MONASH University

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Project ID: 47321
Project title: Time series visualisation software

Rob Hyndman
Department of Econometrics & Business Statistics
email: rob.hyndman@monash.edu

Mitchell O'Hara-Wild
Department of Econometrics & Business Statistics
email: mitch.ohara-wild@monash.edu

We invite you to take part in this study. Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether to take part. If you want to learn more about this project, please contact us at the phone numbers or email addresses listed above. This study is a student research project forming part of a PhD thesis about time series forecasting software.

What does the research involve?

The research aims to understand how users interact with data visualization software for time series. Our goal is to evaluate the design effectiveness of the grammar of temporal graphics.

During the workshop, you will answer in-class polls and complete a brief 10-minute user-study questionnaire. The entire activity will be conducted within the in-person workshop session. This study does not involve any follow-up interviews or surveys after the workshop. All participants of the exploratory time series analysis workshop at the ISF 2025 are eligible to participate. There are no exclusion criteria.

We will take audio and video recordings during the session. These recordings will be available to you for reviewing the learning materials. They will not be made public. However, anonymous transcribed excerpts may be used in our research analysis.

Why were you invited for this research?
We invite you to take part because you have registered for the exploratory time series analysis workshop at the international symposium of forecasting in 2025.

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research
When you click the link at the end of this document to start answering the questionnaire, you are consenting to taking part in this user study. You can withdraw from your participation in the study by closing the Google Form at any time. This research project collects anonymous responses, so we are not able to withdraw your response after you submit them.

Possible benefits and risks to participants
By participating, you'll contribute to improving data visualization software. Your insights will help enhance the design, benefiting both you and the broader software user community.

Participation involves a small time commitment during the workshop. There are no risks of serious harm or discomfort associated with this study.

Confidentiality

No personally identifiable or sensitive information will be collected during the study. Poll responses via Particify.de are anonymous and aggregated, and the platform is GDPR compliant. Google Forms responses will be securely stored in a Google account managed by Monash University.

The study results will be published in a journal article, a PhD thesis, and presented at a conference. These results will be used solely to improve the software. Your data will be reported in an anonymized format, ensuring your privacy is maintained.

Storage of data

Research data will be securely stored in a Google account managed by Monash University for a minimum of 5 years after the completion of the project. After publication, the anonymized data will be made available on public repository at https://github.com/mitchelloharawild/. No data will be destroyed by the research team in the foreseeable future.

Use of data for other purposes

The data will be deposited in a public repository at https://github.com/mitchelloharawild/ in anonymised format. This will be available to other researchers wishing to use the data in the future.

Results

The results of in-class polls will be aggregated and shared during the class. Results of the user-study questionnaire might be published as a journal article or conference paper, and will be incorporated in a PhD thesis. Published results will be in completely de-identified summary form, and freely available in a public repository at https://github.com/mitchelloharawild/.

Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC):

Executive Officer
Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)
Office of Research Ethics and Integrity
Room 116, Administration Building B (3D)
26 Sports Walk, Clayton Campus
Monash University VIC 3800

Tel: +61 3 9905 2052   Email: muhrec@monash.edu