

# Package ‘survSAKK’

January 14, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Create Publication Ready Kaplan-Meier Plots

**Version** 1.3.3

**Description** Incorporate various statistics and layout customization options to enhance the efficiency and adaptability of the Kaplan-Meier plots.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**URL** <https://sakk-statistics.github.io/survSAKK/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/SAKK-Statistics/survSAKK/issues>

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Imports** graphics, grDevices, survival

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**LazyData** true

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Vithersan Somasundaram [aut],  
Charlotte Micheloud [cre, ctb],  
Katrin Gobat [ctb],  
Stefanie Hayoz [ctb],  
SAKK, CC [cph, fnd],  
SCTO, Statistics [fnd]

**Maintainer** Charlotte Micheloud <Charlotte.Micheloud@sakk.ch>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2026-01-14 13:00:02 UTC

## Contents

esophagus . . . . .	2
surv.plot . . . . .	3
<b>Index</b>	<b>9</b>

---

esophagus	<i>SAKK Esophagus Cancer Data</i>
-----------	-----------------------------------

---

### Description

This anonymized data contains survival data from patients with resectable esophageal carcinoma to compare the outcomes of two treatment regimens: Neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by chemoradiation and surgery with and without cetuximab.

### Usage

esophagus

### Format

A data frame with 297 patients and 6 variables:

**arm** Treatment Arm.

**OS.time** Overall survival time in years.

**OS.event** Overall survival status (0 = censored, 1 = event).

**hist** Histological type of the tumor.

**PFS.time** Progression-free survival time in years.

**PFS.event** Progression-free survival status (0 = censored, 1 = event).

### Source

SAKK Competence Center, Switzerland

### References

Ruhstaller, T., Thuss-Patience, P., Hayoz, S., Schacher, S., Knorrenschild, J. R., Schnider, A., ... & Stahl, M. (2018). Neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by chemoradiation and surgery with and without cetuximab in patients with resectable esophageal cancer: a randomized, open-label, phase III trial (SAKK 75/08). *Annals of oncology*, 29(6), 1386-1393.

surv.plot

*Publication Ready Kaplan-Meier Estimator***Description**

Provide an open-source, user-friendly tool designed to enhance the creation and customization of Kaplan-Meier plots and incorporating various statistics and layout customization options using `surv.plot(fit, ...)`.

**Arguments**

<code>fit</code>	An object of class <code>survival::survfit</code> containing survival data.
<code>ties</code>	String specifying the method for tie handling. If there are no tied death times all the methods are equivalent. Options: "efron", "breslow", "exact". Default: "efron"
<code>reference.arm</code>	A character string specifying the reference arm for comparison.
<code>time.unit</code>	A character string specifying the time unit which was used to create the <code>fit</code> object. <i>Note:</i> <code>time.unit</code> will not convert the time of the <code>fit</code> object. Option include: "day", "week", "month", "year".
<code>y.unit</code>	A character string specifying the unit of the y-axis. Option include: "probability", "percent".
<code>censoring.mark</code>	A logical parameter indicating whether censoring events should be marked on the survival curves. Default is TRUE.
<code>censoring.cex</code>	A numeric value specifying the size of the marks for censored patients. Default is 1.3.
<code>conf.int</code>	A numeric value controlling the confidence interval on survival curves. Default is 0.95, corresponding to a 95% confidence interval. Values between 0 and 1 represent the desired confidence interval. If set to 0, no confidence intervals are displayed.
<code>conf.band</code>	A logical parameter indicating whether to display the confidence band on the survival curves. Default is TRUE.
<code>conf.band.col</code>	A colour which is used for the confidence band. Can accept a single colour value or a vector of colours.
<code>conf.band.transparent</code>	A numeric value between 0 and 1 controlling the transparency of the confidence band. Default is 0.25.
<code>conf.line.lty</code>	A strings specifying the line type of the confidence lines. Options include: "blank", "solid", "dashed", "dotted", "dotdash", "longdash", "twodash". Default is "blank".
<code>conf.line.lwd</code>	A numeric value specifying the width of the confidence lines.
<code>conf.type</code>	Transformation type for the confidence interval. Options include: "log", "log-log", "plain", "logit", "arcsin". Default is log-log.

grid	A logical parameter specifying whether to draw a grid. Default is FALSE.
col	A colour which is used for the survival curves. Can accept a single colour value or a vector of colours.
main	Title of the plot.
sub	Subtitle of the plot. Note: A subtitle is only displayed if no risk table is shown.
letter	A letter to be displayed on the top to the left of the figure (for example if several plots are displayed in one figure).
letter.cex	The size of letter which is displayed on the top to the left.
letter.pos.x	The X-axis position of letter (corresponds to adj in mtext). Default is -0.35
letter.pos.y	The Y-axis position of letter (corresponds to line in mtext). Default is 1.
xlab	X-axis label.
ylab	Y-axis label.
xticks	A numeric vector specifying the ticks of the x-axis. Can be specified as seq(from = , to = , by = ). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• from: starting value</li> <li>• to: end value</li> <li>• by: number; increment of the sequence</li> </ul>
yticks	A numeric vector specifying the ticks of the y-axis. Can be specified as seq(from = , to = , by = ). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• from: starting value</li> <li>• to: end value</li> <li>• by: number; increment of the sequence</li> </ul> <p><i>Note:</i> It should always be specified as probability.</p>
xlab.pos	Defines the margin line where the X-axis label (xlab) is displayed, starting at 0 and counting outwards. Default is 1.5.
ylab.pos	Defines the margin line the Y-axis label (ylab) is displayed, starting at 0 counting outwards. Default is 3.
xlab.cex	A numeric value specifying the size of the X-axis label.
ylab.cex	A numeric value specifying the size of the Y-axis label.
cex	A numeric value specifying the size of all all text elements (labels, annotations, etc.).
axis.cex	A numeric value specifying the size of the axis elements.
bty	Determines the style of the box drawn around the plot. Options include: "n" , "o", "c", "u". Default is "n".
lty	A string specifying the line type of of the curve(s). Options include: "blank", "solid", "dashed", "dotted", "dotdash", "longdash", "twodash".
lwd	A numeric value specifying the width of the line.
legend	A logical parameter specifying whether to display legend. By default, the legend is displayed if there is more than one arm.

<code>legend.position</code>	Position of the legend. Options include: "c(x,y)", "bottomright", "bottom", "bottomleft", "left",
<code>legend.name</code>	A vector of character string specifying of the name(s) of the arm(s).
<code>legend.cex</code>	A numeric value specifying the size of the legend text.
<code>legend.text.font</code>	Font style of the legend text. Possible values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 normal</li><li>• 2 bold</li><li>• 3 italic</li><li>• 4 bold and italic</li></ul>
<code>legend.title</code>	Title of the legend.
<code>legend.title.cex</code>	A numeric value specifying the size of the legend title.
<code>segment.type</code>	A numeric value specifying the layout of the segment. Possible values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 full width</li><li>• 2 half width</li><li>• 3 vertical and horizontal segment (default)</li></ul>
<code>segment.timepoint</code>	A single value or a vector of fixed time points to be drawn as segment(s).
<code>segment.quantile</code>	A single value or a vector of fixed quantile to be drawn as segment(s). Example: 0.5 corresponds to median.
<code>segment.main</code>	Title of the segment text.
<code>segment.confint</code>	A logical parameter specifying whether to display the confidence interval for the segment. Default: TRUE
<code>segment.annotation</code>	Position of the segment annotation. If several quantiles or time points are chosen then the position can only be set to "left", "right", "top" or "bottom". Options include: c(x,y), "bottom", "bottomleft", "left", "right", "top", "none".
<code>segment.annotation.offset</code>	The offset used in function <code>text()</code> for adding the annotation if several time points or quantiles are added.
<code>segment.annotation.two.lines</code>	A logical parameter to force that the annotation is displayed on two lines. This parameter only has an effect if there is only one arm. Default: FALSE
<code>segment.annotation.col</code>	A colour which is used for the segment annotation. Can accept a single colour value or a vector of colours.
<code>segment.annotation.space</code>	Spacing between the text in units of y-coordinates.

<code>segment.col</code>	A colour which is used for the segment. Can accept a single colour value.
<code>segment.lty</code>	A strings specifying the line type of the segment(s). Options include: "blank", "solid", "dashed", "dotted", "dotdash", "longdash", "twodash".
<code>segment.lwd</code>	A numeric value specifying the width of the segment line.
<code>segment.cex</code>	A numeric value specifying the size of the segment text size.
<code>segment.font</code>	A numeric value specifying the font face. Possible values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 plain</li> <li>• 2 bold</li> <li>• 3 italic</li> <li>• 4 bold-italic</li> </ul>
<code>segment.main.font</code>	A numeric value specifying the font face for the segment text. Possible values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 plain</li> <li>• 2 bold</li> <li>• 3 italic</li> <li>• 4 bold-italic</li> </ul>
<code>stat.fit</code>	An object of class <code>survival::survfit</code> containing survival data. Used for calculation of statistics, allowing to add stratification factors. <i>Note:</i> If not specified the <code>fit</code> object will be used for the <code>stat</code> .
<code>stat</code>	Statistics displayed in the plot. Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "logrank" gives the p value of the conducted logrank test using <code>survdiff{survival}</code>. To tests if there is a difference between two or more survival curves.</li> <li>• "coxph" gives the hazard ratio (HR) and its CI (default: 95% CI)of the conducted Cox proportional hazards regression using <code>coxph{survival}</code>. <i>Note:</i> This option only works if there are two arms.</li> <li>• "coxph_logrank" combines the hazard ratio (HR), its CI (default: 95% CI) and the logrank test. <i>Note:</i> This option only works if there are two arms.</li> <li>• 'none' no statistic is displayed (default).</li> </ul> <i>Note:</i> Confidence interval can be adjusted with the argument <code>stat.conf.int</code> .
<code>stat.position</code>	Position where the <code>stat</code> should be displayed. Options include: <code>c(x,y)</code> , "bottomleft", "left", "right", "top", "topright", "bottomright", "none".
<code>stat.conf.int</code>	A numeric value controlling the confidence interval on the <code>stat</code> (hazard ratio). Default is 0.95, corresponds to a 95% confidence interval. Values between 0 and 1 represent the desired confidence interval.
<code>stat.col</code>	A colour which is used for the statistics text. Can accept a single colour value or a vector of colours.
<code>stat.cex</code>	A numeric value specifying the size of the 'statistics text size.
<code>stat.font</code>	The font face of the statistics Possible values:

- 1 plain
  - 2 bold
  - 3 italic
  - 4 bold-italic
- `risktable` A logical parameter indicating whether to draw risk table. Default is TRUE.
- `risktable.censoring` A logical parameter indicating whether to display number of censored patients. Default is FALSE.
- `risktable.pos` Defines on which margin line of the xlab is displayed, starting at 0 counting outwards. Default is at line 3.
- `risktable.name` Names of the arms for the risk table.
- `risktable.cex` A numeric value specifying the size of the risk table text size.
- `risktable.col` A colour which is used for the risk table. Can accept a single colour value or a vector of colours. Default is black.  
*Note:* If `risktable.col = TRUE` then the colours of the curves are used.
- `risktable.title` Title of risk table.
- `risktable.title.font` Font style of the risk table. Possible values:
- 1 normal
  - 2 bold
  - 3 italic
  - 4 bold and italic
- `risktable.title.col` A colour which is used for the risk table title. Can accept a single colour value.
- `risktable.title.position` A numeric value specifying the position of the title on the x-axis.
- `risktable.title.cex` A numeric value specifying the size of the risk table title size.
- `risktable.name.cex` A numeric value specifying the size of the risk table legend name size.
- `risktable.name.font` Font style of the risk table legend name(s). Possible values:
- 1 normal
  - 2 bold
  - 3 italic
  - 4 bold and italic
- `risktable.name.col` A colour which is used for the risk table name. Can accept a single colour value.
- `risktable.name.position` A numeric value specifying the position of the legend name(s) on the x-axis.
- `margin.bottom` Specifies the bottom margin of the plotting area in line units. Default is 5.

margin.left	Specifies the left margin of the plotting area in line units. Default is 6 (with risktable) or 4 (without risktable).
margin.top	Specifies the top margin of the plotting area in line units. Default is 3.
margin.right	Specifies the right margin of the plotting area in line units. Default is 2.
theme	Built-in layout options. Options include: ("none", "SAKK", "Lancet", "JCO", "WCLC", "ESMO")

## Details

The survSAKK R package provides the `surv.plot()` function, facilitating Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Designed with user-friendliness and efficiency in mind. Offering robust tool for analysing survival data. It utilises the functionalities of `survival::survfit()`.

For a comprehensive manual visit: <https://sakk-statistics.github.io/survSAKK/articles/surv.plot.html>

## Value

Kaplan-Meier curves of the input fit, incorporating various statistics and layout option(s).

## Author(s)

Vithersan Somasundaram and Katrin Gysel

## References

Therneau T (2024). A Package for Survival Analysis in R. R package version 3.5-8, <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=survival>.

Terry M. Therneau, Patricia M. Grambsch (2000). Modeling Survival Data: Extending the Cox Model. Springer, New York. ISBN 0-387-98784-3.

## See Also

- `survival::survfit()` which this function wraps.

## Examples

```
require(survival)
require(survSAKK)

# Create survival object
fit <- survfit(Surv(lung$time/365.25*12, status) ~ sex, data = lung)

# Generate survival plots
surv.plot(fit = fit,
  time.unit = "month",
  legend.name = c("male", "female"))
```



# Index

\* **datasets**

esophagus, [2](#)

esophagus, [2](#)

surv.plot, [3](#)

surv.plot(), [8](#)

survival::survfit, [3](#), [6](#)

survival::survfit(), [8](#)