

Run git pull in the main branch to follow along today.

Best Project 1 Awards, D3.js (Part 2)

DSC 106: Data Visualization

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UC San Diego

Announcements

Lab 5 due today.

Project 3 checkpoint due Tuesday next week.

Project 2 peer grading coming out next week.

FAQs:

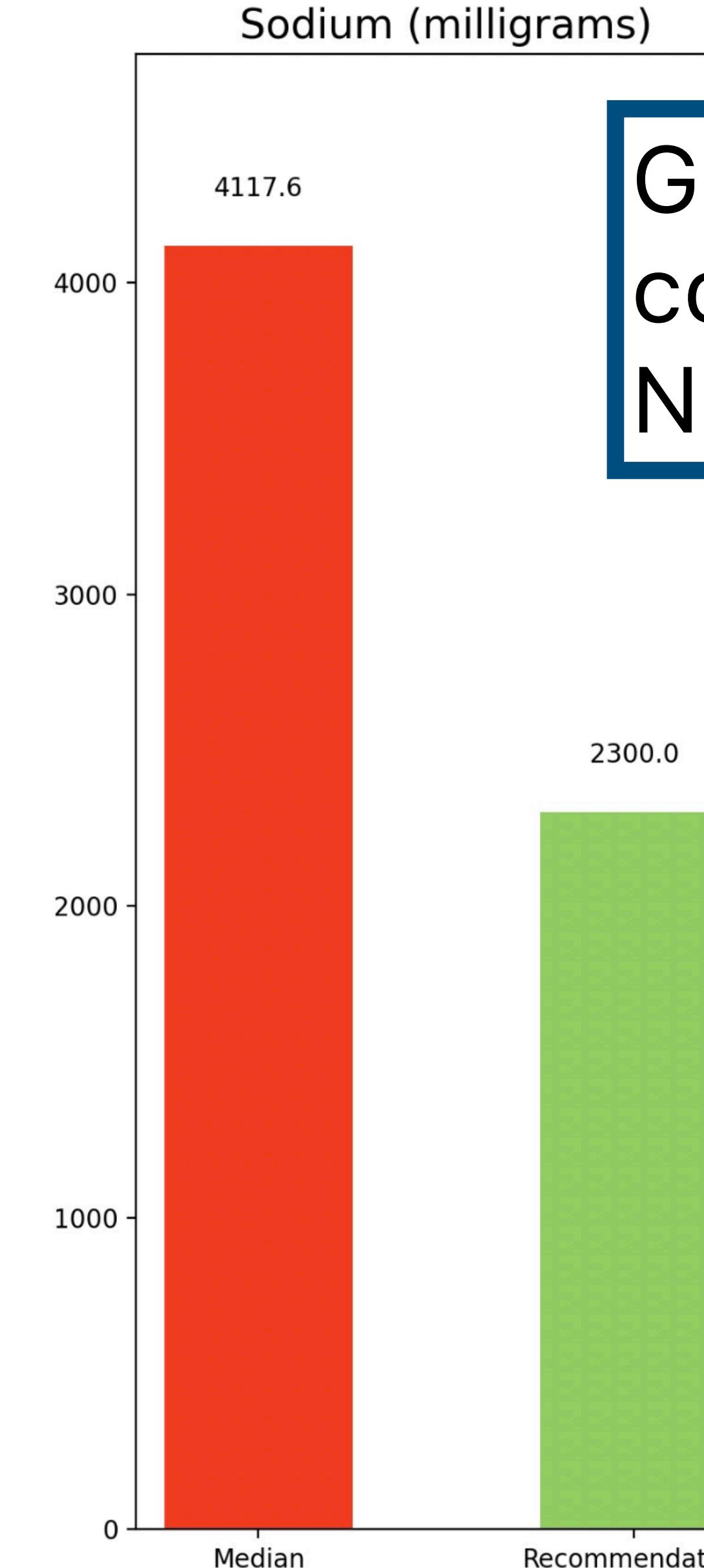
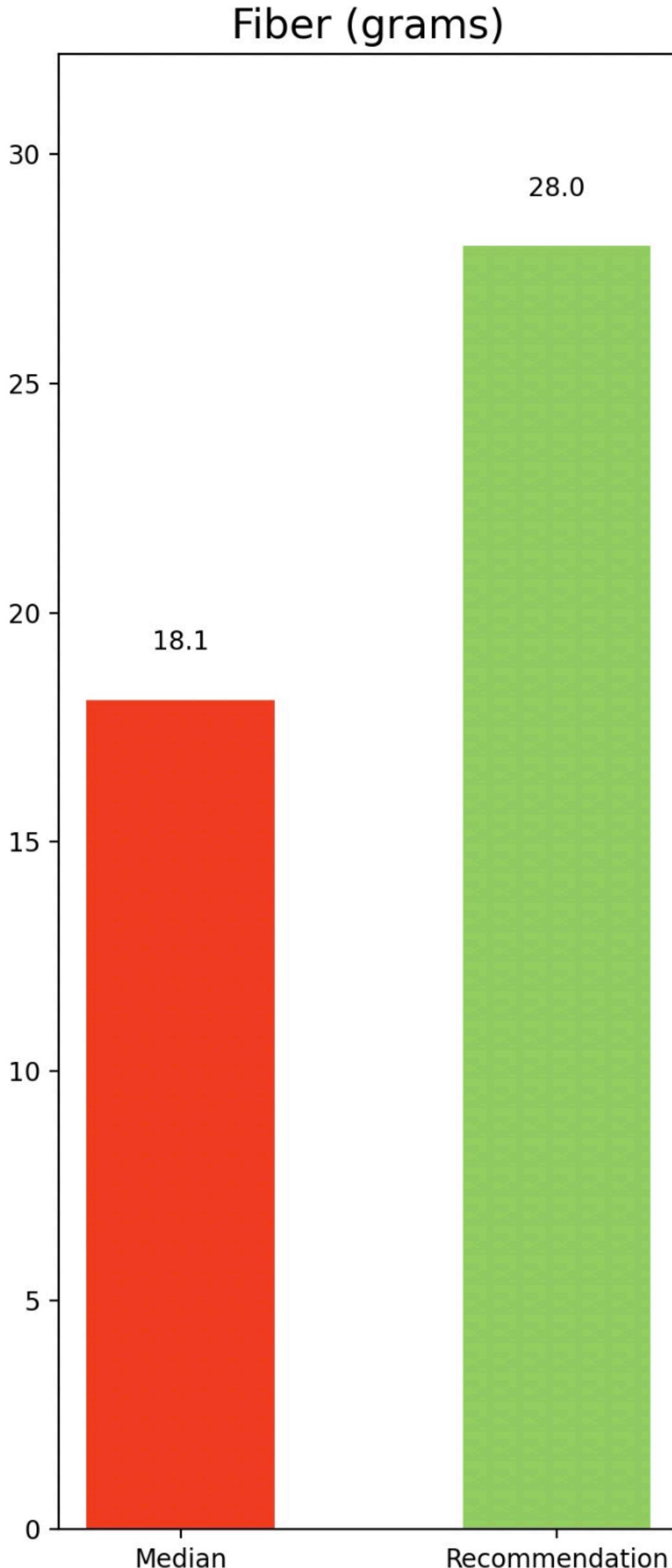
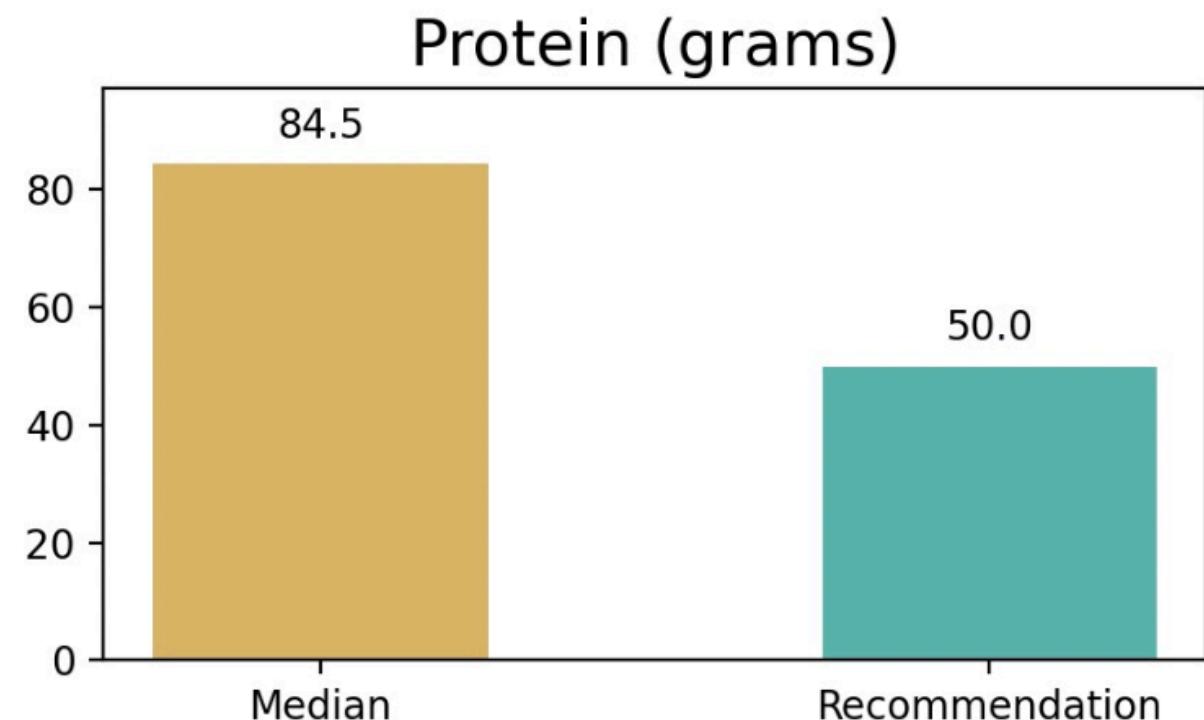
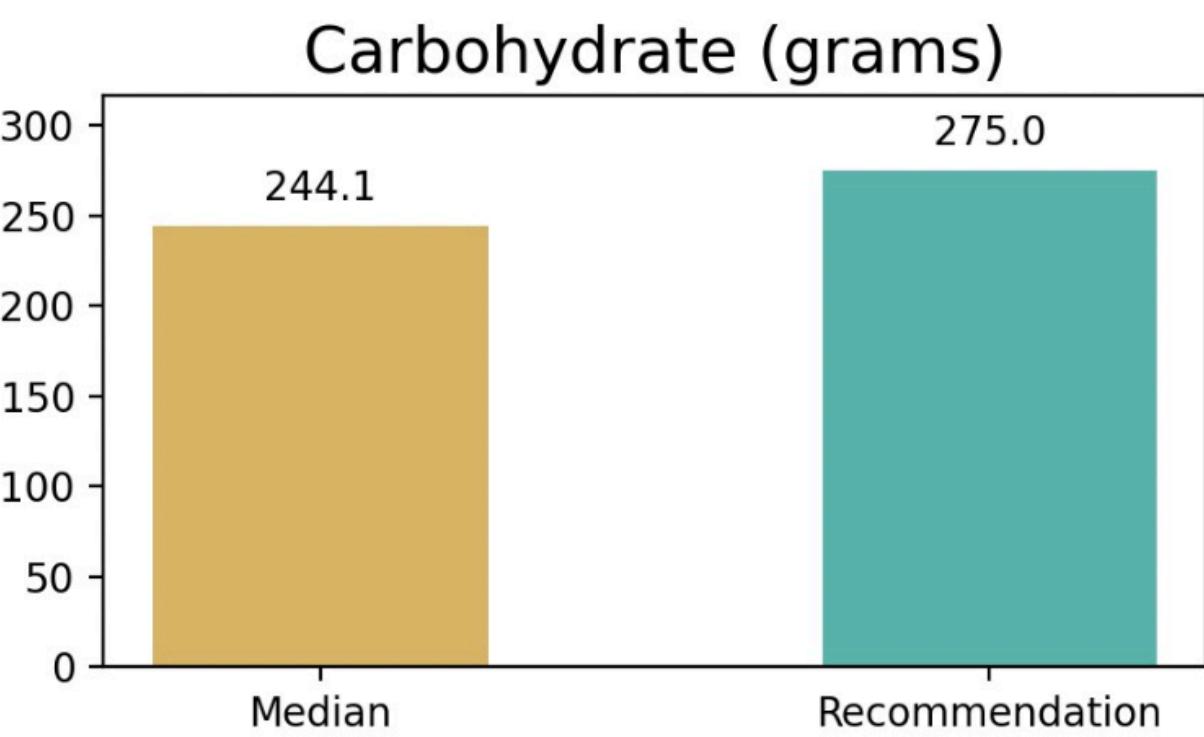
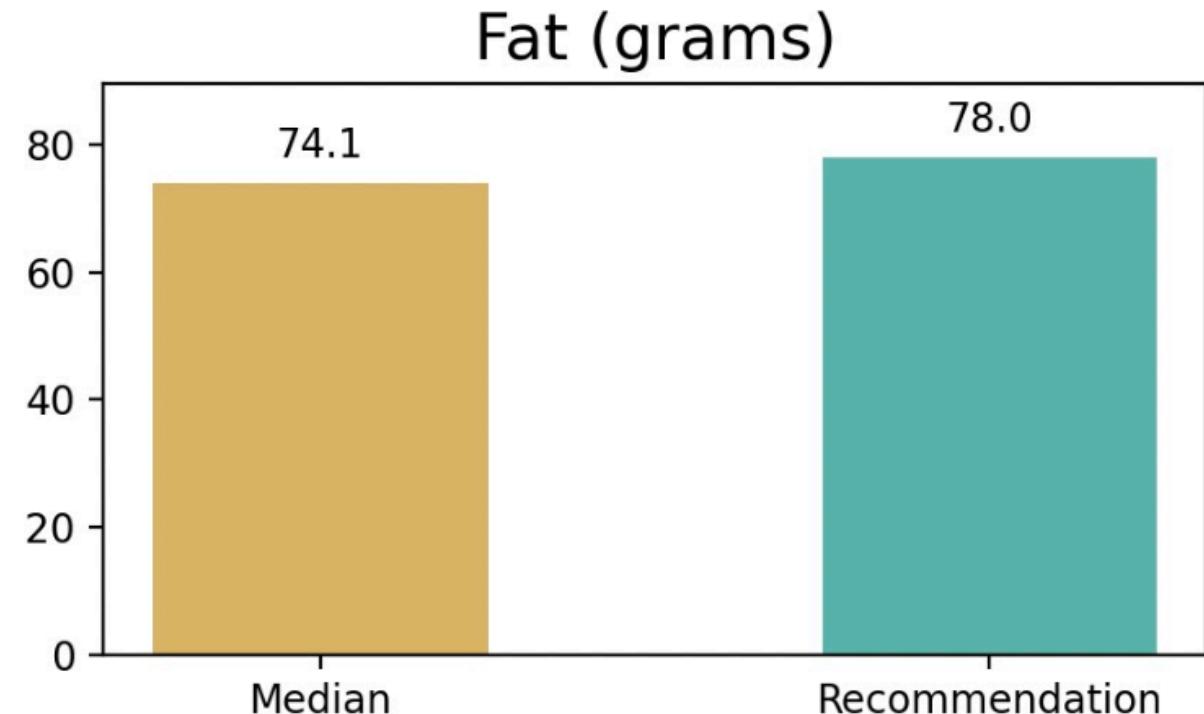
1. **How do I get the Lab 5 extra credit?** Fix the bug described in Step 5.4, then show us the working website in your video.

Project 1 Best Project Awards (top 3%)

If you got an award, mention it on
your resume / portfolio!

Balanced Meal... NOT

Comparison of prepared meals nutrients vs. NIH recommendations of daily intakes

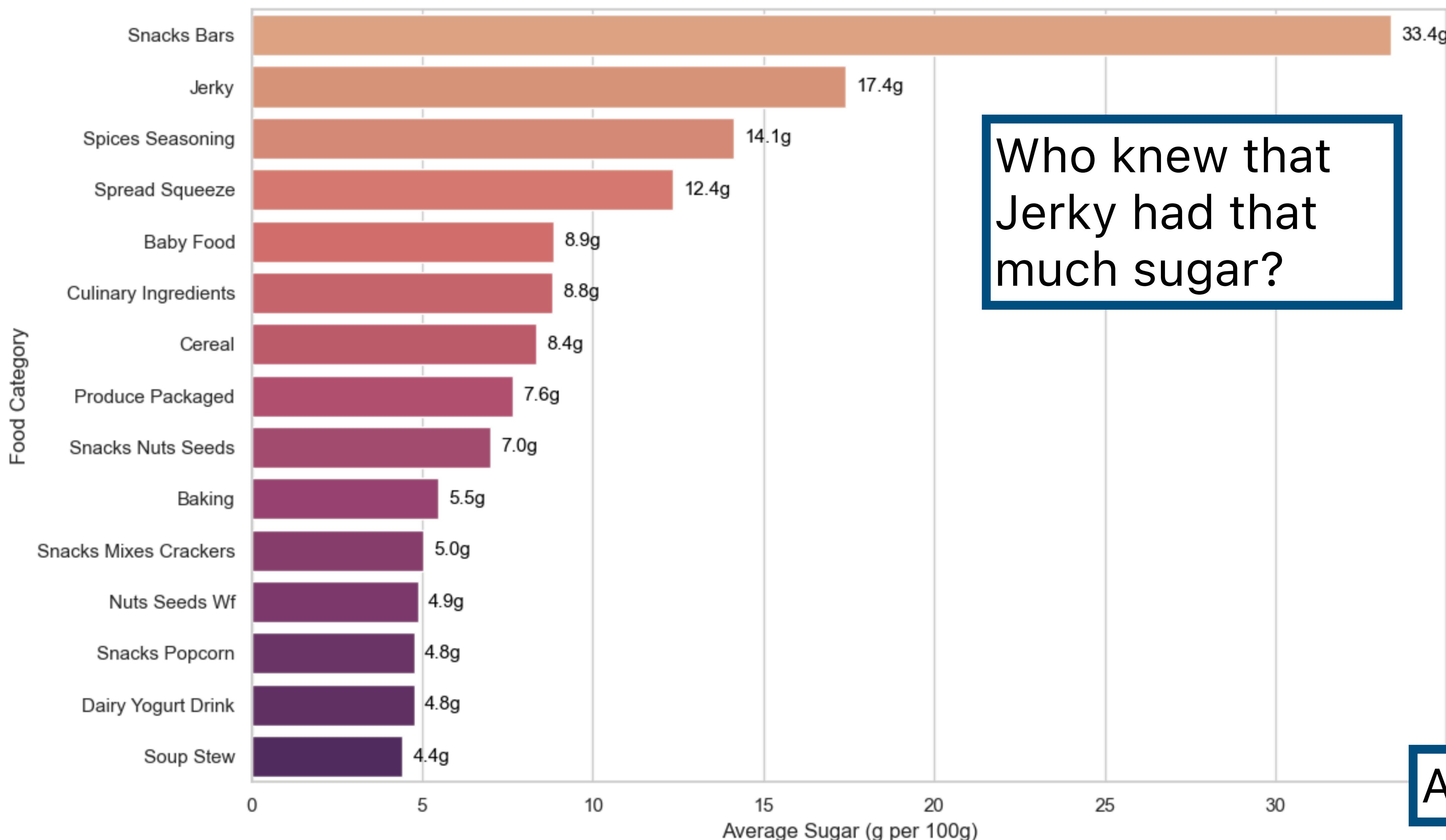


Great idea to compare against NIH recs!

K.C.

Hidden Sugars: Where Are They Hiding?

A comparison of average sugar content across all food categories, revealing surprising offenders that rival desserts.

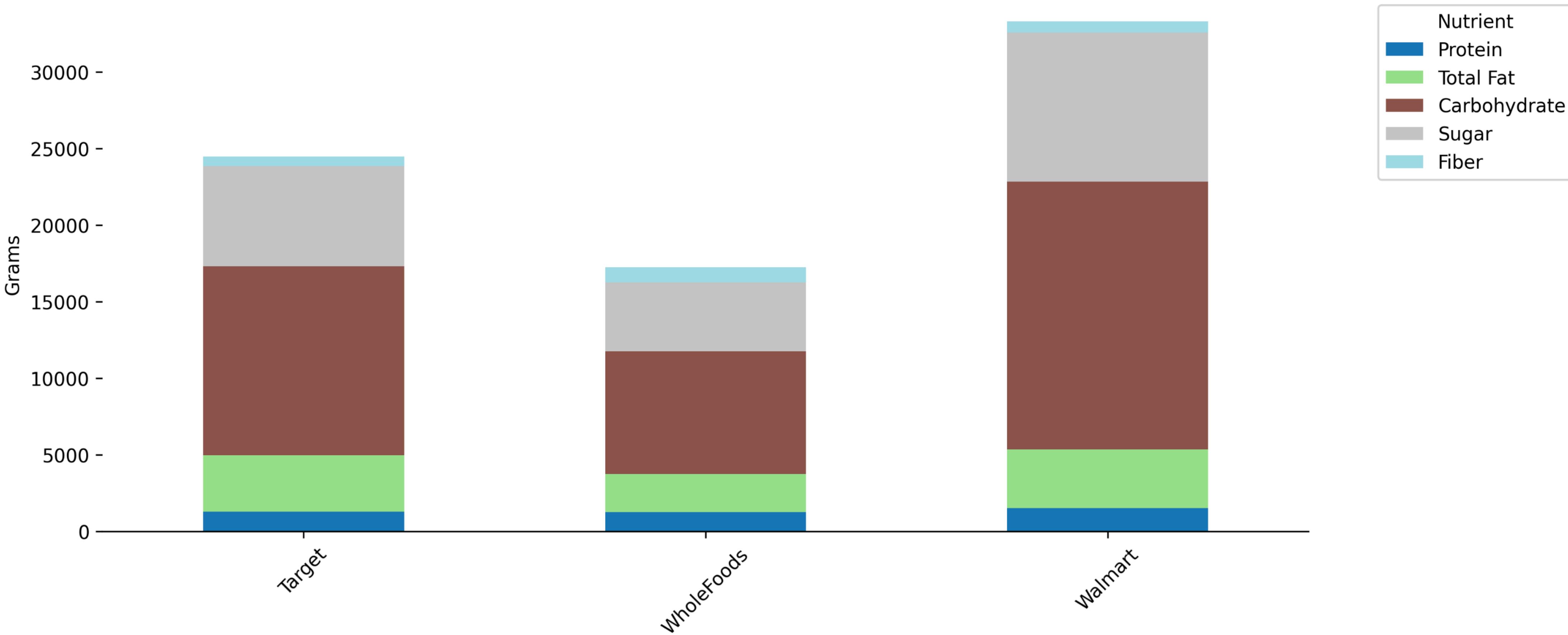


Who knew that
Jerky had that
much sugar?

A.W.

Buying in Bulk or Buying to Bulk?

Comparing Nutrient Makeups in Optimized Shopping Lists (\$208 Budget)

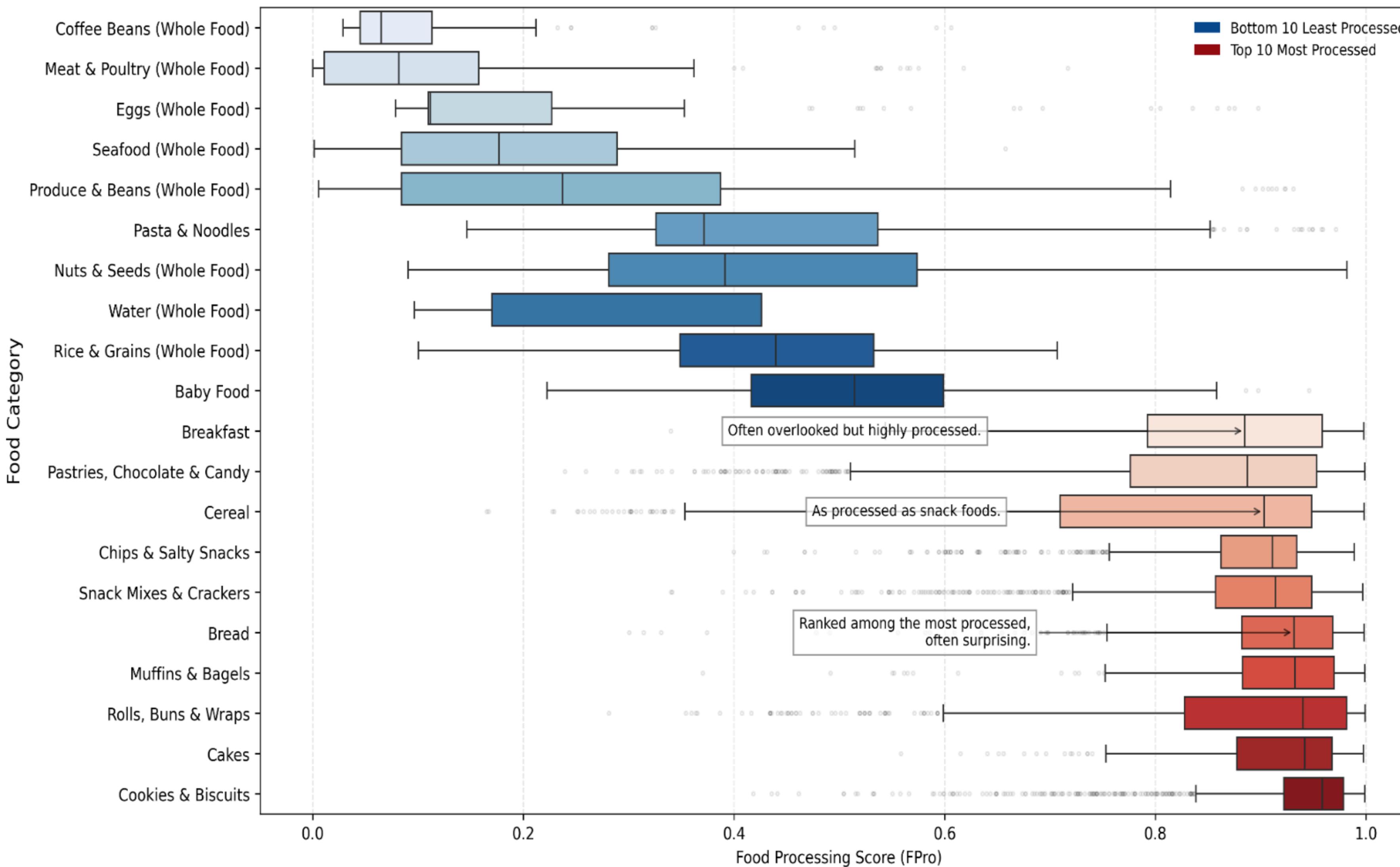


Maybe stacked bars weren't the best, but \$208 average American budget is smart!

A.B.

Not Just Candy: Breakfast Staples Rank Among the Most Processed

Top and bottom 10 food categories by median Food Processing Score (0 = Least, 1 = Most Processed), based on GroceryDB (Nature Food, 2022), across Target, Walmart, and Whole Foods.

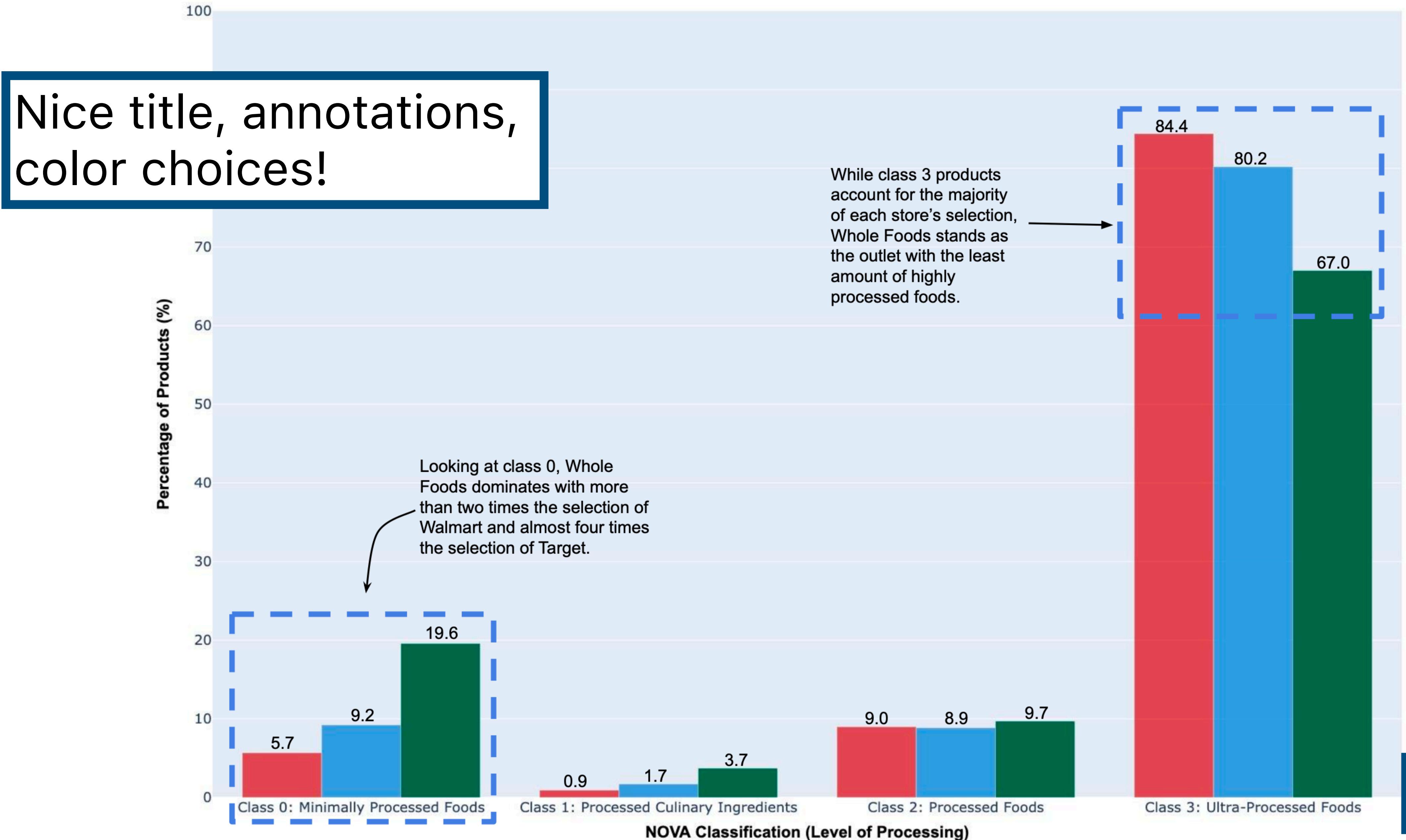


Who knew breakfast, cereal, and bread were that processed?

H.M.

Who's Wholer than Whole Foods? Exploring Major Grocery Outlets' Selections

The NOVA classification system groups food products based on how processed they are. Class 0 is the classification of whole foods, so does Whole Foods, a store known for organic, high-quality selection, live up to its name compared to Target and Walmart, which are better known for cheaper, more accessible selections?



Shelf of Health: Processing Paradox - Why Whole Foods Isn't Always Healthiest

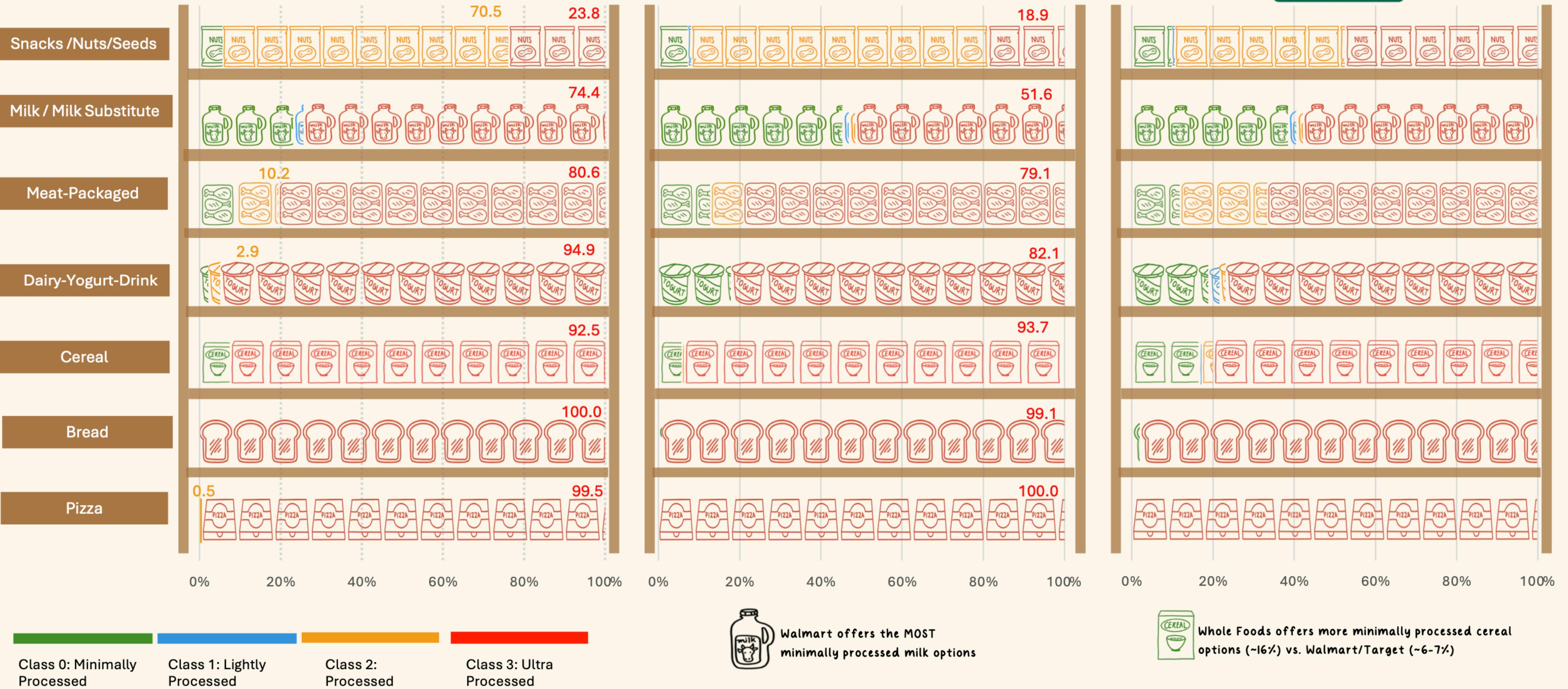
Comparing food processing levels across common grocery chains, by category



Whole Foods has MORE ultra-processed (47.5%) than Walmart (18.9%).



Target has the highest percentage of ultra-processed options (74.4%). Milk/Milk substitute.



C.T.

Really creative and tangible visual encoding!

Project 2 Peer Feedback

Opportunity to get feedback from your peers.

"I like / I wish / What if?" format.

Worth 5% of your final grade, graded by completion.

Project 3: Interactive Visualization

Choose a health dataset.

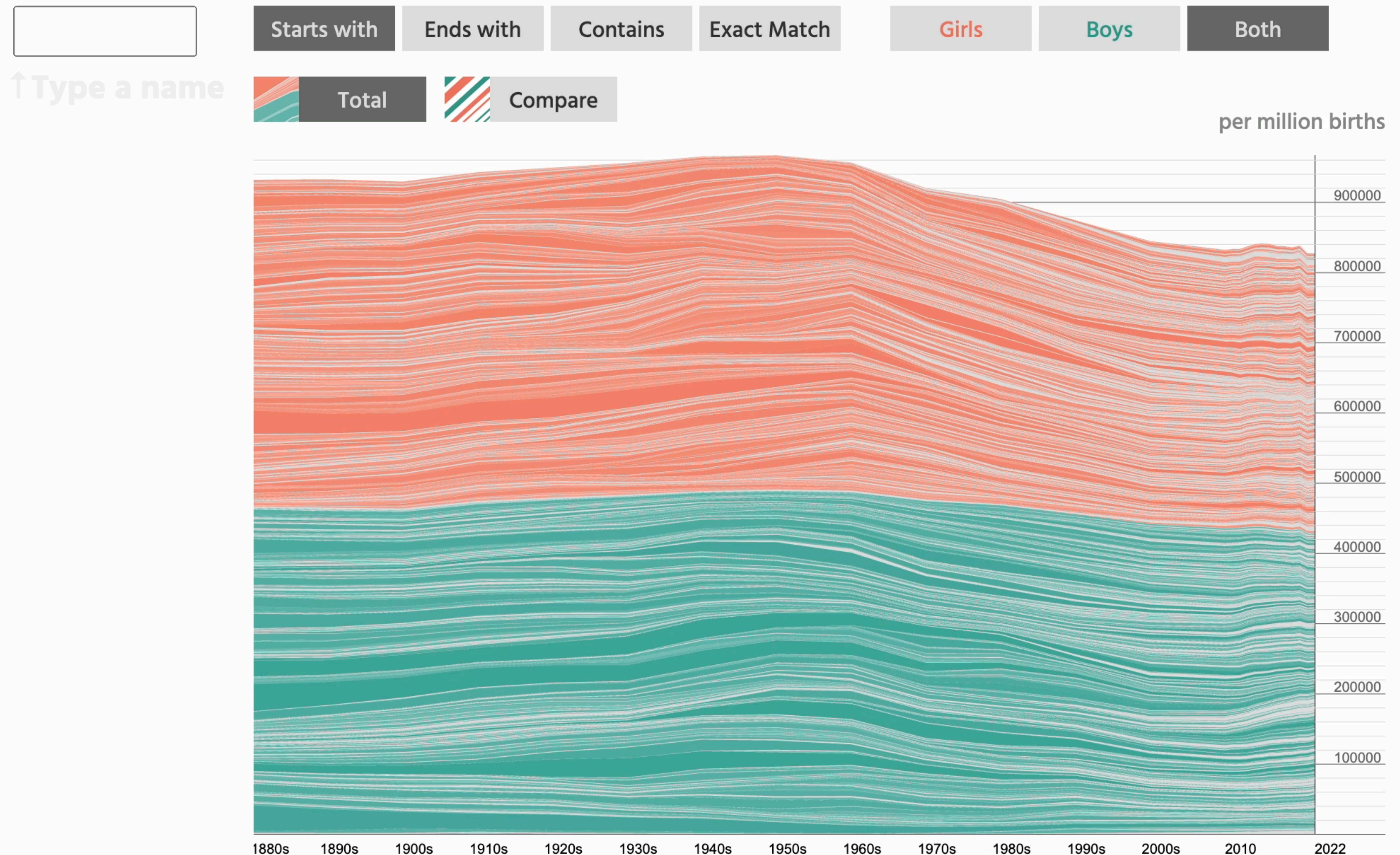
Create **one** interactive graphic to let readers explore the data.

E.g. filtering, zooming, brushing, annotations, etc.

Must use D3, no other plotting libraries allowed.

Must complete in teams of 3-4.

Pro-tip: Explore lots of options using pen-and-paper. Then, keep scope of project very tight! Do one thing well.

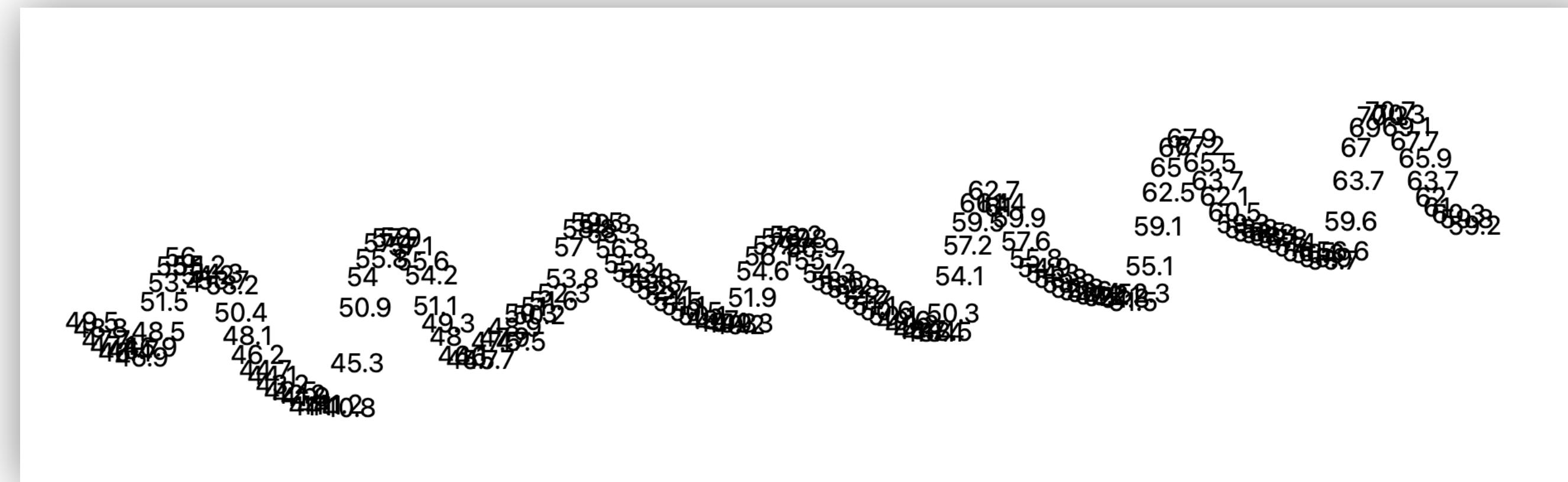


<https://namerology.com/baby-name-grapher/>

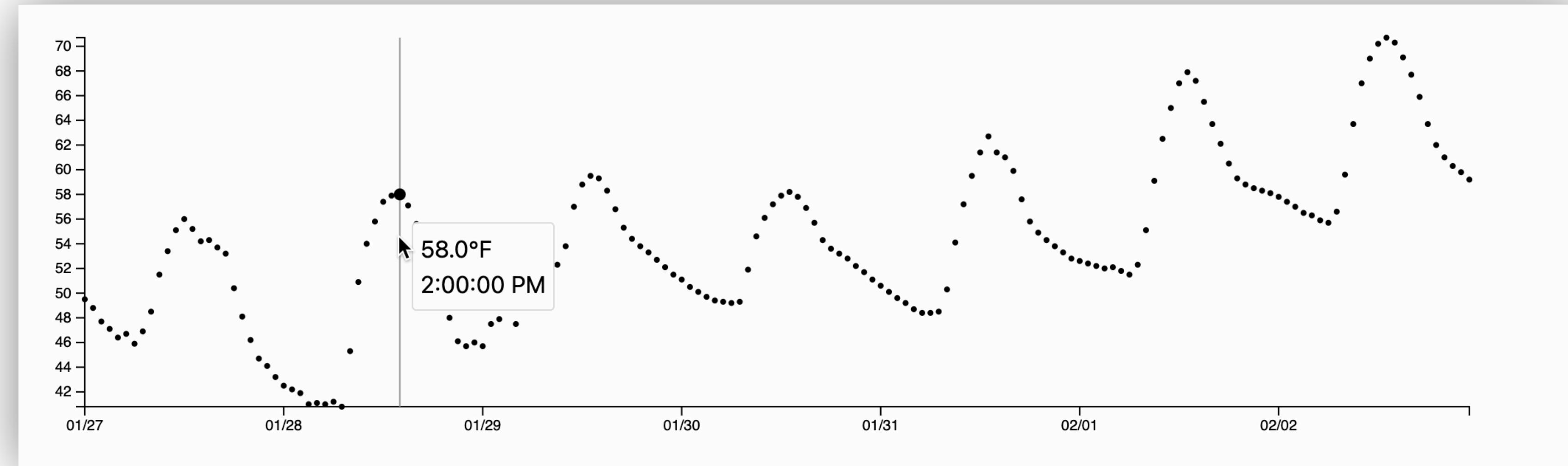
D3

Today: Making an interactive scatterplot

Before:

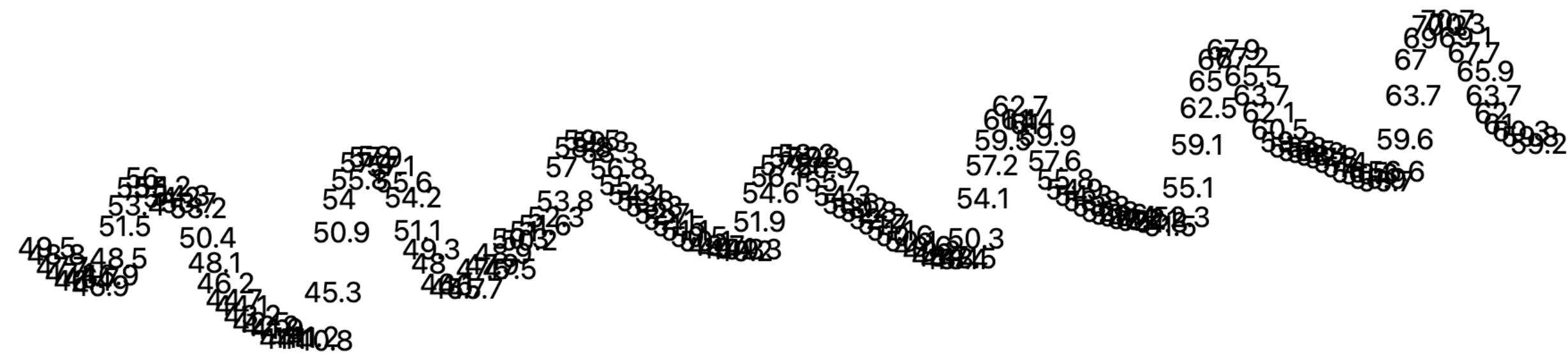


After:

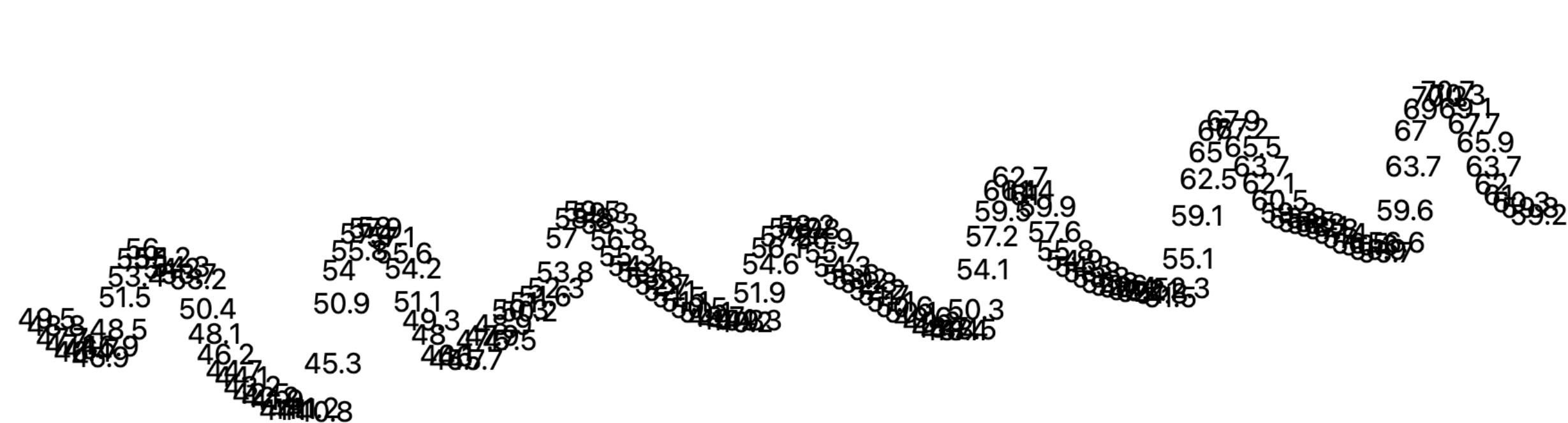


Step 1: Using D3 instead of plain JS

Before:



After:



But in D3!

Demo: [d3-lecture/weather01](#)

D3 Selections

Before:

```
const svg = document.querySelector('#weather-plot');
```

After:

```
const svg = d3.select('#weather-plot');
```

This is a D3 selection object, so it has D3 methods (not HTML methods!)

D3 Selections

Before:

```
const svg = document.querySelector('#weather-plot');
```

```
svg.setAttribute('width', 1000);  
svg.setAttribute('height', 500);
```

HTML element method

Don't memorize method names,
just use Copilot / ChatGPT

After:

```
const svg = d3.select('#weather-plot');
```

```
svg.attr('width', 1000);  
svg.attr('height', 500);
```

D3 equivalent

But ALWAYS know when you
have a D3 vs. native object!

Data Joins

Before:

```
weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m.forEach((temp, index) => {
  const text = document.createElementNS('http://www.w3.org/2000/svg', 'text');
  text.setAttribute('x', index * 5);
  text.setAttribute('y', 500 - temp * 6);

  text.textContent = temp;
  svg.appendChild(text);
});
```

HTML methods

After:

```
svg
  .selectAll('text')
  .data(weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m)
  .join('text')
  .attr('x', (d, i) => i * 5)
  .attr('y', (d) => 500 - d * 6)
  .text(d => d);
```

The D3 way

No explicit for loop, but
there is one internally!

Data Joins

```
svg
  .selectAll('text')
  .data(weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m)
  .join('text')
  .attr('x', (d, i) => i * 5)
  .attr('y', (d) => 500 - d * 6)
  .text(d => d);
```

Match data with text elements

What's not intuitive: You use `selectAll()` for elements that you want to **CREATE**, but it sounds like you're looking for text elements that already exist.

Data Joins

```
svg
  .selectAll('text')
  .data(weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m)
  .join('text')
  .attr('x', (d, i) => i * 5)
  .attr('y', (d) => 500 - d * 6)
  .text(d => d);
```

Create one new text element for each datum

Does more than just create new elements, but good enough analogy for now.

Data Joins

```
svg
  .selectAll('text')
  .data(weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m)
  .join('text')
  .attr('x', (d, i) => i * 5)
  .attr('y', (d) => 500 - d * 6)
  .text((d) => d);
```

Set the x, y, and text content
of each text element

Notice that each `.attr()` method takes in a **function**. Function gets called with 2 arguments: actual data element and index.

(Actually, called with 3 arguments. But JS functions ignore extra arguments!)

Data Joins

```
svg
  .selectAll('text')
    .data(weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m)
    .join('text')
    .attr('x', (d, i) => i * 5)
    .attr('y', (d) => 500 - d * 6)
    .text((d) => d);
```

Set the x, y, and text content
of each text element

What do the numbers 5, 6,
and 500 mean?

Nothing really, why not do that
automatically?

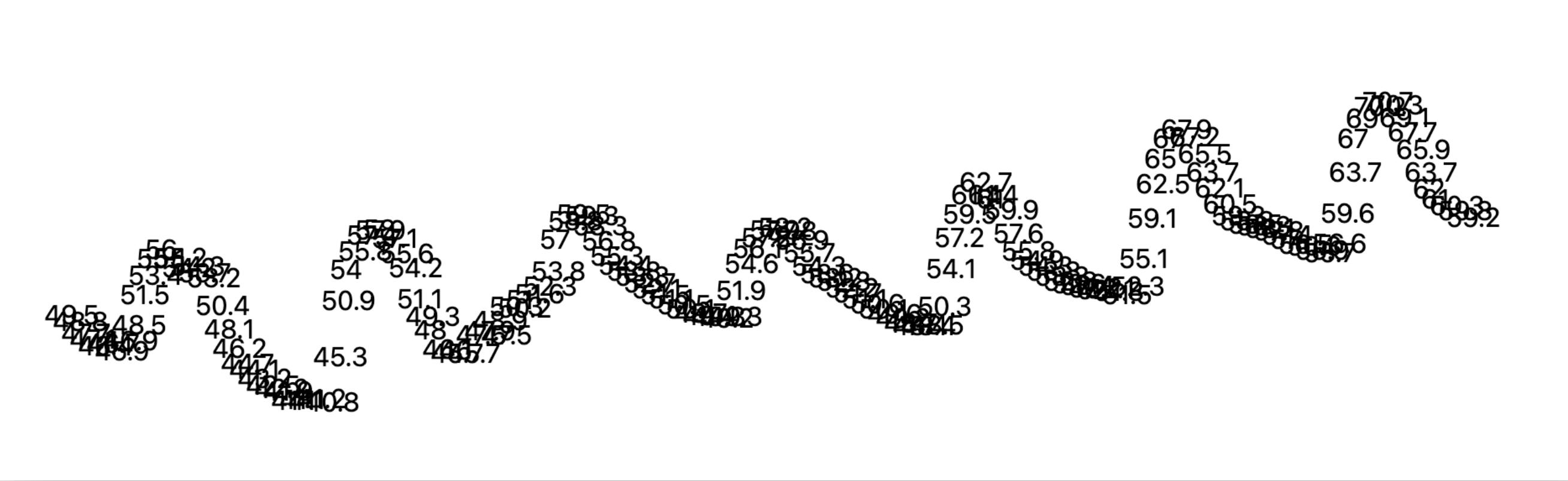
Submit a question about Step 1

tryclassbuzz.com

Code: **d3-1**

Step 2: Making circles and using d3 scales

Before:



Making circles

Before:

```
svg
  .selectAll('text')
  .data(weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m)
  .join('text')
  .attr('x', (d, i) => i * 5)
  .attr('y', (d) => 500 - d * 6)
  .text((d) => d);
```

After:

```
svg
  .selectAll('circle')
  .data(weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m)
  .join('circle')
  .attr('cx', (d, i) => xScale(i))
  .attr('cy', (d) => yScale(d))
  .attr('r', 2);
```

Just needed to swap out text with circle + set the right attributes.

Circles only have cx and cy, not x and y

Scales

Before:

```
.attr('cx', (d, i) => i * 5)  
.attr('cy', (d) => 500 - d * 6)
```

Magic numbers!

After:

```
.attr('cx', (d, i) => xScale(i))  
.attr('cy', (d) => yScale(d))
```

D3 scales

```
const xScale = d3  
    .scaleLinear()  
    .domain([0, weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m.length - 1])  
    .range([margin.left, width - margin.right]);
```

Domain = possible inputs

Range = possible outputs

D3 scales will automatically make plot fit the space.

Scales

Let's work out how a scale works by hand.

	time	temperature_2m
0	2025-04-24T00:00	55.6
1	2025-04-24T01:00	55.6
2	2025-04-24T02:00	55.2
3	2025-04-24T03:00	55.9
4	2025-04-24T04:00	56.7
...
163	2025-04-30T19:00	63.4
164	2025-04-30T20:00	61.8
165	2025-04-30T21:00	61.0
166	2025-04-30T22:00	60.9
167	2025-04-30T23:00	60.7



1000px wide

Scales

Let's work out how a scale works by hand.

	time	temperature_2m
0	2025-04-24T00:00	55.6
1	2025-04-24T01:00	55.6
2	2025-04-24T02:00	55.2
3	2025-04-24T03:00	55.9
4	2025-04-24T04:00	56.7
...
163	2025-04-30T19:00	63.4
164	2025-04-30T20:00	61.8
165	2025-04-30T21:00	61.0
166	2025-04-30T22:00	60.9
167	2025-04-30T23:00	60.7



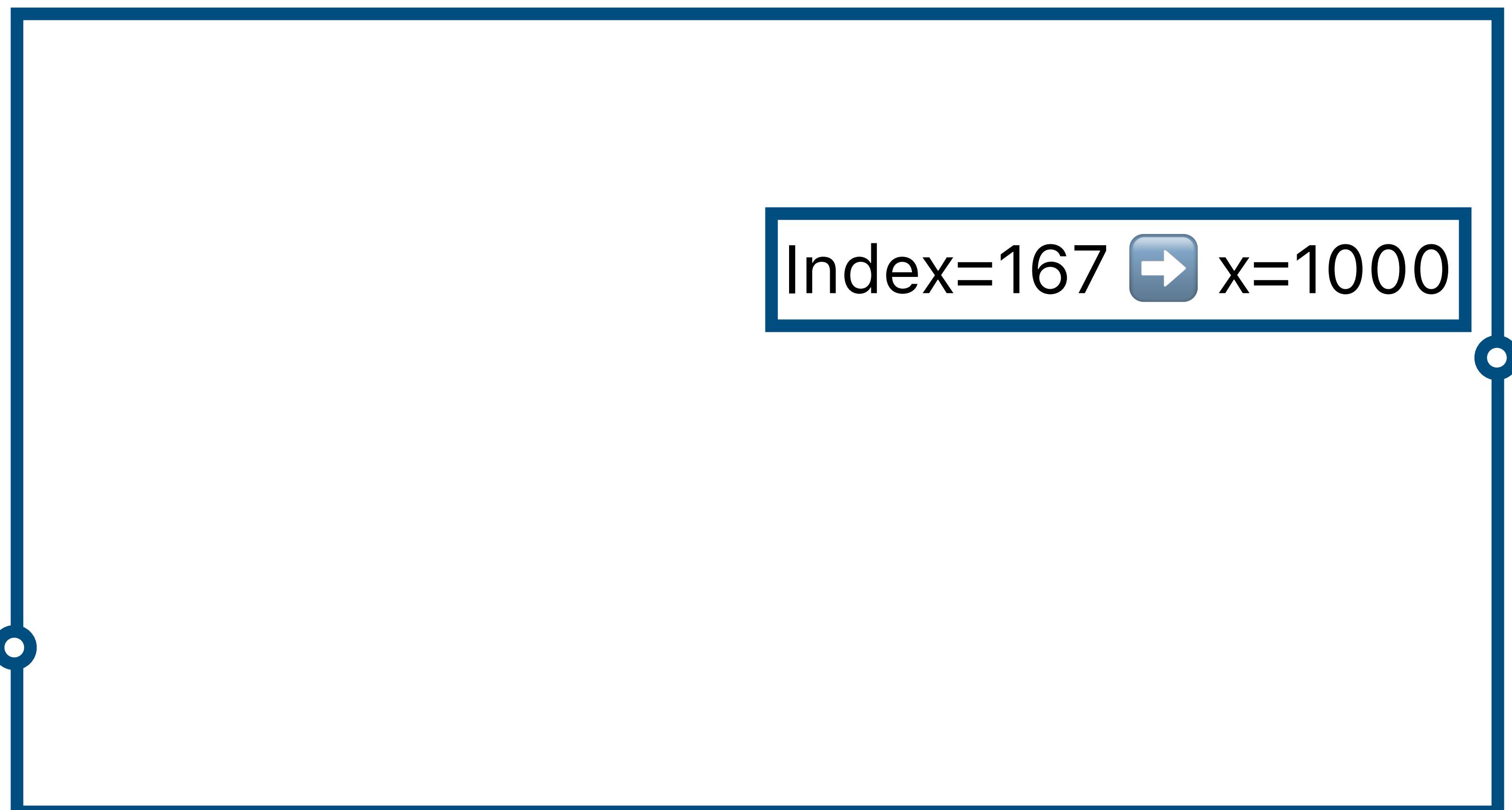
Index=0 → x=0

1000px wide

Scales

Let's work out how a scale works by hand.

	time	temperature_2m
0	2025-04-24T00:00	55.6
1	2025-04-24T01:00	55.6
2	2025-04-24T02:00	55.2
3	2025-04-24T03:00	55.9
4	2025-04-24T04:00	56.7
...
163	2025-04-30T19:00	63.4
164	2025-04-30T20:00	61.8
165	2025-04-30T21:00	61.0
166	2025-04-30T22:00	60.9
167	2025-04-30T23:00	60.7

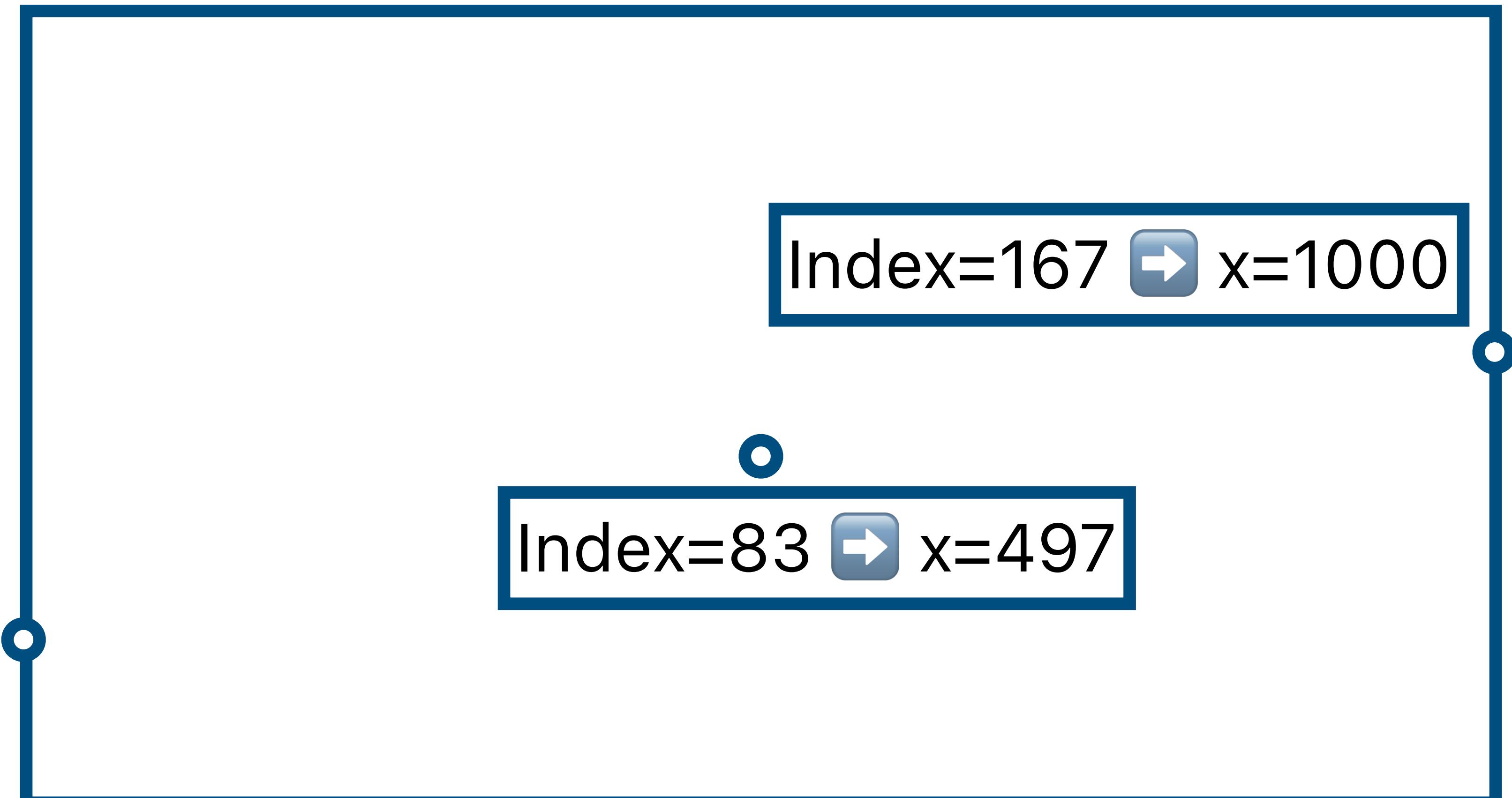


1000px wide

Scales

Let's work out how a scale works by hand.

	time	temperature_2m
0	2025-04-24T00:00	55.6
1	2025-04-24T01:00	55.6
2	2025-04-24T02:00	55.2
3	2025-04-24T03:00	55.9
4	2025-04-24T04:00	56.7
...
163	2025-04-30T19:00	63.4
164	2025-04-30T20:00	61.8
165	2025-04-30T21:00	61.0
166	2025-04-30T22:00	60.9
167	2025-04-30T23:00	60.7

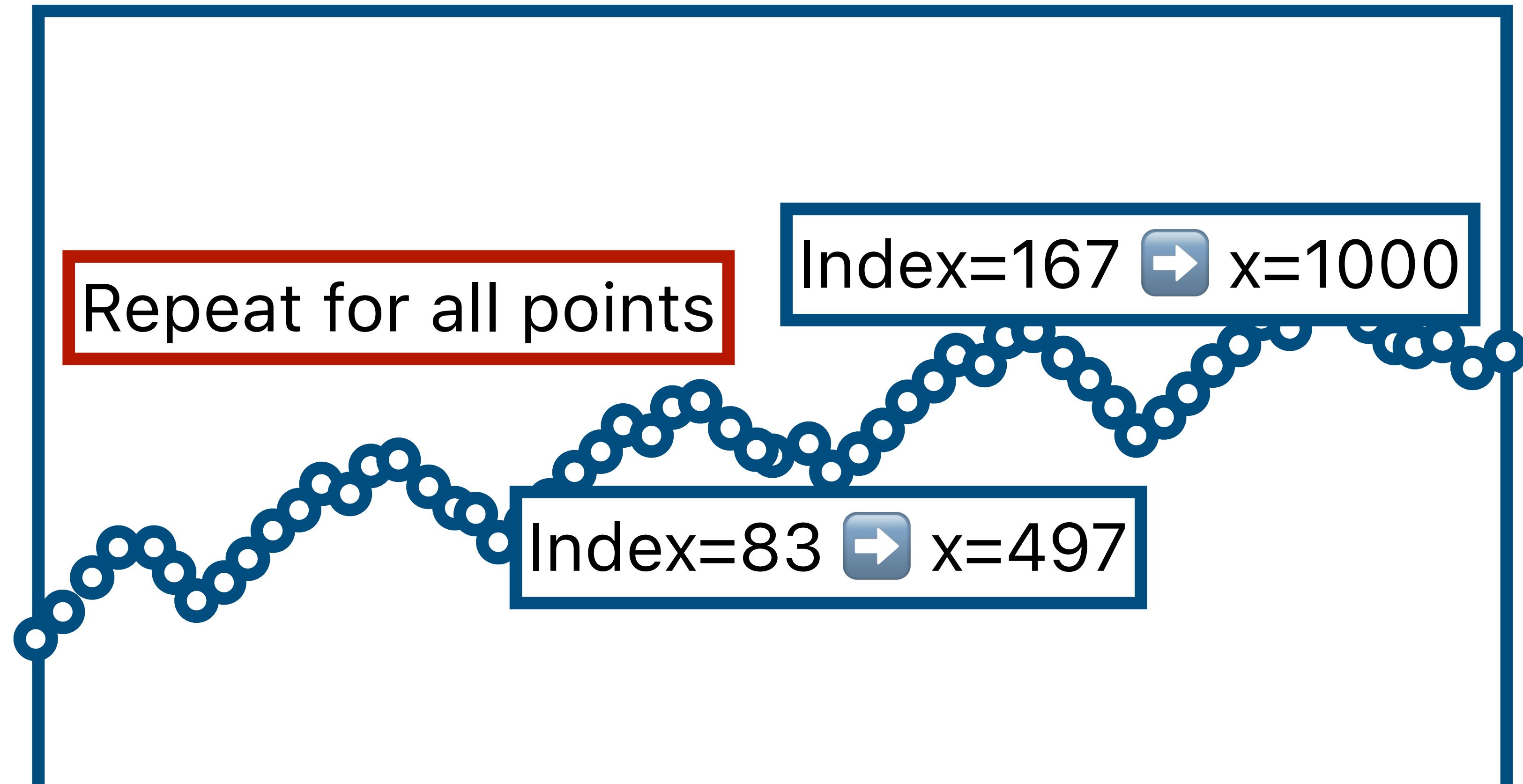


1000px wide

Scales

Let's work out how a scale works by hand.

	time	temperature_2m
0	2025-04-24T00:00	55.6
1	2025-04-24T01:00	55.6
2	2025-04-24T02:00	55.2
3	2025-04-24T03:00	55.9
4	2025-04-24T04:00	56.7
...
163	2025-04-30T19:00	63.4
164	2025-04-30T20:00	61.8
165	2025-04-30T21:00	61.0
166	2025-04-30T22:00	60.9
167	2025-04-30T23:00	60.7



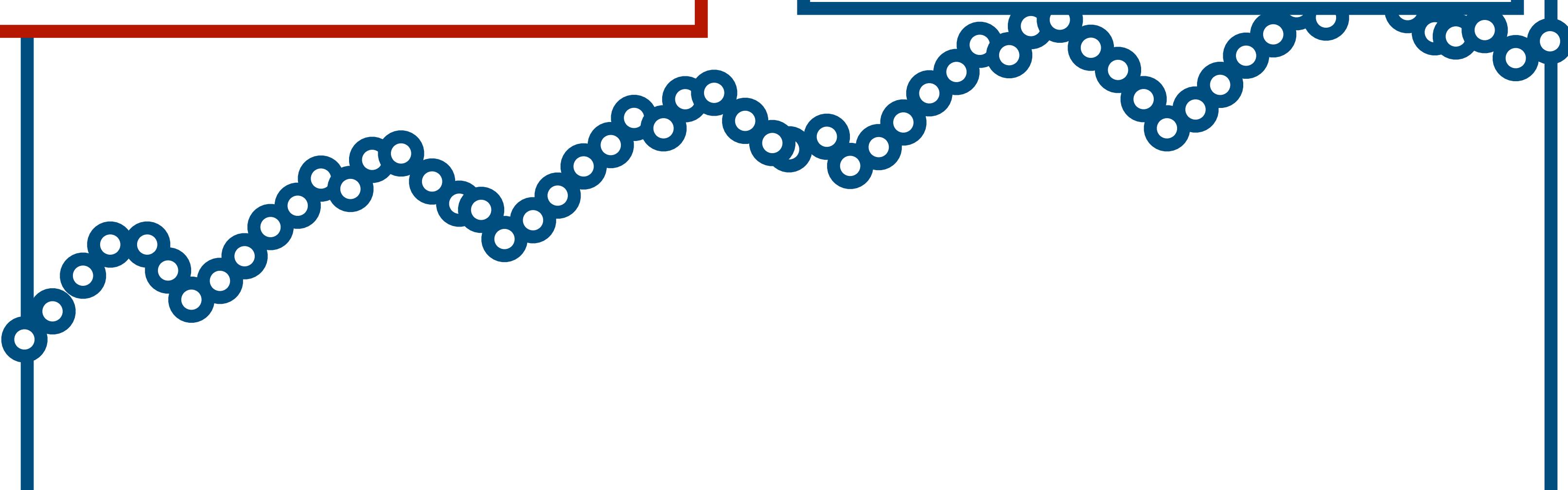
Scales

Let's work out how a scale works by hand.

Want a function that converts between:

Input: index → Output: x-coordinate

Index=167 → x=1000



Index=0 → x=0

1000px wide

Scales

Let's work out how a scale works by hand.

Want a function that converts between:

Input: index → Output: x-coordinate

Index=167 → x=1000

```
const xScale = d3  
    .scaleLinear()  
    .domain([0, weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m.length - 1])  
    .range([margin.left, width - margin.right]);
```

Domain = possible inputs

Range = possible outputs

Include margin for axes

Index=0 → x=0

1000px wide

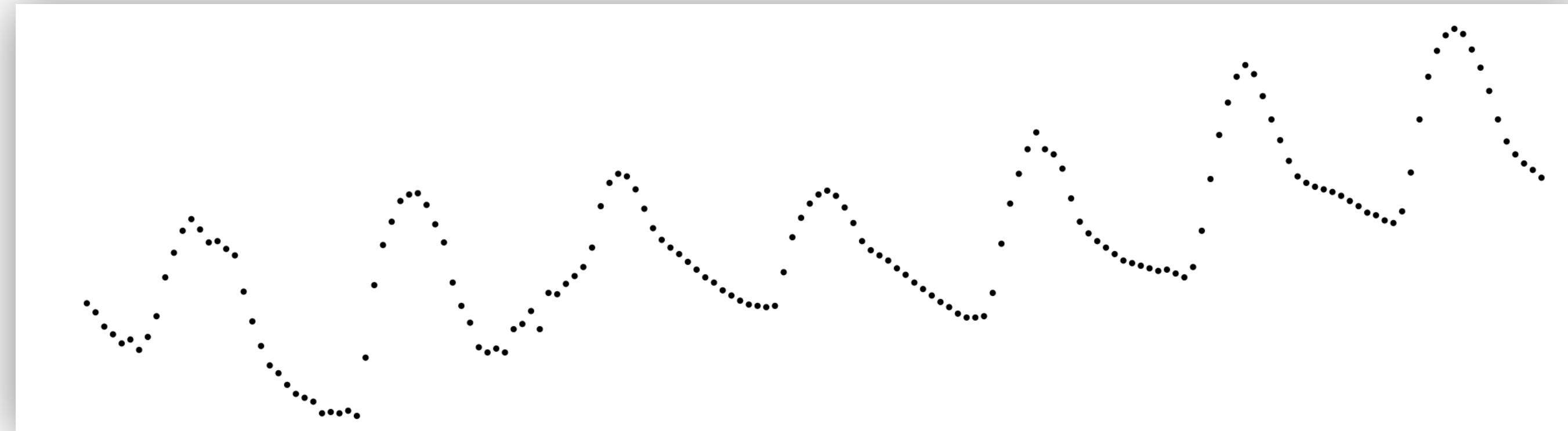
Submit a question about Step 2

tryclassbuzz.com

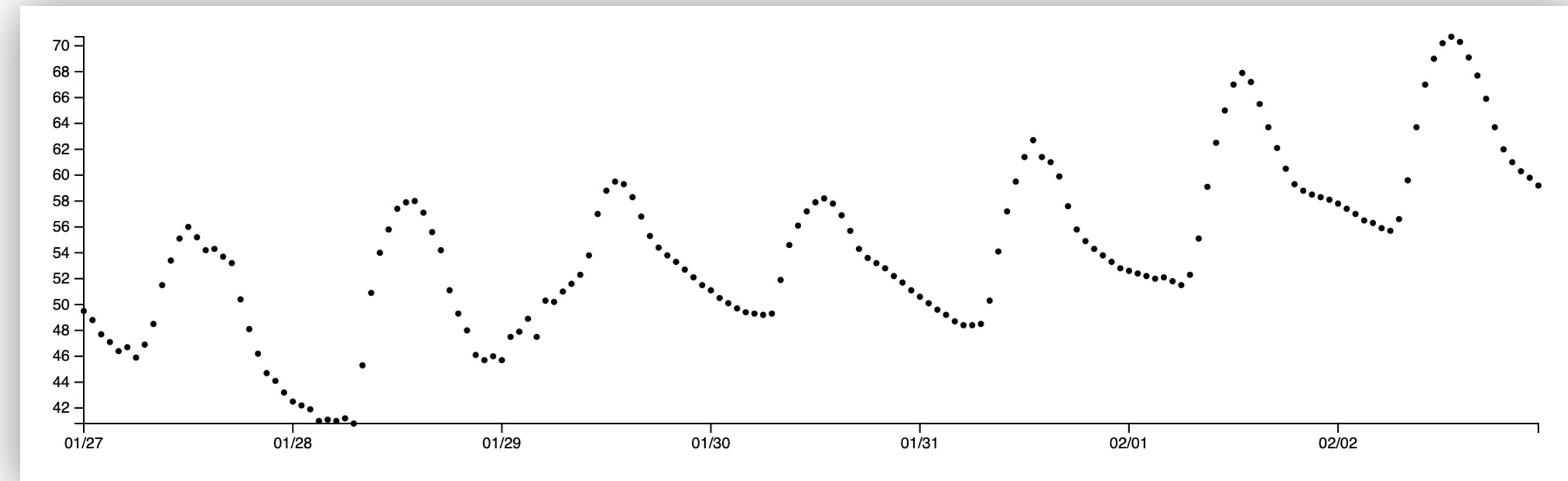
Code: **d3-2**

Step 3: Adding axes

Before:



After:



Demo: [d3-lecture/weather03](#)

Using a Time Scale

Old:

```
const xScale = d3
  .scaleLinear()
  .domain([0, weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m.length - 1])
  .range([margin.left, width - margin.right]);
```

scaleLinear: number input

New:

```
const xScale = d3
  .scaleTime()
  .domain([
    new Date(weatherData.hourly.time[0]),
    new Date(weatherData.hourly.time[weatherData.hourly.time.length - 1]),
  ])
  .range([margin.left, width - margin.right]);
```

scaleTime: Date() input

Using a scaleTime lets us get date labels on the x-axis for free!

Axes

```
const yAxis = d3.axisLeft(yScale);
```

Creates a D3 axis object

```
svg
  .append('g')
  .attr('class', 'y axis')
  .attr('transform', `translate(${margin.left}, 0)`)
  .call(yAxis);
```

Creates an SVG <g> object, then draws axis into it

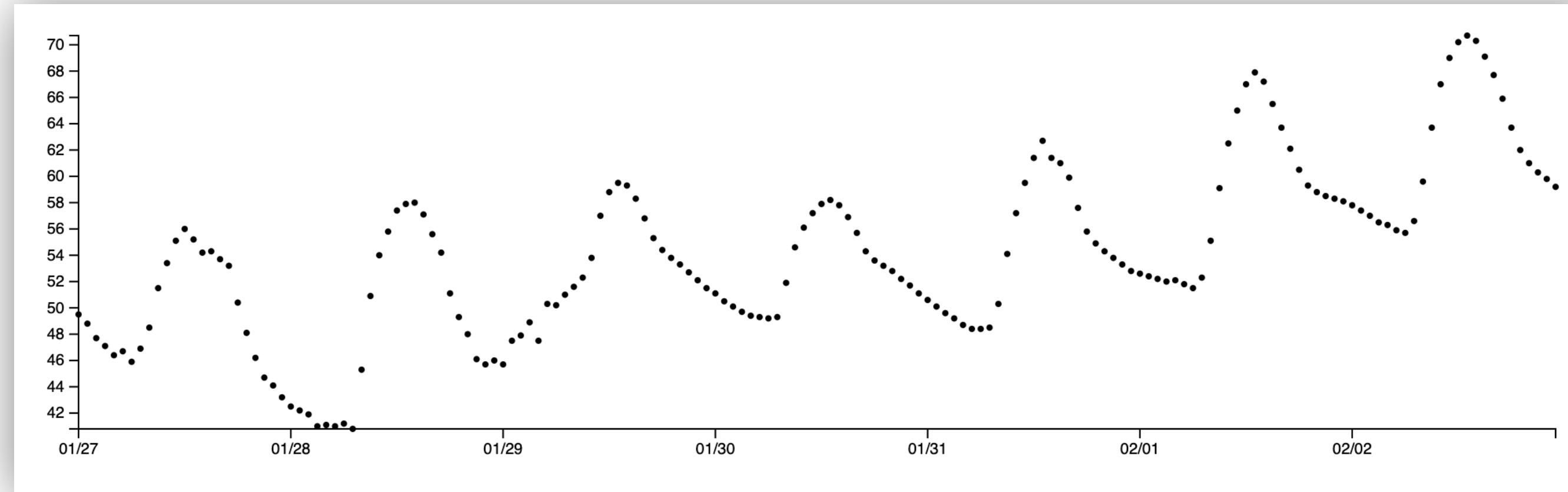
Submit a question about Step 3

tryclassbuzz.com

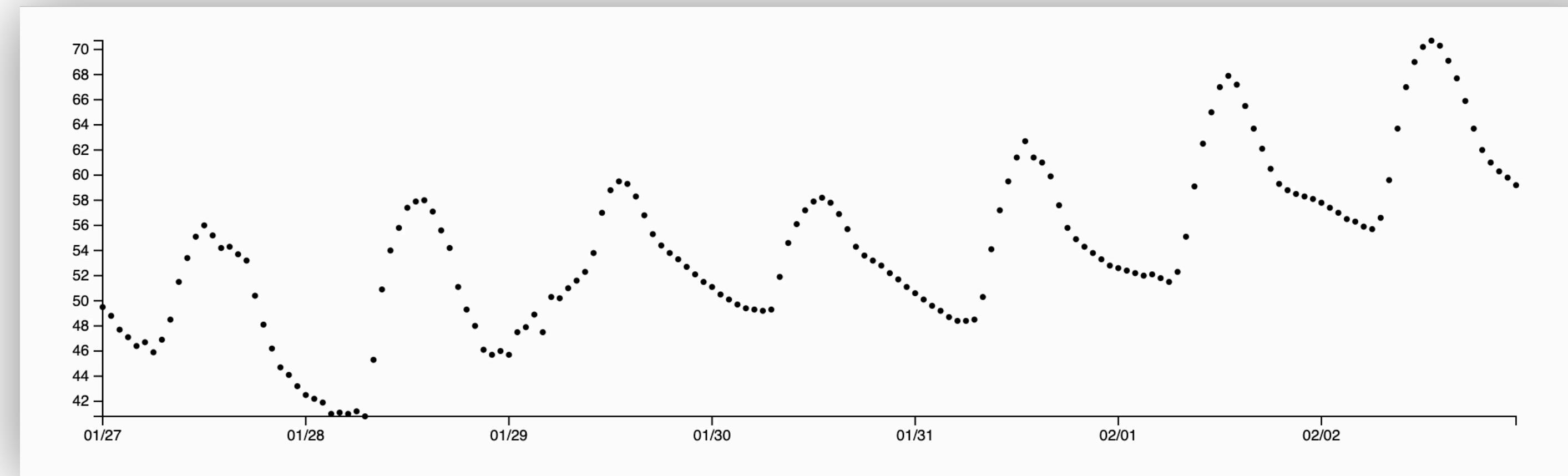
Code: **d3-3**

Step 4: Adding a basic tooltip

Before:



After:



Demo: [d3-lecture/weather04](#)

Making a tooltip

```
const tooltip = d3  
  .select('body')  
  .append('div')  
  .attr('class', 'tooltip')  
  .style('position', 'absolute')  
  .style('visibility', 'hidden')  
  .style('background-color', 'white')  
  .style('border', '1px solid #ddd')  
  .style('padding', '5px')  
  .style('border-radius', '3px');
```

Creates a <div>, styles it, and hides it so that it'll only show up with interaction

Adding interaction

```
.on('mouseover', function (event, d) {  
    d3.select(this).attr('r', 4); // Increase circle size on hover  
  
    tooltip.style('visibility', 'visible').text(`${d.toFixed(1)}°F`);  
})
```

D3 version of event listener + handler

Adding interaction

```
.on('mouseover', function (event, d) {  
    When a circle is moused over...  
    tooltip.style('visibility', 'visible').text(`${d.toFixed(1)}°F`);  
})
```

circle size on hover

D3 version of event listener + handler

Adding interaction

```
.on('mouseover', function (event, d) {  
  d3.select(this).attr('r', 4); // Increase circle size on hover  
  Make the circle's radius larger  
  ${d.toFixed(1)}°F`);  
})
```

D3 version of event listener + handler

Adding interaction

```
.on('mouseover', function (event, d) {  
    d3.select(this).attr('r', 4); // Increase circle size on hover  
  
    tooltip.style('visibility', 'visible').text(`${d.toFixed(1)}°F`);  
})
```

Make tooltip visible and set its text

D3 version of event listener + handler

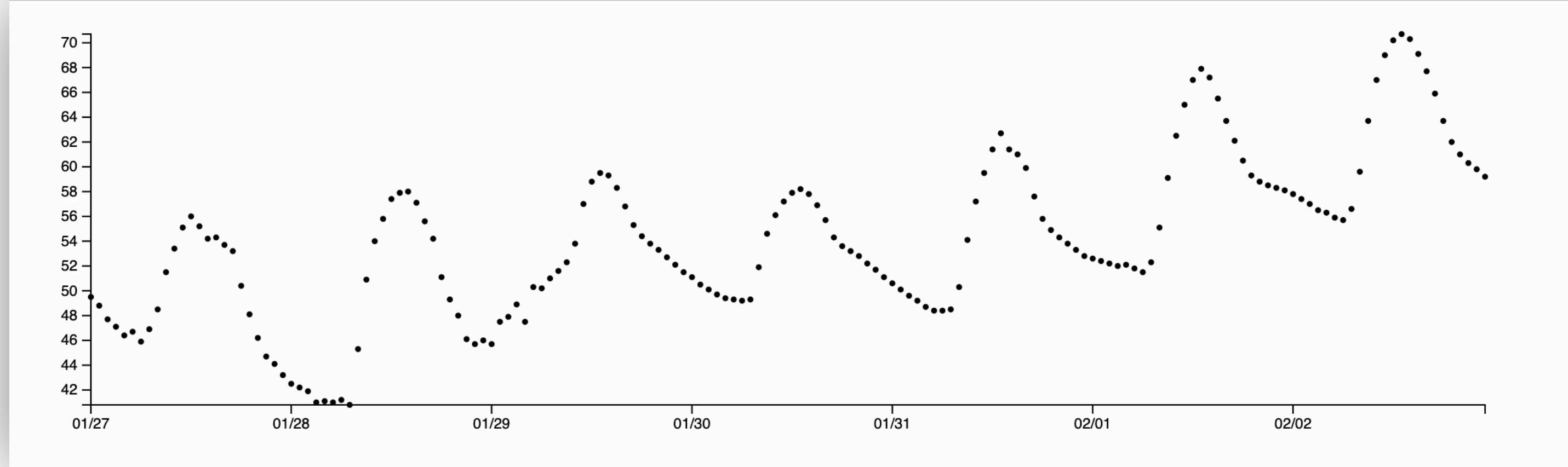
Submit a question about Step 4

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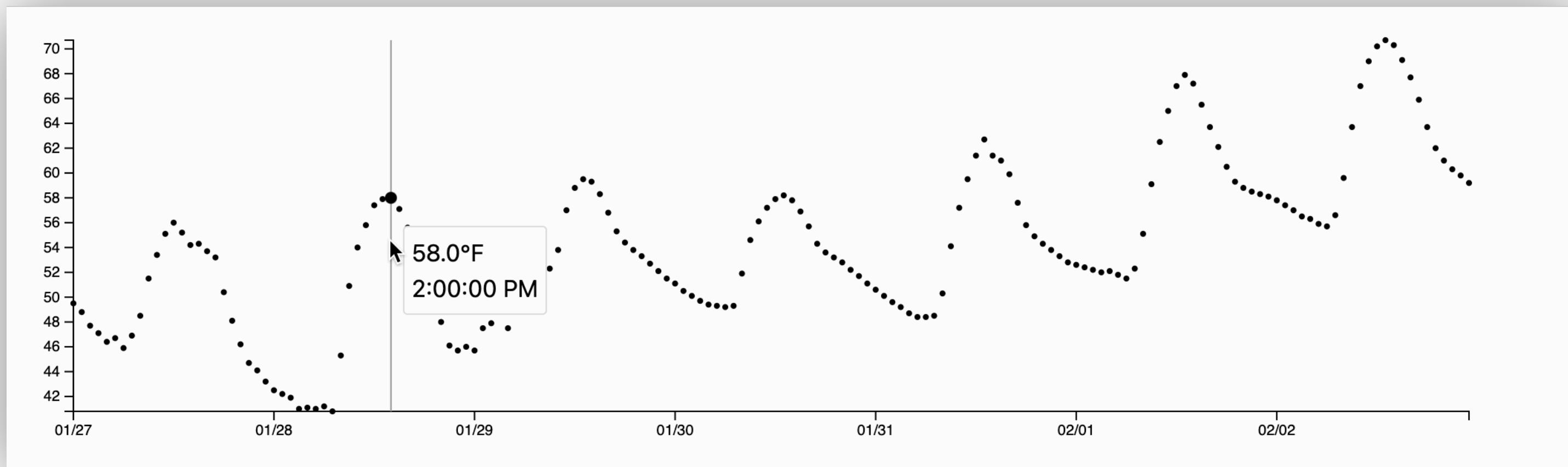
Code: **d3-4**

Step 5: Improving our tooltip

Before:



After:



Demo: [d3-lecture/weather05](#)

Interacting with the plot, not just points

```
// Create a rect overlay for mouse tracking
const overlay = svg
  .append('rect')
  .attr('class', 'overlay')
  .attr('x', margin.left)
  .attr('y', margin.top)
  .attr('width', width - margin.left - margin.right)
  .attr('height', height - margin.top - margin.bottom)
  .style('fill', 'none')
  .style('pointer-events', 'all');
```

Interaction trick:
Add an invisible rectangle just
to capture mouse events

Listening for mouse events on
the parent <svg> tag also ok

Improving interaction

```
.on('mousemove', function (event) {  
  const mouseX = d3.pointer(event)[0];  
  const xDate = xScale.invert(mouseX);  
  
  // Find the closest data point  
  const bisect = d3.bisector((d) => new Date(d)).left;  
  const index = bisect(weatherData.hourly.time, xDate);  
  const temp = weatherData.hourly.temperature_2m[index];  
  const time = new Date(weatherData.hourly.time[index]);
```

Challenge: since we're not hovering directly over points, we have to use the mouse position to find nearest point

Submit a question about Step 5

tryclassbuzz.com

Code: **d3-5**

You Try: Explain D3 code

<https://observablehq.com/@d3/gallery>

The screenshot shows the D3 gallery on ObservableHQ. At the top, there's a header with the D3 logo and the tagline "Bring your data to life." Below it, it says "Public" and "2 collections" by Mike Bostock, edited Nov 23, paused, ISC, 203 forks, importers, and 951 stars. The main section is titled "D3 gallery" and says "Looking for a good D3 example? Here's a few (okay, 173...) to peruse." It features a grid of 12 visualization examples with titles: "Animated treemap", "Temporal force-directed graph", "Connected scatterplot", "The wealth & health of nations", "Scatterplot tour", "Bar chart race", "Stacked-to-grouped bars", "Streamgraph transitions", "Smooth zooming", "Zoom to bounding box", "Orthographic to equirectangu...", and "World tour". Each example has a small thumbnail image.

Pick a simple visualization (scatter plot, line plot, bar chart). Explain the code to your neighbor, then write a question about the code using this format:

URL: ...

Question: ...

tryclassbuzz.com
Code: explain-d3