

Data Science for Operational Researchers Using R Online

2. Exploratory Data Analysis with `ggplot2`

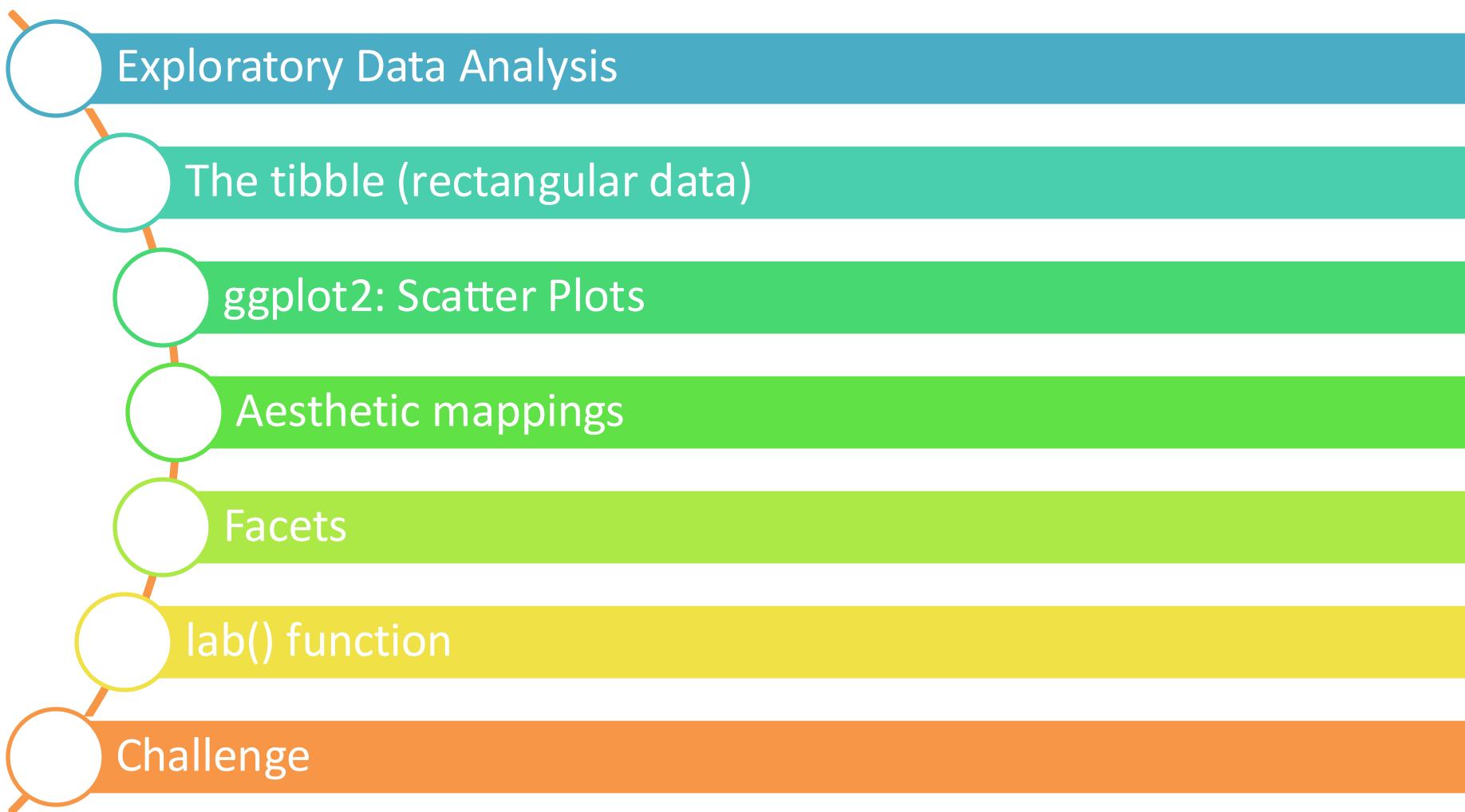
Prof. Jim Duggan,
School of Computer Science
University of Galway.

https://github.com/JimDuggan/explore_or

Exploratory analysis is what you do to understand the data and figure out what might be noteworthy or interesting to highlight to others. When we do exploratory analysis, it's like hunting for pearls in oysters.

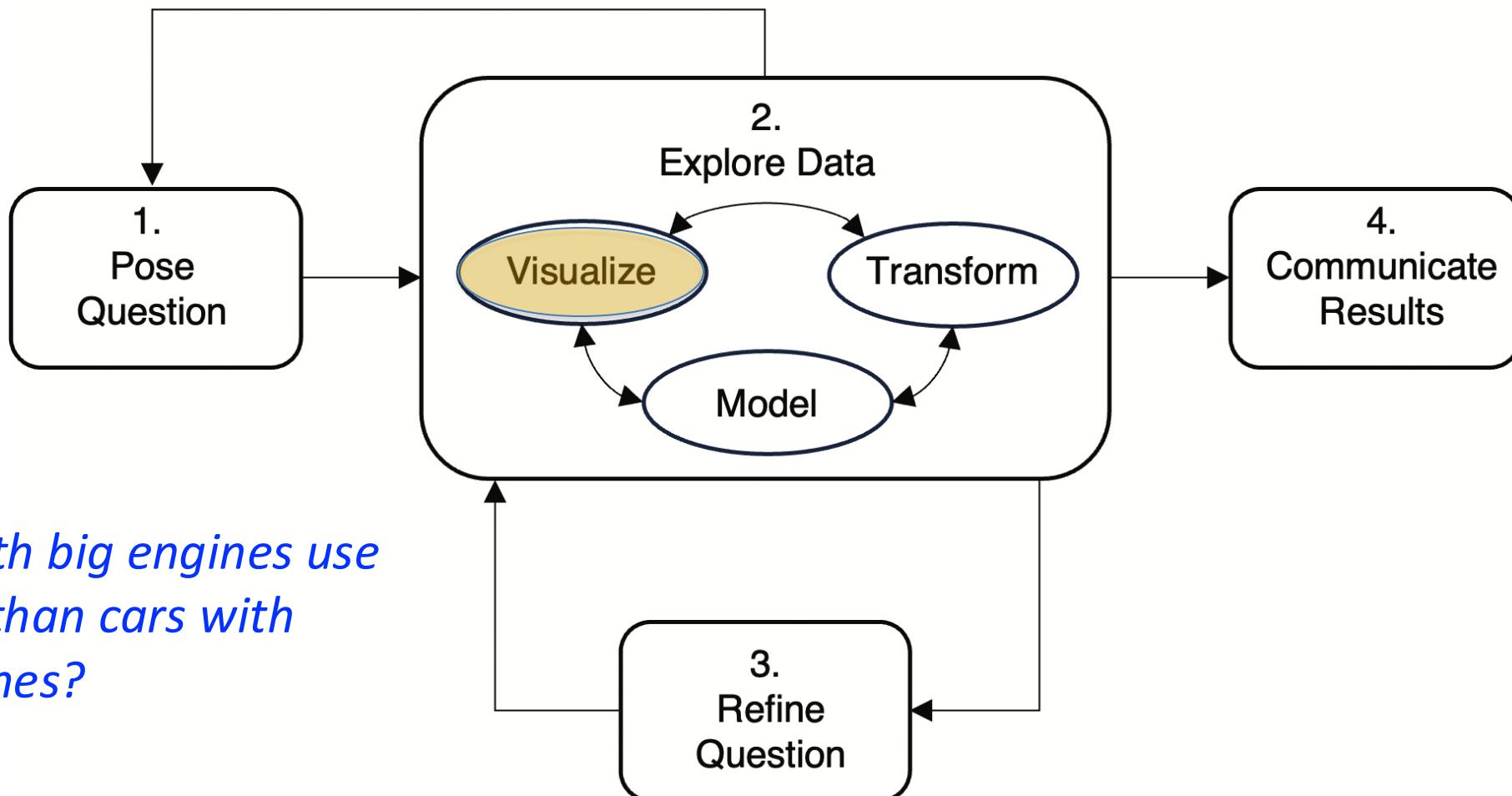
— Cole Nussbaumer Knaflic ([Knaflic, 2015](#))

Overview



1. Exploratory Data Analysis

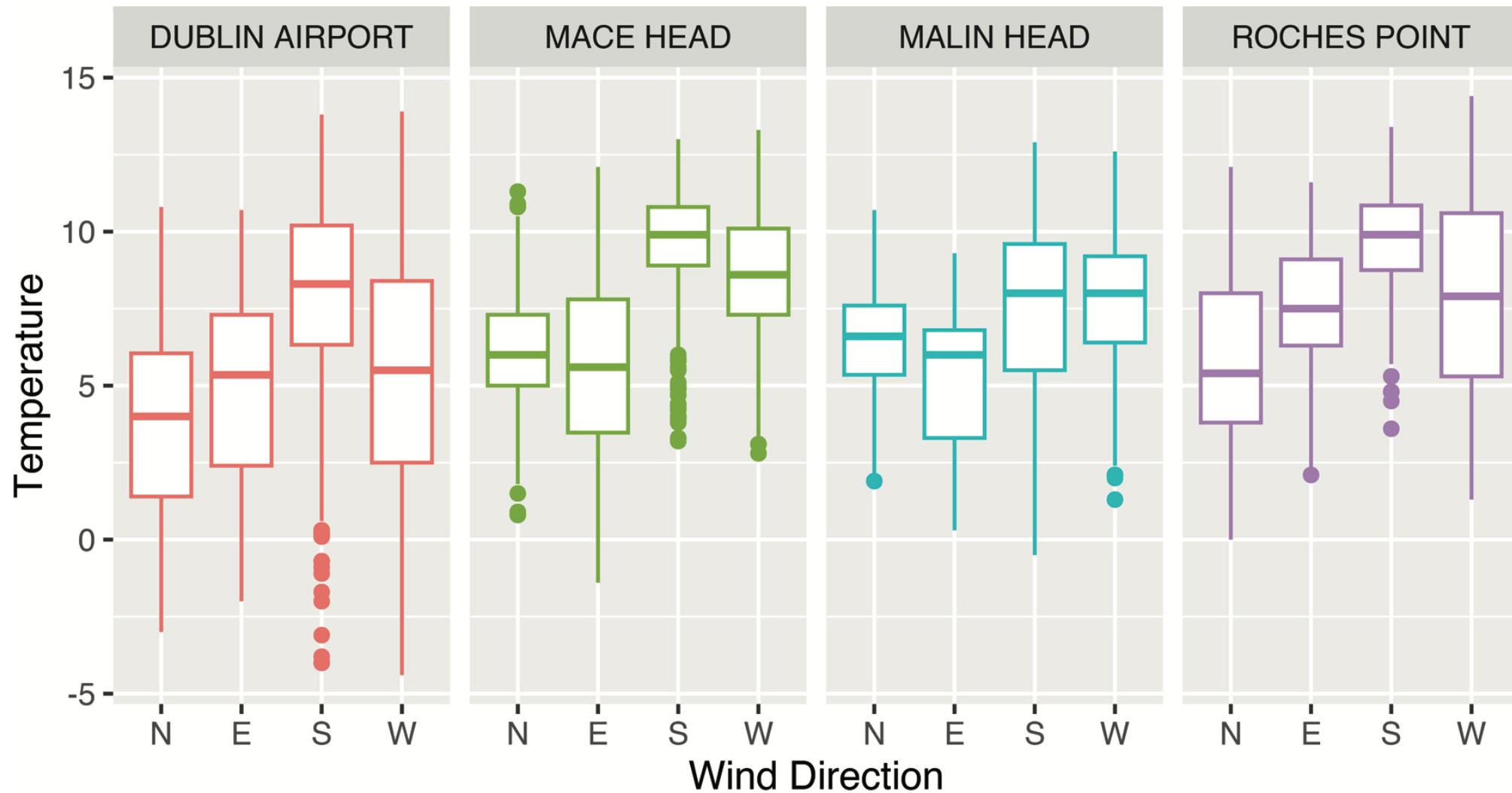
(Wickham and Grolemund 2016)



*Do cars with big engines use
more fuel than cars with
small engines?*

Winter temperatures at weather stations

Data summarized by wind direction



2. The tibble/data frame

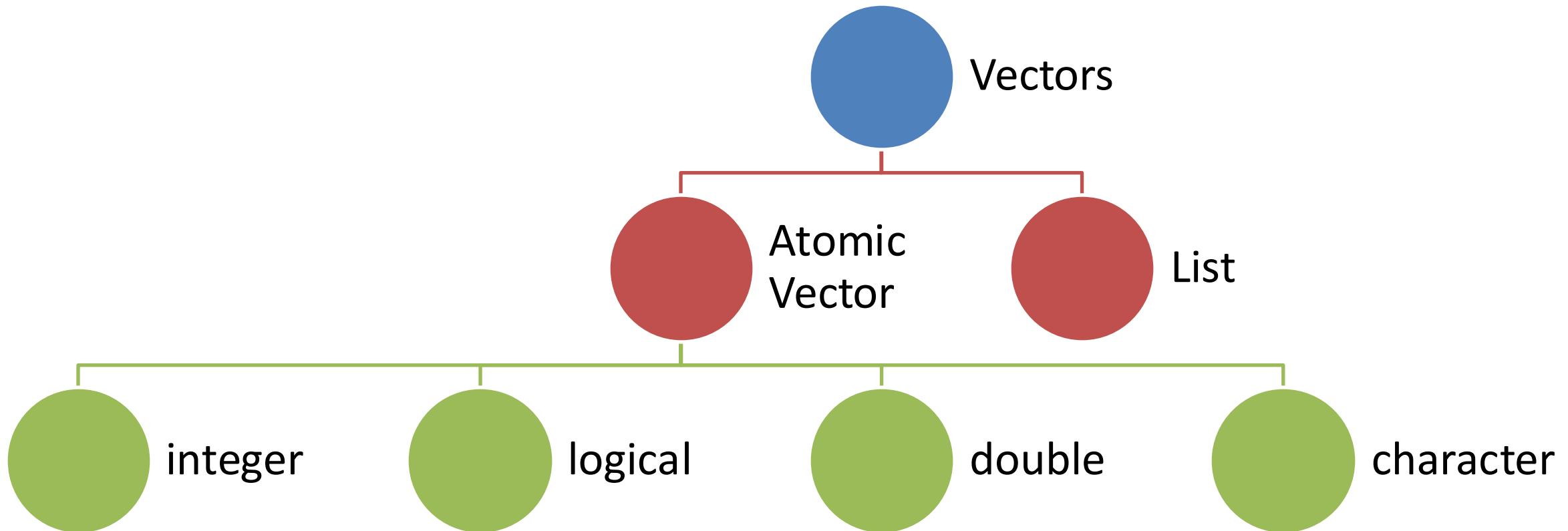
On an intuitive level, a *data frame* is like a matrix, with a two-dimensional rows-and-columns structure. However, it differs from a matrix in that each column may have a different type.

— Norman Matloff (Matloff, 2011)

Definition

- A data frame is two-dimensional row and column structure, while on a technical level, [a data frame is a list](#), with the elements of that list containing equal length vectors (Matloff, 2011).
- It's defined using the [data.frame\(\)](#) or [tibble\(\)](#) function
- The elements (columns) of a data frame can be of different types
- The data frame, with its row and column structure, will be familiar to anyone who has used a spreadsheet, where each column is a variable (feature), and every row is an observation.

Vectors in R (covered later)



library(ggplot2) has the tibbles `mpg` and `diamonds`

`ggplot2::mpg, N = 234`

Variable	Description
manufacturer	Manufacturer name
model	Model name
displ	Engine displacement (liters)
year	Year of manufacture
cyl	Number of cylinders
trans	Type of transmission
drv	Type of drive train (e.g. front wheel)
cty	City miles per gallon
hwy	Highway miles per gallon
fl	Fuel type
class	“type” of car (e.g. “compact”)

`ggplot2::diamonds, N = 53,940`

Variable	Description
carat	Weight of the diamond
cut	Quality of the cut (categorical)
color	Diamond color (categorical)
clarity	Diamond clarity (categorical)
depth	Total depth percentage
table	Measure related to width of diamond top
price	Price in dollars
x	Length in mm
y	Width in mm
z	Depth in mm

View(mpg)

▲	manufacturer	model	displ	year	cyl	trans	drv	cty	hwy	fl	class
1	audi	a4	1.8	1999	4	auto(l5)	f	18	29	p	compact
2	audi	a4	1.8	1999	4	manual(m5)	f	21	29	p	compact
3	audi	a4	2.0	2008	4	manual(m6)	f	20	31	p	compact
4	audi	a4	2.0	2008	4	auto(av)	f	21	30	p	compact
5	audi	a4	2.8	1999	6	auto(l5)	f	16	26	p	compact
6	audi	a4	2.8	1999	6	manual(m5)	f	18	26	p	compact
7	audi	a4	3.1	2008	6	auto(av)	f	18	27	p	compact
8	audi	a4 quattro	1.8	1999	4	manual(m5)	4	18	26	p	compact
9	audi	a4 quattro	1.8	1999	4	auto(l5)	4	16	25	p	compact
10	audi	a4 quattro	2.0	2008	4	manual(m6)	4	20	28	p	compact

Exploring at the console

```
> mpg
# A tibble: 234 × 11
  manufacturer model      displ  year   cyl trans   drv   cty   hwy fl class
  <chr>        <chr>     <dbl> <int> <int> <chr>   <chr> <int> <int> <chr> <chr>
1 audi          a4       1.8  1999     4 auto(l5) f       18    29 p    compact
2 audi          a4       1.8  1999     4 manual(m5) f      21    29 p    compact
3 audi          a4       2.0  2008     4 manual(m6) f      20    31 p    compact
4 audi          a4       2.0  2008     4 auto(av)   f      21    30 p    compact
5 audi          a4       2.8  1999     6 auto(l5) f      16    26 p    compact
6 audi          a4       2.8  1999     6 manual(m5) f      18    26 p    compact
7 audi          a4       3.1  2008     6 auto(av)  f      18    27 p    compact
8 audi          a4 quattro 1.8  1999     4 manual(m5) 4     18    26 p    compact
9 audi          a4 quattro 1.8  1999     4 auto(l5)  4     16    25 p    compact
10 audi         a4 quattro 2.0  2008     4 manual(m6) 4    20    28 p    compact
# i 224 more rows
# i Use `print(n = ...)` to see more rows
```

summary(mpg)

```
> summary(mpg)
```

manufacturer	model	displ	year	cyl	trans
Length:234	Length:234	Min. :1.600	Min. :1999	Min. :4.000	Length:234
Class :character	Class :character	1st Qu.:2.400	1st Qu.:1999	1st Qu.:4.000	Class :character
Mode :character	Mode :character	Median :3.300	Median :2004	Median :6.000	Mode :character
		Mean :3.472	Mean :2004	Mean :5.889	
		3rd Qu.:4.600	3rd Qu.:2008	3rd Qu.:8.000	
		Max. :7.000	Max. :2008	Max. :8.000	
drv	cty	hwy	fl	class	
Length:234	Min. : 9.00	Min. :12.00	Length:234	Length:234	
Class :character	1st Qu.:14.00	1st Qu.:18.00	Class :character	Class :character	
Mode :character	Median :17.00	Median :24.00	Mode :character	Mode :character	
	Mean :16.86	Mean :23.44			
	3rd Qu.:19.00	3rd Qu.:27.00			
	Max. :35.00	Max. :44.00			

Datasets and tidy data

- With **tidy data**, where every column is a variable, and every row is an observation.
- These are defined as (Wickham, 2016):
 - A **variable** is a quantity, quality, or property that you can measure, and will have a value at the time it is measured.
 - An **observation** is a set of measurements made under similar conditions (often at the same time)

head(mpg)

```
> head(mpg)
# A tibble: 6 × 11
  manufacturer model  displ  year   cyl trans    drv   cty   hwy fl class
  <chr>        <chr> <dbl> <int> <int> <chr>    <chr> <int> <int> <chr> <chr>
1 audi         a4     1.8  1999     4 auto(l5) f       18     29 p    compact
2 audi         a4     1.8  1999     4 manual(m5)f      21     29 p    compact
3 audi         a4     2.0  2008     4 manual(m6)f      20     31 p    compact
4 audi         a4     2.0  2008     4 auto(av) f       21     30 p    compact
5 audi         a4     2.8  1999     6 auto(l5) f       16     26 p    compact
6 audi         a4     2.8  1999     6 manual(m5)f      18     26 p    compact
```

tail(mpg)

```
> tail(mpg)
# A tibble: 6 × 11
  manufacturer model  displ  year   cyl trans   drv   cty   hwy fl class
  <chr>        <chr> <dbl> <int> <int> <chr>   <chr> <int> <int> <chr> <chr>
1 volkswagen    passat    1.8  1999     4 auto(l5)    f       18     29 p   midsize
2 volkswagen    passat     2    2008     4 auto(s6)    f       19     28 p   midsize
3 volkswagen    passat     2    2008     4 manual(m6) f       21     29 p   midsize
4 volkswagen    passat    2.8  1999     6 auto(l5)    f       16     26 p   midsize
5 volkswagen    passat    2.8  1999     6 manual(m5) f       18     26 p   midsize
6 volkswagen    passat    3.6  2008     6 auto(s6)    f       17     26 p   midsize
```

dplyr::sample_n()

```
> dplyr::sample_n(mpg, 10)
# A tibble: 10 × 11
  manufacturer model      displ  year   cyl trans drv   cty   hwy fl class
  <chr>        <chr>     <dbl> <dbl> <int> <chr> <chr> <int> <int> <chr> <chr>
1 hyundai      tiburon    2.7   2008     6 manual(m6) f     16    24 r   subcompact
2 nissan       pathfinder 4wd  5.6   2008     8 auto(s5)  4     12    18 p   suv
3 dodge        durango 4wd  4.7   2008     8 auto(l5)  4     9     12 e   suv
4 toyota       land cruiser wagon 4wd 4.7   1999     8 auto(l4)  4     11    15 r   suv
5 hyundai      tiburon    2     2008     4 auto(l4)  f     20    27 r   subcompact
6 volkswagen   jetta      2     2008     4 auto(s6)  f     22    29 p   compact
7 ford         mustang    4.6   2008     8 auto(l5)  r     15    22 r   subcompact
8 pontiac      grand prix 3.1   1999     6 auto(l4)  f     18    26 r   midsize
9 dodge        caravan 2wd  3.8   1999     6 auto(l4)  f     15    21 r   minivan
10 toyota      4runner 4wd  3.4   1999     6 auto(l4)  4     15    19 r   suv
```

dplyr::sample_frac()

```
> dplyr::sample_frac(mpg, .05)
# A tibble: 12 × 11
  manufacturer model      displ  year   cyl trans   drv   cty   hwy fl class
  <chr>        <chr>     <dbl> <int> <int> <chr>   <chr> <int> <int> <chr> <chr>
1 nissan       altima     2.4    1999     4 manual(m5) f      21     29 r   compact
2 ford         explorer 4wd  5      1999     8 auto(l4)   4     13     17 r   suv
3 hyundai     sonata     2.5    1999     6 auto(l4)   f      18     26 r   midsize
4 dodge        caravan 2wd  3.3    1999     6 auto(l4)   f      16     22 r   minivan
5 volkswagen   new beetle 2.5    2008     5 auto(s6)   f      20     29 r   subcompact
6 toyota       toyota tacoma 4wd 2.7    1999     4 manual(m5) 4    15     20 r   pickup
7 ford         mustang    4.6    2008     8 manual(m5) r    15     23 r   subcompact
8 toyota       toyota tacoma 4wd 3.4    1999     6 auto(l4)   4    15     19 r   pickup
9 jeep         grand cherokee 4wd 5.7    2008     8 auto(l5)   4    13     18 r   suv
10 volkswagen  gti        2.8    1999     6 manual(m5) f    17     24 r   compact
11 subaru      impreza awd  2.5    1999     4 auto(l4)   4    19     26 r   subcompact
12 volkswagen  jetta     2.8    1999     6 auto(l4)   f    16     23 r   compact
```

set.seed(n) – replicate sample

```
> set.seed(100)
> dplyr::sample_n(mpg,5)
# A tibble: 5 × 11
  manufacturer model      displ  year   cyl trans  drv   cty   hwy fl class
  <chr>       <chr>     <dbl> <int> <int> <chr>   <chr> <int> <int> <chr> <chr>
1 toyota        tacoma    2.7  1999     4 auto(l4)  4        16    20 r   pickup
2 honda         civic     1.6  1999     4 manual(m5) f        25    32 r   subcompact
3 hyundai       sonata    2.4  2008     4 manual(m5) f        21    31 r   midsize
4 volkswagen    jetta     2.0  2008     4 manual(m6) f        21    29 p   compact
5 toyota        tacoma    4.0  2008     6 manual(m6) 4       15    18 r   pickup
```

3. ggplot2 – Scatter Plots

Data graphics provide one of the most accessible, compelling, and expressive modes to investigate and depict patterns in data.

— Benjamin S. Baumer, Daniel T. Kaplan, and Nicholas J. Horton
(Baumer et al., 2021)

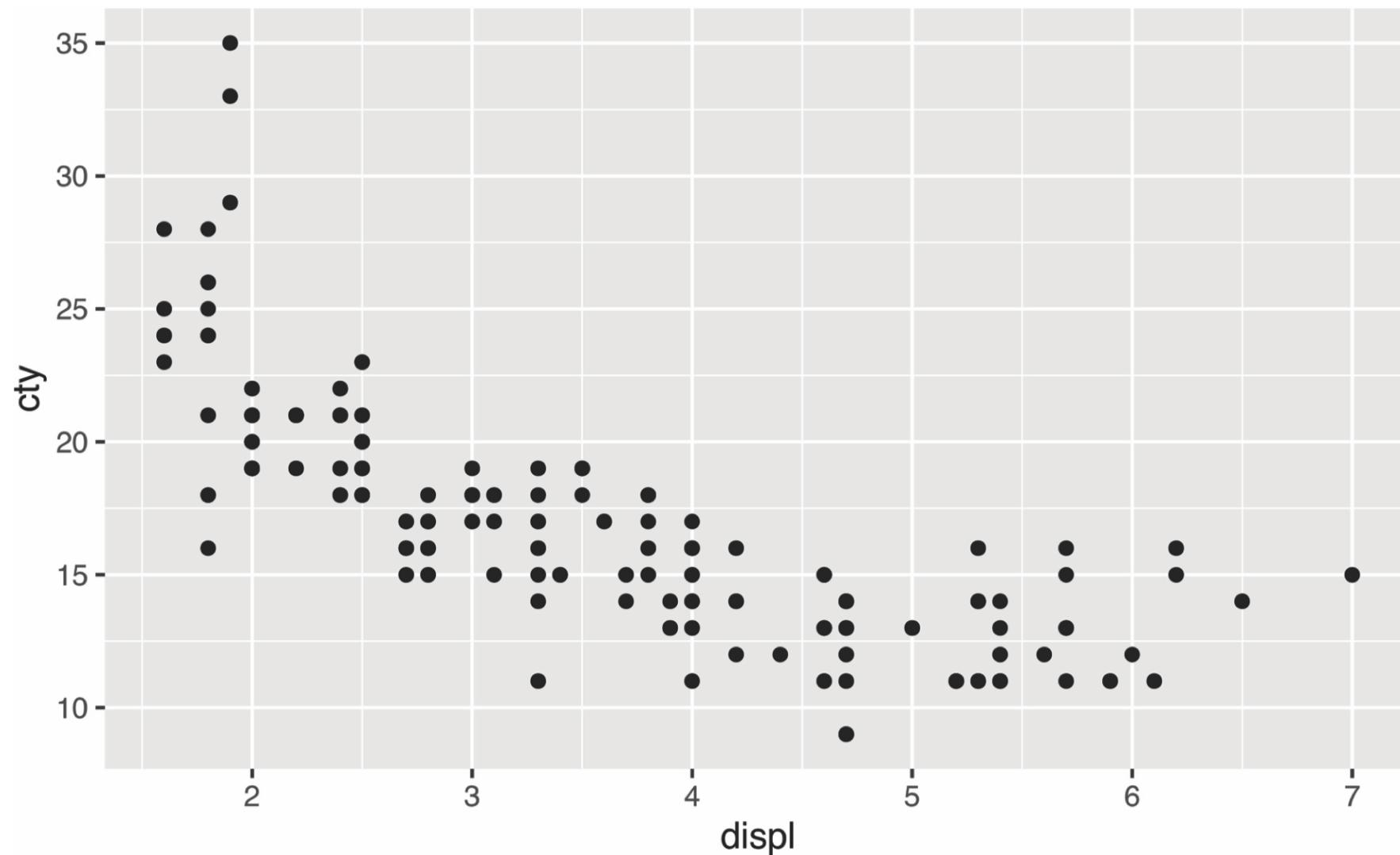
ggplot2

- A core part of any data analysis and modelling process is to visualize data and explore relationships between variables
- There are three important benefits of ggplot2:
 1. plots can be designed in a layered manner, where additional plotting details can be added using the + operator;
 2. a wide range of plots can be generated to support decision analysis, including scatterplots, histograms, and time series charts,
 3. once the analyst is familiar with the structure and syntax of ggplot2, charts can be developed rapidly, and this supports an iterative process of decision support.

Creating our first graph (scatterplot)

1. We call `ggplot(data=mpg)` which initializes a ggplot object, and this call also allows us to specify the tibble that contains that data.
2. We extend this call to include the x-axis and y-axis variables by including an addition argument (mapping) and the function `aes()` which 7.4 Aesthetic mappings describe how variables in data are mapped to the plot's visual properties.
3. To visualize the set of points on the graph, and we do this by calling the relevant geometric object, which is one that is designed to draw points, namely the function `geom_point()`

```
ggplot(data=mpg, mapping=aes(x=displ,y=cty)) +  
  geom_point()
```

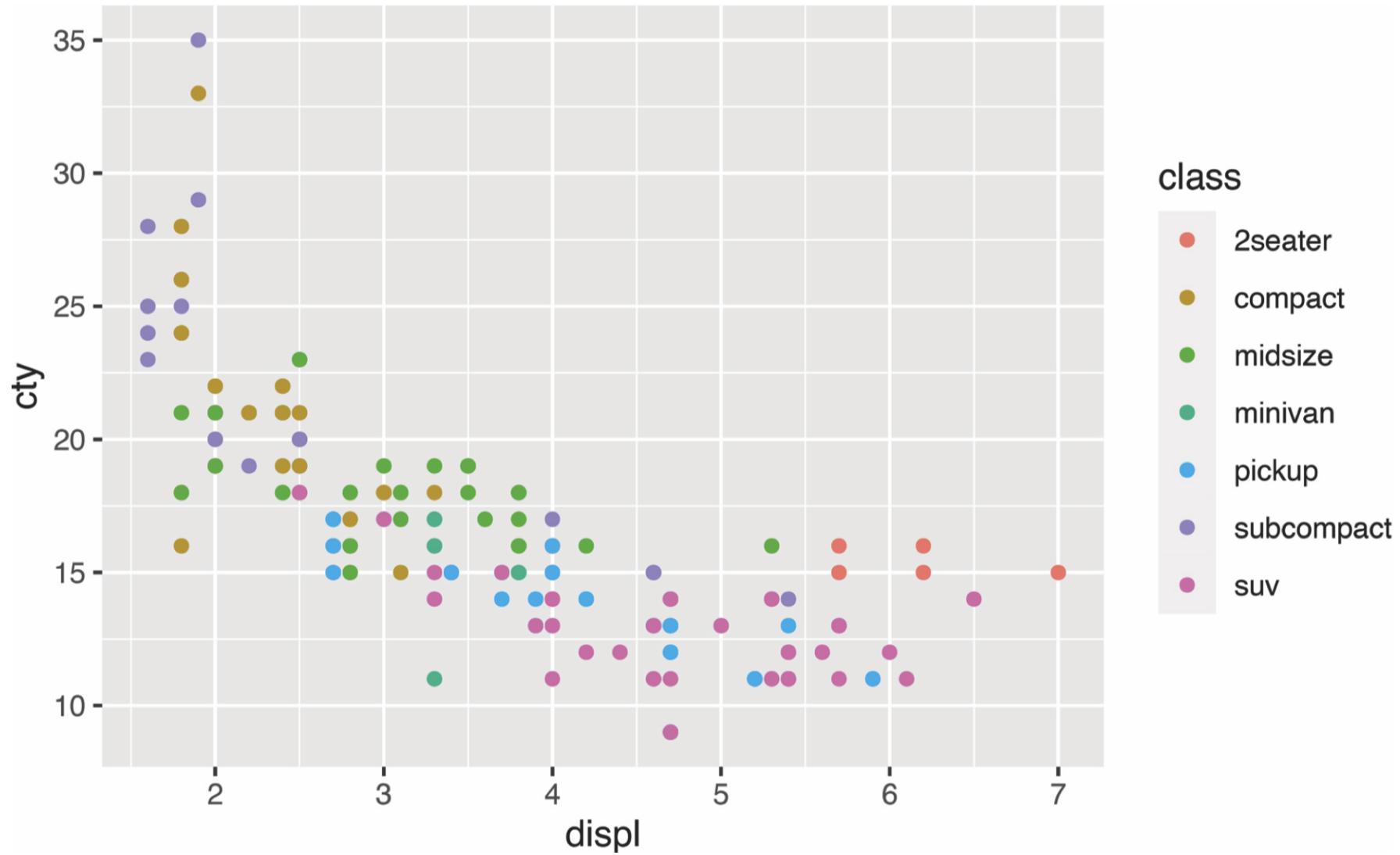


4. Aesthetic Mappings

- The `aes()` function has some nice additional features that can be used to add extra information to a plot by using data from other variables.
- For example, what if we also wanted to see which class of car each point belonged to?
- We can set the argument `color` to this class in the `aes()` function

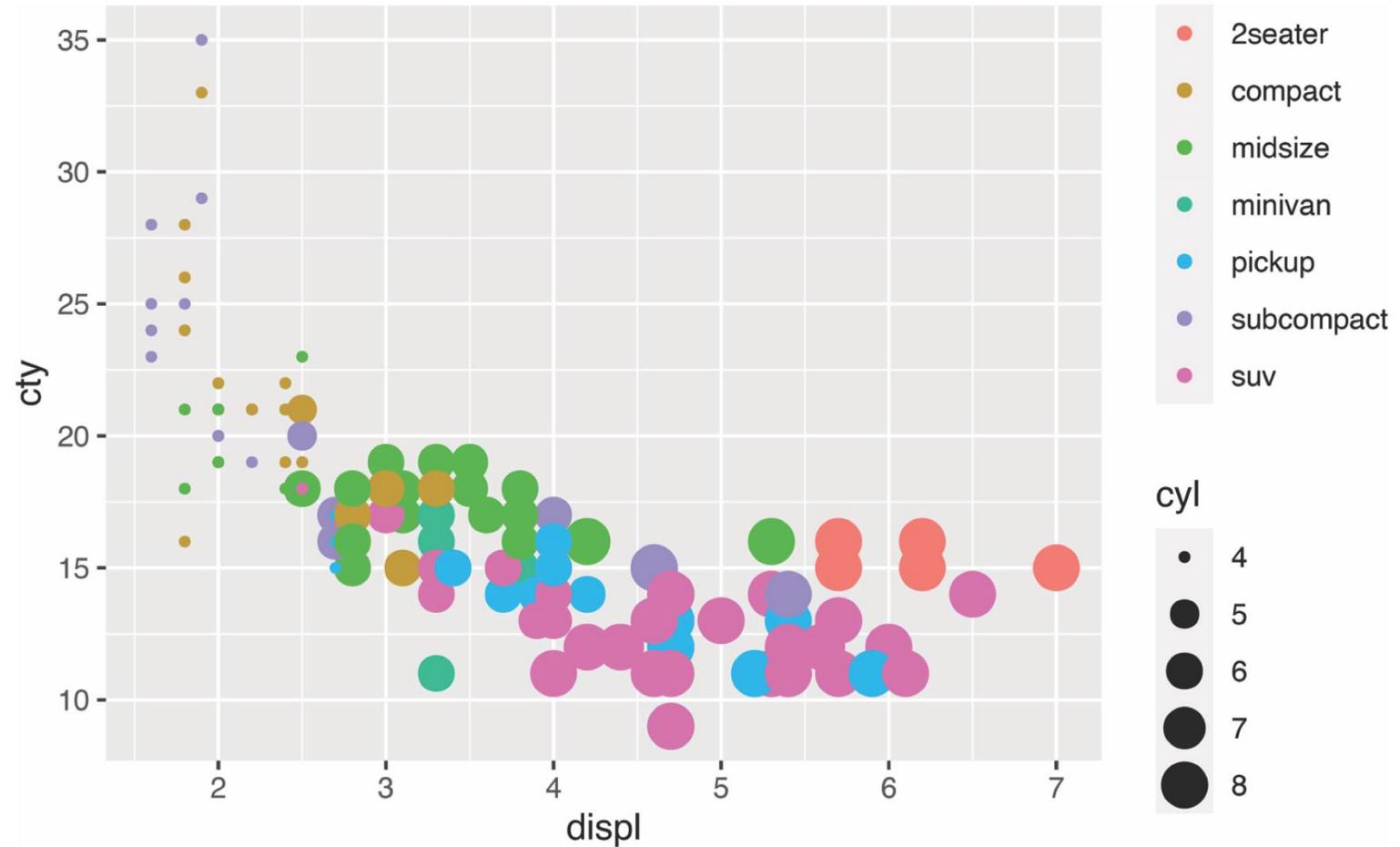
```
unique(mpg$class)
#> [1] "compact"      "midsize"       "suv"           "2seater"
#> [5] "minivan"     "pickup"        "subcompact"
```

```
ggplot(data=mpg, mapping=aes(x=displ, y=cty, color=class)) +  
  geom_point()
```



The size argument

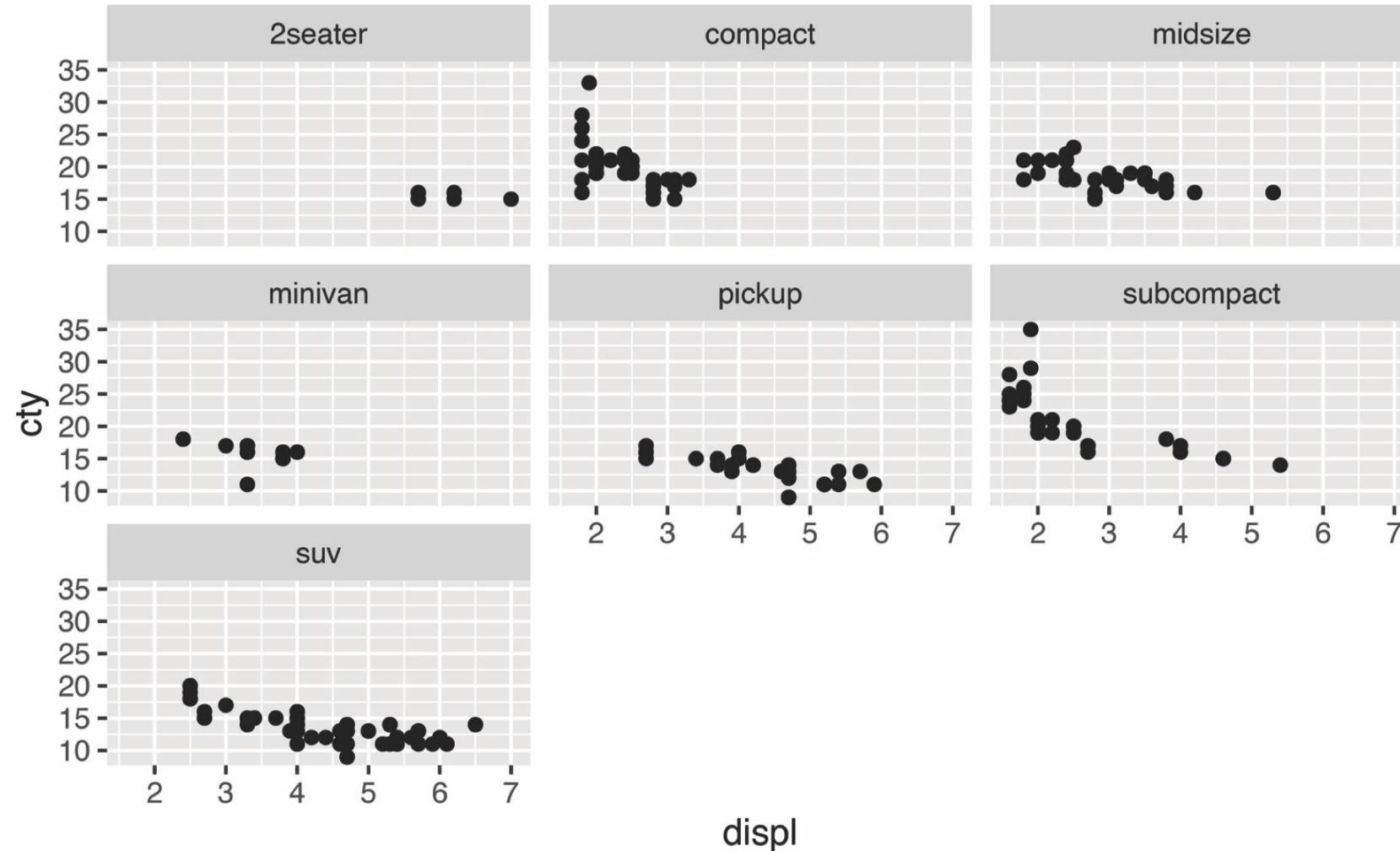
```
ggplot(data=mpg,mapping=aes(x=displ,y=cty,color=class,size=cyl))+  
  geom_point()
```



5. Subplots with facets

- What if we needed to drill down on the plots and show, for example, the relationships for each class of car on separate plots?
- Or, in the more general case, sub-divide a plot into multiple plots based on another variable.
- The function `facet_wrap()` will do this in ggplot2, and all it needs as an argument is the variable for dividing the plots, which must be preceded by the tilde (`~`) operator.

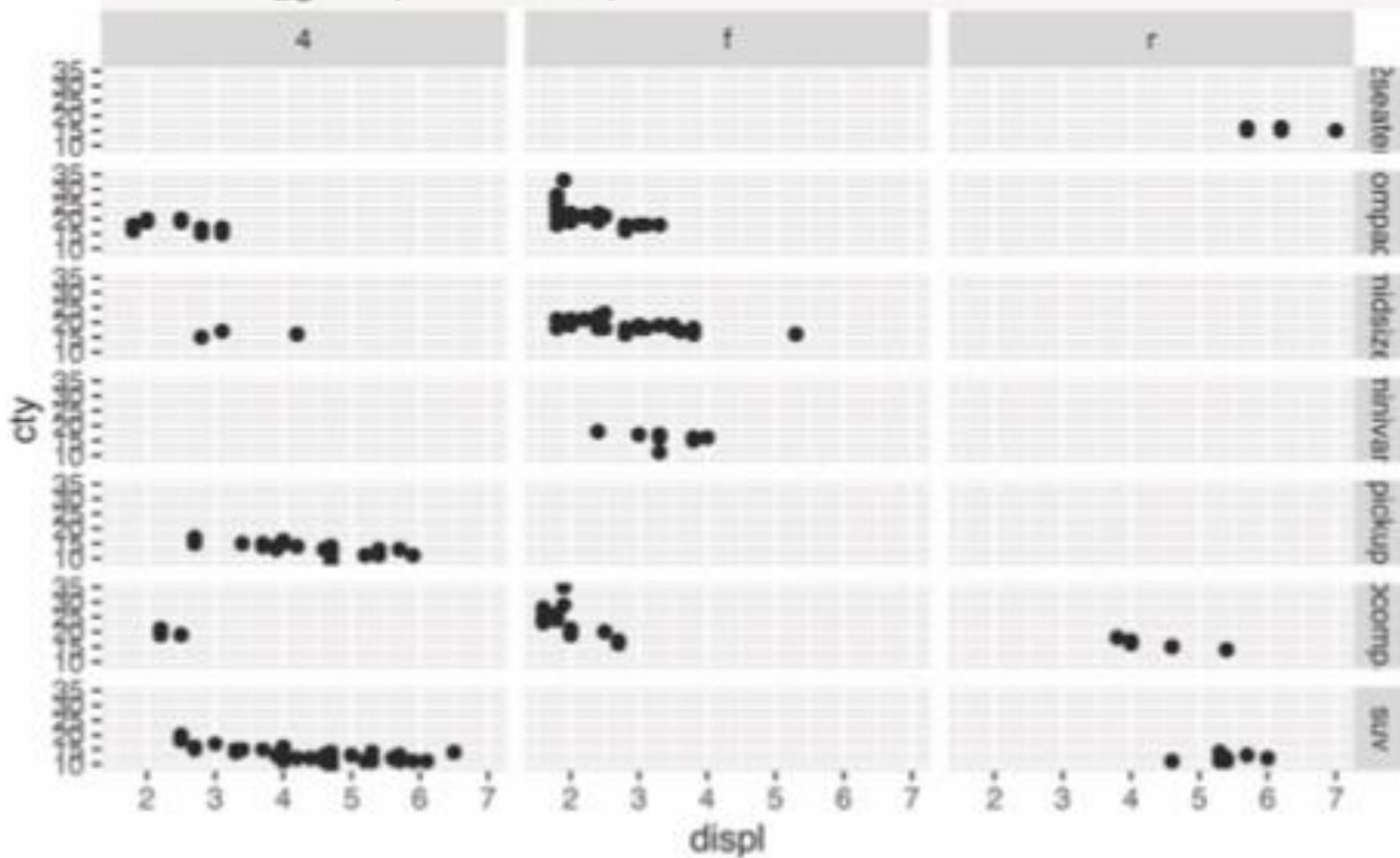
```
ggplot(data=mpg, aes(x=displ, y=cty)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  facet_wrap(~class)
```



Using `facet_grid()`

- An extra variable can be added to the faceting process by using the related function `facet_grid()`, which takes two arguments, separated by the `~` operator.
- The first argument specifies which variable is to be mapped to each row, and the second argument identifies the variable to be represented on the columns.
- For example, we may want to generate 21 plots that show the type of drive (`drv`) on the columns, and the class of car (`class`) shown on each row.

```
ggplot(data=mpg, mapping = aes(x=displ,y=cty))+  
  geom_point() +  
  facet_grid(class~drv)
```



The `lab()` function – name-value pairs

- `title` provides an overall title text for the plot.
- `subtitle` adds a subtitle text.
- `color` allows you to specify the legend name for the color attribute.
- `caption` inserts text on the lower right-hand side of the plot.
- `size`, where you can name the size attribute.
- `x` to name the x-axis.
- `y` to name the y-axis.
- `tag`, the text for the tag label to be displayed on the top left of the plot.

Note that plots can be variables (p1)

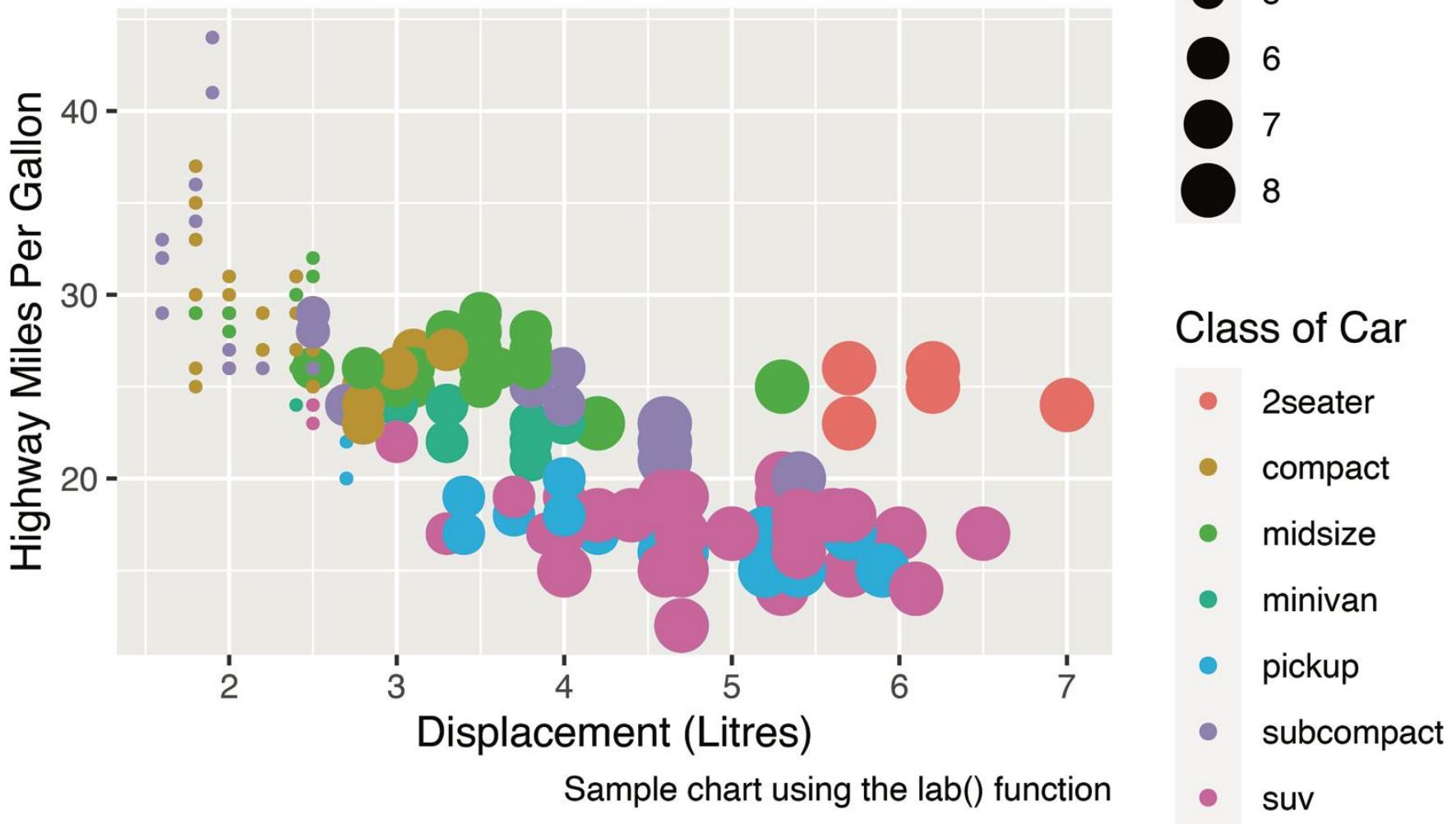
```
p1 <- ggplot(data=mpg,aes(x=displ,y=hwy,size=cyl,color=class))+
  geom_point()

p1 <- p1 +
  labs(
    title = "Exploring automobile relationships",
    subtitle = "Displacement v Highway Miles Per Gallon",
    color = "Class of Car",
    size = "Cylinder Size",
    caption = "Sample chart using the lab() function",
    tag = "Plot #1",
    x = "Displacement (Litres)",
    y = "Highway Miles Per Gallon"
  )

p1
```

Plot #1

Exploring automobile relationships Displacement v Highway Miles Per Gallon



6. Challenge

1. Generate the following plot from the `mpg` tibble in `ggplot2`. The x-variable is `displ` and the y-variable `cty`. Make use of the `lab()` and `theme()` functions.

