

# BIMM 143

## Data visualization with R

### Lecture 5

Barry Grant  
UC San Diego

<http://thegrantlab.org/bimm143>

# Recap From Last Time:

- What is R and why should we use it?
- Familiarity with R's basic syntax.
- Familiarity with major R data structures namely **vectors** and **data.frames**.
- Understand the basics of using **functions** (arguments, vectorization and re-cycling).
- Appreciate how you can use R scripts to aid with reproducibility.

[\[MPA Link\]](#)

# Today's Learning Goals

- Appreciate the major elements of **exploratory data analysis** and why it is important to visualize data.
- Be conversant with **data visualization best practices** and understand how good visualizations optimize for the human visual system.
- Be able to generate informative graphical displays including **scatterplots**, **histograms**, **bar graphs**, **boxplots**, **dendograms** and **heatmaps** and thereby gain exposure to the extensive graphical capabilities of R.
- Appreciate that you can build even more complex charts with **ggplot** and additional R packages such as **rgl**.

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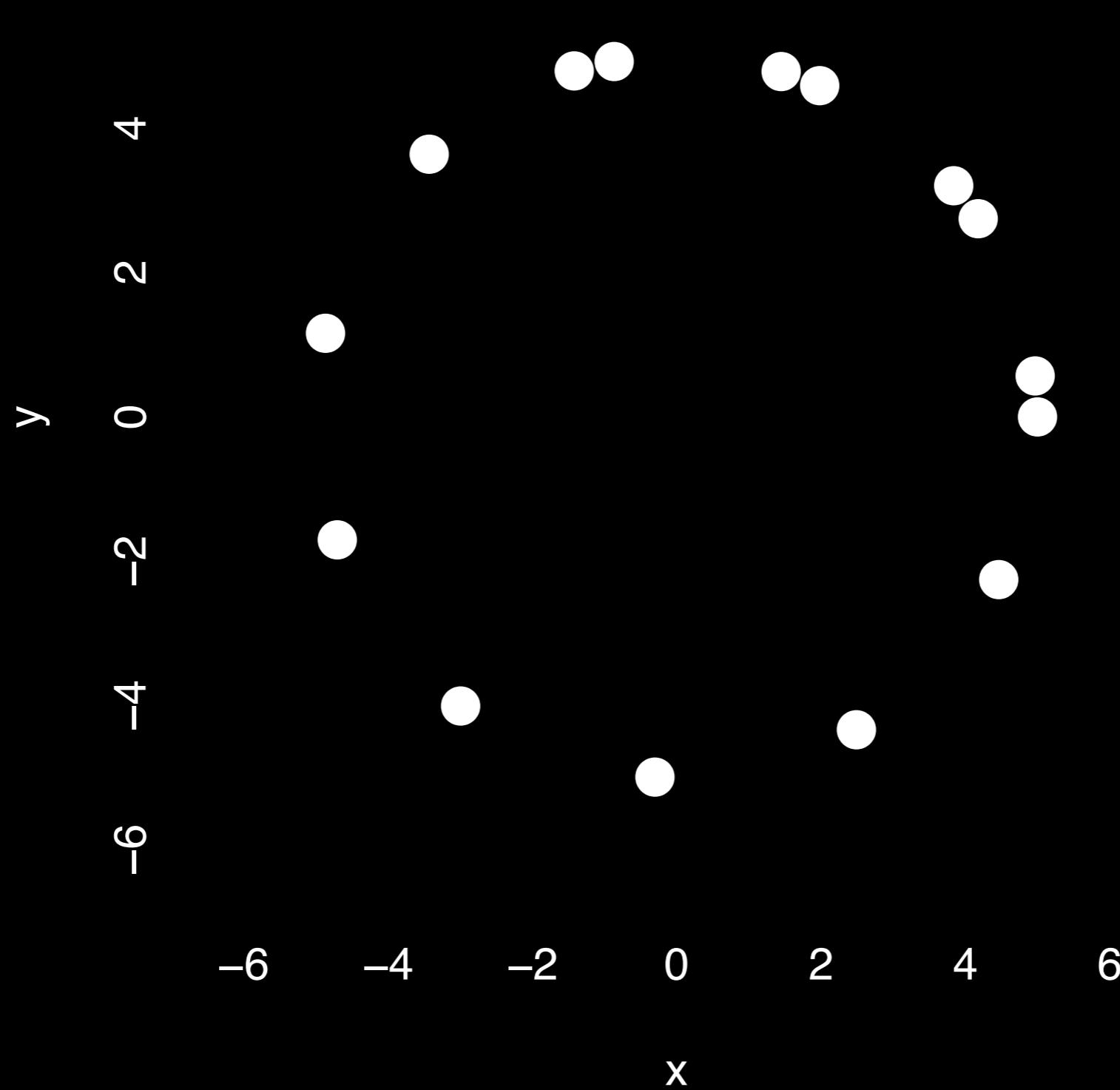
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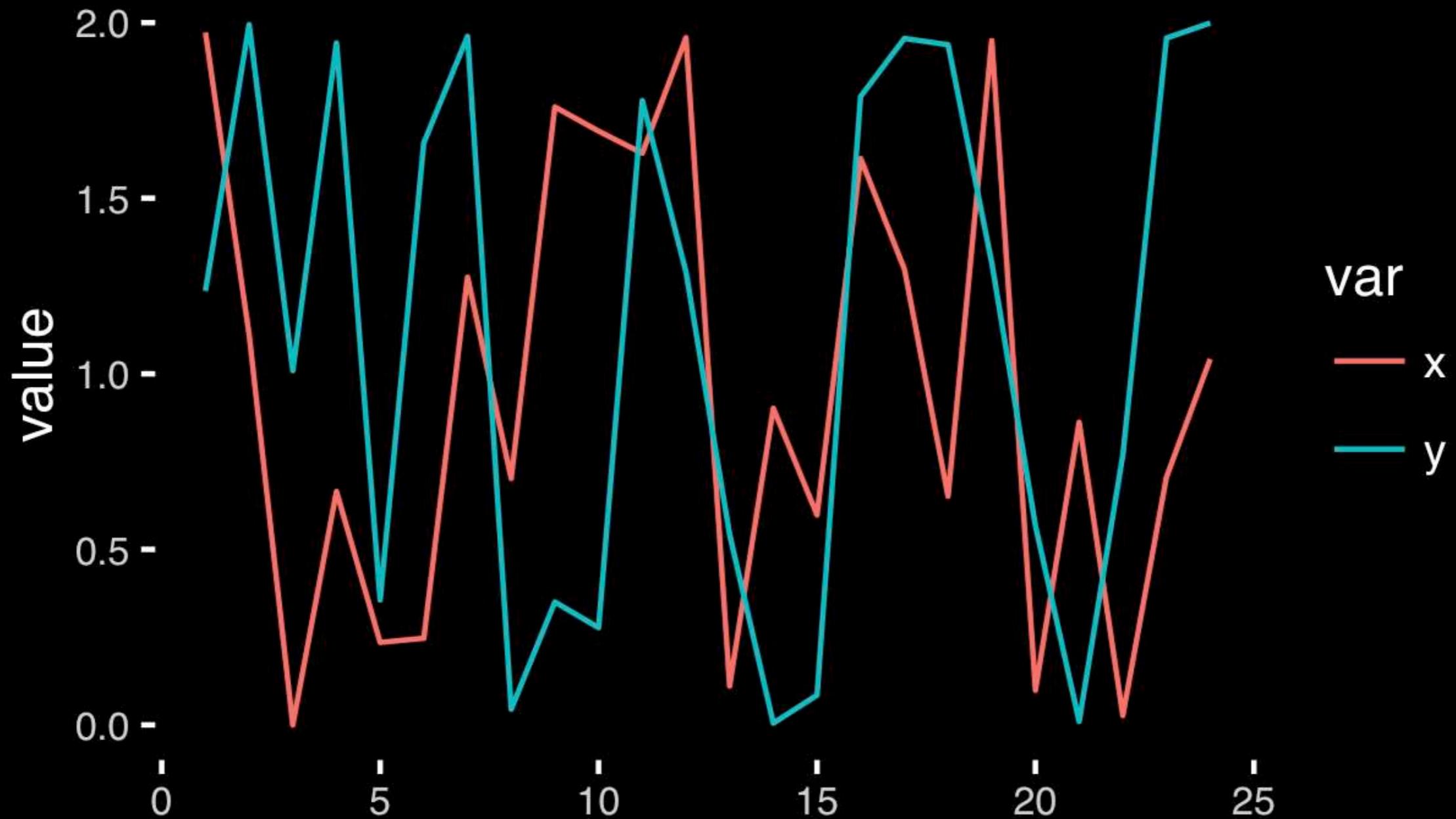
# Why visualize at all?



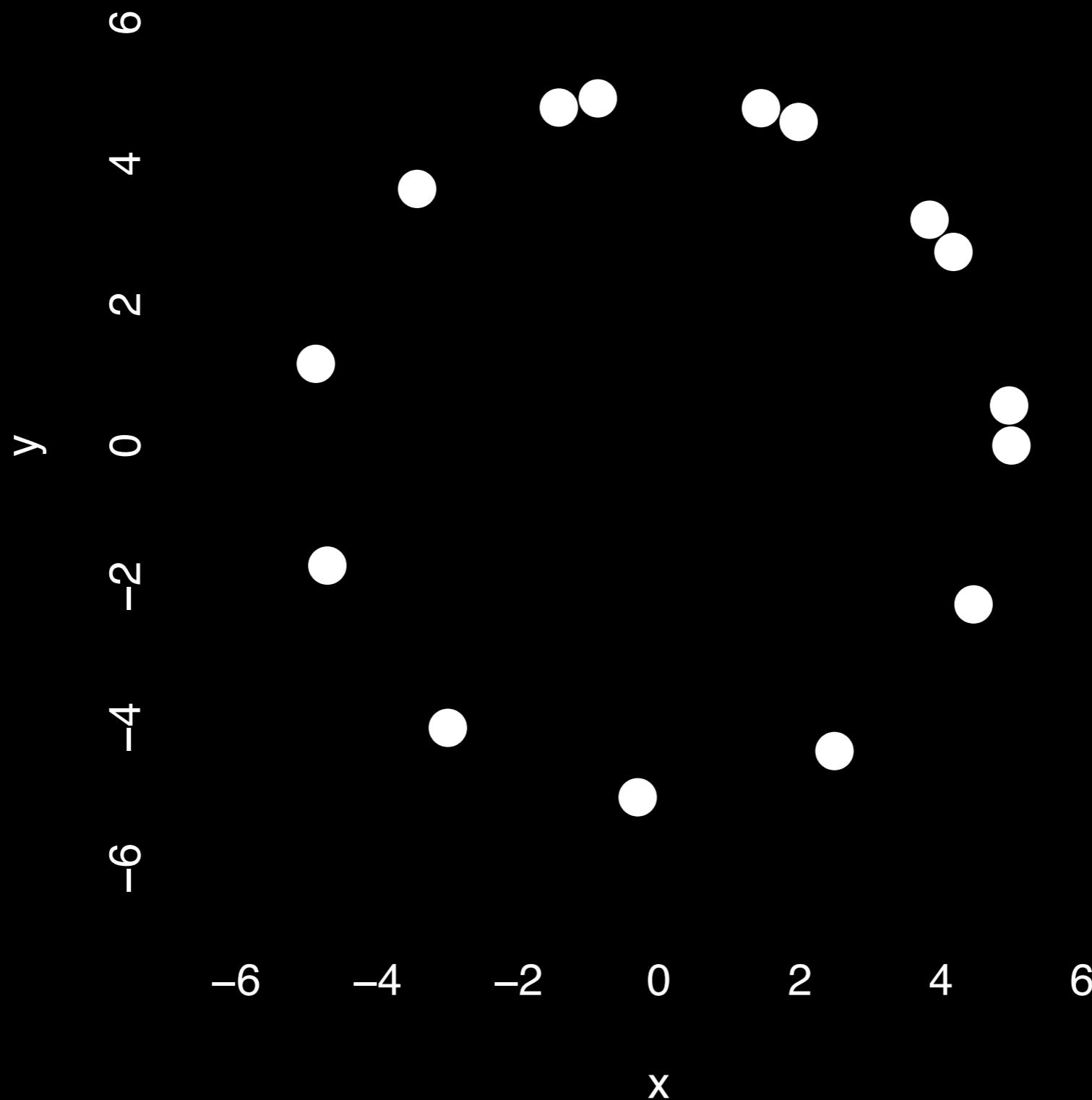
	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>
<b>1</b>	5.00	0.00
<b>2</b>	4.18	2.75
<b>3</b>	1.98	4.59
<b>4</b>	-0.86	4.92
<b>5</b>	-3.43	3.64
<b>6</b>	-4.86	1.16
<b>7</b>	-4.70	-1.70
<b>8</b>	-2.99	-4.01
<b>9</b>	-0.30	-4.99
<b>10</b>	2.49	-4.34
<b>11</b>	4.46	-2.25
<b>12</b>	4.97	0.57
<b>13</b>	3.84	3.20
<b>14</b>	1.45	4.79
<b>15</b>	-1.42	4.79

	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>
<b>Min.</b>	-4.86	-4.99
<b>1st Qu.</b>	-2.21	-1.98
<b>Median</b>	1.45	1.16
<b>Mean</b>	0.65	0.87
<b>3rd Qu.</b>	4.01	4.12
<b>Max.</b>	5.00	4.92





[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_F18/class-material/05\\_draw\\_circle\\_points/](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_F18/class-material/05_draw_circle_points/)

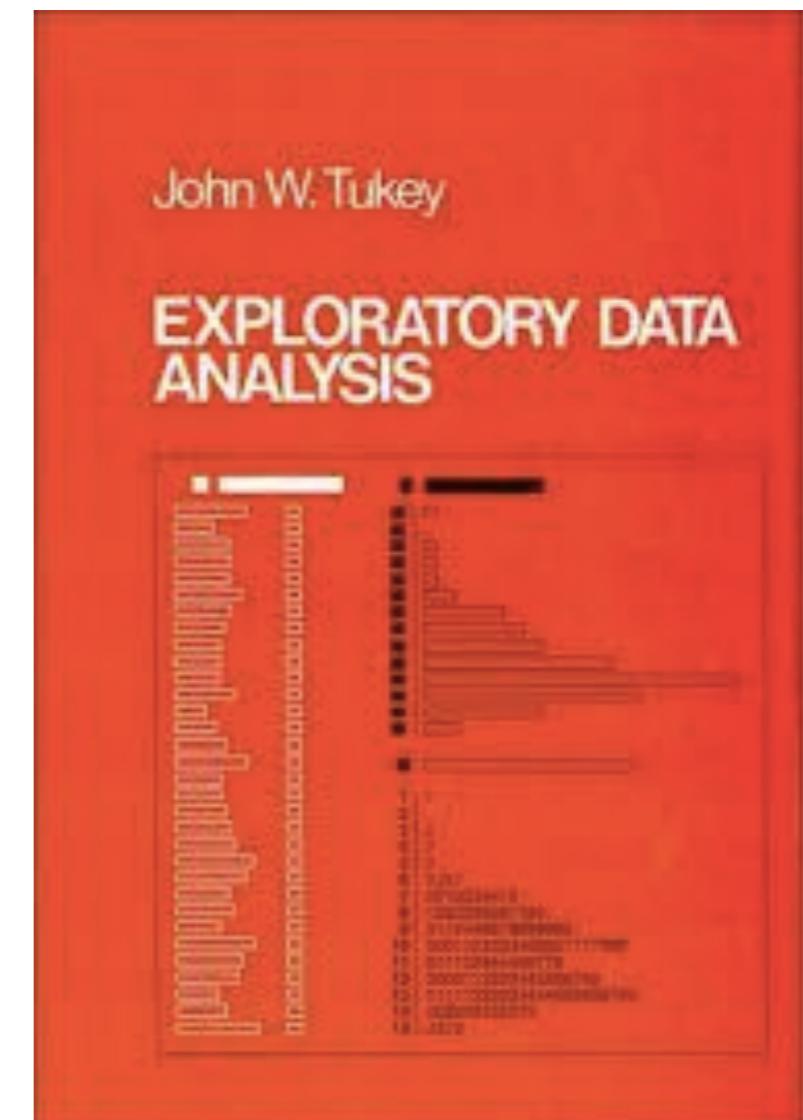
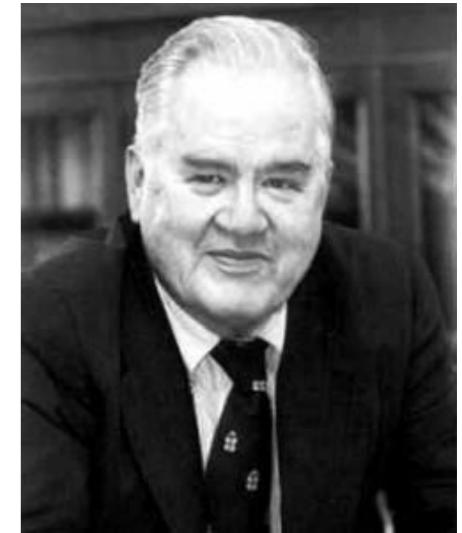


# Exploratory Data Analysis

- ALWAYS look at your data!
- If you can't see it, then don't believe it!
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) allows us to:
  1. Visualize distributions and relationships
  2. Detect errors
  3. Assess assumptions for confirmatory analysis
- EDA is the first step of data analysis!

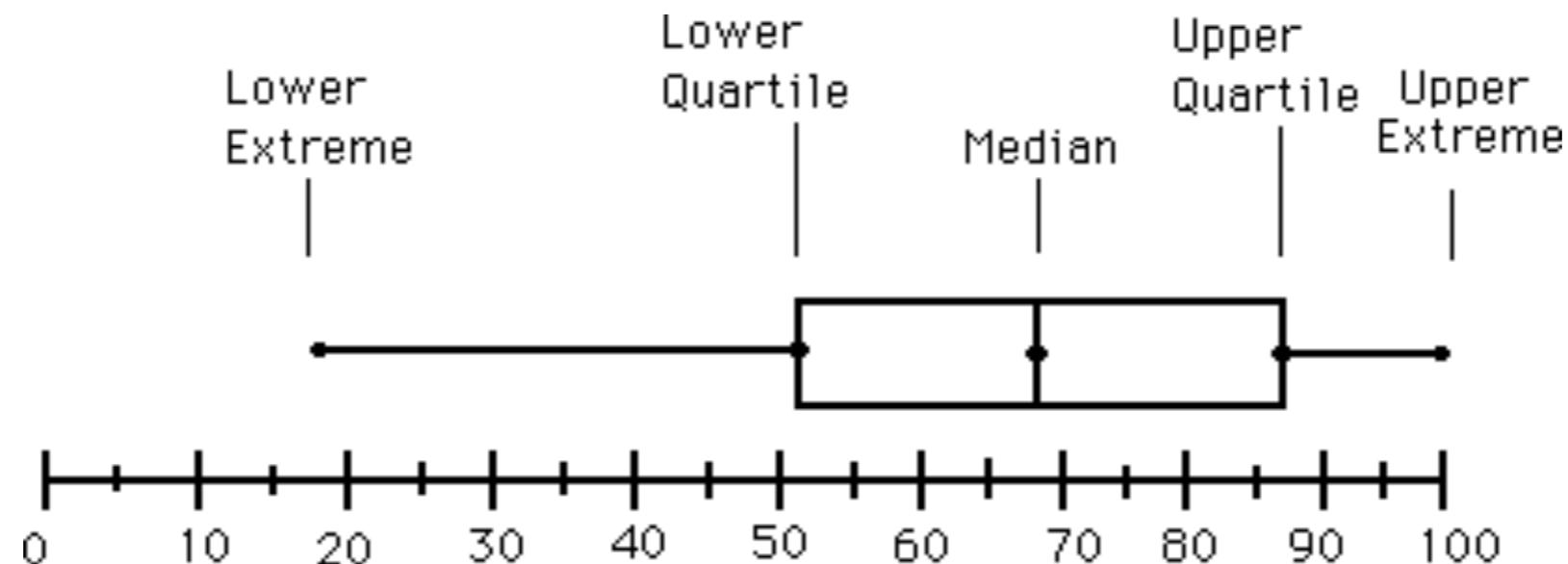
# Exploratory Data Analysis 1977

- Based on insights developed at Bell Labs in the 60's
- Techniques for visualizing and summarizing data
- What can the data tell us? (in contrast to "confirmatory" data analysis)
- Introduced many basic techniques:
  - 5-number summary, box plots, stem and leaf diagrams,...
- 5 Number summary:
  - extremes (min and max)
  - median & quartiles
  - More robust to skewed & longtailed distributions



# Side-note: boxplots

- **Box-and-whisker plot** : a graphical form of 5-number summary (Tukey)



```
boxplot( rnorm(1000,0) )
```

# The Trouble with Summary Stats

Set A		Set B		Set C		Set D	
X	Y	X	Y	X	Y	X	Y
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	9.11	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

## Summary Statistics Linear Regression

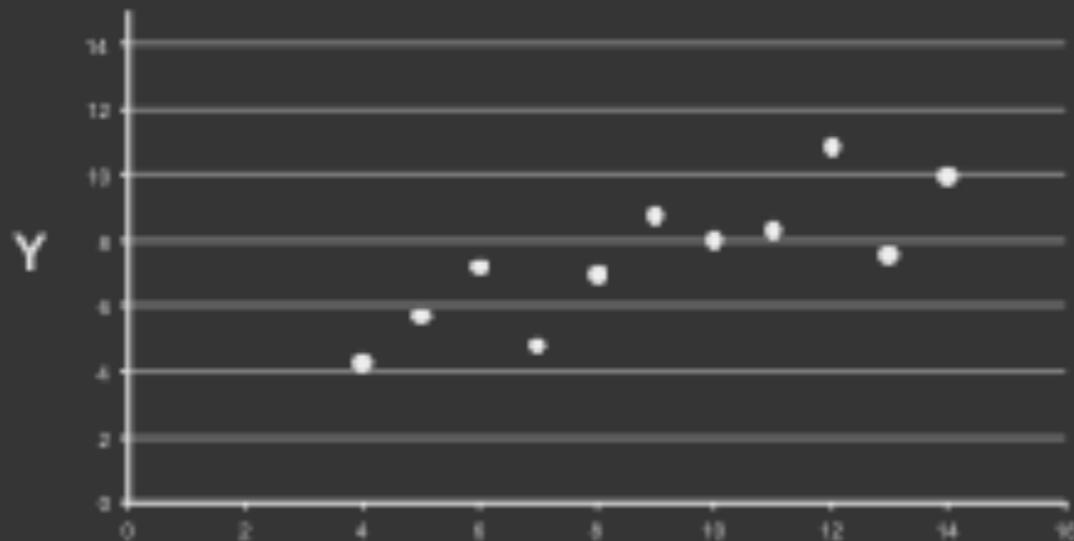
$$\begin{aligned} \mu_X &= 9.0 & \sigma_X &= 3.317 \\ \mu_Y &= 7.5 & \sigma_Y &= 2.03 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= 3 + 0.5 X \\ R^2 &= 0.67 \end{aligned}$$

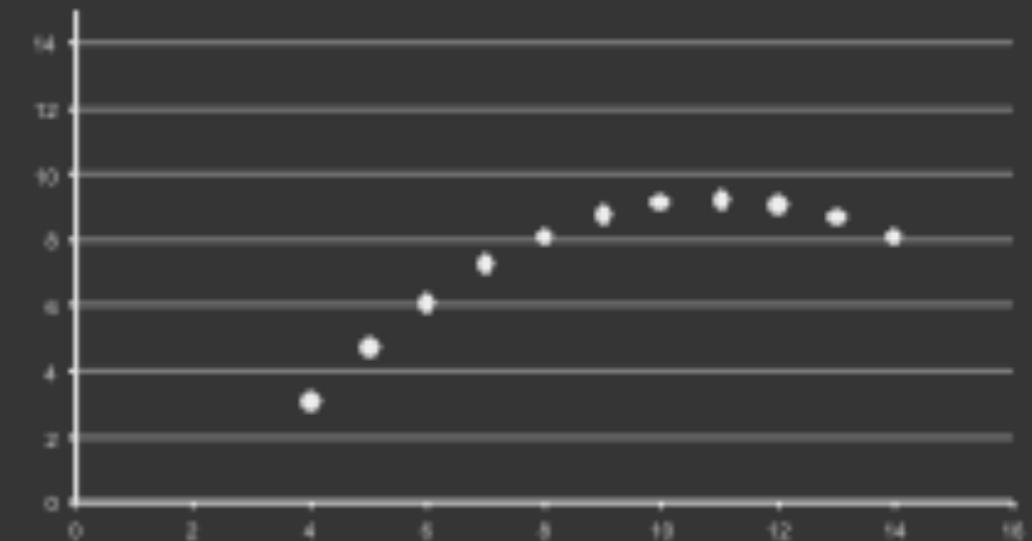
[Anscombe 73]

# Looking at Data

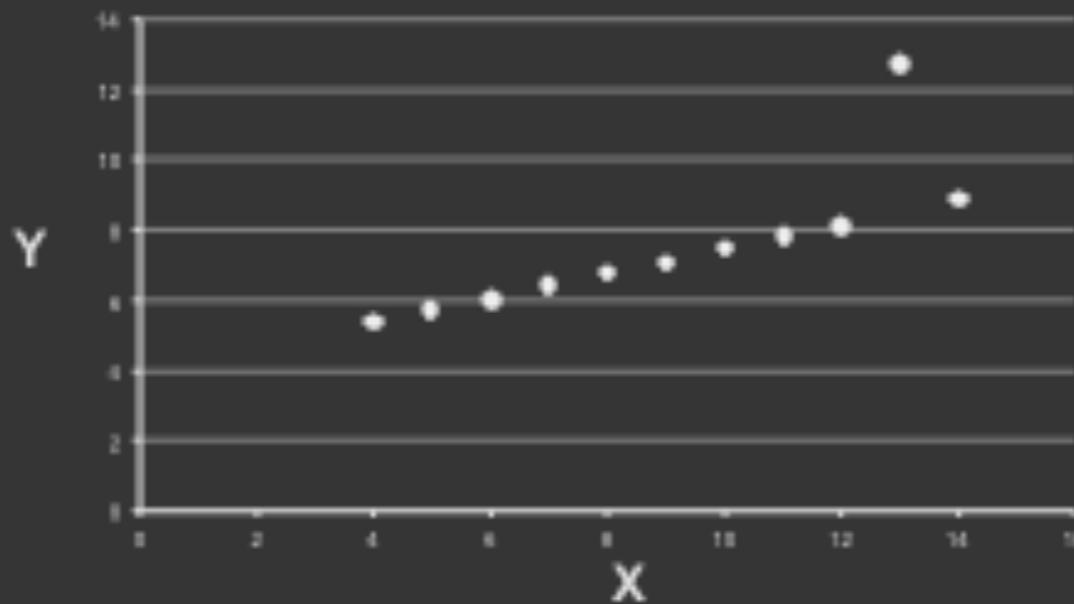
**Set A**



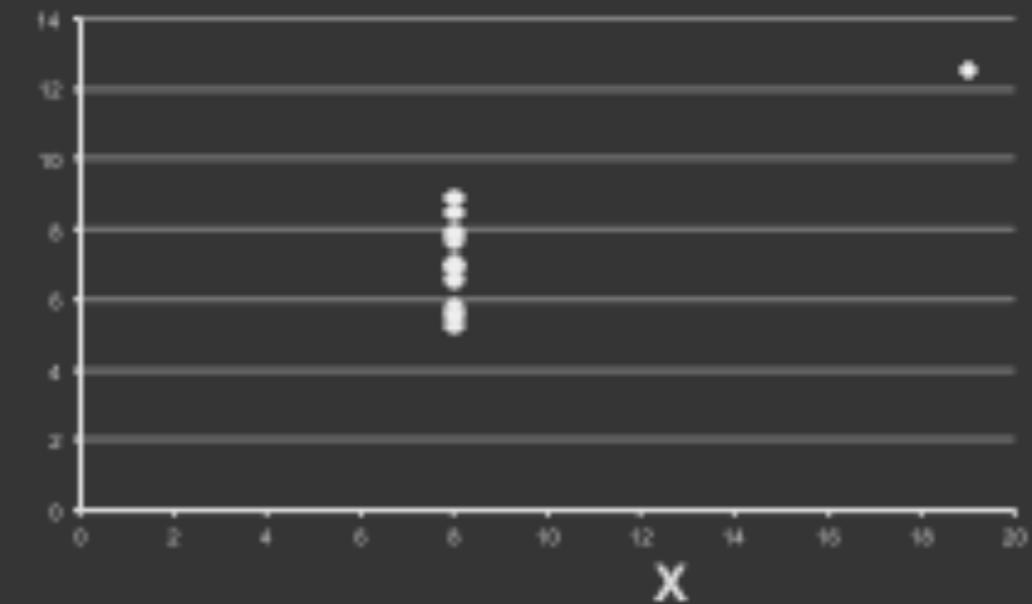
**Set B**

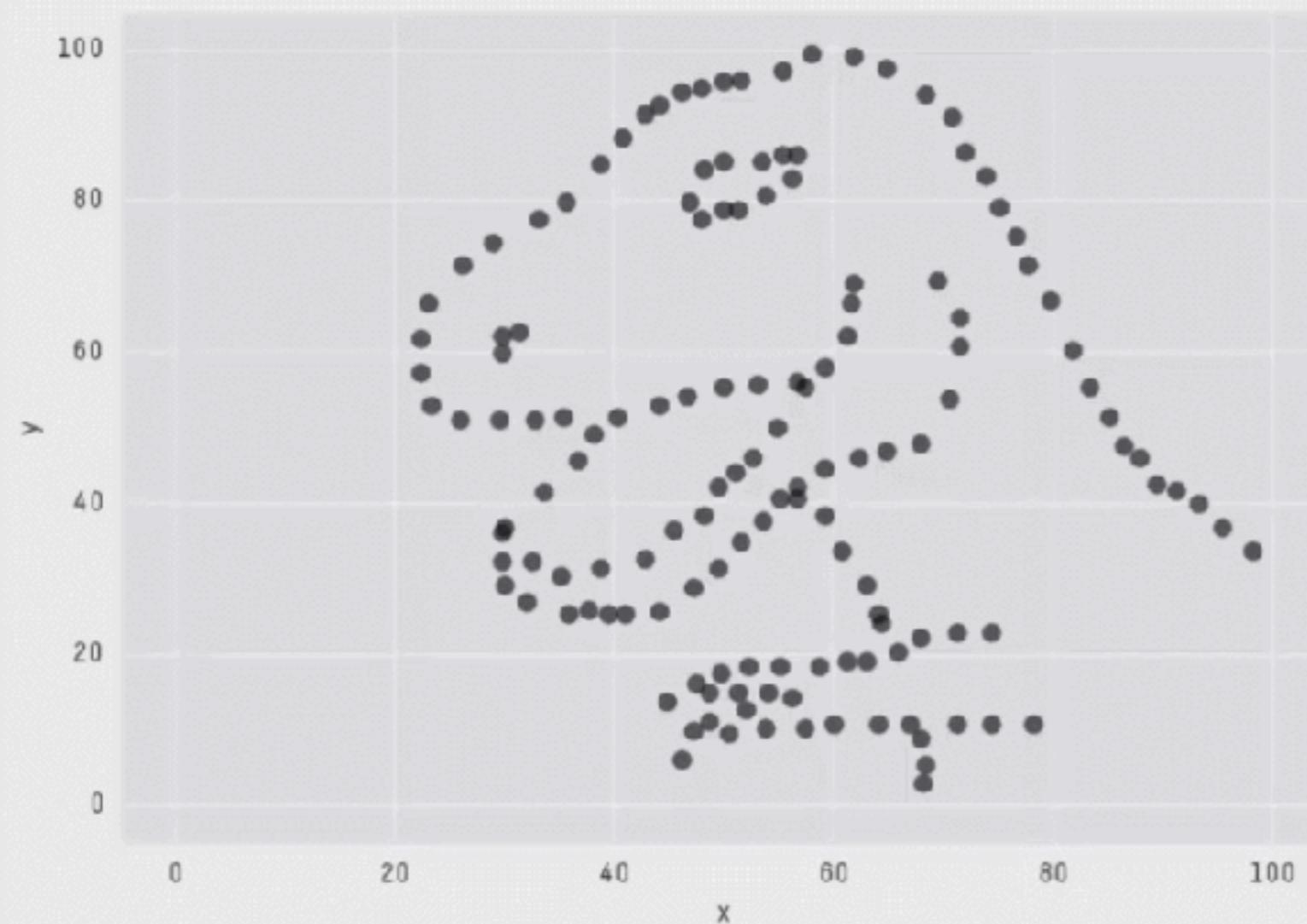


**Set C**



**Set D**





X Mean: 54.2659224  
Y Mean: 47.8313999  
X SD : 16.7649829  
Y SD : 26.9342120  
Corr. : -0.0642526

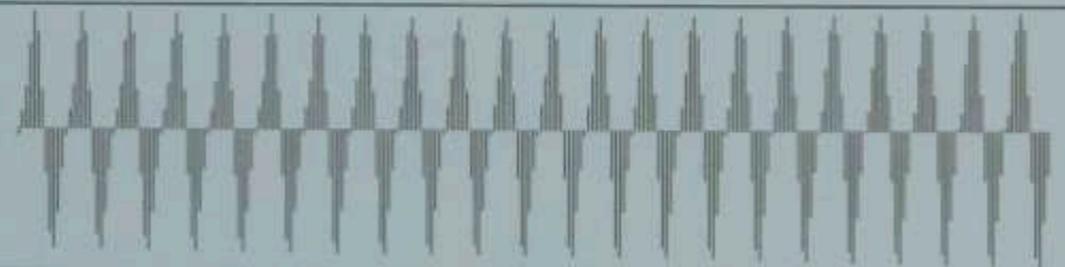
**Key point:** You need to visualize your data!

<https://github.com/stephlocke/datasauRus>

# Today's Learning Goals

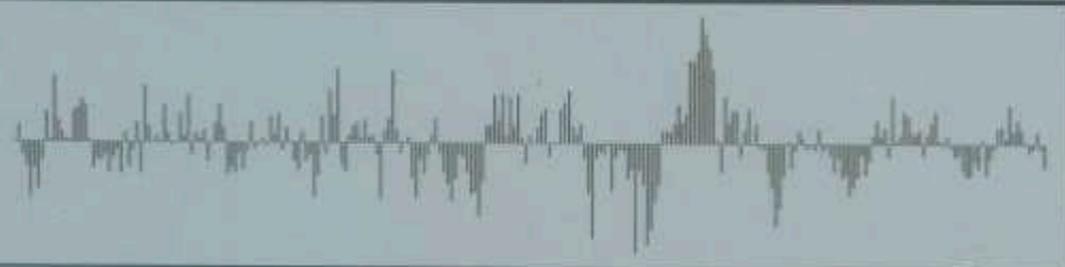
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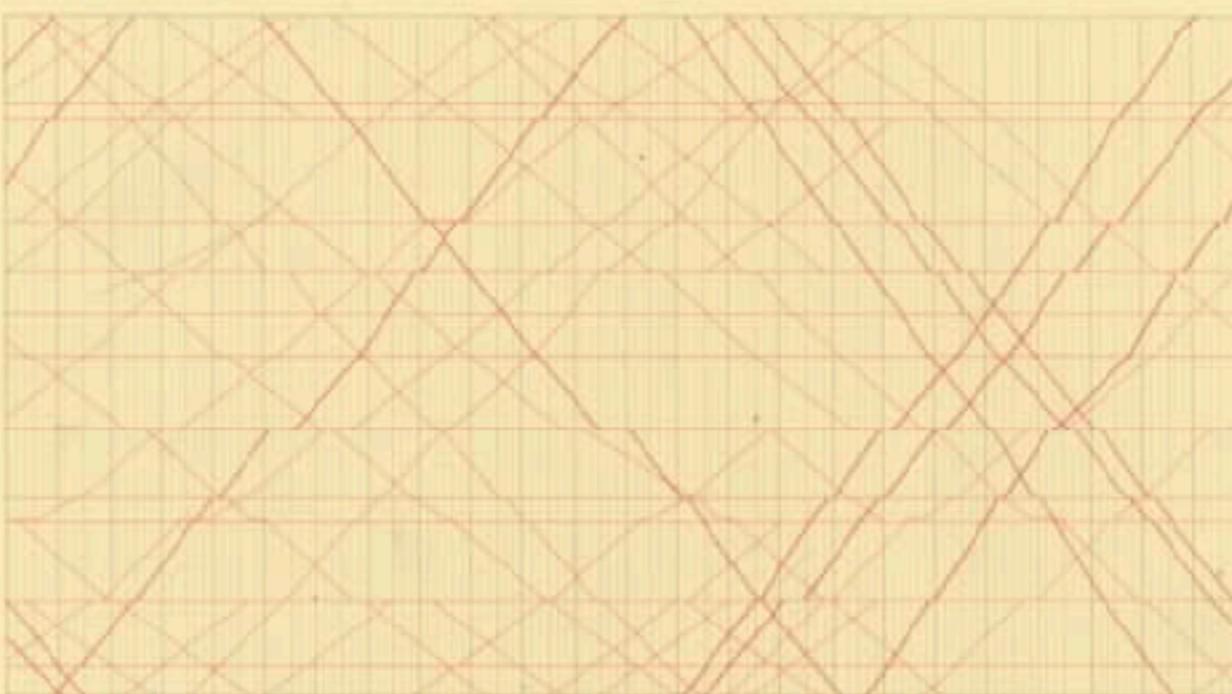


# The Elements of Graphing Data

William S. Cleveland



Copyrighted Material



The Visual Display  
of Quantitative Information

EDWARD R. TUFTE

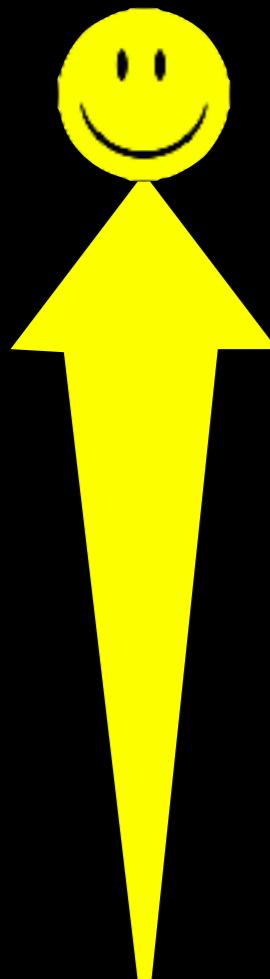
## **Key Point:**

Good visualizations optimize  
for the human visual system.

**Key Point:** The most important measurement should exploit the highest ranked encoding possible

- Position along a common scale
- Position on identical but nonaligned scales
- Length
- Angle or Slope
- Area
- Volume or Density or Color saturation/hue

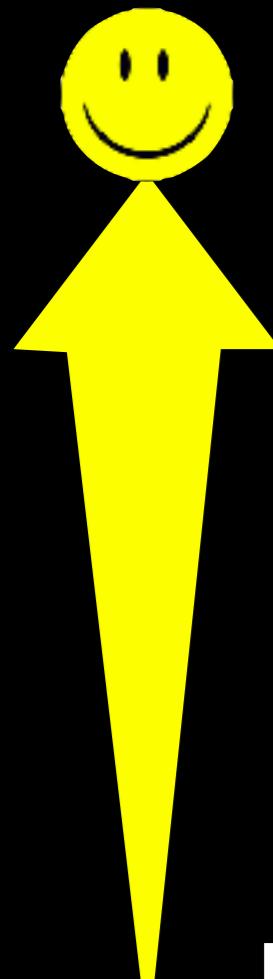
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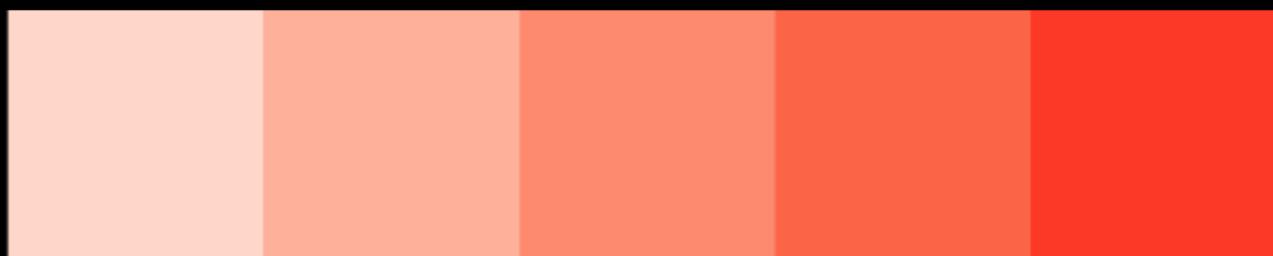
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**luminance**

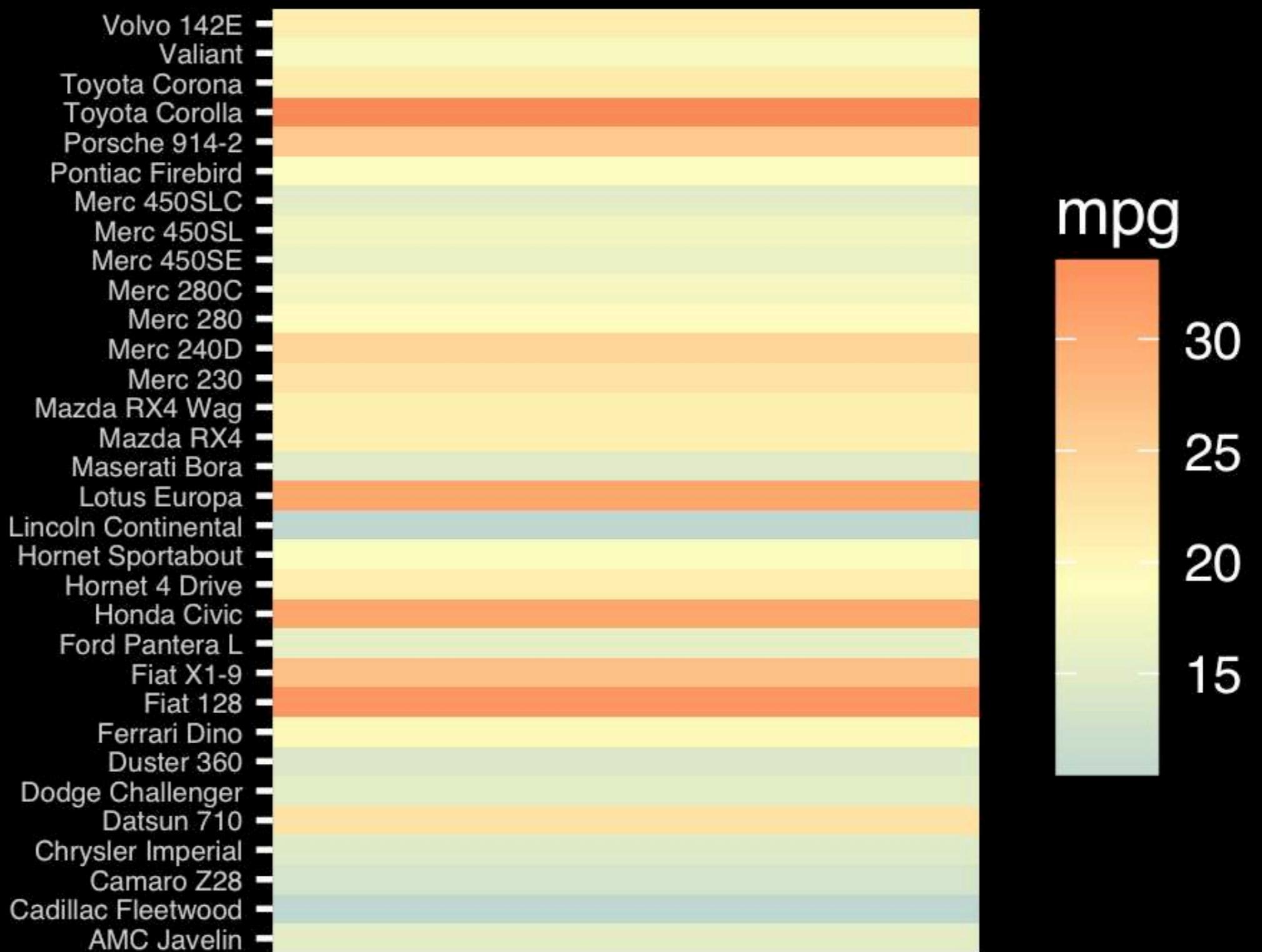


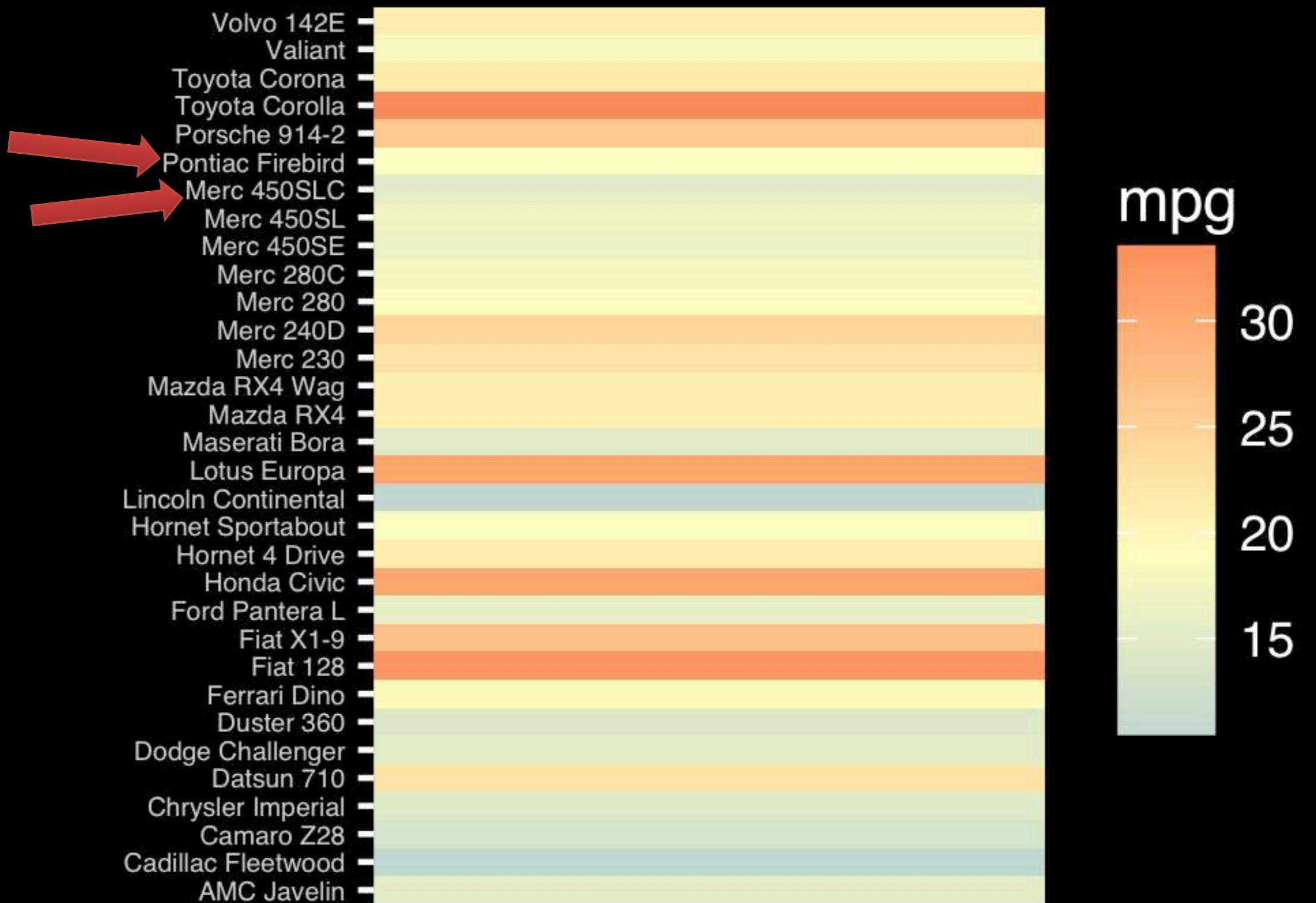
**saturation**

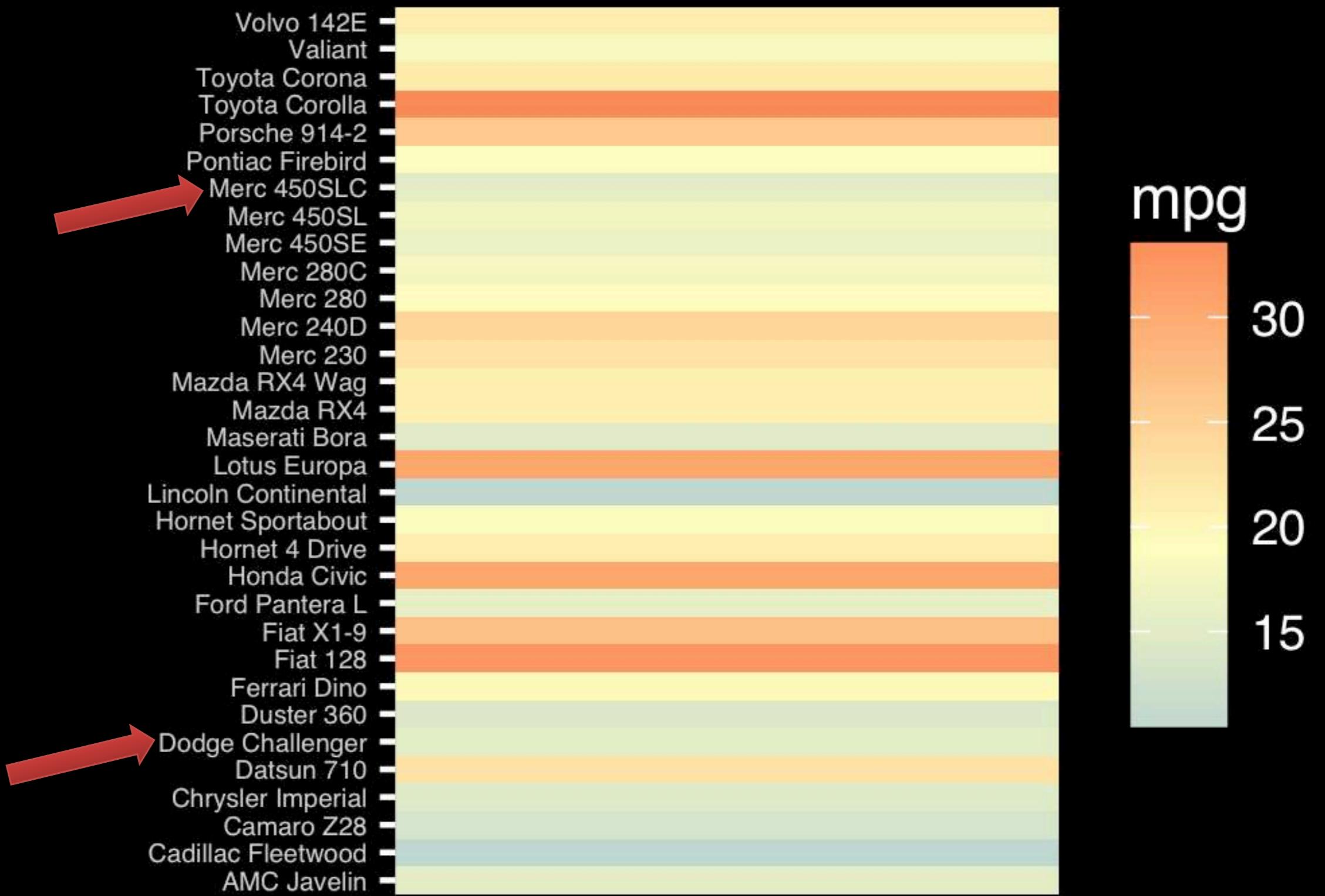


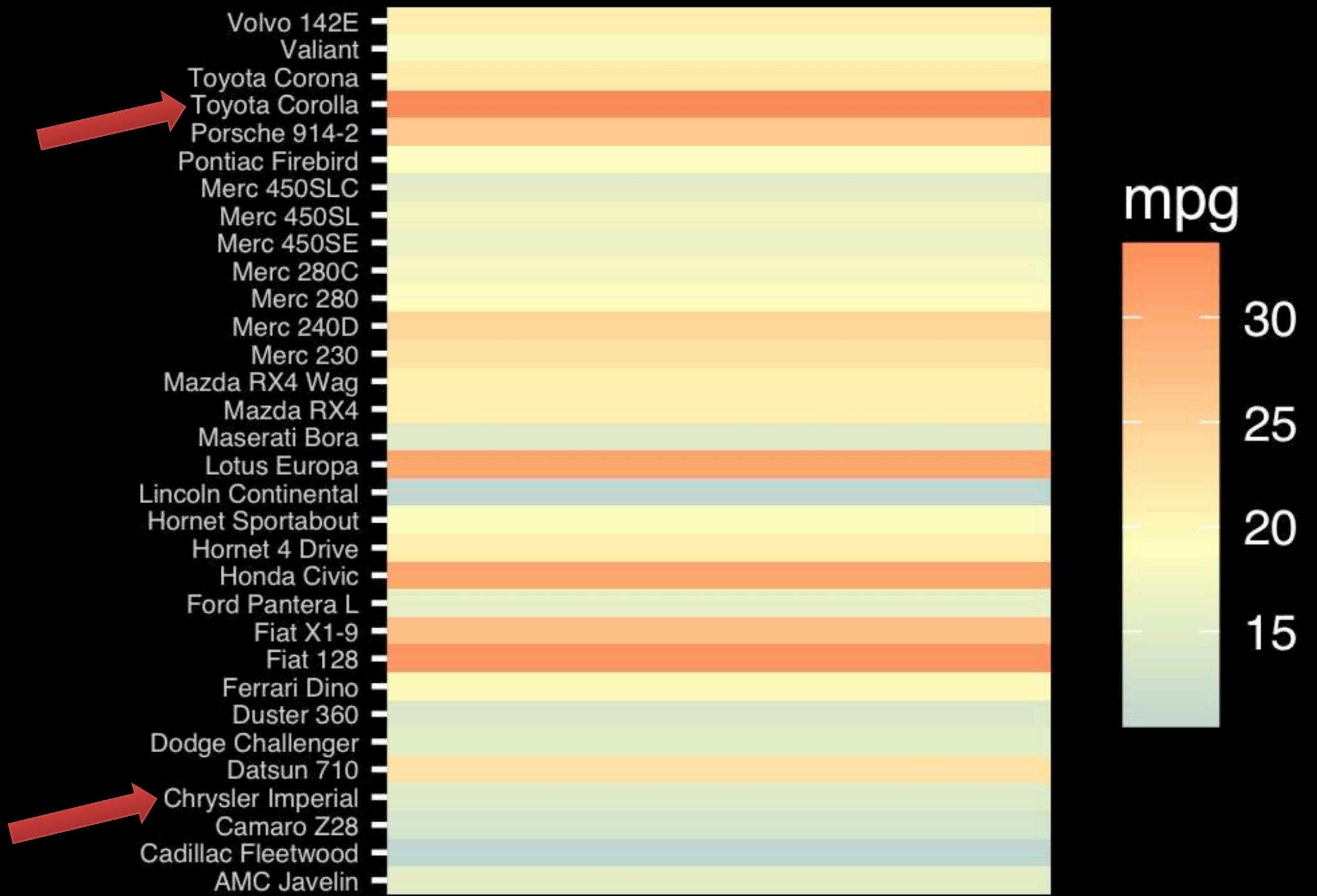
**hue**



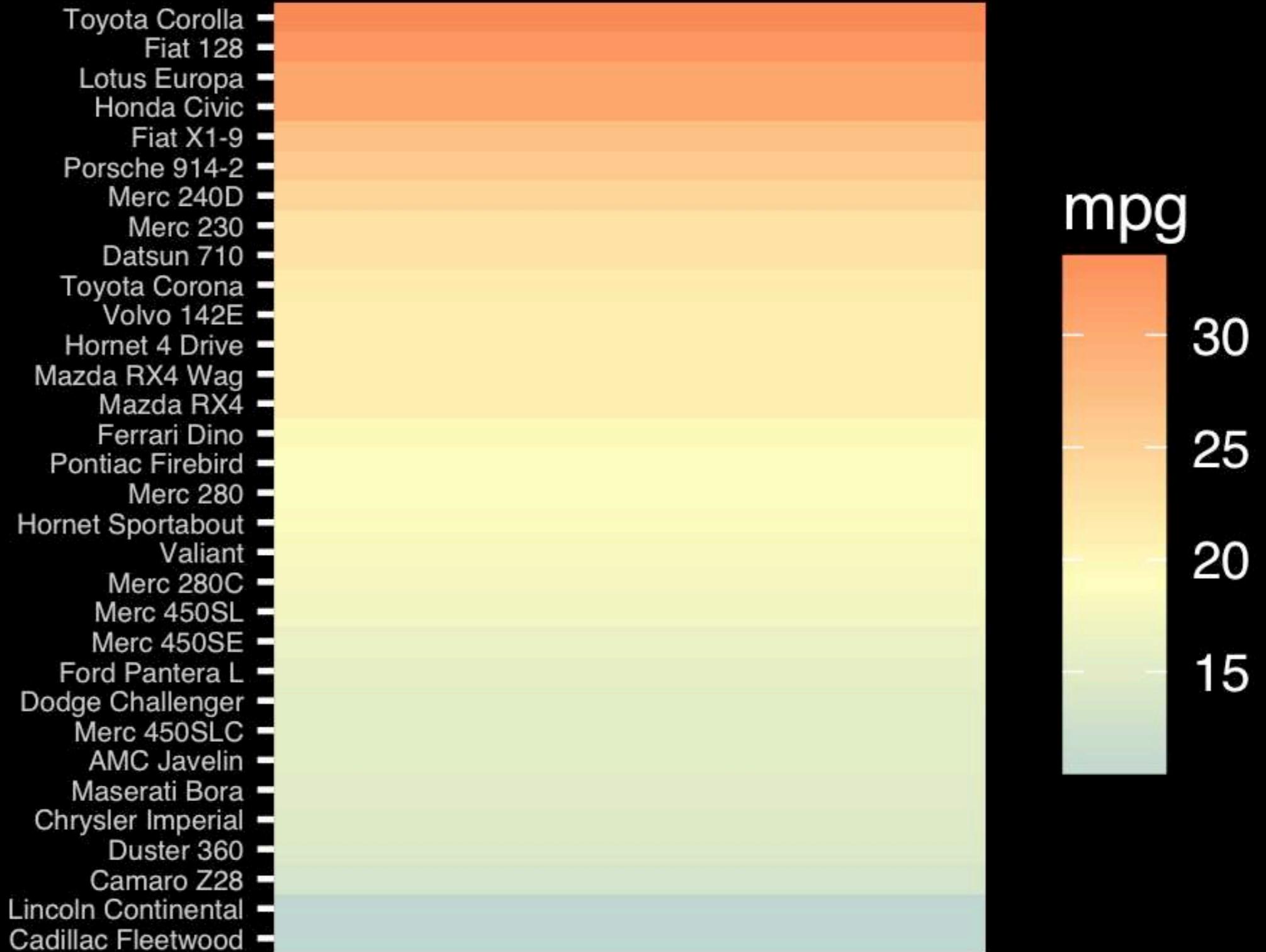


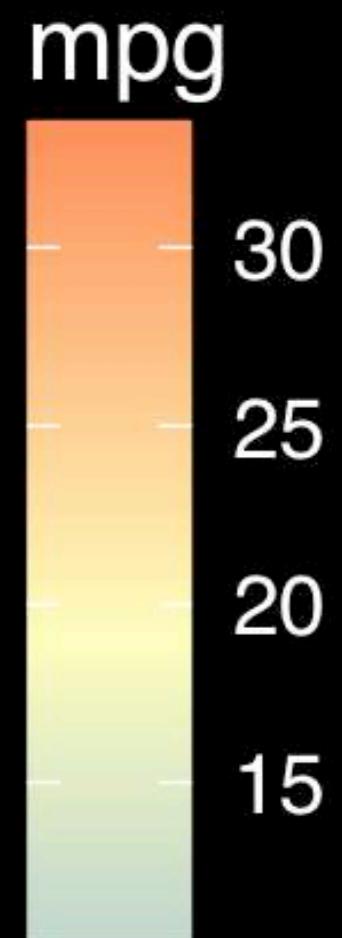
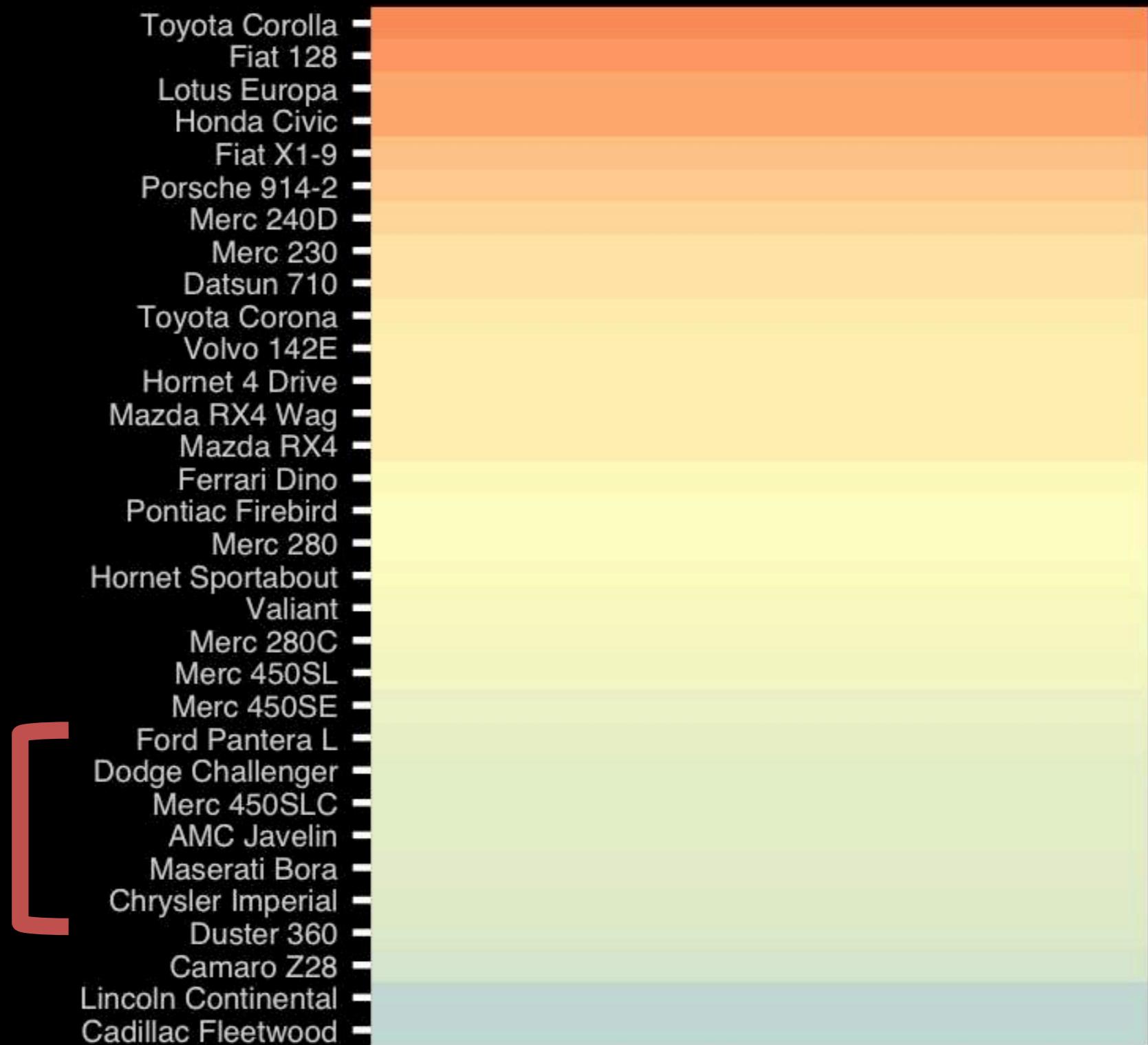


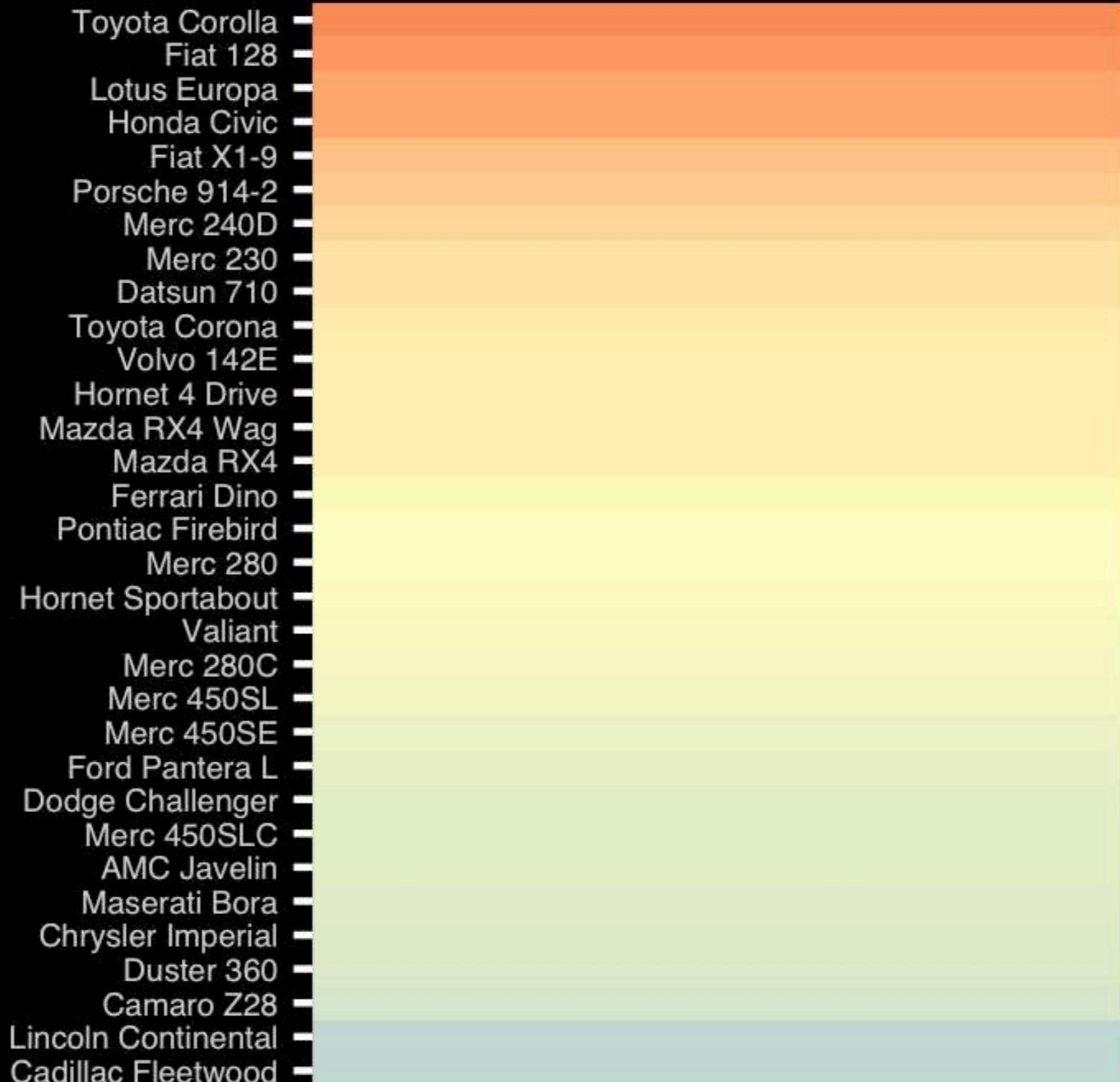




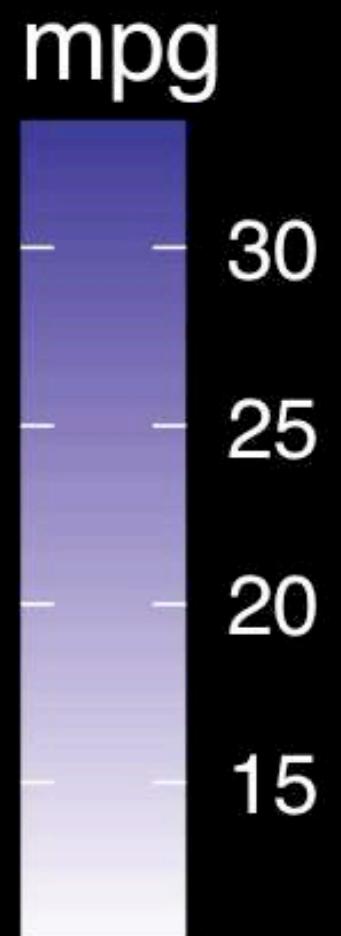
**Observation:** Alphabetical is almost never the correct ordering of a categorical variable.





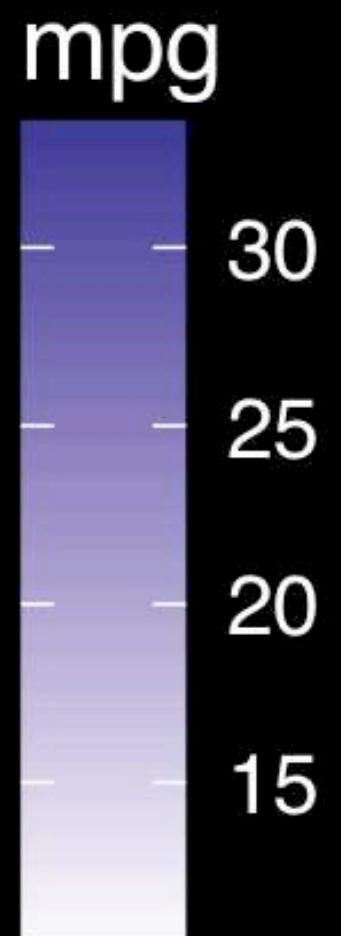


If we did not have the legend would you know which was low or high mpg?

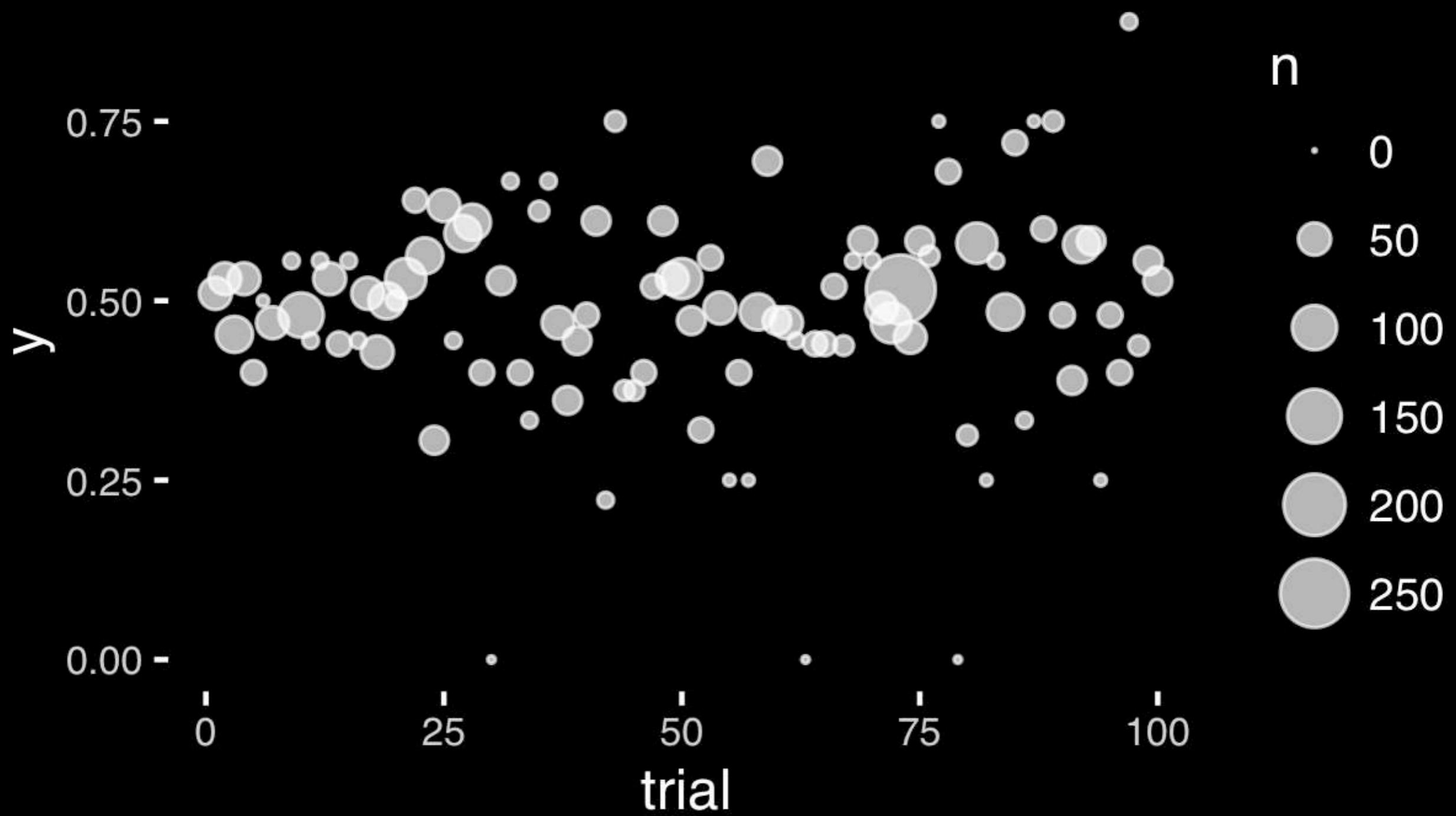


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Cadillac Fleetwood Lincoln Continental Camaro Z28 Duster 360 Chrysler Imperial Maserati Borghese AMC Javelin Merc 450SLC

Dodge Challenger Ford Pantera Merc 450SE Merc 450SL Merc 280C Valiant Hornet Sport Merc 280

Pontiac Firebird Ferrari Dino Mazda RX4 Mazda RX4 1 Hornet 4 Dr Volvo 142E Toyota Corolla Datsun 710

Merc 230 Merc 240D Porsche 914 Fiat X1-9 Honda Civic Lotus Europa Fiat 128 Toyota Corolla

Cadillac Fleetwood Lincoln Continental Camaro Z28 Duster 360 Chrysler Imperial Maserati Bora AMC Javelin Merc 450SLC

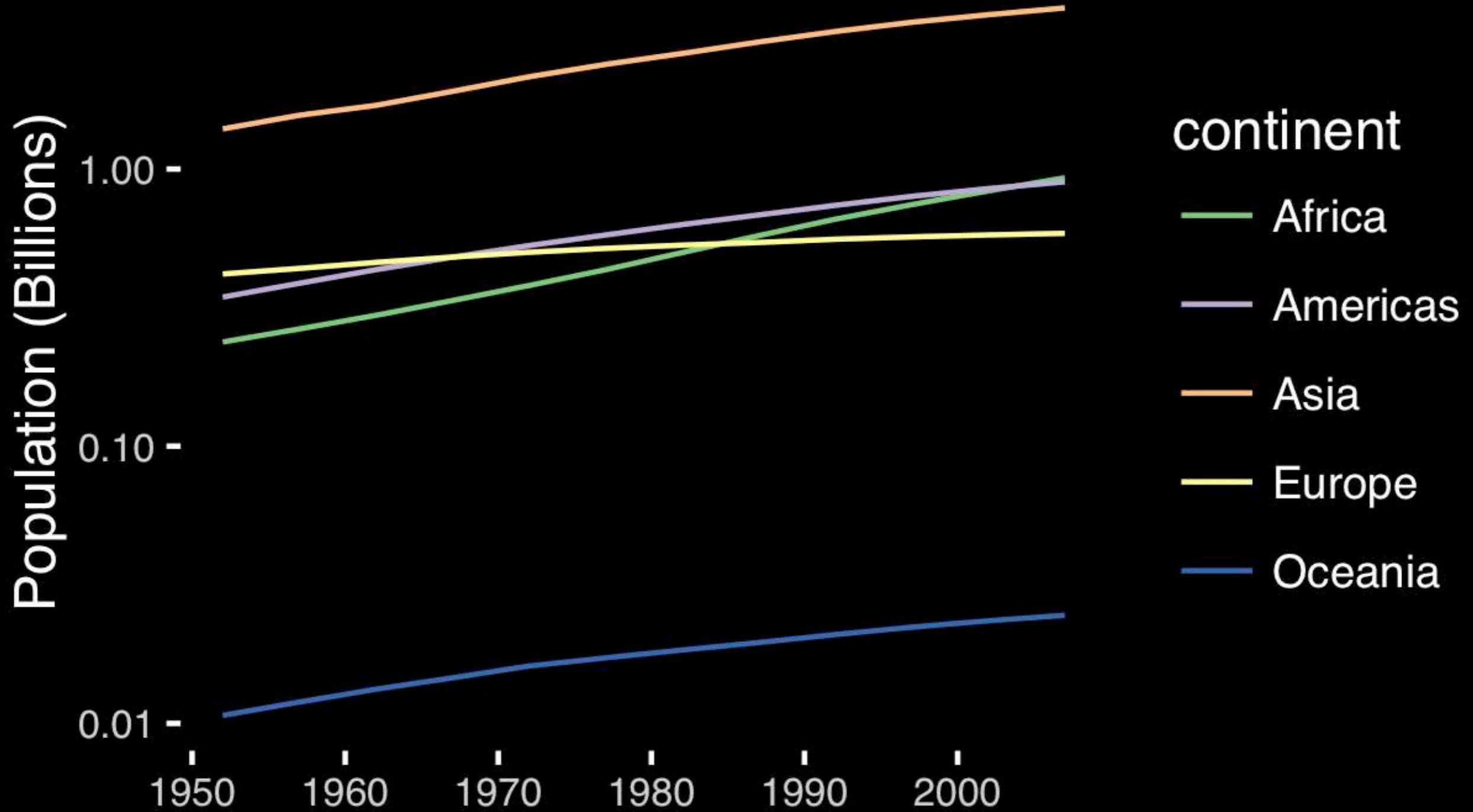


Dodge Challenger Ford Pantera Merc 450SE Merc 450SL Merc 280C Valiant Hornet Sport Merc 280

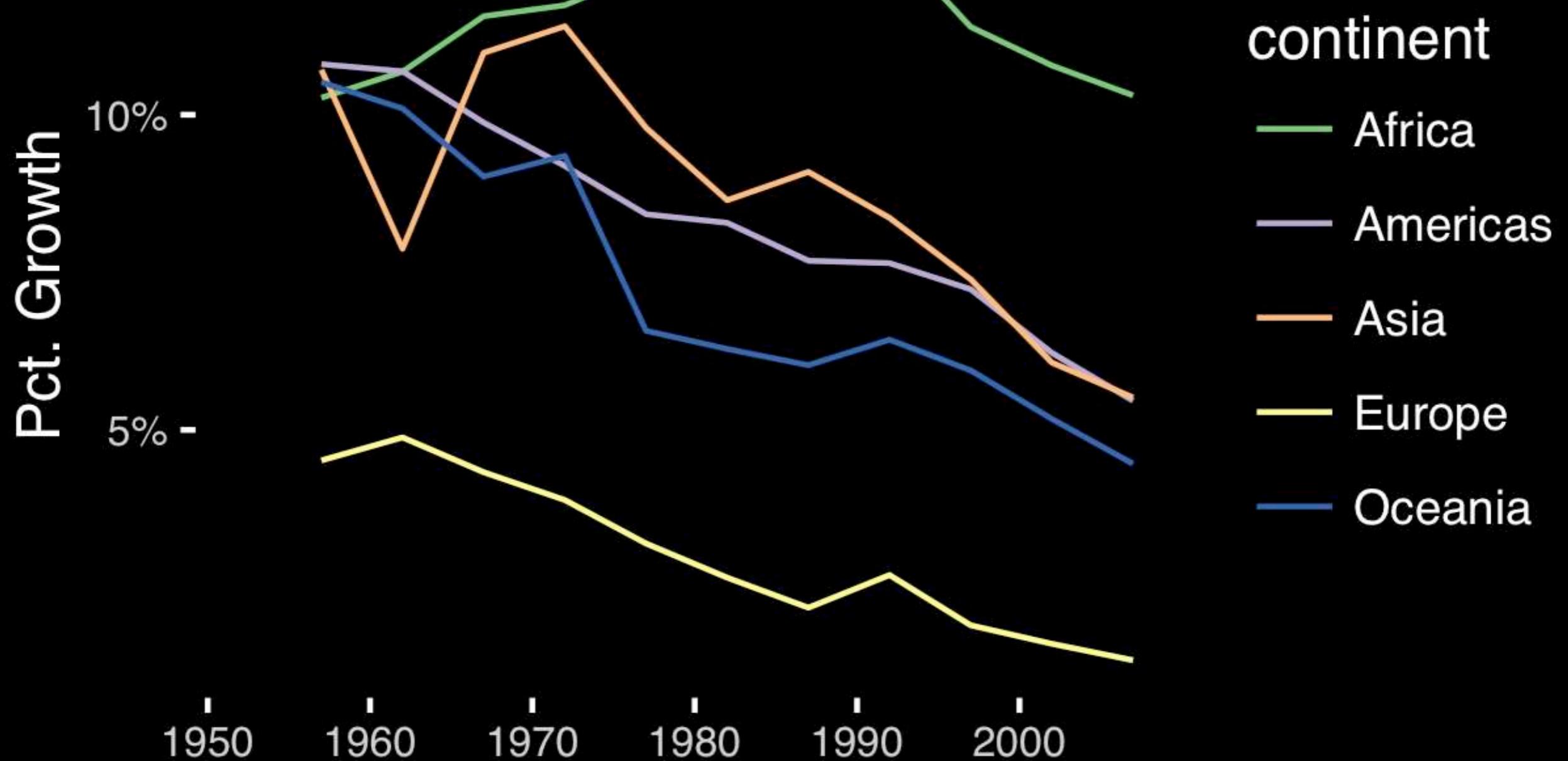
Pontiac Firebird Ferrari Dino Mazda RX4 Mazda RX4 1 Hornet 4 Dr Volvo 142E Toyota Corolla Datsun 710

Merc 230 Merc 240D Porsche 914 Fiat X1-9 Honda Civic Lotus Europa Fiat 128 Toyota Corolla





If growth (slope) is important, plot it directly.



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**Observation:** Pie charts  
are ALWAYS a mistake.

Apart from MPAs :-)

**Piecharts are the information visualization equivalent of a roofing hammer to the frontal lobe.** They have no place in the world of grownups, and occupy the same semiotic space as short pants, a runny nose, and chocolate smeared on one's face. They are as professional as a pair of assless chaps.

<http://blog.codahale.com/2006/04/29/google-analytics-the-goggles-they-do-nothing/>

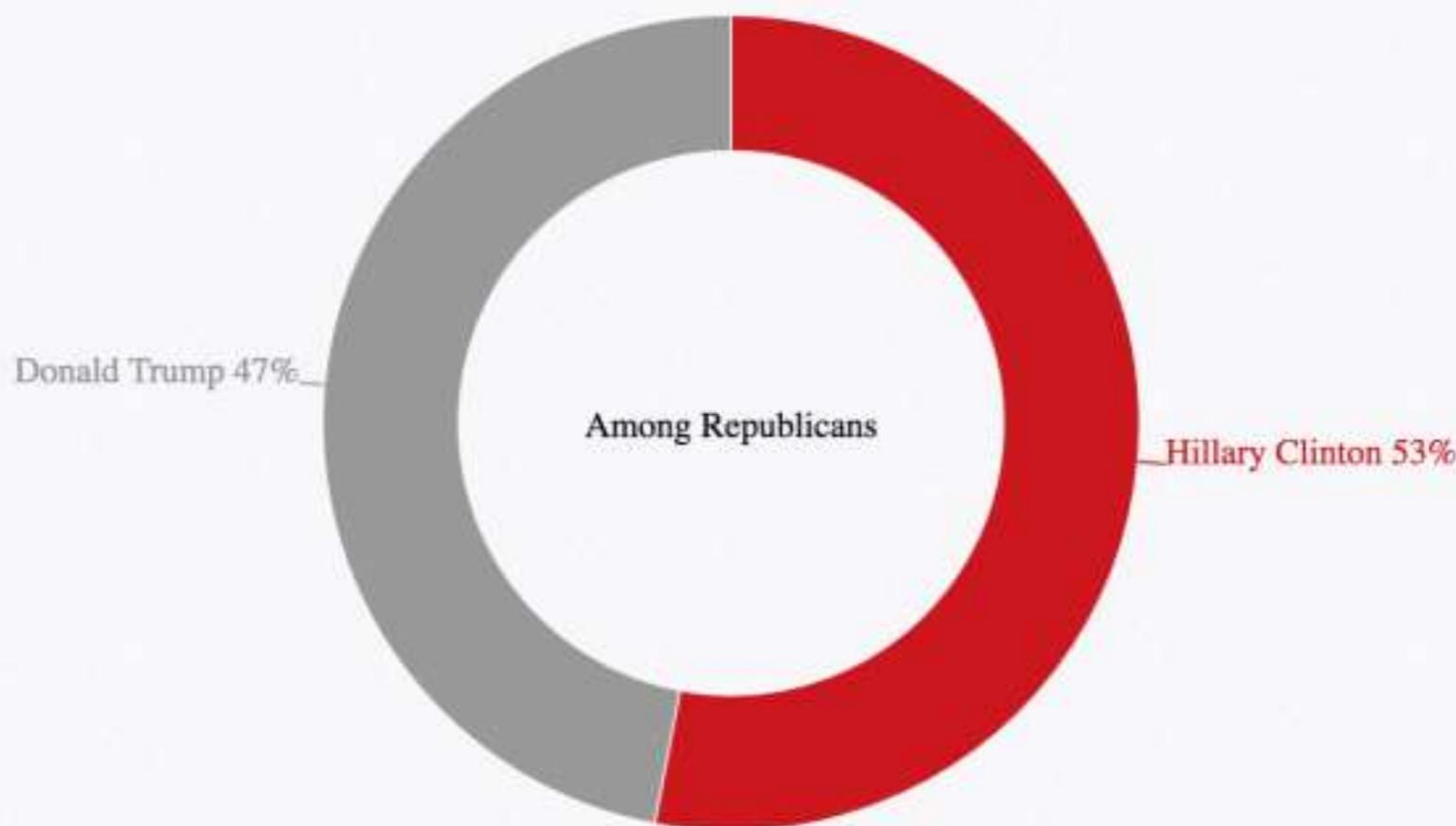
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## Who do you think did a better job in tonight's debate?

Among Republicans

Among Democrats



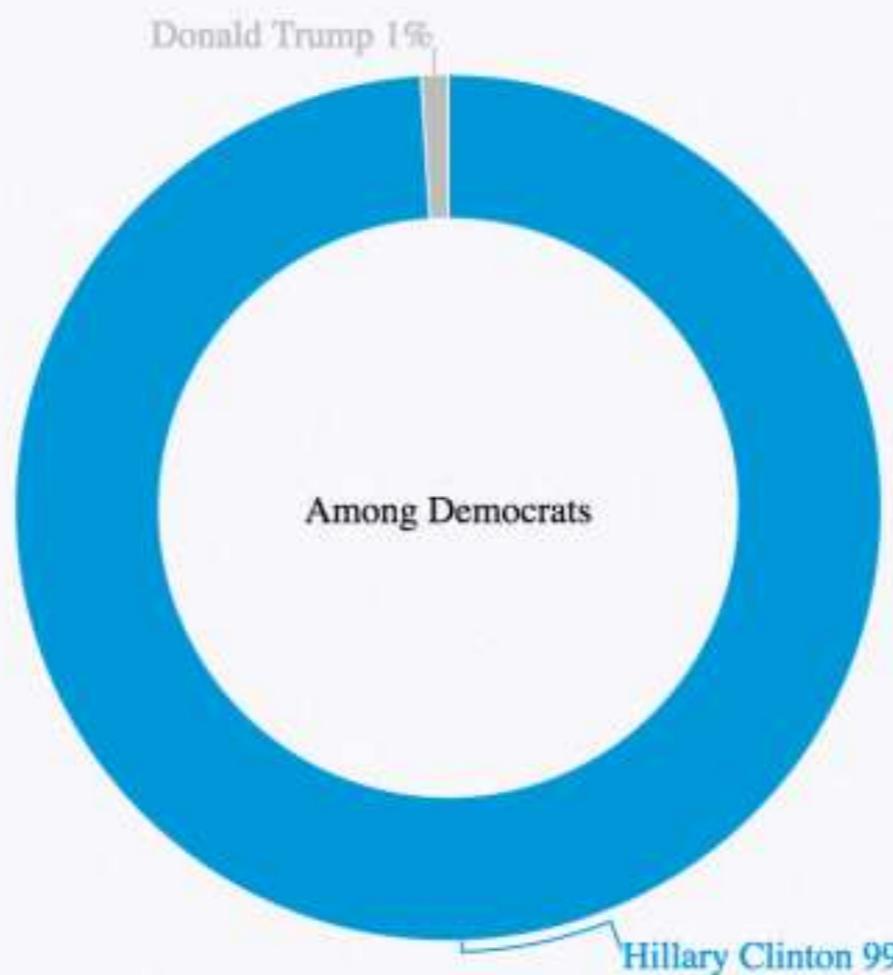
Share

POLITICO

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Share

POLITICO

Tables are preferable to graphics for many small data sets. A table is nearly always better than a dumb pie chart; the only thing worse than a pie chart is several of them, for then the viewer is asked to compare quantities located in spatial disarray both within and between pies... Given their low data-density and failure to order numbers along a visual dimension, **pie charts should never be used.**

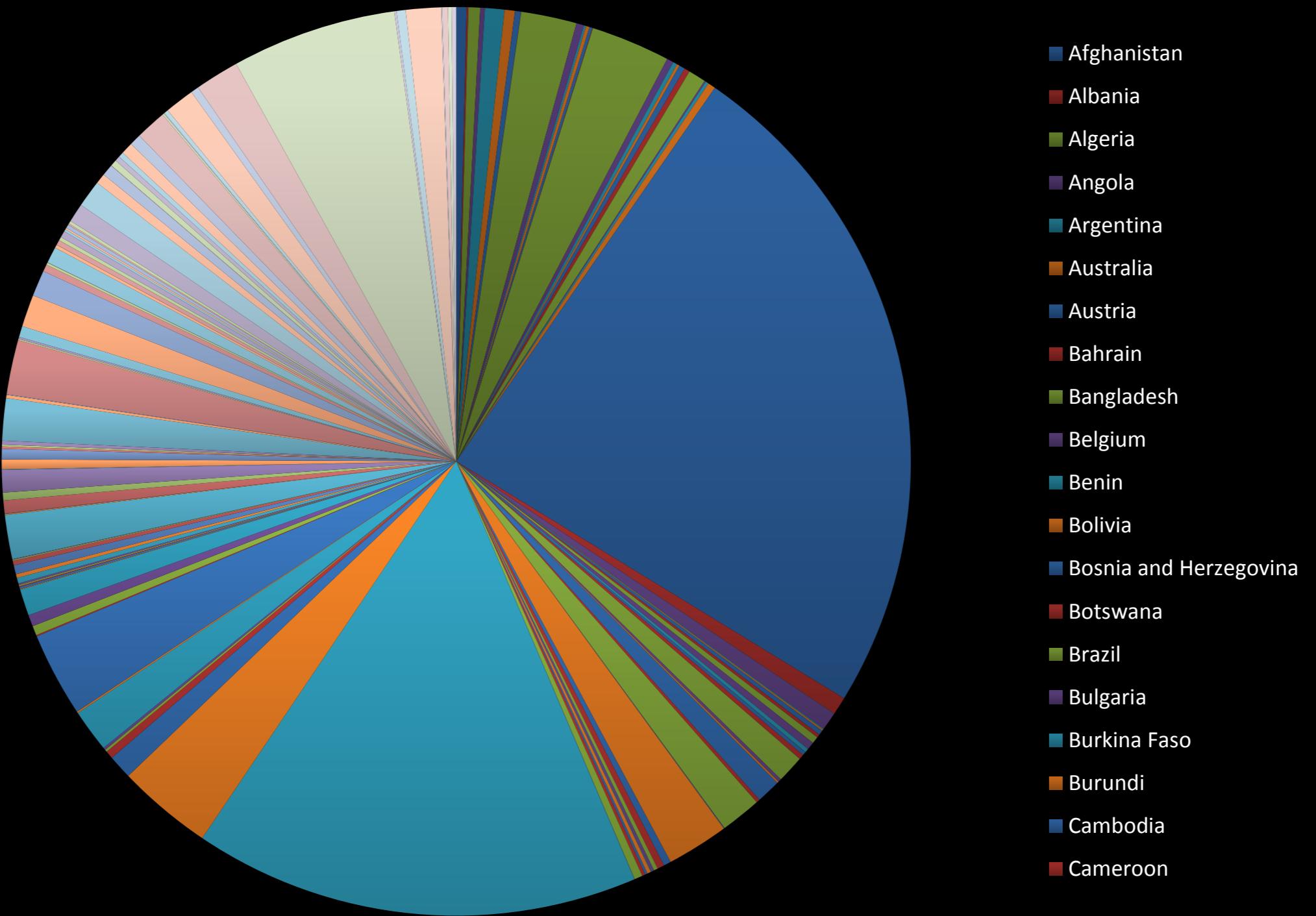
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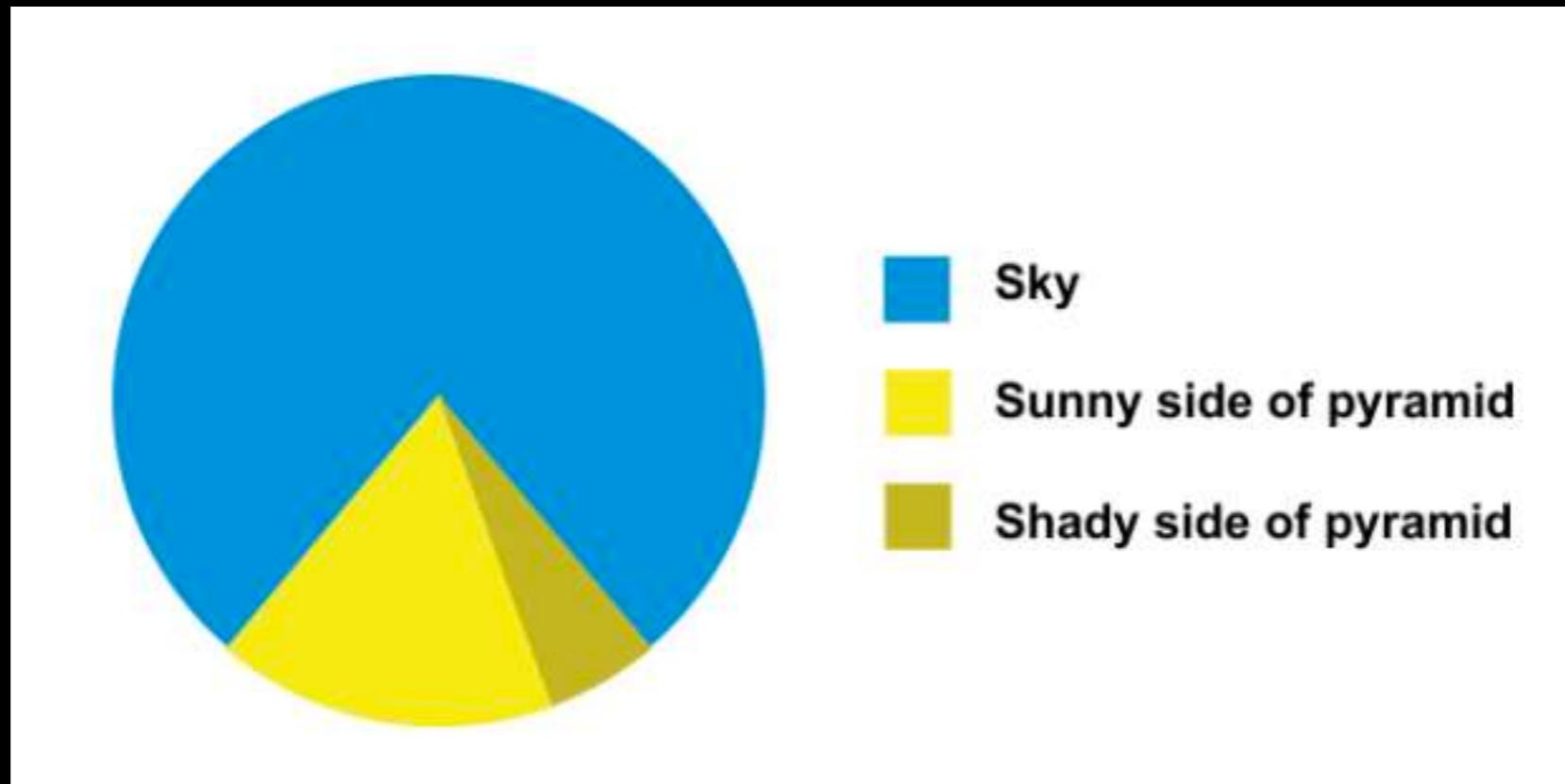
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Who do you think did a better job in tonight's debate?

	Clinton	Trump
Among Democrats	99%	1%
Among Republicans	53%	47%

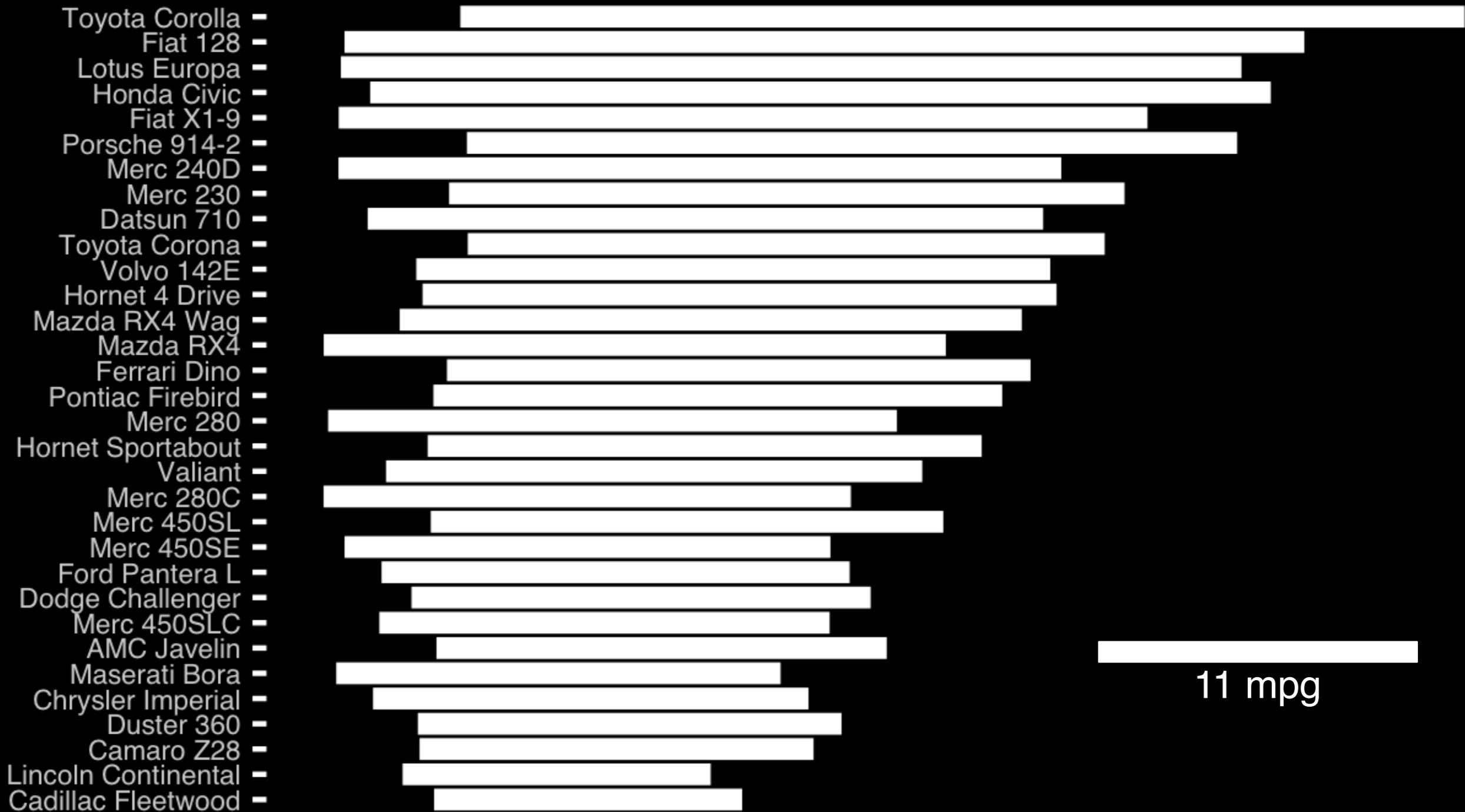


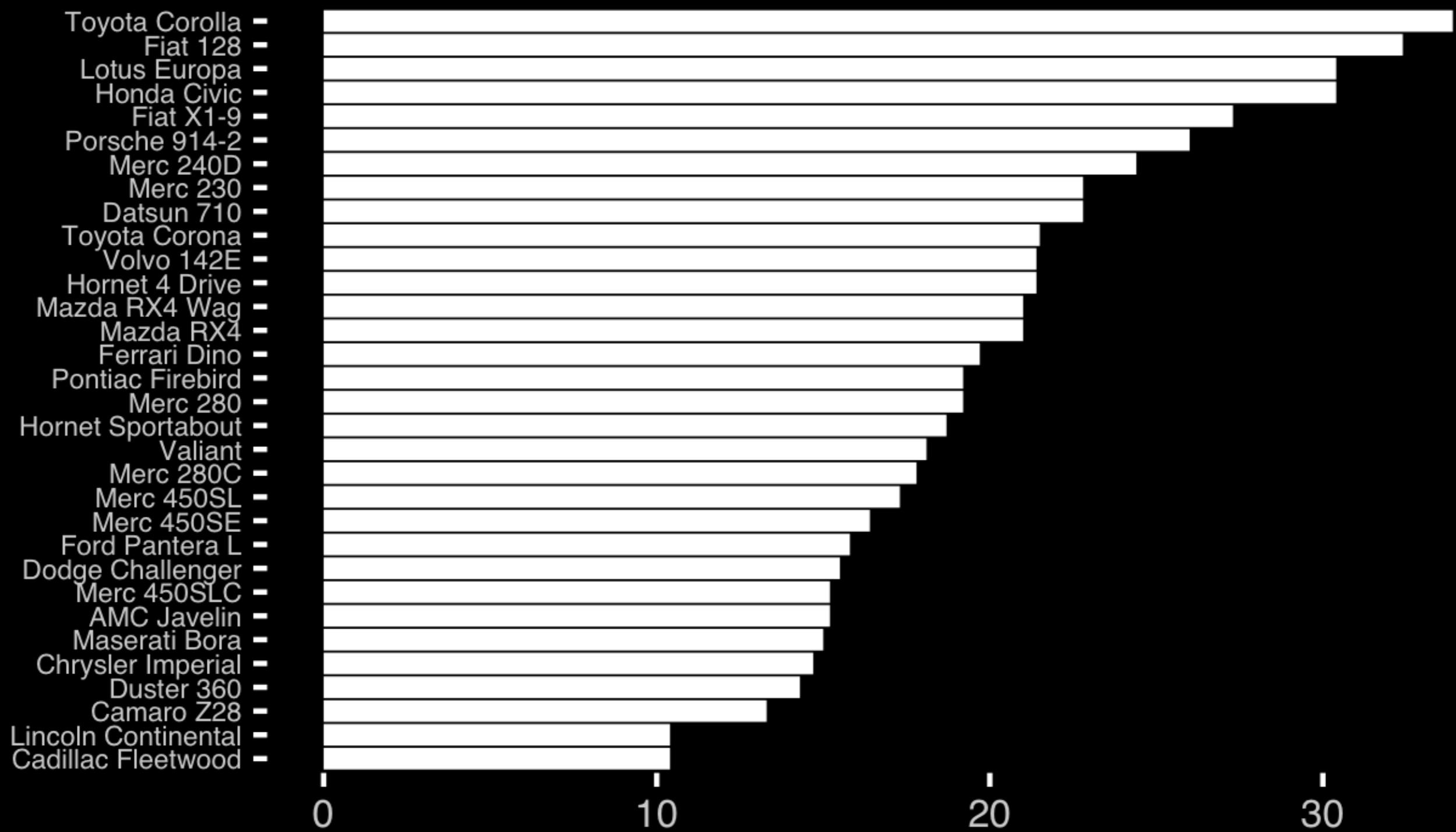
# All good pie charts are jokes...

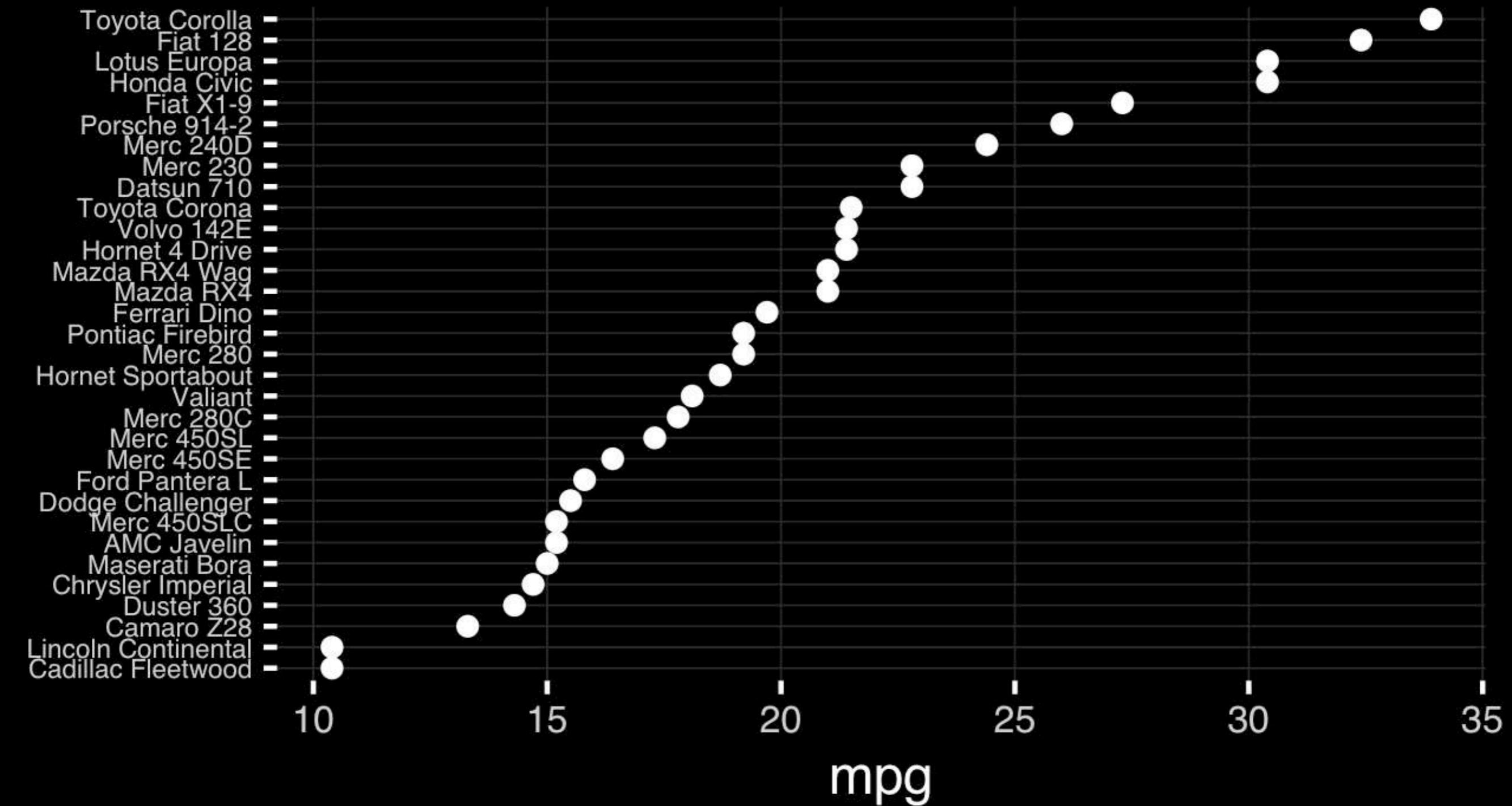


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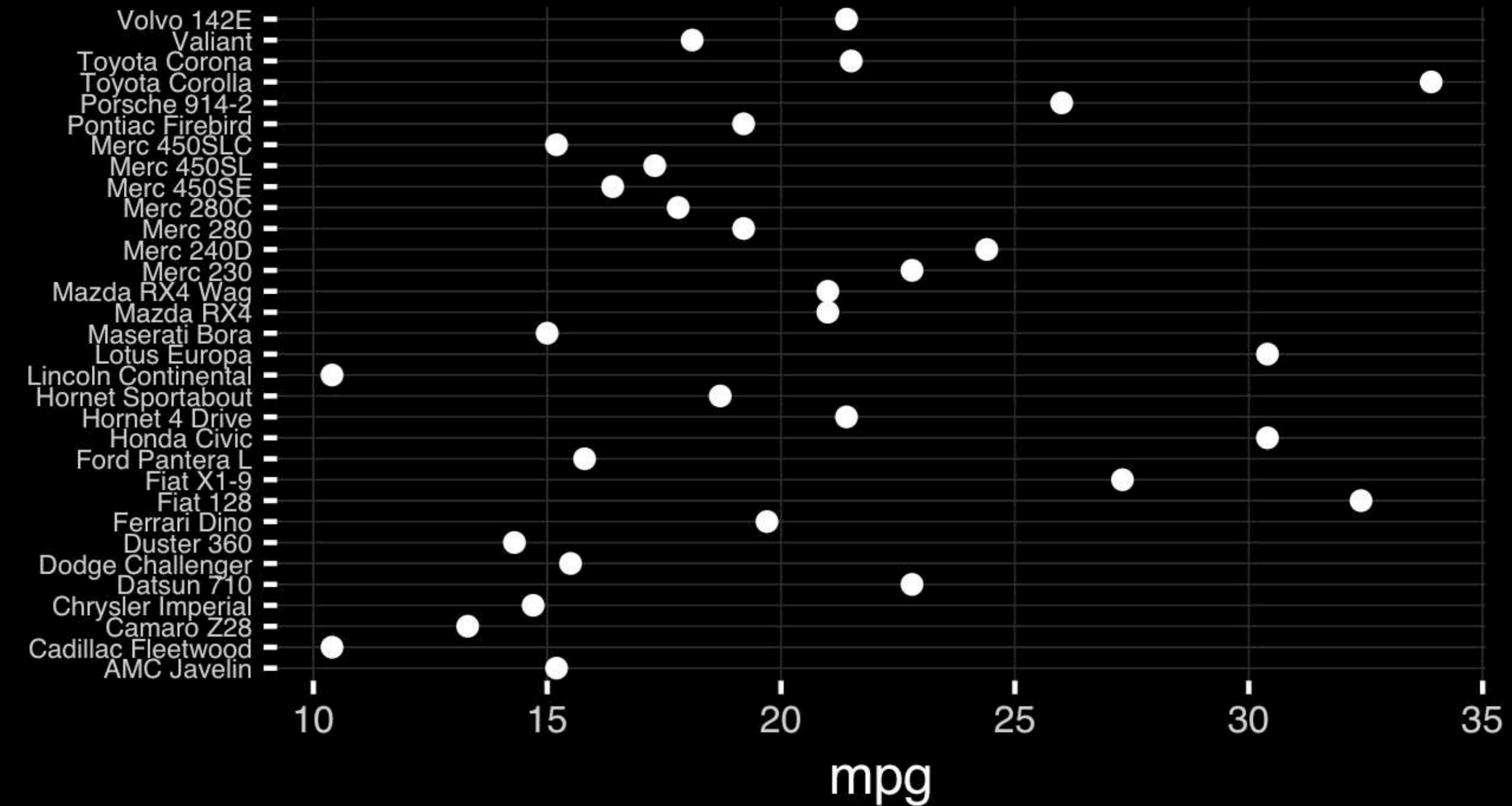


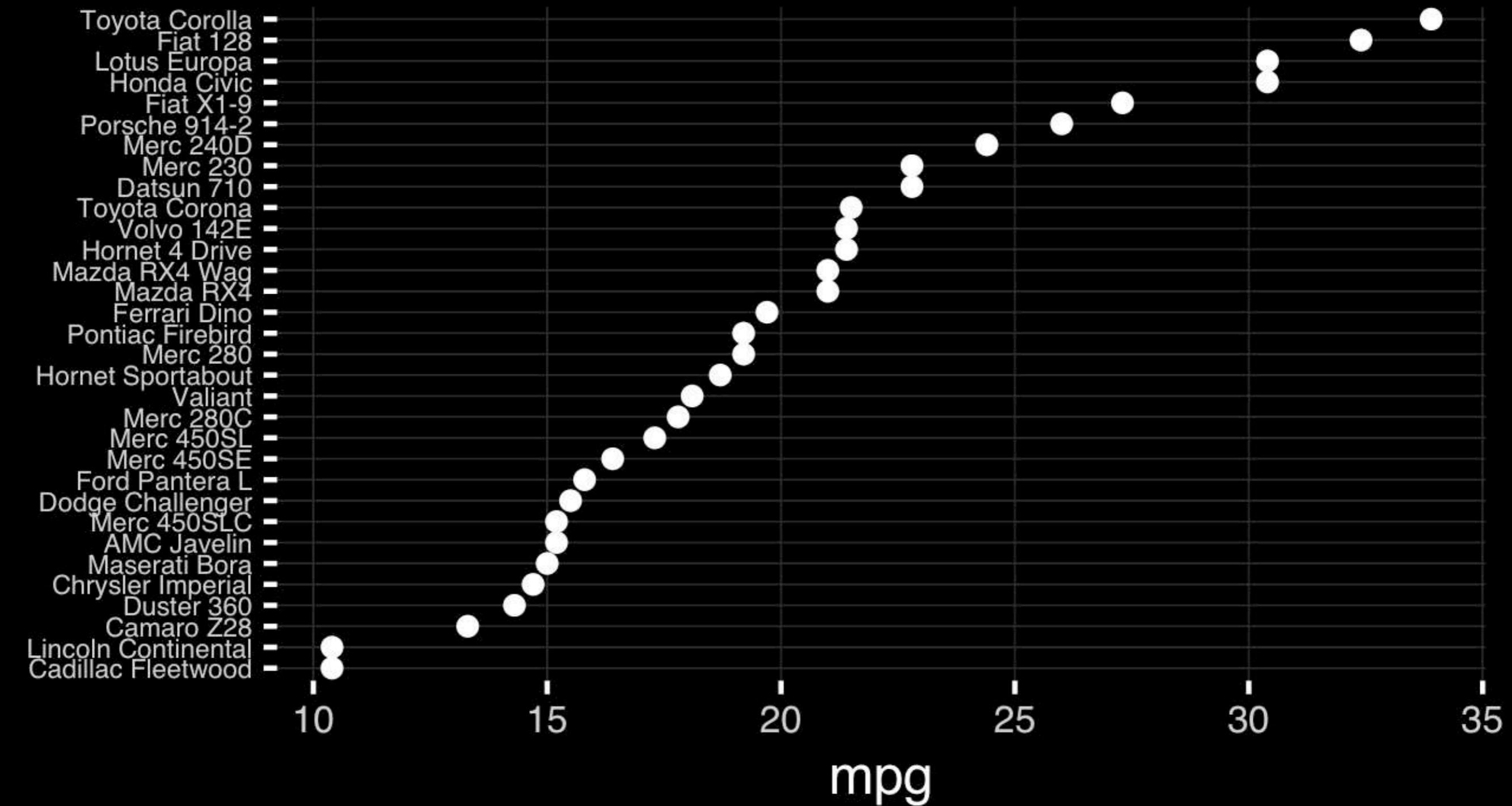


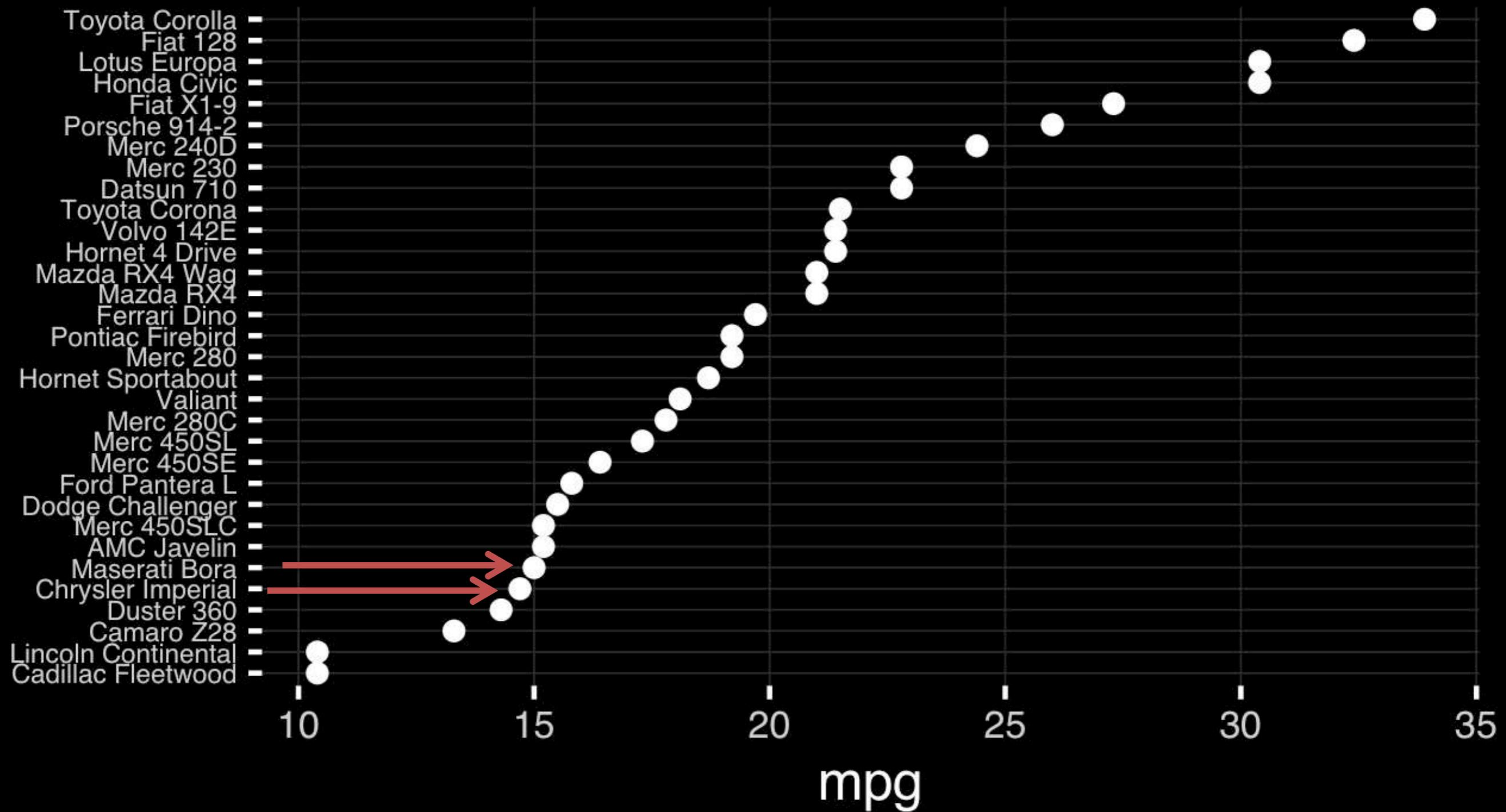


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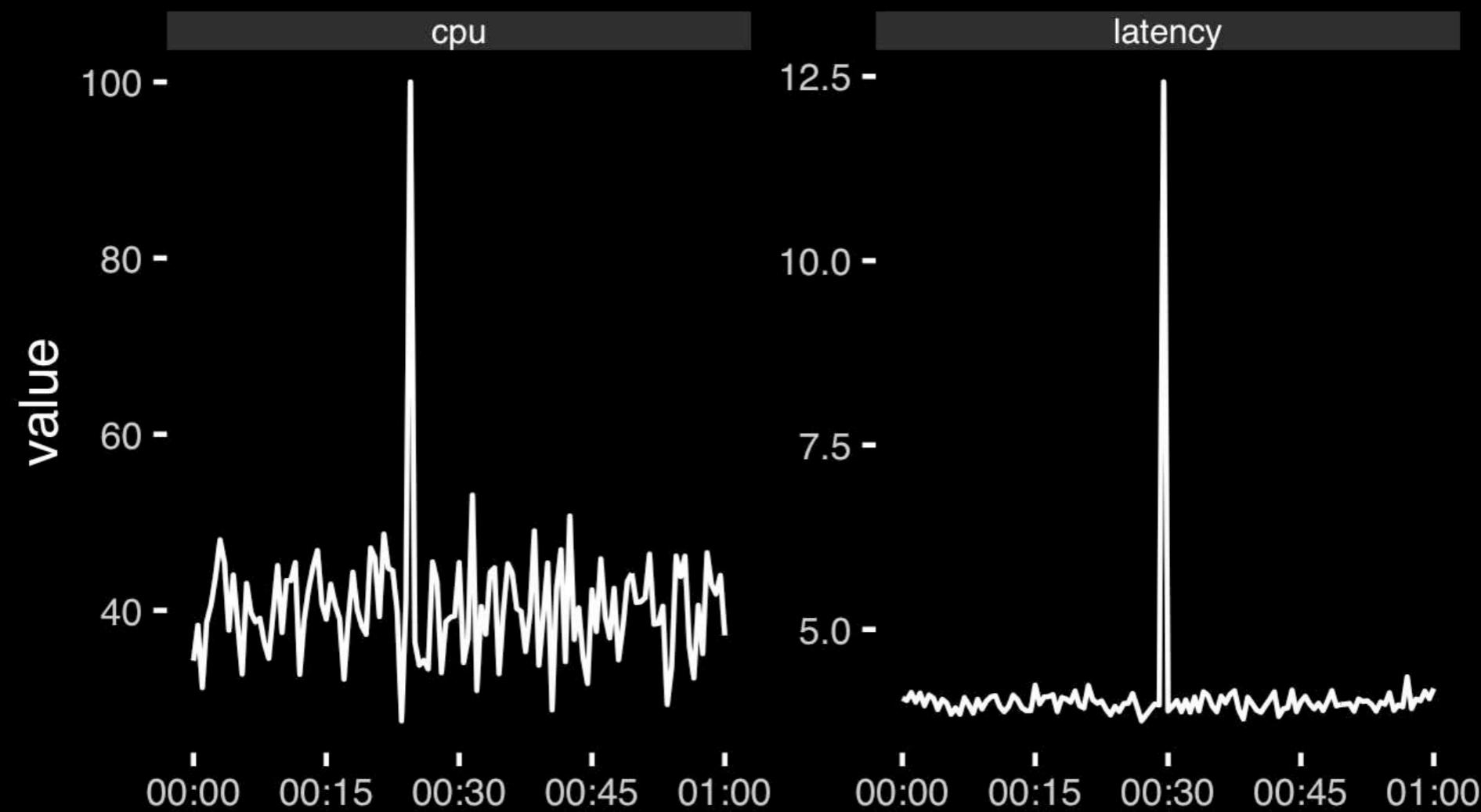
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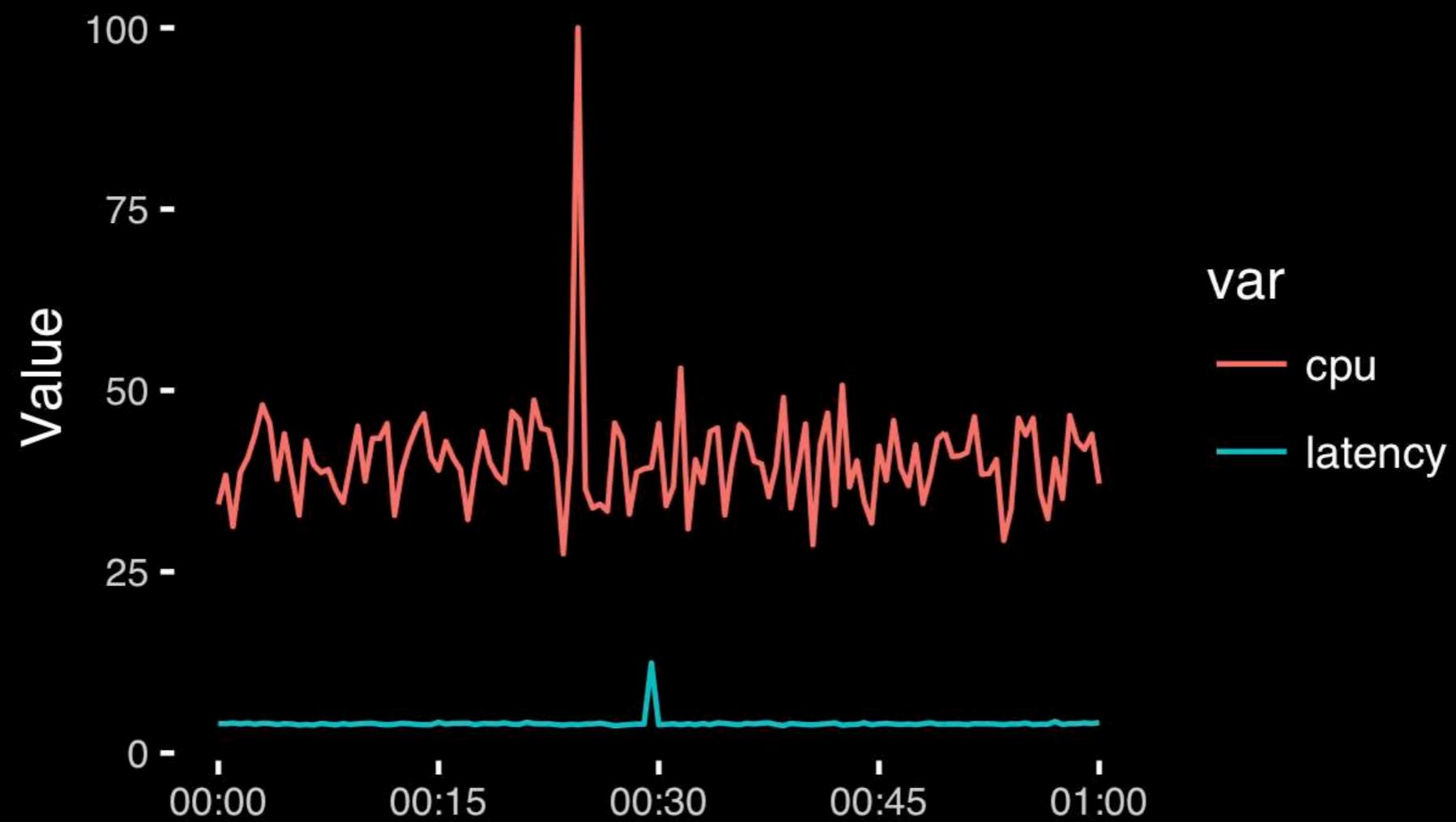


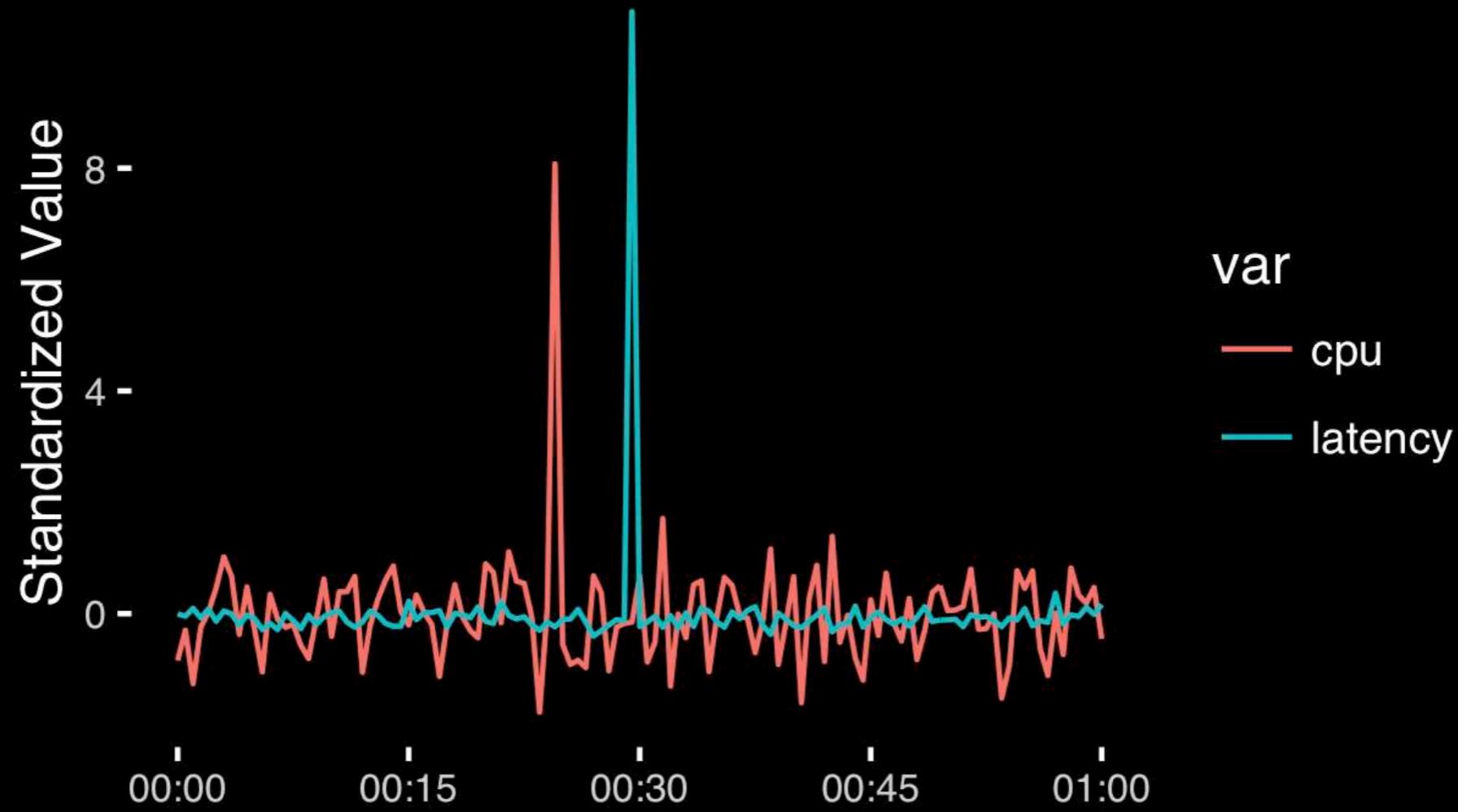




**Observation: Comparison is  
trivial on a common scale.**







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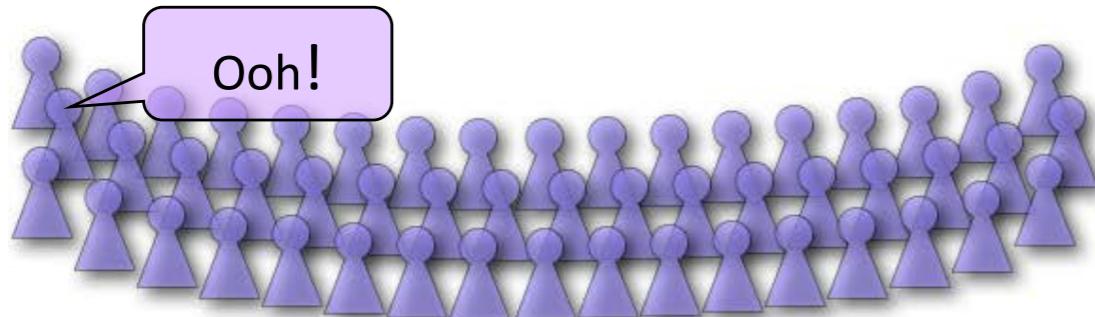
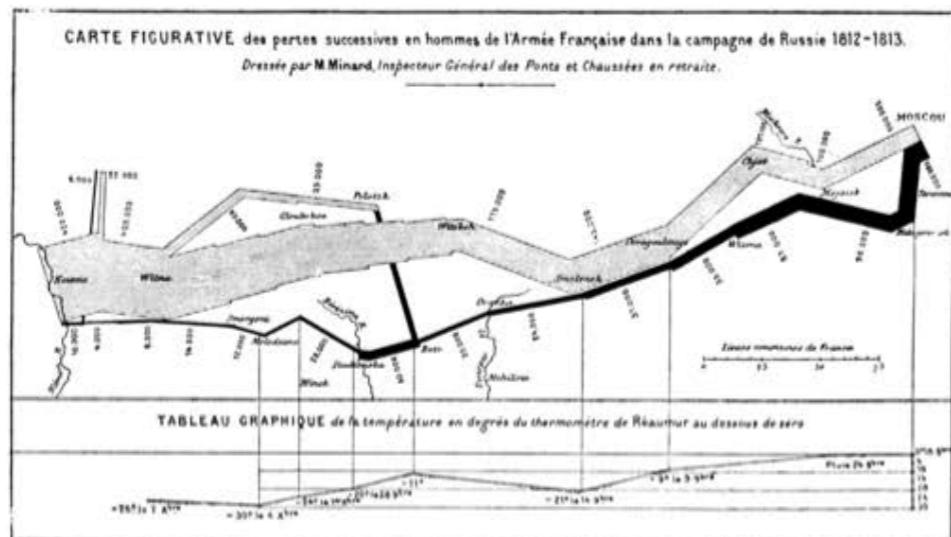
Do it Yourself!

Hands-on  
**Section 1 only please**

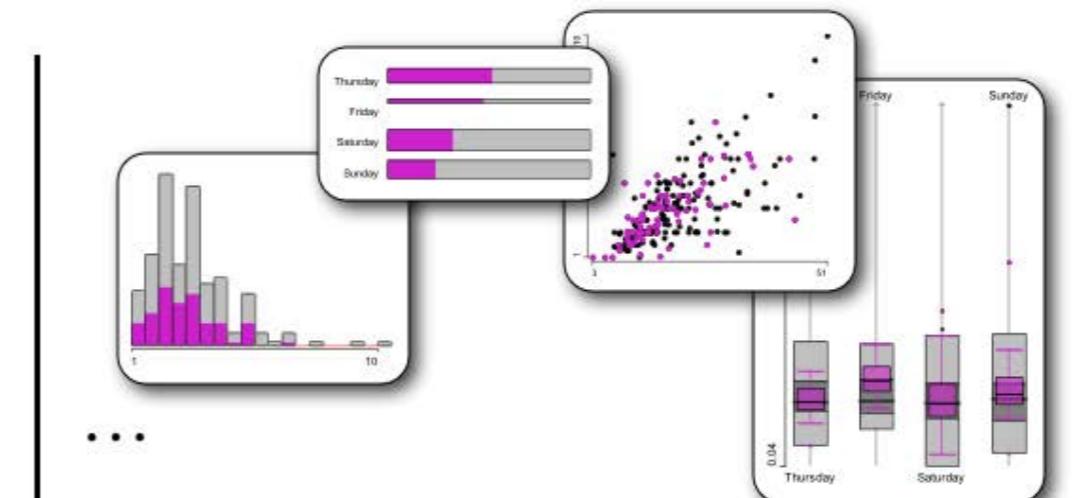
# Different graphs for different purposes

**Exploratory graphs:** many images for a narrow audience (you!)

**Presentation graphs:** single image for a large audience



Presentation



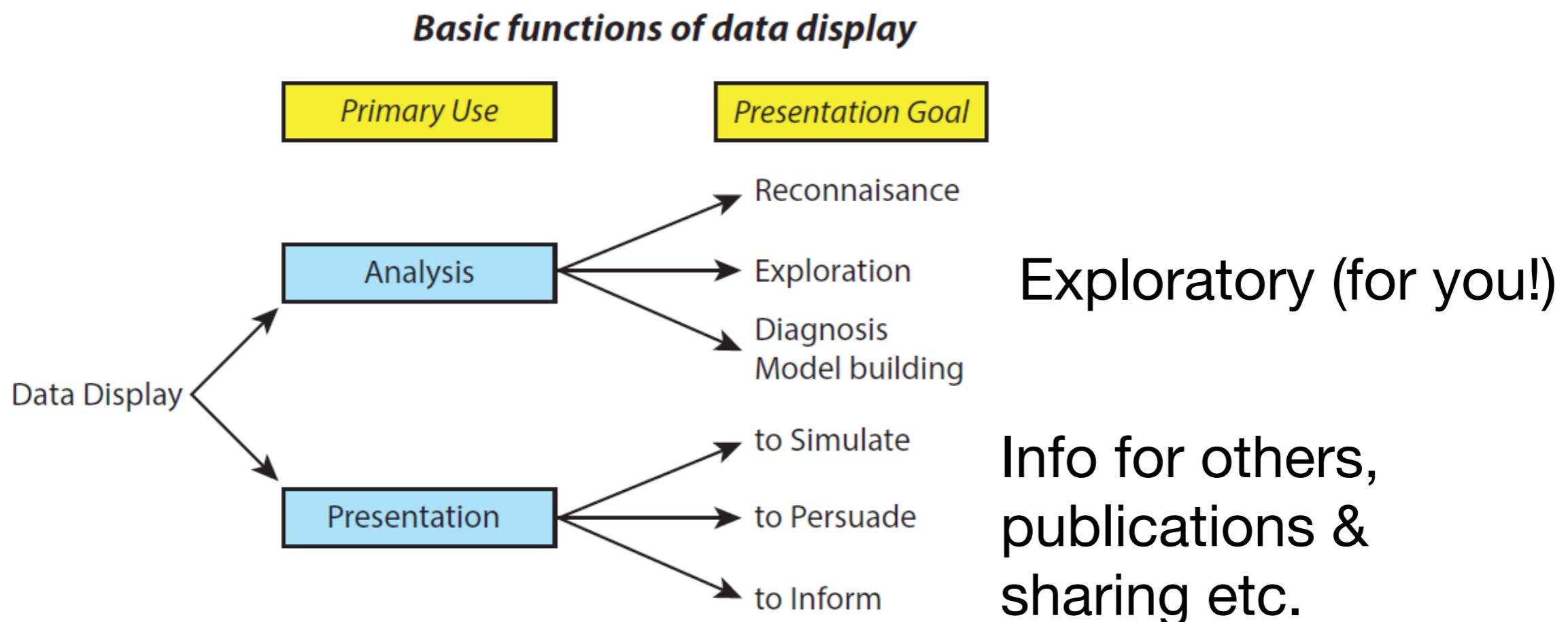
Exploration

# Roles of graphics in data analysis

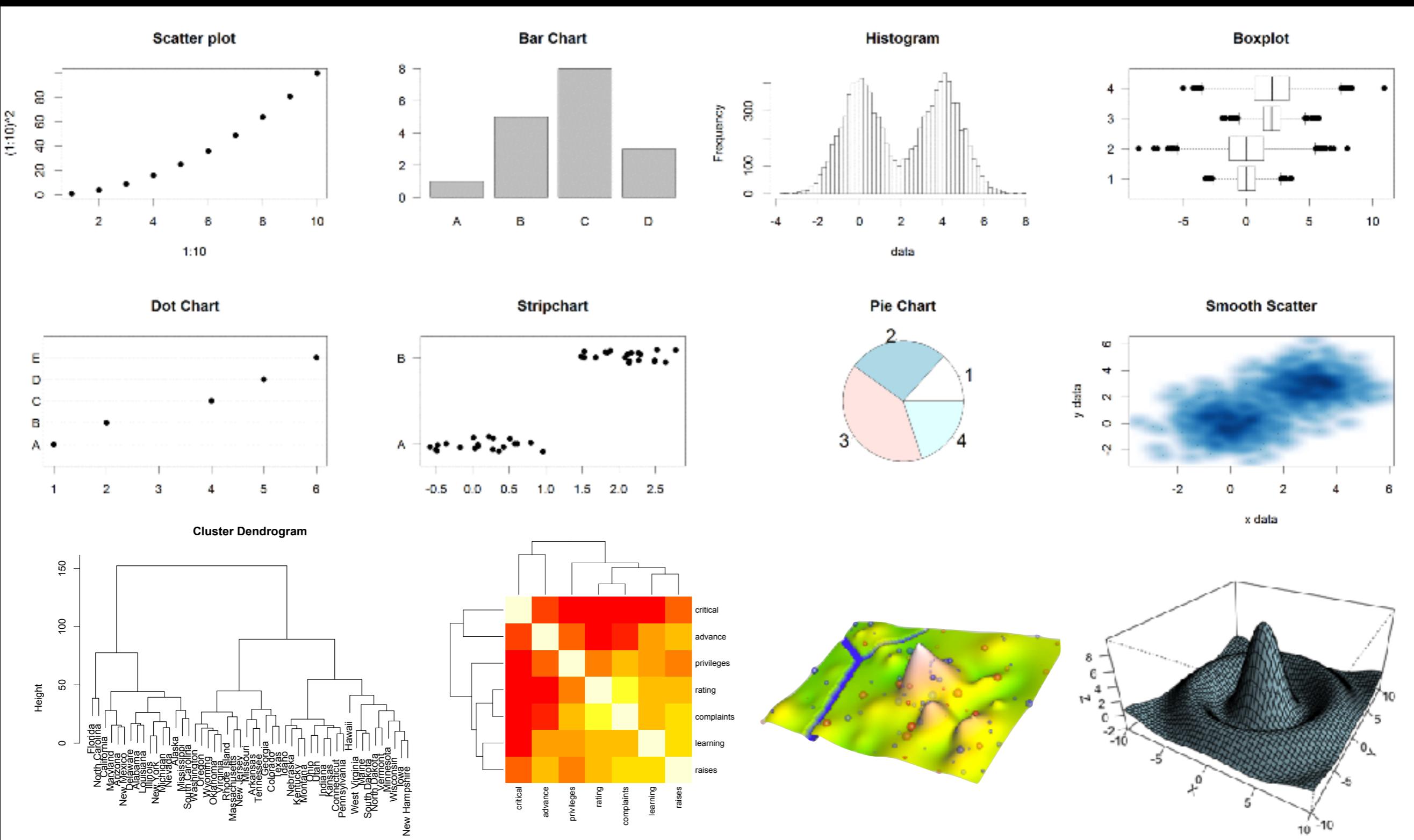
- Graphs (& tables) are forms of communication:
  - What is the audience?
  - What is the message?

**Analysis graphs:** design to see patterns, trends, aid the process of data description, interpretation

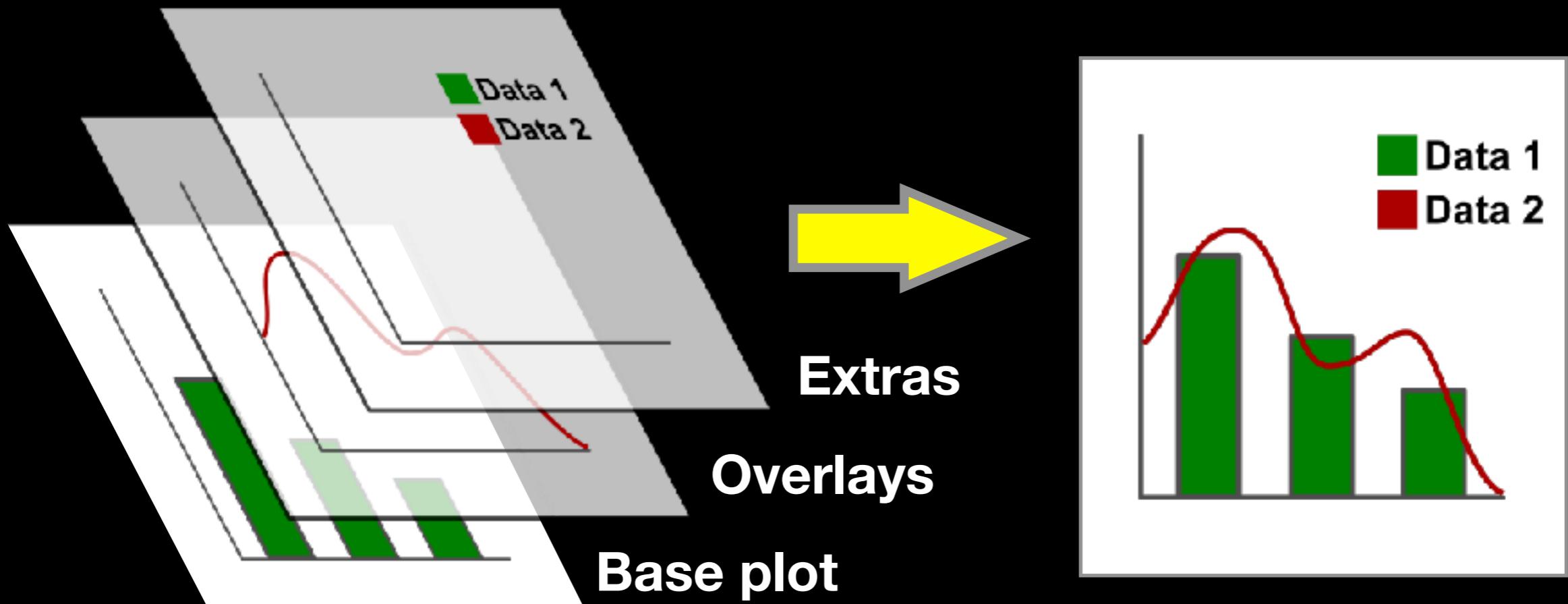
**Presentation graphs:** design to attract attention, make a point, illustrate a conclusion



# Core R Graph Types

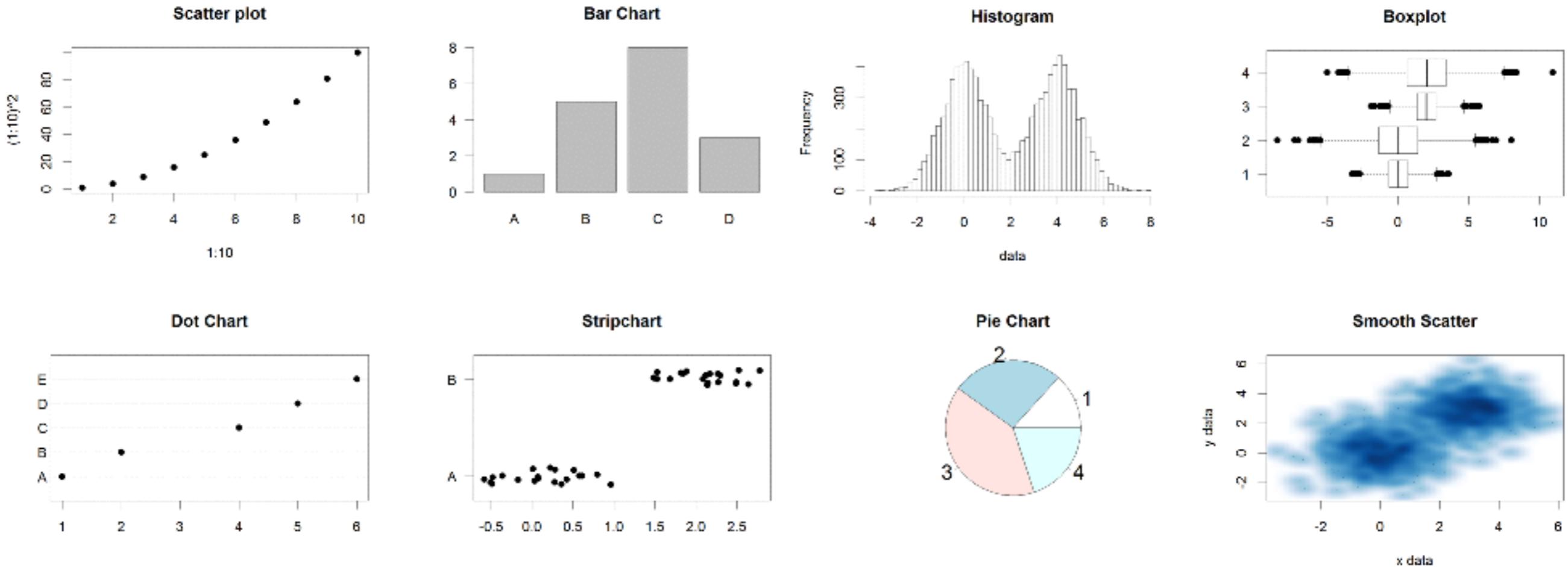


# The R Painters Model



**Side-Note:** “Red and green should never be seen”

# Core Graph Types

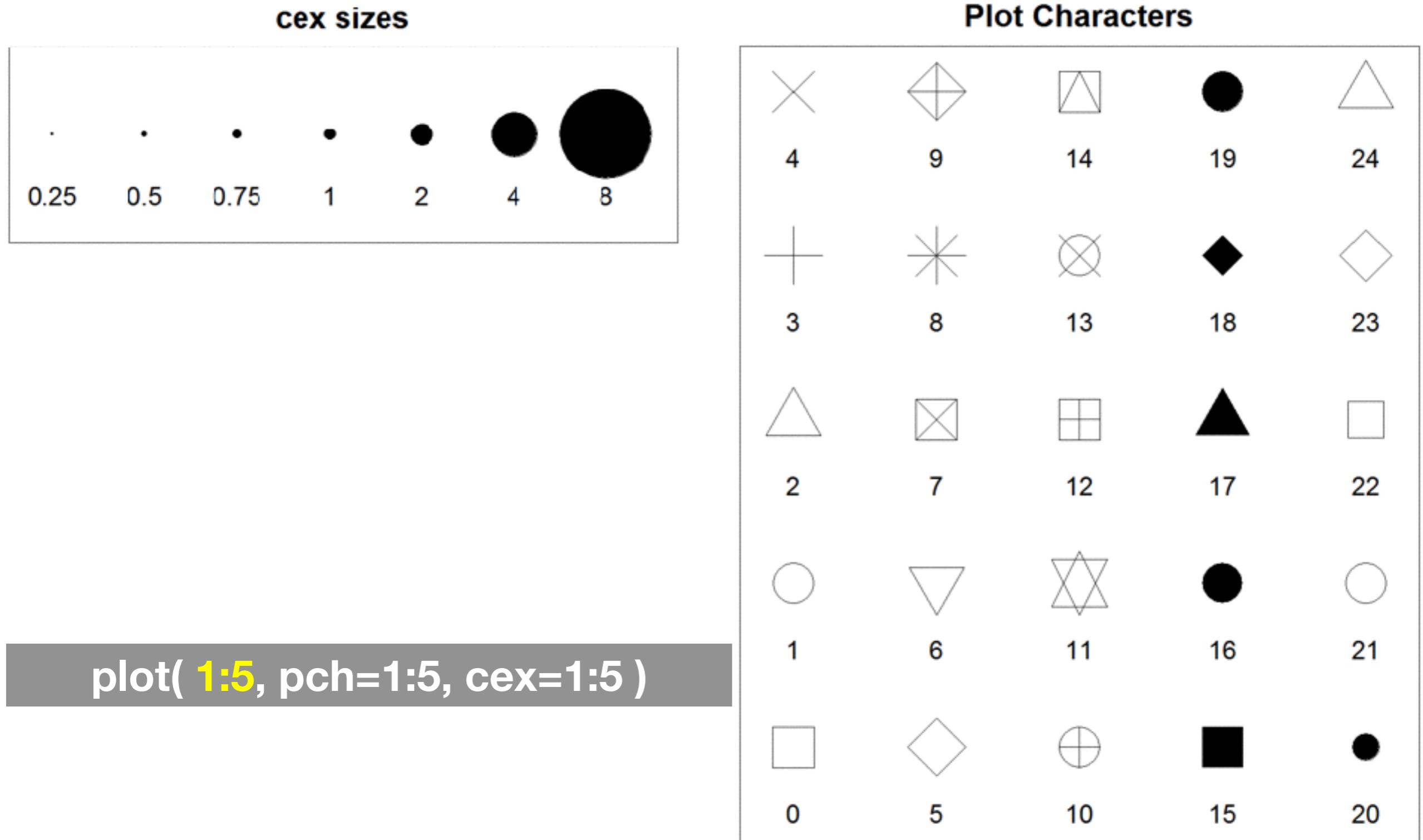


- Local options to change a specific plot
- Global options to affect all graphs

# Common Options

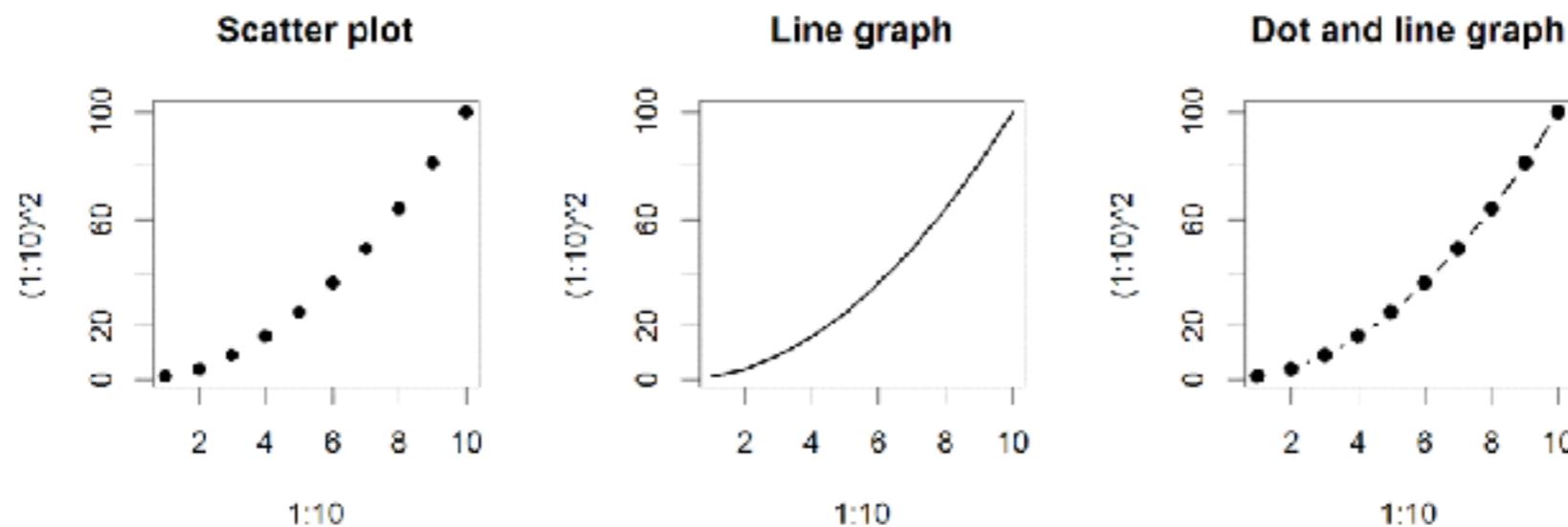
- Axis scales
  - `xlim c(min, max)`
  - `ylim c(min, max)`
- Axis labels
  - `xlab(text)`
  - `ylab(text)`
- Plot titles
  - `main(text)`
  - `sub(text)`
- Plot characters
  - `pch(number)`
  - `cex(number)`
- Local options to change a specific plot
- Global options to affect all graphs

# Plot Characters



# Plot Type Specific Options

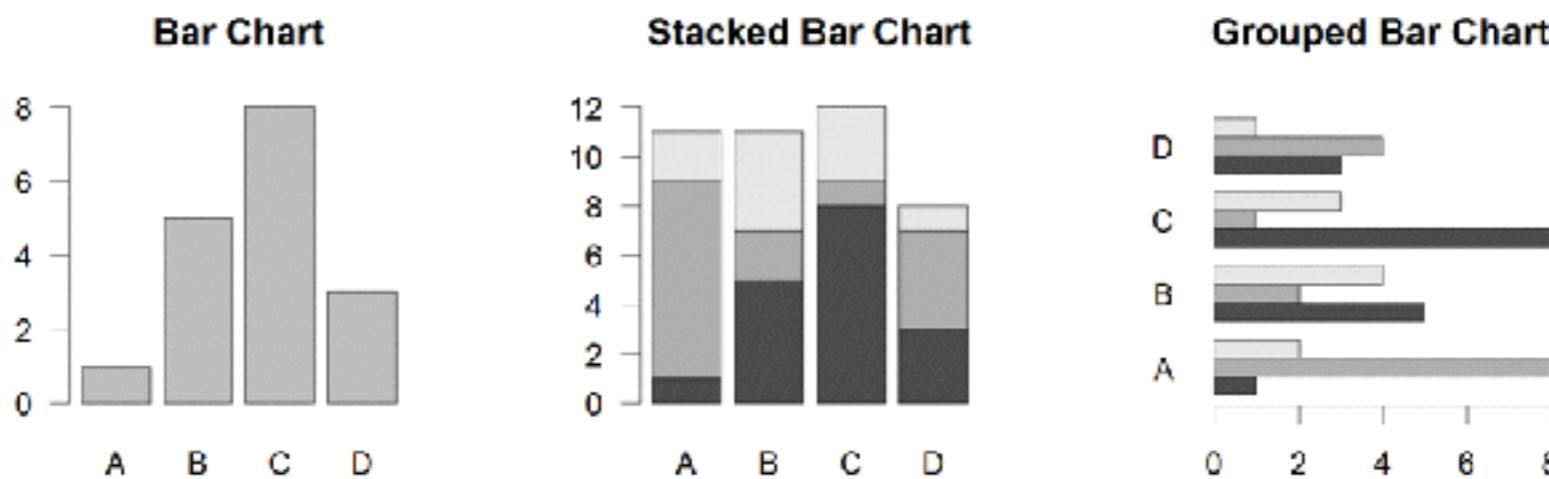
# Plot (scatterplots and line graphs)



- Input: Almost anything. 2 x Vectors
- Output: Nothing
- Options:
  - type `l=line`, `p=point`, `b=line+point`
  - `lwd` line width (thickness)
  - `lty` line type (1=solid, 2=dashed, 3=dotted etc.)

```
plot( c(1:10)^2, typ="b", lwd=4, lty=3 )
```

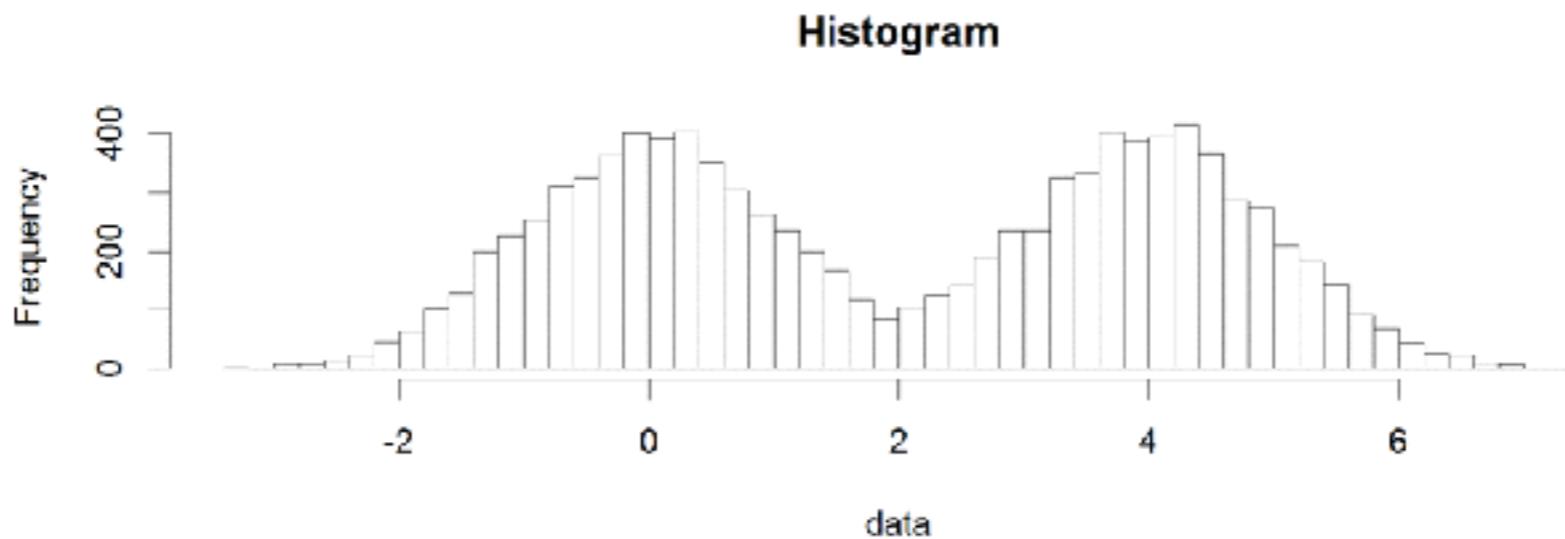
# Barplot (bar graphs)



- Input: Vector (single) or Matrix (stack or group)
- Output: Bar centre positions
- Options:
  - `names.arg` Bar labels (if not from data)
  - `horiz=TRUE` Plot horizontally
  - `beside=TRUE` Plot multiple series as a group not stacked

```
barplot(VADeaths, beside = TRUE)
```

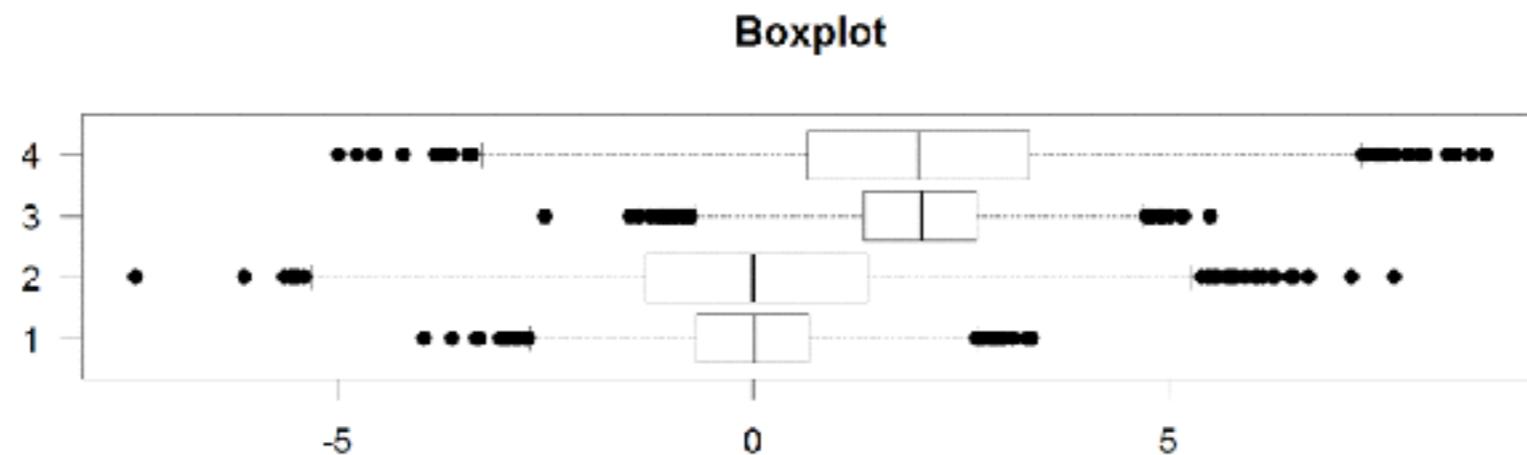
# Hist (histograms)



- Input: Vector
- Output: Summary of binned data
- Options:
  - breaks Number or limits of bins
  - probability Y axis is probability, not freq
  - labels Per bin text labels

```
hist( c( rnorm(1000,0), rnorm(1000,4) ), breaks=20 )
```

# Boxplot



- Input: Vector, List or formula (data~factor)
- Output: Summary of the boxplot parameters
- Options:
  - range Sensitivity of whiskers
  - varwidth Width represents total observations
  - horizontal Plot horizontally

```
boxplot( cbind( rnorm(1000,0), rnorm(1000,4) ) )
```

# Controlling plot area options with par

# Par

- The `par` function controls global parameters affecting all plots in the current plot area
- Changes affect all subsequent plots
- Many `par` options can also be passed to individual plots

?par

# Par examples

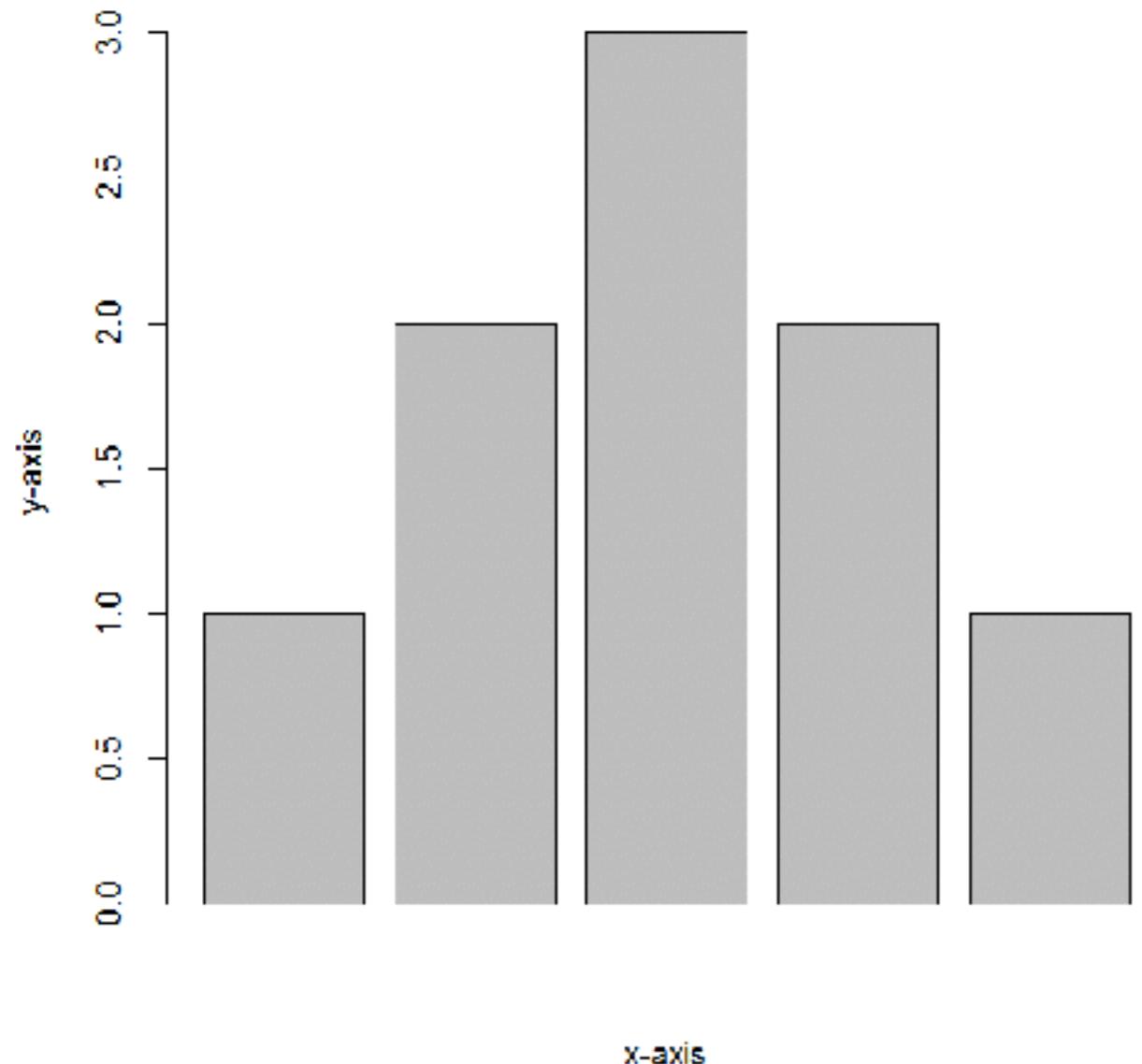
- Reading current value
  - `par()$cex`
- Setting a value
  - `par(cex=1.5) -> old.par`
- Restoring a value
  - `par(old.par)`
  - `dev.off()`

# Par options

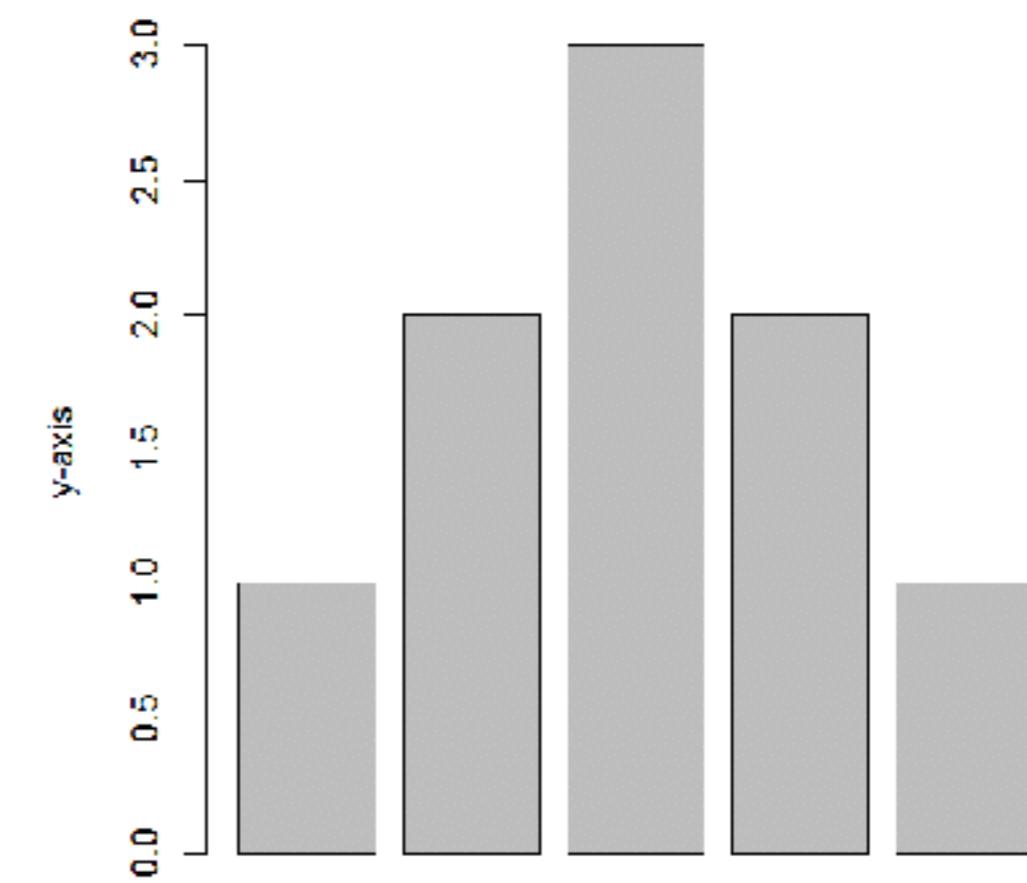
- Margins
  - mai (set margins in inches)
  - mar (set margins in number of lines)
  - mex (set lines per inch)
  - 4 element vector (bottom, left, top, right)
- Warning
  - Error in plot.new() : figure margins too large

```
par( mar=c(2, 10, 1, 1) )
```

**mar=c(5,4,4,2)**



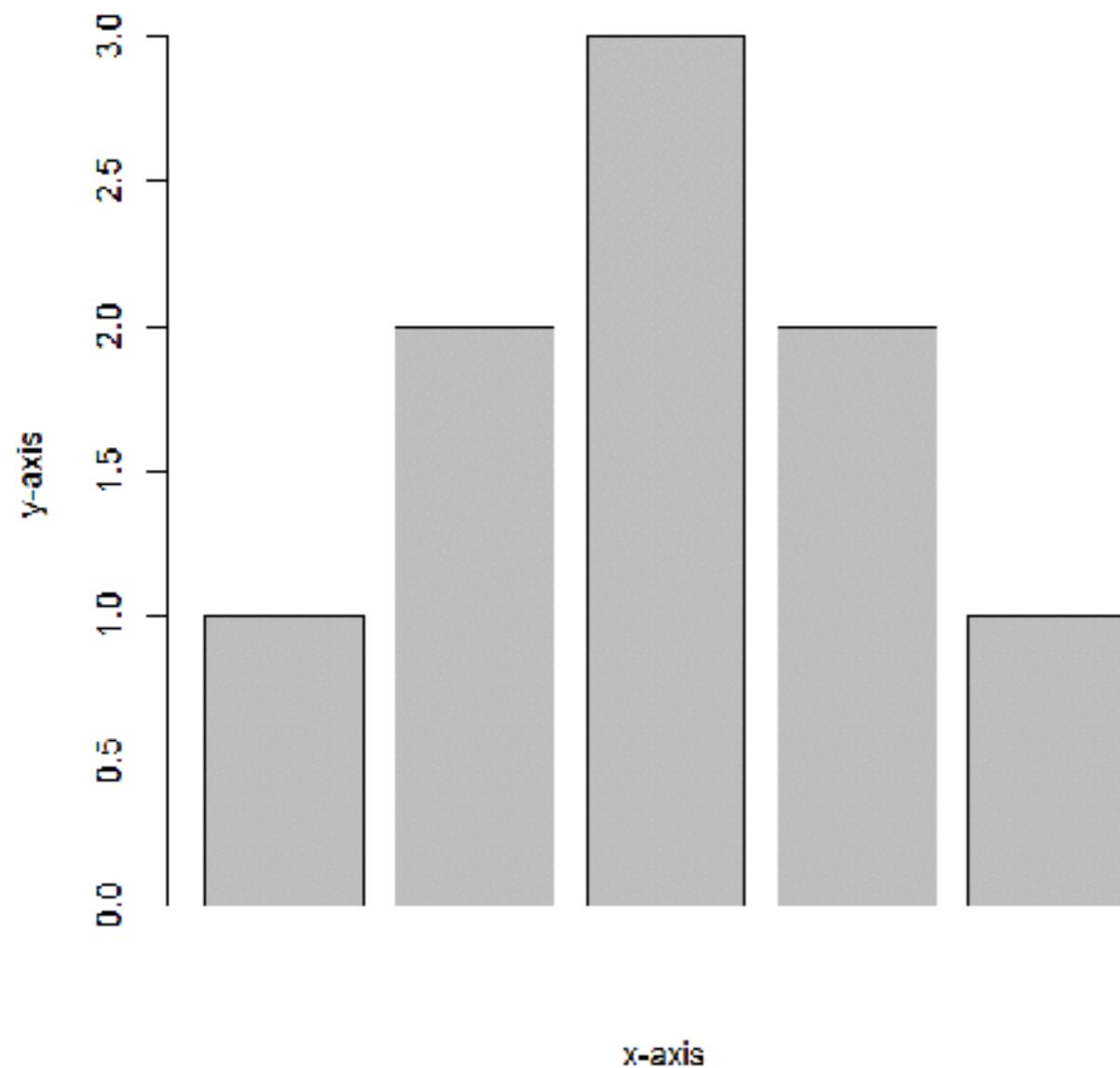
**mar=c(2,10,10,1)**



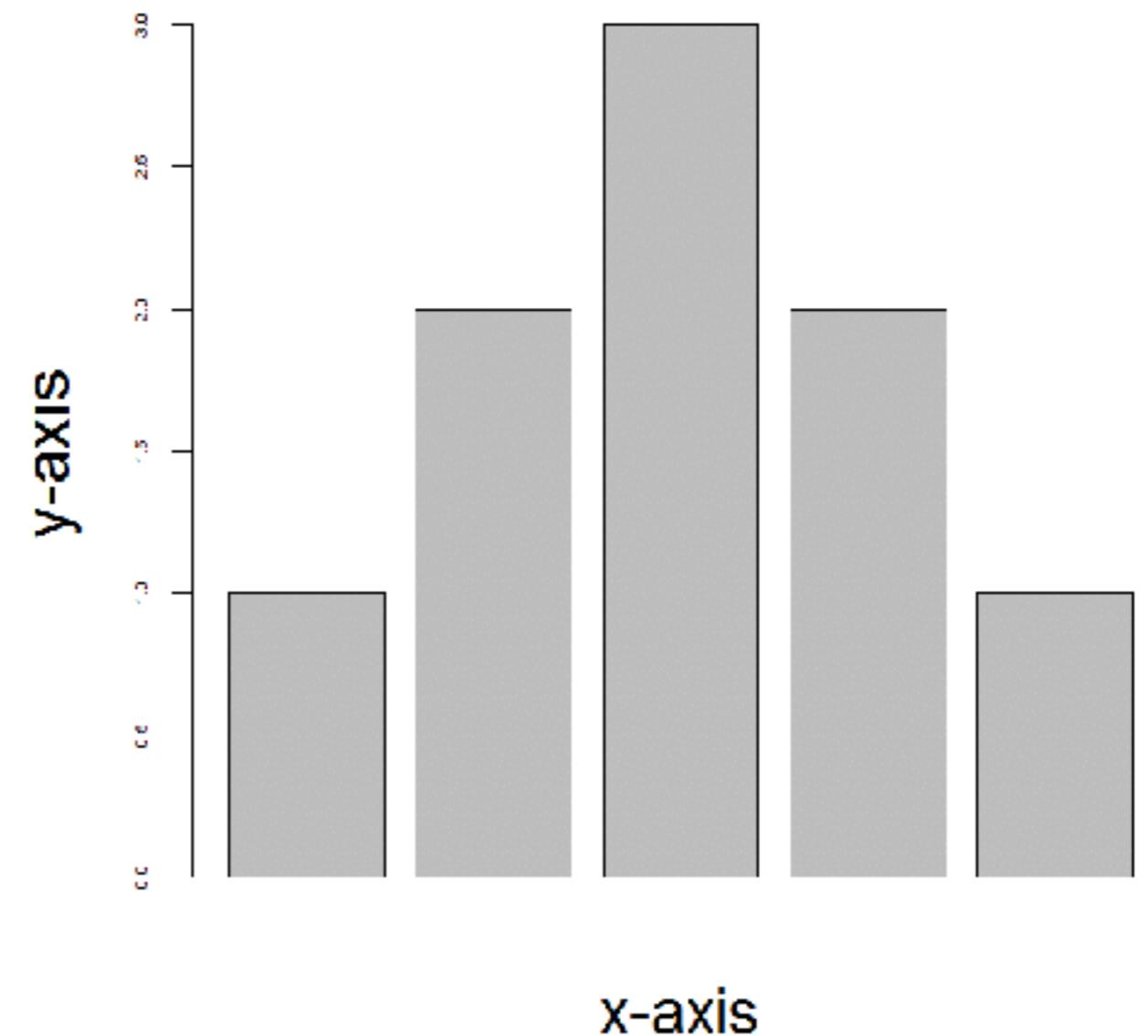
# Par options

- Fonts and labels
  - cex - global char expansion
    - cex.axis
    - cex.lab
    - cex.main
    - cex.sub

**Default cex sizes**



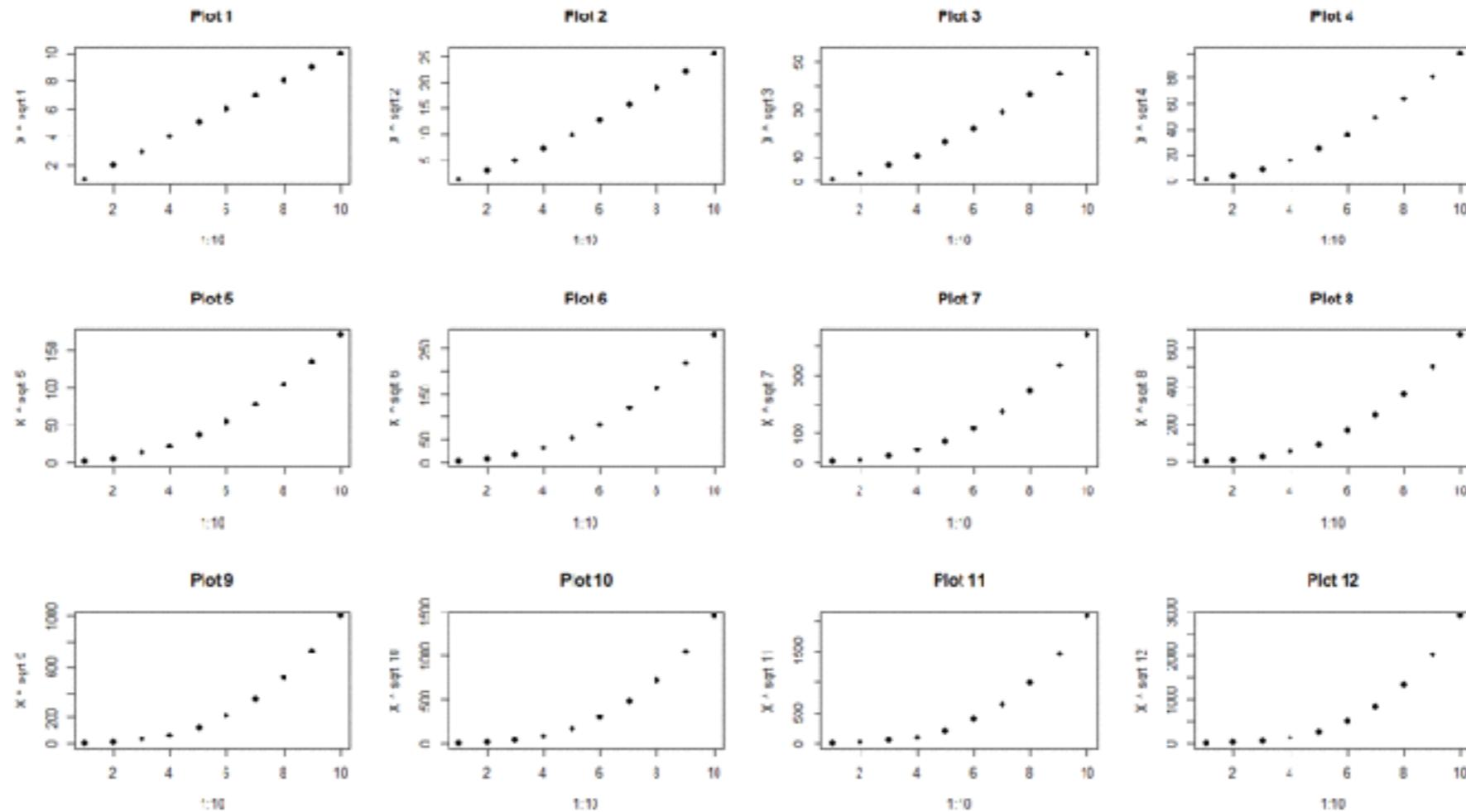
**cex.main=1.5,cex.axis=0.5,cex.lab=2**



**par( cex.main=1.5, cex.axis=0.5, cex.lab=2 )**

# Par options

- Multi-panel
  - `par( mfrow( rows, cols ) )`



`par( mfrow(3 , 4 ) )`

Do it Yourself!

Hands-on  
**Section 2 only please**

# Using Color

# Specifying colors

- Hexadecimal strings
  - #FF0000 (red)
  - #0000FF (blue)
  - #CC00CC (purple)
- Controlled names
  - “red” “green” etc.
  - colors()

# Built in color schemes

- Functions to generate colors
- Pass in number of colors to make
- Functions:
  - `rainbow()`
  - `heat.colors()`
  - `cm.colors()`
  - `terrain.colors()`
  - `topo.colors()`

```
rainbow( 7 )
```

**Rainbow Colours**



**Heat Colours**



**CM Colours**



**Terrain Colours**



**Topo Colours**



rainbow( 7 )

# Color Packages

- Color Brewer
  - Set of pre-defined, optimized palettes
  - library(RColorBrewer)
  - brewer.pal(n\_colours, palette)
- ColorRamps
  - Create smooth palettes for ramped color
  - Generates a function to make actual color vectors
  - colorRampPalette(c("red", "white", "blue"))
  - colorRampPalette(c("red", "white", "blue"))(5)

# Applying Color to Plots

- Vector of numbers or specified colors passed to the `col` parameter of a plot function
- Vector of **factors** used to divide the data
  - Colors will be taken from the set color **palette**
  - Can read or set using **pallete** function
    - `pallete()`
    - `pallete(brewer.pal(9, "Set1"))`

```
plot( 1:5, col=1:5, pch=15, cex=2)
```

# Dynamic use of color

- Coloring by density
  - Pass data and palette to `densCols()`
  - Vector of colors returned
- Coloring by value
  - Need function to map values to colors

<https://www.rdocumentation.org/packages/grDevices/versions/3.4.3/topics/densCols>

Do it Yourself!

Hands-on  
**Section 3 only please**

# For next day:

## Section 4 Revisited

- Open your previous Lecture5 RStudio **project** (and your saved **R script**)
- Locate and open in RStudio the downloaded file `color_to_value_map.r`
- This is an example of a poorly written function typical of something you might get from a lab mate that knows some R...

# (POOR!) Color Mapping Function

```
map.colors <- function (value,high.low,palette) {  
  proportion <- ((value-high.low[1]) / (high.low[2]-high.low[1]))  
  index <- round ((length(palette)-1)*proportion)+1  
  return (palette[index])  
}
```

## Talking point:

- Can you figure out what this function it is supposed to do?
- What format should the inputs be in order to work?
- How could we improve this function?

# Homework!

New DataCamp Assignments

- Introduction to R Markdown
- Functions
- Loops

[Muddy Point Assessment Form Link](#)