01-015

Alex Cookson

2020-07-04

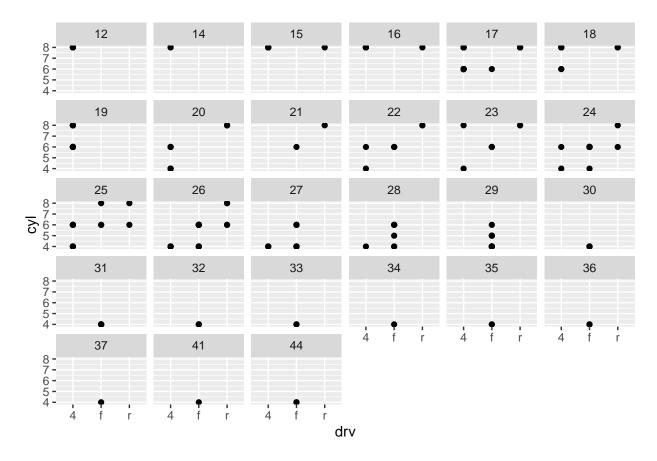
library(tidyverse)

Question 1

What happens if you facet on a continuous variable?

Let's find out by graphing drv vs cyl and facetting by hwy:

```
ggplot(data = mpg) +
geom_point(mapping = aes(x = drv, y = cyl)) +
facet_wrap(~ hwy)
```



ggplot converts the continuous variable into a categorical variable for the purposes of facetting, resulting in one facet per unique value in hwy.

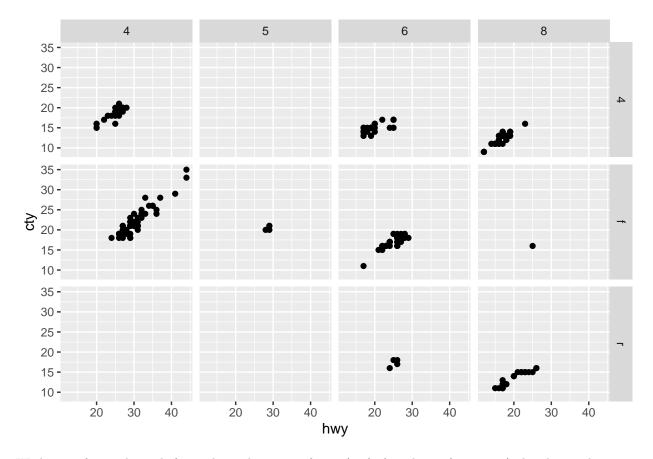
Question 2

What do the empty cells in a plot with facet_grid(drv ~ cyl) mean? How do they relate to this plot?

```
ggplot(data = mpg) +
geom_point(mapping = aes(x = drv, y = cyl))
```

Let's start by actually graphing a plot with facet_grid(drv ~ cyl) to see what it looks like:

```
ggplot(data = mpg) +
geom_point(mapping = aes(x = hwy, y = cty)) +
facet_grid(drv ~ cyl)
```

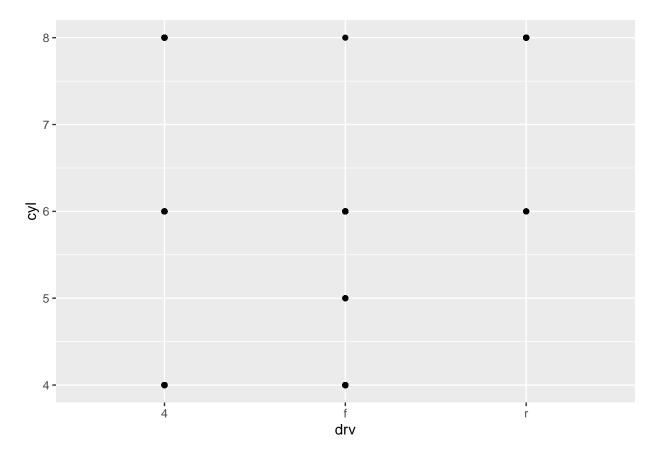


We have a facetted graph for each combination of drv (4, f, r) and cyl (4, 5, 6, 8) that has at least one observation. The points in the scatterplot represent the relationship between hwy and cty mileage for that combination of drv and cyl values.

If there are no points on the scatterplot, we can assume that there are no data points for that combination of drv and cyl. For example, there are no 5-cylinder cars with 4-wheel or rear-wheel drive.

How does this relate to the plot given in the question?

```
ggplot(data = mpg) +
geom_point(mapping = aes(x = drv, y = cyl))
```



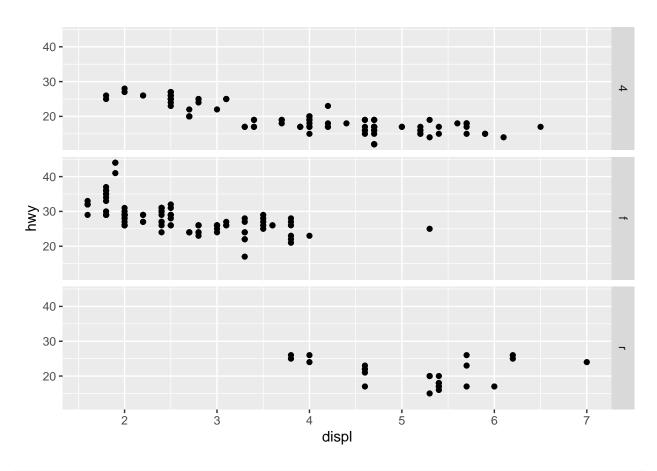
This plot shows the relationship between drv and cyl. Specifically, it shows which combinations of drv and cyl we have observations for. This is almost exactly what facetting does, except that instead of just showing a point (as in this plot), facetting shows us a whole scatterplot (as in the facetted plot above).

One difference is that this plot has not converted cyl to a categorical variable – it remains continuous. We can see that there is an axis tick for 7 cylinders, but no points associated with it, which means there are no 7-cylinder cars. In the facetted graph, because we had no 7-cylinder cars, **ggplot** didn't include 7 at all.

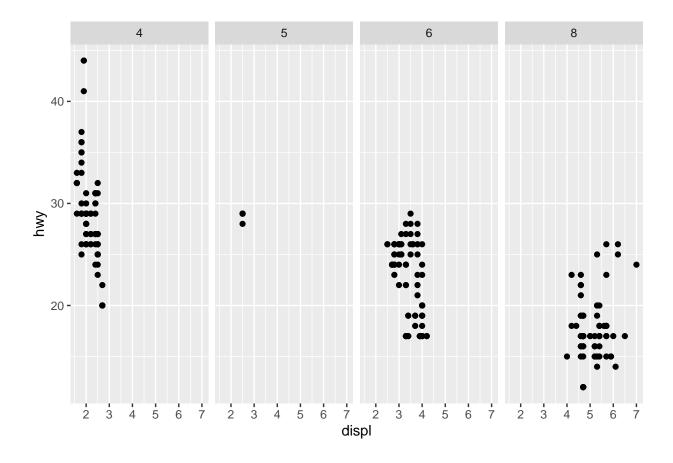
Question 3

What plots does the following code make? What does . do?

```
ggplot(data = mpg) +
geom_point(mapping = aes(x = displ, y = hwy)) +
facet_grid(drv ~ .)
```



```
ggplot(data = mpg) +
geom_point(mapping = aes(x = displ, y = hwy)) +
facet_grid(. ~ cyl)
```



Question 4

Take the first faceted plot in this section:

```
ggplot(data = mpg) +
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = displ, y = hwy)) +
  facet_wrap(~ class, nrow = 2)
```

What are the advantages to using faceting instead of the colour aesthetic? What are the disadvantages? How might the balance change if you had a larger dataset?

Question 5

Read ?facet_wrap. What does nrow do? What does ncol do? What other options control the layout of the individual panels? Why doesn't facet_grid() have nrow and ncol variables?

Question 6

When using facet_grid() you should usually put the variable with more unique levels in the columns. Why?