Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition

Paul D Allison
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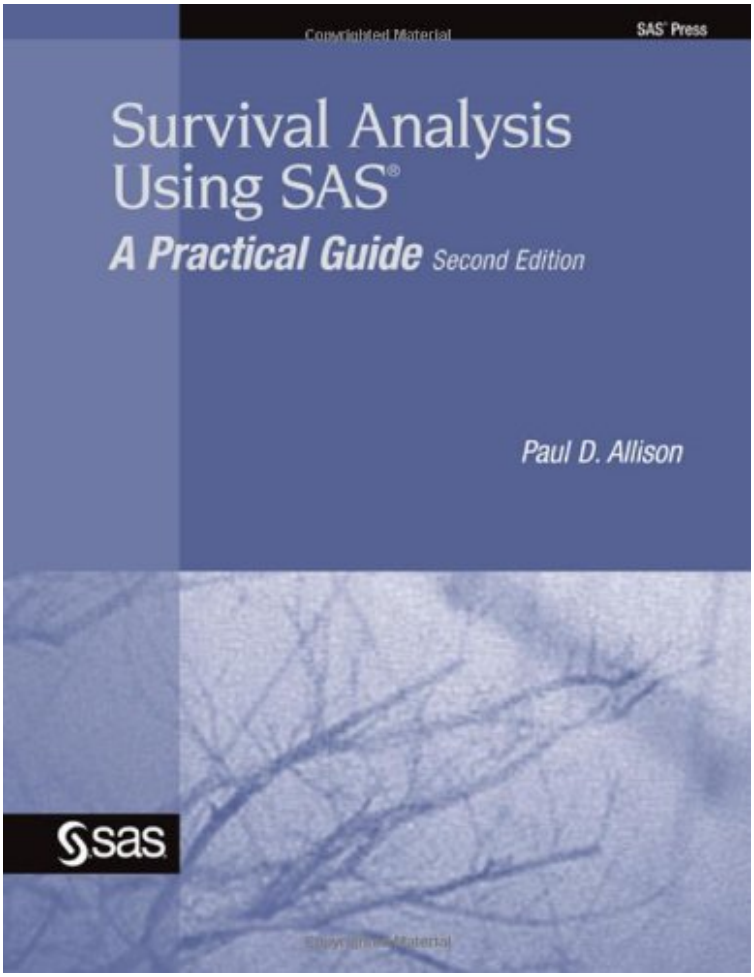

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Paul D Allison : Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This book isn't as clear and helpful as the other ...By RickThis book isn't as clear and helpful as the other reviewers seem to suggest. The background information on survival analysis is clear enough, as is the overview on the pros/cons of each SAS procedure. However, the examples leave much to be desired. The author assumes a fairly advanced understanding of statistics. I conduct social science research, have a reasonable understanding of statistics, and had hoped to teach myself survival analysis. I found that the author has written a text that requires a fair amount more mathematics and statistics background. Throughout the book, the author regularly references mathematical formulas and falls into "stats-speak" which muddles the explanation. I'd hoped that this book was more in line with "Multilevel and Longitudinal Modeling with IBM SPSS" by Heck, Thomas, and

Tabata, which I found explains advanced statistical topics in a much more straight-forward manner and is chock full of beautifully-explained step-by-step examples.8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great got betterBy I Teach TypingIf you read the reviews of the first edition of this book (Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide) you will see that everyone loved it. This edition is even better. The new edition is updated to cover a *LOT* of new functionality. There are new tests, new methods (especially noteworthy are the new Bayesian techniques), and a lot of new graphics. Things that used to be done with custom macros are now built into SAS and Allison covers them with the same clarity as people loved in the first edition.To get a feel for the updates, the chapter on Kaplan-Meier methods is greatly expanded (don't worry if you don't know what that means he explains both the math and concepts beautifully). In the first edition he showed how to test for differences between three treatment groups but if there were differences in between the groups you could not test to see if group "a" differed from "b" or "b" from "c", etc., and adjust the p-values for multiple comparisons, this edition covers these critical tests (with adjustments for multiple comparison). There is also a lot of new material on graphics, like getting hazard function estimates with confidence intervals.If you are a biomedical researcher, this book explains both the reasons why you will want to do a test and how to conduct it. Basically Allison makes SAS seem like the best choice for survival analysis.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the clearest and simplest books on Survival-AnalysisBy ripeApricotsThis is one of the clearest and simplest books on Survival analysis, and a pleasure to read. The subject matter is developed gradually and with with minimum pre-requisites beyond a working knowledge of and familiarity with linear regression.A great primer, though if you are implementing some of the Survival Analysis techniques (as opposed to just using SAS), you will have to supplement this with a more extensive work.

Easy to read and comprehensive, Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition, by Paul D. Allison, is an accessible, data-based introduction to methods of survival analysis. Researchers who want to analyze survival data with SAS will find just what they need with this fully updated new edition that incorporates the many enhancements in SAS procedures for survival analysis in SAS 9. Although the book assumes only a minimal knowledge of SAS, more experienced users will learn new techniques of data input and manipulation. Numerous examples of SAS code and output make this an eminently practical book, ensuring that even the uninitiated become sophisticated users of survival analysis. The main topics presented include censoring, survival curves, Kaplan-Meier estimation, accelerated failure time models, Cox regression models, and discrete-time analysis. Also included are topics not usually covered in survival analysis books, such as time-dependent covariates, competing risks, and repeated events. Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition, has been thoroughly updated for SAS 9, and all figures are presented using ODS Graphics. This new edition also documents major enhancements to the STRATA statement in the LIFETEST procedure; includes a section on the PROBPLOT command, which offers graphical methods to evaluate the fit of each parametric regression model; introduces the new BAYES statement for both parametric and Cox models, which allows the user to do a Bayesian analysis using MCMC methods; demonstrates the use of the counting process syntax as an alternative method for handling time-dependent covariates; contains a section on cumulative incidence functions; and describes the use of the new GLIMMIX procedure to estimate random-effects models for discrete-time data. This book is part of the SAS Press program.

"Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition, is a prime but by no means the only example of Paul Allison's skill as a writer and teacher. Allison has a perhaps unparalleled ability to write about highly complex topics in a way that is accessible to relatively inexperienced people at the same time that he provides fresh insights and explanations to practitioners who may have thought they knew all there was to know. His writing reflects not only his deep knowledge of statistical methods but also his substantive engagement with them as a first-rate sociologist. Allison writes with the focus and confidence of someone who knows what he is doing and why he is doing it. His discussion of the basics of survival analysis is as clear as one can make it, but he does not gloss over the underlying mathematics, providing extraordinarily clear and detailed discussions of maximum and partial likelihood, Baysian estimation methods, and other topics that are essential to a thorough understanding of the methods. The examples, all of them based on real data, are instructive and thoroughly explained. An important aspect of the examples is that preliminary SAS code needed to arrange the data for analysis is carefully discussed, thus making the book more accessible to those who are new to SAS. For SAS users, I can think of no better place to start one's education regarding survival models, and I would urge anyone who already uses them to give this book a careful read." --Richard T. Campbell, Professor of Biostatistics and Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago"A complete novice to this subject, I learned survival analysis on the fly from a client who had the utmost confidence in my ability. I practiced due diligence by obsessively double-checking my code and methods against a hodge-podge of references. However, published information was so lacking in substance, consistency, and applicability that I asked her how to set up the censoring variable and produced what is obviously in hindsight an alarming number of staged 2xn frequency tables for quality assurance purposes. With Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition, at my disposal, I can make better use of client time-and my energy-by knowing the questions to ask when constructing analyses . . . and

to avoid ones that shouldn't ever need to be asked." --Christine Leonard Westgate, Contract Programmer-Analyst, New Hampshire"Statistical analysts as well as readers with little statistical knowledge can benefit from the book's content. Explanations are clear and concise, providing enough information to give the reader an understanding of survival analysis. Throughout the book, concepts are supported with theory, statistical formulas, and examples. Examples shown are from a variety of fields, allowing readers to transfer methods to their field of study. The book was enjoyable to read. I highly recommend Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition." --Diana Suhr, PhD, Statistical Analyst, Office of Budgets and Institutional Analysis, University of Northern Colorado"A complete novice to this subject, I learned survival analysis on the fly from a client who had the utmost confidence in my ability. I practiced due diligence by obsessively double-checking my code and methods against a hodge-podge of references. However, published information was so lacking in substance, consistency, and applicability that I asked her how to set up the censoring variable and produced what is obviously in hindsight an alarming number of staged 2xn frequency tables for quality assurance purposes. With Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition, at my disposal, I can make better use of client time-and my energy-by knowing the questions to ask when constructing analyses . . . and to avoid ones that shouldn't ever need to be asked." --Christine Leonard Westgate, Contract Programmer-Analyst, New Hampshire"Statistical analysts as well as readers with little statistical knowledge can benefit from the book's content. Explanations are clear and concise, providing enough information to give the reader an understanding of survival analysis. Throughout the book, concepts are supported with theory, statistical formulas, and examples. Examples shown are from a variety of fields, allowing readers to transfer methods to their field of study. The book was enjoyable to read. I highly recommend Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, Second Edition." --Diana Suhr, PhD, Statistical Analyst, Office of Budgets and Institutional Analysis, University of Northern ColoradoAbout the AuthorPaul D. Allison is Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania and President of Statistical Horizons LLC. He is the author of Logistic Regression Using SAS: Theory and Application, Survival Analysis Using SAS: A Practical Guide, and Fixed Effects Regression Methods for Longitudinal Data Using SAS. Paul has also written numerous statistical papers and published extensively on the subject of scientists careers. He frequently teaches public short courses on the methods described in his books.