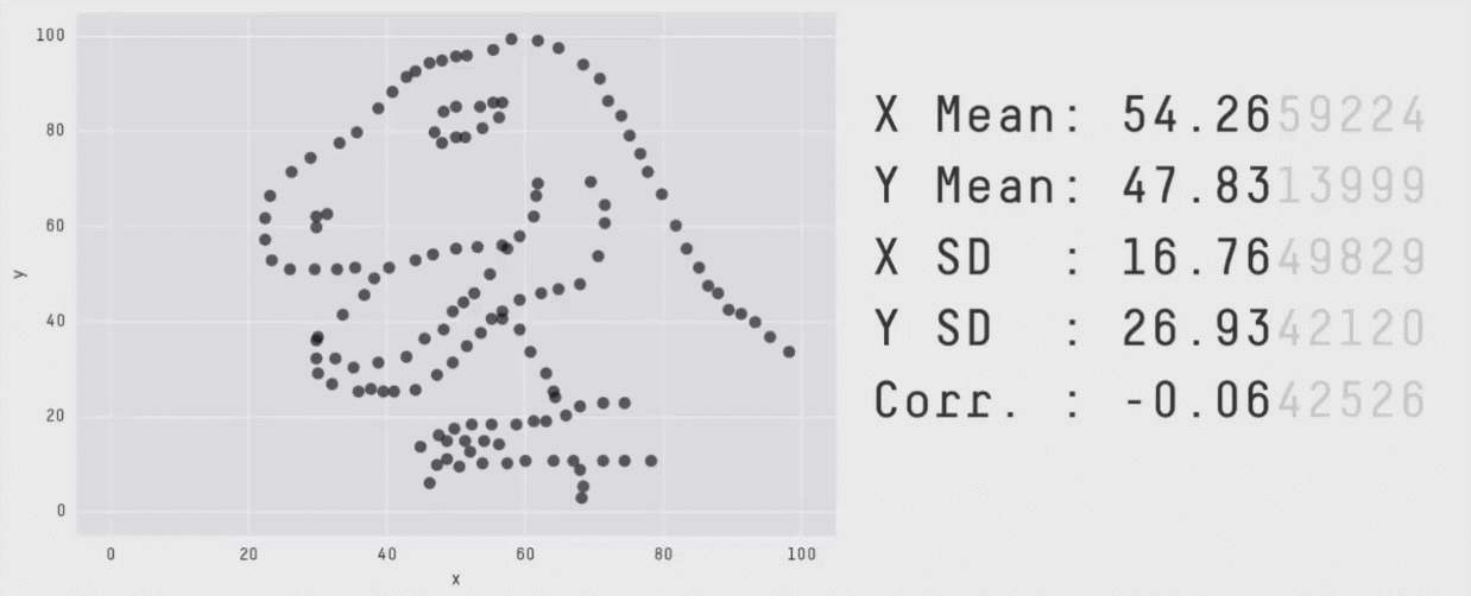
Data visualisation with ggplot2

Francisco Rodríguez-Sánchez

https://frodriguezsanchez.net

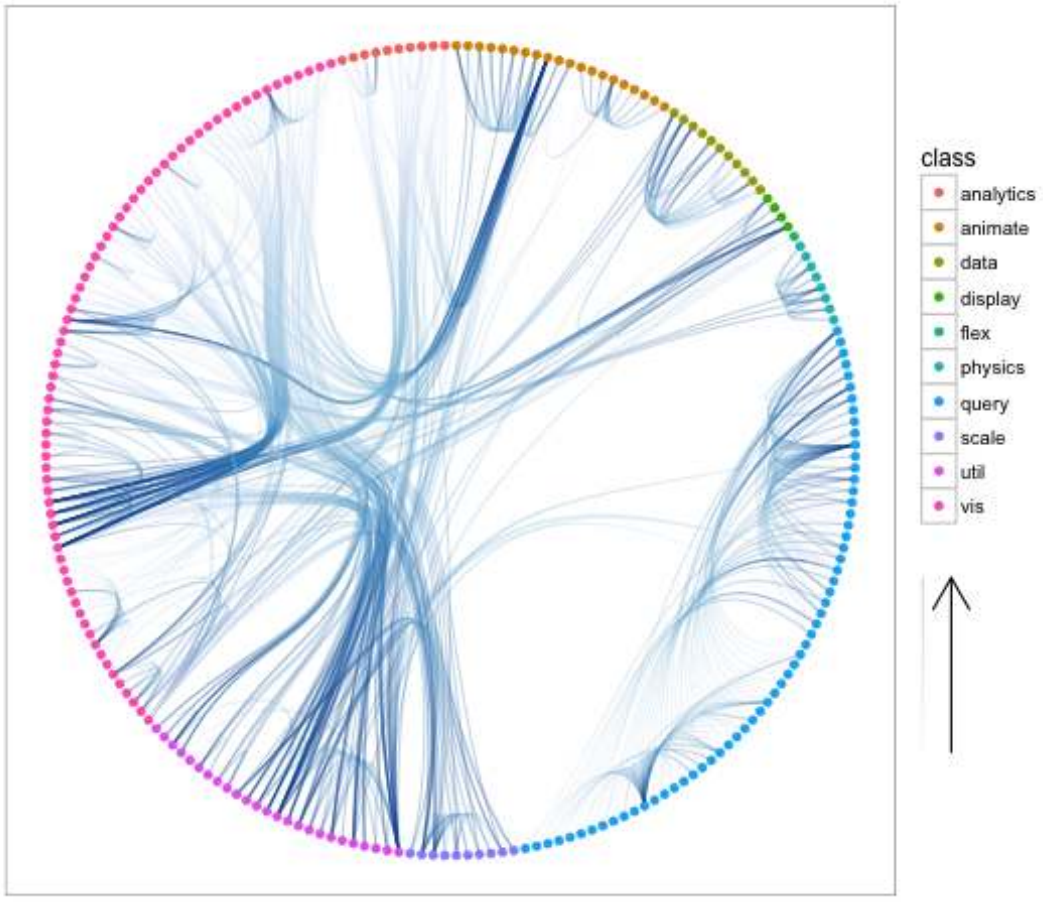
@frod_san

Always plot data!



https://github.com/stephlocke/datasauRus

Made with ggplot

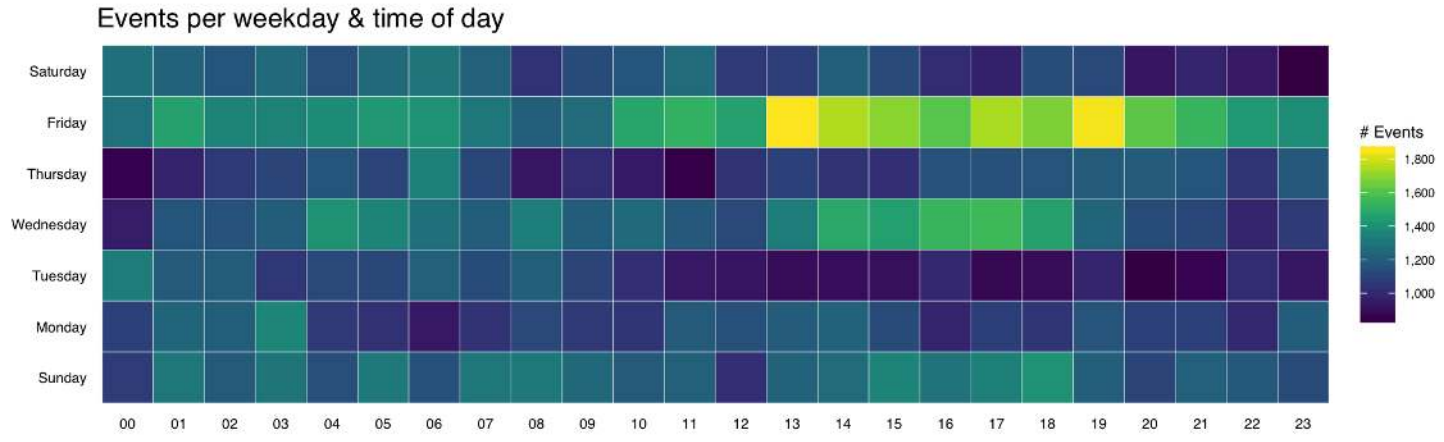


https://github.com/thomasp85/ggraph

Made with ggplot

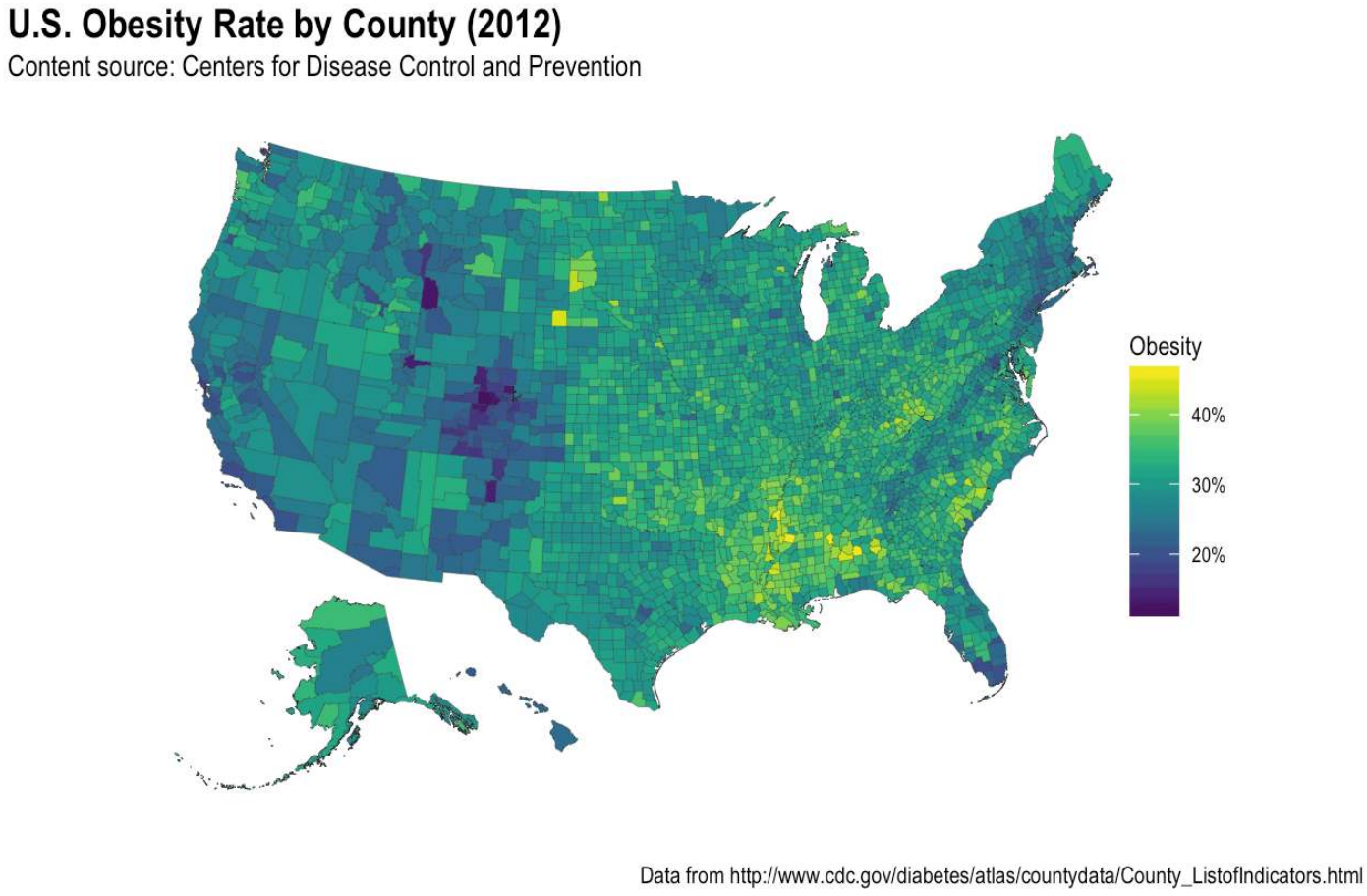
http://spatial.ly/2012/02/great-maps-ggplot2/

Made with ggplot



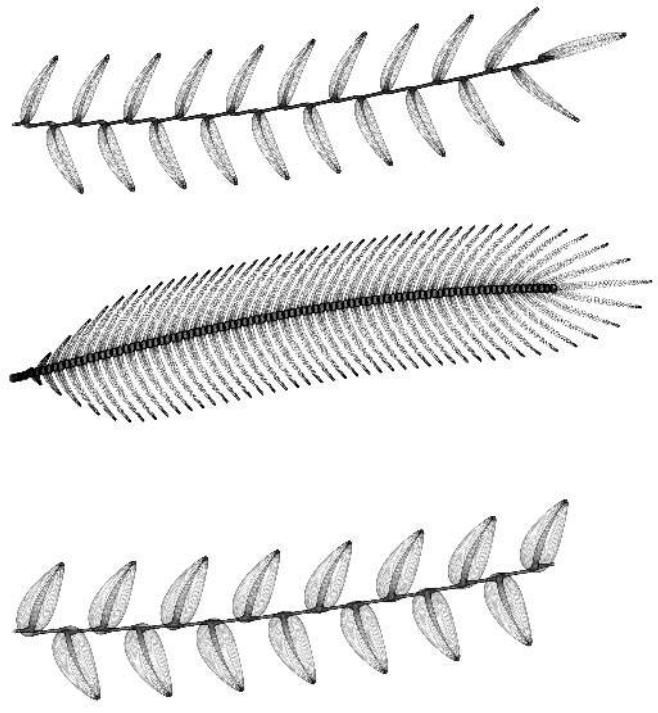
https://rud.is/b/2016/02/14/making-faceted-heatmaps-with-ggplot2/

Made with ggplot



https://rud.is/b/2016/03/29/easier-composite-u-s-choropleths-with-albersusa/

Made with ggplot



https://github.com/marcusvolz/mathart

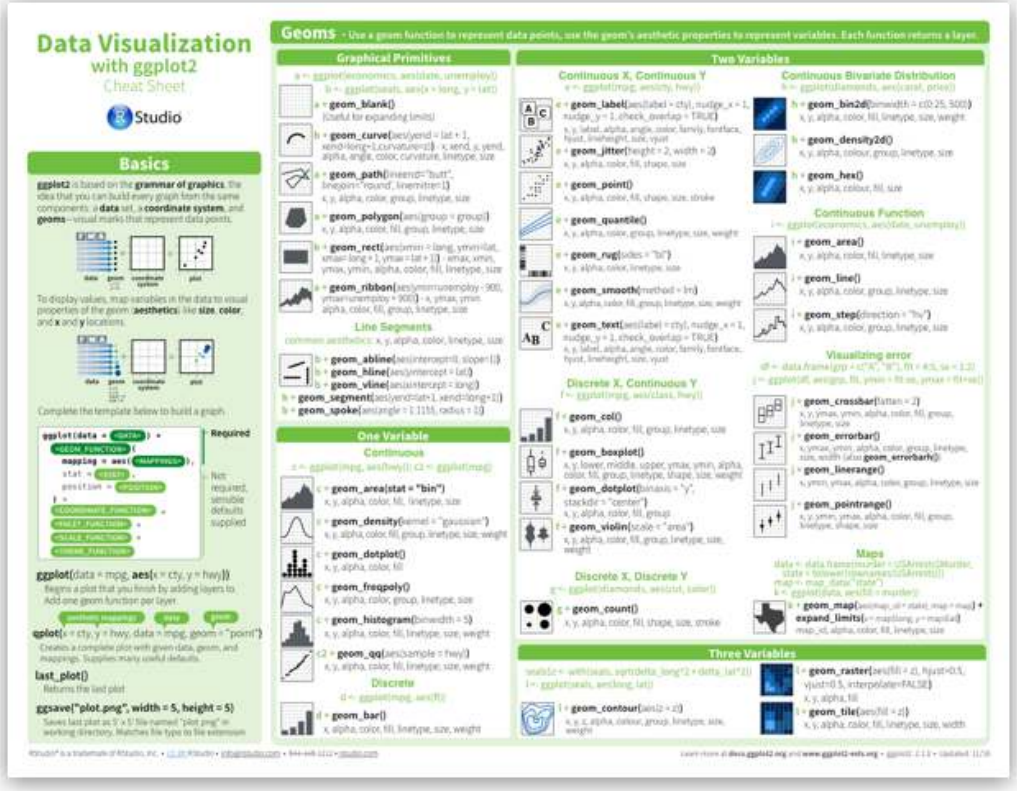
Why ggplot

- Extremely powerful and flexible
- Consistent (grammar of graphics)
- Very powerful user base and active development

Very good documentation and tutorials

- Official ggplot2 documentation
- ggplot2 book
- Data visualisation chapter in R for Data Science
- R graphics cookbook and Cookbook for R
- Data visualization: a practical introduction (K. Healy)
- Fundamentals of data visualization (C. Wilke)

Cheatsheet

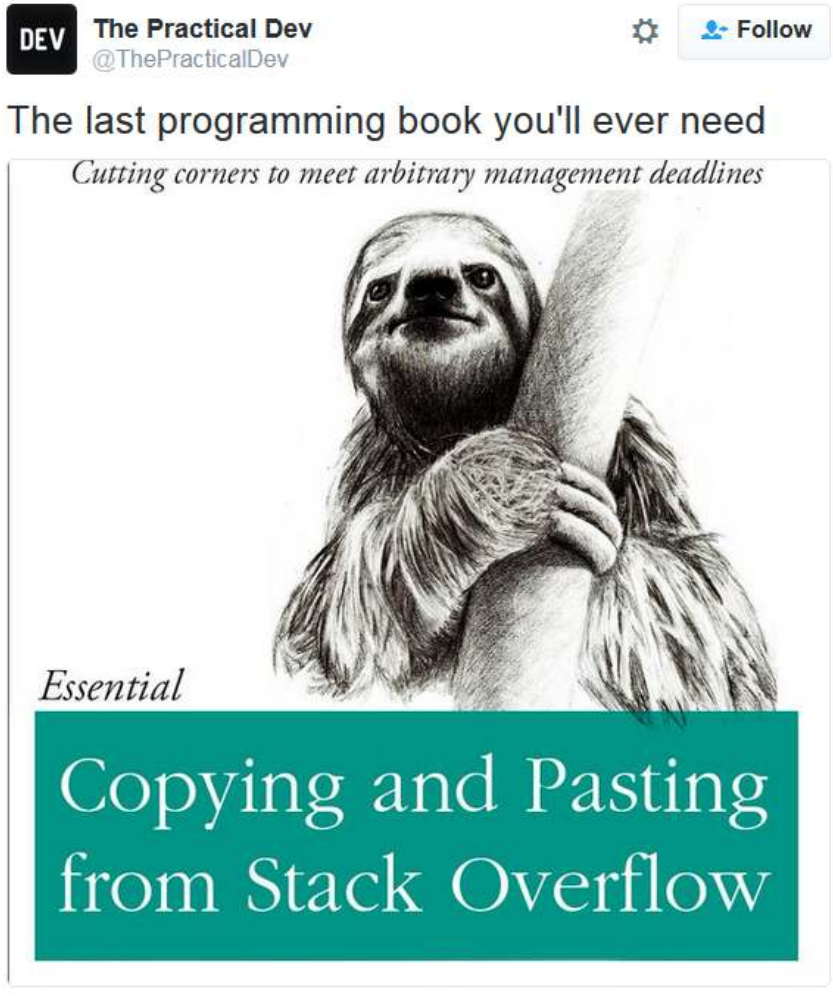


https://www.rstudio.com/resources/cheatsheets/

Repos of figures + code

- From Data to Viz
- The R graph gallery
- R graphics cookbook
- Cookbook for R: Graphs
- Graphical data analysis with R
- R graph catalog

Find answers in Stack Overflow, Rstudio Community, R4DS...



Building a ggplot figure

Our example dataset: paper planes flying experiment

```
library(paperplanes)
data(paperplanes)
head(paperplanes)
```

```
# A tibble: 6 × 8
     id hour    person   gender   age plane       paper distance
  <int> <fct>   <chr>    <fct>  <dbl> <chr>       <int>    <dbl>
1     1 [17,18) Roland   male      30 Standard80     80      7.8
2     2 [17,18) Astrid   female    30 Concorde120   120      2.7
3     3 [17,18) Roland   male      30 Standard120   120      9.2
4     4 [17,18) Isabella female    48 Standard120   120      6
5     5 [17,18) Fabienne female    17 Standard120   120      7.3
6     6 [17,18) Fabienne female    17 Standard120   120      7.8
```

Ensuring 'paper' is factor, not numeric

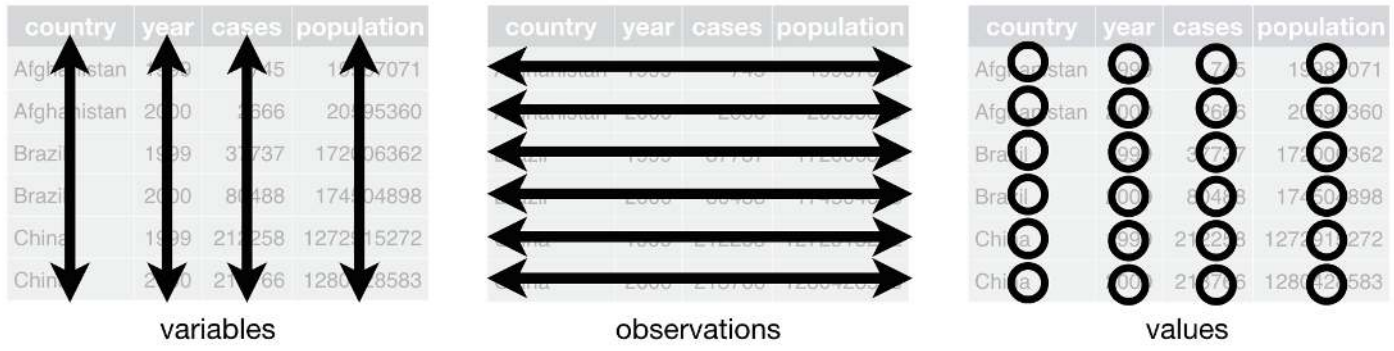
Using dplyr:

```
paperplanes <- paperplanes %>%
  mutate(paper = as.factor(paper))
```

R base:

```
paperplanes$paper <- as.factor(paperplanes$paper)
```

Data must be a tidy data frame



tidyr::gather(table4, key = "year", value = "cases", "1999", "2000")

country	year	cases
Afghanistan	1999	745
Afghanistan	2000	2666
Brazil	1999	37737
Brazil	2000	80488
China	1999	212258
China	2000	213766

country	1999	2000
~~Afghanistan~~	~~745~~	2666
Brazil	37737	80488
China	212258	213766

table4

http://r4ds.had.co.nz/tidy-data.html

Calling ggplot

```
library(ggplot2)
ggplot(paperplanes)
```

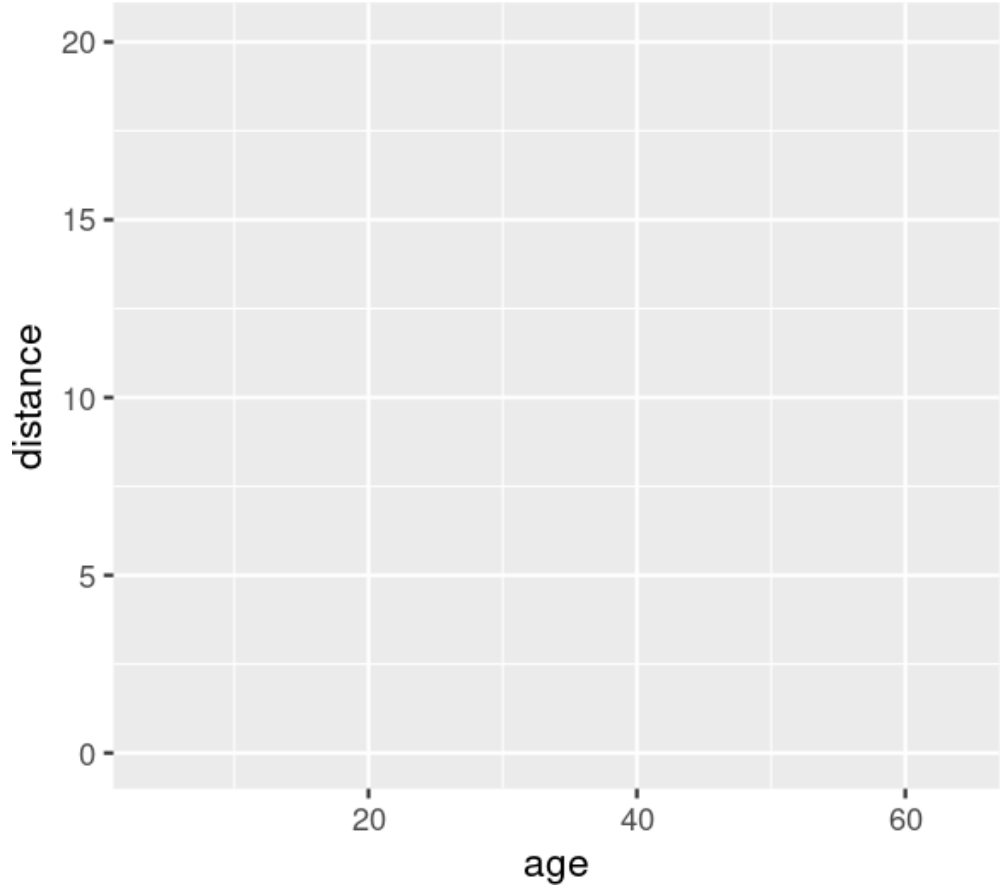
First argument is a tidy data frame

```
ggplot(paperplanes)
```

What variables as axes?

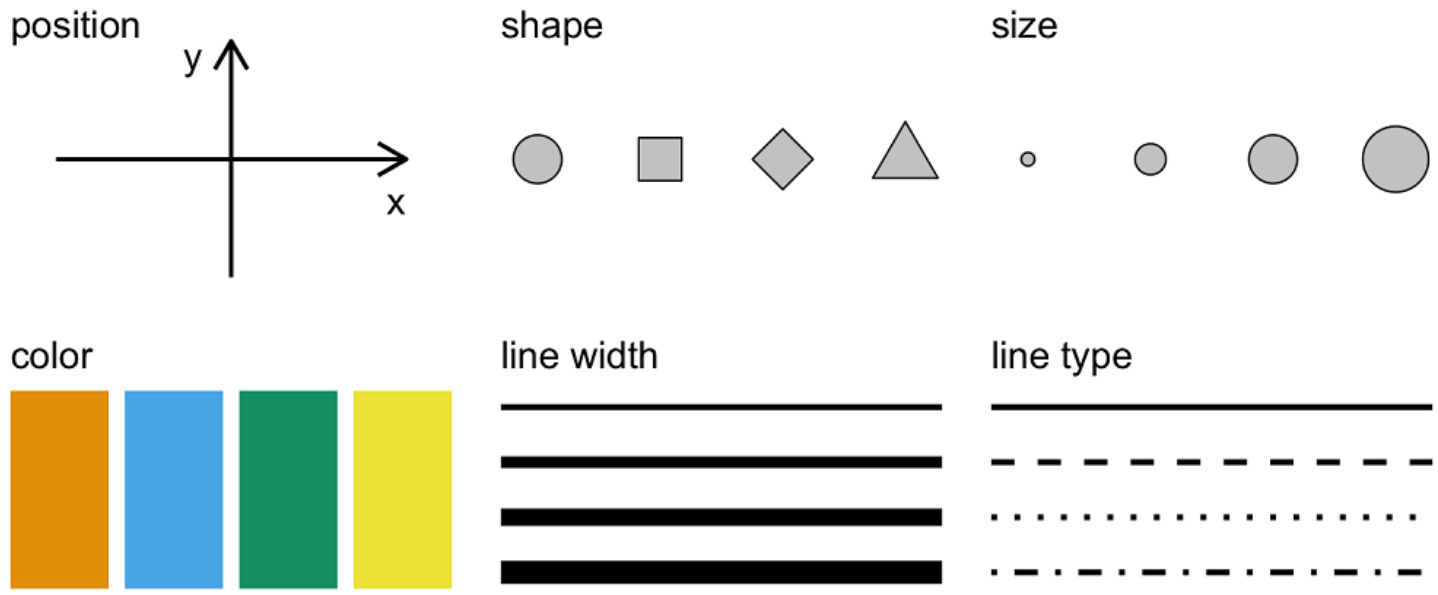
Note syntax: + followed by new line

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance)
```



Aesthetics (*aes*) map data variables (*age*, *distance*) to graphic elements (*axes*)

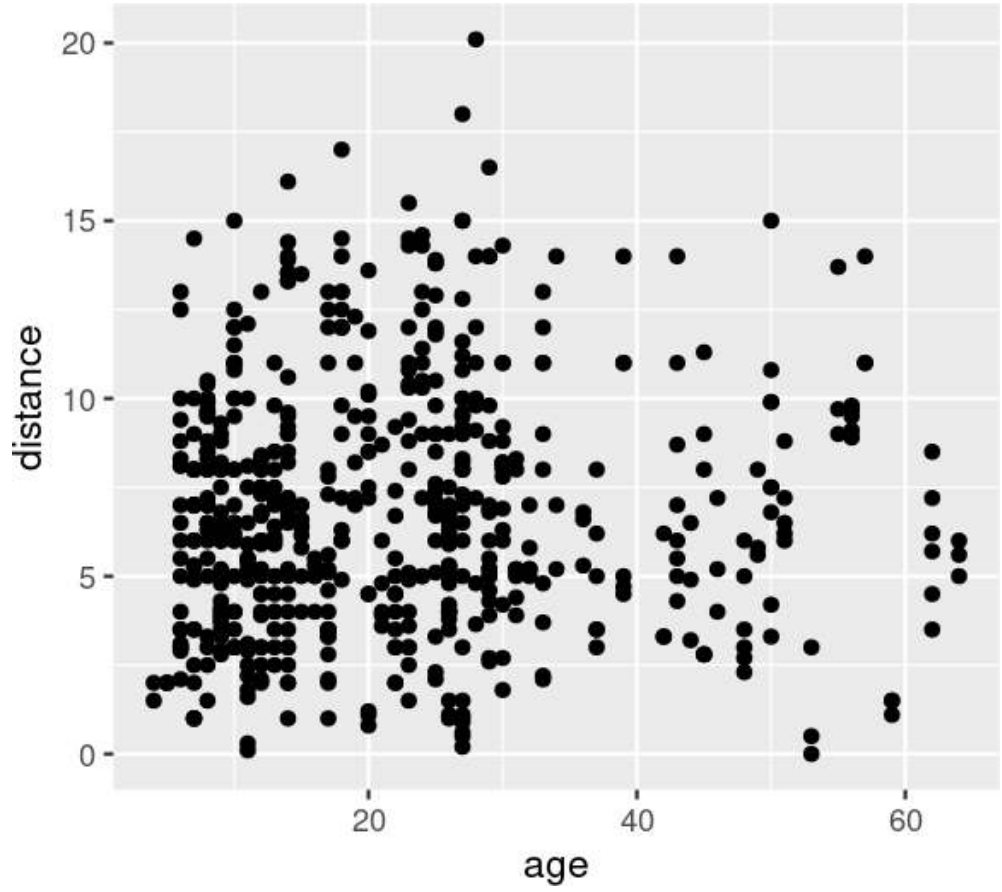
```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance)
```



http://serialmentor.com/dataviz/aesthetic-mapping.html

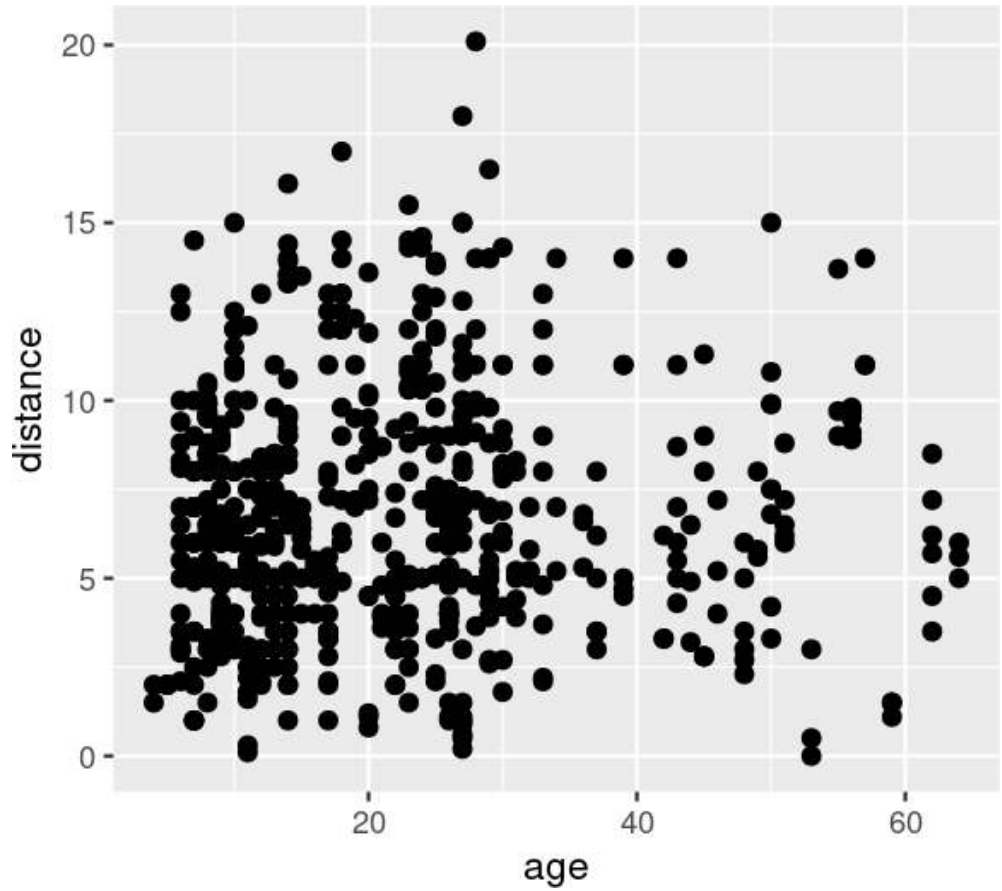
Add layers (geoms)

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point()
```



Change point size and type

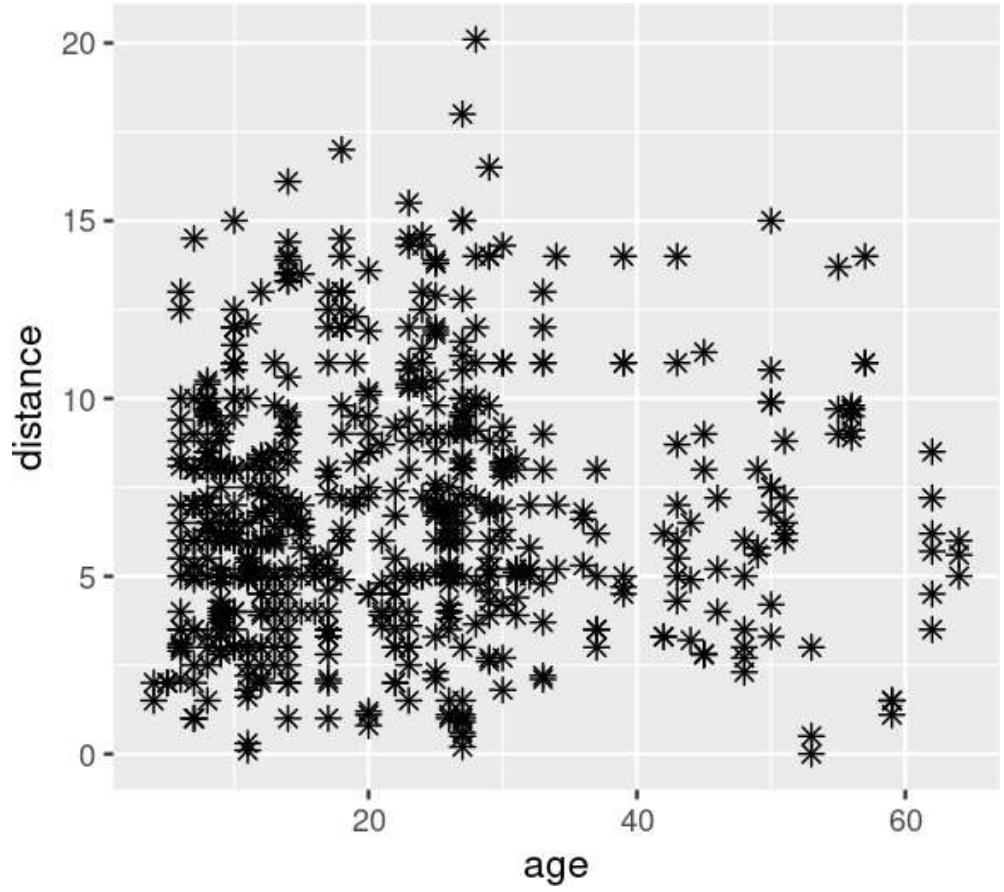
```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(size = 2)
```



Check out `geom_point` help here

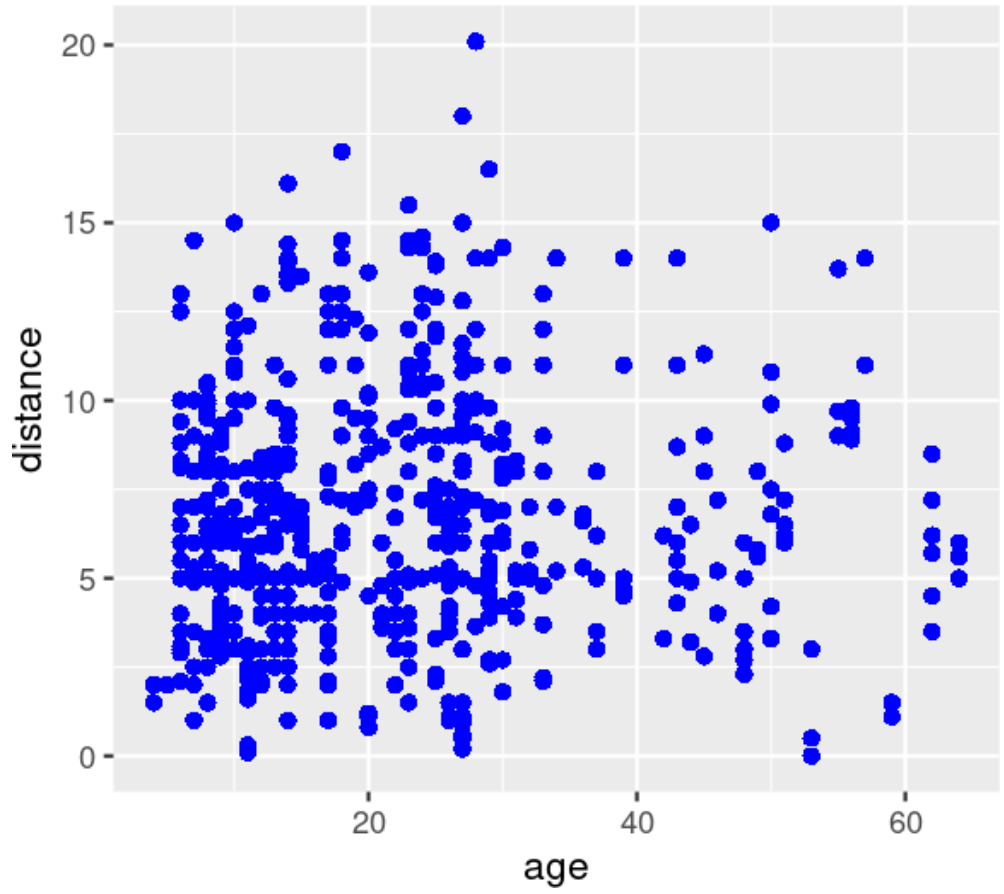
Change point size and type

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(size = 2, shape = 8)
```



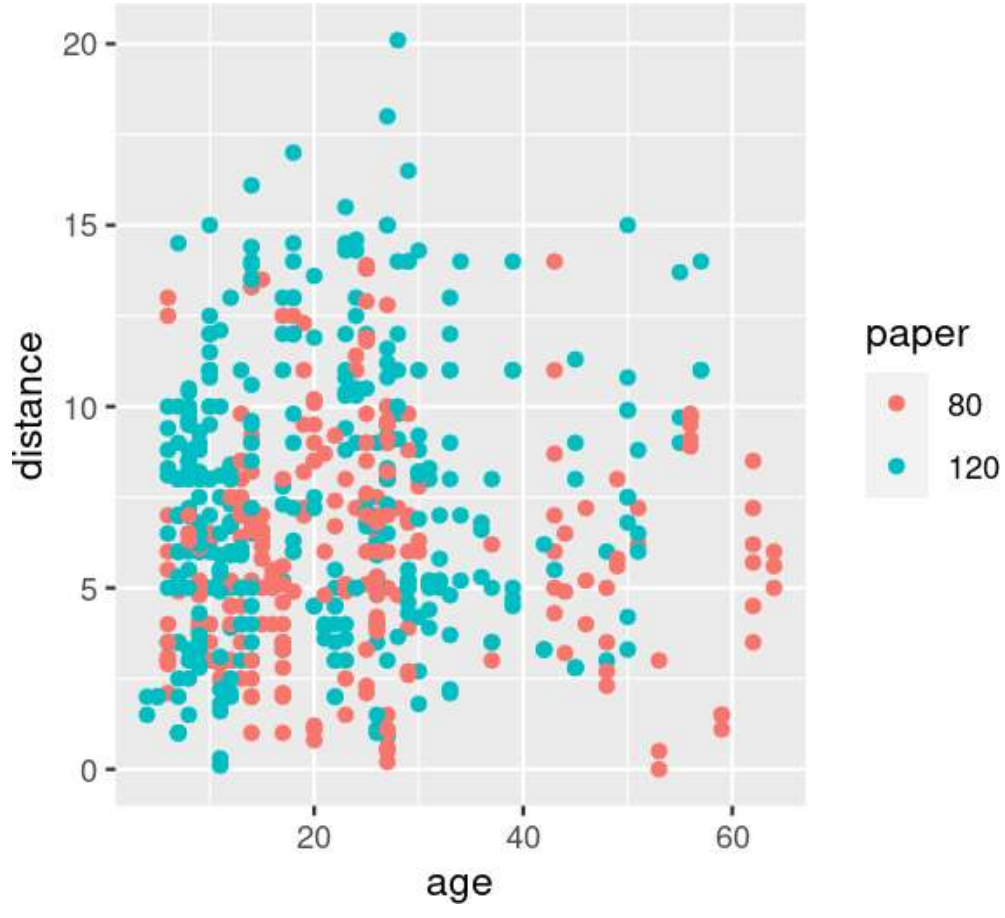
Change point size and type

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(size = 2, shape = 16,
             colour = "blue")
```



Map geom aesthetics (e.g. colour) to variable

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper))
```



Remember:

'aes' relates some graphical characteristic

(colour, size, shape...)

to a variable in the data

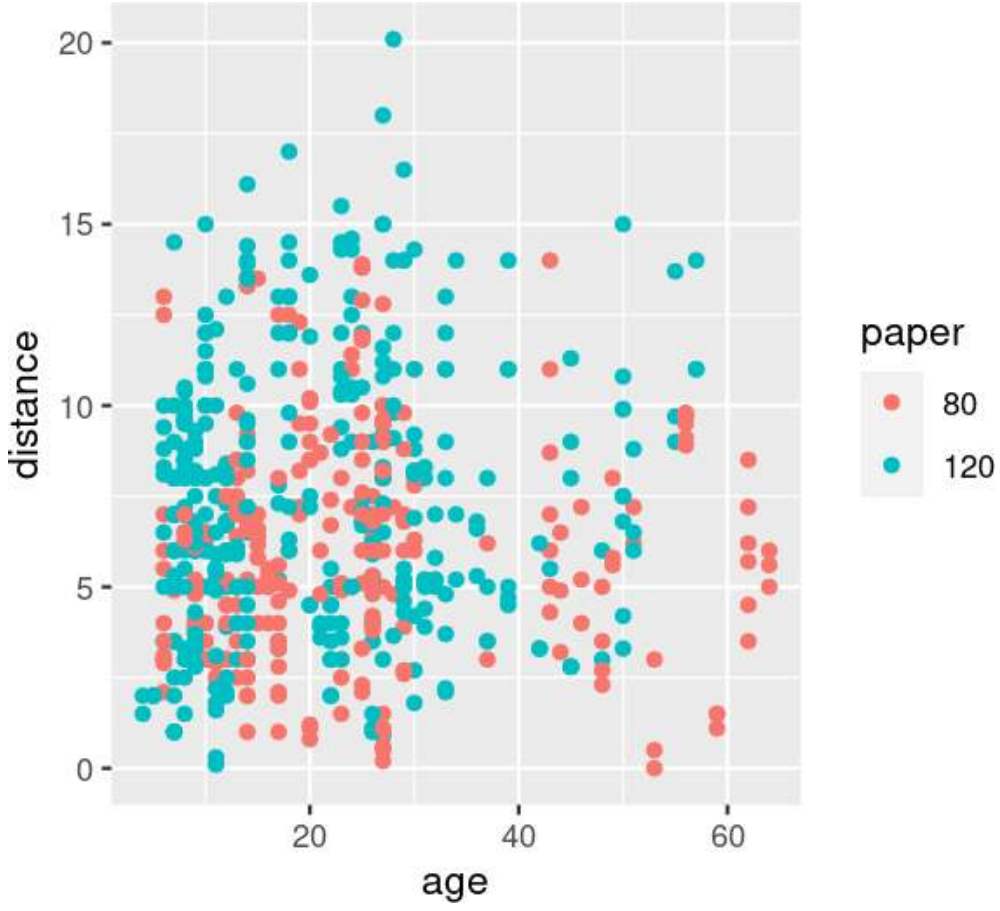
Note difference between

```
geom_point(colour = "blue")
# colour is given a concrete value ('blue')
```

```
geom_point(aes(colour = gender))
# colour maps a *variable* in the data (gender) USING `aes`
```

This works:

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper))
```



This doesn't work:

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(colour = paper)
```

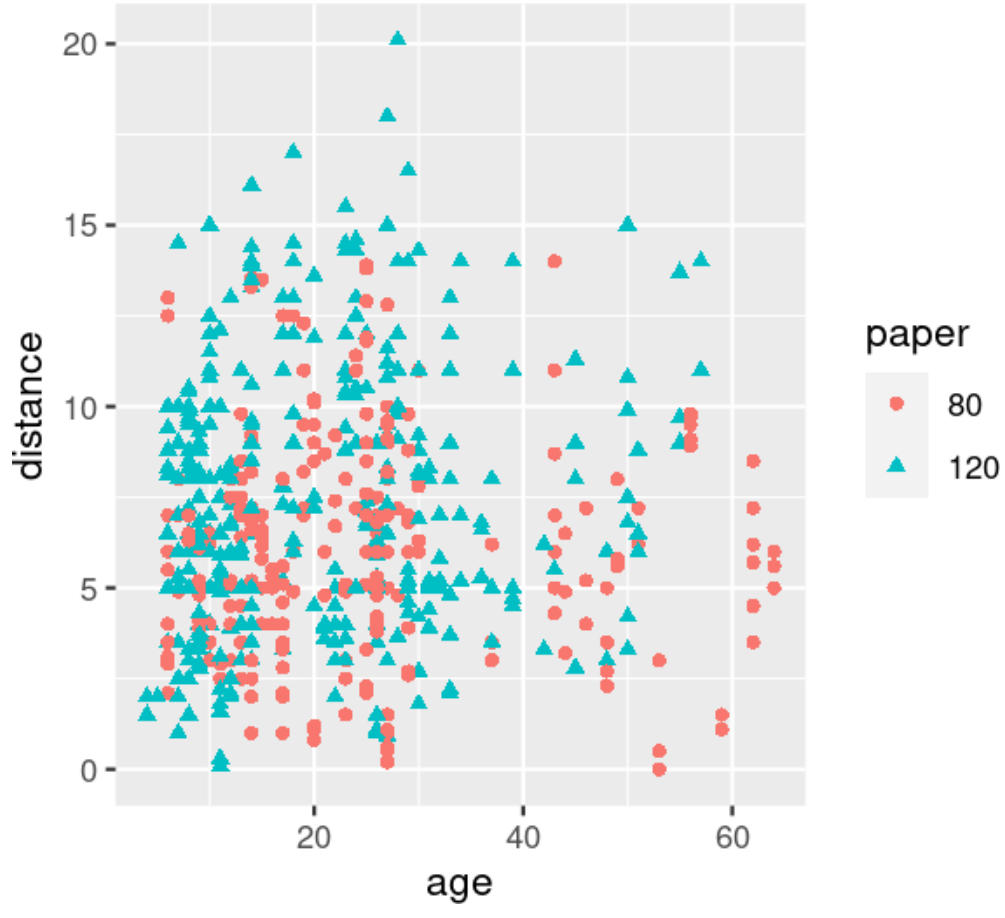
Error in layer(data = data, mapping = mapping, stat = stat, geom = GeomPoint, : object 'paper' not found

'paper' is a variable in dataframe, hence

must use `aes`

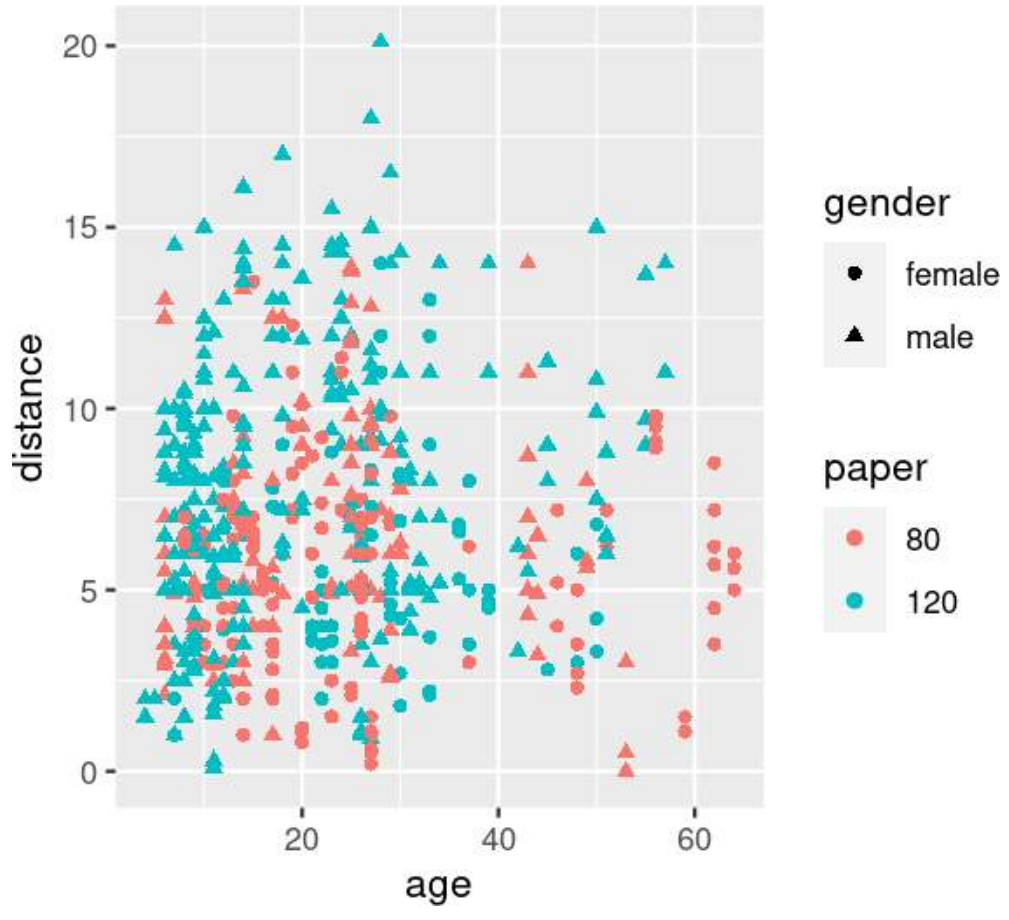
Map geom aesthetics (colour, shape) to variable

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper,
                 shape = paper))
```



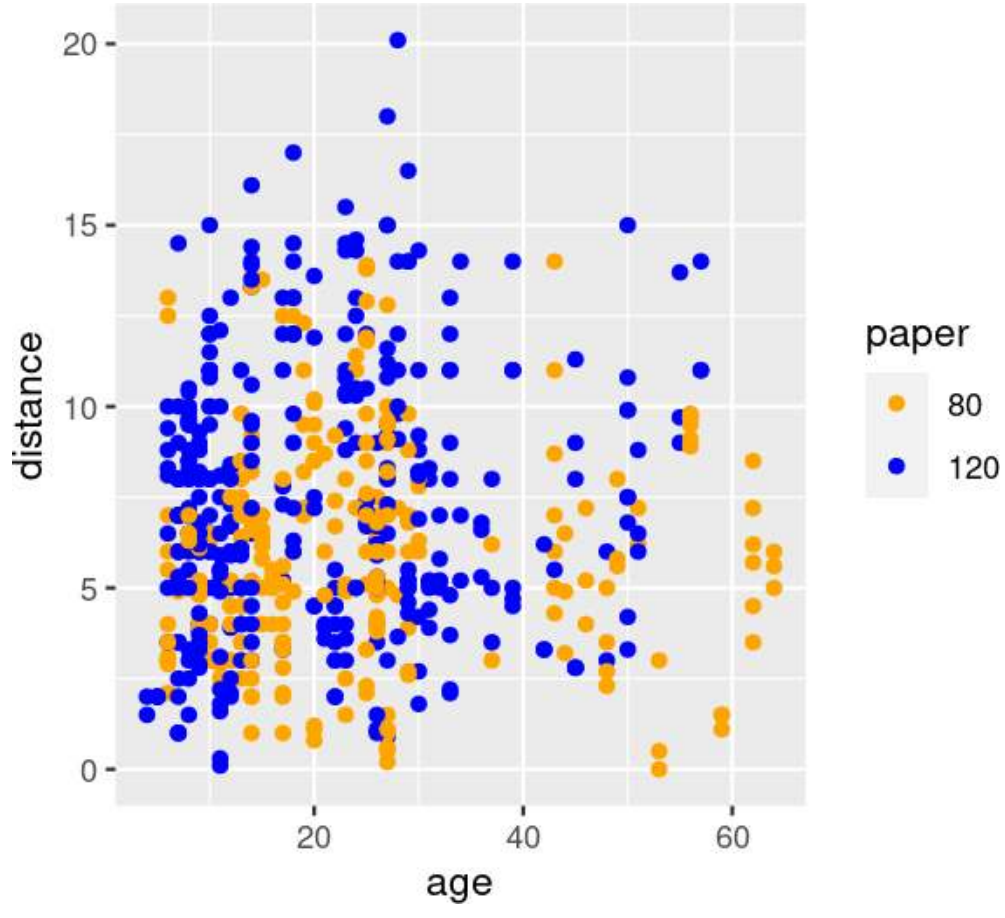
Map geom aesthetics (colour, shape) to variable

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper,
                 shape = gender))
```



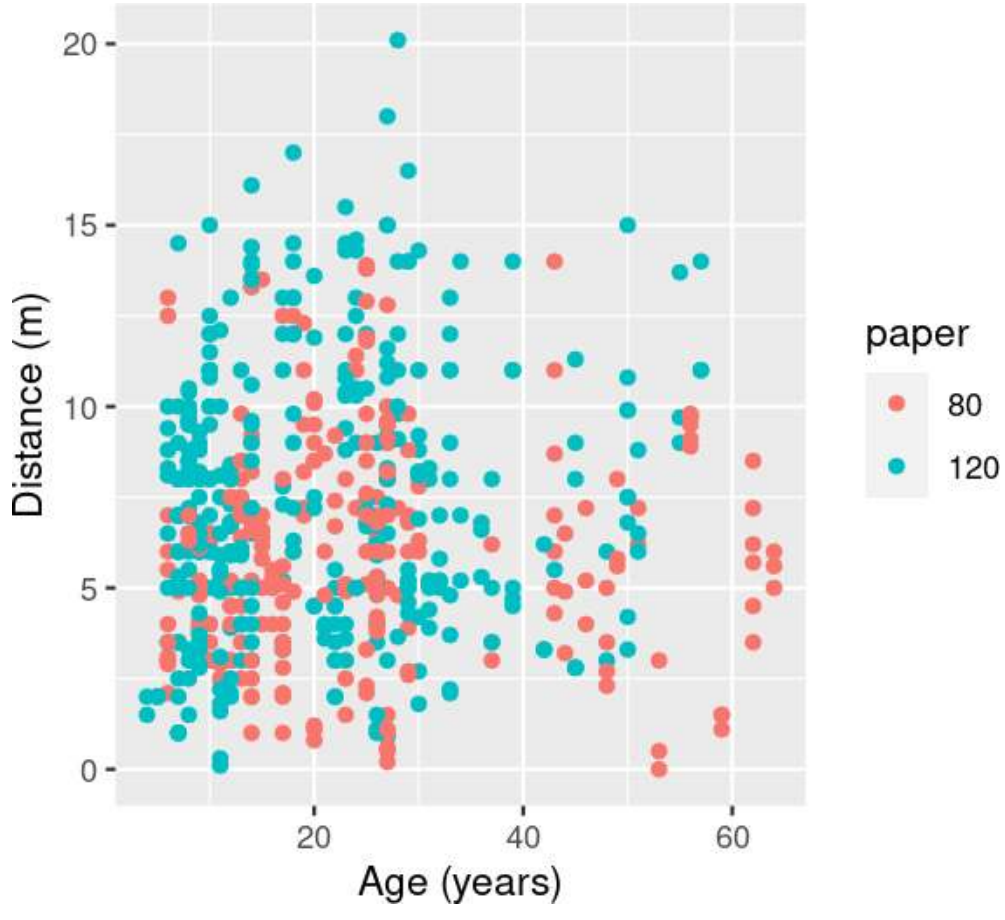
Change colour scale

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper)) +
  scale_colour_manual(values = c("orange", "b
```



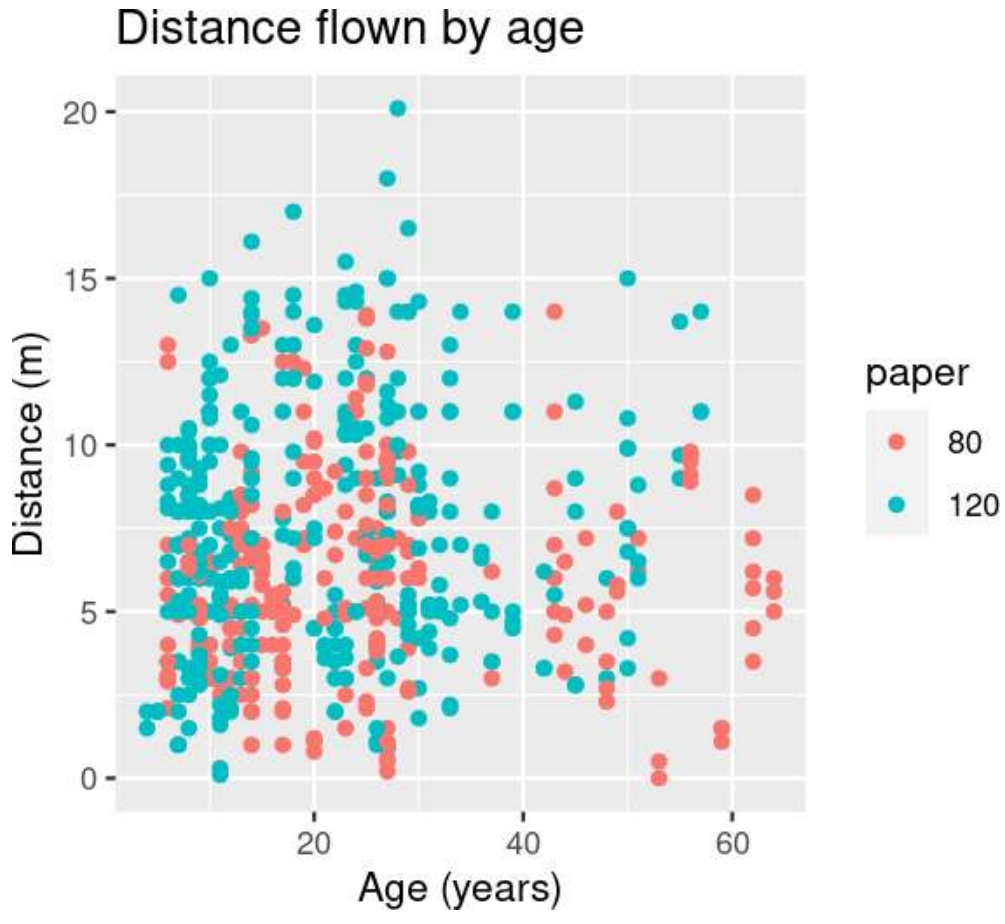
Change axis labels: xlab & ylab

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper)) +
  labs(x = "Age (years)",
       y = "Distance (m)")
```



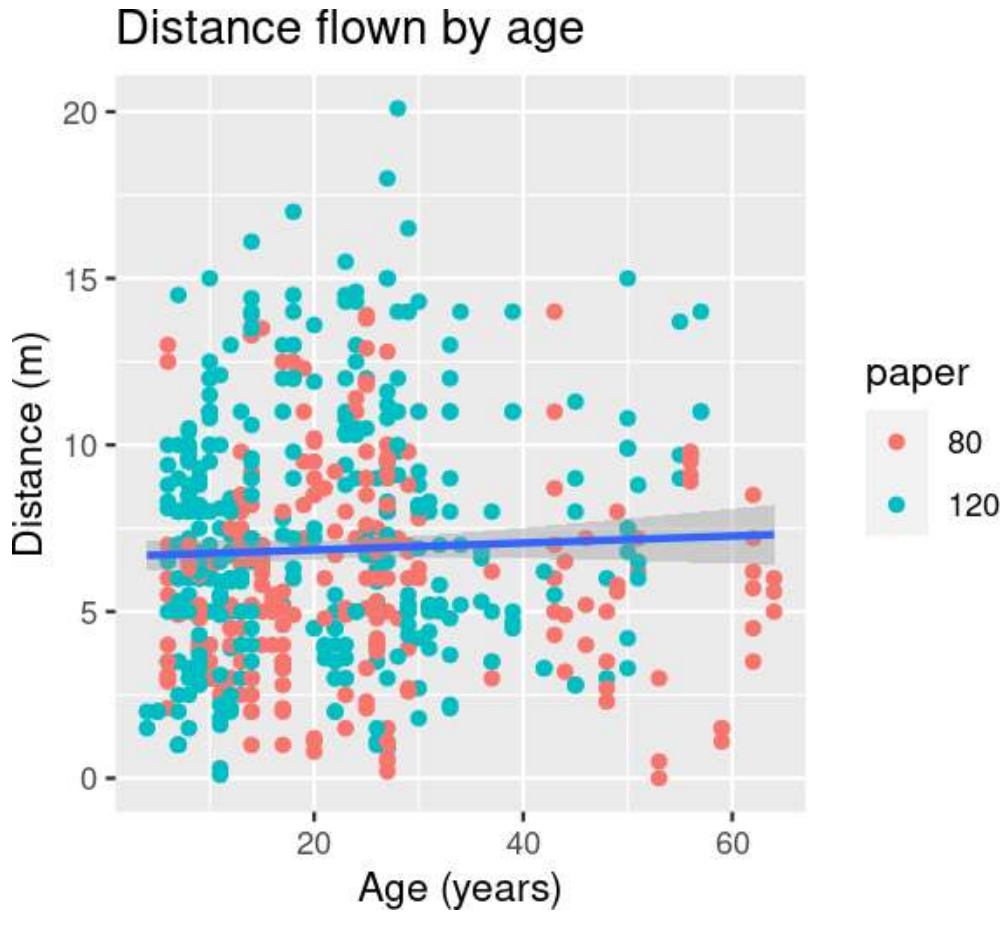
Set title

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper)) +
  labs(x = "Age (years)",
       y = "Distance (m)") +
  labs(title = "Distance flown by age")
```



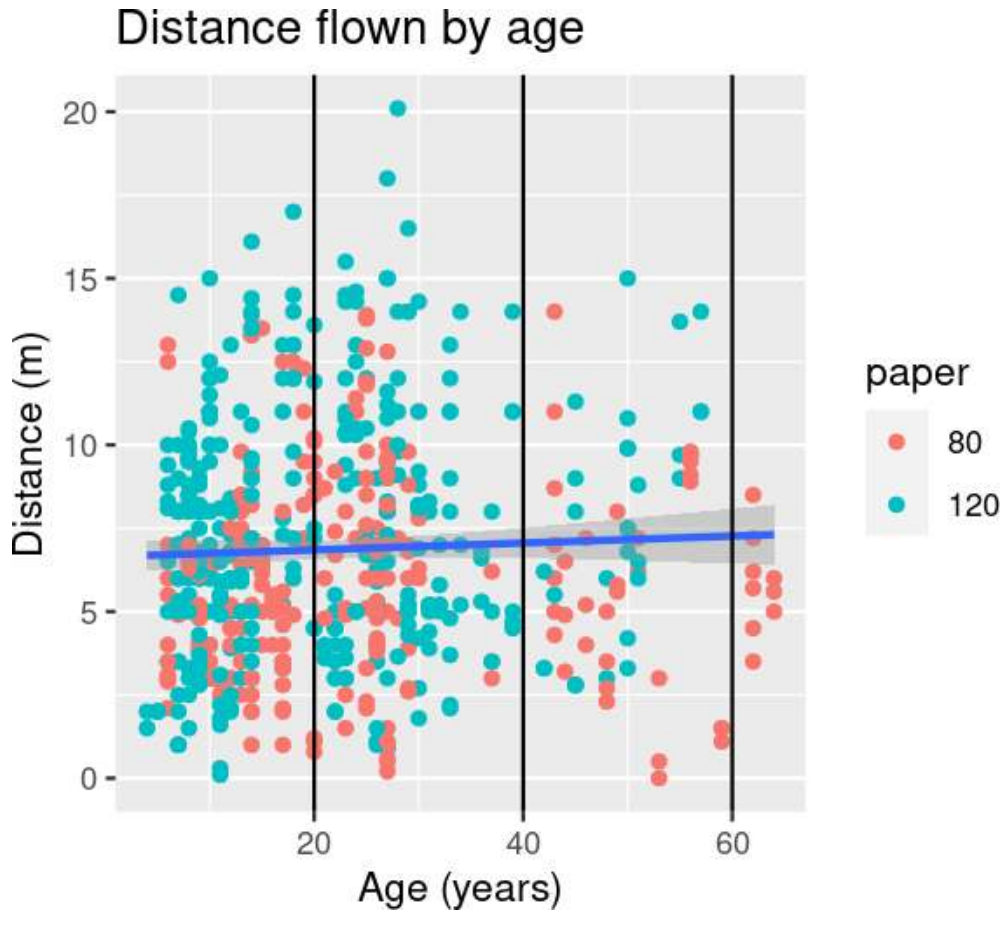
Adding more layers

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper)) +
  labs(x = "Age (years)",
       y = "Distance (m)") +
  labs(title = "Distance flown by age") +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm")
```



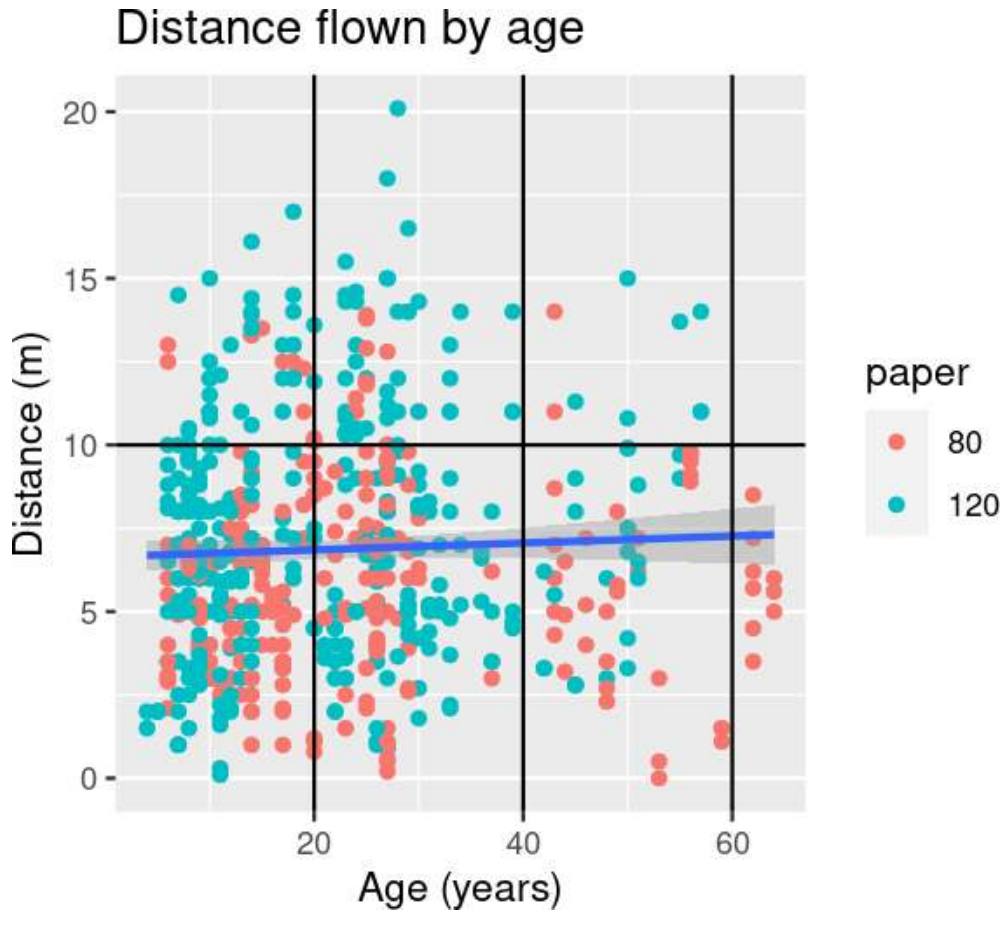
Adding more layers

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper)) +
  labs(x = "Age (years)",
       y = "Distance (m)") +
  labs(title = "Distance flown by age") +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm") +
  geom_vline(xintercept = c(20, 40, 60))
```



Adding more layers

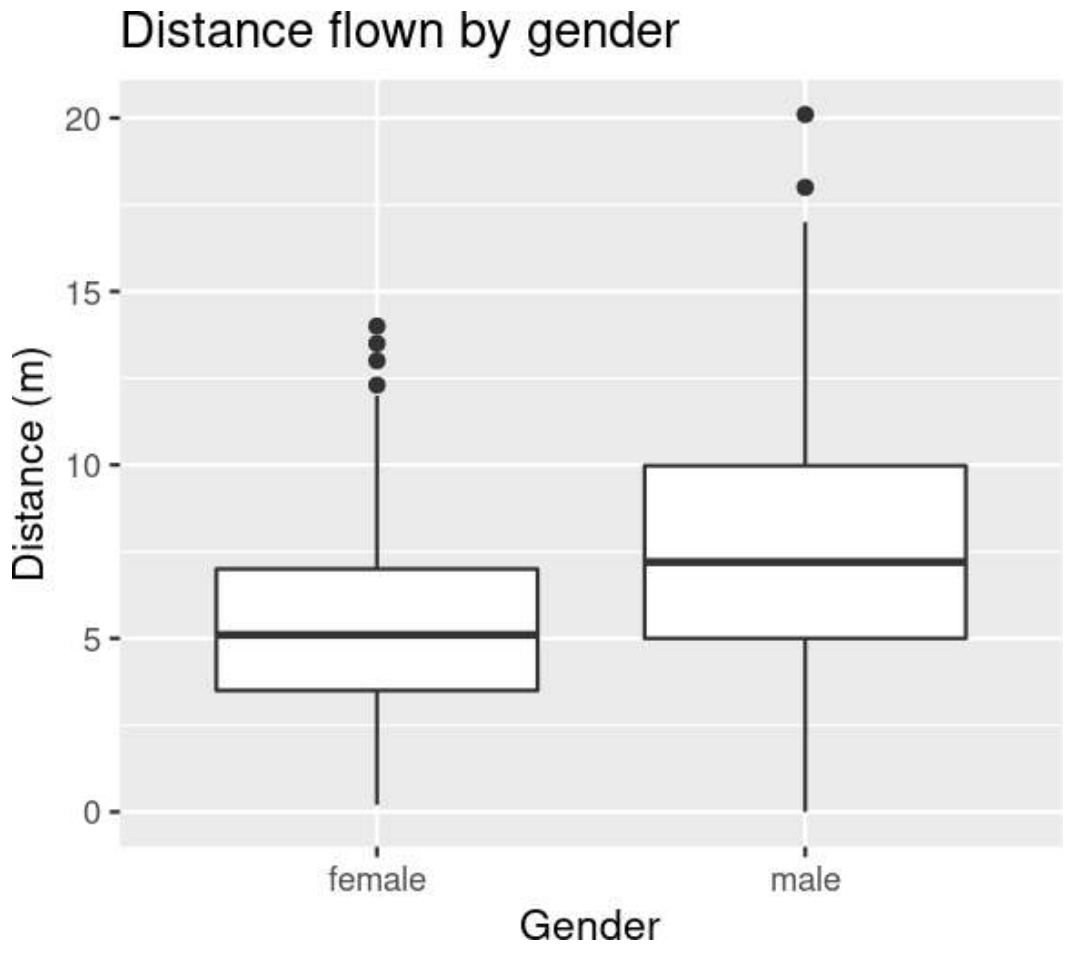
```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance) +
  geom_point(aes(colour = paper)) +
  labs(x = "Age (years)",
       y = "Distance (m)") +
  labs(title = "Distance flown by age") +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm") +
  geom_vline(xintercept = c(20, 40, 60)) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 10)
```



Summary

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +           # Name of (tidy) data frame
  aes(x = age, y = distance) + # Aesthetics (variables to map in axes)
  geom_point()                  # Geoms: geometric objects
```

Exercise: Make a plot like this one



Exercise: Make a plot like this one

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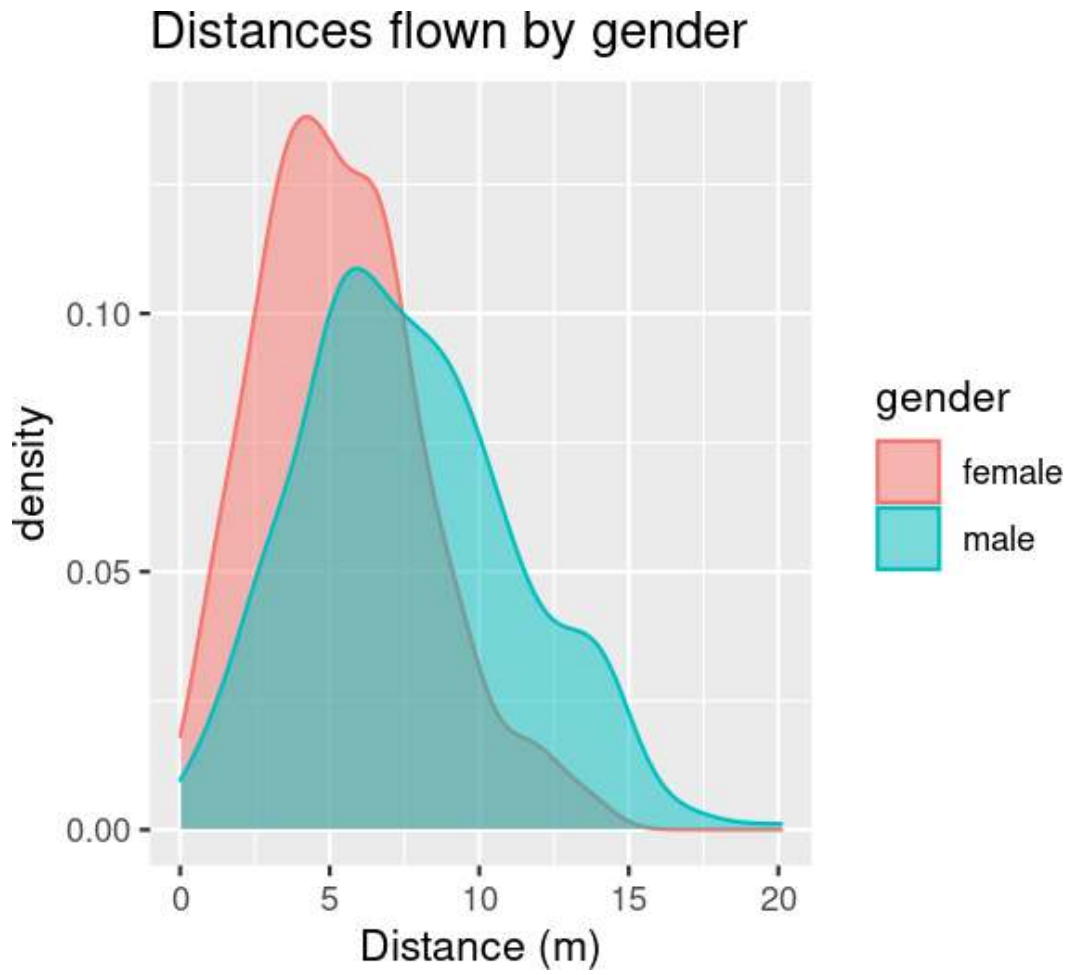
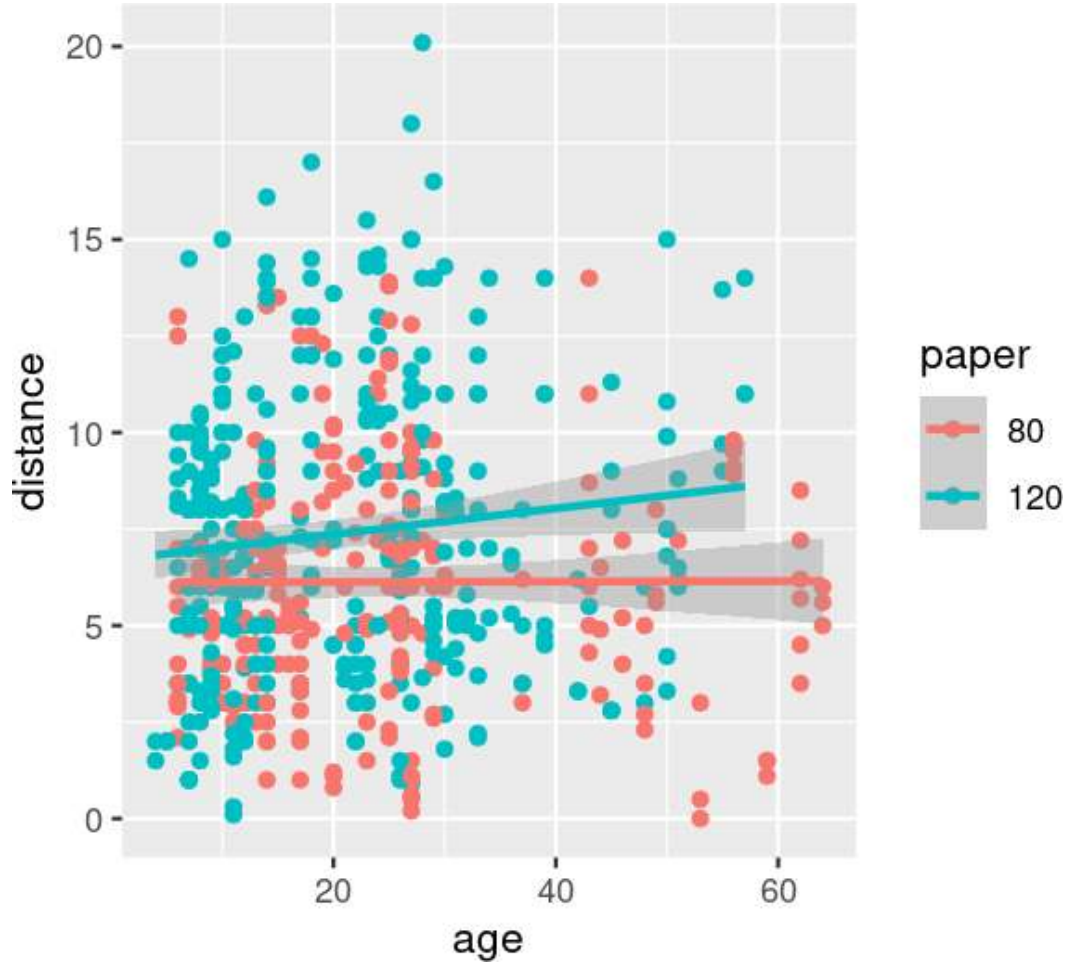


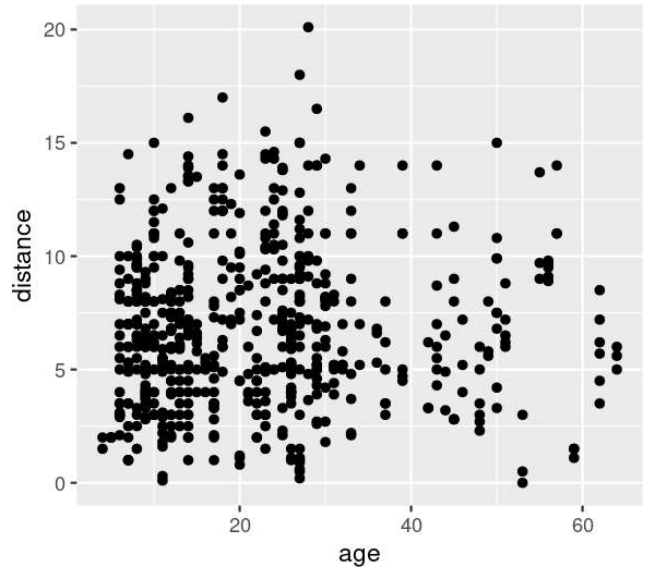
Exercise: Make a plot like this one



ggplot2 figures can be assigned to R objects

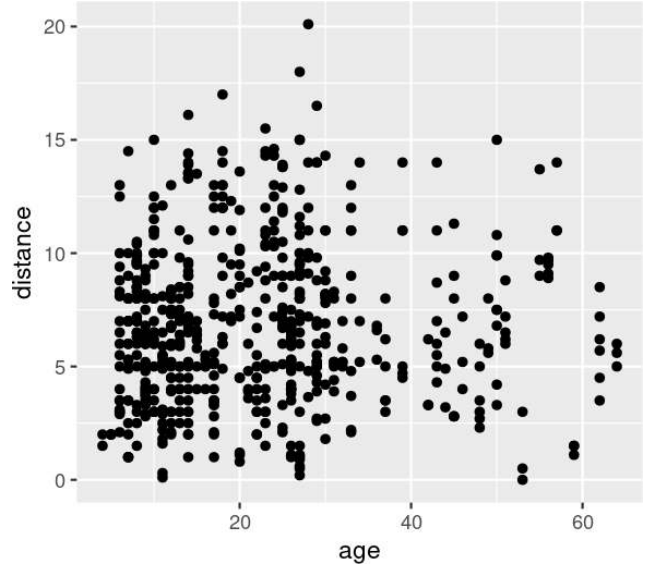
Assigning ggplot objects

```
myplot <- ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance)
myplot + geom_point()
```



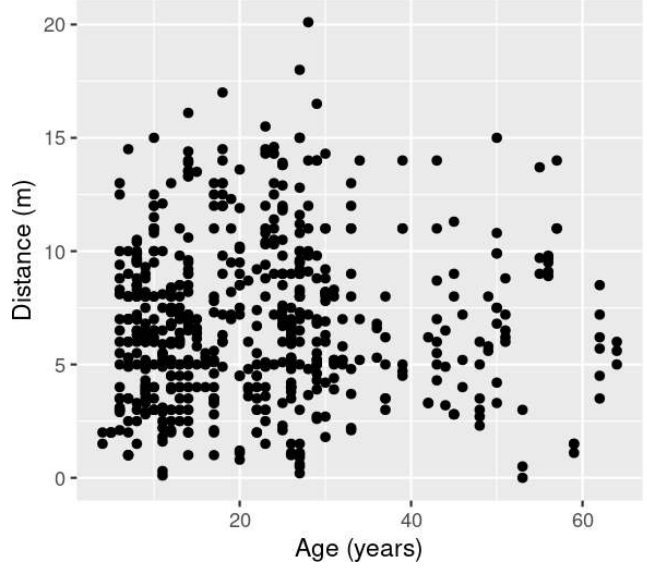
Assigning ggplot objects

```
myplot <- ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance)
myplot <- myplot + geom_point()
myplot
```



Assigning ggplot objects

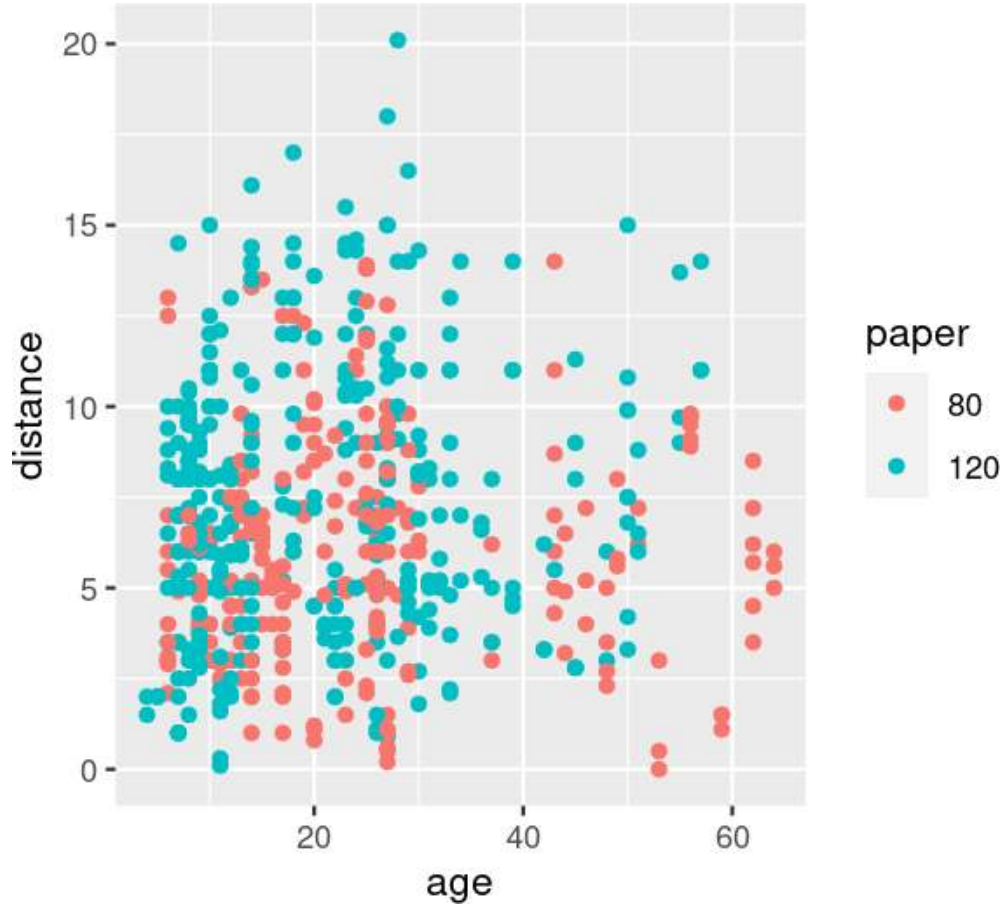
```
baseplot <- ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age, y = distance)
scatterplot <- baseplot + geom_point()
labelled <- scatterplot + labs(x = "Age (years)", y = "Distance (m)")
labelled
```



Themes: changing plot appearance

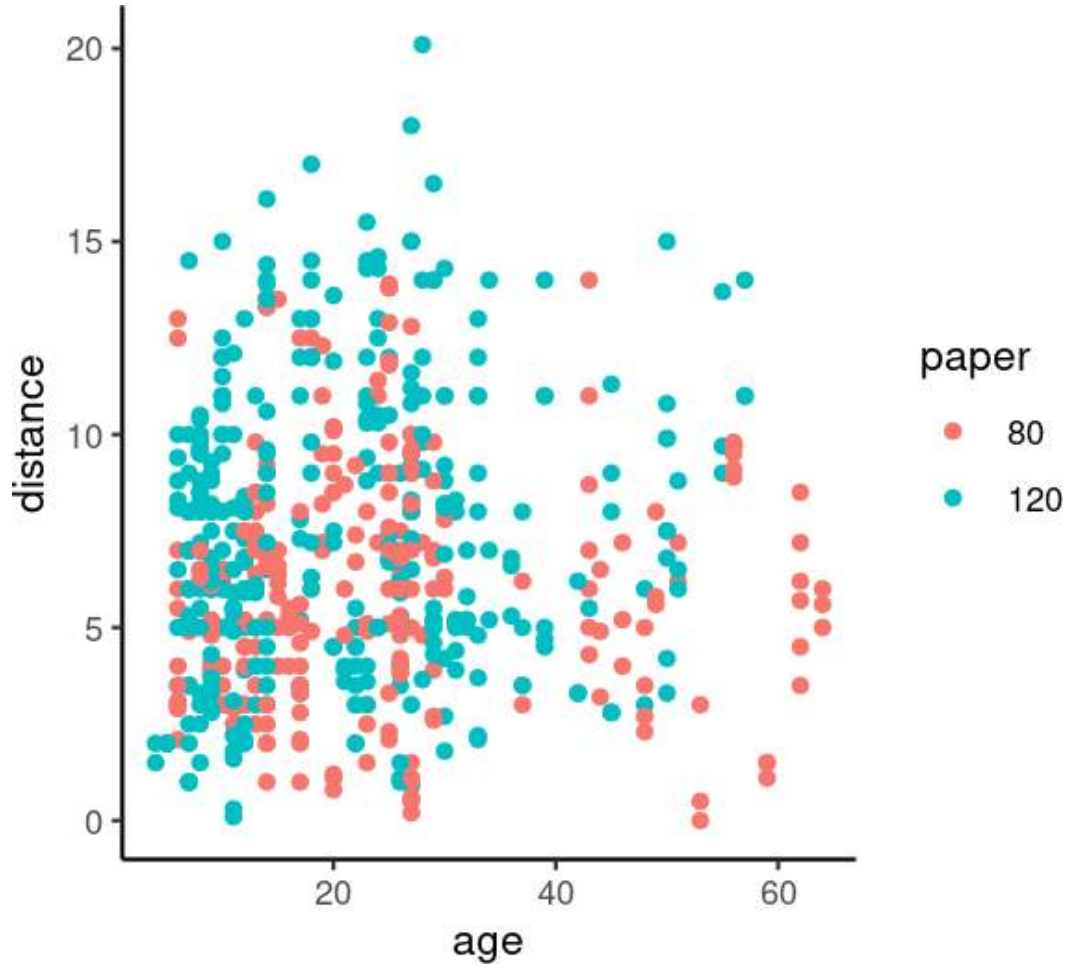
Create 'myplot'

```
myplot <- ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age,
      y = distance,
      colour = paper) +
  geom_point()

myplot
```



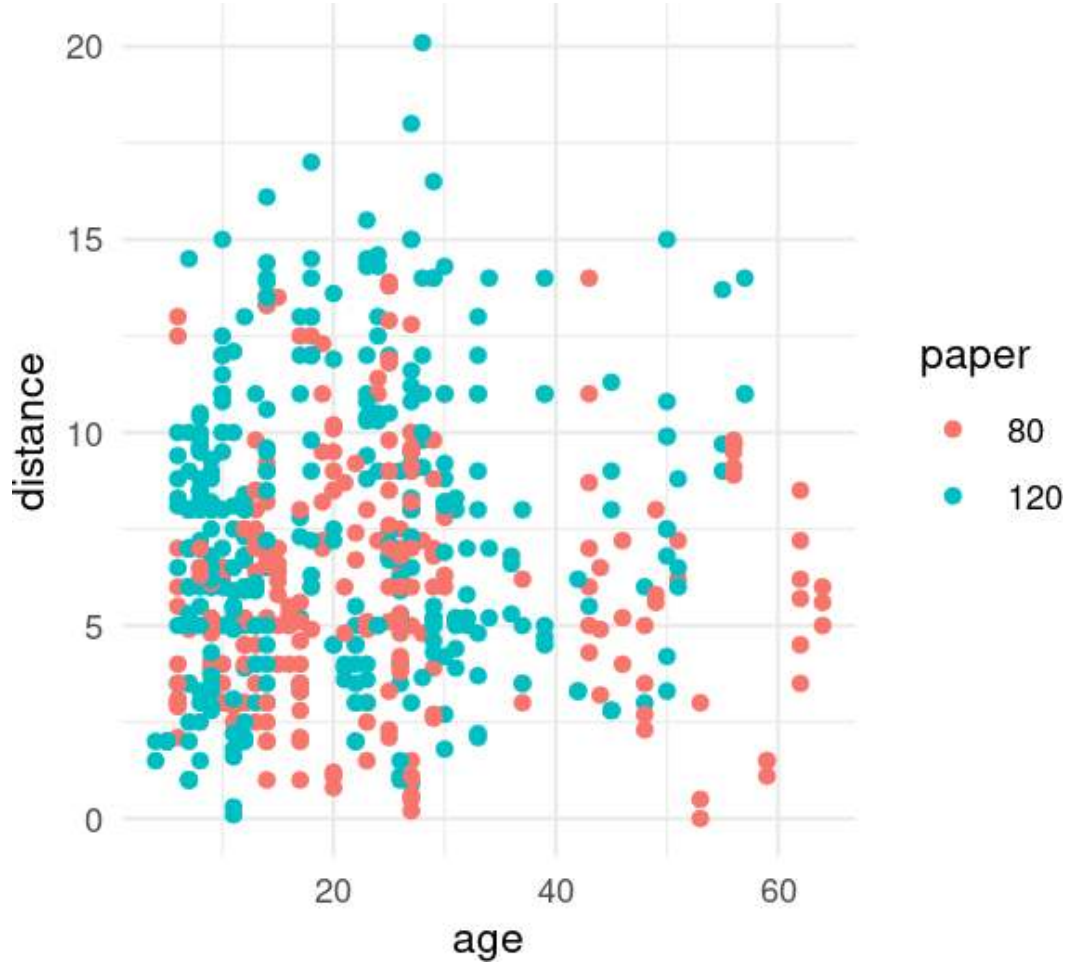
Use theme_classic

```
myplot + theme_classic()
```



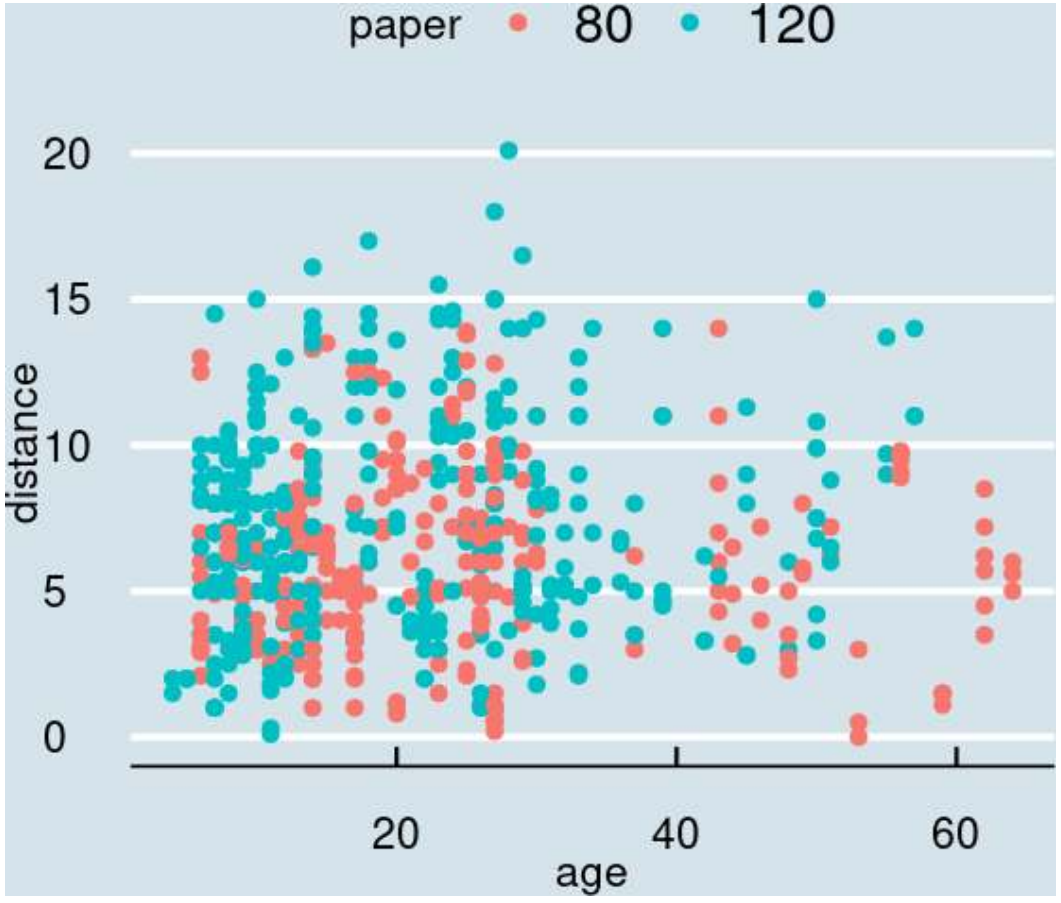
theme_minimal

```
myplot + theme_minimal()
```



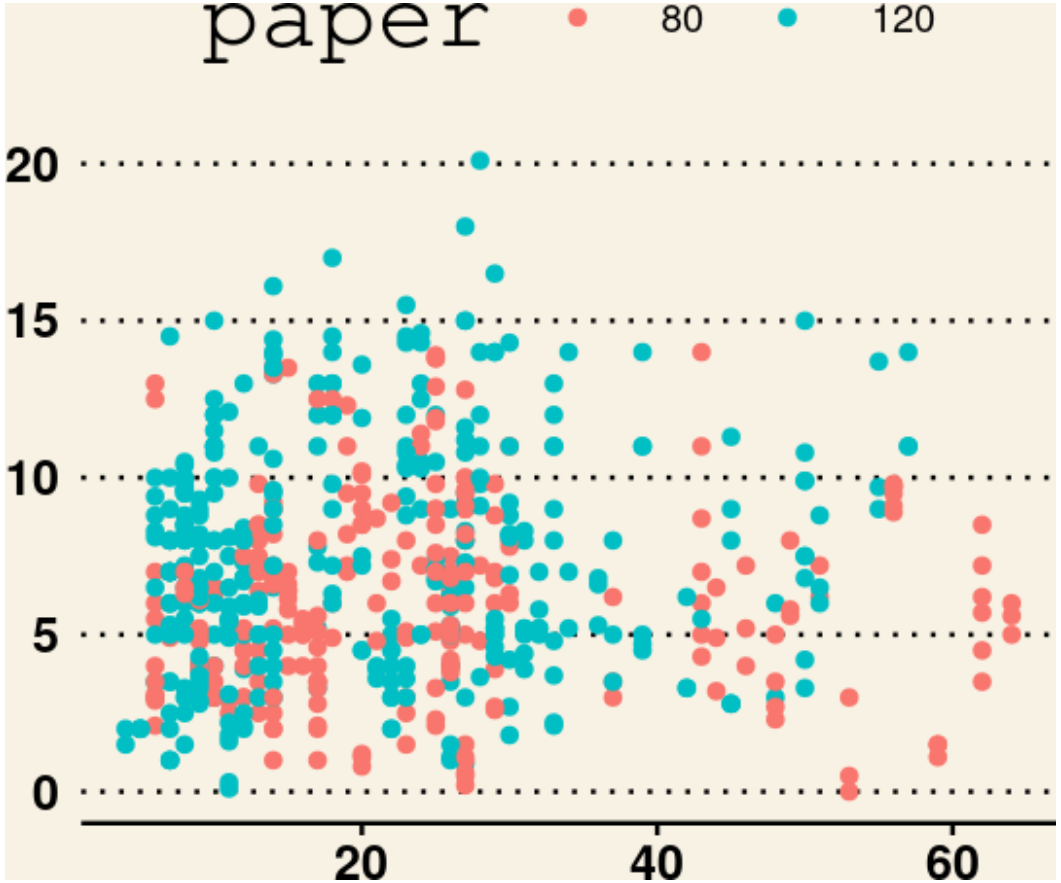
Lots of themes out there

```
library(ggthemes)
myplot + theme_economist()
```



Lots of themes out there

```
myplot + theme_wsj()
```

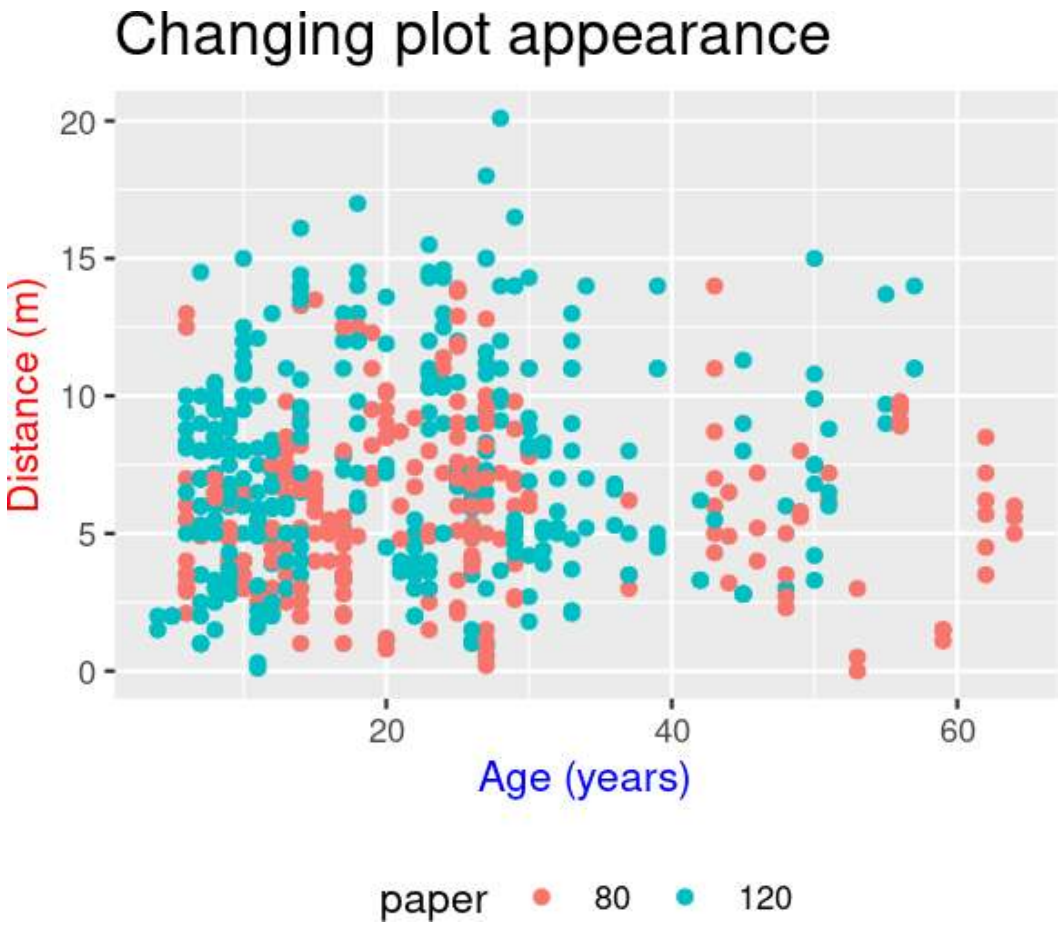


Editing themes

```
?theme
```

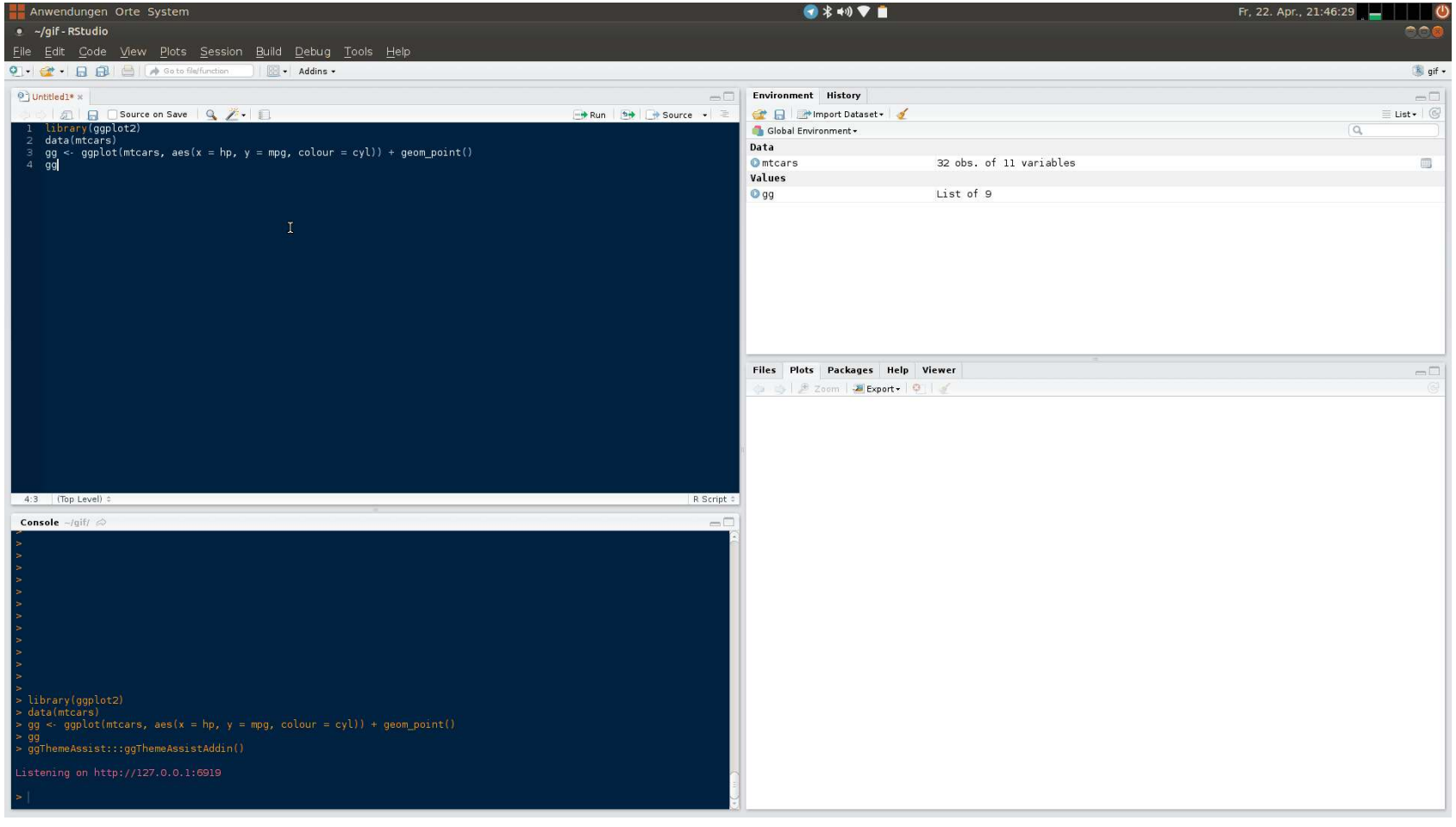
- `element_blank`
- `element_text`
- `element_line`
- `element_rect` (borders & backgrounds)

Exercise: make a plot like this one



Easily changing appearance with ggthemeassist (Rstudio addin)

https://github.com/calligross/ggthemeassist

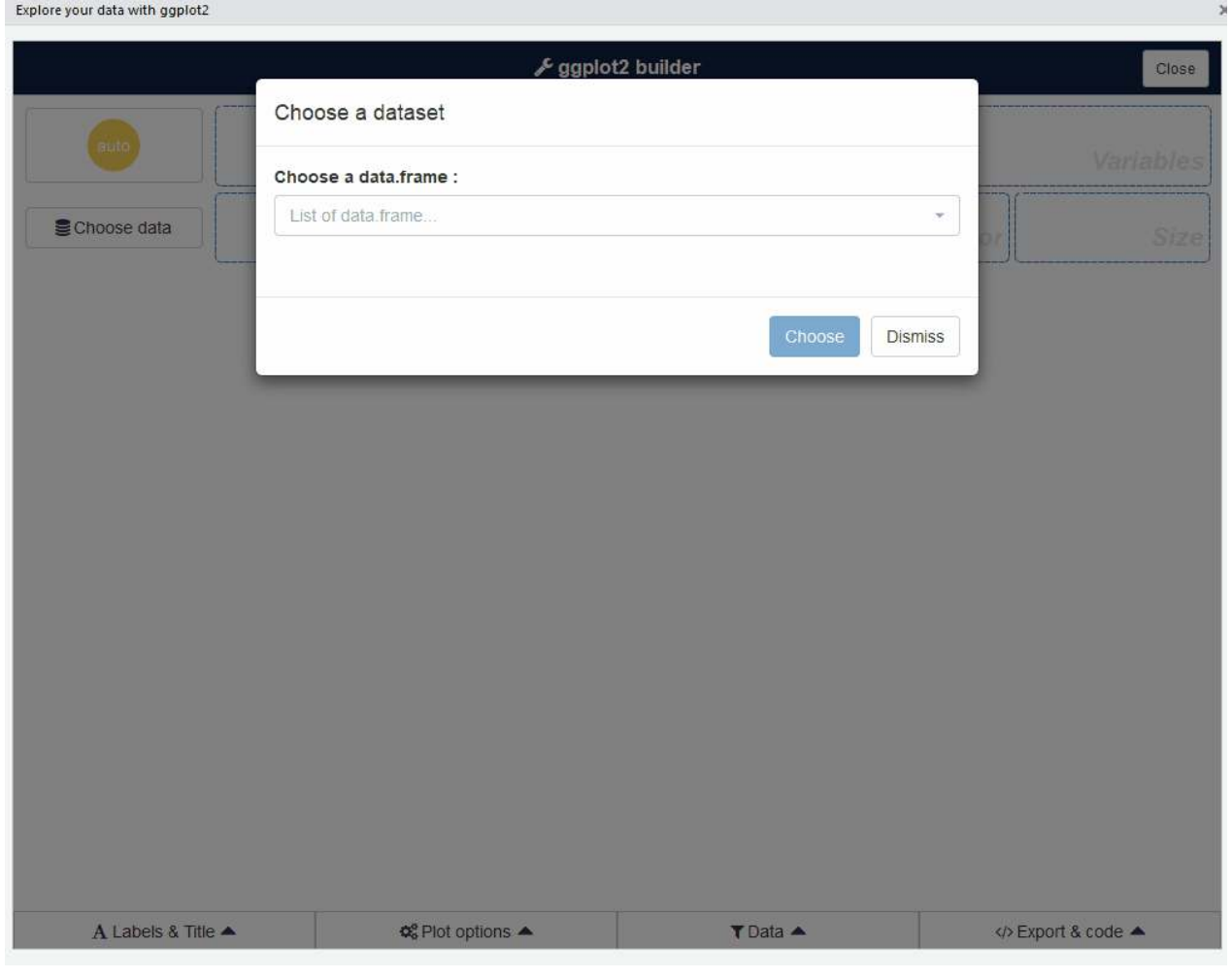


Easily changing appearance with ggedit

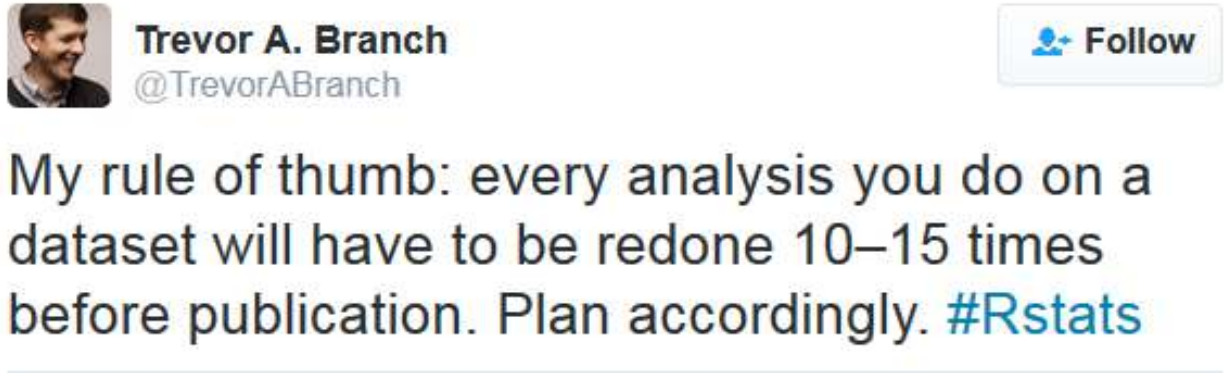
https://github.com/yonicd/ggedit

esquisse: ggplot2 builder addin

https://github.com/dreamRs/esquisse



Think twice before editing plots out of R



Why I think twice before editing plots out of R

Choosing the right visualization software

Think twice before editing plots out of R

Referee #3: "Please increase font size in all figures"

```
myplot +
  theme(axis.title = element_text(size = 18))
```

Publication-quality plots

```
library(cowplot)
myplot + theme_cowplot()
```

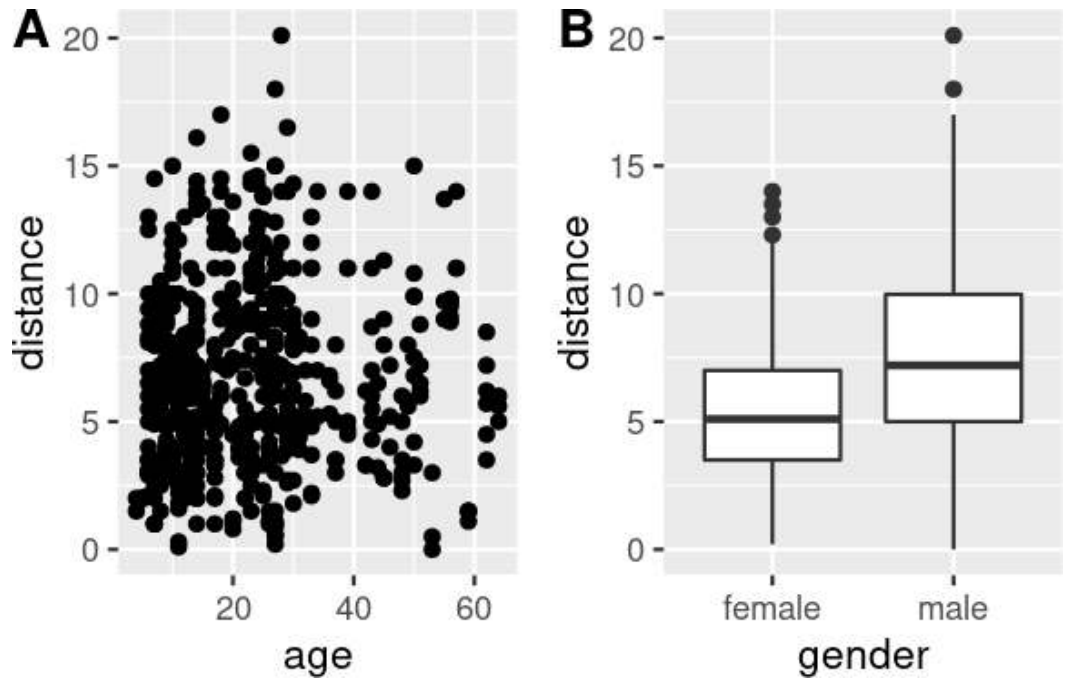
Some publication themes:

https://gist.github.com/Pakillo/c2c7ea11c528cc2ee20f#themes

Composite figures

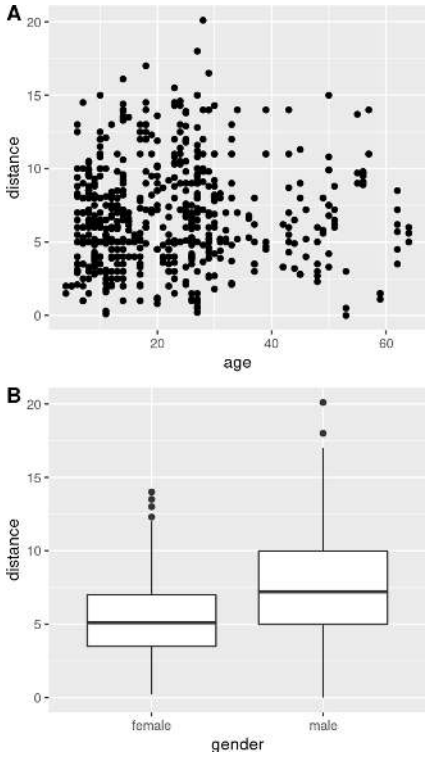
Composite figures: cowplot

```
library(cowplot)
plot1 <- ggplot(paperplanes) + aes(age, distance) + geom_point()
plot2 <- ggplot(paperplanes) + aes(gender, distance) + geom_boxplot()
plot_grid(plot1, plot2, labels = "AUTO")
```



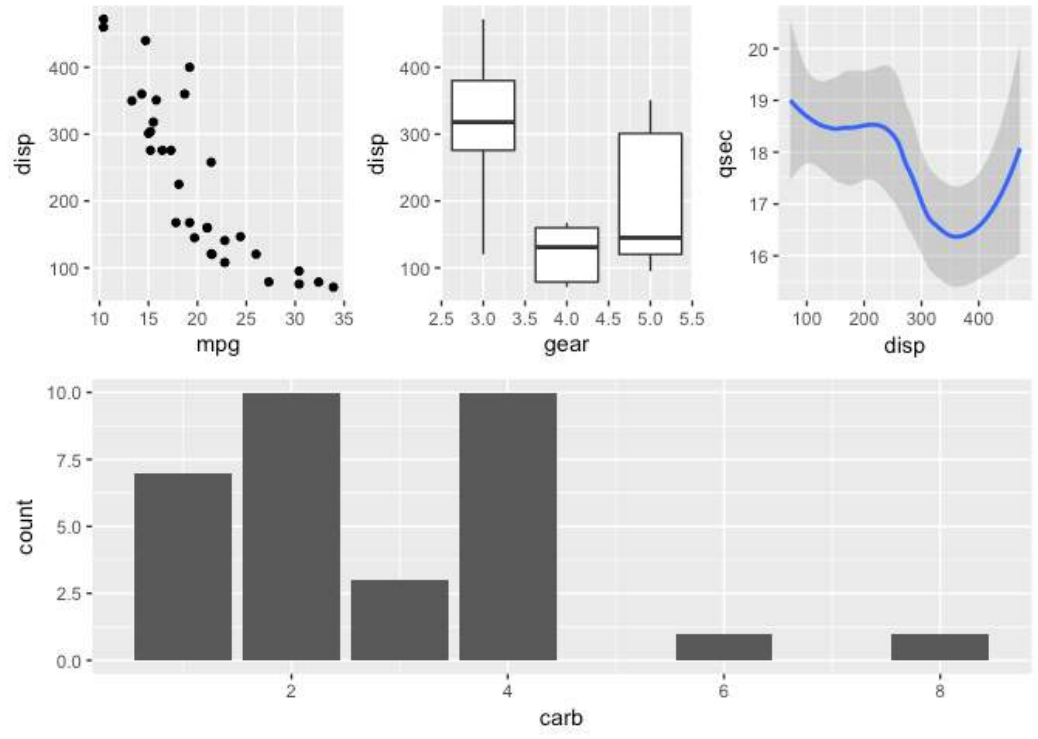
Composite figures

```
plot_grid(plot1, plot2, labels = "AUTO", ncol = 1)
```



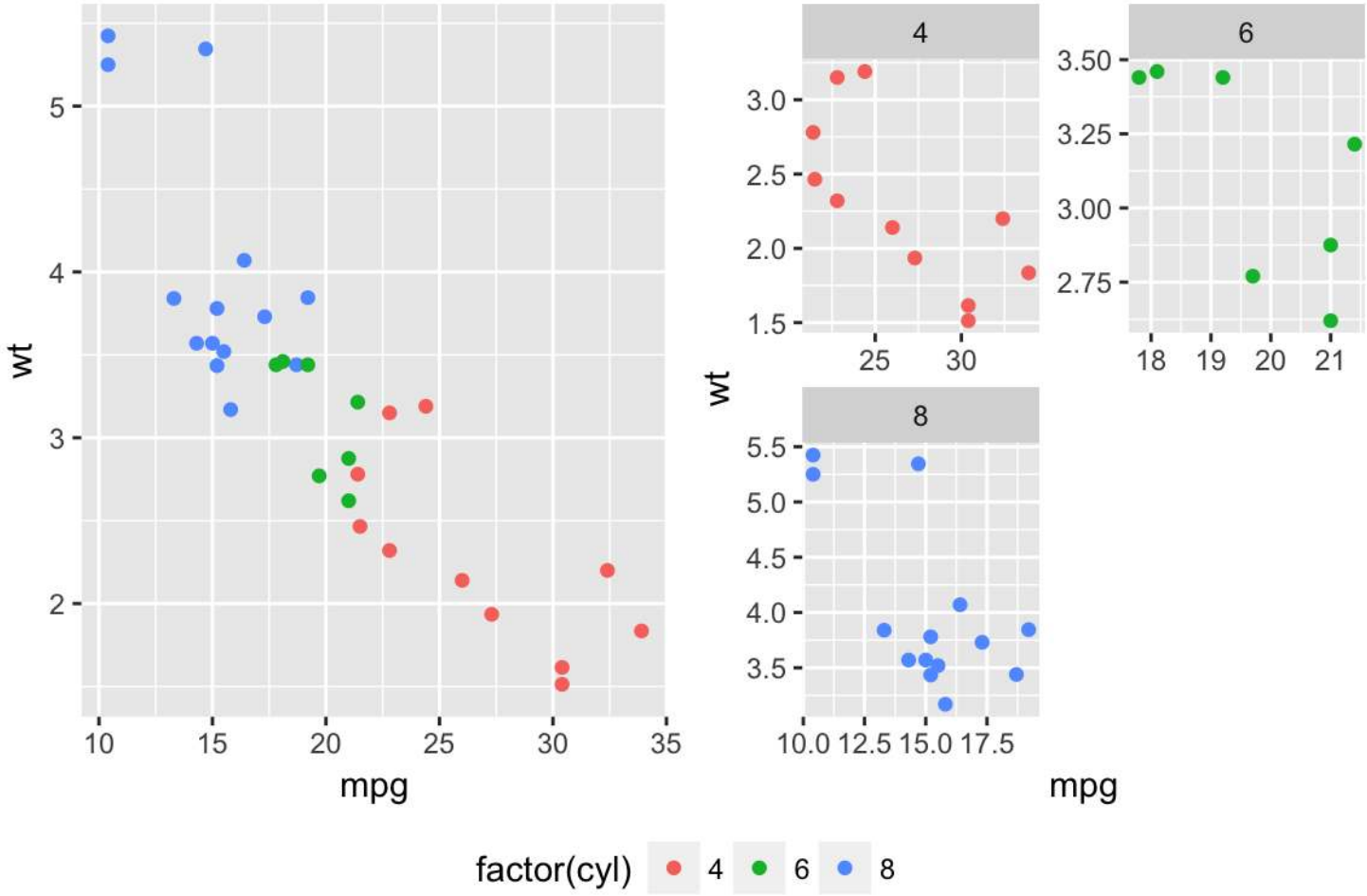
Composite figures: patchwork

```
(p1 | p2 | p3) /
      p4
```



https://github.com/thomasp85/patchwork

Composite figures: egg



https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/egg/index.html

Saving plot

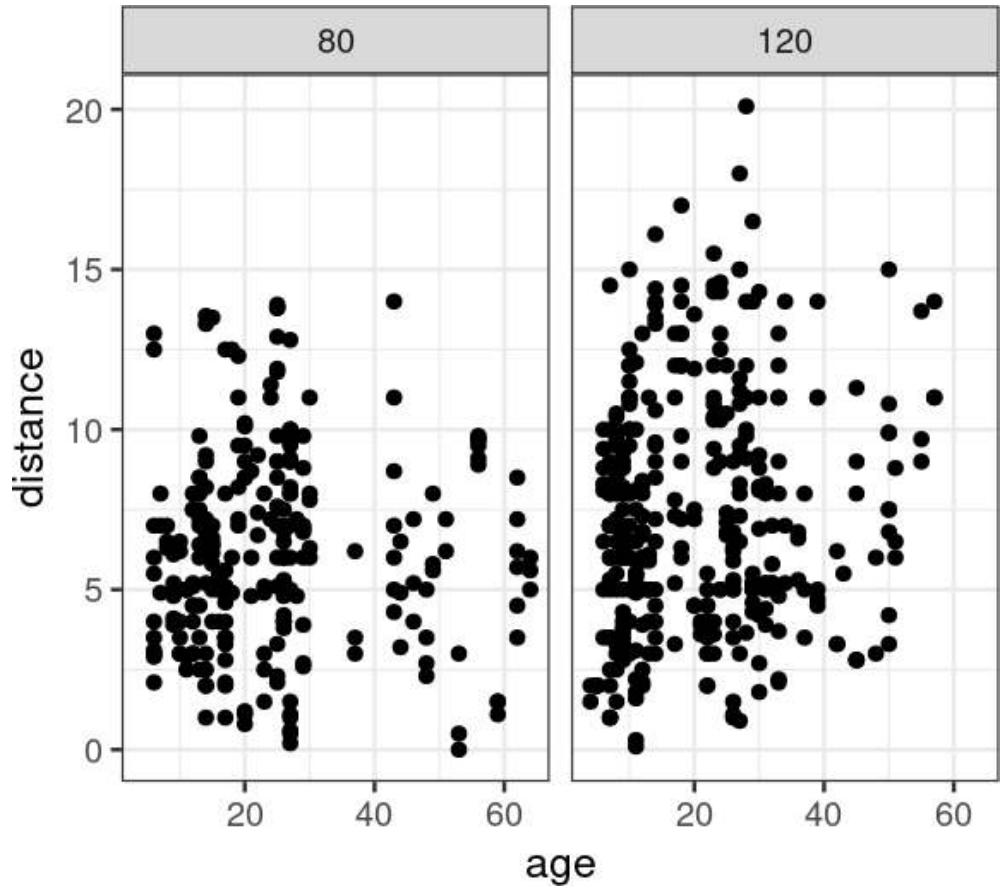
```
ggsave("myplot.pdf")
```

```
save_plot("myplot.pdf")
```

Facetting (small multiples)

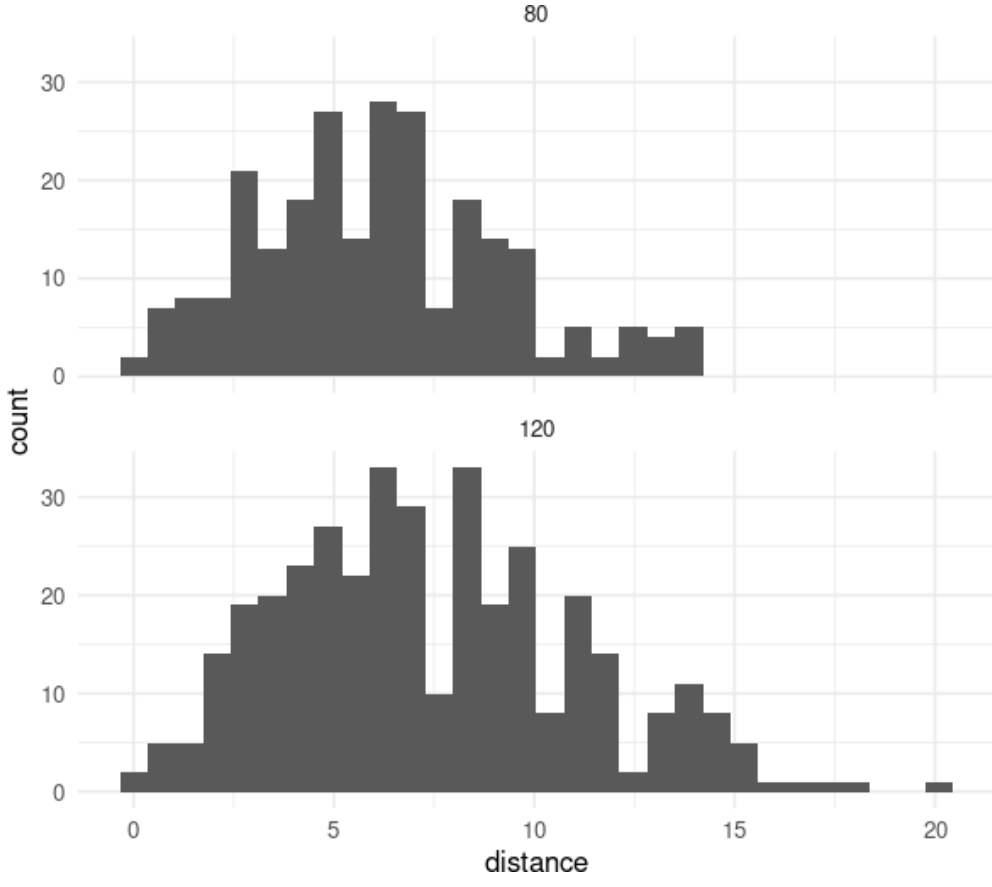
Facetting

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(x = age,
      y = distance) +
    geom_point() +
  theme_bw(base_size = 12) +
  facet_wrap(~paper)
```



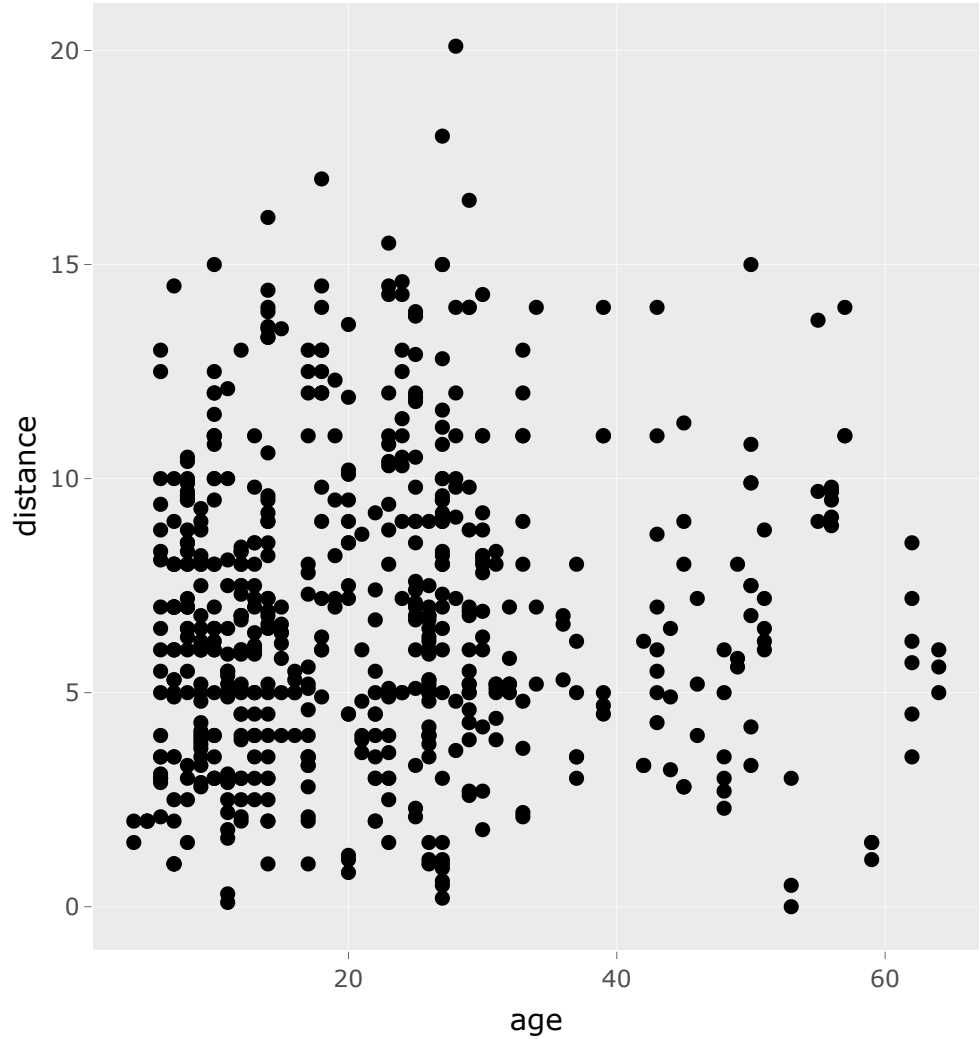
Facetting

```
ggplot(paperplanes) +
  geom_histogram(aes(distance)) +
  theme_minimal(base_size = 8) +
  facet_wrap(~paper, nrow = 2)
```



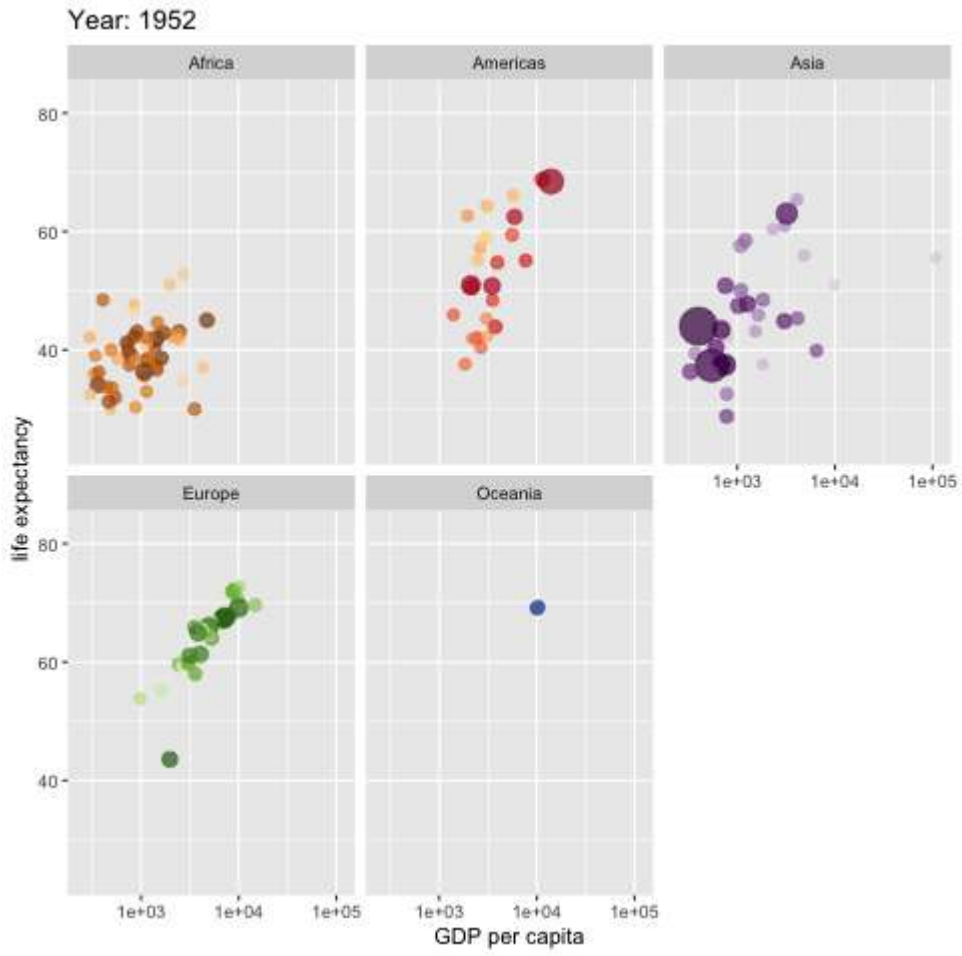
Interactivity: plotly

```
library(plotly)

myplot <- ggplot(paperplanes) +
  aes(age, distance) +
  geom_point()

ggplotly(myplot)
```

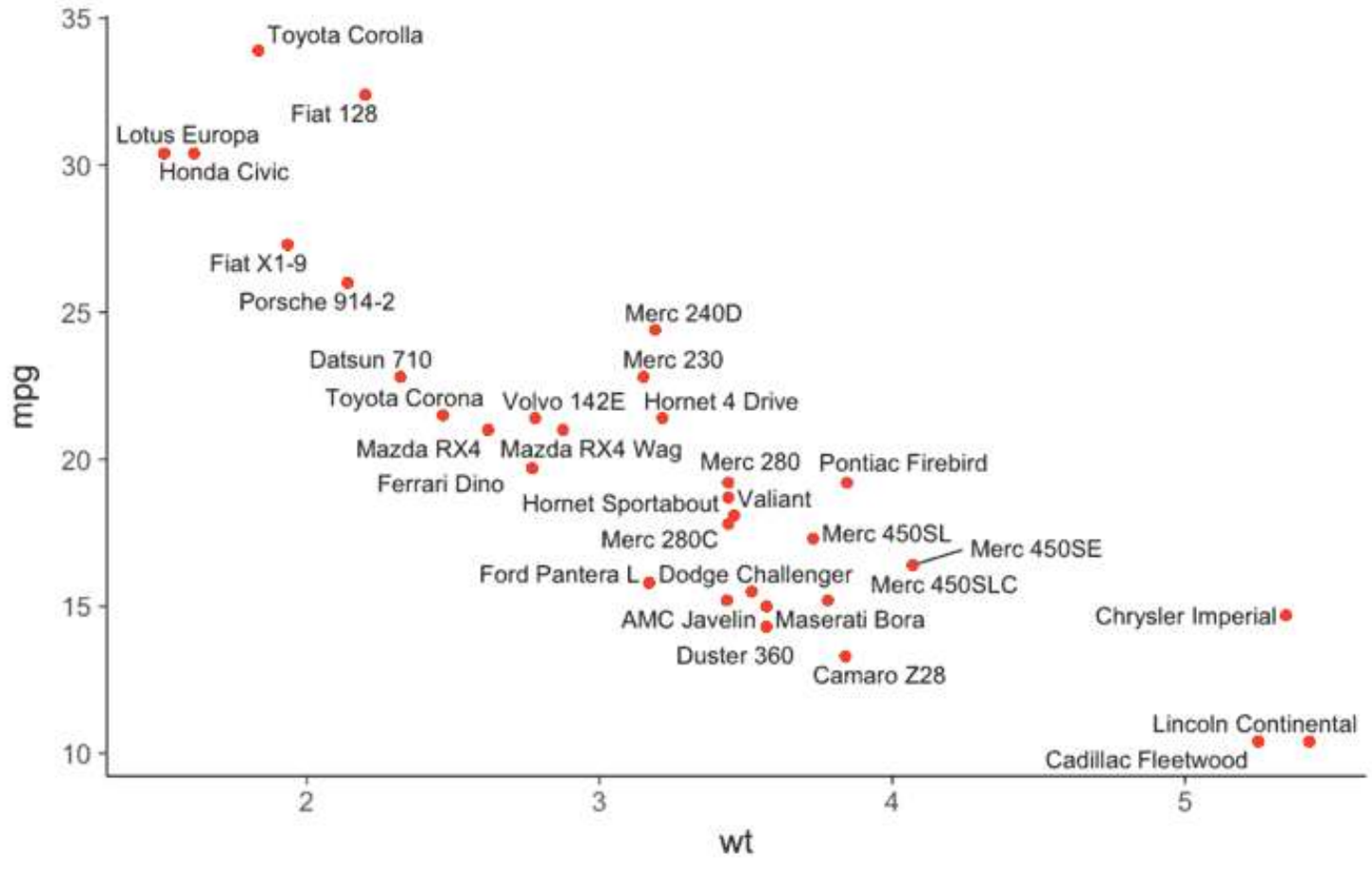


Animated graphs

https://github.com/thomasp85/gganimate



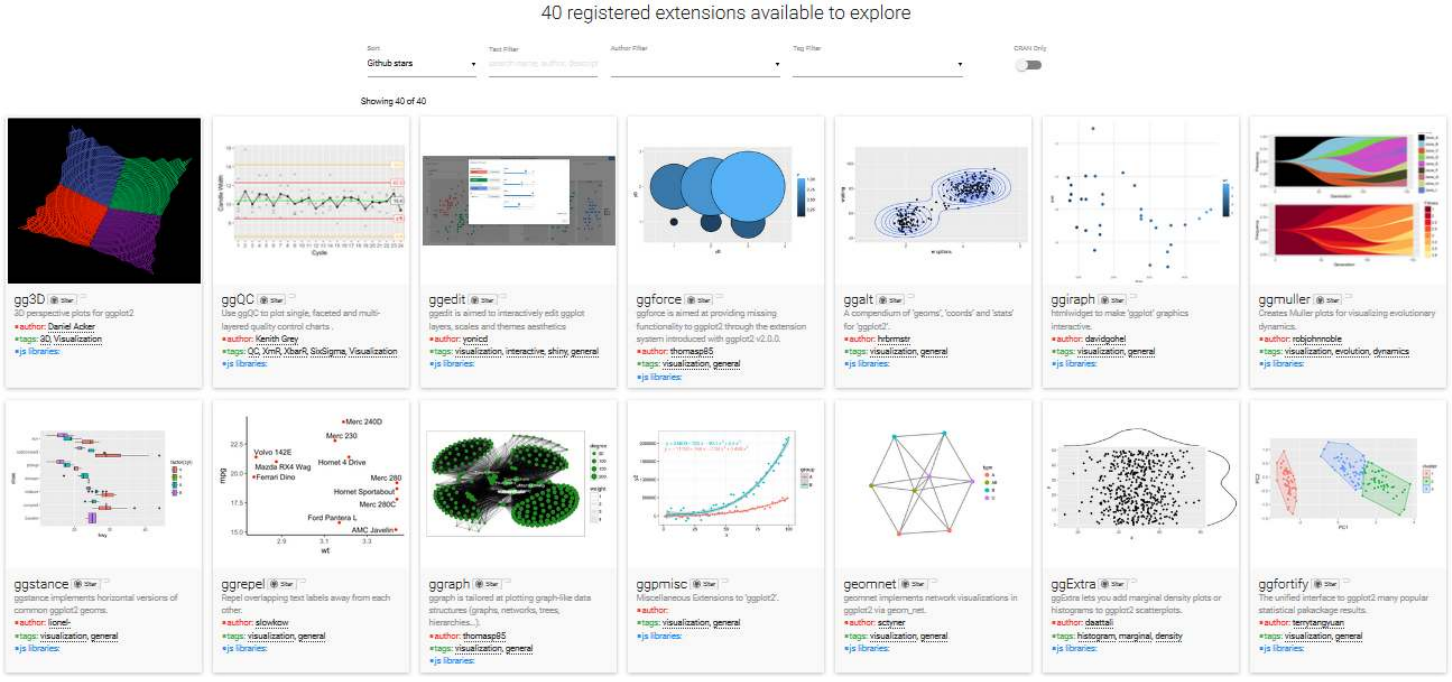
Automatic label placement



https://cran.r-project.org/package=ggrepel

Many extensions!

https://www.ggplot2-exts.org/

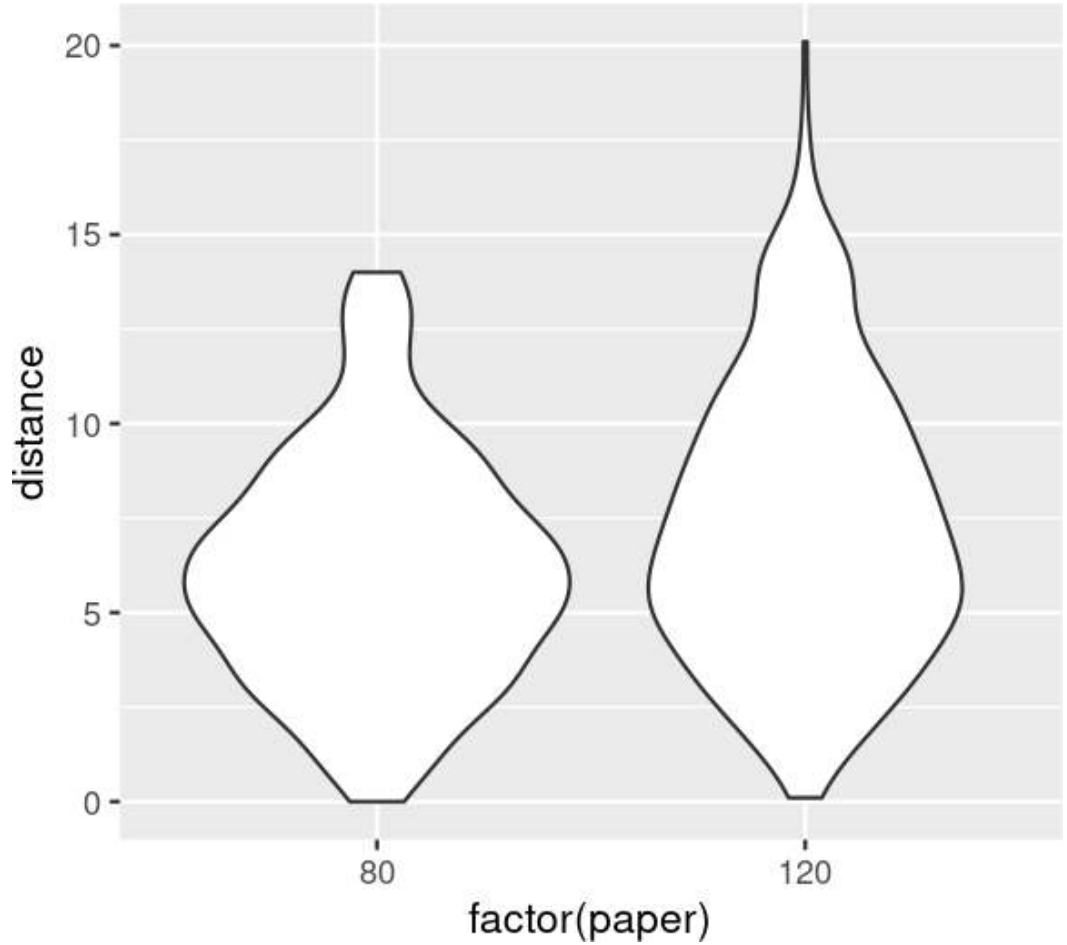


Summary

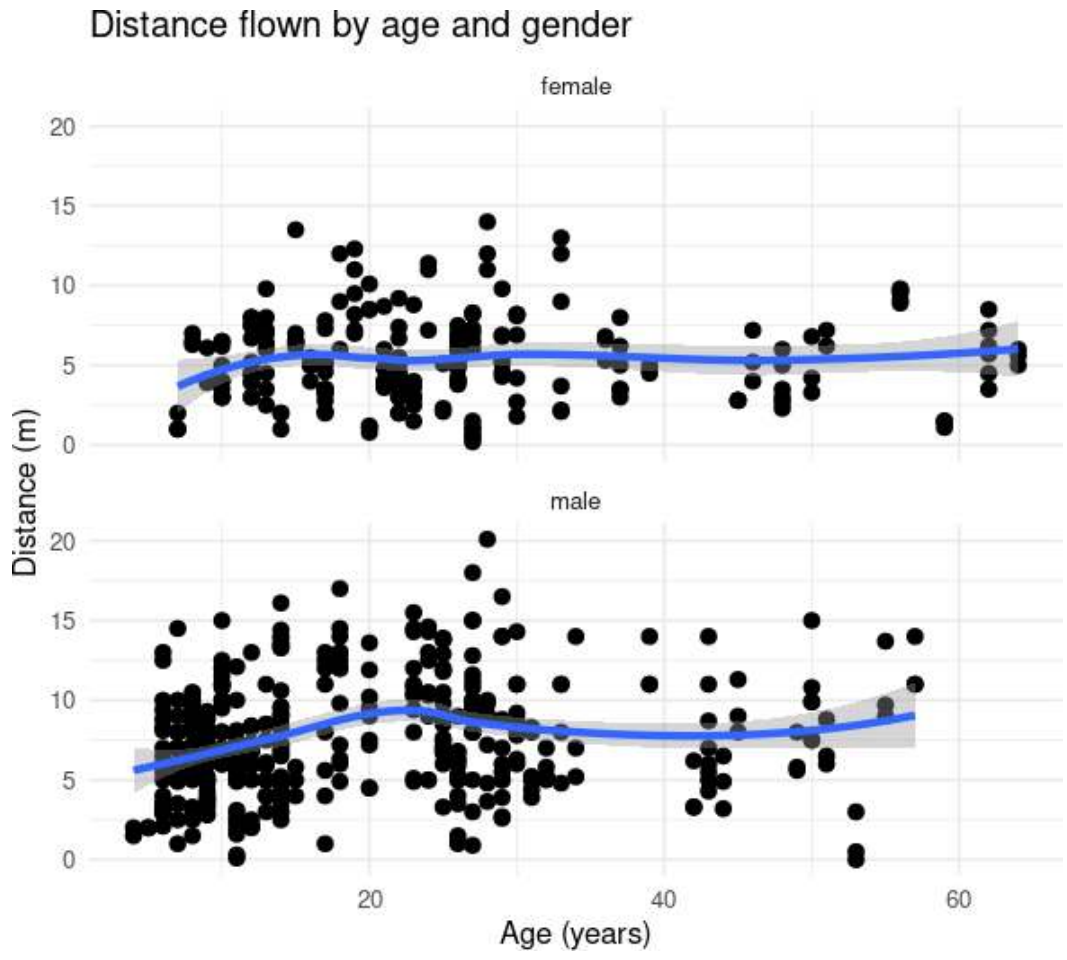
Grammar of graphics

- **Data** (tidy data frame)
- **Layers** (*geoms*: points, lines, polygons…)
- **Aesthetics** mappings (x, y, size, colour…)
- **Scales** (colour, size, shape…)
- **Facets** (small multiples)
- **Themes** (appearance)
- **Coordinate system** (Cartesian, polar, map projections…)

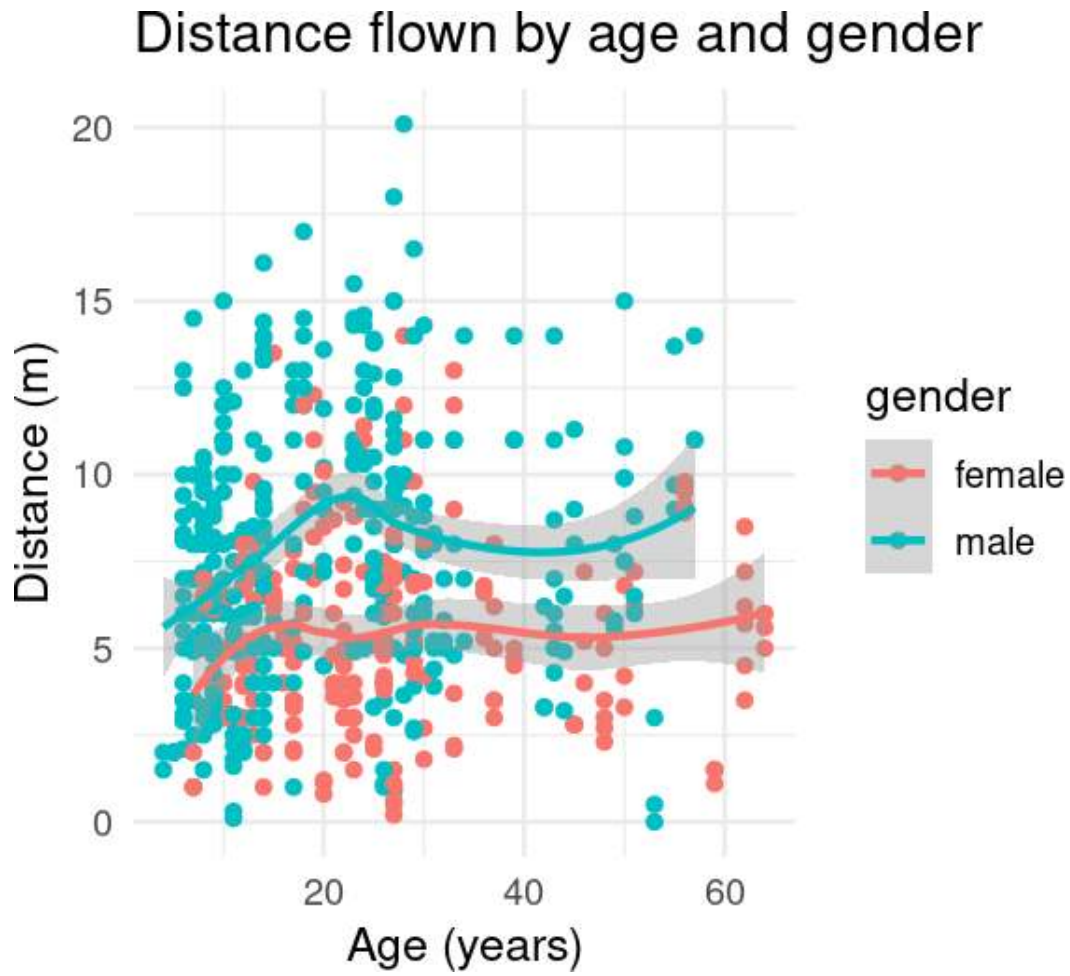
Exercise: make a plot like this one



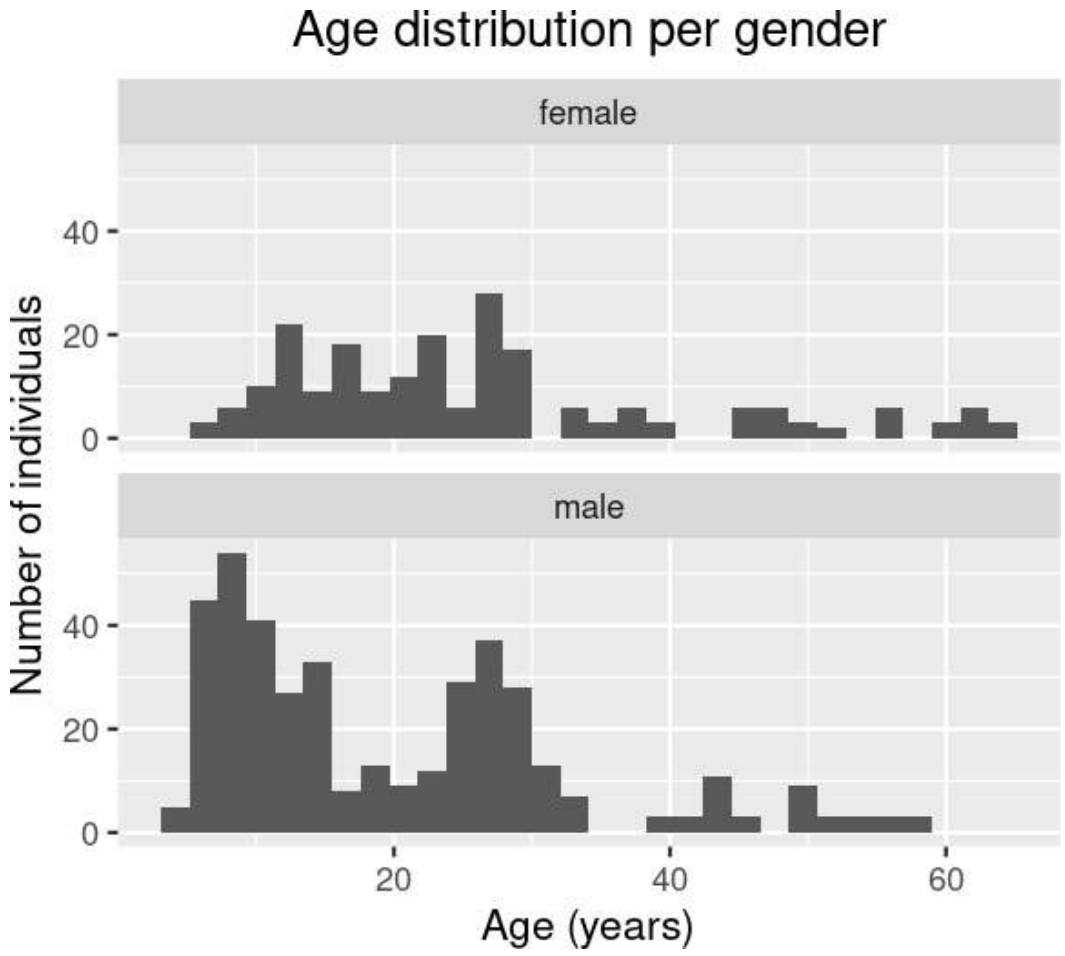
Exercise: make a plot like this one



Exercise: make a plot like this one

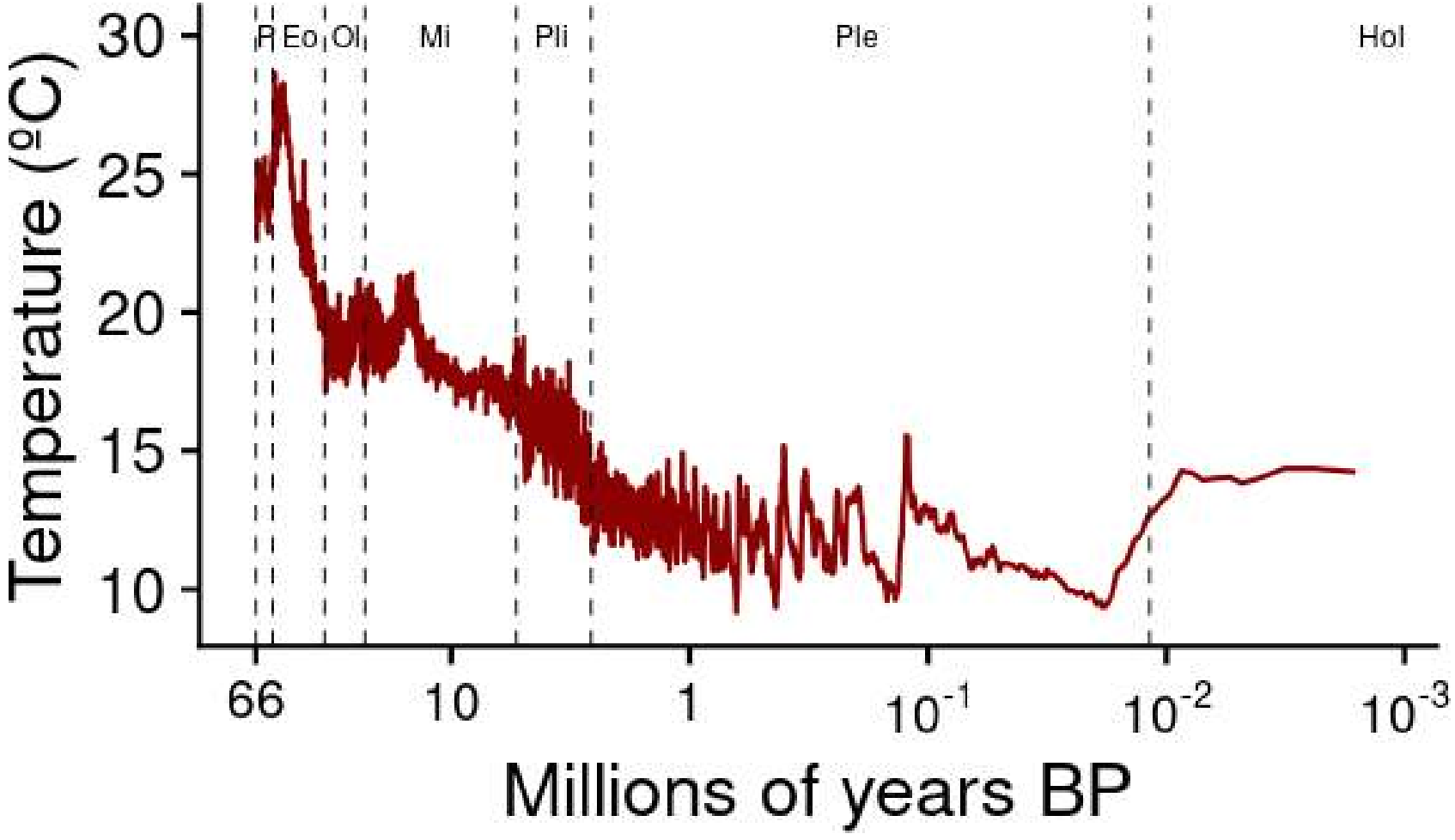


Exercise: make a plot like this one



Exercise: make a plot like this one

Data from http://www.columbia.edu/~mhs119/Sensitivity+SL+CO2/Table.txt



Exercise: make a plot like this one

END

Slides and source code available at https://github.com/Pakillo/ggplot-intro