

Enhancing 'ggplot2': The 'ggstatsplot' approach

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Summary

ggstatsplot is an extension of ggplot2 package for creating graphics with details from statistical tests included in the plots themselves and targeted primarily at behavioral sciences community to provide a one-line code to produce information-rich plots. In a typical exploratory data analysis workflow, data visualization and statistical modeling are two different phases: visualization informs modeling, and modeling in its turn can suggest a different visualization method, and so on and so forth. The central idea of ggstatsplot is simple: combine these two phases into one in the form of graphics with statistical details, which makes data exploration simpler and faster.

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Statement of Need

ggstatsplot at a glance

Summary of types of plots included

It produces a limited kinds of ready-made plots for the supported analyses:

Function	Plot	Description
ggbetweenstats, ggwithinstats	boxviolin plots	for comparisons between and within groups/conditions
gghistostats	histograms	for distribution of a numeric variable
ggdotplotstats	dot plots/charts	for distribution about labeled numeric variable
ggscatterstats	${f scatterplots}$	for correlation between two variables
ggcorrmat	correlation matrices	for correlations between multiple variables
ggpiestats	pie charts	for categorical data
ggbarstats	bar charts	for categorical data
ggcoefstats	dot-and-whisker plots	for regression models and meta-analysis

In addition to these basic plots, ggstatsplot also provides grouped_ versions (see below) that makes it easy to repeat the same analysis for any grouping variable.

Summary of types of statistical analyses

Most functions provide a type (of test) argument that is helpful to specify the type of statistical approaches:

- "parametric" (for parametric statistics)
- "nonparametric" (for non-parametric statistics)



- "robust" (for robust statistics)
- "bayes" (for Bayesian statistics)

In the following sections, we will discuss at depth justification for why the plots have been designed in certain ways and what principles were followed to report statistical details on the plots.

Licensing and Availability

ggstatsplot is licensed under the GNU General Public License (v3.0), with all source code stored at GitHub, and with a corresponding issue tracker for bug reporting and feature enhancements. In the spirit of honest and open science, we encourage requests/tips for fixes, feature updates, as well as general questions and concerns via direct interaction with contributors and developers, by filing an issue. See the package's *Contribution Guidelines*.

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References