Reporting data results #2

This week, we'll be using some example data from NOAA's Storm Events Database.

Go to https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/swdi/stormevents/csvfiles/and download the bulk storm details data for 2017, in the file that starts "StormEvents_details" and includes "d2017".

Move this into a good directory for your current working directory and read it in using read_csv from the readr package.

This data lists major weather-related storm events during 2017.

For each event, it includes information like the start and end dates, where it happened, associated deaths, injuries, and property damage, and some other characteristics.

colnames(storms_2017)

```
[1] "BEGIN_YEARMONTH"
                              "BEGIN_DAY"
##
                                                    "BEGIN_TIME"
    [4] "END_YEARMONTH"
                              "END_DAY"
                                                    "END_TIME"
##
##
    [7] "EPISODE_ID"
                              "EVENT_ID"
                                                    "STATE"
   [10] "STATE_FIPS"
                                                    "MONTH_NAME"
                              "YEAR."
## [13] "EVENT_TYPE"
                              "CZ_TYPE"
                                                    "CZ FIPS"
## [16] "CZ_NAME"
                              "WFO"
                                                    "BEGIN_DATE_TIME"
## [19] "CZ_TIMEZONE"
                                                    "INJURIES_DIRECT"
                              "END_DATE_TIME"
   [22] "INJURIES_INDIRECT"
                              "DEATHS_DIRECT"
                                                    "DEATHS_INDIRECT"
                              "DAMAGE_CROPS"
   [25] "DAMAGE PROPERTY"
                                                    "SOURCE"
   [28] "MAGNITUDE"
                              "MAGNITUDE TYPE"
                                                    "FLOOD_CAUSE"
## [31] "CATEGORY"
                              "TOR_F_SCALE"
                                                    "TOR_LENGTH"
                              "TOR_OTHER_WFO"
  [34] "TOR_WIDTH"
                                                    "TOR_OTHER_CZ_STATE"
## [37] "TOR_OTHER_CZ_FIPS"
                              "TOR_OTHER_CZ_NAME"
                                                    "BEGIN_RANGE"
   [40] "BEGIN_AZIMUTH"
                              "BEGIN_LOCATION"
                                                    "END_RANGE"
## [43] "END AZIMUTH"
                              "END_LOCATION"
                                                    "BEGIN_LAT"
  [46] "BEGIN_LON"
                              "END LAT"
                                                    "END_LON"
## [49] "EPISODE_NARRATIVE"
                              "EVENT_NARRATIVE"
                                                    "DATA_SOURCE"
```

Each row is a separate **event**. However, often several events are grouped together within the same **episode**.

```
storms_2017 %>% nrow()
## [1] 56989
storms_2017 %>%
  select(EVENT ID) %>%
  distinct() %>%
  nrow()
## [1] 56989
storms_2017 %>%
  select(EPISODE ID) %>%
  distinct() %>%
  nrow()
```

Some of the event types are listed by their county ID (FIPS code) ("C"), but some are listed by a forecast zone ID ("Z"). Which ID is used is given in the column CZ_TYPE:

```
storms_2017 %>%
 group by (CZ TYPE) %>%
 count()
## # A tibble: 3 x 2
## # Groups: CZ_TYPE [3]
## CZ_TYPE n
## <chr> <int>
## 1 2
              17
## 2 C
           36933
## 3 Z
           20039
```

For the first in-course exercise, you will clean up this data a bit for us to use in the rest of the class.

- Download and read in the data
- Limit the dataframe to: the beginning and ending dates and times, the episode ID, the event ID, the state name and FIPS, the "CZ" name, type, and FIPS, the event type, the source, and the beginning latitude and longitude and ending latitude and longitude
- Convert the beginning and ending dates to a "date-time" class (there should be one column for the beginning date-time and one for the ending date-time)
- Change state and county names to title case (e.g., "New Jersey" instead of "NEW JERSEY")
- Limit to the events listed by county FIPS (CZ_TYPE of "C") and then remove the CZ_TYPE column
- Pad the state and county FIPS with a "0" at the beginning (hint: there's a function in stringr to do this) and then unite the two columns to make one fips column with the 5-digit county FIPS code
- Change all the column names to lower case (you may want to try the rename_all function for this)

```
storms 2017 %>%
 slice(1:3)
## # A tibble: 3 x 13
##
    begin date time end date time episode id event id state fips
                                                  <dbl> <dbl> <chr> <chr>
##
     \langle dt.t.m \rangle
                         \langle dt.t.m \rangle
## 1 2017-04-06 15:09:00 2017-04-06 15:09:00
                                                 113355 678791 New ~ 34015
## 2 2017-04-06 09:30:00 2017-04-06 09:40:00 113459 679228 Flor~ 12071
## 3 2017-04-05 17:49:00 2017-04-05 17:53:00 113448 679268 Ohio 39057
## # ... with 7 more variables: event type <chr>, cz name <chr>, source <chr>,
## #
       begin_lat <dbl>, begin_lon <dbl>, end_lat <dbl>, end_lon <dbl>
```

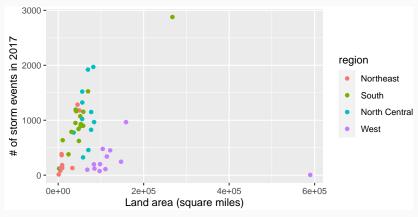
State data

There is data that comes with R on U.S. states. Use that to create a dataframe with the state name, area, and region:

Create a dataframe with the number of events per state in 2017. Merge in the state information dataframe you just created. Remove any states that are not in the state information dataframe.

```
state_storms <- storms_2017 %>%
group_by(state) %>%
count() %>%
ungroup() %>%
right_join(us_state_info, by = "state")
```

Ultimately, in this group exercise, you will create a plot of state land area versus the number of storm events in the state:





We'll now take a break to do the first part of the in-course exercise.

ggplot2 extras and extensions

ggplot2 extensions

The ggplot2 framework is set up so that others can create packages that "extend" the system, creating functions that can be added on as layers to a ggplot object.

Some of the types of extensions available include:

- More themes
- Useful additions (things that you may be able to do without the package, but that the package makes easier)
- Tools for plotting different types of data

Where to find ggplot2 extensions

There is a gallery with links to ggplot2 extensions at https://exts.ggplot2.tidyverse.org/gallery/.

This list may not be exhaustive—there may be other extensions on CRAN or on GitHub that the package maintainer did not submit for this gallery.

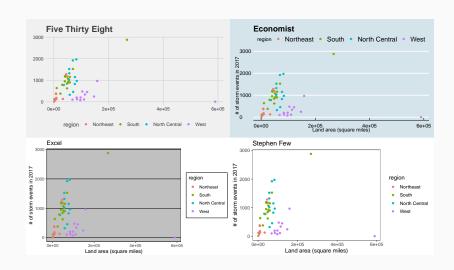
ggplot2 extensions: Themes

You have already played around a lot with using ggplot themes to change how your graphs look.

Several people have created packages with additional themes:

- ggthemes
- ggthemr
- ggtech
- ggsci

Some ggthemes themes

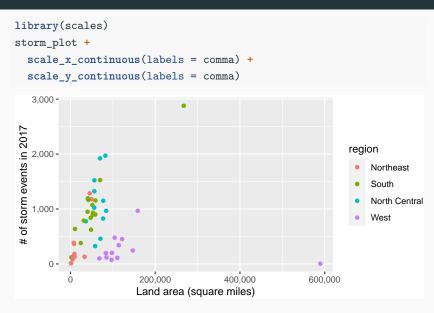


scales package

The scales package gives you a few more options for labeling with your ggplot scales. For example, if you wanted to change the notation for the axes in the plot of state area versus number of storm events, you could use the scales package to add commas to the numeric axis values.

For the rest of these slides, I've saved the ggplot object with out plot to the object named storm_plot, so we don't have to repeat that code every time.

scales package



scales package

The scales package also includes labeling functions for:

- dollars (labels = dollar)
- percent (labels = percent)

The viridis package can be used to change to a better color scale (see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAoljeRJ3IU&feature=youtu.be for more on this color scale).

From the viridis helpfile:

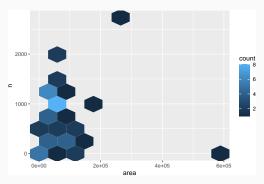
"This color map is designed in such a way that it will analytically be perfectly perceptually-uniform, both in regular form and also when converted to black-and-white. It is also designed to be perceived by readers with the most common form of color blindness."

Also see the viridis package introduction vignette: https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/viridis/vignettes/intro-to-viridis.html



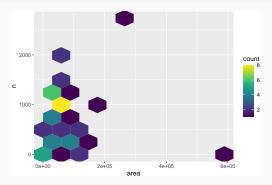
For example, here is a hexagonal heatmap showing the two-dimensional distribution of state land area versus number of reported storm events:

```
state_storms %>%
ggplot(aes(x = area, y = n)) +
geom_hex(bins = 10)
```



Change to a viridis color scale with scale_fill_viridis:

```
library(viridis)
state_storms %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = area, y = n)) +
  geom_hex(bins = 10) +
  scale_fill_viridis()
```



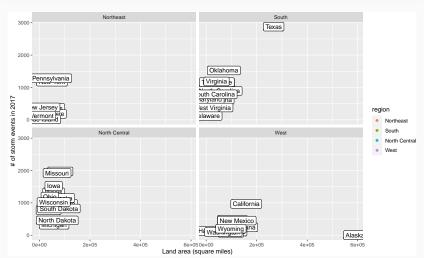
ggplot2 extensions: Useful additions

- Highlighting interesting points
- "Repelling" text labels
- Arranging plots

ggplot2 extensions: repelling text labels

When you add labels to points on a plot, they often overlap:

```
storm_plot + facet_wrap(~ region) +
geom_label(aes(label = state))
```



ggplot2 extensions: repelling text labels

0e+00

26+05

4e+05

```
library(ggrepel)
storm_plot + facet_wrap(~ region) +
    geom_label_repel(aes(label = state))
                           Northeast
                                                                             South
  3000
                                                                          Texas
                                                              Oklahoma
  2000 -
                                                                   Georgia
          Pennsylvania
                                                        Tennessee Alabama
                                                                            Arkansas
                                                        Kentucky Florida
        New York
                   Massachusetts
                                                                          North Carolina
# of storm events in 2017
        New Jersey New Hampshire
                                                                            Mississippi
                                                              South Carolina
                                                                                                         region
                  Connecti Rhode Island
                                                        Delawa West Virginia Louisiana
                                                                                                             Northeast
                                                                                                             South
                          North Central
                                                                             West
   3000
                                                                                                             North Central
                                                                                                             West
               Kansas
   2000 -
         Missouri
                                                              Idaho
                                                                    California
                     Nebraska
   1000
       Wisconsin
                                                             Colorado New Mexico
                             Minnesota
              South Dakota
        Indiana
                                                                    Arizona Montana
                                                          Wvomina
        Michigan
                   North Dakota
                                                                                              Alaska
                                                        Washington
```

6e+050e+00

Land area (square miles)

26+05

46+05

6e+05

gghighlight package

2e+05

4e+05

It may be too much to label every point. Instead, you may just want to highlight notable point.

You can use the gghighlight package to do that.

```
library(gghighlight)
storm plot + facet wrap(~ region) +
  gghighlight(area > 150000 | n > 1500, label_key = state)
                                         North Central
                 South
                                                                       West
  3000 -
               Texas
# of storm events in 2017
                                    Kansas
  2000 -
                                      Missouri
           Oklahoma
                                                                 California
  1000 -
```

2e+05

Land area (square miles)

4e+05

Alaska

2e+05

You may have multiple related plots you want to have as multiple panels of a single figure.

There are a few packages that help with this. One very good one is patchwork.

You need to install this from GitHub:

```
devtools::install_github("thomasp85/patchwork")
```

Find out more: https://github.com/thomasp85/patchwork#patchwork

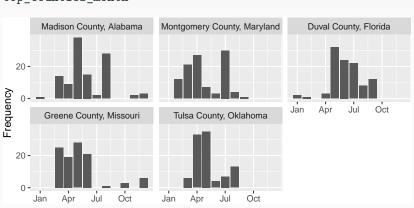
Say we want to plot seasonal patterns in events in the five counties with the highest number of events in 2017. We can use dplyr to figure out these counties:

```
top_counties <- storms_2017 %>%
  group_by(fips, state, cz_name) %>%
  count() %>%
  ungroup() %>%
  top_n(5, wt = n)
```

Then create a plot with the time patterns:

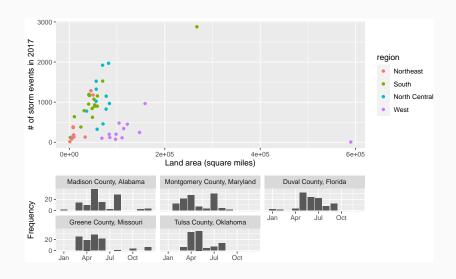
Here's this plot:

top_counties_month



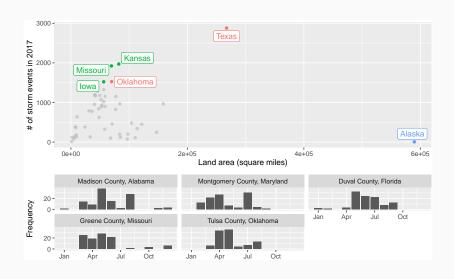
Now that you have two ggplot objects (storm_plot and top_counties_month), you can use patchwork to put them together:

```
library(patchwork)
storm_plot +
  top_counties_month +
  plot_layout(ncol = 1, heights = c(2, 1))
```



A slightly fancier version:

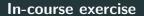
ggplot2 extensions: Arranging plots



ggplot2 extensions: Arranging plots

Other packages for arranging ggplot objects:

- gridExtra
- cowplot



We'll take a break now to do the second part of the in-course exercise.

Heat maps

Heat maps are helpful for exploring the measurements for many variables, including how similar they are, by showing small boxes of color.

In ggplot2, there is a geom_tile that is useful for creating heatmaps.

Heat maps

For example, we might want to look at how many events of each type were reported by each type of source. First, we can summarize the data to get this data:

```
type_by_source <- storms_2017 %>%
 filter(event_type %in% c("Thunderstorm Wind", "Heavy Rain",
                           "Funnel Cloud", "Flash Flood",
                           "Flood", "Hail", "Lightning")) %>%
 filter(source %in% c("911 Call Center", "Broadcast Media",
                       "Department of Highways",
                       "Emergency Manager", "Fire Department/Rescue",
                       "Law Enforcement", "NWS Employee", "Public",
                       "Social Media", "Trained Spotter")) %>%
 group_by(event_type, source) %>% count() %>% ungroup()
type by source %>% slice(1:3)
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
##
    event_type source
                                            n
##
     <chr> <chr>
                                        <int>
## 1 Flash Flood 911 Call Center
                                          238
## 2 Flash Flood Broadcast Media
                                          268
```

276

3 Flash Flood Department of Highways

Heat maps

```
library(viridis); library(forcats)
ggplot(type_by_source,
         aes(x = fct_reorder(event_type, n, .fun = sum),
              y = fct_reorder(source, n, .fun = sum))) +
  geom_tile(aes(fill = n)) +
  scale_fill_viridis() +
  labs(x = "", y = "", fill = "# of events") +
  theme(legend.position = "bottom")
            Public -
      Trained Spotter -
  Emergency Manager -
    Law Enforcement -
     911 Call Center -
     Broadcast Media -
       Social Media -
Department of Highways -
Fire Department/Rescue -
     NWS Employee -
                   Funnel Cloud
                               Lightning
                                        Heavy Rain
                                                     Flood
                                                             Flash Flood
                                                                               Thunderstorm Wind
                                           # of events
                                                       1000 2000 3000
```

Alluvial plots

The package ggalluvial allows you to make alluvial plots.

```
library(ggalluvial)
ggplot(data = type_by_source,
       aes(axis1 = event_type, axis2 = source, y = n)) +
  scale_x_discrete(limits = c("Type", "Source"), expand = c(.1, .05)) +
  geom_alluvium(aes(fill = event_type %in% c("Flash Flood", "Flood"))) +
  theme_minimal() + geom_stratum() +
  geom text(stat = "stratum", label.strata = TRUE) +
  theme(legend.position = "top") + labs(fill = "Flood event: ")
## Warning: Computation failed in `stat_stratum()`:
## The parameter `label.strata` is defunct.
## use `aes(label = after stat(stratum))`.
                              Flood event: FALSE TRUE
 20000
\subseteq
 10000
```

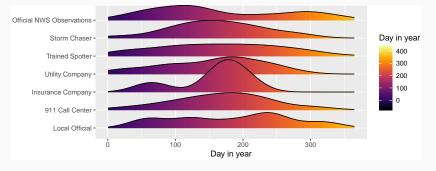
ggridges package

The ggridges package lets you plot the distribution of several levels of a factor across another variable.

ggridges package

Create a dataframe with the timing versus the source of the storm:

ggridges package



Odds and ends

Before next week's class, be sure to do the following:

- Register for GitHub: https://github.com
- Download and install git: https://git-scm.com

Mapping in the tidyverse

sf objects: "Simple features"

- R framework that is in active development
- There will likely be changes in the near future
- Plays very well with tidyverse functions, including dplyr and ggplot2 tools

library(sf)

To show simple features, we'll pull in the Colorado county boundaries from the U.S. Census.

To do this, we'll use the tigris package, which accesses the U.S. Census API. It allows you to pull geographic data for U.S. counties, states, tracts, voting districts, roads, rails, and a number of other geographies.

To learn more about the tigris package, check out this article: https://journal.r-project.org/archive/2016/RJ-2016-043/index.html

With tigris, you can read in data for county boundaries using the counties function.

We'll use the option class = "sf" to read these spatial dataframes in as sf objects.

You can think of an sf object as a dataframe, but with one special column called geometry.

```
co_counties %>%
 slice(1:3)
## Simple feature collection with 3 features and 9 fields
## geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON
## dimension:
                XΥ
## bbox:
                 xmin: -109.0603 ymin: 37.28912 xmax: -104.3511 ymax: 41.0034
## geographic CRS: NAD83
##
    STATEFP COUNTYFP COUNTYNS
                                 AFFGEOID GEOID NAME LSAD
                                                                 ALAND
## 1
         08 077 00198154 0500000US08077 08077 Mesa 06 8621849401
## 2
    08 107 00198169 0500000US08107 08107
                                                  Routt 06 6117602807
## 3
    08
                055 00198143 0500000US08055 08055 Huerfano 06 4120756304
##
      AWATER.
                                 geometry
## 1 31490395 MULTIPOLYGON (((-109.0603 3...
## 2 15831744 MULTIPOLYGON (((-107.4426 4...
## 3 5792101 MULTIPOLYGON (((-105.5013 3...
```

```
The geometry column has a special class (sfc):

class(co_counties$geometry)

## [1] "sfc_MULTIPOLYGON" "sfc"
```

You'll notice there's some extra stuff up at the top, too:

- Geometry type: Points, polygons, lines
- Dimension: Often two-dimensional, but can go up to four (if you have, for example, time for each measurement and some measure of measurement error / uncertainty)
- Bounding box (bbox): The x- and y-range of the data included
- **EPSG**: The EPSG Geodetic Parameter Dataset code for the Coordinate Reference Systems
- Projection (proj4string): How the data is currently projected, includes projection ("+proj") and datum ("+datum")

You can pull some of this information out of the geometry column. For example, you can pull out the coordinates of the bounding box:

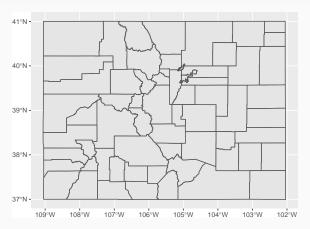
```
## xmin ymin xmax ymax
## -109.06025 36.99243 -102.04152 41.00344

st_bbox(co_counties$geometry[1]) # Just for first county

## xmin ymin xmax ymax
## -109.06025 38.49999 -107.37748 39.36671
```

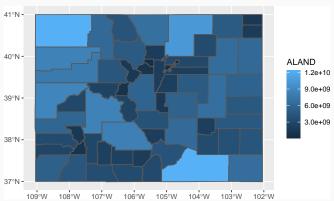
You can add sf objects to ggplot objects using geom_sf:

```
library(ggplot2)
ggplot() +
  geom_sf(data = co_counties)
```



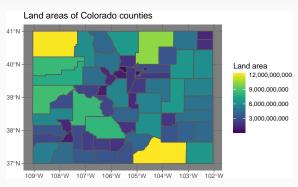
You can map one of the columns in the sf object to the fill aesthetic to make a **choropleth**:

```
ggplot() +
geom_sf(data = co_counties, aes(fill = ALAND))
```



You can use all your usual ggplot tricks with this:

```
ggplot() +
  geom_sf(data = co_counties, aes(fill = ALAND)) +
  scale_fill_viridis(name = "Land area", label = comma) +
  ggtitle("Land areas of Colorado counties") +
  theme_dark()
```



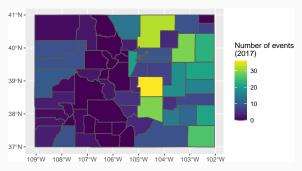
Because simple features are a special type of dataframe, you can also use a lot of dplyr tricks.

For example, you could pull out just Larimer County, CO:

```
larimer <- co counties %>%
 filter(NAME == "Larimer")
larimer
## Simple feature collection with 1 feature and 9 fields
## geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON
## dimension: XY
                 xmin: -106.1954 ymin: 40.25788 xmax: -104.9431 ymax: 40.9982
## bbox:
## geographic CRS: NAD83
##
    STATEFP COUNTYFP COUNTYNS
                                  AFFGEOID GEOID NAME LSAD
                                                                  ALAND
         08 069 00198150 0500000US08069 08069 Larimer 06 6723025059
## 1
      AWATER.
##
                                 geometry
## 1 99007869 MULTIPOLYGON (((-106.1954 4...
```



This operability with tidyverse functions means that you should now be able to figure out how to create a map of the number of events listed in the NOAA Storm Events database (of those listed by county) for each county in Colorado:

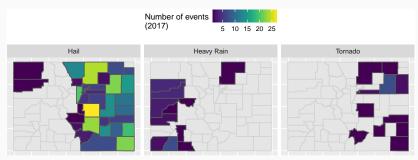


In-course exercise

We'll now take a break for the next part of the in-course exercise. For this, create the map shown on the previous slide.

In-course exercise

If you have time, try this one, too. It shows the number of three certain types of events by county. If a county had no events, it's shown in gray (as having a missing value when you count up the events that did happen).



```
co_event_counts <- storms_2017 %>%
  filter(state == "Colorado") %>%
 group_by(fips) %>%
  count() %>%
 ungroup()
co_county_events <- co_counties %>%
 mutate(fips = paste(STATEFP, COUNTYFP, sep = "")) %>%
  full_join(co_event_counts, by = "fips") %>%
 mutate(n = ifelse(!is.na(n), n, 0))
ggplot() +
  geom_sf(data = co_county_events, aes(fill = n)) +
  scale_fill_viridis(name = "Number of events\n(2017)")
```

```
co_event_counts <- storms_2017 %>%
 filter(state == "Colorado") %>%
 filter(event_type %in% c("Tornado", "Heavy Rain", "Hail")) %>%
 group_by(fips, event_type) %>%
 count() %>%
 ungroup()
co_county_events <- co_counties %>%
 mutate(fips = paste(STATEFP, COUNTYFP, sep = "")) %>%
 right join(co event counts, by = "fips")
ggplot() +
 geom sf(data = co counties, color = "lightgray") +
 geom_sf(data = co_county_events, aes(fill = n)) +
 scale fill viridis(name = "Number of events\n(2017)") +
 theme(legend.position = "top") +
 facet_wrap(~ event_type, ncol = 3) +
 theme(axis.line = element blank().
        axis.text = element blank(),
        axis.ticks = element_blank())
```

The tigris package allows you to pull state boundaries, as well, but on some computers mapping these seems to take a really long time.

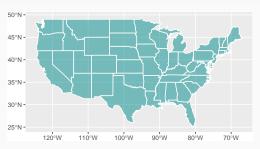
Instead, for now I recommend that you pull the state boundaries using base R's maps package and convert that to an sf object:

```
library(maps)
us_states <- map("state", plot = FALSE, fill = TRUE) %>%
    st_as_sf()
```

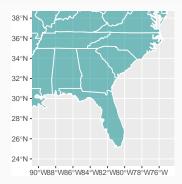
You can see these borders include an ID column that you can use to join by state:

```
head(us states)
## Simple feature collection with 6 features and 1 field
## geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON
## dimension:
               XY
                  xmin: -124.3834 ymin: 30.24071 xmax: -71.78015 ymax: 42.0493
## bbox:
## geographic CRS: WGS 84
##
             TD
                                          geom
         alabama MULTIPOLYGON (((-87.46201 3...
## 1
         arizona MULTIPOLYGON (((-114.6374 3...
## 2
## 3
       arkansas MULTIPOLYGON (((-94.05103 3...
## 4 california MULTIPOLYGON (((-120.006 42...
## 5
       colorado MULTIPOLYGON (((-102.0552 4...
## 6 connecticut MULTIPOLYGON (((-73.49902 4...
```

As with other sf objects, you can map these state boundaries using ggplot:



As a note, you can use xlim and ylim with these plots, but remember that the x-axis is longitude in degrees West, which are negative:



Basics of creating an sf object

You can create an sf object from a regular dataframe.

You just need to specify:

- 1. The coordinate information (which columns are longitudes and latitudes)
- 2. The Coordinate Reference System (CRS) (how to translate your coordinates to places in the world)

For the CRS, if you are mapping the new sf object with other, existing sf objects, make sure that you use the same CRS for all sf objects.

Coordinate reference system

Spatial objects can have different Coordinate Reference Systems (CRSs). CRSs can be *geographic* (e.g., WGS84, for longitude-latitude data) or *projected* (e.g., UTM, NADS83).

There is a website that lists projection strings and can be useful in setting projection information or re-projecting data:

http://www.spatialreference.org

Here is an excellent resource on projections and maps in R from Melanie Frazier: $https://www.nceas.ucsb.edu/\sim frazier/RSpatialGuides/Overvie\\wCoordinateReferenceSystems.pdf$

Basics of creating an sf object

Let's look at floods in Colorado. First, clean up the data:

Basics of creating an sf object

There are now two rows per event, one with the starting location and one with the ending location:

```
co floods %>%
 slice(1:5)
## # A tibble: 5 x 5
##
    begin date time
                        event id time
                                        lat
                                              lon
##
    <dttm>
                           <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
                          693374 begin 40.3 -105.
## 1 2017-05-08 16:00:00
## 2 2017-05-08 16:00:00
                          693374 end 40.5 -104.
## 3 2017-05-10 15:00:00
                          686479 begin
                                       38.1 -105.
## 4 2017-05-10 15:00:00
                          686479 end
                                       38.1 -105.
## 5 2017-05-10 15:20:00
                          686480 begin 38.2 -105.
```

Basics of creating an sf object

Change to an sf object by saying which columns are the coordinates and setting a CRS:

```
co_floods <- st_as_sf(co_floods, coords = c("lon", "lat")) %>%
 st_set_crs(4269)
co_floods %>% slice(1:3)
## Simple feature collection with 3 features and 3 fields
## geometry type: POINT
## dimension: XY
## bbox: xmin: -105.0496 ymin: 38.1167 xmax: -104.39 ymax: 40
## geographic CRS: NAD83
## # A tibble: 3 x 4
## begin_date_time event_id time geometry
                   <dbl> <chr> <POINT [°]>
## <dt.tm>
## 1 2017-05-08 16:00:00 693374 begin (-104.76 40.32)
## 2 2017-05-08 16:00:00 693374 end (-104.39 40.49)
## 3 2017-05-10 15:00:00 686479 begin (-105.0496 38.1167)
```

Basics of creating an sf object

```
ggplot() +
  geom_sf(data = co_counties, color = "lightgray") +
  geom_sf(data = co_floods, aes(color = month(begin_date_time),
                                         shape = time)) +
  scale_color_viridis(name = "Month")
41°N -
                                                   Month
40°N -
39°N -
                                                   time
38°N -
                                                      begin
37°N -
          108°W
               107°W
                     106°W
                           105°W
                                 104°W
                                       103°W
    109°W
```

Changing from points to lines

If you want to show lines instead of points, group by the appropriate ID and then summarize within each event to get a line:

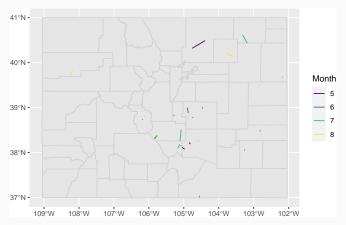
`summarise()` ungrouping output (override with `.groups` argu

Changing from points to lines

head(co floods)

```
## Simple feature collection with 6 features and 2 fields
## geometry type: LINESTRING
## dimension: XY
## bbox: xmin: -105.8286 ymin: 38.0708 xmax: -104.39 y
## geographic CRS: NAD83
## # A tibble: 6 \times 3
## event id month
                                               geometry
##
      <dbl> <dbl>
                                        <LINESTRING [°]>
## 1 686479
                 5 (-105.0496 38.1167, -104.9687 38.0708)
## 2 686480
                 5 (-104.8425 38.2275, -104.8137 38.1854)
## 3 693306
                 6 (-104.8947 38.999, -104.8734 38.8783)
## 4
     693374
                          (-104.76 \ 40.32, -104.39 \ 40.49)
## 5 693444
                 6 (-105.7688 38.3753, -105.8286 38.3127)
## 6 693449
                      (-105.07\ 38.15,\ -105.0973\ 38.1524)
```

Changing from points to lines



You can also create sf objects by reading in data from files you would normally use for GIS.

For example, you can read in an sf object from a shapefile, which is a format often used for GIS in which a collection of several files jointly store geographic data. The files making up a shapefile can include:

- ".shp": The coordinates defining the shape of each geographic object. For a point, this would be a single coordinate (e.g., latitude and longitude). For lines and polygons, there will be multiple coordinates per geographic object.
- ".prf": Information on the projection of the data (how to get from the coordinates to a place in the world).
- ".dbf": Data that goes along with each geographical object. For example, earlier we looked at data on counties, and one thing measured for each county was its land area. Characteristics like that would be included in the ".dbf" file in a shapefile.

Often, with geographic data, you will be given the option to downloaded a compressed file (e.g., a zipped file). When you unzip the folder, it will include a number of files in these types of formats (".shp", "prf", ".dbf", etc.).

Sometimes, that single folder will include multiple files from each extension. For example, it might have several files that end with ".shp". In this case, you have multiple **layers** of geographic information you can read in.

We've been looking at data on storms from NOAA for 2017. As an example, let's try to pair that data up with some from the National Hurricane Center for the same year.

The National Hurricane Center allows you to access a variety of GIS data through the webpage https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/gis/?text.

Let's pull some data on Hurricane Harvey in 2017 and map it with information from the NOAA Storm Events database.

On https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/gis/?text, go to the section called "Preliminary Best Track". Select the year 2017. Then select "Hurricane Harvey" and download "al092017_best_track.zip".

Depending on your computer, you may then need to unzip this file (many computers will unzip it automatically). Base R has a function called unzip that can help with this.

You'll then have a folder with a number of different files in it. Move this folder somewhere that is convenient for the working directory you use for class. For example, I moved it into the "data" subdirectory of the working directory I use for the class.

You can use list.files to see all the files in this unzipped folder:

```
list.files("../data/al092017_best_track/")
```

```
##
    [1] "al092017 lin.dbf"
                                      "al092017_lin.prj"
##
    [3] "al092017 lin.shp"
                                      "al092017 lin.shp.xml"
    [5] "al092017_lin.shx"
                                      "al092017_pts.dbf"
##
    [7] "al092017_pts.prj"
                                      "al092017_pts.shp"
##
    [9] "al092017_pts.shp.xml"
                                      "al092017_pts.shx"
##
                                      "al092017_radii.prj"
   [11] "al092017_radii.dbf"
   [13] "al092017_radii.shp"
                                      "al092017_radii.shp.xml"
   [15] "al092017 radii.shx"
                                      "al092017 windswath.dbf"
   [17] "al092017_windswath.prj"
                                      "al092017_windswath.shp"
   [19] "al092017 windswath.shp.xml" "al092017 windswath.shx"
```

You can use st_layers to find out the available layers in a shapefile directory:

```
st layers("../data/al092017 best track/")
## Driver: ESRI Shapefile
## Available layers:
##
           layer_name geometry_type features fields
## 1 al092017_windswath
                          Polygon
                                              6
        al092017 radii
                          Polygon
                                      61
                                              9
## 2
## 3
         al092017 lin Line String
                                      17
                                             3
                            Point 74
## 4
         al092017_pts
                                             15
```

1

2

3

9 Low

9 Tropical Depr~ 0

Once you know which layer you want, you can use read_sf to read it in as an sf object:

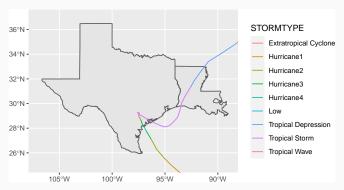
```
harvey_track <- read_sf("../data/al092017_best_track/",</pre>
                      layer = "al092017 lin")
head(harvey_track)
## Simple feature collection with 6 features and 3 fields
## geometry type: LINESTRING
## dimension: XY
## bbox:
                  xmin: -92.3 ymin: 13 xmax: -45.8 ymax: 21.4
## geographic CRS: Unknown datum based upon the Authalic Sphere
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
    STORMNUM STORMTYPE
                              SS
##
## <dbl> <chr> <int>
```

9 Tropical Storm 0 (-55 13, -56.6 13, -58.4 13²,

0 (-45.8 13.7, -47.4 13.7, -49

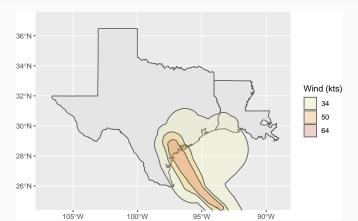
(-52 13.4,

```
ggplot() +
  geom_sf(data = filter(us_states, ID %in% c("texas", "louisiana
  geom_sf(data = harvey_track, aes(color = STORMTYPE)) +
  xlim(c(-107, -89)) + ylim(c(25, 37))
```



You can read in other layers:

```
harvey_windswath <- read_sf("../data/al092017_best_track/",
                          layer = "al092017 windswath")
head(harvey_windswath)
## Simple feature collection with 4 features and 6 fields
## geometry type: POLYGON
## dimension:
                 XΥ
## bbox:
                 xmin: -98.66872 ymin: 12.94564 xmax: -54.58527 ymax: 31.1589
## geographic CRS: Unknown datum based upon the Authalic Sphere
## # A tibble: 4 x 7
    RADII STORMID BASIN STORMNUM STARTDTG ENDDTG
##
                                                                     geom
##
    <dbl> <chr> <dbl> <chr> <dbl> <chr>
                                                                 <POLYGON
## 1
    34 al092017 AL
                        9 2017081~ 20170~ ((-65.68199 14.50528, -65.66
## 2 34 a1092017 AL 9 2017082~ 20170~ ((-96.22456 31.15752, -96.17
## 3 50 a1092017 AL 9 2017082~ 20170~ ((-97.32707 29.60604, -97.31
## 4 64 a1092017 AL 9 2017082~ 20170~ ((-97.20689 29.08475, -97.19
```



The read_sf function is very powerful and can read in data from lots of different formats.

See Section 2 of the sf manual (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/sf/vignettes/sf2.html) for more on this function.

More on spatial data with R

You can find (much, much) more on working with spatial data in R online:

- R Spatial: http://rspatial.org/index.html
- Geocomputation with R: https://geocompr.robinlovelace.net

In-course exercise

For the in-course exercise, see if you can put everything we've talked about together to create this map:

