

**PL-3  
GLM Practical  
Applications**

**2006 CAS Seminar on  
Ratemaking**

**Claudine Modlin, FCAS**

**Watson Wyatt Worldwide**



[WWW.WATSONWYATT.COM](http://WWW.WATSONWYATT.COM)





# Famous modeling quotes

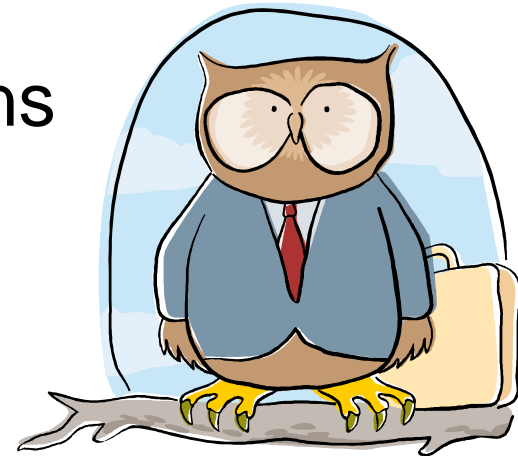
---

- ***"Prediction is very difficult, especially if it's about the future."***
  - Nils Bohr, Nobel laureate in Physics
- ***"I have seen the future and it is very much like the present, only longer."***
  - Kehlog Albran, *The Profit*
- ***"A good forecaster is not smarter than everyone else, he merely has his ignorance better organized. "***
  - Anonymous



## **If I knew then what I know now....**

- Define application; link initiative to success
- Prepare the culture
- Know thy data
- Fit models and interpret
- Translate models to decisions



# **If I knew then what I know now....**

---

- Define application; link to success
- Prepare the culture
- Know thy data
- Fit models and interpret
- Translate models to decisions





# Applications

---

- Ratemaking
- Underwriting
- Marketing
- Retention
- Expense analysis
- Claims management
- Other risk management
- Reserving





# Applications

---

- Ratemaking
  - revise existing rating factor relativities with multivariate analysis
  - introduce new rating variables or tier structure
  - re-define territorial boundaries or vehicle classification
  - define rating plan that optimizes profit while retaining required volume





# Applications

---

- Underwriting
  - provide guidelines on debits/credits
  - produce scorecards to automate some elements of risk selection
- Marketing
  - improve direct mail conversion rate for most profitable risks by X%





# Applications

---

- Retention
  - understand effect of capping rate changes at renewal
  - develop lifetime customer value model
- Expense analysis
  - vary acquisition costs by other criteria
- Claims management
  - develop fraud scorecard
  - advise how TPAs affect claim costs







# Applications

---

- Other risk management
  - determine which risks to cede
- Sales channel
  - align compensation with expected profitability
- Reserving
  - provide additional method to assist reserving actuaries with ultimate projections





## **If I knew then what I know now....**

- Define application; link to success
- Prepare the culture
- Know thy data
- Fit models and interpret
- Translate models to decisions



# Prepare the culture

- Discuss early on with other functional areas
  - pricing, underwriting
  - product development
  - IT
  - sales/dist channel
  - marketing
  - legal
  - statistical reporting
- Engage in effective communication





## Prepare the culture

---

- Determine what's in scope to change and the effect on operations
  - change to existing product or develop new product?
  - acceptance of new variables – esp external
  - tolerance for differences (to current rates or to competitors)
  - in consideration of timelines and operational costs (eg IT)
- Plan to share interim results



# Prepare the culture

- Determine how staffing needs to change
  - skills
  - organizational structure
- Assess hardware/software needs (incl back-up)
- Plan new procedures for checking, peer reviewing and documenting
- Enlist support from upper management





## **If I knew then what I know now....**

---

- Define application; link to success
- Prepare the culture
- **Know thy data**
- Fit models and interpret
- Translate models to decisions





# Know thy data

---

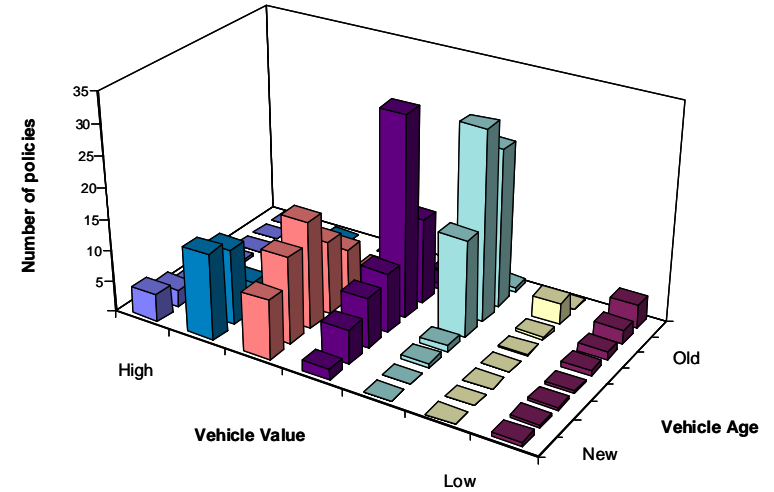
- Data preparation
  - *to be covered in detail in Rick's presentation*
  - *see my notes in appendix to this presentation*
- Preliminary analysis





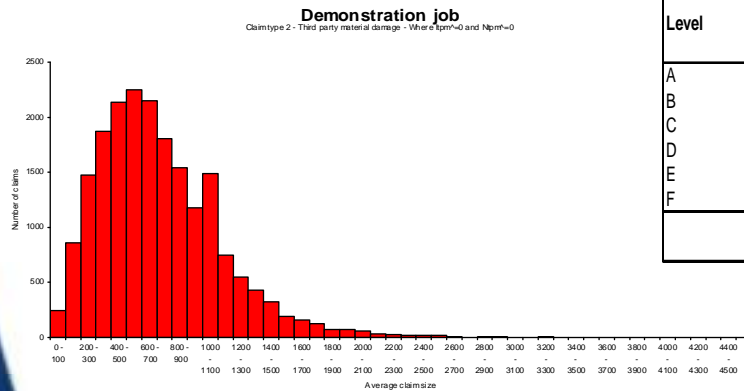
# Preliminary analyses

- Size of loss distribution
- One-way results
- Correlation statistics
- Two-way results



Claim type 1 - Third party property damage  
Vehicle type (Type)

Level	Number of records	Exposure	Premium	Number of claims	Incurred losses	Claim frequency	Average cost per claim	Pure premium	Loss ratio
A	27,661	24,757	10,584,626	1,807	8,457,208	7.3%	4,681	342	79.9%
B	22,089	19,777	9,623,698	1,598	6,957,135	8.1%	4,354	352	72.3%
C	13,768	12,334	6,305,906	1,011	4,245,902	8.2%	4,200	344	67.3%
D	19,662	17,592	9,382,767	1,584	6,070,943	9.0%	3,832	345	64.7%
E	11,235	10,076	5,676,363	982	3,262,384	9.7%	3,321	324	57.5%
F	5,607	5,037	3,118,064	550	1,858,753	10.9%	3,379	369	59.6%
	<b>100,022</b>	<b>89,572</b>	<b>44,691,424</b>	<b>7,532</b>	<b>30,852,324</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>4,096</b>	<b>344.44</b>	<b>69.0%</b>





# Preparing variables

- Categorical most common in insurance
  - sufficient volume needed for model convergence
  - consider several alternative categorizations
- Splines may be useful for continuous risk





## **If I knew then what I know now....**

---

- Define application; link to success
- Prepare the culture
- Know thy data
- **Fit models and interpret**
- Translate models to decisions





# Non-convergence problems

---

- Caused by categorization
  - insufficient volume in categorized levels
  - near perfect correlation between variables
- Working with large # of highly correlated factors
  - apply principal components analysis first
  - test families of factors one at a time to find most predictive member (eg # of late pays in 60 days may be most predictive of "late pay" family)





# Censoring large losses

---

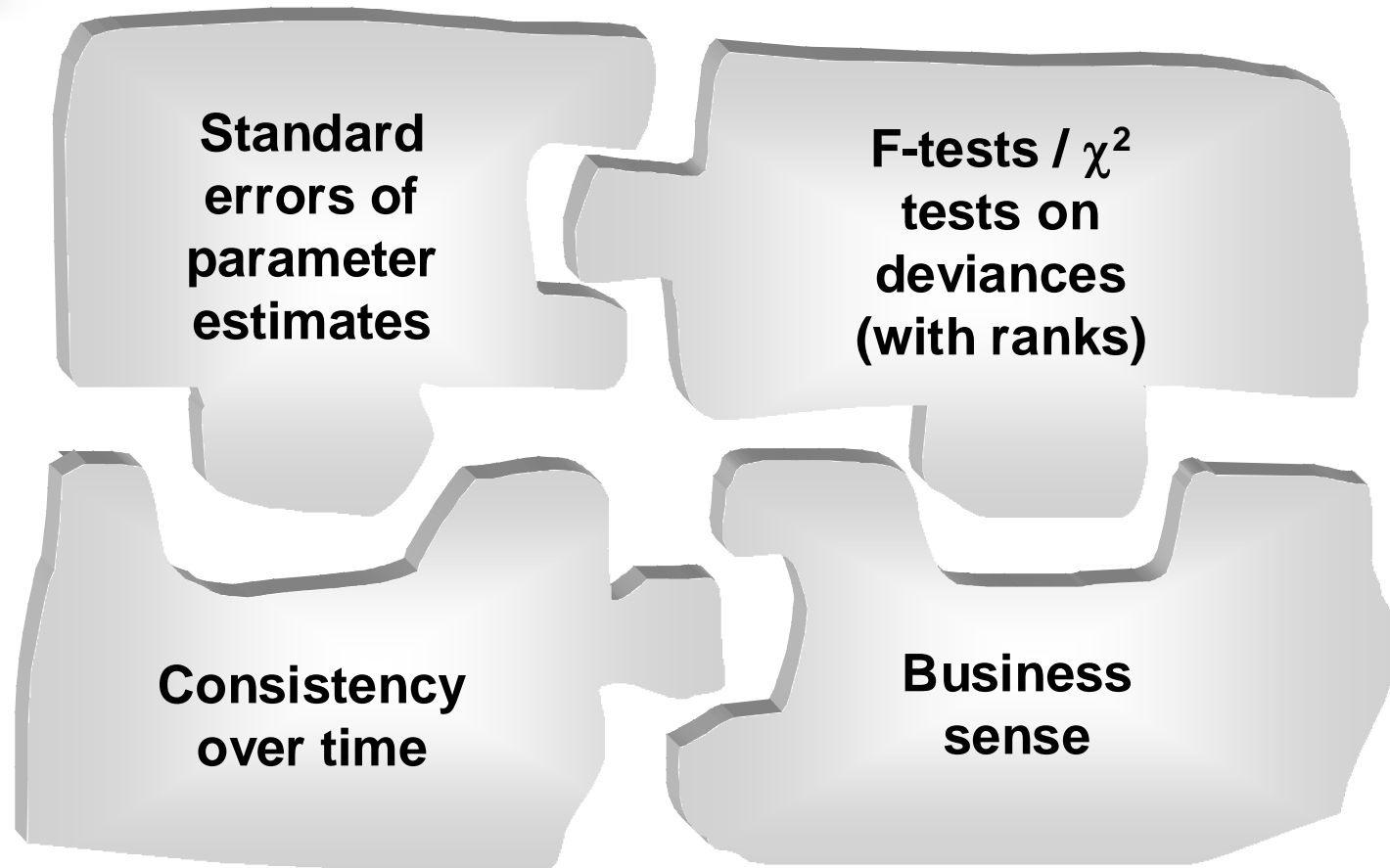
- Sensitivity test
  - super-impose graphical results of same severity model with various large loss thresholds
  - identify where relativities may become volatile
- Consider modeling separately the propensity to have a large claim (must have lots of large claims)





# Model iteration

---





# Counter-intuitive effects

---

- Customer behavior in selection (eg deductible, limits)
- Discounts (airbags, fire alarm, defensive driver)
- Traditional effect changes when new variables added (eg territory when add geodemographics)
- Significant effect on a claim type that seems unrelated





# Treatment of counter-intuitive effects

---

- Live with it
- Investigate with and without factor
- Restrict (offset) model and allow other correlated factors to compensate
- Make judgmental selections



# Missing values

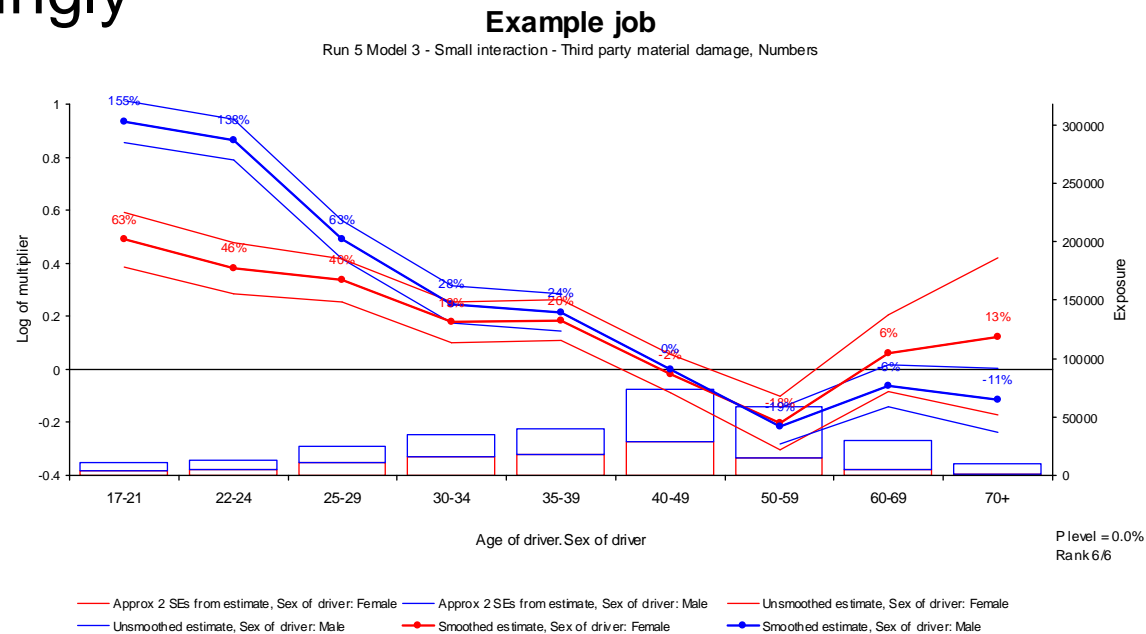
- Address before modeling
  - try to populate (eg can class code identify gender?)
  - remove if negligible
  - limit data to alleviate problem
  - re-categorize if near perfect correlation will cause convergence problems
- Model with and without factor to understand possible distortion on other correlated factors





# Interactions

- Factor effect that varies according to the levels of another factor (eg gender differential varies by age)
- Worth investigating but in practice not always obvious
- Consider volume per cell and re-categorize accordingly

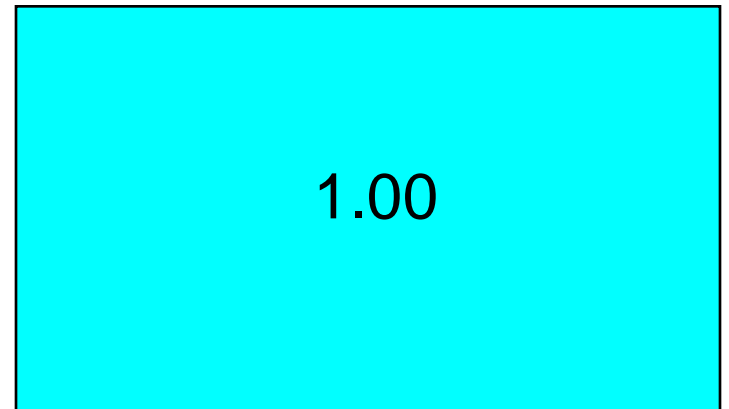
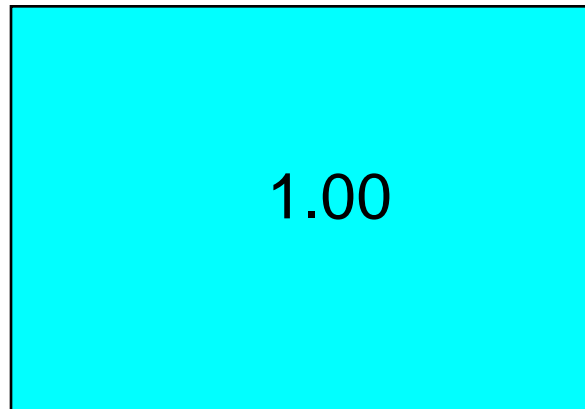
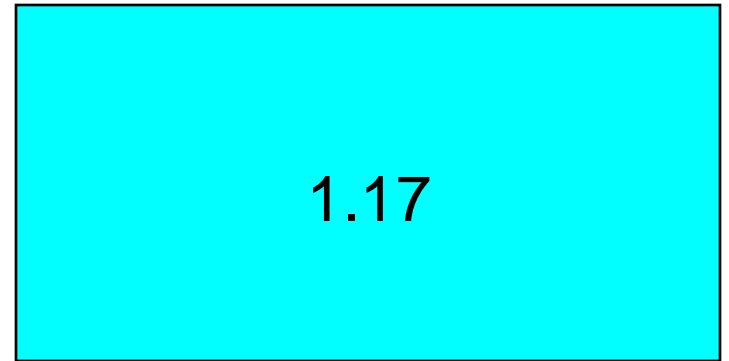
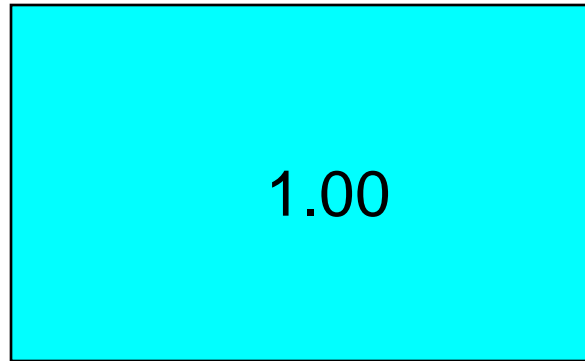




# Interactions

Group	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Factor	0.54	0.65	0.73	0.85	0.92	0.96	1.00	1.08	1.19	1.26	1.36	1.43	1.56

Age	Factor
17	2.52
18	2.05
19	1.97
20	1.85
21-23	1.75
24-26	1.54
27-30	1.42
31-35	1.20
36-40	1.00
41-45	0.93
46-50	0.84
51-60	0.76
60+	0.78





# Scoring in ratemaking

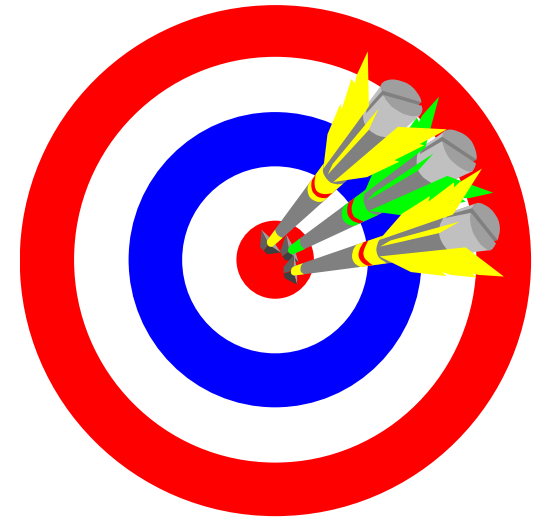
---

- Derive product of several (multiplicative) factors
- Remove log link function and transform to score range such as (0, 100), thereby preserving risk order
- Categorize this score and re-introduce to GLM



# Profitability scoring

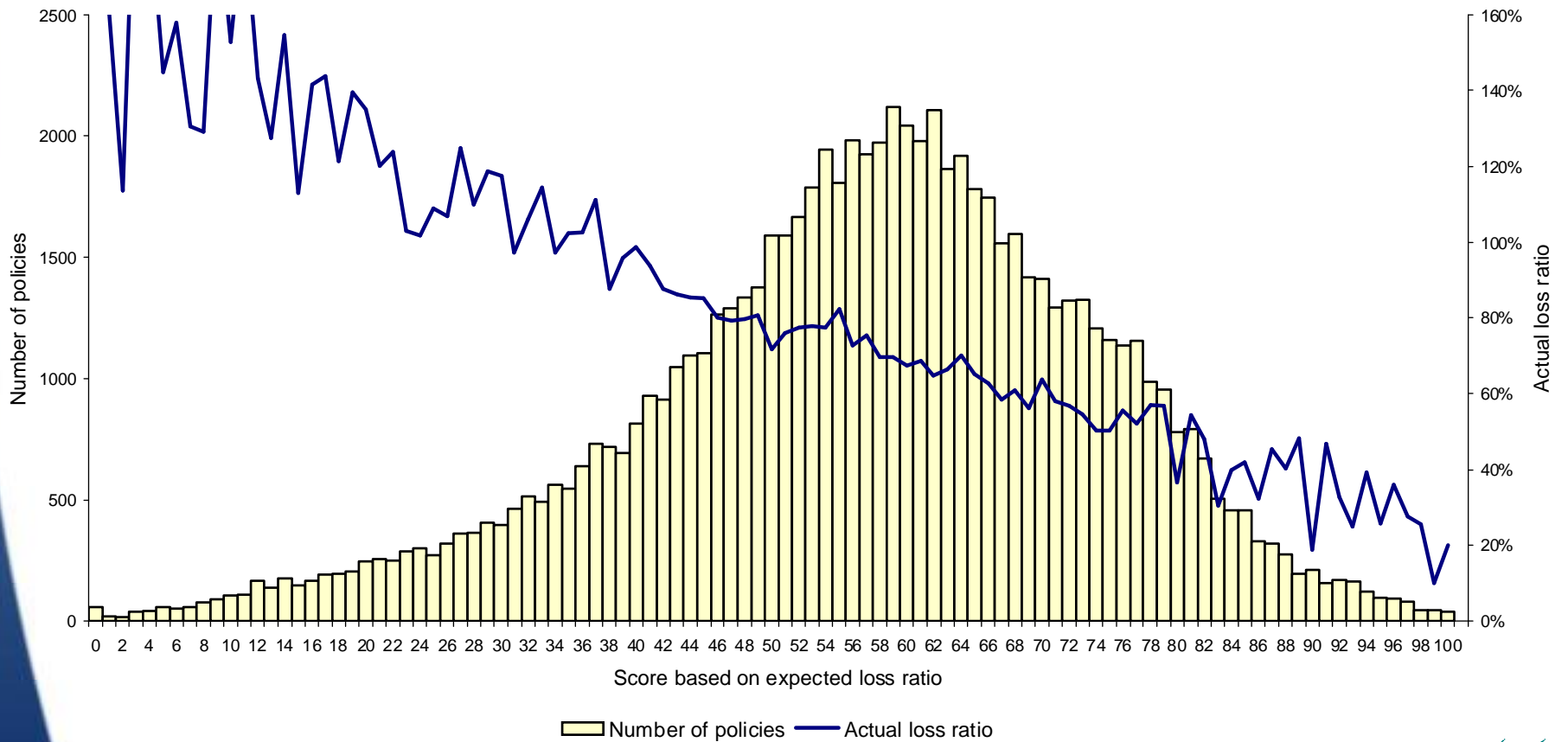
- Construct profitability score based on expected loss ratio
  - risk premium model offset by current premiums
  - banded into discrete bands if desired
- Profitability score can be used to target sections of a portfolio





# Profitability scoring

## Distribution of score



# **If I knew then what I know now....**

---

- Define application; link to success
- Prepare the culture
- Know thy data
- Fit models and interpret
- Translate models to decisions





# **Translate models to decisions**

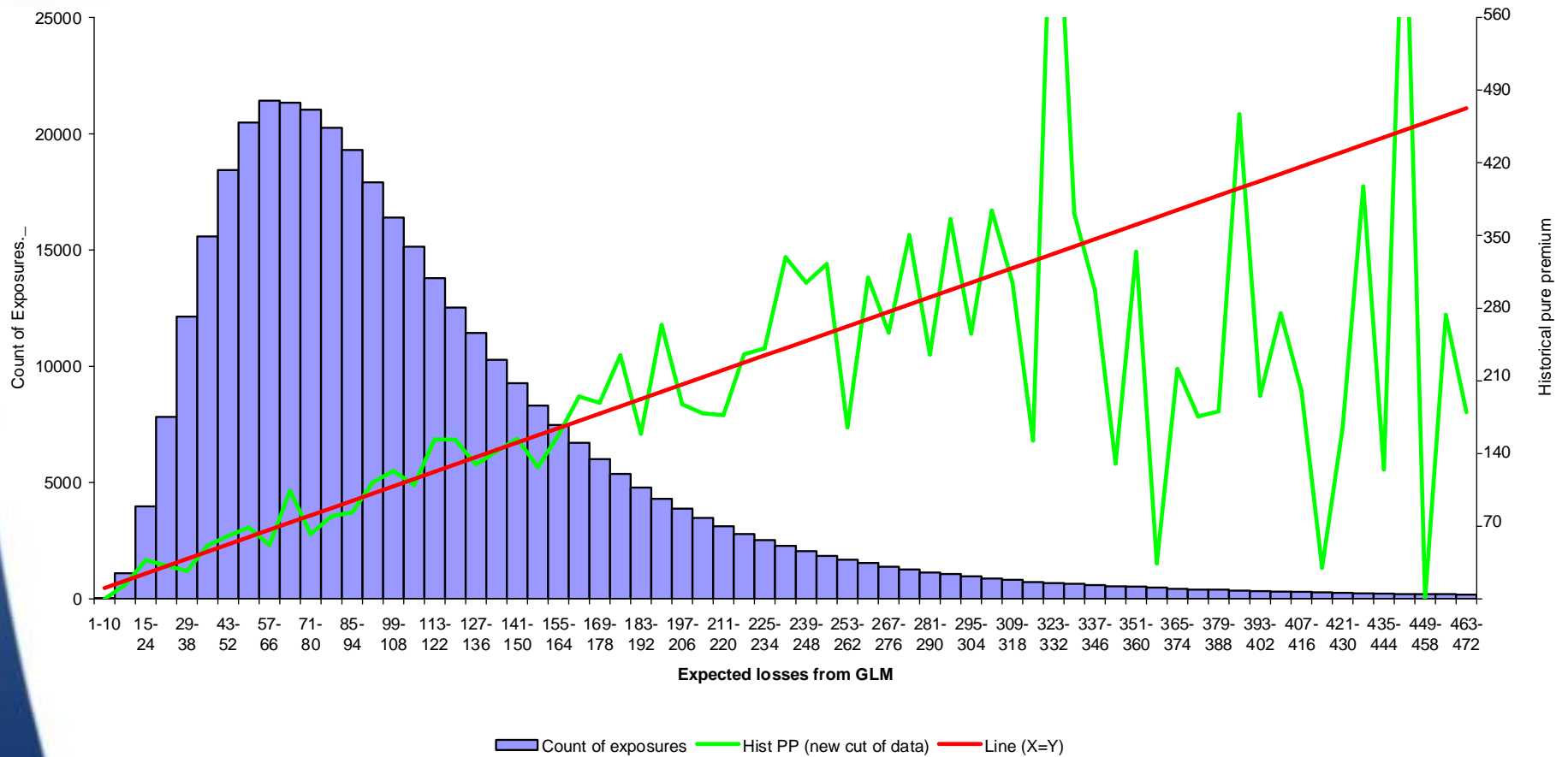
---

- Validate model
- Compare to current rates
- Consider competitor rates and profitability
- Consider retention/conversion and price optimization





# Model validation

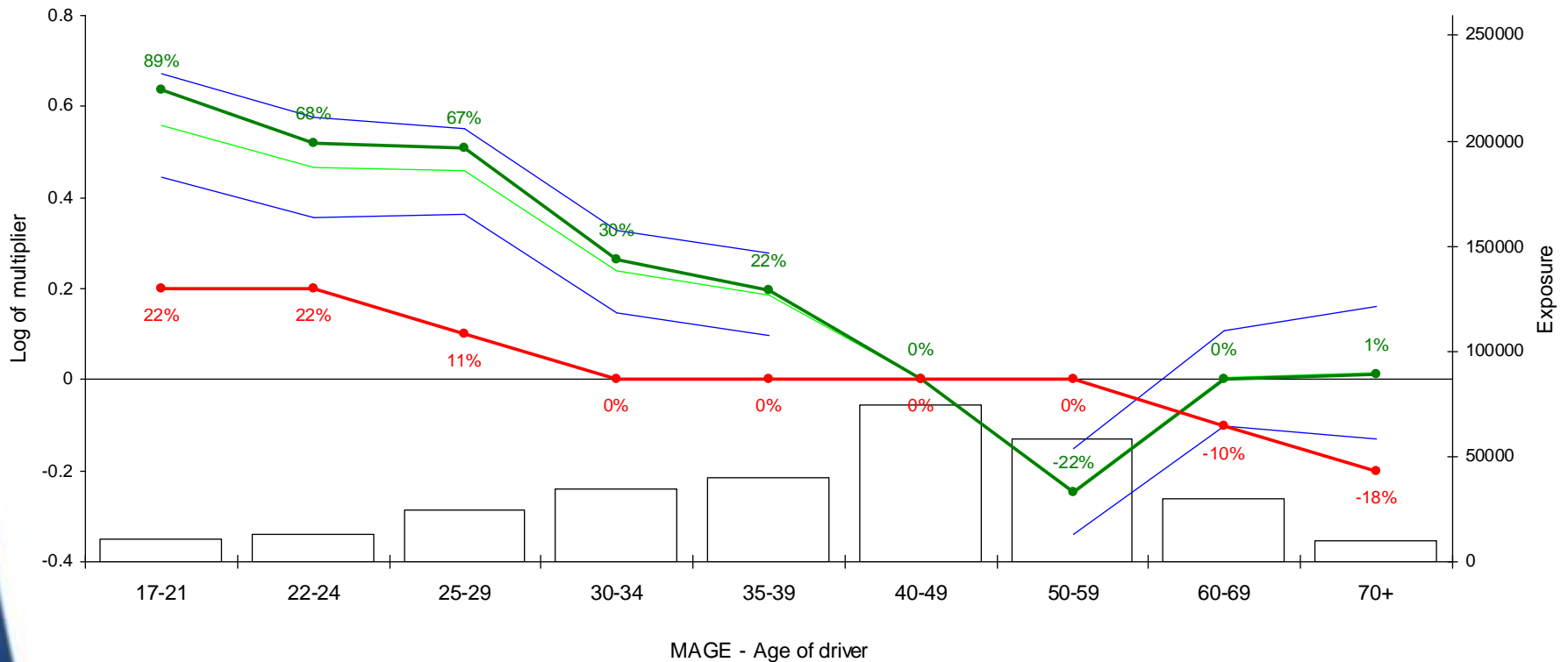




# Compare to current rates (by factor)

## Demonstration job

Run 10 Model 2 - Third party material, standard risk premium run - Unsmoothed standard risk premium model



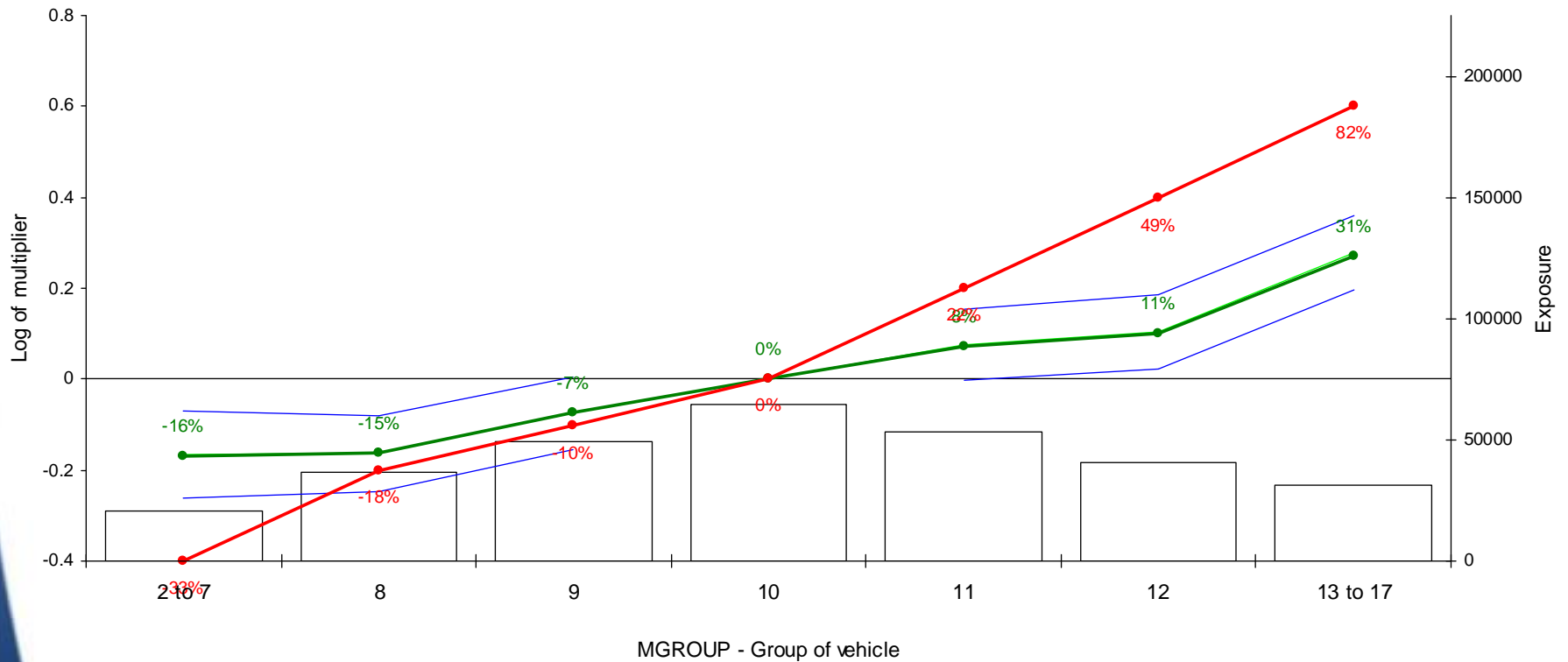
— Approx 2 SEs from unsmoothed estimate — Unsmoothed unrestricted estimate — Unsmoothed restricted estimate — Current rating structure



# Compare to current rates (by factor)

## Demonstration job

Run 10 Model 2 - Third party material, standard risk premium run - Unsmoothed standard risk premium model



— Approx 2 SEs from unsmoothed estimate — Unsmoothed unrestricted estimate — Unsmoothed restricted estimate — Current rating structure





## Compare to current rates (by factor)

---

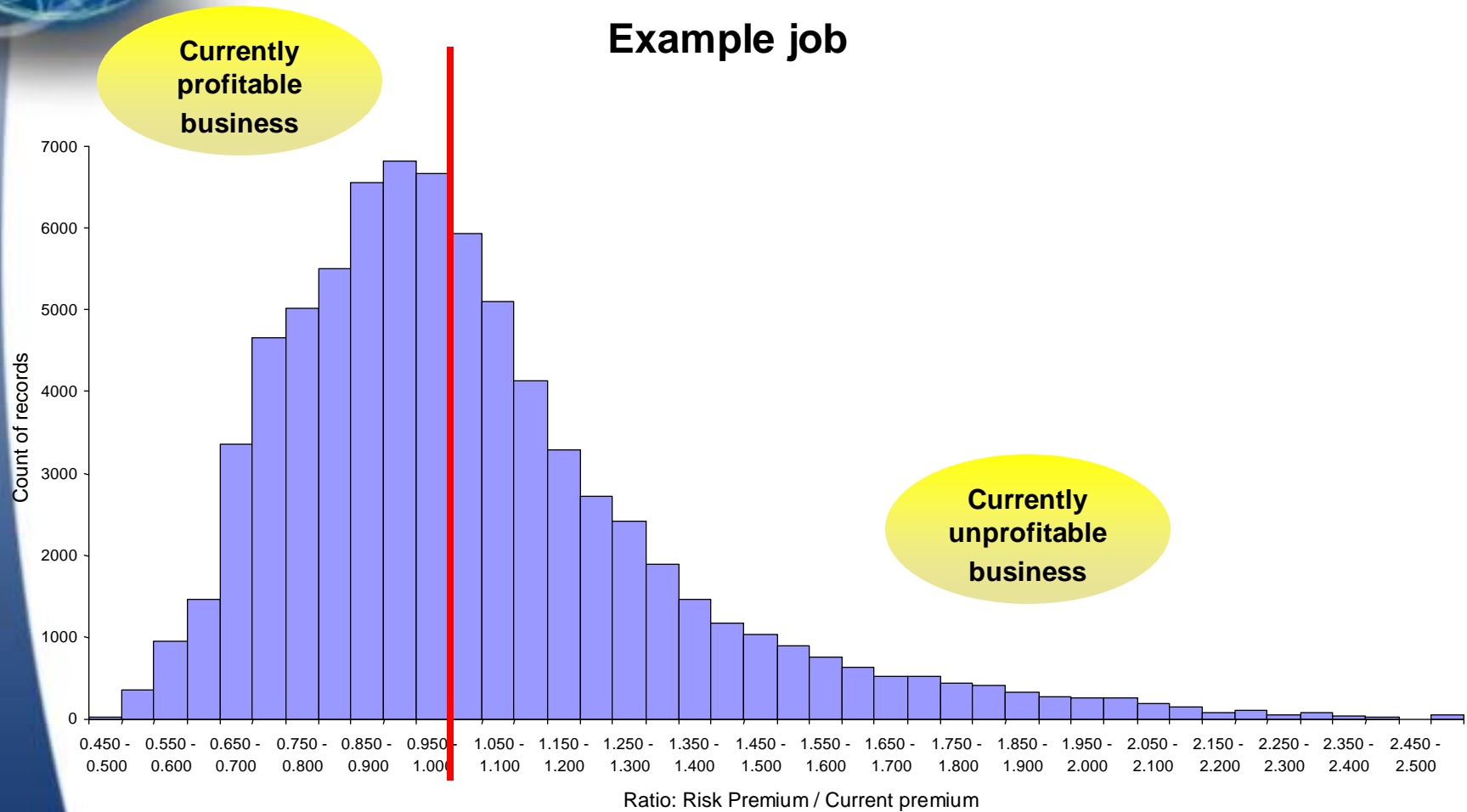
- Difficult if factors (or categorization of factors) differ greatly between current and theoretical model
- Difficult if current rates and theoretical model are not both multiplicative
  - can fit proxy model to non-multiplicative piece
  - can fit separate "sub-models", offset each subsequent model by previous model results and iterate





# Compare to current rates (in total)

## Example job

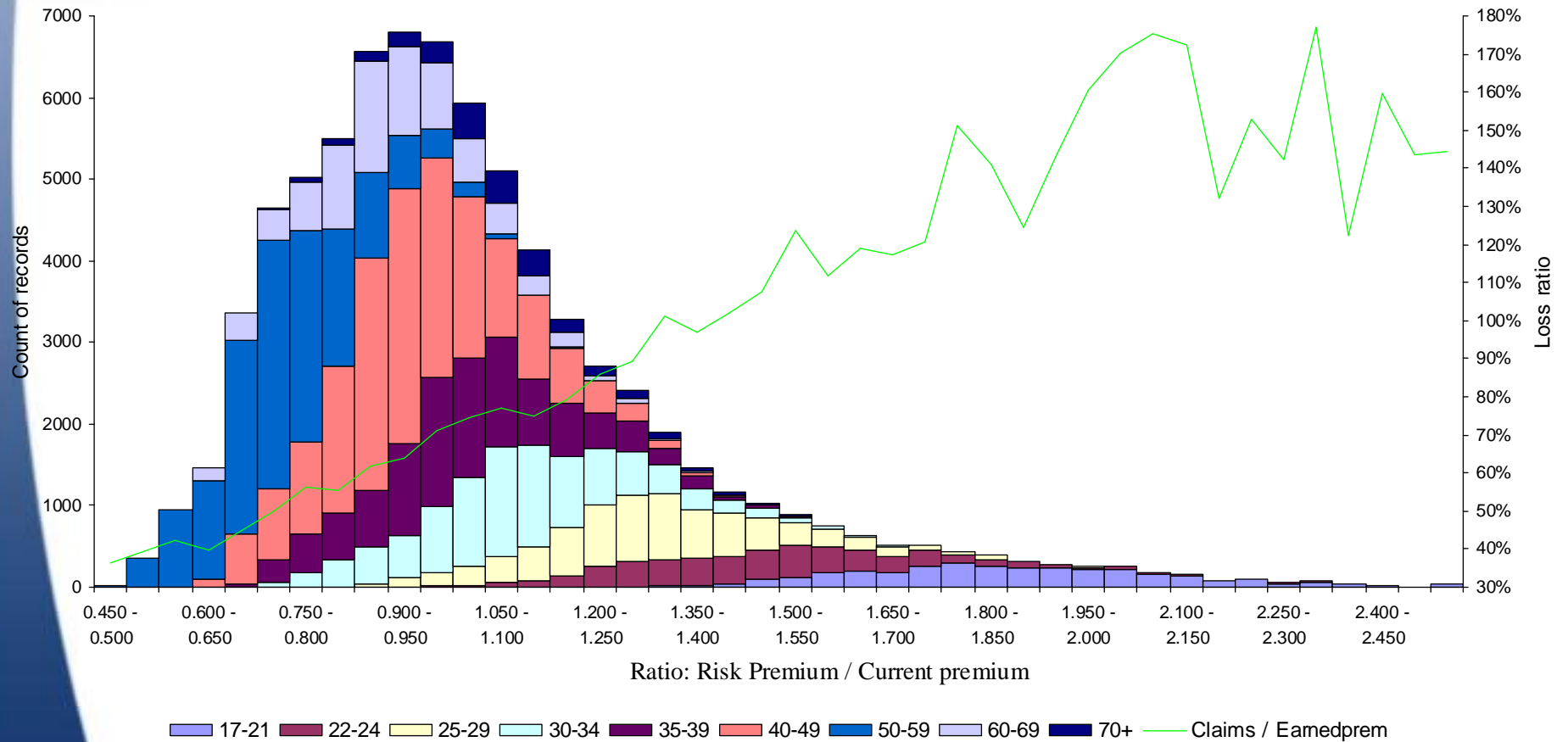




# Compare to current rates (in total)

## Example job

Age of driver

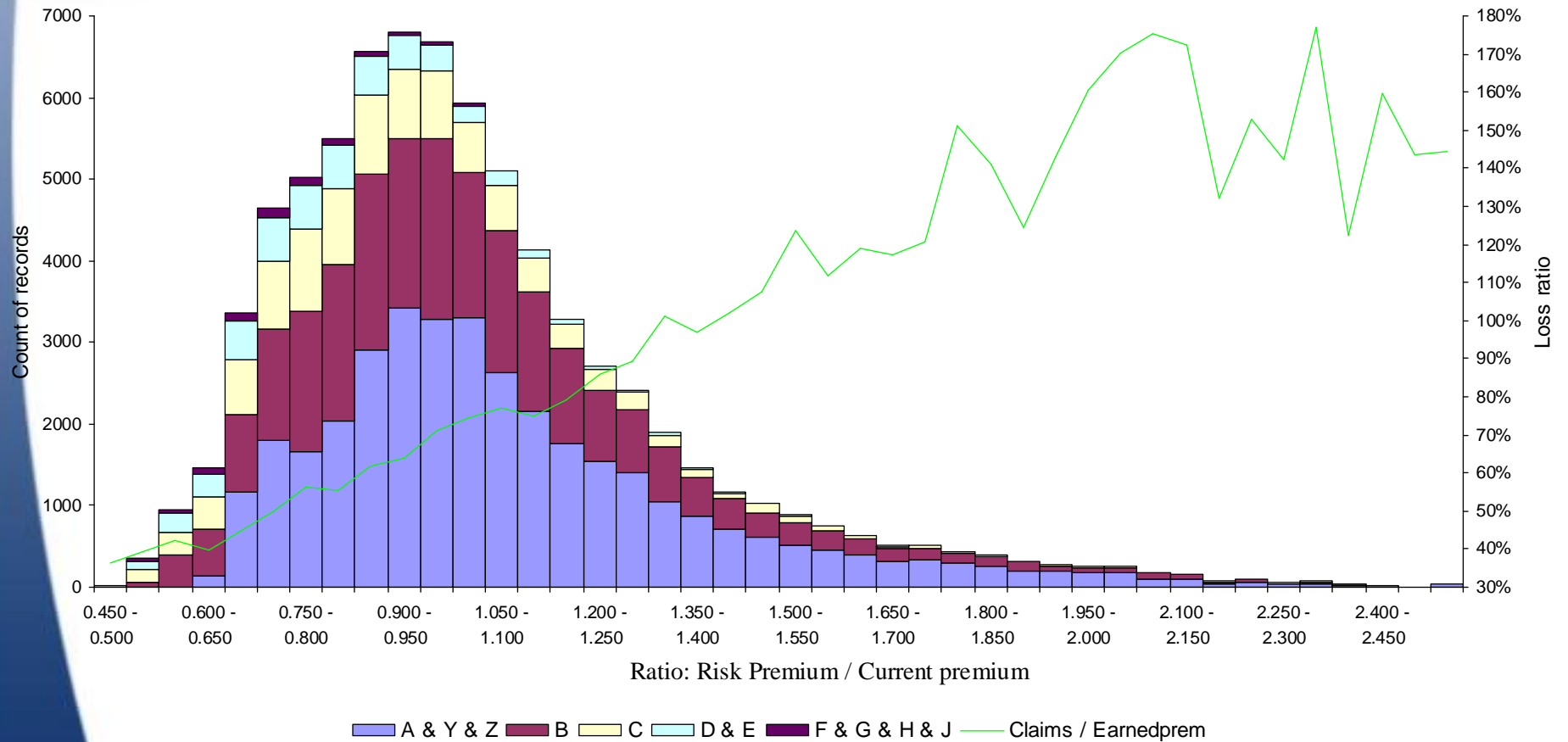




# Compare to current rates (in total)

## Example job

Class of vehicle

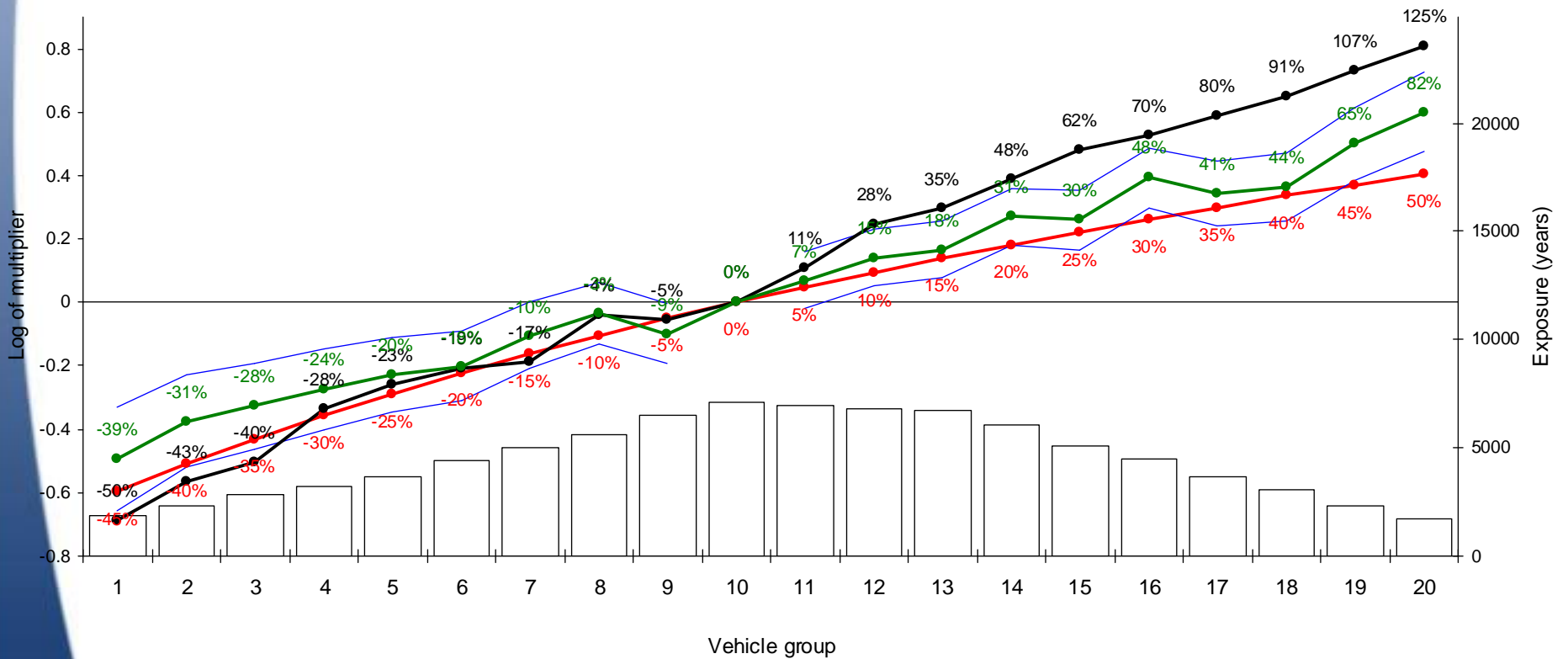




# Consider the competitive position

## Example of competitor analysis

Third party cover



—●— Current tariff —●— Approx 95% confidence interval —●— Third cheapest market quote —●— Smoothed estimate

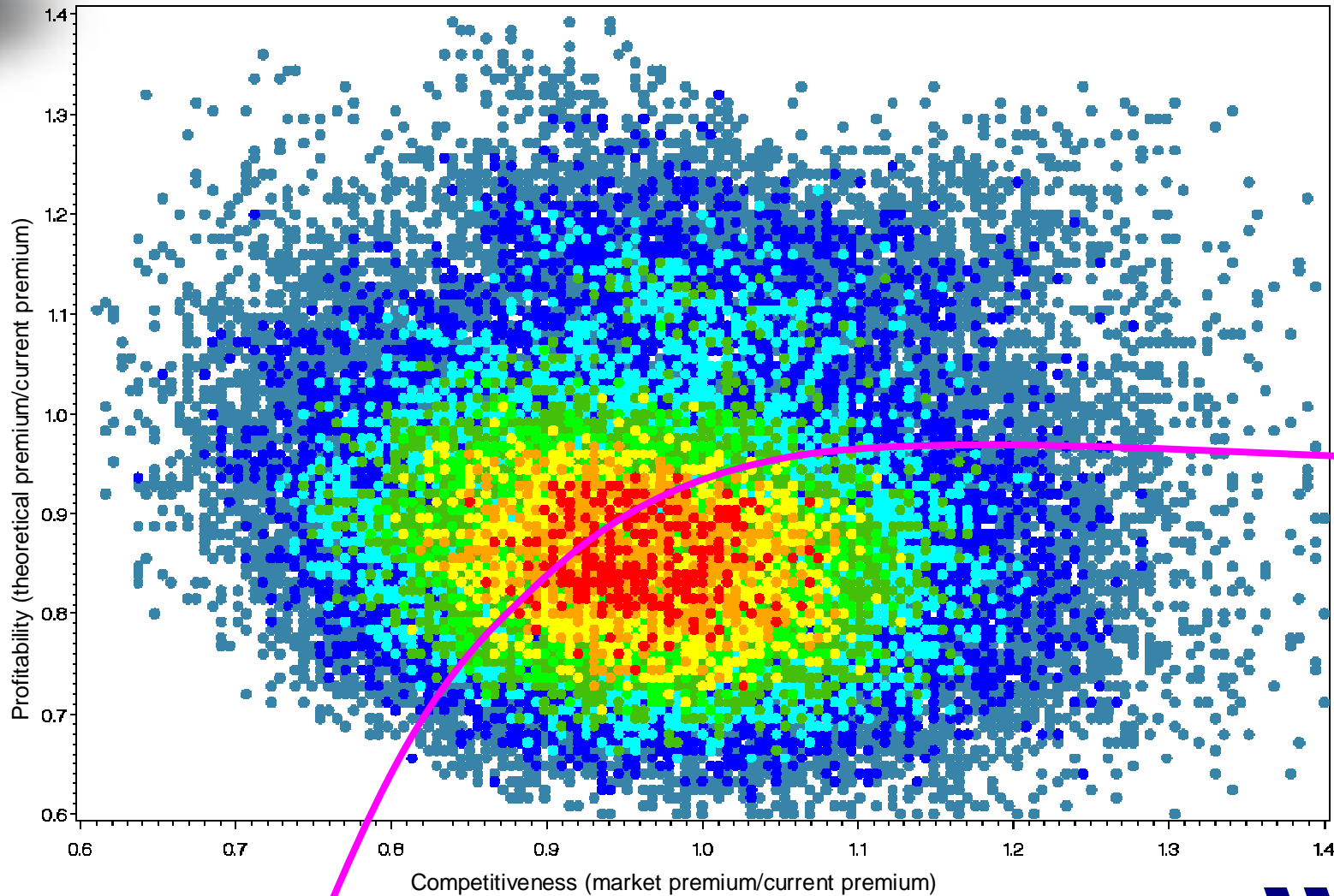
P value = 0.0%  
Rank 9/11





# Consider the competitive position

Profitable



Competitive





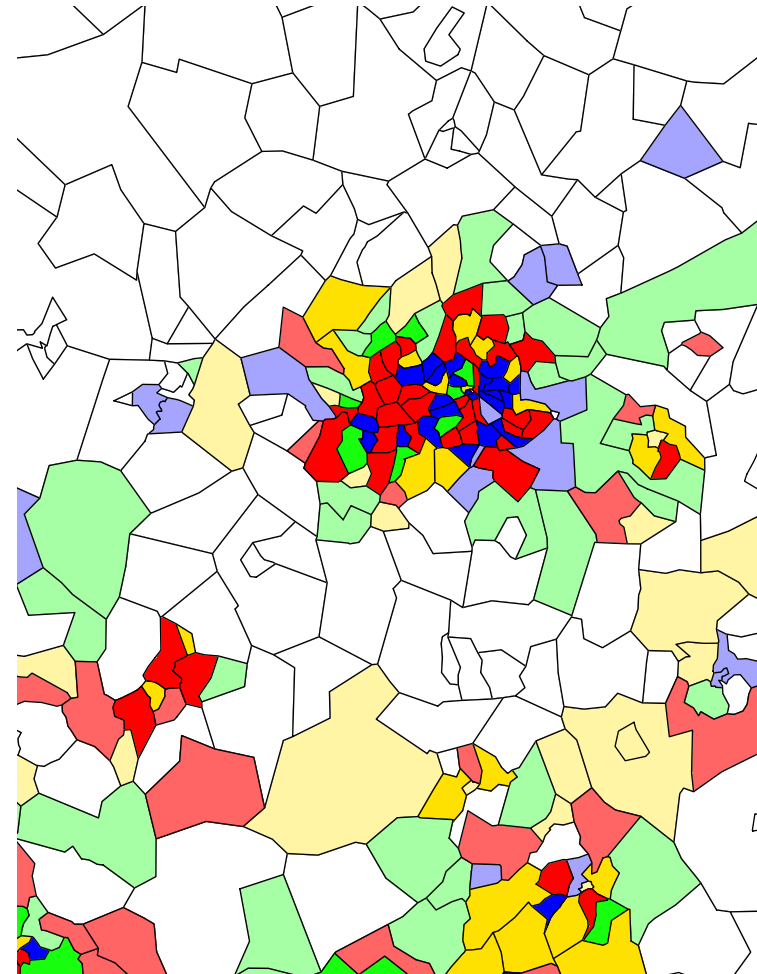
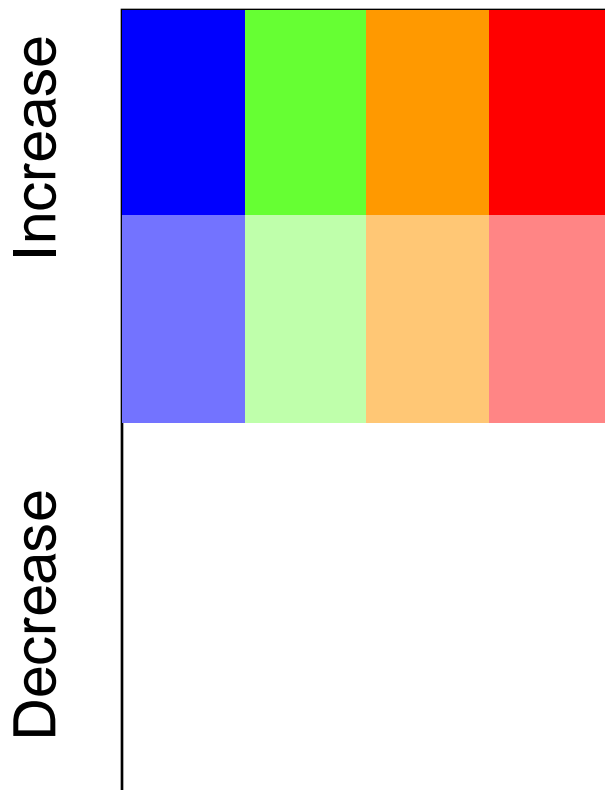


# Comparing model results with existing rates and the market

Theoretically desired change in premium

Our premium vs market

Below Above



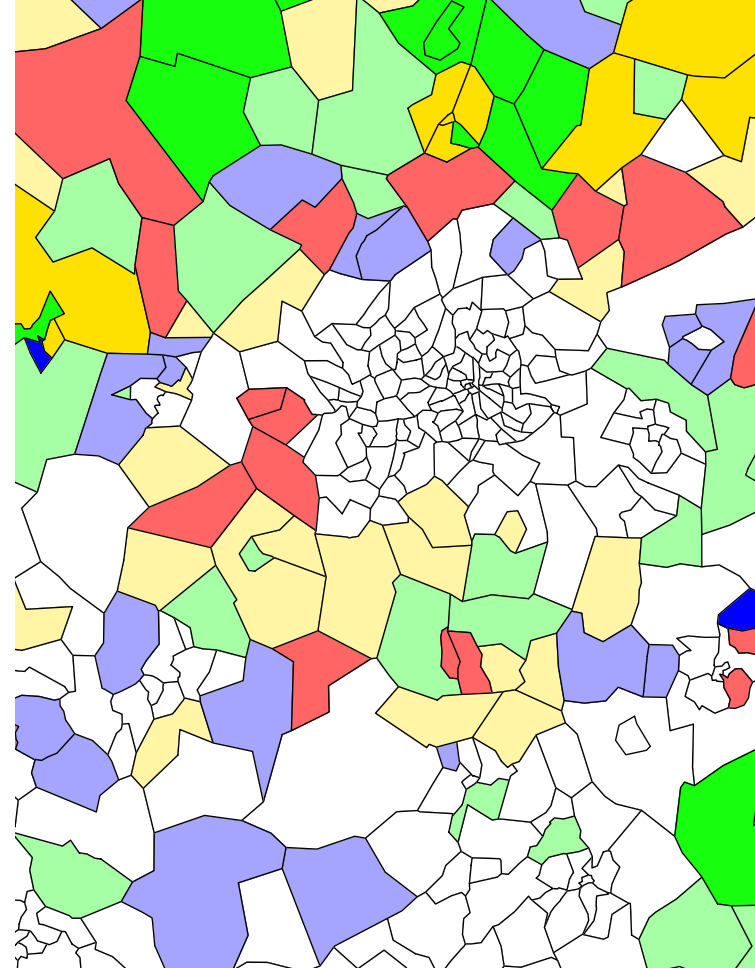
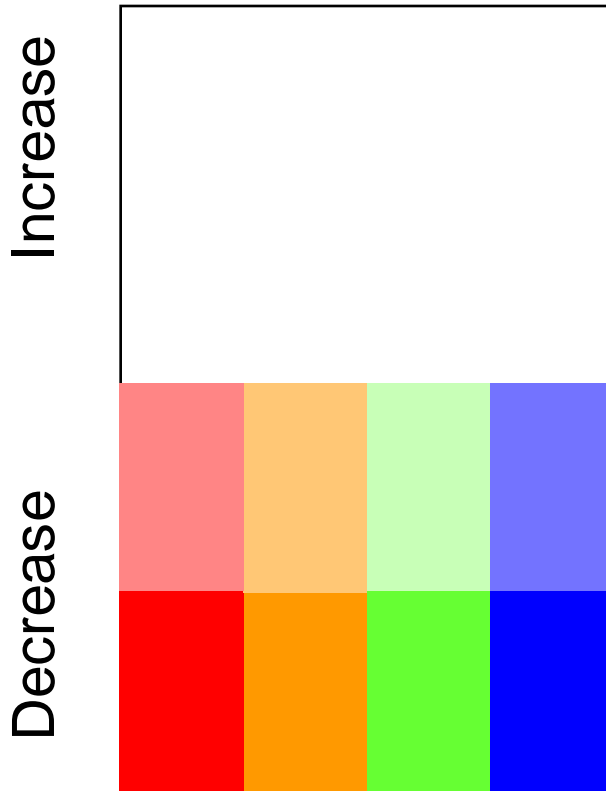


# Comparing model results with existing rates and the market

Theoretically desired change in premium

Our premium vs market

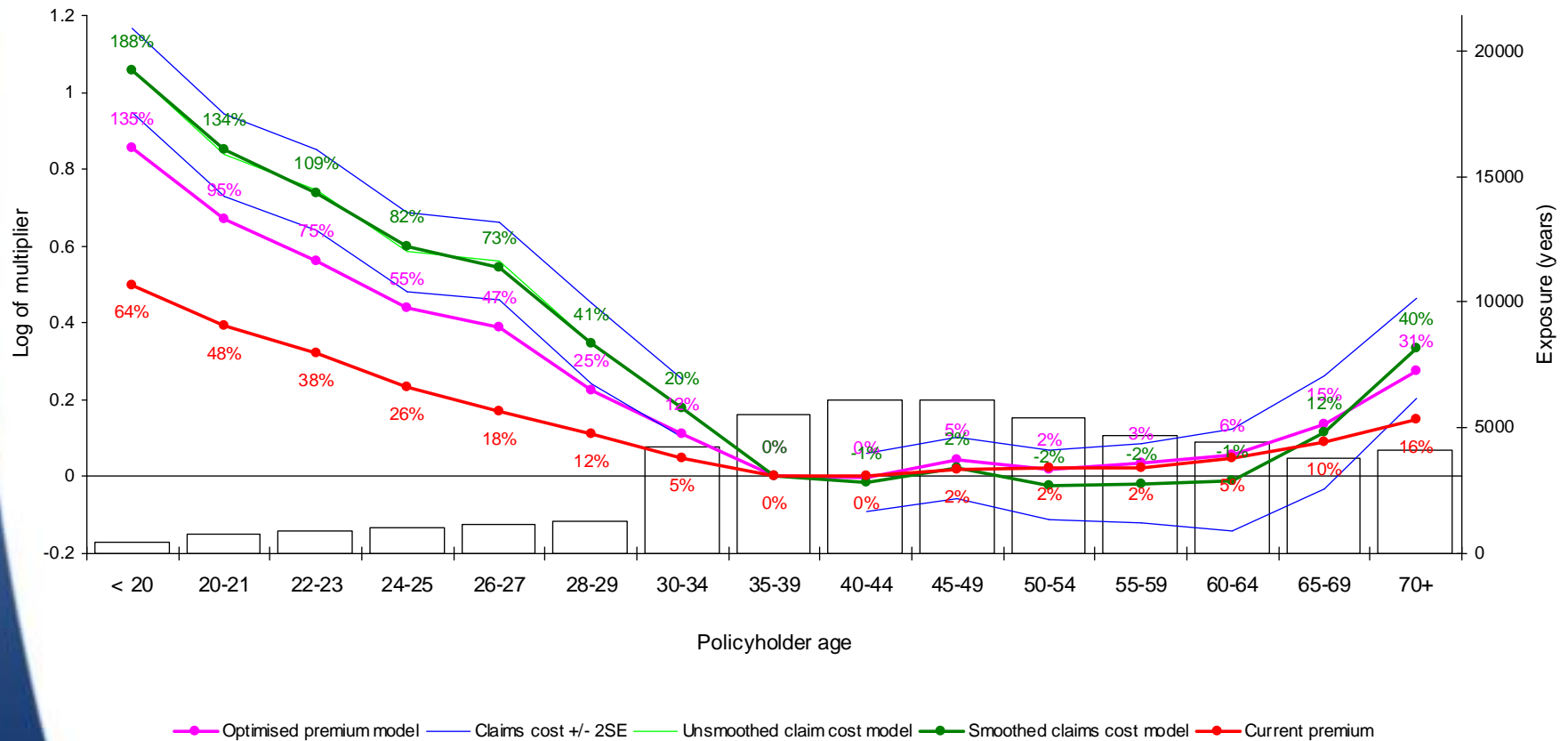
Below Above



# Price optimization

## Optimized premium

Comparison with claims model and current premium



# PL-3 GLM Practical Applications

Appendix on data preparation  
for ratemaking



[WWW.WATSONWYATT.COM](http://WWW.WATSONWYATT.COM)

# Link policy/claims information

- Identify sources of data (may be various formats)
- Develop plan to link/merge
- Consider volume of data
  - aim for at least 50K earned exposures (depends on # of variables to be analyzed)
  - combine multiple years, states
- Identify claim types to be modeled (sufficient claims volume in each?)





## Define record

---

- Record: a risk for a policy period or portion of policy period for which risk has not changed
  - risk: item, policy, account?
  - method of organization (calendar accident yr, policy yr)
  - treatment of mid-term changes and cancellations
  - treatment of multiple claims for an exposure period





# **Gather statistics by claim type**

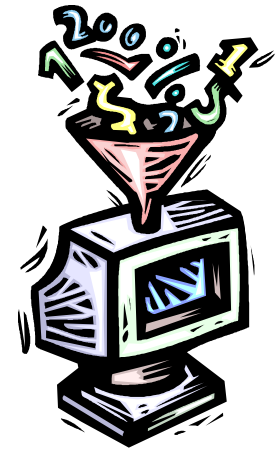
---

- Key statistics
  - earned exposure
  - incurred claim count
  - incurred losses at most recent reserve estimate (with lag for IBNR)
- Preferred: premium @ current rate level
- Other considerations: ALAE? developed losses? how riders are considered in both premium and loss?



# Gather explanatory variables

- Characteristics at time risk was exposed, categorized according to today's definitions
- Dummy variables (eg time, geography)
- Considerations
  - consistent coding
  - integrity in data collection
  - sufficient claims volume
  - process to procure and append external data







# Calendar-accident or Policy year?

Policy #	Start	End	Pol year	Gender	Age	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16853165	01/21/03	01/20/04	2003	M	45	...
16853166	06/15/03	06/14/04	2003	F	37	...
16853167	11/19/03	11/18/04	2003	F	24	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Policy #	Start	End	Pol year	Cal year	Gender	Age	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16853165	01/21/03	<b>12/31/03</b>	2003	<b>2003</b>	M	45	...
16853165	<b>01/01/04</b>	01/20/04	2003	<b>2004</b>	M	45	...
16853166	06/15/03	<b>12/31/03</b>	2003	<b>2003</b>	F	37	...
16853166	<b>01/01/04</b>	06/14/04	2003	<b>2004</b>	F	37	...
16853167	11/19/03	<b>12/31/03</b>	2003	<b>2003</b>	F	24	...
16853167	<b>01/01/04</b>	11/18/04	2003	<b>2004</b>	F	24	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...



# Other considerations

- Changes during experience period (u/w, legal)
- Splitting records into separate datasets
  - randomly for model validation
  - for modeling separately (eg owners/renters)



# Data cleaning

- Missing values
- Negative or zero statistics
- Illogical combinations
  - claim count with no loss
  - loss with no claim count
  - claim count with no exposure



**PL-3  
GLM Practical  
Applications**

**2006 CAS Seminar on  
Ratemaking**

**Claudine Modlin, FCAS**

**Watson Wyatt Worldwide**



[WWW.WATSONWYATT.COM](http://WWW.WATSONWYATT.COM)

