

Practical 5

Jumping Rivers

In this question, we are going to use a `for` statement to loop over a large data set and construct some scatter plots. As a note, we could do a lot of this task using facets in `ggplot2`, but it is good practise for your `for` loop skills and as you'll see in some places using a `for` loop is beneficial. To generate the data, run the following piece of R code

```
data(experiment, package = "jrProgramming")
head(exper)
```

The data frame `exper` represents an experiment, where we have ten treatments: A, B, \dots, J and measurements at some time points. We want to create a scatter plot of measurement against time, for each treatment type.

1. First we create a scatter plot of one treatment:

```
library("dplyr")
library("ggplot2")
treat_a = filter(exper, treat == "A")
ggplot(treat_a, aes(x = time, y = values)) +
  geom_point()
```

2. To generate a scatter-plot for each treatment, we need to iterate over the different treatment types:

```
for(treatment in unique(exper$treat)) {
  group = filter(exper, treat == treatment)
  g = ggplot(group, aes(x = time, y = values)) +
    geom_point()
  print(g)
  readline("Hit return for next plot")
}
```

- What does `unique(exper$treat)` give?
- In the `for` loop, what variable is changing? What are its possible values?
- What does the `readline()` function do?

Questions

1. We can change the x -axis label using the `xlab()` function:

```
ggplot(group, aes(x = time, y = values)) +
  geom_point() +
  xlab("Time")
```

Use the `ylab()` function to alter the y -axis label.

2. To add a title to a plot we use the `ggtitle()` function, viz:

```
ggplot(treat_a, aes(x = time, y = values)) +
  geom_point() +
  xlab("Time") +
  ylab("Measurement") +
  ggtitle("Treatment")
```

We can combine strings/characters using the `paste()` function,

Rather than have a static title, make the title of each plot display the treatment type.

3. The y -axis range should really be the same in all graphics. Use the `ylim()` function to fix the range, like below, but using better y -limits. **Hint:** Work out the range before the `for` loop.

```
ggplot(treat_a, aes(x = time, y = values)) +
  geom_point() +
  ylim(-100,100)
```

4. At each iteration, use the `message()` function to print the average measurement level across all time points. Look at the message help page for examples of it's use!
5. On each graph, highlight any observations with a blue point if they are larger than the mean + standard deviations or less than the mean - standard deviations. You should be using another `geom_point()`. **Hint:** You don't need `if` statements here. Just subset your data frame and pass this new data frame to the `geom_point()` function, i.e.

```
geom_point(data = outliers, aes(x = time, y = values))
```

6. Suppose we wanted to save individual graphs in a pdf file. We can use the `ggsave` function like so

```
ggsave(filename = "treatment.pdf", plot = g)
```

To get unique file names, use the `paste0()` function.

7. Put your code, i.e. the `for` loop and plotting commands, in a function which takes the data frame as an argument.

Solutions

Solutions are contained within this package:

```
vignette("solutions5", package = "jrProgramming")
```