Tutorial-04

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Visualisation in R

Learning Objectives

- Practice how to create plots in R.
- This will involve understanding the grammar of graphics and what each of the different layers are.
- You will learn to create a range of different plots.

Preparation

- Ensure you installed R and RStudio.
- Ensure you have installed the ggplot2 package. You can install this package directly, but this package is also part of the tidyverse package.
- Before you get started set yourself up an R project. This will help you to direct R to where your data is installed.

- If you need any help doing the above, refer to the Lecture 1 and Tutorial 1 material.
- Download the dataset from Moodle, boston_celtics.csv, and place it in a folder called data within your R Project.

Task

Today you will be creating visualisations in ggplot2 to analyse sporting statistics from the Boston Celtics NBA basketball team.

Exercise 1

1. Read your data set into R and follow the Reading Data Checklist from the lecture.

We recommend installing the package here to help keep things organised when referencing files.

```
if(!require(here)){
  install.packages("here")
}
library(here)
```

```
library(tidyverse)
boston_celtics <- read_csv(here("data", "boston_celtics.csv"))</pre>
```

If you have an trouble run through the check list:

```
# Check your working directory
getwd()

# Check your data file is where you think it is
file.exists(here("data","boston_celtics.csv"))

# Read in your data
library(tidyverse)
boston_celtics <- read_csv(here("data", "boston_celtics.csv"))

# Look at your data
View(boston_celtics)

# Look at a summary
summary(boston_celtics)</pre>
```

- 2. Create a scatter plot that shows the game_date and team_scores. Change the colour of the points using team_winner to show if the team won the game. Make the colour of the points forestgreen. Focus on the geometry and aesthetic layer for now.
- 3. Colour the points according to if the team won or lost. Use the hex colour codes from the Boston Celtics team to set the colour scheme.
- 4. As there are a lot of points, change the size and the transparency to reduce overplotting.

5.Look at the theme options and try using a few different ones, before deciding on the theme for your plot.

- 5. Add appropriate labels to your plot and edit the legend position.
- 6. Move the legend on the plot to increase the data-density. (Note the solutions show a more advanced way to move the legend that the lecture notes.)

Exercise 2

Now we've mastered the basic layers, take some time to creating some other visualisations that are interesting to you!

- You may like to produce plots looking at the distribution of some of the key variables. For example, assists, rebounds, steals etc.
- Maybe you are interested in how the shot percentage varies between field_goal_pct (2 pts) and three_point_field_goal_pct (3 pts).
- Perhaps you want to create a bar chart (geom_bar) to see how many times they've played
 opposing teams this season.

Finishing Up

By the end of this tutorial you should feel comfortable reading in a data set into R and creating a visualisation but adding layers in ggplot2.

Material developed by Dr. Kate Saunders.

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