I’m an all-around geek. I’m a developer, a maker, and an occasional amateur fiber artist. I’ve been developing software for nearly as long as I can remember, and have been doing so professionally for well over a decade now. I’ve worked almost exclusively for universities, and am proud that the software I’ve produced and maintained has supported educational and scientific pursuits.

General Questions

1) What are your main interests in attending the workshop?
I’m interested in seeing different methods for working with the scale and variety of type of data that healthcare data professionals need to work with. I’m less familiar with this data than with education, agricultural, and social network data, so getting more acquainted with this data is important.

2) What challenges do you see in applying analytics and visualization to health care data for population health monitoring and management?
The amount of healthcare data in unstructured datasets seems to be the biggest challenge to analyzing it easily and in consistently meaningful ways. Working with health data also requires more attention to security and privacy concerns than other fields, and rightfully so.

3) Are you or your group working on any of these challenges? If yes, please explain.
We are, to a degree, through a BD2K project we’re working on with the i2b2 group at Harvard. This project deals more with structured data, though, and doesn’t attempt to deal with more than a small subset of unstructured data.

4) How do you currently use healthcare data for population health monitoring and management?
I don’t, currently. We are working toward providing adding functionality to i2b2 that would allow it to provide more insight into this, but that’s still a way off.

5) If the workshop could fulfill one wish that you have for using analytics and visualization of healthcare data for population health monitoring and management, what would it be?
I’d like to have a better idea of the type of insights healthcare policymakers need, so that we can help provide tools that address these needs as directly as possible.