

# Data Visualisation for Beginners using R

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STI&HIV2025 WORLD CONGRESS



## **Workshop Objectives:**

- Understand why Data Vizualisation is important
- What are good (and bad) vizualisation practices
- Gain hands-on experience in generating publication ready figures using R



#### Data Visualisation: Transforms nonvisual big data in a visual form

- Allows information to be rapidly understood
- Detects patterns and relationships within and between data
- Ensures you get your message across

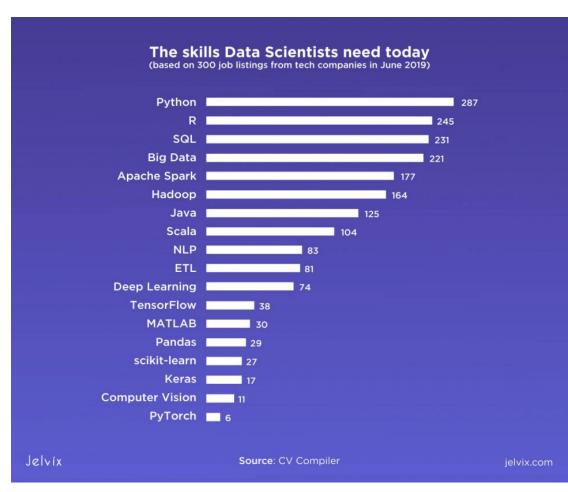


Top 5 Creative Data Visualization Examples for Data Analysis



#### **Data Visualisation tools**

rogramming Language	Data Science Tasks Each Performs	
python <sup>-</sup>	Conducts data mining     Carries out ML algorithms	
R	Performs data visualization     Conducts Data Analytics	
Scala	Eases the performance on high datasets     Sculpts data in any given form	
julia	Solves mathematical complications at high speed     Performs Data Analytics	
<b>Java</b>	Wise option for IoT and Big Data     Secure enough to work with sensitive data	
Sar	Manages large databases     Compliant toward Data Science workflow	
MATLAB	Performs profound mathematical operations     Highly specialized in working with Big Data	
JavaScript	Sets up data visualizations perfectly     Good fit for projects based on web and Big Data technologies	
sas	Manipulates and manages data     Administers data analysis through statistical models	
R	Used in Big Data in collaboration with Java Computes large datasets quickly	





#### Online and/or commercial tools

#### RAWGraphs (https://www.rawgraphs.io/)



**Tableau** 



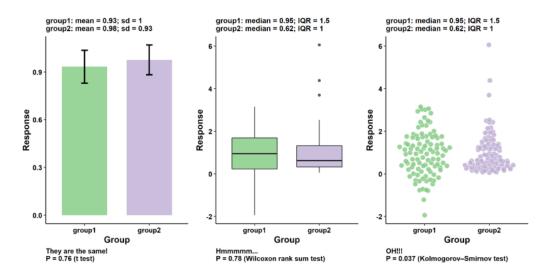
Microsoft 365

## STI&HIV2025 Good (and bad) visualisation WORLD CONGRESS

#### Good visualisation should be:

- Easy to interpret and read
- Highlight hidden insights to support your data
- Appeal to your audience
- Display massive insights using limited space

Two or more groups with multiple observations. The task of the visualization is to show the means and the spread (dispersion) of the data.

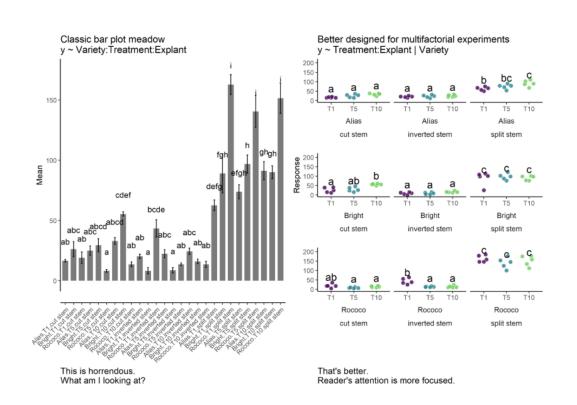


Weissgerber et al., 2015, PLOS Biology. Paper describes limitations of bar charts

Check this resource: GitHub - cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends: Friends don't let friends make certain types of data visualization - What are they and why are they bad.



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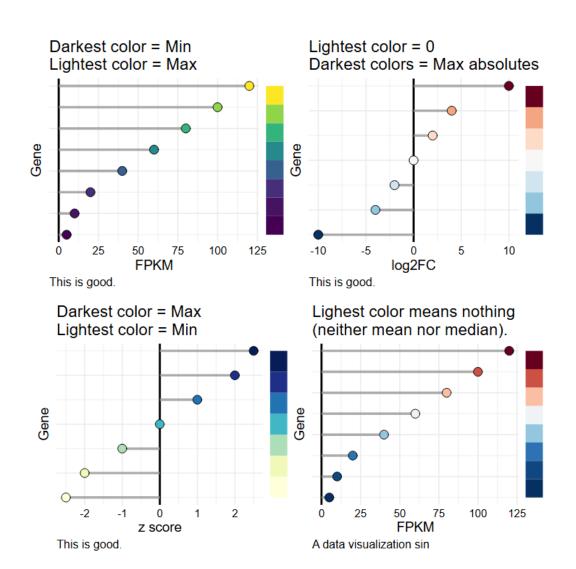


Bar plot meadows are common for multi-factorial experiments. However, a bar plot meadow is poorly designed for its purpose. To communicate results of a multifactorial experiment, it requires thoughtful designs regarding grouping/faceting by factors of interest.

Matand et al., 2020, BMC Plant Biology



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Think carefully about colour scales in figures. They should represent something meaningful.



## N2025 Common applications of R

- I have two datasets, and I want to merge them
- I have a very large file (Excel can't open) how do I select a few columns to work with?
- Data transformations
- Data cleaning
- Statistical analysis
- Visualizations: how to I generate publication ready plots?
- Spatial analysis: creating maps
- Dashboards and interactive interfaces



#### How to get started

Step 1: Downloading & Install R (<a href="https://cran.r-project.org/">https://cran.r-project.org/</a>)

The Comprehensive R Archive Network

#### Download and Install R

Precompiled binary distributions of the base system and contributed packages, **Windows and Mac** users most likely want one of these versions of R:

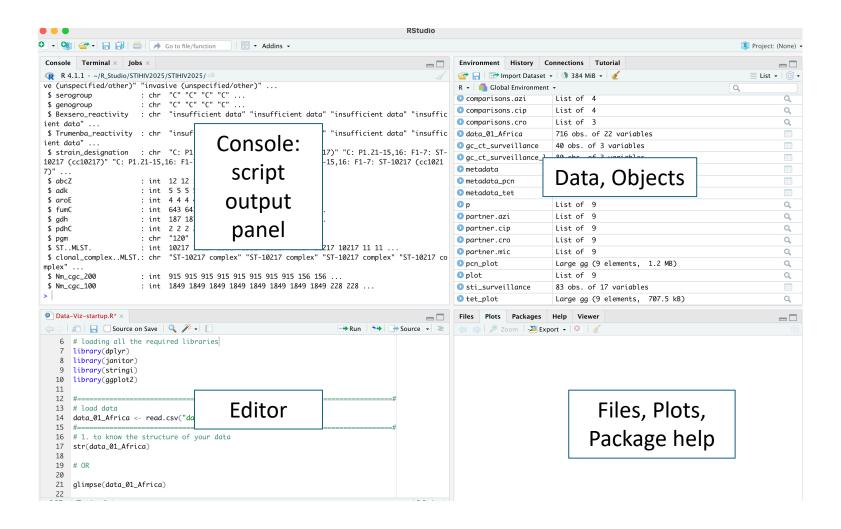
- Download R for Linux (Debian, Fedora/Redhat, Ubuntu)
- Download R for macOS
- Download R for Windows

**Step 2**: Download and install R studio (user interface) (<a href="https://posit.co/download/r">https://posit.co/download/r</a> studio-desktop/)

Download	Size
RSTUDIO-2025.05.1-513.EXE ±	281.24 MB
RSTUDIO-2025.05.1-513.DMG ±	607.30 MB
RSTUDIO-2025.05.1-513-AMD64.DEB ±	209.78 MB
RSTUDIO-2025.05.1-513-AMD64.DEB ±	209.78 MB
RSTUDIO-2025.05.1-513-X86_64.RPM ±	224.98 MB
	RSTUDIO-2025.05.1-513.EXE ±  RSTUDIO-2025.05.1-513.DMG ±  RSTUDIO-2025.05.1-513-AMD64.DEB ±

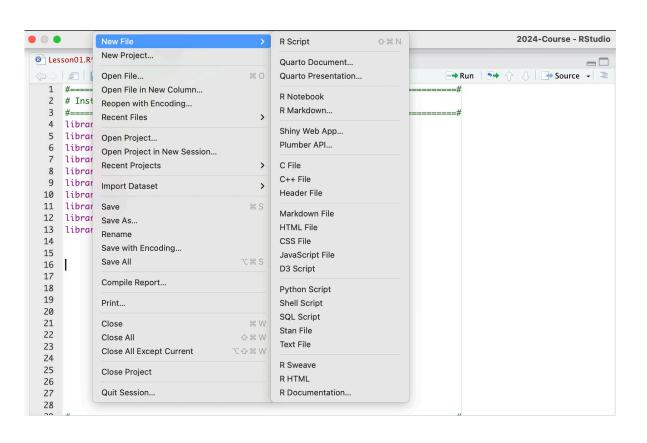


### Navigating the R console





#### R studio

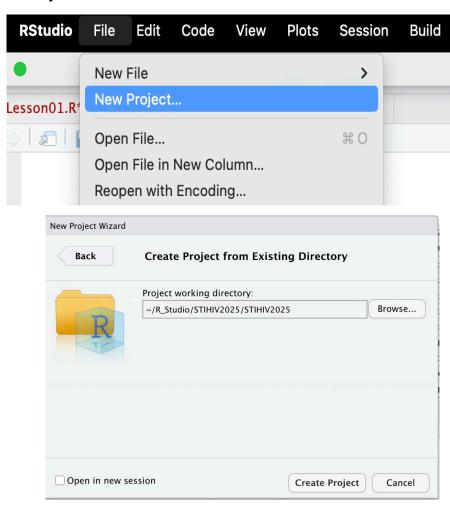


R studio: User interface, Customizable interface, Code autocompletion, write code in other languages

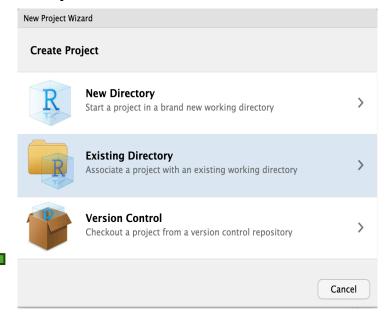


# Creating an R project and/or saving your work

#### Step 1



Step 2





#### **Basic but Important Commands**

- 1. # not a command, but used for commenting code
- Installing and loading packages: install.packages("name\_of\_package") then library(name\_of\_package)

```
# Installing the required packages
install.packages("") # all required packages have been pre-installed
# Loading required libraries
library(data.table)
library(dplyr)
```

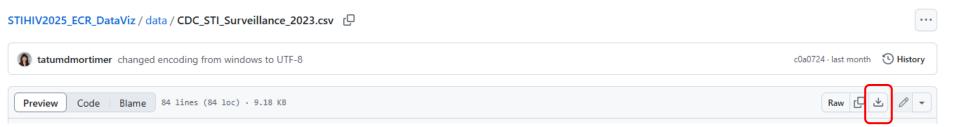
- 3. Use the function search() to know which packages have been loaded
- 4. Use **setwd()** & **getwd()** to set working directory etc



#### Files used in the course

<u>GitHub - mortimer-lab/STIHIV2025 ECR DataViz: Resources for the Data Visualization</u> <u>Workshop at STI HIV 2025</u>

Download Course\_data





#### **Exploring Data using R**

<u>GitHub - mortimer-lab/STIHIV2025 ECR DataViz: Resources for the Data Visualization</u> Workshop at STI HIV 2025

- Download Course\_data: African\_meningococci.csv
- Load the dataset in R:

data 01 africa <- read.csv("data/African meningococci.csv")</pre>



## View and understand your data

# 8. Number of samples in each country

table(data\_01\_Africa\$country)

```
# 1. to know the structure of your data
                                                      # 4. To view the first top rows - by default will view 6
str(data_01_Africa)
                                                       data_03_Africa <- head(data_01_Africa)</pre>
# OR
glimpse(data_01_Africa)
                                                      # 5. To view the bottom rows - by default will view the last 6
                                                       data_04_Africa <- tail(data_01_Africa)</pre>
#_____
# 2. view the column names
names(data_01_Africa)
                                                      # 6. Selecting columns
                                                      data_01_subset <- select(data_01_Africa, id, isolate, country)</pre>
# OR
                                                      # OR (remove certain columns)
colnames(data_01_Africa)
                                                      data_02_subset <- select(data_01_Africa, -id, -isolate)</pre>
# 3. tidy up the column names.
                                                       # 7. Filtering rows
data_02_Africa <- clean_names(data_01_Africa)</pre>
# confirm that the names of the columns have changed
                                                       Nigeria <- filter(data_01_Africa, country == "Nigeria")</pre>
names(data_01_Africa)
names(data_02_Africa)
```



#### Can you answer these?

- 1. The number of samples in each year? [hint: table]
- 2. The number of samples in each serogroup?
- 3. The number of samples collected in each year only in Togo?

[hint: filter then table]

#### **Answers**

- 1. The number of samples in each year? [hint: table]
- > Table(data\_01\_Africa\$year

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
115	272	60	26	158	85

- 2. The number of samples in each serogroup?
- > Table(data 01 Africa\$serogroup

Α	С	NG	W	X	Υ
90	124	8	431	61	2

- 3. The number of samples collected in each year only in Togo? [hint: filter then table]
- > TOGO <- filter(data\_01\_Africa, country == "Togo")</pre>
- > Table(TOGO\$year)

2014	2015	2016
16	12	42

#### Too many variables

- Pipe operator to link commands: %>%
- Can I clean col names, select, filter all in one variable and run once?

```
# remove all the data frames loaded except the data_01_Africa
rm(data_02_Africa, data_03_Africa, data_04_Africa, Nigeria, data_01_subset, data_02_subset)
                                               # 10. clean names | selecting columns
# 9. clean names
                                               data_02_Africa <- data_01_Africa %>%
data_02_Africa <- data_01_Africa %>%
                                                 clean_names() %>%
  clean_names()
                                                 select(id, isolate, year, country)
# 11. clean names | selecting columns | Filter only "Burkina Faso"
data_02_Africa <- data_01_Africa %>%
  clean_names() %>%
  select(id, isolate, year, country) %>%
  filter(country == "Burkina Faso")
```



## Grouping and summarizing data

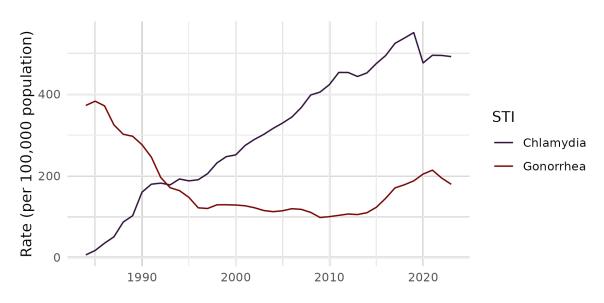
• group\_by and summarise function

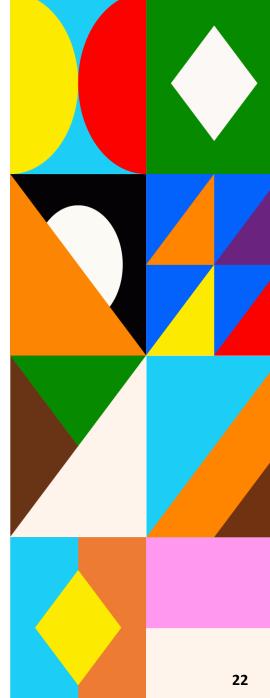
```
year
                                  count
country
Benin
                           2012
                                         41
Burkina Faso
                           2012
                                        167
Burkina Faso
                           2011
                                         41
Burkina Faso
                           2013
                                         20
Burkina Faso
                           2015
                                         11
Burkina Faso
                           2016
Burkina Faso
                           2014
Cameroon
                           2012
Central African Republic
                           2016
                                         23
Central African Republic
                           2015
                                          7
```

```
# 13. Number of samples identified by country and clonal complex proportions
data_04_Africa <- data_01_Africa %>%
    clean_names() %>%
    group_by(country, clonal_complex_mlst) %>%
    summarise(count = n()) %>%
    mutate(prop = count/sum(count) *100)
```



## STI Surveillance: Line Plot





stihiv2025.org



#### Packages used

- tidyverse: collection of packages includes dplyr and ggplot2
- janitor: cleaning
- viridis: colorblind-friendly color palettes







#### **Input Data**

Table 1. Sexually Transmitted Infections — Reported Cases and Rates of Reported Cases\*, United States



#### **ABOUT**

The table below is from Sexually Transmitted Infections Surveillance, 2023.

#### 1941-2023

	Syphilis															
Total Year <sup>†</sup> Syphilis‡		Congenital		Primary and Secondary		,	Primary Non-		Unknown Duration or Late§		Gonorrhea		Chlamydia		Chancroid¶	
	Cases	Rate	Cases	Ratell	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate
1941	485,560	368.2	17,600	651.1	68,231	51.7	109,018	82.6	202,984	153.9	193,468	146.7	NR	_	3,384	2.5
1942	479,601	363.4	16,918	566.0	75,312	57.0	116,245	88.0	202,064	153.1	212,403	160.9	NR	_	5,477	4.1
1943	575,593	447.0	16,164	520.7	82,204	63.8	149,390	116.0	251,958	195.7	275,070	213.6	NR	_	8,354	6.4



#### Reading and Cleaning Input Data

```
# read input data
# Table 1 from CDC's Sexually Transmitted Surveillance, 2023. Found here: https://www.c
# na = c("NR", "-") converts not reported designations from the table to NA
sti_surveillance <- read_csv("data/CDC_STI_Surveillance_2023.csv", na = c("NR", "-"))
# clean up column names with janitor package
sti_surveillance_clean <- sti_surveillance %>% clean_names()
# Compare the column names before and after using the command clean_names
colnames(sti_surveillance)
colnames(sti_surveillance_clean)
```

"Total Syphilis Cases"

"Congenital Syphilis Rate"

```
> colnames(sti_surveillance)
[1] "Year"
[4] "Congenital Syphilis Cases"
[7] "Primary and Secondary Syphilis Rate"
[10] "Unknown Duration or Late Syphilis Cases"
[13] "Gonorrhea Rate"
[16] "Chancroid Cases"
> colnames(sti_surveillance_clean)
[1] "year"
[4] "congenital_syphilis_cases"
[7] "primary_and_secondary_syphilis_rate"
[10] "unknown_duration_or_late_syphilis_cases"
[13] "gonorrhea_rate"
[16] "chancroid_cases"
```

```
"Early Non-Primary Non-Secondary Syphilis Cases" "Early Non-Primary Non-Secondary Syphilis Rate"
"Unknown Duration or Late Syphilis Rate"
"Chlamydia Cases"
"Chancroid Rate"
"total_syphilis_cases"
"congenital_syphilis_rate"
"early_non_primary_non_secondary_syphilis_cases"
"unknown_duration_or_late_syphilis_rate"
"chlamydia_cases"
"chancroid_rate"
```

```
"Total Syphilis Rate"
"Primary and Secondary Syphilis Cases"
"Gonorrhea Cases"
"Chlamydia Rate"
"total_syphilis_rate"
"primary_and_secondary_syphilis_cases"
"early_non_primary_non_secondary_syphilis_rate"
"gonorrhea_cases"
"chlamydia_rate"
```



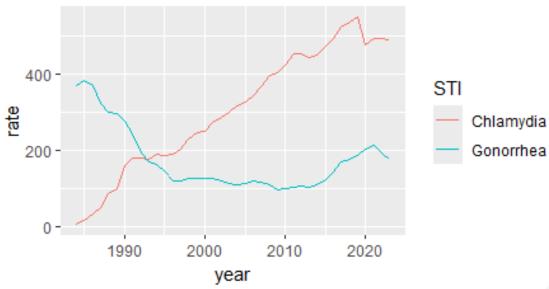
#### **Reformatting Clean Data**

```
# select columns we are interested in
gc_ct_surveillance <- sti_surveillance %>% select(year, gonorrhea_rate, chlamydia_rate)
# filter to years with both gonorrhea and chlamydia rates
gc_ct_surveillance <- gc_ct_surveillance %>% drop_na()
# some figures require the data to be in the `long` format (rather than the `wide` format
gc_ct_surveillance_long <- gc_ct_surveillance %>%
  rename(Gonorrhea = gonorrhea_rate, Chlamydia = chlamydia_rate) %>%
  pivot_longer(-year, names_to = "STI", values_to = "rate")
                                                        > gc_ct_surveillance_long
       > gc_ct_surveillance
       # A tibble: 40 \times 3
                                                         # A tibble: 80 \times 3
          year gonorrhea_rate chlamydia_rate
                                                            vear STI
                                                                          rate
          <db1>
                       <db1>
                                                           <db1> <chr> <db1>
                                     \langle db 1 \rangle
                                                         1 1984 Gonorrhea 372.
        1 1984
                        372.
                                     6.5
                                                         2 1984 Chlamydia 6.5
        2 <u>1</u>985
                        383
                                     17.4
        3 1986
                        372.
                                     35.2
                                                         3 1985 Gonorrhea 383
                                                         4 1985 Chlamydia 17.4
        4 1987
                        325
                                     50.8
        5 1988
                                    87.1
                                                         5 1986 Gonorrhea 372.
                        302.
                                                         6 1986 Chlamydia 35.2
        6 1989
                        297.
                                    102.
                                                         7 1987 Gonorrhea 325
        7 <u>1</u>990
                        276.
                                    160.
                                                         8 1987 Chlamydia 50.8
        8 1991
                        246.
                                    180.
                                                         9 1988 Gonorrhea 302.
                        196
        9 1992
                                    182.
                                                        10 1988 Chlamydia 87.1
                        171.
       10 1993
                                    178
```



#### **Minimal Plot**

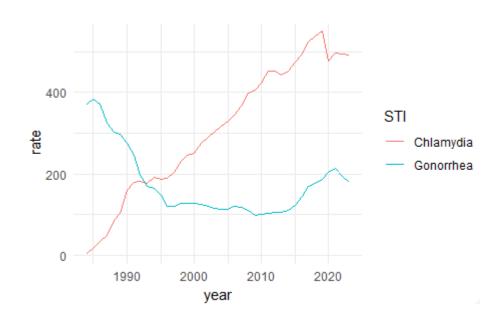
```
plot <- gc_ct_surveillance_long %>%
          ggplot(aes(x=year, y=rate, color=STI)) +
          geom_line()
```





#### **Adjusting Theme**

```
plot <- gc_ct_surveillance_long %>%
          ggplot(aes(x=year, y=rate, color=STI)) +
          geom_line() + theme_minimal()
```





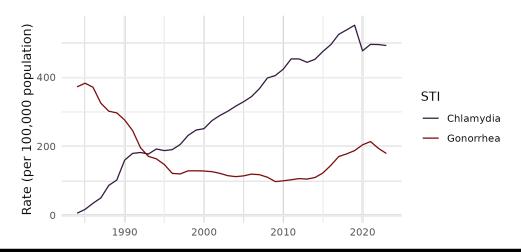
#### **Changing Axis Labels**

```
plot <- gc_ct_surveillance_long %>%
         ggplot(aes(x=year, y=rate, color=STI)) +
         geom_line() +
         theme_minimal() +
         ylab("Rate (per 100,000 population)") +
         xlab("")
                                  Rate (per 100,000 population)
                                                                            STI
                                                                               Chlamydia
                                                                               Gonorrhea
                                            1990
                                                    2000
                                                             2010
                                                                     2020
```



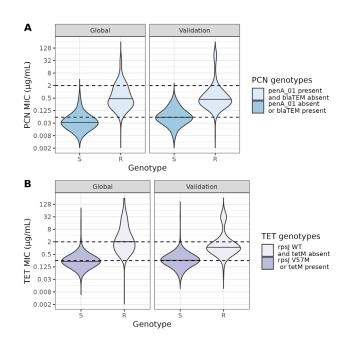
#### **Changing Color Scheme**

```
plot <- gc_ct_surveillance_long %>%
    ggplot(aes(x=year, y=rate, color=STI)) +
    geom_line() +
    theme_minimal() +
    ylab("Rate (per 100,000 population)") +
    xlab("") +
    scale_color_viridis(discrete = "T", option = "turbo")
```



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# Antimicrobial Susceptibility: Violin Plot

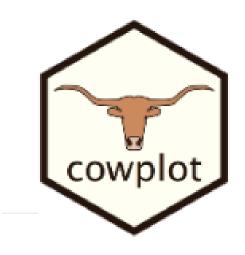






#### **New Packages**

cowplot: plot annotation





#### **Input Data**

Loci for prediction of penicillin and tetracycline susceptibility in Neisseria gonorrhoeae: a genome-wide association study

Tatum D Mortimer\*, Jessica J Zhanq\*, Kevin C Ma, Yonatan H Grad



#### Reading and Cleaning Input Data

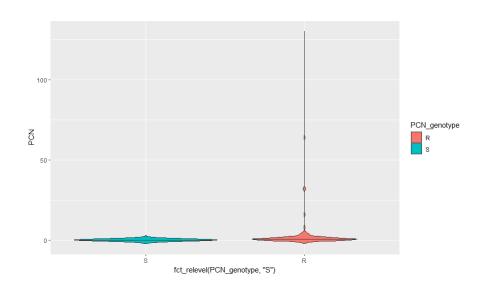
```
metadata_pcn <- read_csv("data/MortimerZhang2022_penicillin_genotypes_phenotypes.csv")
metadata_tet <- read_csv("data/MortimerZhang2022_tetracycline_genotypes_phenotypes.csv")
view(metadata_pcn)
glimpse(metadata_pcn)</pre>
```

#### > glimpse(metadata\_pcn) # Basic information about the data structure

```
Rows: 8,345
Columns: 10
                                                        <chr> "SRR1661153", "SRR1661154", "SRR1661155", "SRR1661156", "SRR1661157", "SRR1661158", "SRR1...
$ wqs_id
                                                        <chr> "Demczuk2015", "Demczuk20
$ reference
                                                        $ penA_01
                                                        <db1> 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, ...
$ blatem
$ penA_id
                                                        <db1> 4, 13, 9, 17, 4, 10, 100, 10, 40, 4, 10, 4, 10, 9, 1, 22, 34, 12, 43, 22, 27, 27, 12, 5, ...
                                                        <chr> "penA Type IV NonMosaic; A517G, G543S", "penA Type XIII NonMosaic; A501V, A517G", "penA T...
$ penA_description
                                                        $ PCN_genotype
                                                        <db1> 4.000, 2.000, 2.000, 2.000, 4.000, 4.000, 0.008, 4.000, 0.063, 4.000, 4.000, 2.000, 4.000...
$ PCN
```

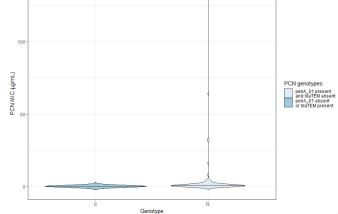


#### **Minimal Plot**



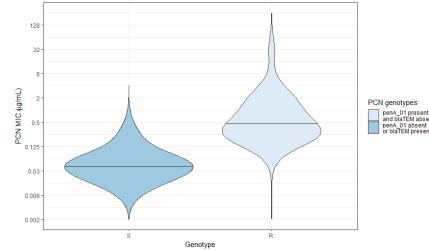


# Adjusting Theme, Axis Labels, and Color Palette





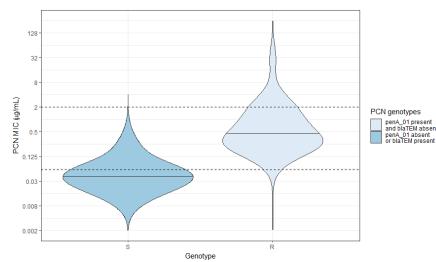
#### **Changing Axis Scale**





#### **Adding Horizontal Lines**

```
pcn_plot <- metadata_pcn %>%
    ggplot(aes(x = fct_relevel(PCN_genotype, "S"),
              fill = PCN_genotype)) +
    geom_violin(bw=0.8, draw_quantiles=c(0.5), trim=FALSE) +
    theme_bw() +
                                                                       0.008
    xlab("Genotype") +
    ylab(expression(paste("PCN MIC (", mu, "g/mL)", ))) +
                                                                       0.002
    scale_fill_brewer(name = "PCN genotypes",
                    labels = c("penA_01 present \nand blaTEM absent",
                               "penA_01 absent \nor blaTEM present")) +
  scale_y_continuous(trans = 'log2',
    limits = c(0.002, 256),
breaks = c(2^-9, 2^-7, 2^-5, 2^-3, 2^-1, 2^1, 2^3, 2^5, 2^7),
    labels = c(0.002, 0.008, 0.03, 0.125, 0.5, 2, 8, 32, 128)) +
 geom_hline(yintercept = 0.06, linetype = "dashed") +
 geom_hline(yintercept = 2, linetype = "dashed")
```





pcn\_plot <- metadata\_pcn %>%

y = PCN.

#### Facet by variable

ggplot(aes(x = fct\_relevel(PCN\_genotype, "S"),

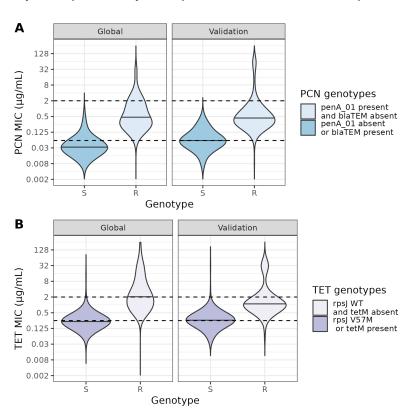
```
fill = PCN_genotype)) +
  geom_violin(bw=0.8, draw_quantiles=c(0.5), trim=FALSE) +
  theme_bw() +
  xlab("Genotype") +
  ylab(expression(paste("PCN MIC (", mu, "g/mL)", ))) +
  scale_fill_brewer(name = "PCN genotypes",
                     labels = c("penA_01 present \nand blaTEM absent"
                                  "penA_01 absent \nor blaTEM present")) +
scale_y_continuous(trans = 'log2',
   limits = c(0.002, 256),
breaks = c(2^-9, 2^-7, 2^-5, 2^-3, 2^-1, 2^1, 2^3, 2^5, 2^7),
   labels = c(0.002, 0.008, 0.03, 0.125, 0.5, 2, 8, 32, 128)) +
geom_hline(yintercept = 0.06, linetype = "dashed") +
geom_hline(yintercept = 2, linetype = "dashed") +
facet_wrap(~dataset)
                                                                        PCN MIC (ug/mL)
                                                                                                                                       PCN genotypes
                                                                                                                                         and blaTEM absent
                                                                                                                                         penA_01 absent
or blaTEM present
                                                                           0.03
                                                                          0.008 -
```

Genotype



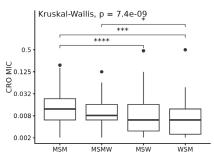
#### Making a multi-panel plot

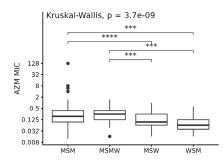
p <- plot\_grid(pcn\_plot, tet\_plot, labels = c("A","B"), nrow = 2)</pre>

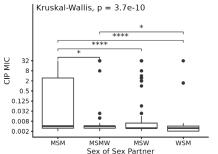


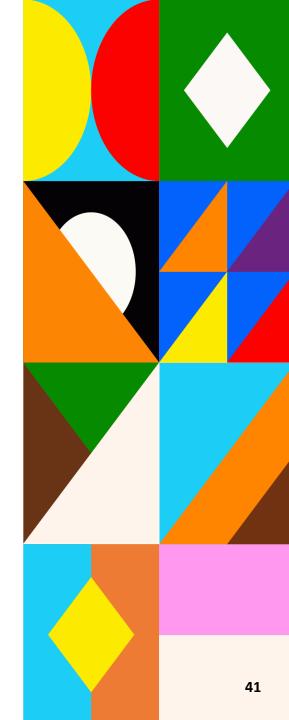
#### **STI&HIV**2025 WORLD CONGRESS

## **AMR and Sexual Behavior: Box Plot**











#### **New Packages**

 ggpubr: annotate plot with statistical tests



#### **Input Data**

The Distribution and Spread of Susceptible and Resistant Neisseria gonorrhoeae Across Demographic Groups in a Major Metropolitan Center

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#### **Reading Input Data and Setting Theme**

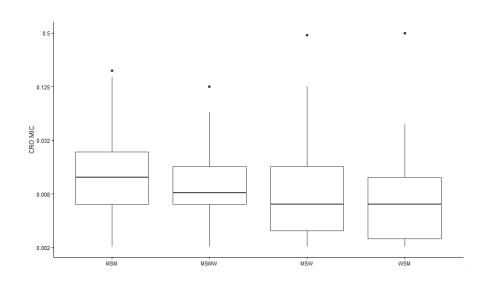
```
theme_set(theme_cowplot(font_size=10))
metadata <- read_csv("data/Mortimer2020_sexualbehavior_AMR.csv")</pre>
```

```
> metadata
# A tibble: 874 x 5
   run_accession partner azithromycin ceftriaxone ciprofloxacin
   <chr>>
                  <chr>>
                                  <db7>
                                               <db1>
                                                              <db1>
 1 ERR2632001
                  MSM
                                   0.19
                                               0.004
                                                              0.003
 2 ERR3200989
                  MSM
                                   0.5
                                               0.008
                                                              0.002
 3 ERR3200897
                                   0.38
                                               0.004
                                                              0.003
                  MSW
 4 ERR2631781
                  MSM
                                   0.5
                                               0.012
                                                              0.003
 5 ERR3200986
                  MSM
                                   0.5
                                               0.012
                                                              0.003
 6 ERR3200988
                                   0.5
                                               0.008
                                                              0.003
                  MSM
 7 ERR3201259
                  MSM
                                   0.25
                                               0.004
                                                              0.002
 8 ERR3200992
                  MSM
                                   0.38
                                               0.003
                                                              0.002
 9 ERR2632019
                                   0.19
                                               0.008
                                                              0.003
                  MSM
10 ERR2631957
                                   0.25
                                               0.006
                                                              0.004
                  MSM
```



#### **Base Plot**

```
partner.cro <- metadata %>% ggplot(aes(x = partner, y = ceftriaxone)) +
    geom_boxplot() +
    scale_y_continuous(trans='log2',
        breaks = c(2^(-9), 2^(-7), 2^(-5), 2^(-3), 2^(-1)),
        labels = c("0.002", "0.008", "0.032", "0.125", "0.5")) +
        labs(x = "", y = "CRO MIC")
```





#### **Adding Statistical Comparisons**

```
comparisons.cro <- list(c("MSM", "MSW"), c("MSM", "WSM"), c("MSMW", "WSM"))</pre>
partner.cro <- metadata %>% ggplot(aes(x = partner, y = ceftriaxone)) +
    geom_boxplot() +
    scale_y_continuous(trans='log2',
breaks = c(2^(-9), 2^(-7), 2^(-5), 2^(-3), 2^(-1)),
         labels = c("0.002", "0.008", "0.032", "0.125", "0.5")) +
         labs(x = "", y = "CRO MIC") +
    stat_compare_means(comparisons = comparisons.cro, label = "p.signif") +
    stat_compare_means(label.y = 2)
                                                        Kruskal-Wallis, p = 7.4e-09
                                                 ON 0.125
ON 0.125
                                                   0.032
```

0.008



#### **Combining Plots into Panels**

