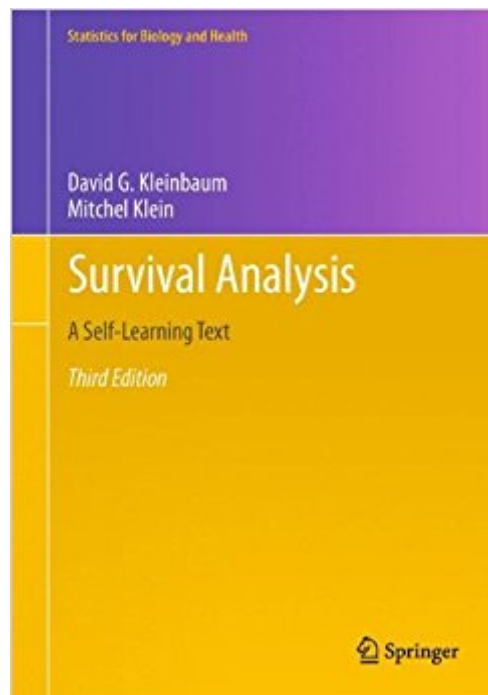




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# Survival Analysis: A Self-Learning Text, Third Edition (Statistics For Biology And Health)



## Synopsis

An excellent introduction for all those coming to the subject for the first time. New material has been added to the second edition and the original six chapters have been modified. The previous edition sold 9500 copies world wide since its release in 1996. Based on numerous courses given by the author to students and researchers in the health sciences and is written with such readers in mind. Provides a "user-friendly" layout and includes numerous illustrations and exercises. Written in such a way so as to enable readers learn directly without the assistance of a classroom instructor. Throughout, there is an emphasis on presenting each new topic backed by real examples of a survival analysis investigation, followed up with thorough analyses of real data sets.

## Book Information

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Epidemiology

## Customer Reviews

From the book reviews: "The authors present fundamental and basic ideas and methods of analysis of survival/event-history data from both applications and methodological points of view. This book is clearly written and well structured for a graduate course as well as for practitioners and consulting statisticians. There are many good examples in this edition, and more importantly, this new edition offers additional exercises, making it a good candidate for adoption as a textbook." (Technometrics, August, 2012) "This text is an elementary introduction to survival analysis. It is primarily intended for self-study, but it has also proven useful as a basic text in a standard classroom course. Each chapter starts with an Introduction, an Abbreviated outline, and

Objectives, and ends with self tests, exercises and a detailed outline. Solutions to tests and exercises are also provided." (Göran Broström, Zentralblatt MATH, Vol. 1093 (19), 2006)"The most meaningful accolade that I can give to this text is that it admirably lives up to its title." Journal of the American Statistical Association, September 2006"Imagine---a statistics textbook that actually explains things in English instead of explaining a topic by bombarding the reader with page-width equations requiring an advanced degree in Math just to read the book. If it weren't for this book, I would be really stuck." (David Britz)

This greatly expanded third edition of *Survival Analysis- A Self-learning Text* provides a highly readable description of state-of-the-art methods of analysis of survival/event-history data. This text is suitable for researchers and statisticians working in the medical and other life sciences as well as statisticians in academia who teach introductory and second-level courses on survival analysis. The third edition continues to use the unique "lecture-book" format of the first two editions with one new chapter, additional sections and clarifications to several chapters, and a revised computer appendix. The Computer Appendix, with step-by-step instructions for using the computer packages STATA, SAS, and SPSS, is expanded to include the software package R. David Kleinbaum is Professor of Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Kleinbaum is internationally known for innovative textbooks and teaching on epidemiological methods, multiple linear regression, logistic regression, and survival analysis. He has provided extensive worldwide short-course training in over 150 short courses on statistical and epidemiological methods. He is also the author of *ActivEpi* (2002), an interactive computer-based instructional text on fundamentals of epidemiology, which has been used in a variety of educational environments including distance learning. Mitchel Klein is Research Assistant Professor with a joint appointment in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH) and the Department of Epidemiology, also at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. Dr. Klein is also co-author with Dr. Kleinbaum of the second edition of *Logistic Regression- A Self-Learning Text* (2002). He has regularly taught epidemiologic methods courses at Emory to graduate students in public health and in clinical medicine. He is responsible for the epidemiologic methods training of physicians enrolled in Emory's Master of Science in Clinical Research Program, and has collaborated with Dr. Kleinbaum both nationally and internationally in teaching several short courses on various topics in epidemiologic methods.

My relatively poor review compared to the others has to do with my expectations. My goal was to

learn about survival analysis. I have some knowledge of things like multivariate regression, correlation coefficients, and chi squared analysis. I was hoping to learn about more sophisticated techniques. Instead, the book teaches how to use 3 or 4 computer programs that do these analyses. There is a difference. For example, Chapter 3 talks about the Cox proportional hazards model. It describes, in great detail, the input data and then shows the output given by one of the computer programs that the book uses. In pointing to one of the numbers from the output file, the authors say that it is "approximately a standard normal or Z variable. This Z statistic is known as a Wald Statistic, which is one of two test statistics typically used with ML estimates. The other test statistic, called the likelihood ratio makes use of the log likelihood statistic. The log likelihood statistic is obtained by multiplying the log likelihood in the computer output by -2. " My problem is that the book hasn't defined what a Z statistic is, or how maximum likelihood estimates are determined, and doesn't describe the significance of a log likelihood statistic. All we get is the formula to multiply one of the output values by -2 to get another value. We get no clue what this factor of -2 means. For me the bottom line is this. The book is very carefully written so that the reader will be able to run several statistical packages and get output files whose numbers can be understood. If that's what you want, this book is perfection itself. However, if you want to understand what those programs are actually doing, you'll need to go elsewhere.

This is a very lucidly written text. It justifies every word of the "Self Learning Text" concept. I have been following this as a textbook for my graduate course in survival analysis. This text lacks a bit in numerical derivations, but I think the author aims to skip difficult derivations in order to keep the essence of simpleness. In this text everything has been written in plain simple English and will serve as an excellent text for someone who is learning Survival for the first time and also for those relatively scared of hardcore mathematical statistics. I would highly recommend this book for learning the core concepts of survival data modelling.

I used this book along with an online course on the same topic by Statistics.com. The book is extremely user friendly, my background being that of a physician with knowledge of basic stats and regression analysis, not a background of mathematics or advanced statistics. Plus having worked out examples in the text using codes covering most of the commonly used stats program made it appropriate for a hands-on learning format that I prefer. Thus, it makes one confident to apply the techniques in future projects involving survival analysis.

This book is easy to read, yet will teach you a lot about survival analysis. The format with formulae off to the side and coding (SAS, Stata, R, etc) in an appendix provides all information needed without cluttering the main text. I definitely recommend this as a self-learning text or as a valuable way of reinforcing information for a course you're taking.

Not necessarily only for Statisticians with Math background, but great book for all interested in learning about Survival Analysis. Love the approach used by the authors. I highly recommend it.

This is the first book on survival analysis that I have encountered that makes survival analysis straight-forward to understand. I love all the practice exercises and there are answers to these exercises to there is proper understanding of the material. If you are taking survival analysis or wish to study it on your own, this is a must-have book.

Written in a very clear way showing all the logical steps and many examples, including code at the back for common stats packages. It starts each topic in a very way (too basic for me), but builds you up to a high technical level. The book provides many practise examples with answers and so is thus good for self-learning.

A good book that guide you by the hand inside the world of survival analysis. If you are a beginner, you may need a simpler book to start, but once you have the concepts, you can even enjoy this book!!

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