

Why is NHS-R so awesome and *how can we make it even more awesome?*

Chris Beeley

9th February 2022

Introduction

- ▶ I learned R in 2009 in the bad old days
- ▶ I swore that I'd make sure that others didn't suffer like I did
- ▶ NHS-R is the fulfilment of this promise

Core values of open source

- ▶ Transparency
- ▶ Collaboration
- ▶ Release early and often
- ▶ Inclusive meritocracy
- ▶ Community
- ▶ Work across organisational boundaries (obviously)

Core values

- ▶ Flat hierarchy
- ▶ Sharing
- ▶ Cooperate across organisational boundaries
- ▶ We cooperate across international boundaries
- ▶ We love beginners
- ▶ We make mistakes and learn together

What is NHS-R?

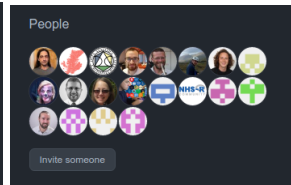
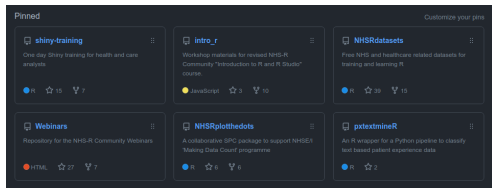
- ▶ Culture > Strategy
- ▶ Doing > Talking
- ▶ NHS-R is your permission to work your way
- ▶ Nobody ever asks us to do our best work
 - ▶ `NHSRplotthedots`
- ▶ We know what to build, we know what to learn
- ▶ “Computer (department) says no”

What's the recipe?

- ▶ Senior fellows:
 - ▶ Statistics
 - ▶ Machine learning
 - ▶ Academia
 - ▶ Open source
 - ▶ Teaching
- ▶ Community driven

Open source

- ▶ We believe in open source
- ▶ All NHS R solutions are open source
- ▶ We teach git and GitHub and encourage organisations to share their code
- ▶ We build stuff together because we believe in the value of the community



Force multiplier

- ▶ Code is a force multiplier
- ▶ Wickham, 2014 <https://bit.ly/3jQ5Suj>
- ▶ So is a community
- ▶ NHS-R is absurdly cheap and its ROI is absurdly high
- ▶ NHS-R is making people happy and productive
- ▶ NHS-R is changing the lives of its members and improving healthcare for everyone in the UK