

GLM III: Advanced Modeling Strategy

2005 CAS Seminar on Predictive Modeling

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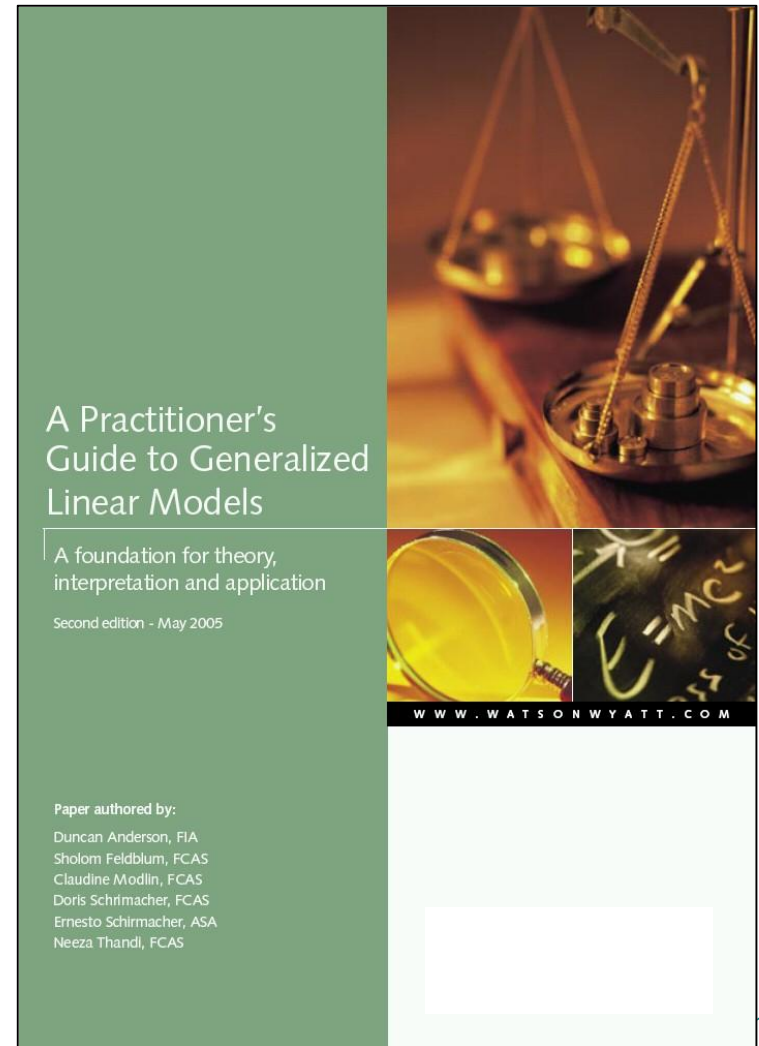
Agenda

- Introduction
- Testing the link function
- The Tweedie distribution
- Splines
- Reference models
- Aliasing / near aliasing
- Combining models across claim types
- Restricted models



"A Practitioner's Guide to GLMs"

- 2004 CAS Discussion Paper Program
- Discusses
 - testing the link function
 - the Tweedie distribution
 - aliasing / near aliasing
 - combining models across claim types
 - restricted models
- Copies available here





Generalized linear models

$$E[Y_i] = \mu_i = g^{-1}(\sum X_{ij}\beta_j + \xi_i)$$

$$\text{Var}[Y_i] = \phi \cdot V(\mu_i)/\omega_i$$

- Consider all factors simultaneously
- Provide statistical diagnostics
- Allow for nature of random process
- Robust and transparent
- Increasingly a global industry standard





Generalized linear models

$$E[\underline{Y}] = \underline{\mu} = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X} \cdot \underline{\beta} + \underline{\xi})$$

$$\text{Var}[\underline{Y}] = \phi \cdot V(\underline{\mu}) / \underline{\omega}$$



Generalized linear models

$$E[Y] = \underline{\mu} = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X} \cdot \underline{\beta} + \underline{\xi})$$

Y-variate

Link function

Design matrix

Parameter estimates

Offset term

Generalized linear models

$$E[Y] = \underline{\mu} = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X} \cdot \underline{\beta} + \underline{\xi})$$

Observed thing
(data)

Some function
(user defined)

Some matrix based
on data
(user defined)

Parameters
to be
estimated
(the answer!)

Known
effects

Generalized linear models

$$\text{Var}[Y] = \phi \cdot V(\mu) / \omega$$

Scale parameter

Variance function

Prior weights

- Usually assume exponential family, eg
- $\phi = \sigma^2$ (estimated), $V(x) = 1 \Rightarrow \text{Var}[Y_i] = \sigma^2$ Normal
- $\phi = 1$ (specified), $V(x) = x \Rightarrow \text{Var}[Y_i] = \mu_i$ Poisson
- $\phi = k$ (estimated), $V(x) = x^2 \Rightarrow \text{Var}[Y_i] = k\mu_i^2$ Gamma

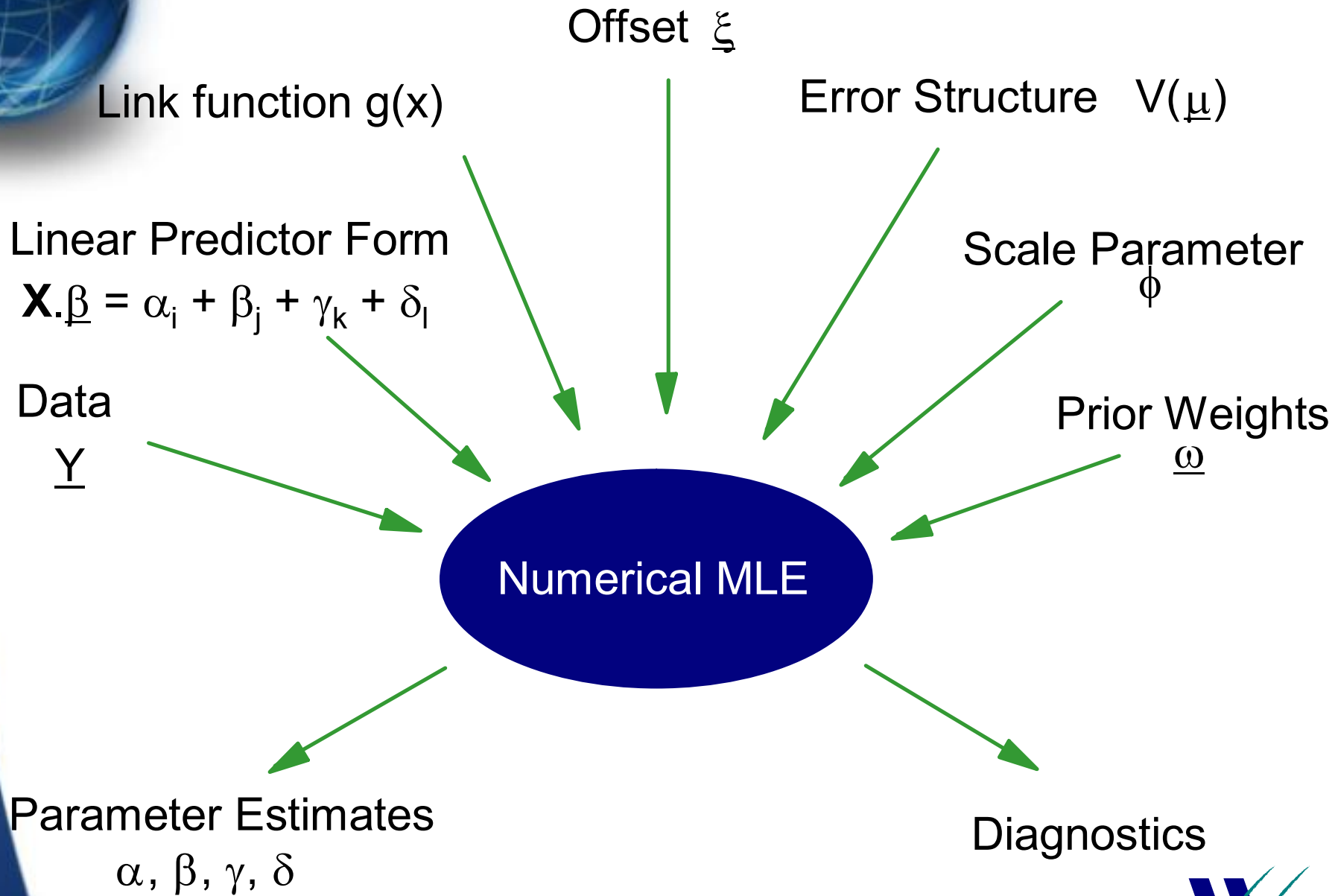




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Model testing

- Use only those factors which are predictive
 - standard errors of parameter estimates
 - F tests / χ^2 tests on deviances
 - stepwise approach (helpful if used with care)
 - consistency over time
 - human intuition
- Make sure the model is reasonable
 - variance function: residual plots (histograms / Q-Q / residual vs fitted value etc)
 - outliers: leverage / Cook's distance
 - link function: Box-Cox



Box-Cox link function investigation

- GLM structure is

$$E[\underline{Y}] = \underline{\mu} = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X} \cdot \underline{\beta} + \underline{\xi}) \quad \text{Var}[\underline{Y}] = \phi \cdot V(\underline{\mu}) / \underline{\omega}$$

- Box Cox transforms defines

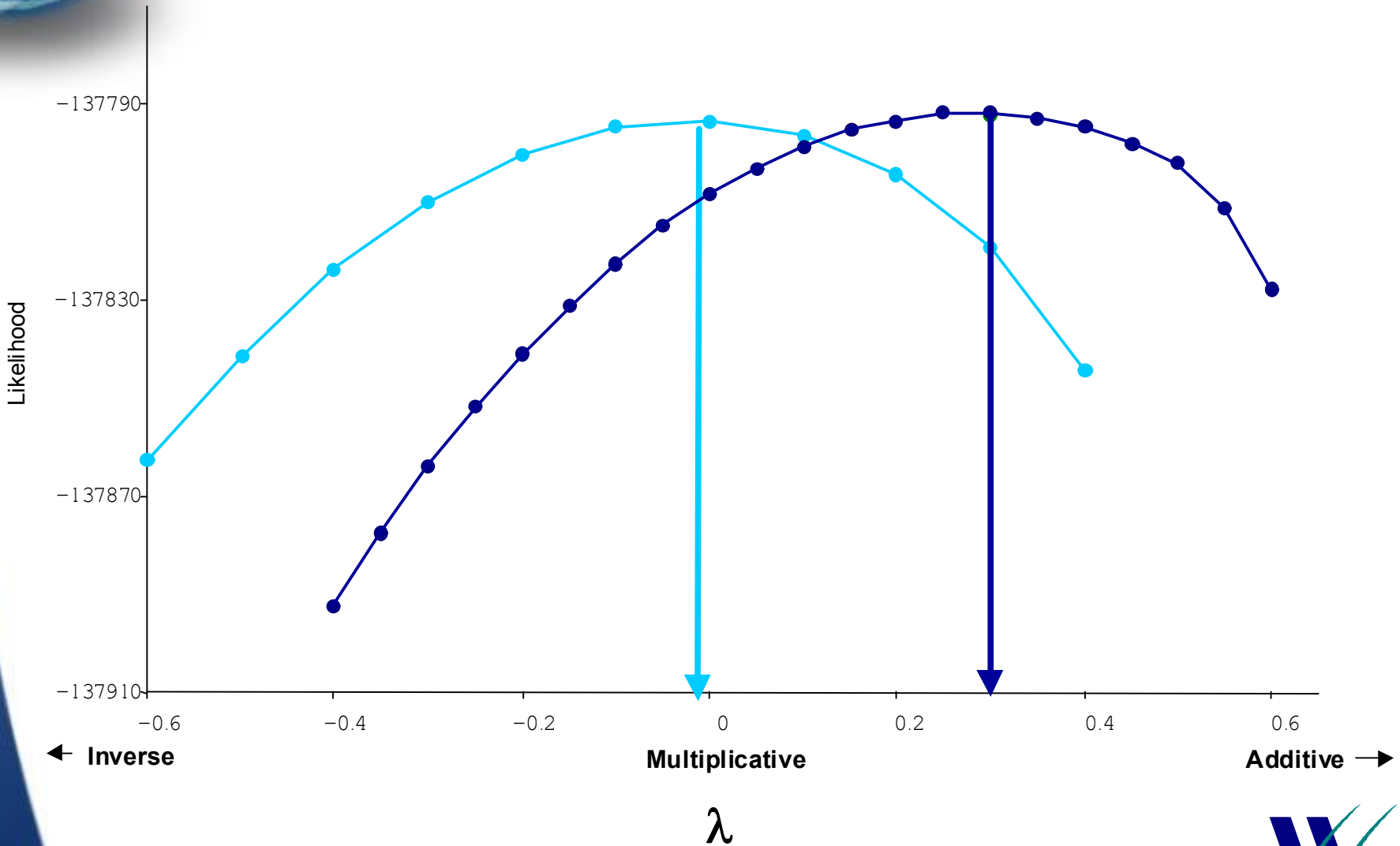
$$g(x) = (x^\lambda - 1) / \lambda \text{ for } \lambda \neq 0, \ln(x) \text{ for } \lambda = 0$$

- $\lambda = 1 \Rightarrow g(x) = x - 1 \Rightarrow$ additive (with base level shift)
- $\lambda \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow g(x) \rightarrow \ln(x) \Rightarrow$ multiplicative (via maths)
- $\lambda = -1 \Rightarrow g(x) = 1 - 1/x \Rightarrow$ inverse (with base level shift)
- Try different values of λ and measure goodness of fit to see which fits experience best



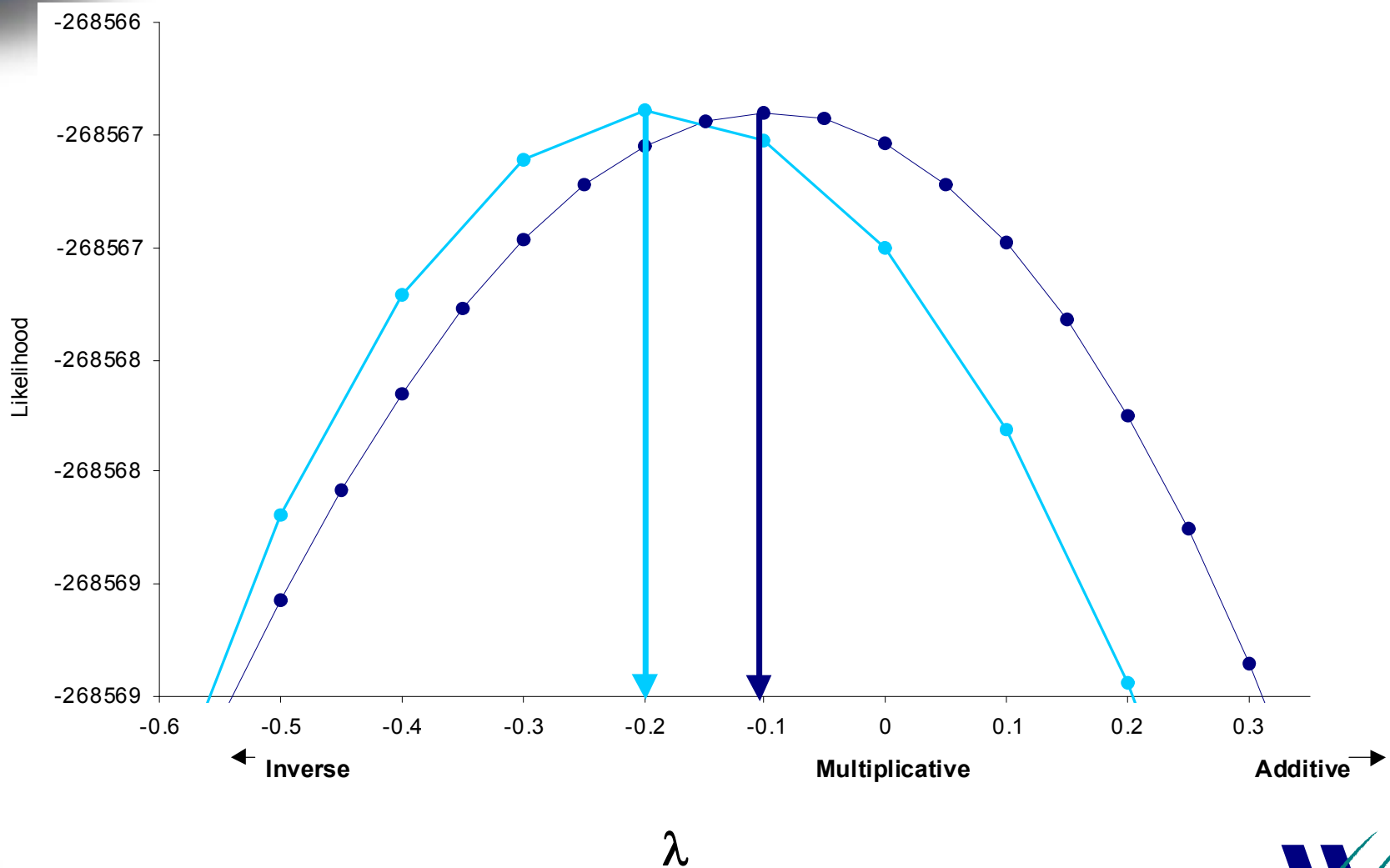
Box-Cox link function investigation

Auto third party property damage frequencies



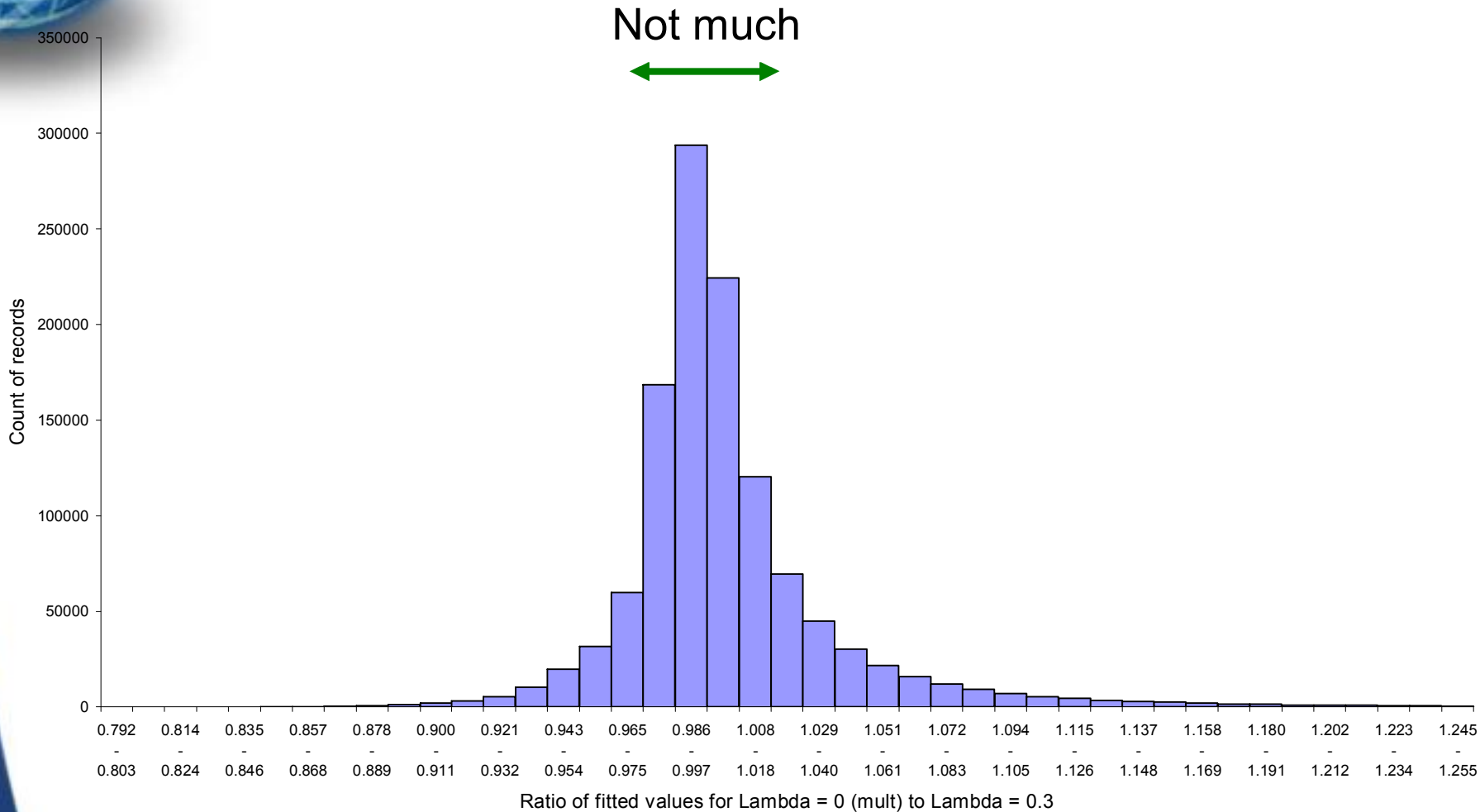
Box-Cox link function investigation

Auto third party property damage average amounts



Box-Cox link function investigation

Comparing fitted values of different link functions





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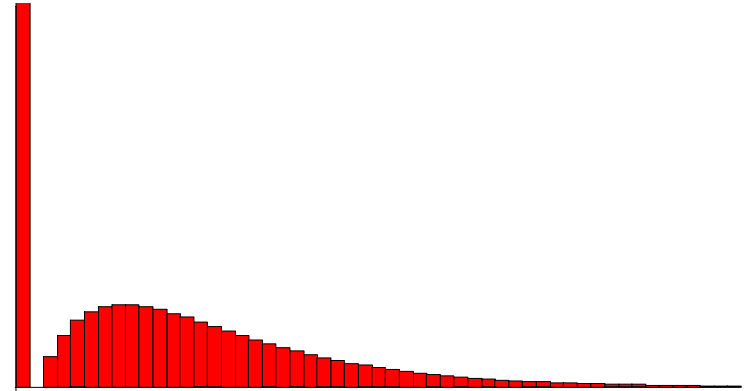
Standard approach

BI	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 1
PD	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 2
MED	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 3
COL	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 4
OTC	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 5



Tweedie distributions

- Incurred losses have a point mass at zero and then a continuous distribution
- Poisson and gamma not suited to this
- Tweedie distribution can have point mass at zero and parameters which can alter the shape to be like Poisson and gamma above zero



$$f_Y(y; \theta, \lambda, \alpha) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\{(\lambda \omega)^{1-\alpha} \kappa_{\alpha}(-1/y)\}^n}{\Gamma(-n\alpha) n! y} \cdot \exp\{\lambda \omega [\theta_0 y - \kappa_{\alpha}(\theta_0)]\} \quad \text{for } y > 0$$

$$p(Y = 0) = \exp\{-\lambda \omega \kappa_{\alpha}(\theta_0)\}$$





Tweedie distributions

Tweedie: $\phi = k$, $V(x) = x^p \Rightarrow \text{Var}[Y] = k\mu^p$

- $p=1$ corresponds to Poisson, $p=2$ to gamma
- Defines a valid distribution for $p < 0$, $1 < p < 2$, $p > 2$
- Can be considered as Poisson/gamma process for $1 < p < 2$
- Need to estimate both k and p when fitting models
- often estimate a where $p = (2-a)/(1-a)$
- Typical values of p for insurance incurred claims around, or just under, 1.5



Generalised linear models

$$\text{Var}[\underline{Y}] = \phi \cdot V(\underline{\mu}) / \underline{\omega}$$

Normal: $\phi = \sigma^2$, $V(x) = 1 \Rightarrow \text{Var}[\underline{Y}] = \sigma^2 \cdot \underline{1}$

Poisson: $\phi = 1$, $V(x) = x \Rightarrow \text{Var}[\underline{Y}] = \underline{\mu}$

Gamma: $\phi = k$, $V(x) = x^2 \Rightarrow \text{Var}[\underline{Y}] = k \underline{\mu}^2$

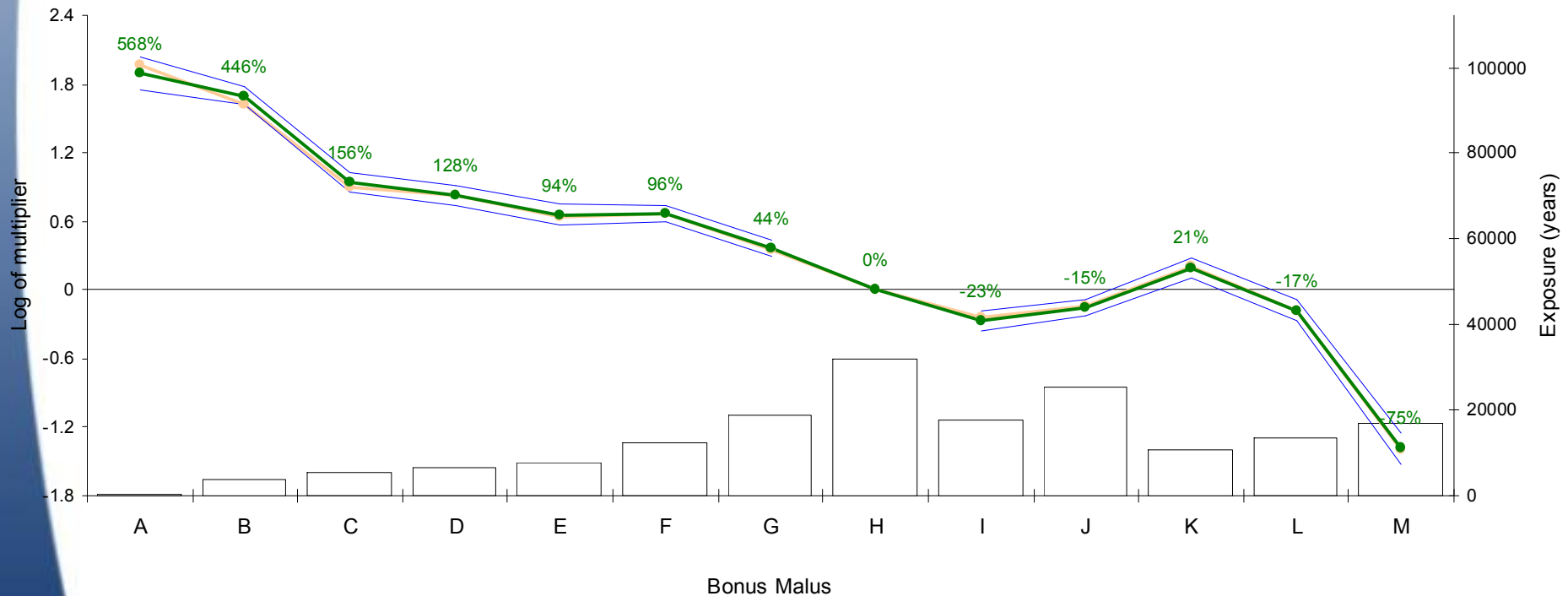
Tweedie: $\phi = k$, $V(x) = x^p \Rightarrow \text{Var}[\underline{Y}] = k \underline{\mu}^p$



Example 1: frequency

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

Run 7 Model 2 - Frequency



● Onew ay relativities
 — Approx 95% confidence interval
 — Unsmoothed estimate
 ● Smoothed estimate

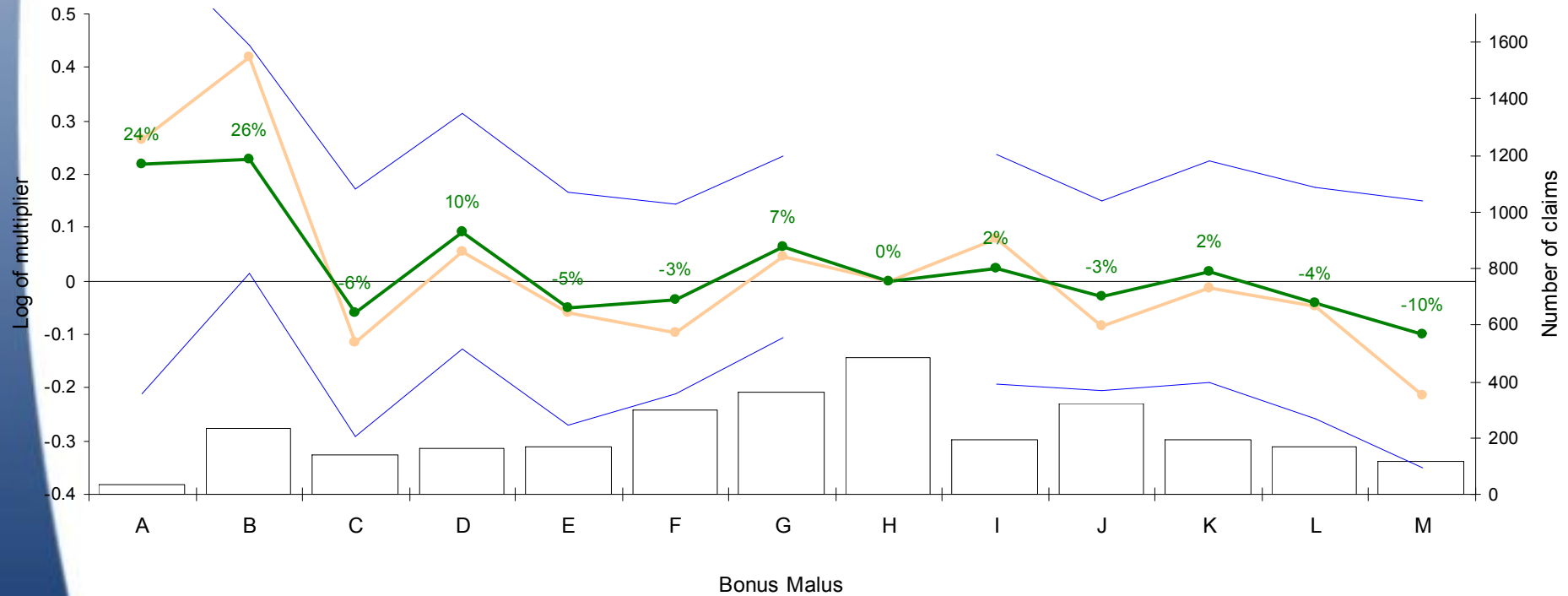
P value = 0.0%
Rank 12/12



Example 1: amounts

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

Run 7 Model 6 - Amounts



P value = 50.9%
Rank 4/12

EXCLUDED FACTOR

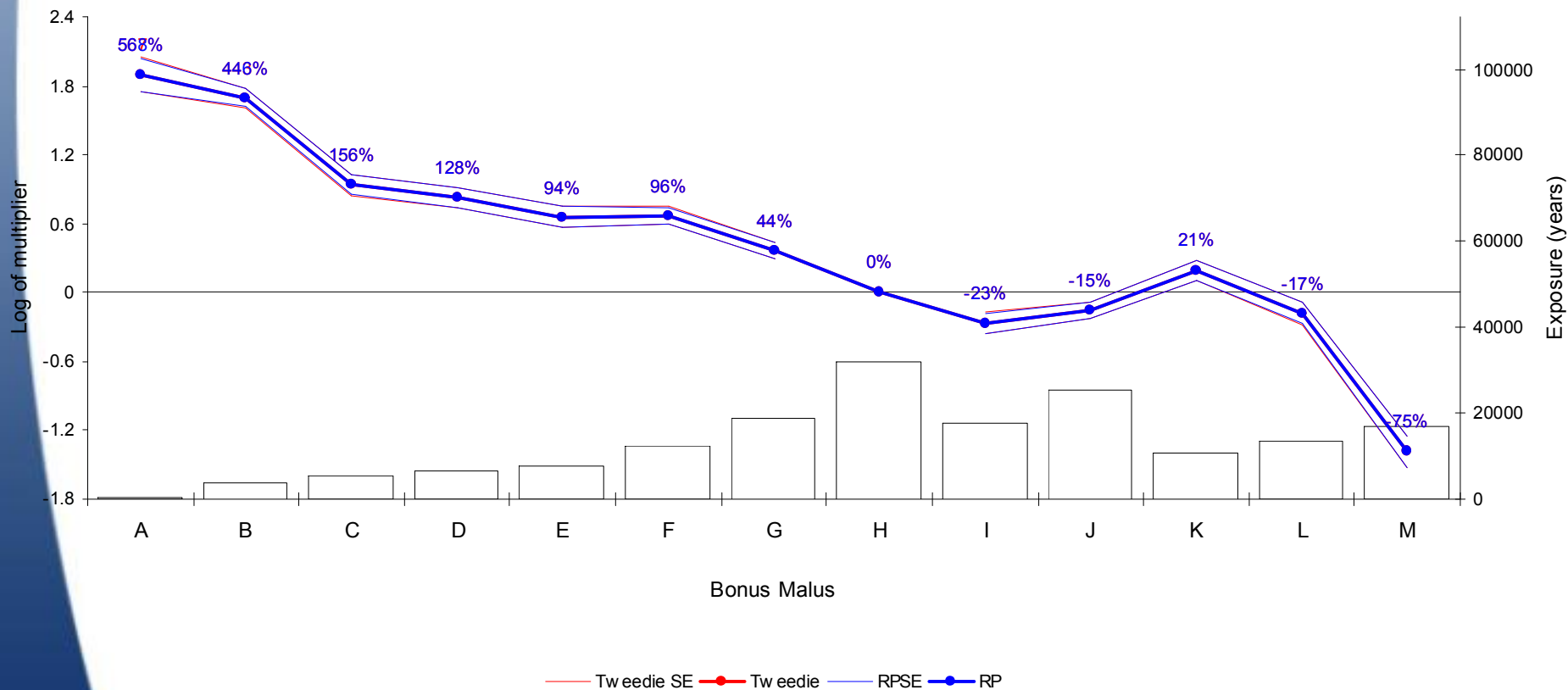
—●— Onew ay relativities
 — Approx 95% confidence interval
 — Unsmoothed estimate
 —●— Smoothed estimate



Example 1: traditional RP vs Tweedie

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

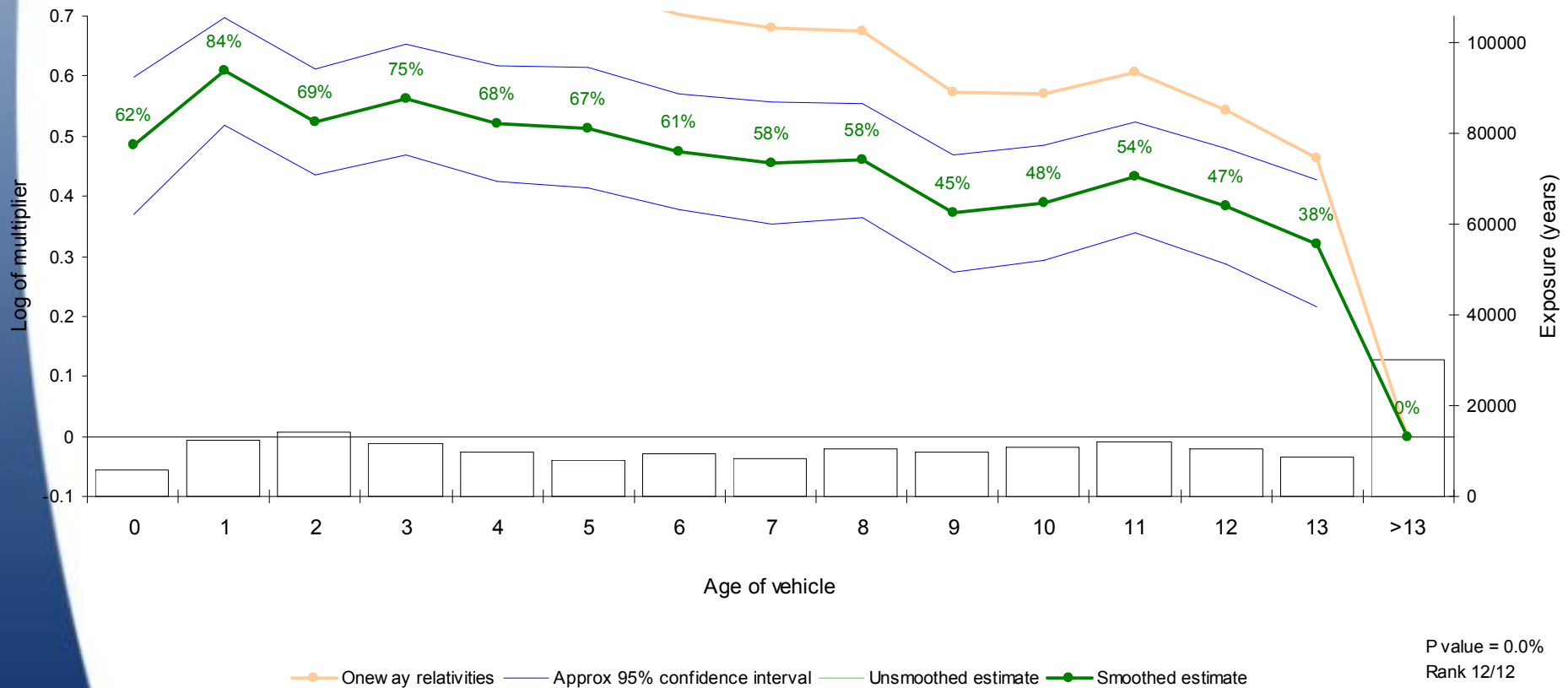
Run 11 Model 2 - Tweedie Models



Example 2: frequency

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

Run 7 Model 1 - Frequency



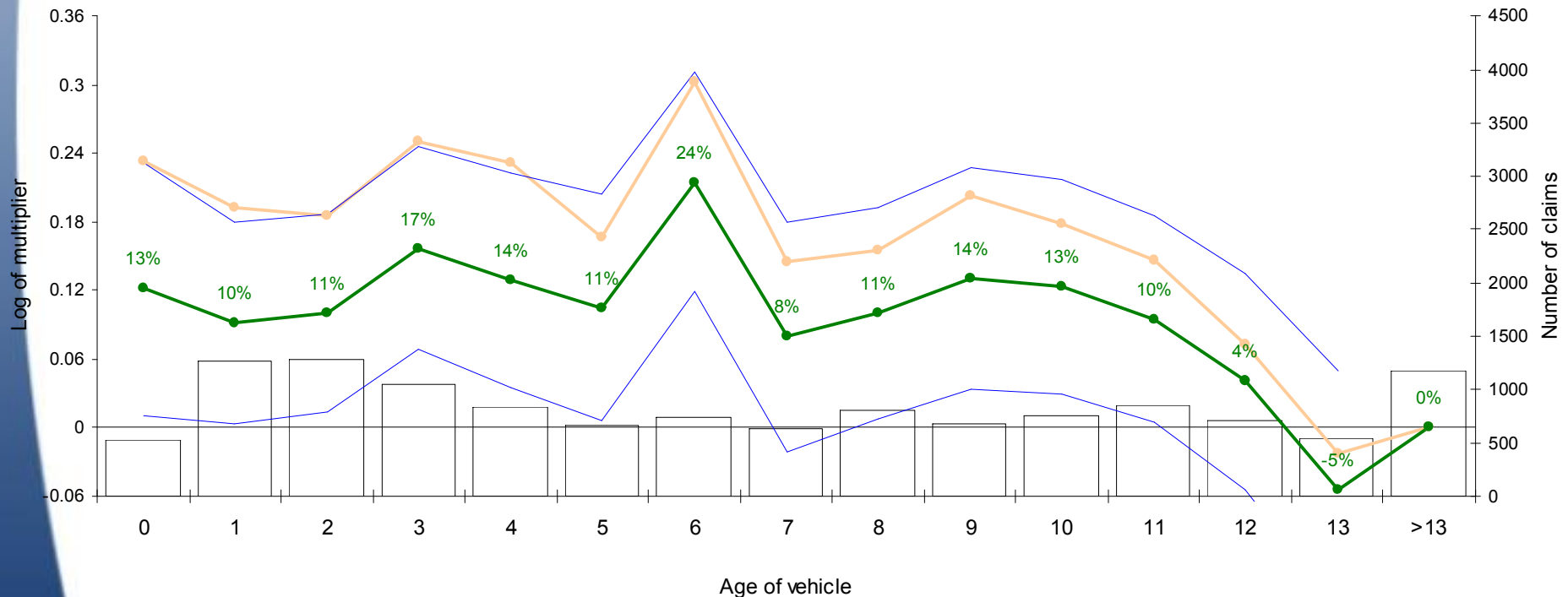
P value = 0.0%
Rank 12/12



Example 2: amounts

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

Run 7 Model 5 - Amounts



—●— Onew ay relativities —●— Approx 95% confidence interval —●— Unsmoothed estimate —●— Smoothed estimate

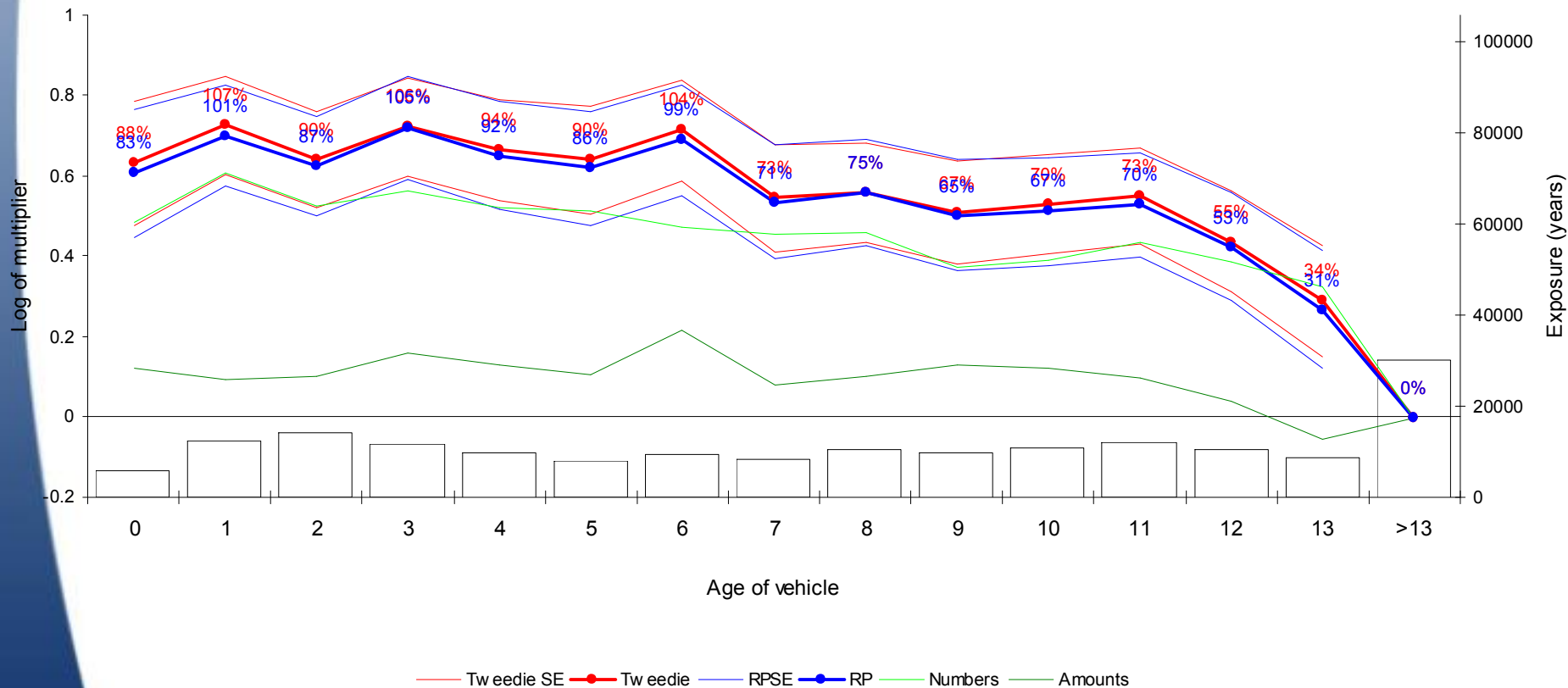
P value = 0.0%
Rank 5/7



Example 2: traditional RP vs Tweedie

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

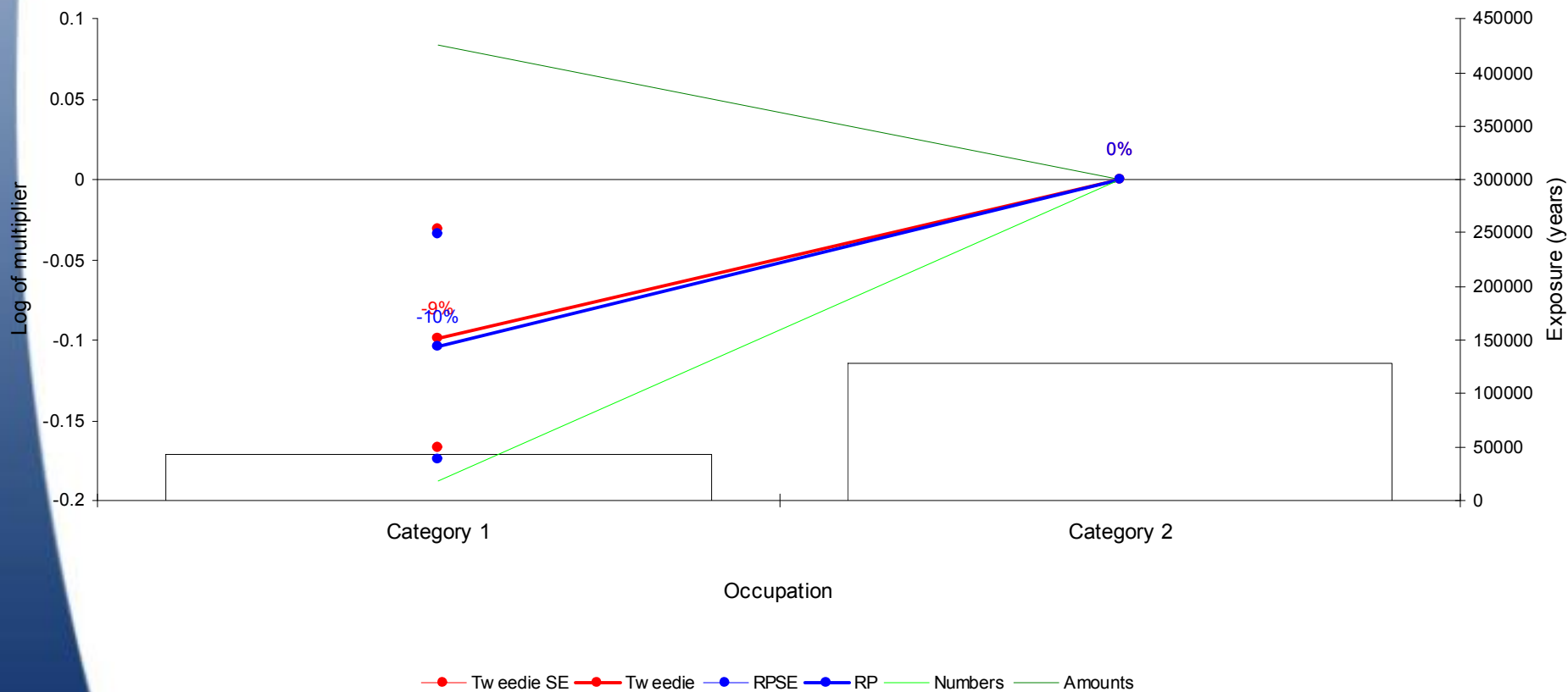
Run 11 Model 1 - Tweedie Models



Example 3: traditional RP vs Tweedie

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

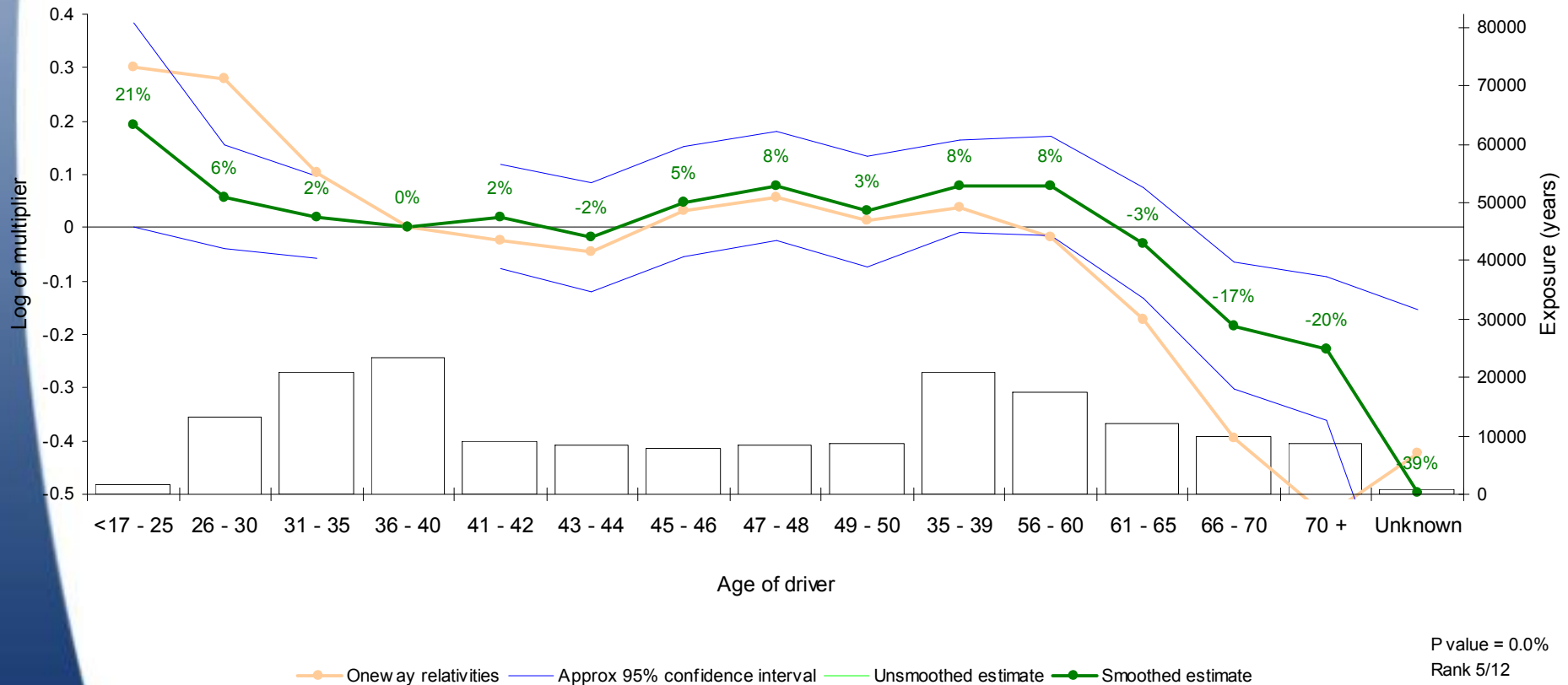
Run 11 Model 1 - Tweedie Models



Example 4: frequency

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

Run 7 Model 1 - Frequency



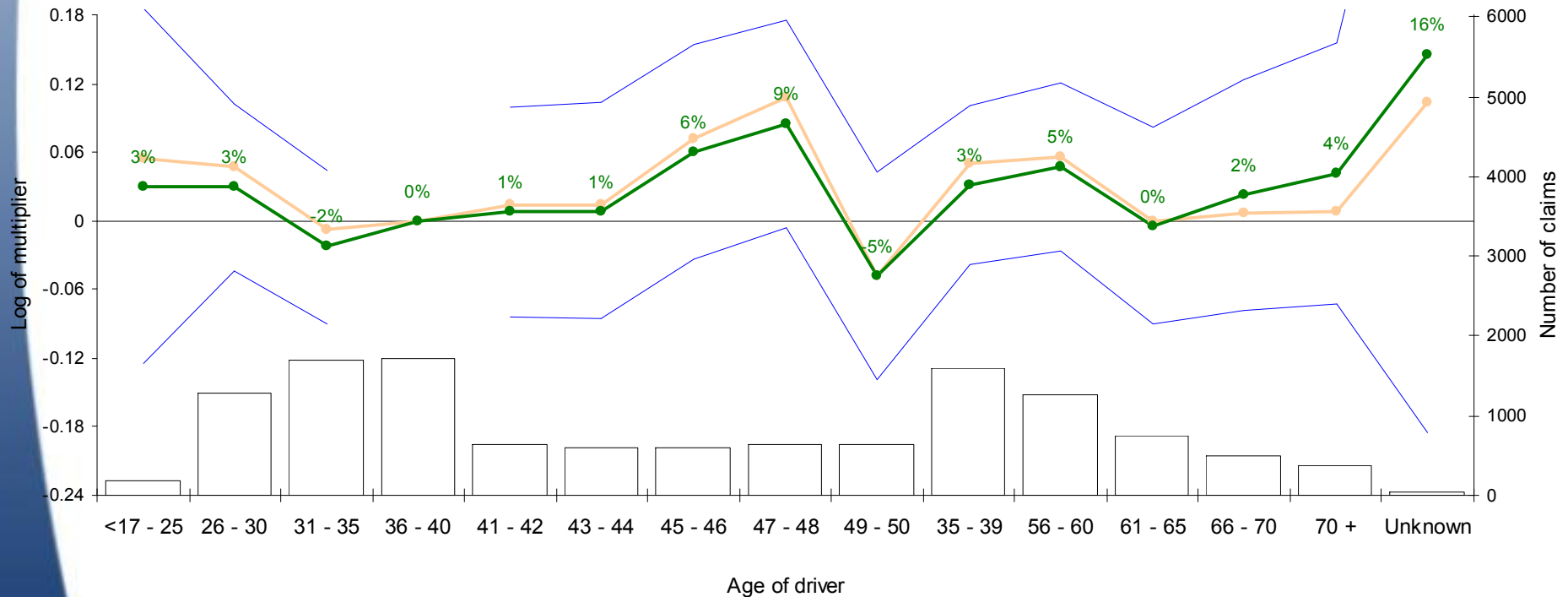
P value = 0.0%
Rank 5/12



Example 4: amounts

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

Run 7 Model 5 - Amounts



P value = 50.6%
Rank 4/9

EXCLUDED FACTOR

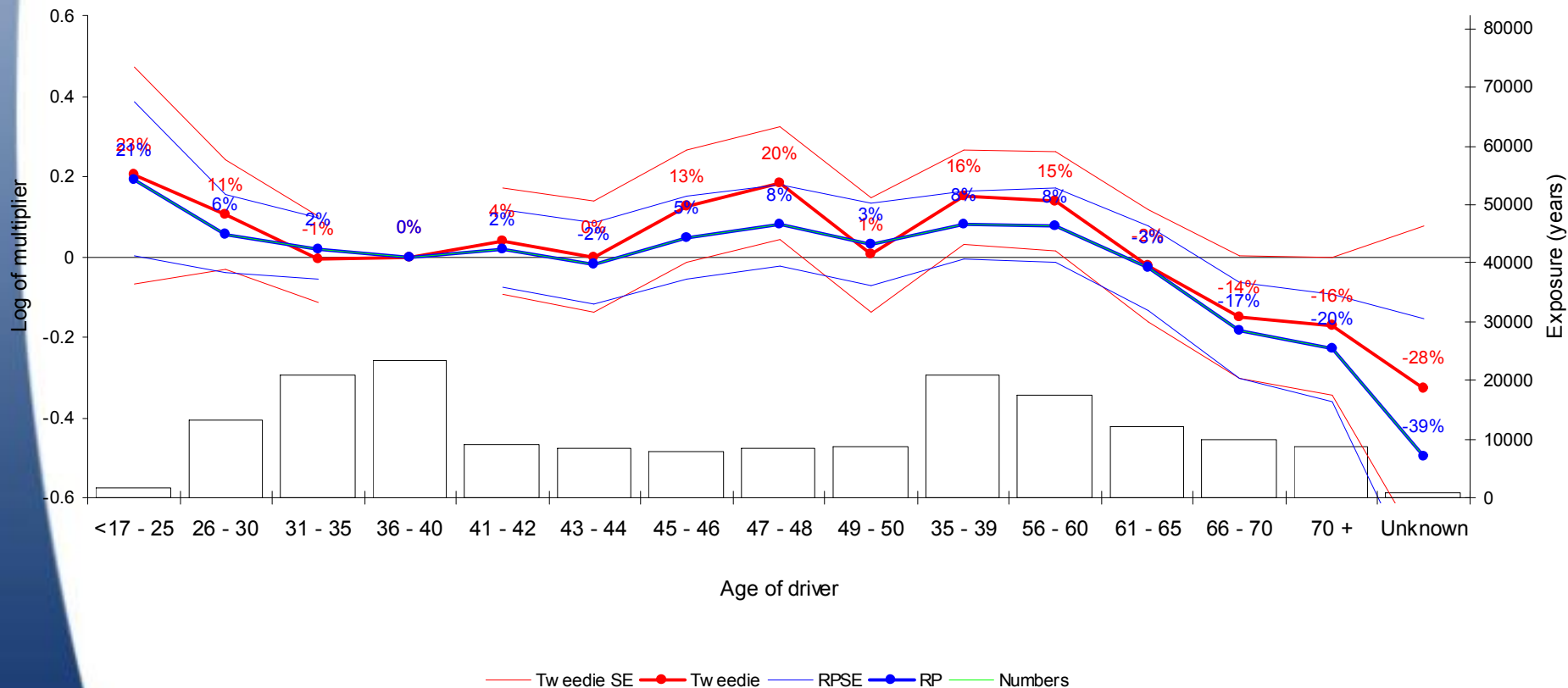
—●— One way relatives
 — Approx 95% confidence interval
 —●— Unsmoothed estimate
 —●— Smoothed estimate



Example 4: traditional RP vs Tweedie

Comparison of Tweedie model with traditional frequency/amounts approach

Run 11 Model 1 - Tweedie Models





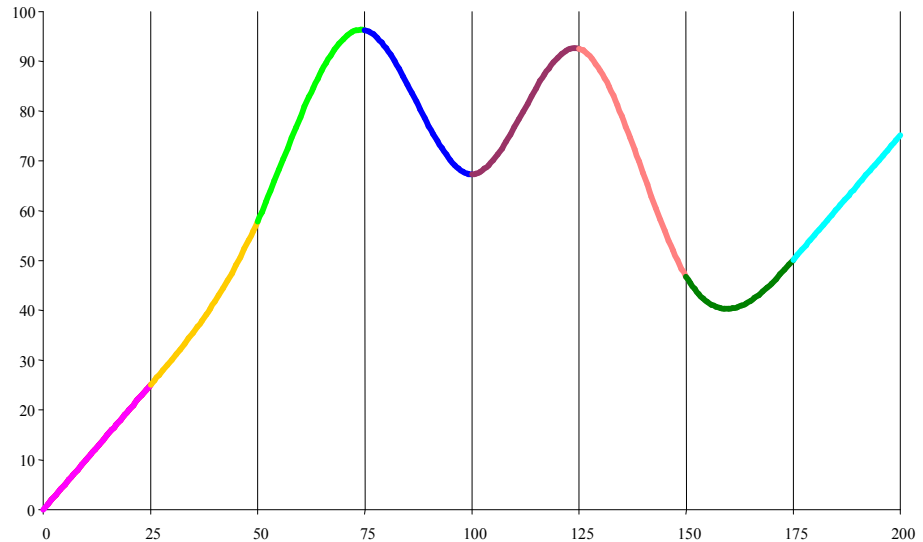
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Spline definition

- A series of polynomial functions, with each function defined over a short interval
- Intervals are defined by $k+2$ knots
 - two exterior knots at extremes of data
 - variable number (k) of interior knots
- At each interior knot the two functions must join "smoothly"





Cubic splines

- Each polynomial is a cubic
 - $a + bx + cx^2 + dx^3$
- "Smoothness" at interior knots is defined as:
 - continuous
 - continuous first derivative
 - continuous second derivative





Regression splines

- The position of the knots is specified by the user
- Standard GLMs can be used by careful definition of variates
- Pros
 - fits easily into existing structures
 - no complex re-sampling needed
- Cons
 - position of knots can effect final answer





Smoothing splines

- One knot at each unique data value
- Additional curvature penalty prevents over fitting
- Curvature penalty selected by repeatedly sampling subsets and optimising generalised goodness of fit measure such as AIC
- Pros
 - allows data to guide final result
- Cons
 - 100s of knots required
 - optimisation process is time-consuming
 - difficult to produce new fitted values



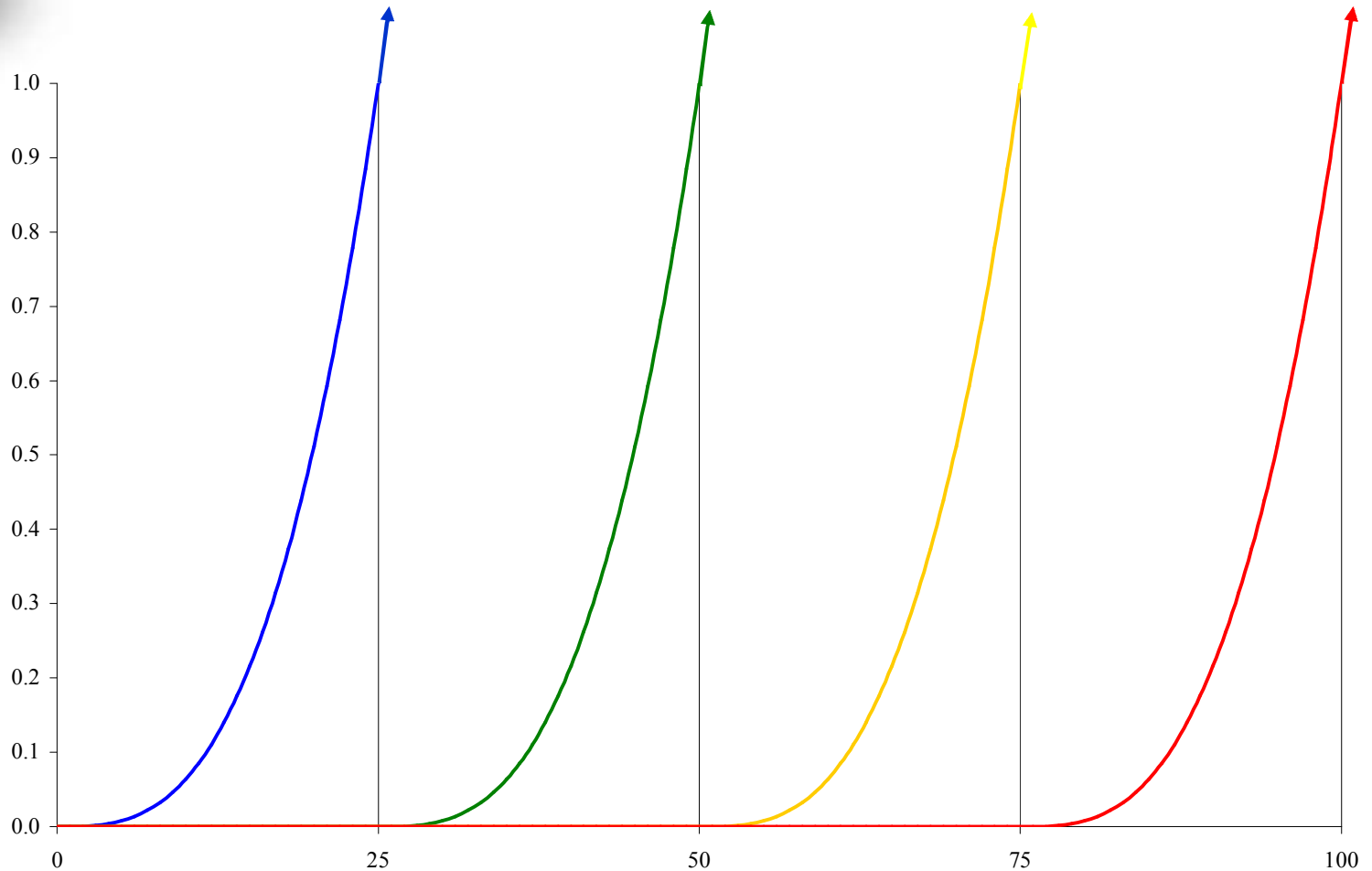


"Easy" regression splines

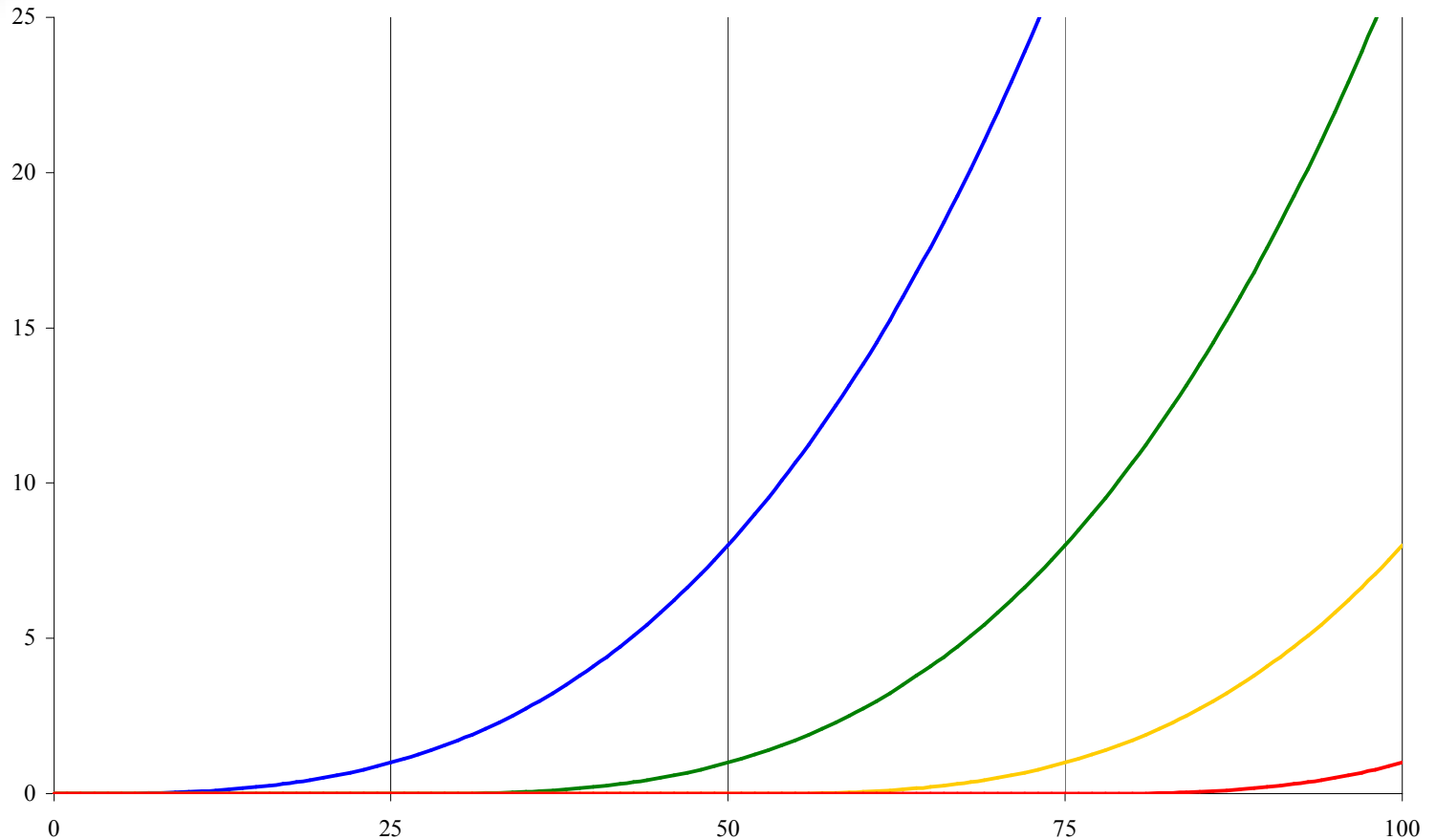
- Fit a cubic over the whole range
 - simply define x , x^2 and x^3 as variates and include in the model
- Fit additional cubic "correction" variates for each interval, defined as
 - 0 if $x < k_r$
 - $\left(\frac{x - k_{r+1}}{k_r - k_{r+1}}\right)^3$ otherwise



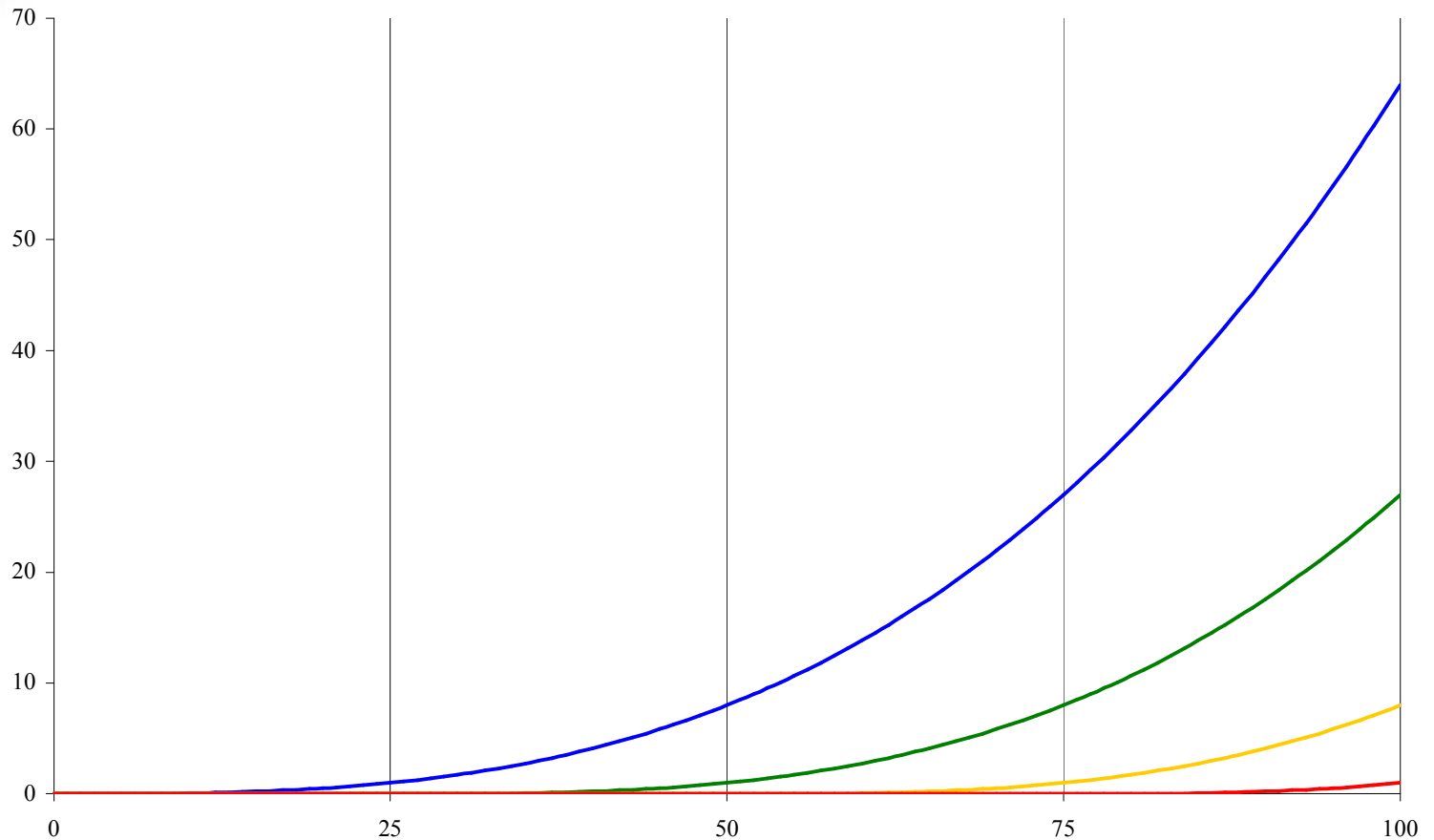
"Easy" regression splines



"Easy" regression splines



"Easy" regression splines





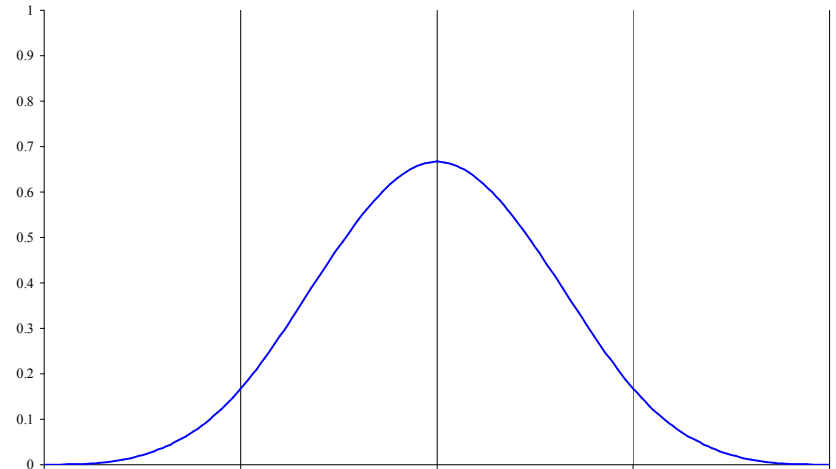
"Easy" regression splines

- "Correction" variates get large quickly
- In practice GLM process can struggle with these large numbers
- Alternate basis is clearly desirable



B-Splines

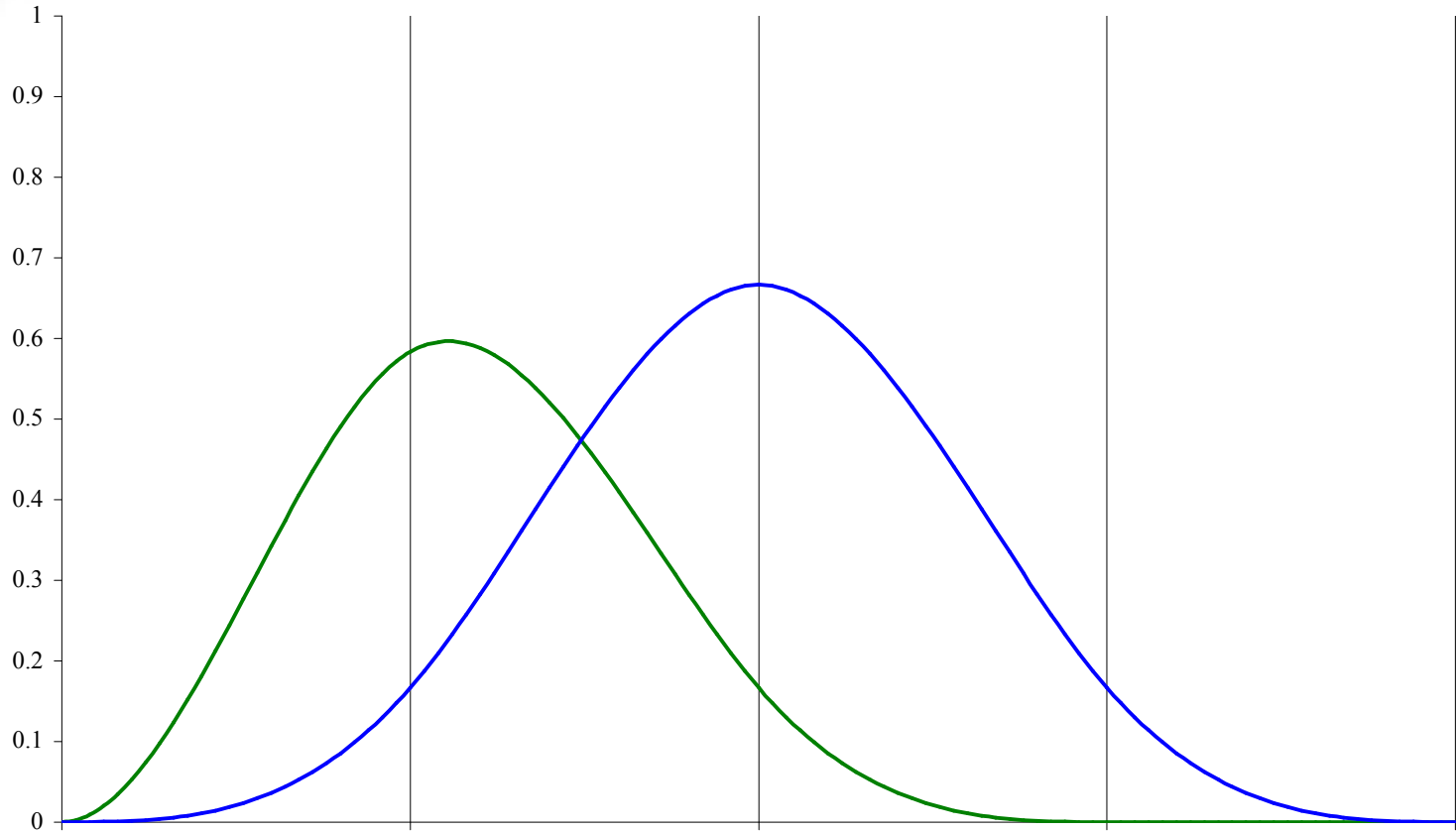
- Set of basis functions usually covering four segments (defined by five knots)
- Each function is itself a cubic spline
- Each basis function has the same shape, except for the three basis functions at each extreme which occupy fewer than four segments



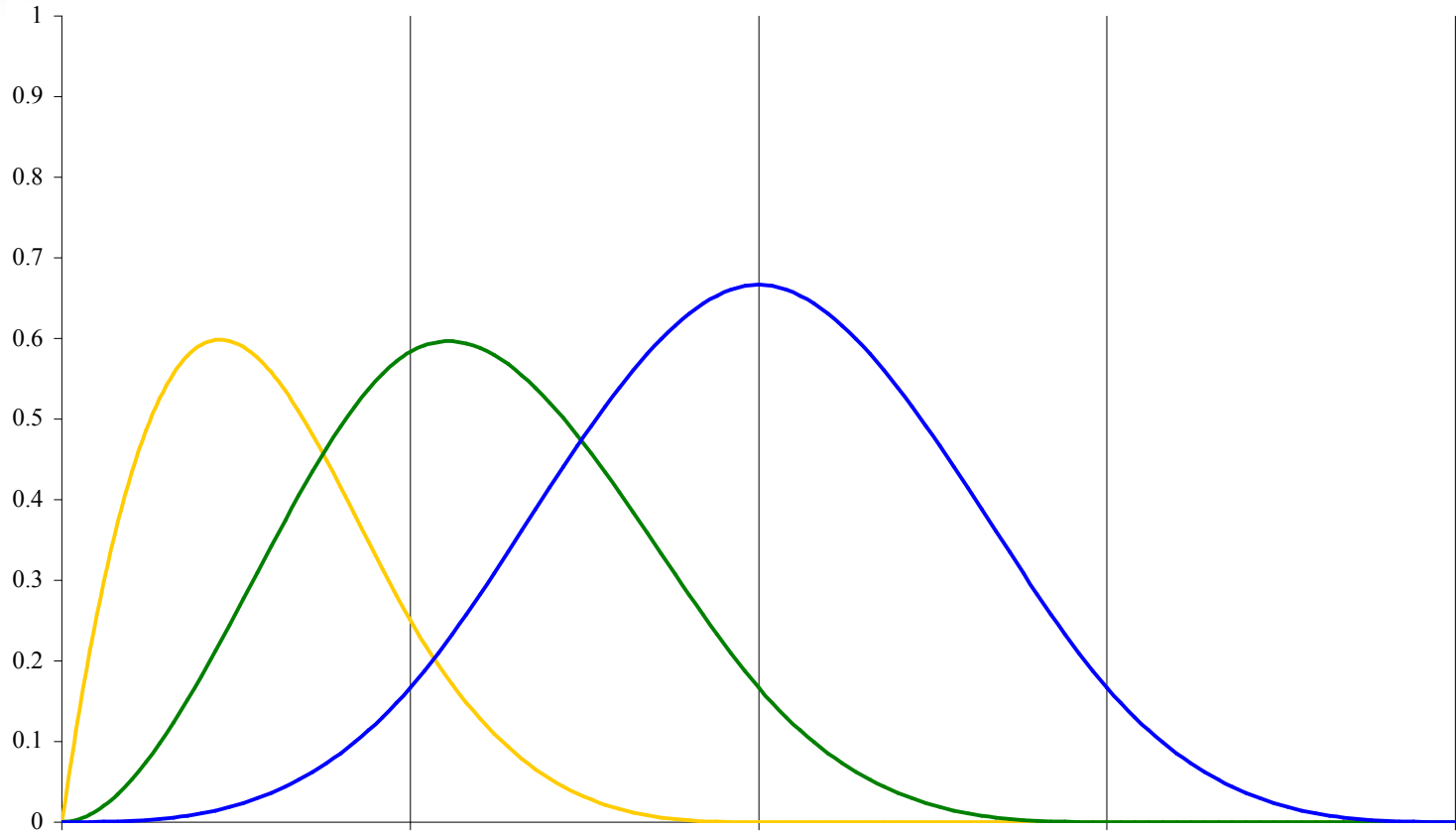
B-Splines



B-Splines



B-Splines



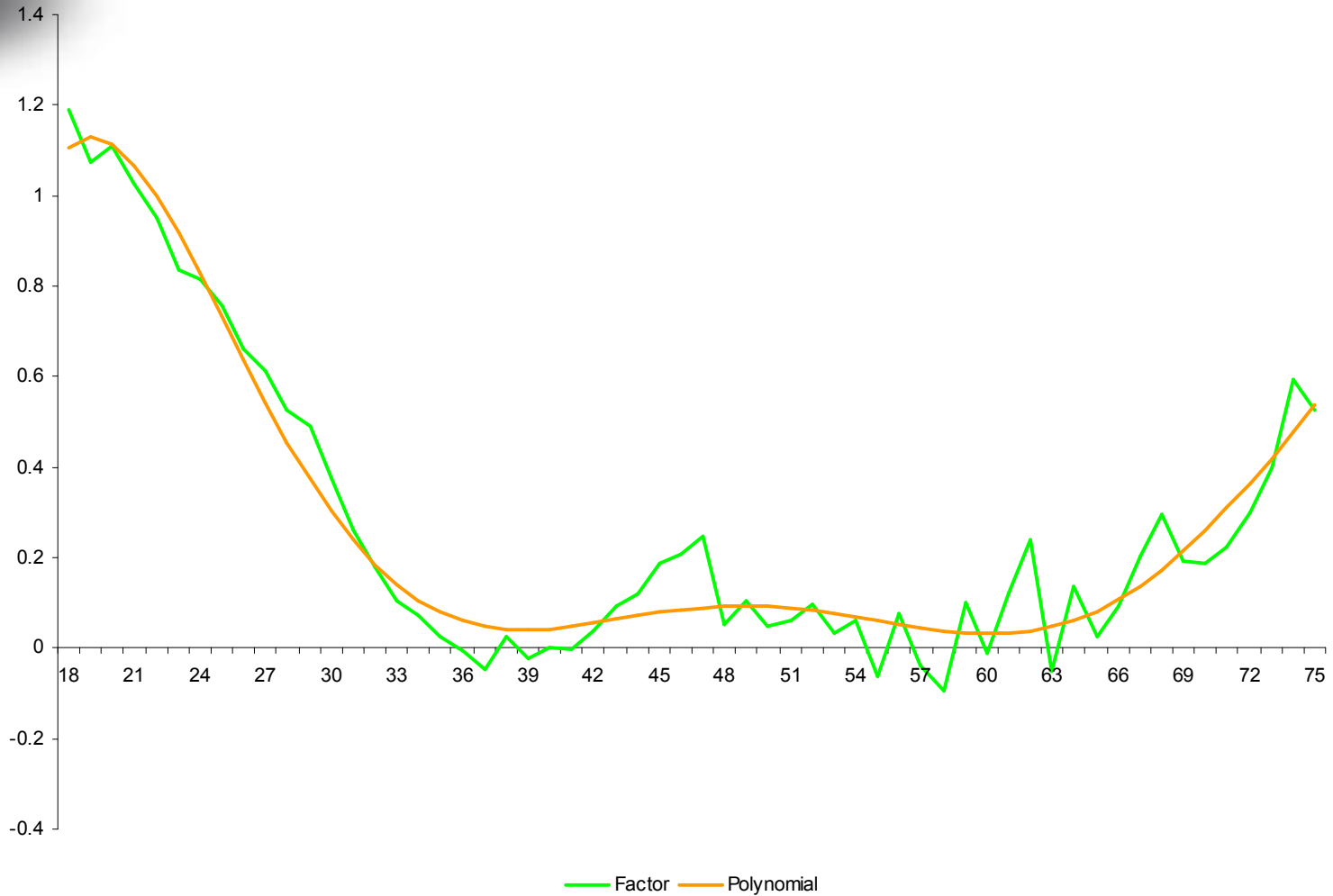
B-Splines



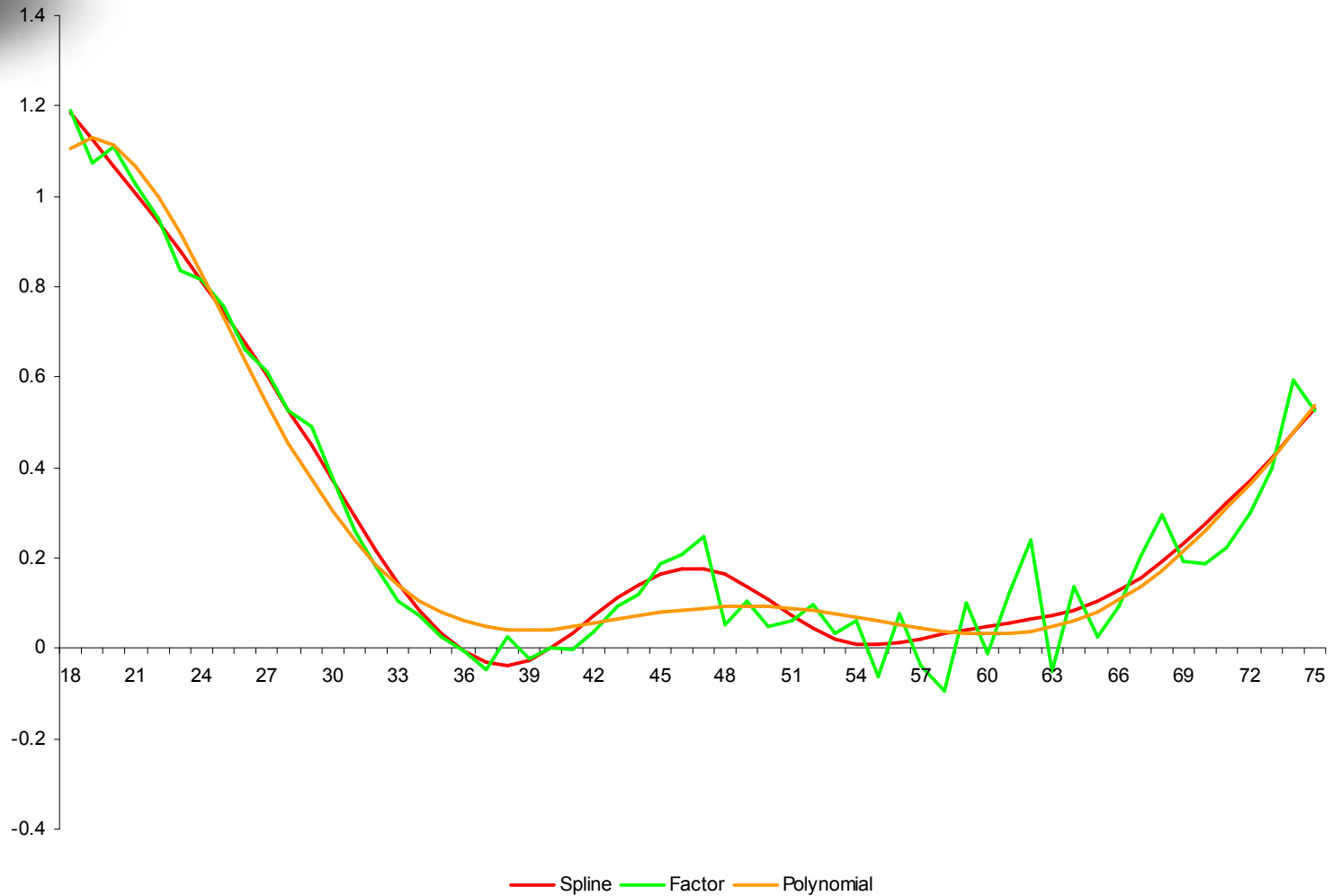
Example



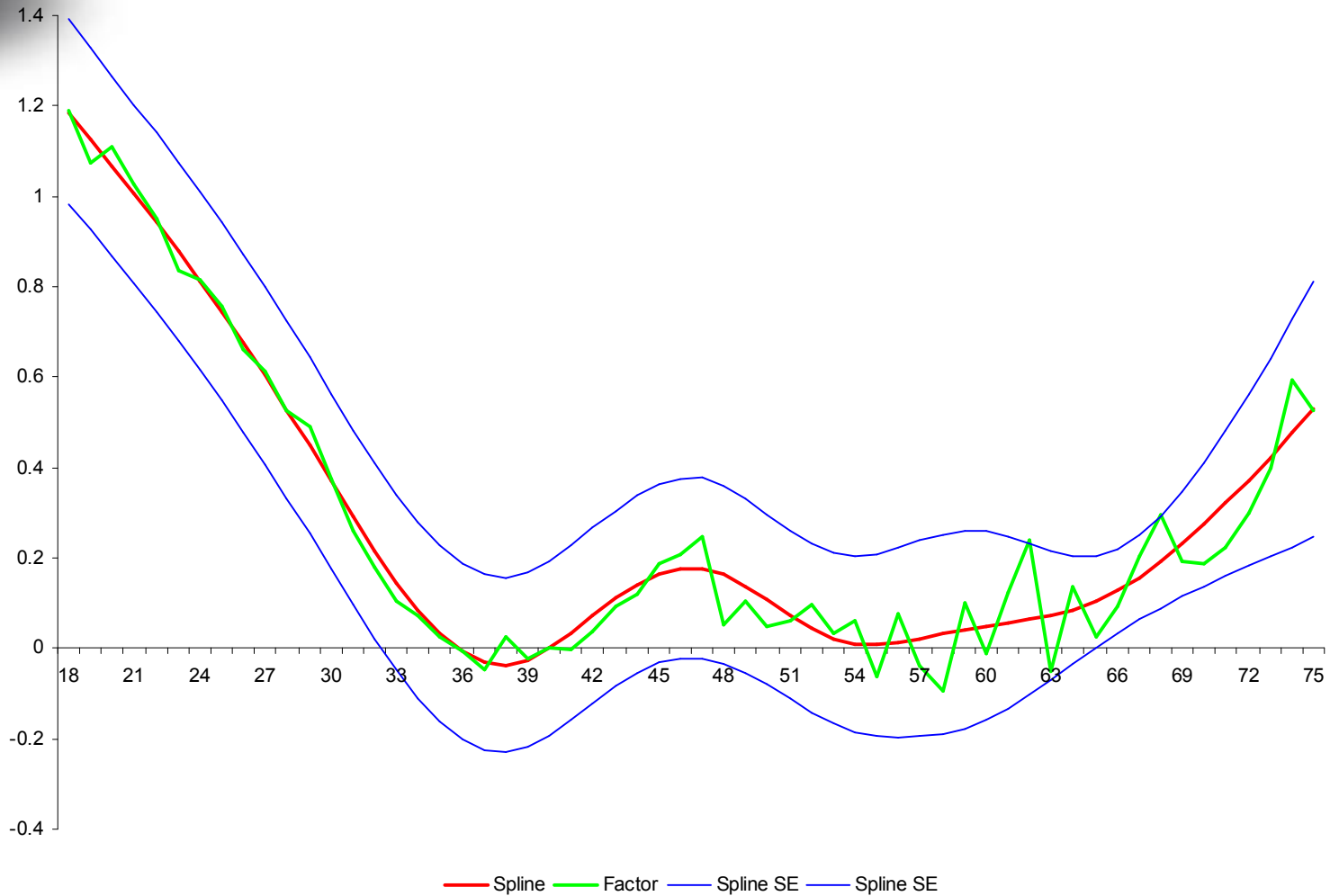
Example



Example



Example



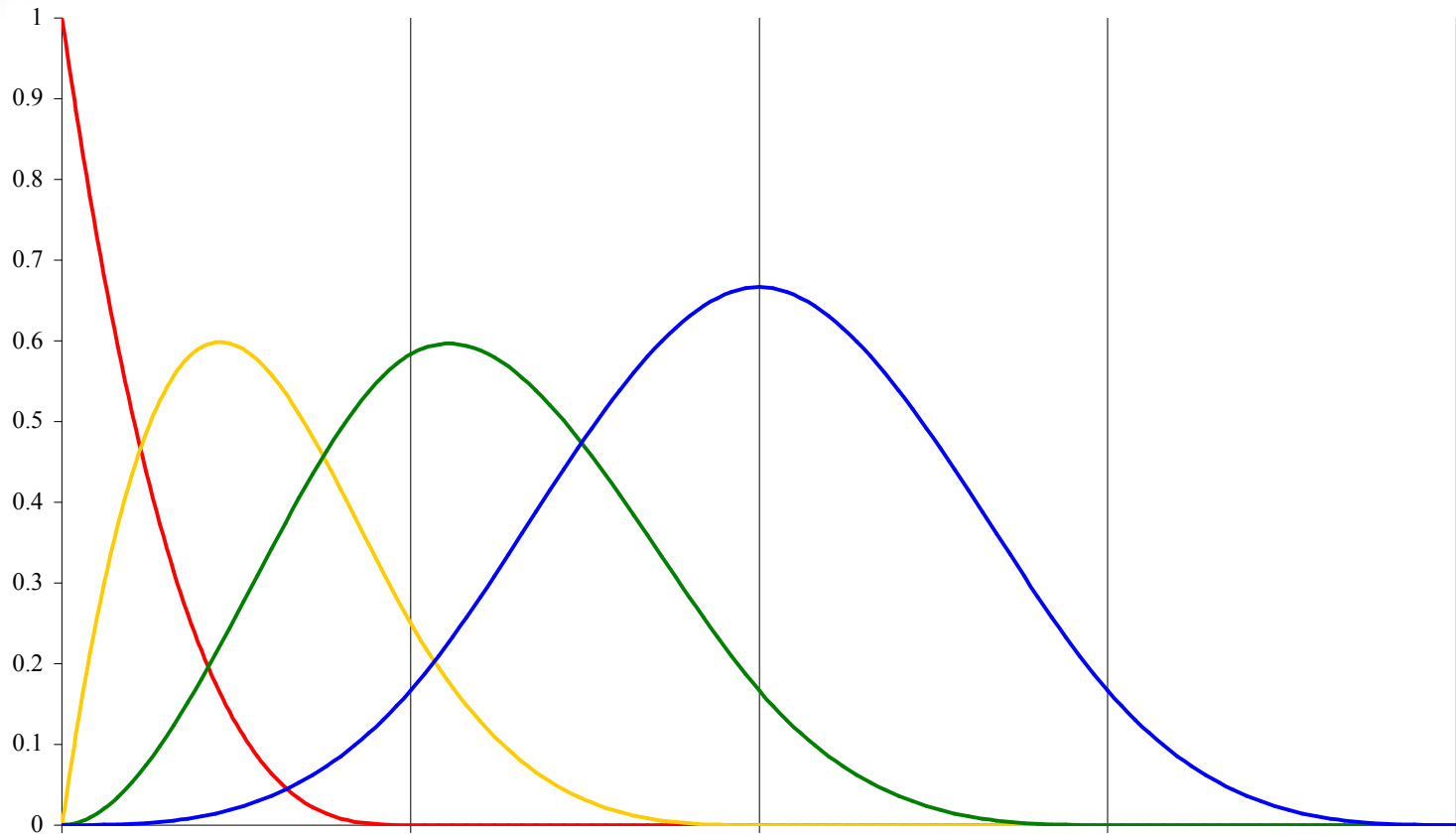


Extrapolation

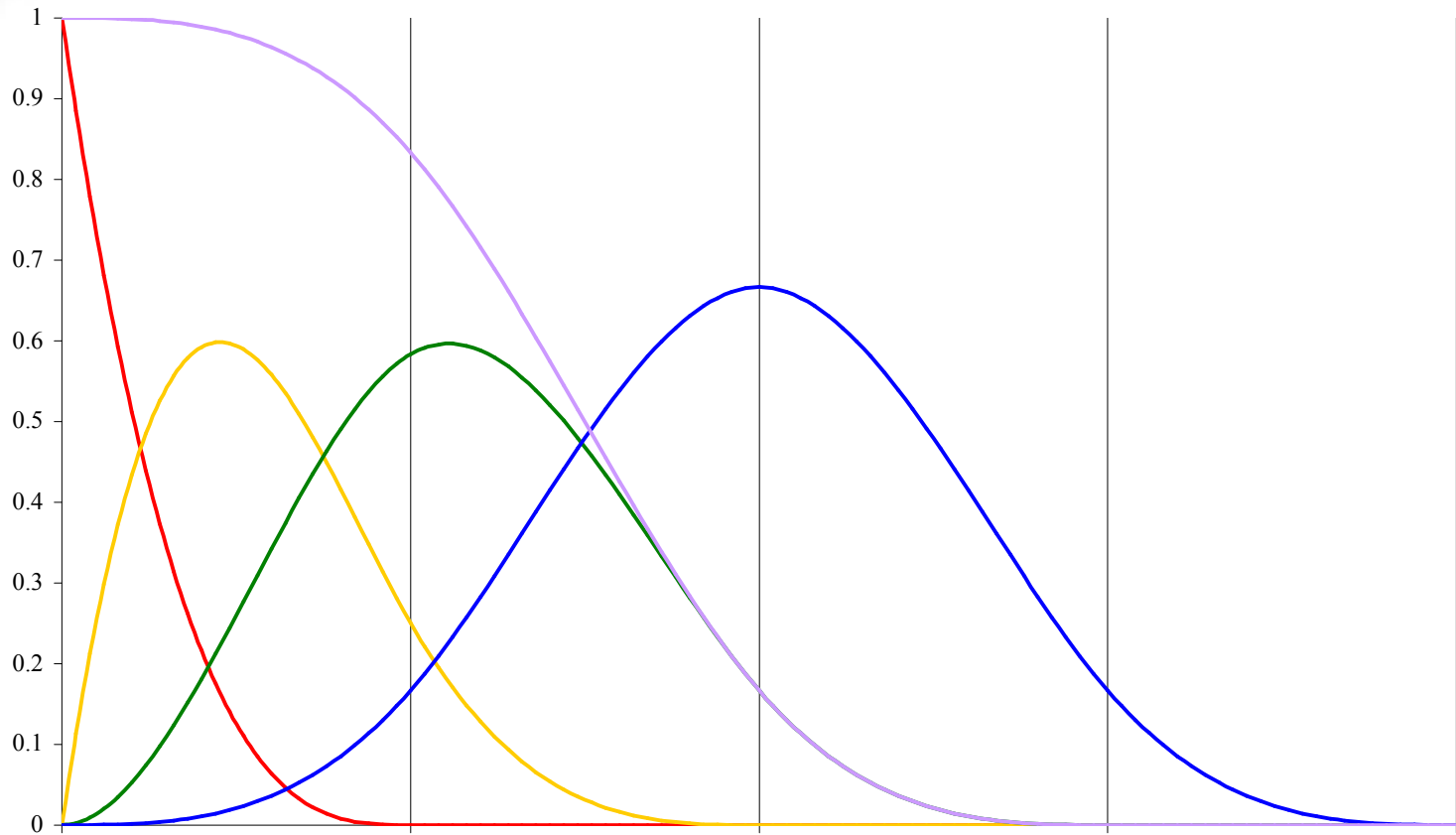
- Can combine the three boundary basis functions to achieve linear extrapolation
- Sum of three functions tends to 1 at the exterior knot, and continues as 1 when extrapolated
- Can combine the last two functions to give function that tends to a straight line at the exterior knot, and can be extrapolated as such



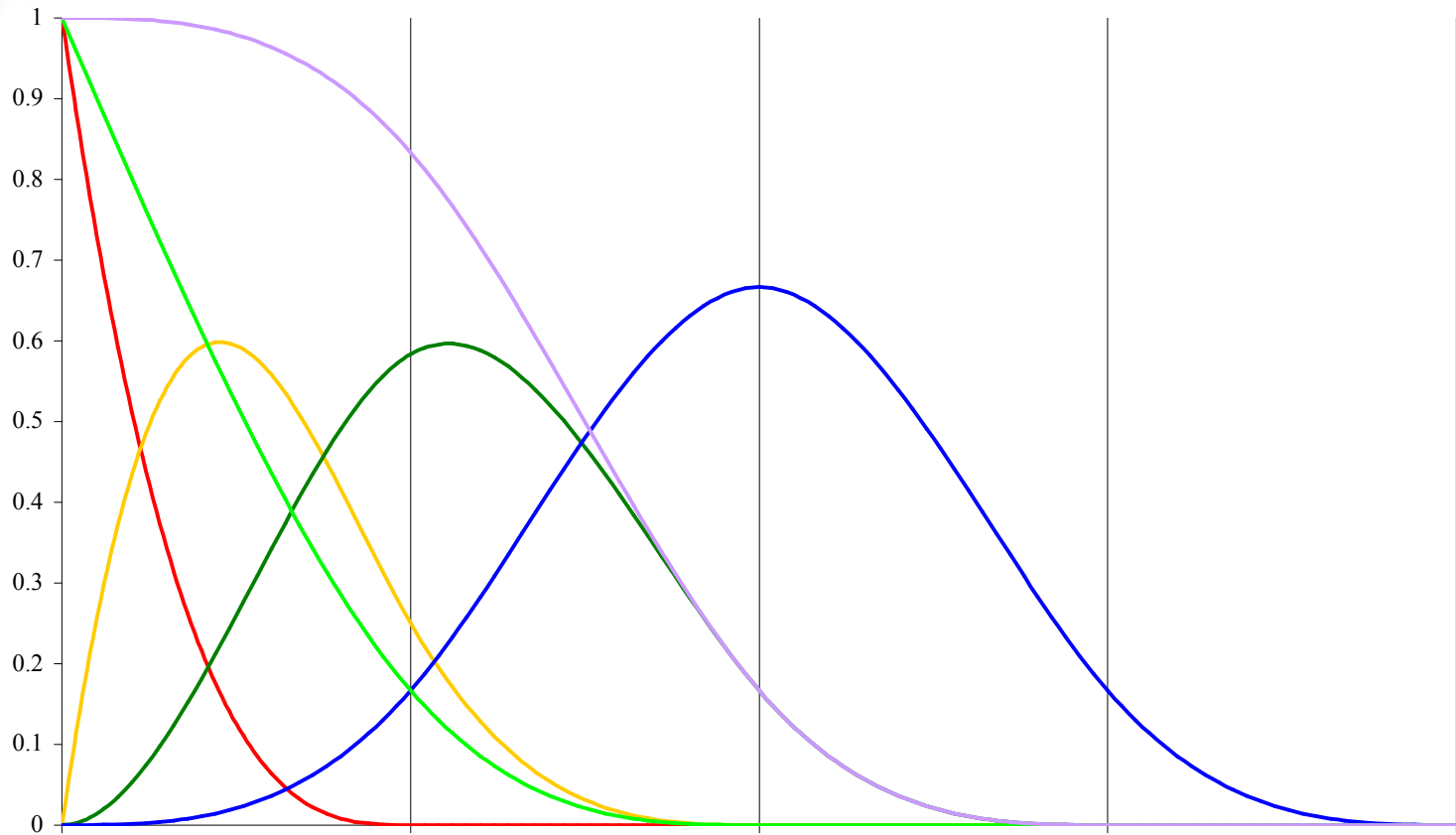
B-Splines



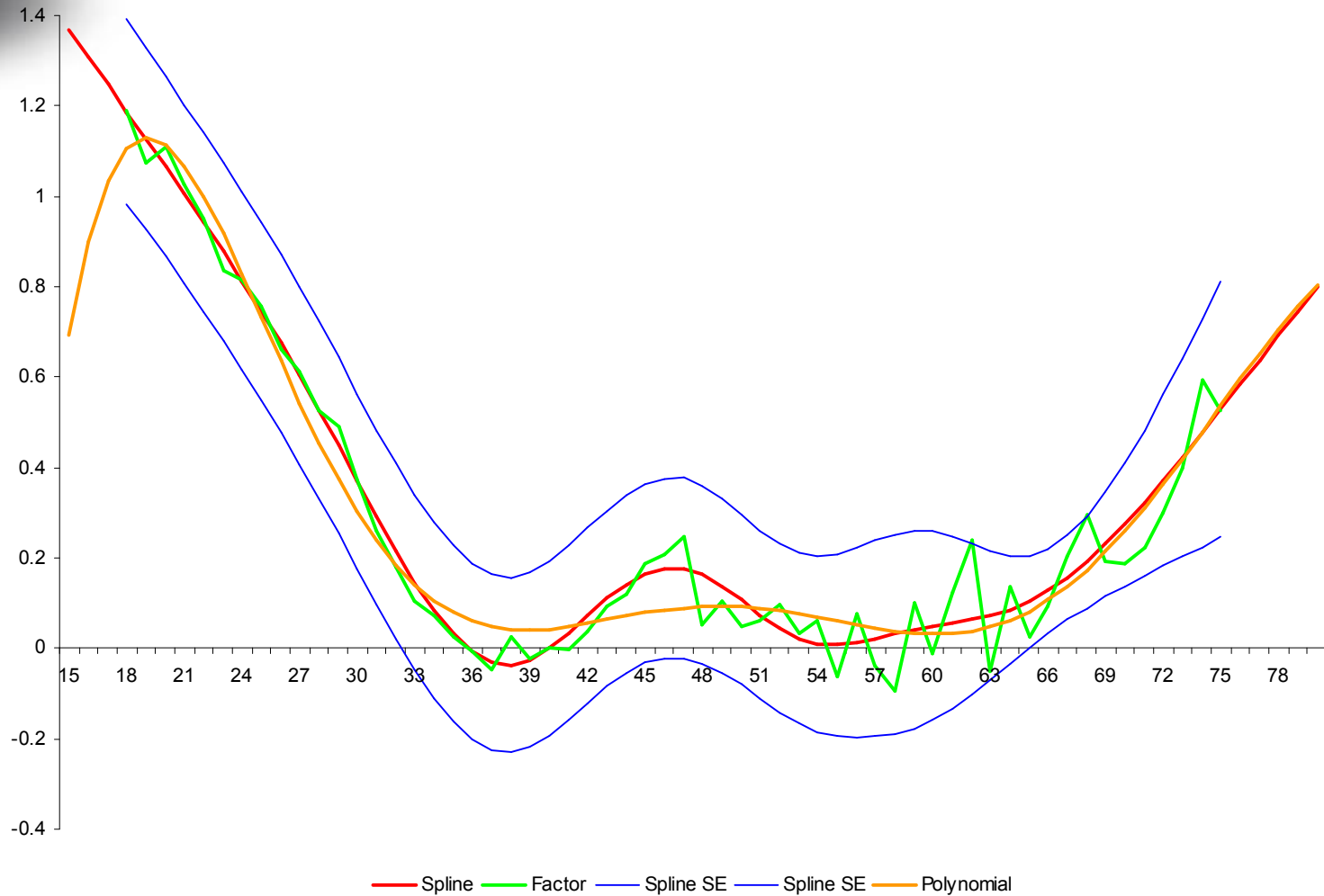
B-Splines



B-Splines

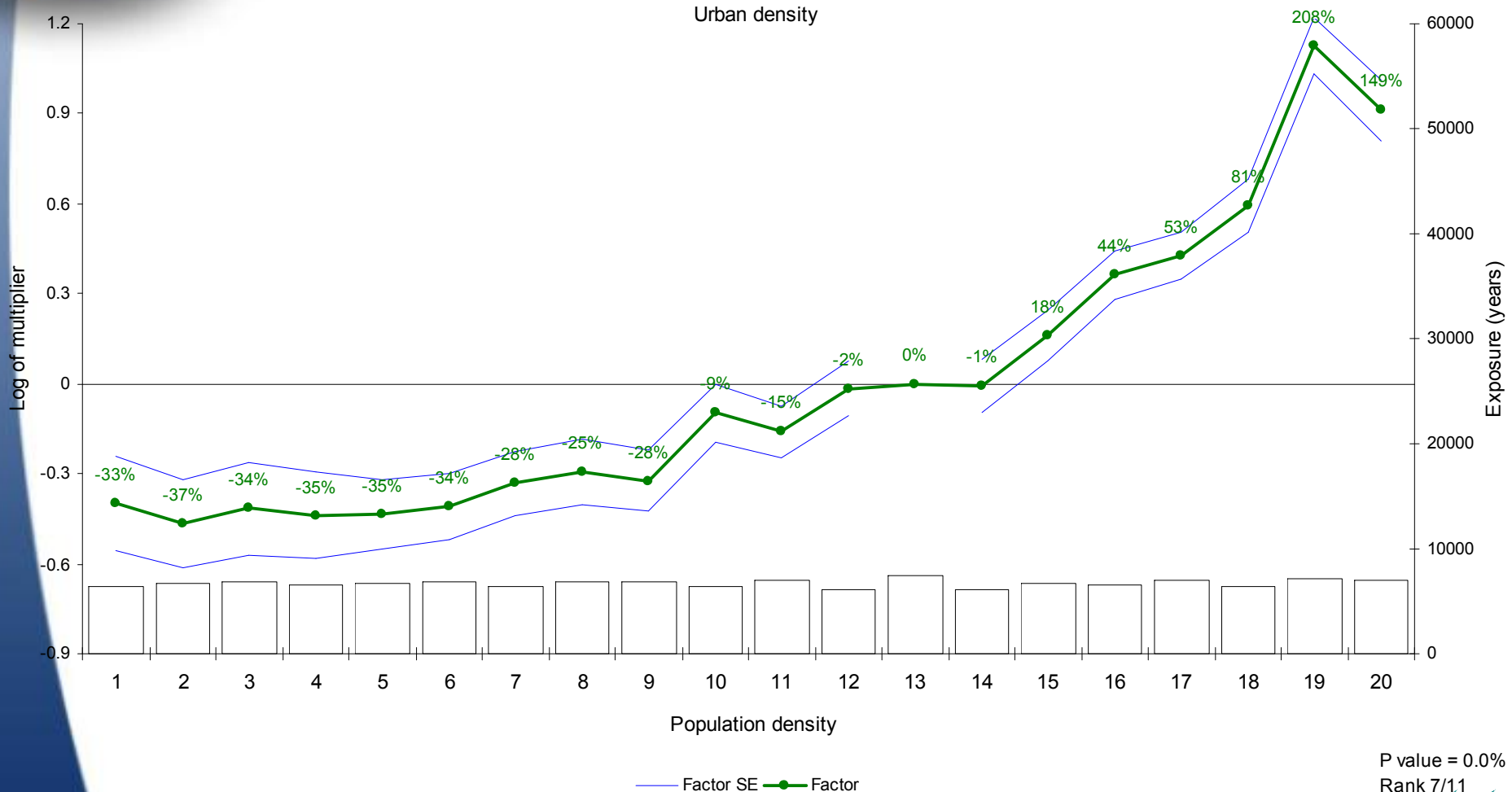


Example



Further example

Comparison of factor with spline

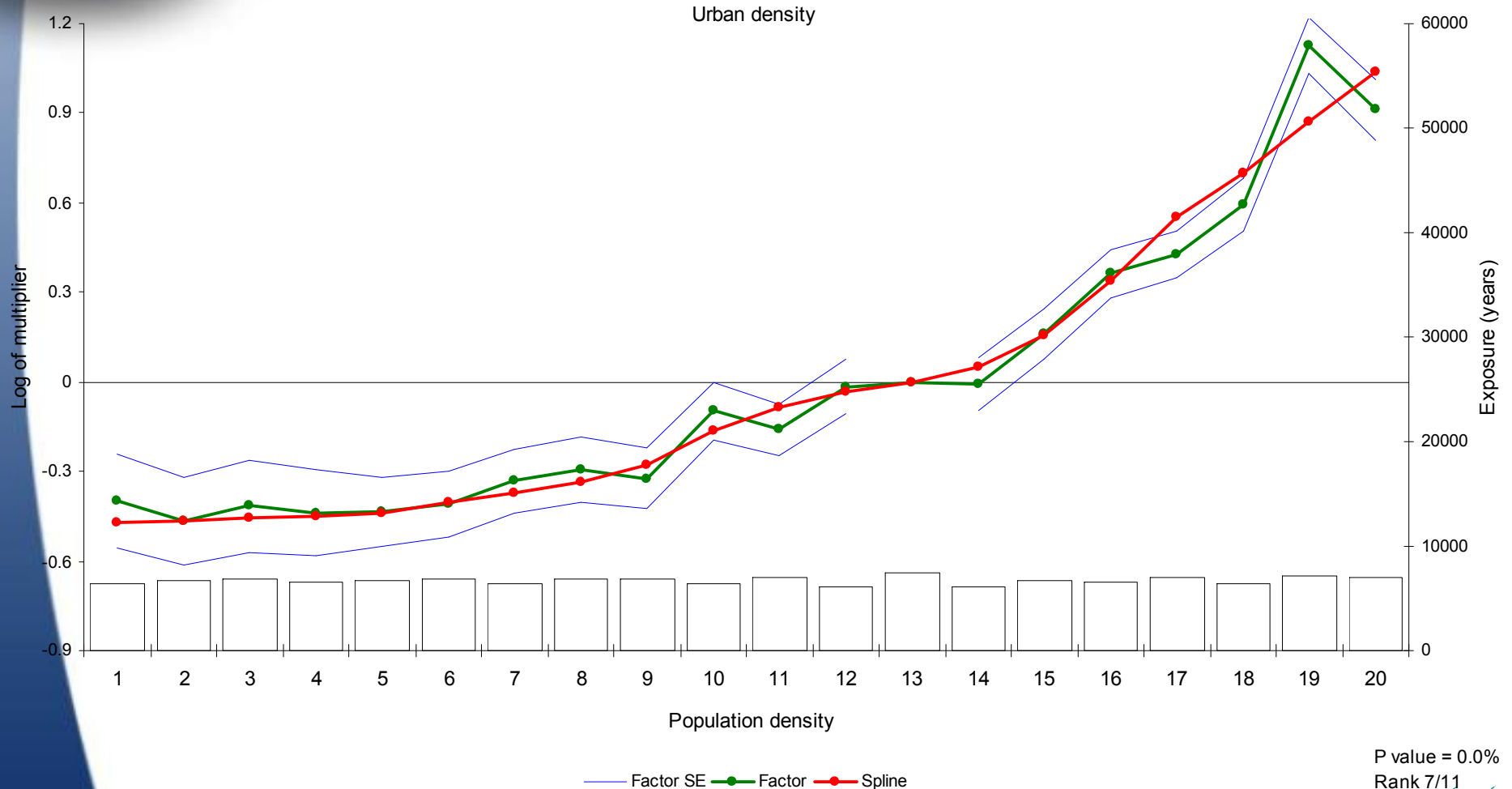


P value = 0.0%
Rank 7/11



Further example

Comparison of factor with spline

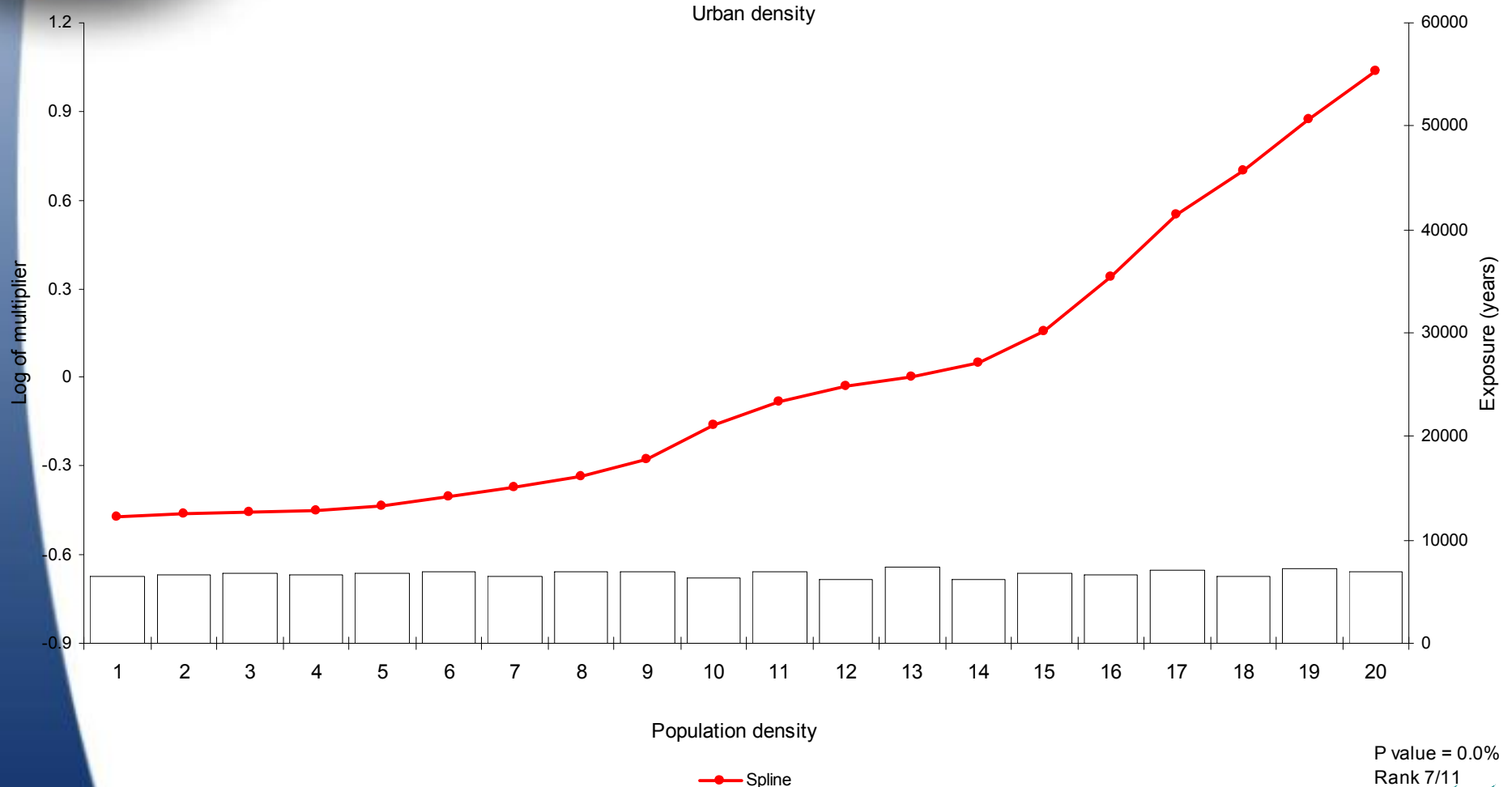


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Further example

Comparison of factor with spline

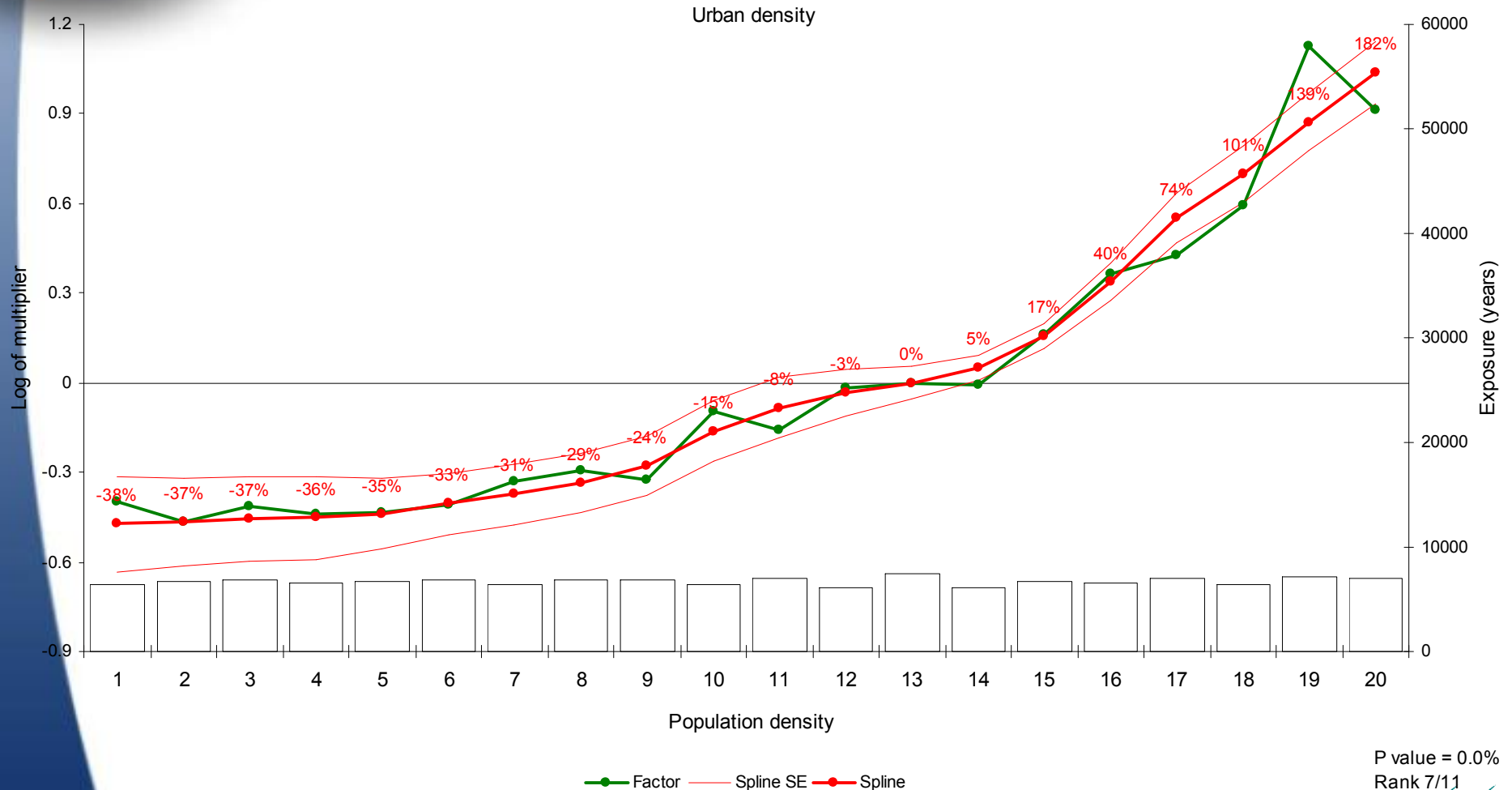


P value = 0.0%
Rank 7/11



Further example

Comparison of factor with spline



P value = 0.0
Rank 7/11





Splines

- Practical way of modeling continuous variables
- Often better than polynomials
- Increases complexity, therefore best used
 - when it is important that rates vary continuously with a variable
 - when modeling elasticity to be used in price optimization analyses





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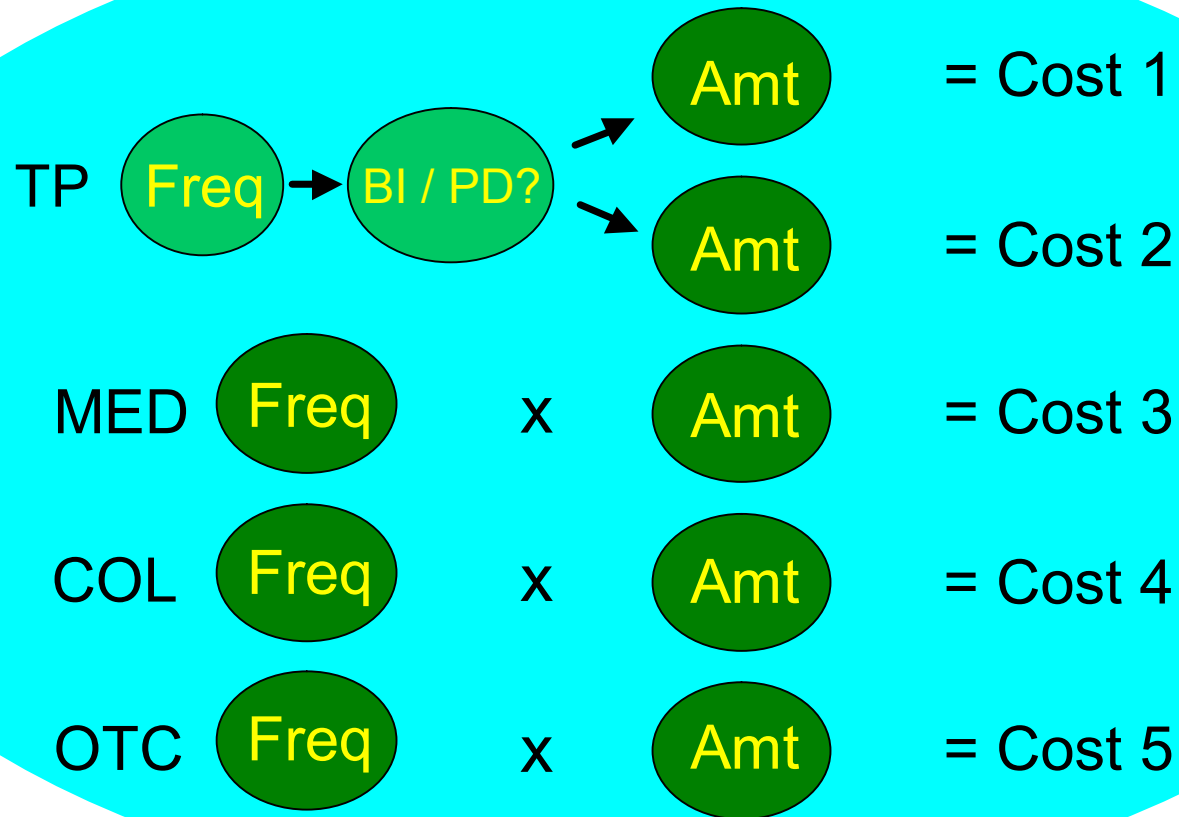


Standard approach

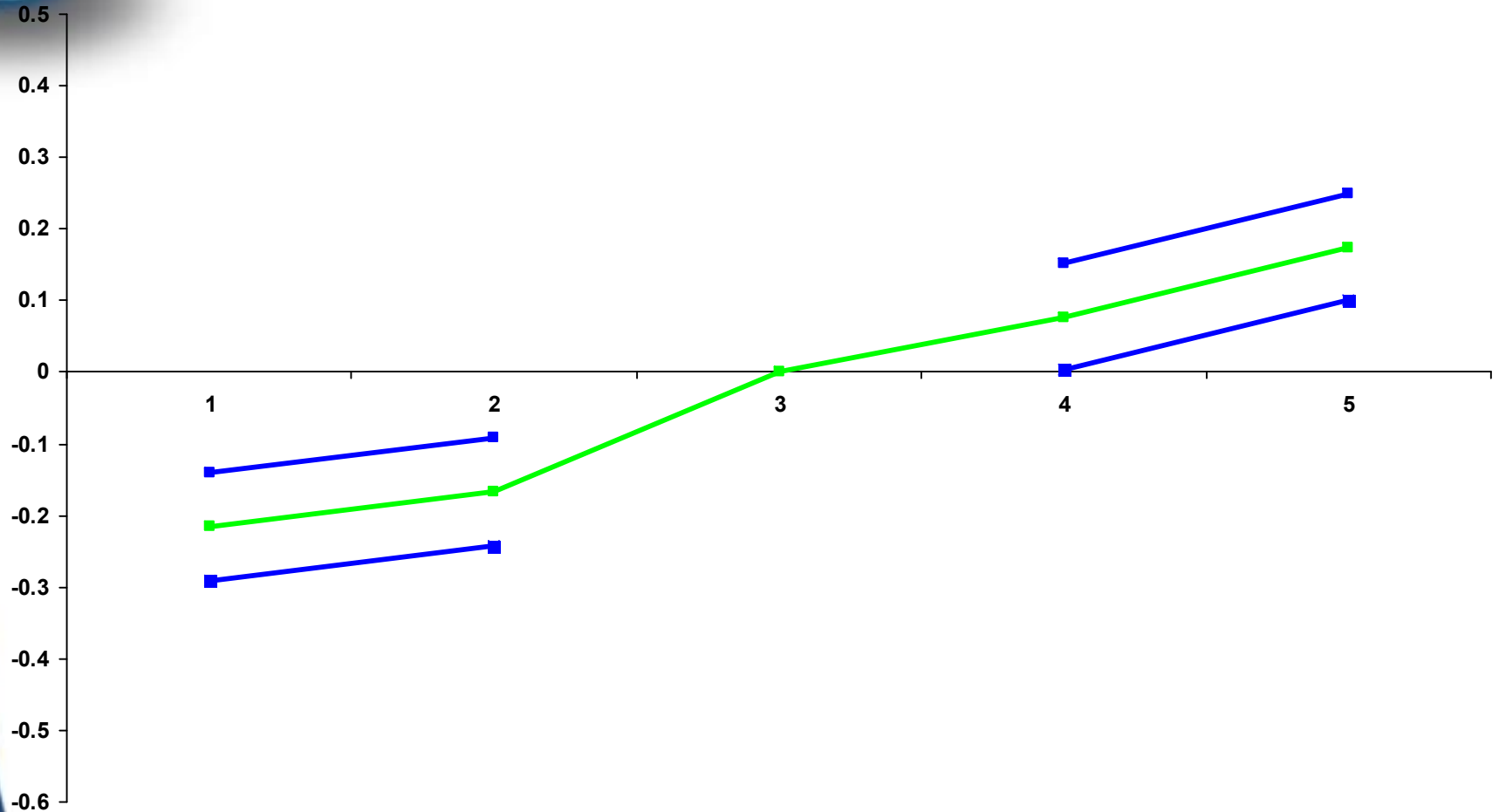
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PD	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 2
MED	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 3
COL	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 4
OTC	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 5



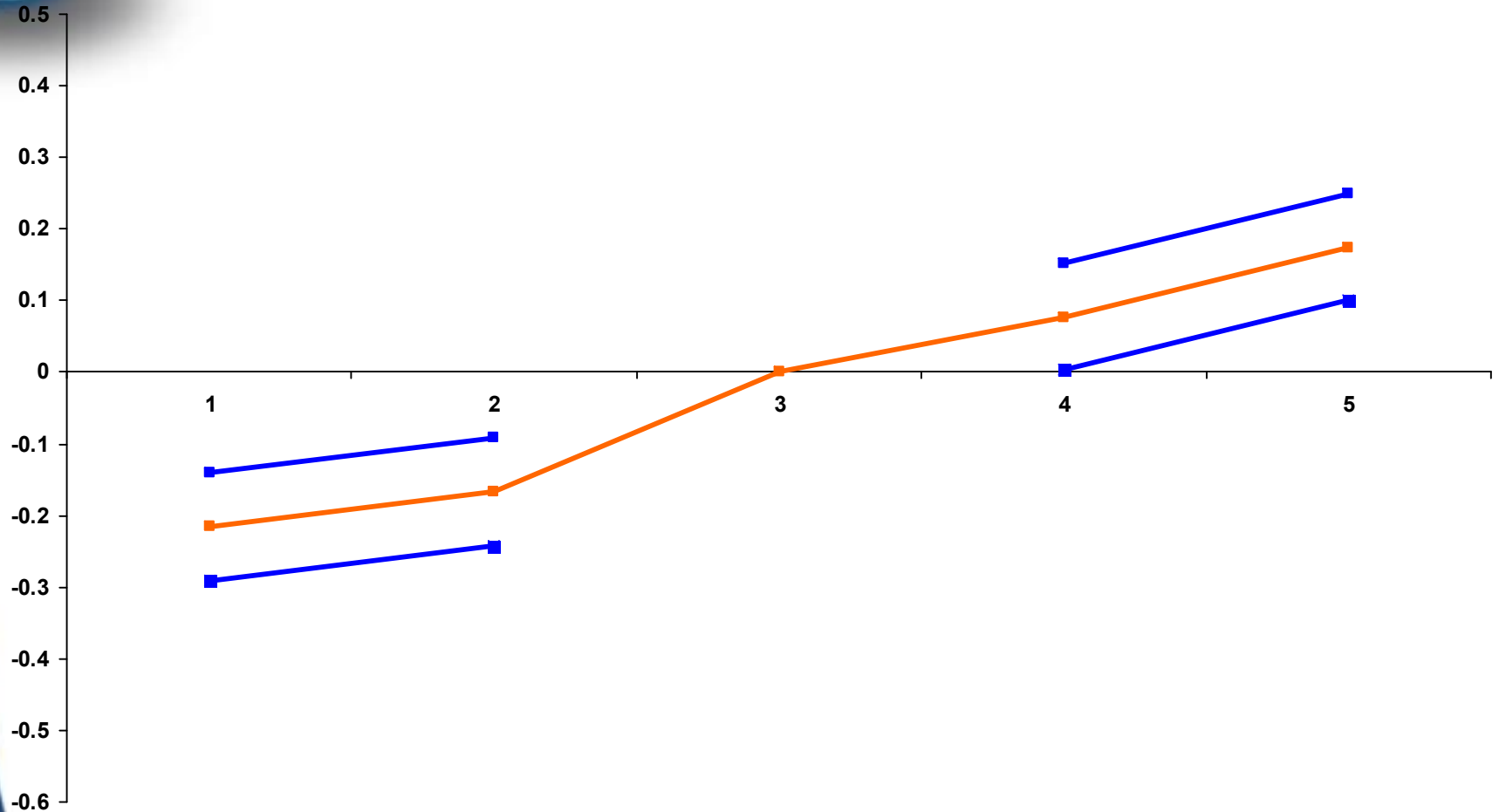
Binomial reference models



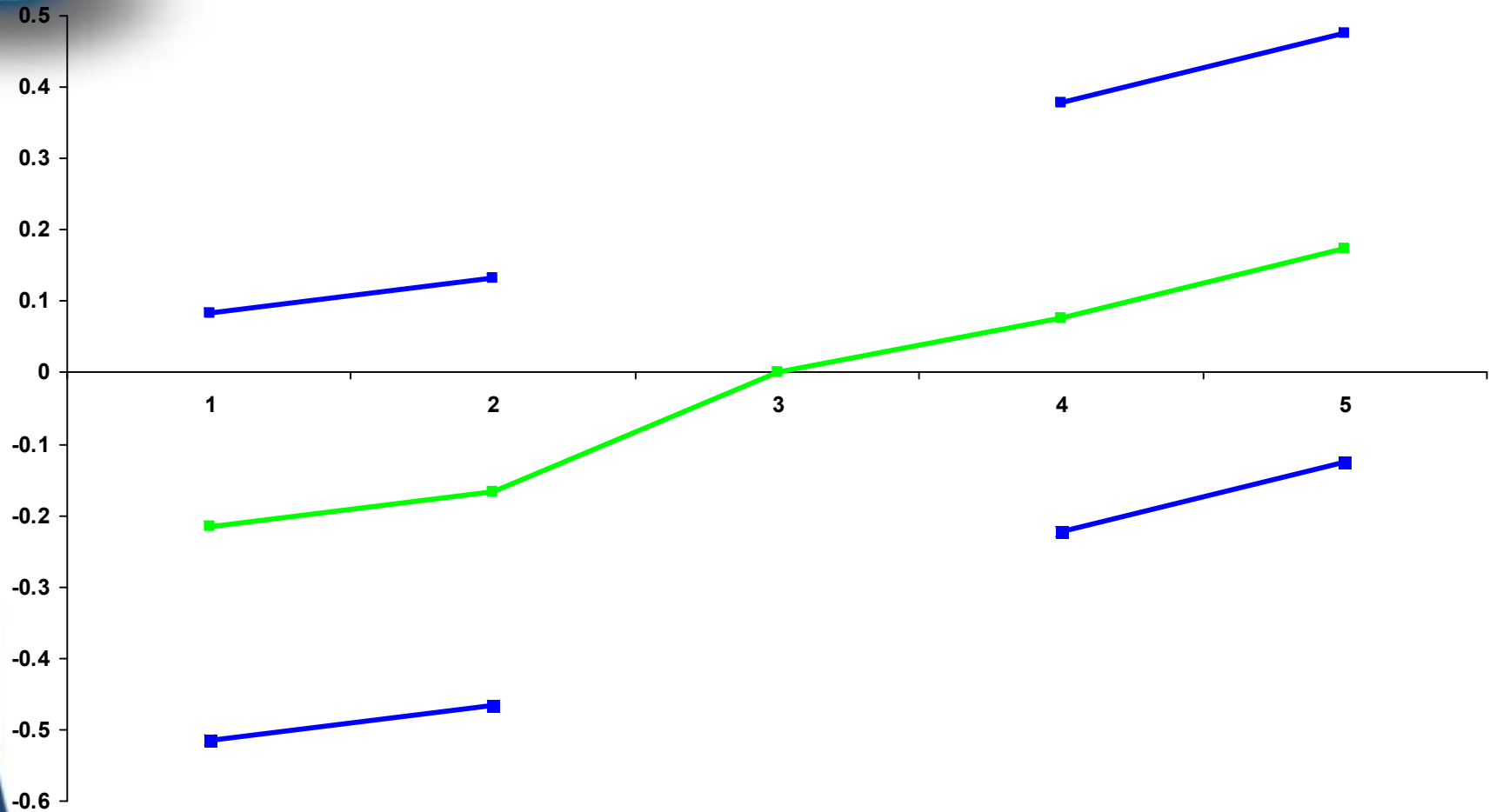
Offset reference model



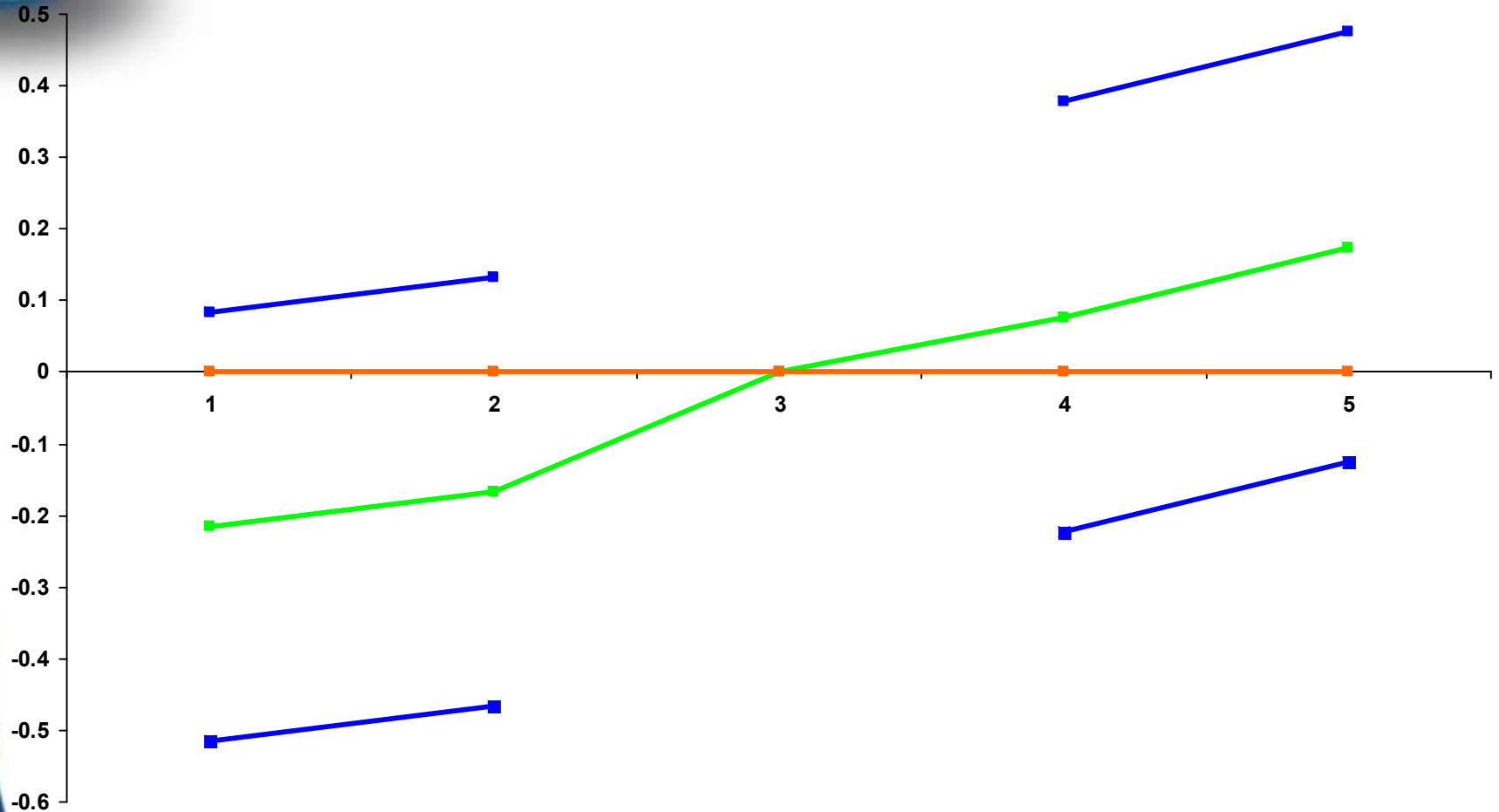
Offset reference model



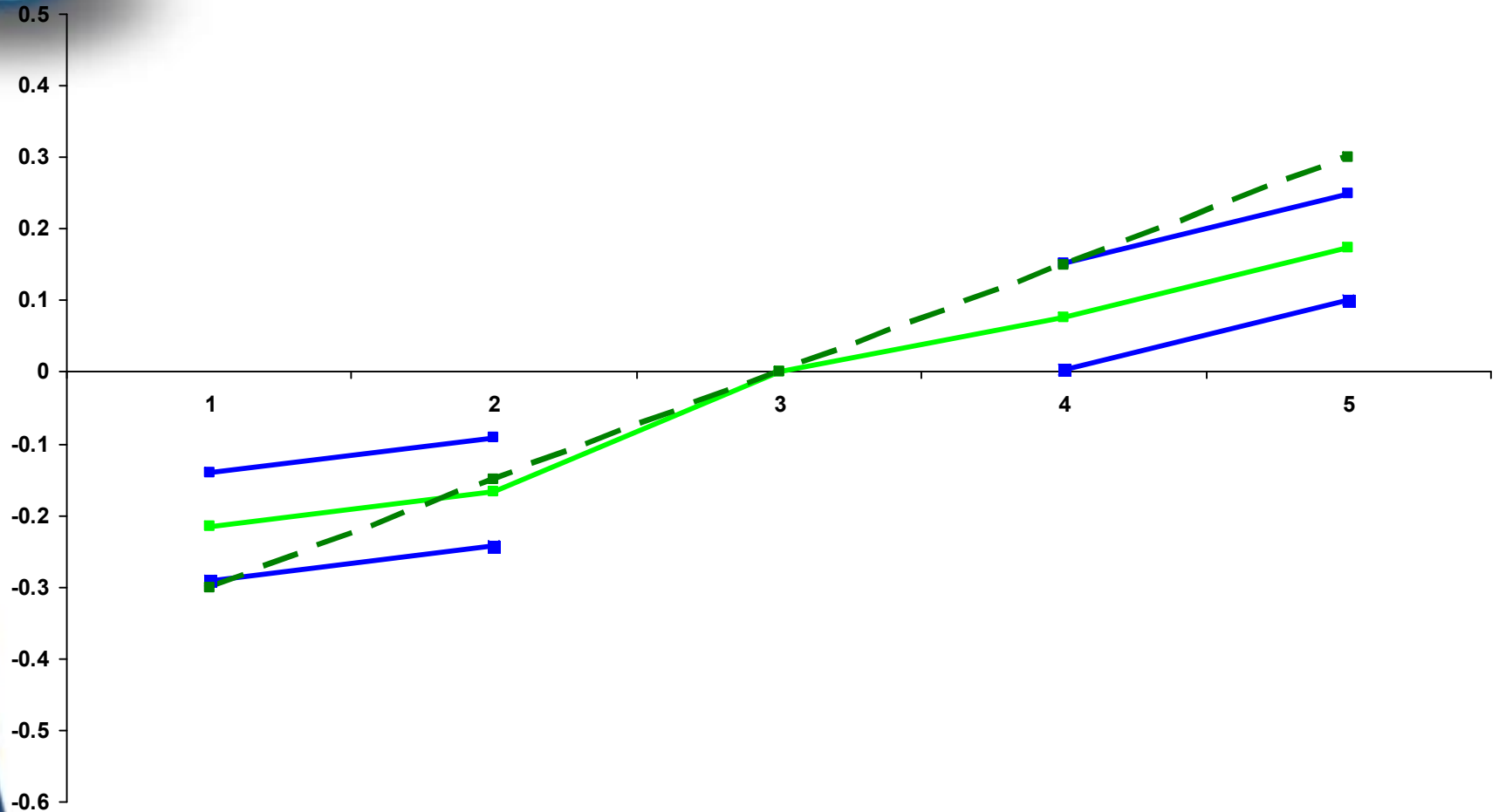
Offset reference model



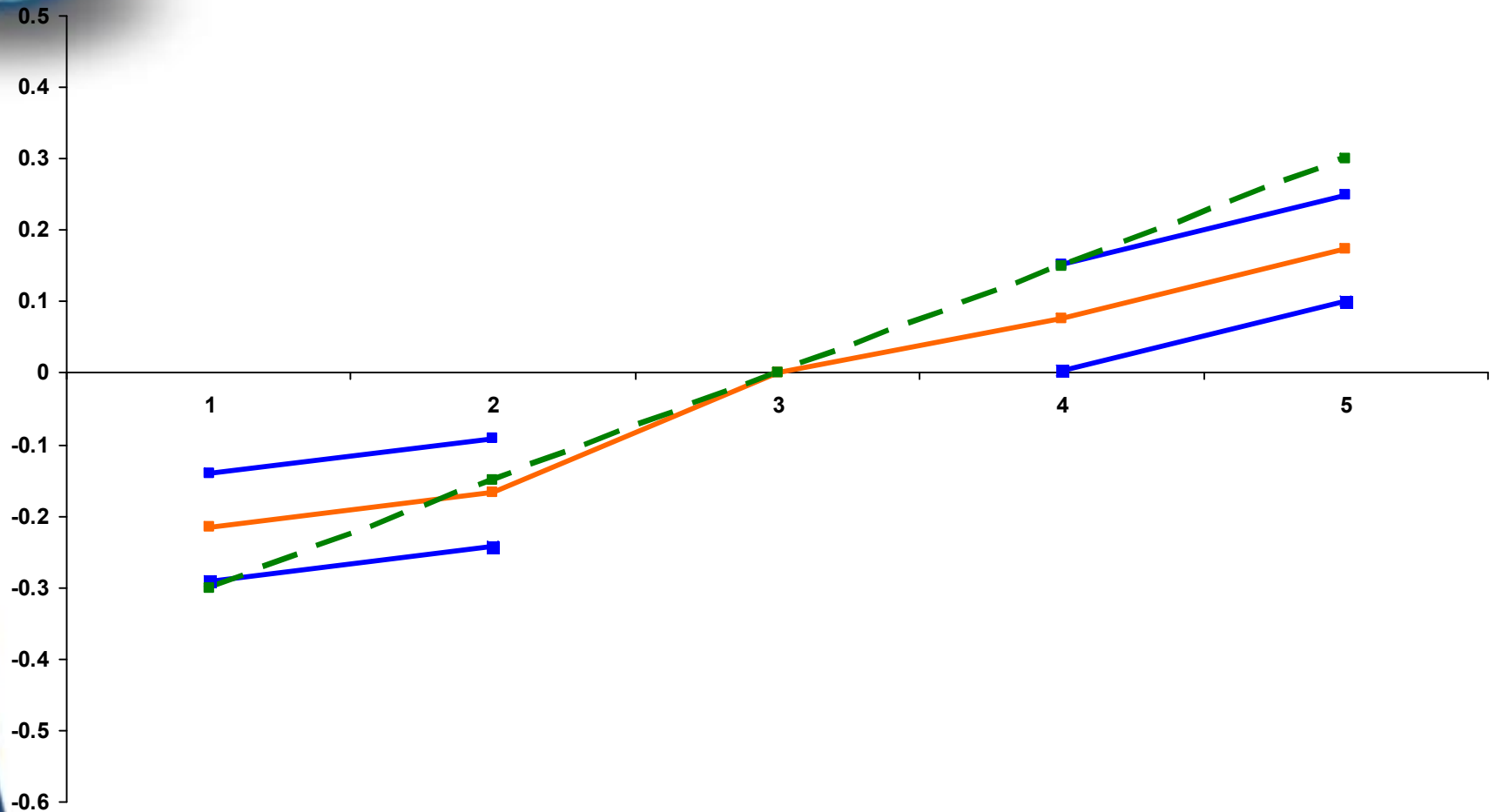
Offset reference model



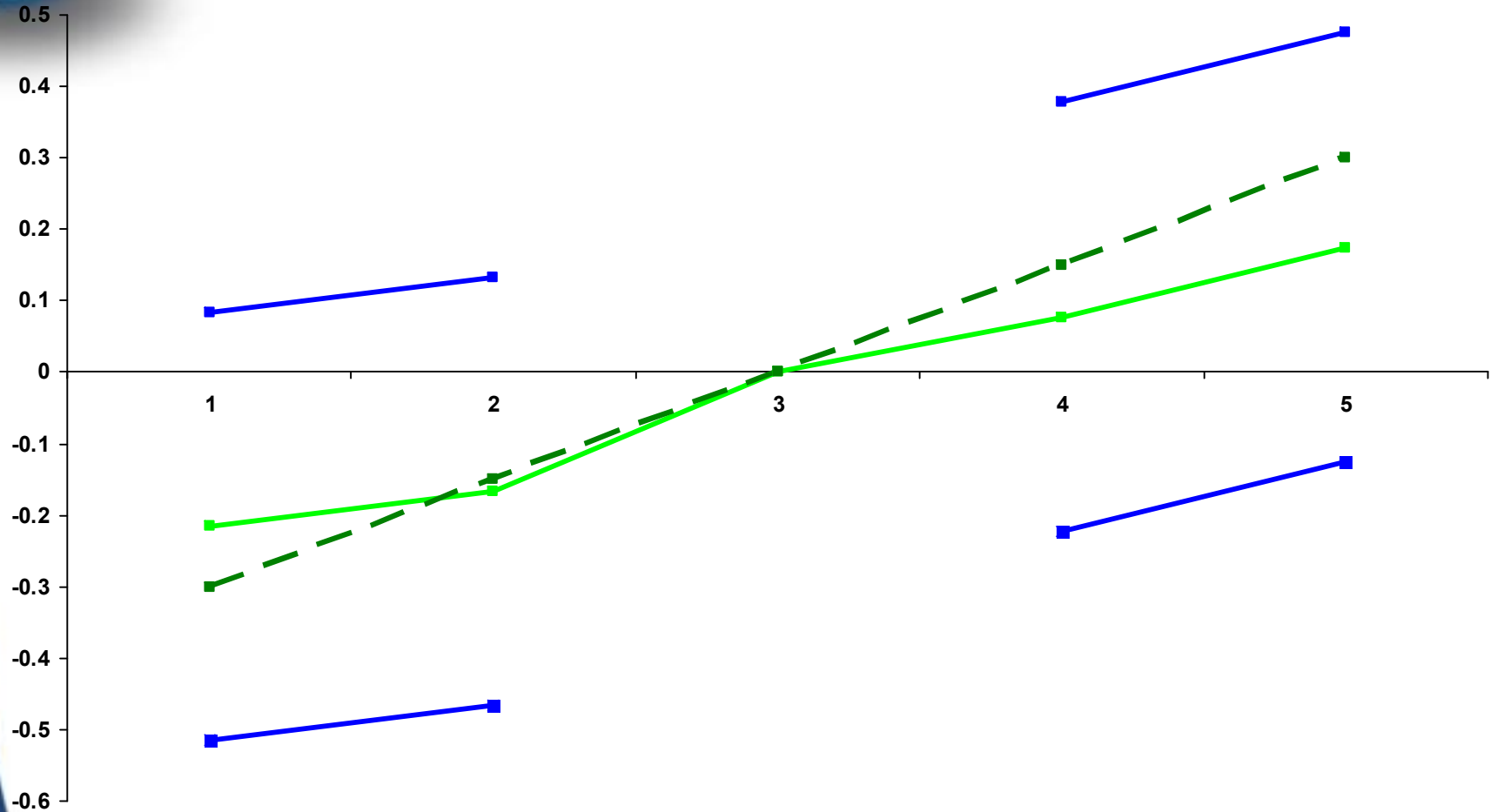
Offset reference model



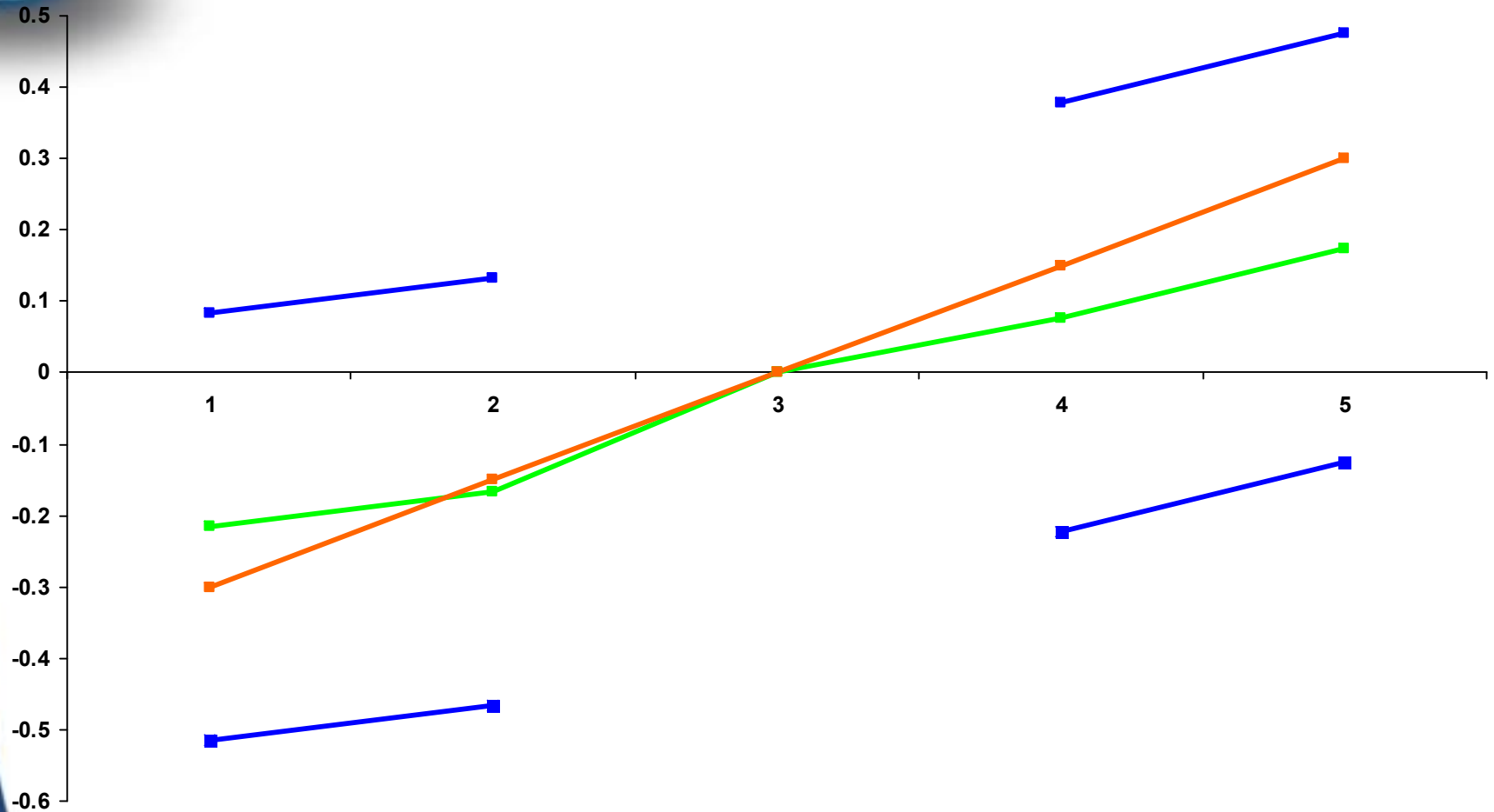
Offset reference model



Offset reference model



Offset reference model



Testing the reference model approach

(1) Fit to BI claims on all data - the "correct answer"



100% of large company

10%

Random sample to emulate small company



(2) Model BI claims with standard approach

(3) Model BI claims referencing PD experience on this small sample

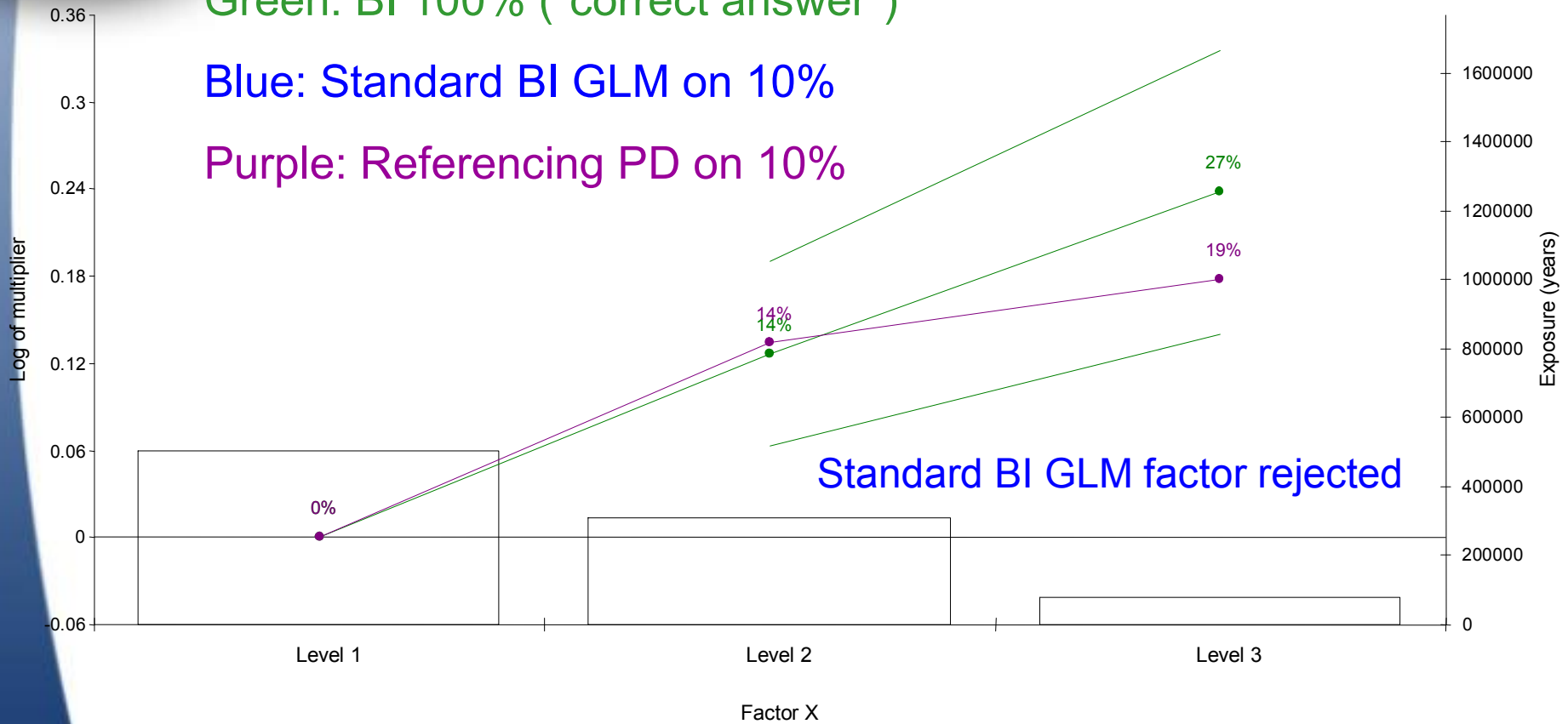


Example of reference model method working

Green: BI 100% ("correct answer")

Blue: Standard BI GLM on 10%

Purple: Referencing PD on 10%



— Approx 2 s.e. from estimate - Full model — Unsmoothed estimate - Full model — PD model

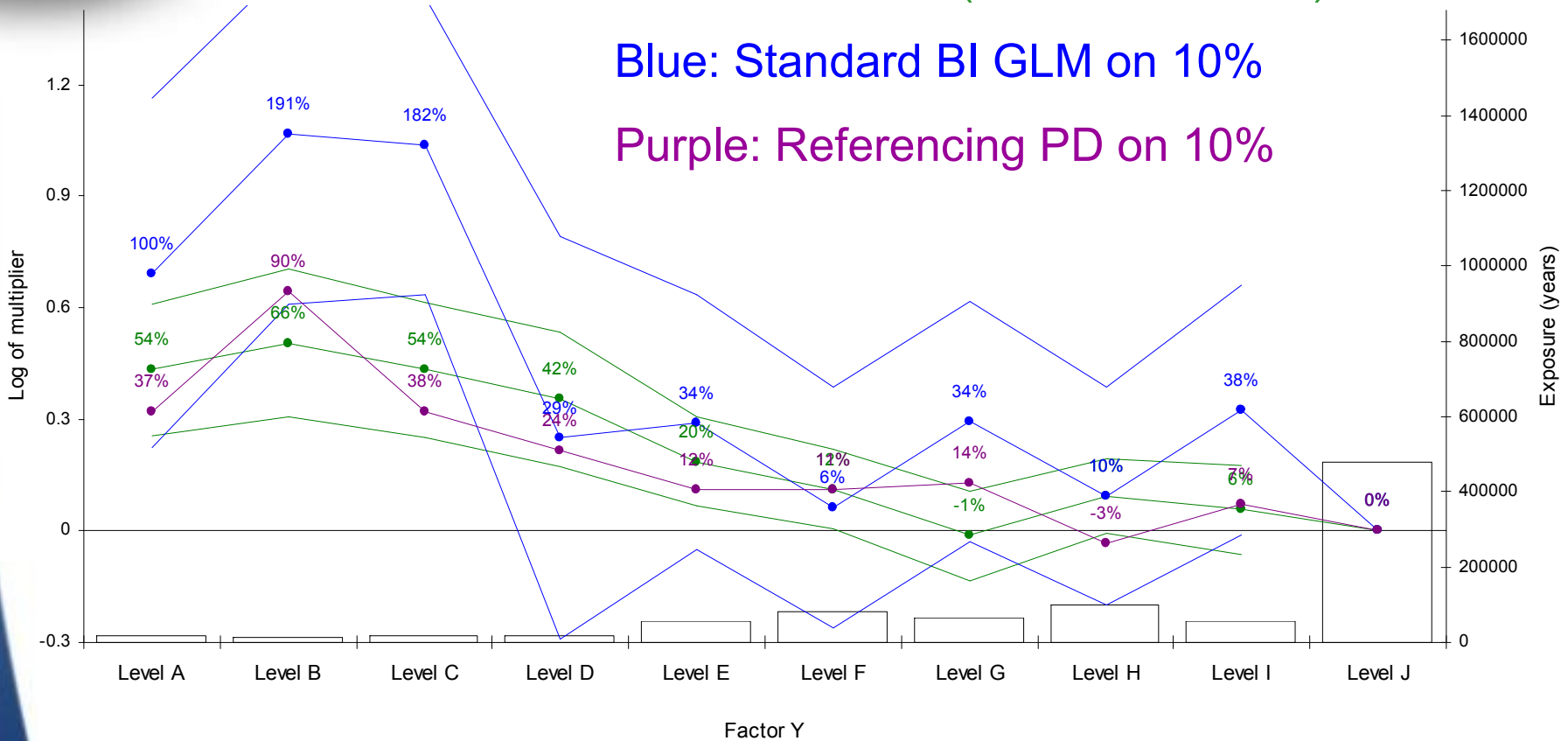


Example of reference model method working

Green: BI 100% ("correct answer")

Blue: Standard BI GLM on 10%

Purple: Referencing PD on 10%



— Approx 2 s.e. from estimate - Full model — Unsmoothed estimate - Full model — Unsmoothed estimate - 10% model — Approx 2 s.e. from estimate - 10% model — PD model





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Aliasing and "near aliasing"

- Aliasing
 - the removal of unwanted redundant parameters
- Intrinsic aliasing
 - occurs by the design of the model
- Extrinsic aliasing
 - occurs "accidentally" as a result of the data



Example

- Suppose we wanted a model of the form:

$$\underline{\mu} = \alpha + \beta_1 \text{ if } \underline{\text{age}} < 30$$

$$+ \beta_2 \text{ if } \underline{\text{age}} \text{ 30 - 40}$$

$$+ \beta_3 \text{ if } \underline{\text{age}} > 40$$

$$+ \gamma_1 \text{ if } \underline{\text{sex}} \text{ male}$$

$$+ \gamma_2 \text{ if } \underline{\text{sex}} \text{ female}$$



Form of $X \cdot \beta$ in this case

	Age			Sex	
	<30	30-40	>40	M	F
1	1	0	1	0	0
2	1	1	0	0	0
3	1	1	0	0	1
4	1	0	0	1	0
5	1	0	1	0	1
				
				

α
 β_1
 β_2
 β_3
 γ_1
 γ_2



Example

- Suppose we wanted a model of the form:

$$\underline{\mu} = \alpha + \beta_1 \text{ if } \underline{\text{age}} < 30$$

~~$$+ \beta_2 \text{ if } \underline{\text{age}} 30 - 40$$~~

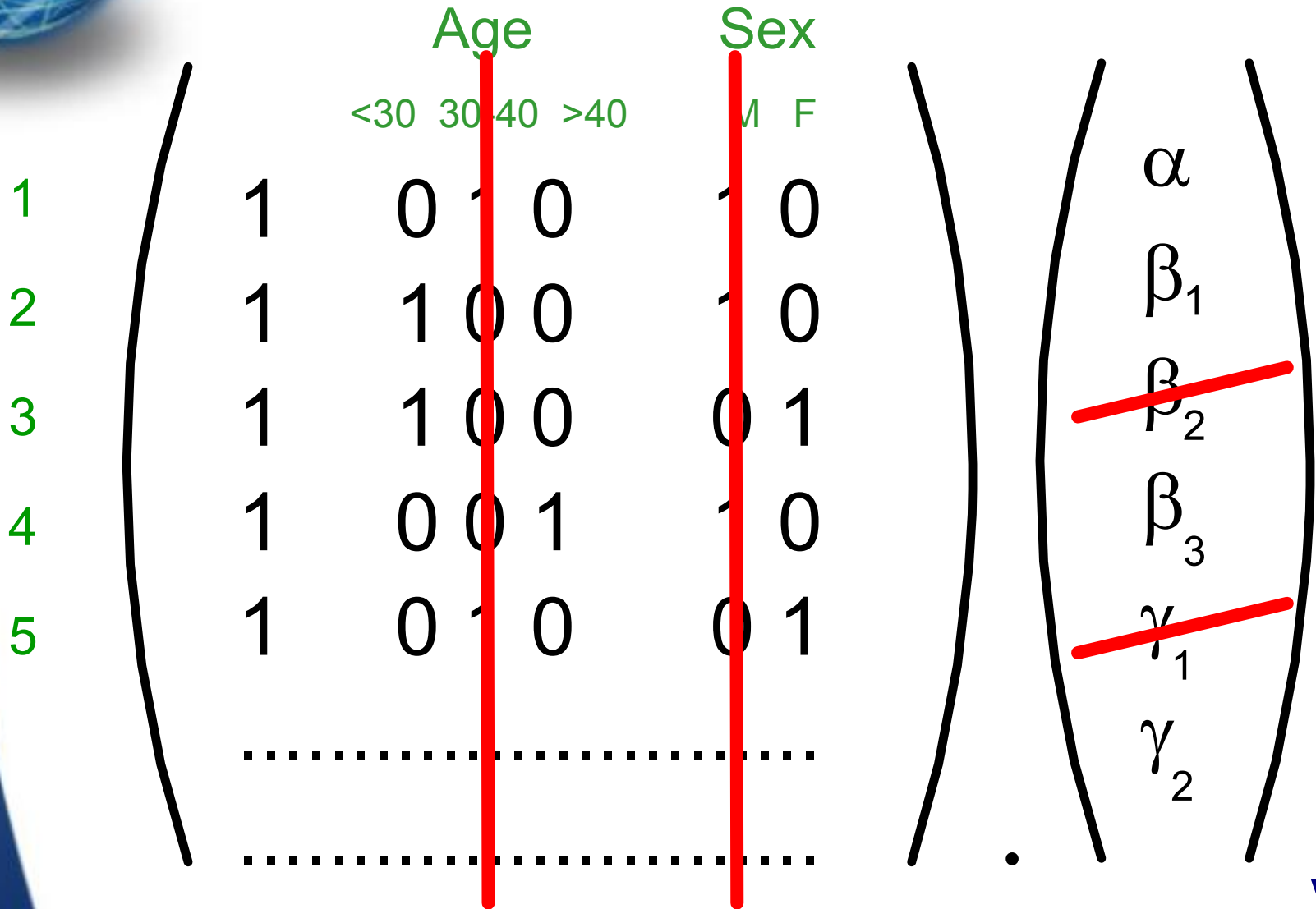
"Base levels"

$$+ \beta_3 \text{ if } \underline{\text{age}} > 40$$

~~$$+ \gamma_1 \text{ if } \underline{\text{sex}} \text{ male}$$~~

$$+ \gamma_2 \text{ if } \underline{\text{sex}} \text{ female}$$

$X \cdot \beta$ having adjusted for base levels



X.β having adjusted for base levels

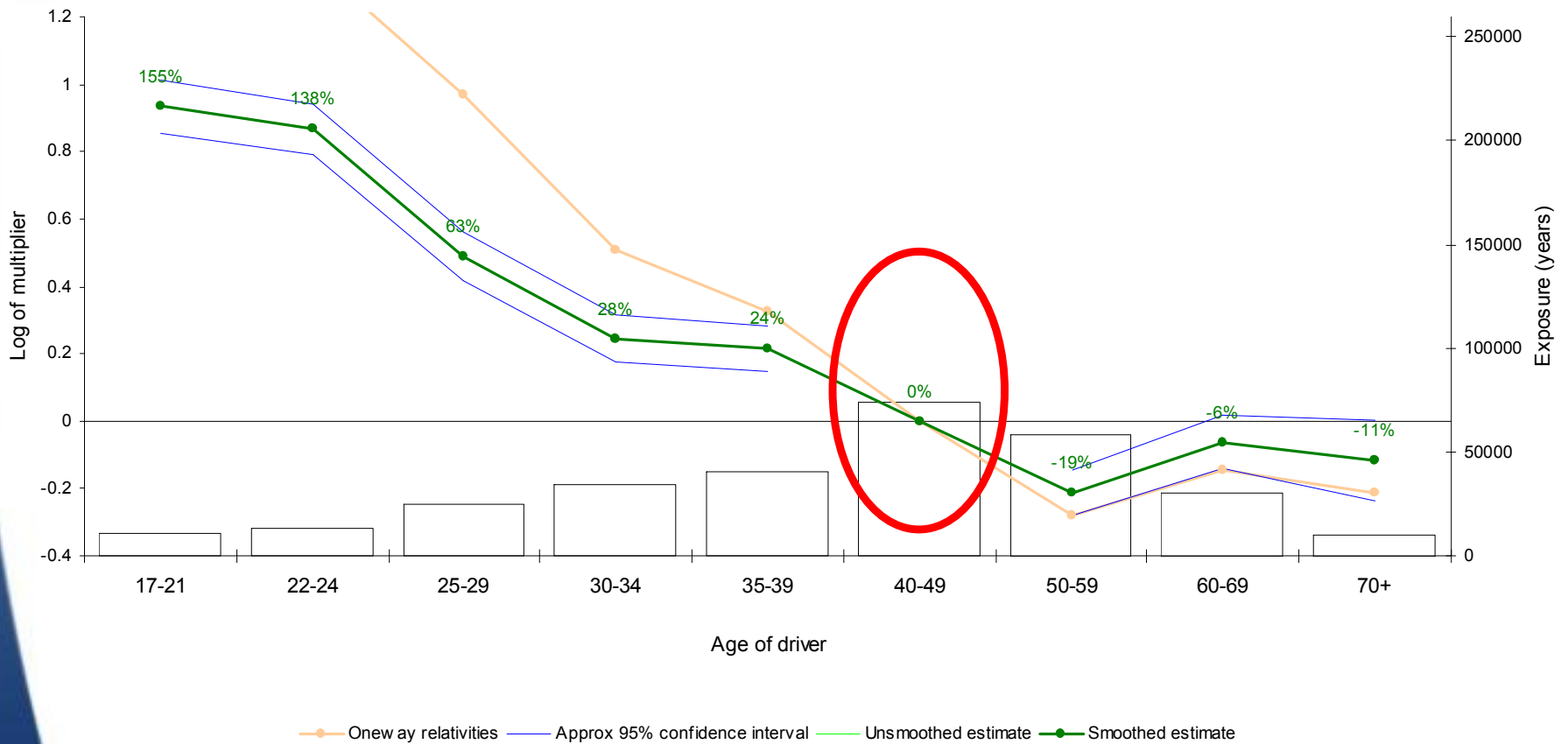
		Age		Sex	
		<30	>40	F	
1	1	0	0	0	α
2	1	1	0	0	β_1
3	1	1	0	1	
4	1	0	1	0	β_3
5	1	0	0	1	
				γ_2



Intrinsic aliasing

Example job

Run 16 Model 3 - Small interaction - Third party material damage, Numbers



Extrinsic aliasing

- If a perfect correlation exists, one factor can alias levels of another
- Eg if doors declared first:

Exposure:	# Doors →	2	3	4 Selected base	5	Unknown
Color ↓						
Red Selected base		13,234	12,343	13,432	13,432	0
Green		4,543	4,543	13,243	2,345	0
Blue		6,544	5,443	15,654	4,565	0
Black		4,643	1,235	14,565	4,545	0
Unknown Further aliasing		0	0	0	0	3,242

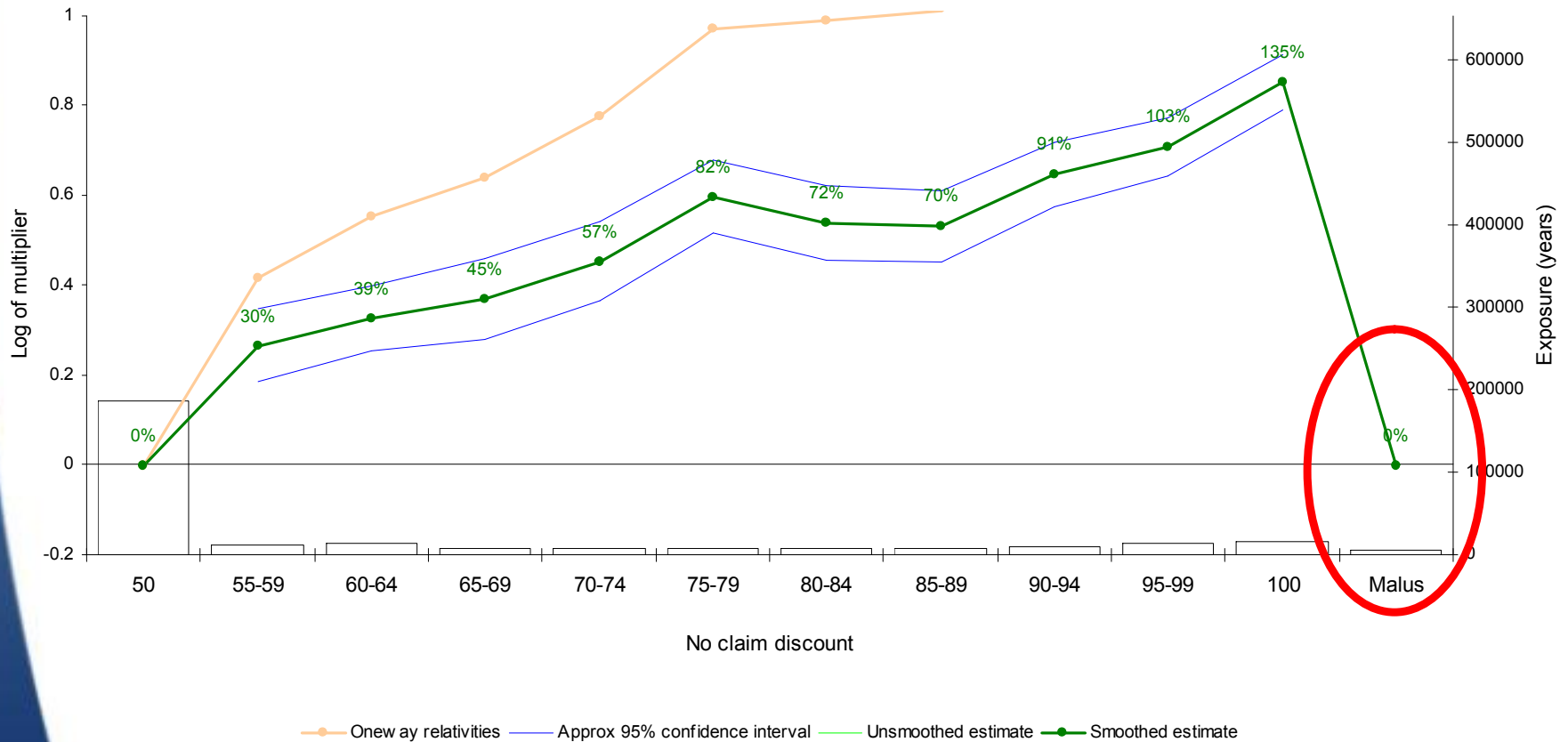
- This is the only reason the order of declaration can matter (fitted values are unaffected)



Extrinsic aliasing

Example job

Run 16 Model 3 - Small interaction - Third party material damage, Numbers



"Near aliasing"

- If two factors are almost perfectly, but not quite aliased, convergence problems can result and/or results can become hard to interpret

Exposure: # Doors →	2	3	4 Selected base	5	Unknown
Color ↓					
Red Selected base	13,234	12,343	13,432	13,432	0
Green	4,543	4,543	13,243	2,345	0
Blue	6,544	5,443	15,654	4,565	0
Black	4,643	1,235	14,565	4,545	2
Unknown	0	0	0	0	3,242

- Eg if the 2 black, unknown doors policies had no claims, GLM would try to estimate a very large negative number for unknown doors, and a very large positive number for unknown color



"Near aliasing" - solution

1. Spot it
2. Fix the data!

Exposure: # Doors →	2	3	4	5	Unknown
Colour ↓					
Red	13,234	12,343	13,432	13,432	0
Green	4,543	4,543	13,243	2,345	0
Blue	6,544	5,443	15,654	4,565	0
Black	4,643	1,235	14,565	4,545	2
Unknown	0	0	0	0	3,242





Agenda

- Introduction
- Testing the link function
- The Tweedie distribution
- Splines
- Reference models
- Aliasing / near aliasing
- **Combining models across claim types**
- Restricted models



Combining claim elements - I

$$\text{BI} \times \text{Freq} \times \text{Amt} = \text{Cost 1}$$

$$\text{PD} \times \text{Freq} \times \text{Amt} = \text{Cost 2}$$

$$\text{MED} \times \text{Freq} \times \text{Amt} = \text{Cost 3}$$

$$\text{COL} \times \text{Freq} \times \text{Amt} = \text{Cost 4}$$

$$\text{OTC} \times \text{Freq} \times \text{Amt} = \text{Cost 5}$$

- Multiply factors for frequencies and amounts
- Calculate risk premium as sum of claim elements

Combining claim elements - II

BI	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 1
PD	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 2
MED	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 3
COL	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 4
OTC	Freq	x	Amt	= Cost 5

- Consider current exposure
- Calculate expected frequency and amount for each claim type for each record
- Combine to give expected total cost of claims for each record
- Fit model to this expected value



Calculation of risk premium

		TPPD Numbers	TPPD Amounts	TPBI Numbers	TPBI Amounts
Intercept		32%	£1000	12%	£4860
Sex	Male	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
	Female	0.750	1.200	0.667	0.900
Area	Town	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
	Country	1.250	0.700	0.750	0.833

Policy	Sex	Area	WWNUM1	WWAMT1	WWNUM2	WWAMT2	WWCC1	WWCC2	WWRISKPRM
...
82155654	M	T	32%	1000	12%	4860	320	583.20	903.20
82168746	F	T	24%	1200	8%	4374	288	349.92	637.92
82179481	M	C	40%	700	9%	4050	280	364.50	644.50
82186845	F	C	30%	840	6%	3645	252	218.70	470.70
...





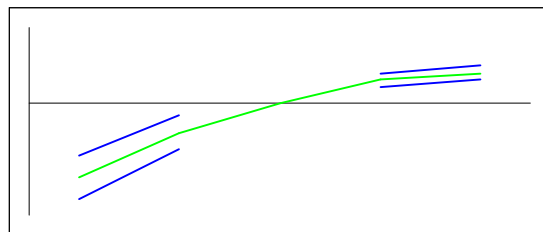
Risk premium standard errors

- Risk premium model standard errors are small owing to the smoothness of the expected value
- It is possible to approximate standard error of risk premium parameter estimates based on standard errors of parameter estimates in underlying models
- Care needed in interpreting such approximations since they do not reflect model error, eg deciding to exclude a marginal factor

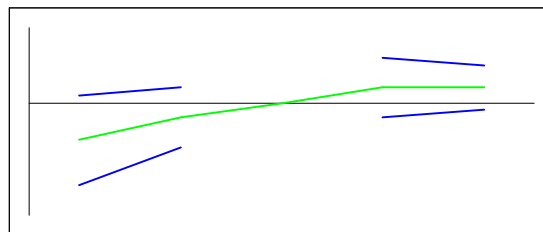


Risk premium standard errors - failings

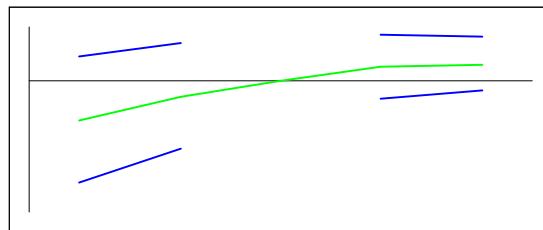
Numbers



Amounts

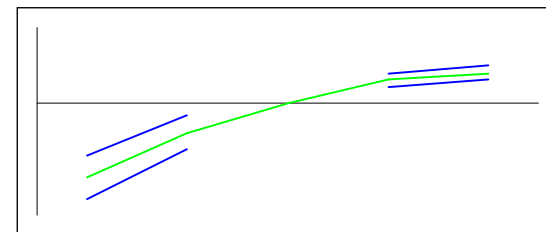
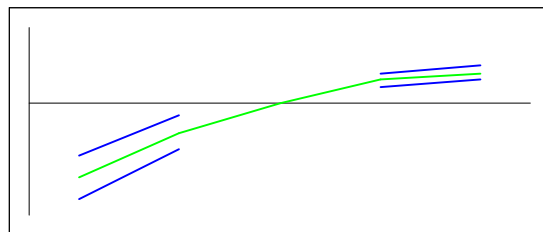


Risk premium

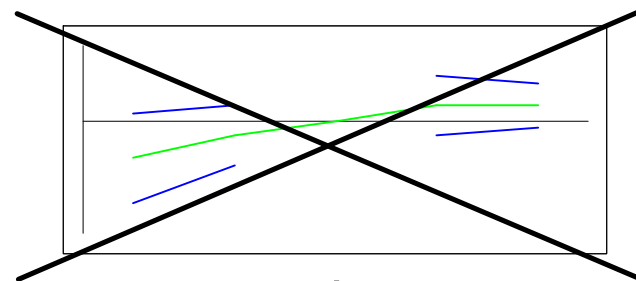
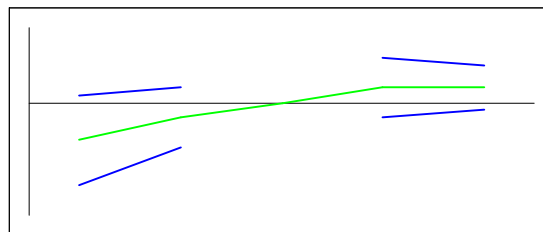


Risk premium standard errors - failings

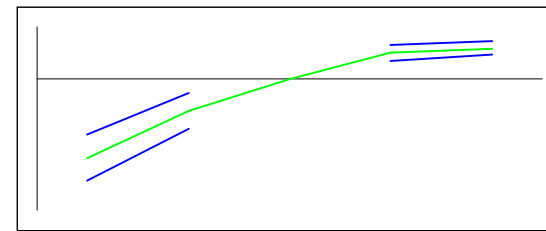
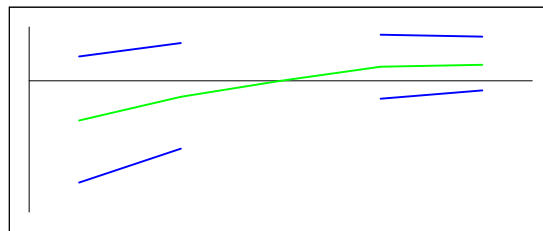
Numbers



Amounts



Risk premium





Agenda

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- **Restricted models**



Restricted models

$$E[Y] = \underline{\mu} = g^{-1} (\mathbf{X} \cdot \underline{\beta} + \xi)$$

Offset



- Offset term used for known effects, eg exposure in a numbers model
- Can also be used to constrain model (eg claim free years / payment frequency / amount of cover)
- Other factors adjusted to compensate



Restricted models

		Age		Sex			
		<30	>40	F			
1	1	0	0	0		α	
2	1	1	0	0		β_1	
3	1	1	0	1			
4	1	0	1	0		β_3	
5	1	0	0	1			
						
						

γ_2



Restricted models

$$E[Y] = \underline{\mu} = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X} \cdot \underline{\beta})$$

		Age		Sex
		<30	>40	F
1	1	0	0	0
2	1	1	0	0
3	1	1	0	1
4	1	0	1	0
5	1	0	0	1
			
			

.

α
β_1
β_3
γ_2

Restricted models

$$E[Y] = \underline{\mu} = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X} \cdot \underline{\beta} + \epsilon)$$

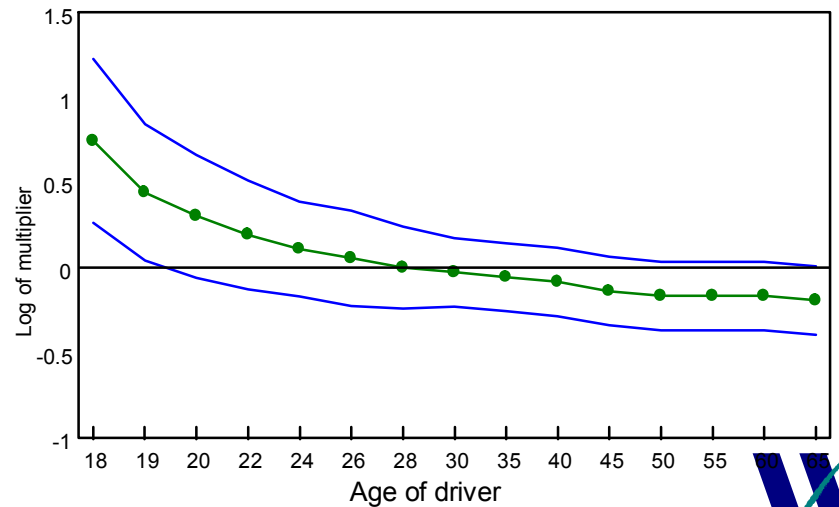
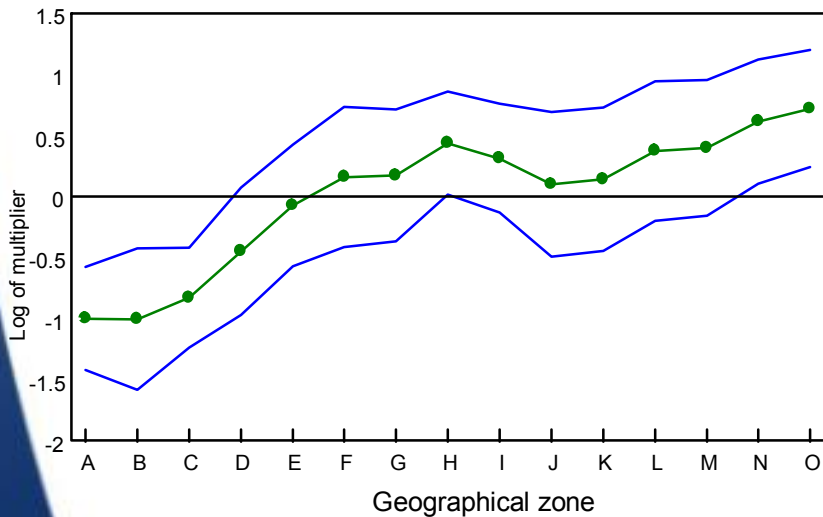
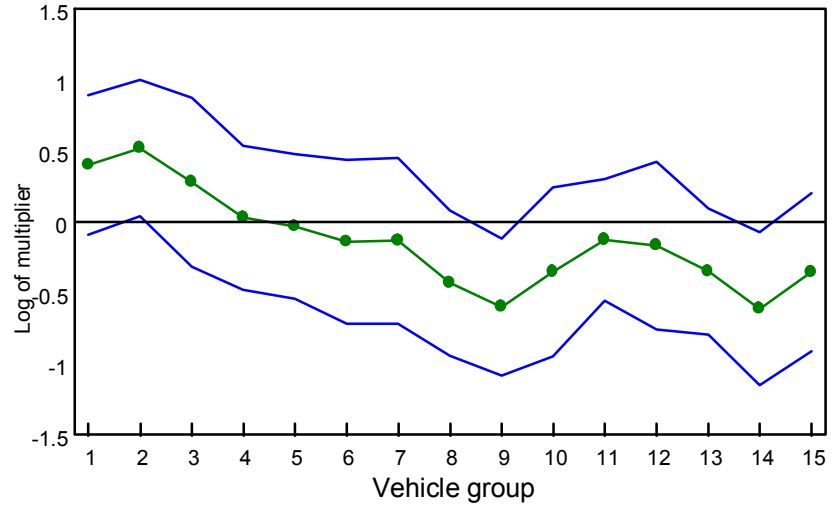
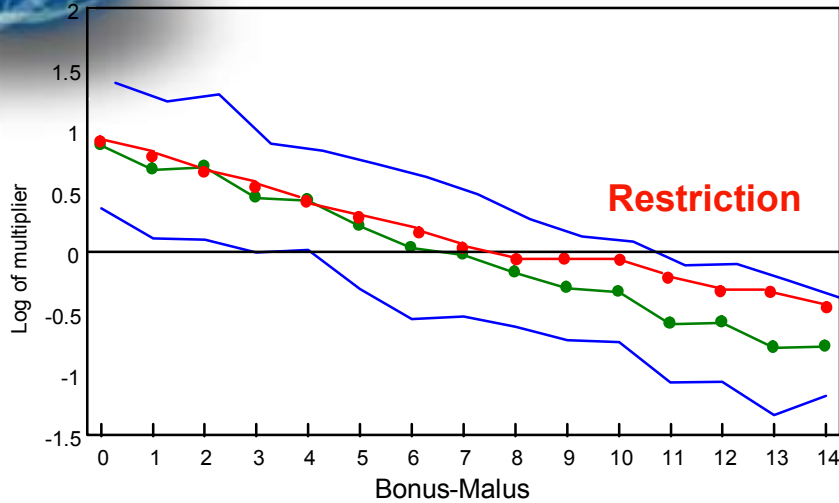
	Age						
		<30	>40				
1	1	0	0	$\left(\begin{array}{c} \alpha \\ \beta_1 \\ \beta_3 \end{array} \right)$	+	$\left(\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0.1 \\ 0 \\ 0.1 \\ \dots \\ \dots \end{array} \right)$	$\left(\begin{array}{c} \dots \\ \dots \end{array} \right)$
2	1	1	0				
3	1	1	0				
4	1	0	1				
5	1	0	0				
						
						

Restricted models

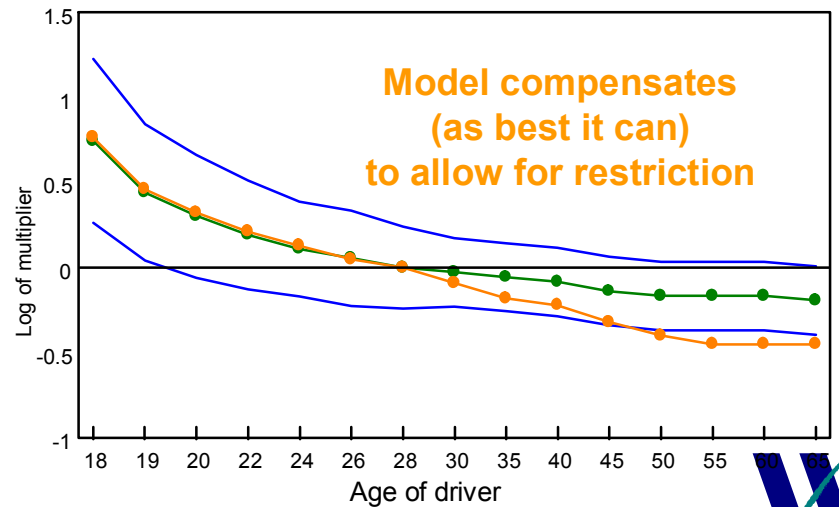
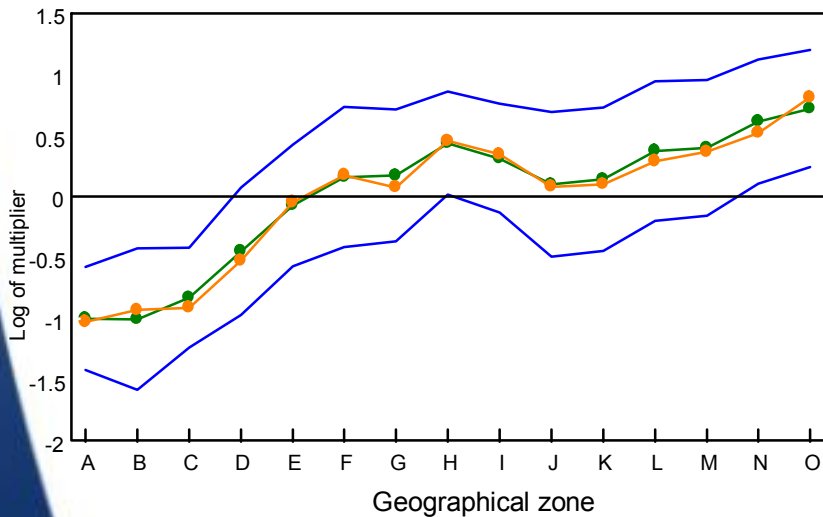
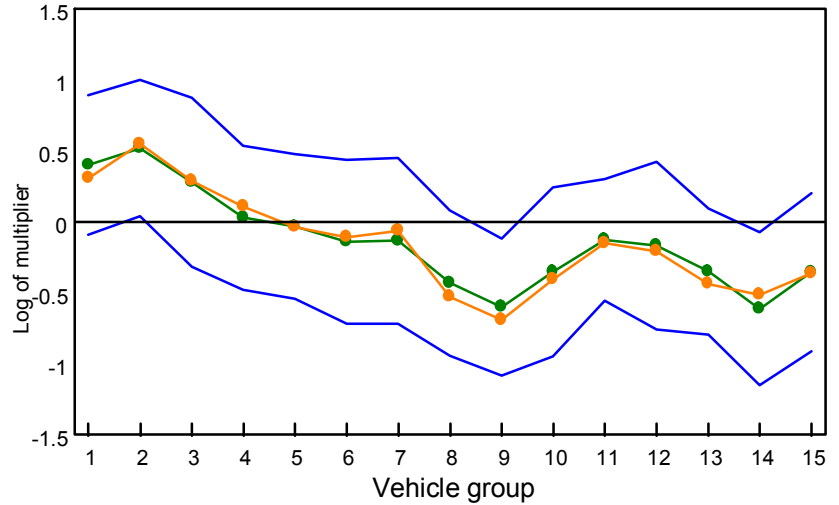
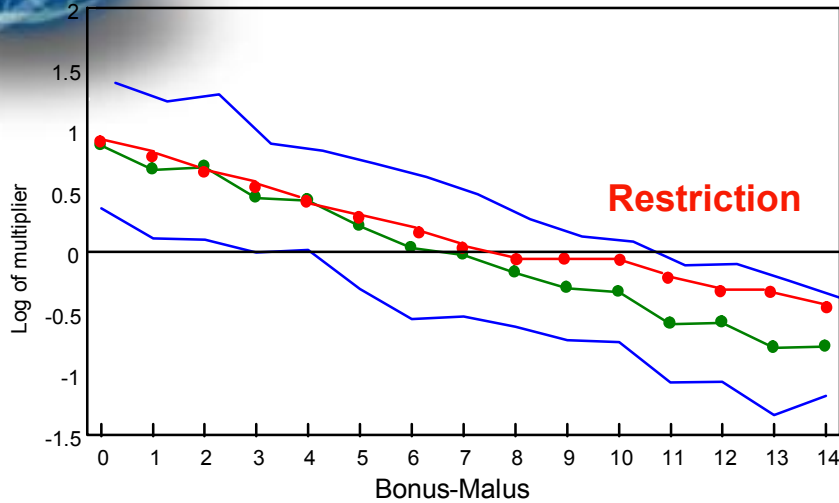
		Age		Sex	
		<30	>40	F	
1	1	0	0	0	α
2	1	1	0	0	β_1
3	1	1	0	1	β_3
4	1	0	1	0	0.1
5	1	0	0	1	
				
				

.

Restricted models

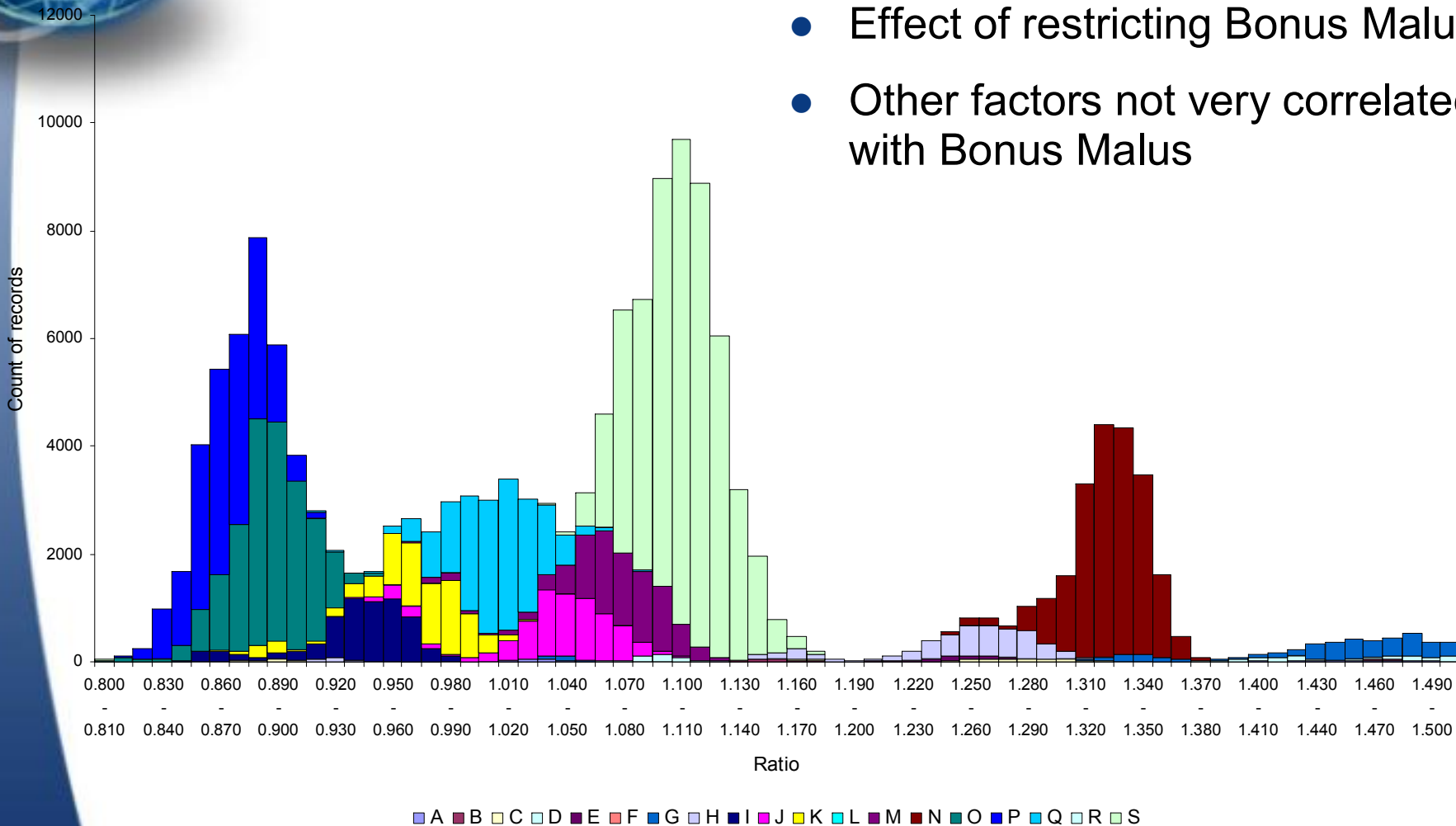


Restricted models



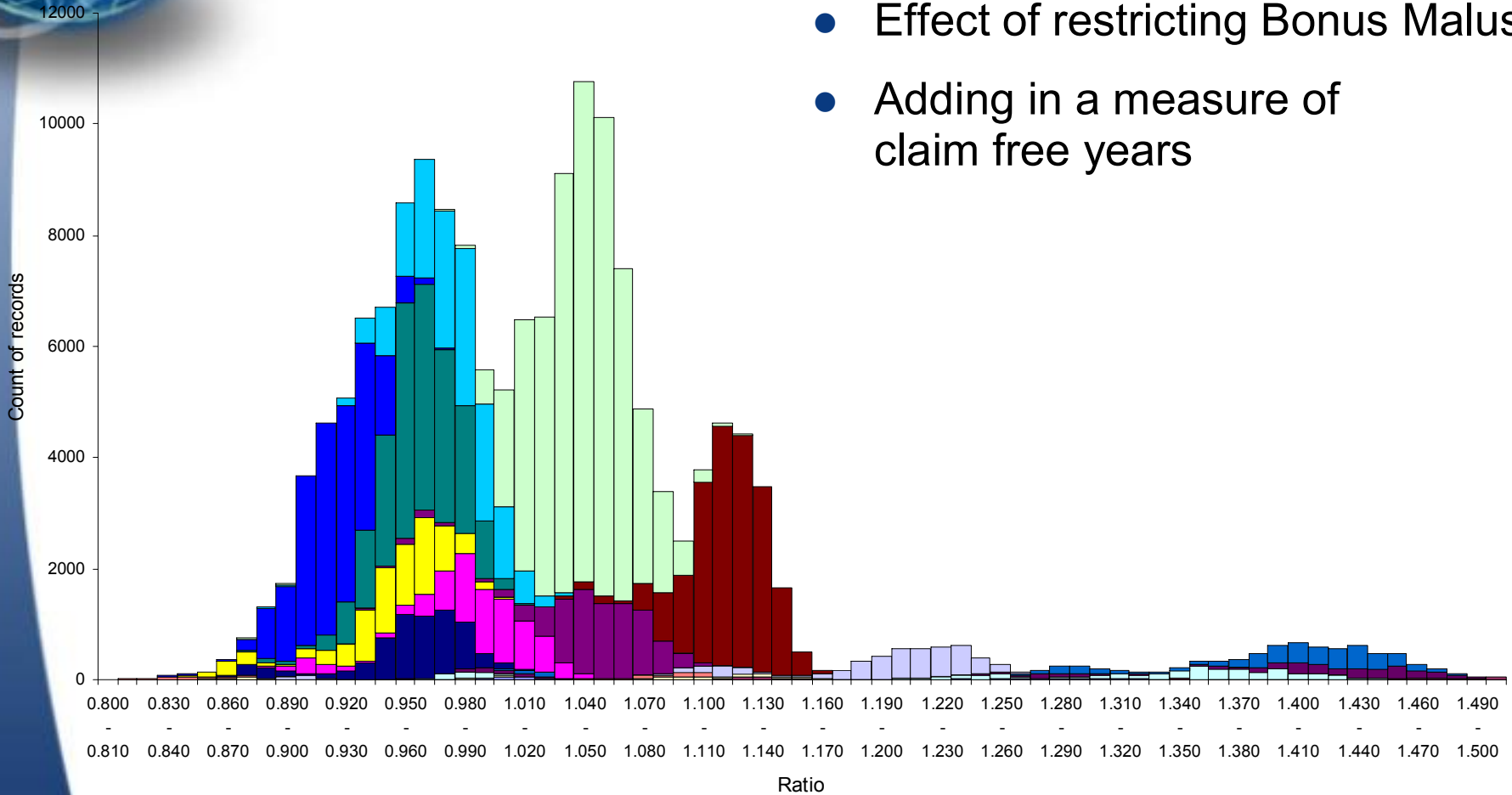
Testing the effectiveness of restrictions

- Effect of restricting Bonus Malus
- Other factors not very correlated with Bonus Malus



Testing the effectiveness of restrictions

- Effect of restricting Bonus Malus
- Adding in a measure of claim free years



■ A ■ B ■ C ■ D ■ E ■ F ■ G ■ H ■ I ■ J ■ K ■ L ■ M ■ N ■ O ■ P ■ Q ■ R ■ S





Restrictions

- Only use to "get around" restrictions
- A commercial smoothing is a commercial smoothing
- Apply at risk premium stage



GLM III: Advanced Modeling Strategy

2005 CAS Seminar on Predictive Modeling

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