Introduction to R Plottrickery

R-peer-group

QUB

March 11, 2013

Session outline



Exploring data-sets visually

Adding lines to scatter plots, inspecting data distributions with histograms, and adding error bars to plots.

Graphical devices in R

Printing plots to .pdf, post-script and .png, (but not .jpeg), Manipulating device parameters and device management in R.

Plotting challenges

How to manually manipulate error bars on plots, DIY colour gradients, and big data visualisation case study.

Homework



The Challenge

Using your own data (made-up, of the web, from R packages, or from your research), make the prettiest .pdf plot you can to share with colleagues.

Kung-fu Kudos will be given to those who:

- > manipulate the plotting environment
- use colours sensibly
- > use descriptive labels
- > use multiple plots in a single device to convey complex trends
- > make use of add-on packages, if necessary