

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

# JS (Part 2), D3.js

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**DSC 106: Data Visualization**

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# Announcements

Lab 4 due today.

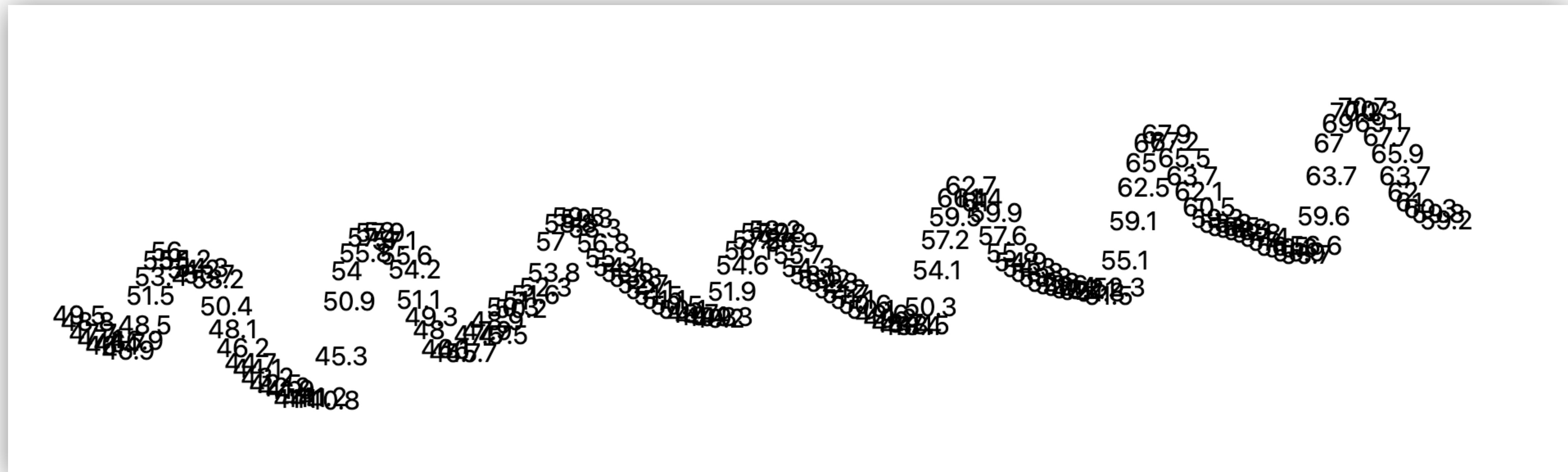
Project 2 due on Tuesday.

## FAQs:

1. I'm getting 404 errors when working on the lab! Check that you're using relatively URLs and they match your folder structure.

# **JS (Part 2)**

Now, let's make our very first data visualization in JS:

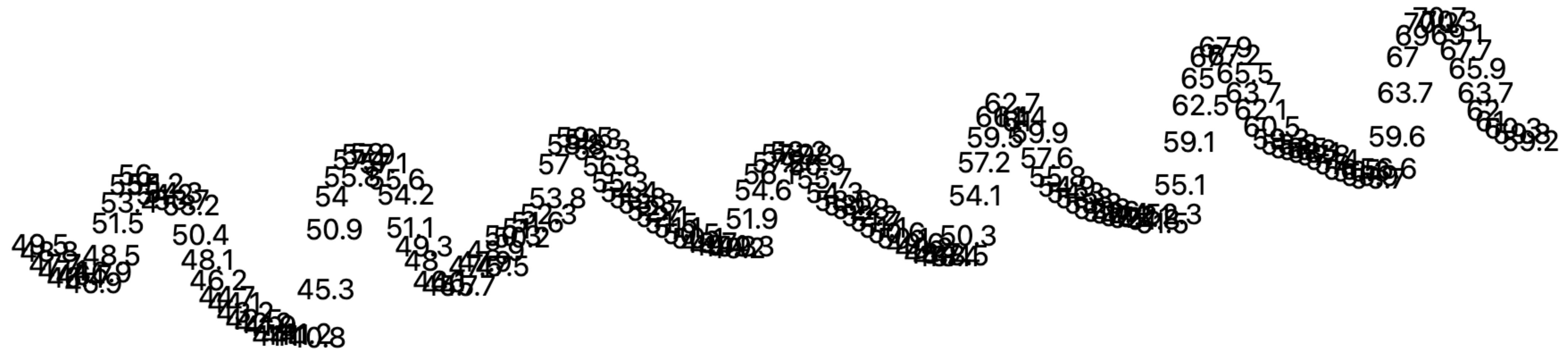


[js-lecture/weather02/](#)

(demo)

[js-lecture/weather03/](#)

(demo)



How would you add an x-axis and y-axis? Gridlines?

[tryclassbuzz.com](http://tryclassbuzz.com)

Code: **axes**

**D3**



<https://d3js.org/>



<https://d3js.org/>

Bespoke = fully custom

A screenshot of a web browser window showing the ObservableHQ platform. The URL bar shows 'observablehq.com'. The top navigation bar includes 'Platform', 'Solutions', 'Resources', 'Pricing', 'Sign in', and 'Sign up' buttons.

## Domain and range

A scale has to know from whence this observation comes — and this is called its *domain*; and to what it converts these values — its *range*. For example, if we are observing sales of cheese on a certain day on an Indian market (a number expressed in rupees), and want to display them as bars of a certain length (in pixels), we'll define the scale this way:

```
barLength = f(n)

barLength = d3.scaleLinear()
  .domain([0, 100000])
  .range([0, 400])
```

If we use this scale to draw our chart, sales of 1 *lakh* rupees (₹100,000) will be represented by a rectangle 400 pixels-long.

In this case, the domain is mapped to the range in a linear fashion — and one could write this as a simple function:

```
function barLength(income) {
  return income / 100000 * 4000;
}
```

D3 scales, however, convey more information than just “converting a quantity to a pixel value.” First, their range and domain can be queried, for example allowing charts to “discover” the beginning and end of an axis by reading these values:

```
▶ Array(2) [0, 100000]
barLength.domain()

▶ Array(2) [0, 400]
barLength.range()
```

Complete and accurate legends, a notoriously labor-intensive part of data visualization, can even be created automatically from scales, for example with Susie Lu's [D3-legend](#) module.

Most scales also offer an inverse method — going from visual variable to the original dimension. This allows interactivity in which the user can, for example, point on a specific point (in screen coordinates), and the application responds with a pop-up window showing a value in rupees:

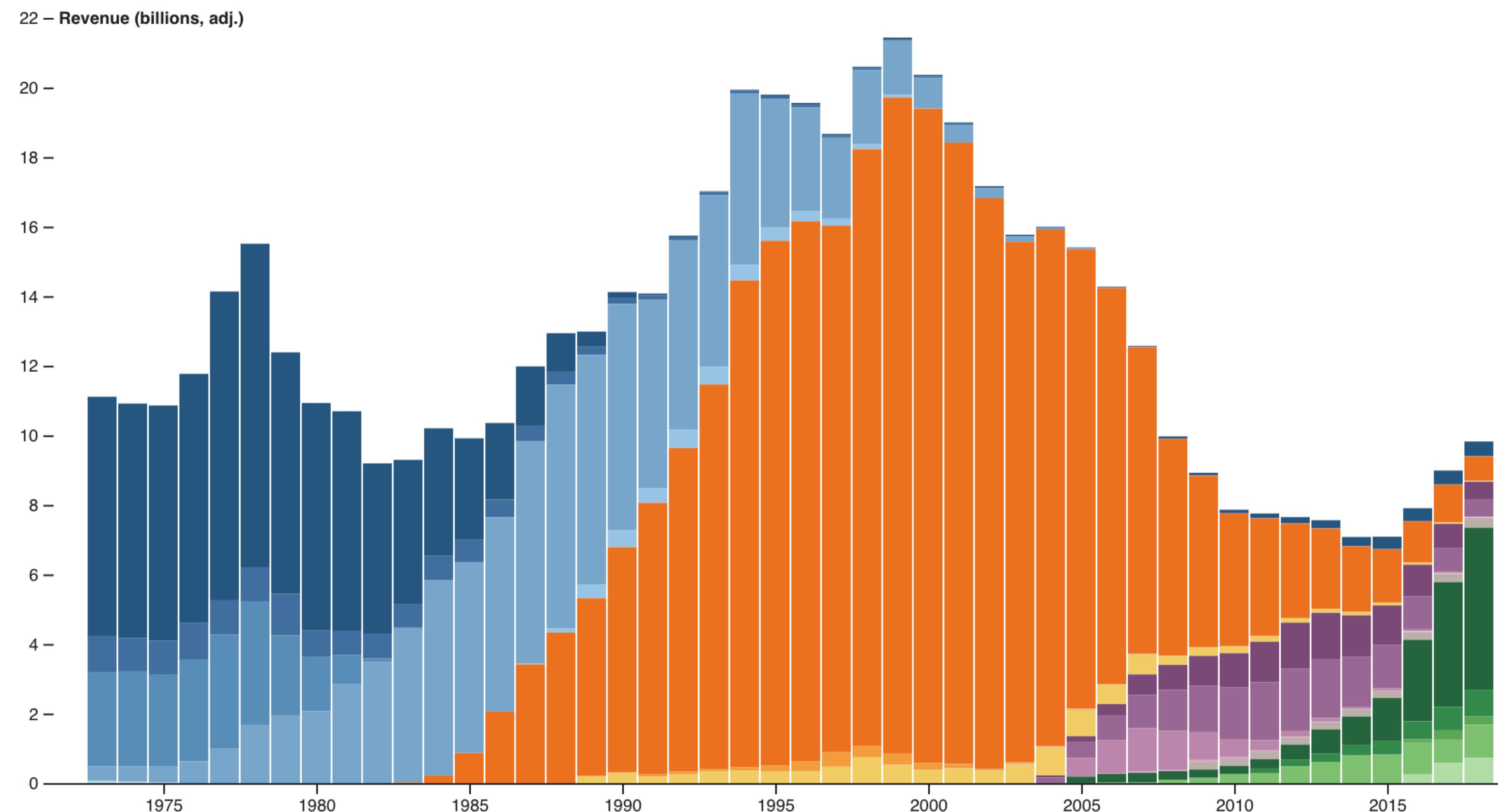
D3 has a parent company called Observable...

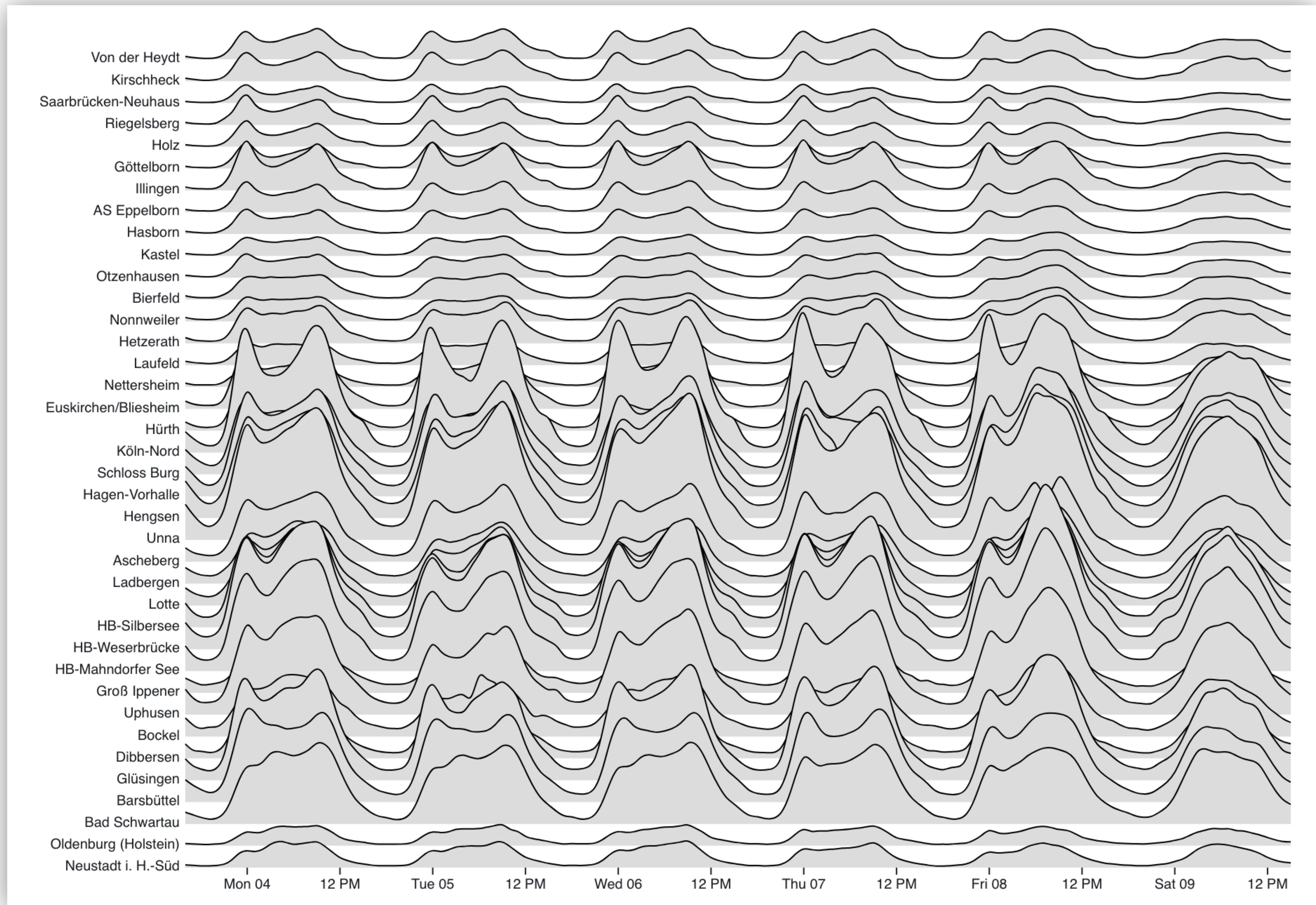
...which has a modified JS language!

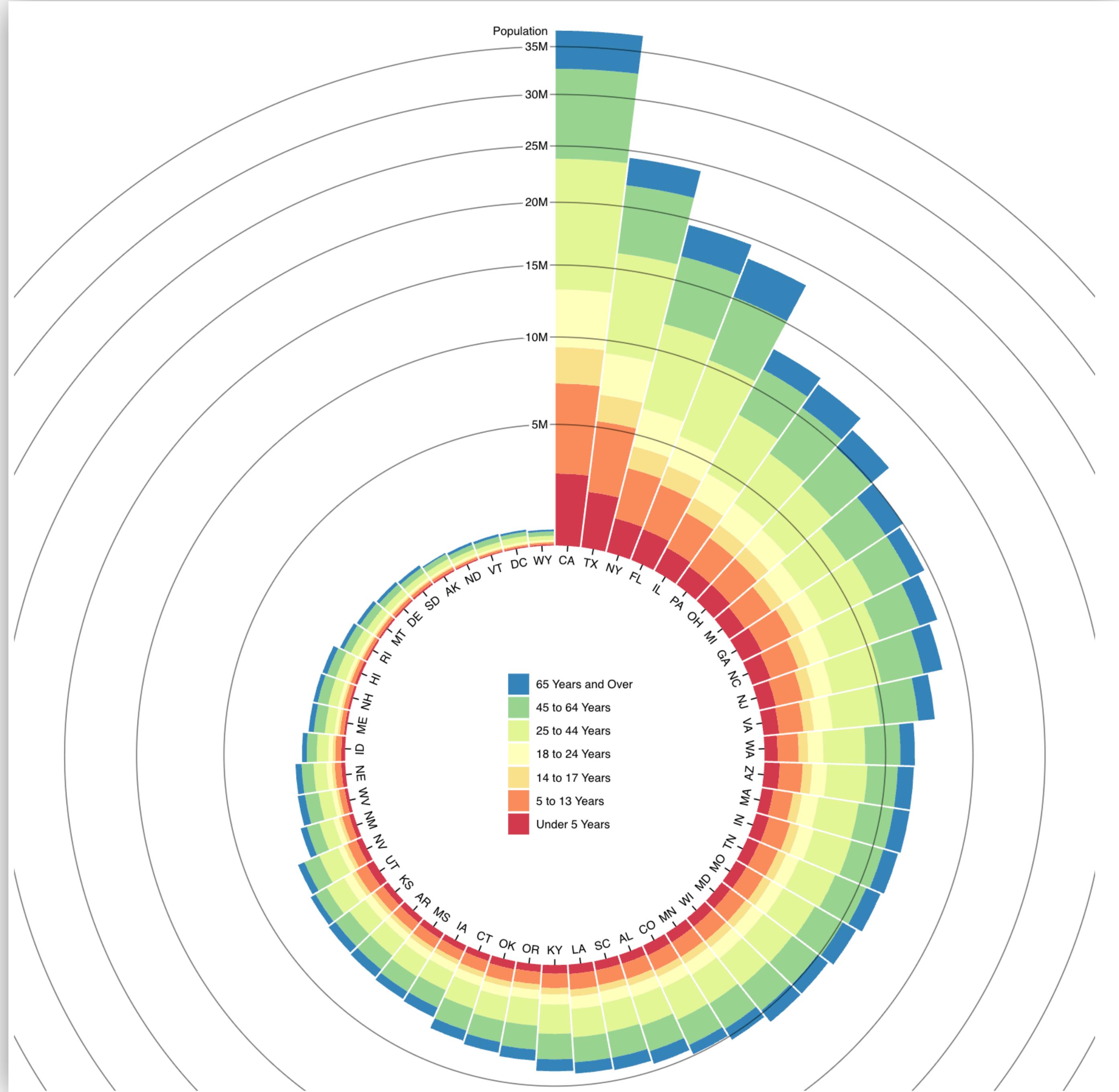
We won't use Observable for this class, but keep that in mind

# Revenue by music format, 1973–2018

Data: [RIAA](#)

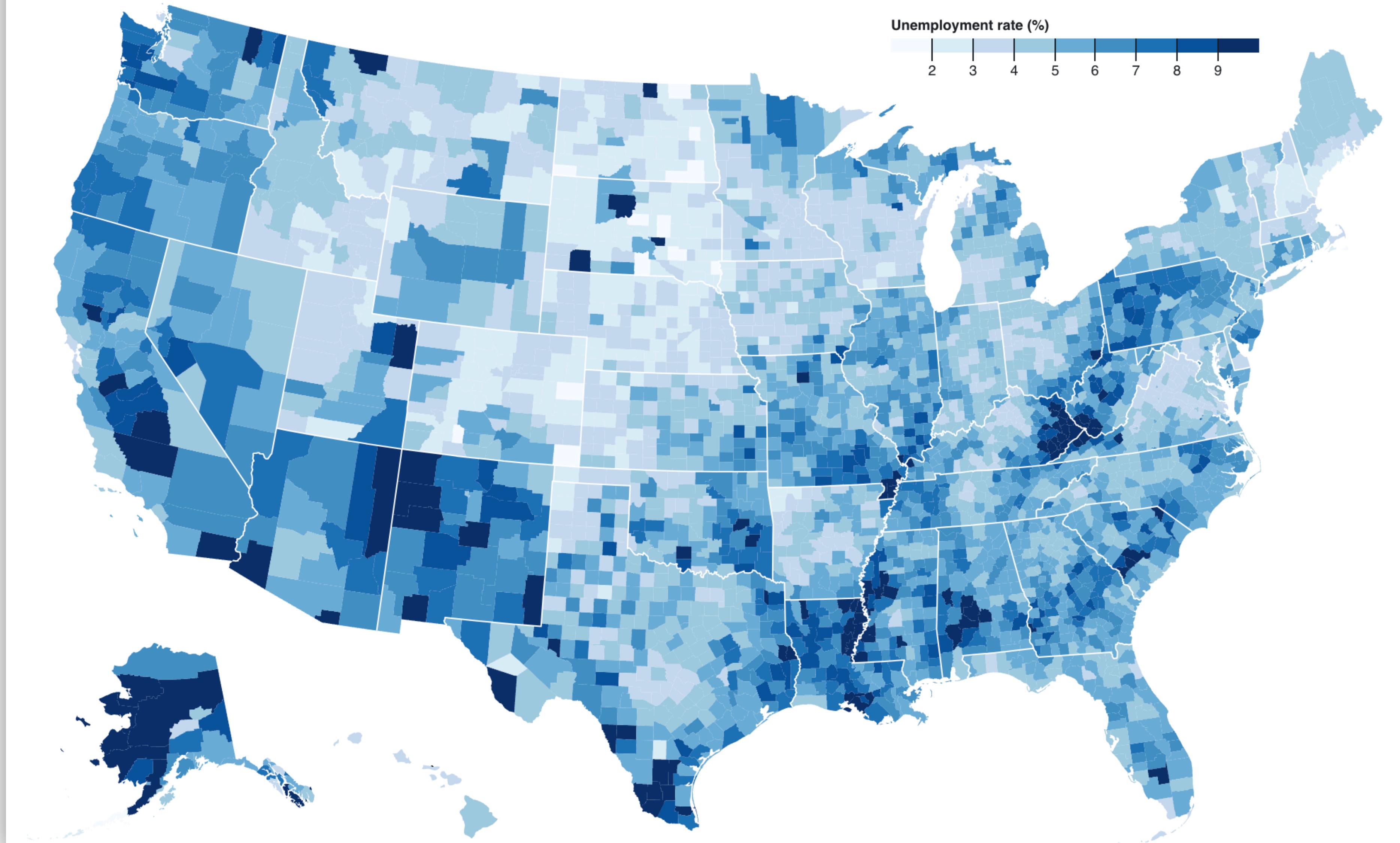






# Choropleth

Unemployment rate by U.S. county, August 2016. Data: [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).

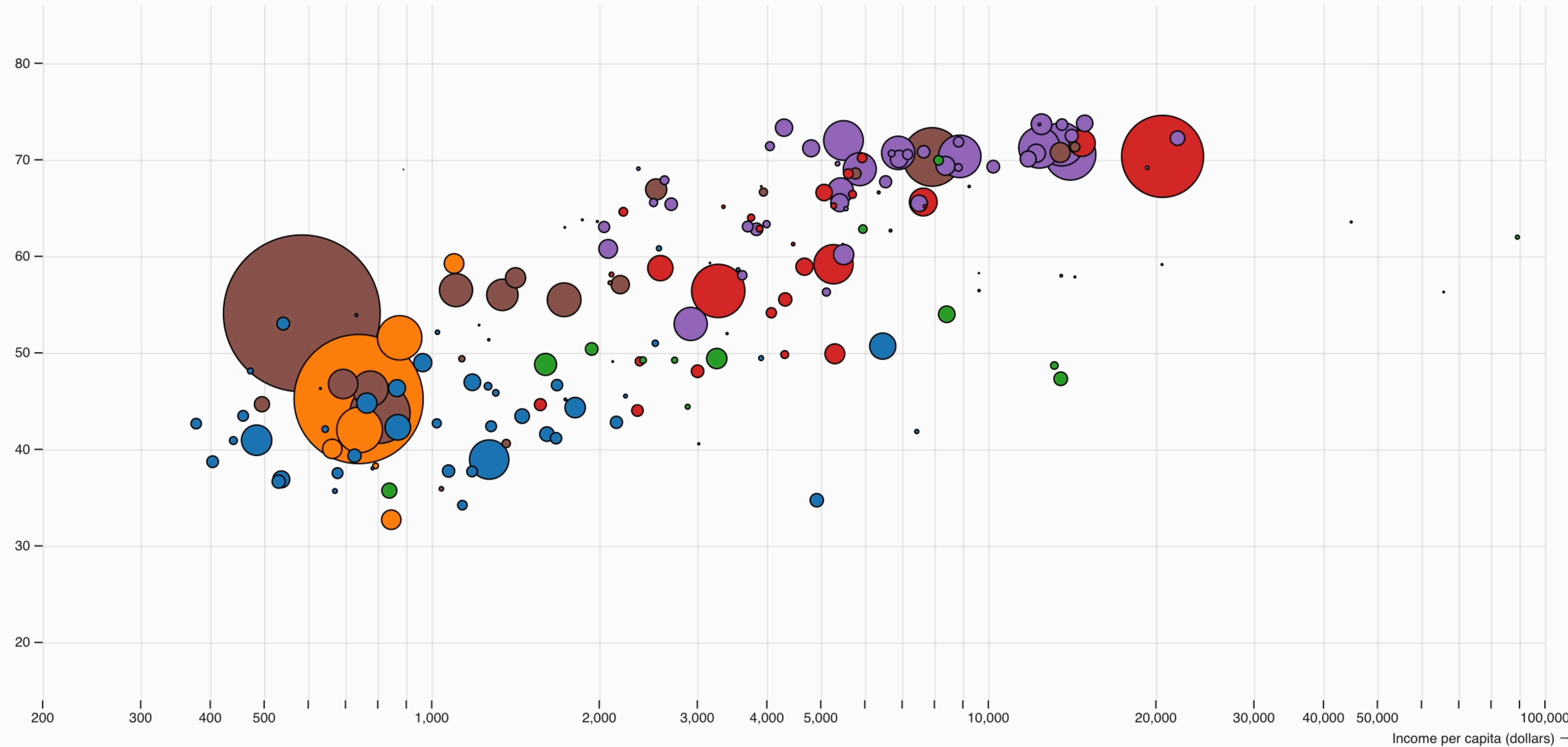


Pause

1964

Sub-Saharan Africa   South Asia   Middle East & North Africa   America   Europe & Central Asia   East Asia & Pacific

↑ Life expectancy (years)



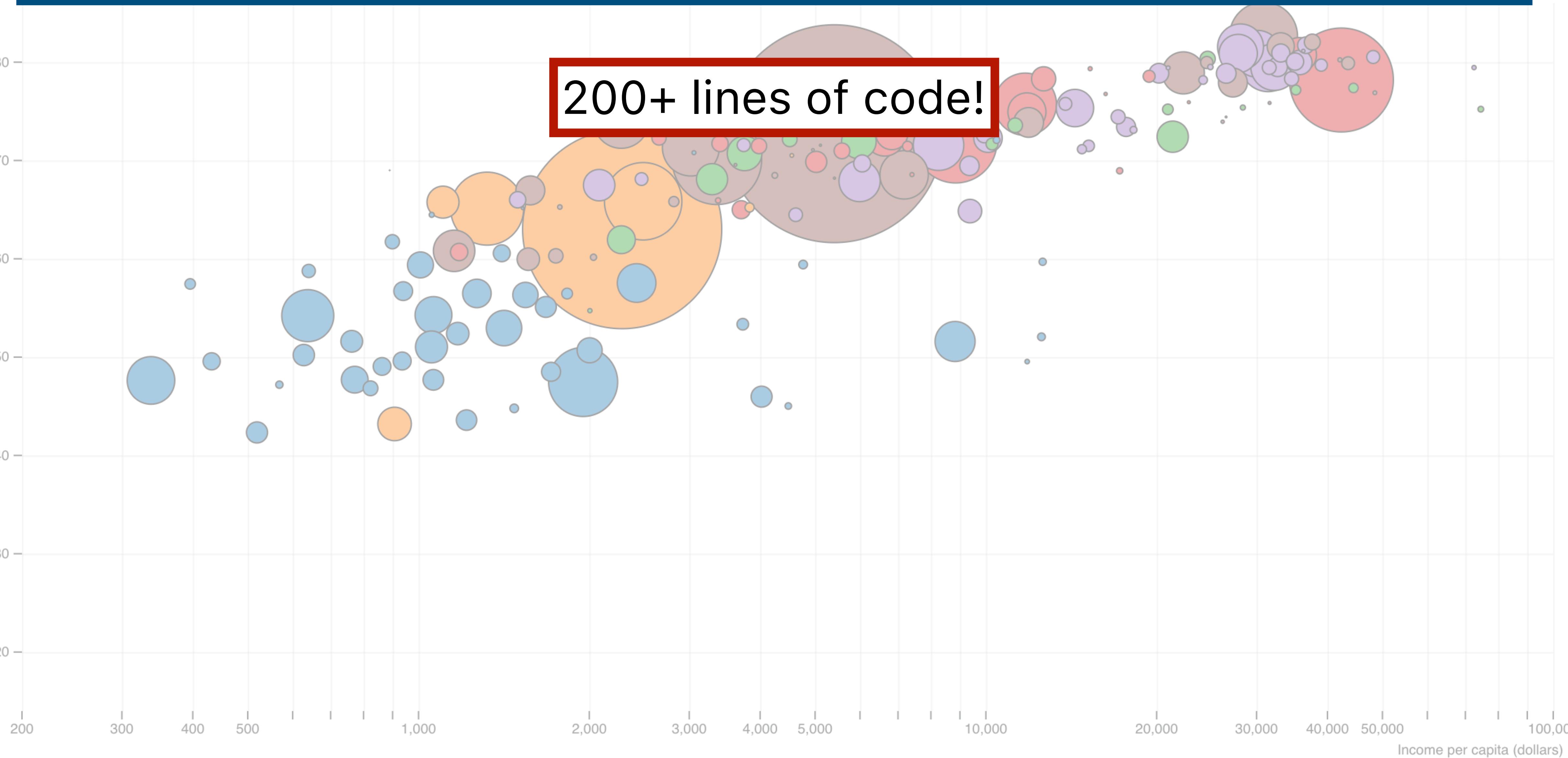
Play

2005

Sub-Saharan Africa South Asia Middle East & North Africa Americas Europe & Central Asia East Asia & Pacific

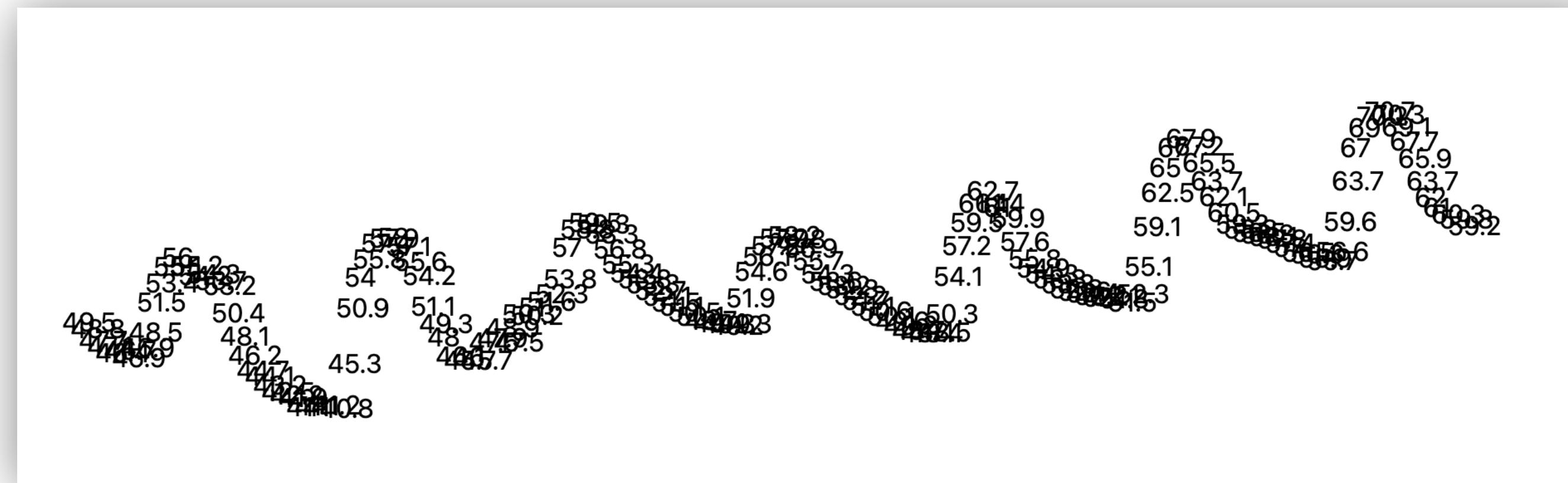
<https://observablehq.com/@mbostock/the-wealth-health-of-nations>

↑ Life expectancy  
200+ lines of code!

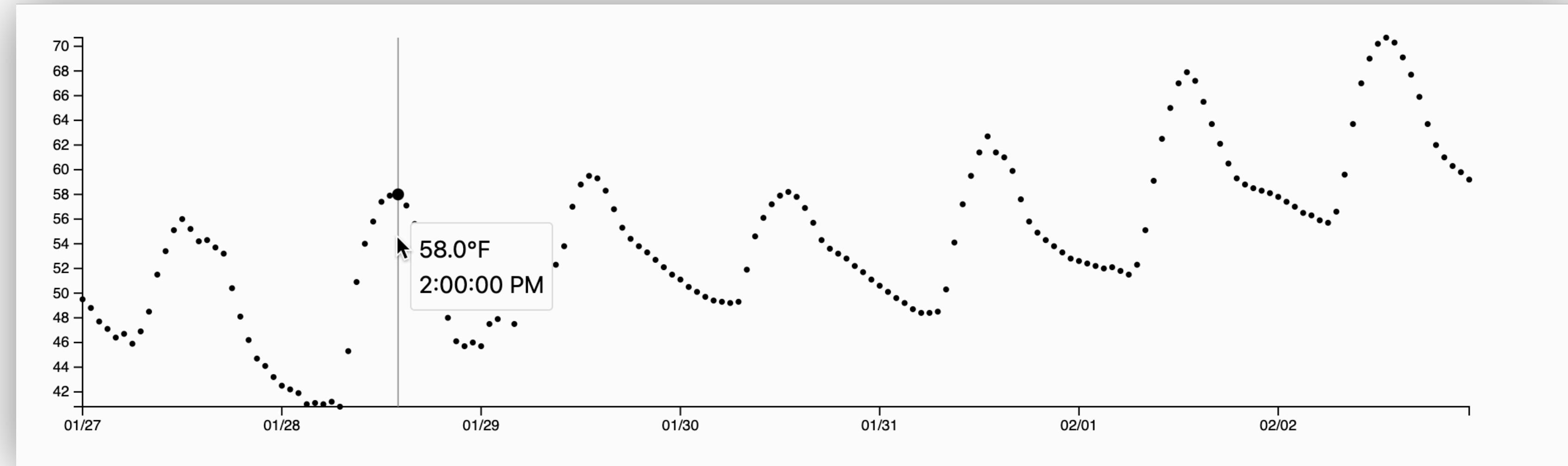


# Today: Making an interactive scatterplot

Before:



After:



The screenshot shows the d3js.org API index page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with icons for window control, search, and refresh. The URL is d3js.org, and the version is 7.9.0. Below the header, there's a search bar, a GitHub link (GitHub 109.6k stars), and a "Made by Observable" button. A "Menu" icon is on the left, and "On this page >" is on the right. The main content area has a dark background with white text. It starts with a section titled "API index". Below it, a paragraph says: "D3 is a collection of modules that are designed to work together; you can use the modules independently, or you can use them together as part of the default build." Then, there are two main sections: "d3-array" and "Bin".

## d3-array

Array manipulation, ordering, searching, summarizing, etc.

### # Add

Add floating point values with full precision.

- [new Adder](#) - create a full precision adder.
- [adder.add](#) - add a value to an adder.
- [adder.valueOf](#) - get the double-precision representation of an adder's value.
- [fcumsum](#) - compute a full precision cumulative summation of numbers.
- [fsum](#) - compute a full precision summation of an iterable of numbers.

## Bin

Bin discrete samples into continuous, non-overlapping intervals.

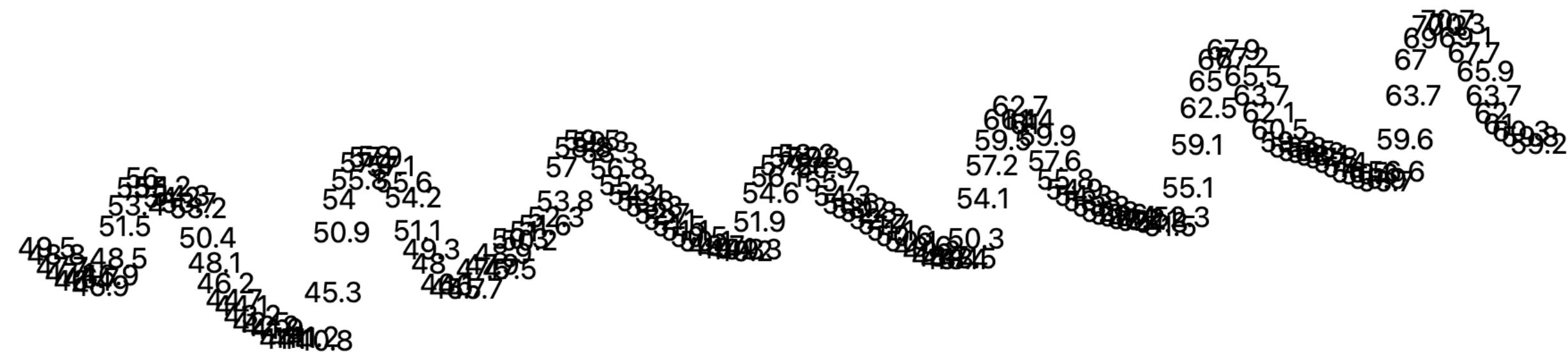
- [bin](#) - create a new bin generator.
- [bin](#) - bins a given array of samples.
- [bin.value](#) - specify a value accessor for each sample.
- [bin.domain](#) - specify the interval of observable values.
- [bin.thresholds](#) - specify how values are divided into bins.
- [thresholdFreedmanDiaconis](#) - the Freedman–Diaconis binning rule.
- [thresholdScott](#) - Scott's normal reference binning rule.

d3 is a huge library, 30 submodules, >1k methods!

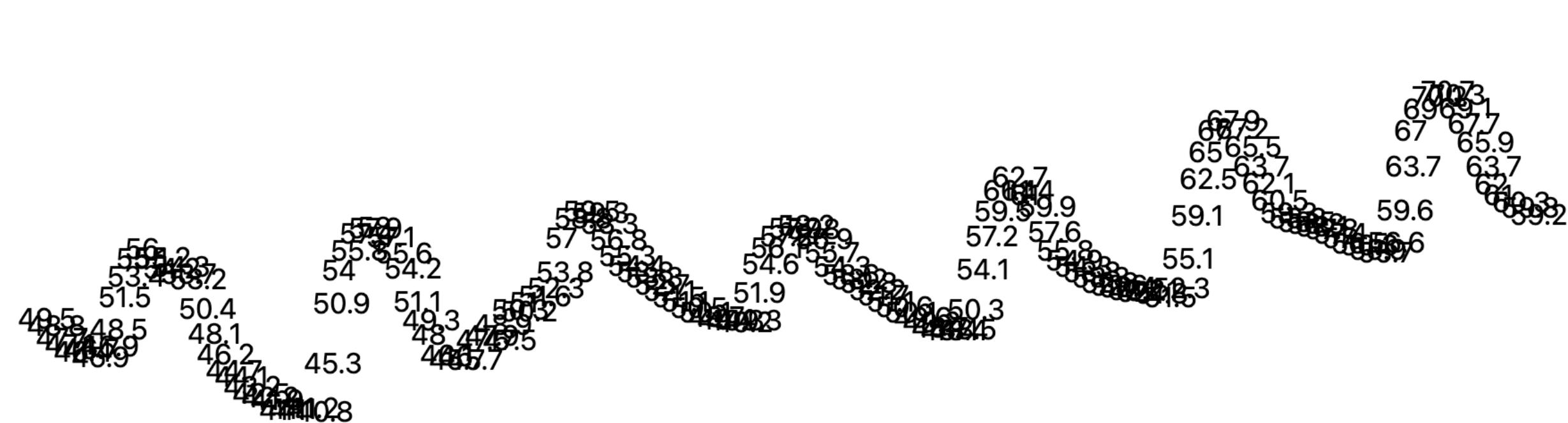
**80/20 rule:** Learn 20% and you'll be able to do 80% of what d3 is capable of.

# 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

After:

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

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

D3 equivalent

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

# 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

# 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

# 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

# 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

# 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);
```

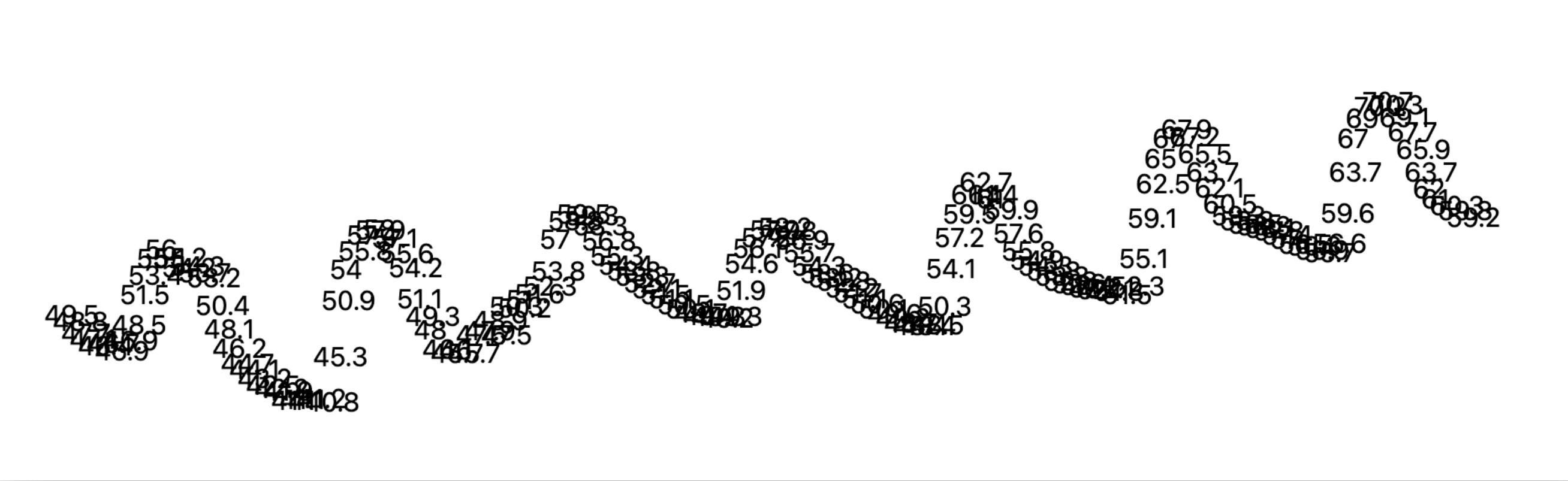
Set the x, y, and text content  
of each text element

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

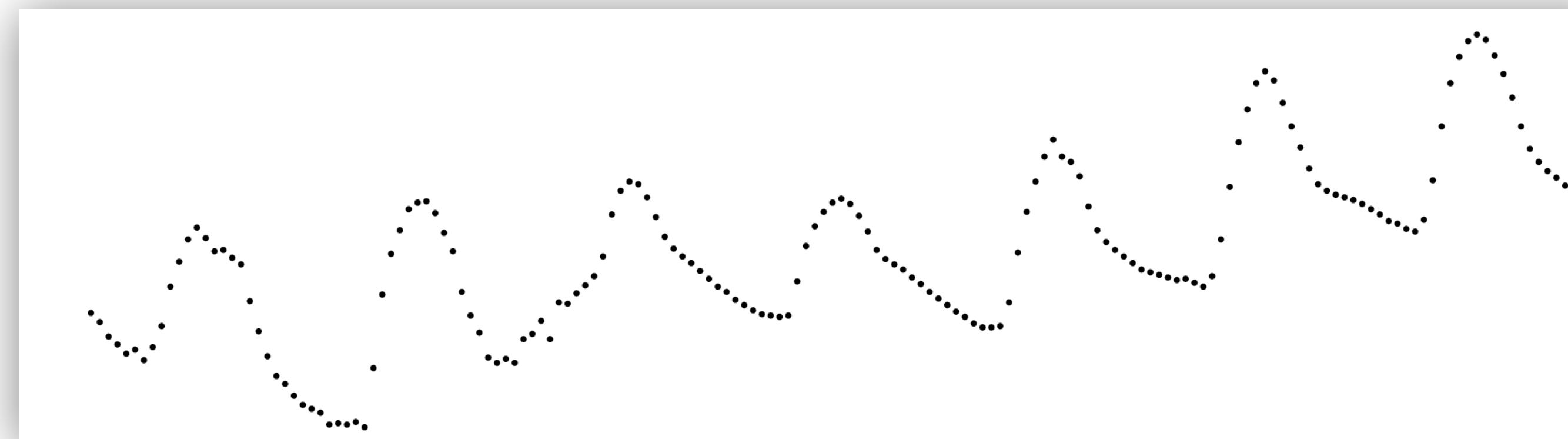
Nothing really, why not do that  
automatically?

# Step 2: Making circles and using d3 scales

Before:



After:



Demo: [d3-lecture/weather02](#)

# 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);
```

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

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);
```

# 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

Input type	Output type	Example scales
Number	Number	<pre>d3.scaleLinear([10, 130], [0, 960]) d3.scaleLog([1, 10], [0, 960])</pre>
Datetime	Number	<pre>d3.scaleUtc([   new Date("2000-01-01"), new Date("2000-01-02"), ], [0, 960]);</pre>
Category	Category	<pre>d3.scaleOrdinal(["a", "b", "c"],   ["red", "green", "blue"])</pre>
Number	Color	<pre>d3.scaleSequential([0, 100], d3.interpolateBlues) d3.scaleDiverging([-1, 0, 1], d3.interpolateRdBu)</pre>
Number	Quantized color	<pre>d3.scaleQuantize([0, 100], d3.schemeBlues[9])</pre>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [observablehq.com/@d3/introduction-to-d3s-scales?collection=@d3/d3-scale](https://observablehq.com/@d3/introduction-to-d3s-scales?collection=@d3/d3-scale). The page title is "Introduction to D3's scales". The content discusses scales in data visualization, mentioning a 1:100,000 scale ratio and how scales map physical quantities to visual variables like length or radius. It includes code snippets for defining scales using the `d3.scaleLinear()` function.

D3  
Bring your data to life.

Public d3-scale By Fil Edited Oct 24, 2023 ISC 4 forks 31 stars

## Introduction to D3's scales

When, on a print map, 1 cm figures a real distance of 1 km on the terrain, we say that the map has a 1:100,000 scale.

But scales are not limited to a proportional ratio (or rule of three) between an actual distance and a length on paper. More generally, they describe how an actual dimension of the original data is to be represented as a visual variable. In this sense, scales are one of the most fundamental abstractions of data visualization.

Scales from the `d3-scale` module are functions that take as input the actual value of a measurement or property. Their output can in turn be used to encode a relevant representation.

```
f(n)
d3.scaleLinear()
```

A scale thus maps a physical quantity (or, more generally, an observation), which might be expressed in meters, kilograms, years or seconds, number of horses in a field... to a length or a radius (in screen pixels or print centimeters), a `color` (in CSS representation), a `shape`...

### Domain and range

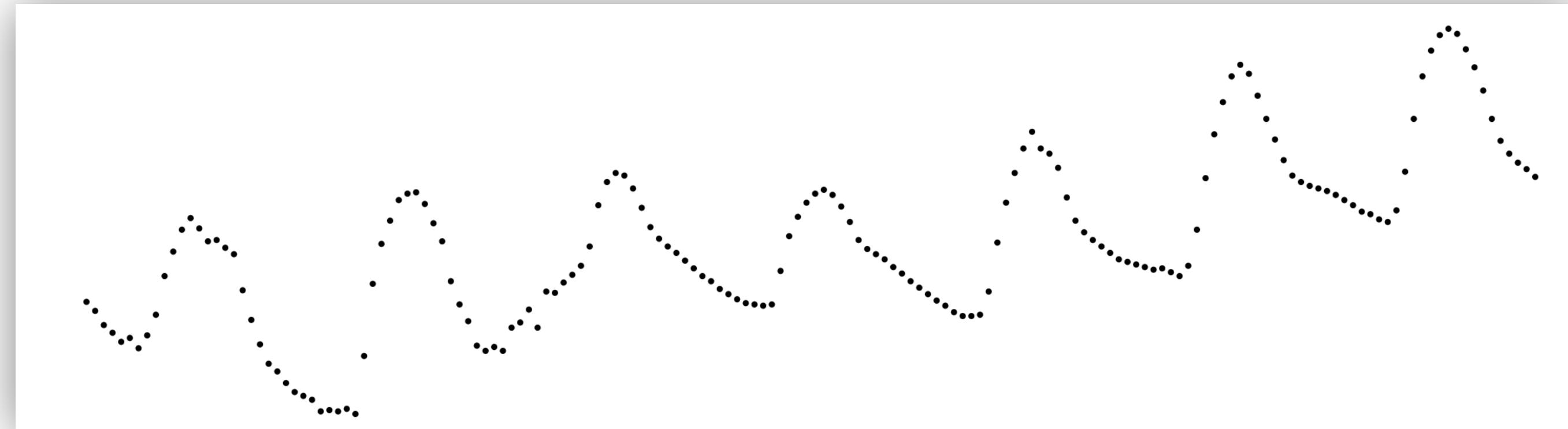
A scale has to know from whence this observation comes — and this is called its *domain*; and to what it converts these values — its *range*. For example, if we are observing sales of cheese on a certain day on an Indian market (a number expressed in rupees), and want to display them as bars of a certain length (in pixels), we'll define the scale this way:

```
barLength = f(n)
barLength = d3.scaleLinear()
.domain([0, 10000])
.range([0, 400])
```

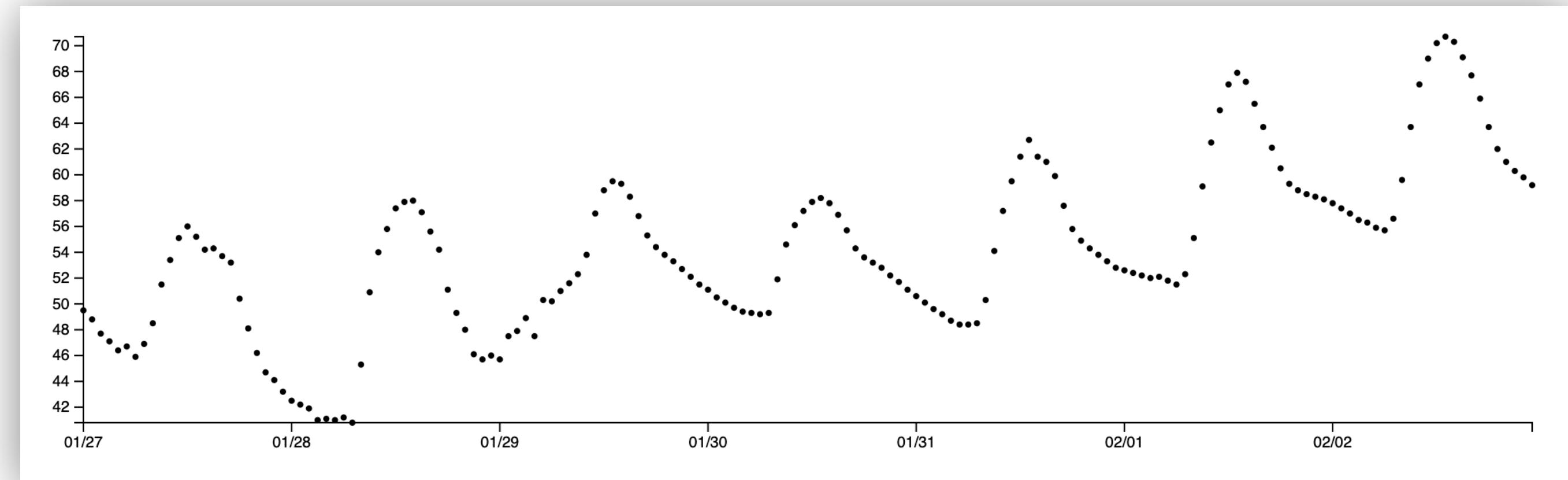
<https://observablehq.com/@d3/introduction-to-d3s-scales?collection=@d3/d3-scale>

# Step 3: Adding axes

Before:



After:



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

# Axes

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

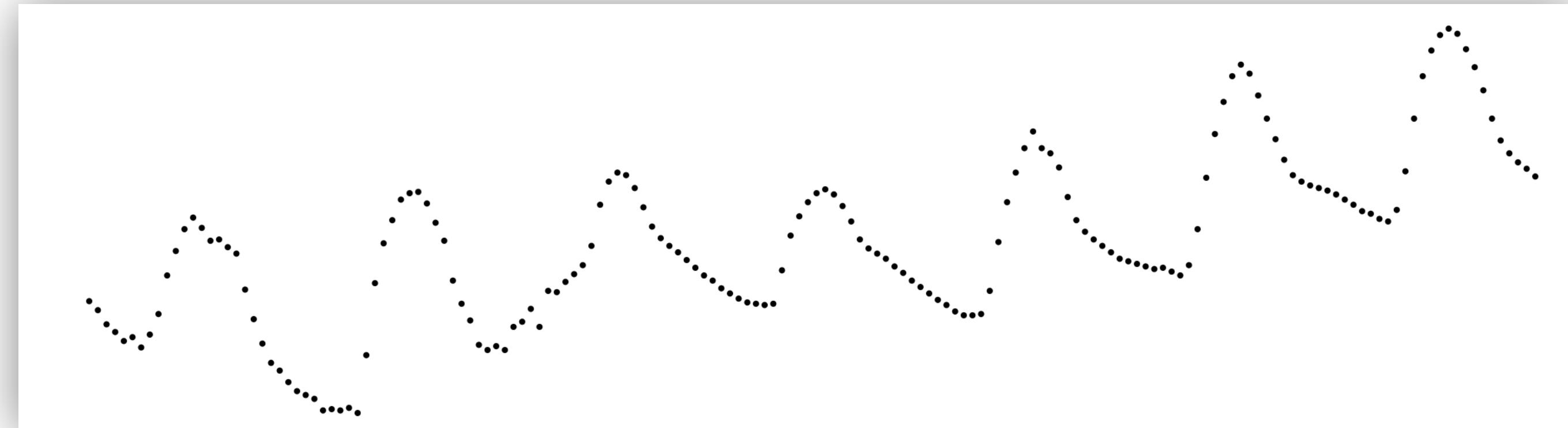
Creates a D3 axis object

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

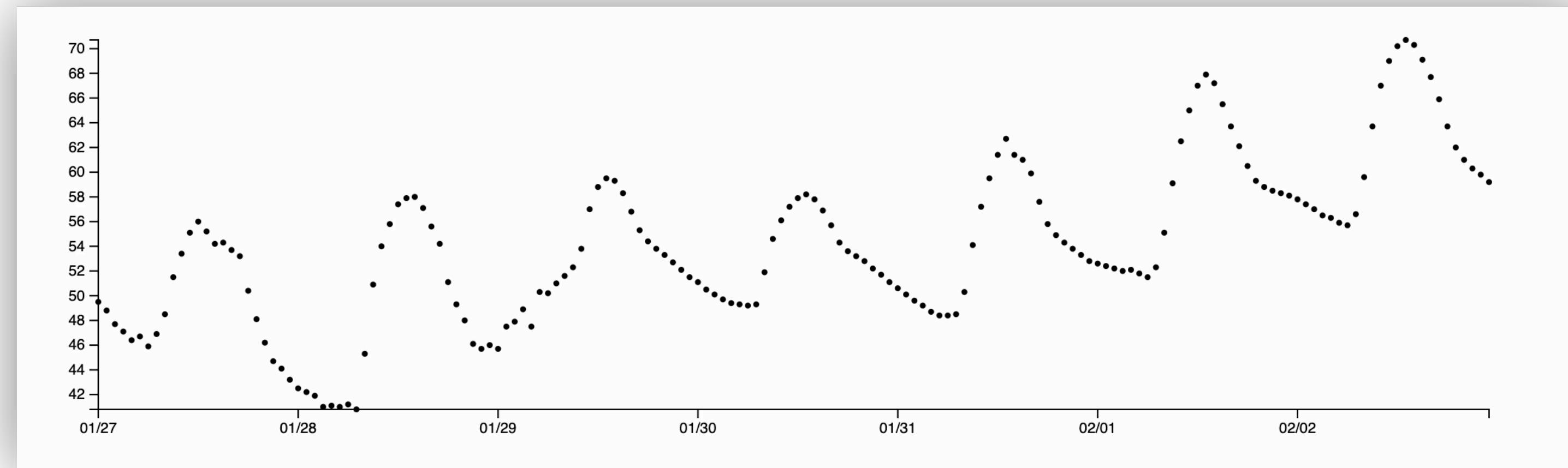
Creates an SVG <g> object, then draws axis into it

# 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

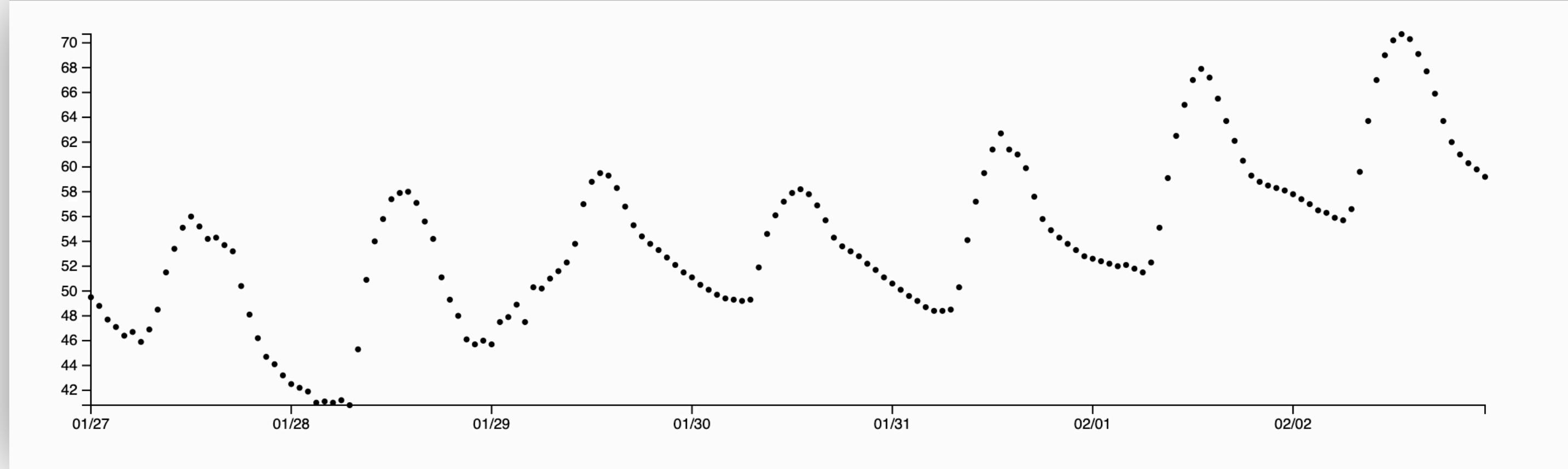
```
.on('mouseover', function (event, d) {  
    d3.select(this).attr('r', 4); // Increase circle size on hover  
  
    tooltip.style('visibility', 'visible').text(`${d.toFixed(1)}°F`);  
})
```

Make tooltip visible and set its text

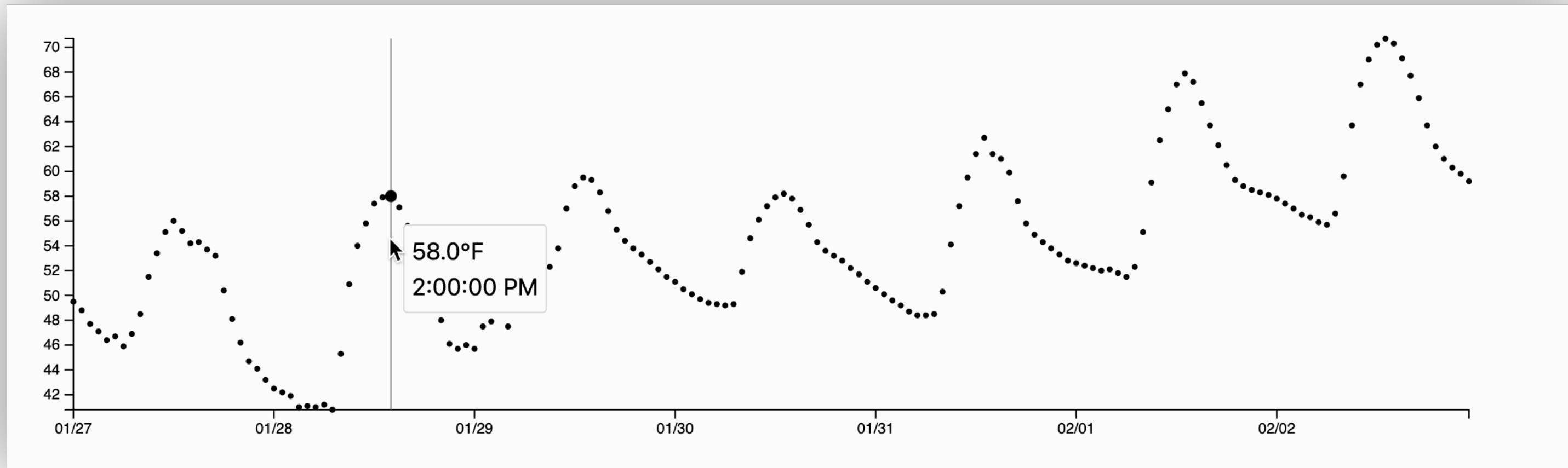
D3 version of event listener + handler

# 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

# 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](http://tryclassbuzz.com)  
Code: explain-d3