

Creating interactive web graphics often requires a heterogeneous set of technical skills including data skills, analytical skills, web development and design. Data needs to be acquired, cleaned, transformed and then sent to a web app for rendering. This leads to a barrier to entry for an analyst to effectively explore data and create interactive graphics in a single language in a flexible, iterative and reproducible way. This chapter will cover how a new **R** package, **ggvis**, lets researchers and analysts communicate results using interactive graphics. **ggvis** brings together three ideas: 1) it is based on the *grammar of graphics*, a way to define the elements of a graphic; 2) it provides reactive and interactivity in a web-based graphic and; 3) provides a method for creating data pipelines in code making graphic creation more comprehensible.

I'll start the chapter by going over the technology suite and dependencies required to run **ggvis**. I'll also cover the data used in the chapter and where to obtain it. Once the computing and data is covered, I'll introduce how **ggvis** utilizes the *grammar of graphics* to break graphs into components made up of *data*, a *coordinate system*, a *mark type* and *properties*, such as, fill color. This modularity allows analysts to better understand the graphical elements and easily swap out different components to make up **n** of plots. With a basic grasp of the **ggvis** *grammar of graphics*, I'll start to use **ggvis** to build simple static graphs with built-in datasets in R. While demonstrating how to create simple plots, such as, *histograms*, *bar charts*, and *scatter plots*, I'll introduce how **ggvis** incorporates *data pipelines* to improve code readability. I will also

show how **ggvis** employs features from the data manipulation package, **dplyr**, to filter, summarize, or transform the data for in preparation graphing.

After covering the features in **ggvis**, I'll introduce interactivity by plotting library datasets (gate count data, ejournal usage, catalog data). Starting simply, I'll will add a bin slider to a histogram . I will then introduce how to create interactive scatterplots and line graphs with various interactive inputs (a third variable fill color, etc). Finally, I'll introduce and embed our ggvis plots in Rmarkdown to create an interactive report. We will also cover, briefly how to embed and publish out ggvis plots in a shiny app.

I'll discuss the current limitations of ggvis, that its in heavy development and currently not recommended for production use.

However, with this in mind, ggvis opens the door for a librarian with knowledge of R to create interactive graphics without knowing the intricacies of a javascript framework and to do it while just speaking R. Furthermore, ggvis adoption of both a grammar of graphics and ability to compose multiple pipelines makes it flexible and powerful tool.