# Lab 01b: BMI 5/625

Introducing ggplot

Steven Bedrick

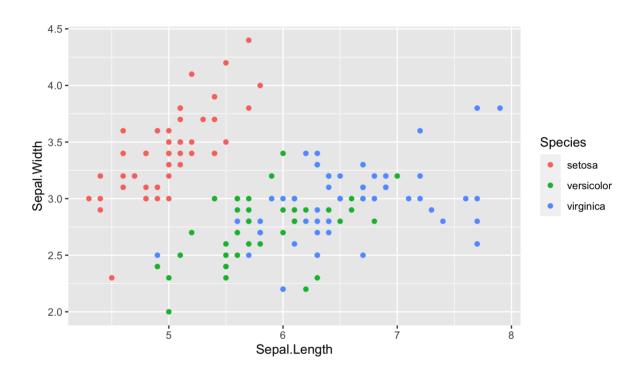


# Introducing ggplot

- Goal for this session: a very quick ggplot refresher
- Meet our dataset:
  - Palmer Penguins

```
glimpse(penguins)
```

# Sidebar: Why not Fisher's Irises?



- Hint: The original citation for that data is:
  - R. A. Fisher (1936) "The use of multiple measurements in taxonomic problems." Annals of Eugenics 7(2): 179-188



### So: Penguins!

```
glimpse(penguins)
```

# Core ggplot concepts

- *Aesthetics* map dimensions of our data to visual properties of the plot
- Geometries ("geoms") actually put "ink on the page"
  - Each type of graph (scatterplot, etc.) has a corresponding geom
  - Different geoms attend to different aesthetics
  - e.g., geom\_point cares about x and y
  - Multiple geoms can be combined on the same plot
- *Scales* control axes, fills, etc.
- *Themes* control visual properties (fonts, background colors, etc.)

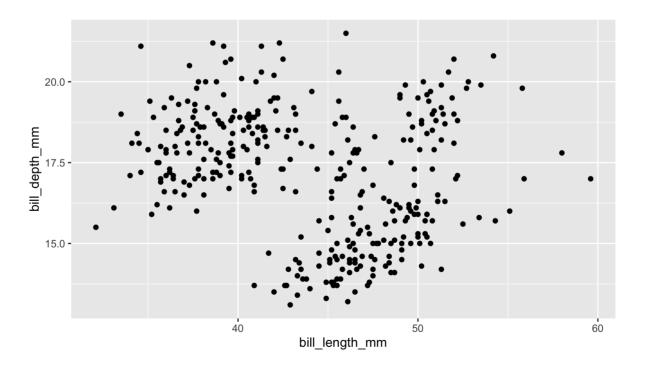
# ggplot is an opinionated tool!

#### Data considerations

- By default, ggplot assumes "tidy" data
- Think: one "row" per mark on the graph...
- ... and then the various properties for each mark in columns.

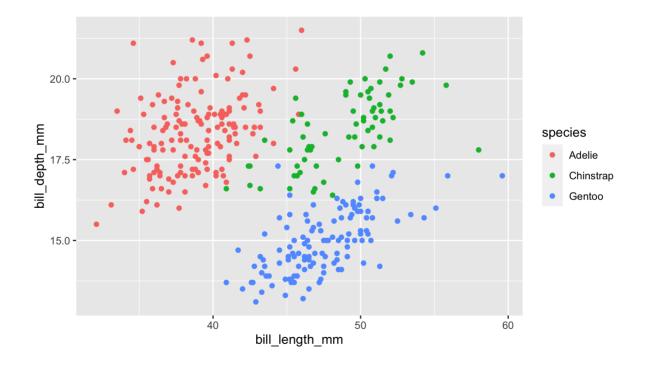
# Our first plot

```
penguins %>% ggplot(mapping=aes(
   x=bill_length_mm, y=bill_depth_mm
)) + geom_point()
```



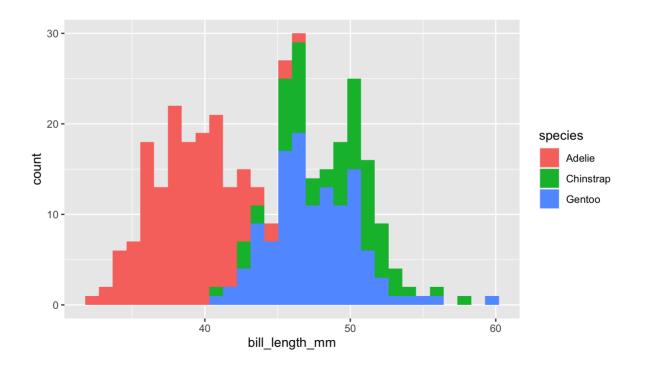
#### What about color?

```
penguins %>% ggplot(mapping=aes(
    x=bill_length_mm, y=bill_depth_mm, color=species
)) + geom_point()
```



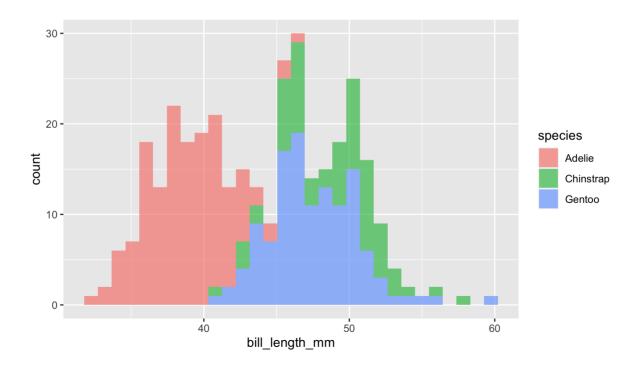
# Want a different plot? Try a different geom

```
penguins %>% ggplot(mapping=aes(
   x=bill_length_mm, fill=species
)) + geom_histogram()
```



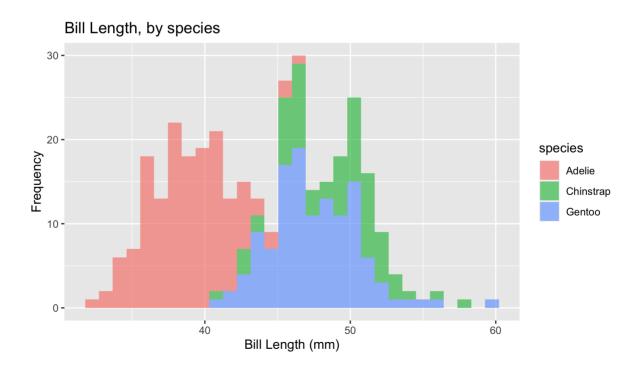
# We can specify aesthetic values by hand:

```
penguins %>% ggplot(
  mapping=aes(x=bill_length_mm, fill=species)
  ) + geom_histogram(alpha=0.6)
```



# Customizing other aspects of the plot

```
penguins %>% ggplot(
  mapping=aes(x=bill_length_mm, fill=species)
) + geom_histogram(alpha=0.6) +
  labs(x="Bill Length (mm)", y="Frequency") +
  ggtitle("Bill Length, by species")
```

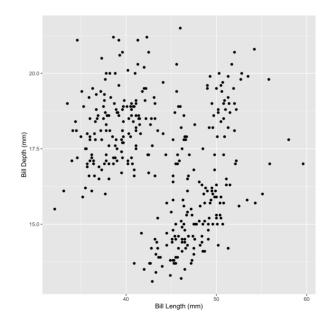


## Workflow tip: Save a plot for later

```
basic.plot ← penguins %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=bill_length_mm, y=bill_depth_mm)) + geom_point()
```

## Workflow tip: Save a plot for later

```
basic.plot + labs(
    x="Bill Length (mm)", y="Bill Depth (mm)"
)
```



This is useful when building a complex plot!