

Example 4 using R

Drawing time to event from hazards with time-dependent covariates

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Code function

This document presents the code corresponding to the fourth example presented in the “A Fast Nonparametric Sampling (NPS) Method for Time-to-Event in Individual-Level Simulation Models.” manuscript, all of them using R.

```
# 01 Initial Setup -----  
  
## 01.01 Clean environment -----  
remove(list = ls())  
  
## Refresh environment memory  
gc()  
  
# 01.02 Load libraries -----  
library(dplyr)  
library(ggplot2)  
library(tidyr)  
library(tibble)  
library(data.table)  
library(flexsurv)  
library(LambertW)  
library(reshape2)  
library(microbenchmark)
```

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```

# Load function to implement multivariate categorical sampling
source(file = "../R/nps_nhppp.R")

# 02 Define general parameters -----

# Parameters for time-varying covariates
alpha_0 <- 0
alpha_1 <- 1
# When beta <- 0 the time-varying covariate is deactivated
beta    <- log(1.02)

# Define a time range
time_var_cov <- seq(0, 100)

# Sample size
n_samp <- 1e6

## Number of iterations for microbenchmarking in time-dependent covariates
## examples
n_iter_time_var_cov <- 100

# Seed for reproducibility in random number generation
n_seed <- 10242022

# 03 Define required functions -----

## Function to apply the time-varying covariate to a baseline hazard
compute_time_varying_hazard_linear_2 <- function(hazard0,
                                                alpha_0,
                                                alpha_1,
                                                beta,
                                                time_var_cov){

  # With this function we take the diagonal values of the matrix
  hazard <- hazard0*exp(beta*(alpha_0 + alpha_1*time_var_cov))

  # ## With this specification we obtain the full matrix and then we need to
  # ## make a subset considering a certain set of time-varying covariates
  # ## - DEACTIVATED
  # hazard <- hazard0 %*% exp(beta*(alpha_0 + alpha_1*time_var_cov))

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    return(hazard)
}

## Function to get time to events from exponential baseline hazard
## using analytic formula following Austin's 2012 equations:
## - Austin, P. C. (2012).
##   Generating survival times to simulate Cox proportional hazards models
##   with time-varying covariates. Statistics in Medicine, 31(29), 3946-3958.
##   https://doi.org/10.1002/sim.5452
inv_exp_time_ <- function(n_samp, rate, alpha_0, alpha_1, beta) {

  v_unif <- runif(n = n_samp)

  exp_time <- (1/(beta*alpha_1))*log(1 +
                                     ((-alpha_1*beta*log(v_unif))/
                                      (rate*exp(alpha_0*beta)))
                                   )

  return(exp_time)
}

## Function to get time to events from Gompertz baseline hazard
## using analytic formula following Austin's 2012 equations
inv_gomp_time_ <- function(n_samp,
                           shape,
                           rate,
                           alpha_0,
                           alpha_1,
                           beta) {

  v_unif <- runif(n = n_samp)

  gomp_time <- (1/((beta*alpha_1) + shape))*
    log(1 + (((beta*alpha_1) + shape)*(-log(v_unif)))/
        (rate*exp(alpha_0*beta)))

  return(gomp_time)
}

## Function to get time to events from Gompertz baseline hazard
## using analytic formula following Ngwa, et al.'s equations:

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## - Ngwa, J. S., Cabral, H. J., Cheng, D. M., Gagnon, D. R., LaValley,
##   M. P., & Cupples, L. A. (2022). Generating survival times with
##   time-varying covariates using the Lambert W Function. Communications in
##   Statistics: Simulation and Computation, 51(1), 135-153.
#   https://doi.org/10.1080/03610918.2019.1648822
inv_weibull_time <- function(n_samp,
                             shape,
                             scale,
                             alpha_0,
                             alpha_1,
                             beta) {

  v_unif <- runif(n = n_samp)

  weibull_time <- (1/(beta*alpha_1*(1/shape)))*LambertW::W(
    beta*(alpha_1*(1/shape))*(
      -log(v_unif)/scale*exp(beta*alpha_0)
    )^(1/shape)
  )

  return(weibull_time)
}

```

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# 04 Draw time to events -----

# Add seed for reproducibility
set.seed(n_seed)

## 04.01 Exponential baseline hazard -----

# Define general parameters for the Exponential baseline hazard
rate <- 0.1

# Obtain the exponential baseline hazard
v_exp_hazard0 <- matrix(data = flexsurv::hexp(x = 0:100, rate = rate),
                        ncol = 1)

## Compute the hazard after adding a proportional hazards approach using a
## time-varying covariate
hazard <- compute_time_varying_hazard_linear_2(
  hazard0 = v_exp_hazard0,
  alpha_0 = alpha_0,

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alpha_1      = alpha_1,
beta         = beta,
time_var_cov = time_var_cov)

df_hazard_long <- reshape2::melt(data      = hazard,
                                varnames   = c("Time", "Covariate"),
                                value.name = "h(t)")

dt_hazard_long <- data.table::as.data.table(df_hazard_long)

## Transform hazards `h(t)` to instantaneous probabilities `f(t)`
## # H(t) - Cumulative hazard
dt_hazard_long[, H := cumsum(`h(t)`) ]
# F(t) - Cumulative probability
dt_hazard_long[, `F` := 1 - exp(-H)]
# f(t) - Instantaneous probability
dt_hazard_long[, f := c(`F`[1], diff(`F`))]

## Sample times to event considering the previously defined instantaneous
## probabilities
v_time_to_event_random_path <- sample(x      = time_var_cov,
                                     size    = n_samp,
                                     prob    = dt_hazard_long$f,
                                     replace = TRUE)

# Add continuous time approximation
v_time_to_event_random_path <- v_time_to_event_random_path +
  runif(n = length(v_time_to_event_random_path))

# Obtain times to event following analytical formula
v_exp_time <- inv_exp_time_(n_samp = n_samp,
                           rate     = rate,
                           alpha_0  = alpha_0,
                           alpha_1  = alpha_1,
                           beta     = beta)

# Compare mean time to event of
## Analytical formula sample
ev_exp_time_af <- mean(v_exp_time)
## NPS method

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ev_exp_time_nps <- mean(v_time_to_event_random_path)

# Measure mean execution time
l_mbench_tvar_exp <- microbenchmark::microbenchmark(
  sample(x = 0:100,
    size = 1e6,
    prob = dt_hazard_long$f,
    replace = TRUE),
  times = n_iter_time_var_cov,
  unit = "ms")

## 04.02 Gompertz baseline hazard -----

# Define general parameters for the Weibull baseline hazard
shape <- 0.1
rate <- 0.001

# Obtain the Gompertz baseline hazard
v_gomp_hazard0 <- flexsurv::hgompertz(x = 0:100, shape = shape, rate = rate)

## Compute the hazard after adding a proportional hazards approach using a
## time-varying covariate
gomp_hazard <- compute_time_varying_hazard_linear_2(
  hazard0 = v_gomp_hazard0,
  alpha_0 = alpha_0,
  alpha_1 = alpha_1,
  beta = beta,
  time_var_cov = time_var_cov)

df_gomp_hazard_long <- reshape2::melt(data = gomp_hazard,
  varnames = c("Time", "Covariate"),
  value.name = "h(t)")

dt_gomp_hazard_long <- as.data.table(df_gomp_hazard_long)

## Transform hazards `h(t)` to instantaneous probabilities `f(t)`
dt_gomp_hazard_long[, H := cumsum(`h(t)`)]
dt_gomp_hazard_long[, `F` := 1 - exp(-H)]
dt_gomp_hazard_long[, f := c(`F`[1], diff(`F`))]

# Sample times to event considering the previously defined instantaneous
# probabilities

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v_time_to_event_gompertz <- sample(x = time_var_cov,
                                   size = n_samp,
                                   prob = dt_gomp_hazard_long$f,
                                   replace = TRUE)

# Add continuous time approximation
v_time_to_event_gompertz <- v_time_to_event_gompertz +
  runif(n = length(v_time_to_event_gompertz))

# Obtain times to event following analytical formula
v_gomp_time <- inv_gomp_time_(n_samp = n_samp,
                              shape = shape,
                              rate = rate,
                              alpha_0 = alpha_0,
                              alpha_1 = alpha_1,
                              beta = beta)

# Compare expected time to event of
## Analytical formula sample
ev_gomp_time_af <- mean(v_gomp_time)
## Proposed approach
ev_gomp_time_nps <- mean(v_time_to_event_gompertz)

# Measure mean execution time
l_mbench_tvar_gomp <- microbenchmark(
  sample(x = 0:100,
         size = 1e6,
         prob = dt_gomp_hazard_long$f,
         replace = T) +
  runif(n = length(v_time_to_event_gompertz)),
  times = n_iter_time_var_cov,
  unit = "ms")

## 04.03 Weibull baseline hazard -----

# Define general parameters for the Weibull baseline hazard
n_shape_weib = 2
n_scale_weib = 0.01

# Obtain the Weibull (proportional hazards) baseline hazard

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v_weibull_hazard0 <- matrix(flexsurv::hweibullPH(x      = time_var_cov,
                                                shape = n_shape_weib,
                                                scale = n_scale_weib))

## Compute the hazard after adding a proportional hazards approach using a
## time-varying covariate
weibull_hazard <- compute_time_varying_hazard_linear_2(
  hazard0      = v_weibull_hazard0,
  alpha_0      = alpha_0,
  alpha_1      = alpha_1,
  beta         = beta,
  time_var_cov = time_var_cov)

df_weibull_hazard_long <- reshape2::melt(data      = weibull_hazard,
                                         varnames  = c("Time", "Covariate"),
                                         value.name = "h(t)")

dt_weibull_hazard_long <- as.data.table(df_weibull_hazard_long)

# Sample time to events for random path
dt_weibull_hazard_long[, H := cumsum(`h(t)`)]
dt_weibull_hazard_long[, `F` := 1 - exp(-H)]
dt_weibull_hazard_long[, f := c(`F`[1], diff(`F`))]

# Sample times to event considering the previously defined instantaneous
# probabilities
v_time_to_event_weibull <- sample(x      = time_var_cov,
                                  size    = n_samp,
                                  prob    = dt_weibull_hazard_long$f,
                                  replace = TRUE)

# Add continuous time approximation
v_time_to_event_weibull <- v_time_to_event_weibull +
  runif(n = length(v_time_to_event_weibull))

# Obtain times to event following analytical formula
v_weibull_time <- inv_weibull_time(n_samp = n_samp,
                                   shape   = n_shape_weib,
                                   scale   = n_scale_weib,
                                   alpha_0 = alpha_0,
                                   alpha_1 = alpha_1,
                                   beta    = beta)

```



```

# Compare expected time to event of
## Analytical formula sample
ev_weibull_time_af <- mean(v_weibull_time)
## Proposed approach
ev_weibull_time_nps <- mean(v_time_to_event_weibull)

# Measure mean execution time
l_mbench_tvar_weib <- microbenchmark::microbenchmark(
  sample(x = 0:100,
    size = 1e6,
    prob = dt_weibull_hazard_long$f,
    replace = T) + runif(n = length(v_time_to_event_weibull)),
  times = n_iter_time_var_cov,
  unit = "ms")

# Remove seed
set.seed(NULL)

```