



Making Sports Science Easier Using Data Analysis and Visualisation Programs

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Chaired by Simon Price

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About me

👉 I'm an applied sports scientist

I currently work with two 🏈 teams

- Gold Coast Suns Football Club (AFL)
- Newcastle Knights Rugby League Club (NRL)

✈️ I live in an pretty amazing place (Newcastle)



How are you analysing your data?



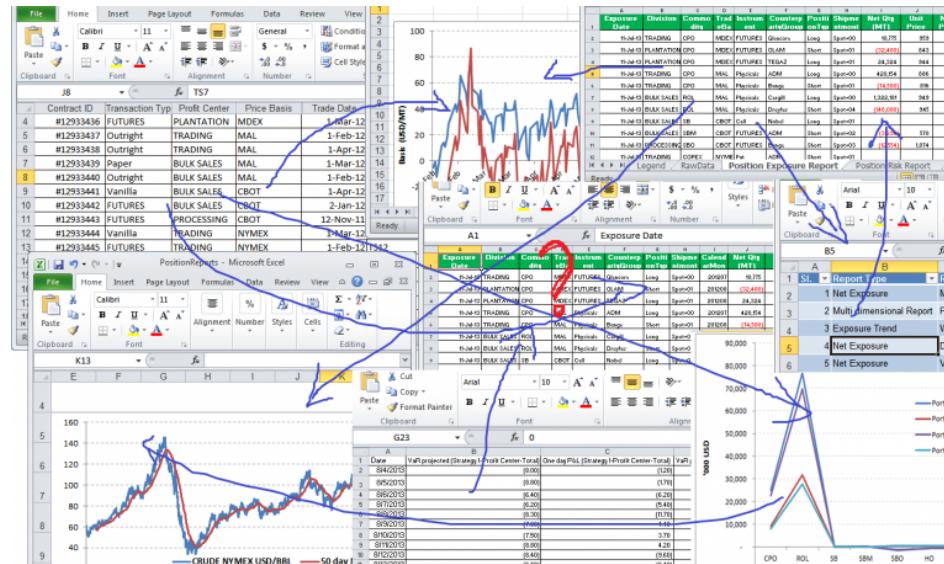
Why learn a new program?

- ⌚ Save time
- 📠 Produce high quality reports or visualisations
- 🏃 Staying up to date with the industry
- 🌱 Personal development
- 💽 Analyse complex datasets more easily
- ➡️ Reproducibility of reports - automate workflows
- ⌚ SAVE TIME



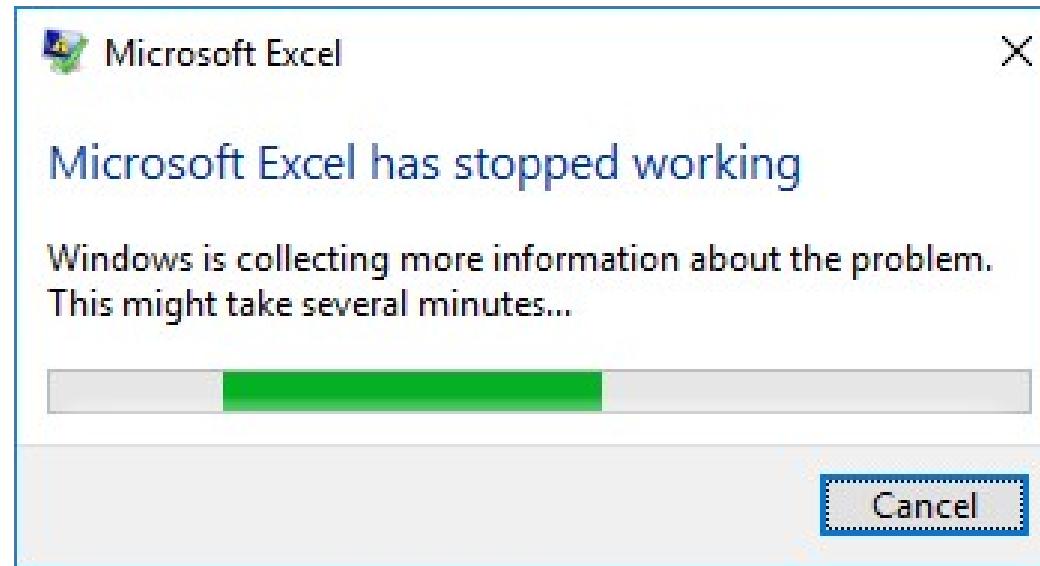
But Excel is working for me

- 👍 Excel is easy to use and has a place in data entry, analysis and visualisation
- 👍 Lots of help readily available
- 👍 Widely used by practitioners in sport
- 👎 However, it has its limitations



But Excel is working for me

And soon enough....



Credit: Dr Jacquie Tran (ESSA Forum, 2019) and Dr Alice Sweeting (WCSF Workshop, 2019)

Part 1 - R programming



R programming

? Why use R?

- Reproducibility -> automate workflows
- Simple to really complex analysis
- Its free
- Can create complex dashboards, or simple PDF/HTML outputs
- Fast and efficient analysis
- Handles big data sets really well (i.e., raw GPS files)



What others think R looks like



Credit: Dr Alice Sweeting (WCSF Workshop, 2019)

Where to start with R

- Need to download [R](#) first
- I recommend using [RStudio](#) which is an interface for R, making it less 'scary' and more user friendly
- Practice using a data set you know and understand - start out with some simple plots

👉 There are tonnes of resources available, even some relevant to sport



Mitch Henderson
@mitchhendo_

🐦 New post & video tutorial 📹

How sports scientists can use ggplot2 in R to make better visualisations 

Great visualisations help communicate your message more clearly. This post shows you an example of my process. [#rstats](#)

mitchhenderson.org/2020/04/how-sp...

A photograph of a man performing a bench press. He is lying on a bench, holding a barbell with both hands. He is wearing a blue and red t-shirt with a large white number '16' on the shoulder. The barbell has green weight plates. The background shows a gym setting with blue and black equipment.

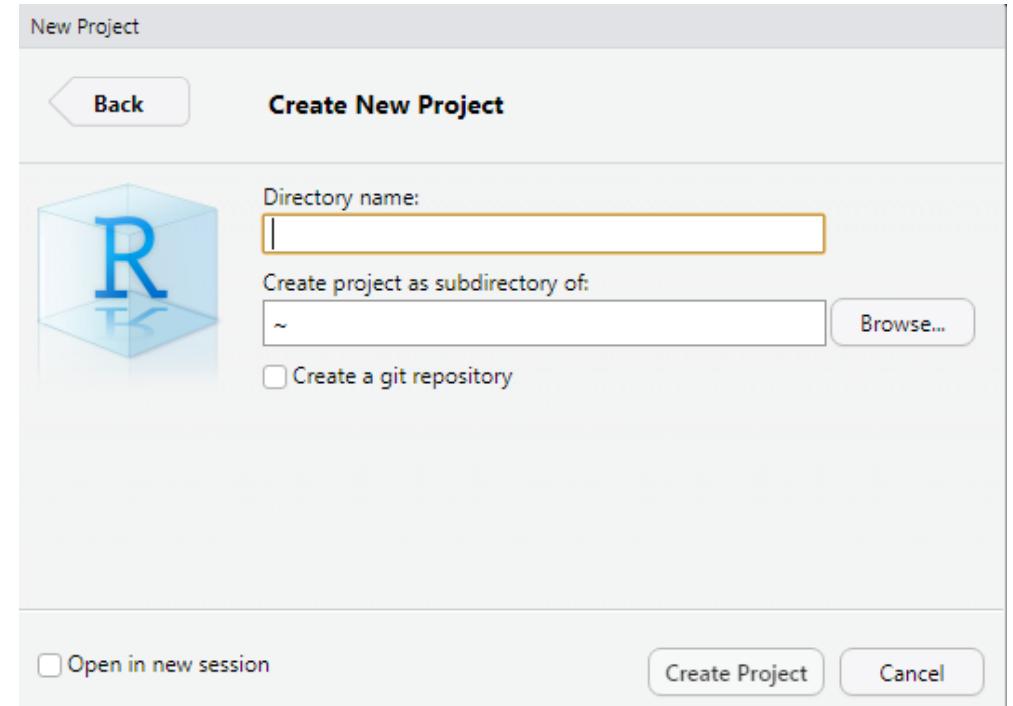
Example 1 - strength data

Create a project

Projects help to organise files and locations

In RStudio, click File - New Project - New Directory - New Project

Projects allow all files (scripts, figures, output etc) to be stored together



Import strength testing data

📦 Packages provide functions to perform different tasks

```
install.packages("readr")
```

➡ Import .csv strength testing file using **readr** package

```
library(readr)
Strength <- read_csv("Files/Strength.csv")
```

✖ Or import .xlsx file using **readxl** - note the different location to file

```
library(readxl)
Strength_xlsx <- read_excel("C:/Users/Heidi.Thornton/OneDrive - GCFC Limited/Documents/Strength.xlsx")
```

View data

60 We can view our data set using `print` or `head`

```
print(Strength, n=6)
```

```
head(Strength, n=6)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 8
##   Date      Name    Season Period `Bodyweight (kg~`3RM Weighted C~`3RM Bench Pres~
##   <chr>     <chr>   <dbl> <chr>       <dbl>           <dbl>           <dbl>
## 1 1/11/2020 Athlete 1  2021 Start~        85            120             95
## 2 1/11/2020 Athlete 2  2021 Start~        86            125            97.5
## 3 1/11/2020 Athlete 3  2021 Start~        88            122.            100
## 4 3/11/2020 Athlete 3  2021 Start~        89            125            102.
## 5 1/11/2020 Athlete 4  2021 Start~        90            122             110
## 6 1/11/2020 Athlete 5  2021 Start~        100           90              120
## # ... with 1 more variable: 3RM Box Squat <dbl>
```

Summarise data

✍ Using the **tidyverse** package, we will create some summary statistics from the dataset

```
Strength_summary <- Strength %>%
  group_by(Name) %>%
  filter(Season == 2021) %>%
  summarize(
    'Max chins (kg)' = max(`3RM Weighted Chins`),
    'Change chins (kg)' = (max(`3RM Weighted Chins`))-(min(`3RM Weighted Chins`)),
    'Max bench (kg)' = max(`3RM Bench Press`),
    'Change bench (kg)' = (max(`3RM Bench Press`))-(min(`3RM Bench Press`)),
    'Max squat (kg)' = max(`3RM Box Squat`),
    'Change squat (kg)' = (max(`3RM Box Squat`))-(min(`3RM Box Squat`)))
```

Summarise data

✍ Using the **tidyverse** package, we will create some summary statistics from the dataset

```
print(Strength_summary, n=10)
```

```
## # A tibble: 8 x 7
##   Name      `Max chins (kg)` `Change chins (kg)` `Max bench (kg)` `Change bench (~
##   <chr>          <dbl>           <dbl>            <dbl>           <dbl>
## 1 Athlete 1     125              5             97.5            2.5
## 2 Athlete 2     128.             2.5            108.            10
## 3 Athlete 3     130              7.5            105             5
## 4 Athlete 4     128.             5.5            115             5
## 5 Athlete 5      95               5             128.            7.5
## 6 Athlete 6     118.             7.5            108.            2.5
## 7 Athlete 7     110               5             120             5
## 8 Athlete 8     115              2.5            100             2.5
## # ... with 2 more variables: Max squat (kg) <dbl>, Change squat (kg) <dbl>
```

Visualise strength data

>Create a summary table of strength testing results using **formattable** package

```
library(formattable)

formattable(Strength_summary, align = c('c'), list(
  `Change chins (kg)` = color_tile("white", "#71CA97"),
  `Change bench (kg)` = color_tile ("white", "#71CA97"),
  `Change squat (kg)` = color_tile("white", "#71CA97")))
```

Name	Max chins (kg)	Change chins (kg)	Max bench (kg)	Change bench (kg)	Max squat (kg)	Change squat (kg)
Athlete 1	125.0	5.0	97.5	2.5	150.0	5.0
Athlete 2	127.5	2.5	107.5	10.0	145.0	3.0
Athlete 3	130.0	7.5	105.0	5.0	125.0	5.0
Athlete 4	127.5	5.5	115.0	5.0	135.0	12.5
Athlete 5	95.0	5.0	127.5	7.5	130.0	5.0
Athlete 6	117.5	7.5	107.5	2.5	155.0	5.0
Athlete 7	110.0	5.0	120.0	5.0	152.5	7.5
Athlete 8	115.0	2.5	100.0	2.5	135.0	5.0

Squat result by testing point

>Create dumbell plot showing testing result by testing point

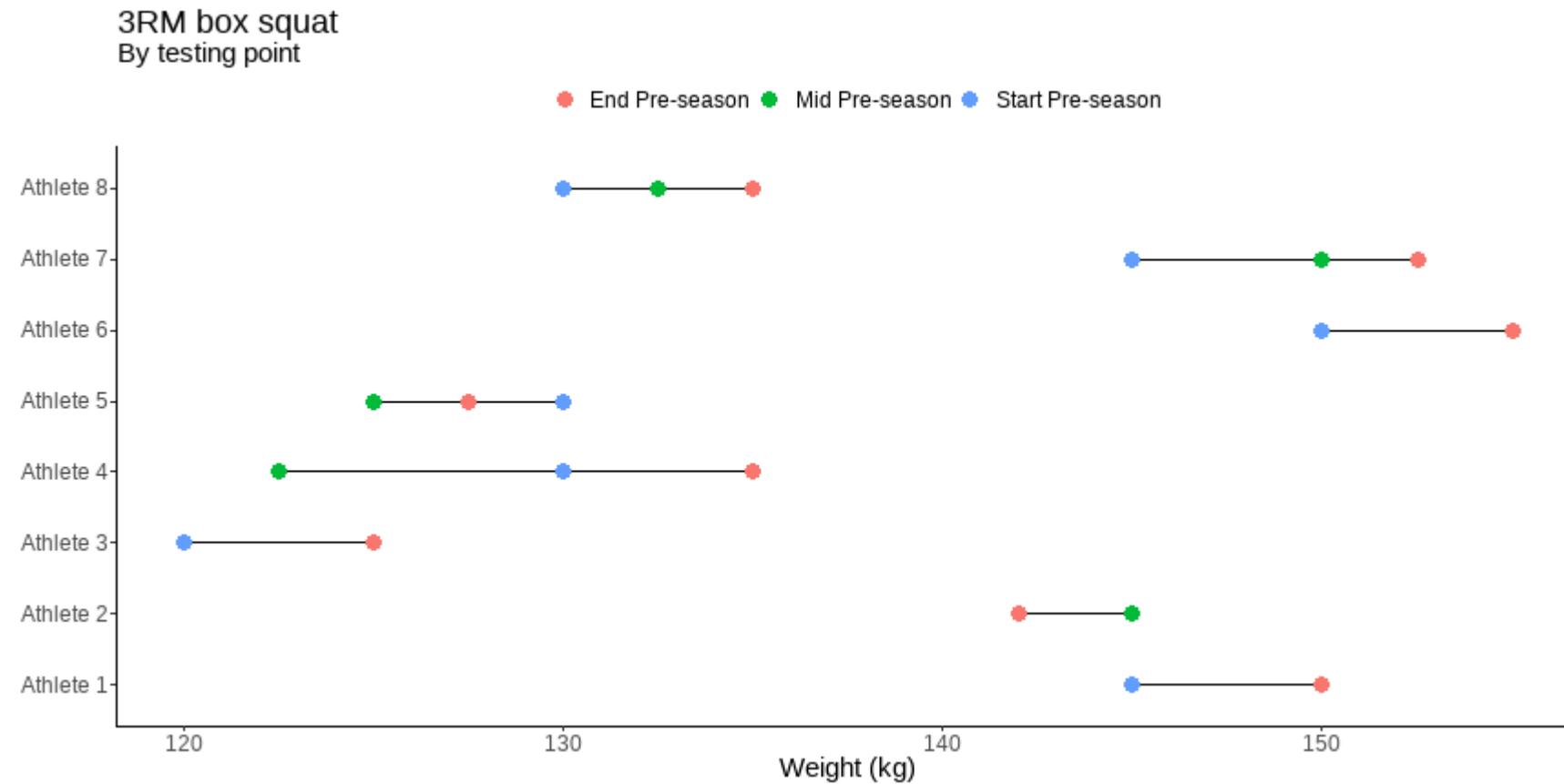
```
Strength %>%
  filter(Season == 2021) %>%

# Dumbell plot using geom_line and geom_point
ggplot(aes(x= `3RM Box Squat`, y= Name)) +

  geom_line(aes(group = Name))+ # add line between testing points
  geom_point(aes(color=Period), size=4) + # a dot for each testing point

  ggtitle("3RM box squat", subtitle = "By testing point") + # title
  xlab("Weight (kg)") + # axis label
  theme_classic() + # simple theme
  theme(legend.position = "none", # hide legend
        axis.title.y = element_blank()) # hide y axis title
```

Squat result by testing point



Example 2 - Nordboard data



Nordboard data

➡ Import Nordboard data

```
Nordboard <- read_csv("Files/Nordboard.csv")
head(Nordboard, n=6)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 7
##   Player    Date     RowIndex `Average Left F~ `Average Right ~ `Max Left Force` 
##   <chr>     <chr>     <dbl>      <dbl>          <dbl>           <dbl>
## 1 Player 1 22/11/2019     10        394            415            405
## 2 Player 10 7/12/2020      6        414            399.           438
## 3 Player 10 15/12/2020     4        341.           331.           392.
## 4 Player 10 18/01/2021     2        498.           462.           508.
## 5 Player 10 3/02/2021      0        466.           439.           474.
## 6 Player 10 3/02/2021      2        459.           437.           471
## # ... with 1 more variable: Max Right Force <dbl>
```



Clean Nordboard data

- + Add a new column for sets ('row index' is incorrect)

```
Nordboard <- Nordboard %>%
  group_by(Player, Date) %>%
  mutate(Set = seq_alongRowIndex)

# Then reorder variables
Nordboard <- Nordboard[c(1:2, 8, 4:7)]
```

Clean Nordboard data

+ Add a new column for sets ('row index' is incorrect)

```
## # A tibble: 12 x 7
## # Groups:   Player, Date [10]
##   Player     Date     Set `Average Left F~ `Average Right ~ `Max Left Force` 
##   <chr>      <chr>    <int>      <dbl>          <dbl>          <dbl>
## 1 Player 1 22/11/2019     1       394            415            405
## 2 Player 10 7/12/2020      1       414            399.           438
## 3 Player 10 15/12/2020     1       341.           331.           392.
## 4 Player 10 18/01/2021     1       498.           462.           508.
## 5 Player 10 3/02/2021      1       466.           439.           474.
## 6 Player 10 3/02/2021      2       459.           437.           471
## 7 Player 10 8/02/2021      1       455.           456            505
## 8 Player 10 8/02/2021      2       422.           446.           437.
## 9 Player 10 20/02/2021     1       406.           402.           422
## 10 Player 10 22/02/2021    1       414.           444.           422.
## 11 Player 10 2/03/2021      1       398.           426.           418.
## 12 Player 11 11/01/2020     1       375.           365.           399
## # ... with 1 more variable: Max Right Force <dbl>
```

Clean Nordboard data

➡ Now we need to rename columns. This will make it easier to differentiate left/right

```
# First we will rename a few columns to have the side (L/R) written first
Nordboard <- Nordboard %>%
  rename("Right_Average Force" = `Average Right Force`,
         "Left_Average Force" = `Average Left Force`,
         "Right_Max Force" = `Max Right Force`,
         "Left_Max Force" = `Max Left Force`)

head(Nordboard, n=5)

## # A tibble: 5 x 7
## # Groups:   Player, Date [5]
##   Player    Date      Set `Left_Average Fo~ `Right_Average ~ `Left_Max Force` 
##   <chr>     <chr>    <int>        <dbl>        <dbl>        <dbl>
## 1 Player 1 22/11/2019     1          394          415          405
## 2 Player 10 7/12/2020      1          414          399.         438
## 3 Player 10 15/12/2020     1          341.         331.         392.
## 4 Player 10 18/01/2021     1          498.         462.         508.
## 5 Player 10 3/02/2021      1          466.         439.         474.
## # ... with 1 more variable: Right_Max Force <dbl>
```

Long to wide format

- ✗ When data is spread across columns, it can make it harder to visualise
- ✓ We can mimic what a **pivot table** might do in excel (but easier of course) using the **reshape2** package

Long format

Group	Value
A	12
B	10
C	8

Wide format

Group A	Group B	Group C
12	10	8

↔

Long to wide format

- ❖ Using the `melt` function in the `reshape2` package, we can flip the dataset by selected variables

```
library(reshape2)
Nordboard <- melt(Nordboard, id.vars = c("Player", "Date", "Set"))
```

```
##      Player     Date Set      variable    value
## 1   Player 1 22/11/2019 1 Left_Average Force 394.0000
## 2   Player 10 7/12/2020 1 Left_Average Force 414.0000
## 3   Player 10 15/12/2020 1 Left_Average Force 340.6500
## 4   Player 10 18/01/2021 1 Left_Average Force 497.8125
## 5   Player 10 3/02/2021 1 Left_Average Force 466.2500
## 6   Player 10 3/02/2021 2 Left_Average Force 458.9375
## 7   Player 10 8/02/2021 1 Left_Average Force 455.1250
## 8   Player 10 8/02/2021 2 Left_Average Force 422.5000
## 9   Player 10 20/02/2021 1 Left_Average Force 405.6875
## 10  Player 10 22/02/2021 1 Left_Average Force 413.6250
## 11  Player 10 2/03/2021 1 Left_Average Force 398.3750
## 12  Player 11 11/01/2020 1 Left_Average Force 374.9375
```

Add a new column (split text)

Now we want to split the 'variable' column into 2 so we have a 'leg' column

```
Nordboard <- Nordboard %>%
  separate(variable, into = c("Leg", "Variable"), sep = "_")
```

	Player	Date	Set	Leg	Variable	value
## 1	Player 1	22/11/2019	1	Left	Average Force	394.0000
## 2	Player 10	7/12/2020	1	Left	Average Force	414.0000
## 3	Player 10	15/12/2020	1	Left	Average Force	340.6500
## 4	Player 10	18/01/2021	1	Left	Average Force	497.8125
## 5	Player 10	3/02/2021	1	Left	Average Force	466.2500
## 6	Player 10	3/02/2021	2	Left	Average Force	458.9375
## 7	Player 10	8/02/2021	1	Left	Average Force	455.1250
## 8	Player 10	8/02/2021	2	Left	Average Force	422.5000
## 9	Player 10	20/02/2021	1	Left	Average Force	405.6875
## 10	Player 10	22/02/2021	1	Left	Average Force	413.6250
## 11	Player 10	2/03/2021	1	Left	Average Force	398.3750
## 12	Player 11	11/01/2020	1	Left	Average Force	374.9375

Visualise Nordboard data

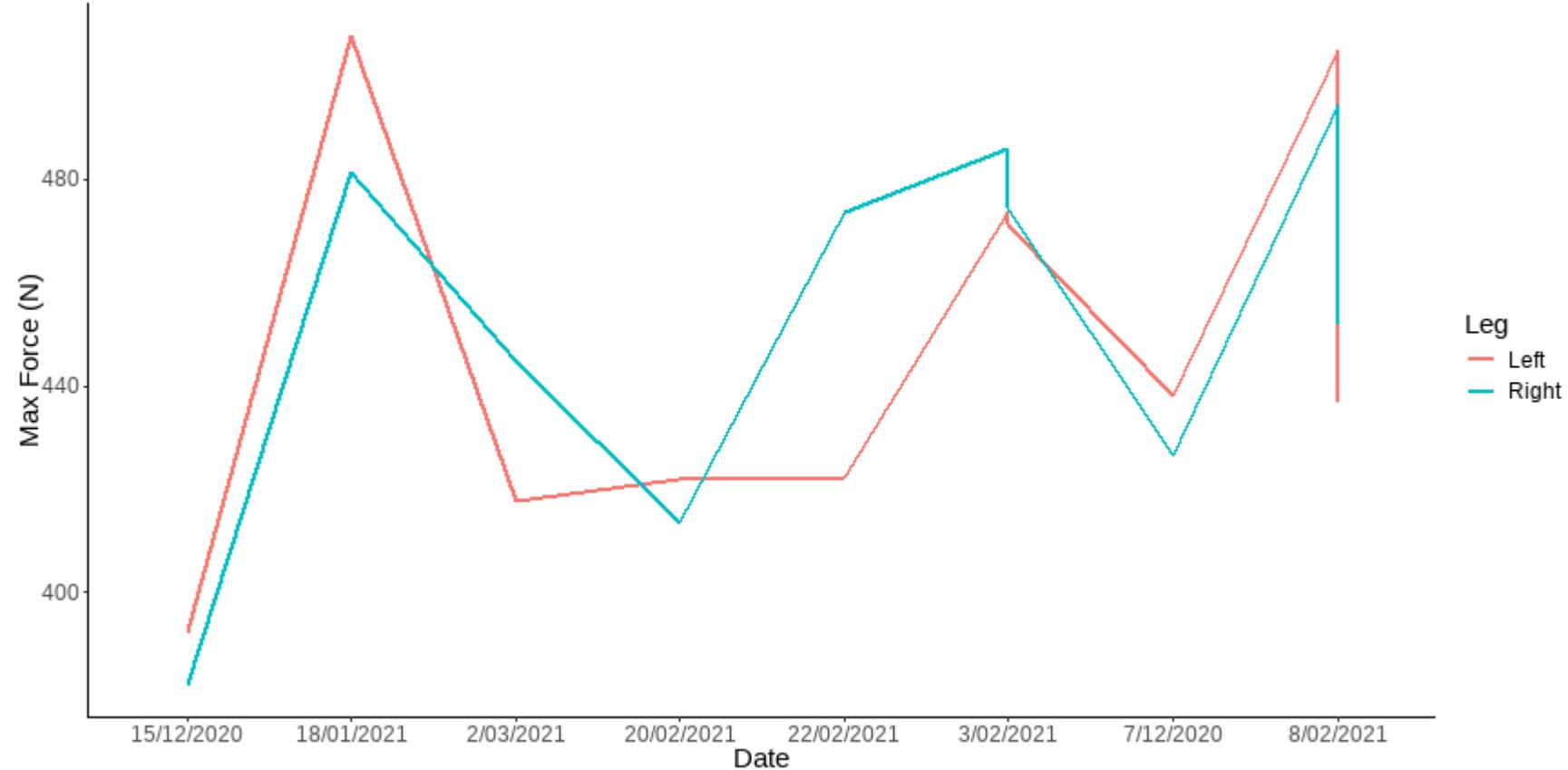
Now I want to filter by one athlete to visualise max force over time

```
filtNordboard <- Nordboard%>%
  filter(Player == "Player 10") %>%
  filter(Variable == "Max Force")
```

Using a powerful visualisation package called **ggplot2** we can create a basic line chart

```
library(ggplot2)
ggplot(data = filtNordboard,
       aes(x=Date, y=value, group=Leg, colour = Leg)) +
  geom_line() +
  ylab("\n Max Force (N)") +
  theme_classic()
```

Visualise Nordboard data

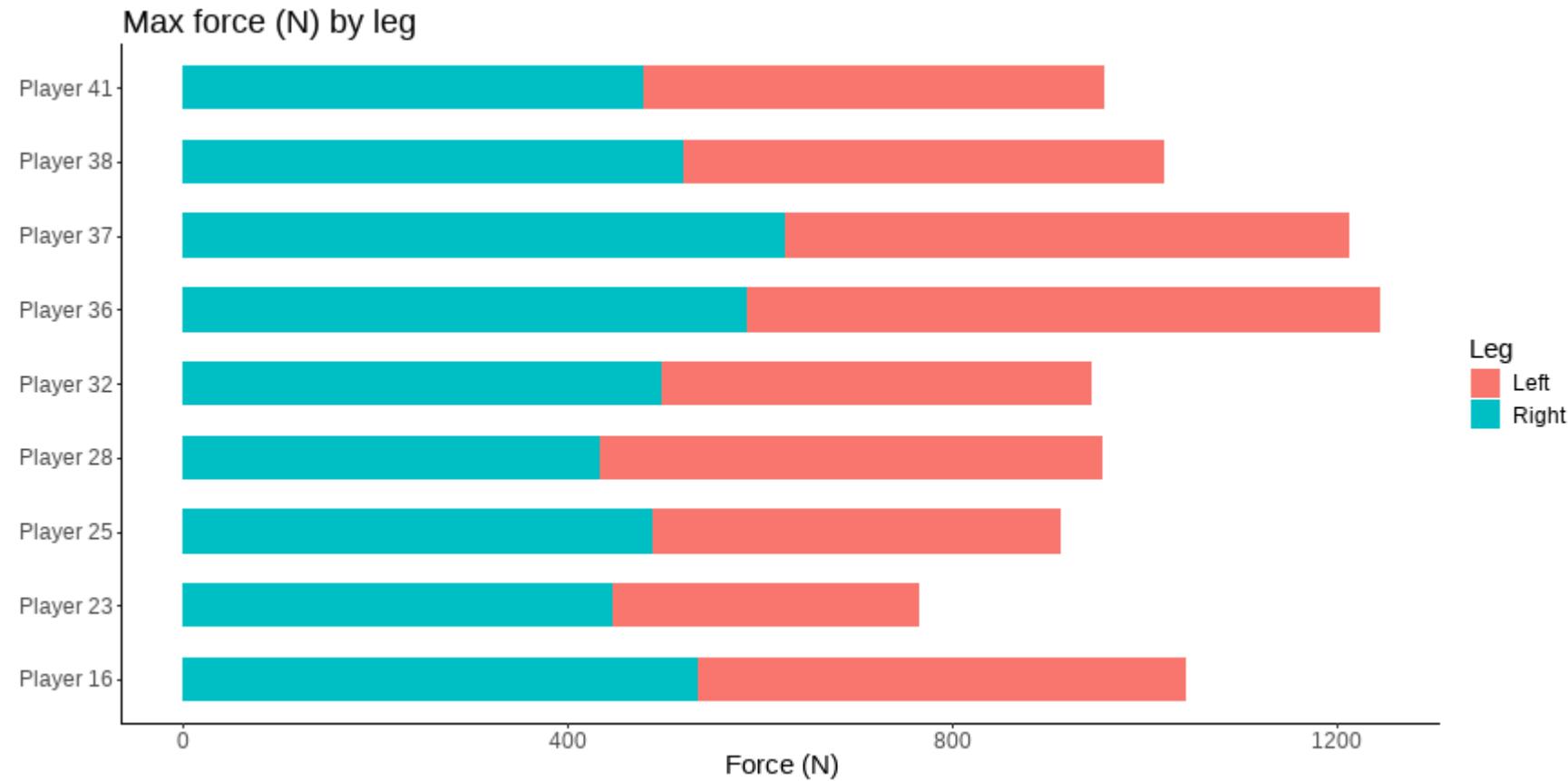


Visualise Nordboard data

```
# Filter our data by date and max force
Nordboard %>%
  filter(Date == "10/03/2021") %>% filter(Variable == "Max Force") %>%
# Summarise it by player and leg for the day selected above
  group_by(Player, Leg) %>%
# Now calculate max force by leg by player
  summarise(maxForce = max(value)) %>%

ggplot(aes(x = Player, y = maxForce, fill = Leg)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity", width = .6) +
  coord_flip() +
  theme_classic() +
  labs(title="Max force (N) by leg") + ylab("Force (N)") +
  theme(axis.title.y = element_blank())
```

Visualise Nordboard data



Visualise Nordboard data

Interactive box plots per athlete (by) using **plotly**

```
library(plotly)

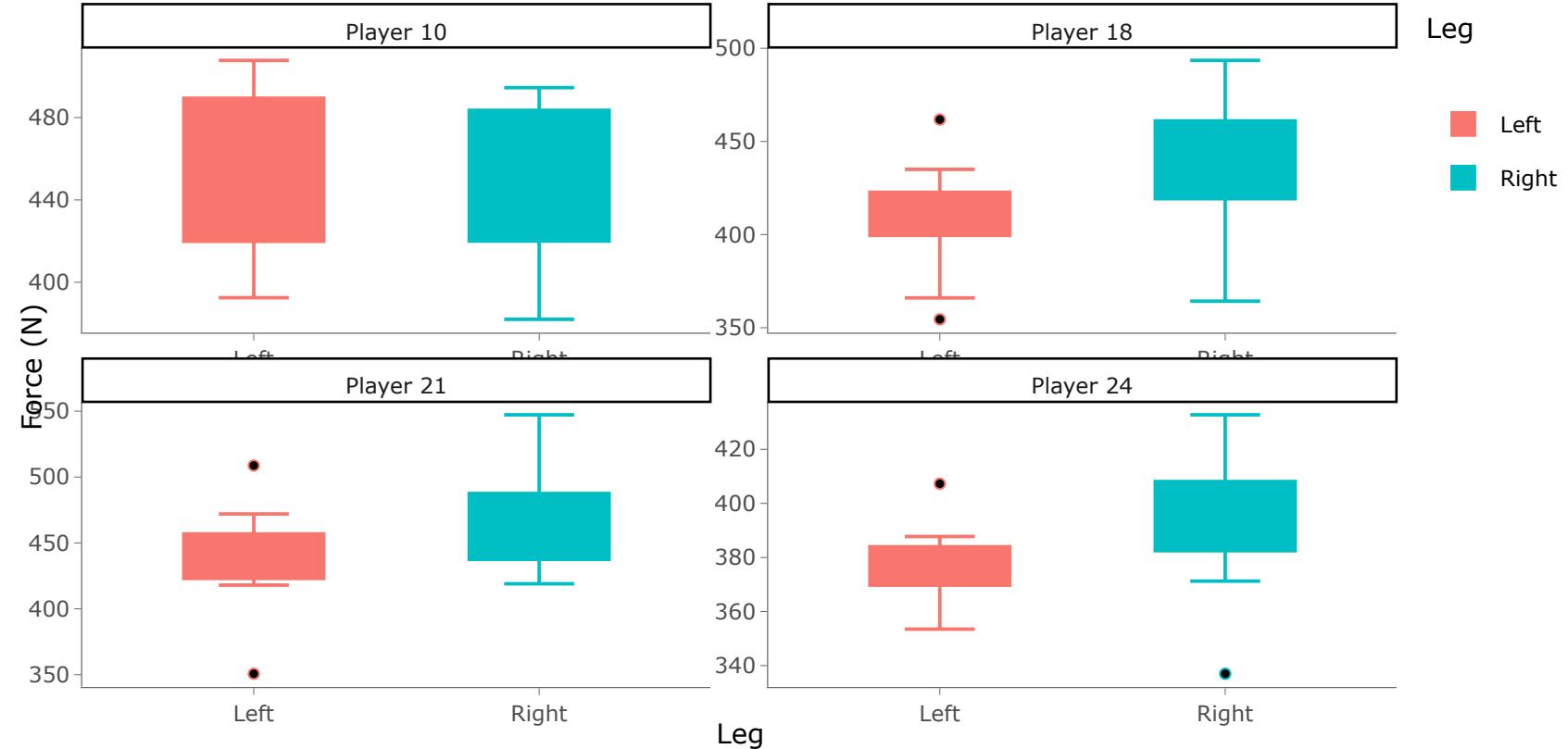
target <- c("Player 10", "Player 21", "Player 24", "Player 18")

Nordboard1 <- Nordboard %>%
  filter(Variable == "Max Force") %>%
  filter(Player %in% target) %>%
  group_by(Player, Leg, Date) %>%
  summarise(maxForce = max(value))

plot <- ggplot(Nordboard1, aes(x = Leg, y=maxForce, fill = Leg, colour = Leg)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  theme_classic() +
  ylab("Force (N)") +
  theme(axis.title.y = element_text(vjust=1)) +
  theme(panel.spacing = unit(1, "lines")) +
  facet_wrap(~Player, scales = "free")

fig <- ggplotly(plot)
fig
```

Visualise Nordboard data



Part 2 - Power BI



Why Power BI?

- ☒ If you know how to use **Microsoft Excel**, you'll already know parts of **Microsoft Power BI**
- ☒ Create simple, powerful visualisations, in a time efficient manner
- ฿ It's **free** (desktop version)
- 👉 All calculations/formulas can be done directly in **Power BI**
- ✓ Download direct from the internet



Power BI example - wellness report



Wellness report

👉 First, download Power BI Desktop from [here](#)

Example will show

- How to import data
- Create a table
- Add filters
- Create calculated columns
- Formatting

↵ Create wellness report inspired by [Futbol AnalysR](#)



Futbol AnalysR

@FutbolAnalysR



1/ Are you using a wellness monitoring dashboard with your team?

Does it start conversations with athletes or does it stop them from training?

#PowerBiDesktop #PowerBi #PowerBiForSportScience
#PowerBiForSport #DAX #DAXMeasure #SportScience
#WellnessMonitoring #Monitoring

Useful resources

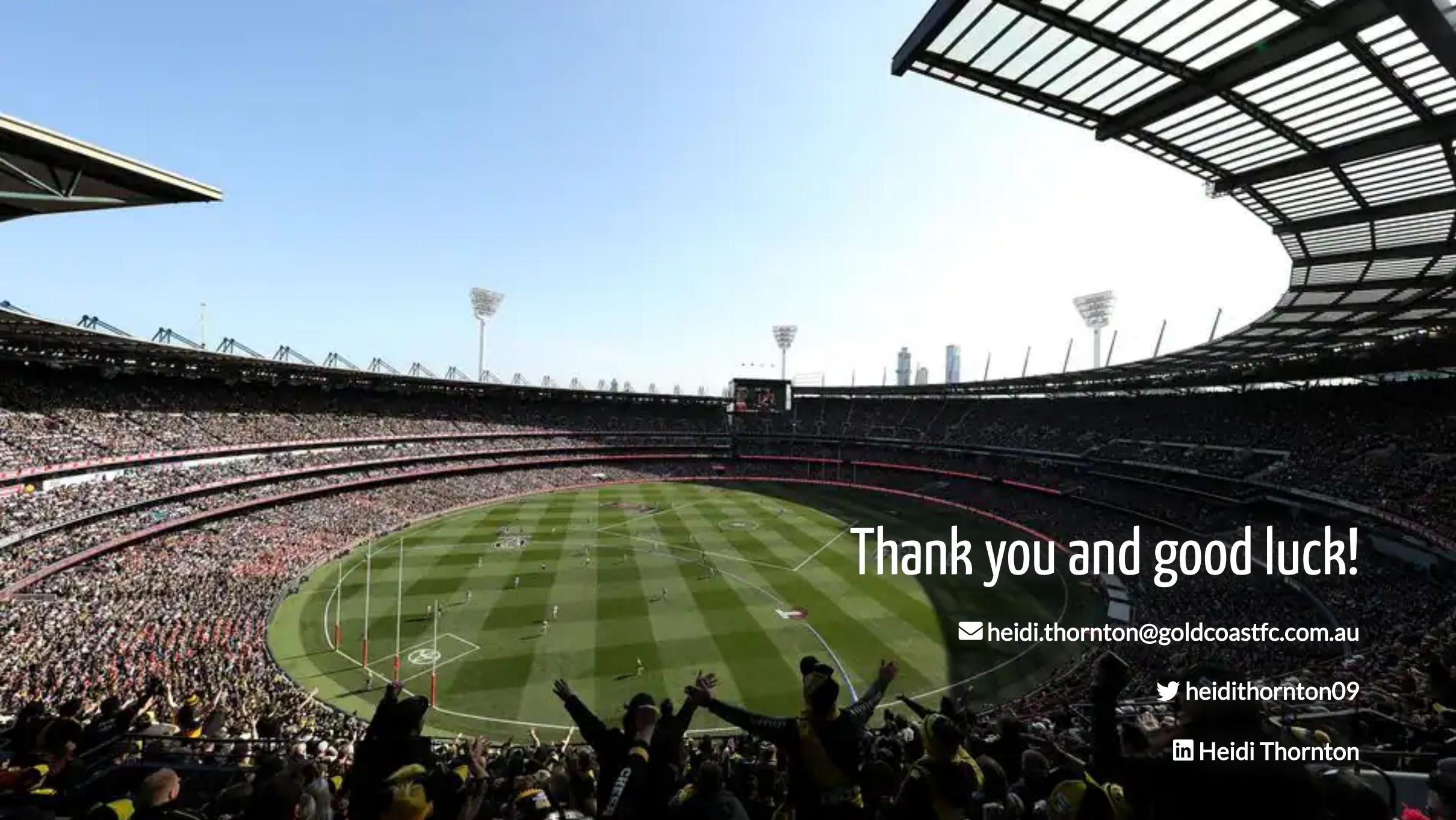
🔗 Below are links to personal websites/twitter pages/ youtube etc

R Studio

- Mitch Henderson
- Alice Sweeting
- Neil Collins
- Jose Fernandez

Power BI

- Josh Trewin
- Roberto D'Onofrio Rondón
- Complementary training



Thank you and good luck!

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