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1  Course: Exploratory_Data_Analysis
2  Lesson: GGPlot2_Part1
3
4  - Class: text
5  Output: "GGPlot2_Part1. (Slides for this and other Data Science courses may be found
6  at github https://github.com/DataScienceSpecialization/courses/. If you care to use
7  them, they must be downloaded as a zip file and viewed locally. This lesson
8  corresponds to 04_ExploratoryAnalysis/ggplot2.)"
9
10
11 - Class: text
12 Output: In another lesson, we gave you an overview of the three plotting systems in
13 R. In this lesson we'll focus on the third and newest plotting system in R, ggplot2.
14 As we did with the other two systems, we'll focus on creating graphics on the screen
15 device rather than another graphics device.
16
17 - Class: text
18 Output: The ggplot2 package is an add-on package available from CRAN via
19 install.packages(). (Don't worry, we've installed it for you already.) It is an
20 implementation of The Grammar of Graphics, an abstract concept (as well as book)
21 authored and invented by Leland Wilkinson and implemented by Hadley Wickham while he
22 was a graduate student at Iowa State. The web site http://ggplot2.org provides
23 complete documentation.
24
25 - Class: text
26 Output: A grammar of graphics represents an abstraction of graphics, that is, a
27 theory of graphics which conceptualizes basic pieces from which you can build new
28 graphics and graphical objects. The goal of the grammar is to "Shorten the distance
29 from mind to page". From Hadley Wickham's book we learn that
30
31 - Class: text
32 Output: The ggplot2 package "is composed of a set of independent components that can
33 be composed in many different ways. ... you can create new graphics that are
34 precisely tailored for your problem." These components include aesthetics which are
35 attributes such as colour, shape, and size, and geometric objects or geoms such as
36 points, lines, and bars.
37
38 - Class: text
39 Output: Before we delve into details, let's review the other 2 plotting systems.
40
41 - Class: mult_question
42 Output: Recall what you know about R's base plotting system. Which of the following
43 does NOT apply to it?
44 AnswerChoices: Start with plot (or similar) function; Use annotation functions to
45 add/modify (text, lines, points, axis); It is convenient and mirrors how we think of
46 building plots and analyzing data; Can easily go back once the plot has started
47 (e.g., to adjust margins or correct a typo)
48 CorrectAnswer: Can easily go back once the plot has started (e.g., to adjust margins
49 or correct a typo)
50 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Can easily go back once the plot has started (e.g.,
51 to adjust margins or correct a typo)')
52 Hint: Which choice is the only one which looks backward?
53
54 - Class: mult_question
55 Output: Recall what you know about R's lattice plotting system. Which of the
56 following does NOT apply to it?
57 AnswerChoices: Plots are created with a single function call (xyplot, bwplot, etc.);
58 Most useful for conditioning types of plots and putting many panels on one plot;
59 Margins and spacing are set automatically because entire plot is specified at once;
60 Can always add to the plot once it is created
61 CorrectAnswer: Can always add to the plot once it is created
62 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Can always add to the plot once it is created')
63 Hint: Which choice is the only one which is inconsistent with the other three?
64
65 - Class: mult_question
66 Output: If we told you that ggplot2 combines the best of base and lattice, that would
67 mean it ...?
68 AnswerChoices: Automatically deals with spacings, text, titles but also allows you to

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41 annotate; Like lattice it allows for multipanels but more easily and intuitively; Its
42 default mode makes many choices for you (but you can customize!); All of the others
43 CorrectAnswer: All of the others
44 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='All of the others')
45 Hint: Which choice is the only one that encompasses the other three?
46
47 - Class: text
48 Output: Yes, ggplot2 combines the best of base and lattice. It allows for multipanel
49 (conditioning) plots (as lattice does) but also post facto annotation (as base does),
50 so you can add titles and labels. It uses the low-level grid package (which comes
51 with R) to draw the graphics. As part of its grammar philosophy, ggplot2 plots are
52 composed of aesthetics (attributes such as size, shape, color) and geoms (points,
53 lines, and bars), the geometric objects you see on the plot.
54
55 - Class: text
56 Output: The ggplot2 package has 2 workhorse functions. The more basic workhorse
57 function is qplot, (think quick plot), which works like the plot function in the base
58 graphics system. It can produce many types of plots (scatter, histograms, box and
59 whisker) while hiding tedious details from the user. Similar to lattice functions, it
60 looks for data in a data frame or parent environment.
61
62 - Class: text
63 Output: The more advanced workhorse function in the package is ggplot, which is more
64 flexible and can be customized for doing things qplot cannot do. In this lesson we'll
65 focus on qplot.
66
67 - Class: cmd_question
68 Output: We'll start by showing how easy and versatile qplot is. First, let's look at
69 some data which comes with the ggplot2 package. The mpg data frame contains fuel
70 economy data for 38 models of cars manufactured in 1999 and 2008. Run the R command
71 str with the argument mpg. This will give you an idea of what mpg contains.
72 CorrectAnswer: str(mpg)
73 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='str(mpg)')
74 Hint: Type str(mpg) at the command prompt.
75
76 - Class: cmd_question
77 Output: We see that there are 234 points in the dataset concerning 11 different
78 characteristics of the cars. Suppose we want to see if there's a correlation between
79 engine displacement (displ) and highway miles per gallon (hwy). As we did with the
80 plot function of the base system we could simply call qplot with 3 arguments, the
81 first two are the variables we want to examine and the third argument data is set
82 equal to the name of the dataset which contains them (in this case, mpg). Try this now.
83 CorrectAnswer: qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg)
84 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg)')
85 Hint: Type qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg) at the command prompt.
86
87 - Class: cmd_question
88 Output: A nice scatterplot done simply, right? All the labels are provided. The first
89 argument is shown along the x-axis and the second along the y-axis. The negative
90 trend (increasing displacement and lower gas mileage) is pretty clear. Now suppose we
91 want to do the same plot but this time use different colors to distinguish between
92 the 3 factors (subsets) of different types of drive (drv) in the data (front-wheel,
93 rear-wheel, and 4-wheel). Again, qplot makes this very easy. We'll just add what
94 ggplot2 calls an aesthetic, a fourth argument, color, and set it equal to drv. Try
95 this now. (Use the up arrow key to save some typing.)
96 CorrectAnswer: qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, color = drv)
97 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, color = drv)')
98 Hint: Type qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, color = drv) at the command prompt.
99
100 - Class: text
101 Output: Pretty cool, right? See the legend to the right which qplot helpfully
102 supplied? The colors were automatically assigned by qplot so the legend decodes the
103 colors for you. Notice that qplot automatically used dots or points to indicate the
104 data. These points are geoms (geometric objects). We could have used a different
105 aesthetic, for instance shape instead of color, to distinguish between the drive types.
106
107 - Class: cmd_question
108 Output: Now let's add a second geom to the default points. How about some smoothing
109 function to produce trend lines, one for each color? Just add a fifth argument, geom,

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and using the R function `c()`, set it equal to the concatenation of the two strings "point" and "smooth". The first refers to the data points and second to the trend lines we want plotted. Try this now.

**CorrectAnswer:** `qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, color=drv, geom = c("point", "smooth"))`

**AnswerTests:** `omnittest(correctExpr='qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, color=drv, geom = c("point", "smooth"))')`

**Hint:** Type `qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, color=drv, geom = c("point", "smooth"))` at the command prompt.

- **Class:** text

**Output:** Notice the gray areas surrounding each trend lines. These indicate the 95% confidence intervals for the lines.

- **Class:** cmd\_question

**Output:** Before we leave `qplot`'s scatterplotting ability, call `qplot` again, this time with 3 arguments. The first is `y` set equal to `hwy`, the second is data set equal to `mpg`, and the third is `color` set equal to `drv`. Try this now.

**CorrectAnswer:** `qplot(y=hwy, data = mpg, color = drv)`

**AnswerTests:** `omnittest(correctExpr='qplot(y=hwy, data = mpg, color = drv)')`

**Hint:** Type `qplot(y=hwy, data = mpg, color = drv)` at the command prompt.

- **Class:** cmd\_question

**Output:** What's this plot showing? We see the x-axis ranges from 0 to 250 and we remember that we had 234 data points in our set, so we can infer that each point in the plot represents one of the `hwy` values (indicated by the y-axis). We've created the vector `myhigh` for you which contains the `hwy` data from the `mpg` dataset. Look at `myhigh` now.

**CorrectAnswer:** `myhigh`

**AnswerTests:** `omnittest(correctExpr='myhigh')`

**Hint:** Type `myhigh` at the command prompt.

- **Class:** text

**Output:** Comparing the values of `myhigh` with the plot, we see the first entries in the vector (29, 29, 31, 30,...) correspond to the leftmost points in the the plot (in order), and the last entries in `myhigh` (28, 29, 26, 26, 26) correspond to the rightmost plotted points. So, specifying the `y` parameter only, without an `x` argument, plots the values of the `y` argument in the order in which they occur in the data.

- **Class:** cmd\_question

**Output:** The all-purpose `qplot` can also create box and whisker plots. Call `qplot` now with 4 arguments. First specify the variable by which you'll split the data, in this case `drv`, then specify the variable which you want to examine, in this case `hwy`. The third argument is `data` (set equal to `mpg`), and the fourth, the `geom`, set equal to the string "boxplot"

**CorrectAnswer:** `qplot(drv,hwy,data=mpg,geom="boxplot")`

**AnswerTests:** `omnittest(correctExpr='qplot(drv,hwy,data=mpg,geom="boxplot")')`

**Hint:** Type `qplot(drv,hwy,data=mpg,geom="boxplot")` at the command prompt.

- **Class:** cmd\_question

**Output:** We see 3 boxes, one for each drive. Now to impress you, call `qplot` with 5 arguments. The first 4 are just as you used previously, (`drv`, `hwy`, `data` set equal to `mpg`, and `geom` set equal to the string "boxplot"). Now add a fifth argument, `color`, equal to `manufacturer`.

**CorrectAnswer:** `qplot(drv,hwy,data=mpg,geom="boxplot",color=manufacturer)`

**AnswerTests:**

`omnittest(correctExpr='qplot(drv,hwy,data=mpg,geom="boxplot",color=manufacturer)')`

**Hint:** Type `qplot(drv,hwy,data=mpg,geom="boxplot",color=manufacturer)` at the command prompt.

- **Class:** text

**Output:** It's a little squished but we just wanted to illustrate `qplot`'s capabilities. Notice that there are still 3 regions of the plot (determined by the factor `drv`). Each is subdivided into several boxes depicting different manufacturers.

- **Class:** cmd\_question

**Output:** Now, on to histograms. These display frequency counts for a single variable. Let's start with an easy one. Call `qplot` with 3 arguments. First specify the variable for which you want the frequency count, in this case `hwy`, then specify the `data` (set equal to `mpg`), and finally, the `aesthetic`, `fill`, set equal to `drv`. Instead of a plain

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old histogram, this will again use colors to distinguish the 3 different drive factors.
116 CorrectAnswer: qplot(hwy, data = mpg, fill = drv)
117 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='qplot(hwy, data = mpg, fill = drv)')
118 Hint: Type qplot(hwy, data = mpg, fill = drv) at the command prompt.
119
120 - Class: text
121 Output: See how qplot consistently uses the colors. Red (if 4-wheel drv is in the
bin) is at the bottom of the bin, then green on top of it (if present), followed by
blue (rear wheel drv). The color lets us see right away that 4-wheel drive vehicles
in this dataset don't have gas mileages exceeding 30 miles per gallon.
122
123 - Class: text
124 Output: It's cool that qplot can do this so easily, but some people may find this
multi-color histogram hard to interpret. Instead of using colors to distinguish
between the drive factors let's use facets or panels. (That's what lattice called
them.) This just means we'll split the data into 3 subsets (according to drive) and
make 3 smaller individual plots of each subset in one plot (and with one call to
qplot).
125
126 - Class: text
127 Output: Remember that with base plot we had to do each subplot individually. The
lattice system made plotting conditioning plots easier. Let's see how easy it is
with qplot.
128
129 - Class: cmd_question
130 Output: We'll do two plots, a scatterplot and then a histogram, each with 3 facets.
For the scatterplot, call qplot with 4 arguments. The first two are displ and hwy and
the third is the argument data set equal to mpg. The fourth is the argument facets
which will be set equal to the expression . ~ drv which is ggplot2's shorthand for
number of rows (to the left of the ~) and number of columns (to the right of the ~).
Here the . indicates a single row and drv implies 3, since there are 3 distinct drive
factors. Try this now.
131 CorrectAnswer: qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, facets = . ~ drv)
132 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, facets = . ~ drv)')
133 Hint: Type qplot(displ, hwy, data = mpg, facets = . ~ drv) at the command prompt.
134
135 - Class: text
136 Output: The result is a 1 by 3 array of plots. Note how each is labeled at the top
with the factor label (4,f, or r). This shows us more detailed information than the
histogram. We see the relationship between displacement and highway mileage for each
of the 3 drive factors.
137
138 - Class: cmd_question
139 Output: Now we'll do a histogram, again calling qplot with 4 arguments. This time,
since we need only one variable for a histogram, the first is hwy and the second is
the argument data set equal to mpg. The third is the argument facets which we'll set
equal to the expression drv ~ . . This will give us a different arrangement of the
facets. The fourth argument is binwidth. Set this equal to 2. Try this now.
140 CorrectAnswer: qplot(hwy, data = mpg, facets = drv ~ ., binwidth = 2)
141 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='qplot(hwy, data = mpg, facets = drv ~ ., binwidth
= 2)')
142 Hint: Type qplot(hwy, data = mpg, facets = drv ~ ., binwidth = 2) at the command
prompt.
143
144 - Class: mult_question
145 Output: The facets argument, drv ~ ., resulted in what arrangement of facets?
146 AnswerChoices: 1 by 3; 3 by 1; 2 by 2; huh?
147 CorrectAnswer: 3 by 1
148 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='3 by 1')
149 Hint: How many row? How many columns?
150
151
152 - Class: text
153 Output: Pretty good, right? Not too difficult either. Let's review what we learned!
154
155 - Class: mult_question
156 Output: Which of the following is a basic workhorse function of ggplot2?
157 AnswerChoices: hist; xyplot; scatterplot; gplot; qplot
158 CorrectAnswer: qplot

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159 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='qplot')
160 Hint: Which function did we invoke the most in this lesson?
161
162 - Class: mult_question
163 Output: Which types of plot does qplot plot?
164 AnswerChoices: histograms; scatterplots; box and whisker plots; all of the others
165 CorrectAnswer: all of the others
166 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='all of the others')
167 Hint: That qplot is amazing! It seems to do everything!
168
169 - Class: mult_question
170 Output: What does the gg in ggplot2 stand for?
171 AnswerChoices: good grief; grammar of graphics; goto graphics; good graphics
172 CorrectAnswer: grammar of graphics
173 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='grammar of graphics')
174 Hint: Think of building blocks and components.
175
176 - Class: mult_question
177 Output: True or False? The geom argument takes a string for a value.
178 AnswerChoices: True; False
179 CorrectAnswer: True
180 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='True')
181 Hint: Recall our examples, for instance, geom="density".
182
183 - Class: mult_question
184 Output: True or False? The data argument takes a string for a value.
185 AnswerChoices: True; False
186 CorrectAnswer: True
187 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='False')
188 Hint: Recall our examples. Did we ever put the dataset name in quotation marks?
189
190 - Class: mult_question
191 Output: True or False? The binwidth argument takes a string for a value.
192 AnswerChoices: True; False
193 CorrectAnswer: False
194 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='False')
195 Hint: Recall our examples, for instance, binwidth=18497/30.
196
197 - Class: mult_question
198 Output: True or False? The user must specify x- and y-axis labels when using qplot.
199 AnswerChoices: True; False
200 CorrectAnswer: False
201 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='False')
202 Hint: Recall our examples when we saw labels that we didn't specify.
203
204 - Class: text
205 Output: Congrats! You've finished plot 1 of ggplot2. In the next lesson the plot
    thickens.
206
207 - Class: mult_question
208 Output: "Would you like to receive credit for completing this course on
    Coursera.org?"
209 CorrectAnswer: NULL
210 AnswerChoices: Yes;No
211 AnswerTests: coursera_on_demand()
212 Hint: ""
213
214
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