

# Assignment 5: Data Visualization

Student Name

## OVERVIEW

This exercise accompanies the lessons in Environmental Data Analytics on Data Visualization

## Directions

1. Rename this file `<FirstLast>_A02_CodingBasics.Rmd` (replacing `<FirstLast>` with your first and last name).
2. Change “Student Name” on line 3 (above) with your name.
3. Work through the steps, **creating code and output** that fulfill each instruction.
4. Be sure to **answer the questions** in this assignment document.
5. When you have completed the assignment, **Knit** the text and code into a single PDF file.

The completed exercise is due on Friday, Oct 14th @ 5:00pm.

## Set up your session

1. Set up your session. Verify your working directory and load the tidyverse, lubridate, & cowplot packages. Upload the NTL-LTER processed data files for nutrients and chemistry/physics for Peter and Paul Lakes (use the tidy [NTL-LTER\_Lake\_Chemistry\_Nutrients\_PeterP version) and the processed data file for the Niwot Ridge litter dataset (use the [NEON\_NIWO\_Litter\_mass\_trap\_Processed version).
2. Make sure R is reading dates as date format; if not change the format to date.

```
# 1
```

```
# 2
```

## Define your theme

3. Build a theme and set it as your default theme.

```
# 3
```

## Create graphs

For numbers 4-7, create ggplot graphs and adjust aesthetics to follow best practices for data visualization. Ensure your theme, color palettes, axes, and additional aesthetics are edited accordingly.

4. [NTL-LTER] Plot total phosphorus (`tp_ug`) by phosphate (`po4`), with separate aesthetics for Peter and Paul lakes. Add a line of best fit and color it black. Adjust your axes to hide extreme values (hint: change the limits using `xlim()` and/or `ylim()`).

# 4

5. [NTL-LTER] Make three separate boxplots of (a) temperature, (b) TP, and (c) TN, with month as the x axis and lake as a color aesthetic. Then, create a cowplot that combines the three graphs. Make sure that only one legend is present and that graph axes are aligned.

Tip: R has a built in variable called `month.abb` that returns a list of months; see <https://r-lang.com/month-abb-in-r-with-example>

# 5

Question: What do you observe about the variables of interest over seasons and between lakes?

Answer:

6. [Niwot Ridge] Plot a subset of the litter dataset by displaying only the “Needles” functional group. Plot the dry mass of needle litter by date and separate by NLCD class with a color aesthetic. (no need to adjust the name of each land use)
7. [Niwot Ridge] Now, plot the same plot but with NLCD classes separated into three facets rather than separated by color.

# 6

# 7

Question: Which of these plots (6 vs. 7) do you think is more effective, and why?

Answer: