



Public Health  
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé  
publique du Canada

Canada

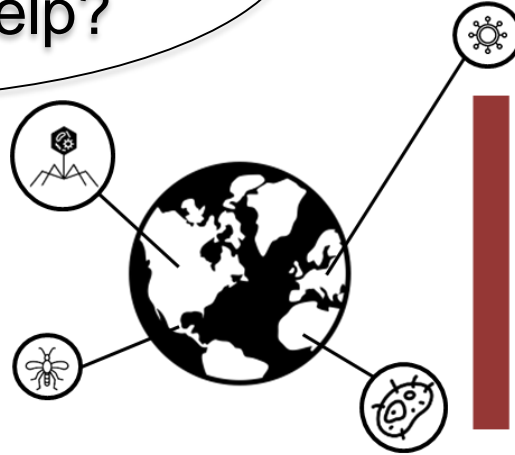
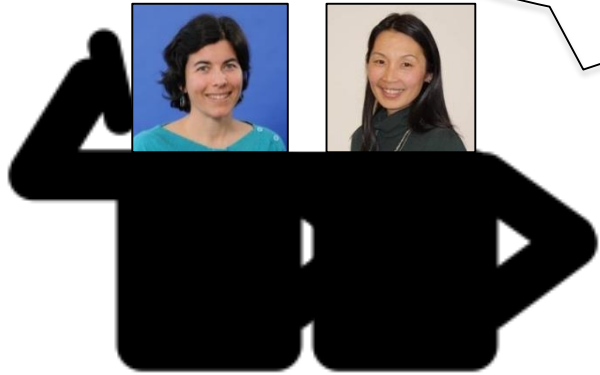
# ANALYTICAL TOOLS PROVIDING EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INSIGHT FOR EVENT-BASED SURVEILLANCE

2019 EIOS Global Technical Meeting  
12-14 November 2019 | Seoul, Republic of Korea

PROTECTING AND EMPOWERING CANADIANS  
TO IMPROVE THEIR HEALTH



Hello EBS systems,  
this is InSIGHT,  
how can we help?



# InSIGHT

Internet-based Surveillance Informing Global Health Threats

## PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Exploiting Twitter and Google Trends
- Exploiting case count data
- Exploiting air traffic data

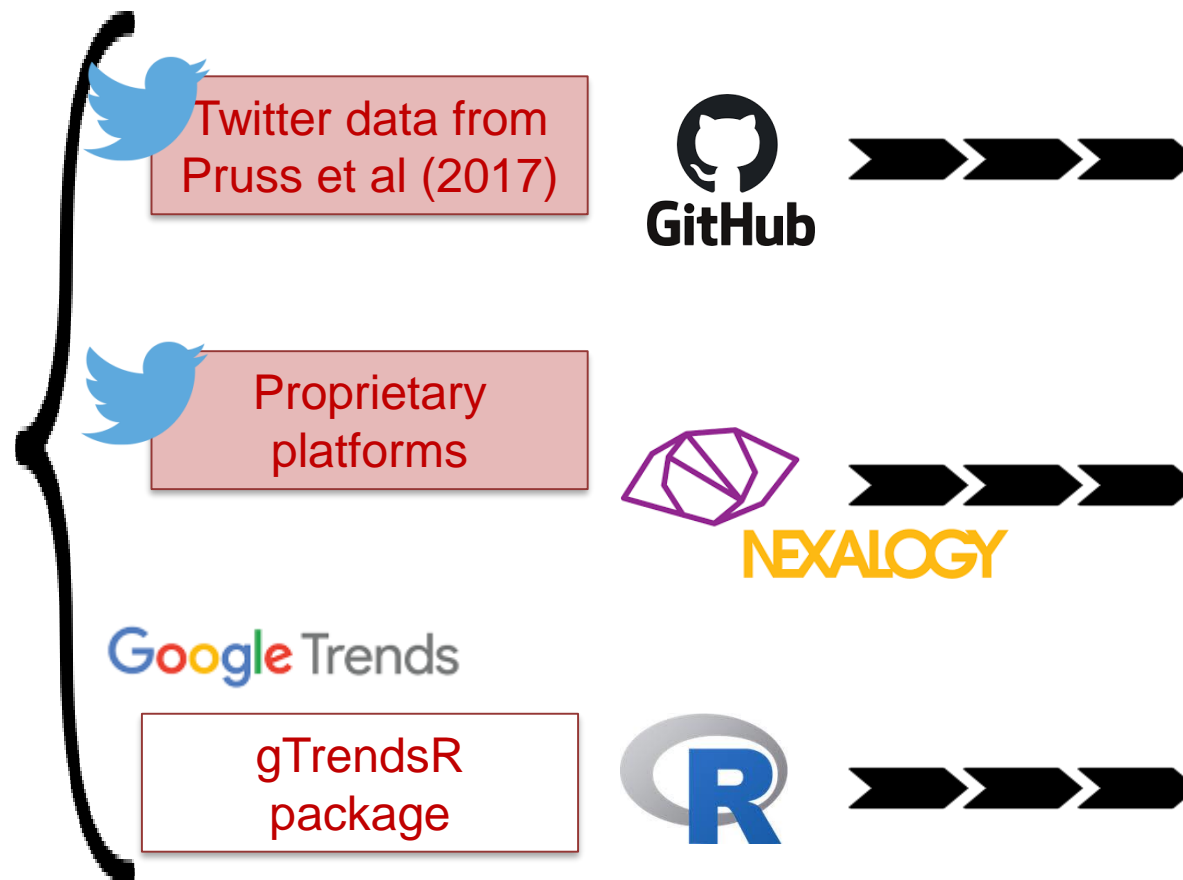
# Exploiting Twitter and Google Trends data

Jean-Philippe Gilbert  
PhD student  
Laval University



## Data analytics for aberration detection and identification of susceptible populations

### Data acquisition



Current  
work

Future  
work

# Exploiting Twitter and Google Trends data

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## Data analytics for aberration detection and identification of susceptible populations

### Data processing



#### Remove re-tweets

Re-tweets  
by indicated  
by date and  
within  
Tweet



43% of  
remaining  
tweets are  
original

#### Geolocate tweets

1% users  
provide  
coordinates



50% tweets populated  
with coordinates (and  
resolution of geolocator)

#### Classify content of tweets

NLP and machine  
learning  
classifiers (e.g.  
Miller et al. 2017)



Symptoms  
Infection  
Prevention  
Treatment

Current  
work

Future  
work

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## Data analytics for aberration detection and identification of susceptible populations

### Analytical tools

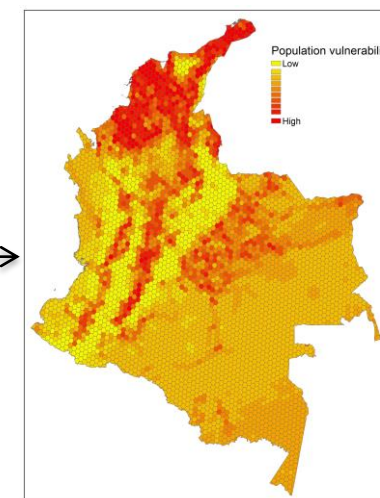


Aberration  
detection of  
symptoms

- Exploit clues from EBS data
- Output from classifier

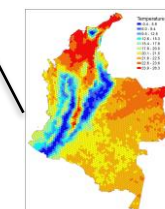
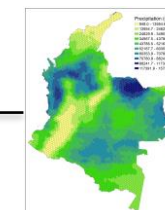
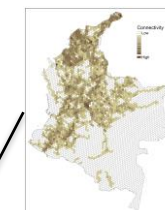
Augmenting  
identification of  
susceptible  
populations

Geolocated  
classified tweets



Disease susceptibility

Environmental /  
social determinates



Current  
work

Future  
work



## Forecasting cases through time

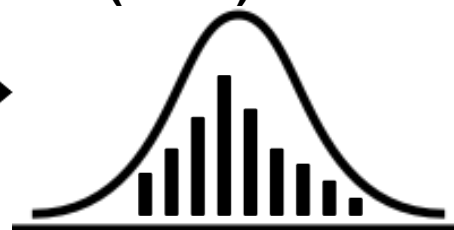
### Case data



NLP extracted cases  
Official surveillance reports



### Incidence Decay and Exponential Adjustment (IDEA) model



$$I_t = \left( (R_0 / (1 + d)^t) \right)^t$$

Number of confirmed/suspected cases,  $I_t$   
Basic reproductive number,  $R_0$   
Discount factor,  $d$   
Serial interval,  $t$



- Forecasts epidemiological curve
- Estimates potential for disease spread
- Can signal change in outbreak
- Simple
- **Not validated for real-time outbreaks**



**How few weeks of case  
data can provide  
reasonable model output?**

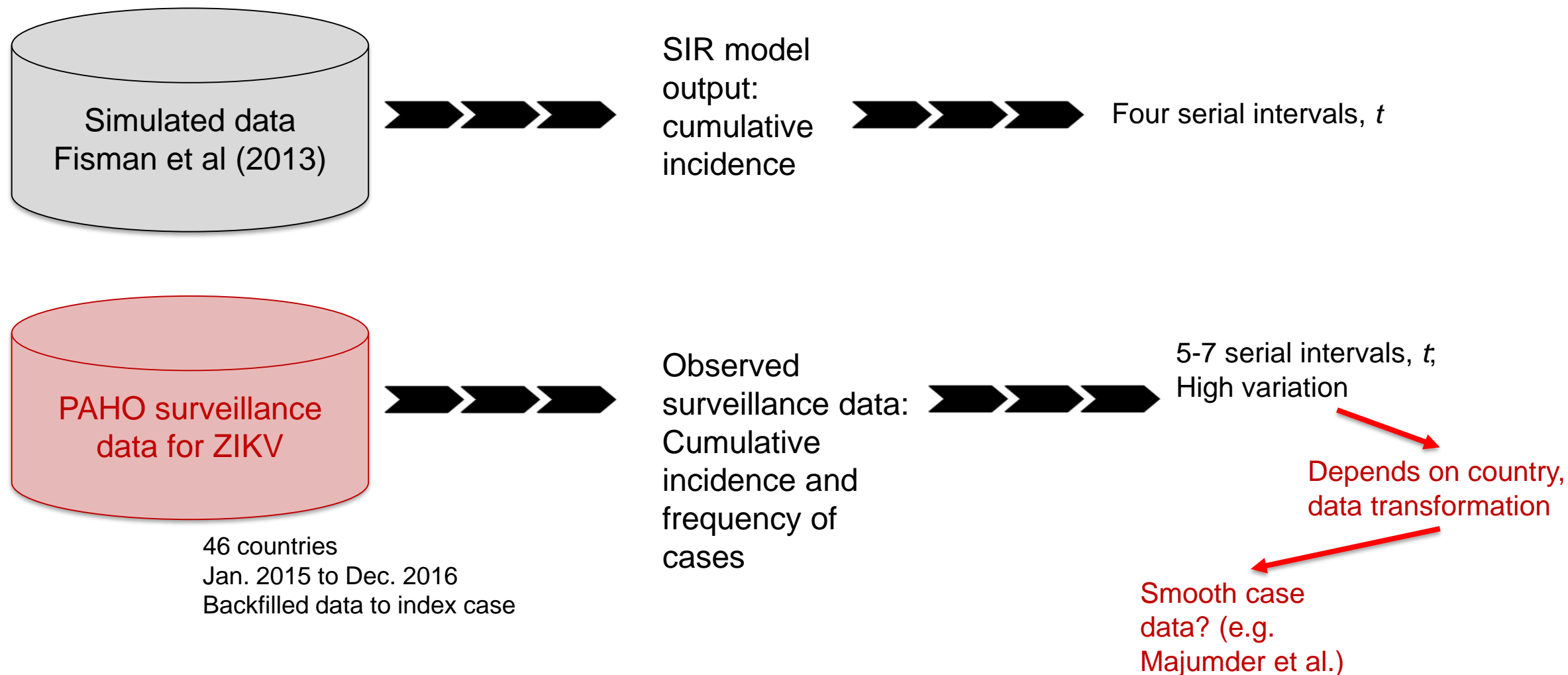


# Exploiting EBS extracted case count data

Julie Simon, PhD  
PHAC



**How many weeks of data are needed for reliable model output?**





**OPEN** Understanding the influence of all nodes in a network  
SUBJECT AREAS:  
COMPUTER SCIENCE  
COMPLEX NETWORKS  
COMPUTATIONAL MODELS  
Glenn Lawyer  
Max Planck Institute for Informatics, Campus E1 4, 66123 Saarbrücken, Germany.

Lawyer *BMC Infectious Diseases* (2016) 16:70  
DOI 10.1186/s12879-016-1350-4

BMC Infectious Diseases



**Can ExF predict the risk of disease spread earlier than the IDEA model?**

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

Measuring the potential of individual airports for pandemic spread over the world airline network



Glenn Lawyer

- Passenger volume data AND network topology → **better!**
- Airport expected force of infection (ExF)

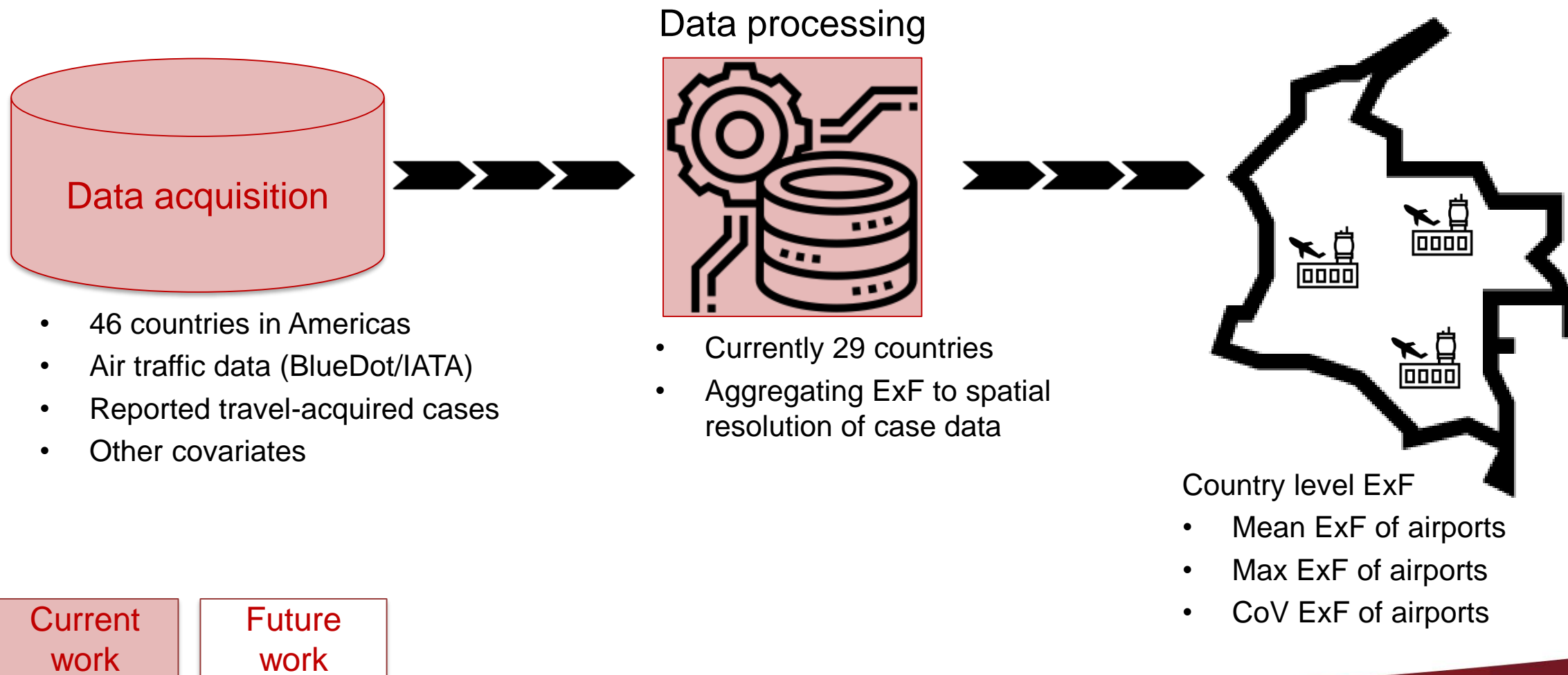
Current  
work

Future  
work





## Assessing ExF as early predictor for reported travel-acquired ZIKV cases in Canada

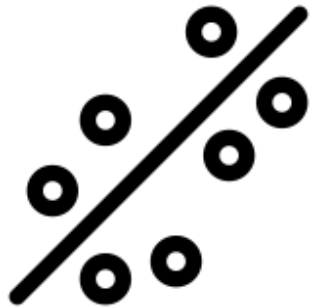




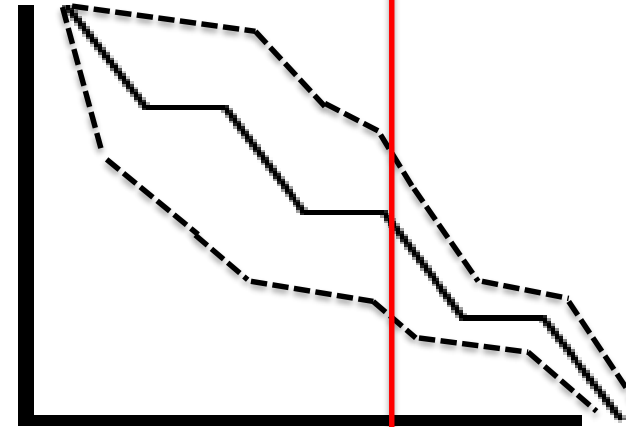
Less error with ExF model

Less error with IDEA model

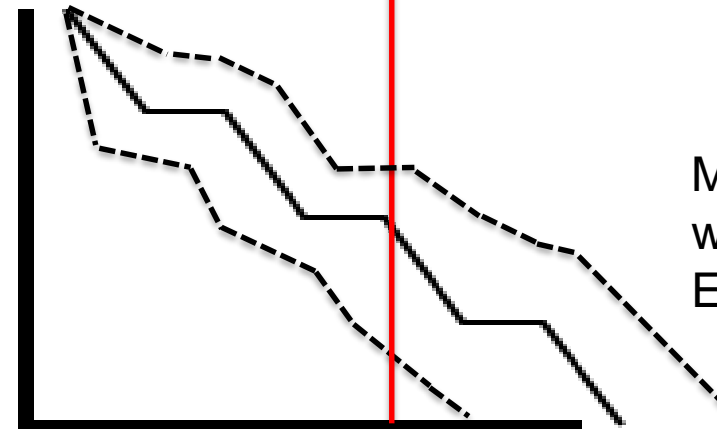
Statistical  
modelling



Probability of cases at time  $t$



Model  
with  $R_0$   
from  
IDEA



Model  
with  
ExF

Time →

Current  
work

Future  
work

# Closing remarks

## Challenge of developing data-driven models when data are scarce

- Get InSIGHT earlier: SIR → IDEA → ExF
- Exploit data extracted from EBS systems
- Exploit other data sources
- Integrate data types where possible

Questions?

