Introduction to R Graphics: Using R to create figures



BaRC Hot Topics – October 2011

George Bell, Ph.D.

http://iona.wi.mit.edu/bio/education/R2011/



Topics for today

- Getting started with R
- Drawing common types of plots (scatter, box, MA)
- Comparing distributions (histograms, CDF plots)
- Customizing plots (colors, points, lines, margins)
- Combining plots on a page
- Combining plots on top of each other
- More specialized figures and details





Why use R for graphics?

- Creating custom publication-quality figures
- Many figures take only a few commands
- Almost complete control over every aspect of the figure
- To automate figure-making (and make them more reproducible)
- Real statisticians use it
- It's free





Why not use R for graphics?

- Another application already works fine
- It's hard to use at first
 - You have to know what commands to use
- Getting the exact figure you want can take a series of commands
- Final product is editable only in Illustrator
- Real statisticians use it





Getting started

- See previous session: Introduction to R: http://iona.wi.mit.edu/bio/education/R2011/
- Hot Topics slides: http://iona.wi.mit.edu/bio/hot_topics/
- R can be run on your computer or on tak.





Start of an R session

On tak

On your own computer

<pre>sbelltak ~* R R version 2.12.1 (2010-12-16) Copyright (C) 2010 The R Foundation for Platform: x86_64-pc-linux-gnu (64-bit) R is free software and comes with ABSOL You are welcome to redistribute it under Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for dis Natural language support but running R is a collaborative project with many 'citation()' on how to cite R or R pack Type 'demn()' for some demos, 'help()' Type 'g()' to quit R '' '''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''''</pre>			
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Getting help

Certification Other Misc Bioconductor Related Projects User Groups Links

- Use the Help menu
- Check out "Manuals"
 - http://www.r-project.org/
 - contributed documentation
- Use R's help

?boxplot [show info]
??boxplot [search docs]
example(boxplot)[examp

Search the web

 "r-project boxplot"







Reading files - intro

• Take R to your preferred directory ()



 Check where you are (e.g., get your working directory) and see what files are there

> getwd()

[1] "X:/bell/Hot_Topics/Intro_to_R"

> dir()



[1] "all_my_data.txt"



Reading data files

- Usually it's easiest to read data from a file
 - Organize in Excel with one-word column names
 - Save as tab-delimited text
- Check that file is there list.files()

Read file

tumors = read.delim("tumors_wt_ko.txt", header=T)

Check that it's OK











Figure formats and sizes

- By default, a figure window will pop up from most R sessions.
- Instead, helpful figure names can be included in code
 - Pro: You won't need an extra step to save the figure
 - Con: You won't see what you're creating

 To select name and size (in inches) of pdf file (which can be >1 page) pdf("tumor_boxplot.pdf", w=11, h=8.5) boxplot(tumors) # can have >1 page dev.off() # tell R that we're done

- To create another format (with size in pixels) png("tumor_boxplot.png", w=1800, h=1200) boxplot(tumors) dev.off()
- Save your commands (in a text file)!
- Final PDF figures
 - can be converted with Acrobat
 - are be edited with Illustrator





Introduction to scatterplots

- Simplest use of the 'plot' command
- Can draw any number of points
- Example (comparison of expression values)

genes = read.delim("Gene_exp_with_sd.txt")

plot(genes\$WT, genes\$KO)



Gene	WT	KO
А	6	8
В	5	5
С	9	12
D	4	5
Е	8	9
F	6	8

But note that A = F



Boxplot conventions



Comparing sets of numbers

- Why are you making the figure?
- What is it supposed to show?
- How much detail is best?
- Are the data points paired?





stripchart(genes, vert=T)



boxplot(genes)



Note the "jitter" (addition of noise) in the first 2 figures.

13 BaR

Gene expression plots

Typical x-y scatterplot

MA (ratio-intensity) plot

x-y scatterplot with contour







plot(genes.all) abline(0,1) # Add other lines M = genes.all[,2] - genes.all[,1] A = apply(genes.all, 1, mean) plot(A,M) # etc. library(MASS)

- kde2d() # et density
- image() # Draw colors
- contour() # Add contour
- points() # Add points



Comparing distributions

- Why are you making the figure?
- What is it supposed to show?
- How much detail is best?
- Methods:
 - Boxplot
 - Histogram
 - Density plot
 - Violin plot
 - CDF (cumulative distribution function) plot





Displaying distributions

• Example dataset: log2 expression ratios







Comparing similar distributions

- Example dataset:
 - MicroRNA is knocked down
 - Expression levels are assayed
 - Genes are divided into those without miRNA target site (black) vs. with target site (red)







Customizing plots

 About anything about a plot can be modified, although it can be tricky to figure out how to do so.

ex: col="red"

- Colors
- Shapes of points ex: pch=18
- Shapes of lines
 ex: lwd=3, lty=3
- Axes (labels, scale, orientation, size)
- Margins
- Additional text
- see 'mai' in par()
 ex: text(2, 3, "This text")
- See par() for a lot more options





Point shapes by number



Customizing a plot

- plot(x, y, type="p")
- plot(x, y, type="p", pch=21, col="black", bg=rainbow(6), cex=x+1, ylim=c(0, max(c(y1,y2))), xlab="Time (d)", ylab="Tumor counts", las=1, cex.axis=1.5, cex.lab=1.5, main="Customized figure", cex.main=1.5)
- Non-obvious options:
 - type="p"
 - pch=21
 - col="black"
 - bg=rainbow(6)
 - cex=x+1
 - las=1

- # Draw points
- # Draw a 2-color circle
- # Outside color of points
- # Inside color of points
- # Size points using 'x'
- # Print horizontal axis labels







Combining plots on a page

- Set up layout with command like
 - par(mfrow = c(num.rows, num.columns))
 - Ex: par(mfrow = c(1,2))







Merging plots on same figure

Commands:

- plot # start figure
- points # add point(s)
- lines # add line(s)
- legend
- Note that order of commands determines order of layers





More graphics details

- Creating error bars
- Drawing a best-fit (regression) line
- Using transparent colors
- Creating colored segments
- Creating log-transformed axes
- Labeling selected points





Using error bars

library(plotrix) plotCl(x, y, uiw=y.sd, liw=y.sd)

plotCl(x, y, uiw=x.sd, liw=x.sd, err="x", add=T)

vertical error bars # horizontal







Drawing a regression line

Use 'Im(response~terms)' for simple linear regression: Including regression

Calculate y-intercept Imfit = Im(y ~ x) # Set y-intercept to 0 Imfit.0 = Im(y ~ x + 0)

 Add line(s) with abline(Imfit)





Transparent colors

- Semitransparent colors can be indicated by an extended RGB code (#RRGGBBAA)
 - AA = opacity from 0-9,A-F (lowest to highest)
 - Sample colors:
 Red #FF000066
 - Green#00FF0066Blue#0000FF66





Colored bars

- Colored bars can be used to label rows or columns of a matrix
 - Ex: cell types, GO terms
- Limit each color code to 6-8 colors
- Don't forget the legend!







Handling log tranformations

- Data or axes can be transformed or scaled.
- Which (if either) should be used?







Labeling selected points

- 1. Make figure
- 2. Run "identify" command
 - identify(x, y,
 labels)
 - Ex:identify(genes, labels = rownames(genes))
- 3. Click at or near points to label them
- 4. Save image







More resources

- R Graph Gallery:
 - http://addictedtor.free.fr/graphiques/
- R scripts for Bioinformatics
 - http://iona.wi.mit.edu/bio/bioinfo/Rscripts/
- List of R modules installed on tak
 - http://tak/trac/wiki/R
- Our favorite book:
 - Introductory Statistics with R
 - (Peter Dalgard)
- We're glad to share commands and/or scripts to get you started





Upcoming Hot Topics

- Introduction to Bioconductor microarray and RNA-Seq analysis (Thursday)
- Unix, Perl, and Perl modules (short course)
- Quality control for high-throughput data
- RNA-Seq analysis
- Gene list enrichment analysis
- Galaxy
- Sequence alignment: pairwise and multiple
- See http://iona.wi.mit.edu/bio/hot_topics/
- Other ideas? Let us know.



