

Data visualization

Data visualization with ggplot2



Star Wars data

Loading `tidyverse` also loads a dataset called `starwars` into your RStudio environment:

```
library(tidyverse)
starwars
```

```
## # A tibble: 87 x 13
##   name      height  mass hair_color skin_color eye_color birth_year gender
##   <chr>    <int> <dbl> <chr>      <chr>      <chr>      <dbl> <chr>
## 1 Luke...    172    77 blond      fair        blue        19    male
## 2 C-3PO     167    75 <NA>      gold        yellow      112   <NA>
## 3 R2-D2      96     32 <NA>      white, bl... red         33   <NA>
## 4 Dart...   202   136 none      white       yellow      41.9  male
## 5 Leia...   150    49 brown     light       brown       19    female
## 6 Owen...   178   120 brown, gr... light       blue        52    male
## 7 Beru...   165    75 brown     light       blue        47    female
## 8 R5-D4      97     32 <NA>      white, red  red         NA    <NA>
## 9 Bigg...   183    84 black     light       brown       24    male
## 10 Obi-...   182    77 auburn, w... fair        blue-gray   57    male
## # ... with 77 more rows, and 5 more variables: homeworld <chr>,
## #   species <chr>, films <list>, vehicles <list>, starships <list>
```

Dataset terminology

What does each row represent? What does each column represent?

```
starwars
```

```
## # A tibble: 87 x 13
##   name height mass hair_color skin_color eye_color birth_year gender
##   <chr> <int> <dbl> <chr>      <chr>      <chr>      <dbl> <chr>
## 1 Luke...   172    77 blond      fair        blue         19  male
## 2 C-3PO    167    75 <NA>      gold        yellow       112 <NA>
## 3 R2-D2     96    32 <NA>      white, bl... red          33  <NA>
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## #   species <chr>, films <list>, vehicles <list>, starships <list>
```

Luke Skywalker

eye_color = blue

hair_color = blond

skin_color = fair

gender = male

species = Human

height = 172 cm

birth_year = 19 BBY (Before Battle of Yavin)

films = c("Revenge of the Sith",
"Return of the Jedi",
"The Empire Strikes Back",
"A New Hope",
"The Force Awakens")

vehicles = c("Snowspeeder", "Imperial Speeder Bike")

starships = c("X-wing", "Imperial shuttle")

weight = 77 kg



What's in the Star Wars data?

Take a `glimpse` at the data:

```
glimpse(starwars)
```

```
## Observations: 87
## Variables: 13
## $ name      <chr> "Luke Skywalker", "C-3PO", "R2-D2", "Darth Vader", ...
## $ height    <int> 172, 167, 96, 202, 150, 178, 165, 97, 183, 182, 188...
## $ mass      <dbl> 77.0, 75.0, 32.0, 136.0, 49.0, 120.0, 75.0, 32.0, 8...
## $ hair_color <chr> "blond", NA, NA, "none", "brown", "brown, grey", "b...
## $ skin_color <chr> "fair", "gold", "white, blue", "white", "light", "l...
## $ eye_color  <chr> "blue", "yellow", "red", "yellow", "brown", "blue",...
## $ birth_year <dbl> 19.0, 112.0, 33.0, 41.9, 19.0, 52.0, 47.0, NA, 24.0...
## $ gender     <chr> "male", NA, NA, "male", "female", "male", "female",...
## $ homeworld  <chr> "Tatooine", "Tatooine", "Naboo", "Tatooine", "Alder...
## $ species    <chr> "Human", "Droid", "Droid", "Human", "Human", "Human...
## $ films      <list> [<"Revenge of the Sith", "Return of the Jedi", "Th...
## $ vehicles   <list> [<"Snowspeeder", "Imperial Speeder Bike">, <>, <>,...
## $ starships  <list> [<"X-wing", "Imperial shuttle">, <>, <>, "TIE Adva...
```

What's in the Star Wars data?

Run the following **in the Console** to view the help

```
?starwars
```

starwars (dplyr) R Documentation

Starwars characters

Description

This data comes from SWAPI, the Star Wars API, <http://swapi.co/>

Usage

```
starwars
```

Format

A tibble with 87 rows and 13 variables:

name	Name of the character
height	Height (cm)
mass	Weight (kg)

What's in the Star Wars data?

Run the following **in the Console** to view the help

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```
starwars (dplyr) R Documentation  
  
Starwars characters  
  
Description  
This data comes from SWAPI, the Star Wars API, http://swapi.co/  
  
Usage  
starwars  
  
Format  
A tibble with 87 rows and 13 variables:  
name  
  Name of the character  
height  
  Height (cm)  
mass  
  Weight (kg)
```

How many rows and columns does this dataset have?

What does each row represent? What does each column represent?

What's in the Star Wars data?

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Format  
A tibble with 87 rows and 13 variables:  
name  
  Name of the character  
height  
  Height (cm)  
mass  
  Weight (kg)
```

How many rows and columns does this dataset have?

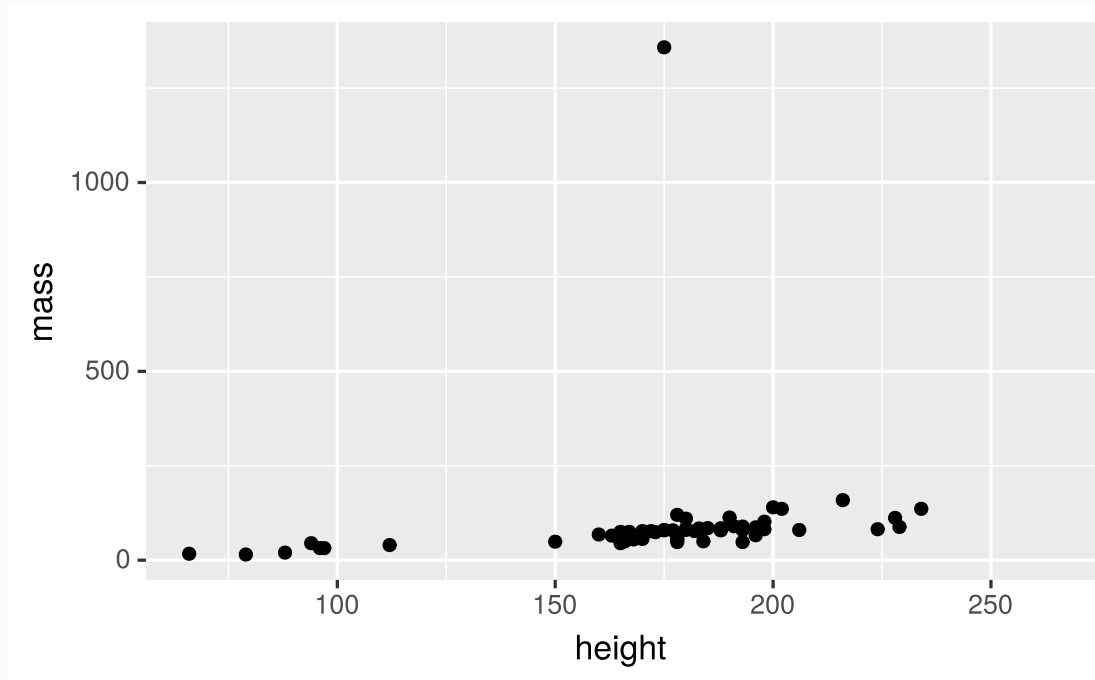
What does each row represent? What does each column represent?

Make a prediction: What relationship do you expect to see between height and mass?

Mass vs. height (`geom_point()`)

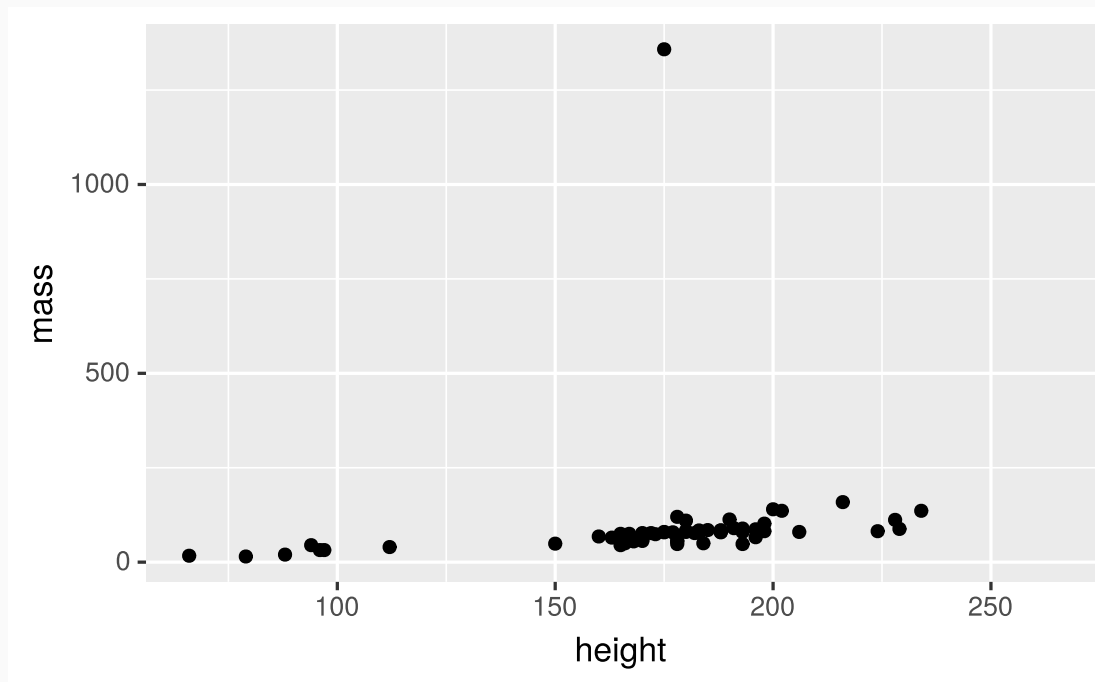
Not all characters have height and mass information (hence 28 of them not plotted)

```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass))
```



Mass vs. height

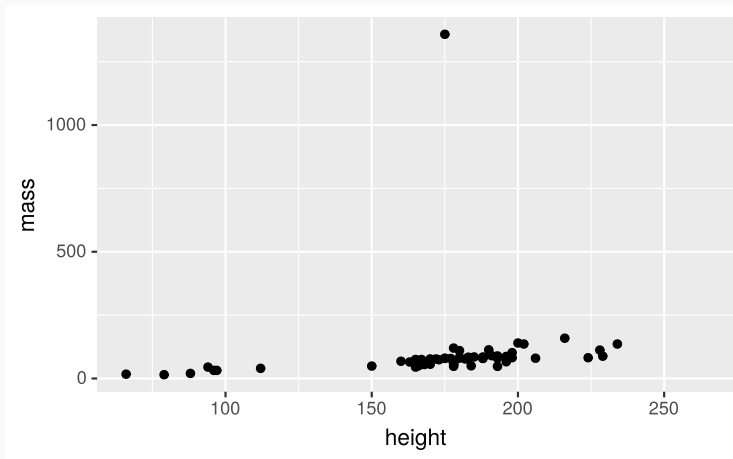
How would you describe this relationship? What other variables would help us understand data points that don't follow the overall trend?



Mass vs. height

Who is the not so tall but really massive character?

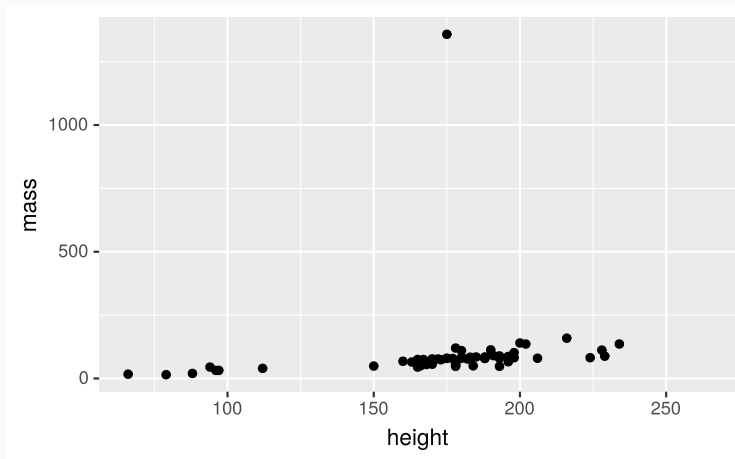
```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass))
```



Mass vs. height

Who is the not so tall but really massive character?

```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass))
```



Additional variables

Can display additional variables with

- aesthetics (like shape, colour, size), or
- faceting (small multiples displaying different subsets)

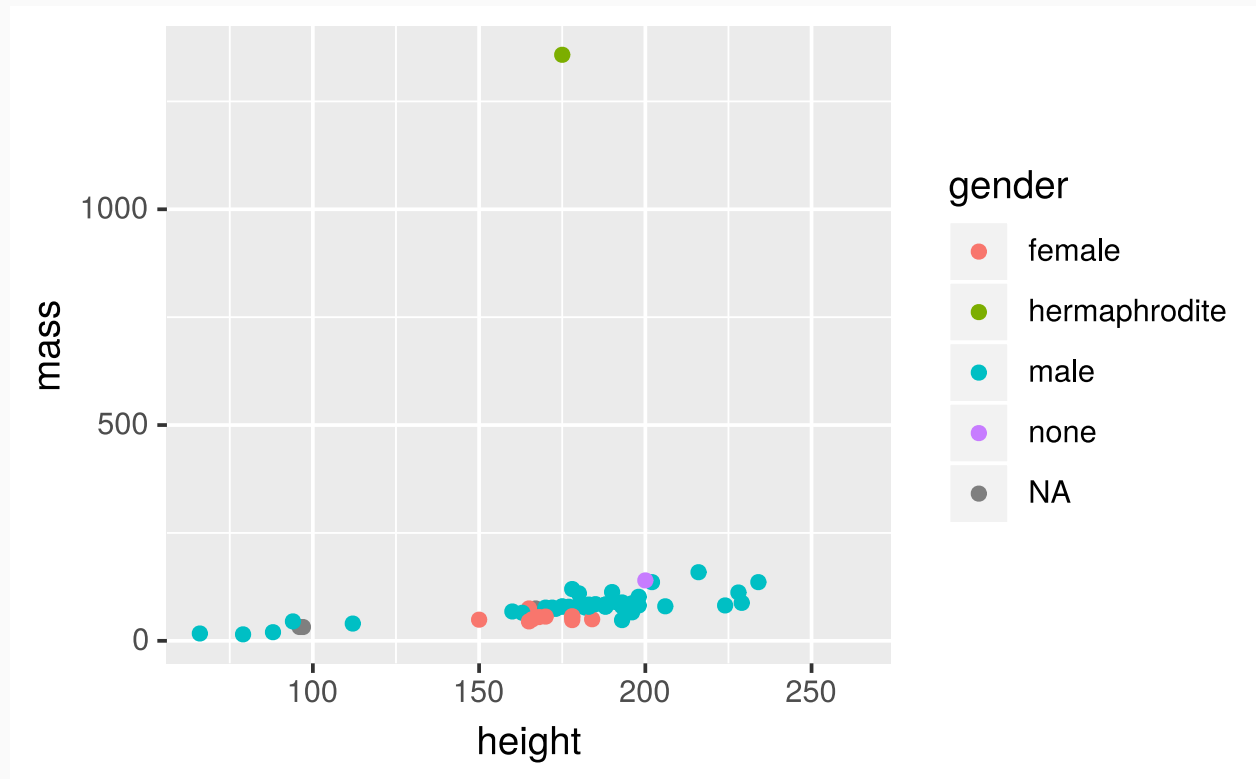
Aesthetics

Visual characteristics of plotting characters that can be **mapped to data** are

- `color`
- `size`
- `shape`
- `alpha` (transparency)

Mass vs. height + gender

```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass, color = gender))
```



Aesthetics summary

- Continuous variables are measured on a continuous scale
- Discrete variables are measured (or often counted) on a discrete scale

aesthetics	discrete	continuous
color	rainbow of colors	gradient
size	discrete steps	linear mapping between radius and value
shape	different shape for each	shouldn't (and doesn't) work

Faceting

- Smaller plots that display different subsets of the data
- Useful for exploring conditional relationships and large data

Mass vs. height by gender

```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass)) +  
  facet_grid(. ~ gender)
```

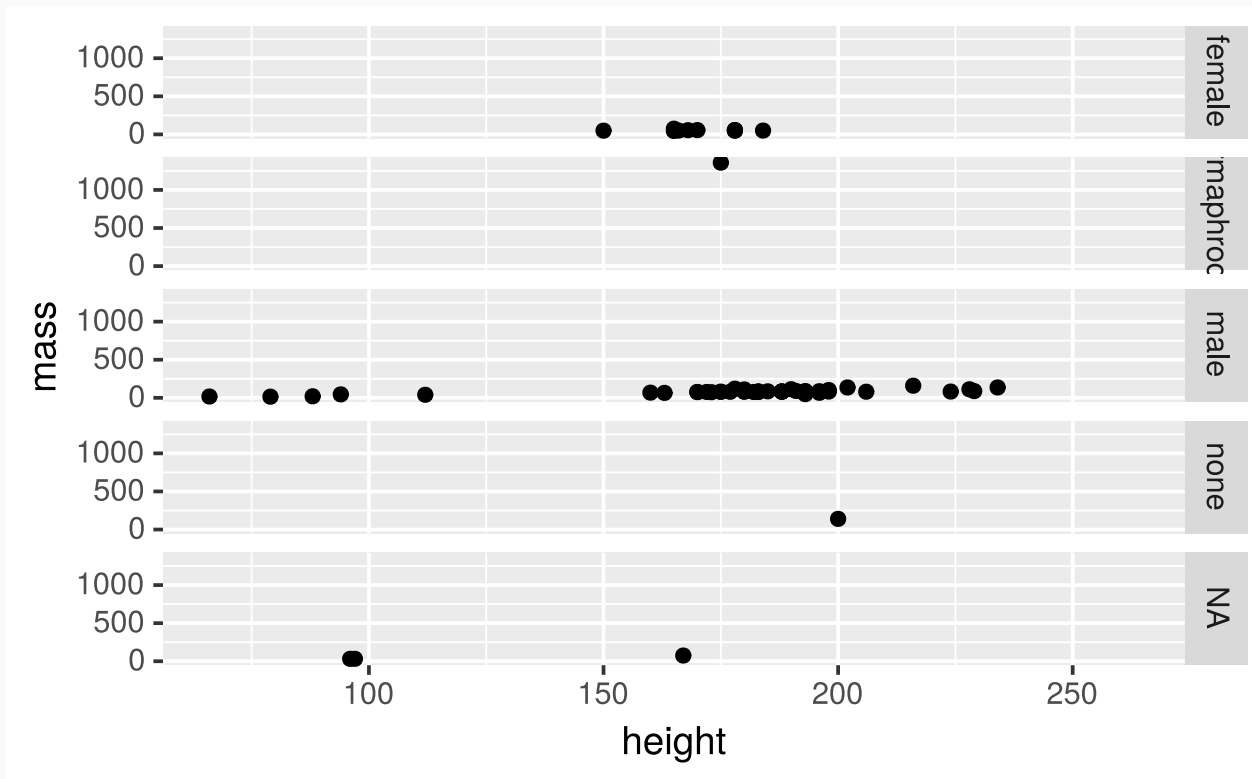


Many ways to facet

In the next few examples, think about what each plot displays. Think about how the code relates to the output.

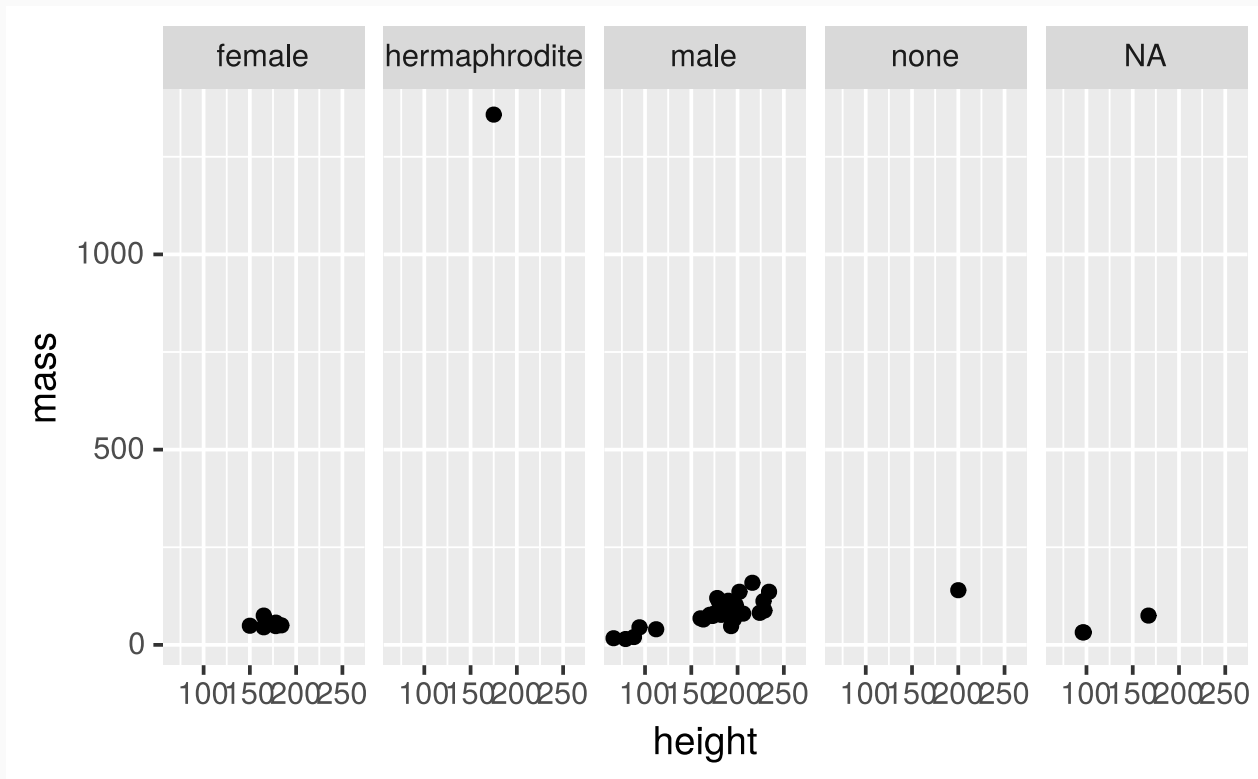
Many ways to facet

```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass)) +  
  facet_grid(gender ~ .)
```



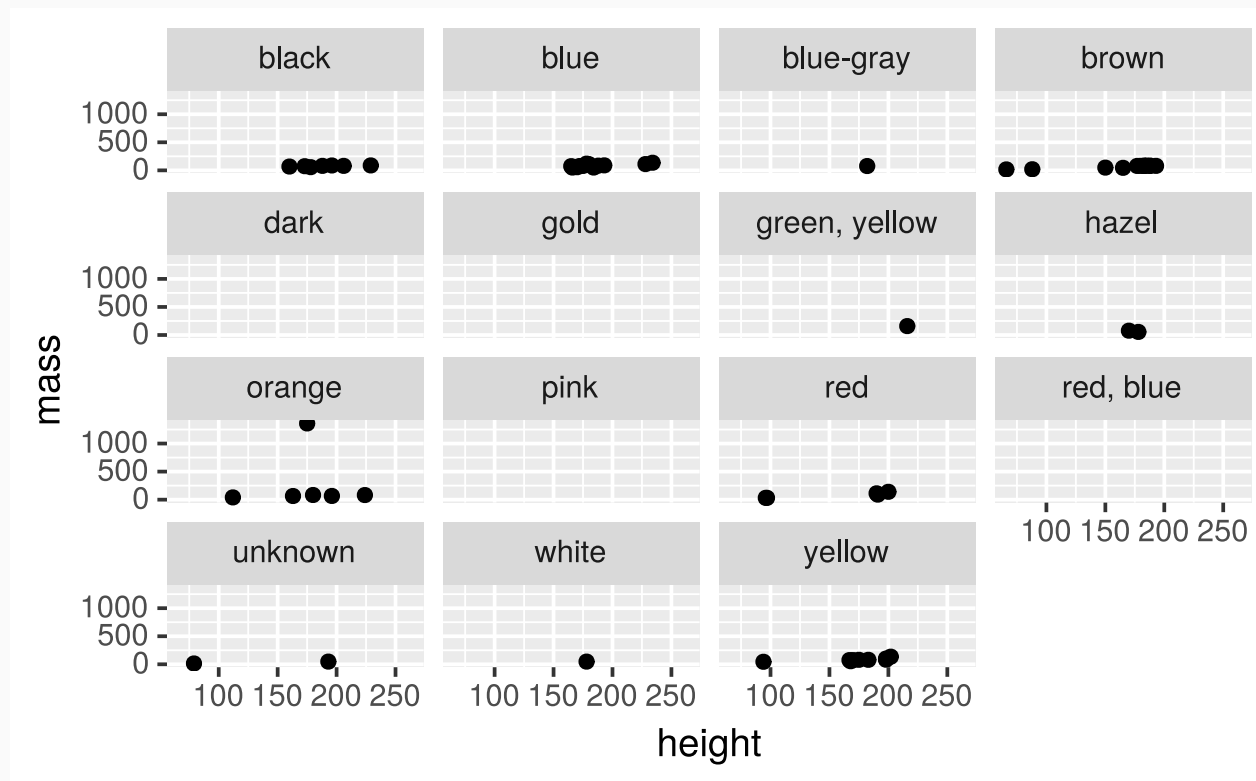
Many ways to facet

```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass)) +  
  facet_grid(. ~ gender)
```



Many ways to facet

```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_point(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass)) +  
  facet_wrap(~ eye_color)
```



Facet summary

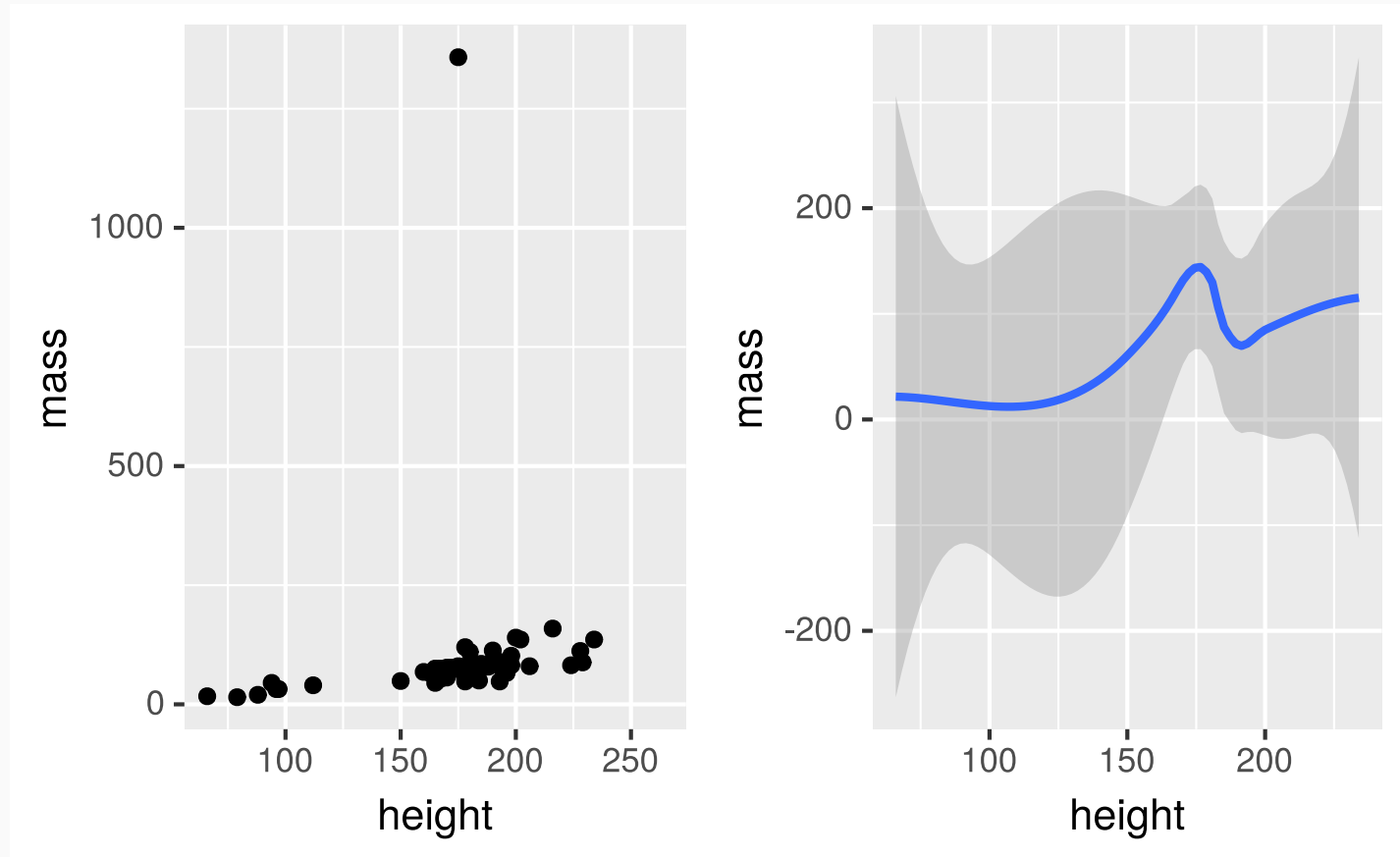
- `facet_grid()`: 2d grid, rows ~ cols, . for no split
- `facet_wrap()`: 1d ribbon wrapped into 2d

Other geoms

How are these plots similar? How are they different?

Other geoms

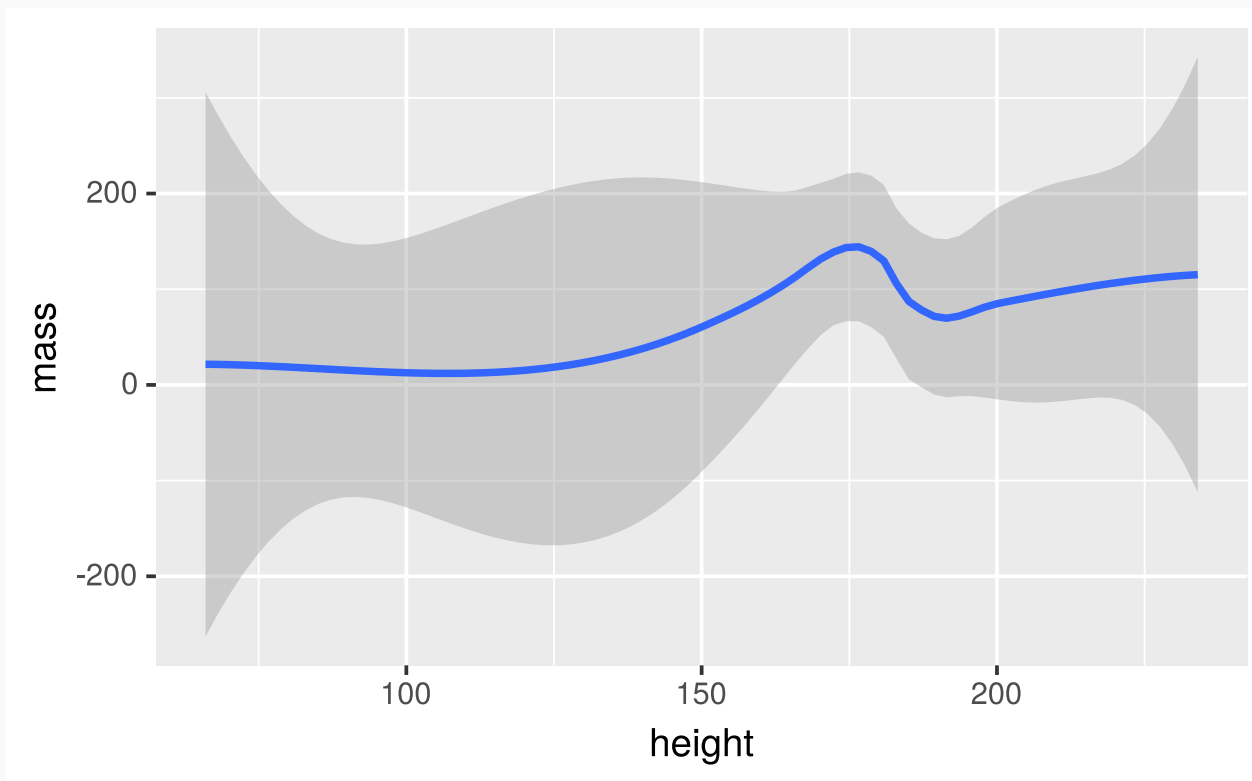
How are these plots similar? How are they different?



geom_smooth

To plot a smooth curve, use `geom_smooth()`

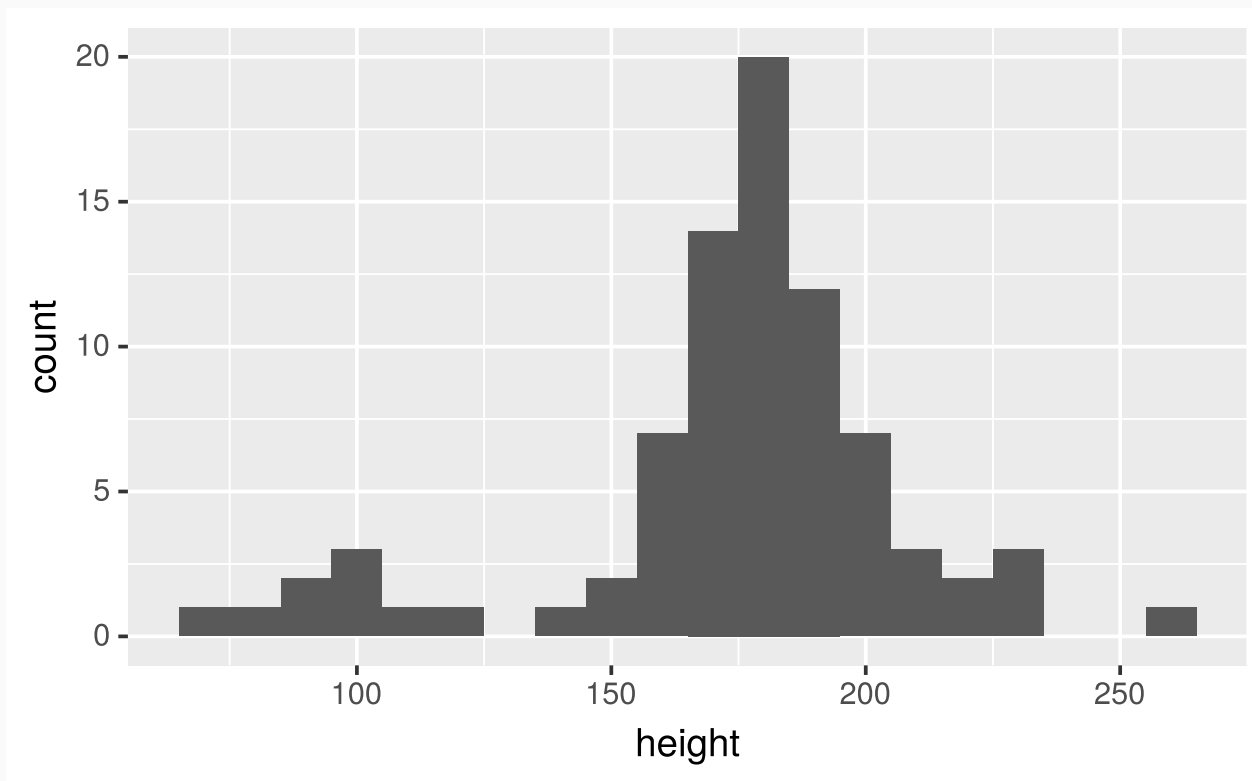
```
ggplot(data = starwars) +  
  geom_smooth(mapping = aes(x = height, y = mass))
```



Histograms

For numerical variables

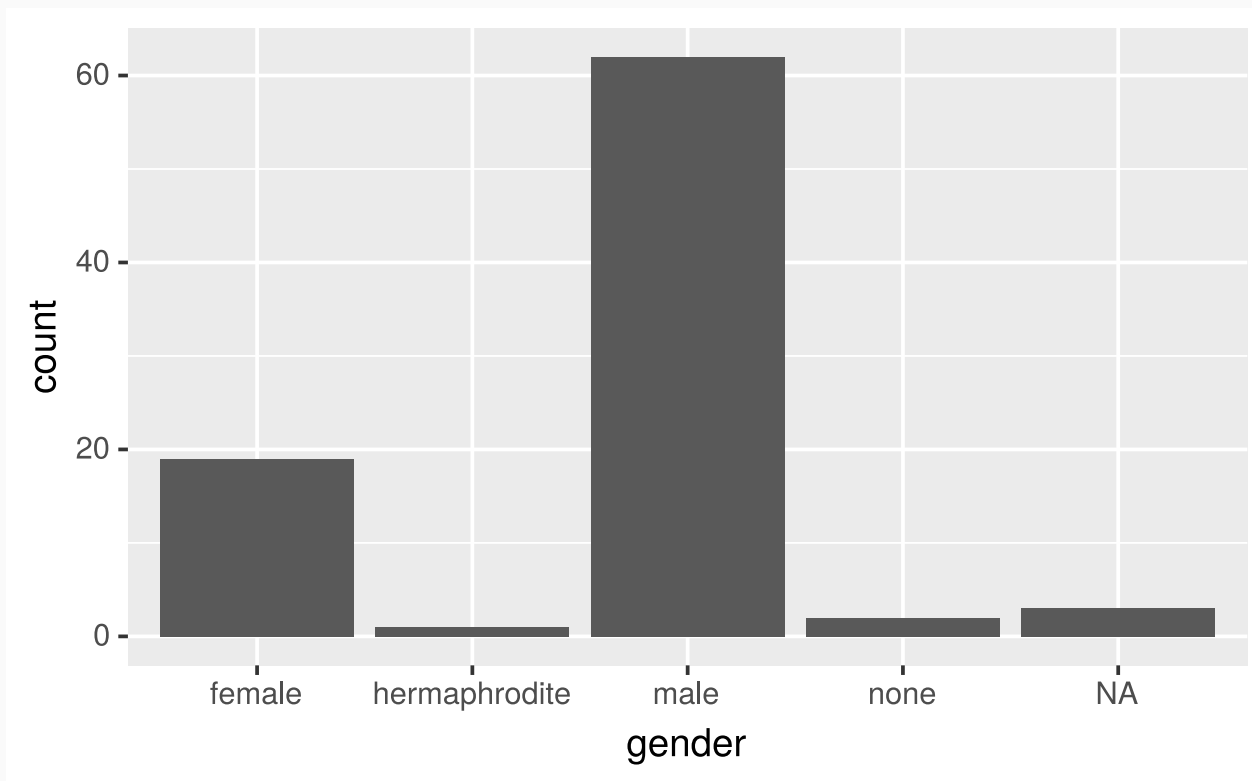
```
ggplot(starwars) +  
  geom_histogram(mapping = aes(x = height), binwidth = 10)
```



Bar plots

For categorical variables

```
ggplot(starwars) +  
  geom_bar(mapping = aes(x = gender))
```



Credits

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Acknowledgments

Content adapted from the [Fundamentals of data & data visualization](#) slides developed by Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel and made available under the [CC BY license](#).