

Markov Sick-Sicker model in R

with dependency for time-since model start AND with state-residency dependency

The DARTH workgroup

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Please cite our publications when using this code:

- Jalal H, Pechlivanoglou P, Krijkamp E, Alarid-Escudero F, Enns E, Hunink MG. An Overview of R in Health Decision Sciences. *Med Decis Making*. 2017; 37(3): 735-746. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0272989X16686559>
- Krijkamp EM, Alarid-Escudero F, Enns EA, Jalal HJ, Hunink MGM, Pechlivanoglou P. Microsimulation modeling for health decision sciences using R: A tutorial. *Med Decis Making*. 2018;38(3):400-22. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0272989X18754513>
- Krijkamp EM, Alarid-Escudero F, Enns E, Pechlivanoglou P, Hunink MM, Jalal H. A Multidimensional Array Representation of State-Transition Model Dynamics. *Med Decis Mak*. 2020;40(2):242-248. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0272989X19893973>

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Change eval to TRUE if you want to knit this document.

```
rm(list = ls())      # clear memory (removes all the variables from the workspace)
```

01 Load packages

```
if (!require('pacman')) install.packages('pacman'); library(pacman) # use this package to conveniently
# load (install if required) packages from CRAN
p_load("here", "dplyr", "devtools", "scales", "ellipse", "ggplot2", "lazyeval", "igraph", "truncnorm",
# load (install if required) packages from GitHub
# install_github("DARTH-git/darthtools", force = TRUE) Uncomment if there is a newer version
p_load_gh("DARTH-git/darthtools")
```

02 Load functions

```
# No functions needed
```

03 Input model parameters

```
# Strategy names
v_names_str <- c("No Treatment", "Treatment")

# Number of strategies
n_str <- length(v_names_str)

# Markov model parameters
age      <- 25                # age at baseline
max_age  <- 55                # maximum age of follow up
n_t      <- max_age - age     # time horizon, number of cycles
v_names_states <- c("H", "S1", "S2", "D") # the 4 states of the model: Healthy (H), Sick (S1),
                                          # Sicker (S2), Dead (D)
n_states <- length(v_names_states) # number of health states

# Tunnels
n_tunnel_size <- n_t
# Sick state
v_Sick_tunnels <- paste("S1_", seq(1, n_tunnel_size), "Yr", sep = "")
### Create variables for time-dependent model
v_names_states_tunnels <- c("H", v_Sick_tunnels, "S2", "D") # state names
n_states_tunnels <- length(v_names_states_tunnels)          # number of states

# Transition probabilities (per cycle) and hazard ratios
# Read age-specific mortality rates from csv file
lt_usa_2005 <- read.csv("HMD_USA_Mx_2015.csv")
v_r_HD <- lt_usa_2005 %>%
```

```

    filter(Age >= age & Age <= (max_age - 1)) %>%
    select(Total) %>%
    as.matrix()

p_HD    <- 1 - exp(- v_r_HD)  # probability to die when healthy
p_HS1   <- 0.15               # probability to become sick when healthy
p_S1H   <- 0.5                # probability to become healthy when

# Weibull parameters
l        <- # <- your turn # scale parameter
g        <- # <- your turn # shape parameter
# Weibull function
p_S1S2   <- l * g * (1:n_tunnel_size) ^ {g-1} # probability to become sicker when sick
                                                # (time-dependent)

hr_S1    <- 3                  # hazard ratio of death in sick vs healthy
hr_S2    <- 10                 # hazard ratio of death in sicker vs healthy
r_HD     <- - log(1 - p_HD)    # rate of death in healthy
r_S1D    <- hr_S1 * r_HD       # rate of death in sick
r_S2D    <- hr_S2 * r_HD       # rate of death in sicker
p_S1D    <- 1 - exp(-r_S1D)    # probability to die in sick
p_S2D    <- 1 - exp(-r_S2D)    # probability to die in s

# Cost and utility inputs
c_H      <- 2000               # cost of remaining one cycle in the healthy state
c_S1     <- 4000               # cost of remaining one cycle in the sick state
c_S2     <- 15000              # cost of remaining one cycle in the sicker state
c_trt    <- 12000              # cost of treatment(per cycle)
c_D      <- 0                  # cost of being in the death state
u_H      <- 1                  # utility when healthy
u_S1     <- 0.75               # utility when sick
u_S2     <- 0.5                # utility when sicker
u_D      <- 0                  # utility when dead
u_trt    <- 0.95               # utility when being treated

d_e <- d_c <- 0.03            # equal discount of costs and QALYs by 3%

# calculate discount weights for costs for each cycle based on discount rate d_c
v_dwc <- 1 / (1 + d_e) ^ (0:n_t)
# calculate discount weights for effectiveness for each cycle based on discount rate d_e
v_dwe <- 1 / (1 + d_c) ^ (0:n_t)

```

04 Define and initialize matrices and vectors

04.1 Cohort trace

```

# create the markov trace matrix M capturing the proportion of the cohort in each state
# at each cycle
m_M_notrt <- m_M_trt # <- your turn

```

```
head(m_M_notrt) # show first 6 rows of the matrix

# The cohort starts as healthy
# initialize first cycle of Markov trace accounting for the tunnels
m_M_notrt[1, ] <- m_M_trt[1, ] <- c(1, rep(0, n_tunnel_size), 0, 0)
```

04.2 Transition probability array

```
# create the transition probability array for NO treatment
a_P_notrt # <- your turn
```

Fill in the transition probability array:

```
# from Healthy

# from Sick

# from Sicker

# from Dead

# create transition probability matrix for treatment same as NO treatment
a_P_trt <- a_P_notrt
```

05 Run Markov model

```
# your turn
```

06 Compute and Plot Epidemiological Outcomes

06.1 Cohort trace

```
# your turn
```

06.2 Overall Survival (OS)

```
# your turn
```

06.2.1 Life Expectancy (LE)

```
# your turn
```

06.3 Disease prevalence

```
# your turn
```

06.4 ratio of sick(S1) vs sicker(S2)

```
# your turn
```

07 Compute Cost-Effectiveness Outcomes

07.1 Mean Costs and QALYs for Treatment and NO Treatment

```
# your turn
```

07.2 Discounted Mean Costs and QALYs

```
# your turn

# Store discounted costs and effectiveness for each strategy in a data frame
df_ce      <- data.frame(Strategy = NA, # <-- your value (strategy names)
                        Cost      = NA, # <-- your value (strategy costs)
                        Effect     = NA  # <-- your value (strategy QALYs)
                        )
```

07.3 Compute ICERs of the Markov model

```
# Use the function calculate_icers() from the dampack package
df_cea <- calculate_icers(cost      = df_ce$Cost,
                        effect     = df_ce$Effect,
                        strategies = df_ce$Strategy)

df_cea
```

07.4 Plot frontier of the Markov model

```
plot(df_cea, effect_units = "QALYs")
```