Your First Look Into Survival Analysis

Presented by:

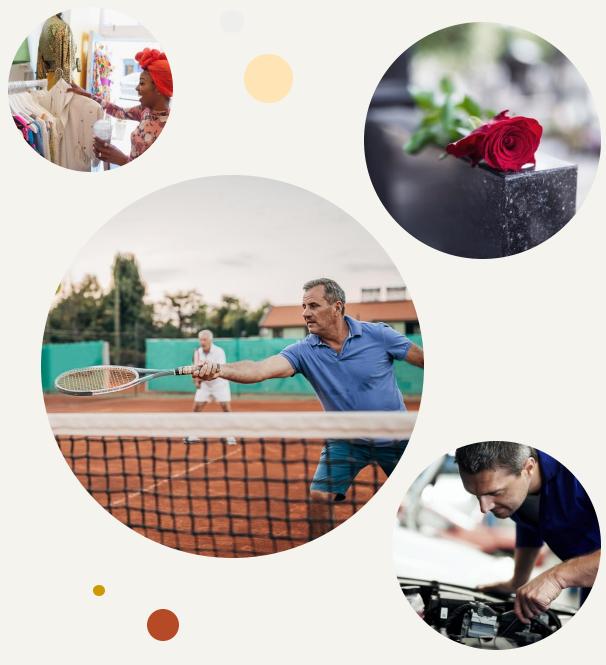
Emmanuel DJEGOU

PhD Candidate in Statistics @Missouri S&T

Data Intern @RGA

What is Survival Analysis?

- Study of time until an event occurs
- Events include:
 - 📴 Death
 - System failure
 - Relapse
 - Customer churn
 - Morbidity
 - 💸 Retirement
- Crucial in medicine, engineering, business, insurance, and beyond



Key Variables

Event Time (T):

Time until the event occurs.

Censoring (C):

Occurs when the event is not observed by the end of the observation period.

Status Indicator (δ):

- δ =1: Event observed.
- δ =0: Event censored.
- Data: (Y = min(T, C), δ): Observed time is Y=min(T,C), with indicator δ .

Study Start



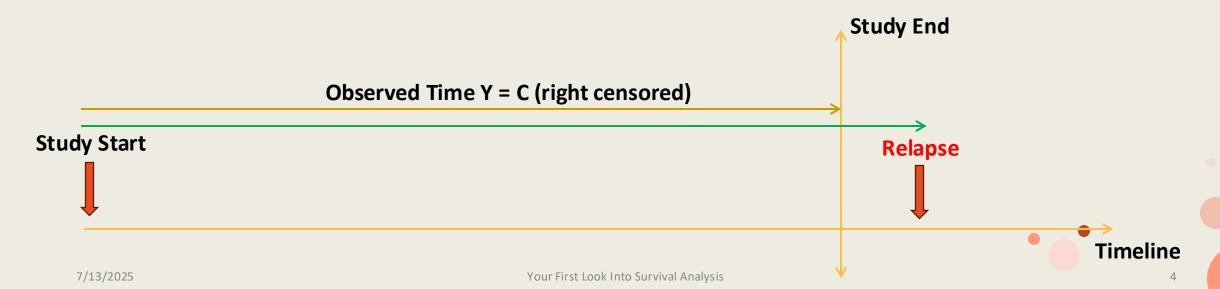
Study End

Types of Censoring

• Right censoring (most common): event has not occurred yet

Example:

- Patient A enrolls in the study and is followed for the full 5 years without relapsing.
- Their relapse time is right-censored at 5 years.
- Why? Because we only know that their relapse time is at least 5 years, but we don't know the exact time of relapse (if any).

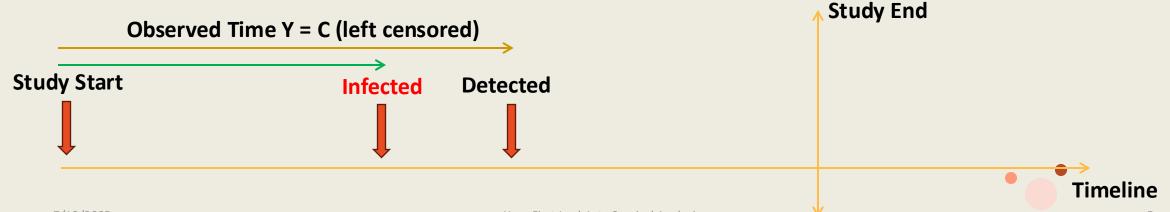


Types of Censoring

• Left censoring: event occurred before observation

Example:

- A patient comes in for their first test, and the results show they are already **infected**.
- However, there is no record of when the infection actually occurred.
- The infection happened before the first observation, but the exact time of infection is unknown—only that it occurred before detection.



Types of Censoring

• Interval censoring: event occurred in a time interval

Example:

- A company monitors machines for component failure with routine inspections every 100 hours.
- A machine's component is functioning at 500 hours,
- But at the next inspection at 600 hours, the component is found to have already failed.
- The failure occurred between 500 and 600 hours, but the exact time is unknown.
- That's interval censoring the failure time is known only to lie within a time interval.



Survival & Hazard Functions

• Definition:

$$S(t) = P(T > t) = 1 - F(t)$$

- F(t) is the CDF.
- The probability an individual survives past time t.
- Starts at 1, decreases over time
- If f(t) is the PDF:

$$S(t) = \int_{t}^{\infty} f(u) \ du = 1 - F(t)$$

• *Or*:

$$f(t) = -\frac{dS(t)}{dt}$$

Survival & Hazard Functions

Hazard Function:

$$\lambda(t) = \frac{f(t)}{S(t)}$$

- Think of it as: "If you're alive at time t, what's the risk you die instantly?"
- Cumulative Hazard function:

$$\Lambda(t) = \int_{0}^{t} \lambda(u) \, du$$

Relation to survival:

$$S(t) = \exp(-\Lambda(t))$$

- It is the total accumulated risk of experiencing the event up to time t.
- Think it as the "risk exposure" that builds up over time.
- The longer you "survive," the more risk you've accumulated but not necessarily experienced yet.

Want to Learn More?

E For an in-depth treatment, see:

✓ Collett, D. (2023). Modelling Survival Data in Medical Research (4th ed.). CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group.

Follow Me For More Exciting Discussions On Data Science, Statistics And Survival Analysis

All My Channels In One Place

Feel Free To Connect, Collaborate, Or Just Say Hi! 👏

Thank You!