



# Visualisation with ggplot2

R Foundations for Life Scientists

**Roy Francis** 

# Why ggplot2?



- Consistent code
- Flexible
- Automatic legends, colors etc
- Save plot objects
- Themes for reusing styles
- Numerous add-ons/extensions
- Nearly complete graphing solution

#### Not suitable for:

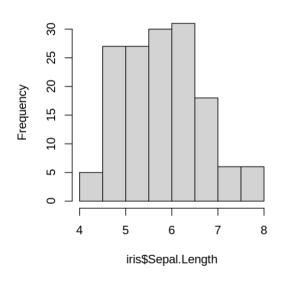
• 3D graphics

# ggplot2 vs Base Graphics

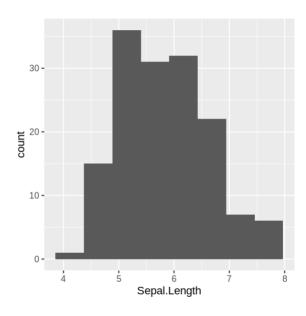


hist(iris\$Sepal.Length)

#### Histogram of iris\$Sepal.Length



library(ggplot2)
ggplot(iris,aes(x=Sepal.Length))+
 geom\_histogram(bins=8)

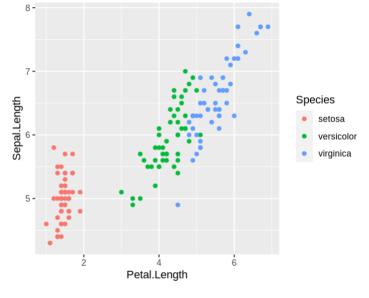


# ggplot2 vs Base Graphics



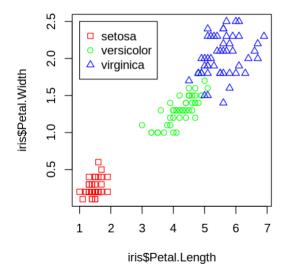
```
plot(iris$Petal.Length,iris$Petal.Width,
     col=c("red","green","blue")[iris$Specie
     pch=c(0,1,2)[iris$Species])
legend(x=1,y=2.5,
       legend=c("setosa","versicolor","virgi
       pch=c(0,1,2),col=c("red","green","blu
```





ggplot(iris,aes(Petal.Length,Sepal.Length,co

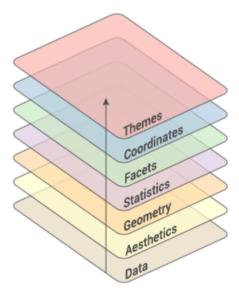
geom point()



## **Grammar Of Graphics**







- Data: Input data
- Geom: A geometry representing data. Points, Lines etc
- Aesthetic: Visual characteristics of the geometry. Size, Color,
   Shape etc
- Scale: How visual characteristics are converted to display values
- Statistics: Statistical transformations. Counts, Means etc
- Coordinates: Numeric system to determine position of geometry. Cartesian, Polar etc
- Facets: Split data into subsets

## **Building A Graph: Syntax**



```
ggplot (data = <DATA>) +

<GEOM_FUNCTION> (mapping = aes(<MAPPINGS>),

stat = <STAT>, position = <POSITION>) +

<COORDINATE_FUNCTION> +

<FACET_FUNCTION> +

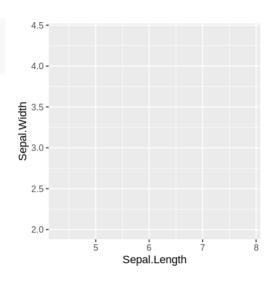
<SCALE_FUNCTION> +

<THEME_FUNCTION>
```

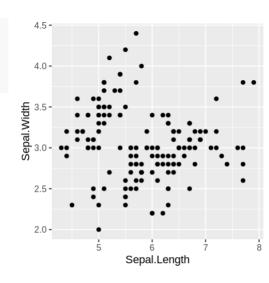


ggplot(iris)

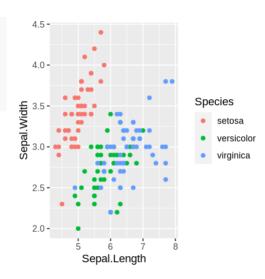












# Data • iris



• Input data is always an R data.frame object

3.2

# Sepal.LengthSepal.WidthPetal.LengthPetal.WidthSpecies5.13.51.40.2setosa4.93.01.40.2setosa

1.3

#### str(iris)

4.7

```
## 'data.frame': 150 obs. of 5 variables:
## $ Sepal.Length: num 5.1 4.9 4.7 4.6 5 5.4 4.6 5 4.4 4.9 ...
## $ Sepal.Width : num 3.5 3 3.2 3.1 3.6 3.9 3.4 3.4 2.9 3.1 ...
## $ Petal.Length: num 1.4 1.4 1.3 1.5 1.4 1.7 1.4 1.5 1.4 1.5 ...
## $ Petal.Width : num 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.1 ...
## $ Species : Factor w/ 3 levels "setosa", "versicolor", ..: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
```

0.2

setosa

# Data • diamonds



	carat	cut	color	clarity	depth	table	price	X	У	Z	
	0.23	Ideal	Е	SI2	61.5	55	326	3.95	3.98	2.43	
	0.21	Premium	Е	SI1	59.8	61	326	3.89	3.84	2.31	
	0.23	Good	Е	VS1	56.9	65	327	4.05	4.07	2.31	

#### str(diamonds)

#### Data • Format



• Transforming data into long or wide formats

```
iris %>% head(n=4)
  Sepal.Length Sepal.Width Petal.Length Petal.Width Species
1
          5.1
                     3.5
                                  1.4
                                             0.2 setosa
                                 1.4
2
          4.9
                     3.0
                                             0.2 setosa
3
                                 1.3
          4.7
                     3.2
                                             0.2 setosa
          4.6
                     3.1
                                  1.5
                                             0.2 setosa
iris %>% tidyr::pivot longer(!Species,names to="variable",values to="value") %>%
        as.data.frame() %>% head(n=5)
  Species variable value
1 setosa Sepal.Length
                      5.1
  setosa Sepal.Width
                      3.5
  setosa Petal.Length
                      1.4
  setosa Petal Width
                      0.2
 setosa Sepal.Length
                       4.9
```

## Geoms

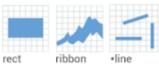


#### Basic









#### One variable



#### Two variables



























Error









contour





Map



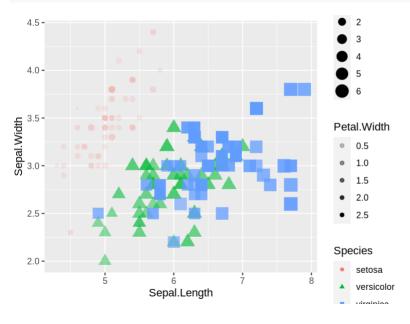
```
p <- ggplot(iris)</pre>
# scatterplot
p+geom_point(aes(x=Sepal.Length,y=Sepal.Width))
# barplot
p+geom bar(aes(x=Sepal.Length))
# boxplot
p+geom boxplot(aes(x=Species,y=Sepal.Width))
# search
help.search("^geom_",package="ggplot2")
```

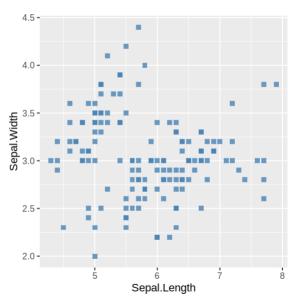
## **Aesthetics**



Aesthetic mapping vs aesthetic parameter

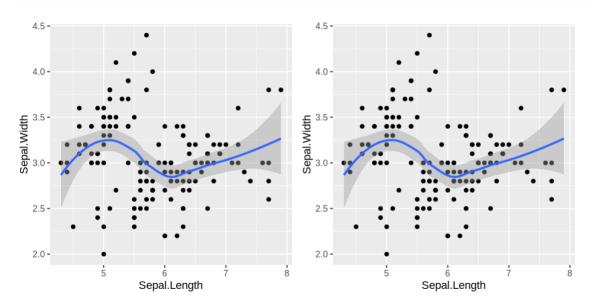






## **Aesthetics**

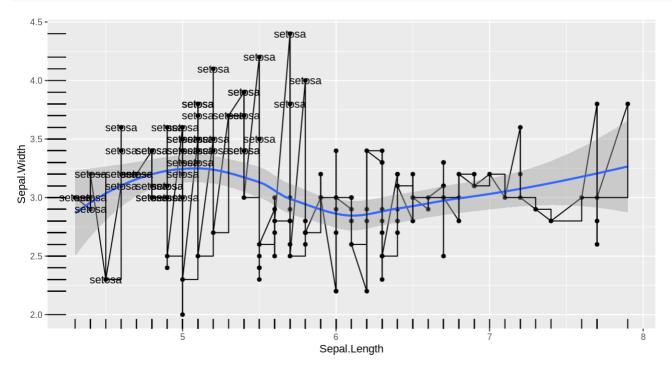




## **Multiple Geoms**



```
ggplot(iris,aes(x=Sepal.Length,y=Sepal.Width))+
    geom_point()+
    geom_line()+
    geom_smooth()+
    geom_rug()+
    geom_step()+
    geom_text(data=subset(iris,iris$Species=="setosa"),aes(label=Species))
```



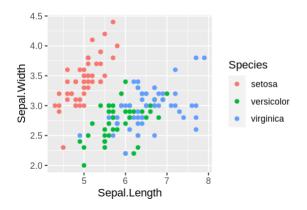
## Scales • Discrete Colors



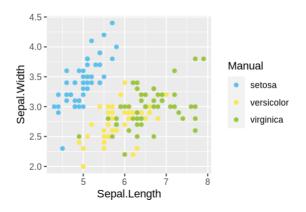
- scales: position, color, fill, size, shape, alpha, linetype
- syntax: scale <aesthetic> <type>

```
prepackaged
scale to use
                                                                            scale-specific arguments
            n + scale fill manual(
            values = c("skyblue", "royalblue", "blue", "navy"),
            limits = c("d", "e", "p", "r"), breaks =c("d", "e", "p", 
name = "fuel", labels = c("D", "E", "P", "R"))
range of
values to include
                           title to use in
legend/axis
                                                                          breaks to use in
legend/axis
                                                  labels to use
                                                 in legend/axis
```

```
p <- ggplot(iris)+geom point(aes(x=Sepal.Len p + scale color manual(</pre>
                      v=Sepal.Width,color=Spe
P
```



```
name="Manual",
values=c("#5BC0EB","#FDE74C","#9BC53D")
```

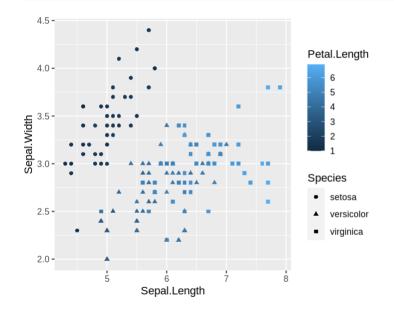


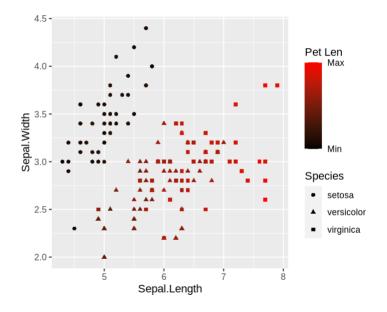
## **Scales • Continuous Colors**



• In RStudio, type <a href="scale">scale</a>, then press TAB

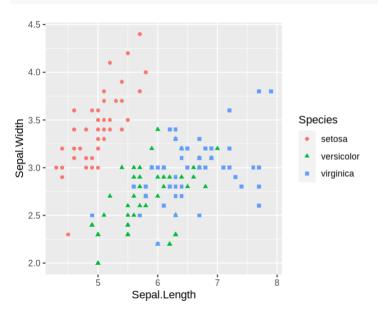
```
p +
scale_color_gradient(name="Pet Len",
  breaks=range(iris$Petal.Length),
  labels=c("Min","Max"),
  low="black",high="red")
```



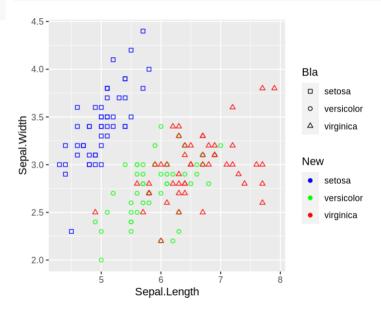


## Scales • Shape





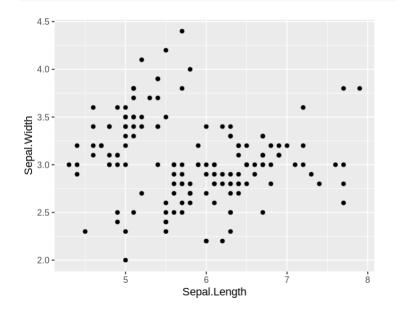
```
p +
scale_color_manual(name="New",
    values=c("blue","green","red"))+
scale_shape_manual(name="Bla",values=c(0,1,2)
```

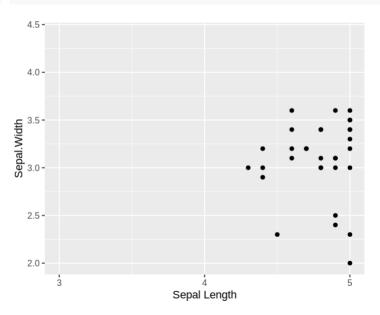


## Scales • Axes



- scales: x, y
- syntax: scale\_<axis>\_<type>
- arguments: name, limits, breaks, labels

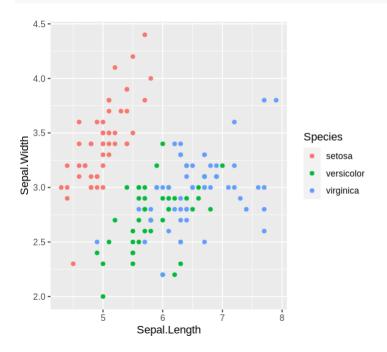


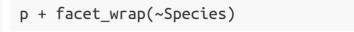


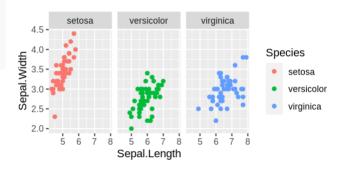
# Facets • facet\_wrap



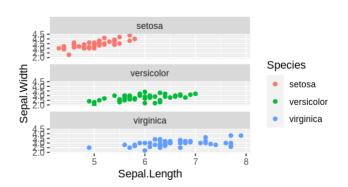
- Split to subplots based on variable(s)
- Facetting in one dimension







### p + facet\_wrap(~Species,nrow=3)

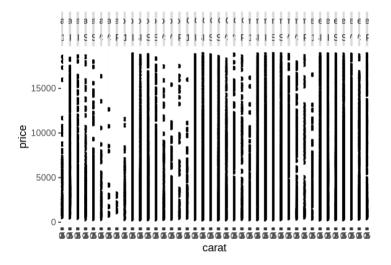


# Facets • facet\_grid

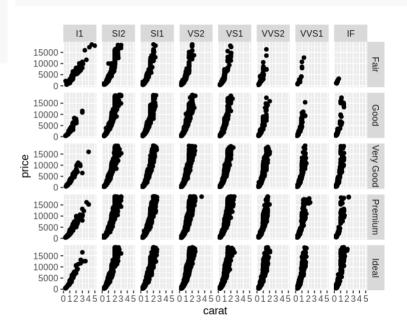


• Facetting in two dimensions

```
p <- diamonds %>%
     ggplot(aes(carat,price))+
     geom_point()
p + facet_grid(~cut+clarity)
```



#### p + facet\_grid(cut~clarity)



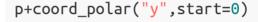
## **Coordinate Systems**

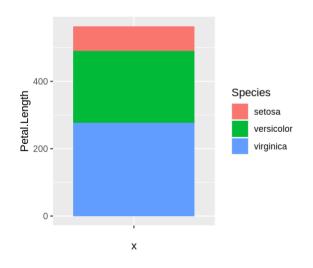


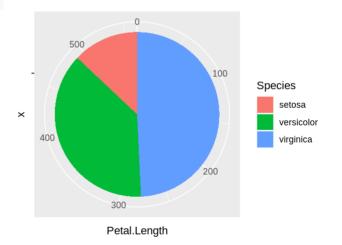


- coord\_cartesian(xlim=c(2,8)) for zooming in
- coord\_map for controlling limits on maps
- coord\_polar

```
p <- ggplot(iris,aes(x="",y=Petal.Length,fil p+coord_polar("y",start=0)</pre>
  geom_bar(stat="identity")
р
```





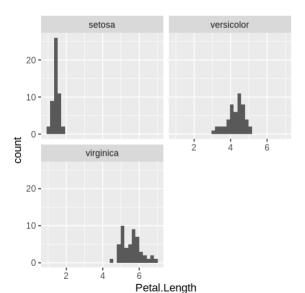


## **Theme**

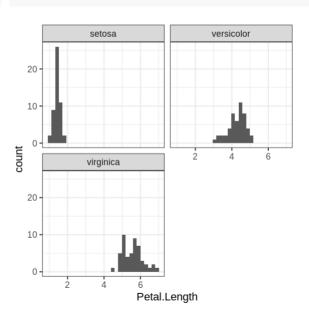


- Modify non-data plot elements/appearance
- Axis labels, panel colors, legend appearance etc
- Save a particular appearance for reuse
- ?theme

```
ggplot(iris,aes(Petal.Length))+
  geom_histogram()+
  facet_wrap(~Species,nrow=2)+
  theme_grey()
```



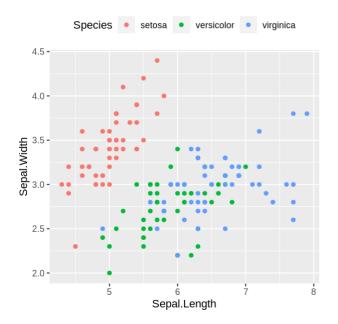
```
ggplot(iris,aes(Petal.Length))+
  geom_histogram()+
  facet_wrap(~Species,nrow=2)+
  theme_bw()
```



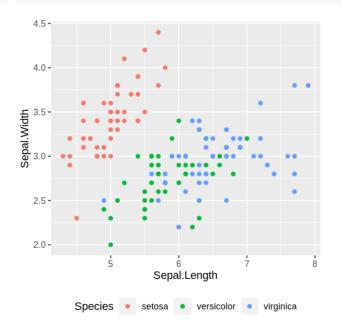
## Theme • Legend







#### p + theme(legend.position="bottom")

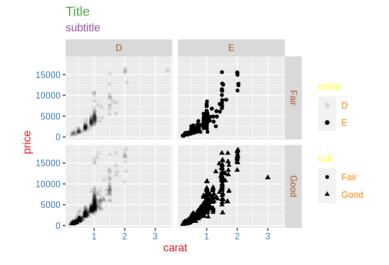


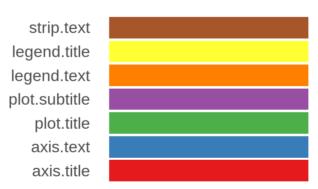
### Theme • Text



```
element_text(family=NULL,face=NULL,color=NULL,size=NULL,hjust=NULL,
    vjust=NULL, angle=NULL,lineheight=NULL,margin = NULL)
```

```
p <- p + theme(
    axis.title=element_text(color="#e41a1c"),
    axis.text=element_text(color="#377eb8"),
    plot.title=element_text(color="#4daf4a"),
    plot.subtitle=element_text(color="#984ea3"),
    legend.text=element_text(color="#ff7f00"),
    legend.title=element_text(color="#ffff33"),
    strip.text=element_text(color="#a65628")
)</pre>
```



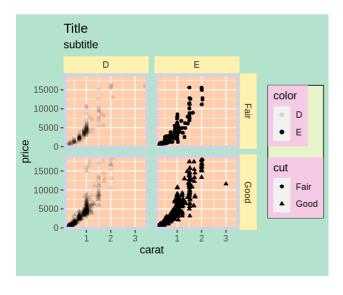


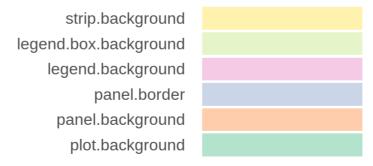
## Theme • Rect



```
element_rect(fill=NULL,color=NULL,size=NULL,linetype=NULL)
```

```
p <- p + theme(
    plot.background=element_rect(fill="#b3e2cd"),
    panel.background=element_rect(fill="#fdcdac"),
    panel.border=element_rect(fill=NA,color="#cbd5e8",size=3),
    legend.background=element_rect(fill="#f4cae4"),
    legend.box.background=element_rect(fill="#e6f5c9"),
    strip.background=element_rect(fill="#fff2ae")
)</pre>
```

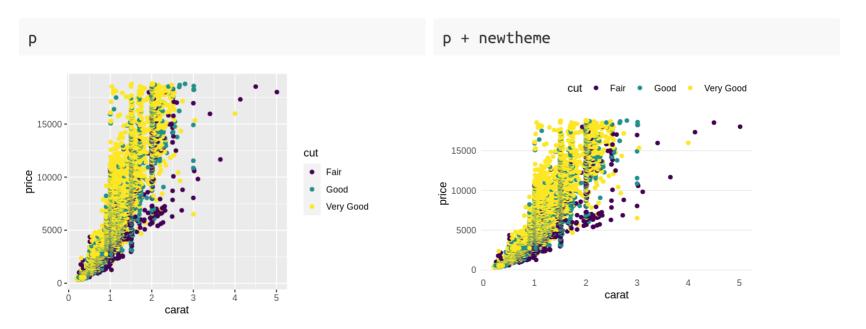




### Theme • Reuse



```
newtheme <- theme_bw() + theme(
   axis.ticks=element_blank(),
   panel.background=element_rect(fill="white"),
   panel.grid.minor=element_blank(),
   panel.grid.major.x=element_blank(),
   panel.grid.major.y=element_line(size=0.3,color="grey90"),
   panel.border=element_blank(),
   legend.position="top",
   legend.justification="right"
)</pre>
```



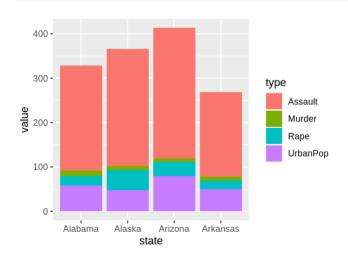
## **Position**

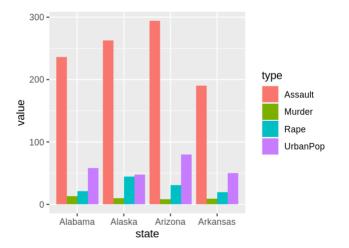


```
Murder Assault UrbanPop Rape
##
## Alabama
                               58 21.2
            13.2
                     236
## Alaska
            10.0
                               48 44.5
                     263
            8.1
                  294
## Arizona
                               80 31.0
```

```
us <- USArrests %>% mutate(state=rownames(.)) %>% slice(1:4) %>%
                    gather(key=type,value=value,-state)
p <- ggplot(us,aes(x=state,y=value,fill=type))</pre>
```







## **Saving plots**



```
p <- ggplot(iris,aes(Petal.Length,Sepal.Length,color=Species))+
  geom_point()</pre>
```

• ggplot2 plots can be saved just like base plots

```
png("plot.png",height=5,width=7,units="cm",res=200)
print(p)
dev.off()
```

• ggplot2 package offers a convenient function

```
ggsave("plot.png",p,height=5,width=7,units="cm",dpi=200,type="cairo")
```

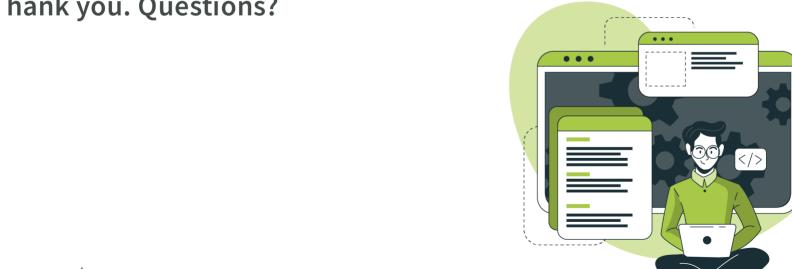
- Use type="cairo" for nicer anti-aliasing
- Note that default units in png is pixels while in ggsave it's inches

## **Extensions**



- gridExtra: Extends grid graphics functionality
- ggpubr: Useful functions to prepare plots for publication
- cowplot: Combining plots
- ggthemes: Set of extra themes
- ggthemr: More themes
- ggsci: Color palettes for scales
- ggrepel: Advanced text labels including overlap control
- ggmap: Dedicated to mapping
- ggraph: Network graphs
- ggiraph: Converting ggplot2 to interactive graphics

# Thank you. Questions?



Graphics from freepik.com Created: 27-Sep-2021 • Roy Francis • SciLifeLab • NBIS