Survival Modeling of Ultradrug in Oncology

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Section 1: Survival analysis

1.1 Produce appropriate non-parametric summaries of the data. Does the trial data suggest a beneficial effect for the new treatment? [10 marks]

A total of 500 patients were enrolled in the trial, equally randomised between the Ultradrug and control (best supportive care) arms, with 250 participants in each group. The median age was 69 years (range 17–92), and the maximum follow-up period extended to 1096 days, approximately 36 months. Across the cohort, 58% of patients experienced a progression-free survival (PFS) event, while the remaining 42% were censored. There were no missing data.

Kaplan–Meier (KM) survival estimates revealed clear separation between treatment groups over the full 36-month period. The median PFS was 17.7 months (95% CI: 15.1-23.0) for the control group and 26.8 months (95% CI: 21.7-30.0) for the Ultradrug group, suggesting a substantial improvement in PFS. The confidence intervals showed minimal overlap, indicating that this improvement was clinically meaningful.

To further assess the treatment effect over time, restricted mean survival time (RMST) was calculated using a truncation time of 36.01 months. The RMST for the control group was 19.7 months (95% CI: 18.0-21.4), while that for the Ultradrug group was 23.5 months (95% CI: 22.0-25.1). The estimated difference in RMST was 3.8 months (95% CI: 1.5–6.1), again favouring Ultradrug and demonstrating both statistical and clinical significance.

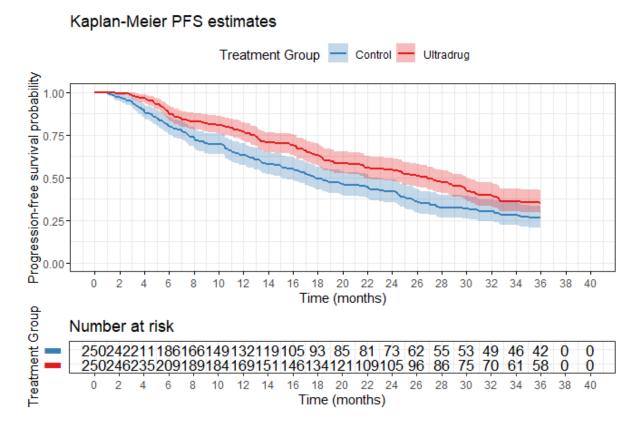
Finally, the log-rank test yielded a p-value of 0.003, providing strong statistical evidence against the null hypothesis of identical survival distributions. Taken together, the non-parametric analyses strongly suggest a beneficial effect of Ultradrug.

1.2 State and briefly describe the modelling assumption which underlies the fitting of a combined exponential model to the experimental and control groups (with treatment group as a covariate). Assess the suitability of this assumption based on the observed data. [9 marks]

The combined exponential model assumes a constant hazard rate and a proportional, time-invariant treatment effect, implemented via a shared baseline hazard and a fixed hazard ratio across treatment arms. However, this proportional hazard (PH) assumption, which requires stable relative risk over time, is not supported by diagnostic findings in this dataset.

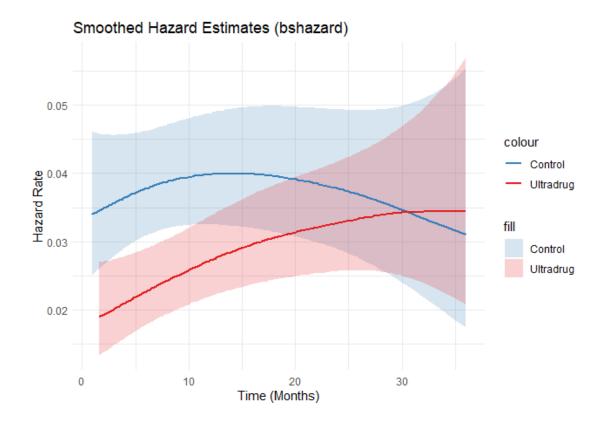
The Kaplan-Meier curves (Figure 1) display non-parallel separation between groups, particularly during the first 24 months, suggesting time-varying treatment effects.

Figure 1 Progression-Free of Ultradrug Compared to Control (KM Estimate)



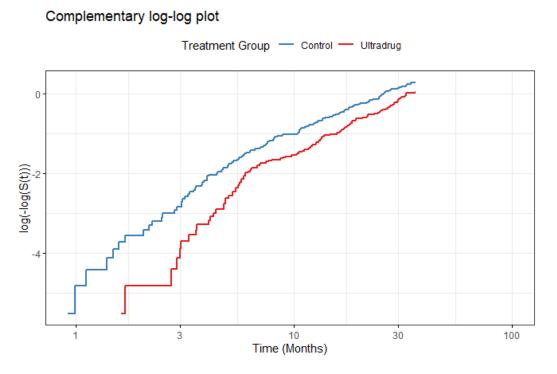
Smoothed hazard plots (Figure 2) reveal distinct hazard patterns: the control group exhibits an initial increase and subsequent decline, while the Ultradrug group shows a gradual rise that flattens out. Notably, the hazard functions converge around 30 months, which contradicts the notion of a constant hazard ratio.

Figure 2 Smoothed Hazard Functions: Ultradrug vs. Control



The complementary log–log plots (Figure 3) show a divergence from parallelism beyond 20 months, indicating potential violation of the PH assumption.

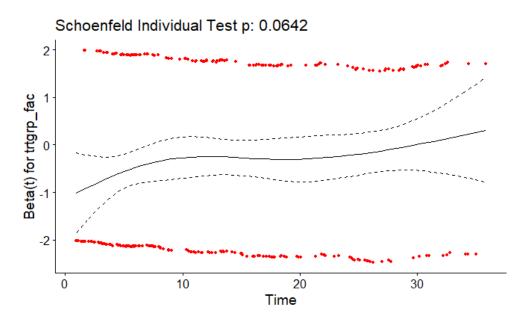
Figure 3 Complementary Log-Log Plot by Treatment Group



Additionally, the Schoenfeld residuals test (Figure 4) yielded a borderline p-value of 0.064. Although not conventionally significant, this result raises further concern about time-dependent effects.

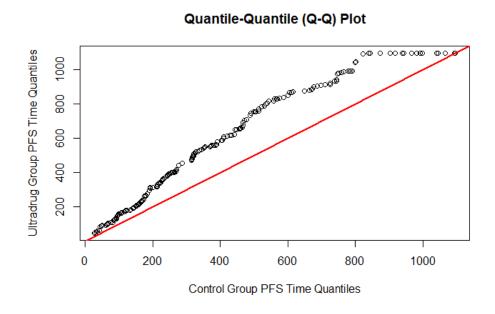
Figure 4 Schoenfeld Residuals for Treatment Effect Over Time

Global Schoenfeld Test p: 0.06421



The Q–Q plot (Figure 5) also indicates a structural divergence in survival distributions between groups.

Figure 5 Quantile-Quantile (Q-Q) Plot of PFS Times: Ultradrug vs. Control



Clinical insight supports these observations: Ultradrug is discontinued after two years, and its therapeutic effect is expected to wane thereafter. This anticipated decline is inconsistent with the assumption of a constant treatment effect, suggesting alternative models should be considered for more accurate extrapolation.

1.3 Fit the combined exponential model to the data. State and briefly interpret the estimated treatment effect. What is the mean expected PFS benefit for the new treatment vs current best supportive care based on this model? [6 marks]

A combined exponential model was fitted, with treatment group (0 = control, 1 = Ultradrug) entered as a covariate.

The fitted model produced the following estimates: the baseline hazard rate (control group) was 0.0373 per person-month. The log hazard ratio for Ultradrug versus control was −0.325 (95% CI: −0.555 to −0.094), corresponding to a hazard ratio of 0.723 (95% CI: 0.574 to 0.910). This indicates that Ultradrug reduced the risk of progression or death by approximately 28%, with statistical significance.

Using the exponential model formula for mean survival ($1/\lambda$), the estimated mean PFS was 26.78 months for the control group and 37.05 months for the Ultradrug group, resulting in a mean difference of 10.27 months.

However, this estimate exceeds the RMST difference (3.8 months) calculated earlier, along with visual diagnostics highlighting model limitations. The hazard function (Figure 6) comparison shows clear deviation from the constant hazard assumption, particularly after 25 months where convergence and crossing occur. Similarly, the modelled survival curves (Figure 7) deviate from the Kaplan-Meier estimates, underestimating early survival in the Ultradrug arm and overestimating late survival in the control arm.

Figure 6 Hazard Function: Exponential Model vs. Kaplan-Meier Estimates

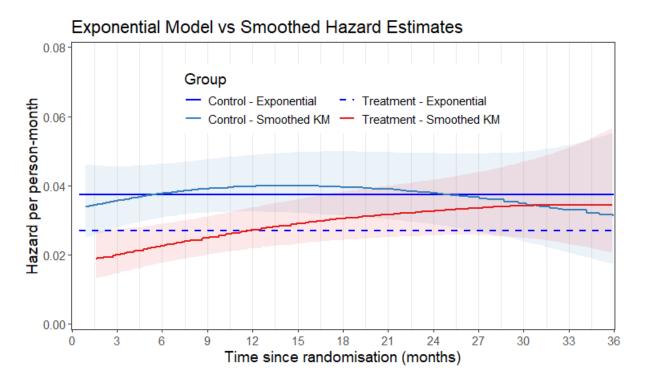
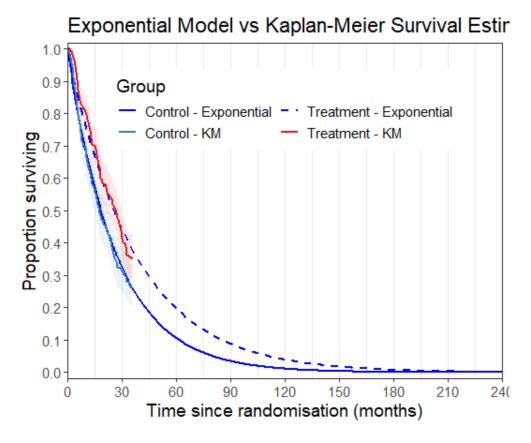


Figure 7 Survival Curves: Exponential Model vs. Kaplan-Meier Estimates



1.4 Use the statistical procedures that you have learned in HAR6178, together with the clinical advice, to present a thorough model selection that does not impose a single treatment effect for the entire time period. Make a clear recommendation on which model(s) should be considered for the economic model. [27 marks]

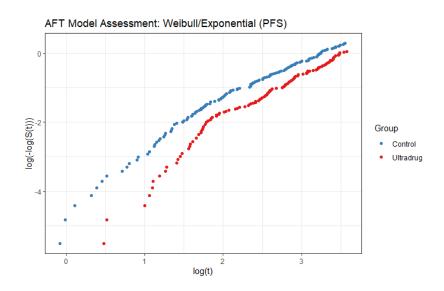
To support economic modelling with realistic progression-free survival (PFS) projections, parametric models must accommodate time-varying treatment effects, particularly waning efficacy after Ultradrug discontinuation. Model selection followed two steps: assumption checking via graphical diagnostics, and comparative model fitting under both combined and independent specifications, with final evaluation based on the latter.

Step 1: Assumption Checks for AFT Distributions

Graphical diagnostics were used to assess the compatibility of common AFT distributions with observed PFS behavior.

Exponential and Weibull models (Figure 8), assessed via complementary log-log plots, showed consistent deviation from linearity in both arms--especially in early and mid-follow-up--suggesting violations of constant and monotonic hazard assumptions.

Figure 8 AFT Model Diagnostic Plot: Weibull/Exponential Fit for PFS



Log-normal (Figure 9), evaluated through inverse-normal plots, both groups show an approximately linear pattern, especially in the mid-to-late time periods. Although there is some deviation in the early phase (log(t) < 1.5), it appears to provide fits to captures the asymmetric and long-tailed nature of survival data.

AFT Model Assessment: Log-Normal

Group

Control
Ultradrug

Figure 9 AFT Model Diagnostic Plot: Log-Normal Fit

Log-logistic (Figure 10), examined via log-odds plots, both groups show a slight S-shaped curve, indicating that the log-logistic model fits certain time intervals but lacks overall linearity

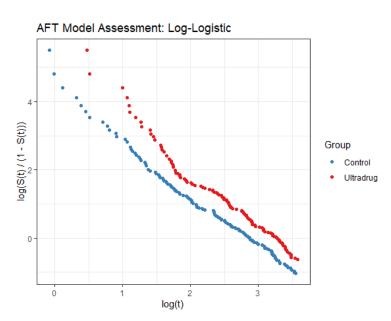


Figure 10 AFT Model Diagnostic Plot: Log-Logistic Fit

Gompertz (Figure 11), evaluated using log-hazard versus time plots, exhibited linear increases consistent with rising risk. However, its structural limitation prevents capturing post-treatment hazard flattening or reversal.

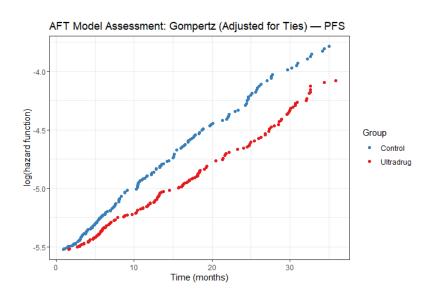


Figure 11 AFT Model Diagnostic Plot: Gompertz Fit (Adjusted for Ties)

Step 2: Model Fitting and Evaluation

All models were fitted under both combined and independent specifications (Table 1). Combined models assume a shared baseline hazard and constant treatment effect, limiting their ability to reflect treatment waning or hazard convergence. Independent models, by contrast, estimate distinct hazard functions for each arm-better capturing clinical realities such as declining Ultradrug effect and delayed control-group stabilization.

Table 1 Summary of model fit statistics and treatment effect estimates.

Model	Treatment Effect (HR, Combined exp(est))	AIC (Combined)	BIC (Combined)	AIC (Control)	AIC (Ultradrug)
Exponential	0.72282	2579.845	2588.274	1314.057	1265.788
Weibull	0.70448	2568.137	2580.781	1312.936	1254.633
Log-normal	1.474	2546.947	2559.591	1300.556	1247.208
Log-logistic	1.4534	2555.503	2568.147	1305.032	1251.333
Gompertz	0.71383	2578.477	2591.121	1316.019	1261.824
Gamma	0.73976	2563.717	2576.36	1311.111	1252.497
Generalized Gamma	1.4891	2548.675	2565.533	1302.399	1249.177

Though some models (e.g., log-normal, generalised gamma) performed similarly under the combined fit, independent specifications revealed more clinically meaningful differences and were used for comparison and plotting.

The **exponential model**, while simple, imposed constant hazards and missed timevarying dynamics. Its extrapolation was unrealistic and unsuitable for primary use.

The **Weibull model** allowed increasing hazard (shape >1) but assumed monotonicity. Divergent shape parameters across arms indirectly violated proportional hazards. Its inability to capture plateauing limits its role to sensitivity analysis.

The **log-normal model** emerged as the preferred option. It estimated an acceleration factor of 1.47 (95% CI: 1.19–1.83), with median PFS of 17.3 months (control) and 24.5 months (Ultradrug). It captured early benefit, post-treatment waning, and long-term survival, aligning closely with KM curves and clinical expectations.

Log-logistic showed similar flexibility but underperformed in early fit. While interpretable, it lagged log-normal in both fit and extrapolative behavior.

Gompertz, with a low shape parameter, approximated exponential behavior. Though it reflected early hazard rise, it could not model later flattening and was excluded from base-case consideration.

Gamma resembled Weibull without offering additional clinical or statistical insight.

Generalised gamma, while structurally flexible, produced a Q estimate near zero (-0.125; 95% CI: -0.59 to 0.35), behaving similarly to log-normal. Its complexity did not yield superior fit, though it remains a valuable sensitivity analysis tool.

Model behavior and clinical plausibility.

Models like log-normal and generalised gamma appeared similar under combined specification; however, independent fits revealed clinically meaningful divergence. As a result, visual diagnostics and extrapolation focus on selected independent models based on fit, interpretability, and clinical relevance:

- Log-normal: Preferred base case. It offers strong fit, long-tailed survival, and non-monotonic hazard patterns aligned with observed PFS.
- Weibull: Included as a proportional hazards comparator, though limited by its monotonic hazard structure.
- Generalised gamma: Structurally flexible and valuable for sensitivity testing, though its behavior closely resembles log-normal here.

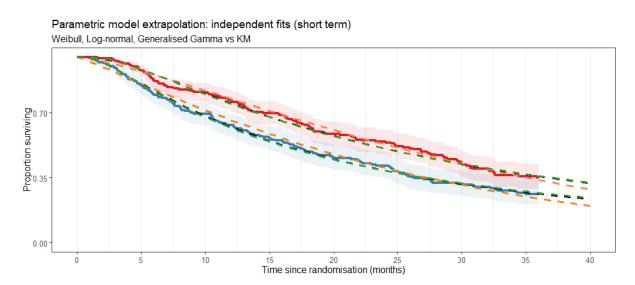
Other models (e.g., exponential, log-logistic, gamma, Gompertz) were excluded from further plots due to limited fit or clinical value, ensuring diagnostic clarity.

Visual Diagnostics and Extrapolation Behavior

Survival overlays (Figure 12) showed log-normal tracking KM estimates most closely, especially between 12-30 months. Weibull underpredicted late survival, while generalised gamma was slightly optimistic but clinically plausible.

Figure 12 Short-Term Fit Comparison of Parametric Survival Models

Weibull, Log-normal, and Generalised Gamma vs. Kaplan-Meier



Blue solid line: Control - KM (solid): Kaplan-Meier survival curve for the control group

Red solid line: Experimental - KM (solid): Kaplan-Meier survival curve for the Ultradrug group

Orange dashed line: Control - Weibull (dashed): Weibull model fit for the control group

Coral dashed line: Experimental - Weibull (dashed): Weibull model fit for the Ultradrug group

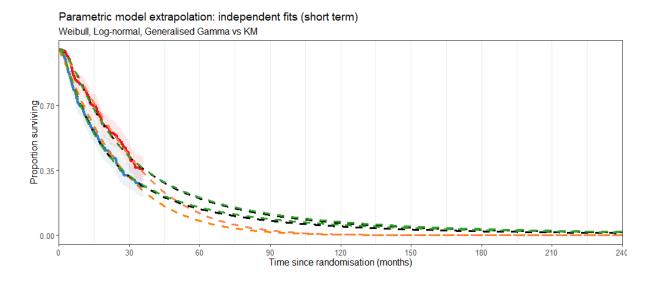
Black dashed line: *Control/Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)*: Log-normal model fits for both groups (same color used)

Green dashed line: Control/Experimental - GenGamma (dashed): Generalised Gamma model fits for both groups (same color used)

Extrapolation plots (Figure 13) confirmed that log-normal and generalised gamma preserved long-term survival beyond 60 months, supporting the potential for durable benefit. Weibull declined sharply, likely underestimating QALYs.

Figure 13 Long-Term Fit Comparison of Parametric Survival Models

Weibull, Log-normal, and Generalised Gamma vs. Kaplan–Meier



Blue solid line: Control - KM (solid): Kaplan-Meier survival curve for the control group

Red solid line: Experimental - KM (solid): Kaplan–Meier survival curve for the Ultradrug group

Orange dashed line: Control - Weibull (dashed): Weibull model fit for the control group

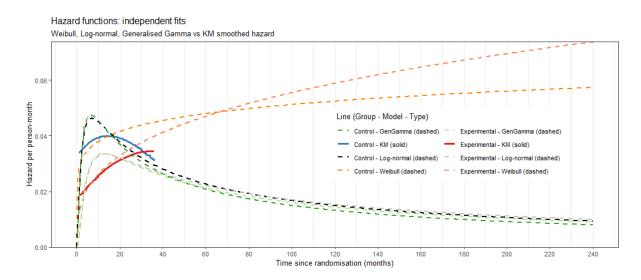
Coral dashed line: Experimental - Weibull (dashed): Weibull model fit for the Ultradrug group

Black dashed line: Control/Experimental - Log-normal (dashed): Log-normal model fits for both groups (same color used)

Green dashed line: Control/Experimental - GenGamma (dashed): Generalised Gamma model fits for both groups (same color used)

Hazard function comparisons (Figure 14) highlighted log-normal's ability to reflect early hazard rise and post-treatment flattening. Weibull imposed continuous increases; generalised gamma offered smoother decay.

Figure 14 Hazard Function Comparison: Independent Parametric Fits vs. KM Smoothed Estimates: Weibull, Log-normal, and Generalised Gamma Models



Implied hazard ratios (Figure 15 & 16) further illustrated dynamic treatment effects. Log-normal showed a rising HR from ~0.2 to ~0.9, consistent with diminishing benefit. Weibull's HR exceeded 1.0 after 90 months, suggesting extrapolative artefacts.

Figure 15 Implied Hazard Ratio over Time (Short Term)

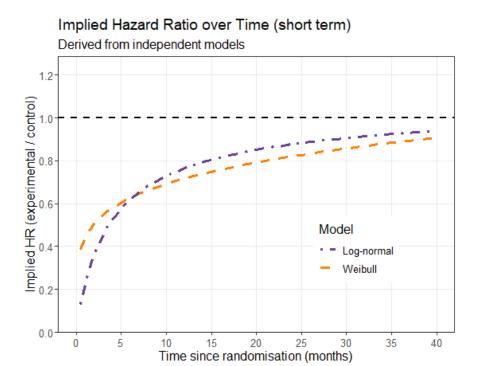
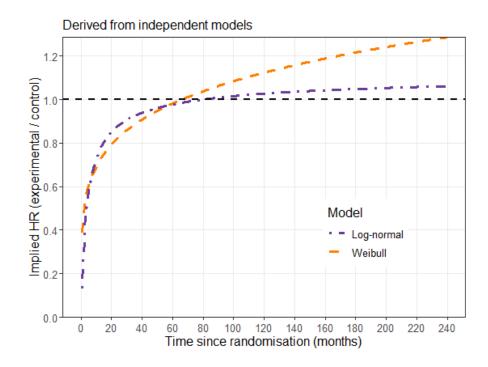


Figure 16 Implied Hazard Ratio over Time (Long Term)



Final Recommendation

The log-normal (independent) model is recommended as the base-case survival input. It fits the observed data well, aligns with clinical patterns of early benefit and later hazard plateauing, and generates plausible long-term projections.

The generalised gamma (independent) model is suitable for scenario or sensitivity analysis. While more flexible, its behavior is nearly identical to log-normal in this dataset, and the added complexity offers no clear advantage.

Given observed hazard flattening and long-term non-progression in some patients, future work may explore flexible parametric model (appendix 2), spline-based models (e.g., Royston-Parmar) or cure models, which offer greater structural flexibility and may better capture heterogeneity in extrapolated survival.

1.5 What is the mean expected PFS benefit for your chosen model? Compare this to the mean expected PFS benefit for the combined exponential model calculated in 1.3 and discuss. [8 marks]

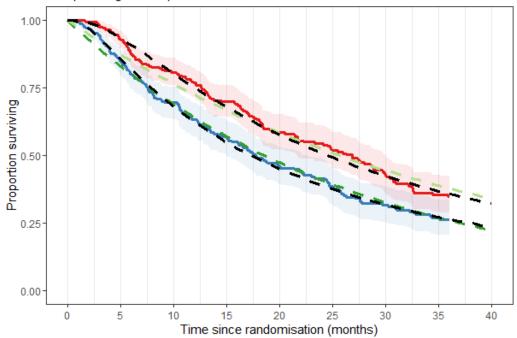
Based on the recommended log-normal (independent) model, the estimated mean progression-free survival (PFS) was 46.7 months for Ultradrug and 31.7 months for control, yielding a 15.0-month benefit.

In contrast, the combined exponential model estimated 37.1 months for Ultradrug and 26.8 months for control, with a 10.3-month difference which is 4.7 months less than log-normal.

This discrepancy reflects fundamental structural differences. The exponential model's assumption of constant hazard leads to flat extrapolation, underestimating survival between 10-30 months where Kaplan-Meier curves show clear separation (Figure 17 & 18). It also fails to capture hazard plateauing after 24 months as treatment effect wanes (Figure 19).

Figure 17 Short-term Survival Curves: Exponential (Combined) vs. Log-normal (Independent)

Survival Curves: Exponential (combined) vs Log-normal (independent) Compared against Kaplan-Meier estimates



Blue solid line: Control - KM: Kaplan–Meier survival estimates for the control group

Red solid line: Experimental - KM: Kaplan–Meier survival estimates for the Ultradrug group

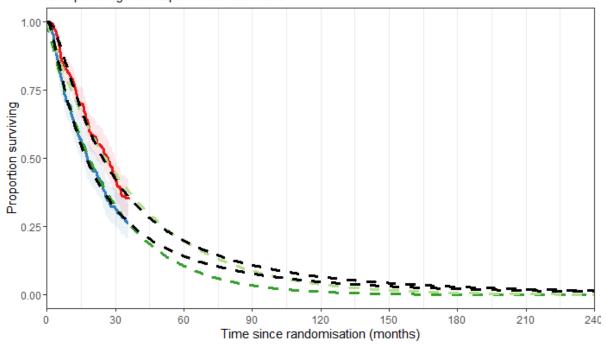
Green dashed line: Control - Exponential: Exponential model fit for the control group

Light green dashed line: Experimental - Exponential: Exponential model fit for the Ultradrug group

Black dashed line: Control & Experimental - Log-normal: Log-normal model fits for both groups (same color)

Figure 18 Long-term Survival Curves: Exponential (Combined) vs. Log-normal (Independent)

Survival Curves: Exponential (combined) vs Log-normal (independent) Compared against Kaplan-Meier estimates



Blue solid line: Control - KM: Kaplan–Meier survival estimates for the control group

Red solid line: Experimental - KM: Kaplan–Meier survival estimates for the Ultradrug group

Green dashed line: Control - Exponential: Exponential model fit for the control group

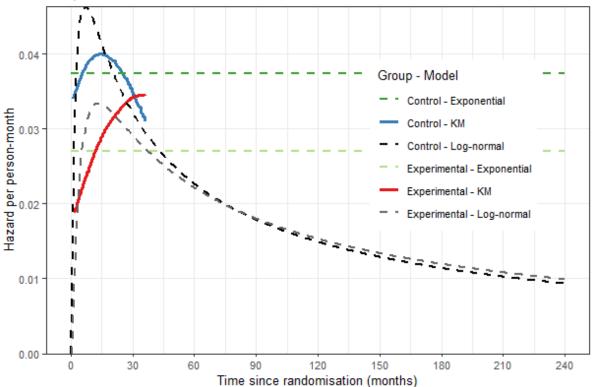
Light green dashed line: Experimental - Exponential: Exponential model fit for the Ultradrug group

Black dashed line: Control & *Experimental - Log-normal*: Log-normal model fits for both groups (same color)

The log-normal model accommodates non-monotonic hazards: the hazard rises initially, reflecting early efficacy, then flattens, aligning with treatment waning and potential disease stabilization. Its extended tail suggests some patients remain progression-free long term consistent with clinical expectations and observed trends, producing a more realistic survival estimate.

Figure 19 Hazard Functions: Exponential (Combined) vs. Log-normal (Independent)

Hazard Functions: Exponential (combined) vs Log-normal (independent) Compared to KM smoothed hazard



In economic terms, mean PFS directly impacts QALYs and progression-related costs. Underestimating long-term survival as with the exponential model can inflate ICERs and undervalue treatment. The log-normal model, by reflecting clinical dynamics, offers a more credible basis for base-case extrapolation.

Section 2: Treatment Switching

2.1 For the purpose of a submission to a health technology assessment agency, which of these treatments may need to be adjusted for, and why? [5 marks]

In health technology assessment (HTA), adjusting for treatment switching is necessary when patients in the control arm receive the intervention under evaluation or other non-standard therapies, thereby distorting the intended comparison. In this trial, 75 patients in the control group received Ultradrug after disease progression. Since Ultradrug is not currently available as a standard post-progression therapy, this switching artificially improves survival in the control group and biases the estimated treatment effect towards the null. Adjustment is required to avoid underestimating the benefit of Ultradrug.

In addition, 30 patients in the Ultradrug arm received Superamab post-progression, which is likewise unavailable in current clinical practice. This may lead to upward bias in the treatment group's overall survival and warrants adjustment, especially in sensitivity analysis. Conversely, Standalabine and Normastar are available in routine care and were administered in both trial arms. These therapies reflect standard practice and do not require adjustment. In summary, switching to Ultradrug in the control group and use of Superamab in the experimental group should be adjusted for, while no adjustment is needed for the standard therapies.

2.2 Given the characteristics of the trial, the information provided in Table 2 and the treatments you identified in Question 2.1, which adjustment methods would you consider using? Would you rule any methods out based on the information provided? Explain your answer. [10 marks]

Several methods are available to adjust for treatment switching, including Inverse Probability of Censoring Weights (IPCW), Two-Stage Estimation (TSE), and Rank Preserving Structural Failure Time Models (RPSFTM). Given the structure of this trial and the data available, TSE is the most appropriate method for primary analysis. In this study, treatment switching occurred exclusively after disease progression, which is a well-defined and observed clinical event. This structure enables progression to be used as a secondary baseline, satisfying a key assumption for TSE. In addition,

the trial collected relevant prognostic factors both at baseline and at the time of progression. These covariates can be included in an Accelerated Failure Time (AFT) model to estimate the time ratio between switchers and non-switchers, allowing reconstruction of counterfactual post-progression survival under a no-switching scenario. This makes TSE particularly well-suited to address the specific crossover from the control group to Ultradrug.

IPCW is also a technically viable method in this setting and may be used for sensitivity analysis. The trial collected time-updated performance status, which supports the modelling of switching probabilities over time. However, IPCW relies on strong assumptions, including no unmeasured confounding and sufficient covariate overlap (positivity) between switchers and non-switchers. Given the moderately high proportion of switching (75 of 153 progressed patients in the control group) and the risk of weight instability, IPCW may produce biased or imprecise estimates if these assumptions are violated.

RPSFTM is not recommended in this setting. It assumes a common treatment effect regardless of timing, which is unlikely to hold in this trial given the heterogeneity in post-progression therapies and the late introduction of Ultradrug in some control patients. Furthermore, RPSFTM does not accommodate indirect switching, such as Superamab use in the experimental group, and lacks a mechanism for adjusting time-dependent confounding. For these reasons, RPSFTM is ruled out.

2.3 Describe the main steps that would be required to apply the method(s) that you would consider using in this case, as identified in the Question 2.3. Take into account the characteristics of the trial and the information provided in Table 2.1, and explain any assumptions you would need to make [10 marks]

To implement the Two-Stage Estimation (TSE) method, the first step is to define disease progression as the secondary baseline. This is justified by the trial design, as all switching to Ultradrug occurred post-progression, and the timing of progression is known for all patients. The control group is then split into those who switched after progression and those who did not.

An Accelerated Failure Time (AFT) model is used to estimate a time ratio between switchers and non-switchers, based on post-progression survival. Covariates measured at progression such as performance status and tumour size are included to adjust for prognostic imbalance. The estimated ratio is then applied to adjust switchers' post-progression survival, generating counterfactual outcomes. These are added to observed pre-progression durations to reconstruct total survival under a noswitching scenario.

The reconstructed data for switchers are combined with observed data from non-switchers to form an adjusted control group. This dataset is then analysed using Cox or parametric models to estimate treatment effects without bias from switching.

TSE relies on several assumptions: (1) switching occurs shortly after progression; (2) relevant prognostic factors are measured at progression; and (3) the time ratio is valid across switchers. Violations such as delayed switching or unmeasured confounding can introduce bias.

Although IPCW may also be applied, its reliance on stronger assumptions and risk of unstable weights makes it more suitable for sensitivity analysis. Given the trial structure and available covariates, TSE is preferred for adjusting treatment switching in this case.

Section 3: Three State Model

3.1 You have been asked to develop a health economic model to assess the cost-effectiveness of Ultradrug versus BSC for hypothetical cancer A. Please explain the main steps that would be required to estimate the ICER for Ultradrug using a partitioned survival modelling approach. You can assume that parametric survival models have already been fitted to the available data on PFS and OS from the trial. [15 marks]

A partitioned survival model (PSM) with three mutually exclusive health states: progression-free, post-progression, and death can be serves as the framework for evaluating the cost-effectiveness of Ultradrug versus best supportive care (BSC). This structure reflects the clinical trajectory observed in the trial and is widely used in oncology health technology assessment.

Cohort distribution across health states over time is derived from parametric survival functions. The proportion of patients in the progression-free state is determined directly from the PFS curve; those in the post-progression state are estimated as the difference between OS and PFS; death is the residual. This indirect partitioning avoids the need to model explicit transitions, which are often unidentifiable in late-stage cancer trials.

PFS is modelled using a log-normal distribution with independent fits for each treatment arm, selected for its flexibility in capturing non-monotonic hazard shapes, early treatment benefit, and post-discontinuation waning. OS is estimated separately to allow adjustment for treatment switching using two-stage estimation, mitigating bias from non-standard post-progression therapies. Both curves are extrapolated over a lifetime horizon to reflect long-term outcomes.

QALYs are computed by multiplying state-specific utility weights by time spent in each health state, with annual discounting applied. Utility values distinguish between pre- and post-progression periods and can vary over time to reflect toxicity, recovery, and treatment duration. A decrement applies during Ultradrug exposure, capped at two years based on trial protocols and expert input.

Costs are accrued based on health state occupancy and treatment received. Progression-free costs include Ultradrug acquisition, administration, and monitoring. Post-progression costs encompass further therapies, supportive care, and healthcare use. All costs are estimated from an NHS and Personal Social Services (PSS) perspective using UK unit prices, with assumptions aligned to clinical practice and informed by expert advice.

Total discounted costs and QALYs are estimated for each arm. The incremental cost-effectiveness ratio (ICER) is calculated as the ratio of incremental costs to incremental QALYs.

Uncertainty is addressed through deterministic sensitivity analysis on structural and parameter assumptions, including the choice of parametric model (e.g., generalised gamma), time horizon, and utilities. Probabilistic sensitivity analysis propagates input uncertainty and quantifies variation in the ICER. Scenario analyses examine extrapolation beyond five years to reflect expert opinion that 10–15% of BSC patients may remain progression-free at that time.

Overall, the PSM structure integrates empirical survival data, extrapolated projections, and clinical insight to deliver transparent cost-effectiveness estimates suitable for HTA decision-making.

Appendix 1: R Code

```
#------#
#-----#
#---- 1. Set up the environment and load required packages ---- #
#-----#
rm(list = ls())
# Load required packages
packages <- c("haven", "skimr", "survival", "survRM2", "survminer", "ggpubr",
      "muhaz", "ggplot2", "bshazard", "gridExtra", "flexsurv", "dplyr",
      "rstpm2", "splines", "survHE")
for (p in packages) {
if (!require(p, character.only = TRUE)) install.packages(p, dependencies = TRUE)
library(p, character.only = TRUE)
}
#---- 2. Set working directory to where your assignment data is ---- #
#------#
setwd("C:/Users/user/Desktop/0611 Further Stat")
# Check if the directory has been correctly assigned.
getwd()
# Ensure a subfolder exist for storing figures under folder where you stored the data
# (it will automatically create the figure folder for you if you don't have it at the path where
you store the data)
if (!dir.exists("figures")) {dir.create("figures", recursive = TRUE)}
#-----#
#---- 3. Open the dataset ---- #
#-----#
# Read CSV file of data
data <- read.csv("assignment_2_ data.csv")
#-----#
#---- 4. Look at the dataset -----#
#------#
```

```
View(data)
head(data, 10)
skim(data)
summary(data)
# treatment group distribution
summary(as.factor(data$trtgrp))
# create numeric event variables: 1 = progressed/died, 0 = alive
data$event num <- ifelse(data$event == "progressed/died", 1, 0)
# create numeric cens variables: 1 = censored, 0 = progressed/died
data$cens num <- ifelse(data$cens == "censored", 1, 0)
# create factor variables : 0 = Control, 1 = Ultradrug
data$trtgrp num <- ifelse(data$trtgrp == "Control group", 0, 1)
data$trtgrp fac <- factor(data$trtgrp num, labels = c("Control", "Ultradrug"))
#* What are some of the key characteristics of the dataset?
#---- 5. Obtain the Kaplan-Meier survivor function for PFS for each treatment group ------
-----#
#
# When creating the survival object, also convert PFS days to months for better
interpretation in graph (divide PFS days by 30.4375)
data$PFS months <- data$PFS days / 30.4375 # create a new column that represent PFS
in months
surv obj <- Surv(time = data$PFS months, # Survival times in months
          event = data$event num) # Event indicator
# Display the first 20 patient's survival time
head(surv obj, 20)
# Fit Kaplan-Meier survival curves by treatment group using the surv obj we just created
# Specify treatment group indicator as a factor (i.e., factor(trtgrp_fac)) after ~ in the survfit()
function
km fit <- survfit(surv obj ~ trtgrp fac, data = data, type = "kaplan-meier")
km fit
# Print Kaplan-Meier survival estimates with 95% CI (equivalent to STATA's 'sts list')
summary(km fit)
print(summary(km fit), digits = 4)
```

```
# Print KM estimates at specified times e.g., at month 0 to 5
summary(km_fit, c(0,1,2,3,4,5))
#------
-----#
#---- 6. What is the median survival time in each treatment group? What is the restricted
mean survival time? -----#
-----#
# Median survival time can be read from the KM survivor function obtained in the previous
question
print(km fit, digits = 5)
# Compute RMST & 95%Cl for each treatment group using the rmst2() function of the
survRM2 package
rmst2(time = data$PFS months, status = data$event num,
   arm = data$trtgrp_num) # Treatment group indicator as numeric
#---- 7. Plot the Kaplan-Meier survival curves for each treatment group ------#
# Basic KM plot
ggsurvplot(km fit, data = data)
# KM plot with nicer options and risk table
surv plot km <- ggsurvplot(km fit, data = data,
               xlab = "Time (months)",
               ylab = "Progression-free survival probability",
               title = "Kaplan-Meier PFS estimates",
               legend.title = "Treatment Group",
               legend.labs = c("Control", "Ultradrug"),
               palette = c("#377EB8", "#E41A1C"),
               size = 0.8,
               censor = FALSE,
               conf.int = TRUE.
               risk.table = TRUE,
               risk.table.title = "Number at risk",
               risk.table.y.text = FALSE,
               risk.table.height = 0.25,
               break.time.by = 2,
               ggtheme = theme_bw())
```

surv plot km

```
#------#
#----- 1. Conduct a log-rank test. ------ #
#------#
# Log-rank test
survdiff(surv obj ~ trtgrp fac, data = data)
#---- 2. Plot the hazard function and the cumulative hazard function for each treatment
group -----#
#------#
# Control group
hazard0 bshazard <- bshazard(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp_num == 0, ])
# Ultradrug group
hazard1 bshazard <- bshazard(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 1, ])
# Smoothed hazard plot
smoothed hazard <- ggplot() +
geom ribbon(aes(x = hazard0 bshazard$time, ymin = hazard0 bshazard$lower.ci, ymax =
hazard0 bshazard$upper.ci, fill = "Control"), alpha = 0.2) +
geom_ribbon(aes(x = hazard1_bshazard$time, ymin = hazard1_bshazard$lower.ci, ymax =
hazard1 bshazard$upper.ci, fill = "Ultradrug"), alpha = 0.2) +
geom line(aes(x = hazard0 bshazard$time, y = hazard0 bshazard$hazard, color =
"Control"), size = 1) +
geom line(aes(x = hazard1 bshazard$time, y = hazard1 bshazard$hazard, color =
"Ultradrug"), size = 1) +
labs(title = "Smoothed Hazard Estimates (bshazard)", x = "Time (Months)", y = "Hazard
Rate") +
scale color manual(values = c("Control" = "#377EB8", "Ultradrug" = "#E41A1C")) +
scale fill manual(values = c("Control" = "#377EB8", "Ultradrug" = "#E41A1C")) +
theme_minimal()
smoothed hazard
ggsave("figures/Smoothed hazard PFS.jpg", plot = smoothed hazard, width = 8, height = 6,
dpi = 500)
# Cumulative hazard plot
cumhaz plot <- ggsurvplot(km fit, data = data, fun = "cumhaz",
             xlab = "Time (Months)", ylab = "Cumulative Hazard",
             title = "Cumulative hazard plot",
             legend.title = "Treatment Group",
```

```
legend.labs = c("Control", "Ultradrug"),
            conf.int = TRUE, censor = FALSE,
            palette = c("#377EB8", "#E41A1C"),
            ggtheme = theme minimal())
cumhaz plot
ggexport(cumhaz_plot, filename = "figures/Cumulative_hazard_PFS.jpg", width = 800,
height = 600, dpi = 1000)
#-----#
#---- 3. Fit a Cox proportional hazards model to estimate the treatment effect. -- #
#-----#
fit cox <- coxph(surv obj ~ trtgrp fac, data = data)
summary(fit cox)
#------#
#---- 4. Complementary log-log plot ----- #
#------#
cloglog_plot <- ggsurvplot(km_fit, data = data, fun = "cloglog",</pre>
            xlab = "Time (Months)",
             title = "Complementary log-log plot",
             legend.title = "Treatment Group",
            legend.labs = c("Control", "Ultradrug"),
             censor = FALSE,
             ggtheme = theme bw(),
             palette = c("#377EB8", "#E41A1C"))
cloglog plot
ggexport(cloglog plot, filename = "figures/Complementary log plot PFS.jpg", width = 800,
height = 600, dpi = 1000)
#---- 5. Test the Schoenfeld residuals to assess proportional hazards ----- #
#------#
cox zph <- cox.zph(fit cox, transform = "identity")</pre>
cox zph
# Plot Schoenfeld residuals
Schoenfeld residuals <- ggcoxzph(cox zph)
Schoenfeld residuals
ggsave("figures/Schoenfeld residuals PFS.jpg", arrangeGrob(grobs =
Schoenfeld residuals), width = 10, height = 6, dpi = 300)
# Optional: Q-Q plot to assess constant time ratio assumption (relevant for AFT models)
```

```
qqplot(data$PFS days[data$trtgrp num == 0],
    data$PFS days[data$trtgrp num == 1],
    main = "Quantile-Quantile (Q-Q) Plot",
    xlab = "Control Group PFS Time Quantiles",
    ylab = "Ultradrug Group PFS Time Quantiles")
abline(0, 1, col = "red", lwd = 2) # Reference line
#----1.3 Fit exponential parametric models (combined) for PFS ------#
#------#
#***** Exponential - treatment group as a covariate ("combined")
fit Exponential<- flexsurvreg(surv obj ~ trtgrp num, data = data, dist = "exp")
fit Exponential
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Exponential)
BIC(fit Exponential)
# Mean survival time
mean exp con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Exponential, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 0)), `[[`,
"est")))
mean exp exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 1)), `[[`,
"est")))
# Predicted survival functions
t predict <- seq(0, 240, by = 0.5)
surv exp comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num
= 0)), `[[`, "est")))
surv exp comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num
= 1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz exp comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
0)), `[[`, "est")))
haz exp comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
1)), `[[`, "est")))
```

```
#***** Plot Survival curves: Exponential model vs KM curves
km fit0 <- survfit(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data = data[data$trtgrp num == 0, ])
km fit1 <- survfit(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data = data[data$trtgrp num == 1, ])
# Prepare KM curves for plotting
km surv con <- data.frame(time = c(0, km \text{ fit0})),
               surv = c(1, km fit0$surv),
               upper = c(1, km_fit0\$upper),
               lower = c(1, km fit0$lower))
km_surv_exp <- data.frame(time = c(0, km_fit1$time),
               surv = c(1, km fit1$surv),
               upper = c(1, km fit1\$upper),
               lower = c(1, km fit1$lower))
# Plot survival curves
Survival Exponential 36m <- ggplot() +
 # KM 95% CI ribbons
 geom_ribbon(aes(x = km_surv_con$time, ymin = km_surv_con$lower, ymax =
km surv con$upper, fill = "Control - 95% CI"), alpha = 0.1) +
 geom ribbon(aes(x = km surv exp$time, ymin = km surv exp$lower, ymax =
km_surv_exp$upper, fill = "Treatment - 95% CI"), alpha = 0.1) +
 # Exponential survival curves
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv exp comb con, color = "Control - Exponential"),
linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv exp comb exp, color = "Treatment - Exponential"),
linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # KM step curves
 geom_step(aes(x = km_surv_con$time, y = km_surv_con$surv, color = "Control - KM"),
linewidth = 1) +
 geom step(aes(x = km surv exp$time, y = km surv exp$surv, color = "Treatment - KM"),
linewidth = 1) +
 # Colors and fills
 scale_color_manual(values = c("Control - KM" = "#377EB8",
                   "Treatment - KM" = "#E41A1C",
                   "Control - Exponential" = "blue",
                   "Treatment - Exponential" = "blue")) +
 scale fill manual(values = c("Control - 95% CI" = "#377EB8",
                   "Treatment - 95% CI" = "#E41A1C"), guide = "none") +
 # Labels and theme
```

```
labs(title = "Exponential Model vs Kaplan-Meier Survival Estimates",
    x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
    y = "Proportion surviving",
    color = "Group",
    fill = "Group") +
 scale_x_continuous(limits = c(0, 36), breaks=seq(0, 36, by = 3), expand = c(0, 0.05)) +
 scale y continuous(limits = c(0, 1), breaks = seq(0, 1, by = 0.1), expand = c(0.02, 0)) +
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(0.5, 0.8),
     text = element text(size = 14),
     panel.grid.major.y = element_blank(),
     panel.grid.minor.y = element blank()) +
 guides(color = guide legend(ncol = 2))
# Display plot
Survival Exponential 36m
# Extrapolate to 240 months
Survival Exponential240m <- Survival Exponential 36m +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 240), breaks = seq(0, 240), by = 30), expand = c(0, 0.05))
#****** Plot Hazard curves: Exponential model vs smoothed hazard
Hazard Exponential 36m <- ggplot() +
 # Smoothed hazard CI ribbons
 geom ribbon(aes(x = hazard0 bshazard$time, ymin = hazard0 bshazard$lower.ci, ymax =
hazard0 bshazard$upper.ci, fill = "Control - 95% CI"), alpha = 0.1) +
 geom_ribbon(aes(x = hazard1_bshazard$time, ymin = hazard1 bshazard$lower.ci, ymax =
hazard1 bshazard$upper.ci, fill = "Treatment - 95% CI"), alpha = 0.1) +
 # Exponential hazard curves
 geom line(aes(x = t predict[-1], y = haz exp comb con[-1], color = "Control -
Exponential"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict[-1], y = haz_exp_comb exp[-1], color = "Treatment -
Exponential"), linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # Smoothed hazard step curves
 geom step(aes(x = hazard0 bshazard$time, y = hazard0 bshazard$hazard, color =
"Control - Smoothed KM"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom step(aes(x = hazard1 bshazard$time, y = hazard1 bshazard$hazard, color =
"Treatment - Smoothed KM"), linewidth = 1) +
 # Colors and fills
```

```
scale color manual(values = c("Control - Smoothed KM" = "#377EB8",
                "Treatment - Smoothed KM" = "#E41A1C",
                "Control - Exponential" = "blue",
                "Treatment - Exponential" = "blue")) +
 scale fill manual(values = c("Control - 95% CI" = "#377EB8",
                "Treatment - 95% CI" = "#E41A1C"), guide = "none") +
 # Labels and theme
 labs(title = "Exponential Model vs Smoothed Hazard Estimates",
   x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
   y = "Hazard per person-month",
   color = "Group",
   fill = "Group") +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 36), breaks=seq(0, 36, by = 3), expand = c(0, 0.05)) +
 scale y continuous(limits = c(0, 0.08), breaks = seq(0, 0.08), by = 0.02), expand = c(0.02)
0)) +
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(0.5, 0.8),
    text = element text(size = 14),
    panel.grid.major.y = element_blank(),
    panel.grid.minor.y = element blank()) +
 guides(color = guide legend(ncol = 2))
# Display plot
Hazard Exponential 36m
#------#
#----1.4 Fit other parametric models (combined and independent) for PFS ------ #
#------#
#-----#
#-----STEP1 : Assess parametric model assumptions ------ #
#------#
km fit0 <- survfit(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data = data[data$trtgrp num == 0, ])
km_fit1 <- survfit(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data = data[data$trtgrp_num == 1, ])
hazf0 <- km fit0$n.event / km fit0$n.risk
hazf1 <- km fit1$n.event / km fit1$n.risk
logh0 <- log(hazf0)
logh1 <- log(hazf1)
logt0 <- log(summary(km fit0)$time)</pre>
```

```
logt1 <- log(summary(km fit1)$time)</pre>
survf0 <- summary(km fit0)$surv
survf1 <- summary(km fit1)$surv
logs0 <- log(survf0)
logs1 <- log(survf1)
minuslogs0 <- -log(survf0)
minuslogs1 <- -log(survf1)
minus2logs0 <- -log(minuslogs0)
minus2logs1 <- -log(minuslogs1)
logoddss0 <- log(survf0 / (1 - survf0))
logoddss1 <- log(survf1 / (1 - survf1))
invnormals0 <- qnorm(1 - survf0)
invnormals1 <- qnorm(1 - survf1)
# Weibull / exponential
ggplot() +
 geom_point(aes(x = logt0, y = -minus2logs0, color = "Control")) +
 geom_point(aes(x = logt1, y = -minus2logs1, color = "Ultradrug")) +
 labs(x = "log(t)", y = "log(-log(S(t)))",
    title = "AFT Model Assessment: Weibull/Exponential (PFS)", color = "Group") +
 theme bw() +
 scale color manual(values = c("Control" = "#377EB8", "Ultradrug" = "#E41A1C"))
# Log-logistic
log logistic_logplot <- ggplot() +
 geom point(aes(x = logt0, y = logoddss0, color = "Control")) +
 geom_point(aes(x = logt1, y = logoddss1, color = "Ultradrug")) +
 labs(x = "log(t)", y = "log(S(t) / (1 - S(t)))",
    title = "AFT Model Assessment: Log-Logistic", color = "Group") +
 theme bw() +
 scale color manual(values = c("Control" = "#377EB8", "Ultradrug" = "#E41A1C"))
log logistic logplot
ggsave("figures/log_logistic_log_plot_PFS.jpg", plot = log_logistic_logplot, width = 8, height
= 6, dpi = 300)
# Log-normal
log normal logplot <- ggplot() +
 geom_point(aes(x = logt0, y = invnormals0, color = "Control")) +
 geom_point(aes(x = logt1, y = invnormals1, color = "Ultradrug")) +
 labs(x = "log(t)", y = "Inv.normal(1-S(t))",
    title = "AFT Model Assessment: Log-Normal", color = "Group") +
```

```
theme bw() +
 scale color manual(values = c("Control" = "#377EB8", "Ultradrug" = "#E41A1C"))
log normal logplot
ggsave("figures/log normal log plot PFS.jpg", plot = log normal logplot, width = 8, height
= 6, dpi = 300)
# Gompertz (raw log(hazard))
ggplot() +
 geom point(aes(x = km fit0$time[!is.infinite(logh0)], y = logh0[!is.infinite(logh0)], color =
"Control")) +
 geom_point(aes(x = km_fit1$time[!is.infinite(logh1)], y = logh1[!is.infinite(logh1)], color =
"Ultradrug")) +
 labs(x = Time (months)), y = log(hazard function),
    title = "AFT Model Assessment: Gompertz", color = "Group") +
 scale color manual(values = c("Control" = "#377EB8", "Ultradrug" = "#E41A1C"))
# Gompertz (raw log(hazard))
# Step 1: Create adjusted PFS days2 to avoid ties
data2 <- data
data2 <- data2[order(data2$event num, data2$trtgrp num, data2$PFS days), ]
# Adjust PFS days if ties occur (progressed/died = 1)
data2$PFS days2 <- data2$PFS days
data2$PFS days2 <- ifelse(data2$PFS days == lag(data2$PFS days) & data2$event num
== 1, data2$PFS days + 0.3, data2$PFS days2)
data2$PFS days2 <- ifelse(data2$PFS days2 == lag(data2$PFS days2) &
data2$event num == 1, data2$PFS days2 + 0.3, data2$PFS days2)
data2$PFS months2 <- data2$PFS days2 / 30.4375
# Step 2: Refit KM curves for each treatment group with adjusted PFS months2
km fit adj0 <- survfit(Surv(PFS months2, event num) ~ 1, data = data2[data2$trtgrp num
== 0, ], type = "kaplan-meier")
km fit adj1 <- survfit(Surv(PFS months2, event num) ~ 1, data = data2[data2$trtgrp num
== 1, ], type = "kaplan-meier")
# Step 3: Calculate hazard and log(hazard)
hazf adj0 <- km fit adj0$n.event / km fit adj0$n.risk
hazf adj1 <- km fit adj1$n.event / km fit adj1$n.risk
logh adj0 <- log(hazf adj0)
logh adj1 <- log(hazf adj1)
# Step 4: Plot the adjusted log(hazard)
```

```
Gompertz logplot PFS <- ggplot() +
 geom point(aes(x = km fit adj0$time[!is.infinite(logh adj0)], y =
logh_adj0[!is.infinite(logh_adj0)], color = "Control")) +
 geom point(aes(x = km fit adj1$time[!is.infinite(logh adj1)], y =
logh adj1[!is.infinite(logh adj1)], color = "Ultradrug")) +
 labs(x = Time (months)), y = log(hazard function),
   title = "AFT Model Assessment: Gompertz (Adjusted for Ties) — PFS", color = "Group")
 theme bw() +
 scale color manual(values = c("Control" = "#377EB8", "Ultradrug" = "#E41A1C"))
# Display plot
Gompertz_logplot_PFS
#-----#
#----STEP2 : Fit different parametric models-----#
#------#
# - Exponential: dist = "exp"
# - Weibull: dist = "weibullPH"
# - Log-normal: dist = "Inorm"
# - Log-logistic: dist = "llogis"
# - Gompertz: dist = "gompertz"
# - Gamma: dist = "gamma"
# - Generalized Gamma: dist = "gengamma"
#***** Exponential - treatment group as covariate ("combined")
**************
fit_Exponential <- flexsurvreg(surv_obj ~ trtgrp_num, data = data, dist = "exp")
fit Exponential
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Exponential)
BIC(fit_Exponential)
# Mean survival time
mean exp con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 0)), `[[`,
"est")))
mean exp exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
```

```
summary(fit Exponential, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 1)), `[[`,
"est")))
# Predicted survival functions
t predict <- seq(0, 240, by = 0.5)
surv_exp_comb_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num
= 0)), `[[`, "est")))
surv exp comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Exponential, type = "survival", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num
= 1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz exp comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
0)), `[[`, "est")))
haz exp comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Exponential, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
1)), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Exponential - independent model for experimental group
fit Exp ind con <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp_num == 0, ], dist = "exp")
fit Exp ind con
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Exp ind con)
BIC(fit Exp ind con)
# Mean survival time
mean exp ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Exp ind con, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv exp ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Exp_ind_con, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz exp ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Exp_ind_con, type = "hazard", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Exponential - independent model for experimental group
```

```
fit_Exp_ind_exp <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 1, ], dist = "exp")
fit_Exp_ind_exp
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Exp ind exp)
BIC(fit_Exp_ind_exp)
# Mean survival time
mean_exp_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Exp ind exp, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv exp ind exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_Exp_ind_exp, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz_exp_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Exp ind exp, type = "hazard", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Weibull - treatment group as covariate ("combined")
***********
fit_Weibull <- flexsurvreg(surv_obj ~ trtgrp_num, data = data, dist = "weibullPH")
fit Weibull
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Weibull)
BIC(fit Weibull)
# Mean survival time
mean weibull con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Weibull, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 0)), `[[`, "est")))
mean weibull_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Weibull, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
t predict <- seq(0, 240, by = 0.5)
surv weibull comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Weibull, type = "survival", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num =
0)), `[[`, "est")))
surv weibull comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
```

```
summary(fit Weibull, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz weibull comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Weibull, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 0)),
`[[`, "est")))
haz weibull comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Weibull, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 1)),
`[[`, "est")))
fit_Weibull_ind_con <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 0, ], dist = "weibullPH")
fit Weibull ind con
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit_Weibull_ind_con)
BIC(fit Weibull ind con)
# Mean survival time
mean_weibull_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Weibull ind con, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv weibull ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Weibull_ind_con, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz weibull ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Weibull ind con, type = "hazard", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Weibull - independent model for experimental group
fit Weibull ind exp <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 1, ], dist = "weibullPH")
fit Weibull ind exp
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit_Weibull_ind_exp)
BIC(fit Weibull ind exp)
# Mean survival time
mean weibull ind exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Weibull_ind_exp, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
```

```
surv_weibull_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_Weibull_ind_exp, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz weibull ind exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Weibull_ind_exp, type = "hazard", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Log-normal - treatment group as covariate ("combined")
***********
fit_Lnorm <- flexsurvreg(surv_obj ~ trtgrp_num, data = data, dist = "lnorm")
fit Lnorm
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Lnorm)
BIC(fit Lnorm)
# Mean survival time
mean_Inorm_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply()))</pre>
 summary(fit_Lnorm, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 0)), `[[`, "est")))
mean Inorm exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Lnorm, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
t_predict <- seq(0, 240, by = 0.5)
surv lnorm comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Lnorm, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 0)),
`[[`, "est")))
surv_Inorm_comb_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Lnorm, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 1)),
`[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz_Inorm_comb_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Lnorm, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 0)),
`[[`, "est")))
haz_Inorm_comb_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Lnorm, type = "hazard", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 1)),
`[[`, "est")))
```

```
#***** Log-normal - independent model for control group
fit_Lnorm_ind_con <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 0, ], dist = "Inorm")
fit_Lnorm_ind_con
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Lnorm ind con)
BIC(fit Lnorm ind con)
# Mean survival time
mean_Inorm_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Lnorm_ind_con, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv_Inorm_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_Lnorm_ind_con, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz_Inorm_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Lnorm_ind_con, type = "hazard", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Log-normal - independent model for experimental group
fit_Lnorm_ind_exp <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 1, ], dist = "Inorm")
fit_Lnorm_ind_exp
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit_Lnorm_ind_exp)
BIC(fit Lnorm ind exp)
# Mean survival time
mean_Inorm_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_Lnorm_ind_exp, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv_Inorm_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply()))</pre>
 summary(fit_Lnorm_ind_exp, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz Inorm_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Lnorm_ind_exp, type = "hazard", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Log-logistic ************************
```

```
#***** Log-logistic - treatment group as covariate ("combined")
fit logl <- flexsurvreg(surv obj ~ trtgrp num, data = data, dist = "llogis")
fit logI
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit logI)
BIC(fit logI)
# Mean survival time
mean_logl_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_logl, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 0)), `[[`, "est")))
mean logl exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_logl, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
t_predict <- seq(0, 240, by = 0.5)
surv logl comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit logl, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 0)),
`[[`, "est")))
surv logl comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_logl, type = "survival", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 1)),
`[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz logl comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_logl, type = "hazard", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 0)), `[[`,
"est")))
haz logl comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit logl, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 1)), `[[`,
"est")))
#***** Log-logistic - independent model for control group
fit_logl_ind_con <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp_num == 0, ], dist = "llogis")
fit_logl_ind_con
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit logl ind con)
BIC(fit logl ind con)
# Mean survival time
mean_logl_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_logl_ind_con, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
```

```
# Predicted survival functions
surv_logl_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_logl_ind_con, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz_logl_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_logl_ind_con, type = "hazard", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Log-logistic - independent model for experimental group
fit_logl_ind_exp <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp_num == 1, ], dist = "llogis")
fit logl ind exp
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit logl ind exp)
BIC(fit_logl_ind_exp)
# Mean survival time
mean_logl_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_logl_ind_exp, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv_logl_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply()))</pre>
 summary(fit logl ind exp, type = "survival", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz_logl_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_logl_ind_exp, type = "hazard", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
#****** Gompertz - treatment group as covariate ("combined")
fit Gompertz <- flexsurvreg(surv obj ~ trtgrp num, data = data, dist = "gompertz")
fit_Gompertz
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Gompertz)
BIC(fit Gompertz)
# Mean survival time
mean_gompertz_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_Gompertz, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 0)), `[[`, "est")))
```

```
mean_gompertz_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Gompertz, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
t predict <- seq(0, 240, by = 0.5)
surv_gompertz_comb_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Gompertz, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
0)), `[[`, "est")))
surv gompertz comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Gompertz, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz gompertz comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Gompertz, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
0)), `[[`, "est")))
haz_gompertz_comb_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Gompertz, type = "hazard", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num =
1)), `[[`, "est")))
#***** Gompertz - independent model for control group
fit_Gompertz_ind_con <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 0, ], dist = "gompertz")
fit_Gompertz_ind_con
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Gompertz ind con)
BIC(fit Gompertz ind con)
# Mean survival time
mean_gompertz_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Gompertz ind con, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv gompertz ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Gompertz_ind_con, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz gompertz ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Gompertz ind con, type = "hazard", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
#****** Gompertz - independent model for experimental group
```

```
fit_Gompertz_ind_exp <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 1, ], dist = "gompertz")
fit_Gompertz_ind_exp
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Gompertz ind exp)
BIC(fit_Gompertz_ind_exp)
# Mean survival time
mean gompertz_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Gompertz ind exp, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv gompertz ind exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_Gompertz_ind_exp, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz_gompertz_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Gompertz_ind_exp, type = "hazard", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
#****** Gamma - treatment group as covariate ("combined")
***********
fit_Gamma<- flexsurvreg(surv_obj ~ trtgrp_num, data = data, dist = "gamma")
fit Gamma
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Gamma)
BIC(fit Gamma)
# Mean survival time
mean gamma con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Gamma, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 0)), `[[`, "est")))
mean_gamma_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply()))</pre>
 summary(fit Gamma, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
t predict <- seq(0, 240, by = 0.5)
surv gamma comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Gamma, type = "survival", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num =
0)), `[[`, "est")))
surv_gamma_comb_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
```

```
summary(fit Gamma, type = "survival", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz gamma comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Gamma, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
0)), `[[`, "est")))
haz gamma comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Gamma, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num =
1)), `[[`, "est")))
fit Gamma ind con <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 0, ], dist = "gamma")
fit Gamma ind con
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Gamma ind con)
BIC(fit Gamma ind con)
# Mean survival time
mean gamma ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Gamma_ind_con, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv gamma_ind_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit Gamma ind con, type = "survival", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz gamma ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Gamma ind con, type = "hazard", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
#****** Gamma - independent model for experimental group
***********
fit Gamma ind exp <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS_months, event_num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 1, ], dist = "gamma")
fit_Gamma_ind_exp
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit Gamma ind exp)
BIC(fit Gamma ind exp)
# Mean survival time
mean gamma ind exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit Gamma ind exp, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
```

```
# Predicted survival functions
surv_gamma_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply()))</pre>
 summary(fit Gamma ind exp, type = "survival", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz_gamma_ind_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_Gamma_ind_exp, type = "hazard", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
#****** Generalized Gamma - treatment group as covariate ("combined")
fit_GG <- flexsurvreg(surv_obj ~ trtgrp_num, data = data, dist = "gengamma")
fit GG
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit GG)
BIC(fit_GG)
# Mean survival time
# Note: Sometimes gengamma mean may not compute due to complex hazard shape (same
as Gompertz).
# If it fails, it is acceptable to just proceed with survival and hazard plots.
mean_GG_con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_GG, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 0)), `[[`, "est")))
mean_GG_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(</pre>
 summary(fit_GG, type = "mean", newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 1)), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
t predict <- seq(0, 240, by = 0.5)
surv GG comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_GG, type = "survival", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 0)),
`[[`, "est")))
surv_GG_comb_exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_GG, type = "survival", t = t_predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp_num = 1)),
`[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz GG comb con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
```

```
summary(fit GG, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 0)), `[[`,
"est")))
haz GG comb exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit GG, type = "hazard", t = t predict, newdata = data.frame(trtgrp num = 1)), `[[`,
"est")))
#****** Generalized Gamma - independent model for control group
***********
fit_GG_ind_con <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 0, ], dist = "gengamma")
fit GG ind con
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit GG ind con)
BIC(fit GG ind con)
# Mean survival time
mean GG ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_GG_ind_con, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv GG ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_GG_ind_con, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted hazard functions
haz GG ind con <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit GG ind con, type = "hazard", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
#****** Generalized Gamma - independent model for experimental group
fit GG ind exp <- flexsurvreg(Surv(PFS months, event num) ~ 1, data =
data[data$trtgrp num == 1, ], dist = "gengamma")
fit_GG_ind_exp
# AIC and BIC
AIC(fit GG ind exp)
BIC(fit GG ind exp)
# Mean survival time
mean GG ind exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_GG_ind_exp, type = "mean"), `[[`, "est")))
# Predicted survival functions
surv GG ind exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit_GG_ind_exp, type = "survival", t = t_predict), `[[`, "est")))
```

```
# Predicted hazard functions
haz GG ind exp <- as.numeric(unlist(lapply(
 summary(fit GG ind exp, type = "hazard", t = t predict), `[[`, "est")))
#------#
#-----$TEP3: Plotting------#
Survival extrapolations all models <- ggplot() +
# 95% CI for Kaplan-Meier Curves
 geom ribbon(aes(x = km surv con$time, ymin = km surv con$lower, ymax =
km surv con$upper, fill = "Control - 95% CI"), alpha = 0.1) +
 geom_ribbon(aes(x = km_surv_exp$time, ymin = km_surv_exp$lower, ymax =
km surv exp$upper, fill = "Experimental - 95% CI"), alpha = 0.1) +
 # Exponential
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv_exp_comb_con, color = "Control - Exponential"),
linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv exp comb exp, color = "Experimental -
Exponential"), linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # Weibull
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv weib comb con, color = "Control - Weibull"),
linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv weib comb exp, color = "Experimental - Weibull"),
linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # Log-normal
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = surv_lnorm_comb_con, color = "Control - Log-normal"),
linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv lnorm comb exp, color = "Experimental - Log-
normal"), linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # Log-logistic
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = surv_logl_comb_con, color = "Control - Log-logistic"),
linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv logl comb exp, color = "Experimental - Log-
logistic"), linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # Gompertz
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv gompertz comb con, color = "Control - Gompertz"),
linewidth = 1) +
```

```
geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv gompertz comb exp, color = "Experimental -
Gompertz"), linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # Gamma
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv gamma comb con, color = "Control - Gamma"),
linewidth = 1) +
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = surv_gamma_comb_exp, color = "Experimental -
Gamma"), linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # Generalized Gamma
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv GG comb con, color = "Control - Generalized
Gamma"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = surv_GG_comb_exp, color = "Experimental - Generalized
Gamma"), linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 1) +
 # KM Curves
 geom step(aes(x = km surv con$time, y = km surv con$surv, color = "Control - KM"),
linewidth = 1) +
 geom step(aes(x = km surv exp$time, y = km surv exp$surv, color = "Experimental -
KM"), linewidth = 1) +
 scale color manual(values = c(
  "Control - KM" = "#377EB8", "Experimental - KM" = "#E41A1C",
  "Control - Exponential" = "black", "Experimental - Exponential" = "black",
  "Control - Weibull" = "blue", "Experimental - Weibull" = "blue",
  "Control - Log-normal" = "purple", "Experimental - Log-normal" = "purple",
  "Control - Log-logistic" = "darkgreen", "Experimental - Log-logistic" = "darkgreen",
  "Control - Gompertz" = "brown", "Experimental - Gompertz" = "brown",
  "Control - Gamma" = "orange", "Experimental - Gamma" = "orange",
  "Control - Generalized Gamma" = "deeppink", "Experimental - Generalized Gamma" =
"deeppink"
 )) +
 scale_fill_manual(values = c("Control - 95% CI" = "#377EB8", "Experimental - 95% CI" =
"#E41A1C"), guide = "none") +
 labs(title = "Parametric Models and KM Curves",
    x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
    y = "Proportion surviving",
    color = "Model") +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 240), breaks = seq(0, 240), by = 10), expand = c(0, 0.05))
 scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0, 1), breaks = seq(0, 1, by = 0.1), expand = c(0.02, 0)) +
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(0.7, 0.7),
```

```
text = element text(size = 14),
    panel.grid.major.y = element blank(),
    panel.grid.minor.y = element_blank()) +
 guides(color = guide legend(ncol = 2))
# Plot
Survival_extrapolations_all_models
# Survival overlay: KM + parametric (Weibull+Log-normal+GenGamma)
Survival s1 <- ggplot() +
 # KM CI ribbons
 geom ribbon(aes(x = km surv con$time, ymin = km surv con$lower, ymax =
km_surv_con$upper), fill = "#377EB8", alpha = 0.1) +
 geom ribbon(aes(x = km surv exp$time, ymin = km surv exp$lower, ymax =
km surv exp$upper), fill = "#E41A1C", alpha = 0.1) +
 # KM curves
 geom step(aes(x = km surv con$time, y = km surv con$surv, color = "Control - KM
(solid)", linetype = "Control - KM (solid)"), linewidth = 1.5) +
 geom_step(aes(x = km_surv_exp$time, y = km_surv_exp$surv, color = "Experimental - KM
(solid)", linetype = "Experimental - KM (solid)"), linewidth = 1.5) +
 # Weibull
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv weibull ind con, color = "Control - Weibull
(dashed)", linetype = "Control - Weibull (dashed)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv weibull ind exp, color = "Experimental - Weibull
(dashed)", linetype = "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 # Log-normal
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv lnorm ind con, color = "Control - Log-normal
(dashed)", linetype = "Control - Log-normal (dashed)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv lnorm ind exp, color = "Experimental - Log-normal
(dashed)", linetype = "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 # GenGamma
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv GG ind con, color = "Control - GenGamma
(dashed)", linetype = "Control - GenGamma (dashed)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv GG ind exp, color = "Experimental - GenGamma
(dashed)", linetype = "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 # Color mapping
 scale color manual(values = c(
```

```
"Control - KM (solid)" = "#377EB8",
  "Experimental - KM (solid)" = "#E41A1C",
  "Control - Weibull (dashed)" = "#ff7f00",
  "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)" = "#ff7f50",
  "Control - Log-normal (dashed)" = "black",
  "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)" = "black",
  "Control - GenGamma (dashed)" = "#33a02c",
  "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)" = "#33a02c"
 )) +
 # Linetype mapping
 scale linetype manual(values = c(
  "Control - KM (solid)" = "solid",
  "Experimental - KM (solid)" = "solid",
  "Control - Weibull (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Control - Log-normal (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Control - GenGamma (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)" = "dashed"
 )) +
 # Labels
 labs(title = "Parametric model extrapolation: independent fits (short term)",
    subtitle = "Weibull, Log-normal, Generalised Gamma vs KM",
    x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
    y = "Proportion surviving",
    color = "Line (Group - Model - Type)",
    linetype = "Line (Group - Model - Type)") +
 # Axes →
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 40), breaks = seg(0, 40, by = 5)) +
 scale y continuous(limits = c(0, 1), breaks = seq(0, 1, by = 0.35)) +
 # Theme settings
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(3, 4),
    text = element text(size = 12),
     panel.grid.major.y = element blank(),
     panel.grid.minor.y = element_blank()) +
 # Legend guide
 guides(color = guide legend(ncol = 2),
     linetype = guide legend(ncol = 2))
# Display the plot
Survival s1
```

```
# Extrapolate to 240 months
Survival etra s1 <- Survival s1 +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 240), breaks = seq(0, 240, by = 30), expand = c(0, 0.05))
Survival etra s1
#***** Construct hazard plots *******************************
Hazard s1 <- ggplot() +
 # KM smoothed hazard → Control / Experimental
 geom step(aes(x = hazard0 bshazard$time, y = hazard0 bshazard$hazard, color =
"Control - KM (solid)", linetype = "Control - KM (solid)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom step(aes(x = hazard1 bshazard$time, y = hazard1 bshazard$hazard, color =
"Experimental - KM (solid)", linetype = "Experimental - KM (solid)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 # Weibull hazard
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz weibull ind con, color = "Control - Weibull (dashed)",
linetype = "Control - Weibull (dashed)"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz weibull ind exp, color = "Experimental - Weibull
(dashed)", linetype = "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)"), linewidth = 1) +
 # Log-normal hazard
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz lnorm ind con, color = "Control - Log-normal
(dashed)", linetype = "Control - Log-normal (dashed)"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz lnorm ind exp, color = "Experimental - Log-normal
(dashed)", linetype = "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)"), linewidth = 1) +
 # GenGamma hazard
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz GG ind con, color = "Control - GenGamma
(dashed)", linetype = "Control - GenGamma (dashed)"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = haz_GG_ind_exp, color = "Experimental - GenGamma
(dashed)", linetype = "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)"), linewidth = 1) +
 # Color mapping
 scale color manual(values = c(
  "Control - KM (solid)" = "#377EB8",
  "Experimental - KM (solid)" = "#E41A1C",
  "Control - Weibull (dashed)" = "#ff7f00",
  "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)" = "#ff7f50",
  "Control - Log-normal (dashed)" = "black",
  "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)" = "grey",
  "Control - GenGamma (dashed)" = "#33a02c",
  "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)" = "#b2df8a"
 )) +
```

```
# Linetype mapping
 scale linetype manual(values = c(
  "Control - KM (solid)" = "solid",
  "Experimental - KM (solid)" = "solid",
  "Control - Weibull (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Control - Log-normal (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Control - GenGamma (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)" = "dashed"
 )) +
 # Labels
 labs(title = "Hazard functions: independent fits",
    subtitle = "Weibull, Log-normal, Generalised Gamma vs KM smoothed hazard",
    x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
    y = "Hazard per person-month",
    color = "Line (Group - Model - Type)",
    linetype = "Line (Group - Model - Type)") +
 # Axes
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 240), breaks = seg(0, 240, by = 20)) +
 scale y continuous(limits = c(0, NA), expand = c(0, 0)) +
 # Theme settings
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(0.7, 0.5),
    text = element text(size = 10),
    panel.grid.major.y = element blank(),
    panel.grid.minor.y = element blank()) +
 # Legend guide
 guides(color = guide_legend(ncol = 2),
     linetype = guide legend(ncol = 2))
#***** Construct plots of the implied treatment effect over time
***********
                                                  -----#
# Calculate HR = hazard treatment / hazard control
HR weibull <- haz weibull ind exp / haz weibull ind con
HR lognorm <- haz lnorm ind exp / haz lnorm ind con
# Clean infinite or NA values (e.g. divide by zero)
HR weibull[!is.finite(HR weibull)] <- NA
```

```
HR lognorm[!is.finite(HR lognorm)] <- NA
Implied HR plot s1 <- ggplot() +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = HR weibull, color = "Weibull", linetype = "Weibull"),
linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = HR_lognorm, color = "Log-normal", linetype = "Log-
normal"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom hline(yintercept = 1.0, color = "black", linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 0.8) +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 40), breaks = seq(0, 40, by = 5)) +
 scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0, NA), breaks = seq(0, 2, by = 0.2), expand = c(0, 0)) +
 scale color manual(values = c("Weibull" = "#ff7f00", "Log-normal" = "#6a3d9a")) +
 scale linetype manual(values = c("Weibull" = "dashed", "Log-normal" = "dotdash")) +
 labs(title = "Implied Hazard Ratio over Time (short term)",
    subtitle = "Derived from independent models",
    x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
    y = "Implied HR (experimental / control)",
    color = "Model",
    linetype = "Model") +
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(0.75, 0.3),
    text = element text(size = 12),
    panel.grid.minor = element blank())
Implied HR plot s1 extra <- Implied HR plot s1 +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 240), breaks = seq(0, 240, by = 20))
#***** 1.5 Compare base model and selected parametric model
***********
#****** Survival Overlay Plot (Log-normal independent vs Exponential combined)
***********
Survival log vs exp <- ggplot() +
 # KM confidence bands
 geom ribbon(aes(x = km surv con$time, ymin = km surv con$lower, ymax =
km surv con$upper), fill = "#377EB8", alpha = 0.1) +
 geom ribbon(aes(x = km surv exp$time, ymin = km surv exp$lower, ymax =
km_surv_exp$upper), fill = "#E41A1C", alpha = 0.1) +
```

KM curves

```
geom step(aes(x = km surv con$time, y = km surv con$surv, color = "Control - KM",
linetype = "Control - KM"), linewidth = 1.4) +
 geom step(aes(x = km surv exp$time, y = km surv exp$surv, color = "Experimental -
KM", linetype = "Experimental - KM"), linewidth = 1.4) +
 # Exponential combined
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = surv_exp_comb_con, color = "Control - Exponential",
linetype = "Control - Exponential"), linewidth = 1.1) +
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = surv_exp_comb_exp, color = "Experimental -
Exponential", linetype = "Experimental - Exponential"), linewidth = 1.1) +
 # Log-normal independent
 geom_line(aes(x = t_predict, y = surv_lnorm_ind_con, color = "Control - Log-normal",
linetype = "Control - Log-normal"), linewidth = 1.1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv lnorm ind exp, color = "Experimental - Log-normal",
linetype = "Experimental - Log-normal"), linewidth = 1.1) +
 scale color manual(values = c(
  "Control - KM" = "#377EB8",
  "Experimental - KM" = "#E41A1C",
  "Control - Exponential" = "#33a02c",
  "Experimental - Exponential" = "#b2df8a",
  "Control - Log-normal" = "black",
  "Experimental - Log-normal" = "black"
 )) +
 scale linetype manual(values = c(
  "Control - KM" = "solid",
  "Experimental - KM" = "solid",
  "Control - Exponential" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Exponential" = "dashed",
  "Control - Log-normal" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Log-normal" = "dashed"
 )) +
 labs(
  title = "Survival Curves: Exponential (combined) vs Log-normal (independent)",
  subtitle = "Compared against Kaplan-Meier estimates",
  x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
  y = "Proportion surviving",
  color = "Group - Model",
  linetype = "Group - Model"
 ) +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 40), breaks = seq(0, 40, 5)) +
 scale y continuous(limits = c(0, 1), breaks = seq(0, 1, 0.25)) +
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(20, 0.25),
     text = element text(size = 11),
     panel.grid.major.y = element blank(),
```

```
panel.grid.minor.y = element blank())
Survival log vs exp extended <- Survival log vs exp +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 240), breaks = seq(0, 240, 30), expand = c(0, 0.02))
#****** Hazard Plot (Log-normal independent vs Exponential combined)
***********
Hazard log vs exp <- ggplot() +
 # KM smoothed hazard
 geom step(aes(x = hazard0 bshazard$time, y = hazard0 bshazard$hazard, color =
"Control - KM", linetype = "Control - KM"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom step(aes(x = hazard1 bshazard$time, y = hazard1 bshazard$hazard, color =
"Experimental - KM", linetype = "Experimental - KM"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 # Exponential combined
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz exp comb con, color = "Control - Exponential",
linetype = "Control - Exponential"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz exp comb exp, color = "Experimental - Exponential",
linetype = "Experimental - Exponential"), linewidth = 1) +
 # Log-normal independent
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz lnorm ind con, color = "Control - Log-normal",
linetype = "Control - Log-normal"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz lnorm ind exp, color = "Experimental - Log-normal",
linetype = "Experimental - Log-normal"), linewidth = 1) +
 scale color manual(values = c(
  "Control - KM" = "#377EB8",
  "Experimental - KM" = "#E41A1C",
  "Control - Exponential" = "#33a02c",
  "Experimental - Exponential" = "#b2df8a",
  "Control - Log-normal" = "black",
  "Experimental - Log-normal" = "grey40"
 scale linetype manual(values = c(
  "Control - KM" = "solid",
  "Experimental - KM" = "solid",
  "Control - Exponential" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Exponential" = "dashed",
  "Control - Log-normal" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Log-normal" = "dashed"
 )) +
 labs(
  title = "Hazard Functions: Exponential (combined) vs Log-normal (independent)",
  subtitle = "Compared to KM smoothed hazard",
  x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
  y = "Hazard per person-month",
```

```
color = "Group - Model",
  linetype = "Group - Model"
 ) +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 240), breaks = seq(0, 240, 30)) +
 scale y continuous(limits = c(0, NA), expand = c(0, 0)) +
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(0.75, 0.6),
    text = element text(size = 10),
    panel.grid.minor.y = element blank())
#****** Hazard Plot (Log-normal independent vs Exponential combined)
***********
HR lognorm vs exp <- haz lnorm ind exp / haz exp comb exp
HR lognorm vs exp[!is.finite(HR lognorm vs exp)] <- NA
Implied HR log vs exp <- ggplot() +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = HR lognorm vs exp, color = "Log-normal vs Exp",
linetype = "Log-normal vs Exp"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom hline(yintercept = 1.0, color = "black", linetype = "dashed", linewidth = 0.8) +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 40), breaks = seq(0, 40, 5)) +
 scale y continuous(limits = c(0, NA), breaks = seq(0, 2, by = 0.2)) +
 scale color manual(values = c("Log-normal vs Exp" = "#984ea3")) +
 scale linetype manual(values = c("Log-normal vs Exp" = "dotdash")) +
 labs(
  title = "Implied Hazard Ratio over Time",
  subtitle = "Log-normal (independent) vs Exponential (combined)",
  x = "Time since randomisation (months)",
  y = "Implied HR (lognorm / exp)",
  color = "Model Comparison",
  linetype = "Model Comparison"
 ) +
 theme bw() +
 theme(legend.position = c(0.7, 0.25),
    text = element text(size = 12),
    panel.grid.minor = element blank())
Implied HR log vs exp ext <- Implied HR log vs exp +
 scale x continuous(limits = c(0, 240), breaks = seq(0, 240, 30))
```

Appendix 2: Flexible Parametric Model

```
#-----#
#-----#
#-----#
#----- Flexible Parametric Model: Combined (PH) and Independent (Non-PH) for PFS ----#
#-----#
# Combined model (proportional hazards assumption)
fit fpm pfs <- stpm2(Surv(time = PFS months, event = event num) ~ trtgrp num,
           data = data, df = 4, scale = "hazard")
fit fpm pfs
# AIC / BIC
AIC(fit fpm pfs)
BIC(fit fpm pfs)
# RMST truncated at 20 months
rmst fpm pfs con <- integrate(function(t) {</pre>
 predict(fit fpm pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months = t, trtgrp num = 0), type = "surv")
\}, lower = 0, upper = 20)\$value
rmst fpm pfs exp <- integrate(function(t) {</pre>
 predict(fit_fpm_pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS_months = t, trtgrp_num = 1), type = "surv")
\}, lower = 0, upper = 20)\$value
# Survival & hazard predictions for extrapolation
surv fpm comb con pfs <- predict(fit fpm pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months =
t predict, trtgrp num = 0), type = "surv")
surv fpm comb exp pfs <- predict(fit fpm pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months =
t predict, trtgrp num = 1), type = "surv")
haz_fpm_comb_con_pfs <- predict(fit_fpm_pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS_months =
t predict, trtgrp num = 0), type = "hazard")
haz fpm comb exp pfs <- predict(fit fpm pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months =
t_predict, trtgrp_num = 1), type = "hazard")
# Independent models (non-proportional hazards)
fit fpm2 con pfs <- stpm2(Surv(time = PFS months, event = event num) ~ 1,
             data = subset(data, trtgrp num == 0), df = 4, scale = "hazard")
fit fpm2 exp pfs <- stpm2(Surv(time = PFS months, event = event num) ~ 1,
             data = subset(data, trtgrp num == 1), df = 4, scale = "hazard")
```

```
# AIC / BIC
AIC(fit fpm2 con pfs); BIC(fit fpm2 con pfs)
AIC(fit_fpm2_exp_pfs); BIC(fit_fpm2_exp_pfs)
# RMST (truncated at 20 months)
rmst fpm2 con pfs <- integrate(function(t) {
 predict(fit fpm2 con pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months = t), type = "surv")
\}, lower = 0, upper = 20)\$value
rmst fpm2 exp pfs <- integrate(function(t) {
 predict(fit fpm2 exp pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months = t), type = "surv")
\}, lower = 0, upper = 20)\$value
# Survival & hazard predictions
surv fpm ind con pfs <- predict(fit fpm2 con pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months =
t predict), type = "surv")
surv fpm ind exp pfs <- predict(fit fpm2 exp pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months =
t predict), type = "surv")
haz fpm ind con pfs <- predict(fit fpm2 con pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months =
t predict), type = "hazard")
haz fpm ind exp pfs <- predict(fit fpm2 exp pfs, newdata = data.frame(PFS months =
t predict), type = "hazard")
# Add: Flexible parametric model (independent)
Survival s1 bonus <- Survival etra s1 +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv fpm ind con pfs, color = "Control - FPM (dashed)",
linetype = "Control - FPM (dashed)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = surv fpm ind exp pfs, color = "Experimental - FPM
(dashed)", linetype = "Experimental - FPM (dashed)"), linewidth = 1.2) +
 scale color manual(values = c(
  # Existing
  "Control - KM (solid)" = "#377EB8",
  "Experimental - KM (solid)" = "#E41A1C",
  "Control - Weibull (dashed)" = "#ff7f00",
  "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)" = "#ff7f50",
  "Control - Log-normal (dashed)" = "black",
  "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)" = "black",
  "Control - GenGamma (dashed)" = "#33a02c",
  "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)" = "#33a02c",
  # NEW
  "Control - FPM (dashed)" = "#8A2BE2",
  "Experimental - FPM (dashed)" = "#8A2BE2"
 )) +
```

```
scale linetype manual(values = c(
  # Existing
  "Control - KM (solid)" = "solid",
  "Experimental - KM (solid)" = "solid",
  "Control - Weibull (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Control - Log-normal (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Control - GenGamma (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)" = "dashed",
  # NEW
  "Control - FPM (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - FPM (dashed)" = "dashed"
 ))
# Add: Flexible parametric model (independent)
Hazard s1 <- Hazard s1 +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz fpm ind con pfs, color = "Control - FPM (dashed)",
linetype = "Control - FPM (dashed)"), linewidth = 1) +
 geom line(aes(x = t predict, y = haz fpm ind exp pfs, color = "Experimental - FPM
(dashed)", linetype = "Experimental - FPM (dashed)"), linewidth = 1) +
 scale_color_manual(values = c(
  # Existing
  "Control - KM (solid)" = "#377EB8",
  "Experimental - KM (solid)" = "#E41A1C",
  "Control - Weibull (dashed)" = "#ff7f00",
  "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)" = "#ff7f50",
  "Control - Log-normal (dashed)" = "black",
  "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)" = "grey",
  "Control - GenGamma (dashed)" = "#33a02c",
  "Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)" = "#b2df8a",
  # NEW
  "Control - FPM (dashed)" = "#8A2BE2",
  "Experimental - FPM (dashed)" = "#8A2BE2"
 )) +
 scale_linetype_manual(values = c(
  # Existing
  "Control - KM (solid)" = "solid",
  "Experimental - KM (solid)" = "solid",
  "Control - Weibull (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Weibull (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Control - Log-normal (dashed)" = "dashed",
  "Experimental - Log-normal (dashed)" = "dashed",
```

```
"Control - GenGamma (dashed)" = "dashed",

"Experimental - GenGamma (dashed)" = "dashed",

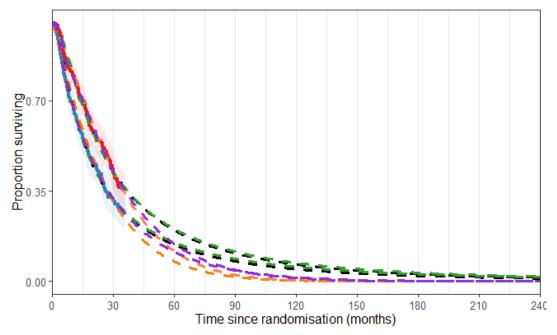
# NEW

"Control - FPM (dashed)" = "dashed",

"Experimental - FPM (dashed)" = "dashed"

))
```

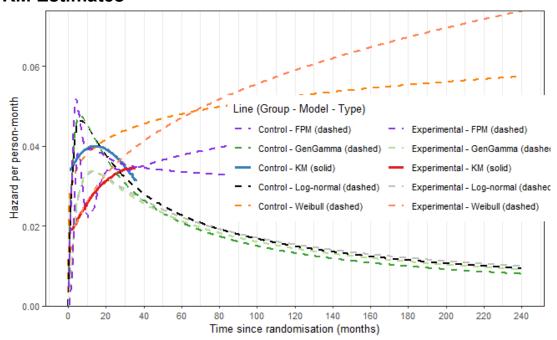
Figure 1: Survival Curves from Independent Parametric and Flexible Models



This plot compares progression-free survival (PFS) extrapolations using several independently fitted models, including:

- Kaplan-Meier (KM) curves for the control (blue solid line) and experimental group (red solid line)
- **Parametric models**: Weibull (orange), Log-normal (black), and Generalised Gamma (green)
- Flexible Parametric Model (FPM): shown in purple dashed lines for both groups Interpretation:
 - The **Log-normal** and **GenGamma** models provide reasonable fits in the short term and align well with the KM curves.
 - The **Weibull** model appears to underestimate long-term survival, with curves dropping too steeply.
 - The **FPM** captures the overall shape of the KM data and allows more flexible long-term extrapolation, although its upper tail tends to predict slightly higher survival.

Figure 2: Hazard Functions from Independent Models Compared to KM Estimates



This figure displays time-varying hazard functions derived from the same set of models:

- KM smoothed hazard estimates (blue and red solid lines)
- **Weibull (orange)**: shows a continuously increasing hazard, which may not reflect the observed data
- Log-normal (black): captures a rising and falling hazard trend
- GenGamma (green): fits the overall hazard shape well with greater flexibility
- **FPM (purple)**: offers a smooth, flexible hazard trajectory, closely following the KM pattern, especially between 10 and 30 months

Interpretation:

- The **Weibull** model's monotonic increase in hazard may oversimplify the actual risk dynamics.
- **FPM** provides superior flexibility in modeling non-proportional and non-monotonic hazards, making it well-suited for realistic clinical scenarios where the risk of progression may rise and fall over time.