

Survival analysis

- So far, have seen:
 - response variable counted or measured (regression)
 - response variable categorized (logistic regression)
- ▶ But what if response is time until event (eg. time of survival after surgery)?
- Additional complication: event might not have happened at end of study (eg. patient still alive). But knowing that patient has "not died yet" presumably informative. Such data called censored.
- ► Enter *survival analysis*, in particular the "Cox proportional hazards model".
- Explanatory variables in this context often called covariates.

Packages

Install packages survival and survminer if not done.

```
library(tidyverse)
library(survival)
library(survminer)
library(broom)
library(marginaleffects)
```

Example: still dancing?

- ▶ 12 women who have just started taking dancing lessons are followed for up to a year, to see whether they are still taking dancing lessons, or have quit. The "event" here is "quit".
- This might depend on:
 - ▶ a treatment (visit to a dance competition)
 - woman's age (at start of study).

Data

Quit	Treatment	Age
1	0	16
1	0	24
1	0	18
0	0	27
1	0	25
1	1	26
1	1	36
1	1	38
0	1	45
1	1	47
	1 1 0 1 1 1 1 0	1 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

About the data

- months and quit are kind of combined response:
 - Months is number of months a woman was actually observed dancing
 - puit is 1 if woman quit, 0 if still dancing at end of study.
- Treatment is 1 if woman went to dance competition, 0 otherwise.
- ► Fit model and see whether Age or Treatment have effect on survival.
- ▶ Want to do predictions for probabilities of still dancing as they depend on whatever is significant, and draw plot.

Read data

Column-aligned:

```
url <- "http://ritsokiguess.site/datafiles/dancing.txt"
dance <- read_table(url)</pre>
```

The data

dance

# 1	A tibble	e: 12 z	κ 4	
	Months	Quit	${\tt Treatment}$	Age
	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>
1	1	1	0	16
2	2	1	0	24
3	2	1	0	18
4	3	0	0	27
5	4	1	0	25
6	5	1	0	21
7	11	1	0	55
8	7	1	1	26
9	8	1	1	36
10	10	1	1	38
11	10	0	1	45
12	12	1	1	47

Examine response and fit model

Response variable:

```
dance %>% mutate(mth = Surv(Months, Quit)) -> dance
dance
```

```
A tibble: 12 x 5
   Months Quit Treatment
                                      mth
                              Age
                     <dbl> <dbl> <Surv>
    <dbl> <dbl>
                                16
                                24
3
                          0
                                18
        3
4
                          0
                               27
                                       3+
5
                                25
        4
6
        5
                          0
                                21
       11
                                55
                                      11
                          0
8
                                26
        8
                                36
10
       10
                                38
                                      10
11
       10
                               45
                                      10+
12
       12
                                47
                                      12
```

Output looks a lot like regression

```
summary(dance.1)
Call:
coxph(formula = mth ~ Treatment + Age, data = dance)
 n= 12, number of events= 10
            coef exp(coef) se(coef) z Pr(>|z|)
Treatment -4.44915 0.01169 2.60929 -1.705 0.0882
    -0.36619 0.69337 0.15381 -2.381 0.0173 *
Age
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
         exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
Treatment 0.01169 85.554 7.026e-05 1.9444
          0.69337 1.442 5.129e-01 0.9373
Age
Concordance= 0.964 (se = 0.039)
Likelihood ratio test= 21.68 on 2 df, p=2e-05
Wald test
                   = 5.67 on 2 df. p=0.06
Score (logrank) test = 14.75 on 2 df, p=6e-04
```

Conclusions

- Use $\alpha = 0.10$ here since not much data.
- ➤ Three tests at bottom like global F-test. Consensus that something predicts survival time (whether or not dancer quit and how long it took).
- ▶ Age (definitely), Treatment (marginally) both predict survival time.

Behind the scenes

- ▶ All depends on *hazard rate*, which is based on probability that event happens in the next short time period, given that event has not happened yet:
- \blacktriangleright X denotes time to event, δ is small time interval:
- $h(t) = P(X \le t + \delta | X \ge t) / \delta$
- ightharpoonup if h(t) large, event likely to happen soon (lifetime short)
- \blacktriangleright if h(t) small, event unlikely to happen soon (lifetime long).

Modelling lifetime

- want to model hazard rate
- but hazard rate always positive, so actually model log of hazard rate
- modelling how (log-)hazard rate depends on other things eg $X_1=$ age, $X_2=$ treatment, with the β being regression coefficients:
- \blacktriangleright Cox model $h(t)=h_0(t)\exp(\beta_0+\beta_1X_1+\beta_2X_2+\cdots),$ or:
- like a generalized linear model with log link.

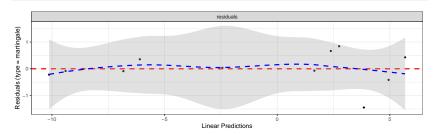
Model checking

- With regression, usually plot residuals against fitted values.
- Not quite same here (nonlinear model), but "martingale residuals' should have no pattern vs. "linear predictor".
- ggcoxdiagnostics from package survminer makes plot, to which we add smooth. If smooth trend more or less straight across, model OK.
- ▶ Martingale residuals can go very negative, so won't always look normal.

Martingale residual plot for dance data

This looks good (with only 12 points):

ggcoxdiagnostics(dance.1)



Predicted survival probs

- ➤ The function we use is called survfit, though actually works rather like predict.
- ➤ First create a data frame of values to predict from. We'll do all combos of ages 20 and 40, treatment and not, using datagrid to get all the combos:

```
treatments <- c(0, 1)
ages <- c(20, 40)
dance.new <- datagrid(model = dance.1, Treatment = treatment
dance.new</pre>
```

```
Treatment Age rowid
1 0 20 1
2 0 40 2
3 1 20 3
4 1 40 4
```

The predictions

One prediction *for each time* for each combo of age and treatment in dance.new:

```
s <- survfit(dance.1, newdata = dance.new, data = dance)
summary(s)
Call: survfit(formula = dance.1, newdata = dance.new, data = dance)
time n.risk n.event survival1 survival2 survival3 survival4
   1
         12
                 1 8.76e-01 1.00e+00 9.98e-01
                                                   1.000
   2
                 2 3.99e-01 9.99e-01 9.89e-01
         11
                                                   1.000
   4
          8
                 1 1.24e-01 9.99e-01 9.76e-01
                                                   1.000
   5
          7
                 1 2.93e-02 9.98e-01 9.60e-01
                                                   1.000
   7
          6
                 1 2.96e-323 6.13e-01 1.70e-04
                                                   0.994
   8
          5
                 1 0.00e+00 2.99e-06 1.35e-98
                                                   0.862
  10
          4
                 1 0.00e+00 0.00e+00 0.00e+00
                                                   0.000
          2
  11
                 1 0.00e+00 0.00e+00 0.00e+00
                                                   0.000
  12
                 1 0.00e+00 0.00e+00 0.00e+00
                                                   0.000
```

Conclusions from predicted probs

- ▶ Older women more likely to be still dancing than younger women (compare "profiles" for same treatment group).
- ▶ Effect of treatment seems to be to increase prob of still dancing (compare "profiles" for same age for treatment group vs. not)
- Would be nice to see this on a graph. This is ggsurvplot from package survminer:

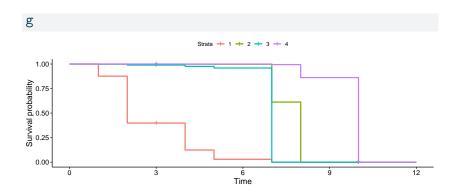
```
g <- ggsurvplot(s, conf.int = F)</pre>
```

"Strata" (groups)

uses "strata" thus (dance.new):

```
Treatment Age rowid
1 0 20 1
2 0 40 2
3 1 20 3
4 1 40 4
```

Plotting survival probabilities



Discussion

- Survivor curve farther to the right is better (better chance of surviving longer).
- ▶ Best is age 40 with treatment, worst age 20 without.
- Appears to be:
 - age effect (40 better than 20)
 - treatment effect (treatment better than not)
 - In analysis, treatment effect only marginally significant.

A more realistic example: lung cancer

- ▶ When you load in an R package, get data sets to illustrate functions in the package.
- One such is lung. Data set measuring survival in patients with advanced lung cancer.
- Along with survival time, number of "performance scores" included, measuring how well patients can perform daily activities.
- Sometimes high good, but sometimes bad!
- ▶ Variables below, from the data set help file (?lung).

The variables

Format

inst: Institution code

time: Survival time in days

status: censoring status 1=censored, 2=dead

age: Age in years

sex: Male=1 Female=2

ph.ecog: ECOG performance score (0=good 5=dead)

ph.karno: Karnofsky performance score (bad=0-good=100) rated by physician

pat.karno: Karnofsky performance score as rated by patient

meal.cal: Calories consumed at meals wt.loss: Weight loss in last six months

	inst	time	status	age	sex	ph.ecog	ph.karno	pat.karno	${\tt meal.cal}$	wt.loss
1	3	306	2	74	1	1	90	100	1175	NA
2	3	455	2	68	1	0	90	90	1225	15
3	3	1010	1	56	1	0	90	90	NA	15
4	5	210	2	57	1	1	90	60	1150	11
5	1	883	2	60	1	0	100	90	NA	0
6	12	1022	1	74	1	1	50	80	513	0
7	7	310	2	68	2	2	70	60	384	10
8	11	361	2	71	2	2	60	80	538	1
9	1	218	2	53	1	1	70	80	825	16
10	7	166	2	61	1	2	70	70	271	34
11	. 6	170	2	57	1	1	80	80	1025	27
12	16	654	2	68	2	2	70	70	NA	23
13	3 11	728	2	68	2	1	90	90	NA	5
14	21	71	2	60	1	NA	60	70	1225	32
15	12	567	2	57	1	1	80	70	2600	60
16	5 1	144	2	67	1	1	80	90	NA	15
17	22	613	2	70	1	1	90	100	1150	-5
18	16	707	2	63	1	2	50	70	1025	22
19	1	61	2	56	2	2	60	60	238	10
20	21	88	2	57	1	1	90	80	1175	NA
21	. 11	301	2	67	1	1	80	80	1025	17
22	2 6	81	2	49	2	0	100	70	1175	-8
23	3 11	624	2	50	1	1	70	80	NA	16
~ .		~= 4	_			_				

A closer look

summary(lung)

```
inst
                    time
                                   status
                                                    age
Min. : 1.00
                         5.0
                                      :1.000
                                              Min. :39.00
               Min. :
                               Min.
1st Qu.: 3.00
              1st Qu.: 166.8
                               1st Qu.:1.000
                                              1st Qu.:56.00
Median :11.00
              Median: 255.5
                               Median :2.000
                                              Median :63.00
Mean
     :11.09
              Mean : 305.2
                                    :1.724
                                              Mean :62.45
                               Mean
                               3rd Qu.:2.000
3rd Qu.:16.00
               3rd Qu.: 396.5
                                              3rd Qu.:69.00
                                              Max. :82.00
Max.
    :33.00
               Max. :1022.0
                               Max. :2.000
NA's
     :1
    sex
                  ph.ecog
                                  ph.karno
                                                 pat.karno
      :1.000
               Min. :0.0000
                               Min. : 50.00
                                                Min. : 30.00
Min
1st Qu.:1.000
              1st Qu.:0.0000
                               1st Qu.: 75.00
                                                1st Qu.: 70.00
Median :1.000
               Median :1.0000
                               Median: 80.00
                                                Median: 80.00
Mean
      1 395
               Mean
                      .0.9515
                               Mean
                                     : 81.94
                                                Mean
                                                     : 79.96
3rd Qu.:2.000
               3rd Qu.:1.0000
                               3rd Qu.: 90.00
                                                3rd Qu.: 90.00
Max. :2.000
               Max.
                      :3.0000
                               Max.
                                      :100.00
                                                Max.
                                                      :100.00
               NA's
                    • 1
                               NA's
                                     • 1
                                                NA's
                                                      .3
  meal cal
                   wt.loss
Min. : 96.0
                Min.
                     :-24.000
1st Qu.: 635.0
                1st Qu.: 0.000
Median: 975.0
                Median: 7.000
Mean : 928.8
                Mean : 9.832
3rd Qu.:1150.0
                3rd Qu.: 15.750
Max
      :2600.0
                Max.
                       : 68.000
NA's
    :47
                NA's
                       .14
```

Remove obs with any missing values

```
lung %>% drop_na() -> lung.complete
lung.complete %>%
  select(meal.cal:wt.loss) %>%
  slice(1:10)
```

```
meal.cal wt.loss
      1225
                15
      1150
               11
4
6
       513
       384
                10
8
       538
9
      825
               16
10
     271
                34
11
      1025
               27
15
      2600
                60
17
      1150
                -5
```

Missing values seem to be gone.

Check!

summary(lung.complete)

```
inst
                     time
                                      status
                                                       age
Min.
     : 1.00
                Min.
                           5.0
                                 Min.
                                         :1.000
                                                  Min.
                                                         :39.00
1st Qu.: 3.00
                1st Qu.: 174.5
                                 1st Qu.:1.000
                                                  1st Qu.:57.00
Median :11.00
                Median: 268.0
                                 Median :2.000
                                                  Median :64.00
     :10.71
                     : 309.9
                                       :1.719
                                                       :62.57
Mean
                Mean
                                 Mean
                                                  Mean
3rd Qu.:15.00
                3rd Qu.: 419.5
                                 3rd Qu.:2.000
                                                  3rd Qu.:70.00
       :32.00
                       :1022.0
                                 Max.
                                         :2.000
                                                         :82.00
Max.
                Max.
                                                  Max.
                                    ph.karno
     sex
                   ph.ecog
                                                     pat.karno
       :1.000
Min.
                Min.
                       :0.0000
                                 Min.
                                         : 50.00
                                                   Min.
                                                          : 30.00
1st Qu.:1.000
                1st Qu.:0.0000
                                  1st Qu.: 70.00
                                                   1st Qu.: 70.00
Median :1.000
                Median :1.0000
                                 Median: 80.00
                                                   Median: 80.00
Mean
       .1.383
                Mean
                        .0.9581
                                 Mean
                                         : 82.04
                                                   Mean
                                                          · 79.58
3rd Qu.:2.000
                3rd Qu.:1.0000
                                 3rd Qu.: 90.00
                                                   3rd Qu.: 90.00
Max.
       :2.000
                Max.
                       :3.0000
                                 Max.
                                         :100.00
                                                   Max.
                                                          :100.00
                    wt.loss
   meal.cal
Min
     . 96.0
                 Min.
                        :-24.000
1st Qu.: 619.0
                 1st Qu.: 0.000
Median: 975.0
                 Median :
                          7.000
       : 929.1
                       : 9.719
Mean
                 Mean
3rd Qu.:1162.5
                 3rd Qu.: 15.000
     :2600.0
Max.
                 Max.
                        : 68.000
```

No missing values left.

Model 1: use everything except inst

```
names(lung.complete)
 [1] "inst" "time" "status" "age" "sex"
 [6] "ph.ecog" "ph.karno" "pat.karno" "meal.cal" "wt.loss"
 Event was death, goes with status of 2:
lung.complete %>%
   mutate(resp = Surv(time, status == 2)) ->
   lung.complete
lung.1 <- coxph(resp ~ . - inst - time - status,</pre>
  data = lung.complete
```

"Dot" means "all the other variables".

summary of model 1

```
summary(lung.1)
Call:
coxph(formula = resp ~ . - inst - time - status, data = lung.complete)
 n= 167, number of events= 120
              coef exp(coef) se(coef)
                                          z Pr(>|z|)
        1.080e-02 1.011e+00 1.160e-02 0.931 0.35168
age
        -5.536e-01 5.749e-01 2.016e-01 -2.746 0.00603 **
sex
ph.ecog 7.395e-01 2.095e+00 2.250e-01 3.287 0.00101 **
ph.karno 2.244e-02 1.023e+00 1.123e-02 1.998 0.04575 *
pat.karno -1.207e-02 9.880e-01 8.116e-03 -1.488 0.13685
meal.cal 2.835e-05 1.000e+00 2.594e-04 0.109 0.91298
wt.loss -1.420e-02 9.859e-01 7.766e-03 -1.828 0.06748 .
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
        exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
           1.0109
                              0.9881
                                      1.0341
age
                    0.9893
           0.5749
                   1.7395
                              0.3872 0.8534
sex
          2.0950 0.4773 1.3479 3.2560
ph.ecog
          1.0227 0.9778 1.0004 1.0455
ph.karno
          0.9880 1.0121 0.9724 1.0038
pat.karno
          1.0000 1.0000
                              0.9995 1.0005
meal.cal
wt.loss
           0.9859 1.0143
                              0.9710
                                      1.0010
Concordance= 0.653 (se = 0.029 )
Likelihood ratio test= 28.16 on 7 df.
                                    p=2e-04
Wald test
                  = 27.5 on 7 df.
                                   p=3e-04
Score (logrank) test = 28.31 on 7 df,
                                    p=2e-04
```

Overall significance

The three tests of overall significance:

```
glance(lung.1) %>% select(starts_with("p.value"))
```

All strongly significant. Something predicts survival.

Coefficients for model 1

```
tidy(lung.1) %>% select(term, p.value) %>% arrange(p.value)
```

```
# A tibble: 7 x 2
term p.value
<chr> <dbl>
1 ph.ecog 0.00101
2 sex 0.00603
3 ph.karno 0.0457
4 wt.loss 0.0675
5 pat.karno 0.137
6 age 0.352
7 meal.cal 0.913
```

- sex and ph.ecog definitely significant here
- age, pat.karno and meal.cal definitely not
- Take out definitely non-sig variables, and try again.

Model 2

1 sex 0.00409 2 ph.ecog 0.000112 3 ph.karno 0.101 4 wt.loss 0.108

Compare with first model:

```
Analysis of Deviance Table
Cox model: response is resp
Model 1: ~ sex + ph.ecog + ph.karno + wt.loss
Model 2: ~ (inst + time + status + age + sex + ph.ecog + pl.ecog + pl.
```

No harm in taking out those variables.

Model 3

Take out ph.karno and wt.loss as well.

```
lung.3 <- update(lung.2, . ~ . - ph.karno - wt.loss)
tidy(lung.3) %>% select(term, estimate, p.value)
```

```
# A tibble: 2 x 3
term estimate p.value
```

```
call:
```

```
coxph(formula = resp ~ sex + ph.ecog, data = lung.complete)
n= 167, number of events= 120
```

```
coef exp(coef) se(coef) z Pr(>|z|)
```

Check whether that was OK

anova(lung.3, lung.2)

```
Analysis of Deviance Table
 Cox model: response is resp
 Model 1: ~ sex + ph.ecog
 Model 2: ~ sex + ph.ecog + ph.karno + wt.loss
   loglik Chisq Df Pr(>|Chi|)
1 - 498.38
2 -495.67 5.4135 2 0.06675 .
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 '
Just OK
```

Commentary

- OK (just) to take out those two covariates.
- Both remaining variables strongly significant.
- Nature of effect on survival time? Consider later.
- Picture?

Plotting survival probabilities

Create new data frame of values to predict for, then predict:

```
sexes <- c(1, 2)
ph.ecogs <- 0:3
lung.new <- datagrid(sex = sexes, ph.ecog = ph.ecogs, model = lung.3)
lung.new</pre>
```

```
        sex ph.ecog
        rowid

        1
        1
        0
        1

        2
        1
        1
        2

        3
        1
        2
        3

        4
        1
        3
        4

        5
        2
        0
        5

        6
        2
        1
        6

        7
        2
        2
        7

        8
        2
        3
        8
```

Making the plot

31

53

54

59

60

160

159

157

156

155

1

s <- survfit(lung.3, newdata = lung.new, data = lung)

Call: survfit(formula = lung.3, newdata = lung.new, data =

time	n.risk	${\tt n.event}$	survival1	survival2	survival3	survival
5	167	1	0.996	0.9932	0.98908	0.98237
11	166	1	0.992	0.9865	0.97825	0.96500
12	165	1	0.987	0.9798	0.96743	0.94776
13	164	1	0.983	0.9730	0.95660	0.93063
15	163	1	0.979	0.9662	0.94577	0.91363
26	162	1	0.975	0.9594	0.93502	0.89686
30	161	1	0.970	0.9526	0.92427	0.88022

0.966

0.957

0.953

0.949

0.940

0.9457

0.9320

0.9252

0.9183

0.9046

0.91352

0.89222

0.88162

0.87103

0.85000

0.86369

0.83129

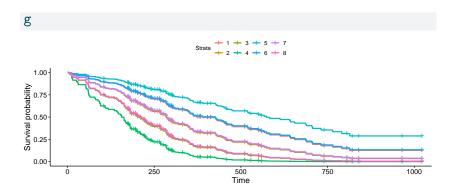
0.8153

0.79954

0.76850

summary(s)

The plot



Discussion of survival curves

- Best survival is teal-blue curve, stratum 5, females with ph.ecog score 0.
- Next best: blue, stratum 6, females with score 1, and red, stratum 1, males score 0.
- Worst: green, stratum 4, males score 3.
- For any given ph.ecog score, females have better predicted survival than males.
- For both genders, a lower score associated with better survival.

The coefficients in model 3

```
tidy(lung.3) %>% select(term, estimate, p.value)
```

```
# A tibble: 2 x 3
term estimate p.value
<chr> <dbl> <dbl>
1 sex -0.510 0.00958
2 ph.ecog 0.483 0.000266
summary(lung.3)
```

```
Call:
```

coxph(formula = resp ~ sex + ph.ecog, data = lung.complete)

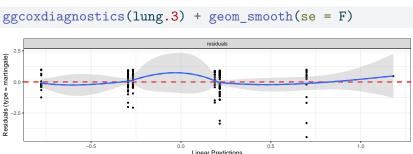
coef exp(coef) se(coef) z Pr(>|z|)

```
n= 167, number of events= 120
```

```
sex -0.5101 0.6004 0.1969 -2.591 0.009579 **
ph.ecog 0.4825 1.6201 0.1323 3.647 0.000266 ***
```

Martingale residuals for this model

No problems here:



When the Cox model fails

Invent some data where survival is best at middling age, and worse at high and low age:

```
age <- seq(20, 60, 5)
survtime <- c(10, 12, 11, 21, 15, 20, 8, 9, 11)
stat <- c(1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1)
d <- tibble(age, survtime, stat)
d %>% mutate(y = Surv(survtime, stat)) -> d
```

➤ Small survival time 15 in middle was actually censored, so would have been longer if observed.

Fit Cox model

```
y.1 \leftarrow coxph(y \sim age, data = d)
summary(y.1)
Call:
coxph(formula = y ~ age, data = d)
 n= 9, number of events= 8
      coef exp(coef) se(coef) z Pr(>|z|)
age 0.01984 1.02003 0.03446 0.576 0.565
   exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
age 1.02 0.9804 0.9534 1.091
Concordance= 0.545 (se = 0.105)
Likelihood ratio test= 0.33 on 1 df, p=0.6
Wald test = 0.33 on 1 df, p=0.6
Score (logrank) test = 0.33 on 1 df, p=0.6
```

Martingale residuals

Down-and-up indicates incorrect relationship between age and survival:

Attempt 2

Add squared term in age:

```
y.2 <- coxph(y ~ age + I(age^2), data = d)
tidy(y.2) %>% select(term, estimate, p.value)
```

```
# A tibble: 2 x 3

term estimate p.value

<chr> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> 1 age -0.380 0.116

2 I(age^2) 0.00483 0.0977

Marginally) helpful.
```

Martingale residuals this time

Not great, but less problematic than before:

