# Analyzing Roll Call Votes from the US Senate

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November 21, 2015

```
#Setting up libraries and imports
    require(RSQLite)

## Loading required package: RSQLite
## Loading required package: DBI
    require(ggplot2)

## Loading required package: ggplot2
    require(grid)

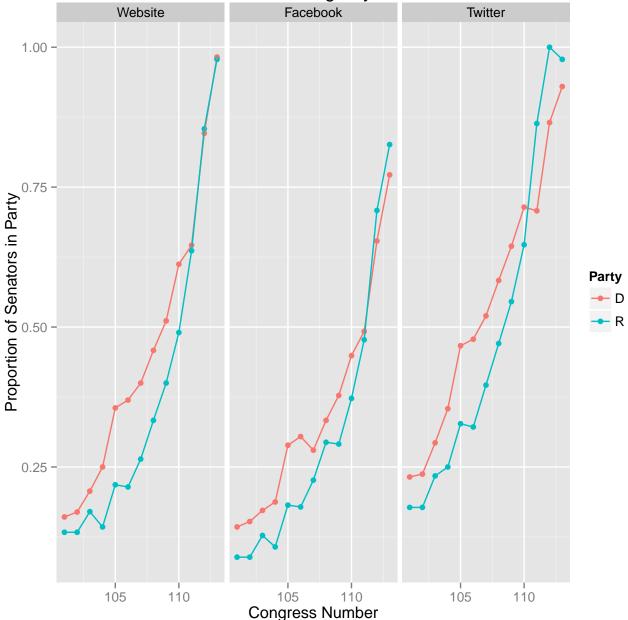
## Loading required package: grid
    require(reshape2)

## Loading required package: reshape2

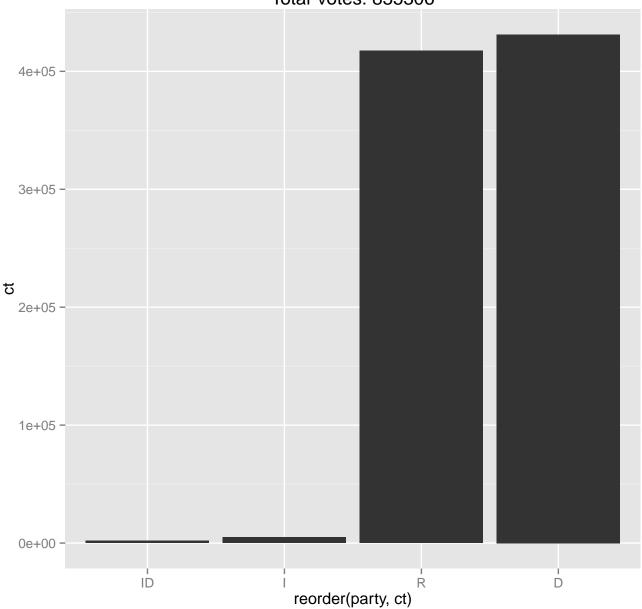
source("../config.R")
    source("../voteAnalysis.R")
```

```
websiteCt = queryDB("SELECT party as Party, congressNumber, count(*) as webct FROM members WHERE URL!='' AND IT
twitterCt = queryDB("SELECT party as Party, congressNumber, count(*) as twitterct FROM members WHERE twitter_s
fbCt = queryDB("SELECT party as Party, congressNumber, count(*) as fbct FROM members WHERE facebook_account!='
totalCt = queryDB("SELECT party as Party, congressNumber, count(*) as totalct FROM members WHERE Party!='I' GI
mediaCt = merge(websiteCt, twitterCt, by=c("Party", "congressNumber"))
mediaCt = merge(mediaCt, fbCt, by=c("Party", "congressNumber"))
mediaCt = merge(mediaCt, totalCt, by=c("Party", "congressNumber"))
mediaCt$Website = mediaCt$webct/mediaCt$totalct
mediaCt$Twitter = mediaCt$twitterct/mediaCt$totalct
mediaCt$Facebook = mediaCt$fbct/mediaCt$totalct
mediaPlotData = melt(mediaCt, measure.vars = c("Website", "Facebook", "Twitter"), id.vars = c("Party", "congre
ggplot(mediaPlotData, aes(x=congressNumber, y=value, color=Party))+geom_point()+geom_line()+facet_wrap(~variable)
```

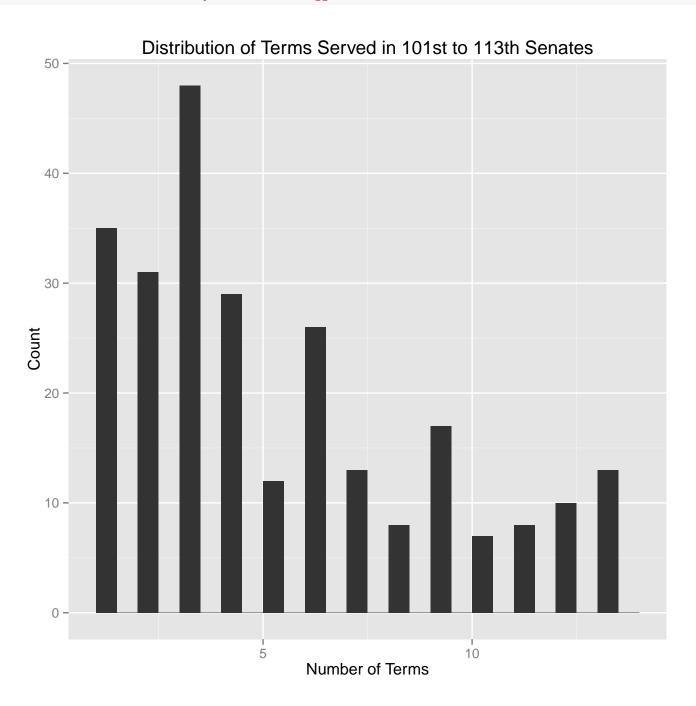




#### Total Number of Votes by Party Total Votes: 855306

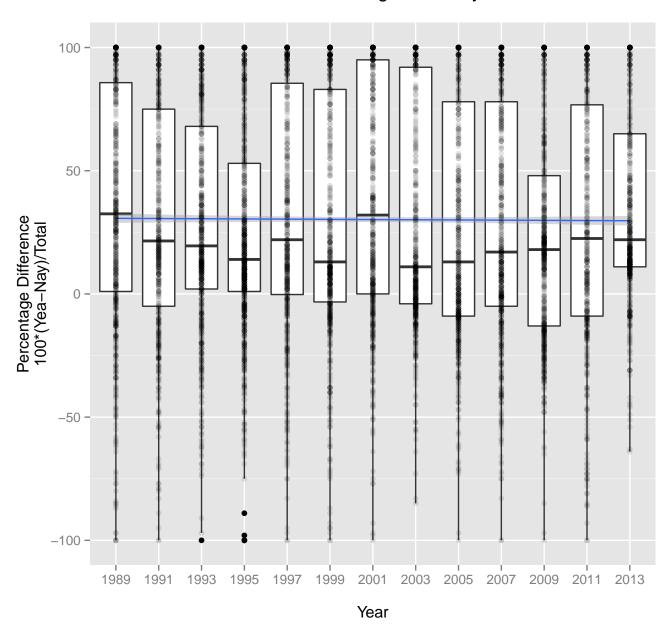


```
query = "SELECT id, first_name, last_name, party, seniority, count(*) AS ct FROM members GROUP BY id ORDER BY ct
senatorTotals = queryDB(query, "data.sqlite")
ggplot(senatorTotals, aes(x = ct)) + xlim(1, 14) + geom_bar(binwidth = 0.5) +
    xlab("Number of Terms") + ylab("Count") + ggtitle("Distribution of Terms Served in 101st to 113th Senates")
```



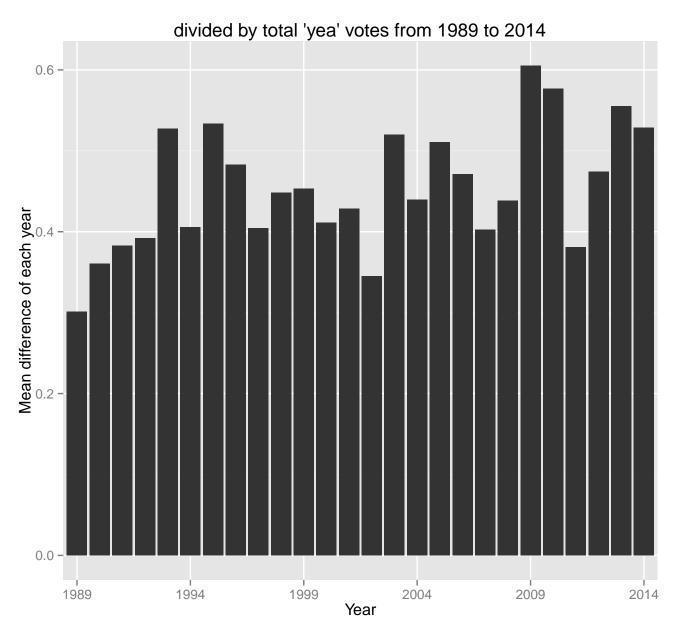
```
query = "SELECT yeas, nays, (yeas+nays) as total, (100*(yeas-nays)/(yeas+nays)) as voteDiff, congressNumber, see
rollCallStats = queryDB(query, "data.sqlite")
rollCallStats$year = apply(rollCallStats, 1, function(x) {
    congressToYear(x["congressNumber"], x["sessionNumber"])
})
ggplot(rollCallStats, aes(x = as.factor(year), y = voteDiff)) + geom_boxplot() +
    geom_smooth(aes(group = 1), method = "lm") + geom_point(alpha = 0.1) + ggtitle("Roll-call Vote Disagreement
    xlab("\nYear") + ylab("Percentage Difference\n100*(Yea-Nay)/Total")
```

#### Roll-call Vote Disagreement by Year

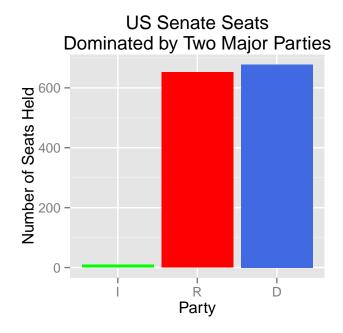


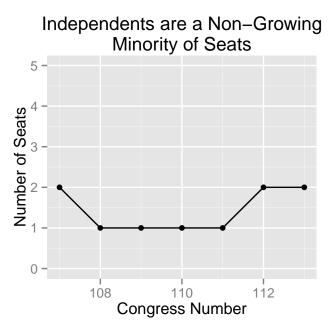
```
query = "select r.year as year, r.voteNumber as voteNumber,
            abs(r.c - d.c) * 1.0 / (r.c + d.c) as diff
         from (select voteNumber, year, count(*) as c
               where vote == 'Yea' and party == 'R' group by year, voteNumber)
               as r
              join
            (select voteNumber, year, count(*) as c
               from votes
               where vote == 'Yea' and party == 'D' group by year, voteNumber)
            on r.voteNumber == d.voteNumber and r.year == d.year"
yeaDiff = queryDB(query, "data.sqlite")
yeaDiffMean = setNames(aggregate(diff ~ year, yeaDiff, mean), c("year", "mean"))
yeaDiffSd = setNames(aggregate(diff ~ year, yeaDiff, sd), c("year", "std"))
yeaDiffDistribution = merge(yeaDiffMean, yeaDiffSd, by="year")
ggplot(yeaDiffDistribution) +
aes(x = year, y = mean) +
scale_x_discrete(breaks=c(1989,1994,1999,2004,2009,2014)) +
labs(title="Mean of difference of 'yea' votes of two majority parties
     \ndivided by total 'yea' votes from 1989 to 2014") +
xlab("Year") +
ylab("Mean difference of each year") +
geom_bar(stat="identity")
```

# Mean of difference of 'yea' votes of two majority parties

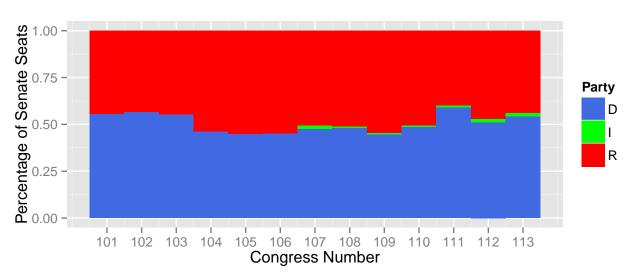


```
partyData = queryDB("SELECT party as Party, count(*) as ct FROM members WHERE party!='ID' GROUP BY party")
a = ggplot(partyData, aes(x=reorder(Party, ct), y=ct))+geom_bar(stat="identity", fill=c("green", "red", "#4168"
independentDataByYear = queryDB("SELECT party as Party, congressNumber, count(*) as ct FROM members WHERE party
b=ggplot(independentDataByYear, aes(x=congressNumber, y=ct))+geom_point()+geom_line()+ggtitle("")+ylim(0,5)+xl
partyDataByYear = queryDB("SELECT party as Party, congressNumber, count(*) as ct FROM members WHERE party!='II
c = ggplot(partyDataByYear, aes(x=congressNumber, y=ct, fill=Party))+scale_fill_manual(name = "Party", values
grid.newpage()
pushViewport(viewport(layout=grid.layout(2, 2)))
print(a, vp = viewport(layout.pos.row=1, layout.pos.col=1))
print(b, vp = viewport(layout.pos.row=2, layout.pos.col=1:2))
```





### Senate Seats Held Per Party By Year



```
passedQuery <- "select 'Pass' as res, congressNumber, count(*) as cnt</pre>
          from senateRollCalls
          where result == 'Agreed to'
                or result == 'Confirmed'
                or result == 'Passed'
          group by congressNumber"
passedResults <- queryDB(passedQuery, "data.sqlite")</pre>
failedQuery <- "select 'Fail' as res, congressNumber, count(*) as cnt</pre>
          from senateRollCalls
          where result == 'Rejected'
          group by congressNumber"
failedResults <- queryDB(failedQuery, "data.sqlite")</pre>
results <- rbind(passedResults, failedResults)</pre>
ggplot(results) + aes(x=congressNumber, y=cnt, fill=res) +
  geom_histogram(position="fill", stat="identity", width=1) +
  scale_fill_manual(name = "res", values = c("red", "green")) +
  xlab("Congress Number\n") +
  scale_x_continuous(breaks=101:113) +
  ylab("\nPercentage of positive and negative results of bills") +
  ggtitle("Passed/failed bills count By Year\n")
```

# Passed/failed bills count By Year

