

# Basic Graphics with R

Insight into building information graphics from scratch

# R Graphics Politics

THE THING TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT THE PLASTIC CRAZY STRAW DESIGN WORLD IS THAT THERE ARE TWO MAIN CAMPS: THE PROFESSIONALS - DESIGNING FOR ESTABLISHED BRANDS-AND THE HOBBYISTS.

THE HOBBYIST MAILING LISTS ARE FULL OF DRAMA, WITH FRICTION BETWEEN THE REGULARS AND A SPLINTER GROUP FOCUSED ON LOOPS...



HUMAN SUBCULTURES ARE NESTED FRACTALLY.
THERE'S NO BOTTOM.

The new crowd is heavily shaped by this guy named Hadley, who's basically the Paris Hilton of the amateur plastic crazy straw design world.

http://xkcd.com/1095/

### The Professional Tools

If you could say it in words, there would be no reason to paint.

Edward Hopper

package: graphics

package: grDevices

## The Professional Tools

Devices

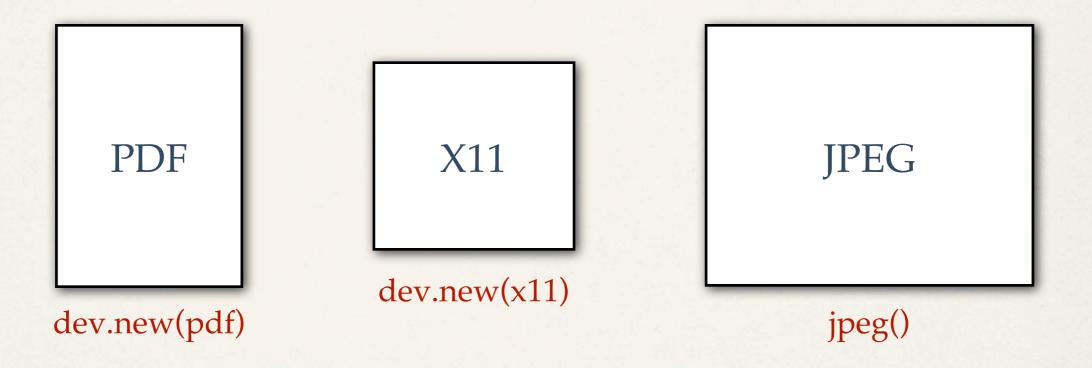
Lines, Points, etc
Fine Tuning
Built-in Functionality

package: grid

Other tools: lattice, ggplot2

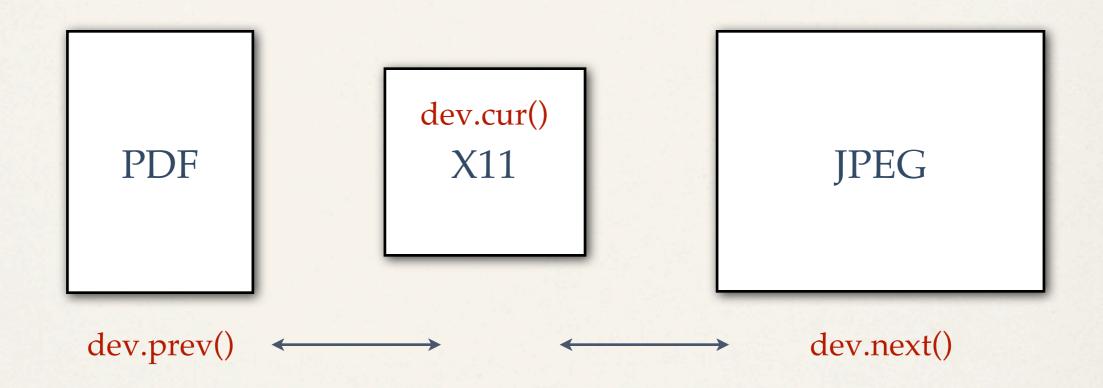
# Devices

#### ?dev.new



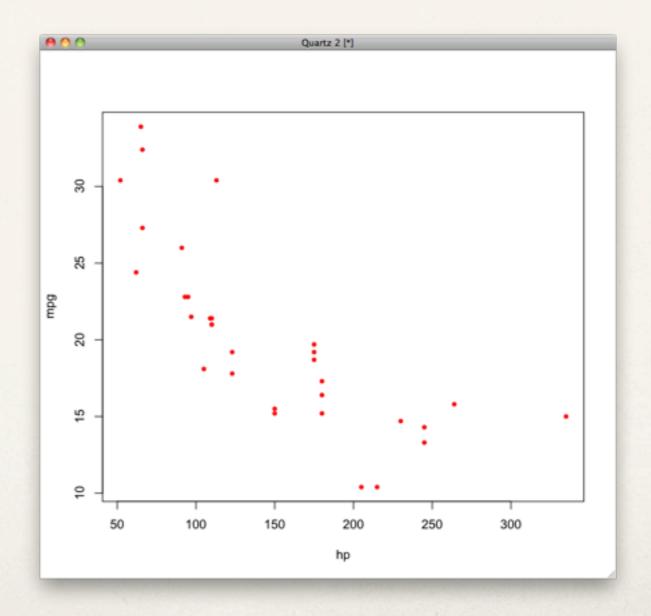
# Devices

#### ?dev.new



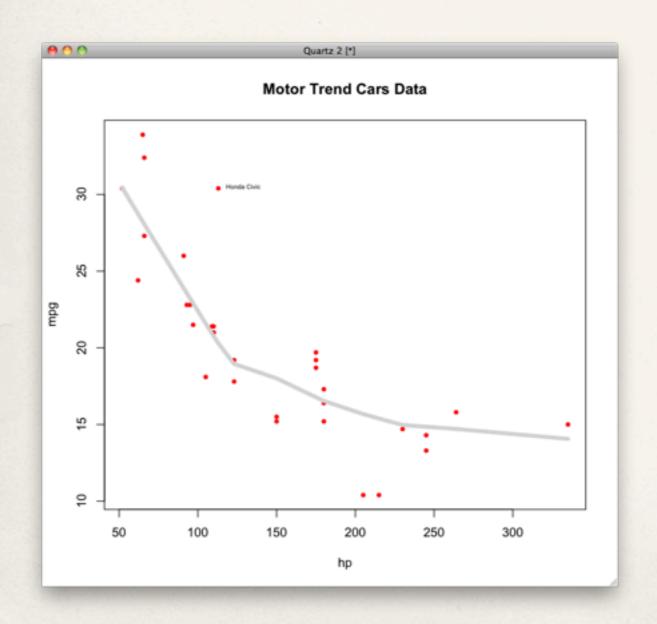
The Basics: plot()

with(mtcars, plot(mpg~hp, col=2, pch=20))



#### ?plot

The Basics: lines(), title(), text(), locator()



```
<u>lines</u>(
   lowess(
    cbind(mtcars$hp,
           mtcars$mpg)),
  col='lightgrey',
  <u>lwd</u>=5)
<u>title</u>("Motor Trend Cars Data")
text(locator(1),
    "Honda Civic",
    pos=4, \underline{cex}=0.5)
```

#### ?plot

The Basics: rect(), polygon(), abline(), axis()



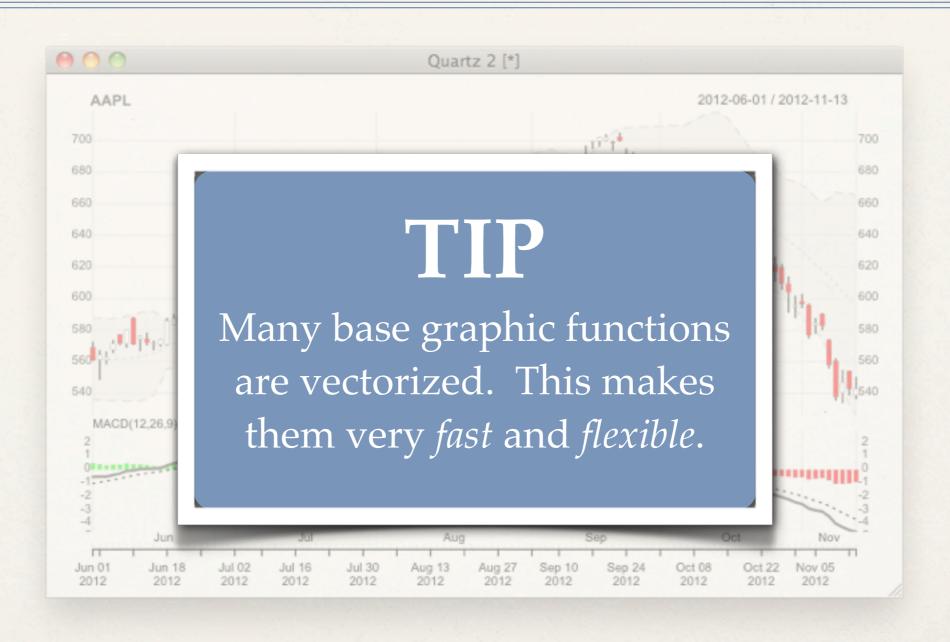
### ?plot

The Basics: rect(), polygon(), abline(), axis(), text() strwidth(), etc.



#### ?plot

The Basics: rect(), polygon(), abline(), axis()



#### Fine Tuning

Nearly everything in base graphics can be "fine-tuned" to match the requirements of your design.

Start your search by reading ?par. Then re-read. Then read again.

TIP

Experimenting is key

### ?par

Fine Tuning

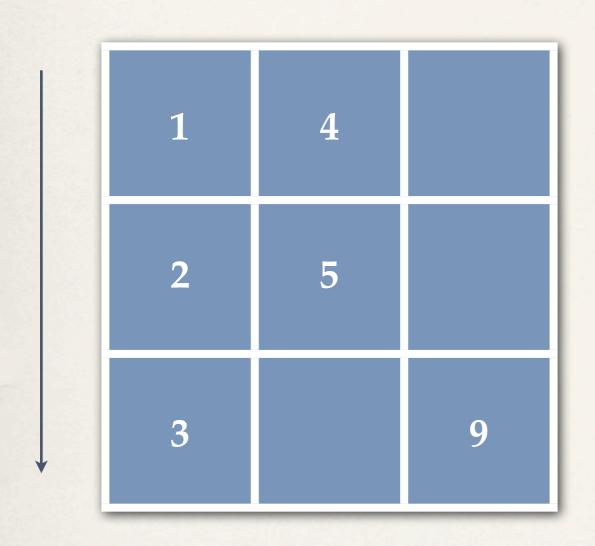
Some "par" settings that I have found useful over the years:

Margins: oma, usr, xpd

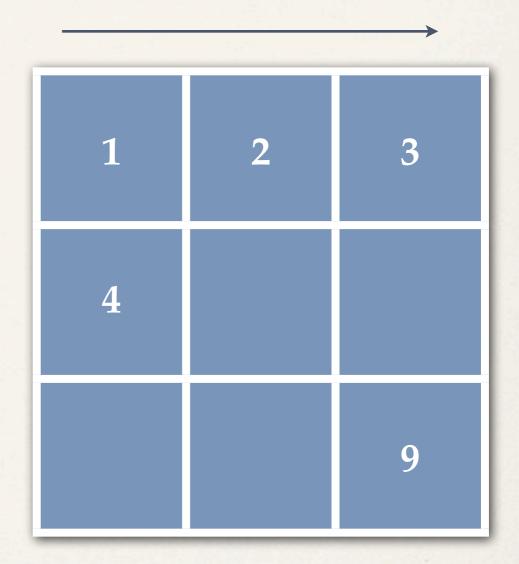
Strings: pch, cex, cex.\*, adj, srt

General: bty, bg, las, lend

Layout: multiple graphics on one device

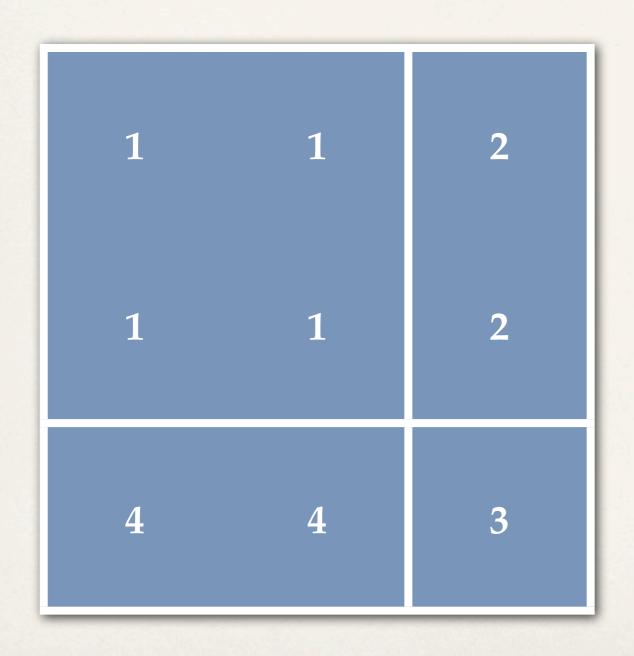






$$par(mfrow=c(3,3))$$

Layout: multiple graphics on one device



```
m <- matrix(c(1,1,4,

1,1,4,

2,2,3), ncol=3)

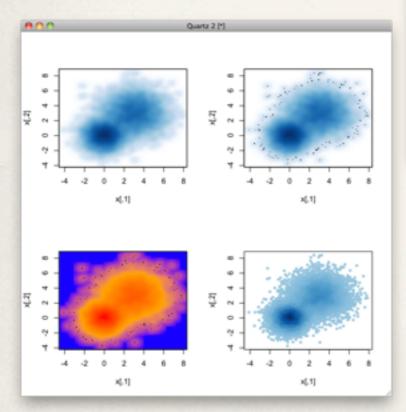
[,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,] 1 1 2
[2,] 1 1 2
[3,] 4 4 3

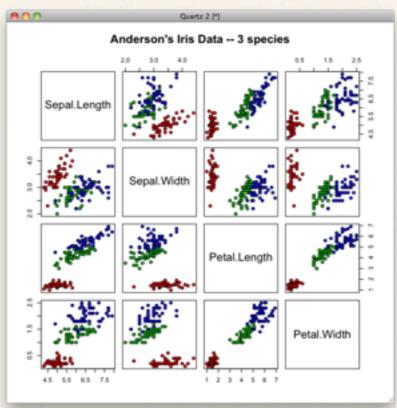
layout(m)
```

# Built In Graphics

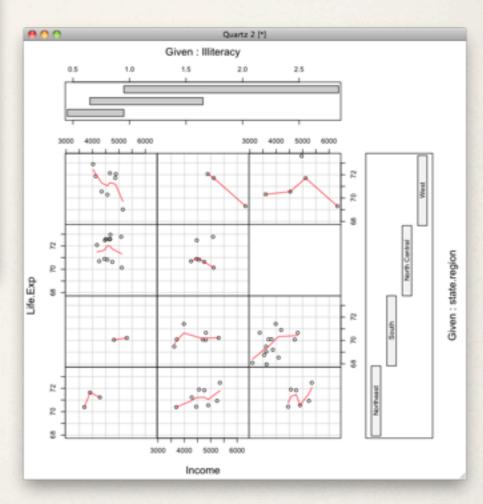
Visualization Tools Within R

#### smoothScatter





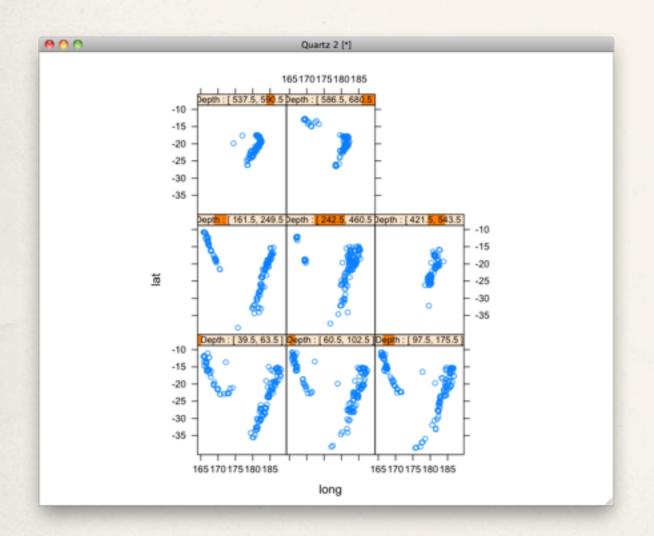
pairs

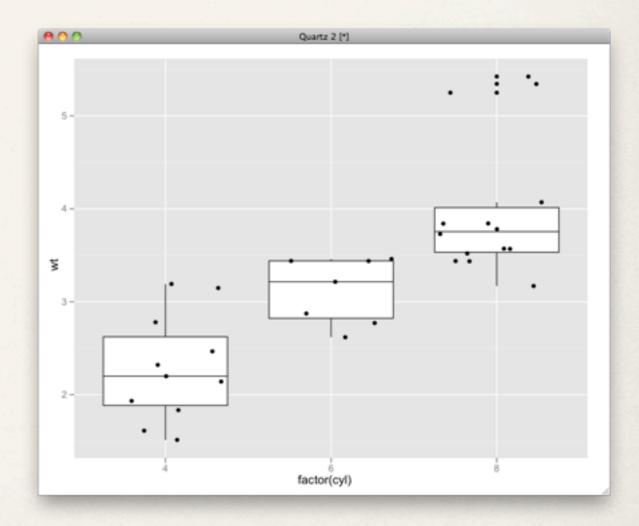


coplot

# Additional Tools

More functionality, steeper learning curve.





package: lattice

package: ggplot2

# Device: letterpress(bcard)



```
lemnica_grid <- function() {</pre>
 # Copyright 2010 lemnica corp.
 f \leftarrow function(x,y) {
      \sin(0.75 * x^2 * y)
 y <- x <- seq(-1.3, 1.3, 0.07)
 persp(x,y, outer(x,y,f),
   shade=NA,
  border="#CC7722",
   theta=50,
  phi=8,
  box=FALSE,
  lwd=0.2,
  col=NA,
  z_{lim}=c(-2,2),
  xpd=TRUE)
```