

The resurrection of time as a continuous concept in biostatistics, demography and epidemiology

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1. Do not condition on the future
2. Do not regard individuals at risk after they have died
3. Stick to this world

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- ▶ Normally caused by classification of **persons** instead of classification of **follow-up time**

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- ▶ Allows **multiple** timescales, e.g. age, duration, calendar time

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- ▶ Cox's approach profiles $\lambda_0(t)$ out from the model

The Cox-likelihood as profile likelihood

- ▶ One parameter per death time to describe the effect of time (i.e. the chosen timescale).

$$\log(\lambda(t, x_i)) = \log(\lambda_0(t)) + \beta_1 x_{1i} + \cdots + \beta_p x_{pi} = \alpha_t + \eta_i$$

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 - ▶ Turns out to be Cox's partial likelihood

The Cox-likelihood: mechanics of computing

- ▶ The likelihood is computed by summing over risk-sets:

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- ▶ ... but only works along **one** time scale

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 - ▶ the (only) empirical rate $(1, 1)$ with the death at time t .
 - ▶ all other empirical rates $(0, 1)$ from those who were at risk at time t .

Note: There is one contribution from each person at risk to this part of the log-likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_t(\alpha_t, \beta) &= \sum_{i \in \mathcal{R}_t} d_i \log(\lambda_i(t)) - \lambda_i(t) y_i \\ &= \sum_{i \in \mathcal{R}_t} \{ d_i(\alpha_t + \eta_i) - e^{\alpha_t + \eta_i} \} \\ &= \alpha_t + \eta_{\text{death}} - e^{\alpha_t} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{R}_t} e^{\eta_i} \end{aligned}$$

where η_{death} is the linear predictor for the person that died.

The derivative w.r.t. α_t is:

$$D_{\alpha_t} \ell_t(\alpha_t, \beta) = 1 - e^{\alpha_t} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{R}_t} e^{\eta_i} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e^{\alpha_t} = \frac{1}{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{R}_t} e^{\eta_i}}$$

If this estimate is fed back into the log-likelihood for α_t , we get the **profile likelihood** (with α_t “profiled out”):

$$\log \left(\frac{1}{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{R}_t} e^{\eta_i}} \right) + \eta_{\text{death}} - 1 = \log \left(\frac{e^{\eta_{\text{death}}}}{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{R}_t} e^{\eta_i}} \right) - 1$$

which is the same as the contribution from time t to Cox’s partial likelihood.

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- ▶ Modelling is by standard `glm` Poisson

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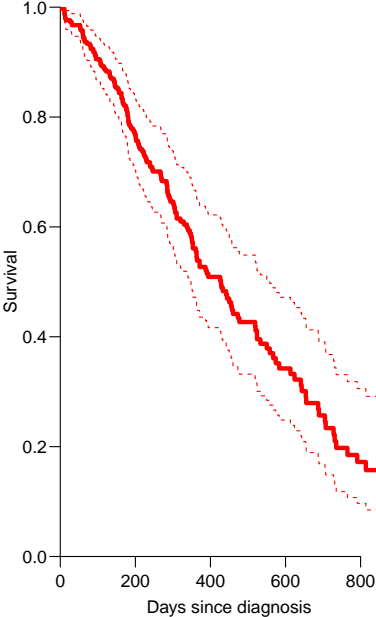
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 - ▶ Sex
 - ▶ Time since diagnosis
- ▶ Cox model
- ▶ Split data:
 - ▶ Poisson model, time as factor

Example: Mayo Clinic lung cancer

- ▶ Survival after lung cancer
- ▶ Covariates:
 - ▶ Age at diagnosis
 - ▶ Sex
 - ▶ Time since diagnosis
- ▶ Cox model
- ▶ Split data:
 - ▶ Poisson model, time as factor
 - ▶ Poisson model, time as spline

Mayo Clinic lung cancer 60 year old woman



Example: Mayo Clinic lung cancer I

```
> library( survival )
> library( Epi )
> Lung <- Lexis( exit = list( tfe=time ),
+               exit.status = factor(status,labels=c("Alive","Dead")),
+               data = lung )
```

NOTE: entry.status has been set to "Alive" for all.

NOTE: entry is assumed to be 0 on the tfe timescale.

Example: Mayo Clinic lung cancer II

```
> mL.cox <- coxph( Surv( tfe, tfe+lex.dur, lex.Xst=="Dead" ) ~  
+                   age + factor( sex ),  
+                   method="breslow", eps=10^-8, iter.max=25, data=Lung )  
> Lung.s <- splitLexis( Lung,  
+                       breaks=c(0,sort(unique(Lung$time))),  
+                       time.scale="tfe" )  
> Lung.S <- splitLexis( Lung,  
+                       breaks=c(0,sort(unique(Lung$time[Lung$lex.Xst=="Dead"]))),  
+                       time.scale="tfe" )  
> summary( Lung.s )
```

Transitions:

To

From	Alive	Dead	Records:	Events:	Risk time:	Persons:
Alive	19857	165	20022	165	69593	228

```
> summary( Lung.S )
```

Example: Mayo Clinic lung cancer III

Transitions:

To

From	Alive	Dead	Records:	Events:	Risk time:	Persons:	
	Alive	15916	165	16081	165	69593	228

```
> subset( Lung.s, lex.id==96 )[,1:11]
```

	lex.id	tfe	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst	inst	time	status	age	sex	ph.ecog
9235	96	0	5	Alive	Alive	12	30	2	72	1	2
9236	96	5	6	Alive	Alive	12	30	2	72	1	2
9237	96	11	1	Alive	Alive	12	30	2	72	1	2
9238	96	12	1	Alive	Alive	12	30	2	72	1	2
9239	96	13	2	Alive	Alive	12	30	2	72	1	2
9240	96	15	11	Alive	Alive	12	30	2	72	1	2
9241	96	26	4	Alive	Dead	12	30	2	72	1	2

```
> nlevels( factor( Lung.s$tfe ) )
```

```
[1] 186
```

Example: Mayo Clinic lung cancer IV

```
> system.time(  
+ mLs.pois.fc <- glm( lex.Xst=="Dead" ~ - 1 + factor( tfe ) +  
+                   age + factor( sex ),  
+                   offset = log(lex.dur),  
+                   family=poisson, data=Lung.s, eps=10^-8, maxit=25 )  
+ )
```

```
user  system elapsed  
10.828  0.012  10.837
```

```
> length( coef(mLs.pois.fc) )
```

```
[1] 188
```

```
> system.time(  
+ mLs.pois.fc <- glm( lex.Xst=="Dead" ~ - 1 + factor( tfe ) +  
+                   age + factor( sex ),  
+                   offset = log(lex.dur),  
+                   family=poisson, data=Lung.S, eps=10^-8, maxit=25 )  
+ )
```

Example: Mayo Clinic lung cancer V

```
user system elapsed
3.258  0.000  3.257
```

```
> length( coef(mLS.pois.fc) )
```

```
[1] 142
```

```
> t.kn <- c(0,25,100,500,1000)
> dim( Ns(Lung.s$tfe,knots=t.kn) )
```

```
[1] 20022      4
```

```
> system.time(
+ mLS.pois.sp <- glm( lex.Xst=="Dead" ~ Ns( tfe, knots=t.kn ) +
+                               age + factor( sex ),
+                               offset = log(lex.dur),
+                               family=poisson, data=Lung.s, eps=10^-8, maxit=25 )
+ )
```

Example: Mayo Clinic lung cancer VI

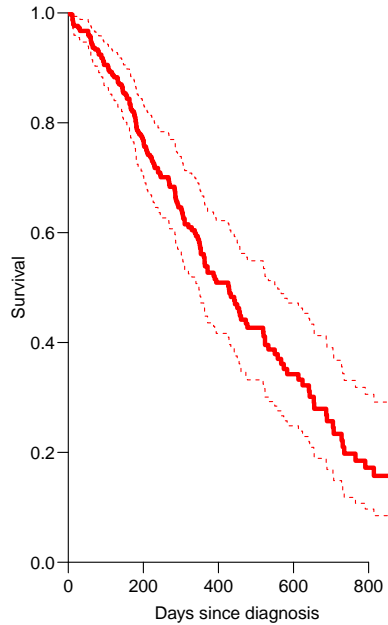
```
user  system elapsed
0.173  0.000  0.172
```

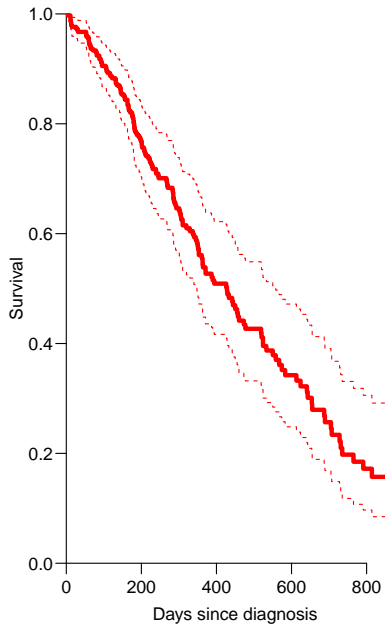
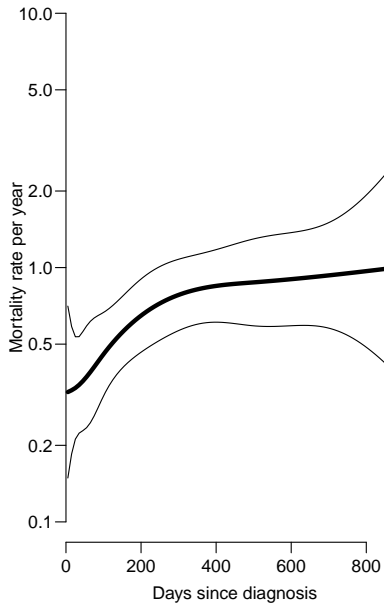
```
> ests <-
+ rbind( ci.exp(mL.cox),
+        ci.exp(mLs.pois.fc,subset=c("age","sex")),
+        ci.exp(mLS.pois.fc,subset=c("age","sex")),
+        ci.exp(mLs.pois.sp,subset=c("age","sex")) )
> cmp <- cbind( ests[c(1,3,5,7)  ],
+              ests[c(1,3,5,7)+1,] )
> rownames( cmp ) <- c("Cox","Poisson-factor","Poisson-factor (D)","Poisson-spline")
> colnames( cmp )[c(1,4)] <- c("age","sex")

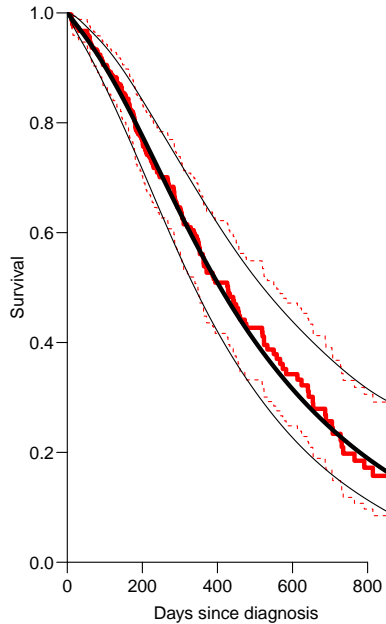
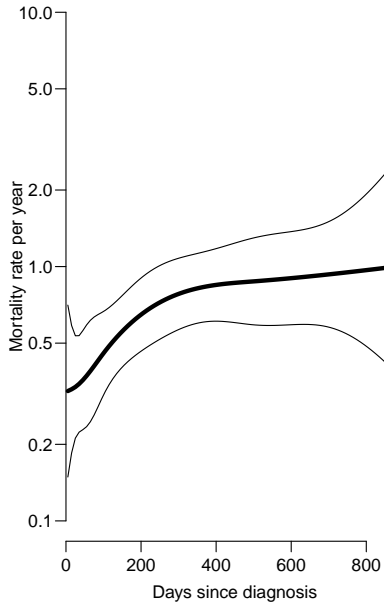
> round( cmp, 7 )
```

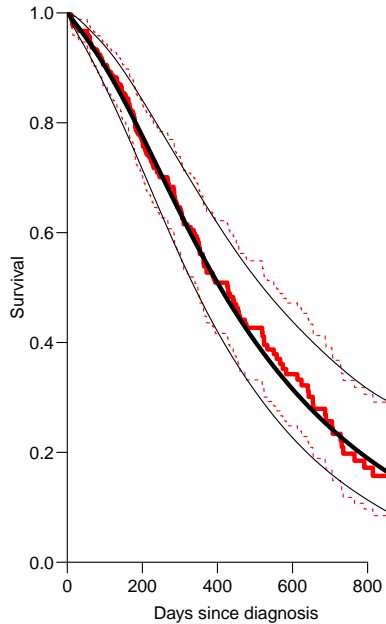
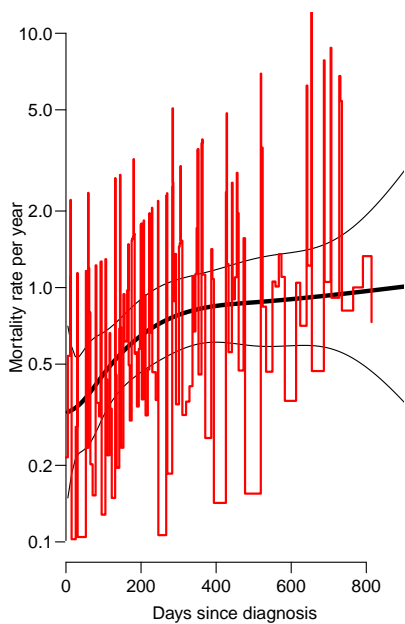
Example: Mayo Clinic lung cancer VII

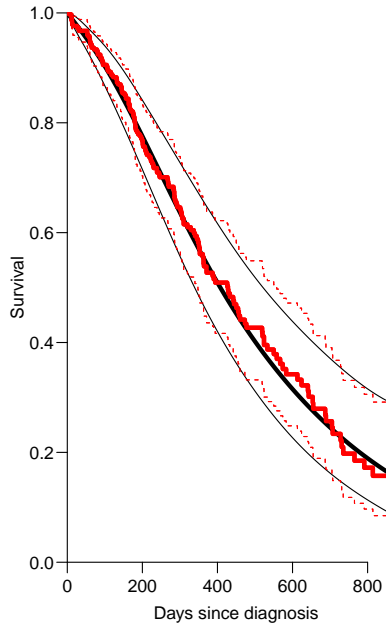
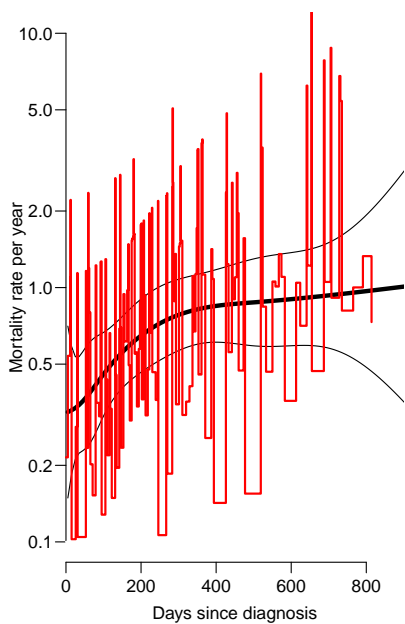
	age	2.5%	97.5%	sex	2.5%	97.5%
Cox	1.017158	0.9989388	1.035710	0.5989574	0.4313720	0.8316487
Poisson-factor	1.017158	0.9989388	1.035710	0.5989574	0.4313720	0.8316487
Poisson-factor (D)	1.017332	0.9991211	1.035874	0.5984794	0.4310150	0.8310094
Poisson-spline	1.016189	0.9980329	1.034676	0.5998287	0.4319932	0.8328707











Deriving the survival function

```
> mLs.pois.sp <- glm( lex.Xst=="Dead" ~ Ns( tfe, knots=t.kn ) +
+                   age + factor( sex ),
+                   offset = log(lex.dur),
+                   family=poisson, data=Lung.s, eps=10^-8, maxit=25 )

> CM <- cbind( 1, Ns( seq(10,1000,10)-5, knots=t.kn ), 60, 1 )
> lambda <- ci.exp( mLs.pois.sp, ctr.mat=CM )
> Lambda <- ci.cum( mLs.pois.sp, ctr.mat=CM, intl=10 )[, -4]
> survP <- exp(-rbind(0, Lambda))
```

Code and output available in

<http://bendixcarstensen.com/AdvCoh/WNtCMA/>

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- ▶ \Rightarrow difficult to access the baseline hazard.
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(d, y) (event, duration)

- ▶ Covariates in analysis of rates:
 - ▶ timescales
 - ▶ other (fixed) measurements

Follow-up data in Epi — Lexis objects

A follow-up study:

```
> round( th, 2 )
```

	id	sex	birthdat	contrast	injecdat	volume	exitdat	exitstat
1	1	2	1916.61	1	1938.79	22	1976.79	1
2	640	2	1896.23	1	1945.77	20	1964.37	1
3	3425	1	1886.97	2	1955.18	0	1956.59	1
4	4017	2	1936.81	2	1957.61	0	1992.14	2
...								

Timescales of interest:

- ▶ Age
- ▶ Calendar time
- ▶ Time since injection

Definition of Lexis object

```
> thL <- Lexis( entry = list( age = injecdat-birthdat,  
+                             per = injecdat,  
+                             tfi = 0 ),  
+               exit = list( per = exitdat ),  
+               exit.status = as.numeric(exitstat==1),  
+               data = th )
```

:

Definition of Lexis object

```
> thL <- Lexis( entry = list( age = injecdat-birthdat,  
+                             per = injecdat,  
+                             tfi = 0 ),  
+                 exit = list( per = exitdat ),  
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+                 data = th )
```

`entry` is defined on **three** timescales,

:

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```

entry is defined on **three** timescales,
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entry is defined on **three** timescales,

but exit is only defined on **one** timescale:

Follow-up time is the same on all timescales:

`exitdat - injecdat`

The looks of a Lexis object

```
> thL[,1:9]
  age      per tfi lex.dur lex.Cst lex.Xst lex.id
1 22.18 1938.79  0  37.99      0      1      1
2 49.54 1945.77  0  18.59      0      1      2
3 68.20 1955.18  0   1.40      0      1      3
4 20.80 1957.61  0  34.52      0      0      4
...
```

```
> summary( thL )
Transitions:
  To
From 0  1 Records:  Events:  Risk time:  Persons:
  0 3 20          23          20          512.59          23
```

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```

```
> summary( thL )
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Transitions:

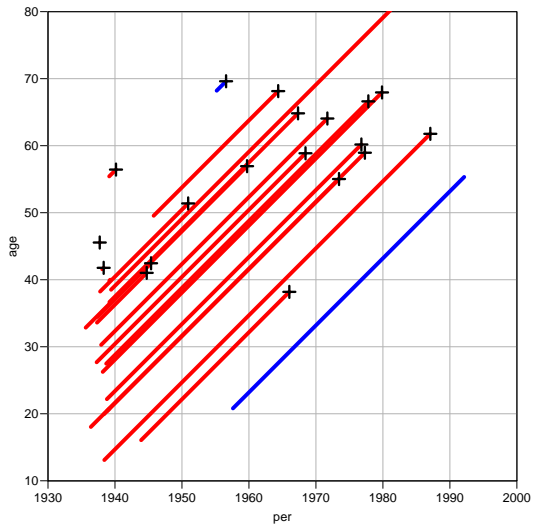
```
      To
From 0  1 Records:  Events:  Risk time:  Persons:
     0 3 20         23      20      512.59      23
```

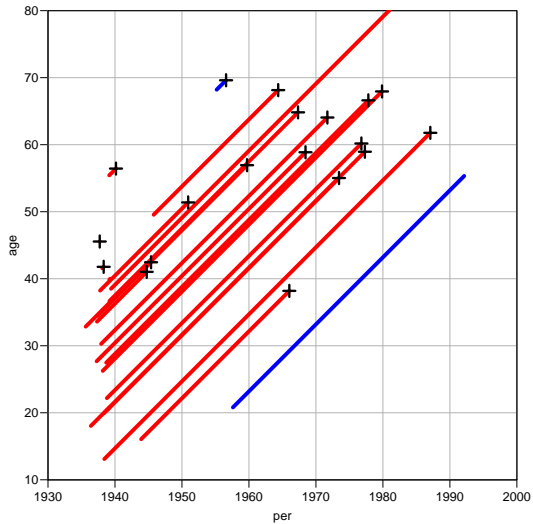

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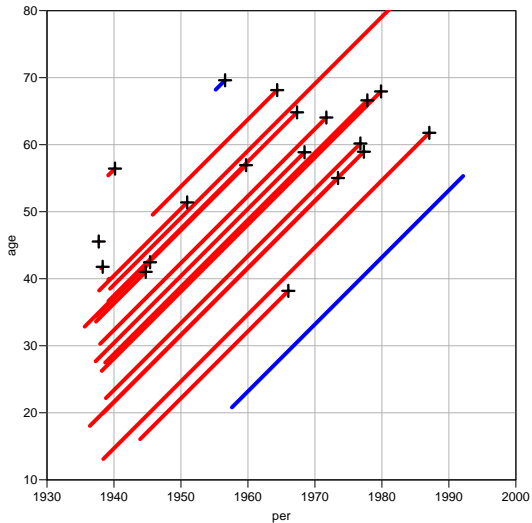
Lexis diagram





Lexis diagram





EINLEITUNG
 IN DIE
 THEORIE
 DER
 BEVÖLKERUNGSSTATISTIK

VON

W. LEXIS

DR. DER STAATSWISSENSCHAFTEN UND DER PHILOSOPHIE,
 O. PROFESSOR DER STATISTIK IN DORPAT.

STRASSBURG

KARL J. TRÜBNER

1875.

Splitting follow-up time

```
> spl1 <- splitLexis( thL, breaks=seq(0,100,20),
>                               time.scale="age" )
> round(spl1,1)
```

	age	per	tfi	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst	id	sex	birthdat	contrast	injecdat	vol
1	22.2	1938.8	0.0	17.8	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
2	40.0	1956.6	17.8	20.0	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
3	60.0	1976.6	37.8	0.2	0	1	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
4	49.5	1945.8	0.0	10.5	0	0	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
5	60.0	1956.2	10.5	8.1	0	1	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
6	68.2	1955.2	0.0	1.4	0	1	3425	1	1887.0	2	1955.2	
7	20.8	1957.6	0.0	19.2	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	1957.6	
8	40.0	1976.8	19.2	15.3	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	1957.6	
...												

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2	40.0	1956.6	17.8	20.0	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
3	60.0	1976.6	37.8	0.2	0	1	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
4	49.5	1945.8	0.0	10.5	0	0	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
5	60.0	1956.2	10.5	8.1	0	1	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
6	68.2	1955.2	0.0	1.4	0	1	3425	1	1887.0	2	1955.2	
7	20.8	1957.6	0.0	19.2	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	1957.6	
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2	40.0	1956.6	17.8	20.0	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
3	60.0	1976.6	37.8	0.2	0	1	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
4	49.5	1945.8	0.0	10.5	0	0	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
5	60.0	1956.2	10.5	8.1	0	1	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
6	68.2	1955.2	0.0	1.4	0	1	3425	1	1887.0	2	1955.2	
7	20.8	1957.6	0.0	19.2	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	1957.6	
8	40.0	1976.8	19.2	15.3	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	1957.6	
...												

Splitting follow-up time

```
> spl1 <- splitLexis( thL, breaks=seq(0,100,20),
>                               time.scale="age" )
> round(spl1,1)
```

	age	per	tfi	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst	id	sex	birthdat	contrast	injecdat	vol
1	22.2	1938.8	0.0	17.8	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
2	40.0	1956.6	17.8	20.0	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
3	60.0	1976.6	37.8	0.2	0	1	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
4	49.5	1945.8	0.0	10.5	0	0	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
5	60.0	1956.2	10.5	8.1	0	1	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
6	68.2	1955.2	0.0	1.4	0	1	3425	1	1887.0	2	1955.2	
7	20.8	1957.6	0.0	19.2	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	1957.6	
8	40.0	1976.8	19.2	15.3	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	1957.6	
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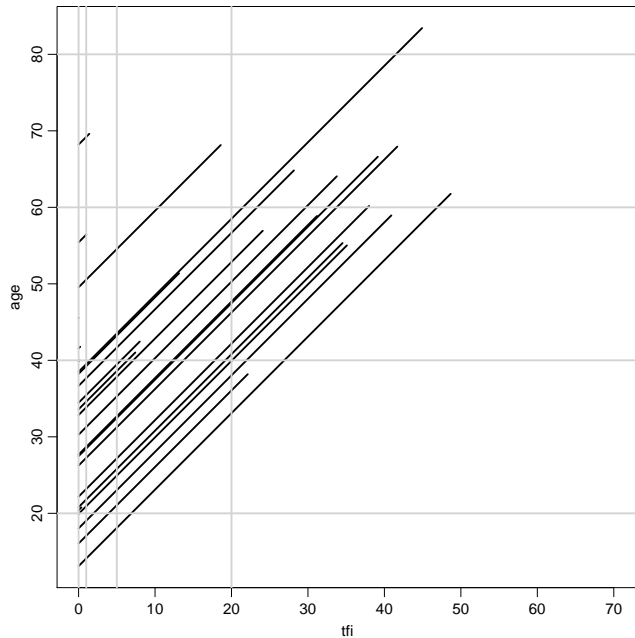
	age	per	tfi	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst	id	sex	birthdat	contrast	injecdat	vol
1	22.2	1938.8	0.0	17.8	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
2	40.0	1956.6	17.8	20.0	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
3	60.0	1976.6	37.8	0.2	0	1	1	2	1916.6	1	1938.8	
4	49.5	1945.8	0.0	10.5	0	0	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
5	60.0	1956.2	10.5	8.1	0	1	640	2	1896.2	1	1945.8	
6	68.2	1955.2	0.0	1.4	0	1	3425	1	1887.0	2	1955.2	
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...												

Split on another timescale

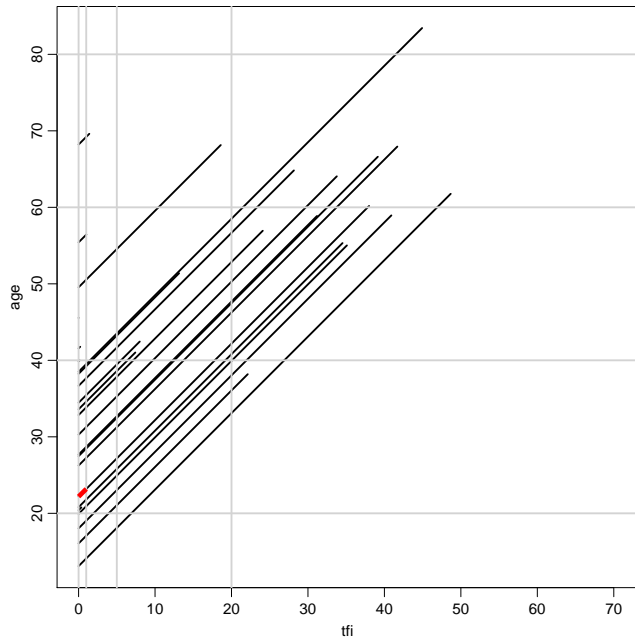
```
> spl2 <- splitLexis( spl1, time.scale="tfi",  
                      breaks=c(0,1,5,20,100) )
```

```
> round( spl2, 1 )
```

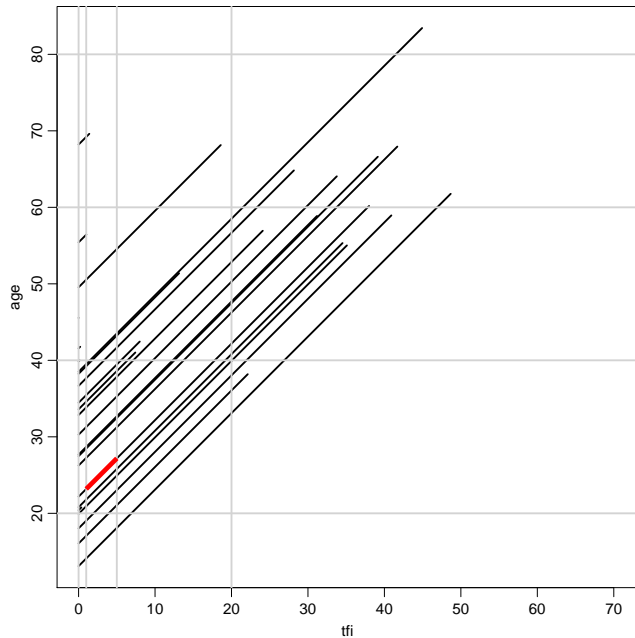
	lex.id	age	per	tfi	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst	id	sex	birthdat	contrast	inje
1	1	22.2	1938.8	0.0	1.0	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	19
2	1	23.2	1939.8	1.0	4.0	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	19
3	1	27.2	1943.8	5.0	12.8	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	19
4	1	40.0	1956.6	17.8	2.2	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	19
5	1	42.2	1958.8	20.0	17.8	0	0	1	2	1916.6	1	19
6	1	60.0	1976.6	37.8	0.2	0	1	1	2	1916.6	1	19
7	2	49.5	1945.8	0.0	1.0	0	0	640	2	1896.2	1	19
8	2	50.5	1946.8	1.0	4.0	0	0	640	2	1896.2	1	19
9	2	54.5	1950.8	5.0	5.5	0	0	640	2	1896.2	1	19
10	2	60.0	1956.2	10.5	8.1	0	1	640	2	1896.2	1	19
11	3	68.2	1955.2	0.0	1.0	0	0	3425	1	1887.0	2	19
12	3	69.2	1956.2	1.0	0.4	0	1	3425	1	1887.0	2	19
13	4	20.8	1957.6	0.0	1.0	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	19
14	4	21.8	1958.6	1.0	4.0	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	19
15	4	25.8	1962.6	5.0	14.2	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	19
16	4	40.0	1976.8	19.2	0.8	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	19
17	4	40.8	1977.6	20.0	14.5	0	0	4017	2	1936.8	2	19



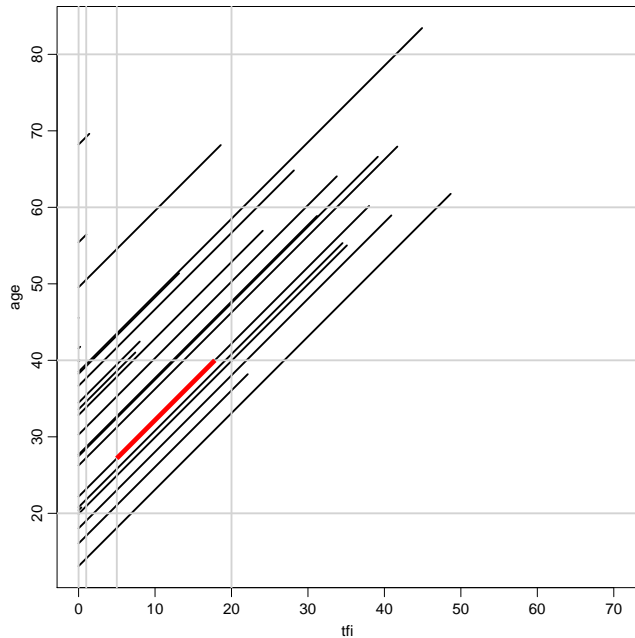
age	tfi	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst
22.2	0.0	1.0	0	0
23.2	1.0	4.0	0	0
27.2	5.0	12.8	0	0
40.0	17.8	2.2	0	0
42.2	20.0	17.8	0	0
60.0	37.8	0.2	0	1



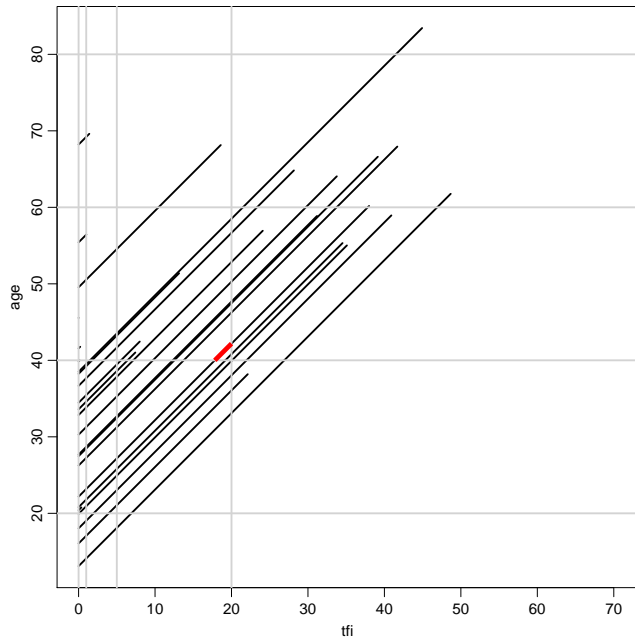
age	tfi	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst
22.2	0.0	1.0	0	0
23.2	1.0	4.0	0	0
27.2	5.0	12.8	0	0
40.0	17.8	2.2	0	0
42.2	20.0	17.8	0	0
60.0	37.8	0.2	0	1



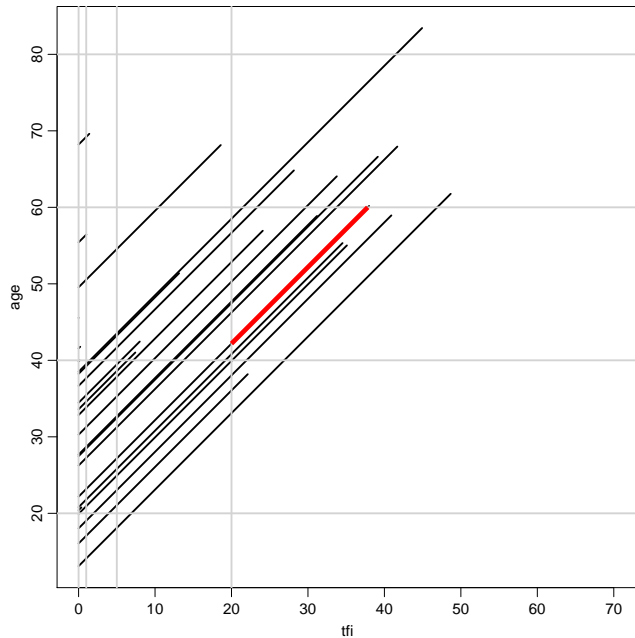
age	tfi	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst
22.2	0.0	1.0	0	0
23.2	1.0	4.0	0	0
27.2	5.0	12.8	0	0
40.0	17.8	2.2	0	0
42.2	20.0	17.8	0	0
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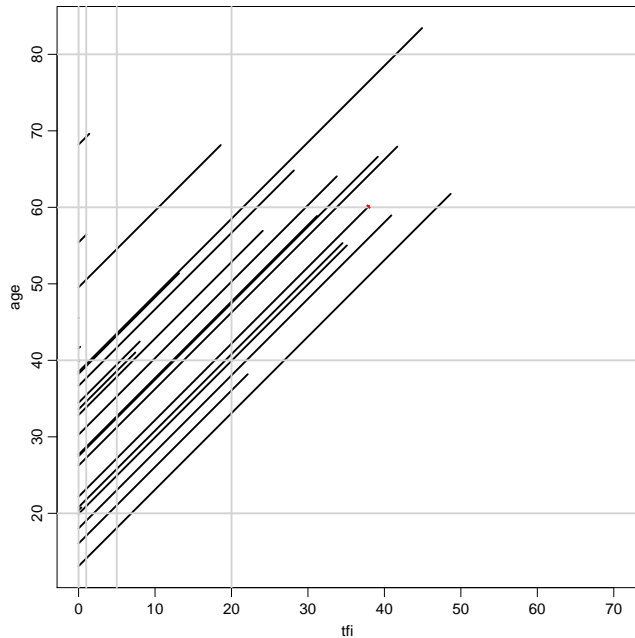
age	tfi	lex.dur	lex.Cst	lex.Xst
22.2	0.0	1.0	0	0
23.2	1.0	4.0	0	0
27.2	5.0	12.8	0	0
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- ▶ If intervals sufficiently small, a very good approximation to a continuously varying rate by using time points from each interval
- ▶ And very handy post-processing of results

Markov predictions from non-Markov models

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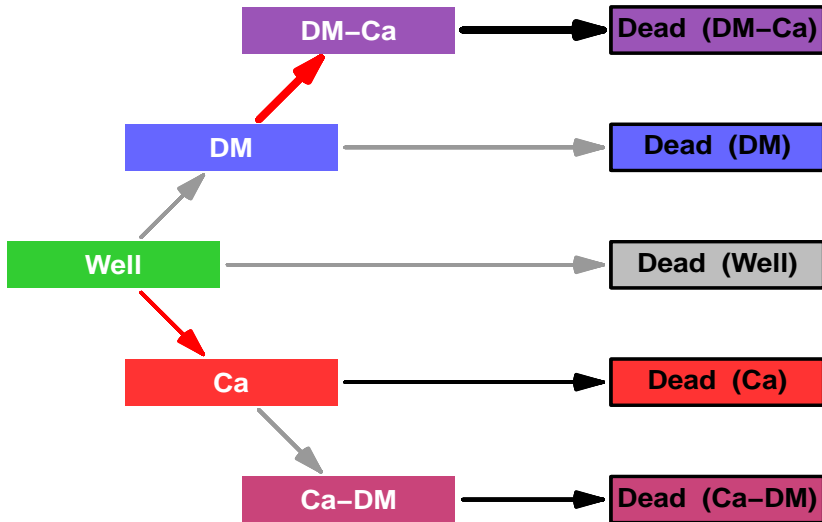
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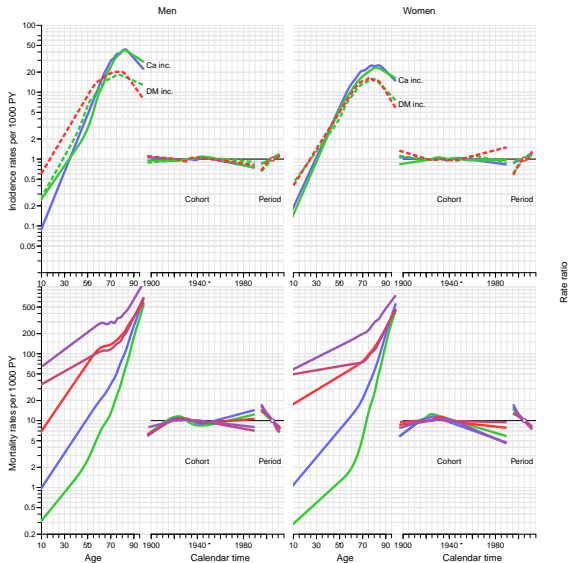
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- ▶ — so use cross-sectional rates: $\lambda(a, t = T_0)$

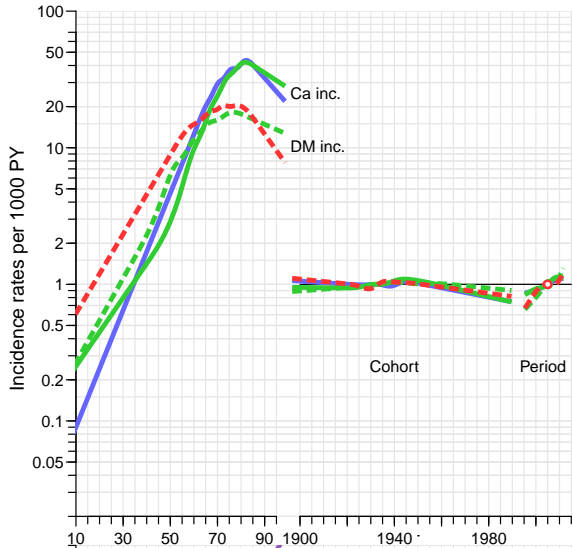
Joint occurrence of Diabetes and Cancer



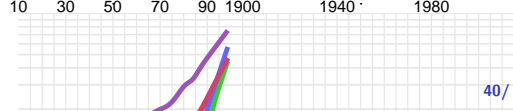
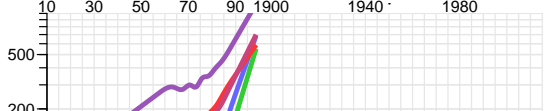
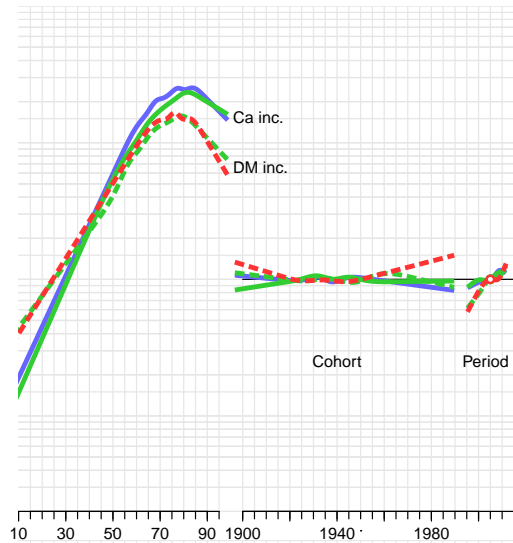
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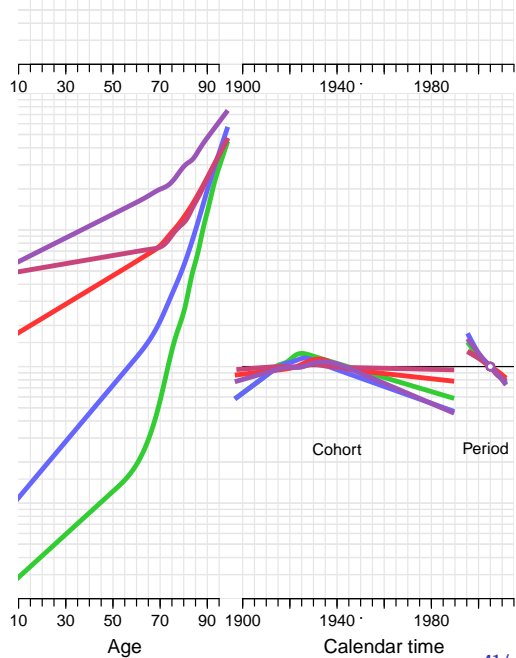
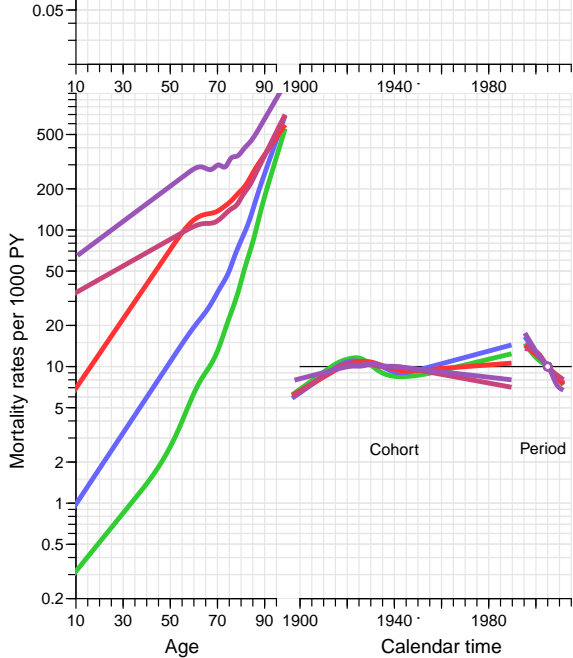


Men

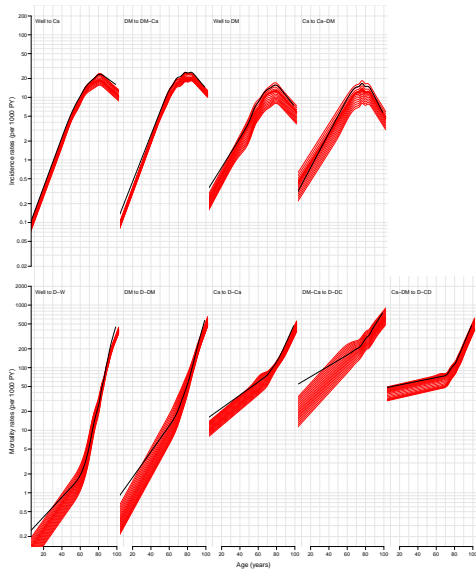
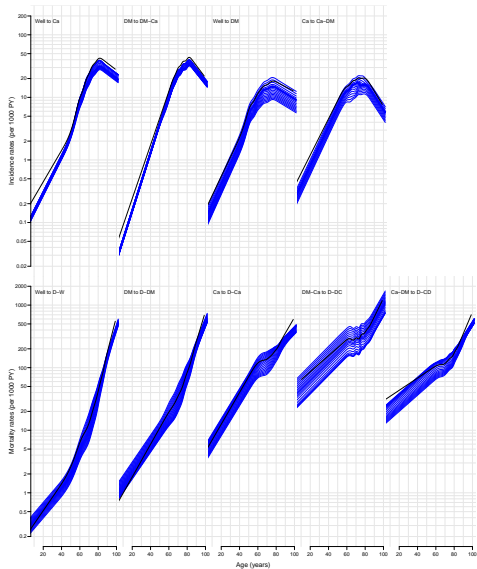


Women





Predicted rates — cross-sectional 1995–2010



Continuous rates (per 2010)

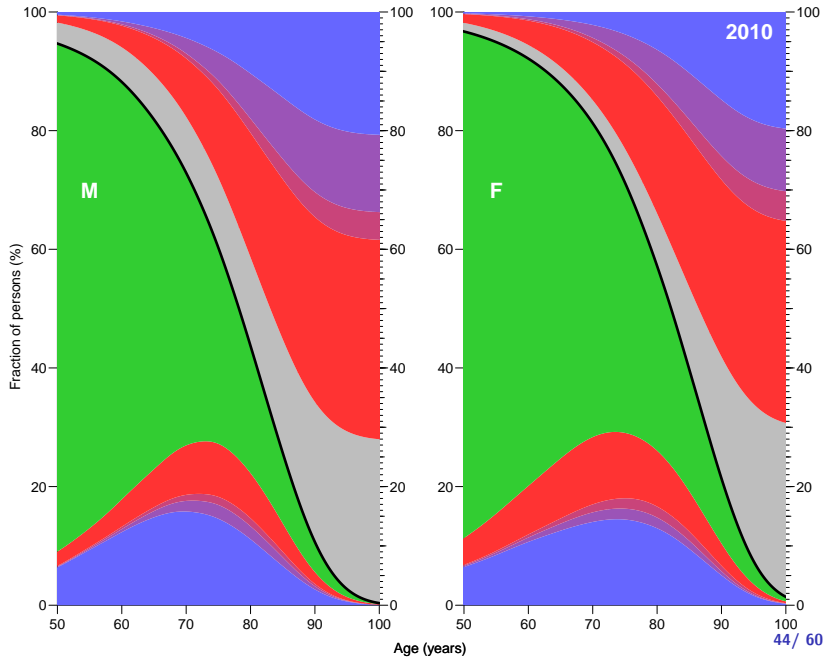
1-month cumulative rates \rightarrow transition probabilities

$$\left(1 - \exp(-(\Lambda_1 + \Lambda_2 + \Lambda_3))\right) \times \Lambda_i / (\Lambda_1 + \Lambda_2 + \Lambda_3), i = 1, 2, 3$$

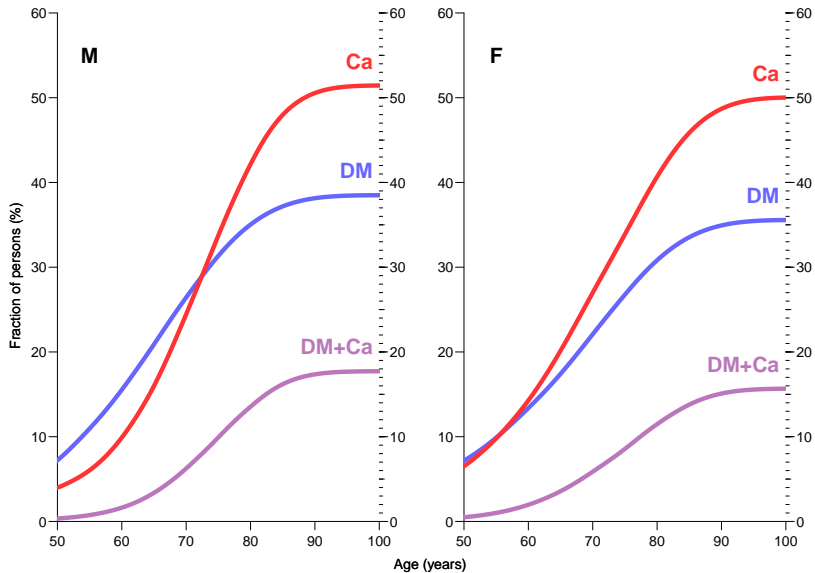
1-month transition probabilities ($\times 10^4$) at age 66 years:

from	to										
	Well	DM	DM-Ca	Ca	Ca-DM	D-W	D-DM	D-Ca	D-DC	D-CD	Sum
Well	9966	8	.	13	.	14	.	.	.	.	10000
DM	.	9943	16	.	.	.	41	.	.	.	10000
DM-Ca	.	.	9582	.	.	.	.	.	418	.	10000
Ca	.	.	.	9819	9	.	.	172	.	.	10000
Ca-DM	9866	.	.	.	.	134	10000
D-W	10000	.	.	.	.	10000
D-DM	10000	.	.	.	10000
D-Ca	10000	.	.	10000
D-DC	10000	.	10000
D-CD	10000	10000

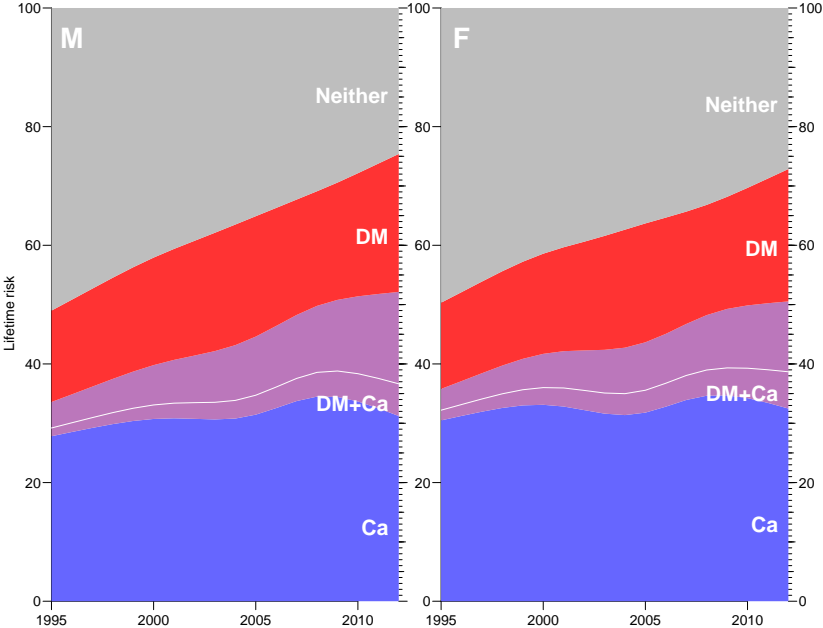
State occupancy probabilities



Lifetime risk



Trend in lifetime risk



Continuous time rates

- ▶ Transition rates between states:

Continuous time rates

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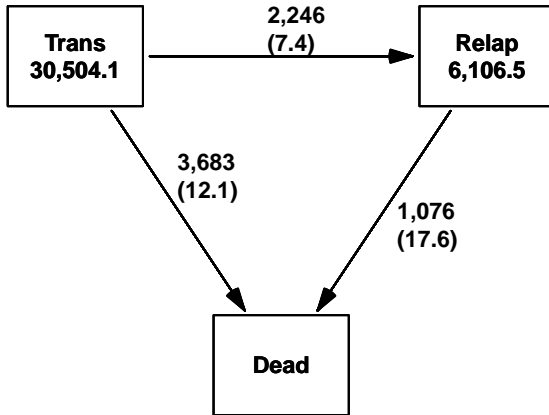
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- ...simplified by a parametric form for rates as function of time

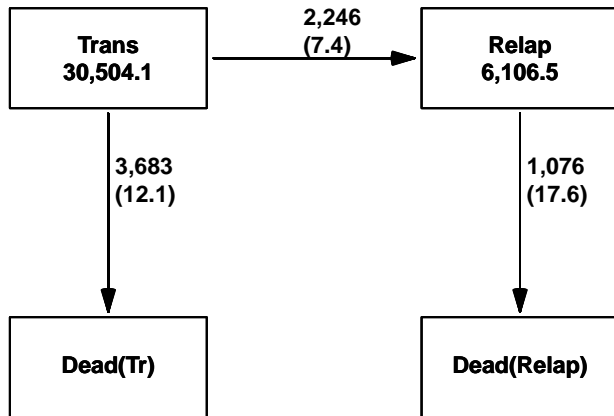
EBMT transplant data

Iacobelli & Carstensen: Multistate Models with Multiple Timescales, Stat Med 2013, [3]



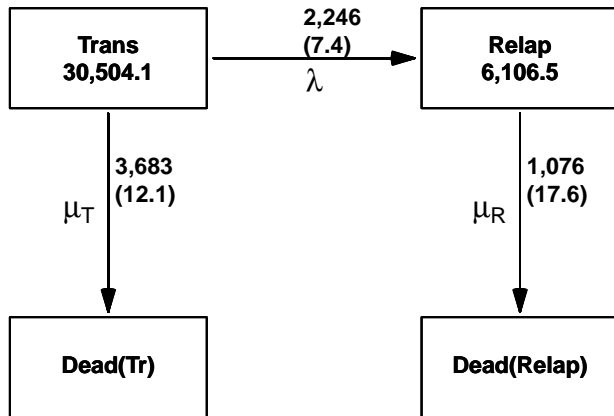
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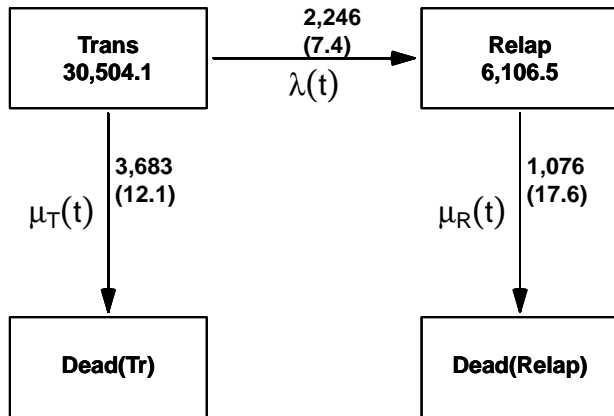
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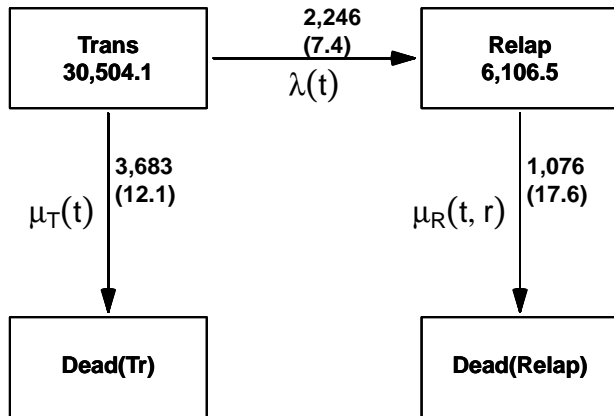
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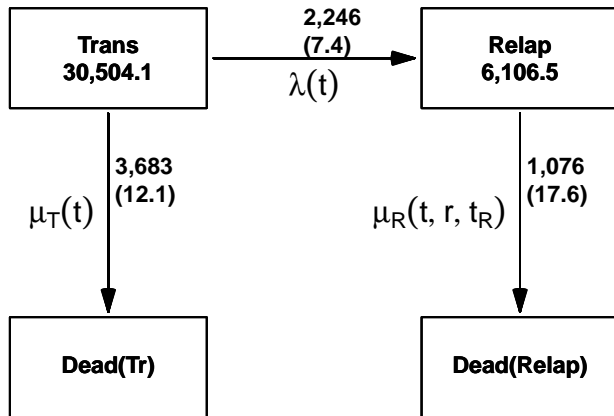
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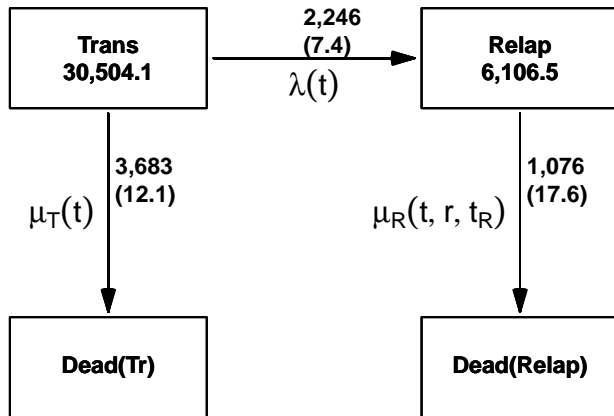
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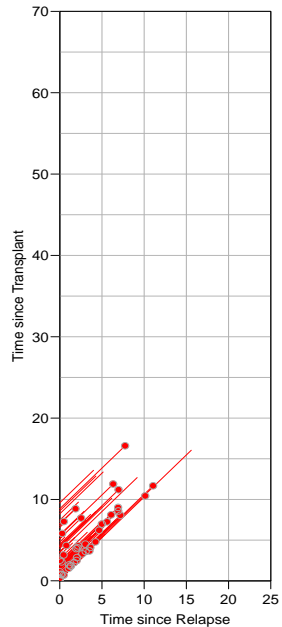
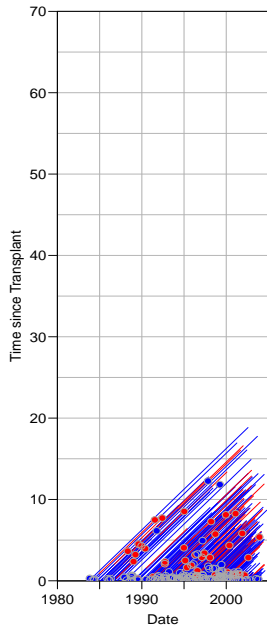
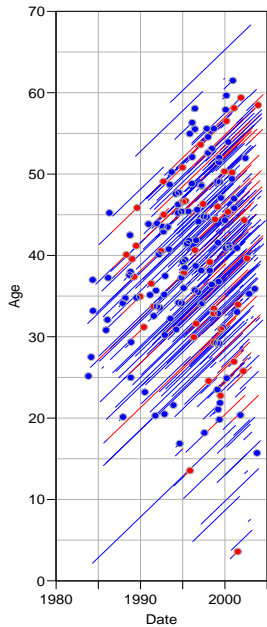


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other covariates: Age and date at Tx, sex, donor type, CML type



Markov property: Empirical question

Model for mortality rates:

- ▶ t time since transplant

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- ▶ t time since transplant
- ▶ r time since relapse (if relapsed)

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- ▶ ... for representation and manipulation of follow-up data.

Using the Lexis machinery [4, 5]

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cmlT <- Lexis(entry = list(cal = cal.yr(dot),
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cmlL <- cutLexis( cmlT, cut = cal.yr(cmlT$dor),
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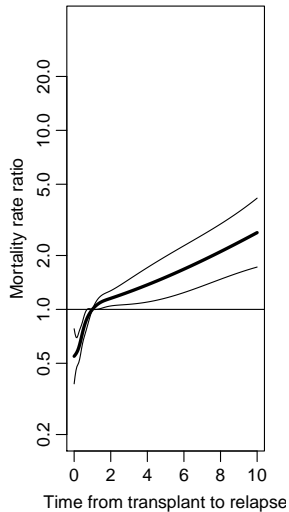
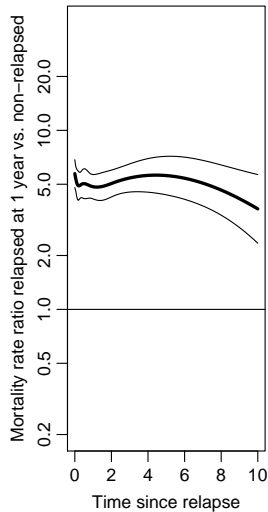
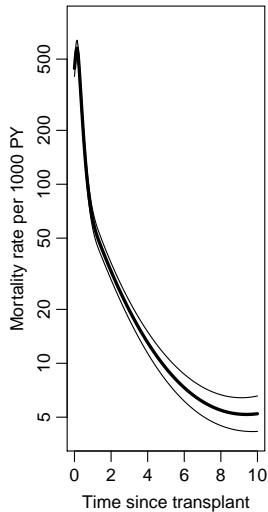
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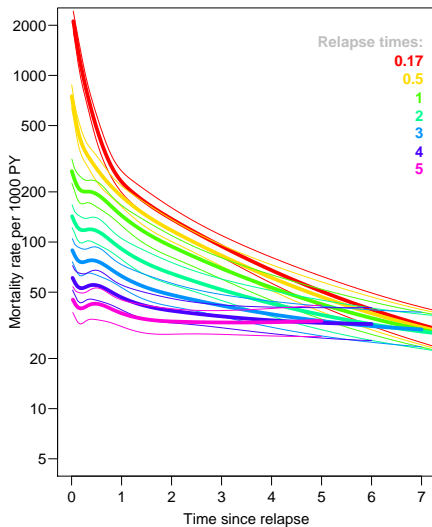
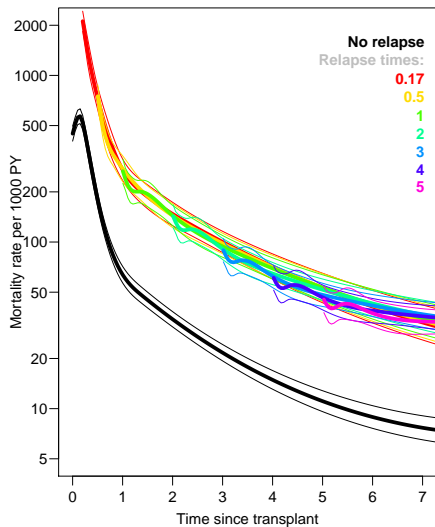
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$$\log(\mu) = h(t) + k(r) + g(t - r) + X\beta$$



t : time since transplant r : time since relapse

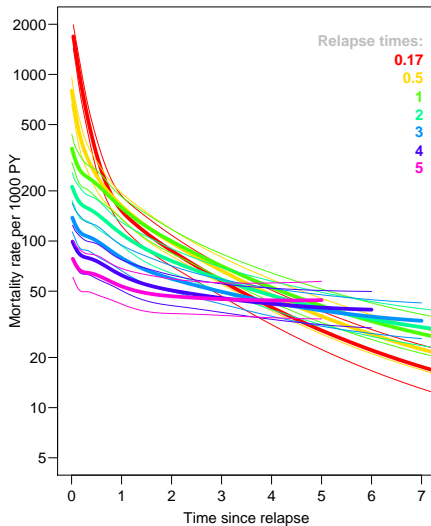
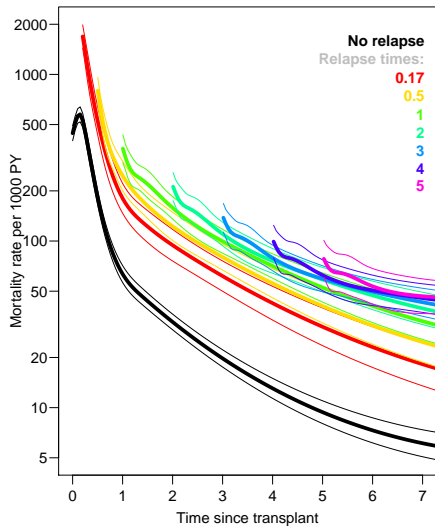
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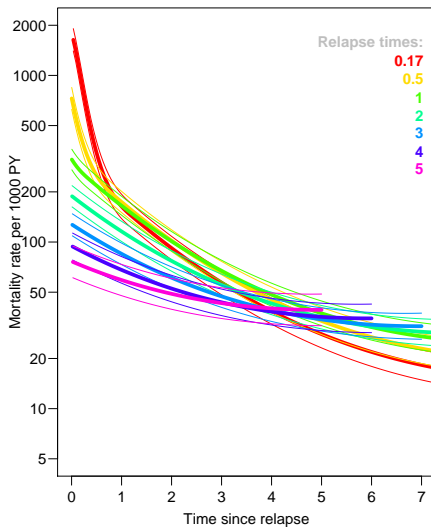
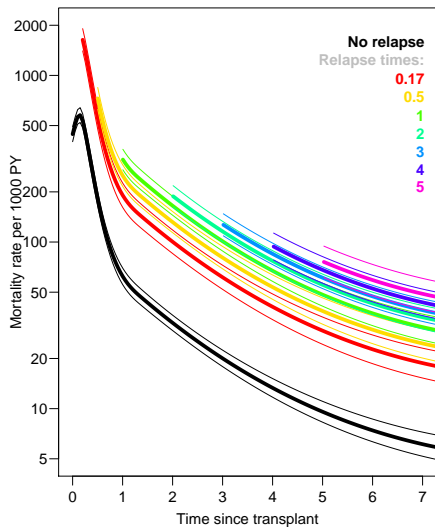
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- ▶ **Note:** In order to compute probabilities, we need a model for the relapse rates (λ) in addition to the mortality rates (μ_T, μ_R)
- ▶ ... unfortunately not a Markov model

Not Markov: the hard way

$$P \{T \text{ at } t\} = \exp\left(-\int_0^t \lambda(s) + \mu_T(s) ds\right)$$

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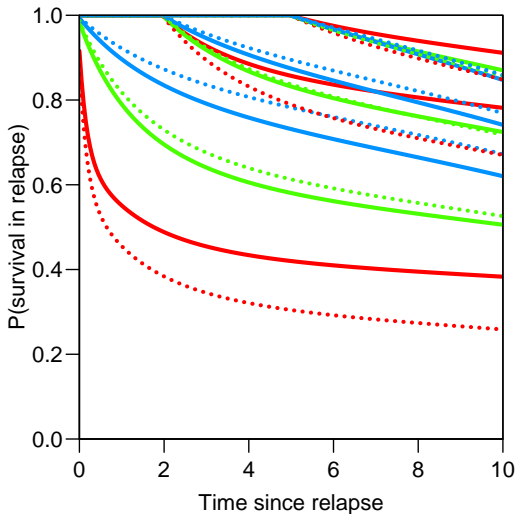
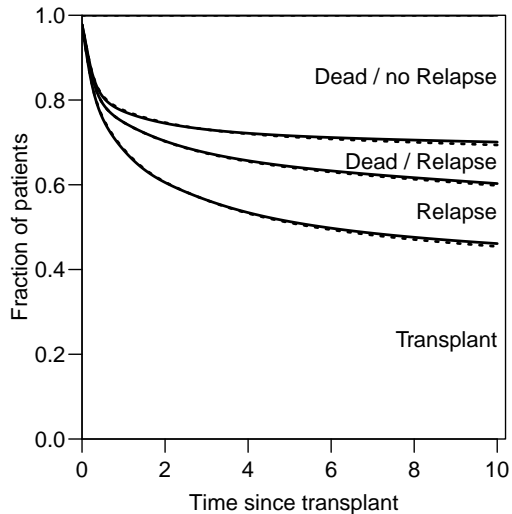
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Dotted lines: Markov model, time since transplant
 Full lines: + time from Tx to Rel for the μ_R

Rel at: 2 mth, 1 y, 3 y
 58/60

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Thanks for your attention

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