



Epicure Tutorial

DATAB – Part 1

An explanation of how DATAB works

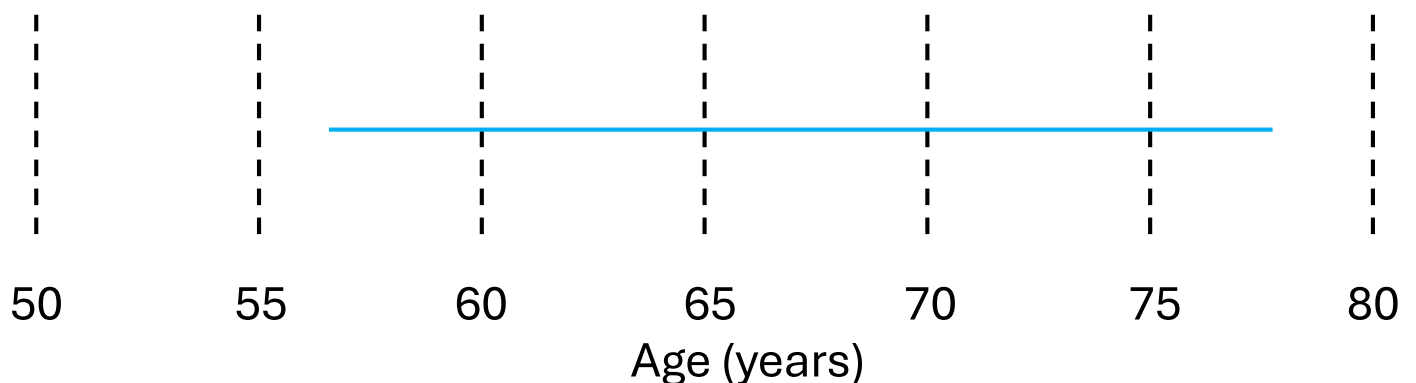
DATAB

- DATAB is an Epicure module (the others being Amfit, Peanuts, Pecan/Gumbo)
- DATAB is a generalized program for converting individual records (persons) to a table of person-years stratified by time and other factors

Example: Stratify by age

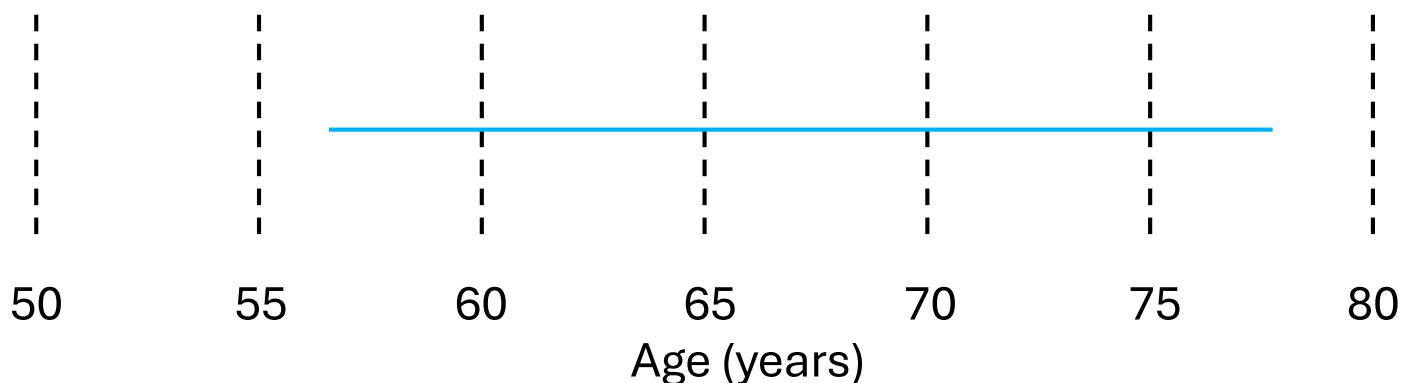
- Study begins at age 50 and ends at age 80
- Define 5-year age categories
 - Agecat 1: 50-55; Agecat 2: 55-60; Agecat 3: 60-65;
 - Agecat 4: 65-70; Agecat 5: 70-75; Agecat 6: 75-80
- Person (blue line) enters study at age 56 (under surveillance)
- Person exits study at age 78 (exited surveillance)
- Age 56 to Age 78 is a total of 22 person years (PY)

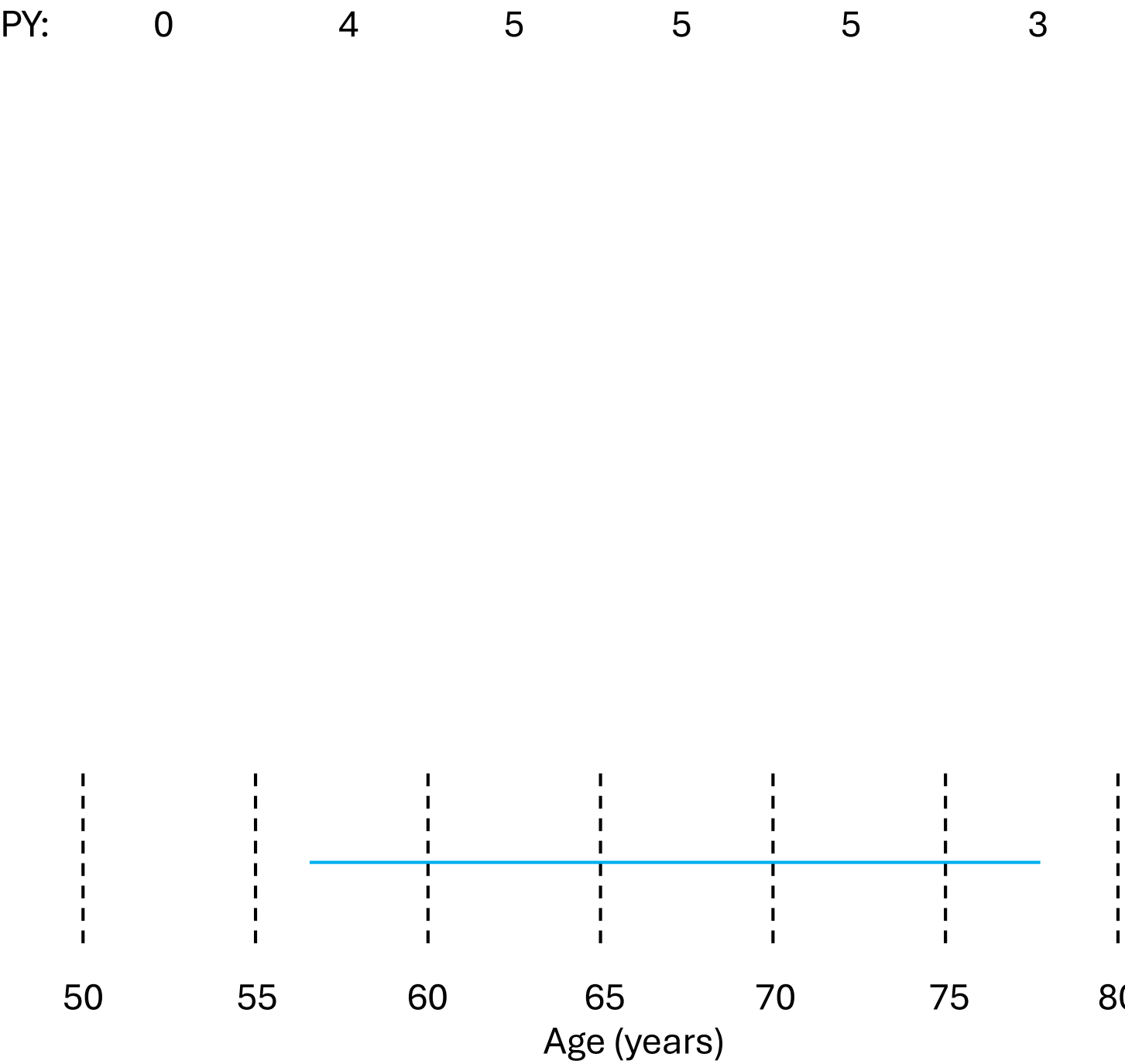
Agecat	1	2	3	4	5	6	
PY:	0	4	5	5	5	3	= 22

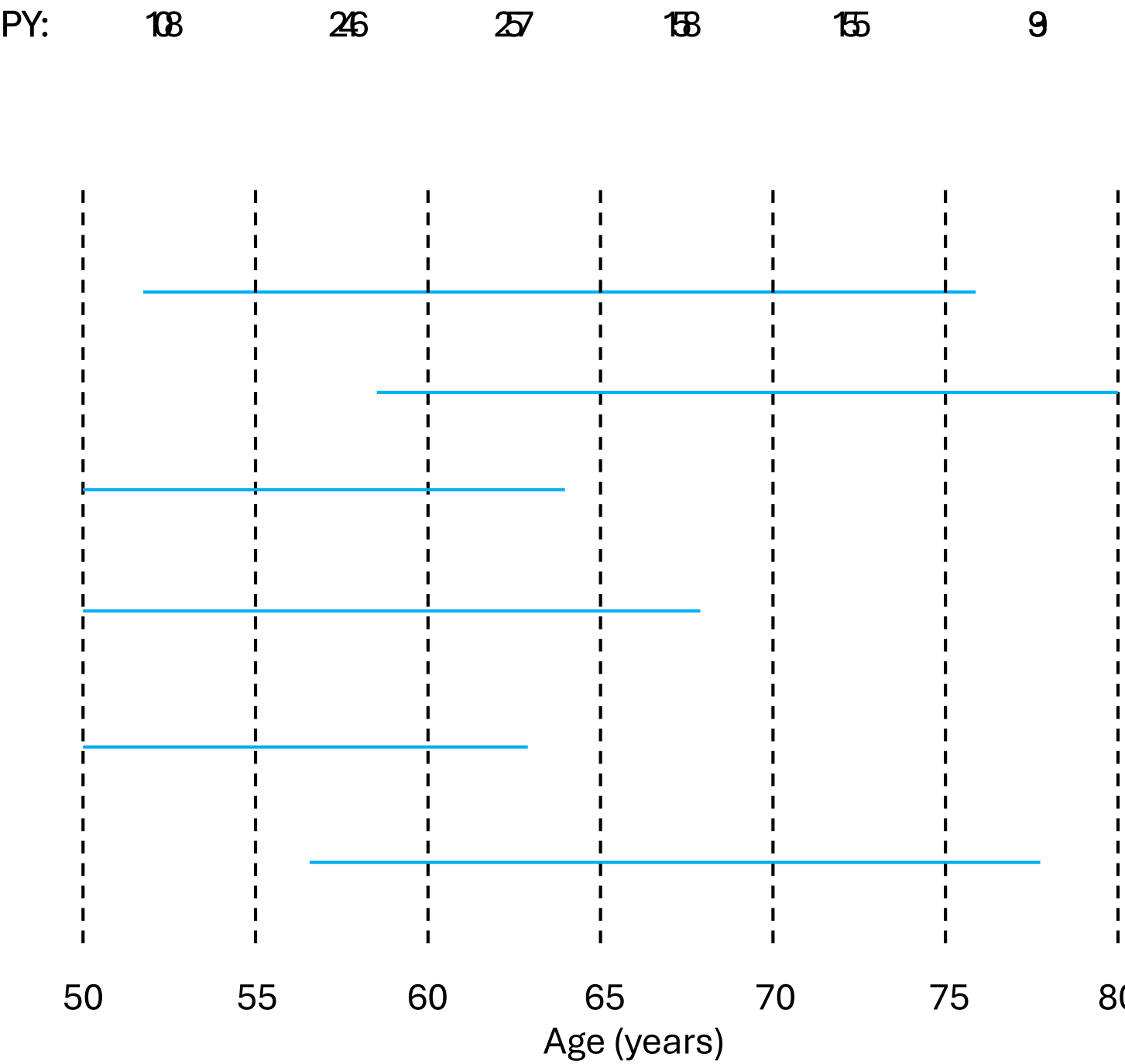


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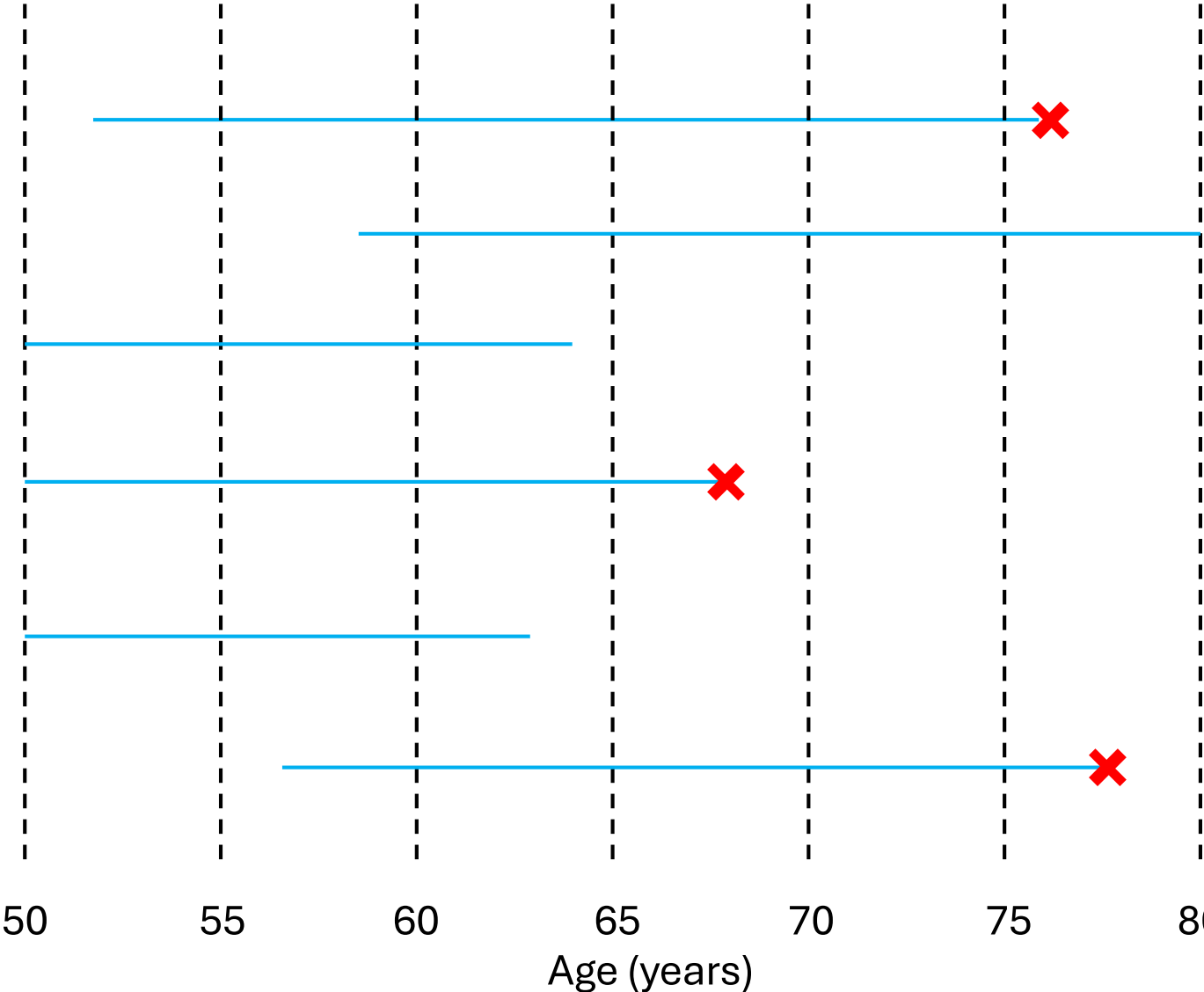
Agecat	1	2	3	4	5	6	
PY:	0	4	5	5	5	3	= 22







PY:	18	26	27	18	15	9
Events:	0	0	0	1	0	2
Rate:	0	0	0	0.06	0	0.22



DATAB Syntax (TIME)

- Define a time scale (often called ‘age’).
- For our previous example (age starting at 50 and ending at 80, with 5-year intervals), the syntax is:

```
time age from byr month bmo day bdy as agecat  
50 (5) 80  
@
```

- Note: There are other syntax variations for the TIME statement. See the documentation.

DATAB Syntax (EXIT)

- The TIME statement defined limits to the start and stop ages (start counting at age 50 and stop counting at age 80).
- But often, a person exits the study prior to the upper age limit.
- The EXIT statement defines a date when an individual should exit surveillance.

`exit exyr exmo exdy @`

DATAB Syntax (EVENT)

- When a person exits surveillance, it may be because they voluntarily quit the study, or it may be because they are no longer at risk for an incident event.
- DATAB needs to know whether an EVENT occurred at exit. The EVENT statement is used for this definition where the variable value is
 - 0: No event occurred
 - 1: Event occurred

`event event_variable @`

DATAB Syntax (ENTRY)

- Optionally, you may want to begin accumulating person-years from a date
- The ENTRY statement defines the minimum date from which person-years can begin to accumulate

```
entry year_val month_val day_val@
```

Things to remember

- DATAB accumulates person-years into defined categories
- Categories that depend on age or time can have upper and lower limits
- Categories unchanging in time can also be defined (e.g. SES, sex, country at birth, etc)

Only person-years that fall within the limits of all definitions are accumulated



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