

# The Language of Graphs: from Bertin to GoG to ggplot2

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Psych 6135

<http://euclid.psych.yorku.ca/www/psy6135/>

## Topics

- Idea: Graphs as visual language
  - Early attempts at standardization of graphs
- Jacques Bertin: *Semiology of Graphics*
  - Mapping of visual properties to data relations
- Graphics programming languages:
  - Goal: power & elegance
- Lee Wilkinson: *Grammar of Graphics*
- Hadley Wickham: ggplot2



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## Metaphor: Graphs as visual language

- Playfair, Guerry, Minard and others described their fundamental insight that **graphical displays** convey quantitative data more directly than **numbers**.
- Playfair (1802)
  - "Regarding numbers and proportions, the best way to catch the imagination is to speak to the eyes"
- Minard (1861)
  - "The aim of my carte figurative is ... to convey promptly to the eye the relation not given quickly by numbers requiring mental calculation."

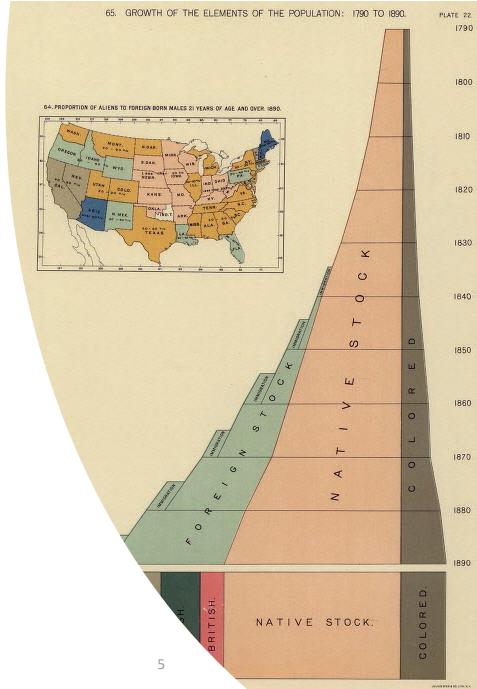
## Metaphor: Graphs as visual language

- Émile Cheysson (1890) took this further:
  - "When a law is contained in figures, it is buried like metal in an ore; it is necessary to extract it. This is the work of graphical representation.
  - It points out the coincidences, the relationships between phenomena, their anomalies, and we have seen what a powerful means of control it puts in the hands of the statistician to verify new data, discover and correct errors with which they have been stained."

## Context: Statistical albums, 1870–1910

From ~ 1870–1910, statistical albums of official statistics on topics of population, trade, moral & political issues became widespread throughout Europe and the U.S.

- France: *Album de Statistique Graphique*: 1879–1899 (trade, commerce & other topics)
- USA: Census atlases: 1870/80/90–
- Switzerland: *Atlas graphique de la Suisse*: 1897, 1914



## No consensus

- St. Petersburg (1872) resolutions:
  - "The Congress accepts that it is not worth going into details about the choice of methods or facts for graphical representation".*
  - "no strict rule can be imposed on authors, because the only real problem is that of applying the graphical method to data that is comparable".*
- Standardize the data before the graphs!
- Most of the debate had to do with thematic maps
  - number of class intervals for a quantitative variable
  - number and variety of shading colors
- Yet, the idea of a **visual language** had been accepted, along with the need for some **theory of graphs**



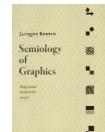
## Need for standardization

- Beautiful graphics: Yes, but all separate designs
  - Can anything be compared across countries?
- Émile Cheysson (1878)
  - "The time will come when Science has to lay down general principles and decide on well-defined standards. We can no longer tolerate this sort of anarchy"*
- International statistical meetings (ISI)
  - 1852 (Brussels), 1857 (Vienna), 1869 (The Hague), 1872 (St. Petersburg), 1876 (Budapest) ...
  - Participants: Quetelet, Cheysson, Levasseur (France), Ernest Engel, Gustav von Mayr, Hans Schwabe (Germany), Francis Walker (U.S.), ...



## Bertin: *Semiology of graphics* (1967)

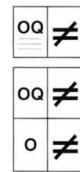
- Defines a system of “grammatical elements” of graphs and relations among visual attributes that give **meaning** (semantics) from perceptual features
  - Planar variables: (x,y) coordinates
  - Retinal variables: shape, size, color, ...



PLANAR VARIABLES	RETINAL VARIABLES		
Horizontal Position ↔	Shape	Size	Colour
Vertical Position ↑↓	Value Low Medium High	Orientation	Texture

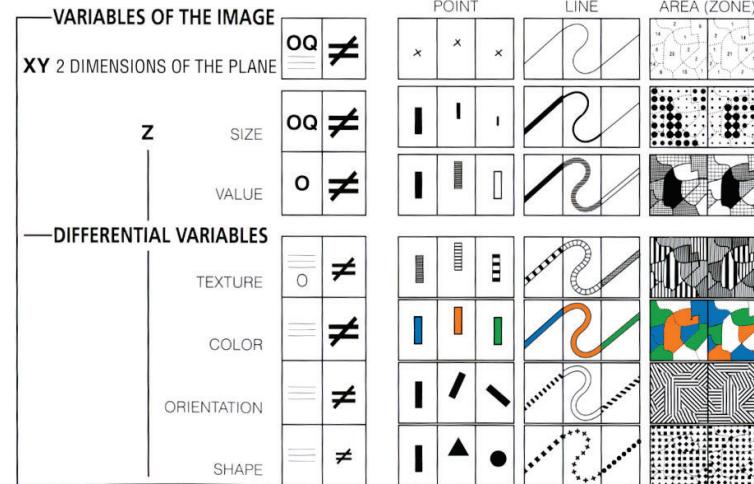
## Bertin: Semiology of graphics

- Defines a system of mapping of retinal variables to properties of data variables for perception of **relations**
  - Association ( $\equiv$ ) – marks are perceived as **similar**
  - Selection ( $\neq$ ) – marks are perceived as **forming classes**
  - Order ( $O$ ) – marks are perceived as **showing order**
  - Quantity ( $Q$ ) – marks are perceived as **proportional**
- This is the first theory of graphs relating visual attributes (encoding) to perceptual characteristics (decoding).
- It comprises nearly all known graph and thematic map types in a **general system**



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The retinal variables and relationship types can be implanted in various symbol types in the plane (X,Y)



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## Visual variables & data characteristics

Visual variables differ in the kinds of information they can convey

Visual Variables	Characteristics				
	Selective	Associative	Quantitative	Order	Length
Position	• •	••••		↑ . . . . .	Theoretically Infinite
Size	•	● ●	••••	● > ● > ● > ●	Selection: ~5 Distinction: ~20
Shape					Theoretically Infinite
Value	○ ○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○ ○		○ < ○ < ○ < ○ < ●	Selection: <7 Distinction: ~10
Color	●	○	●●●●		Selection: <7 Distinction: ~10
Orientation	\\   /				Theoretically Infinite
Texture	○○○○	○○○○			Theoretically Infinite
	(≠)	(≡)	(Q)	(O)	

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## Some recommendations

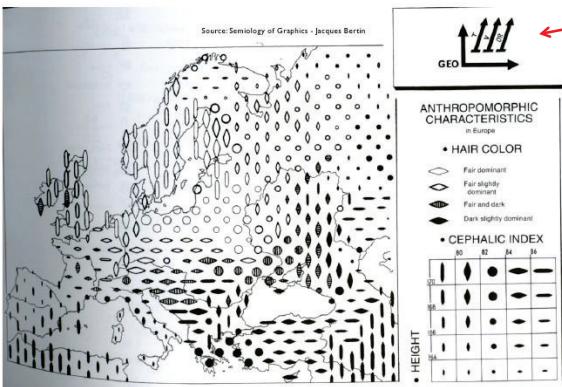
Various authors have used Bertin's system to make recommendations for the best attributes to use with different symbol types

Visual Variables	Points	Lines	Areas	Best to show
Shape	● ▲			qualitative differences
Size	● ●			quantitative differences
Color Hue	● ● ●			qualitative differences
Color Value	● ● ●			quantitative differences
Color Intensity	● ● ●			qualitative differences
Texture	● ● ●			qualitative & quantitative differences

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Retinal variables allow **several** variables to be encoded.  
Bertin's system provides a general framework for thematic mapping, allowing multiple variables to be shown simultaneously in a single map.

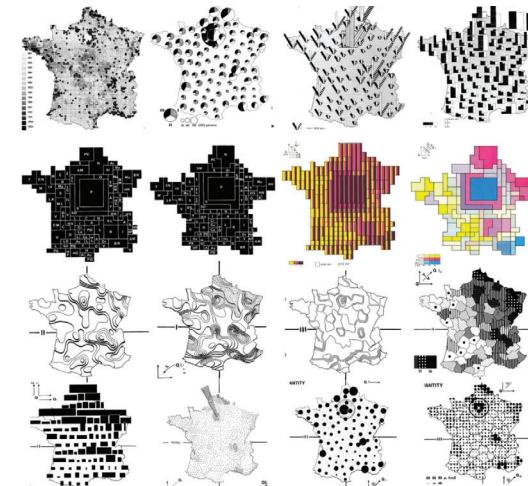
Map for height, hair color and cephalic index distribution



For Bertin, the legend is a symbolic description of the coordinate system and the variables displayed.

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Various maps of France, encoding quantitative and categorical variables in a wide number of different ways.



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## Decoding: Reading a graphic



How successful is a graph for transmitting information?

Bertin defines three **stages** for reading a graphic:

- **External:** What is the overall context?
  - Graph title, axis labels
- **Internal:** What visual variables are used to represent the components in the graphic?
  - points, lines, ...
  - size, shape, color:hue, color:intensity, texture, ...
- **Relationships:**
  - How are these components related?
  - What questions can I ask of this graphic?
  - What can I learn?

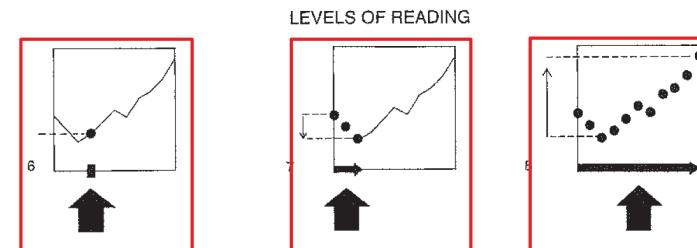
Research topic: Have there been any studies of this ordering in graph perception?

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## Reading levels

Questions a graph should answer:

- Elementary: find some specific value
- Intermediate: make comparisons, see a trend
- Overall: what is the general message or overall trend?



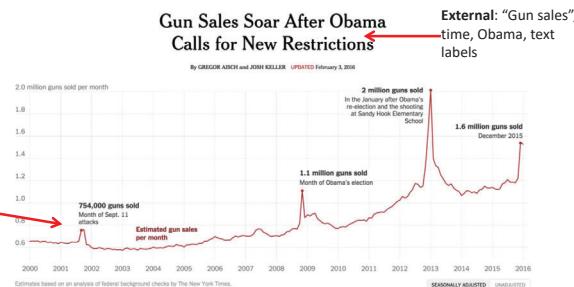
These ideas provided the beginnings of a theory of graphs related to graph perception.

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## Reading levels: Example

Graph from the NY Times,  
Feb. 3, 2016

Internal: lines, points for  
labeled events  
Relationships: what is the  
message?



Reading tasks:

- Elementary: "How many guns were sold in January of 2013?"
- Intermediate: "What's the trend in gun sales since President Obama was elected?"
- Overall: "What's the overall trend in gun sales in America since the year 2000?"

From: <https://medium.com/@karlsluis/before-tufte-there-was-bertin-63af71ceaa62>

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## Bertin: The reorderable matrix

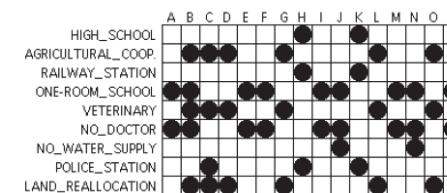
A data table: objects by characteristics

n	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
2	Agricultural Cooperative	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
3	Railway Station	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
4	One Room School	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	
5	Veterinary	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
6	No Doctor	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	
7	No Water Supply	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	
8	Police Station	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
9	Land Reallocation	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	

Both rows and columns are  
reorderable ( $\neq$ )

Overall relation can be  
discovered by permuting  
rows, cols

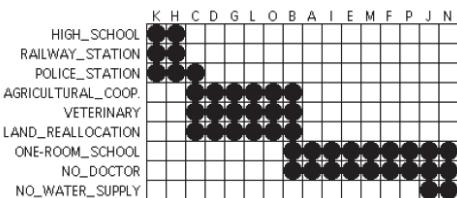
Encode each value by visual attributes



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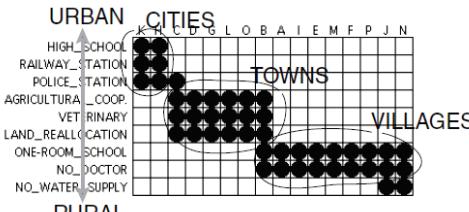
## The reorderable matrix

Permute rows and columns to put like with like

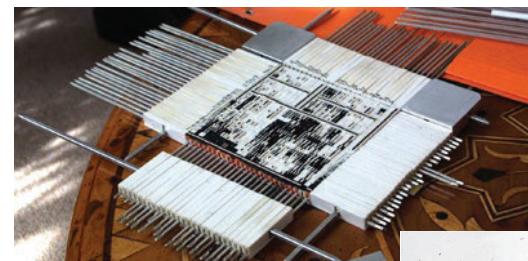


This is an early example of  
what I called "effect  
ordering" for data display

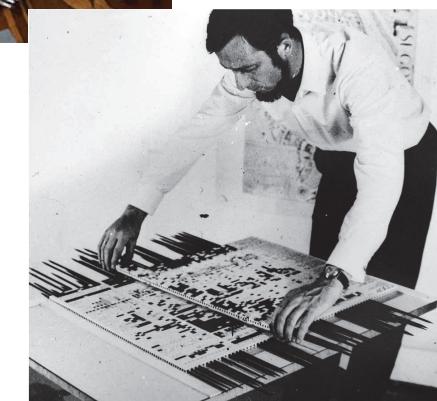
Interpret row/col order & clusters



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This was used by Bertin and  
others in a large number of  
applied projects



Bertin was to visual data  
analysis in France what Tukey  
was to EDA in N. America

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# Bertifier

Bertifier: A web app implementing Bertin's idea of the reorderable matrix  
 See: <http://www.aviz.fr/bertifier>

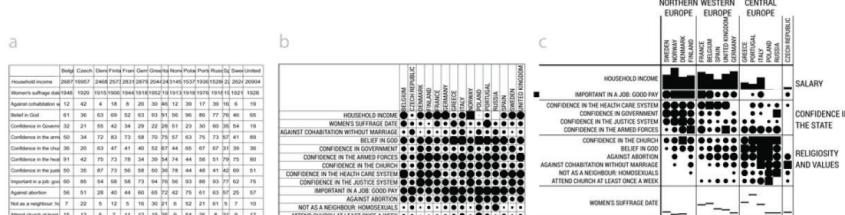


table: Attitudes and attributes by country

Values encoded by size and shape

Sorted and grouped by themes and country regions

Watch: Youtube video of Bertifier, [http://youtu.be/tJxAF\\_a\\_yBQ](http://youtu.be/tJxAF_a_yBQ)

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# Heatmaps

Heatmaps are a re-invention of  
 Bertin's ideas:

- Cluster analysis to reorder rows/cols
- Shading cells to show some variable

This example shows a microarray analysis of 128 leukemia patients using 12625 genes.

- The goal is to distinguish two types of leukemia
- The shading variable is a z-score for how well a given gene distinguishes the two types.
- Several clusters of high association are discovered!

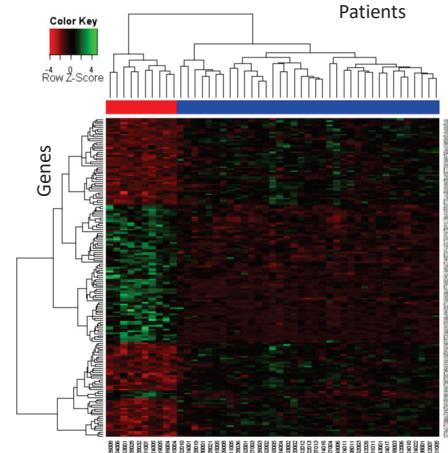


Image source: [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/moac/people/students/peter\\_cock/r/heatmap/](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/moac/people/students/peter_cock/r/heatmap/)

See also: Wilkinson & Friendly, *The History of the Cluster Heat Map*, *The American Statistician*, 2009, 63, 179-184

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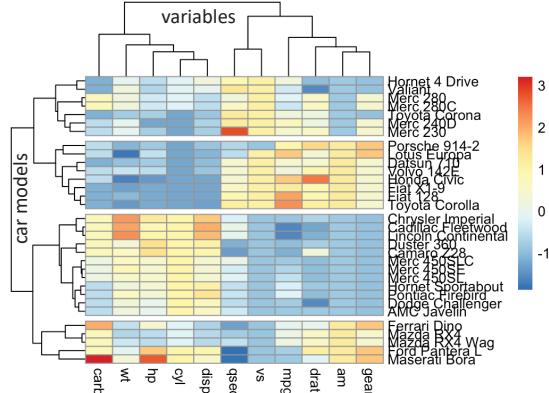
## Heatmaps: the devil is in the details

There are many implementations of "heatmaps"

They differ importantly in the details of: clustering, shading scheme

This example shows a data set of 11 measures on 32 cars from the 1974 Motor Tends magazine

- Each variable was converted to z-scores
- The value was shaded using a bipolar color scheme
- Clusters of cars are slightly separated
- The very high and low values stand out

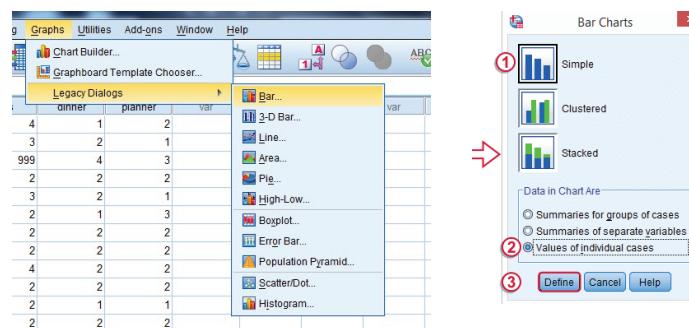


From: <http://www.sthda.com/english/articles/28-hierarchical-clustering-essentials/93-heatmap-static-and-interactive-absolute-guide/>

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## Making graphs: menus vs. syntax

Menu-driven graphics provide a wide range of graph types, with options  
 What's wrong with that?

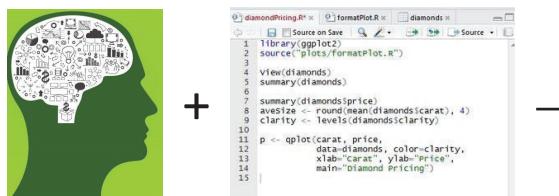


**WYSIAYG:** What you see is all you get. No way to do something different  
 Not reproducible: Change the data → Re-do manually from scratch  
 Often designed by programmers with little sense of data vis

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## Programming languages: Power & elegance

- **CS view:** All programming languages can be proved to be equivalent (to a Turing machine)
- **Cognitive view:** Languages differ in:
  - **expressive power:** ease of translating what you want to do into the results you want
  - **elegance:** how well does the code provide a human-readable description of what is done?
  - **extensibility:** ease of generalizing a method to wider scope
  - **learnability:** your learning curve (rate, asymptote)



## Programming languages: Power & elegance

Language	Features: Tools for thinking?
FORTRAN	Subroutines – reusable code Subroutine libraries (e.g., BLAS)
APL, APL2STAT	N-way arrays, nested arrays Generalized reduction, outer product Function operators
Logo	Turtle graphics Recursion, list processing
Lisp, LispStat, ViSta	Object-oriented computing Functional programming
Perl	Regular expressions Search, match, transform, apply
SAS	Data steps, PROC steps, BY processing SAS macros, Output Delivery system
R	Object-oriented methods, tidyverse: dplyr, ggplot2, ...

## Programming languages: Elegance - Logo

### Features:

- Based on Lisp, but tuned to young minds
  - Papert: *Mindstorms: Children, Computers, and Powerful Ideas* (1980)
- Turtle graphics: draw by directing a turtle, not by (x,y) coordinates
  - Analytic geometry rests on a coordinate system.
  - Turtle geometry is "body syntonic": Tell turtle what to do.
- Data types:
  - words, lists, arrays, property lists
- Lists & list processing: inherited from Lisp, but with gentler syntax.
  - Lists are infinitely expandable & nestable.
- Recursion rather than iteration is the natural method to process lists
- Extensions:
  - multiple, animated turtles (sprites);
  - object-oriented programming (message passing) -> SmallTalk



## Logo : Turtle graphics

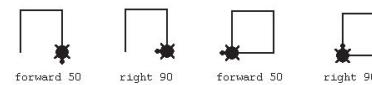
Turtle primitives: forward, back, left, right, penup, pendown, ...



Logo procedures: teach the turtle a new word

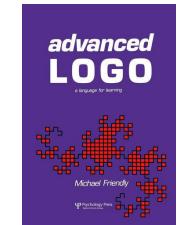
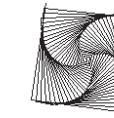
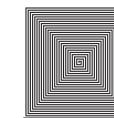
```
> to square :side
repeat 4 [fd :side rt 90]
end

> square 100
```

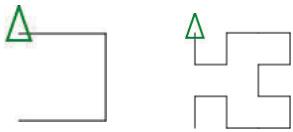


Recursive procedures:

```
> to spiral :size :angle
if :size > 100 [stop]
forward :size
right :angle
spiral (:size + 2) :angle
end
```



## Logo : Hilbert curves

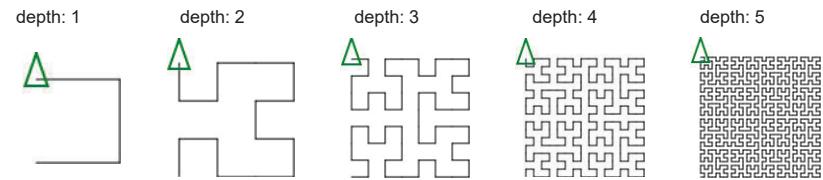


Logo was more than just pretty pictures  
It was graphics & mathematics for young minds: **A language for learning**

```
to Hilbert0 :turn :size
right :turn
forward :size
left :turn
forward :size
left :turn
forward :size
right :turn
end
```

Start with some basic shape

What happens if you replace each **line** with a smaller copy of the basic shape?  
What happens if you continue this process?  
What happens if you choose a different basic shape?



```
to Hilbert :depth :turn :size
if :depth = 0 [stop]
right :turn
Hilbert (:depth-1) -:turn :size
forward :size
left :turn
Hilbert (:depth-1) :turn :size
forward :size
Hilbert (:depth-1) :turn :size
left :turn
forward :size
Hilbert (:depth-1) -:turn :size
right :turn
end
```

**Hilbert curve:** A continuous, space-filling fractal, of Hausdorff dimension 2

**Theorem** (Hilbert, 1891): The euclidean length of the n-th depth Hilbert curve,  $H_n$  is  $2^n - \frac{1}{2^n}$

**Proof** (by enumeration): Redefine forward to calculate total turtle path length

```
to forward.length :size
make "total.length :total.length + :size
forward :size
end
```

## Logo: Tower of Hanoi

Move N disks from one pole to another, with no disk ever resting on a disk smaller than itself.

```
to Hanoi :n :start :goal :spare
if :n=0 [stop]
# move disks 1:n from START to GOAL
# are we done?
Hanoi :n-1 :start :spare :goal
move :n :start :goal
# move disk n from START to GOAL
Hanoi :n-1 :spare :goal :start
end
```

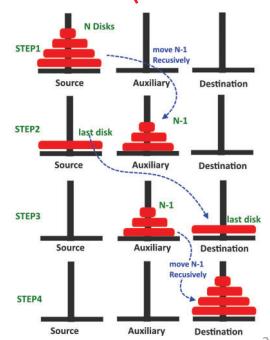
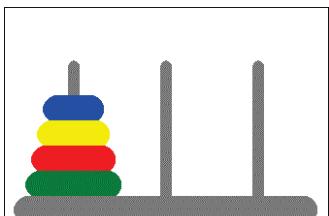
# move disks 1:n-1 from START to SPARE

# move disk n from START to GOAL

# move disks 1:n-1 from SPARE to GOAL

A direct translation of an algorithm into code

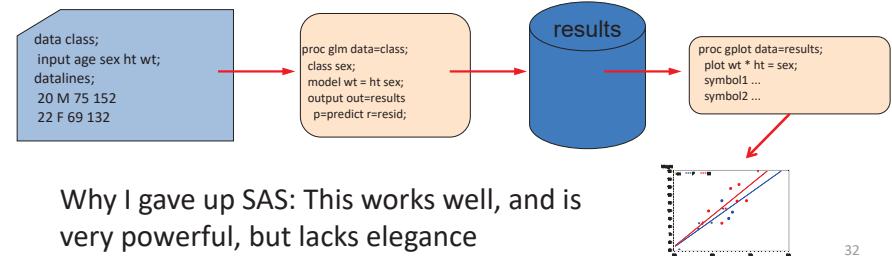
The Tower of Hanoi problem has an elegant solution in Logo  
Change the 'move' instruction to render on screen or by a robot!



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## Graphics programming languages: SAS

- SAS: procedures + annotate facility + macros
  - PROC GPLOT (x,y plots), PROC GCHART, PROC GMAP, ...
  - Annotate: data set with instructions (move, draw, text, fonts, colors)
  - Macros: Create a new, generic plot type, combining PROC steps and DATA steps.



Why I gave up SAS: This works well, and is very powerful, but lacks elegance

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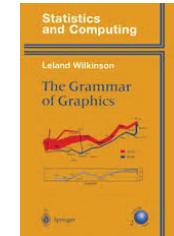
## SAS thinking : many languages



- ODS graphics
  - template language
- Output delivery system (ODS)
- %macro language
- proc iml
  - matrix language, graphics
  - procs, Annotate language
- SAS/Graph:
- Base SAS, SAS/STAT
  - data step, proc steps

## Wilkinson: Grammar of Graphics

- Natural language:
  - **Grammar/syntax:** What are the **minimal, complete** set of rules to describe **all** well-formed sentences?
    - John ate the big red apple ✓
    - John big apple red apple ate the ✗
  - **Semantics:** How to distinguish meaning, nonsense, poetry in well-formed sentences?
    - Large green trucks carry garbage ✓
    - Colorless green ideas sleep furiously ??
- How to apply these ideas to graphics?
  - Grammar: Algebra, scales, statistics, geometry, ...
  - Semantics: Space, time, uncertainty, ...
  - Needed: a complete **formal theory** of graphs & **computational** graphics language



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## Wilkinson: Grammar of Graphics

- A complete system, describing the components of graphs and how they combine to produce a finished graphic
  - "The grammar of graphics takes us beyond a limited set of charts (words) to an almost unlimited world of graphical forms (statements)" (Wilkinson, 2005, p. 1).
  - "... describes the **meaning** of what we do when we construct statistical graphics ... more than a taxonomy"
  - "This system is capable of producing some **hideous** graphics ... This system cannot produce a **meaningless** graphic, however."
- This is a general theory for **producing** graphs.
  - the foundation of most modern software systems;
  - not connected with a theory for **reading** graphs à la Bertin.

## Wilkinson: Grammar of Graphics

- Components:
  - **specification:** a formal language for composing graphs
  - **assembly:** coordination of attributes
    - internal: a data structure for a graphical "object"
  - **rendering:** producing a graphic on a display system
    - low level: device drivers for screen, PDF, PNG, SVG, ...

```
ELEMENT: point{position(x*y),  
COORD: rect(dim(1,2))  
SCALE: linear(dim(1))  
SCALE: linear(dim(2))  
GUIDE: axis(dim(1), label("Sepa")  
GUIDE: axis(dim(2), label("Sepa"))
```



code



data structure

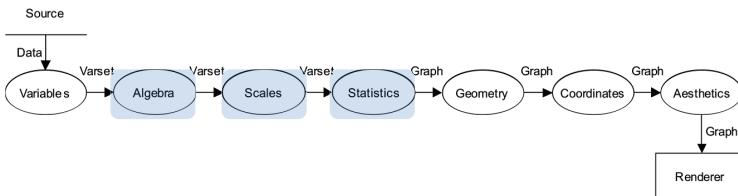
graphical output

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## Grammar of Graphics: Specification

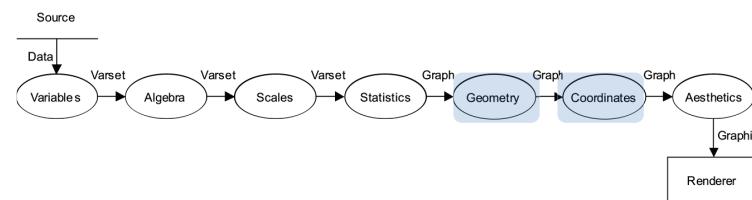
- **Algebra:** combine variables into a data set to be plotted
  - cross (A\*B), nest (A/B), blend (A+B), filter, subset, ...
- **Scales:** how variables are represented
  - categorical, linear, log, power, logit, ...
- **Statistics:** computations on the data
  - binning, summary (mean, median, sd), region (CI), smoothing



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## Grammar of Graphics: Specification

- **Geometry:** Creation of geometric objects from variables
  - Functions: point, line, area, interval, path, ...
  - Partitions: polygon, contour,
  - Networks: edge
  - Collision modifiers: stack, dodge, jitter
- **Coordinates:** Coordinate system for plotting
  - transformations: translation, rotation, dilation, shear, projection
  - mappings: Cartesian, polar, map projections, warping, Barycentric
  - 3D+: spherical, cylindrical, dimension reduction (MDS, SVD, PCA)



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## Grammar of Graphics: Specification

- **Aesthetics:** mapping of qualitative and quantitative scales to sensory attributes (extends Bertin)
  - **Form:** position, size, shape (polygon, glyph, image), rotation, ...
  - **Surface:** color (hue, saturation, brightness), texture (pattern, orientation), blur, transparency
  - **Motion:** direction, speed, acceleration
  - **Sound:** tone, volume, rhythm, voice, ...
  - **Text:** label, font, size, ...
- **Facets:** Construct multiplots (“small multiples”) by partitioning, blending or nesting
- **Guides:** Allow for reading the encodings of variables mapped to aesthetics
  - **scales:** axes, legend (labels: size, shape, color, ...)
  - **annotations** (title, footnote, line, arrow, ellipse, text, ...)

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## Grammar of Graphics: Implementation

- Wilkinson illustrates the GoG with a programming language (GPL: the *Graphics Production Language*)
- GPL statements
  - **DATA:** expressions that create variables to display from data sets
  - **TRANS:** variable transformations prior to plotting (e.g., ranking the data points)
  - **ELEMENT:** define graphical elements (e.g., points, lines, ...) and their aesthetic attributes (e.g., shape, color, ...) to use in the display
  - **SCALE:** apply scale transformations to the plot (e.g., square root or log)
  - **COORD:** select the coordinate system for use in the graphic (e.g., Cartesian, polar)
  - **GUIDE:** guides to aid interpretation (axes, legends)

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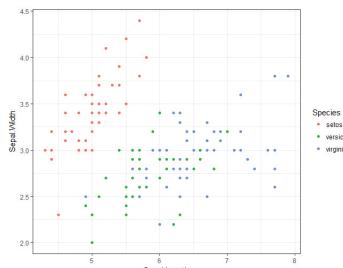
## GPL example: scatterplot

A simple scatterplot of the Iris data, points colored by species

```
DATA: x = "SepalLength"
DATA: y = "SepalWidth"
DATA: z = "Species"
TRANS: x = x
TRANS: y = y
ELEMENT: point(position(x*y), color(z))
COORD: rect(dim(1,2))
SCALE: linear(dim(1))
SCALE: linear(dim(2))
GUIDE: axis(dim(1), label("Sepal Length"))
GUIDE: axis(dim(2), label("Sepal Width"))
```

SPSS graphics now use GPL as the backend (syntax) for their graphics engine

TRANS, SCALE, COORD and GUIDE all show the defaults & aren't necessary here.  
The key one is ELEMENT, specifying points, positioned by (x\*y) and colored by z

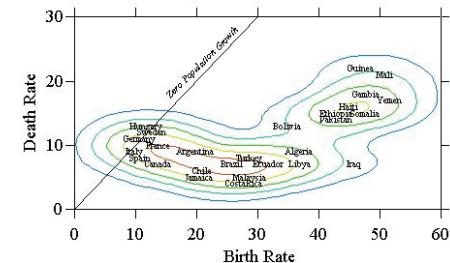


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## GPL example: contour plot

A smoothed contour plot of birth rate vs. death rate for selected countries

```
ELEMENT: point(position(birth*death), label(country))
ELEMENT: contour(position(smooth.kernel.density(birth*death)), color.hue())
GUIDE: form.line(position((0,0), (30,30)), label("Zero population growth"))
GUIDE: axis(dim(1), label("Birth rate"))
GUIDE: axis(dim(2), label("Death rate"))
```



Wilkinson, *Grammar of Graphics*, Fig 1.1

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## GPL syntax

The essential features of a graph are described by **ELEMENT**

- The geometrical objects (point, line, interval, ...) are specified within this
- Their visual properties (position, color) and statistical summaries are given as well

Some typical graph types:

Graph	Syntax
scatterplot	ELEMENT: point (position (d*r) )
line chart	ELEMENT: line (position (d*r) )
bar chart	ELEMENT: interval (position (d*r) )
hor. bar chart	COORD: rotate (270) ELEMENT: point (position (d*r) )
clustered bar chart	ELEMENT: interval.dodge (position (d*r) , color (c) )
stacked bar chart	ELEMENT: interval.stack (position (summary.proportion (r) , color (c) ) )
histogram	ELEMENT: interval (position (summary.count (bin.rect (y) ) ) )

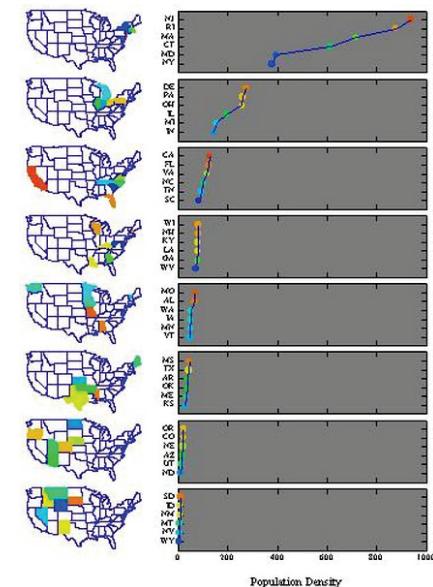
## Facets & frames

Tables of graphs:

- Facets: → graphs of subset
- Frames: → separate graphs

Linked micromap:

- Population density of US, divided in octiles
- States in each octile shown separately



GoG was a coherent language for specifying and producing nearly all known graphic forms.

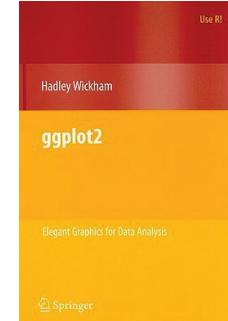
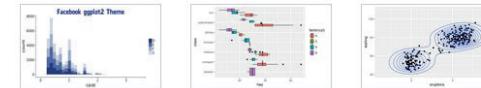
## Colorless green graphs sleep furiously

- JSM 2017: Dinner with Lee Wilkinson, Howard Wainer, Paul Vellman, & others
- The great debate:
  - LW: The GoG is a complete theory, a formal mathematical model comprehending all graphs.
  - "Beauty is truth, truth beauty,"--that is all Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.
  - MF: There is more--
    - **Implementation matters:** translating a graphic idea into a finished graph should be facilitated by the **language** of graphic code.
    - A productive language for graphs should encompass the steps of **data analysis**
  - Pere Milán: A truly expressive graphic language should recommend the right graphic(s) to "get the message home"

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## Wickham: ggplot2

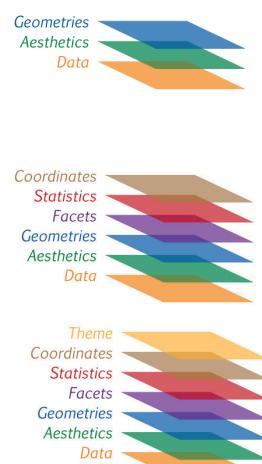
- **ggplot2: Elegant graphics for data analysis**
  - a computational language for thinking about & constructing graphs
  - sensible, aesthetically pleasing defaults
    - + themes: default, bw, journal, tufte, ...
  - infinitely extendable
    - ggplot extensions:  
<https://exts.ggplot2.tidyverse.org/>



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## Wickham: ggplot2

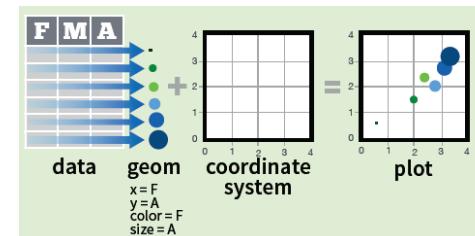
- Implementation of GoG in R as **layers** of a graphic
  - Basic layers:
    - Data,
    - Aesthetics (data → plot mapping)
    - Geoms (points, lines, bars, ...),
  - Statistics: summaries & models
  - Coordinates: plotting space
  - Facets: partition into sub-plots
  - Themes: define the general features of all graphical elements



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## ggplot2: data + geom = graph

- Every graph can be described as a combination of independent building blocks, connected by "+" (read: "and")
  - **data:** a data frame: quantitative, categorical; local or data base query
  - **aesthetic** mapping of variables into visual properties: size, color, x, y
  - **geometric objects ("geom"):** points, lines, areas, arrows, ...
  - **coordinate system ("coord"):** Cartesian, log, polar, map,



```
ggplot(FMA,  
       aes(x=F, y=A, color=F, size=A)) +  
       geom_point()
```

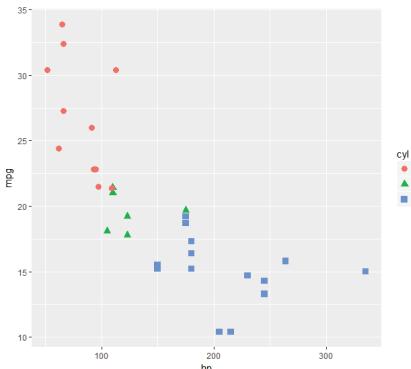
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## ggplot2: data + geom = graph

```
ggplot(data=mtcars,  
       aes(x=hp, y=mpg,  
           color=cyl, shape=cyl)) +  
  geom_point(size=3)
```

In this call:

- `data=mtcars`: data frame
- `aes(x=, y=)`: plot X,Y variables
- `aes(color=, shape=)`: attributes
- `+ geom_point()`: what to plot
- the coordinate system is taken to be the standard Cartesian (x,y)
- a corresponding legend is automatically generated



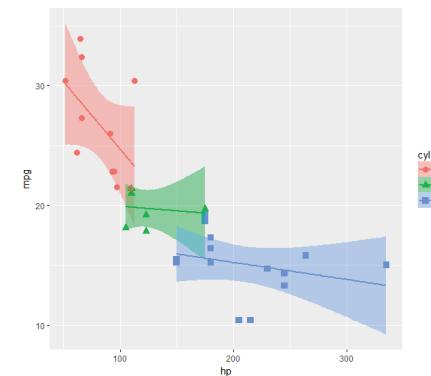
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## ggplot2: geoms

Wow! I can really see something there.

How can I enhance this visualization?

Easy: add a `geom_smooth()` to fit linear regressions for each level of cyl



```
ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=hp, y=mpg, color=cyl, shape=cyl)) +  
  geom_point(size=3) +  
  geom_smooth(method="lm", aes(fill=cyl))
```

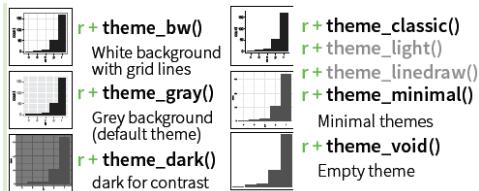
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## ggplot2: GoG -> graphic language

- The implementation of GoG ideas in ggplot2 for R created a more expressive language for data graphs
  - **layers**: graph elements combined with “+” (read: “and”)

```
ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=hp, y=mpg)) +  
  geom_point(aes(color = cyl)) +  
  geom_smooth(method = "lm") +
```

- **themes**: change graphic elements consistently



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## ggplot2: more geoms

### Continuous X, Continuous Y

e +	<code>geom_label(aes(label = cty), nudge_x = 1, nudge_y = 1, check_overlap = TRUE)</code>
x, y, label, alpha, angle, color, family, fontface, hjust, lineheight, size, vjust	
e +	<code>geom_jitter(height = 2, width = 2)</code>
x, y, alpha, color, fill, shape, size	
e +	<code>geom_point()</code>
x, y, alpha, color, fill, shape, size, stroke	
e +	<code>geom_quantile()</code>
x, y, alpha, color, group, linetype, size, weight	
e +	<code>geom_rug(sides = "bl")</code>
x, y, alpha, color, linetype, size	
e +	<code>geom_smooth(method = lm)</code>
x, y, alpha, color, fill, group, linetype, size, weight	
C	<code>geom_text(aes(label = cty), nudge_x = 1, nudge_y = 1, check_overlap = TRUE)</code>
AB	x, y, label, alpha, angle, color, family, fontface, hjust, lineheight, size, vjust

ggplot2 facilitates graphical thinking by making a clear separation among:

- mapping data variables to plot features (`aes()`);
- geometric objects (`geom_()`)
- statistical summaries (`stat_()`)

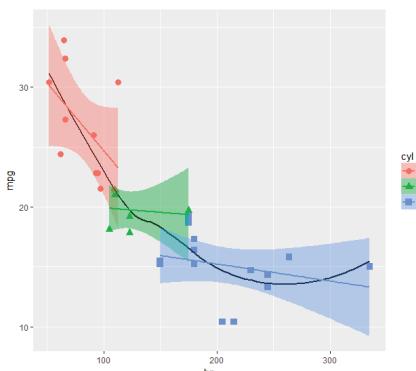
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## ggplot2: layers & aes()

Aesthetic attributes in the ggplot() call are passed to geom\_() layers

Other attributes can be passed as constants (size=3, color="black") or with aes(color=, ...) in different layers

This plot adds an overall loess smooth to the previous plot



```
ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=hp, y=mpg)) +  
  geom_point(size=3, aes(color=cyl, shape=cyl)) +  
  geom_smooth(method="lm", aes(color=cyl, fill=cyl)) +  
  geom_smooth(method="loess", color="black", se=FALSE)
```

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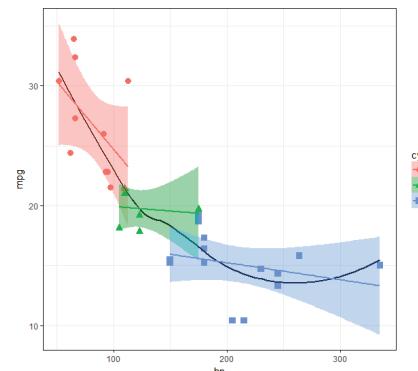
## ggplot2: themes

All the graphical attributes of ggplot2 are governed by themes – settings for all aspects of a plot

A given plot can be rendered quite differently just by changing the theme

If you haven't saved the ggplot object, last\_plot() gives you something to work with further

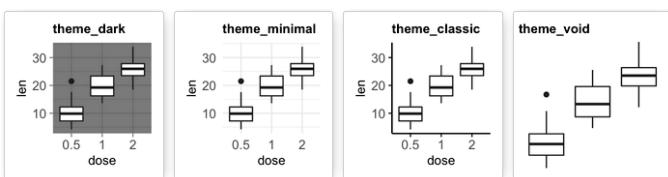
```
last_plot() + theme_bw()
```



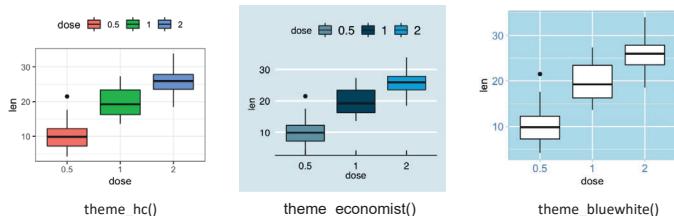
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## ggplot2: themes

Built-in ggplot themes provide a wide variety of basic graph styles



Other packages provide custom themes, or you can easily define your own



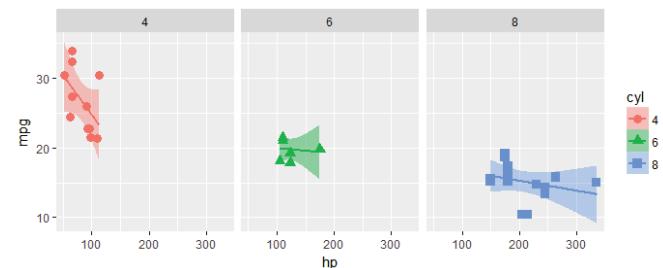
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## ggplot2: facets

Facets divide a plot into separate subplots based on one or more discrete variables

```
plt <-  
  ggplot(mtcars, aes(x=hp, y=mpg, color=cyl, shape=cyl)) +  
  geom_point(size=3) +  
  geom_smooth(method="lm", aes(fill=cyl))  
  
plt + facet_wrap(~gear)
```

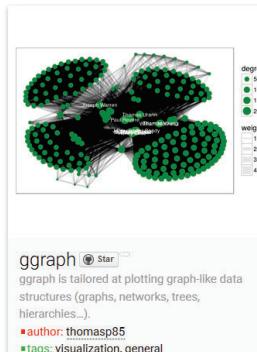
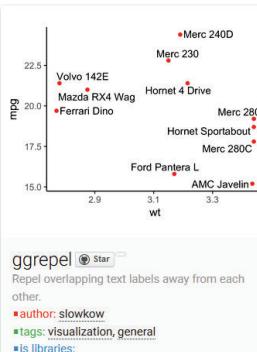
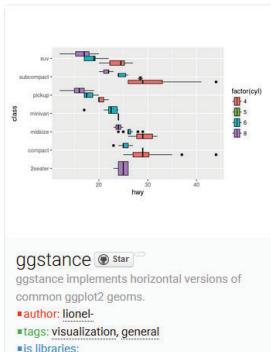
Syntax:  
facet\_wrap(rowvar ~ colvar)



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# ggplot2: extensions

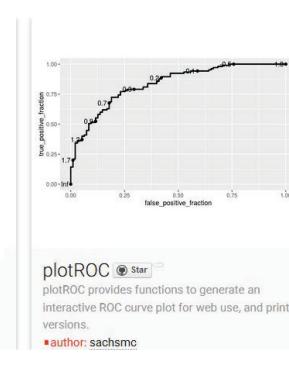
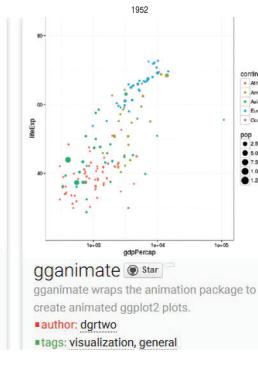
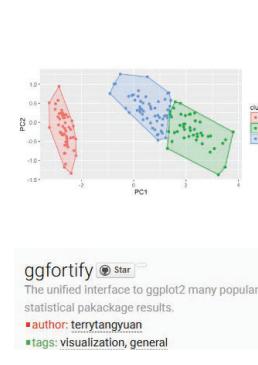
ggplot2 provides a [prototype](#) system for implementing new geoms, stats, themes, ...  
Many of these are listed at <https://exts.ggplot2.tidyverse.org/>



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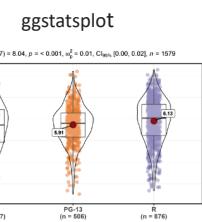
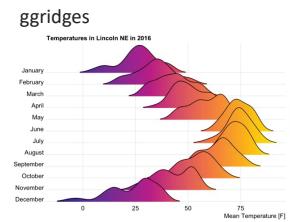
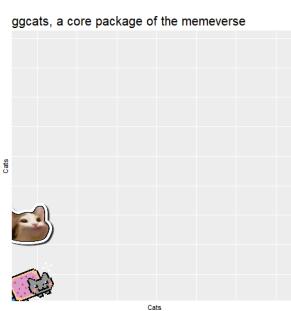
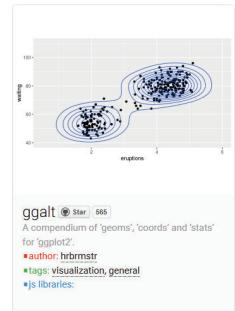
# ggplot2: extensions

ggplot2 provides a [prototype](#) system for implementing new geoms, stats, themes, ...  
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# ggplot2: extensions

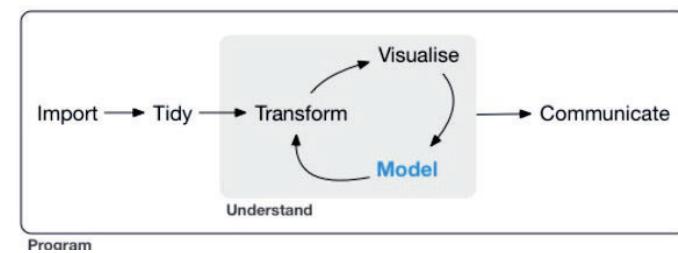


The wide range of extensions indicates the power of ggplot2 as a general framework for data graphics

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# A larger view: Data science

- Data science treats statistics & data visualization as parts of a larger process
  - Data import: text files, data bases, web scraping, ...
  - Data cleaning → “tidy data”
  - Model building & visualization
  - Reproducible report writing



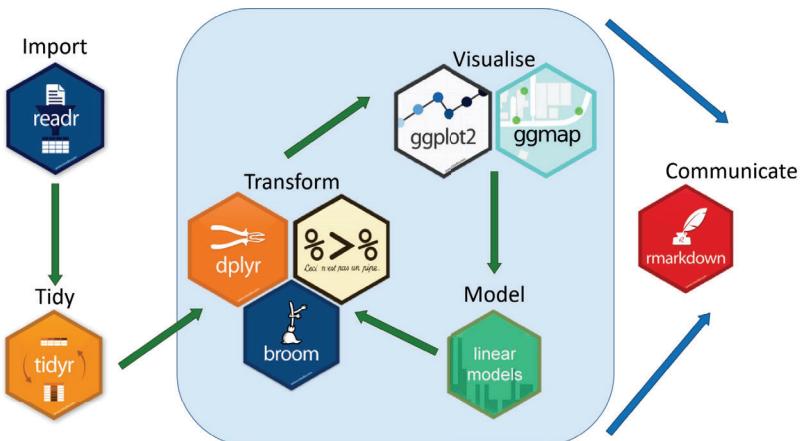
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# The tidyverse of R packages



These ideas inspire a larger view of data analysis and graphics based on tidy principles.



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## Summary

- Graphical developers in the Golden Age recognized the idea of “graphic language,” but could not define it.
- Bertin first formalized the relations between graphical features (“retinal variables”), data attributes ( $O$ ,  $Q$ ,  $\neq$ ,  $\equiv$ ), and “reading levels”
- Wilkinson, in GoG, created a comprehensive syntax and algebra to define any graph
- Wickham, in ggplot2, created an expressive language to ease the translation of graphic ideas into plots.
- Tidyverse ideas place data analysis & graphics within a communication-oriented, reproducible research framework.

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