

# Decomposition - Class 3

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HYGIENE  
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MEDICINE



- Method to decompose life expectancy by age
- Extendable to causes of death

Quiz time!

# Kitagawa and Arriaga decomposition

Now we can decompose

- Any crude rate
- Life expectancy by age and causes of death

Now we can decompose

- Any crude rate
- Life expectancy by age and causes of death

What about everything else?

# Analytical vs computational methods

- **Analytical** methods can only be applied to the specific measures for which they were developed
- They give a mathematically exact decomposition
- **Computational** methods harness modern computational power to decompose a wider range of measures
- They rely on modern computational power

## Two main computational methods

- Linear integral decomposition method [Horiuchi et al., 2008]
- Stepwise replacement method [Andreev et al., 2002]

Two main computational methods

- **Linear integral decomposition method**  
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- Japanese demographer, worked at UN and various US universities
- Mortality, interested in overall patterns of ageing
- Mostly low-mortality countries and some bio-demography
- *A decomposition method based on a model of continuous change*, 2008 (with John R. Wilmoth and Scott D. Pletcher)



# Horiuchi decomposition (Linear integral decomposition method)

Decompose a difference in a function with  $n$  covariates (e.g. ages)

Total difference is the sum of covariate-specific contributions:

$$y(t_2) - y(t_1) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i$$

# Horiuchi decomposition (Linear integral decomposition method)

$$c_i = \int_{x_i(t_1)}^{x_i(t_2)} \frac{\delta}{\delta x_i(t)} y(t) dx_i(t)$$

Where

- $i$  is the specific covariate
- $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are two periods or populations
- $\frac{\delta}{\delta x_i(t)} y(t)$  is the derivative of function  $y$  with respect to its covariate  $x_i$  (how much  $y$  changes, given an infinitesimal change in  $x_i$ )

# Horiuchi decomposition (Linear integral decomposition method)

The contributions of covariates to the change in function  $y$  are additive, even when the function itself is not additive with respect to the covariates

→ It can be applied to a wide range of functions

# Horiuchi decomposition (Linear integral decomposition method)

Three main limitations/assumptions:

- The dependent variable is a differentiable function of the covariates  
→ only condition for applicability
- The population is treated as homogeneous (doesn't mean it actually is)
- The values of the covariates change continuously and proportionally to each other

# An example

[Am J Public Health](#). 2019 March; 109(3): 483–489.

PMCID: PMC6366518

Published online 2019 March. doi: [10.2105/AJPH.2018.304878](https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2018.304878)

PMID: [30676788](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30676788/)

## Upsurge of Homicides and Its Impact on Life Expectancy and Life Span Inequality in Mexico, 2005–2015

[José Manuel Aburto](#), MSc<sup>✉</sup> and [Hiram Beltrán-Sánchez](#), PhD

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Let's try to decompose lifespan variation by age

# An example

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# An example

Let's try to decompose lifespan variation by age and cause

How could you use the Horiuchi method in your own research?

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Eugenio Paglino<sup>a,b,\*</sup> , Irma T. Elo<sup>c</sup> , Pekka Martikainen<sup>a,b,d</sup> 



Environment International

Volume 193, November 2024, 109050



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Simon J LLOYD <sup>a</sup> , Erich STRIESSNIG <sup>b</sup> , José Manuel ABURTO <sup>c</sup> ,  
Hicham ACHEBAK <sup>d</sup> , Shakoor HAJAT <sup>e</sup> , Raya MUTTARAK <sup>f</sup> ,  
Marcos QUIJAL-ZAMORANO <sup>a</sup> , Constanza VIELMA <sup>a</sup> , Joan BALLESTER <sup>a</sup>

Bayati and Kiadaliri *Archives of Public Health* (2023) 81:126  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13690-023-01141-z>

Archives of Public Health

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Mohsen Bayati<sup>1</sup> and Ali Kiadaliri<sup>2,3\*</sup>

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Andrea Nigri<sup>1,2</sup>, José Manuel Aburto<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Ugofilippo Basellini<sup>6✉</sup> & Marco Bonetti<sup>2,7</sup>

# REFERENCES i

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**Algorithm for decomposition of differences between aggregate demographic measures and its application to life expectancies, healthy life expectancies, parity-progression ratios and total fertility rates.**  
*Demographic Research*, 7:499–522.
-  Horiuchi, S., Wilmoth, J. R., and Pletcher, S. D. (2008).  
**A decomposition method based on a model of continuous change.**  
*Demography*, 45(4):785–801.