

# Nelson-Aalen & Kaplan-Meier

**Nelson-Aalen** Non-parametric estimator of the cumulative hazard rate.  $A(t) = \int_0^t \alpha(u)du$  where  $\alpha(t)$  is the hazard rate at time  $t$ .

**Formulas**  $\hat{A}(t) = \sum_{T_j \leq t} \Delta \hat{A}(T_j)$

No ties  $\Delta \hat{A}(T_j) = \frac{1}{Y(T_j)}$  Rounded Ties  $\Delta \hat{A}(T_j) = \sum_{k=1}^{d_j-1} \frac{1}{Y(T_j)-k}$  True Ties  $\Delta \hat{A}(T_j) = \frac{d_j}{Y(T_j)}$

$\hat{\sigma}_{N-A}^2(t) = \sum_{T_j \leq t} \Delta \hat{\sigma}^2(T_j)$

No ties  $\Delta \hat{\sigma}^2(T_j) = \frac{1}{Y(T_j)^2}$  Rounded Ties  $\Delta \hat{\sigma}^2(T_j) = \sum_{k=1}^{d_j-1} \frac{1}{(Y(T_j)-k)^2}$  True Ties  $\Delta \hat{\sigma}^2(T_j) = \frac{(Y(T_j)-d_j)d_j}{Y(T_j)^3}$

**Derivation of the Nelson-Aalen Estimator.**  $M(t)$  is a mean-zero m.g.  $H(t) = \frac{J(t)}{Y(t)}$  is predictable where  $J(t) = \mathbf{1}(Y(t) > 0)$ . We then get  $\hat{A}(t) = \int_0^t H(s)dN(s) = \int_0^t \alpha(s)J(s)ds + \int_0^t \frac{J(s)}{Y(s)}dM(s)$ . As  $M(t)$  is mean-zero m.g. we then get that the Nelson-Aalen estimator is a unbiased estimator of  $A^*(t) = \int_0^t \alpha(s)J(s)ds$  since  $\mathbb{E}[\hat{A}(t) - A^*(t)] = 0$ .  $\hat{A}(t)$  is however a biased estimator of  $A(t)$  since  $\mathbb{E}[J(s)] = \mathbb{P}(Y(s) > 0)$ . This bias is however very small.

**Derivation of variance of Nelson-Aalen Estimator.** Recall that  $[\int H dM](t) = \int H(s)^2 dN(s)$  where we have  $H(s) = \frac{J(s)}{Y(s)} \implies [\int H dM](t) = \int \left(\frac{J(s)}{Y(s)}\right)^2 dN(s) = [\hat{A} - A^*](t) \implies \hat{\sigma}_{N-A}^2 = \sum_{T_j \leq t} \frac{1}{Y(T_j)}$

**Delta Method CI Nelson-Aalen** We have that  $\hat{A}(t) \stackrel{\text{approx}}{\sim} N(A(t), \hat{\sigma}^2(t))$

$$\begin{aligned} g(\hat{A}(t)) &\approx g(A(t)) + g'(A(t)) \underbrace{(\hat{A}(t) - A(t))}_{\mathbb{E}[\dots]=0} \implies \mathbb{E}[g(\hat{A}(t))] \approx g(A(t)) \text{ and } \mathbb{E}[(g(\hat{A}(t)) - g(A(t)))^2] \approx g'(\hat{A}(t))^2 \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[(\hat{A}(t) - A(t))^2]}_{\hat{\sigma}^2} \\ \implies g(\hat{A}(t)) &\stackrel{\text{approx}}{\sim} N(g(A(t)), |g'(\hat{A}(t))|\hat{\sigma}) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $g(x) = \log(x)$  which then gives us  $g^{-1}(x) = e^x$  and  $g'(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ . The interval then becomes as follows.  
 $g^{-1}(CI) = \exp \left\{ \log(\hat{A}(t)) \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \frac{\hat{\sigma}}{\hat{A}(t)} \right\} = \hat{A}(t) \exp \left\{ \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \frac{\hat{\sigma}}{\hat{A}(t)} \right\}$

**Kaplan-Meier** Non-parametric estimator of the survival function.  $S(t) = e^{-A(t)}$  where  $A(t)$  is the cumulative hazard rate at time  $t$ .

**Formulas**  $\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{T_j \leq t} \left(1 - \frac{1}{Y(T_j)}\right) = \prod_{T_j \leq t} (1 - \Delta \hat{A}(T_j))$

$\hat{\tau}^2(t) = \hat{S}(t)^2 \sum_{T_j \leq t} \frac{1}{Y(T_j)^2} = \hat{S}(t)^2 \hat{\sigma}_{N-A}^2$   $\hat{\tau}^2(t) = \hat{S}(t)^2 \sum_{T_j \leq t} \frac{d_j}{Y(T_j)(Y(T_j)-d_j)}$  (Greenwood)

**Derivation of the Kaplan-Meier Estimator** Recall  $\mathbb{P}(T > t) \implies S(t|t_{k-1}) = \mathbb{P}(T > t_k | T > t_{k-1}) = \frac{S(t_k)}{S(t_{k-1})}$ . Let  $0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n$  and note that  $\mathbb{P}(T > t_0) = 1$  which gives us  $S(t_n) = \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{S(t_k)}{S(t_{k-1})}$ . We formally we define the survival function as  $S(t) = \prod_{u \leq t} (1 - dA(u))$  since  $\frac{S(t_k)}{S(t_{k-1})} = dA(t_k)$  when  $t_k - t_{k-1} \ll 1$ . This gives us the estimator  $\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{T_j \leq t} (1 - \Delta \hat{A}(T_j))$  as  $\Delta \hat{A}(t)$  serves as an estimator for  $dA(t)$ .

**Kaplan Meier CI**  $\hat{S}(t) \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \hat{\tau}(t)$ . Log-transforms (using same method as for Nelson-Aalen above) etc.

**Derivation of variance of Kaplan-Meier Estimator** Let  $S^*(t) = \prod_{u \leq t} (1 - dA^*(u))$  where  $A^*(t) = \int_0^t J(u)dA(u)$ . If  $\mathbb{P}(J(s) = 0) \ll 1$  then  $S^*$  and  $S$  are close. We measure this closeness by  $\frac{\hat{S}(t)}{\hat{S}^*(t)} - 1 = - \int_0^t \frac{\hat{S}(u-)}{\hat{S}^*(u)} d(\hat{A} - A^*)(u)$ . We then have that  $\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\hat{S}(t)}{\hat{S}^*(t)} \right] = 1$ . We can

then repeat the arguments as we do for the variance of the Nelson-Aalen estimator above.  $\left[ \frac{\hat{S}}{\hat{S}^*} - 1 \right] = \left[ \int \frac{-\hat{S}}{\hat{S}^*} \underbrace{d(\hat{A} - A^*)}_{dM} \right] = \{\text{Theorem}\} =$

$\int \left( \frac{\hat{S}}{\hat{S}^*} \right)^2 d[M]$ . Note that  $M$  is the same mean-zero m.g. as in the Nelson-Aalen case which gives us  $d[M](t) = \frac{J(t)}{Y(t)}dN(t)$ . This does in turn give us that  $\left[ \frac{\hat{S}}{\hat{S}^*} - 1 \right] = \int \left( \frac{\hat{S}}{\hat{S}^*} \right)^2 \frac{J}{Y^2} dN$ . Now by assuming  $S^* = S$  and  $\hat{S}(u) \approx \hat{S}(u-)$  we get that  $\text{Var} \left( \frac{\hat{S}(t)}{\hat{S}(t)} - 1 \right) = \hat{\sigma}_{\hat{S}/S-1}^2(t) = \int_0^t \frac{J}{Y^2} dN = \hat{\sigma}_{N-A}^2(t) \implies \hat{\sigma}_{\hat{S}}^2(t) \approx \hat{S}^2(t) \int_0^t \frac{J}{Y^2} dN = \hat{S}^2(t) \hat{\sigma}_{N-A}^2(t)$

# Martingales

Definition of Martingales:  $M$  is a Martingale if  $E[M_t|\mathcal{F}_s] = M_s$ ,  $t \geq s$  and  $E[|M_t|] < \infty$ .

## Formulas

$$(H \bullet M)_n = H_0 M_0 + H_1(M_1 - M_0) + \dots + H_n(M_n - M_{n-1})$$

$$\langle H \bullet M \rangle_n = \sum_{i=1}^n H_i^2 \Delta \langle M \rangle_i \text{ where } \Delta \langle M \rangle_i = [(M_i - M_{i-1})^2 | \mathcal{F}_{i-1}]$$

$$\langle H \bullet M \rangle = H^2 \bullet \langle M \rangle$$

$$\langle M \rangle_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(\Delta M_i | \mathcal{F}_{i-1}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[(M_i - M_{i-1})^2 | \mathcal{F}_{i-1}]$$

$$\left\langle \int H dM \right\rangle = \int H^2(s) d\langle M \rangle(s) = \int H^2(s) \lambda(s) ds$$

$$\text{Cov}(M_s, M_t - M_s) = 0$$

$$M^2 - \langle M \rangle \text{ and } M^2 - [M] \text{ are zero mean m.g.s.}$$

$$\text{Var}(M(t)) = E\left(M(t)\right)^2 = E\langle M \rangle(t) = E[M](t)$$

$$\Delta M_t = M_t - M_{t-1} \text{ called m.g. difference}$$

$$[H \bullet M]_n = \sum_{i=1}^n H_i^2 \Delta[M]_i \text{ where } \Delta[M]_i = (M_i - M_{i-1})^2$$

$$[H \bullet M] = H^2 \bullet [M]$$

$$[M]_n = \sum_{i=1}^n (\Delta M_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - M_{i-1})^2$$

$$\left[ \int H dM \right] = \int H^2(s) d[M]s = \int H^2(s) dN(s)$$

$$E[M_t - M_s | \mathcal{F}_s] = E[M_t | \mathcal{F}_s] - M_s = 0$$

$$E[\Delta M_t | \mathcal{F}_{t-1}] = 0$$

**Doob decomposition:** Let  $X$  with  $X_0$  be a general discrete time proc. and let  $M$  be def. by  $M_0 = X_0 = 0$  and

$$\underbrace{M_n - M_{n-1}}_{\Delta M_n} = X_n - E[X_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] \implies E[\Delta M_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] = 0 \implies X_n = E[X_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] + \underbrace{\Delta M_n}_{pred.} + \underbrace{(X_n - E[X_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}])}_{noise}$$

# Frailty

**Hazard ratio:** e.g.  $\frac{\alpha(t|\mathbf{x}=(1,0))}{\alpha(t|\mathbf{x}=(0,1))} = \frac{r(\beta,(1,0))}{r(\beta,(0,1))}$

**Laplace:**  $\mu(t) = \frac{-S'(t)}{S(t)} = \alpha(t) \frac{\mathcal{L}'(A(t))}{\mathcal{L}(A(t))}$ , Frailty model:  $\alpha(t|Z) = \alpha(t)Z \implies S(t) = E[e^{-A(t)Z}] = \mathcal{L}_Z(A(t))$   
 $S(t) = E[S(t|Z)]$

# Testing

**Breslow-estimator:**  $\hat{A}_0(t) = \hat{A}_0(t; \hat{\beta})$  where  $\hat{A}_0(t; \hat{\beta}) = \int_0^t \frac{dN_{\bullet}(u)}{\sum_{l=1}^n Y_l(u)r(\hat{\beta}, \mathbf{x}_l)},$   
Cox prop. haz. model  $\implies \alpha(t|\mathbf{x}) = \alpha_0(t)r(\beta\mathbf{x}) \implies A(t|\mathbf{x}) = A_0(t)r(\beta\mathbf{x})$   
**Gehan-Breslow:**  $U(t_0) = \frac{Z_1(t_0)}{\sqrt{V_{11}}} \sim N(0, 1)$  where  $Z_1(t_0) = \int_0^{t_0} Y_2(t)dN_1(t) - \int_0^{t_0} Y_1(t)dN_2(t)$  and  $V_{11}(t_0) = \int_0^{t_0} Y_1(t)Y_2(t)dN_{\bullet}(t)$   
**Cox regression:** Multiplicative model:  $\alpha(t|x_1, ..., x_p) = \alpha_0(t) \exp(\beta_1x_1 + ... + \beta_px_p).$   
Additive model:  $\alpha(t|x_1, ..., x_p) = \underbrace{\beta_0(t)}_{baselinehaz.} + \beta_1x_1 + ... + \beta_px_p.$   
**Cox partial likelihood:**  $L(\beta) = \prod_{T_j} \frac{r(\beta, x_j)}{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{R}_j} r(\beta, x_j)}$   
Example:  $\alpha(t; x) = \alpha_0(t)e^{\beta x}$  and  $\{(T_i, \delta_i, x_i)\}_{i=1...5} = \{(1, 1, 1), (3, 1, 0), (4, 0, 1), (7, 0, 0), (10, 1, 1)\}$  then  
 $L(\beta) = \frac{e^{\beta}}{e^{\beta}+1+e^{\beta}+1+e^{\beta}} \cdot \frac{1}{1+e^{\beta}+1+e^{\beta}} \cdot \frac{e^{\beta}}{e^{\beta}} = ...$   
LR test:  $\chi^2_{LR} = 2(\log(L(\hat{\beta}) - \log(\beta_0)) \sim \chi^2(1)$

Misc

**Accelerated failure time models:**  $\log U_i = \beta^T \mathbf{x}_i + \varepsilon_i$  where  $E[\varepsilon_i] = 0$  iid.  $\implies S_{U_i}(u) = P(U_i > u) = P(e^{\beta^T \mathbf{x}_i + \varepsilon_i} > u) = P(\underbrace{\varepsilon_i}_{w_i} > ue^{-\beta^T \mathbf{x}_i}) = S_{w_i}(ue^{-\beta^T \mathbf{x}_i})$ , (change of time),  $\implies S'_{U_i}(u) = S'_{w_i}(ue^{-\beta^T \mathbf{x}_i})e^{-\beta^T \mathbf{x}_i} \implies \alpha_{U_i}(u) = \frac{-S'_{U_i}(u)}{S_{U_i}(u)} = \alpha_{w_i}(ue^{-\beta^T \mathbf{x}_i})ue^{-\beta^T \mathbf{x}_i}$

**Basic stuff**  
 $S(t) = \exp(-\int_0^t \alpha(s)ds)$   
 $A(t) = \int_0^t \alpha(s)ds$   
 $-S'(t) = \alpha(t)S(t)$   
 $f(t)?\alpha(t)S(t)$   
 $P(T > x|T > y) = \frac{P(T > x)}{P(T > y)} = \frac{S(x)}{S(y)}$

Problems, solutions and examples

**Problem** Show  $\hat{A}(t) = \int_0^t \frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)} dN(s)$  is an unbiased estimator of  $A^*(t) = \int_0^t I(Y(s) > 0)\alpha(s)ds$ .  
**Solution**  $\hat{A}(t) - A^*(t) = \int_0^t \frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)} dN(s) - \int_0^t I(Y(s) > 0)\alpha(s)ds = \int_0^t \frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)} dN(s) - \int_0^t \frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)} Y(s)\alpha(s)ds = \underbrace{\int_0^t \frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)} (dN(s) - Y(s)\alpha(s)ds)}_{\text{pred.}} = \underbrace{\int_0^t \frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)} dM(s)}_{\text{mean zero m.g}} = 0$ .

**Problem** Show  $A^*(t)$  is a biased estimator of  $A(t) = \int_0^t \alpha(s)ds$ .  
**Solution**  $E[A^*(t)] = E[\int_0^t I(Y(s) > 0)\alpha(s)ds] \leq E[\int_0^t 1 \cdot \alpha(s)ds] = A(t)$ .  
**Problem** Calculate the optional variation of  $\hat{A}(t)A^*(t)$ , i.e.  $[\hat{A}(t)A^*(t)]$  and write this expression as a sum.  
**Solution**  $[\hat{A}(t)A^*(t)] = [\int \frac{1}{Y} dM](t) = \int_0^t \left(\frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)}\right)^2 dN(s) = \int_0^t \frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)^2} dN(s)$ .

We also have that  $Var(\hat{A}(t) - A^*(t)) = E\left([\hat{A}(t) - A^*(t)](t)\right)$  and thus  $\hat{A}(t) - A^*(t)(t)$  is an unbiased est. of the variance.  
Moreover, assuming no ties  $[\hat{A}(t) - A^*(t)](t) = \int_0^t \frac{I(Y(s) > 0)}{Y(s)^2} dN(s) = \sum_{T_j \leq t} \frac{1}{Y(T_j)}$ , which is N-A estimator.

**Problem** Let  $X_n$  be discrete time m.g. Show that  $E[X_n^2]$  is non-decreasing in  $n$ .  
**Solution** First show  $M_{n+1} = X_n(X_{n+1} - X_n)$  has zero mean.  $E[X_n(X_{n+1} - X_n)|\mathcal{F}_n] = X_n E[X_{n+1} - X_n|\mathcal{F}_n] = 0$ . Now note that  $(X_{n+1} - X_n)^2 = (X_{n+1} - X_n)(X_{n+1} - X_n) = X_{n+1}(X_n + 1 - X_n) - M_n$ . We get that  $E[(X_{n+1} - X_n)^2] = E[X_{n+1}(X_n + 1 - X_n) - M_n] = E[X_{n+1}(X_n + 1 - X_n)] = E[X_{n+1}^2] - E[X_{n+1}X_n] = E[X_{n+1}^2] - E[E[X_{n+1}X_n|\mathcal{F}_n]] = E[X_{n+1}^2] - E[X_n^2] \geq 0$

**Table example**

$t$	$Y(t)$	$d(t)$	$\Delta \hat{A}_1(t)$	$\Delta \hat{\sigma}_1^2(t)$	$\Delta \hat{A}_2(t)$	$\Delta \hat{\sigma}_2^2(t)$
0.2	16	1	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{(16-1) \cdot 1}{16^3}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16^2}$
0.5	15	3	$\frac{3}{15}$	$\frac{(15-3) \cdot 3}{15^3}$	$\frac{1}{15} + \frac{1}{14} + \frac{1}{13}$	$\frac{1}{15^2} + \frac{1}{14^2} + \frac{1}{13^2}$
0.7	12	1	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{(12-1) \cdot 1}{12^3}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12^2}$
1.1	11	1	$\frac{1}{11}$	$\frac{(11-1) \cdot 1}{11^3}$	$\frac{1}{11}$	$\frac{1}{11^2}$