

Git Refresher + Distill Blog Deployment

Maithreyi Gopalan

Week 7

Data viz in the wild

Songyi

Maithreyi Gopalan on Deck

Agenda

- Git Refresher - Using R-Studio and Terminal instead of GitKraken or other clients
- Websites w/Distill
 - Same sort of thing, but also w/deployment
- Wrap up loose ends with Flexdashboards
 - We'll create together, but also skim some slides
- Some customization w/CSS (including fonts)
 - I think there's a good chance we won't get to this today
 - If not, we'll come back to this on Week 9

Gittttttttttt

Git vs. Github vs. GitKraken (or other clients)

<https://docs.github.com/en/get-started/start-your-journey/about-github-and-git>

Is Git insalled?

Go to the `shell` and check and request the path to your Git executable by typing

which git

`/usr/bin/git`

and `git --version` to see its version

If you are successful, that's great! You have Git already. No need to install!

If, instead, you see something more like `git: command not found`, then you need to install git

Introduce yourself to Git

- You can use the terminal directly by
 - `git config --global user.name "Jane Doe"`
 - `git config --global user.email "jane@example.com"`
 - `git config --global --list`
- Or you can use R-Studio and the [usethis](#)

Optional - Install a Git Client like GitKraken - I will not be showing this!!!

- <https://happygitwithr.com/git-client>

PAT for Https

- Generate your PAT if you haven't done that
 - `usethis::create_github_token()`
 - or go to <https://github.com/settings/tokens> and click "Generate token"
 - Provide this PAT next time a Git operation asks for your password
- My recommendation - Get out ahead of this and store the PAT explicitly right now
 - In R, call `gitcreds::gitcreds_set()`, to get a prompt where you can paste your PAT
 - Paste the PAT in response to the dialogue in the console
 - You should be able to work with GitHub now, i.e. push and pull.

Connect to Github

- Create a new repo online in Github
- Clone that repo to your local computer
 - `git clone`
<https://github.com/maithgopalan/myrepo.git>
- Make it your working directory
 - `cd myrepo`
- Make a minor change to your readme.md file and push it to your remote
- More info [here](#)

Websites
w/Distill

Sub-agenda

- Introduce Distill
- Deployment

Learning objectives

- Get at least a basic site deployed

By the end of the day! You will have a site!

Distill

<https://rstudio.github.io/distill/>

Please follow along

```
install.packages("distill")
```

```
# or
```

```
#remotes::install_github("rstudio/distill")
```

Back to RStudio

Create new project


New Project

Back


Project Type

R Package using RcppParallel

>

 Website using blogdown

>

 Book Project using bookdown

>

R Package using devtools

>

Distill Blog

>

Distill Website

>

Simple R Markdown Website

>

Cancel

The steps

- Create a new RStudio Project
- Select distill blog
- **Make sure** to Select "Configure for GitHub Pages"

New Project

Back Create Distill Blog

Directory name:

Create project as subdirectory of:

~/Desktop Browse...

Title: My Blog

☒ Configure for GitHub Pages

Click this

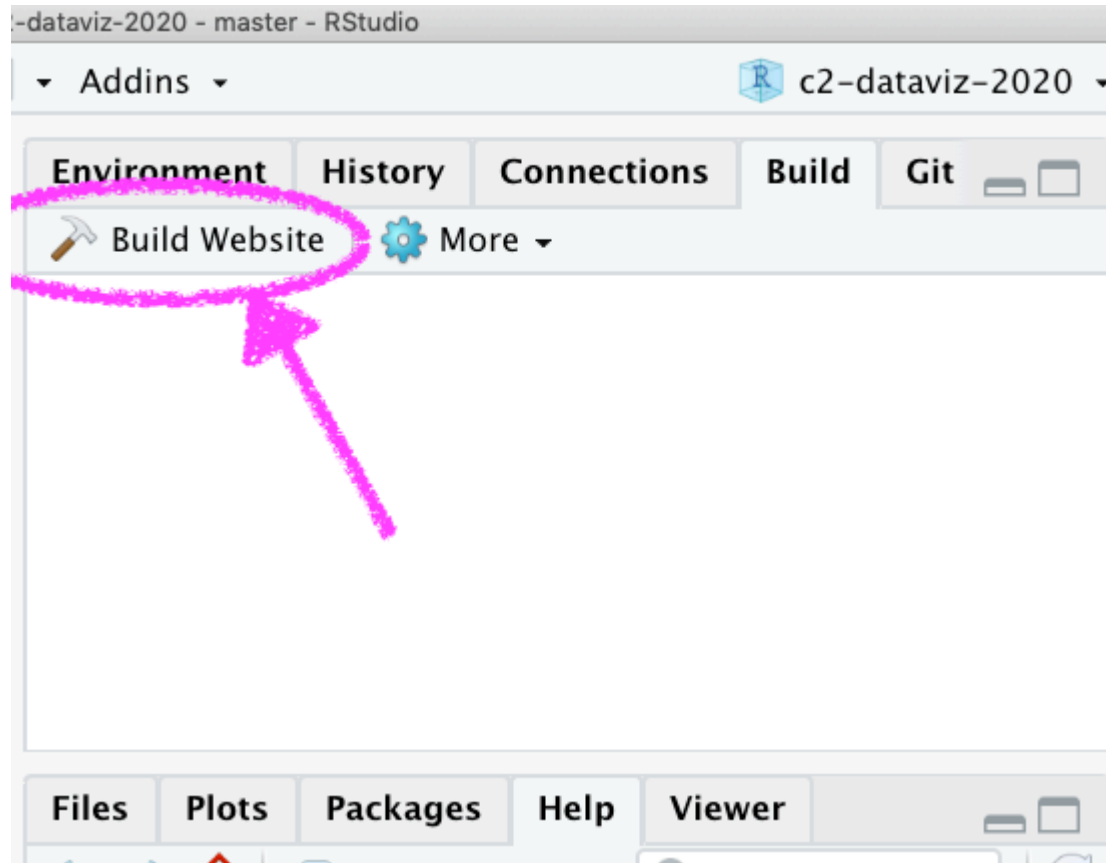
Customize

- Make changes to welcome.rmd
- Knit!!

Author a new article

- `distill::create_post()`
- Create another one!

Build your website



Connect to GitHub

Use the project-first workflow
and publish the docs folder

[Demo]

Deployment of ghpages

maithgopalan / distilldemo_feb19

<> Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights **Settings**

General

Access

Collaborators

Moderation options

Code and automation

Branches

Tags

Rules

Actions

Webhooks

Environments

Codespaces

Pages

Security

Code security

Deploy keys

Secrets and variables

Integrations

GitHub Apps

Email notifications

Autolink references

GitHub Pages

GitHub Pages is designed to host your personal, organization, or project pages from a GitHub repository.

Build and deployment

Source

Deploy from a branch

Branch

Your GitHub Pages site is currently being built from the `/docs` folder in the `main` branch. [Learn more about configuring the publishing source for your site.](#)

main /docs Save

Learn how to [add a Jekyll theme](#) to your site.

Custom domain

Custom domains allow you to serve your site from a domain other than `maithgopalan.github.io`. [Learn more about configuring custom domains.](#)

Save Remove

☒ Enforce HTTPS

— Required for your site because you are using the default domain (`maithgopalan.github.io`)

HTTPS provides a layer of encryption that prevents others from snooping on or tampering with traffic to your site. When HTTPS is enforced, your site will only be served over HTTPS. [Learn more about securing your GitHub Pages site with HTTPS.](#)

Visibility [GitHub Enterprise](#)

With a GitHub Enterprise account, you can restrict access to your GitHub Pages site by publishing it privately. You can use privately published sites to share your internal documentation or knowledge base with members of your enterprise. You can try GitHub Enterprise risk-free for 30 days. [Learn more about the visibility of your GitHub Pages site.](#)

Start free for 30 days

That's
basically it!



Base URL

Once your site is deployed (or you know the link it will be deployed to), change the `base_url` in the `_site.yml`

- Gives some nice sharing features (twitter cards)
- Allows you to use citations

A few additional features

Categories

- You make up the category names. Tag posts with those categories, and they will be linkable

```
---  
categories:  
- ggplot2  
---
```

Distill Blog Demo Check

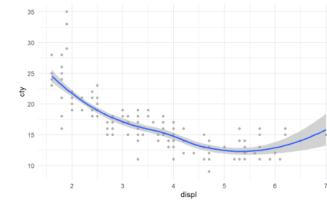
Distill Blog Demo Check

Feb. 19, 2025
Maththeyi Gopalan

First-post

ggplot2

A short description of the post.

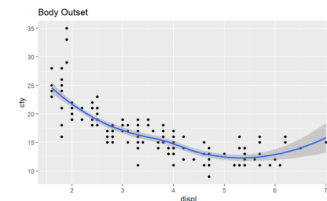


CATEGORIES
articles (3)
ggplot2 (1)

Feb. 19, 2025
Maththeyi Gopalan

Second-post

A short description of the post.



Feb. 19, 2025
Maththeyi Gopalan

Welcome to Distill Blog Demo Check

Welcome to our new blog, Distill Blog Demo Check. We hope you enjoy reading what we have to say!

Navigation

All controlled with `_site.yml`

- Let's add a github logo that links to our repo `

```
name: "distilldemo_feb19" title: "Distill Blog Demo Check"
description: | Distill Blog Demo Check output_dir: "docs"
base_url: https://maithgopalan.github.io/distilldemo\_feb19/
navbar: right:
```

```
- text: "Home"
  href: index.html
- text: "About"
  href: about.html
- icon: fa fa-github
  href: https://github.com/maithgopalan/distilldemo\_feb19
```

```
output: distill::distill_article
```

Youc can create drop-down menus - again edit the `_site.yml`

```
---
navbar:
  left:
    - text: "Labs"
      menu:
        - text: "Getting Started with R"
          href: "lab1.html"
        - text: "Visualizing Distributions"
          href: "lab2.html"
  right:
    - text: "Home"
      href: index.html
    - text: "About"
      href: about.html
    - icon: fa fa-github
      href: https://github.com/maithgopalan/distilldemo_feb19
---
```

Drafts

If you want to work on a post for a while without it being included in your website, use `draft = TRUE`

```
distill::create_post("My new post", draft =  
TRUE)
```

```
---  
title: "My work on Lab 3"  
description: |  
  This lab was hard!  
draft: true  
---
```

Figures

Change figure options with chunk options

- `layout = "l-body"` (default)
- `layout = "l-body-outset"`
- `layout = "l-page"`
- `layout = "l-screen"`
 - `layout = "l-screen-inset"`
 - `layout = "l-screen-inset shaded"`

Try it out!

Additional figure options

- Rather than using ``, you can use `knitr::include_graphics()` to have the same options.
- Use `fig.cap` in chunk options to give nice figure captions.
- Note these options should work for tables as well

Side notes

```
<aside>
```

This is some text that will appear in the margin - similar to Tufte's style. It is

```
</aside>
```

You can also use this to show small plots

```
<aside>
```

```
ggplot(mtcars, aes(mpg)) +  
  geom_histogram() +  
  labs(title = "Distribution of Miles Per Gallon")
```

```
</aside>
```

Customizing the theme

Use `distill::create_theme("style")`

- Creates a `style.css` file (or whatever you want to call it in the above)
- Modify `_site.yml` to

```
output:  
  distill::distill_article:  
    css: style.css
```


- Modify small elements

```
.distill-site-nav {  
  color: rgba(255, 255, 255, 0.8);  
  background-color: #455a64;  
  font-size: 15px;  
  font-weight: 300;  
}
```

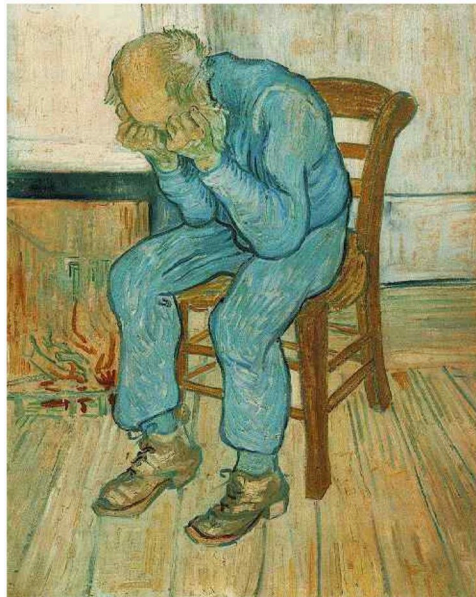
becomes

```
.distill-site-nav {  
  color: rgba(255, 255, 255, 0.8);  
  background-color: #FF5FDD;  
  font-size: 15px;  
  font-weight: 300;  
}
```

This can be fun!

Just be careful not to go too far: from Yihui

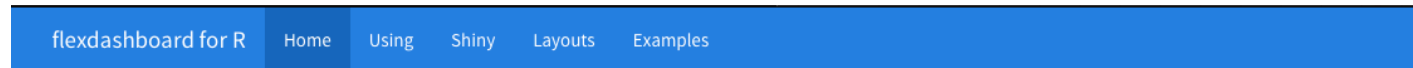
Debugging CSS, van Gogh (1890)



Dashboards!

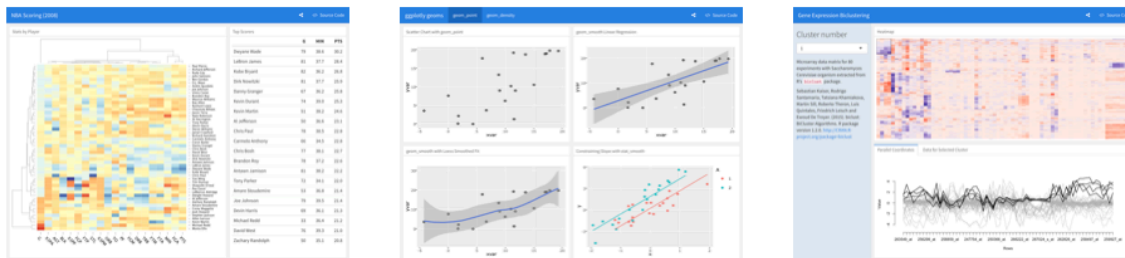
The definitive source!

<https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com/flexdashboard/>



flexdashboard: Easy interactive dashboards for R

- Use [R Markdown](#) to publish a group of related data visualizations as a dashboard.
- Support for a wide variety of components including [htmlwidgets](#); base, lattice, and grid graphics; tabular data; gauges and value boxes; and text annotations.
- Flexible and easy to specify row and column-based [layouts](#). Components are intelligently re-sized to fill the browser and adapted for display on mobile devices.
- [Storyboard](#) layouts for presenting sequences of visualizations and related commentary.
- Optionally use [Shiny](#) to drive visualizations dynamically.



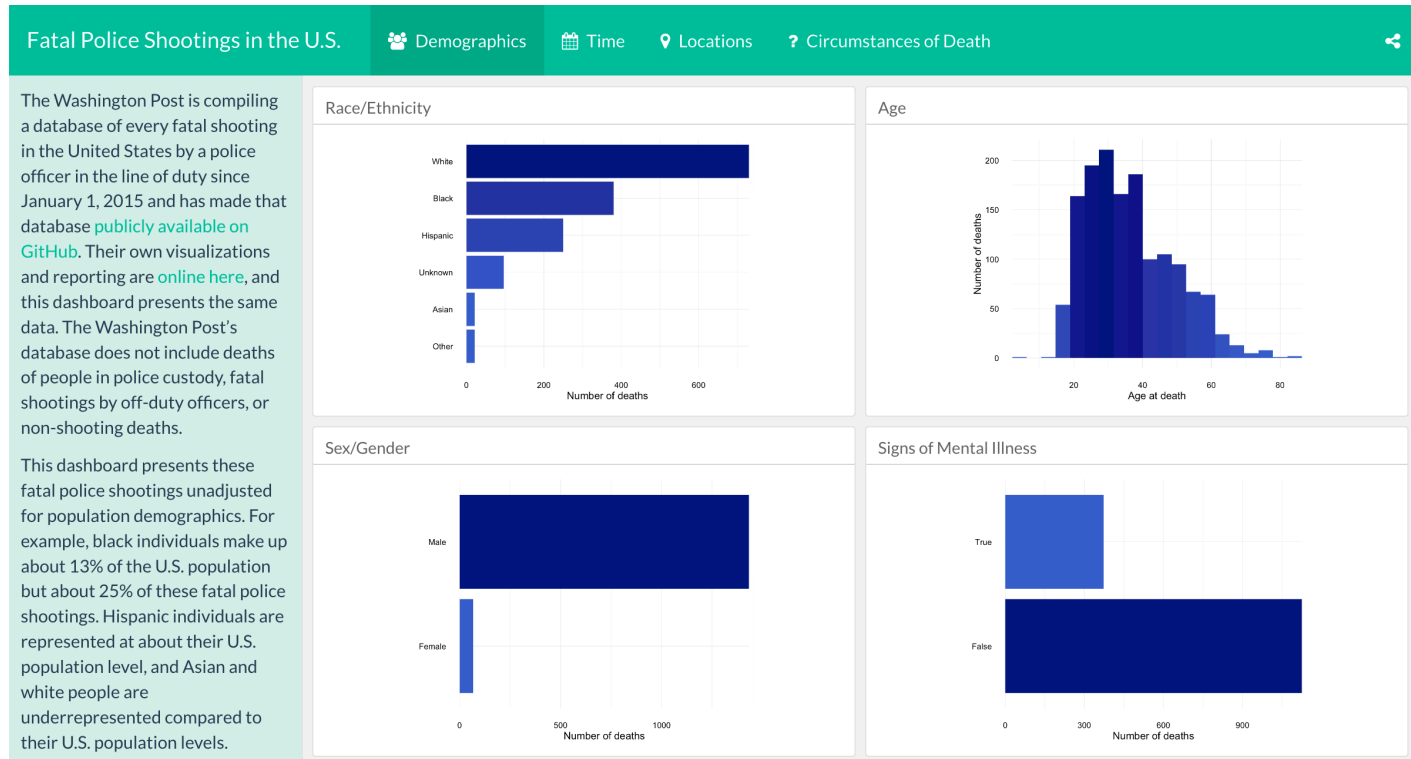
Getting Started

Install the **flexdashboard** package from CRAN as follows:

```
install.packages("flexdashboard")
```

{width="75%"}

Example



By [Julia Silge](#) (see the [blog post](#), [dashboard](#), and [source code](#))

Credit: This example from [Alison Hill's rstudio::conf\(2019L\) class](#)



{width="75%"}





By [Jennifer Thompson](#) (see the [blog post](#), [dashboard](#), and [source code](#))

Credit: This example from [Alison Hill's rstudio::conf\(2019L\) class](#)

Getting started

```
#install.packages("flexdashboard")
```

New R Markdown

-  Document
-  Presentation
-  Shiny
-  From Template

Template:

 [Using R Markdown Templates](#)

Custom theming	{bslib}
Legacy custom theming	{bslib}
Real-time theming	{bslib}
Flex Dashboard	{flexdashboard}
Business Card	{pagedown}
HTML Letter	{pagedown}
HTML Poster (Jacobs University)	{pagedown}
HTML Poster (the ReLaXed style)	{pagedown}
HTML Resume	{pagedown}

Do it

knit right away
Add some plots
Play

05:00

Columns

- Define new column with

Column

- Optionally specify the width with `{data-width}`
- Annoyingly, be careful with spacing!

`{data-width=650}` will work

but

`{data-width = 650}` will not work

New squares

Square title< r code chunk >

- Each time you add a square it will split the area evenly among all the squares

Thinking in rows

- Change the YAML to

```
output:  
  flexdashboard::flex_dashboard:  
    orientation: rows
```

- Each ### will then create a new column
- Add new rows with

Row

- Modify height with {data-height=XXX}

Pages

You can easily specify multiple pages by just specifying a Level 1 Header

```
# Page 1
```

```
Column {data-width=650}
```

```
-----
```

```
### Chart A
```

```
< r code>
```

```
Column {data-width=350}
```

```
-----
```

```
### Chart B
```

```
< r code>
```

```
### Chart C
```

```
< r code>
```

```
# Page 2
```

A brief aside on interactivity

- Things like `reactable::reactable` and `plotly::ggplotly` can help give your dashboard some nice interactivity.

Steps to interactivity

With multipage layouts

Add `runtime: shiny` to your YAML

```
---  
title: "My amazing dashboard"  
runtime: shiny  
output:  
  flexdashboard::flex_dashboard:  
    orientation: columns  
    vertical_layout: fill  
---
```

Save your interactive piece into an object, and call the corresponding `render*` function.

```
p <- ggplot(...)  
renderPlotly(p)
```

```
tbl <- reactable(...)  
renderReactable(tbl)
```

Sidebar

- Julia Silge's had a nice sidebar where she explained things about the flexdashboard... You can have this too!

Sidebar Title {.sidebar}

Your text here. You can use markdown syntax, including [links](http://blah.com), **italics**, ****bolding****, etc.

- Multiple pages? Just change the separator to keep it there

Sidebar {.sidebar}

=====

Your text here. You can use markdown syntax, including [links](h

Tabsets

This is actually a standard R Markdown feature, but you can use it with flexdashboards as well

```
Column {.tabset}
```

```
### Chart 1
```

```
< r code>
```

```
### Chart 2
```

```
< r code>
```

```
### Data Table
```

```
< r code>
```

No comma between multiple column arguments

Good

```
Column {.tabset data-width=650}
```

bad

```
Column {.tabset, data-width=650}
```


Icons

- Probably not the most important thing, but fun
- Use Font awesome!

```
# Years {data-icon="fa-calendar"}
```

HTML Widgets

Add a touch of interactivity

- Plenty of HTML widgets for R out there (see https://www.htmlwidgets.org/showcase_leaflet.html)
- {plotly} is cool

```
#install.packages("plotly")  
library(plotly)  
p <- ggplot(mpg, aes(displ, cty)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth()  
  
ggplotly(p)
```

Including Text

- If you want to include text about an overall figure, just put the text in the R Markdown doc like you normally would

```
# Base {data-icon="fa-calendar"}
```

```
Here's a description about the plot that follows
```

```
### A base R plot
```

```
< r code>
```

What if you have tabsets?

- Works great if you want to describe all the plots/tables/content in the tabset
- If you want to provide text for an individual plot, use >

```
Column {.tabset data-width=350}
```

```
-----
```

```
This text will describe the full tabset
```

```
### Chart 1
```

```
< r code>
```

```
> Here's some text for Chart 1
```

```
### Table 1
```

```
< r code>
```

```
> Here's some text for Table 1
```

Storyboarding

- A little bit advanced, but pretty cool
- First, change the YAML

```
output:  
  flexdashboard::flex_dashboard:  
    storyboard: true
```

```
# Method {.storyboard}
```

```
### Sample Descriptives {data-commentary-width=400}
```

```
< r code>
```

```
***
```

This is some text describing what's going on with the sample, and

```
### Correlation Matrix {data-commentary-width=200}
```

```
< r code>
```

```
***
```

There is less to say here so I made the commentary box smaller

```
# Results {.storyboard}
```

```
### Plot 1 {data-commentary-width=600}
```

```
< r code>
```

```
***
```

Lots to say here. There is important

```
### Plot 2 {data-commentary-width=200}
```

```
***
```

Move along

Customization

- Add font-awesome stuff
- Change the theme

```
flexdashboard::flex_dashboard:  
  theme: readable
```

CSS

More on this later slides

Change the navigation bar to bright pink with thin blue border

```
.navbar-inverse {  
  background-color: #FE08A5;  
  border-color: #0822FE;  
}
```


Save the previous code in "custom.css" then specify in the YAML

```
flexdashboard::flex_dashboard:  
  css: custom.css
```

Making sure "custom.css" is in the same directory as your flexdashboard Rmd.

Add a logo and favicon

```
output:  
  flexdashboard::flex_dashboard:  
    logo: logo.png  
    favicon: favicon.png
```

Fonts

General advice

- Match your plot fonts to your text body font
- Use different fonts to distinguish things
 - Specifically code
 - Consider for different heading levels
- **Always** choose a sans-serif font for code
- Explore and try - it makes a big impact on the overall look/feel
- Try not to get sucked into too deep of a rabbit hole

{ragg}

```
#install.packages("ragg")
```

Alternative device to Cairo, png, etc.

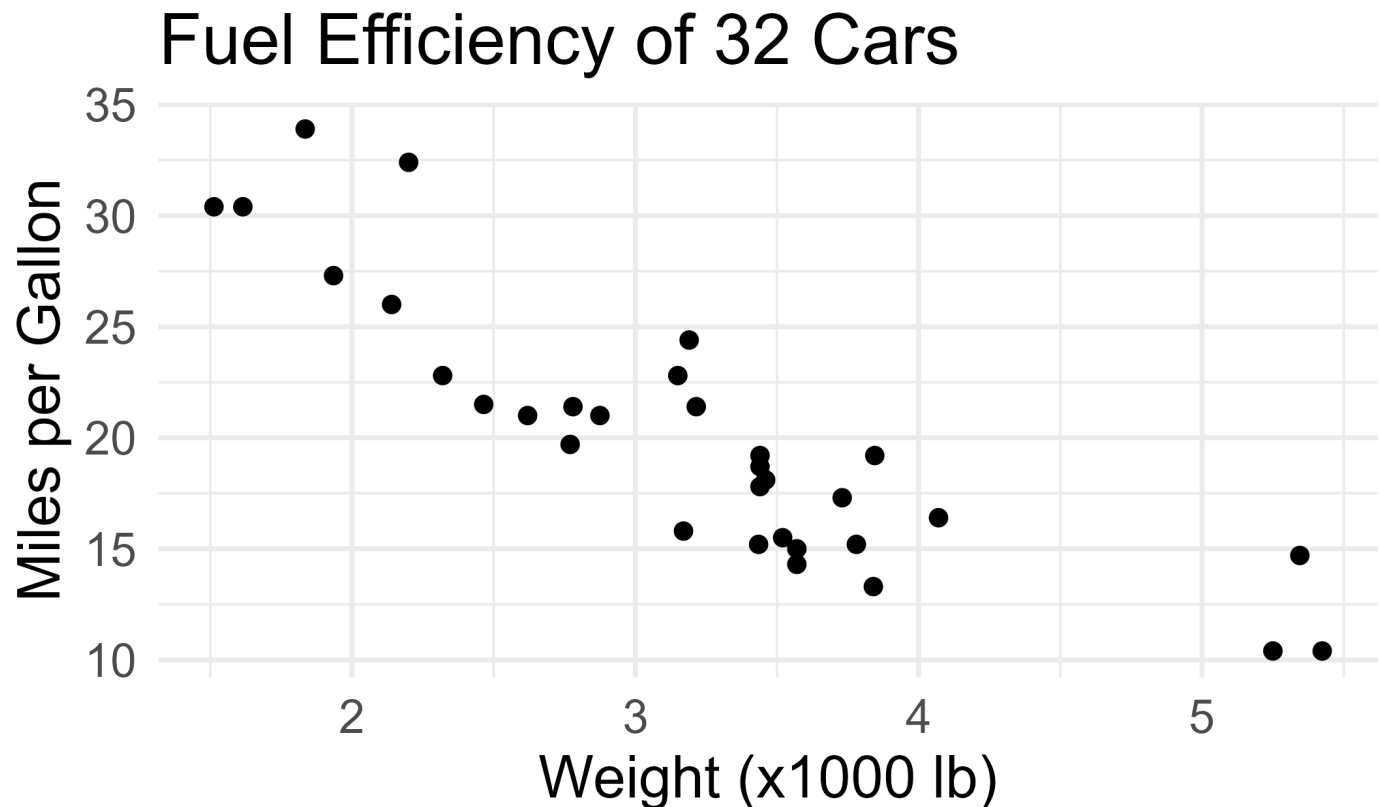
See the announcement [here](#)

After install, be sure to set *Global Options > General > Graphics* to *AGG*

Use with RMarkdown with `knitr::opts_chunk$set(dev = "ragg_png")`

Will automatically detect fonts you have installed on your computer

```
ggplot(mtcars, aes(wt, mpg)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  labs(title = "Fuel Efficiency of 32 Cars",  
        x = "Weight (x1000 lb)",  
        y = "Miles per Gallon") +  
  theme(text = element_text(family = "Luminari", size = 30))
```

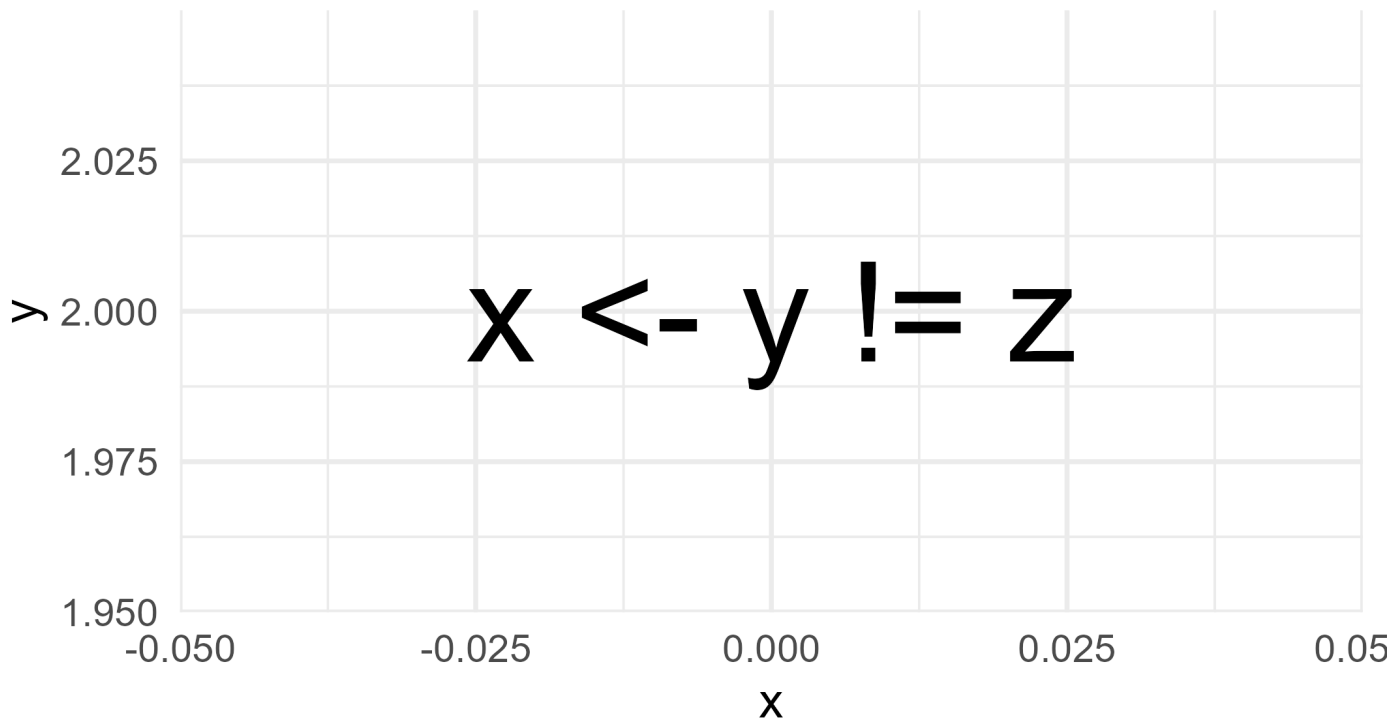


Support for lots of things!

Ligatures and font-awesome icons

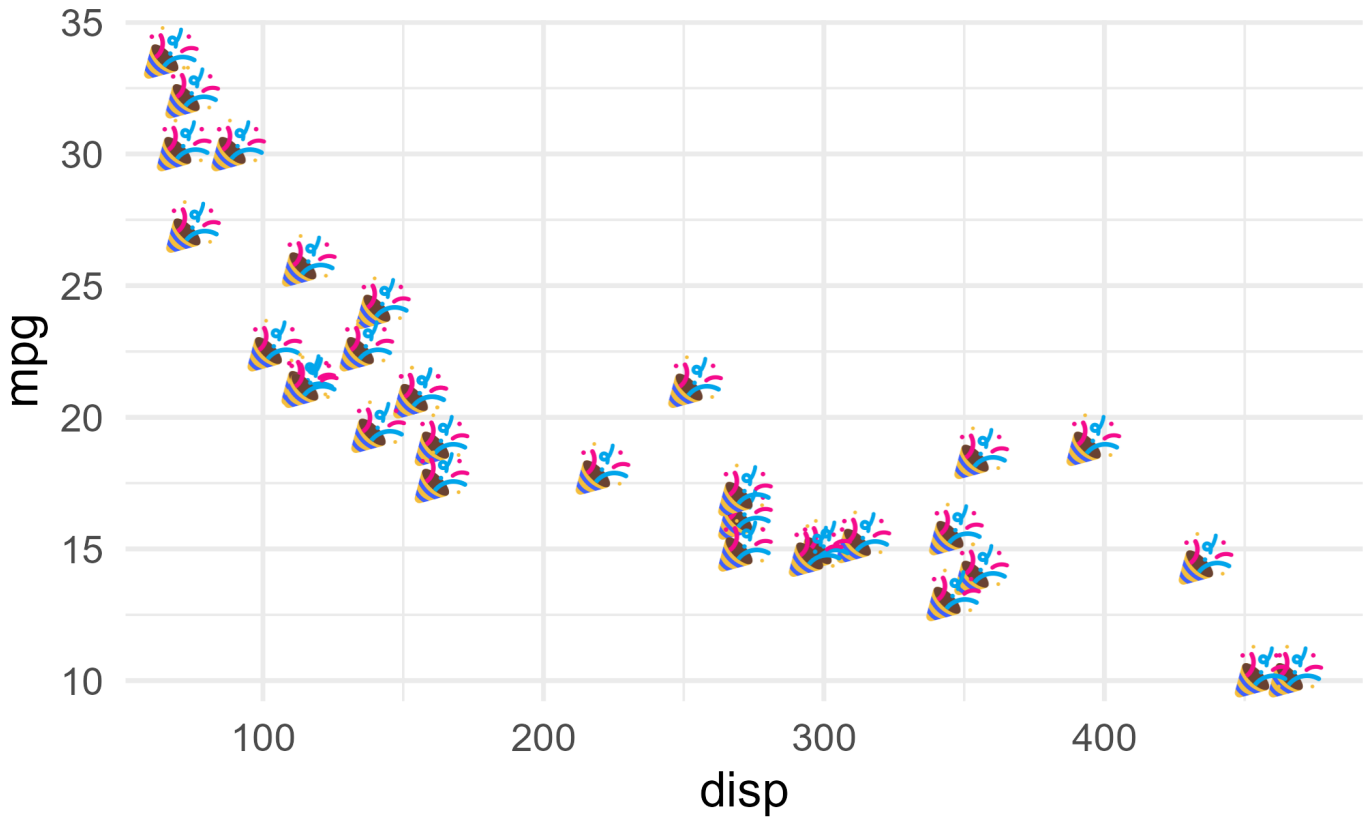
```
ggplot() +  
  geom_text(  
    aes(x = 0, y = 2, label = "x <- y != z"),  
    family = "Fira Code"  
  ) +  
  labs(title = "twitter") +  
  theme(  
    plot.title = element_text(  
      family = "Font Awesome 5 brands"  
    )  
  )  
)
```

twitter



emojis

```
ggplot(mtcars, aes(displacement, mpg)) +  
  geom_text(label = "🎉",  
            family = "Apple Color Emoji",  
            size = 10)
```



Google fonts

<https://fonts.google.com>

- Open source, designed for the web
- Good place to explore fonts
- Can be incorporated via the `{showtext}` package!

{showtext} example

```
devtools::install_github("yixuan/showtext")

library(showtext)

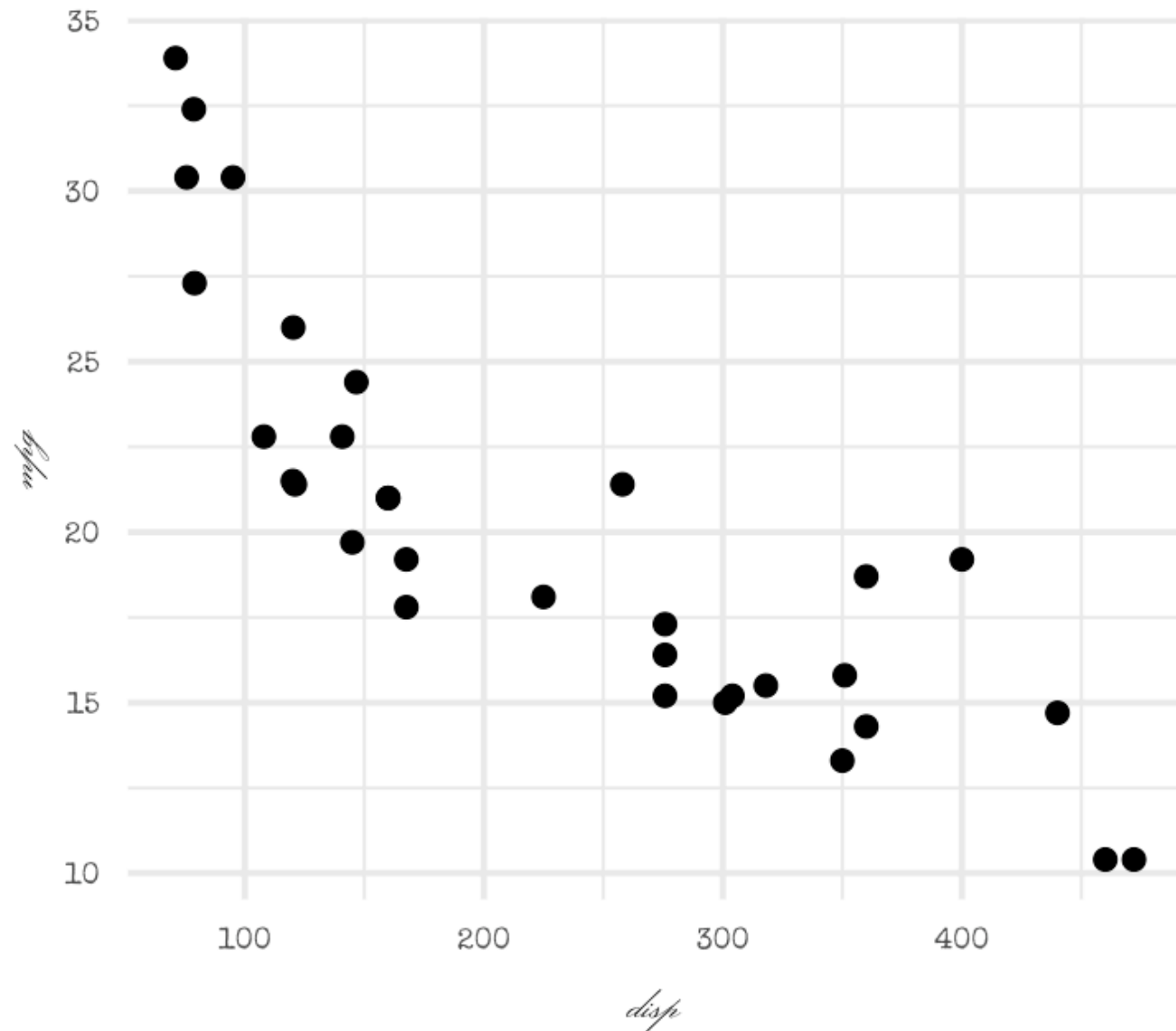
font_add_google('Monsieur La Doulaise', "mld")
font_add_google('Special Elite', "se")

showtext_auto()

ggplot(mtcars, aes(displacement, mpg)) +
  geom_point() +
  labs(title = "An amazing title",
        subtitle = "with the world's most boring dataset") +
  theme(plot.subtitle = element_text(size = 18, family = "se"),
        plot.title = element_text(size = 22, family = "mld"),
        axis.title = element_text(size = 18, family = "mld"),
        axis.text.x = element_text(size = 12, family = "se"),
        axis.text.y = element_text(size = 12, family = "se"))
```

An amazing title

with the world's most boring dataset



Practice

- Create a simple plot
- Change the font to something on your computer (e.g., "Arial")
- Try importing and using a google font with **showtext**
- Try using different fonts for the title and subtitle

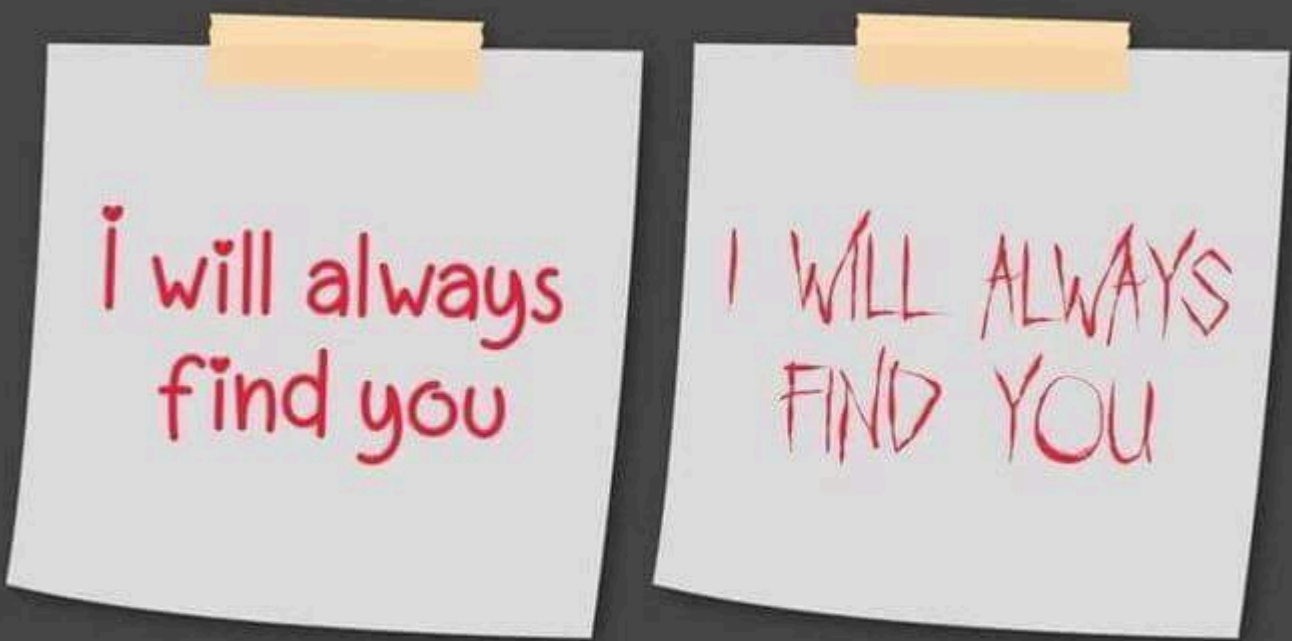
05:00

Why fonts matter

A few examples of epic fails

Megaflicks - LOL



Two light gray sticky notes are pinned to a dark gray background with yellow clips. The left note has the text 'I will always find you' in a red, lowercase, cursive font. The right note has the text 'I WILL ALWAYS FIND YOU' in a red, uppercase, all-caps font.

I will always
find you

I WILL ALWAYS
FIND YOU

FONT MATTERS.

You'll Always
Be Mine

YOU'LL
BE ALWAYS
MINE

Quick aside

Change the font of your R Markdown!

Create a CSS code chunk - write tiny bit of CSS - voila!

```
@import url('https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Akronim&dis  
body {  
  font-family: 'Akronim', cursive;  
}
```

See the CSS slides for more information.

Render!

Untitled

Daniel Anderson

2/18/2020

R Markdown

This is an R Markdown document. Markdown is a simple formatting syntax for authoring HTML, PDF, and MS Word documents. For more information, see <http://rmarkdown.rstudio.com>.

When you click the Knit button a document will be generated that includes both content as well as the output of any embedded R code chunks like this:

```
summary(cars)
```

```
##           speed           dist
##  Min.      : 4.0      Min.      : 2.00
##  1st Qu.:12.0      1st Qu.: 26.00
##  Median :15.0      Median : 36.00
##  Mean   :15.4      Mean   : 42.98
##  3rd Qu.:19.0      3rd Qu.: 56.00
##  Max.    :25.0      Max.     :120.00
```

Including Plots

Aside

I actually did this for the table slides to make them a bit smaller!

```
24
25 ▾ ````{css echo = FALSE}
26 ▾ table {
27     font-size: 1rem;
28 ▲ }
29 ▲ ````
30
```

Resource for learning more

- I'm not an expert on fonts. I have mostly just picked what looks nice to me.
- Consider the accessibility of the font ([good resource here](#))



Best I've heard of is practical typography



BUTTERICK'S PRACTICAL TYPOGRAPHY

2ND EDITION

Typography in ten minutes

Summary of key rules

Start

foreword by Erik Spiekermann

introduction

how to use this book

acknowledgments

about Matthew Butterick

legal

Please pay for this book

how to pay for this book

why you should pay

MB fonts

Why typography matters

what is typography?

who is typography for?

why does typography
matter?

what is good typography?

where do the rules come
from?

Type composition

straight and curly quotes

ellipses

Identify fonts

Use others work to help you - I found the font for these slides from Daniel's theme and he used one that he liked.

Use google chrome's developer tools to help! Also consider downloading fonts (from google or wherever) and using them directly.

Check out this [great blog post](#) by June Choe.

Next time

Geospatial visualizations

We may come back to more styling of your website/CSS stuff next week also