

# Package ‘gcerisk’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Generalized Competing Event Model

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**Depends** survival, cmprsk, ggplot2,

**Imports** stats

**Description** Generalized competing event model based on Cox PH model and Fine-Gray model.

This function is designed to develop optimized risk-stratification methods for competing risks data, such as described in:

1. Carmona R, Gulaya S, Murphy JD, Rose BS, Wu J, Noticewala S, McHale MT, Yashar CM, Vaida F, and Mell LK (2014) <[DOI:10.1016/j.ijrobp.2014.03.047](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijrobp.2014.03.047)>.
2. Carmona R, Zakeri K, Green G, Hwang L, Gulaya S, Xu B, Verma R, Williamson CW, Triplett DP, Rose BS, Shen H, Vaida F, Murphy JD, and Mell LK (2016) <[DOI:10.1200/JCO.2015.65.0739](https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2015.65.0739)>.
3. Lunn, Mary, and Don McNeil (1995) <[DOI:10.2307/2532940](https://doi.org/10.2307/2532940)>.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**LazyData** TRUE

**RoxygenNote** 6.0.1

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

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gcecox	<i>Fit Generalized Competing Event Model Based on Proportional Hazards Regression</i>
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### Description

Fit a generalized competing event model by using Cox proportional hazards regression model with `coxph` function in `survival` package.

### Usage

```
gcecox(Time, Ind, Cov, N, M, t)
```

### Arguments

Time	survival time for event(s) of interest.
Ind	the status indicators including the primary event(s) of interest, competing event(s) of interest, and all kind of event(s) of interest, normally 0 = alive, 1 = dead from the specific event(s) of interest.
Cov	a data frame containing all covariates.
N	the number of bootstrap replicates
M	the number of bins for $\omega$ or $\omega+$ plots.
t	survival time point for $\omega$ or $\omega+$ plots.

### Details

The `gcerisk` package is designed to help investigators optimize risk-stratification methods for competing risks data, such as described in Carmona R, Gulaya S, Murphy JD, Rose BS, Wu J, Noticewala S, McHale MT, Yashar CM, Vaida F, Mell LK. Validated competing event model for the stage I-II endometrial cancer population. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2014;89:888-98. Standard risk models typically estimate the effects of one or more covariates on either a single event of interest (such as overall mortality, or disease recurrence), or a composite set of events (e.g., disease-free survival, which combines events of interest with death from any cause). This method is inefficient in stratifying patients who may be simultaneously at high risk for the event of interest but low risk for competing events, and who thus stand to gain the most from strategies to modulate the event of interest. Compared to standard risk models, GCE models better stratify patients at higher (lower) risk for an event of interest and lower (higher) risk of competing events. GCE models focus on differentiating subjects based on the ratio of the cumulative hazard (or cumulative hazard of the subdistribution) for the event of interest to the cumulative hazard (or cumulative hazard of the subdistribution) for all events ( $\omega$ ), and the ratio of the cumulative hazard (or cumulative hazard of the subdistribution) for the event of interest to the cumulative hazard (or cumulative hazard of the subdistribution) for competing events ( $\omega+$ ).

The `gcecox` function produces model estimates and confidence intervals from a generalized competing event model based on the Cox PH model for cause-specific hazards. The model assumes proportional hazards for the composite set of events.

The function returns  $\omega$  and  $\omega+$  ratio estimates for the chosen covariates, with 95% confidence intervals, and plots  $\omega$  and  $\omega+$  at time  $t$  within  $M$  ordered subsets of subjects as a function of increasing risk (based on the linear predictor, i.e. the inner product of a subject's data vector and the coefficient vector).

### Value

<code>\$coef1</code>	generalized competing event model coefficients (log ( $\omega$ ratio))
<code>\$coef2</code>	generalized competing event model coefficients (log ( $\omega+$ ratio))
<code>\$result1</code>	result table for generalized competing event model containing exponential of coefficients ( $\omega$ ratio) and 95% confidence intervals
<code>\$result2</code>	result table for generalized competing event model containing exponential of coefficients ( $\omega+$ ratio) and 95% confidence intervals
<code>\$omegaplot1</code>	$\omega$ plot for generalized competing event model
<code>\$omegaplot2</code>	$\omega+$ plot for generalized competing event model
<code>\$omegaplot3</code>	plot of $\omega$ vs time
<code>\$omega</code>	predicted $\omega$ values
<code>\$omegaplus</code>	predicted $\omega+$ values
<code>\$riskscore1</code>	predicted risk scores for $\omega$
<code>\$riskscore2</code>	predicted risk scores for $\omega+$

### Author(s)

Hanjie Shen, Ruben Carmona, Loren Mell

### References

- Carmona R, Gulaya S, Murphy JD, Rose BS, Wu J, Noticewala S, McHale MT, Yashar CM, Vaida F, Mell LK. (2014) Validated competing event model for the stage I-II endometrial cancer population. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.*89:888-98.
- Carmona R, Green GB, Zakeri K, Gulaya S, Xu B, Verma R, Williamson C, Rose BS, Murphy JD, Vaida F, Mell LK. (2015) Novel method to stratify elderly patients with head and neck cancer. *J Clin Oncol* 33 (suppl; abstr 9534).
- Carmona R, Zakeri K, Green GB, Triplett DP, Murphy JD, Mell LK. (2015) Novel method to stratify elderly patients with prostate cancer. *J Clin Oncol* 33 (suppl; abstr 9532).

### Examples

```
# sample data to test
data(Sample)
test <- Sample
rm(list=setdiff(ls(), "test"))
test <- transform(test, LRF_OR_DF_FLAG = as.numeric(test$LRFFLAG | test$DFFLAG))
test <- transform(test, CMFLAG = as.numeric(test$OSFLAG & !test$LRFFLAG & !test$DFFLAG))
test <- transform(test, ACMFLAG = as.numeric(test$LRF_OR_DF_FLAG | test$CMFLAG))
```

```

Time <- test$OSMO/12
Ind <- data.frame(test$LRF_OR_DF_FLAG, test$CMFLAG, test$ACMFLAG)
Cov <- test[,c(3,4,6,15)]
N <- 100
M <- 5
t <- 5

fit <- gcecox(Time, Ind, Cov, N, M, t)

```

gcefg

*Fit Generalized Competing Event Model Based on Fine Gray Regression*

### Description

Fit a generalized competing event model by using Fine Gray regression model with crr function in cmprsk package.

### Usage

```
gcefg(Time, Ind, Cov, N, M, t)
```

### Arguments

Time	survival time for event(s) of interest.
Ind	the status indicators including the primary event(s) of interest, competing event(s) of interest, and all kind of event(s) of interest, normally 0 = alive, 1 = dead from the specific event(s) of interest.
Cov	a data frame containing all covariates.
N	the number of bootstrap replicates
M	the number of bins for $\omega$ or $\omega+$ plots.
t	survival time point for $\omega$ or $\omega+$ plots.

### Details

The **gcerisk** package is designed to help investigators optimize risk-stratification methods for competing risks data, such as described in Carmona R, Gulaya S, Murphy JD, Rose BS, Wu J, Noticewala S, McHale MT, Yashar CM, Vaida F, Mell LK. Validated competing event model for the stage I-II endometrial cancer population. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2014;89:888-98. Standard risk models typically estimate the effects of one or more covariates on either a single event of interest (such as overall mortality, or disease recurrence), or a composite set of events (e.g., disease-free survival, which combines events of interest with death from any cause). This method is inefficient in stratifying patients who may be simultaneously at high risk for the event of interest but low risk for competing events, and who thus stand to gain the most from strategies to modulate the event of interest. Compared to standard risk models, GCE models better stratify patients at higher (lower) risk for an event of interest and lower (higher) risk of competing events. GCE models focus on

differentiating subjects based on the ratio of the cumulative hazard (or cumulative hazard of the subdistribution) for the event of interest to the cumulative hazard (or cumulative hazard of the subdistribution) for all events ( $\omega$ ), and the ratio of the cumulative hazard (or cumulative hazard of the subdistribution) for the event of interest to the cumulative hazard (or cumulative hazard of the subdistribution) for competing events ( $\omega+$ ).

The gcefg function produces model estimates and confidence intervals from a generalized competing event model based on the Fine-Gray model for subdistribution hazards. In the subdistribution hazards model, the function  $H(t) = -\log(1-F(t))$  represents the cumulative hazard of the subdistribution for the cumulative distribution function  $F(t)$ . The model assumes proportional subdistribution hazards for the composite set of events.

The function returns  $\omega$  and  $\omega+$  ratio estimates for the chosen covariates, with 95% confidence intervals, and plots  $\omega$  and  $\omega+$  at time  $t$  within  $M$  ordered subsets of subjects as a function of increasing risk (based on the linear predictor, i.e. the inner product of a subject's data vector and the coefficient vector).

### Value

\$coef1	generalized competing event model coefficients (log ( $\omega$ ratio))
\$coef2	generalized competing event model coefficients (log ( $\omega+$ ratio))
\$result1	result table for generalized competing event model containing exponential of coefficients ( $\omega$ ratio) and 95% confidence intervals
\$result2	result table for generalized competing event model containing exponential of coefficients ( $\omega+$ ratio) and 95% confidence intervals
\$omegaplot1	$\omega$ plot for generalized competing event model
\$omegaplot2	$\omega+$ plot for generalized competing event model
\$omegaplot3	plot of $\omega$ vs time
\$riskscore1	predicted risk scores for $\omega$
\$riskscore2	predicted risk scores for $\omega+$

### Author(s)

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### References

- Carmona R, Gulaya S, Murphy JD, Rose BS, Wu J, Noticewala S, McHale MT, Yashar CM, Vaida F, Mell LK. (2014) Validated competing event model for the stage I-II endometrial cancer population. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.*89:888-98.
- Carmona R, Green GB, Zakeri K, Gulaya S, Xu B, Verma R, Williamson C, Rose BS, Murphy JD, Vaida F, Mell LK. (2015) Novel method to stratify elderly patients with head and neck cancer. *J Clin Oncol* 33 (suppl; abstr 9534).
- Carmona R, Zakeri K, Green GB, Triplett DP, Murphy JD, Mell LK. (2015) Novel method to stratify elderly patients with prostate cancer. *J Clin Oncol* 33 (suppl; abstr 9532).

**Examples**

```

# sample data to test
data(Sample)
test <- Sample
d <- trunc(dim(test)[1]*0.1)
set.seed(seed=2017)
s <- sample(dim(test)[1],d,replace = FALSE)
test <- test[s,]
rm(list=setdiff(ls(), "test"))
test <- transform(test, LRF_OR_DF_FLAG = as.numeric(test$LRFFLAG | test$DFFLAG))
test <- transform(test, LRF_OR_DF_MO = pmin(test$LRFMO, test$DFMO))
test <- transform(test, CMFLAG = as.numeric(test$OSFLAG & !test$LRFFLAG & !test$DFFLAG))
test <- transform(test, ACMFLAG = as.numeric(test$LRF_OR_DF_FLAG | test$CMFLAG))
test <- transform(test, ACM_MO = pmin(test$LRF_OR_DF_MO, test$OSMO))

cod1 <- test$ACMFLAG
cod1[test$LRF_OR_DF_FLAG == 1] <- 1
cod1[test$CMFLAG == 1] <- 2
cod2 <- test$ACMFLAG
Ind <- data.frame(cod1 = cod1, cod2 = cod2)
Time <- test$OSMO/12
Cov <- test[,c(3,4,6,15)]

N <- 50
M <- 5
t <- 5

fit <- gcefg(Time, Ind, Cov, N, M, t)

```

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Sample

*Sample dataset*

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**Description**

A sample dataset used to test functions in package.

**Usage**

Sample

**Format**

A data frame with 479 rows and 16 variables:

**X** index variable

**gender** covariate

**smoke20** covariate

**etohheavy** covariate  
**higrade** covariate  
**age** covariate  
**OSFLAG** event variable  
**LRFFLAG** event variable  
**DFFLAG** event variable  
**DFSFLAG** event variable  
**OSMO** time variable  
**LRFMO** time variable  
**DFMO** time variable  
**DFSMO** time variable  
**BMI** covariate  
**black** covariate

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