Introduction to the course (and R) and data visualization

Seung-Ho An, University of Arizona

Agenda

- 1 Introduction to the course
- 2 Course details
- 3 R and Rmarkdown introduction
- 4 Data visualization

1. Introduction to the course

Introduction to the course

- Why do we need to learn statistics?
- Applied statistics? Data science?

1. To test ideas empirically

- 1. To test ideas empirically
- 2. To make inferences from sample to population

- 1. To test ideas empirically
- 2. To make inferences from sample to population
- 3. To make evidence-based decisions/policy

Applied statistics? Data science?

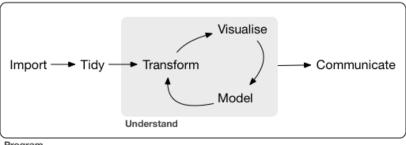
 Applied statistics includes planning for the collection of data, managing data, analyzing, interpreting and drawing conclusions from data, and identifying problems, solutions and opportunities using the analysis (UM-Dearborn)

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Program

Figure 1: Data science process (Hadley)

Our approach

The mix of applied statistics and data science, slightly leaning more toward data science

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E.g., calculating a sample variance of a set $\{2, 7, 7, 4, 5, 1, 3\}$

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E.g., calculating a sample variance of a set $\{2, 7, 7, 4, 5, 1, 3\}$ Instead of this,

$$s^{2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i} - \bar{x})^{2}}{n-1}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x^{2} - \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^{n} x)^{2}}{n}}{n-1}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{(4+49+49+16+25+1+9) - \frac{(2+7+7+4+5+1+3)^{2}}{7}}{7-1}}{5} = \frac{153 - \frac{845}{7}}{6}$$
= 5.47619

Our approach (cont)

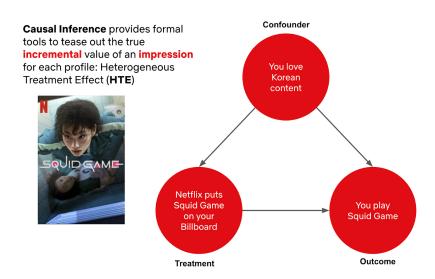
We will focus more on

```
x<-c(2, 7, 7, 4, 5, 1, 3)
var(x)
```

```
## [1] 5.47619
```

What problems are applied statisticians/data scientists working on?

Causality



Prediction

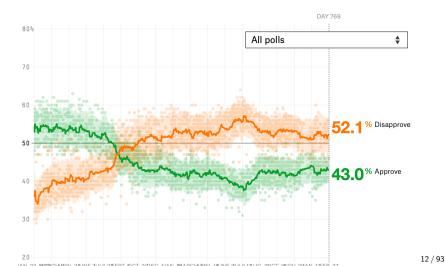
A new computer model uses publicly available data to predict crime accurately in eight U.S. cities, while revealing increased police response in wealthy neighborhoods at the expense of less advantaged areas.

June 30, 2022



How popular is Joe Biden?

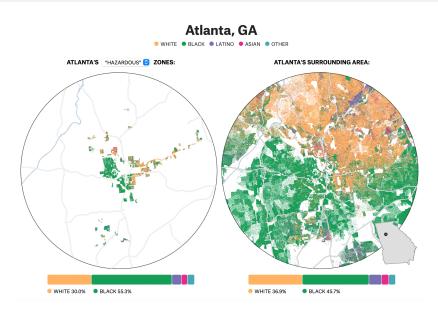
An updating calculation of the president's approval rating, accounting for each poll's quality, recency, sample size and partisan lean. How this works »



Visualization



Understanding how the past matters



2. Course details

Brief introduction

Name, N of previous stat/programming classes, main statistical program/package (if any), etc.

• Summerize and visualize data

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- Wrangle messy data into tidy forms

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- Wrangle messy data into tidy forms
- Evaluate claims about causality
- Be able to use linear regression to analyze data
- Understand uncertainty in data analysis and how to quantify it
- Use professional tools like R and RStudio

Teaching philosophy

• Deliberate pacing and tons of support

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- Deliberate pacing and tons of support
- Emphasize intuition and computational approaches over mathematical equations

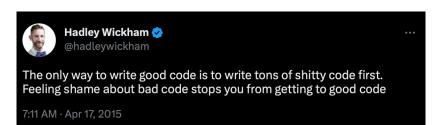
Teaching philosophy

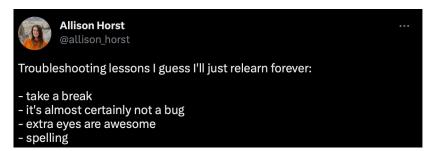
- Deliberate pacing and tons of support
- Emphasize intuition and computational approaches over mathematical equations
- Practice, practice, practice

How to become a better programmer



How to become a better programmer





Prerequisites of the course

- None (no prior programming or statistics knowledge)
 - I am excited to teach this class with a room full of individuals who are just enthusiastic about data and analyses as much as I am!

Class meetings

- Three text book:
 - Modern Dive (MD) (free online)
 - Quantitative Social Science (QSS): An Introduction in tidyverse by Kosuke Imai (not free)
 - Introduction to Modern Statistics (IDS) (free online)
- Sometimes same materials in two/three different books.
 Choose which helps most.

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- Lectures:
 - Broad coverage of the course materials
 - Coding demonstrations (follow along with your laptop) (if any)
 - Slides will be posted to the website shortly (or the night) before lecture

Assignments

- Roughly weekly homework
 - It will be posted on Thursday morning, and due following Wednesday
 - Your assignments will not be graded but highly encourage finishing those!
- Final project (optional), though I highly encourage everyone to do so!
 - Especially if you find assignments too easy, this would be an opportunity to practice your data/analysis skills (of course with tons of my support/assistance)! At the end, I will provide brief comments on your project.

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- Another option for advanced individuals: after a couple of assignments, if the assignments are still easy, let me know; I will assign relevant exercises from the QSS book.

Computing

- We will use the R statistical environment to analyze data
 - It's free
 - A popular option for data analysis
 - Academics, 538, NYT, Facebook, Google, Twitter, nonprofits, governments all use R
- Interface with R via a program called R studio

3. R and Rmarkdown introduction



The frontier of computing

Touch-based interfaces



Where statistical computing lives



The frontier of computing

- Touch-based interfaces
- Single app at a time



Where statistical computing lives



The frontier of computing

- Touch-based interfaces
- Single app at a time
- Little multitasking between apps



Where statistical computing lives



The frontier of computing

- Touch-based interfaces
- Single app at a time
- Little multitasking between apps
- Hides the file system



Where statistical computing lives

Windows and pointers



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Where statistical computing lives

- Windows and pointers
- Multi-tsking, multiple windows
- Works heavily with the file system
- Underneath it's UNIX and the command line



For more info, visit https://plain-text.co/ • often free, open-sourced, and powerful



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- Large, friendly communities around them



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The Plain Person's Guide

~/>

to Plain Text Social Science

Kieran Healy

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- But... far from the touch-based paradigm of modern computing
- So why use them?

The process of applied statistics/data science is intrinsically messy

What's real in the project? How are changes managed?

In the Office model

In the Engineering model

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- Intermediate outputs are produced via code, often inside documents
- Changes are tracked outside files
- Final outputs are assembled programatically and converted to desired output format

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We'll tend toward the Engineering model because it's better suited to keep the mess in check

Let's take a tou**R**

R vs. RStudio

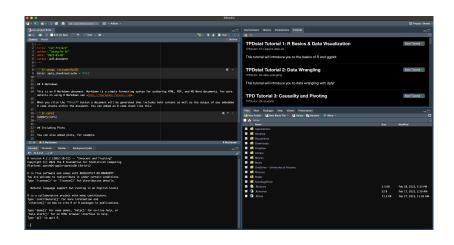


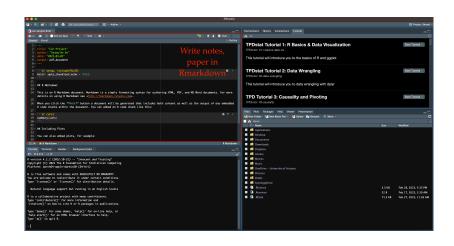


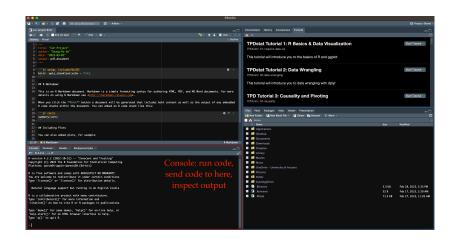
R vs. RStudio (cont)

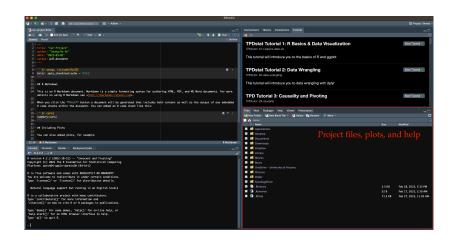


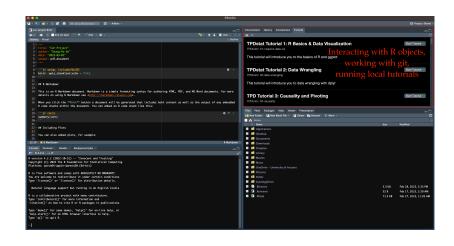












3. Using RMarkdown

The acts of coding

```
1 library(ggplot2)
2 ggplot(mtcars, aes(x = wt, y = mpg)) +
3 geom_point()
```

Figure 2: Writing codes

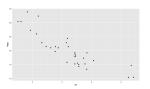


Figure 3: Looking at output



Figure 4: Taking notes

Rmarkdown files to the rescue



Figure 5: Rmarkdown file

Keep code and notes together in plain text

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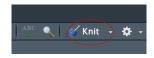


Figure 6: Knit in R

Rmarkdown files to the rescue



Figure 5: Rmarkdown file

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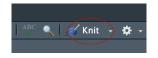


Figure 6: Knit in R

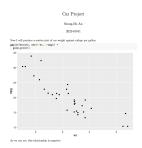


Figure 7: PDF output

Produce nice-looking outputs in different formats

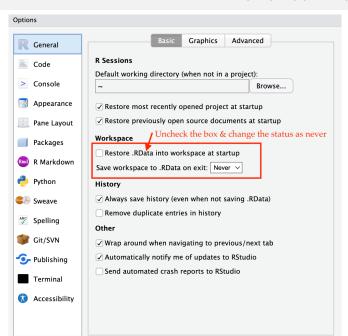
Markdown: formatting in plain text

Non-code text in Rmd files is plain text with formatting instructions

syntax becomes Plain text Plain text End a line with two spaces to start a new paragraph. End a line with two spaces to start a new paragraph. *italics* and _italics_ italics and italics **bold** and __bold__ bold and bold superscript^2^ superscript2 ~~strikethrough~~ strikethrough [link](www.rstudio.com) Header 1 # Header 1 ## Header 2 Header 2 ### Header 3 Header 3 #### Header 4 Header 4 #### Header 5 Header 5 ##### Header 6 Header 6 endash: endash: -emdash: --emdash: ellinsis: ... ellipsis: ... inline equation: \$A = \pi*r^{2}\$ inline equation: $A = \pi * r^2$ image: image: horizontal rule (or slide break): horizontal rule (or slide break): *** > block quote block quote * unordered list unordered list * item 2 item 2 + sub-item 1 sub-item 1 + sub-item 2 sub-item 2 1. ordered list ordered list 2. item 2 2. item 2

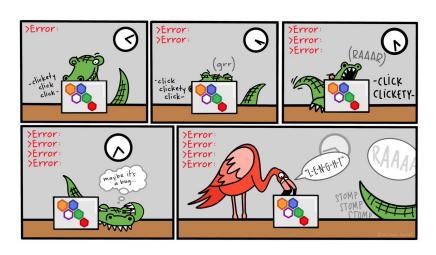
```
title: "Rmarkdown example"
author: "Seuna-Ho An"
date: "2023-03-01"
output: html_document
 ``{r setup, include=FALSE}
knitr::opts_chunk$set(echo = TRUE)
## R Markdown
This is an R Markdown document. Markdown is a simple formatting syntax for
authoring HTML, PDF, and MS Word documents. For more details on using R
Markdown see <a href="http://rmarkdown.rstudio.com">http://rmarkdown.rstudio.com</a>.
When you click the **Knit** button a document will be generated that includes
both content as well as the output of any embedded R code chunks within the
document. You can embed an R code chunk like this:
```{r cars}
summary(cars)
Includina Plots
You can also embed flots, for example:
```{r pressure, echo=FALSE}
plot(pressure)
```

Remember what's real



Try to type your code by hand

Typing speeds up the try-fail cycle



Physically typing the code is best way to familiarize yourself with R and the try-fail-try-succeed cycle

What R looks like

Code that you can type and run:

```
## Any R code that begins with the # character is a comment
## Comments are ignored by R

my_numbers <- c(4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42) # Anything after # is also a comment</pre>
```

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Output from code prefixed by ## by convention:

```
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```

```
## [1] 4 8 15 16 23 42
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Output from code prefixed by ## by convention:

```
my_numbers
```

```
## [1] 4 8 15 16 23 42
```

Output also has a counter in brackets when over one line:

```
options(width = 45)
letters
```

```
## [1] "a" "b" "c" "d" "e" "f" "g" "h" "i" "j" 
## [11] "k" "l" "m" "n" "o" "p" "q" "r" "s" "t" 
## [21] "u" "v" "w" "x" "y" "z"
```

Everything in R has a name

```
my_numbers # just created this
## [1] 4 8 15 16 23 42
letters # this is build into R
   [1] "a" "b" "c" "d" "e" "f" "g" "h" "i" "j"
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pi # also built in
## [1] 3.141593
```

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pi # also built in
```

Some names are forbidden (NA, TRUE, FALSE, etc) or strongly not recommended (c, mean, table)

[1] 3.141593

We do things in R with functions

Functions take in objects, perform actions, and return outputs:

```
mean(x = my_numbers)
```

```
## [1] 18
```

• x is the argument name,

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Functions take in objects, perform actions, and return outputs:

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mean(x = my_numbers)
```

```
## [1] 18
```

- x is the argument name,
- my_numbers is what we're passing to that argument

If you omit the argument name, R will assume the default argument order:

```
mean(my_numbers)
```

```
## [1] 18
```

How do we know the default argument order? Look to help files:

help(mean)

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?mean #shorter

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- Get help early before becoming too frustrated!

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- Sometimes inscrutable, so look elsewhere:
 - Google, StackOverflow, Twitter, RStudio Community
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- Get help early before becoming too frustrated! -Easy to overlook small issues like missing commas, typos, etc.

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Install packages using install.packages() to have them on your
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Load them into your R session with library():

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Now we can use any function provided by ggplot2

Functions live in packages

We can also use the mypackage: prefix to access package functions without loading:

knitr::kable(head(mtcars))

	mpg	cyl	disp	hp	drat	wt	qsec	VS	am	gear	carb
Mazda RX4	21.0	6	160	110	3.90	2.620	16.46	0	1	4	4
Mazda RX4	21.0	6	160	110	3.90	2.875	17.02	0	1	4	4
Wag											
Datsun 710	22.8	4	108	93	3.85	2.320	18.61	1	1	4	1
Hornet 4	21.4	6	258	110	3.08	3.215	19.44	1	0	3	1
Drive											
Hornet	18.7	8	360	175	3.15	3.440	17.02	0	0	3	2
Sportabout											
Valiant	18.1	6	225	105	2.76	3.460	20.22	1	0	3	1

R tutorials & course packages

```
# installing course packages
my_packages <- c("tidyverse", "usethis", "devtools", "learnr",</pre>
                 "tinytex", "gitcreds", "broom")
install.packages(my_packages, repos = "http://cran.rstudio.com")
remotes::install_github("kosukeimai/qss-package", build_vignettes = TRUE)
# installing R tutorials locally
remotes::install github("rstudio/learnr")
remotes::install github("rstudio-education/gradethis")
remotes::install_github("seungho-an/TPDtutor")
# installing tiny tex
tinytex::install_tinytex()
```

4.

Data visualizations

4.1

Building plots by layers

Midwest data

midwest

```
## # A tibble: 437 x 28
       PID county
##
                   state area popto~1 popde~2
##
     <int> <chr>
                   <chr> <dbl>
                                <int>
                                       dbl>
       561 ADAMS
                   TI.
                        0.052
                               66090 1271.
##
   1
##
       562 ALEXAND~ IL 0.014
                               10626
                                        759
##
       563 BOND
                   IL 0.022 14991
                                        681.
##
       564 BOONE
                   IL 0.017
                                30806
                                       1812.
##
       565 BROWN
                   IL 0.018
                               5836
                                        324.
##
      566 BUREAU
                   IL
                      0.05
                               35688
                                       714.
##
       567 CALHOUN
                   IL 0.017
                               5322
                                        313.
##
      568 CARROLL
                   IL 0.027 16805
                                        622.
##
      569 CASS
                   IL 0.024 13437
                                        560.
## 10 570 CHAMPAI~ IL 0.058 173025
                                       2983.
    ... with 427 more rows, 22 more variables:
## #
## #
      popwhite <int>, popblack <int>,
## #
      popamerindian <int>, popasian <int>,
## #
      popother <int>, percwhite <dbl>,
      percblack <dbl>, percamerindan <dbl>,
## #
## #
      percasian <dbl>, percother <dbl>,
## #
      popadults <int>, perchsd <dbl>, ...
```

Building up a graph in pieces

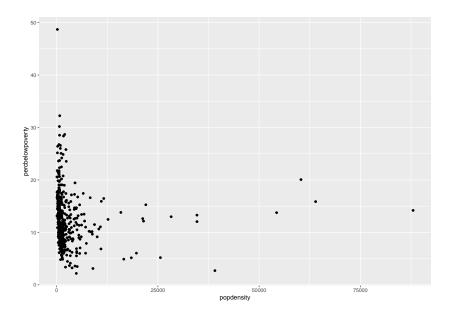
Create ggplot object and direct it to the correct data:

```
p <- ggplot(data = midwest)</pre>
```

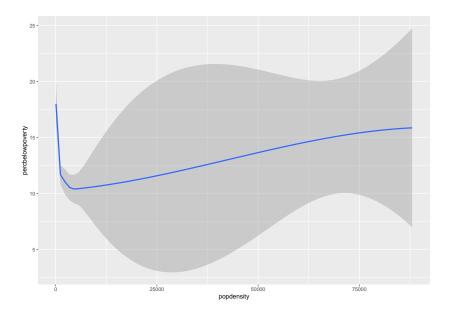
Mapping: tell ggplot what visual aesthetics correspond to which variables

Other aesthetic mappings: color, shape, size, etc.

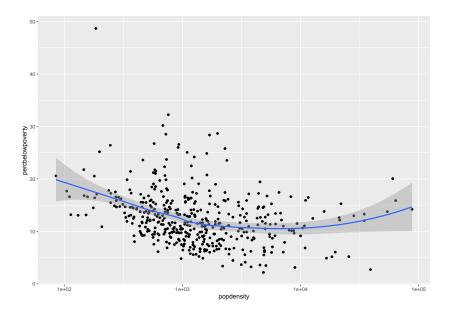
Adding a geom layer



Trying a new geom



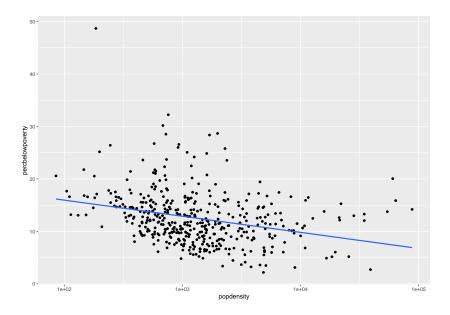
Layering geoms is additive



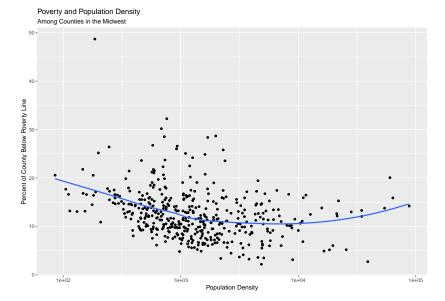
Geoms are functions

Geoms can take arguments:

Tells geom_smooth to do a linear fit with no error region

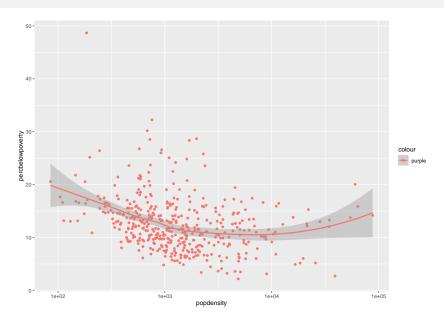


Adding informative labels



Mapping vs. setting asthetics

Wait what?

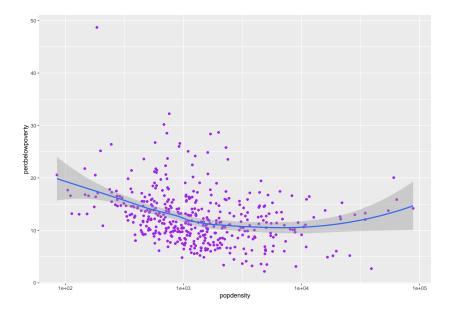


Mapping always refers to variables

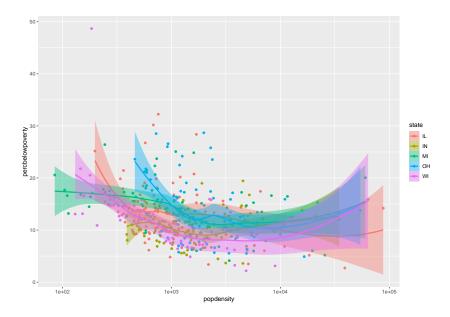
If passed a value other than a variable name, ggplot will implicitly create a variable with that value (in this case "purple" that is constant)

Setting aesthetics

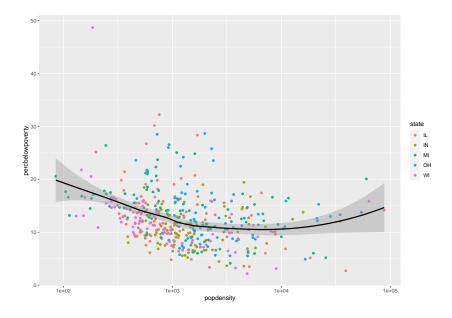
Set the color outside the mapping = aes() format



Mapping more aesthetics



Mappings can be done on a per geom basis



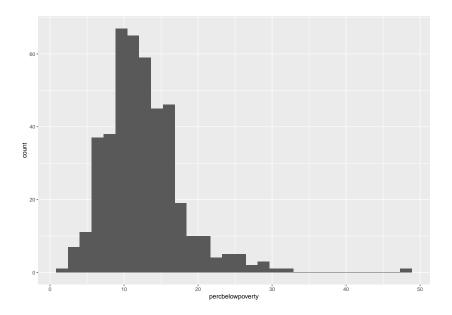
4.2

Histograms and boxplots

Histograms

Histograms show where there are more or fewer observations of a numeric variable

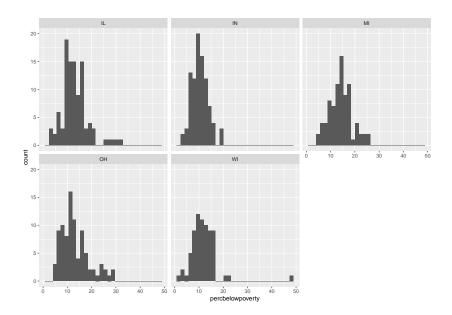
Split up range of variable into bins, count how many are in each bin y aesthetic calculated automatically



Creating small multiples with facets

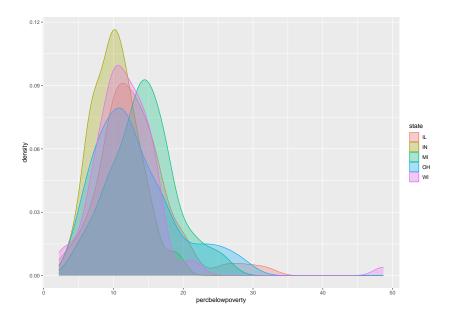
Small multiples: a series of similar graphs with the same scale/axes to help with comparing different participation of a dataset

We'll see more of the ~ variable syntax (called a formula)



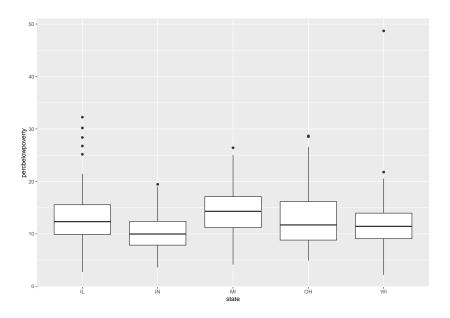
Density as alternative to histograms

A **kernel density** plot is a smoothed version of a histogram and slightly easier to overlay



Boxplots

Boxplots are another way to compare distributions across discrete groups.



Boxplots in R

• "Box" represents middle 50% of the data

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 - $1.5 \times IQR$ or max/min of the data, whichever is smaller

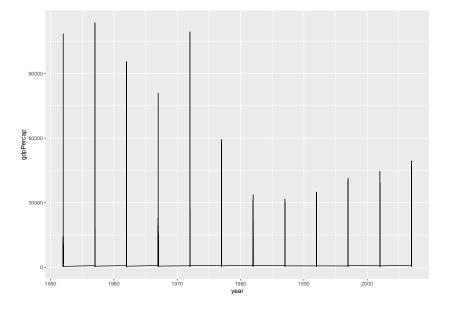
- "Box" represents middle 50% of the data
 - 25% of the data above the box, 25% below
 - Width of the box is called the inter quartile range (IQR)
- Horizontal line in the box is the median
 - 50% of the data above the median, 50% below
- "Whiskers" represents either:
 - $1.5 \times IQR$ or max/min of the data, whichever is smaller
 - Points beyond whiskers are outliers

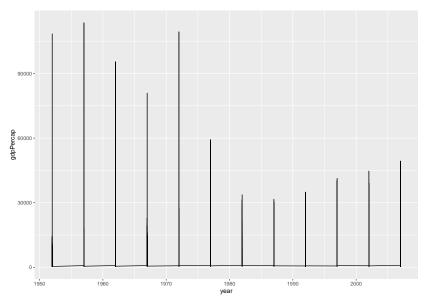
4.3

Grouped data

Gapminder data

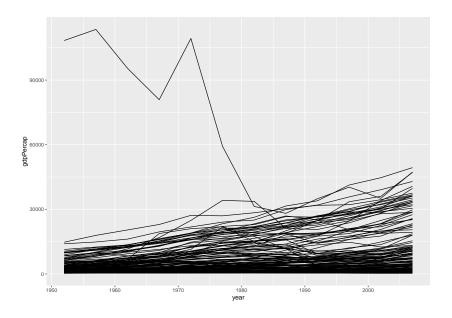
Let's plot the trend in income





geom_line connects points from different countries in the same
year.

Tell geom_line how to group the lines



Scales

