

## Session 4. Clustered data, frailties and score functions

Content:

- < Martingale residuals
- < Approximate likelihoods
- < Centre effects
- < Goodness-of-fit
- < Pedigrees

## Martingale residuals

First law of survival analysis

$$E[d - H(T)] = 0 \quad (d - H(T) \text{ is called the martingale residual})$$

d: event indicator (d=1 if dead, d=0 if censored)

H: cumulative hazard

T: censoring or survival time

*Proof: an exercise*

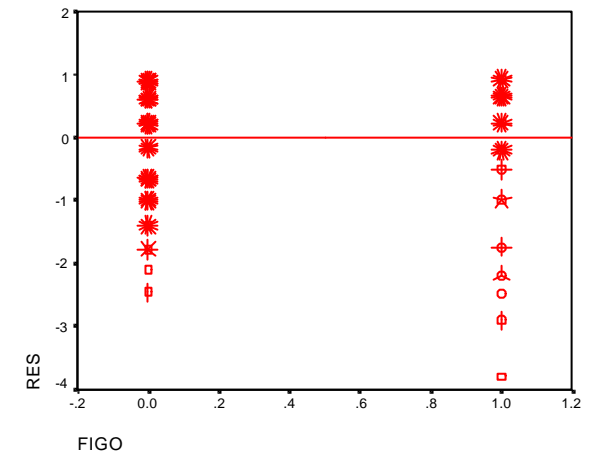
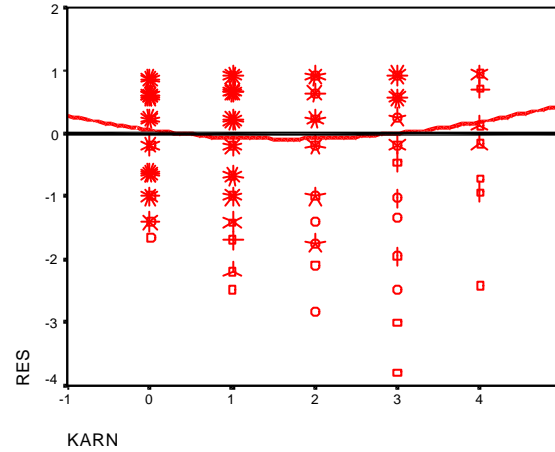
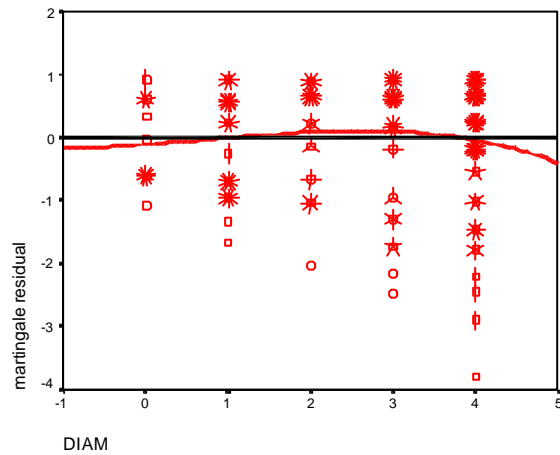
Second law

$$E[d - H(T)]^2 = E[H(T)]$$

First application in graphical goodness of fit check.

Back to the ovarian cancer example.

Martingale residual after fitting a simple linear model.



## Second application: simple validity check

Group of  $n$  individuals, observed  $(d_i, T_i)$

(Historic) model states: cumulative hazard of individual  $i$   $H_i(t)$

Test on overall shift in survival based on

$$\frac{d_i - H_i(T_i)}{\sqrt{H_i(T_i)}} \sim N(0,1) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{[d_i - H_i(T_i)]^2}{H_i(T_i)} \sim \chi^2_{[1]}$$

**NB. H, not 1-S !!!**

## Aproximate likelihood

Question:

What do the martingale residuals tell us, if the model does not fit.

Answer:

Ask Yusuf-Peto about their trick in meta-analysis

Model:

Group has relative risk  $RR^i e^{\beta}$  with respect historic model.

For each individual  $S_i(t)^i \exp(\beta H_i(t))$

Log-likelihood of all data in the group w.r.t. ?

$$l(\theta) = \sum_i e^{-\theta} \theta^{d_i} H_i(T_i)$$

Same as the **Poisson-likelihood** with  $E = H_i(T_i)$  and  $O = d_i$

Taylor-approximation around zero

$$l(\theta) \approx l(0) + (d_i - H_i(T_i)) \theta - \frac{1}{2} \theta^2 H_i(T_i)$$

Same **likelihood** is generated by

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{\sum_i (d_i - H_i(T_i))}{\sum_i H_i(T_i)} \sim N\left(\frac{\sum_i (d_i - H_i(T_i))}{\sum_i H_i(T_i)}, \frac{1}{\sum_i H_i(T_i)}\right)$$

From this approximation it is easy to derive the score-test for the (fixed) effect of a G-categorical covariate

$$\sum_{i=1}^G \frac{\sum_j (d_{ij} \hat{H}(T_{ij}))^2}{\sum_j \hat{H}(T_{ij})} \sim \chi^2_{[G-1]}$$

Using

$$\hat{H}(t) = \sum_{t_i \leq t} \frac{d_i}{r_i}, \text{ the pooled Breslow-estimator}$$

leads to a version of the log-rank test.

For testing group-effects after correction for covariates,  $\hat{H}$  is the estimated cumulative hazard in the model without group effects



## Random effect versus fixed effects

$\beta_1, \dots, \beta_G$  true effects in the  $G$  groups/categories

< Fixed-effect approach tests  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_G$  by test given above

(or LRT or Wald-test)

< Random-effect approach assumes  $\beta \sim N(\mu, \tau^2)$  and test

$\tau^2 = 0$  versus  $\tau^2 > 0$  by score-test or LRT-test

Score-test voor **random effect** is based on

$$G = \sum_{i=1}^G \left[ \sum_j (d_{ij} - H_{ij}(T_{ij}))^2 + \sum_j H_{ij}(T_{ij}) \right]$$

The cut-off value is harder to find

(Commenges and Andersen, 1995, Verweij and Van Houwelingen, 1998)

Random-effect test put little weight on small “centres”

(Andersen, Klein, Zhang, 1999)

Random-effect test has some local optimality property.

**Multi-level modeling requires random effects**

## Random-effect analysis by means of the approximate likelihood

$$\hat{\theta}_i = \frac{D_i + H_i(T_i)}{H_i(T_i)} \sim N\left(\theta, \frac{1}{H_i(T_i)}\right)$$

is rather **straight-forward**, but a little **suspect** .

Demonstrated on Eurotransplant data

(Jaqueline Smits, ISCB2000)

# QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF HEART TRANSPLANT CENTERS IN EUROTRANSPLANT

**Jacqueline MA Smits**

Eurotransplant International Foundation  
Leiden, The Netherlands  
JSMITS@eurotransplant.nl

**Hans C van Houwelingen**

LUMC  
Leiden, The Netherlands



ISCB 0C-page1

# Contents

- About the Eurotransplant data
- Aim of the study
- A score statistic approach
- Representation and Interpretation
- Conclusions and next steps

ISCB 00-page5

# Data

- heart transplants performed between Jan.'97 and Dec.'97 (N=723) in the Eurotransplant countries
- 44 transplant centers, volume between 1 and 73 operations
- time till event data

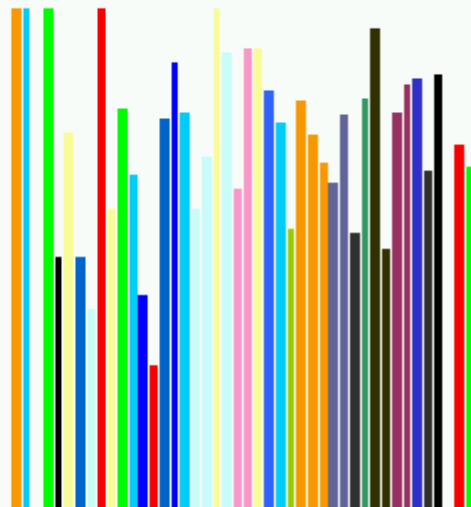
ISCB 00-page 4

# General purpose of the study

## Quality assessment of heart transplant centers

**Current situation**  
**Observed 1 year patient survival rates**

%



**Future situation**  
**as demanded by**  
**national transplantation laws**

- equality of access
- equality of success

ISCB 00-page 5

**Equality of success  
=  
Absence of center effect**

ISCB00-page 6



# Aim of the study

## Study of center effects

- **corrected for covariates at patient level**
- **relating to covariates at center level**

ISCB00-page 7

# Setting

Data:  $d_{ij}$   $T_{ij}$   
Model: Cox PH

$$\ln(h_{ij}(t)) = \ln(h_0) + \theta_i + X_{ij}\beta$$

i: center  
j: patient

Approach:

1. Ignore  $\theta_i$ 's and fit  $\beta$ 's
2. Estimate  $\theta_i$ 's

ISCB00-page 3

## Center effect

Definition

$$\theta = \ln(RR)$$

if  $\theta_i \approx 0$

then

Estimate

$$\hat{\theta}_i = \frac{\sum_j d_{ij} - \sum_j H_{ij}(T_{ij})}{\sum_j H_{ij}(T_{ij})}$$

ISCB00-page 9

# Covariates

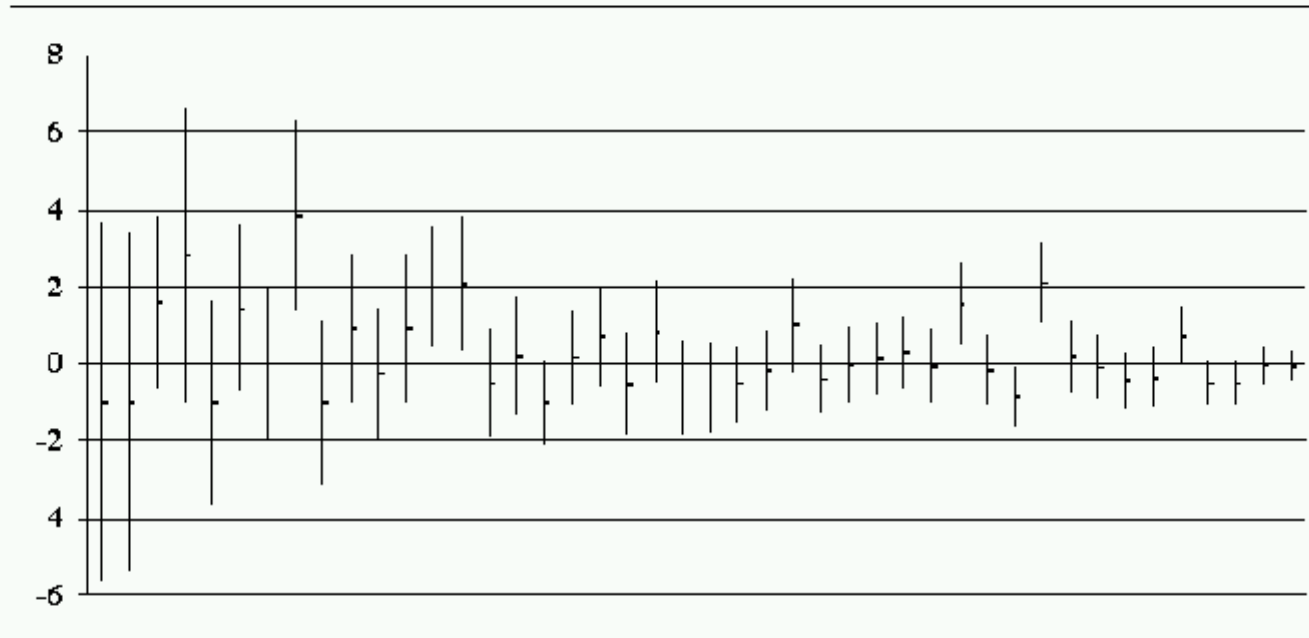
- Categorical
  - gender patient (2)
  - gender donor (2)
  - primary disease (2)
  - urgency class (3)
  - VAD (2)
  - respirator (2)
  - inotropics (2)
- Continuous
  - age patient (years)
  - age donor (years)
  - donor:recipient weight match
  - cold ischemia time (hours)
  - serum creatinine (mg/dl)

## Crude center effect

$$\hat{\theta}_i \sim N\left(\theta_i, \frac{1}{\sum_j H_{ij}}\right)$$

$$95\%CL = (\hat{\theta}_i \pm 1.96s_i)$$

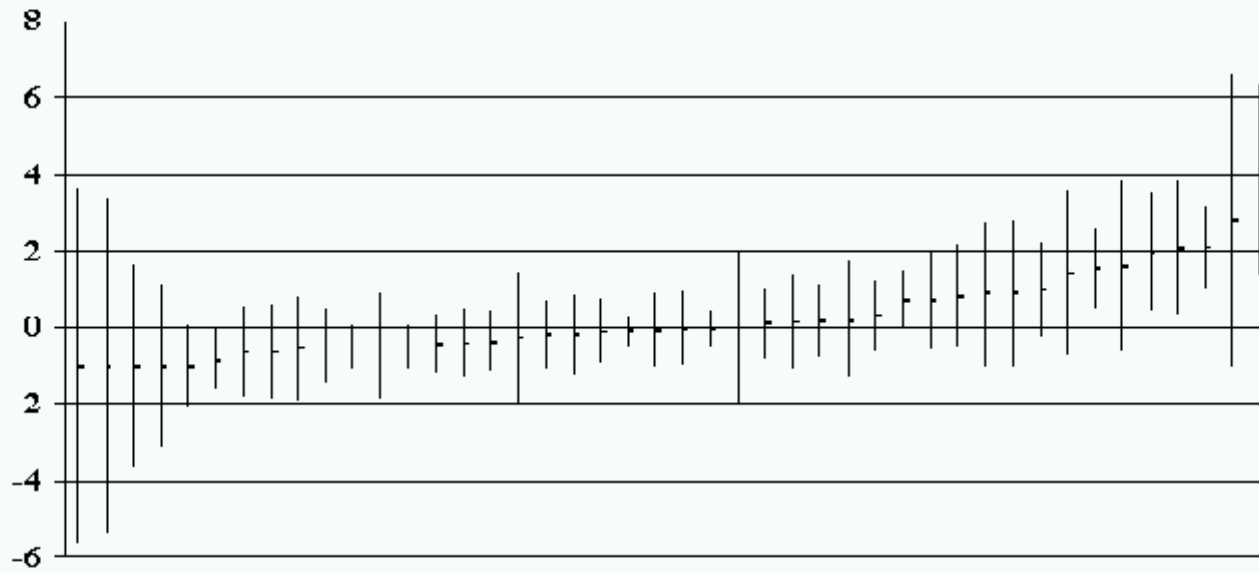
## Crude center effects



$$\hat{\theta}_i \pm 1.96s_i$$

ISCB00-page 12

## Crude center effects



$$\hat{\theta}_i \pm 1.96s_i$$

ISCB00-page 12

## **Problem**

too much noise within centers

## **Question**

true variation between centers

## **Solution**

analyze by a random distribution of the center effects

ISCB00-page 13



## Random center effects model

Assume

$$\theta_i \sim N(\mu, \tau^2)$$

Consequently

$$\hat{\theta}_i \sim N(\mu, s_i^2 + \tau^2)$$

Fit by ML

ISCB00-page 14

# RESULTS

## First step:

Test for homogeneity or is there is center effect in the data?

Homogeneity

*either*  $H_0 : \theta_1 = \theta_2 = \dots \theta_{44} = \mu$   
*versus*  $H_1 : \theta_1 \neq \theta_2 \neq \dots \theta_{44} \neq \mu$

*or*  $H_0 : \tau^2 = 0$   
*versus*  $H_1 : \tau^2 > 0$

fixed effect model            -2 LL= 126.7591       $\tau^2 = 0.2531$   
random effect model        -2 LL= 118.2720  
LRT = 8.4 ( $\chi^2_{(1/2)}$ )

ISCB00-page 15

## Better estimate of the center effect by Empirical Bayes

The posterior distribution of the center effect is given by

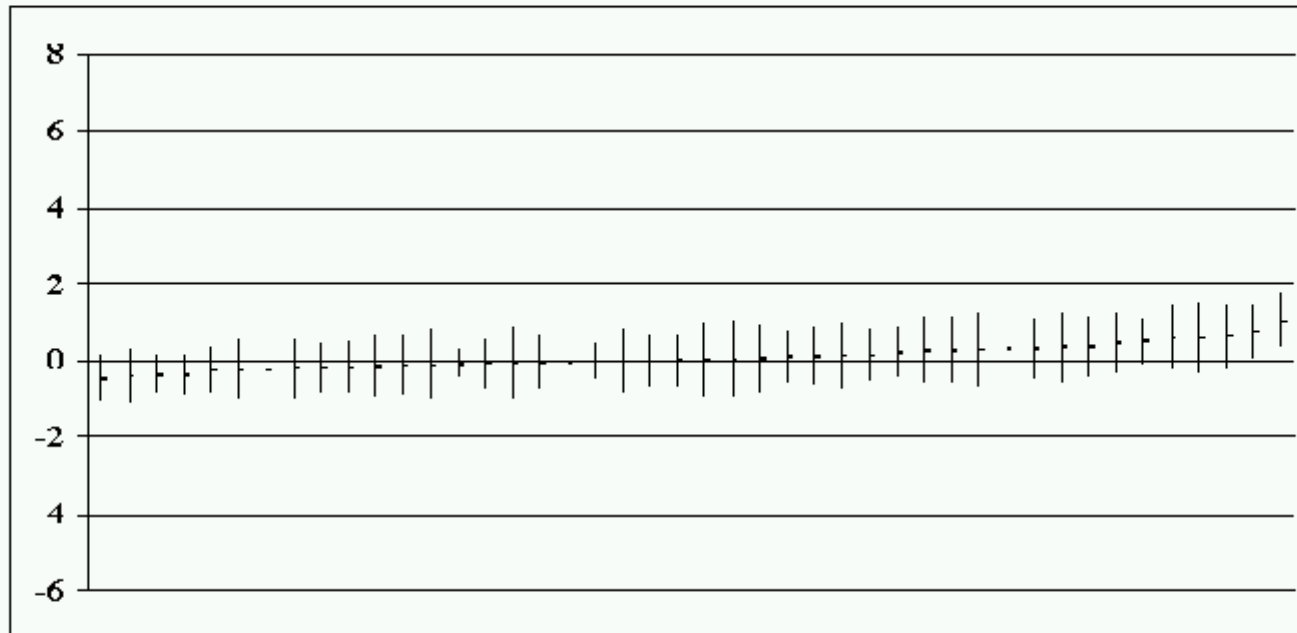
$$\theta_i | \hat{\theta}_i \sim N(EBE_i, pv_i)$$

$$EBE_i = \mu + [\tau^2 / (\tau^2 + s_i^2)] * (\hat{\theta}_i - \mu)$$

$$pv_i = \tau^2 s_i^2 / (\tau^2 + s_i^2)$$

ISCB00-page 16

## EBE center effects



$$EBE_i \pm 1.96\sqrt{pv_i}$$

ISCB00-fig= 17

## Second step :

regression model for true  $\theta_i$ 's or  
can center variability be explained ?

$$\theta_i = \beta_c + \beta_1 Z_1 + \dots + \text{error}$$
$$\text{error} \sim N(0, \tau^2)$$

|                    | <u>random effect variance</u> |                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                    | 0.2531                        |                           |
| <u>Factor</u>      | <u>residual variance</u>      | <u>explained variance</u> |
| country            | 0.2191                        | 19%                       |
| volume (cont's)    | 0.2321                        | 8%                        |
| volume (dichtome)  | 0.1680                        | 34%                       |
| volume and country | 0.1438                        | 43%                       |



## League tables or 'ranking' of centers

$$EPC_i = \phi[(EBE_i - \mu) / \sqrt{\tau^2 + pv_i}]$$

### Measures of rankability/ true variation between centers

$$RA = 12 * \text{var}(EPC)$$

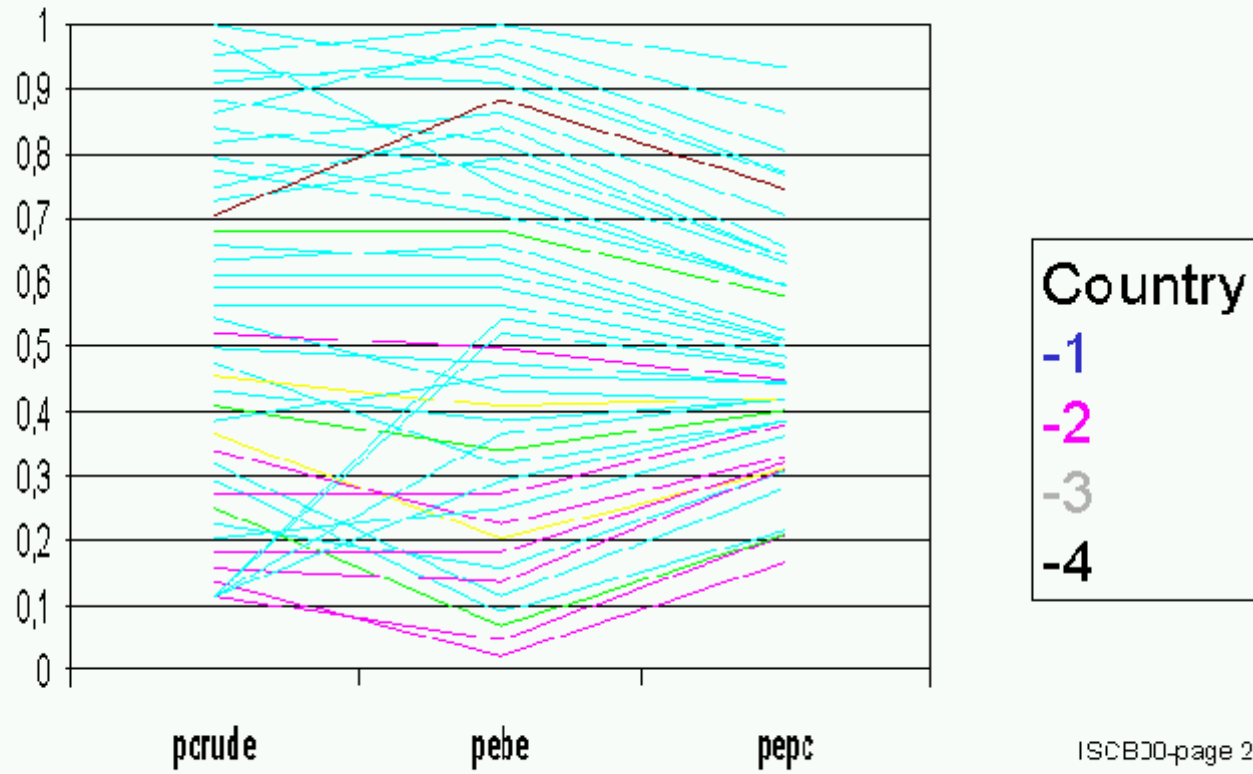
$$R^2 = \tau^2 / [\tau^2 + \text{median}(s_i^2)]$$

#### Our data

|                |   |      |   |
|----------------|---|------|---|
| RA             | = | 40   | % |
| R <sup>2</sup> | = | 41.6 | % |

ISCB00-page 13

# Ranking based on raw data, EBE and EPC



ISCB30-page 20

## conclusion

- score statistic approach for quality comparisons
- sensibility of league tables
- detection of outlying centers
- **reference:** Hans C van Houwelingen, Ronald Brand, Thomas A Louis. Empirical Bayes methods for monitoring health care quality. Bulletin of the International Statistical Institute. ISI '99 Conference Proceedings. Book 1, topic 7: 75 - 78.

ISCB00-page 21



## Random effect model useful to study **goodness-of fit**

(le Cessie & van Houwelingen, 1995, Verweij and van Houwelingen, 1998)

### General idea

- hazard for patient  $i$   $\ln(h_i(t)|X_i) = \ln(h_0(t)) + X_i\beta + u_i$
- $u' (u_1, \dots, u_n)' \sim N(0, t^2 R)$
- test  $t^2 = 0$  versus  $t^2 > 0$
- test statistic  $(d\&H)'R(d\&H) + \text{trace}(RH)$

under  $t^2 = 0$  expectation=0, variance=.....

**corrections needed** for estimation of  $\beta$  and  $h_0$

- Testing for cluster/centre effects by block-diagonal R.
- Suggestion of leCessie and Verweij, **spatial** R
- Next step: fitting “spline” to residuals

Demonstrated on Ovarian cancer data set.

No indication of lack of fit of the simple additive model

## Quick and dirty method

approximate model without fitting linear model

- compute martingale residuals using Breslow hazard
- estimate effect per DIAM×FIGO×KARN combination
- fit model  $\hat{\eta}_i = X_i\beta + u_i + e_i$

**S**  $e_i$  measurement error in  $\hat{\eta}_i$

**S**  $u_i$  deviation from model

Result

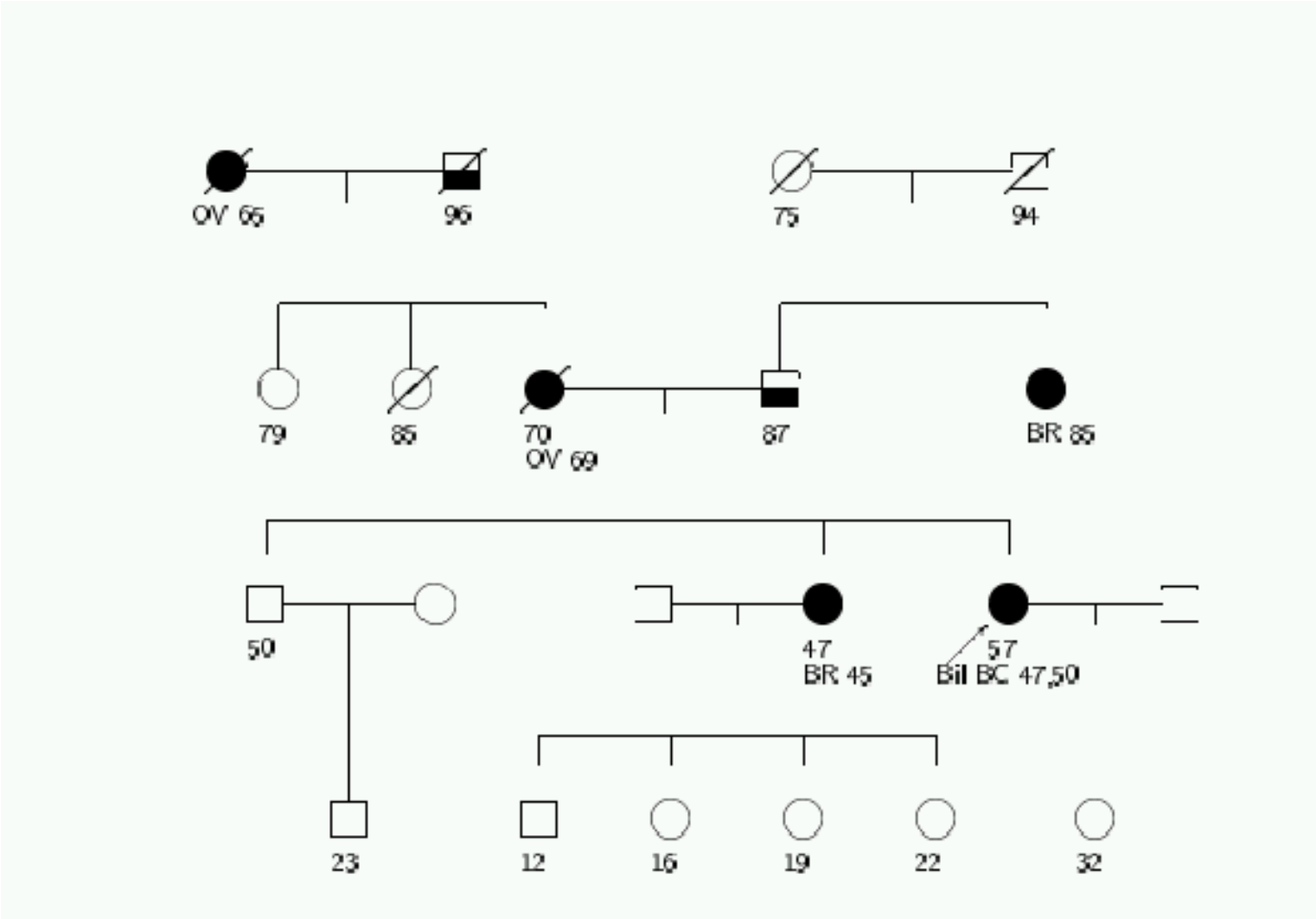
$\text{var}(u) \approx 0$  regression-coefficients very close to formal Cox

# Score functions in pedigree models

(Houwing-Duistermaat & Van Houwelingen, 1995, 2000)

- < Pedigree-models
- < Testing familiarity
- < Predicting outcomes using family history

# Pedigrees



general outcome  $Y_i = X_i\beta + u_i + e_i$

**S**  $u_i$  genetic part with genetic correlation  $\text{cov}(u) = t^2R$

**S**  $\text{var}(e_i) = s^2$

Testing for familiarity = testing  $t^2 = 0$  versus  $t^2 > 0$

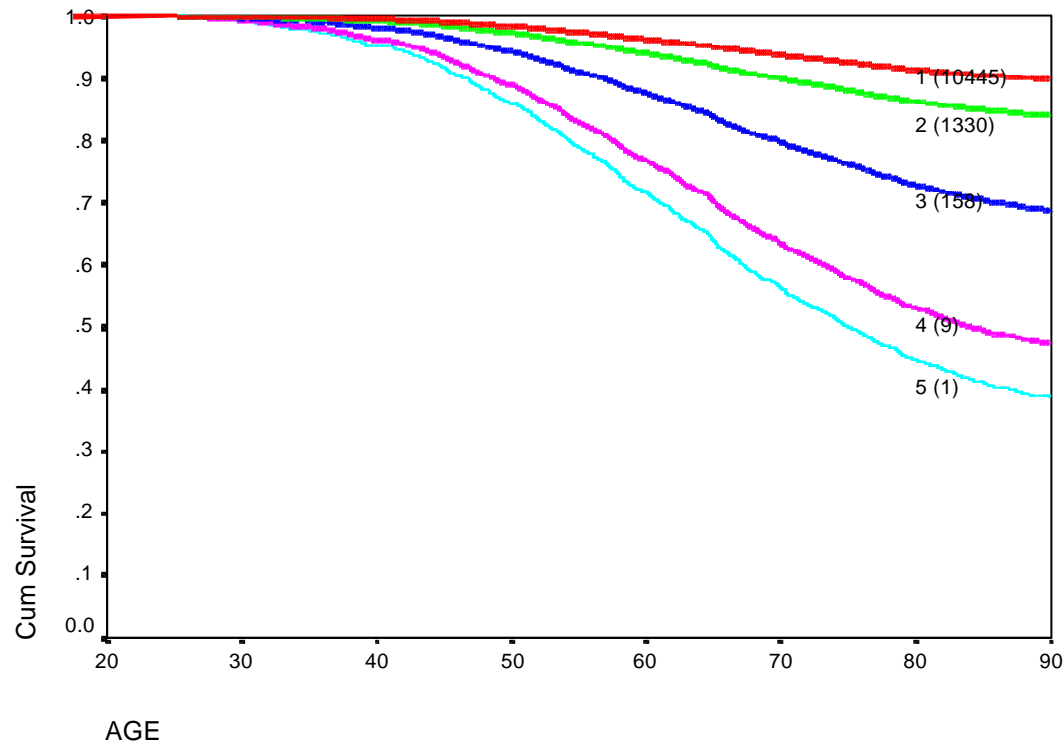
S General structure of test statistic  $Q = \frac{(Y - X\hat{\beta})'R(Y - X\hat{\beta})}{\hat{\sigma}^2}$

S For survival structure as Verweij's goodness-of-fit test

S analysis of family history is regression on  $R(d \& H)$

In simulation study on breast cancer

**S** weighted sum of martingale residuals explains 80% of the explainable variation. but than number of affected relatives



stratified on # cases in the family

(..) gives the number in each stratum



## General

S References in hand out

S **Do not think** survival analysis is very special.

It is very close to just

**Generalised Linear (Mixed) Modeling**