Queen Elizabeth Scholarship - Advanced Scholars Program: R Workshop #2

The tidyverse

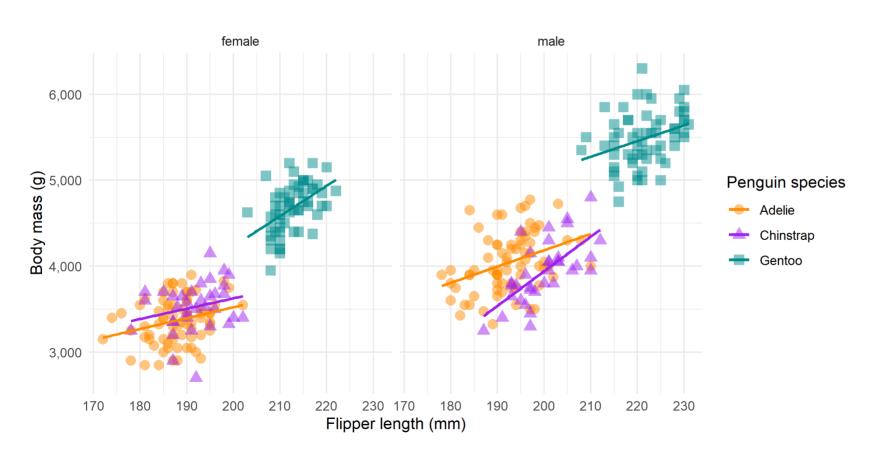
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Queen Elizabeth Scholarship - Advanced Scholars Program

July 29th, 2021

Today's workshop

- Review of key concepts from Workshop #1
- An example of how to use R to perform data analysis on a dataset



The code for today

The code for today's workshop is available at the following link: https://github.com/melissavanbussel/QES-AS-R-Workshops

Instructions:

- 1. Open RStudio
- 2. File > New File > R Script
- 3. Copy/paste the code from GitHub into the R Script
- 4. Save the script onto your computer (Ctrl+S)

Review of key concepts from Workshop 1

R Scripts vs. the R console

- Code that is run in the console only does not get saved when you close RStudio.
- If you type the code in your R Script and save the file, you will be able to run that code again in the future.
- The console is great for quick calculations, but anything that you'd like to run again should be saved in your R script.

Comments

Any lines of code that start with hashtags are comments and do not get evaluated as code.

```
# This is a comment, it does not get evaluated as code
# You can write anything you want in a comment!
# The line below does not start with a hashtag, so it is evaluated
print("Hello, world!")
```

```
## [1] "Hello, world!"
```

Variable assignment

To assign an object to a variable in R, use the \leftarrow assignment operator.

```
years \leftarrow c(2010, 2020, 2021)
```

Any line of code that has the assignment operator will have no output. Type the name of the variable to see the contents of the variable.

```
years
```

[1] 2010 2020 2021

Functions in R

Just like in Mathematics, a function in R is something that takes some input(s) and returns an output.

They take the form function_name(argument_1 = val_1, argument_2 = val_2, ...)

```
mean(x = years)
```

[1] 2017

If you pass the arguments to the function in the correct order, you don't need to name the arguments.

```
mean(years)
```

[1] 2017

Viewing documentation

To view the documentation for a function, type ?functionName. The documentation will appear in the bottom right pane of RStudio.

?mean

Missing values are represented as NAS in R. If there is even just one NA included in a calculation, the result will be NA.

```
mean(c(1, 2, 3)) # No problem

## [1] 2

mean(c(1, NA, 3)) # Result is NA

## [1] NA
```

Similar results occur for other summary functions, such as:

- max
- min
- median

One option is to use the option na.rm = TRUE inside of these summary functions.

```
mean(c(1, NA, 3), na.rm = TRUE)
```

Packages

There are a lot of functions that are "built in" to R (they are automatically available when R is installed).

Sometimes, we want to use more advanced techniques. We could write this code ourselves, but this is time-consuming. Rather than re-inventing the wheel, we install a package that someone else has created.

Packages typically contain functions, but can also include other things like datasets (for example).

```
# Only needs to be done once
install.packages("tidyverse")

# Needs to be done each time RStudio is opened
# (if you want to use the package)
library(tidyverse)
```

Using packageName::functionName

Sometimes, you may see R code on the internet that takes the form packageName::functionName.

This allows you to use the functionName function from the packageName package, without loading the packageName package.

This is also typically used if there is more than one package with the same function name. In this case, it is useful to explicitly state which package you're using.

```
scales::dollar(123456)
```

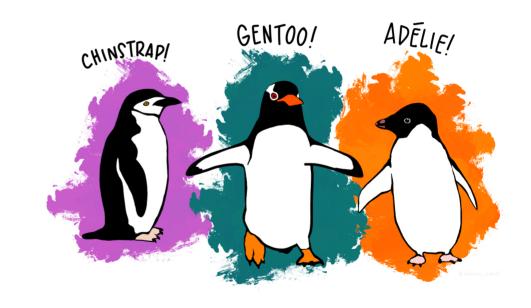
```
## [1] "$123,456"
```

Data frames and the View function

A data frame is a table (two-dimensional) with columns and rows. We can examine the contents of a data frame by using the View function.

Recall the penguins dataset from the palmerpenguins package from Workshop 1:

- 344 observations of 7 variables
- Information about Adelie, Chinstrap, and Gentoo penguins
- Observed on islands near Palmer Station in Antarctica



library(palmerpenguins)
View(penguins)

Tibbles

The str function shows us the **structure** of a data frame. It tells us:

- The number of rows and columns
- The data types of each of the variables
- A preview of the data (first few rows)

We can see that the penguins dataset is both a "tibble" and a "data frame". Tibbles are a type of data frame.

- They are "simpler" (and therefore faster)
- They work great with the tidyverse, which we will learn about in a second!

Introduction to the tidyverse

What is the tidyverse?



The tidyverse is a set of packages in R.

- dplyr
- tidyr
- ggplot2
- readr
- stringr
- etc...

What is the tidyverse?



Today, we will focus on dplyr and ggplot2.

Why use the tidyverse?

- Consistency (common underlying philosophy)
- Speed (many tasks implemented in C++)
- Easier to learn (learning one package = learning many)

Loading the tidyverse

By installing (or loading) the tidyverse, we're actually installing (or loading) many packages at once, all with one line of code.

```
# If not already installed
install.packages("tidyverse")

# Equivalent to
install.packages("gplot2")
install.packages("stringr")
...

# Once installed
library(tidyverse)

# Equivalent to:
library(dplyr)
library(ggplot2)
library(stringr)
...
```

Using dplyr for data exploration

The select function

• select: select a subset of **columns** from a data frame

```
library(tidyverse)
select(.data = penguins, bill_length_mm, bill_depth_mm)
## # A tibble: 344 x 2
      bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm
##
##
               <dbl>
                              <dbl>
                39.1
                               18.7
##
##
                39.5
                               17.4
##
                40.3
                               18
##
                NA
                               NA
##
                36.7
                               19.3
                39.3
                               20.6
                38.9
                               17.8
                               19.6
##
                39.2
                34.1
                               18.1
                42
                               20.2
  # ... with 334 more rows
```

The select function

To select all columns **except** for ones we specify, use the minus sign:

```
select(.data = penguins, -species)
## # A tibble: 344 x 7
             bill length mm bill depth mm flipper length ~ body mass g sex
##
      island
                                                                                  vear
      <fct>
                        <dbl>
                                      <dbl>
                                                        <int>
                                                                    <int> <fct> <int>
##
   1 Torger~
                        39.1
                                       18.7
                                                          181
                                                                     3750 male
                                                                                  2007
##
   2 Torger~
                        39.5
                                       17.4
                                                          186
                                                                     3800 fema~
                                                                                  2007
                        40.3
                                                                     3250 fema~
##
   3 Torger~
                                       18
                                                          195
                                                                                  2007
##
   4 Torger~
                        NA
                                       NA
                                                           NA
                                                                       NA <NA>
                                                                                  2007
                        36.7
                                       19.3
                                                                                  2007
    5 Torger~
                                                          193
                                                                     3450 fema~
##
##
    6 Torger~
                        39.3
                                       20.6
                                                          190
                                                                     3650 male
                                                                                  2007
   7 Torger~
                        38.9
                                       17.8
                                                          181
                                                                     3625 fema~
                                                                                  2007
##
    8 Torger~
                        39.2
                                       19.6
                                                          195
                                                                     4675 male
                                                                                  2007
    9 Torger~
                         34.1
                                       18.1
                                                          193
                                                                     3475 <NA>
                                                                                  2007
   10 Torger~
                        42
                                       20.2
                                                                                  2007
                                                          190
                                                                     4250 <NA>
## # ... with 334 more rows
```

The result is all columns in the penguins data frame, other than the species column.

The filter function

filter: select a subset of rows from a data frame

A logical condition is specified, and R checks if the condition is true for each row in the data frame. Only rows where the condition is TRUE are returned:

```
filter(.data = penguins, bill length mm ≥ 55)
## # A tibble: 5 x 8
     species island bill length mm bill depth mm flipper length ~ body mass g sex
     <fct>
           <fct>
                             <dbl>
                                           <dbl>
                                                            <int>
                                                                        <int> <fct>
## 1 Gentoo Biscoe
                              59.6
                                            17
                                                              230
                                                                         6050 male
## 2 Gentoo Biscoe
                              55.9
                                            17
                                                              228
                                                                         5600 male
## 3 Gentoo Biscoe
                              55.1
                                            16
                                                              230
                                                                         5850 male
## 4 Chinst~ Dream
                              58
                                            17.8
                                                                         3700 fema~
                                                              181
                                            19.8
## 5 Chinst~ Dream
                              55.8
                                                              207
                                                                         4000 male
## # ... with 1 more variable: year <int>
```

Relational and logical operators in R

There are many other relational operators in R:

| Operator | Description |
|----------|--------------------------|
| < | Less than |
| > | Greater than |
| <= | Less than or equal to |
| >= | Greater than or equal to |
| == | Equal to |
| != | Not equal to |

Multiple conditions can be combined by using logical operators such as & ("AND") or | ("OR").

For example: bill_length_mm ≤ 180 | bill_length_mm ≥ 200

The pipe operator (%>%)

The pipe operator takes the object on the left of the %>% and feeds it as input to the first argument of the function on the right of the %>%.

The code on the left and the code on the right will produce the **exact** same output, but using the pipe operator (left) is much faster to write and easier to read.

With the pipe operator (one step)

```
penguins %>%
  select(bill_length_mm, bill_depth_mm) %>%
  filter(bill_length_mm ≥ 55)
```

Without the pipe operator (two steps)

The pipe operator (%>%)

19.8

5

55.8

```
penguins %>%
  select(bill length mm, bill depth mm) %>%
  filter(bill_length_mm ≥ 55)
## # A tibble: 5 x 2
    bill length mm bill depth mm
##
              <dbl>
                            <dbl>
## 1
               59.6
                             17
              55.9
                             17
              55.1
                             16
              58
                             17.8
```

TIP: When reading the code in your head, replace the %>% with the word "THEN".

Challenge problem

Which of the following will result in a data frame that only contains observations about male penguins?

A:

```
penguins %>%
  select(bill_length_mm, bill_depth_mm) %>%
  filter(sex = "male")
```

B:

```
penguins %>%
  filter(sex = "male") %>%
  select(bill_length_mm, bill_depth_mm)
```

C: All of the above

The mutate function

... with 334 more rows

• mutate: create a new variable based on existing variables

Create a new variable called bill_length_m that expresses the bill lengths in metres rather than in millimetres:

```
penguins %>%
  mutate(bill_length_m = bill_length_mm / 1000) %>%
  select(bill length m, bill length mm)
## # A tibble: 344 x 2
      bill length m bill length mm
##
              <dbl>
                              <dbl>
###
             0.0391
                               39.1
##
             0.0395
                               39.5
##
##
             0.0403
                               40.3
##
            NA
                               NA
                               36.7
##
             0.0367
                               39.3
             0.0393
                               38.9
             0.0389
             0.0392
                               39.2
             0.0341
                               34.1
##
             0.042
                               42
```

The group_by and summarise functions

- The group_by and summarise functions are often used together
 - group_by splits the data into groups (user-specified categorical variable)
 - summarise returns a summary value for each group
 - When used together, the resulting data frame has one row per group

```
penguins %>%
  group_by(species) %>%
  summarise(num_penguins = n())

## # A tibble: 3 x 2
## species num_penguins
```

1 Adelie 152 ## 2 Chinstrap 68 ## 3 Gentoo 124

Some things to note:

* <fct>

You can group by more than one variable as well

<int>

- You can use the summarise function to compute more than just one summary value
- While using the group_by and summarise functions together is quite common, it is possible to use them separately.

The arrange function

- arrange: sorts the data frame by a specified variable
- By default, it sorts in ascending order (smallest to largest)

```
penguins %>%
  group_by(species) %>%
  summarise(num_penguins = n()) %>%
  arrange(num_penguins)

## # A tibble: 3 x 2
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 2
## species num_penguins
## <fct> <int>
## 1 Chinstrap 68
## 2 Gentoo 124
## 3 Adelie 152
```

The arrange function

68

3 Chinstrap

• To sort in descending order (largest to smallest), use the desc function

The count function

- The count function is a shortcut for summarise(n = n())
- Therefore, the count function names the variable "n"

```
penguins %>%
  group_by(species) %>%
  count() %>%
  arrange(desc(n))

## # A tibble: 3 x 2
## # Groups: species [3]
```

Recall that missing values are represented as NAS in R.

The mean function (as well as many other summary functions) returns NA if even one value in the calculation is NA.

There are many different ways to deal with missing values (this is an entire topic in itself!). Today, we will just exclude the missing values from our calculations.

Option 1: The na.rm = TRUE option (only removes for the body_mass_g variable)

Option 2: Removing **any** observations with missing values via the drop_na function (what we will do for the remainder of today's workshop)

```
penguins2 ← penguins %>%
  drop_na()
penguins2 %>%
  group_by(species) %>%
  summarise(mean_body_mass = mean(body_mass_g))
## # A tibble: 3 x 2
              mean body mass
    species
## * <fct>
                        <dbl>
## 1 Adelie
                       3706.
                       3733.
## 2 Chinstrap
## 3 Gentoo
                        5092.
```

Data Visualization with ggplot2

The ggplot2 package

- Part of the tidyverse
- For producing data visualizations
- Understanding ggplot = understanding the "grammar of graphics"



The Grammar of Graphics

• Language has grammatical elements; combining them together creates a meaningful sentence



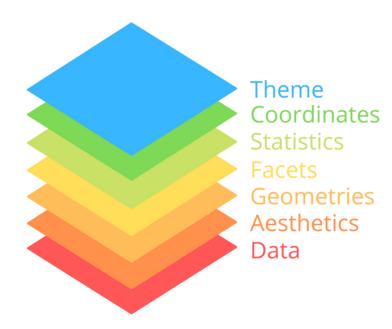
 Data visualizations have their own grammatical elements; combining them together creates a meaningful plot

All Grammatical Elements

| Element | Description |
|-------------|---|
| Data | The dataset being plotted. |
| Aesthetics | The scales onto which we map our data. |
| Geometries | The visual elements used for our data. |
| Facets | Plotting small multiples. |
| Statistics | Representations of our data to aid understanding. |
| Coordinates | The space on which the data will be plotted. |
| Themes | All non-data ink. |

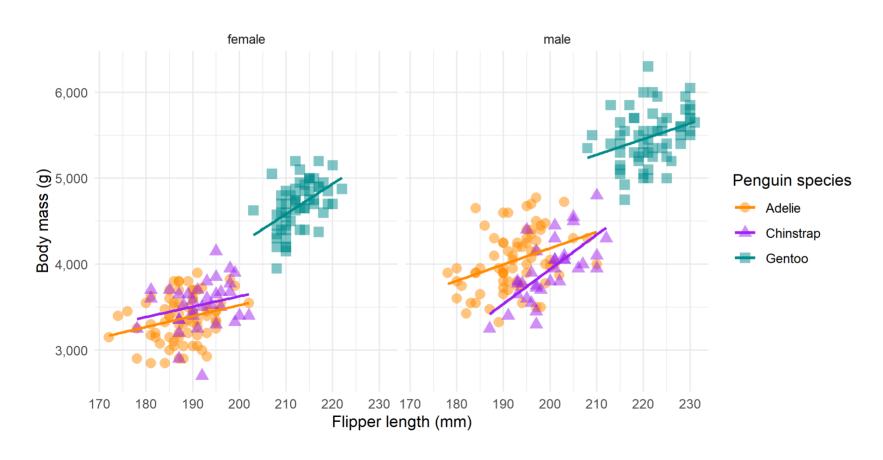
Grammatical elements

- There are a total of 7 grammatical elements for graphics
- We combine these grammatical elements to communicate meaningfully through data visualizations
- We layer these grammatical elements on top of one another, typically with one layer per grammatical element



Example

In the next few slides, we'll build the plot below, one layer at a time.



Layer 1: Data

- The data layer is where we define which dataset we'll use for our visualization
- For ggplot, this must be a data frame
- This differs from creating plots using base R

The penguins dataset is a tibble, which is a type of data frame head(penguins)

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 8
    species island bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_~ body_mass_g sex
    <fct> <fct>
###
                             <dbl>
                                           <dbl>
                                                            <int>
                                                                        <int> <fct>
## 1 Adelie Torge~
                                            18.7
                                                                         3750 male
                              39.1
                                                              181
## 2 Adelie Torge~
                              39.5
                                            17.4
                                                              186
                                                                         3800 fema~
## 3 Adelie Torge~
                              40.3
                                            18
                                                              195
                                                                         3250 fema~
## 4 Adelie Torge~
                              NA
                                            NA
                                                               NA
                                                                           NA <NA>
## 5 Adelie Torge~
                              36.7
                                            19.3
                                                              193
                                                                         3450 fema~
## 6 Adelie Torge~
                              39.3
                                            20.6
                                                              190
                                                                         3650 male
## # ... with 1 more variable: year <int>
```

Layer 1: Data

```
# Equivalent to ggplot(data = penguins2)
penguins2 %>%
  ggplot()
```

Layer 2: Aesthetics

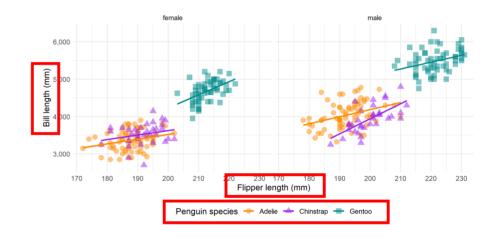
We "map" variables from our dataset onto "aesthetics" on our plot.

flipper_length_mm \Rightarrow x-axis

body_mass_g \Rightarrow y-axis

 $species \Rightarrow colour$

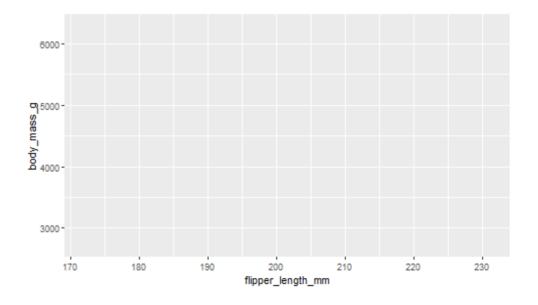
 $species \Rightarrow shape$



Notice how a variable can be mapped to more than one aesthetic.

Layer 2: Aesthetics

- We use the aes function inside of the ggplot function
- On the left hand side of the equals sign: aesthetic we're mapping to
- On the right hand side of the equals sign: variable name from our dataset



The resulting plot is still "empty", but we can see that the variables have now been mapped to the correct axes.

Layer 3: Geometries

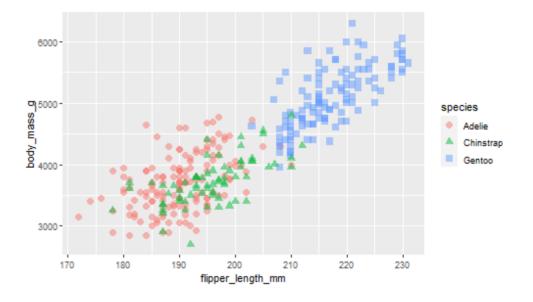
The geometries layer controls which type of data visualization we are creating.

Some examples:

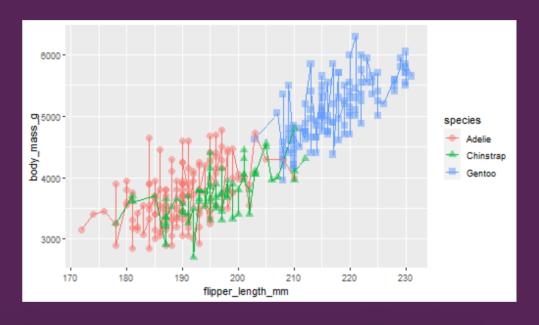
- geom_boxplot(): For creating boxplots
- geom_point(): For creating scatterplots
- geom_line(): For creating line plots
- geom_histogram(): For creating histograms

Layer 3: Geometries

Notice that we use the addition sign after the ggplot function is finished.



Challenge problem



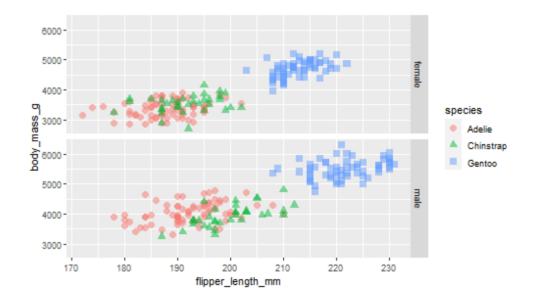
We've added one more geometry compared to the previous slide, by using the geom_line function. Which of the following statements is true?

- a) The plot is obviously not a meaningful plot, but the code is correct.
- b) The plot is obviously not a meaningful plot, **and** the code is problematic as well -- we are on "Layer 3: Geometries" but we have 4 layers

Layer 4: Facets

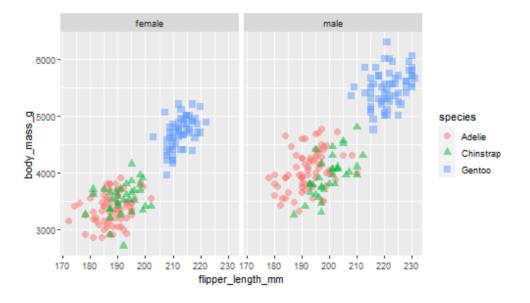
Facets allow us to create a grid of plots, one for each level of a categorical variable in our dataset.

For vertical facets, we use variableName ~ .



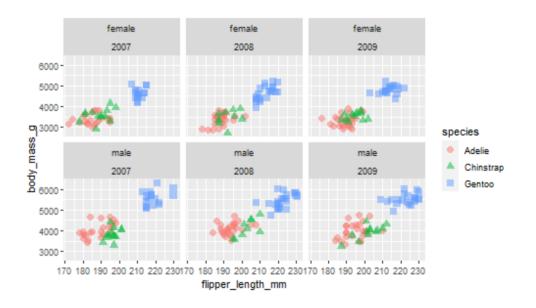
Layer 4: Facets

For horizontal facets, we use . ~ variableName



Layer 4: Facets

We can also group by two variables by using the facet_wrap function.

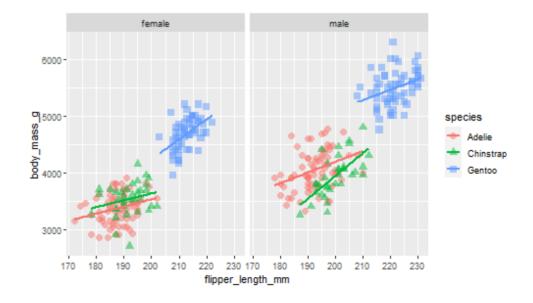


Layer 5: Statistics

The "statistics" grammatical elements allow us to perform statistical calculations on our existing ggplot.

To add a least squares regression line, use stat_smooth:

- "lm" stands for "Linear Model"
- "se" stands for "Standard Error"

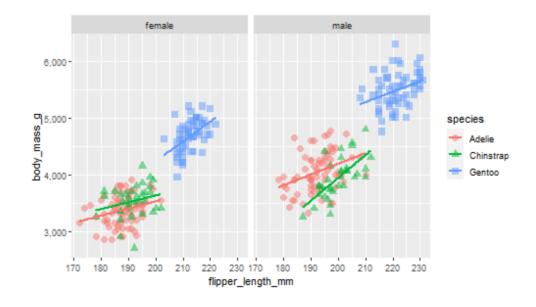


Layer 6: Coordinates

The coordinates grammatical element allows us to control the way each coordinate (aesthetic) looks on our plot.

They take the form scale_aestheticName_transformationType.

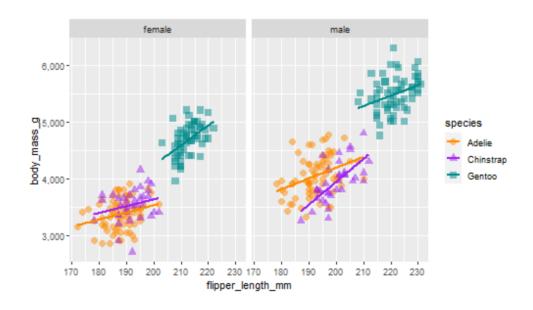
To add commas to the values along the y-axis:



Since we previously mapped the bill_length_mm variable to the y aesthetic, scale_y_continuous changes the y-axis (which represents the bill length).

Layer 6: Coordinates

To (manually) change the colours used for the species variable:

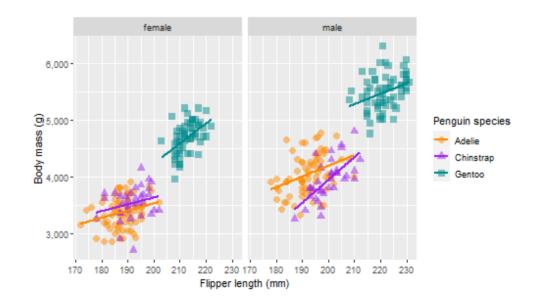


Since we previously mapped the species variable to the colour aesthetic, scale_colour_manual changes the colours for the species variable.

Layer 7: Theme

- The "theme" grammatical elements control the non-data related aspects of the plot
- Changing the theme is useful for creating publication-ready plots

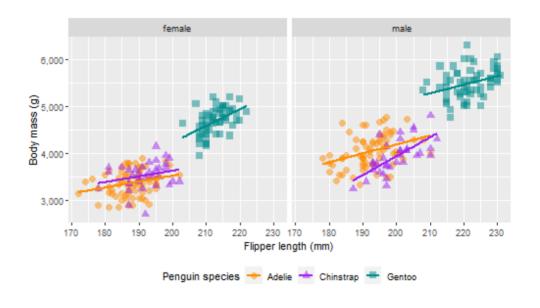
Let's start by changing the plot labels (aesthetic name goes on the left hand side of the equals sign, text to display goes on the right hand side of the equals sign):



Layer 7: Theme

We can change almost anything imaginable by using the theme function. Let's change the position of the legend:

```
penguins2 %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = flipper length mm,
             y = body mass g,
             colour = species.
             shape = species)) +
 geom point(size = 3, alpha = 0.5) +
 facet grid(. ~ sex) +
  stat smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE) +
  scale y continuous(labels = scales::comma) +
  scale colour manual(values = c("darkorange".
                                  "purple", "cyan4")
 labs(x = "Flipper length (mm)",
      v = Body mass (g),
       colour = "Penguin species",
       shape = "Penguin species") +
 theme(legend.position = "bottom")
```

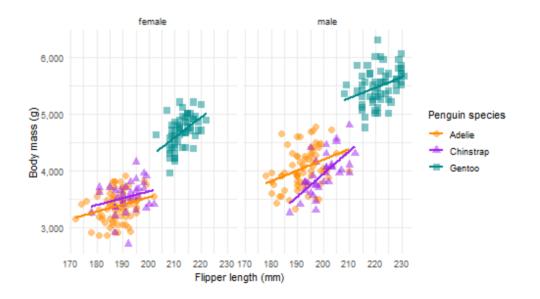


To see a full list of options that can be changed using the theme function, see ggplot2.tidyverse.org/reference/theme.html.

Layer 7: Theme

There are also some pre-existing themes that you can use in order to save time. For example, the "minimal" theme removes the grey background:

```
penguins2 %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = flipper length mm,
            y = body mass g.
             colour = species,
             shape = species)) +
 geom point(size = 3, alpha = 0.5) +
 facet_grid(. ~ sex) +
 stat_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE) +
 scale y continuous(labels = scales::comma) +
 scale colour manual(values = c("darkorange",
                                 "purple", "cyan4")
 labs(x = "Flipper length (mm)",
      v = Body mass (g),
      colour = "Penguin species",
       shape = "Penguin species") +
 theme minimal()
```



Challenge problem

If we want to use the minimal theme AND change the legend position to "top", which of the following will do this?

```
a) theme_minimal() + theme(legend.position = "top")
```

- b) theme(legend.position = "top") + theme_minimal()
- c) Both will give the desired result

Saving a ggplot

To save a plot created using ggplot, use the ggsave function.

```
# Assign plot object to a variable
p ← penguins2 %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = flipper length mm,
             y = body mass g,
             colour = species,
             shape = species)) +
  geom point(size = 3, alpha = 0.5) +
 facet grid(. ~ sex) +
  stat smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE) +
 scale y continuous(labels = scales::comma) +
  scale colour manual(values = c("darkorange",
                                 "purple". "cvan4")) +
 labs(x = "Flipper length (mm)",
      v = "Body mass (g)",
      colour = "Penguin species",
       shape = "Penguin species") +
 theme minimal() +
 theme(legend.position = "bottom")
# Use the ggsave function to save the plot
ggsave(plot = p,
      filename = "C:/Users/Melissa/Documents/ggplot.png",
      width = 8, height = 4,
      units = "in")
```

Working directories

- On the last slide, we specified the entire file path
- This is fine if we're saving one plot, but becomes frustrating if we're saving many
- It's a good practice to set your working directory (the location on your computer where R will read in files and save files to)

Challenge problem

Can you re-create the following plot?

Hint: you will need to set the argument position = "identity" inside of the geom_histogram function.

