

Exploratory Data Analysis

Sebnem Er

2021-03-04

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Chapter 1

Introduction

As part of the MSc specializing in Data Science, this course aims to introduce the essential techniques for performing exploratory data analysis. These techniques are typically applied before formal modeling commences and allow the researcher to discover patterns, spot anomalies, test hypotheses and check assumptions with the help of summary statistics and graphical representations. Different types of data will be described and the appropriate exploratory data analysis techniques for each data type will be introduced. The course will distinguish between univariate non-graphical, multivariate non-graphical, univariate graphical, and multivariate graphical techniques. Special attention will focus on the visualization of large data sets using appropriate software. Some of the topics to be covered include:

- 1) Plotting the raw data (such as data traces, histograms, bihistograms, probability plots, lag plots, block plots, and Youden plots).
- 2) Plotting simple statistics such as mean plots, standard deviation plots, box plots, and main effects plots of the raw data.
- 3) Positioning such plots so as to maximize our natural pattern-recognition abilities, such as using multiple plots per page.
- 4) Plotting geocoded data and creating dashboards
- 5) Dimensionality reduction and clustering of similar observations

Resources

There are some really good free online textbooks by well known and respected teachers in this area – most of the material we need can be based on these three sources:

1. Exploratory Data Analysis with R (Roger Peng = RP): <https://bookdown.org/rdpeng/exdata/>

2. STA545: Data wrangling, exploration, and analysis with R (Jenny Bryan = JB): <https://stat545.com/index.html>
3. R for data science (Hadley Wickham = HW): <https://r4ds.had.co.nz/>

Chapter 2

EDA Lecture 1-2 R Examples

2.1 Example 2 - Gapminder

```
#install.packages("gapminder")  
library(gapminder)  
gapminder
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,704 x 6  
##   country      continent year lifeExp      pop gdpPercap  
##   <fct>        <fct>    <int>  <dbl>    <int>    <dbl>  
## 1 Afghanistan Asia      1952   28.8  8425333    779.  
## 2 Afghanistan Asia      1957   30.3  9240934    821.  
## 3 Afghanistan Asia      1962   32.0 10267083    853.  
## 4 Afghanistan Asia      1967   34.0 11537966    836.  
## 5 Afghanistan Asia      1972   36.1 13079460    740.  
## 6 Afghanistan Asia      1977   38.4 14880372    786.  
## 7 Afghanistan Asia      1982   39.9 12881816    978.  
## 8 Afghanistan Asia      1987   40.8 13867957    852.  
## 9 Afghanistan Asia      1992   41.7 16317921    649.  
## 10 Afghanistan Asia      1997   41.8 22227415    635.  
## # ... with 1,694 more rows
```

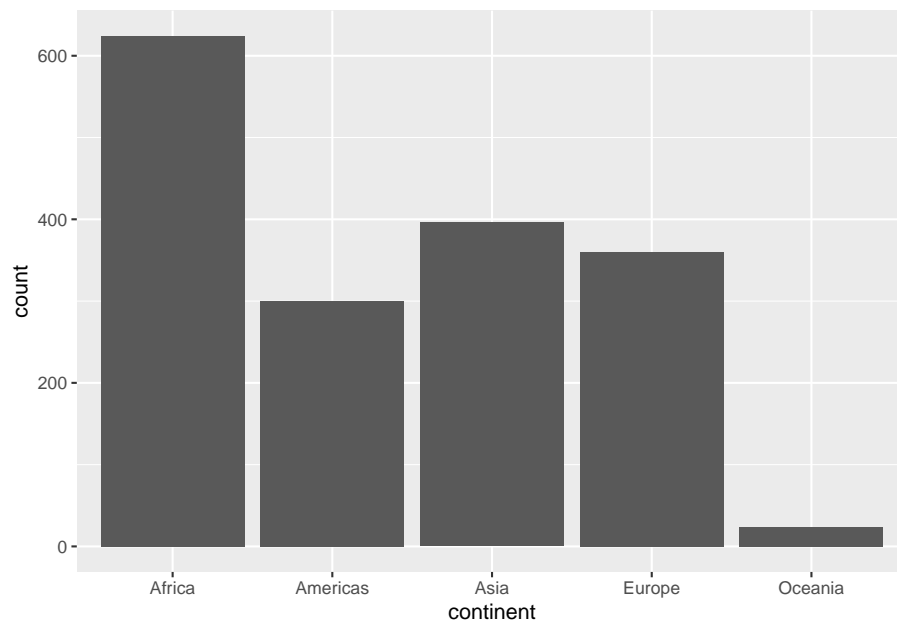
2.2 Frequency Distribution

```
library(ggplot2)
table(gapminder$continent)
```

```
##
##   Africa Americas      Asia   Europe Oceania
##     624      300      396     360      24
```

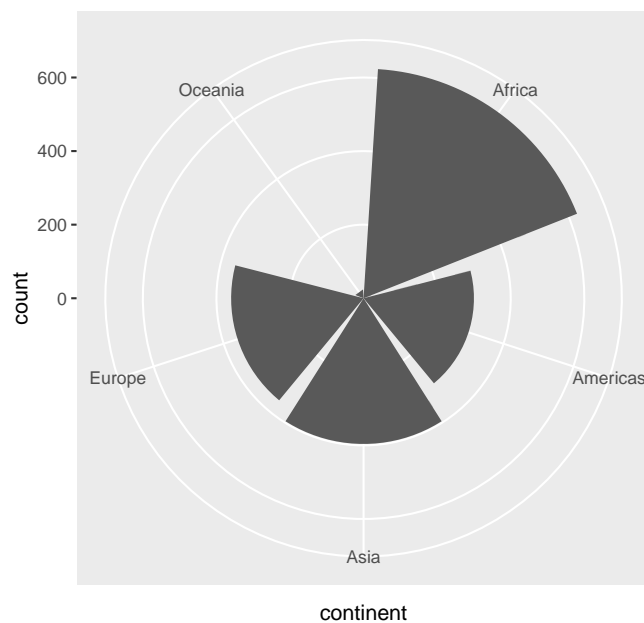
2.3 Bar Plot

```
library(ggplot2)
plot1 <- ggplot(gapminder, aes(x=continent)) + geom_bar()
plot1
```



2.4 Pie Chart


```
plot1 + coord_polar()
```

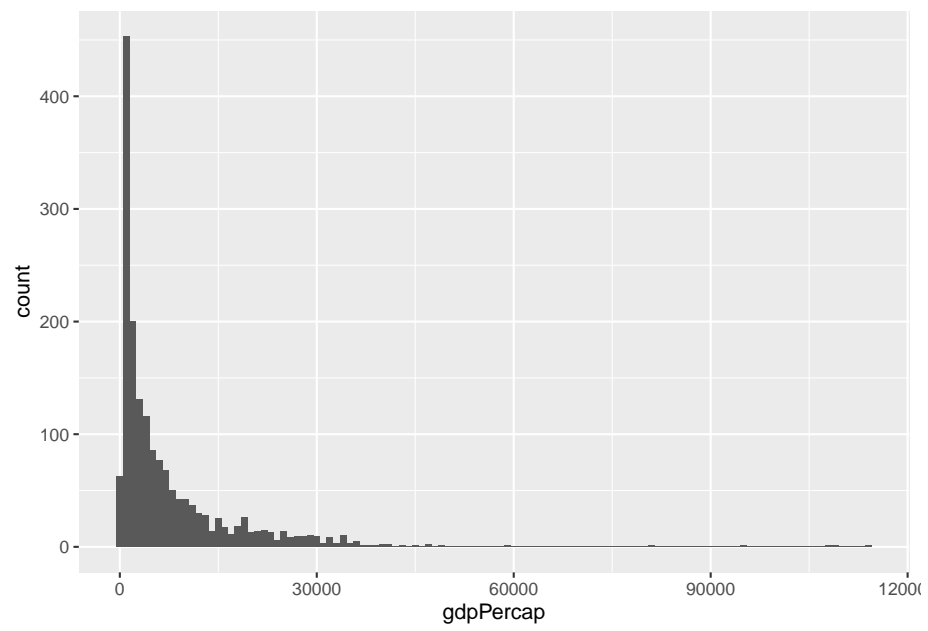


If you would like to have a regular pie chart, then you need to provide the frequency distribution.

2.5 Histogram

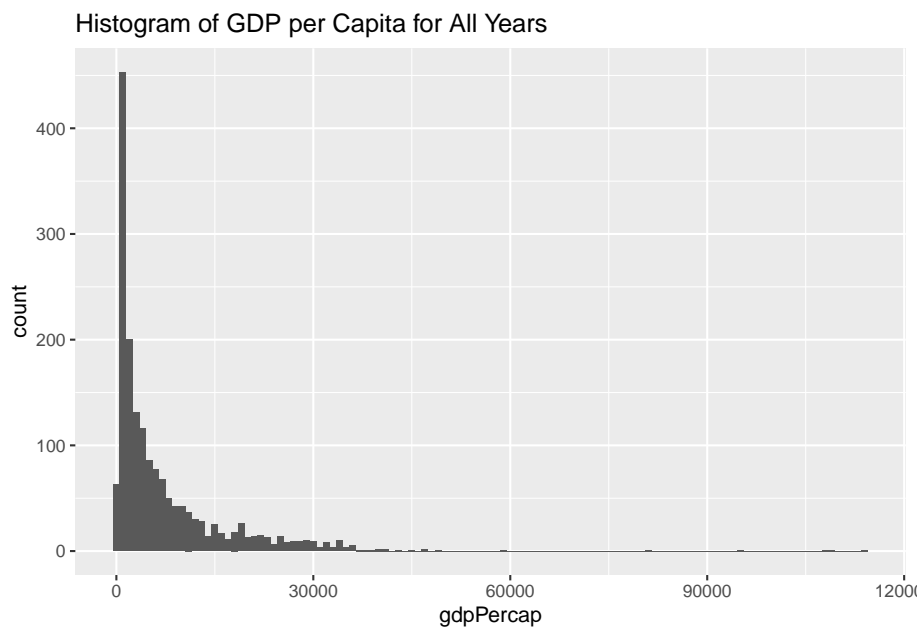
2.5.1 A Simple Histogram

```
library(ggplot2)
plot2 <- ggplot(gapminder,
                 aes(x = gdpPercap))
plot2 + geom_histogram(binwidth = 1000)
```



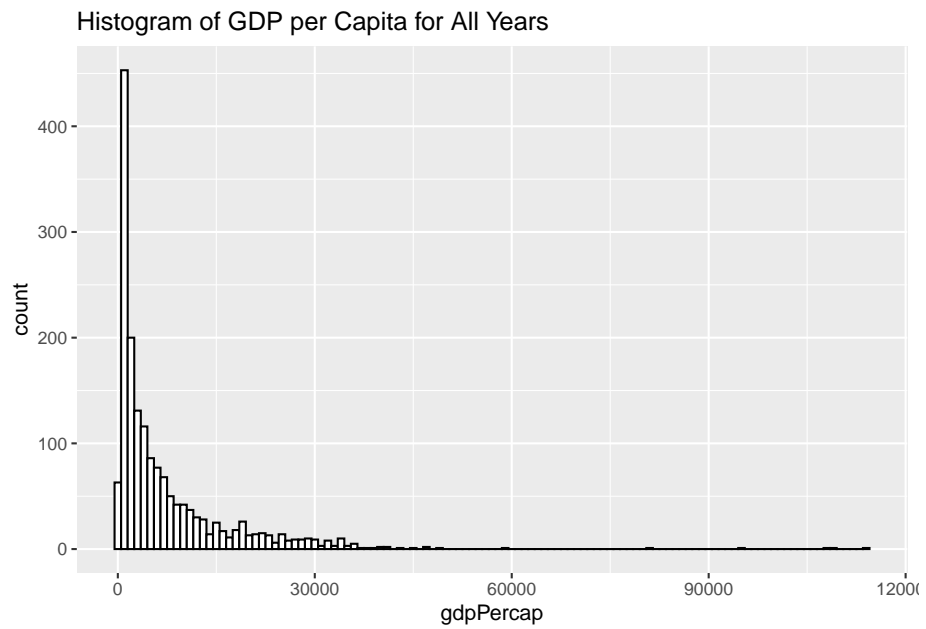
2.5.2 Histogram With a Title

```
plot2 +  
  geom_histogram(binwidth = 1000) +  
  labs(title = "Histogram of GDP per Capita for All Years")
```



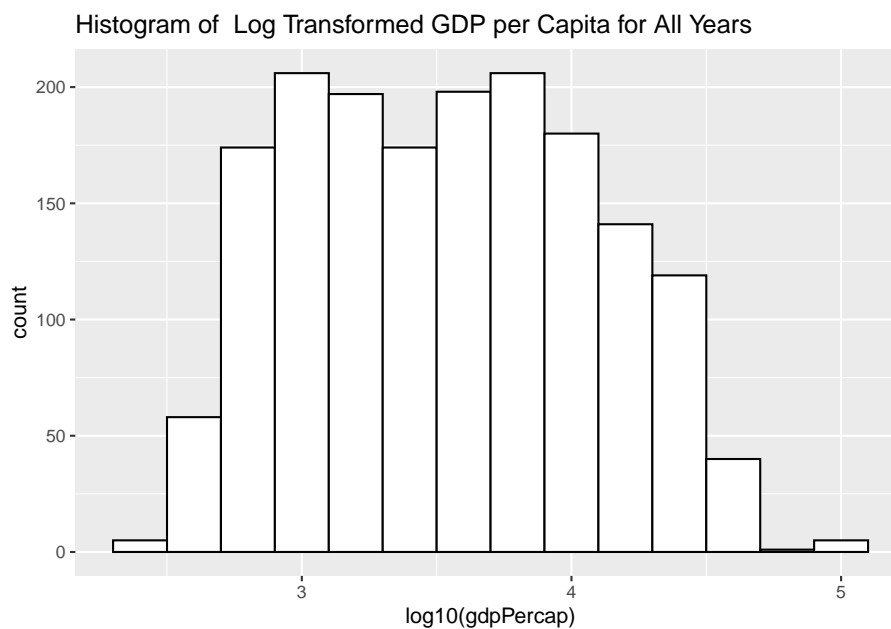
2.5.3 Histogram with Different Color Schemes:

```
plot2 +  
  geom_histogram(binwidth = 1000, color="black", fill="white") +  
  labs(title = "Histogram of GDP per Capita for All Years")
```



2.5.4 Histogram of Log Transformed Variable:

```
plot3 <- ggplot(gapminder,
                aes(x = log10(gdpPercap)))
plot3 +
  geom_histogram(binwidth = .2, color="black", fill="white") +
  labs(title = "Histogram of Log Transformed GDP per Capita for All Years")
```



2.5.5 Determine the Binwidth

How do we determine the binwidth?

- Sturges' rule uses class intervals of length

$$L = \frac{x_{max} - x_{min}}{1 + 1.44 \ln(n)}$$

- Genstat rule uses class intervals of length:

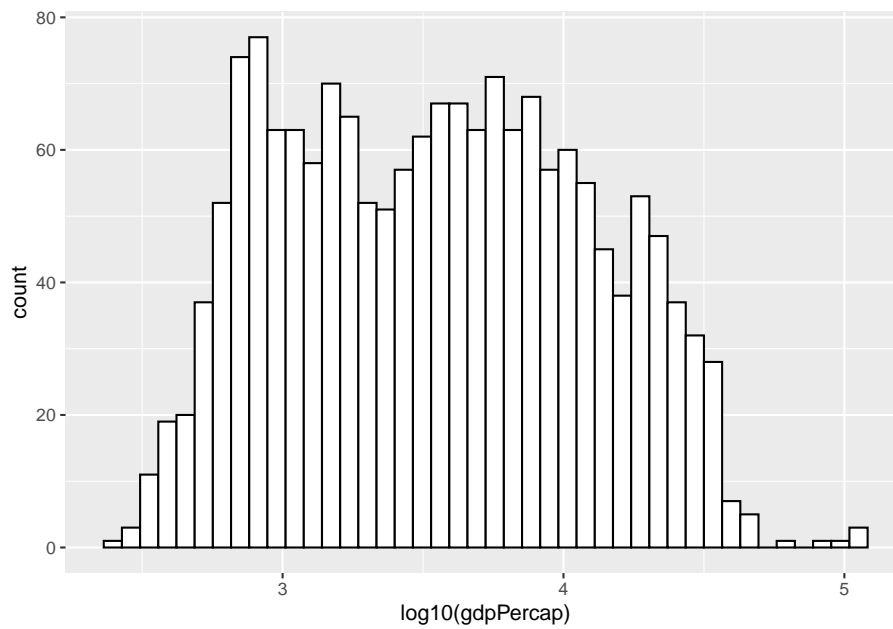
$$L = \frac{x_{max} - x_{min}}{\sqrt{n}}$$

- or a general rule

So we can create our own function for the binwidth:

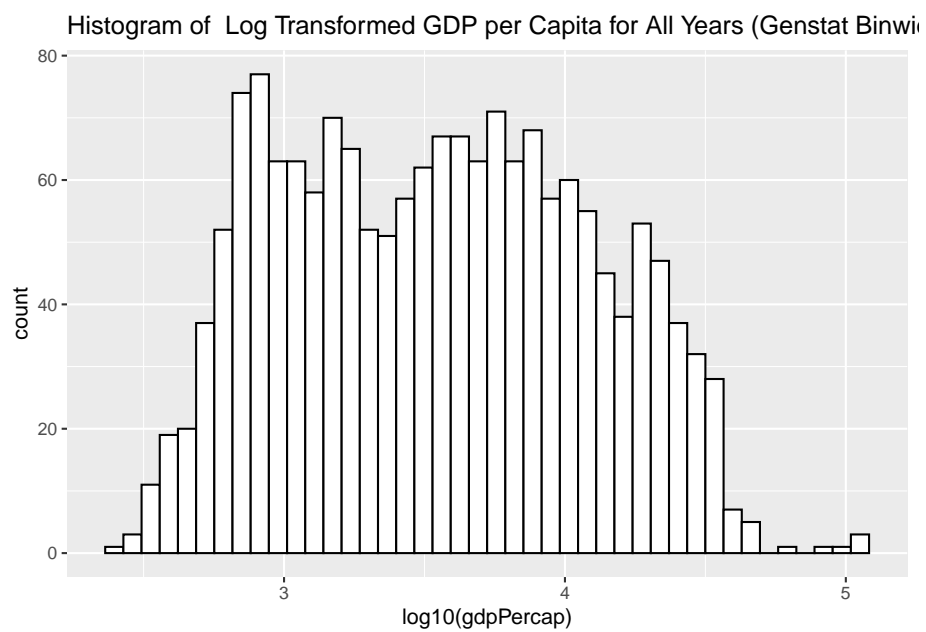
```
width_bin = function(x) (max(x)-min(x)) / sqrt(length(x))  
manualbin = width_bin(log10(gapminder$gdpPercap))
```

```
plot3 +  
  geom_histogram(binwidth = manualbin, color="black", fill="white")
```



or simply

```
plot3 +  
  geom_histogram(binwidth = function(x) (max(x)-min(x)) / sqrt(length(x)), color="black", fill="white")  
  labs(title = "Histogram of Log Transformed GDP per Capita for All Years (Genstat Binwidth)")
```

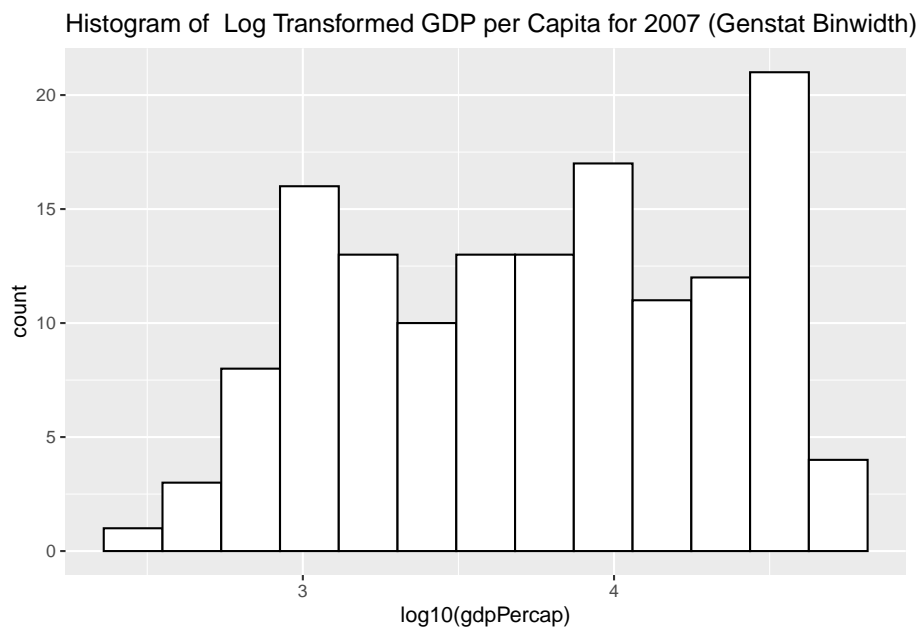


But you will notice that Gdp per capita variable includes all years, all continents, all countries!!!

2.5.6 Histogram for a Subset of Data

Log Transformed GDP per Capita for 2007:

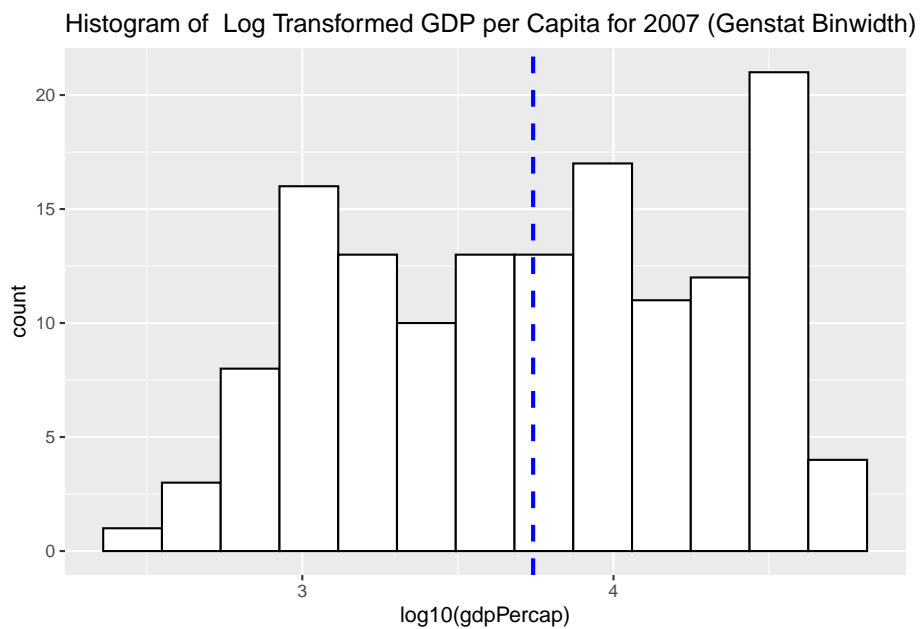
```
plot4 <- ggplot(subset(gapminder, year == 2007),  
               aes(x = log10(gdpPercap)))  
plot4 +  
  geom_histogram(binwidth = function(x) (max(x)-min(x)) / sqrt(length(x)), color="black", fill="white",  
                labs(title = "Histogram of Log Transformed GDP per Capita for 2007 (Genstat Binwidth)"))
```



2.5.7 Histogram with Overall Mean Line

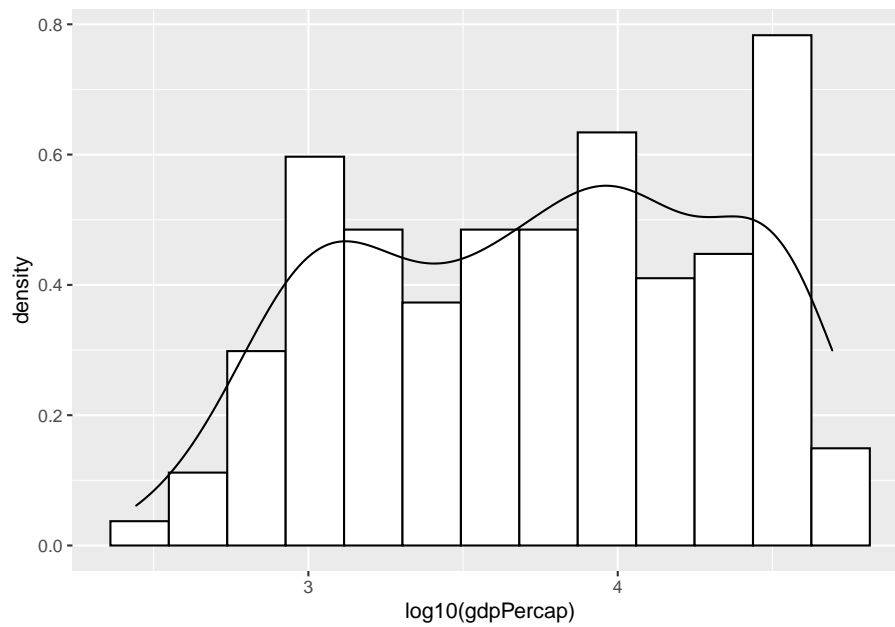
Log Transformed GDP per Capita for 2007 with the Overall Mean Line

```
# Histogram with mean of log10(gdpPercap) on the plot
plot4 +
  geom_histogram(binwidth = function(x) (max(x)-min(x)) / sqrt(length(x)), color="black", fill="white") +
  geom_vline(aes(xintercept=mean(log10(gdpPercap))),
             color="blue", linetype="dashed", size=1) +
  labs(title = "Histogram of Log Transformed GDP per Capita for 2007 (Genstat Binwidth)")
```



2.5.8 Histogram with Density plot

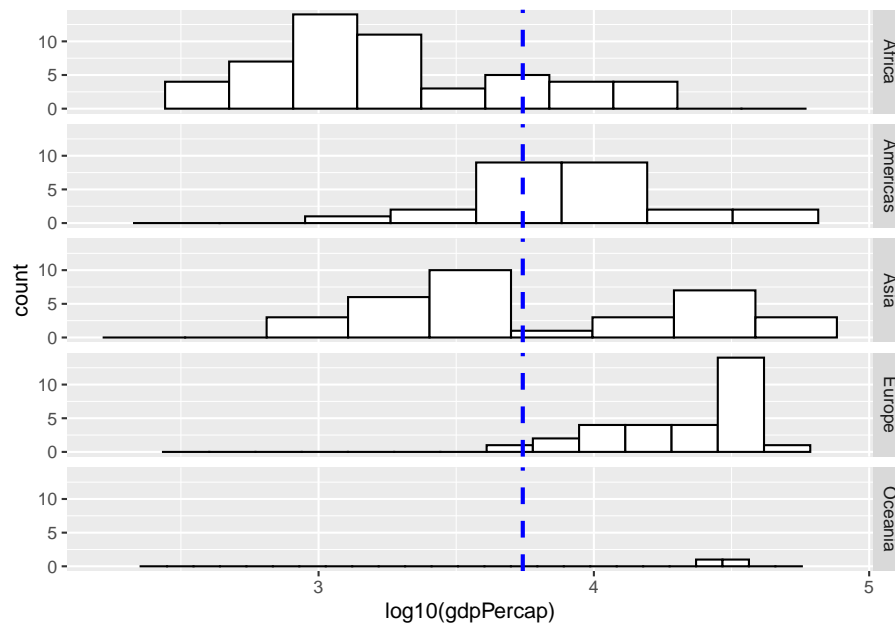
```
# Histogram with density plot  
ggplot(subset(gapminder, year == 2007),  
        aes(x = log10(gdpPercap))) +  
  geom_histogram(aes(y=..density..), binwidth = function(x) (max(x)-min(x)) / sqrt(length(x)), col="black", fill="white") +  
  geom_density(alpha=0, fill="#FF6666") #alpha for transparency, if alpha = 0, no fill
```



2.5.9 Histogram with Facets

How about looking at the differences among different continents?

```
# Histogram with mean of log10(gdpPercap) on the plot
plot4 +
  geom_histogram(binwidth = function(x) (max(x)-min(x)) / sqrt(length(x)), color="black", fill="white") +
  geom_vline(aes(xintercept=mean(log10(gdpPercap))),
             color="blue", linetype="dashed", size=1) +
  facet_grid(continent ~ .)
```



2.6 Boxplots

```
# Histogram with mean of log10(gdpPercap) on the plot
plot5 <- ggplot(subset(gapminder, year == 2007),
                 aes(x = year, y = log10(gdpPercap)))
# if x axis variable is numeric, then one single boxplot
# if x axis variable is categorical, then works like facets

plot5 +
  geom_boxplot() #+ coord_flip()
```

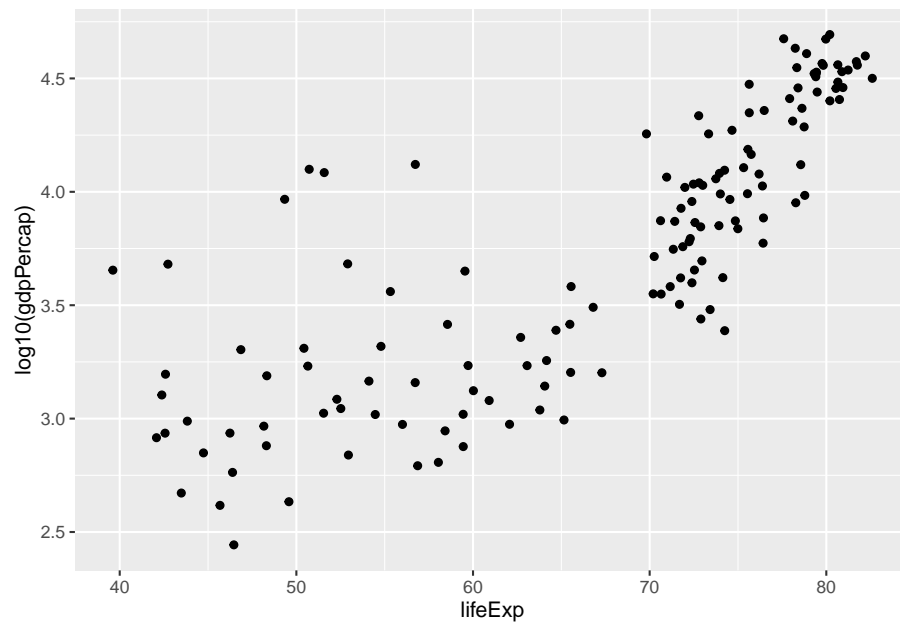


Try with “continent” variable.

2.7 Scatter Plots

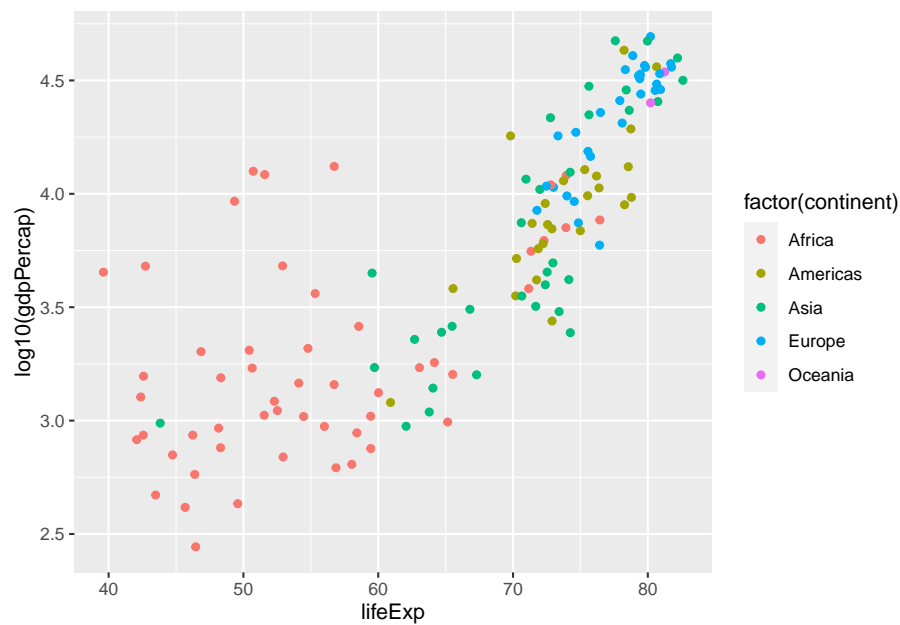
2.7.1 A Simple Scatter Plot

```
plot6 <- ggplot(subset(gapminder, year == 2007),
                 aes(x = lifeExp, y = log10(gdpPercap)))
plot6 +
  geom_point()
```



2.7.2 Scatter Plot with Labellings

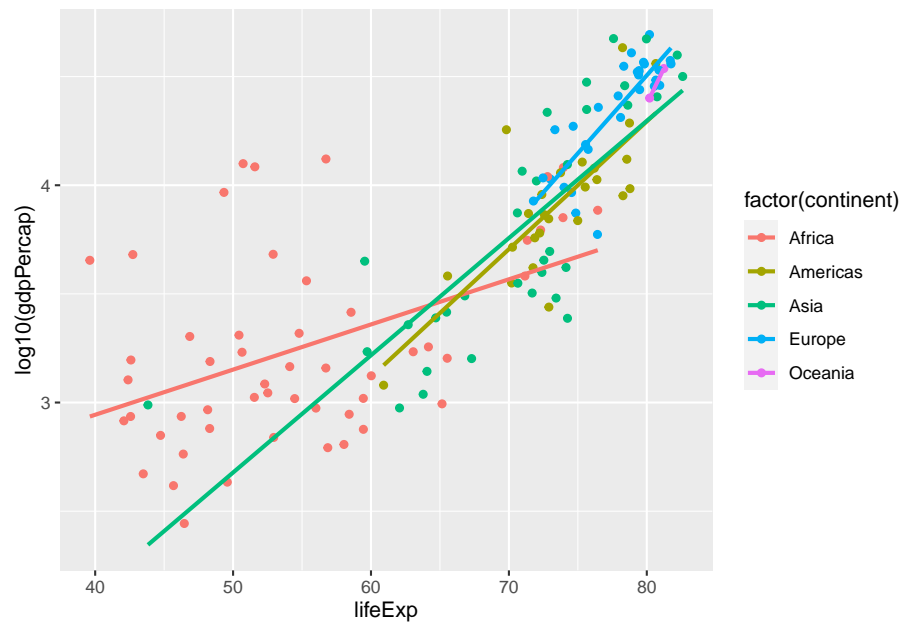
```
plot6 +  
  geom_point(aes(colour = factor(continent)))
```



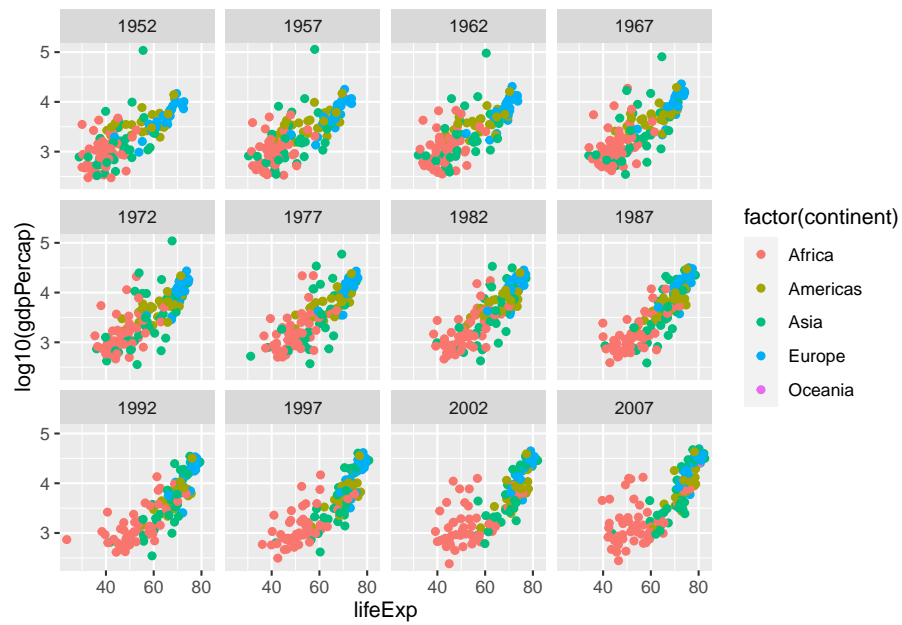
2.7.3 Scatter Plot with Linear Lines for Different Groups

```
plot6 +
  geom_point(aes(colour = factor(continent))) +
  geom_smooth(aes(group = continent, colour = factor(continent)), lwd = 1, se = FALSE, method = 'lm')
```

```
## `geom_smooth()` using formula 'y ~ x'
```



```
plot7 <- ggplot(gapminder,
  aes(x = lifeExp, y = log10(gdpPercap)))
plot7 +
  geom_point(aes(colour = factor(continent))) +
  facet_wrap(~ year) # scales = "free_x"
```

For more check “ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analysis (Use R!)” by (Hadley Wickham)