

# Midterm exam, Survival Analysis I, 2017 Spring [+27 points]

Name: 吴松元

+23

## ● Not only answer but also derivations

+4

Q1 [+4] Consider a two-parameter Weibull distribution whose survival function is given by  $S_X(x) = \exp(-\lambda x^\alpha)$ , where  $\lambda > 0, \alpha > 0$ . Derive the likelihood function under the following cases.

- +1 | 1) [+1] Left-truncated data  $(y_i, x_i)$ , subject to  $y_i \leq x_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ , where  $y_i$  is a left-truncation time (likelihood must be simplified).

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x_i | X \geq y_i) &= \frac{f(x_i)}{S(y_i)} \\ L &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{f(x_i)}{S(y_i)} = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda \alpha x_i^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda x_i^\alpha)}{\exp(-\lambda y_i^\alpha)} = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda \alpha x_i^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda(x_i^\alpha - y_i^\alpha)) \\ &= \lambda^n \alpha^n \left( \prod_{i=1}^n x_i \right)^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^\alpha - y_i^\alpha)) \end{aligned}$$

- +1 | 2) [+1] Interval-censored data  $(L_i, R_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \in (L_i, R_i)) &= S(L_i) - S(R_i) \\ L &= \prod_{i=1}^n [S(L_i) - S(R_i)] = \prod_{i=1}^n [\exp(-\lambda L_i^\alpha) - \exp(-\lambda R_i^\alpha)] \end{aligned}$$

- +1 | 3) [+1] Doubly-truncated data  $(y_i, x_i, y_{ri})$ , subject to  $y_i \leq x_i \leq y_{ri}, i = 1, \dots, n$ , (likelihood must be simplified).

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x_i | y_i \leq X \leq y_{ri}) &= \frac{f(x_i)}{S(y_i) - S(y_{ri})} \\ L &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{f(x_i)}{S(y_i) - S(y_{ri})} = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda \alpha x_i^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda x_i^\alpha)}{\exp(-\lambda y_i^\alpha) - \exp(-\lambda y_{ri}^\alpha)} \\ &= \lambda^n \alpha^n \left( \prod_{i=1}^n x_i \right)^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^\alpha) / \prod_{i=1}^n [\exp(-\lambda y_i^\alpha) - \exp(-\lambda y_{ri}^\alpha)] \end{aligned}$$

- +1 | 4) [+1]  $n=4$  patients whose age-at-death occurring in intervals (90, 120], (110, 115], (80, 100], (70, 75], subject to the entry condition Age  $\geq 50$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \in (L_i, R_i) | X \geq y_i) &= \frac{S(L_i) - S(R_i)}{S(y_i)} \\ L &= \frac{S(90) - S(120)}{S(50)} \cdot \frac{S(110) - S(115)}{S(50)} \cdot \frac{S(80) - S(100)}{S(50)} \cdot \frac{S(70) - S(75)}{S(50)} \\ &= [\exp(-\lambda 90^\alpha) - \exp(-\lambda 120^\alpha)] \cdot [\exp(-\lambda 110^\alpha) - \exp(-\lambda 115^\alpha)] \\ &\quad \cdot [\exp(-\lambda 80^\alpha) - \exp(-\lambda 100^\alpha)] \cdot [\exp(-\lambda 70^\alpha) - \exp(-\lambda 75^\alpha)] / [\exp(-\lambda 50^\alpha)]^4 \end{aligned}$$



+5

Q2 [+6]

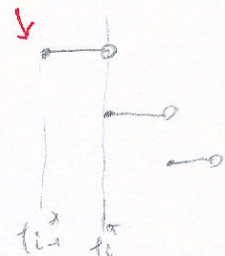
+1 1) [+1] Derive the product-limit form of a survival function  $S(x) = \Pr(T > t)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} S(t_i^*) &= \frac{S(t_i^*)}{S(t_{i-1}^*)} \cdot \frac{S(t_{i-1}^*)}{S(t_{i-2}^*)} \cdots \frac{S(t_1^*)}{S(0)} \cdot S(0) \\ &= P(T > t_i^* | T > t_{i-1}^*) \cdot P(T > t_{i-1}^* | T > t_{i-2}^*) \cdots P(T > t_1^* | T > 0) \quad \text{--- ①} \\ &= P(T > t_i^* | T > t_{i-1}^*) \cdot P(T > t_{i-1}^* | T > t_{i-2}^*) \cdots P(T > t_1^* | T > t_0^*) \quad \text{--- ②} \\ &= \left[ 1 - \frac{d(t_i^*)}{Y(t_i^*)} \right] \cdot \left[ 1 - \frac{d(t_{i-1}^*)}{Y(t_{i-1}^*)} \right] \cdots \left[ 1 - \frac{d(t_1^*)}{Y(t_1^*)} \right] = \prod_{j=1}^i \left[ 1 - \frac{d(t_j^*)}{Y(t_j^*)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

+1 2) [+1] What assumption is made to derive the form? Explain why the assumption is necessary.

$S(\cdot)$  is a right continuous function.  
 Without this assumption ①  $\neq$  ②

Step function



+1 3) [+1] Define the Kaplan-Meier estimator for right-censored data (must define all notations clearly).

$$\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{t_i^* \leq t} \left[ 1 - \frac{d_i}{Y_i} \right]$$

$d_i$  = numbers of deaths at time  $t_i^*$

$Y_i$  = numbers of survivors who were at risk at time  $t_i^*$

+1 4) [+1] Define the product-limit estimator for left-truncated data (define all notations).

$$\hat{S}(t) = \prod_{t_i^* \leq t} \left[ 1 - \frac{d_i}{Y_i} \right]$$

$d_i$  = numbers of deaths at time  $t_i^*$

$Y_i$  = numbers of survivors who has entered and were at risk at time  $t_i^*$

5) [+1] Explain why the size of the risk set under left-truncation is small initially. Formula can better explain  $Y_i$ .

In initial, a first patient enter into the study. But the other patients haven't entered into the study yet, so we cannot observe the event occurred from the other patients.

+0 6) [+1] Explain why one needs to estimate the conditional survival function under left-truncated data.

If event time  $X < Y_1$ , there is no information about  $X$ .

? Not clear enough



**+5** Q3 [+5] The hazard function for the ovarian cancer patients follow the Cox model  $h(t | z_1, z_2, z_3) = h_0(t) \exp(\beta_1 z_1 + \beta_2 z_2 + \beta_3 z_3)$ , where the gene expression values are

$$z_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{high value of NCOA3} \\ 0 & \text{low value of NCOA3} \end{cases}, \quad \beta_1 = 0.237$$

$$z_2 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{high value of TEAD1} \\ 0 & \text{low value of TEAD1} \end{cases}, \quad \beta_2 = 0.223$$

$$z_3 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{high value of YWHAB} \\ 0 & \text{low value of YWHAB} \end{cases}, \quad \beta_3 = 0.263$$

Compute the relative risk (RR).

**+1** 1) [+1] RR of (all three genes in high value) vs. (all three genes in low value).

$$RR = \frac{\exp(0.237 + 0.223 + 0.263)}{\exp(0)} = \exp(0.723) = 2.0606$$

**+1** 2) [+1] RR of (all three genes in high value) vs. (only NCOA3 in high value).

$$RR = \frac{\exp(0.237 + 0.223 + 0.263)}{\exp(0.237)} = \exp(0.486) = 1.6258$$

**+1** 3) [+1] RR of (only NCOA3 in high value) vs. (only YWHAB in high value).

$$RR = \frac{\exp(0.237)}{\exp(0.263)} = \exp(-0.026) = 0.974$$

**+2** 4) [+2] All RRs under different combinations risk factors (vs. the baseline risk). Make a table by sorting the RRs (from highest to lowest).

| Order | RR     | NCOA3 | TEAD1 | YWHAB |
|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1     | 2.0606 | High  | High  | High  |
| 2     | 1.6487 | High  | Low   | High  |
| 3     | 1.6258 | Low   | High  | High  |

4 1.5841 High High Low

5 1.301 Low Low High

6 1.267 High Low Low

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|   |        |     |      |     |
|---|--------|-----|------|-----|
| 7 | 1.2498 | Low | High | Low |
| 8 | 1      | Low | Low  | Low |



+2 Q4 [+4] There are four stages of cancer (Stages I, II, III and IV). Define three different Cox models according to three different definitions of covariates.

1) [+1] Model 1

$$h(t|Z) = h_0(t) \exp(\beta_2 Z_2 + \beta_3 Z_3 + \beta_4 Z_4)$$

$$Z_1 \text{ (circled)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage II} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Z_2 \text{ (circled)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage III} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Z_3 \text{ (circled)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage IV} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

don't start from  $\beta_2$   
(start from  $\beta_1$ )

+1 RR (Stage IV vs. Stage I) =  $\frac{\exp(\beta_4)}{\exp(0)} = \exp(\beta_4)$

2) [+1] Model 2

$$h(t|Z) = h_0(t) \exp(\beta_1 Z_1 + \beta_3 Z_3 + \beta_4 Z_4)$$

$$Z_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage I} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Z_3 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage III} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Z_4 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage IV} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

RR (Stage IV vs. Stage I) =  $\frac{\exp(\beta_4)}{\exp(\beta_1)} = \exp(\beta_4 - \beta_1)$

3) [+1] Model 3

$$h(t|Z) = h_0(t) \exp(\beta_1 Z_1 + \beta_2 Z_2 + \beta_4 Z_4)$$

$$Z_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage I} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Z_2 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage II} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Z_4 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage IV} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{h(t|2,0,0) \cdot h(t|0,2,1)}{h(t|1,2,0) \cdot h(t|0,1,0)} = \frac{\exp(0) \exp(\beta_4)}{\exp(\beta_1 + \beta_2)} = \exp(\beta_4 - \beta_1 - \beta_2)$$

RR (Stage III-IV vs. Stage I-II) =  $\frac{\exp(0) \exp(\beta_4)}{\exp(\beta_1 + \beta_2)} = \exp(\beta_4 - \beta_1 - \beta_2)$

4) [+1] Which model do you prefer? State your opinion.

+1 Model 1.  $h(t|Z) = h_0(t) \exp(\beta_2 Z_2 + \beta_3 Z_3 + \beta_4 Z_4)$

$$Z_2 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage II} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Z_3 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage III} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$Z_4 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{stage IV} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

Choose stage I as the baseline hazard.

It is nature to choose the lowest stage as the baseline hazard.



+17 Q5 [+8] Consider right-censored data  $(t_i, \delta_i, z_i)$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$ . Assume the Cox model  $h(t|z_i) = h_0(t)e^{\beta z_i}$ , where  $\beta$  is one-dimensional ( $\beta$  is a scalar). Define ordered

times at deaths,  $t_{(1)}^* \leq t_{(2)}^* \leq \dots \leq t_{(D)}^*$ , where  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i$  (assume no ties).

+1 1) [+1] Define Cox's partial likelihood for  $\beta$ .

$$L(\beta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\exp(\beta z_i)}{\sum_{j \in R_i} \exp(\beta z_j)} \right)^{\delta_i} \quad R_i = ?$$

+1 2) [+1] Derive the score function

$$l(\beta) = \log L(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i (\beta z_i - \log(\sum_{j \in R_i} \exp(\beta z_j)))$$

$$U(\beta) = \frac{d}{d\beta} l(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \left( z_i - \frac{\sum_{j \in R_i} z_j \exp(\beta z_j)}{\sum_{j \in R_i} \exp(\beta z_j)} \right)$$

+1 3) [+1] Derive the information matrix

$$I(\beta) = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta^2} l(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \left[ \frac{(\sum_{j \in R_i} z_j^2 \exp(\beta z_j)) (\sum_{j \in R_i} \exp(\beta z_j)) - (\sum_{j \in R_i} z_j \exp(\beta z_j))^2}{(\sum_{j \in R_i} \exp(\beta z_j))^2} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \left[ \sum_{j \in R_i} z_j^2 \left( \frac{\exp(\beta z_j)}{\sum_{j \in R_i} \exp(\beta z_j)} \right) - \left( \sum_{j \in R_i} z_j \left( \frac{\exp(\beta z_j)}{\sum_{j \in R_i} \exp(\beta z_j)} \right) \right)^2 \right]$$

+1 4) [+1] Prove that the information matrix is nonnegative.

Define indicator r.v.  $W_i \sim P(W_i = z_j) = \frac{\exp(\beta z_j)}{\sum_{j \in R_i} \exp(\beta z_j)} = p_j$ .

$$\therefore \sum_{j \in R_i} z_j^2 p_j - \left( \sum_{j \in R_i} z_j p_j \right)^2 = \text{Var}(W_i) \geq 0 \quad \therefore I(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \text{Var}(W_i) \geq 0$$

+2 4) [+2] Show that the log-rank statistics is equivalent to the score function at  $\beta = 0$

under  $z_i = 1$  (group 1) and  $z_i = 0$  (group 2).

log-rank statistic

$$= \sum_{i=1}^D [d_{i1} - Y_{i1} \frac{d_i}{Y_i}]$$

$$Y_{i1} = \frac{d_{i1}}{Y_i} (1 - \frac{d_i}{Y_i}) \cdot \frac{Y_i - Y_{i1}}{Y_i - 1}$$

$$U(0) = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \left( z_i - \frac{\sum_{j \in R_i} z_j}{\sum_{j \in R_i} 1} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \left( d_{i1} - \frac{Y_{i1}}{Y_i} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^D \left[ d_{i1} - \frac{Y_{i1}}{Y_i} \right] \quad (d_i = 1)$$

$$= \text{log-rank statistic of } z_1$$

+1 5) [+2] In the above setting, show that the variance of the log-rank statistics is equivalent to the information matrix.

$$\text{Var}(Z_1) \quad I(0) = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \left[ \sum_{j \in R_i} z_j^2 \cdot \frac{1}{\sum_{j \in R_i} 1} - \left( \sum_{j \in R_i} z_j \left( \frac{1}{\sum_{j \in R_i} 1} \right) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \left[ \frac{Y_{i1}}{Y_i} - \left( \frac{Y_{i1}}{Y_i} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i \left[ \frac{Y_{i1} Y_{i2}}{Y_{i1}^2} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^D \frac{Y_{i1} Y_{i2}}{Y_{i1}^2} \quad (d_i = 1)$$

$$= \text{log-rank statistic of } \text{Var}(Z_1) \leftarrow \text{write clearly}$$