

# Parametric proportional hazards and accelerated failure time models

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## Abstract

A unified implementation of parametric proportional hazards (PH) and accelerated failure time (AFT) models for right-censored and left-truncated data is described.

## 1 Introduction

There is a need for software for analyzing parametric proportional hazards (PH) and accelerated failure time (AFT) data, that are right censored and left truncated.

## 2 The proportional hazards model

We define proportional hazards models in terms of an expansion of a given survivor function  $S_0$ ,

$$s_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t; \mathbf{z}) = \{S_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}))\}^{\exp(\mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta})}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  is a parameter vector used in modeling the baseline distribution,  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  is the vector of regression parameters, and  $g$  is a positive function, which helps defining a parametric family of baseline survivor functions through

$$S(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = S_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})), \quad t > 0, \quad \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta. \quad (2)$$

With  $f_0$  and  $h_0$  defined as the density and hazard functions corresponding to  $S_0$ , respectively, the density function corresponding to  $S$  is

$$\begin{aligned} f(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} S(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} S_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\ &= g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) f_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

Correspondingly, the hazard function is

$$\begin{aligned} h(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \frac{f(t; \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S(t; \boldsymbol{\theta})} \\ &= g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) h_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})). \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

So, the proportional hazards model is

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t; \mathbf{z}) &= h(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \exp(\mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta}) \\ &= g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) h_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \exp(\mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta}), \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

corresponding to (1).

## 2.1 Data and the likelihood function

Given left truncated and right censored data  $(s_i, t_i, d_i, \mathbf{z}_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and the model (4), the likelihood function becomes

$$L((\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\beta}); (\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{d}), \mathbf{Z}) = \prod_{i=1}^n \{h(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \exp(\mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})\}^{d_i} \left\{ \frac{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})} \right\}^{\exp(\mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})} \tag{5}$$

Here, for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $s_i < t_i$  are the left truncation and exit times, respectively,  $d_i$  indicates whether  $t_i$  is an event time or not (if not, right censored), and  $\mathbf{z}_i = (z_{i1}, \dots, z_{ip})$  is a vector of explanatory variables with corresponding parameter vector  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

From (5) we now get the log likelihood and the score vector in a straightforward manner.

$$\begin{aligned} \ell((\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\beta}); (\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{d}), \mathbf{Z}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \{ \log h(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta} \} \\ &\quad - \sum_{i=1}^n e^{\mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}} \{ \log S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \log S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \} \end{aligned}$$

and (in the following we drop the long argument list to  $\ell$ ), for the regression parameters  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_j} \ell &= \sum_{i=1}^n d_i z_{ij} \\ &\quad - \sum_{i=1}^n z_{ij} e^{\mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}} \{ \log S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \log S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \}, \quad j = 1, \dots, p, \end{aligned}$$

and for the “baseline” parameters  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ , in vector form,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \ell &= \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \frac{h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})} \\ &\quad - \sum_{i=1}^n e^{\mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}} \left\{ \frac{S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})} - \frac{S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, from (3),

$$\begin{aligned} h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} h(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ &= g_{t\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) h_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) h'_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})), \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

and, from (2),

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} S(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} S_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\ &= -g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) f_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})). \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

For estimating standard errors, the observed information (the negative of the hessian) is useful, so

$$\begin{aligned} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta_j \partial \beta_m} \ell &= \sum_{i=1}^n z_{im} z_{ij} e^{\mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}} \{ \log S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \log S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \}, \\ &\hspace{25em} j, m = 1, \dots, p, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$- \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta_j \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \ell = \sum_{i=1}^n z_{ij} e^{\mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}} \left\{ \frac{S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})} - \frac{S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta})} \right\}, \quad j = 1, \dots, p,$$

and finally

$$\begin{aligned}
-\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta} \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'} \ell &= \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \left\{ \frac{h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})} - \frac{h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{h^2(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})} \right\} \\
&\quad - \sum_{i=1}^n e^{z_i \beta} \left\{ \frac{S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})} - \frac{S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S^2(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})} \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \left( \frac{S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})} - \frac{S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{S^2(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})} \right) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Here we have, from (6),

$$\begin{aligned}
h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'} h_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\
&= g_{t\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})h_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + g_{t\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})h'_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\
&\quad + g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})h''_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\
&\quad + g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})h'_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\
&\quad + g_{t\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})h'_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\
&= h_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}))g_{t\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\
&\quad + h'_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \{ g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\
&\quad \quad + g_{t\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\
&\quad \quad + g_{t\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \} \\
&\quad + h''_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}))g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}),
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

and from (7),

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'} S_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\
&= -\{ g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})f_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})f'_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \}
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

### 3 The shape–scale families

From (1) we get a *shape–scale* family of distributions by choosing  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (p, \lambda)$  and

$$g(t, (p, \lambda)) = \left( \frac{t}{\lambda} \right)^p, \quad t \geq 0; \quad p, \lambda > 0.$$

However, for reasons of efficient numerical optimization and normality of parameter estimates, we use the parametrisation  $p = \exp(\gamma)$  and  $\lambda = \exp(\alpha)$ , thus redefining  $g$  to

$$g(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) = \left( \frac{t}{\exp(\alpha)} \right)^{\exp(\gamma)}, \quad t \geq 0; \quad -\infty < \gamma, \alpha < \infty. \tag{10}$$

For the calculation of the score and hessian of the log likelihood function, we need some partial derivatives of  $g$ . They are found in an appendix.

### 3.1 The Weibull family of distributions

The Weibull family of distributions is obtained by

$$S_0(t) = \exp(-t), \quad t \geq 0,$$

leading to

$$f_0(t) = \exp(-t), \quad t \geq 0,$$

and

$$h_0(t) = 1, \quad t \geq 0.$$

We need some first and second order derivatives of  $f$  and  $h$ , and they are particularly simple in this case, for  $h$  they are both zero, and for  $f$  we get

$$f'_0(t) = -\exp(-t), \quad t \geq 0.$$

### 3.2 The EV family of distributions

The EV (Extreme Value) family of distributions is obtained by setting

$$h_0(t) = \exp(t), \quad t \geq 0,$$

leading to

$$S_0(t) = \exp\{-(\exp(t) - 1)\}, \quad t \geq 0,$$

The rest of the necessary functions are easily derived from this.

### 3.3 The Gompertz family of distributions

The Gompertz family of distributions is given by

$$h(t) = \tau \exp(t/\lambda), \quad t \geq 0; \quad \tau, \lambda > 0.$$

This family is not directly possible to generate from the described shape-scale models, but by including the parameter  $\log(\tau) = \alpha$  as a constant term (intercept) in the regression part, we get the proportional hazards model

$$h(t; (\alpha, \lambda\boldsymbol{\beta})) = \exp(t/\lambda) \exp(\alpha + \mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta}), \quad t \geq 0; \quad \lambda > 0.$$

This is of the required type, with the shape parameter fixed to unity.

### 3.4 Other families of distributions

Included in the *eha* package are the lognormal and the loglogistic distributions as well.

## 4 The accelerated failure time model

In the description of this family of models, we generate a scape-scale family of distributions as defined by the equations (2) and (10). We get

$$\begin{aligned} S(t; (\gamma, \alpha)) &= S_0(g(t, (\gamma, \alpha))) \\ &= S_0\left(\left\{\frac{t}{\exp(\alpha)}\right\}^{\exp(\gamma)}\right), \quad t > 0, \quad -\infty < \gamma, \alpha < \infty. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Given a vector  $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_p)$  of explanatory variables and a vector of corresponding regression coefficients  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p)$ , the AFT regression model is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} S(t; (\gamma, \alpha, \boldsymbol{\beta})) &= S_0(g(t \exp(\mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta}), (\gamma, \alpha))) \\ &= S_0\left(\left\{\frac{t \exp(\mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta})}{\exp(\alpha)}\right\}^{\exp(\gamma)}\right) \\ &= S_0\left(\left\{\frac{t}{\exp(\alpha - \mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta})}\right\}^{\exp(\gamma)}\right) \\ &= S_0(g(t, (\gamma, \alpha - \mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta}))), \quad t > 0. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

So, by defining  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\gamma, \alpha - \mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\beta})$ , we are back in the framework of Section 2. We get

$$f(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) f_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

and

$$h(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) h_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta})), \quad (13)$$

defining the AFT model generated by the survivor function  $S_0$  and corresponding density  $f_0$  and hazard  $h_0$ .

### 4.1 Data and the likelihood function

Given left truncated and right censored data  $(s_i, t_i, d_i, \mathbf{z}_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and the model (13), the likelihood function becomes

$$L((\gamma, \alpha, \boldsymbol{\beta}); (\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{d}), \mathbf{Z}) = \prod_{i=1}^n \{h(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)\}^{d_i} \left\{ \frac{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\} \quad (14)$$

Here, for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $s_i < t_i$  are the left truncation and exit times, respectively,  $d_i$  indicates whether  $t_i$  is an event time or not (if not, right censored),  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i = (\gamma, \alpha - \mathbf{z}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})$ , and  $\mathbf{z}_i = (z_{i1}, \dots, z_{ip})$  is a vector of explanatory variables with corresponding parameter vector  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

From (14) we now get the log likelihood and the score vector in a straightforward manner.

$$\begin{aligned} \ell((\gamma, \alpha, \boldsymbol{\beta}); (\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{d}), \mathbf{Z}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \log h(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) \\ &\quad - \sum_{i=1}^n \{ \log S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) - \log S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) \} \end{aligned}$$

and (in the following we drop the long argument list to  $\ell$ ), for the regression parameters  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_j} \ell &= \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \frac{h_j(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{S_j(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_j(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \frac{-z_{ij} h_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{-z_{ij} S_\alpha(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{-z_{ij} S_\alpha(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n -d_i z_{ij} \frac{h_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} + \sum_{i=1}^n z_{ij} \left\{ \frac{S_\alpha(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\alpha(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\}, \\ &\quad j = 1, \dots, p, \end{aligned}$$

and for the “baseline” parameters  $\gamma$  and  $\alpha$ ,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} \ell = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \frac{h_\gamma(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{S_\gamma(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\gamma(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\}.$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \ell = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \frac{h_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{S_\alpha(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\alpha(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(t_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\}.$$

Here, from (3),

$$\begin{aligned} h_\gamma(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} h(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) \\ &= g_{t\gamma}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) h_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)) + g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) g_\gamma(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) h'_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} h_\alpha(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} h(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) \\ &= g_{t\alpha}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) h_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)) + g_t(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) g_\alpha(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) h'_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} h_j(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_j} h(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} h(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_j} (\alpha - \mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}) \\ &= -z_{ij} h_\alpha(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i), \quad j = 1, \dots, p. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, from (2) we get

$$\begin{aligned} S_\gamma(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} S(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} S_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)) \\ &= -g_\gamma(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) f_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_\alpha(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} S(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} S_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)) \\ &= -g_\alpha(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) f_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)). \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} S_j(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_j} S(t; \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} S_0(g(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)) \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_j} (\alpha - \mathbf{z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}) \\ &= -z_{ij} S_\alpha(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i), \quad j = 1, \dots, p. \end{aligned}$$

For estimating standard errors, the observed information (the negative of the hessian) is useful, so

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta_j \partial \beta_m} \ell &= -\sum_{i=1}^n d_i z_{ij} z_{im} \left\{ \frac{h_{\alpha\alpha}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{h_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) h_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h^2(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^n z_{ij} z_{im} \left\{ \frac{S_{\alpha\alpha}(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\alpha(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) S_\alpha(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S^2(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left( \frac{S_{\alpha\alpha}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) S_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S^2(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right) \right\}, \quad j, m = 1, \dots, p, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta_j \partial \tau} \ell &= \sum_{i=1}^n d_i z_{ij} \left\{ \frac{h_{\alpha\tau}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{h_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) h_\tau(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h^2(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\} \\ &\quad - \sum_{i=1}^n z_{ij} \left\{ \frac{S_{\alpha\tau}(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\alpha(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) S_\tau(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S^2(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left( \frac{S_{\alpha\tau}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\alpha(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) S_\tau(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S^2(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right) \right\}, \\ &\quad \tau = \alpha, \gamma; \quad j = 1, \dots, p, \end{aligned}$$

and finally

$$\begin{aligned}
-\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\tau\partial\tau'}\ell = & -\sum_{i=1}^n d_i \left\{ \frac{h_{\tau\tau'}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{h_\tau(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)h_{\tau'}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{h^2(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right\} \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{S_{\tau\tau'}(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\tau(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)S_{\tau'}(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S^2(s_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right. \\
& \left. - \left( \frac{S_{\tau\tau'}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} - \frac{S_\tau(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)S_{\tau'}(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)}{S^2(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)} \right) \right\}, \\
& (\tau, \tau') = (\gamma, \gamma), (\gamma, \alpha), (\alpha, \gamma), (\alpha, \alpha).
\end{aligned}$$

The second order partial derivatives  $h_{\tau\tau'}$  are the same as in (8), and  $S_{\tau\tau'}$  can be found in (9).

## A Some partial derivatives

The function (see (10))

$$g(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) = \left( \frac{t}{\exp(\alpha)} \right)^{\exp(\gamma)}, \quad t \geq 0; \quad -\infty < \gamma, \alpha < \infty. \quad (15)$$

has the following partial derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned}
g_t(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= \frac{\exp(\gamma)}{t} g(t, (\gamma, \alpha)), \quad t > 0 \\
g_\gamma(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= g(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) \log\{g(t, (\gamma, \alpha))\} \\
g_\alpha(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= -\exp(\gamma) g(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) \\
g_{t\gamma}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= g_t(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) + \frac{\exp(\gamma)}{t} g_\gamma(t, (\gamma, \alpha)), \quad t > 0 \\
g_{t\alpha}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= -\exp(\gamma) g_t(t, (\gamma, \alpha)), \quad t > 0 \\
g_{\gamma^2}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= g_\gamma(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) \{1 + \log g(t, (\gamma, \alpha))\} \\
g_{\gamma\alpha}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= g_\alpha(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) \{1 + \log g(t, (\gamma, \alpha))\} \\
g_{\alpha^2}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= -\exp(\gamma) g_\alpha(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) \\
g_{t\gamma^2}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= g_{t\gamma}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) \\
&\quad + \frac{\exp(\gamma)}{t} g_\gamma(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) \{2 + \log g(t, (\gamma, \alpha))\} \\
g_{t\gamma\alpha}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= -\exp(\gamma) \{g_t(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) + g_{t\gamma}(t, (\gamma, \alpha))\} \\
g_{t\alpha^2}(t, (\gamma, \alpha)) &= -\exp(\gamma) g_{t\alpha}(t, (\gamma, \alpha))
\end{aligned}$$

The formulas will be easier to read if we remove all function arguments, i.e.,  $(t, (\gamma, \alpha))$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
g_t &= \frac{\exp(\gamma)}{t}g, \quad t > 0 \\
g_\gamma &= g \log g \\
g_\alpha &= -\exp(\gamma)g \\
g_{t\gamma} &= g_t + \frac{\exp(\gamma)}{t}g_\gamma, \quad t > 0 \\
g_{t\alpha} &= -\exp(\gamma)g_t, \quad t > 0 \\
g_{\gamma^2} &= g_\gamma \{1 + \log g\} \\
g_{\gamma\alpha} &= g_\alpha \{1 + \log g\} \\
g_{\alpha^2} &= -\exp(\gamma)g_\alpha \\
g_{t\gamma^2} &= g_{t\gamma} + \frac{\exp(\gamma)}{t}g_\gamma \{2 + \log g\}, \quad t > 0 \\
g_{t\gamma\alpha} &= -\exp(\gamma)\{g_t + g_{t\gamma}\}, \quad t > 0 \\
g_{t\alpha^2} &= -\exp(\gamma)g_{t\alpha}, \quad t > 0
\end{aligned}$$