Flexible Parametric Survival Analysis Using Stata: Beyond the Cox Model takes standard survival models into a wider realm, greatly increasing their usefulness. Some applications include prognostic modeling, time-dependent effects of covariates, and relative survival. Royston–Parmar flexible parametric models are a key tool in the approach. They extend familiar parametric models (Weibull, loglogistic, and lognormal), offering a much wider range of distributional forms.

The starting point of the text is a basic understanding of survival analysis and how it is done in Stata. For instance, a reader is assumed to know how to plot a Kaplan–Meier curve and fit a Cox model. The aim of the text is for researchers to build on the illustrations and examples to apply the methodology to their own investigations of survival data. To that end, the necessary tools (ado-files) are provided. The authors also provide Stata code for many of the analyses and graphs in the examples. Presentation of the results of flexible parametric modeling is often best achieved by well-chosen graphs, which is an important message of the book. Many examples with real data are given, and in almost all instances, the datasets are available from the book's website.

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