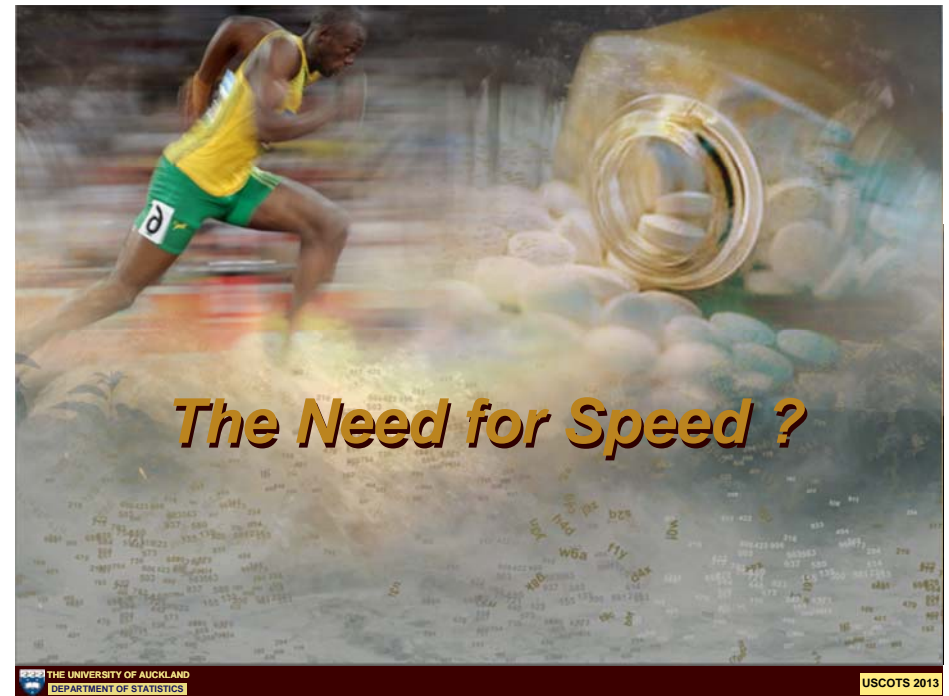


The Need for Speed in the Path of the Deluge

Chris Wild

Department of Statistics
University of Auckland, New Zealand

Manuscript: www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~wild/TEMP/bootstrap.pdf

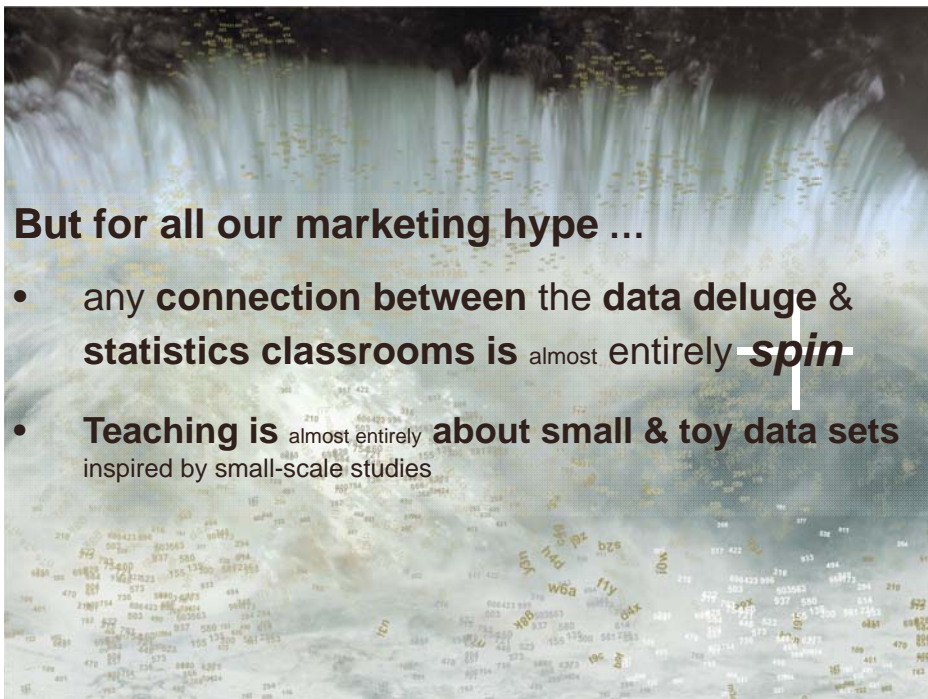
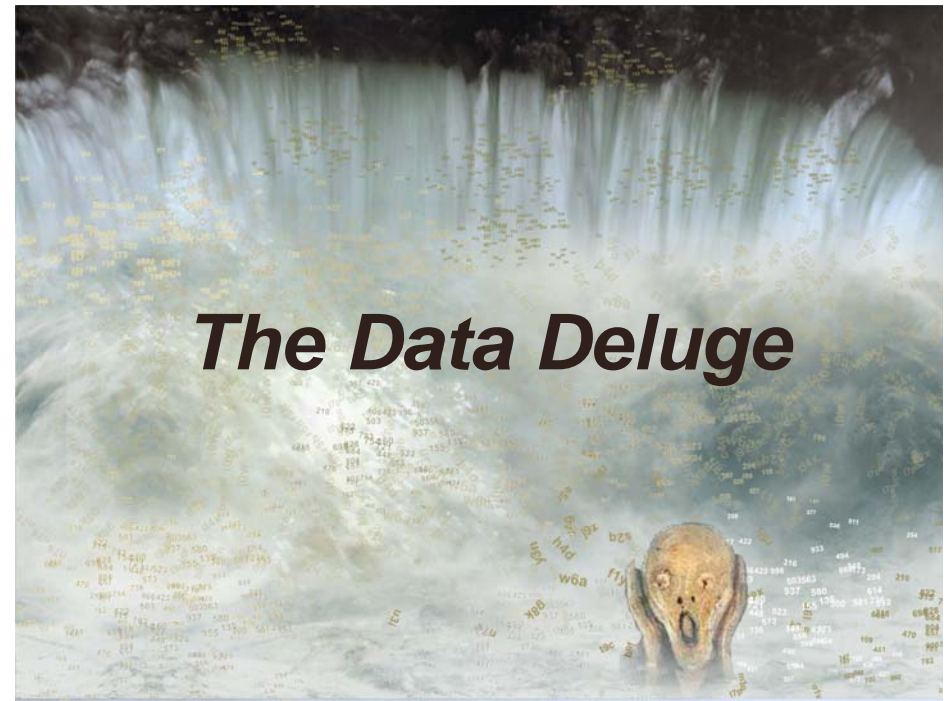
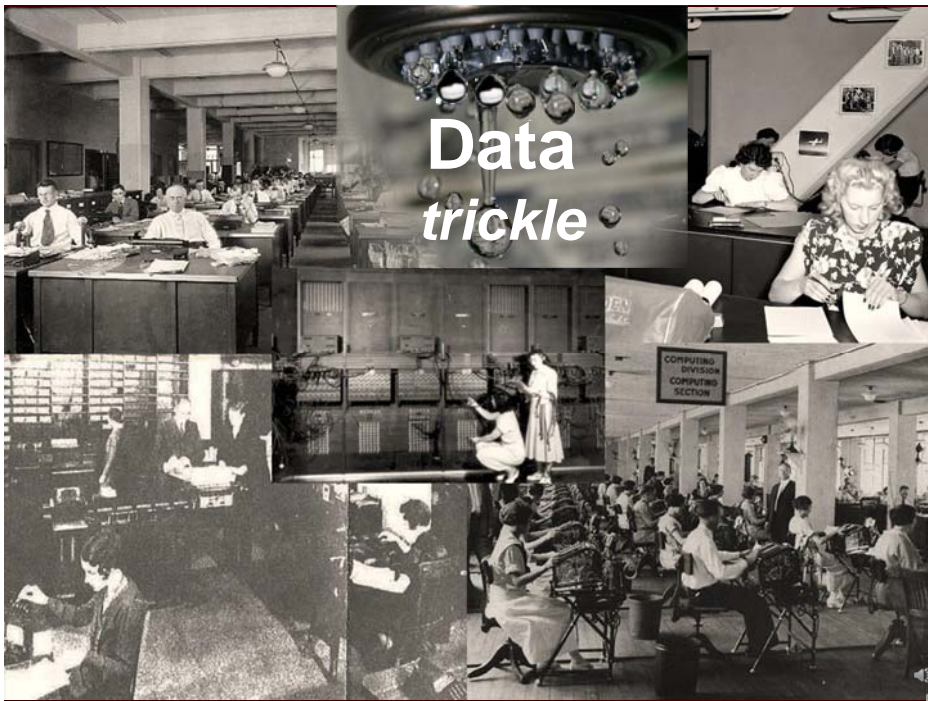


First ...

A Brief History of ~~Data~~

In the beginning there was ...





Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

But the data world ... is getting a whole lot bigger

- There is an explosion in the ...
 - quantities of data being collected
 - conceptions of what constitutes data
 - settings in which it can arise
 - ways of looking at it



Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
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- Future is visual
- Accelerators

But the data world ... is getting a whole lot bigger

Can't just keep illuminating same small patch

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



Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

Green shoots in software ...

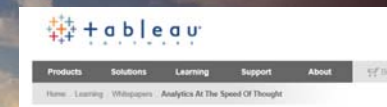


Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

Green shoots in software ...

- Hans Rosling
- Visualisation generally
 - Tableau



“Visualisation is a gateway drug to statistics”

“People who look at visualisations will start asking statistically important questions ... even without knowing the jargon.”

-- Martin Wattenberg

in interview for New Scientist by Peter Aldhous, 5 February 2011, p44.

- AdviseStat

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
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- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

I wonder what's the student experience?

MEANWHILE BACK AT THE RANCH ...

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

Student experience??

Hate ...

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

Student experience??

Fear ...

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

Student experience??

Love ...

Data analysis

Uncovering the stories in a sea of data

- Further, Faster, Better
- Data world exploding
 - Green shoots in Software
 - Vision
 - Future is visual
 - Accelerators

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

Student experience ??

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

- Further, Faster, Better
- Data world exploding
 - Green shoots in Software
 - Vision
 - Future is visual
 - Accelerators

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

Glass Shards:

- Jargon & formalisms
- Driving complex systems
- Fear of "mathematics"

"Dark Magic"

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

- Further, Faster, Better
- Data world exploding
 - Green shoots in Software
 - Vision
 - Future is visual
 - Accelerators

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

The source of (the desired) desire is:

...

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

The screenshot shows the iNZight software interface. At the top, there are menu options: "Data IN/OUT", "Filter Data", "Manipulate Variables", "Trash", and "plot". Below these are "Advanced" and "View Data Set" buttons. A data table is visible with columns for "row.names", "cellphone", "rightfoot", "travel", "getlunch", "height", "gender", "age", "year", "arrivals", and "cellcost". A plot titled "height by travel" is shown on the right, with a y-axis labeled "height" ranging from 140 to 200. A large yellow thought bubble is overlaid on the plot, containing the text: "I can learn lots of fascinating stuff by digging around in data". Below the thought bubble is a dark red box with the text: "Learned by personal discovery → an internalised belief".

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
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- Accelerators

“the future of improved statistical understanding is



“The Eyes have it”

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

“the future of improved statistical understanding is



improved understanding of ...

data

inferential concepts

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

VISION Statement for Early Statistics

- To *create excitement* about
 - “What I can do with data &
 - What data can do for me”

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

Some things

• Some things change

- Exploding world of data
- Need to convey more of this more quickly



• Some things stay the same

- Available time
- Inability to hold more than 4-7 ideas in working memory

• So something's got to give !!

- Details of how we construct things

- Segmentation the behind them are

And software (& simulation & visualisation) provides the key

- Further, Faster, Better
- Data world exploding
 - Green shoots in Software
 - Vision
 - Future is visual
 - Accelerators

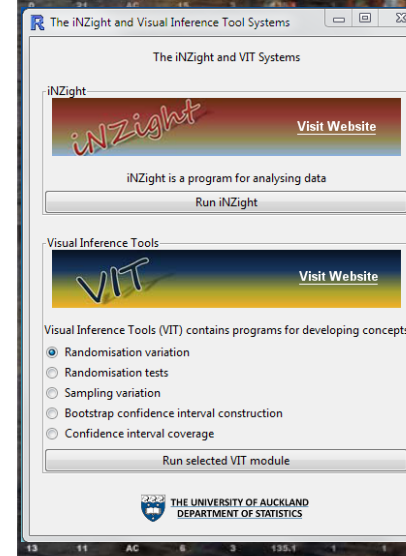
Uncovering the stories in a sea of data

A belief that this is possible ...

Data analysis

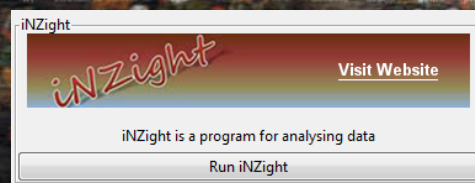
- Further, Faster, Better
- Data world exploding
 - Green shoots in Software
 - Vision
 - Future is visual
 - Accelerators

led to work on tools to
facilitate this future



- Further, Faster, Better
- Data world exploding
 - Green shoots in Software
 - Vision
 - Future is visual
 - Accelerators

A belief that this is possible
led to work on tools to facilitate this future

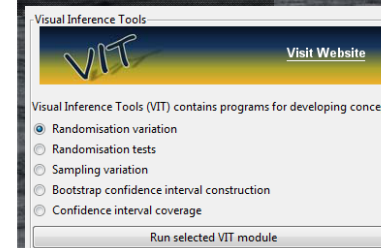


- a simple data exploration system
 - to allow uncovering of stories in several dimensions
 - using very simple graphical forms
 - Stealing good ideas and metaphors from ...
e.g. Hans Rosling; Jim Ridgway, Smart Centre, Durham U.
 - Facilitating ...
- “exploring data at the speed of your thoughts”**

(Similar to Tableau Software slogan)

- Further, Faster, Better
- Data world exploding
 - Green shoots in Software
 - Vision
 - Future is visual
 - Accelerators

A belief that this is possible
led to work on tools to facilitate this future



Visual Inference Tools

Visualisation modules

- for building conceptual understanding
 - To help dispel *the Dark Magic*
- “I have a feel for what’s going on here”**

Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

Time Series

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Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators

Shift of focus

From:

- “What are all the things I have to do to get the output I’m meant to produce?”

To:

- “What are the questions?”
- “What can I see?”
- “What does that tell me?”

Using “enabling software” to “cut out the middle man”

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Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators
- Excitement & “safer sex”

But ...

- with arousal to the pleasures of discovery ...

CAUTION SAFE SEX

- need fundamental statistical “safe sex” messages

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- Data world exploding
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- Future is visual
- Accelerators
- Excitement & “safer sex”

Looking at the world using data is like looking through a window with ripples in the glass

“What I see ... is not quite the way it really is”

We see a blend of fact & artefact

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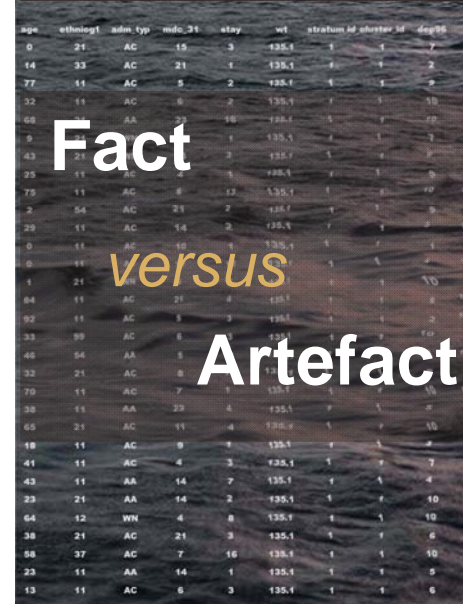
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There are stories ...
& there are "stories"



Data analysis

Stories vs "stories"



Fact

versus

Artefact

America's Silent Majority By Joe Klein



Stories vs "stories"



Fact

versus

Artefact

not always an improvement!

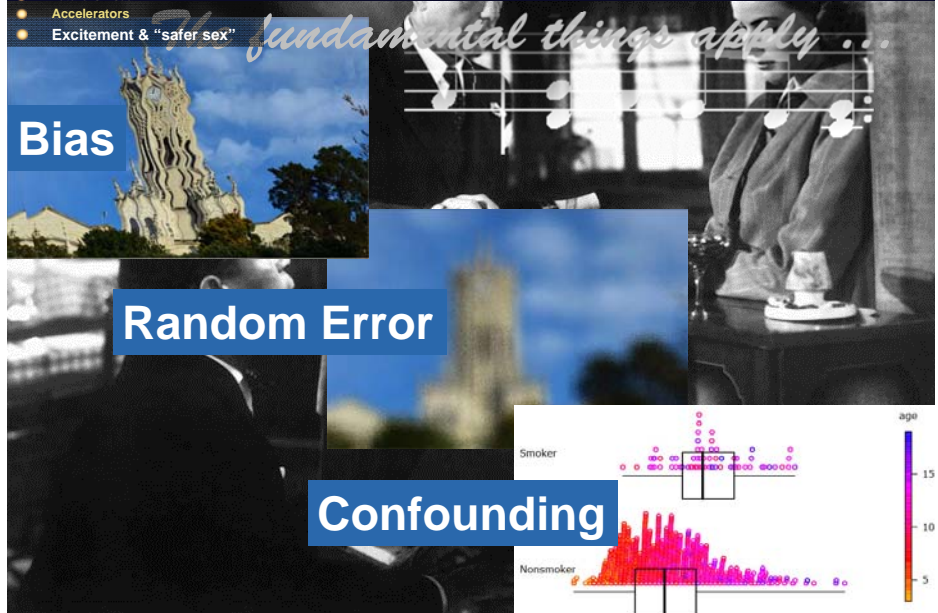
America's Silent Majority By Joe Klein



Further, Faster, Better

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators
- Excitement & "safer sex"

Main causes of artefact



Bias

Random Error

Confounding

fundamental things apply...

- Data world exploding
- Green shoots in Software
- Vision
- Future is visual
- Accelerators
- Excitement & "safer sex"

We see a blend of fact & artefact

• Statistical study design

- employing random sampling or randomised experimentation (in conjunction with other tricks of the trade) used to minimize artifact

• Inference based on randomness theory

- most **obviously relevant** and **valid** where (all of) the randomness is introduced by the study design

• other uses are **based on models**

that **assume random mechanisms** are at work somewhere in the process that generated the data

Hugely more complex & difficult thinking

- Inference & data production
- Depicting Sampling Variation
- Uncertainty intervals

Start with randomness by design

(The basic concepts can transfer to modelling contexts later)

• Confidence interval ideas

- arise most directly and simply in sampling contexts

• Significant

- arise most in settings

"The traditional road to statistical knowledge is blocked, for most, by a formidable wall of mathematics."

– Efron & Tibshirani (1993)

• In both cases

- can motivate and convey all of the essential ingredients **entirely visually** (without a formula in sight)

- Inference & data production
- Depicting Sampling Variation
- Uncertainty intervals

Start with randomness by design

(The basic concepts can transfer to modelling contexts later)

• C

- *Get basic ideas in place first* (in contexts)

• S

- *Can mathematize later* (in experiment

settings (experiments)

• In both cases

- can motivate and convey all of the essential ingredients **entirely visually** (without a formula in sight)

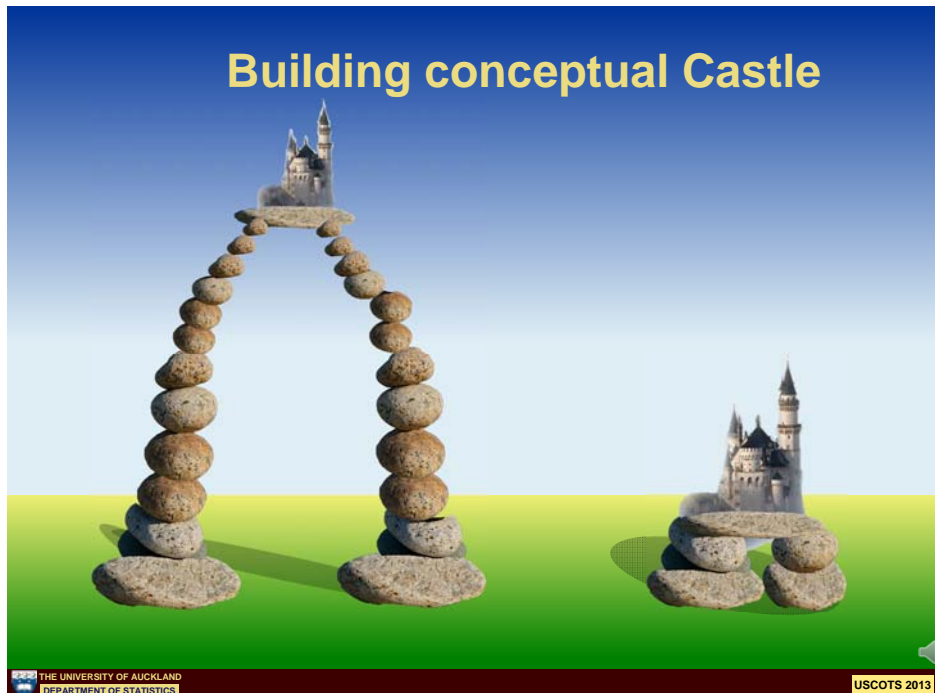
Approach

- *Get basic ideas in place first*

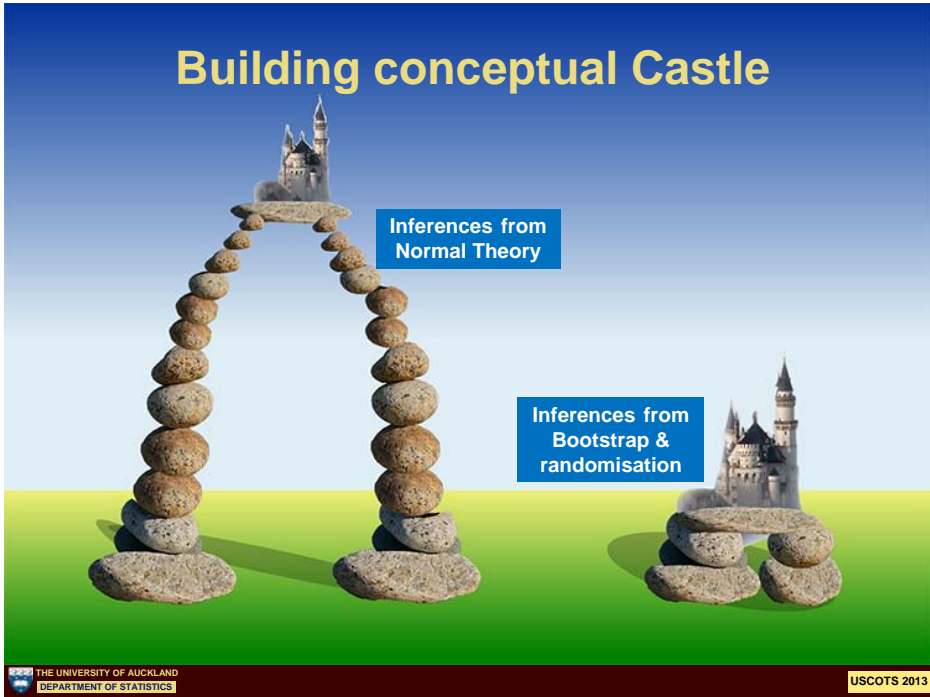
- intuitively, visually

- *Can mathematize later*

Building conceptual Castle



Building conceptual Castle



Towards Visual Inference

- Inference & data production
- Depicting Sampling Variation
- Uncertainty intervals

Principle

The inferential method should mirror the

- I'm going to lead down some sets of conceptual sequences
- It's for you to judge how well they hang together

1. ...
2. ... themselves to visual treatments
3. Connect better to intuition

Will spend rest of the talk exploring and demonstrating this assertion

Towards Visual Inference

- Inference & data production
- Depicting Sampling Variation
- Uncertainty intervals

Statistical inference & "sampling variation"



Towards Visual Inference

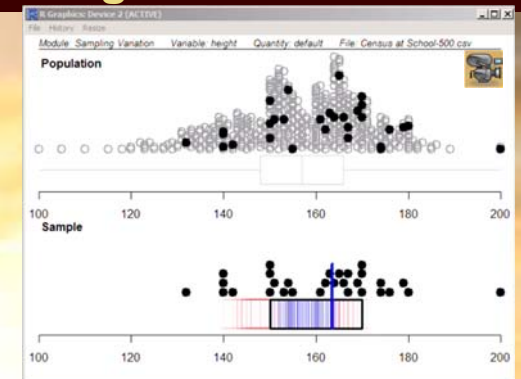
- Inference & data production
- Depicting Sampling Variation
- Uncertainty intervals

Original version

Use *boxplots*

Track

- medians — blue
- quartiles — red



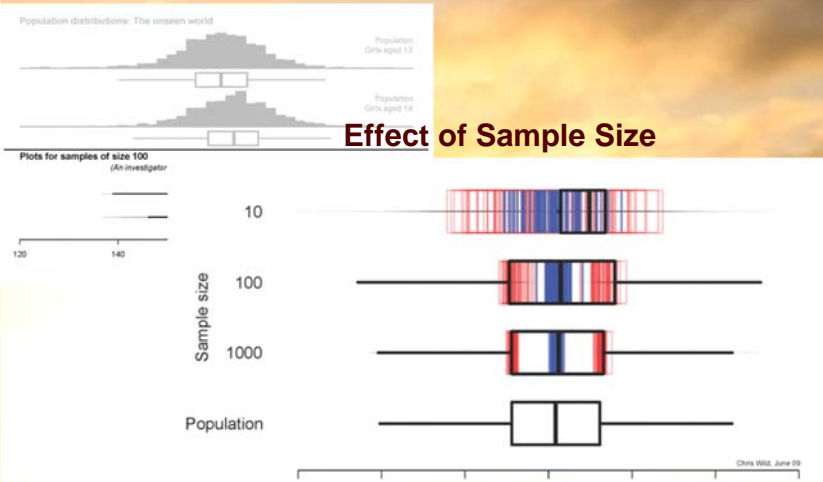
Makes ...



- Towards Visual Inference
- Inference & data production
 - Depicting Sampling Variation
 - Uncertainty intervals

Very Useful

Comparisons



- Towards Visual Inference
- Inference & data production
 - Depicting Sampling Variation
 - Uncertainty intervals

Want to plant a reflex ...

“Whenever I see ...”

“I should remember ...”

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- Towards Visual Inference
- Inference & data production
 - Depicting Sampling Variation
 - Uncertainty intervals

Desired reflex ...

“Whenever I see ...”

“I should remember ...”

“Mine could be like this ...”

“Or even this ...”

“I must take this uncertainty about where it really should be into account (e.g. when I make comparisons)”

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- Towards Visual Inference
- Inference & data production
 - Depicting Sampling Variation
 - Uncertainty intervals

Engaging some intuition

True Median (“the unseen truth”)

Population (Unseen)

Data median is seldom further to try to catch this

I know this sort of thing happens

Truth is seldom further from data median than this

I got this

Use this ...

Median for my data

“but where is truth likely to lie?”

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Intuition

“Where is truth likely to lie?”

I got this



Truth is seldom further from my data median than this

Problem: I don't actually see width of this “uncertainty” band



Why?: I only see one frame of sampling variation movie

So: We need some sort of estimate of the width of uncertainty band *from the single sample itself*

How ????

Seems impossible!!

Enter Brad Efron & the ^{simple} Bootstrap

Efron (1979)



(1996 photo)

I wonder if “sampling with replacement from the sample” will mimic the process of “sampling from the population”

Bootstrap

- Bootstrap Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
- Constructing Bootstrap intervals
- Does it work?

Bootstrap

- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
- Constructing Bootstrap intervals
- Does it work?

Bootstrap

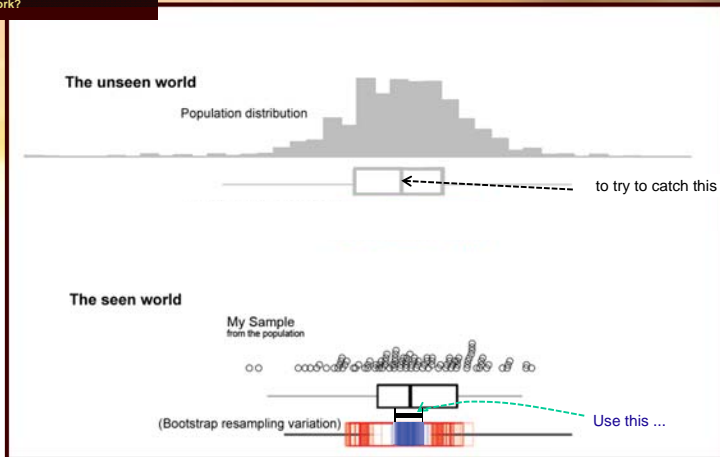
“Re-sampling with replacement”

- *What is it?*
- *What does it do?*



- Bootstrap**
- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
 - Constructing Bootstrap intervals
 - Does it work?

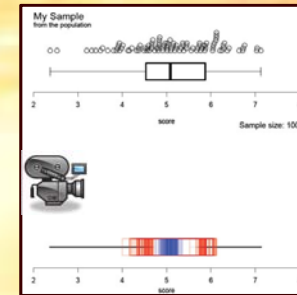
How could we use it?



- Bootstrap**
- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
 - Constructing Bootstrap intervals
 - Does it work?

Bootstrap

How could we use it?



- Bootstrap**
- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
 - Constructing Bootstrap intervals
 - Does it work?

Bootstrap

“Re-sampling with replacement”

- Why might it work?

Plausibility

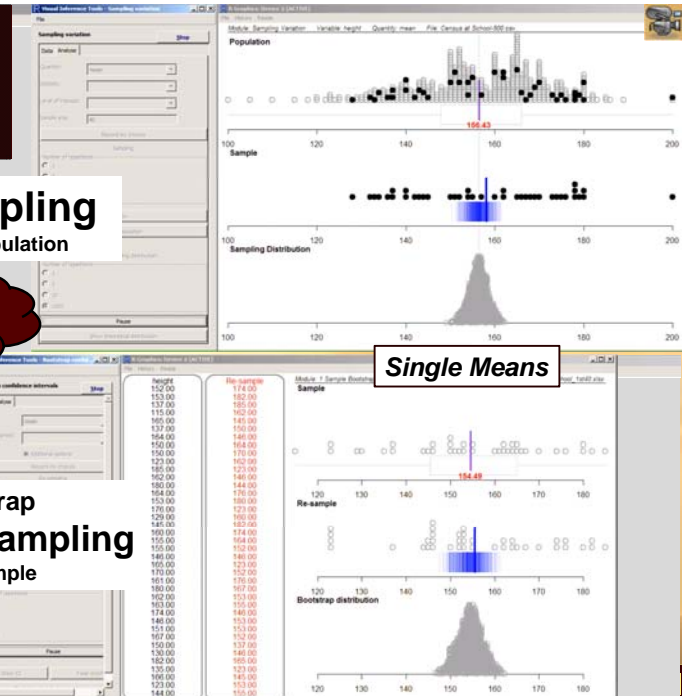
- Bootstrap**
- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
 - Constructing Bootstrap intervals
 - Does it work?

Sampling from population

Looks very similar



Bootstrap Re-Sampling from sample

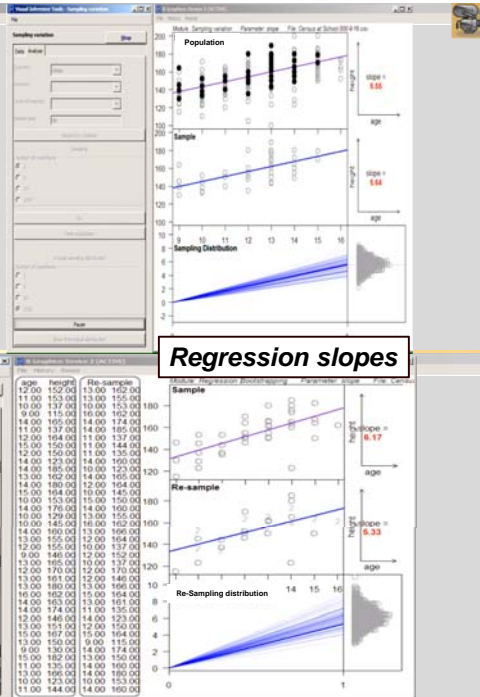


- Bootstrap**
- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
 - Constructing Bootstrap intervals
 - Does it work?

Sampling from population

Looks very similar

Bootstrap Re-Sampling from sample



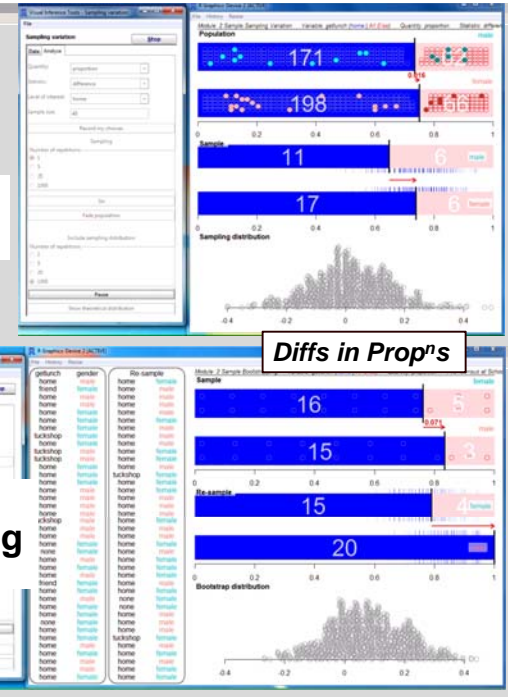
Regression slopes

- Bootstrap**
- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
 - Constructing Bootstrap intervals
 - Does it work?

Sampling from population

Looks very similar

Bootstrap Re-Sampling from sample



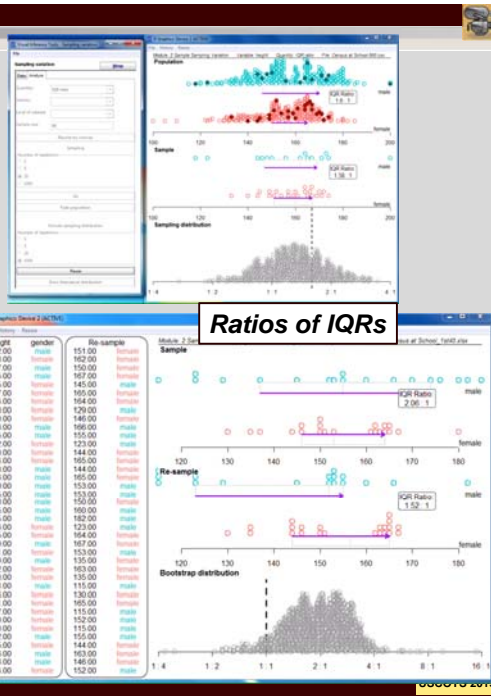
Diffs in Prop's

- Bootstrap**
- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
 - Constructing Bootstrap intervals
 - Does it work?

Sampling from population

Looks very similar

Bootstrap Re-Sampling from sample



Ratios of IQRs

Bootstrap intervals

Using re-sampling to construct an interval

Construction

- How is it done?



Bootstrap

- Sampling with replacement
 - What is it?
 - What does it do?
 - How could we use it?
 - Why might it work?
- Constructing Bootstrap intervals
- Does it work?

Bootstrap intervals

Looks plausible ...
Does it work ??

to try to catch this
Use this ...

“Simulate & see”

The seen world

My Sample from the population

Play

(Bootstrap resampling variation)

PHILIP MARLOWE
CRIMINAL & CIVIL
INVESTIGATIONS

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Embed in Discovery learning for Methodology

Need

Idea

Does it work?

Doesn't Works

Use it

encounter situations where doesn't work

How does this differ from grown-up statistics?

Only really omits
“Does it work in Asymptopia?”

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Bootstrap – one basic, widely applicable idea

Not a huge step now ...

- to accepting that
 - we can & should put uncertainty intervals around most everything
- And further ...

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More complex: Scatterplot with smoother

FEV by age

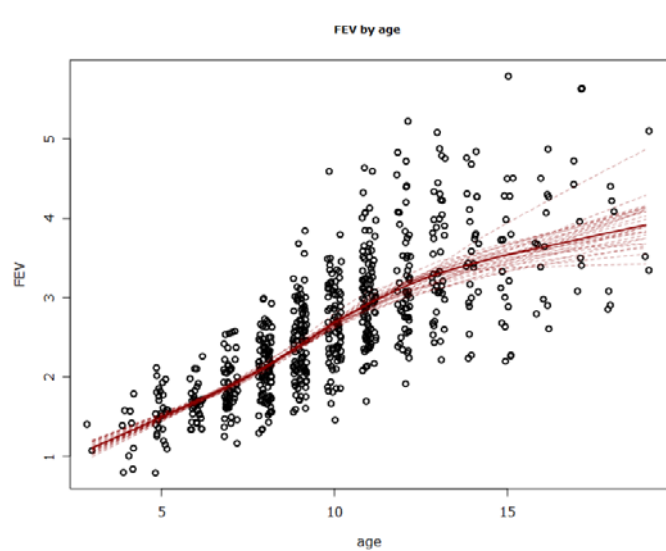
FEV

age

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Bootstrap smooths added to convey uncertainty

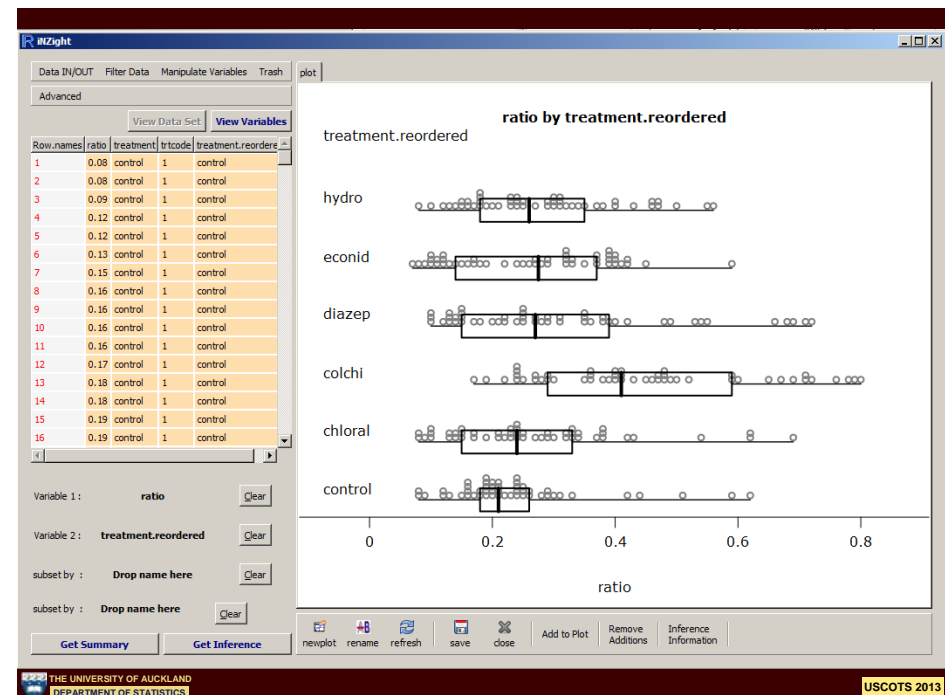


Randomised experiments and Randomisation tests

Cell-ratio data

[Source: Auckland's Cancer Research Unit]

- Experimental units are samples of human blood cells
 - Grown in cell culture and then treated with one of
 - *chloral hydrate, hydroquinone, diazepam, econidazole, and colchicine*
 - some of which are known to be potent carcinogens.
 - The carcinogens act by breaking chromosomes, and thus disrupts cell division
 - Broken fragments of chromosome are left as micronuclei, and the average ratio of the size of a micronucleus to its parent cell nucleus is measured.
 - » The more carcinogenic the chemical, the higher the ratio tends to be
 - A random mechanism determined which samples of cells received which chemical treatment



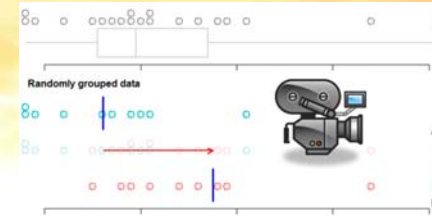
Experiential Context

- Simple randomised experiment
 - e.g. drug vs control
- Follows experiences on “why do randomised experiments”
 - Following up message that randomisation is best way we know of balancing groups on unforeseen factors so that, apart from treatment, we are **comparing like with like** (“fair test”)

Experiential Context

1st new message:

- **Randomisation is best, but not perfect ...**



“What I see isn’t exactly the way it is”

Why?: Randomisation variation

Randomisation alone can make it look like there is a difference between groups (the apparent differences result simply from who, by chance, ends up in what group)

We should only be impressed by experimental differences if they are larger than those produced by random labelling alone

Randomisation test visualisations

Can random labelling alone (“*chance alone*”) produce differences as large those as I’m seeing?



Epilogue

- Got a quite a long way with tiny number of ideas
- Can broaden applications greatly without difficulty
 - so long as stick to ...
 - intervals in contexts that emphasize sampling
(Expand the complexity of sampling, range of quantities estimated)
 - Significance tests in contexts that emphasize random assignment
(Expand the complexity of design, range of quantities estimated)
- But when you want to do ...
 - interval estimates of effect sizes in experimental contexts
 - significance testing in sampling contextsyou suddenly have to wheel in many more concepts

Track/investigate/use behaviour of ...	VIT Module Name			
	<i>Motivation of need for method</i> Randomisation Variation <small>(random assignment of group labels)</small>	<i>Inferential Method</i> Randomisation Tests <small>(random re-assignment of group labels)</small>	<i>Motivation of need for method</i> Sampling Variation <small>(random sampling from Popn)</small>	<i>Inferential Method</i> Bootstrap Conf. Ints <small>(Random re-sampling from sample)</small>
1-variable				
Numeric				
Categorical				
2-variables				
Num Cat (2 grps)	Diffs in: Means, Medians; 2-sample t-stats; IQR Ratio	Diffs in: Means, Medians; 2-sample t-stats; IQR Ratio	Whole boxplots Diffs in: Means, Medians; IQR Ratio	Diffs in: Means, Medians; IQR Ratio
Num Cat (k grps)	Av. Deviation, F "pseudo-F"	Av. Deviation "pseudo-F"		
Cat Cat (2 grps)	Diffs in: Proportions	Diffs in: Proportions		
Cat Cat (k grps)	Av. Deviation, Chisq	Av. Deviation, Chisq		
Num Num	Reg Slope (default) Paired diffs (option)			

Columns differ in:

- "parent data" being operated on (popn/sample)
- operation performed (sampling/assigning grp labels)
- Motivation vs Method

Rows differ in:

- Quantity/statistic worked with

Principle:

- maximise "same-ness" across & down so ...
 - "same-nesses" reinforced
 - visual differences relate to essential differences
 - to improve conceptual transfer

• What we don't have in this development

- Beginner-killing abstractions
 - e.g. null hypotheses, parameters vs estimates, test statistics, formal distributions ...
- Dense clouds of details
- Dependence on (poorly understood) mathematical ideas

• What we do have

- "Concrete" ideas that make sense in the context
 - e.g. "Can random labelling do this?"
- Fast access to a wide range of important applications
- Substantial body of intuition and experience as a foundation to then build abstractions upon

Addressing the Need for Speed

- iNZight-type software can facilitate a fast, accessible way in to understanding a much wider spectrum of data types
- VIT-type software can facilitate a fast, accessible way in to understanding basic inferential conceptions

My "vision" is

- initially create an appreciation of a very wide array of data types and what they can tell you
 - and only then back fill the details (for those who need it)

The fundamental things apply ...

Bias

Random Error

Confounding

The collage includes a clock tower, a man in a suit, a woman in a coat, and a scatter plot showing the relationship between 'Smoker' status and 'age'. The scatter plot has a color scale for age from 5 to 15. Below the scatter plot is a histogram showing the distribution of ages for smokers and nonsmokers.



Thank you