Lattice Graphics: An Introduction

Deepayan Sarkar

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

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The lattice package

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- Trellis graphics for R (originally developed in S)
- · Powerful high-level data visualization system
- Provides common statistical graphics with conditioning
 - emphasis on multivariate data
 - sufficient for typical graphics needs
 - flexible enough to handle most nonstandard requirements
- Traditional user interface:
 - collection of high level functions: xyplot(), dotplot(), etc.
 - interface based on formula and data source

Outline

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- Introduction, simple examples
- Overview of features
- A few case studies

Further reading

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- The Lattice book (Springer's UseR! series, March 2008)
- Handouts (including Chapter 2 of the Lattice book)
- Online documentation in the lattice package

High-level functions in lattice

Function	Default Display
histogram()	Histogram
densityplot()	Kernel Density Plot
qqmath()	Theoretical Quantile Plot
qq()	Two-sample Quantile Plot
<pre>stripplot()</pre>	Stripchart (Comparative 1-D Scatter Plots)
bwplot()	Comparative Box-and-Whisker Plots
barchart()	Bar Plot
dotplot()	Cleveland Dot Plot
xyplot()	Scatter Plot
splom()	Scatter-Plot Matrix
contourplot()	Contour Plot of Surfaces
levelplot()	False Color Level Plot of Surfaces
wireframe()	Three-dimensional Perspective Plot of Surfaces
cloud()	Three-dimensional Scatter Plot
parallel()	Parallel Coordinates Plot

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The Chem97 dataset

- 1997 A-level Chemistry examination in Britain
- > data(Chem97, package = "mlmRev")
- > head(Chem97[c("score", "gender", "gcsescore")])

	score	gender	gcsescore
1	4	F	6.625
2	10	F	7.625
3	10	F	7.250
4	10	F	7.500
5	8	F	6.444
6	10	F	7.750

> histogram(~ gcsescore, data = Chem97)



> histogram(~ gcsescore | factor(score), data = Chem97)





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Trellis Philosophy: Part I

- Display specified in terms of
 - Type of display (histogram, densityplot, etc.)
 - Variables with specific roles
- Typical roles for variables
 - Primary variables: used for the main graphical display
 - Conditioning variables: used to divide into subgroups and juxtapose (multipanel conditioning)
 - Grouping variable: divide into subgroups and superpose
- Primary interface: high-level functions
 - Each function corresponds to a display type
 - Specification of roles depends on display type
 - Usually specified through the formula and the groups argument



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> qq(gender ~ gcsescore | factor(score), Chem97, f.value = ppoints(100), type = c("p", "g"), aspect = 1)



> bwplot(factor(score) ~ gcsescore | gender, Chem97)



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The VADeaths dataset

• Death rates in Virginia, 1941, among different population subgroups

> VADeaths

	Rural	Male	Rural	Female	Urban	Male	Urban	Female
50-54		11.7		8.7		15.4		8.4
55-59		18.1		11.7		24.3		13.6
60-64		26.9		20.3		37.0		19.3
65-69		41.0		30.9		54.6		35.1
70-74		66.0		54.3		71.1		50.0

> barchart(VADeaths, groups = FALSE, layout = c(4, 1))



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> dotplot(VADeaths, groups = FALSE, layout = c(4, 1))





- > data(Earthquake, package = "nlme")
- > xyplot(accel ~ distance, data = Earthquake)





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> Depth <- equal.count(quakes\$depth, number=8, overlap=.1)
> summary(Depth)

Intervals:

	min	max	\mathtt{count}
1	39.5	63.5	138
2	60.5	102.5	138
3	97.5	175.5	138
4	161.5	249.5	142
5	242.5	460.5	138
6	421.5	543.5	137
7	537.5	590.5	140
8	586.5	680.5	137

Overlap between adjacent intervals: [1] 16 14 19 15 14 15 15

> xyplot(lat ~ long | Depth, data = quakes)





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More high-level functions

- More high-level functions in lattice
 - Won't discuss, but examples in manual page
- Other Trellis high-level functions can be defined in other packages, e.g.,
 - ecdfplot(), mapplot() in the latticeExtra package
 - hexbinplot() in the hexbin package

The "trellis" object model

- One important feature of lattice:
 - High-level functions do not actually plot anything
 - They return an object of class "trellis"
 - Display created when such objects are print()-ed or plot()-ed
- Usually not noticed because of automatic printing rule
- Can be used to arrange multiple plots
- Other uses as well

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```
> dp.uspe <-
        dotplot(t(USPersonalExpenditure),
            groups = FALSE, layout = c(1, 5),
        xlab = "Expenditure (billion dollars)")
> dp.uspe.log <-
        dotplot(t(USPersonalExpenditure),
        groups = FALSE, layout = c(1, 5),
        scales = list(x = list(log = 2)),
        xlab = "Expenditure (billion dollars)")
> plot(dp.uspe, split = c(1, 1, 2, 1))
> plot(dp.uspe.log, split = c(2, 1, 2, 1), newpage = FALSE)
```

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Trellis Philosophy: Part II

- Design goals:
 - Enable effective graphics by encouraging good graphical practice (e.g., Cleveland, 1985)
 - Remove the burden from the user as much as possible by building in good defaults into software
- Some obvious examples:
 - Use as much of the available space as possible
 - Encourage direct comparison by superposition (grouping)
 - Enable comparison when juxtaposing (conditioning):
 - use common axes
 - add common reference objects (such as grids)
- Inevitable departure from traditional R graphics paradigms

Trellis Philosophy: Part III

- Any serious graphics system must also be flexible
- lattice tries to balance flexibility and ease of use using the following model:
 - A display is made up of various elements
 - · Coordinated defaults provide meaningful results, but
 - Each element can be controlled independently
 - The main elements are:
 - the primary (panel) display
 - axis annotation
 - strip annotation (describing the conditioning process)
 - legends (typically describing the grouping process)

- The full system would take too long to describe
- Handouts cover the important aspects
- Online documentation has details; start with ?Lattice
- We discuss a few advanced ideas using some case studies

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Case studies

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- Adding regression lines to scatter plots
- Reordering levels of a factor

Example 1: Growth curves

- Heights of boys from Oxford over time
- 26 boys, height measured on 9 occasions
 - > data(Oxboys, package = "nlme")
 - > head(Oxboys)

	Subject	age	height	Occasion
1	1	-1.0000	140.5	1
2	1	-0.7479	143.4	2
3	1	-0.4630	144.8	3
4	1	-0.1643	147.1	4
5	1	-0.0027	147.7	5
6	1	0.2466	150.2	6



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Example 2: Exam scores

• GCSE exam scores on a science subject. Two components:

- course work
- written paper
- 1905 students
 - > data(Gcsemv, package = "mlmRev")
 - > head(Gcsemv)

school student gender written course

1	20920	16	М	23	NA
2	20920	25	F	NA	71.2
3	20920	27	F	39	76.8
4	20920	31	F	36	87.9
5	20920	42	М	16	44.4
6	20920	62	F	36	NA

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> xyplot(written ~ course | gender, data = Gcsemv, xlab = "Coursework score", ylab = "Written exam score")



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Adding to a Lattice display

- Traditional R graphics encourages incremental additions
- The Lattice analogue is to write panel functions

- Things to know:
 - Panel functions are functions (!)
 - They are responsible for graphical content inside panels
 - They get executed once for every panel
 - Every high level function has a default panel function e.g., xyplot() has default panel function panel.xyplot()

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So, equivalent call:

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    So, equivalent call:
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So, equivalent call:

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• Now, we can add a couple of elements:



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Panel functions

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Another useful feature: argument passing

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Passing arguments to panel functions

- Requires knowledge of arguments supported by panel function
- Each high-level function has a corresponding *default* panel function, named as "panel." followed by the function name. For example,
 - histogram() has panel function panel.histogram
 - dotplot() has panel function panel.dotplot
- Most have useful arguments that support common variants

Back to regression lines

Oxboys: model height on age

$$\mathbf{y}_{ij} = \mu + \mathbf{b}_i + \mathbf{x}_{ij} + \mathbf{x}_{ij}^2 + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

- Mixed effect model that can be fit with Ime4
 - > library(lme4)
- Goal: plot of data with fitted curve superposed



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GCSE exam scores

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- Gcsemv: model written score by coursework and gender
- A similar approach does not work as well
 - x values are not ordered
 - missing values are omitted from fitted model

> fm <- lm(written ~ course + I(course^2) + gender, Gcsemv)</pre>

> xyplot(written + fitted(fm) ~ course | gender,

data = subset(Gcsemv, !(is.na(written) | is.na(course))
type = c("p", "l"), distribute.type = TRUE)



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• Built-in solution: Simple Linear Regression in each panel



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GCSE exam scores

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- More complex models need a little more work
- Consider three models:
 - > fm0 <- lm(written ~ course, Gcsemv)</pre>
 - > fm1 <- lm(written ~ course + gender, Gcsemv)</pre>
 - > fm2 <- lm(written ~ course * gender, Gcsemv)</pre>
- Goal: compare fm2 and fm1 with fm0



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```
    Solution: evaluate fits separately and combine

  > course.rng <- range(Gcsemv$course, finite = TRUE)</pre>
  > grid <-
        expand.grid(course = do.breaks(course.rng, 30),
                     gender = unique(Gcsemv$gender))
  > fm0.pred <-
        cbind(grid,
               written = predict(fm0, newdata = grid))
  > fm1.pred <-
        cbind(grid,
               written = predict(fm1, newdata = grid))
  > fm2.pred <-
        cbind(grid,
               written = predict(fm2, newdata = grid))
  > orig <- Gcsemv[c("course", "gender", "written")]</pre>
```

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> str(orig)

```
'data.frame': 1905 obs. of 3 variables:
$ course : num NA 71.2 76.8 87.9 44.4 NA 89.8 17.5 32.4 84.2 .
$ gender : Factor w/ 2 levels "F", "M": 2 1 1 1 2 1 1 2 2 1 ...
$ written: num 23 NA 39 36 16 36 49 25 NA 48 ...
> str(fm0.pred)
'data.frame': 62 obs. of 3 variables:
$ course : num 9.25 12.28 15.30 18.32 21.35 ...
$ gender : Factor w/ 2 levels "F", "M": 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 ...
$ written: num 21.6 22.7 23.9 25.1 26.3 ...
```

```
> combined <-
    make.groups(original = orig,
    fm0 = fm0.pred,
    fm2 = fm2.pred)
> str(combined)
'data.frame': 2029 obs. of 4 variables:
    $ course : num NA 71.2 76.8 87.9 44.4 NA 89.8 17.5 32.4 84.2 .
    $ gender : Factor w/ 2 levels "F","M": 2 1 1 1 2 1 1 2 2 1 ...
    $ written: num 23 NA 39 36 16 36 49 25 NA 48 ...
    $ which : Factor w/ 3 levels "original","fm0",..: 1 1 1 1 1
```

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- · Levels of categorical variables often have no intrinsic order
- The default in factor() is to use sort(unique(x))
 - Implies alphabetical order for factors converted from character
- Usually irrelevant in analyses
- Can strongly affect impact in a graphical display

Example

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Population density in US states in 1975









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The reorder() function

- Reorders levels of a factor by another variable
- optional summary function, default mean()

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Reordering by multiple variables

- Not directly supported, but...
- Order is preserved within ties



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Ordering panels using index.cond

- Order panels by some summary of panel data
- Example: death rates due to cancer in US counties, 2001-2003

```
> data(USCancerRates, package = "latticeExtra")
> xyplot(rate.male ~ rate.female | state, USCancerRates,
         index.cond = function(x, y, ...) {
             median(y - x, na.rm = TRUE)
         }.
         aspect = "iso",
         panel = function(...) {
             panel.grid(h = -1, y = -1)
             panel.abline(0, 1)
             panel.xyplot(...)
         },
         pch = ".")
```



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Take home message

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- Panel functions provide finest level of control
- Built-in panel functions are also powerful
 - Easily taken advantage of using argument passing
 - Requires knowledge of arguments (read documentation!)
 - Special function panel.superpose() useful for grouping
- Several useful functions make life a little simpler
 - reorder(), make.groups(), etc.