



ENVIRONMENTAL DATA ANALYTICS: M5 – DATA VISUALIZATION

Spring 2023

Nicholas School of the Environment - Duke University

Catch up

□ Debugging:

- ▣ Goal: find where the error might occur...
- ▣ Start simple, add complexity in increments...
- ▣ Check outputs for logical consistency...

□ Knit issues:

```
Calls: <Anonymous> ... eval_with_user_handlers -> eval -> eval -> install.packages -> contrib.url
```

- ▣ Check paths (knit directory = project working directory)
- ▣ Restart R (clear environment) and run entire Rmd file...

M5.1 - Data Visualization

- Approaches to visualizations ([link](#))
- The **ggplot2** package
- **ggplot** structure: layers = **geoms**
- Aesthetics, axes, colors, shapes, facets, axis limits, reference lines
- Plot types...

M5.2 – Formatting plots

- Themes
- Custom layers
- Color palettes
- Cowplots package
- Saving plots



M4.3 – Data Visualization III (lab)

Expressions

- `geom_text()`
 - ▣ The `paste` and `paste0` commands
 - ▣ MathJax

A note on **factors**...

□ *Factors..*

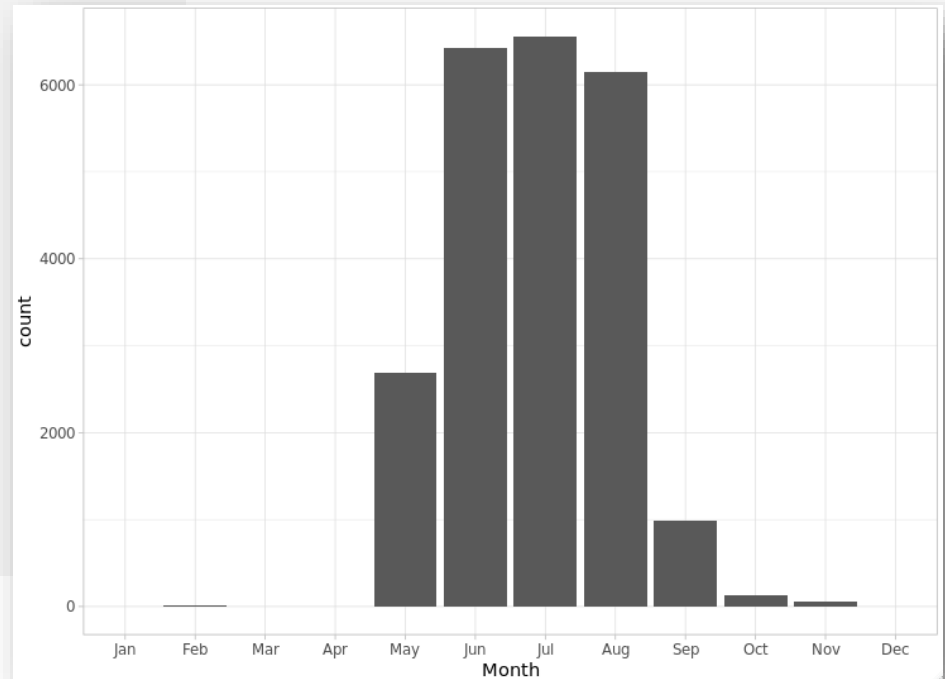
- ...are useful for analyzing/visualizing categorical data
- ...have *levels*
- ...can have *labels* too

□ *Plot the number of lake measurements by month...*

- What kind of variable is `month` in the dataframe?
- How many unique values in this column?
- Why might this pose a problem?
- What can we do?

A note on factors... *Solution*

```
#Tidy up the code
the_plot <- PeterPaul.chem.nutrients %>%
  ggplot(
    aes(x=factor(
      month,
      levels=1:12,
      labels=month.abb))
  ) +
  geom_bar() +
  scale_x_discrete(
    name="Month",
    drop=FALSE
  )
#Show the plot, in the light theme
the_plot + theme_light()
```



More on *themes*...

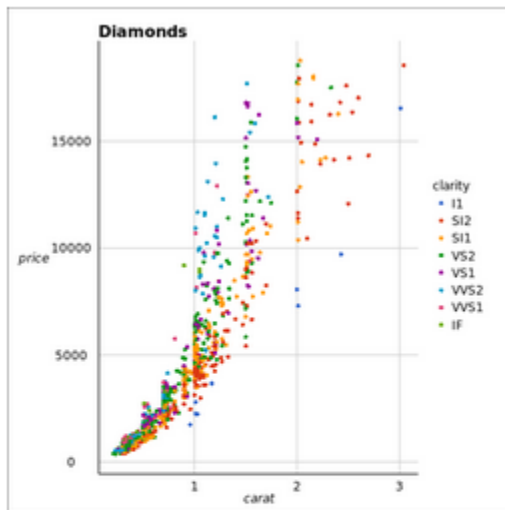
Themes control the following elements

- **Plot background:**
The background color or fill pattern of the plot area.
- **Plot title:**
The size, font, and position of the plot title.
- **Axis labels:**
The font, size, and position of the x-axis and y-axis labels.
- **Axis ticks and grid lines:**
Color, size, & position of the tick marks & grid lines on the axes.
- **Legend:**
The font, size, and position of the legend.

ggthemes()

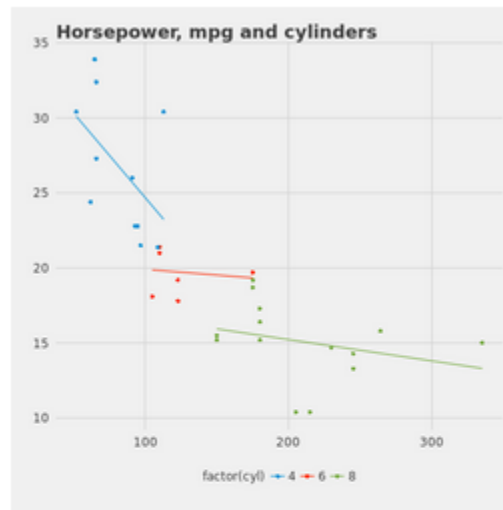
Adds custom themes and scales

□ [Link to examples](#)



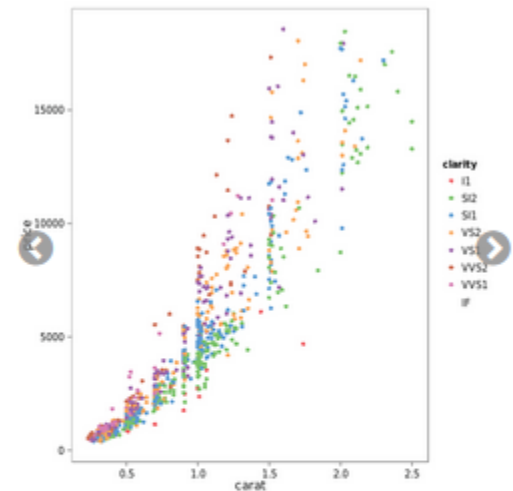
theme_gdocs

Theme with Google Docs Chart defaults



theme_fivethirtyeight

Theme inspired by fivethirtyeight.com plots

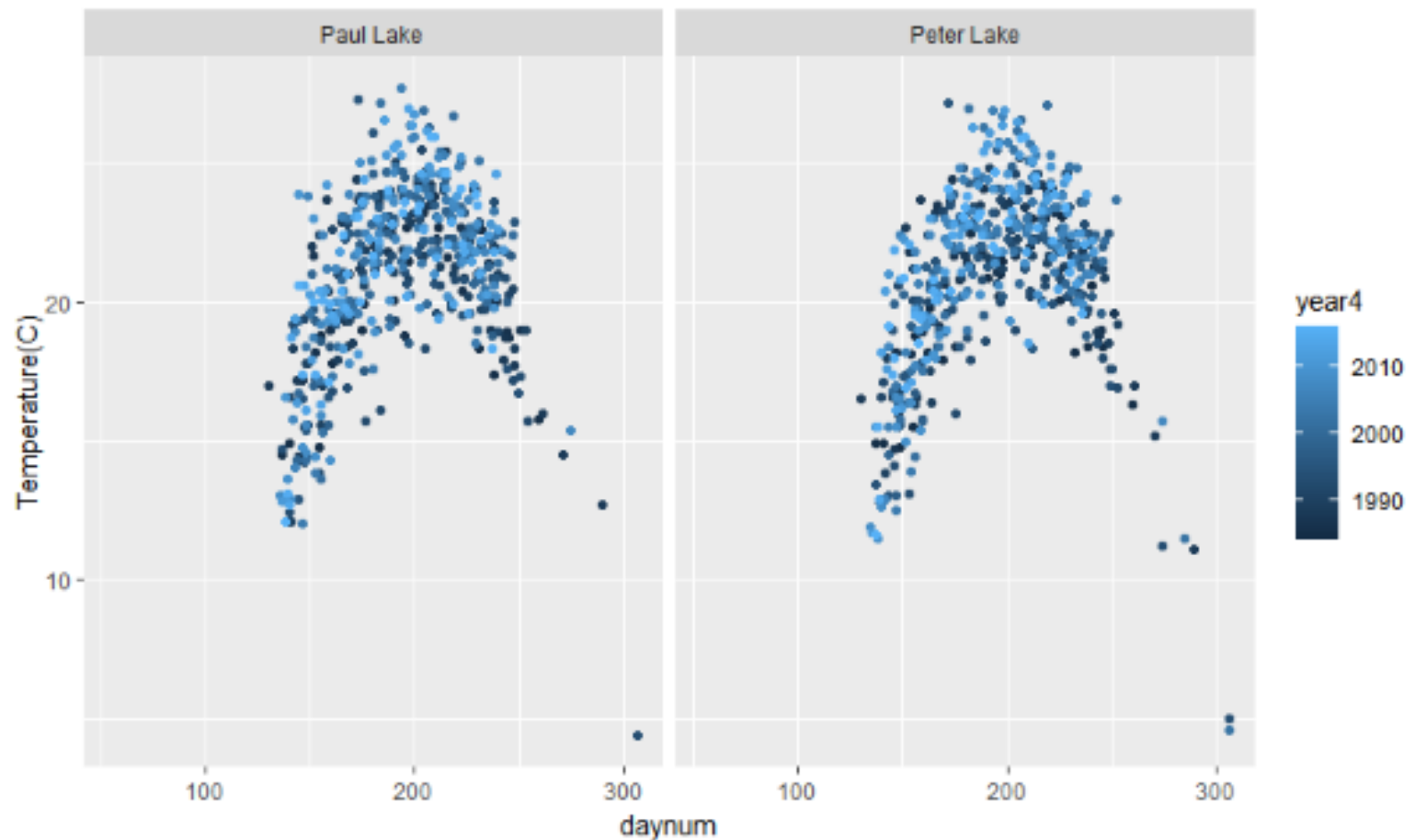


theme_few

Theme based on Few's "Practical Rules for Using Color in Charts"

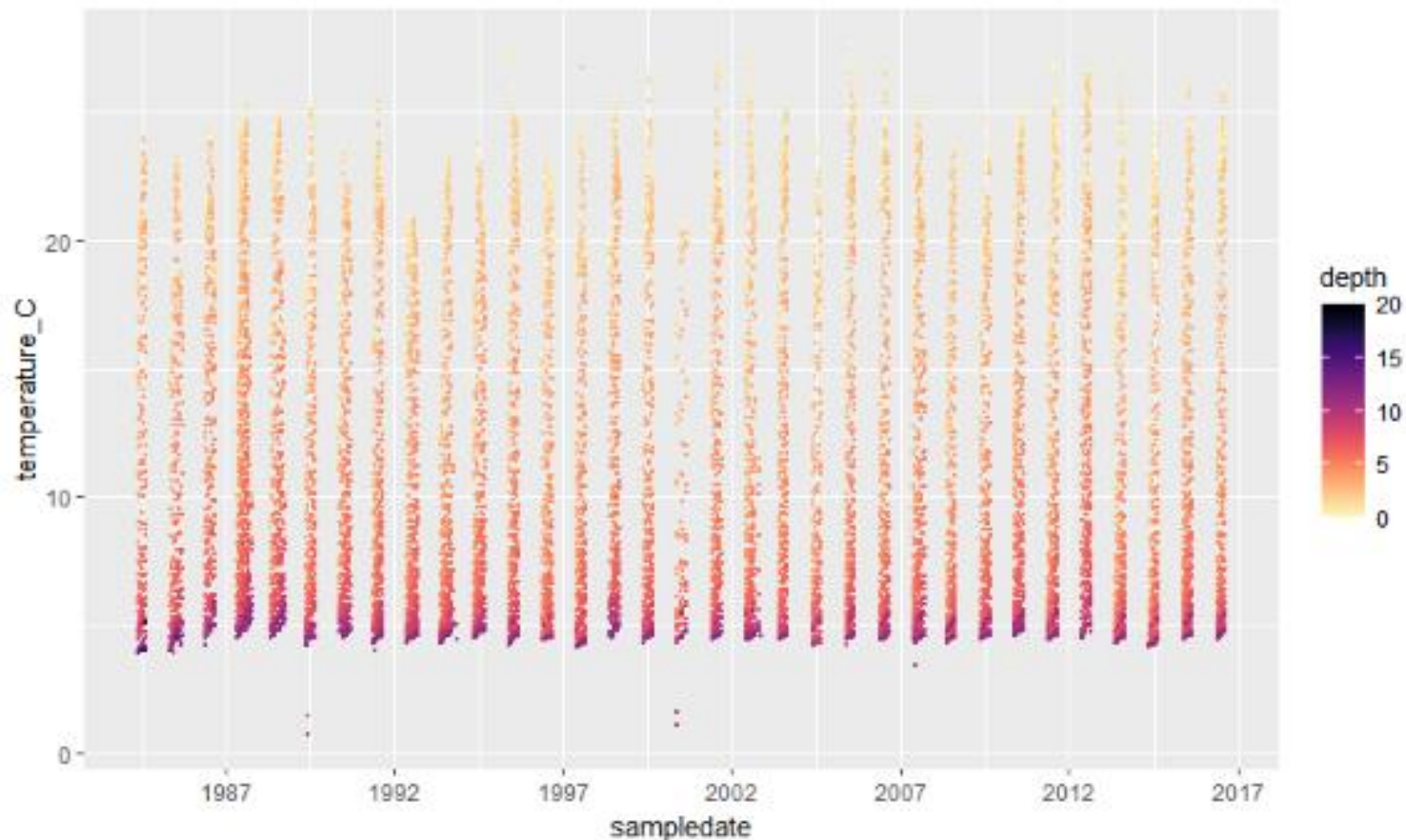
Exercise 1

```
# 1.  
# Plot surface temperatures by day of year.  
# Color your points by year, and facet by lake in two rows.  
# Change the ylab name
```



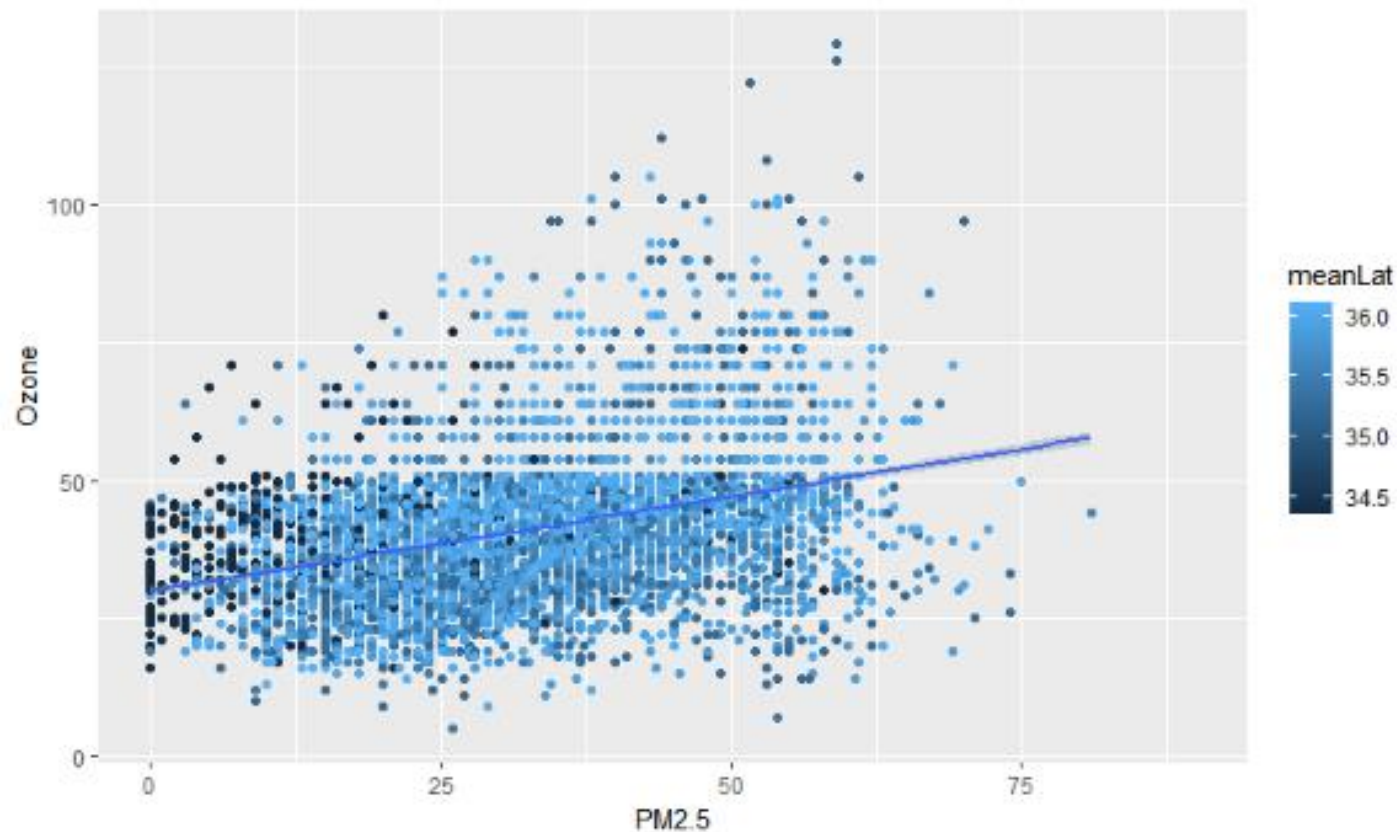
Exercise 2

```
#2.  
# Plot temperature by date. Color your points by depth.  
# Change the size of your point to 0.5  
# Change the color palette to magma and play with direction (+- 1), which one makes more sense?  
# Change x axis to include marker/labels every 5 years
```



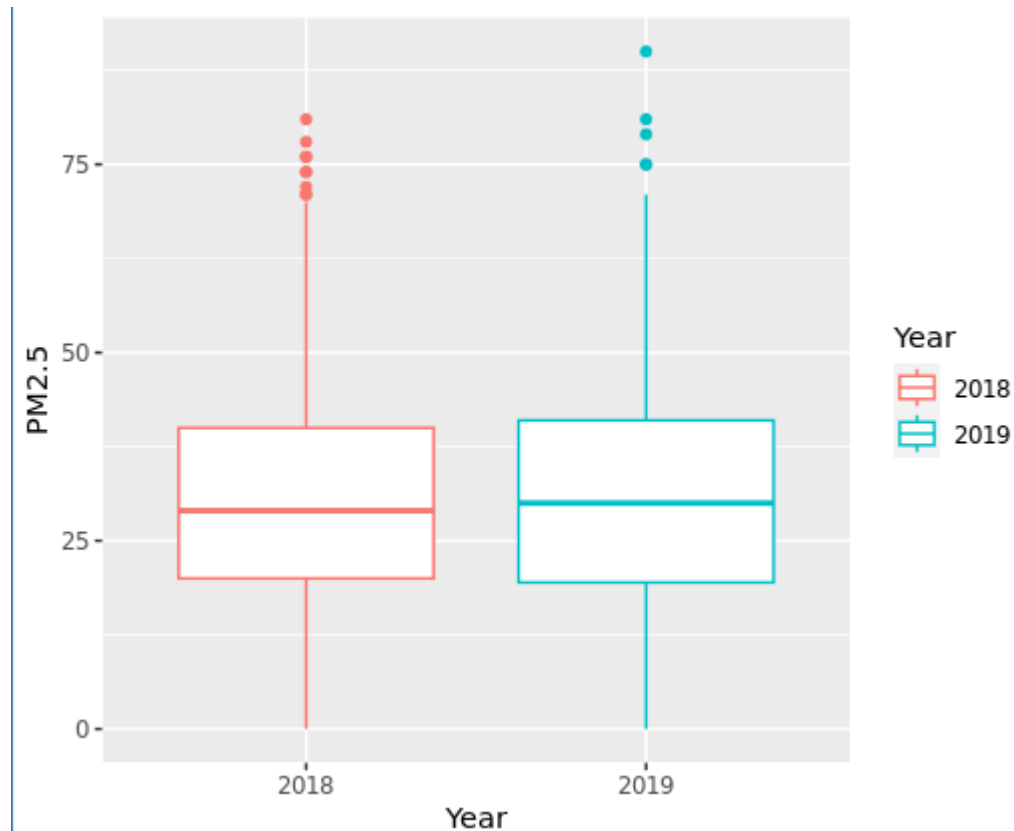
Exercise 3

```
# 3.  
# Plot AQI values for ozone by PM2.5, colored by latitude  
# Make the points 50 % transparent  
# Add a line of best fit for the linear regression of these variables.
```



Exercise 4

```
# 4.  
# Create several types of plots depicting PM2.5, divided by year.  
# Choose which plot displays the data best and justify your choice.
```



Viz challenge?

