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Basics

ggplot2 is a powerful and a flexible **R package**, implemented by **Hadley Wickham**, for producing elegant graphics. The **gg** in ggplot2 means **Grammar of Graphics**, a graphic concept which describes plots by using a "grammar".

According to ggplot2 concept, a plot can be divided into different fundamental parts : **Plot = data + Aesthetics + Geometry**.

The principal components of every plot can be defined as follow:

- **data** is a data frame
- **Aesthetics** is used to indicate x and y variables. It can also be used to control the **color**, the **size** or the **shape** of points, the height of bars, etc.....
- **Geometry** corresponds to the type of graphics (**histogram**, **box plot**, **line plot**, **density plot**, **dot plot**,)

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Two main functions, for creating plots, are available in **ggplot2** package : a **qplot()** and **ggplot()** functions.

- **qplot()** is a quick plot function which is easy to use for simple plots.
- The **ggplot()** function is more flexible and robust than **qplot** for building a plot piece by piece.

The generated plot can be kept as a variable and then printed at any time using the function **print()**.

After creating plots, two other important functions are:

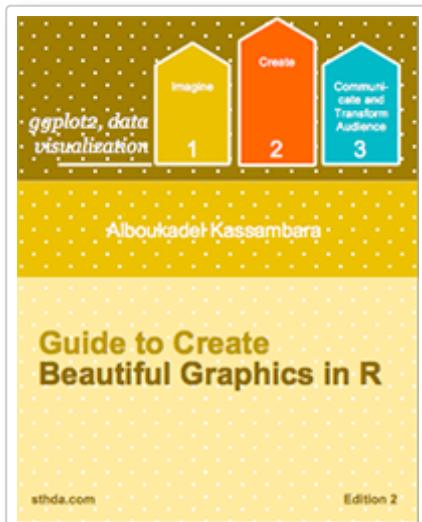
- **last_plot()**, which returns the last plot to be modified
- **ggsave("plot.png", width = 5, height = 5)**, which saves the last plot in the current working directory.



This document describes how to create and customize different types of graphs using ggplot2. Many examples of code and graphics are provided.



If you want be highly effective, download our book: [Guide to Create Beautiful Graphics in R](#)



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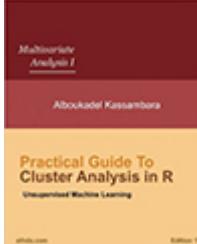
Types of graphs for data visualization

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3D Plots in R

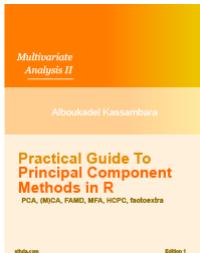
The type of plots, to be created, depends on the format of your data. The `ggplot2` package provides methods for visualizing the following data structures:

1. **One variable - x**: continuous or discrete
2. **Two variables - x & y**: continuous and/or discrete
3. **Continuous bivariate distribution - x & y** (both continuous)
4. **Continuous function**
5. **Error bar**
6. **Maps**
7. **Three variables**

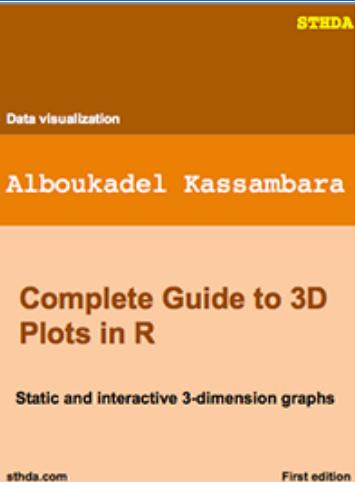
In the current document we'll provide the essential `ggplot2` functions for drawing each of these seven data formats.

How this document is organized?

- Basics
- Types of graphs for data visualization
- How this document is organized?
- Install and load `ggplot2` package
- Data format and preparation
- `qplot()`: Quick plot with `ggplot2`
 - Scatter plots
 - Box plot, violin plot and dot plot
 - Histogram and density plots
- `ggplot()`: build plots piece by piece
 - One variable: Continuous
 - `geom_area()`: Create an area plot
 - `geom_density()`: Create a smooth density estimate
 - `geom_dotplot()`: Dot plot
 - `geom_freqpoly()`: Frequency polygon
 - `geom_histogram()`: Histogram
 - `stat_ecdf()`: Empirical Cumulative Density Function
 - `stat_qq()`: quantile - quantile plot
 - One variable: Discrete
 - Two variables: Continuous X, Continuous Y
 - `geom_point()`: Scatter plot



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Guest Book

- geom_smooth(): Add regression line or smoothed conditional mean
 - geom_quantile(): Add quantile lines from a quantile regression
 - geom_rug(): Add marginal rug to scatter plots
 - geom_jitter(): Jitter points to reduce overplotting
 - geom_text(): Textual annotations
 - Two variables: Continuous bivariate distribution
 - geom_bin2d(): Add heatmap of 2d bin counts
 - geom_hex(): Add hexagon binning
 - geom_density_2d(): Add contours from a 2d density estimate
 - Two variables: Continuous function
 - Two variables: Discrete X, Continuous Y
 - geom_boxplot(): Box and whiskers plot
 - geom_violin(): Violin plot
 - geom_dotplot(): Dot plot
 - geom_jitter(): Strip charts
 - geom_line(): Line plot
 - geom_bar(): Bar plot
 - Two variables: Discrete X, Discrete Y
 - Two variables: Visualizing error
 - geom_crossbar(): Hollow bar with middle indicated by horizontal line
 - geom_errorbar(): Error bars
 - geom_errorbarh(): Horizontal error bars
 - geom_linerange() and geom_pointrange(): An interval represented by a vertical line
 - Combine geom_dotplot and error bars
 - Two variables: Maps
 - Three variables
 - Other types of graphs
 - Graphical primitives: polygon, path, ribbon, segment, rectangle
- Graphical parameters
 - Main title, axis labels and legend title
 - Legend position and appearance
 - Change colors automatically and manually
 - Point shapes, colors and size
 - Add text annotations to a graph

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- Line types
- Themes and background colors
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- Axis transformations: log and sqrt scales
- Axis ticks: customize tick marks and labels, reorder and select items
- Add straight lines to a plot: horizontal, vertical and regression lines
- Rotate a plot: flip and reverse
- Faceting: split a plot into a matrix of panels
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Install and load ggplot2 package

Use the **R** code below:

```
# Installation
install.packages('ggplot2')
# Loading
library(ggplot2)
```

Data format and preparation



The data should be a **data.frame** (columns are variables and rows are observations).

The data set **mtcars** is used in the examples below:

```
# Load the data
data(mtcars)
df <- mtcars[, c("mpg", "cyl", "wt")]
# Convert cyl to a factor variable
df$cyl <- as.factor(df$cyl)
head(df)
```

```
##          mpg cyl   wt
## Mazda RX4     21.0   6 2.620
## Mazda RX4 Wag 21.0   6 2.875
## Datsun 710    22.8   4 2.320
## Hornet 4 Drive 21.4   6 3.215
## Hornet Sportabout 18.7   8 3.440
## Valiant      18.1   6 3.460
```

mtcars : Motor Trend Car Road Tests.

Description: The data comprises fuel consumption and 10 aspects of automobile design and performance for 32 automobiles (1973 - 74 models).

Format: A data frame with 32 observations on 3 variables.

- [, 1] mpg Miles/(US) gallon
- [, 2] cyl Number of cylinders
- [, 3] wt Weight (lb/1000)

qplot(): Quick plot with ggplot2

The **qplot()** function is very similar to the standard **R plot()** function. It can be used to create quickly and easily different types of graphs: **scatter plots**, **box plots**, **violin plots**, **histogram** and **density plots**.

A simplified format of **qplot()** is :

```
qplot(x, y = NULL, data, geom="auto")
```

- **x, y** : x and y values, respectively. The argument y is optional depending on the type of graphs to be created.
- **data** : data frame to use (optional).
- **geom** : Character vector specifying geom to use. Defaults to “point” if x and y are specified, and “histogram” if only x is specified.

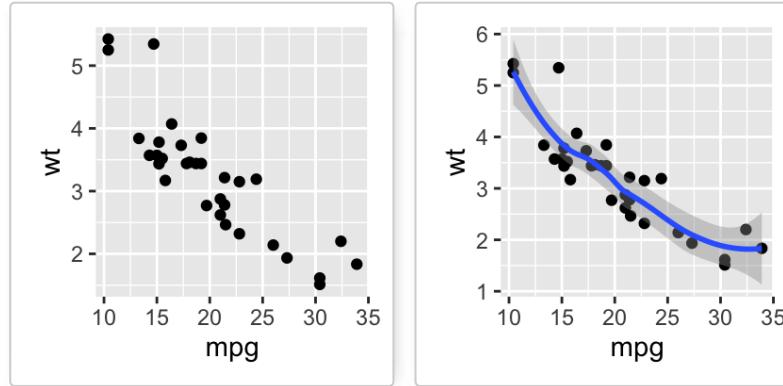
Other arguments such as *main*, *xlab* and *ylab* can be also used to add main title and axis labels to the plot.

 Read more about **qplot()**: [Quick plot with ggplot2](#).

Scatter plots

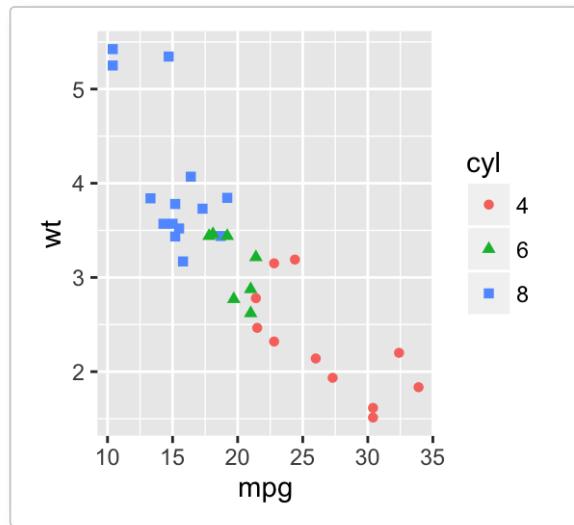
The R code below creates basic **scatter plots** using the argument **geom = “point”**. It’s also possible to combine different geoms (e.g.: **geom = c(“point”, “smooth”)**).

```
# Basic scatter plot
qplot(x = mpg, y = wt, data = df, geom = "point")
# Scatter plot with smoothed line
qplot(mpg, wt, data = df,
      geom = c("point", "smooth"))
```



The following R code will change the **color** and the **shape** of points by groups. The column *cyl* will be used as grouping variable. In other words, the color and the shape of points will be changed by the levels of *cyl*.

```
qplot(mpg, wt, data = df, colour = cyl, shape = cyl)
```



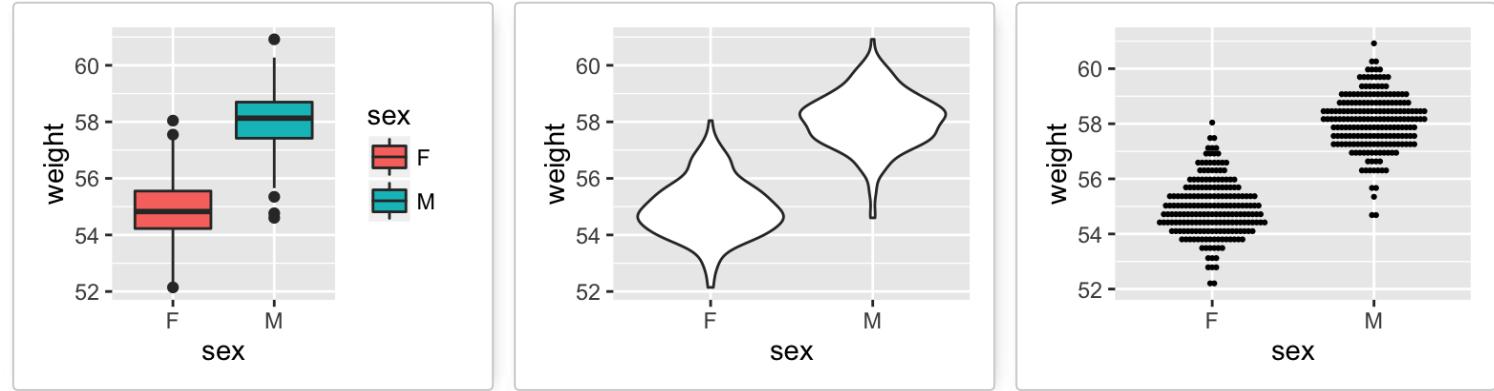
Box plot, violin plot and dot plot

The R code below generates some data containing the weights by sex (M for male; F for female):

```
set.seed(1234)
wdata = data.frame(
  sex = factor(rep(c("F", "M"), each=200)),
  weight = c(rnorm(200, 55), rnorm(200, 58)))
head(wdata)
```

```
##   sex   weight
## 1   F 53.79293
## 2   F 55.27743
## 3   F 56.08444
## 4   F 52.65430
## 5   F 55.42912
## 6   F 55.50606
```

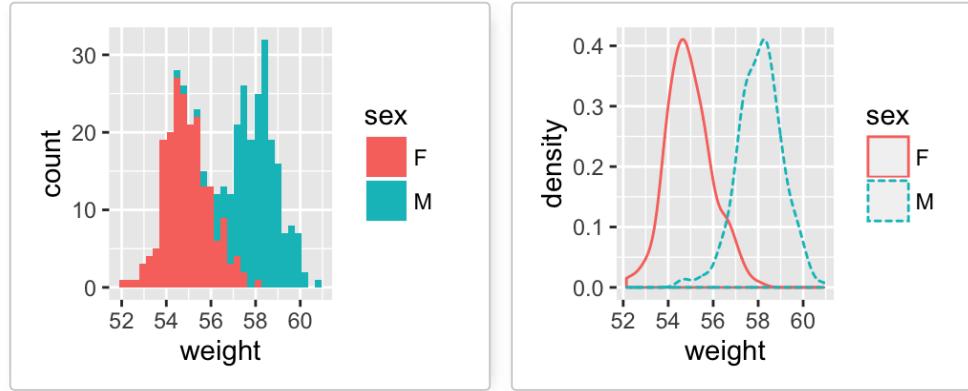
```
# Basic box plot from data frame
qplot(sex, weight, data = wdata,
      geom= "boxplot", fill = sex)
# Violin plot
qplot(sex, weight, data = wdata, geom = "violin")
# Dot plot
qplot(sex, weight, data = wdata, geom = "dotplot",
      stackdir = "center", binaxis = "y", dotsize = 0.5)
```



Histogram and density plots

The **histogram** and **density** plots are used to display the distribution of data.

```
# Histogram plot
# Change histogram fill color by group (sex)
qplot(weight, data = wdata, geom = "histogram",
      fill = sex)
# Density plot
# Change density plot line color by group (sex)
# change line type
qplot(weight, data = wdata, geom = "density",
      color = sex, linetype = sex)
```



ggplot(): build plots piece by piece

As mentioned above, there are two main functions in **ggplot2** package for generating graphics:

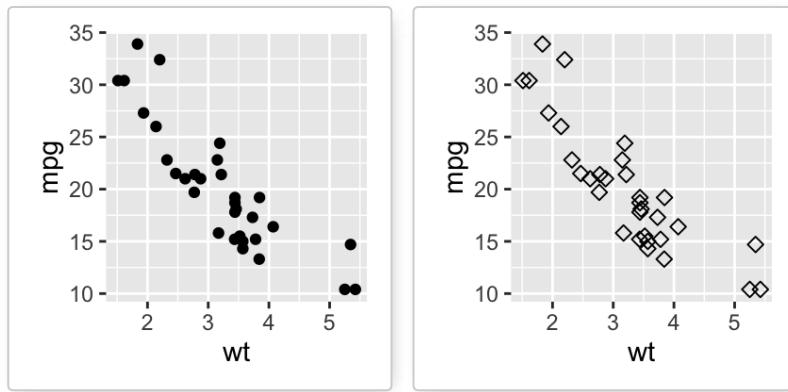
- The quick and easy-to-use function: **qplot()**
- The more powerful and flexible function to build plots piece by piece: **ggplot()**

This section describes briefly how to use the function **ggplot()**. Recall that, the concept of **ggplot** divides a plot into three different fundamental parts: **plot = data + Aesthetics + geometry**.

- **data**: a data frame.
- **Aesthetics**: used to specify x and y variables, color, size, shape,
- **Geometry**: the type of plots (**histogram**, **boxplot**, **line**, **density**, **dotplot**, **bar**, ...)

To demonstrate how the function **ggplot()** works, we'll draw a **scatter plot**. The function **aes()** is used to specify aesthetics. An alternative option is the function **aes_string()** which generates mappings from a string. **aes_string()** is particularly useful when writing functions that create plots because you can use strings to define the aesthetic mappings, rather than having to use substitute to generate a call to **aes()**

```
# Basic scatter plot
ggplot(data = mtcars, aes(x = wt, y = mpg)) +
  geom_point()
# Change the point size, and shape
ggplot(mtcars, aes(x = wt, y = mpg)) +
  geom_point(size = 2, shape = 23)
```



The function **aes_string()** can be used as follow:

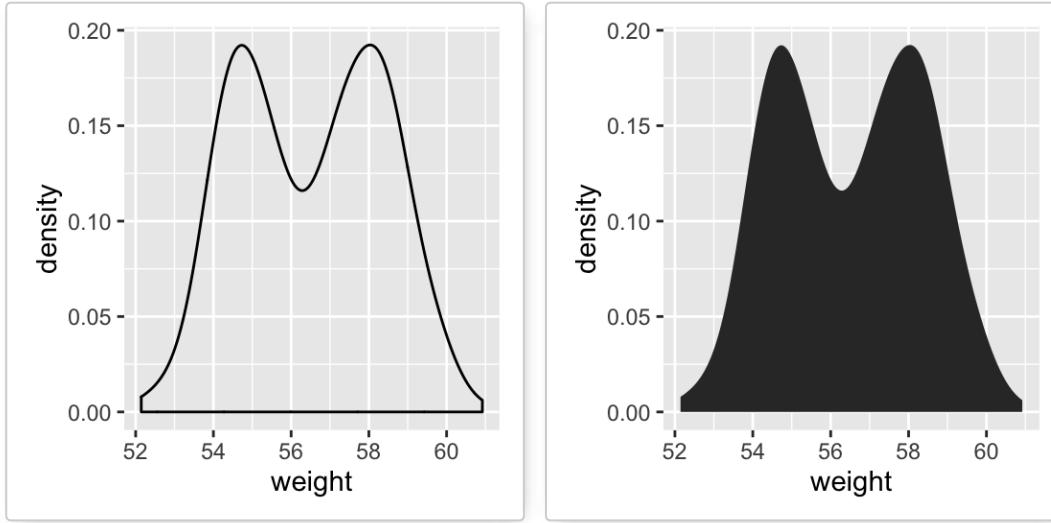
```
ggplot(mtcars, aes_string(x = "wt", y = "mpg")) +
  geom_point(size = 2, shape = 23)
```



Note that, some plots visualize a **transformation** of the original data set. In this case, an alternative way to build a layer is to use **stat_***() functions.

In the following example, the function **geom_density()** does the same as the function **stat_density()**:

```
# Use geometry function
ggplot(wdata, aes(x = weight)) + geom_density()
# OR use stat function
ggplot(wdata, aes(x = weight)) + stat_density()
```



✓ For each plot type, we'll provide the `geom_*`() function and the corresponding `stat_*`() function (if available).

One variable: Continuous

We'll use weight data (`wdata`), generated in the previous sections.

```
head(wdata)
```

```
##   sex   weight
## 1 F 53.79293
## 2 F 55.27743
## 3 F 56.08444
## 4 F 52.65430
## 5 F 55.42912
## 6 F 55.50606
```

The following R code computes the mean value by sex:

```
library(plyr)
mu <- ddply(wdata, "sex", summarise, grp.mean=mean(weight))
head(mu)
```

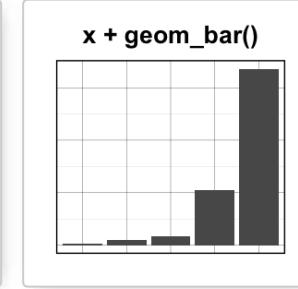
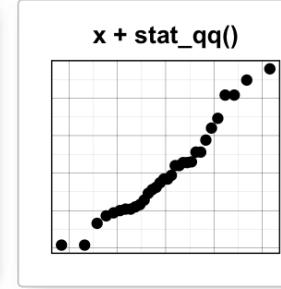
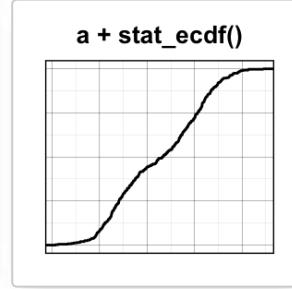
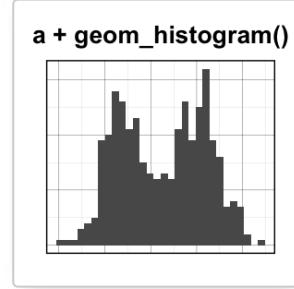
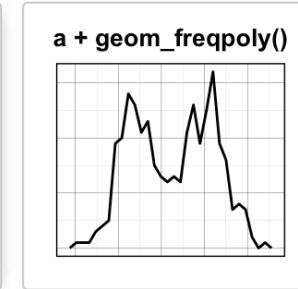
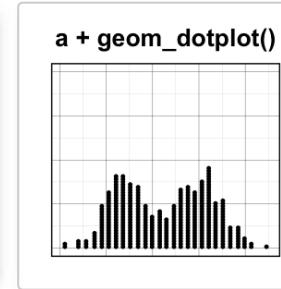
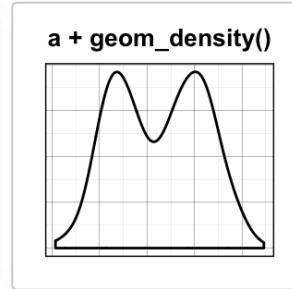
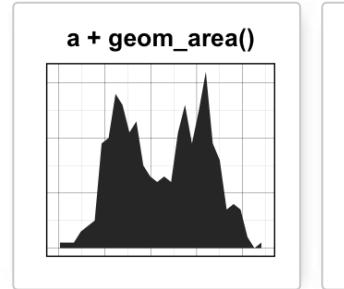
```
##   sex grp.mean
## 1   F 54.94224
## 2   M 58.07325
```

 We start by creating a plot, named **a**, that we'll finish in the next section by adding a layer.

```
a <- ggplot(wdata, aes(x = weight))
```

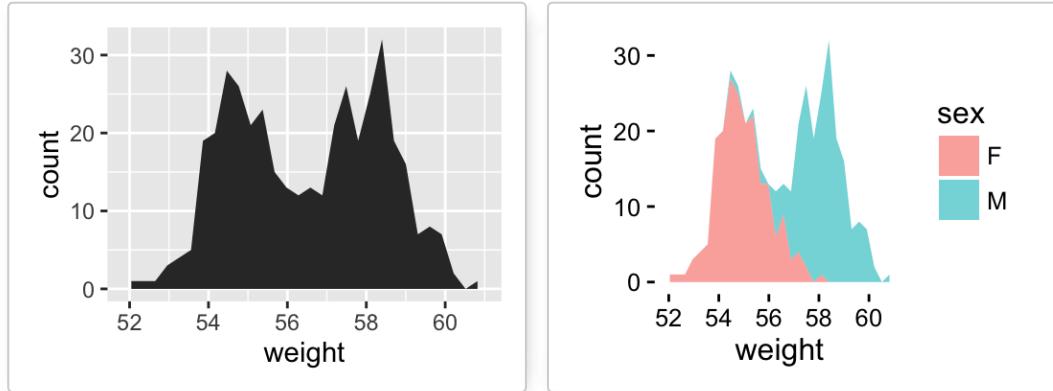
Possible layers are:

- For **one continuous variable**:
 - **geom_area()** for *area plot*
 - **geom_density()** for *density plot*
 - **geom_dotplot()** for *dot plot*
 - **geom_freqpoly()** for *frequency polygon*
 - **geom_histogram()** for *histogram plot*
 - **stat_ecdf()** for *empirical cumulative density function*
 - **stat_qq()** for *quantile - quantile plot*
- For **one discrete variable**:
 - **geom_bar()** for *bar plot*



geom_area(): Create an area plot

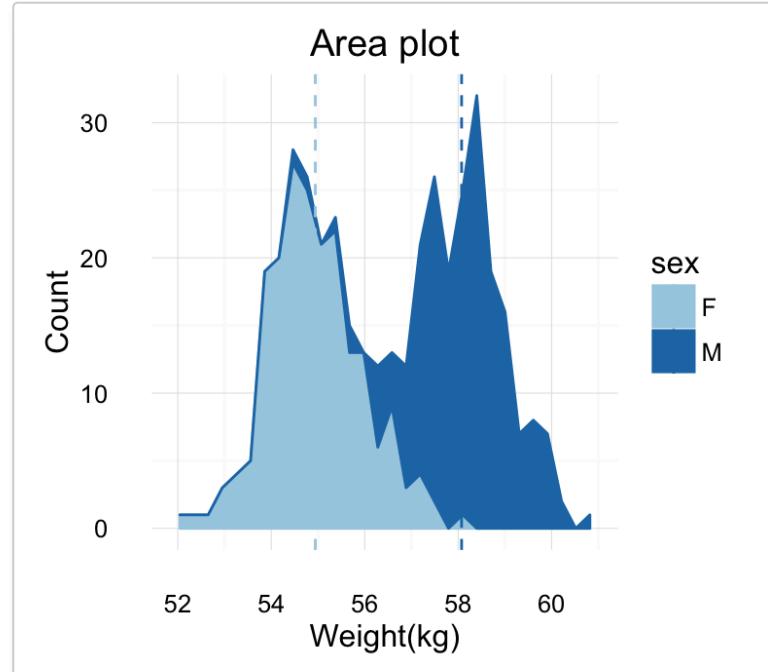
```
# Basic plot
a + geom_area(stat = "bin")
# change fill colors by sex
a + geom_area(aes(fill = sex), stat ="bin", alpha=0.6) +
  theme_classic()
```



! Note that, by default y axis corresponds to the *count* of weight values. If you want to change the plot in order to have the *density* on y axis, the R code would be as follow.

```
a + geom_area(aes(y = ..density..), stat ="bin")
```

✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype*, *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 area plot](#).



- **Key function:** `geom_area()`
- **Alternative function:** `stat_bin()`

```
a + stat_bin(geom = "area")
```

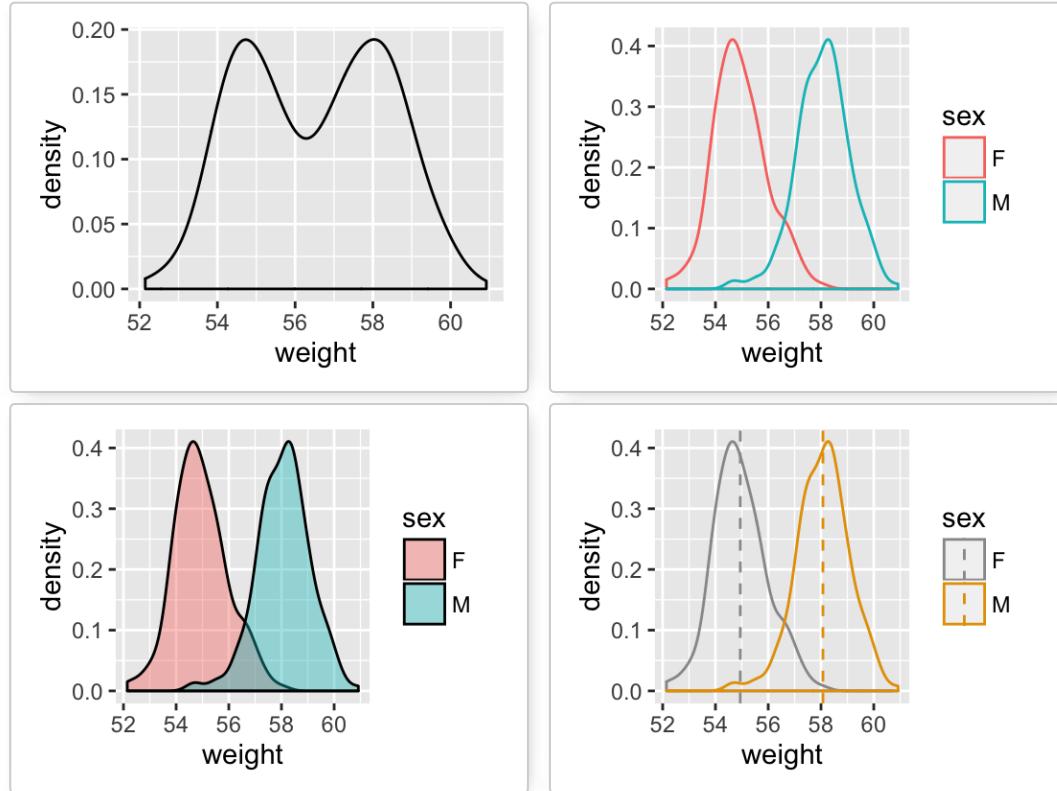
geom_density(): Create a smooth density estimate

We'll use the following functions:

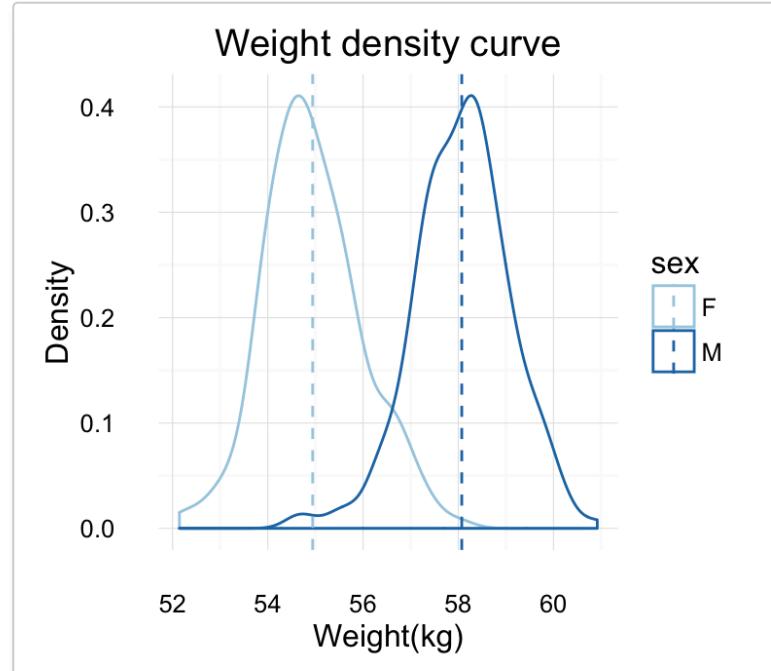
- **geom_density()** to create a **density plot**
- **geom_vline()** to add a vertical lines corresponding to group mean values
- **scale_color_manual()** to change the color manually by groups

```
# Basic plot
a + geom_density()
# change line colors by sex
a + geom_density(aes(color = sex))
# Change fill color by sex
# Use semi-transparent fill: alpha = 0.4
a + geom_density(aes(fill = sex), alpha=0.4)

# Add mean line and Change color manually
a + geom_density(aes(color = sex)) +
  geom_vline(data=mu, aes(xintercept=grp.mean, color=sex),
             linetype="dashed") +
  scale_color_manual(values=c("#999999", "#E69F00"))
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype*, *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 density plot](#).



- **Key function:** `geom_density()`
- **Alternative function:** `stat_density()`

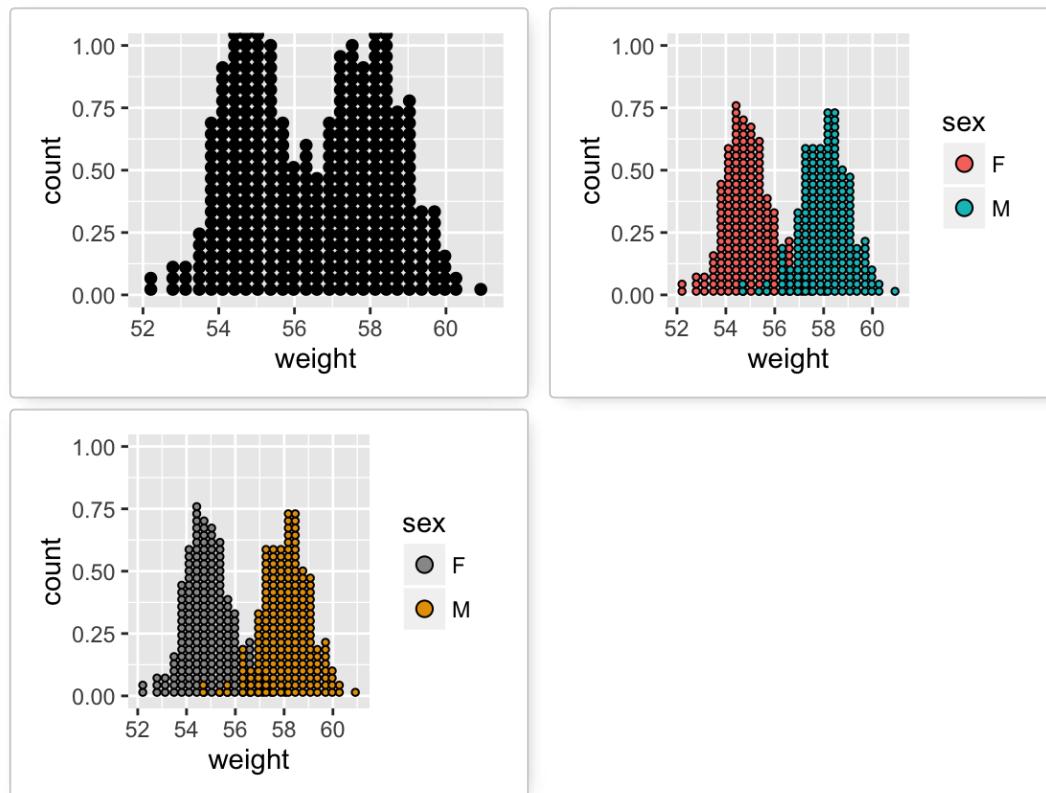
```
a + stat_density()
```

`geom_dotplot()`: Dot plot

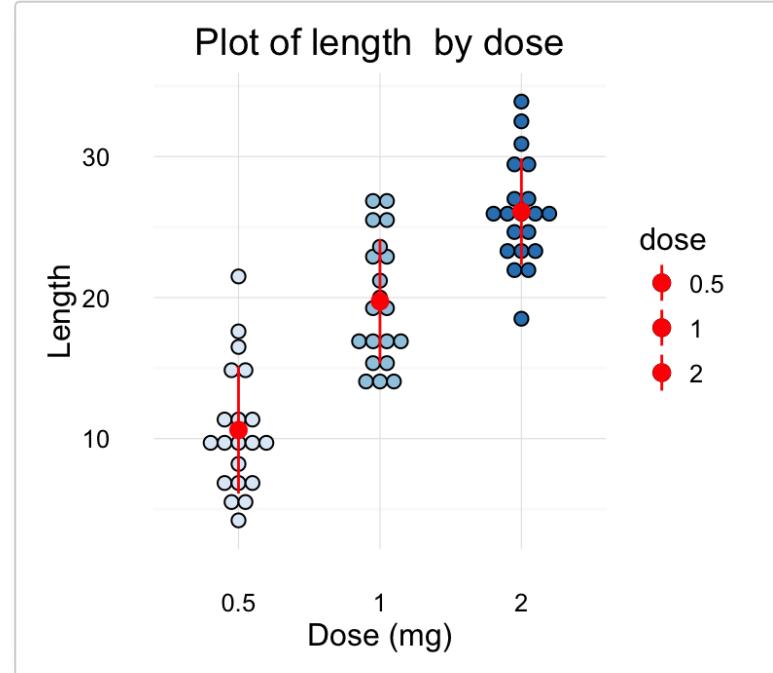
In a **dot plot**, dots are stacked with each dot representing one observation.

```
# Basic plot
a + geom_dotplot()
# change fill and color by sex
a + geom_dotplot(aes(fill = sex))
# Change fill color manually
```

```
a + geom_dotplot(aes(fill = sex)) +  
  scale_fill_manual(values=c("#999999", "#E69F00"))
```



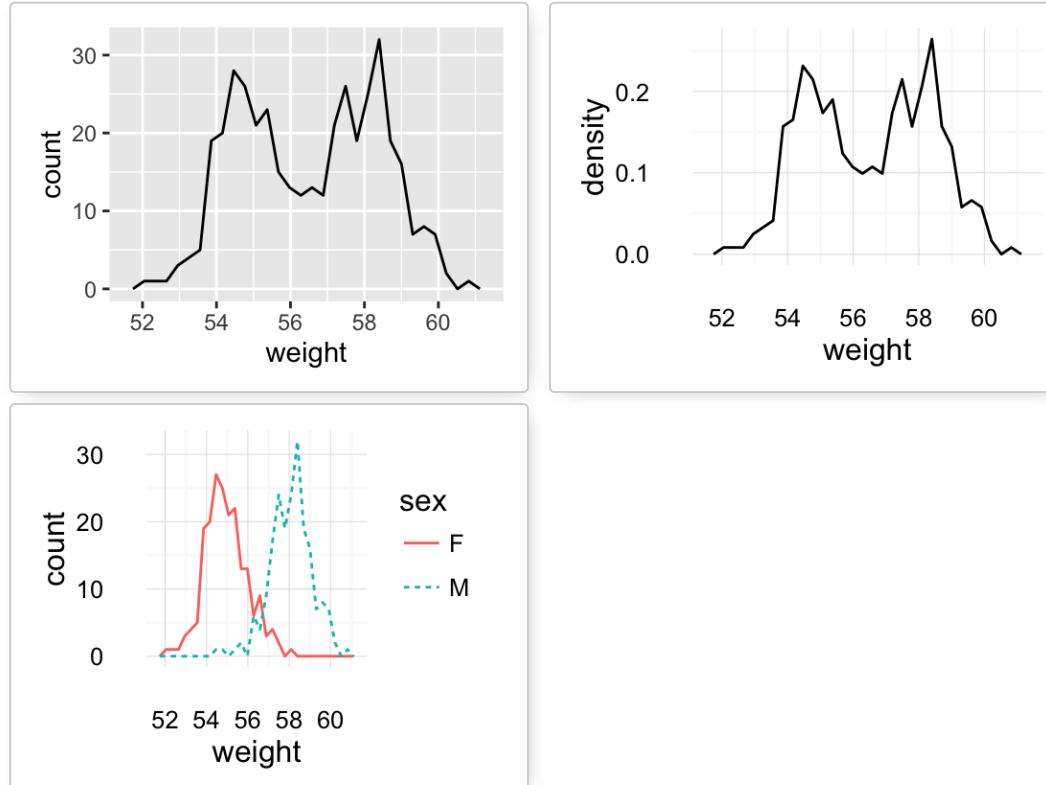
To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill* and *dotsize*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 dot plot](#).



- Key functions: `geom_dotplot()`

geom_freqpoly(): Frequency polygon

```
# Basic plot
a + geom_freqpoly()
# change y axis to density value
# and change theme
a + geom_freqpoly(aes(y = ..density..)) +
  theme_minimal()
# change color and linetype by sex
a + geom_freqpoly(aes(color = sex, linetype = sex)) +
  theme_minimal()
```



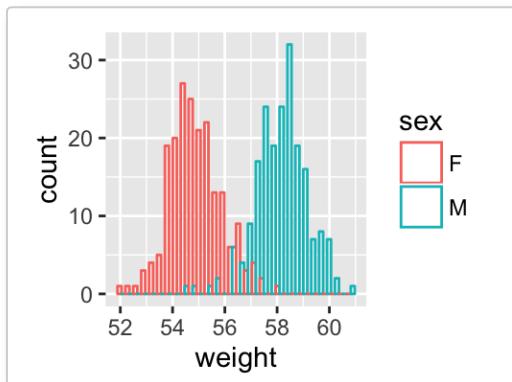
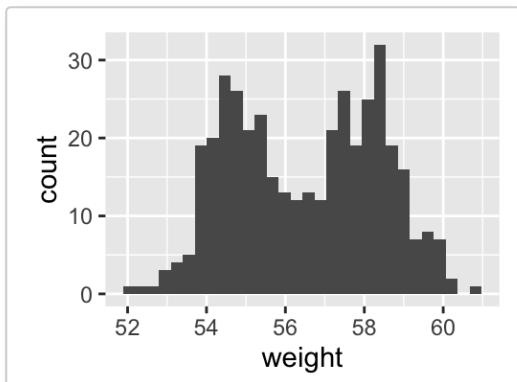
To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype* and *size*.

- **Key function:** `geom_freqpoly()`
- **Alternative function:** `stat_bin()`

geom_histogram(): Histogram

```
# Basic plot
a + geom_histogram()
# change line colors by sex
```

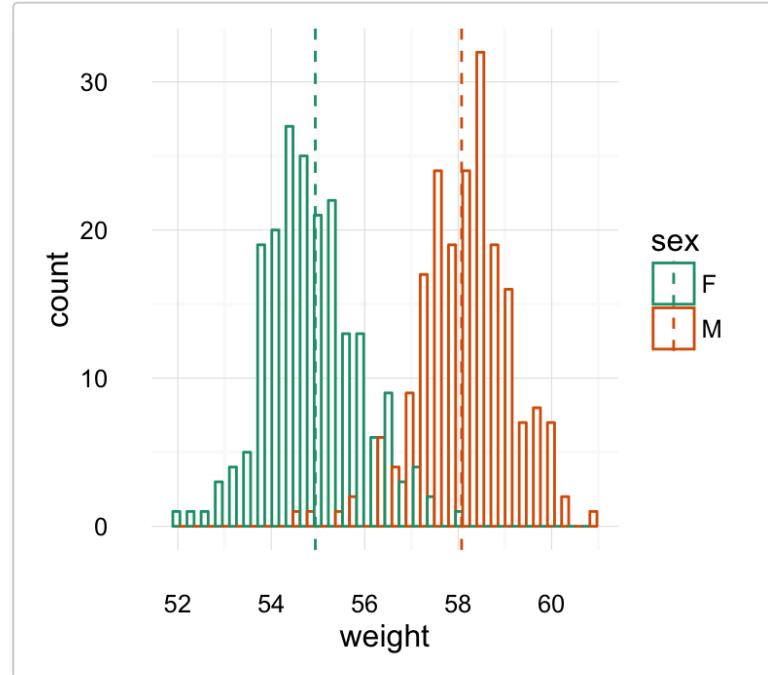
```
a + geom_histogram(aes(color = sex), fill = "white",
                    position = "dodge")
```



! If you want to change the plot in order to have the *density* on y axis, the R code would be as follow.

```
a + geom_histogram(aes(y = ..density..))
```

✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 histogram plot](#).

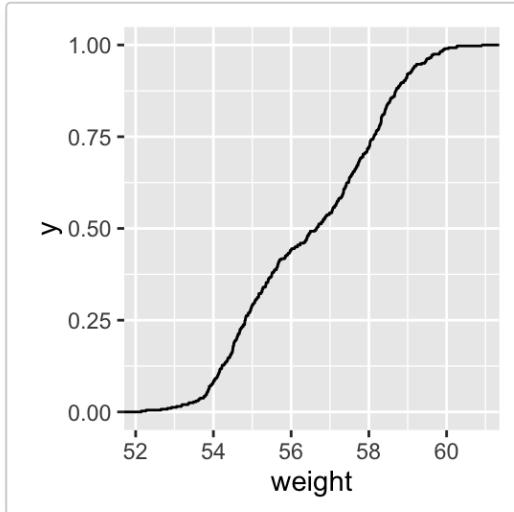


- **Key functions:** `geom_histogram()`
- **Position adjustments:** "identity" (or `position_identity()`), "stack" (or `position_stack()`), "dodge" (or `position_dodge()`). Default value is "stack"
- **Alternative function:** `stat_bin()`

```
a + stat_bin(geom = "histogram")
```

stat_ecdf(): Empirical Cumulative Density Function

```
a + stat_ecdf()
```

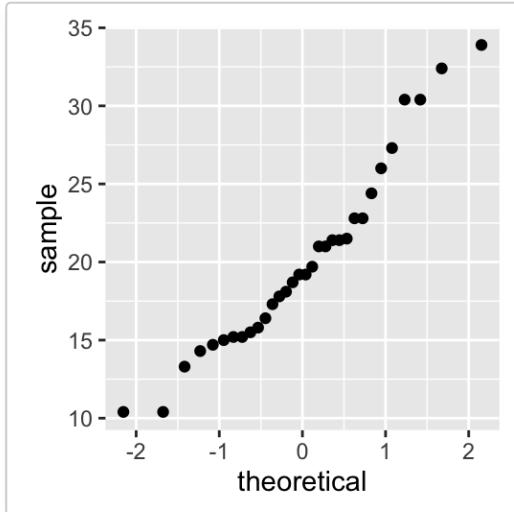


✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 ECDF](#).

- **Key function:** `stat_ecdf()`

stat_qq(): quantile - quantile plot

```
ggplot(mtcars, aes(sample=mpg)) + stat_qq()
```



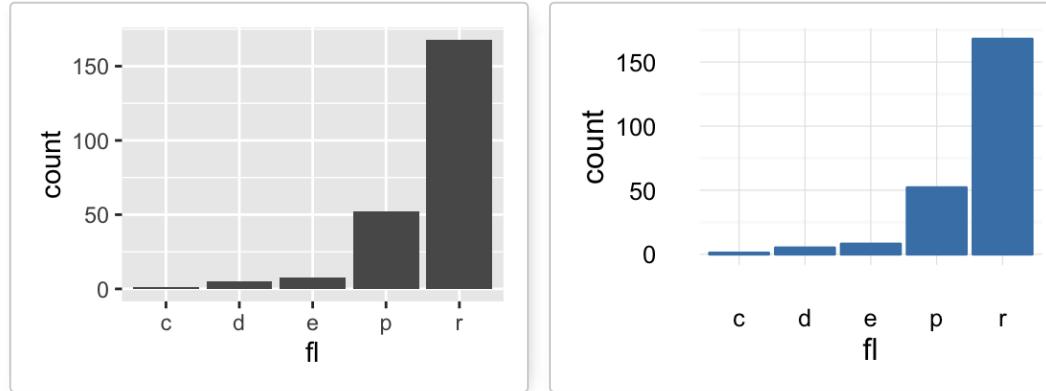
✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *shape* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 quantile - quantile plot](#).

- **Key function:** *stat_qq()*

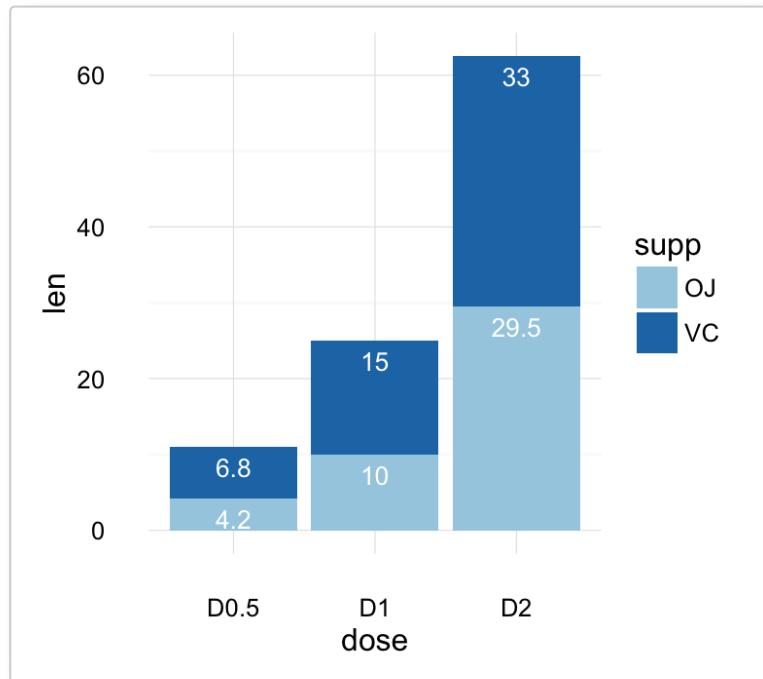
One variable: Discrete

The function **geom_bar()** can be used to visualize one discrete variable. In this case, the count of each level is plotted. We'll use the **mpg** data set [in **ggplot2** package]. The R code is as follow:

```
data(mpg)
b <- ggplot(mpg, aes(fl))
# Basic plot
b + geom_bar()
# Change fill color
b + geom_bar(fill = "steelblue", color ="steelblue") +
  theme_minimal()
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 bar plot](#).



- **Key function:** `geom_bar()`
- **Alternative function:** `stat_count()`

```
b + stat_count()
```

Two variables: Continuous X, Continuous Y

We'll use the **mtcars** data set. The variable *cyl* is used as grouping variable.

```
data(mtcars)
mtcars$cyl <- as.factor(mtcars$cyl)
head(mtcars[, c("wt", "mpg", "cyl")])
```

```
##          wt  mpg cyl
## Mazda RX4     2.620 21.0   6
## Mazda RX4 Wag 2.875 21.0   6
## Datsun 710    2.320 22.8   4
## Hornet 4 Drive 3.215 21.4   6
## Hornet Sportabout 3.440 18.7   8
## Valiant       3.460 18.1   6
```



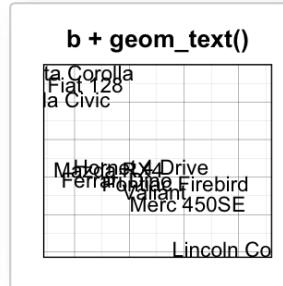
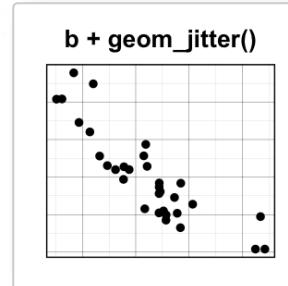
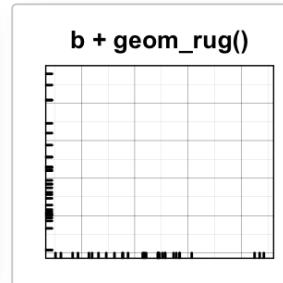
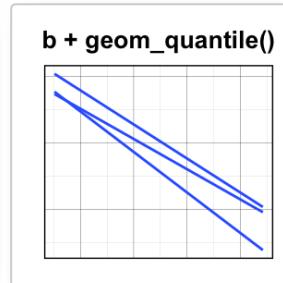
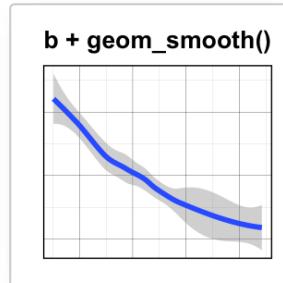
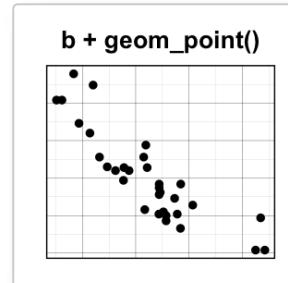
We start by creating a plot, named **b**, that we'll finish in the next section by adding a layer.

```
b <- ggplot(mtcars, aes(x = wt, y = mpg))
```

Possible layers include:

- **geom_point()** for scatter plot
- **geom_smooth()** for adding smoothed line such as regression line
- **geom_quantile()** for adding quantile lines
- **geom_rug()** for adding a marginal rug

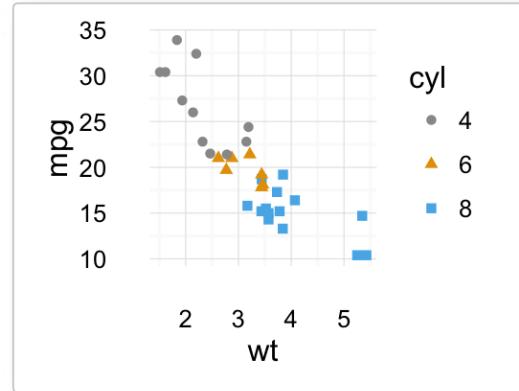
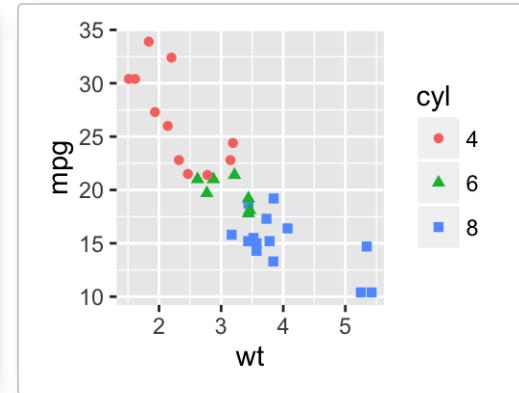
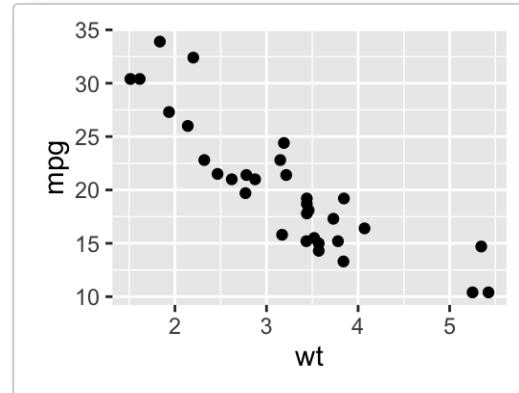
- **geom_jitter()** for avoiding overplotting
- **geom_text()** for adding textual annotations



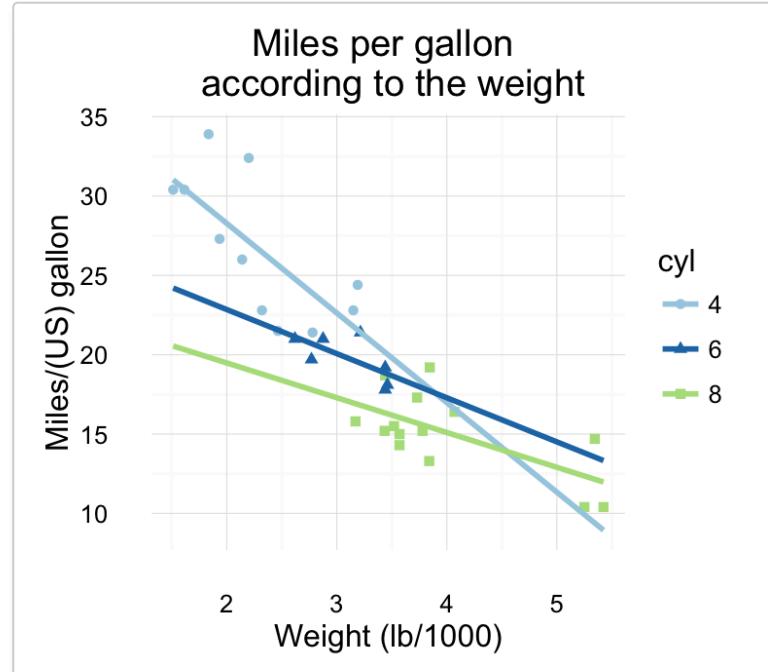
geom_point(): Scatter plot

```
# Basic plot
b + geom_point()

# change the color and the point
# by the levels of cyl variable
b + geom_point(aes(color = cyl, shape = cyl))
# Change color manually
b + geom_point(aes(color = cyl, shape = cyl)) +
  scale_color_manual(values = c("#999999", "#E69F00", "#56B4E9")) +
  theme_minimal()
```



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *shape* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 scatter plot](#).



- key function: `geom_point()`

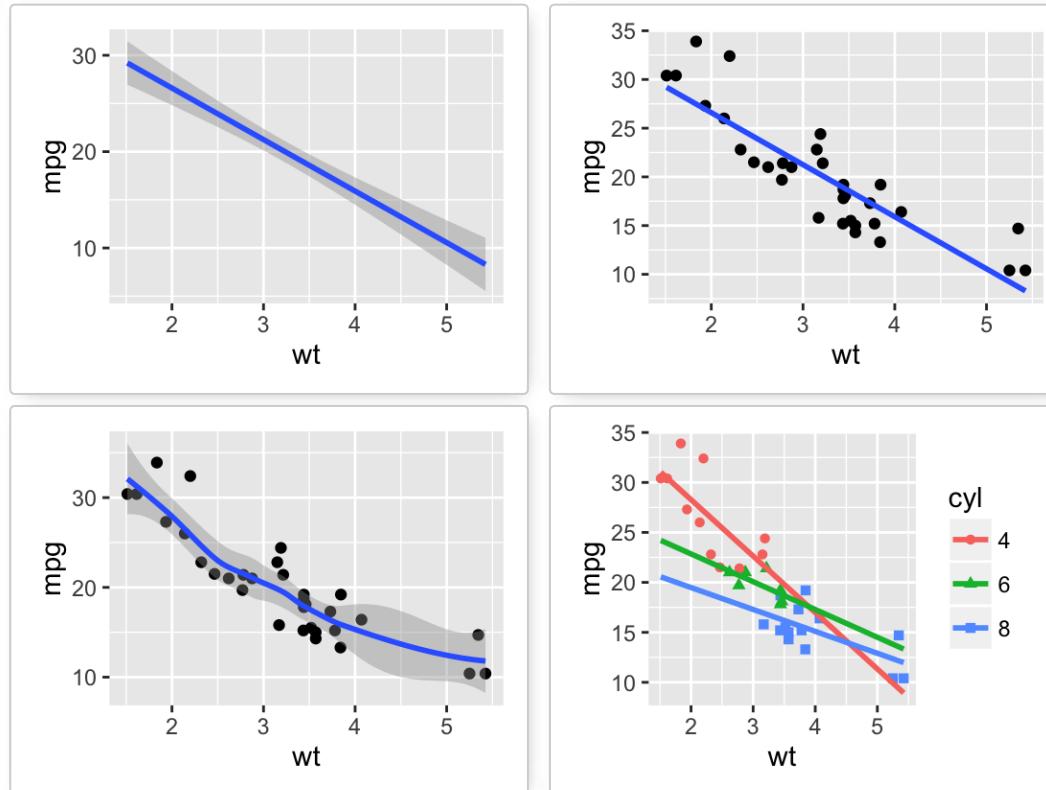
geom_smooth(): Add regression line or smoothed conditional mean

To add a **regression line** on a scatter plot, the function `geom_smooth()` is used in combination with the argument `method = lm`. `lm` stands for **linear model**.

```
# Regression line only
b + geom_smooth(method = lm)

# Point + regression line
# Remove the confidence interval
b + geom_point() +
  geom_smooth(method = lm, se = FALSE)
# loess method: local regression fitting
```

```
b + geom_point() + geom_smooth()  
# Change color and shape by groups (cyl)  
b + geom_point(aes(color=cyl, shape=cyl)) +  
  geom_smooth(aes(color=cyl, shape=cyl),  
              method=lm, se=FALSE, fullrange=TRUE)
```



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: `alpha`, `color`, `fill`, `shape`, `linetype` and `size`. Learn more here: [ggplot2 scatter plot](#)

- **key function:** `geom_smooth()`
- **Alternative function:** `stat_smooth()`

```
b + stat_smooth(method = "lm")
```

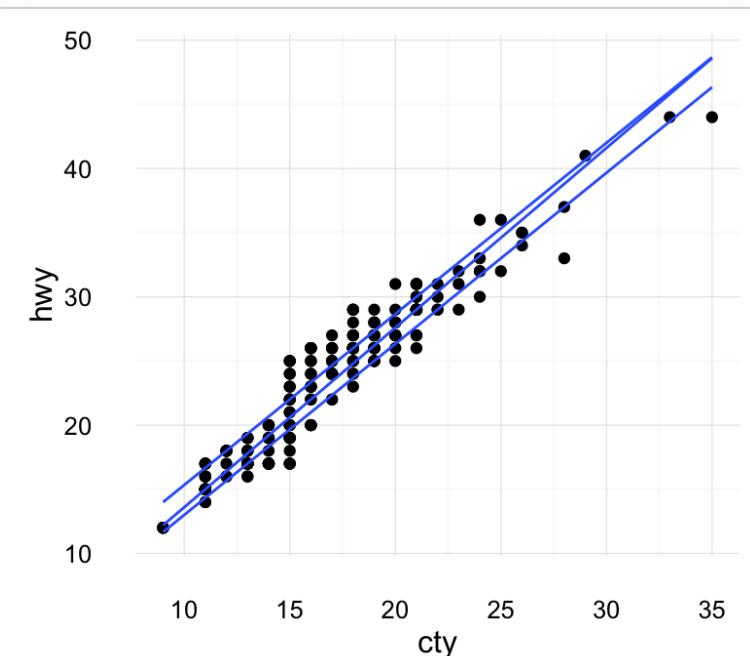
geom_quantile(): Add quantile lines from a quantile regression

Quantile lines can be used as a continuous analogue of a **geom_boxplot()**.

We'll use the **mpg** data set [in **ggplot2**].

The function **geom_quantile()** can be used for adding quantile lines:

```
ggplot(mpg, aes(cty, hwy)) +  
  geom_point() + geom_quantile() +  
  theme_minimal()
```



An alternative to **geom_quantile()** is the function **stat_quantile()**:

```
ggplot(mpg, aes(cty, hwy)) +  
  geom_point() + stat_quantile(quantiles = c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75))
```

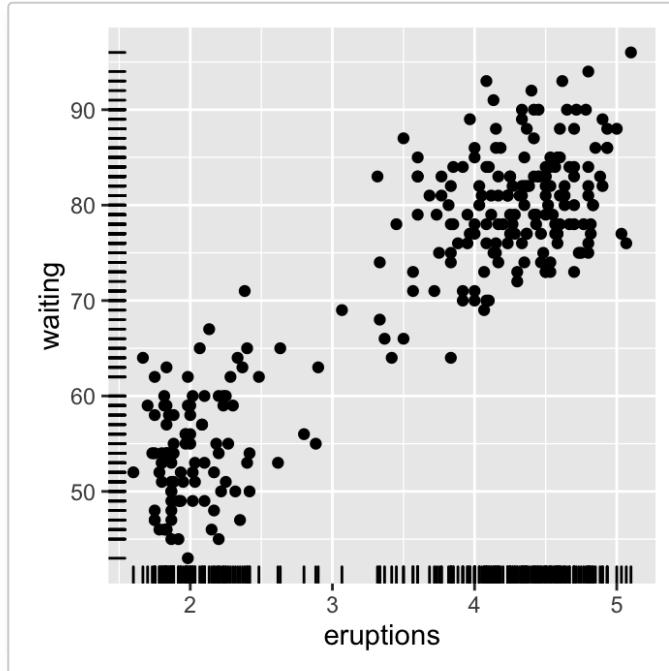
✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, **linetype** and *size*. Learn more here:
[Continuous quantiles](#)

- **Key function:** *geom_quantile()*
- **Alternative function:** *stat_quantile()*

geom_rug(): Add marginal rug to scatter plots

We'll use **faithful** data set.

```
# Add marginal rugs using faithful data  
ggplot(faithful, aes(x=eruptions, y=waiting)) +  
  geom_point() + geom_rug()
```



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: `alpha`, `color`, `linetype` and `size`. Learn more here: [ggplot2 scatter plot](#)

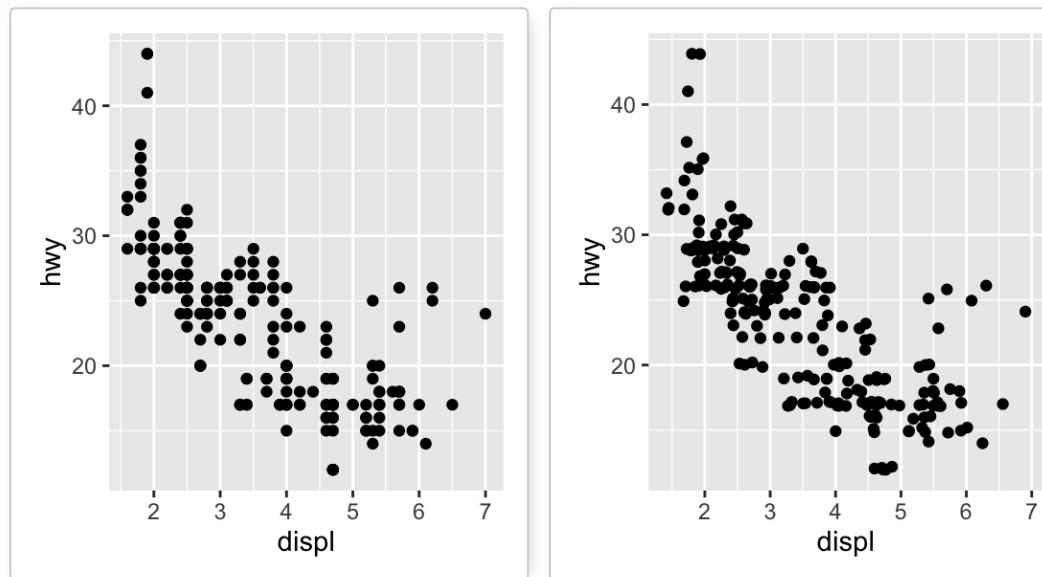
- **key function:** `geom_rug()`

geom_jitter(): Jitter points to reduce overplotting

The function `geom_jitter()` is a convenient default for `geom_point(position = 'jitter')`. The `mpg` data set [in `ggplot2`] is used in the following examples.

```
p <- ggplot(mpg, aes(displ, hwy))
# Default scatter plot
p + geom_point()
# Use jitter to reduce overplotting
```

```
p + geom_jitter(  
  position = position_jitter(width = 0.5, height = 0.5))
```



To adjust the extent of jittering, the function **position_jitter()** with the arguments **width** and **height** are used:

- **width**: degree of jitter in x direction.
- **height**: degree of jitter in y direction.

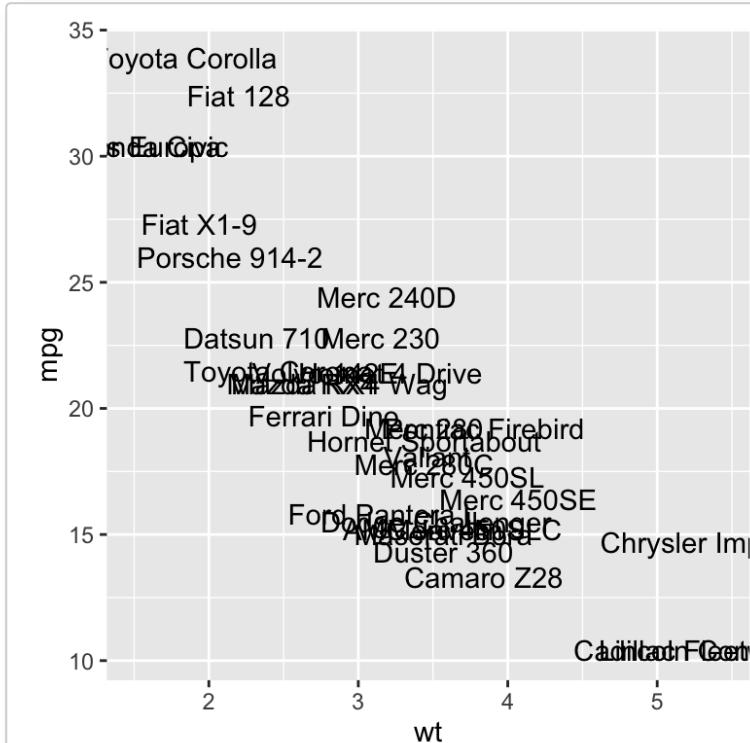
 To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *shape* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 jitter](#)

- **Key functions:** *geom_jitter()*, *position_jitter()*

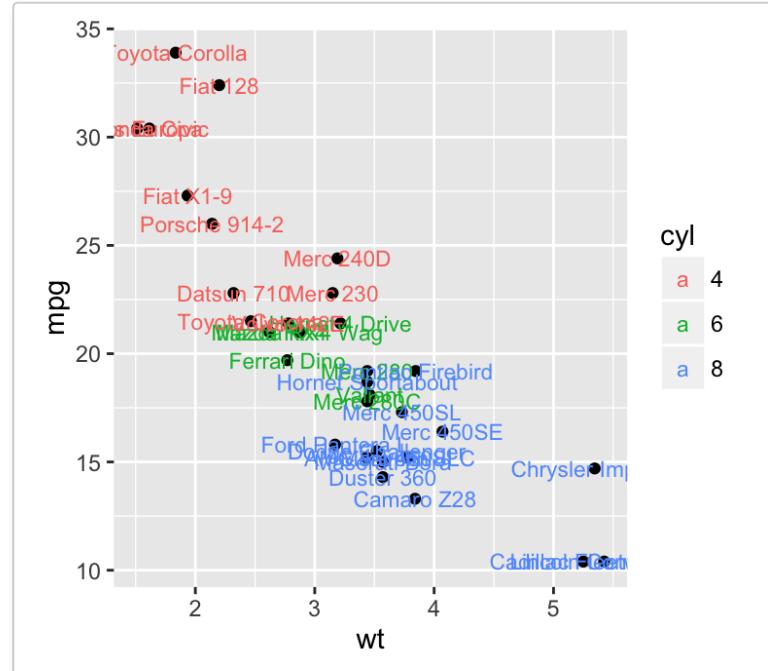
geom_text(): Textual annotations

The argument **label** is used to specify a vector of labels for point annotations.

```
b + geom_text(aes(label = rownames(mtcars)))
```



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *label*, *alpha*, *angle*, *color*, *family*, *fontface*, *hjust*, *lineheight*, *size*, and *vjust*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 add textual annotations](#)



- key function: `geom_text()`, `annotation_custom()`

Two variables: Continuous bivariate distribution

We start by using the **diamonds** data set [in **ggplot2**].

```
data(diamonds)
head(diamonds[, c("carat", "price")])
```

```
##   carat price
## 1  0.23  326
## 2  0.21  326
## 3  0.23  327
## 4  0.29  334
```

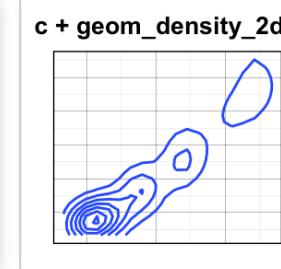
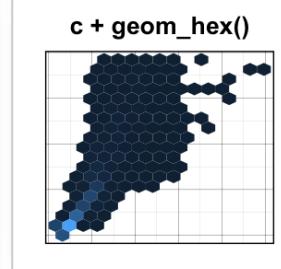
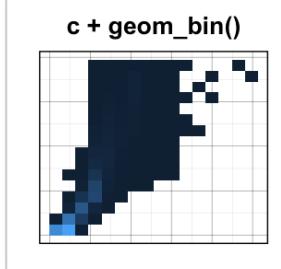
```
## 5 0.31 335  
## 6 0.24 336
```

✓ We start by creating a plot, named **c**, that we'll finish in the next section by adding a layer.

```
c <- ggplot(diamonds, aes(carat, price))
```

Possible layers include:

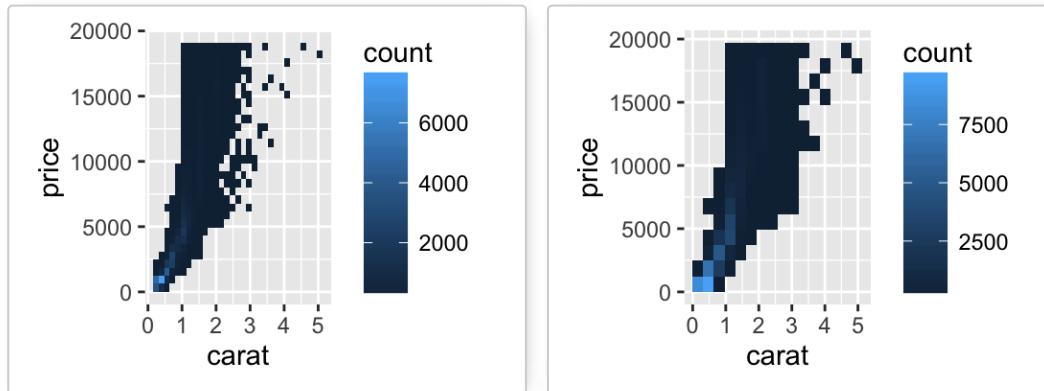
- **geom_bin2d()** for adding a heatmap of **2d bin counts**. Rectangular binning.
- **geom_hex()** for adding **hexagon bining**. The R package **hexbin** is required for this functionality
- **geom_density_2d()** for adding contours from a **2d density** estimate



geom_bin2d(): Add heatmap of 2d bin counts

The function **geom_bin2d()** produces a scatter plot with rectangular bins. The number of observations is counted in each bins and displayed as a heatmap.

```
# Default plot  
c + geom_bin2d()  
# Change the number of bins  
c + geom_bin2d(bins = 15)
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: `xmax`, `xmin`, `ymax`, `ymin`, `alpha`, `color`, `fill`, `linetype` and `size`.
Learn more here: [ggplot2 Scatter plots with rectangular bins](#)

- **Key functions:** `geom_bin2d()`
- **Alternative functions:** `stat_bin_2d()`, `stat_summary_2d()`

```
c + stat_bin_2d()  
c + stat_summary_2d(aes(z = depth))
```

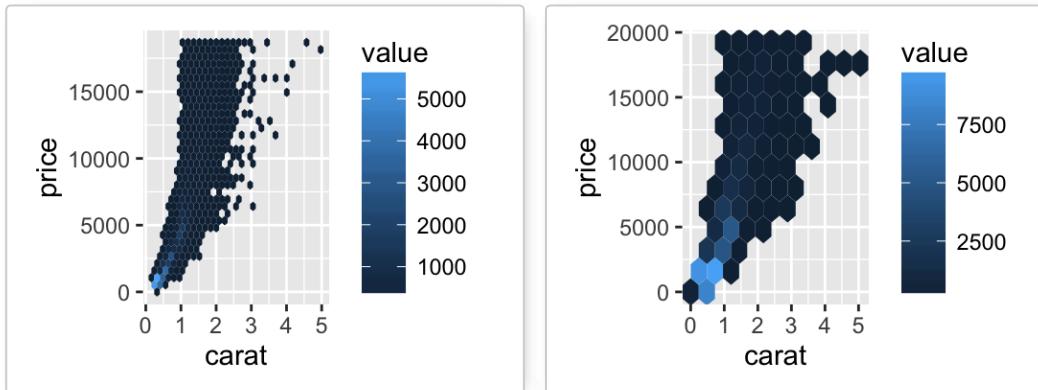
geom_hex(): Add hexagon binning

The function `geom_hex()` produces a scatter plot with hexagon binning. The **hexbin** R package is required for hexagon binning. If you don't have it, use the R code below to install it:

```
install.packages("hexbin")
```

The function **geom_hex()** can be used as follow:

```
require(hexbin)
# Default plot
c + geom_hex()
# Change the number of bins
c + geom_hex(bins = 10)
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 Scatter plots with rectangular bins](#)

- **Key function:** `geom_hex()`
- **Alternative functions:** `stat_bin_hex()`, `stat_summary_hex()`

```
c + stat_bin_hex()
c + stat_summary_hex(aes(z = depth))
```

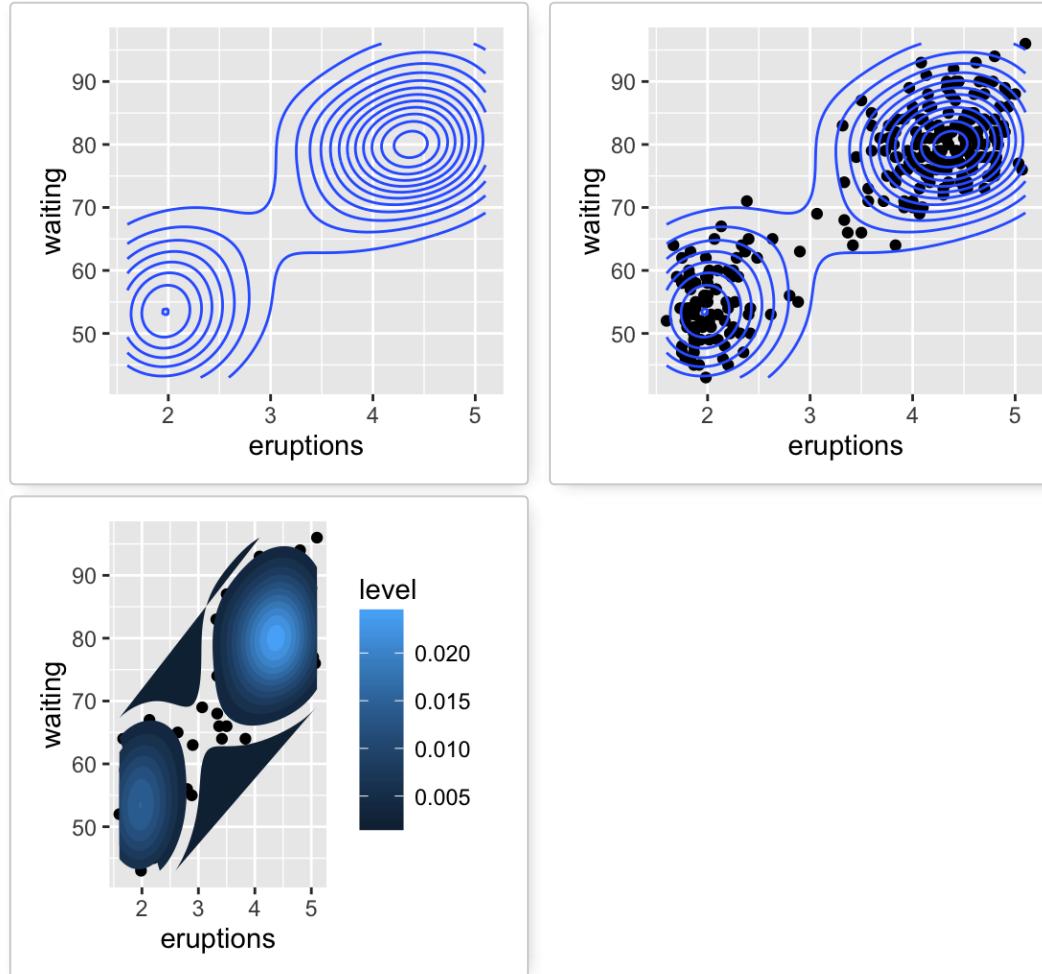
geom_density_2d(): Add contours from a 2d density estimate

The functions **geom_density_2d()** or **stat_density_2d()** can be used to add 2d density estimate to a scatter plot.

faithful data set is used in this section, and we first start by creating a scatter plot (**sp**) as follow:

```
# Scatter plot
sp <- ggplot(faithful, aes(x=eruptions, y=waiting))
```

```
# Default plot
sp + geom_density_2d()
# Add points
sp + geom_point() + geom_density_2d()
# Use stat_density_2d with geom = "polygon"
sp + geom_point() +
  stat_density_2d(aes(fill = ..level..), geom="polygon")
```



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: `alpha`, `color`, `linetype` and `size`. Learn more here: [ggplot2 Scatter plots with the 2d density estimation](#)

- **Key function:** `geom_density_2d()`
- **Alternative functions:** `stat_density_2d()`

```
sp + stat_density_2d()
```

- See also: `stat_contour()`, `geom_contour()`

Two variables: Continuous function

In this section, we'll see how to connect observations by **line**. The **economics** data set [in **ggplot2**] is used.

```
data(economics)
head(economics)
```

```
##           date   pce   pop psavert uempmed unemploy
## 1 1967-07-01 507.4 198712    12.5     4.5    2944
## 2 1967-08-01 510.5 198911    12.5     4.7    2945
## 3 1967-09-01 516.3 199113    11.7     4.6    2958
## 4 1967-10-01 512.9 199311    12.5     4.9    3143
## 5 1967-11-01 518.1 199498    12.5     4.7    3066
## 6 1967-12-01 525.8 199657    12.1     4.8    3018
```



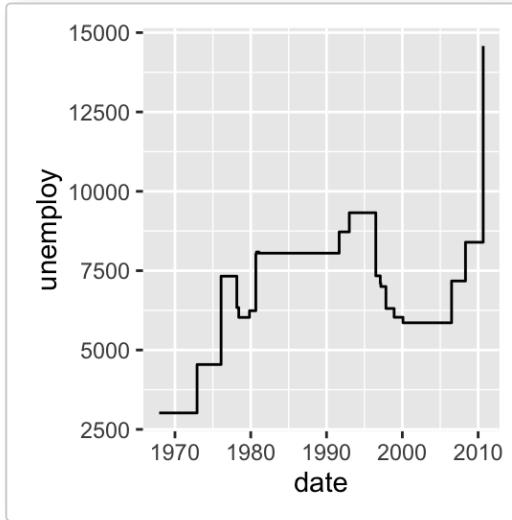
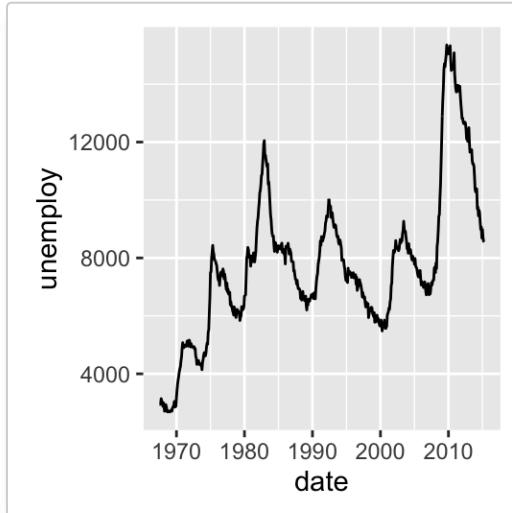
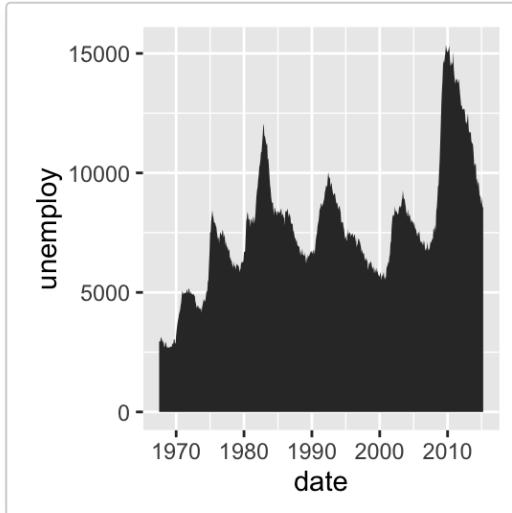
We start by creating a plot, named **d**, that we'll finish in the next section by adding a layer.

```
d <- ggplot(economics, aes(x = date, y = unemploy))
```

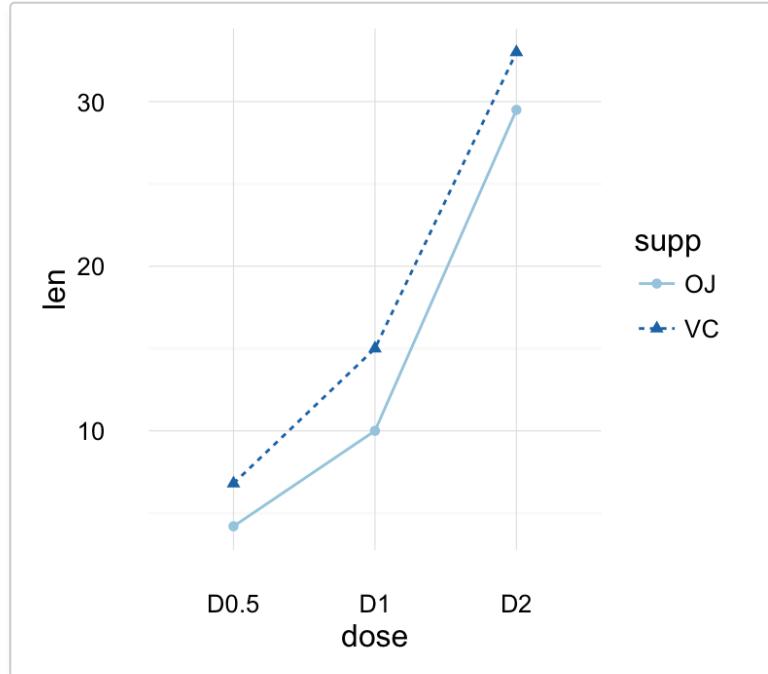
Possible layers include:

- `geom_area()` for area plot
- `geom_line()` for line plot connecting observations, ordered by x
- `geom_step()` for connecting observations by stairs

```
# Area plot
d + geom_area()
# Line plot: connecting observations, ordered by x
d + geom_line()
# Connecting observations by stairs
# a subset of economics data set is used
set.seed(1234)
ss <- economics[sample(1:nrow(economics), 20), ]
ggplot(ss, aes(x = date, y = unemploy)) +
  geom_step()
```



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype*, *size* and *fill* (for *geom_area* only).
Learn more here: [ggplot2 line plot](#).



- Key functions: `geom_area()`, `geom_line()`, `geom_step()`

Two variables: Discrete X, Continuous Y

The **ToothGrowth** data set we'll be used to plot the continuous variable **len** (for tooth length) by the discrete variable **dose**. The following R code converts the variable **dose** from a numeric to a discrete factor variable.

```
data("ToothGrowth")
ToothGrowth$dose <- as.factor(ToothGrowth$dose)
head(ToothGrowth)
```

```
##   len supp dose
## 1 4.2  VC  0.5
## 2 11.5 VC  0.5
## 3  7.3 VC  0.5
```

```
## 4 5.8 VC 0.5  
## 5 6.4 VC 0.5  
## 6 10.0 VC 0.5
```

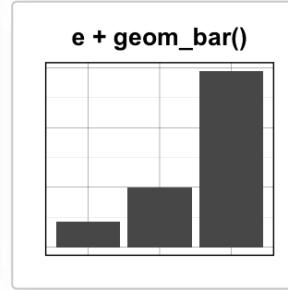
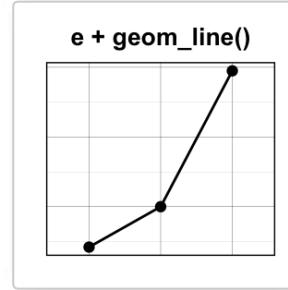
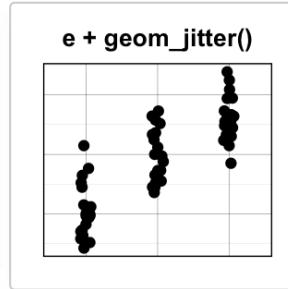
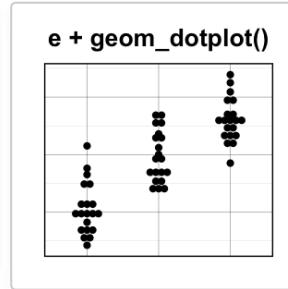
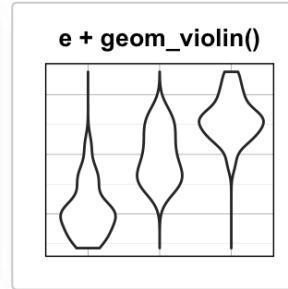
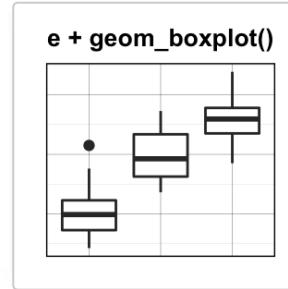


We start by creating a plot, named **e**, that we'll finish in the next section by adding a layer.

```
e <- ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x = dose, y = len))
```

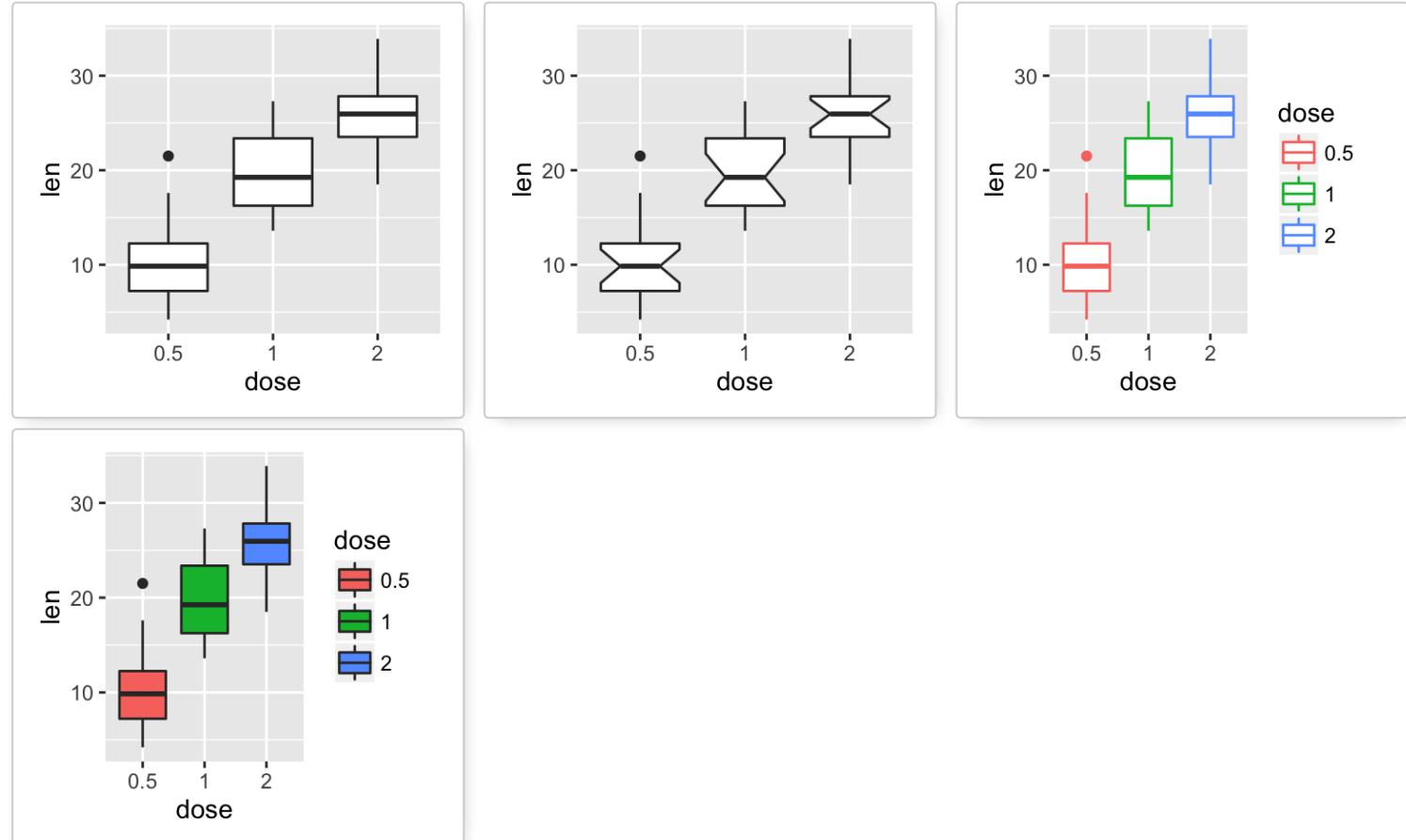
Possible layers include:

- **geom_boxplot()** for box plot
- **geom_violin()** for violin plot
- **geom_dotplot()** for dot plot
- **geom_jitter()** for stripchart
- **geom_line()** for line plot
- **geom_bar()** for bar plot

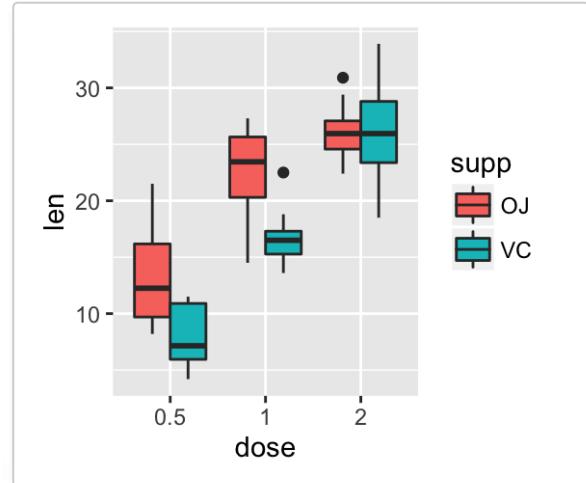


geom_boxplot(): Box and whiskers plot

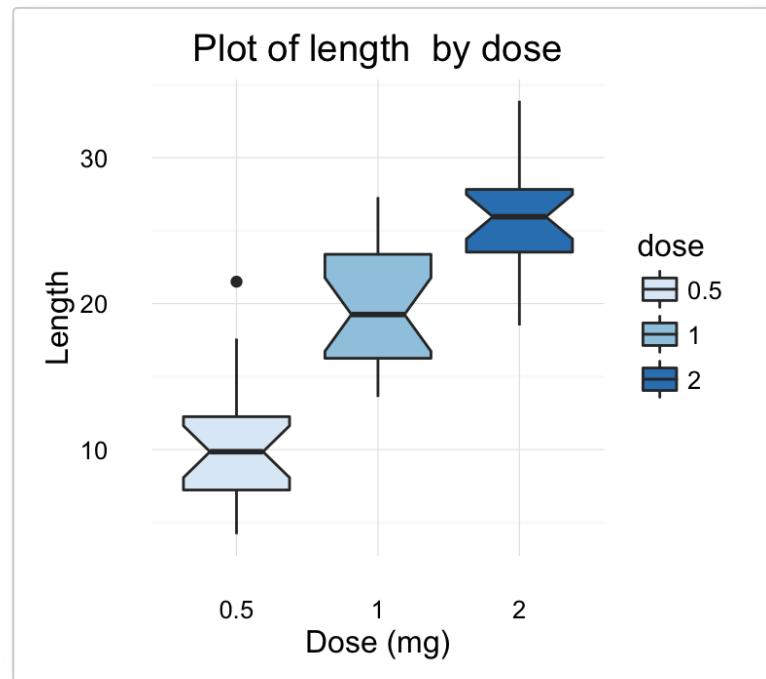
```
# Default plot
e + geom_boxplot()
# Notched box plot
e + geom_boxplot(notch = TRUE)
# Color by group (dose)
e + geom_boxplot(aes(color = dose))
# Change fill color by group (dose)
e + geom_boxplot(aes(fill = dose))
```



```
# Box plot with multiple groups
ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x=dose, y=len, fill=supp)) +
  geom_boxplot()
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype*, *shape*, *size* and *fill*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 box plot](#).



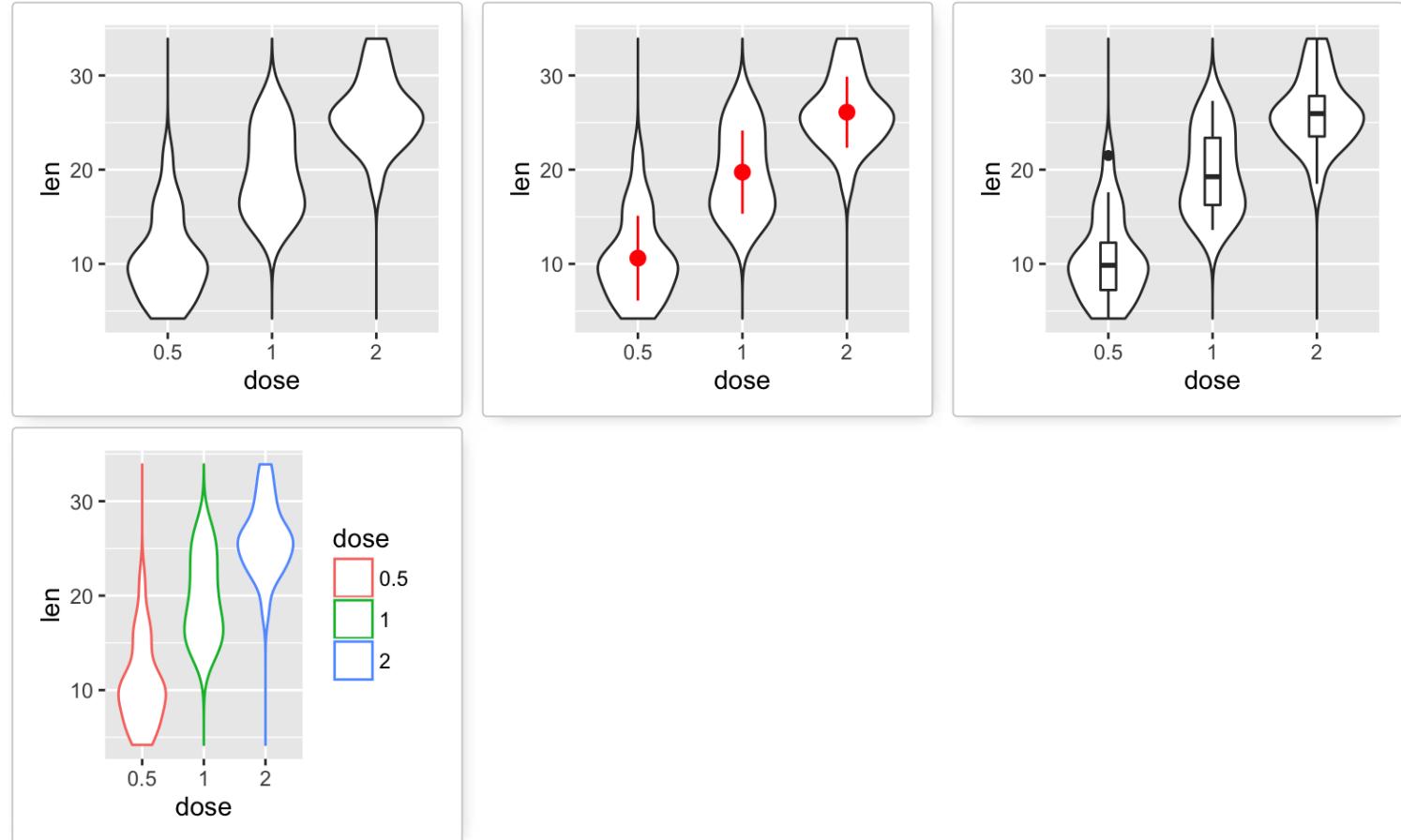
- **Key function:** `geom_boxplot()`
- **Alternative functions:** `stat_boxplot()`

```
e + stat_boxplot(coef = 1.5)
```

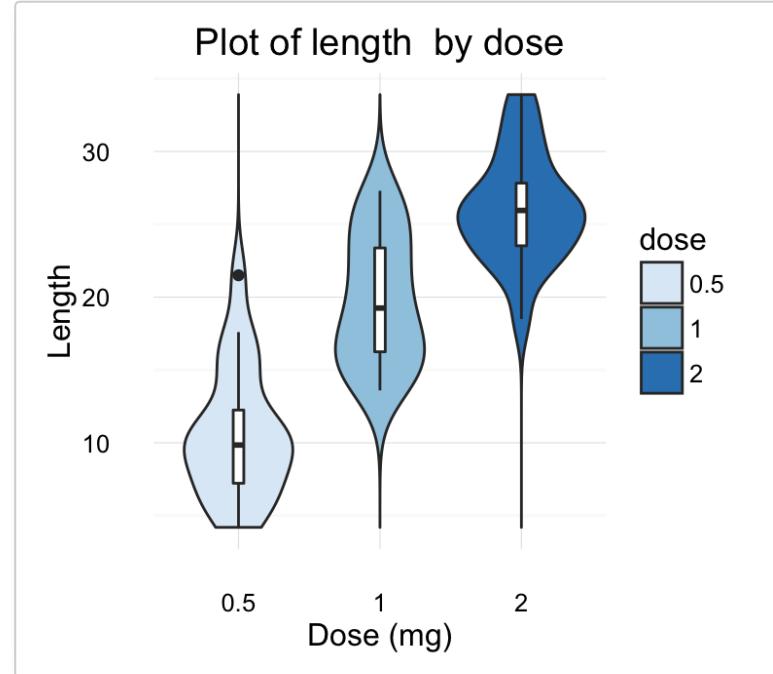
geom_violin(): Violin plot

Violin plots are similar to box plots, except that they also show the kernel probability density of the data at different values.

```
# Default plot
e + geom_violin(trim = FALSE)
# violin plot with mean points (+/- SD)
e + geom_violin(trim = FALSE) +
  stat_summary(fun.data="mean_sdl", fun.args = list(mult=1),
              geom="pointrange", color = "red")
# Combine with box plot
e + geom_violin(trim = FALSE) +
  geom_boxplot(width = 0.2)
# Color by group (dose)
e + geom_violin(aes(color = dose), trim = FALSE)
```



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype*, *size* and *fill*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 violin plot](#).

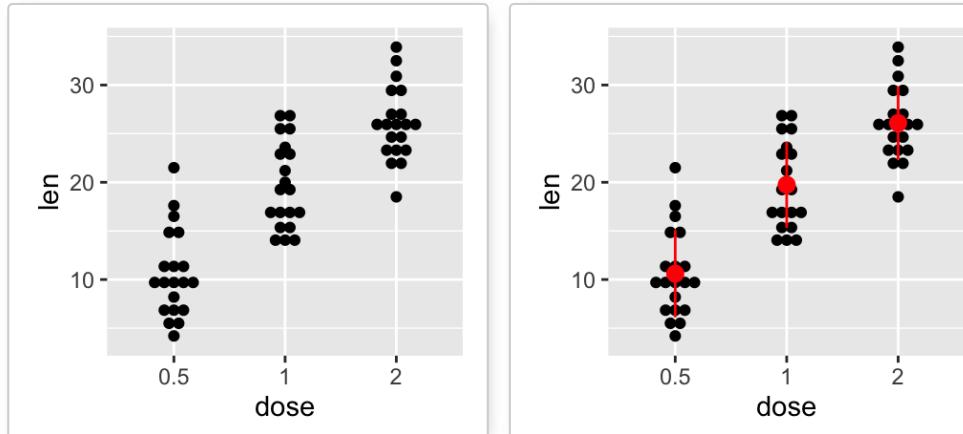


- **Key functions:** `geom_violin()`
- **Alternative functions:** `stat_ydensity()`

```
e + stat_ydensity(trim = FALSE)
```

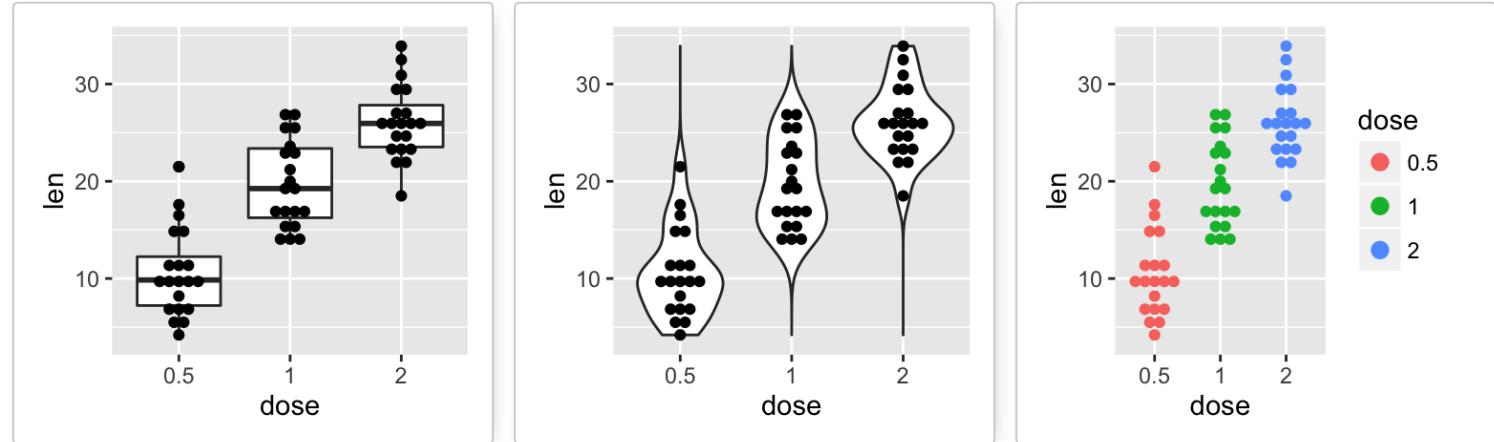
geom_dotplot(): Dot plot

```
# Default plot
e + geom_dotplot(binaxis = "y", stackdir = "center")
# Dot plot with mean points (+/- SD)
e + geom_dotplot(binaxis = "y", stackdir = "center") +
  stat_summary(fun.data="mean_sdl", fun.args = list(mult=1),
              geom="pointrange", color = "red")
```

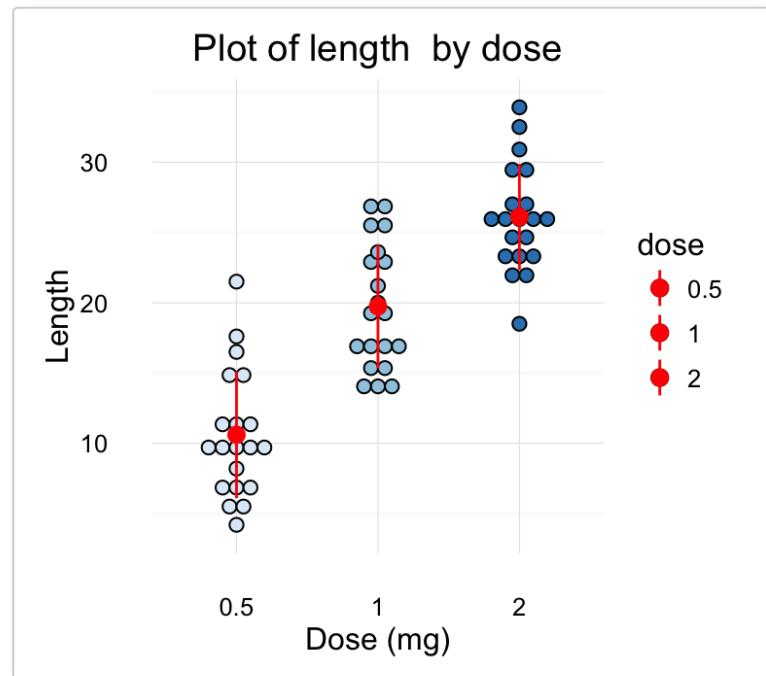


```
# Combine with box plot
e + geom_boxplot() +
  geom_dotplot(binaxis = "y", stackdir = "center")
# Add violin plot
e + geom_violin(trim = FALSE) +
  geom_dotplot(binaxis='y', stackdir='center')

# Color and fill by group (dose)
e + geom_dotplot(aes(color = dose, fill = dose),
                 binaxis = "y", stackdir = "center")
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *dotsize* and *fill*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 dot plot](#).

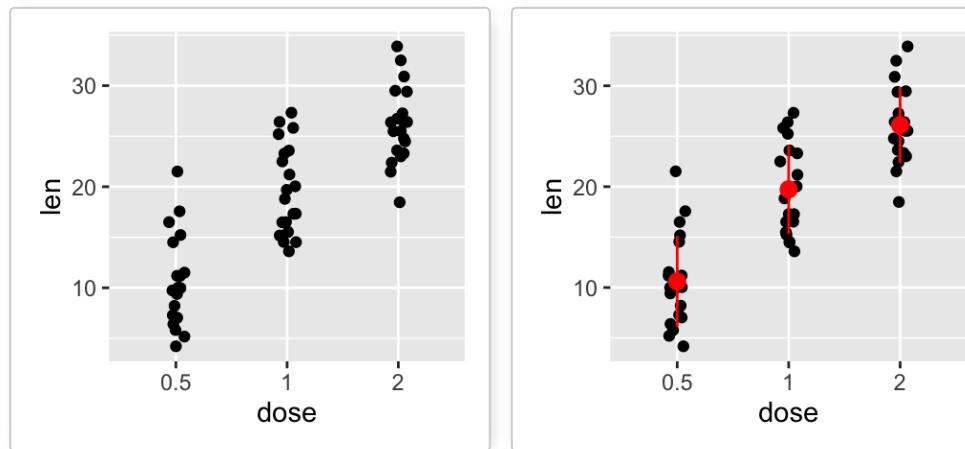


- **Key functions:** `geom_dotplot()`, `stat_summary()`

geom_jitter(): Strip charts

Stripcharts are also known as one dimensional scatter plots. These plots are suitable compared to box plots when sample sizes are small.

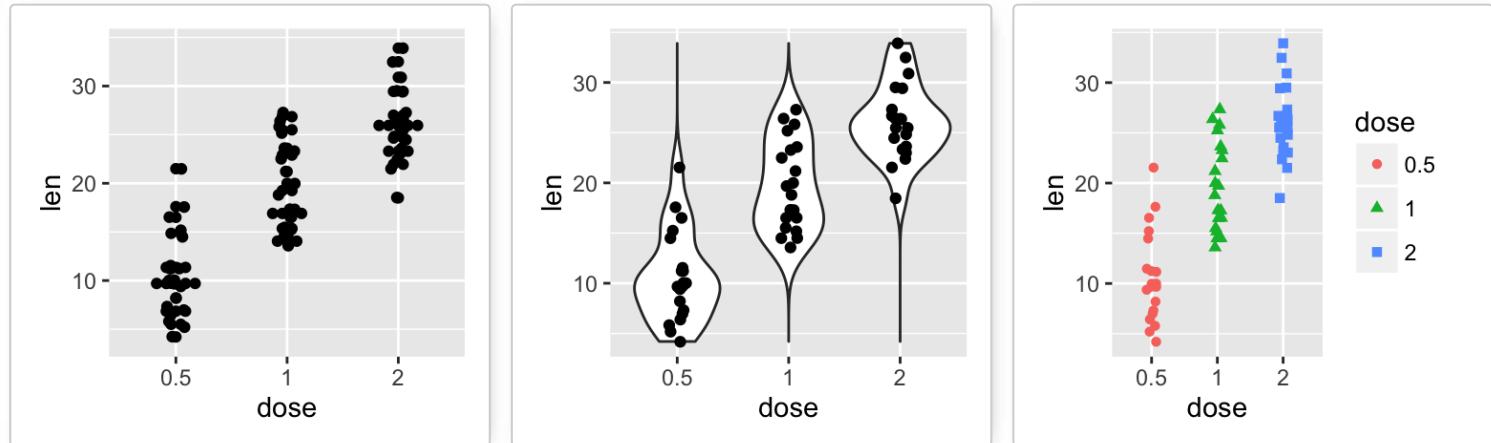
```
# Default plot
e + geom_jitter(position=position_jitter(0.2))
# Strip charts with mean points (+/- SD)
e + geom_jitter(position=position_jitter(0.2)) +
  stat_summary(fun.data="mean_sdl", fun.args = list(mult=1),
              geom="pointrange", color = "red")
```



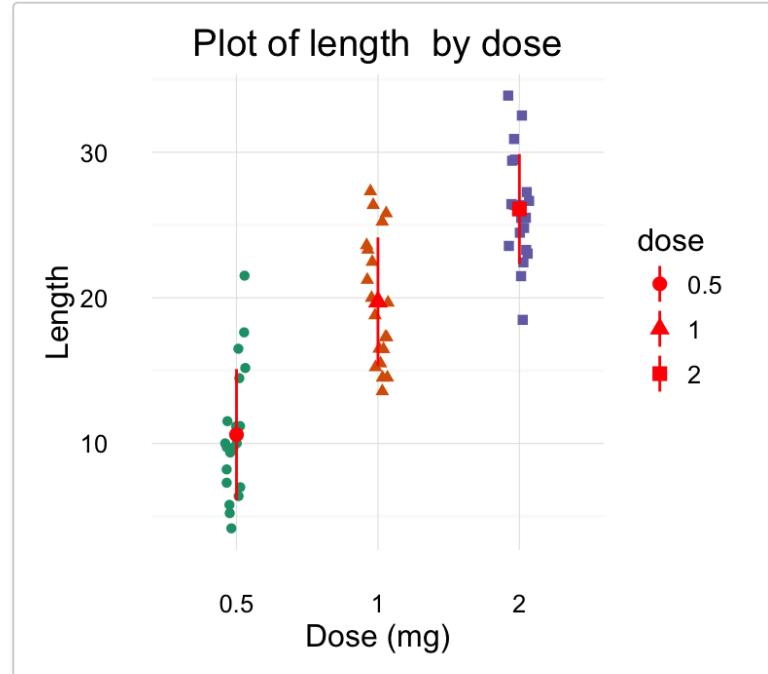
```
# Combine with box plot
e + geom_jitter(position=position_jitter(0.2)) +
  geom_dotplot(binaxis = "y", stackdir = "center")
# Add violin plot
e + geom_violin(trim = FALSE) +
```

```
geom_jitter(position=position_jitter(0.2))

# Change color and shape by group (dose)
e + geom_jitter(aes(color = dose, shape = dose),
                 position=position_jitter(0.2))
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *shape*, *size* and *fill*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 strip charts](#).



- Key functions: `geom_jitter()`, `stat_summary()`

geom_line(): Line plot

Data derived from *ToothGrowth* data sets are used.

```
df <- data.frame(supp=rep(c("VC", "OJ"), each=3),
                  dose=rep(c("D0.5", "D1", "D2"), 2),
                  len=c(6.8, 15, 33, 4.2, 10, 29.5))
head(df)
```

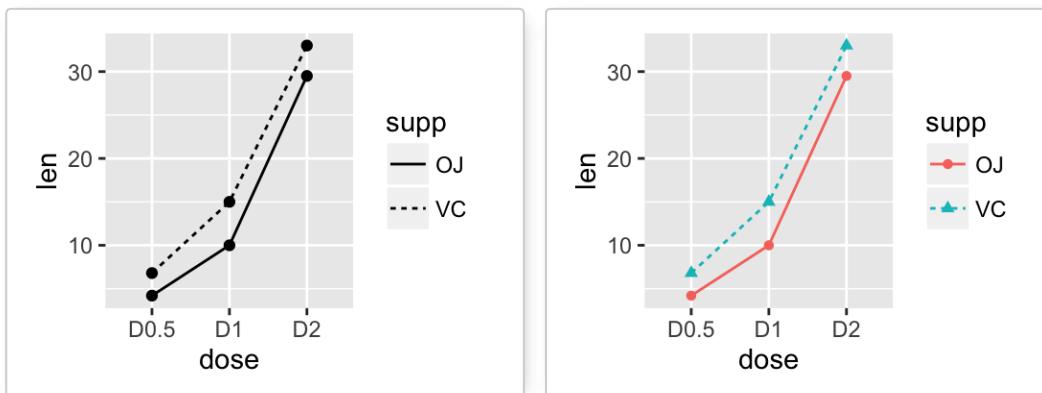
```
##   supp dose  len
## 1  VC  D0.5  6.8
## 2  VC    D1 15.0
## 3  VC    D2 33.0
```

```
## 4 OJ D0.5 4.2
## 5 OJ D1 10.0
## 6 OJ D2 29.5
```

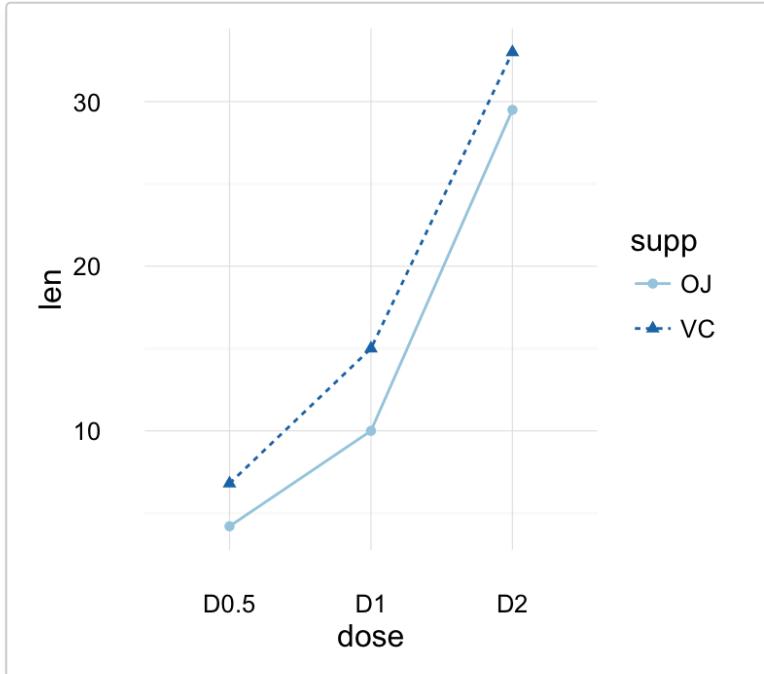
In the graphs below, line types and point shapes are controlled automatically by the levels of the variable `supp`:

```
# Change line types by groups (supp)
ggplot(df, aes(x=dose, y=len, group=supp)) +
  geom_line(aes(linetype=supp))+ 
  geom_point()

# Change line types, point shapes and colors
ggplot(df, aes(x=dose, y=len, group=supp)) +
  geom_line(aes(linetype=supp, color = supp))+ 
  geom_point(aes(shape=supp, color = supp))
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: `alpha`, `color`, `linetype` and `size`. Learn more here: [ggplot2 line plot](#).



- Key functions: `geom_line()`, `geom_step()`

geom_bar(): Bar plot

Data derived from *ToothGrowth* data sets are used.

```
df <- data.frame(dose=c("D0.5", "D1", "D2"),
                  len=c(4.2, 10, 29.5))
head(df)
```

```
##   dose  len
## 1 D0.5  4.2
## 2   D1 10.0
## 3   D2 29.5
```

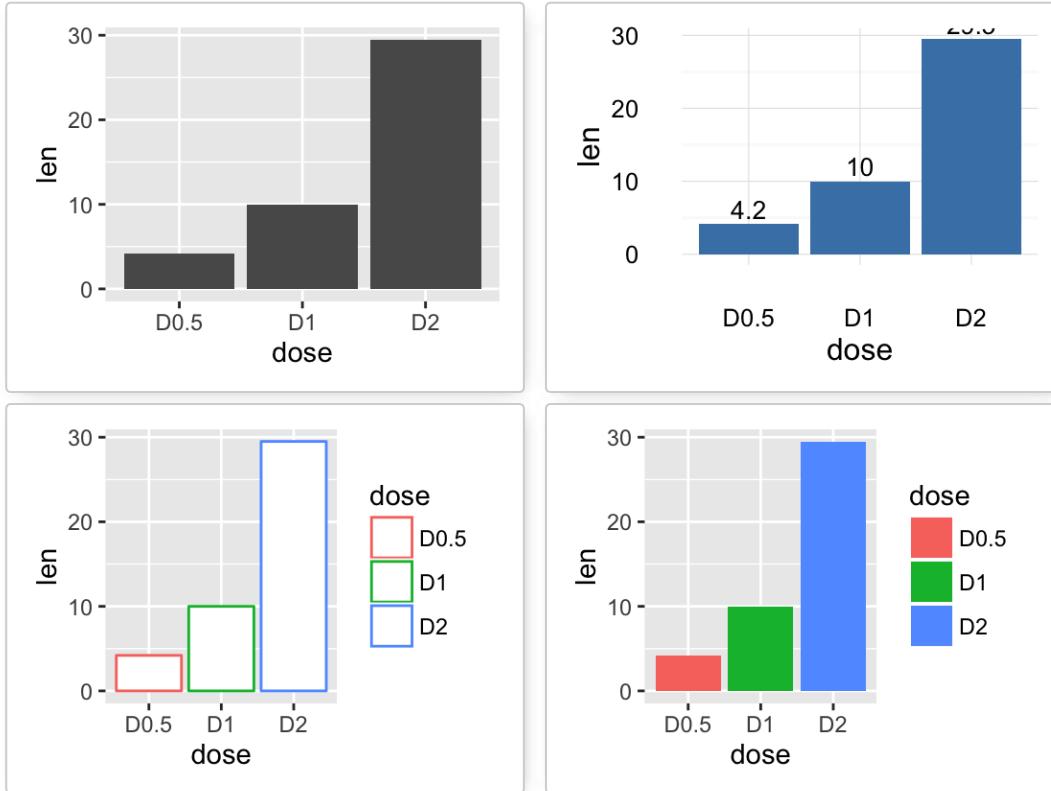
```
df2 <- data.frame(supp=rep(c("VC", "OJ"), each=3),
                   dose=rep(c("D0.5", "D1", "D2"), 2),
                   len=c(6.8, 15, 33, 4.2, 10, 29.5))
head(df2)
```

```
##   supp dose  len
## 1  VC  D0.5  6.8
## 2  VC    D1 15.0
## 3  VC    D2 33.0
## 4  OJ  D0.5  4.2
## 5  OJ    D1 10.0
## 6  OJ    D2 29.5
```

We start by creating a simple **bar plot** (named **f**) using the *df* data set:

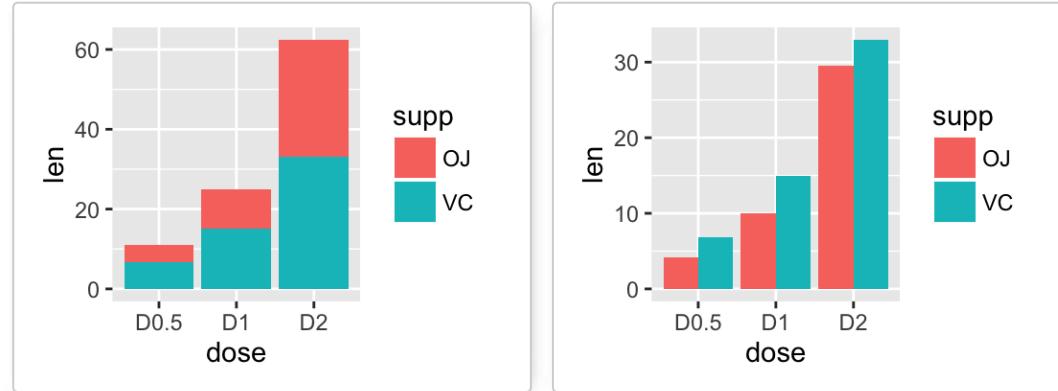
```
f <- ggplot(df, aes(x = dose, y = len))
```

```
# Basic bar plot
f + geom_bar(stat = "identity")
# Change fill color and add labels
f + geom_bar(stat="identity", fill="steelblue")+
  geom_text(aes(label=len), vjust=-0.3, size=3.5)+
  theme_minimal()
# Change bar plot line colors by groups
f + geom_bar(aes(color = dose),
            stat="identity", fill="white")
# Change bar plot fill colors by groups
f + geom_bar(aes(fill = dose), stat="identity")
```

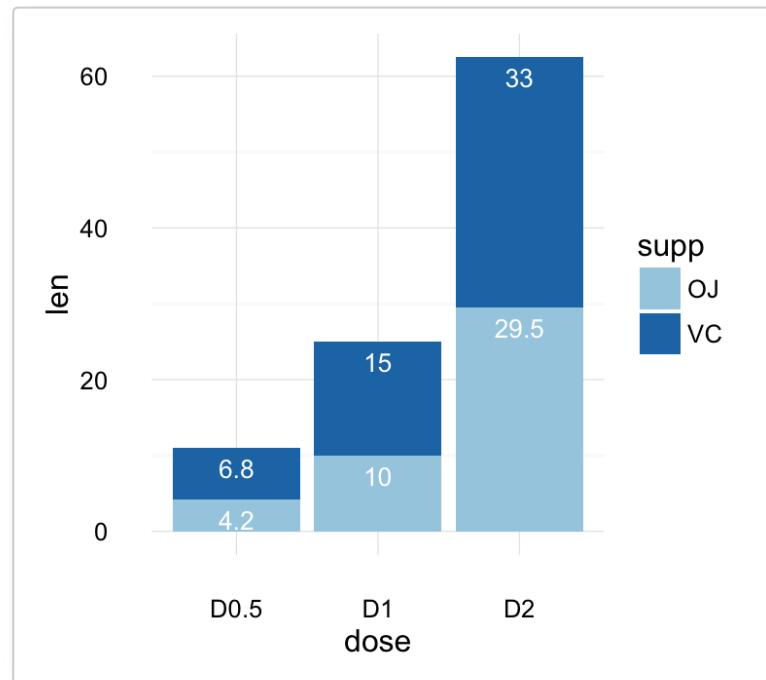


Bar plot with multiple groups:

```
g <- ggplot(data=df2, aes(x=dose, y=len, fill=supp))
# Stacked bar plot
g + geom_bar(stat = "identity")
# Use position=position_dodge()
g + geom_bar(stat="identity", position=position_dodge())
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 bar plot](#).



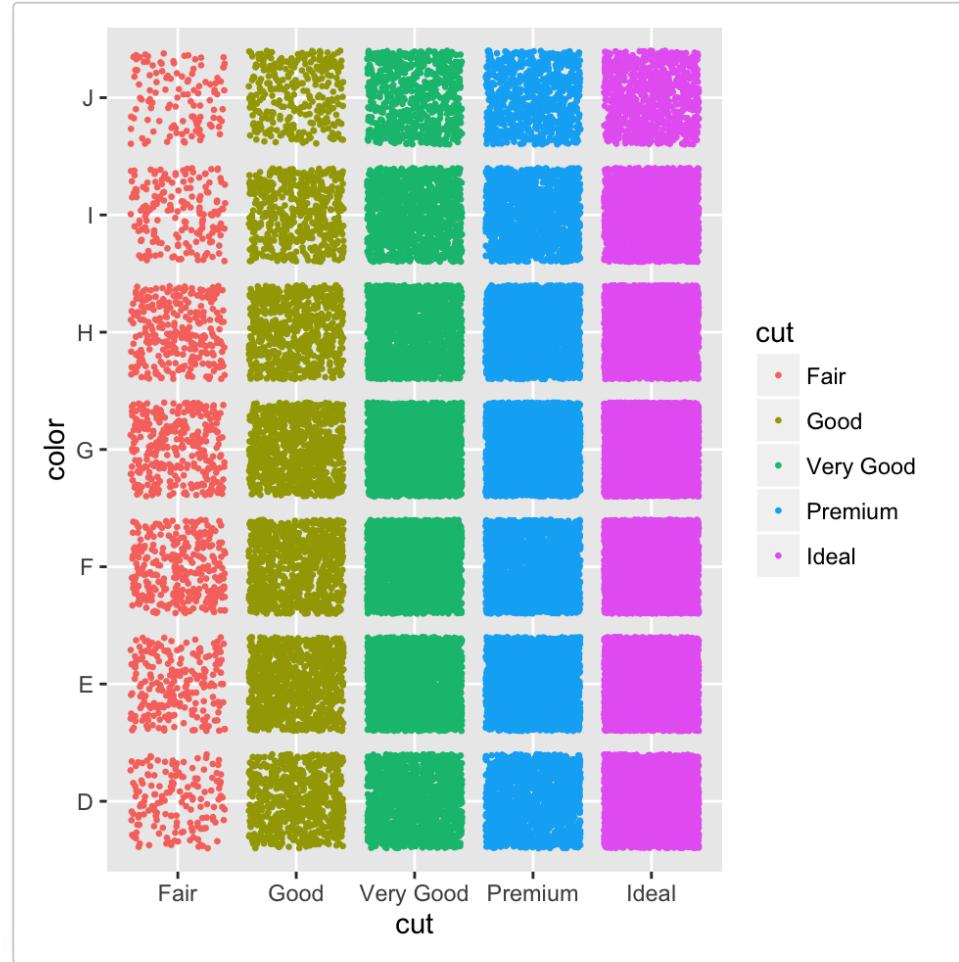
- **Key function:** `geom_bar()`
- **Alternative function:** `stat_identity()`

```
g + stat_identity(geom = "bar")
g + stat_identity(geom = "bar", position = "dodge")
```

Two variables: Discrete X, Discrete Y

The **diamonds** data set [in **ggplot2**] we'll be used to plot the discrete variable **color** (for diamond colors) by the discrete variable **cut** (for diamond cut types). The plot is created using the function **geom_jitter()**.

```
ggplot(diamonds, aes(cut, color)) +
  geom_jitter(aes(color = cut), size = 0.5)
```



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *shape* and *size*.

- **Key function:** `geom_jitter()`

Two variables: Visualizing error

The **ToothGrowth** data set we'll be used. We start by creating a data set named **df** which holds **ToothGrowth** data.

```
# ToothGrowth data set
df <- ToothGrowth
df$dose <- as.factor(df$dose)
head(df)
```

```
##   len supp dose
## 1 4.2  VC  0.5
## 2 11.5 VC  0.5
## 3 7.3  VC  0.5
## 4 5.8  VC  0.5
## 5 6.4  VC  0.5
## 6 10.0 VC  0.5
```

The helper function below (**data_summary()**) will be used to calculate the mean and the standard deviation (used as error), for the variable of interest, in each group. The **plyr** package is required.

```
# Calculate the mean and the SD in each group
#####
# data : a data frame
# varname : the name of the variable to be summarized
# grps : column names to be used as grouping variables
data_summary <- function(data, varname, grps){
  require(plyr)
  summary_func <- function(x, col){
    c(mean = mean(x[[col]], na.rm=TRUE),
      sd = sd(x[[col]], na.rm=TRUE))
  }
  data_sum<-ddply(data, grps, .fun=summary_func, varname)
  data_sum <- rename(data_sum, c("mean" = varname))
  return(data_sum)
}
```

Using the function **data_summary()**, the following R code creates a data set named **df2** which holds the mean and the SD of tooth length (*len*) by groups (*dose*).

```
df2 <- data_summary(df, varname="len", grps= "dose")
# Convert dose to a factor variable
df2$dose=as.factor(df2$dose)
head(df2)
```

```
##   dose     len      sd
## 1  0.5 10.605 4.499763
## 2    1 19.735 4.415436
## 3    2 26.100 3.774150
```

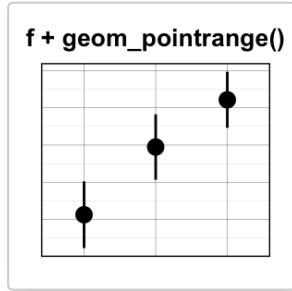
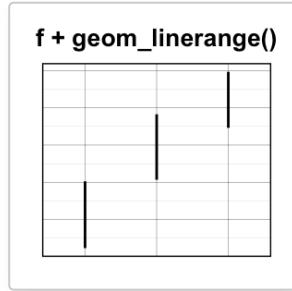
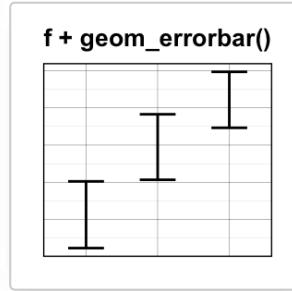
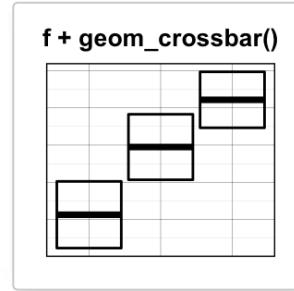


We start by creating a plot, named **f**, that we'll finish in the next section by adding a layer.

```
f <- ggplot(df2, aes(x = dose, y = len,
                      ymin = len-sd, ymax = len+sd))
```

Possible layers include:

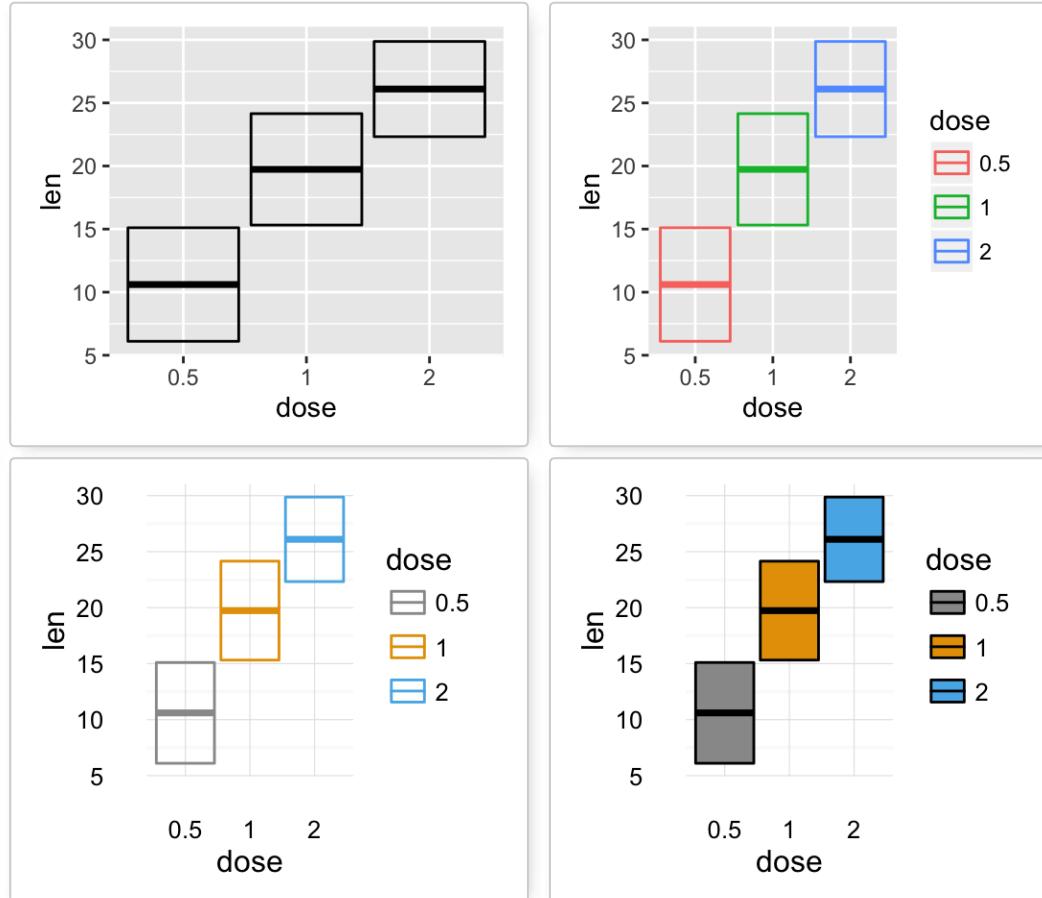
- **geom_crossbar()** for hollow bar with middle indicated by horizontal line
- **geom_errorbar()** for error bars
- **geom_errorbarh()** for horizontal error bars
- **geom_linerange()** for drawing an interval represented by a vertical line
- **geom_pointrange()** for creating an interval represented by a vertical line, with a point in the middle.



geom_crossbar(): Hollow bar with middle indicated by horizontal line

We'll use the data set named **df2**, which holds the mean and the SD of tooth length (*len*) by groups (*dose*).

```
# Default plot
f + geom_crossbar()
# color by groups
f + geom_crossbar(aes(color = dose))
# Change color manually
f + geom_crossbar(aes(color = dose)) +
  scale_color_manual(values = c("#999999", "#E69F00", "#56B4E9"))+
  theme_minimal()
# fill by groups and change color manually
f + geom_crossbar(aes(fill = dose)) +
  scale_fill_manual(values = c("#999999", "#E69F00", "#56B4E9"))+
  theme_minimal()
```



Cross bar with multiple groups: Using the function **data_summary()**, we start by creating a data set named **df3** which holds the mean and the SD of tooth length (*len*) by 2 groups (*supp* and *dose*).

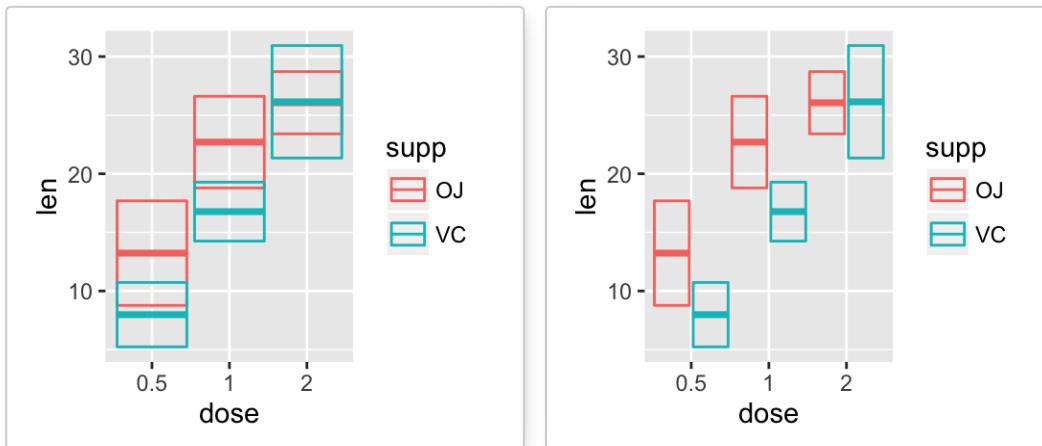
```
df3 <- data_summary(df, varname="len", grps= c("supp", "dose"))
head(df3)
```

```
##   supp dose   len      sd
## 1   OJ  0.5 13.23 4.459709
## 2   OJ    1 22.70 3.910953
## 3   OJ    2 26.06 2.655058
```

```
## 4    VC  0.5  7.98 2.746634
## 5    VC    1 16.77 2.515309
## 6    VC    2 26.14 4.797731
```

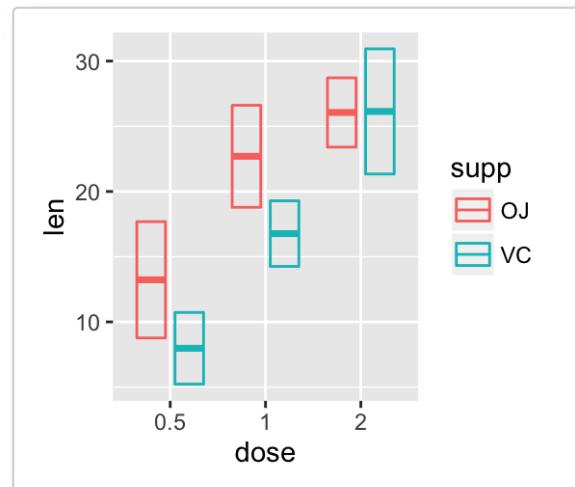
The data set **df3** is used to create **cross bars with multiple groups**. For this end, the variable **len** is plotted by **dose** and the color is changed by the levels of the factor **supp**.

```
f <- ggplot(df3, aes(x = dose, y = len,
                      ymin = len-sd, ymax = len+sd))
# Default plot
f + geom_crossbar(aes(color = supp))
# Use position_dodge() to avoid overlap
f + geom_crossbar(aes(color = supp),
                  position = position_dodge(1))
```



A simple alternative to **geom_crossbar()** is to use the function **stat_summary()** as follow. In this case, the mean and the SD can be computed automatically.

```
f <- ggplot(df, aes(x = dose, y = len, color = supp))
# Use geom_crossbar()
f + stat_summary(fun.data="mean_sdl", fun.args = list(mult=1),
                 geom="crossbar", width = 0.6,
                 position = position_dodge(0.8))
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 error bars](#).

- **Key functions:** `geom_crossbar()`, `stat_summary()`

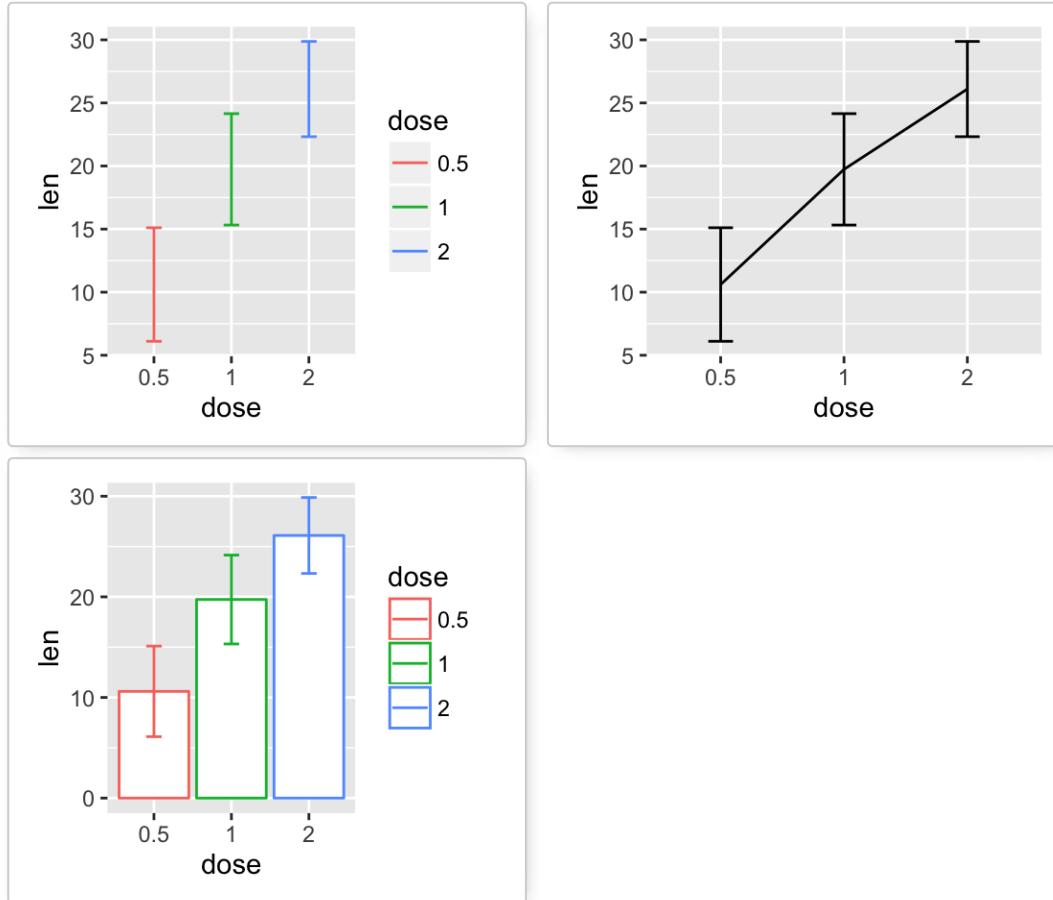
geom_errorbar(): Error bars

We'll use the data set named **df2**, which holds the mean and the SD of tooth length (*len*) by groups (*dose*).

We start by creating a plot, named **f**, that we'll finish next by adding a layer.

```
f <- ggplot(df2, aes(x = dose, y = len,
                      ymin = len-sd, ymax = len+sd))
```

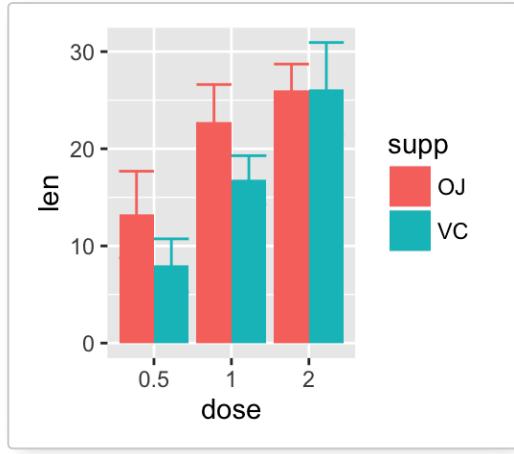
```
# Error bars colored by groups
f + geom_errorbar(aes(color = dose), width = 0.2)
# Combine with line plot
f + geom_line(aes(group = 1)) +
  geom_errorbar(width = 0.2)
# Combine with bar plot, color by groups
f + geom_bar(aes(color = dose), stat = "identity", fill ="white") +
  geom_errorbar(aes(color = dose), width = 0.2)
```



Error bars with multiple groups:

The data set **df3** is used to create **cross bars with multiple groups**. For this end, the variable **len** is plotted by **dose** and the color is changed by the levels of the factor **supp**.

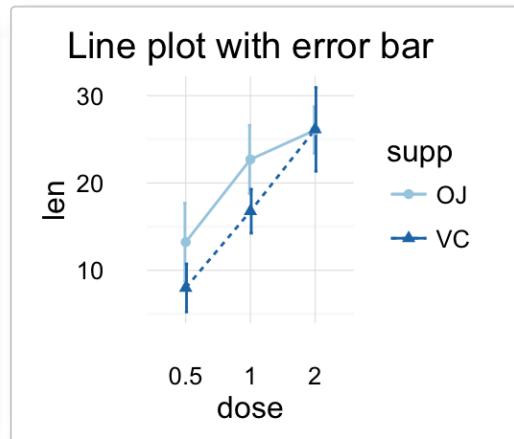
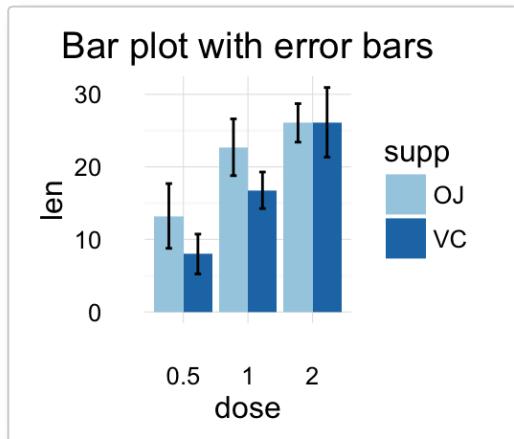
```
f <- ggplot(df3, aes(x = dose, y = len,
                      ymin = len-sd, ymax = len+sd))
# Default plot
f + geom_bar(aes(fill = supp), stat = "identity",
             position = "dodge") +
  geom_errorbar(aes(color = supp), position = "dodge")
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype*, *size* and *width*.

Learn more here:

- [ggplot2 error bars](#)
- [Bar plot with error bars](#)
- [Line plot with error bars](#)



- **Key functions:** `geom_errorbar()`, `stat_summary()`

geom_errorbar(): Horizontal error bars

We'll use the data set named `df2`, which holds the mean and the SD of tooth length (`len`) by groups (`dose`):

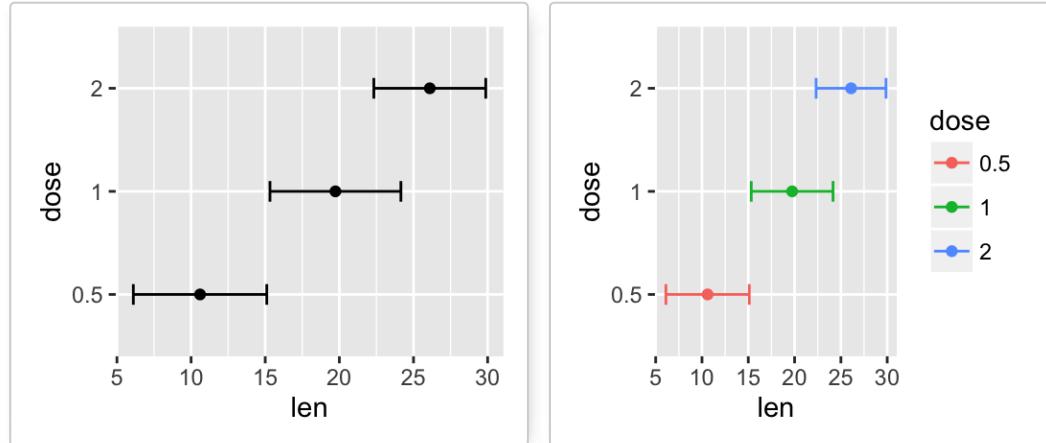
```
df2 <- data_summary(ToothGrowth, varname="len", grps = "dose")
head(df2)
```

```
##   dose     len      sd
## 1  0.5 10.605 4.499763
## 2    1 19.735 4.415436
## 3    2 26.100 3.774150
```

We start by creating a plot, named `f`, that we'll finish next by adding a layer.

```
f <- ggplot(df2, aes(x = len, y = dose ,
                      xmin=len-sd, xmax=len+sd))
```

The arguments `xmin` and `xmax` are used for horizontal error bars.



To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype*, *size* and *height*.

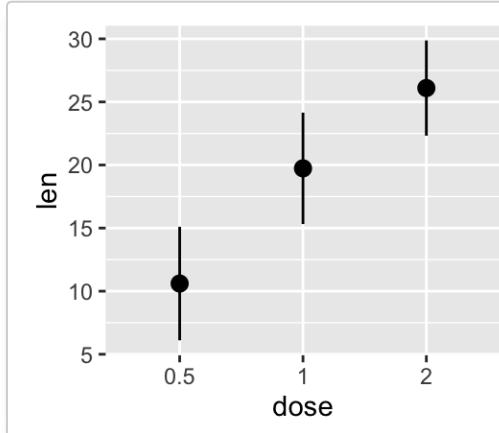
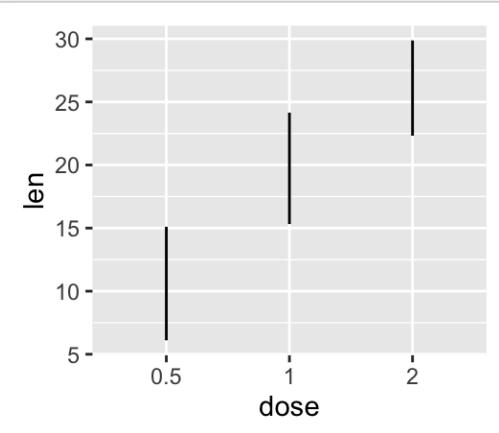
- **Key functions:** *geom_errorbarh()*

geom_linerange() and geom_pointrange(): An interval represented by a vertical line

- **geom_linerange()**: Add an interval represented by a vertical line
- **geom_pointrange()**: Add an interval represented by a vertical line with a point in the middle

We'll use the data set **df2**.

```
f <- ggplot(df2, aes(x = dose, y = len,
                      ymin=len-sd, ymax=len+sd))
# Line range
f + geom_linerange()
# Point range
f + geom_pointrange()
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype*, *size*, *shape* and *fill* (for `geom_pointrange()`).

Combine `geom_dotplot` and error bars

It's also possible to combine `geom_dotplot()` and **error bars**. We'll use the **ToothGrowth** data set. You don't need to compute the *mean* and *SD*. This can be done automatically by using the function `stat_summary()` in combination with the argument `fun.data = "mean_sd"`.

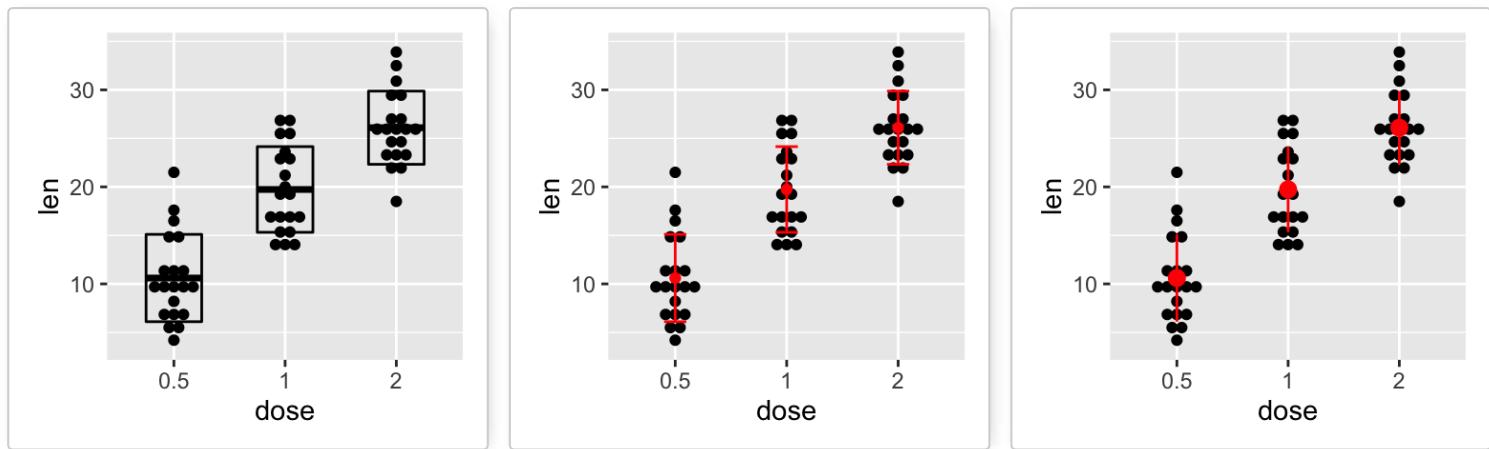
✓ We start by creating a dot plot, named `g`, that we'll finish in the next section by adding error bar layers.

```
g <- ggplot(df, aes(x=dose, y=len)) +  
  geom_dotplot(binaxis='y', stackdir='center')
```

```
# use geom_crossbar()  
g + stat_summary(fun.data="mean_sd", fun.args = list(mult=1),  
                 geom="crossbar", width=0.5)
```

```
# Use geom_errorbar()
g + stat_summary(fun.data=mean_sdl, fun.args = list(mult=1),
                 geom="errorbar", color="red", width=0.2) +
  stat_summary(fun.y=mean, geom="point", color="red")

# Use geom_pointrange()
g + stat_summary(fun.data=mean_sdl, fun.args = list(mult=1),
                 geom="pointrange", color="red")
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: `alpha`, `color`, `fill`, `linetype` and `size`. Learn more here: [ggplot2 error bars](#).

- **Key functions:** `geom_errorbarh()`, `geom_errorbar()`, `geom_linerange()`, `geom_pointrange()`, `geom_crossbar()`, `stat_summary()`

Two variables: Maps

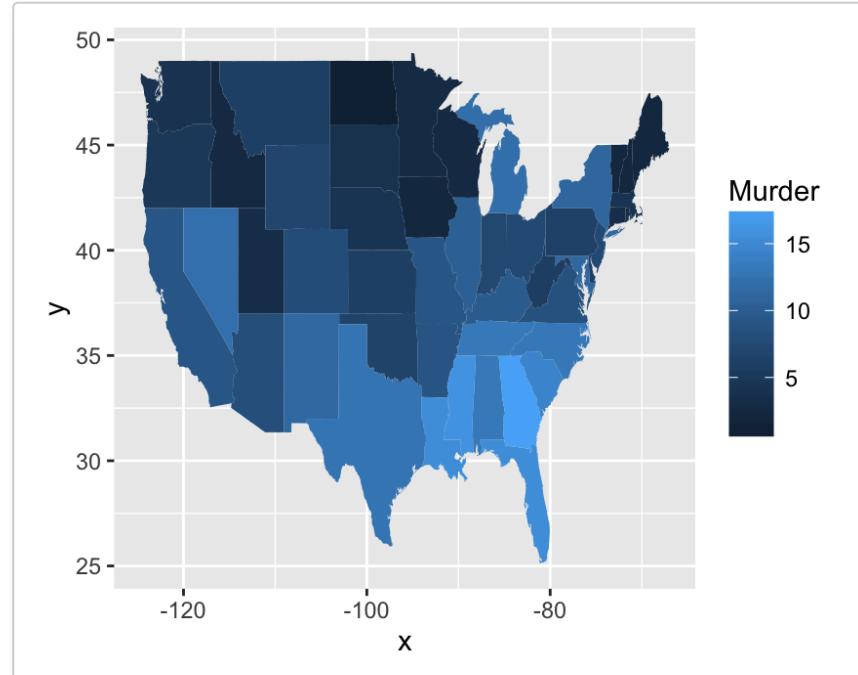
The function `geom_map()` can be used to create a map with **ggplot2**. The R package **map** is required. It contains geographical information useful for drawing easily maps in ggplot2.

Install **map** package (if you don't have it):

```
install.packages("map")
```

In the following R code, we'll create USA map and **USArrests** crime data to shade each region.

```
# Prepare the data
crimes <- data.frame(state = tolower(rownames(USArrests)),
                      USArrests)
library(reshape2) # for melt
crimesm <- melt(crimes, id = 1)
# Get map data
require(maps)
map_data <- map_data("state")
# Plot the map with Murder data
ggplot(crimes, aes(map_id = state)) +
  geom_map(aes(fill = Murder), map = map_data) +
  expand_limits(x = map_data$long, y = map_data$lat)
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 map](#).

Key function: `geom_map()`

Three variables

The **mtcars** data set we'll be used. We first compute a **correlation matrix**, which will be visualized using specific ggplot2 functions.

Prepare the data:

```
df <- mtcars[, c(1,3,4,5,6,7)]  
# Correlation matrix  
cormat <- round(cor(df),2)
```

```
# Melt the correlation matrix
require(reshape2)
cormat <- melt(cormat)
head(cormat)
```

```
##   Var1 Var2 value
## 1  mpg  mpg  1.00
## 2  disp  mpg -0.85
## 3    hp  mpg -0.78
## 4  drat  mpg  0.68
## 5    wt  mpg -0.87
## 6  qsec  mpg  0.42
```

✓ We start by creating a plot, named **g**, that we'll finish in the next section by adding a layer.

```
g <- ggplot(cormat, aes(x = Var1, y = Var2))
```

Possible layers include:

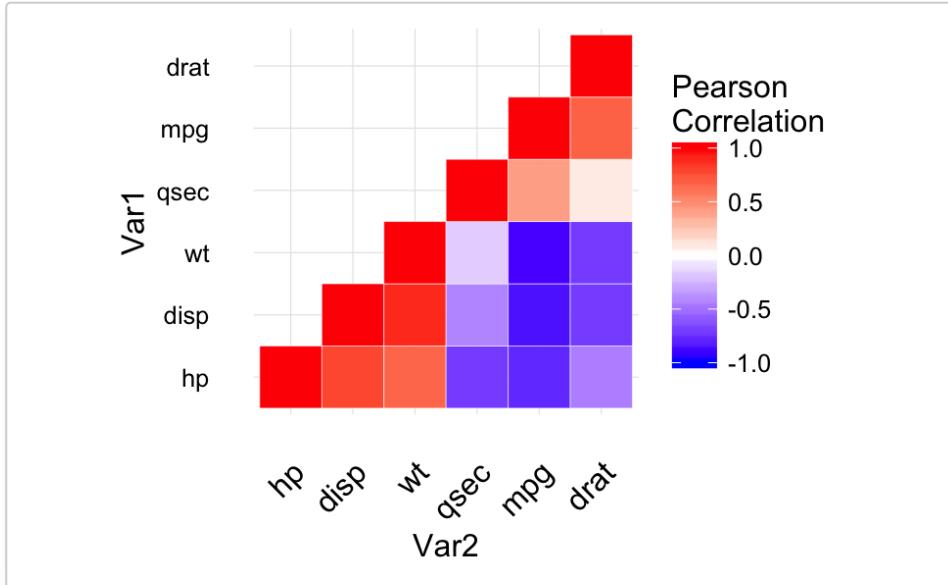
- **geom_tile()**: Tile plane with rectangles (similar to **levelplot** and **image**)
- **geom_raster()**: High-performance rectangular tiling. This is a special case of **geom_tile** where all tiles are the same size.

We'll use the function **geom_tile()** to visualize a correlation matrix.

Compute and visualize correlation matrix:

```
# 1. Compute correlation
cormat <- round(cor(df),2)
```

```
# 2. Reorder the correlation matrix by
# Hierarchical clustering
hc <- hclust(as.dist(1-cormat)/2)
cormat.ord <- cormat[hc$order, hc$order]
# 3. Get the upper triangle
cormat.ord[lower.tri(cormat.ord)]<- NA
# 4. Melt the correlation matrix
require(reshape2)
melted_cormat <- melt(cormat.ord, na.rm = TRUE)
# Create the heatmap
ggplot(melted_cormat, aes(Var2, Var1, fill = value))+
  geom_tile(color = "white")+
  scale_fill_gradient2(low = "blue", high = "red", mid = "white",
    midpoint = 0, limit = c(-1,1), space = "Lab",
    name="Pearson\nCorrelation") + # Change gradient color
  theme_minimal() + # minimal theme
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45, vjust = 1,
                                    size = 12, hjust = 1)) +
  coord_fixed()
```

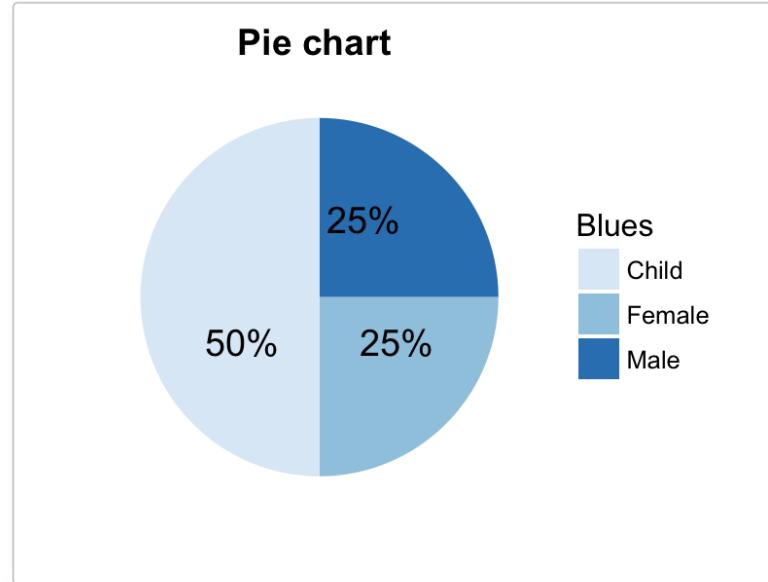


✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 correlation matrix heatmap](#).

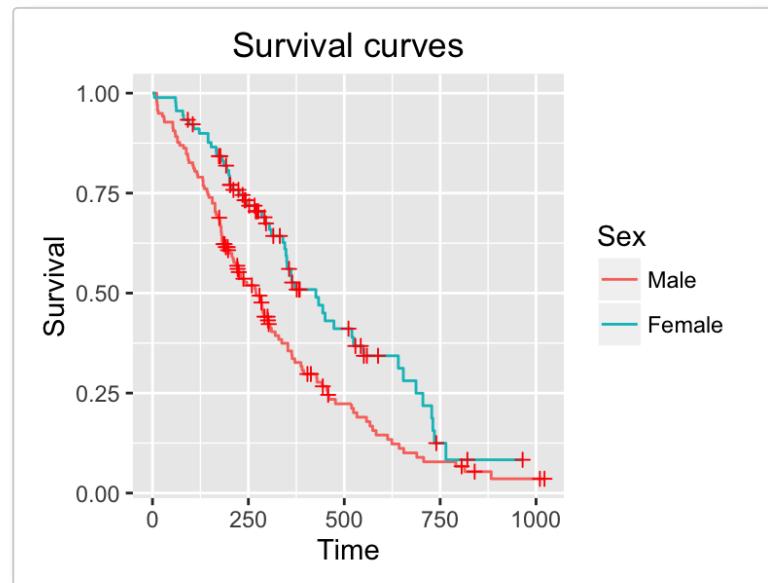
- **Key functions:** *geom_tile()*, *geom_raster()*

Other types of graphs

- [Pie chart](#): (click to read more)



- [Survival curves](#): (click to read more)



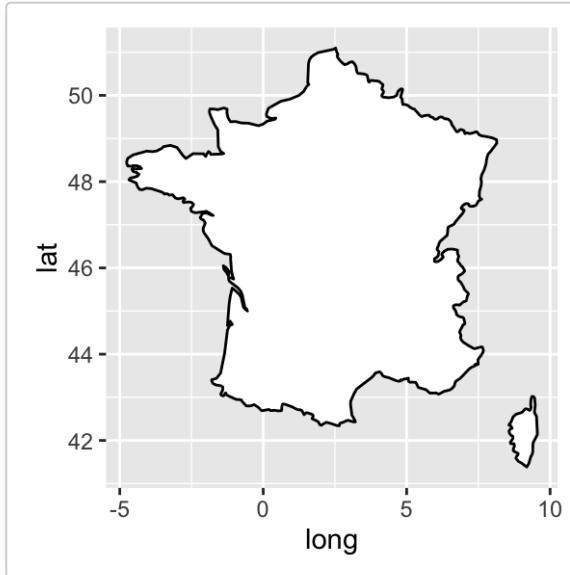
Graphical primitives: polygon, path, ribbon, segment, rectangle

This section describes how to add **graphical elements** to a plot. The functions below we'll be used:

- **geom_polygon()**: Add **polygon**, a filled path
- **geom_path()**: Connect **observations** in original order
- **geom_ribbon()**: Add **ribbons**, y range with continuous x values.
- **geom_segment()**: Add a single line **segments**
- **geom_curve()**: Add curves
- **geom_rect()**: Add a 2d **rectangles**.

1. The R code below draws *France map* using **geom_polygon()**:

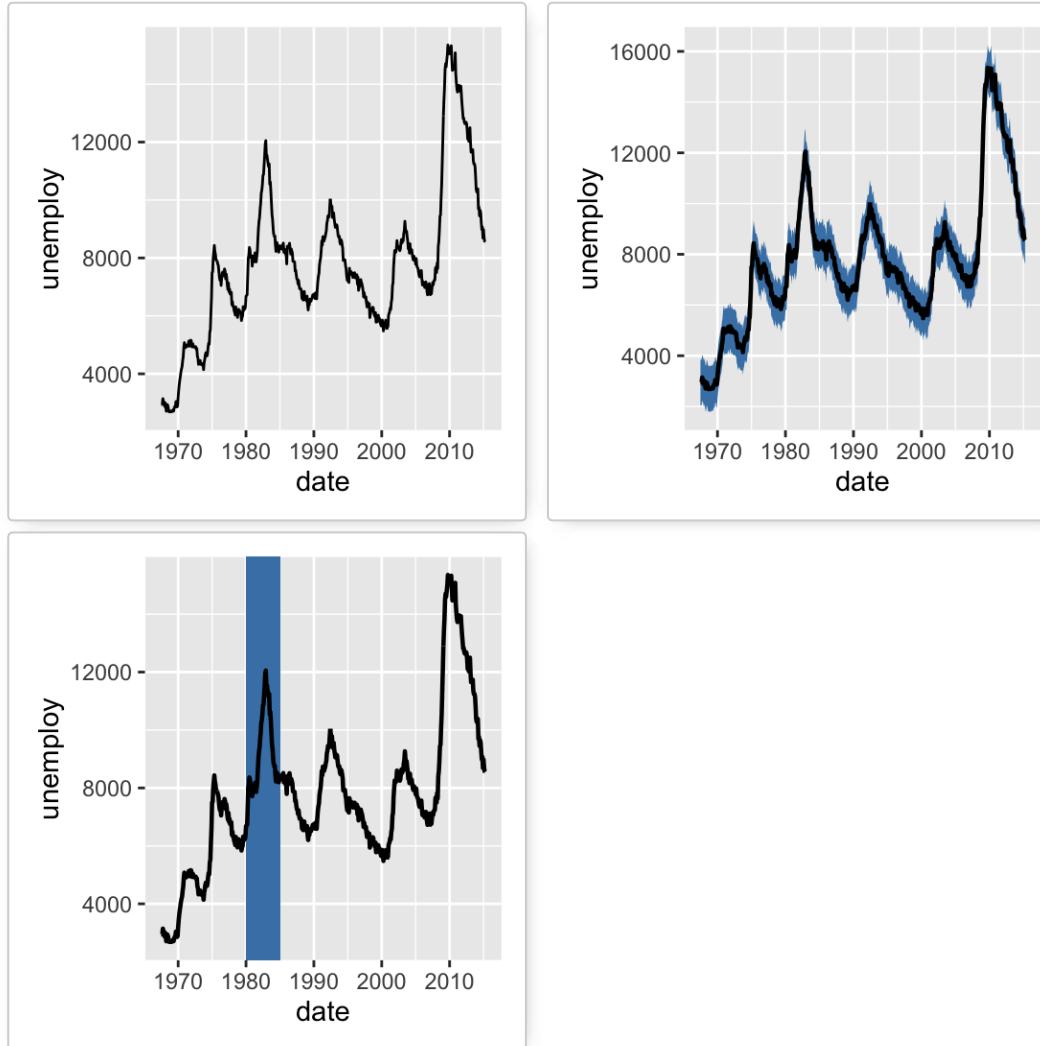
```
require(maps)
france = map_data('world', region = 'France')
ggplot(france, aes(x = long, y = lat, group = group)) +
  geom_polygon(fill = 'white', colour = 'black')
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill*, *linetype* and *size*.

2. The following R code uses **economics** data [in **ggplot2**] and produces **path**, **ribbon** and **rectangles**.

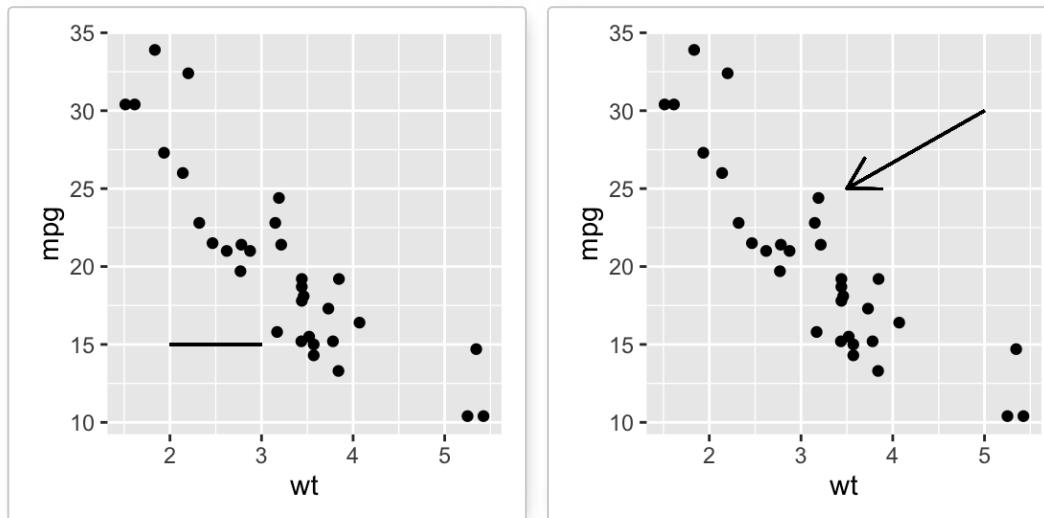
```
h <- ggplot(economics, aes(date, unemploy))  
# Path  
h + geom_path()  
# Ribbon  
h + geom_ribbon(aes(ymin = unemploy-900, ymax = unemploy+900),  
                 fill = "steelblue") +  
  geom_path(size = 0.8)  
# Rectangle  
h + geom_rect(aes(xmin = as.Date('1980-01-01'), ymin = -Inf,  
                  xmax = as.Date('1985-01-01'), ymax = Inf),  
              fill = "steelblue") +  
  geom_path(size = 0.8)
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *fill* (for ribbon only), *linetype* and *size*.

3. **Add line segments** between points (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) :

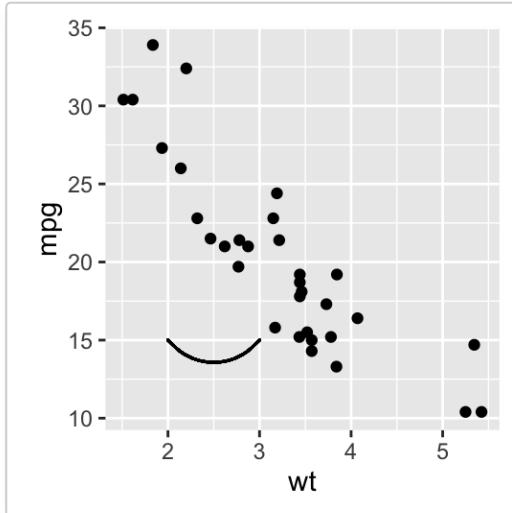
```
# Create a scatter plot
i <- ggplot(mtcars, aes(wt, mpg)) + geom_point()
# Add segment
i + geom_segment(aes(x = 2, y = 15, xend = 3, yend = 15))
# Add arrow
require(grid)
i + geom_segment(aes(x = 5, y = 30, xend = 3.5, yend = 25),
                 arrow = arrow(length = unit(0.5, "cm")))
```



✓ To customize the plot, the following arguments can be used: *alpha*, *color*, *linetype* and *size*. Learn more here: [ggplot2 add line segment](#).

4. Add curves between points (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) :

```
i + geom_curve(aes(x = 2, y = 15, xend = 3, yend = 15))
```



- **Key functions:** `geom_path()`, `geom_ribbon()`, `geom_rect()`, `geom_segment()`

Graphical parameters

Main title, axis labels and legend title

We start by creating a box plot using the data set **ToothGrowth**:

```
# Convert the variable dose from numeric to factor variable  
ToothGrowth$dose <- as.factor(ToothGrowth$dose)  
p <- ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x=dose, y=len)) + geom_boxplot()
```

The function below can be used for changing **titles** and **labels**:

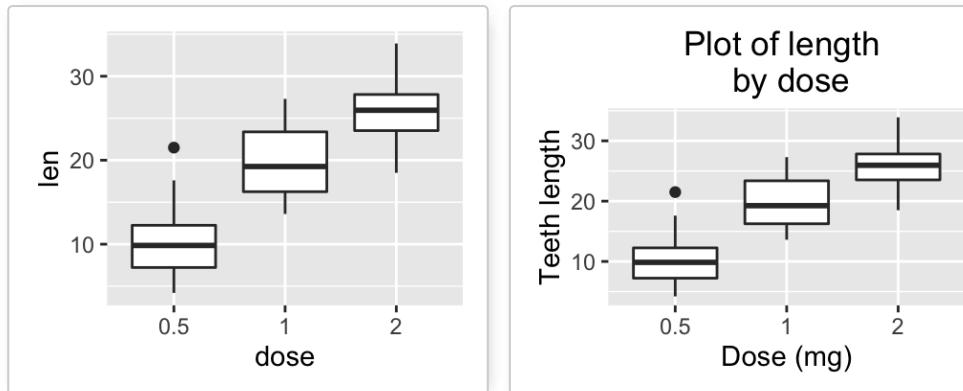
- `p + ggtitle("New main title")`: Adds a main title above the plot
- `p + xlab("New X axis label")`: Changes the X axis label

- `p + ylab("New Y axis label")`: Changes the Y axis label
- `p + labs(title = "New main title", x = "New X axis label", y = "New Y axis label")`: Changes main title and axis labels

! The function `labs()` can be also used to change the **legend title**.

1. Change main title and axis labels

```
# Default plot
print(p)
# Change title and axis labels
p <- p + labs(title="Plot of length \n by dose",
               x ="Dose (mg)", y = "Teeth length")
p
```



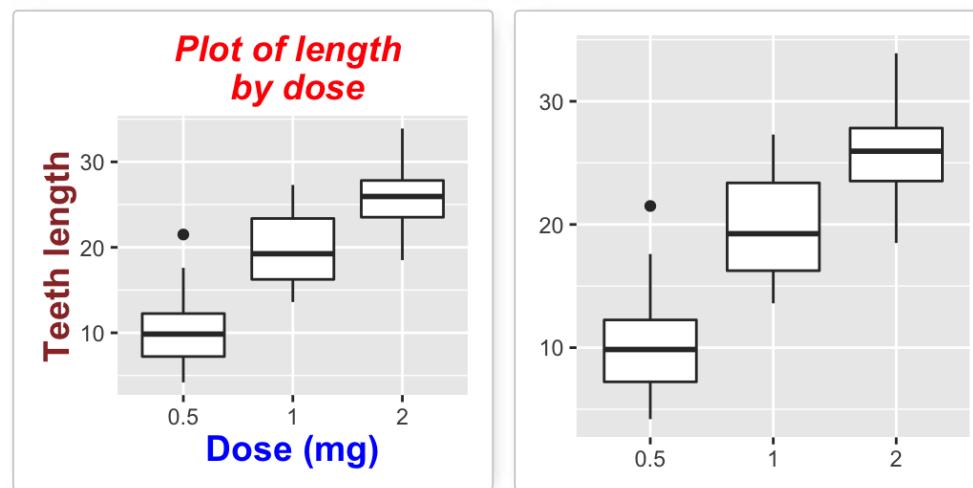
Note that, `\n` is used to split long title into multiple lines.

2. Change the appearance of labels:

To change the appearance(**color**, **size** and **face**) of labels, the functions `theme()` and `element_text()` can be used.

The function **element_blank()** hides the labels.

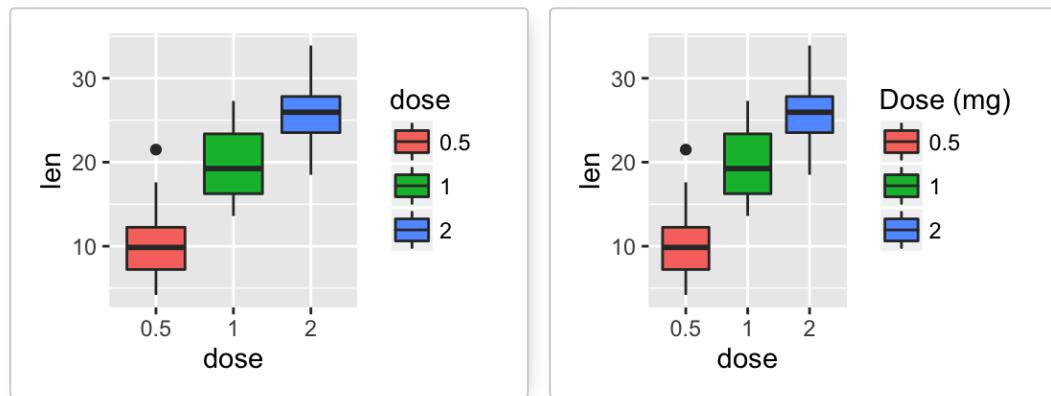
```
# Change the appearance of labels
p + theme(
  plot.title = element_text(color="red", size=14, face="bold.italic"),
  axis.title.x = element_text(color="blue", size=14, face="bold"),
  axis.title.y = element_text(color="#993333", size=14, face="bold")
)
# Hide labels
p + theme(plot.title = element_blank(),
          axis.title.x = element_blank(),
          axis.title.y = element_blank())
```



3. **Change legend titles:** Scale functions (fill, color, size, shape, ...) are used to update **legend titles**.

```
# Default plot
p <- ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x=dose, y=len, fill=dose)) +
  geom_boxplot()
p
```

```
# Modify legend titles  
p + labs(fill = "Dose (mg)")
```



✓ Learn more here: [ggplot2 title: main, axis and legend titles](#).

Legend position and appearance

1. Create a box plot

```
# Convert the variable dose from numeric to factor variable  
ToothGrowth$dose <- as.factor(ToothGrowth$dose)  
p <- ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x=dose, y=len, fill=dose))+  
  geom_boxplot()
```

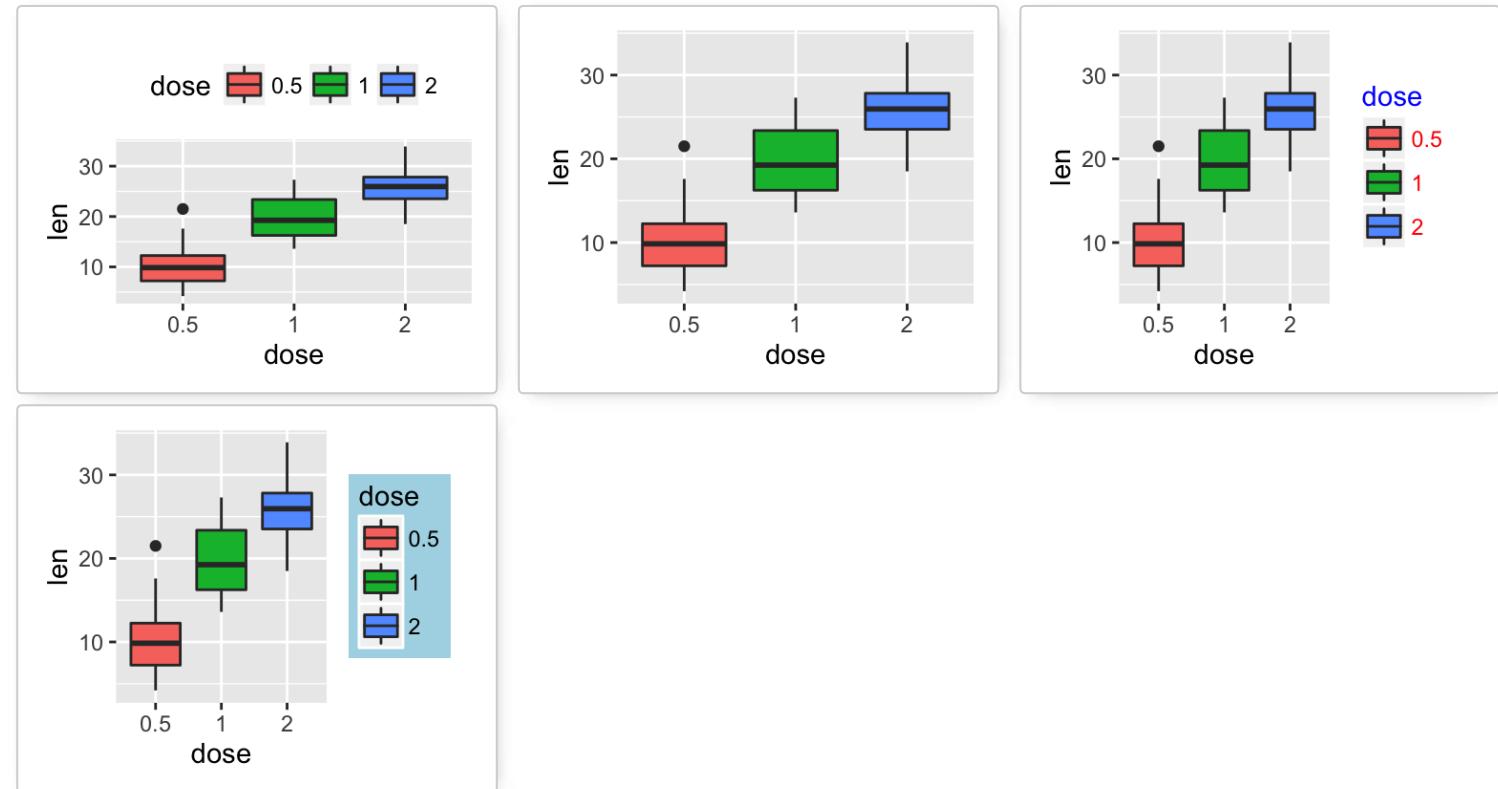
2. Change legend position and appearance

```
# Change legend position: "left", "top", "right", "bottom", "none"  
p + theme(legend.position="top")
```

```

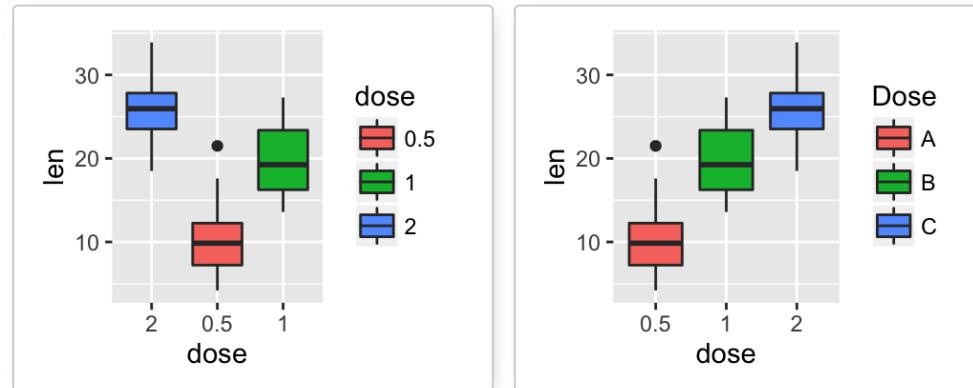
# Remove legends
p + theme(legend.position = "none")
# Change the appearance of legend title and labels
p + theme(legend.title = element_text(colour="blue"),
          legend.text = element_text(colour="red"))
# Change legend box background color
p + theme(legend.background = element_rect(fill="lightblue"))

```



3. Customize legends using scale functions
 - o Change the order of legend items: **scale_x_discrete()**
 - o Set legend title and labels: **scale_fill_discrete()**

```
# Change the order of legend items  
p + scale_x_discrete(limits=c("2", "0.5", "1"))  
# Set legend title and labels  
p + scale_fill_discrete(name = "Dose", labels = c("A", "B", "C"))
```



✓ Learn more here: [ggplot2 legend position and appearance](#).

Change colors automatically and manually

ToothGrowth and *mtcars* data sets are used in the examples below.

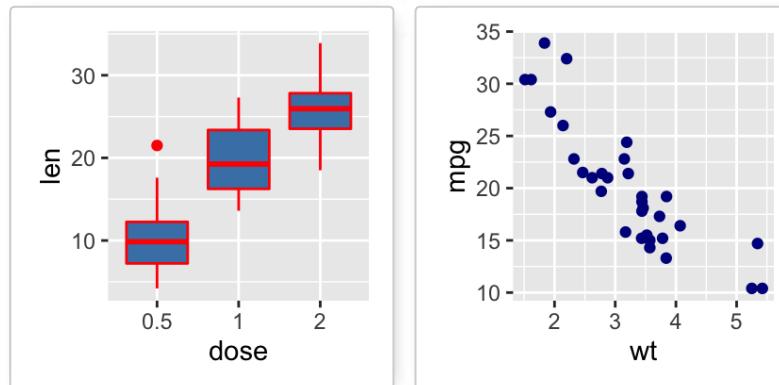
```
# Convert dose and cyl columns from numeric to factor variables  
ToothGrowth$dose <- as.factor(ToothGrowth$dose)  
mtcars$cyl <- as.factor(mtcars$cyl)
```

We start by creating some plots which will be finished hereafter:

```
# Box plot  
bp <- ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x=dose, y=len))  
# Scatter plot  
sp <- ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=wt, y=mpg))
```

1. Draw plots: change fill and outline colors

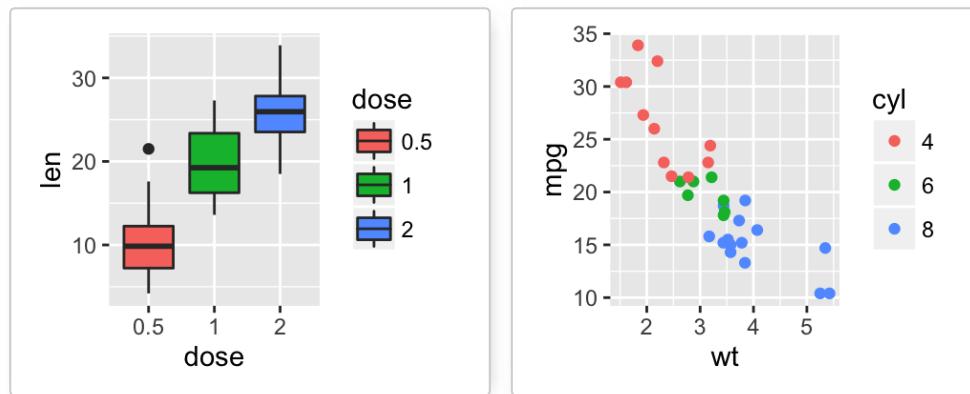
```
# box plot  
bp + geom_boxplot(fill='steelblue', color="red")  
# scatter plot  
sp + geom_point(color='darkblue')
```



2. Change color by groups using the levels of **dose** variable

```
# Box plot  
bp <- bp + geom_boxplot(aes(fill = dose))  
bp  
# Scatter plot
```

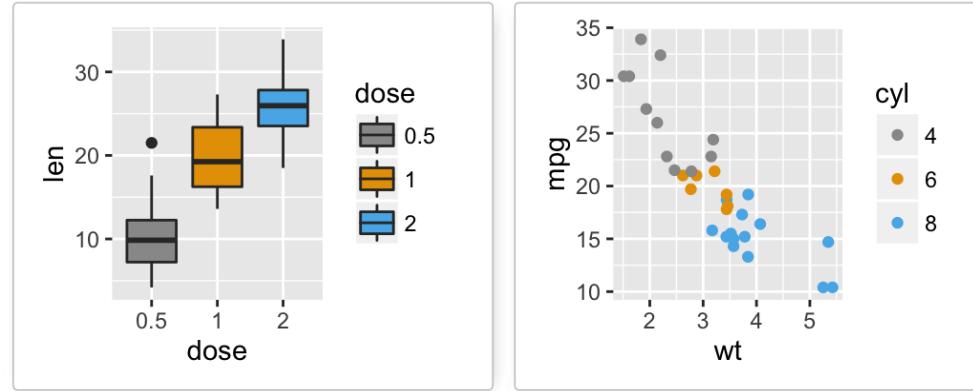
```
sp <- sp + geom_point(aes(color = cyl))
sp
```



3. Change colors manually:

- `scale_fill_manual()` for box plot, bar plot, violin plot, etc
- `scale_color_manual()` for lines and points

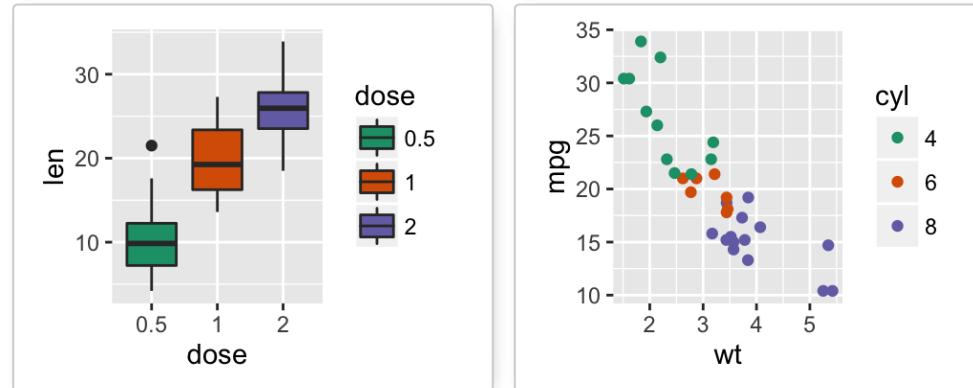
```
# Box plot
bp + scale_fill_manual(values=c("#999999", "#E69F00", "#56B4E9"))
# Scatter plot
sp + scale_color_manual(values=c("#999999", "#E69F00", "#56B4E9"))
```



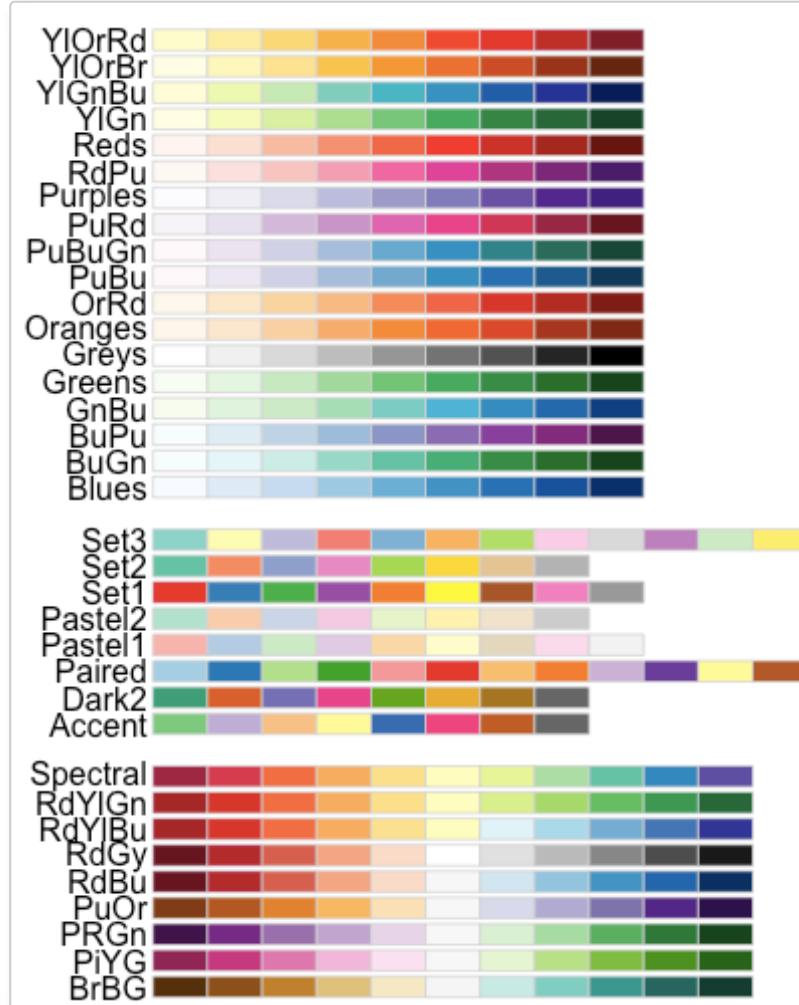
4. Use RColorBrewer palettes: (Read more about RColorBrewer: [color in R](#))

- `scale_fill_brewer()` for box plot, bar plot, violin plot, etc
- `scale_color_brewer()` for lines and points

```
# Box plot
bp + scale_fill_brewer(palette="Dark2")
# Scatter plot
sp + scale_color_brewer(palette="Dark2")
```



Available color palettes in the RColorBrewer package:

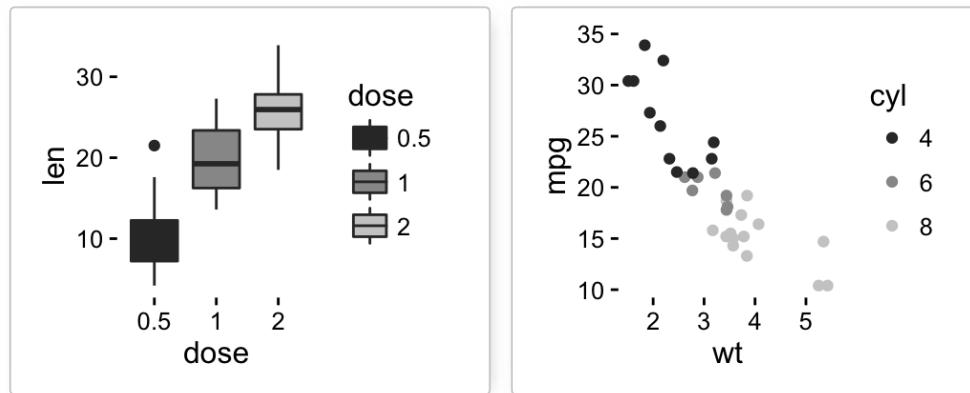


5. Use gray colors:

- `scale_fill_grey()` for box plot, bar plot, violin plot, etc
- `scale_colour_grey()` for points, lines, etc

```
# Box plot  
bp + scale_fill_grey() + theme_classic()
```

```
# Scatter plot  
sp + scale_color_grey() + theme_classic()
```



6. Gradient or continuous colors:

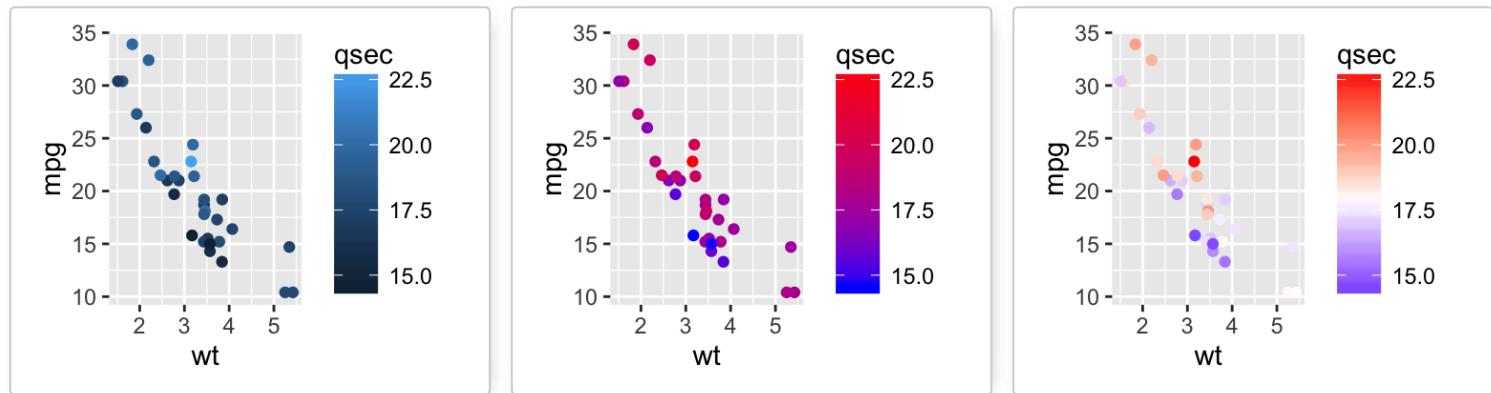
Plots can be colored according to the values of a continuous variable using the functions :

- **scale_color_gradient(), scale_fill_gradient()** for sequential gradients between two colors
- **scale_color_gradient2(), scale_fill_gradient2()** for diverging gradients
- **scale_color_gradientn(), scale_fill_gradientn()** for gradient between n colors

Gradient colors for scatter plots: The graphs are colored using the *qsec* continuous variable :

```
# Color by qsec values  
sp2<-ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=wt, y=mpg)) +  
  geom_point(aes(color = qsec))  
sp2  
# Change the low and high colors  
# Sequential color scheme  
sp2+scale_color_gradient(low="blue", high="red")  
# Diverging color scheme  
mid<-mean(mtcars$qsec)
```

```
sp2+scale_color_gradient2(midpoint=mid, low="blue", mid="white",
                           high="red", space = "Lab" )
```



Learn more here: [ggplot2 colors](#).

Point shapes, colors and size

The different **points shapes** commonly used in R are shown in the image below:

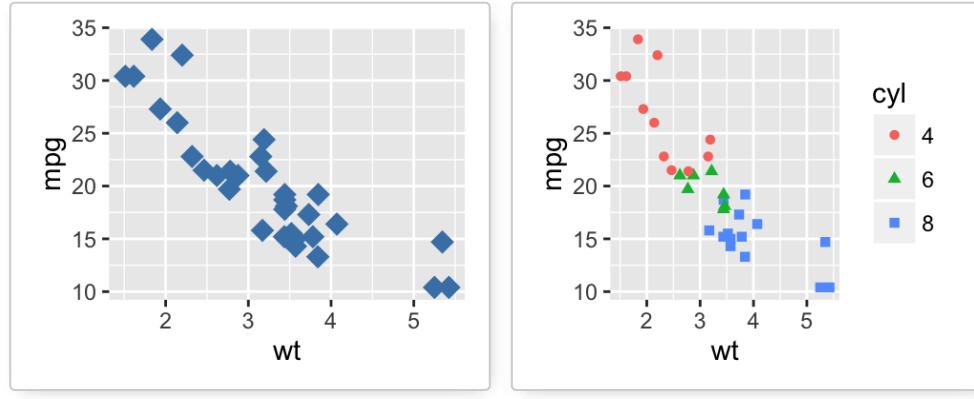
0	1	2	3	4
□	○	△	+	×
5	6	7	8	9
◇	▽	▣	✳	❖
10	11	12	13	14
⊕	☒	田	⊗	▣
15	16	17	18	19
■	●	▲	◆	●
20	21	22	23	24
•	●	■	◆	▲
				25

mtcars data is used in the following examples.

```
# Convert cyl as factor variable
mtcars$cyl <- as.factor(mtcars$cyl)
```

Create a scatter plot and change point shapes, colors and size:

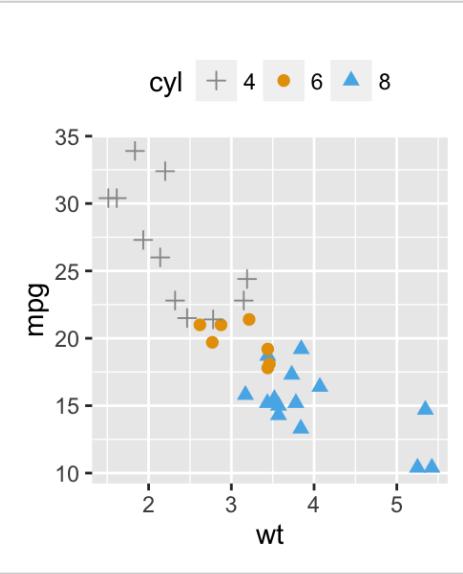
```
# Basic scatter plot
ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=wt, y=mpg)) +
  geom_point(shape = 18, color = "steelblue", size = 4)
# Change point shapes and colors by groups
ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=wt, y=mpg)) +
  geom_point(aes(shape = cyl, color = cyl))
```



It's also possible to manually change the appearance of points:

- **scale_shape_manual()** : to change point shapes
- **scale_color_manual()** : to change point colors
- **scale_size_manual()** : to change the size of points

```
# Change colors and shapes manually
ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=wt, y=mpg, group=cyl)) +
  geom_point(aes(shape=cyl, color=cyl), size=2) +
  scale_shape_manual(values=c(3, 16, 17)) +
  scale_color_manual(values=c('#999999', '#E69F00', '#56B4E9')) +
  theme(legend.position="top")
```



✓ Learn more here: [ggplot2 point shapes, colors and size](#).

Add text annotations to a graph

There are three important functions for adding texts to a plot:

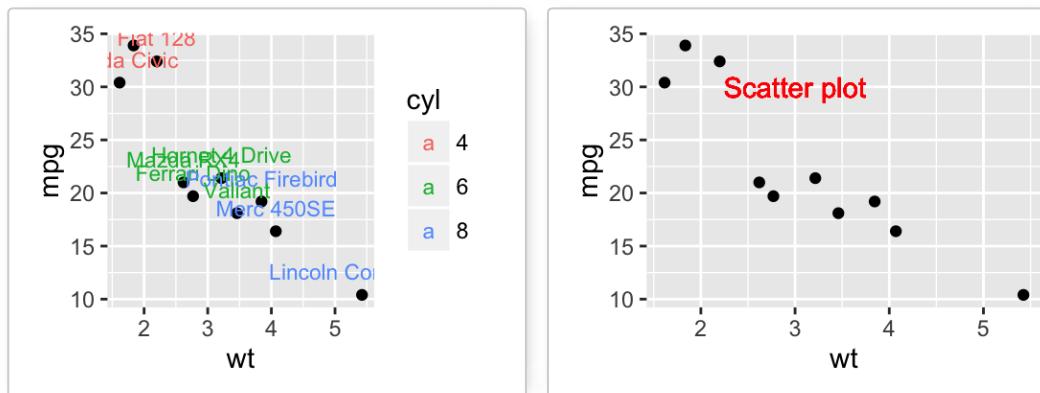
- **geom_text()**: Textual annotations
- **annotate()**: Textual annotations
- **annotation_custom()**: Static annotations that are the same in every panel. These annotations are not affected by the plot scales.

A subset of **mtcars** data is used:

```
set.seed(1234)
df <- mtcars[sample(1:nrow(mtcars), 10), ]
df$cyl <- as.factor(df$cyl)
```

Scatter plots with textual annotations:

```
# Scatter plot  
sp <- ggplot(df, aes(x=wt, y=mpg))+ geom_point()  
# Add text, change colors by groups  
sp + geom_text(aes(label = rownames(df), color = cyl),  
               size = 3, vjust = -1)  
# Add text at a particular coordinate  
sp + geom_text(x = 3, y = 30, label = "Scatter plot",  
               color="red")
```



Learn more here: [ggplot2 text: Add text annotations to a graph.](#)

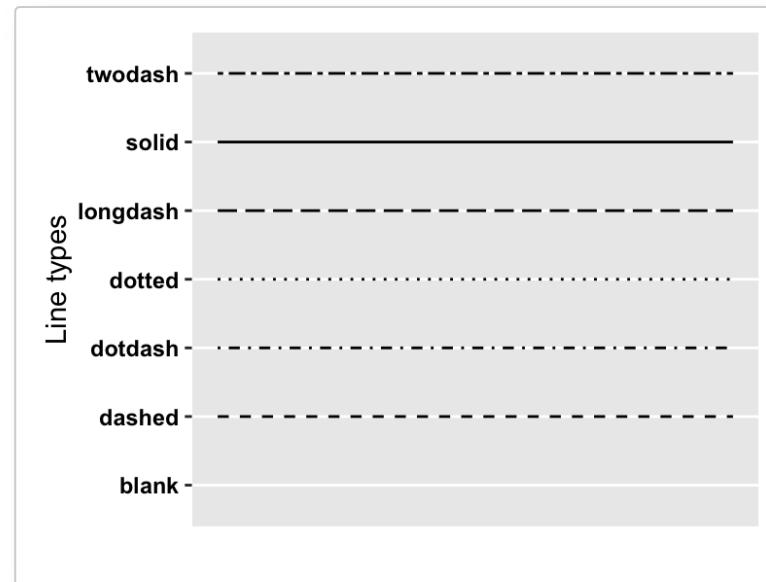
Line types

The different line types available in **R software** are : “**blank**”, “**solid**”, “**dashed**”, “**dotted**”, “**dotdash**”, “**longdash**”, “**twodash**”.



Note that, line types can be also specified using numbers : **0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6**. 0 is for “**blank**”, 1 is for “**solid**”, 2 is for “**dashed**”,

A graph of the different line types is shown below :



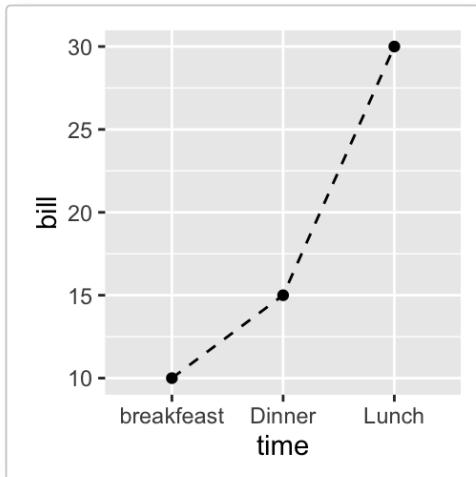
1. Basic line plot

```
# Create some data
df <- data.frame(time=c("breakfeast", "Lunch", "Dinner"),
                  bill=c(10, 30, 15))
head(df)
```

```
##           time bill
## 1 breakfeast   10
## 2      Lunch   30
## 3     Dinner   15
```

```
# Basic line plot with points
# Change the line type
```

```
ggplot(data=df, aes(x=time, y=bill, group=1)) +  
  geom_line(linetype = "dashed") +  
  geom_point()
```

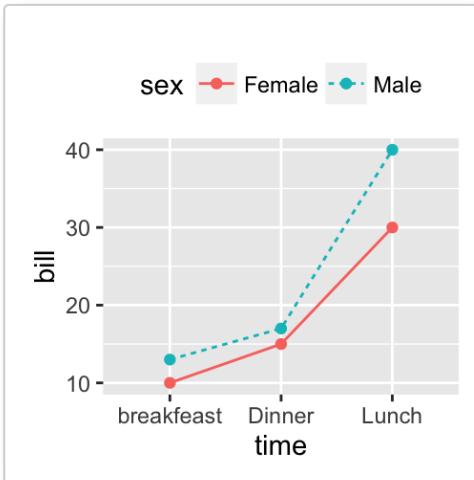


2. Line plots with multiple groups

```
# Create some data  
df2 <- data.frame(sex = rep(c("Female", "Male"), each=3),  
                   time=c("breakfeast", "Lunch", "Dinner"),  
                   bill=c(10, 30, 15, 13, 40, 17) )  
head(df2)
```

```
##      sex      time bill  
## 1 Female breakfeast   10  
## 2 Female      Lunch   30  
## 3 Female     Dinner   15  
## 4   Male breakfeast   13  
## 5   Male      Lunch   40  
## 6   Male     Dinner   17
```

```
# Line plot with multiple groups  
# Change line types and colors by groups (sex)  
ggplot(df2, aes(x=time, y=bill, group=sex)) +  
  geom_line(aes(linetype = sex, color = sex))+  
  geom_point(aes(color=sex))+  
  theme(legend.position="top")
```

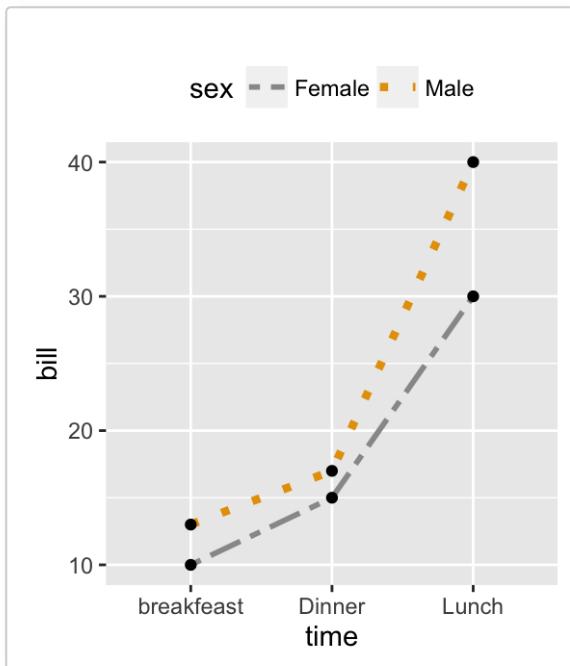


The functions below can be used to change the appearance of line types manually:

- **scale_linetype_manual()** : to change line types
- **scale_color_manual()** : to change line colors
- **scale_size_manual()** : to change the size of lines

```
# Change line types, colors and sizes  
ggplot(df2, aes(x=time, y=bill, group=sex)) +  
  geom_line(aes(linetype=sex, color=sex, size=sex))+  
  geom_point() +  
  scale_linetype_manual(values=c("twodash", "dotted")) +  
  scale_color_manual(values=c('#999999', '#E69F00')) +
```

```
scale_size_manual(values=c(1, 1.5))+  
theme(legend.position="top")
```



✓ Learn more here: [ggplot2 line types](#).

Themes and background colors

ToothGrowth data is used :

```
# Convert the column dose from numeric to factor variable  
ToothGrowth$dose <- as.factor(ToothGrowth$dose)
```

1. Create a box plot

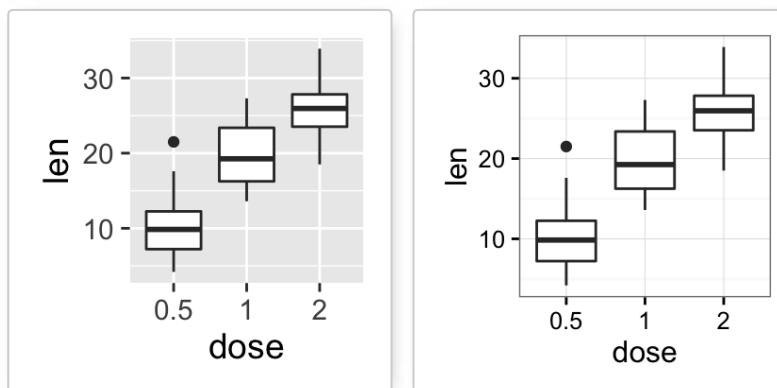
```
p <- ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x=dose, y=len)) +  
  geom_boxplot()
```

2. Change plot themes

Several functions are available in ggplot2 package for changing quickly the theme of plots :

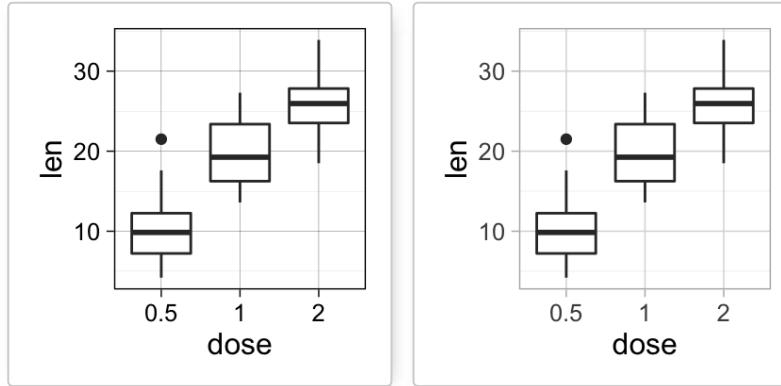
- **theme_gray()**: gray background color and white grid lines
- **theme_bw()** : white background and gray grid lines

```
p + theme_gray(base_size = 14)  
p + theme_bw()
```



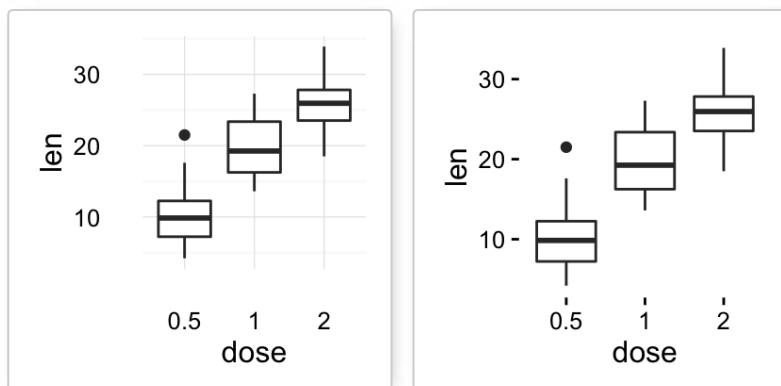
- **theme_linedraw** : black lines around the plot
- **theme_light** : light gray lines and axis (more attention towards the data)

```
p + theme_linedraw()  
p + theme_light()
```



- **theme_minimal**: no background annotations
- **theme_classic** : theme with axis lines and no grid lines

```
p + theme_minimal()
p + theme_classic()
```



Learn more here: [ggplot2 themes and background colors.](#)

Axis limits: Minimum and Maximum values

Create a plot:

```
p <- ggplot(cars, aes(x = speed, y = dist)) + geom_point()
```

Different functions are available for setting axis limits:

1. Without clipping (preferred):

- o `p + coord_cartesian(xlim = c(5, 20), ylim = (0, 50))`: **Cartesian coordinates.** The Cartesian coordinate system is the most common type of coordinate system. It will zoom the plot (like you're looking at it with a magnifying glass), without clipping the data.

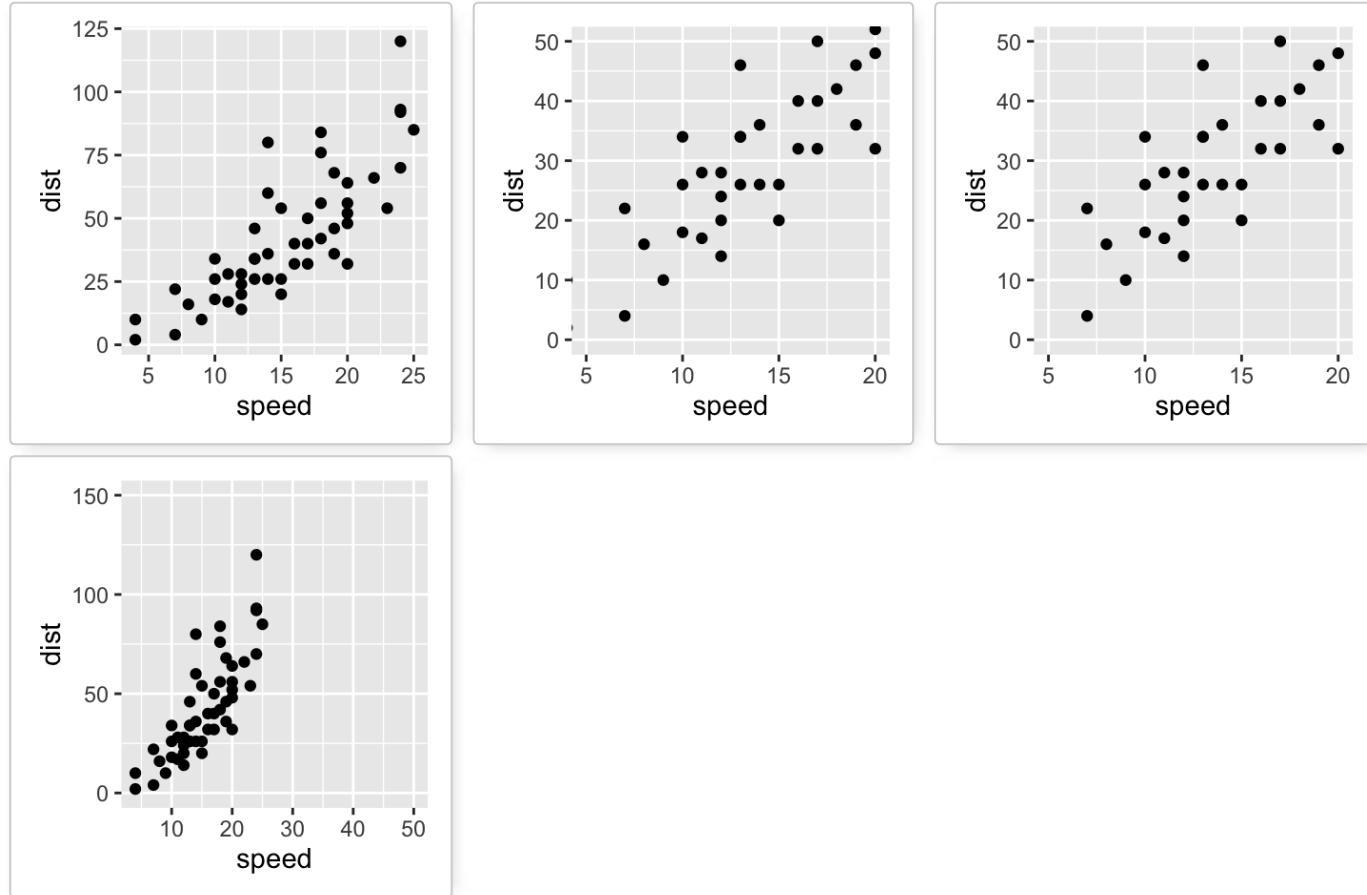
2. With clipping the data (removes unseen data points): Observations not in this range will be dropped completely and not passed to any other layers.

- o `p + xlim(5, 20) + ylim(0, 50)`
- o `p + scale_x_continuous(limits = c(5, 20)) + scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0, 50))`

3. Expand the plot limits with data: This function is a thin wrapper around `geom_blank()` that makes it easy to add data to a plot.

- o `p + expand_limits(x = 0, y = 0)`: set the intercept of x and y axes at (0,0)
- o `p + expand_limits(x = c(5, 50), y = c(0, 150))`

```
# Default plot
print(p)
# Change axis limits using coord_cartesian()
p + coord_cartesian(xlim =c(5, 20), ylim = c(0, 50))
# Use xlim() and ylim()
p + xlim(5, 20) + ylim(0, 50)
# Expand limits
p + expand_limits(x = c(5, 50), y = c(0, 150))
```



Learn more here: [ggplot2 axis limits](#).



Note that, **date axis** limits can be set using the functions **scale_x_date()** and **scale_y_date()**. Read more here: [ggplot2 date axis](#).

Axis transformations: log and sqrt scales

1. Create a scatter plot:

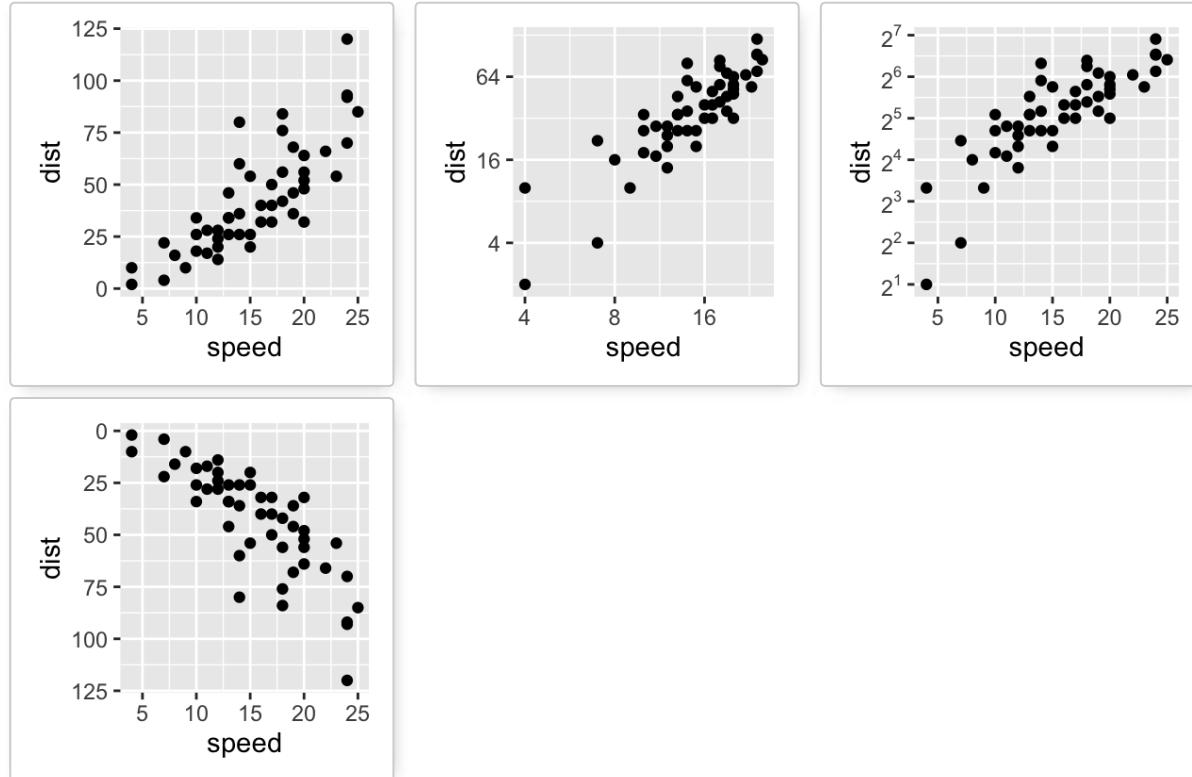
```
p <- ggplot(cars, aes(x = speed, y = dist)) + geom_point()
```

2. ggplot2 functions for continuous axis transformations:

- p + **scale_x_log10()**, p + **scale_y_log10()** : Plot x and y on **log10** scale, respectively.
- p + **scale_x_sqrt()**, p + **scale_y_sqrt()** : Plot x and y on **square root** scale, respectively.
- p + **scale_x_reverse()**, p + **scale_y_reverse()** : Reverse direction of axes
- p + **coord_trans(x = "log10", y = "log10")** : transformed cartesian coordinate system. Possible values for x and y are "log2", "log10", "sqrt", ...
- p + **scale_x_continuous(trans='log2')**, p + **scale_y_continuous(trans='log2')** : another allowed value for the argument *trans* is 'log10'

3. The R code below uses the function **scale_xx_continuous()** to transform axis scales:

```
# Default scatter plot
print(p)
# Log transformation using scale_xx()
# possible values for trans : 'log2', 'log10', 'sqrt'
p + scale_x_continuous(trans='log2') +
  scale_y_continuous(trans='log2')
# Format axis tick mark labels
require(scales)
p + scale_y_continuous(trans = log2_trans(),
  breaks = trans_breaks("log2", function(x) 2^x),
  labels = trans_format("log2", math_format(2^.x)))
# Reverse coordinates
p + scale_y_reverse()
```



Learn more here: [ggplot2 axis limits](#).

Axis ticks: customize tick marks and labels, reorder and select items

1. Functions for changing the style of axis tick mark labels:

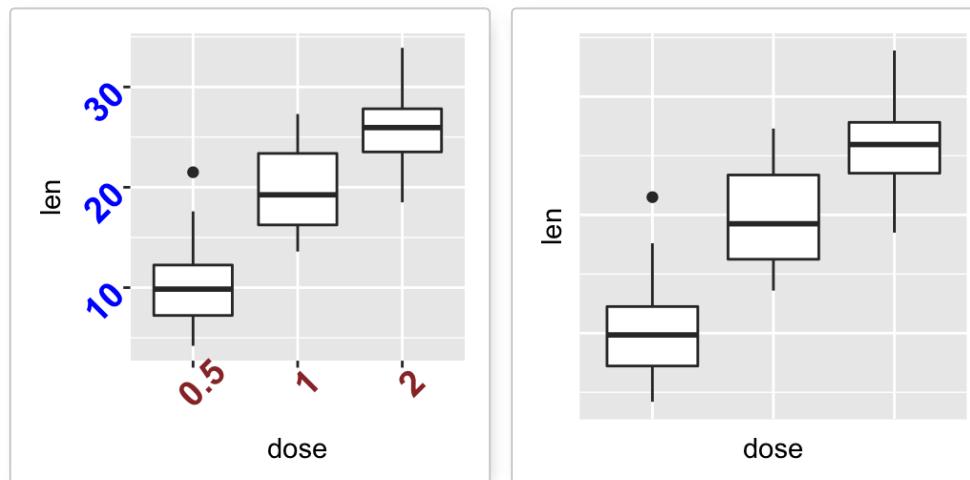
- **element_text(face, color, size, angle):** change text style
- **element_blank():** Hide text

2. Create a box plot:

```
p <- ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x=dose, y=len)) + geom_boxplot()
# print(p)
```

3. Change the style and the orientation angle of axis tick labels

```
# Change the style of axis tick labels
# face can be "plain", "italic", "bold" or "bold.italic"
p + theme(axis.text.x = element_text(face="bold", color="#993333",
                                      size=14, angle=45),
           axis.text.y = element_text(face="bold", color="blue",
                                      size=14, angle=45))
# Remove axis ticks and tick mark labels
p + theme(
  axis.text.x = element_blank(), # Remove x axis tick labels
  axis.text.y = element_blank(), # Remove y axis tick labels
  axis.ticks = element_blank()) # Remove ticks
```



4. Customize continuous and discrete axes:

- **Discrete axes**
 - **scale_x_discrete(name, breaks, labels, limits)**: for X axis
 - **scale_y_discrete(name, breaks, labels, limits)**: for y axis
- **Continuous axes**
 - **scale_x_continuous(name, breaks, labels, limits, trans)**: for X axis
 - **scale_y_continuous(name, breaks, labels, limits, trans)**: for y axis

Briefly, the meaning of the arguments are as follow:

- **name** : x or y axis labels
- **breaks** : vector specifying which breaks to display
- **labels** : labels of axis tick marks
- **limits** : vector indicating the data range

(Read more here: [Set axis ticks for discrete and continuous axes](#))

scale_xx() functions can be used to change the following x or y axis parameters :

- axis titles
- axis limits (data range to display)
- choose where tick marks appear
- manually label tick marks

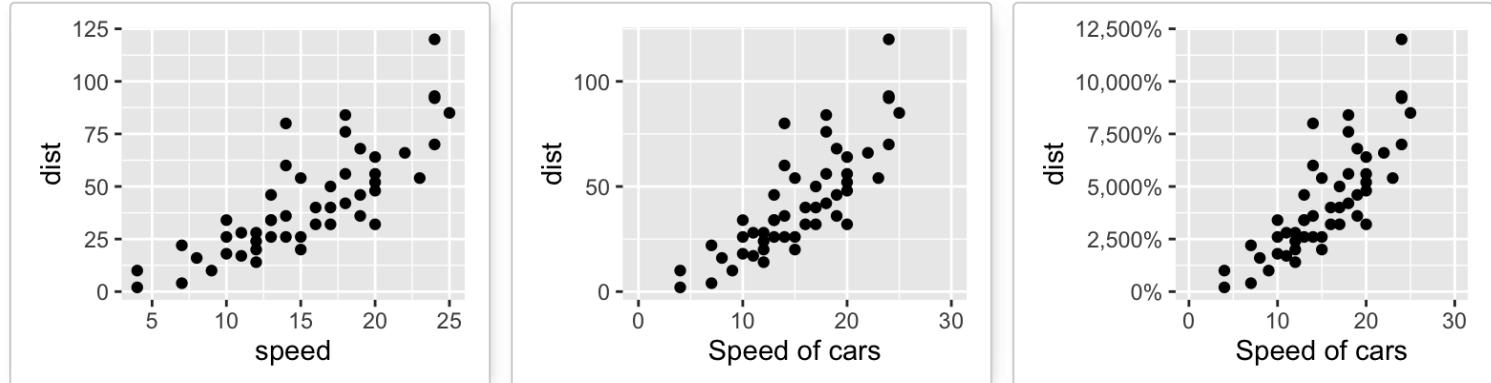
4.1. Discrete axes:

```
# Change x axis label and the order of items
p + scale_x_discrete(name = "Dose (mg)",
                      limits=c("2", "1", "0.5"))
# Change tick mark labels
p + scale_x_discrete(breaks=c("0.5", "1", "2"),
                      labels=c("Dose 0.5", "Dose 1", "Dose 2"))
# Choose which items to display
p + scale_x_discrete(limits=c("0.5", "2"))
```



4.2. Continuous axes:

```
# Default scatter plot
# ++++++
sp <- ggplot(cars, aes(x = speed, y = dist)) + geom_point()
sp
# Customize the plot
#####
# 1. Change x and y axis labels, and limits
sp <- sp + scale_x_continuous(name="Speed of cars", limits=c(0, 30)) +
  scale_y_continuous(name="Stopping distance", limits=c(0, 150))
# 2. Set tick marks on y axis: a tick mark is shown on every 50
sp + scale_y_continuous(breaks=seq(0, 150, 50))
# Format the labels
# ++++++
require(scales)
sp + scale_y_continuous(labels = percent) # labels as percents
```



Learn more here: [ggplot2 Axis ticks: tick marks and labels](#).

Add straight lines to a plot: horizontal, vertical and regression lines

The R function below can be used :

- **geom_hline(yintercept, linetype, color, size)**: for horizontal lines
- **geom_vline(xintercept, linetype, color, size)**: for vertical lines
- **geom_abline(intercept, slope, linetype, color, size)**: for regression lines
- **geom_segment()** to add segments

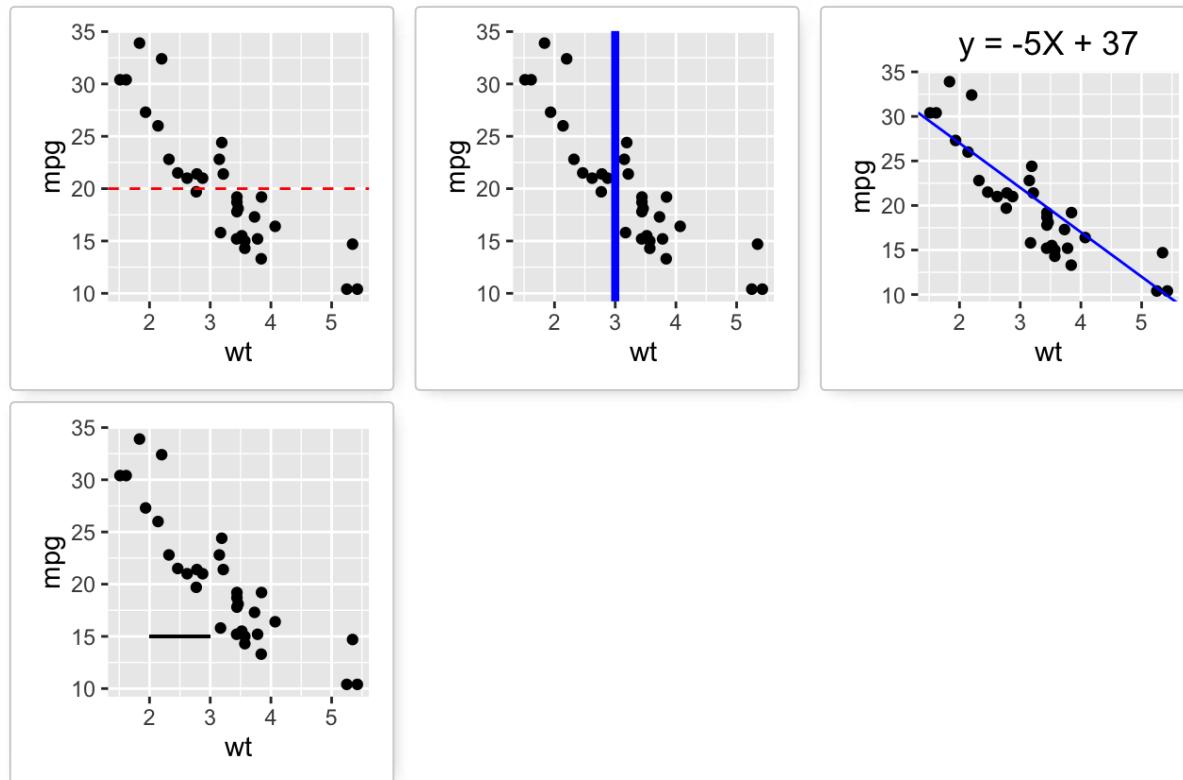
1. Create a simple scatter plot

```
# Simple scatter plot
sp <- ggplot(data=mtcars, aes(x=wt, y=mpg)) + geom_point()
```

2. Add straight lines

```
# Add horizontal line at y = 20; change line type and color
sp + geom_hline(yintercept=20, linetype="dashed", color = "red")
# Add vertical line at x = 3; change line type, color and size
```

```
sp + geom_vline(xintercept = 3, color = "blue", size=1.5)
# Add regression line
sp + geom_abline(intercept = 37, slope = -5, color="blue")+
  ggtitle("y = -5X + 37")
# Add horizontal line segment
sp + geom_segment(aes(x = 2, y = 15, xend = 3, yend = 15))
```

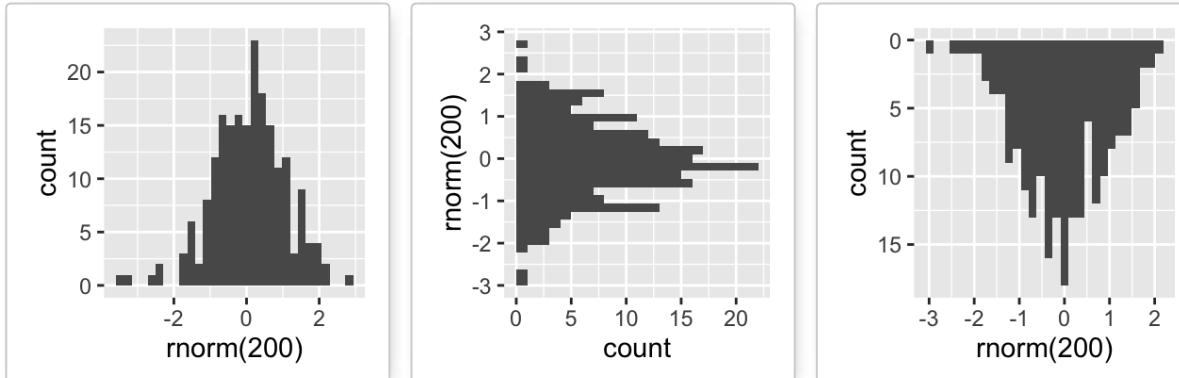


✓ Learn more here: [ggplot2 add straight lines to a plot](#).

Rotate a plot: flip and reverse

- **coord_flip()**: Create **horizontal plots**
- **scale_x_reverse()**, **scale_y_reverse()**: Reverse the axes

```
set.seed(1234)
# Basic histogram
hp <- qplot(x=rnorm(200), geom="histogram")
hp
# Horizontal histogram
hp + coord_flip()
# Y axis reversed
hp + scale_y_reverse()
```



✓ Learn more here: [ggplot2 rotate a graph](#).

Faceting: split a plot into a matrix of panels

Facets divide a plot into subplots based on the values of one or more categorical variables.

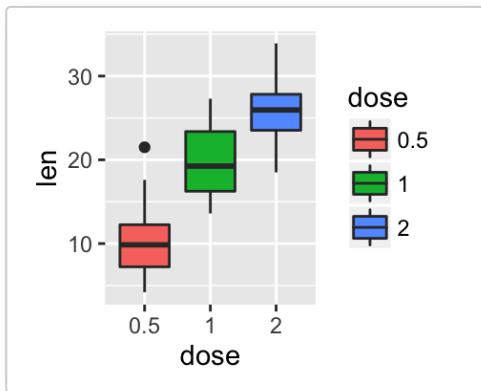
There are two main functions for faceting :

- **facet_grid()**

- **facet_wrap()**

Create a box plot filled by groups:

```
p <- ggplot(ToothGrowth, aes(x=dose, y=len, group=dose)) +  
  geom_boxplot(aes(fill=dose))  
p
```

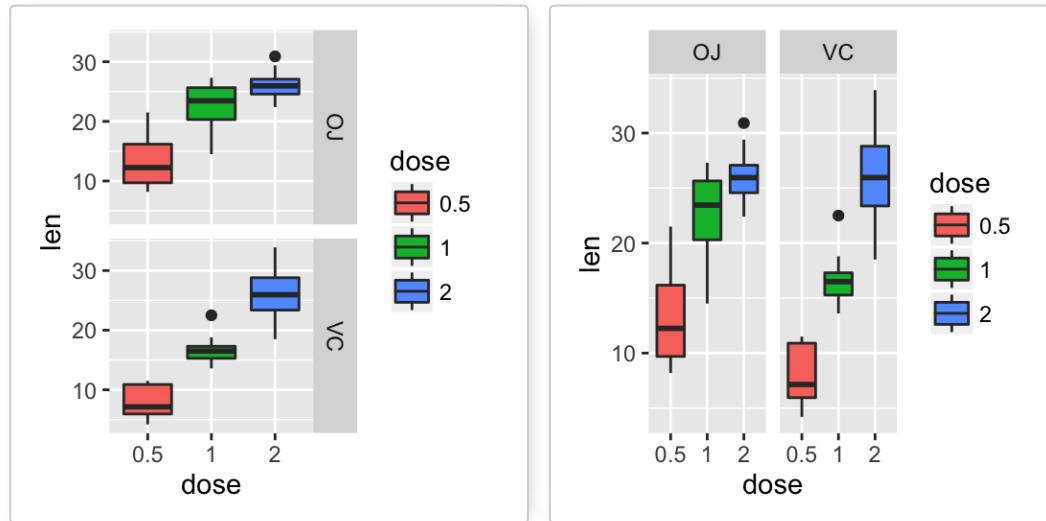


The following functions can be used for facets:

- `p + facet_grid(supp ~ .)`: Facet in vertical direction based on the levels of `supp` variable.
- `p + facet_grid(. ~ supp)`: Facet in horizontal direction based on the levels of `supp` variable.
- `p + facet_grid(dose ~ supp)`: Facet in horizontal and vertical directions based on two variables: `dose` and `supp`.
- `p + facet_wrap(~ fl)`: Place facet side by side into a rectangular layout

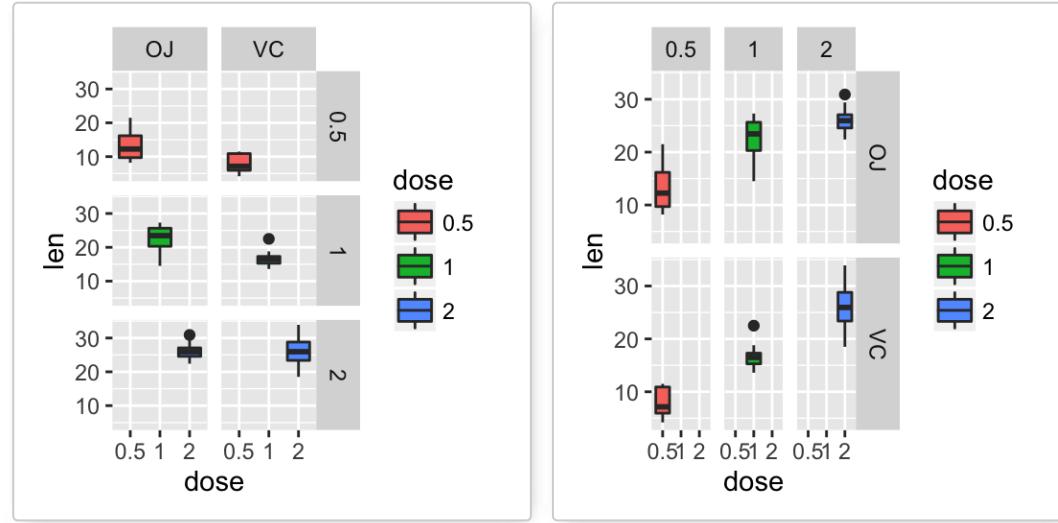
1. **Facet with one discrete variable:** Split by the levels of the group “supp”

```
# Split in vertical direction  
p + facet_grid(supp ~ .)  
# Split in horizontal direction  
p + facet_grid(. ~ supp)
```



2. **Facet with two discrete variables:** Split by the levels of the groups "dose" and "supp"

```
# Facet by two variables: dose and supp.  
# Rows are dose and columns are supp  
p + facet_grid(dose ~ supp)  
# Facet by two variables: reverse the order of the 2 variables  
# Rows are supp and columns are dose  
p + facet_grid(supp ~ dose)
```



⚠️ By default, all the panels have the same scales (`scales="fixed"`). They can be made independent, by setting scales to `free`, `free_x`, or `free_y`.

```
p + facet_grid(dose ~ supp, scales='free')
```

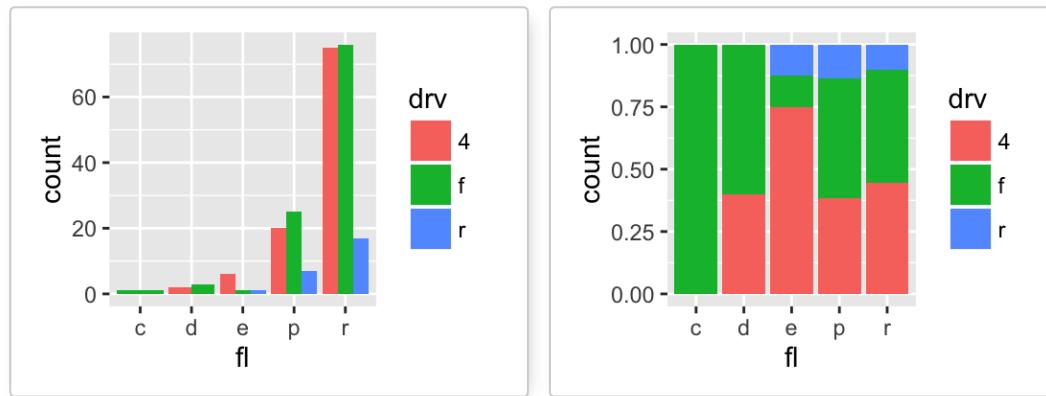
✓ Learn more here: [ggplot2 facet : split a plot into a matrix of panels.](#)

Position adjustments

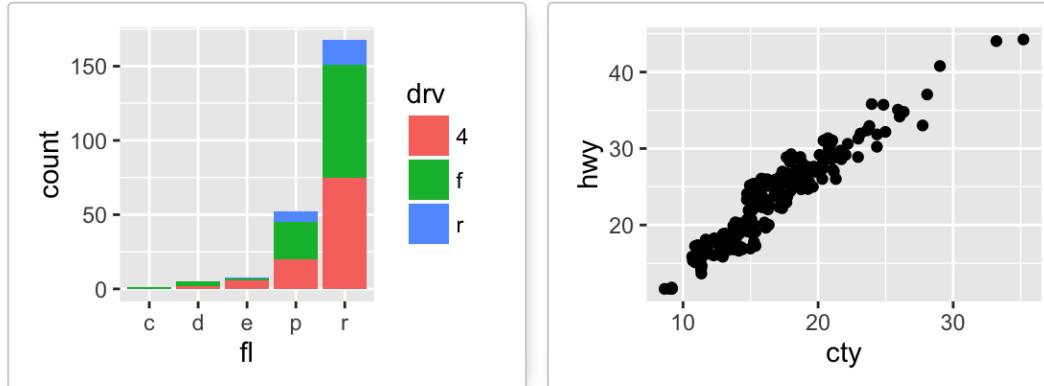
Position adjustments determine how to arrange geoms. The argument **position** is used to adjust geom positions:

```
p <- ggplot(mpg, aes(fl, fill = drv))
# Arrange elements side by side
p + geom_bar(position = "dodge")
# Stack objects on top of one another,
```

```
# and normalize to have equal height  
p + geom_bar(position = "fill")
```



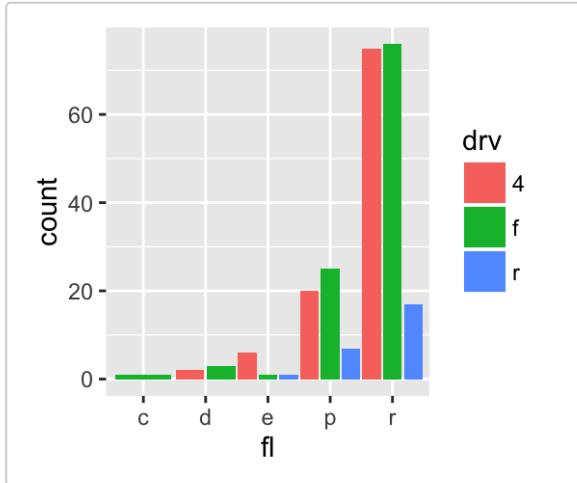
```
# Stack elements on top of one another  
p + geom_bar(position = "stack")  
# Add random noise to X and Y position  
# of each element to avoid overplotting  
ggplot(mpg, aes(cty, hwy)) +  
  geom_point(position = "jitter")
```



Note that, each of these position adjustments can be done using a function with manual **width** and **height** argument.

- **position_dodge(width, height)**
- **position_fill(width, height)**
- **position_stack(width, height)**
- **position_jitter(width, height)**

```
p + geom_bar(position = position_dodge(width = 1))
```



Learn more here: [ggplot2 bar plots](#).

Coordinate systems

```
p <- ggplot(mpg, aes(fl)) + geom_bar()
```

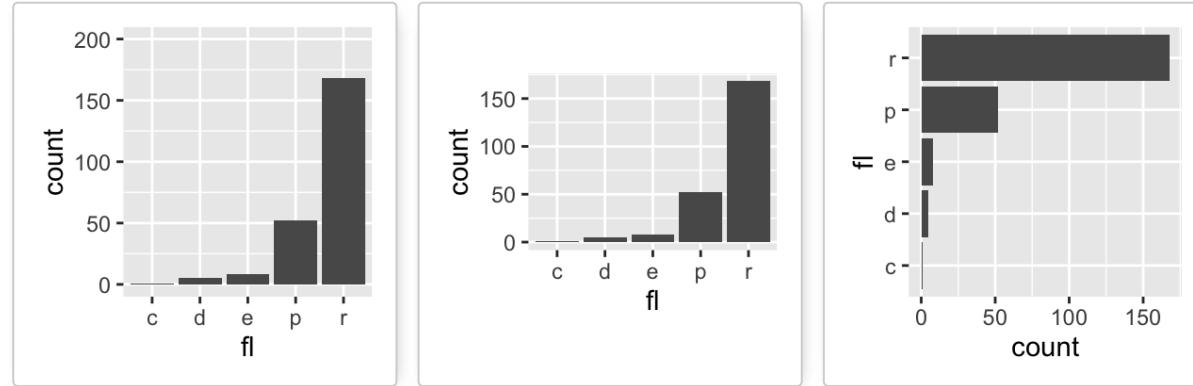
The **coordinate systems** in ggplot2 are:

- `p + coord_cartesian(xlim = NULL, ylim = NULL)`: **Cartesian coordinate system** (default). It's the most familiar and common type of coordinate system.
- `p + coord_fixed(ratio = 1, xlim = NULL, ylim = NULL)`: **Cartesian coordinates with fixed relationship between x and y scales**. The ratio represents the number of units on the y-axis equivalent to one unit on the x-axis. The default, ratio = 1, ensures that one unit on the x-axis is the same length as one unit on the y-axis.
- `p + coord_flip(...)`: **Flipped cartesian coordinates**. Useful for creating horizontal plot by rotating.

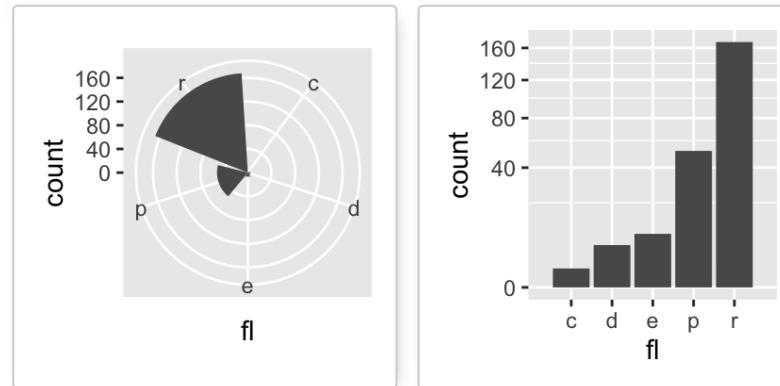
- `p + coord_polar(theta = "x", start = 0, direction = 1)`: **Polar coordinates**. The polar coordinate system is most commonly used for pie charts, which are a stacked bar chart in polar coordinates.
- `p + coord_trans(x, y, limx, limy)`: **Transformed cartesian coordinate system**.
- `coord_map()`: Map projections. Provides the full range of map projections available in the mapproj package.

1. Arguments for `coord_cartesian()`, `coord_fixed()` and `coord_flip()`
 - **xlim**: limits for the x axis
 - **ylim**: limits for the y axis
 - **ratio**: aspect ratio, expressed as y/x
 - ...: Other arguments passed onto `coord_cartesian`
2. Arguments for `coord_polar()`
 - **theta**: variable to map angle to (x or y)
 - **start**: offset of starting point from 12 o'clock in radians
 - **direction**: 1, clockwise; -1, anticlockwise
3. Arguments for `coord_trans()`
 - **x, y**: transformers for x and y axes
 - **limx, limy**: limits for x and y axes.

```
p + coord_cartesian(ylim = c(0, 200))
p + coord_fixed(ratio = 1/50)
p + coord_flip()
```



```
p + coord_polar(theta = "x", direction = 1)
p + coord_trans(y = "sqrt")
```



Extensions to ggplot2: R packages and functions

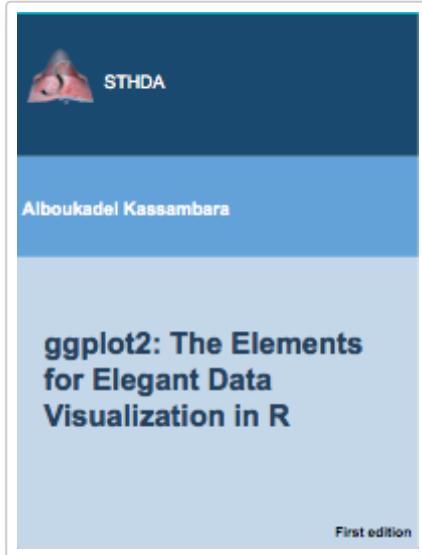
- [factoextra](#): **factoextra : Extract and Visualize the outputs of a multivariate analysis.** **factoextra** provides some easy-to-use functions to extract and visualize the output of PCA (Principal Component Analysis), CA (Correspondence Analysis) and MCA (Multiple Correspondence Analysis) functions from several packages (FactoMineR, stats, ade4 and MASS). It contains also many functions for simplifying clustering analysis workflows. Ggplot2 plotting system is used.

- [easyggplot2](#): Perform and customize easily a plot with **ggplot2**. The idea behind ggplot2 is seductively simple but the detail is, yes, difficult. To customize a plot, the syntax is sometimes a tiny bit opaque and this raises the level of difficulty. **easyGgplot2** package (which depends on ggplot2) to make and customize quickly plots including box plot, dot plot, strip chart, violin plot, histogram, density plot, scatter plot, bar plot, line plot, etc, ...
- [ggplot2](#) - Easy way to mix multiple graphs on the same page: The R package **gridExtra** and **cowplot** are used.
- [ggplot2](#): Correlation matrix heatmap
- [ggfortify](#): Define **fortify** and **autoplot** functions to allow ggplot2 to handle some popular R packages. These include plotting 1) Matrix; 2) Linear Model and Generalized Linear Model; 3) Time Series; 4) PCA/Clustering; 5) Survival Curve; 6) Probability distribution
- [GGally](#): **GGally** extends ggplot2 by providing several functions including **pairwise correlation matrix**, **scatterplot plot matrix**, **parallel coordinates plot**, **survival plot** and several functions to plot networks.
- [ggRandomForests](#): Graphical analysis of **random forests** with the randomForestSRC and ggplot2 packages.
- [ggdendro](#): Create dendrograms and tree diagrams using ggplot2
- [ggmcmc](#): Tools for Analyzing MCMC Simulations from Bayesian Inference
- [ggthemes](#): Package with additional ggplot2 themes and scales
- Theme used to create journal ready figures easily

Ressources to improve your ggplot2 skills

Books

- [ggplot2: The Elements for Elegant Data Visualization in R](#)



- [Cookbook for R](#)

Blog posts

- [Build a plot layer by layer](#)

Cheat Sheets

- [Data Visualization with ggplot2, RStudio cheat sheet](#)
- [Beautiful plotting in R: A ggplot2 cheatsheet](#)

Acknowledgment

- Thanks to Hadley Wickham for ggplot2 package: [ggplot2 online documentation](#)
- Thanks to RStudio for [ggplot2 cheatseet](#))

Infos



This analysis was performed using R (ver. 3.2.4) and ggplot2 (ver 2.1.0).



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