

R-Tutorials Using Titanic Data

Josemari Feliciano

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Motivation To This Tutorials:

Arguably, R has the steepest learning curve for Data Scientists and Statisticians. Once you are comfortable with it, R is very rewarding. But learning the many ways to represent your data using R is always the main challenge.

For instance, `barplot()` is able to read data from RData seamlessly. But it is always a challenge to learn the most proper – and perhaps the simplest – method to print custom data sets. Plenty of the intermittent and sparse tutorials out there tend to overcomplicate their code. So my personal struggles with R inspired this tutorials. In short, I already performed the coquettish struggle between simplicity and properness to do tasks in R.

There are four major parts to this tutorials:

1. How to read and extract data from RData file
2. How to create basic tally and graphs, and customized graphs
3. How to run basic descriptive statistics
4. How to run and read results of inferential statistics

Tutorial Notes:

The Beauty of R Studio is the ability to have notebooks for data analysis. It allows us to run R-code inline similar to IPython Notebooks.

Think of it as a fancy chemistry notebook where you can somehow run the experiments itself in the notebook – but for data analysis! For this notebook and R tutorial, I will use the titanic data for analysis. This assumes that you have installed both R and RStudio.

Note : The mosaic package is required if you want to run the data yourself in your local R environment – and not to simply view them from my github repo. If you do not have this installed, run this code in your r-console independently:

```
install.packages("ggplot2")
```

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Part 1: Reading data

We probably want to load the Titanic data first. We probably want to load the mosaic library out of the way as well.

Loading Data:

We can accomplish both data loading and library call with the following R-script:

```
load("Titanic.Rdata")
library("mosaic")
```

Note: Always rerun/replay the code above when entering this file in your local environment. The pre-ran scripts will remain intact but rerunning them might display errors. So you might have to rerun this code eventually. If you see an error, know that this code might be the culprit.

Which Variables Are In Data?

Now that the data has been loaded, we probably want to see which data variables we have to deal with! Below, we will use `names()` to print the variables within our data.

```
names(Titanic)
```

```
## [1] "Gender" "Age" "Name" "Fare" "Class" "Survived"
```

The `names()` function we just ran displayed the 6 variables within the Titanic Data which include Gender, Age, Name, Fare, Class and Survived.

Of course, you could have looked at the actual CSV file or RData file directly. But functions like `names()` are very useful when wrangling data from JSON and similar data types.

Exploring Data Types:

The `sapply()` function is very useful for this to see the variables and their data types.

```
sapply(Titanic,class)
```

```
##   Gender      Age      Name      Fare      Class  Survived
## "factor" "numeric" "factor" "numeric" "factor" "factor"
```

The output above does make sense; data types seem to match what we would expect. Age is numeric. And Gender is a 'factor', most commonly known as a string in other programming languages.

Another function we could have used is `str()`, but the output can be messy and dense. `str()` does provide more information on the variables in our data.

```
str(Titanic)
```

```
## 'data.frame':   1045 obs. of  6 variables:
## $ Gender : Factor w/ 2 levels "Female","Male": 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 ...
## $ Age    : num  29 1 2 30 25 48 63 39 53 71 ...
## $ Name    : Factor w/ 1307 levels "Abbing, Mr. Anthony",...: 22 24 25 26 27 31 46 47 51 55 ...
## $ Fare    : num  211 152 152 152 152 ...
## $ Class   : Factor w/ 3 levels "Lower","Middle",...: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 ...
```

```
## $ Survived: Factor w/ 2 levels "No","Yes": 2 2 1 1 1 2 2 1 2 1 ...
## - attr(*, "na.action")=Class 'omit' Named int [1:264] 16 38 41 47 60 70 71 75 81 107 ...
## .. ..- attr(*, "names")= chr [1:264] "16" "38" "41" "47" ...
```

The output from `str()` did provide us more information about our variables. For instance, the output shows that there are 2 levels for Gender: “Female” and “Male”. But `str()` can be messy to look at.

Note: We could have used `View(Titanic)` to open the spreadsheet in a difference pane or tab in RStudio. But that will require sifting through the spreadsheet. It’s good to familiarize with both `str()` and `sapply()` functions so we don’t have leave our tab.

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Part 2: Creating Quick Tally and Basic Graphs

Basic Data Tallying and Graph Creation

There are multiple ways of tallying variables.

Using count format of `tally()`:

```
tally(~Gender, format = "count", data = Titanic)
```

```
## Gender
## Female   Male
##    388    657
```

As you can see from above output, the count format will give us the raw number of count. For instance, 388 passengers from the Titanic are female.

Using proportion format of `tally()`:

Another format that statisticians use is the proportion format of `tally()`.

```
tally(~Class, format = "proportion", data = Titanic)
```

```
## Class
##      Lower      Middle      Upper
## 0.4784689 0.2497608 0.2717703
```

According to the output above, it is implied that roughly 47.85% of Titanic passengers bought the low-class tickets.

Using percent format of `tally()`:

Most of Statistics will deal with proportion format like those displayed in the previous section. So the percent format is really unnecessary. But if you will not use any other statistical test, this might be handy to use.

```
tally(~Survived, format = "percent", data = Titanic)
```

```
## Survived
##        No        Yes
## 59.13876 40.86124
```

The output above clearly shows that roughly 59.14% of Titanic passengers did not survive the infamous tragedy.

Just a quick note: Had we ran the proportion format, the output would have displayed 0.5914 for No. As students and practitioner of Statistics, you need to be fluent in reading via proportions.

Creating Graphs and Charts of One Categorical Data:

The function `bargraph()`

The easiest way to create graph in R is by using the `bargraph()` function:

```
bargraph(~Class, Titanic)
```



It looks like we were able to graph a decent graph. But the issue with this is: `bargraph()` lacks flexibility. So this might be good to create a simply bar graph. But if you want to creatively label or redesign any aspect of the graph, `bargraph()` will not yield to you.

The function `barplot()`

`barplot()` is one of the best functions to plot graphs. Unfortunately, a call like `barplot(~Class, Titanic)` will not work because `barplot()` only accepts arrays, contingency tables and similar data types.

So there's an extra step required though. But here is an illustration of how to call it properly:

```
#here, table() is called to convert the class data  
#to a contingency table that barplot() could read  
#we are assigning this table into a variable called "data"  
#then, we are passing it to barplot()
```

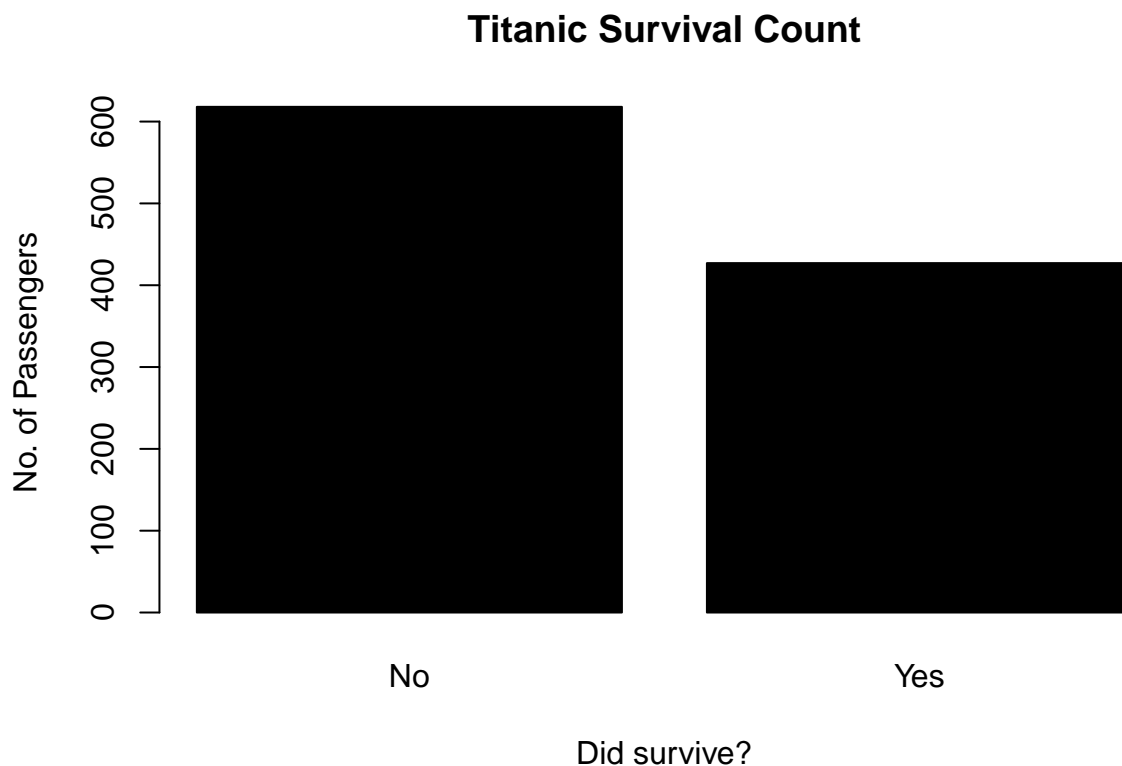
```
data <- table(Titanic$Class)  
barplot(data)
```



Look how beautiful this graph is! Again, we converted the Class data from the Titanic into a contingency table using `table()`.

Beautify the graph: The graph is very bare. It lacks labels, titles, and color. Let us pass some parameters to modify its properties. Below, I will create a graph for Survival.

```
#obviously, we are passing data to xlab, ylab, main, color to add properties to our barplot  
data2 <- table(Titanic$Survived)  
barplot(data2, xlab = "Did survive?", ylab = "No. of Passengers",  
        main = "Titanic Survival Count", col = "black")
```



Look how much better it looks! It looks much better with our custom color, labels, titles. There's plenty more of modification we could do (such as change the border color of graphs). But for this, check out the R-documentation page and see which parameters and default values we could change to fit our goals.

Graph From Customized Data Through `barplot()`

For complicated big data, we simply extract data and plot them. But for simple small data, we could simply pass an array of values for plotting.

This particular tutorial is helpful: Most tutorials will have you use `names.arg` inside the `barplot()` and other methodology/syntax that can be a nightmare. `names()` is your friend here as I will demonstrate below.

Suppose we found out from the web that Titanic has a fatality rate of .59 and want to compare it to the fatality rate of two other ships with rates 0.41 and 0.12 respectively. We can convert all the dependent and independent variables into their own arrays/collection.

```
fatality_rate <- c(.59,.41,.12)
names(fatality_rate) <- c("Titanic", "SomeShip_1", "SomeShip_2")

barplot(fatality_rate, main="Fatality Rate Across Different Ships",
        ylim=c(0,1))
```



Voila, we were able to create custom bar graphs with ease by creating a collection and by utilizing `names()`

Important point about scaling: Do note that I also passed a `ylim=c(0,1)` argument inside `barplot()`. Often, you will find that graphs of any kind can look funky with scaling really off. In this case, we know that proportions only go between 0 and 1. So I passed a `ylim=c(0,1)` to force this y-window.

Pie Chart Through pie()

Now we are done with bar graphs – both basic and advanced – let us go over pie charts. `pie()` is very useful for this task. Below is the code to print this:

```
counts <-tally(~Gender, data = Titanic)
pie(counts, main="Gender Distribution of Titanic Passengers")
```

Gender Distribution of Titanic Passengers



`pie()` helped us create a beautiful pie chart. But I would argue that `pie()` lacks flexibility and is one of the most frustrating functions to deal with.

Issue: The pie chart was a good visual but it did not print the numbers associated with them. There’s actually no easy way to do this. And sadly, many outside resources will offer you confusing ways of doing this without proper explanation. Here what I am here for!

Basics: Custom labels have to be a “factor” – as explained earlier, “factor” is equivalent to string in other programming languages. So we want to create a label with both the categorical name and number count. `paste()` is our friend here since we can pass arguments that it can join together. See the script I ran and I will explain the logic behind them.

```
gender_data <- table(Titanic$Gender)
data_labels <- paste(names(gender_data),gender_data,sep=": ")
pie(gender_data,labels=data_labels)
```



As expected, the pie chart finally printed both the categorical variables and their number count!

The script that I made for customization can be overwhelming.

So here's what I did and their respective explanation:

1. First, I created a table of gender data and called it `gender_data`.
2. Next, I created a factor to act as my label. Here, `paste(names(gender_data),gender_data,sep=": ")` implies that I am joining the **names** of my `gender_data` (which is either Male or Female) and their respective count. **sep** – short-hand for separator – indicated how I wanted them to be separated. Here, I wanted them to be separated by a colon and a space: `sep=": "`. I passed this entire function or argument to a new variable, `data_labels`, to carry this custom label we created.
3. Finally, I created the pie chart by calling `pie(gender_data,labels=data_labels)`.

Now, we are done creating graphs with just one variable. Now, let's focus on creating tables and graphs for two different data variables!

Creating Contingency Table for Two Variables

The code is similar to `tally()` we used earlier but instead, we are passing two variables. For this example, I want to create a contingency table between class and survival.

```
tally(~Class + Survived, format = "count", data = Titanic, margins=TRUE)
```

```
##           Survived
## Class      No  Yes Total
##   Lower   369  131  500
##   Middle  146  115  261
##   Upper   103  181  284
##   Total   618  427 1045
```

Like we did with one variables, we can indicate to tally to print the data in proportion format. For this, simply pass `format = "proportion"` inside `tally()`.

```
tally(~Class + Survived, format = "proportion", data = Titanic, margins=TRUE)
```

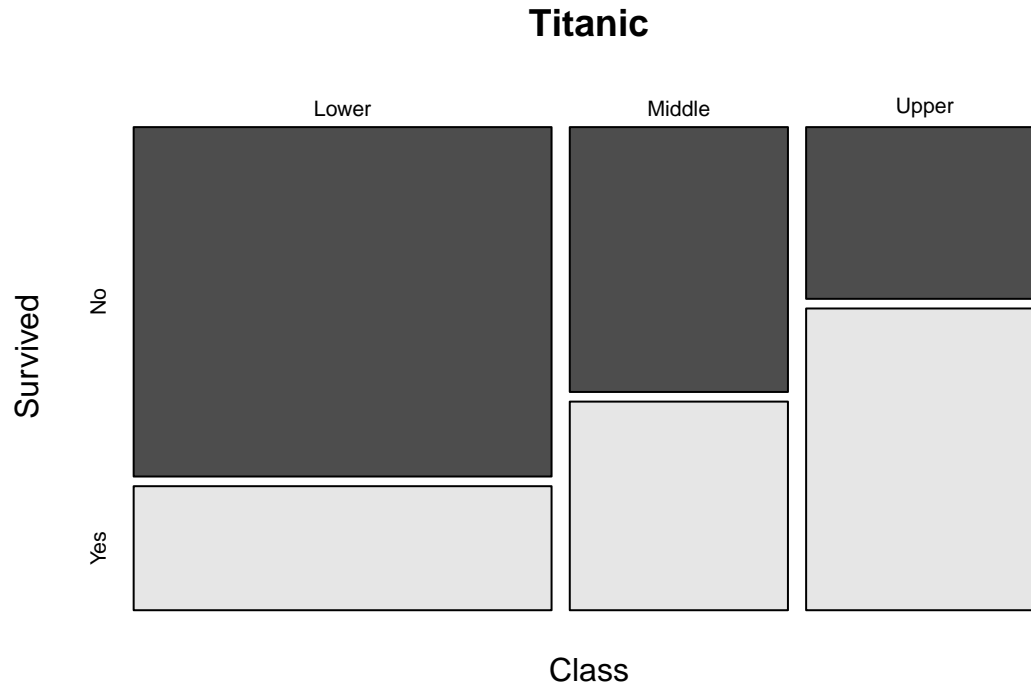
```
##           Survived
## Class      No      Yes      Total
##   Lower 0.35311005 0.12535885 0.47846890
##   Middle 0.13971292 0.11004785 0.24976077
##   Upper 0.09856459 0.17320574 0.27177033
##   Total 0.59138756 0.40861244 1.00000000
```

Voila, now we have a contingency table with proportions instead!

Creating Mosaic Plots:

Of all the plots, this is my favorite. Mosaic plot conveys meaning in the width of the bars (normally, we the height is the only one modified). To make sense of this, I will run the script and demonstrate mosaic plots.

```
mosaicplot(~Class + Survived, data=Titanic, color=TRUE)
```



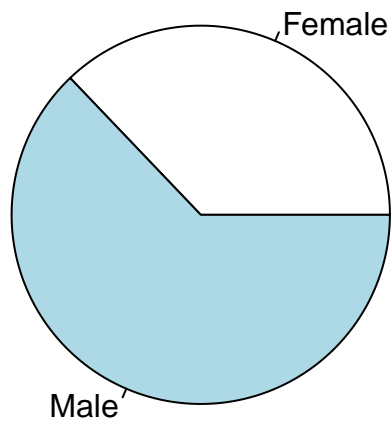
Mosaic Plots are really nice to look at. Also, they provide readers greater meaning. Here, the width of the lower, middle and upper class tickets are differentiated. So we are given additional context on the spread across the ticket holders.

I will add stuff here as I go:

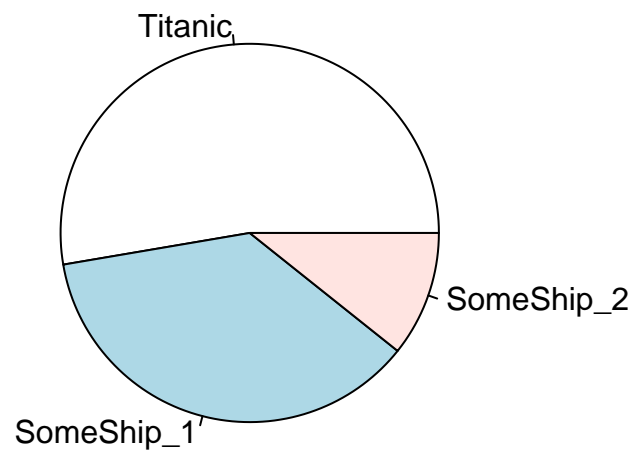
The rest – if any – needs to be edited/deleted as I go:

```
counts <-tally(~Gender, data = Titanic)
pie(counts, main="Gender Distribution of Titanic Passengers")
```

Gender Distribution of Titanic Passengers



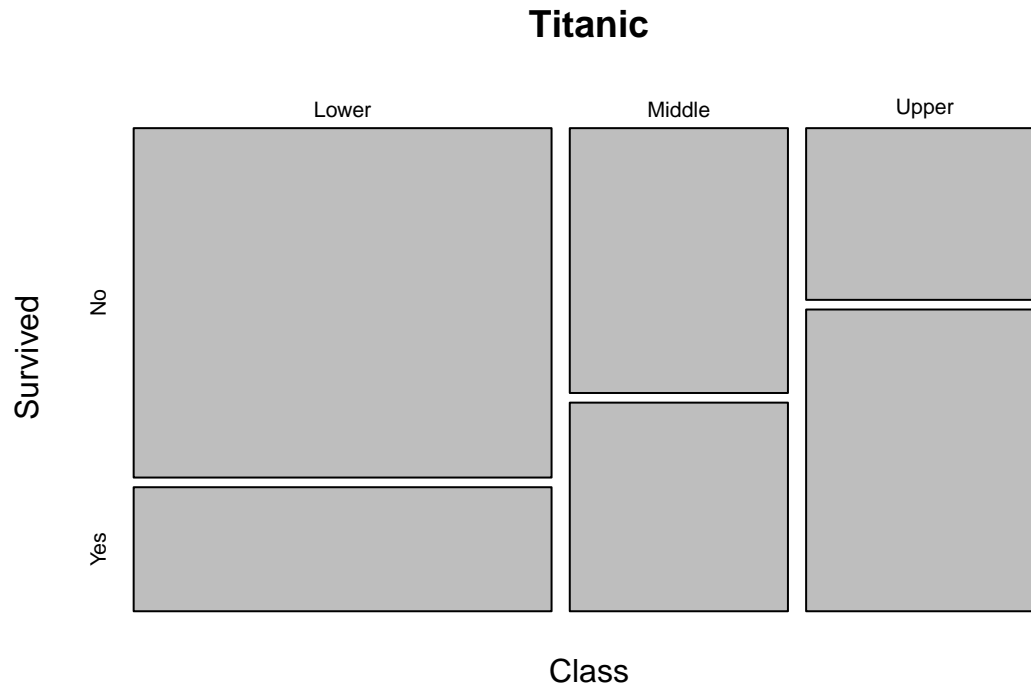
```
fatality_rate <- c(.59,.41,.12)
names(fatality_rate) <- c("Titanic", "SomeShip_1", "SomeShip_2")
pie(fatality_rate)
```



Creating Mosaic Plots:

Of all the plots, this is my favorite; and it is one of the least familiar graph type for the average folks. Mosaic plot conveys meaning in the width of the bars – normally, the height is the only one modified. To make sense of this easier, I will simply run the script and demonstrate what mosaic plots look like.

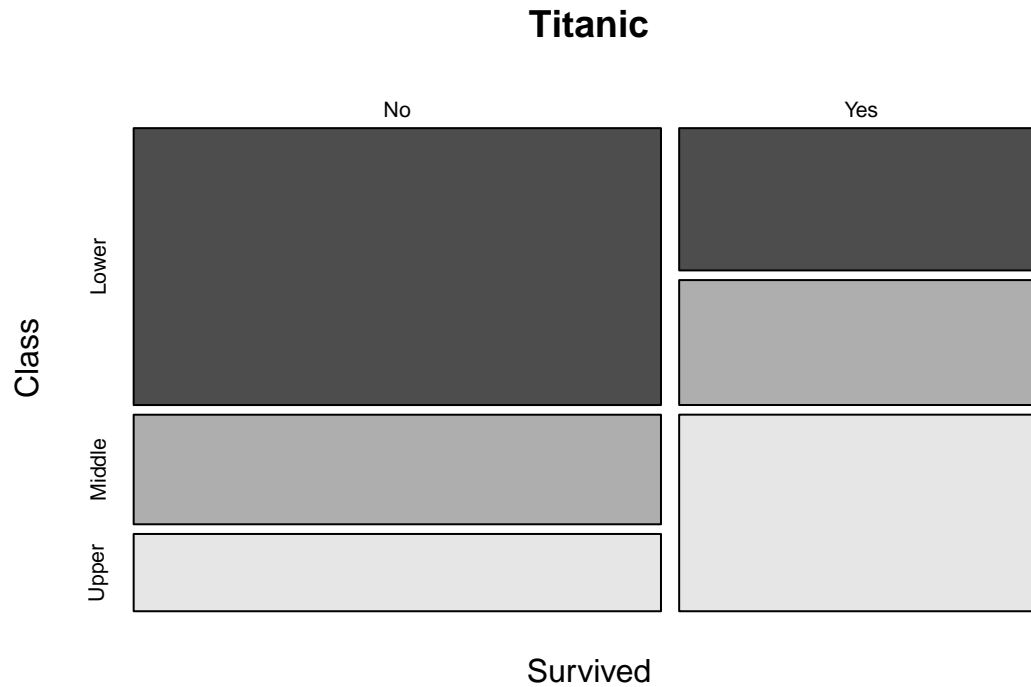
```
mosaicplot(~Class + Survived, data=Titanic)
```



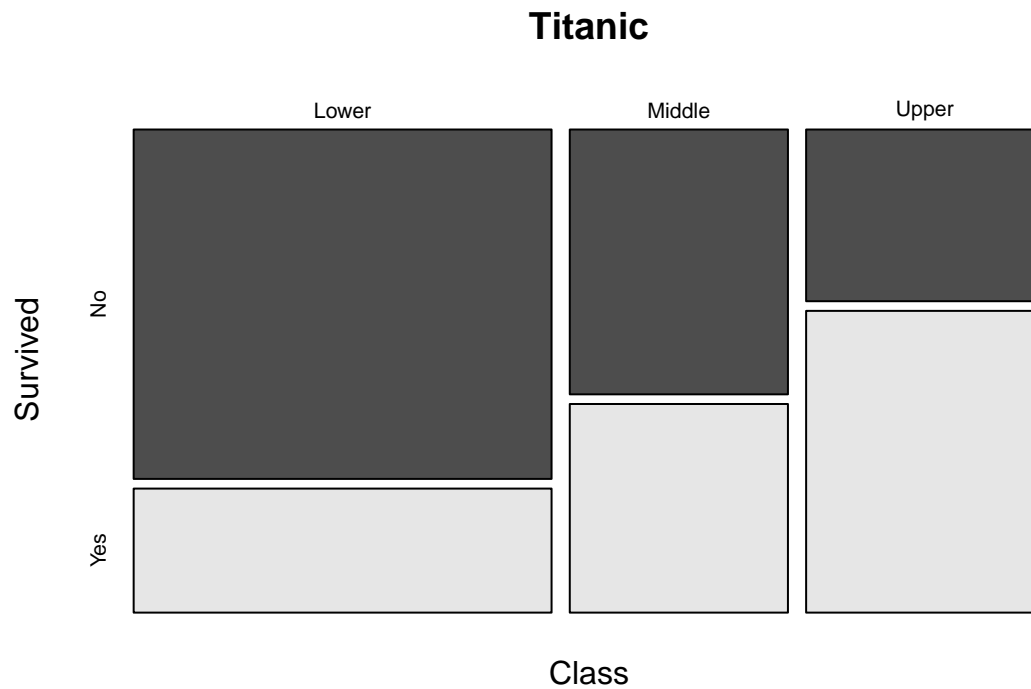
Mosaic Plots are really nice to look at. Also, they provide readers greater meaning as both the width and height are both modified and scaled. Here, the width of the lower, middle and upper class tickets are differentiated as well. So we are given additional context on the spread across the ticket holders.

Alternatively, I could have switched the x-axis with y-axis. Here's a side by side comparison – do note that I am passing the parameter `color=TRUE` inside the `mosaicplot()` in order to add basic colors and for contrast:

```
mosaicplot(~Survived + Class, data=Titanic, color=TRUE)
```



```
mosaicplot(~Class + Survived, data=Titanic, color=TRUE)
```

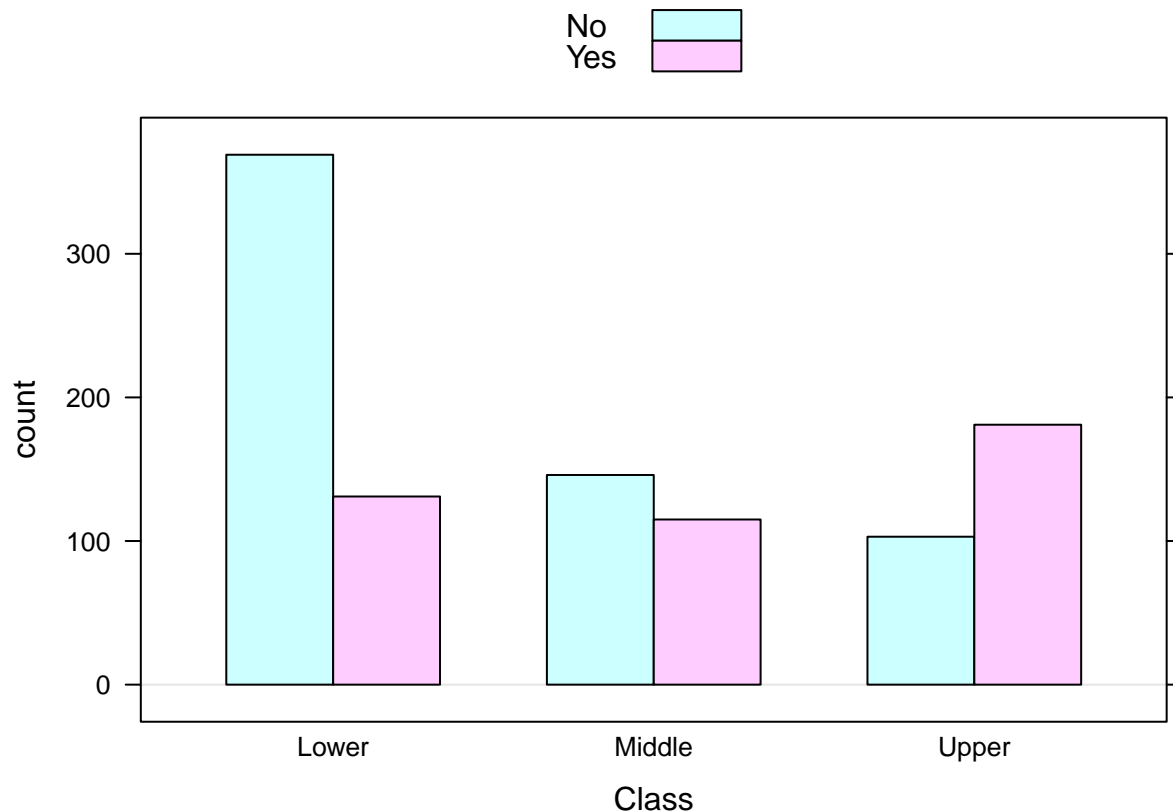


In either case, the mosaic plots were able to provide us extra information on the relationship between Survival and Class with context on their scales. Try to utilize it in your future projects!

Dodged bars for two categorical data:

Dodged bars are often used in comparing categorical data. It is another effective way to contrast patterns. The following script will contrast the distribution of survival across ticket class.

```
bargraph(~Class, groups=Survived, auto.key=TRUE, data=Titanic)
```



Note: For `bargraph()`, I included what may seem foreign to you: `auto.key=TRUE`. While `bargraph()` without this parameter will work, it will not label the sub-categories in each x-axis category.

Advice: Try running the script in your local environment without the `auto.key=TRUE` to see the small but important change made by the said parameter.

Note 2: `bargraph()` lacks flexibility specially in the graphics arena. For example, colors cannot be modified unless done through a drastic and terribly unnecessary code. For 'full' flexibility, `ggplot()` through `ggplot2` is preferred – which is frankly another tutorial on itself.

I will add stuff here as I go:

The rest – if any – needs to be edited/deleted as I go: