

Breast Cancer Survival & Relapse Analysis and Score Construction

– 1980 patients data from METABRIC

December 7

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Overview

- **Overview:** In this project, we analyzed the clinical data of **1,980 breast cancer** patients, drawing **overall survival and relapse curves** using **Kaplan-Meier**. **Predictions** were made using **random survival forests**, and the top-ranking variables were selected and integrated into a **Cox regression model**, thereby constructing two **risk scoring systems** for better prediction in clinical practice.
- **Data Source:** The **METABRIC** project, funded by Cancer Research UK, the British Columbia Cancer Foundation and Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation BC/Yukon. Over **2,000** clinically annotated primary fresh-frozen breast cancer specimens were collected between **1977–2005** from five centers in the UK and Canada.
- **Main Variables:** Overall Survival (Months), Overall Survival Status, Relapse Free (Months), Relapse Free Status, Age, Mutation Count, Tumor Size, Tumor Stage, Surgery and Therapy

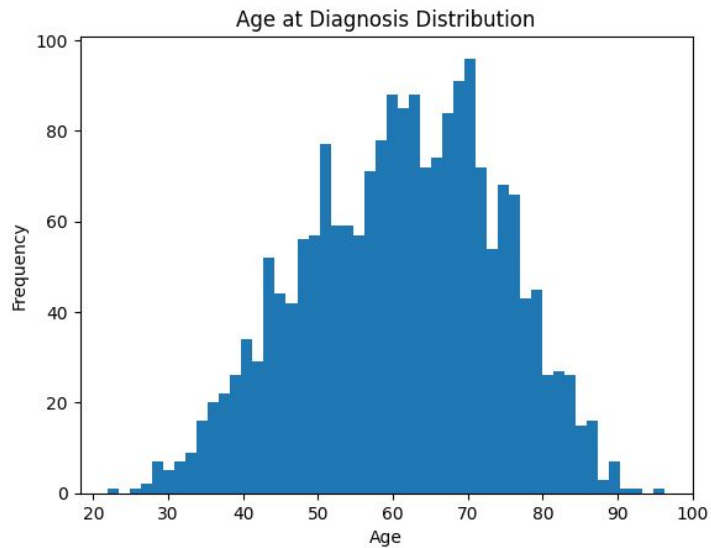
Overview

- **Existing solutions for breast cancer survival and relapse analysis:**
 - Commonly used methods: cox proportional hazards regression, decision trees, neural networks, and support vector machines
 - Predictive factors often include: nodal status, tumor size, tumor grade, age at diagnosis, and estrogen receptor status
 - Models like Nottingham Prognostic Index (NPI), and PREDICT v1.3 are frequently validated and used ^{1,2}
- **How our model is different than existing model / Why our model is state-of-the-art:**
 - Combining Random Survival Forests and Cox regression modeling
 - 2 scoring systems covering survival and relapse
 - Not only using clinical data but also genomics data
- **Assumptions about data:**
 - The data is representative of the underlying population and that the relationships captured in the data are stable over time
- **Health care impact - how our solution is to be used in health care decision system workflow:**
 - In clinical decision-making, the risk scoring system can aid in tailoring treatment plans, identifying high-risk patients, and potentially improving patient outcomes. By providing a risk score system, clinicians can make more informed decisions
- **Weaknesses in our solution and how it can be improved in next release:**
 - **External Validation:** Our model, built on a specific dataset, needs validation in different populations to ensure its generalizability
 - **Data Diversity:** Including data from more varied populations. Including other crucial factors, such as **genetic mutational profiles**, although the purpose of this study was to construct a prognostic model using clinically easy-to-use variables

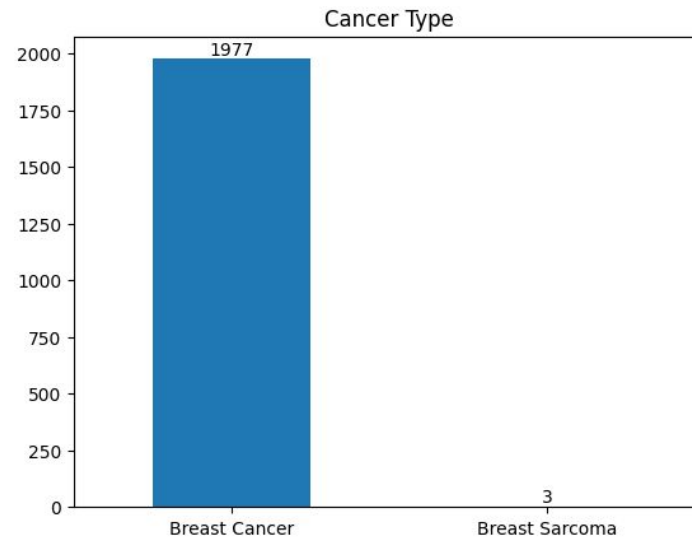
[1] Li, J., Zhou, Z., Dong, J., Fu, Y., Li, Y., Luan, Z., & Peng, X. (2021). Predicting breast cancer 5-year survival using machine learning: A systematic review. PloS one, 16(4), e0250370. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0250370>

[2] Kalafi, E. Y., Nor, N. A. M., Taib, N. A., Ganggayah, M. D., Town, C., & Dhillon, S. K. (2019). Machine Learning and Deep Learning Approaches in Breast Cancer Survival Prediction Using Clinical Data. Folia biologica, 65(5-6), 212–220.

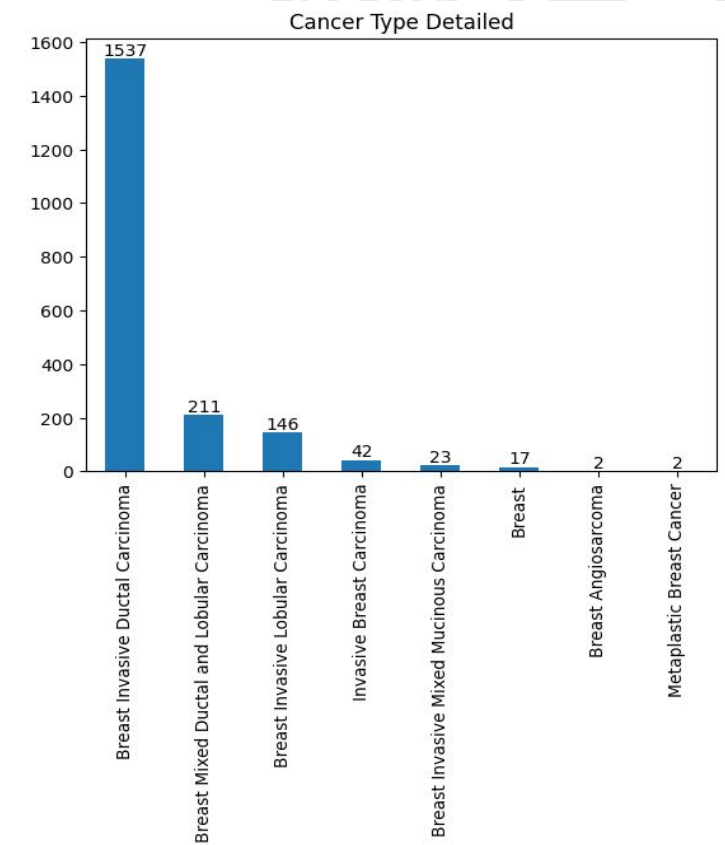
EDA



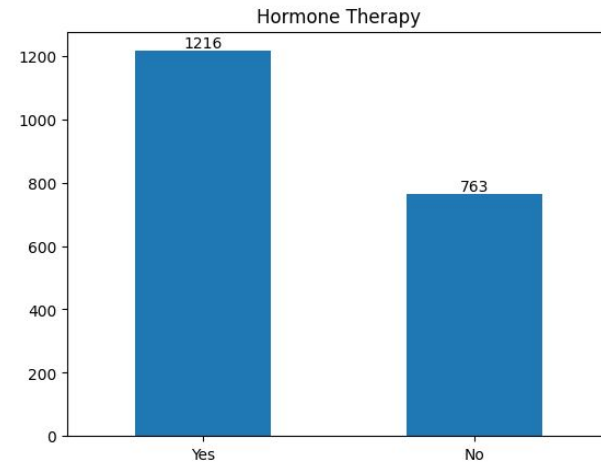
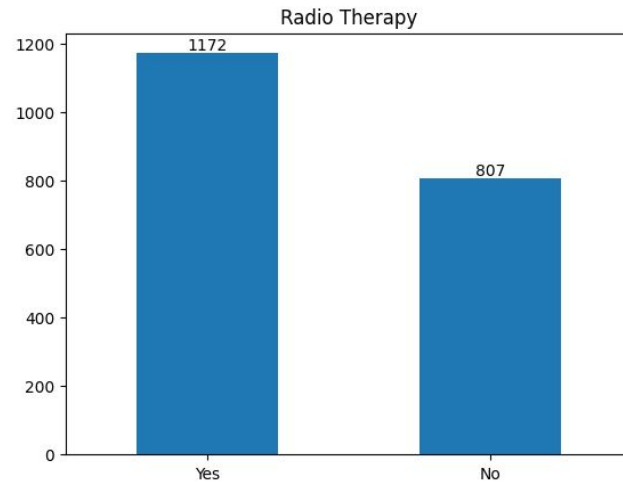
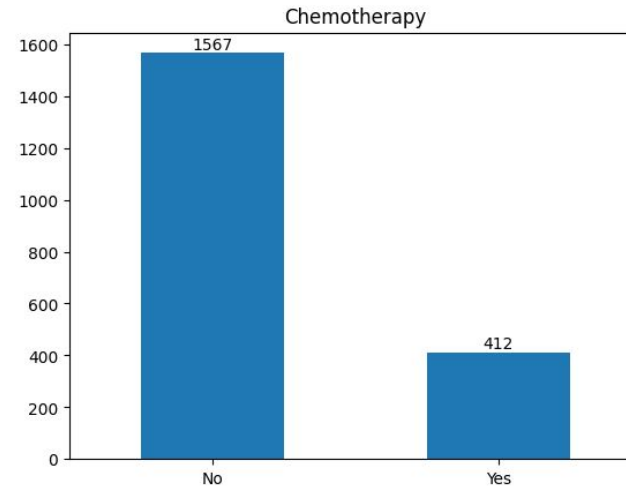
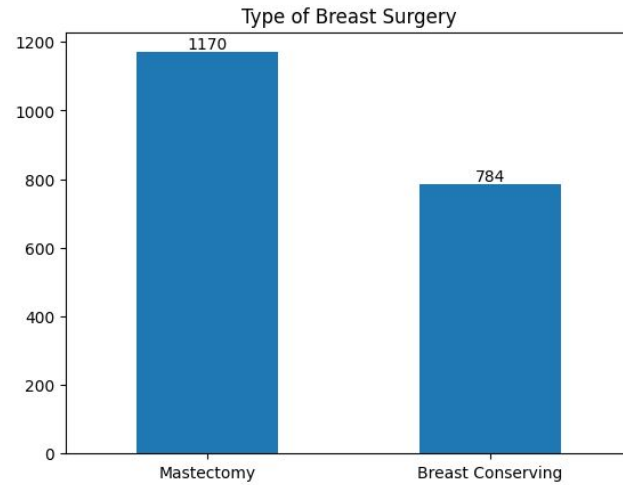
Age between 21.9-96.3
Mean: 60.4



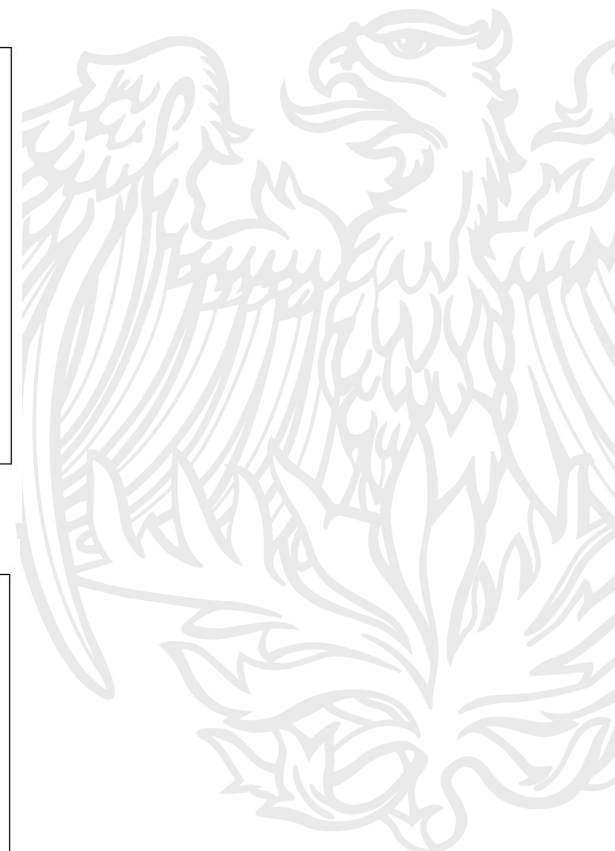
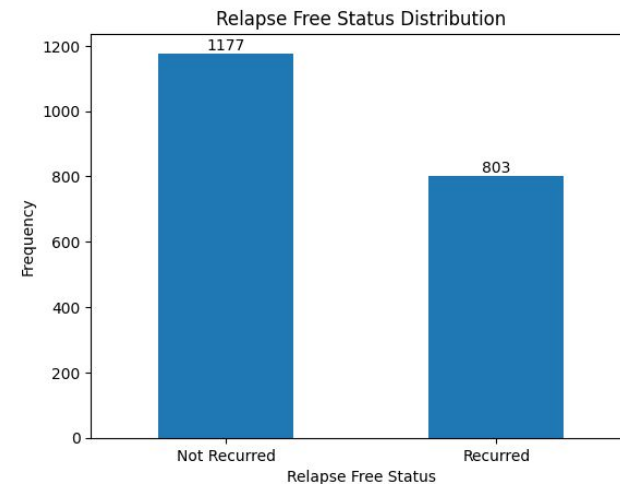
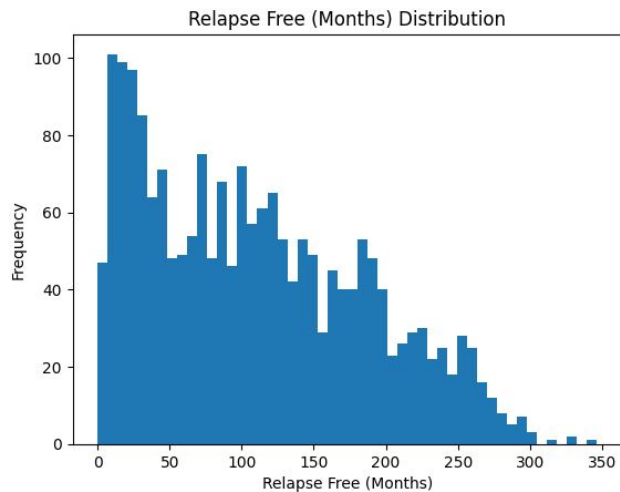
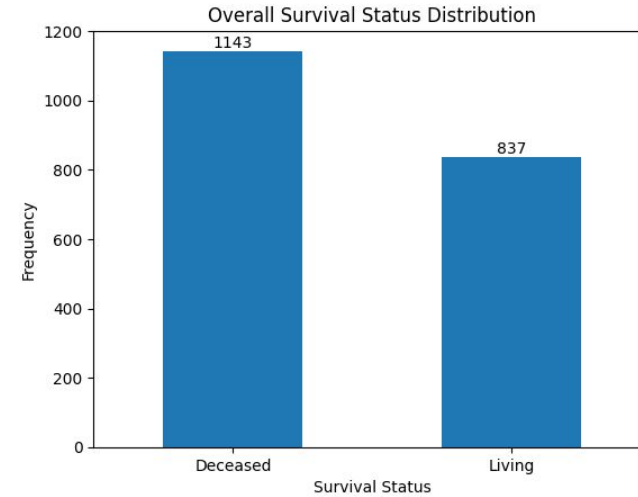
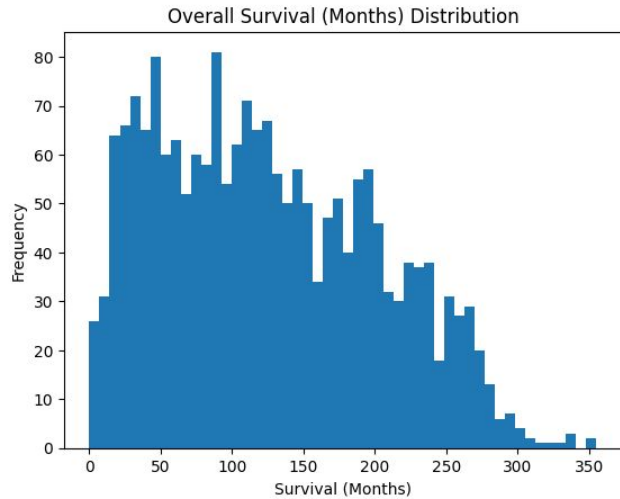
Cancer type distribution reflects
real world scenarios accurately.



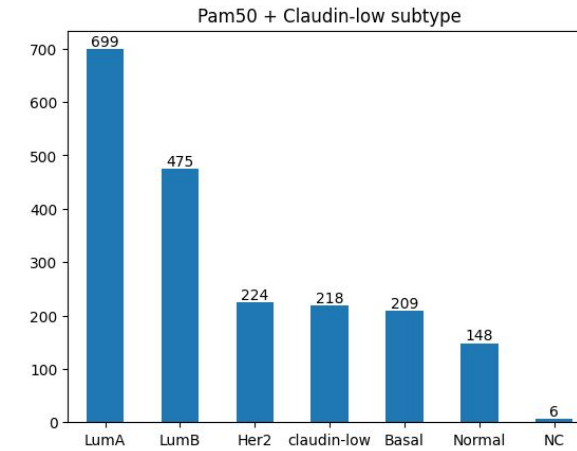
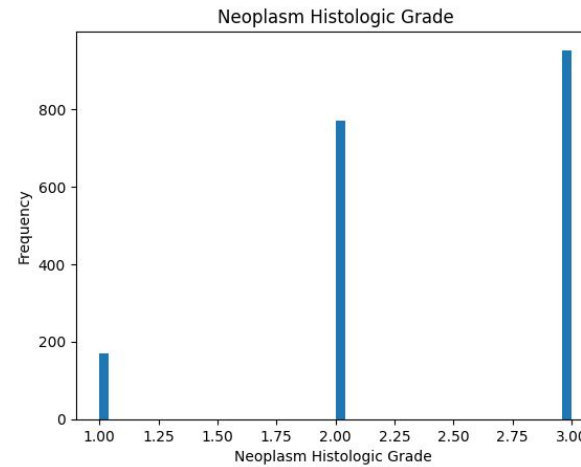
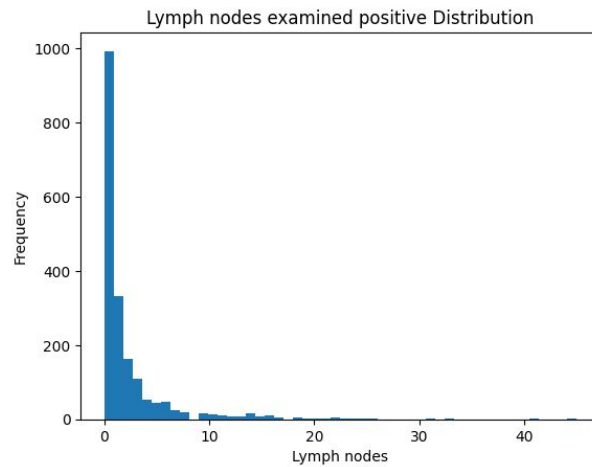
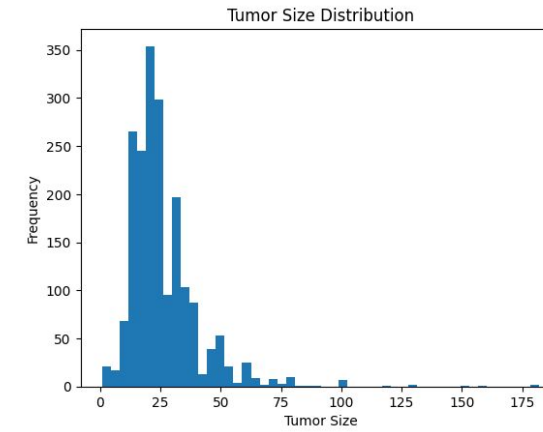
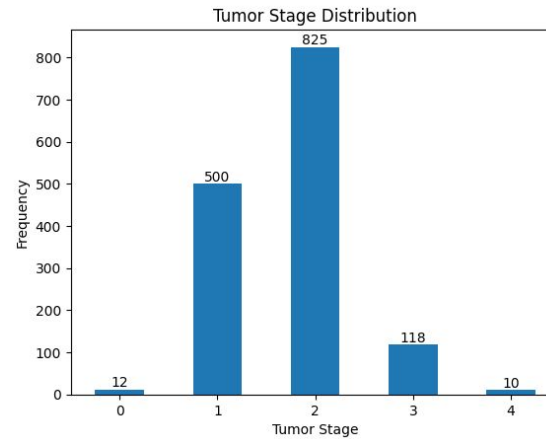
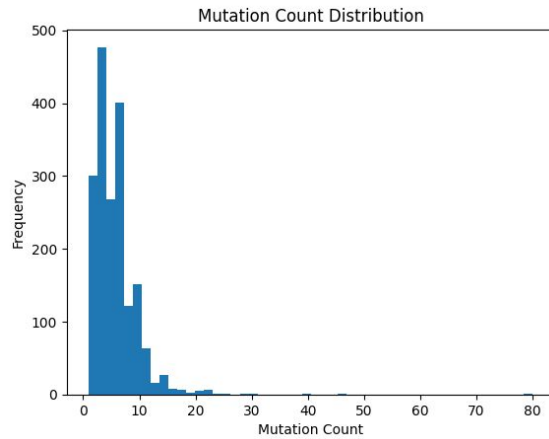
EDA - Surgery and Therapy



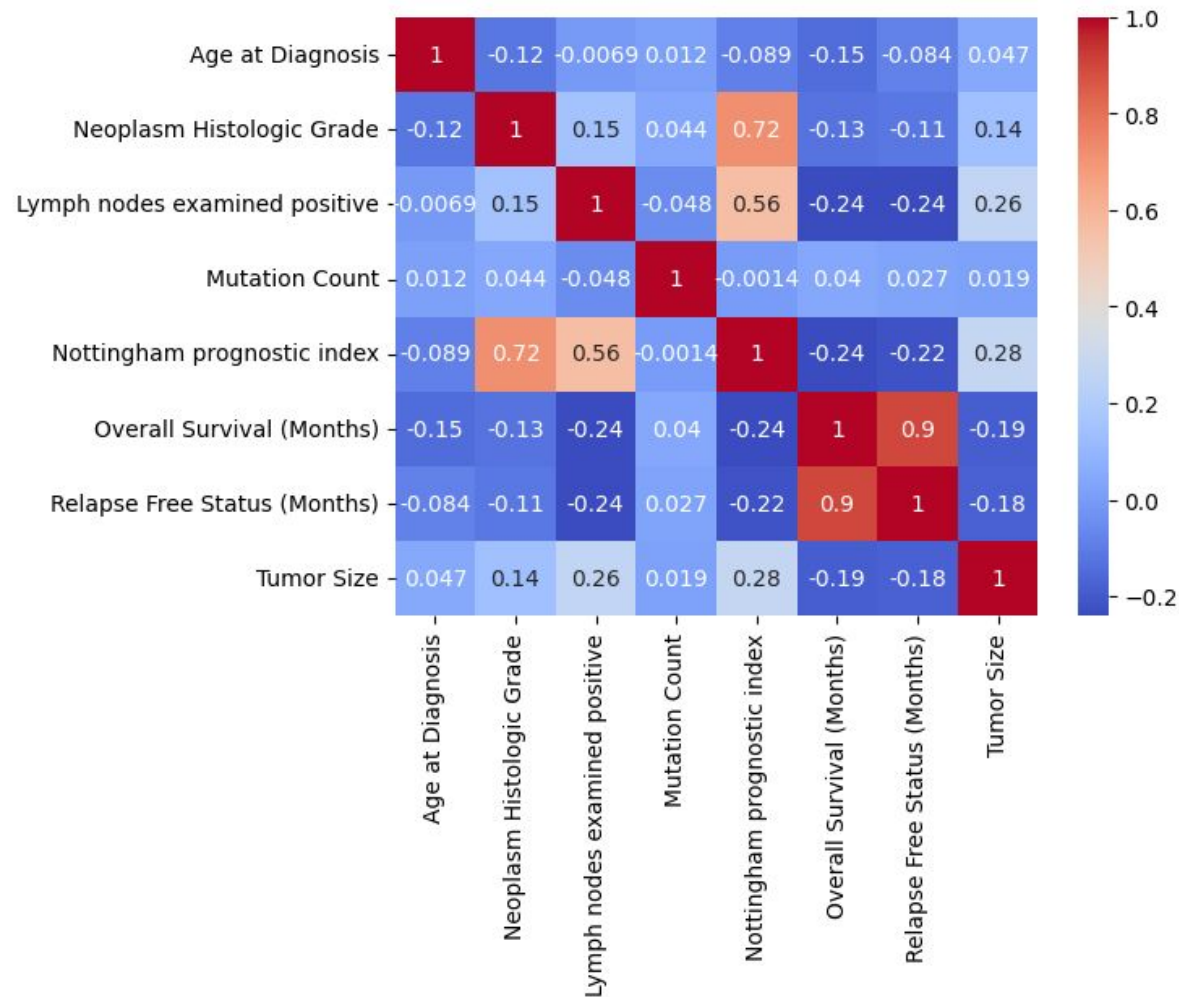
EDA - Events (Survival and Relapse)



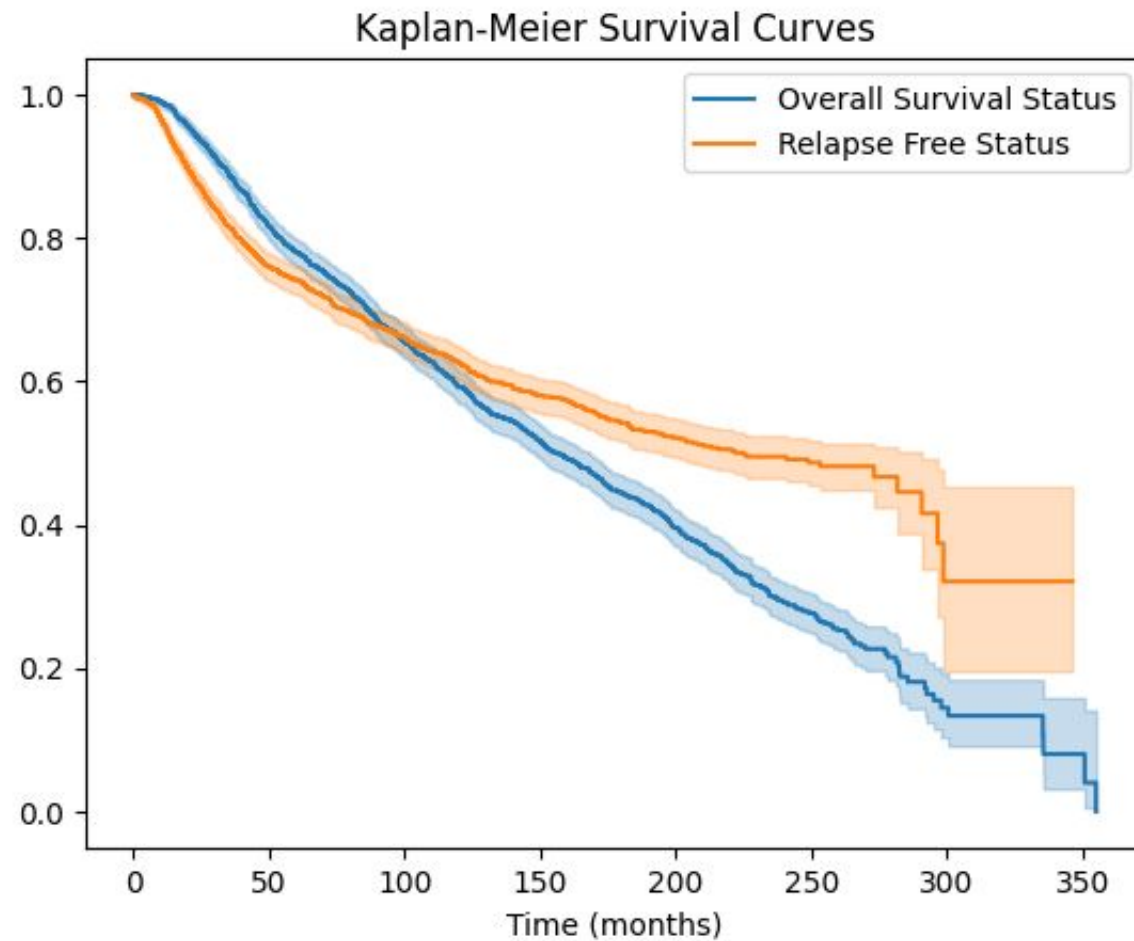
EDA - Important Predictors



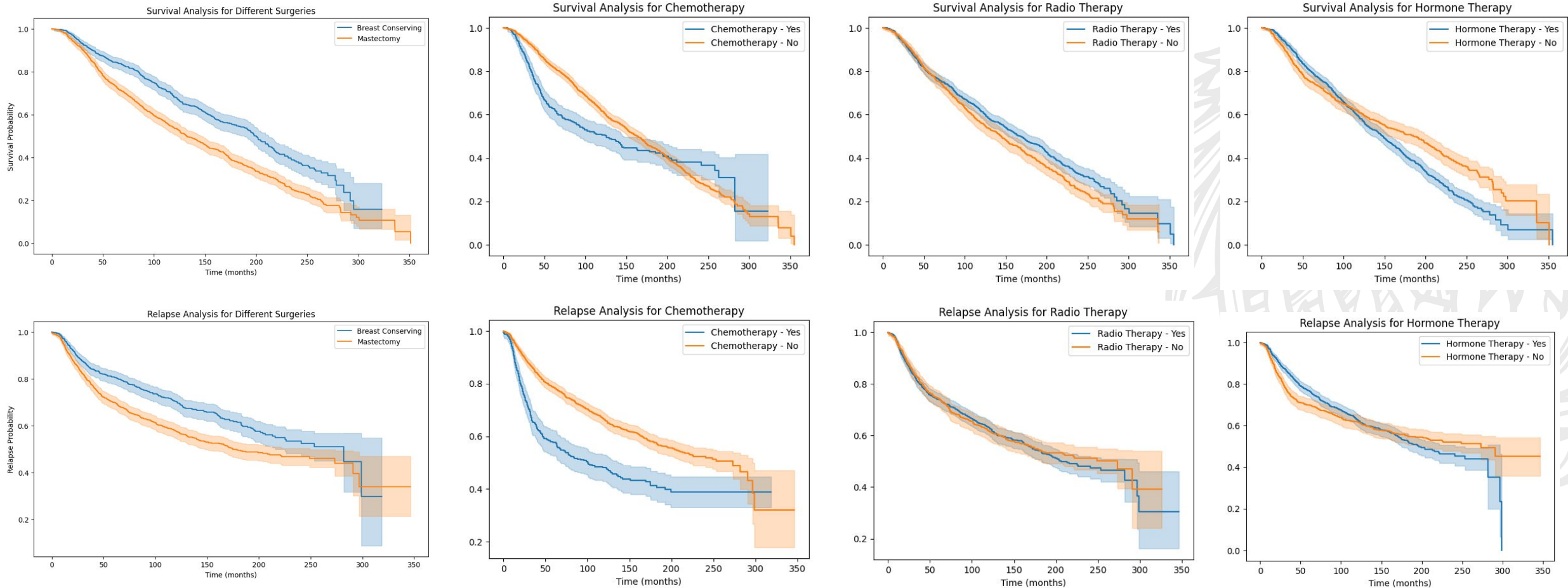
EDA - Correlation Matrix



Kaplan Meier Survival & Relapse Curves



Kaplan Meier Curves - In terms of Treatments



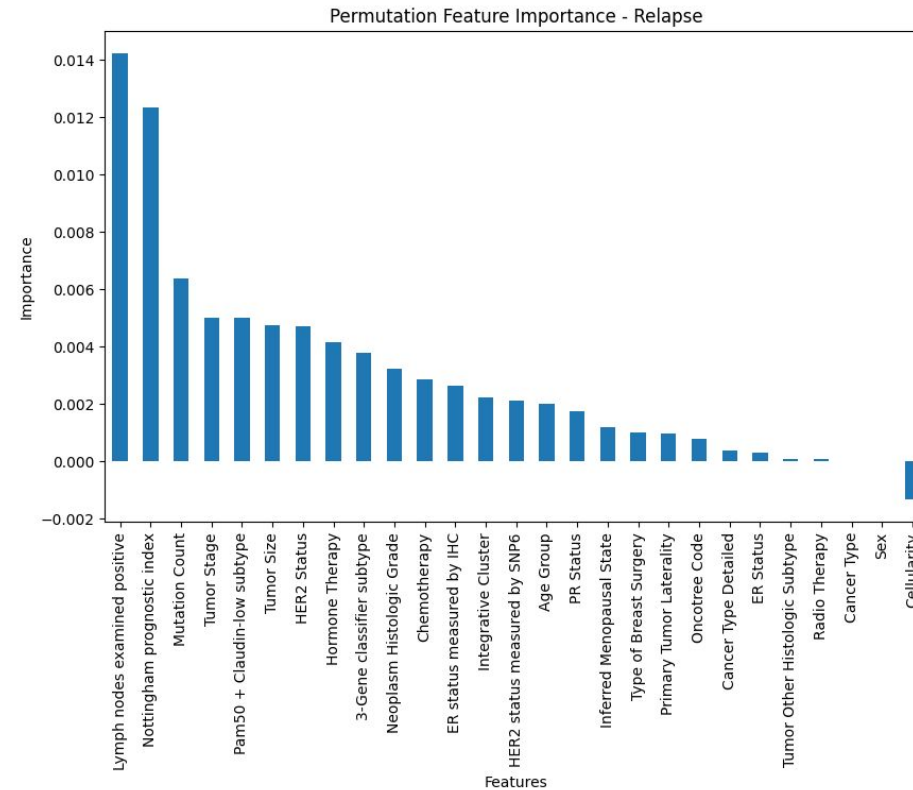
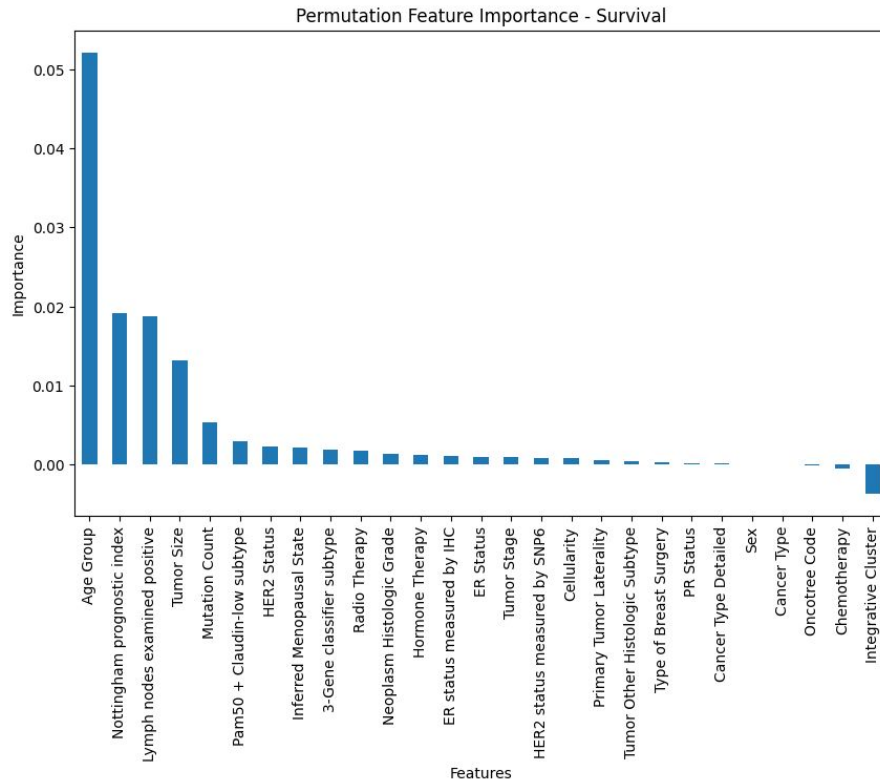
*The curves can not reflect any casual relationship or the effectiveness of the treatments.

Random Survival Forest - Prediction

- Delete Missing Values
 - Generate Age Groups for Age
 - Train set (n=873) and Test set (n=219)
 - Cross Validation
 - Metric: Concordance Index
-
- For Survival, Concordance Index on Test Set: 69.29%
 - For Relapse, Concordance Index on Test Set: 64.74%



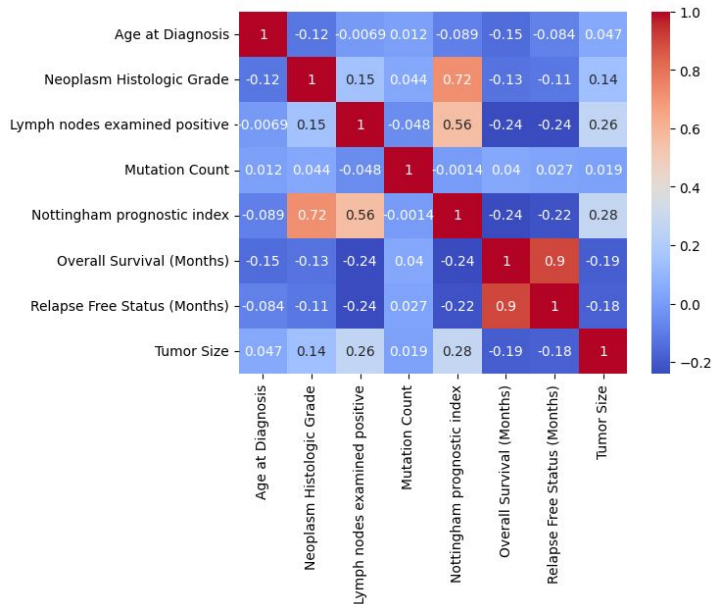
Random Survival Forest - Feature Importances



Re-train using top-10 features: Survival 70.2%, Relapse 65.13%

Variable Selection for Cox Model

- Identified variables with positive importance scores
- Remove variables with high correlation to prevent multicollinearity
- Remove variables calculated based on multiple other clinical or genomic markers



Relapse:

Relapse Free Status	Relapse Free Status (Months)	Age Group	Lymph nodes examined positive	Mutation Count	Pan50 + Claudin-low subtype	Neoplasm Histologic Grade	3-Gene classifier subtype	PR Status	Tumor Stage	HER2 Status	Chemotherapy	Hormone Therapy	Radio Therapy	Inferred Menopausal State
1	0	83.52 40.0-50.0	0.0	2.0	LumA	3.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	1	Negative	No	Yes	Yes	Pre
4	1	18.55 70.0-80.0	8.0	2.0	LumB	3.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	2	Negative	Yes	Yes	Yes	Post
5	1	2.89 70.0-80.0	0.0	4.0	LumB	3.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	4	Negative	No	Yes	Yes	Post
10	0	36.09 80.0-90.0	1.0	4.0	LumB	3.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Negative	2	Negative	No	Yes	Yes	Post
11	1	35.79 80.0-90.0	0.0	5.0	Her2	2.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Negative	2	Negative	No	No	No	Post
...
1697	0	83.88 70.0-80.0	4.0	11.0	LumA	2.0	ER+HER2- Low Prolif	Positive	2	Negative	No	Yes	No	Post
1698	0	198.52 70.0-80.0	0.0	9.0	LumB	1.0	ER+HER2- Low Prolif	Positive	1	Negative	No	No	Yes	Post
1700	0	103.82 70.0-80.0	0.0	4.0	Basal	3.0	ER-HER2-	Negative	1	Negative	No	No	No	Post
1702	0	197.70 50.0-60.0	6.0	5.0	Normal	2.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	2	Negative	Yes	No	Yes	Post
1743	0	277.80 60.0-70.0	0.0	3.0	LumB	2.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	2	Negative	No	No	Yes	Post

Survival

Overall Survival Status	Overall Survival (Months)	Age Group	Lymph nodes examined positive	Mutation Count	Pan50 + Claudin-low subtype	Neoplasm Histologic Grade	3-Gene classifier subtype	PR Status	Tumor Stage	HER2 status measured by SNP6	Radio Therapy	Inferred Menopausal State
1	0	84.633333 40.0-50.0	0.0	2.0	LumA	3.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	1	Neutral	Yes	Pre
4	1	41.366667 70.0-80.0	8.0	2.0	LumB	3.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	2	Neutral	Yes	Post
5	1	7.800000 70.0-80.0	0.0	4.0	LumB	3.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	4	Neutral	Yes	Post
10	1	36.566667 80.0-90.0	1.0	4.0	LumB	3.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Negative	2	Gain	Yes	Post
11	1	36.266667 80.0-90.0	0.0	5.0	Her2	2.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Negative	2	Loss	No	Post
...
1697	1	85.000000 70.0-80.0	4.0	11.0	LumA	2.0	ER+HER2- Low Prolif	Positive	2	Neutral	No	Post
1698	0	201.166667 70.0-80.0	0.0	9.0	LumB	1.0	ER+HER2- Low Prolif	Positive	1	Neutral	Yes	Post
1700	1	105.200000 70.0-80.0	0.0	4.0	Basal	3.0	ER-HER2-	Negative	1	Gain	No	Post
1702	0	200.333333 50.0-60.0	6.0	5.0	Normal	2.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	2	Neutral	Yes	Post
1743	0	281.500000 60.0-70.0	0.0	3.0	LumB	2.0	ER+HER2- High Prolif	Positive	2	Neutral	Yes	Post

1092 rows x 13 columns

Cox Model

Relapse

```
from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler
df_relapse = pd.get_dummies(df_relapse, drop_first=True)

scaler = StandardScaler()
df_relapse_scaled = scaler.fit_transform(df_relapse)
df_relapse_scaled = pd.DataFrame(df_relapse_scaled, columns=df_relapse.columns)
cph = CoxPHFitter(penalizer=0.1)
cph.fit(df_relapse, duration_col='Relapse Free Status (Months)', event_col='Relapse Free Status')
print(cph.summary)
cph.check_assumptions(df_relapse, p_value_threshold=0.05)
```

covariate	coef	exp(coef)	se(coef)	\
Neoplasm Histologic Grade	0.078281	1.081427	0.080537	
Age Group_30.0-40.0	0.004037	1.004045	0.221906	
Age Group_40.0-50.0	-0.104562	0.900719	0.175522	
Age Group_50.0-60.0	-0.060993	0.940839	0.139044	
Age Group_60.0-70.0	-0.027626	0.972752	0.134432	
Age Group_70.0-80.0	0.048072	1.049247	0.148278	
Age Group_80.0-90.0	-0.146121	0.864053	0.230743	
Age Group_90.0-100.0	1.019093	2.770679	0.604426	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_Her2	-0.022473	0.977778	0.169560	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_LumA	-0.119334	0.887512	0.132520	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_LumB	0.102534	1.107975	0.137660	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_NC	-0.127654	0.880158	0.913223	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_Normal	0.295173	1.343359	0.189499	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_claudin-low	-0.108107	0.897532	0.167337	
3-Gene classifier subtype_ER-/HER2-	-0.180833	0.834575	0.155313	
3-Gene classifier subtype_HER2+	0.025666	1.025998	0.185294	
Tumor Stage_1	-0.296515	0.743405	0.145165	
Tumor Stage_2	0.067480	1.069809	0.139614	
Tumor Stage_3	0.498517	1.646277	0.184379	
Tumor Stage_4	1.782273	5.943350	0.465355	
HER2 Status_Positive	0.249984	1.284005	0.176381	
Chemotherapy_Yes	0.112868	1.119484	0.124035	
Radio Therapy_Yes	-0.127526	0.880271	0.094544	
Inferred Menopausal State_Pre	0.073377	1.076136	0.171889	
Mutation_Count_Group_(10.0, 19.0]	0.221739	1.248245	0.182663	
Mutation_Count_Group_(19.0, 28.0]	-0.441652	0.642973	0.504304	
Mutation_Count_Group_(28.0, 37.0]	1.081278	2.948444	1.027069	
Mutation_Count_Group_(37.0, 46.0]	-1.215305	0.296619	1.507201	
lymph_nodes_group_Group 2	0.815500	2.260306	0.186735	
lymph_nodes_group_Group 3	0.807245	2.241725	0.339174	
lymph_nodes_group_Group 4	1.231974	3.427990	0.639903	
lymph_nodes_group_Group 5	-0.735393	0.479317	2.403384	

Survival

```
from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler
df_survival = pd.get_dummies(df_survival, drop_first=True)

scaler = StandardScaler()
df_survival_scaled = scaler.fit_transform(df_survival)
df_survival_scaled = pd.DataFrame(df_survival_scaled, columns=df_survival.columns)
cph = CoxPHFitter(penalizer=0.1)
cph.fit(df_survival, duration_col='Overall Survival (Months)', event_col='Overall Survival Stat')
print(cph.summary)
cph.check_assumptions(df_survival, p_value_threshold=0.05)
```

covariate	coef	exp(coef)	se(coef)	\
Neoplasm Histologic Grade	0.099953	1.105118	0.071867	
Age Group_30.0-40.0	-0.139593	0.869712	0.230363	
Age Group_40.0-50.0	-0.239916	0.786694	0.178822	
Age Group_50.0-60.0	-0.279494	0.756166	0.147217	
Age Group_60.0-70.0	0.145438	1.156546	0.141801	
Age Group_80.0-90.0	0.813623	2.256067	0.193883	
Age Group_90.0-100.0	1.420569	4.139476	0.546264	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_Her2	0.105675	1.111461	0.159937	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_LumB	-0.093186	0.911024	0.143363	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_NC	-0.757021	0.469062	0.874016	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_Normal	0.152191	1.164383	0.196218	
Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype_claudin-low	-0.152819	0.858285	0.161531	
3-Gene classifier subtype_ER+/HER2- Low Prolif	-0.079090	0.923957	0.106064	
3-Gene classifier subtype_ER-/HER2-	0.043246	1.044195	0.144026	
3-Gene classifier subtype_HER2+	0.088148	1.092150	0.153872	
Tumor Stage_1	-0.286419	0.750948	0.140067	
Tumor Stage_2	0.105667	1.111452	0.136823	
Tumor Stage_3	0.420071	1.522070	0.176369	
Tumor Stage_4	0.909557	2.483223	0.473438	
HER2 status measured by SNP6_Loss	-0.116971	0.889611	0.197340	
HER2 status measured by SNP6_Neutral	-0.184654	0.831392	0.112029	
HER2 status measured by SNP6_Undef	-0.005446	0.994569	0.704563	
Radio Therapy_Yes	-0.225006	0.798511	0.082309	
Inferred Menopausal State_Pre	-0.144443	0.865504	0.173385	
Mutation_Count_Group_(19.0, 28.0]	0.368498	1.445561	0.399617	
Mutation_Count_Group_(28.0, 37.0]	1.244159	3.470014	1.034598	
Mutation_Count_Group_(37.0, 46.0]	-0.435179	0.647149	0.712986	
lymph_nodes_group_Group 2	0.778957	2.179198	0.170153	
lymph_nodes_group_Group 3	0.615128	1.849893	0.346309	
lymph_nodes_group_Group 4	0.296379	1.344979	0.733762	
lymph_nodes_group_Group 5	3.069610	21.533499	1.167769	



Scoring System Based on HR:

Intuitive and Effective

Hazed Ratio:

- $HR > 1$: Indicates increased risk associated with the covariate.
- $HR < 1$: Suggests reduced risk.
- $HR = 1$: No significant impact on risk.

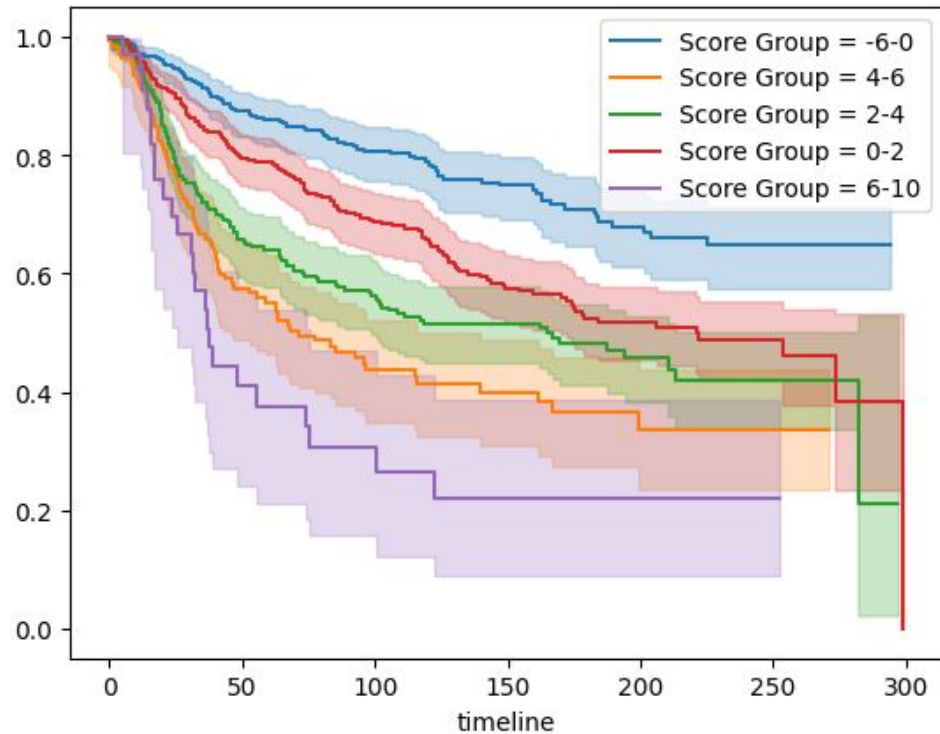
Score Assignment:

- Score +1 if $HR > 1$
Indicates that the covariate increases the hazard, or risk of the event.
- Score -1 if $HR < 1$
Indicates that the covariate decreases the hazard, or risk of the event.
- A HR of 1 implies no effect and hence, no score is assigned.



Grouping and Kaplan-Meier Analysis: Relapse

- dividing patients into groups based on overall scores.
- Kaplan-Meier curves for each group.
- Comparison of median survival times.

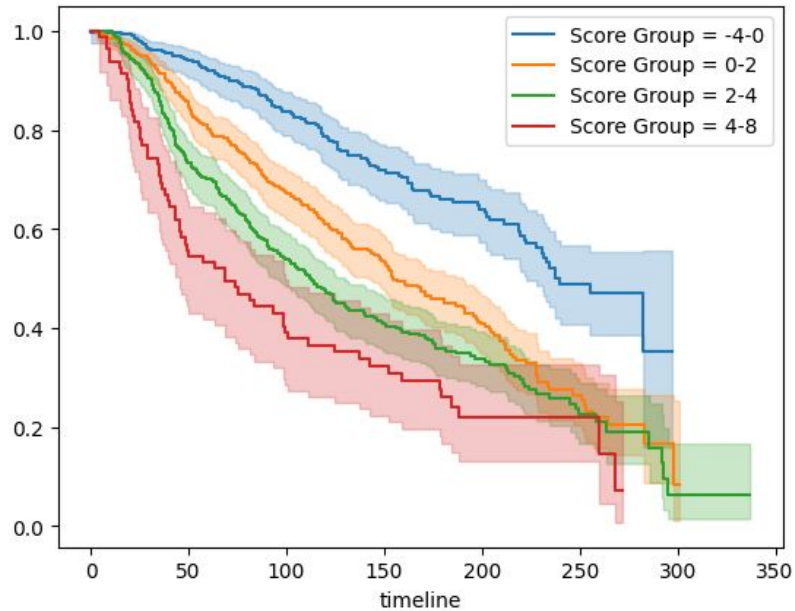


Median Survival Time for Score Group -6-0: inf months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 0-2: 220.89 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 2-4: 165.07 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 4-6: 71.12 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 6-10: 37.53 months

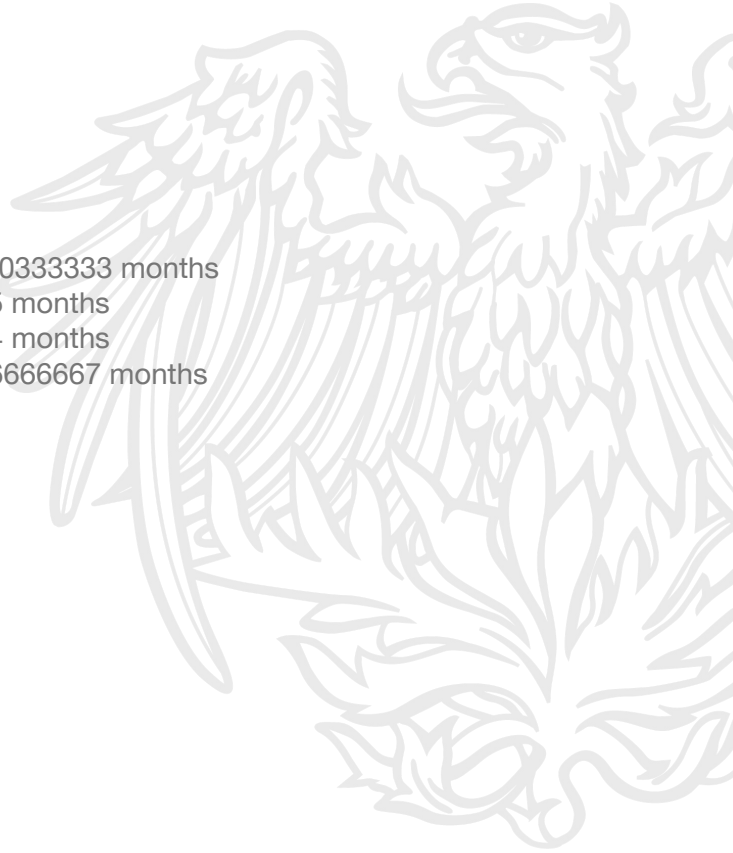


Grouping and Kaplan-Meier Analysis: Survival

- dividing patients into groups based on overall scores.
- Kaplan-Meier curves for each group.
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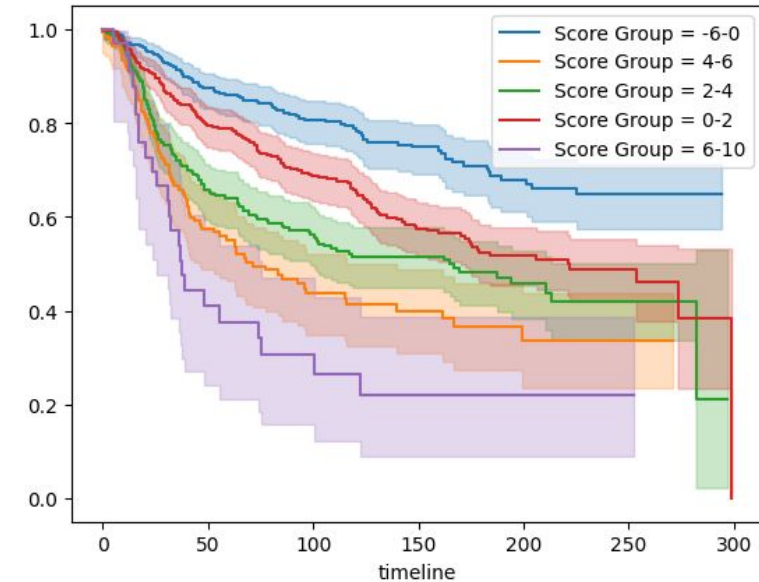
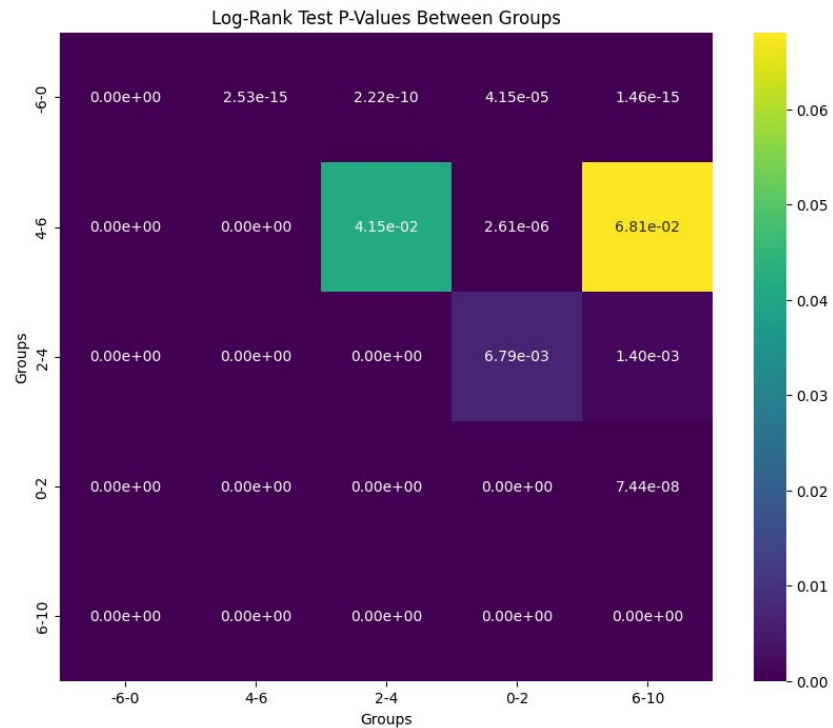
Median Survival Time for Score Group -4-0: 240.0333333 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 0-2: 154.5 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 2-4: 112.4 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 4-8: 68.76666667 months



Statistical Significance and Log Rank Test: Relapse

log rank test: test the null hypothesis that there is no difference in the survival experiences of the different groups being compared.

Presentation of p-values and their significance

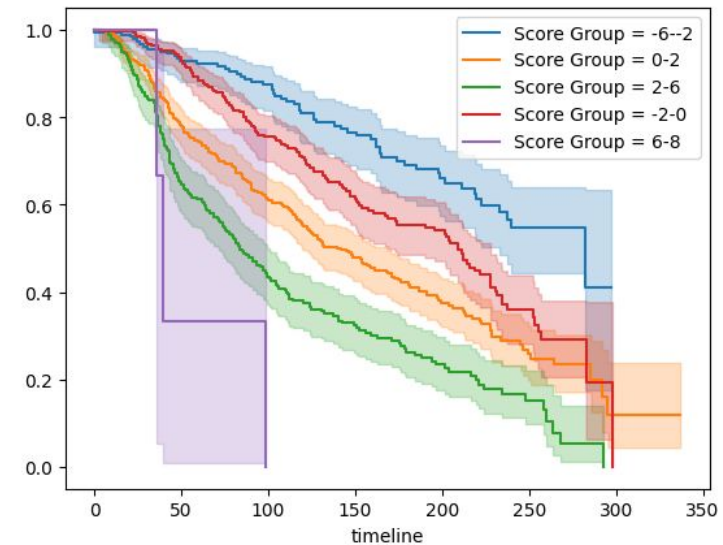
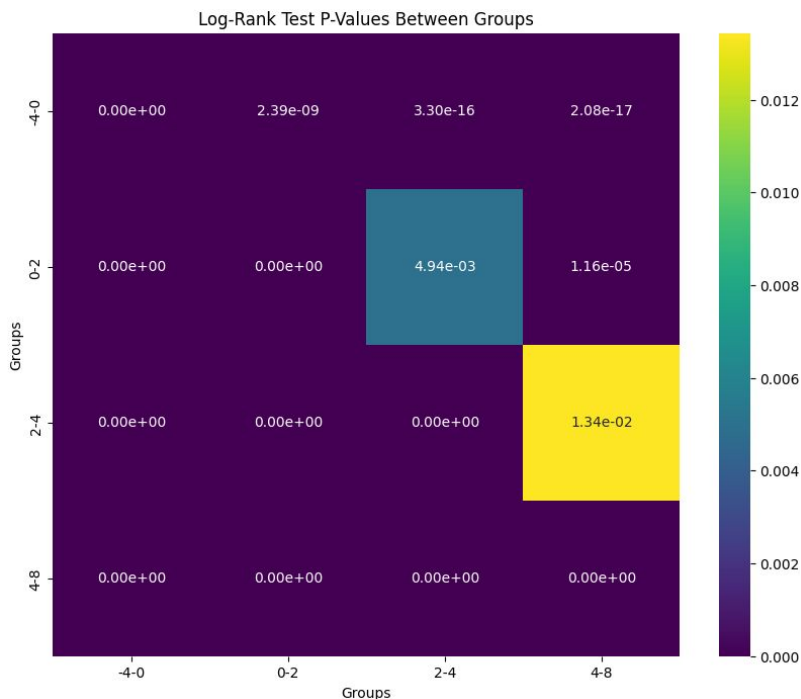


Median Survival Time for Score Group -6-0: inf months
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Statistical Significance and Log Rank Test: Survival

log rank test: test the null hypothesis that there is no difference in the survival experiences of the different groups being compared.

Presentation of p-values and their significance



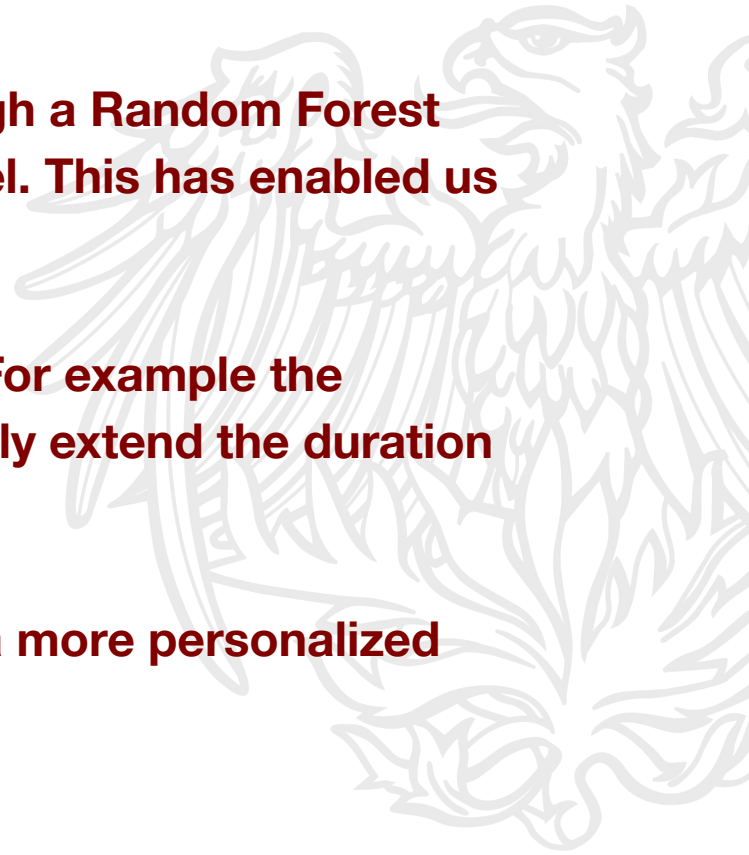
Median Survival Time for Score Group -6--2: 282.5666667 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group -2-0: 209.0333333 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 0-2: 141.56666669999998 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 2-6: 83.66666667 months
Median Survival Time for Score Group 6-8: 39.53333333 months

Conclusion

Our approach has successfully integrated variables identified through a Random Forest Survival algorithm with practical clinical knowledge into a Cox model. This has enabled us to develop straightforward yet clinically impactful scoring models.

The scoring models enhances clinical decision-making processes. For example the relapse scoring system is useful in selecting therapies that potentially extend the duration of relapse-free periods, thereby improving patient outcomes.

Moreover, it provides valuable prognostic information, allowing for a more personalized approach to patient care.



Future Work

Data Source

The scoring systems will benefit from more clinically used information such as images

Healthcare Professionals

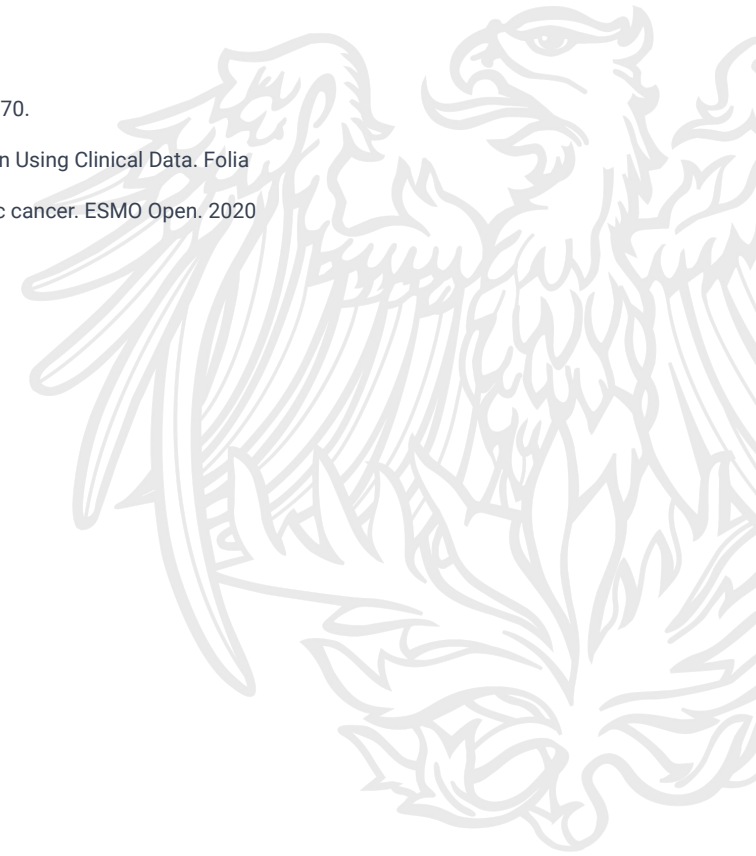
We see immense value in collaborating with clinical practitioners. Their insights and validation would be instrumental in refining our models and also bridge the gap between data-driven research and practical clinical application

Real-Time Integration

Explore ways to integrate the scoring system into real-time clinical workflows, such as electronic health record systems, to enhance its practical utility

Reference

- [1] Li, J., Zhou, Z., Dong, J., Fu, Y., Li, Y., Luan, Z., & Peng, X. (2021). Predicting breast cancer 5-year survival using machine learning: A systematic review. *PLoS one*, 16(4), e0250370. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0250370>
- [2] Kalafi, E. Y., Nor, N. A. M., Taib, N. A., Ganggayah, M. D., Town, C., & Dhillon, S. K. (2019). Machine Learning and Deep Learning Approaches in Breast Cancer Survival Prediction Using Clinical Data. *Folia biologica*, 65(5-6), 212–220
- [3] Kim J, Hong JY, Kim ST, Park SH, Jekal SY, Choi JS, Chang DK, Kang WK, Seo SW, Lee J. Clinical scoring system for the prediction of survival of patients with advanced gastric cancer. *ESMO Open*. 2020 Mar;5(2):e000670. doi: 10.1136/esmoopen-2020-000670. PMID: 32188716; PMCID: PMC7078777.



Extra:

- **HER2 Status:** This indicates the overexpression of the Human Epidermal growth factor Receptor 2 in cancer cells. HER2-positive breast cancers tend to be more aggressive but may respond to targeted therapies like trastuzumab (Herceptin).
- **Hormone Therapy:** This indicates whether a patient has received treatment that lowers hormone levels or blocks their effects on breast cancer cells. Hormone therapies are typically used for cancers that are hormone receptor-positive.
- **Pam50 + Claudin-low subtype:** PAM50 is a test that categorizes breast cancer into one of several molecular subtypes for prognostic and predictive purposes. The Claudin-low subtype is characterized by low expression of claudin genes, associated with more aggressive disease and a stem cell-like phenotype.
- **3-Gene classifier subtype:** This refers to a prognostic tool based on the expression of three genes. It helps predict if certain early-stage breast cancer patients will benefit from chemotherapy in addition to hormonal therapy.
- **PR Status:** The Progesterone Receptor Status of the cancer, indicating whether the cancer cells have receptors for the hormone progesterone. PR-positive cancers are typically more responsive to hormone therapy.
- **Tumor Stage:** This provides a description of the extent of cancer, based on the size of the tumor, and whether it has spread to nearby lymph nodes or other parts of the body. Staging helps determine the severity of the cancer and guide treatment.
- **Oncotree Code:** A comprehensive oncology data standard that provides a detailed classification system for tumor morphology, including anatomic site, histology, and subtype.
- **Tumor Other Histologic Subtype:** Beyond the main histologic types of breast cancer (like ductal or lobular), there are several subtypes based on the cancer cells' microscopic appearance, which can have different prognostic and treatment implications.
- **Nottingham Prognostic Index:** A clinical tool used to predict survival outcomes of breast cancer patients. It is based on tumor size, lymph node status, and histological grade.
- **PREDICT v1.3:** Predict is an online tool. Predict asks for some details about the patient and the cancer. It then uses data about the survival of similar women in the past to show the likely proportion of such women expected to survive up to fifteen years after their surgery with different treatment combinations.

Numerical variables group:

```
bins = [0, 8, 16, 24, 32, 41]
```

```
df_survival['lymph_nodes_group'] = pd.cut(df_survival['Lymph nodes examined  
positive'], bins, include_lowest=True, labels=['Group 1', 'Group 2', 'Group 3',  
'Group 4', 'Group 5'])
```

```
print(df_survival[['Lymph nodes examined positive', 'lymph_nodes_group']])
```

```
mutation_count_min = df_survival['Mutation Count'].min()  
mutation_count_max = df_survival['Mutation Count'].max()
```

```
bins = pd.interval_range(start=mutation_count_min, end=mutation_count_max, num_bins=5)
```

```
df_survival['Mutation_Count_Group'] = pd.cut(df_survival['Mutation Count'], bins, include_lowest=True, labels=['Group 1', 'Group 2', 'Group 3', 'Group 4', 'Group 5'])
```

```
print(df_survival[['Mutation Count', 'Mutation_Count_Group']])
```

	Mutation Count	Mutation_Count_Group
.	2.0	(1.0, 10.0]
1	2.0	(1.0, 10.0]
2	4.0	(1.0, 10.0]
3	4.0	(1.0, 10.0]
4	5.0	(1.0, 10.0]
...
697	11.0	(10.0, 19.0]
698	9.0	(1.0, 10.0]
700	4.0	(1.0, 10.0]
702	5.0	(1.0, 10.0]
743	3.0	(1.0, 10.0]

Log-Rank:

The logrank test statistic compares estimates of the [hazard functions](#) of the two groups at each observed event time. It is constructed by computing the observed and expected number of events in one of the groups at each observed event time and then adding these to obtain an overall summary across all-time points where there is an event.

Consider two groups of patients, e.g., treatment vs. control. Let $1, \dots, J$ be the distinct times of observed events in either group. Let $N_{1,j}$ and $N_{2,j}$ be the number of subjects "at risk" (who have not yet had an event or been censored) at the start of period j in the groups, respectively. Let $O_{1,j}$ and $O_{2,j}$ be the observed number of events in the groups at time j . Finally, define $N_j = N_{1,j} + N_{2,j}$ and $O_j = O_{1,j} + O_{2,j}$.

The [null hypothesis](#) is that the two groups have identical hazard functions, $H_0 : h_1(t) = h_2(t)$. Hence, under H_0 , for each group $i = 1, 2$, $O_{i,j}$ follows a [hypergeometric distribution](#) with parameters $N_j, N_{i,j}, O_j$. This distribution has expected value $E_{i,j} = O_j \frac{N_{i,j}}{N_j}$ and variance

$$V_{i,j} = E_{i,j} \left(\frac{N_j - O_j}{N_j} \right) \left(\frac{N_j - N_{i,j}}{N_j - 1} \right).$$

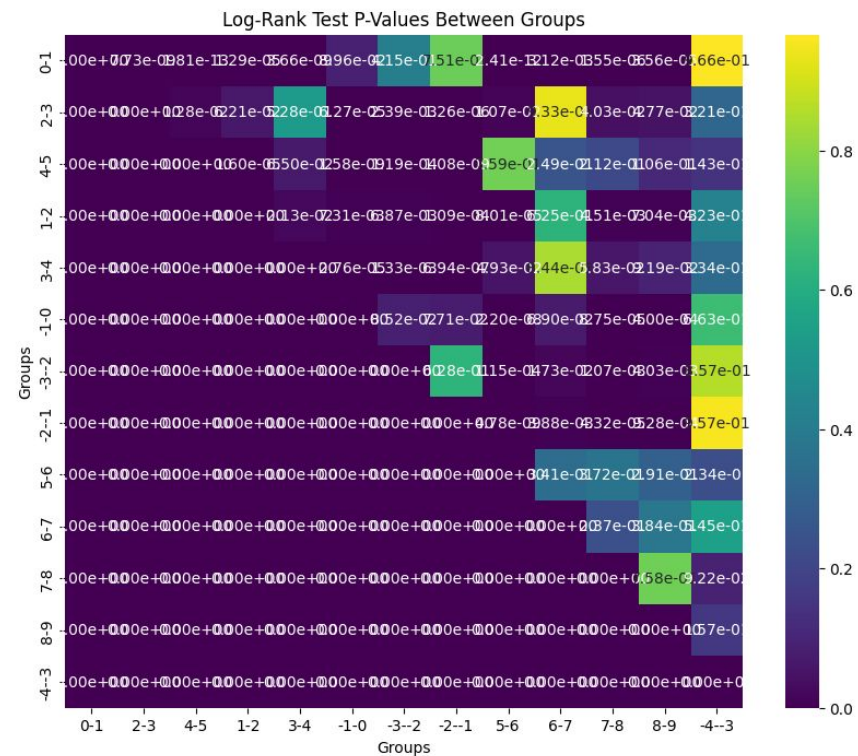
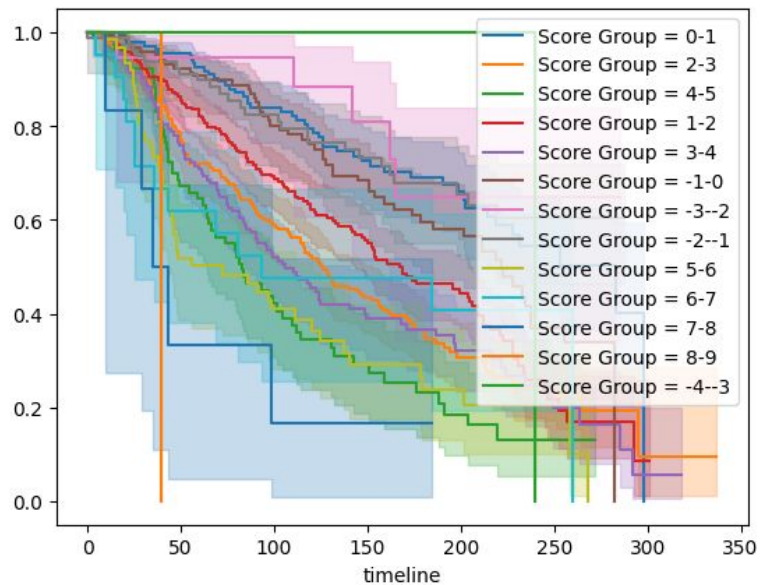
For all $j = 1, \dots, J$, the logrank statistic compares $O_{i,j}$ to its expectation $E_{i,j}$ under H_0 . It is defined as

$$Z_i = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^J (O_{i,j} - E_{i,j})}{\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^J V_{i,j}}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \quad (\text{for } i = 1 \text{ or } 2)$$

By the [central limit theorem](#), the distribution of each Z_i converges to that of a standard normal distribution as J approaches infinity and therefore can be approximated by the standard normal distribution for a sufficiently large J . An improved approximation can be obtained by equating this quantity to Pearson type I or II (beta) distributions with matching first four moments, as described in Appendix B of the Peto and Peto paper.^[2]



Trial and Errors



Standard Cox and Stratified Cox

Standard Cox proportional hazards model:

$$h(t|Z) = h_0 \exp(\beta_{\text{age}} Z_{\text{age}} + \beta_{\text{rx}} Z_{\text{rx}})$$

Stratified Cox proportional hazards model (you're actually fitting two equations that share a single β_{age}):

$$h_{\text{rx}=2}(t|Z) = h_{0,\text{rx}=2} \exp(\beta_{\text{age}} Z_{\text{age}})$$

$$h_{\text{rx}=1}(t|Z) = h_{0,\text{rx}=1} \exp(\beta_{\text{age}} Z_{\text{age}})$$



Thank you!

