

How can I create side-by-side plots in ggplot2?

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

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In order to create side-by-side plots in ggplot2, one can use the "facet_grid()" function which allows for multiple plots to be displayed simultaneously. This function divides the data into different groups and plots them in a grid format to easily compare and contrast the different groups. This can be done by specifying the variables or factors to be used for grouping within the function. Additionally, the "facet_wrap()" function can also be used to create a similar layout but with the plots arranged in a wrap format instead of a grid. These functions are useful for visualizing and analyzing multiple variables or factors within a dataset in a single graph.

Create Side-by-Side Plots in ggplot2

Often you may want to create two plots side-by-side using the **ggplot2** package in R. Fortunately this is easy to do with the help of the **patchwork** package.

#install ggplot2 and patchwork packages

```
install.packages('ggplot2')
```

```
install.packages('patchwork')
```

#load the packages

```
library(ggplot2)
```

```
library(patchwork)
```

This tutorial shows several examples of how to use these packages to create side-by-side plots.

Example 1: Two Side-by-Side Plots

The following code shows how to create two side-by-

side plots using the R built-in iris dataset:

#create box plot

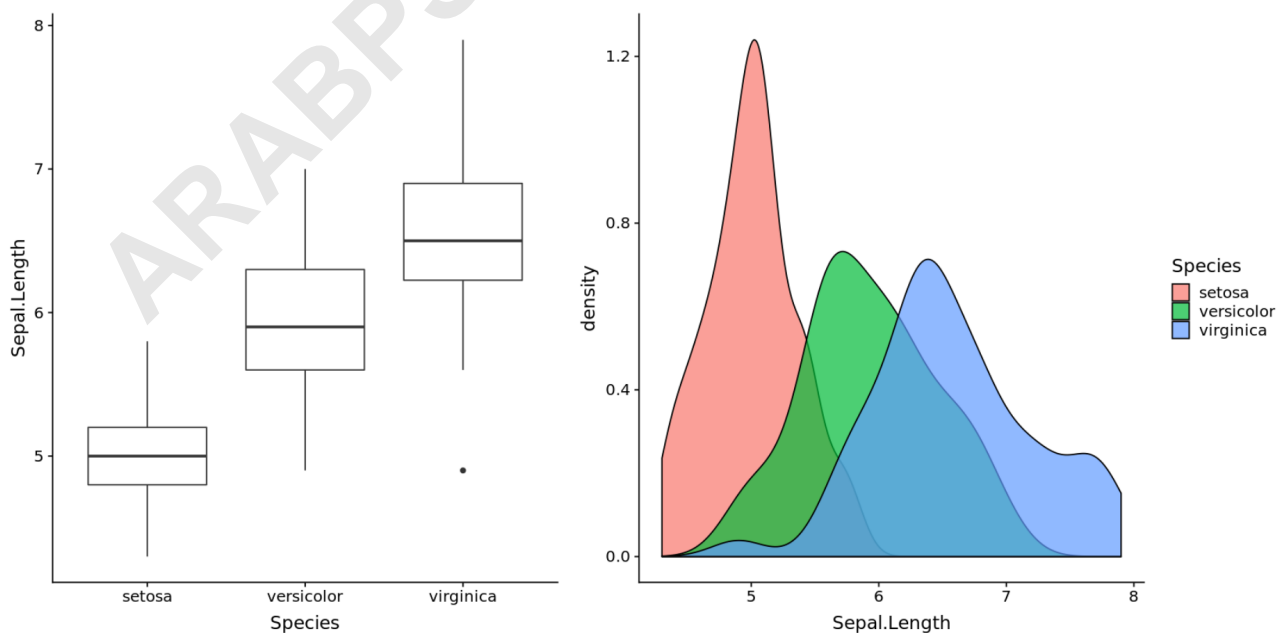
```
plot1 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Species, y = Sepal.Length))  
+  
geom_boxplot()
```

#create density plot

```
plot2 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Sepal.Length, fill = Species))  
+  
geom_density(alpha = 0.8)
```

#display plots side by side

```
plot1 + plot2
```



Example 2: Three Side-by-Side Plots

The following code shows how to create three side-by-side plots using the R built-in iris dataset:

```
#create box plot
```

```
plot1 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Species, y = Sepal.Length))  
+  
geom_boxplot()
```

```
#create density plot
```

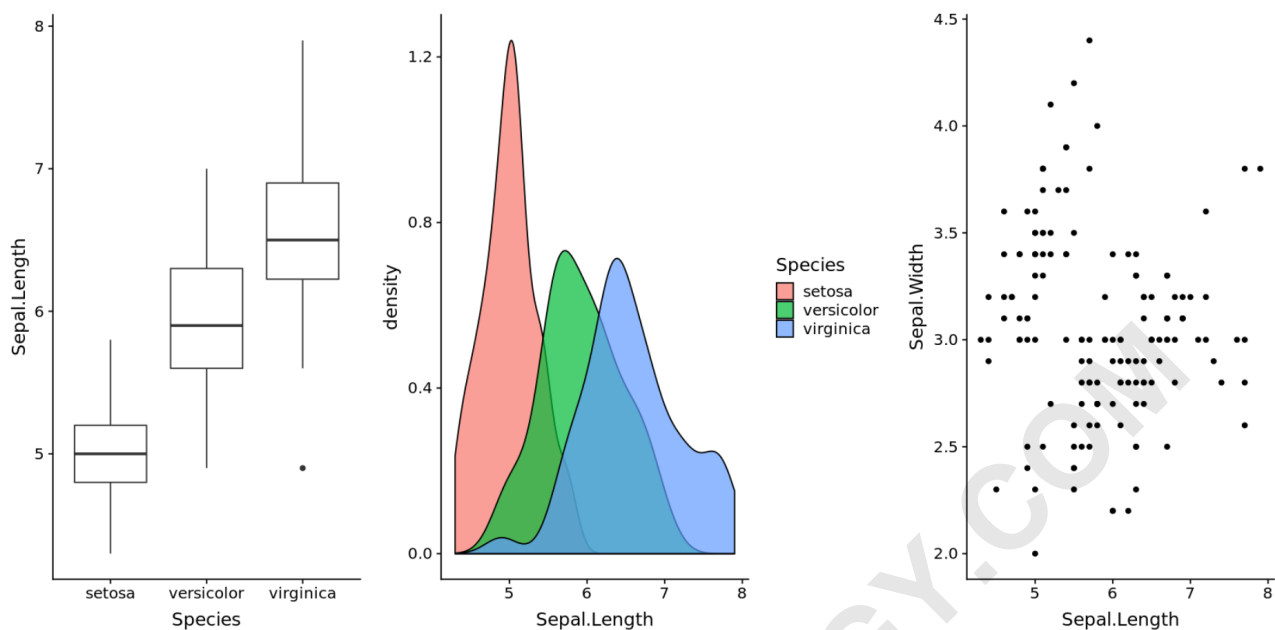
```
plot2 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Sepal.Length, fill = Species))  
+  
geom_density(alpha = 0.7)
```

```
#create scatterplot
```

```
plot3 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Sepal.Length, y =  
Sepal.Width)) +  
geom_point()
```

```
#display three plots side by side
```

```
plot1 + plot2 + plot3
```



Example 3: Two Stacked Plots

The following code shows how to create two stacked plots, one on top of the other:

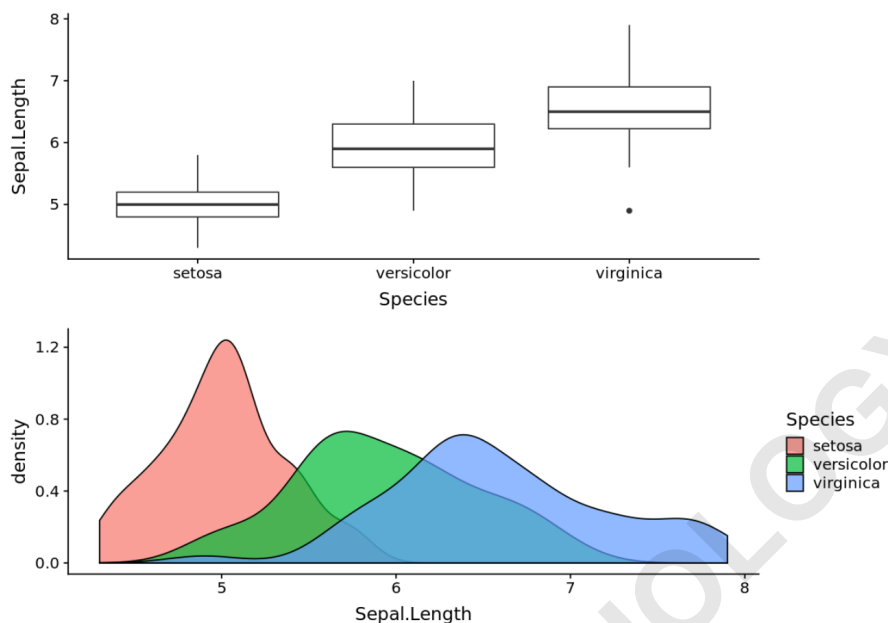
```
#create box plot
```

```
plot1 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Species, y = Sepal.Length))  
+  
geom_boxplot()
```

```
#create density plot
```

```
plot2 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Sepal.Length, fill = Species))  
+  
geom_density(alpha = 0.7)
```

#display plots stacked on top of each other plot1 / plot2



Example 4: Add Titles, Subtitles, and Captions

The following code shows how to add titles, subtitles, and captions to the plots:

#create box plot

```
plot1 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Species, y = Sepal.Length))
```

+

```
geom_boxplot() +
```

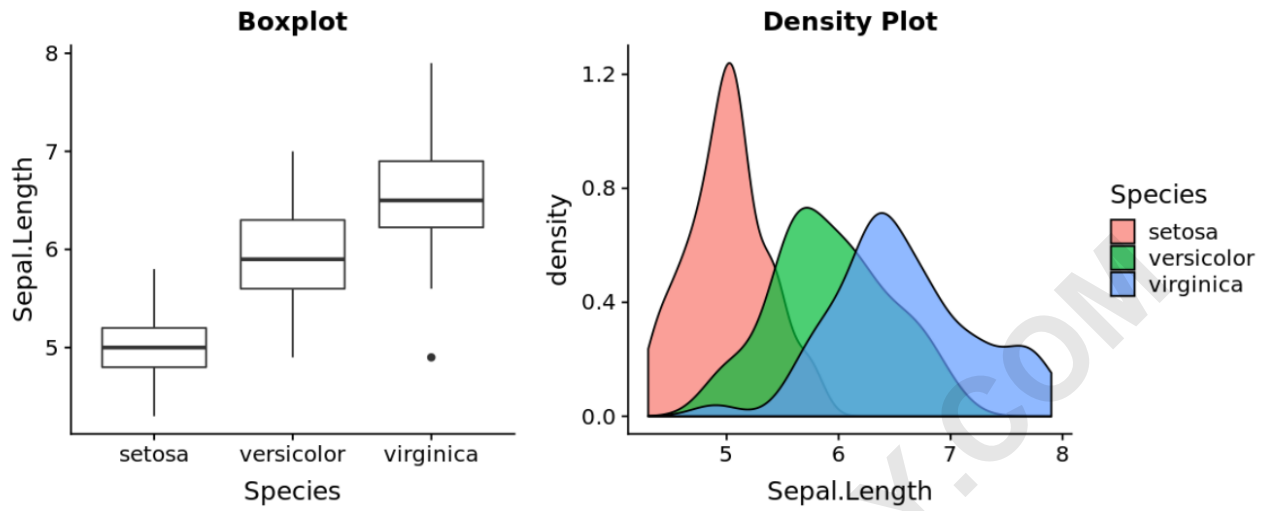
```
ggtitle('Boxplot')
```

#create density plot

```
plot2 <- ggplot(iris, aes(x = Sepal.Length, fill = Species))  
+  
geom_density(alpha = 0.7) +  
ggtitle('Density Plot')  
  
#display plots side by side with title, subtitle, and  
captions  
patchwork <- plot1 + plot2  
  
patchwork + plot_annotation(  
title = 'This is a title',  
subtitle = 'This is a subtitle that describes more  
information about the plots',  
caption = 'This is a caption'  
)
```

This is a title

This is a subtitle that describes more information about the plots



This is a caption

You can find more R tutorials [here](#).