Types of severe weather events which have huge impact on public health and economic problems

Synopsis

Storms and other severe weather events have huge impact on public health and economic problems for municipalities and their inhabitants. Some of severe events can cause injuries property damage and even lead to death.This project involves exploring the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) storm database. This database tracks characteristics of major storms and weather events in the United States, including when and where they occur, as well as estimates of any fatalities, injuries, and property damage from the year 1950 till November 2011.From this analysis we can determine which types of events are most harmful with respect to population health and which have the greatest economic consequences.

data<-"/Users/riddhimab/downloads/repdata_data_StormData.csv.bz2"

Data Processing

I'm going to use The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) storm database which tracks characteristics of major storms and weather events in the United States. This dataset comes from the Internet.

```

Read a file in table format

```
StormData <- read.csv("/Users/riddhimab/downloads/repdata_data_StormData.csv.bz2",s
ep = ",",header=TRUE)
```

Property damage estimates were entered as actual dollar amounts (the variable PROPDMG). But they were rounded to three significant digits, followed by an alphabetical character signifying the magnitude of the number, i.e., 1.55B for $1,550,000,000. Alphabetical characters used to signify magnitude include ?K? for thousands, ?M? for millions, and ?B? for billions. So I created a new variable PROPDMGEXP2 and assigned conditionally "K" = 1000, "M" = 1000000, "B" = 1000000000, in other cases 1. These variables are multiplied in the next step.

```
table(StormData$PROPDMGEXP)
```
```

```
##
##             -      ?      +      0      1      2      3      4      5
## 465934      1      8      5    216     25     13      4      4     28
##      6      7      8      B      h      H      K      m      M
##      4      5      1     40      1      6 424665      7  11330
```

```
StormData$PROPDMGEXP2 <- 1
StormData$PROPDMGEXP2[which(StormData$PROPDMGEXP == "K")] <- 1000
StormData$PROPDMGEXP2[which(StormData$PROPDMGEXP == "M" | StormData$PROPDMGEXP == "
m")] <- 1000000
StormData$PROPDMGEXP2[which(StormData$PROPDMGEXP == "B")] <- 1000000000
```

```
table(StormData$PROPDMGEXP2)
```

```
##
##      1   1000  1e+06  1e+09
## 466255 424665  11337     40
```

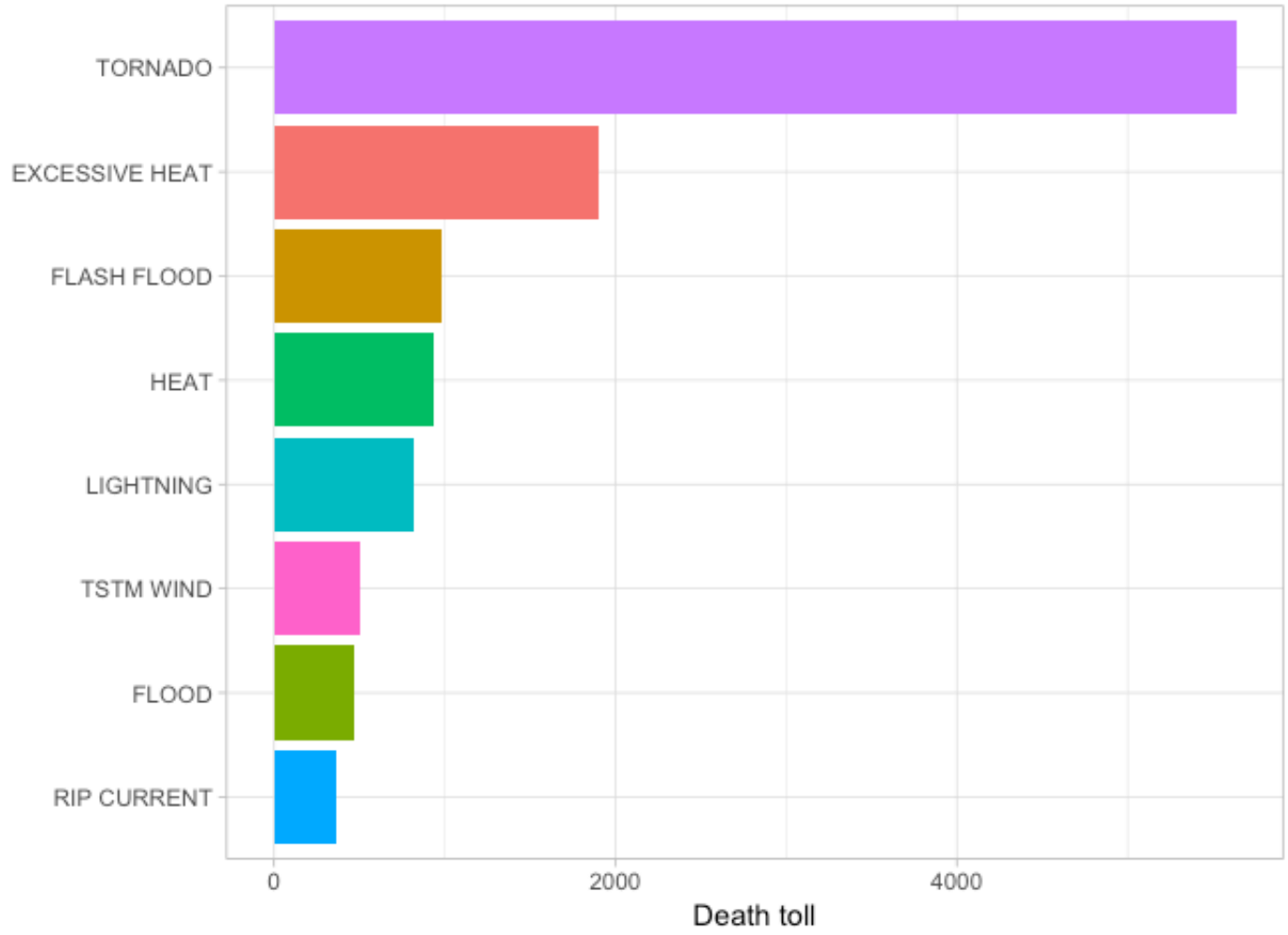
Results

Which types of events are most harmful to population health?

Fatalities and injuries have the most impact on public health, so I will present what types of severe weather are the most dangerous.

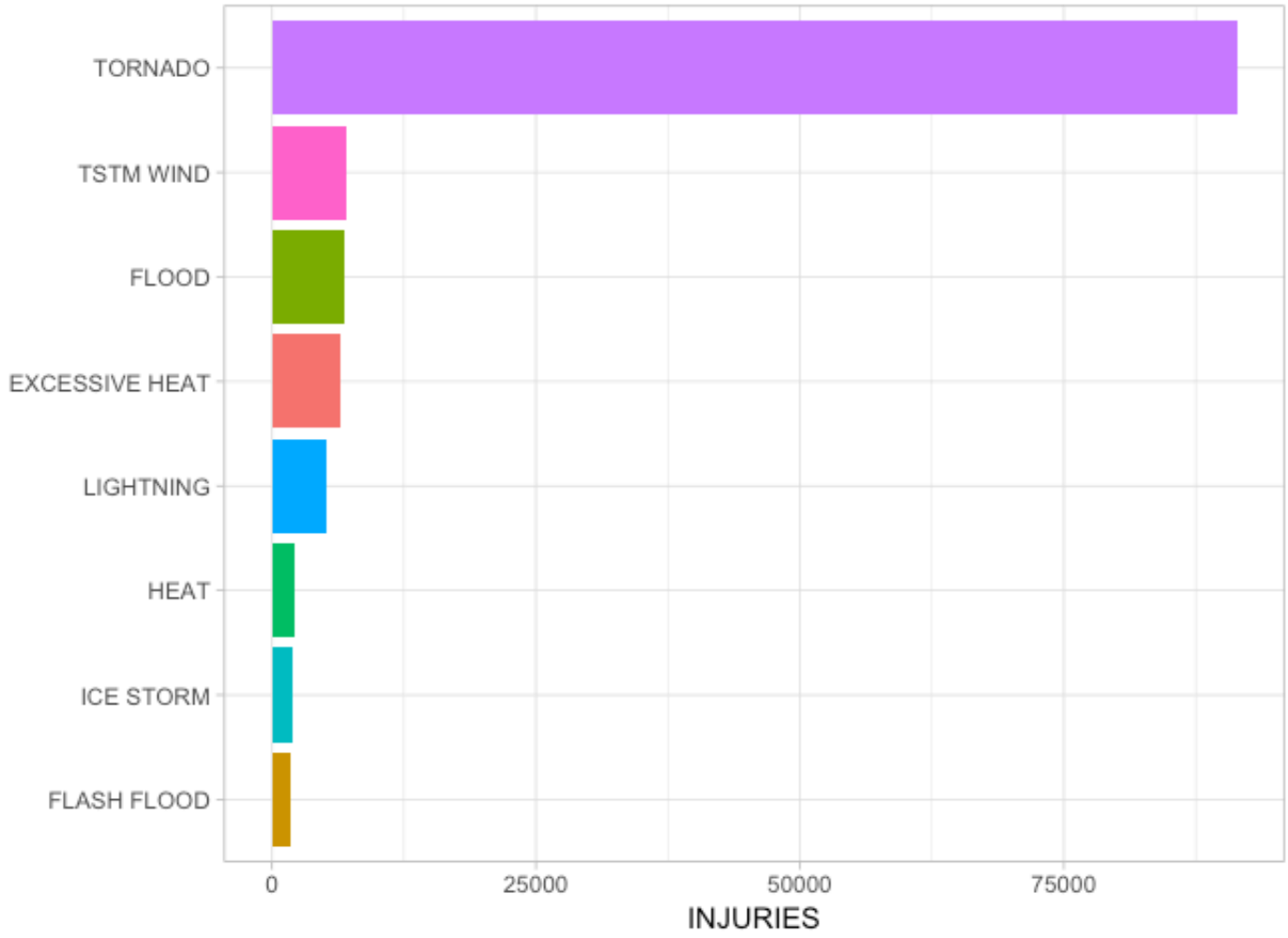
The first plot presents a Death toll by Event type

```
StormData %>%
      select(FATALITIES, EVTYPE) %>%
      group_by(EVTYPE) %>%
      summarise(SumFATALITIES = sum(FATALITIES)) %>%
      top_n(n = 8, wt = SumFATALITIES) %>%
      ggplot(aes(y = SumFATALITIES, x = reorder(x = EVTYPE, X = SumFATALITIES), fil
l=EVTYPE))+
      geom_bar(stat = "identity", show.legend = FALSE) +
      #geom_text(aes(label=SumFATALITIES), size = 4, hjust = 0.5, vjust = -0.1) +
      xlab(label = "") +
      ylab(label = "Death toll") +
      coord_flip() +
      theme_light()
```



The second plot presents Injuries by Event type

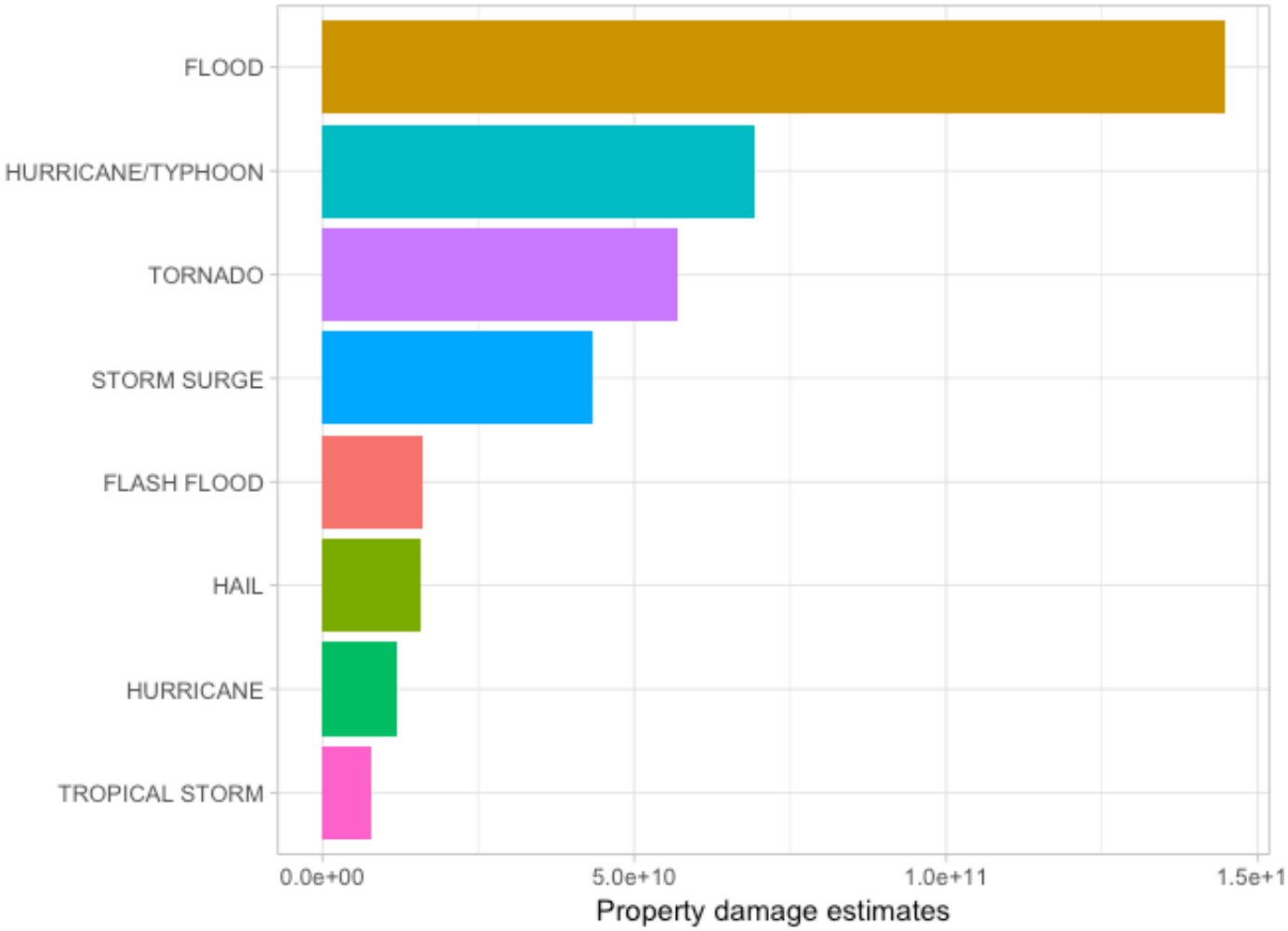
```
StormData %>%
      select(INJURIES, EVTYPE) %>%
      group_by(EVTYPE) %>%
      summarise(SumINJURIES = sum(INJURIES)) %>%
      top_n(n = 8, wt = SumINJURIES) %>%
      ggplot(aes(y = SumINJURIES, x = reorder(x = EVTYPE, X = SumINJURIES), fill=EV
TYPE))+
      geom_bar(stat = "identity", show.legend = FALSE) +
      #geom_text(aes(label=SumINJURIES), size = 4, hjust = 0.5, vjust = -0.1) +
      xlab(label = "") +
      ylab(label = "INJURIES") +
      coord_flip() +
      theme_light()
```



Which types of events have the greatest economic consequences?

This plot shows Property damage estimates by Event type

```
StormData %>%
      select(PROPDMG, PROPDMGEXP2, EVTYPE) %>%
      group_by(EVTYPE) %>%
      mutate(SumPROPDMGEXP = (PROPDMG * PROPDMGEXP2)) %>%
      summarise(SumPROPDMGEXP2 = sum(SumPROPDMGEXP)) %>%
      top_n(n = 8, wt = SumPROPDMGEXP2) %>%
      ggplot(aes(y = SumPROPDMGEXP2, x = reorder(x = EVTYPE, X = SumPROPDMGEXP2), f
ill=EVTYPE))+
      geom_bar(stat = "identity", show.legend = FALSE) +
      #geom_text(aes(label=SumFATALITIES), size = 4, hjust = 0.5, vjust = -0.1) +
      xlab(label = "") +
      ylab(label = "Property damage estimates") +
      coord_flip() +
      theme_light()
```



Conclusion

As you can see above flood has the greatest economic consequences. Tornado is the most harmful to population health because caused the most death tolls and injuries.

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