

Class 5: Data Visualization

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Today we are exploring the **ggplot** package and how to make nice figures in R,

There are lots of ways to make figures and plots in R. These include:

-so called “base” R -and add on packages like **ggplot**

Here is a simple “base” R plot.

```
head(cars)
```

	speed	dist
1	4	2
2	4	10
3	7	4
4	7	22
5	8	16
6	9	10

We can simply pass to the ‘plot()’ function.

```
plot(cars)
```



Key point: Base R is quick but not so nice looking in some folks eyes.

Let's see how we can plot this with **ggplot**

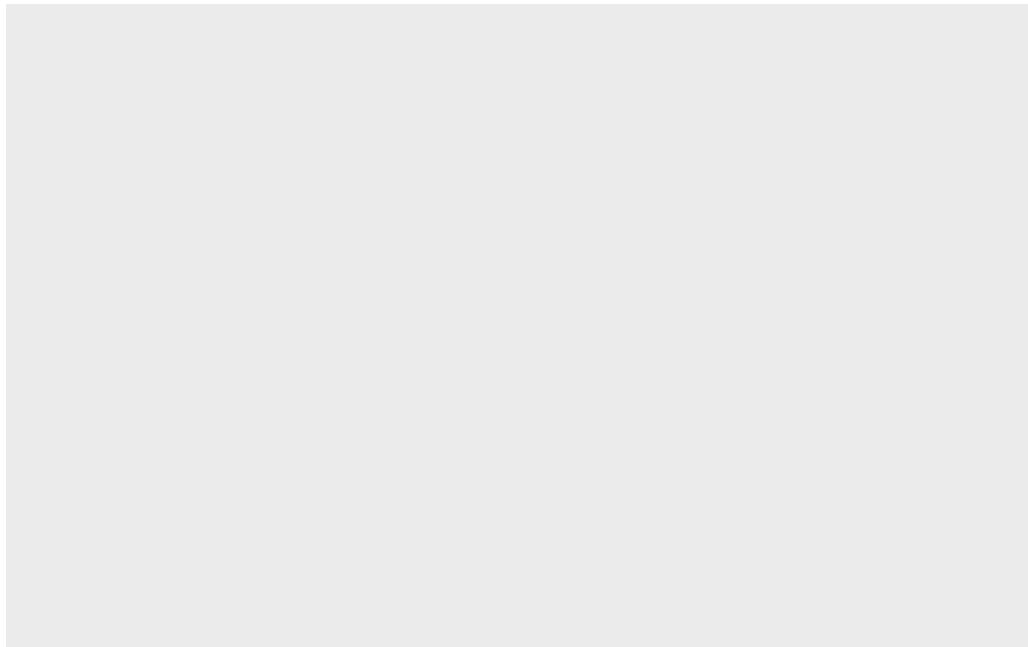
1st I need to install this add-on package. For this we use the ‘install.packages()’ function.
-WE DO THIS IN THE CONSOLE, NOT OUR REPORT. This is a one time only deal.

2nd we need to load the package with the “library()” function everytime we want to use it.

```
library(ggplot2)
```

Warning: package 'ggplot2' was built under R version 4.4.3

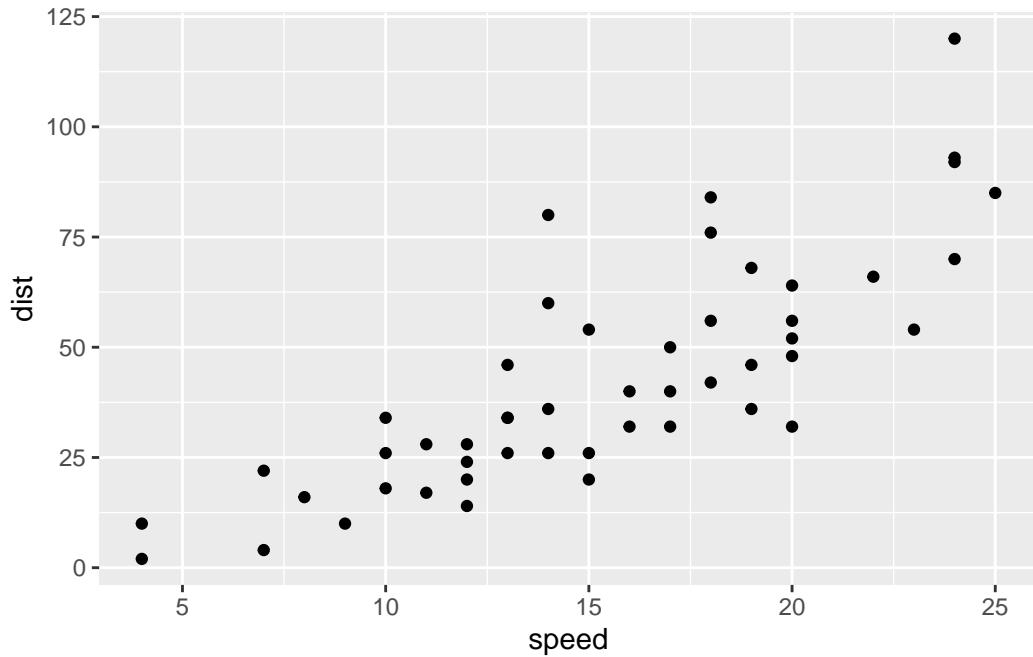
```
ggplot(cars)
```



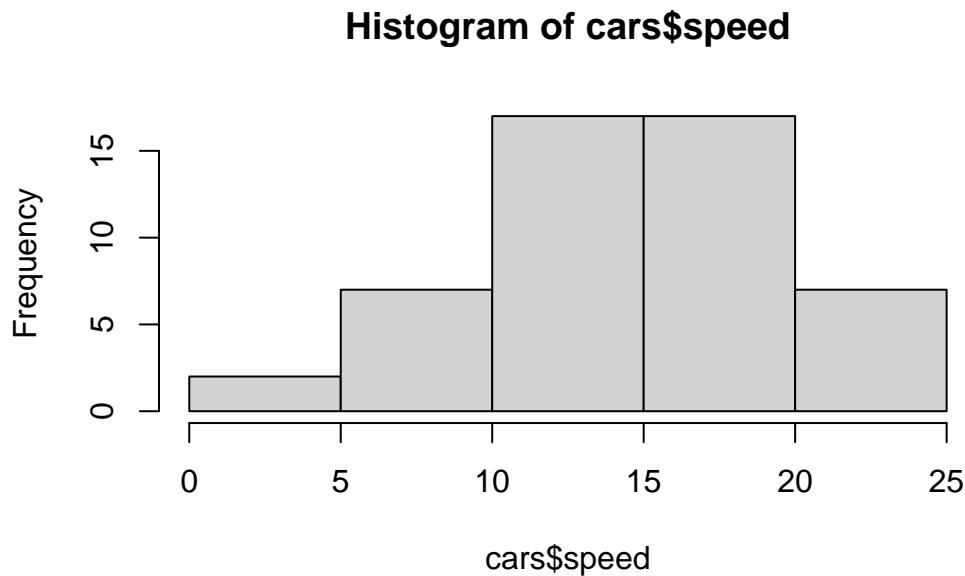
Every ggplot is composed of at least 3 layers:

- data**(i.e. a data.frame with the things you want to plot).
- aesthetics **aes()** that map the columns of data to your plot features (i.e. aesthetics)
- geoms like **geom_point()** that set how the plot appears

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



```
hist(cars$speed)
```

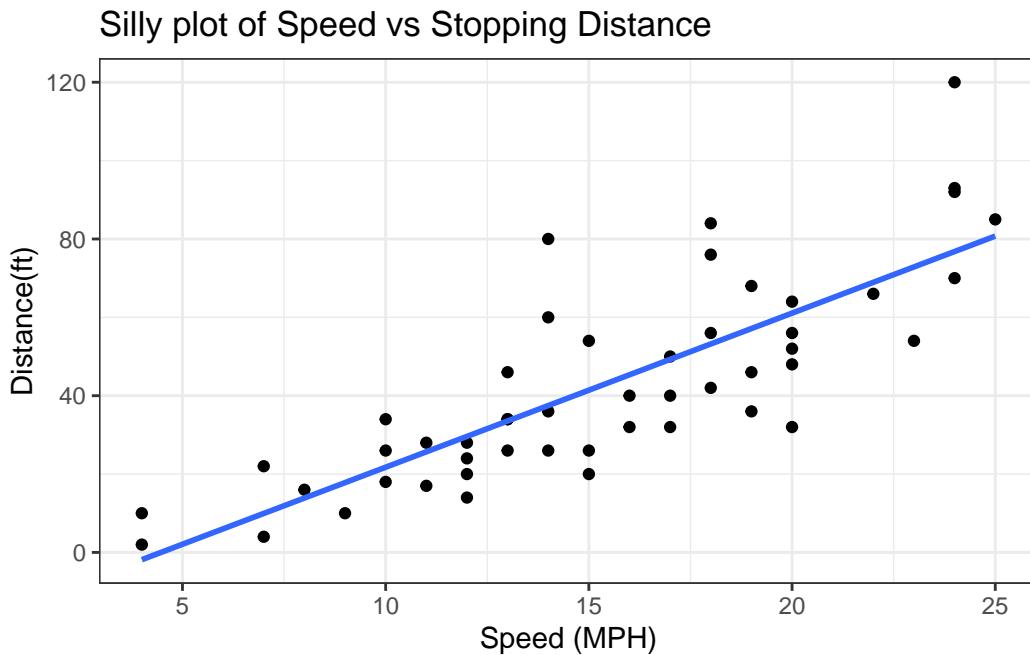


For simple “canned” graphs base R is quicker but as things get more custom and elaborate then ggplot wins out

Let's add more layers to our ggplot

Add a line showing the relationship between x and y Add a title Add custom axis labels "Speed(MPH)" and Distance (feet) Change the theme.

```
ggplot(cars)+  
  aes(x=speed, y=dist)+  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE)+  
  labs(title = "Silly plot of Speed vs Stopping Distance", x="Speed (MPH)", y = "Distance(feet)  
  theme_bw()  
  
`geom_smooth()` using formula = 'y ~ x'
```



Going further

Read some gene expression data

```
url <- "https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_S20/class-material/up_down_expression.txt"  
genes <- read.delim(url)  
head(genes)
```

```
      Gene Condition1 Condition2      State
1     A4GNT -3.6808610 -3.4401355 unchanging
2     AAAS  4.5479580  4.3864126 unchanging
3    AASDH  3.7190695  3.4787276 unchanging
4     AATF  5.0784720  5.0151916 unchanging
5     AATK  0.4711421  0.5598642 unchanging
6 AB015752.4 -3.6808610 -3.5921390 unchanging
```

```
nrow(genes)
```

```
[1] 5196
```

```
ncol(genes)
```

```
[1] 4
```

Q2: How many genes are in this dataset

Q3: How many “up” regulated genes are there?

```
sum(genes$State == "up")
```

```
[1] 127
```

A useful function for counting up occurrences of things in a vector is the ‘table()’ function

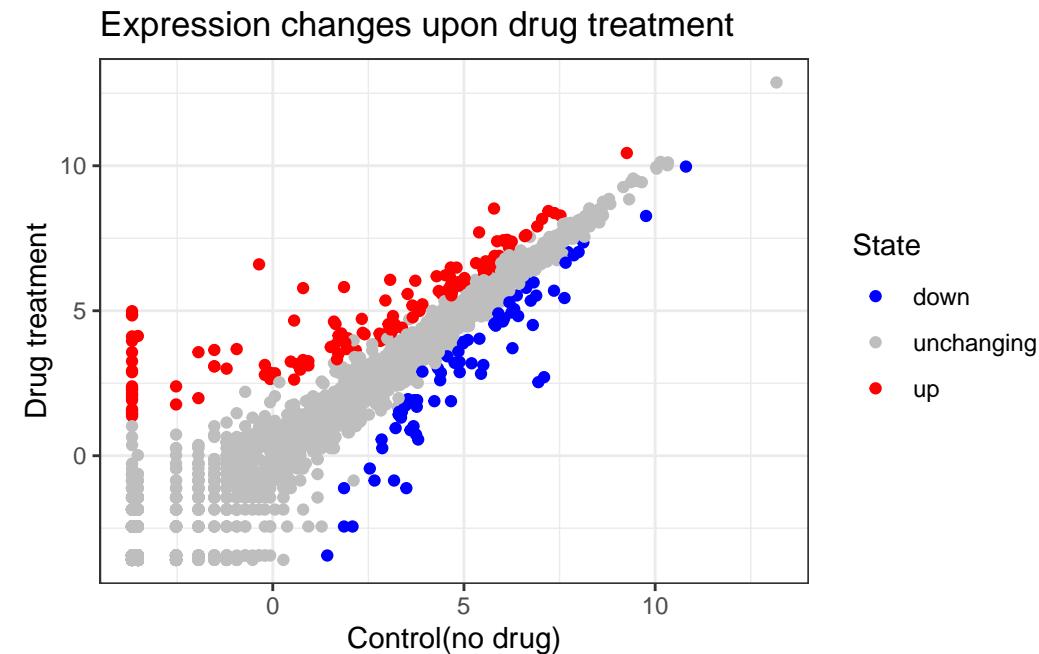
```
table(genes$State)
```

	down	unchanging	up
72		4997	127

Make a V1 figure

```
p<- ggplot(genes) +
  aes(Condition1, Condition2, colour = State) +
  geom_point() +
  labs(y="Drug treatment", x = "Control(no drug)")
```

```
p + scale_colour_manual( values=c("blue","gray","red") )+
  labs(title="Expression changes upon drug treatment") +
  theme_bw()
```



More plotting

Read in the gapminder dataset

```
# File location online
url <- "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/jennybc/gapminder/master/inst/extdata/gapminder.ts"

gapminder <- read.delim(url)
```

Let's have a small peek

```
head(gapminder, n=3)
```

	country	continent	year	lifeExp	pop	gdpPercap
1	Afghanistan	Asia	1952	28.801	8425333	779.4453
2	Afghanistan	Asia	1957	30.332	9240934	820.8530
3	Afghanistan	Asia	1962	31.997	10267083	853.1007

```
tail(gapminder, n=3)
```

```
country continent year lifeExp      pop gdpPercap
1702 Zimbabwe    Africa 1997  46.809 11404948  792.4500
1703 Zimbabwe    Africa 2002  39.989 11926563  672.0386
1704 Zimbabwe    Africa 2007  43.487 12311143  469.7093
```

Q4: How many countries are in this dataset

```
length(table(gapminder$country))
```

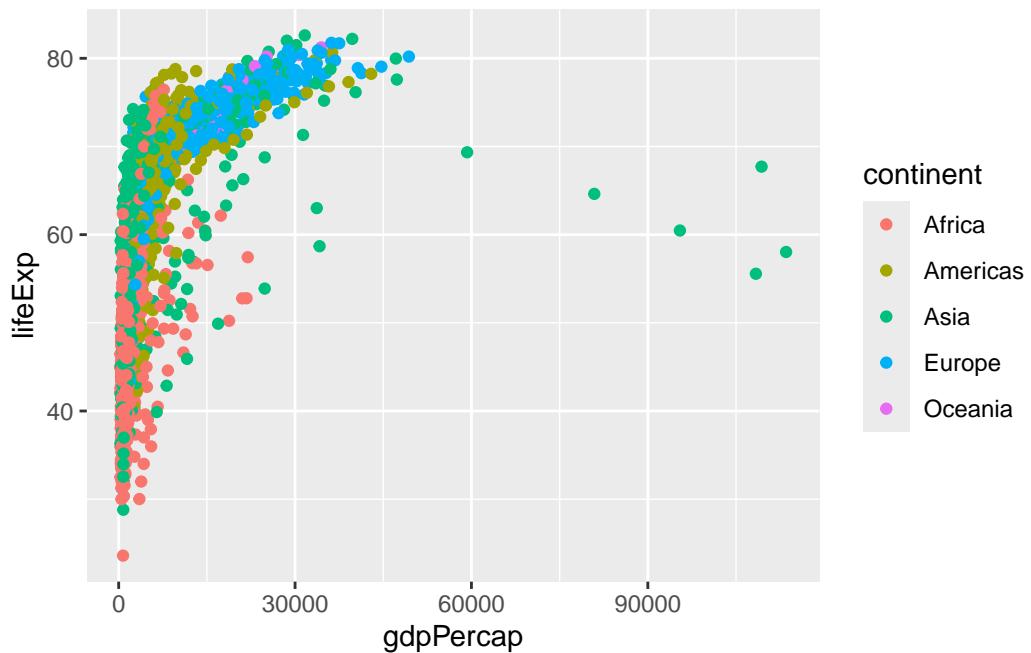
```
[1] 142
```

Q5: How many continents are in this dataset

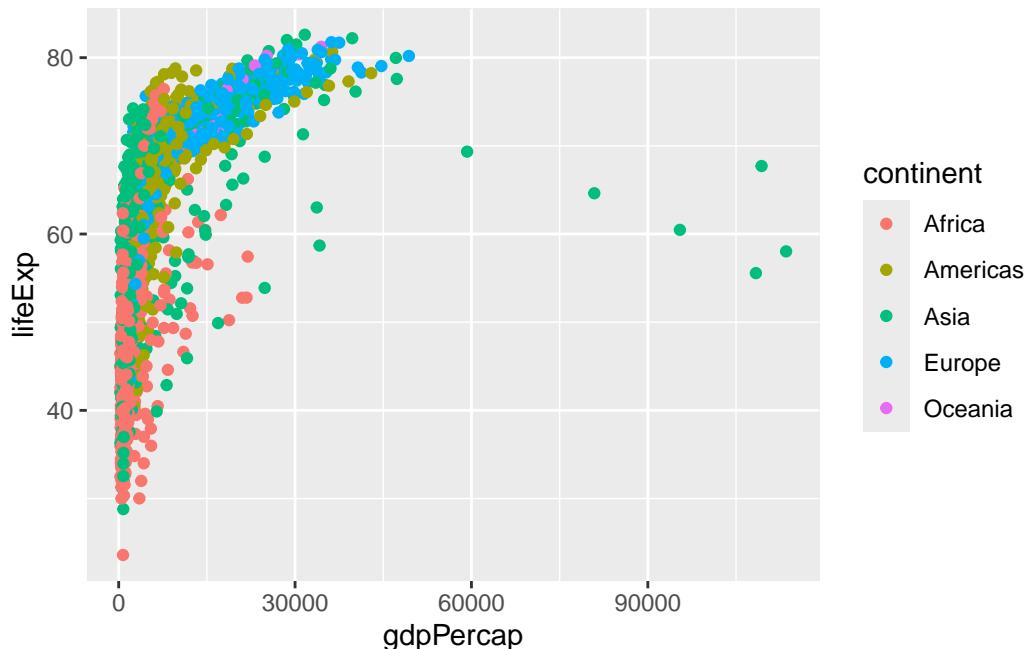
```
unique(gapminder$continent)
```

```
[1] "Asia"      "Europe"     "Africa"     "Americas"   "Oceania"
```

```
ggplot(gapminder)+  
  aes(gdpPercap, lifeExp, colour = continent)+  
  geom_point()
```



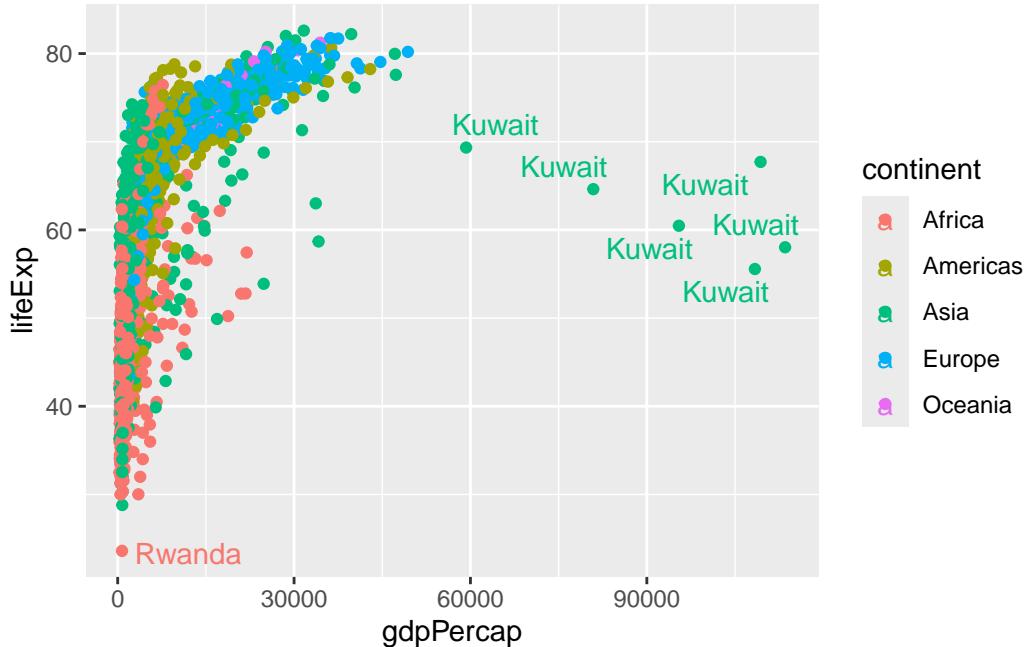
```
library(ggrepel)
ggplot(gapminder) +
  aes(gdpPercap, lifeExp, colour = continent, label = country) +
  geom_point()
```



I can use `ggrepel` to make more sensible labels

```
library(ggrepel)
ggplot(gapminder) +
  aes(gdpPercap, lifeExp, colour = continent, label = country) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_text_repel()
```

Warning: ggrepel: 1697 unlabeled data points (too many overlaps). Consider increasing max.overlaps



I want a separate panel per continent

```
ggplot(gapminder)+  
  aes(gdpPercap, lifeExp, colour = continent, label = country)+  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_text_repel() +  
  facet_wrap(~continent)
```

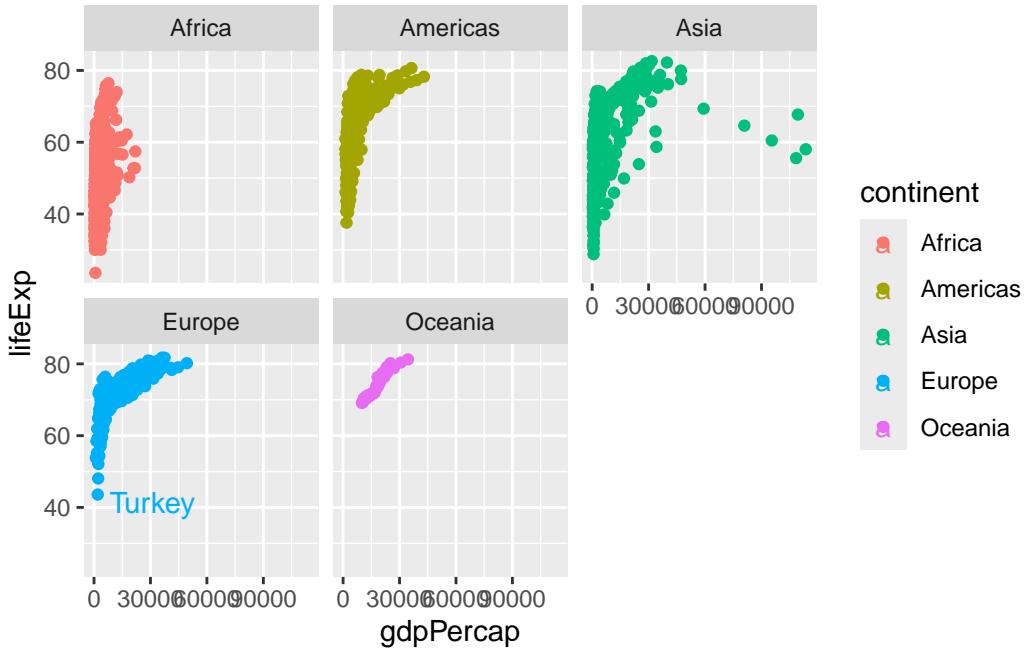
Warning: ggrepel: 624 unlabeled data points (too many overlaps). Consider increasing max.overlaps

Warning: ggrepel: 359 unlabeled data points (too many overlaps). Consider increasing max.overlaps

Warning: ggrepel: 300 unlabeled data points (too many overlaps). Consider increasing max.overlaps

Warning: ggrepel: 24 unlabeled data points (too many overlaps). Consider increasing max.overlaps

Warning: ggrepel: 396 unlabeled data points (too many overlaps). Consider increasing max.overlaps



Summary : What are the advantages of ggplot over base R

Layered Grammar of Graphics: ggplot uses a consistent, layered approach (data, aesthetics, geometry) for building plots, making it easier to create complex visualizations by adding layers step-by-step. Base R requires different functions and arguments for each plot type, which can be less intuitive and harder to customize for complex figures 1, 3, 2, 5, 7.

Publication-Quality Defaults: ggplot produces attractive, publication-ready figures with sensible defaults, while base R often needs extensive tweaking to achieve similar aesthetics 1, 3, 2, 5.

Declarative Syntax: In ggplot, you declare what you want to show (e.g., which variables map to which aesthetics), rather than specifying every detail procedurally. This makes code easier to read and modify 1, 3, 2, 5.

Faceting and Grouping: ggplot makes it straightforward to split data into subplots (facets) and to map variables to color, shape, or other aesthetics, which is much more cumbersome in base R 3, 2.

Extensibility: ggplot is part of a large ecosystem of packages for advanced graphics and customizations, while base R is more limited in scope 1, 3, 5.