Eric Pitman Summer Workshop in Computational Science

5. Visualizing Data

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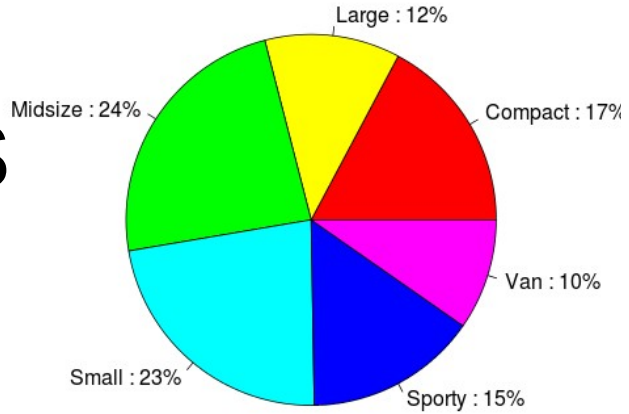
Plotting Data

Plotting is another way to explore a dataset, visually:

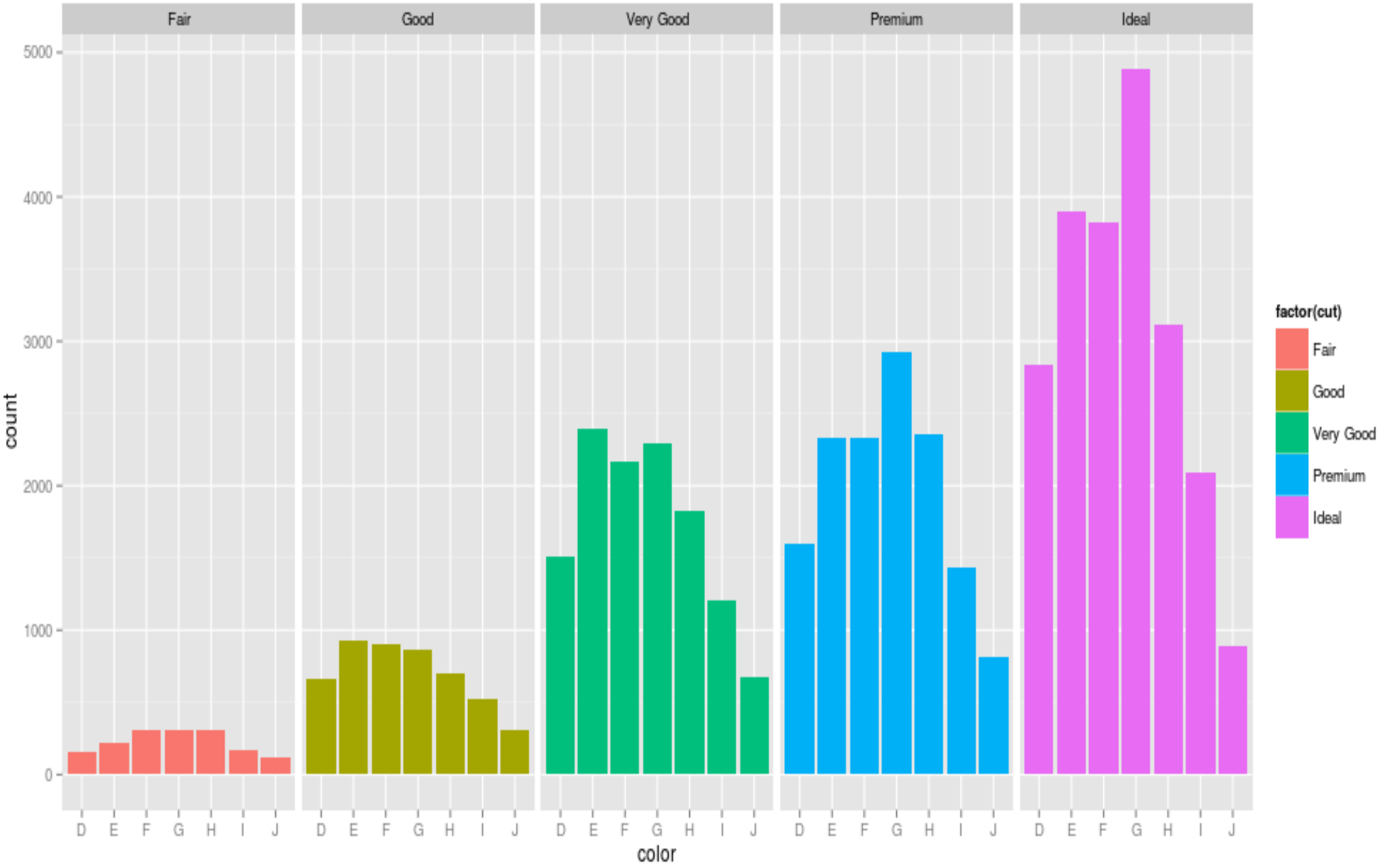
- What's in the dataset?
- What does it mean?
- What if there's *a lot* of it?

Some Plot Types

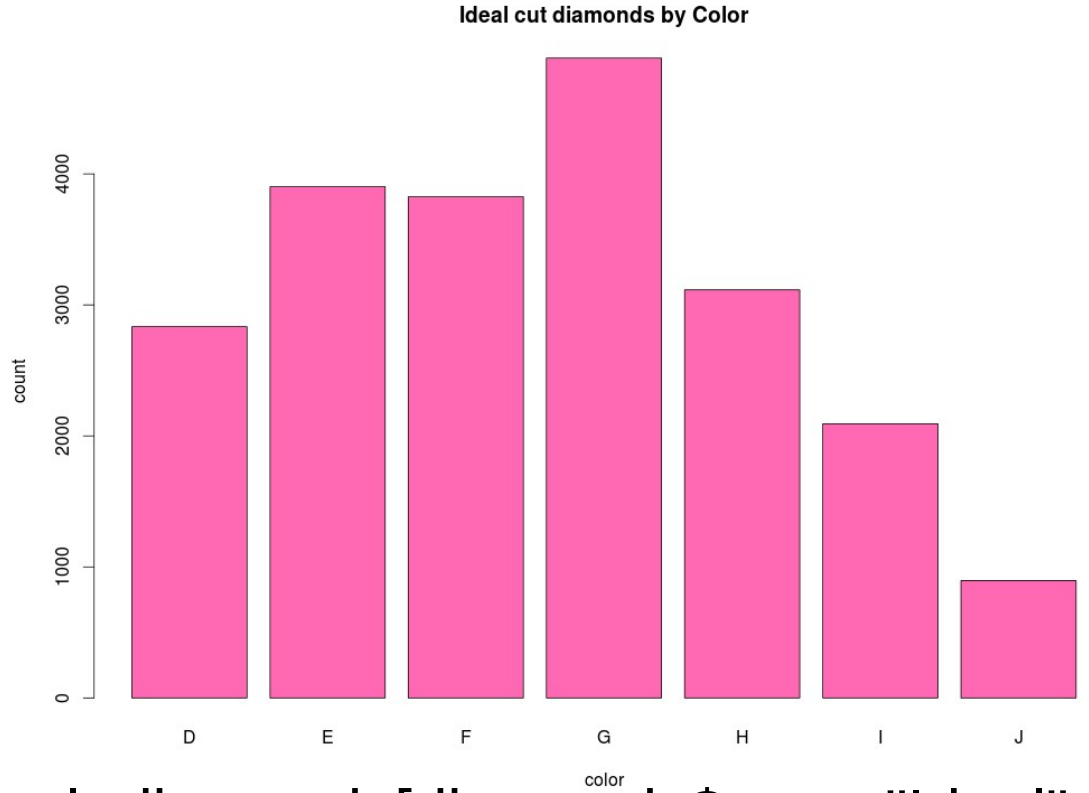


- Pie Chart
  - Display proportions of different values for a variable
- Bar Plot
  - Display counts of values for a categorical variable
- Histogram, Density Plot
  - Display counts of values for a binned, numeric variable
- Scatter Plot
  - y vs. x
- Box Plot
  - Display distributions over different values of a variable

Barplot: Counts of Categorical Values

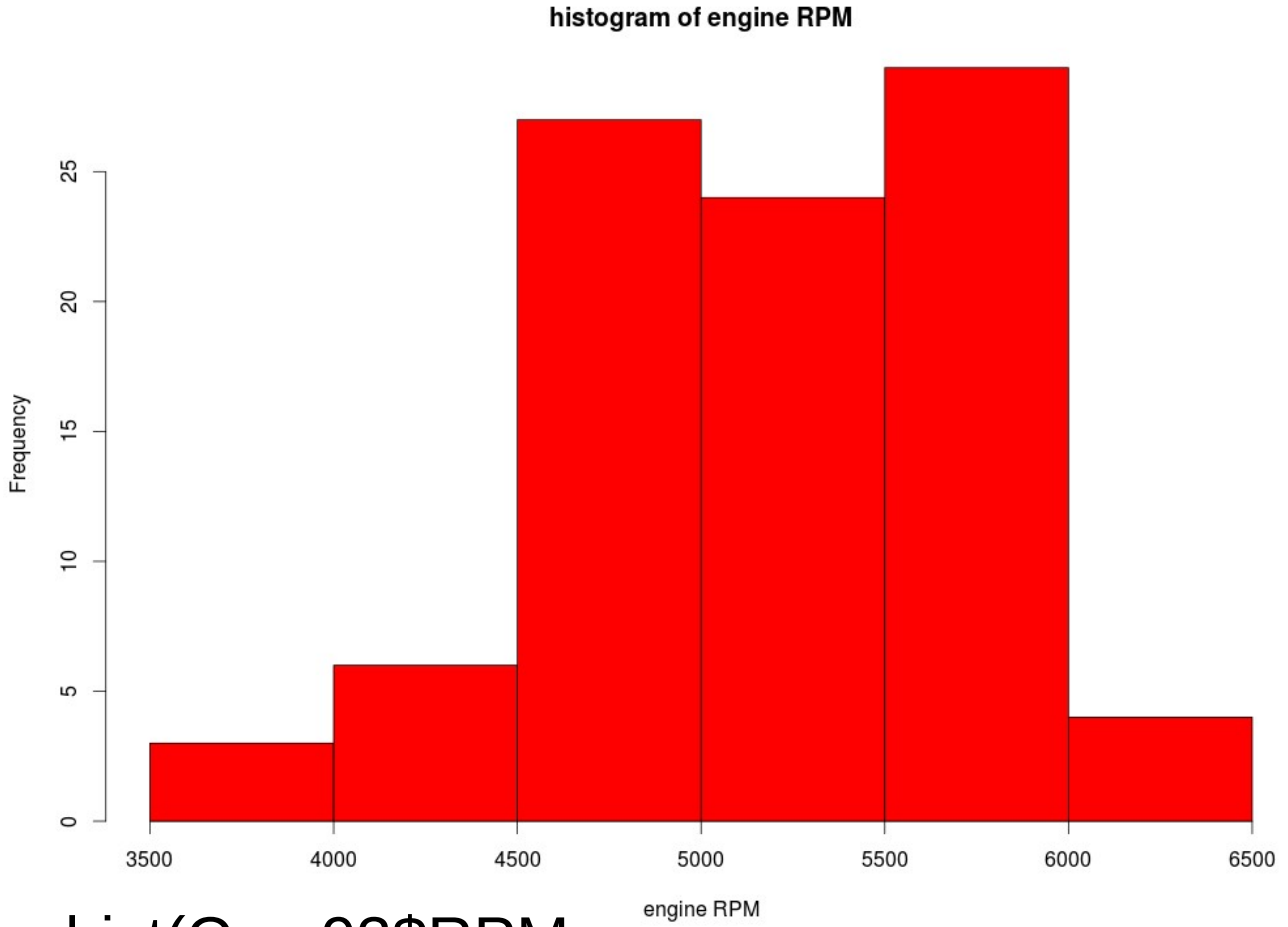


Barplot: Counts of Categorical Values



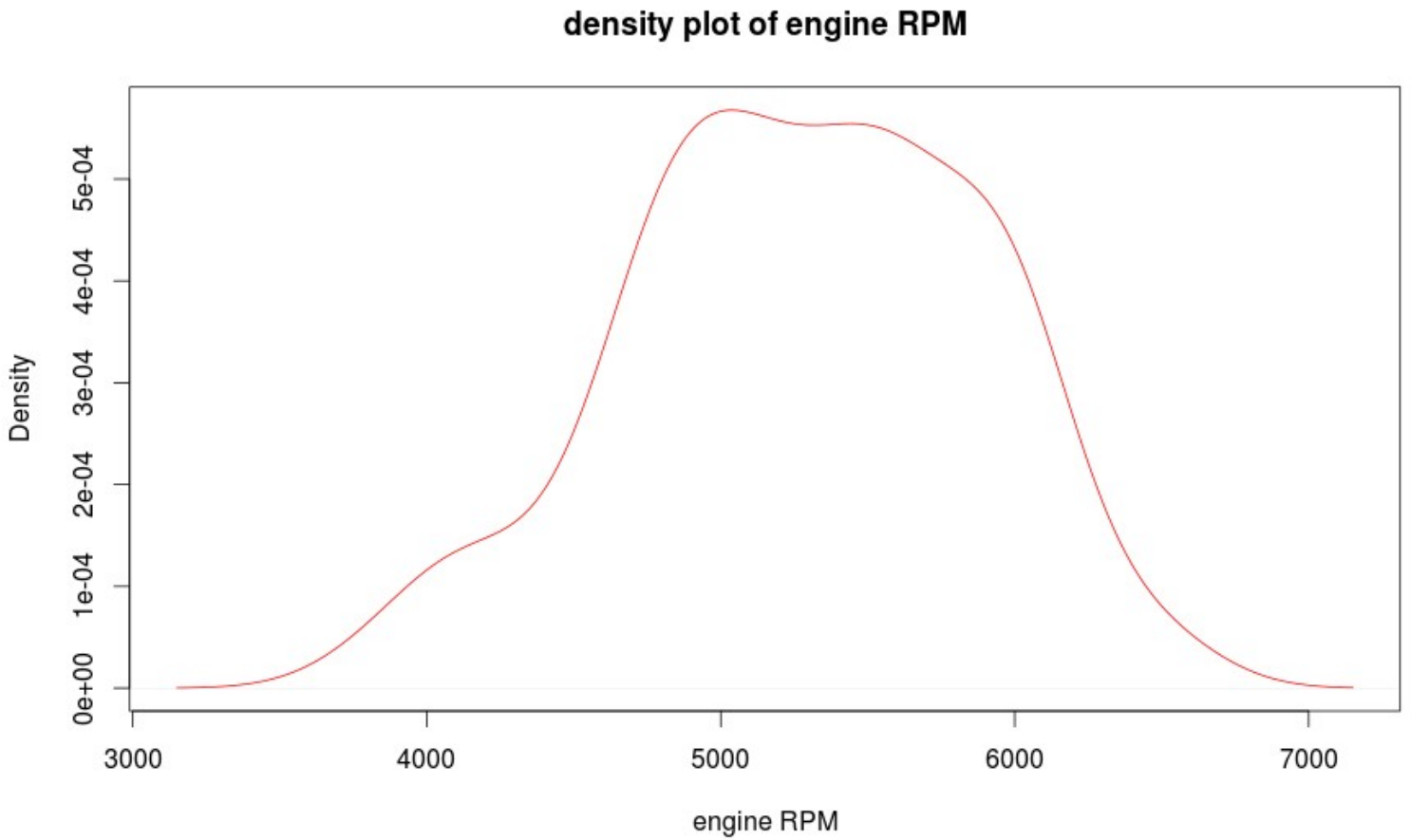

```
ideal=diamonds[diamonds$cut=="Ideal","color"]

barplot(table(ideal),
        xlab="color",
        ylab="count",
        main="Ideal cut diamonds by Color",
        col="hotpink")
```

Histogram: Frequencies of Numeric Values



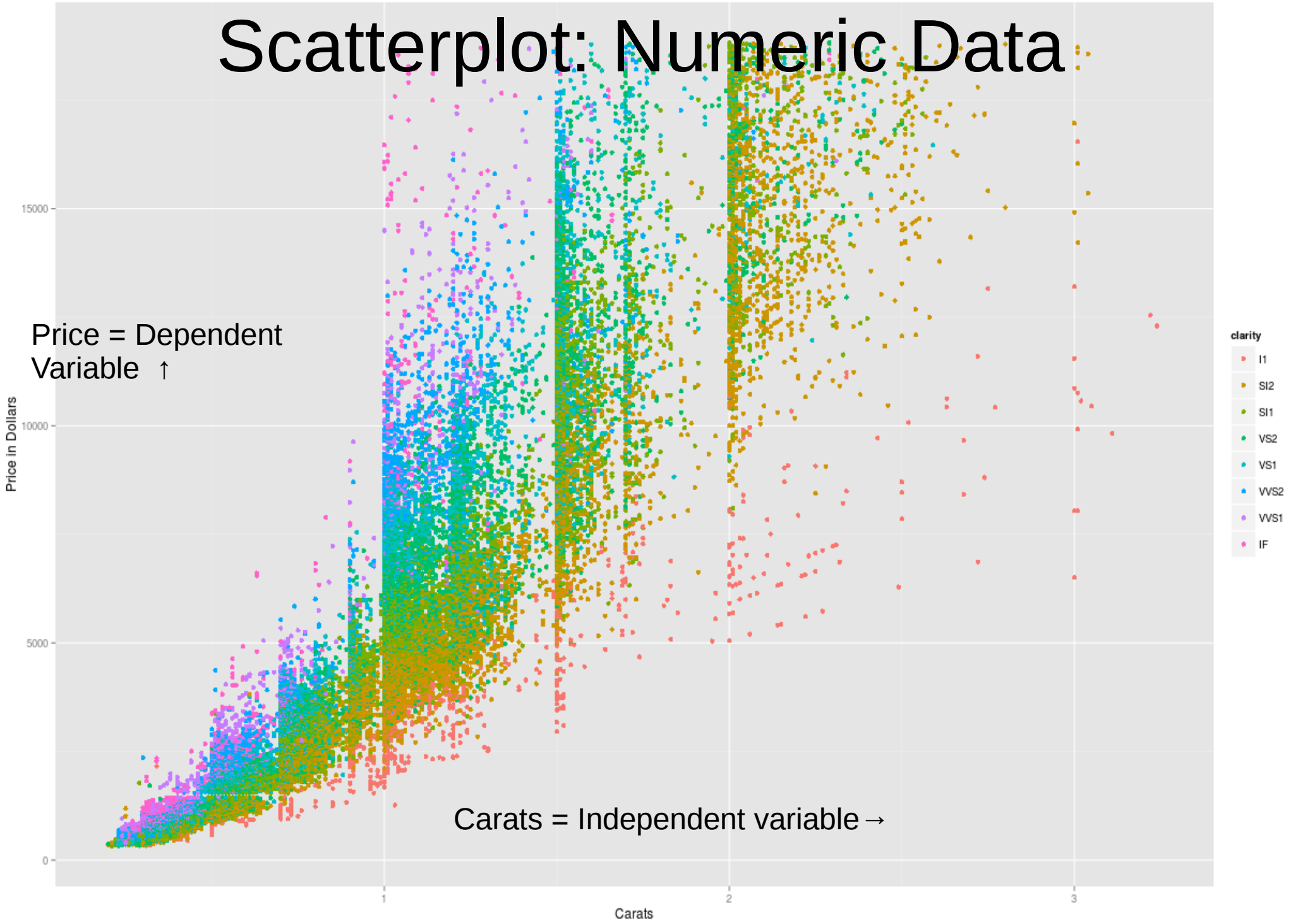

```
hist(Cars93$RPM,
     xlab="engine RPM",
     main="histogram of engine RPM",
     col="red")
```

Kernel Density Plot

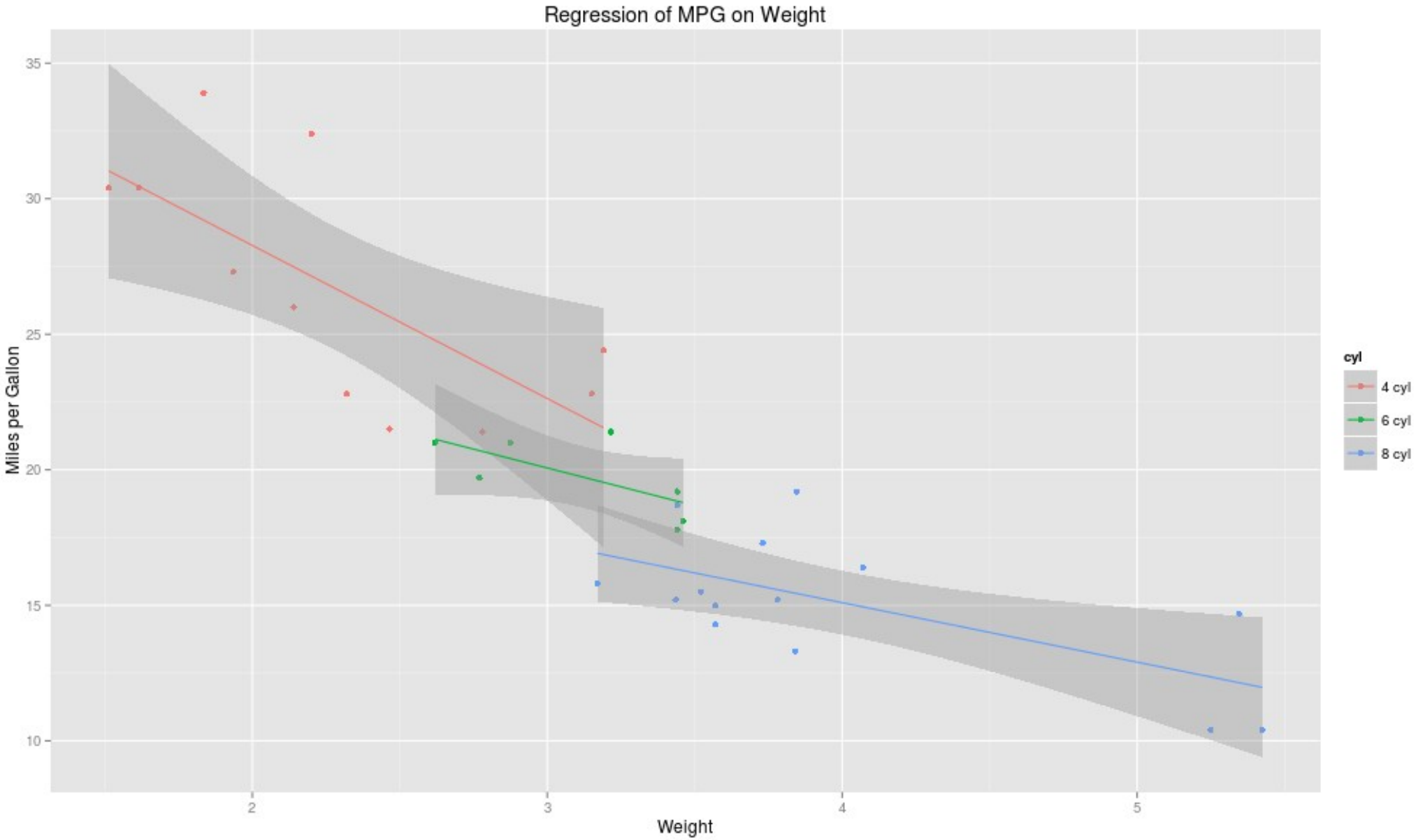



```
plot(density(Cars93$RPM),
     xlab="engine RPM",
     main="density plot of engine RPM",
     col="red")
```

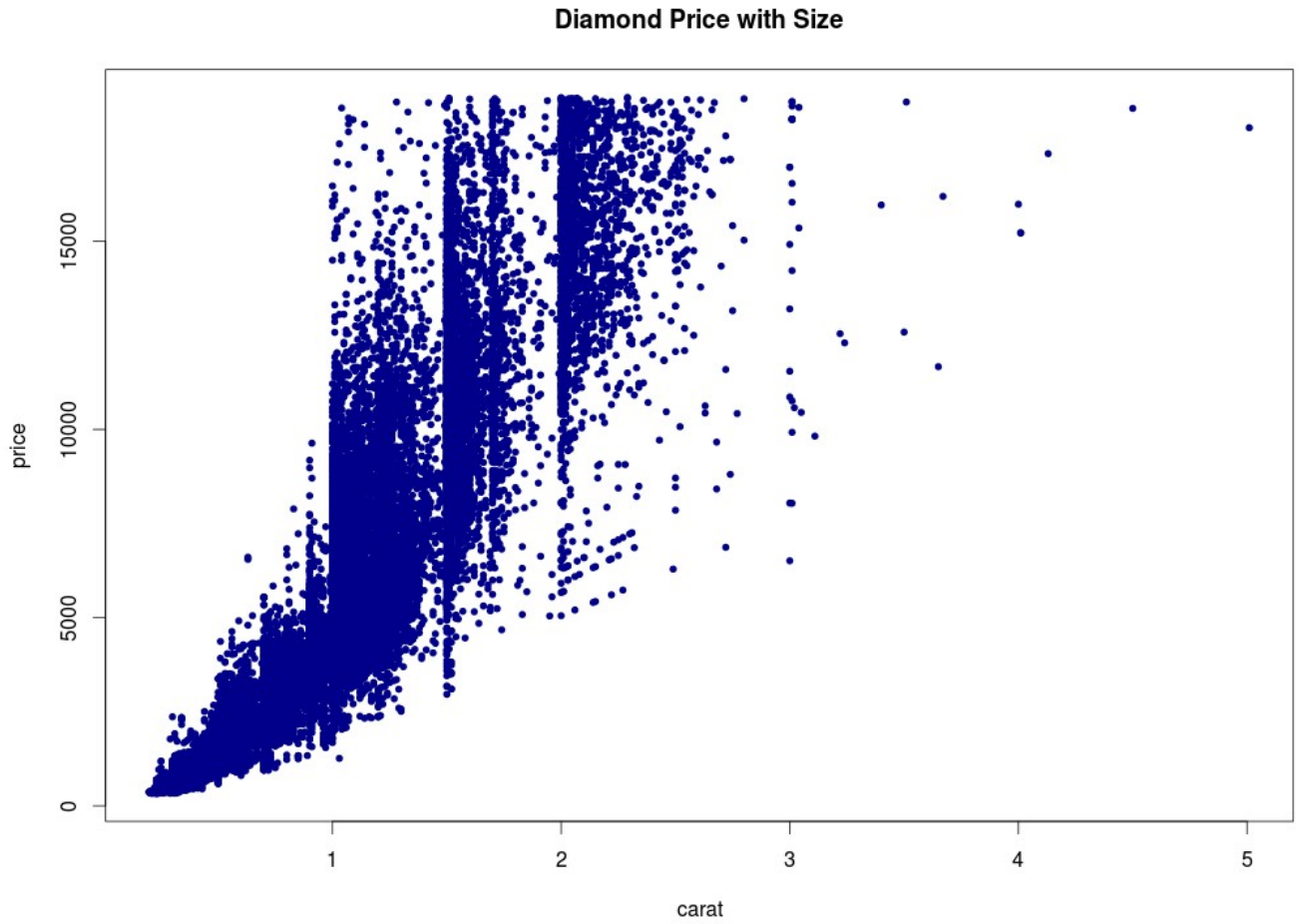
Scatterplot: Numeric Data



Scatterplot with Regression Lines

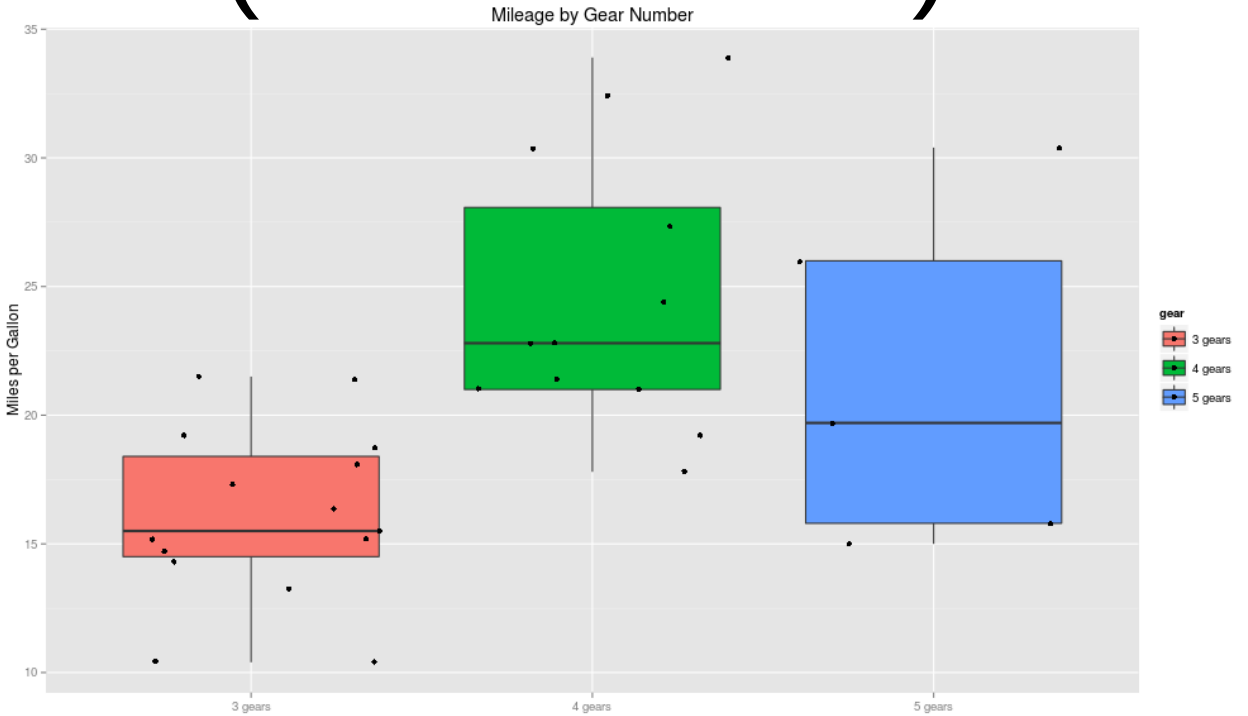


Scatterplot: Numeric Data, y vs. x



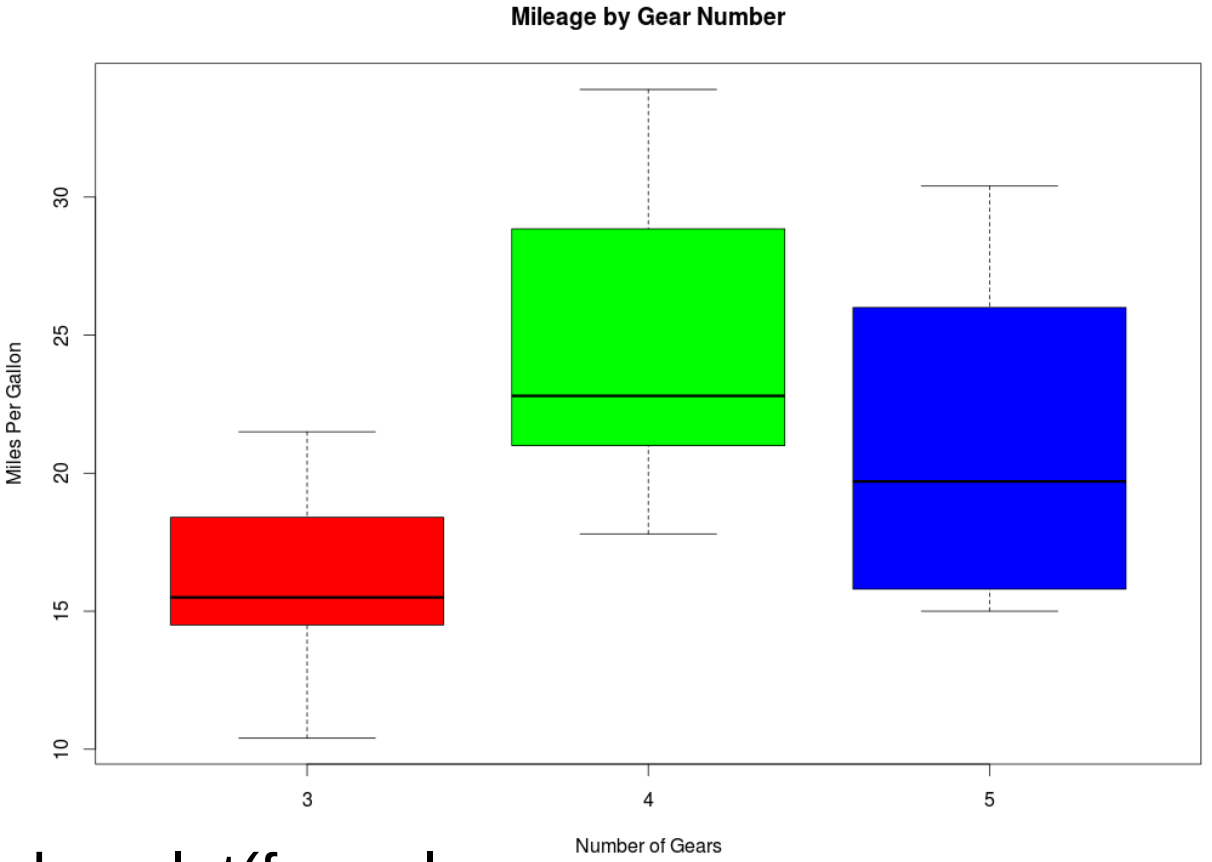

```
plot(formula=price~carat,
     data=diamonds,
     col="darkblue",
     pch=20,
     main="Diamond Price with Size")
```

Box (and Whisker) Plot



- The *box* extends from Q1 to Q3
- The *median*, Q2, is marked inside the box
- The *whiskers* extend to the min and max
  - Whiskers: required to lie within 1.5×(IQR)
  - *Outliers*: beyond 1.5×(IQR)

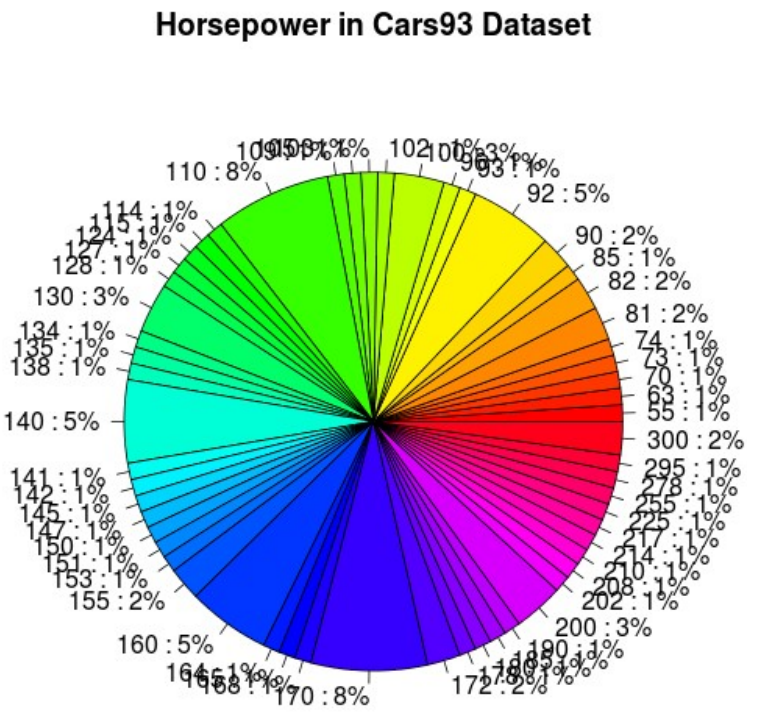
Box (and Whisker) Plot




```
boxplot(formula=mpg~gear,
        data=mtcars,
        main="Mileage by Gear Number",
        xlab="Number of Gears",
        ylab="Miles Per Gallon",
        col=c("red","green","blue"))
```

Approach to Plotting

- Remember, you're getting to know your data.
- Don't be afraid to tinker and play.
- Sometimes the outcomes are silly (make sure you learn something!)



pie(table(Cars93$Horsepower))

Interlude

Complete plotting exercises.

Open in the RStudio source editor:

<workshop>/exercises/exercises-plotting-basic.R

...is free

If you want to experiment further with R and RStudio, you can install them on your favorite operating system at home.

First, install R:

http://cran.r-project.org/

Then, install the Rstudio IDE:

http://www.rstudio.com/ide/