Starting DataViz using R: ggplot2

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What is ggplot2?

- A second (and final) iteration of the ggplot
- Implementation of Wilkerson's Grammar of Graphics in R
- Conceptually, a way to layer different elements onto a canvas to create a data visualization
- Started as Dr. Hadley Wickham's PhD thesis (with Dr. Dianne Cook)
- Won the John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award in 2006

- Mimicked in other software platforms
 - ggplot and seaborn in Python
 - Translated in plotly

ggplot2 uses the grammar of graphics

A grammar ...

- compose and re-use small parts
- build complex structures from simpler units

of graphics ...

- Think of yourself as a painter
- Build a visualization using layers on a canvas
- Draw layers on top of each other

A dataset

library(tidyverse) # do this once per session
beaches <- read_csv('data/sydneybeaches3.csv')</pre>

```
# A tibble: 344 x 12
       date
                  year month
                                day season rainfall temperature enterococci
#>
                  <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
                                                          <db1>
                                                                      <db1>
#>
       <date>
                                              <db1>
     1 2013-01-02 2013
                                                           23.4
#>
                                                                        6.7
     2 2013-01-06 2013
                                                           30.3
                                                                        2
#>
     3 2013-01-12 2013
                                                           31.4
                                                                       69.1
#>
    4 2013-01-18 2013
                                                           46.4
                                                                        9
#>
    5 2013-01-24 2013
                                24
                                                           27.5
                                                                       33.9
#>
#>
    6 2013-01-30 2013
                                30
                                                0.6
                                                           26.6
                                                                       26.5
    7 2013-02-05 2013
                                                0.1
                                                           25.7
                                                                       66.9
#>
    8 2013-02-11 2013
                                                           22.2
#>
                                                                      118.
    9 2013-02-17 2013
                                                           26.3
                                                                      75
#>
                                               13.6
                                 23
    10 2013-02-23 2013
                                                7.2
                                                           24.8
                                                                      311.
    # ... with 334 more rows, and 4 more variables: day_num <dbl>,
       month_num <dbl>, month_name <chr>, season_name <chr>
```

Credit: D. J. Navarro

Building a graph

Start with a blank canvas

ggplot()

Add a data set

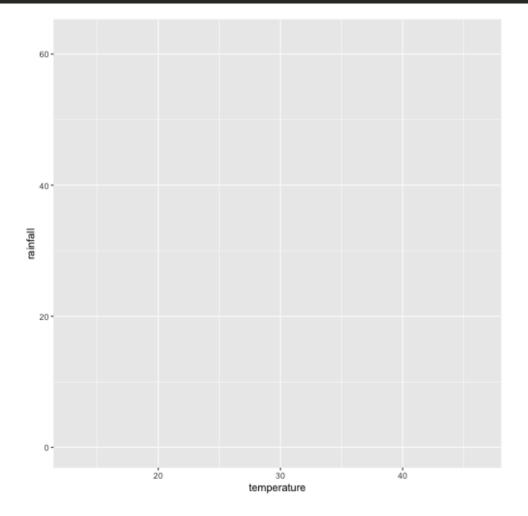
```
ggplot(
   data = beaches
)
```

Add a mapping from data to elements

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    y = rainfall
  )
)
```

What goes in

- the x and y axes
- the color of markers
- the shape of markers

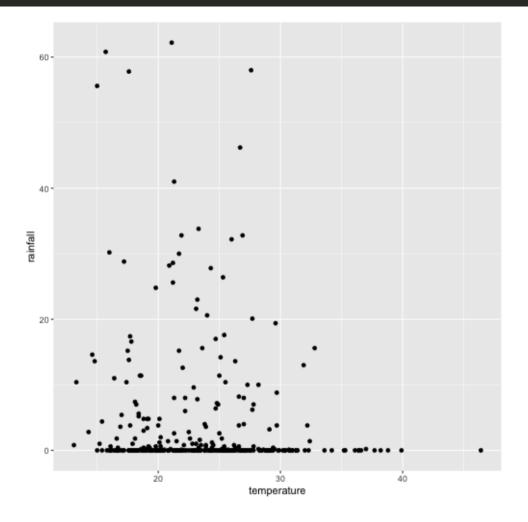


Add a geometry to draw

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    y = rainfall
  )
) +
  geom_point()
```

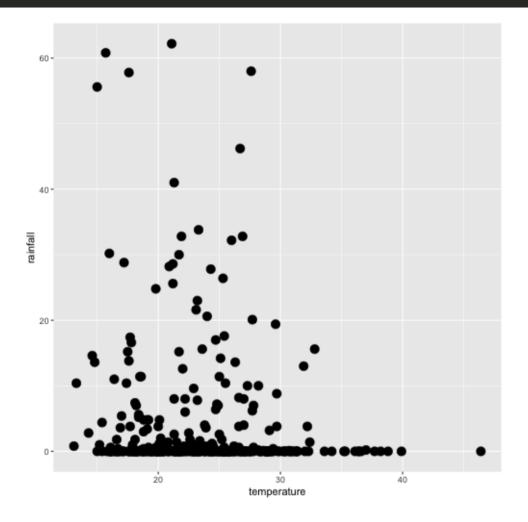
What to draw:

- Points, lines
- histogram, bars, pies



Add options for the geom

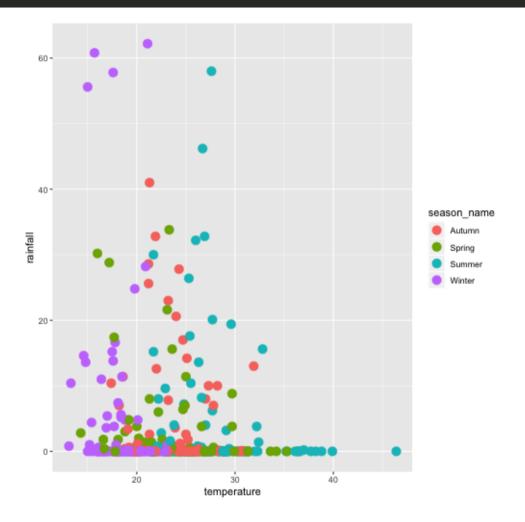
```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    y = rainfall
  )
) +
  geom_point(size = 4)
```



Add a mapping to modify the geom

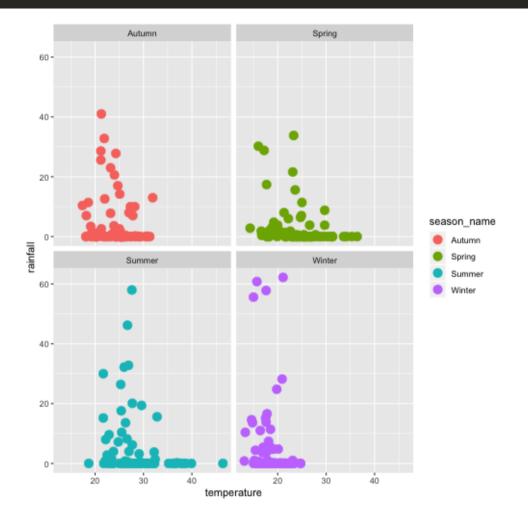
```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    y = rainfall
  )
) +
  geom_point(
    mapping = aes(color = season_name),
    size = 4
)
```

Anything data-driven has to be a mapping, driven by the aes function



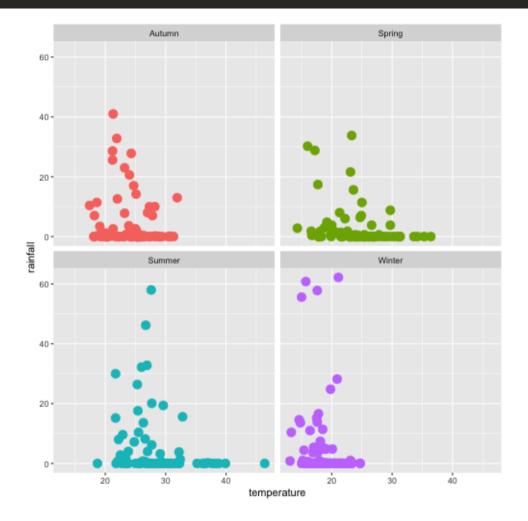
Split into facets

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    y = rainfall
)
) +
  geom_point(
    mapping = aes(color = season_name),
    size = 4
) +
  facet_wrap( ~ season_name)
```



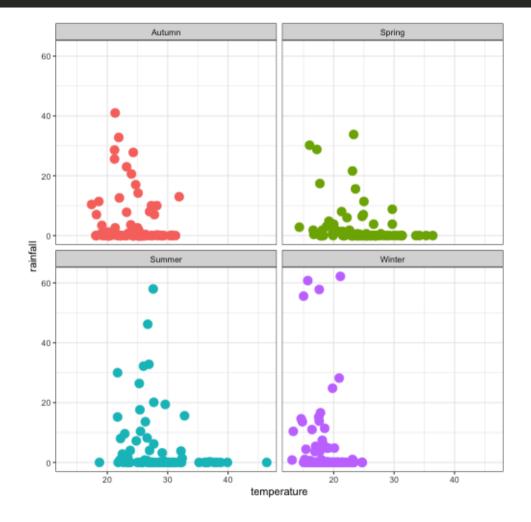
Remove the legend

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    y = rainfall
)
) +
  geom_point(
    mapping = aes(color = season_name),
    size = 4,
    show.legend = FALSE
) +
  facet_wrap( ~ season_name)
```



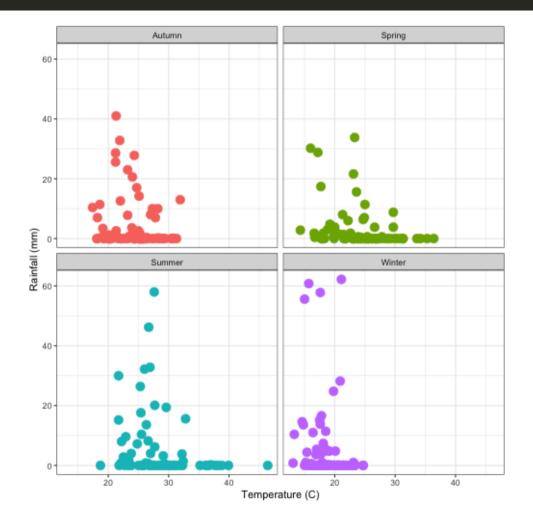
Change the background

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    y = rainfall
)
) +
  geom_point(
    mapping = aes(color = season_name),
    size = 4,
    show.legend = FALSE
) +
  facet_wrap( ~ season_name) +
  theme_bw()
```



Update the labels

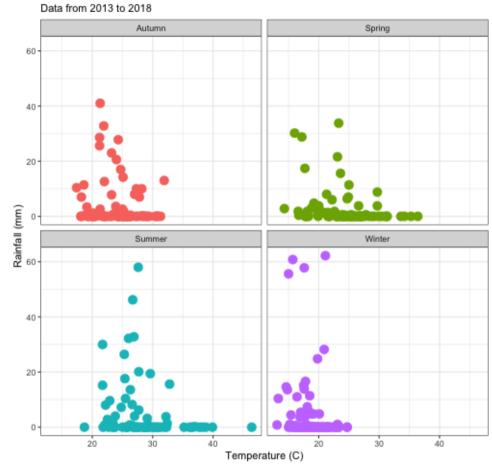
```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    y = rainfall
)
) +
  geom_point(
    mapping = aes(color = season_name),
    size = 4,
    show.legend = FALSE
) +
  facet_wrap( ~ season_name) +
  theme_bw() +
  labs(x = 'Temperature (C)', y = 'Rainfall (mm)')
```



Add titles

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
 mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    v = rainfall
  geom_point(
   mapping = aes(color = season_name),
   size = 4,
   show.legend = FALSE
  ) +
  facet_wrap( ~ season_name) +
  theme_bw() +
  labs(x = 'Temperature (C)',
      y = 'Rainfall (mm)',
      title = 'Sydney weather by season',
      subtitle = "Data from 2013 to 2018")
```

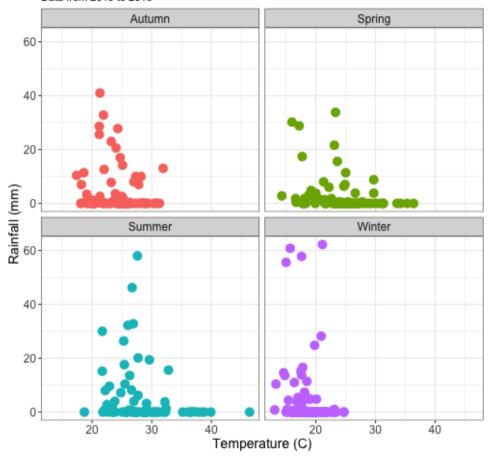
Sydney weather by season



Customize

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature,
    v = rainfall
  geom_point(
    mapping = aes(color = season_name),
    size = 4,
    show.legend = FALSE
  ) +
  facet_wrap( ~ season_name) +
  theme_bw() +
 labs(x = 'Temperature (C)',
      v = 'Rainfall (mm)',
      title = 'Sydney weather by season',
       subtitle = "Data from 2013 to 2018") +
 theme(axis.title = element_text(size = 14),
       axis.text = element_text(size = 12),
       strip.text = element_text(size = 12))
```

Sydney weather by season Data from 2013 to 2018



The grammar

- Data
- Aesthetics (or aesthetic mappings)
- Geometries (as layers)
- Facets
- Themes
- (Coordinates)
- (Scales)

Exercise 1

Peeking under the hood

If I write...

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = temperature,
            y = rainfall)
) +
  geom_point()
```

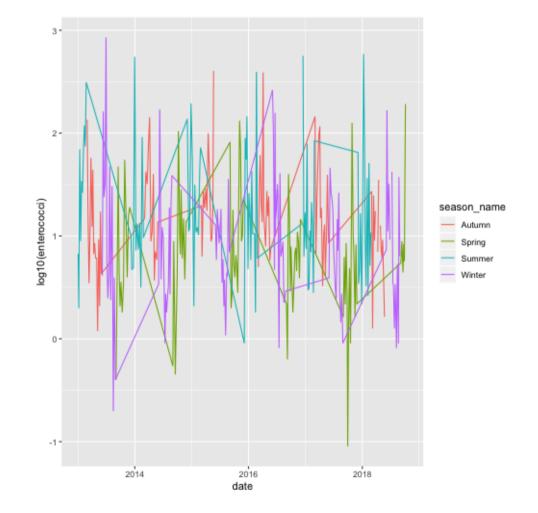
what's really run is ...

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  mapping = aes(
    x = temperature, y = rainfall)) +
layer(
  geom = "point",
    stat = "identity",
    position = "identity") +
facet_null() +
theme_grey() +
coord_cartesian() +
scale_x_continuous() +
scale_y_continuous()
```

Each element can be adapted and tweaked to create graphs

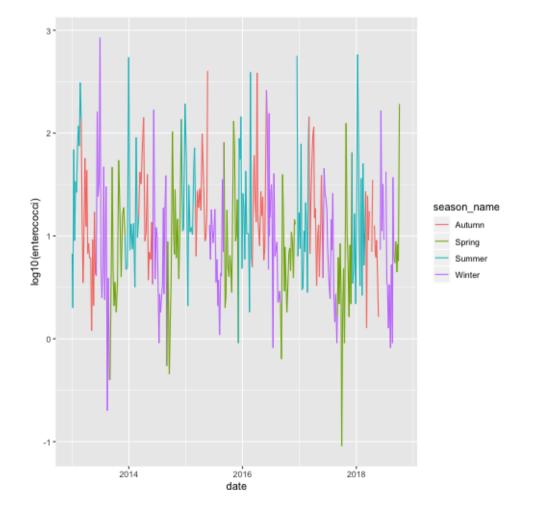
Exploring aesthetics

Mapping color



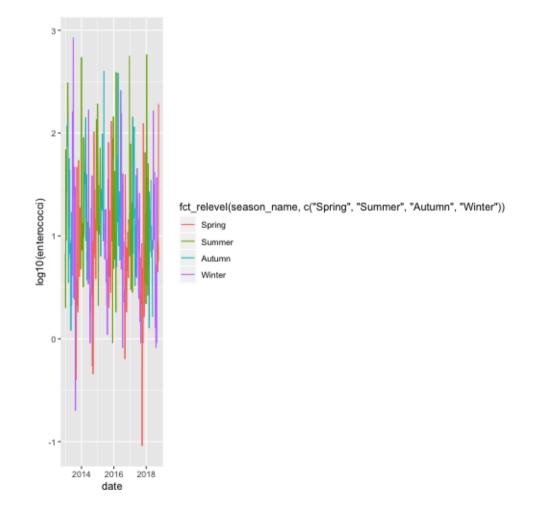
Adding groups to the mapping

```
ggplot(
  data=beaches,
  aes(x = date,
      y = log10(enterococci),
      color = season_name,
      group = 1)
) +
  geom_line()
```



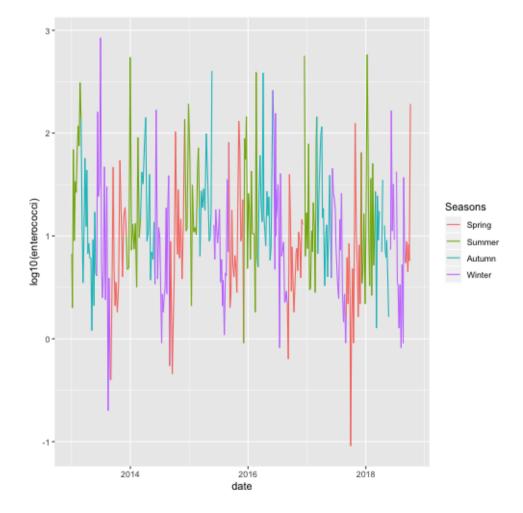
Fixing the legend ordering

```
ggplot(
  data=beaches,
  aes(x = date,
        y = log10(enterococci),
        color = fct_relevel(season_name, c('Spring','Su group = 1)
) +
  geom_line()
```



Fixing the legend ordering

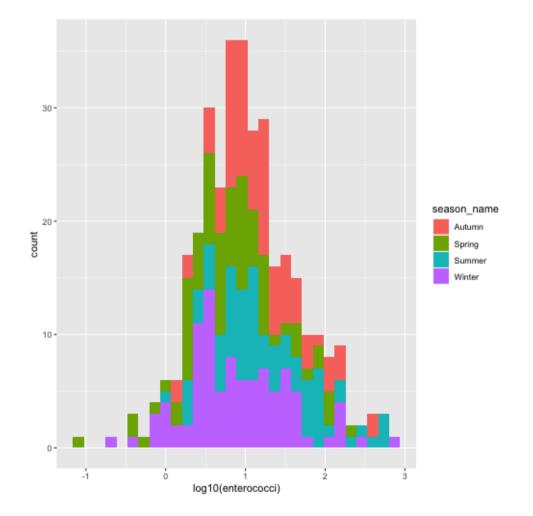
```
ggplot(
  data=beaches,
  aes(x = date,
      y = log10(enterococci),
      color = fct_relevel(season_name, c('Spring','Su group = 1)
) +
  geom_line()+
  labs(color = 'Seasons')
```



You can also fill based on data

```
ggplot(
  data=beaches,
  aes(x = log10(enterococci),
     fill = season_name))+
  geom_histogram()
```

This is not a great plot. We'll refine this idea later



Exercise 2

Exploring geometries

Univariate plots

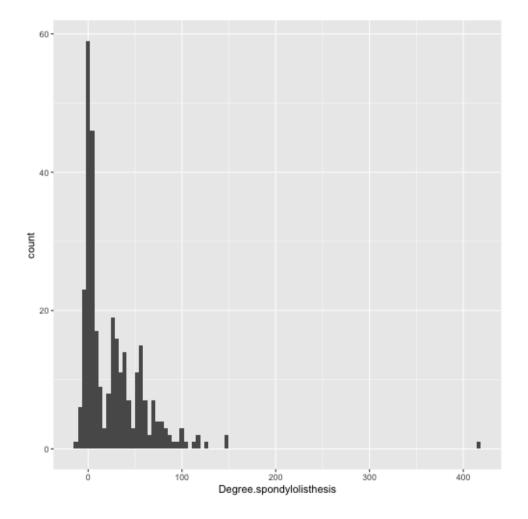
Histograms

#> `stat_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value

Histograms

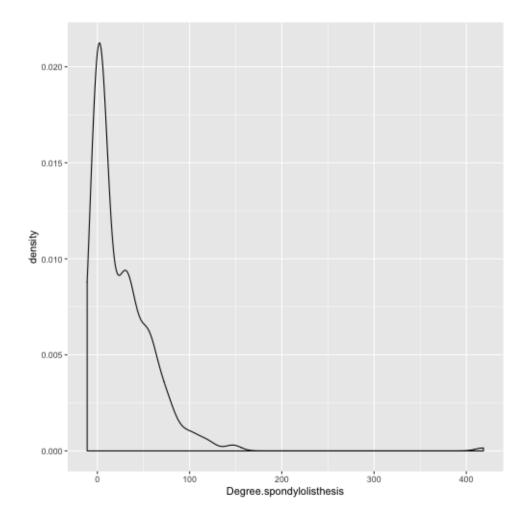
```
ggplot(
  data=dat_spine,
  aes(x = Degree.spondylolisthesis))+
  geom_histogram(bins = 100)
```

This gives a very different view of the data



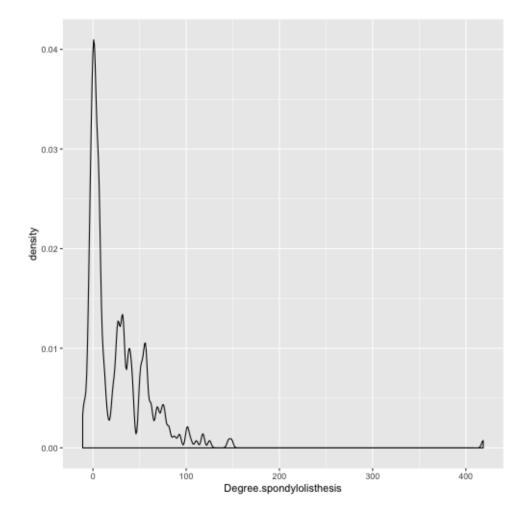
Density plots

```
ggplot(
  data=dat_spine,
  aes(x = Degree.spondylolisthesis))+
  geom_density()
```

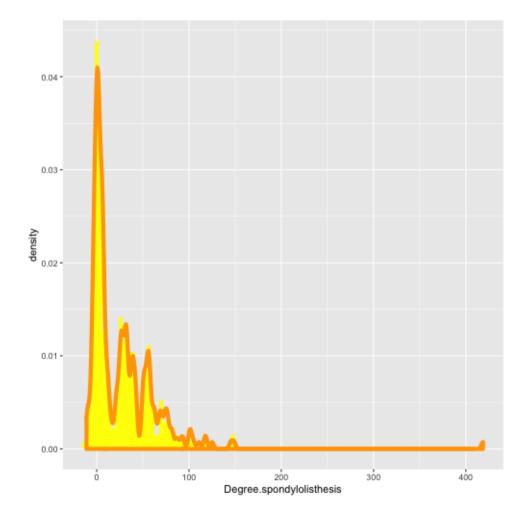


Density plots

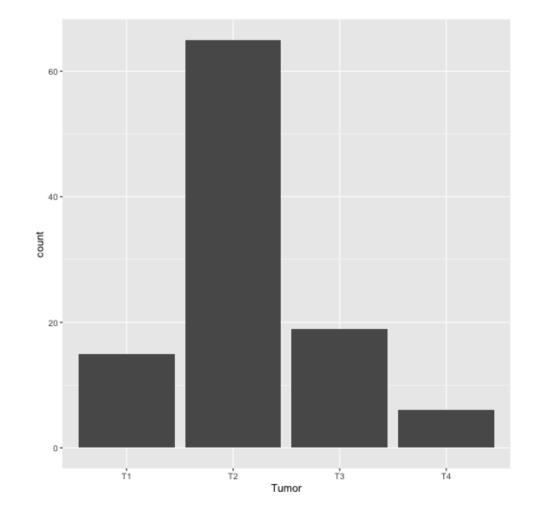
```
ggplot(
  data=dat_spine,
  aes(x = Degree.spondylolisthesis))+
  geom_density(adjust = 1/5) # Use 1/5 the bandwidth
```



Layering geometries

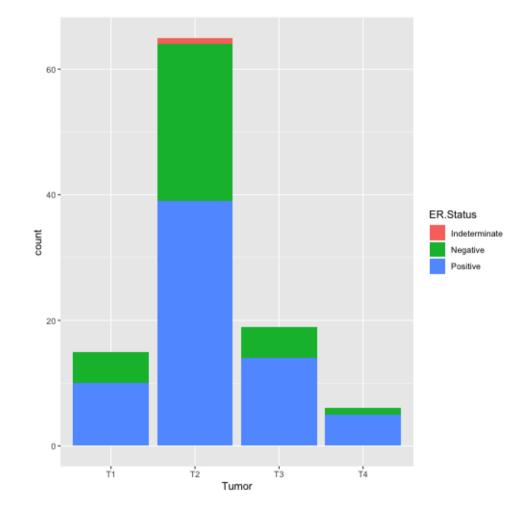


Bar plots (categorical variable)



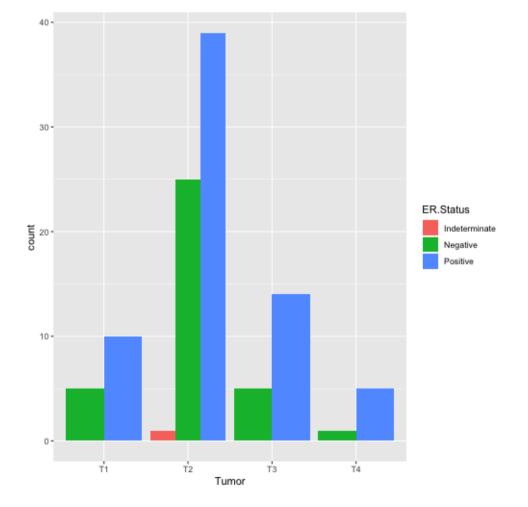
Bar plots (categorical variable)

Add additional information via mapping



Bar plots (categorical variable)

Change the nature of the geometry



Graphing tabulated data

```
tabulated <- dat_brca %>% count(Tumor)
tabulated
#> # A tibble: 4 x 2
#> Tumor
   <chr> <int>
              15
#> 1 T1
#> 3 T3
#> 4 T4
ggplot(
 data = tabulated,
 aes(x = Tumor, y = n)) +
 geom_bar()
#> Error: stat_count() must not be used with a y aes
```

Graphing tabulated data

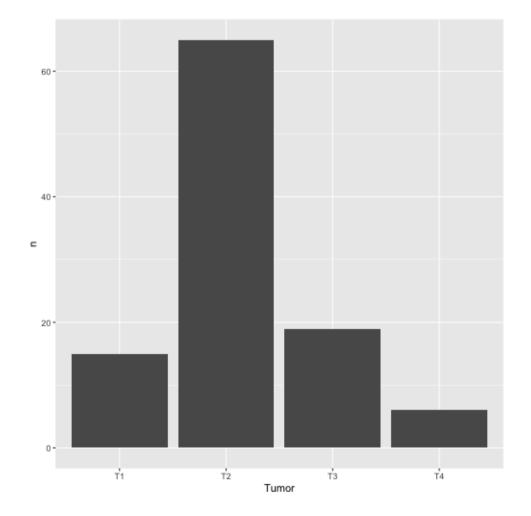
```
tabulated <- dat_brca %>% count(Tumor)
tabulated

ggplot(
  data = tabulated,
  aes(x = Tumor, y = n)) +
  geom_bar(stat = 'identity')
```

Here we need to change the default computation

The barplot usually computes the counts (stat_count)

We suppress that here since we have already done the computation



Peeking under the hood

```
plt <- ggplot(
  data = tabulated,
  aes(x = Tumor, y = n)) +
  geom_bar()

plt$layers</pre>
```

```
#> [[1]]
#> geom_bar: width = NULL, na.rm = FALSE
#> stat_count: width = NULL, na.rm = FALSE
#> position_stack
```

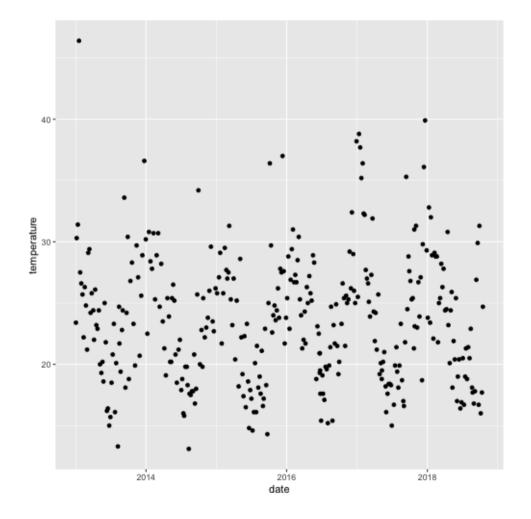
```
plt <- ggplot(
  data = tabulated,
  aes(x = Tumor, y = n)) +
  geom_bar(stat = 'identity')
plt$layers</pre>
```

```
#> [[1]]
#> geom_bar: width = NULL, na.rm = FALSE
#> stat_identity: na.rm = FALSE
#> position_stack
```

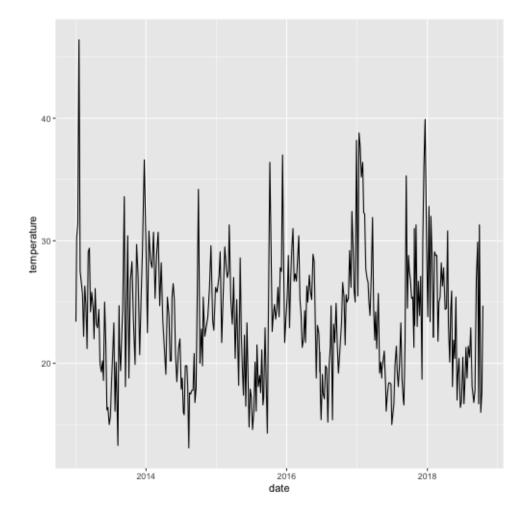
Each layer has a geometry, statistic and position associated with it

Bivariate plots

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = temperature))+
  geom_point()
```

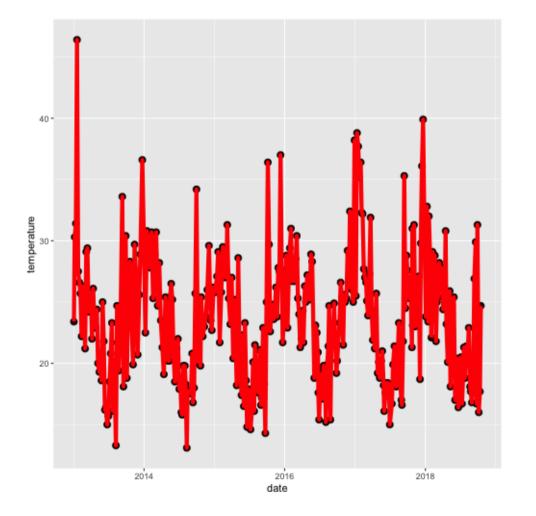


```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = temperature))+
  geom_line()
```



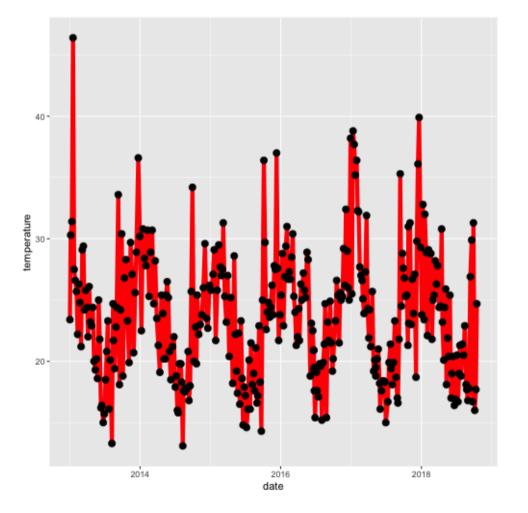
```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = temperature))+
  geom_point(color='black', size = 3) +
  geom_line(color='red', size=2)
```

Layer points and lines



```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = temperature))+
  geom_line(color='red', size=2) +
  geom_point(color='black', size = 3)
```

Order of laying down geometries matters



Doing some computations

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = temperature)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth()
```

Averages over 75% of the data

#> 'geom_smooth()' using method = 'loess' and formul

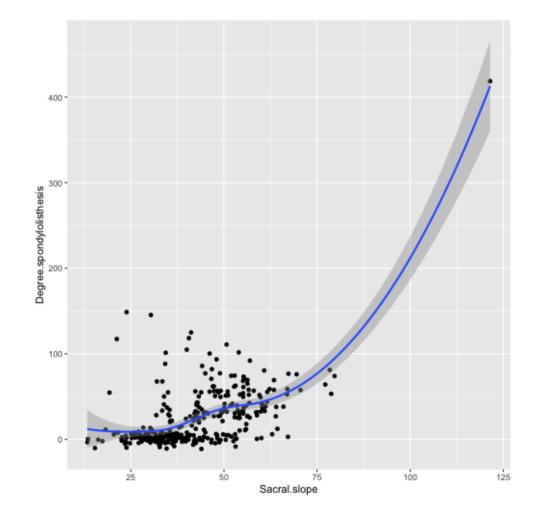
Doing some computations

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = temperature)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth(span = 0.1)
```

Averages over 10% of the data

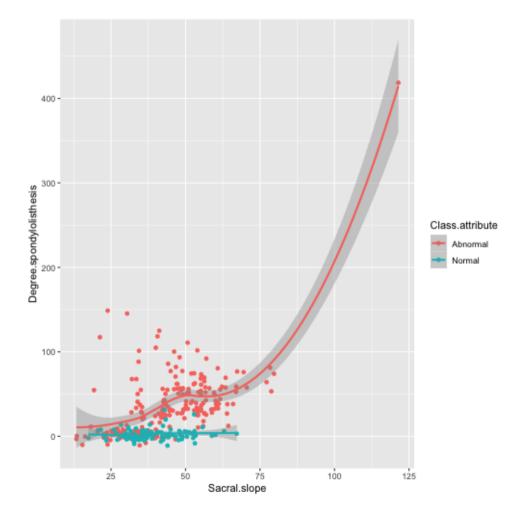
#> 'geom_smooth()' using method = 'loess' and formul

```
ggplot(
  data = dat_spine,
  aes(x = Sacral.slope,
     y = Degree.spondylolisthesis)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth()
```



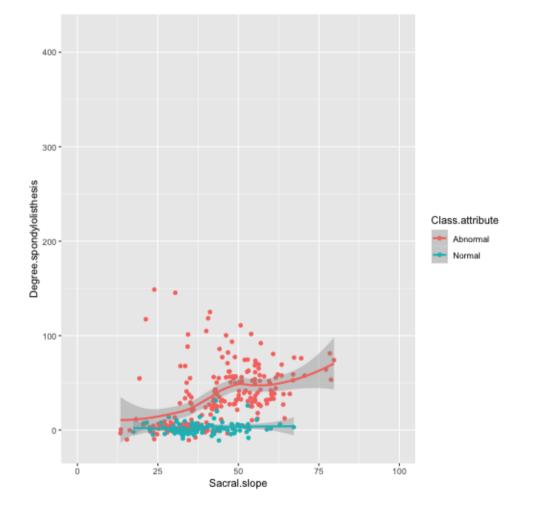
```
ggplot(
  data = dat_spine,
  aes(x = Sacral.slope,
      y = Degree.spondylolisthesis,
      color = Class.attribute)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth()
```

Computation is done by groups



```
ggplot(
  data = dat_spine,
  aes(x = Sacral.slope,
      y = Degree.spondylolisthesis,
      color = Class.attribute)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth() +
  xlim(0, 100)
```

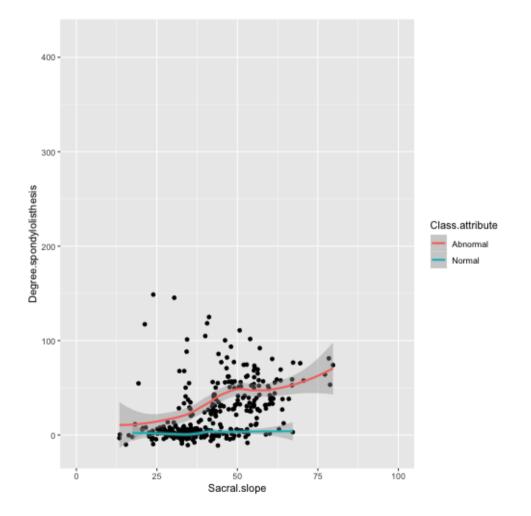
Ignore the outlier for now



```
ggplot(
  data = dat_spine,
  aes(x = Sacral.slope,
      y = Degree.spondylolisthesis)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth(aes(color = Class.attribute)) +
  xlim(0, 100)
```

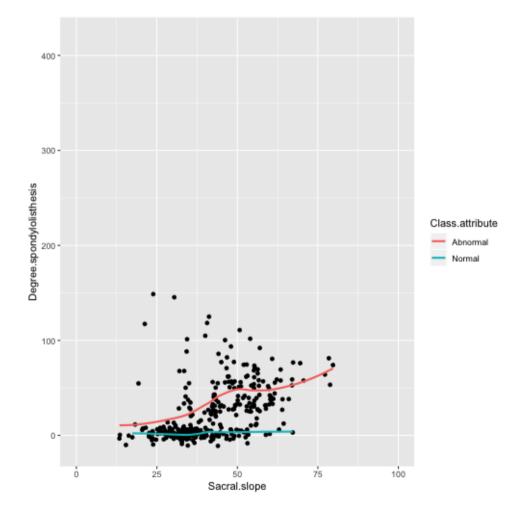
Only color-code the smoothers

You can change the plot based on where you map the aesthetic



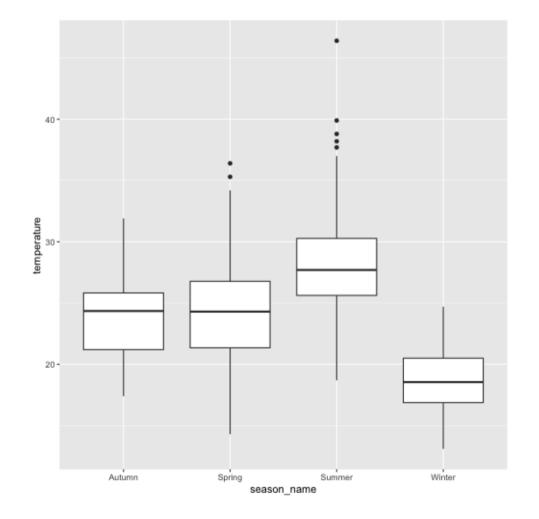
Remove the confidence bands

Maybe a cleaner look



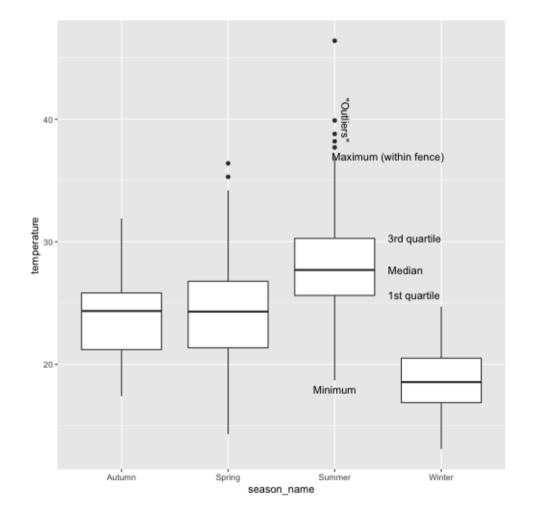
Box Plots

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = season_name,
      y = temperature)) +
  geom_boxplot()
```



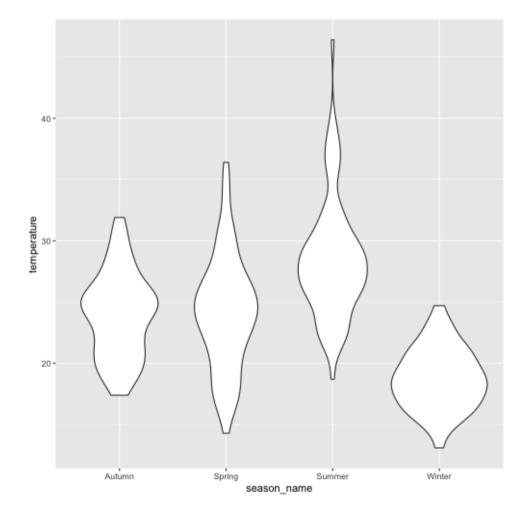
Box Plots

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = season_name,
      y = temperature)) +
  geom_boxplot()
```



Violin plots

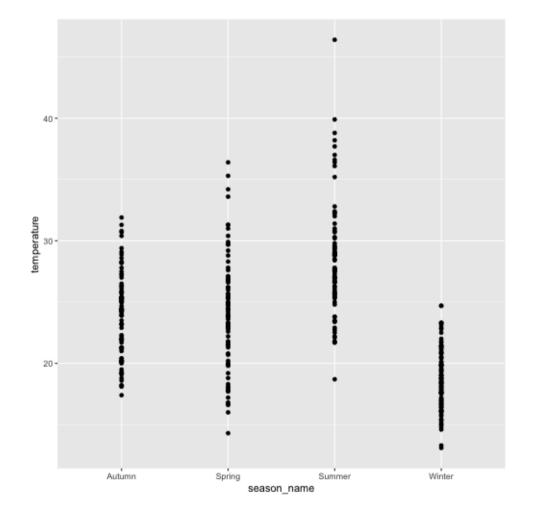
```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = season_name,
      y = temperature)) +
  geom_violin()
```



Strip plots

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = season_name,
      y = temperature)) +
  geom_point()
```

Points are overlayed on each other

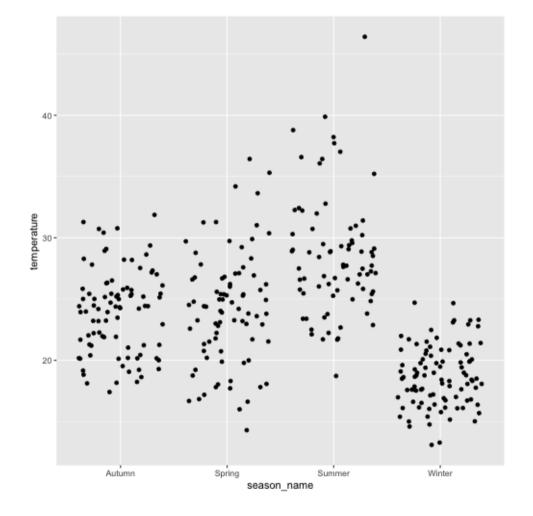


Strip plots

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = season_name,
      y = temperature)) +
  geom_jitter()
```

Jittering allows all points to be seen

Maybe too much

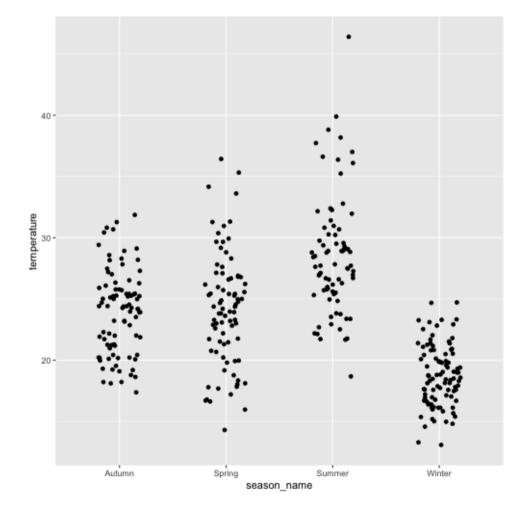


Strip plots

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = season_name,
      y = temperature)) +
  geom_jitter(width = 0.2)
```

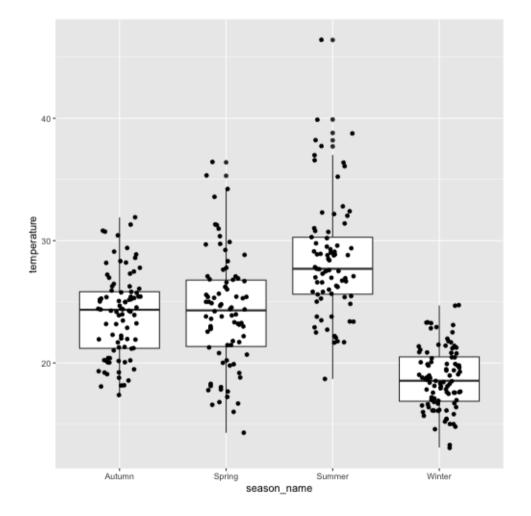
Jittering allows all points to be seen

Maybe too much



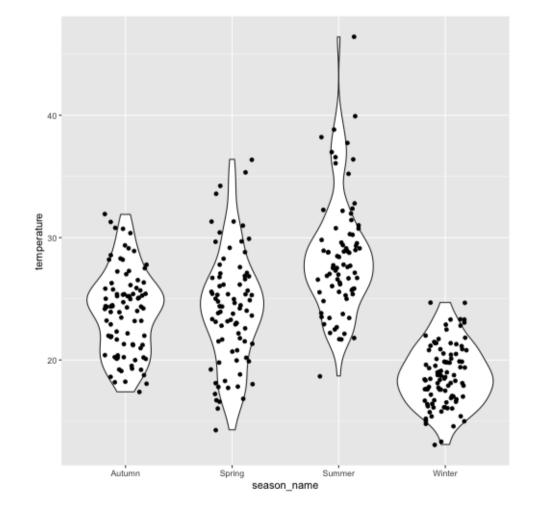
Layers, again

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = season_name,
      y = temperature)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  geom_jitter(width = 0.2)
```



Layers, again

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = season_name,
      y = temperature)) +
  geom_violin() +
  geom_jitter(width = 0.2)
```

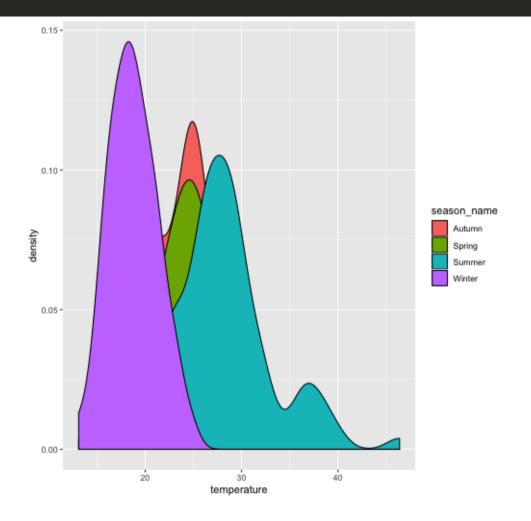


Exploring grouped data

Let's start here

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = temperature,
      fill = season_name)) +
  geom_density()
```

Not very useful

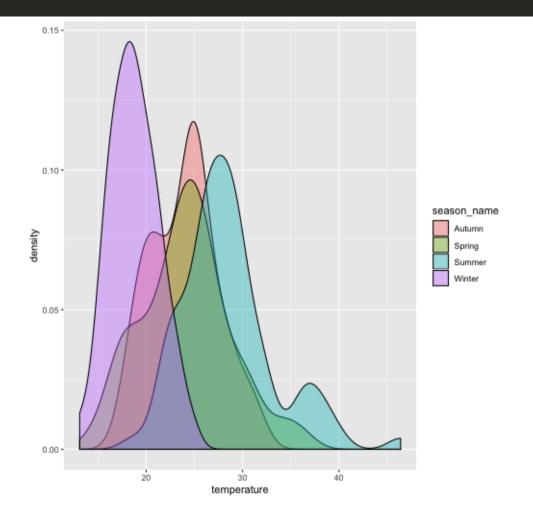


Overlaying graphs

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = temperature,
     fill = season_name)) +
  geom_density(alpha = 0.4)
```

Make graphs more transparent

Still pretty cluttered

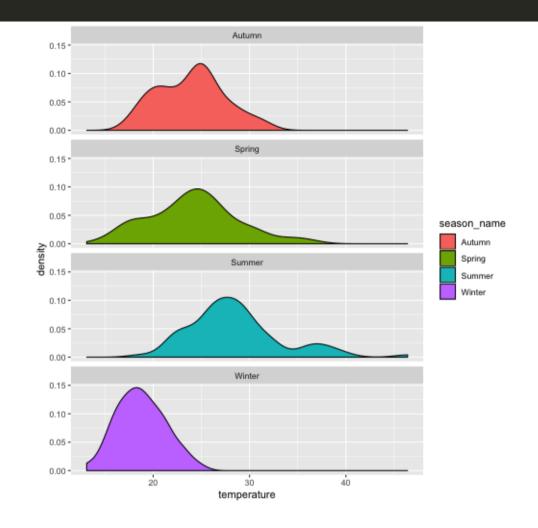


Exploding graphs

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = temperature,
      fill = season_name)) +
  geom_density() +
  facet_wrap(~ season_name, ncol = 1)
```

Let's explode these out

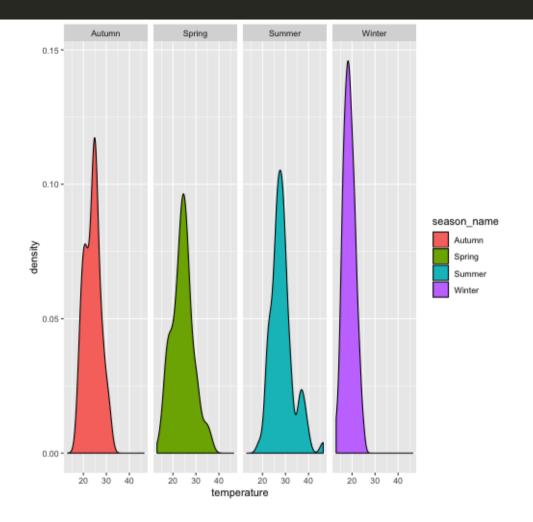
This is called "small multiples" (Tufte) or "trellis graphics" (Cleveland)



Exploding graphs

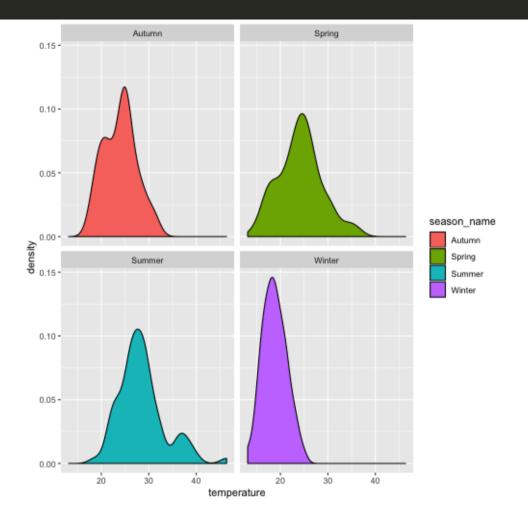
```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = temperature,
      fill = season_name)) +
  geom_density() +
  facet_wrap(~ season_name, nrow = 1)
```

We can arrange them the other way too

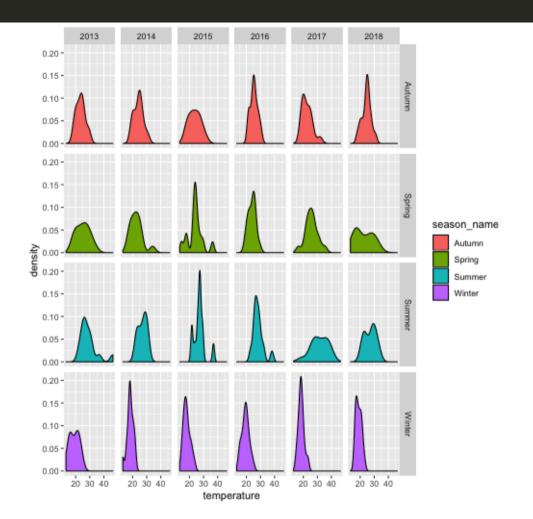


Re-arranging graphs

```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = temperature,
     fill = season_name)) +
  geom_density() +
  facet_wrap(~season_name, ncol = 2)
```



Creating a grid of graphs



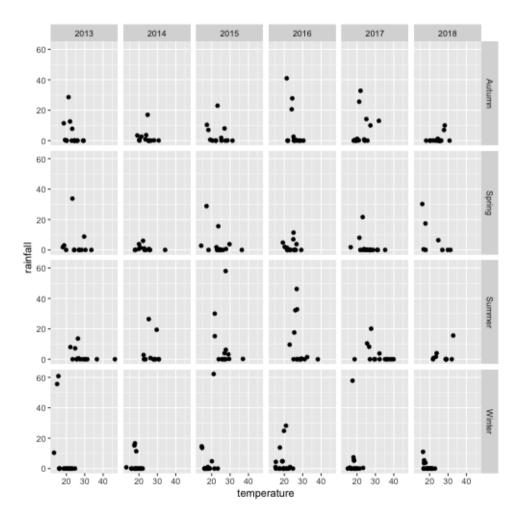
Grids of graphs

Start with a blank slate

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
						Autumn
						Spring
						Summer
						Winter

Grids of graphs

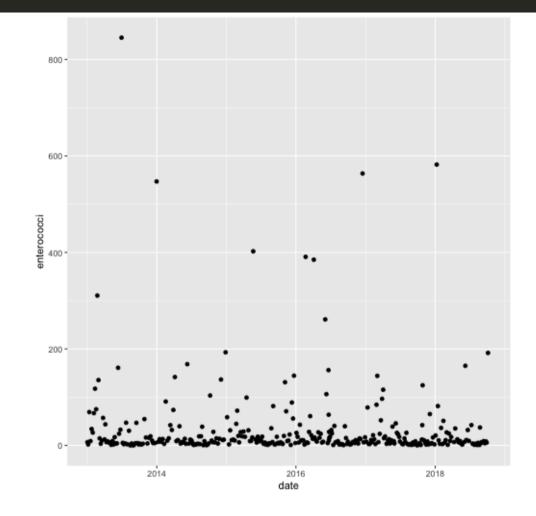
Create geoms you want



Scales

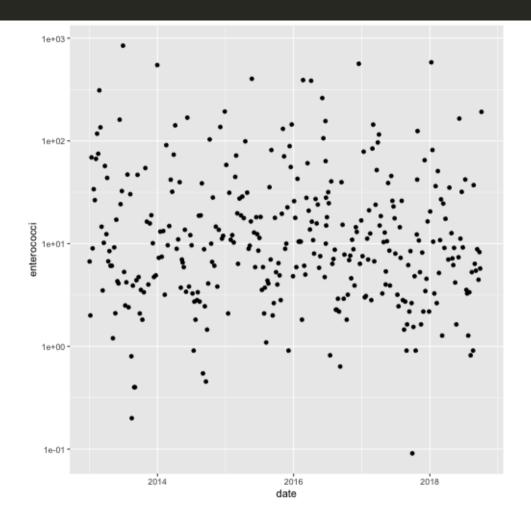
```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = enterococci)) +
  geom_point()
```

All the action is happening in the bottom bit



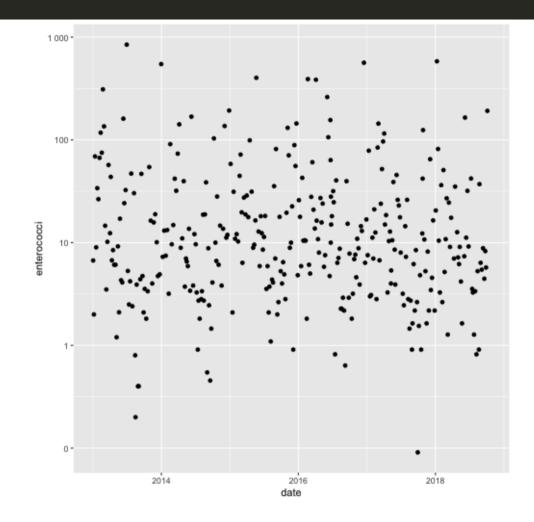
```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = enterococci)) +
  geom_point() +
  scale_y_log10()
```

Log-transforming an axis can make things easier to see



```
ggplot(
  data = beaches,
  aes(x = date, y = enterococci)) +
  geom_point() +
  scale_y_log10(
    labels = scales::number_format(digits=3))
```

Making the labels a bit easier to read

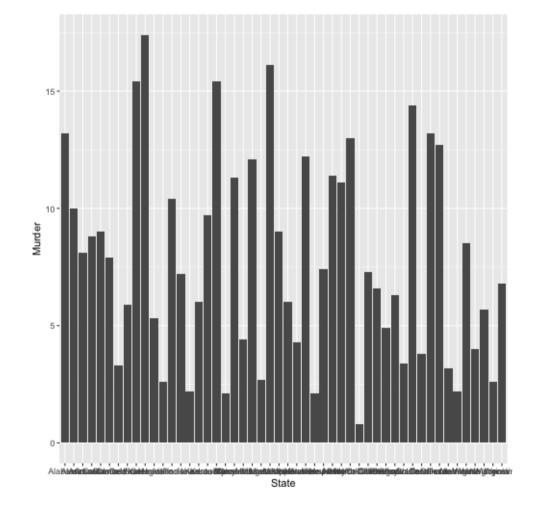


Order and orientation

```
arrests <- import('data/USArrests.csv')
ggplot(
  data = arrests,
  aes(x = State,
      y = Murder)) +
  geom_bar(stat = 'identity')</pre>
```

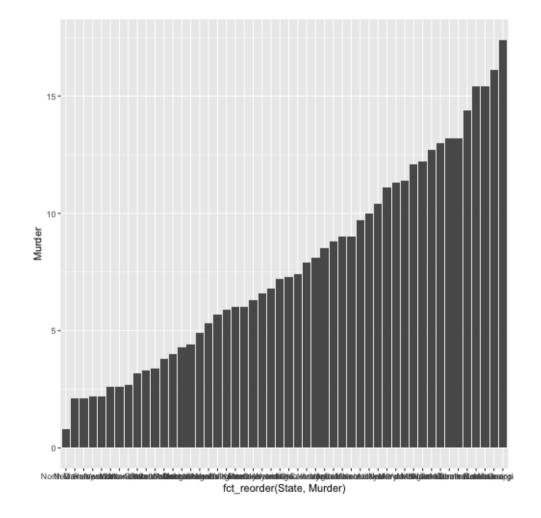
This plot is very hard to read

There is no ordering, and states can't be read



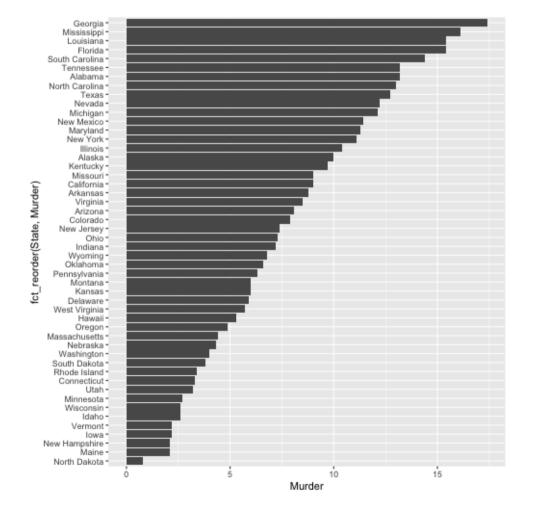
```
arrests <- import('data/USArrests.csv')
ggplot(
  data = arrests,
  aes(x = fct_reorder(State, Murder), # Order by murd
      y = Murder)) +
  geom_bar(stat = 'identity')</pre>
```

We see the pattern, but its still unreadable



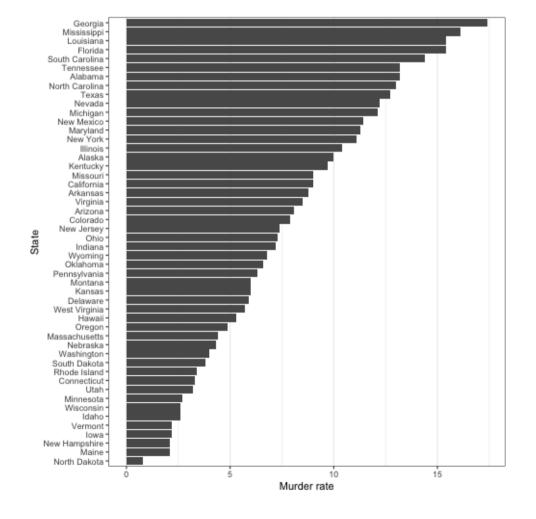
```
arrests <- import('data/USArrests.csv')
ggplot(
  data = arrests,
  aes(x = fct_reorder(State, Murder), # Order by murd
      y = Murder)) +
  geom_bar(stat = 'identity') +
  coord_flip()</pre>
```

Flipping the axes makes the states readable



```
arrests <- import('data/USArrests.csv')
ggplot(
  data = arrests,
  aes(x = fct_reorder(State, Murder), # Order by murd
      y = Murder)) +
  geom_bar(stat = 'identity') +
  labs(x = 'State', y = 'Murder rate') +
  theme_bw() +
  theme(panel.grid.major.y = element_blank(),
      panel.grid.minor.y = element_blank()) +
  coord_flip()</pre>
```

Cleaning it up a little



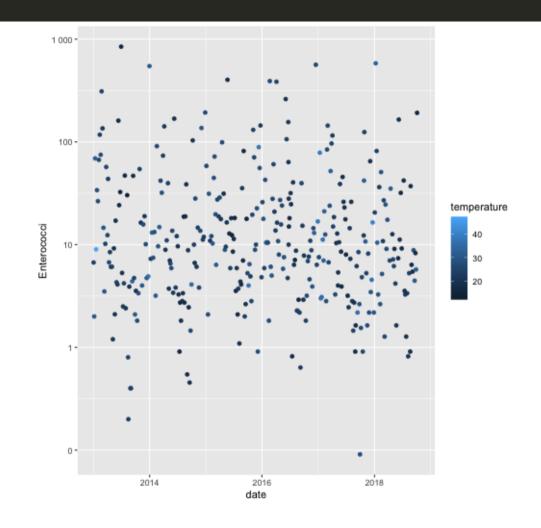
Color schemes

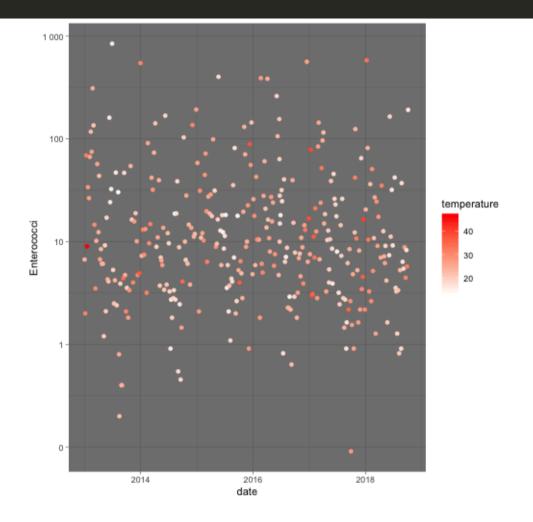
ggplot comes with a default color scheme. There are several other schemes available

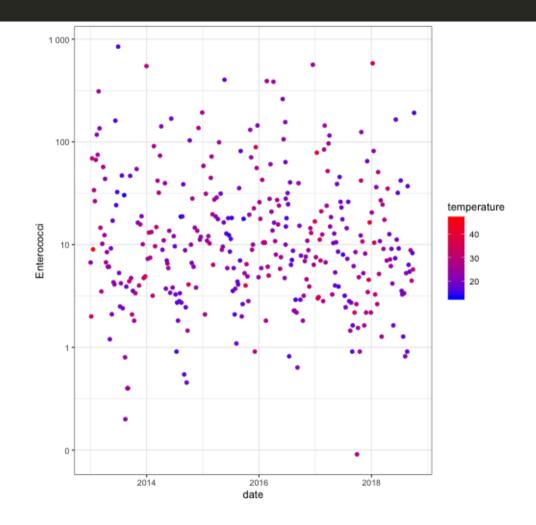
- scale_*_brewer uses the ColorBrewer palettes
- scale_*_gradient uses gradients
- scale_*_distill uses the ColorBrewer palettes, for continuous outcomes

Here * can be color or fill, depending on what you want to color

Note color refers to the outline, and fill refers to the inside

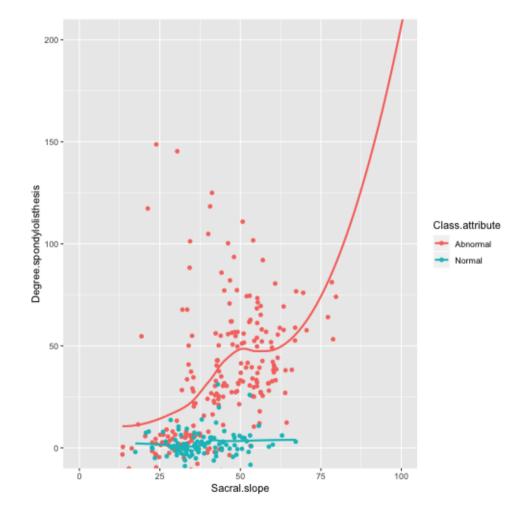






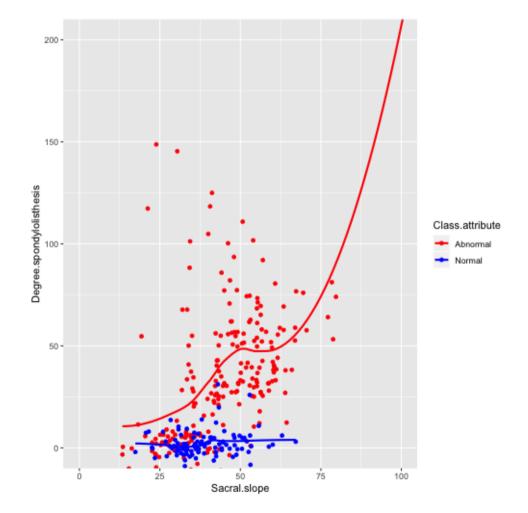
Specifying colors

```
ggplot(
  data = dat_spine,
  aes(x = Sacral.slope, y = Degree.spondylolisthesis,
      color = Class.attribute)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth(se = F) +
  coord_cartesian(xlim = c(0, 100), ylim = c(0,200))
```



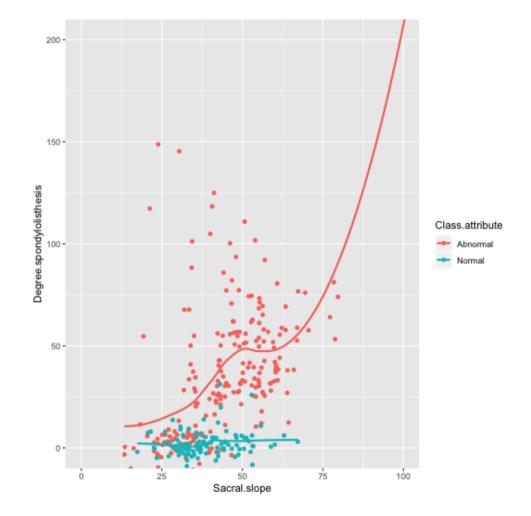
Specifying colors

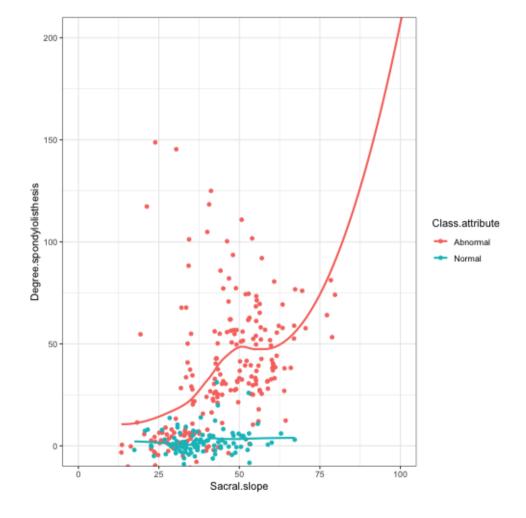
```
ggplot(
  data = dat_spine,
  aes(x = Sacral.slope, y = Degree.spondylolisthesis,
      color = Class.attribute)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth(se = F) +
  coord_cartesian(xlim = c(0, 100), ylim = c(0,200))
  scale_color_manual(values = c("Normal"="blue", 'Abn
```

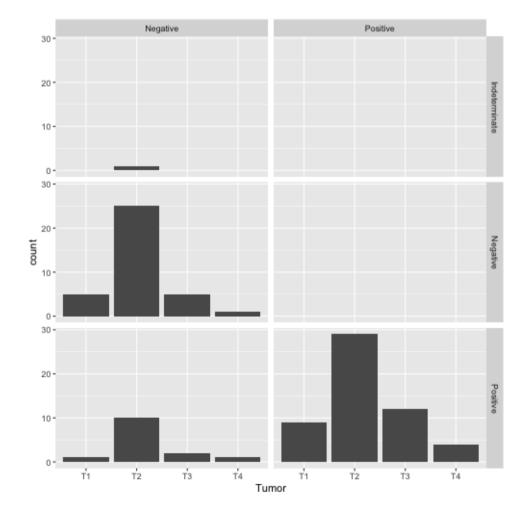


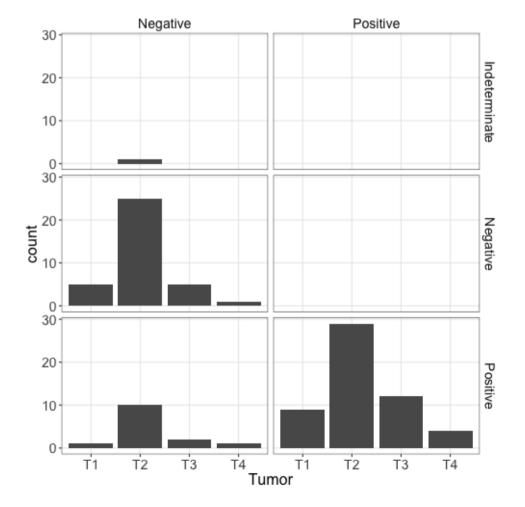
You can create your own custom themes to keep a unified look to your graphs ggplot comes with

- theme_classic
- theme_bw
- theme_void
- theme_dark
- theme_gray
- theme_light
- theme_minimal









Animations

gganimate

The new gganimate package has made it very easy to create animations

It's literally a few lines

