basic ggplot2

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Stephen Curry Is One Of The Best

All of his shots, 2015-16 regular season



Curry Is The Most Valuable Shooter (By A Lot)

Shooting value added (based on distance, shot clock and defender distance) vs. shots, by player; last season through Nov. 28, 2015







Charles Joseph Minard (1869), Napoleon's March to Moscow - The War of 1812

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Important questions for statistical graphics

- What is a graphic?
- How can we succinctly describe a graphic?
- How can we create the graphic that we have described?

One approach: develop a grammar!

- Grammar: the fundamental principles or rules of an art or science (Oxford English Dictionary; Item 6)
 - Allows us to gain insights into the composition of complicated graphics
 - Reveals unexpected connections for understanding a diverse range of graphics
 - Guides us to produce sensical and well-formed graphics
- Analogy to the English language: good grammar is just the first step in creating a good sentence.

Existing R graphics tools

- base graphics (Ross Ihaka)
 - pen on paper model; cannot modify or delete existing content
 - no representation of the graphics, apart from their appearance on the screen
 - fast but with limited scope
- grid (Paul Murrell, 2000)
 - a much richer system of graphical primitives (only primitives; no tools for producing statistical graphics)
 - graph objects represented independently of the plot and can be modified later
 - a system of viewports to lay out complex graphics
- lattice package (Deepayan Sarkar, 2008)
 - uses grid to implement the trellis graphics system of Cleveland
 - can easily produce conditioned plots and some details (e.g., legends) are automatically taken care of
 - lacks a formal model; hard to extend

ggplot2: a framework for producing statistical graphics

- takes the good things from base and lattice graphics
- uses a strong underlying model with several principles (details to follow)

What we get:

- a compact syntax to describe a wide range of graphics
- independent components that are easily extensible

ggplot2 Scatterplot Example: data

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 ##
 A
 B
 C
 D

 ##
 1
 2
 3
 4
 a

 ##
 2
 1
 2
 1
 a

 ##
 3
 4
 5
 15
 b

 ##
 4
 9
 10
 80
 b

ggplot2 Scatterplot Example: *geom* aesthetics and **mapping**

- Scatterplot:
 - a point for each observation
 - position the point horizontally according to the value of A, vertically according to C
 - Here, we will also map categorical variable D to the shape of the points

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- Aesthetics:
 - x-poistion: A
 - y-position: C
 - shape: D
- ## x y Shape
 ## 1 2 4 a
 ## 2 1 1 a
 ## 3 4 15 b
 ## 4 9 80 b

Example: mapping from data space to aesthetic space (controlled by **scale**)

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| | Х | У | Shape |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 25 | 11 | circle |
| 2 | 0 | 20 | circle |
| 3 | 75 | 53 | square |
| 4 | 200 | 300 | square |
| | 1 2 3 4 | x 1 25 2 0 3 75 4 200 | x y 1 25 11 2 0 20 3 75 53 4 200 300 |

Example: Plot the Geometric objects (geom)



run `?geom_point` geom_point understands the
following aesthetics (required aesthetics are in bold).

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Details about geometric objects, or geom

- Controls the type of the plot you create (a point geom creates a scatterplot; a line geom creates a line plot, etc.)
 - Od: point, text,
 - Id: path, line (ordered path),
 - 2d: polygon, interval.
- Are abstract and can be rendered in different ways (e.g., intervals).
- Require outputs from a statistic (e.g., x,y-positions in scatterplot; edges in boxplots)
- Every geom has a default statistic, and every statistic a default geom.
 - For example, the bin statistic defaults to using the bar geom to produce a histogram.
- Each geom can only display certain aesthetics.
 - Try ?geom_point
 - Different parameterizations may be useful (e.g., polar coordinate system).

Example: Faceting (facet)

example



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What are the components in the previous example? layered grammer of graphics (Wickham, 2009)

- data and mappings (describe how variables in the data are mapped to aesthetic attributes that you can perceive)
- geometric objects (geom); what you actually see on the plot, e.g., points, lines, polygons, etc.
- statistical transformations, stat; summarize data in useful ways, e.g., binning and counting to create a histogram
- scale: maps values in the data space to values in an aesthetic space; scale draws a legend or axes to make it possible to read the original data values from the graph (inverse mapping: what does this mean?)
- A coordinate system: **coord**
- A faceting specification: describes how to break up data into subsets and how to display them as small multiples; also known as conditioning or latticing/trelissing.

Diamond data

just getting some data
library(ggplot2)
head(diamonds)

| ## | | carat | cut | color | clarity | depth | table | price | x | |
|----|---|-------|-----------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|------|---|
| ## | 1 | 0.23 | Ideal | E | SI2 | 61.5 | 55 | 326 | 3.95 | 3 |
| ## | 2 | 0.21 | Premium | E | SI1 | 59.8 | 61 | 326 | 3.89 | ; |
| ## | 3 | 0.23 | Good | E | VS1 | 56.9 | 65 | 327 | 4.05 | 4 |
| ## | 4 | 0.29 | Premium | I | VS2 | 62.4 | 58 | 334 | 4.20 | 4 |
| ## | 5 | 0.31 | Good | J | SI2 | 63.3 | 58 | 335 | 4.34 | 4 |
| ## | 6 | 0.24 | Very Good | J | VVS2 | 62.8 | 57 | 336 | 3.94 | 3 |

Diamond data plotted by base graphics



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Diamond data plotted by ggplot2



Diamond Example: count within each cut category

```
d <- ggplot(diamonds, aes(cut))
d + geom_bar()</pre>
```



Diamond Example: average prices within each cut category



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library(HistData) head(Minard.troops)

| ## | | long | lat | survivors | direction | group |
|----|---|------|------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| ## | 1 | 24.0 | 54.9 | 340000 | А | 1 |
| ## | 2 | 24.5 | 55.0 | 340000 | Α | 1 |
| ## | 3 | 25.5 | 54.5 | 340000 | Α | 1 |
| ## | 4 | 26.0 | 54.7 | 320000 | Α | 1 |
| ## | 5 | 27.0 | 54.8 | 300000 | Α | 1 |
| ## | 6 | 28.0 | 54.9 | 280000 | А | 1 |

人口 医水黄 医水黄 医水黄素 化甘油

head(Minard.cities)

| ## | | long | lat | city |
|----|---|------|------|-----------|
| ## | 1 | 24.0 | 55.0 | Kowno |
| ## | 2 | 25.3 | 54.7 | Wilna |
| ## | 3 | 26.4 | 54.4 | Smorgoni |
| ## | 4 | 26.8 | 54.3 | Moiodexno |

plot_troops



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plot_polished



What grammar of graphics doesn't do

- It doesn't suggest what graphics you should use to answer the questions you are interested in.
 - ggplot2 focuses on how to produce the plots you want, not knowing what plots to produce.
- Grammar doesn't specify what a graphic should look like and how to make a plot attractive.
 - Finer details, e.g., font size, background color are not specified by the grammar.

- ggplot2 uses its theming system
- No real-time interaction; other dynamic and interactive graphics packages exist:
 - rCharts: http://rcharts.io/
 - clickme: https://github.com/nachocab/clickme
 - D3: Data-Driven Documents: https://d3js.org/

"Ins and Outs"

Data manipulation (get your data into the form required by ggplot2). You will shortly encounter at least these two R packages written by the same author of ggplot2:

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- reshape2
- plyr
- Make figures publishable
 - comprehensive theming system in ggplot2

References

 Wickham H(2009). A Layered Grammar of Graphics. Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics

Optional:

- Examples of statistical graphics used in sport analytics:
 - Stephen Curry's Bombs Are Too Good To Be True I mean, they have to be, right? (FiveThirtyEight.com, 2015)
 - Lionel Messi Is Impossible (FiveThirtyEight.com, 2014)
- Notes by Wickham himself:
 - ggplot2 short courses by Wickham: http://courses.had.co.nz/11-rice/
 - ggplot2 cheatsheet
- A book-length introduction:
 - Wickham (2010) ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analysis (Use R!)

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