

Data Visualization I

MSBA7001 Business Intelligence and Analytics

HKU Business School

The University of Hong Kong

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Agenda

- Tableau Overview
- Basic Charts
 - Change Over Time
 - Part-to-whole
 - Correlation
 - Distribution
- Dashboard & Story

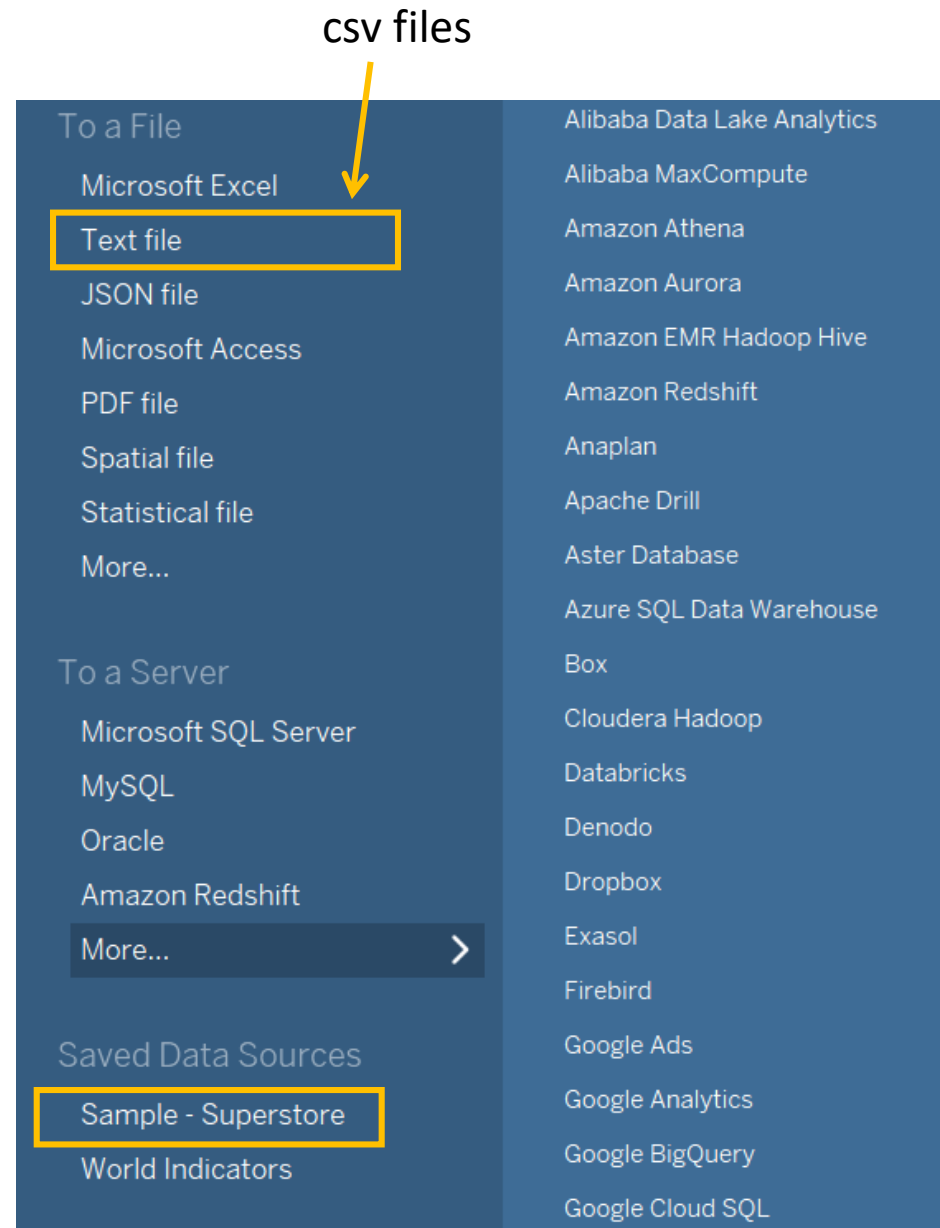
Tableau Overview

Why Tableau?

- Tableau is a very effective tool to create interactive data visualizations very quickly.
- It is very simple and user-friendly.
- Moreover, users can perform basic calculations and run some simple stats in Tableau itself.
- More than 50,000 customer accounts and growing.

Connecting to Data

- Tableau supports a lot of data files such as excel, csv, database, spatial, ...
- The one we will use is “**Sample - Superstore**”
- It was created to train tactics, data visualization strategy, and design.
- You may connect to multiple data sources at the same time.



Connections

- You may join multiple **sheets** from the same file together.
- Or, join sheets from different files.

How do relationships differ from joins? [Learn more](#)

Orders	Operator	Returns
Abc Order ID ▼	= ▼	Abc Order ID (Return ▼







- Connecting **live** leaves the data in the database or file.
- The other option is to **extract** the data into Tableau's high performance in-memory data engine.

Connection

☒ Live ☐ Extract

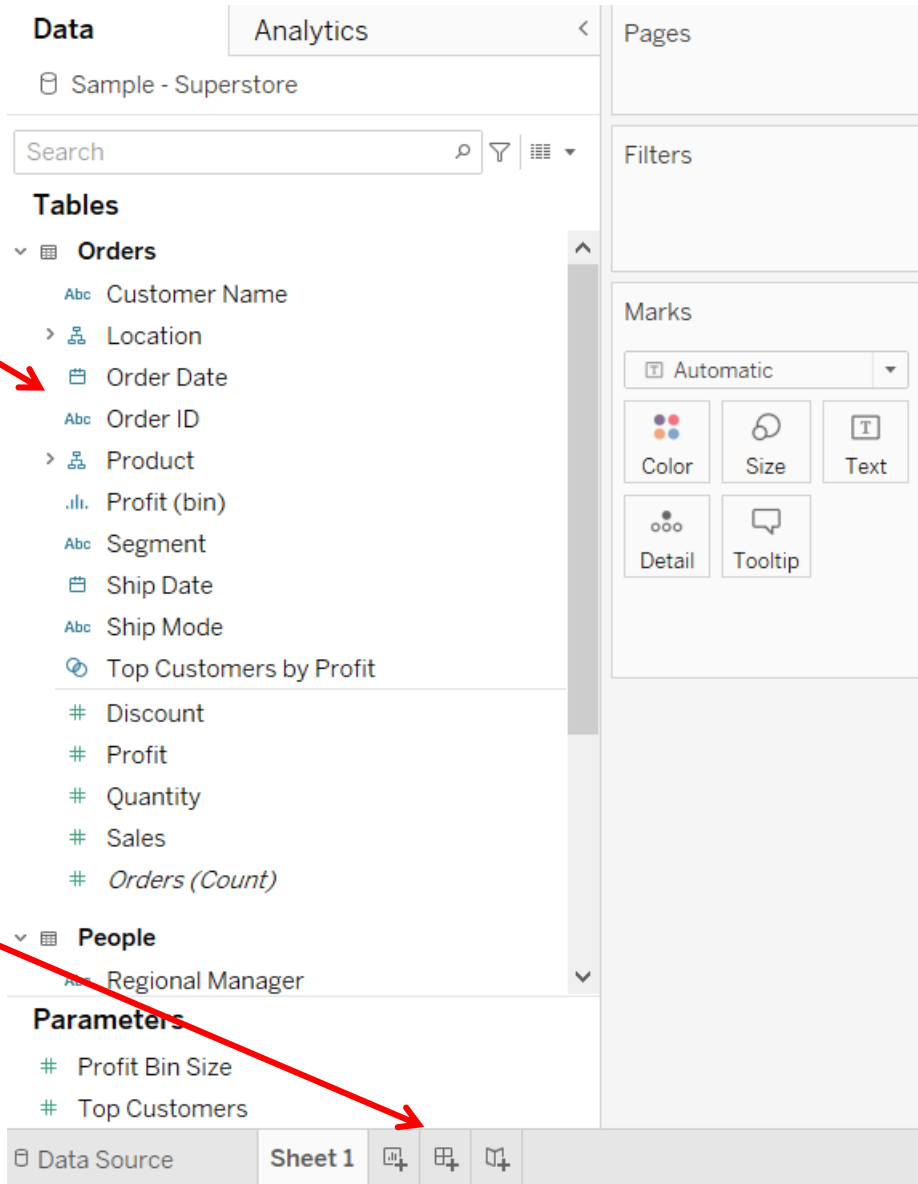
Data Types

- After connecting data, the first thing to do is check data types.
- Common data types in Tableau.

Icon	Data Type
 Order Date	Date Values
 Ship Date	Date and Time Values
 State	Geographical Values
 Boolean Values	Boolean Values
 Region	String Values
 Profit Ratio	Numerical Values

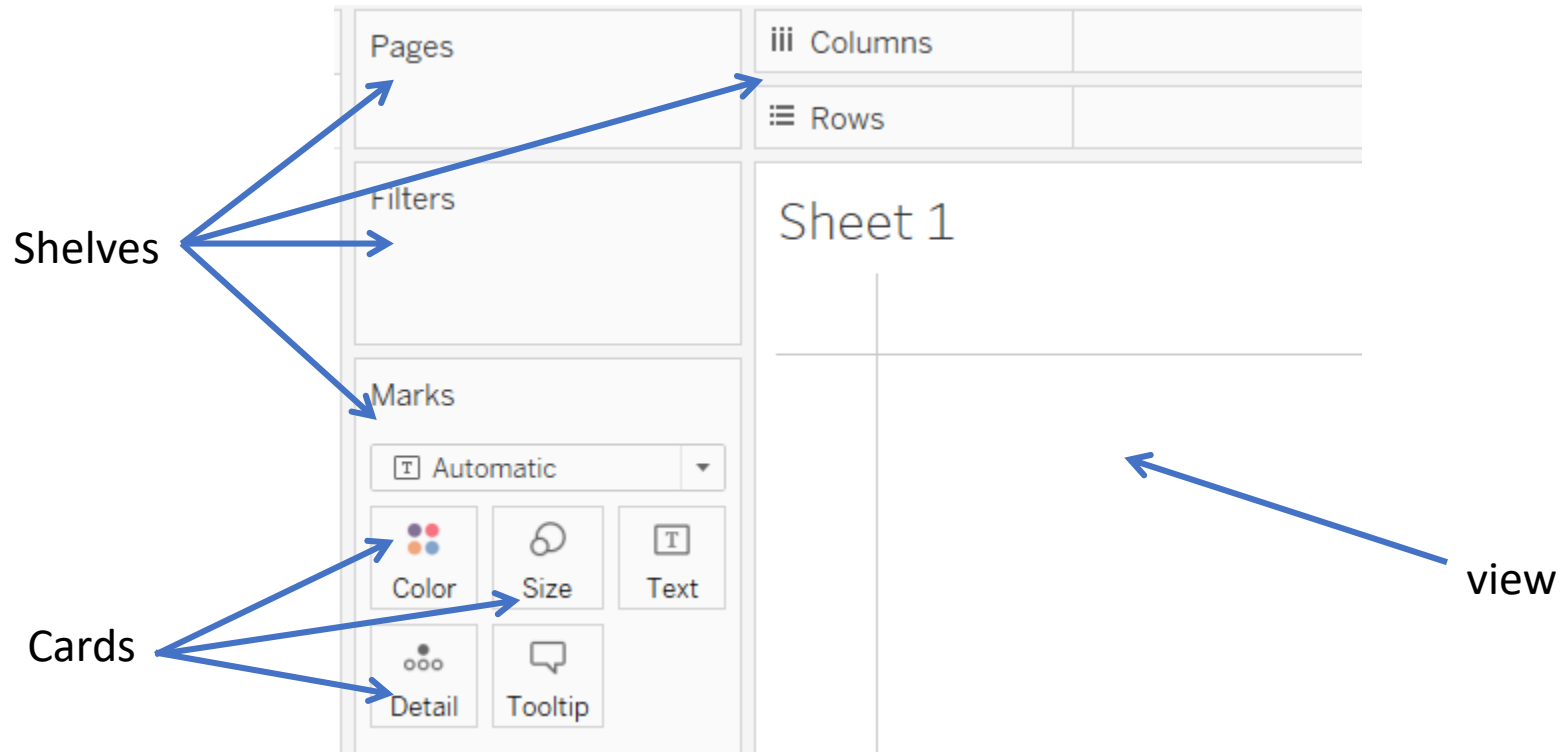
User Interface

- On the left of the screen is the data pane. The **fields** from that data source are listed below, broken out into **dimensions** and **measures**.
- New sheet tabs are found at the bottom. We can create **sheets**, **dashboards**, and **stories** with these tabs.



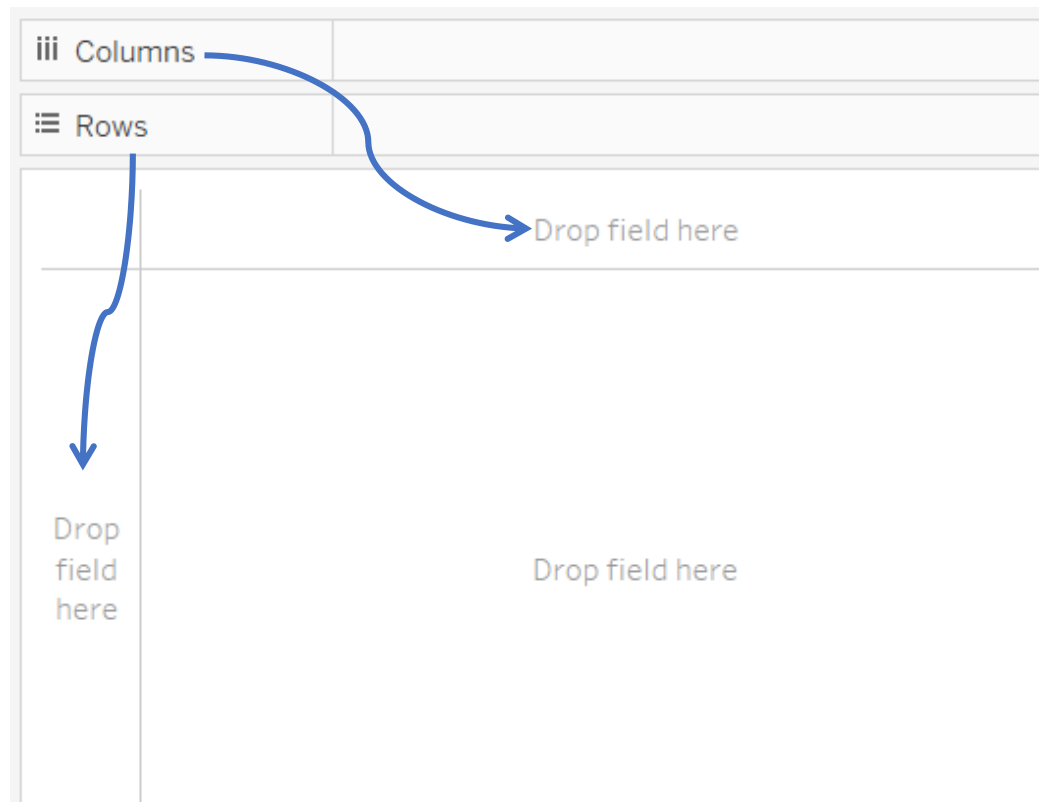
Shelves & Cards

- A **view** can be built by **dragging** and **dropping** fields from the data pane into the canvas directly, or onto the shelves.



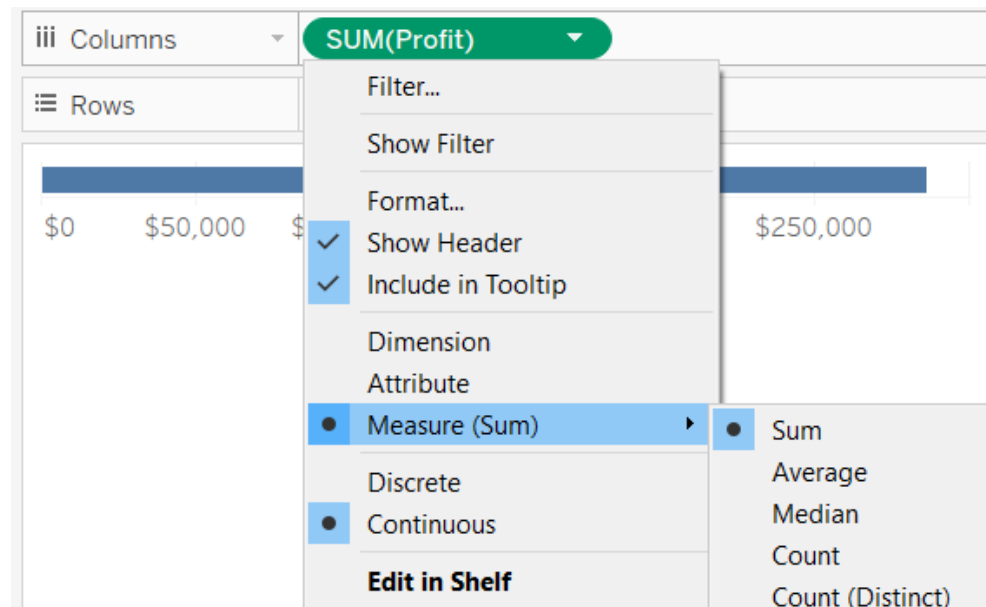
Columns & Rows Shelves

- The Columns shelf creates the columns of a chart, while the Rows shelf creates the rows of a chart.



Dimensions & Measures

- Dimensions contain **qualitative** values (such as names, dates, or geographical data).
- Measures contain **numeric, quantitative** values that you can measure.
- By default, measures are **aggregated** when dragged in the view.



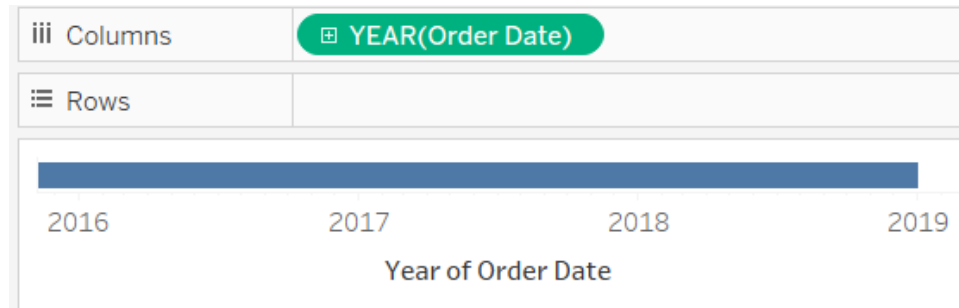
Continuous vs Discrete

- Discrete fields are represented in **blue**, continuous fields in **green**.

Discrete Dimensions	Product Name
Continuous Dimensions (dimensions with a data type of String or Boolean cannot be continuous)	YEAR(Order Date)
Discrete Measures	SUM(Profit)
Continuous Measures	SUM(Profit)

Continuous vs Discrete

- Continuous field values are treated as an infinite range. Generally, **continuous fields add axes to the view**. Measures are generally considered continuous.




- Discrete values are treated as finite. Generally, **discrete fields add headers to the view**. Dimensions are generally considered discrete.

iii Columns	YEAR(Order Date)		
☰ Rows			
Year of Order Date			
2016	2017	2018	2019
Abc	Abc	Abc	Abc

Creating Tables

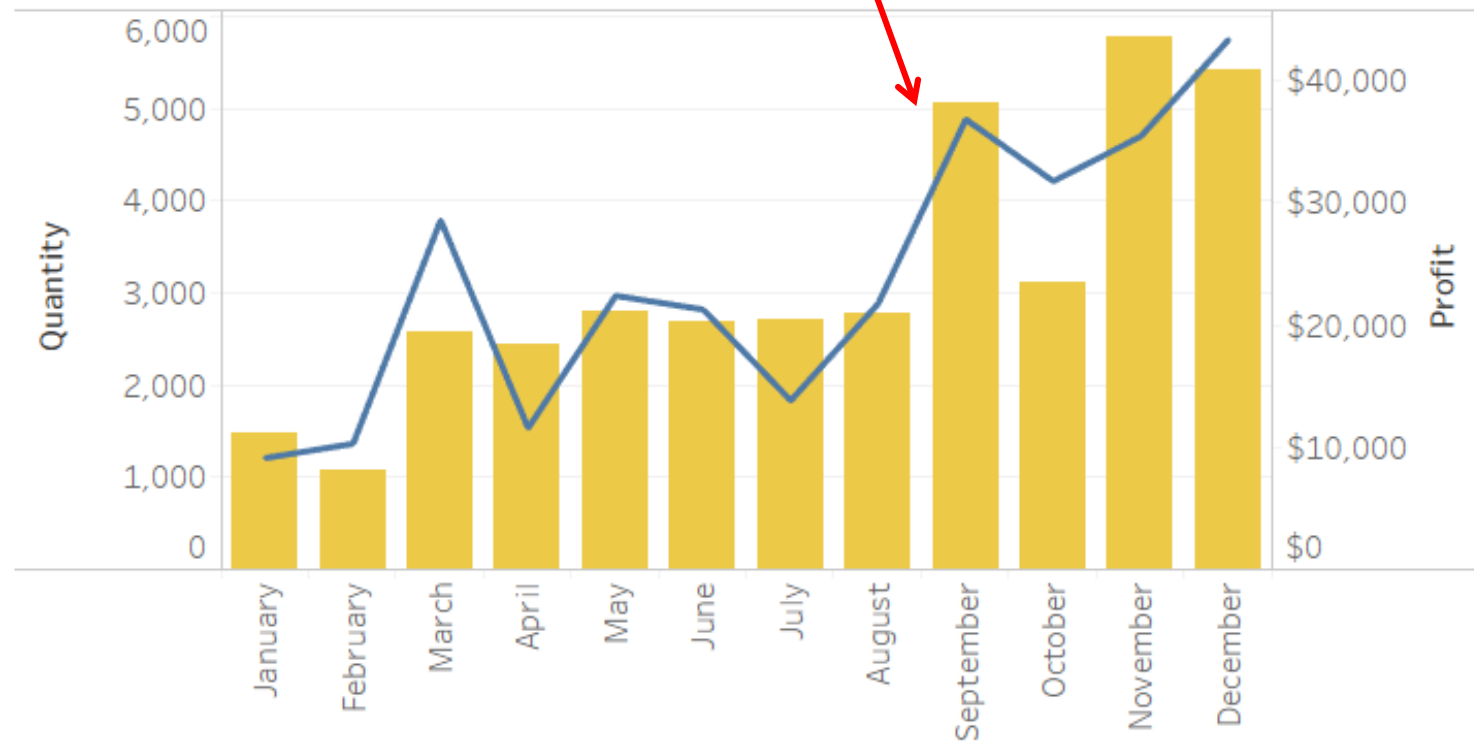
- To create a table, we need to add table headers, not axes.
- Drag **dimensions** to create headers, then drag **measures** to aggregate.



Category	Sub-Catego..	Sales	Profit
Furniture	Bookcases	\$114,880	-\$3,473
	Chairs	\$328,449	\$26,590
	Furnishings	\$91,705	\$13,059
	Tables	\$206,966	-\$17,725
Office Supplies	Appliances	\$107,532	\$18,138
	Art	\$27,119	\$6,528
	Binders	\$203,413	\$30,222
	Envelopes	\$16,476	\$6,964
	Fasteners	\$3,024	\$950
	Labels	\$12,486	\$5,546
	Paper	\$78,479	\$34,054
	Storage	\$223,844	\$21,279
	Supplies	\$46,674	-\$1,189
Technology	Accessories	\$167,380	\$41,937
	Copiers	\$149,528	\$55,618
	Machines	\$189,239	\$3,385
	Phones	\$330,007	\$44,516

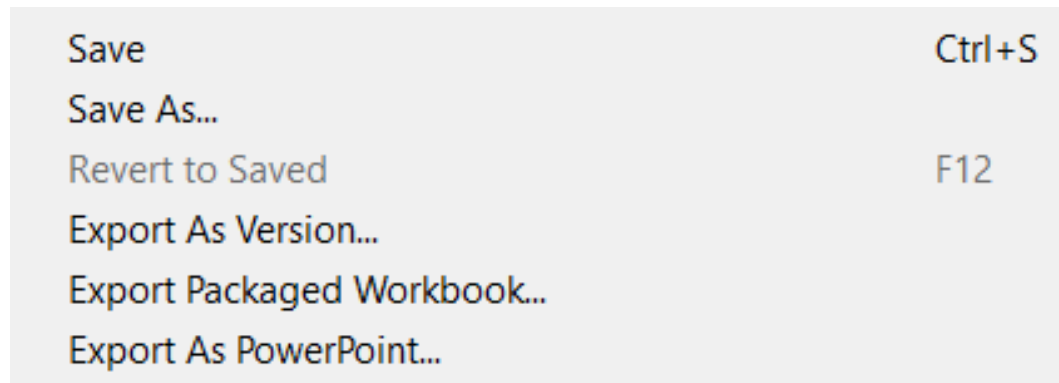
Creating Charts

- To create a chart, we need fields to create axes and/or headers, and fields to create marks (line, bar, circle, square, text, etc.).



Saving Charts

- Save as a regular Workbook without the source data.
- Export in a different version, say, Tableau 2018.
- Save as a **Packaged Workbook** which includes the source data.



Change Over Time

Change Over Time

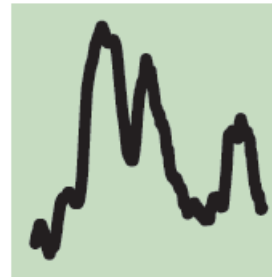
- Give emphasis to changing trends.
 - Stock price movements
 - Economic time series

Column



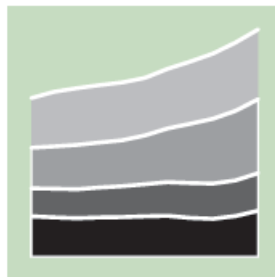
Columns work well for showing change over time - but usually best with only one series of data at a time.

Line



The standard way to show a changing time series. If data are irregular, consider markers to represent data points.

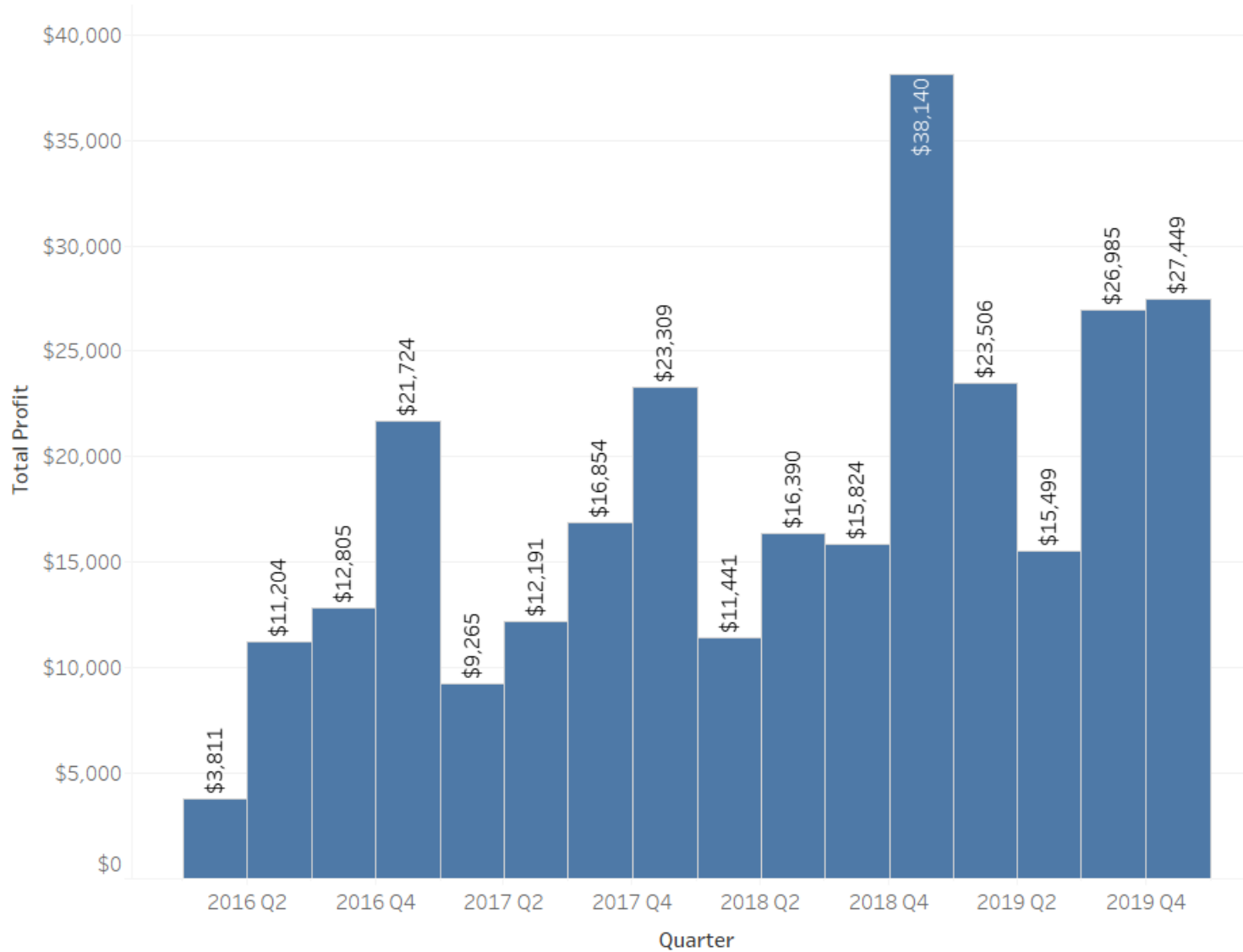
Area chart



Use with care – these are good at showing changes to total, but seeing change in components can be very difficult.

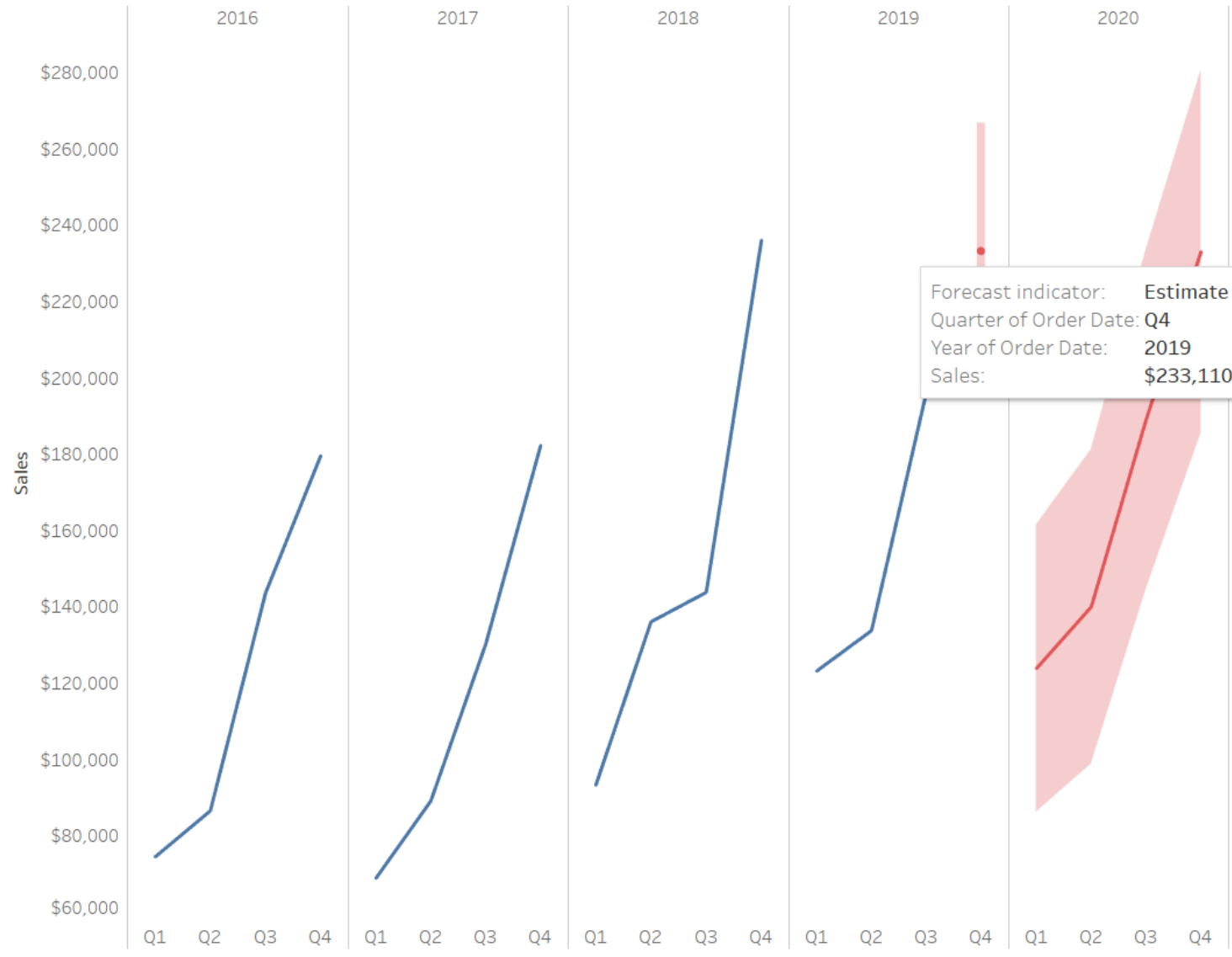
Bar Chart

1. Total Profit by Quarter



Line Chart

2. Forecast Sales for 2020

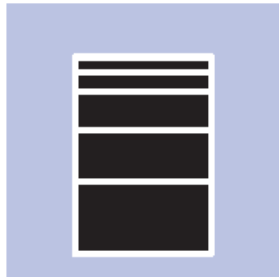


Part-to-whole

Part-to-whole

- Show how a single entity can be broken down into its component elements.
 - Company structures
 - National election results

Stacked column



A simple way of showing part-to-whole relationships but can be difficult to read with more than a few components.

Pie



A common way of showing part-to-whole data – but be aware that it's difficult to accurately compare the size of the segments.

Treemap

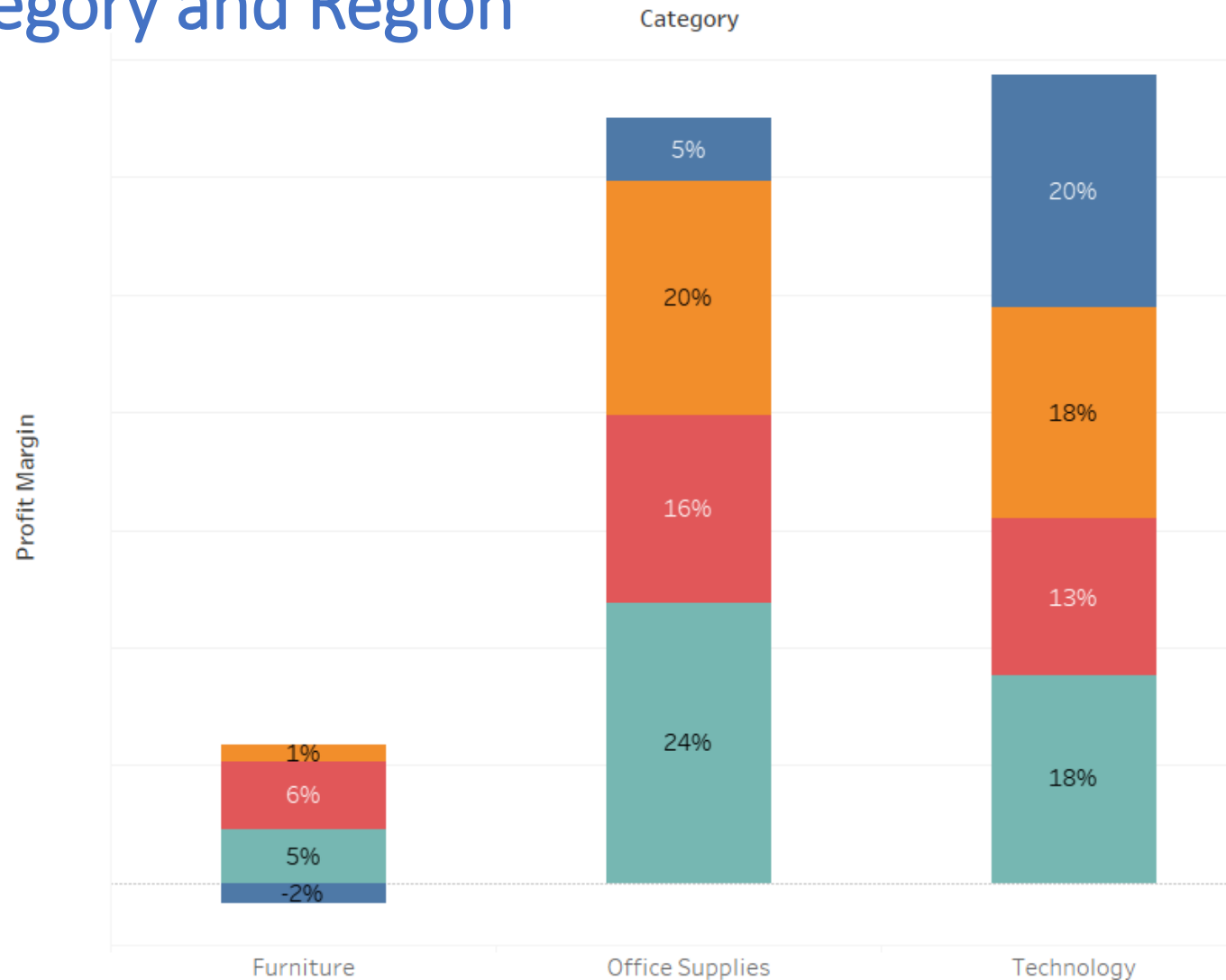


Use for hierarchical part-to-whole relationships; can be difficult to read when there are many small segments.

Source: FT graphic

Stacked Bar Chart

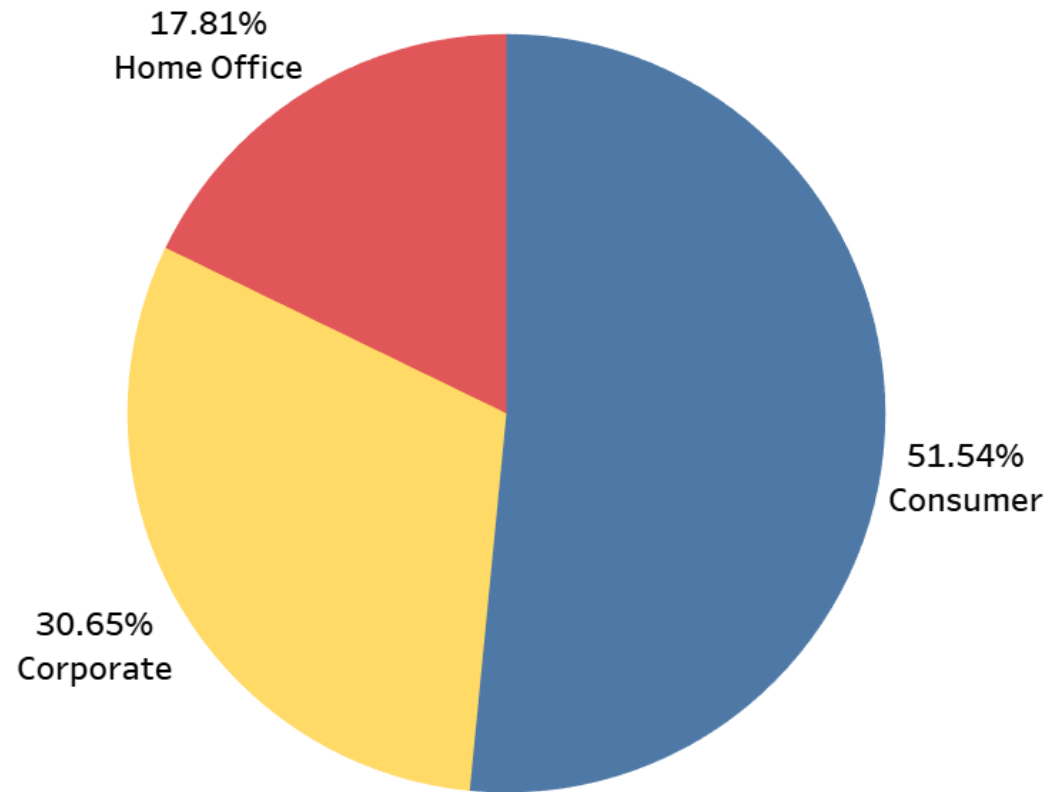
3. Average Profit Margin Across Product Category and Region



Region	Central	East	South	West
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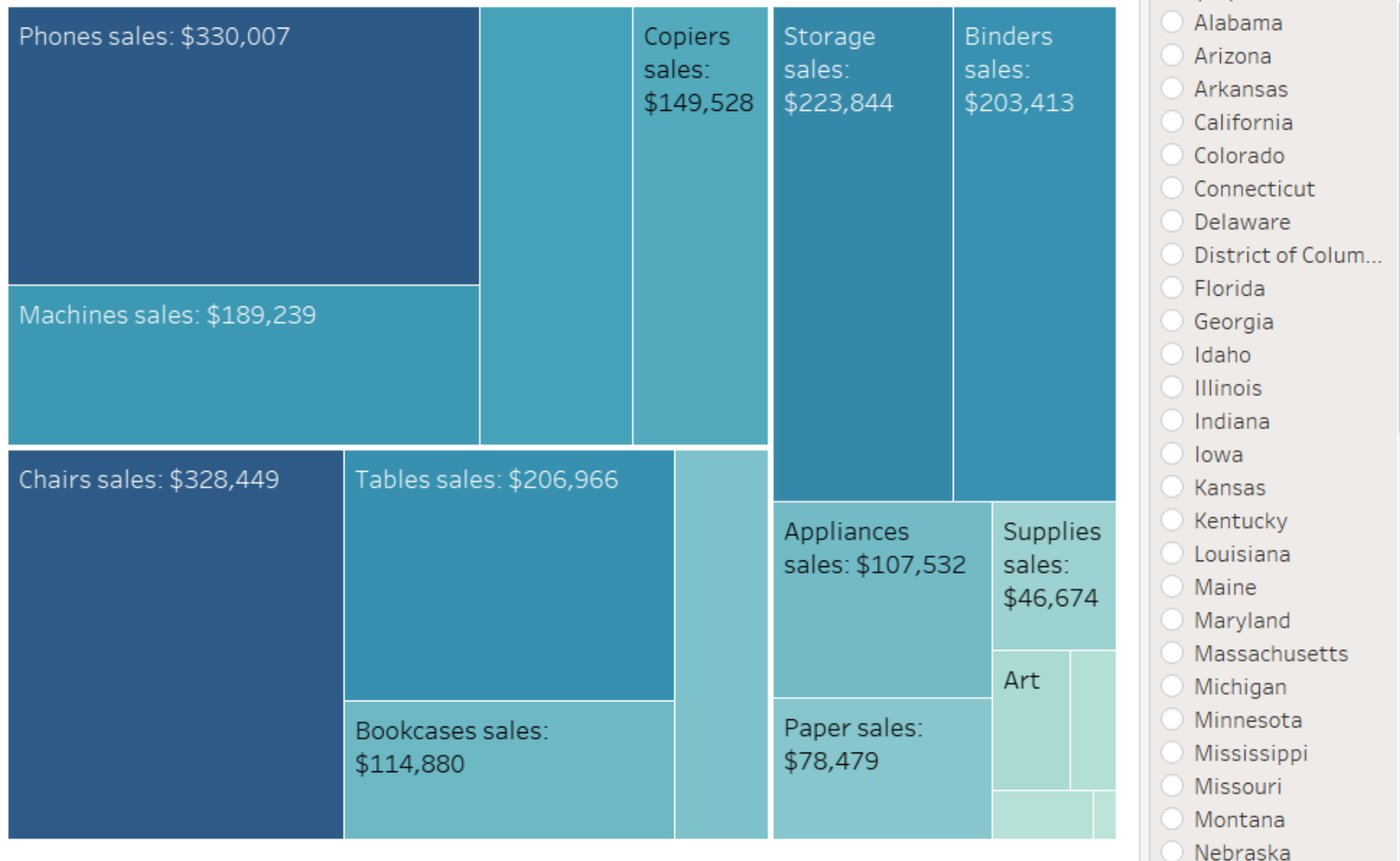
Pie Chart

4. Demand Across Consumer Segment



Treemap

5. Sales Across Sub-Category Filter by State

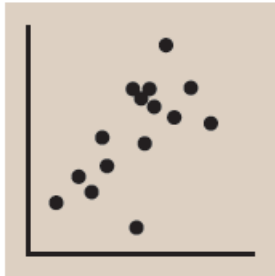


Correlation

Correlation

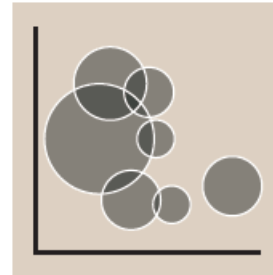
- Show the relationship between two or more variables.
 - Inflation & unemployment
 - Income & life expectancy

Scatterplot



The standard way to show the relationship between two continuous variables, each of which has its own axis.

Bubble



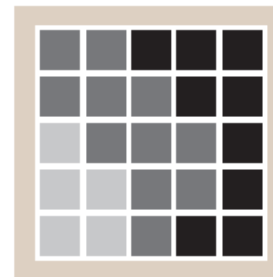
Like a scatterplot, but adds additional detail by sizing the circles according to a third variable.

Line + Column



A good way of showing the relationship between an amount (columns) and a rate (line).

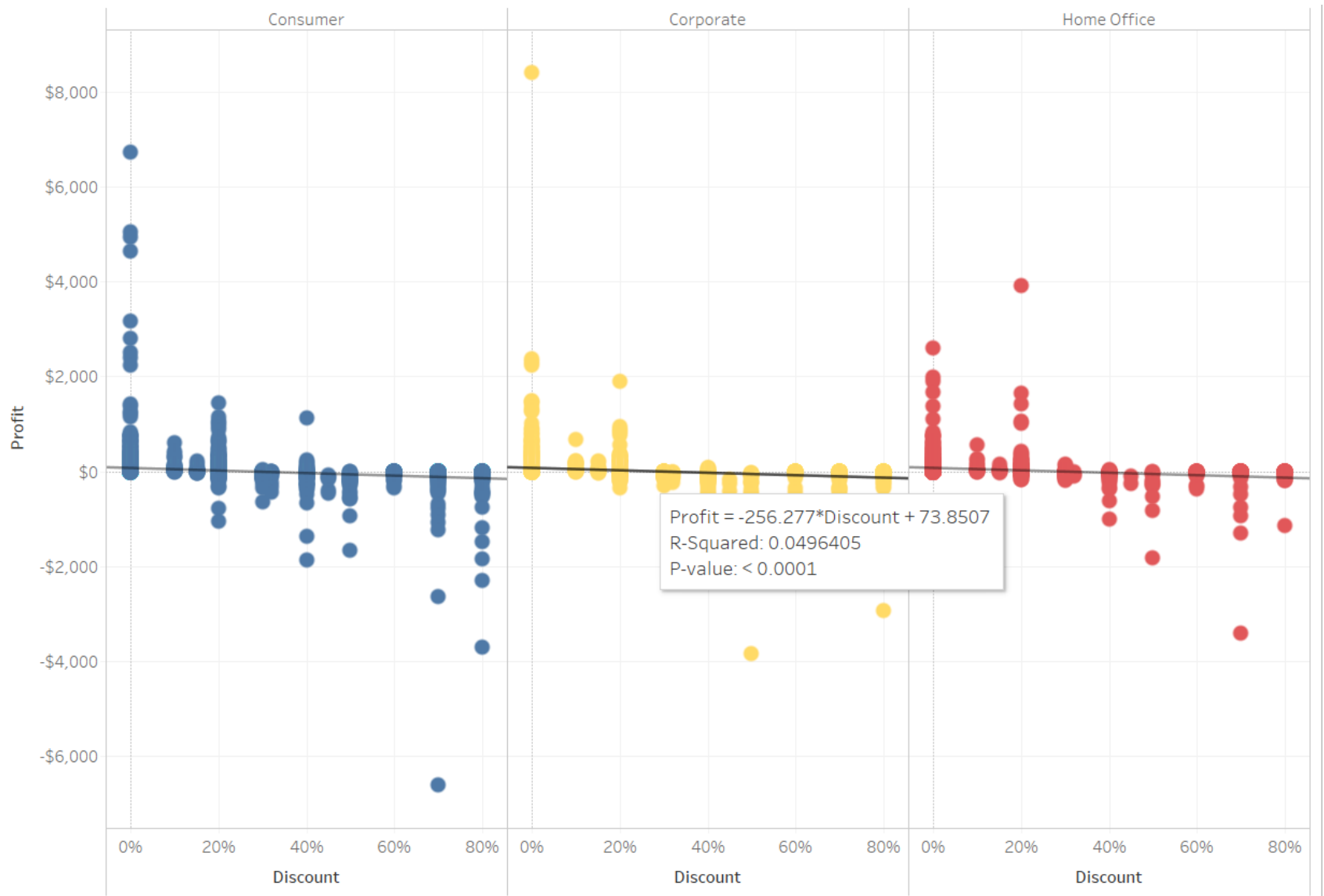
XY heatmap



A good way of showing the patterns between 2 categories of data, less good at showing fine differences in amounts.

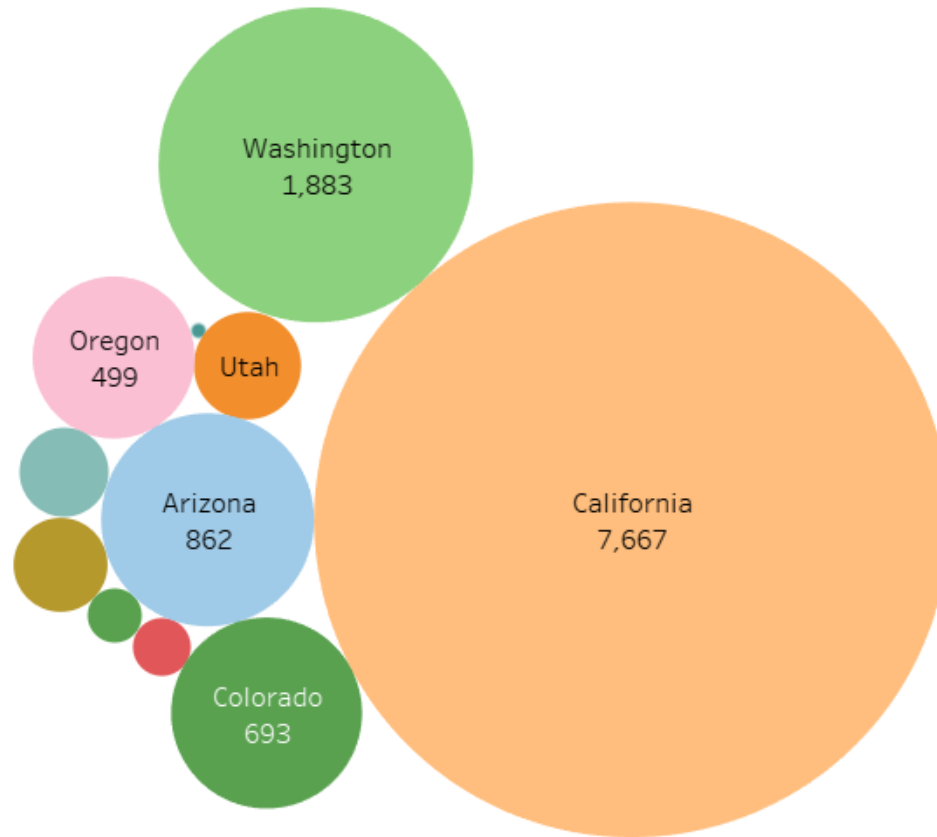
Scatterplot

6. Discount vs. Profit Across Consumer Segment



Bubble

7. Demand Across State

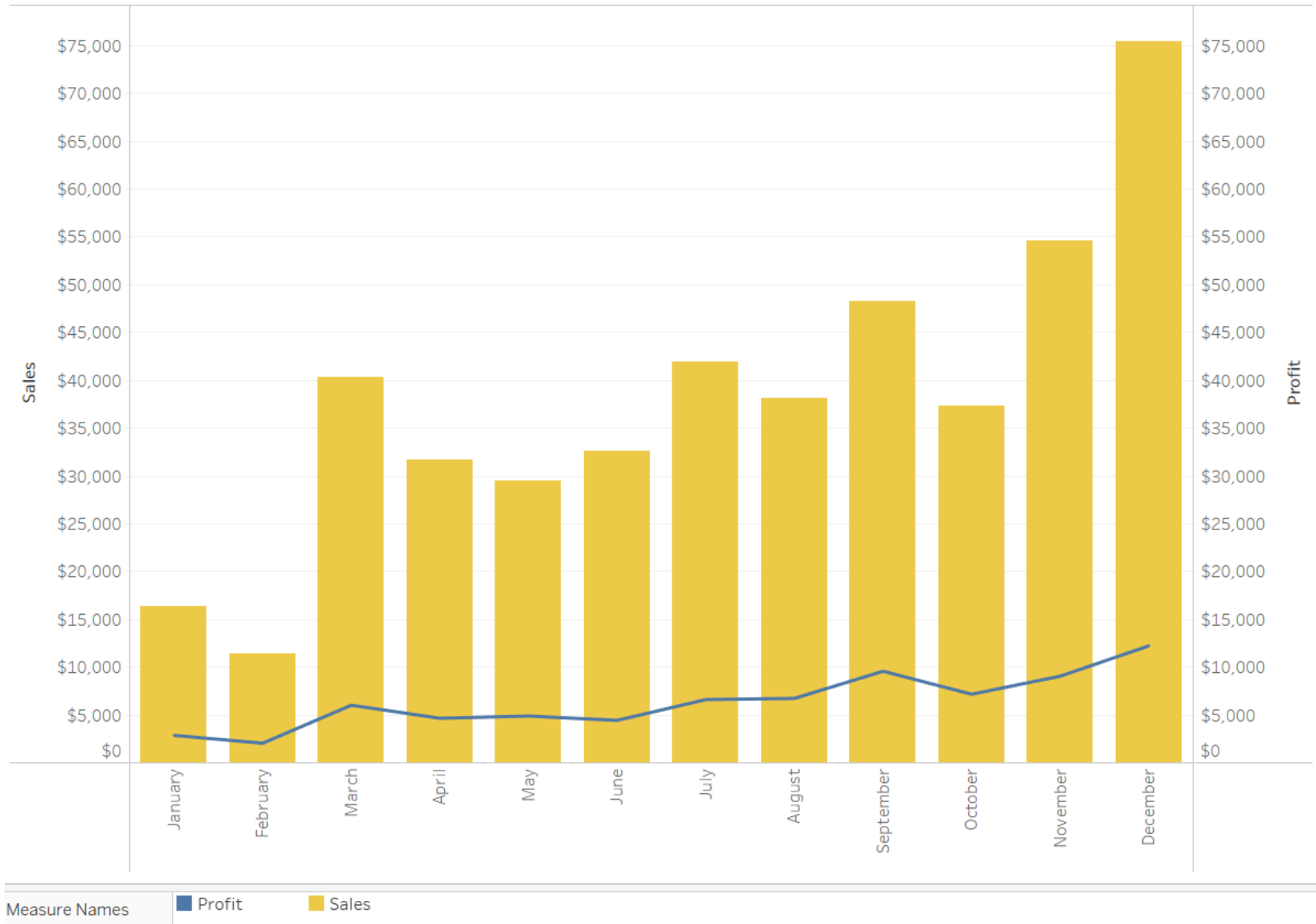


Region

- ☐ (All)
- ☐ Central
- ☐ East
- ☐ South
- ☒ West

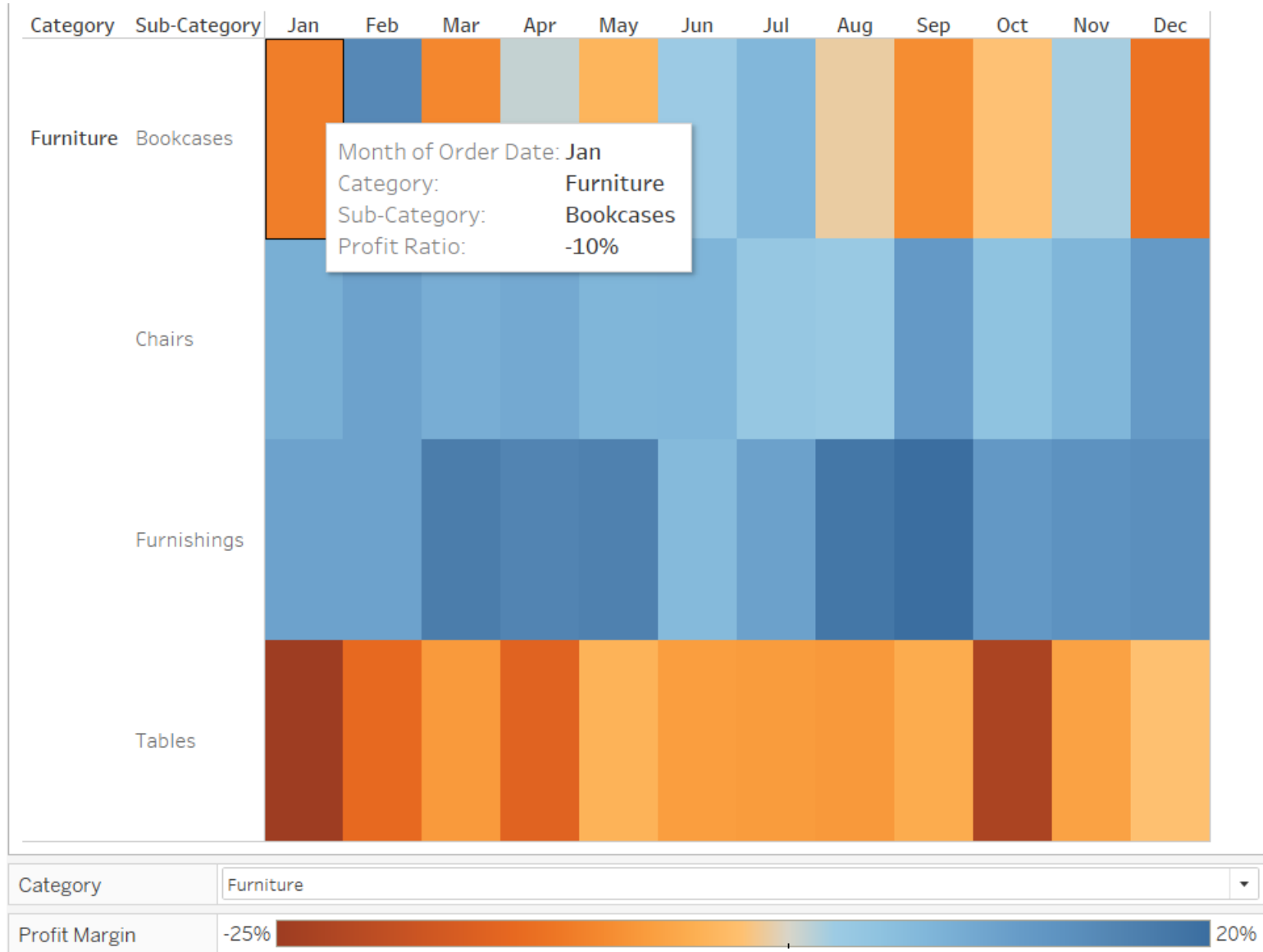
Dual Axis

8. Sales vs. Profit



Heatmap

9. Profit Margin Across Sub-Category & Months

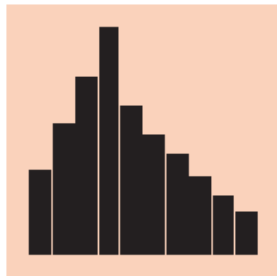


Distribution

Distribution

- Show values in a dataset and how often they occur.
 - Income distribution
 - Population (age/sex) distribution

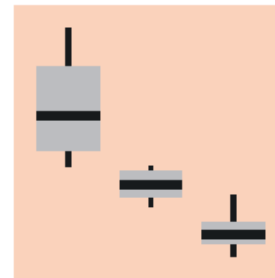
Histogram



The standard way to show a statistical distribution - keep the gaps between columns small to highlight the 'shape' of the data.

Source: FT graphic

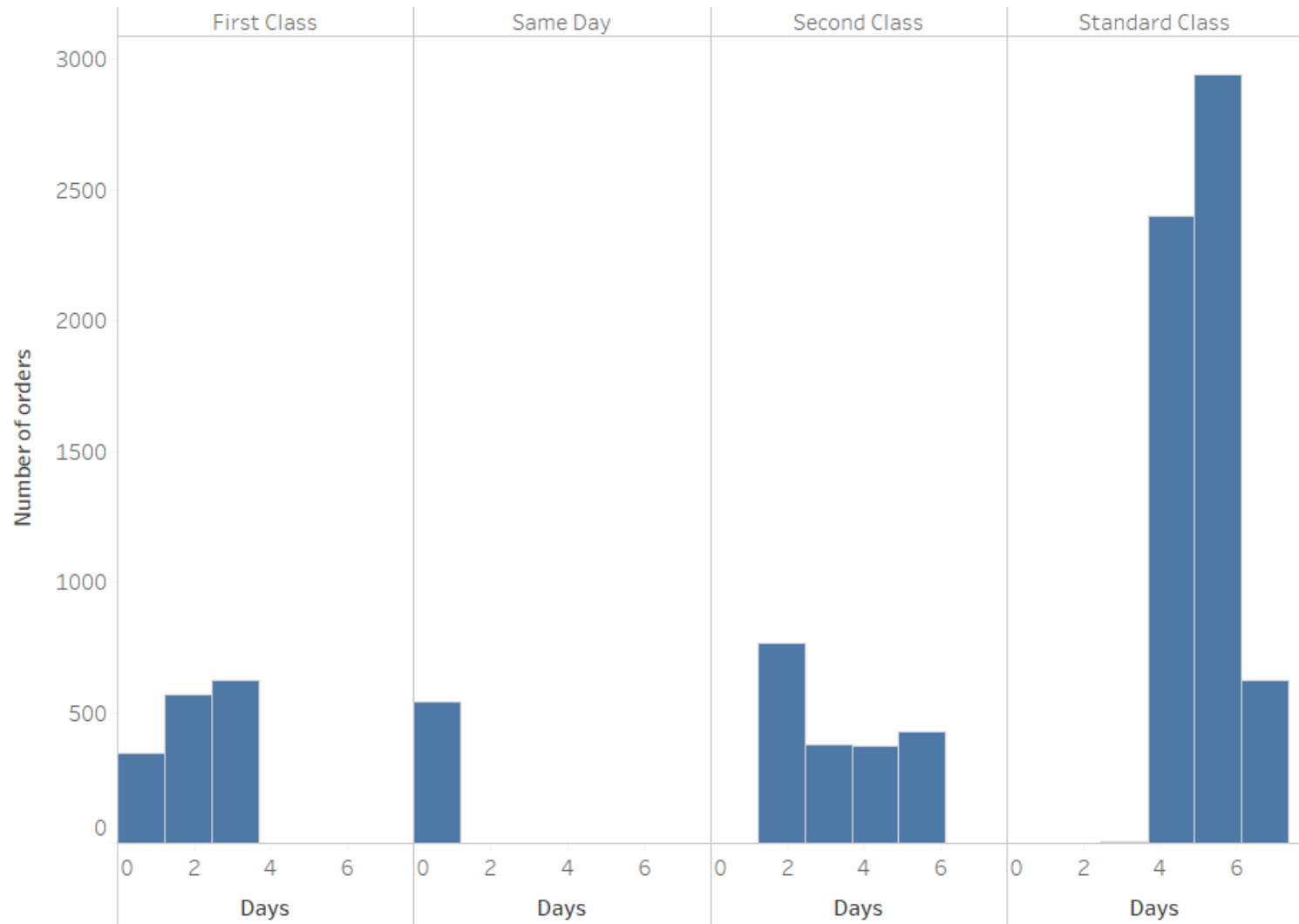
Boxplot



Summarise multiple distributions by showing the median (centre) and range of the data

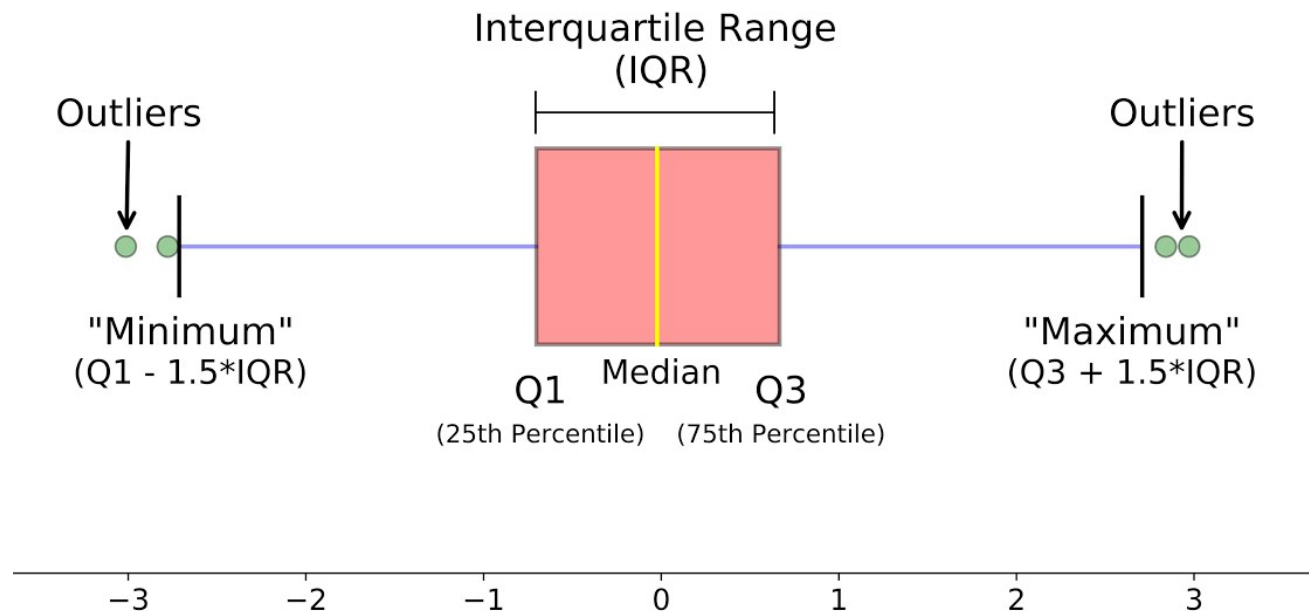
Histogram

10. Distribution of Shipment Time Across Mode



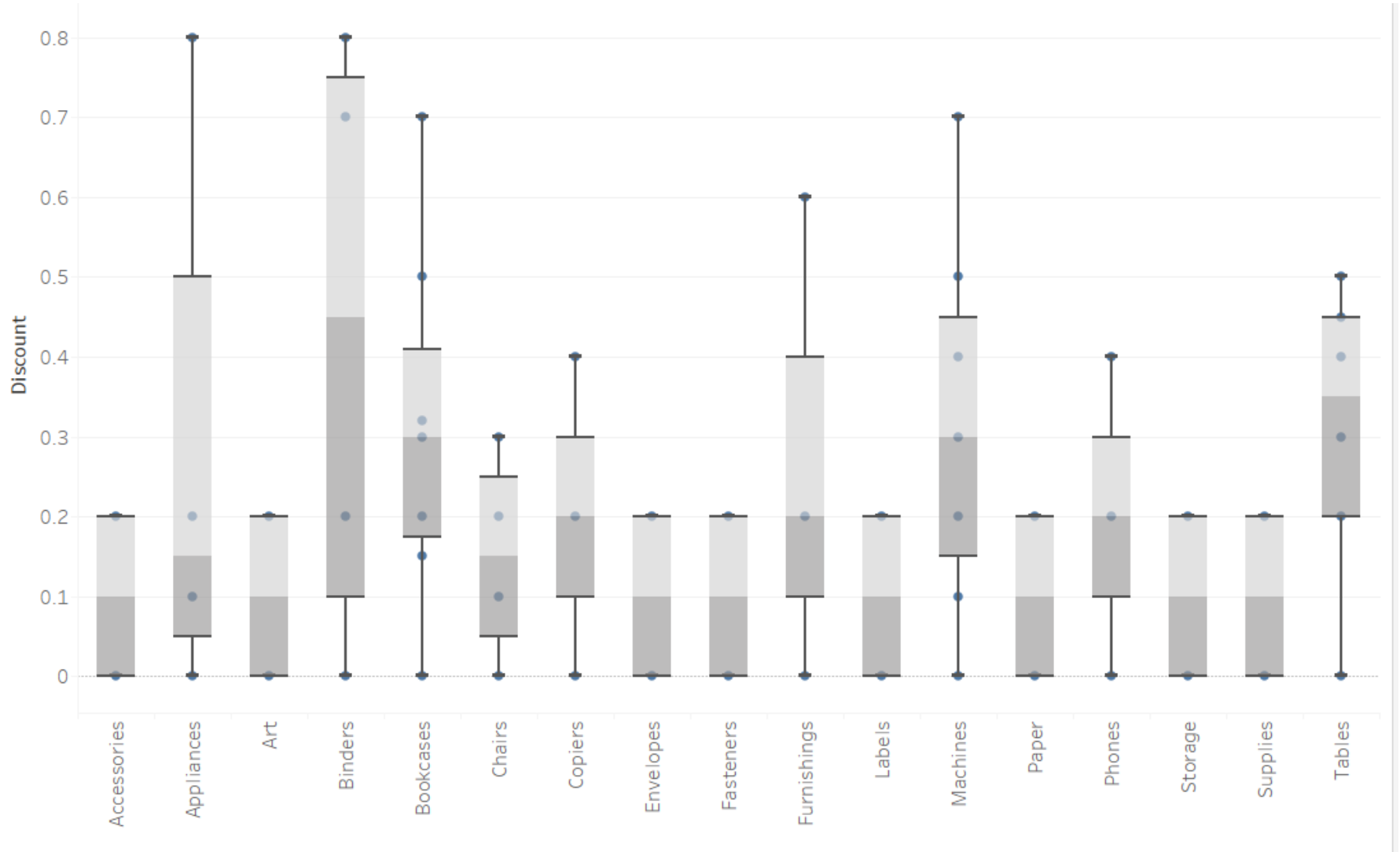
Boxplots

- Boxplots visually show the **distribution** of numerical data and **skewness**.
- They present five statistics: **min**, **first quartile (Q1)**, **median (Q2)**, **third quartile (Q3)**, **max**.
- They can help spot outliers.



Boxplot

11. Distribution of Discount Across Sub-Category



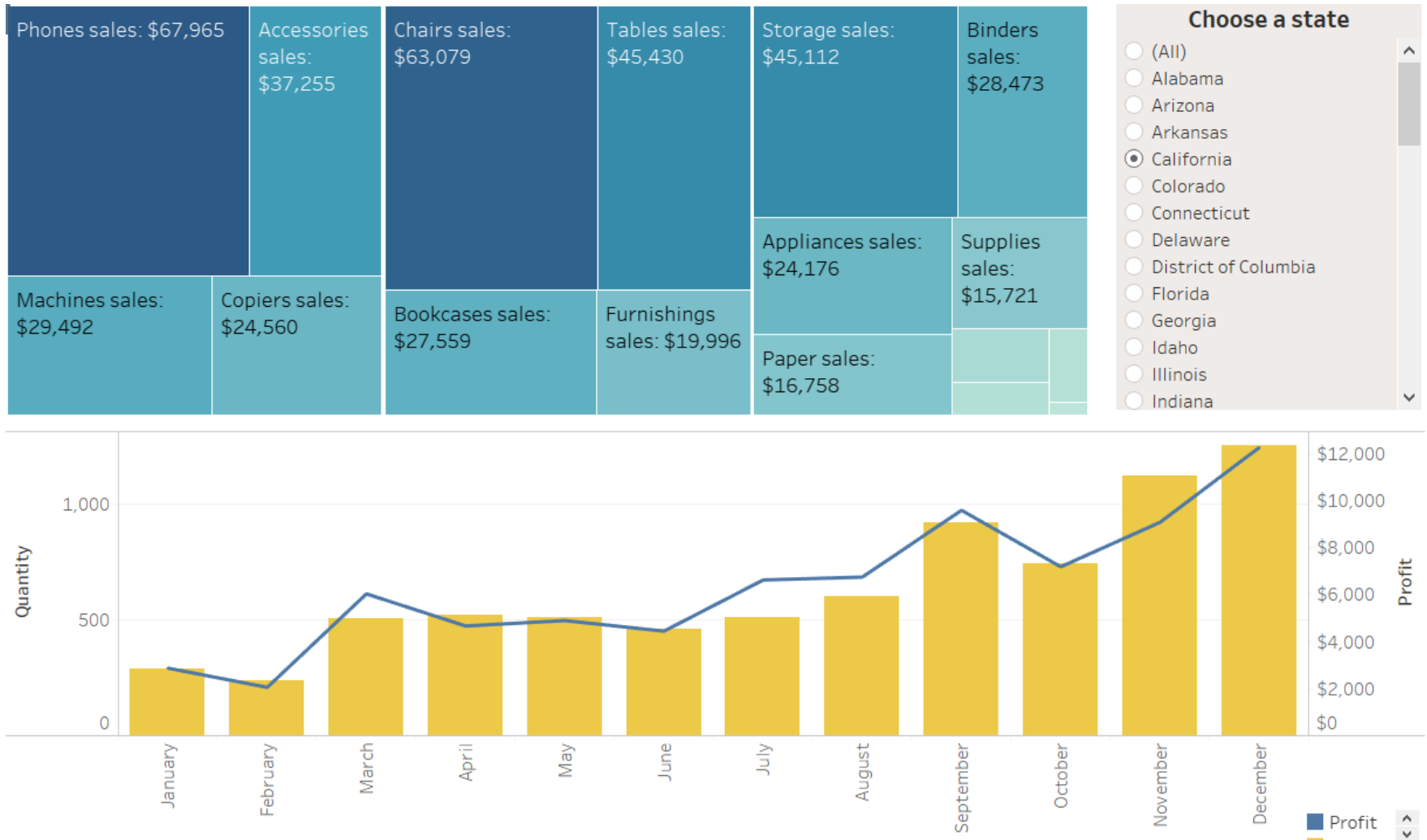
Dashboard & Story

Dashboard

- A dashboard is a **collection of several views**, letting you compare a variety of data simultaneously.
- For example, if you have a set of views that you review every day, you can create a dashboard that displays all the views at once, rather than navigate to separate worksheets.
- A well-designed dashboard can align your organization's efforts, help uncover key insights, and speed up decision-making.

Dashboard

13. Demand, Sales, and Profit Filter by State



Story

- A story is a sequence of visualizations that work together to convey information.
- Each individual visualization in a story is called a story point.
- You can create stories to tell a data narrative, provide context, demonstrate how decisions relate to outcomes, or to simply make a compelling case.
- Think of it as presentation slides.