PlotsJL

February 24, 2017

0.1 An Introduction to Plots.jl

0.2 Idea

Plots.jl is a non-traditional plotting library

- It does not implement a "plotting backend" itself, it's a plotting API
- The API is easily extendable via recipes

0.2.1 Documentation

The rapidly growing documentation is at https://juliaplots.github.io

0.3 Backends

Plots.jl uses other plotting libraries as backends

- PyPlot (matplotlib): Slow but dependable
- GR: Feature-rich and fast, but new
- Plotly/PlotlyJS: Interactive and good for web
- PGFPlots: Native LaTeX rendering
- UnicodePlots: Plots to unicode for no-display situations

0.4 Using Backends

To switch backends, you simply use the name of the library: https://juliaplots.github.io/backends/

```
In [1]: using Plots
        pyplot() # Turns on the PyPlot backend
        plot(rand(4,4))

In [2]: gr()
        plot(rand(4,4))

INFO: Recompiling stale cache file /Users/florian.oswald/.julia/lib/v0.5/GR.ji for module GR.

In [3]: plotlyjs()
        plot(rand(4,4))
```

0.5 Attributes

The attributes work with each of the backends: https://juliaplots.github.io/attributes/

Compatibility of attributes is found in this chart: https://juliaplots.github.io/supported/

I find it easiest to use this page to find the right attributes: https://juliaplots.github.io/examples/pyplot/

```
In [4]: pyplot()
        plot(rand(4,4),title="Test Title",label=["First" "Second" "Third" "Fourth"])

In [5]: gr()
        plot(rand(4,4),title="Test Title",label=["First" "Second" "Third" "Fourth"])

In [6]: plotlyjs()
        plot(rand(4,4),title="Test Title",label=["First" "Second" "Third" "Fourth"])
```

0.6 Some Example useage

Let's try this out. Most of those examples come from the examples section of the plots website, so check it out for more.

```
In [7]: # lesson 1: every column is a series
        plot(rand(10))  # 1 col = 1 series

In [8]: plot(rand(10,2))  # 2 cols = ...

In [9]: #ădifferent linetypes
        plot(rand(10,2),line=(:dot,:auto),marker=([:circle :diamond]),color=[:green :orange])

In [10]: # histogram
         histogram(randn(1000),nbins=20,legend=false,title="My Histogram!",ylabel="counts")

In [11]: #ăadd to an existing plot later:
         plot(rand(100) / 3,reg=true,fill=(0,:red))

In [12]: # ... with plot! or scatter!
         scatter!(rand(100),marker=(2,:circle),color=:black)
```

0.7 Subplots

- We often want to build subplots, ie multiple plots in one figure.
- Plots.jl has a convenient `layout` argument that you can specify.

```
In [13]: plot(rand(100,4),layout = 4,legend=false)  # make 4 equal sized subplots

In [14]: # specify the size of subplots
         l = @layout([a{0.1h};b [c d; e]])
         plot(randn(100,5),layout=l,t=[:line :histogram :scatter :steppre :bar],leg=false,ticks=
```

In [15]:
```
# we can also sequentially build plots and then stack them together
ty = [:line :histogram :scatter :steppre :bar]
p = Any[]
for typ in ty
    push!(p,plot(rand(100),t=typ,title="$typ plot"))
end
plot(p...)
```

In [16]:
```
# ... and we can also add to the subplots in the same way
plot!(rand(100,5),t=:scatter)
```

In [17]:
```
# 3D plots
n = 100
ts = linspace(0,8,n)
x = ts .* map(cos,ts)
y = (0.1ts) .* map(sin,ts)
z = 1:n
plot(x,y,z,zcolor=reverse(z),m=(10,0.8,:blues,stroke(0)),leg=false,cbar=true,w=5)
plot!(zeros(n),zeros(n),1:n,w=10)
```

In [18]:
```
#ădataframes
using RDatasets, StatPlots, Plots
iris = dataset("datasets","iris")
```

```
INFO: Recompiling stale cache file /Users/florian.oswald/.julia/lib/v0.5/LineSearches.ji for mod
```

Out[18]:

150×5 DataFrames.DataFrame

Row	SepalLength	SepalWidth	PetalLength	PetalWidth	Species
1	5.1	3.5	1.4	0.2	"setosa"
2	4.9	3.0	1.4	0.2	"setosa"
3	4.7	3.2	1.3	0.2	"setosa"
4	4.6	3.1	1.5	0.2	"setosa"
5	5.0	3.6	1.4	0.2	"setosa"
6	5.4	3.9	1.7	0.4	"setosa"
7	4.6	3.4	1.4	0.3	"setosa"
8	5.0	3.4	1.5	0.2	"setosa"
9	4.4	2.9	1.4	0.2	"setosa"
10	4.9	3.1	1.5	0.1	"setosa"
11	5.4	3.7	1.5	0.2	"setosa"
139	6.0	3.0	4.8	1.8	"virginica"
140	6.9	3.1	5.4	2.1	"virginica"
141	6.7	3.1	5.6	2.4	"virginica"
142	6.9	3.1	5.1	2.3	"virginica"
143	5.8	2.7	5.1	1.9	"virginica"
144	6.8	3.2	5.9	2.3	"virginica"
145	6.7	3.3	5.7	2.5	"virginica"
146	6.7	3.0	5.2	2.3	"virginica"

```
147  6.3          2.5          5.0          1.9          "virginica"
148  6.5          3.0          5.2          2.0          "virginica"
149  6.2          3.4          5.4          2.3          "virginica"
150  5.9          3.0          5.1          1.8          "virginica"
```

0.8 Animations

Any plot can be animated: see https://juliaplots.github.io

0.9 Recipes

Recipes are abstract instructions for how to "build a plot" from data. There are multiple kinds of recipes. In execution order:

- User Recipes: Provides dispatches to plotting
- Type Recipes: Says how to interpret the data of an abstract type
- Plot Recipes: A pre-processing recipe which builds a set of series plots and defaults
- Series Recipes: What most would think of as a "type of plot", i.e. scatter, histogram, etc.

Since these extend Plots.jl itself, all of Plots.jl is accessible from the plotting commands that these make, and these recipes are accessible from each other.

[Series recipes are used to extend the compatibility of backends itself!]

Check out of the Plots Ecosystem!

0.10 Type Recipe Example

```
In [19]: using DifferentialEquations
         sol = solve(prob_ode_linear)
         @show typeof(sol)
         plot(sol,title="The Attributes Still Work")
```

```
        ArgumentError: Module DifferentialEquations not found in current path.
    Run `Pkg.add("DifferentialEquations")` to install the DifferentialEquations package.



         in require(::Symbol) at ./loading.jl:365

         in require(::Symbol) at /Applications/Julia-0.5.app/Contents/Resources/julia/lib/julia/
```

0.11 Plot and Type Recipes Together

StatsPlots provides a type recipe for how to read DataFrames, and a series recipe `marginalhist` which puts together histograms into a cohesive larger plot

```
In [ ]: using RDatasets, StatPlots, Plots
        iris = dataset("datasets","iris")
        marginalhist(iris, :PetalLength, :PetalWidth)
```

```
In [ ]: M = randn(1000,4)
        M[:,2] += 0.8sqrt(abs(M[:,1])) - 0.5M[:,3] + 5
        M[:,3] -= 0.7M[:,1].^2 + 2
        corrplot(M, label = ["x$i" for i=1:4])
```

```
In [ ]: import RDatasets
        pyplot()
        singers = RDatasets.dataset("lattice","singer")
        violin(singers,:VoicePart,:Height,marker=(0.2,:blue,stroke(0)))
        boxplot!(singers,:VoicePart,:Height,marker=(0.3,:orange,stroke(2)))
```

0.12 Series Type

A series type allows you to define an entirely new way of visualizing data into backends.

```
In [ ]: groupedbar(rand(10,3), bar_position = :dodge, bar_width=0.7)
```

```
In [ ]: gr()
        groupedbar(rand(10,3), bar_position = :dodge, bar_width=0.7)
```