

An Introduction to Data Visualization with R and ggplot2

Agenda

- Meet the speaker
 - Presentation (60 minutes)
 - Question and answer (15 minutes)
 - Wrap-up
-
- GitHub URL:
<https://github.com/datasciencedojo/IntroDataVisualizationWithRAndGgplot2>

Meet the Speaker

- Dave Langer, VP of Data Science – Data Science Dojo
- 20+ years in technology:
 - Roles in development, architecture, & BI/DW/analytics.
 - Last job – Sr. Director, BI & Analytics @ Microsoft.
- Hooked on Data Science 5 years ago:
 - Extensive background in data and analytics.
 - Current interests are text analytics, event log mining, and mathematical programming.
 - Passion for teaching others data science – more tutorials on YouTube!
- Connect with Dave via:
 - LinkedIn
 - YouTube
 - Twitter (@DaveOnData)



Expectation Setting

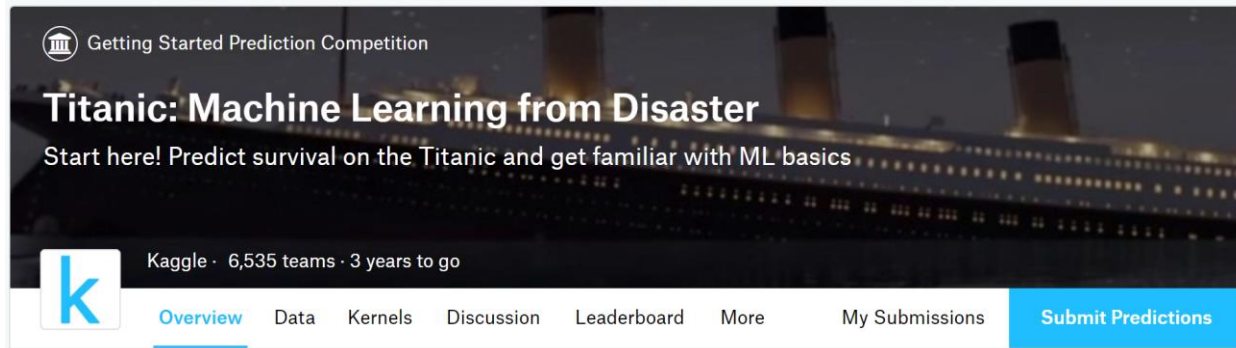
- I am assuming the following:
 - You are experienced with R coding - not an expert, but you can hack.
 - You have some data visualization knowledge (e.g., what is a histogram).
 - You are interested in how ggplot2 can accelerate and improve your data visualizations.
- This is a quick intro to data visualization with ggplot2:
 - I will gloss over a lot of things (e.g., multiple layers).
 - The focus will be on the 20% that is useful 80% of the time.
 - More in-depth coverage is available via resources I will mention later.
- My goal is to make you excited about ggplot2!

THE SCENARIO

Prerequisites

- To follow along you will need the following:
 - R
 - RStudio
- You will need the ggplot2 package installed in your R environment.
- The GitHub repo has files for the source, data, and slides.

The Data



Why use
this
dataset?

1. Everyone is familiar with the problem domain.
2. It is a good proxy for common business data – for example, customer profile data.

The Data

Data Dictionary

Variable	Definition
survival	Survival
pclass	Ticket class
sex	Sex
Age	Age in years
sibsp	# of siblings / spouses aboard the Titanic
parch	# of parents / children aboard the Titanic
ticket	Ticket number
fare	Passenger fare
cabin	Cabin number
embarked	Port of Embarkation

Key

0 = No, 1 = Yes

1 = 1st, 2 = 2nd, 3 = 3rd

C = Cherbourg, Q = Queenstown, S = Southampton

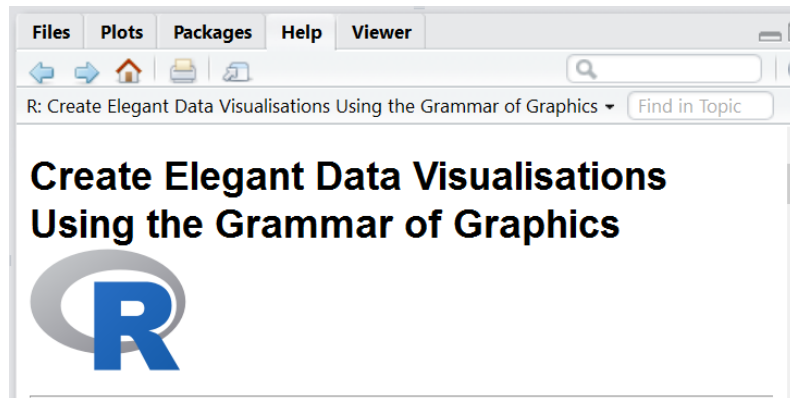
The Scenario

- You are a consulting data scientist and have been hired to analyze the Titanic data.
- The goal of the analysis is to explain patterns of survival in the data:
 - NOTE – The audience is decidedly non-data savvy!
- This scenario has many real world analogs:
 - Customer churn, fraud detection, conversions, etc.

INTRODUCTION TO GGLOT2

ggplot2

- De facto standard visualization package in R.
- Designed for print-quality graphics in seconds.
- Fine-grained control via an API (i.e., “the grammar”) for layering graphical elements to build visualizations.



The Grammar

Every visualization in ggplot2 is composed of the following:

- **Data** – The raw material of your visualization.
- **Layers** – What you see on the plots (e.g., points, lines, etc.).
- **Scales** – Maps the data to graphical output.
- **Coordinates** – The visualization's perspective (e.g., a grid).
- **Faceting** – Provides “visual drill-down” into the data.
- **Themes** – Controls the details of the display (e.g., fonts).

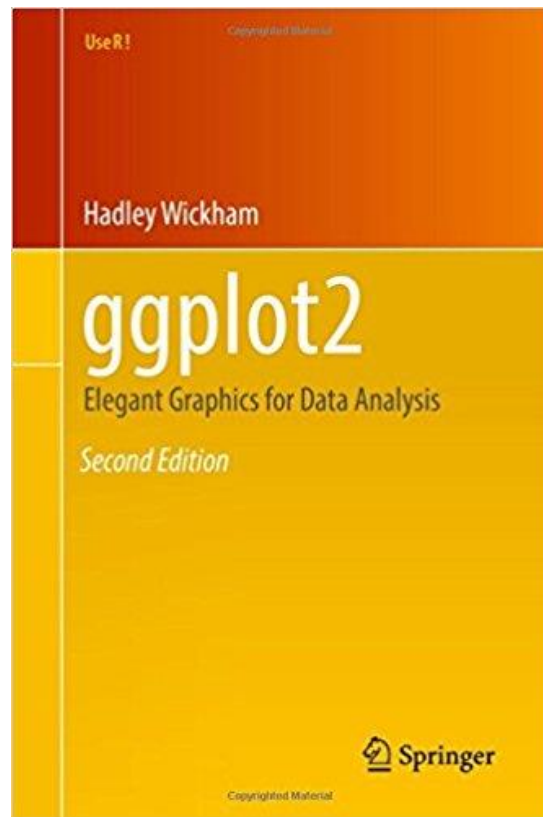
Working with the Grammar

While ggplot2 is designed with a rich grammar, using ggplot2 in practice is quite simple. Each ggplot2 visualization has three required components:

- **Data** – The raw material of your visualization.
- **Aesthetics** – The mappings of your data to the visualization. For example, mapping the value of Titanic passenger ages to the y-axis of a graph.
- **Layers** – A visualization requires at least one layer to render the data and aesthetics to the screen. These layers typically take the form of a ggplot2 geom function – for example, a simple scatter plot.

ggplot2 – The Book

- Single best resource for learning ggplot2.
- Written by the author of the ggplot2 package!
- Excellent introductory resource – good for all skill/experience levels.



R CODE!

QUESTIONS

Want More?

- Follow us Facebook, Twitter, & LinkedIn
- More tutorials available via the Data Science Dojo YouTube channel:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/user/DataScienceDojo>
- Hear what our students say about our bootcamp:
 - <https://datasciencedojo.com/reviews>

THANK YOU!