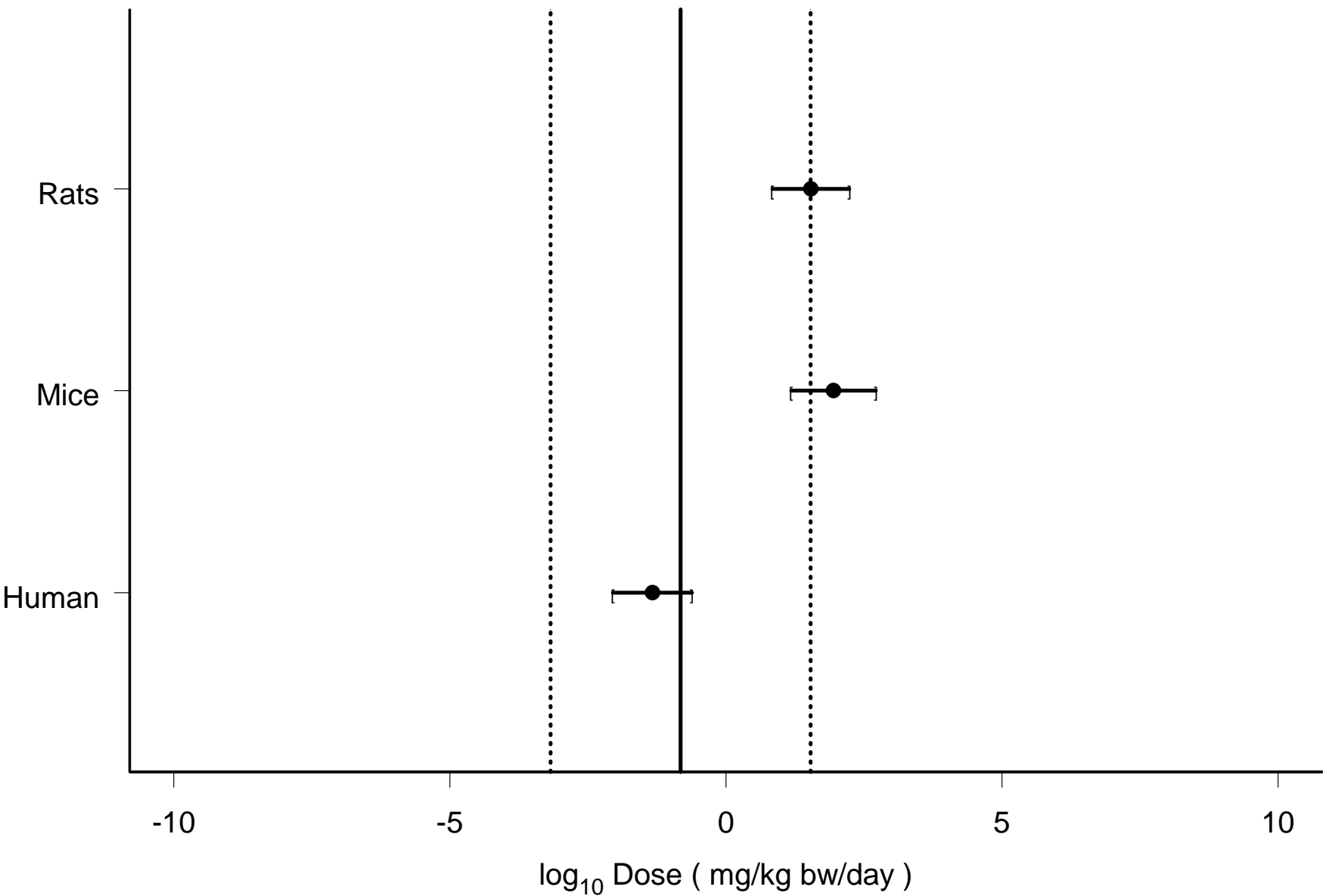




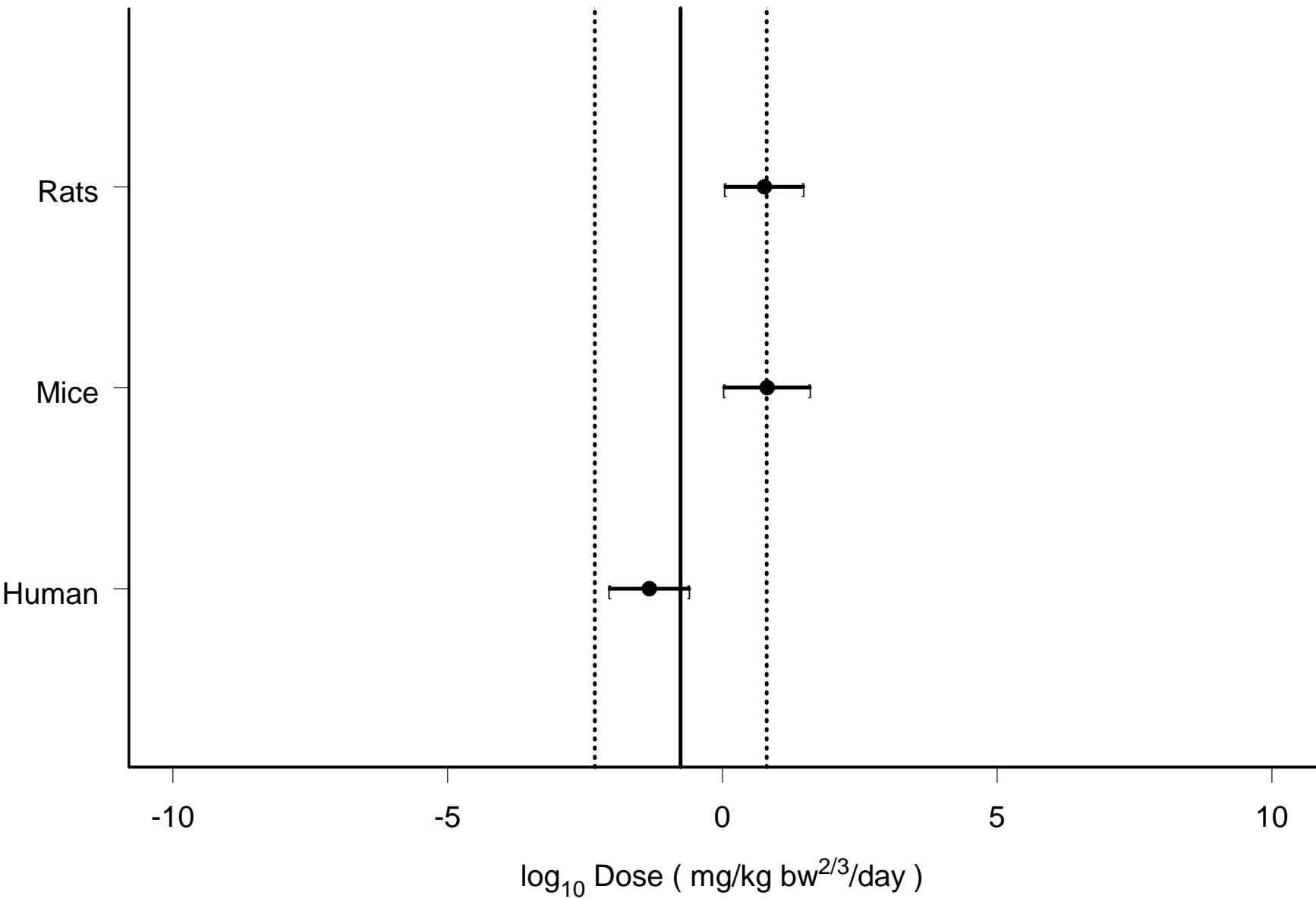
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# Comparison of Scaling Methods

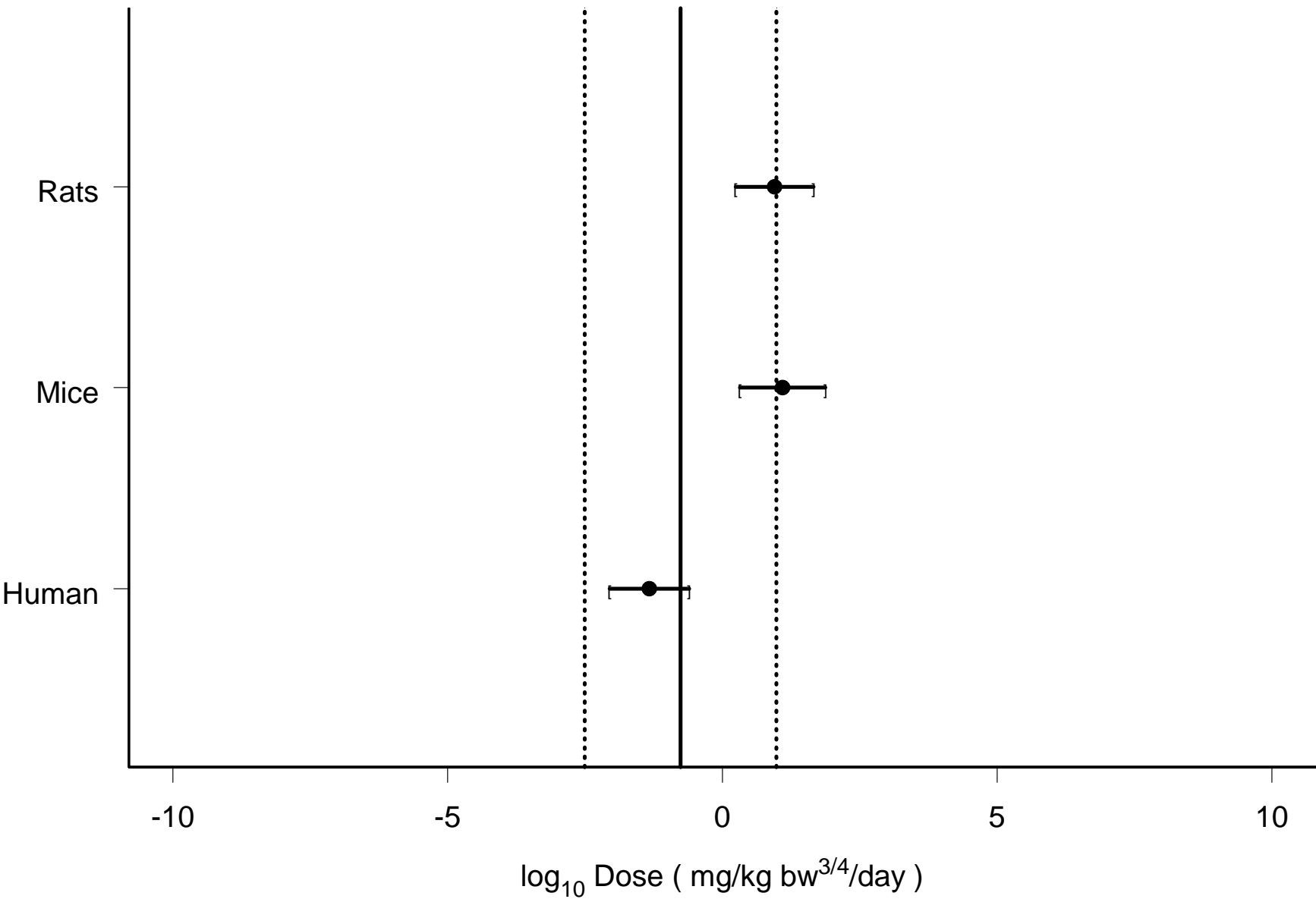
# ED10 for Severity Level 3 for Toxicity due to Copper Excess following 100 Days Exposure (with 95% confidence limits)



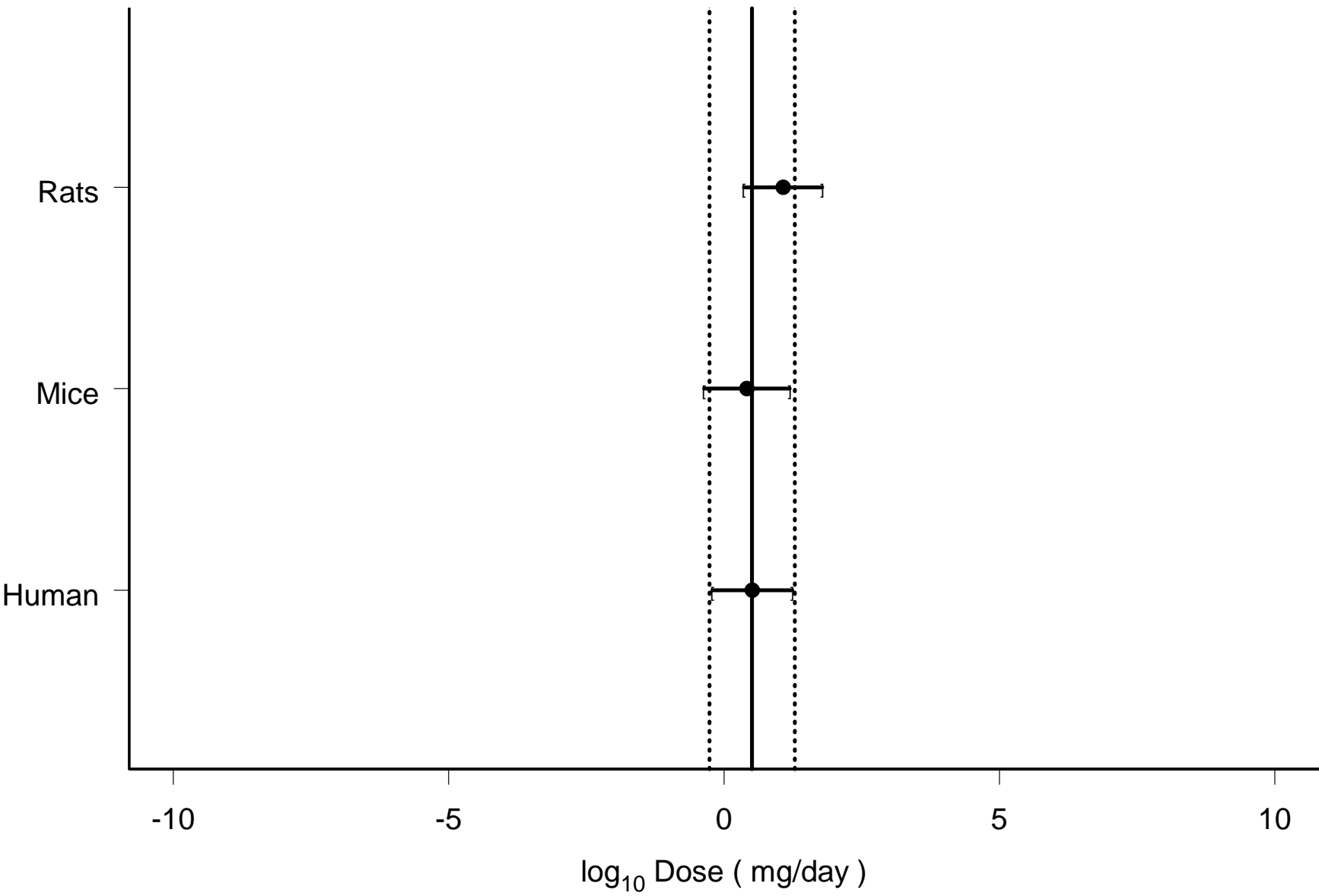
# ED10 for Severity Level 3 for Toxicity due to Copper Excess following 100 Days Exposure (with 95% confidence limits)



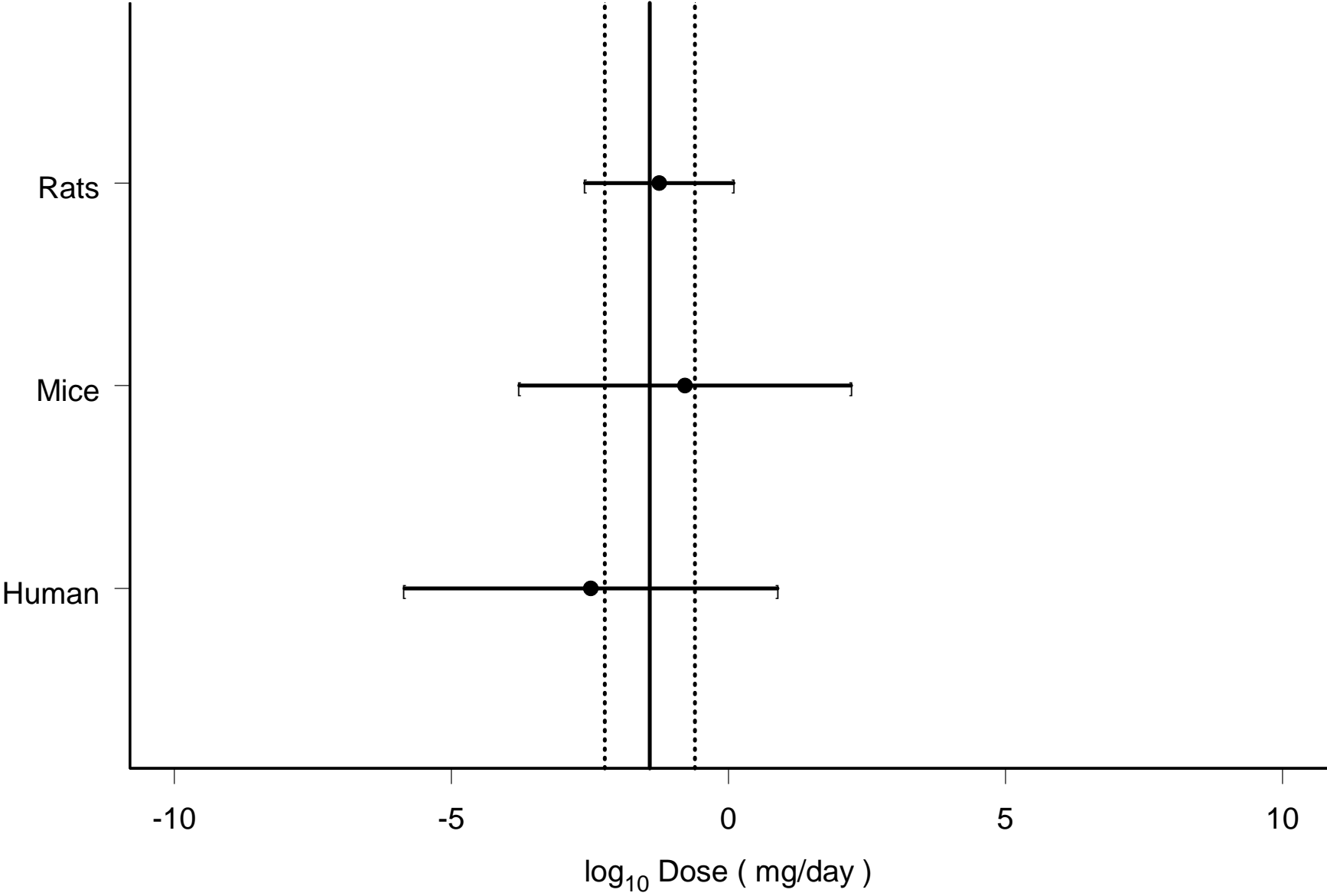
# ED10 for Severity Level 3 for Toxicity due to Copper Excess following 100 Days Exposure (with 95% confidence limits)



# ED10 for Severity Level 3 for Toxicity due to Copper Excess following 100 Days Exposure (with 95% confidence limits)



# ED10 for Severity Level 3 for Toxicity due to Copper Deficiency following 100 Days Exposure (with 95% confidence limits)

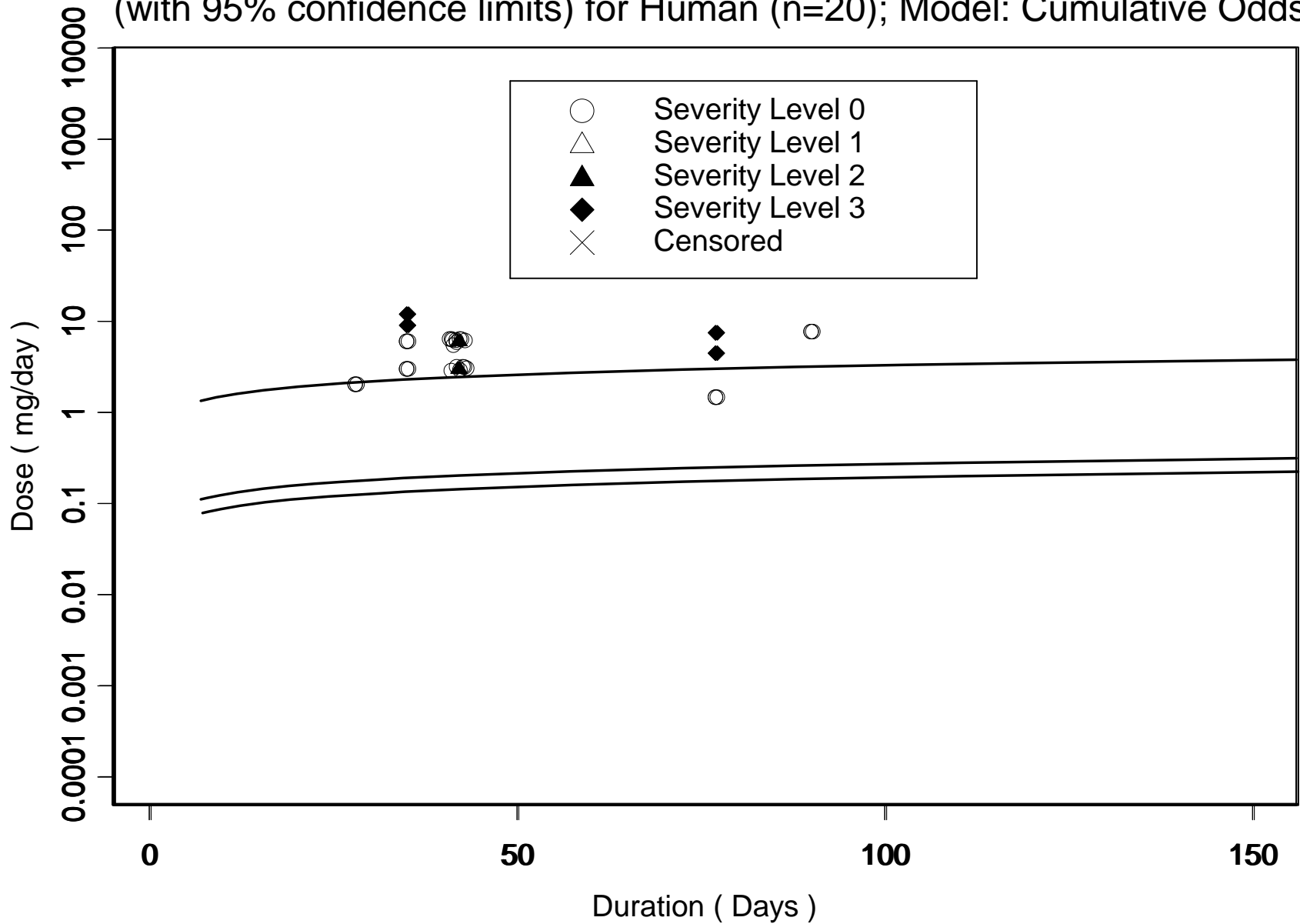


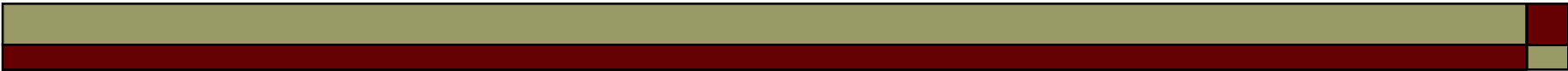


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Model 1: Cumulative Odds  
(parallel dose response curves)

ED10 Dose - Duration Curves for Toxicity due to Copper Excess  
(with 95% confidence limits) for Human (n=20); Model: Cumulative Odds

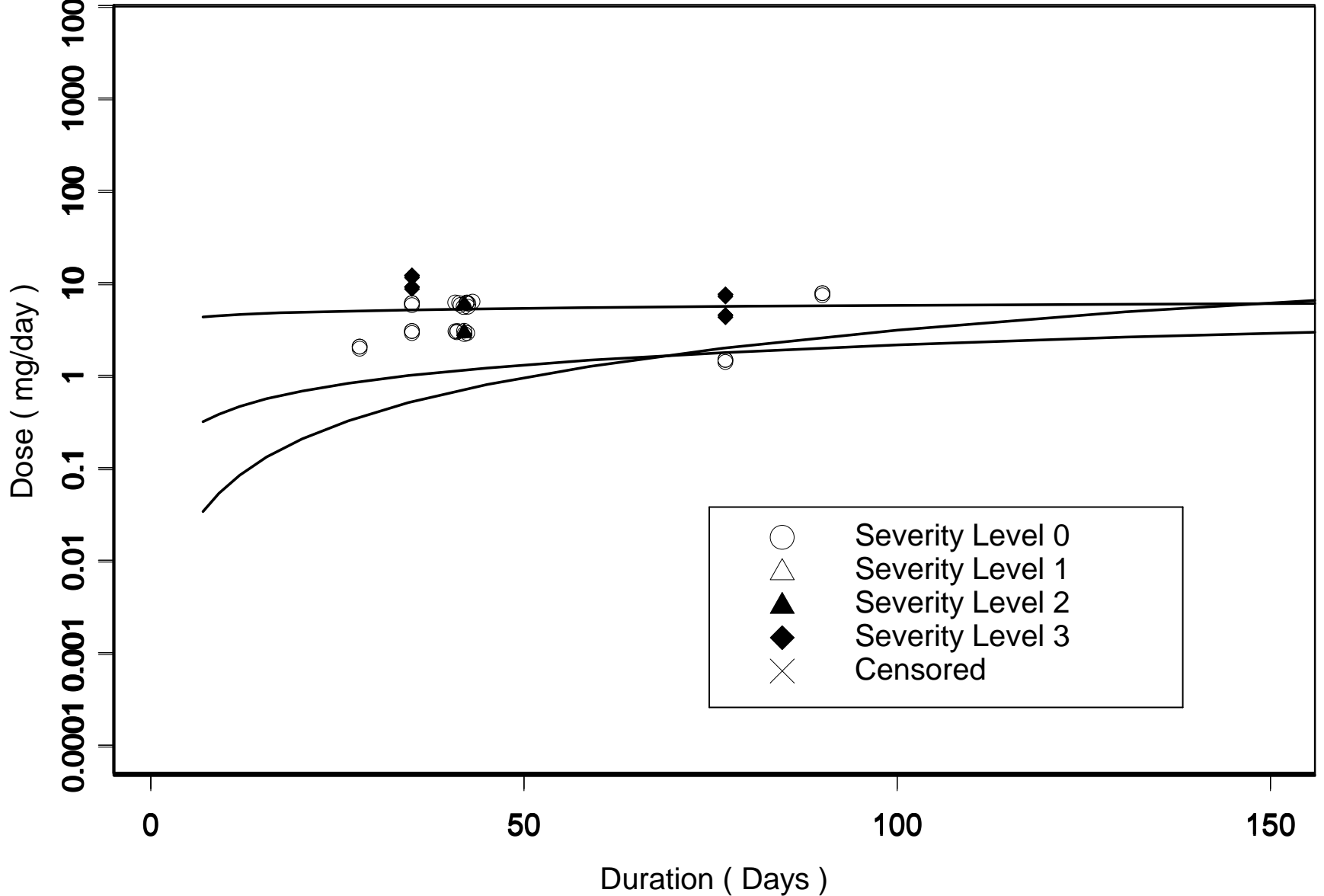




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Model 2:  
Unrestricted Cumulative  
(non-parallel dose-response curves)

ED10 Dose - Duration Curves for Toxicity due to Copper Excess  
(with 95% confidence limits) for Human (n=20); Model: Unrestricted Cumulative



# Future Analysis

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- Update the current copper database
- Include additional species
- Select Model:
  - Restricted vs unrestricted
  - Cumulative vs conditional odds
  - Exposure duration (10 – 100 days)
  - Select final dosimetry (mg/day?)
- Examine multiple levels of severity
- Conduct a qualitative analysis of all data to determine the endpoints of the homeostatic range for copper
- Consider uncertainty factors for sensitive individuals