

How I learned R

Paul Brennan, Cardiff University School of Medicine

6 December 2016

Key things that helped me learn R

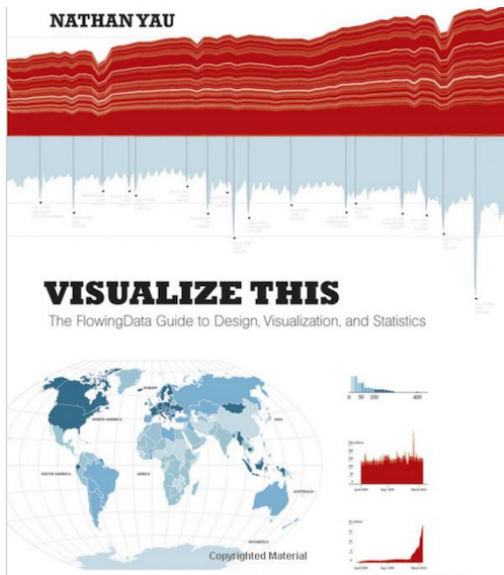
- ▶ Time
- ▶ Inspiration
- ▶ 'Customers'
- ▶ Open Source Learning & Teaching

Time - Code regularly

Usually in the evening in my own time!

Inspiration

- ▶ data viz I couldn't do in Excel



Inspiration

- A few lines of code = new data viz!

```
nba_heatmap <- heatmap(nba_matrix,  
                        Rowv=NA, Colv=NA,  
                        col = cm.colors(256), scale="column")
```



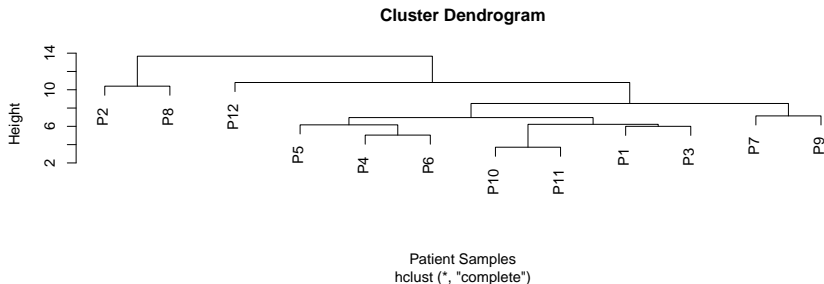
'Customers'

- ▶ Our data for a publication
- ▶ Alsagaby SA, et al J Proteome Res. 2014 13:5051-62 doi: 10.1021/pr5002803

'Customers'

My first cluster dendrogram

```
# make the cluster dendrogram object using the hclust() and  
hc <- hclust(dist(rbind(P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9)  
  
# plot the cluster dendrogram  
plot(hc, xlab = "Patient Samples")
```



'Customers'

- ▶ A colleague with data
- ▶ Welton JL, Brennan P, et al J Extracell Vesicles. 2016 5:31209
doi: 10.3402/jev.v5.31209
- ▶ Training course for The Biochemical Society
(<http://www.biochemistry.org/>)

Open Source Learning & Teaching

- ▶ R User Group
- ▶ twitter: @brennanpcardiff #rstats
- ▶ R for Biochemists Blog

