

An introduction to survival analysis

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What is time-to-event (TTE) data?

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TTE data consists of $(time, \overset{\text{yes/no}}{\text{event}})$ tuples.

Time-to-event (TTE) data

TTE analysis is also known as:

- survival analysis
- failure time analysis
- reliability theory (engineering)
- duration modelling (economics)
- event history analysis (sociology)

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Use cases for TTE analysis:

- TODO

Example: Covid-19 treatment trial

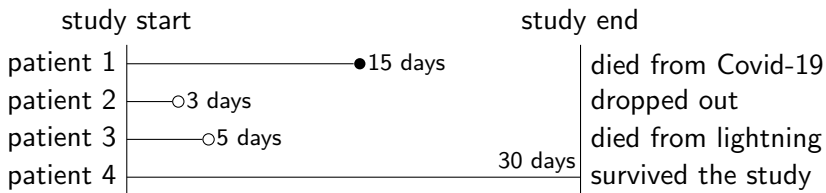
A randomised controlled trial ($n = 4$) was conducted to assess the efficacy of drug ABC in treating Covid-19. This is what happened to the patients:

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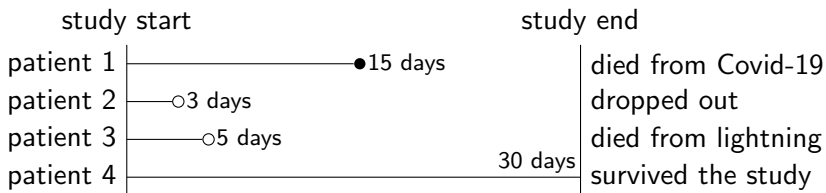
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| patient | received ABC? | outcome |
|---------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | yes | died from Covid-19 on day 15 |
| 2 | no | dropped out of the study after day 3 |
| 3 | yes | died by a lightning stroke on day 5 |
| 4 | no | survived the study (30 days) |

Example: Covid-19 treatment trial



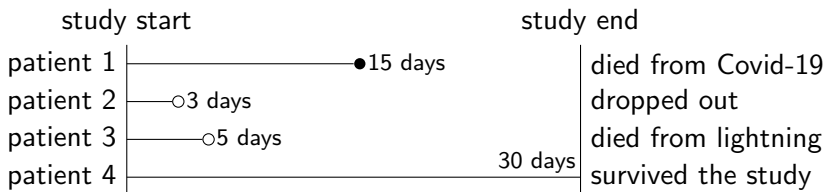
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The **time** is the number of days since testing positive for Covid-19.

The **event** is whether the patient died due to Covid-19.

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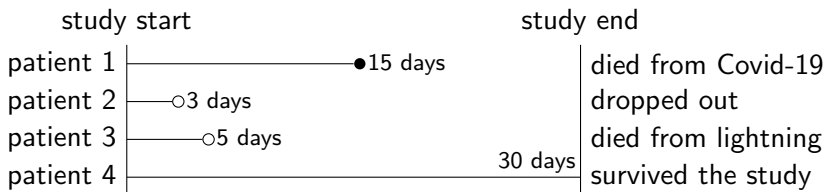


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Time-to-event data

| patient | time | event |
|---------|------|-------|
| 1 | 15 | yes |
| 2 | ? | ? |
| 3 | ? | ? |
| 4 | ? | no |

Example: Covid-19 treatment trial



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Time-to-event data

| patient | time | event |
|---------|---------|-------|
| 1 | 15 | yes |
| 2 | [0, 3] | no |
| 3 | [0, 5] | no |
| 4 | [0, 30] | no |

Censoring

We just saw an example of **right-censored** data.

Survival function

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$$S(t) = \Pr(T > t)$$

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