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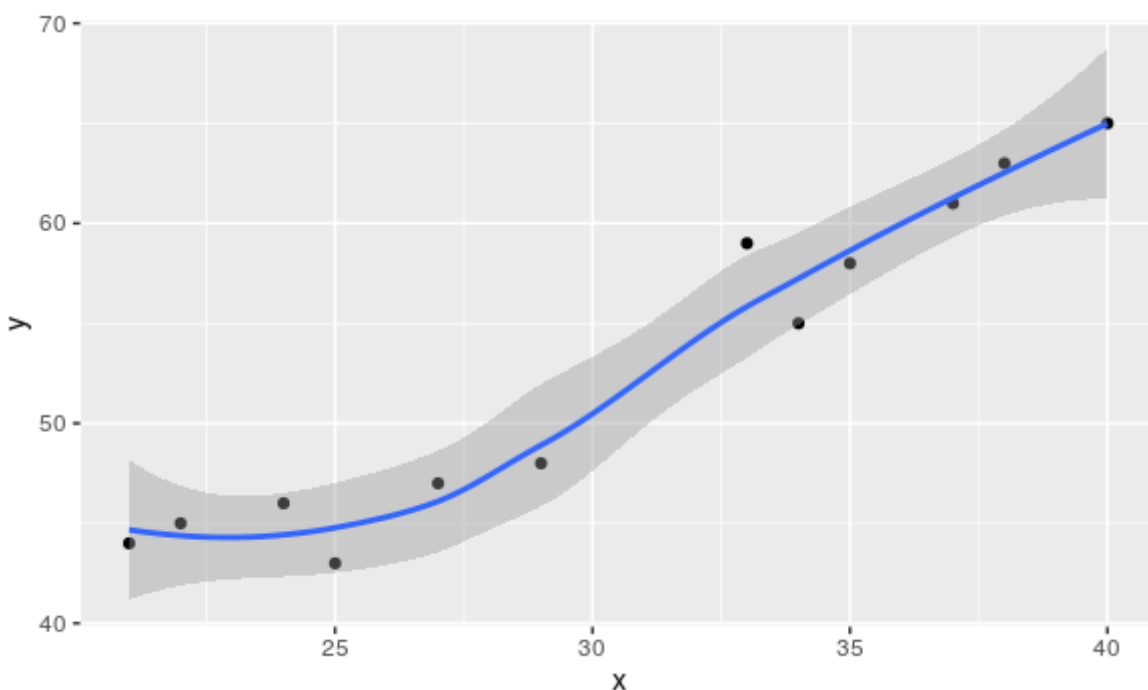
Smoothing

In this reading, you will learn about smoothing in ggplot2 and how it can be used to make your data visualizations in R clearer and easier to follow. Sometimes it can be hard to understand trends in your data from scatter plots alone. **Smoothing** enables the detection of a data trend even when you can't easily notice a trend from the plotted data points. Ggplot2's smoothing functionality is helpful because it adds a **smoothing line** as another layer to a plot; the smoothing line helps the data to make sense to a casual observer.

Example code

```
ggplot(data, aes(x=distance,  
y= dep_delay)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth()
```

The example code creates a plot with a trend line similar to the blue line below.



Two types of smoothing