

# **TMA4275 Lifetime analysis**

Håkon Tjelmeland

Department of Mathematical Sciences  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology

# Counting processes

(Reference: Section 1.4 in Aalen, Borgan and Gjessing, 2008)

- ★ Counting process
  - consider a particular type of event happening on a time axis
  - assume at most one event (of this type) happens in a short time interval  $(t, t + dt]$
  - $N(t)$ : number of events of this type from time 0 up to (and including) time  $t$
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- ★  $M(t)$  is a martingale

## One (uncensored) survival time

- ★ One survival time:  $T$  (continuous stochastic variable)
- ★ Hazard rate:  $\alpha(t)$

$$\alpha(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{P(t \leq T < t + \Delta t | T \geq t)}{\Delta t} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \alpha(t)dt = P(t \leq T < t + dt | T \geq t)$$



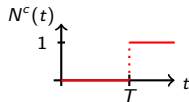
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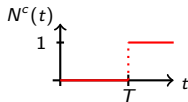
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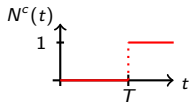
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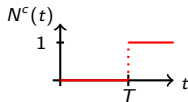
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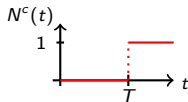
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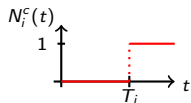
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★ Next:  $n$  independent (uncensored) survival times  $T_1, \dots, T_n$

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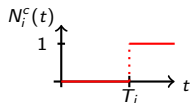
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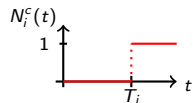
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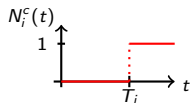
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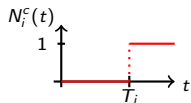
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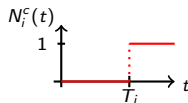
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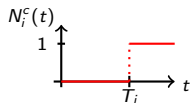
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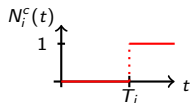
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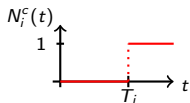
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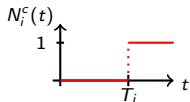
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$$\lambda^c(t) = \alpha(t)Y^c(t)$$

where

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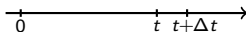
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- ★ Survival time:  $T$  (continuous stochastic variables)
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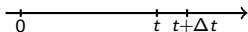
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$$\lambda(t)dt = P(dN(t) = 1 | \text{past}) = P(t \leq \tilde{T} < t + dt, D = 1 | \text{past})$$

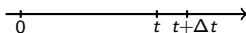
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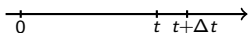
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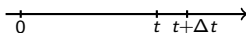
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- ★ Next:  $n$  right-censored survival times  $\tilde{T}_1, \dots, \tilde{T}_n$

## Independent censoring — several survival times

- ★ Survival times:  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  (independent continuous stochastic variables)
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- ★ If  $\alpha_1(t) = \dots = \alpha_n(t) = \alpha(t)$  we get

$$\lambda(t) = \alpha(t)Y(t) \quad \text{where} \quad Y(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n I(\tilde{T}_i \geq t) : \# \text{ individuals at risk just before time } t$$

# Summary

- ★ Have defined (informally)
  - counting process
  - intensity process of a counting process,  $\lambda(t)$
  - independent censoring
  
- ★ Have found formulas for  $\lambda(t)$  in the case of
  - one uncensored survival time
  - several uncensored survival times
  - one censored survival time (assuming independent censoring)
  - several censored survival times (assuming independent censoring)
  
- ★ Multiplicative intensity process

$$\lambda(t) = \alpha(t)Y(t)$$