The penguins of Antarctica

Selina Baldauf

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## Introduction

There are three main penguin species in Antarctica (*Chinstrap*, *Gentoo*, *Adelie*). You can see them in the following figure:



Artwork by [Allison Horst](https://twitter.com/allison_horst)



Illustration of the three penguin species by Allison Horst

In this paper we want to answer the following questions

1. How bill depth depends on bill length?
2. Which penguin species has the highest body mass?

## Methods

### The data

The data was collected on islands in Antarctica and published by Gorman et al. (2014). You can find the original paper with the title “Ecological sexual dimorphism and environmental variability within a community of Antarctic penguins (genus *Pygoscelis*)” in PLoS ONE[[1]](#footnote-27)

The data is published via the palmerpenguins R package which you can find [on this website](https://allisonhorst.github.io/palmerpenguins/).

**The data contains (among others) the following measurements:**

* bill length
* bill depth
* body mass
* sex
  + male
  + female

### The analysis

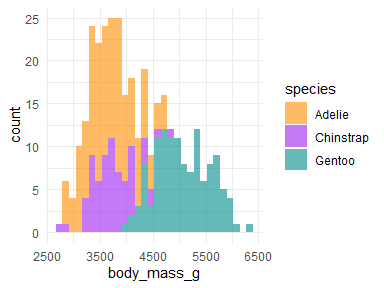
We did some plots, calculated some summary statistics and a linear model of the form

## Results

The mean weight of all penguin species is 4202. *Gentoo* penguins have an average weight of 5076 g, *Adelie* penguins of 3701 g and *Chinstrap* penguins of 3733 g.

The figure below shows that *Gentoo* penguins have the highest body mass.

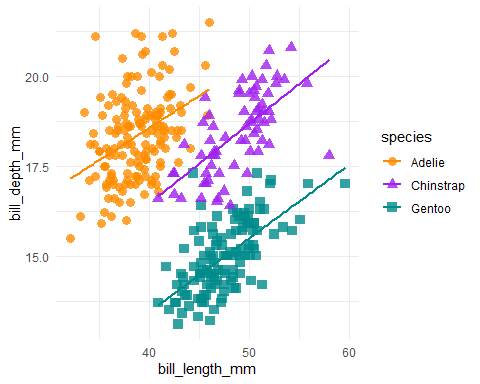
ggplot(penguins, aes(x = body\_mass\_g, fill = species)) +  
 geom\_histogram(alpha = 0.6) +  
 scale\_fill\_manual(values = c("darkorange", "purple", "cyan4")) +  
 theme\_minimal()



Histogram of weight of the three penguin species.

There is a positive relationship between bill length and bill depth for all 3 species, as the figure below shows.

ggplot(  
 data = penguins,  
 aes(  
 x = bill\_length\_mm,  
 y = bill\_depth\_mm,  
 color = species,  
 shape = species  
 )  
) +  
 geom\_point(size = 3, alpha = 0.8) +  
 geom\_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE) +  
 scale\_color\_manual(values = c("darkorange", "purple", "cyan4")) +  
 theme\_minimal()



Scatter plot with regression lines showing the relationship between bill length and bill depth for the 3 penguin species

In general, it looks like the body characteristics differ between the sexes but also between the penguin species, as the table below illustrates:

## # A tibble: 6 × 6  
## # Groups: species [3]  
## species sex bill\_length bill\_depth flipper\_length body\_mass  
## <fct> <fct> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>  
## 1 Adelie female 37.3 17.6 188. 3369.  
## 2 Adelie male 40.4 19.1 192. 4043.  
## 3 Chinstrap female 46.6 17.6 192. 3527.  
## 4 Chinstrap male 51.1 19.3 200. 3939.  
## 5 Gentoo female 45.6 14.2 213. 4680.  
## 6 Gentoo male 49.5 15.7 222. 5485.

1. paper available [here](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0090081). [↑](#footnote-ref-27)