Flights 2010-2020 version 1.1

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Introduction

Below I explore my cleaned-up 2010-2020 flight data set that contains personal and business flights. The data set contains 5 variables - **Date**, **Departure**, **Destination**, **PriceDOLLARS**, **and Airline** - displayed as a heading with 329 observations. Code below is focused on basic visualization of different patterns such as, for example, the cheapest day to fly averaged across 10 years and other variables based on 1 person's data.

Data Preparation

Load all packages

```
## For making data manipulation easier
library(dplyr)
## For creating simple tables
library(knitr)
## For creating graphics
library(ggplot2)
## For helping build common complex tables and manipulate table styles
library(kableExtra)
## For arranging multiple grid-based plots on a page
library(gridExtra)
```

Load the data set

```
Sys.setlocale("LC_ALL", "C")
```

```
## [1] "C"
```

```
## 'data.frame': 329 obs. of 5 variables:
## $ Date : chr "8/4/2010" "8/7/2010" "10/7/2010" ...
## $ Departure : chr "Moscow, Russia (DME)" "Washington DC (IAD)" "Chicago, IL (ORD)" "Omaha, NE (OMA)" "Denver, CO (DEN)"
## $ PriceDOLLARS: num NA NA 152 NA ...
## $ Airline : chr "UA" "UA" "UA" "UA" ...
```

```
## Read in date correctly
Date <- as . Date (df$Date, "%m/%d/%Y")
## Assigning new data column to the data instead of the old format date
data$Date<-Date
## Make sure I have 329 rows of data without NAs in Date
    ## sum(!is.na(data$Date))
## Add weekdays column from the Date
data<-mutate(data, weekday=weekdays(data$Date))</pre>
    ## head(data)
## Split Date into 3 columns - year, month, day
data2<-data.frame(date=data$Date,</pre>
                  year=as.numeric(format(data$Date,format="%Y")),
                  month=as.numeric(format(data$Date,format="%m")),
                  day=as.numeric(format(data$Date,format="%d")))
## Combine 2 data sets and get rid of the extra date column
data3<-cbind(data,data2)</pre>
data3<-mutate(data3,date=NULL)</pre>
tail(data3)
##
                                                   Destination PriceDOLLARS Airline
                               Departure
             Date
                                           Las Vegas, NV (LAS)
## 324 2019-12-29
                     San Jose, CA (SJC)
                                                                        5.60
## 325 2020-01-03 Las Vegas, NV (LAS)
                                            San Jose, CA (SJC)
                                                                                   SW
                     San Jose, CA (SJC)
                                             Burbank, CA (BUR)
                                                                      367.46
## 326 2020-02-20
                                                                                   SW
## 327 2020-02-20
                      Burbank, CA (BUR)
                                              Denver, CO (DEN)
                                                                          NA
                                                                                   SW
## 328 2020-02-22
                       Denver, CO (DEN) Los Angeles, CA (LAX)
                                                                                   SW
                                                                          NA
                                                                          NA
## 329 2020-02-22 Los Angeles, CA (LAX)
                                            San Jose, CA (SJC)
                                                                                   SW
        weekday year month day
         Sunday 2019
## 324
                        12 29
## 325
         Friday 2020
                         1
                              3
                         2 20
## 326 Thursday 2020
## 327 Thursday 2020
                         2 20
                         2 22
## 328 Saturday 2020
## 329 Saturday 2020
                         2 22
# Sort the number of flights per weekday from the smallest to the largest
sort(table(data3$weekday))
##
##
                Monday Wednesday
                                                                    Sunday
    Saturday
                                     Friday
                                             Thursday
                                                         Tuesday
                    40
                                                              49
                                                                        62
# Make sure I didn't lose data - 329 observations
sum(table(data3$weekday))
## [1] 329
```

The number of flights per year

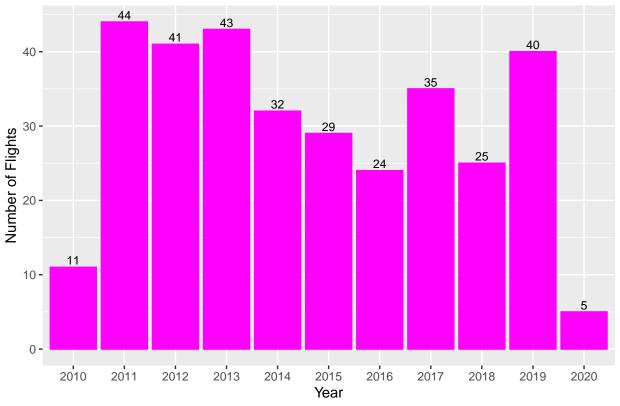
```
yeargr<-group_by(data3,year)
by_year<-summarize(yeargr,count=n())</pre>
```

```
dy<-as.data.frame(by_year)
names(dy)<-c("year","flights")
dy<-na.omit(dy)
dy</pre>
```

```
##
      year flights
## 1
      2010
## 2
      2011
                 44
## 3
      2012
                 41
                 43
## 4
      2013
      2014
                 32
## 5
## 6
      2015
                 29
## 7
      2016
                 24
## 8 2017
                 35
## 9 2018
                 25
## 10 2019
                 40
## 11 2020
                  5
```

```
g1<-ggplot(data=dy, aes(x=factor(year),y=flights))+
    geom_bar(stat="identity",color="magenta",fill="magenta")+
    ggtitle(label="Flights per year 2010-2020")+
    labs(x="Year",y="Number of Flights")+
    theme(plot.title = element_text(size = 12,hjust=0.5,face="bold"))+
    geom_text(aes(label=flights), vjust=-0.3, size=3)
g1</pre>
```

Flights per year 2010-2020

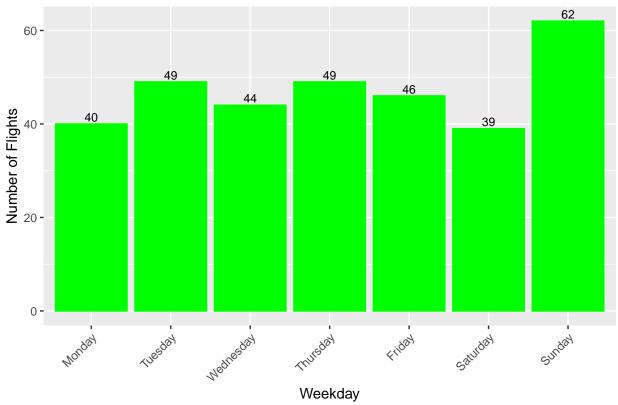


The number of flights exceeded or were equal to 40 in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2019.

The number of flights per weekday

```
daygr<-group_by(data3,weekday)</pre>
by_day<-summarize(daygr,count=n())</pre>
dday<-as.data.frame(by_day)</pre>
names(dday)<-c("weekday","flights")</pre>
dday<-na.omit(dday)</pre>
dday
##
       weekday flights
## 1
        Friday
## 2
        Monday
                    40
## 3 Saturday
                    39
        Sunday
## 4
                    62
## 5 Thursday
                    49
## 6
      Tuesday
                    49
## 7 Wednesday
                    44
dday$weekday<-factor(dday$weekday,levels=c("Monday","Tuesday", "Wednesday", "Thursday",
                                             "Friday", "Saturday", "Sunday"))
g2<-ggplot(data=dday, aes(x=weekday,y=flights))+
    geom_bar(stat="identity",color="green",fill="green")+
    ggtitle(label="Flights per weekday 2010-2020")+
    labs(x="Weekday",y="Number of Flights")+
    theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45, hjust = 1,vjust=1),
          plot.title = element_text(size = 12,hjust=0.5,face="bold"))+
    geom_text(aes(label=flights), vjust=-0.3, size=3)
g2
```





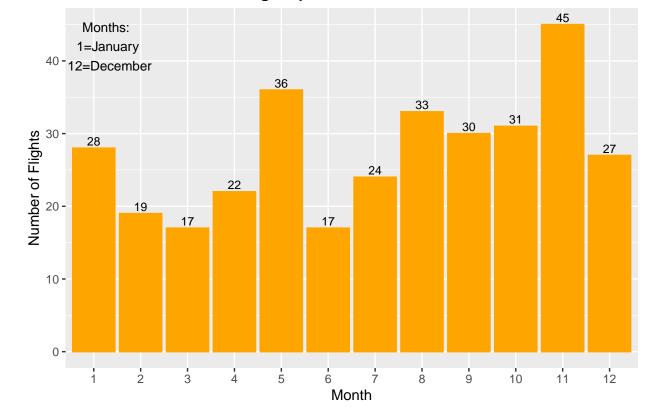
The majority of the flights were taken on **Sunday**. Otherwise, it is quite even across the entire week.

The number of flights per month

```
mgr<-group_by(data3,month)
by_month<-summarize(mgr,count=n())
dm<-as.data.frame(by_month)
names(dm)<-c("month","flights")
dm<-na.omit(dm)
dm</pre>
```

```
##
      month flights
## 1
                   28
           1
## 2
           2
                   19
## 3
           3
                   17
## 4
           4
                   22
           5
## 5
                   36
## 6
           6
                   17
           7
## 7
                   24
## 8
           8
                   33
## 9
           9
                   30
          10
                   31
## 10
## 11
          11
                   45
## 12
          12
                   27
```

Flights per month 2010-2020



In 2010-2020 the most popular month to travel or the highest number of connections was in **November** with 45 flights, then **May** with 36, and **August** with 33.

Flights per airlines

First, I had to display all unique names for airlines I used in my data set. Any empty cells were replaced with NAs. Then I combined similar names - for example, SW and Southwest mean the same, therefore, they were combined.

```
unique(data3$Airline)
```

```
## [1] "UA" "DL"
## [3] "US Airways" "LUFTHANSA"
```

```
## [5] "Austrian"
                                             "Air France"
   [7] "LOT Polish Airlines"
                                             "AirFrance"
## [9] "Southwest"
                                             "AA"
## [11] "FinnAir"
                                             "Tyrolean Airlines for Lufthansa"
## [13] "Swiss International Air Lines"
                                             "Air Berlin"
## [15] "AirTran"
                                             "Lufthansa"
## [17] "SW"
                                             "Alaska"
## [19] "Jet Blue"
                                             "Hawaiian"
## [21] "Aeroflot"
                                             "Air Canada"
## [23] "Austrian Airlines"
                                             "Vueling"
## [25] "Laudamotion"
                                             "Swiss"
data3$Airline[data3$Airline==""]<-NA
data3$Airline[data3$Airline=="Southwest"]<-"SW"</pre>
data3$Airline[data3$Airline=="Swiss International Air Lines"] <- "Swiss"
data3$Airline[data3$Airline=="LUFTHANSA"]<-"Lufthansa"</pre>
data3$Airline[data3$Airline=="Austrian Airlines"]<-"Austrian"</pre>
data3$Airline[data3$Airline=="AirFrance"] <- "Air France"
data3$Airline[data3$Airline=="Tyrolean Airlines for Lufthansa"] <- "Tyrolean"
data3$Airline[data3$Airline=="LOT Polish Airlines"]<-"LOT Polish"</pre>
unique(data3$Airline)
## [1] "UA"
                       "DL"
                                      "US Airways"
                                                     "Lufthansa"
                                                                    "Austrian"
## [6] "Air France"
                       "LOT Polish"
                                      "SW"
                                                     "AA"
                                                                    "FinnAir"
## [11] "Tyrolean"
                       "Swiss"
                                      "Air Berlin"
                                                     "AirTran"
                                                                    "Alaska"
## [16] "Jet Blue"
                       "Hawaiian"
                                      "Aeroflot"
                                                     "Air Canada"
                                                                    "Vueling"
## [21] "Laudamotion"
Now I have 21 unique airline names.
agr<-group_by(data3,Airline)</pre>
by_airline<-summarize(agr,count=n())</pre>
da<-as.data.frame(by_airline)</pre>
names(da)<-c("airline","flights")</pre>
da<-na.omit(da)</pre>
da
##
          airline flights
## 1
                AA
                        23
## 2
         Aeroflot
                         2
## 3
      Air Berlin
                         3
## 4
       Air Canada
                         2
## 5
       Air France
                         6
                         2
## 6
          AirTran
## 7
                         4
           Alaska
## 8
         Austrian
                         6
## 9
                       113
               DI.
## 10
          FinnAir
                         2
## 11
         Hawaiian
                         1
## 12
         Jet Blue
## 13 LOT Polish
                         2
## 14 Laudamotion
```

Lufthansa

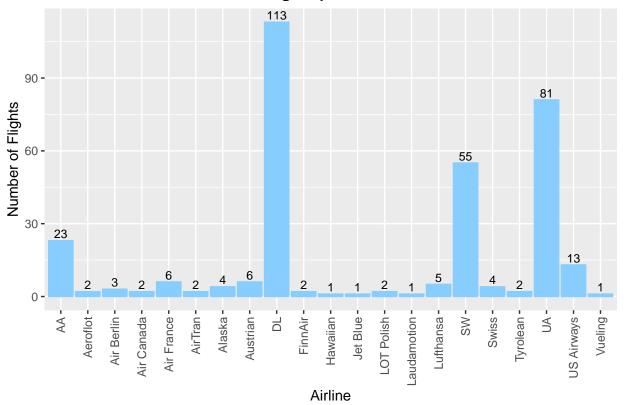
15

5

```
55
## 16
                 SW
## 17
                           4
             Swiss
          Tyrolean
                           2
  18
##
  19
                 UA
                          81
##
  20
       US Airways
                          13
## 21
           Vueling
                           1
```

```
g4<-ggplot(data=da, aes(x=airline,y=flights))+
    geom_bar(stat="identity",color="skyblue1",fill="skyblue1")+
    ggtitle(label="Flights per Airline")+
    labs(x="Airline",y="Number of Flights")+
    theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1,vjust=0.5),
        plot.title = element_text(size = 12,hjust=0.5,face="bold"))+
    geom_text(aes(label=flights), vjust=-0.3, size=3)
g4</pre>
```

Flights per Airline



The overwhelming number of flights were taken on **Delta** 113, then **United** 81, **Southwest** 55, and **American** 23.

Most popular airline per year

```
aygr<-group_by(data3,year,Airline)
by_yearairline<-summarize(aygr,count=n())</pre>
```

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'year'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.
```

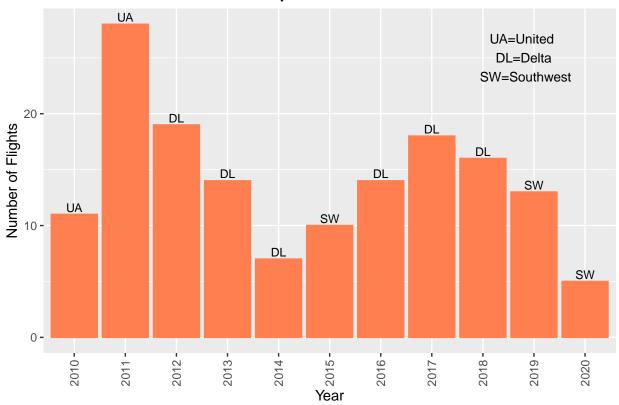
```
dya<-as.data.frame(by_yearairline)
names(dya)<-c("year","airline","flights")
dya<-na.omit(dya)
## dya
## The most popular airline by year
max_ay<-dya %>% group_by(year) %>% slice(which.max(flights))
maxay<-as.data.frame(max_ay)
maxay</pre>
```

```
##
     year airline flights
## 1 2010
             UA
## 2 2011
             UA
                    28
## 3 2012
             DL
                    19
## 4 2013
            DL
                    14
## 5 2014
            DL
                    7
## 6 2015
            SW
                    10
## 7 2016
            DL
                    14
            DL
## 8 2017
                    18
## 9 2018
            DL
                    16
## 10 2019
            SW
                    13
## 11 2020
                     5
```

class(maxay\$year)

[1] "numeric"

Most Popular Airline Per Year



Delta was the most popular airline for 6 years, then **Southwest** for 3 years, and **United** for 2.

Most popular departure/layover and destination/layover airport

```
## The number of departure/layover locations in alphabetic order
dep<-sort(table(data3$Departure), decreasing=T)
sum(table(data3$Departure))

## [1] 329

class(dep)

## [1] "table"

dep<-as.data.frame(dep)
## Rename columns
names(dep)<-c("location", "frequency")
## dep
dep1<-filter(dep,frequency>10)
dep1
```

location frequency

##

```
## 1
           Atlanta, GA (ATL)
                                      52
## 2
             Omaha, NE (OMA)
                                      52
## 3
           Chicago, IL (ORD)
                                      30
                                      30
## 4
          San Jose, CA (SJC)
## 5 San Francisco, CA (SFO)
                                      13
## 6
            Denver, CO (DEN)
                                      12
## Most popular destination/layover airport
arr<-sort(table(data3$Destination), decreasing=T)</pre>
sum(table(data3$Destination))
## [1] 329
arr <- as.data.frame(arr)
## Rename columns
names(arr)<-c("location", "frequency")</pre>
arr1<-filter(arr,frequency>10)
arr1
##
                     location frequency
## 1
             Omaha, NE (OMA)
## 2
           Atlanta, GA (ATL)
                                      51
## 3
           Chicago, IL (ORD)
                                      30
## 4
          San Jose, CA (SJC)
                                      30
## 5 San Francisco, CA (SFO)
                                      14
## 6
            Denver, CO (DEN)
                                      12
```

The most popular departure/layover was **Atlanta** and **Omaha** with 52 flights each followed by **Chicago** with 30. The most popular arrival/layover was **Omaha** with 53 flights and **Atlanta** with 51 followed by Chicago with 30.

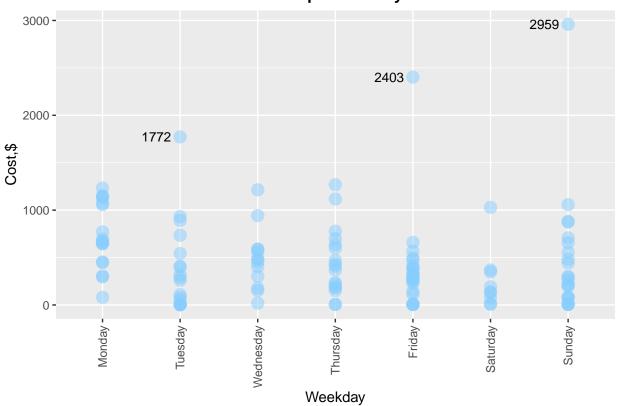
Cost per weekday across 2010-2020

Cost analysis does not account for the number of flights/connections included for the given price. It is assumed that the price is valid for the total trip including the return ticket and disregarding the number of connections. Some personal flight prices might include tickets for two people.

[1] 1772.34 2959.20 2402.64

Warning: Removed 208 rows containing missing values ('geom_point()').

Cost per weekday



```
## Prices over $1500 in the data set
##data3[which(data3$PriceDOLLARS>1500),]
## Row numbers
rownum<-as.numeric(rownames(data3[which(data3$PriceDOLLARS>1500),]))
## All data needed
trip1<-data[c(rownum[1],rownum[1]+1,rownum[1]+2,rownum[1]+3),]
trip2<-data[c(rownum[2],rownum[2]+1,rownum[2]+2),]
trip3<-data[c(rownum[3],rownum[3]+1,rownum[3]+2,rownum[3]+3,rownum[3]+4,rownum[3]+5),]
trip1</pre>
```

Date

Departure

Destination PriceDOLLARS Airline

```
## 33 2011-06-28
                      Omaha, NE (OMA)
                                          Atlanta, GA (ATL)
                                                                  1772.34
                                                                                DL
## 34 2011-06-28
                    Atlanta, GA (ATL) Moscow, Russia (SVO)
                                                                                DI.
                                                                        NA
## 35 2011-08-02 Moscow, Russia (SVO)
                                          Atlanta, GA (ATL)
                                                                        NA
                                                                                DL
                    Atlanta, GA (ATL)
                                            Omaha, NE (OMA)
## 36 2011-08-02
                                                                        NA
                                                                                DL
      weekday
## 33 Tuesday
## 34 Tuesday
## 35 Tuesday
## 36 Tuesday
trip2
                                                   Destination PriceDOLLARS Airline
##
            Date
                              Departure
## 67 2012-06-03
                        Omaha, NE (OMA) Minneapolis, MN (MSP)
                                                                      2959.2
                                                                                  DL
## 68 2012-06-03 Minneapolis, MN (MSP)
                                            New York, NY (JFK)
                                                                          NA
                                                                                  DL
## 69 2012-06-03
                    New York, NY (JFK)
                                         Moscow, Russia (SVO)
                                                                          NA
                                                                                  DL
##
      weekday
## 67
      Sunday
       Sunday
## 68
## 69
       Sunday
trip3
```

```
##
             Date
                                   Departure
                                                            Destination PriceDOLLARS
## 306 2019-05-24
                    San Francisco, CA (SFO)
                                                 Munich, Germany (MUC)
                                                                              2402.64
## 307 2019-05-25
                      Munich, Germany (MUC)
                                                 Vienna, Austria (VIE)
                                                                                   NA
## 308 2019-05-27
                      Vienna, Austria (VIE)
                                                Barcelona, Spain (BCN)
                                                                                   NΑ
## 309 2019-05-30
                     Barcelona, Spain (BCN)
                                                 Vienna, Austria (VIE)
                                                                                   NA
## 310 2019-06-09
                      Vienna, Austria (VIE) Zurich, Switzerland (ZRH)
                                                                                   NA
## 311 2019-06-09 Zurich, Switzerland (ZRH)
                                               San Francisco, CA (SFO)
                                                                                   NA
##
                 Airline
                          weekday
## 306
               Lufthansa
                            Friday
## 307 Austrian Airlines Saturday
## 308
                 Vueling
                            Monday
## 309
             Laudamotion Thursday
## 310
                   Swiss
                            Sunday
## 311
                   Swiss
                            Sunday
```

All three most expensive trips included travel abroad. The most expensive trip (\$2959) was a trip to another country with 2 connections and no return ticket. The second most expensive trip included travel abroad with 1 connection for 2 people (during this trip there was an additional trip from there). The third most expensive trip was a trip to another country with only 1 stop and the return ticket.

```
## Cost by weekday averaged across 10 years
cost_by_weekday_gr<-group_by(data3,weekday,PriceDOLLARS)
by_weekdaycost<-summarize(cost_by_weekday_gr,count=n())</pre>
```

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'weekday'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.
```

```
weekdaycost<-as.data.frame(by_weekdaycost)
## The next line is very important for the final table not to have all values to be NAs
weekdaycost<-na.omit(weekdaycost)
average_weekdaycost<-weekdaycost%>%group_by(weekday)%>%summarize(round(mean(PriceDOLLARS),1))
average_weekdaycost<-as.data.frame(average_weekdaycost)
## Rename columns
names(average_weekdaycost)<-c("weekday","cost")
## Organize in the order of cost
average_weekdaycost<-arrange(average_weekdaycost,desc(cost))
##average_weekdaycost
kable(average_weekdaycost, caption="Cost of flight per weekday in the period of 2010-2020")%>%
    kable_styling(latex_options = "HOLD_position")
```

Table 1: Cost of flight per weekday in the period of 2010-2020

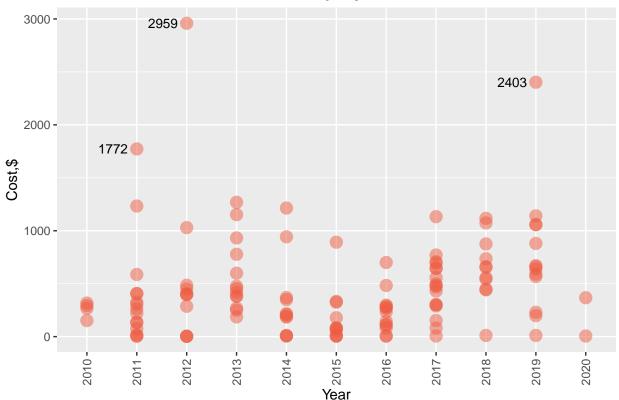
weekday	cost
Monday	732.9
Sunday	566.6
Wednesday	489.4
Thursday	485.0
Tuesday	425.5
Friday	388.2
Saturday	255.7

The most expensive day to fly in my data set was **Monday** with the price of **\$733** averaged across 10 years, airlines, and months.

Cost per year

Warning: Removed 208 rows containing missing values ('geom_point()').





```
## Cost by year averaged across weekdays
cost_by_year_gr<-group_by(data3,year,PriceDOLLARS)
by_yearcost<-summarize(cost_by_year_gr,count=n())</pre>
```

'summarise()' has grouped output by 'year'. You can override using the
'.groups' argument.

```
yearcost<-as.data.frame(by_yearcost)
yearcost<-na.omit(yearcost)
average_yearcost<-yearcost%>%group_by(year)%>%summarize(round(mean(PriceDOLLARS),1))
average_yearcost<-as.data.frame(average_yearcost)
## Rename columns
names(average_yearcost)<-c("year","cost")
## Organize in the order of cost
average_yearcost<-arrange(average_yearcost,desc(cost))

kable(average_yearcost, caption="Cost of flight per year in the period of 2010-2020")%>%
    kable_styling(latex_options = "HOLD_position")
```

Table 2: Cost of flight per year in the period of 2010-2020

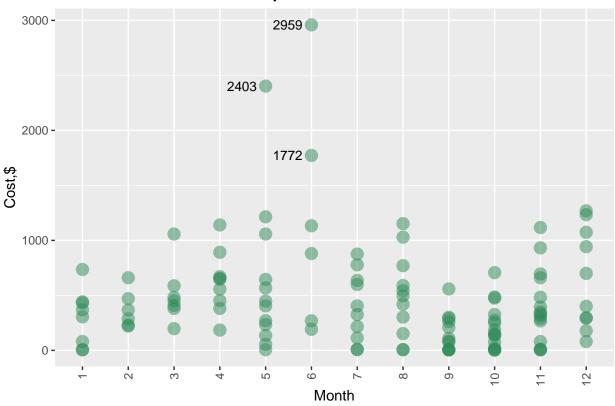
year	$\cos t$
2019	753.6
2018	647.3
2012	641.8
2013	597.0
2017	480.3
2011	420.5
2014	336.3
2015	267.0
2010	257.3
2016	249.8
2020	186.5

The most expensive year to fly in the data set was **2019** followed by 2018 and 2012. The cheapest year was **2020**. This is not surprising, since the number of flights I had taken before the pandemic started was only a handful.

Cost per month

Warning: Removed 208 rows containing missing values ('geom_point()').

Cost per month 2010-2020



```
## Cost by month averaged across 10 years
cost_by_month_gr<-group_by(data3,month,PriceDOLLARS)
by_monthcost<-summarize(cost_by_month_gr,count=n())</pre>
```

'summarise()' has grouped output by 'month'. You can override using the
'.groups' argument.

```
monthcost<-as.data.frame(by_monthcost)
monthcost<-na.omit(monthcost)
average_monthcost<-monthcost%>%group_by(month)%>%summarize(round(mean(PriceDOLLARS),1))
average_monthcost<-as.data.frame(average_monthcost)

## Rename columns
names(average_monthcost)<-c("month","cost")

## Organize in the order of cost
average_monthcost<-arrange(average_monthcost,desc(cost))

kable(average_monthcost, caption="Cost of trip per month in the period of 2010-2020")%>%
    kable_styling(latex_options = "HOLD_position")
```

Table 3: Cost of trip per month in the period of 2010-2020

month	cost
6	1200.8
12	646.8
4	620.1
5	619.8
3	509.0
8	497.1
11	423.8
7	396.6
2	372.7
1	338.3
10	231.4
9	202.2

The most expensive month to fly in the period of 2010-2020 was **June**, and it was almost twice as expensive as the next one on the list - **December**. Perhaps, it was driven by two outliers - two out of three most expensive trips during the period of 2010-2020 took place in June. The cheapest month to fly was **September**.

Summary

- The number of flights exceeded or were equal to 40 in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2019.
- The majority of the flights were taken on **Sunday**. Otherwise, it is quite even across the entire week.
- In 2010-2020 the most popular month to travel or the highest number of connections was in **November** with 45 flights, then **May** with 36, and **August** with 33.
- The overwhelming number of flights were taken on **Delta** 113, then **United** 81, **Southwest** 55, and **American** 23.
- Delta was the most popular airline for 6 years, then Southwest for 3 years, and United for 2.
- The most popular departure/layover was **Atlanta** and **Omaha** with 52 flights each followed by **Chicago** with 30. The most popular arrival/layover was **Omaha** with 53 flights and **Atlanta** with 51 followed by Chicago with 30.
- The most expensive day to fly in my data set was **Monday** with the price of **\$733** averaged across 10 years, all airlines, and months.
- The most expensive year to fly in my data set was **2019** followed by 2018 and 2012. The cheapest year was **2020** with only handful number of flights because of the pandemic.
- The most expensive month to fly in the period 2010-2020 was **June**, and it was almost twice as expensive as the next one on the list **December**. The cheapest month to fly was **September**.