

Introduction to the Grammar of Graphics

Prof. Wells

STA 209, 1/30/23

Outline

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- Discuss the Grammar of Graphics
- Decompose particular graphics using the GG paradigm
- Introduce the ggplot2 package for R graphics

Section 1

The Grammar of Graphics

The Guiding Principle

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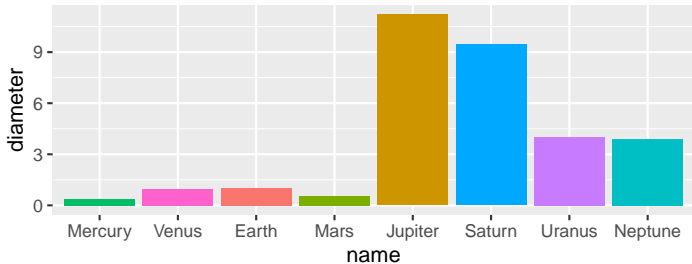
<u>data</u>	<u>aesthetics</u>	<u>geometric object</u>
Planet Name	x position	bar
Planet Diameter	y height	bar
Planet Name	color	bar

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Planet Name	x position	bar
Planet Diameter	y height	bar
Planet Name	color	bar

```
ggplot(data = planets_df) +  
  geom_bar(stat = "identity", mapping = aes(x = name, y = diameter, fill = name))
```



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i.e. specifying particular colors or shapes
- **guide**: a legend to help user convert visual display back to the data

Plotting the Planets

Consider the planets data frame, `planets_df`:

name	type	diameter	rotation	rings	distance
Mercury	Terrestrial planet	0.382	58.64	FALSE	0.4
Venus	Terrestrial planet	0.949	-243.02	FALSE	0.7
Earth	Terrestrial planet	1.000	1.00	FALSE	1.0
Mars	Terrestrial planet	0.532	1.03	FALSE	1.5
Jupiter	Gas giant	11.209	0.41	TRUE	5.2
Saturn	Gas giant	9.449	0.43	TRUE	9.5
Uranus	Gas giant	4.007	-0.72	TRUE	19.2
Neptune	Gas giant	3.883	0.67	TRUE	30.1

Plotting the Planets

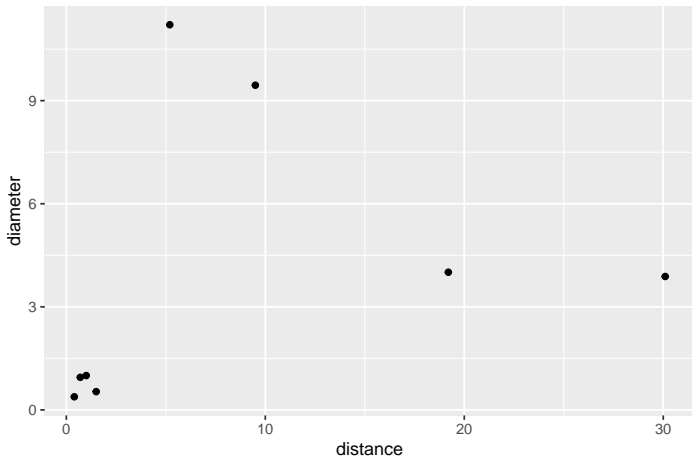
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Describe how to create a plot of distance vs. diameter.

Plotting the Planets

```
ggplot(data = planets_df, mapping = aes(x = distance, y = diameter)) +  
  geom_point()
```



Decomposing Graphics

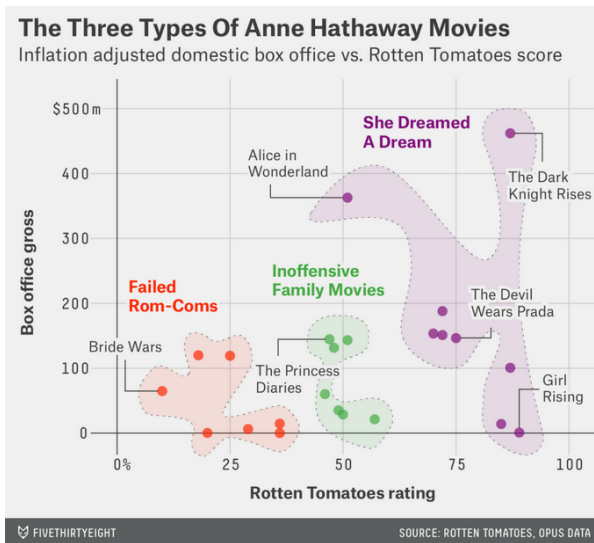
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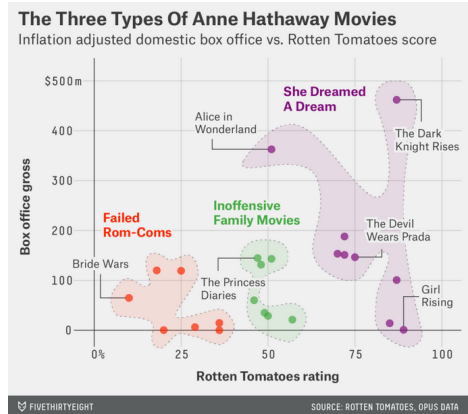
- 1 What is the story this graphic is telling?
- 2 What are the variables here?
- 3 What **geom** are the variables mapped to?
- 4 What are the **aesthetics** of the **geom**? Which variable sets the value of that **aesthetic**?
- 5 What additional context does this graphic provide?

Example 1 Graphic



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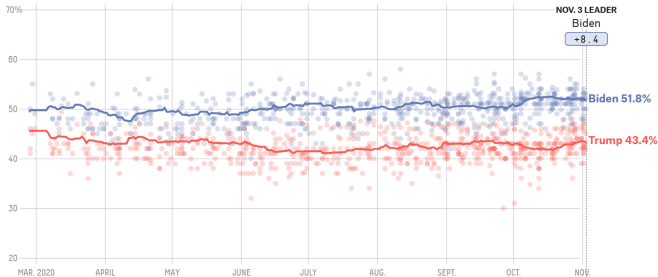
Example 2 Graphic

FiveThirtyEight



Who's ahead in the national polls?

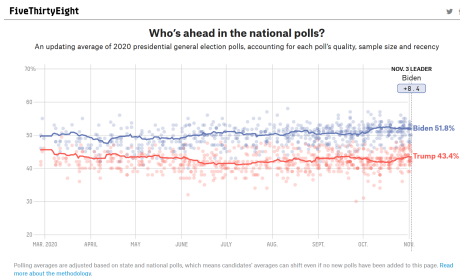
An updating average of 2020 presidential general election polls, accounting for each poll's quality, sample size and recency



Polling averages are adjusted based on state and national polls, which means candidates' averages can shift even if no new polls have been added to this page. [Read more about the methodology.](#)

Example 2

- 1 What is the story this graphic is telling?
- 2 What are the variables here?
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Best Practices for Graphics

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- Label axes and units for improved clarity.
- Include a legend to translate from aesthetics to variables.
- Specify your data source for reproducibility/verification.
- Minimize/eliminate extraneous elements that do not serve main purpose.

Section 2

The ggplot2 Package

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- We will use the `ggplot` function in the `ggplot2` package for data visualization in accordance with the grammar of graphics.

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- The code for graphics will (almost) always take the following general form:

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ggplot(data = ---, mapping = aes(---)) +  
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```
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  geom_---(---)
```

- For brevity, the above code can also be written as:

```
ggplot(---, aes(---)) +  
  geom_---(---)
```

- R will assume that the first argument is the data argument and the second argument is the mapping argument.

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- Several other applications have capability of plotting graphics.
 - Excel and Google Spreadsheets each have separate buttons to produced bar plots, scatter plots, line plots, etc. from data sets.
- What advantages does ggplot2 (and the Grammar of Graphics) have over these other tools?
 - Control
 - Intentionality
 - Consistency
 - Ability to create publication quality graphs with minimal tuning

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 - ② Linegraphs (`geom_line`)
 - ③ Histograms (`geom_histogram`)
 - ④ Boxplots (`geom_boxplot`)
 - ⑤ Barplots (`geom_bar`)
- Other common graph types you may encounter:
 - Violin plots (`geom_violin`)
 - Interpolation (`geom_smooth`)
 - Geographic maps (`geom_map`)
 - Polygon areas (`geom_poly`)
 - Density plots (`geom_density`)

Portland Biketown

- We'll use a common data set to investigate each graph: the Portland Biketown data:

```
biketown <- read_csv("biketown.csv")
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- Users can purchase a single-ride fare, a day pass, or an annual membership. They can borrow a bike from any bike station, and return the bike to any station.
- Bike stations automatically log data on each trip.
- The biketown data was obtained from the BiketownPDX website and contains a random sample of all bike share rides between July and September, 2017.

Biketown Preview

- First, let's preview the data frame:

```
glimpse(biketown)
```

```
## Rows: 9,999
## Columns: 19
## $ RouteID      <dbl> 4074085, 3719219, 3789757, 3576798, 3459987, 3947695, ~
## $ PaymentPlan  <chr> "Subscriber", "Casual", "Casual", "Subscriber", "Casu-
## $ StartHub      <chr> "SE Elliott at Division", "SW Yamhill at Director Par-
## $ StartLatitude <dbl> 45.50513, 45.51898, 45.52990, 45.52389, 45.53028, 45.~
## $ StartLongitude <dbl> -122.6534, -122.6813, -122.6628, -122.6722, -122.6547~
## $ StartDate     <chr> "8/17/2017", "7/22/2017", "7/27/2017", "7/12/2017", "~
## $ StartTime     <time> 10:44:00, 14:49:00, 14:13:00, 13:23:00, 19:30:00, 10~
## $ EndHub        <chr> "Blues Fest - SW Waterfront at Clay - Disabled", "SW ~
## $ EndLatitude   <dbl> 45.51287, 45.52142, 45.55902, 45.53409, 45.52990, 45.~
## $ EndLongitude  <dbl> -122.6749, -122.6726, -122.6355, -122.6949, -122.6628~
## $ EndDate       <chr> "8/17/2017", "7/22/2017", "7/27/2017", "7/12/2017", "~
## $ EndTime       <time> 10:56:00, 15:00:00, 14:42:00, 13:38:00, 20:30:00, 10~
## $ TripType      <lgl> NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA, N-
## $ BikeID        <dbl> 6163, 6843, 6409, 7375, 6354, 6088, 6089, 5988, 6857, ~
## $ BikeName      <chr> "0488 BIKETOWN", "0759 BIKETOWN", "0614 BIKETOWN", "0~
## $ Distance_Miles <dbl> 1.91, 0.72, 3.42, 1.81, 4.51, 5.54, 1.59, 1.03, 0.70, ~
## $ Duration      <dbl> 11.500, 11.383, 28.317, 14.917, 60.517, 53.783, 23.86~
## $ RentalAccessPath <chr> "keypad", "keypad", "keypad", "keypad", "keypad", "ke-
## $ MultipleRental <lgl> FALSE, FALSE, FALSE, FALSE, TRUE, FALSE, FALSE, FALSE~
```

A Deeper Dive I

What do the first few entries look like?

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```
head(biketown)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 19
##   RouteID Payme~1 Start~2 Start~3 Start~4 Start~5 Start~6 EndHub EndLa~7 EndLo~8
##   <dbl> <chr>   <chr>   <dbl> <dbl> <chr>   <time> <chr>   <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 4074085 Subscr~ SE Ell~   45.5  -123. 8/17/2~ 10:44  Blues~   45.5  -123.
## 2 3719219 Casual  SW Yam~   45.5  -123. 7/22/2~ 14:49  SW 2n~   45.5  -123.
## 3 3789757 Casual  NE Hol~   45.5  -123. 7/27/2~ 14:13  NE A1~   45.6  -123.
## 4 3576798 Subscr~ NW Cou~   45.5  -123. 7/12/2~ 13:23  NW Ra~   45.5  -123.
## 5 3459987 Casual  NE 11t~   45.5  -123. 7/3/20~ 19:30  NE Ho~   45.5  -123.
## 6 3947695 Casual  SW Moo~   45.5  -123. 8/8/20~ 10:01  SW 3r~   45.5  -123.
## # ... with 9 more variables: EndDate <chr>, EndTime <time>, TripType <lgl>,
## #   BikeID <dbl>, BikeName <chr>, Distance_Miles <dbl>, Duration <dbl>,
## #   RentalAccessPath <chr>, MultipleRental <lgl>, and abbreviated variable
## #   names 1: PaymentPlan, 2: StartHub, 3: StartLatitude, 4: StartLongitude,
## #   5: StartDate, 6: StartTime, 7: EndLatitude, 8: EndLongitude
## # i Use `colnames()` to see all variable names
```

A Deeper Dive II

- To access 1 variable of a data set, separate the dataframe and variable name with \$

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```
biketown$Distance_Miles
```

```
##      [1]  1.91  0.72  3.42  1.81  4.51  5.54  1.59  1.03  0.70  1.72  1.79  3.15
##      [13]  0.81  0.55  5.78  0.41  3.76  2.22  1.77  4.96  3.19  2.56  2.55  0.68
##      [25]  0.59  0.71  3.15  5.89  1.34  1.56  3.50  1.81  2.74  4.56  3.99  1.03
##      [37]  1.51  2.87  2.60  1.48  0.96  2.82  0.66  0.37  2.38  5.92  1.27  0.78
##      [49]  0.79  3.38  1.73  3.64  1.40  2.61  1.85  1.04  1.55  0.63  3.41  4.94
##      [61]  3.93  0.40  1.00  7.19  7.15  0.96  0.33  0.79  2.80  1.08  2.27  0.62
##      [73]  0.50  2.15  0.23  3.06  1.85  5.00  0.42  3.05  0.42  1.00  4.09  0.45
##      [85]  2.53  0.66  0.26  1.89  1.63  0.99  1.62  1.87  6.73 12.95  3.44  0.43
##      [97]  0.82  0.72  1.51  1.70  0.34  0.55  2.84  1.31  2.78  1.09  1.25  5.04
##     [109]  1.18  1.15  1.62  0.63  3.88  4.67  1.25  0.34  3.11  5.29  1.00  1.67
##     [121]  0.61  0.47  0.68  0.66  0.71  0.02  0.87  1.61  4.50  1.47  4.53  0.10
##     [133]  0.25  5.50  2.05  4.98  0.66  0.12  4.79  0.47  4.19  0.43  1.57  0.27
##     [145]  0.17  1.08  0.36  5.16  6.74  2.54  0.48  0.91  1.80  0.19  2.71  1.32
##     [157]  2.75  1.14  0.65  2.58  3.77  0.66  3.55  1.37  0.98  1.41  1.01  1.87
##     [169]  0.51  0.37  1.12  0.84  0.55  0.12  3.64  4.69  0.15  2.94  5.06  1.24
##     [181]  0.83  2.32  1.25  2.82  0.61  1.80  1.41  1.16  1.09  2.03  1.34  0.55
##     [193]  0.45  4.79  4.30  0.45  2.05  0.71  0.16  0.31  0.01  1.49  3.27  3.11
##     [205]  0.78  2.62  0.63  2.09  1.83  0.35  0.82  1.39  2.39  0.58  0.36  0.28
##     [217]  1.65  0.79  1.90  1.27  3.71  2.96  7.12  3.20  0.40  1.50  0.93  1.97
##     [229]  0.73  0.68  0.91  3.20  2.27  2.67  2.37  0.05  0.82  2.50  2.17  0.44
##     [241]  2.79  0.07  0.66  1.93  1.78  0.59  1.54  1.59  1.47  0.62  1.63  2.68
##     [253]  0.27  1.46  0.68  0.16  0.42  0.55  1.47  0.27  2.02  0.85  0.63  0.58
##     [265]  0.60  0.56  2.12  1.48  0.60  0.88  0.62  0.48  2.55  0.82  0.97  3.45
```


A Deeper Dive II

- To determine the variable type in R, use `class`

```
class(biketown$Distance_Miles)
```

```
## [1] "numeric"
```

```
class(biketown$PaymentPlan)
```

```
## [1] "character"
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```
## [1] "character"
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- To get variable names for a dataframe, use `names`

```
names(biketown)
```

```
## [1] "RouteID"           "PaymentPlan"       "StartHub"          "StartLatitude"
## [5] "StartLongitude"    "StartDate"         "StartTime"         "EndHub"
## [9] "EndLatitude"       "EndLongitude"      "EndDate"           "EndTime"
## [13] "TripType"          "BikeID"            "BikeName"          "Distance_Miles"
## [17] "Duration"          "RentalAccessPath" "MultipleRental"
```

Section 3

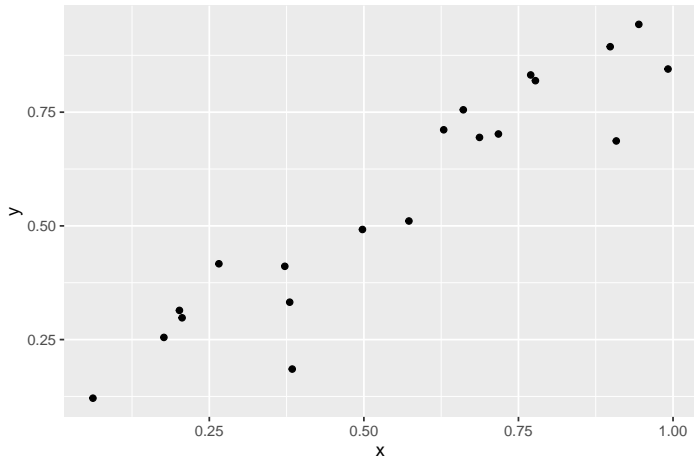
Types of Graphics

Scatterplots

- Scatterplots show relationships between a pair of **quantitative** variables.

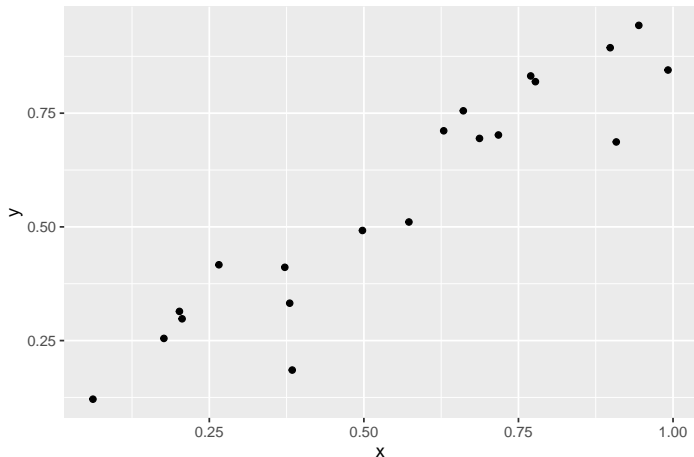
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Scatterplots

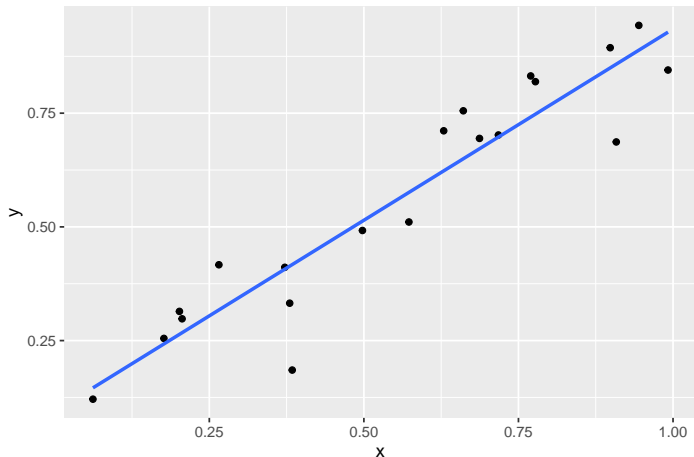
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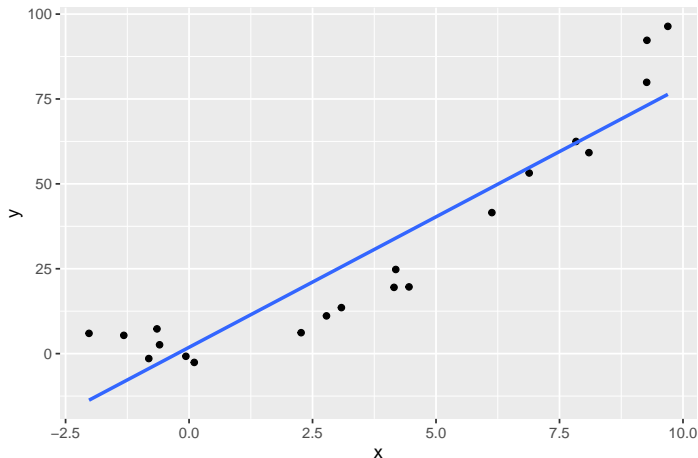
- In particular, we are often interested in **linear** relationships.

Linear Relationships

- Two variables have a **positive** relationship provided the values of one increase as the values of the other also increase.

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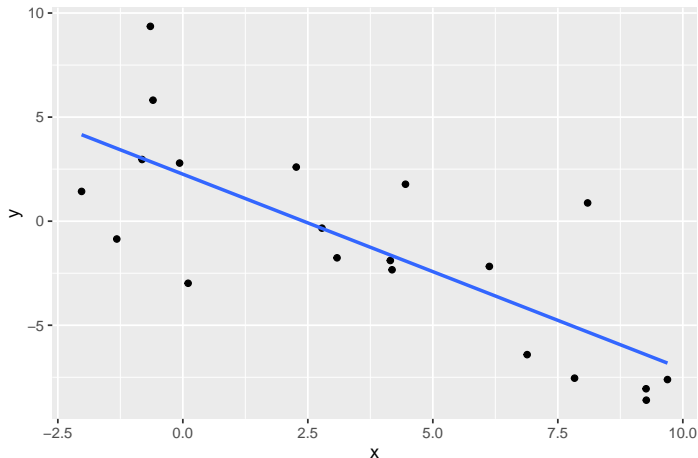


Linear Relationships

- Two variables have a **negative** relationship provided the values of one decrease as the values of the other also increase.

Linear Relationships

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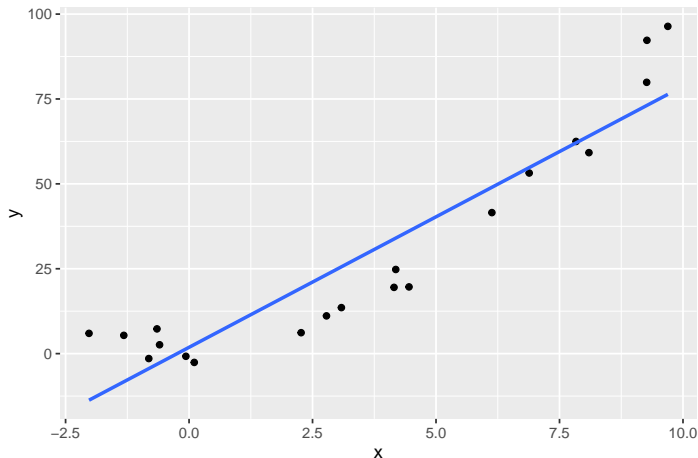


Linear Relationships

- What type of relationship do we expect if the values of one variable **decrease** as the values of the other also **decrease**?

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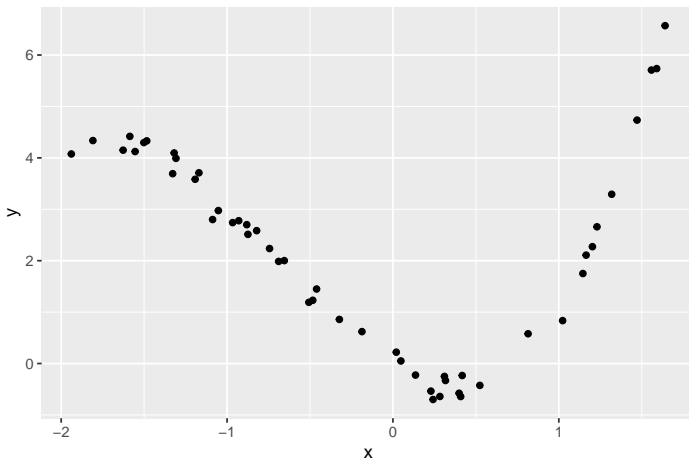


Non-Linear Relationships

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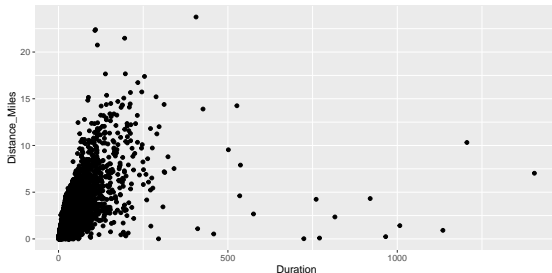
Creating Scatterplots

- In biketown data, what do you expect to be the relationship between Duration and Distance_Miles?

Creating Scatterplots

- In biketown data, what do you expect to be the relationship between Duration and Distance_Miles?

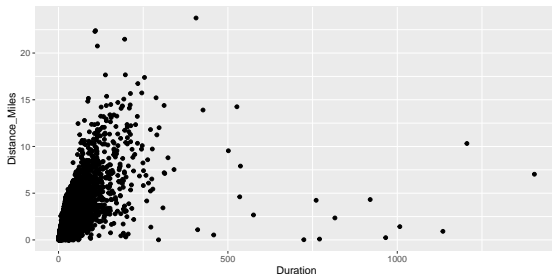
```
ggplot(data = biketown, mapping = aes(x = Duration, y = Distance_Miles)) +  
  geom_point()
```



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```



- Problems with the graphic?

Overplotting

- Overplotting occurs when a large number of points are plotted in close proximity, making it difficult to accurately distinguish true number of points in a region.

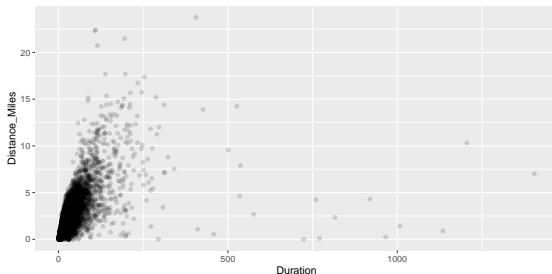
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ggplot(data = biketown, mapping = aes(x = Duration, y = Distance_Miles)) +  
  geom_point(alpha = 0.15)
```



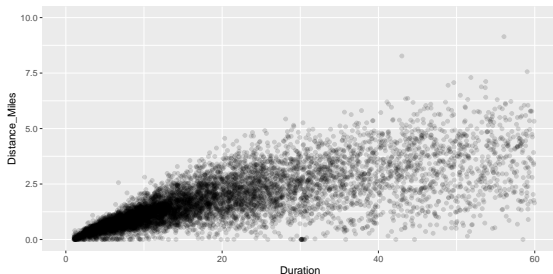
Overplotting II

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```
ggplot(data = biketown, mapping = aes(x = Duration, y = Distance_Miles)) +  
  geom_point(alpha = .15) +  
  scale_x_continuous(limits = c(0, 60)) +  
  scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0, 10))
```



Overplotting III

- Alternatively, can manipulate data set by jittering points a small random amount so that they no longer lie on top of each other.

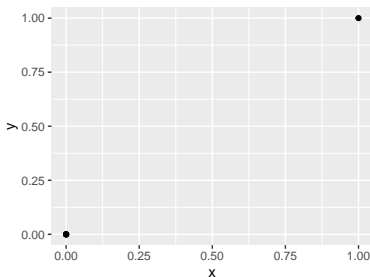
Overplotting III

- Alternatively, can manipulate data set by jittering points a small random amount so that they no longer lie on top of each other.
- Consider the data set consisting of $(0, 0)$, $(0, 0)$, $(0, 0)$, $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$:

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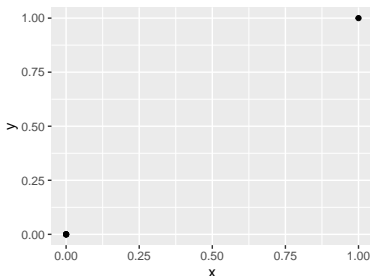
```
ggplot(data = jiggle_df, mapping = aes(x = x, y = y)) +  
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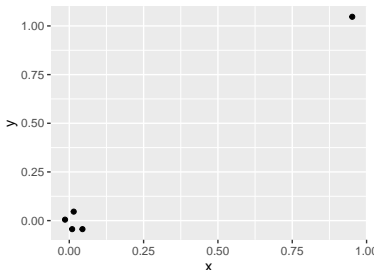


- It looks like there are just 2 observations!

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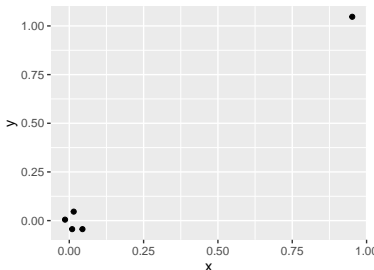
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ggplot(data = jiggle_df, mapping = aes(x = x, y = y)) +  
  geom_jitter(width = .05, height = .05)
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- To jitter points, use the layer `geom_jitter(width = ..., height = ...)` instead of `geom_points()`