

ResBaz Data Visualization Workshop

Agenda:

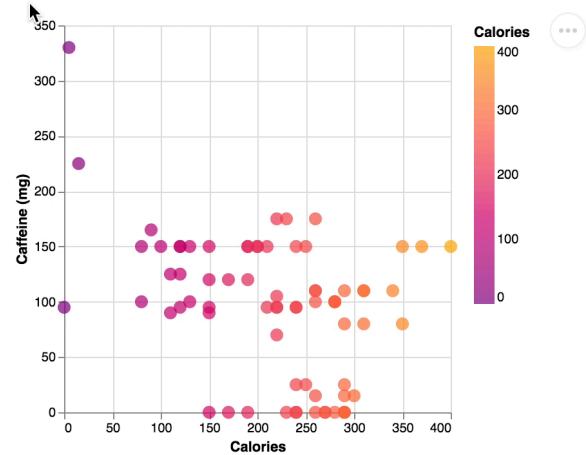
- Data Vis basics & terminology
- Web Charting with Vega-Lite
- Free experimentation time

Template/Data for Code-Along:

- <https://bit.ly/ResBazVisWorkshop>

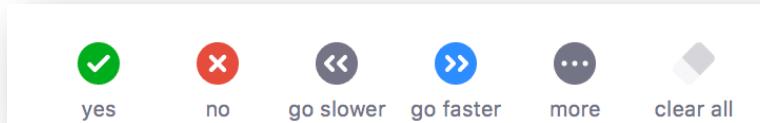
Pre-Survey (Google Form):

- <https://tinyurl.com/VisWorkshopPreSurvey>



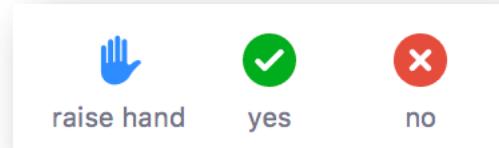
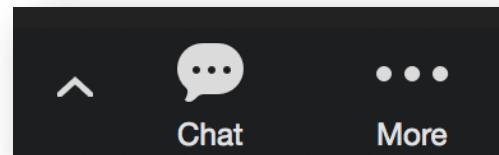
How we're using Zoom

- Declare you're finished with activities with "yes" notice in participant list.



- When you have a question or answer, either:

- Write it in the chat
- Use the "raise hand" feature
- Direct chat helper Alex Bigelow
- Add to HackMD file



Some Data Terminology

Data Tables

A	B	C	S	T	U
Order ID	Order Date	Order Priority	Product Container	Product Base Margin	Ship Date
3	10/14/06	5-Low	Large Box	0.8	10/21/06
6	2/21/08	4-Not Specified	Small Pack	0.55	2/22/08
32	7/16/07	2-High	Small Pack	0.79	7/17/07
32	7/16/07	2-High	Jumbo Box		7/17/07
32	7/16/07	2-High	Medium Box		7/18/07
32	7/16/07	2-High	Medium Box	0.65	7/18/07
35	10/23/07	4-Not Specified	Wrap Bag	0.52	10/24/07
35	10/23/07	4-Not Specified	Small Box	0.58	10/25/07
36	11/3/07	1-Urgent	Small Box	0.55	11/3/07
65	3/18/07	1-Urgent	Small Pack	0.49	3/19/07
66	1/20/05	5-Low	Wrap Bag	0.56	1/20/05
69	5	4-Not Specified	Small Pack	0.44	6/6/05
69		4-Not Specified	Wrap Bag	0.6	6/6/05
70	12/18/06	5-Low	Small Box	0.59	12/23/06
70	12/18/06	5-Low	Wrap Bag	0.82	12/23/06
96	4/17/05	2-High	Small Box	0.55	4/19/05
97	1/29/06	3-Medium	Small Box	0.38	1/30/06
129	11/19/08	5-Low	Small Box	0.37	11/28/08
130	5/8/08	2-High	Small Box	0.37	5/9/08
130	5/8/08	2-High	Medium Box	0.38	5/10/08
130	5/8/08	2-High	Small Box	0.6	5/11/08
132	6/11/06	3-Medium	Medium Box	0.6	6/12/06
132	6/11/06	3-Medium	Jumbo Box	0.69	6/14/06

Each data point is an **item** (or *records*), usually represented as a row.

Columns contain values of a particular **attribute** (or *field*).

The value of an attribute for a particular item is a **cell** (or *attribute value*).

Types of Attributes

Quantitative data has order and allows mathematical operations

Ordinal data has order but not mathematical relationships

Nominal (a.k.a. Categorical) data has neither order nor mathematical relationships

→ *Quantitative*



→ *Ordinal*



→ *Nominal*



Examples

→ Quantitative



- *Lengths*
- *Counts*
- *Pressure*
- *Temperature*
- *Weights*
- *Distances*
- *Dates*
- *Coordinates*

→ Ordinal



- *S, M, L sizes*
- *Letter grades*
- *Rankings*
- *Likert scales (e.g., rate from very satisfied to very dissatisfied)*

→ Nominal



- *Shapes*
- *Colors*
- *Names*
- *Blood types*
- *Countries*
- *Event types*

What operations can you do?

→ Quantitative



Compare:

=, ≠, <, >, +, -

Ratio Only:

×, ÷, ratios, proportions

→ Ordinal



Compare:

=, ≠, <, >

→ Nominal



Compare:

=, ≠

Quantitative, Ordinal, or Nominal?

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66	1/20/05	5-Low	Wrap Bag	0.56	1/20/05
69	item	5	Small Pack	0.44	6/6/05
69		5	Wrap Bag	0.6	6/6/05
70	12/18/06	5-Low	Small Box	0.59	12/23/06
70	12/18/06	5-Low	Wrap Bag	0.82	12/23/06
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attribute

item

cell

Quantitative, Ordinal, or Nominal?

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temporal

quantitative
ordinal
nominal

Encoding: Mapping Data to Visualization

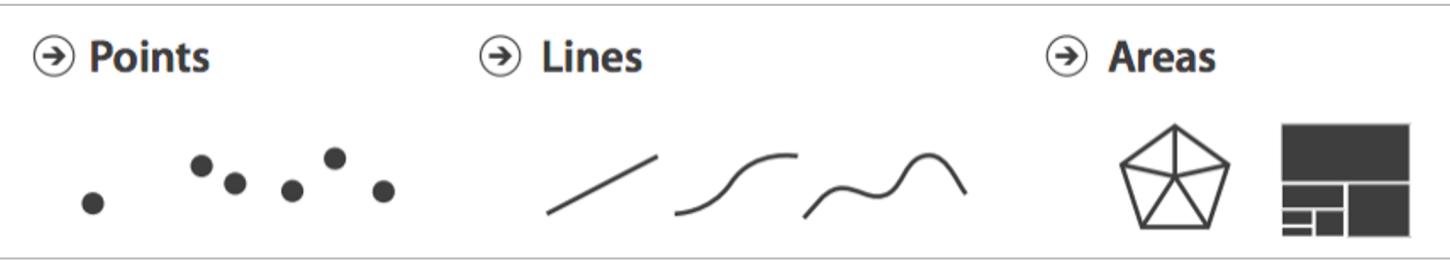
Marks, Channels, & Encoding

Encoding: Map data to visual structure

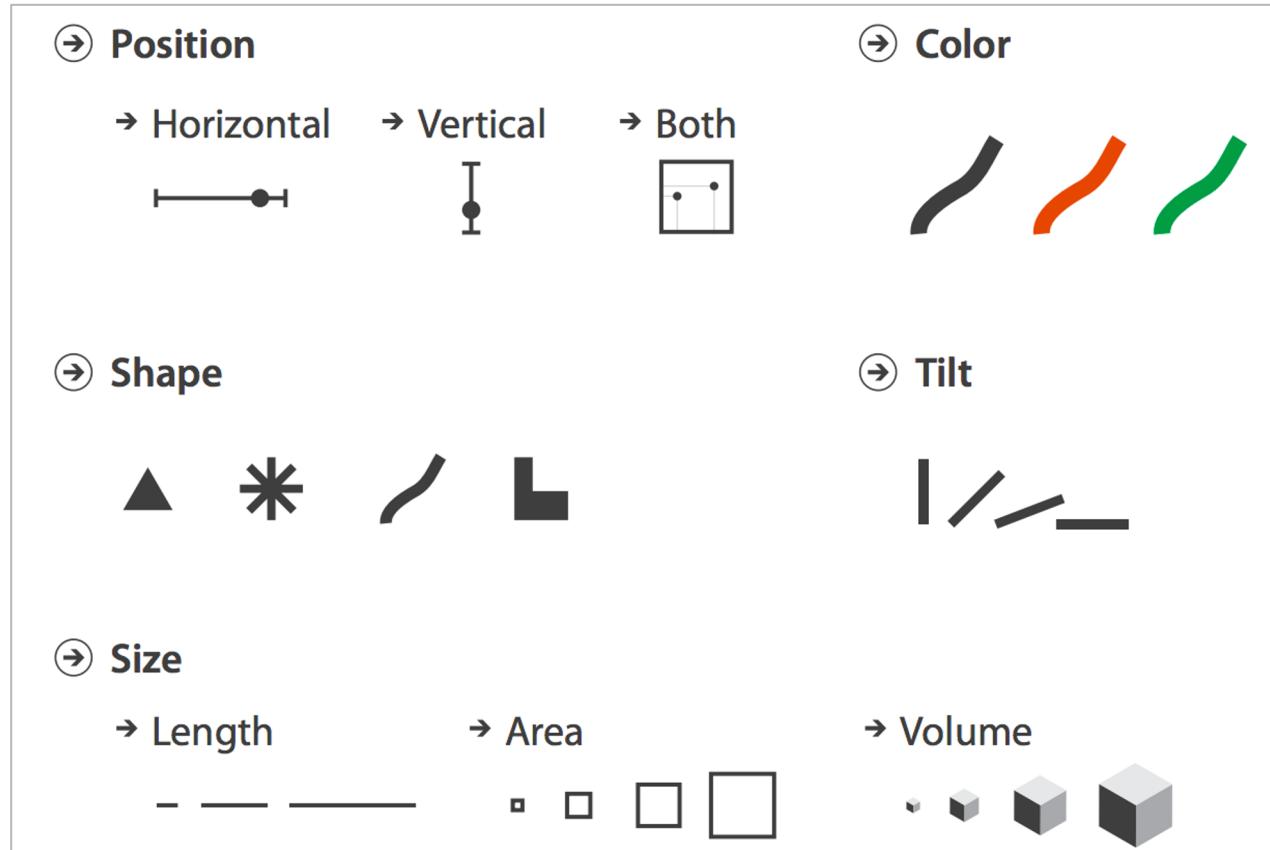
Marks: Graphical primitives that encode items / entities

Channels: Properties of mark appearance, often used to encode attributes or other information

Marks: Graphical primitives that encode items or entities



Channels: Properties of mark appearance, often used to encode attributes or other information



→ **Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes**

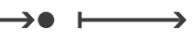
Position on common scale 

Position on unaligned scale 

Length (1D size) 

Tilt/angle 

Area (2D size) 

Depth (3D position) 

Color luminance 

Color saturation 

Curvature 

Volume (3D size) 

→ **Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes**

Spatial region 

Color hue 

Motion 

Shape 

**We can Construct a
Mapping of Data Values
to Perceptual Channels**

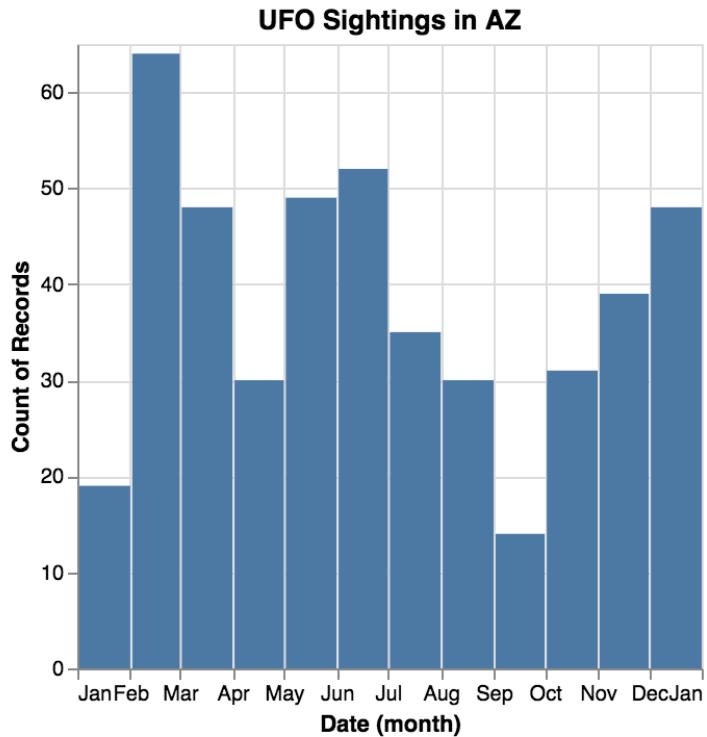
Encodings of Common Charts

Bar Chart: Show relative counts

Marks: rectangles

Encoding: quantitative value
is mapped to height of
rectangle on a common scale

Nominal value is mapped to x-
position

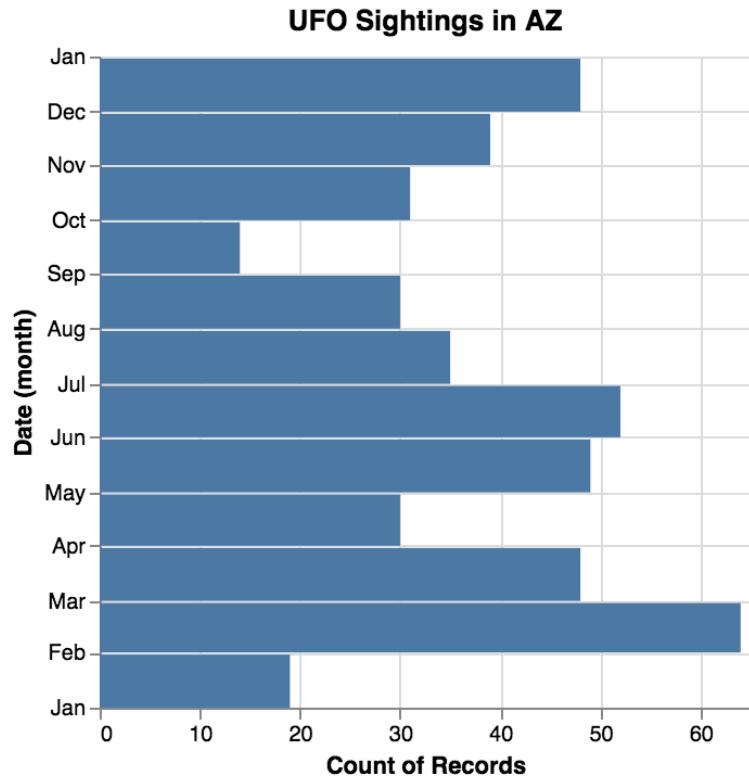


Consider rotating for text readability

Marks: rectangles

Encoding: quantitative value
is mapped to width of
rectangle on a common scale

Nominal value is mapped to y-
position

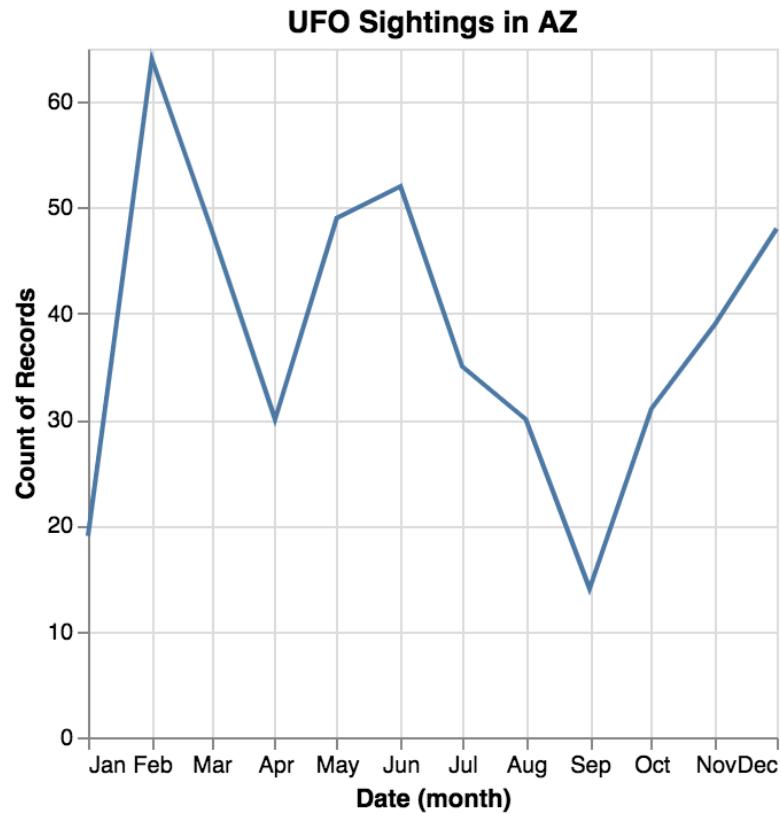


Line Charts: Show trends

Marks: lines

Encoding: quantitative value is mapped to y-position of line endpoint.

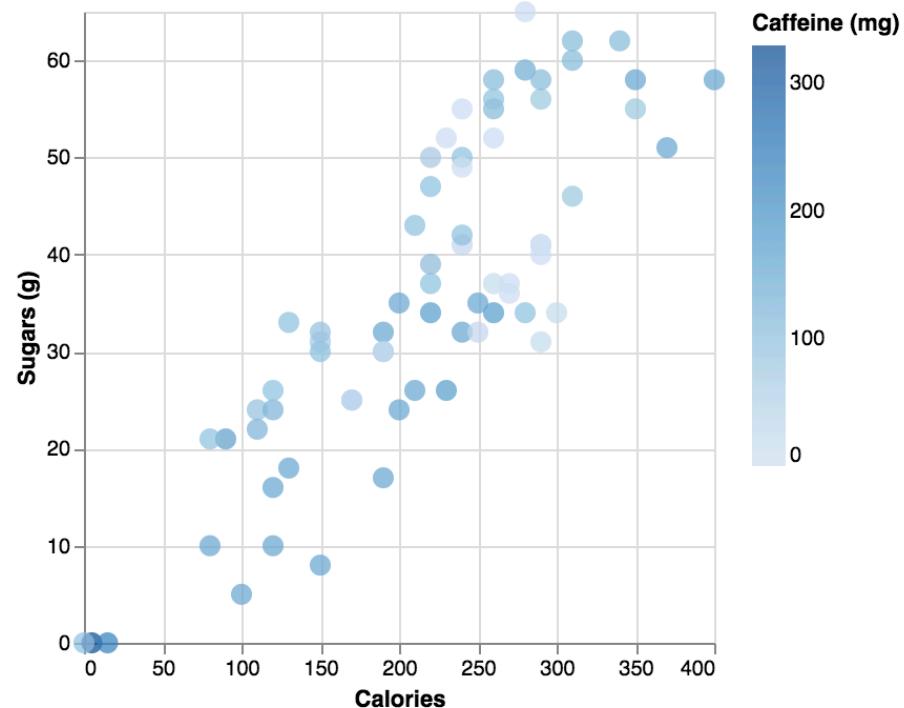
Temporal value is mapped to x-position



Scatter Plots: show correlation

Marks: points

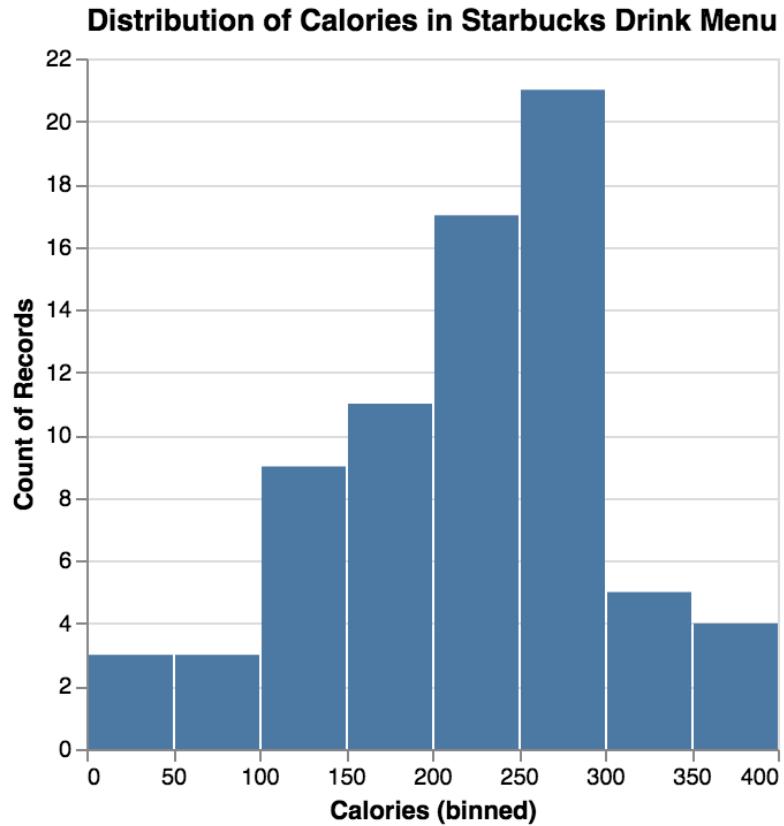
Encoding: two quantitative value is mapped to x and y position respectively



Histograms: show distribution

Marks: bars

Encoding: x position denotes range of calories, y position denotes number of drinks in that calorie range



Vega-Lite

Why Vega-Lite?

At Hackathons, I noticed most projects with visualization used basic charts and some projects had streaming data.

Vega-Lite is a lightweight, robust library when it comes to quickly creating basic charts from data.

Vega-Lite has support for streaming data (not covered in this workshop)

Let's go through this together!

If you have not already, download the workshop files:

<https://bit.ly/ResBazVisWorkshop>

Unzip the file and open “template.html” in a web browser

Veg-Lite can be embedded in a webpage

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>...</head>
  <body>
    <div id="vis"></div>
    <script>
      var spec = { ...JSON specification here... };
      vegaEmbed('#vis', spec);
    </script>
  </body>
</html>
```

General JSON Syntax: Lists

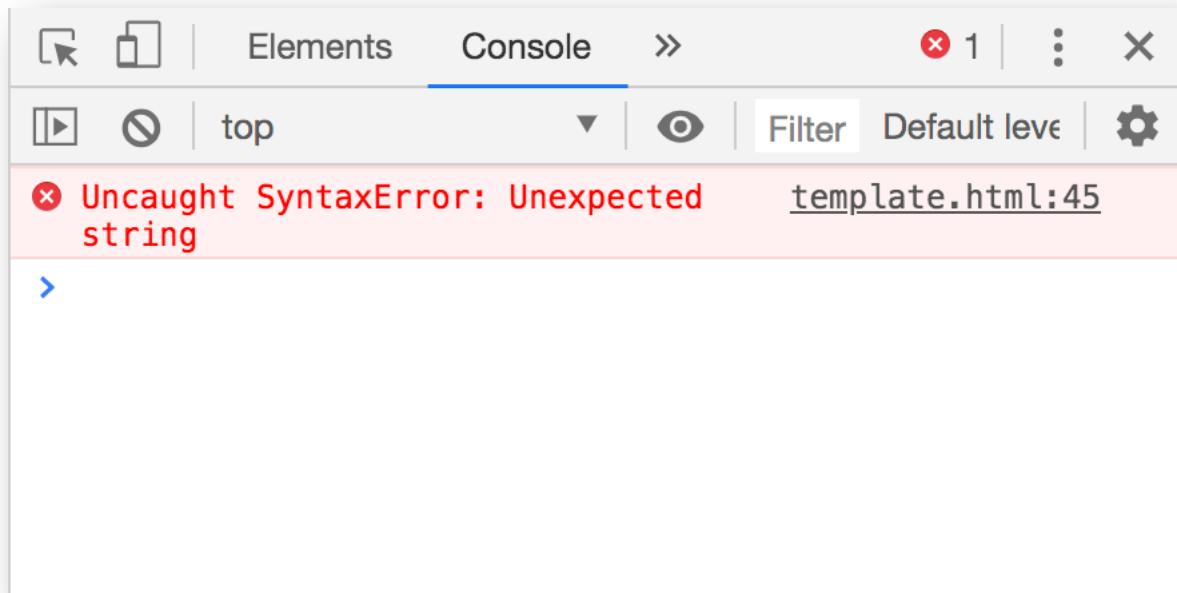
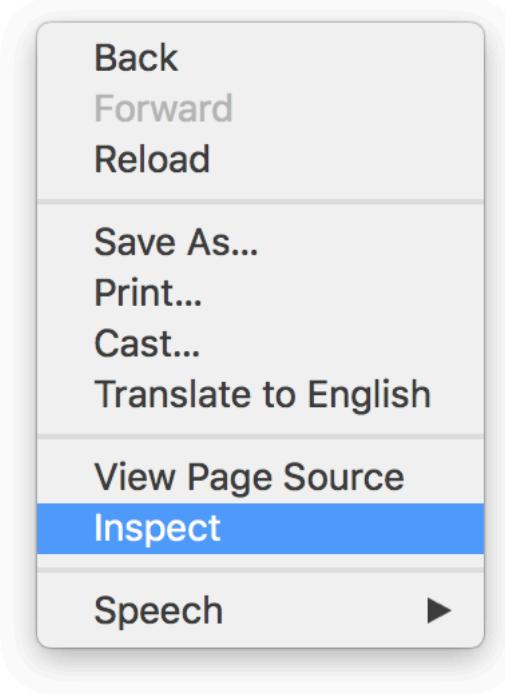
JSON has two structures, an unordered **object {}** of key-value pairs and an ordered **list []** of items, both are comma separated

List Example

```
[  
    "zero",  
    "one",  
    "two",  
    "three",  
    "four"  
]
```

The diagram illustrates a JSON list structure. It consists of a left bracket '[', followed by five red-colored strings: "zero", "one", "two", "three", and "four". A right bracket ']' is positioned at the bottom. Three blue arrows point from the text 'commas' to the commas between the first four items ("zero", "one", "two", "three"). A single blue arrow points from the text 'No comma' to the space before the final item "four".

Missing commas often lead to strange error messages



General JSON Syntax: Objects

JSON has two structures, an unordered **object {}** of key-value pairs and an ordered **list []** of items, both are comma separated

Object Example

```
{  
    "key1": 12.2,           ← number  
    "key2": "text here",    ← text (needs quotes)  
    "key3": [1, 2, 3],      ← list  
    "key4": {"key1": 0.0},   ← another object  
    "key5": true            ← true or false  
}
```

General JSON Syntax

JSON has two structures, an unordered **object {}** of key-value pairs and an ordered **list []** of items, both are comma separated

Object Example

```
{  
  "key1": 12.2,  
  "key2": "text here",  
  "key3": [1, 2, 3],  
  "key4": { "key1": 0.0 },  
  "key5": true  
}
```

List of Objects Example

```
[  
  { "id": 0,  
    "name": "foo"  
  }, ← comma  
  { "id": 1,  
    "name": "bar"  
  }  
]
```

Anatomy of a Vega-Lite specification

```
{  
  data: "url": "dir/data.csv",  
  mark: "point",  
  encoding: {  
    x: {  
      field: "column_name",  
      type: "quantitative"  
    }  
  }  
}
```

data → "data": { "url": "dir/data.csv" },
mark → "mark": "point",
encodings → "encoding": {
 x: {
 field: "column_name",
 type: "quantitative"
 }
}

Data can be a URL/file, variable name, or inline

```
"data": { "url": "data/mydata.json" }
```

```
"data": { "values": variable_name }
```

```
"data": {  
  "values": [  
    { "id": 0, "foo": 7, "bar": "peas" },  
    { "id": 1, "foo": 3, "bar": "carrots" },  
    { "id": 2, "foo": 6, "bar": "carrots" },  
    { "id": 3, "foo": 5.5, "bar": "peas" }  
  ]  
}
```

Several marks available

{

“mark”: “**point**”,

}

area

bar

circle

line

point

rule

square

tick

rect

text

geoshape

boxplot

errorbar

errorband

Tooltips

From encodings:

```
{  
  "mark": { "type": "point", "tooltip": true }  
}
```

From data:

```
{  
  "mark": { "type": "point",  
            "tooltip": { "content": "data" }  
          }  
}
```

Small Example

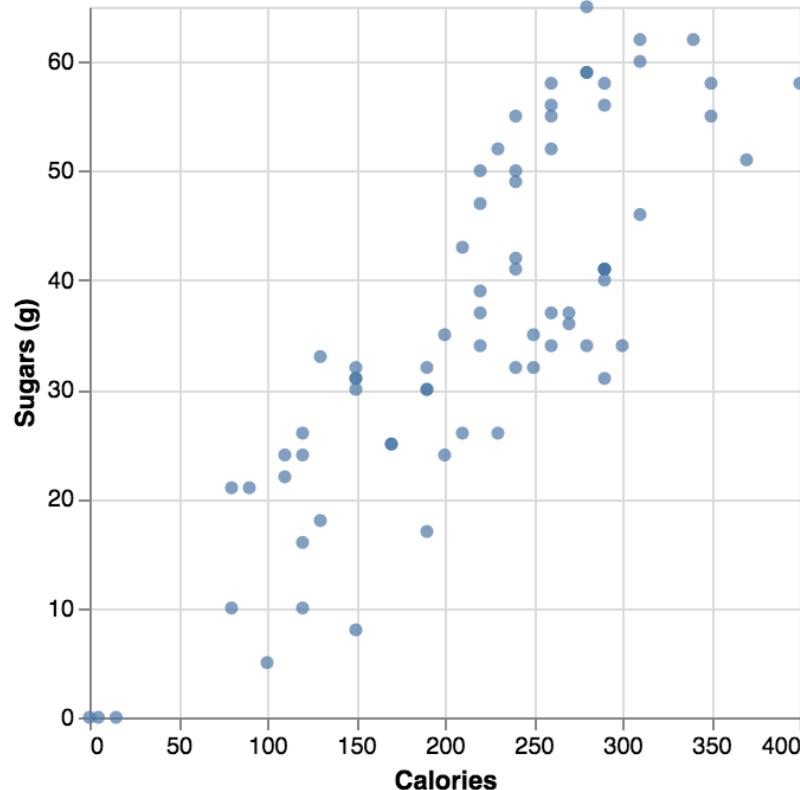
```
var small = [  
    { "weather": "sunny", "temp": 35 },  
    { "weather": "sunny", "temp": 38 },  
    { "weather": "sunny", "temp": 41 },  
    { "weather": "partially sunny", "temp": 29 },  
    { "weather": "partially sunny", "temp": 34 },  
    { "weather": "rainy", "temp": 30 },  
];
```

This data is in `resbaz_az.js`

Exercise: Now that we've seen the small dataset, try a larger one

Replicate this plot with the Kaggle Starbucks nutritional information data. Don't forget to add a tooltip!

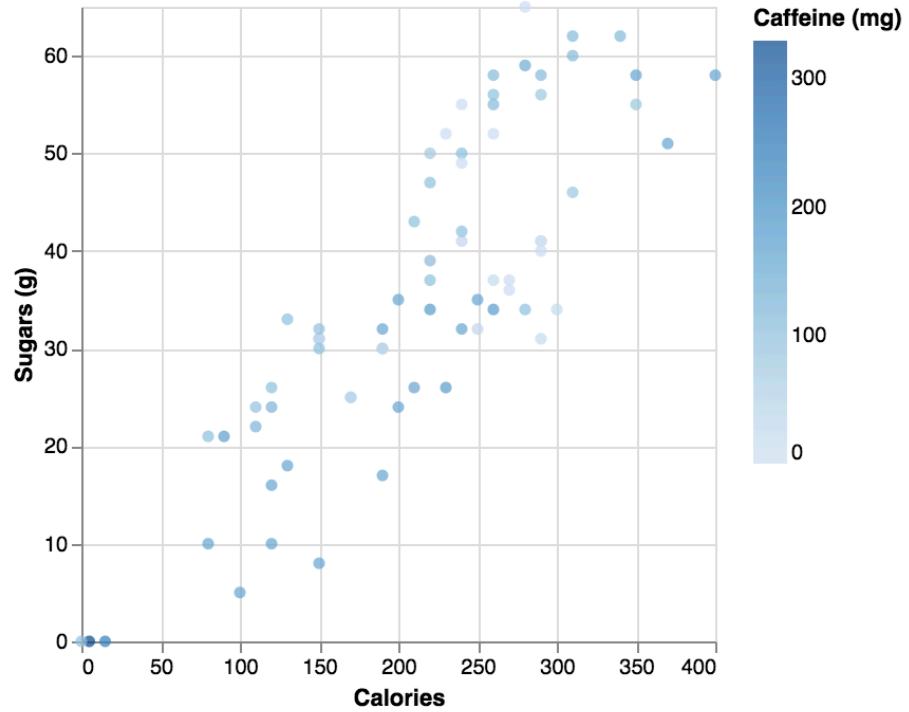
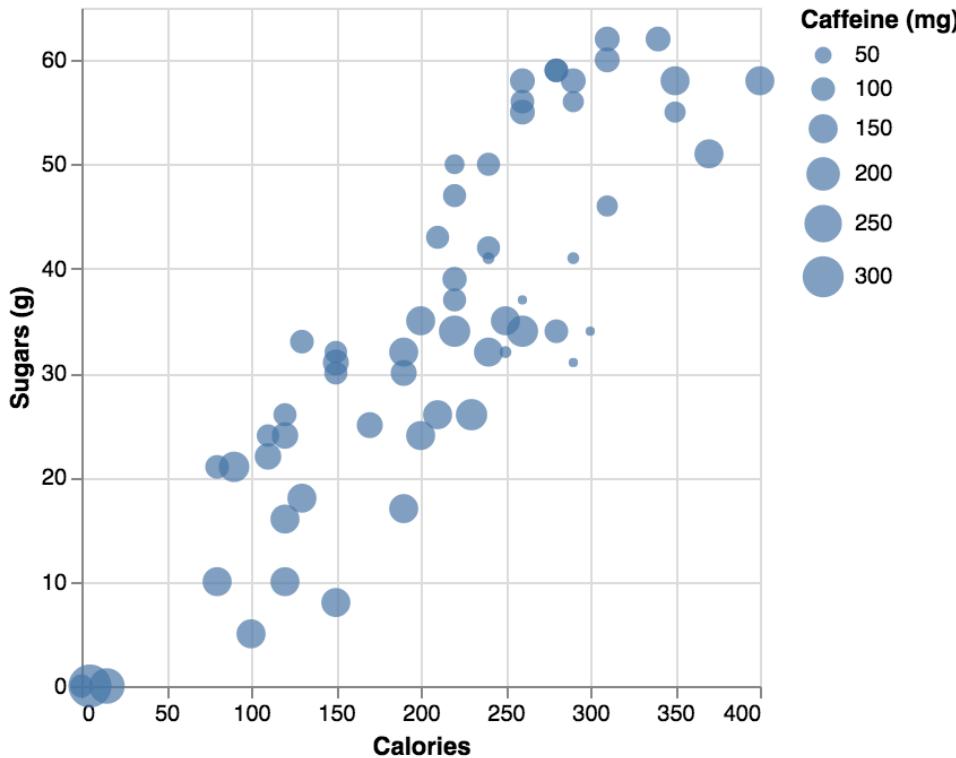
```
"data": {  
  "values": drinks  
}
```



Encoding: Mapping Data to Channels

x	color	text
y	opacity	tooltip
x2	fillOpacity	href
y2	strokeOpacity	...more...
xError	strokeWidth	
yError	size	
xError2	shape	
yError2		

Exercise: Let's encode Caffeine (mg) with size or color



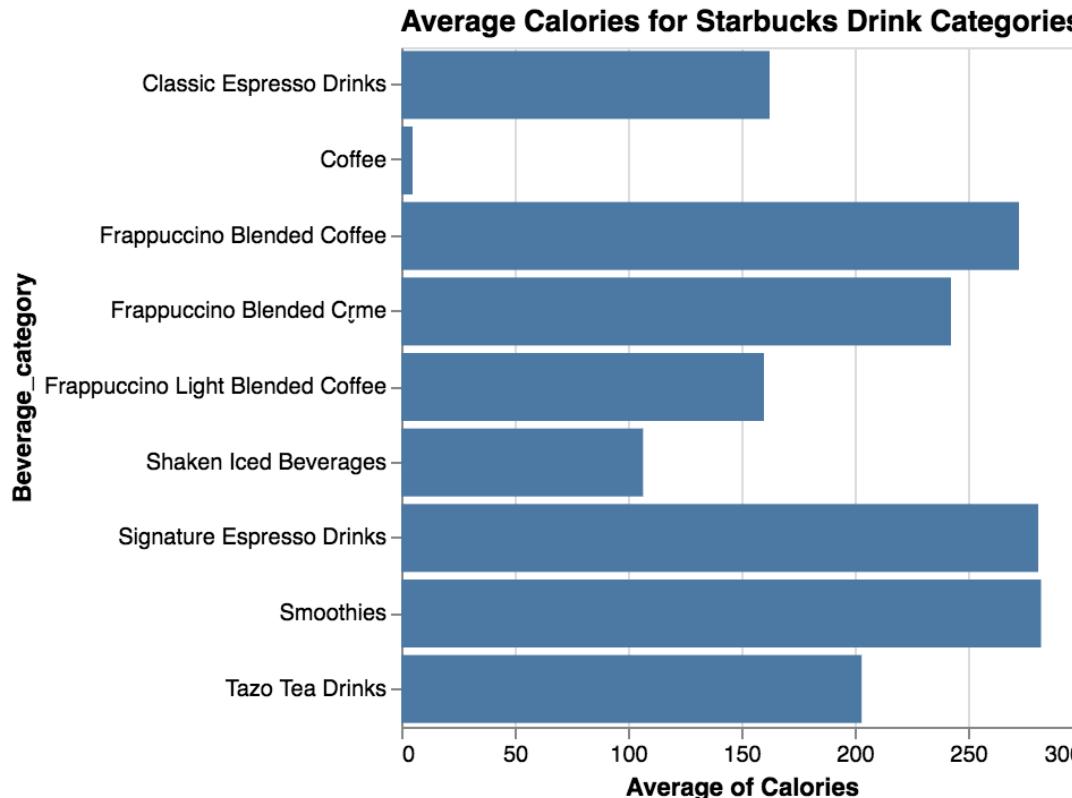
Aggregation of Data

count	min	"encoding": {
sum	max	"x": {
mean	valid	"field": "column_name",
average	missing	"type": "quantitative",
median	distinct	"aggregate": "average"
variance	...more...	}
stdev		}
stderr		

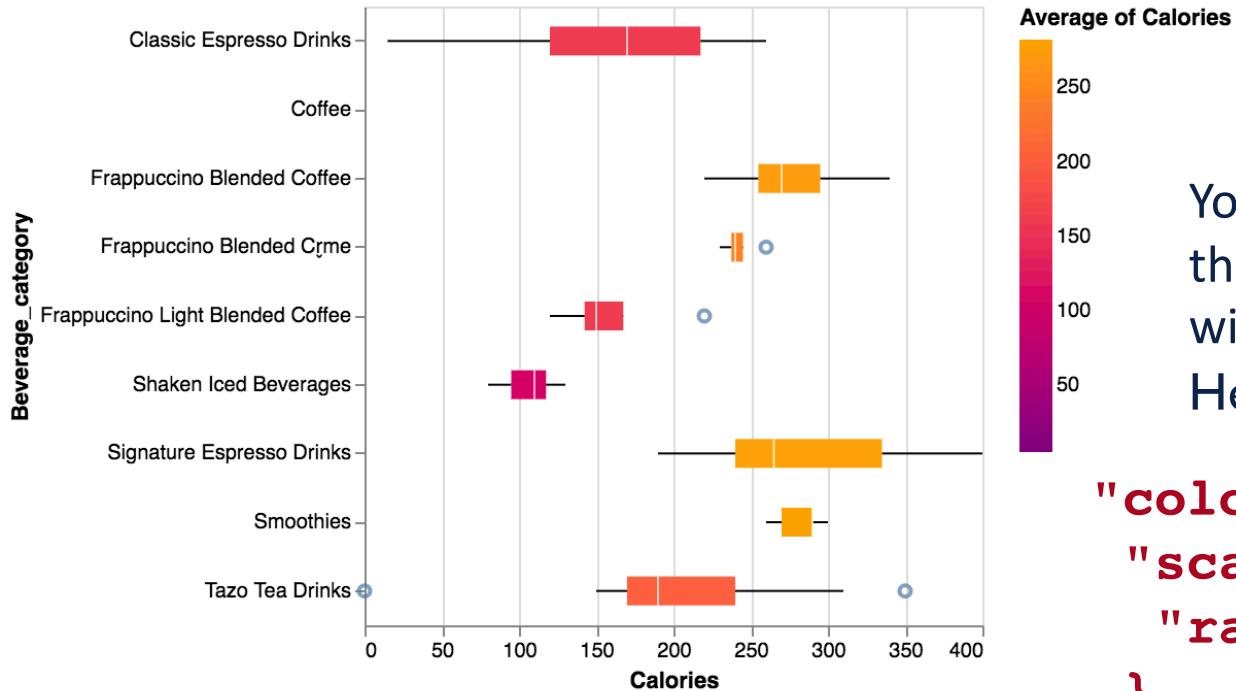
See also binning (histograms) and other transforms...

<https://vega.github.io/vega-lite/docs/encoding.html>

Exercise: Can you replicate the chart with the Starbucks Data?



Exercise: Replicate this chart



You can specify details on the scale of an encoding with the **scale** parameter. Here's a color example:

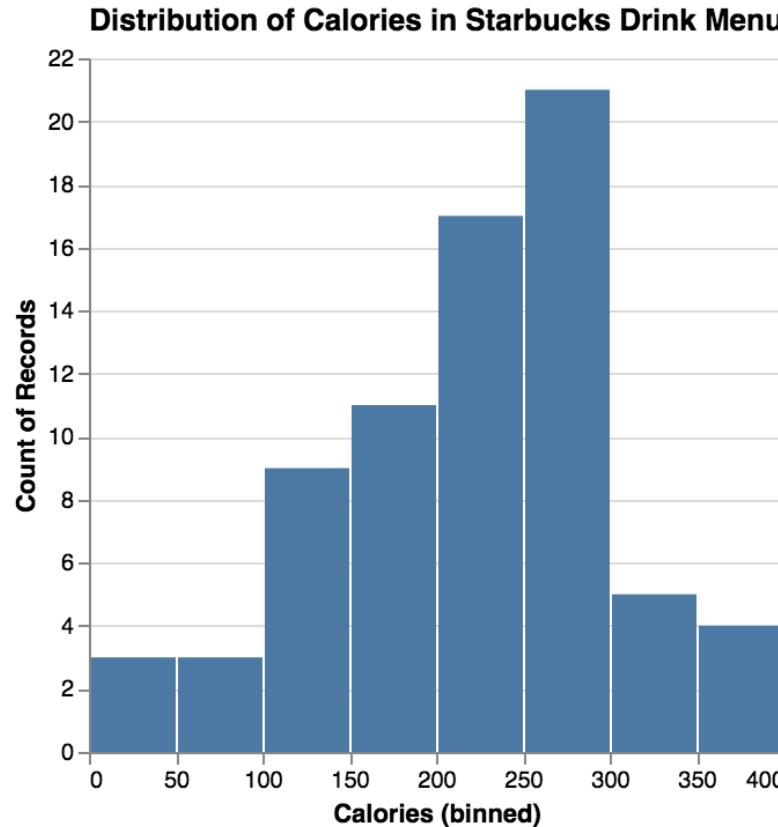
```
"color": {  
  "scale": {  
    "range": ["red", "blue"]  
  },  
  "field": "column_name",  
  "type": "quantitative"  
}
```

Aggregation of Data - Histograms

count	min
sum	max
mean	valid
average	missing
median	distinct
variance	...more...
stdev	
stderr	

```
"encoding": {  
    "x": {  
        "field": "column_name",  
        "type": "quantitative",  
        "bin": true  
    },  
    "y": {  
        "type": "quantitative",  
        "aggregate": "count"  
    },  
}
```

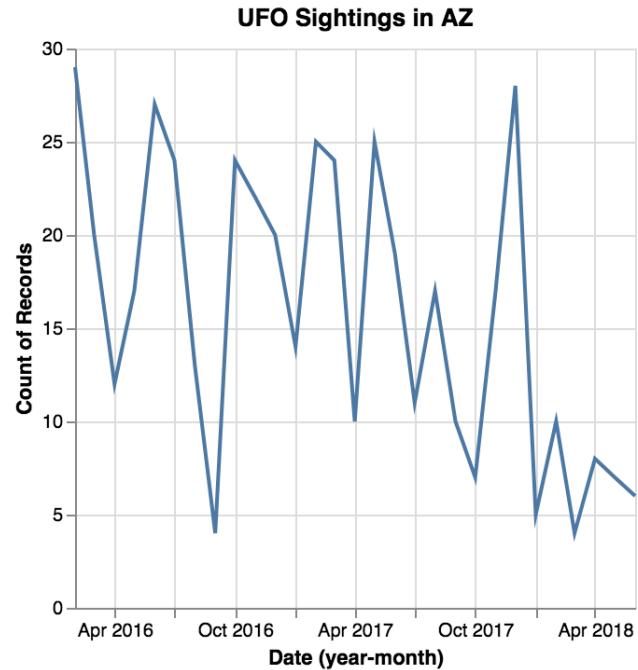
Exercise: Can you replicate this histogram with the Starbucks Data?



Temporal Data

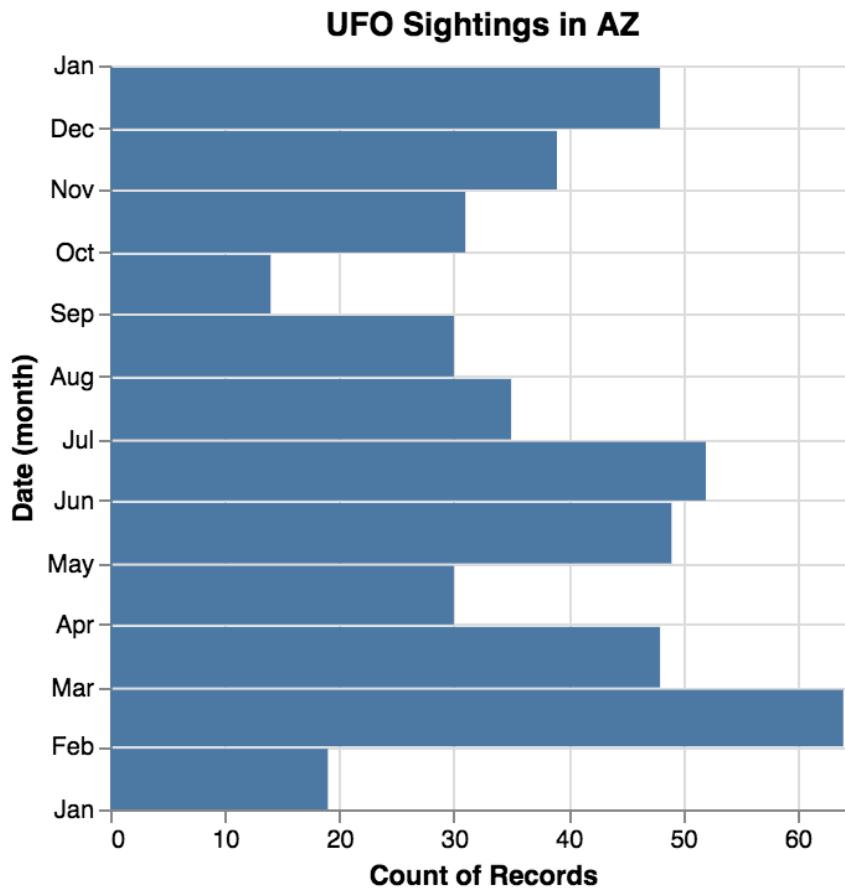
We can set a timeUnit in the encoding to group data and then represent its aggregate:

```
"x": {  
  "field": "Date",  
  "timeUnit": "yearmonth",  
  "type": "temporal"  
}  
"y": {  
  "aggregate": "count",  
  "type": "quantitative"  
}
```



Exercise: Create this chart with the UFO Data

```
"data": {  
  "values" : ufos  
}
```



Acknowledgements

This workshop is based on the tutorials and documentation at
<https://vega.github.io>

Data Visualization basics are based on Visualization Analysis and Design, by Tamara Munzner

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under project NSF IIS-[1844573](#)