

Package ‘beeswarm’

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Title The Bee Swarm Plot, an Alternative to Stripchart

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Imports stats, graphics, grDevices, utils

Description The bee swarm plot is a one-dimensional scatter plot like ``stripchart'', but with closely-packed, non-overlapping points.

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beeswarm	<i>Bee swarm plot</i>
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Description

Create a bee swarm plot. A bee swarm plot is a one-dimensional scatter plot similar to `stripchart`, but with various methods to separate coincident points such that each point is visible. Also, `beeswarm` introduces additional features unavailable in `stripchart`, such as the ability to control the color and plotting character of each point.

Usage

```
beeswarm(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'formula'
beeswarm(formula, data = NULL, subset, na.action = NULL,
          pwpch = NULL, pwcol = NULL, pwbg = NULL, dlab, glab, ...)

## Default S3 method:
beeswarm(x,
  method = c("swarm", "center", "hex", "square"),
  vertical = TRUE, horizontal = !vertical,
  cex = 1, spacing = 1, breaks = NULL,
  labels, at = NULL,
  corral = c("none", "gutter", "wrap", "random", "omit"),
  corralWidth, side = 0L,
  priority = c("ascending", "descending", "density", "random", "none"),
  pch = par("pch"), col = par("col"), bg = NA,
  pwpch = NULL, pwcol = NULL, pwbg = NULL,
  do.plot = TRUE, add = FALSE, axes = TRUE, log = FALSE,
  xlim = NULL, ylim = NULL, dlim = NULL, glim = NULL,
  xlab = NULL, ylab = NULL, dlab = "", glab = "",
  ...)
```

Arguments

<code>formula</code>	A formula, such as $y \sim \text{grp}$, where y is a numeric vector of data values to be split into groups according to the grouping variable <code>grp</code> (usually a factor).
<code>data</code>	A <code>data.frame</code> (or list) from which the variables in <code>formula</code> should be taken.
<code>subset</code>	An optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used.
<code>na.action</code>	A function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default is to quietly ignore missing values in either the response or the group.
<code>x</code>	A numeric vector, or a data frame or list of numeric vectors, each of which is plotted as an individual swarm.
<code>method</code>	Method for arranging points (see Details).
<code>vertical, horizontal</code>	Orientation of the plot. <code>horizontal</code> takes precedence if both are specified.
<code>cex</code>	Size of points relative to the default given by <code>par("cex")</code> . Unlike other plotting functions, this must be a single value.
<code>spacing</code>	Relative spacing between points.
<code>breaks</code>	Breakpoints (optional). If <code>NULL</code> , breakpoints are chosen automatically. If <code>NA</code> , bins are not used (similar to <code>stripchart</code> with <code>method = "stack"</code>).
<code>labels</code>	Labels for each group. Recycled if necessary. By default, these are inferred from the data.
<code>at</code>	Numeric vector giving the locations where the swarms should be drawn; defaults to <code>1:n</code> where n is the number of groups.

<code>corral</code>	Method to adjust points that would be placed outside their own group region (see Details).
<code>corralWidth</code>	Width of the "corral" in user coordinates. If missing, a sensible value will be chosen.
<code>side</code>	Direction to perform jittering: 0: both directions; 1: to the right or upwards; -1: to the left or downwards.
<code>priority</code>	Order used to perform point layout when method is "swarm"; ignored otherwise (see Details).
<code>pch, col, bg</code>	Plotting characters and colors, specified by group. Recycled if necessary (see Details).
<code>pwpch, pwcol, pwbg</code>	"Point-wise" plotting characters and colors, specified for each data point (see Details).
<code>do.plot</code>	Draw a plot?
<code>add</code>	Add to an existing plot?
<code>axes</code>	Draw axes and box?
<code>log</code>	Use a logarithmic scale on the data axis?
<code>xlim, ylim</code>	Limits of the plot.
<code>dlim, glim</code>	An alternative way to specify limits (see Details).
<code>xlab, ylab</code>	Axis labels.
<code>dlab, glab</code>	An alternative way to specify axis labels (see Details).
<code>...</code>	Further arguments passed to <code>plot</code> .

Details

Several methods for placing the points are available; each method uses a different algorithm to avoid overlapping points.

The default method, `swarm`, places points in increasing order. If a point would overlap an existing point, it is shifted sideways (along the group axis) by a minimal amount sufficient to avoid overlap. `breaks` is ignored.

The other three methods first discretize the values along the data axis, in order to create more efficient packing: `square` places the points on a square grid, whereas `hex` uses a hexagonal grid. `center` uses a square grid to produce a symmetric swarm. By default, the number of breakpoints for discretization is determined by a combination of the available plotting area and the plotting character size. The discretization of the data can be explicitly controlled using `breaks`. If `breaks` is set to `NA`, the data will not be grouped into intervals; this may be a sensible option if the data is already discrete.

In contrast to most other plotting functions, changing the size of the graphics device will often change the position of the points.

The plotting characters and colors can be controlled in two ways. First, the arguments `pch`, `col` and `bg` can specify plotting characters and colors in the same way as `stripchart` and `boxplot`: in short, the arguments apply to each group as a whole (and are recycled if necessary).

Alternatively, the “point-wise” characteristics of each individual data point can be controlled using `pwpch`, `pwcol`, and `pwbg`, which override `pch`, `col` and `bg` if these are also specified. These arguments can be specified as a list or vector. If supplied using the formula method, the arguments can be specified as part of the formula interface; i.e. they are affected by data and subset.

The `dlab` and `glab` labels may be used instead of `xlab` and `ylab` if those are not specified. `dlab` applies to the continuous data axis (the Y axis unless `horizontal` is TRUE); `glab` to the group axis. Likewise, `dlim` and `glim` can be used to specify limits of the axes instead of `xlim` or `ylim`.

This function is intended to be mostly compatible with calls to `stripchart` or `boxplot`. Thus, code that works with these functions should work with `beeswarm` with minimal modification.

By default, swarms from different groups are not prevented from overlapping. Thus, large data sets, or data sets with uneven distributions, may produce somewhat unpleasing beeswarms. If this is a problem, consider reducing `cex`. Another approach is to control runaway points (those that would be plotted outside a region allotted to each group) with the `corral` argument: The default, “none”, does not control runaway points. “gutter” collects runaway points along the boundary between groups. “wrap” implements periodic boundaries. “random” places runaway points randomly in the region. “omit” omits runaway points. See Examples below.

When using the “swarm” method, `priority` controls the order in which the points are placed; this generally has a noticeable effect on the resulting appearance. “ascending” gives the “traditional” beeswarm plot in which the points are placed in an ascending order. “descending” is the opposite. “density” prioritizes points with higher local density. “random” places points in a random order. “none” places points in the order provided.

Value

A data frame with plotting information, invisibly.

See Also

[stripchart](#), [boxplot](#)

Examples

```
## One of the examples from 'stripchart'
beeswarm(decrease ~ treatment,
  data = OrchardSprays, log = TRUE,
  pch = 16, col = rainbow(8))

## One of the examples from 'boxplot', with a beeswarm overlay
boxplot(len ~ dose, data = ToothGrowth,
  main = "Guinea Pigs' Tooth Growth",
  xlab = "Vitamin C dose mg",
  ylab = "Tooth length")
beeswarm(len ~ dose, data = ToothGrowth, col = 2, add = TRUE)

## Compare the 4 methods
op <- par(mfrow = c(2,2))
for (m in c("swarm", "center", "hex", "square")) {
```

```

    beeswarm(len ~ dose, data = ToothGrowth, method = m, main = m)
  }
par(op)

## Demonstrate the use of 'pwcold'
data(breast)
beeswarm(time_survival ~ ER, data = breast,
  pch = 16, pwcold = 1 + as.numeric(event_survival),
  xlab = "", ylab = "Follow-up time (months)",
  labels = c("ER neg", "ER pos"))
legend("topright", legend = c("Yes", "No"),
  title = "Censored", pch = 16, col = 1:2)

## The list interface
distributions <- list(runif = runif(200, min = -3, max = 3),
  rnorm = rnorm(200),
  rlnorm = rlnorm(200, sdlog = 0.5))
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4)

## Demonstrate 'pwcold' with the list interface
myCol <- lapply(distributions, function(x) cut(x, breaks = quantile(x), labels = FALSE))
beeswarm(distributions, pch = 16, pwcold = myCol)
legend("bottomright", legend = 1:4, pch = 16, col = 1:4, title = "Quartile")

## Demonstrate the 'corral' methods
par(mfrow = c(2,3))
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4,
  main = 'corral = "none" (default)')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, corral = "gutter",
  main = 'corral = "gutter"')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, corral = "wrap",
  main = 'corral = "wrap"')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, corral = "random",
  main = 'corral = "random"')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, corral = "omit",
  main = 'corral = "omit"')

## Demonstrate 'side' and 'priority'
par(mfrow = c(2,3))
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4,
  main = 'Default')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, side = -1,
  main = 'side = -1')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, side = 1,
  main = 'side = 1')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, priority = "descending",
  main = 'priority = "descending"')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, priority = "random",
  main = 'priority = "random"')
beeswarm(distributions, col = 2:4, priority = "density",
  main = 'priority = "density"')

```

breast

Lymph-node-negative primary breast tumors

Description

Tumor molecular measurements and outcome from breast cancer patients.

Usage

```
data(breast)
```

Format

A data frame with 286 observations on the following 5 variables.

ER Estrogen receptor status (factor with levels neg, pos)

ESR1 Expression of the ESR1 gene (numeric)

ERBB2 Expression of the ERBB2 gene (numeric)

time_survival Time in months (numeric)

event_survival Coded event: 0 = censored, 1 = metastasis (numeric)

Details

ER, ESR1, and ERBB2 were measured on a tumor specimen taken at surgery (time = 0).

ESR1 and ERBB2 expression values were determined by microarray probe sets 205225_at and 216836_s_at using RMA-normalized data.

Source

Wang Y, Klijn JG, Zhang Y, Sieuwerts AM, Look MP, Yang F, Talantov D, Timmermans M, Meijer-van Gelder ME, Yu J, Jatkoe T, Berns EM, Atkins D, Foekens JA. Gene-expression profiles to predict distant metastasis of lymph-node-negative primary breast cancer. *Lancet*. 2005 Feb 19-25;365(9460):671-9.

Examples

```
data(breast)

with(breast,
  plot(ESR1, ERBB2, col = as.numeric(ER))
)
```

bxplot

*Plot quantile lines***Description**

Plot lines indicating the specified quantiles for each group. This function is intended as a simplified interpretation of `boxplot`, which can be combined with a `beeswarm` (or `stripchart`) plot.

Usage

```
bxplot(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'formula'
bxplot(formula, data = NULL, ..., subset, na.action = NULL)

## Default S3 method:
bxplot(x, probs = c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75),
       vertical = TRUE, horizontal = !vertical, add = FALSE,
       col = par("col"), lty = par("lty"), lwd = NULL,
       at = NULL, width = 0.75, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>formula</code>	A formula, such as <code>y ~ grp</code> , where <code>y</code> is a numeric vector of data values to be split into groups according to the grouping variable <code>grp</code> (usually a factor).
<code>data</code>	A <code>data.frame</code> (or list) from which the variables in <code>formula</code> should be taken.
<code>subset</code>	An optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used.
<code>na.action</code>	A function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default is to quietly ignore missing values in either the response or the group.
<code>x</code>	A numeric vector, or a data frame or list of numeric vectors, each of which is considered as a group.
<code>probs</code>	A numeric vector of probabilities with values in <code>[0,1]</code>
<code>vertical, horizontal</code>	Orientation of the plot. <code>horizontal</code> takes precedence if both are specified.
<code>add</code>	Add to an existing plot?
<code>col, lty</code>	Color and line type for each probability.
<code>lwd</code>	Line width for each probability (see below).
<code>at</code>	Numeric vector giving the locations where the swarms should be drawn; defaults to <code>1:n</code> where <code>n</code> is the number of groups.
<code>width</code>	Width of the lines.
<code>...</code>	Further arguments passed to <code>boxplot</code> .

Details

This function is intended as a minimalistic interpretation of `bxplot`; however, the quantiles plotted by `bxplot` are not necessarily the same as the hinges plotted by a `boxplot`.

Notice that specifying a vector of graphical parameters such as `lwd` or `col` will refer to each of `probs`, *not* to each group in the data (as one might expect by analogy with `boxplot`).

If `lwd` is `NULL`, and if the `probs` includes 0.5, `lwd` will be set to 3 times `par("lwd")` for `probs=0.5`, and `par("lwd")` for the others. (Thus something resembling the median line and hinges of a `boxplot` is produced by default.)

Value

None.

Examples

```
## bxplot on bottom
beeswarm(len ~ dose, data = ToothGrowth)
bxplot(len ~ dose, data = ToothGrowth, add = TRUE)

## bxplot on top
bxplot(decrease ~ treatment, data = OrchardSprays, probs = 0.5, col = 2)
beeswarm(decrease ~ treatment, data = OrchardSprays, add = TRUE)

## Show deciles
data(breast)
bxplot(time_survival ~ event_survival, data = breast,
       probs = seq(0, 1, by = 0.1), col = rainbow(10))
beeswarm(time_survival ~ event_survival, data = breast,
       pch = 21, bg = "gray75", add = TRUE)
```

swarmx

Adjust 1-d data to separate coincident points

Description

Take a series of points lying in a horizontal or vertical line, and jitter them in the other dimension such that no points are overlapping.

Usage

```
swarmx(x, y,
       xsize = xinch(0.08, warn.log = FALSE),
       ysize = yinch(0.08, warn.log = FALSE),
       log = NULL, cex = par("cex"), side = 0L,
       priority = c("ascending", "descending", "density", "random", "none"))
swarmy(x, y,
       xsize = xinch(0.08, warn.log = FALSE),
```



```
ysize = yinch(0.08, warn.log = FALSE),
log = NULL, cex = par("cex"), side = 0L,
priority = c("ascending", "descending", "density", "random", "none"))
```

Arguments

<code>x, y</code>	Coordinate vectors in any format supported by xy.coords .
<code>xsize, ysize</code>	Width and height of the plotting character in user coordinates.
<code>log</code>	Character string indicating which axes are logarithmic, as in plot.default , or NULL to figure it out automatically.
<code>cex</code>	Relative plotting character size.
<code>side</code>	Direction to perform jittering: 0: both directions; 1: to the right or upwards; -1: to the left or downwards.
<code>priority</code>	Method used to perform point layout (see below).

Details

For `swarmx`, the input coordinates must lie in a vertical line. For `swarmy`, the input coordinates must lie in a horizontal line.

`swarmx` adjusts coordinates to the left or right; `swarmy` adjusts coordinates up or down.

`priority` controls the order in which the points are placed; this has generally has a noticeable effect on the resulting appearance. "ascending" gives the "traditional" beeswarm plot in which the points are placed in an ascending order. "descending" is the opposite. "density" prioritizes points with higher local density. "random" places points in a random order. "none" places points in the order provided.

Usually it makes sense to call this function after a plotting device has already been set up (e.g. when adding points to an existing plot), so that the default values for `xsize`, `ysize`, and `log` will be appropriate.

Value

A data frame with columns `x` and `y` with the new coordinates.

See Also

[beeswarm](#), [jitter](#)

Examples

```
## Plot points in one dimension
index <- rep(0, 100)
values <- rnorm(100)
plot(index, values, xlim = c(-0.5, 2.5))
points(swarmx(index + 1, values), col = 2)
points(swarmx(index + 2, values, cex = 1.5), col = 3, cex = 1.5)
```

```
## Try the horizontal direction, with a log scale
plot(values, index, log = "x", ylim = c(-1, 2))
points(swarmy(values, index + 1), col = 2)

## Newer examples using "side" and "priority"
plot(c(-0.5, 3.5), range(values), type = 'n')
points(swarmx(index + 0, values), col = 1)
points(swarmx(index + 0.9, values, side = -1), col = 2)
points(swarmx(index + 1.1, values, side = 1, priority = "descending"), col = 3)
points(swarmx(index + 2, values, priority = 'density'), col = 4)
points(swarmx(index + 3, values, priority = 'random'), col = 5)
```

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