

# The Mathematics of Marriage

Kurt Bryan and SIMIODE

Here is the data from Table 3.11 for the male 1940-44 cohort, percentage data rescaled to fractions:

```
In[1]:= men4044 = {{0, 21.1/100}, {5, 66.1/100}, {10, 83.1/100},  
              {15, 88.8/100}, {20, 91.2/100}, {25, 92.7/100}, {30, 94.0/100}}  
n = Length[men4044]
```

A plot of the data

```
In[3]:= plt1 = ListPlot[men4044]
```

The function  $P(t)$  that might fit this data, according to the model, is

```
In[4]:= P0 = men4044[[1, 2]]  
P[t_] = P0 / (P0 + (1 - P0) * Exp[-A * (b^t - 1) / Log[b]])
```

Form a sum of squares to fit the data

```
In[6]:= SS[A_, b_] = Sum[(P[men4044[[j, 1]] - men4044[[j, 2]]]^2, {j, 1, n}]
```

Now minimize in  $A$  and  $b$ . A contour plot of  $\log(SS)$  may be helpful.

```
In[7]:= ContourPlot[Log[SS[A, b]], {A, 0, 1}, {b, 0, 1}, Contours -> 20]
```

Something near  $A = 0.6$ ,  $b = 0.9$  looks promising. We can set  $dSS/dA = 0$  and  $dSS/db = 0$  to find this point.

```
In[8]:= dSSdA = D[SS[A, b], A];  
dSSdb = D[SS[A, b], b];  
Absol = FindRoot[{dSSdA == 0, dSSdb == 0}, {A, 0.6}, {b, 0.9}]
```

Plot  $P(t)$  with these values, compare to the data

```
In[11]:= P2 = P[t] /. Absol  
plt2 = Plot[P2, {t, 0, 30}, PlotStyle -> {Red}];  
Show[plt1, plt2]
```

Here is the data for the 1945-49 men

```
In[14]:= men4549 = {{0, 22.3/100}, {5, 65.5/100}, {10, 80.1/100},  
                {15, 86.1/100}, {20, 89.3/100}, {25, 91.3/100}, {30, 92.5/100}}
```

For the 1940-44 women:

```
In[15]:= women4044 = {{0, 48.1/100}, {5, 78.2/100}, {10, 86.8/100},  
                    {15, 89.7/100}, {20, 91.4/100}, {25, 92.5/100}, {30, 93.2/100}}
```

For the 1945-49 women:

```
In[16]:= women4549 = {{0, 43.1/100}, {5, 76.9/100}, {10, 85.0/100},  
                    {15, 88.4/100}, {20, 90.2/100}, {25, 91.5/100}, {30, 92.2/100}}
```