

# *Interactive applications written in R to accelerate statistical learning*

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## What are we doing?

## Applications

- iNZight
- iNZight Lite
- VIT: Visual Inference Tools
- Mortality Calculator
- Table Maker
- Others



- An interactive data analysis system that has R “unseen under the hood”

<https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~wild/iNZight/>

The INZight logo is displayed at the top left. Below it are three screenshots of the software interface:

- Top Left:** A scatter plot titled "Life Expectancy versus Income from 1952 till 2012". The y-axis is "Life Expectancy (years)" and the x-axis is "log10(GDP.per.Capita)".
- Top Right:** A histogram titled "Distribution of travel". The x-axis shows categories: "bike", "bus", "motor", "other", "train", "walk".
- Bottom Right:** A histogram titled "Distribution of Education.reord by Gender". The x-axis shows education levels: "8thGrade", "9\_11thGrade", "HighSchool", "SomeCollege", "CollegeGrad". The y-axis is "Percentage (%)".

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A screenshot of the INZight software interface showing a scatter plot titled "Life Expectancy versus log10.GDP.per.Capita". The y-axis is "Life Expectancy" (30-80) and the x-axis is "log10.GDP.per.Capita" (2.5-5). A red arrow points to the "Quick Explore" menu. The interface includes a sidebar with variable lists and a bottom toolbar with buttons like "Get Summary" and "Get Inference".

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A screenshot of the INZight software interface showing a grid of scatter plots titled "Life Expectancy versus log10.GDP.per.Capita subset by Year (size proportional to Population)". The grid contains 20 plots for years: yr 1952, yr 1956, yr 1960, yr 1964, yr 1968, yr 1972, yr 1976, yr 1980, yr 1984, yr 1988, yr 1992, yr 1996, yr 2000, yr 2004, yr 2008. A legend on the right lists regions: America (yellow), East Asia & Pacific (green), Europe & Central Asia (teal), Middle East & North Africa (purple), South Asia (pink), and Sub-Saharan Africa (red). A red arrow points to the "Quick Explore" menu.

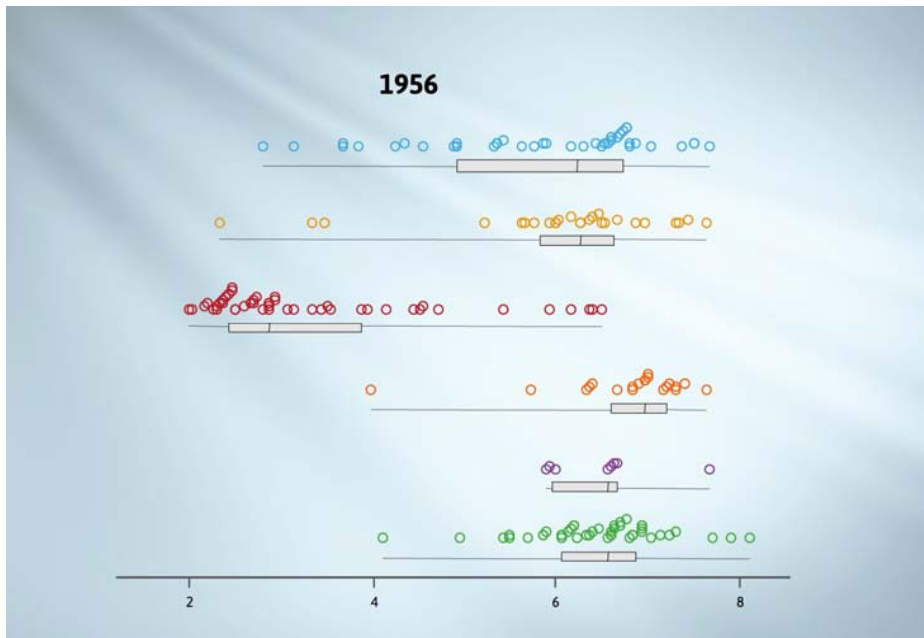
[https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~wild/iNZight/user\\_guides/interface](https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~wild/iNZight/user_guides/interface)

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A grid of scatter plots titled "Region versus Children Per Woman subset by Leap Year". The grid shows 16 plots for leap years: 1952, 1956, 1960, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976, 1980, 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012. The y-axis is "Life Expectancy" and the x-axis is "Children Per Woman". The legend is the same as in the previous slide.

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(playing across time)



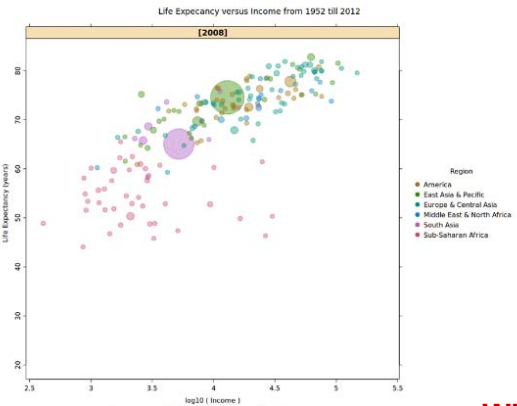
- An interactive data analysis system that has R unseen “under the hood”
- Interactivity from John Verzani’s gwidgets2
  - High-level uses RGtk2 which uses Gtk+
- It has R inside it but users do not see R
  - Windows version also packages Gtk+ inside it
- Caters for beginners through to quite advanced modelling
  - Youngest users in early levels of high school

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Get INZight User Guides Support About Related

Easily explore data and discover trends *without* learning complex software



Download Now for Windows (Mac or Linux downloads)


Latest Version: 2.2 (what's new?)  
Release Date: 16 June 2015  
Price: 100% FREE!

Or try our online application: **inzight Lite**

**Why??**  
**BYOD**

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("Bring your own device"-driven need for tools to work on tablets and even phones)



About File Visualize Row operations Manipulate variables Advanced


### inzight lite

inzight is a simple data analysis system which was initially designed for high school students to help explore data fast and easy without having to learn complex statistical software. By popular demand, it has been extended to support 3D graphics, multivariate analysis, and time series analysis. **inzight lite** is an online version of the full software, which goes a long way to make it more accessible to a wide range of users.

inzight lite lets you import your own data set or explore one of the many example data sets; Even if you don't have a formal background in computer programming or statistics, you can conduct statistical analysis on the data, and modify it to explore hidden secrets behind the data. If you are an expert programmer or statistician, you can contribute to the project by sending us feedback about our source code on github (click "R Source Code" at the bottom of the screen).

This project is led by Professor Chris Wild and has been primarily supported by the Department of Statistics at the University of Auckland, with additional support from Statistics New Zealand and the NZ Ministry of Education

inzight Project | R Source Code | Contact Us  
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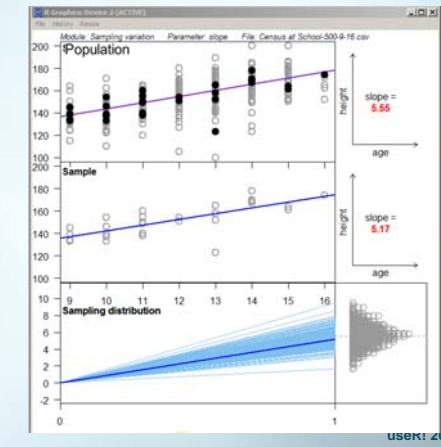
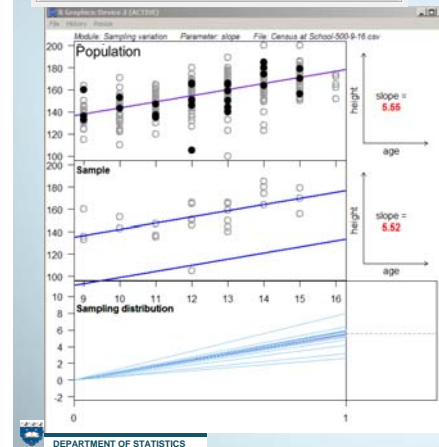
<http://new.censusatschool.org.nz/>  
 (demo in which CaS data tools call up iNZight Lite for analysis)

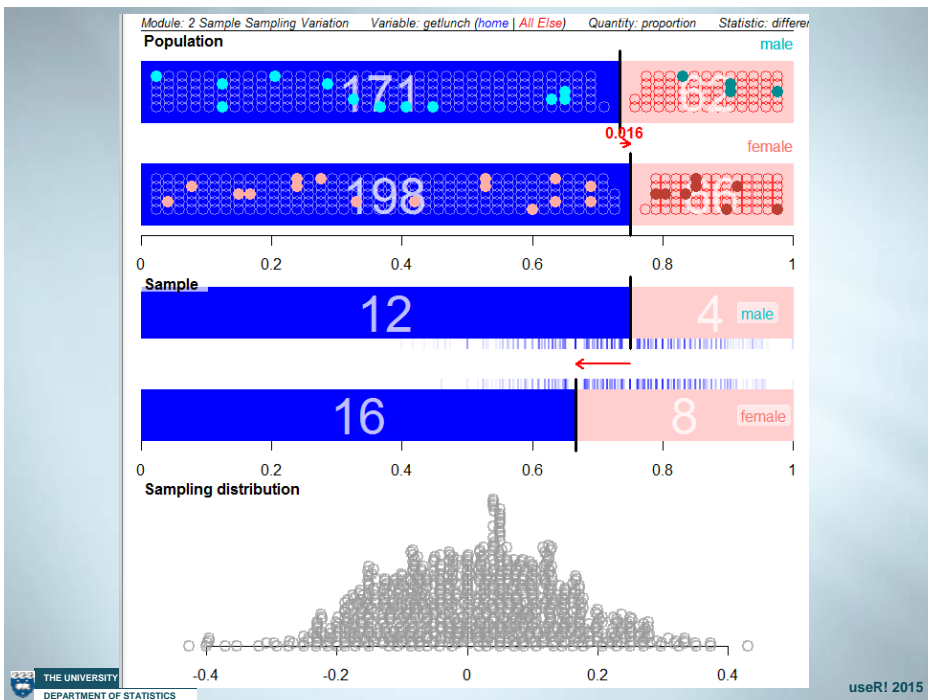
## Visual Inference Tools

- VIT (Visual Inference Tools) is about conceptual development

<https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~wild/VIT/>

## Visual Inference Tools





# Why are we doing it?

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## The data world ... has gotten a whole lot bigger

Can't just keep illuminating same small patch

- Need to get much ...
  - *further*
  - *faster*
  - & with *better* comprehension

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## “Middleware”

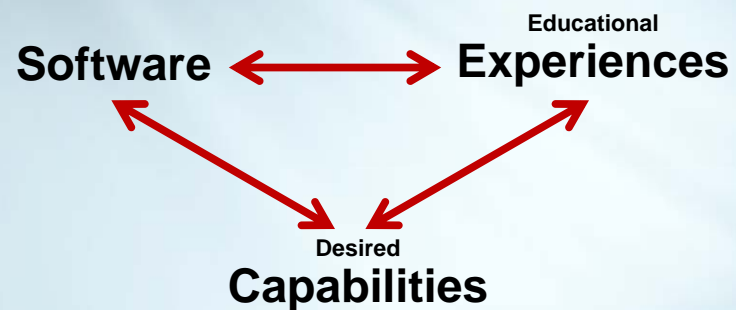
(Not in the technical sense)

- software aimed at ...
  - allowing student to experience
    - as much as possible of “discovery in the data world”
    - in the least possible time
  - Minimal learning curves, everything happens instantly & you don’t have to remember anything

*Initial data analysis experiences should feel like this!*



Developing in concert ...



*(Trade-offs everywhere)*

How are we doing it?



## How are we doing it?

- Sitting in behind iNZight and VIT are sets of R packages
  - (Can be run directly from R)
- User interfaces use John Verzani's **gwidgets**
  - which uses Gtk+ via RGtk2
- Each module has a “receiver function” which manages the mapping of user choices to R calls
- iNZight Lite is same with R Shiny user interface
  - Connecting to exactly the same receiver-functions

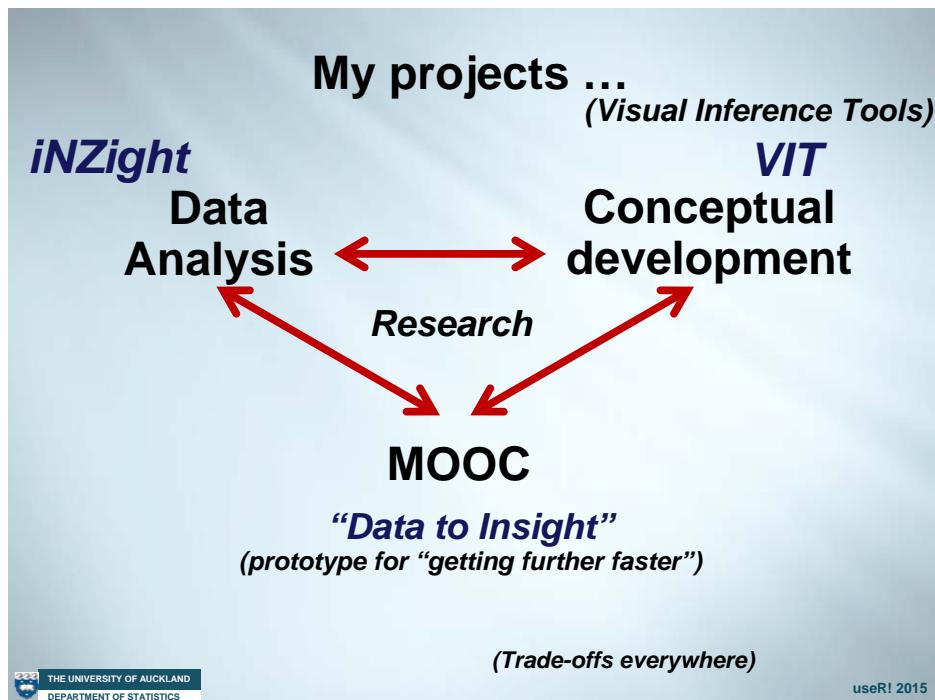
## Mortality “Calculator”

## Census At School Table Maker (1 & 2-way tables)

	Chinese: Totals	Chinese: Percentages
Chinese: no	9479	94.79%
Chinese: yes	521	5.21%
Chinese: Overall Total	10000	100%

## Shiny applications

- iNZight Lite (versions), mortality calculator, probability visualisations, ...
- Each application
  - Is in its own docker container with R shiny server (the free one) with R and relevant libraries.
  - Docker container inside a virtual machine
  - Replicate virtual machines if needed to meet demand
- We want others to be able ...
  - just pick these things up and put down on own servers with a minimum of effort and knowledge
- **Volunteers anyone???**



## MOOC

### DATA to insight



**Week 1: Introduction;** gee whiz; software; data

**Week 2: Boot Camp** (Basic Training) – you’ll see bits of this

**Week 3 & 4: Relationships between variables**

- Relationships between **categorical variables** – you’ll see bits of this
- Relationships between **numeric variables**
  - Trend, scatter & outliers; Clusters
  - Prediction with uncertainty
  - Association & Correlation
  - Trends: Lines, curves & smoothers
  - Large data-set problems and solutions
  - Overprinting, jitter & transparency, granularity & point size, running quantiles
  - **More variables** with size, colour and subsetting

**Week 5: Why “what I see is never quite the way it really is”**

- Measurement and “selection” bias
- Sampling error and sampling variation
- Causation and confounding

**Week 6: Estimation with confidence via bootstrap**

**Week 7: Designed Experiments and randomisation tests**

**Week 8: Time series** stressing seasonal series with forecasting & comparing related series

<https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~wild/d2i/4StatEducators/>

<https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~wild/wildaboutstatistics/> (index to youTube channel)



#### Week 3: RELATIONSHIPS

- **Introduction to Relationships** (Why we care; Outcome & predictor variables) [2:52]
- **Relationships between Categorical Variables** (Exploration using separate bar charts and side-by-side bar charts) [6:22]
- **Changes across subgroups** (Exploring effects of a 3rd and 4th variable on a relationship via *subsetting*, *tiling* & *movement*) [4:52]
- **Relationships between numeric variables** (Scatter plots; Trend, scatter & outliers; Clustering) [5:17]
- **Trend, Scatter & Outliers** (Examples; Prediction & prediction intervals; Training the eye) [6:42]

#### Week 4: MORE RELATIONSHIPS

- **More Relationships** (Introduction to week’s coverage) [1:32]
- **Lines, curves and smoothers** (Lines, curves & smoothers; Least squares) [4:01]
- **Overcoming Perceptual Problems** (Problems with large datasets; Overprinting; Jitter; Varying transparency & point size; Running quantiles; Tile-density plots) [7:05]
- **Diving deeper with more variables** (Additional variables using *colour*, *subsetting* & *movement*; different trends per group) [5:20]
- **Our Changing Health and Wealth** (Case study using up to 6 variables at once by employing *colour*, *size*, *subsetting*, *matrices of tiled plots and movement*) [5:41]

#### Week 5: WHY WHAT WE SEE IS NEVER QUITE THE WAY IT REALLY IS

- **Why what I see is never quite the way it really is** (Intro to week; Facts & artefacts) [3:04]
- **Bad Data** (“Measurement” issues/biases; “Selection” biases; *missingness*) [7:02]
- **Causes and Confounding Variables, Part I** (Confounding & adjustment) [6:38]
- **Causes and Confounding Variables, Part II** (Confounding & adjustment) [3:57]
- **Random Error, Part I** (Random variation/error; effect of sample size) [7:06]
- **Random Error, Part II** (Random variation/error; effect of sample size; biases) [6:05]

## What do I want from this session??

<https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~wild/>

## Potential collaborators!!

- Any aspects of any of these projects
- New R packages to link to
- Skills we don’t have
- ... ?????



*Initial data analysis experiences  
should feel like this!*



**Thank you**

"Don't make students  
crawl over broken glass ..."

before a desire has been aroused  
for what's on the other side"

