

Subject: s

SRM 1

Chapter:

UNIT 3

Category:

**Practice Questions** 



## 1. Subject CT4 April 2010 Q12

(i) State three different methods of graduating raw mortality data and for each method give an example of a situation when a method would be appropriate.

A life insurance company last period its whole of life contract 30 years ago using a standard mortality table. The company wishes to establish whether recent mortality experience in the portfolio of business is in line with the pricing basis. These are the data:

		Recent Experi	ence		m the standard table ricing the product	
	Age last birthday	Exposed to Risk during 2009	Deaths during 2009	x	Number of survivors to age x	
	50	2,381	16	50	32,669	
	51	3,177	21	51	32,513	
A	52	3,460	22	52	32,338	
	53	1,955	15	53	32,143	IIARIAI
	54	3,122	24	54	31,926	UARIAL
	55	3,485	29	55	31,685	
	56	2,781	26	56	31,417	THDIEO
	57	3,150	31	57	31,121	111111111111111111111111111111111111111
	58	3,651	39	58	30,795	IODILO
	59	3,991	48	59	30,435	
		-		60	30,039	

- (ii) Test the goodness of fit to these data with the pricing basis and comment on your results.
- (iii) (a) State with reason one further test which you would deem appropriate to perform on these data.
- (b) carry out the test.

## 2. Subject CT4 April 2011 Q5

(i) Explain why mortality experiences would need to be graduated.

An actuary was conducted investigations into the mortality of the following classes of lives:

- (a) The female members of a medium-sized pension scheme
- (b) The male population of a large industrial country
- (c) The population of a particular species of reptile in the zoological collections of the southern hemisphere.

The actuary wishes to graduate the crude rates.

(ii) State an appropriate method of graduation for each of three classes of lives and, for each class, briefly explain your choice.

# 3. CT4 April 2011 Q11

An historian has investigated the force of mortality from tuberculosis in a particular town in a developed country in the 1860s using a sample of records from a cemetery. He wishes to test whether the underlying mortality from tuberculosis in the town is the same as the national force of mortality from this cause of death, as reported in death registration data. The data are shown in the table below.

Age-group	Deaths in sample	Central exposed to risk in sample	National force of mortality
5–14	13	3,685	0.0051
15-24	47	2,540	0.0199
25-34	52	1,938	0.0309
35-44	50	1,687	0.0316
45-54	33	1,386	0.0286
55-64	23	1,018	0.0230
65–74	13	663	0.0202
75–84	3	260	0.0070

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- (i) Carry out an overall test of the null hypothesis that the underlying mortality from tuberculosis in the town is the same as the national force of mortality, and state your conclusion. [6]
- (ii) (a) Identify two differences between the experience of the sample and the national experience which the test you performed in (i) might not detect.
- (b) Carry out a test for each of the differences in (ii)(a). [7]
- (iii) Comment on the results from all the tests carried out in (i) and (ii). [1] [Total 14]

#### 4. Subject CT4 October 2011 Question 10

(i) Describe three shortcomings of the  $\chi^2$  test for comparing crude estimates of mortality with a standard table and why they may occur.

The following table gives an extract of data from a mortality investigation conducted in the rural highlands of a developed country. The raw data have been graduated by reference to a standard mortality table of assured lives.

Age x	Expected deaths	Observed deaths	$\mathbf{Z}_{\chi}$	$z_x^2$
60	36.15	35	-0.191	0.037
61	28.92	24	-0.915	0.837
62	31.34	27	-0.775	0.601
63	38.01	35	-0.488	0.238
64	26.88	32	0.988	0.975
65	37.59	36	-0.259	0.067
66	33.85	34	0.026	0.001
67	26.66	32	1.034	1.070
68	22.37	26	0.767	0.589
69	18.69	33	3.310	10.956
70	18.24	22	0.880	0.775

- (ii) For each of the three shortcomings you described in (i):
  - (a) Name a test that would detect that shortcoming.
  - (b) Carry out the test on the data above.
- (iii) Comment on your result from (ii).

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## 5. Subject CT4 April 2012 Question 8

The mortality experience of a large company pension scheme is to be tested to see if the experience of males aged 65-72 years is constant with a standard table. The results were collected by the firm conducting the analysis on a computer spread sheet, with positive and negative standardized deviations being distinguished only by being in a different colored font. Unfortunately, the results have been supplied to the company in the form of a printout produced on a black-and-white printer from which it is not possible to tell the signs of the deviations.

The values of the standardized deviations shown are as follows:

0.052 0.967 2.528 0.328 1.234	INICTITUTE OF ACTUADIAL
0.250 1.023	INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIAL
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- (i) Suggest two tests which could be conducted from the information given.
- (ii) Carry out the tests you suggested in your answer to part (i).

#### 6. Subject CT4 September 2012 Question 8

- (i) Describe a situation when graduation of raw mortality data using a parametric formula might be appropriate and explain why.
- (ii) (a) state another method of graduation.
  - (b) suggest the situation in which its use may be appropriate.

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A large insurance company has graduated the mortality experience of part of its business. The original data and the graduated rates are as follows.

Age	Exposed to risk	Number of deaths	Graduated rates $(\hat{q}_s)$
40	1284	4	0.00240
41	2038	4	0.00266
42	1952	12	0.00297
43	2158	7	0.00332
44	2480	11	0.00371
45	1456	7	0.00415
46	2100	12	0.00464
47	1866	16	0.00519
48	1989	15	0.00577
49	1725	10	0.00642

- (iii) Test this graduation for overall goodness of fit.
- (iv) Discuss whether it may be necessary to test for smoothness.
- (v) Test the data for individual outliers.

## 7. Subject CT4 April 2013 Question 9

A life office compared the mortality of its policyholders in the age range 30 to 60 years inclusive with a set of mortality rates prepared by the continuous mortality investigation (CMI). The mortality of the life office policyholders was higher than the CMI rates at ages 30-35, 38-41, 41-50 and 54-59 years inclusive, and lower than the CMI rates at all other ages in the age range.

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- (i) Perform two tests of the null hypothesis that the underlying mortality of the life office policyholders is represented by the CMI rates.
- (ii) Comment on your results from part (i).
- (iii) Explain the problem which duplicate policies cause in the context of the CMI mortality investigation.

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### 8. CT4 September 2013 Q9

- (i) (a) State three different methods of graduating crude mortality data.
- (b) Give, for each method, one advantage and one disadvantage. [5]

An insurance company has graduated the experience of one block of its life business against a standard table, the following is an extract of the data.

1ge x	Exposed to risk	Observed deaths	Graduated rates	
30	36,254	26	0.000590	
31	37,259	20	0.000602	
32	28,057	23	0.000617	
33	31,944	23	0.000636	
34	30,005	26	0.000660	
35	28,389	12	0.000689	
36	36,124	31	0.000724	THITE OF ACTHARIAN
37	28,152	22	0.000765	TUTE UF ACTUARIAL
38	24,001	25	0.000813	
39	30,448	31	0.000870	A MITITATIVE CTUDIEC
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- (ii) Carry out a test for overall goodness of fit. [5]
- (iii) Carry out two other statistical tests to check the validity of the graduation. [6]
- (iv) Discuss, with reference to the tests you have performed, whether it would be reasonable for the company to use the graduated rates to price life insurance policies. [3] [Total 19]

# 9. CT4 April 2014 Q9

- (i) (a) State three features which are desirable when a graduation is performed.
- (b) Explain why they are desirable. [3]

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The actuary to a large pension scheme has attempted to graduate the scheme's recent mortality experience with reference to a table used for similar sized schemes in a different industry. He has calculated the standardised deviations between the crude and the graduated rates, zx, at each age and has sent you a printout of the figures over a small range of ages. Unfortunately, the dot matrix printer on which he printed the results was very old and the dots which would form the minus sign in front of numbers no longer function, so you cannot tell which of the standardised deviations is positive and which negative. Below is the data which you have.

Age	Standardised deviation		
60 61	2.40 0.08		
62 63 64	0.80 0.76 1.04		
65 66	0.77 1.30	7	INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIAL
67 68 69	1.76 0.28 0.68		& QUANTITATIVE STUDIES
70	0.93		C QUANTITATIVE STUDIES

- (ii) (a) Carry out an overall goodness-of-fit test on the data.
- (b) Comment on your result. [5]
- (iii) (a) List four defects of a graduation which the test you have carried out would fail to detect.
- (b) Suggest, for each of the defects, a test which could be used to detect it. [4]
- (iv) Carry out one of the tests suggested in part (iii)(b). [3] [Total 15]

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### 10. CT4 September 2014 Q9

A life insurance company is developing a new class of annuity business. It has conducted a study of mortality among lives it believes represents this new business. It wishes to graduate the data so that they are suitable for use in financial calculations. It decides to use a standard table as a basis for graduation and the function:

$$\dot{\mu}_x = \mu_x^s + 0.01$$

where  $\dot{\mu}_x$  are the graduated rates and  $\mu_x^s$  are the rates from the standard table.

The table below gives some results from the graduation.

Age x	Crude rates	Graduated rates	Exposed to risk	
	$\hat{\mu}_x$	$\mathring{\mu}_x$		
70	0.0167	0.022771	1.200	E OF A OTHA DIAL
70	0.0167	0.022661	1,200	
71	0.0209	0.024783	1,194	L UI AUTUANIAL
72	0.0236	0.027204	973	
73	0.0324	0.029956	956	ITATIVE OTUDIED
74	0.0362	0.033072	912	$11\Delta 11VF S 111111FS$
75	0.0402	0.036587	845	IIVIIAL OLODICO
76	0.0561	0.040357	820	
77	0.0623	0.044962	369	
78	0.0552	0.049899	489	
79	0.0640	0.055390	500	

- (i) Carry out an overall test of the goodness-of-fit of this graduation to the crude rates. [6]
- (ii) List three defects of a graduation which the test you conducted in (i) may not detect. [3]
- (iii) Perform, for each of two of the defects listed in (ii), an additional test which can detect the defect. [6]
- (iv) Comment on the results of the tests carried out in parts (i) and (iii). [2] [Total 17]

## 11. CT4 September 2015 Q11

(i) Describe why an insurance company might want to compare the results of a mortality investigation with previous experience. [2]

A large life insurance company has undertaken an investigation of the mortality of its policyholders. Currently it assumes that mortality at age x,  $\mu x$ , is equal to a standard table. The company wishes to use the results from the investigation to see whether the standard table is still appropriate.

Below are shown some data from the investigation.

Age x	Number of policies in force	Actual death claims	Expected death claims from standard table	
70	1,000	13	23.74	
71	1,200	28	31.80	
72	1,100	31	32.50	TE OF ACTUADIAL
73	1,100	34	36.20	IF OF ACHIARIAL
74	1,000	39	36.63	
75	1,000	41	40.73	TITATIVE OTUBLEO
76	950	41	42.99	TIVINE GIIIIIEG
77	900	40	45.20	HALLAF PLODIES
78	850	46	47.34	
79	800	48	49.35	

- (ii) Perform an overall test of the hypothesis that the underlying mortality of the company's policyholders is, over this range of ages, represented by the standard table. [6]
- (iii) Evaluate the suitability of the standard table for use in the company's financial modelling by performing two additional tests for different possible inconsistencies between the actual death rates and those represented by the standard table. [6]

The company discovers that at age 70 years, one individual owns 25 of the policies in the investigation, the remaining policies each being owned by different individuals.

(iv) Assess the impact of this on the variance of the number of claims at age 70 years. [4] [Total 18]

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### 12. CT4 September 2016 Q12

A large life insurance company is investigating the mortality of its policyholders to see if this has changed since the previous investigation ten years ago. Below is a sample of the results:

Current investigation		Previous investigation		
Age	Exposed to risk	Observed deaths	mortality rates	
55	5,842	150	0.0267	
56	5,630	132	0.0278	
57	4,281	126	0.0301	
58	3,955	98	0.0325	
59	3,879	142	0.0356	
60	3,550	149	0.0387	
61	4,006	162	0.0396	
62	4,150	173	0.0410	TE VETILVEIVE
63	3,520	158	0.0433	JF AUTUARIAL
64	3,057	150	0.0458	
65	3,666	200	0.0490	TIVE CTUDIEC
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- (i) Explain how many degrees of freedom would be used to conduct a chi-squared test for goodness of fit on these data. [2]
- (ii) Carry out a chi-squared test on these data. [5]
- (iii) Perform a test to determine whether the shape of the mortality rates has changed over the age range. [3]
- (iv) Comment on your results to parts (ii) and (iii). [2]
- (v) Suggest reasons why the mortality experience may have changed over the past ten years. [2] [Total 14]

## 13. CT4 September 2017 Q9

- (i) (a) List TWO different methods of graduating crude mortality data.
- (b) State, for each method, TWO advantages and ONE disadvantage. [3]

A large pension scheme is examining its most recent experience and has graduated its data over a range of ages using  $\mu_x = 0.0005 + 0.00005(1.1^x)$ .

The table below gives some of the data.

Age	Exposed to Risk	Observed Deaths	Graduated Rates	
60	7,966	127	0.015724	
61	7,728	139	0.017246	
62	7,870	162	0.018921	
63	7,622	167	0.020763	
64	7,097	205	0.022790	
65	7,208	179	0.025019	ACTIIADIAI
66	6,833	185	0.027470	ACTUANTAL
67	6,474	212	0.030167	
68	6,208	209	0.033134	IVE CTIINIEC
69	5,914	195	0.036398	IAE DIODIED

- (ii) Perform an overall goodness of fit test on the data. [5]
- (iii) (a) State THREE possible defects of the graduation which the test you performed in (ii) would fail to detect.
- (b) Suggest, for each defect in part (a), an alternative test which would detect each defect. [3]
- (iv) Carry out TWO of the tests you mentioned in part (iii), clearly stating your conclusions in relation to the relevant defects. [6] [Total 17]

## 14. CT4 April 2018 Q8

(i) State why the Gompertz model is often used in analyses of human mortality. [2]

The following data are taken from an investigation of the mortality of males aged 60–70 years inclusive in a developed country.

Age (years)	$\mu_x$	Deaths	Exposed-to-risk	
60	0.02029	49	2,415	
61	0.02230	51	2,287	
62	0.02466	55	2,230	
63	0.02721	68	2,499	
64	0.02937	70	2,383	
65	0.03102	67	2,160	
66	0.03194	69	2,160	
67	0.03055	66	2,160	FE OF LOTHINGIAL
68	0.04297	84	1,955	IF UF ACIIIARIAL
69	0.04405	88	1,998	IL OI AGIOANIAL
70	0.04749	83	1,748	CITATIVE OTUBLEO
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- (ii) Determine the parameters of the Gompertz model using the data for ages 60 and 70 years only. [3]
- (iii) Test the overall fit of the model you estimated in part (ii) using data from ages 61–69 years only. [6]
- (iv) Comment on your results in part (iii). [1] [Total 12]

## 15. CT4 September 2018 Q2

Describe how you would determine the number of degrees of freedom to use in a chisquare test when graduating a set of crude mortality rates. [4]

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## 16. CT4 September 2018 Q9

- (i) Describe why a mortality experience would need to be graduated. [3]
- (ii) Describe how smoothness is achieved when using the following graduation methods:
- (a) parametric formula.
- (b) with reference to a standard table. [3]

An insurance company investigates the mortality rates of policyholders who choose to retire at a relatively young age.

The following table shows data from the investigation, together with graduated rates  $\dot{q}_x$  which were fitted with reference to standard table rates,  $q_x^s$  using a link function  $\dot{q}_x = q_x^s + \text{constant}$ .

	Age x	Exposed to risk	Deaths	$\overset{o}{q}_{_{X}}$	
ı	55	1,550	15	0.00673 E OE ACTILAD	LAI
	56	2,100	18	0.00689 LUFAGIUAN	IAL
	57	2,300	15	0.00709	
	58	2,450	21	0.00736	IIFS
í	59	2,700	18	0.00770	ILO
	60	3,250	29	0.00820	
	61	3,100	25	0.00891	
	62	3,450	30	0.00978	
	63	3,600	45	0.01084	
	64	3,750	41	0.01210	
		- ,			

(iii) Test the goodness-of-fit of the graduated rates using a chi-square test. [5] [Total 11]

### 17. CS2A April 2019 Q11

A life insurance company is investigating the mortality of its policyholders over the past year. It wishes to compare the current mortality rates with those obtained from a similar investigation ten years ago. The following is an extract of the data:

	Current investigation		Previous investigation
Age x last birthday	Exposed to risk	Observed deaths	Mortality rate
50	5,368	25	0.00479
51	4,986	26	0.00538
52	4,832	30	0.00603
53	5,298	37	0.00675
54	5,741	45	0.00756
55	4,866	46	0.00844
56	4,901	52	0.00942
57	5,003	63	0.01050
58	3,952	45	0.01169
59	2,786	45	0.01299



- (i) Sketch a graph, showing clearly both the current and the previous mortality rates. [3]
- (ii) Carry out a goodness-of-fit test on the data. [5]
- (iii) Carry out the following additional statistical tests:
- Signs test.
- Grouping of Signs test. [6]
- (iv) Comment on your answers to part (iii) in the light of your sketch in part (i). [3] [Total 17]

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### 18. CS2A September 2019 Q6

The Eternal Life insurance company insures the lives of community leaders. Its pricing policy assumes that the mortality of its policyholders reflects the national mortality levels. Recently, however, it has been losing business to rivals, so it has commissioned an investigation into the mortality of its policyholders. Some results from the investigation are shown below.

Age x nearest birthday	Person-years at risk, $E^{c}_{x}$	Number of deaths, $d_x$	National mortality rate
60	750	10	0.01323
61	740	11	0.01483
62	710	12	0.01664
63	700	15	0.01870
64	680	12	0.02101
65	400	5	0.02348
66	390	5	0.02610
67	380	6	0.02893
68	360	8	0.03192
69	350	8	0.03505

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- (i) Carry out a general goodness-of-fit test of the hypothesis that the mortality of the company's policyholders is the same as the national mortality rate. [6]
- (ii) Comment on your results in part (i). [2]

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- (iii) Perform one other test designed to explore further the hypothesis that the mortality of the company's policyholders is the same as the national mortality rate. [3]
- (iv) Suggest explanations for the results you have obtained in parts (i) and (iii). [2] [Total 13]

## 19. CS2A September 2020 Q5

An investigation was undertaken into the mortality of policyholders for a large life insurance company. The crude mortality rates were graduated using a formula of the form:  $\mu_x = \exp(ax + bx^2)$ .

An extract of the results is set out below. All data have been collated between 1 January 2018 and 1 January 2019 on an 'age last birthday' basis:

Age	Exposed-to-risk (years)	Observed deaths	Graduated rates
50	23,308	70	0.00368
51	19,316	58	0.00379
52	16,914	54	0.00391
53	21,082	90	0.00402
54	14,820	70	0.00415
55	24,084	96	0.00428
56	28,076	114	0.00441
57	22,958	86	0.00455
58	24,960	102	0.00469
59	21,134	86	0.00485
60	18,374	94	0.00500

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(i) Perform the signs test to explore the hypothesis that the graduated mortality rates are the true rates underlying the observed data from the life insurance company. [5]

- (ii) State the main limitation of the signs test in assessing the suitability of the graduated rates. [1]
- (iii) Perform a chi-square goodness-of-fit test to explore further the hypothesis that the graduated mortality rates are the true rates underlying the observed data from the life insurance company. [4]
- (iv) Comment on your answers to parts (i) and (iii). [2] [Total 12]

### 20. CS2A September 2021 Q4

An Actuary has graduated the mortality experience of a population aged 55 to 65 years using the following formula:

$$\mu_x = \begin{cases} ax + b \exp(cx) & \text{if } x < 65 \\ d & \text{if } x = 65 \end{cases}$$

where a, b, c and d are constants and x is age in years. The mortality experience data and the graduated rates calculated by the Actuary are shown in the table below.

All data have been collated between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020 inclusive on an 'age nearest birthday' basis:

Age x	Exposed-to-risk (years)	Observed deaths	Graduated rates
55	2,737	53	0.02094
56	2,610	57	0.02357
57	2,649	86	0.02636
58	2,611	77	0.02930
59	2,449	74	0.03238
60	2,213	96	0.03555
61	2,025	79	0.03880
62	1,969	68	0.04208
63	1,900	78	0.04537
64	1,803	83	0.04860
65	1,736	105	y

Let y be the graduated rate at age 65 and let the null hypothesis be that the graduated rates are the true rates underlying the observed data.



Determine the range of values that y needs to take so that there is insufficient evidence, at the 97.5% confidence level, to reject the null hypothesis under a chi-square goodness-of-fit test. [9]

## 21. CS2A September 2022 Q5

An insurance company has graduated the experience of one block of its life business using the following quadratic-Gompertz formula:

$$\mu_{r} = \exp(a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2)$$

where a0, a1 and a2 are constants and x is age in years.

The data used for this graduation exercise, together with the graduated rates, are shown in the table below. All data have been collated between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2018 inclusive on an 'age nearest birthday' basis.

Aga	Exposed to risk	Death	Graduated
Age	(years)	counts	rates
60	11,362	80	0.0069
61	11,086	85	0.0077
62	10,816	100	0.0085
63	10,530	105	0.0095
64	10,301	108	0.0105
65	10,233	117	0.0115
66	9,970	110	0.0126
67	9,708	131	0.0138
68	9,667	145	0.015
69	9,807	140	0.0163

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(i) Perform a Chi-square test to assess the overall goodness of fit of this graduation, stating the null and alternative hypotheses. [5]

The company would like to extend the graduation to age 70. The death count and exposed to risk at age 70 are 150 deaths and 10,000 years, respectively. Let  $\hat{\mu}_{70}$  be the

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graduated rate at age 70 and let the null and alternative hypotheses be the same as in part (i), except that the age range is now from 60 to 70.

(ii) Determine, using the data in the table above, the condition that  $\hat{\mu}_{70}$  would need to fulfil in order for there to be insufficient evidence, at the 5% significance level, to reject the null hypothesis under the cumulative deviations test. [6] [Total 11]



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