

Supplementary material for the paper “The uneven state-distribution of homicides in Brazil and their effect on life expectancy, 2000-15”

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Section 2. Decomposition method summary

The decomposition method used in this paper is based on the line integral model (Horiuchi et al 2008). Suppose ff (e.g. e^{\ddagger} or life expectancy) is a differentiable function of m covariates (e.g. each age-cause specific mortality rate) denoted by the vector $\mathbf{AA} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m]^T$. Assume that ff and \mathbf{AA} depend on the underlying dimension t , which is time in this case, and that we have observations available in two time points t_1 and t_2 . Assuming that \mathbf{AA} is a differentiable function of t between t_1 and t_2 , the difference in ff between t_1 and t_2 can be expressed as follows:

$$ff_2 - ff_1 = \int_{x_i(t_1)}^{x_i(t_2)} \frac{\partial ff}{\partial x_i} dx_i = \sum_{i=1}^m c_i, \quad (2)$$

where c_i is the total change in ff (e.g. e^{\ddagger} or life expectancy) produced by changes in the i th covariate, x_i . The c_i 's in equation (2) were computed with numerical integration following the algorithm suggested by Horiuchi et al (2008). This method has the advantage of assuming that covariates change gradually along the time dimension.