



Boosting your data analysis skills with data visualisation and ggplot2

Direction Access to and Reuse of Public Information

Unit EU Open Data and CORDIS

Sector EU Open Data

The context



This training course is organized in the scope of OP project within the ISA2 programme

ISA2 supports the development of **digital solutions** enabling public administrations, businesses and citizens in Europe to benefit from **interoperable cross-border** and **cross-sector public services**.

How OP is involved in ISA2?

OP is aiming at developing open data related activities in the areas of:

- Data visualisation
- Linked open data
- Persistent identification



Upcoming training & workshop sessions

Topic	Type of session	Lux + webex	Bxl
Telling your story through data visualisation	Training	25/06	28/06
Making great online data visualisations without coding	workshop	26/06	-
Going beyond bars and lines: practising non-standard data visualisation	Training	24/09	Sep-Oct
Making data visualisations like a pro: D3.js	Workshop	25/09	-
Applying data visualisation best practices in real use cases	workshop	24/10	-

and webinars (topic like for the trainings) ... stay tuned!

Materials will be published on <https://data.europa.eu/euodp/en/knowledge-center>



Data visualization events in 2019



EU Datathon 2019

- Date: 13 June 2019
- Venue: Residence Palace - Brussels
- Website: <https://publications.europa.eu/eudatathon>
- e-mail: op-datathon@publications.europa.eu



EU DataViz 2019 - Data Visualisation for the Public Sector

- Date: 12 November 2019
- Venue: European Convention Center - Luxembourg
- Website: <https://publications.europa.eu/eudataviz>
- e-mail: op-eu-dataviz@publications.europa.eu



Where to find the information about our training workshop and webinar sessions?

Visit our data visualisation community to find all the information about previous and upcoming sessions at:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/wikis/display/EUODDVC/Data+Visualisation+-+Training+Package+2019>



Agenda

- 09:00 Introduction
Visualisation in data analysis
ggplot, R and RStudio
- 10:30 Coffee break
Data diagnostics
Visualising distributions
- 12:00 - 13:00 Lunch
Visualising covariation
Visualising multiple dimensions
- 14:30 Coffeebreak
Visualising time series
Saving and sharing visualisations
Other tools
- 16:30 Q&A



1. INTRODUCTION





Participants

Institution/DG and role?

Experience with coding, R and ggplot2?

Expectations for today?



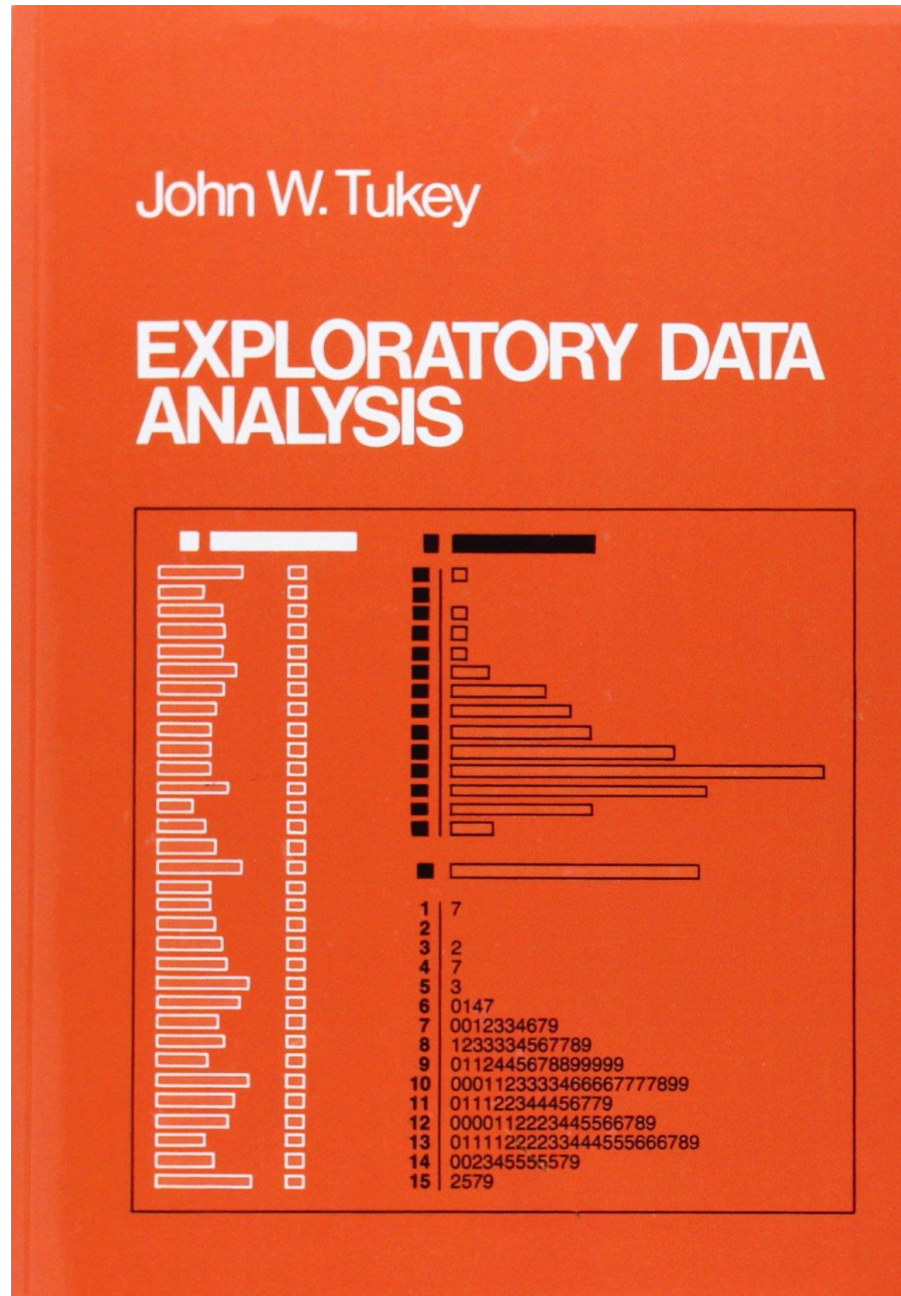


2.

VISUALISATION IN DATA ANALYSIS?



EDA What is it?





EDA

What is it?

John Tukey

"The simple graph has brought more information to the data analyst's mind than any other device"

"The greatest value of a picture is when it forces us to notice what we never expected to see"





EDA

What is it?

Wikipedia

"EDA is for seeing what the data can tell us beyond the formal modeling or hypothesis testing task"





EDA

What is it?

From [R for Data Science](#), by Hadley Wickham

Hadley Wickham is the creator of ggplot2

Your goal during EDA is to develop an understanding of your data.

EDA is an iterative cycle. You

- generate questions about your data
- search for answers by visualising, transforming, and modelling your data
- use what you learn to refine your questions and/or generate new questions





EDA

Tool requirements

Fast

Slice & dice data
Iterate over visualisations
Good defaults

Flexible

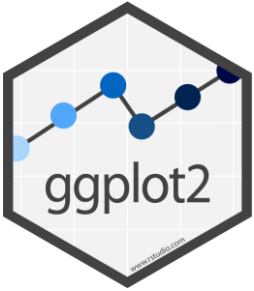
Many visualisation types
Combine visualisations

Integrates with data
manipulation

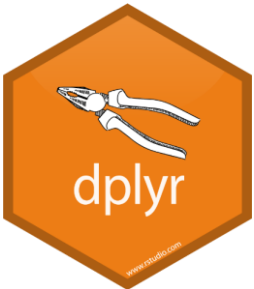
The Tidyverse



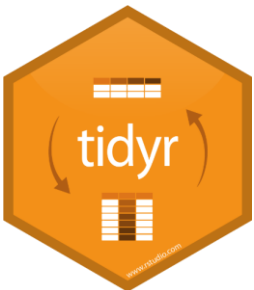
EDA
R Tidyverse
tidyverse.org



Declaritavely create graphics



Grammar for data manipulation



Get data in tidy format



3.

GGPLOT2



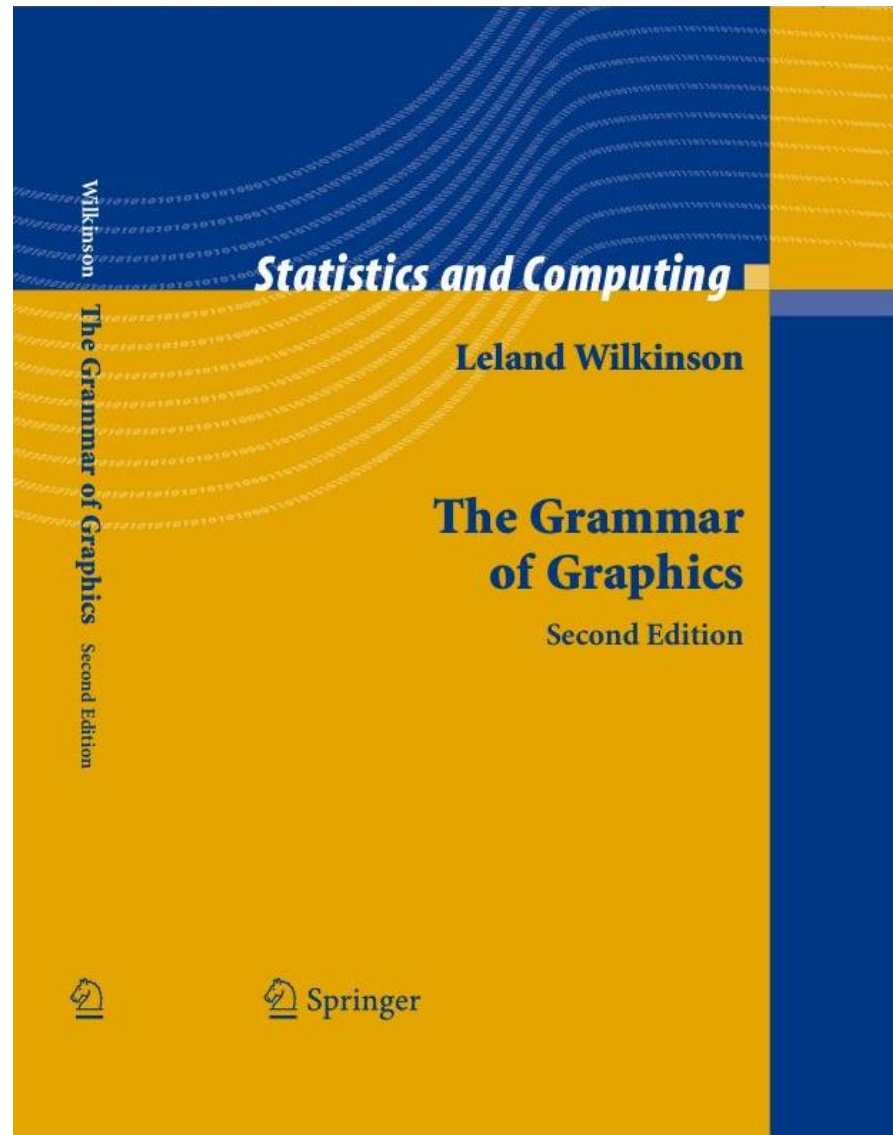
ggplot2

Grammar of graphics

R package for making visualisations

Based on the "Grammar of Graphics" by Leland Wilkinson

"A a tool that enables us to concisely describe the components of a graphic"





ggplot2

Grammar of graphics

An example of how a visualisation is constructed from a data set

Key	Response	Female
1	Rarely	8
2	Infrequently	11
3	Occasionally	17
4	Frequently	32
5	Not Sure	32



ggplot2

Grammar of graphics

Grammar of graphics
specification

Specification:

FRAME:**female**

COORD:*polar.theta()*

GRAPH:*bar(label(response),color(response),position.stack(),shape.rect())*

Graphic:






bar(<aesthetic attributes>) = perceivable graphic

Aesthetics:

label(response): "Rarely" \mapsto "Rarely", "Infrequently" \mapsto "Infrequently",
"Occasionally" \mapsto "Occasionally", "Frequently" \mapsto "Frequently",
"Not sure" \mapsto "Not sure"

color(response): "Rarely" \mapsto green, "Infrequently" \mapsto blue,
"Occasionally" \mapsto yellow, "Frequently" \mapsto red,
"Not Sure" \mapsto violet

position.stack(female): [0,8) \mapsto [0,8), [0,11) \mapsto [8,19), [0,17) \mapsto [19,36),
[0,32) \mapsto [36,68), [0,32) \mapsto 68,100)

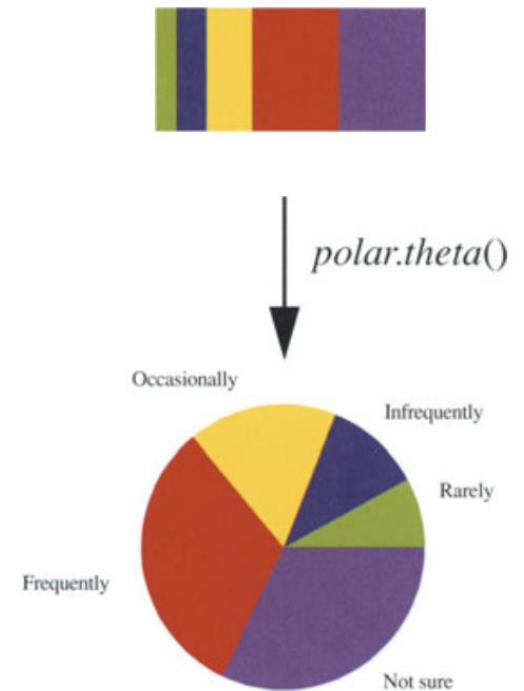
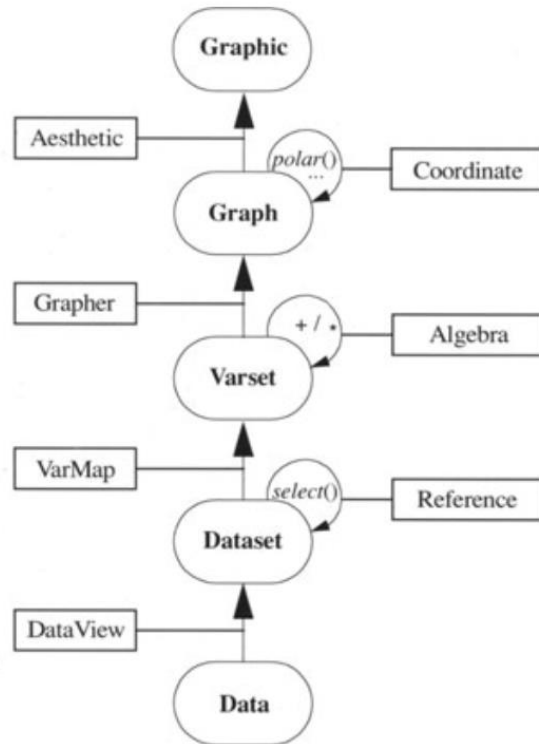
shape.rect(female): [0,8) \mapsto , [0,11) \mapsto , [0,17) \mapsto ,
[0,32) \mapsto , [0,32) \mapsto 



ggplot2

Grammar of graphics

Grammar of graphics:
result



ggplot2

Ggplot2 is an implementation of the grammar of graphics in R

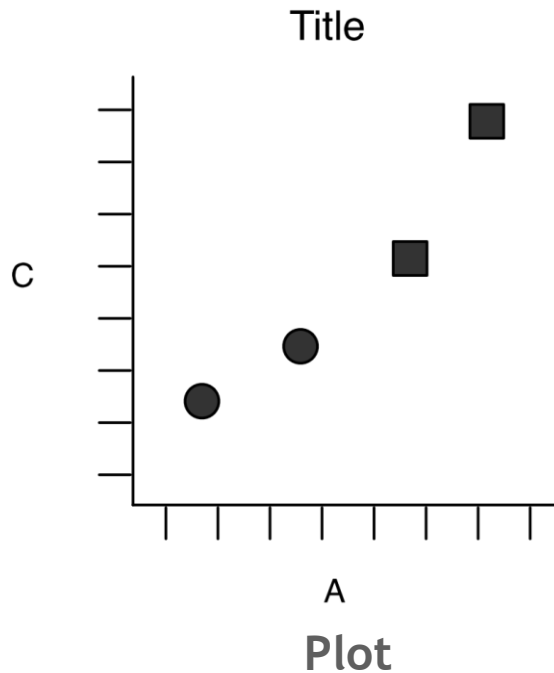
How do we go from data to a visualisation in ggplot2?

Data

<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>
2	3	4	a
1	2	1	a
4	5	15	b
9	10	80	b

Used aesthetics

<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	Shape
2	4	a
1	1	a
4	15	b
9	80	b



<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	Shape
25	11	circle
0	0	circle
75	53	square
200	300	square

Data in aesthetic space



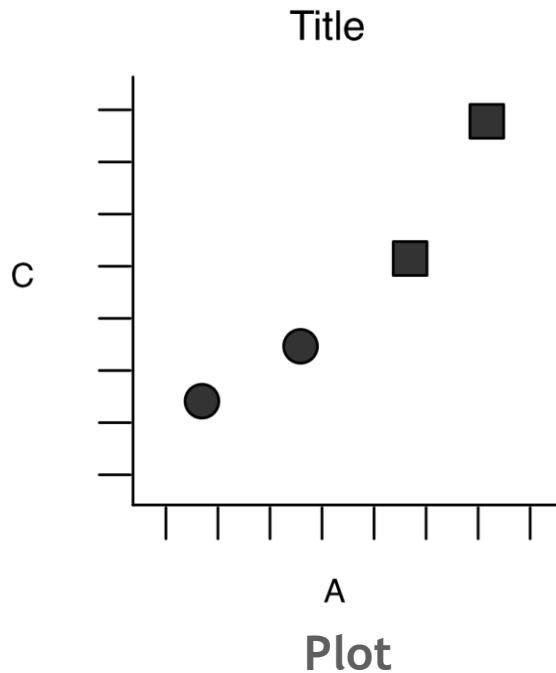
ggplot2

Map **data** to
aesthetics of
geometries

Data

<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>
2	3	4	a
1	2	1	a
4	5	15	b
9	10	80	b

```
ggplot(data=Data,  
aes(x=A, y=B, shape=D)) +  
geom_point()
```



Demo

3-ggplot-intro.R

```
library(ggplot2)
```

```
exampledata <- read.csv("ggplot-example-  
data.csv")
```

```
View(exampledata)
```

```
ggplot(data = exampledata, aes(x = A, y = B,  
shape = D)) + geom_point()
```



ggplot2

Components of a
ggplot2 plot

Data

Scales (map data to aesthetics)

Geometric objects

Coordinate system (a pie chart
is just a bar chart in polar
coords)

Statistics

Facets



4.

R & RSTUDIO



R

Free, open source
programming language

Initially for statistics
and graphics

Today: maps,
publishing documents,
interactive
dashboards, blogging,
etc.

Big community:
learning resources,
packages, events



RStudio

Free, open source
client for R

rstudio.com





rstudio.cloud

Rstudio online

Runs in the browser,
no installation needed

Share R projects

rstudio.cloud



rstudio.cloud

Set up

Go to rstudio.cloud

Click "Sign Up" and create an account

Go to
rstudio.cloud/project/351652

Click "Save a permanent copy"



TEMPORARY
PROJECT

 Save a Permanent Copy



intro.R x loading-data.R x rest.R x profiling.R x ggplot-intro.R x

```
1 install.packages("ggplot2")
2 library(ggplot2)
3 ggplot(data = women, aes(x = weight, y = height)) +
4   geom_point()
5
```

Environment History Connections

Global Environment

Data

ghg90	918 obs. of 4 variables
reactors	671 obs. of 10 variables

Files Plots Packages Help Viewer

5:1 (Top Level) R Script

Console Terminal Jobs

```
~/Documents/clients/trasys/modules/T3-exploratory/R/
R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

Natural language support but running in an English locale

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

[Workspace loaded from ~/Documents/clients/trasys/modules/T3-exploratory/R/.RData]
> |
```



```
1 install.packages("ggplot2")
2 library(ggplot2)
3 ggplot(data = women, aes(x = weight, y = height)) +
4   geom_point()
5
```

Source
(aka Editor)

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[Workspace loaded from ~/Documents/clients/trasys/modules/T3-exploratory/R/.RData]
> |
```

Console

Files Plots Packages Help Viewer

Zoom Export

Files
Plots
Packages
Help



RStudio interface

Source

Write scripts

Preview data

Uses tabs




```
1 install.packages("ggplot2")
2 library(ggplot2)
3 ggplot(data = women, aes(x = weight, y = height)) +
4   geom_point()
5
```

Source
(aka Editor)

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Files
Plots
Packages
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[Workspace loaded from ~/Documents/clients/trasys/modules/T3-exploratory/R/.RData]

> |

Console



RStudio interface

Console

Execute R code

Output of code

Errors and warnings



```
1 install.packages("ggplot2")
2 library(ggplot2)
3 ggplot(data = women, aes(x = weight, y = height)) +
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5
```

Source
(aka Editor)

Console Terminal Jobs

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> |
```

Console

Environment History Connections

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Environment

Files Plots Packages Help Viewer

Files
Plots
Packages
Help



RStudio interface

Environment

Loaded objects

History of commands

"Import dataset" wizard



```
1 install.packages("ggplot2")
2 library(ggplot2)
3 ggplot(data = women, aes(x = weight, y = height)) +
4   geom_point()
5
```

Source
(aka Editor)

Environment History Connections

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5:1 (Top Level) R Script

Console Terminal Jobs

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[Workspace loaded from ~/Documents/clients/trasys/modules/T3-exploratory/R/.RData]
> |
```

Console

Files Plots Packages Help Viewer

Zoom Export

Files
Plots
Packages
Help

Files
Plots
Packages
Help



RStudio interface

Files

File explorer

Plots

ggplot output

Packages

Installed packages

Help

Documentation of functions and packages



R basics

Load data

"Import dataset" wizard

```
read.csv("mydatafile.csv")
```

```
eurostat::get_eurostat("ilc_hch10")
```

Assign

```
x <- 5
```

```
mydataframe <- read.csv(...)
```

Inspecting data

```
View(...)
```

```
head(...)
```

Inspect object

Get help

```
?read.csv
```

```
?head
```



R & Rstudio basics

Packages

```
install.packages("ggplot2")  
library(ggplot2)
```

Run code

"Run" button in Source pane
Using the console

Saving script

File => Save as
.R files



Exercise

4-load-data.R

`View(...)`

open data in the data viewer

`read.csv(...)`

load csv files

`library(...)`

load (installed) package

`readxl::read_excel(...)` load Excel files and sheets

`?...`

open the documentation

`eurostat` package

find and load eurostat data

5. DATA PROFILING



Data profiling

A first glimpse of the data

How big is the data?

What are the data types?

Missing data? Errors?

Starting to understand the data



Data profiling

Missing data

NA values

Inspect

Check the object under Environment

Run the data frame

Data frame will be outputted in the console



Exercise

5-1-data-profiling.R

`ncol(...)`

number of columns

`nrow(...)`

number of lines

`typeof(...)`

data type of a column

`str(...)`

compact display of R object

`summary(...)`

summary statistics

`visdat::vis_dat(...)`

visual profile of dataframe

Exercise

5-2-check-assumptions.R

`geom_col()`

bar and column charts

`dplyr::filter()`

from the dplyr package, filter data on 1 or more conditions

6.

VISUALISING DISTRIBUTIONS



Visualising distributions

1 numerical column
1 optional categorical column

Range of the distribution

Shape of the distribution
(symmetrical, bimodal, long tails, ...)

Central values

Outliers



ggplot2

Cheat sheet

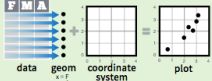
Data Visualization with ggplot2

Cheat Sheet



Basics

ggplot2 is based on the **grammar of graphics**, the idea that you can build every graph from the same few components: a **data** set, a set of **geoms**—visual marks that represent data points, and a **coordinate system**.



To display data values, map variables in the data set to aesthetic properties of the geom like **size**, **color**, and **x** and **y** locations.



Build a graph with **qplot()** or **ggplot()**

ggplot(x = cty, y = hwy, color = cyl, data = mpg, geom = "point")
Creates a complete plot with given data, geom, and mappings. Supplies many useful defaults.

ggplot(data = mpg, aes(x = cty, y = hwy))

Begins a plot that you finish by adding layers to. No defaults, but provides more control than qplot().

data

```
ggplot(mpg, aes(hwy, cty)) +
  geom_point(aes(color = cyl)) +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm") +
  coord_cartesian() +
  scale_color_gradient() +
  theme_bw()
```

add layers, elements with +

layer = geom + default stat + layer specific mappings

additional elements

Add a new layer to a plot with a **geom_*()** or **stat_*()** function. Each provides a geom, a set of aesthetic mappings, and a default stat and position adjustment.

last_plot()

Returns the last plot

ggsave("plot.png", width = 5, height = 5)

Saves last plot as 5' x 5' file named "plot.png" in working directory. Matches file type to file extension.

Geoms - Use a geom to represent data points, use the geom's aesthetic properties to represent variables. Each function returns a layer.

One Variable

Continuous

a <- ggplot(mpg, aes(hwy))

a + geom_area(stat = "bin")
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size
b + geom_area(aes(y = ..density..), stat = "bin")

a + geom_density(kernel = "gaussian")
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size, weight
b + geom_density(aes(y = ..county..))

a + geom_dotplot()
x, y, alpha, color, fill

a + geom_freqpoly()
x, y, alpha, color, linetype, size
b + geom_freqpoly(aes(y = ..density..))

a + geom_histogram(binwidth = 5)
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size, weight
b + geom_histogram(aes(y = ..density..))

Discrete

b <- ggplot(mpg, aes(fl))

b + geom_bar()
x, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size, weight

Graphical Primitives

c <- ggplot(map, aes(long, lat))

c + geom_polygon(aes(group = group))
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size

d <- ggplot(economics, aes(date, unemployment))

d + geom_path(lineend = "butt", linejoin = "round", linemitre = 1)
x, y, alpha, color, linetype, size

d + geom_ribbon(aes(ymin = unemployment - 900, ymax = unemployment + 900))
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size

e <- ggplot(seals, aes(x = long, y = lat))

e + geom_segment(aes(xend = long + delta_long, yend = lat + delta_lat))
x, y, xend, yend, alpha, color, linetype, size

e + geom_rect(aes(xmin = long, ymin = lat, xmax = long + delta_long, ymax = lat + delta_lat))
x, y, xmin, xmax, ymin, ymax, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size

Two Variables

Continuous X, Continuous Y
f <- ggplot(mpg, aes(cty, hwy))

f + geom_blank()

f + geom_jitter()
x, y, alpha, color, fill, shape, size

f + geom_point()
x, y, alpha, color, fill, shape, size

f + geom_quantile()
x, y, alpha, color, linetype, size, weight

f + geom_rug(sides = "bl")
alpha, color, linetype, size

f + geom_smooth(model = lm)
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size, weight

f + geom_text(aes(label = cty))
x, y, label, alpha, angle, color, family, fontface, hjust, lineheight, size, vjust

Discrete X, Continuous Y
g <- ggplot(mpg, aes(class, hwy))

g + geom_bar(stat = "identity")
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size, weight

g + geom_boxplot()
lower, middle, upper, x, ymax, ymin, alpha, color, fill, linetype, shape, size, weight

g + geom_dotplot(binaxis = "y", stackdir = "center")
x, y, alpha, color, fill

g + geom_violin(scale = "area")
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size, weight

Discrete X, Discrete Y

h <- ggplot(diamonds, aes(cut, color))

h + geom_jitter()
x, y, alpha, color, fill, shape, size

Continuous Bivariate Distribution
i <- ggplot(movies, aes(year, rating))

i + geom_bin2d(binwidth = c(5, 0.5))
xmax, xmin, ymax, ymin, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size, weight

i + geom_density2d()
x, y, alpha, colour, linetype, size

i + geom_hex()
x, y, alpha, colour, fill, shape, size

Continuous Function

j <- ggplot(economics, aes(date, unemployment))

j + geom_area()
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size

j + geom_line()
x, y, alpha, color, linetype, size

j + geom_step(direction = "hv")
x, y, alpha, color, linetype, size

Visualizing error

df <- data.frame(grp = c("A", "B"), fit = 4:5, se = 1:2)
k <- ggplot(df, aes(grp, fit, ymin = fit-se, ymax = fit+se))

k + geom_crossbar(fatten = 2)
x, y, ymax, ymin, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size

k + geom_errorbar()
x, ymax, ymin, alpha, color, linetype, size, width (also **geom_errorbarh()**)

k + geom_linerange()
x, ymin, ymax, alpha, color, linetype, size

k + geom_pointrange()
x, y, ymin, ymax, alpha, color, fill, linetype, shape, size

Maps

data <- data.frame(murder = USArrests\$Murder, state = tolower(rownames(USArrests)))
map <- map_data("state")
l <- ggplot(data, aes(fill = murder))

l + geom_map(aes(map_id = state), map = map) + expand_limits(x = map\$long, y = map\$lat)
map_id, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size

Three Variables

sealsSz <- with(seals, sqrt(delta_long^2 + delta_lat^2))
m <- ggplot(seals, aes(long, lat))

m + geom_contour(aes(z = z))
x, y, z, alpha, colour, linetype, size, weight

m + geom_raster(aes(fill = z), hjust=0.5, vjust=0.5, interpolate=FALSE)
x, y, alpha, fill

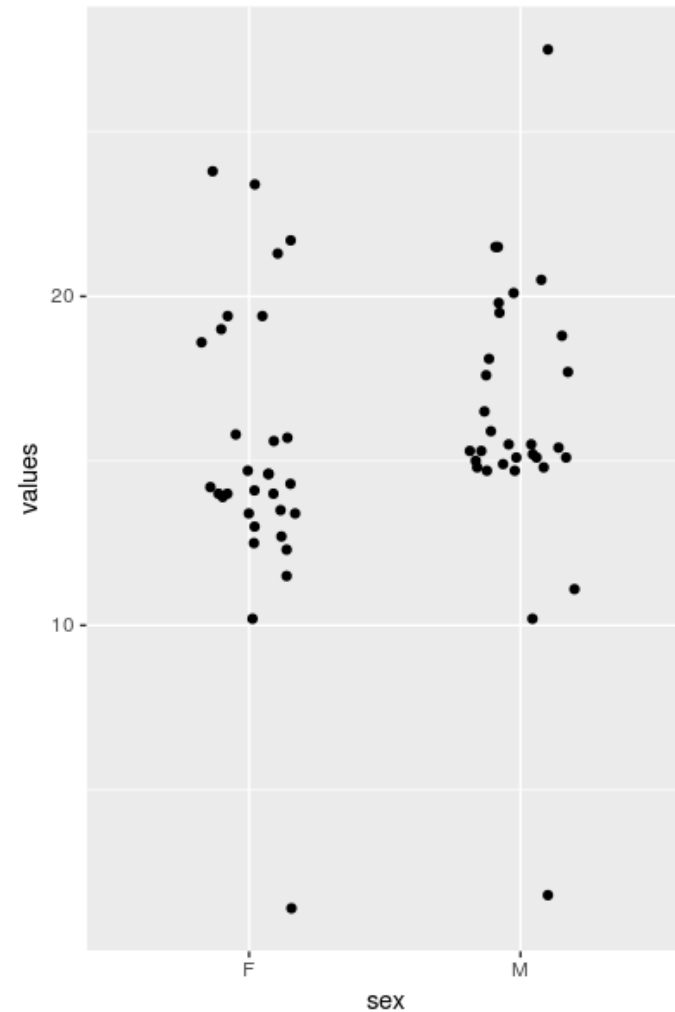
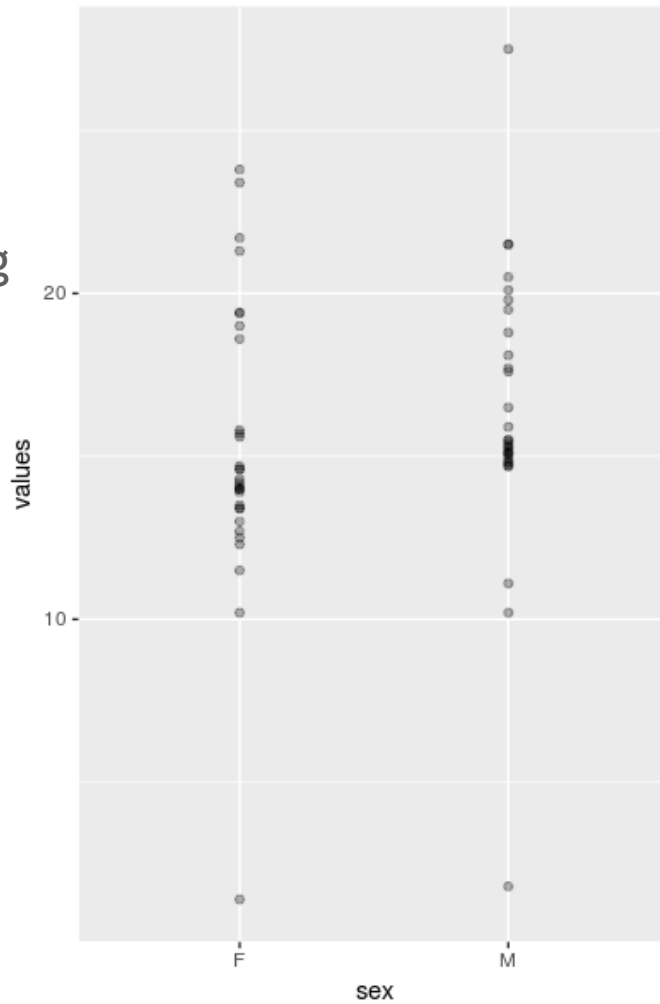
m + geom_tile(aes(fill = z))
x, y, alpha, color, fill, linetype, size

Distributions Points

The easiest way to visualise a distribution: plotting each value

`geom_point()`

If you have overlap:
use alpha or
`geom_jitter()`

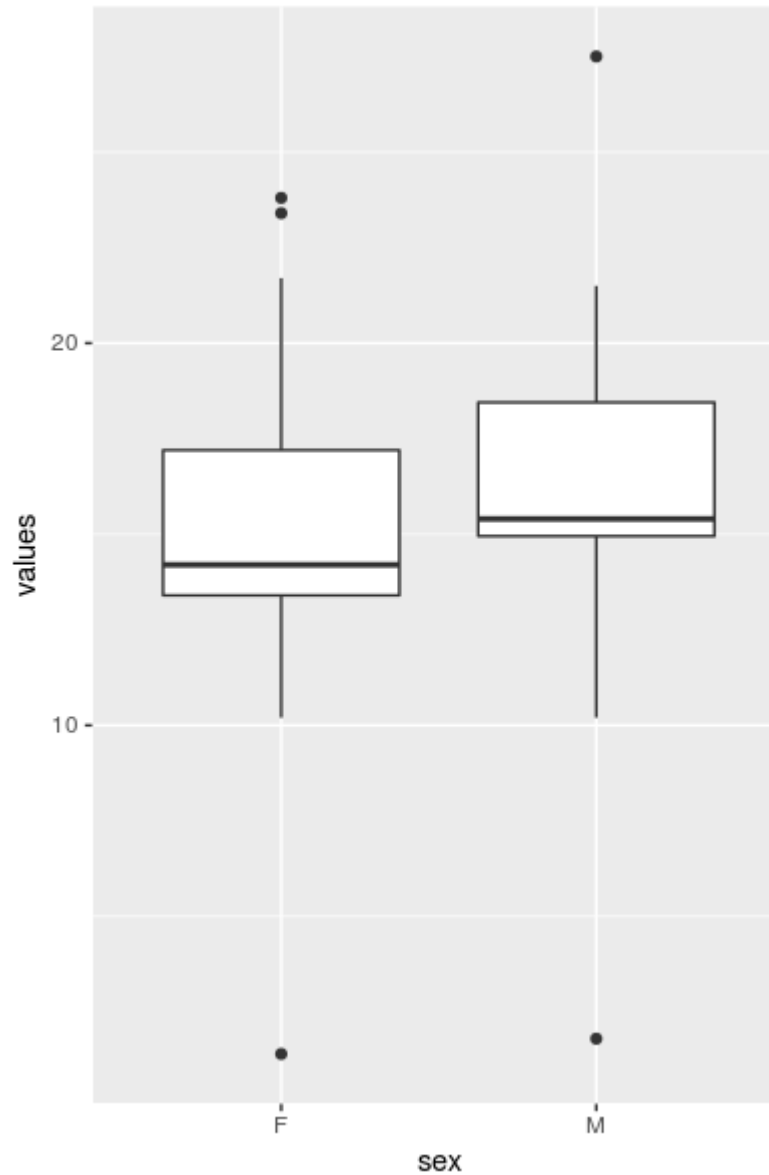


Distributions

Boxplots

`geom_boxplot()`

ggplot calculates the medians, quartiles and outliers for us



Exercise

6-1-distributions-points-boxplots.R

`geom_point()` plot points (circles, symbols)

`geom_boxplot()` plot boxplots

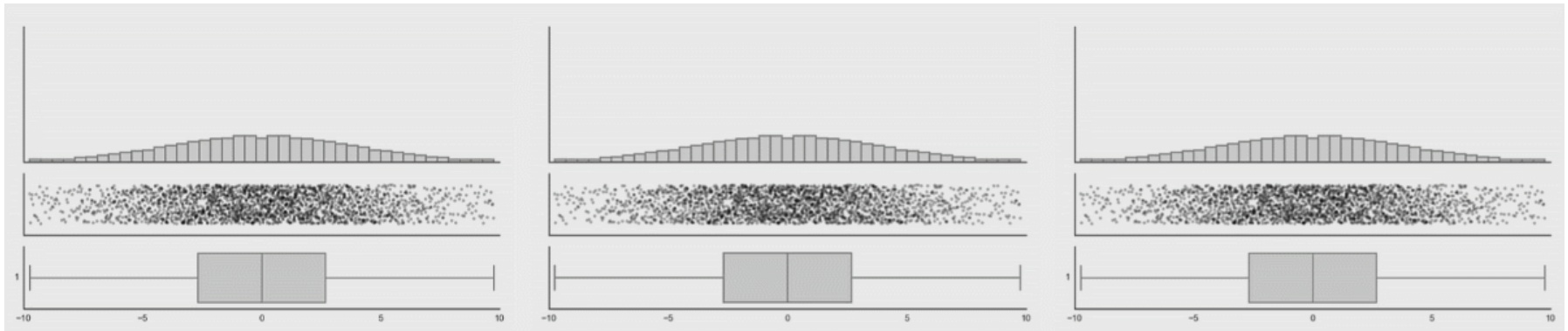
`geom_jitter()` add jittering

`geom_text()` plot text

`geom_1() + geom_2()` combine geoms

Distributions

Boxplots alternatives



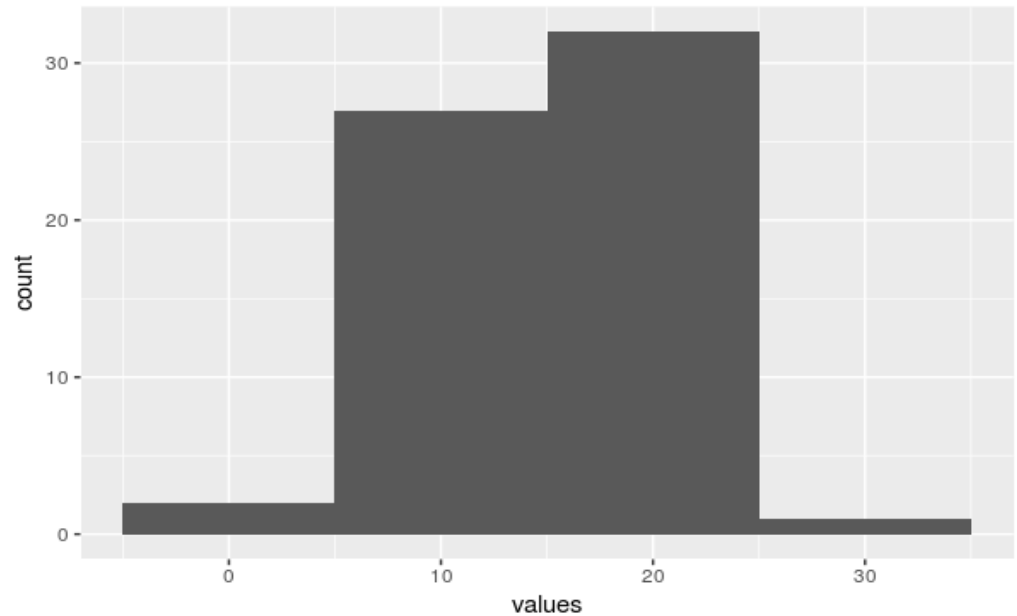
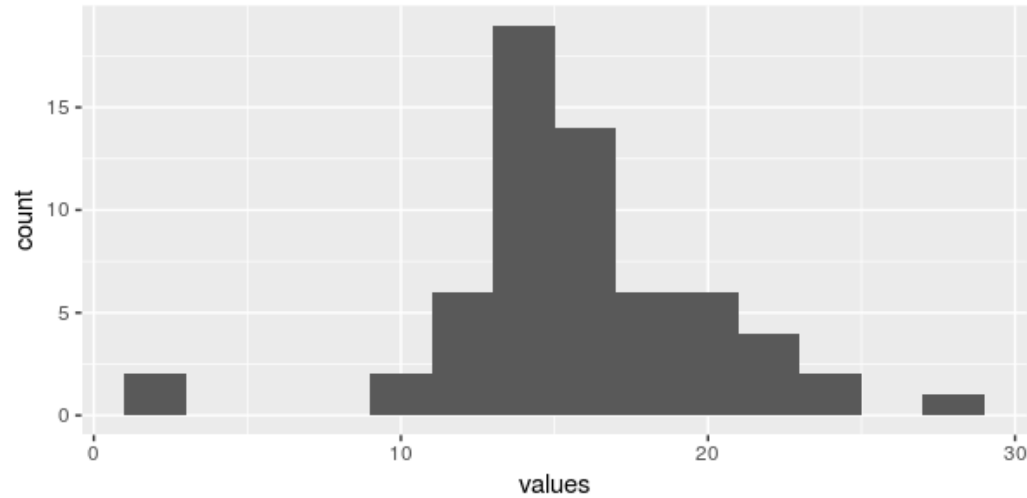
Distributions

Histograms

`geom_histogram()`

ggplot does the counting for us

binwidth/bins parameters is very important: try different bin sizes



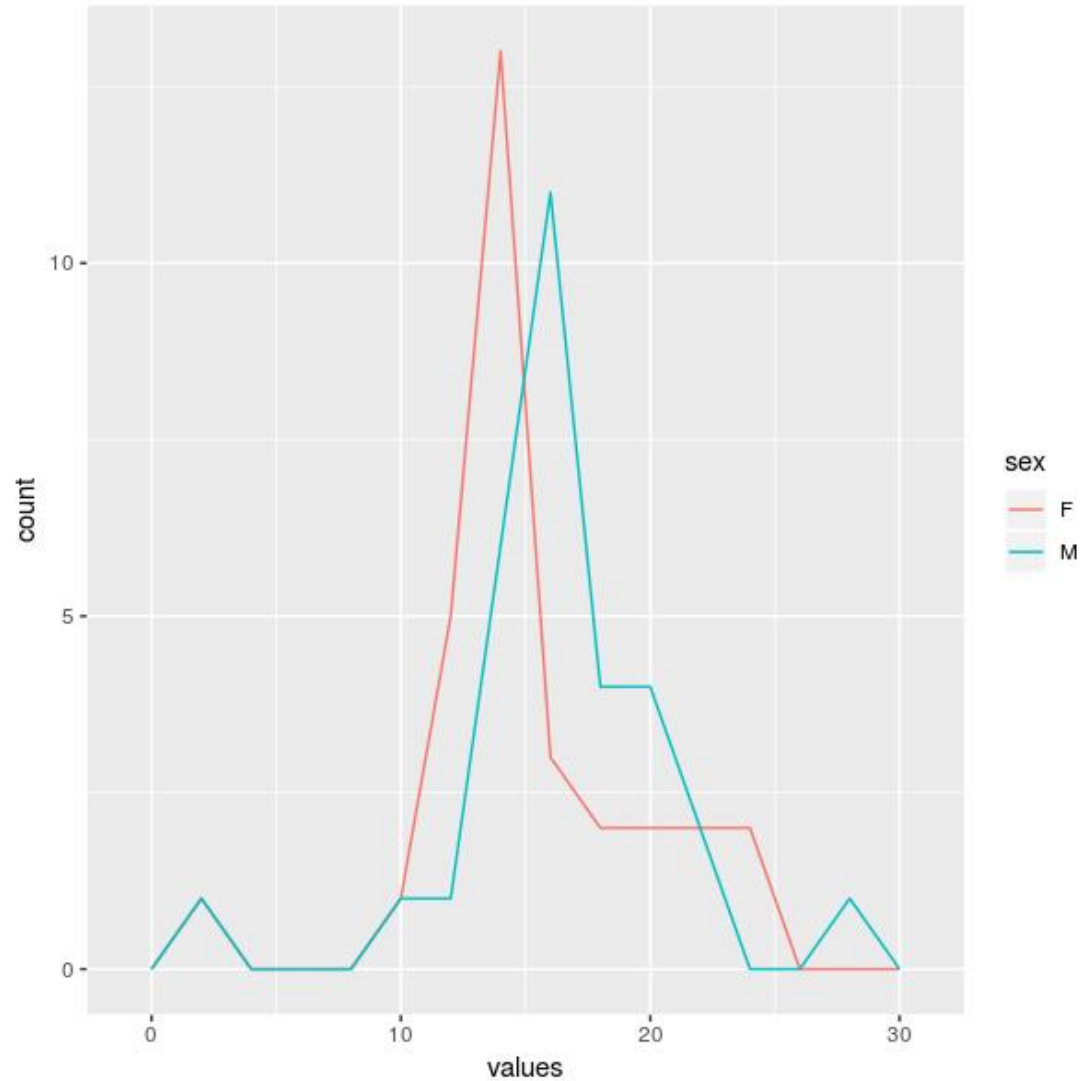
Distributions

Frequency polygons

`geom_freqpoly()`

Same as histogram,
but with lines instead
of bars

Better suited to
compare distributions
between different
categories



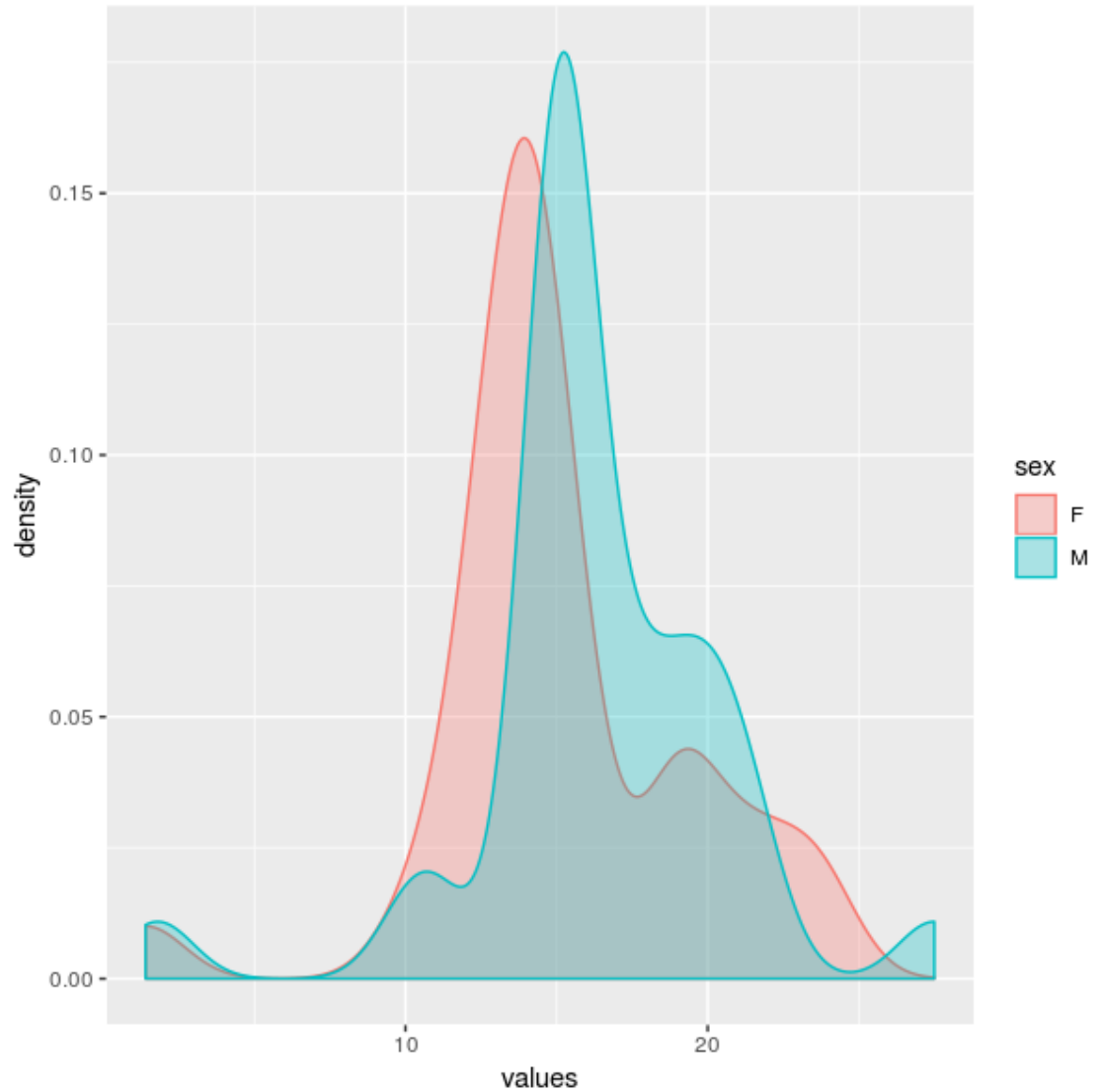
Distributions

Density plot

`geom_density()`

Smooth version of
`geom_freqpoly()`

Use when underlying
data is smooth

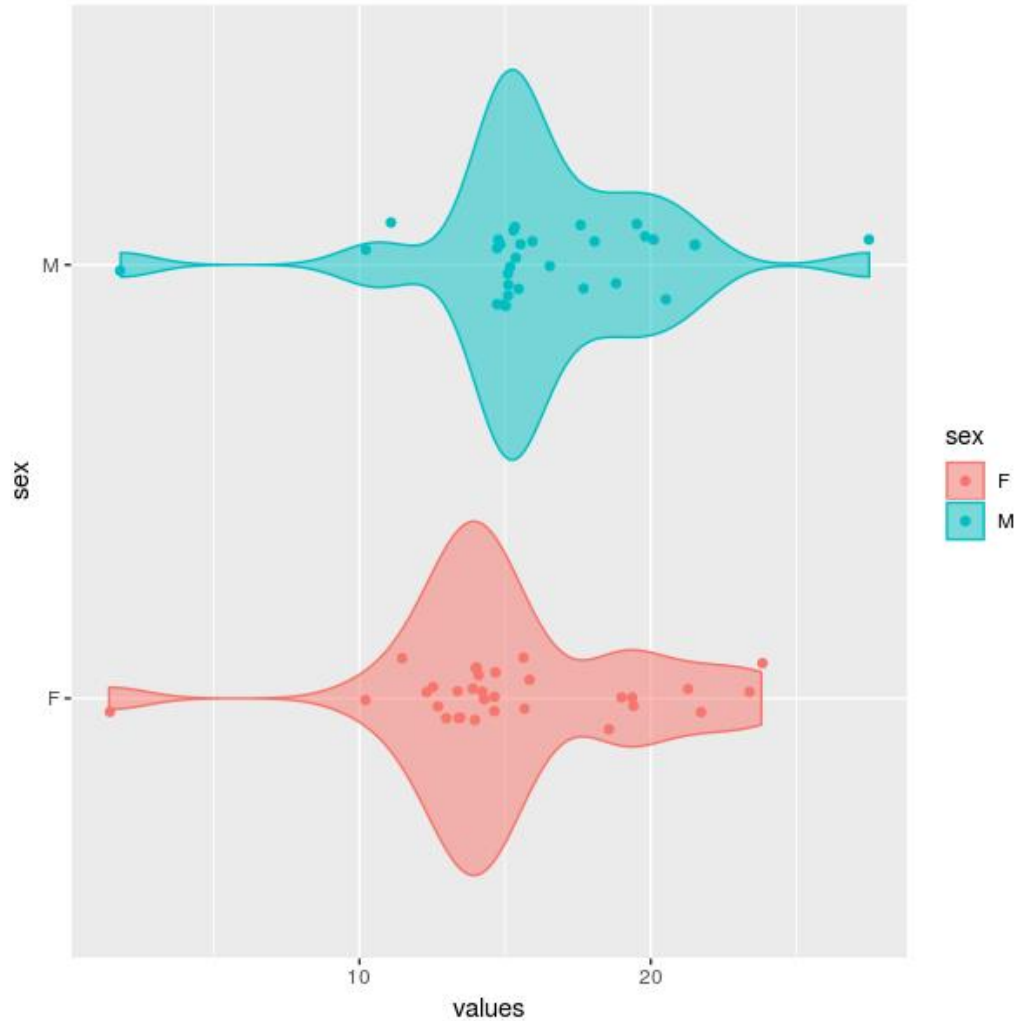


Distributions

Violin plot

`geom_violin()`

Compact, mirrored
version of
`geom_density()`



Exercise

6-2-distributions-othergeoms.R

`geom_histogram()`

plot histograms

`geom_freqpoly()`

plot frequency polygons

`geom_density()`

plot density estimates

`geom_violin()`

plot violin plots

7.

VISUALISING COVARIATION



Visualising covariation

Two numerical
variables

Optionally one
categorical variable

Identify correlations

Detect outliers

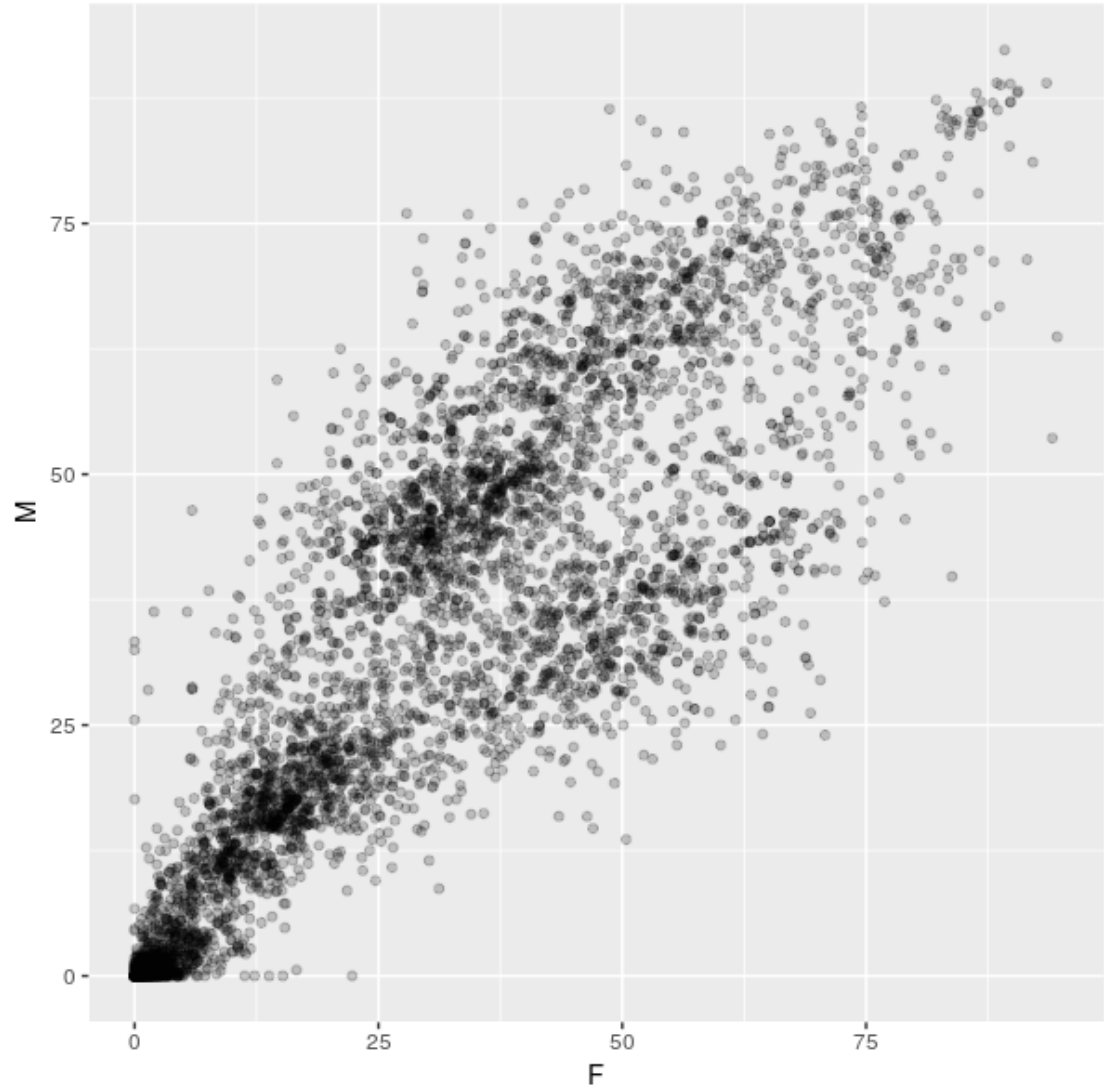


Covariation Scatterplots

`geom_point()`

`geom_text()`
`geom_label()`

Use `geom_jitter()` for
discrete or categorical
variables



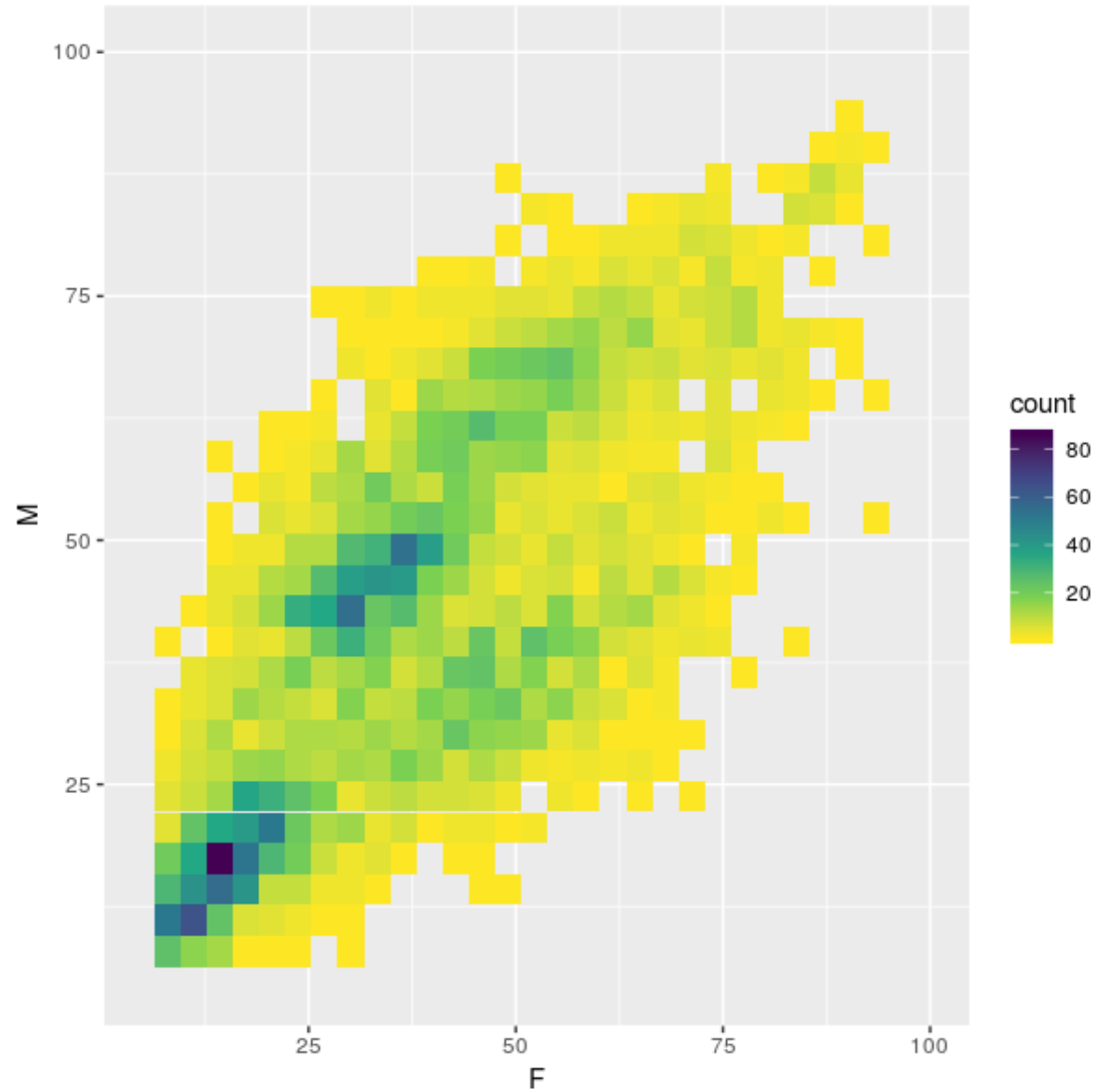
Covariation Scatterplots

Overcome overplotting
by binning with

`geom_bin2d()`

`geom_hex()`

Or use transparency:
`alpha`



Exercise

7-1-scatterplots.R

`geom_point()`

plot points

`geom_bin2d()`

bin points in rectangles

`geom_hex()`

bin points in hexagons

`scale_x_continuous()`

customise continuous scale

`scale_fill_continuous()` customise color scale

Exercise: Why visualise?

7-2-anscombe.R

Dataset "anscombe"

```
View(anscombe)
```

Check the means with
`summary(anscombe)`

Calculate some stats:

```
sd(anscombe$x1)
```

```
cor(anscombe$x1,  
anscombe$y1)
```

Now make scatterplots:

$x_1 \sim y_1$

$x_2 \sim y_2$

$x_3 \sim y_3$

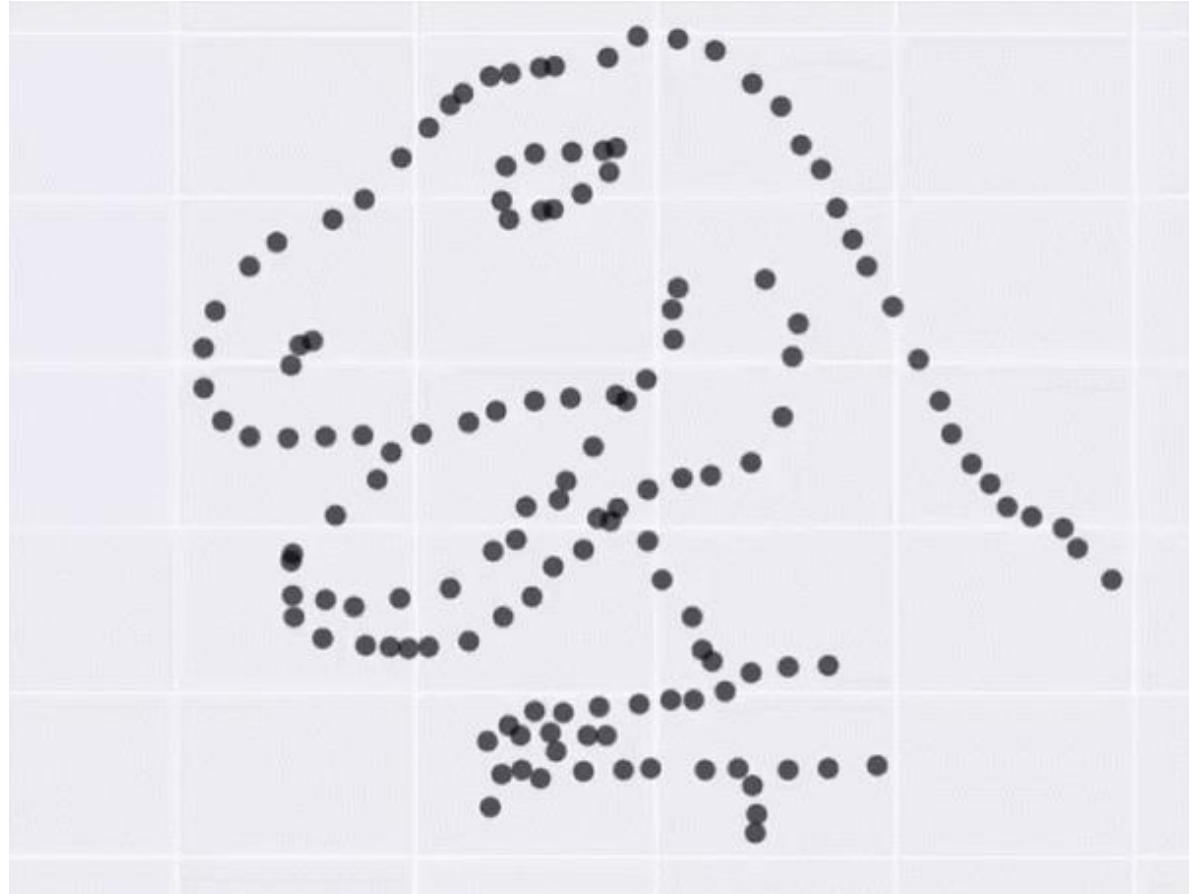
$x_4 \sim y_4$

What do you see?

EDA

Why visualise?

Datasaurus



Covariation Heatmaps

2 categorical or
discrete variables + 1
numerical variable

`geom_tile()`



Exercise

7-3-heatmaps.R

`geom_tile()`

plot rectangles



8.

MULTIDEMENSIONAL DATA

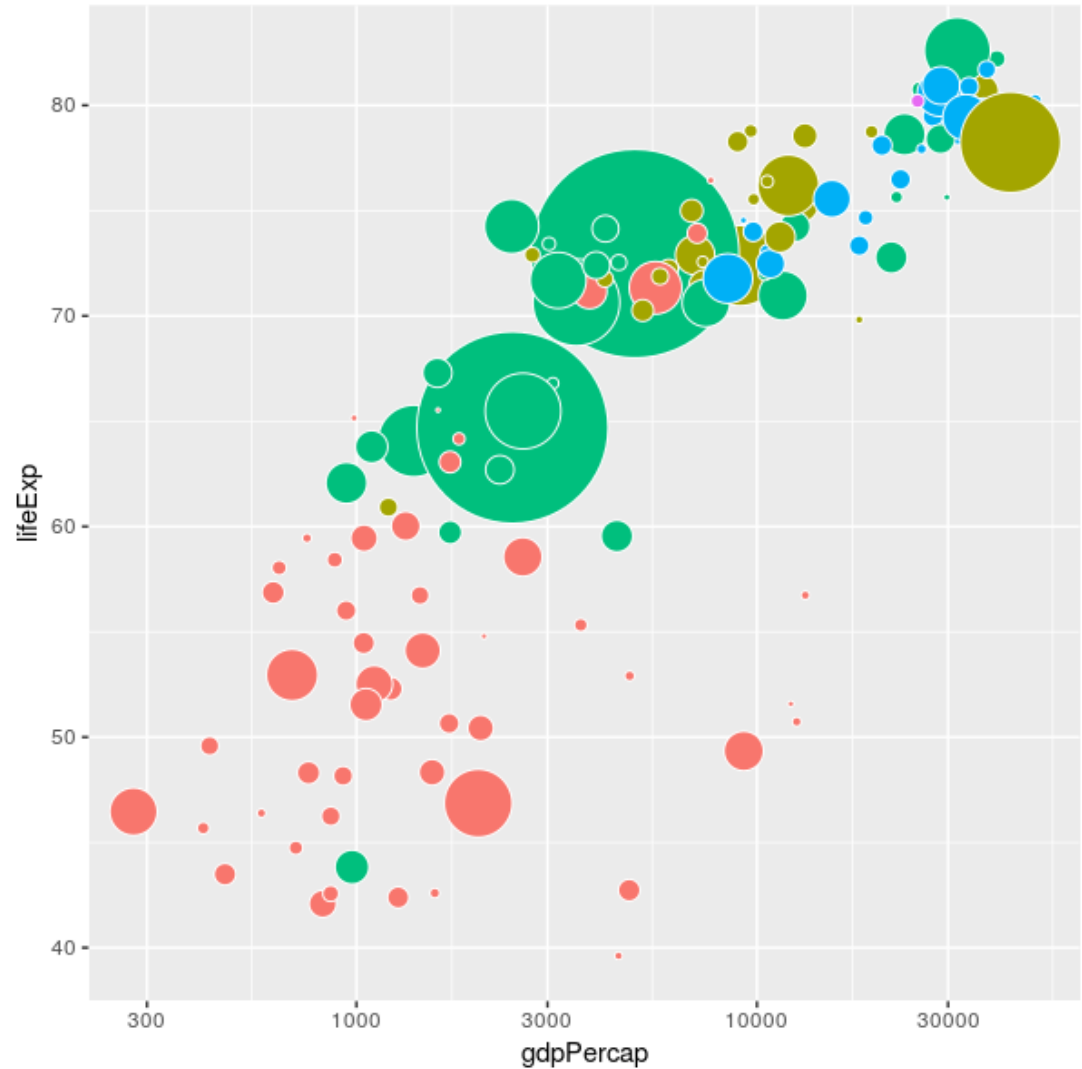


Multidimensional

Add aesthetics

geoms have many aesthetics. For example, `geom_point()` understands the following:

- x*
- y*
- color
- fill
- group
- shape
- size
- stroke



Exercise: Why visualize?

8-1-gapminder.R

```
+ aes()
```

Add aesthetic to a plot

```
scale_x_log10()
```

Logarithmic scale

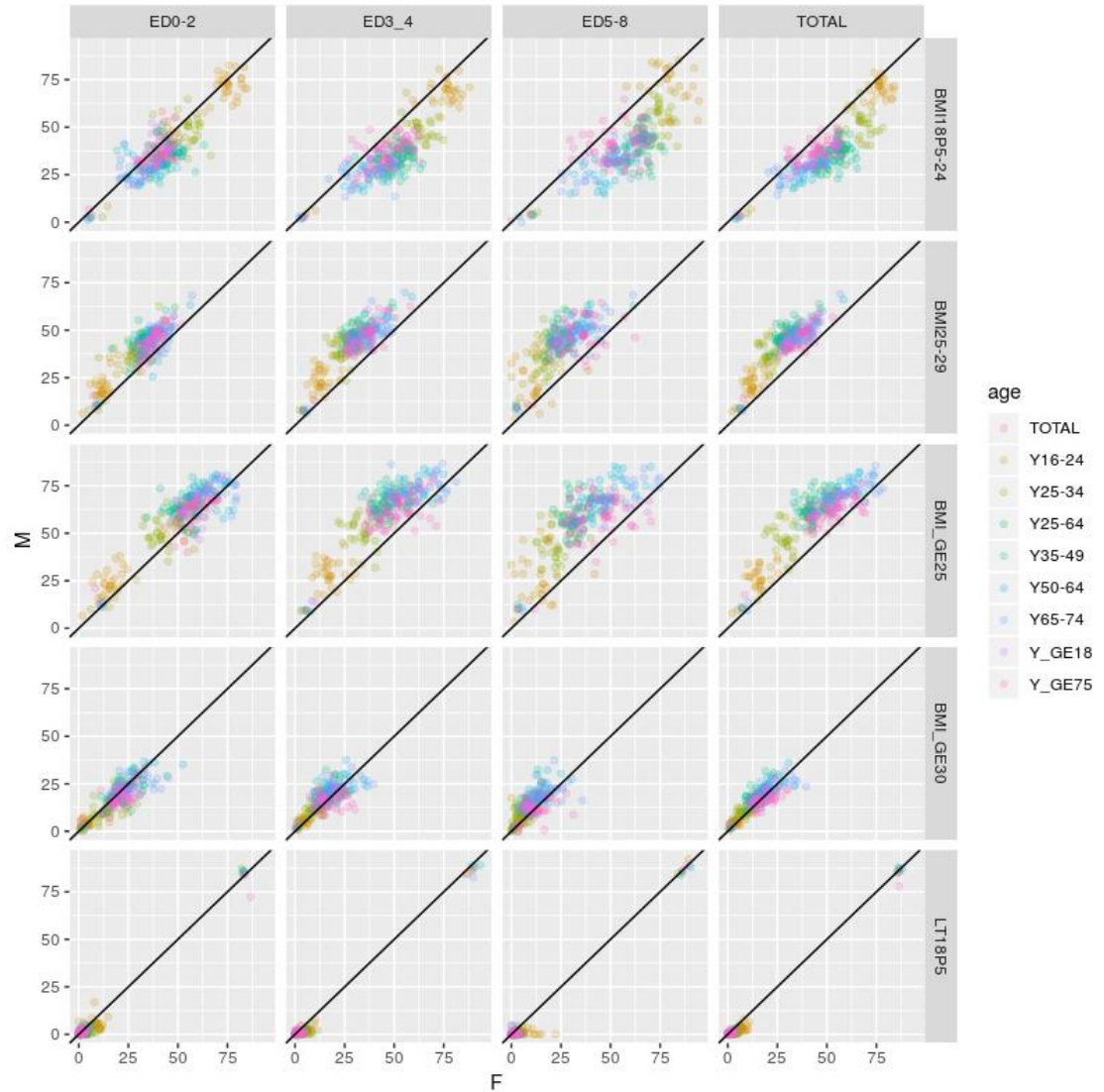
```
scale_size_area()
```

Size scale

Multidimensional Facetting

Make small multiple charts by faceting plots with `facet_wrap()` and `facet_grid()`

Free vs fixed scales



Exercise

8-2-facetting.R

`facet_wrap()`

plot split into small multiples for 1 variable

`facet_grid()`

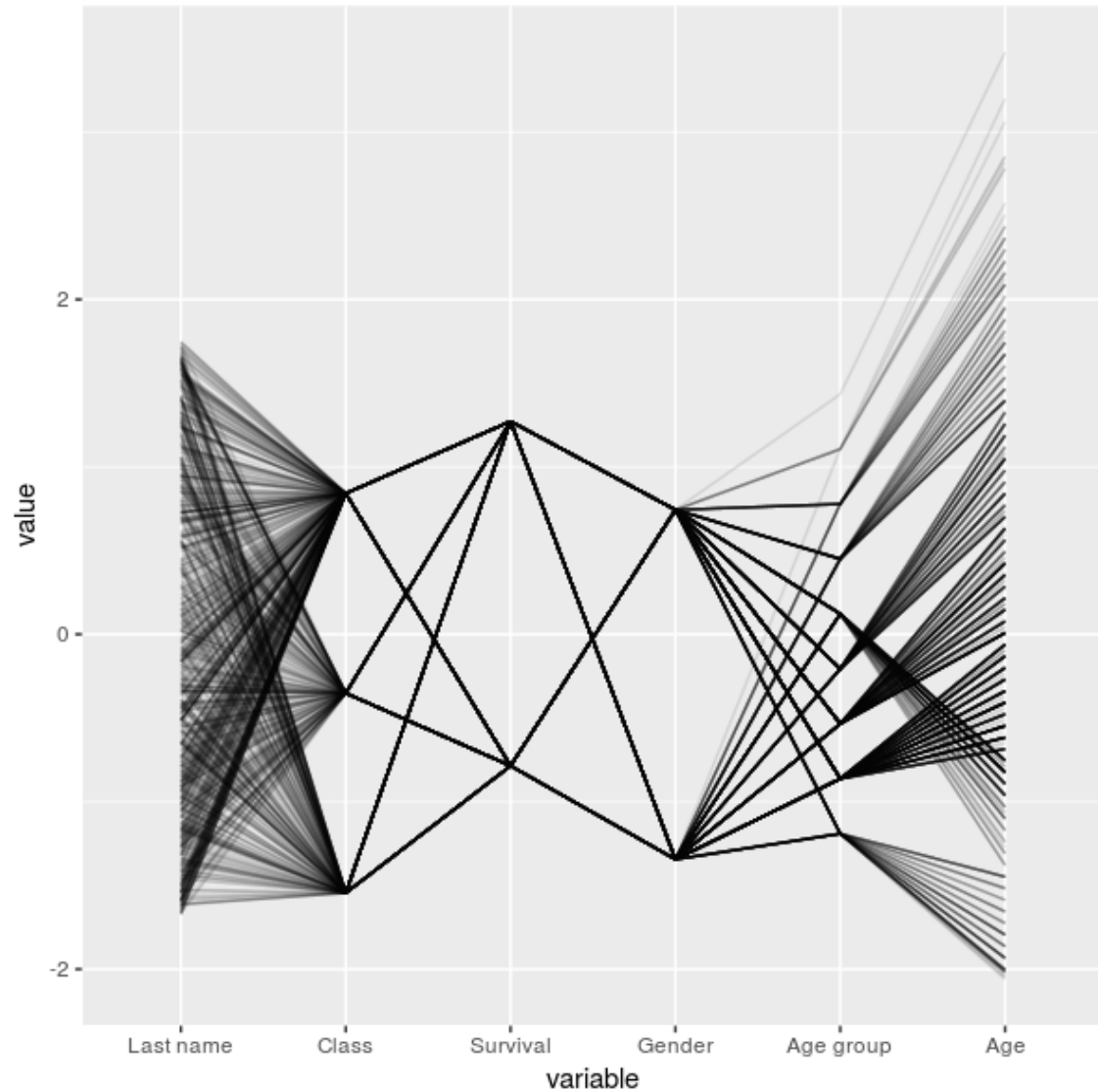
plot split into small multiples for 2 variables

Multidimensional Parallel coordinates

Plot many dimensions
and see correlation
between them

`GGally::ggparcoord()`

Add boxplots



Exercise: Why visualize?

8-3-parallel-coordinates.R

`GGally::parcoord()` plot parallel coordinate plot

Multidimensional Multiple views & interactivity

Shiny package

Filters & interaction
Multiple visualisations

[Example](#)

Coordinated views

[Example](#)



9.

VISUALISING TIME SERIES



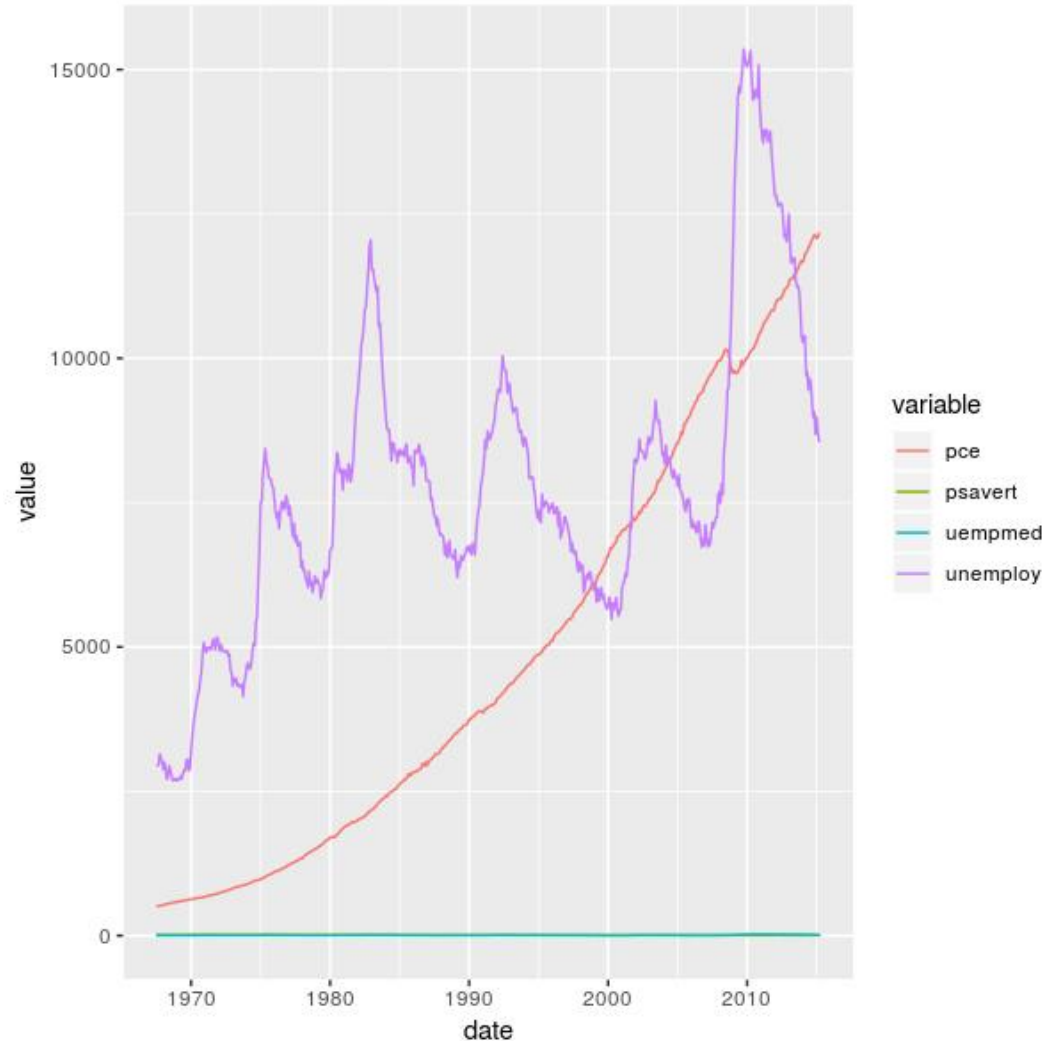
Time series `geom_line()`

`geom_line()` with
group or color
aesthetic

`geom_area()`

`scale_x_time()`

`scale_x_date()`



Exercise

9-time-series.R

`geom_line()`

plot line charts

`geom_area()`

plot area charts

`scale_x_date()`



10.

SAVING AND SHARING VISUALISATIONS



Saving ggsave()

Plots panel => Export

save a plot to your project/hard drive

ggsave()

file formats

dpi

units





Sharing Rmarkdown

Mix text, R-code and
R-output

Output to html, Word,
Powerpoint, etc.

File => New file => R
Markdown...

Example

(preparation for [Why Budapest, Lithuania and Warsaw split themselves in two](#))





11.

OVERVIEW OF OTHER TOOLS



Visual EDA

Other tools

Python:

- pandas, seaborn, matplotlib
- altair

Without coding:

- Qlik
- Tableau



Q&A



Resources

Grammar of Graphics

[A layered grammar of graphics](#)

R & EDA

[R for Data Science](#)

ggplot2

[Tidyverse: ggplot2](#)

[Data visualization: A practical introduction](#)

[Fundamentals of Data Visualisation](#)

[ggplot2 Cheat Sheet](#)



Upcoming training & workshop sessions

Topic	Type of session	Lux + webex	Bxl
Telling your story through data visualisation	Training	25/06	28/06
Making great online data visualisations without coding	workshop	26/06	-
Going beyond bars and lines: practising non-standard data visualisation	Training	24/09	Sep-Oct
Making data visualisations like a pro: D3.js	Workshop	25/09	-
Applying data visualisation best practices in real use cases	workshop	24/10	-

and webinars (topic like for the trainings) ... stay tuned!

Materials will be published on <https://data.europa.eu/euodp/en/knowledge-center>

