

Ternary Plot

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R Ternary Plots

All data and some Text are from [baxter_basic_2016] <http://www.barbicanra.co.uk/simple-r.html>.

Ternary diagrams go under a variety of names ??? triangular, tripolar or phase diagrams among them. They are used when $p = 3$ variables are available that are scaled to sum to 100% (or 1). The data may be categorical or continuous. This scaling (or compositional constraint) means the values of any two variables determine the value of the third variable. This implies that the data are exactly two-dimensional. The data can be plotted in an equilateral triangle where a point represents the relative proportions of the three variables as measured by the (perpendicular) distances to the three axes. In effect, and as previously noted, a point in a ternary diagram encapsulates the same information as a pie chart for three categories, with the considerable advantage that the distances between points are visualized. Howarth???s (1996) history of the ternary diagram traces its origins to the mid-18th century. Their use in archaeology is widespread, often occurring in the more *specialised* literature. Howarth (1996: 338) notes that they are widely used in geology, physical chemistry and metallurgy and are to be found in archaeological publications that interact with these disciplines. Recent papers in this vein that use ternary diagrams include Hughes et al. (2010) study of flint compositions, Panich (2016) of obsidian, and Chirikure et al. (2010) of slags. For data sets with more than 3 variables composite variables (i.e. linear combinations of those available) are sometimes defined to enable their representation in a ternary diagram (e.g., Hein et al. 2007: 149; Plaza and Martín-Torres 2015: 93). Another use is in phase diagrams where a plot is ???zoned??? in some way to identify, for example, different classes of material or manufacturing technologies corresponding to different regions of the diagram. Data are then plotted to characterize the cases being studied (e.g., Thornton and Rehren 2009; Radivojevic et al. 2010).

For an initial illustration, data from folder `data_kasar_akil` in Doran and Hodson (1975) are used. The left-hand table shows the counts of cores, blanks and stone tools found in different levels at the palaeolithic site of Ksar Akil (Lebanon); the levels are numbered from earliest (25) to latest (12). The right-hand table shows the counts converted to percentage for each level and can be represented in a ternary diagram 1b. Read the data (i.e. the headers and what follows) into a data frame `Ksar` ??? you will need to select a subset of the columns for analysis. Either `Ksar[, 1:4]` or `Ksar[, c(1,5:7)]` will do it. we???ll use the former; `ggtern` will transform these to the percentages needed. The ternary diagram for these data, in Figure 1a, is followed by the code used.

```
#load libraries
library(ggplot2);library(grid); library(ggtern)

## Warning: package 'ggplot2' was built under R version 3.5.2
## --
## Remember to cite, run citation(package = 'ggtern') for further info.
## --
##
## Attaching package: 'ggtern'
##
## The following objects are masked from 'package:ggplot2':
##
##   %+%, aes, annotate, calc_element, ggplot, ggplotGrob,
##   ggplot_build, ggplot_gtable, ggsave, layer_data, theme,
##   theme_bw, theme_classic, theme_dark, theme_gray, theme_light,
##   theme_linedraw, theme_minimal, theme_void
```

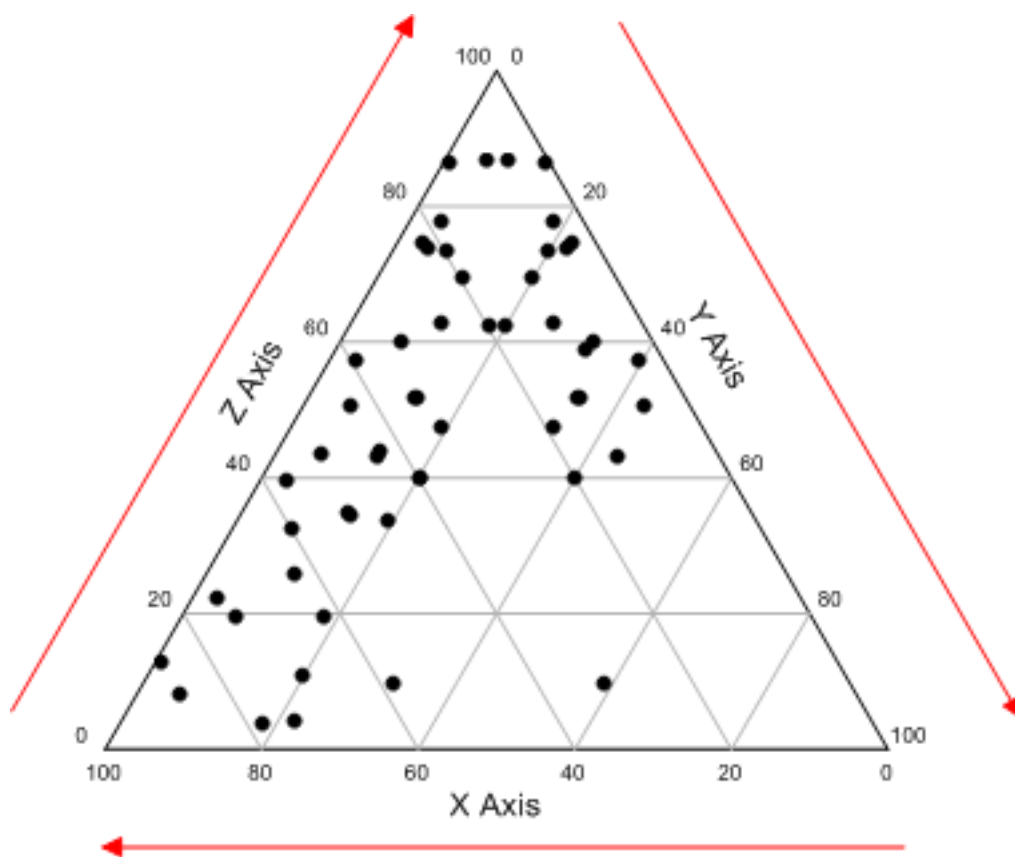


Figure 1: fig. 1: At the end we create this kind of diagrams

```
#show data
Ksar <- read.csv("data_ksar_akil/ksar_akil.csv")
print(Ksar)
```

##	Levels	Cores	Blanks	Tools
## 1	25	21	12	70
## 2	24	36	52	115
## 3	23	126	650	549
## 4	22	159	2342	1633
## 5	21	75	487	511
## 6	20	176	1090	912
## 7	19	132	713	578
## 8	18	46	374	266
## 9	17	550	6182	1541
## 10	16	76	846	349
## 11	15	17	182	51
## 12	14	4	21	14
## 13	13	29	228	130
## 14	12	133	2227	729

Table 1: To the left, counts of cores, blanks and tools from middle levels of the palaeolithic site at Ksar Akil (Lebanon). This is Table 9.12 from Doran and Hodson (1975).

Ternary diagram 1a

```
#ternary diagram with dots fig. 1a
ggtern(data=Ksar[,1:4], aes(Cores, Blanks, Tools, label=Levels)) +
  geom_point(size = 3) + theme_showarrows()
```

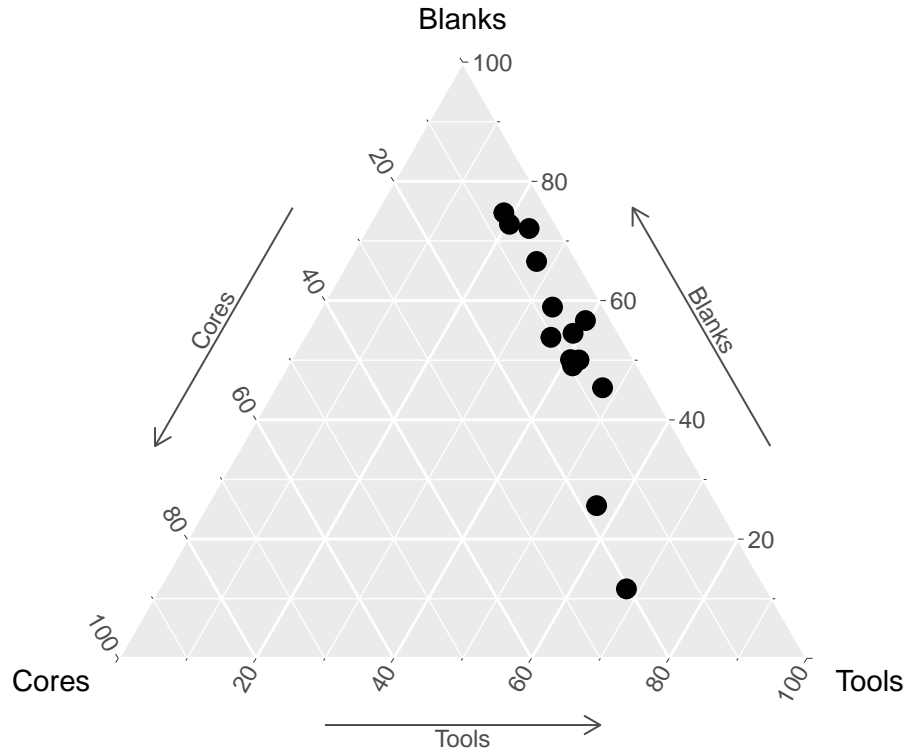
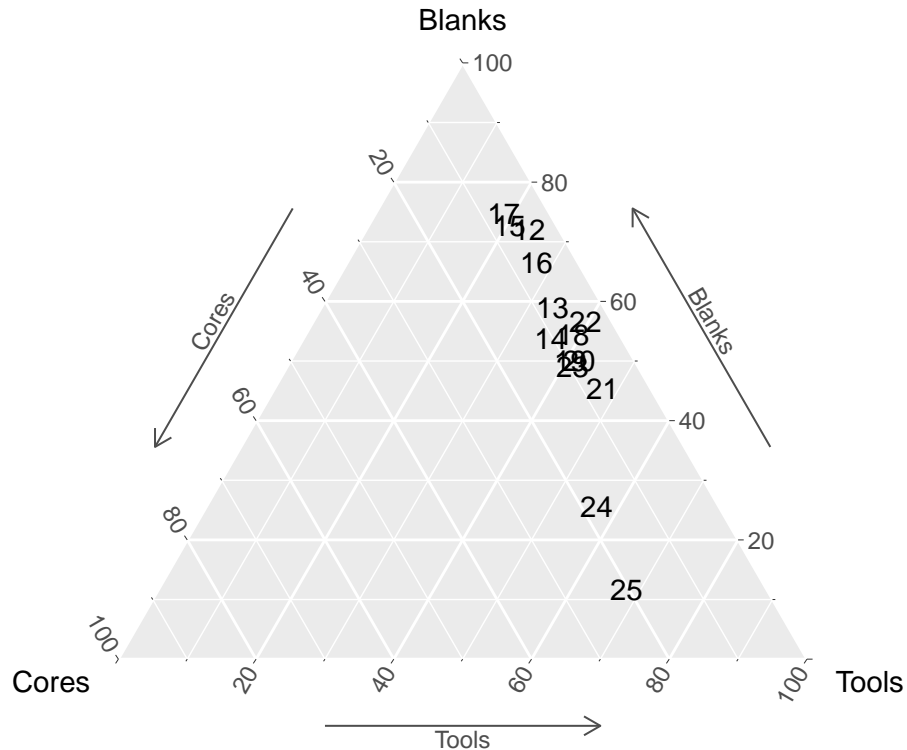


fig. 1a: Ternary diagram 1a

Ternary diagram 1b

```
#ternary diagram with numbers fig. 1b
Ksar <- read.csv("data_ksar_akil/ksar_akil.csv")
library(ggplot2);library(grid); library(ggtern)
ggtern(data=Ksar[,1:4],aes(Cores, Blanks, Tools, label=Levels)) +
geom_text() + theme_showarrows()
```



Change the dataset -> data_faunal/king

```
king <- read.csv("data_faunal/king.csv")
#show data
print(king)
```

##	Type	C	P	SG
## 1	Settlement	37.0	10.4	52.6
## 2	Vicus	37.4	13.7	48.9
## 3	Settlement	74.4	4.7	20.9
## 4	Settlement	62.0	10.8	27.2
## 5	Villa	48.7	29.2	22.0
## 6	Villa	56.2	12.9	30.9
## 7	Villa	59.5	10.1	30.4
## 8	Villa	71.3	8.5	20.2
## 9	Settlement	27.0	7.8	65.1
## 10	Vicus	87.3	2.4	10.2
## 11	Vicus	53.0	32.1	15.0
## 12	Villa	60.4	14.2	25.5
## 13	Vicus	76.3	2.5	21.2
## 14	Vicus	74.3	8.9	16.8
## 15	Vicus	54.7	16.8	28.5
## 16	Vicus	37.3	26.1	36.7
## 17	Vicus	48.0	12.2	39.8
## 18	Vicus	69.3	8.5	22.2

## 19	Vicus	69.2	11.1	19.7
## 20	Vicus	20.3	35.5	44.2
## 21	Vicus	27.6	33.8	38.6
## 22	Vicus	45.5	29.7	24.8
## 23	Villa	57.8	18.6	23.5
## 24	Villa	48.9	30.1	21.0
## 25	Vicus	58.8	7.8	33.5
## 26	Vicus	81.7	6.5	11.8
## 27	Vicus	68.6	7.3	24.1
## 28	Villa	70.3	4.3	25.4
## 29	Villa	70.0	3.2	26.8
## 30	Urban	80.7	6.1	13.2
## 31	Urban	86.2	6.8	7.0
## 32	Urban	47.5	23.9	28.5
## 33	Urban	69.8	13.7	16.4
## 34	Urban	71.9	13.3	14.8
## 35	Urban	93.2	1.5	5.4
## 36	Urban	82.7	7.9	9.4
## 37	Urban	64.9	12.2	23.0
## 38	Settlement	65.8	16.8	17.4
## 39	Settlement	63.2	19.3	17.5
## 40	Villa	58.9	20.6	20.6
## 41	Villa	48.1	15.9	36.0
## 42	Vicus	40.2	4.1	55.7
## 43	Vicus	52.3	9.8	37.9
## 44	Vicus	57.1	13.8	29.1
## 45	Vicus	56.2	9.0	34.8
## 46	Settlement	34.4	6.3	59.3
## 47	Settlement	42.5	6.9	50.6
## 48	Villa	57.4	4.7	37.8
## 49	Vicus	72.8	7.7	19.5
## 50	Urban	55.4	19.7	25.0
## 51	Urban	39.9	25.3	34.8
## 52	Urban	41.4	31.7	26.8
## 53	Urban	59.7	19.9	20.4
## 54	Settlement	28.0	2.3	69.7
## 55	Settlement	62.6	4.9	32.5
## 56	Villa	35.2	41.1	23.7
## 57	Villa	42.2	32.0	25.9
## 58	Settlement	25.7	22.6	51.6
## 59	Settlement	48.1	11.4	40.6
## 60	Villa	51.7	14.1	34.2
## 61	Villa	60.0	23.4	16.6
## 62	Urban	59.5	16.4	24.1
## 63	Urban	62.6	12.6	24.8
## 64	Vicus	68.0	14.8	17.2
## 65	Vicus	74.7	16.1	9.2
## 66	Vicus	74.1	16.6	9.3
## 67	Vicus	73.1	15.6	11.2
## 68	Vicus	84.4	3.0	12.6
## 69	Settlement	28.3	11.8	59.9
## 70	Settlement	30.3	7.2	62.5
## 71	Settlement	33.9	7.6	58.5
## 72	Vicus	48.3	15.8	35.8

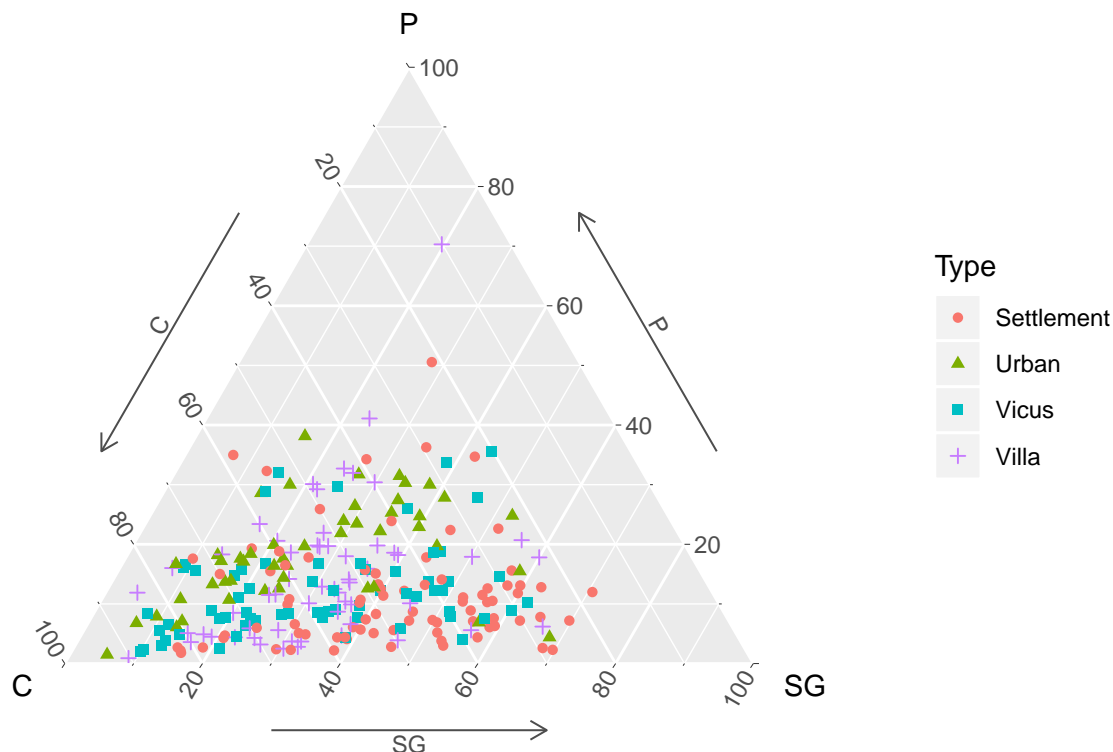
## 73	Vicus	69.2	7.6	23.2
## 74	Vicus	83.5	5.6	10.9
## 75	Vicus	62.5	16.8	20.7
## 76	Settlement	38.2	14.1	47.7
## 77	Settlement	36.6	11.1	52.3
## 78	Settlement	57.0	4.1	38.9
## 79	Settlement	49.4	5.6	44.9
## 80	Vicus	53.7	7.7	38.6
## 81	Vicus	48.4	5.8	45.8
## 82	Vicus	57.1	4.3	38.6
## 83	Vicus	88.0	2.0	10.0
## 84	Villa	76.3	16.0	7.6
## 85	Villa	83.6	11.9	4.6
## 86	Settlement	35.3	6.1	58.7
## 87	Settlement	55.1	6.1	38.8
## 88	Urban	57.2	28.6	14.2
## 89	Urban	46.0	38.1	15.8
## 90	Urban	75.5	16.7	7.8
## 91	Urban	68.7	18.2	13.1
## 92	Urban	59.5	17.6	22.9
## 93	Urban	44.6	26.4	28.9
## 94	Urban	52.3	30.0	17.7
## 95	Settlement	82.1	2.7	15.0
## 96	Vicus	58.9	8.6	32.4
## 97	Vicus	66.9	12.6	20.5
## 98	Settlement	43.3	5.2	51.5
## 99	Settlement	72.6	17.6	9.8
## 100	Vicus	40.1	7.9	52.1
## 101	Vicus	70.6	6.4	23.0
## 102	Vicus	73.7	7.6	18.6
## 103	Settlement	17.4	12.0	70.7
## 104	Villa	54.0	10.4	35.5
## 105	Vicus	81.0	4.8	14.2
## 106	Vicus	83.8	8.4	7.8
## 107	Settlement	47.7	12.5	39.5
## 108	Settlement	57.1	4.4	38.5
## 109	Settlement	58.3	4.4	37.4
## 110	Villa	50.2	18.0	31.8
## 111	Villa	31.9	17.9	50.2
## 112	Villa	90.3	0.9	8.8
## 113	Settlement	43.4	3.8	52.8
## 114	Villa	22.2	17.8	60.0
## 115	Villa	23.3	20.7	56.0
## 116	Villa	27.5	6.2	66.3
## 117	Vicus	27.7	10.2	62.0
## 118	Vicus	57.3	8.8	33.8
## 119	Villa	51.9	19.7	28.4
## 120	Villa	53.2	19.6	27.2
## 121	Villa	63.6	11.6	24.8
## 122	Villa	54.3	11.9	33.8
## 123	Settlement	23.1	34.7	42.2
## 124	Urban	35.4	30.3	34.3
## 125	Settlement	68.1	2.4	29.5
## 126	Settlement	40.6	23.9	35.5

## 127	Settlement	43.5	3.0	53.4
## 128	Settlement	52.6	5.1	42.3
## 129	Settlement	42.9	7.3	49.7
## 130	Vicus	43.3	11.2	45.5
## 131	Vicus	36.1	18.8	45.1
## 132	Urban	77.8	10.8	11.4
## 133	Settlement	32.6	10.5	56.8
## 134	Settlement	44.6	12.2	43.2
## 135	Villa	63.9	3.7	32.5
## 136	Settlement	38.6	17.8	43.6
## 137	Villa	56.0	8.7	35.3
## 138	Villa	64.6	11.5	23.9
## 139	Settlement	48.5	15.7	35.7
## 140	Settlement	51.2	2.8	46.0
## 141	Vicus	29.5	14.6	55.9
## 142	Vicus	40.4	13.7	45.9
## 143	Settlement	37.2	7.1	55.8
## 144	Settlement	69.9	15.0	15.0
## 145	Settlement	47.9	13.3	38.9
## 146	Villa	55.2	6.6	38.2
## 147	Villa	51.4	21.9	26.6
## 148	Villa	54.6	12.5	32.9
## 149	Settlement	32.8	22.4	44.8
## 150	Villa	42.5	18.2	39.3
## 151	Villa	77.4	4.9	17.7
## 152	Villa	79.6	5.1	15.3
## 153	Vicus	39.8	8.8	51.4
## 154	Settlement	52.6	7.4	40.0
## 155	Settlement	37.9	4.4	57.8
## 156	Settlement	54.2	32.1	13.1
## 157	Settlement	59.9	36.1	7.2
## 158	Settlement	62.7	9.9	27.4
## 159	Urban	65.7	17.6	16.7
## 160	Settlement	45.1	8.7	46.2
## 161	Settlement	54.2	5.7	40.1
## 162	Settlement	50.6	8.3	41.0
## 163	Settlement	36.6	8.9	54.5
## 164	Villa	70.2	5.9	23.9
## 165	Villa	51.9	13.6	34.6
## 166	Villa	76.5	4.5	19.1
## 167	Villa	79.9	3.6	16.5
## 168	Villa	73.1	4.4	22.5
## 169	Villa	68.0	18.3	13.7
## 170	Vicus	39.1	12.2	48.7
## 171	Vicus	63.4	8.4	28.3
## 172	Vicus	83.5	3.9	12.6
## 173	Urban	27.4	4.4	68.2
## 174	Urban	36.4	6.9	56.7
## 175	Urban	48.7	12.8	38.5
## 176	Urban	22.6	24.8	52.6
## 177	Urban	36.1	24.7	39.2
## 178	Urban	32.0	30.0	38.0
## 179	Urban	30.9	27.8	41.2
## 180	Urban	37.9	27.4	34.7

## 181	Urban	49.0	21.9	29.2
## 182	Urban	45.9	23.5	30.7
## 183	Settlement	27.3	13.1	59.6
## 184	Settlement	29.2	13.1	57.8
## 185	Settlement	24.4	12.8	62.8
## 186	Settlement	41.1	13.2	45.7
## 187	Settlement	32.3	12.6	55.1
## 188	Settlement	33.6	11.5	54.9
## 189	Settlement	50.0	25.9	24.1
## 190	Villa	43.1	32.7	24.2
## 191	Villa	39.8	30.4	29.8
## 192	Villa	53.4	19.8	26.8
## 193	Villa	44.7	19.8	35.5
## 194	Villa	10.1	70.3	19.6
## 195	Vicus	64.5	8.2	27.3
## 196	Villa	53.4	9.9	36.6
## 197	Vicus	54.8	12.3	32.9
## 198	Vicus	48.7	16.8	34.5
## 199	Vicus	72.8	4.6	22.6
## 200	Vicus	44.2	15.4	40.3
## 201	Settlement	27.3	15.6	57.1
## 202	Settlement	23.1	7.2	69.6
## 203	Settlement	62.4	15.5	22.1
## 204	Urban	43.1	22.2	34.7
## 205	Urban	61.4	16.4	22.2
## 206	Urban	36.1	19.7	44.2
## 207	Urban	63.8	18.4	17.8
## 208	Urban	37.1	22.9	40.0
## 209	Urban	61.1	14.4	24.6
## 210	Urban	70.8	10.7	18.5
## 211	Urban	49.7	12.6	37.7
## 212	Urban	79.5	7.1	13.5
## 213	Settlement	63.4	5.1	31.4
## 214	Villa	44.8	10.1	45.1
## 215	Settlement	69.2	6.0	24.9
## 216	Settlement	52.1	10.2	37.7
## 217	Settlement	59.8	2.2	38.0
## 218	Settlement	29.3	2.6	68.1
## 219	Villa	66.2	5.6	28.2
## 220	Villa	67.0	2.5	30.5
## 221	Villa	64.7	2.8	32.4
## 222	Villa	65.1	3.7	31.1
## 223	Settlement	21.4	50.5	28.0
## 224	Settlement	47.3	15.1	37.6
## 225	Villa	42.9	18.6	38.6
## 226	Settlement	39.1	34.3	26.7
## 227	Settlement	29.4	36.3	34.4
## 228	Urban	35.7	31.5	32.9
## 229	Urban	26.2	15.5	58.4
## 230	Vicus	37.1	18.7	44.2
## 231	Vicus	26.1	27.8	46.1
## 232	Vicus	56.4	28.9	14.7
## 233	Villa	49.7	3.9	46.4
## 234	Vicus	40.2	12.2	47.6


```
## 235      Vicus  44.5 11.7 43.8
## 236 Settlement 51.7 10.7 37.6
## 237 Settlement 55.7 17.8 26.5
## 238 Settlement 59.8 16.5 23.8
## 239 Settlement 82.1  2.2 15.7
## 240 Settlement 74.8  4.3 20.9
## 241 Settlement 82.3  1.8 16.0
## 242 Settlement 78.6  2.7 18.7
## 243 Settlement 59.4 18.8 21.7
## 244      Villa  38.2  5.6 56.2
## 245      Vicus  30.7  8.9 60.4
## 246      Vicus  35.2  7.6 57.2
## 247 Settlement 66.1  2.3 31.7
## 248 Settlement 46.4  7.2 46.4
## 249 Settlement 63.3  6.6 30.1
## 250 Settlement 33.5 10.3 56.2
## 251      Vicus  66.4 15.8 17.8
## 252      Urban  68.7 17.2 14.1
## 253      Urban  69.0 13.9 17.2
## 254      Urban  65.5 17.1 17.4
```

```
king <- read.csv("data_faunal/king.csv")
ggtern(data=king,aes(C, P, SG, colour=Type, shape=Type, fill = Type)) +
geom_point() + theme_showarrows()
```



The upper plot is the ???default??? ternary diagram for Romano-British civilian faunal assemblages using ggtern; the lower plot is a ???modified??? version. C = Cattle, P = Pig, SG = Sheep/Goat.

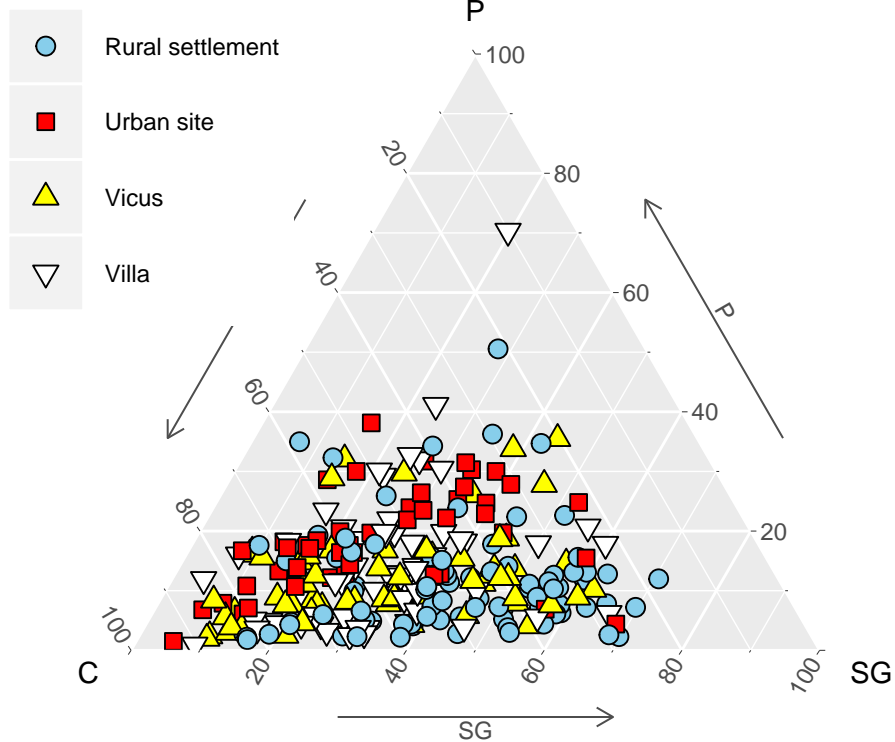
```
fig2 <- function() {
library(ggplot2); library(grid); library(grid); library(ggtern)
king$Type <- factor(king$Type, labels = c("Rural settlement", "Urban site", "Vicus", "Villa"))
```

```

p <- ggtern(data=king, aes(C, P, SG, colour=Type, shape=Type, fill=Type)) +
  geom_point(size = 3) + theme_showarrows() +
  scale_shape_manual(values=c(21,22,24,25)) +
  scale_colour_manual(values=rep("black", 4)) +
  scale_fill_manual(values=c("skyblue", "red", "yellow", "white")) +
  theme_legend_position("tl") +
  theme(legend.title=element_text(size=16),
        legend.key.height=unit(1, "cm"), legend.key.width=unit(1, "cm"))
p
}
fig2 ()

```

Type



If your happy with the plot save it!

```
ggsave("fig2.png", dpi = 300)
```

```
## Saving 6.5 x 4.5 in image
```

References