

R functions

Visualizing time-varying treatment effect in survival analysis: 5 complementary plots to Kaplan-Meier curve

Version 1.0

R functions

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Function 1 : plotting Kaplan-Meier plot

```
KM_plot <- function(status,
                    time,
                    group = NULL,
                    data,
                    HR = TRUE,
                    HR.loc=c((as.integer(max(sfit$time)/6)),0.2),
                    PH=TRUE,
                    PH.loc=c((as.integer(max(sfit$time)/6)),0.4),
                    conf.level=0.95
                    ){
  #construct surv obj
  event <- deparse(substitute(status))
  time <- deparse(substitute(time))

  group <- deparse(substitute(group))
  fml <- paste0('Surv(', time, ",", event, ")~", group)
  sfit <- survfit(as.formula(fml), data)

  timeby = signif(max(sfit$time) / 6, 1)
  times <- seq(0, max(sfit$time), by = timeby)

  if (length(levels(summary(sfit)$strata)) == 0) {
    #no group information
    subs1 <- 1
    #store the number of timepoint stored in the timetable for survival curve
    subs2 <- 1:length(summary(sfit, censored = T)$time)
    #store the number of timepoint presented in number at risk table
    subs3 <-
      1:length(summary(sfit, times = times, extend = TRUE)$time)
  } else {
    subs1 <- 1:length(levels(summary(sfit)$strata))
```

```

subs2 <- 1:length(summary(sfit, censored = T)$strata)
subs3 <-
  1:length(summary(sfit, times = times, extend = TRUE)$strata)
}
Factor <- factor(summary(sfit, censored = T)$strata[subs2])

#####
# data manipulation pre-plotting #
#####
#Data to be used in the survival plot
df <- data.frame(
  time = sfit$time[subs2],
  n.risk = sfit$n.risk[subs2],
  n.event = sfit$n.event[subs2],
  n.censor = sfit$n.censor[subs2],
  surv = sfit$surv[subs2],
  strata = Factor,
  upper = sfit$upper[subs2],
  lower = sfit$lower[subs2]
)

#####
# specifying axis parameteres etc #
#####

p <-
ggplot(df, aes(x = time,y = surv)) +
geom_step(aes(color=strata),size = 0.75) +
theme_bw() +
theme(
  text = element_text(family = 'serif'),
  axis.title.x = element_text(family = 'serif', vjust = 0.7),
  panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
  panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
  axis.line = element_line(size = 0.5, colour = "black"),
  legend.position = "none",
  legend.background = element_rect(fill = NULL),
  legend.key = element_rect(colour = NA),
  panel.border = element_blank(),
  axis.line.x = element_line(
    size = 0.5,
    linetype = "solid",
    colour = "black"
  ),
  axis.line.y = element_line(
    size = 0.5,
    linetype = "solid",
    colour = "black"
  )
) +
scale_color_manual(values=c('#999999','#E61419'))+
xlab(label='Follow-up time')+
scale_y_continuous('Survival probability',
  labels=function(x){sprintf("%.2f",x)})

#add HR and 95% CI
##construct function for extract HR and 95%CI to be presented in plot
extra.cox <- function(cox) {

```

```

HR.CI <- paste0(
  "HR: ",
  round(cox$conf.int[1], 2),
  "(",
  round(cox$conf.int[3], 2),
  ", ",
  round(cox$conf.int[4], 2),
  ")"
)
cox.pvalue <- ifelse(cox$wald["pvalue"] < 0.001, "p<0.001",
  paste('p=', round(cox$wald["pvalue"], 3)))
return(paste0(HR.CI, " ", cox.pvalue))
}
if (HR) {
  cox <- summary(coxph(as.formula(fml), data), conf.int=conf.level)
  HR.label <- extra.cox(cox)
  p <-
    p + annotate(
      'text',
      x = HR.loc[1],
      y = HR.loc[2],
      label = HR.label,
      family = 'serif',
      hjust = 0
    )
}
if (PH){
  ph.test <- cox.zph(coxph(as.formula(fml), data))$table
  ph.chisq <- round(ph.test[2], 3)
  ph.pvalue <- ifelse(ph.test[3] < 0.001, "p<0.001",
    paste('p=', round(ph.test[3], 3)))
  PH.label <- paste0('Test for proportional hazard:\n Chis-square:',
    ph.chisq, ', ', ph.pvalue)
  p <-
    p + annotate(
      'text',
      x = PH.loc[1],
      y = PH.loc[2],
      label = PH.label,
      family = 'serif',
      hjust = 0
    )
}
return(p)
}

```

Function 2 : plotting difference in survival probability

```

SurvDiff.surv <-
function(time, status, group, data, interval = 10, converse=FALSE) {
  #construct surv obj
  event.char <- deparse(substitute(status))

```

```

time.char <- deparse(substitute(time))
group.char <- deparse(substitute(group))
fml <-
  as.formula(paste0('Surv(', time.char, ',', event.char, ')~', group.char))
fit <- npsurv(fml, data = IPD)
#constuct data of plot
max <- fit$maxtime
min <- min(0, fit$time)
times <- sort(unique(c(fit$time, seq(min, max, by = interval))))

f <- summary(fit, times = times)
group.label <- levels(f$strata)

point.se <- function(grp.label) {
  tf <- f$strata == grp.label
  tim <- f$time[tf]
  surv <- f$surv[tf]
  se <- f$std.err[tf]
  j <- match(times, tim)
  return(list(
    time = times,
    surv = surv[j],
    se = se[j]
  ))
}

if (converse) {
  a <- point.se(group.label[1])
  b <- point.se(group.label[2])
  print(paste0(group.label[1], '-', group.label[2]))
} else{
  a <- point.se(group.label[2])
  b <- point.se(group.label[1])
  print(paste0(group.label[2], '-', group.label[1]))
}

#calculate survival difference and CI
#Altman's methods based on S.E. of survival probability
surv <- a$surv - b$surv
se <- sqrt(a$se ^ 2 + b$se ^ 2)
z <- qnorm((1 + 0.95) / 2)
lo <- surv - z * se
hi <- surv + z * se

df <- data.frame(
  time = times,
  SD = surv, Lower = lo, Upper = hi
)
rtn <- df[complete.cases(df),]
ggplot(data = rtn, aes(x = time, y = SD)) +
  geom_line(size = .5, alpha = 1, color='#06A77D') +
  geom_ribbon(aes(x = time,
    ymax = Upper,
    ymin = Lower),
    alpha = 0.5, fill='#06A77D') +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, linetype='dashed')+
  xlab(label='Follow-up time')+
  scale_y_continuous('Difference in survival probability',

```

```

labels=function(x){sprintf("%.2f",x)}+
theme_bw() +
theme(
  text = element_text(family = 'serif'),
  axis.title.x = element_text(family = 'serif', vjust = 1.7),
  panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
  panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
  axis.line = element_line(size = 0.5, colour = "black"),
  legend.background = element_rect(fill = NULL),
  legend.key = element_rect(colour = NA),
  panel.border = element_blank(),
  axis.line.x = element_line(
    size = 0.5,
    linetype = "solid",
    colour = "black"
  ),
  axis.line.y = element_line(
    size = 0.5,
    linetype = "solid",
    colour = "black"
  )
)
}

```

Function 3 : plotting risk difference using Psuedo-value regression

```

RiskDiff.surv <- function(time,
                          status,
                          group,
                          data
                          )
{
  #construct surv obj
  event.char <- deparse(substitute(status))
  time.char <- deparse(substitute(time))
  #group.char and fml must be a local variable when parallel
  group.char <- deparse(substitute(group))
  fml <-
    as.formula(paste0('Surv(', time.char, ",", event.char, ")~", group.char))
  data <- data

  # Pseudo-value method -----
  #create pseudo-value for next GEE estimation
  require(pseudo)
  print('---start to pseudo value---')
  time.tmp <- pseudosurv(time = data[, time.char],
                        event = data[, event.char])$time
  pseudo<- pseudosurv(time = data[, time.char],
                     event = data[, event.char],
                     tmax=seq(min(time.tmp),max(time.tmp),length.out=200))
  timelist <- pseudo$time
  #reshape data
  dat.gee <- NULL
  for (i in 1:length(timelist)) {

```

```

dat.gee <- rbind(dat.gee,
                cbind(
                  data,
                  pseudo = pseudo$pseudo[, i],
                  tpseudo = timelist[i],
                  id = 1:nrow(data)
                ))
}
dat.gee <- dat.gee[order(dat.gee$id),]

#GEE method
gee.fit <- geese(
  # a restricted cubic splien to present non-linear relationship
  # only two variable included: time and group
  pseudo ~ rcs(tpseudo, 3) * as.factor(group),
  data = dat.gee,
  id = id,
  family = gaussian,
  mean.link = 'identity',
  jack=TRUE,
  constr='independence'
)
splineforpre <- rcspline.eval(timelist,
                             knots = attr(rcs(dat.gee$tpseudo, 3),
'parms'),
                             inclx = TRUE)

gee.sum <- summary(gee.fit)$mean[,c(1:2)]
gee.ci <- t(apply(gee.sum,1,FUN=function(x)
{return(x[1]+1.96*c(-1,1)*x[2])}))

#point estimation and 95% confidence interval
rd.point <- -cbind(1, splineforpre) %%% gee.fit$beta[c(4, 5, 6)]
rd.lower <- -cbind(1, splineforpre) %%% gee.ci[c(4,5,6),1]
rd.upper <- -cbind(1, splineforpre) %%% gee.ci[c(4,5,6),2]

rtn <- data.frame(time = timelist, RD = rd.point,
Lower=rd.lower,Upper=rd.upper)

##plot-----
p <- ggplot(data = rtn, aes(x = time, y = RD)) +
  geom_line(size = 0.75,
            alpha = 1,
            color = '#EC0B43') +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, linetype = 'dashed') +
  xlab(label='Follow-up time')+
  scale_y_continuous('Risk Difference',
                     labels=function(x){sprintf("%.2f",x)}}+
  theme_bw() +
  theme(
    text = element_text(family = 'serif'),
    axis.title.x = element_text(family = 'serif', vjust = 1.7),
    panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
    panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
    axis.line = element_line(size = 0.5, colour = "black"),
    legend.background = element_rect(fill = NULL),
    legend.key = element_rect(colour = NA),
    panel.border = element_blank(),
    axis.line.x = element_line(

```

```

    size = 0.5,
    linetype = "solid",
    colour = "black"
  ),
  axis.line.y = element_line(
    size = 0.5,
    linetype = "solid",
    colour = "black"
  )
)
)
if(TRUE){
  p <- p+
  geom_ribbon(aes(
    x = time,
    ymax = Upper,
    ymin = Lower
  ),
    alpha = 0.5, fill='#EC0B43') ##EC0B43
  return(p)
}else{
  return(p)
}
}

```

Function 4: plotting difference in restricted mean survival time

```

RMST.difference <-
function(time, status, group, data, interval = 0.02) {
  #construct surv obj
  event.char <- deparse(substitute(status))
  time.char <- deparse(substitute(time))
  group.char <- deparse(substitute(group))

  time <- data[,time.char]
  event <- data[,event.char]
  arm <- data[,group.char]
  #chk
  if (length(time) != length(event)) {
    stop('ERROR:length(time)!=length(event) ')
  }
  if (is.factor(arm)) {
    arm.level <- levels(arm)
    if (length(arm.level) > 2) {
      stop('more than 2 groups is not limited')
    } else{
      arm <- as.numeric(arm == arm.level[2])
      print(paste0('1-', arm.level[1], ',0-', arm.level[2]))
    }
  }
}

#STRT public function -----
--

```

```

calc.maxTau <- function(time, arm) {
  rtn <- min(max(time[arm == 1]),
             max(time[arm == 0]))
  return(rtn)
}
calc.rmst <- function(time, event, arm, tau) {
  diff <-
    rmst2(
      time = time,
      status = event,
      arm = arm,
      tau = tau
    )$unadjusted.result[1,]
  return(c(tau, diff))
}
#recognize change point of significance
change.point <- function(time, sig) {
  rtn <- NULL
  divid <- floor(length(time) / 2)
  for (i in 1:divid) {
    tmp <- sig[(2 * i - 1):(2 * i)]
    if (length(unique(tmp)) == 2) {
      #exist change point and extract the position
      rtn <- c(rtn, 2 * i)
    }
  }
  return(time[rtn])
}
#END public function -----
-
time.list <-
  seq(0.05, calc.maxTau(time = time, arm = arm), interval)

RMST <- NULL
for (tau in time.list) {
  diff <- calc.rmst(
    time = time,
    event = event,
    arm = arm,
    tau = tau
  )
  RMST <- rbind(RMST, diff)
}
#construct data frame for position of change in p value
rmst.chg <- data.frame(RMST)
colnames(rmst.chg) <-
  c('time', 'difference', 'lower', 'upper', 'p')
rmst.chg$category <- ifelse(rmst.chg$p < 0.05,
                           'Significant',
                           'Non-significant')
rmst.chg <- rmst.chg[!is.na(rmst.chg$category), ]
ss <- change.point(rmst.chg$time, rmst.chg$category)
##plot
ggplot(data = rmst.chg, aes(x = time, y = difference)) +
  geom_line(size = 0.75, alpha = 1, color = '#F1A208') +
  geom_ribbon(aes(
    x = time,
    ymax = upper,

```



```

    ymin = lower
  ),
  alpha = 0.5, fill = '#F1A208') +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, linetype = 'dashed') +
  xlab(label = 'Follow-up time') +
  scale_y_continuous('Difference in RSMT',
    labels = function(x) {sprintf("%.2f", x)}) +
  theme_bw() +
  theme(
    text = element_text(family = 'serif'),
    axis.title.x = element_text(family = 'serif', vjust = 1.7),
    panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
    panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
    axis.line = element_line(size = 0.5, colour = "black"),
    legend.background = element_rect(fill = NULL),
    legend.key = element_rect(colour = NA),
    panel.border = element_blank(),
    axis.line.x = element_line(
      size = 0.5,
      linetype = "solid",
      colour = "black"
    ),
    axis.line.y = element_line(
      size = 0.5,
      linetype = "solid",
      colour = "black"
    )
  ))
}

```

Function 5: plotting landmark analysis

```

landmark <- function(time, status, group, data,
  timelist, legend.poc=c(0.2,0.2)) {

  #chk parameter
  if (length(timelist) < 1) {
    stop('A time point must be specified and can not be ZERO')
  }
  #construct surv obj
  event.char <- deparse(substitute(status))
  time.char <- deparse(substitute(time))
  group.char <- deparse(substitute(group))
  fml <-
    as.formula(paste0('Surv(', time.char, ",", event.char, ")~", group.char))
  data <- data

  single <- function(landpoint) {
    #remove rows who have missing value in key variable
    data.tmp1 <-
      data[complete.cases(data[, c(event.char, time.char, group.char)]), ]
    data.tmp1[data.tmp1[, time.char] > landpoint, event.char] <- 0
    #Post-landmark
    data.tmp2 <-
      data[complete.cases(data[, c(event.char, time.char, group.char)]), ]
  }
}

```

```

data.tmp2 <- data.tmp2[data.tmp2[, time.char] > landpoint, ]
#add p value from landmark analysis
preland <- survdiff(as.formula(fml), data.tmp1)
preland.pvalue <- pchisq(preland$chisq, length(preland$n) - 1,
                        lower.tail = FALSE)

#Post-landmark
postland <- survdiff(as.formula(fml), data.tmp2)
postland.pvalue <-
  pchisq(postland$chisq, length(postland$n) - 1,
        lower.tail = FALSE)
return(c(landpoint, preland.pvalue, postland.pvalue))
}

rtn <- data.frame(t(sapply(timelist, single)))
colnames(rtn) <- c('time', 'pre_landmark', 'post_landmark')
rtn$pre_landmark <- -log10(rtn$pre_landmark)
rtn$post_landmark <- -log10(rtn$post_landmark)
new <-
  rbind(
    data.frame(
      time = rtn$time,
      logp = rtn$pre_landmark,
      group = 'Pre-landmark analysis'
    ),
    data.frame(
      time = rtn$time,
      logp = rtn$post_landmark,
      group = 'Post-landmark analysis'
    )
  )

p <- ggplot(data = rtn) +
  geom_errorbar(
    aes(x = time, ymin = pre_landmark, ymax = post_landmark),
    alpha = 1,
    width = 0.1,
    size = 0.5,
    color = '#D4F4DD'
  ) +
  geom_point(data = new,
            aes(x = time, y = logp, color = group),
            alpha = 1) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = -log10(0.05), linetype = 'dashed') +
  scale_color_manual(values = c('#0E7C7B', '#D62246')) +
  xlab(label = 'Follow-up time') +
  scale_y_continuous(
    '-log10(p value)',
    labels = function(x) {
      sprintf("%.2f", x)
    }
  ) +
  theme_bw() +
  theme(
    text = element_text(family = 'serif'),
    axis.title.x = element_text(family = 'serif', vjust = 1.7),
    panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
    panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
    axis.line = element_line(size = 0.5, colour = "black"),

```

```

    legend.background = element_blank(),
    legend.key = element_blank(),
    legend.title = element_blank(),
    legend.direction = "horizontal",
    legend.position = legend.poc,
    panel.border = element_blank(),
    axis.line.x = element_line(
      size = 0.5,
      linetype = "solid",
      colour = "black"
    ),
    axis.line.y = element_line(
      size = 0.5,
      linetype = "solid",
      colour = "black"
    )
  )
}
return(p)
}

```

Function 6: plotting time-varying HR

```

timevarying.HR <- function(time, status, group,
  data, df = 4, nsmo = 40) {
  #construct cox regression
  event <- deparse(substitute(status))
  time <- deparse(substitute(time))
  group <- deparse(substitute(group))
  fml <- paste0('surv(', time, ",", event, ")~", group)
  sfit <- coxph(as.formula(fml), data)
  averageHR <- exp(sfit$coefficients)

  x <- cox.zph(sfit, transform = 'identity')
  xx <- x$x #raw time without transformation
  yy <- x$y #residual

  pred.x <- seq(from = min(xx),
    to = max(xx),
    length = nsmo)
  temp <- c(pred.x, xx)
  lmat <- ns(temp, df = df, intercept = TRUE)
  pmat <- lmat[1:nsmo,] # for prediction
  xmat <- lmat[-(1:nsmo),]

  #clear missing element
  #coefficient and 95% CI --- not the HR value
  keep <- !is.na(yy)
  qmat <- qr(xmat[keep,])
  yhat <- pmat %*% qr.coef(qmat, yy)
  bk <- backsolve(qmat$qr[1:df, 1:df], diag(df))
  xtx <- bk %*% t(bk)
  seval <- ((pmat %*% xtx) * pmat) %*% rep(1, df)
  SE <- sqrt(x$var[1, 1] * seval)
  yup <- yhat + 1.96 * SE
  ylow <- yhat - 1.96 * SE
}

```

```

#create data frame for plotting
#exp transformation to get HR and 95% CI
hr.chg <-
  data.frame(
    time = pred.x,
    point = exp(yhat),
    upper = exp(yup),
    lower = exp(ylow)
  )
colnames(hr.chg) <- c('time', 'point', 'upper', 'lower')
p <- ggplot(data = hr.chg, aes(x = time, y = point)) +
  geom_line(size = 0.75,
            alpha = 1,
            color = '#58355e') +
  geom_ribbon(aes(x = time,
                 ymax = upper,
                 ymin = lower),
             alpha = 0.2,
             fill = '#58355e') +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 1, linetype = 'dashed') +
  xlab(label = 'Follow-up time') +
  scale_y_continuous(
    'Hazard ratio',
    trans = 'log',
    breaks = trans_breaks("log2", function(x)
      2 ^ x),
    labels = function(x) {
      sprintf("%.2f", x)
    }
  ) +
  theme_bw() +
  theme(
    text = element_text(family = 'serif'),
    axis.title.x = element_text(family = 'serif', vjust = 1.7),
    panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
    panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
    axis.line = element_line(size = 0.5, colour = "black"),
    legend.background = element_rect(fill = NULL),
    legend.key = element_rect(colour = NA),
    panel.border = element_blank(),
    axis.line.x = element_line(
      size = 0.5,
      linetype = "solid",
      colour = "black"
    ),
    axis.line.y = element_line(
      size = 0.5,
      linetype = "solid",
      colour = "black"
    )
  )
return(p)
}

```

An example: Run 6 functions and combine the 6 plots

```
library(rms)
library(survRM2)
library(ggplot2)
library(plyr); library(dplyr)
library(cowplot)

options(digits = 3)
options(scipen = 999)
# data construction -----
IPD <- KM_data_2group(df1='./image_4/1-km.csv',
                     df2='./image_4/2-km.csv',
                     nr1='./image_4/1-num.csv',
                     nr2='./image_4/2-num.csv',
                     tot.event1=188, tot.event2=126,
                     arm1='intervention', arm2='control')
#define Group 1-group of interest 0-control
IPD$group <- (IPD$group=='intervention')*1

max(IPD$time)
xmax <- max(IPD$time)

# KM plot -----
P1 <- KM_plot(status=status,time=time,group=group,data=IPD,
              HR.loc=c(20,0.7),PH=TRUE,PH.loc=c(20,0.9))+
  scale_x_continuous(limits=c(0,xmax))

# difference in two Kaplan-Meier estimates -----
P2 <- SurvDiff.surv(
  time = time, status = status, group = group,
  data = IPD, converse=FALSE
)+
  scale_x_continuous(limits=c(0,xmax))
# risk difference -----
P3 <- RiskDiff.surv(
  time = time, status = status, group = group, data = IPD,
  method = 'Pse',
  timelist = timelist, boot.num = 100
)+scale_x_continuous(limits = c(0,xmax))
# difference in RMST -----
P4 <- RMST.difference(
  time = time, status = status, group = group, data = IPD,
  interval = interval
) + scale_x_continuous(limits = c(0,xmax))

# landmark analysis -----
P5 <- landmark(
  time = time, status = status, group = group, data = IPD,
  timelist=seq(3,34,1),legend.poc=c(0.3,0.1)
)+ scale_x_continuous(limits = c(0,xmax))

# time-varying hazard ratio -----
```

```

P6 <-
  timevarying.HR(
    time = time,status = status,group = group,data = IPD,
    df = 3, nsmo = 100
  )+ scale_x_continuous(limits = c(0,xmax))

# -----
-#
ALL <- plot_grid(
  P1,P4,P2,P5,P3,P6,
  align = 'v', nrow = 3, ncol = 2,
  labels =LETTERS[1:6]
)
ggsave(
  'figure.tif', ALL,
  device = 'tiff', width = 15, height = 10, dpi = 600, compression = "lzw"
)

```