

R Shiny for HTA Tutorial

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R Shiny for HTA Tutorial

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METHOD ARTICLE

REVISED Making health economic models Shiny: A tutorial
[version 2; peer review: 2 approved]

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 [Author details](#)

Abstract

Health economic evaluation models have traditionally been built in Microsoft Excel, but more sophisticated tools are increasingly being used as model complexity and computational requirements increase. Of all the programming languages, R is most popular amongst health economists because it has a plethora of user created packages and is highly flexible. However, even with an integrated development environment such as R Studio, R lacks a simple point and click user interface and therefore requires some programming ability. This might make the switch from Microsoft Excel to R seem daunting, and it might make it difficult to directly communicate results with decisions makers and other stakeholders.

The R package Shiny has the potential to resolve this limitation. It allows programmers to embed health economic models developed in R into interactive web browser based user interfaces. Users can specify their own assumptions about model parameters and run different scenario analyses, which, in the case of regular a Markov model, can be computed within seconds. This paper provides a tutorial on how to wrap a health economic model built in R into a Shiny application. We use a four-state Markov model developed by the Decision Analysis in R for Technologies in Health (DARTH) group as a case-study to demonstrate main principles and basic functionality.

A more extensive tutorial, all code, and data are provided in a [GitHub repository](#).

Keywords

Health Economics, R, RShiny, Decision Science

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Paper:

<https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/articles/5-69>

Source code:

https://github.com/RobertASmith/healthecon_shiny

Simple app

Sick Sicker Model in Shiny

Treatment Cost

PSA runs

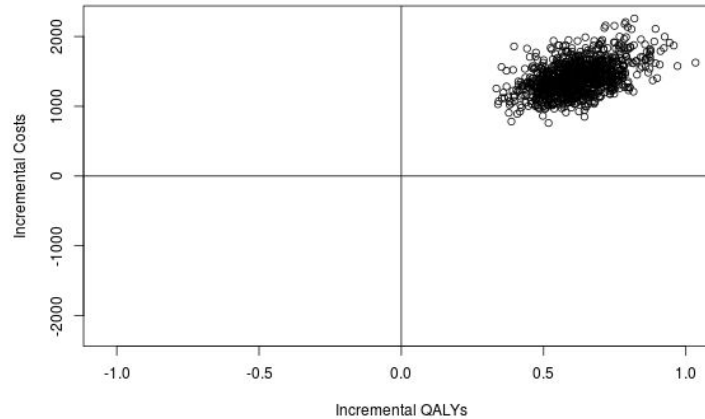
initial age



Results Table

Option	QALYs	Costs	Inc.QALYs	Inc.Costs	ICER
Treatment	18.59	100441.67	0.62	1406.24	2324.54
No Treatment	17.97	99035.43	NA	NA	NA

Cost-effectiveness Plane



https://robertasmith.shinyapps.io/sick_sicker

Inputs



Function



Outputs

Parameters		
c_s1	cost1	3
c_s2	cost2	5
c_H	cost3	6
dr	Dis_rate	0.035
n_sim	No. psa	1000

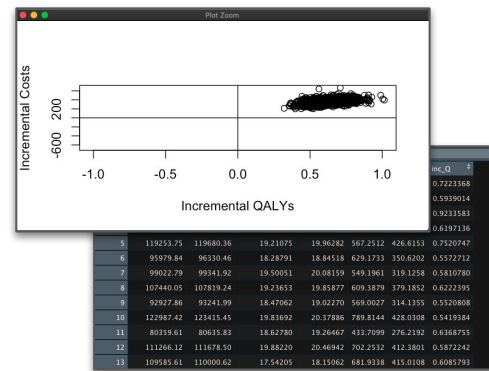
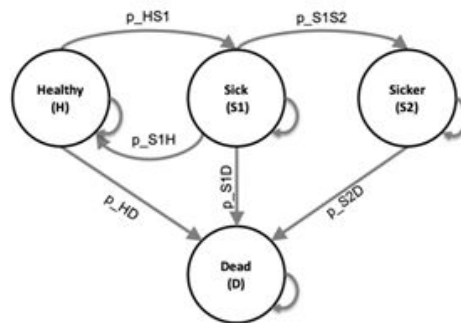


Figure 1: State-transition diagram of the time-independent Sick-Sicker cohort state-transition model with the name of the health states and possible transitions with their corresponding transition probabilities.

Inputs

Function

Outputs

Parameters		
c_s1	cost1	3
c_s2	cost2	5
c_H	cost3	6
dr	Dis_rate	0.035
n_sim	No. psa	1000

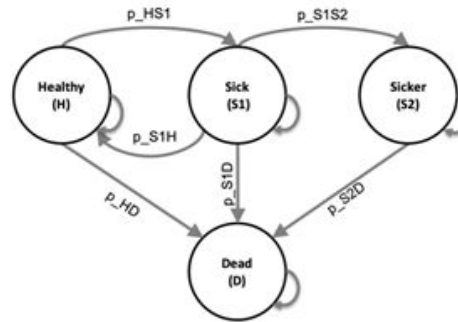
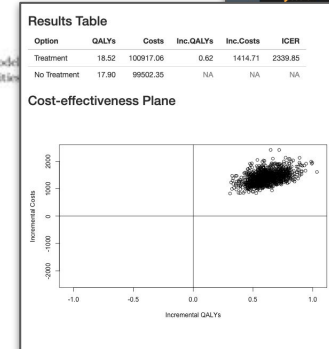
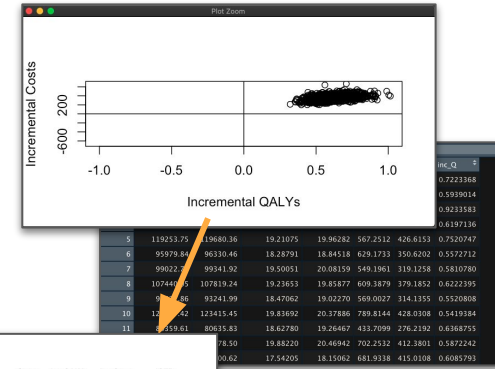


Figure 1: State-transition diagram of the time-independent Sick-Sicker cohort state-transition model. Name of the health states and possible transitions with their corresponding transition probabilities.



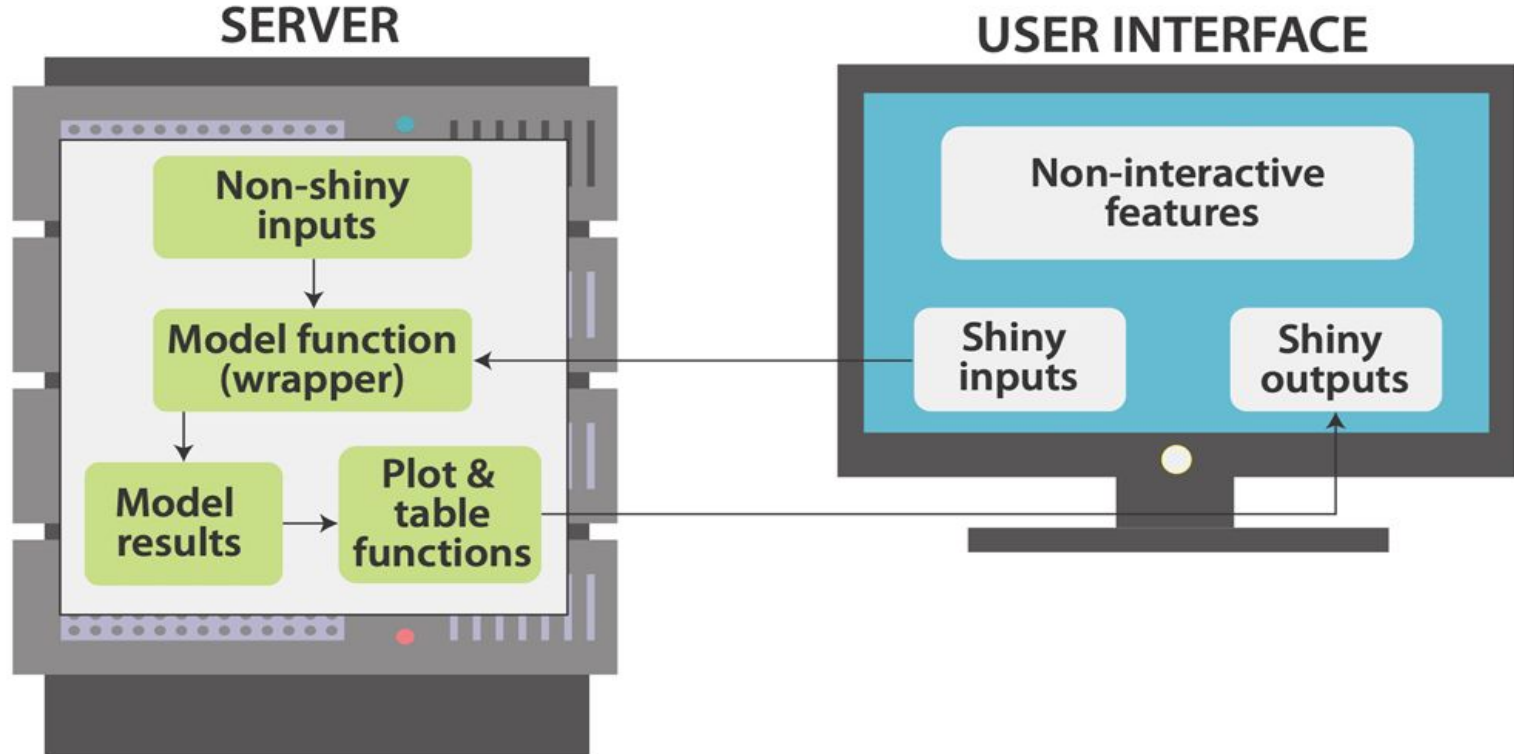
Treatment Cost

PSA runs

Initial Age

Run model

ShinyApp function



Shiny App

```
ui <- fluidPage (      # creates empty page
  # title of app
  titlePanel( "Sick Sicker Model in Shiny" ),
  # layout is a sidebar-layout
  sidebarLayout(
    # open sidebar panel
    < SIDEBAR PANEL CODE >
  # open main panel
    < MAIN PANEL CODE >
  ) # close sidebarlayout
) # close UI fluidpage

server <- function(input, output) {
  observeEvent (input$run_model, # WHEN BUTTON PRESSED
    ignoreNULL = FALSE, {
    # Run model function with Shiny inputs
    df_model_res = f_wrapper(
      c_Trt = input$SI_c_Trt,
      n_age_init = input$SI_n_age_init,
      n_sim = input$SI_n_sim
    )

    #-- CREATE COST EFFECTIVENESS TABLE --#
    output$SO_icer_table <- renderTable({
      ICER_TABLE_FUNCTION(df_model_res)
    }) # table plot end.

    #-- CREATE COST EFFECTIVENESS PLANE --#
    output$SO_CE_plane <- renderPlot({
      CE_PLANE_FUNCTION(df_model_res)
    }) # renderplot end

  })
}

# Running the App ----
shinyApp(ui, server)
```

UI code

Sick Sicker Model in Shiny

Treatment Cost

200

PSA runs

1000

initial age

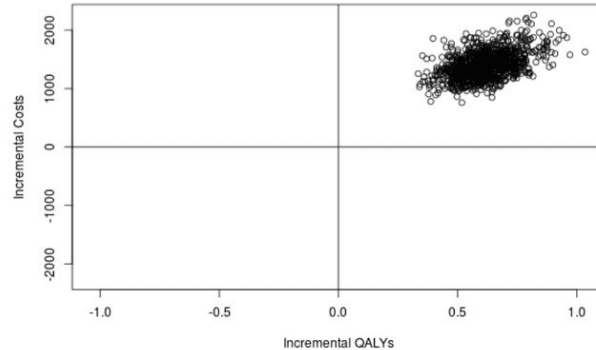
10 25 80

Run / update model

Results Table

Option	QALYs	Costs	Inc.QALYs	Inc.Costs	ICER
Treatment	18.59	100441.67	0.62	1406.24	2324.54
No Treatment	17.97	99035.43	NA	NA	NA

Cost-effectiveness Plane



```
ui <- fluidPage (      # creates empty page

  # title of app
  titlePanel("Sick Sicker Model in Shiny"),

  # layout is a sidebar-layout
  sidebarLayout(

    # open sidebar panel

    < SIDEBAR PANEL CODE >

    # open main panel

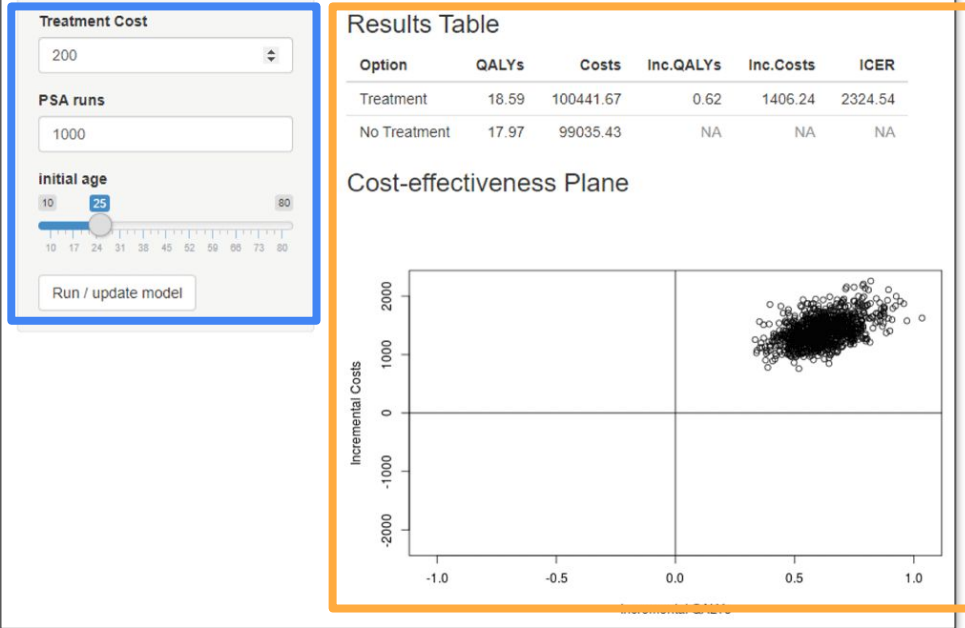
    < MAIN PANEL CODE >

    ) # close sidebarlayout

  ) # close UI fluidpage
```

UI code

Sick Sicker Model in Shiny



```
ui <- fluidPage (      # creates empty page

  # title of app
  titlePanel("Sick Sicker Model in Shiny"),

  # layout is a sidebar-layout
  sidebarLayout(

    # open sidebar panel
    < SIDEBAR PANEL CODE >

    # open main panel
    < MAIN PANEL CODE >

  ) # close sidebarlayout

) # close UI fluidpage
```

Sidebar Panel Code

Sick Sicker Model in Shiny

Treatment Cost

200

PSA runs

1000

Initial age

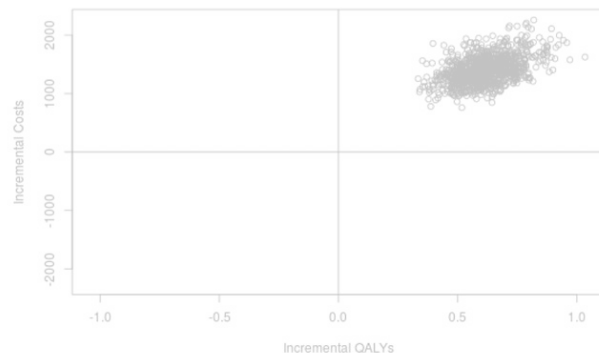
10 25 80

Run / update model

Results Table

Option	QALYs	Costs	Inc.QALYs	Inc.Costs	ICER
Treatment	18.59	100441.67	0.62	1406.24	2324.54
No Treatment	17.97	99035.43	NA	NA	NA

Cost-effectiveness Plane



```
sidebarPanel( # open sidebar panel

  numericInput(inputId = "SI_c_Trtr",
               label = "Treatment Cost",
               value = 200,
               min = 0,
               max = 400),

  numericInput(inputId = "SI_n_sim",
               label = "PSA runs",
               value = 1000,
               min = 0,
               max = 400),

  sliderInput(inputId = "SI_n_age_init",
              label = "Initial Age",
              value = 25,
              min = 10,
              max = 80),

  # action button runs model when pressed
  actionButton(inputId = "run_model",
               label = "Run/update model")

) # close sidebarPanel
```

Main Panel Code

Sick Sicker Model in Shiny

Treatment Cost

200

PSA runs

1000

Initial age

19

25

80

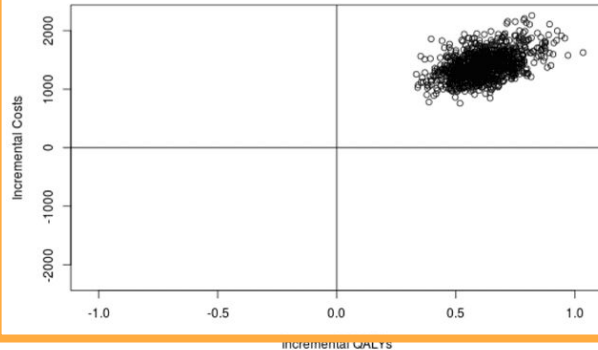
19 25 31 36 41 46 51 56 61 66 71 76 81

Run / update model

Results Table

Option	QALYs	Costs	Inc.QALYs	Inc.Costs	ICER
Treatment	18.59	100441.67	0.62	1406.24	2324.54
No Treatment	17.97	99035.43	NA	NA	NA

Cost-effectiveness Plane



```
mainPanel (
```

```
# heading (results table)
```

```
  h3("Results Table"),
```

```
# tableOutput id = icer_table, from server
```

```
  tableOutput(outputId = "SO_icer_table"),
```

```
# heading (Cost effectiveness plane)
```

```
  h3("Cost-effectiveness Plane"),
```

```
# plotOutput id = SO_CE_plane, from server
```

```
  plotOutput(outputId = "SO_CE_plane")
```

```
) # close mainpanel
```

Server Code

Sick Sicker Model in Shiny

Treatment Cost

200

PSA runs

1000

initial age

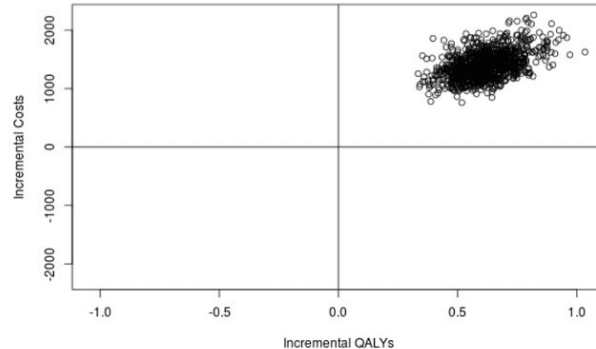
10 25 80

Run / update model

Results Table

Option	QALYs	Costs	Inc.QALYs	Inc.Costs	ICER
Treatment	18.59	100441.67	0.62	1406.24	2324.54
No Treatment	17.97	99035.43	NA	NA	NA

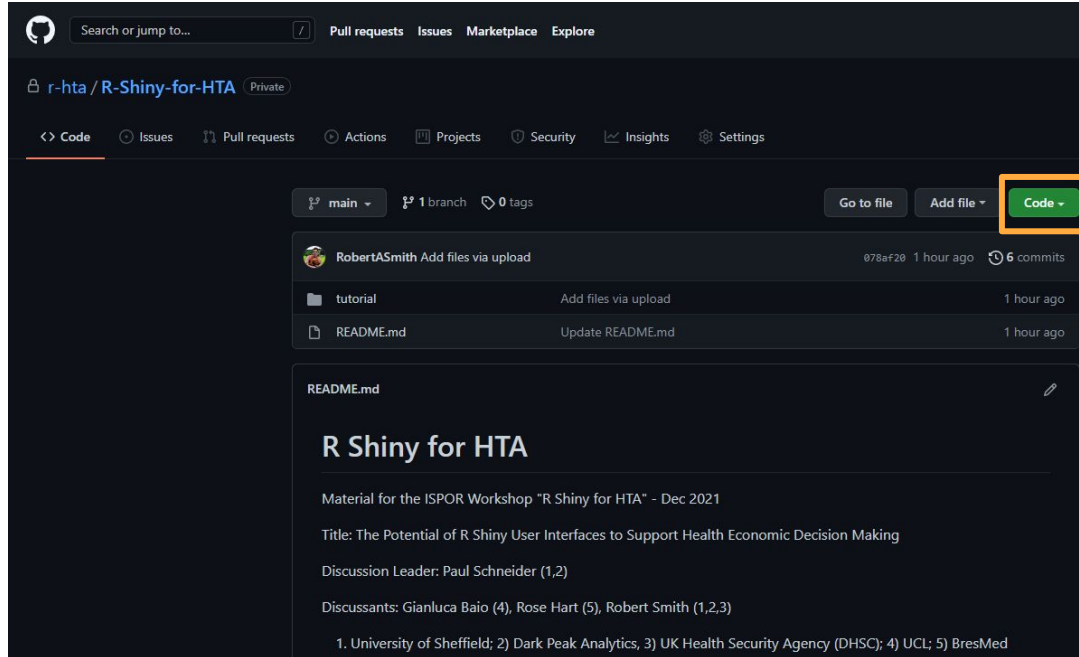
Cost-effectiveness Plane



```
server <- function(input, output) {  
  
  observeEvent(input$run_model, # WHEN BUTTON PRESSED  
    ignoreNULL = FALSE, {  
  
    # Run model function with Shiny inputs  
    df_model_res = f_wrapper(  
      c_Trt = input$SI_c_Trt,  
      n_age_init = input$SI_n_age_init,  
      n_sim = input$SI_n_sim  
    )  
  
    #— CREATE COST EFFECTIVENESS TABLE —#  
    output$SO_icer_table <- renderTable({  
      ICER_TABLE_FUNCTION(df_model_res)  
    }) # table plot end.  
  
    #— CREATE COST EFFECTIVENESS PLANE —#  
    output$SO_CE_plane <- renderPlot({  
      CE_PLANE_FUNCTION(df_model_res)  
    }) # renderplot end  
  
  })  
}
```

Workshop repository:

<https://github.com/r-hta/R-Shiny-for-HTA>



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R Shiny for HTA

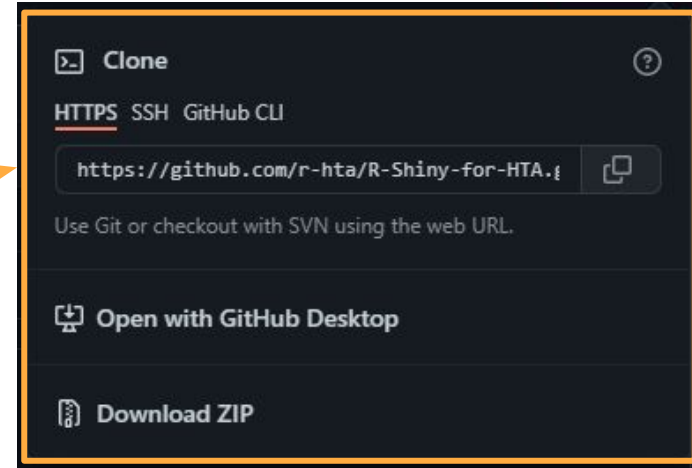
Material for the ISPOR Workshop "R Shiny for HTA" - Dec 2021

Title: The Potential of R Shiny User Interfaces to Support Health Economic Decision Making

Discussion Leader: Paul Schneider (1,2)

Discussants: Gianluca Baio (4), Rose Hart (5), Robert Smith (1,2,3)

1. University of Sheffield; 2) Dark Peak Analytics; 3) UK Health Security Agency (DHSC); 4) UCL; 5) BresMed



Clone ?

HTTPS SSH GitHub CLI

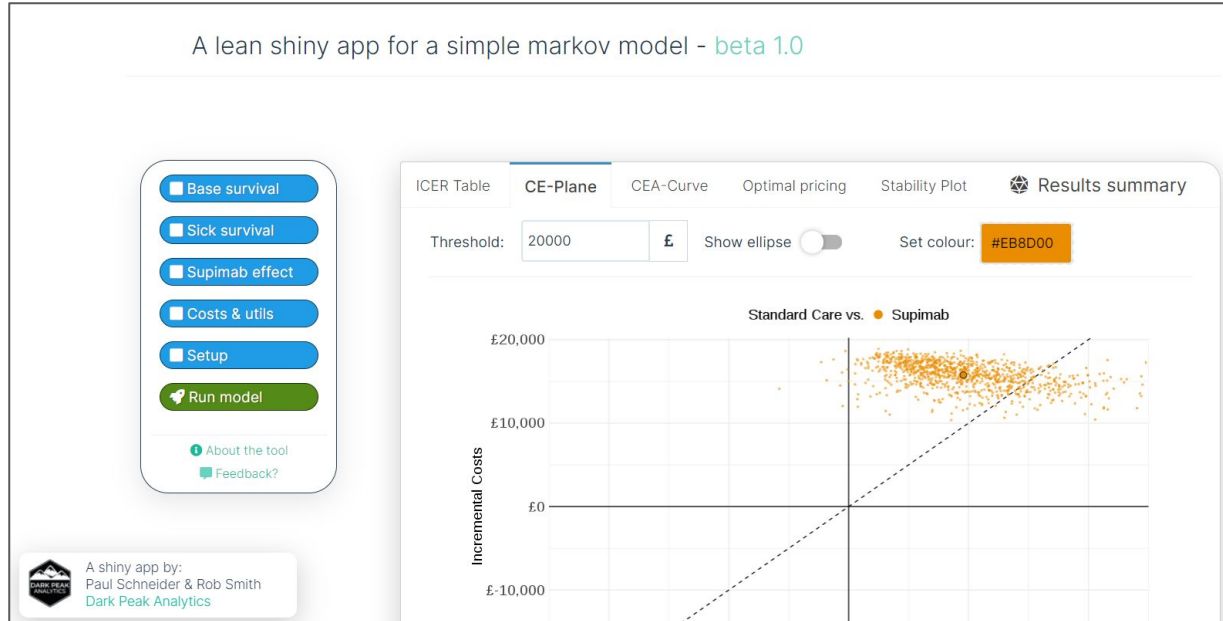
`https://github.com/r-hta/R-Shiny-for-HTA.!`

Use Git or checkout with SVN using the web URL.

Open with GitHub Desktop

Download ZIP

More sophisticated app



<https://darkpeakanalytics.shinyapps.io/sadm-mk2/>

Open source materials

Workshop: <https://github.com/r-hta/R-Shiny-for-HTA>

Basic shiny app tutorial:

App: https://robertasmith.shinyapps.io/sick_sicker/

Paper: <https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/articles/5-69>

Code: https://github.com/RobertASmith/paper_makeHEshiny

More advanced materials:

App: <https://darkpeakanalytics.shinyapps.io/sadm-mk2/>

Code: <https://github.com/bitowaqr/sadm-mk2-demo>

Package: <https://github.com/RobertASmith/darkpeak>

