R-Bootcamp (day 2)

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31 January - 3 February 2022

Outline

1 Graphics I

② Graphics II

Graphics III

Section 1

Graphics I

Graphics I (1)

Any statistical analysis involves displaying the data and the results of the modelling phase in a graphical way.

Graphs are created for several reasons:

- inspect the correctness of the data
- formulate hypotheses to be tested
- decide on the methods to analyse data
- visualise the results of the modelling phase
- to better communicate results of an analysis
- ...

Graphics I (2)

R comes with several graphical functions:

- plot()
- boxplot()
- hist()
- pairs()
- ...

In addition to basic- ${\bf R}$ graphical functions, there are hundreds of graphical add-on packages.

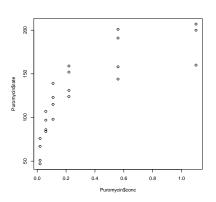
Graphics I (3)

The plot() function

```
head(Puromycin)

conc rate state
1 0.02 76 treated
2 0.02 47 treated
3 0.06 97 treated
4 0.06 107 treated
5 0.11 123 treated
6 0.11 139 treated
## see ?Puromycin
```

```
## a simple scatterplot
plot(y = Puromycin$rate,
    x = Puromycin$conc)
```



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Graphics I (4)

The plot() function

```
Reaction rates vs. Conc
## a more complex scatterplot
plot(y = Puromycin$rate,
     x = Puromycin$conc,
     pch = "x",
     col = "red",
     cex = 2,
     main = "Reaction rates vs. Conc",
     xlab = "substrate conc [ppm]",
     ylab = "reaction rates [counts/min]")
                                                            0.2
                                                                              0.8
                                                      0.0
                                                                  0.4
                                                                        0.6
                                                                                     1.0
                                                                   substrate conc [ppm]
```

Graphics I (5)

Graphical parameters¹

- "y" and "x": dimension to display
- "pch": plotting character
- "col": colour
- "cex": expansion factor
- "main": main title
- "ylab": label of the y-axis
- ...

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¹Note that these arguments are to be found in many other graphical functions, not only in plot().

Graphics I (6)

Graphical parameters

- arguments can be set to a non-default values
 - using named values (e.g. lty = "dashed")
 - using numbers (e.g. lty = 2)
- named values are preferred over number as they more explicit. This
 makes the code easier to read
- arguments can take vectors (e.g. col = Puromycin\$state)
- Google is you best friend...

Graphics I (7)

The formula interface:

The formula interface is available in most graphical AND modelling functions.

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Section 2

Graphics II

Graphics II (1)

In base R there are 5 types of graphical functions

- high-level plotting functions
- low-level plotting functions
- control functions (e.g. par())
- device control functions (e.g. jpeg())
- interactive functions

Graphics II (2)

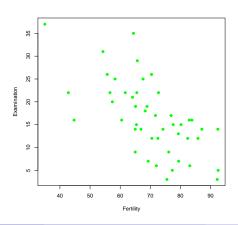
- high-level plotting functions such as plot() generate a new graph
- low-level plotting functions such as abline() add elements to an existing graph
- control functions such as par() allow us to control the visual aspect of a graph
- device control functions such as jpeg() allow us to save graphs as files
- interactive functions allow us to interact with graphs

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Graphics II (3)

High-level plotting functions

```
plot(Examination ~ Fertility, data = swiss,
    col = "green", pch = 19)
```



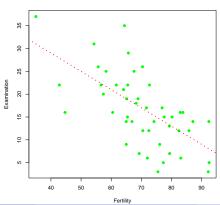
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Graphics II (4)

Low-level plotting functions

```
plot(Examination ~ Fertility, data = swiss,
        col = "green", pch = 19)
abline(a = 45, b = -0.4,
        col = "red", lty = "dotted", lwd = 3)
```

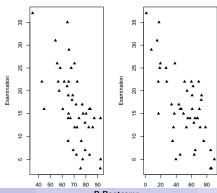


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Graphics II (5)

Control functions

```
par(mfrow = c(1, 2), ## two graphs in one device
    pch = 17) ## all graphs with triangles
##
plot(Examination ~ Fertility, data = swiss)
plot(Examination ~ Agriculture, data = swiss)
```



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Graphics II (6)

Device control functions

```
jpeg("MyPlotsFor_Bootcamp.jpeg")
par(mfrow = c(1, 2), ## two graphs in one device
    pch = 17) ## all graphs with triangles
##
plot(Examination ~ Fertility, data = swiss)
plot(Examination ~ Agriculture, data = swiss)
dev.off()
```

Graphs can also be exported via the Rstudio interface (see "Export" in the "Plots" pane).

Nowadays graphs are stored automatically when "Dynamic Documents" are used (more comes later).

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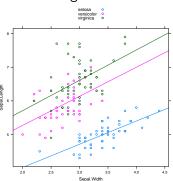
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Section 3

Graphics III

Graphics III (1)

Base ${\bf R}$ graphical functions are very powerful, however, creating even simple graphs can sometimes be very time-consuming.



Graphics III (2)

The add-on packages {lattice} and {ggplot2} allow us to create beautiful graphics in a very code-efficient way. Among the most important functionalities of these package we mention:

- panelling
- grouping
- adding summary statistics (e.g. regression lines, smoothers)

Take Home Messages: Graphics III

- the base R graphical functions are versatile and very powerful
- however, sometimes even simple graphs require a long and cumbersome code
- add-on graphical packages are extremely powerful and extremely user friendly
- currently the best add-on graphical packages are {lattice} and {ggplot2}²

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²Both these packages come with an excellent companion book.