



A Vis Tool for BC CDC: Disease Outbreak Detection and Prediction

CPSC 547 Pitch

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PhD in Health Outcomes

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Problem

- British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BC CDC) currently monitors **over 60** diseases, including COVID-19.
- It requires **highly experienced staff** to continuously monitor and decide whether a reported disease count is **higher than expected** for each of the 60+ diseases.
- This process is too **costly** and **fallible**.

Solution

- In collaboration with BC CDC and School of Population and Public Health, I developed an **automated method** for detecting disease outbreaks (my MSc thesis under the supervision of Prof. Matias Salibian-Barrera).
- **Goal 1:** To develop a vis tool for decision makers at BC CDC.
- **Goal 2:** To provide a prediction functionality using ML.

Data

- BC CDC data is not open to general public.
- I will use open data from the US: **Project Tycho**.
- The data type is a table. It has the following attributes:
 - Time
 - Geographical area (states)
 - Disease count (mostly weekly)
 - Disease type
 - Derived attributes

Software/platform

- The method is implemented in **R** and **C++**.
- A prototype vis tool is made in **ShinyApp**; I am open to other tools.

Interested?

- I am looking for **one** partner.