TWS R Workshop

Creating Figures as an Intro to R

Using the **ggplot2** package

Steffi LaZerte



Artwork by @allison horst

Introductions

Instructor

Dr. Steffi LaZerte

- Background in Biology (Animal Behaviour)
- Working with R since 2007
- Professional R programmer/consultant since 2017



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Introductions

Assistant

Dr. Alex Koiter

- Physical Geographer
- Working with R since 2010
- Assistant Professor in Geography and Environment, Brandon University



What about you?

- Name
- Background (Area of study, etc.)
- Familiarity with R (or other programming languages)
 - o I've heard of R
 - o I've used R
 - o I use R all the time

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Outline

- 1. A little about R
- 2. Creating figures with ggplot2
- 3. Combining figures with patchwork
- 4. Saving figures

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Outline

- 1. A little about R
- 2. Creating figures with ggplot2
- 3. Combining figures with patchwork
- 4. Saving figures

Taken this or a similar workshop before?

During activities consider...

- Extra activities labeled "Too Easy?"
- Using your own data
- Exploring other aspects of ggplot2 that interest you

Feel free to ask questions even if it's not the "official" activity!

What is R?

R is Programming language

A programming **language** is a way to give instructions in order to get a computer to do something

- You need to know the language (i.e., the code)
- Computers don't know what you mean, only what you type (unfortunately)
- Spelling, punctuation, and capitalization all matter!

For example

R, what is 56 times 5.8?

```
56 * 5.8
## [1] 324.8
```

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Use code to tell R what to do

R, what is the average of numbers 1, 2, 3, 4?

```
mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
## [1] 2.5
```

Use code to tell R what to do

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```

R, save this value for later

```
steffis_mean <- mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

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Use code to tell R what to do

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```
mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
## [1] 2.5
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R, save this value for later

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steffis_mean <- mean(c(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

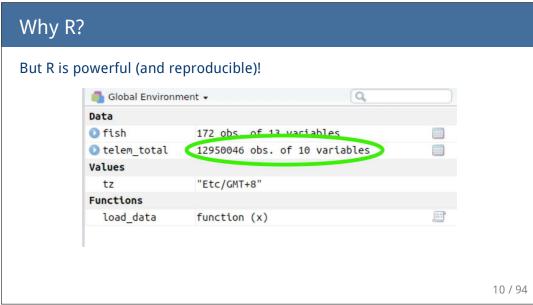
R, multiply this value by 6

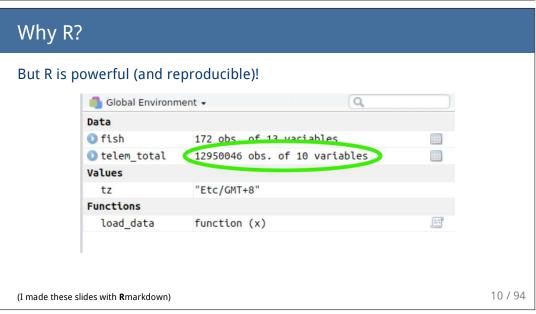
```
steffis_mean * 6
## [1] 15
```

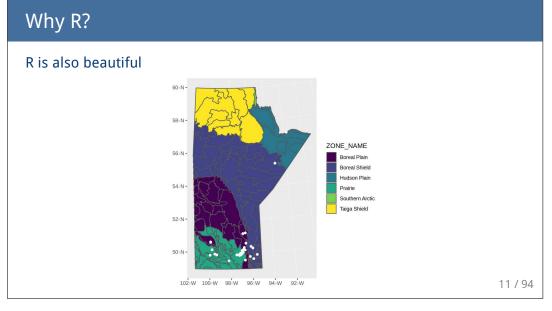
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Why R?

R is hard







Why R?

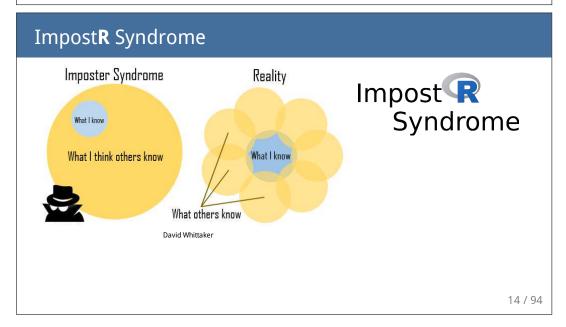
R is affordable (i.e., free!)

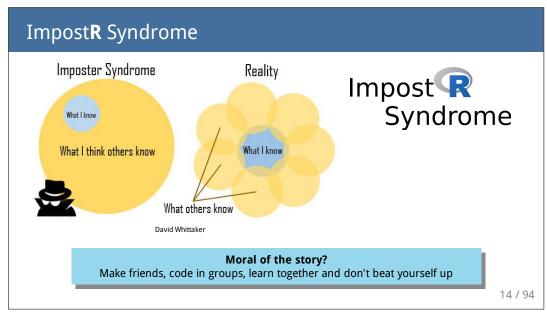
R is available as Free Software under the terms of the Free Software Foundation's GNU General Public License in source code form. It compiles and runs on a wide variety of UNIX platforms and similar systems (including FreeBSD and Linux), Windows and MacOS.

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ImpostR Syndrome









About R

Code, Output, Scripts

Code

• The actual commands

Output

• The result of running code or a script

Script

- A text file full of code that you want to run
- You should always keep your code in a script

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Code, Output, Scripts

Code

• The actual commands

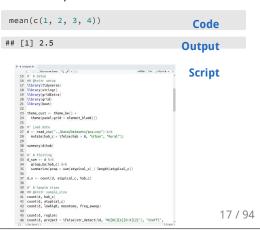
Output

• The result of running code or a script

Script

- A text file full of code that you want to run
- You should always keep your code in a script

For example:



RStudio vs. R







• RStudio is a User Interface or IDE (integrated development environment) o (i.e., Makes coding simpler)

functions() - Do things, Return things

mean(), read_csv(), ggplot(), c(), etc.

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functions() - Do things, Return things

mean(), read_csv(), ggplot(), c(), etc.

- Always have ()
- Can take **arguments** (think 'options')

```
mean(x = c(2, 10, 45)),mean(x = c(NA, 10, 2, 65), na.rm = TRUE)
```

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functions() - Do things, Return things

mean(), read_csv(), ggplot(), c(), etc.

- Always have ()
- Can take **arguments** (think 'options')

```
o mean(x = c(2, 10, 45)),
o mean(x = c(NA, 10, 2, 65), na.rm = TRUE)
```

- Arguments defined by name or by position
- With correct position, do not need to specify by name

By name:

By position:

mean(x = c(1, 5, 10))

[1] 5.333333

[1] 5.333333

R documentation

?mean

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R documentation

?mean

mean {base}

R Documentation

Arithmetic Mean

Description

Generic function for the (trimmed) arithmetic mean.

Usage

mean(x, ...)

Default S3 method:
mean(x, trim = 0, na.rm = FALSE, ...)

Arguments

- x An R object. Currently there are methods for numeric/logical vectors and date, datetime and time interval objects. Complex vectors are allowed for trim = 0, only.
- trim the fraction (0 to 0.5) of observations to be trimmed from each end of x before the mean is computed. Values of trim outside that range are taken as the nearest endpoint.
- $\mbox{\sc na}\mbox{\sc .rm}$ a logical value indicating whether NA values should be stripped before the computation proceeds.
- \dots further arguments passed to or from other methods.

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Data

Generally kept in vectors or data.frames

- These are objects with names (like functions)
- We can use <- to assign values to objects (assignment)

Vector (1 dimension)

my_data <- c("a", 100, "c") my_data ## [1] "a" "100" "c"</pre>

Data frame (2 dimensions)

```
## site count treatment

## 1 s1 101 a

## 2 s2 102 b

## 3 s3 103 c
```

Your first real code!

First Code

```
# First load the packages
library(palmerpenguins)
library(ggplot2)

# Now create the figure
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = bill_length_mm, colour = species)) +
geom_point()
```

- Copy/paste or type this into the script window in RStudio
 - You may have to go to File > New File > R Script
- Click anywhere on the first line of code
- Use the 'Run' button to run this code, or use the short-cut Ctrl-Enter
 - $\circ~$ Repeat until all the code has run

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First Code

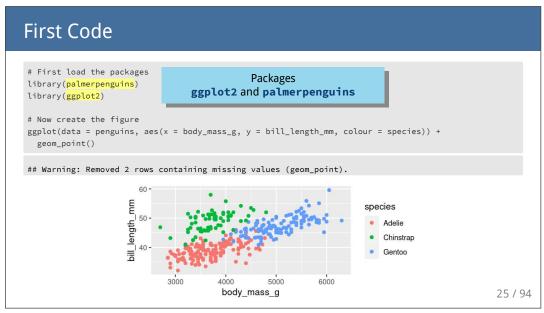
```
# First load the packages
library(palmerpenguins)
library(ggplot2)

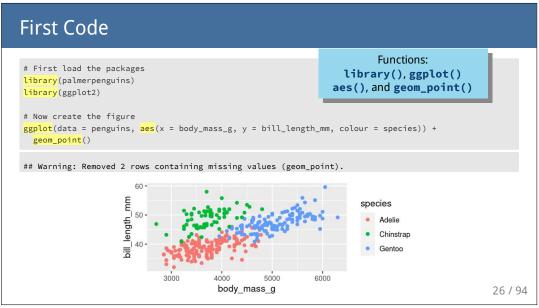
# Now create the figure
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = bill_length_mm, colour = species)) +
geom_point()

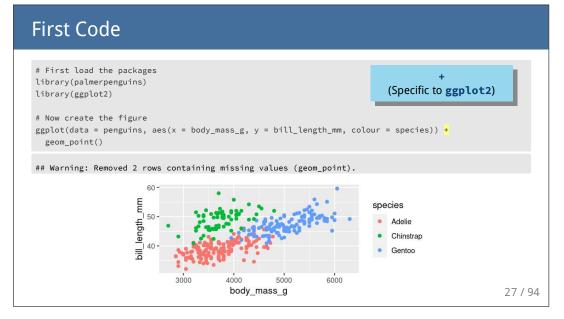
## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom_point).

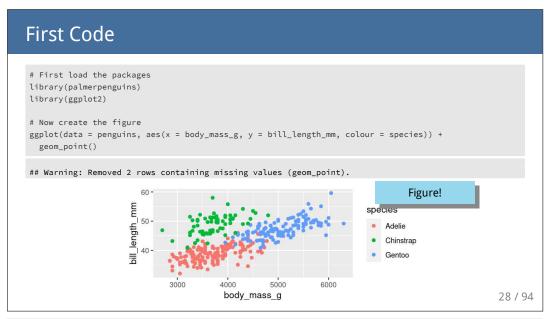
species
Adelie
Chinstrap
Gentoo

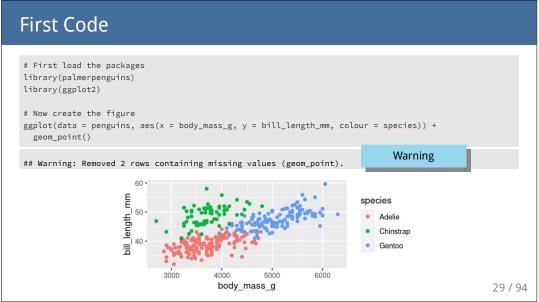
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```

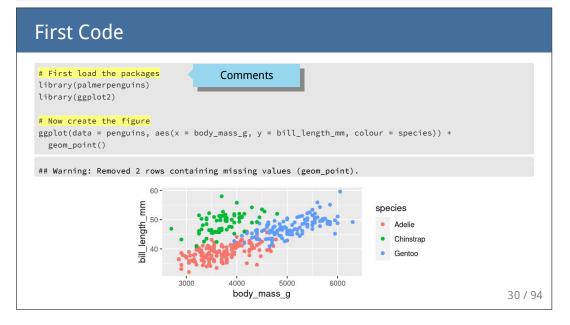






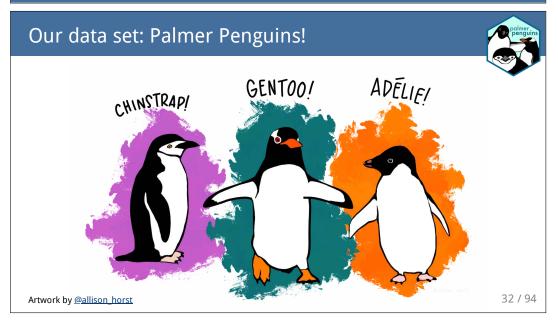


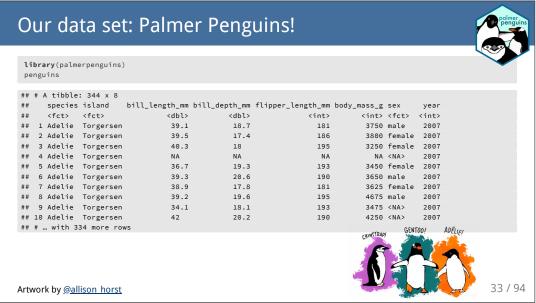




Now you know R!

Let's get started





Our data set: Palmer Penguins! library(palmerpenguins) penguins ## # A tibble: 344 x 8 species island bill_length_mm bill_depth_mm flipper_length_mm body_mass_g sex <dbl> <dbl> <fct> <fct> ## 1 Adelie Torgersen 18.7 17.4 181 186 39.1 3750 male 2007 ## 2 Adelie Torgersen 39.5 3800 female 2007 ## 3 Adelie Torgersen 18 NA 195 3250 female 2007 40.3 ## 4 Adelie Torgersen NA <NA> 2007 NA ## 5 Adelie Torgersen 36.7 19.3 193 3450 female 2007 6 Adelie Torgersen 39.3 20.6 190 3650 male 7 Adelie Torgersen 3625 female 2007 ## 8 Adelie Torgersen 19.6 195 4675 male 2007 ## 9 Adelie Torgersen 34.1 18.1 193 3475 <NA> 2007 ## 10 Adelie Torgersen 20.2 190 4250 <NA> 2007 ## # \dots with 334 more rows Your turn! Run this code and look at the output in the console 33 / 94 Artwork by @allison horst

A basic plot

```
library(palmerpenguins)
library(ggplot2)

ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = bill_length_mm)) +

geom_point()

60-

60-

60-

50-

600

body_mass_g

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```

Break it down

```
library(palmerpenguins)
library(ggplot2)

ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = bill_length_mm)) +
    geom_point()
```

library(palmerpenguins)

• Load the palmerguins package so we have access to penguins data

Break it down

```
library(palmerpenguins)
library(ggplot2)

ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = bill_length_mm)) +
    geom_point()
```

library(ggplot2)

• Load the ggplot2 package (which gives us access to the ggplot() function among others)

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Break it down

```
library(palmerpenguins)
library(ggplot2)

ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = bill_length_mm)) +
    geom_point()
```

ggplot()

- Set the attributes of your plot
- data = Dataset
- aes = Aesthetics (how the data are used)
- Think of this as your plot defaults

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Break it down

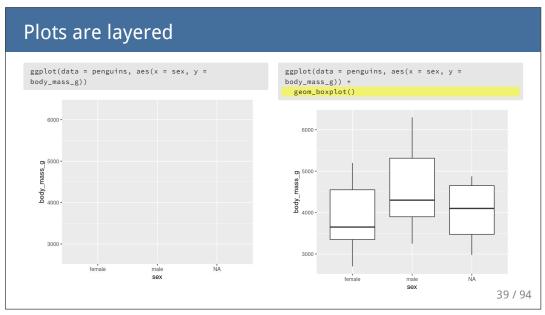
```
library(palmerpenguins)
library(ggplot2)

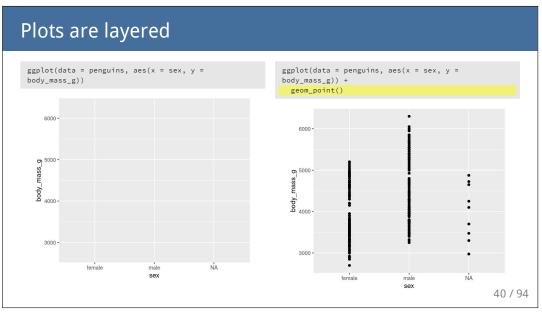
ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = body_mass_g, y = bill_length_mm)) +
    geom_point()
```

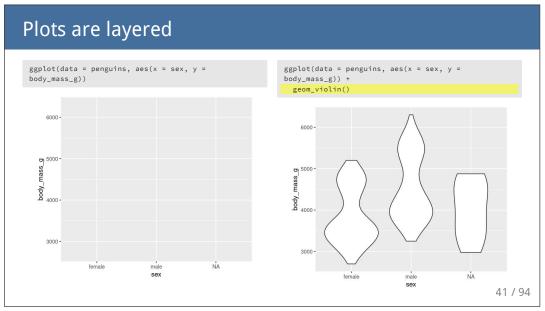
geom_point()

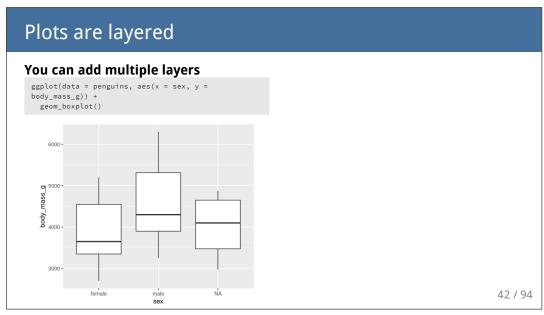
- Choose a geom function to display the data
- Always added to a ggplot() call with +

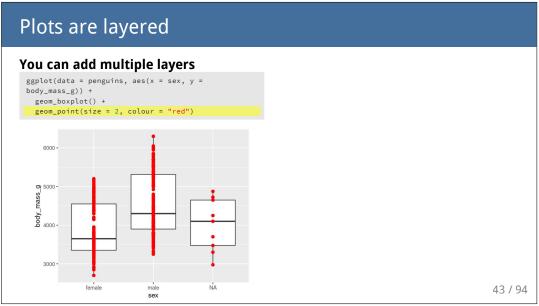
ggplots are essentially layered objects, starting with a call to ggplot()

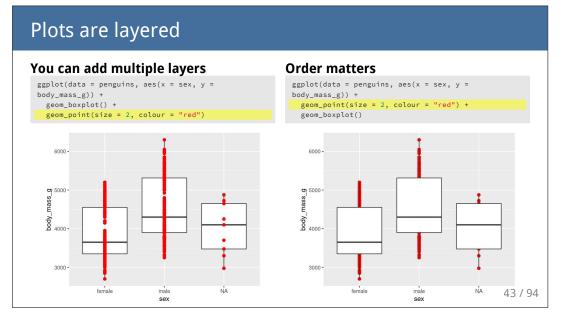












Plots are objects

Any ggplot can be saved as an object

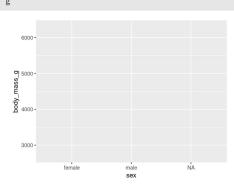
g <- ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = sex, y = body_mass_g))</pre>

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Plots are objects

Any ggplot can be saved as an object

 $g \leftarrow ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = sex, y = body_mass_g))$ g

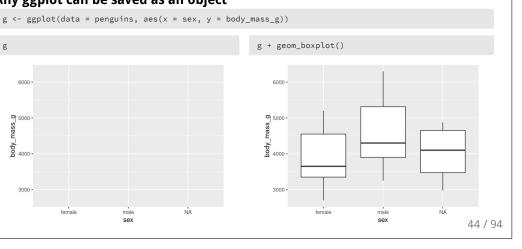


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Plots are objects

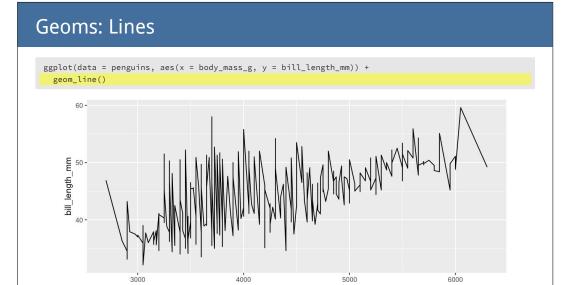
Any ggplot can be saved as an object

g

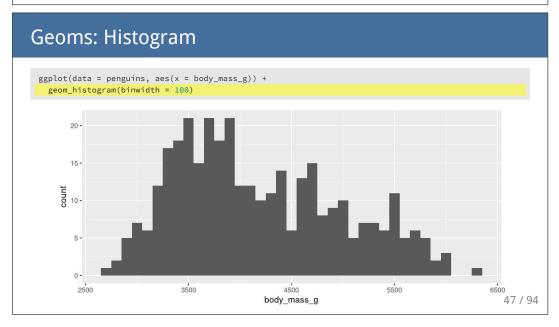


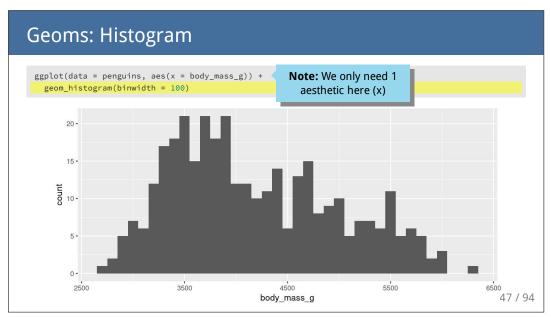


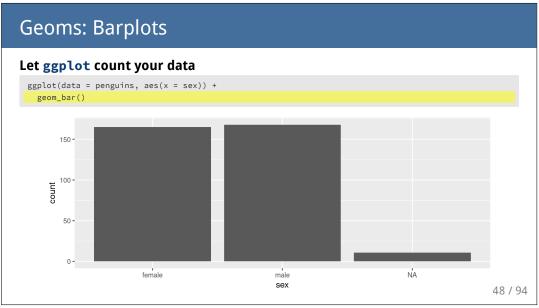
(Plot types)

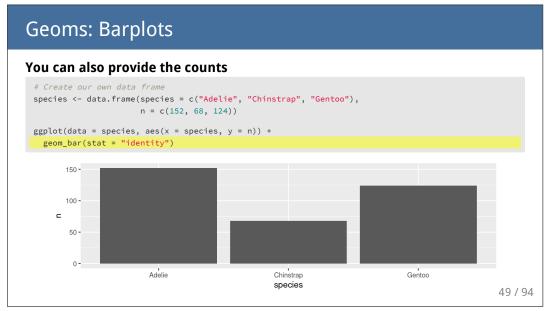


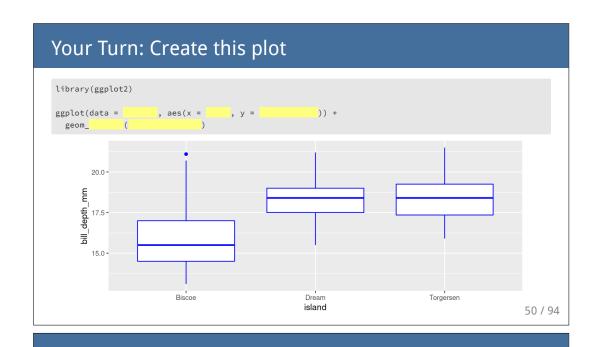
body_mass_g



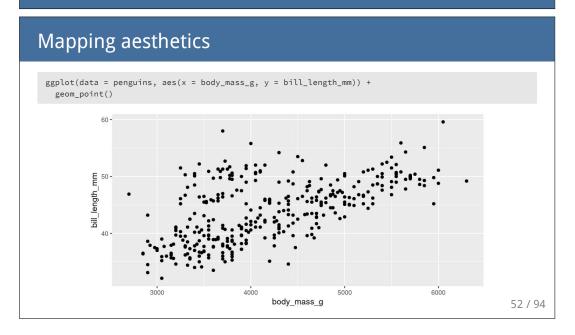


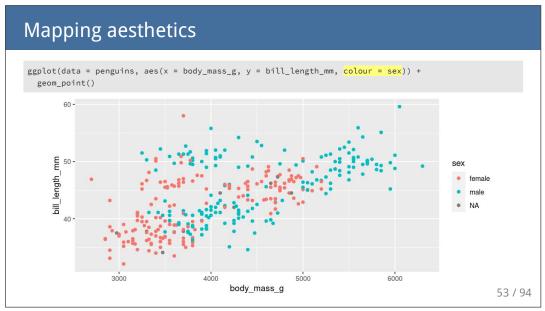


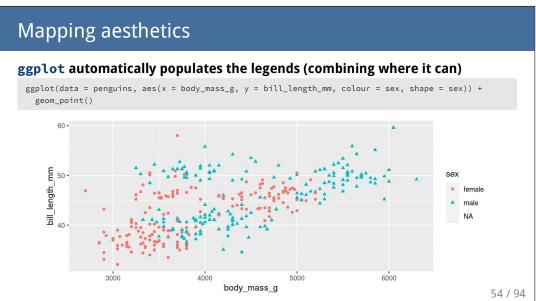


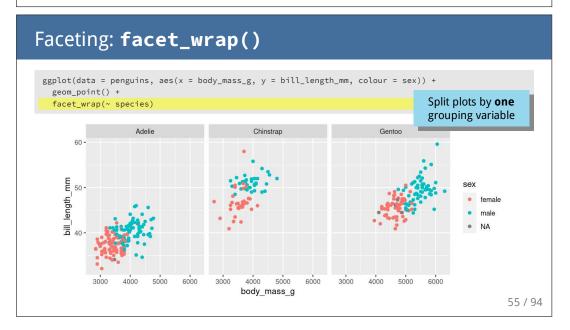


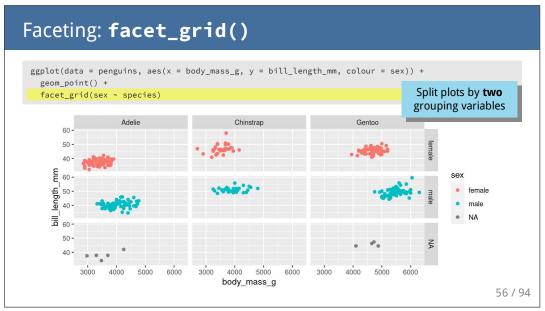


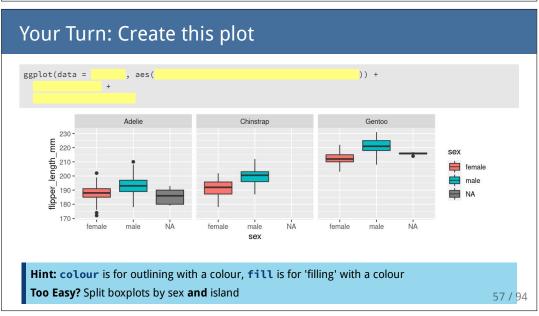




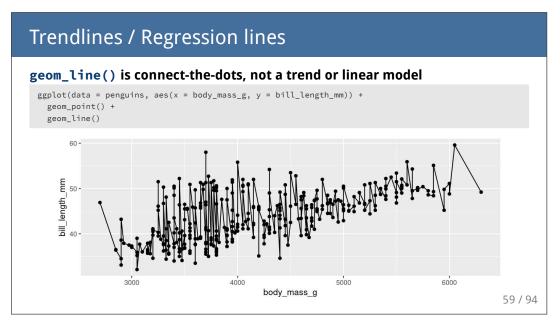


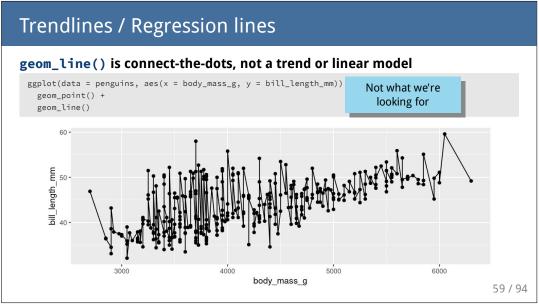


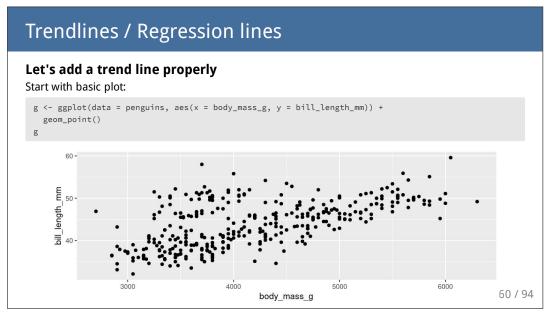


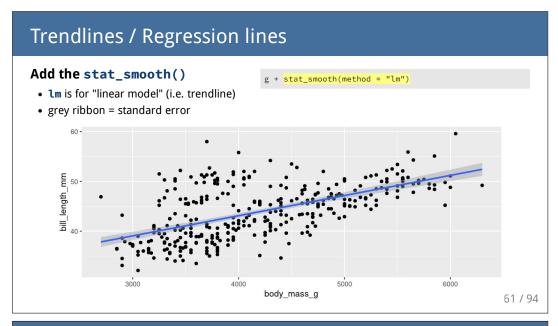


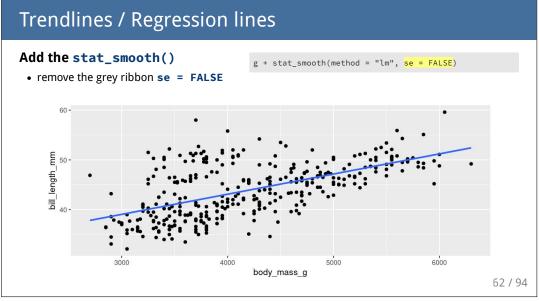


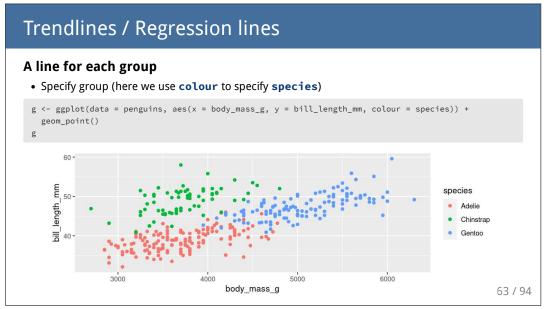








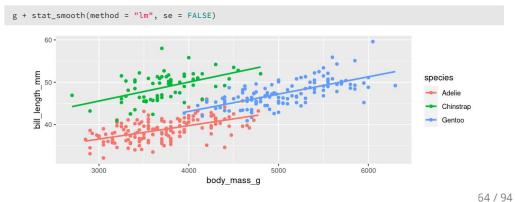




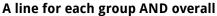
Trendlines / Regression lines

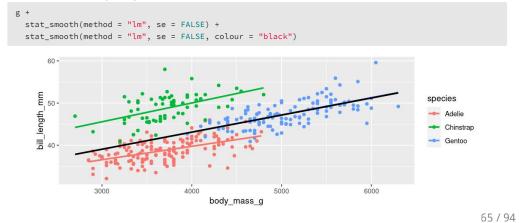
A line for each group

• stat_smooth() automatically uses the same grouping



Trendlines / Regression lines





Your Turn: Create this plot

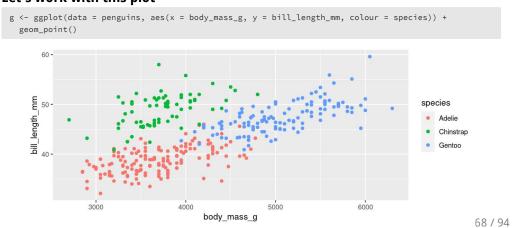
- A scatter plot: Flipper Length by Body Mass grouped by Species
- With a single regression line for the overall trend

Too Easy? Create a separate plot for each sex as well

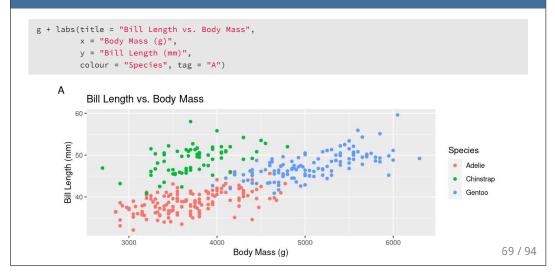
Customizing plots

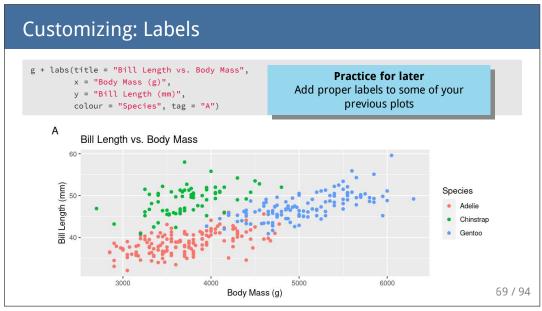
Customizing: Starting plot

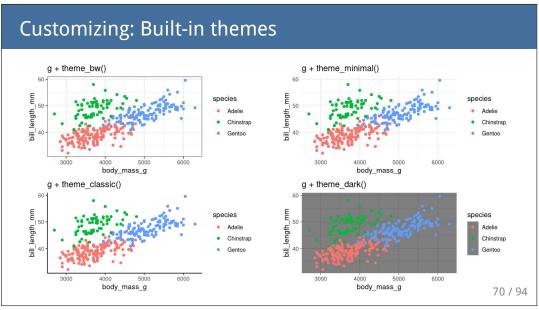
Let's work with this plot

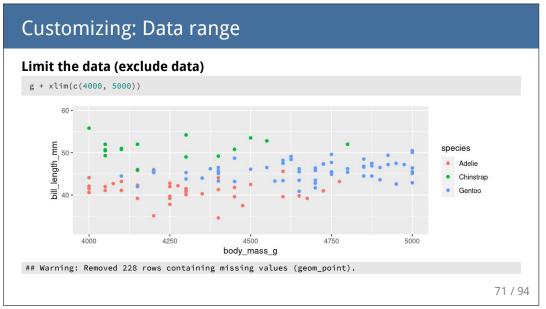


Customizing: Labels









Customizing: Axes

scale_ + (x or y) + type (contiuous, discrete, date, datetime)

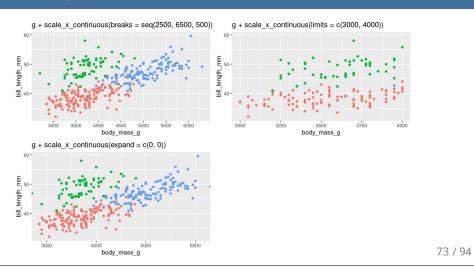
- scale_x_continuous()
- scale_y_discrete()
- etc

Common arguments

```
g + scale_x_continuous(breaks = seq(0, 20, 10)) # Tick breaks
g + scale_x_continuous(limits = c(0, 15)) # xlim() is a shortcut for this
g + scale_x_continuous(expand = c(0, 0)) # Space between axis and data
```

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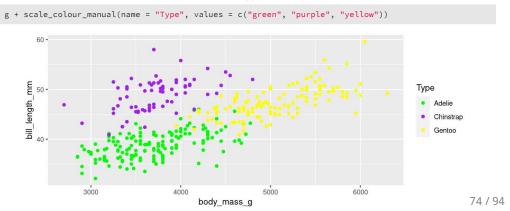
Customizing: Axes

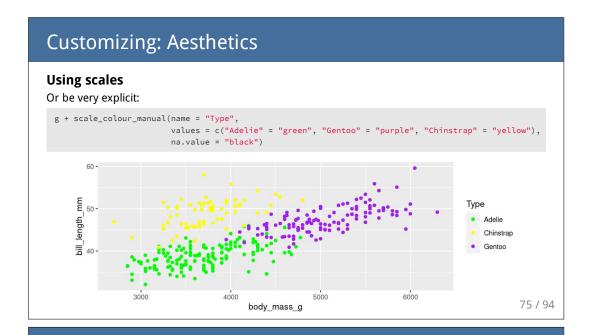


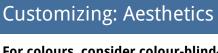
Customizing: Aesthetics

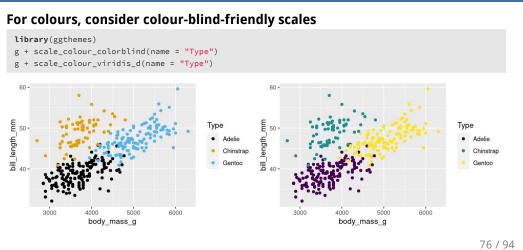
Using scales

scale_ + aesthetic (colour, fill, size, etc.) + type (manual, continuous, datetime, etc.)

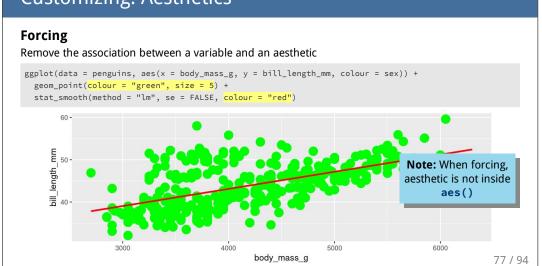


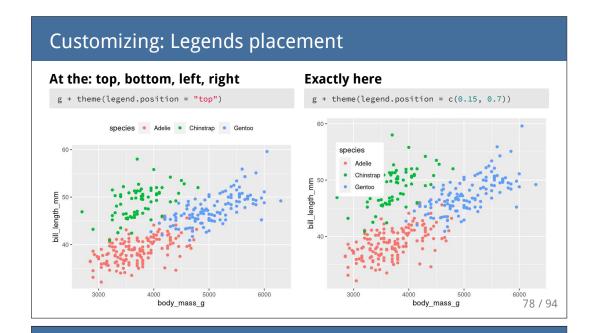






Customizing: Aesthetics





Combining plots

Combining plots with patchwork

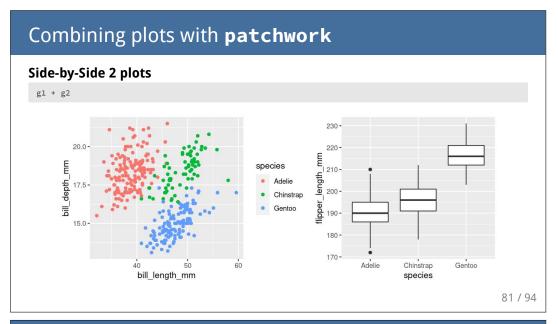
Setup

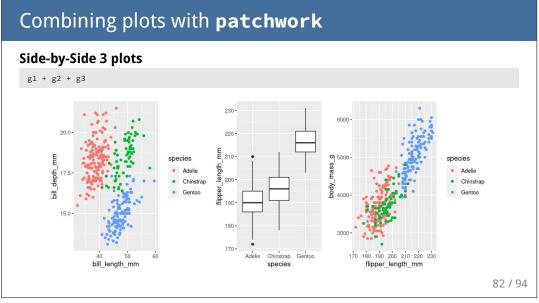
- Load patchwork
- Create a couple of different plots

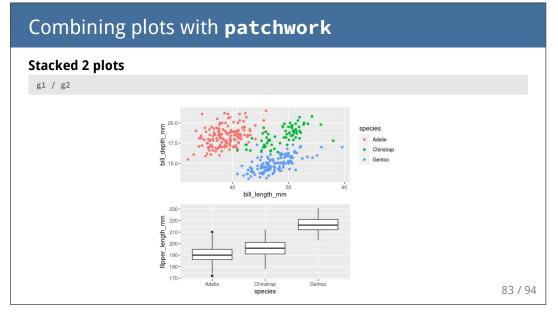
```
library(patchwork)
g1 <- ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = bill_length_mm, y = bill_depth_mm, colour = species)) +
    geom_point()

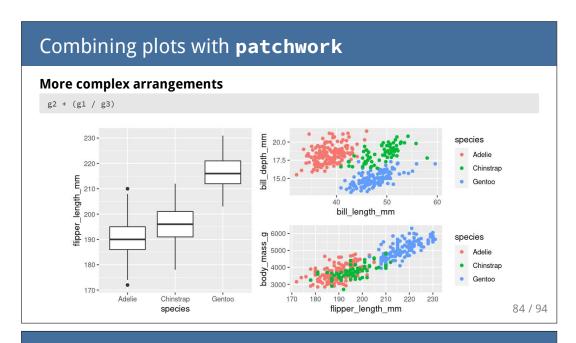
g2 <- ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = species, y = flipper_length_mm)) +
    geom_boxplot()

g3 <- ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = flipper_length_mm, y = body_mass_g, colour = species)) +
    geom_point()</pre>
```

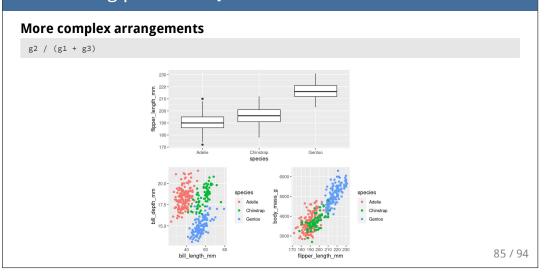




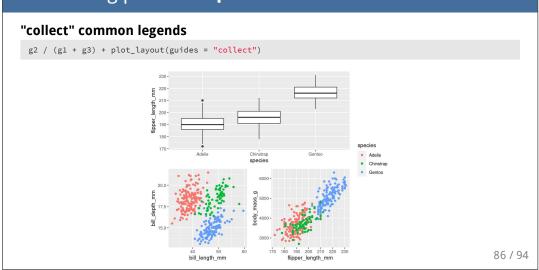


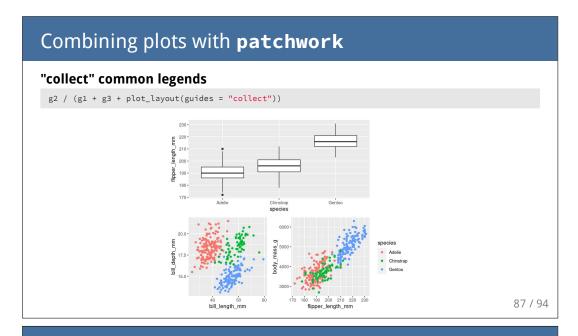


Combining plots with patchwork

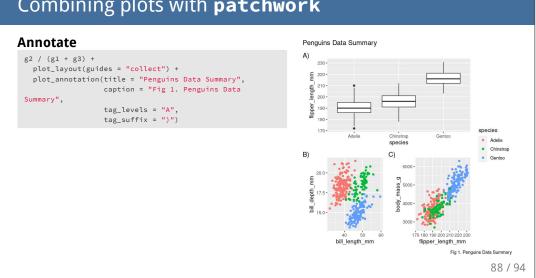


Combining plots with patchwork





Combining plots with patchwork



Saving plots

Saving plots

RStudio Export

Demo

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Saving plots

RStudio Export Demo

ggsave()

```
g <- ggplot(penguins, aes(x = sex, y = bill_length_mm, fill = year)) +
    geom_boxplot()

ggsave(filename = "penguins_mass.png", plot = g)

## Saving 8 x 3.6 in image</pre>
```

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Saving plots

Publication quality plots

- Many publications require 'lossless' (pdf, svg, eps, ps) or high quality formats (tiff, png)
- Specific sizes corresponding to columns widths
- Minimum resolutions

```
g <- ggplot(penguins, aes(x = sex, y = body_mass_g)) +
geom_boxplot() +
labs(x = "Sex", y = "Body Mass (g)") +
theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45, hjust = 1))
ggsave(filename = "penguins_mass.pdf", plot = g, dpi = 300,
height = 80, width = 129, units = "mm")</pre>
```

Wrapping up: Common mistakes

- The package is ggplot2, the function is just ggplot()
- Did you remember to put the + at the end of the line?
- Order matters! If you're using custom **theme()**'s, make sure you put these lines **after** bundled themes like **theme_bw()**, or they will be overwritten
- Variables like 'year' are treated as continuous, but are really categories
 - o Wrap them in factor(), i.e. ggplot(data = penguins, aes(x = factor(year), y = body_mass_g))

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Wrapping up: Further reading (all Free!)

- RStudio > Help > Cheatsheets > Data Visualization with ggplot2
- ggplot2 book v3
 - o By Hadley Wickham, Danielle Navarro, and Thomas Lin Pedersen
- Cookbook for R by Winston Chang
 - See also R Graphics Cookbook by Winston Chang
- R for Data Science
 - Data Visualization

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Your Turn!

Create a figure with...

- Custom colour mapping (i.e. scales_....)
- Clear, human-readable labels
- More than one graph, each one tagged (e.g., A) or B))
- With more than one geom type
- At least one scatterplot with regression line

:D

OR... Load your own data and create a figure of your own!