Tutorial 3

Data Vizualization in R.

ggplot2: themes and styles.

Victoria Mironova

Associate Professor, Department of Plant Systems Physiology



Course structure

Week 1-2:

Lecture 1. Principles of figure design.

Quiz 1.

Week 3-4:

Tutorial 1. ggplot2: plots and charts.

Quiz 2.

Week 5-6:

Tutorial 2. ggplot2: statistics, coordinate system, facets.

Tutorial 3. ggplot2: themes and styles.

Practice 1.

Quiz 3.

Week 7-8:

Practice 2. Project.

Practice 3. Project.

Practice 4. Project.

Assignment.

Course structure

Week 1-2:

Lecture 1. Principles of figure design.

Quiz 1.

Week 3-4:

Tutorial 1. ggplot2: plots and charts.

Quiz 2.

Week 5-6:

Tutorial 2. ggplot2: statistics, coordinate system, facets.

Tutorial 3. ggplot2: themes and styles.

Practice 1.

Quiz 3.

Week 7-8:

Practice 2. Project.

Practice 3. Project.

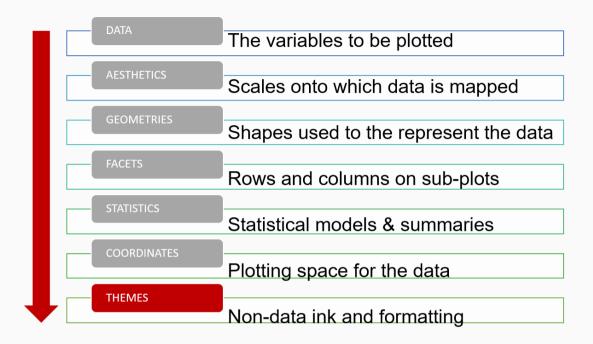
Practice 4. Project.

Assignment.

Learning goals

- Understand the basic principles behind effective data visualization
- Create data visualizations in R using ggplot2
- Craft elegant visual presentations of data

Grammar of graphics



Layers in grammar of graphics

The **Themes Layer** refers to all non-data ink.

- You can change the labels of x or y axis,
- add a plot title,
- modify a legend title and position,
- add text anywhere on the plot,
- change the background color, axis lines, plot lines,
- etc.

Plan of the tutorial

- Themes principles
- Build-in themes
- Data annotation
- Customized design 1
- Customized design 2

?Theme()

There are three types of elements within the themes Layer: text, line, and rectangle.

Any text element can be modified with element_text()

Any line element can be modified with element_line()

Any rect element can be modified with element_rect()

One can also use element_blank() function to drop the element.

Build-in themes

For the most part you can probably avoid the theme() function by using built-in themes, unless there is a specific element you want to modify.

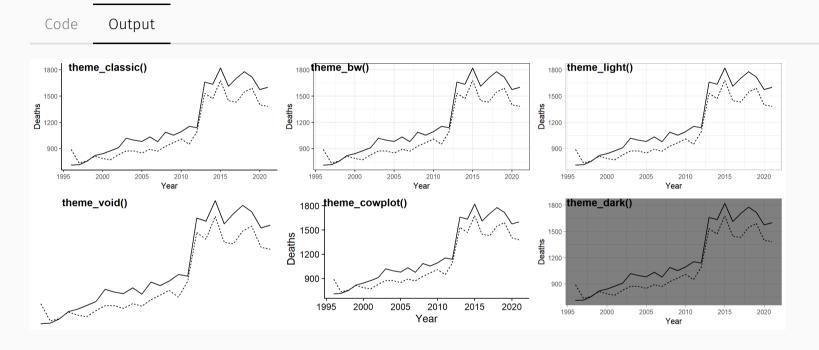
Code Output

```
p ← Death_in_NL %>%
  filter(Age = "Total", CausesOfDeath = "Infections")%>%
  ggplot(mapping = aes(x = Year, y = Deaths, linetype = Sex))+
  geom_path(show.legend = FALSE)

p1 ← p + theme_classic()
p2 ← p + theme_bw()
p3 ← p + theme_light()
p4 ← p + theme_void()
p5 ← p + theme_cowplot()
p6 ← p + theme_dark()
plot_grid(p1, p2, p3, p4, p5, p6, ncol = 3, labels = c("theme_classic()", "theme_bw()", "theme_light()", "theme_void()", "theme_cowplot()", "theme_dark()"))
```

Build-in themes

For the most part you can probably avoid the theme() function by using built-in themes, unless there is a specific element you want to modify.

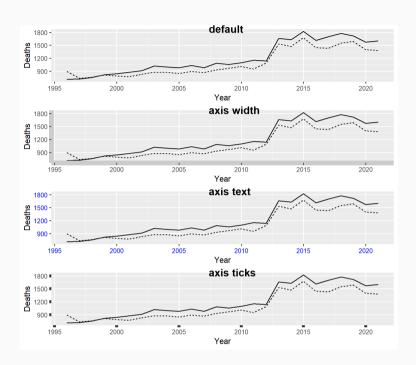


Customised theme: change styles of axes texts and lines

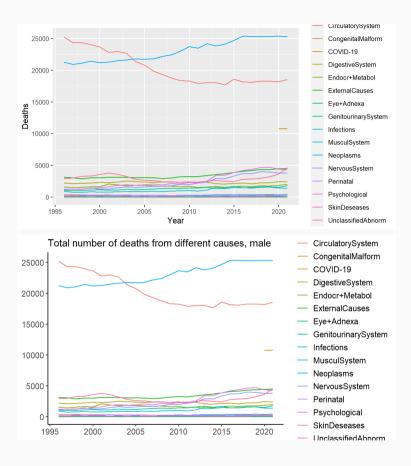
```
p 		Death_in_NL %>%
  filter(Age = "Total", CausesOfDeath = "Infections")%>%
  ggplot(mapping = aes(x = Year, y = Deaths, linetype = Sex))+
  geom_path(show.legend = FALSE)

p1 		p + theme(axis.line = element_line(linewidth = 3, colour = "grey80")
  p2 		p + theme(axis.text = element_text(colour = "blue"))
  p3 		p + theme(axis.ticks = element_line(linewidth = 2))

plot_grid(p, p1, p2, p3, ncol = 1, labels = c("default", "axis width", "axis label_x = 0.5, label_y = 1, hjust = 0, vjust = 1)
```

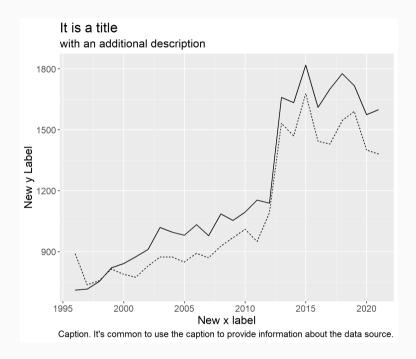


Customised theme: axes and legend text formatting



labs: annotate the plot

Good labels are critical for making your plots accessible to a wider audience. Always ensure the axis and legend labels display the full variable name. Use the plot title and subtitle to explain the main findings.



Scales formatting and transformations

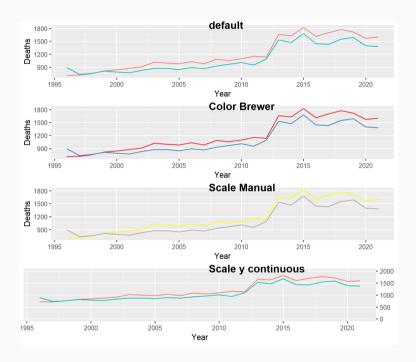
scale_ family of functions affect how a single observation raw data is 'interpreted' before going on the graph. There are two types of scales: continuous and discrete.

scale_ functions are used to set colors, limits, and transformations.

```
p 		Death_in_NL %>%
  filter(Age = "Total", CausesOfDeath = "Infections")%>%
  ggplot(mapping = aes(x = Year, y = Deaths, color = Sex))+
  geom_path(show.legend = FALSE)

p1 		p + scale_color_brewer(palette = 'Set1')
  p2 		p + scale_color_manual(values = c("yellow", "dark gray"))
  p3 		p + scale_y_continuous(position = "right", limits = c(0, 2000), name

plot_grid(p, p1, p2, p3, ncol = 1, labels = c("default", "Color Brewer", "Set1 = 0.5, label_y = 1, hjust = 0, vjust = 1)
```



Customised bar plot: example

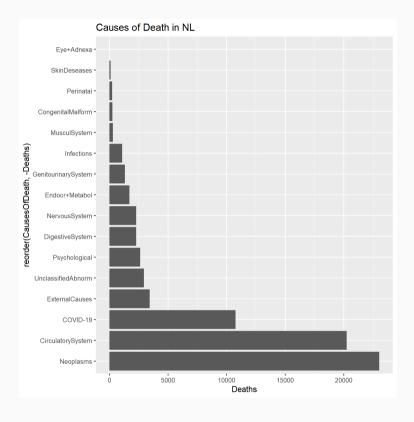
Lets customize the bar plot we built on Tutorial 2

```
Death_in_NL%>%
  filter(Age = "Total", Sex = "Male")%>%
  ggplot(aes(x = reorder(CausesOfDeath, -Deaths), y = Deaths))+
  stat_summary(fun.data = "mean_se", geom = "bar")+
  coord_flip()+
  ggtitle("Causes of Death in NL")
```

What I don't like:

- 1. the y axis title is non-sense
- 2. the x axis title is unclear
- 3. the text size on the y axis is too small
- 4. the gray background is annoying
- 5. the columns color is not appealing

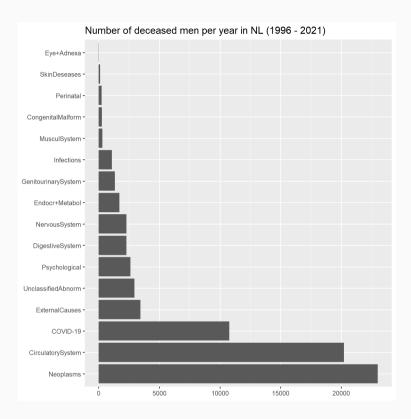
Lets address those issues!



Customised bar plot

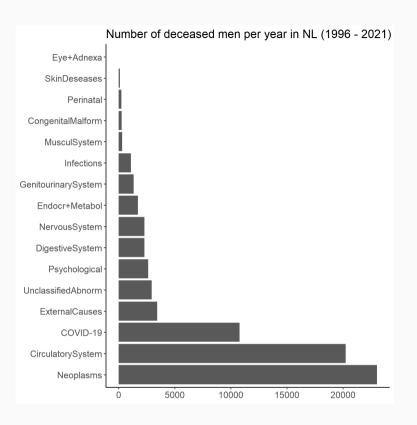
- 1. the y axis title is non-sense
- 2. the x axis title is unclear
- 3. the text size on the y axis is too small
- 4. the gray background is annoying
- 5. the columns color is not appealing

```
Death_in_NL%>%
  filter(Age = "Total", Sex = "Male")%>%
  ggplot(aes(x = reorder(CausesOfDeath, -Deaths), y = Deaths))+
  stat_summary(fun.data = "mean_se", geom = "bar")+
  coord_flip()+
  labs(y = NULL, x = NULL)+
  ggtitle("Number of deceased men per year in NL (1996 - 2021)")
```



Customised bar plot

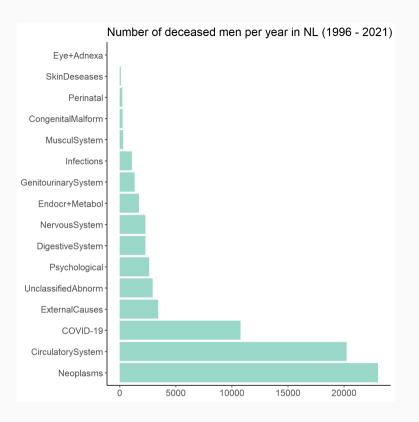
- 1. the y axis title is non-sensc
- 2. the x axis title is unclear
- 3. the text size on the y axis is too small
- 4. the gray background is annoying
- 5. the columns color is not appealing



Customised bar plot

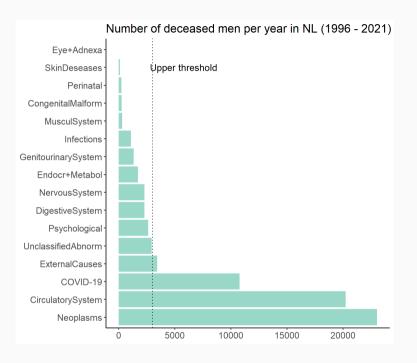
- 1. the y axis title is non-sense
- 2. the x axis title is unclear
- 3. the text size on the v axis is too small
- 4. the gray background is annoying
- 5. the columns color is not appealing

You can pick the color here, or here

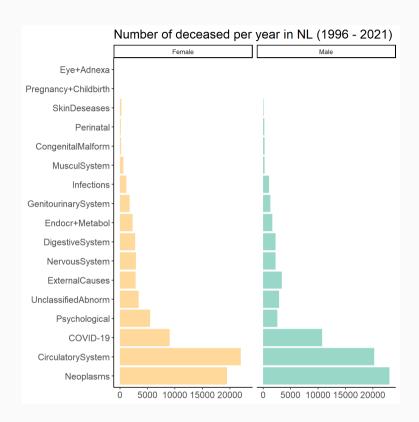


Customised bar plot: add annotation

One can add additional elements and annotations

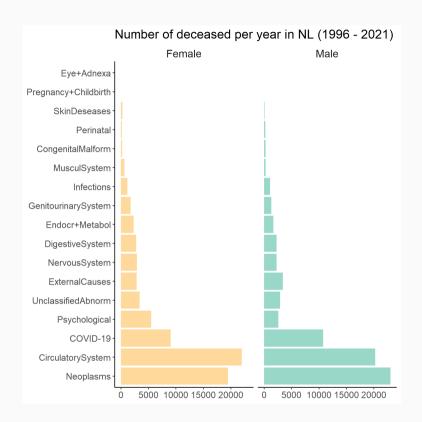


Customised bar plot: facets



Customised bar plot: facets

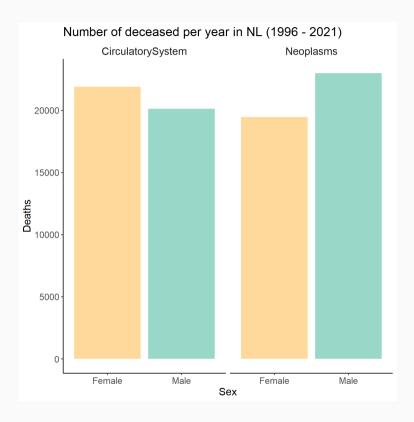
```
Death_in_NL%>%
  filter(Age = "Total")%>%
  ggplot(aes(x = reorder(CausesOfDeath, -Deaths), y = Deaths, fill = Sex)).
  stat_summary(fun.data = "mean_se", geom = "bar", show.legend = FALSE)+
  coord_flip()+
  labs(y = NULL, x = NULL)+
  scale_fill_manual(values = c("#fed99b", "#99d8c9"))+
  theme_classic()+
  theme(axis.text = element_text(size = 12),
        title = element_text(size = 14),
        strip.background = element_blank(),
        strip.text = element_text(size = 14))+
  ggtitle("Number of deceased per year in NL (1996 - 2021)")+
  facet_wrap(~Sex)
```



Customised strip chart

Vizualizations to explore the data

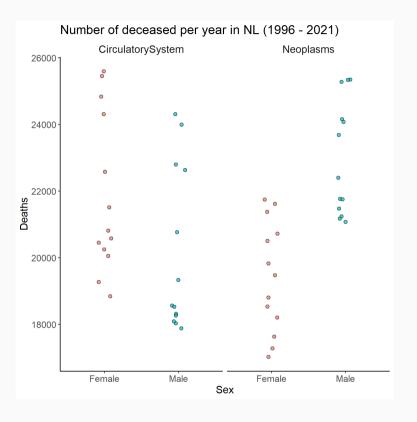
Lets zoom in to the top2 causes of death in NL and explore if the gender-related differences are significant or not



Showing individual observations on the plot

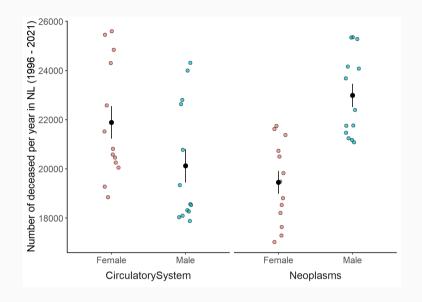
Lets plot individual observations instead of the bar plot using <code>geom_jitter</code>. This will requires some adjustments of the code.

Are the differences significant?



Showing individual observations on the plot

Would be better having some statistical estimates on the top of the individual observations.

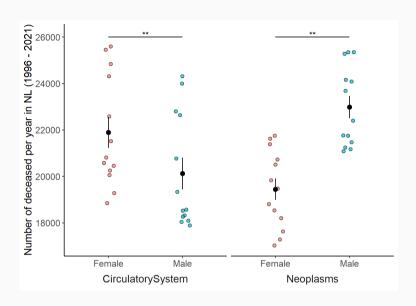


Are the differences significant?

```
## Female ## Male 2.130499e-09
```

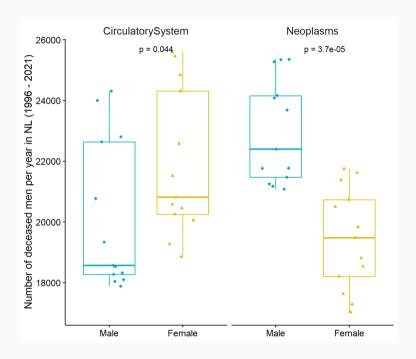
Showing significance levels

```
Death_in_NL%>%
 filter(Age = "Total", CausesOfDeath = c("Neoplasms", "CirculatorySystem
  ggplot(aes(x = Sex, y = Deaths, fill = Sex))+
 geom jitter(show.legend = FALSE, alpha = 0.7, shape = 21, size = 2, widtl
  stat summary(fun.data = "mean se", show.legend = FALSE)+
 scale color manual(values = c("#ef8a62", "#67a9cf"))+
 theme_classic()+
 labs(x = NULL, y = "Number of deceased per year in NL (1996 - 2021)")+
  theme(axis.text = element_text(size = 12),
        title = element_text(size = 14),
        strip.background = element_blank(),
        strip.text = element text(size = 14),
        strip.placement = "outside")+
  facet_wrap(~CausesOfDeath, strip.position = "bottom")+
  geom_line(data = tibble(x = c(1,2), y= c(26000, 26000)),
            aes(x=x, y = y), inherit.aes = FALSE)+
  geom_text(data = tibble(x = c(1.5), y= c(26100)),
            aes(x=x, y = y, label = "**"), inherit.aes = FALSE)
```



Vizualizing statistical data using ggpubr package

The ggpubr package provides some easy-to-use functions for creating and customizing 'ggplot2'- based publication ready plots.



Your turn

Part 1.

Using the Death_in_NL dataset, build the following two visualizations:

- 1) What is the age profile of the number of deaths from external causes (not a disease) in NL? Is there any difference between men and women?
- 2) How has the number of perinatal deaths in the Netherlands changed over time? You will need this information to complete the quiz in the brightspace.

Part 2.

• Adjust the style and design of the plot making it visually appealing.

You will need these skills to finalize your project next week.

