

Practical 1 Solutions

Jumping Rivers

Getting Started

First load the **ggplot2** package

```
library("ggplot2")
```

and the OK Cupid data set

```
data(okcupid, package = "jrSouth")
```

Scatter plots

1. Let's start by creating a basic scatter plot of the heights and ages. We do this using the `geom_point()` command

```
# alpha makes the points transparent
ggplot(data = okcupid) +
  geom_point(aes(x = age, y = height), alpha = 0.2)
```

2. To save typing, we're going to store the original ggplot object as a variable

```
g = ggplot(data = okcupid)
g1 = g + geom_point(aes(x = age, y = height), alpha = 0.2)
```

So now running `g1` will produce the graph

```
g1
```

3. The arguments `x` and `y` here are called aesthetics. What do you think happens if you omit the `y` aesthetic?

```
# this gives an error
```

4. For `geom_point()`, both the `x` and `y` aesthetics are required. This particular geom has other aesthetics: shape, colour, size and alpha.¹ For instance we can specify that we wish to map the variable `sex` to a colour aesthetic by including it inside `aes()`

```
g + geom_point(aes(x = age, y = height, colour = sex))
```

5. Change `colour = sex` to `colour = height`. Why do you think there's a change in the legend?

Bar plots

`geom_bar()` can be used to create a bar chart. It requires only one aesthetic and that is `x`. For the provided aesthetic, the frequencies will be calculated and shown as a bar. For example

```
g + geom_bar(aes(x = body_type))
```

1. Change the axis labels to "Body Type" and "Total" by adding two more layers, using `+ xlab("Body Type")` and `+ ylab("Total")`

¹These are available for most geoms. For a collection of aesthetics see the relevant help pages.

```
g + geom_bar(aes(x = body_type)) +
  xlab("Body Type") +
  ylab("Total")
```

2. Split the graph up into the two genders (hint: use `colour` and `fill`).

```
# What happens if you only have colour or only fill?
g + geom_bar(aes(x = body_type, colour = sex, fill = sex))
```

3. With such long labels, it might make more sense to rotate the graph such that the bars and labels are horizontal. Switch the x and y axes using a `coord_flip()` layer added to your graph.

```
g + geom_bar(aes(x = body_type, colour = sex, fill = sex)) +
  coord_flip()
```

4. I am not too keen on how the female and male bars are displayed on top of each other. The argument to change these is `position`. The default is `stack`, for example we can put the bars next to each other using

```
g + geom_bar(aes(x = body_type, colour = sex, fill = sex), position = "dodge") +
  coord_flip()
```

Other values you might try here are `position = fill`, `position = jitter`, or `position = identity`.

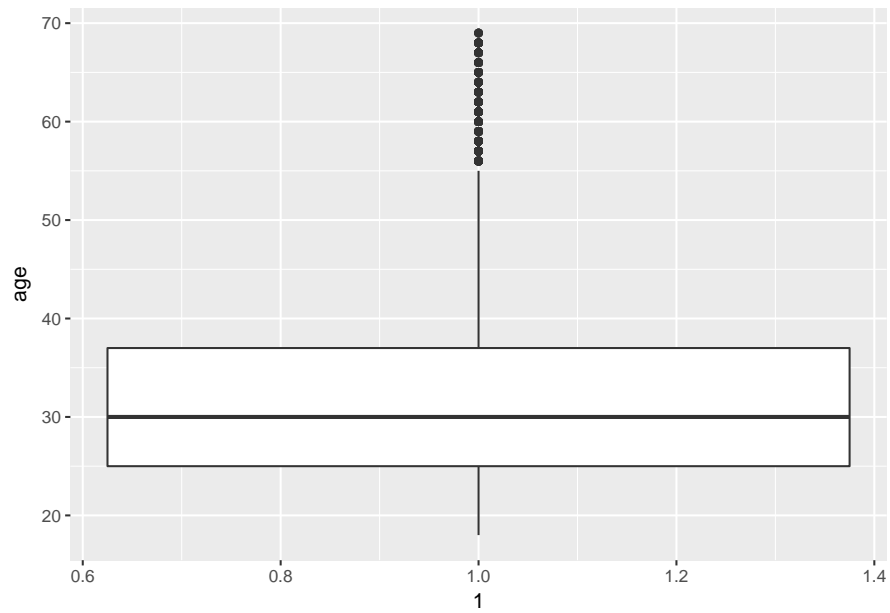
5. What does the `fill` position argument do?

```
g + geom_bar(aes(x = body_type, colour = sex, fill = sex), position = "fill") +
  coord_flip()
# puts the values on a common scale (all sum to 1)
```

Box plots

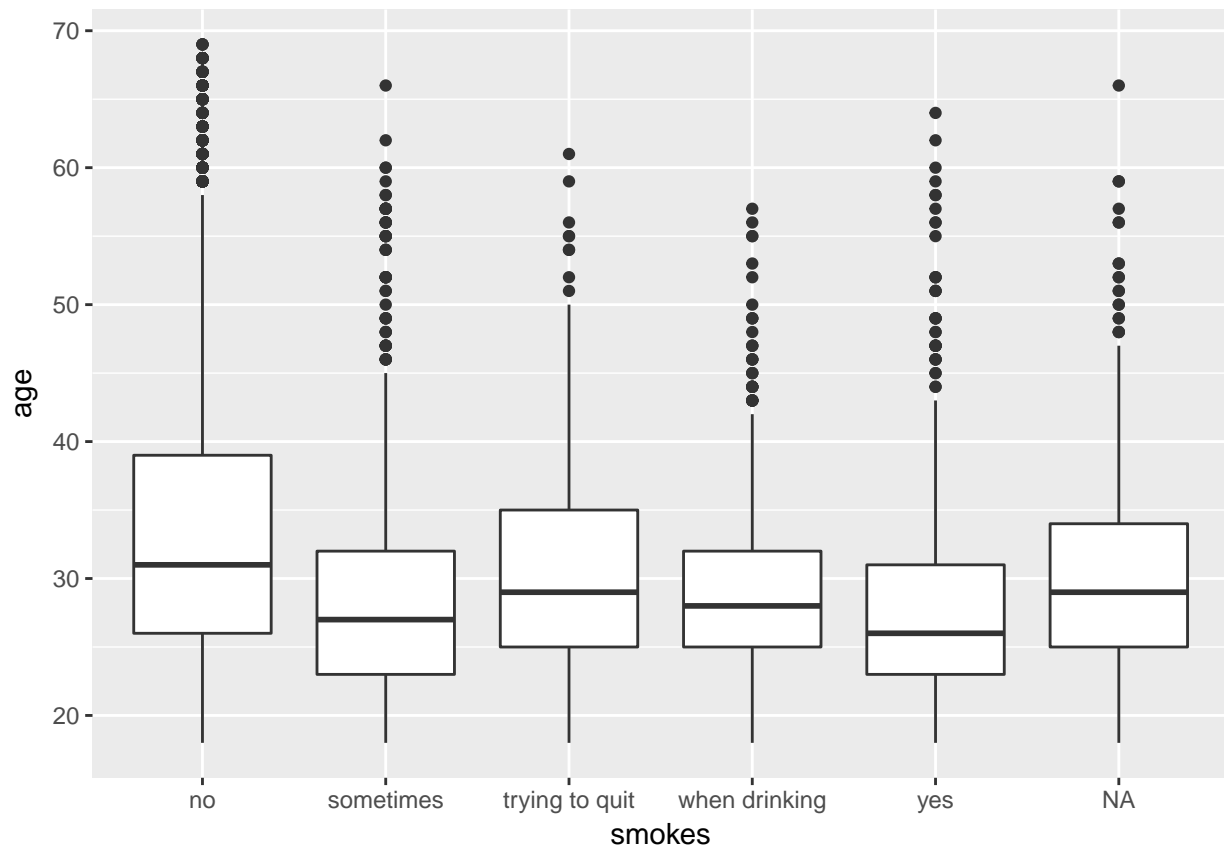
1. Box plots are a great way to visualise the shape of a distribution of some variable. Start by creating a boxplot of peoples ages in the `okcupid` data. The `x = 1` in the code below lets us have just a single boxplot for all ages

```
g = ggplot(okcupid)
g + geom_boxplot(aes(x = 1, y = age))
```



2. Switch out the `x = 1` for `x = smokes` to get a boxplot for each group

```
g + geom_boxplot(aes(x = smokes, y = age))
```



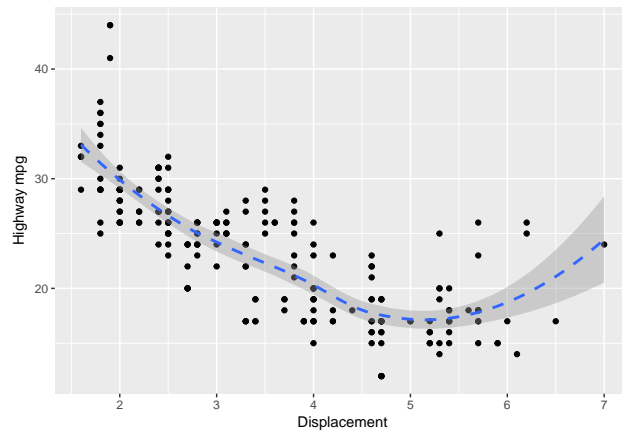


Figure 1: Graphics for section 1

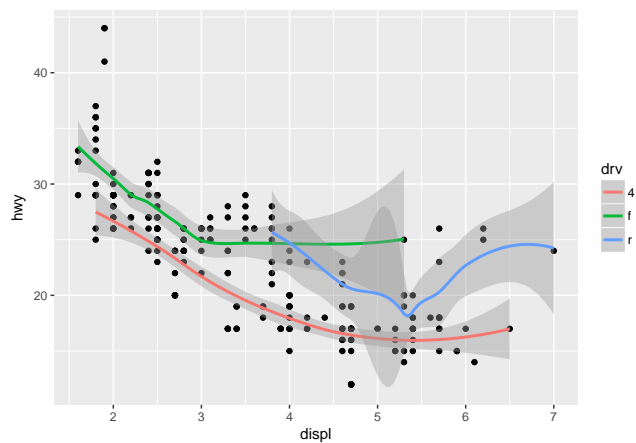


Figure 2: Graphics for section 1

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The aim of this section is to recreate the graphics in figure 1 and 2. Feel free to experiment. To begin, load the package

```
library("ggplot2")
```

and the mpg data set

```
data(mpg, package="ggplot2")
dim(mpg)
```

- 1) Figure 1: Create a scatter plot of engine displacement, `displ`, against highway mpg, `hwy`. To get started:

```
ggplot(data=mpg, aes(x=displ, y=hwy)) +
  geom_point() + xlab("Displacement")
```

Now add a dashed loess line and change the `y`-axis label. Hint: try `stat_smooth()` and `ylab('New label')`.

- 2) Figure 2: Using `stat_smooth()`, add a loess line conditional on the drive.