statistical method

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The mutate function from the dplyr package (assumed as it's not explicitly loaded but commonly used for such operations) is used to modify the brv data frame. Two new columns are created: y_before_sp_dth and y_after_sp_dth. These represent the number of years before and after the death of a spouse (dosp), calculated by subtracting the date of the event of interest (doe or dox) from the date of the spouse's death and converting the difference into years (dividing by 365.24, the average number of days in a year accounting for leap years).

The survSplit function from the survival package is used to split the data into periods before and after the spouse's death. This is done by specifying a cut point at year 0 (the year of the spouse's death). The function creates new observations in the dataset, splitting any observation that spans the time point 0 into two, one before and one after the spouse's death. Further Data Transformation:

Another mutate function is used to calculate two new variables: t_sp_at_risk (the time at risk after the spouse's death, calculated as the difference between y_after_sp_dth and y_before_sp_dth) and brv (a binary indicator set to 1 if the event occurred after the spouse's death, otherwise 0).

summary(brvSplit)

```
##
        couple
                          dob
                                                doe
                                                                       dox
##
          : 1.0
                            :1888-02-22
                                                   :1981-01-15
                                                                         :1981-03-13
                     Min.
                                           Min.
                                                                 Min.
    1st Qu.: 65.5
##
                     1st Qu.:1900-11-23
                                           1st Qu.:1981-03-10
                                                                  1st Qu.:1985-02-27
   Median :131.0
                     Median: 1903-02-24
                                           Median :1981-04-08
                                                                 Median: 1988-09-04
##
    Mean
           :132.0
                     Mean
                            :1902-05-28
                                           Mean
                                                   :1981-04-10
                                                                  Mean
                                                                         :1987-11-08
##
    3rd Qu.:196.0
                     3rd Qu.:1904-10-28
                                           3rd Qu.:1981-05-11
                                                                  3rd Qu.:1991-01-01
                                                                 Max.
##
           :266.0
                            :1906-03-12
                                                   :1981-10-23
                                                                         :1991-01-01
   {\tt Max.}
                     Max.
                                           Max.
##
                                               disab
                                                                 health
         dosp
                              group
##
           :1981-05-22
                          Min.
                                  :1.000
                                           Min.
                                                   :0.0000
                                                             Min.
                                                                     :0.000
    1st Qu.:1983-10-16
                          1st Qu.:1.000
                                           1st Qu.:0.0000
                                                             1st Qu.:1.000
```

```
Median :1986-12-14
                         Median :1.000
                                         Median :0.0000
                                                          Median :2.000
##
   Mean
          :1989-07-20
                         Mean
                                :1.544
                                         Mean
                                                :0.5568
                                                          Mean
                                                                 :1.532
                                                          3rd Qu.:2.000
##
   3rd Qu.:2000-01-01
                         3rd Qu.:2.000
                                         3rd Qu.:1.0000
   Max.
           :2000-01-01
                                :3.000
                                                :3.0000
                                                                 :2.000
##
                         Max.
                                         Max.
                                                          Max.
##
         sex
                          id
                                    y_before_sp_dth
                                                      y_after_sp_dth
##
           :1.000
                           : 1.0
                                    Min.
                                           :-18.960
                                                      Min.
                                                             :-18.804
   Min.
                    Min.
   1st Qu.:1.000
                    1st Qu.:111.5
                                    1st Qu.:-18.618
                                                      1st Qu.: -9.000
                                    Median : -4.288
   Median :1.000
                    Median :221.0
                                                      Median : 0.000
##
##
   Mean :1.468
                    Mean
                           :210.8
                                    Mean
                                          : -7.259
                                                      Mean
                                                            : -2.871
##
   3rd Qu.:2.000
                    3rd Qu.:309.5
                                    3rd Qu.: 0.000
                                                      3rd Qu.: 0.690
##
   Max.
           :2.000
                    Max.
                           :399.0
                                    Max.
                                           : 0.000
                                                      Max.
                                                                9.583
##
         fail
                      t_sp_at_risk
                                             brv
                                               :0.0000
##
           :0.0000
                            :0.008214
   Min.
                     Min.
                                        Min.
##
   1st Qu.:0.0000
                     1st Qu.:1.794710
                                        1st Qu.:0.0000
##
  Median :1.0000
                     Median :3.926186
                                        Median :0.0000
## Mean
         :0.5009
                     Mean
                            :4.388663
                                        Mean
                                              :0.2811
##
   3rd Qu.:1.0000
                     3rd Qu.:6.654529
                                        3rd Qu.:1.0000
  Max.
           :1.0000
                     Max.
                            :9.889388
                                        Max.
                                               :1.0000
```

library(skimr)

skimr::skim(brvSplit)

Table 1: Data summary

Name	brvSplit
Number of rows	555
Number of columns	15
Column type frequency:	
Date	4
numeric	11
Group variables	None

Variable type: Date

skim_variable	n_missing	complete_rate	min	max	median	n_unique
dob	0	1	1888-02-22	1906-03-12	1903-02-24	376
doe	0	1	1981-01-15	1981-10-23	1981-04-08	93
dox	0	1	1981-03-13	1991-01-01	1988-09-04	264
dosp	0	1	1981 - 05 - 22	2000-01-01	1986-12-14	235

Variable type: numeric

$skim_variable$	n_missing comple	ete_rat	e mean	sd	p0	p25	p50	p75	p100	hist
couple	0	1	131.99	76.60	1.00	65.50	131.00	196.00	266.00	
group	0	1	1.54	0.72	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	
disab	0	1	0.56	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	3.00	
health	0	1	1.53	0.61	0.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	
sex	0	1	1.47	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	
id	0	1	210.77	115.77	1.00	111.50	221.00	309.50	399.00	

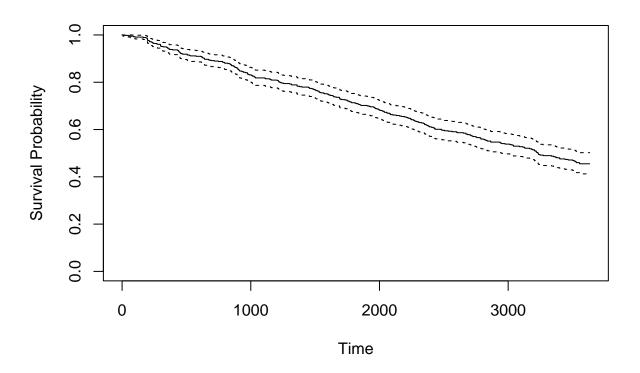
skim_variable n_	missing co	mplete_rate	e mean	sd	p0	p25	p50	p75	p100	hist
y_before_sp_dth	0	1	-7.26	7.67	-	-	-4.29	0.00	0.00	
					18.96	18.62				
$y_after_sp_dth$	0	1	-2.87	7.04	-	-9.00	0.00	0.69	9.58	
					18.80					
fail	0	1	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	
$t_sp_at_risk$	0	1	4.39	2.99	0.01	1.79	3.93	6.65	9.89	
brv	0	1	0.28	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	

```
brvSplit2 <- mutate(brvSplit,</pre>
                   sex = as.factor(sex),
                   brv = as.factor(brv))
## Translate time scale from years from spouse death to ages
brvSplit3 <- brvSplit2 %>%
   mutate(age_sp_dth = as.numeric(dosp - dob) / 365.24, # Age at spouse death
          age_start = age_sp_dth + y_before_sp_dth, # Age at start of timeband
          age_end = age_sp_dth + y_after_sp_dth)
                                                        # Age at end of timeband
age cat <- seq(70,100,5) # Split at these ages
brvSplit4 <- survSplit(brvSplit3, cut=age_cat, start="age_start", end="age_end", event="fail", zero = 0
brvSplit4 <- mutate(brvSplit4,</pre>
                   t_at_risk = age_end- age_start, # Creating new time at risk
                   age = cut(age_end, age_cat)) # Creating age band category
## Calculate crude rates
survRate(Surv(t_at_risk, fail) ~ age, data=brvSplit4)
##
                    age
                             tstop event
                                               rate
                                                         lower
                                                                   upper
## age=(75,80]
              (75,80] 703.612419
                                     45 0.06395566 0.04664970 0.08557771
## age=(80,85]
                (80,85] 1184.684043
                                    123 0.10382515 0.08628885 0.12387811
## age=(85,90]
                (85,90] 490.021356 95 0.19386910 0.15685168 0.23699492
## age=(90,95]
                (90,95]
                        ## age=(95,100] (95,100]
                          2.299858
                                      3 1.30442857 0.26900453 3.81209383
summary(coxph(Surv(age_start, age_end, fail) ~ brv,
             data = brvSplit4))
## Call:
## coxph(formula = Surv(age_start, age_end, fail) ~ brv, data = brvSplit4)
##
##
    n= 1036, number of events= 278
##
          coef exp(coef) se(coef)
##
                                      z Pr(>|z|)
                 0.8131 0.1390 -1.488
## brv1 -0.2070
##
       exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
## brv1
          0.8131
                       1.23
                              0.6191
                                         1.068
## Concordance= 0.511 (se = 0.014)
## Likelihood ratio test= 2.26 on 1 df,
                                         p=0.1
## Wald test = 2.22 on 1 df,
                                         p = 0.1
## Score (logrank) test = 2.22 on 1 df,
                                         p=0.1
```

```
summary(coxph(Surv(age_start, age_end, fail) ~ brv + sex,
data = brvSplit4))
## Call:
## coxph(formula = Surv(age_start, age_end, fail) ~ brv + sex, data = brvSplit4)
##
##
   n= 1036, number of events= 278
##
##
          coef exp(coef) se(coef)
                                  z Pr(>|z|)
## brv1 -0.07842 0.92458 0.14245 -0.551 0.581971
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
##
       exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
## brv1
         0.9246
                   1.082
                            0.6993
## sex2
         0.6232
                    1.605
                            0.4823
                                     0.8052
## Concordance= 0.56 (se = 0.018)
                                       p=4e-04
## Likelihood ratio test= 15.85 on 2 df,
                                     p=5e-04
## Wald test = 15.21 on 2 df,
## Score (logrank) test = 15.51 on 2 df,
                                      p=4e-04
summary(coxph(Surv(age_start, age_end, fail) ~ brv,
            data = brvSplit4))
## Call:
## coxph(formula = Surv(age_start, age_end, fail) ~ brv, data = brvSplit4)
##
   n= 1036, number of events= 278
##
##
         coef exp(coef) se(coef)
                                   z Pr(>|z|)
## brv1 -0.2070
                0.8131 0.1390 -1.488 0.137
##
       exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
##
## brv1
        0.8131
                     1.23
                            0.6191
## Concordance= 0.511 (se = 0.014)
## Likelihood ratio test= 2.26 on 1 df,
                                     p=0.1
              = 2.22 on 1 df,
## Wald test
                                     p=0.1
## Score (logrank) test = 2.22 on 1 df,
                                     p = 0.1
summary(coxph(Surv(age_start, age_end, fail) ~ brv + sex,
            data = brvSplit4))
## Call:
## coxph(formula = Surv(age_start, age_end, fail) ~ brv + sex, data = brvSplit4)
##
   n= 1036, number of events= 278
##
##
          coef exp(coef) se(coef)
## brv1 -0.07842  0.92458  0.14245 -0.551  0.581971
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

```
##
##
        exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
## brv1
           0.9246
                       1.082
                                0.6993
           0.6232
                       1.605
                                0.4823
                                           0.8052
## sex2
## Concordance= 0.56 (se = 0.018)
## Likelihood ratio test= 15.85 on 2 df,
                                             p=4e-04
                        = 15.21 on 2 df,
                                             p=5e-04
## Wald test
                                            p=4e-04
## Score (logrank) test = 15.51 on 2 df,
surv_object <- Surv(time = brvSplit$dox-brvSplit$doe, event = brvSplit$fail)</pre>
# Generate the life table using Kaplan-Meier estimate
life_table <- survfit(surv_object ~ 1)</pre>
# Print the life table
print(life_table)
## Call: survfit(formula = surv_object ~ 1)
##
          n events median 0.95LCL 0.95UCL
                     3233
## [1,] 555
               278
                             2950
                                        NA
life_table
## Call: survfit(formula = surv_object ~ 1)
          n events median 0.95LCL 0.95UCL
##
## [1,] 555
               278
                     3233
                             2950
plot(life_table, main = "Survival Curve", xlab = "Time", ylab = "Survival Probability")
```

Survival Curve



male

lifetable1=lifetab2(Surv(time = brvSplit\$dox-brvSplit\$doe, brvSplit\$fail==1) ~ 1, brvSplit\$sex
print(lifetable1)

```
tstart tstop nsubs nlost nrisk nevent
                                                                         pdf
                                                           surv
## 0-300
                 0
                      300
                            295
                                    1
                                       294.5
                                                 25
                                                    1.00000000 0.0002829655
## 300-600
                300
                      600
                            269
                                    3 267.5
                                                 25 0.91511036 0.0002850811
## 600-900
                600
                      900
                            241
                                    4 239.0
                                                 29 0.82958602 0.0003355369
## 900-1200
               900
                    1200
                            208
                                    3 206.5
                                                 26 0.72892496 0.0003059249
                                                 22 0.63714748 0.0002662345
## 1200-1500
               1200
                     1500
                            179
                                    7 175.5
## 1500-1800
               1500
                    1800
                            150
                                    8 146.0
                                                 29 0.55727714 0.0003689735
## 1800-2100
               1800
                     2100
                            113
                                   9
                                      108.5
                                                 26 0.44658511 0.0003567193
## 2100-2400
               2100
                     2400
                            78
                                   14
                                        71.0
                                                 26 0.33956932 0.0004144978
                     2700
                                        37.5
                                                 16 0.21521999 0.0003060907
## 2400-2700
               2400
                             38
                                   1
## 2700-3000
               2700
                     3000
                                        14.5
                                                 19 0.12339280 0.0005389570
                             21
                                   13
## 3000-Inf
               3000
                      Inf
                            -11
                                  214 -118.0
                                                 35 -0.03829432
##
                                           se.pdf
                                                     se.hazard
                   hazard
                             se.surv
## 0-300
             0.0002955083 0.00000000 5.413775e-05 5.904356e-05
## 300-600
            0.0003267974 0.01624132 5.452184e-05 6.528090e-05
## 600-900
             0.0004305865 0.02195479 5.907645e-05 7.979095e-05
## 900-1200 0.0004478898 0.02606034 5.714913e-05 8.763995e-05
## 1200-1500 0.0004457953 0.02832075 5.438765e-05 9.483115e-05
## 1500-1800 0.0007351077 0.02944824 6.436005e-05 1.356737e-04
## 1800-2100 0.0009075044 0.02992482 6.551898e-05 1.763196e-04
## 2100-2400 0.0014942529 0.02920041 7.388269e-05 2.855912e-04
## 2400-2700 0.0018079096 0.02682268 6.937243e-05 4.350404e-04
## 2700-3000 0.0126666667 0.02320880 7.437499e-05
## 3000-Inf
                       NA
                                 NaN
                                               NA
                                                            NA
```

```
lifetable2=lifetab2(Surv(time = brvSplit$dox-brvSplit$doe, brvSplit$fail==1) ~ 1, brvSplit$print(lifetable2)
```

```
tstart tstop nsubs nlost nrisk nevent
                                                           surv
                                                                         pdf
## 0-300
                 0
                     300
                            260
                                    1
                                       259.5
                                                 25 1.00000000 0.0003211304
## 300-600
                300
                      600
                            234
                                    3 232.5
                                                 25 0.90366089 0.0003238928
## 600-900
                600
                     900
                            206
                                    4 204.0
                                                 29 0.80649305 0.0003821617
## 900-1200
               900 1200
                                    3 171.5
                                                 26 0.69184453 0.0003496202
                            173
                                                 22 0.58695848 0.0003063603
## 1200-1500
               1200
                     1500
                            144
                                    7
                                       140.5
## 1500-1800
              1500
                    1800
                            115
                                    8 111.0
                                                 29 0.49505039 0.0004311250
## 1800-2100
              1800 2100
                           78
                                    9
                                       73.5
                                                 26 0.36571290 0.0004312261
## 2100-2400
              2100 2400
                            43
                                        36.0
                                                 26 0.23634507 0.0005689789
                                   14
                                                 16 0.06565141 0.0014005634
## 2400-2700
              2400
                     2700
                            3
                                   1
                                         2.5
              2700
## 2700-3000
                    3000
                                   13 -20.5
                                                 19 -0.35451761 0.0010952576
                            -14
## 3000-Inf
               3000
                     Inf
                            -46
                                  214 -153.0
                                                 35 -0.68309490
##
                                                      se.hazard
                    hazard
                              se.surv
                                            se.pdf
## 0-300
             0.0003373819 0.00000000 6.105400e-05 6.738992e-05
## 300-600
             0.0003787879 0.01831620 6.154794e-05 7.563519e-05
## 600-900
             0.0005101143 0.02458190 6.675243e-05 9.444814e-05
             0.0005467928 0.02887035 6.481848e-05 1.068736e-04
## 900-1200
## 1200-1500 0.0005662806 0.03096618 6.212426e-05 1.202951e-04
## 1500-1800 0.0010017271 0.03171679 7.414652e-05 1.839042e-04
## 1800-2100 0.0014325069 0.03122682 7.731692e-05 2.743754e-04
## 2100-2400 0.0037681159 0.02869232 9.071912e-05 6.096225e-04
## 2400-2700 -0.0096969697 0.01935995
                                               {\tt NaN}
                                                            NaN
## 2700-3000 -0.0021111111
                                               NaN 4.593974e-04
## 3000-Inf
                        NΔ
                                  NaN
                                               NA
                                                             NΔ
```

KM and FH

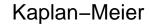
```
fit <- brvSplit%>%
    survfit(Surv(brvSplit$dox-brvSplit$doe, fail==1) ~ brv, data = .)

fit2 <- brvSplit %>%
    survfit(Surv(brvSplit$dox-brvSplit$doe, fail==0) ~ brv, data = ., type = "fleming")

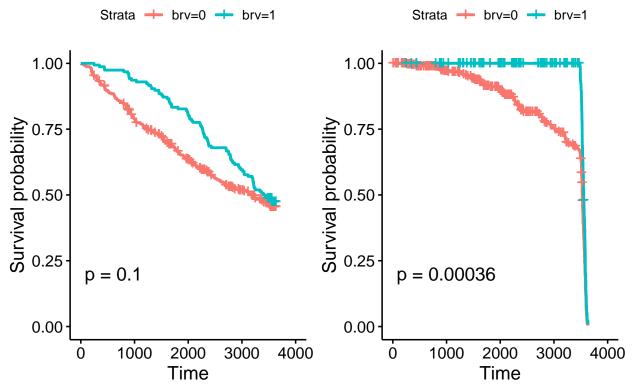
splots <- list()

splots[[1]] <- ggsurvplot(fit, data = brvSplit, pval = TRUE, title = "Kaplan-Meier")
    splots[[2]] <- ggsurvplot(fit2, data = brvSplit, pval = TRUE, title = "Fleming-Harrington")

arrange_ggsurvplots(splots, print = TRUE,
    ncol = 2, nrow = 1)</pre>
```



Fleming-Harrington



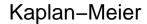
```
fit3 <- brvSplit%>%
    survfit(Surv(brvSplit$dox-brvSplit$doe, fail==1) ~ sex, data = .)

fit4 <- brvSplit %>%
    survfit(Surv(brvSplit$dox-brvSplit$doe, fail==0) ~ sex, data = ., type = "fleming")

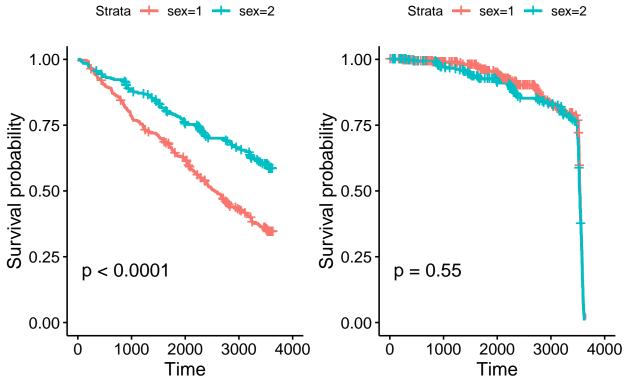
splots <- list()

splots[[1]] <- ggsurvplot(fit3, data = brvSplit, pval = TRUE, title = "Kaplan-Meier")
    splots[[2]] <- ggsurvplot(fit4, data = brvSplit, pval = TRUE, title = "Fleming-Harrington")

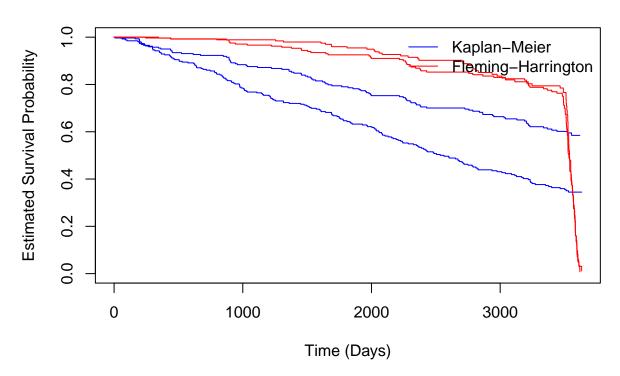
arrange_ggsurvplots(splots, print = TRUE,
    ncol = 2, nrow = 1)</pre>
```

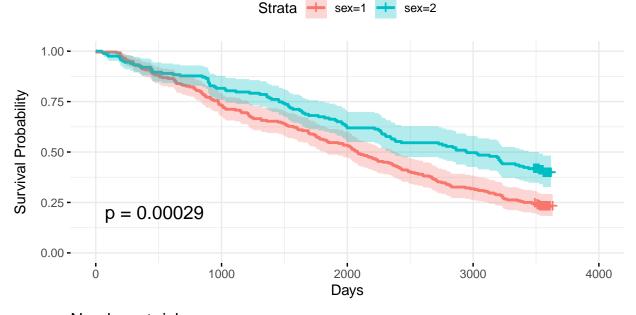


Fleming-Harrington



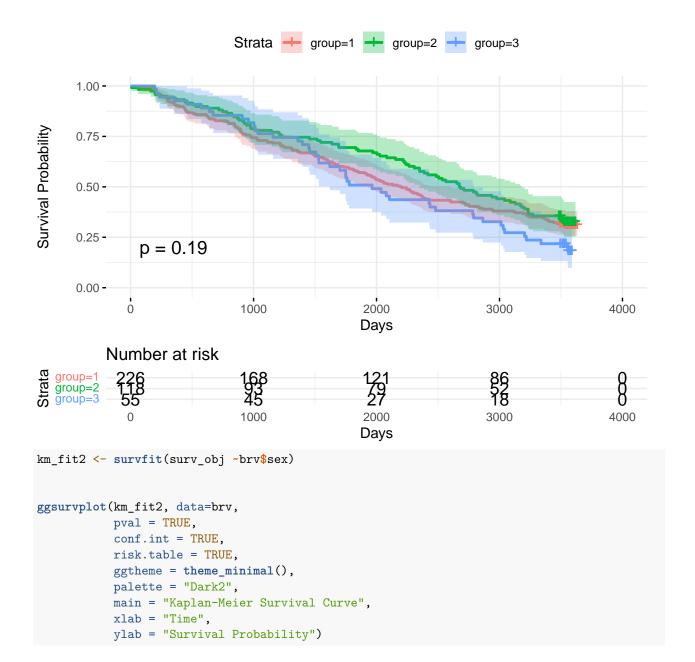
Comparison of S(t) between K-M and F-H methods

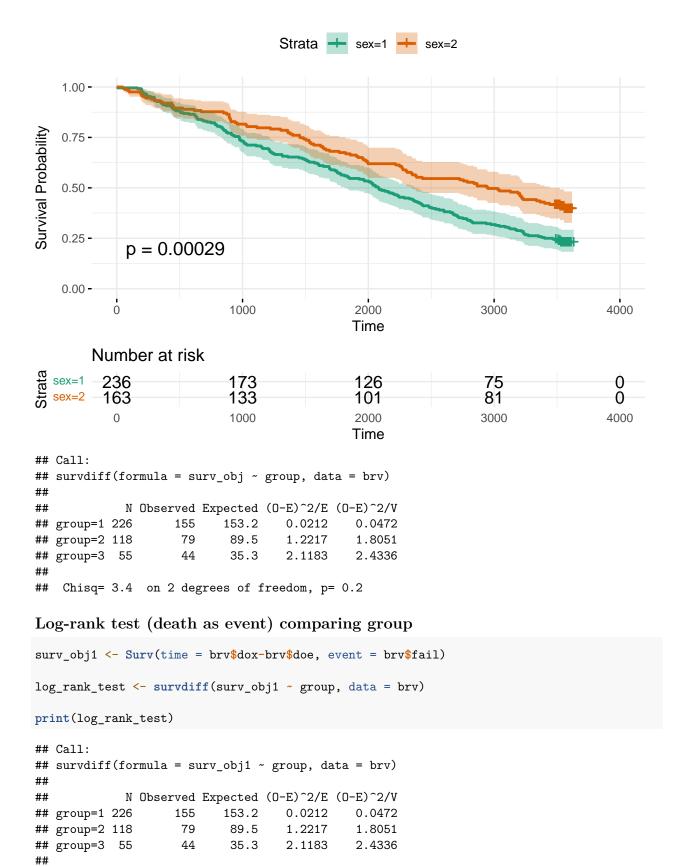




Number at risk







Chisq= 3.4 on 2 degrees of freedom, p= 0.2

```
surv_obj1 <- Surv(time = brv$dox-brv$doe, event = brv$fail)</pre>
log_rank_test2 <- survdiff(surv_obj1 ~ sex, data = brv)</pre>
print(log_rank_test2)
## Call:
## survdiff(formula = surv_obj1 ~ sex, data = brv)
          N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V
## sex=1 236
                 181
                           151
                                   5.95
                                              13.1
## sex=2 163
                  97
                           127
                                   7.08
                                              13.1
##
## Chisq= 13.1 on 1 degrees of freedom, p= 3e-04
# Creating the survival object
surv_obj <- Surv(time = brv$dox - brv$doe, event = brv$fail)</pre>
# Fit Cox model (specify variables or use '.' for all variables)
cox_model <- coxph(surv_obj ~ ., data = brv)</pre>
## Warning in coxph.fit(X, Y, istrat, offset, init, control, weights = weights, :
## Ran out of iterations and did not converge
## Warning in coxph.fit(X, Y, istrat, offset, init, control, weights = weights, :
## one or more coefficients may be infinite
summary(cox_model)
## Call:
## coxph(formula = surv_obj ~ ., data = brv)
##
##
    n= 399, number of events= 278
##
##
                coef exp(coef)
                                 se(coef)
                                                 z Pr(>|z|)
## id
          2.802e-06 1.000e+00 1.184e-05
                                             0.237
                                                      0.813
## couple -2.653e-03 9.974e-01 1.645e-03
                                            -1.613
                                                       0.107
          4.051e-05 1.000e+00 8.990e-05
                                             0.451
## dob
                                                       0.652
## doe
          3.118e-01 1.366e+00 2.607e-03 119.608
                                                      <2e-16 ***
## dox
         -3.110e-01 7.327e-01 2.602e-03 -119.551
                                                      <2e-16 ***
## dosp
        5.955e-06 1.000e+00 4.813e-05
                                             0.124
                                                      0.902
          6.643e+00 7.671e+02 5.758e+00
## fail
                                             1.154
                                                       0.249
                                            -0.538
## group -8.489e-02 9.186e-01 1.577e-01
                                                      0.590
          2.197e-02 1.022e+00 1.162e-01
                                             0.189
                                                      0.850
## disab
## health -8.354e-03 9.917e-01 2.094e-01
                                            -0.040
                                                       0.968
          7.317e-02 1.076e+00 2.562e-01
                                             0.286
                                                       0.775
## sex
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
##
          exp(coef) exp(-coef) lower .95 upper .95
## id
            1.0000 0.999997 0.999980 1.000e+00
## couple
            0.9974
                    1.002656 0.994140 1.001e+00
            1.0000 0.999959 0.999864 1.000e+00
## dob
## doe
            1.3658
                     0.732151 1.358878 1.373e+00
## dox
            0.7327
                     1.364817 0.728972 7.364e-01
## dosp
            1.0000 0.999994 0.999912 1.000e+00
```

```
## fail
           767.0831
                      0.001304 0.009628 6.111e+07
             0.9186
                                0.674428 1.251e+00
## group
                      1.088598
## disab
             1.0222
                      0.978270
                                0.813937 1.284e+00
                      1.008389
## health
             0.9917
                                0.657892 1.495e+00
##
  sex
             1.0759
                      0.929441 0.651162 1.778e+00
##
## Concordance= 1 (se = 0)
## Likelihood ratio test= 2947
                                on 11 df,
                                            p=<2e-16
## Wald test
                        = 28603 on 11 df,
                                             p=<2e-16
## Score (logrank) test = 906.5
                                on 11 df,
                                             p=<2e-16
```

Check proportional hazards assumption cox.zph(cox_model)

```
##
             chisq df
## id
               NaN
                     1 NaN
## couple
               NaN
                     1 NaN
## dob
               {\tt NaN}
                     1 NaN
## doe
               {\tt NaN}
                      1 NaN
               NaN
                     1 NaN
## dox
## dosp
               {\tt NaN}
                     1 NaN
               {\tt NaN}
                     1 NaN
## fail
## group
               {\tt NaN}
                      1 NaN
## disab
               {\tt NaN}
                     1 NaN
## health
               {\tt NaN}
                     1 NaN
## sex
               {\tt NaN}
                    1 NaN
## GLOBAL
               NaN 11 NaN
```

Kaplan-Meier and Fleming-Harrington model

For nonparametric estimator, Kaplan-Meier(KM) model and Fleming-Harrington(FH) model were used to measure the fraction of subjects living for a certain amount of time after treatment with the stratify of sex.[3]

The Kaplan-Meier estimator

$$\hat{S}_K(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t < t_1 \\ \prod_{t_i \leq t} [1 - \frac{d_i}{n_i}] & \text{if } t \geq t_1 \end{cases}$$

note: $d_i = \#$ of failure at time t_i , $n_i = \#$ at risk at t_i^- , $c_i = \#$ censored during the interval $[t_i, t_{i+1}]$. The Fleming-Harrington estimator

$$\hat{S}_F(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t < t_1 \\ \prod_{t_i \leq t} exp[-\frac{d_i}{n_i}] & \text{if } t \geq t_1 \end{cases}$$