

282. Calculating excess and ‘avoidable’ deaths from life tables.

- (a) Load the Melanoma data, drop subjects diagnosed 1975-1984.

```
. //=====//
. // EXERCISE 282
. // REVISED MAY 2015
. //=====//
.
. use melanoma11, clear
(Skin melanoma, diagnosed 1975-94, follow-up to 1995)
. keep if year8594 == 1
(3,031 observations deleted)
. stset surv_mm, fail(status==1 2) id(id) scale(12)

      id: id
      failure event: status == 1 2
obs. time interval: (surv_mm[_n-1], surv_mm]
exit on or before: failure
t for analysis: time/12
```

```
      4,744 total observations
      0 exclusions
```

```
      4,744 observations remaining, representing
      4,744 subjects
      1,404 failures in single-failure-per-subject data
22,108.5 total analysis time at risk and under observation
              at risk from t =      0
              earliest observed entry t =      0
              last observed exit t = 10.95833
```

```
. set trace off
. strs using popmort, notables br(0(1)5) mergeby(_year sex _age) by(agegrp sex) save(replace)
      failure _d: status == 1 2
      analysis time _t: surv_mm/12
      id: id

No late entry detected - p is estimated using the actuarial method
.
. use grouped, clear
(Collapsed (or grouped) survival data)
. keep start end n cp cp_e2 cr_e2 sex agegrp
```

- (b) What is the difference in five-year relative survival between males and

females in each age group?

```
. list agegrp sex cr_e2 if end == 5, noobs sepby(agegrp)
```

agegrp	sex	cr_e2
0-44	Male	0.8236
0-44	Female	0.9233
45-59	Male	0.7969
45-59	Female	0.8740
60-74	Male	0.7413
60-74	Female	0.7958
75+	Male	0.6627
75+	Female	0.7006

(c) Reshape the data.

```
. bysort sex (agegrp start): gen j = _n
. gen sexlab =cond(sex==1,"_m","_f")
. drop sex
. reshape wide start end n cp cp_e2 cr_e2 agegrp, i(j) j(sexlab) string
(note: j = _f _m)
```

Data	long	->	wide
Number of obs.	40	->	20
Number of variables	9	->	15
j variable (2 values)	sexlab	->	(dropped)
xij variables:			
	start	->	start_f start_m
	end	->	end_f end_m
	n	->	n_f n_m
	cp	->	cp_f cp_m
	cp_e2	->	cp_e2_f cp_e2_m
	cr_e2	->	cr_e2_f cr_e2_m
	agegrp	->	agegrp_f agegrp_m

```
. rename agegrp_m agegrp
. rename start_m start
. rename end_m end
. drop agegrp_f start_f end_f
```

(d) For males, calculate the expected number of all-cause deaths, Nd m, the expected number of deaths if the study population were free of cancer, NExp d m and the excess deaths associated with a diagnosis of cancer, ED m.

```
. bys agegrp: gen Nrisk_m = n_m[1]/10
. gen p_dead_m = 1 - cp_e2_m * cr_e2_m
. gen Nd_m = Nrisk_m*p_dead_m
. gen NExp_d_m = Nrisk_m*(1-cp_e2_m)
. gen ED_m = Nd_m - NExp_d_m
```

```
. format Nd_m NExp_d_m ED_m %4.1f
. list agegrp Nrisk_m p_dead_m Nd_m NExp_d_m ED_m if end==5, noobs
```

agegrp	Nrisk_m	p_dead_m	Nd_m	NExp_d_m	ED_m
0-44	53.7	.1889797	10.1	0.8	9.3
45-59	75.2	.2440302	18.4	3.9	14.5
60-74	70.9	.3905036	27.7	12.6	15.1
75+	33.7	.6542017	22.0	16.1	5.9

```
. table agegrp if end == 5, c(sum Nd_m sum NExp_d_m sum ED_m) row format(%4.1f)
```

_m agegrp	sum(Nd_m)	sum(NExp_d_m)	sum(ED_m)
0-44	10.1	0.8	9.3
45-59	18.4	3.9	14.5
60-74	27.7	12.6	15.1
75+	22.0	16.1	5.9
Total	78.2	33.4	44.8

- i. We would expect to see 10, 18, 28 and 22 all cause deaths in the (ascending) age groups.
 - ii. This is given by the excess deaths, ED m. In ascending age groups there are 9, 14, 15, and 6 excess deaths at 5 years post diagnosis when compared to a similar cancer free population. This is for a typical cohort diagnosed in one calendar year.
 - iii. There are 45 excess deaths when compared to the general population.
- (e) Repeat calculations for females.

```
. bys agegrp: gen Nrisk_f = n_f[1]/10
. gen p_dead_f = 1 - cp_e2_f * cr_e2_f
. gen Nd_f = Nrisk_f*p_dead_f
. gen NExp_d_f = Nrisk_f*(1-cp_e2_f)
. gen ED_f = Nd_f - NExp_d_f
. format Nd_f NExp_d_f ED_f %4.1f
. list agegrp Nrisk_f p_dead_f Nd_f NExp_d_f ED_f if end==5, noobs
```

agegrp	Nrisk_f	p_dead_f	Nd_f	NExp_d_f	ED_f
0-44	62.4	.0814915	5.1	0.3	4.8
45-59	61.2	.1431934	8.8	1.2	7.6
60-74	66.1	.2800009	18.5	6.3	12.2
75+	51.2	.5766043	29.5	20.3	9.3

```
. table agegrp if end == 5, c(sum Nd_f sum NExp_d_f sum ED_f) row format(%4.1f)
```

_m agegrp	sum(Nd_f)	sum(NExp_d_f)	sum(ED_f)
0-44	5.1	0.3	4.8
45-59	8.8	1.2	7.6
60-74	18.5	6.3	12.2

75+	29.5	20.3	9.3
Total	61.9	28.1	33.8

- (f) In terms of the total number of all cause deaths, females have fewer at all ages except the 70+ group. This is because they are more females diagnosed in this group 51 vs 34, so even though females have lower relative survival they have more deaths due to a number of women in the oldest age groups being diagnosed. This leads to there being more excess deaths in this age group for women when compared to men. As a whole there are more excess deaths in men. How many deaths would be ‘avoided’ if males could achieve the same relative survival as females for Melanoma?

```
. gen Nd_m_f = Nrisk_m*(1 - cp_e2_m * cr_e2_f)
. gen AD_m = Nd_m - Nd_m_f
. format Nd_m_f AD_m %4.1f
. list agegrp Nrisk_m p_dead_m Nd_m NExp_d_m ED_m Nd_m_f AD_m if end==5, noobs
```

agegrp	Nrisk_m	p_dead_m	Nd_m	NExp_d_m	ED_m	Nd_m_f	AD_m
0-44	53.7	.1889797	10.1	0.8	9.3	4.9	5.3
45-59	75.2	.2440302	18.4	3.9	14.5	12.9	5.5
60-74	70.9	.3905036	27.7	12.6	15.1	24.5	3.2
75+	33.7	.6542017	22.0	16.1	5.9	21.4	0.7

There would be about 15 deaths ‘avoided’. The youngest two age groups contribute most to the avoidable deaths.

- (g) List the avoidable deaths for the oldest age group over all follow-up times. Why are the number of avoidable deaths decreasing as follow-up time increases?

```
. list agegrp end AD_m if agegrp==3
```

	agegrp	end	AD_m
16.	75+	1	1.4
17.	75+	2	2.2
18.	75+	3	2.1
19.	75+	4	1.2
20.	75+	5	0.7

This is because we can not avoid deaths for ever. Remember that we are looking at all cause deaths. If we had unlimited follow-up we would avoid no deaths at all. In the oldest age group we can actually see that we are just postponing deaths.