

## Tutorial 1

Solutions to tutorials are generally available at Iain Currie's homepage at:

<http://www.ma.hw.ac.uk/~iain/teaching/mortality/mortality.html>

However, the solution to question three (=“prove  $f_x(t) = S_x(t)\mu_{x+t}$ ”) is perhaps not quite obvious. An alternative is given below.

**Proof of  $f_x(t) = S_x(t)\mu_{x+t}$**

Start with the basic definition of the density function,  $f_x(t)$ , of the future lifetime,  $T_x$ :

$$f_x(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{h} \Pr(t \leq T_x < t + h)$$

and the basic definition of the hazard function,  $\mu_{x+t}$ :

$$\mu_{x+t} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{h} \Pr(t \leq T_x < t + h | T_x > t)$$

Now recall the basic result for the conditional probability for two events  $A$  and  $B$ , where  $A \subset B$ :

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A)}{\Pr(B)}$$

which gives us  $\Pr(A) = \Pr(B) \cdot \Pr(A|B)$  (remembering of course that this holds true if and only if  $A \subset B$ ). We note that the time interval  $[t, t + h) \subset [t, \infty)$  for any positive value of  $h$ , so we can apply this conditional probability argument to our survival probabilities:

$$\Pr(t \leq T_x < t + h) = \Pr(T_x > t) \cdot \Pr(t \leq T_x < t + h | T_x > t), \forall h > 0$$

This gives us the identity with which to complete our proof:

$$\begin{aligned} f_x(t) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{h} \Pr(t \leq T_x < t + h) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{h} \Pr(T_x > t) \cdot \Pr(t \leq T_x < t + h | T_x > t) \\ &= \Pr(T_x > t) \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{h} \Pr(t \leq T_x < t + h | T_x > t) \\ &= S_x(t) \cdot \mu_{x+t} \end{aligned}$$

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13th January 2006