

Survival Analysis with R: Cheat Sheet

Important libraries to load

If you don't have a particular CRAN package installed already: `install.packages(tidyverse)`. The **tidyverse**, **survival**, and **survminer** packages are required for this lesson. For looking at TCGA data, you'll also need **RTCGA**, **RTCGA.clinical**, and **RTCGA.mRNA** from Bioconductor. See the course website for setup instructions for Bioconductor packages.

```
# CRAN Packages needed
library(tidyverse)  # loads dplyr, ggplot2, readr, etc.
library(survival)   # core survival analysis functions
library(survminer)  # recommended for visualizing survival curves

# Bioconductor packages
library(RTCGA)
library(RTCGA.clinical)
library(RTCGA.mRNA)
```

Functions

Function	Description
<code>head(df) ; tail(df)</code>	Print first and last few rows of data frame <code>df</code>
<code>View(df)</code>	View tabular data frame <code>df</code> in a graphical viewer
<code>filter(df, ...)</code>	Filters data according to condition ... (dplyr)
<code>Surv(df\$time, df\$event)</code>	Creates a survival object w/ right-censored data
<code>survfit(Surv(time, status)~x, data=df)</code>	Creates a survival curve against variable <code>x</code>
<code>summary(sfit, times=c(0,10,50))</code>	Shows life table for <code>sfit</code> object at specified times
<code>survdif(Surv(time, status)~x, data=df)</code>	Log-rank test of differential survival by groups in <code>x</code>
<code>coxph(Surv(time, status)~x1+x2, data=df)</code>	Run a Cox PH model on variables <code>x1</code> and <code>x2</code>
<code>tidy() ; augment() ; glance()</code>	Model tidying functions in the broom package
<code>survivalTCGA(..., extract.cols=...)</code>	Extract survival data from 1+ (R)TCGA clinical datasets
<code>expressionsTCGA(..., extract.cols=...)</code>	Extract gene expression data (R)TCGA mRNA datasets

The pipe: %>%

When you load the **dplyr** or **tidyverse*** library you can use `%>%`, the *pipe*. Running `x %>% f(args)**` is the same as `f(x, args)`. If you wanted to run function `f()` on data `x`, then run function `g()` on that, then run function `h()` on that result: instead of nesting multiple functions, `h(g(f(x)))`, it's preferable and more readable to create a chain or pipeline of functions: `x %>% f %>% g %>% h`. Pipelines can be spread across multiple lines, with each line ending in `%>%` until the pipeline terminates. The keyboard shortcut for inserting `%>%` is Cmd+Shift+M on Mac, Ctrl+Shift+M on Windows.