Assignment for Wednesday, February 1

Before class, do the following:

- 1. If you feel at all uncomfortable with the material covered in the notes on Computing and the notes on Loading Data, then re-read those notes carefully and slowly. I advise you to work your way patiently through the notes. This is a great investment of time. It will make the rest of the course easier and improve your grade. The notes cover the material more completely and more carefully than my in-person talks. Remember that students come into this class with varying familiarity with computers, so it's okay to struggle with certain (or even all) parts of this class. However, do not be tempted to rush through or skip the notes. Read them carefully and try the code as you go. Fight to really understand what the code is doing. While re-reading the notes, if you have questions, post a question to the help forum. Come to office hours as often as possible and let's talk, not about the computing assignments, but about the notes. I promise, if you focus on understanding the notes completely (and asking questions when you don't), rather than just focusing on finishing the computing assignments, you will do well in this class
- 2. Read chapter 3 of FPP and do the assigned exercises. In my opinion, and perhaps unexpectedly, this chapter contains the most difficult idea we'll encounter this semester: density. So take your time with this. Be sure to invest time in the exercises.
- 3. Complete the handedness survey and submit your results using the web form. The survey and a link to the web form are available on the course webpage under Feb 1.