

UNDIFIED

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The core graphics system in R can be divided into two main packages. The first package is the `graphics` package. It is older and it provides the original GRZ graphics system from S, sometimes referred to as “traditional” graphics. It is relatively fast and many other R packages build on top of it. The newer package is the `grid` package. It is actually slower but it has more flexibility and additional features compared to the `graphics` package.

A graph that is drawn using `grid` can be edited in many more ways than a graph that has been drawn using the basic `graphics` package. However, there is a new package, called `gridGraphics`, which allows us to convert a plot that has been drawn by the `graphics` package to an equivalent plot drawn by `grid` graphics. This means that the additional flexibility and features of `grid` become available for any plot drawn using the `graphics` package.

1.2 The `gridGraphics` package

`gridGraphics` is like a ‘translator’ that translates a plot that has been drawn using the basic `graphics` package to a plot that has been drawn using the `grid` package.

The `gridGraphics` package has a main function called `grid.echo()`, which takes a recorded plot as an argument (or `NULL` for the current plot of the current graphics device). The `grid.echo()` replicates the plot using `grid` so that the user may edit the plot in more ways than they can with the original plot drawn by the basic `graphics` package.

The following code provides a quick example. We generate 25 random numbers for `x` and `y`. First, we draw a scatter plot using the function `plot()` from the basic `graphics` package, then we redraw it using `grid.echo()` from the `gridGraphics` package with `grid`.

```
> pdf("figure/report_basic_demo_%0d.pdf", onefile=FALSE)
> dev.control("enable")
> set.seed(110)
> x = runif(25)
> y = runif(25)
> plot(x,y, pch = 16)
> grid.echo()
```

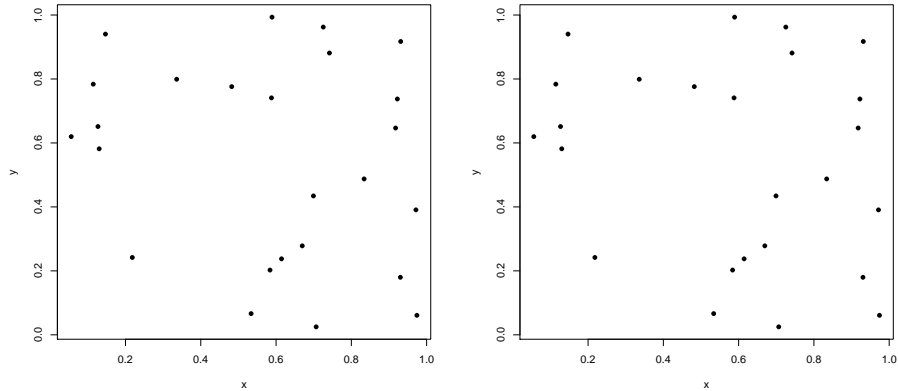


Figure 1: The left plot is drawn by using `plot()`; the Right plot is redrawn using `grid.echo()`. Overall, two plots are identical to each other

One example that shows the advantage of drawing the plot using `grid` rather than basic graphics is that there are objects, called grid grobs, which recorded a list of the details of each components of the plot that has been drawn. The list of grobs can be seen by calling the function `grid.ls()`.

```
> grid.ls()

graphics-plot-1-points-1
graphics-plot-1-bottom-axis-line-1
graphics-plot-1-bottom-axis-ticks-1
graphics-plot-1-bottom-axis-labels-1
graphics-plot-1-left-axis-line-1
graphics-plot-1-left-axis-ticks-1
graphics-plot-1-left-axis-labels-1
graphics-plot-1-box-1
graphics-plot-1-xlab-1
graphics-plot-1-ylab-1
```

As we see, the `grid.ls()` function returns a list of grid grobs for the previous plot that has been redrawn by `grid`. There is one element called "graphics-plot-1-bottom-axis-labels-1" which represents the labels of the bottom axis. In `grid`, there are several functions that can be used to manipulate this grob. For example, if the user wants to rotate the labels of the bottom axis by 30 degrees and changes the color from default to orange, then the following code performs these changes.

```
> grid.edit("graphics-plot-1-bottom-axis-labels-1",
+          rot=30, gp=gpar(col="orange"))
> grid.edit("graphics-plot-1-left-axis-labels-1",
+          rot=30, gp=gpar(col="orange"))
```

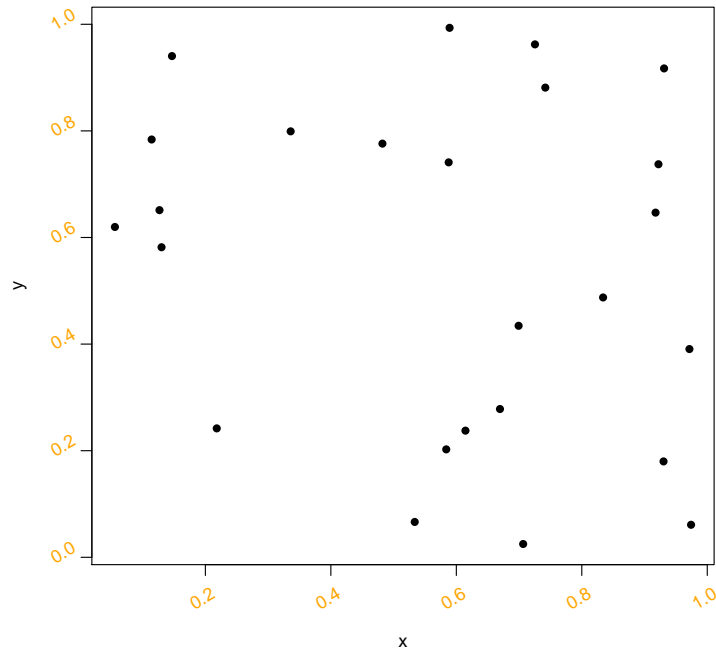


Figure 2: The angle and the color of the bottom and left axis of the previous plot have been changed by 30 degrees and orange

1.3 The problem

The `grid.echo()` function can replicate most plots that are drawn by the graphics package. However, there are a few functions in the graphics package that `grid.echo()` cannot replicate. One such function is `persp()` which draws 3-dimensional surfaces, the other one is the `filled.contour()`. If we can draw a plot with `persp()` or `filled.countour()`, the result from calling `grid.echo()` is a (mostly) blank screen.

```
> x <- y <- seq(-4*pi, 4*pi, len = 27)
> r <- sqrt(outer(x^2, y^2, "+"))
> filled.contour(cos(r^2)*exp(-r/(2*pi))), frame.plot = FALSE, plot.axes = {}
> grid.echo()
```

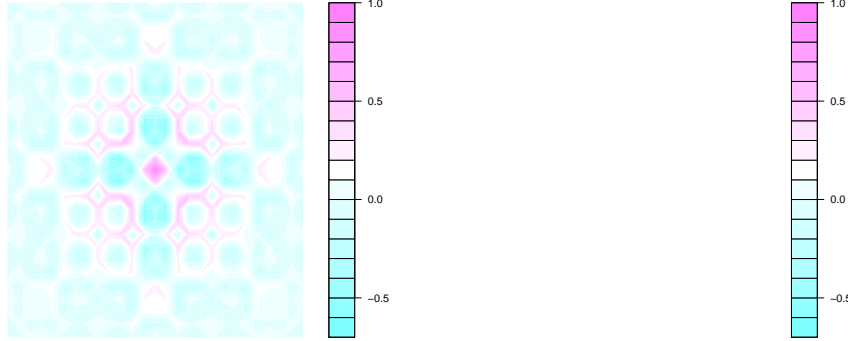


Figure 3: The left plot been drawn by using `filled.contour` and the right plot been redrawn by calling `grid.echo()`. There is a "blank" page on the right plot because the `grid.echo` cannot emulate `filled.contour()`

1.4 Aim of this project

The purpose of this paper is emulate the Perspective Plots, `persp()` and Level (Contour) Plots, `filled.contour()` into `grid` package. However, these two functions are written by C, which is difficult for debugging and tracking. The solution of this paper as follows:

1. emulate the `persp()` function on `grid` separate from the `gridGraphics` package (standalone):
 - (a) Extract the information from the graphics engine display list.
 - (b) Understanding and translating the calculation that been done by C code from the `graphics` package to R code
 - (c) Draw the Perspective Plot on `grid`.
2. Connect the standalone to the `gridGraphics`

2 The graphics engine display list

The information for every plot drawn by R can be recorded. For example, In the simple `plot()` function, it is possible to obtain the parameters for x and y, even the label of the x-axis and y-axis.

This information is called the graphics engine display list. In this paper, we use this graphics engine display list to replicate the `persp()` plot and `textfilled.contour()` plot using `grid`.

The `recordPlot()` function can be used to access the graphics engine display list, the `recordPlot()` function been used. This function saves the plot in an R object.

```

> plot(cars$speed[1:25], cars$dist[1:25], col = 'orange',
+       pch = 16, xlab = 'speed', ylab = 'dist')
> reco = recordPlot()
> reco[[1]][[4]][[2]][[2]]

$x
[1]  4  4  7  7  8  9 10 10 10 11 11 12 12 12 12 13 13 13 13 14 14 14 14 15 15

$y
[1]  2 10  4 22 16 10 18 26 34 17 28 14 20 24 28 26 34 34 46 26 36 60 80 20 26

$xlab
[1] "cars$speed[1:25]"

$ylab
[1] "cars$dist[1:25]"

```

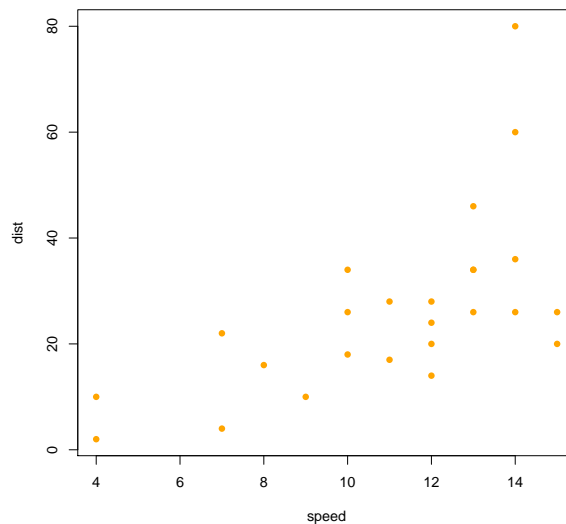


Figure 4: The details of the plot of dist vs speed displayed by the graphics engine display list

The example demonstrate how to access the graphics engine display list of a plot drawn by `plot`. The values of `x` and `y`, the labels of x-axis and y-axis been displayed.

3 standalone

The Perspective Plots `persp()` is used to draw a surface over the x-y plane. Usually, it has three main argument, `x`, `y`, `z`. Where `x` and `y` are the locations

of grid line which the value z been measured, \mathbf{z} is a matrix which containing the values that been used to plot, or it is the matrix that been calculated by a specific function, such as 3-D mathematical functions. The following example shows how to draw a obligatory mathematical surface rotated sinc function on Perspective Plot.

```
> x = y = seq(-10, 10, length= 60)
> f <- function(x, y) { r <- sqrt(x^2+y^2); 10 * sin(r)/r }
> z <- outer(x, y, f)
> z[is.na(z)] <- 1
> trans = persp(x, y, z, theta=30, phi = 20, expand = 0.5,
+             col = 'White', border = 'orange')
```

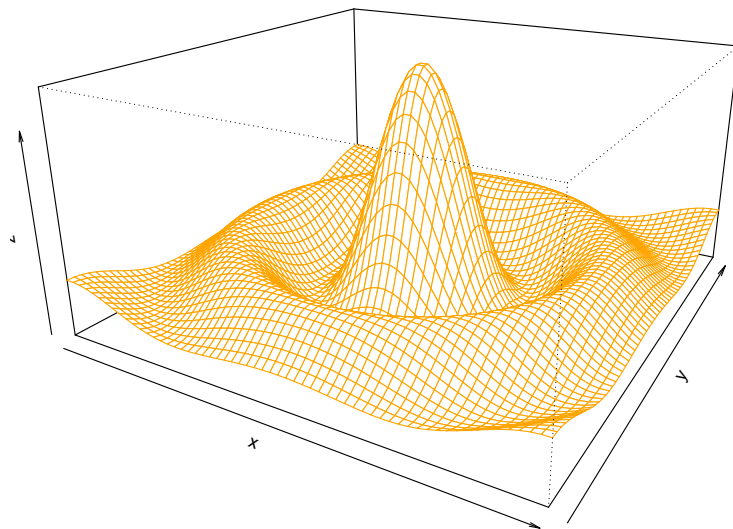


Figure 5: An example of Perspective Plot been drawn by `persp()`

From the pervious example, It is clearly to see that the Perspective Plots is formed by a finite number of "polygon", each polygons have 4 Vertices. If we can access the values for each Vertices of the polygon, then we can reproduce this polygon. If we can access all the values of Vertices of all polygons, then we can reproduce the Perspective Plot.

Inorder to emulate this plot, we need to access the some information from the graphics engine display list. However, the value of the vertices are not in the display list, therefore the plot can not been reproduce directly. But we can access value of x , y and z , therefore we have to re-do the calculation in order to get values of all vertices. The following codes show that the value of x , y and z which inputted by the user can been "caught" from the display list.

```
> reco = recordPlot()
> info = reco[[1]][[3]][[2]]
> ## print the values of x
> head(info[[2]])

[1] -10.000000 -9.661017 -9.322034 -8.983051 -8.644068 -8.305085

> ## print the values of y
> head(info[[3]])

[1] -10.000000 -9.661017 -9.322034 -8.983051 -8.644068 -8.305085

> ## print the values of z
> info[[4]][1:6, 1:2]

      [,1]      [,2]
[1,] 0.7070981 0.6998135
[2,] 0.6998135 0.6510811
[3,] 0.6534671 0.5639162
[4,] 0.5714305 0.4439461
[5,] 0.4589249 0.2984302
[6,] 0.3225432 0.1356653
```

3.1 The translation from 3-dimension points into 2-dimension points

The values of x , y and z can been recored from the display list, which been explained by the pervious section, the next task is to use this information to reproduce the vertics in 3-dimensions.

As we know, the matrix, z is computed by a specific functions, given two inputs, x and y , or the expression of z can been written as: $z = f(x, y)$, it contains all the values for all combination of x and y and the dimenstion of z is $\dim(x) \times \dim(y)$.

One 3-dimensions points contains a set values of (x, y, z) , but z is $\dim(x) \times \dim(y)$ matrix, x is a vector which has length of $length(x)$ and y is a vector which has length of $length(y)$. Inorder to produce the points, the dimension of

x , y and z need to be matched and also in a right order.

First step is the reduce the $z \dim(x) \times \dim(y)$ matrix into a one dimension vector which has length of $\dim(x) \times \dim(y)$. It can be reduced by either along x direction or y direction. In this paper, we reduced along the x direction. The second step is repeat the vector x and y until the same length of z . Since z is reduced along the x direction say z_p , hence we repeat x until the length of y say x_p , and we repeat each y by the length of x , say y_p . At last, the combination of x_p , y_p , z_p is the 3-dimensions points which prepare for computing the vertices.

```
> xTmp = rep(x, length(y))
> yTmp = rep(y, each = length(x))
> zTmp = as.numeric(z)
> length(xTmp) == length(zTmp) & length(yTmp) == length(zTmp)

[1] TRUE
```

The idea of transform the points into vertices is repeating the points in a right order. From pervious section, we explained that the Perspective Plots is made by finite number of polygons. Each polygon have 4 vertices. The total number of polygons are required to be drawn is depend on the length of input x and the length of input y , that is, $total = (length(x) - 1) \times (length(y) - 1)$. The polygons been drawn by connecting 4 points in a specific order. The algorithm of the drawing as follows: starting from bottom-left, first connect bottom-left to bottom-right, second connect from bottom-right to top-right, lastly, connect top-right to top-left. Every polygon are been drawn in this order. The surface of Perspective Plots is formed until all the polygons are been drawn.

Before drawing the surface, the transformation of 3-dimensions vertices into 2-dimension vertices is required. This transformation required two main variables, the 3-dimension vertices and 4×4 viewing transformation matrix p . The 3-dimension vertices are computed, the matrix p can be recored from the `persp()` call. This transformation can be done easily on R by using the `trans3d()` function.

```
> points3d = trans3d(xTmp, yTmp, zTmp, trans)
> head(points3d$x)

[1] -0.3928108 -0.3861145 -0.3792354 -0.3721881 -0.3649927 -0.3576724

> head(points3d$y)

[1] -0.1066821 -0.1090048 -0.1121947 -0.1161865 -0.1208728 -0.1261142
```

Because of we are drawing a 3-dimension surface in a 2-dimension plane, some polygons that stay 'behind' can not been seen, It is necessary to draw the polygons in a right order. The order defined by using the x and y coordinate of the 3-d vertices (but ignore the z coordinate) combining an other column **1**, then do the matrix multiplication with the viewing transformation p . The fourth column from this multiplication is the drawing order of the polygons.


```

> orderTemp = cbind(xTmp, yTmp, 0, 1) %% trans
> zdepth = orderTemp[, 4]
> ## the zdepth of a set of 4 points of each polygon
> a = order(zdepth, decreasing = TRUE)
> head(a)

[1] 3541 3542 3481 3543 3482 3544

```

The following figures shows how does this paper approximate to the solution. The top-left figure is drawn by plotting the transformed 2-dimension points, the shape of the Perspective Plots been presented. The top-right figure is drawn by connecting the points line-by-line, the shape become more obvious. The bottom-left figure is drawn by using the `grid.polygon`. By default, the origin order of the polygons is drawn along x-axis, then along y-axis. Clearly this is not the correct order. Finally, the bottom-right figure shows the true Perspective Plots by fixing the order.

3.2 lighting

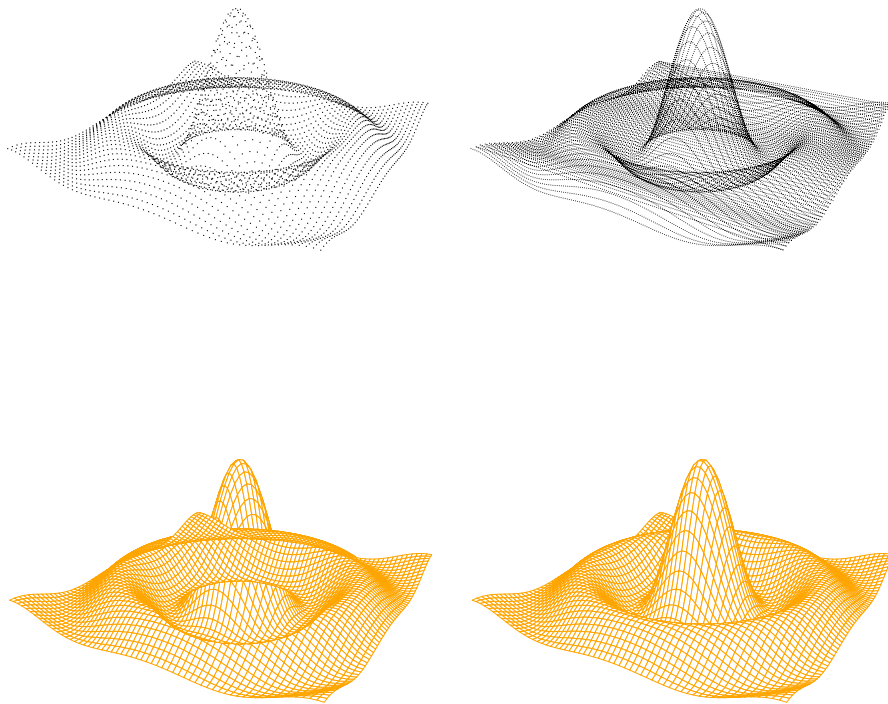


Figure 6: The top-left figure is only plotting the transformed 2-dimension points. The top-right figure is been drawn by connecting the points line-by-line. The top-right figure is drawn unorderly by using the `grid.polygon`. Finally, the bottom-left figure is drawn in a correct order.