

My amazing title

Your R. Name
APRIL DD, 20YY

Submitted to the Department of
Mathematics and Statistics
of Amherst College in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Bachelor of Arts with honors.

ADVISORS:
Advisor F. Name
Your Other Advisor

Abstract

The abstract should be a short summary of your thesis work. A paragraph is usually sufficient here.

Acknowledgments

Use this space to thank those who have helped you in the thesis process (professors, staff, friends, family, etc.). If you had special funding to conduct your thesis work, that should be acknowledged here as well.

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Chapter 1 Introduction

In statistics, there are a plethora of data types that are used to produce different analyses. One in particular is longitudinal data. If we want to track trends and changes over time, such as an effect of a certain drug on the body or growth of a company, longitudinal data and analysis will help us examine those points of interest. Not only can we observe change over time in individuals, but we can look at higher-level grouping, such as change in schools, counties, and organizations. It should be emphasized that only longitudinal data can capture changes within a subject or group; cross-sectional is another type of data in which responses are captured at only one occasion that are compared to other subjects. Ultimately, it cannot provide information about changes over time.

One key aspect of longitudinal data is that there needs to be repeated measurements of the same individuals across multiple periods of time. If there aren't repeated observations, then it is not possible to make any comparisons between two or more time points. Having repeated measurements of the same individual allows for removal of potential confounding effects, such as gender or socioeconomic status, from the analysis.

The measure that captures the observed changes within an individual is referred to as a response trajectory. There are different ways of comparing response trajectories. For example, it is possible to compare the post-treatment vs baseline changes across multiple treatment groups, or it is also possible to compare the rate of change. The

method chosen depends on the specific question of the study.

Apart from comparing just the response trajectories, it is also of interest to compare individual differences in the relationship between covariates and the response trajectory. This can be captured using various different statistical models. The choice of model depends on several characteristics of the data.

1.1 Characteristics of longitudinal data

While the only requirement of longitudinal data is that there is more than one observation for a given individual, there are other components that affect the model chosen. Data can be unbalanced or balanced: balanced data refers to when all individuals have the same number of repeated measurements taken at the same occasions. In addition, data can also be missing, resulting in automatically unbalanced data. This affects the accuracy of how changes over time are analyzed depending on if there are any patterns to the missing data or not.

Another unique characteristic of longitudinal data is that repeated measurements of each individual are positively correlated. This feature violates conditions of other common statistical methods such as linear regression, where measurements are assumed to be independent. This positive correlation allows for more accurate estimates of the covariates and response trajectories since there is reduced uncertainty knowing that a previous measurement can help predict the next one.

Alongside correlation, covariance between two measurement responses is a crucial measure to calculate. Both measures capture the linear dependence between two measurements depending on covariates, but the correlation is a standardized calculation that does not have units and is simpler to interpret. Typically in longitudinal analysis, a covariance matrix is calculated for each individual and all of their measurements.

The diagonals of this matrix represent the variance of each of the measurements, which are not constant over time. The off-diagonals of the matrix are non-zero to account for the lack of independence between measurements, but are also not constant to account for the assumption that correlations between measurements decrease over time. There are different covariance pattern structures that are imposed that account for these features.

There are several trends that correlation values take on in longitudinal analysis. They are rarely 0, but also rarely 1. They are positive and decrease with longer time separation. These features serve as the underlying premise to the idea that variation can be separated into three distinct parts: 1) between individual variation, 2) within individual variation, and 3) measurement error.

Between individual variation helps explain why measurements from the same individual are more likely to be positively correlated than measurements to a different individual. Within individual variation helps explain why correlations decrease with increasing time differences, and measurement error explains why correlations are never 1. These three types of variation may contribute to total variation in unequal amounts, but may not need to be differentiated depending on the type of longitudinal analysis desired.

1.2 Linear models for longitudinal data

As mentioned previously, there are multiple ways to model longitudinal data. When the response variable is continuous and drawn from a multivariate normal distribution, we can consider a model that relates the mean response and the covariates in a linear way. In a linear model all components are represented using vectors and matrices. The mean response is modeled by covariates and their slope. Slope values are estimated

using maximum likelihood estimation, which maximizes the joint probability of the random variable occurring based on the observed data. Aside from creating line plots to visually capture the mean responses for each individual, there are 3 methods for linear models: 1) response profile analysis, 2) parametric time model, 3) linear mixed effect model.

In response profile analysis, we allow for arbitrary patterns in the mean response over time. The goal of the analysis is to find whether the mean response differs from the interaction of group x time across individuals. An unstructured covariance model is assumed, and requires that the data be balanced. This analysis does not consider time-order of the measurements and does not distinguish between individual variation and within individual variation. The drawback of response profile analysis is that it can only provide a broad analysis of whether there are differences across groups and time, but does not provide the amount of detail usually needed to answer research questions.

Parametric time models are able to capture time order of the data by fitting linear or quadratic curves to capture an increasing or decreasing pattern over time. Unlike response profile analysis, parametric time models are able to handle unbalanced and missing data. Additionally, there is flexibility in choice of the covariance model; there are several options such as Toeplitz or compound symmetric that impose various structures on the model. However, parametric time models do not difference between subject and within subject variation.

To model the different types of variation that explain correlated measurements among individuals, we can employ the linear mixed effects model. This model distinguishes between fixed effects, which are population characteristics shared by all individuals, and subject specific effects which pertain to each individual. These subject specific effects mean that parameters are random, which induces a structure onto

the covariance model. This model is well suited for unbalanced data.

Chapter 2 R Markdown Basics

Be careful with your spacing in *Markdown* documents. While whitespace largely is ignored, it does at times give *Markdown* signals as to how to proceed. As a habit, try to keep everything left aligned whenever possible, especially as you type a new paragraph. In other words, there is no need to indent basic text in the Rmd document (in fact, it might cause your text to do funny things if you do).

2.1 Lists

It's easy to create a list. It can be unordered like

- Item 1
- Item 2

or it can be ordered like

1. Item 1
2. Item 2

Notice that I intentionally mislabeled Item 2 as number 4. *Markdown* automatically figures this out! You can put any numbers in the list and it will create the list. Check it out below.

To create a sublist, just indent the values a bit (at least four spaces or a tab). (Here's one case where indentation is key!)

1. Item 1
2. Item 2
3. Item 3
 - Item 3a
 - Item 3b

2.2 Line breaks

Make sure to add white space between lines if you'd like to start a new paragraph. Look at what happens below in the outputted document if you don't:

Here is the first sentence. Here is another sentence. Here is the last sentence to end the paragraph. This should be a new paragraph.

Now for the correct way:

Here is the first sentence. Here is another sentence. Here is the last sentence to end the paragraph.

This should be a new paragraph.

2.3 R chunks

When you click the **Knit** button above a document will be generated that includes both content as well as the output of any embedded **R** code chunks within the document. You can embed an **R** code chunk like this (**cars** is a built-in **R** dataset):

```
summary(cars)
```

```
      speed      dist
Min.   : 4.0   Min.   :  2
1st Qu.:12.0   1st Qu.: 26
Median :15.0   Median : 36
```

```
Mean      :15.4    Mean      : 43
3rd Qu.   :19.0    3rd Qu.   : 56
Max.      :25.0    Max.      :120
```

2.4 Inline code

If you'd like to put the results of your analysis directly into your discussion, add inline code like this:

The `cos` of 2π is 1.

Another example would be the direct calculation of the standard deviation:

The standard deviation of `speed` in `cars` is 5.288.

One last neat feature is the use of the `ifelse` conditional statement which can be used to output text depending on the result of an **R** calculation:

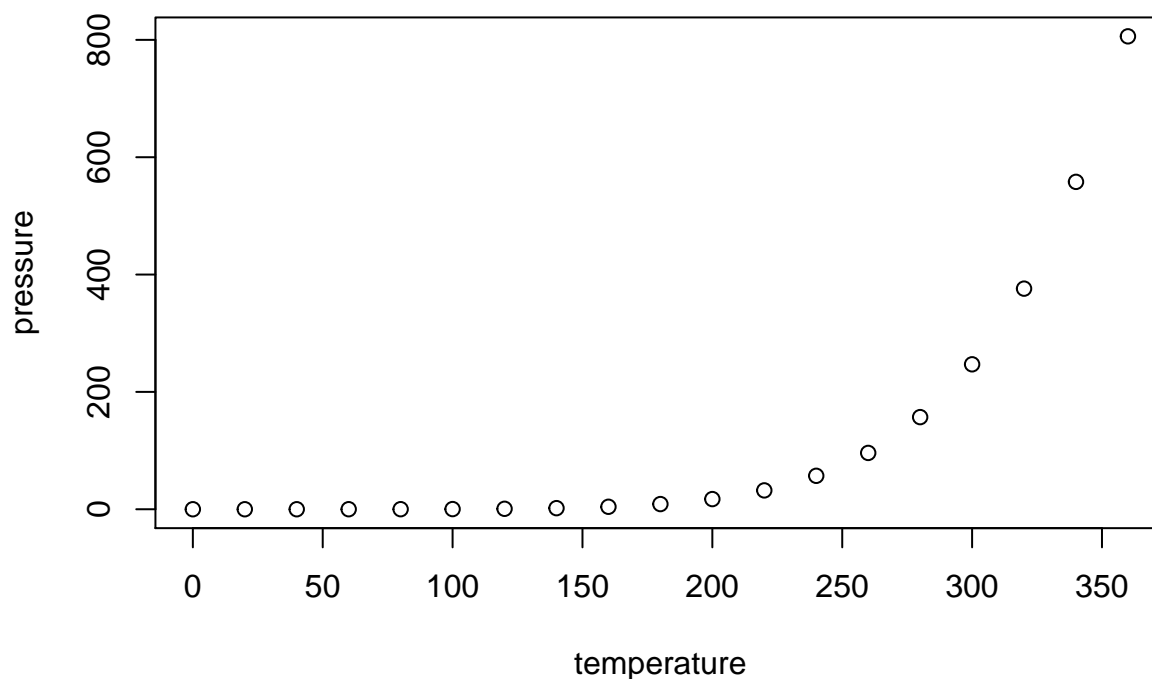
The standard deviation is less than 6.

Note the use of `>` here, which signifies a quotation environment that will be indented.

As you see with `2π` above, mathematics can be added by surrounding the mathematical text with dollar signs. More examples of this are in Mathematics and Science if you uncomment the code in Math.

2.5 Including plots

You can also embed plots. For example, here is a way to use the base **R** graphics package to produce a plot using the built-in `pressure` dataset:



Note that the `echo=FALSE` parameter was added to the code chunk to prevent printing of the **R** code that generated the plot. There are plenty of other ways to add chunk options. More information is available at <http://yihui.name/knitr/options/>.

Another useful chunk option is the setting of `cache=TRUE` as you see here. If document rendering becomes time consuming due to long computations or plots that are expensive to generate you can use knitr caching to improve performance. Later in this file, you'll see a way to reference plots created in **R** or external figures.

2.6 Loading and exploring data

Included in this template is a file called `flights.csv`. This file includes a subset of the larger dataset of information about all flights that departed from Seattle and Portland in 2014. More information about this dataset and its **R** package is available at <http://github.com/ismayc/pnwflights14>. This subset includes only Portland flights and only rows that were complete with no missing values. Merges were also done with the `airports` and `airlines` data sets in the `pnwflights14` package to get more descriptive airport and airline names.

We can load in this data set using the following command:

```
flights <- read.file("data/flights.csv")
```

Reading data with `read.csv()`

The data is now stored in the data frame called `flights` in **R**. To get a better feel for the variables included in this dataset we can use a variety of functions. Here we can see the dimensions (rows by columns) and also the names of the columns.

```
dim(flights)
```

```
[1] 52808    16
```

```
names(flights)
```

```
[1] "month"      "day"        "dep_time"   "dep_delay"
[5] "arr_time"   "arr_delay"  "carrier"    "tailnum"
[9] "flight"     "dest"       "air_time"   "distance"
[13] "hour"       "minute"     "carrier_name" "dest_name"
```

```
# read long paragraph file
longtext <- readLines("data/paragraphs.txt")
```

```
Warning in readLines("data/paragraphs.txt"): incomplete final
line found on 'data/paragraphs.txt'
```

```
# display text as vector
longtext
```

```
[1] "Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit,
sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna
aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation
ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. "
[2] ""
[3] "Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate
velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur
sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui
officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum."
```

```
# display text as paragraphs
cat(longtext)
```

```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed
do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna
aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation
ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.
Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit
esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint
occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia
deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.
```

```
# display text without linewidth option specified
longtext
```

```
[1] "Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
[2] ""
[3] "Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu
```


Another good idea is to take a look at the dataset in table form. With this dataset having more than 50,000 rows, we won't explicitly show the results of the command here. I recommend you enter the command into the Console *after* you have run the **R** chunks above to load the data into **R**.

```
View(flights)
```

While not required, it is highly recommended you use the **dplyr** package to manipulate and summarize your data set as needed. It uses a syntax that is easy to understand using chaining operations. Below I've created a few examples of using **dplyr** to get information about the Portland flights in 2014. You will also see the use of the **ggplot2** package, which produces beautiful, high-quality academic visuals.

The example we show here does the following:

- Selects only the `carrier_name` and `arr_delay` from the `flights` dataset and then assigns this subset to a new variable called `flights2`.
- Using `flights2`, we determine the largest arrival delay for each of the carriers.

```
flights2 <- flights %>%  
  select(carrier_name, arr_delay)  
max_delays <- flights2 %>%  
  group_by(carrier_name) %>%  
  summarize(max_arr_delay = max(arr_delay, na.rm = TRUE))
```

A useful function in the **knitr** package for making nice tables in *R Markdown* is called `kable`. It is much easier to use than manually entering values into a table by copying and pasting values into Excel or LaTeX. This again goes to show how nice reproducible documents can be! (Note the use of `results="asis"`, which will produce the table instead of the code to create the table.) The `caption.short` argument is used to include a shorter title to appear in the List of Tables.

```
kable(max_delays,
      col.names = c("Airline", "Max Arrival Delay"),
      caption = "Maximum Delays by Airline",
      caption.short = "Max Delays by Airline",
      longtable = TRUE,
      booktabs = TRUE)
```

Table 2.1: Maximum Delays by Airline

Airline	Max Arrival Delay
Alaska Airlines Inc.	338
American Airlines Inc.	1539
Delta Air Lines Inc.	651
Frontier Airlines Inc.	575
Hawaiian Airlines Inc.	407
JetBlue Airways	273
SkyWest Airlines Inc.	421
Southwest Airlines Co.	694
United Air Lines Inc.	472
US Airways Inc.	347
Virgin America	366

The last two options make the table a little easier-to-read.

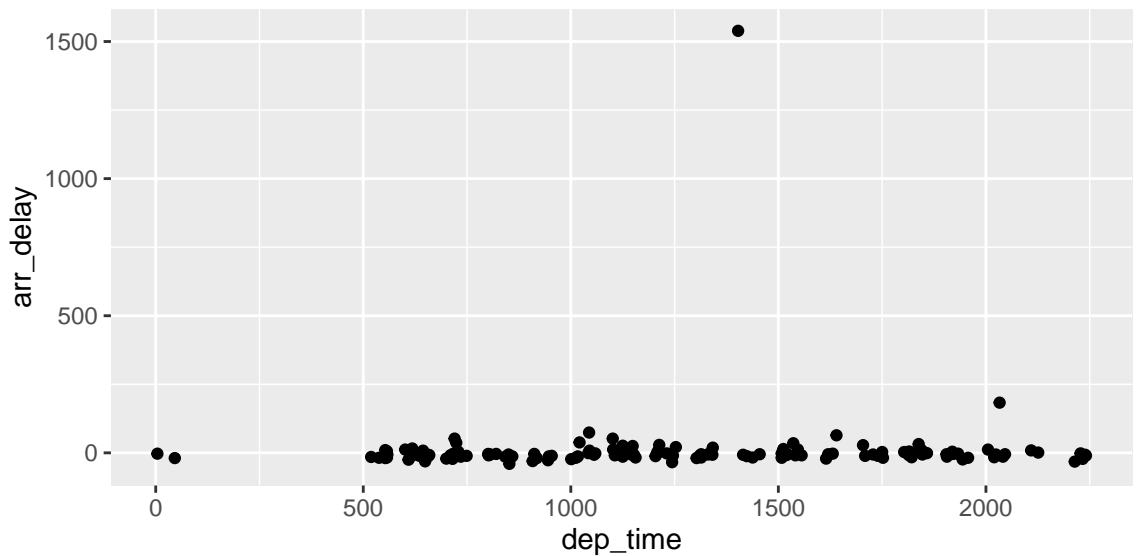
We can further look into the properties of the largest value here for American Airlines Inc. To do so, we can isolate the row corresponding to the arrival delay of 1539 minutes for American in our original `flights` dataset.

```
flights %>% filter(arr_delay == 1539,
                  carrier_name == "American Airlines Inc.") %>%
  select(-c(month, day, carrier, dest_name, hour,
            minute, carrier_name, arr_delay))
```

```
   dep_time dep_delay arr_time tailnum flight dest air_time
1    1403      1553    1934  N595AA   1568  DFW      182
   distance
1    1616
```

We see that the flight occurred on March 3rd and departed a little after 2 PM on its way to Dallas/Fort Worth. Lastly, we show how we can visualize the arrival delay of all departing flights from Portland on March 3rd against time of departure.

```
flights %>% filter(month == 3, day == 3) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = dep_time, y = arr_delay)) + geom_point()
```



This is a proof. There is a proof environment in which you can create equations

$$\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x$$

□

2.7 Additional resources

- *Markdown* Cheatsheet - <https://github.com/adam-p/markdown-here/wiki/Markdown-Cheatsheet>
- *R Markdown* Reference Guide - <https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/rmarkdown-reference.pdf>
- Introduction to `dplyr` - <https://cran.rstudio.com/web/packages/dplyr/vignettes/introduction.html>
- `ggplot2` Documentation - <http://docs.ggplot2.org/current/>

Chapter 3 Mathematics and Science

3.1 Math

T_EX is the best way to typeset mathematics. Donald Knuth designed T_EX when he got frustrated at how long it was taking the typesetters to finish his book, which contained a lot of mathematics. One nice feature of *R Markdown* is its ability to read LaTeX code directly.

If you are doing a thesis that will involve lots of math, you will want to read the following section.

$$\sum_{j=1}^n (\delta\theta_j)^2 \leq \frac{\beta_i^2}{\delta_i^2 + \rho_i^2} \left[2\rho_i^2 + \frac{\delta_i^2 \beta_i^2}{\delta_i^2 + \rho_i^2} \right] \equiv \omega_i^2$$

From Informational Dynamics, we have the following (Dave Braden):

After n such encounters the posterior density for θ is

$$\pi(\theta|X_1 < y_1, \dots, X_n < y_n) \propto \pi(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^n \int_{-\infty}^{y_i} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \theta)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) dx$$

Another equation:

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} c_0 & c_1 & c_2 & \dots & c_n \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \dots & c_{n+1} \\ c_2 & c_3 & c_4 & \dots & c_{n+2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ c_n & c_{n+1} & c_{n+2} & \dots & c_{2n} \end{vmatrix} > 0$$

3.2 Statistics Symbols and Expressions

Exponent or Superscript: x^2

Subscript: x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n

Both combined: x_1^{k+1} .

Our favorite Greeks: σ, ϵ, μ

Defining a normally distributed random variable: $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$

How do we compute sample variance again?

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}$$

Sometimes you'll need to consider asymptotics, that is, what happens as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

3.3 Additional information

Many of the symbols you will need can be found on Reed College's math page <http://web.reed.edu/cis/help/latex/math.html> and the Comprehensive LaTeX Symbol Guide (<http://mirror.utexas.edu/ctan/info/symbols/comprehensive/symbols-letter.pdf>).

Chapter 4 Tables, Graphics, References, and Labels

4.1 Tables

In addition to the tables that can be automatically generated from a data frame in **R** that you saw in R Markdown Basics using the `kable` function, you can also create tables using *pandoc*. (More information is available at <http://pandoc.org/README.html#tables>.) This might be useful if you don't have values specifically stored in **R**, but you'd like to display them in table form. Below is an example. Pay careful attention to the alignment in the table and hyphens to create the rows and columns.

Table 4.1: Correlation of Inheritance Factors for Parents and Child

Factors	Correlation between Parents & Child	Inherited
Education	-0.49	Yes
Socio-Economic Status	0.28	Slight
Income	0.08	No
Family Size	0.18	Slight
Occupational Prestige	0.21	Slight

We can also create a link to the table by doing the following: Table 4.1. If you go back to Loading and exploring data and look at the `kable` table, we can create a

reference to this max delays table too: Table 2.1. The addition of the (`\#tab:inher`) option to the end of the table caption allows us to then make a reference to Table `\@ref{tab:label}`. Note that this reference could appear anywhere throughout the document after the table has appeared.

4.2 Figures

If your thesis has a lot of figures, *R Markdown* might behave better for you than that other word processor. One perk is that it will automatically number the figures accordingly in each chapter. You'll also be able to create a label for each figure, add a caption, and then reference the figure in a way similar to what we saw with tables earlier. If you label your figures, you can move the figures around and *R Markdown* will automatically adjust the numbering for you. No need for you to remember! So that you don't have to get too far into LaTeX to do this, a couple **R** functions have been created for you to assist. You'll see their use below.

In the **R** chunk below, we will load in a picture stored as `amherst.png` in our main directory. We then give it the caption of "Amherst logo", the label of "amherstlogo", and specify that this is a figure. Make note of the different **R** chunk options that are given in the R Markdown file (not shown in the knitted document).

```
include_graphics(path = "figures/amherst.png")
```



Figure 4.1: Amherst logo

Here is a reference to the Amherst logo: Figure 4.1. Note the use of the `fig:` code here. By naming the **R** chunk that contains the figure, we can then reference that figure later as done in the first sentence here. We can also specify the caption for the figure via the R chunk option `fig.cap`.

Below we will investigate how to save the output of an **R** plot and label it in a way similar to that done above. Recall the `flights` dataset from Chapter 2. (Note that we've shown a different way to reference a section or chapter here.) We will next explore a bar graph with the mean flight departure delays by airline from Portland for 2014. Note also the use of the `scale` parameter which is discussed on the next page.

```
#if(!exists("flights")) flights <- read.csv("data/flights.csv")
flights %>% group_by(carrier) %>%
  summarize(mean_dep_delay = mean(dep_delay)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = carrier, y = mean_dep_delay)) +
  geom_bar(position = "identity", stat = "identity", fill = "red")
```

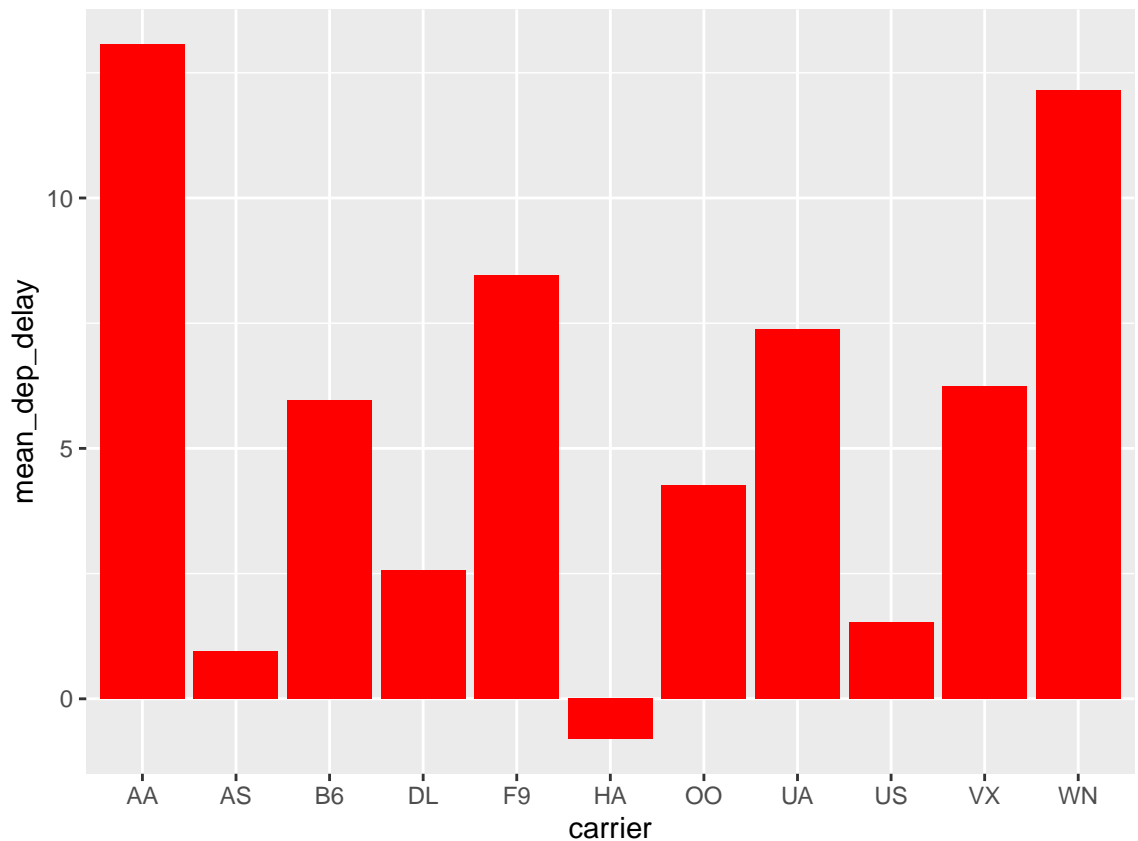


Figure 4.2: Mean Delays by Airline

Here is a reference to this image: Figure 4.2.

A table linking these carrier codes to airline names is available at <https://github.com/ismayc/pnwflights14/blob/master/data/airlines.csv>.

Next, we will explore the use of the `out.extra` chunk option, which can be used to shrink or expand an image loaded from a file by specifying "`scale=` ". Here we use the mathematical graph stored in the “subdivision.pdf” file.

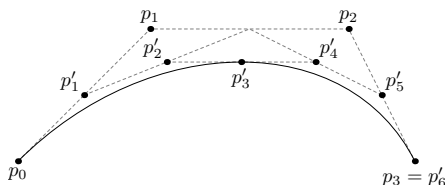


Figure 4.3: Subdiv. graph

Here is a reference to this image: Figure 4.3. Note that `echo=FALSE` is specified so that the **R** code is hidden in the document.

More Figure Stuff

Lastly, we will explore how to rotate and enlarge figures using the `out.extra` chunk option. (Currently this only works in the PDF version of the book.)

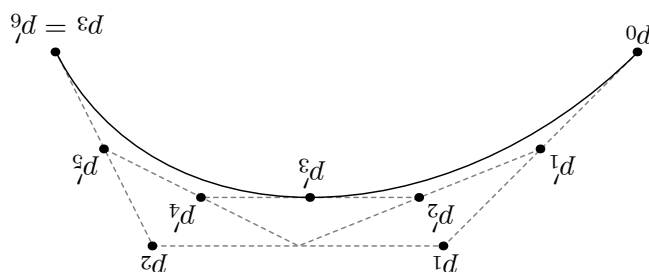


Figure 4.4: A Larger Figure, Flipped Upside Down

As another example, here is a reference: Figure 4.4.

4.3 Footnotes and Endnotes

You might want to footnote something.¹ The footnote will be in a smaller font and placed appropriately. Endnotes work in much the same way. More information can be

¹footnote text

found about both on the Reed Thesis site <https://www.reed.edu/cis/help/latex/thesis.html> or feel free to reach out to Prof. Bailey at bebailey@amherst.edu.

4.4 Bibliographies

Of course you will need to cite things, and you will probably accumulate an armful of sources. There are a variety of tools available for creating a bibliography database (stored with the `.bib` extension). In addition to BibTeX suggested below, you may want to consider using the free and easy-to-use tool called Zotero. The Amherst librarians have created Zotero documentation at <https://www.amherst.edu/library/find/citation/zotero>. In addition, a tutorial is available from Middlebury College at <http://sites.middlebury.edu/zoteromiddlebury/>.

R Markdown uses *pandoc* (<http://pandoc.org/>) to build its bibliographies. One nice caveat of this is that you won't have to do a second compile to load in references as standard LaTeX requires. To cite references in your thesis (after creating your bibliography database), place the reference name inside square brackets and precede it by the “at” symbol. For example, here's a reference to a book about worrying: (Molina & Borkovec, 1994). This `Molina1994` entry appears in a file called `thesis.bib` in the `bib` folder. This bibliography database file was created by a program called BibTeX. You can call this file something else if you like (look at the YAML header in the main `.Rmd` file) and, by default, is placed in the `bib` folder.

For more information about BibTeX and bibliographies, see the Reed College CUS site (<http://web.reed.edu/cis/help/latex/index.html>)². There are three pages on this topic: *bibtex* (which talks about using BibTeX, at <http://web.reed.edu/cis/help/latex/bibtex.html>), *bibtexstyles* (about how to find and use the bibliography style that best suits your needs, at <http://web.reed.edu/cis/help/latex/bibtexstyles.html>).

²Reed College (2007)

[latex/bibtexstyles.html](http://web.reed.edu/cis/help/latex/latex/bibtexstyles.html)) and *bibman* (which covers how to make and maintain a bibliography by hand, without BibTeX, at <http://web.reed.edu/cis/help/latex/bibman.html>). The last page will not be useful unless you have only a few sources.

If you look at the YAML header at the top of the main .Rmd file you can see that we can specify the style of the bibliography by referencing the appropriate csl file. You can download a variety of different style files at <https://www.zotero.org/styles>. Make sure to download the file into the csl folder.

Tips for Bibliographies

- Like with thesis formatting, the sooner you start compiling your bibliography for something as large as thesis, the better. Typing in source after source is mind-numbing enough; do you really want to do it for hours on end in late April? Think of it as procrastination.
- The cite key (a citation’s label) needs to be unique from the other entries.
- When you have more than one author or editor, you need to separate each author’s name by the word “and” e.g. `Author = {Noble, Sam and Youngberg, Jessica},.`
- Bibliographies made using BibTeX (whether manually or using a manager) accept LaTeX markup, so you can italicize and add symbols as necessary.
- To force capitalization in an article title or where all lowercase is generally used, bracket the capital letter in curly braces.
- You can add a Reed Thesis citation³ option. The best way to do this is to use the `phdthesis` type of citation, and use the optional “type” field to enter “Reed thesis” or “Undergraduate thesis.”

³Noble (2002)

4.5 Anything else?

If you'd like to see examples of other things in this template, please contact Professor Bailey (email bebailey@amherst.edu) with your suggestions.

Conclusion

If we don't want the conclusion to have a chapter number next to it, we can add the `{-}` attribute.

More info

And here's some other random info: the first paragraph after a chapter title or section head *shouldn't be* indented, because indents are to tell the reader that you're starting a new paragraph. Since that's obvious after a chapter or section title, proper typesetting doesn't add an indent there.

Appendix A The First Appendix

This first appendix includes all of the R chunks of code that were hidden throughout the document (using the `include = FALSE` chunk tag) to help with readability and/or setup.

A.1 In the main file 4:

A.2 In Chapter 4:

Appendix B The Second Appendix

R code

Corrections

A list of corrections after submission to department.

Corrections may be made to the body of the thesis, but every such correction will be acknowledged in a list under the heading “Corrections,” along with the statement “When originally submitted, this honors thesis contained some errors which have been corrected in the current version. Here is a list of the errors that were corrected.” This list will be given on a sheet or sheets to be appended to the thesis. Corrections to spelling, grammar, or typography may be acknowledged by a general statement such as “30 spellings were corrected in various places in the thesis, and the notation for definite integral was changed in approximately 10 places.” However, any correction that affects the meaning of a sentence or paragraph should be described in careful detail. The files `samplethesis.tex` and `samplethesis.pdf` show what the “Corrections” section should look like. Questions about what should appear in the “Corrections” should be directed to the Chair.

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