INNER FIELDS DETERMINE THE DEFAULT MARK TYPE

Tableau displays data using marks, where every mark corresponds to a row (or a group of rows) in the data source.
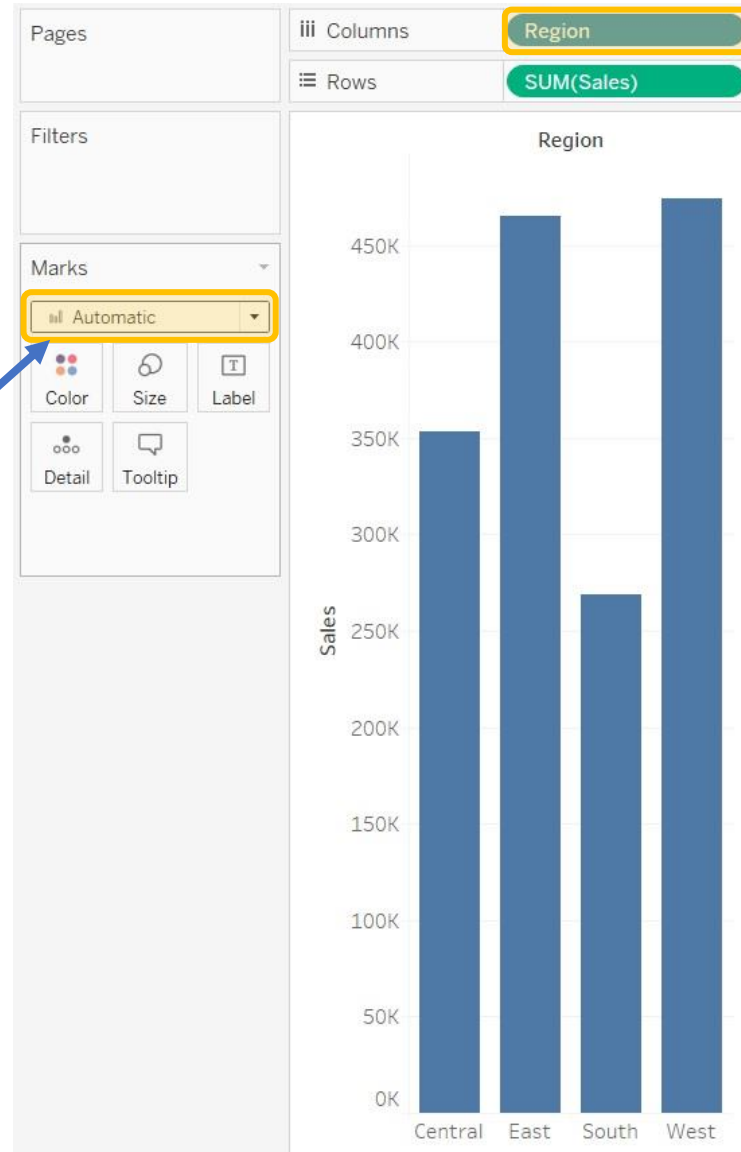
The inner fields on the Rows and Columns shelves determine the default mark type.
For example, if the inner fields are a measure and a dimension, the default mark type is a Bar.
If we use a date dimension as the inner field, the default mark type is a Line.

However, if required we can manually select a different mark type using the Marks card drop-down menu.

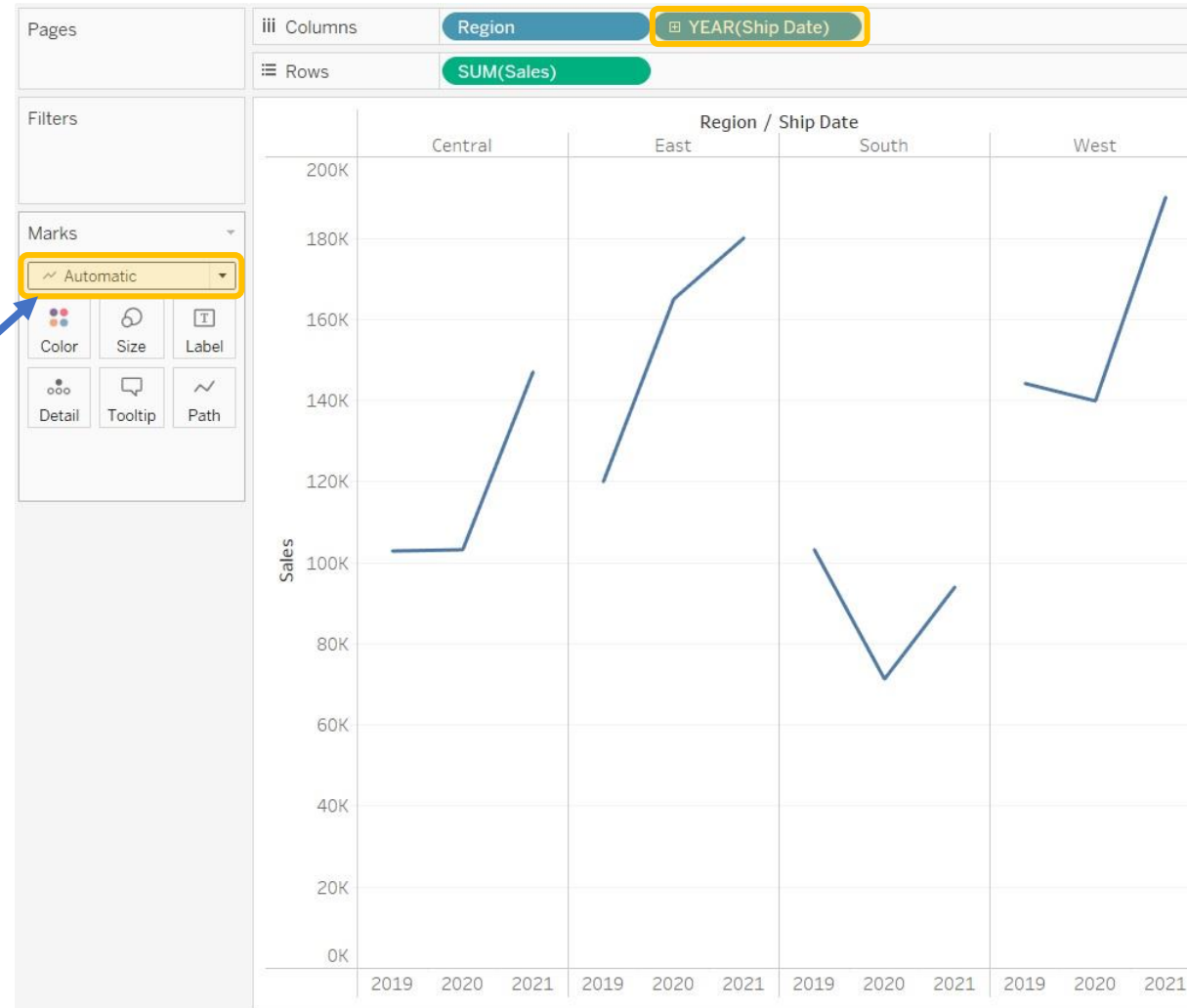# INNER FIELDS DETERMINE THE DEFAULT MARK TYPE

Let us start with the below view of **Region Vs Sales**

Since there is only one field and it is a **non-date dimension** the default mark type is a **Bar**
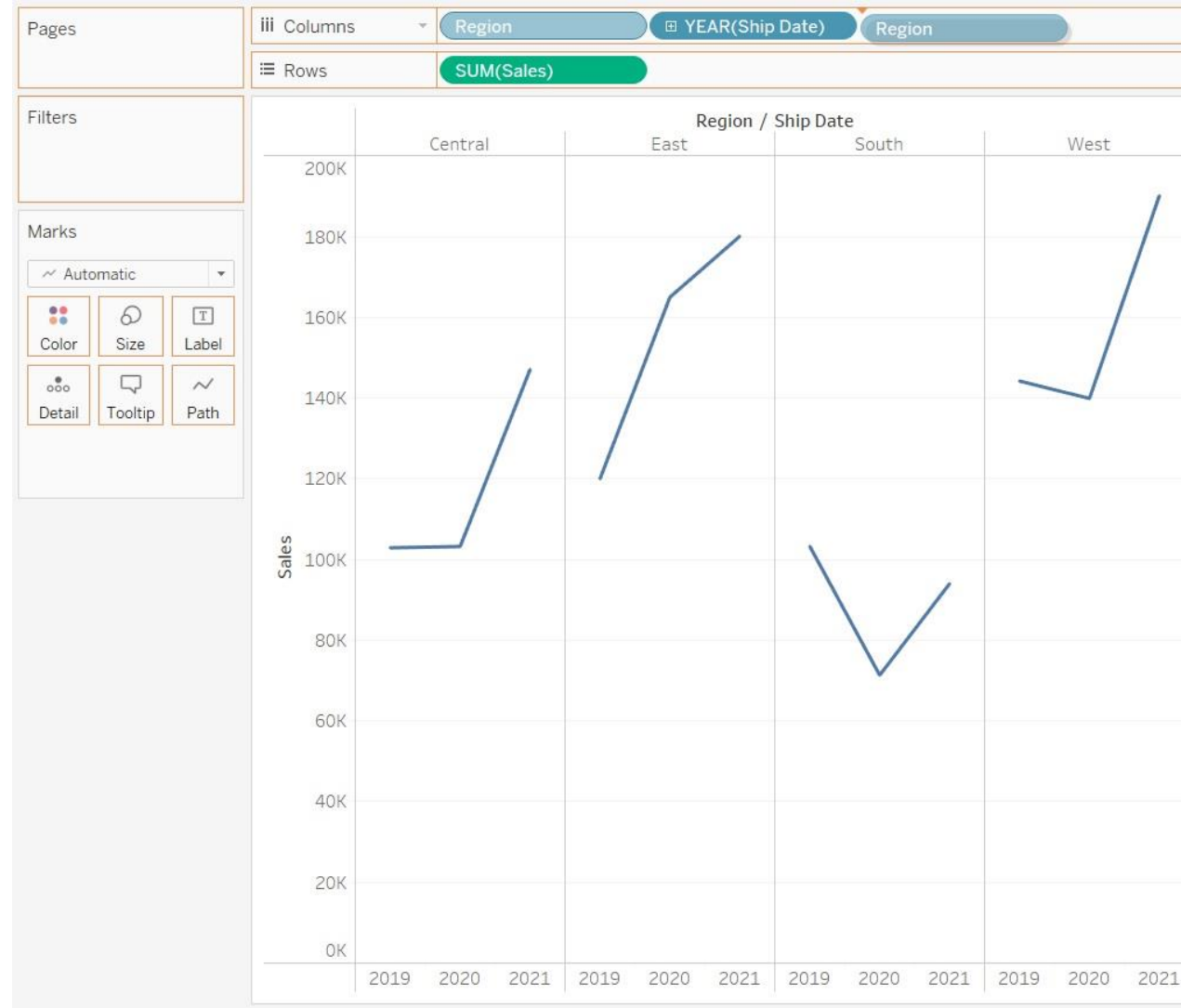
INNER FIELDS DETERMINE THE DEFAULT MARK TYPE

Drag and drop **Ship Date** on **Columns** shelf as the inner field

Since the inner field is a **date dimension** the default mark type is a **Line**
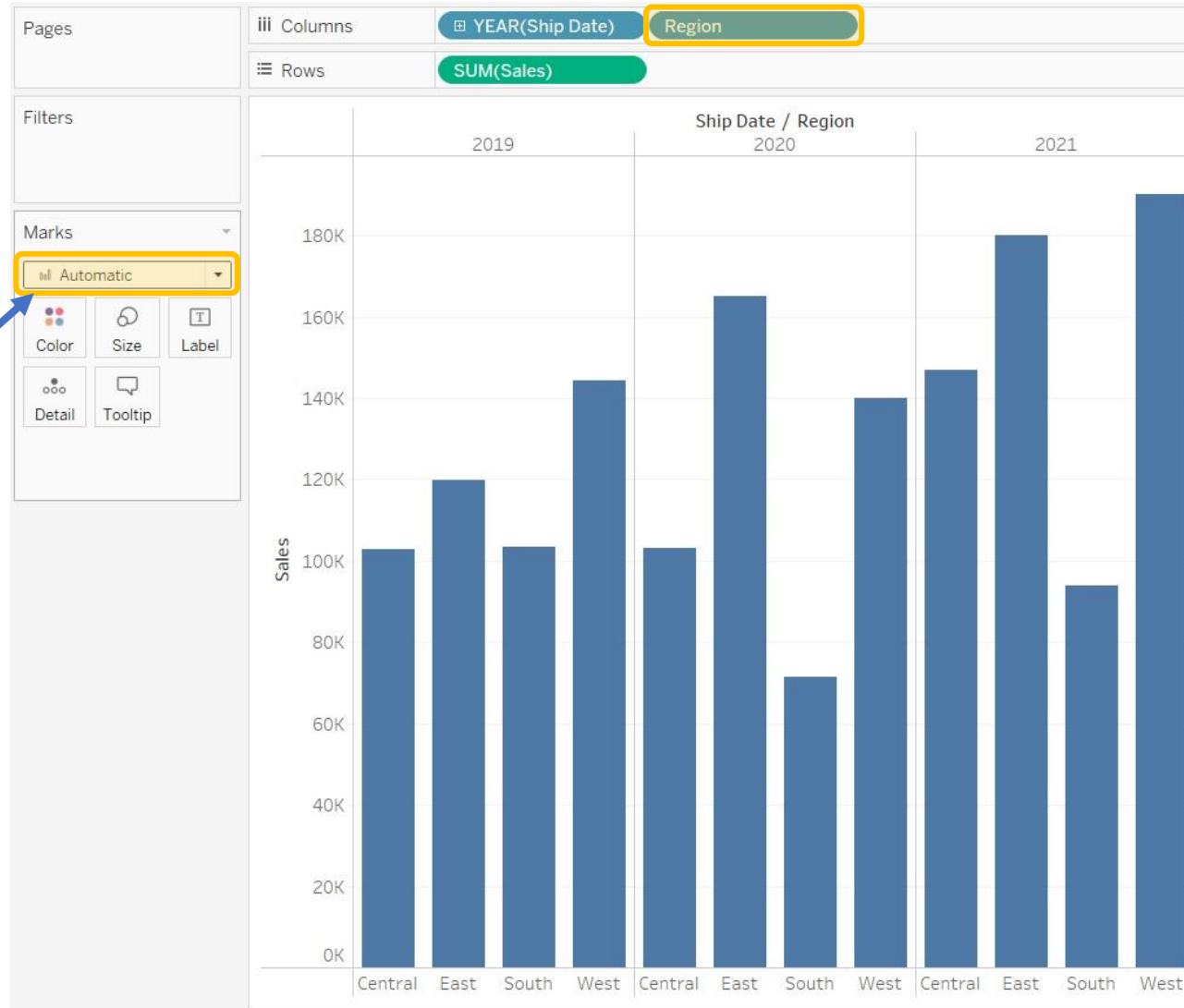
INNER FIELDS DETERMINE THE DEFAULT MARK TYPE

Swap the position of **Region** and **Ship Date** pills in the **Columns** shelf

INNER FIELDS DETERMINE THE DEFAULT MARK TYPE

Now the default mark type is a **Bar**

Since the inner field is a **non-date dimension** the default mark type is a **Bar**

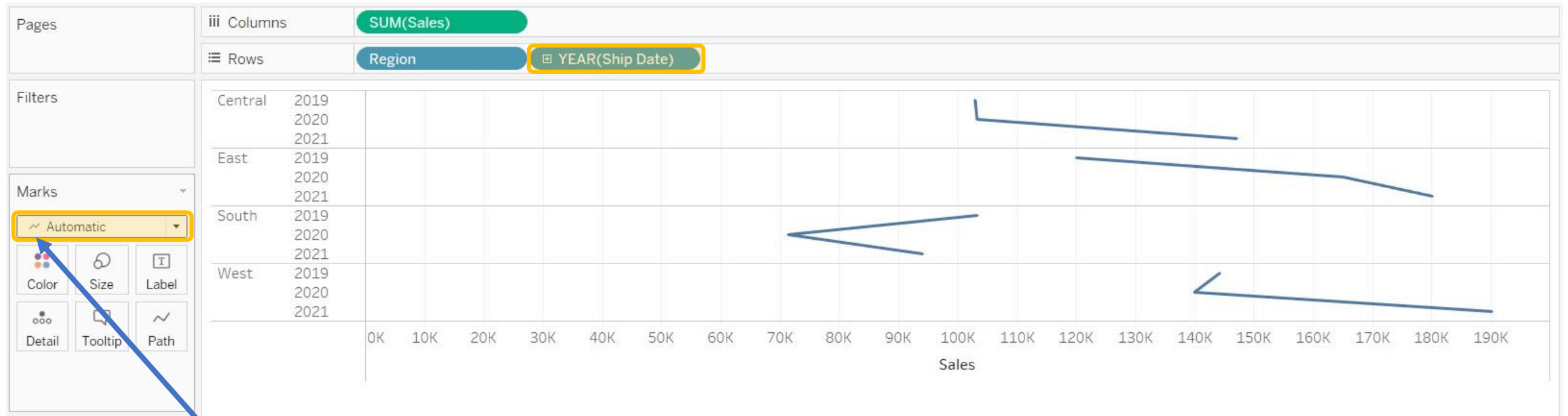# INNER FIELDS DETERMINE THE DEFAULT MARK TYPE

The same behaviour is observed when the fields are on **Rows** shelf

Since the inner field is a **non-date dimension** the default mark type is a **Bar**

INNER FIELDS DETERMINE THE DEFAULT MARK TYPE

Swap the position of pills such that **Ship Date** is the inner field on **Rows** shelf

Since the inner field is a
date dimension the
default mark type is a **Line**