

# Forecasting the age structure of the scientific workforce in Australia

Rob J Hyndman & Kelly Nguyen

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# Labour force model

$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$

$x$  = Age

$t$  = Year

$P_{x,t}$  = number of equivalent full-time workers

$m_{x,t}$  = probability of death

$r_{x,t}$  = probability of retirement

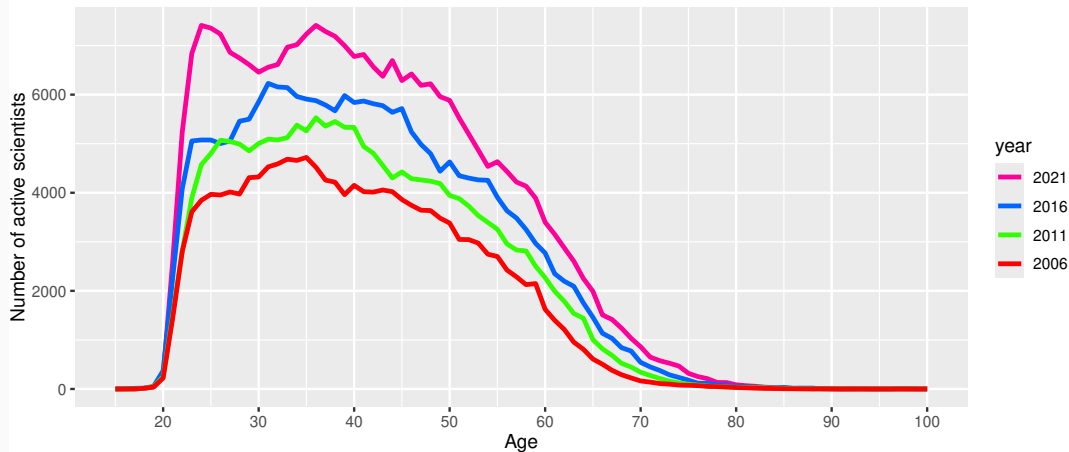
$G_{x,t}$  = number of graduates

$N_{x,t}$  = net number of migrants

# Working population: $P_{x,t}$

$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$

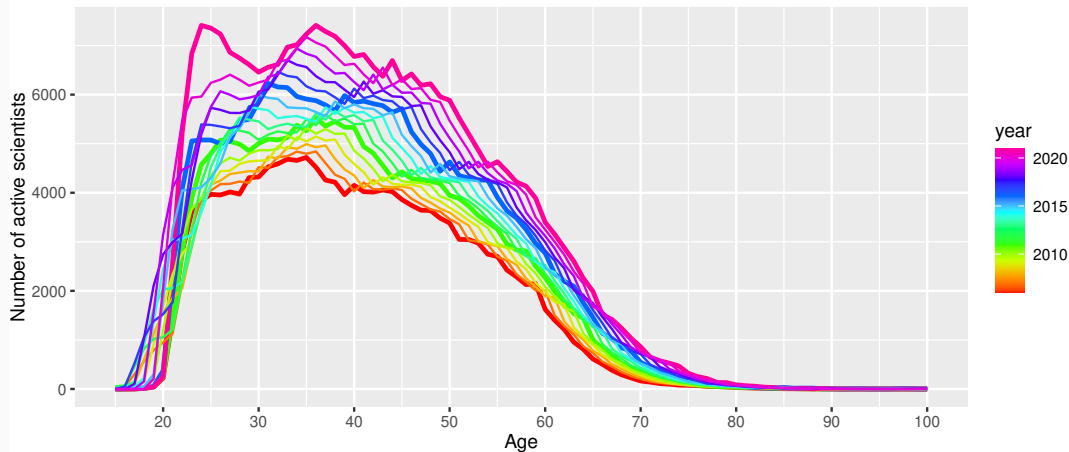
Working Population: Natural and Physical Sciences (2006 – 2021)



# Working population: $P_{x,t}$

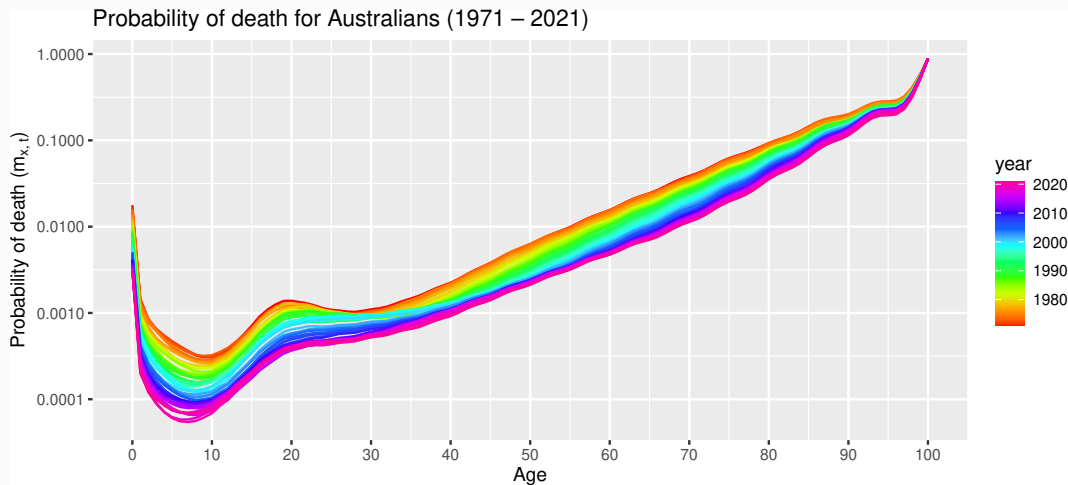
$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$

Working Population: Natural and Physical Sciences (2006 – 2021)



# Death rates: $m_{x,t}$

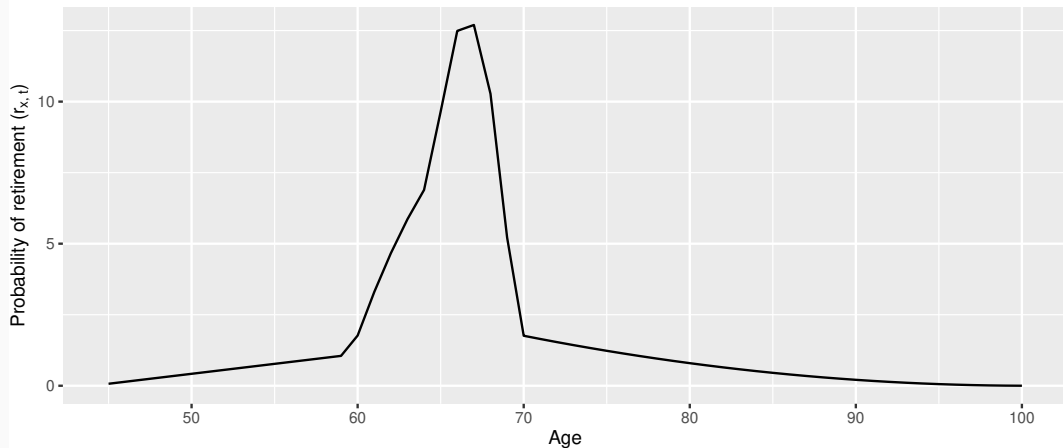
$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$



# Retirement rates: $r_{x,t}$

$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$

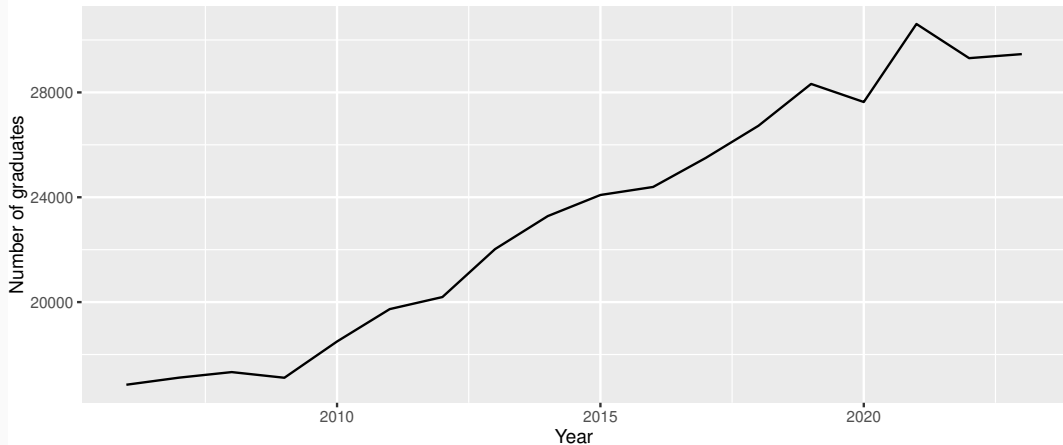
Probability of retirement for Australian scientists (2022 – 23)



# Graduate completions: $G_{x,t}$

$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$

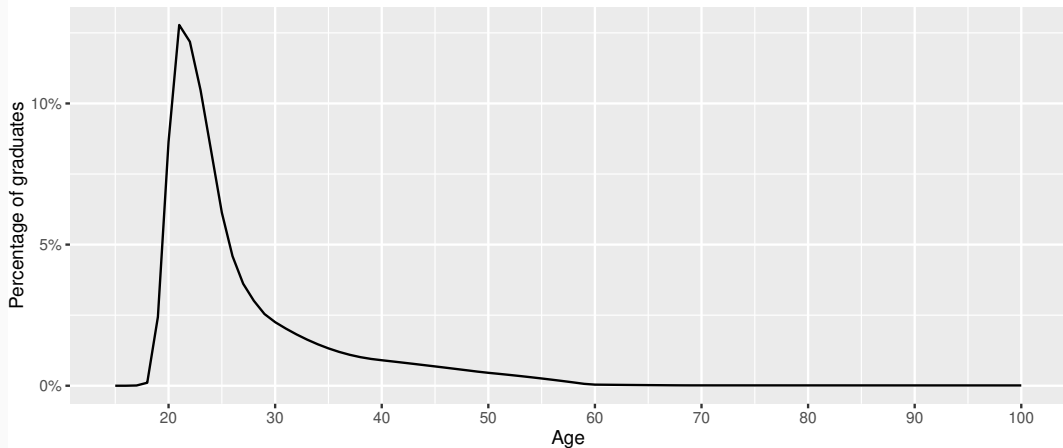
Total graduates: Natural and Physical Sciences (2006 – 2023)



# Graduate completions: $G_{x,t}$

$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$

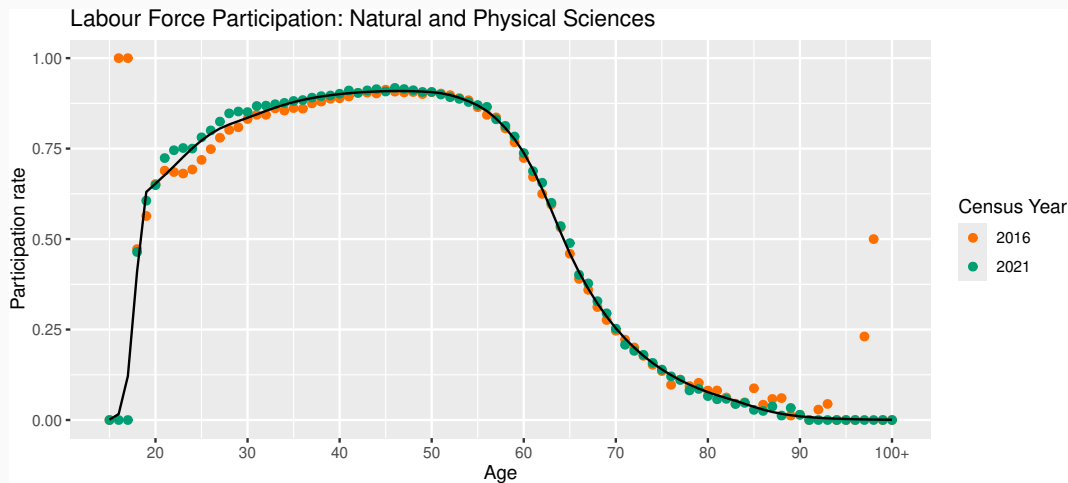
Average graduate completions by age (2006 – 2023)





# Graduate completions: $G_{x,t}$

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## Net migration: $N_{x,t}$

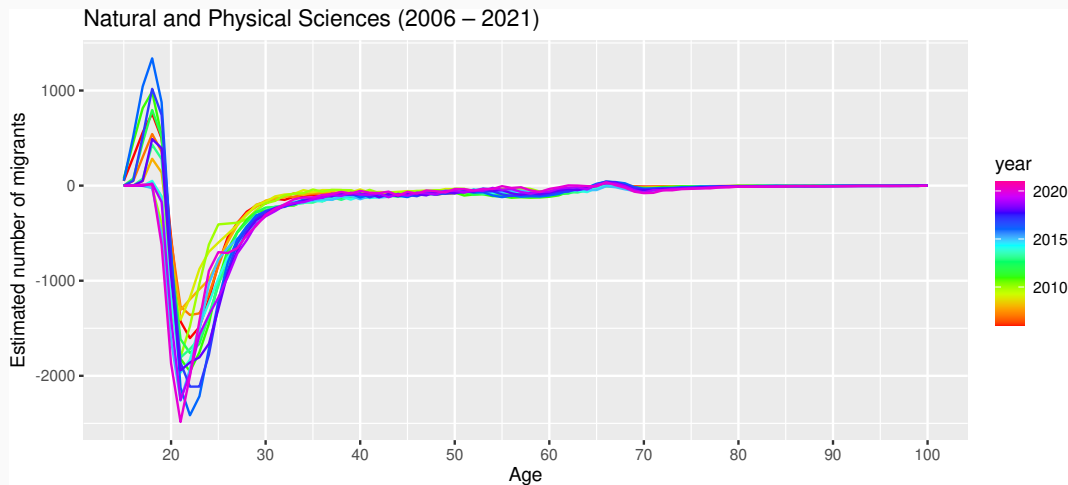
$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$

## Net migration: $N_{x,t}$

$$N_{x,t} = P_{x+1,t+1} - P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) - G_{x,t}$$

# Net migration: $N_{x,t}$

$$N_{x,t} = P_{x+1,t+1} - P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) - G_{x,t}$$



# Forecasting models

$$P_{x+1,t+1} = P_{x,t}(1 - m_{x,t} - r_{x,t}) + G_{x,t} + N_{x,t}$$

$m_{x,t}$ : a functional time series model

$r_{x,t}$ : assumed constant over time

$G_{x,t}$ : ARIMA model of total graduates by year, disaggregated by age using constant functions of age (for graduate age distribution and labour force participation distribution)

$N_{x,t}$ : a functional time series model