Data viz and the grammar of graphics

Data Science for Biologists, Fall 2021

Reminder: The "Types of Plots" App is here for you!!

- Access from anywhere: https://sjspielman.shinyapps.io/types_of_plots
- Access from your RStudio Cloud project:

library(ds4b.materials) # Load the library if not already loaded
launch_app("types_of_plots") # Launch the app once library is loaded

Grammar

The dog runs in a park.

The runs in park dog a.

Runs dog park in a the.

In park a the runs dog.



Aesthetics --> aesthetic mappings

The dataset

msleep_subvore

A tibble: 46 × 5

##		name	vore	awake	brainwt	bodywt
##		<chr></chr>	<fct></fct>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>
##	1	Owl monkey	omni	7	0.0155	0.48
##	2	Greater short-tailed shrew	omni	9.1	0.00029	0.019
##	3	Cow	herbi	20	0.423	600
##	4	Dog	carni	13.9	0.07	14
##	5	Roe deer	herbi	21	0.0982	14.8
##	6	Goat	herbi	18.7	0.115	33.5
##	7	Guinea pig	herbi	14.6	0.0055	0.728
##	8	Chinchilla	herbi	11.5	0.0064	0.42
##	9	Star-nosed mole	omni	13.7	0.001	0.06
##	10	African giant pouched rat	omni	15.7	0.0066	1
##	# .	. with 36 more rows				

The dataset

summary(msleep_subvore)

##	name		vore	awa	ake	brainwt		
##	Length:46		carni: 9	Min.	: 6.00	Min.	:0.000140	
##	Class :ch	aracter	herbi:20	1st Qu.	:11.50	1st Qu.:0.005125		
##	Mode :ch	aracter	omni :17	Median	:14.25	Median	:0.016500	
##				Mean	:14.39	Mean	:0.339623	
##				3rd Qu.	:17.70	3rd Qu.	:0.173500	
##				Max.	:21.10	Max.	:5.712000	
##	bodyw	t						
##	Min. :	0.005						
##	1st Qu.:	0.542						
##	Median :	2.788						
##	Mean :	245.575						
##	3rd Qu.:	47.525						
##	Max. :6	654.000						

##	[1]	"Owl monkey"	"Gr
##	[3]	"Cow"	"Do
##	[5]	"Roe deer"	"Go
##	[7]	"Guinea pig"	"Ch
##	[9]	"Star-nosed mole"	"Af
##	[11]	"Lesser short-tailed shrew"	"Lo
##	[13]	"Tree hyrax"	"No
##	[15]	"Asian elephant"	"Но
##	[17]	"Donkey"	"Eu
##	[19]	"Patas monkey"	"Do
##	[21]	"Galago"	"Gr
##	[23]	"Gray hyrax"	"Hu
##	[25]	"African elephant"	"Ma
##	[27]	"Golden hamster"	"Но
##	[29]	"Slow loris"	"Ra
##	[31]	"Sheep"	"Ch
##	[33]	"Jaguar"	"Ba
##	[35]	"Laboratory rat"	"Sq
##	[37]	"Cotton rat"	"Ar
##	[39]	"Thirteen-lined ground squirrel"	"Pi
##	[41]	"Brazilian tapir"	"Te
##	[43]	"Tree shrew"	"Ge
##	[45]	"Arctic fox"	"Re

eater short-tailed shrew" og" bat" ninchilla" frican giant pouched rat" ong-nosed armadillo" orth American Opossum" orse" ropean hedgehog" omestic cat" ay seal" ıman" caque" ouse mouse" abbit" nimpanzee" boon" juirrel monkey" ctic ground squirrel" g" enrec" enet" ed fox"

Identifying components of a plot



Aesthetics: How is the data *mapped onto* visual components of the plot?

- X-axis?
- Y-axis?
- Colors? Shapes? Sizes?

Geometries: What *shapes* aka *geometric objects* are displayed in the plot? (Often AKA: What type of plot?)









[1] 6.0 6.6 7.0 7.4 8.4 9.1 9.7 10.2 11.0 11.5 11.5 11.5 11.5 12.7
[16] 13.1 13.6 13.7 13.9 13.9 13.9 14.2 14.2 14.3 14.4 14.6 14.6 14.9 14.9
[31] 15.6 15.7 16.0 17.7 17.7 17.8 18.7 18.7 19.6 20.0 20.1 20.2 20.7 20.9
[46] 21.1

























The world is your oyster





Ok, that wasn't super compelling...

##	# A	tibb	le: 53,940	× 10							
##	(carat	cut	color	clarity	depth	table	price	х	У	Z
##	•	<dbl></dbl>	<ord></ord>	<ord></ord>	<ord></ord>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<int></int>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>	<dbl></dbl>
##	1	0.23	Ideal	Е	SI2	61.5	55	326	3.95	3.98	2.43
##	2	0.21	Premium	Е	SI1	59.8	61	326	3.89	3.84	2.31
##	3	0.23	Good	Е	VS1	56.9	65	327	4.05	4.07	2.31
##	4	0.29	Premium	I	VS2	62.4	58	334	4.2	4.23	2.63
##	5	0.31	Good	J	SI2	63.3	58	335	4.34	4.35	2.75
##	6	0.24	Very Good	J	VVS2	62.8	57	336	3.94	3.96	2.48
##	7	0.24	Very Good	I	VVS1	62.3	57	336	3.95	3.98	2.47
##	8	0.26	Very Good	Н	SI1	61.9	55	337	4.07	4.11	2.53
##	9	0.22	Fair	Е	VS2	65.1	61	337	3.87	3.78	2.49
##	10	0.23	Very Good	Н	VS1	59.4	61	338	4	4.05	2.39
##	#	with	53,930 mor	re rows	5						













Onto scatterplots!















Do the axes look at all "strange" to you?



Do the axes look at all "strange" to you?



Use log scales for data with extreme ranges



Mammal brain vs. body weight

Let's practice

- Always start with axes:
 - What variable is on the X-axis? What type of data is it? < br>
 - What variable is on the Y-axis? What *type* of data is it?
- Are there colors or fills? Are they "just colors" or are they *aesthetics*?
- What are the geometries in the plot?
- What *interpretations* can we make about the plot? What question(s) does the plot address or not address? (there are MANY right answers here!).
- What might the underlying dataset actually look like? *What variables (columns) are likely present?*

All figures in the following slides are from Fundamentals of Data Visualization.

Butterfat from different cows



Density estimates of the butterfat percentage in the milk of four cattle breeds. Data Source: Canadian Record of Performance for Purebred Dairy Cattle.

Butterfat from different cows, as bars



Let's compare:



42 / 57

Average daily temperatures



Daily temperature normals for four selected locations in the U.S. Temperature is mapped to the y axis, day of the year to the x axis, and location to line color. Data source: NOAA.









Box office income



Highest grossing movies for the weekend of December 22-24, 2017. Data source: Box Office Mojo.

Box office income - what's different?



Median household income



2016 median U.S. annual household income versus age group and race. For each age group there are four bars, corresponding to the median income of Asian, white, Hispanic, and black people, respectively. Data source: United States Census Bureau.

Bluejays



Head length versus body mass for 123 blue jays. The birds' sex is indicated by color. Data source: Keith Tarvin, Oberlin College.

Bluejays, redux 1



Bluejays, redux 2



Male bluejays only



Getting an intuition for the *confidence interval*



Airplane delays



Mean arrival delay versus distance from New York City. Data source: U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

This figure is labeled as "bad" because it is overly complex. Most readers will find it confusing and will not intuitively grasp what it is the figure is showing.

Airplane delays



Mean arrival delay versus distance from New York City. Data source: U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

"Looking cool/smart" is NOT the same as effectively communicating. We'll talk more about data viz style and best practices after we start learning how to plot in R next week!