

Advanced Quantitative Research Methodology, Lecture Notes: **Models for Time Varying Events Data**¹

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Readings:

1. King, Gary and Langche Zeng. "Logistic Regression in Rare Events Data," *Political Analysis*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (Spring, 2001): Pp. 137–163.
2. King, Gary and Langche Zeng. "Explaining Rare Events in International Relations," *International Organization*, Vol. 55, No. 3 (Summer, 2001): Pp. 693–715. [a less technical version of the PA article.]
3. King, Gary and Langche Zeng. 2001. "Estimating Risk and Rate Levels, Ratios, and Differences in Case-Control Studies," *Statistics in Medicine*, in press.
4. Tomz, Michael; Gary King; and Langche Zeng. *ReLogit: Rare Events Logistic Regression software*. for Gauss and Stata.
5. Copies of all are at <http://GKing.Harvard.edu>.

Notation for Time-Varying Rare Events

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- (e) For the same reason, we define densities (not probabilities) for continuous variables and then compute probabilities from them.
- (f) Think of it as *the rate of event occurrence*.

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Common practice: model the hazard rate directly and compute the density and then log-likelihood function from it.

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$$rd_t \equiv \lambda_\ell(t) - \lambda_0(t)$$

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6. Censoring could be added as described previously.

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2. The hazard rate is constant over time for any observation.
3. In other words, no matter how long we watch an observation the rate of event occurrence, or hazard of an event occurring, is constant.
4. How to violate the constant hazard rate assumption:
 - (a) *Positive duration dependence or a rising hazard rate*
 - i. Things that wear out or “rust”
 - ii. e.g., the longer people live (after ≈ 5 years of age), the higher their risk of death.
 - (b) *Negative duration dependence or a decreasing hazard rate*
 - i. Things that get better with age
 - ii. e.g., the risk of being fired from a job drops the longer you have it.

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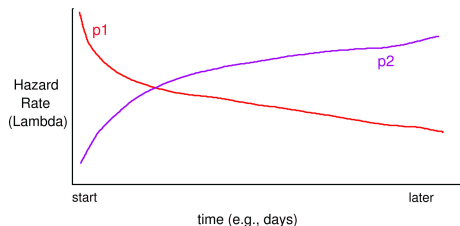
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How would you simulate Quantities of Interest?

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Then substitute in for the systematic component $\lambda_i = e^{-X_i\beta}$ and take logs to get the log-likelihood.

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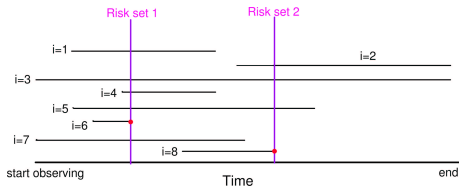
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5. Cox also devised an estimation strategy that made estimating the baseline hazard (the constant term) unnecessary. We will discuss this shortly.

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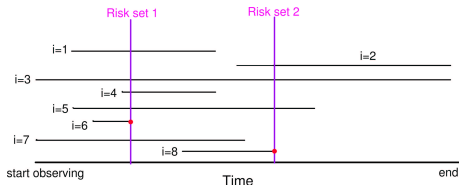
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- (c) For each unit within a risk set, compute the probability of being an event, *conditional* on the total number of events in that risk set.

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10. When a risk set includes multiple cases, because of timing ties, the conditional probability expression is more complicated, but the approach remains the same.