

LAB 8

STAT 131A

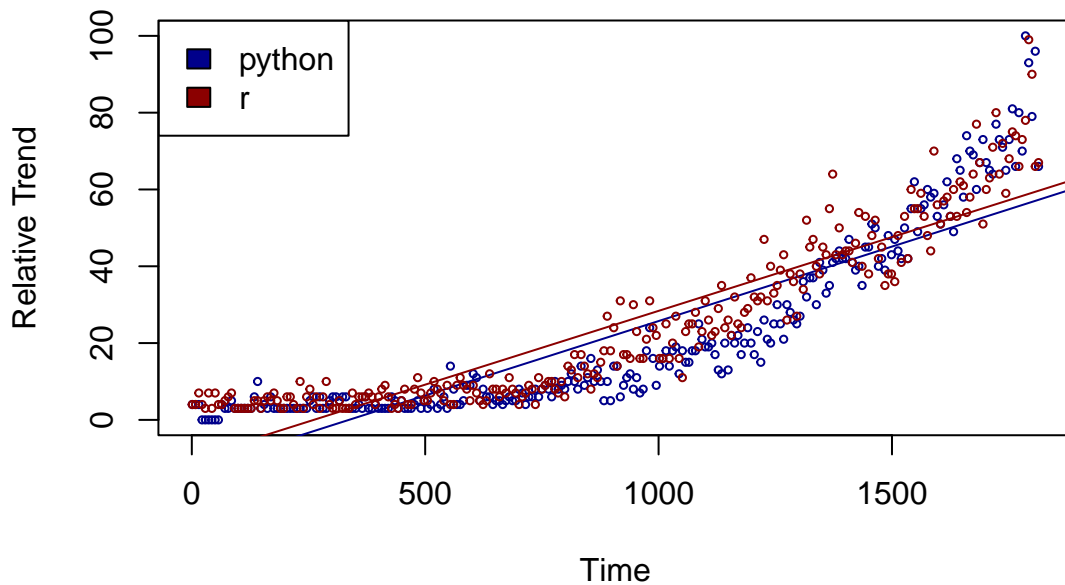
Mar 15, 2021

Welcome to LAB 8!

Read the data.

```
data_science <- read.csv("data_science.csv")  
# convert string to date object  
data_science$week <- as.Date(data_science$week, "%Y-%m-%d")  
# create a numeric column representing the time  
data_science$time <- as.numeric(data_science$week)  
data_science$time <- data_science$time - data_science$time[1] + 1
```

Google trend of data science languages



Polynomial models

Exercise 1

As you may discover, the linear model is not quite good for your dataset. In this exercise, you will fit a cubic curve to the data (use time to predict `r` and `python`).

- (a) Fit the cubic model.

```
# Insert your code here and save your fitted model as  
# `python.poly` and `r.poly`  
# python.poly <-  
# summary(python.poly)  
# r.poly <-  
# summary(r.poly)
```

- (b) In the fitting for `r` and `python` search index, which of the following term is significant (not equal to zero)?

```
# Uncomment the line of your answer for this question: (r)  
# intercept.r.sig <- TRUE  
# time.r.sig <- TRUE  
# time.r.square.sig <- TRUE  
# time.r.cubic.sig <- TRUE
```

```
# Uncomment the line of your answer for this question: (python)  
# intercept.python.sig <- TRUE  
# time.python.sig <- TRUE  
# time.python.square.sig <- TRUE  
# time.python.cubic.sig <- TRUE
```

- (c) Plot the scatter plot and the fitted line. Color the groups with red and blue. How will you describe the trend of `r` search and `python` search?

```
# Insert your code here for plotting
```

Reading - Caveat

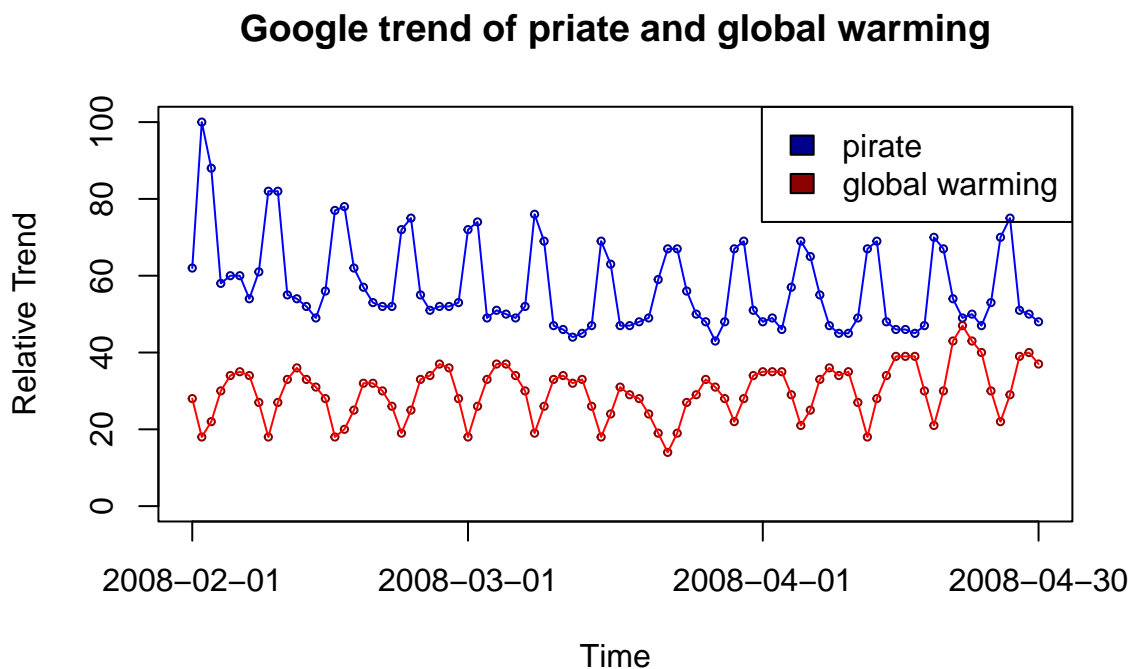
Google trend seems so powerful and accessible. However, when analyzing some topics, we would rather not to use it. Why? Consider the following two examples.

Global Warming & Pirates

Back to 2008, there is an obvious negative correlation between global warming and pirate searching, which may just be a coincidence. If you fit a linear model, the coefficients are significant.

```
pirate <- read.csv("pirate.csv")
pirate$Day <- as.Date(pirate$Day, "%Y-%m-%d")
data_science$time <- as.numeric(data_science$week)
data_science$time <- as.numeric(data_science$week) - as.numeric(data_science$week)[1]
```

```
plot(unclass(pirate$Day), pirate$pirates, cex = 0.5, col = "blue4",
     xlab = "Time", ylab = "Relative Trend", ylim = c(0, 100),
     main = "Google trend of priate and global warming", xaxt='n')
axis(1, at = pirate$Day[c(1, 30, 61, 90)],
     labels = as.character(pirate$Day)[c(1, 30, 61, 90)])
points(pirate$Day, pirate$global.warming, cex = 0.5, col = "red4")
lines(pirate$Day, pirate$pirates, col = "blue")
lines(pirate$Day, pirate$global.warming, col = "red")
legend("topright", legend = c("pirate", "global warming"),
     fill = c("blue4", "red4"))
```



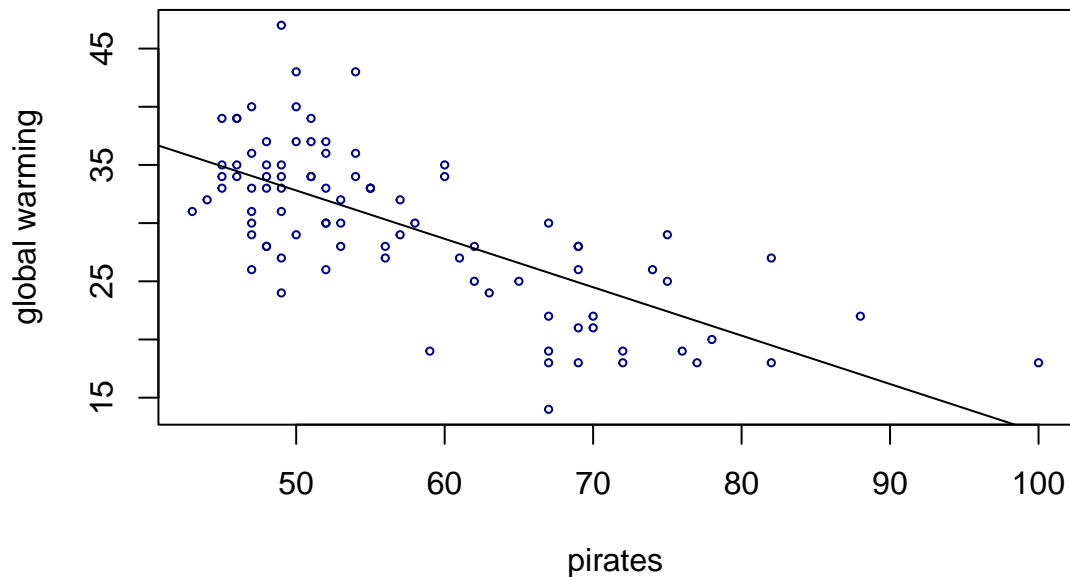
```

pirate.lm <- lm(global.warming ~ pirates, data = pirate)

plot(pirate$pirates, pirate$global.warming, cex = 0.5, col = "blue4",
     xlab = "pirates", ylab = "global warming",
     main = "Google trend of pirate and gobal warming")
abline(pirate.lm)

```

Google trend of pirate and gobal warming



```
cor(pirate$pirates, pirate$global.warming)
```

```
## [1] -0.7097726
```

```
summary(pirate.lm)
```

```

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = global.warming ~ pirates, data = pirate)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -11.7361  -3.3770  -0.0522   3.1548  13.7794
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  53.59517    2.57293   20.830 < 2e-16 ***
## pirates      -0.41581    0.04399   -9.452 4.81e-15 ***
## ---

```

```
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 4.824 on 88 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.5038, Adjusted R-squared:  0.4981
## F-statistic: 89.34 on 1 and 88 DF,  p-value: 4.814e-15
```

The Failure of Google Flu Trend

Google Flu Trend was first launched in 2008 (The Google research paper: Detecting influenza epidemics using search engine query data). It was widely recognized an exciting event in the big data application. In the 2009 flu pandemic, Google Flu Trends tracked information about flu in the United States. In February 2010, the CDC (the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) identified influenza cases spiking in the mid-Atlantic region of the United States. However, Google's data of search queries about flu symptoms was able to show that same spike two weeks prior to the CDC report being released.

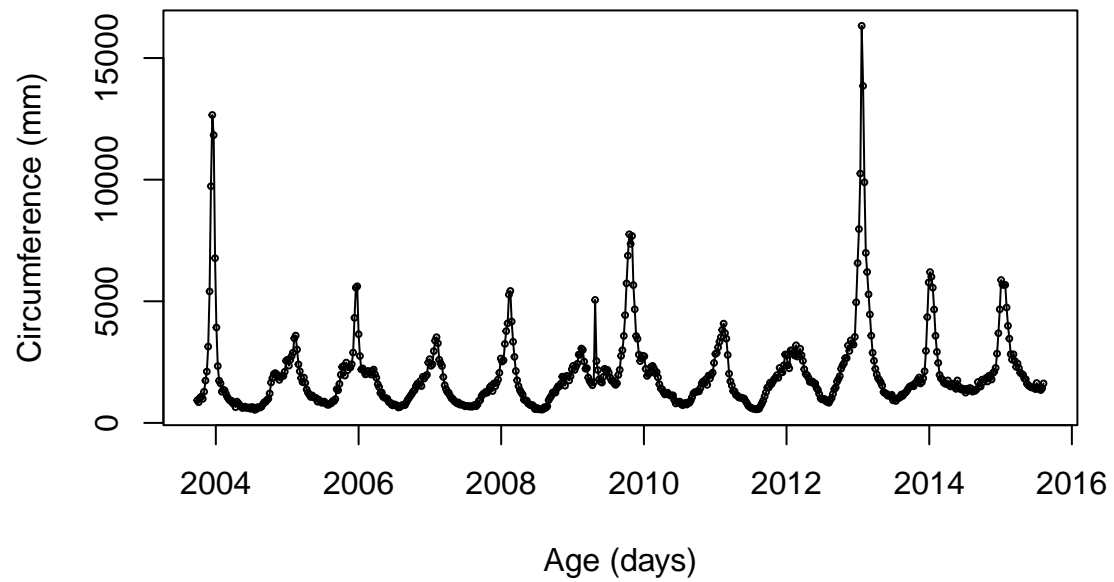
The model was initially based on the flu data from 2003-2008. Google Flu Trend prediction performs well at the beginning. However, it's been wrong since August 2011. The subsequent report continuously overestimates the flu prevalence. And now Google Flu Trends is no longer publishing current estimates of Flu based on search patterns.

In a Science article, a team of researchers described Google Flu Trend as “Big Data Hubris”:

“The core challenge is that most big data that have received popular attention are not the output of instruments designed to produce valid and reliable data amenable for scientific analysis.”

```
flu <- read.csv("flu.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
flu$Date <- as.Date(flu$Date)
```

```
plot(flu$Date, flu$California,
     type = "o", cex = 0.4,
     xlab="Age (days)",
     ylab="Circumference (mm)" )
```



Reference and further reading:

- The Parable of Google Flu: Traps in Big Data Analysis
- Google Flu Trends' Failure Shows Good Data > Big Data
- Google Flu Trend

LOESS: Local Polynomial Regression Fitting

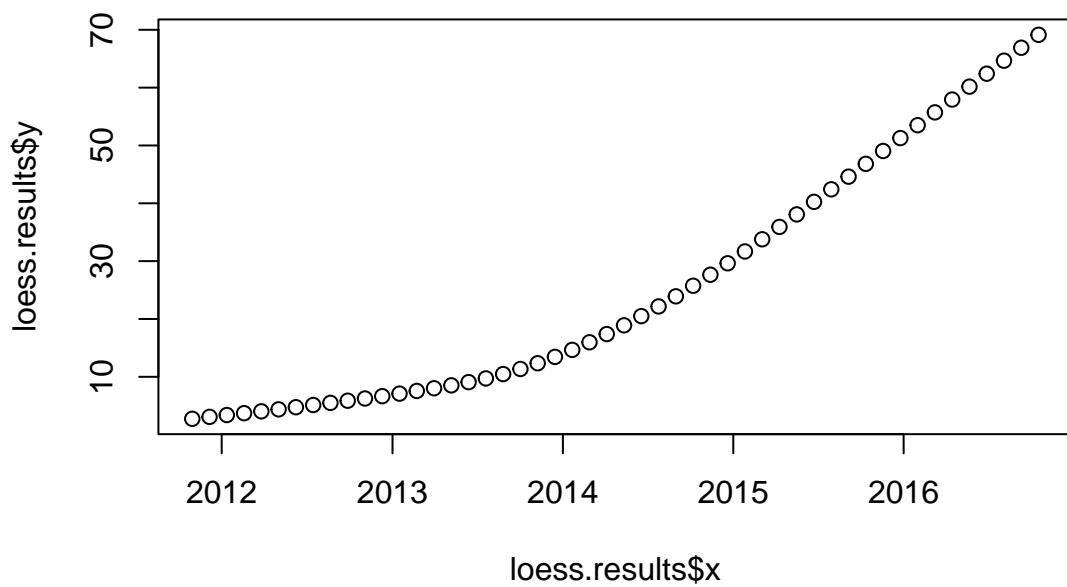
There are several options in R for fitting a loess.

The function `loess.smooth()` returns a list with the smoothed data coordinates:

```
loess.results <- loess.smooth(x = data_science$week, y = data_science$r)
loess.results

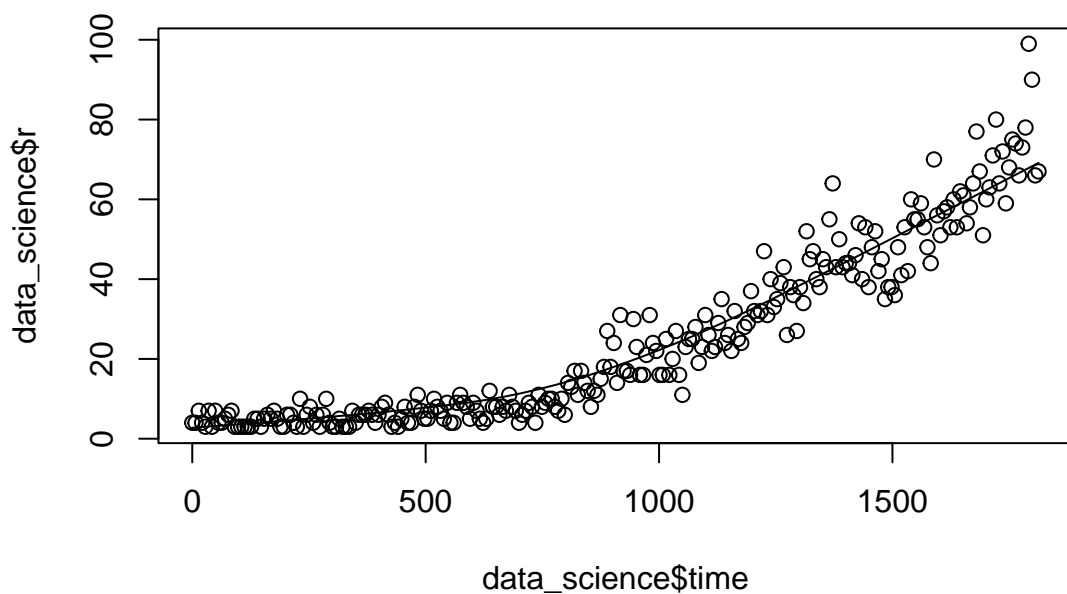
## $x
## [1] "2011-10-30" "2011-12-06" "2012-01-12" "2012-02-18" "2012-03-26"
## [6] "2012-05-02" "2012-06-08" "2012-07-15" "2012-08-21" "2012-09-27"
## [11] "2012-11-03" "2012-12-10" "2013-01-16" "2013-02-22" "2013-03-31"
## [16] "2013-05-07" "2013-06-13" "2013-07-20" "2013-08-26" "2013-10-02"
## [21] "2013-11-08" "2013-12-15" "2014-01-21" "2014-02-27" "2014-04-05"
## [26] "2014-05-12" "2014-06-18" "2014-07-25" "2014-08-31" "2014-10-07"
## [31] "2014-11-13" "2014-12-20" "2015-01-26" "2015-03-04" "2015-04-10"
## [36] "2015-05-17" "2015-06-23" "2015-07-30" "2015-09-05" "2015-10-12"
## [41] "2015-11-18" "2015-12-25" "2016-01-31" "2016-03-08" "2016-04-14"
## [46] "2016-05-21" "2016-06-27" "2016-08-03" "2016-09-09" "2016-10-16"
##
## $y
## [1] 2.736377 3.072615 3.392789 3.708313 4.030601 4.371064 4.741115
## [8] 5.123584 5.494673 5.865706 6.248098 6.653264 7.092621 7.554054
## [15] 8.022257 8.522621 9.080914 9.722903 10.474354 11.353310 12.346029
## [22] 13.448366 14.657861 15.972053 17.388485 18.901316 20.494740 22.166603
## [29] 23.916373 25.743519 27.647511 29.627548 31.675587 33.776878 35.916586
## [36] 38.079874 40.251906 42.420154 44.608423 46.820078 49.046064 51.277326
## [43] 53.504812 55.719529 57.936788 60.169443 62.411485 64.656900 66.899678
## [50] 69.133807

plot(loess.results$x, loess.results$y)
```



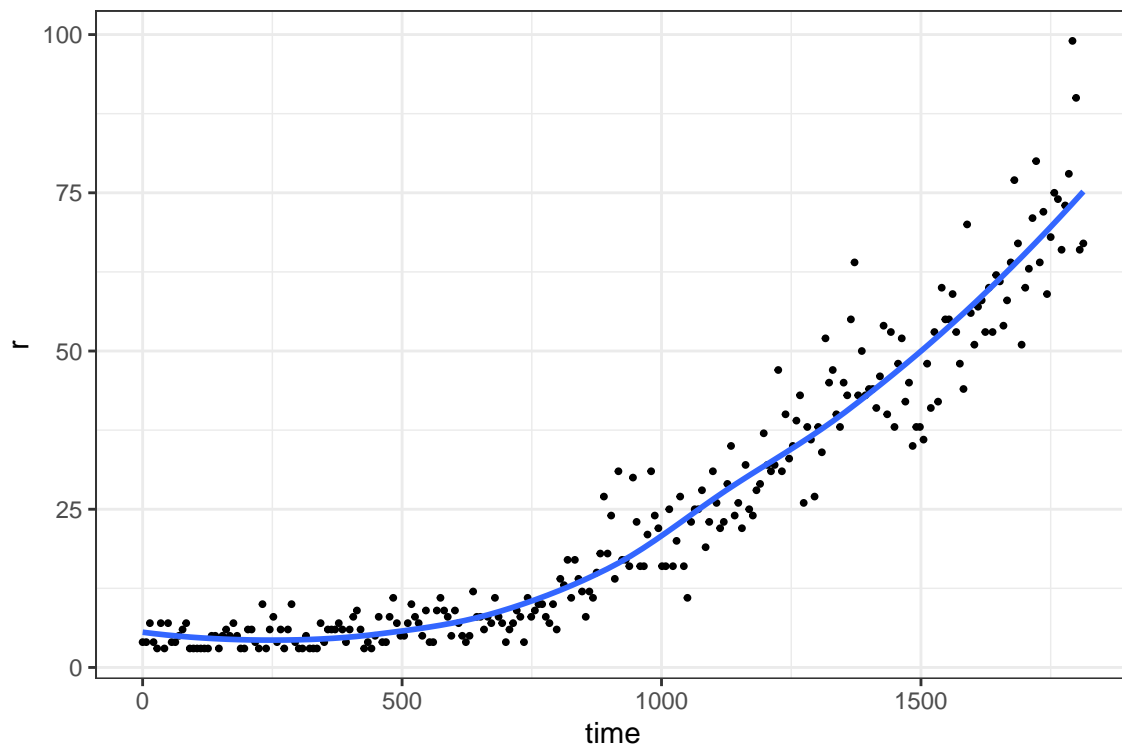
Though `loess.smooth()` is convenient for plotting the smoothed fit, there is also `scatter.smooth()`, which prints both the scatter plot and the smoothed fit with just one line of code.

```
scatter.smooth(x=data_science$time,y=data_science$r)
```



Using `ggplot2`, we have

```
data_science %>% ggplot(aes(
  x = time, y = r
)) + geom_point(size = 0.7) +
  geom_smooth(
    method = 'loess', span = 2/3,
    formula = y ~ poly(x, degree = 1),
    se = F) +
  theme_bw()
```



To do prediction using a LOESS model, there is function `loess()`, which has similar usage as the `lm()` function. Notice the default smoothing parameter for `loess.smooth(span = 2/3, degree = 1)` and `loess(span = 0.75, degree = 2)` are different.

```
loess.fitted <- loess(r~time, data = data_science)
summary(loess.fitted)
```

```
## Call:
## loess(formula = r ~ time, data = data_science)
##
## Number of Observations: 260
## Equivalent Number of Parameters: 4.35
## Residual Standard Error: 5.464
## Trace of smoother matrix: 4.73 (exact)
##
## Control settings:
```

```
## span      : 0.75
## degree    : 2
## family     : gaussian
## surface    : interpolate      cell = 0.2
## normalize  : TRUE
## parametric : FALSE
## drop.square: FALSE

predict(loess.fitted, data.frame(time = c(1000, 1500)))

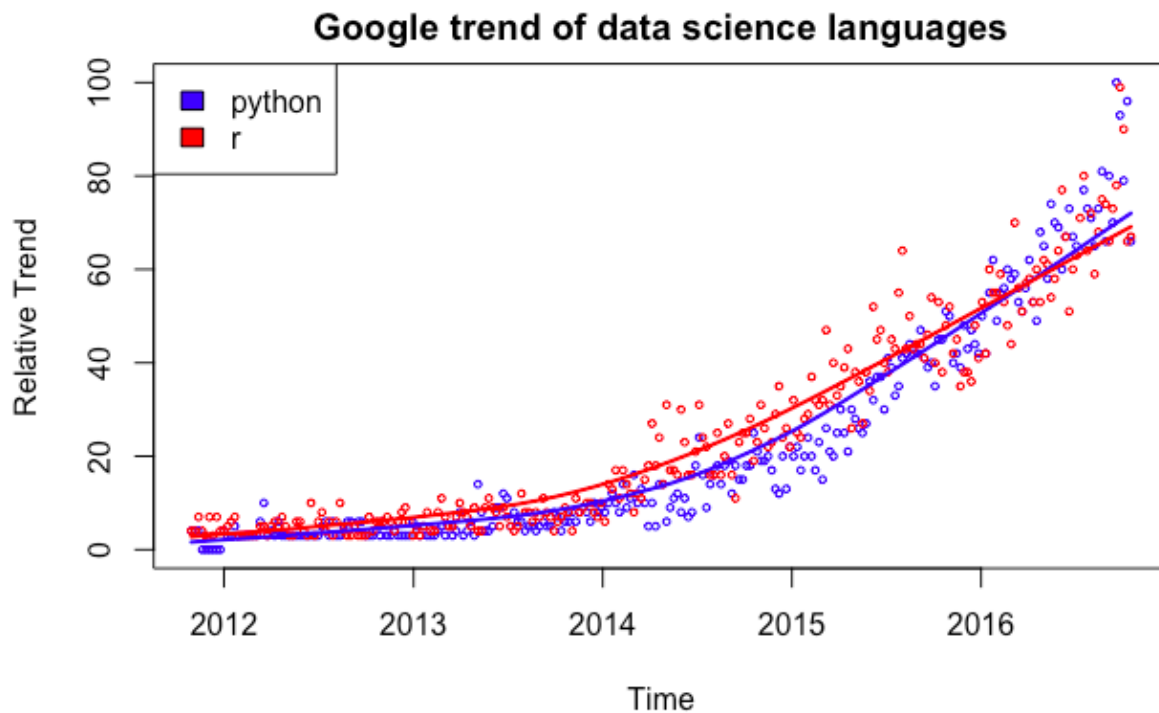
## [1] 20.79013 50.11676
```

Exercise 2

Follow the steps below to create a plot:

- (1) Plot a scatter plot of **week** versus **r** and **week** versus **python** in the same pane; distinguish **r** from **python** by color.
- (2) Overlay the scatter plots with a LOESS smoothing line for both **r** and **python** appropriately matched colors.
- (3) Make sure that a legend is included in the plot.

Your plot should look something like the following:



```
# Insert your code here
```