



Post Exam Summary July/Aug 2026

The Post Exam Summary is designed to provide candidates with insightful observations on candidates' exam performance, coupled with expert recommendations for improvement. This resource consists of a summary section for just MAS-I and MAS-II from the July/August 2026 sitting. Please refer to past Post Exam Summaries for a general summary section that applies across multiple exams, including both MAS exams. We will continue to provide updates and enhancements to the summary in the future.

General Comments

Some items require candidates to evaluate a set of statements to determine which one is true (or which ones are true). Given some of the comments that appeared on these items, here are a couple of reminders for how to approach these items:

- Generally, the true statements will be absolutely true in all circumstances, not just typically true. These are intended to test whether the candidate fully understands the concept and can draw out implications from the method in question.
 - The exception is that some statements may use words like “may”, “most likely”, or “tends to”, such as “An increase in parameter X tends to increase the risk of the model overfitting.” These types of statements are intended to test whether the candidate generally understands the workings of the method in question.

Exam MAS-I Specific Comments:

- An item was removed from consideration for covering material outside syllabus readings. Care was taken to consider this when selecting the pass mark to ensure candidates were treated fairly.
- Domain A (Probability Models)
 - Candidates should review Daniel – many candidates struggled when variants applied to Poisson processes.
 - Candidates should review chapter 11 of Ross – many candidates struggled with rejection method variants.
- Domain B (Statistics)
 - Candidates should review chapter 4 of Hogg et al. – many candidates struggled with order statistics.

- Domain C (Extended Linear Models)
 - Candidates should review chapters 3, 4 and 7 of James et al. – many candidates struggled with portions of model selection and evaluation as well as linear and local regression.

Exam MAS-II Specific Comments:

- When parameterized distributions are referenced in the exam, the writers intend to identify the name of the parameter and its value. The parameters are always given in the order that they appear in the [MAS-II Tables](#) (which are available for reference on the exam), even if they are not named.
- Domain A (Introduction to Credibility)
 - Candidates should verify whether their solution is consistent with the framework of the problem. For instance, a credibility-weighted estimate will be bounded between the prior expectation (no credibility) and the sample mean (full credibility). This check can help candidates be sure they are making correct assumptions about the information provided.
 - The item prompt will give candidates explicit information about what each parameter represents. Candidates should be careful to read this information as it is given to solve the problem.
- Domain B (Linear Mixed Models)
 - Candidates continue to struggle with the calculation of the intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC). The ICC is calculated based on the estimated variance parameters, not the standard errors around those variance parameters. Please see West 2.9.2, 3.8, and 4.8.
- Domain C (Statistical Learning)
 - Candidates continued to struggle with calculating the Gini Index (for lift). See Salis 3.2 for detailed calculations, but here are a few reminders:
 - Candidates are expected to work with the insurance ratio targets as given in Table 2 in Salis 3.2 (frequency, severity, pure premium, and loss ratio).
 - Observations need to be sorted from lowest predicted value to highest. When the predictions are a ratio variable (such as pure premium), the sorting is based on the ratio.
 - When the model target is a ratio variable, the value on the y-axis of the Lorenz curve is the cumulative percentage of the numerator of that target, and the value on the x-axis is the cumulative percentage of the denominator of that target.
 - For example, when the model target is pure premium, the value on the y-axis is the cumulative percentage of loss amounts, and the value on the x-axis is the cumulative percentage of exposures. If there are multiple observations with the same predicted value, their loss amounts and exposures are summed together when calculating the cumulative amounts (not averaged).
 - When the model target is not a ratio, the y-axis is the cumulative percentage

of the target, and the x-axis is the cumulative percentage of the number of observations.

- Domain D (Time Series with Constant Variance)
 - Candidates have generally improved performance on this domain. The most challenging item for candidates was the calculation of the autocorrelation function for a given model.