Part III: Survival Analysis

## Load Packages

Again, we must load the packages that will be used in the third part of this workshop.

```
library(pastecs, quietly = TRUE)
library(lm.beta, quietly = TRUE)
library(lmtest, quietly = TRUE)
library(foreign, quietly = TRUE)
library(lattice, quietly = TRUE)
library(lme4, quietly = TRUE)
library(nlme, quietly = TRUE)
library(survival, quietly = TRUE)
library(dplyr, quietly = TRUE)
library(ggfortify, quietly = TRUE)
library(survminer, quietly = TRUE)
library(rms, quietly = TRUE)
library(MASS, quietly = TRUE)
```

### Introduction

Survival models concerns the analysis of the time for an event to occur.

The response variable is the "time" at which the event of concern occurred. The event is generally called "death."

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$$\lambda(t) = \frac{\text{probability of dying at time, } t}{\text{probability of survival until time, } t}$$
 
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 $ightharpoonup \Lambda(t)$ : the cumulative hazard. It is total hazard from 0 to time, t.

#### Note that these functions are related.

$$\lambda(t) \leftrightarrow S(t)$$

$$\lambda(t) = -\frac{d}{dt} \log S(t)$$

 $\rightarrow \lambda(t) \leftrightarrow \Lambda(t)$ 

$$\Lambda(t) = \int_0^t \lambda(t) dt$$

▶  $S(t) \leftrightarrow \Lambda(t)$  and  $S(t) \leftrightarrow \lambda(t)$ 

$$S(t) = \exp(-\Lambda(t)) = \exp\left(-\int_0^t \lambda(t) dt\right).$$

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While it maybe reasonable to discard this data point, the censored data actually contains useful information. We know the event has not occurred prior to  $t^*$ .

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After time  $t^*$ , the subject may decide not to continue with study or it is not possible to locate the subject. This subject is called \*censored\*. Many things could have caused a lack of follow up.

While it maybe reasonable to discard this data point, the censored data actually contains useful information. We know the event has not occurred prior to  $t^*$ .

This gives more information to our model about time prior to  $t^*$  than if we were to discard the censored data.

### Data

### Description

We will be working the colon data set. This data comes from one of the first successful trials of a drug for colon cancer. The recurrence and death times are recorded for all patients in the study.

#### Description

The colon dataset has the following columns:

- ▶ id: id
- study: 1 for all patients
- rx: Treatment Obs(ervation), Lev(amisole), Lev(amisole)+5-FU. Levamisole is a low-toxicity compound previously used to treat worm infestations in animals; 5-FU is a moderately toxic (as these things go) chemotherapy agent.
- ightharpoonup sex: 0 = female, 1 = male
- age: age of the patient
- obstruct: 0 = if tumour did not obstructed colon, 1 = if tumour obstructed colon
- perfor: perforation of colon
- adhere: adherence to nearby organs
- nodes: number of lymph nodes with detectable cancer
- time: days until event or censoring
- status: censoring status

### Description

- ▶ differ: differentiation of tumour (1=well, 2=moderate, 3=poor)
- extent: Extent of local spread (1=submucosa, 2=muscle, 3=serosa, 4=contiguous structures)
- ▶ surg: time from surgery to registration (0=short, 1=long)
- node4: more than 4 positive lymph nodes
- etype: event type: 1=recurrence,2=death

#### Description

```
attach(colon)
head(colon)
```

```
##
     id
         study
                     rx sex age obstruct perfor adhere nodes
## 1
             1 Lev+5FU
                              43
                                         0
                                                 0
## 2
             1 Lev+5FU
                              43
                                         0
             1 Lev+5FU
                           1 63
##
                                         0
                              63
##
             1 Lev+5FU
                                         0
## 5
      3
                    Obs
                           0 71
                                         0
                              71
## 6
                    Obs
                                         0
     extent surg node4 time etype
##
## 1
           3
                 0
                         1521
                                    2
## 2
           3
                 0
                           968
## 3
           3
                 0
                         3087
##
           3
                 0
                         3087
##
                 0
                           963
##
           2
                 0
                           542
```

5

## Subsetting data converting data

We will be studying the recurrence event of colon cancer.

```
colon_subset_recurrence = colon[colon$etype==1,]
```

Some survival models can only handle variables encoded in 0 and 1.

head(colon\_subset\_recurrence)

```
rx sex age obstruct perfor adhere nodes status differ
             1 Lev+5FII
             1 Lev+5FU
                   Obs
             1 Lev+5FU
                                                          22
             1 Lev+5FU
      extent surg node4 time etype
           3
                         968
                      0 3087
                         542
                      1 245
                      1 523
## 10
## 12
                         904
```

While some variables are encoded in 0 and 1, they are stored as numeric variables.

If binary variables are stored as numeric variables, the survival models will treat the explanatory variables as continuous variables rather than as discrete variables.

```
sapply(colon_subset_recurrence,class)
```

```
## id study rx sex age obstruct perfor
## "numeric" "numeric" "factor" "numeric" "numeric" "numeric" "numeric"
## adhere nodes status differ extent surg node4
## "numeric" "numeric" "numeric" "numeric" "numeric"
## time etype
## "numeric" "numeric"
```

Many discrete variables are stored as numeric variables. We have to convert these columns to factors.

To do the conversion, we use the factor function. The factor takes as arguments:

- the discrete data in the first argument
- ▶ level is current coding the discrete data. This is an optional argument.
- ▶ label is the encoding that you would like to change to discrete data. This is an optional argument. Use this argument if you would to change the labeling of the discrete data.

```
colon subset recurrence$node4 <- factor(colon subset recurrence$node4.
                                            levels= c("0"."1").
                                            labels=c("<4",">4"))
colon subset recurrence$sex <- factor(colon subset recurrence$sex.
                                      levels= c("0"."1"), labels=c("F"."M"))
colon subset recurrence sobstruct <- factor(colon subset recurrence sobstruct.
                                           levels= c("0"."1").
                                           labels=c("no obstruct", "obstruct"))
colon subset recurrence adhere <- factor(colon subset recurrence adhere.
                                         levels= c("0"."1").
                                         labels=c("no adhere", "adhere"))
colon_subset_recurrence$perfor <- factor(colon_subset_recurrence$perfor,</pre>
                                         levels= c("0"."1").
                                         labels=c("no perfor", "perfor"))
colon subset recurrence$differ <- factor(colon subset recurrence$differ.
                                          levels= c("1","2","3"),
                                         labels=c("well", "mod", "poor"))
colon subset recurrence extent <- factor (colon subset recurrence extent.
                                         levels= c("1","2","3","4"),
                                         labels=c("submucosa", "muscle", "serosa", "contiguous"))
colon subset recurrence surg <- factor(colon subset recurrence surg.
                                       levels= c("0"."1").
                                       labels=c("short","long"))
```

Now, let's take a look at the data.

head(colon\_subset\_recurrence)

```
id study rx sex age
                                        perfor
                                                 adhere nodes status
                              obstruct
           1 Lev+5FU M 43 no obstruct no perfor no adhere
     2 1 Lev+5FU M 63 no obstruct no perfor no adhere
## 6 3 1 Obs F 71
## 8 4 1 Lev+5FU F 66
                                                                 1
                Obs F 71 no obstruct no perfor
                                                 adhere
                             obstruct no perfor no adhere
## 10 5 1
                Obs M 69 no obstruct no perfor no adhere
## 12 6
           1 Lev+5FU F 57 no obstruct no perfor no adhere
##
     differ extent surg node4 time etvpe
## 2
       mod serosa short >4 968
     mod serosa short <4 3087
## 4
     mod muscle short >4 542
## 6
## 8 mod serosa long >4 245 1
## 10 mod serosa long >4 523
## 12 mod serosa short >4 904
```

## Surv Object

In order to use survival model functions in R, time and censoring status data must be packaged together using Surv function.

The Surv function takes as input the time and censoring status (0 or 1) of a data point. It returns a object that packages together time and censoring status.

```
surv <-with(colon_subset_recurrence, Surv(time,status))
head(surv)</pre>
```

```
## [1] 968 3087+ 542 245 523 904
```

The + at the end of the time indicates that the data point was censored.

First, let  $t_i$  be the *i*th recorded time in the data. That is,  $t_1$  is the 1st recorded time,  $t_2$  is the 2nd recorded time, ...,  $t_{20}$  is the 20th recorded, etc.

Kalpan-Meier estimator assumes that the survival function can be estimated as

$$\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{\text{for } i: t_i \leq t} \left(1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}\right)$$

where  $d_i$  is the number of persons that "died" after time  $t_i$  and  $n_i$  is the number of uncensored persons that have lived up to  $t_i$ .

 $\hat{S}(t)$  is the maximum likelihood estimator of S(t).

$$\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{\mathsf{for}\ i:\ t_i \leq t} \left(1 - rac{d_i}{n_i}
ight)$$
 in layman's terms:

$$\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{\mathsf{for} \; i: \, t_i \leq t} \left(1 - rac{d_i}{n_i}
ight)$$
 in layman's terms:

• for all observed times,  $t_i$ , less than t,

$$\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{\text{for } i: \, t_i \leq t} \left(1 - rac{d_i}{n_i}
ight)$$
 in layman's terms:

- for all observed times,  $t_i$ , less than t,
- ▶ compute  $1 d_i/n_i$ . This is an estimate probability of surviving at time  $t_i$ , given that you've live greater than  $t_i$

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ight)$$
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- ▶ take the product of all computed  $1 d_i/n_i$

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ight)$$
 in layman's terms:

- for all observed times,  $t_i$ , less than t,
- ▶ compute  $1 d_i/n_i$ . This is an estimate probability of surviving at time  $t_i$ , given that you've live greater than  $t_i$
- ▶ take the product of all computed  $1 d_i/n_i$
- the product is an estimate of surviving for all observed times less than and equal to t or, more simply, surviving until t

To fit  $\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{\text{for } i: t_i \leq t} 1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}$  to the entire data, we use the command below.

```
km_fit <- survfit(surv~1, data=colon_subset_recurrence)</pre>
```

We can return a summary of the  $\hat{S}(t)$  at certain time points. summary(km\_fit) will return a summary km\_fit for all time points in the data.

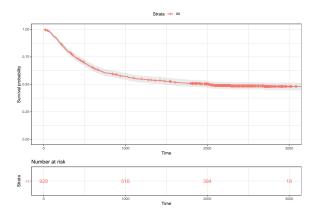
```
summary(km_fit,times=c(1,10,20,30,40,50))
```

```
## Call: survfit(formula = surv ~ 1, data = colon_subset_recurrence)
##
##
   time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
##
           929
                          1.000 0.00000
                                               1.000
                                                            1.000
           927
                        0.998 0.00152
                                               0.995
                                                            1.000
      10
##
           926
                     2 0.996 0.00215
                                               0.991
                                                            1.000
##
      30
           922
                     1 0.995 0.00240
                                               0.990
                                                            0.999
           919
                     4 0.990 0.00322
                                               0.984
                                                            0.997
      40
##
      50
           914
                     3 0.987 0.00371
                                               0.980
                                                            0.994
```

There is a convenience function ggsurvplot that generates a plot for a survfit object.

ggsurvplot takes as argument:

- the first argument is the survfit object
- data is the dataframe used to learn the survfit object
- conf.int = TRUE this shows the confidence interval around the estimate.
- ▶ risk.table = TRUE this shows a tabulation of risk below  $\hat{S}(t)$ .



# Kalpan-Meier Estimator for the data divided into obstruct and no obstruct

colon\_subset\_recurrence can be divided two data sets by the obstruct column. Those patients whose colons are obstructed by the tumour and those whose colons aren't.

We can fit to each data partition to a Kalpan-Meier Estimator:

$$\hat{S}_{ ext{obstruct}}(t) = \prod_{\substack{ ext{for } i: t_i \leq t \ ext{obstruct}}} \left(1 - rac{d_i}{n_i}
ight)$$
 $\hat{S}_{ ext{no obstruct}}(t) = \prod_{\substack{ ext{for } i: t_i \leq t \ ext{for } i: t_i \leq t}} \left(1 - rac{d_i}{n_i}
ight).$ 

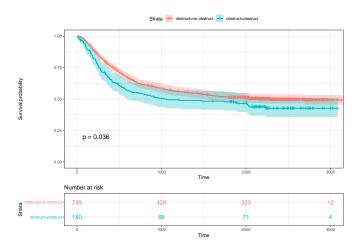
obstruct<sub>i</sub>=no obstruct

# Kalpan-Meier Estimator for the data divided into obstruct and no obstruct

```
## Call: survfit(formula = surv ~ obstruct, data = colon_subset_recurrence)
##
##
                  obstruct=no obstruct
   time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
           749
                          1.000 0.00000
                                              1.000
                                                           1.000
##
      1
##
     10
           748
                       0.999 0.00133
                                              0.996
                                                           1.000
         748
                     0 0.999 0.00133
                                              0.996
                                                           1.000
##
        746
##
     30
                     1 0.997 0.00189
                                              0.994
                                                           1.000
##
     40
        745
                     1 0.996 0.00231
                                              0.991
                                                           1.000
##
     50
           742
                     3 0.992 0.00326
                                              0.986
                                                           0.998
##
##
                  obstruct=obstruct
   time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
           180
                                              1.000
##
                          1.000 0.00000
                                                           1.000
##
     10
           179
                        0.994 0.00554
                                              0.984
                                                           1.000
##
     20
          178
                     2 0.983 0.00954
                                              0.965
                                                           1.000
     30
         176
                     0 0.983 0.00954
                                              0.965
                                                           1.000
##
         174
                     3 0.967 0.01342
                                              0.941
                                                           0.993
##
     40
                     0 0.967 0.01342
                                              0.941
##
     50
           172
                                                           0.993
```

# Kalpan-Meier Estimator for the data divided into obstruct and no obstruct

```
ggsurvplot(km_fit, data = colon_subset_recurrence,
    pval = TRUE, conf.int = TRUE,
        risk.table = TRUE, ggtheme = theme_bw(),
        risk.table.col = "strata")
```



# Kalpan-Meier Estimator for the data divided into obstruct and no obstruct

The p-value in the plot comes the log-rank hypothesis test which allows us to compare a set of Kaplan-Meier estimators.

The null hypothesis is that there is no significant different between the Kaplan-Meier estimators.

Since p < 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis.

# Kalpan-Meier Estimator for the data divided into obstruct and no obstruct

We can also do the log-rank hypothesis test using the survdiff function.

```
p_value <- survdiff(surv~obstruct,
                    data=colon subset recurrence)
print(p value)
## Call:
## survdiff(formula = surv ~ obstruct, data = colon_subset_recurrence)
##
##
                         N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V
                                 369
                                       386.2
                                                 0.768
                                                             4.4
## obstruct=no obstruct 749
## obstruct=obstruct
                     180
                                 99
                                        81.8
                                                 3.628
                                                             4.4
##
## Chisq= 4.4 on 1 degrees of freedom, p= 0.04
```

colon\_subset\_recurrence can also be divided two data sets by the adhere column. We can fit to each data partition to a Kalpan-Meier Estimator

$$\hat{S}_{adhere}(t) = \prod_{\substack{\text{for } i: t_i \leq t \\ adher_i = adhere}} \left(1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}\right)$$

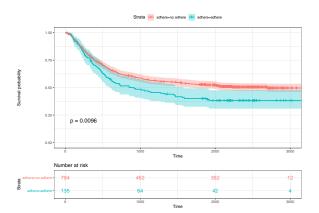
$$\hat{S}_{\mathsf{no \ adhere}}(t) = \prod_{\substack{\mathsf{for} \ i: \ t_i \leq t \\ \mathsf{adher}_i = \mathsf{no \ adhere}}} \left(1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}\right).$$

To do the fit, we use the command below.

```
km_fit <- survfit(surv-adhere, data=colon_subset_recurrence)
summary(km_fit,times=c(1,10,20,30,40,50))</pre>
```

```
## Call: survfit(formula = surv ~ adhere, data = colon subset recurrence)
##
##
                   adhere=no adhere
    time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
##
            794
                          1.000 0.00000
                                                1.000
      1
                      0
                                                             1.000
##
      10
            792
                      2
                        0.997 0.00178
                                                0.994
                                                             1.000
     20
           791
                        0.995 0.00251
                                                0.990
##
                                                             1.000
##
      30
           787
                      1 0.994 0.00281
                                                0.988
                                                             0.999
##
      40
           785
                      3 0.990 0.00355
                                                0.983
                                                             0.997
##
      50
           780
                      3 0.986 0.00416
                                                0.978
                                                             0.994
##
##
                   adhere=adhere
    time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
            135
                          1.000 0.00000
                                                1.000
##
      1
##
            135
                          1.000 0.00000
                                                1.000
      10
##
      20
           135
                      0 1.000 0.00000
                                                1.000
##
      30
          135
                      0 1.000 0.00000
                                                1.000
##
      40
           134
                      1 0.993 0.00738
                                                0.978
                                                                 1
##
      50
           134
                      0
                          0.993 0.00738
                                                0.978
```

```
ggsurvplot(km_fit, data = colon_subset_recurrence,
    pval = TRUE, conf.int = TRUE,
        risk.table = TRUE, ggtheme = theme_bw(),
        risk.table.col = "strata")
```



```
survdiff(surv~adhere,data=colon_subset_recurrence)
```

```
## Call:
## survdiff(formula = surv ~ adhere, data = colon_subset_recurrence)
##
                     N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V
##
## adhere=no adhere 794
                            386
                                   405.1
                                              0.90
                                                        6.71
## adhere=adhere
                 135
                             82
                                    62.9
                                              5.79
                                                        6.71
##
## Chisq= 6.7 on 1 degrees of freedom, p= 0.01
```

colon\_subset\_recurrence can be divided in any amount by the discrete explanatory variables. Let's consider breaking up the data based on a patient's obstruction and adherence status.

We can fit to each data partition to a Kalpan-Meier Estimator

obstruct;=no obstruct

$$\hat{S}_{\text{adhere,obstruct}}(t) = \prod_{\substack{\text{for } i: \, t_i \leq t \\ \text{adher}_i = \text{adhere} \\ \text{obstruct}}} \left(1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}\right), \qquad \hat{S}_{\text{no adhere,obstruct}}(t) = \prod_{\substack{\text{for } i: \, t_i \leq t \\ \text{adher}_i = \text{no adhere} \\ \text{obstruct}_i = \text{ obstruct}}} \left(1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}\right)$$

$$\hat{S}_{\mathsf{adhere},\mathsf{no}\;\mathsf{obstruct}}(t) = \prod_{\substack{\mathsf{for}\; i:\; t_i \leq t\\ \mathsf{adher}, = \mathsf{adhere}}} \left(1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}\right), \qquad \hat{S}_{\mathsf{no}\;\mathsf{adhere},\mathsf{no}\;\mathsf{obstruct}}(t) = \prod_{\substack{\mathsf{for}\; i:\; t_i \leq t\\ \mathsf{adher}, = \mathsf{no}\;\mathsf{adhere}}} \left(1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}\right).$$

obstruct:=no obstruct

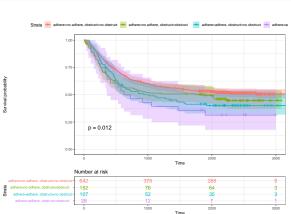
To do this fit, we use the command below.

summary(km\_fit,times=c(10,30,50))

km fit <- survfit(surv~adhere + obstruct, data=colon subset recurrence)

```
## Call: survfit(formula = surv ~ adhere + obstruct, data = colon subset recurrence)
##
##
                  adhere=no adhere, obstruct=no obstruct
   time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
           641
                         0.998 0.00156
##
     10
                                              0.995
                                                          1.000
           639
                     1 0.997 0.00220
                                              0.993
                                                          1.000
##
     30
           635
                     4 0.991 0.00380
                                              0.983
                                                          0.998
##
     50
##
##
                  adhere=no adhere, obstruct=obstruct
   time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
##
##
     10
          151
                    1 0.993 0.00656
                                             0.981
                                                          1.000
         148
                     2 0.980 0.01128
                                             0.958
                                                          1.000
##
     30
     50
           145
                     2 0.967 0.01451
                                             0.939
                                                          0.996
##
##
##
                  adhere=adhere, obstruct=no obstruct
   time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
##
     10
           107
           107
##
     30
##
     50
           107
##
##
                  adhere=adhere, obstruct=obstruct
   time n.risk n.event survival std.err lower 95% CI upper 95% CI
          29 0 1 000 0 0000 1 000 1
```

```
ggsurvplot(km_fit, data = colon_subset_recurrence,
    pval = TRUE, conf.int = TRUE,
    risk.table = TRUE, ggtheme = theme_bw(),
    risk.table.col = "strata")
```



```
## Call:
## survdiff(formula = surv ~ adhere + obstruct, data = colon_subset_recurrence)
##
##
                                            N Observed Expected (0-E)^2/E
## adhere=no adhere, obstruct=no obstruct 642
                                                   306
                                                           335.6
                                                                      2.61
## adhere=no adhere, obstruct=obstruct
                                          152
                                                                      1.59
                                                    80
                                                            69.5
## adhere=adhere, obstruct=no obstruct
                                          107
                                                           50.6
                                                                      3.02
                                                     63
## adhere=adhere, obstruct=obstruct
                                                           12.3
                                                                     3.68
                                           28
                                                    19
                                           (0-E)^2/V
##
## adhere=no adhere, obstruct=no obstruct
                                               9.24
## adhere=no adhere, obstruct=obstruct
                                               1.86
## adhere=adhere, obstruct=no obstruct
                                               3.39
## adhere=adhere, obstruct=obstruct
                                               3.79
##
  Chisq= 10.9 on 3 degrees of freedom, p= 0.01
```

survdiff(surv~adhere + obstruct.data=colon subset recurrence)

#### Kaplan-Meier estimator

In the limit of large data, the Kaplan-Meier estimator converges to true survival function. However, the Kaplan-Meier has two disadvantages:

- it cannot effectively accommodate continuous covariates
- it is non-parametric this means that given a data point, we cannot predict their life trajectory from data. This will be seen more clearly later in this section.

#### Cox Proportional Hazard

Cox Proportional Hazard model is alternative to the Kaplan-Meier estimator.

Rather than estimating survival function at each time interval, the *Cox Proportional Hazard* assumes that hazard function is an exponentiated linear function of explanatory variables. That is,

$$\lambda_i(t) = \lambda_0(t) \exp \left(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \cdots + \beta_n X_{ni}\right).$$

where  $\lambda_i(t)$  is the hazard function of the ith data point and  $\lambda_0(t)$  is called the baseline function.  $\lambda(t)=\lambda_0(t)$  when

$$X_{1i}=X_{2i}=\cdots=X_{ni}=0$$

#### Cox Proportional Hazard

$$\lambda_i(t) = \lambda_0(t) \exp \left(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \cdots + \beta_n X_{ni}\right).$$

The Cox Proportional Hazard models the effects of the covariates on the baseline function. It assumes that the ratio of hazards are independent of time. The baseline function is generally unknown.

However, the effects of the covariates can still be determined regardless of the baseline function. The  $\beta_i$ 's is calculated using partial maximum likelihood. Avoiding the estimation of  $\lambda_0(t)$  prevents accumulation of errors in a unknown function.

#### Cox Proportional Hazard

Note that the Cox Proportional Hazard does not solve all the problems of the Kaplan-Meier estimator. Cox Proportional Hazard has one (or 1/2) disadvantage:

• it is semi-parametric. Given a data point, we can estimate the effect of a covariate on the baseline function. However, we cannot predict the life trajectory of data point unless we know  $\lambda_0(t)$ .

Given only one covariate, our Cox Proportional Hazard function takes the form

$$\lambda_i(t) = \lambda_0(t) \exp(\beta_1 X_{1i}).$$

where

$$X_{1i} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if surgery time of ith data point is long} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

#### Learning Cox Proportional Hazard model

We fit the Cox Proportional Hazard model accordingly.

summary(cox)

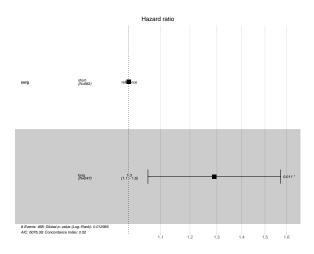
```
## Call:
## coxph(formula = surv ~ surg, data = colon_subset_recurrence)
##
## n= 929, number of events= 468
##
##
           coef exp(coef) se(coef) z Pr(>|z|)
## surglong 0.2549 1.2903 0.1008 2.529 0.0114 *
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
##
          exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
## surglong
            1.29 0.775 1.059
                                         1.572
##
## Concordance= 0.523 (se = 0.01)
## Likelihood ratio test= 6.17 on 1 df. p=0.01
## Wald test
                    = 6.39 on 1 df, p=0.01
## Score (logrank) test = 6.43 on 1 df, p=0.01
```

```
coef(cox)
```

```
## surglong
## 0.2548703
```

ggforest(cox, data = colon\_subset\_recurrence)

## Warning: Removed 1 rows containing missing values (geom\_errorbar).



#### Testing Proportionality Assumption

The Cox proportionality hazard model assumes that ratio of the hazards are constant over time. If ratio of the hazards are constant over time, then covariates and their effects must also be constant over time. If this assumption is violated, then one might get strange results (such as the crossing of Kaplan-Meier curves).

#### Testing Proportionality Assumption

To test for proportionality hazard assumption, we use the cox.zph function. cox.zph takes a coxph model as input and returns a p-value to determine whether the proportionality hazard assumption was violated for each covariate. cox.zph tests the null hypothesis that there are no time dependent relationships in the covariates and their effects.

```
test.ph <- cox.zph(cox)
test.ph</pre>
```

```
## rho chisq p
## surglong 0.0503 1.18 0.277
```

Since the p value is greater than 0.05, we fail to reject the null hypothesis

#### Model Selection

anova(cox)

```
## Analysis of Deviance Table
## Cox model: response is surv
## Terms added sequentially (first to last)
##
## loglik Chisq Df Pr(>|Chi|)
## NULL -3040.3
## surg -3037.2 6.1712 1 0.01299 *
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Given only two covariate, our Cox Proportional Hazard function takes the form

$$\lambda_i(t) = \lambda_0(t) \exp \left(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \beta_2 X_{2i}\right).$$

where

$$X_{1i} = egin{cases} 1 & ext{if surgery time of i th data point is long} \\ 0 & ext{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$X_{2i} = egin{cases} 1 & \text{if the i th data point has adherence to other organs} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Learning Cox Proportional Hazard model

We fit the Cox Proportional Hazard model accordingly.

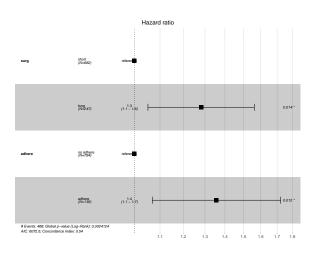
#### Learning Cox Proportional Hazard model

```
summary(cox)
```

```
## Call:
## coxph(formula = surv ~ surg + adhere, data = colon subset recurrence)
##
## n= 929, number of events= 468
##
##
              coef exp(coef) se(coef) z Pr(>|z|)
## surglong 0.2481 1.2816 0.1008 2.460 0.0139 *
## adhereadhere 0.3053    1.3570    0.1217    2.508    0.0121 *
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
##
              exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
## surglong
                1.282 0.7803 1.052 1.562
## adhereadhere 1.357 0.7369 1.069 1.723
##
## Concordance= 0.538 (se = 0.012 )
## Likelihood ratio test= 12.05 on 2 df, p=0.002
## Wald test
                   = 12.72 on 2 df, p=0.002
## Score (logrank) test = 12.81 on 2 df. p=0.002
```

### Cox Proportional Hazard for $X_1 = \text{surg}$ , $X_2 = \text{adher}$ Learning Cox Proportional Hazard model

ggforest(cox, data = colon\_subset\_recurrence)



#### Testing Proportionality Assumption

```
test.ph <- cox.zph(cox)
test.ph</pre>
```

```
## rho chisq p
## surglong 0.0486 1.110 0.292
## adhereadhere 0.0403 0.764 0.382
## GLOBAL NA 1.931 0.381
```

Since the p value is greater than 0.05, we fail to reject the null hypothesis

#### Model Selection

## Analysis of Deviance Table

```
anova(cox)
```

```
## Cox model: response is surv
## Terms added sequentially (first to last)
##
## loglik Chisq Df Pr(>|Chi|)
## NULL -3040.3
## surg -3037.2 6.1712 1 0.01299 *
## adhere -3034.2 5.8831 1 0.01529 *
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.5
```

Given only three covariate, our Cox Proportional Hazard function takes the form

$$\lambda_i(t) = \lambda_0(t) \exp\left(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \beta_2 X_{2i} + \beta_3 X_{3i}\right).$$

where

$$X_{1i} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if surgery time of i th data point is long} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$X_{2i} = egin{cases} 1 & ext{if the i th data point has adherence to other organs} \\ 0 & ext{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and  $X_{3i}$  is number of nodes of the i th data point.

Learning Cox Proportional Hazard model

We fit the Cox Proportional Hazard model accordingly.

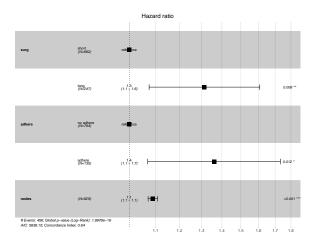
#### Learning Cox Proportional Hazard model

```
summary(cox)
```

```
## Call:
## coxph(formula = surv ~ surg + adhere + nodes, data = colon_subset_recurrence)
##
##
   n= 911, number of events= 456
   (18 observations deleted due to missingness)
##
##
                coef exp(coef) se(coef) z Pr(>|z|)
## surglong
            0.27318 1.31414 0.10273 2.659 0.00783 **
## adhereadhere 0.30821    1.36099    0.12317    2.502    0.01234 *
              0.08562 1.08939 0.00888 9.642 < 2e-16 ***
## nodes
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
##
              exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
## surglong
                 1.314 0.7610
                                    1.074
                                              1.607
## adhereadhere 1.361 0.7348 1.069 1.733
## nodes
                 1.089 0.9179 1.071 1.109
##
## Concordance= 0.636 (se = 0.013)
## Likelihood ratio test= 76.21 on 3 df. p=<2e-16
                    = 102.7 on 3 df, p=<2e-16
## Wald test
## Score (logrank) test = 105.5 on 3 df, p=<2e-16
```

#### Learning Cox Proportional Hazard model

ggforest(cox, data = colon\_subset\_recurrence)



```
Cox Proportional Hazard for X_1 = \text{surg}, X_2 = \text{adher}, X_3 = \text{nodes}
```

#### Testing Proportionality Assumption

```
test.ph <- cox.zph(cox)
test.ph</pre>
```

Since the p value is greater than 0.05, we fail to reject the null hypothesis

```
Cox Proportional Hazard for X_1 = \text{surg}, X_2 = \text{adher}, X_3 = \text{nodes}
```

#### Model Selection

#### anova(cox)

```
## Analysis of Deviance Table
  Cox model: response is surv
## Terms added sequentially (first to last)
##
##
        loglik Chisq Df Pr(>|Chi|)
## NULL -2954.2
## surg -2951.6 5.1725 1 0.02295 *
## adhere -2948.6 6.0414 1 0.01397 *
## nodes -2916.1 64.9922 1 7.519e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.3
```

#### **Estimating Survival Curve**

It is possible to estimate the survival curve for the Cox Proportional Model as long as we have some estimate for  $\lambda_0(t)$ . One way to estimate  $\lambda_0(t)$  from data is to use formula:

$$\lambda_0(t_i) pprox rac{d_i}{\sum_{s \in R_i} \exp\left(\beta_1 X_{1s} + \dots + \beta_n X_{ns}\right)}$$

where  $d_i$  is the number of deaths in at time  $t_i$ ,  $R_i$  is set of persons alive after  $t_i$  and  $X_{ii}$  is the *i*th explanatory variable of the *j*th person.

This is called the Breslow's baseline hazard estimator.

#### Estimating Survival Curve

Now let's create some data point. This data point will have the surg set to short, adhere set to no adhere, nodes set to 5.

## **Estimating Survival Curve**

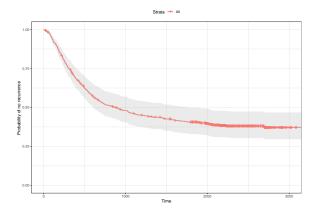
Using the survfit function, we can generate an object which will be used for plotting. survfit takes as argument:

- ▶ first argument: cox proportional hazard model fit with coxph
- second argument: the data point in question. It must have the same explanatory variables as the model in the first argument
- data: the data set used to fit the coxph object.

## **Estimating Survival Curve**

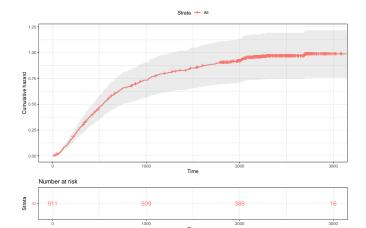
We then use the ggsurvplot function to plot the estimate of the survival curve from survfit fit object.

```
ggsurvplot(prediction_one,
   ylab = "Probability of no recurrence ",
   conf.int = TRUE,
   ggtheme = theme_bw())
```



## **Estimating Survival Curve**

We can also use the ggsurvplot function to plot the estimate of the cumulative hazard curve from survfit fit object



Accelerated failure time model assume that the log time for an event to occur is a function of the covariates of the data. That is,

$$\log T_i = \beta_1 X_{1i} + \dots + \beta_n X_{ni} + \varepsilon_i$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is a random error term that follows a distribution.

This is called an accelerated failure model since covariates can scale the base time distribution,  $T_0$ , by their effects.

$$T_i = T_{0i} \exp(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \dots + \beta_n X_{ni})$$

where  $T_0 = \exp(\varepsilon_i)$ .

# Accelerated failure time models vs. Proportional hazard

There is difference between proportional hazard models (PH) and accelerated failure time models (AFT).

The effect of the covariates in PH models act multiplicatively on the base hazard.

However, in AFT models, these effects act multiplicatively on the base time.

Despite this difference, it is possible that AFT models are also PH models.

We use the function, survreg, to fit accelerated failure time models. The argument, dist, specifies the distribution which implies the form of  $\lambda_0(t)$ . We will be considering:

- exponential models, dist="exponential"
- ▶ weibull models, dist="weibull"
- ▶ lognormal models, dist="lognormal"

These are fully parametric model and are thus a suitable alternative Kaplan-Meier estimators and Cox Proportional Hazard models.

However, AFT assume the distribution of  $T_{0i}$ . This assumption determines functional form the baseline hazard and the baseline survival functions. Incorrect assumptions introduce errors in our modeling.

## Exponential models

Exponential accelerated failure time models are also proportional hazard models. Exponential accelerated failure time models assume that  $T_0$  follows a exponential distribution with parameter  $\lambda$ .

From our definitions of terms and with some probability theory (not covered), the hazard and survival function of an exponential AFT models are

$$\lambda_i(t) = \lambda \exp\left(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \dots + \beta_n X_{ni}\right)$$

and 
$$S_i(t) = \exp(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \dots + \beta_n X_{ni}) S_0(t)$$
,  $S_0(t) = \exp(-\lambda t)$ .

As proportional hazard model, exponential accelerated failure time models assumes that the baseline hazard is constant,  $\lambda_0(t) = \lambda$ .

## Exponential models

# Learning Exponential models

survreg learns the parameter value,  $\lambda$ , and the regression coefficients. As an example, we will be considering the model: surv ~ 1 + surg + adhere + nodes.

## Exponential models

summary(survregExp)

## Learning Exponential models

```
Ecarring Exponential models
```

```
##
## Call:
## survreg(formula = surv ~ 1 + surg + adhere + nodes, data = colon_subset_recurrence,
      dist = "exponential")
                  Value Std. Error
##
## (Intercept) 8.45944 0.07338 115.29 <2e-16
## surglong -0.32521 0.10289 -3.16 0.0016
## adhereadhere -0.34689 0.12321 -2.82 0.0049
## nodes
             -0.10446 0.00878 -11.90 <2e-16
##
## Scale fixed at 1
##
## Exponential distribution
## Loglik(model) = -4024.3 Loglik(intercept only) = -4078.5
## Chisq= 108.33 on 3 degrees of freedom, p= 2.5e-23
## Number of Newton-Raphson Iterations: 5
## n=911 (18 observations deleted due to missingness)
```

To get the parameter for the distributions, we have that  $\lambda = \exp(-\text{Intercept}) = \exp(-8.45944)$ .

## Exponential models

## **Estimating Survival Curve**

# 

#### Weibull models

Weibull accelerated failure time models are also proportional hazard models. Weibull accelerated failure time models assume that  $T_0$  follows a Weibull distribution with parameters,  $\lambda$  and  $\gamma$ .

From our definitions of terms and with some probability theory (not covered), the hazard and survival function of a Weibull AFT models are

$$\lambda_i(t) = \lambda \gamma t^{\gamma-1} \exp(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \dots + \beta_n X_{ni}).$$

and 
$$S_i(t) = \exp\left(\beta_1 X_{1i} + \dots + \beta_n X_{ni}\right) S_0(t), \ S_0(t) = \exp(-(\lambda t)^{\gamma}).$$

As proportional hazard model, Weibull accelerated failure time models assumes that the baseline hazard is  $\lambda \gamma t^{\gamma-1}$ . One can see that exponential accelerated failure time models are a special case of Weibull accelerated failure time models with  $\gamma=1$ .

#### Weibull models

## Learning Weibull models

survreg learns the parameter value,  $\lambda$  and  $\gamma, \!$  and the regression coefficients.

As an example, we will be considering the model: surv ~ 1 + surg + adhere + nodes for all the accelerated time models.

#### Weibull models

## Learning Weibull models

summary(survregWeibull)

```
##
## Call:
## survreg(formula = surv ~ 1 + surg + adhere + nodes, data = colon subset recurrence,
     dist = "weibull")
##
              Value Std. Error
## (Intercept) 8.7993 0.1155 76.21 <2e-16
## surglong -0.4156 0.1454 -2.86 0.0042
## nodes
            -0.1315 0.0131 -10.04 <2e-16
## Log(scale) 0.3432 0.0414 8.30 <2e-16
##
## Scale= 1.41
##
## Weibull distribution
## Loglik(model) = -3984.6 Loglik(intercept only) = -4028.2
## Chisq= 87.17 on 3 degrees of freedom, p= 8.9e-19
## Number of Newton-Raphson Iterations: 5
## n=911 (18 observations deleted due to missingness)
```

#### Weibull models

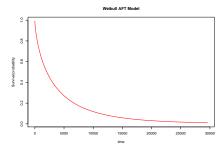
## Learning Weibull models

To get the parameters from Weibull distributions, we use the formulas

$$\gamma = \exp(-\log(\mathsf{scale})) = \exp(-0.3432)$$
 
$$\lambda = \exp(-\mathsf{intercept} \times \gamma) = \exp(-8.7993 \times \gamma)$$

#### Weibull models

# **Estimating Survival Curve**



#### Log-normal models

Log-normal accelerated failure time models assume that  $T_0$  follows a log normal distribution with a scale parameter. Log-normal accelerated failure time models are not proportional hazard models.

The hazard and survival function of a log-normal AFT models are a bit complicated so they will not be shown here.

## Log-normal models

## Learning Log-normal models

survreg learns the parameter value,  $\lambda$  and  $\gamma$ , and the regression coefficients.

As an example, we will be considering the model: surv ~ 1 + surg + adhere + nodes for all the accelerated time models.

## Log-normal models

## Learning Log-normal models

```
summary(survregLogNormal)
```

```
##
## Call:
## survreg(formula = surv ~ 1 + surg + adhere + nodes, data = colon subset recurrence,
     dist = "lognormal")
##
              Value Std. Error
## (Intercept) 8.3066 0.1223 67.93 <2e-16
## surglong -0.3521 0.1525 -2.31 0.021
## nodes
          -0.1613 0.0182 -8.86 <2e-16
## Log(scale) 0.6127 0.0371 16.49 <2e-16
## Scale= 1.85
##
## Log Normal distribution
## Loglik(model) = -3940.5 Loglik(intercept only) = -3983.6
## Chisq= 86.09 on 3 degrees of freedom, p= 1.5e-18
## Number of Newton-Raphson Iterations: 3
## n=911 (18 observations deleted due to missingness)
```

## Log-normal models

# **Estimating Survival Curve**

