



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Visualisation

Week 1

Session 1



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Visualisation

Week 1

What is Visualisation?

What Could this Mean?

I

x_1	y_1
10	8.04
8	6.95
13	7.58
9	8.81
11	8.33
14	9.96
6	7.24
4	4.26
12	10.84
7	4.82
5	5.68

II

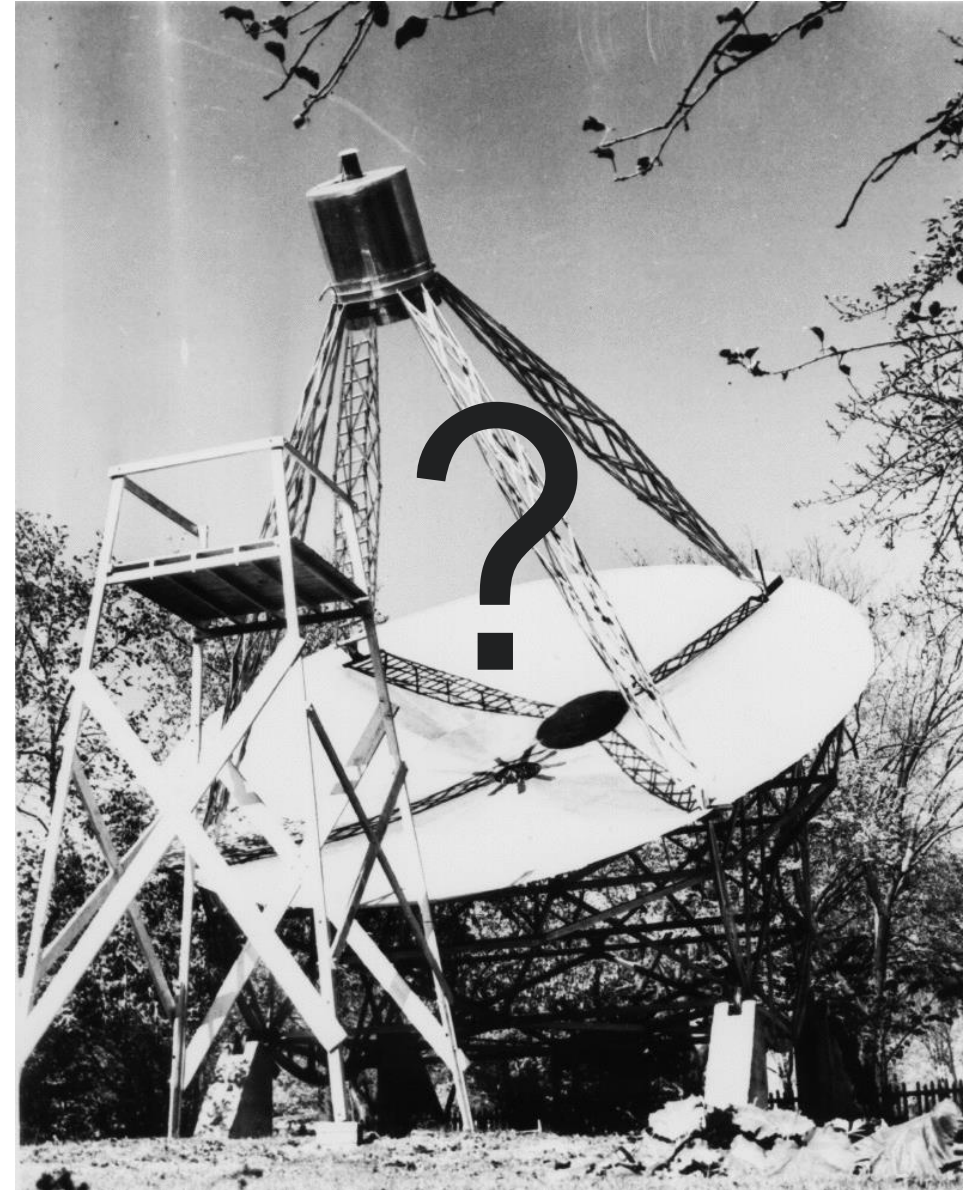
x_2	y_2
10	9.14
8	8.14
13	8.74
9	8.77
11	9.26
14	8.1
6	6.13
4	3.1
12	9.13
7	7.26
5	4.74

III

x_3	y_3
10	7.46
8	6.77
13	12.74
9	7.11
11	7.81
14	8.84
6	6.08
4	5.39
12	8.15
7	6.42
5	5.73

IV

x_4	y_4
8	6.58
8	5.76
8	7.71
8	8.84
8	8.47
8	7.04
8	5.25
19	12.5
8	5.56
8	7.91
8	6.89



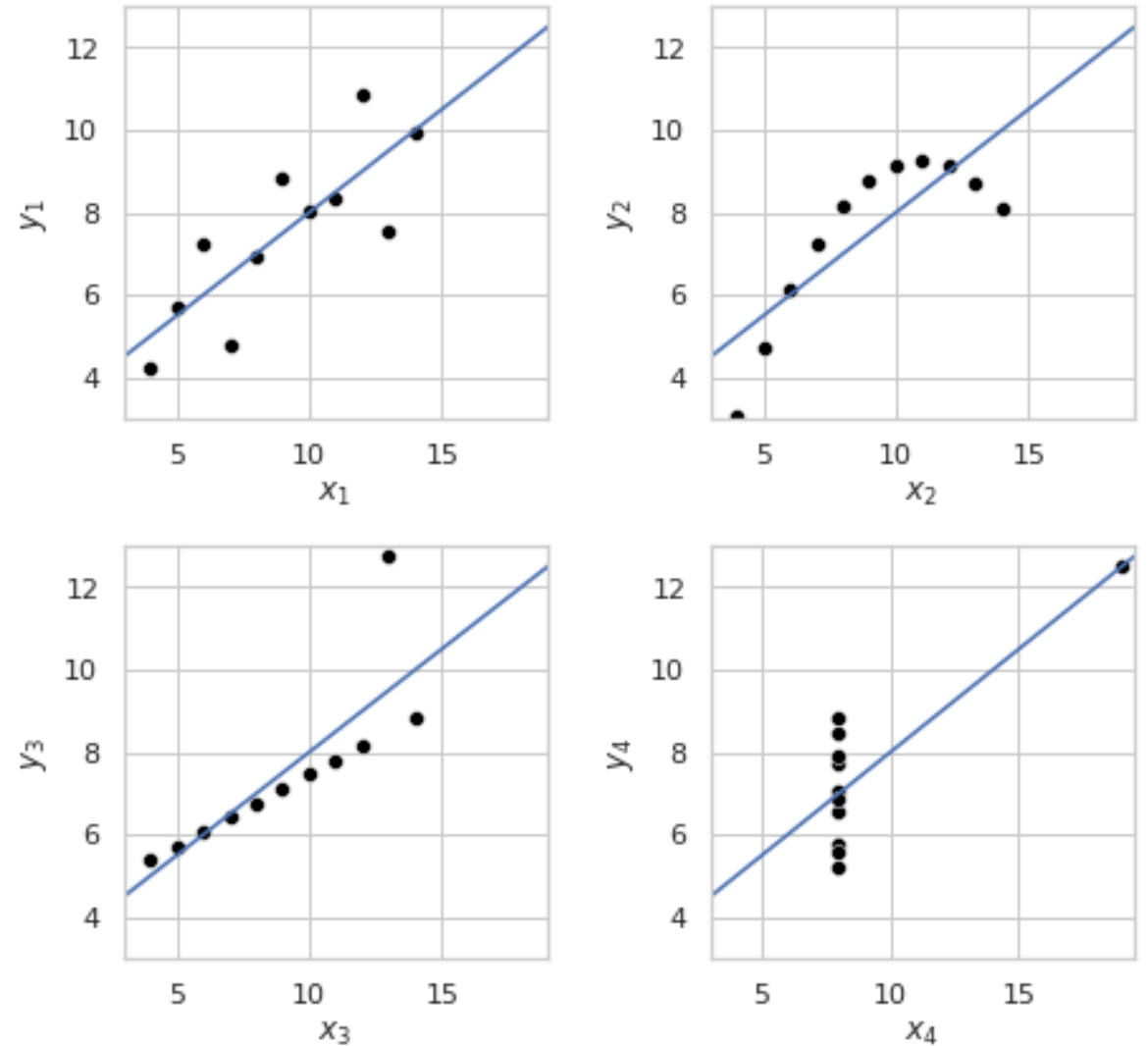
Anscombe Quartet



Frank Anscombe

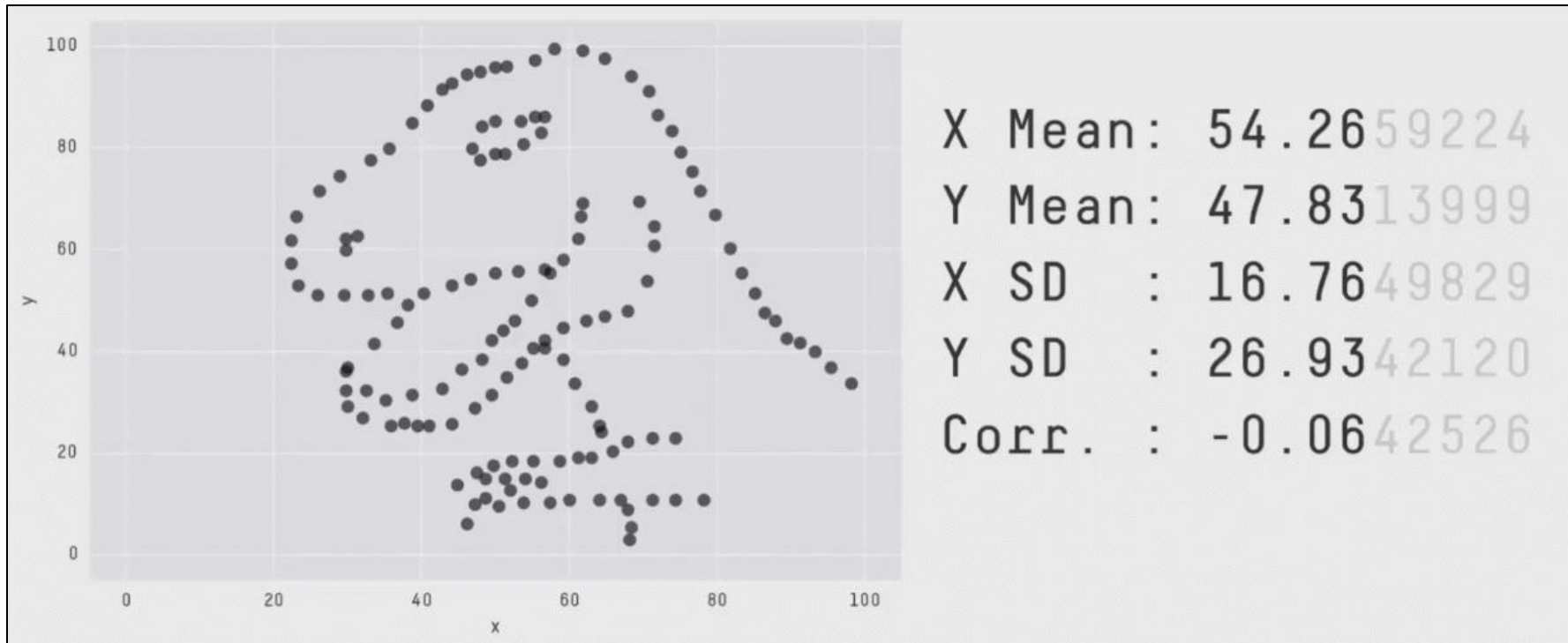
Lesson:

- **Always look at your data**



Anscombe (1973). Graphs in Statistical Analysis

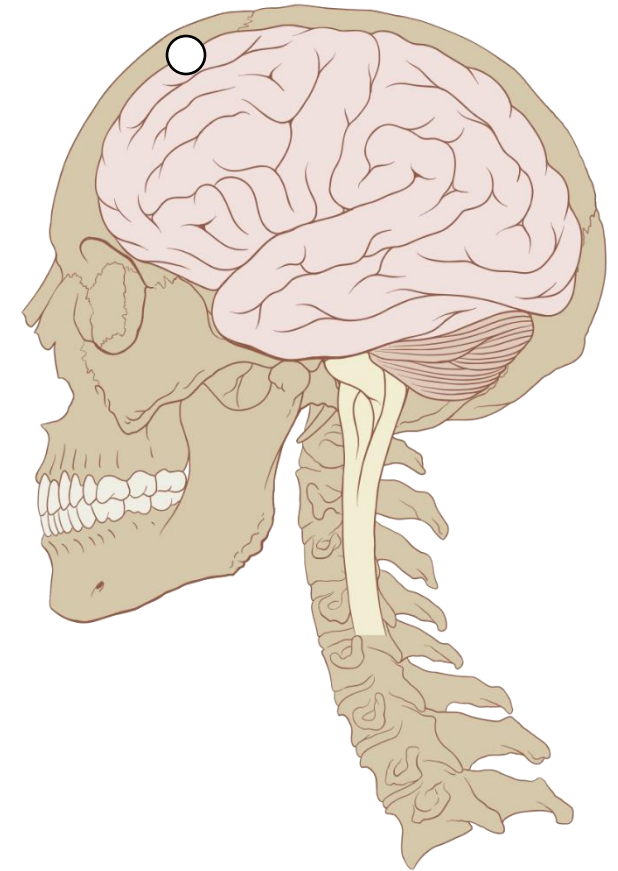
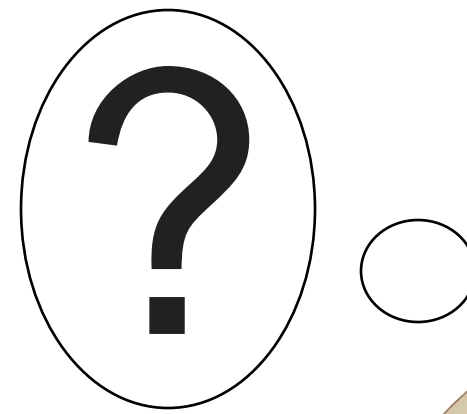
Anscombosaurus



Alberto Cairo

What is going on?

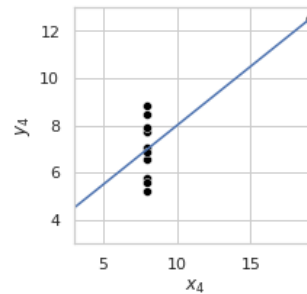
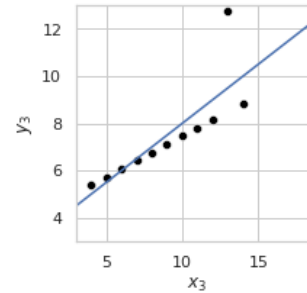
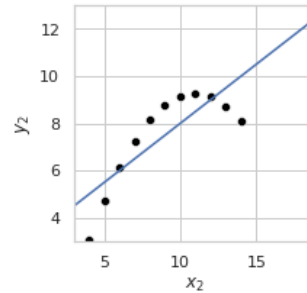
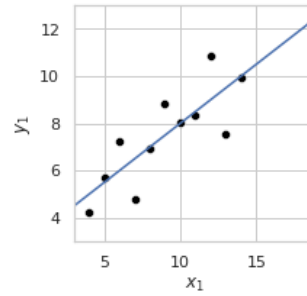
x_1	y_1	x_2	y_2	x_3	y_3	x_4	y_4
10	8.04	10	9.14	10	7.46	8	6.58
8	6.95	8	8.14	8	6.77	8	5.76
13	7.58	13	8.74	13	12.74	8	7.71
9	8.81	9	8.77	9	7.11	8	8.84
11	8.33	11	9.26	11	7.81	8	8.47
14	9.96	14	8.1	14	8.84	8	7.04
6	7.24	6	6.13	6	6.08	8	5.25
4	4.26	4	3.1	4	5.39	19	12.5
12	10.84	12	9.13	12	8.15	8	5.56
7	4.82	7	7.26	7	6.42	8	7.91
5	5.68	5	4.74	5	5.73	8	6.89



What is going on?

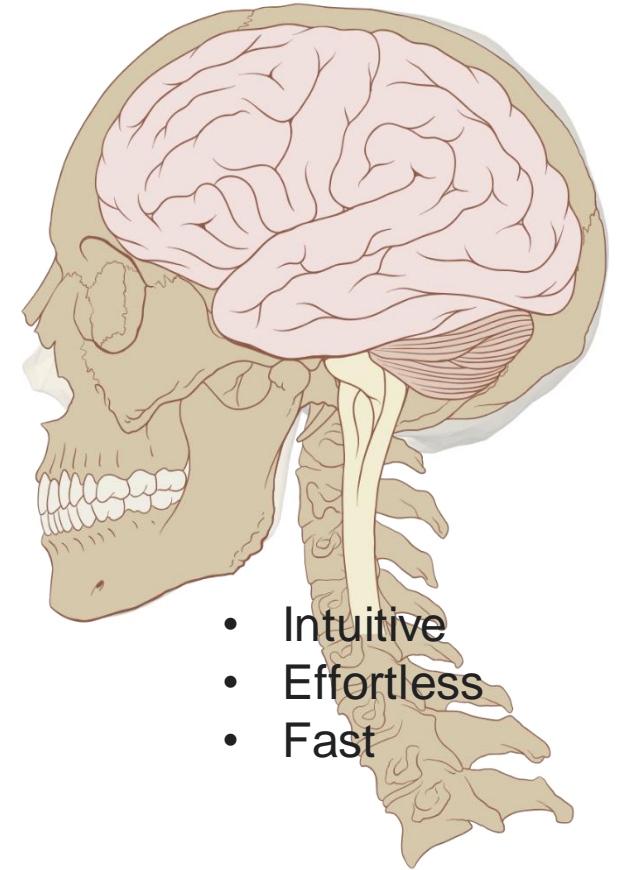
x_1	y_1	x_2	y_2	x_3	y_3	x_4	y_4
10	8.04	10	9.14	10	7.46	8	6.58
8	6.95	8	8.14	8	6.77	8	5.76
13	7.58	13	8.74	13	12.74	8	7.71
9	8.81	9	8.77	9	7.11	8	8.84
11	8.33	11	9.26	11	7.81	8	8.47
14	9.96	14	8.1	14	8.84	8	7.04
6	7.24	6	6.13	6	6.08	8	5.25
4	4.26	4	3.1	4	5.39	19	12.5
12	10.84	12	9.13	12	8.15	8	5.56
7	4.82	7	7.26	7	6.42	8	7.91
5	5.68	5	4.74	5	5.73	8	6.89

Encode



Visual cortex

An expert at pattern recognition



- Intuitive
- Effortless
- Fast

Mapping Variables to Aesthetics

Data

x_1	y_1
10	8.04
8	6.95
13	7.58
9	8.81
11	8.33
14	9.96
6	7.24
4	4.26
12	10.84
7	4.82
5	5.68

Dimensions

x_1
 y_1

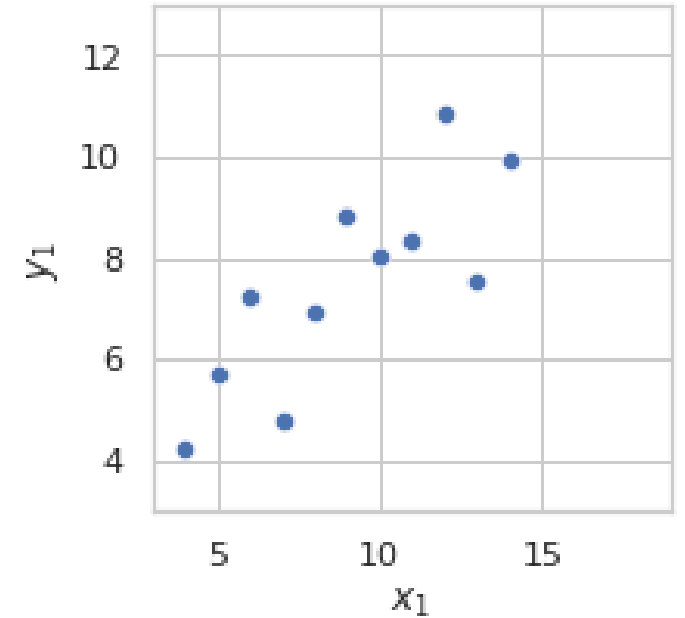
Scales

Aesthetics

x pixel-position

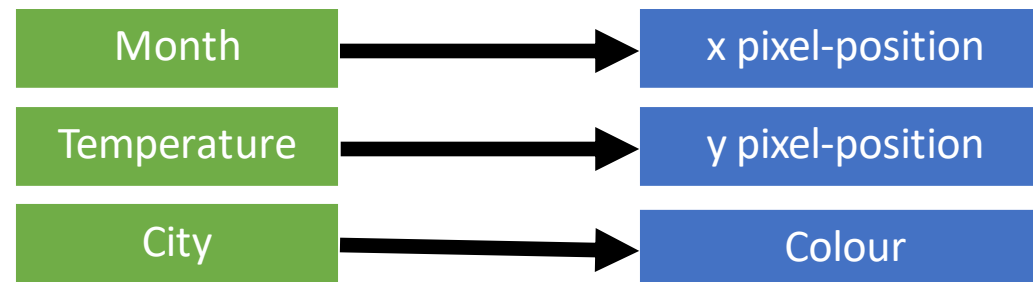
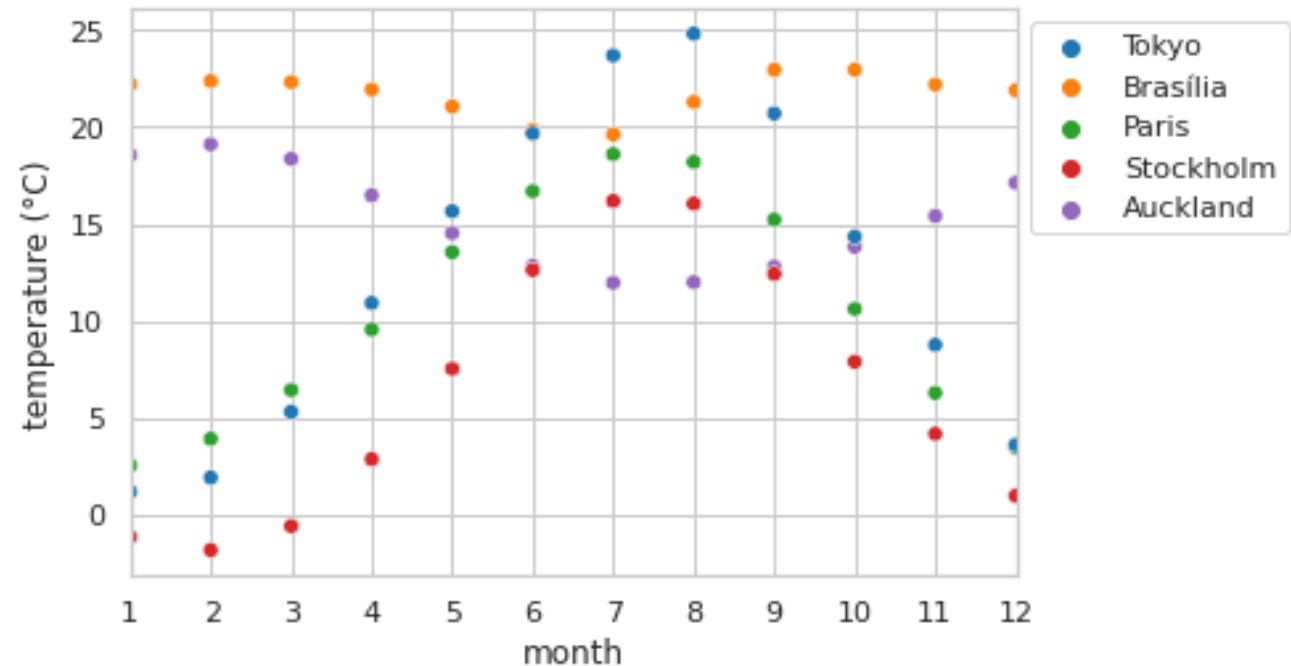
y pixel-position

Scatter Plot



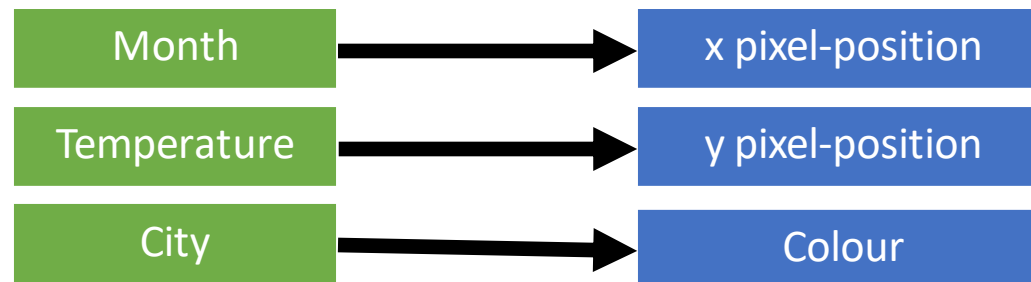
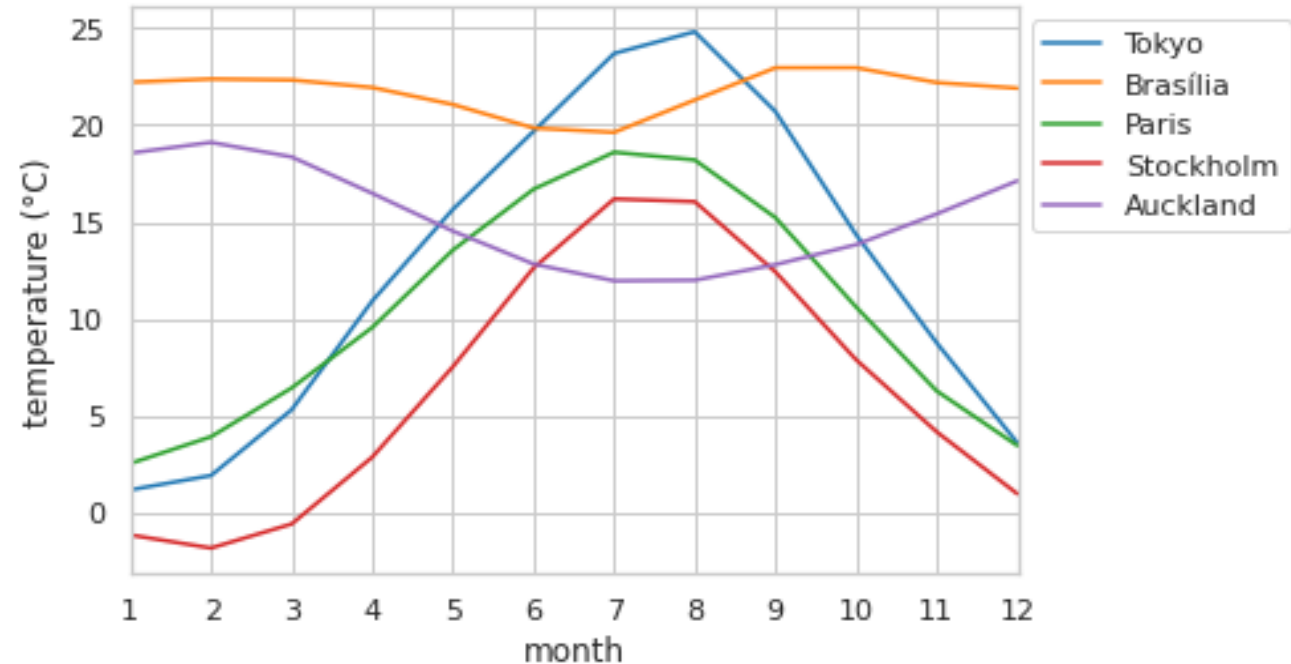
Different Ways to Map Data

	month	City	temperature (C)
0	1	Auckland	18.551830
1	1	Brasília	22.216207
2	1	Paris	2.513351
3	1	Stockholm	-1.182832
4	1	Tokyo	1.148084
5	2	Auckland	19.106219
6	2	Brasília	22.382339
7	2	Paris	3.892574
8	2	Stockholm	-1.858202
9	2	Tokyo	1.888856
10	3	Auckland	18.357038
11	3	Brasília	22.332715
12	3	Paris	6.413973
13	3	Stockholm	-0.616388
14	3	Tokyo	5.285594



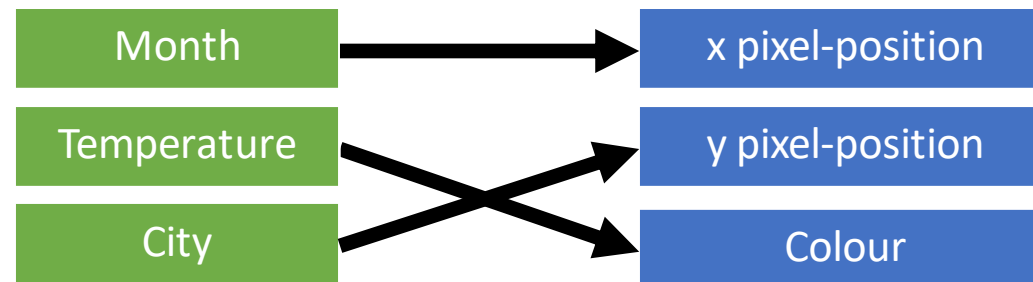
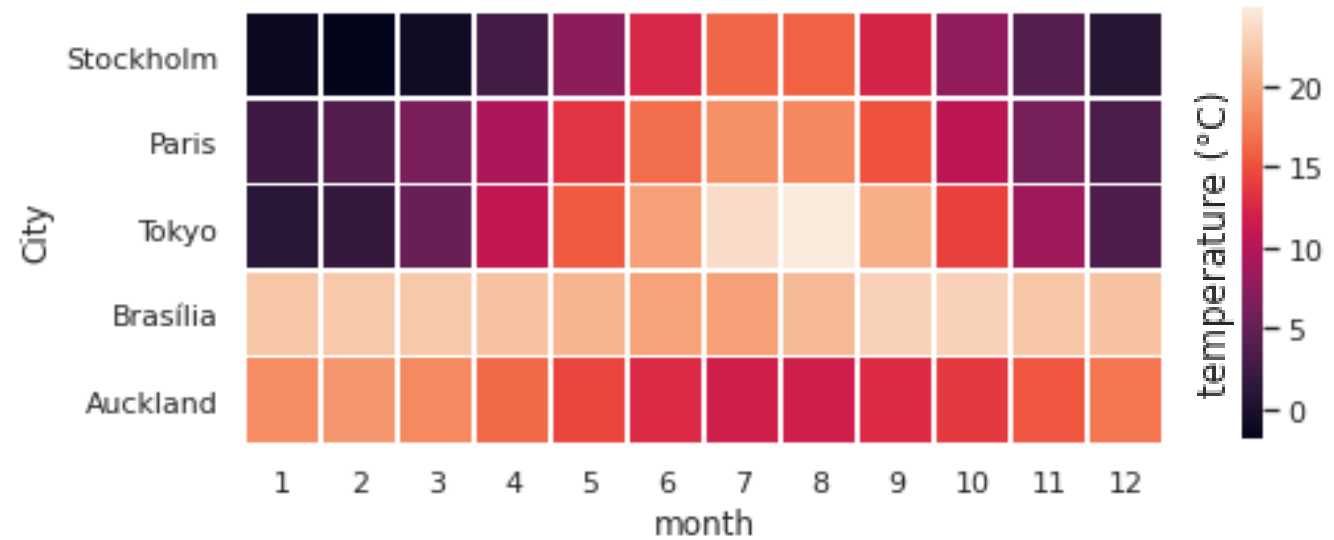
Different Ways to Map Data

	month	City	temperature (C)
0	1	Auckland	18.551830
1	1	Brasília	22.216207
2	1	Paris	2.513351
3	1	Stockholm	-1.182832
4	1	Tokyo	1.148084
5	2	Auckland	19.106219
6	2	Brasília	22.382339
7	2	Paris	3.892574
8	2	Stockholm	-1.858202
9	2	Tokyo	1.888856
10	3	Auckland	18.357038
11	3	Brasília	22.332715
12	3	Paris	6.413973
13	3	Stockholm	-0.616388
14	3	Tokyo	5.285594



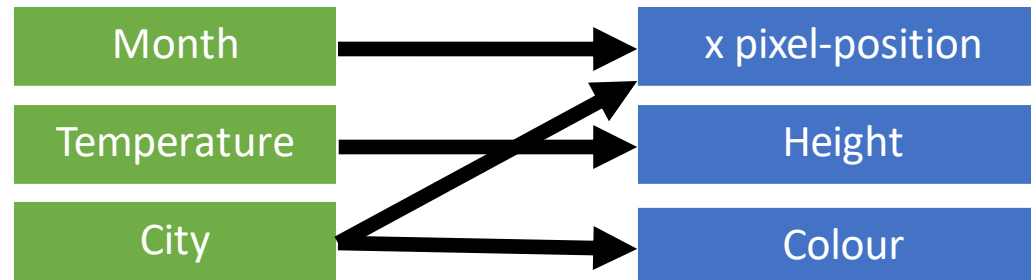
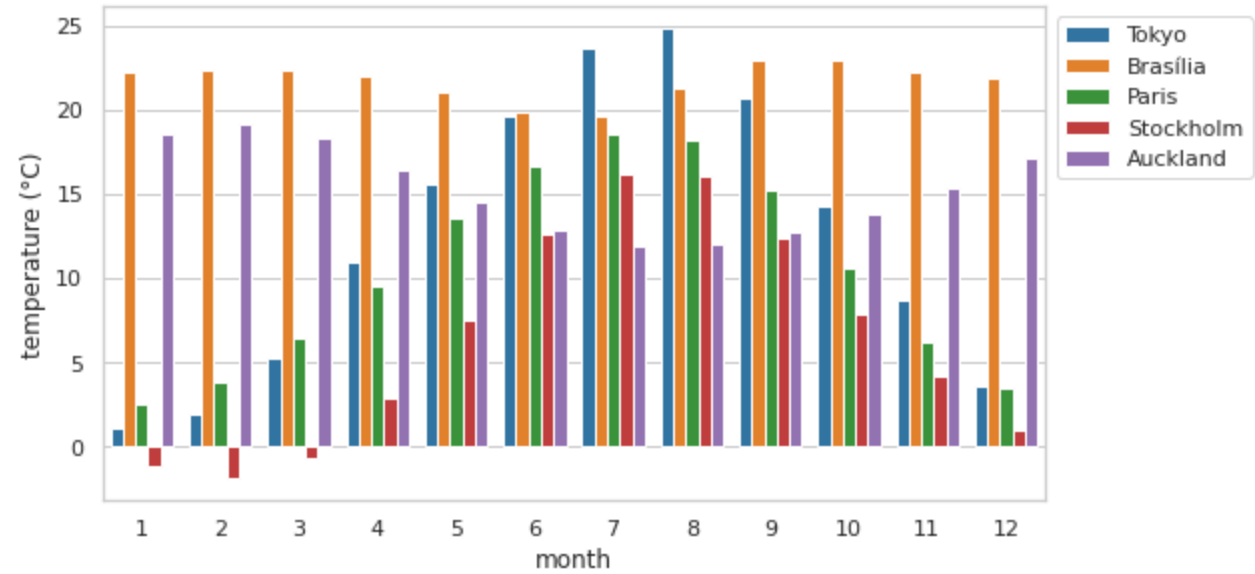
Different Ways to Map Data

	month	City	temperature (C)
0	1	Auckland	18.551830
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2	1	Paris	2.513351
3	1	Stockholm	-1.182832
4	1	Tokyo	1.148084
5	2	Auckland	19.106219
6	2	Brasília	22.382339
7	2	Paris	3.892574
8	2	Stockholm	-1.858202
9	2	Tokyo	1.888856
10	3	Auckland	18.357038
11	3	Brasília	22.332715
12	3	Paris	6.413973
13	3	Stockholm	-0.616388
14	3	Tokyo	5.285594



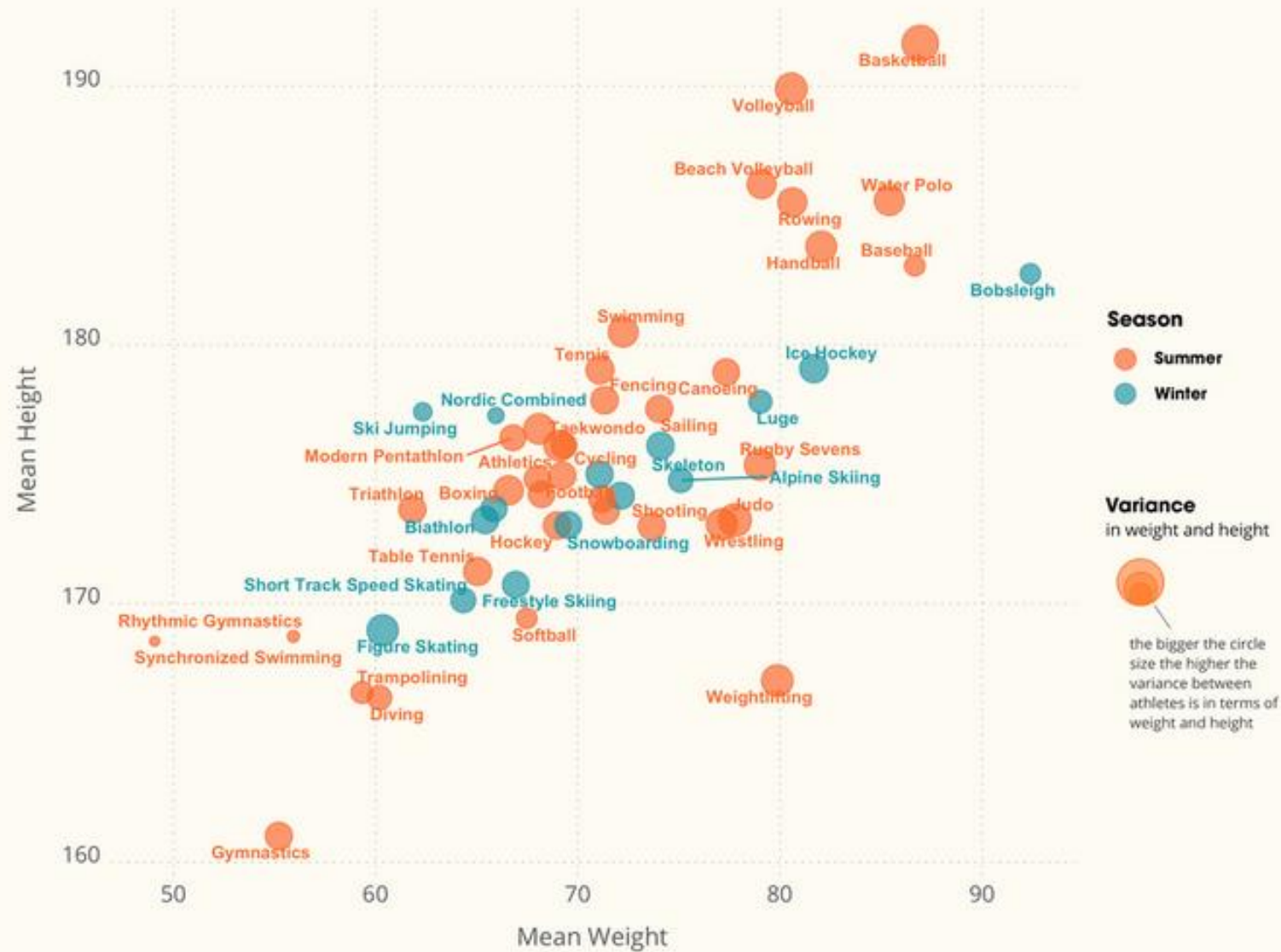
Different Ways to Map Data

	month	City	temperature (C)
0	1	Auckland	18.551830
1	1	Brasília	22.216207
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6	2	Brasília	22.382339
7	2	Paris	3.892574
8	2	Stockholm	-1.858202
9	2	Tokyo	1.888856
10	3	Auckland	18.357038
11	3	Brasília	22.332715
12	3	Paris	6.413973
13	3	Stockholm	-0.616388
14	3	Tokyo	5.285594



Average Weight and Height per Sport

Based on participating athletes from 1992 - 2016



Average Weight and Height per Sport

Based on participating athletes from 1992 - 2016



Season

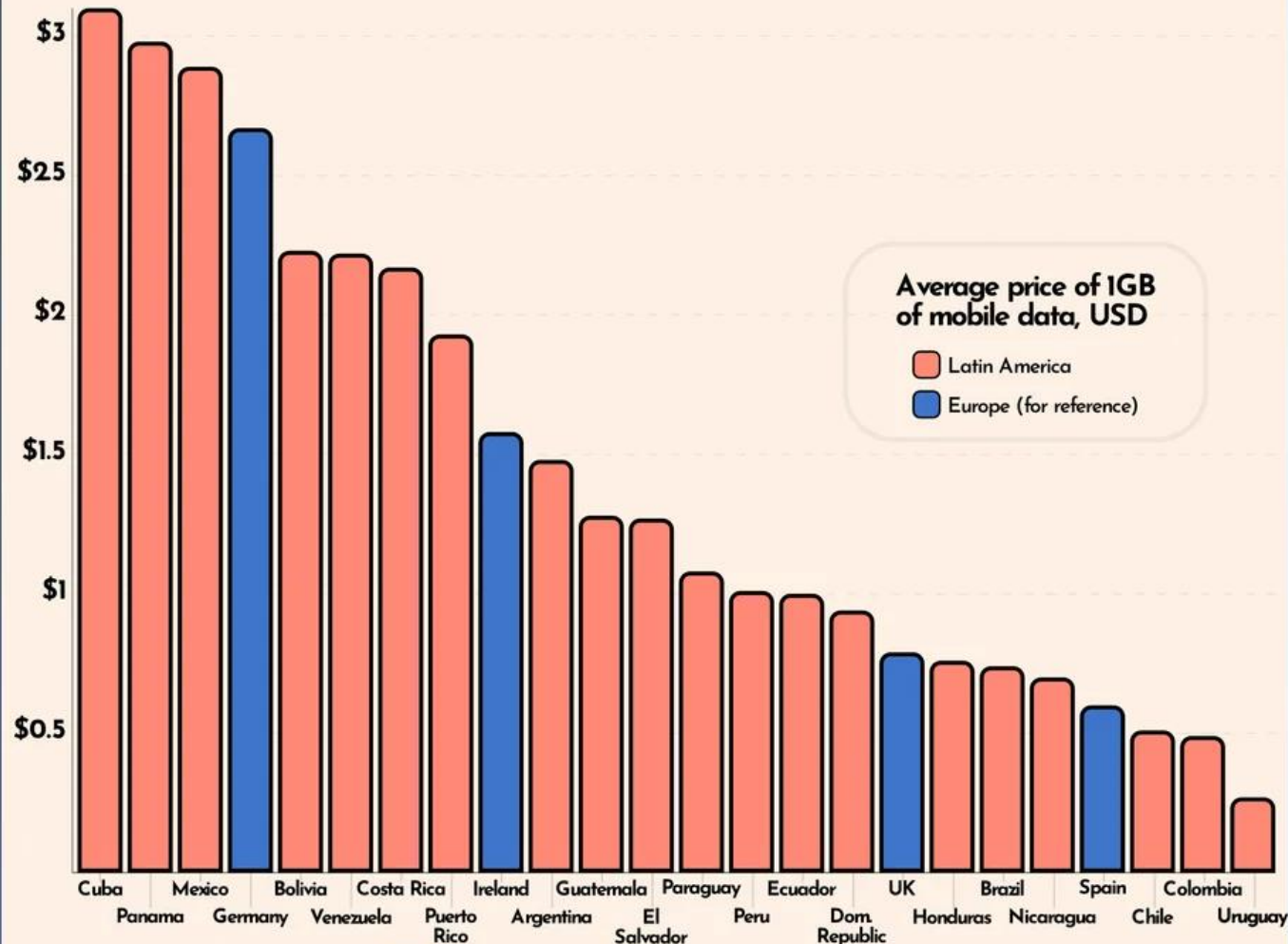
- Summer
- Winter

Variance in weight and height

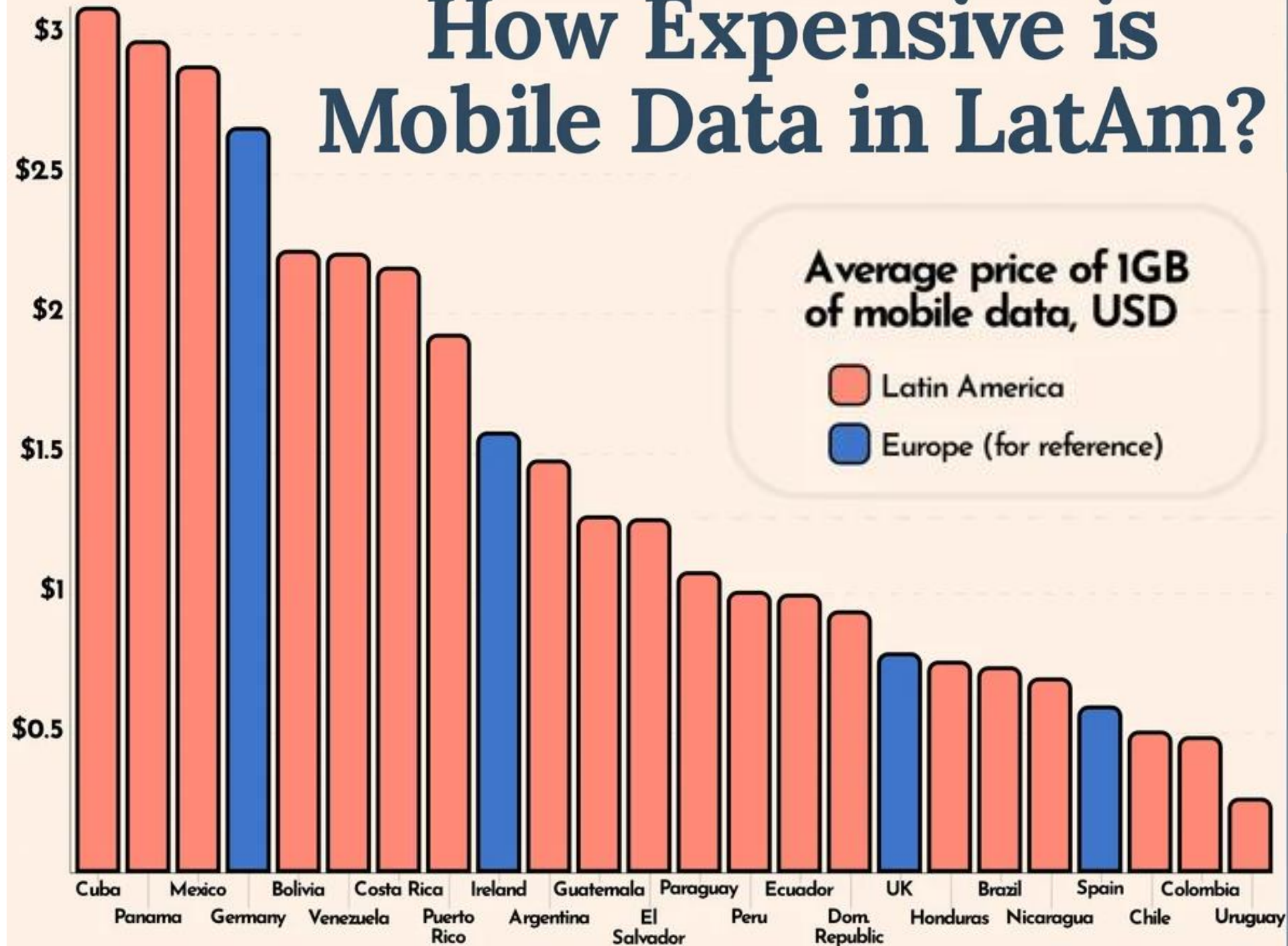


The bigger the circle
Size the higher the
variance between
athletes in
Weight and height

How Expensive is Mobile Data in LatAm?

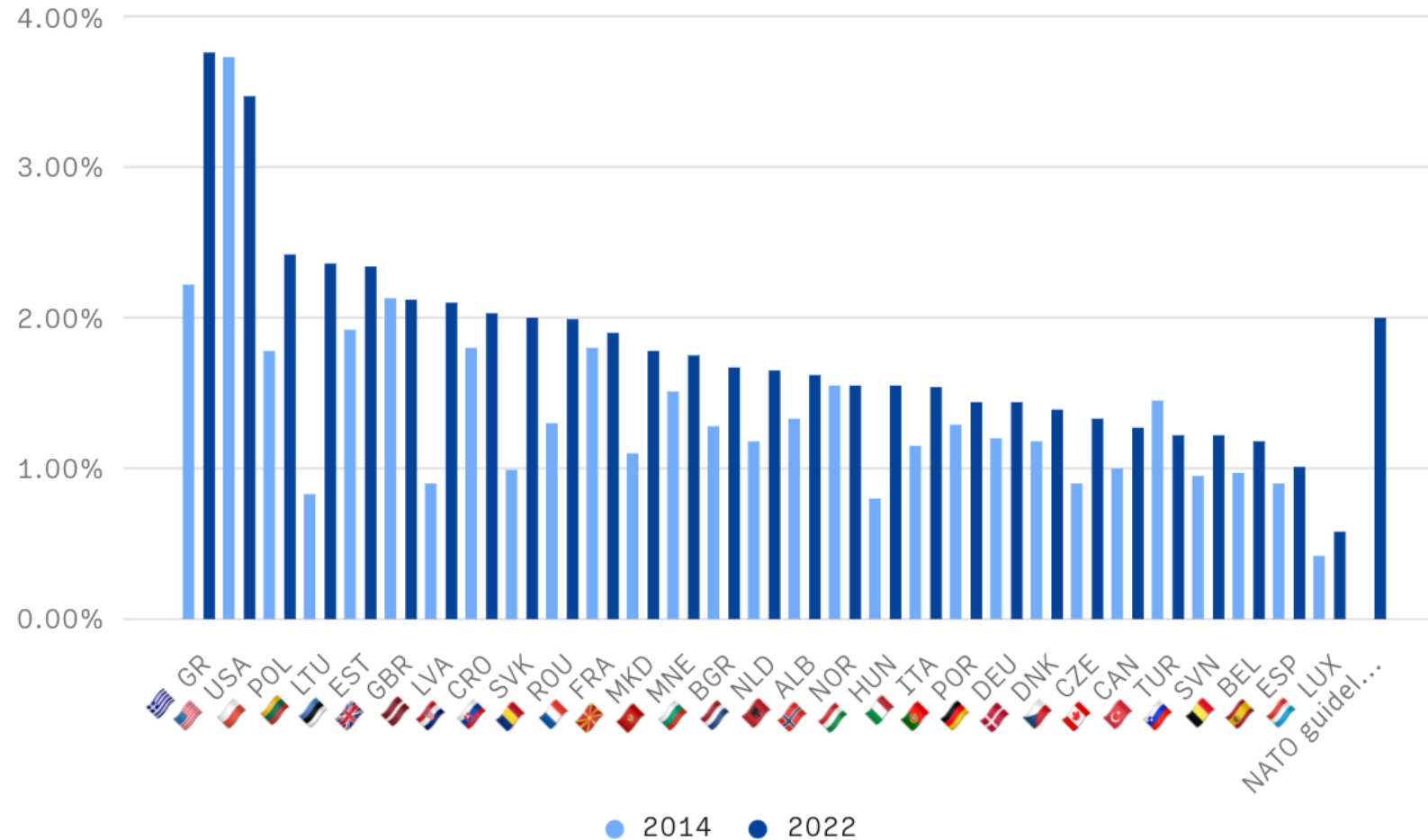


How Expensive is Mobile Data in LatAm?



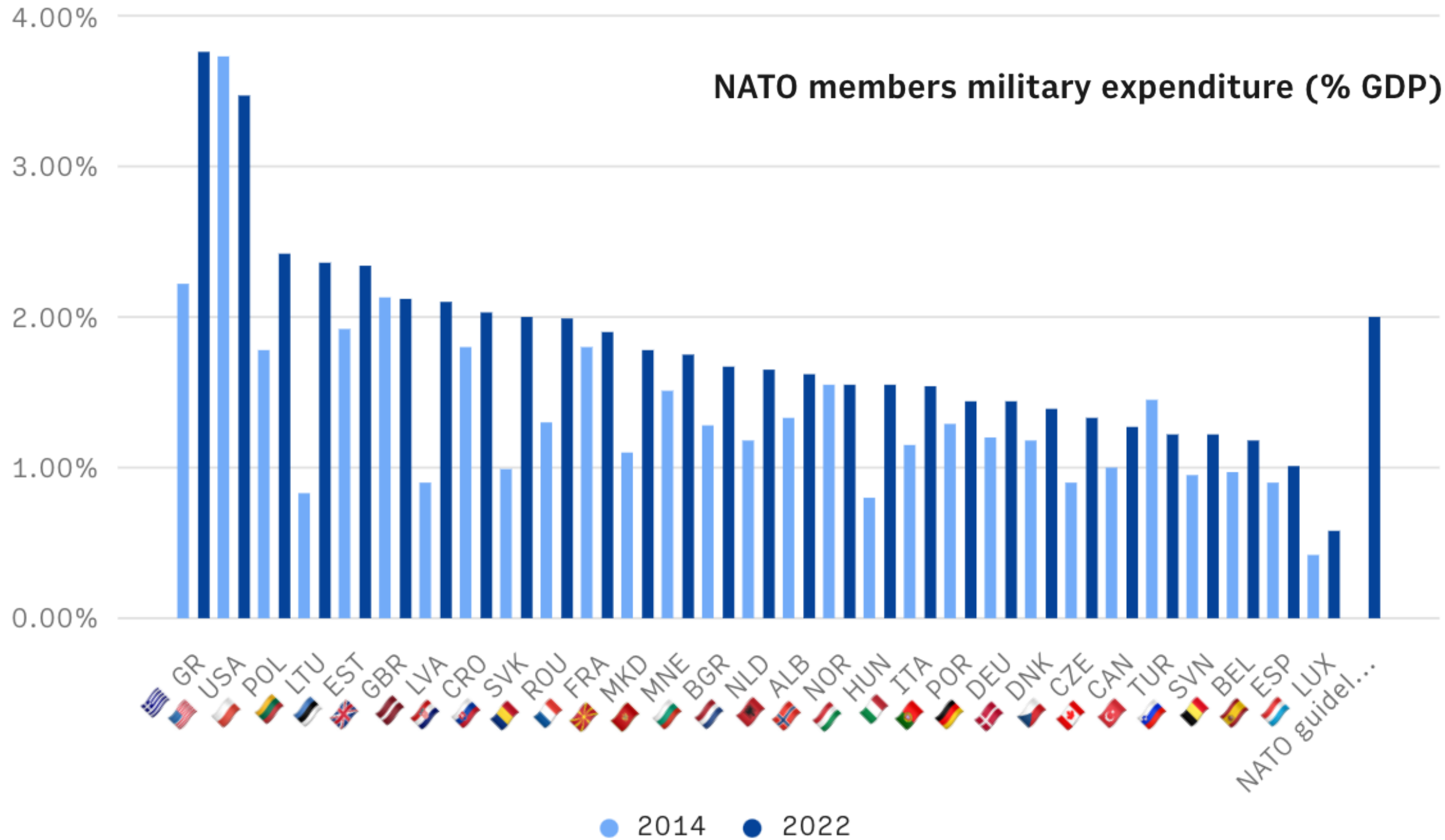
NATO members military expenditure (% GDP)

Military expenditure as % of GDP, 2014 vs 2022. Based on 2015 price and exchange rates.



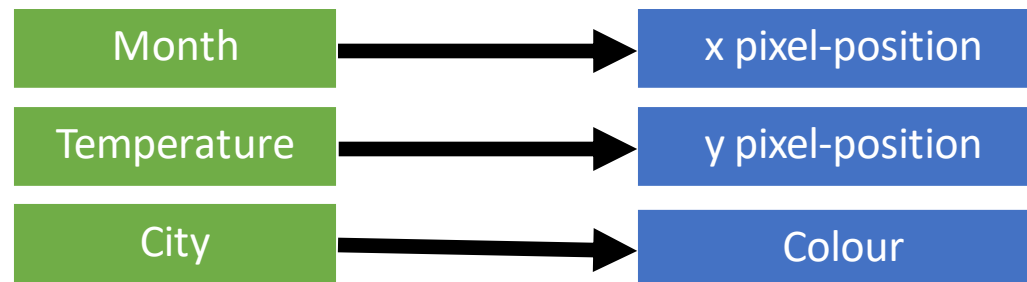
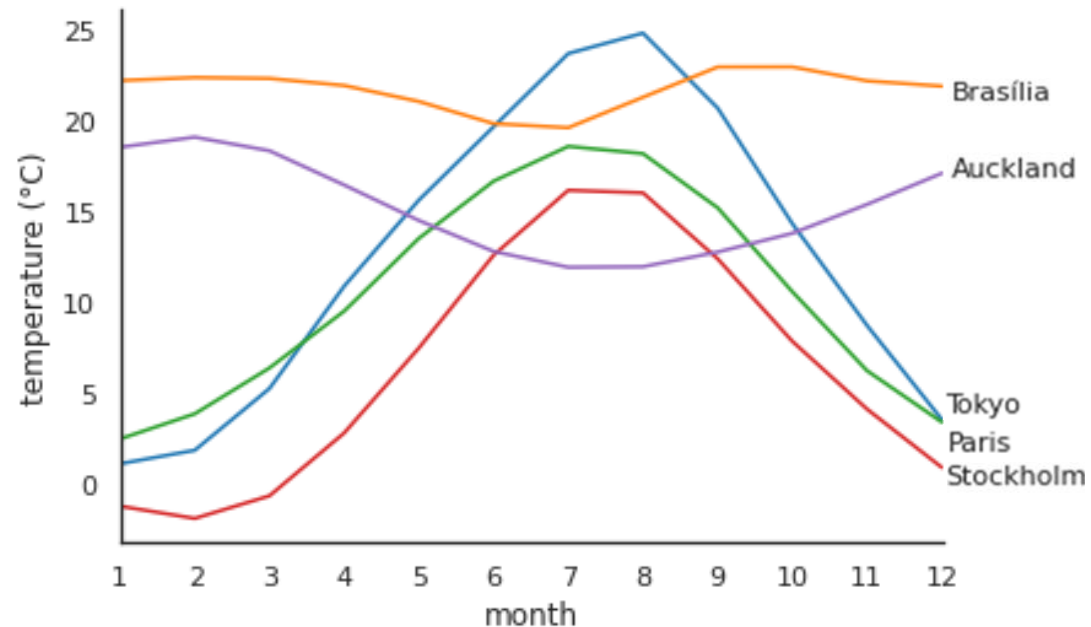
Source: https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2022/6/pdf/220627-def-exp-2022-en.pdf

NATO members military expenditure (% GDP)



Different Ways to Map Data

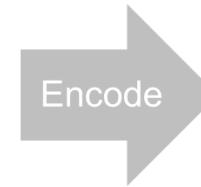
	month	City	temperature (C)
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1	1	Brasília	22.216207
2	1	Paris	2.513351
3	1	Stockholm	-1.182832
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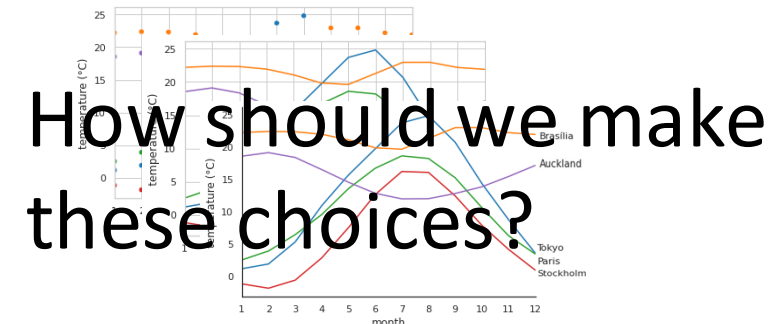
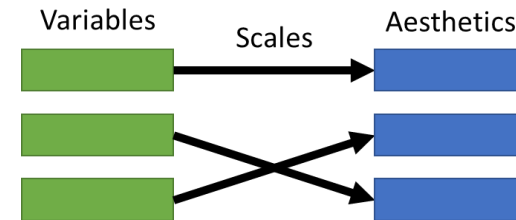
Summary - What is Data Visualisation?

- Translate data for our visual brain.
 - Fast, intuitive processing

x_1	y_1	x_2	y_2	x_3	y_3	x_4	y_4
10	8.04	10	5.14	10	7.46	8	6.58
8	6.95	8	8.14	8	6.77	8	5.76
13	7.58	13	8.74	13	12.74	8	7.71
9	8.81	9	8.77	9	7.11	8	8.84
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4	4.26	4	3.1	4	5.39	19	12.5
12	10.84	12	9.13	12	8.15	8	5.56
7	4.82	7	7.26	7	6.42	8	7.91
5	5.68	5	4.74	5	5.73	8	6.89



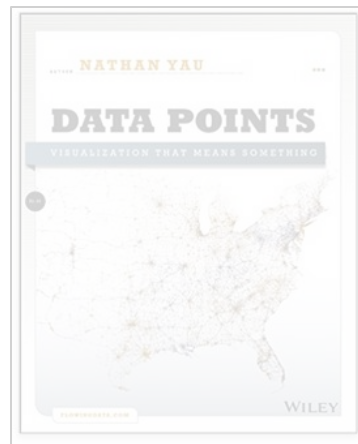
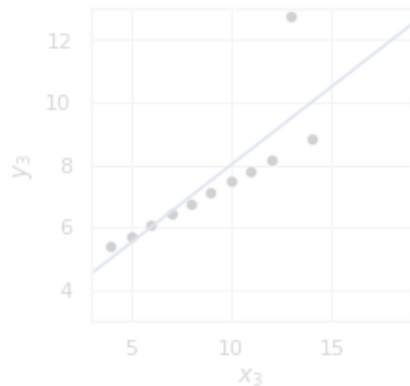
- Mapping variables to aesthetics.
- We can choose:
 - Which type of chart?
 - Which mapping?
 - Grid, legend, decoration?
 - ...



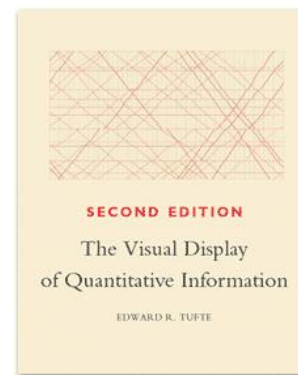
What can Visualization Achieve?

Exploration:

- What is going on in a dataset?
- We do not know what we are looking for.
- Look at the data in different ways.
- Discover patterns.



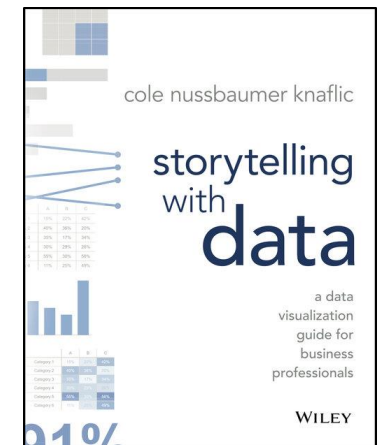
Nathan Yau (2013)



Edward Tufte (2001)

Explanation:

- We have a particular insight or message.
- Visualization is a communication tool.
- Highlight what is important.
- Remove irrelevant clutter.
- Show relevant context.
- Make it easily digestible.



Nussbaumer Knaflic (2015)



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Variables and Aesthetics

Mapping Variables to Aesthetics

Data

x_1	y_1
10	8.04
8	6.95
13	7.58
9	8.81
11	8.33
14	9.96
6	7.24
4	4.26
12	10.84
7	4.82
5	5.68

Variables

x_1

y_1

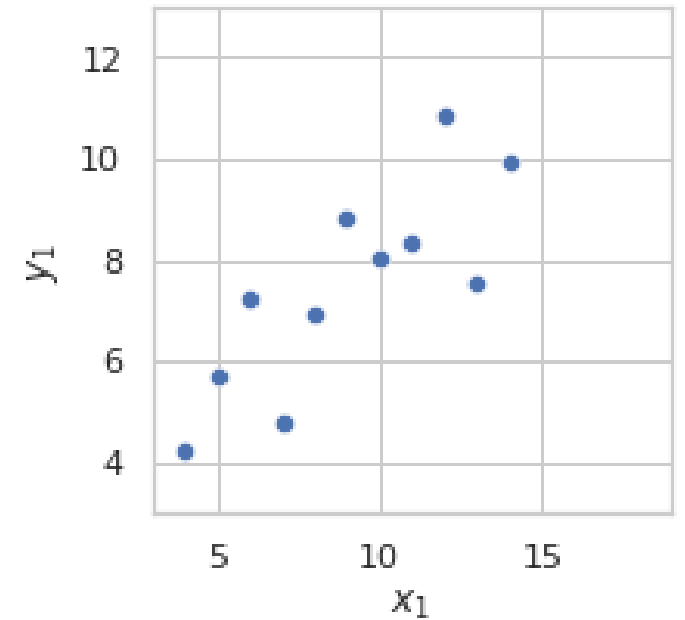
Scales

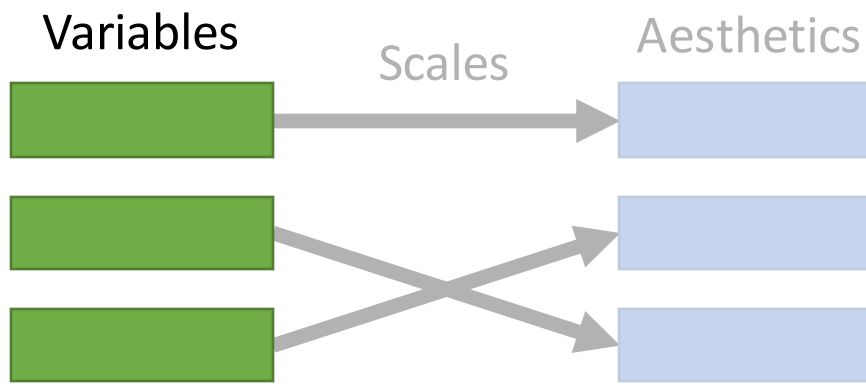
Aesthetics

x pixel-position

y pixel-position

Scatter Plot





Numerical

aka
Quantitative

Categorical

aka
Qualitative

Continuous:

10.14, 14.1, 11.0, ...
(e.g. temperatures)

Discrete:

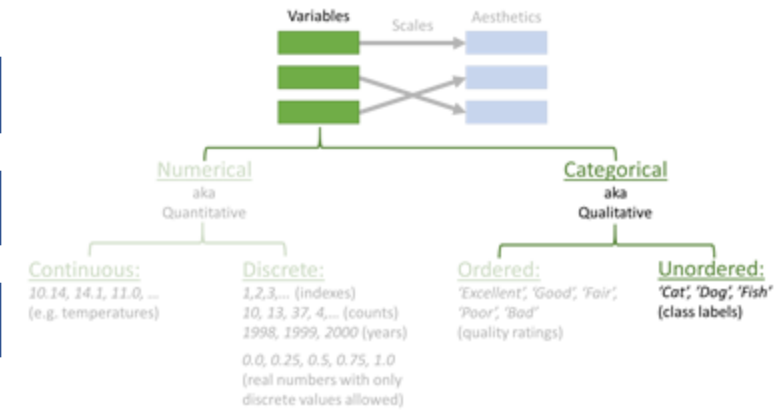
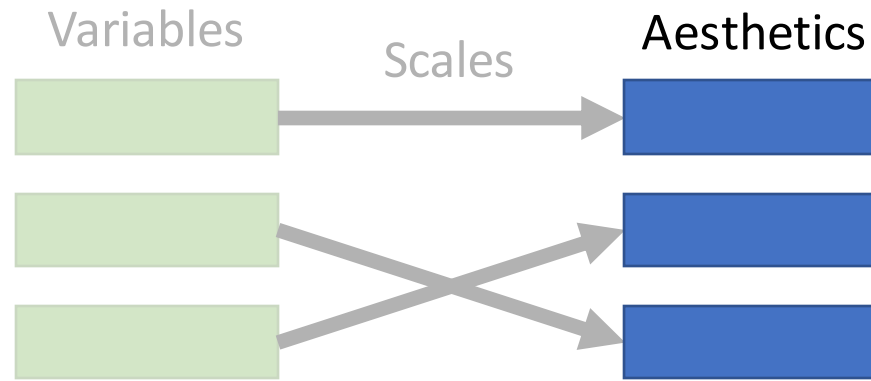
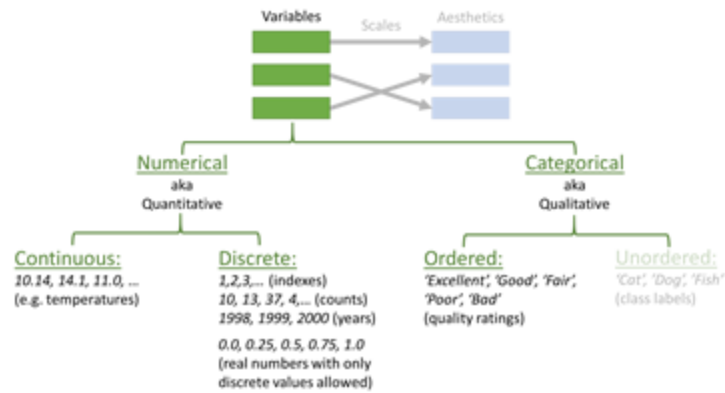
1, 2, 3, ... (indexes)
10, 13, 37, 4, ... (counts)
1998, 1999, 2000 (years)
0.0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0
(real numbers with only
discrete values allowed)

Ordered:

*'Excellent', 'Good', 'Fair',
'Poor', 'Bad'*
(quality ratings)

Unordered:

'Cat', 'Dog', 'Fish'
(class labels)

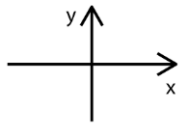


Ordered

(for numerical or ordered categorical variables)

Unordered

(for unordered categorical variables)



Position



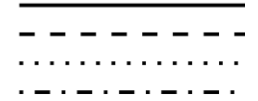
Size (area)



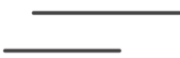
Tilt



Shape



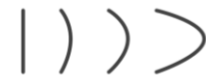
Line style



Length



3D volume



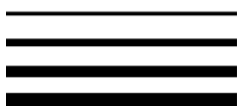
Curvature



Colour



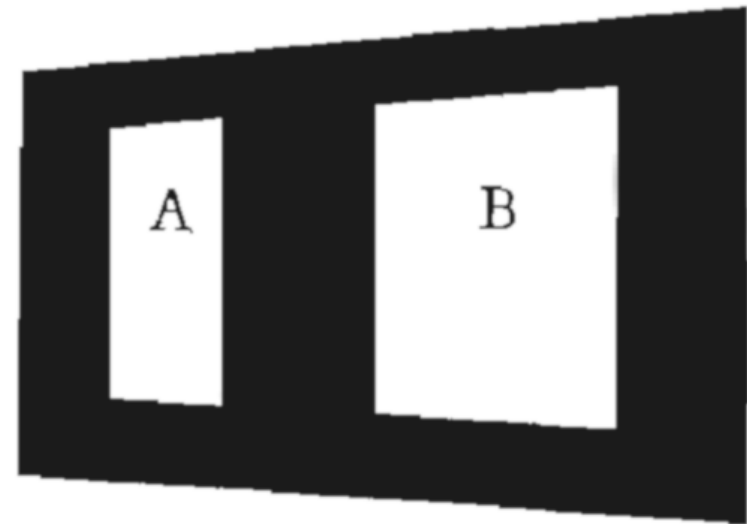
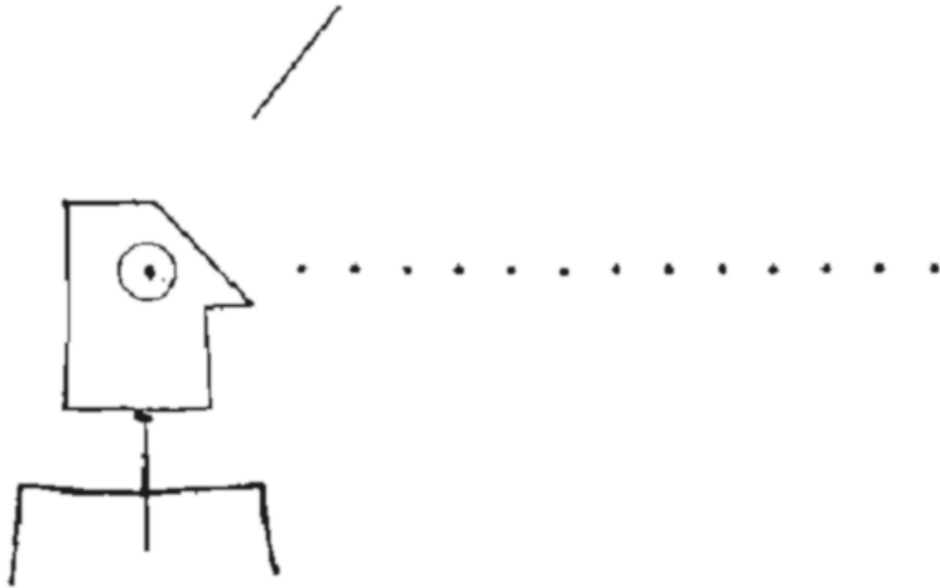
Colour



Line width

Are Some Aesthetics Better than Others?

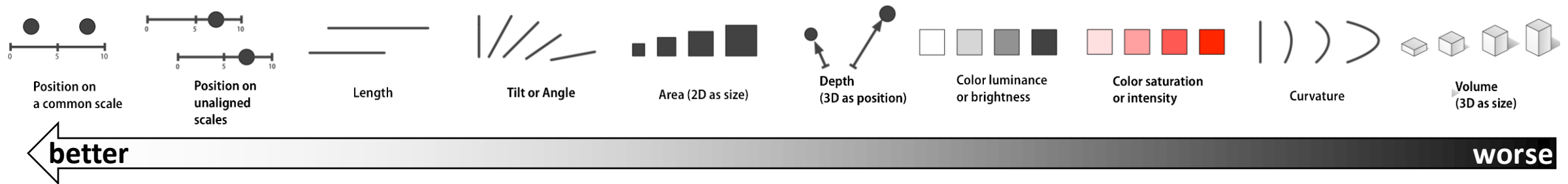
I think I see that area B
is 3.14 times bigger than
area A. Is that correct?



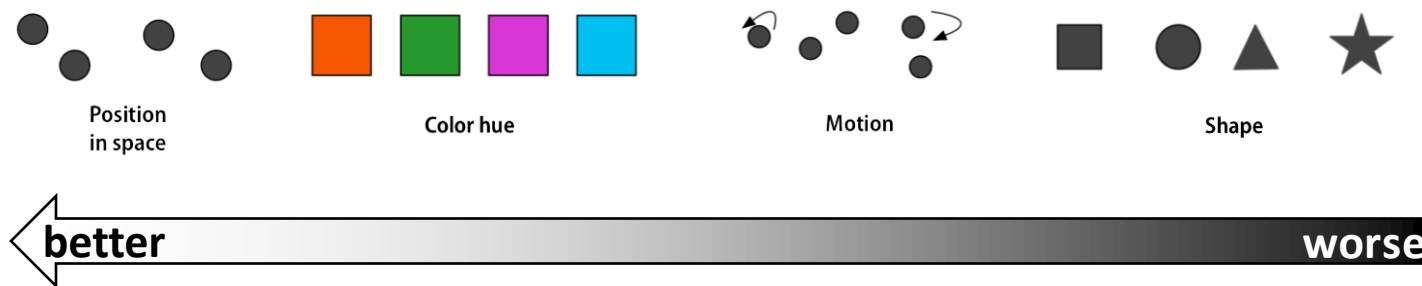
Edward Tufte

Are some aesthetics better than others?

Ordered aesthetics:

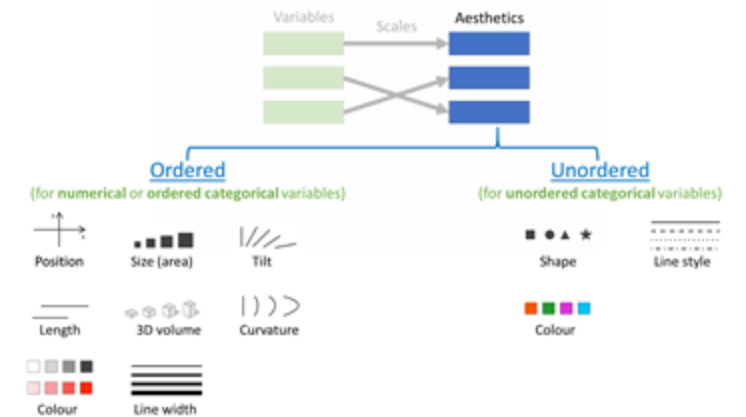
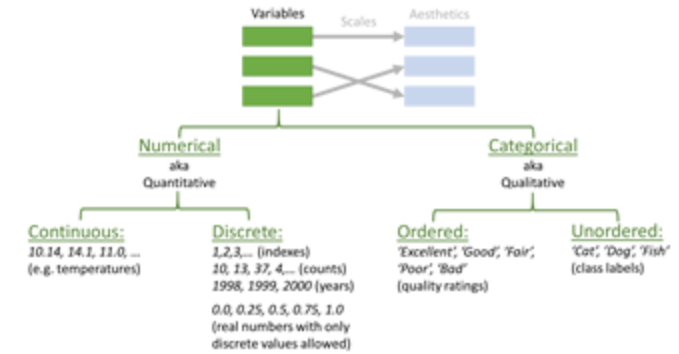


Unordered aesthetics:

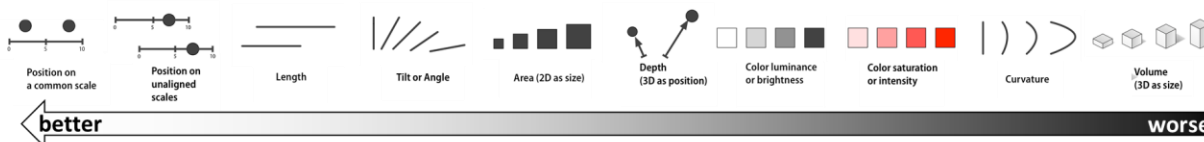


Summary

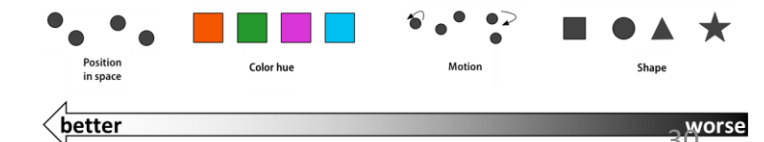
- Variables can be categorised.
 - Numerical, categorical
 - Continuous, discrete
 - Ordered, unordered
- Aesthetics are not created equal.
 - Ordered, unordered
 - Position and length most accurate.
 - Area and volume not so good.



Ordered aesthetics:



Unordered aesthetics:



What's Next?

