

Visualization (Exploring Co-variation)

Peter Ganong and Maggie Shi

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Introduction

Skills hopefully acquired at the end of lecture

Take a two variables in a dataset. Visualize to learn more about how they co-vary.

Key cases of interest:

- Categorical variable and a continuous variable
- Two categorical variables
- Two continuous variables

Categorical variable and continuous variable

Categorical vs. continuous: roadmap

- `penguins` dataset
- Boxplots
- Densities
- Small multiples

penguins dataset

```
1 url = ("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/mcnakhaee/palmerpenguins/master/p
2 penguins = pd.read_csv(url)
3 penguins.head()
```

	species	island	bill_length_mm	bill_depth_mm	flipper_length_mm	body_mass_g
0	Adelie	Torgersen	39.1	18.7	181.0	3750
1	Adelie	Torgersen	39.5	17.4	186.0	3800
2	Adelie	Torgersen	40.3	18.0	195.0	3250
3	Adelie	Torgersen	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
4	Adelie	Torgersen	36.7	19.3	193.0	3450

penguins dataset

`species` appears to be a categorical variable

```
1 penguins['species'].value_counts()
```

```
species
```

```
Adelie          152
```

```
Gentoo          124
```

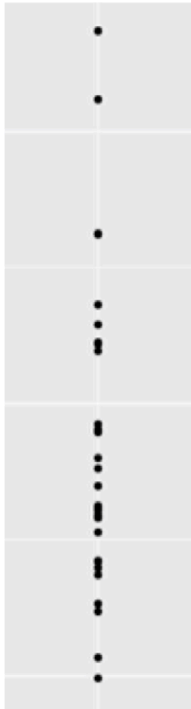
```
Chinstrap        68
```

```
Name: count, dtype: int64
```

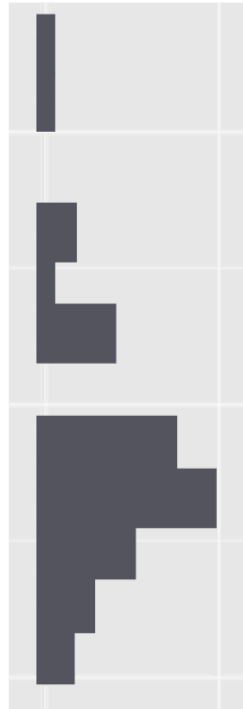
Discussion question: is it a **N**ominal or **O**rdinal variable?

Categorical & continuous: box plot

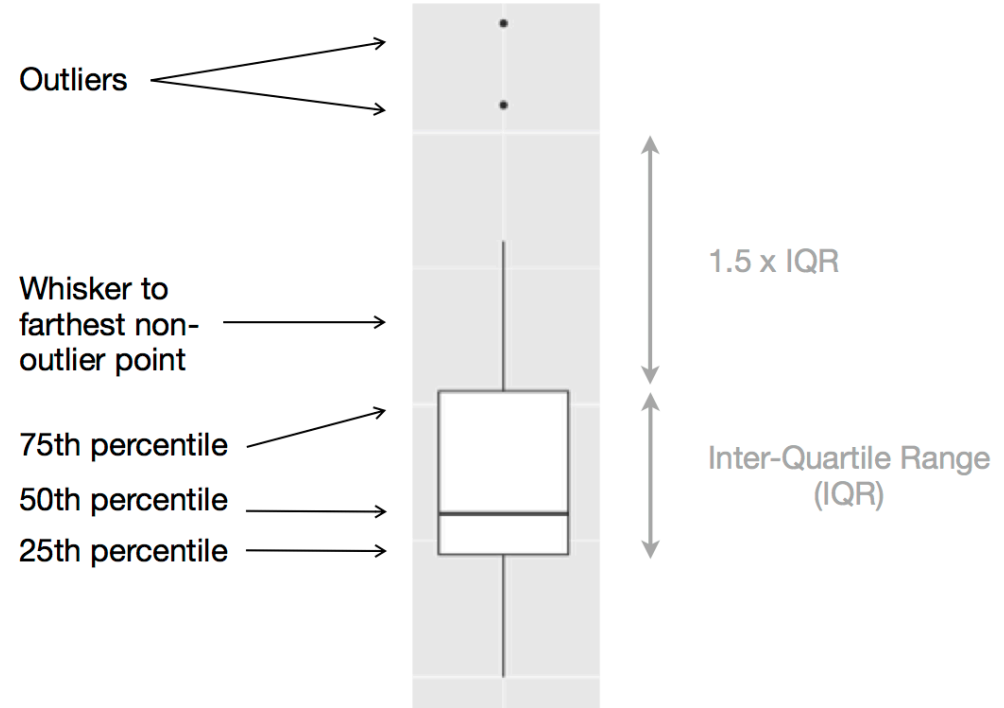
The actual values in a distribution



How a histogram would display the values (rotated)

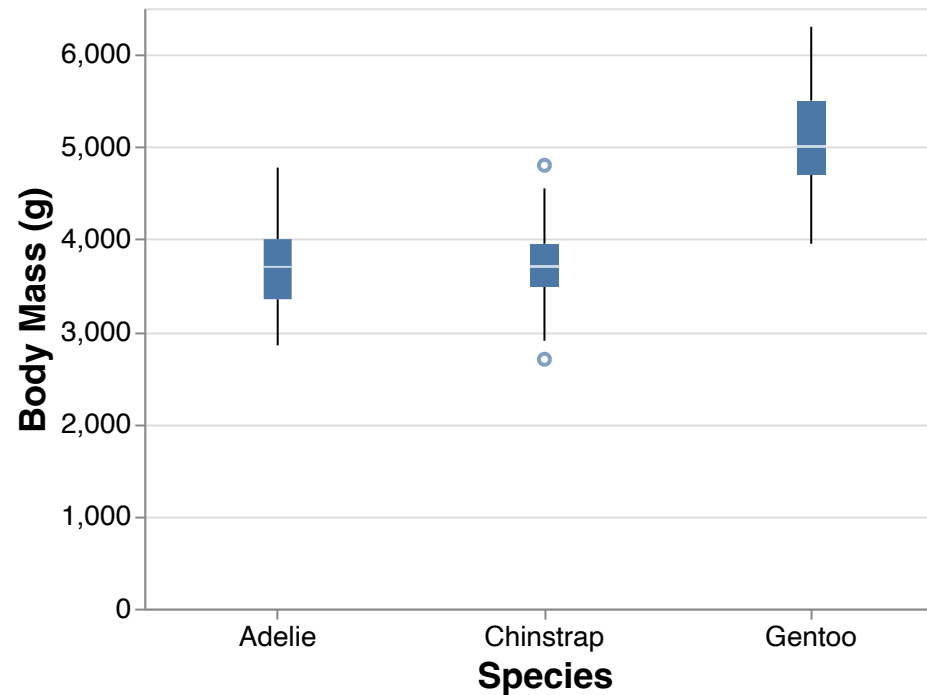


How a boxplot would display the values



mark_boxplot()

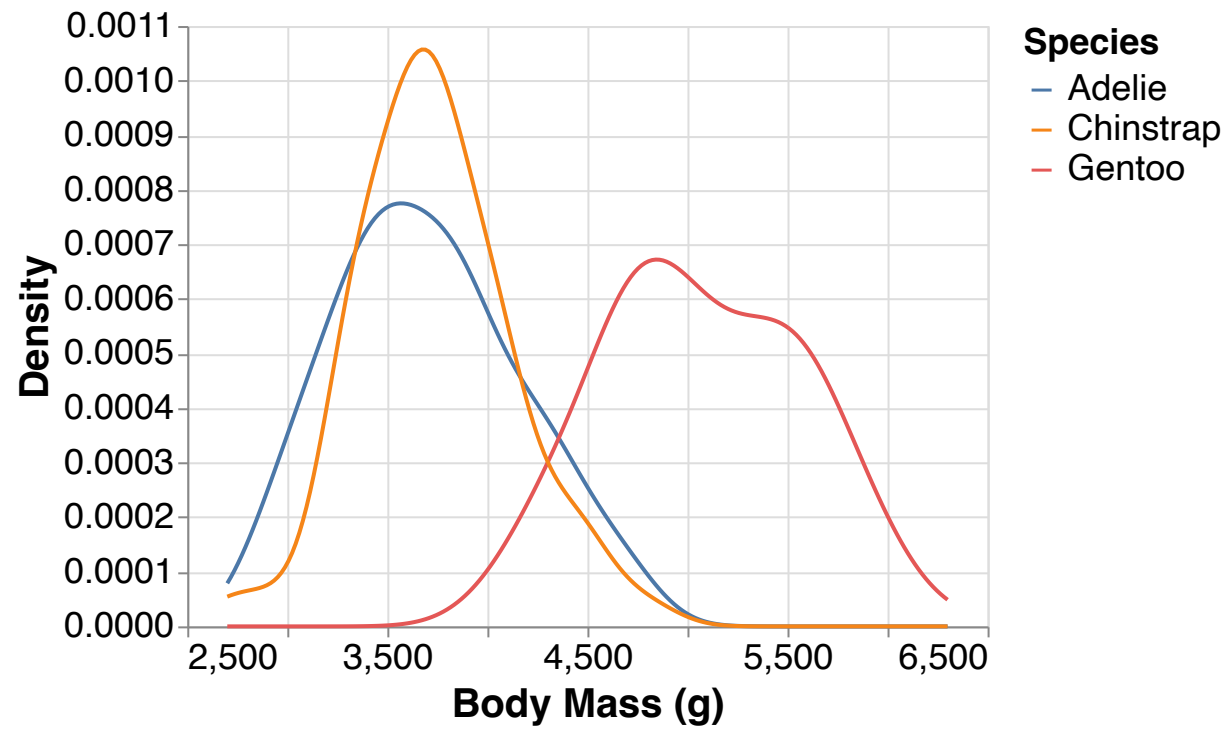
```
1 alt.Chart(penguins).mark_boxplot().encode(  
2     alt.X('species:N', title="Species"),  
3     alt.Y('body_mass_g:Q', title="Body Mass (g)"),  
4 )
```



Discussion question: what is the headline message from this graph?
Submessages?

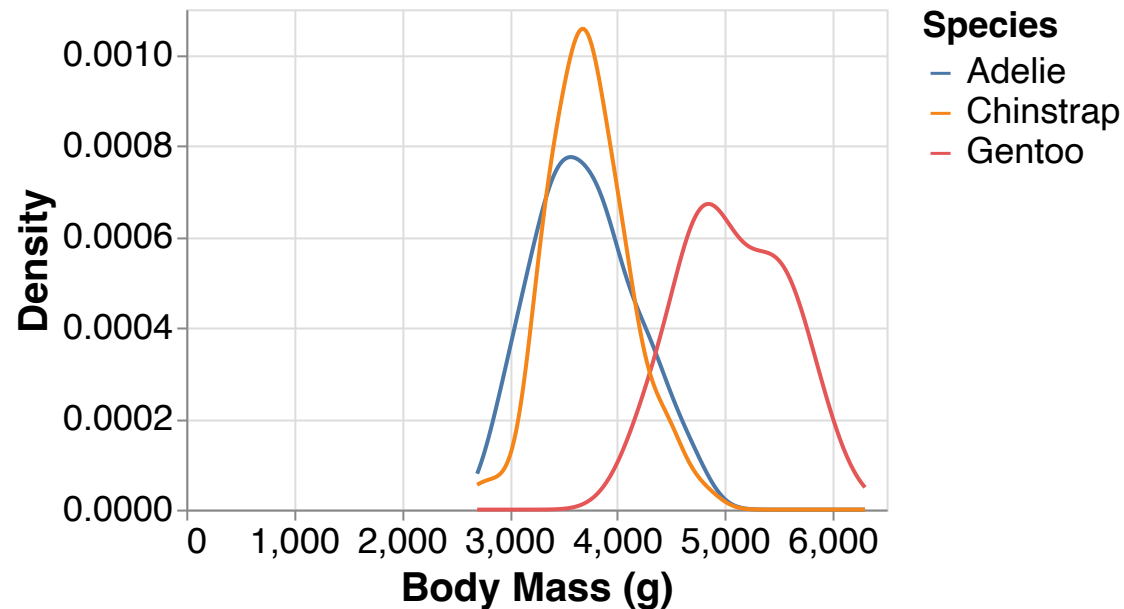
transform_density()

```
1 alt.Chart(penguins).transform_density(  
2     'body_mass_g',  
3     groupby=['species'],  
4     as_=['body_mass_g2', 'density']  
5 ).mark_line().encode(  
6     alt.X('body_mass_g2:Q', title = "Body Mass (g)'),  
7     alt.Y('density:Q', title = "Density"),  
8     alt.Color('species:N', title = "Species")  
9 )
```



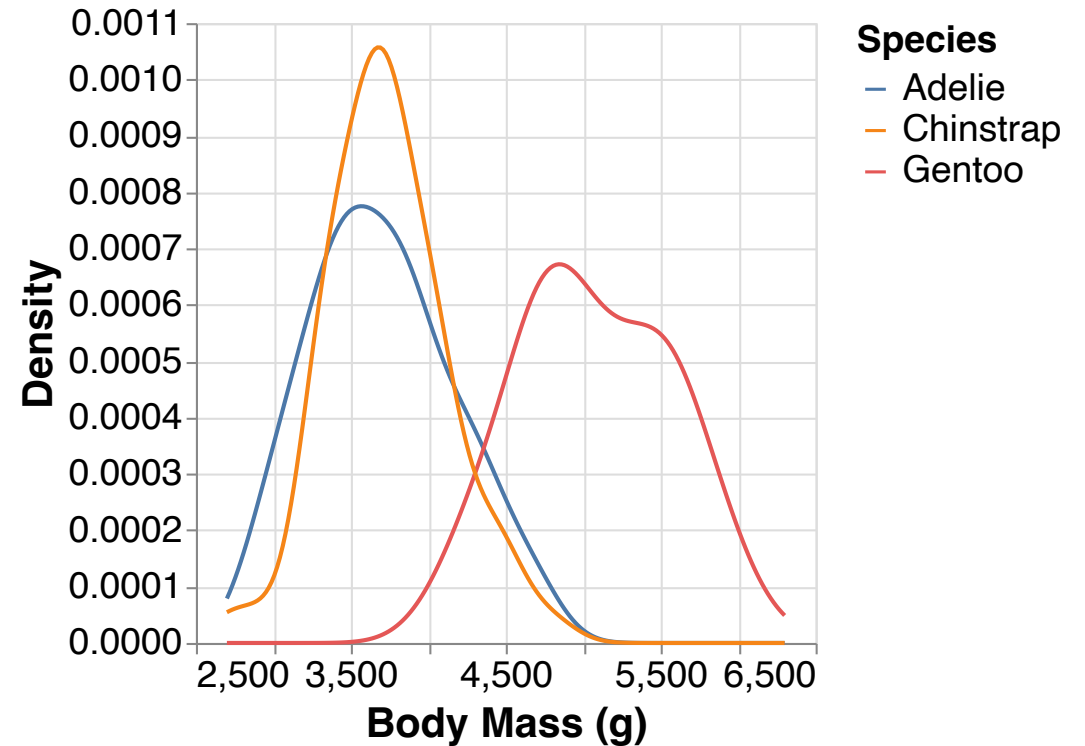
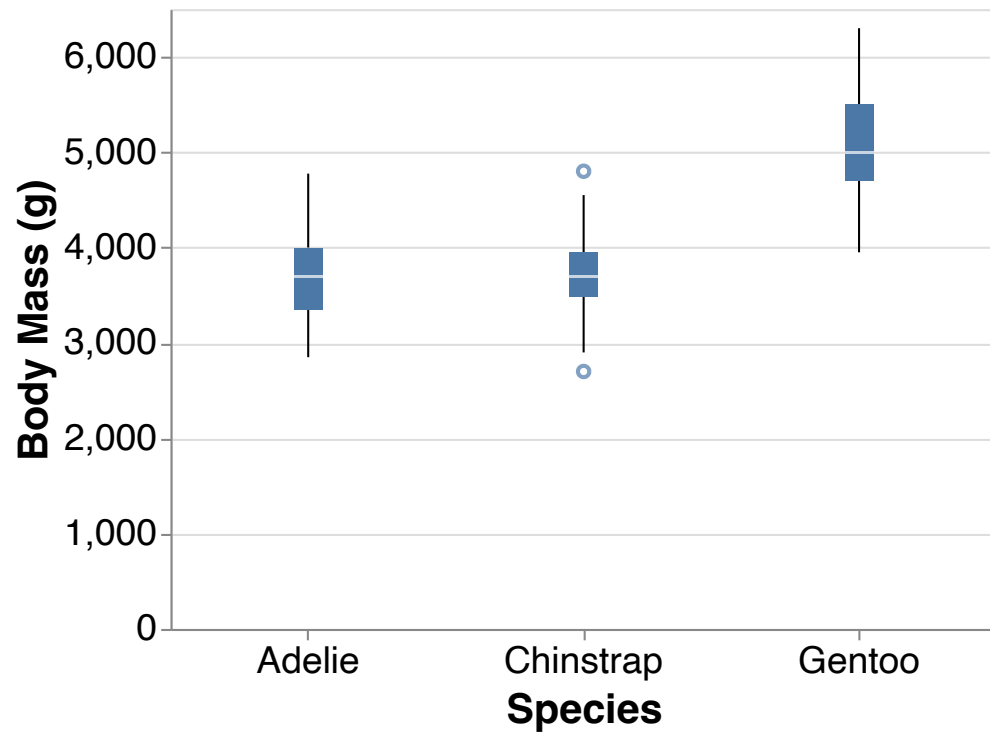
transform_density(), scale to 0

```
1 alt.Chart(penguins).transform_density(  
2     'body_mass_g',  
3     groupby=['species'],  
4     as_=['body_mass_g', 'density']  
5 ).mark_line().encode(  
6     alt.X('body_mass_g:Q', scale=alt.Scale(zero=True), title = "Body Mass (g)"),  
7     alt.Y('density:Q', title = "Density"),  
8     alt.Color('species:N', title = "Species")  
9 )
```



Discussion question: what if we required the x-axis range to include zero? Would that improve or reduce clarity? Why?

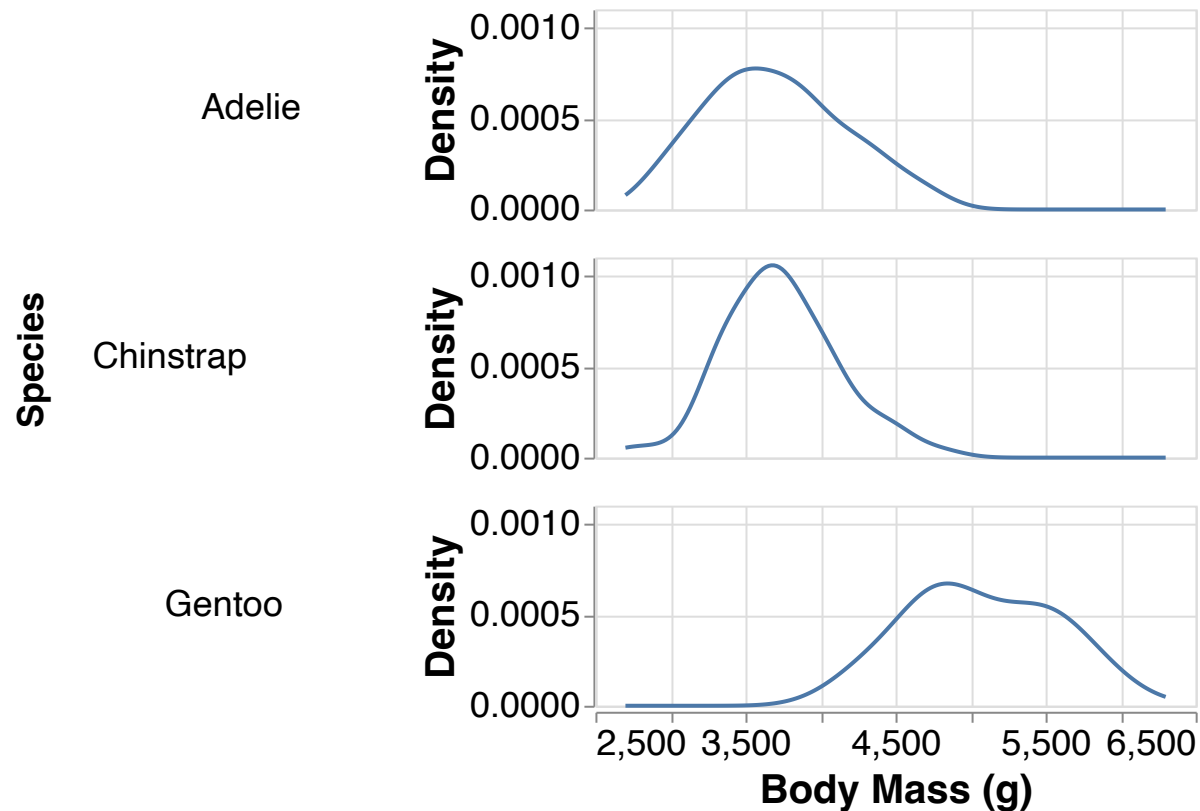
Boxplot or density plots?



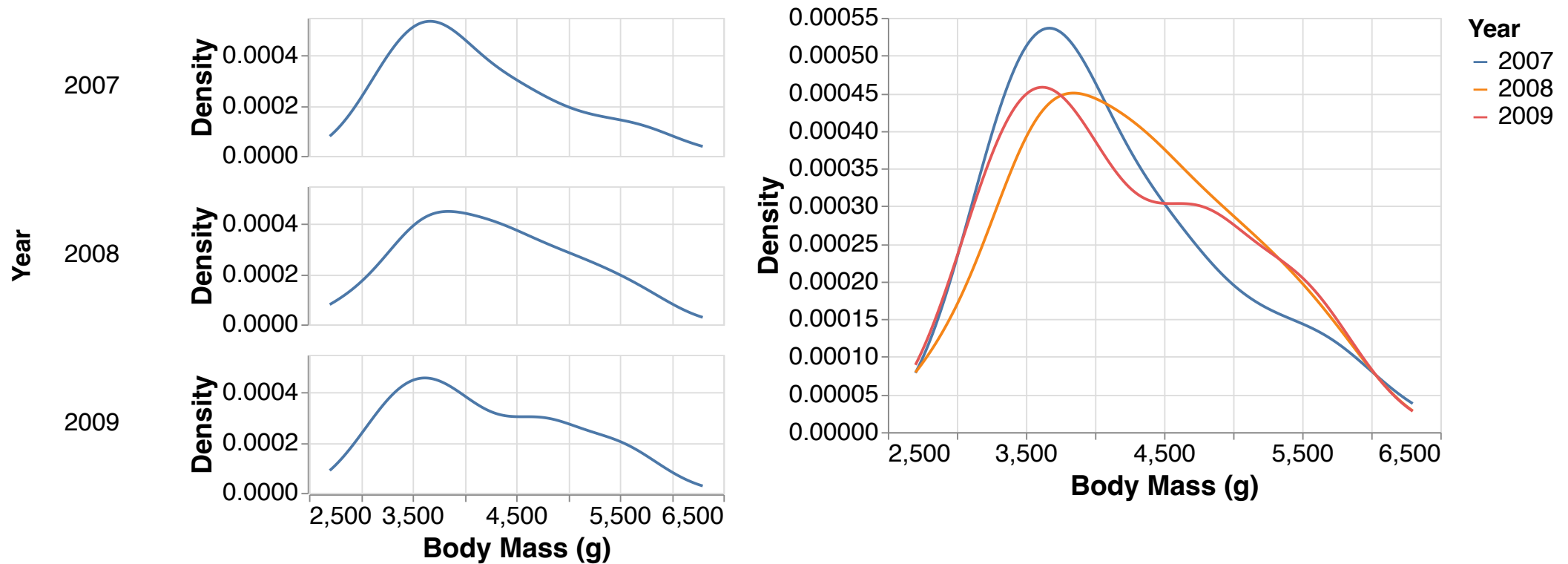
Discussion question: what messages come through more with the box plot? Through the density plot?

alt.Row: small multiples

```
1 alt.Chart(penguins).transform_density(  
2     'body_mass_g',  
3     groupby=['species'],  
4     as_=['body_mass_g', 'density']  
5 ).mark_line().encode(  
6     alt.X('body_mass_g:Q', title = "Body Mass (g)"),  
7     alt.Y('density:Q', title = "Density"),  
8     alt.Row('species:N', header=alt.Header(labelAngle=0), title = "Species")  
9 )
```

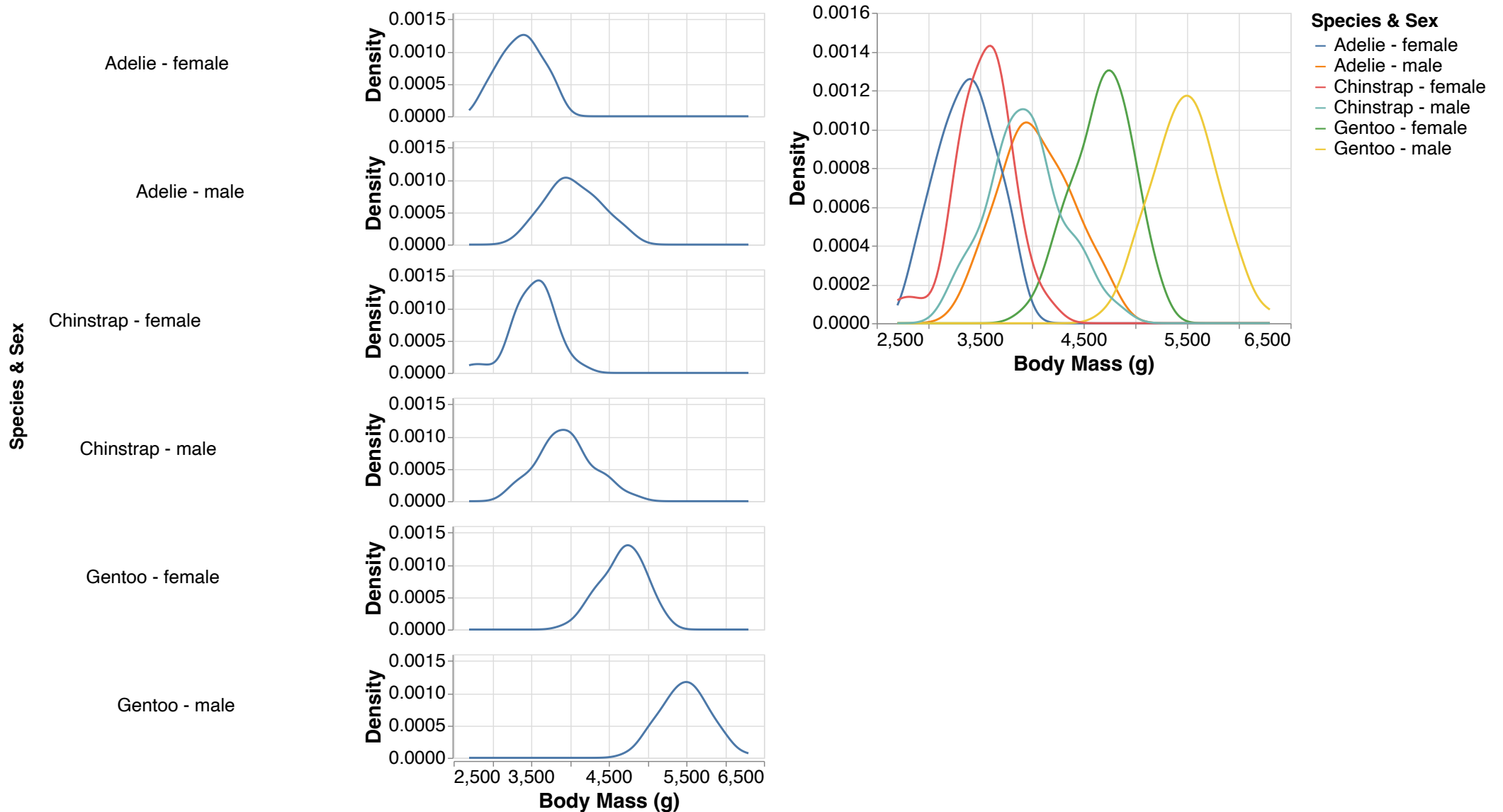


By **year**: colors or small multiples?



Discussion question: these two graphs show identical information. Which do you prefer, and why?

Colors or small multiples?



Two Categorical Variables

Two categorical variables: roadmap

- Two ways to encode frequency as a third dimension:
diamonds
 - size
 - color
- A word of caution against 3D graphs

How is cut related to color? Size

In `diamonds` dataset, `color` and `cut` are both categorical

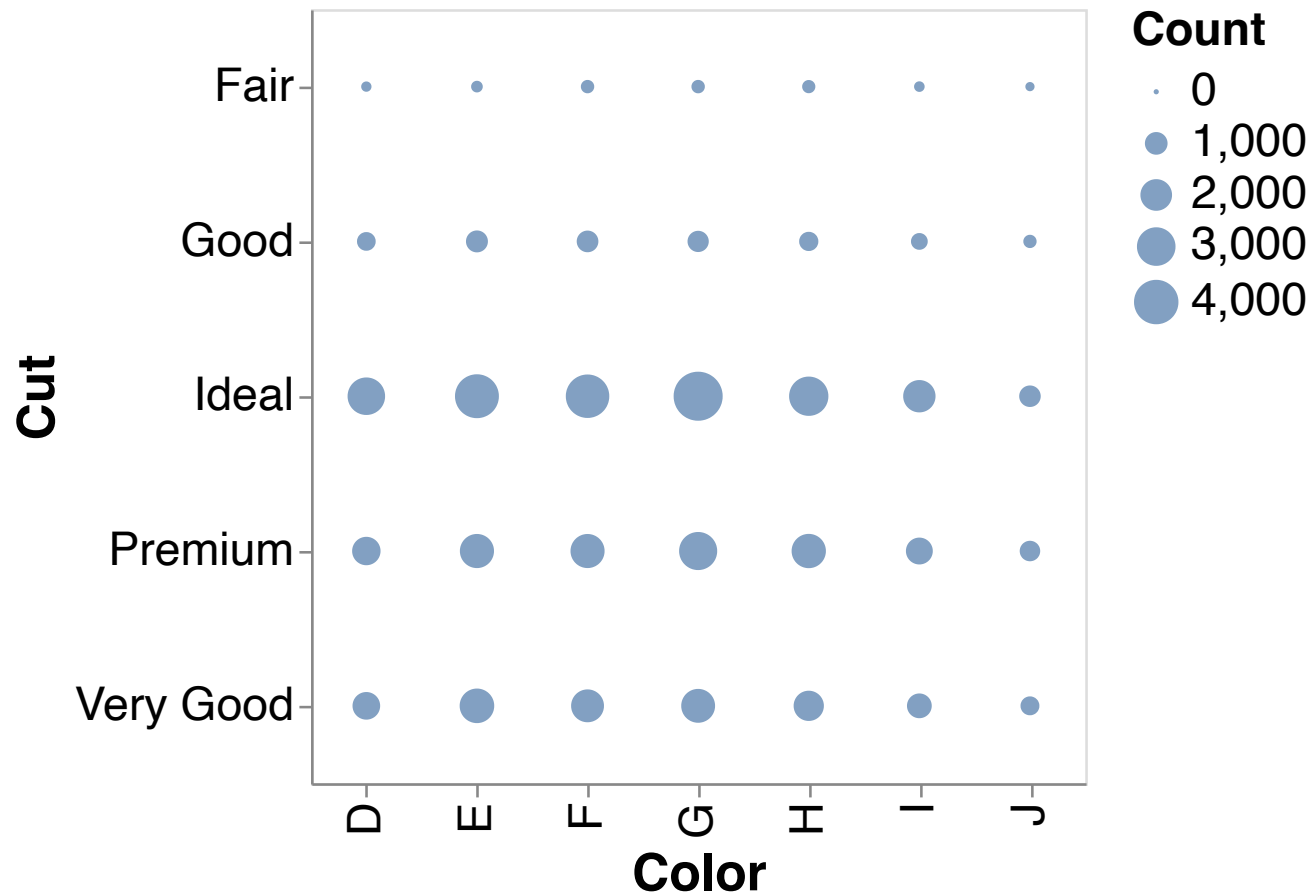
```
1 diamonds_grouped = diamonds.groupby(['color', 'cut']).size().reset_index().rename(columns={0: 'N'})
2 diamonds_grouped
```

	color	cut	N
0	D	Fair	163
1	D	Good	662
2	D	Very Good	1513
3	D	Premium	1603
4	D	Ideal	2834
5	E	Fair	224
6	E	Good	933
7	E	Very Good	2400
8	E	Premium	2337
9	E	Ideal	3903
10	F	Fair	312
11	F	Good	909
12	F	Very Good	2164
13	F	Premium	2331

	color	cut	N
14	F	Ideal	3826
15	G	Fair	314
16	G	Good	871
17	G	Very Good	2299
18	G	Premium	2924
19	G	Ideal	4884
20	H	Fair	303
21	H	Good	702
22	H	Very Good	1824
23	H	Premium	2360
24	H	Ideal	3115
25	I	Fair	175
26	I	Good	522
27	I	Very Good	1204
28	I	Premium	1428
29	I	Ideal	2093
30	J	Fair	119
31	J	Good	307
32	J	Very Good	678
33	J	Premium	808
34	J	Ideal	896

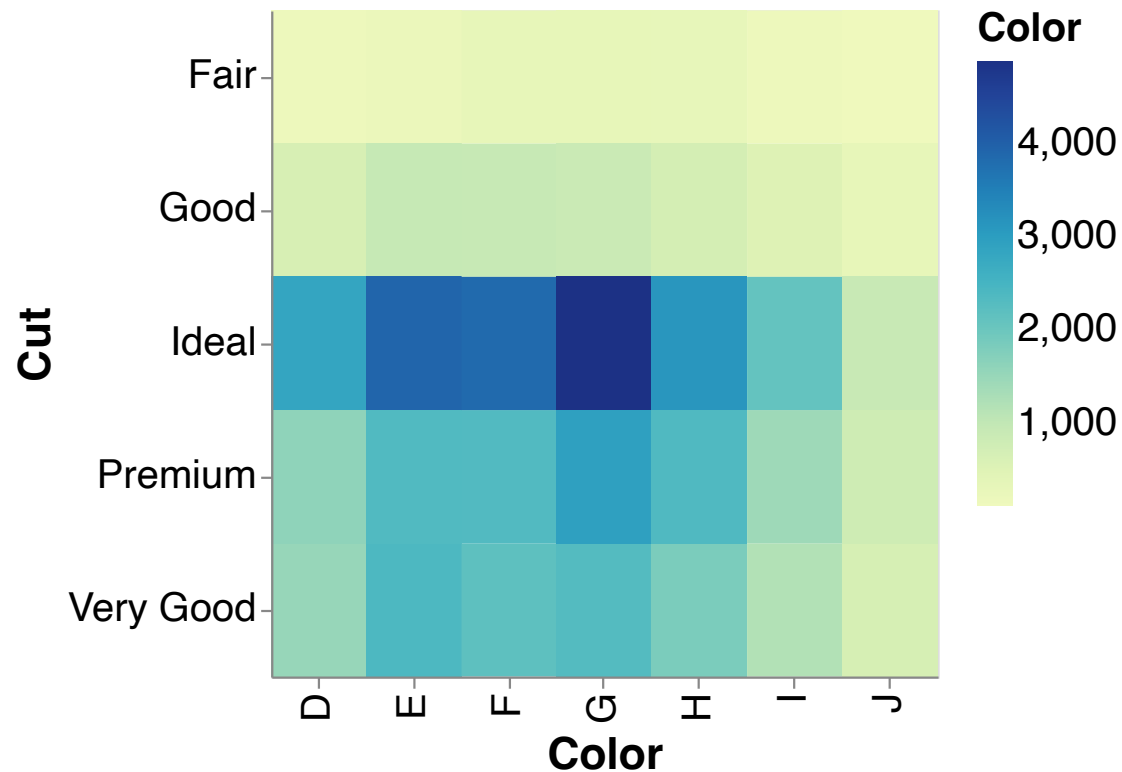
How is cut related to color? Color

```
1 alt.Chart(diamonds_grouped).mark_circle().encode(  
2   alt.X('color:N', title = "Color"),  
3   alt.Y('cut:N', title = "Cut"),  
4   alt.Size('N:Q', title = "Count"))
```



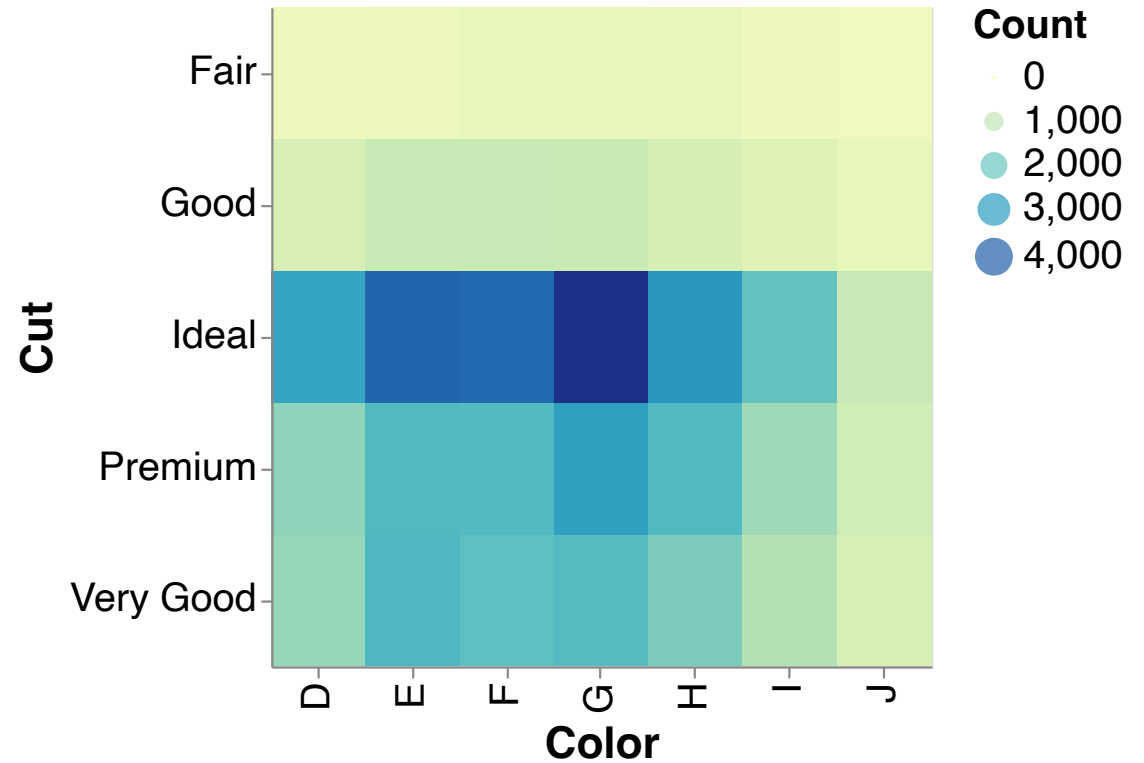
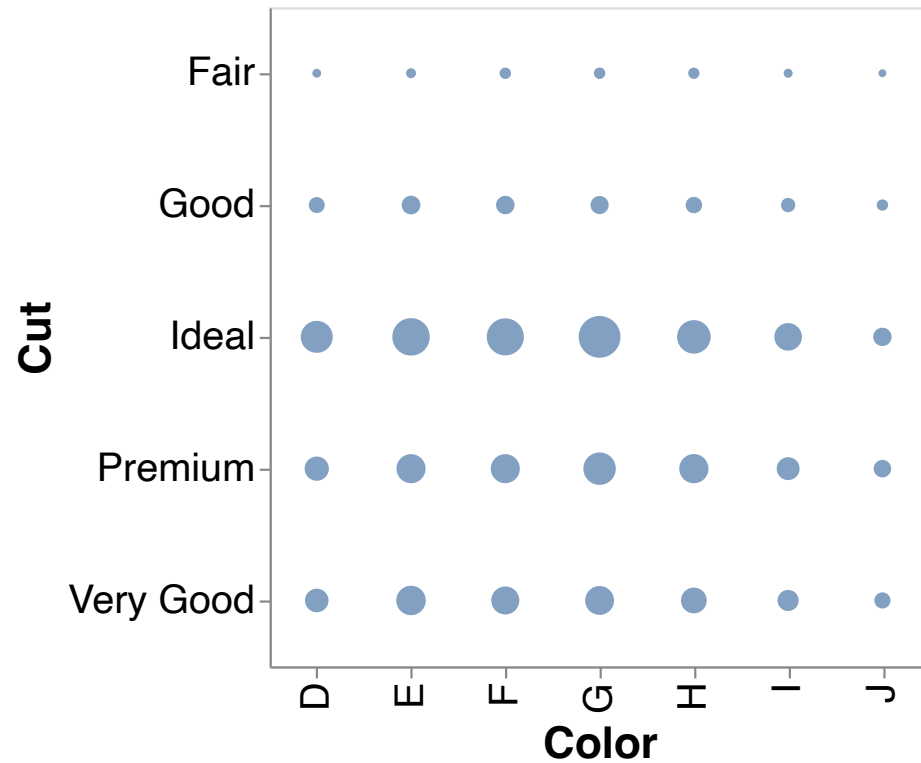
How is cut related to color?

```
1 alt.Chart(diamonds_grouped).mark_rect().encode(  
2   alt.X('color:N', title = "Color"),  
3   alt.Y('cut:N', title = "Cut"),  
4   alt.Color('N:Q', title = "Color"))
```



Discussion question: what diamond types are most common?

How is cut related to color?



Discussion question: these two plots display the same information, but encoded differently. Which do you prefer?

A word of caution: 3D graphs

You may have seen covariation between two variables depicted as a 3D plot before

Two Categorical Variables: summary

- Encode frequency as **color** or **size**
- Avoid 3D representations!

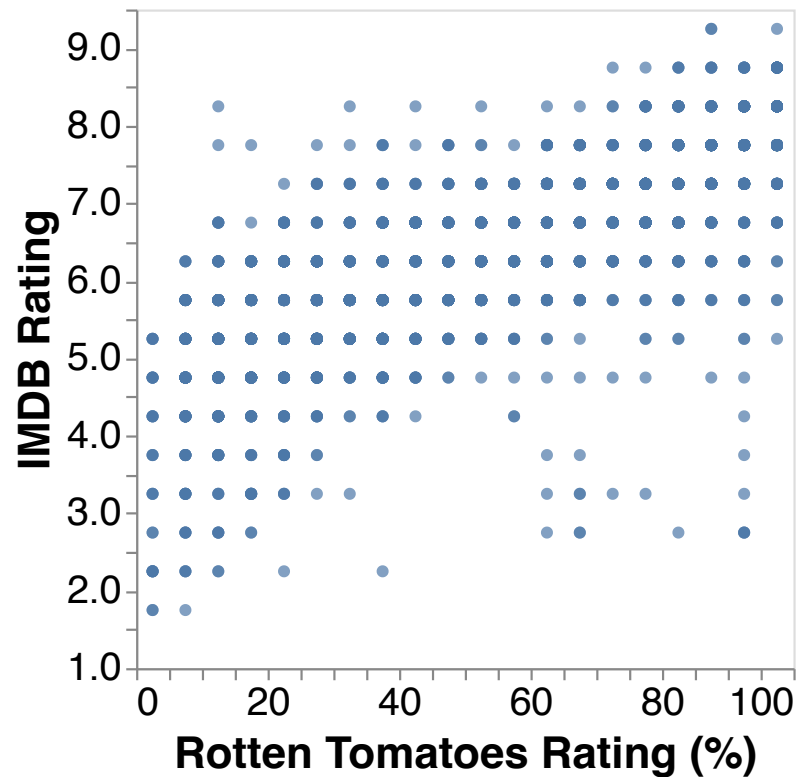
Two Continuous Variables

Two continuous variables: roadmap

- `movies` ratings from Rotten Tomatoes and IMDB
- `diamonds: carat vs price`

How are RT and IMDB ratings related?

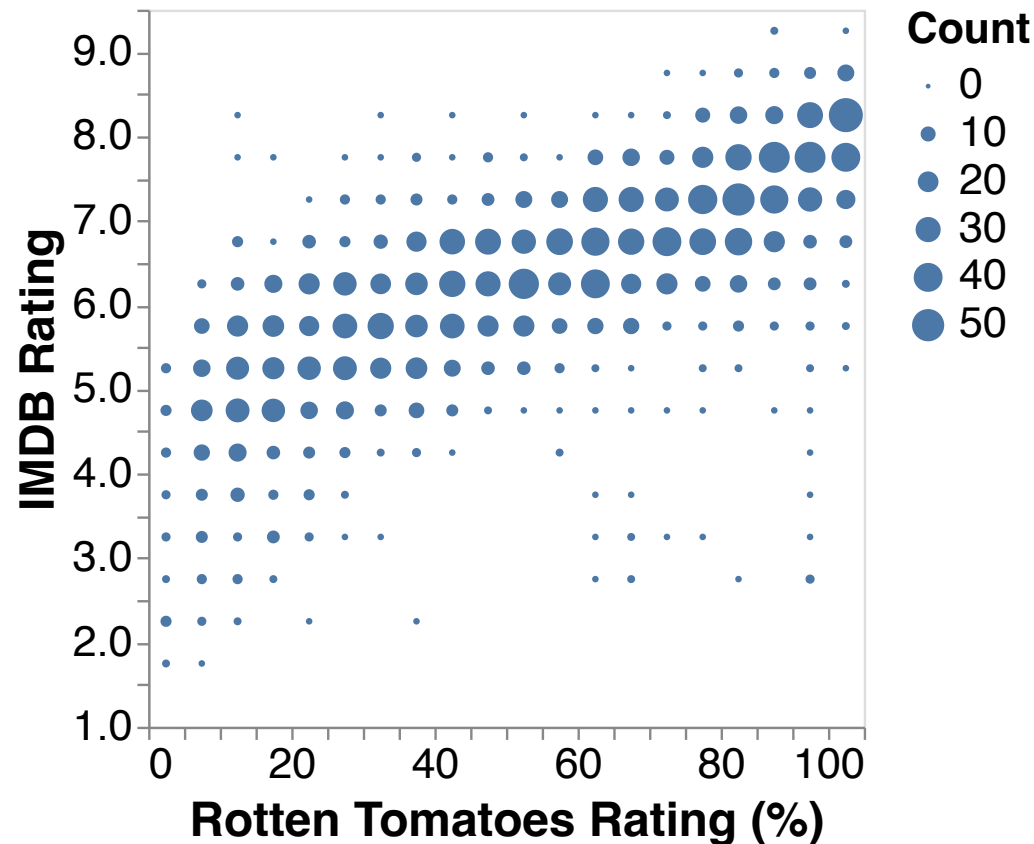
```
1 alt.Chart(movies).mark_circle().encode(  
2     alt.X('Rotten_Tomatoes_Rating:Q', bin=alt.BinParams(maxbins=20), title  
3     alt.Y('IMDB_Rating:Q', bin=alt.BinParams(maxbins=20), title = "IMDB Rat  
4 )
```



Suffers from overplotting!

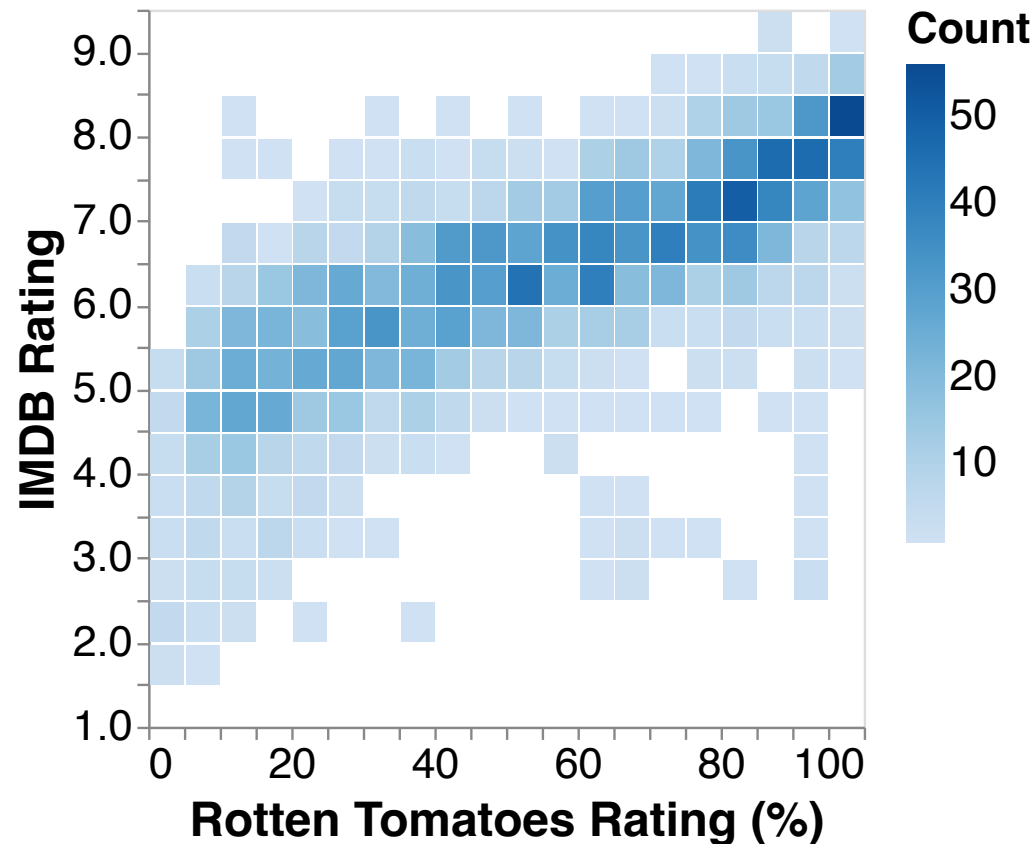
use `alt.Size('count()')`

```
1 alt.Chart(movies_url).mark_circle().encode(  
2     alt.X('Rotten_Tomatoes_Rating:Q', bin=alt.BinParams(maxbins=20)),  
3     alt.Y('IMDB_Rating:Q', bin=alt.BinParams(maxbins=20)),  
4     alt.Size('count()')  
5 )
```

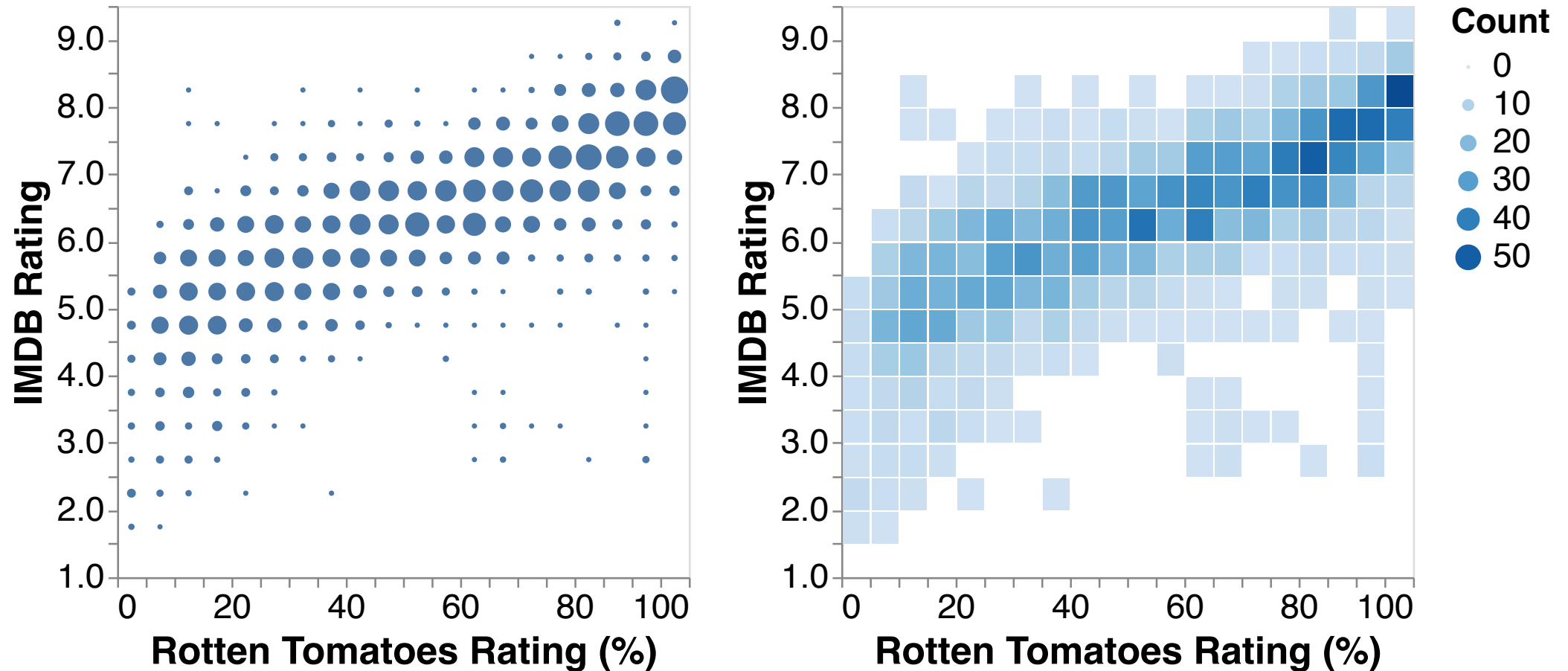


use `alt.Color('count()')`

```
1 alt.Chart(movies_url).mark_bar().encode(  
2     alt.X('Rotten_Tomatoes_Rating:Q', bin=alt.BinParams(maxbins=20), title  
3     alt.Y('IMDB_Rating:Q', bin=alt.BinParams(maxbins=20), title = "IMDB Rat  
4     alt.Color('count()', title = "Count")  
5 )
```



Discussion question



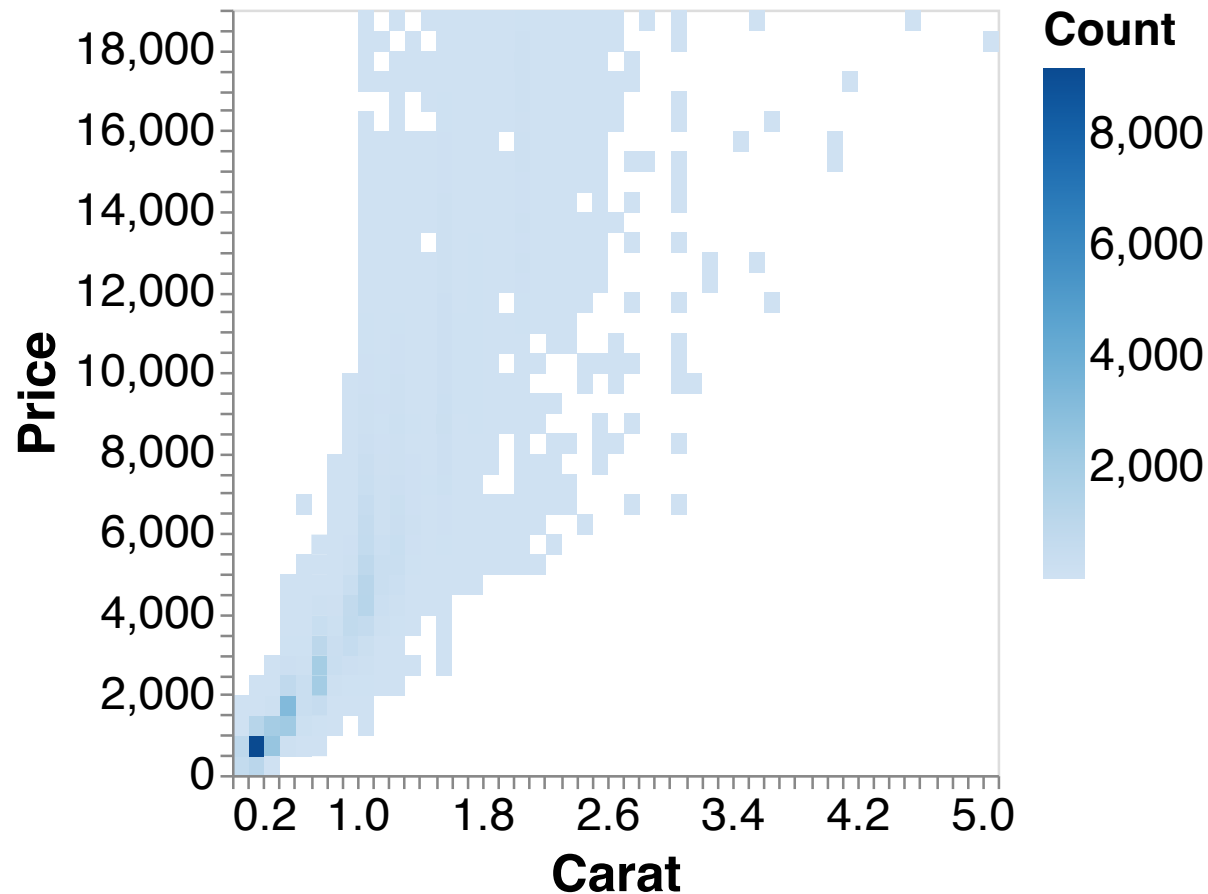
Compare the *size* and *color*-based 2D histograms above. Which encoding do you prefer? Why?

How is carat related to price? Raw data

```
1 alt.Chart(diamonds).mark_point().encode(  
2     alt.X('carat:Q', title = "Carat"),  
3     alt.Y('price:Q', title = "Price")  
4 )
```


How is carat related to price? Color

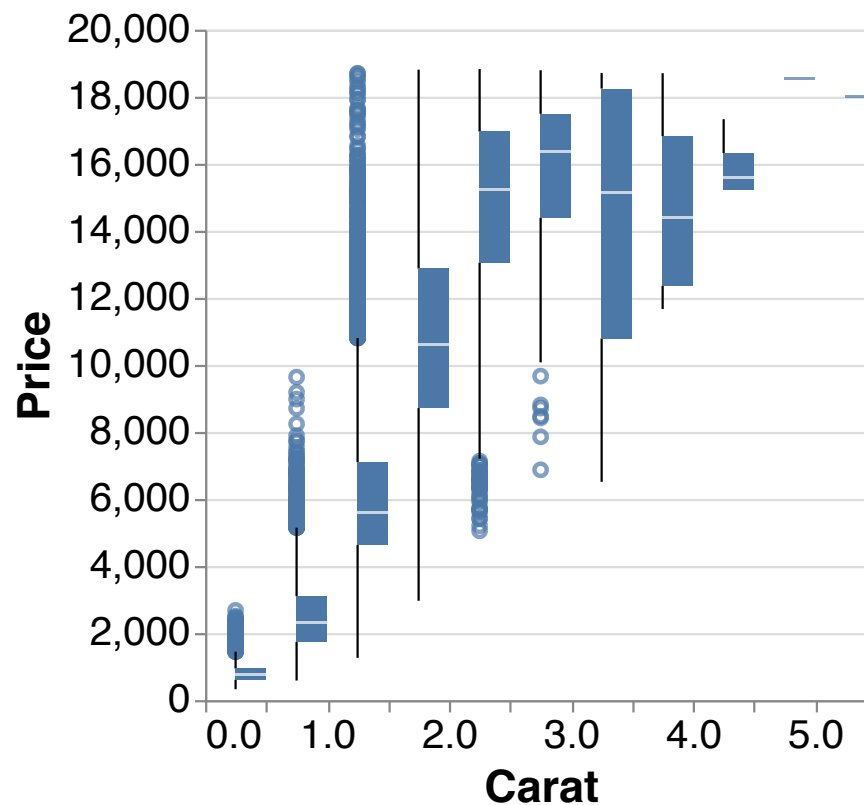
```
1 alt.Chart(diamonds).mark_rect().encode(  
2     alt.X('carat:Q', bin=alt.Bin(maxbins=70), title = "Carat"),  
3     alt.Y('price:Q', bin=alt.Bin(maxbins=70), title = "Price"),  
4     alt.Color('count()', scale=alt.Scale(scheme='blues'), title = "Count"))
```



How is carat related to price?

mark_boxplot()

```
1 alt.Chart(diamonds).mark_boxplot().encode(  
2     alt.X('carat:Q', bin=alt.Bin(maxbins=10), title = "Carat"),  
3     alt.Y('price:Q', title = "Price"))
```



How is carat related to price?

binscatter (code)

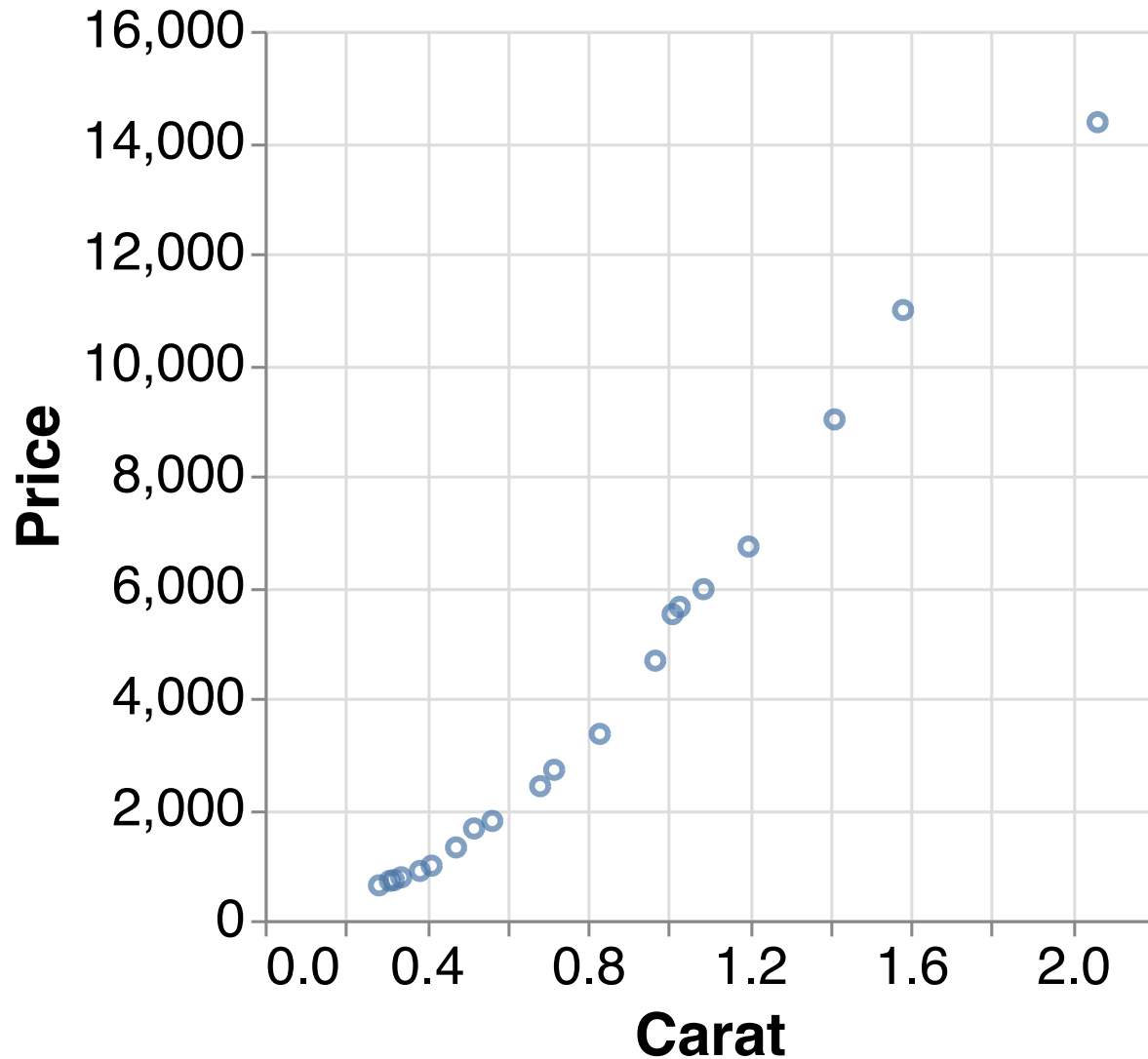
```
1 df = diamonds
2 df['carat_bin'] = pd.qcut(df['carat'], q=20, labels=(np.arange(1, 21, 1)))
3
4 df = df.groupby('carat_bin').agg(
5     carat = ('carat', 'mean'),
6     price = ('price', 'mean')).reset_index()
7
8 alt.Chart(df).mark_point().encode(
9     alt.X('carat:Q', title = "Carat"),
10    alt.Y('price:Q', title = "Price")
11 )
```

How is carat related to price?

binscatter

- Can also create a binscatter: `binscatter` in stata and `binsreg` in R.
- Doesn't exist yet for `altair`, but easy to code up yourself
- What it does:
 1. Computes bins using quantiles of x
 2. Computes means of y within each bin

How is carat related to price? (plot)



Discussion question – “How is carat related to price?”

Review the `mark_rect()`, `mark_boxplot()`, and `binscatter` plots

- Headline?
- Sub-messages?

Exploring covariation: summary

Scenario	Functions
Categorical and continuous variable	<code>mark_boxplot()</code>
	<code>transform_density()</code>
	<code>alt.Row()</code>
Two categorical variables	<code>size</code>
	<code>color</code>
Two continuous variables	<code>alt.Size('count()')</code>
	<code>alt.Color('count()')</code>
	<code>mark_boxplot()</code>
	<code>binscatter</code>