

Statistics with doodles
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thomaslevine.com

Why we have statistics

Lots of numbers

95	16	74	56	83	49	34	85	38	54	91	37	65	18	90	91	96	98	16	81	14
81	14	57	99	1	14	94	52	45	86	41	24	92	11	67	41	22	55	94	7	2
7	2	58	77	5	42	10	50	49	76	70	82	19	17	65	2	31	53	85	80	26
80	26	65	9	41	7	10	22	60	10	98	52	78	8	32	45	42	19	80	93	10
93	10	37	50	5	47	37	36	82	79	20	42	16	59	36	89	42	6	41	47	83
47	83	57	59	3	23	18	7	75	75	94	14	46	72	79	83	73	45	23	12	15
12	15	38	69	90	13	83	16	22	24	47	98	77	49	44	55	79	69	69	65	70
65	70	13	35	35	32	79	25	33	10	50	86	51	55	43	86	55	63	23	33	24
33	24	65	31	68	95	17	35	67	99	95	2	63	90	36	20	44	45	51	81	64
81	64	6	60	93	8	40	98	23	39	19	22	62	28	29	63	78	8	70	80	67
80	67	0	3	69	33	93	85	16	96	63	76	25	3	31	33	33	24	42	54	33
54	33	4	92	35	89	36	76	80	24	76	39	53	74	93	56	36	22	33	24	57
24	57	24	76	61	58	44	32	17	17	29	46	98	74	8	27	71	90	0	66	83
66	83	46	76	27	15	37	90	19	68	89	96	75	66	54	7	43	32	72	22	59
22	59	42	78	52	32	79	17	56	74	89	72	94	19	88	83	0	41	14	83	63
83	63	41	28	31	32	70	7	24	2	1	76	26	30	69	36	11	88	51	67	66
67	66	80	28	49	51	35	36	40	0	59	21	58	47	69	40	54	77	12	40	48
40	48	28	66	53	65	8	40	78	52	33	62	61	78	76	15	78	88	19	12	45
12	45	24	8	13	94	68	62	61	54	85	91	47	22	32	51	65	79	91	12	48
12	48	54	35	73	100	38	23	82	79	67	53	8	80	69	44	31	25	23	40	79
40	79	40	53	99	89	35	11	17	76	2	23	54	99	78	78	96	6	17	59	95

It's hard to fit lots of numbers into our brains all at once.

69	2	58	55	71	37	11	45	15	85	50	79	3	78	56	42	70	78	22	0	52
0	52	62	85	16	40	84	42	69	88	83	16	85	35	89	75	15	64	14	31	60
31	60	97	5	0	25	90	50	40	37	66	48	50	30	100	4	14	21	67	67	12
67	12	77	61	10	62	80	7	54	39	79	67	41	74	46	95	83	64	34	36	70
36	70	66	8	72	16	60	25	3	14	18	36	34	94	34	91	54	99	12	11	4
11	4	78	93	11	79	68	70	71	64	40	98	1	61	15	90	16	87	26	43	62
43	62	10	57	89	28	78	79	72	5	78	53	74	25	66	84	84	67	19	19	19
19	19	14	16	64	36	61	22	64	85	12	58	33	64	73	18	89	94	74	80	7
80	7	32	4	67	45	94	26	17	65	10	41	32	13	41	4	51	88	19	9	96
9	96	79	34	91	76	63	71	24	44	41	64	37	72	65	79	44	8	7	58	23
58	23	41	54	10	74	43	87	37	73	32	67	56	68	100	37	33	50	87	29	97
29	97	43	19	41	97	66	12	28	16	74	74	93	39	83	68	39	52	81	58	68
58	68	79	57	23	65	77	96	12	50	73	68	58	73	98	8	96	46	34	79	57
79	57	66	89	75	25	48	58	79	95	1	84	39	60	43	79	1	60	12	32	32
32	32	57	34	40	80	44	16	81	24	28	21	4	21	6	40	45	29	52	29	57
29	57	76	35	27	70	74	88	52	59	68	37	87	63	54	49	67	49	26	53	58
53	58	65	82	70	42	31	90	64	31	24	56	49	83	71	88	45	98	40	89	74
89	74	4	76	70	80	32	47	86	18	7	28	49	18	65	31	17	97	30	39	92
39	92	77	52	21	36	12	47	29	12	73	42	81	8	96	90	63	29	5	85	45
85	45	74	55	66	22	84	5	31	25	94	39	86	12	94	87	96	11	72	100	97
100	97	55	27	10	96	98	90	31	53	51	86	19	41	91	17	45	81	24	51	69

**So we invent numbers
that describe
lots of other numbers**

**So we invent numbers
that describe
lots of other numbers
(statistics)**

Here are some numbers:

1 2.2 pi 4 5 7 7

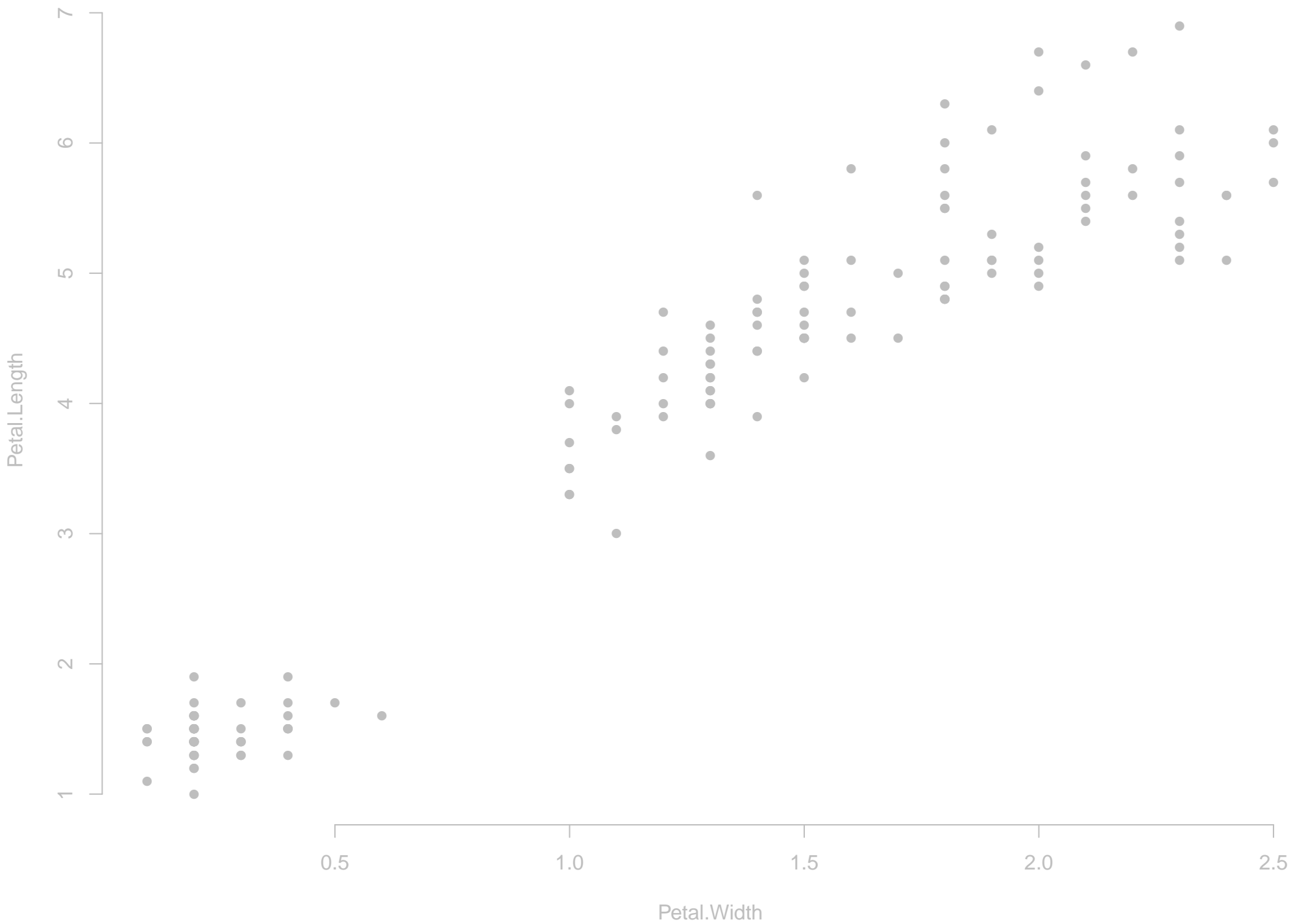
What are some statistics?

**min, max,
mode, median, mean,
range, variance**

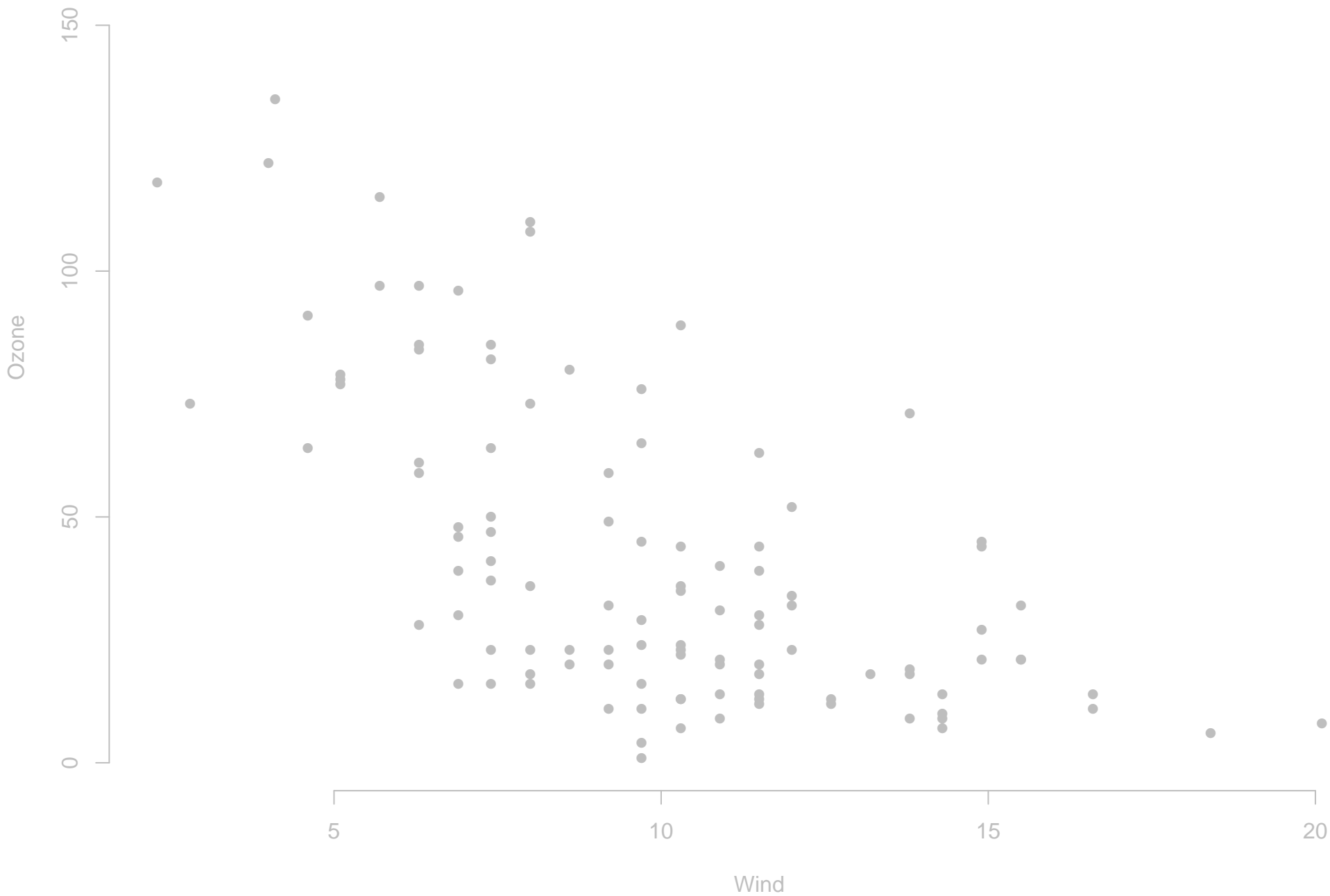
**how many integers,
whether the numbers are sorted
&c.**

Measuring linear relationships

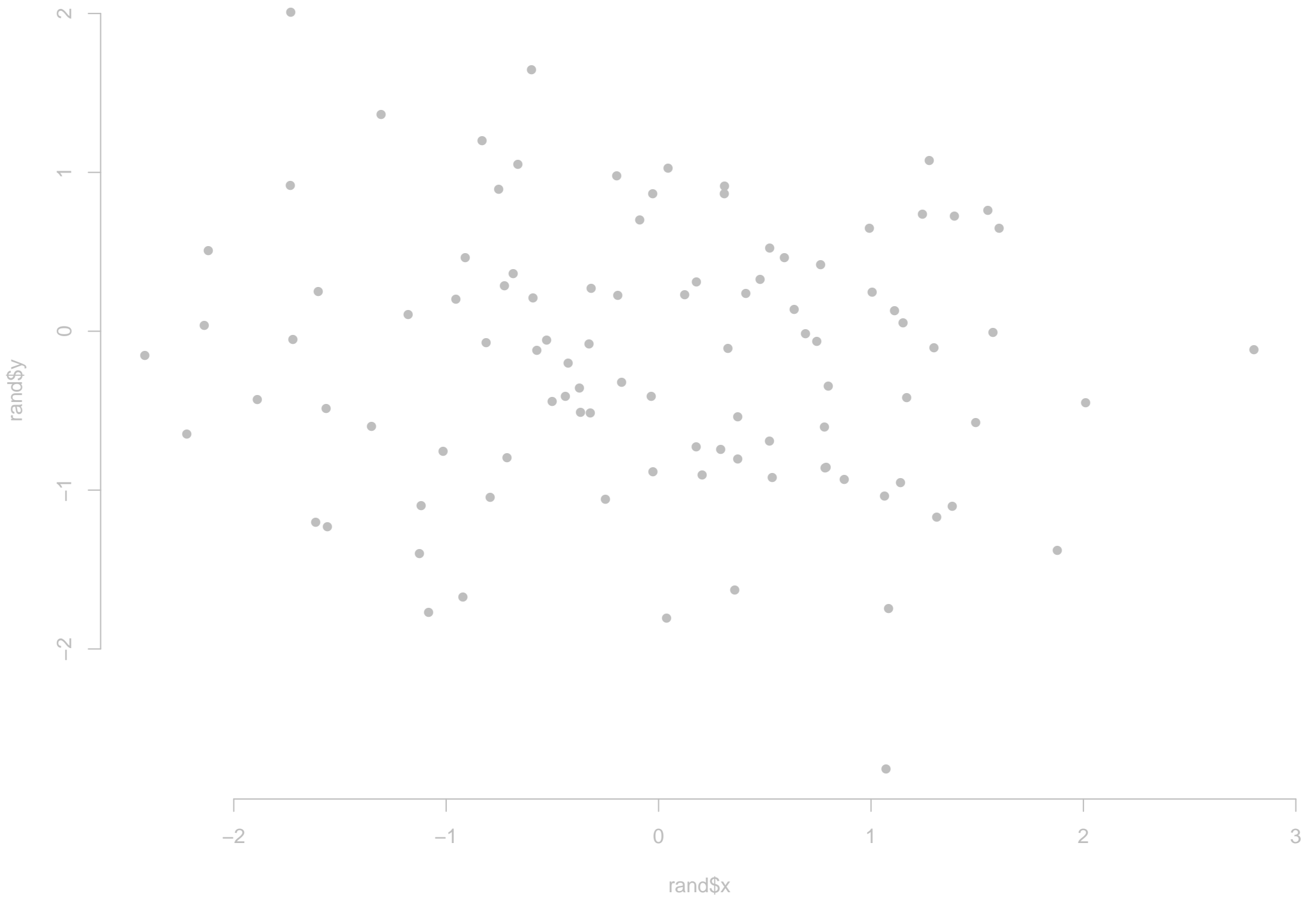
Two iris variables that move together



Two air quality variables that move oppositely

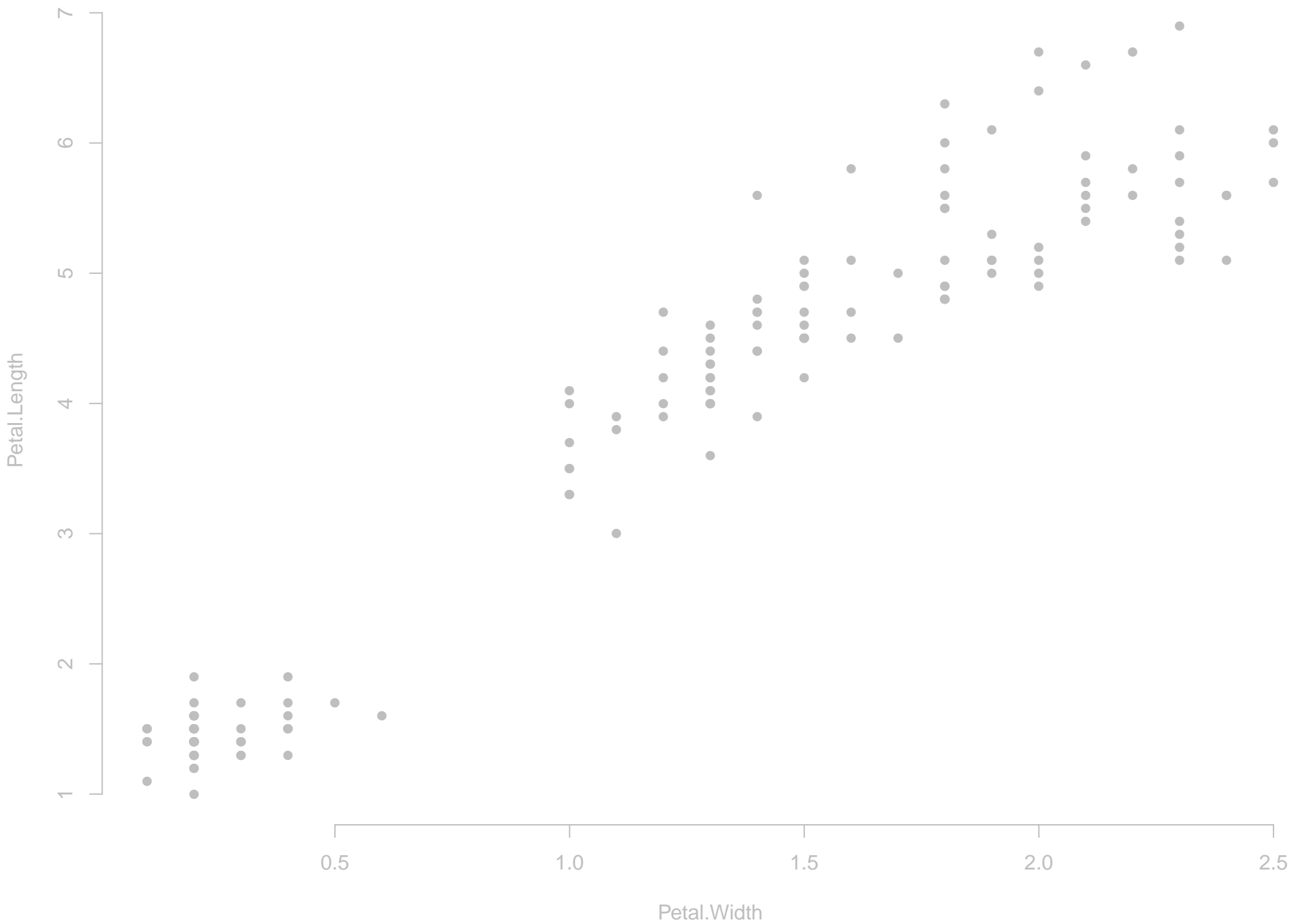


Normal random noise

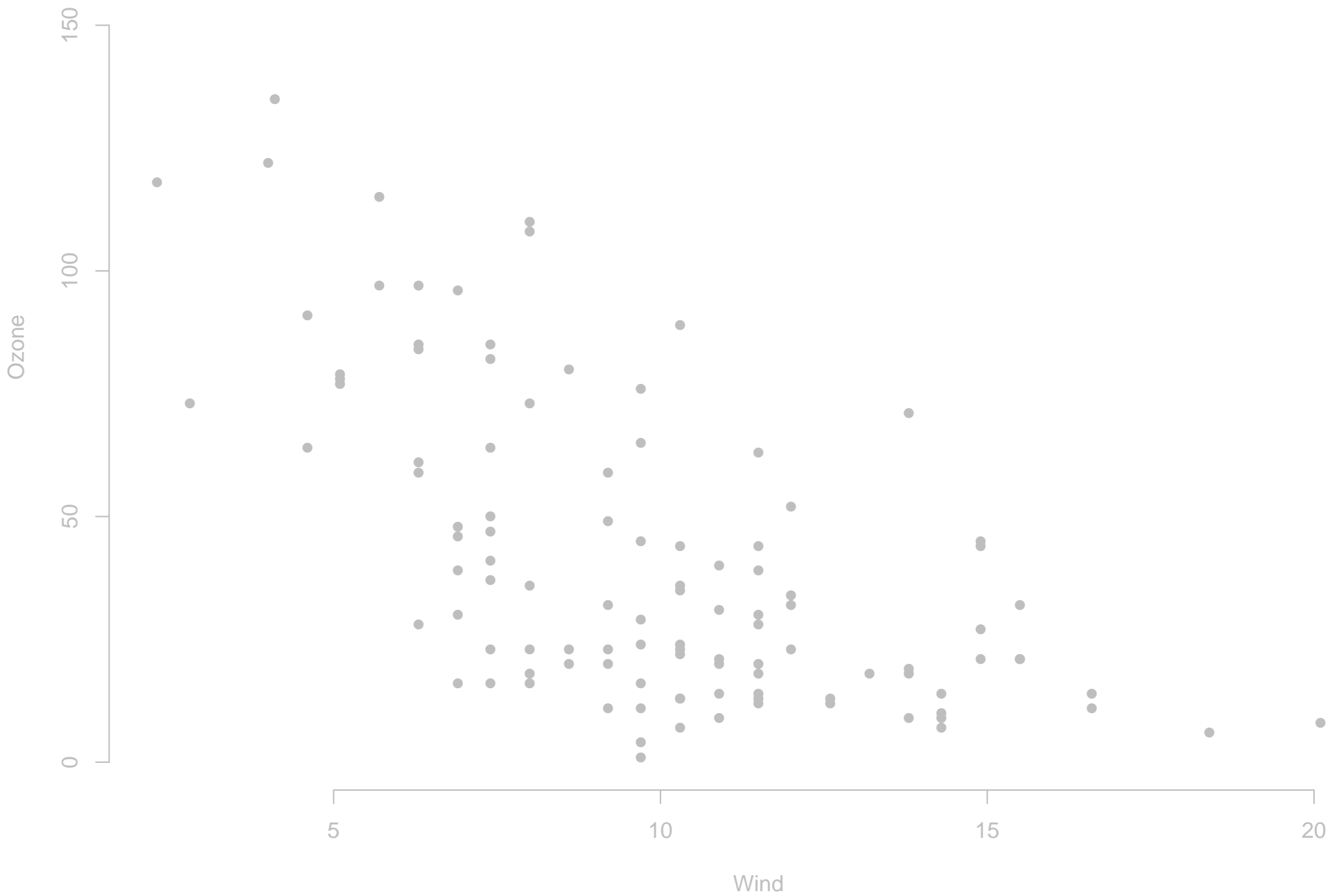


**We want a number
that describes
whether two variables
move together.**

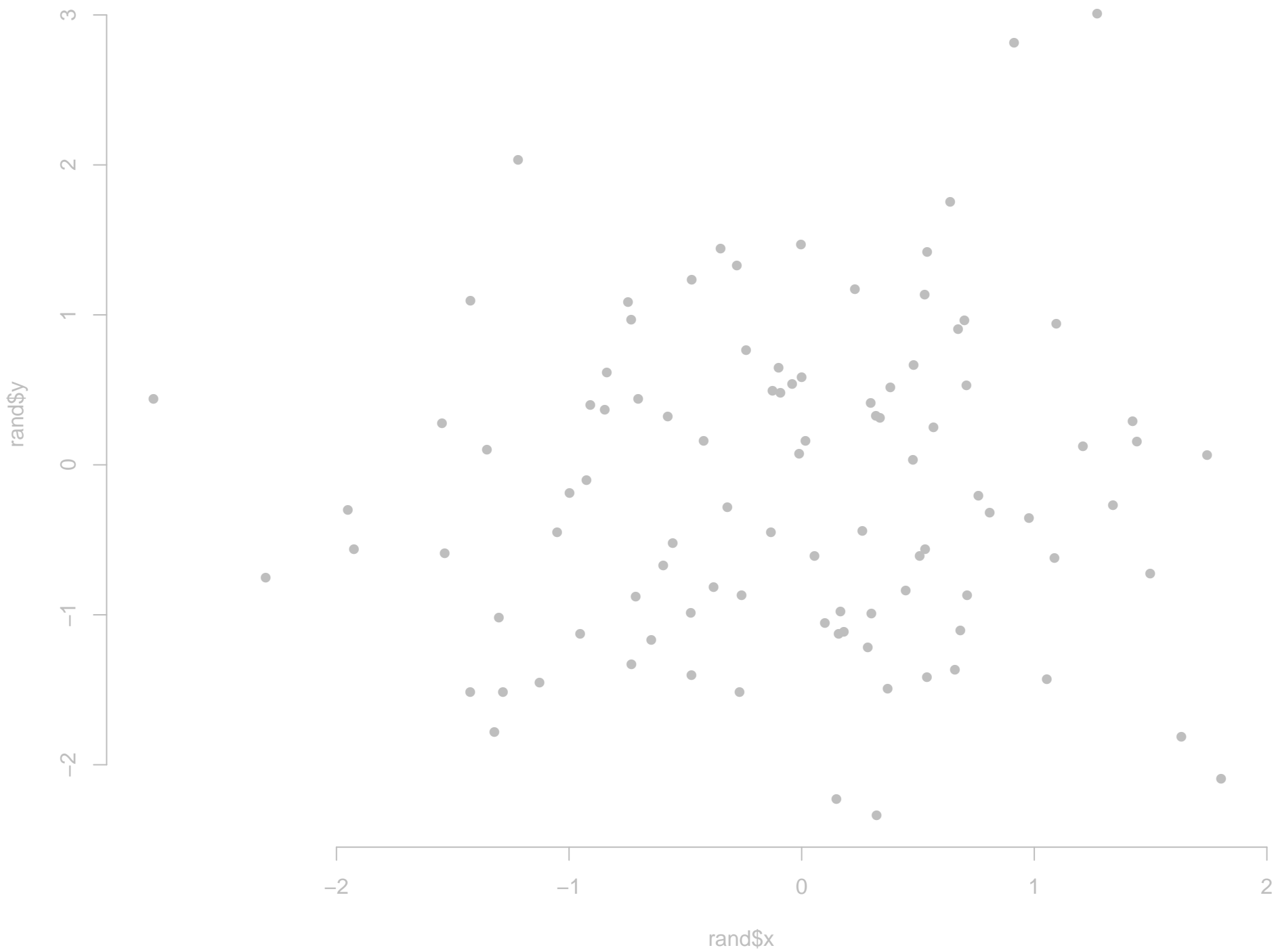
It should be high for these variables



It should be low for these variables

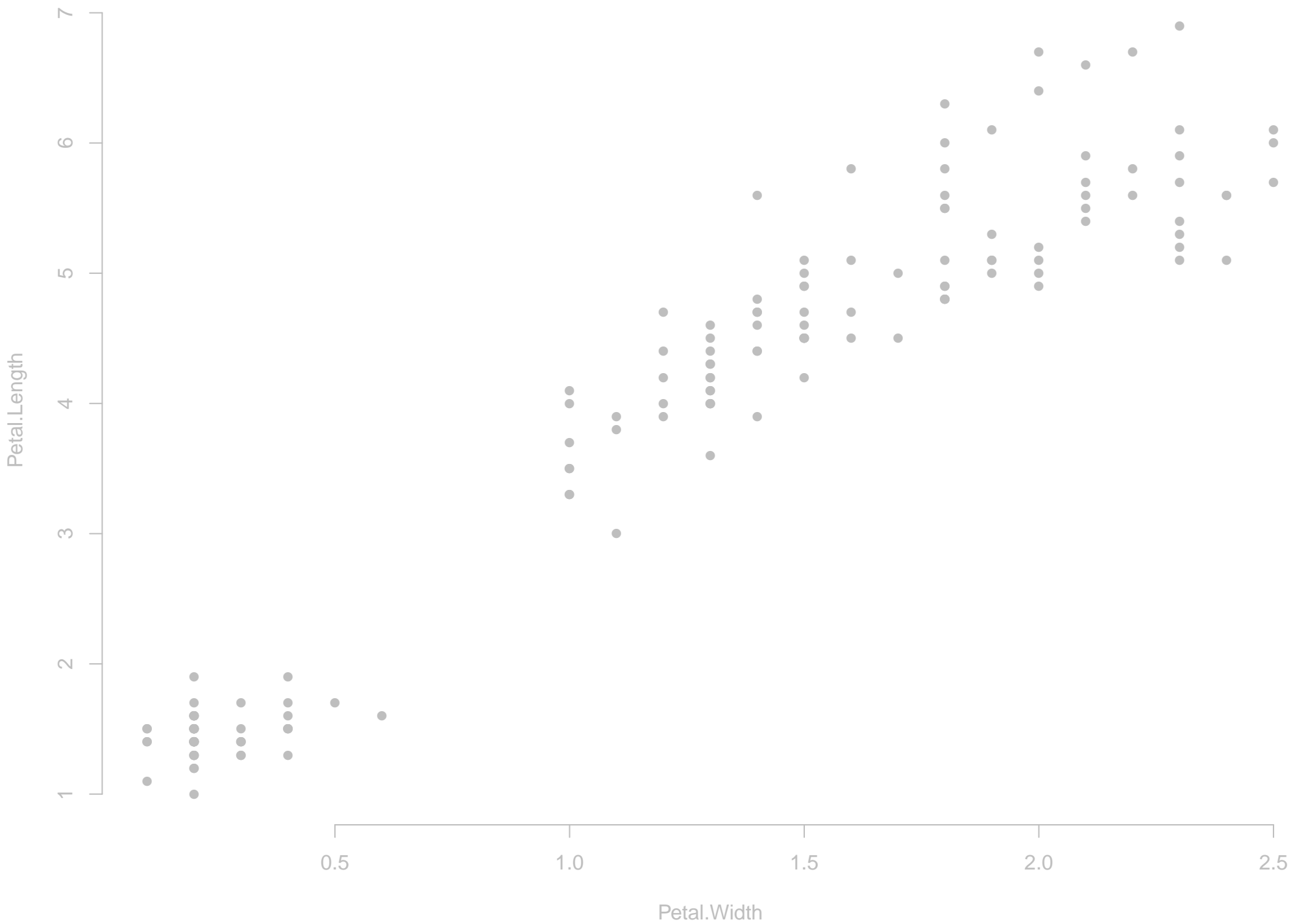


It should be near zero for these variables

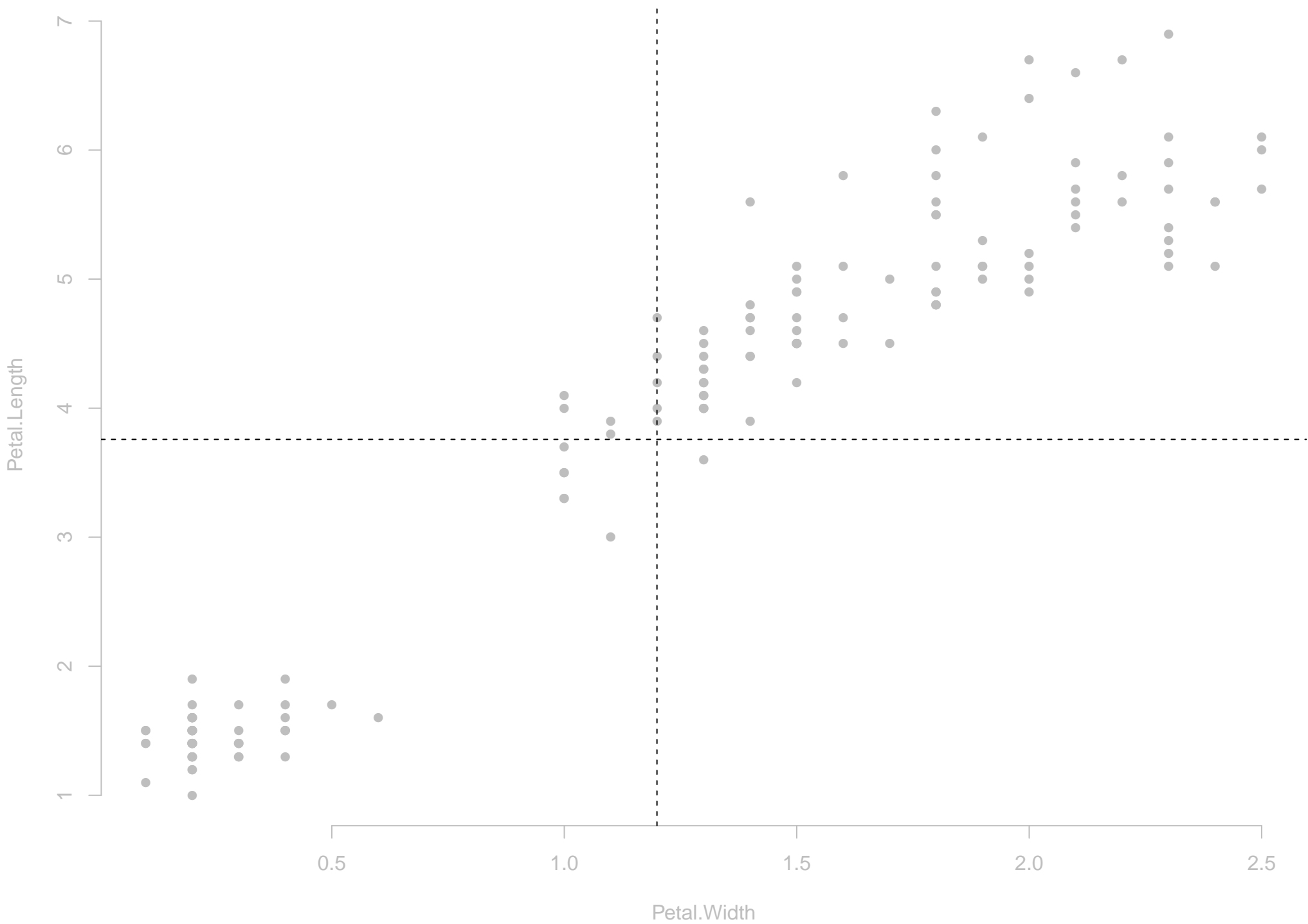


Covariance

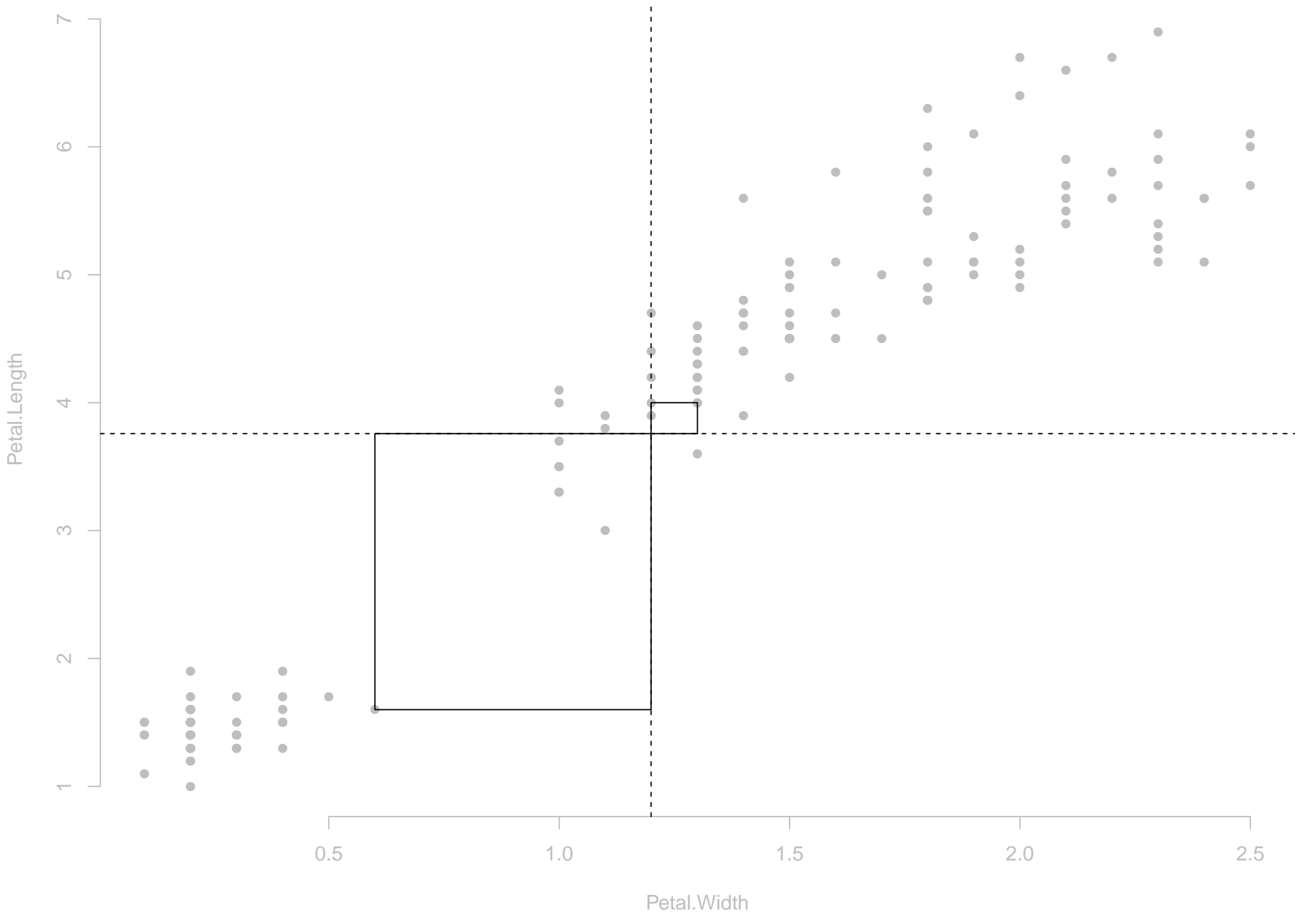
The iris variables



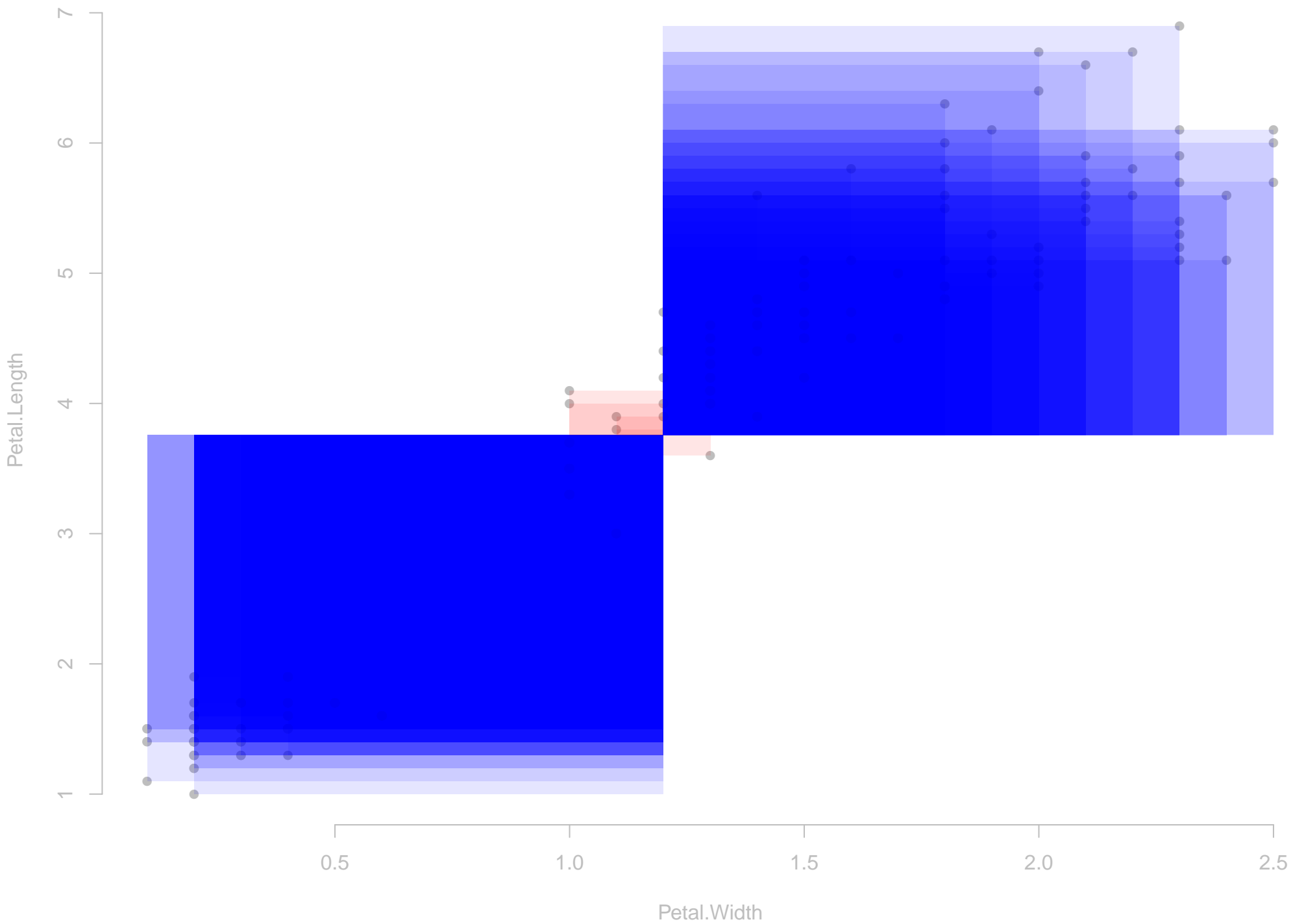
Find the means



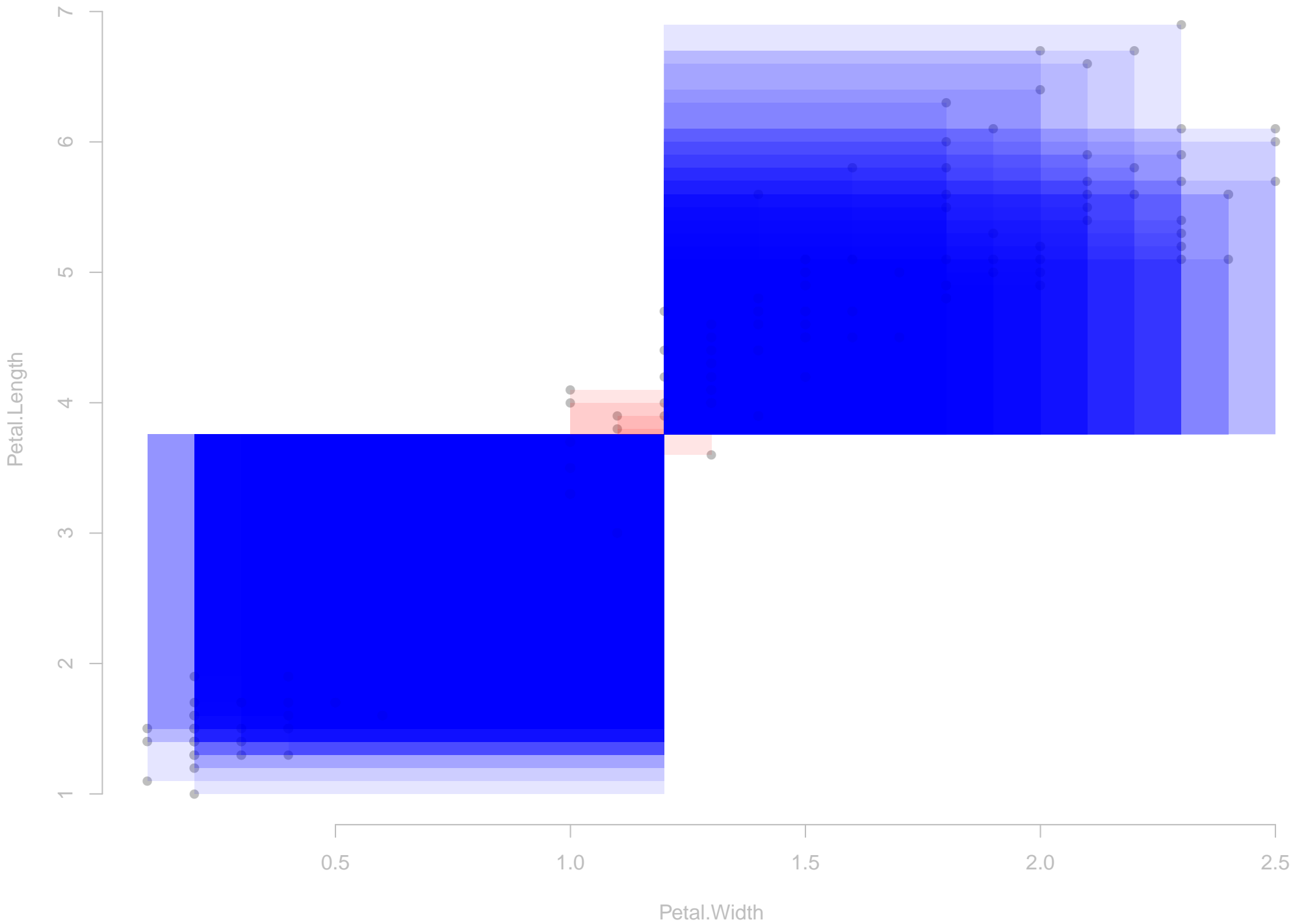
Draw a rectangle



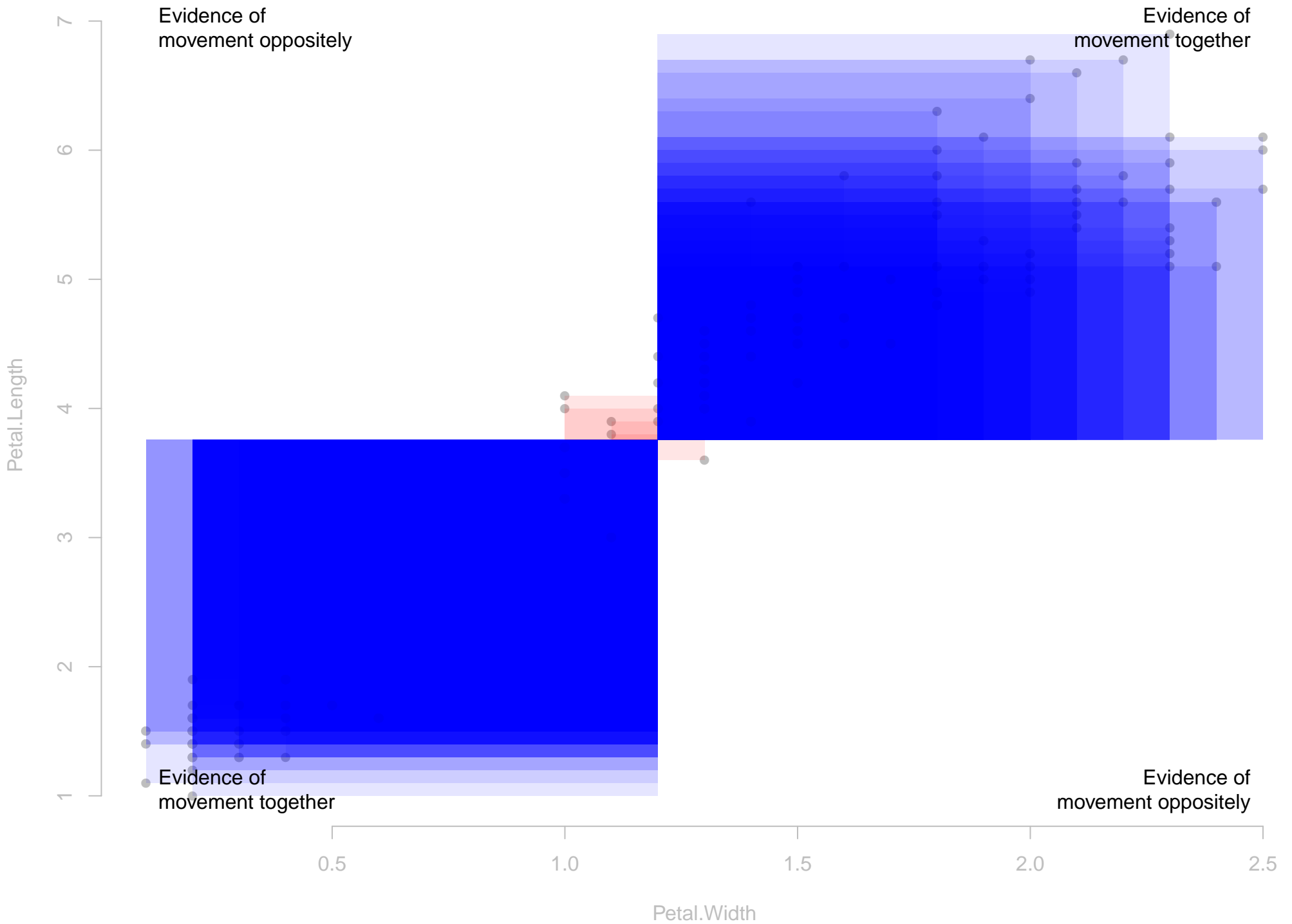
Draw all the rectangles



Why did I color them blue and red?



Why did I color them blue and red?



Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



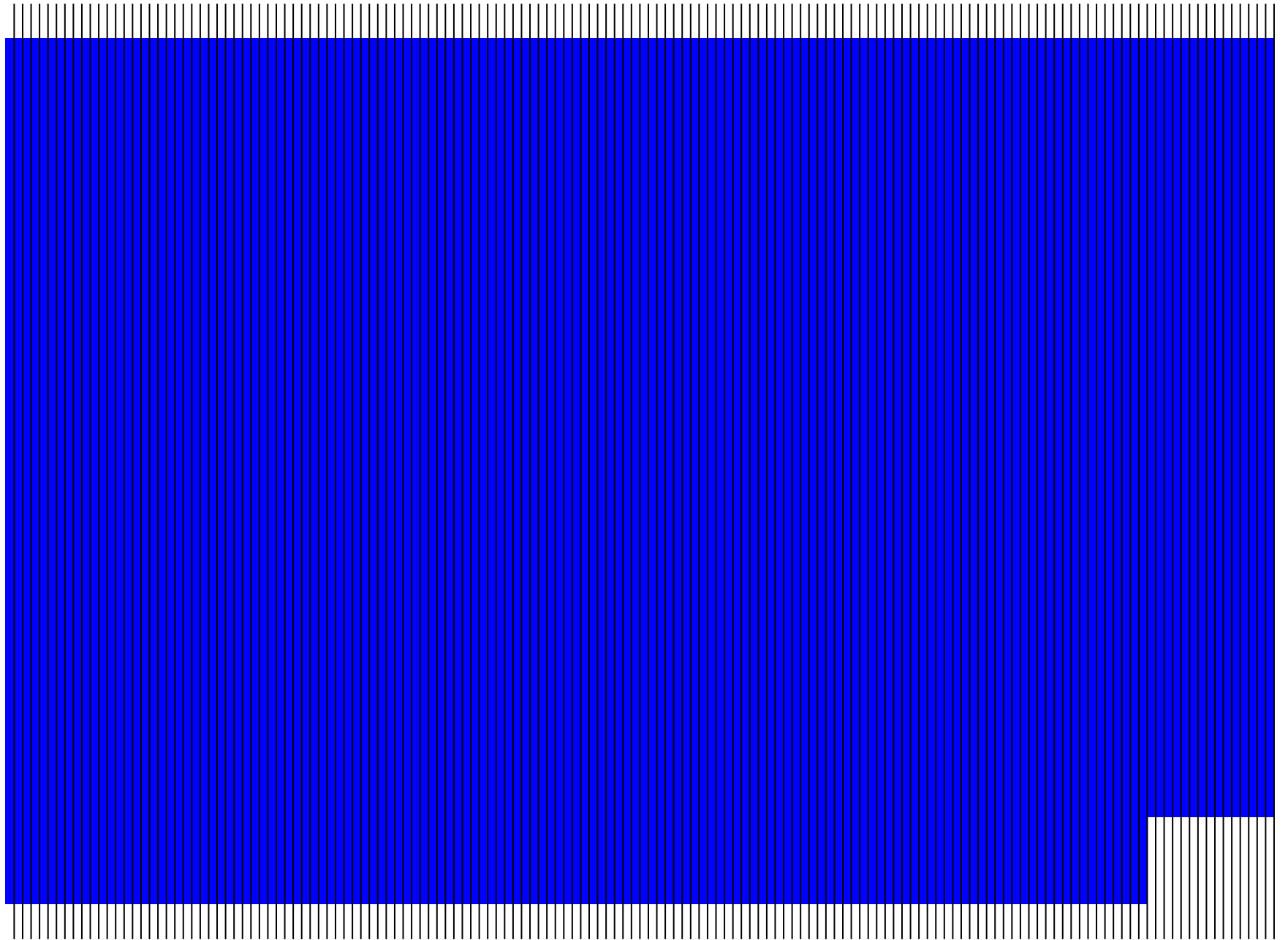
Add the reds together.



Subtract the reds.



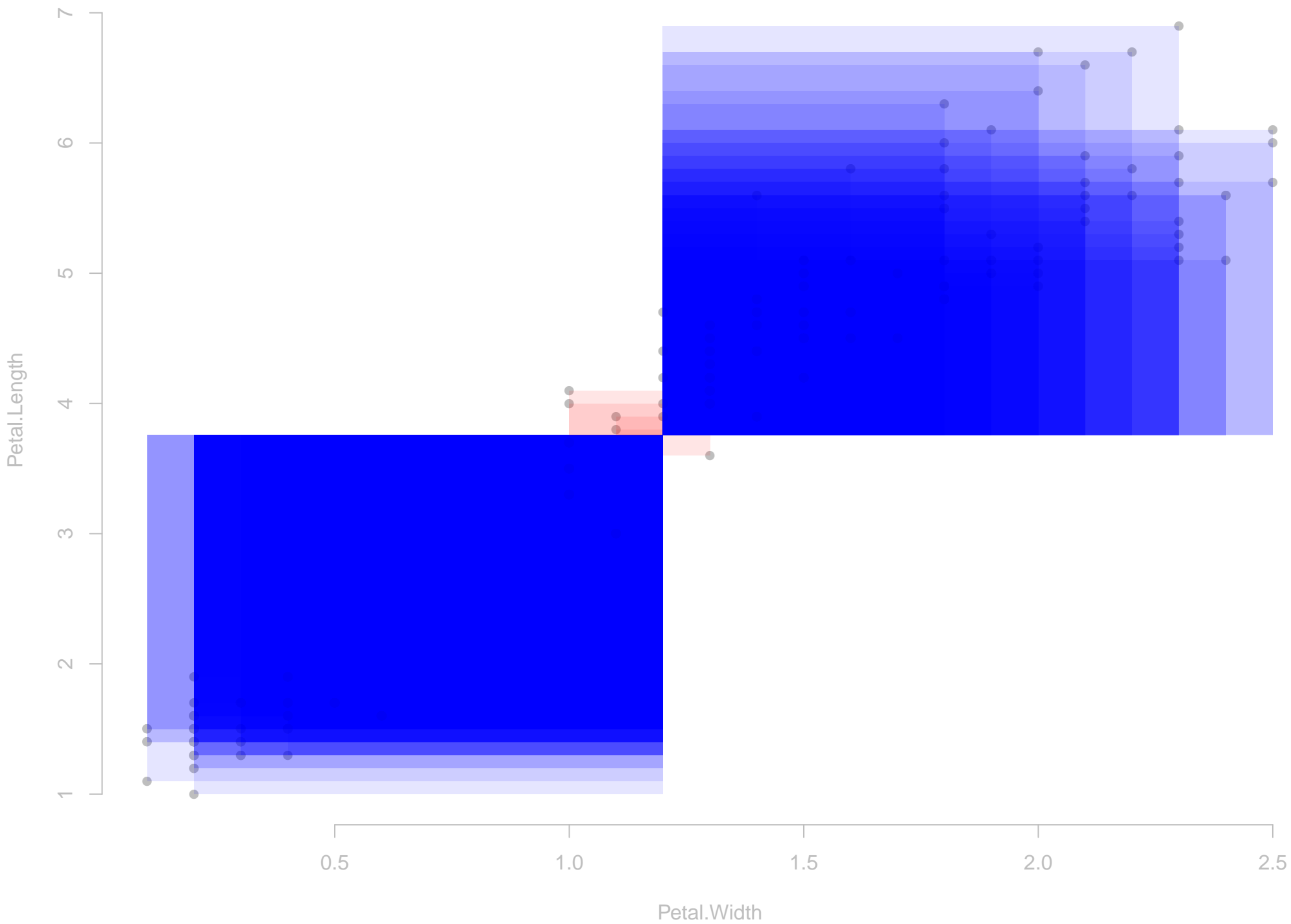
Divide into as many equal pieces as we have irises (n).



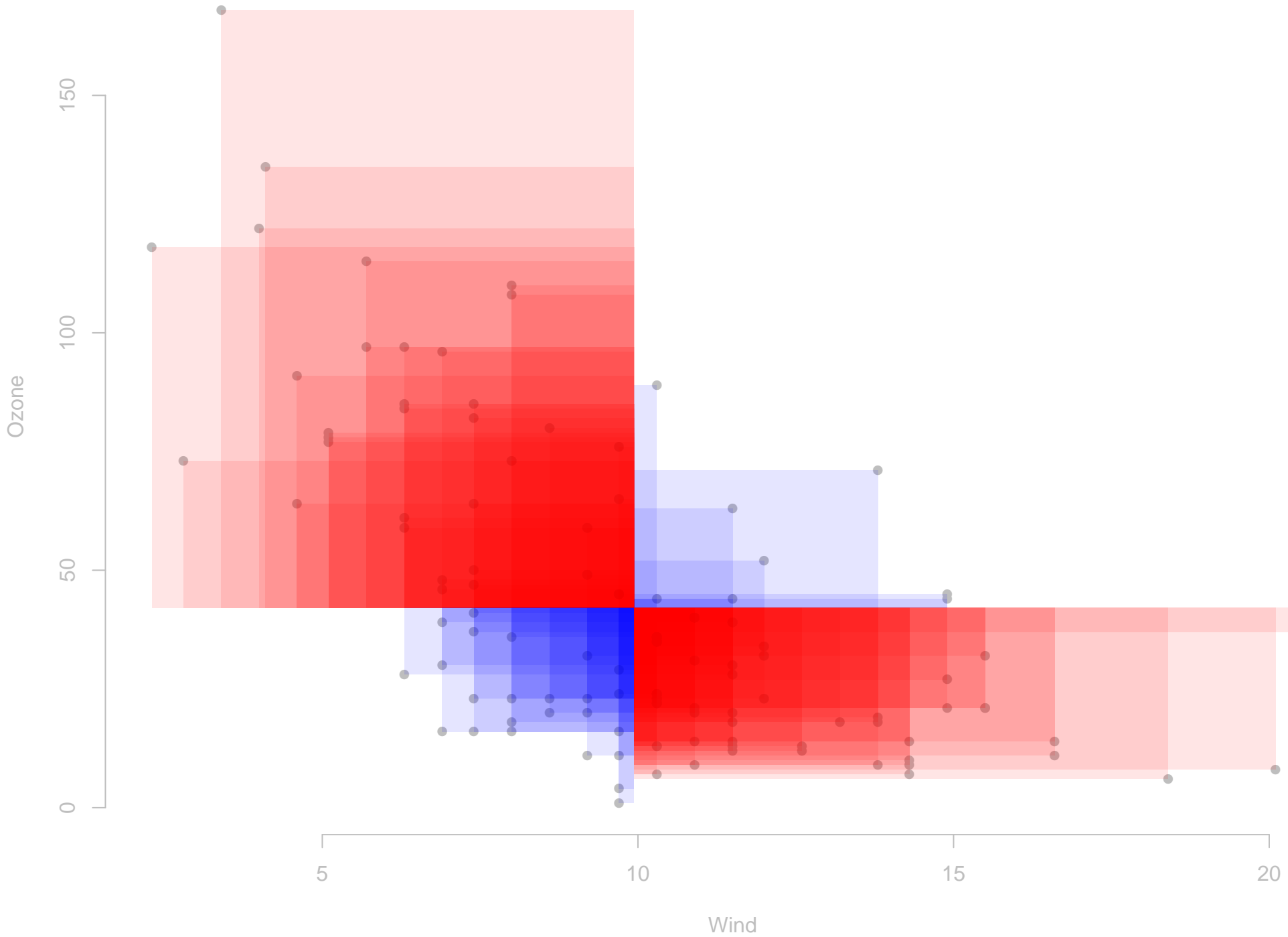
This blue sliver is the covariance.



That was for this sort of relationship.



What if we have more red than blue?



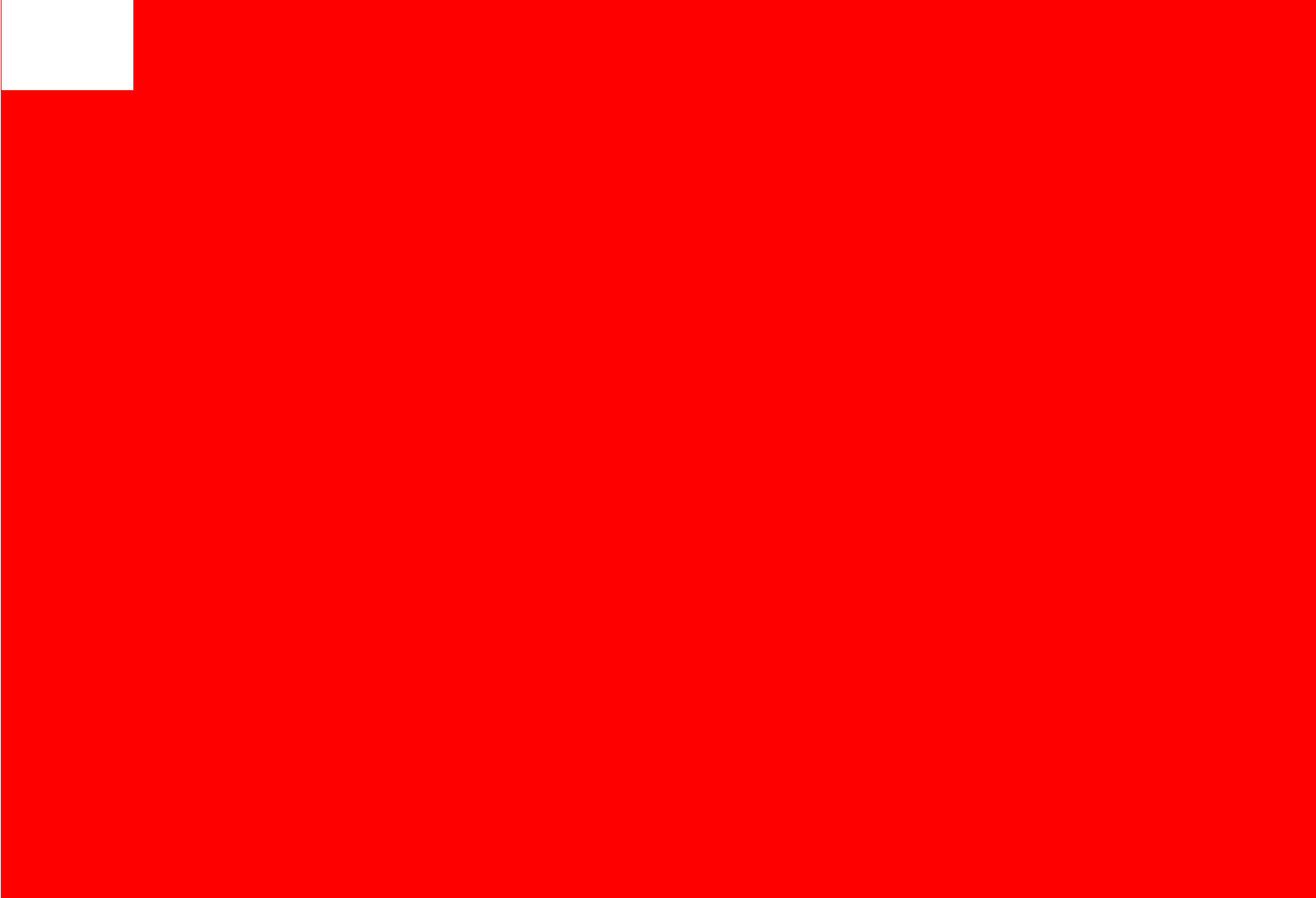
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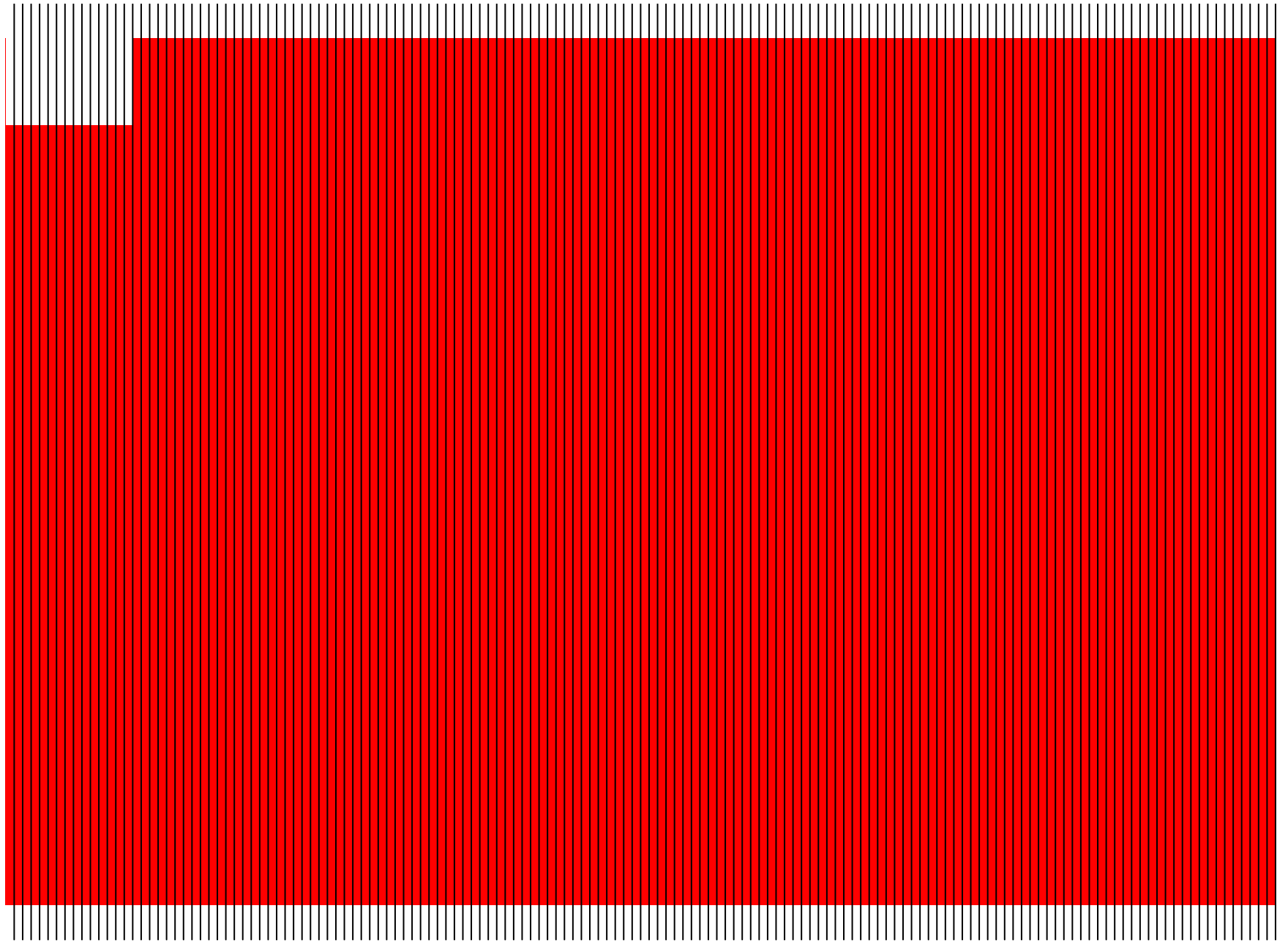
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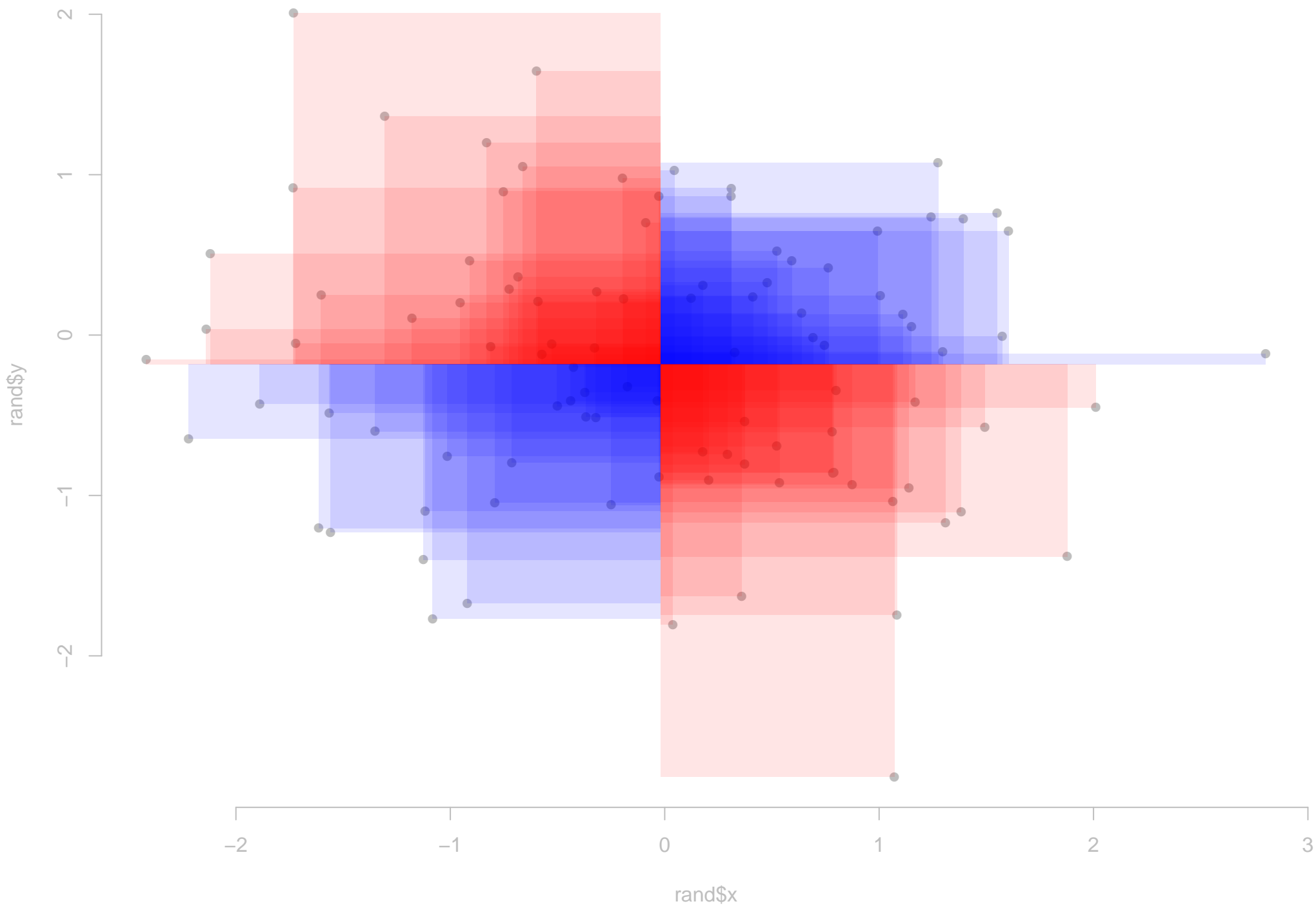


This red sliver is the covariance.



**But it's
negative!**

What if we have as much red as blue?



Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



Add the reds together.



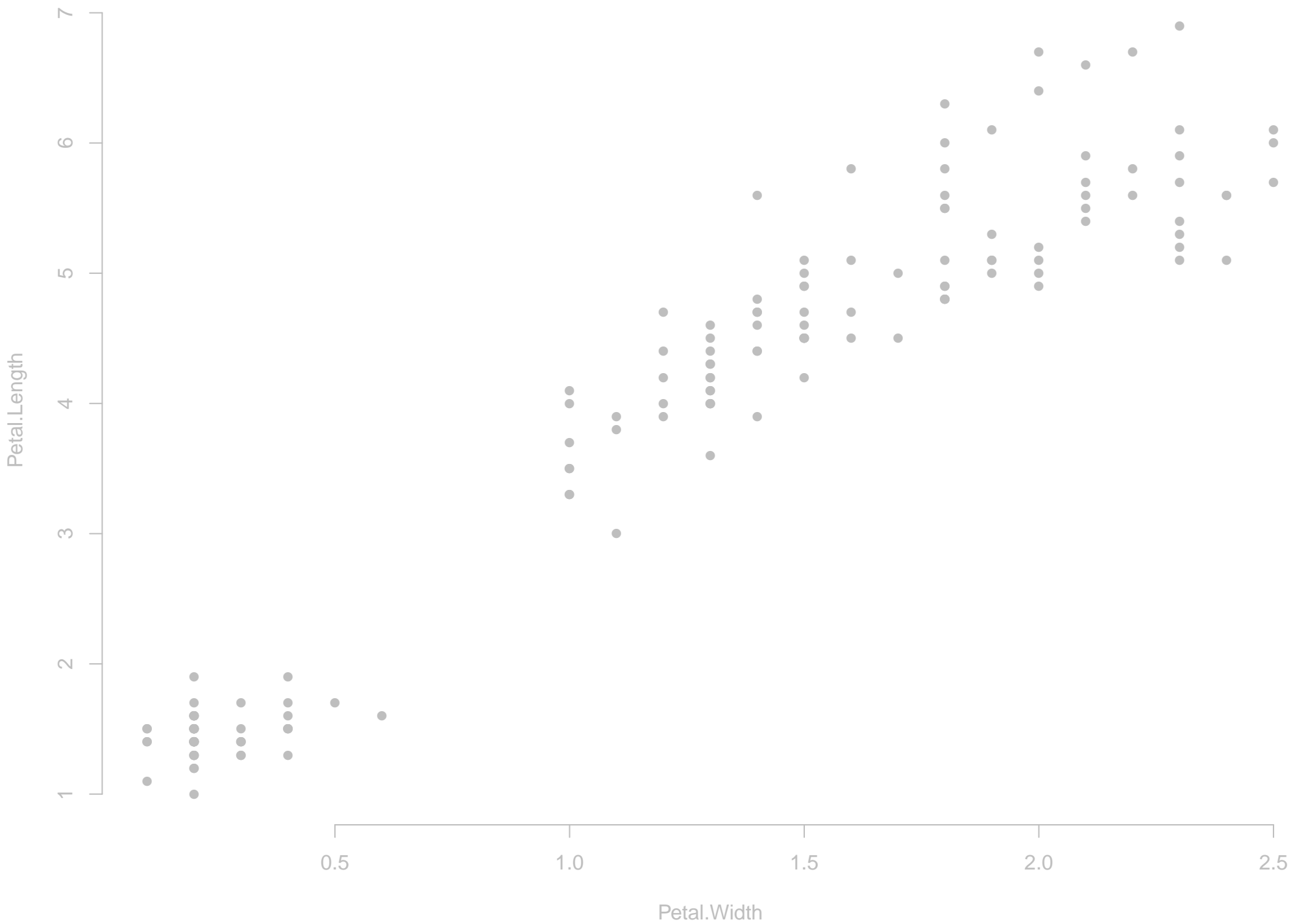
Subtract the reds.

○

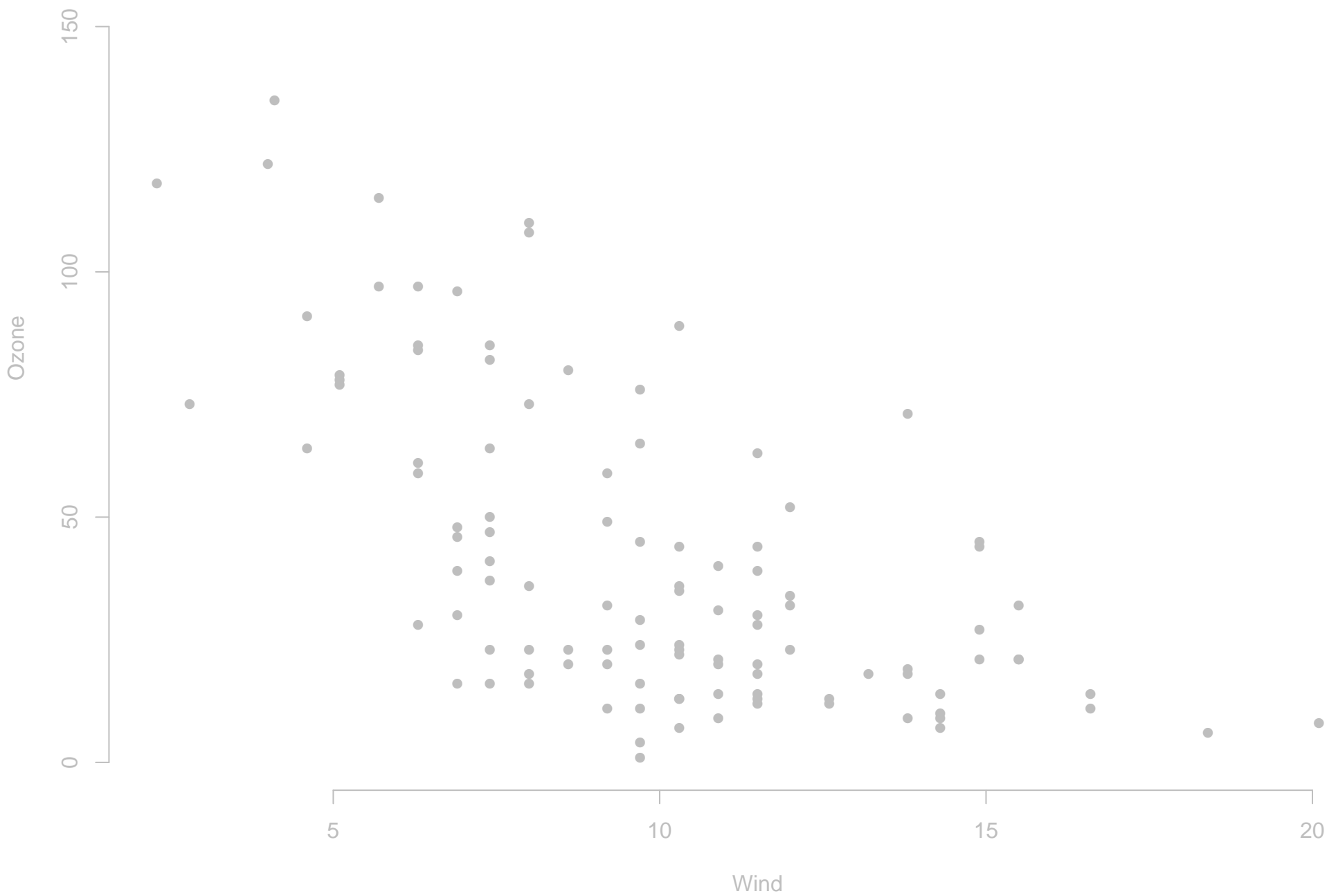
(Covariance is zero.)

Let's review the previous slides quickly.

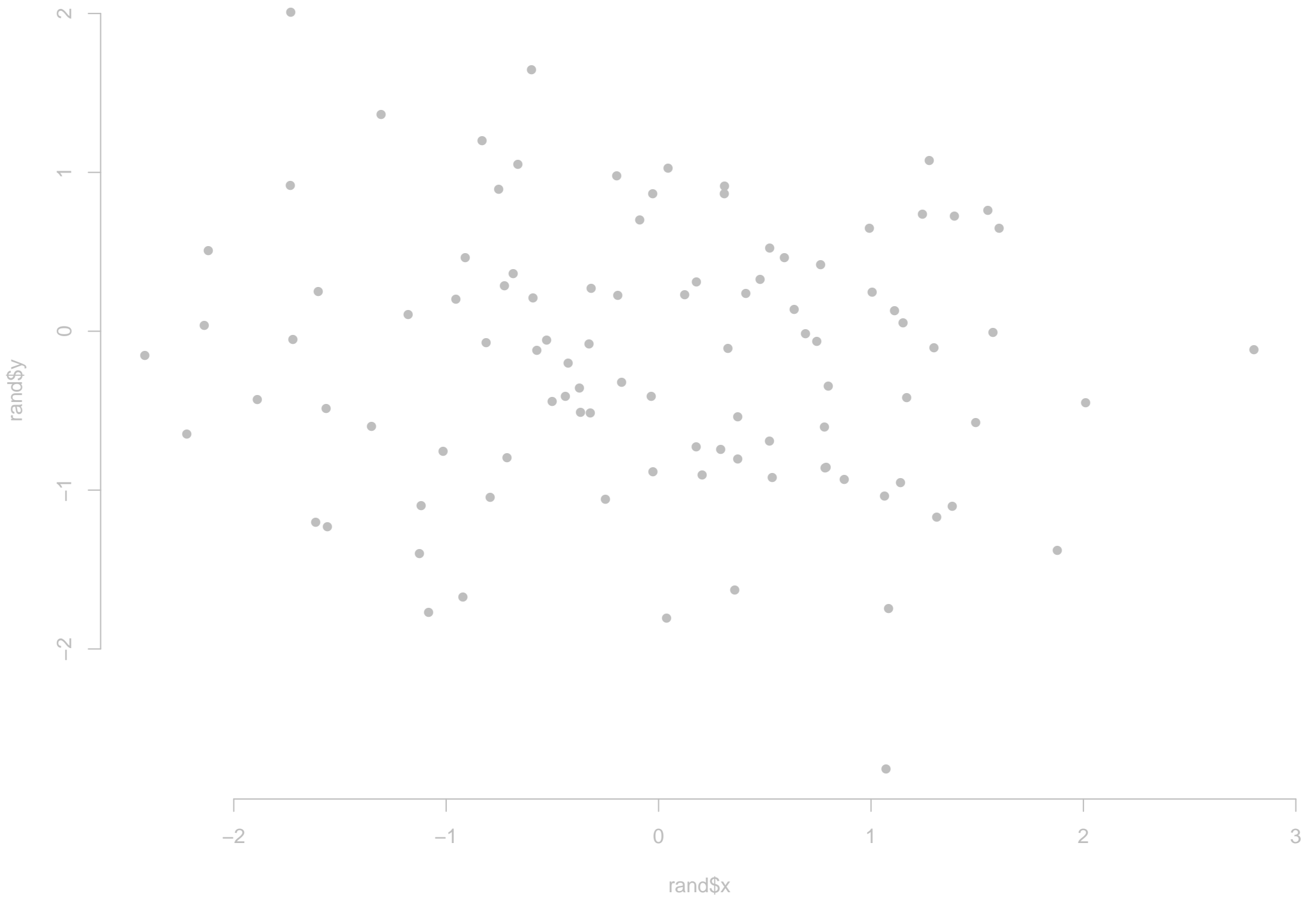
Two iris variables that move together



Two air quality variables that move oppositely

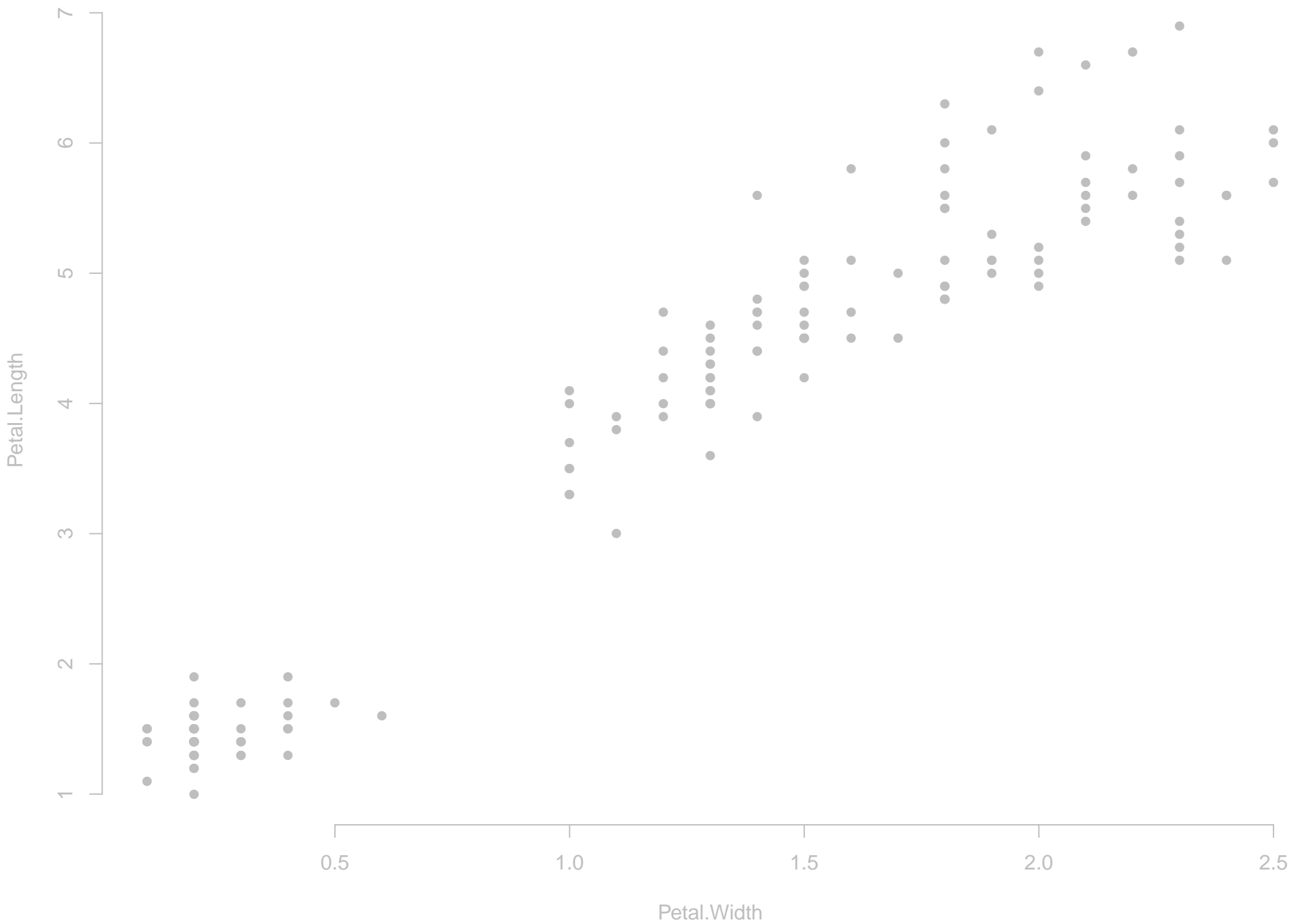


Normal random noise

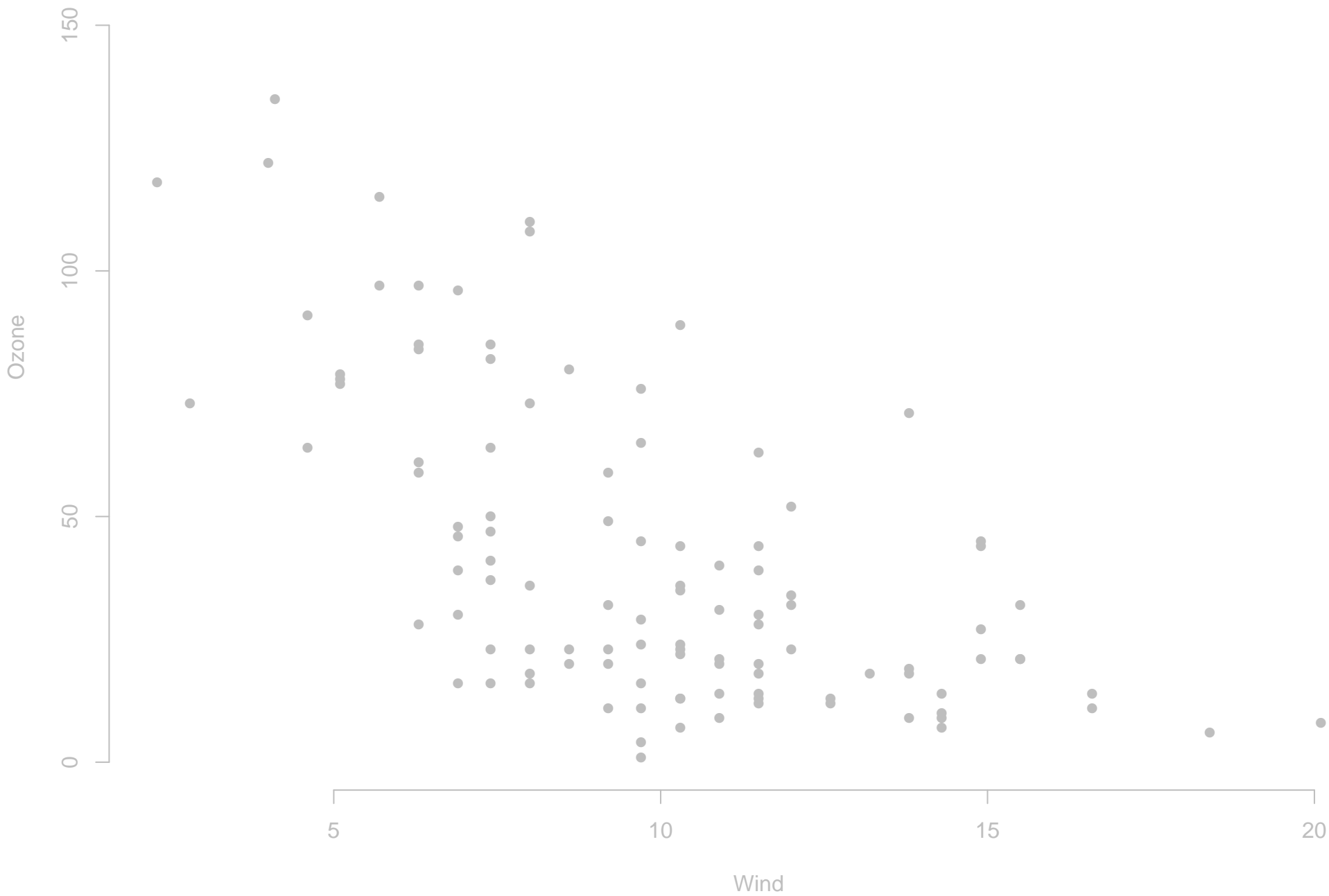


**We want a number
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move together.**

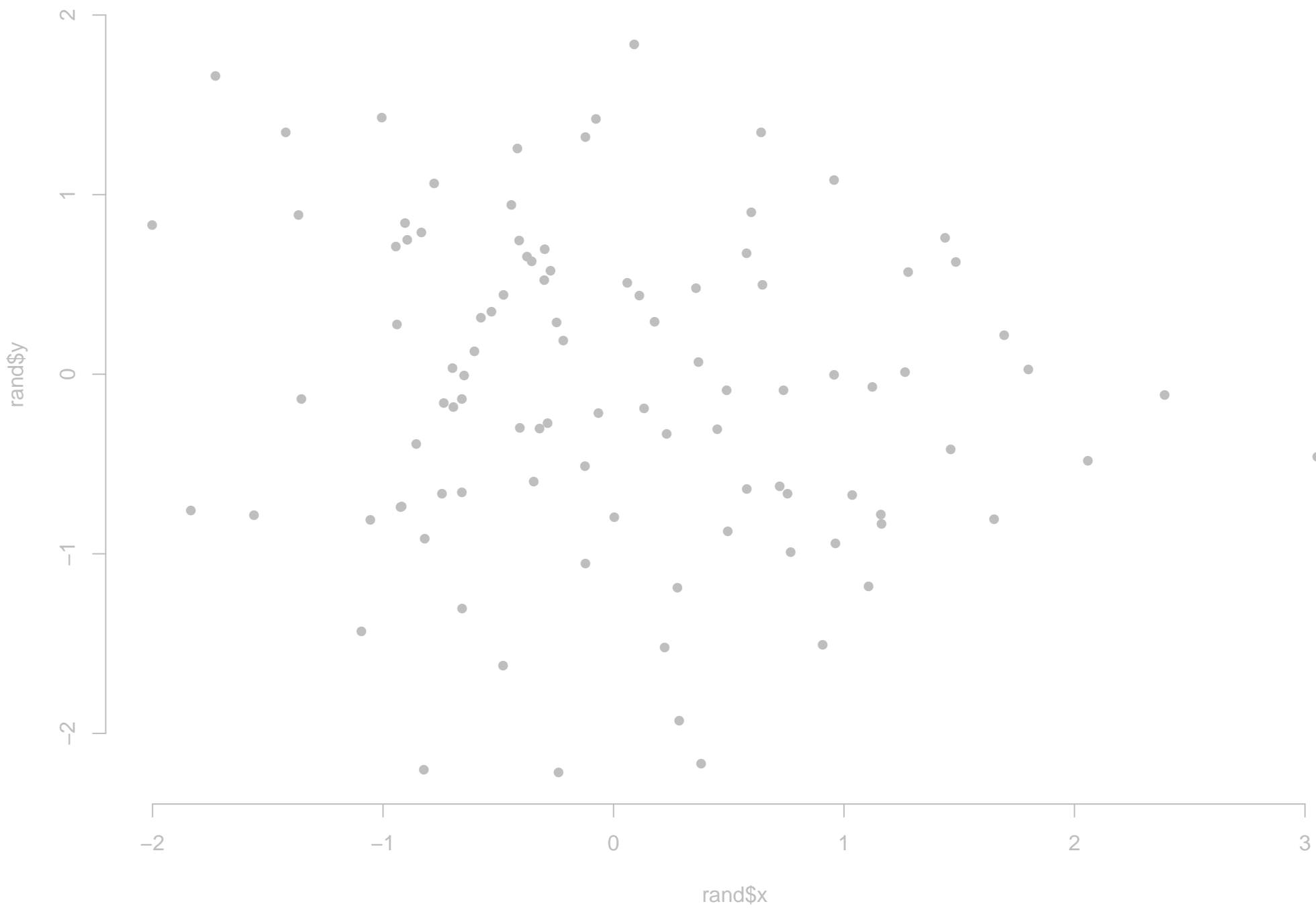
It should be high for these variables



It should be low for these variables

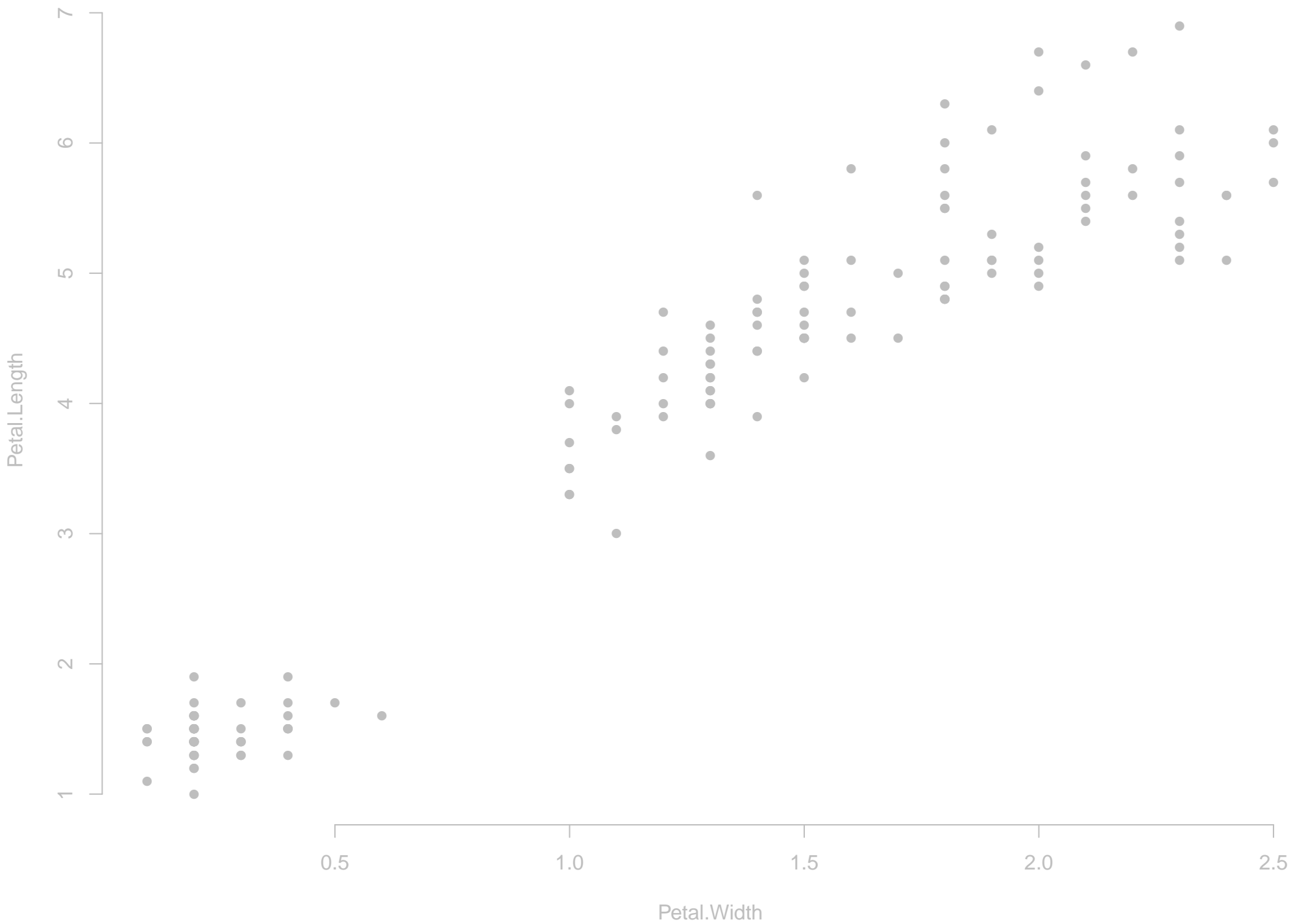


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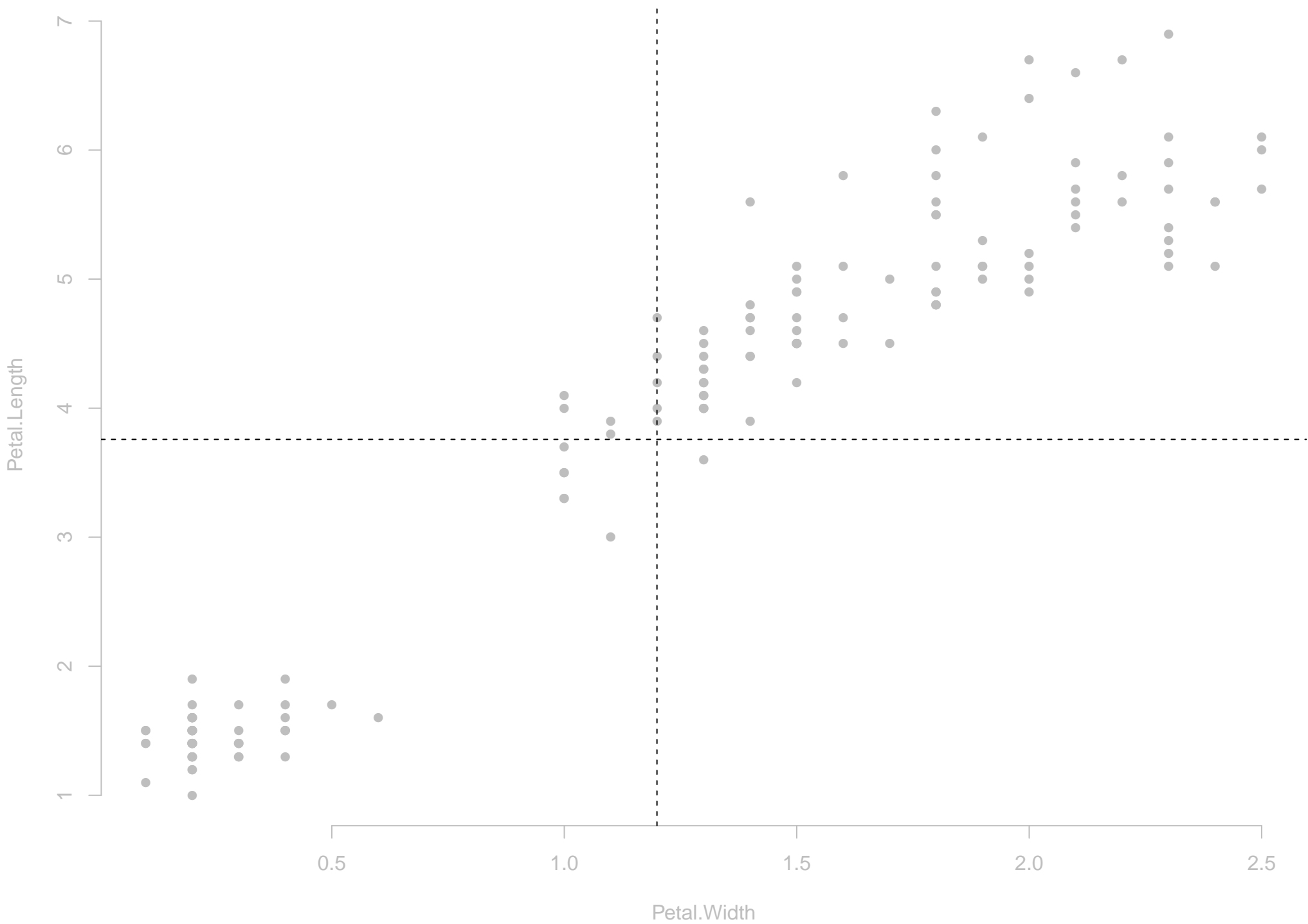


Covariance

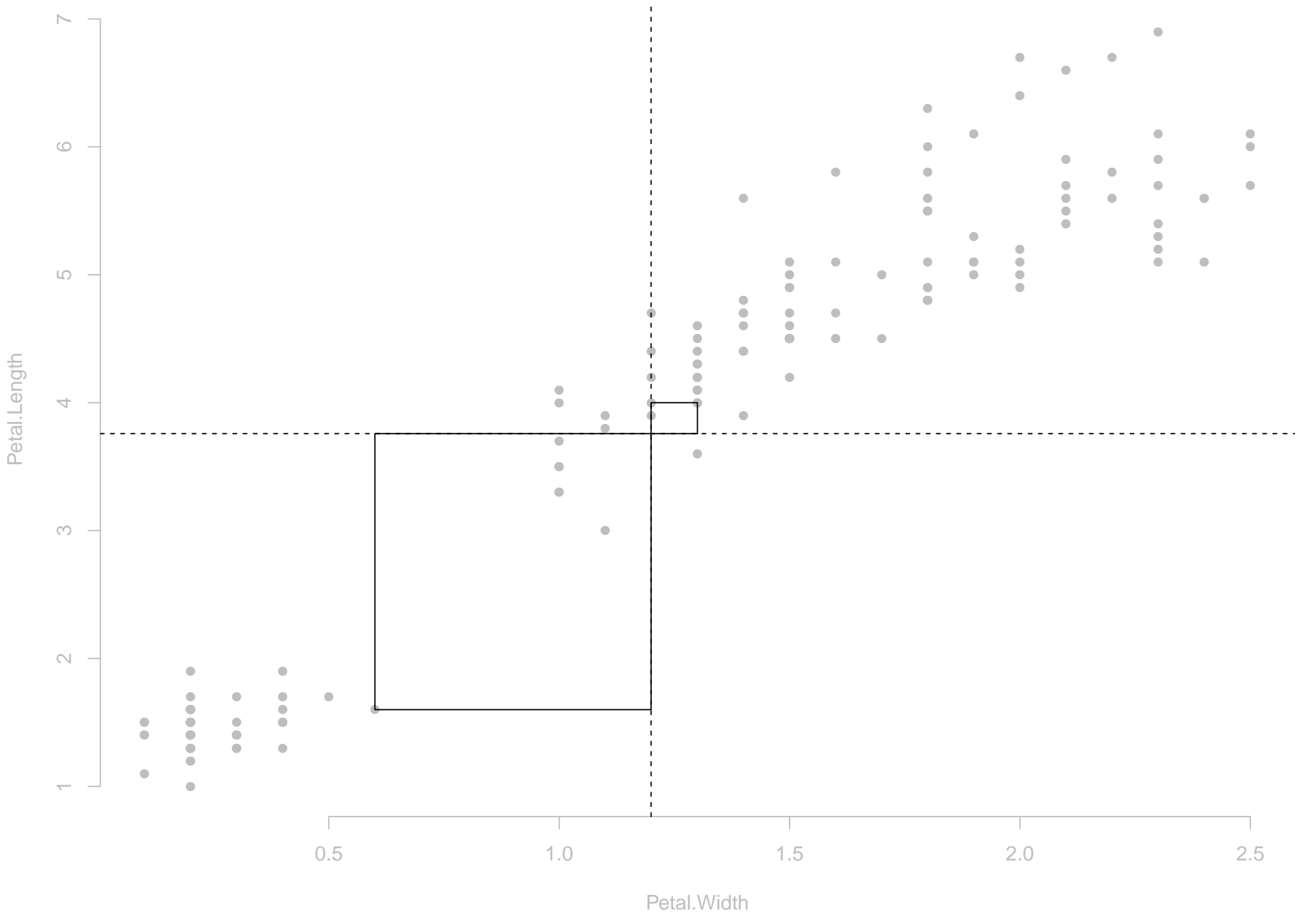
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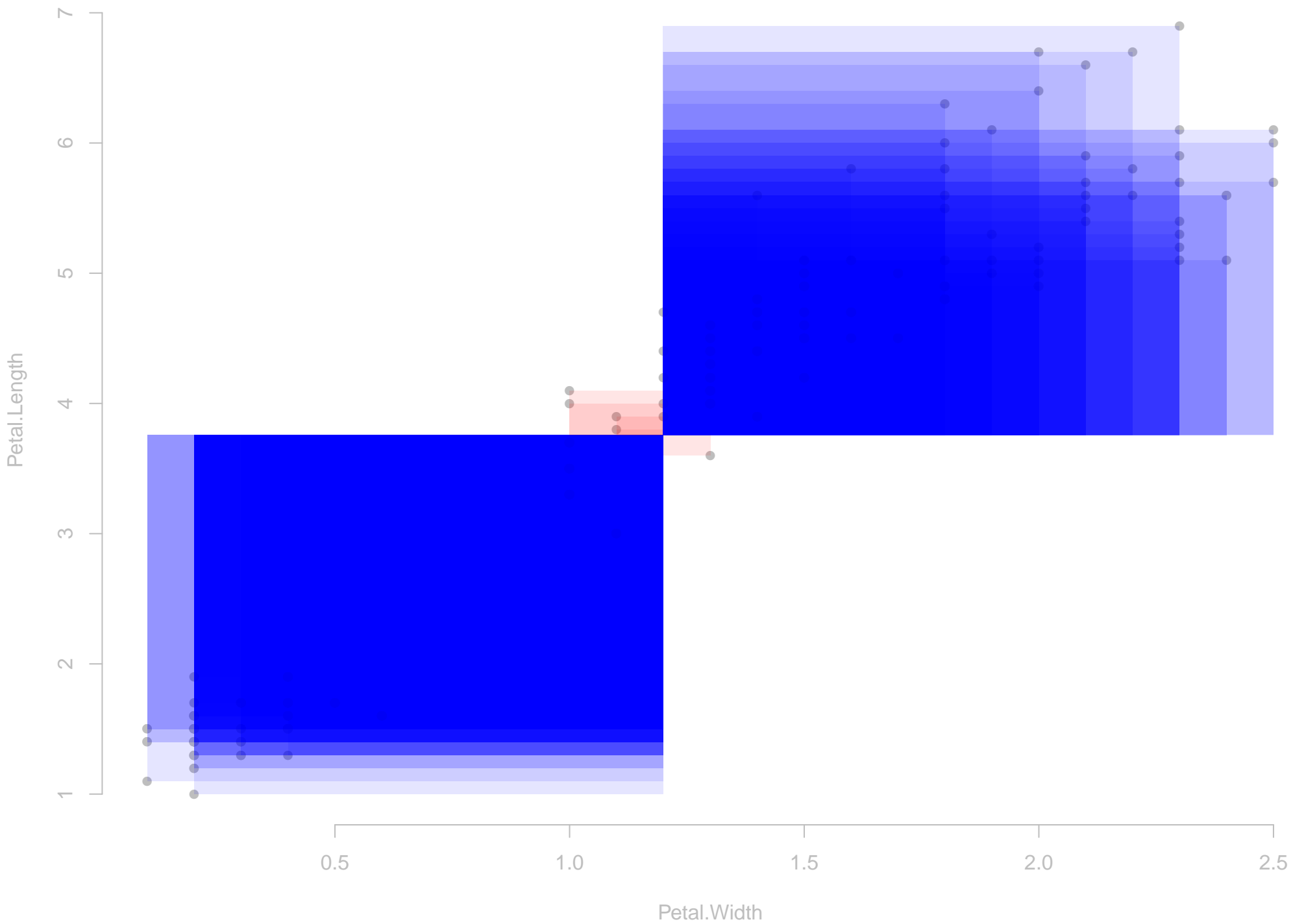
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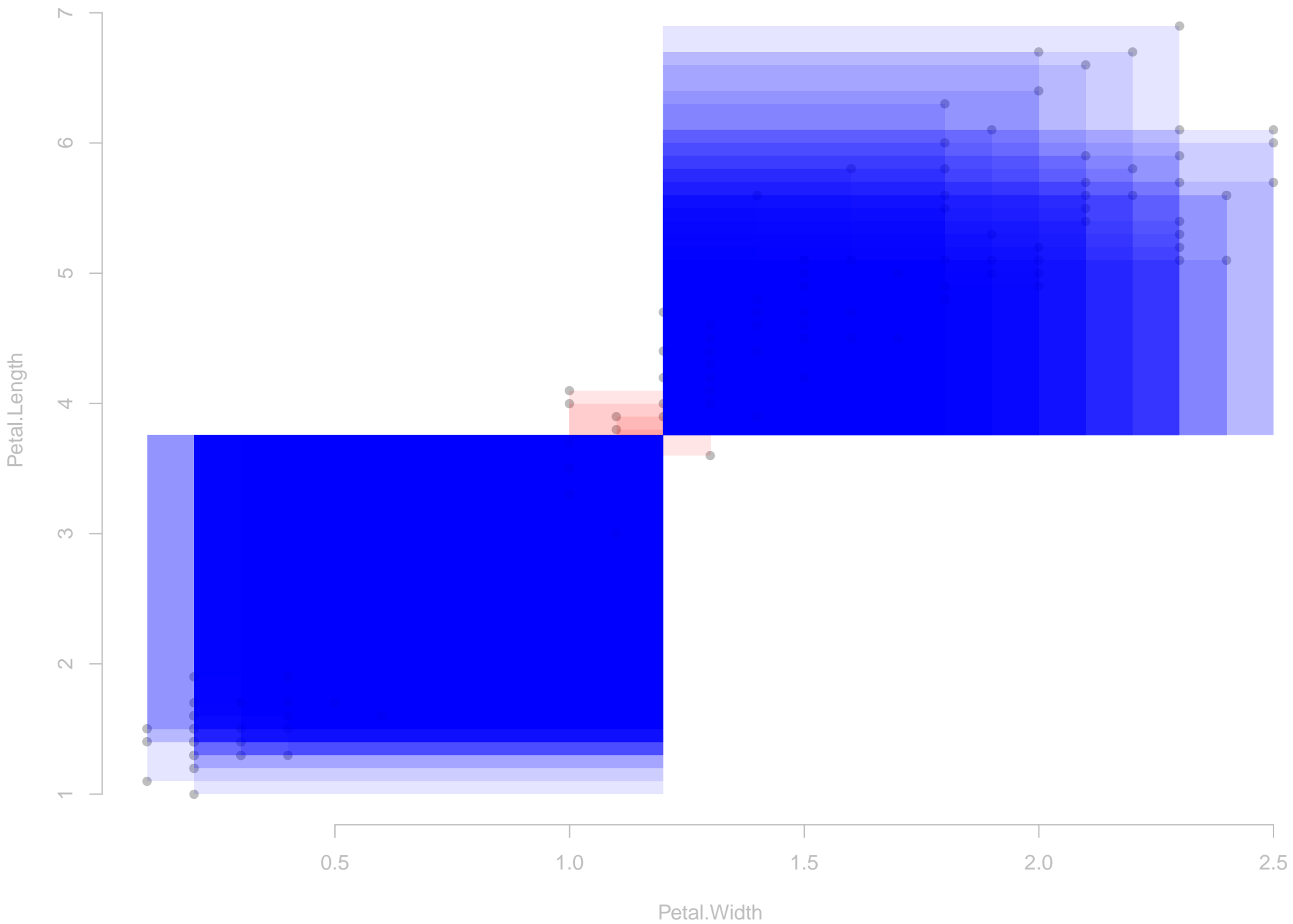
Draw a rectangle



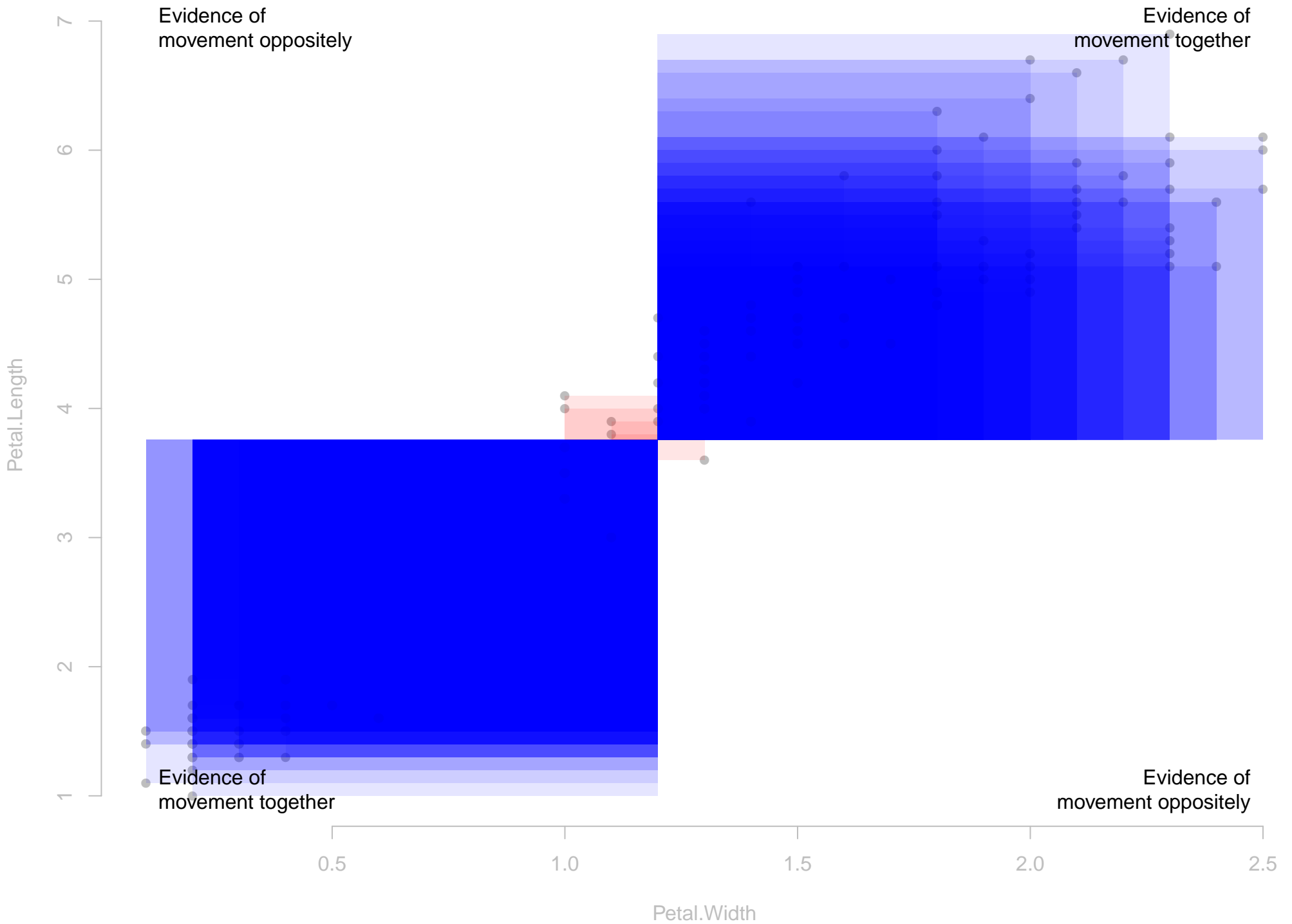
Draw all the rectangles



Why did I color them blue and red?



Why did I color them blue and red?



Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



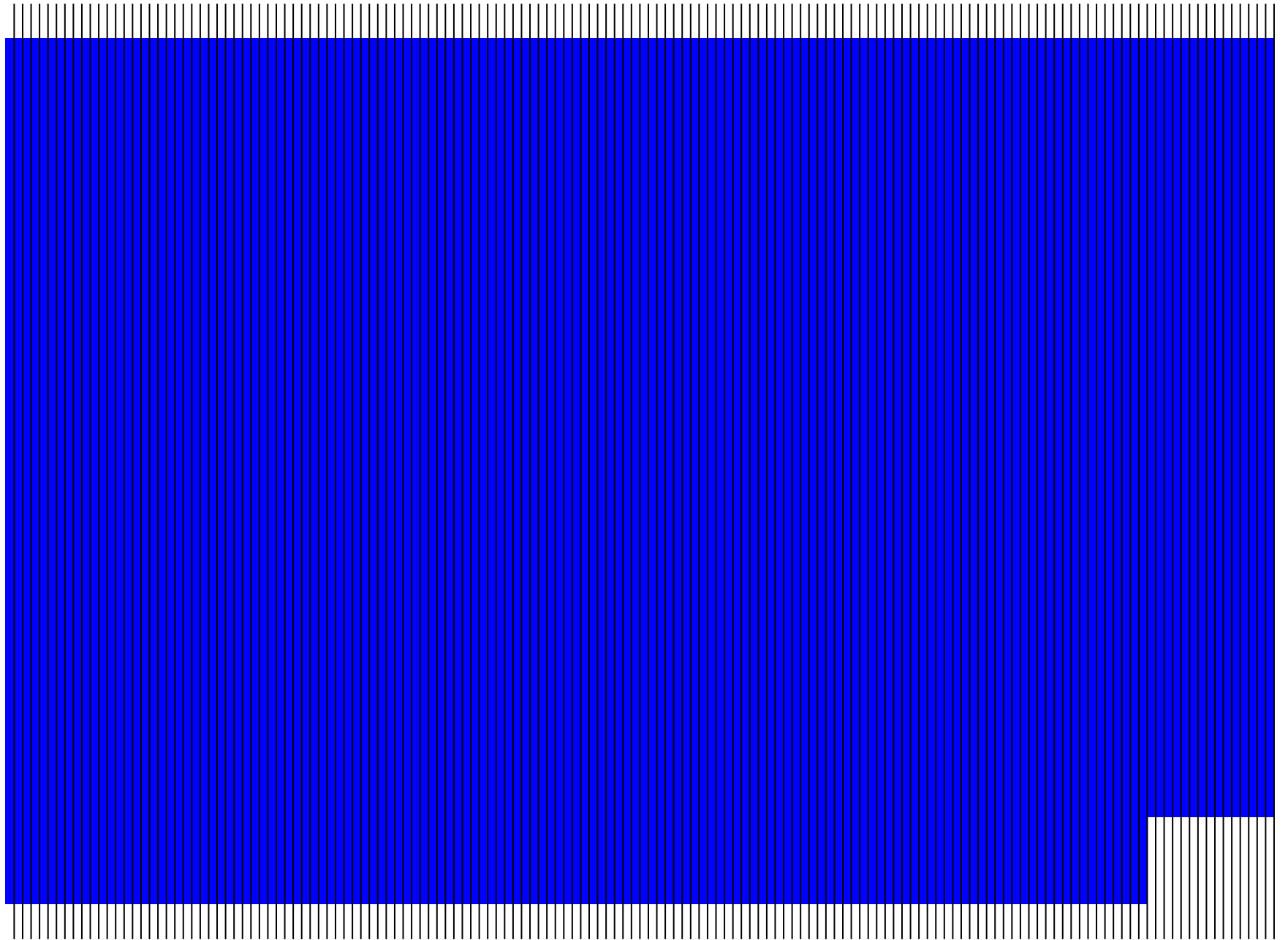
Add the reds together.



Subtract the reds.



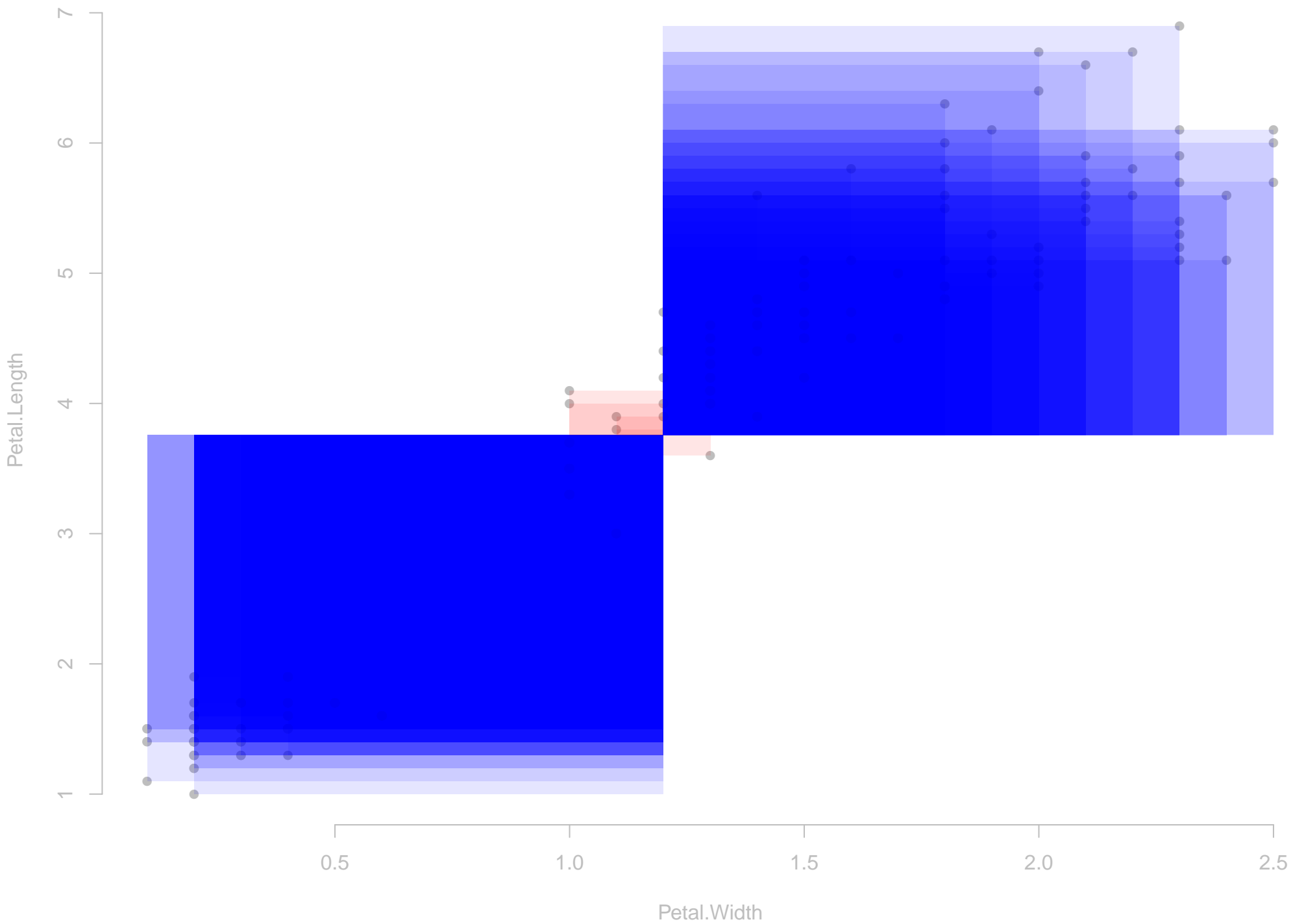
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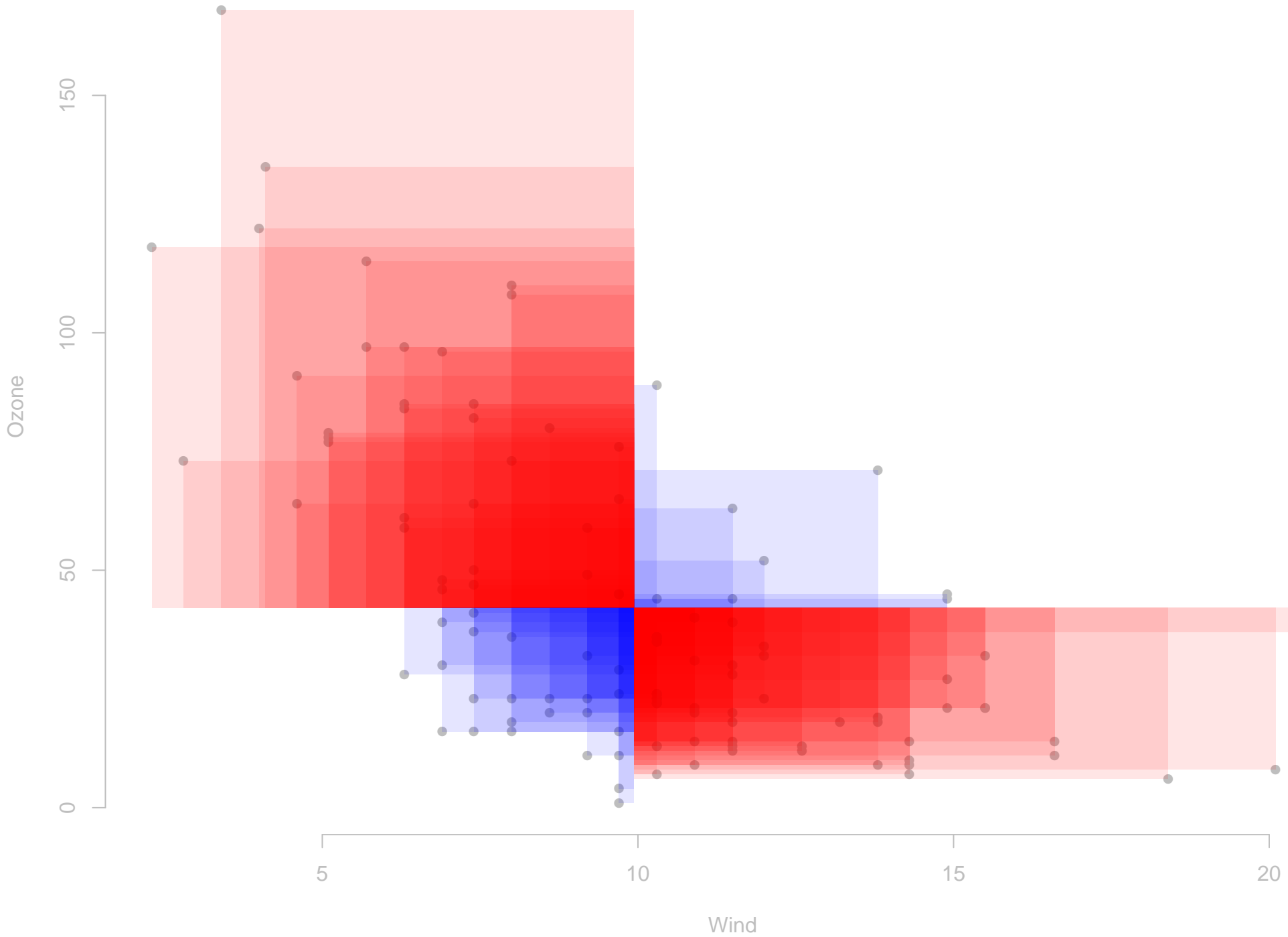
This blue sliver is the covariance.



That was for this sort of relationship.



What if we have more red than blue?



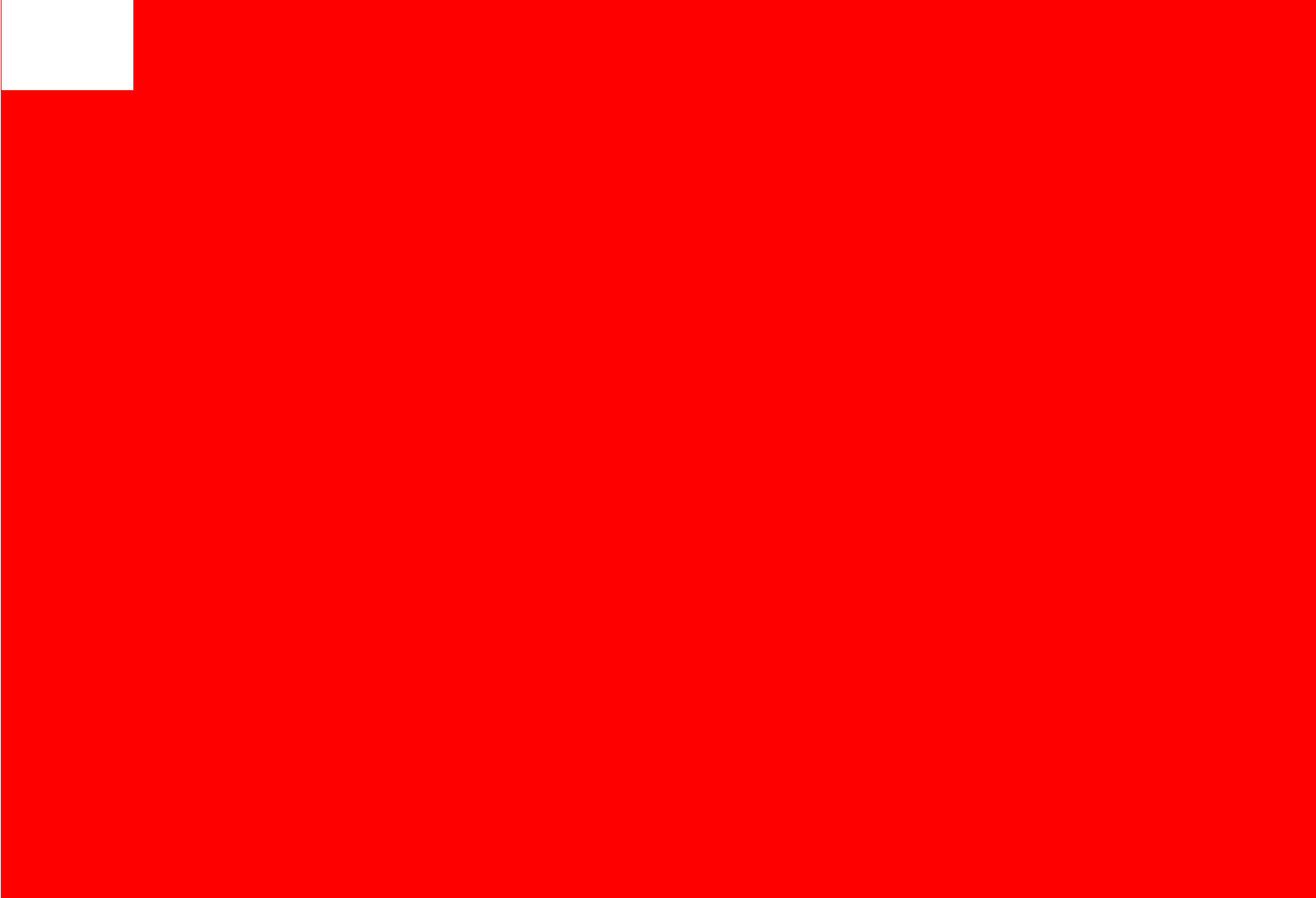
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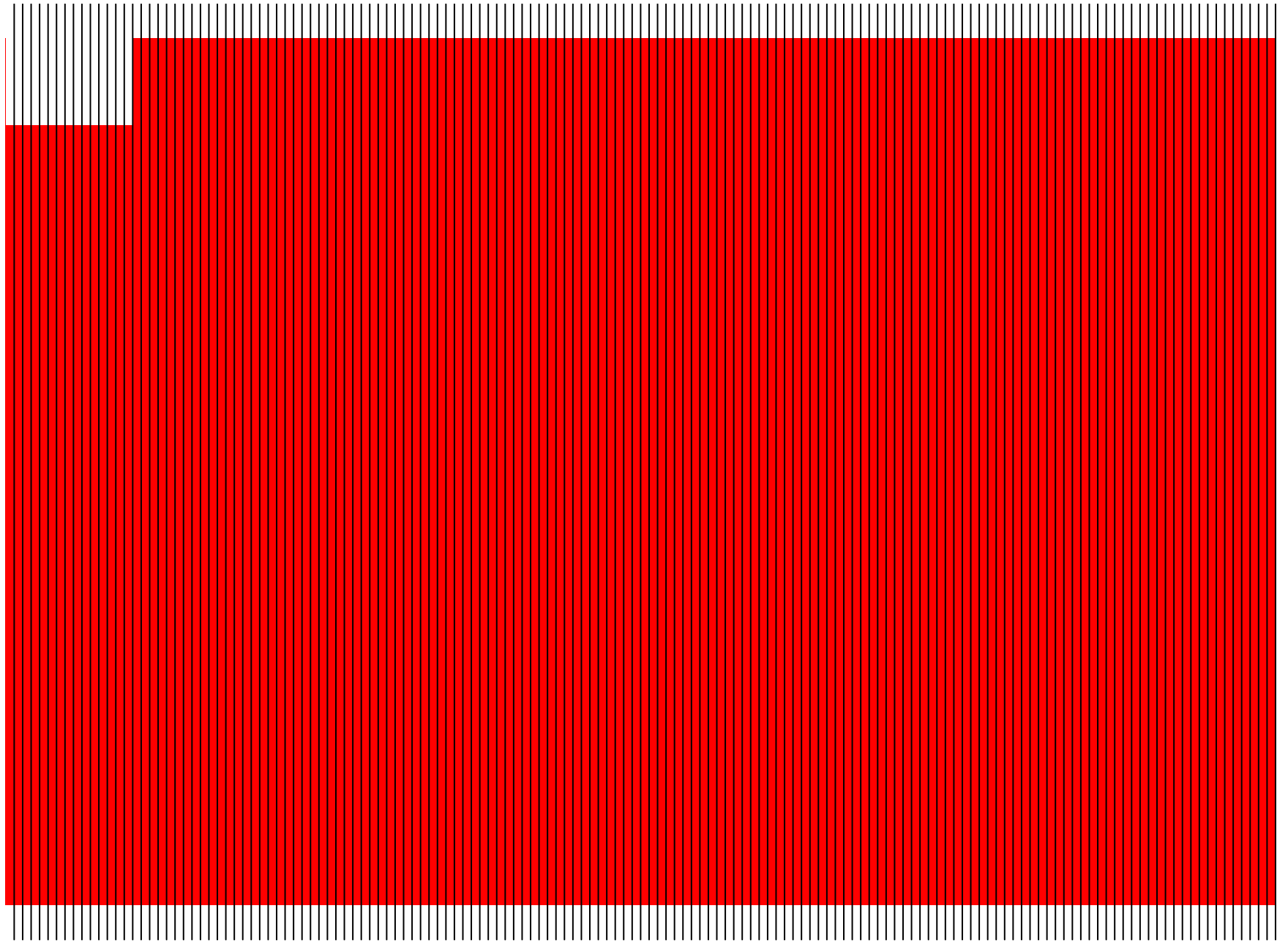
Add the reds together.



Subtract the reds.



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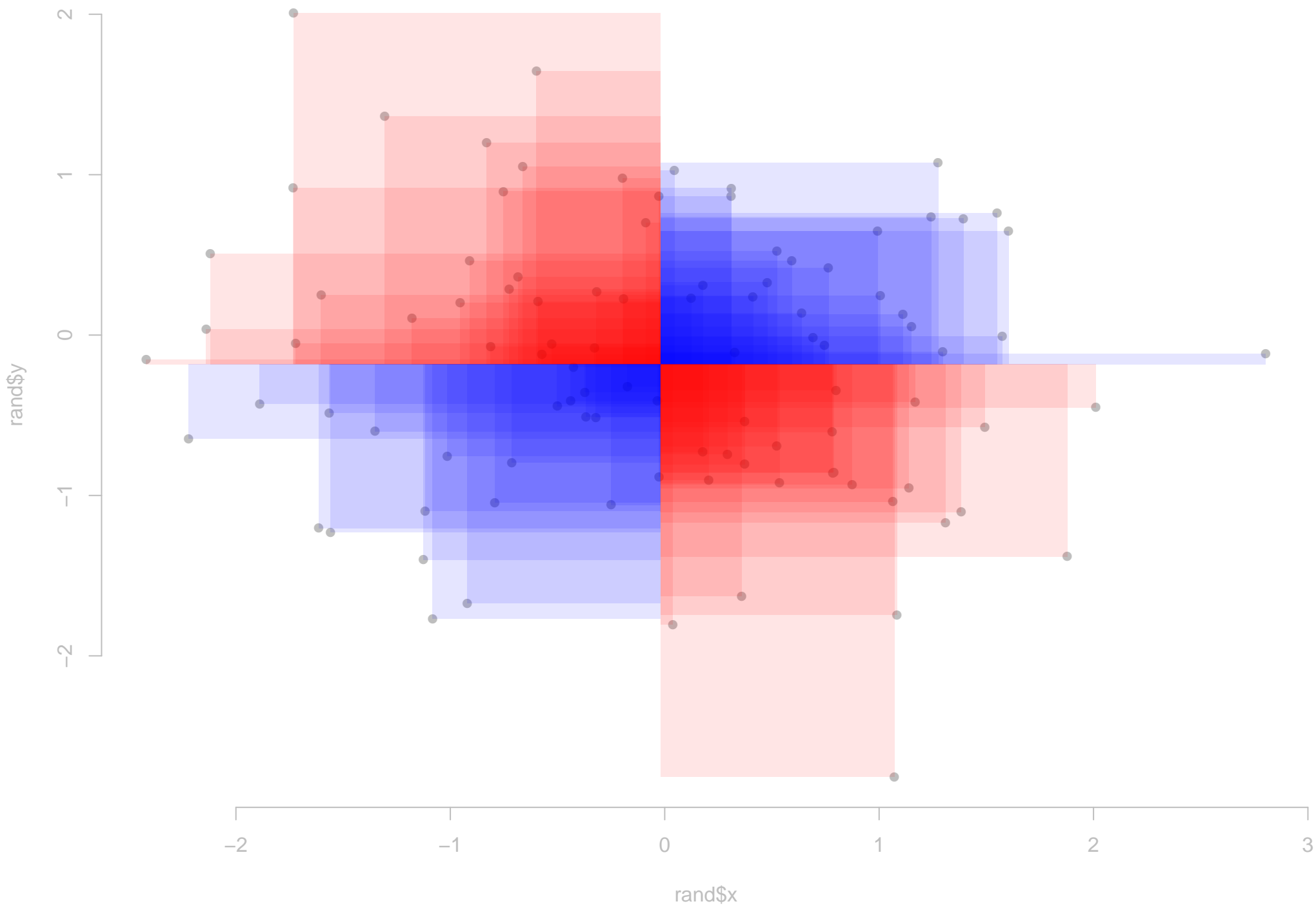


This red sliver is the covariance.



**But it's
negative!**

What if we have as much red as blue?



Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



Add the reds together.



Subtract the reds.

○

(Covariance is zero.)

Variance

**Variance tells us
how spread out
some numbers are.**

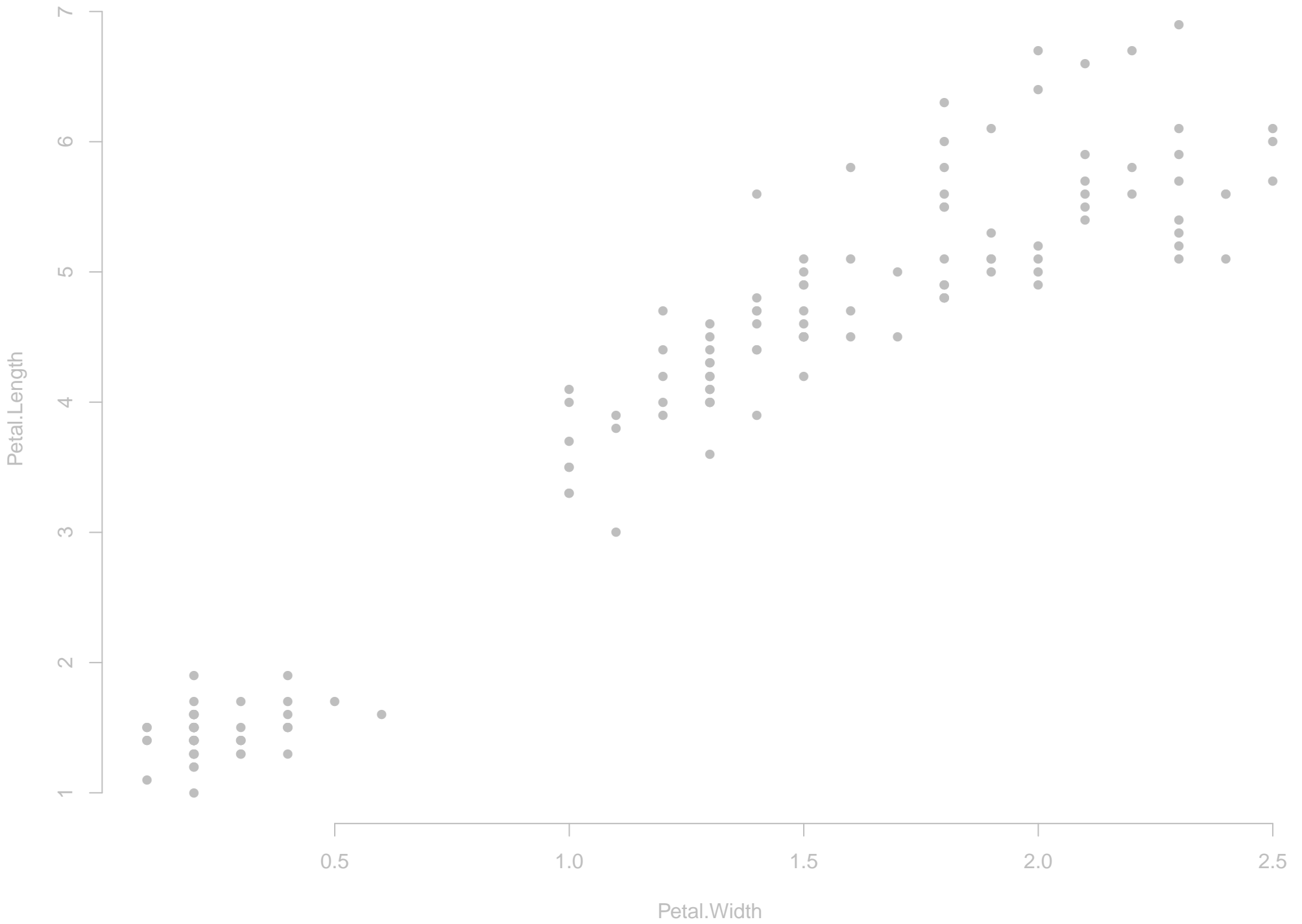
1, 4, 8, 10

VS

4, 4, 5, 6

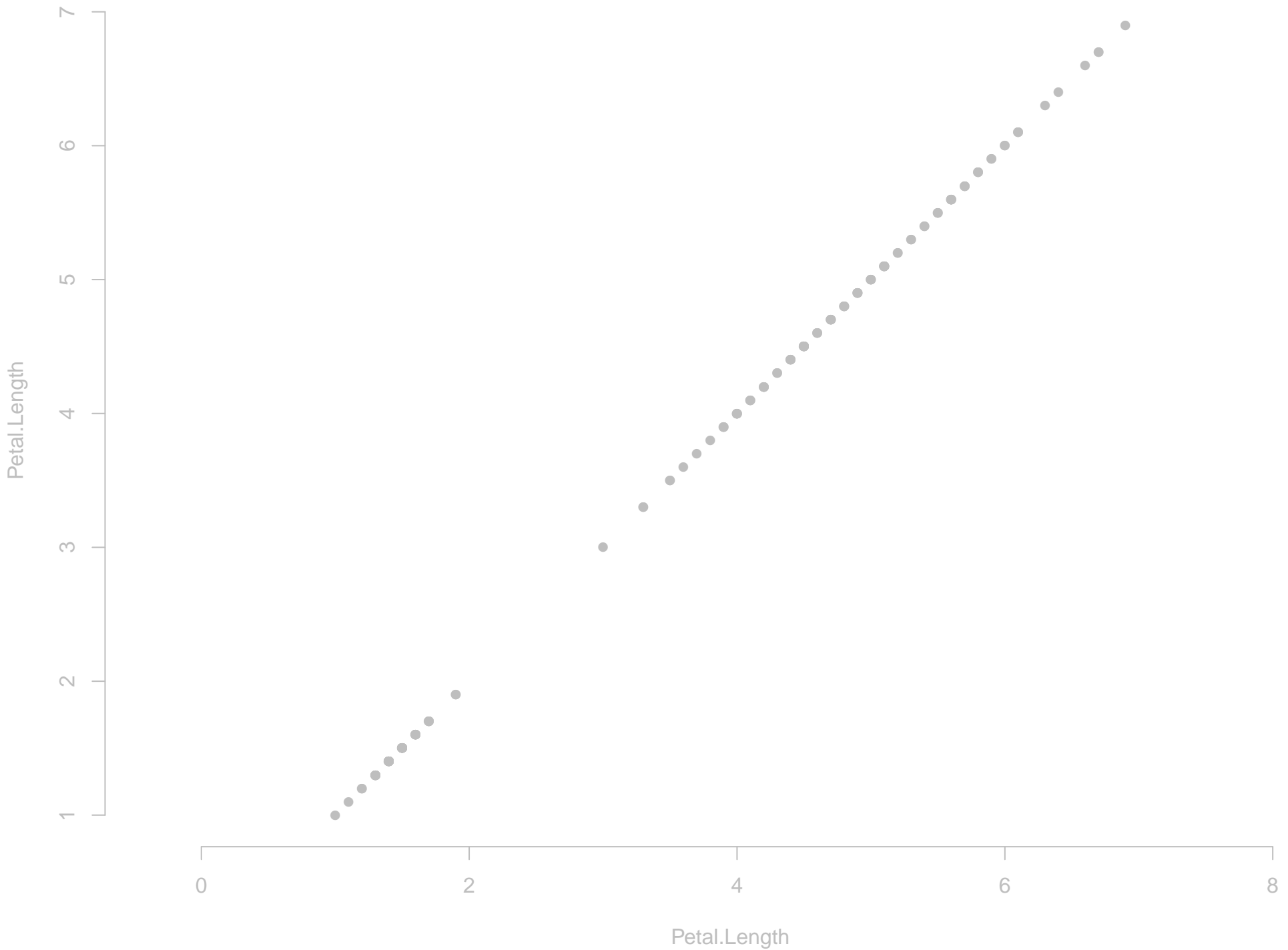
**The variance of a variable is
the covariance of the variable
with itself.**

Our two iris variables from before



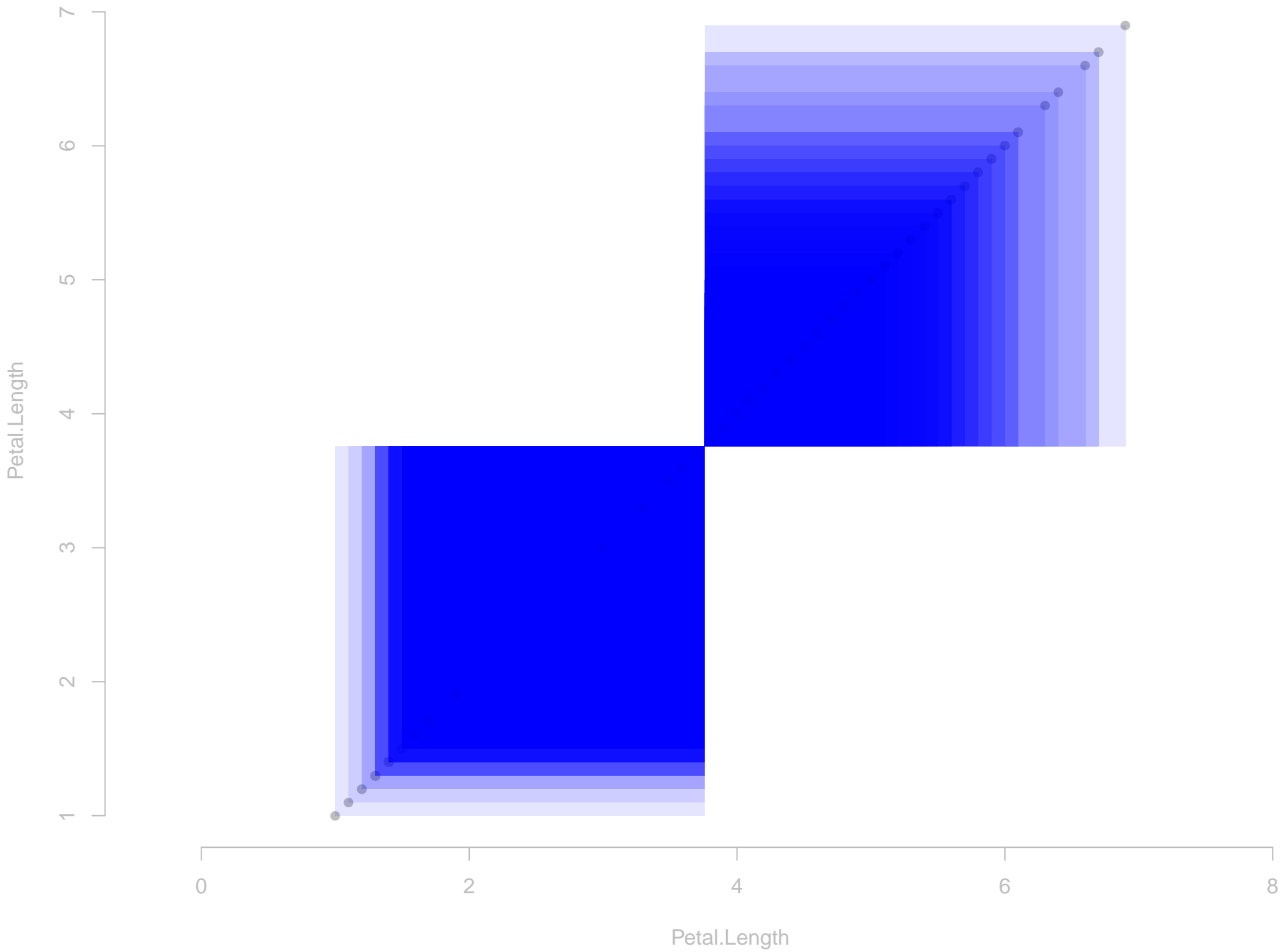
Let's look at just one of them.

The points all fall along the same line.

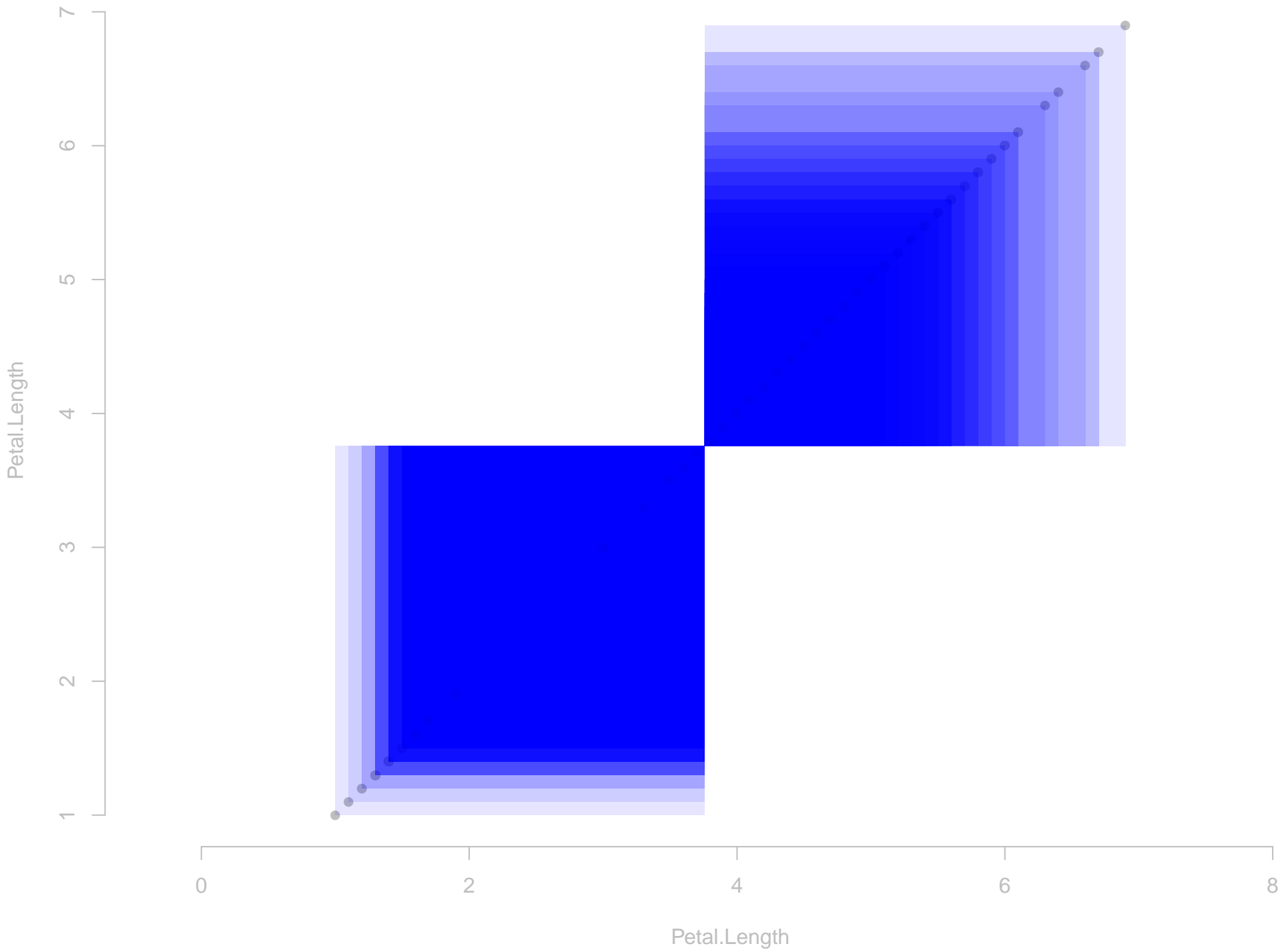


Let's find the variance of Petal.Length

Draw all the rectangles



Why no red rectangles?



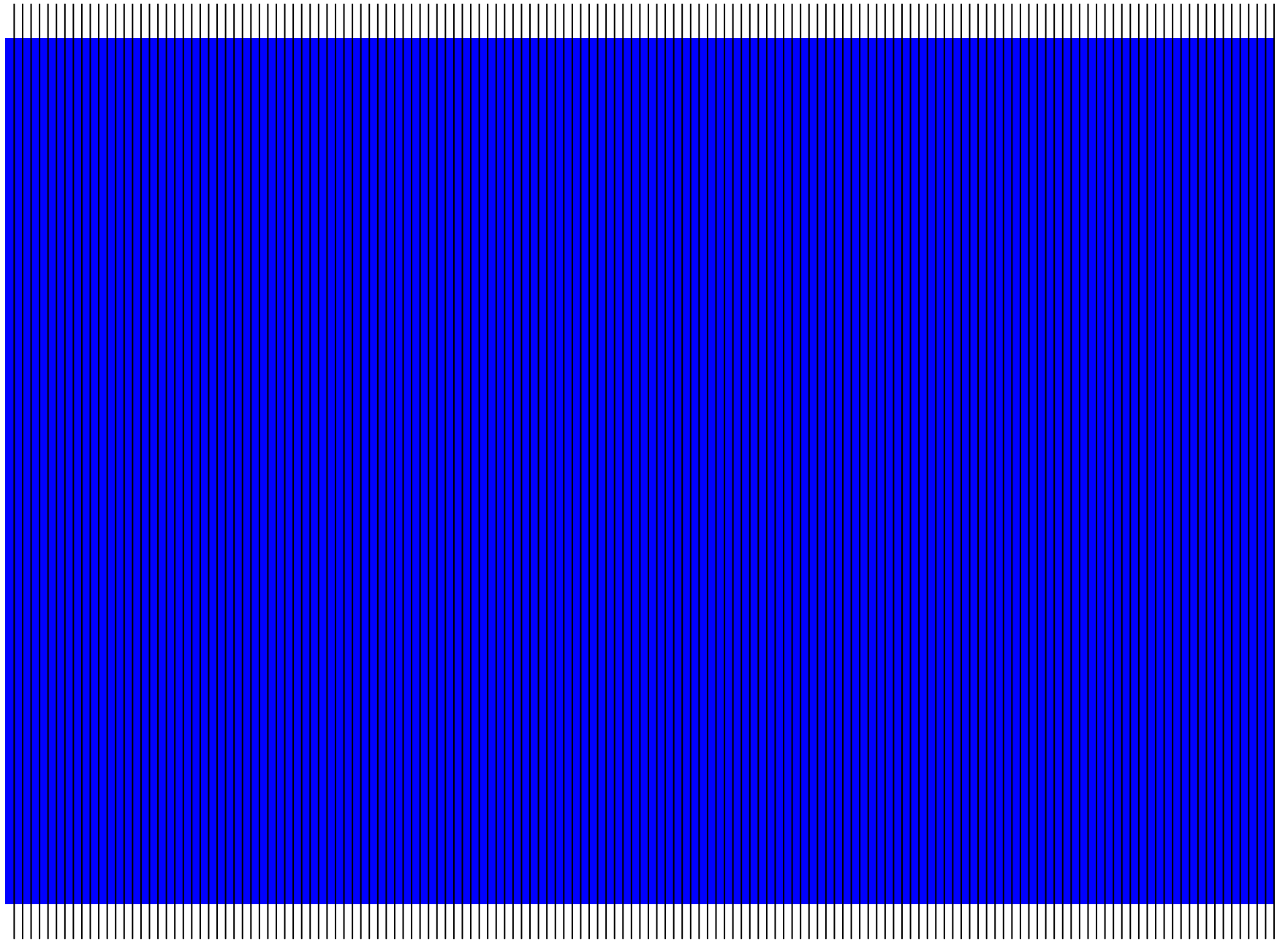
Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



We have no reds to subtract.



Divide into as many equal pieces as we have irises (n).



This blue sliver is the variance.



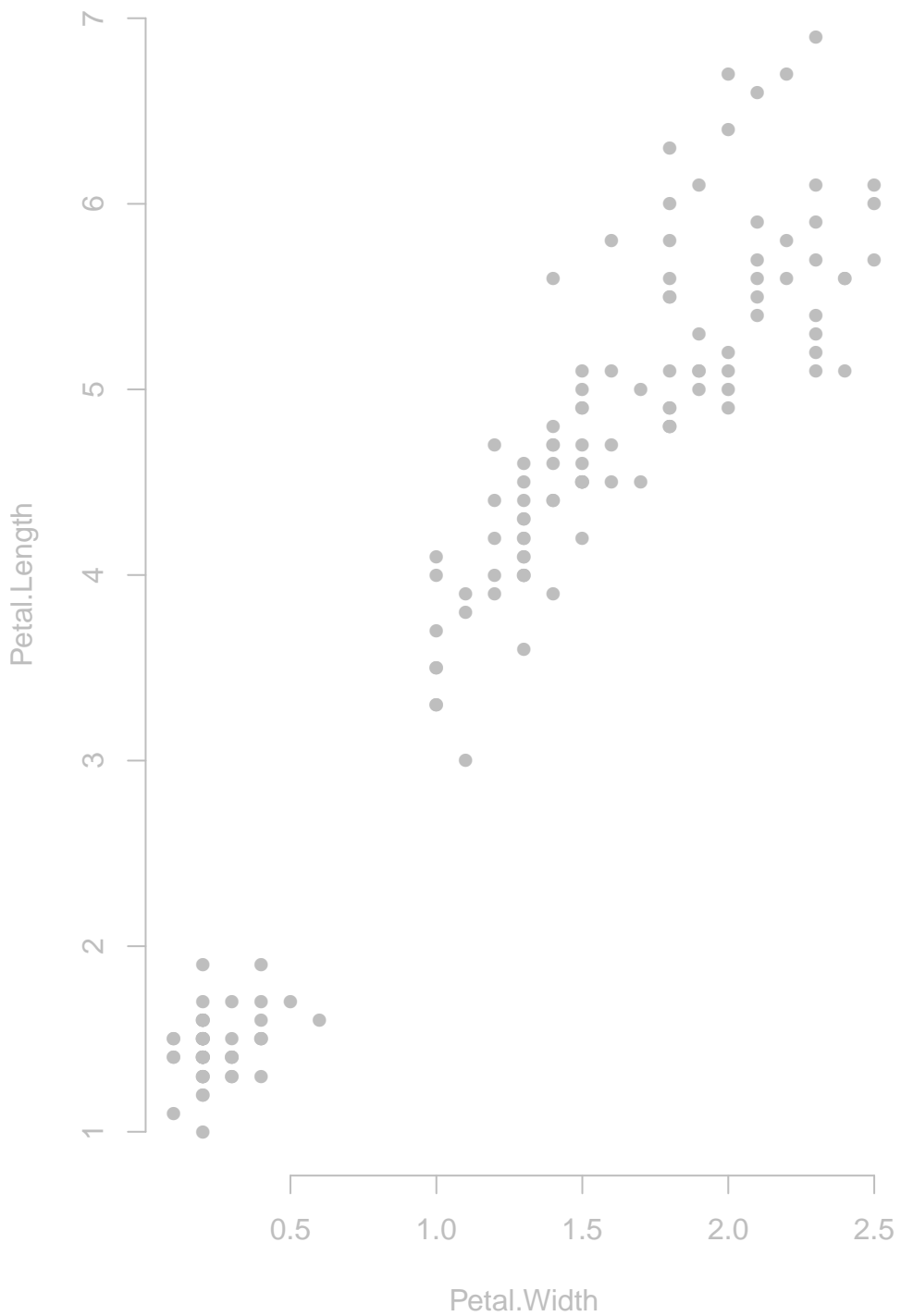
A problem with covariance

Covariance has units!

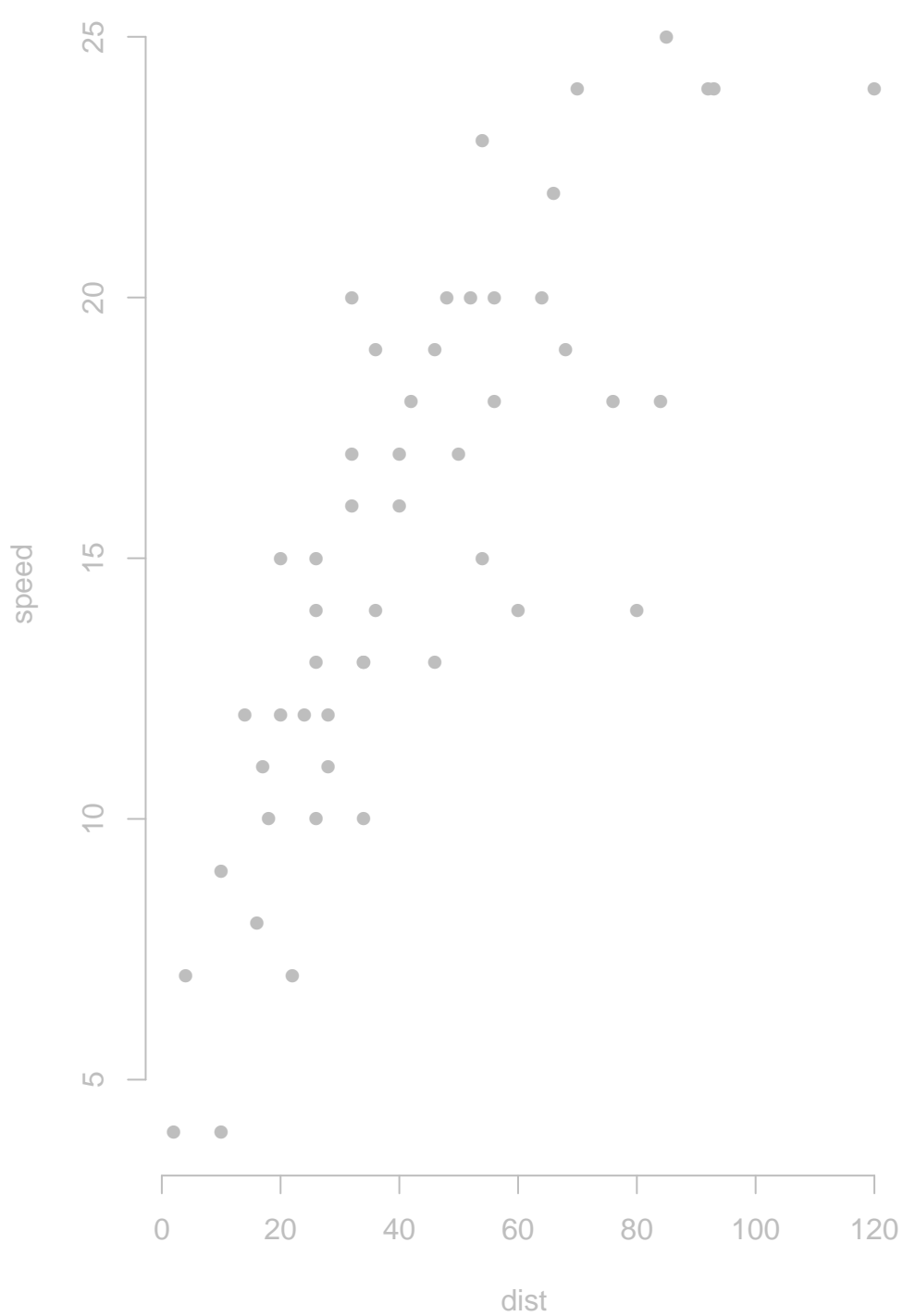
(x-unit times y-unit)

**Which relationship is stronger
(more linear)?**

Irises (cov = 1.3 cm²)



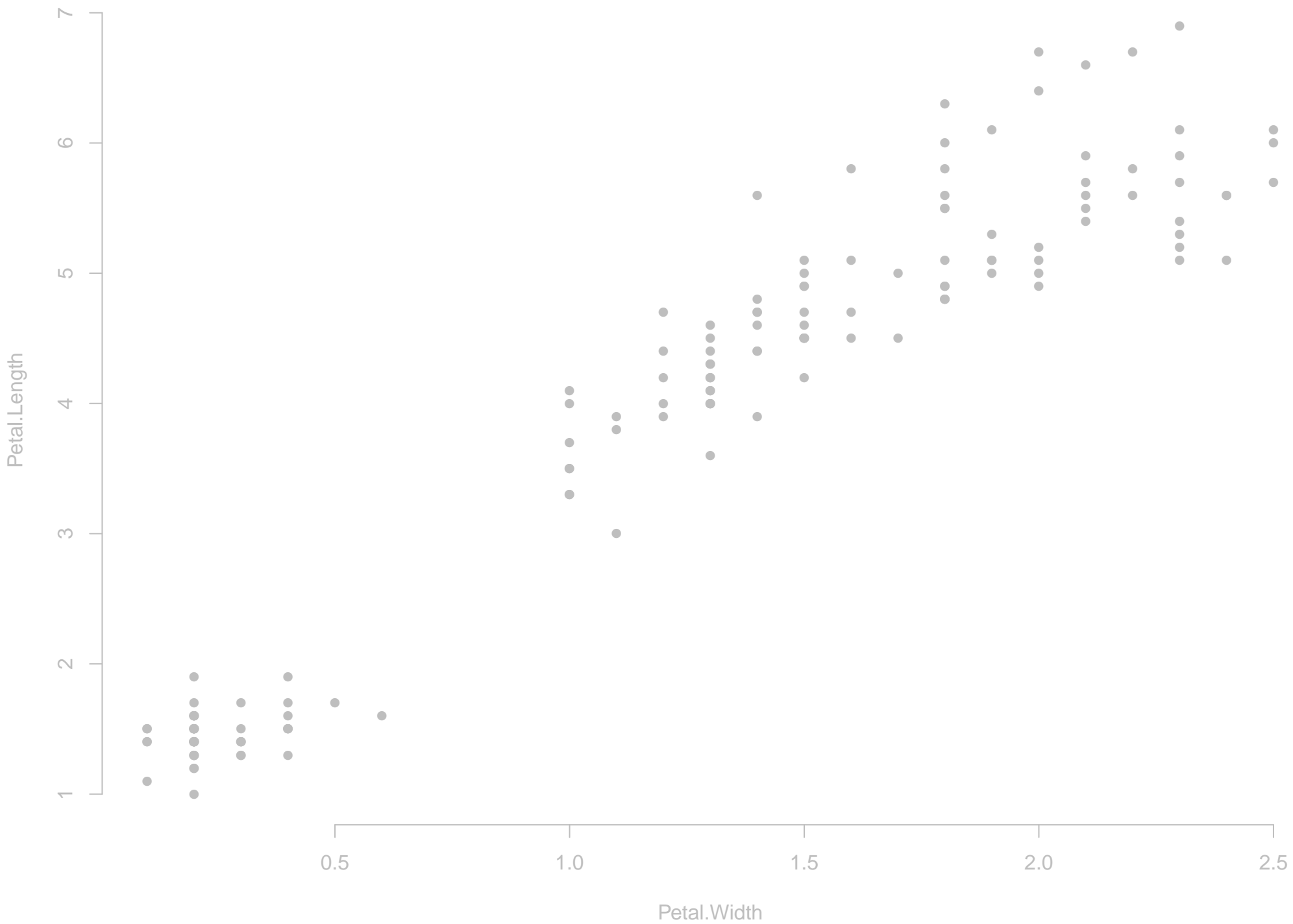
Cars (cov = 109.95 mph*ft)



Oh noes!

**We can divide
the covariance
by the variances
to standardize it.**

We're using these data again.



$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$



$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

The black rectangle is
like an average variance.

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

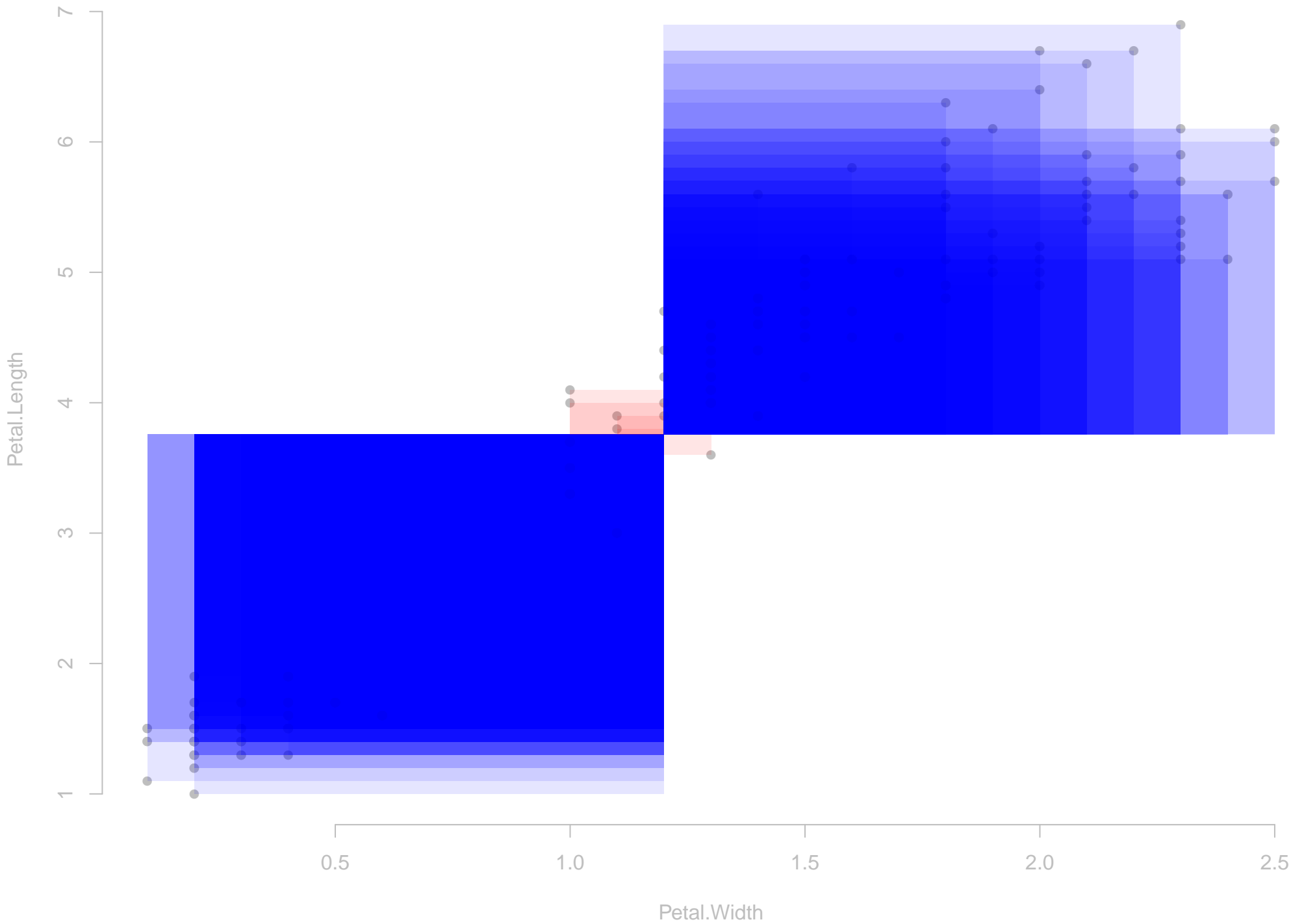
$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

$\text{cov}(\text{Petal.Width}, \text{Petal.Length})$
cannot be bigger than
black rectangle.

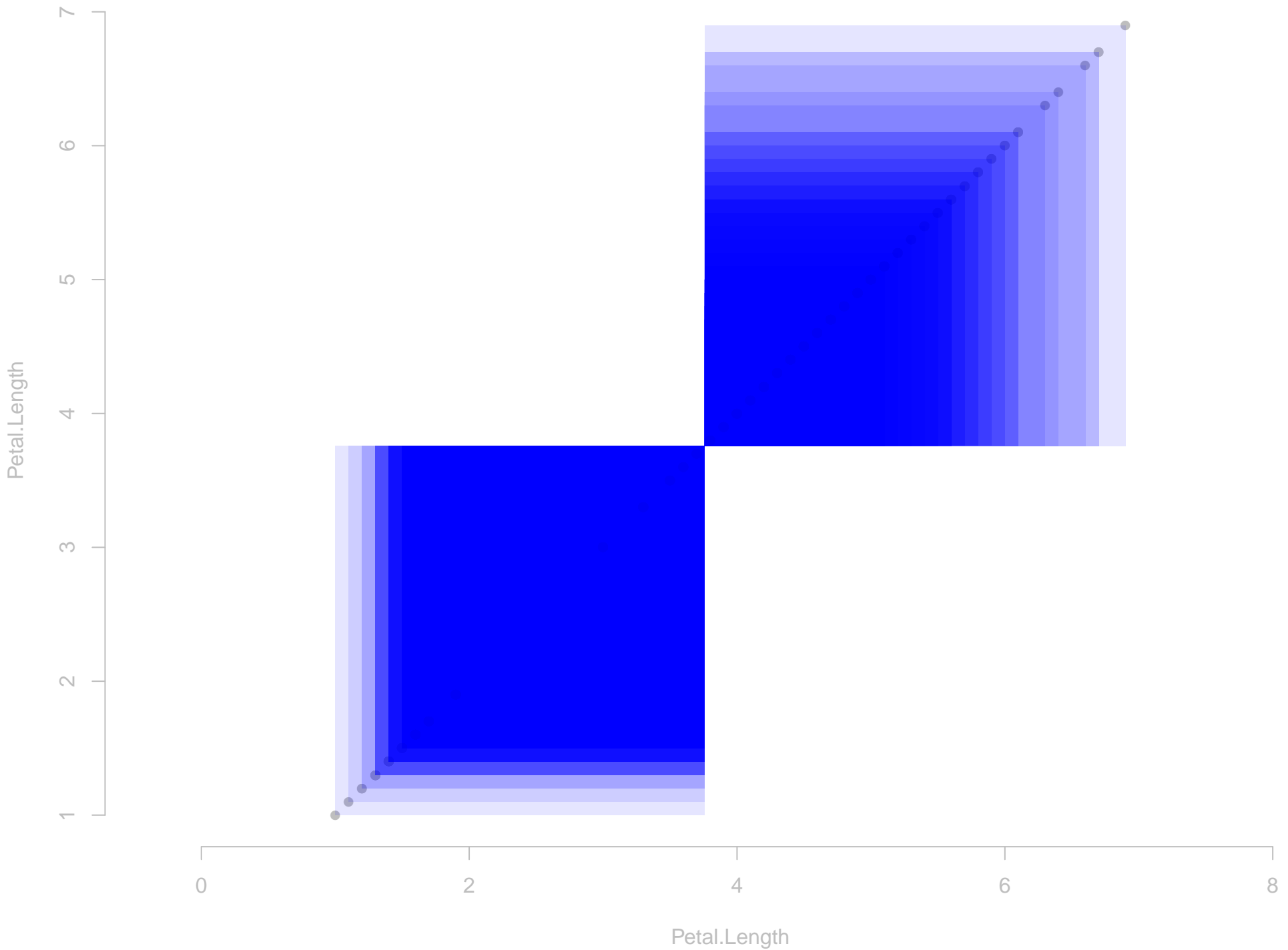
$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

Why?

Covariance has red rectangles.



Variance doesn't have red rectangles.



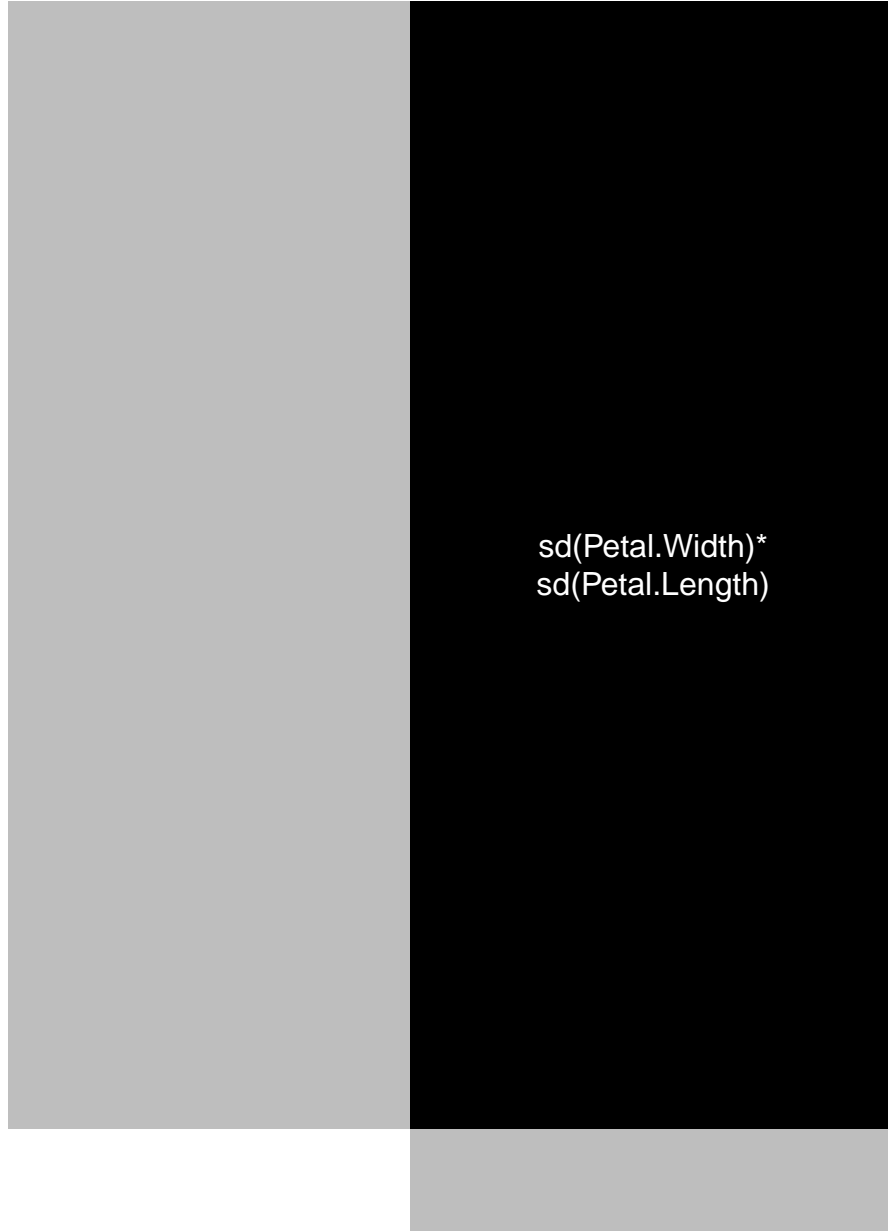
$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

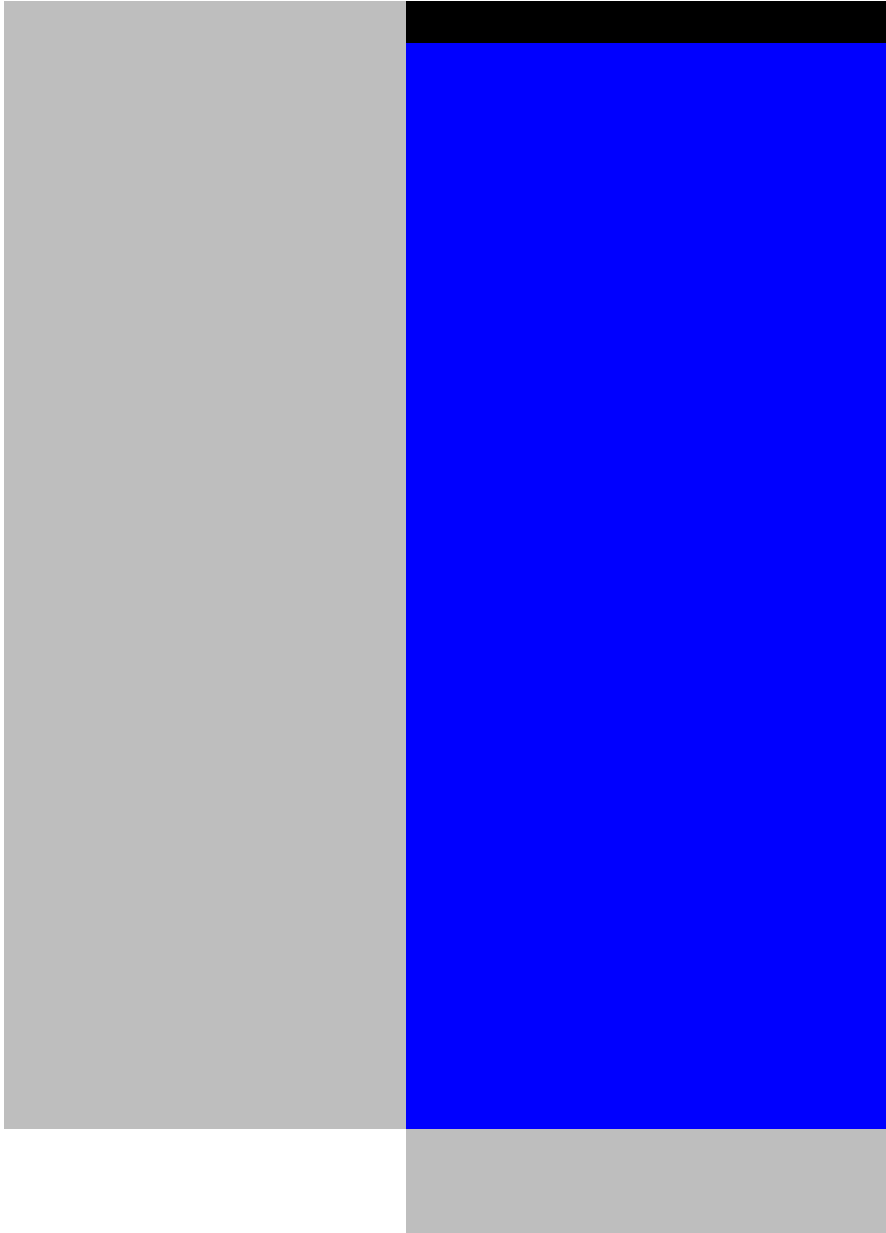
$\text{cov}(\text{Petal.Width}, \text{Petal.Length})$
cannot be bigger than
black rectangle.

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

Let's zoom in.

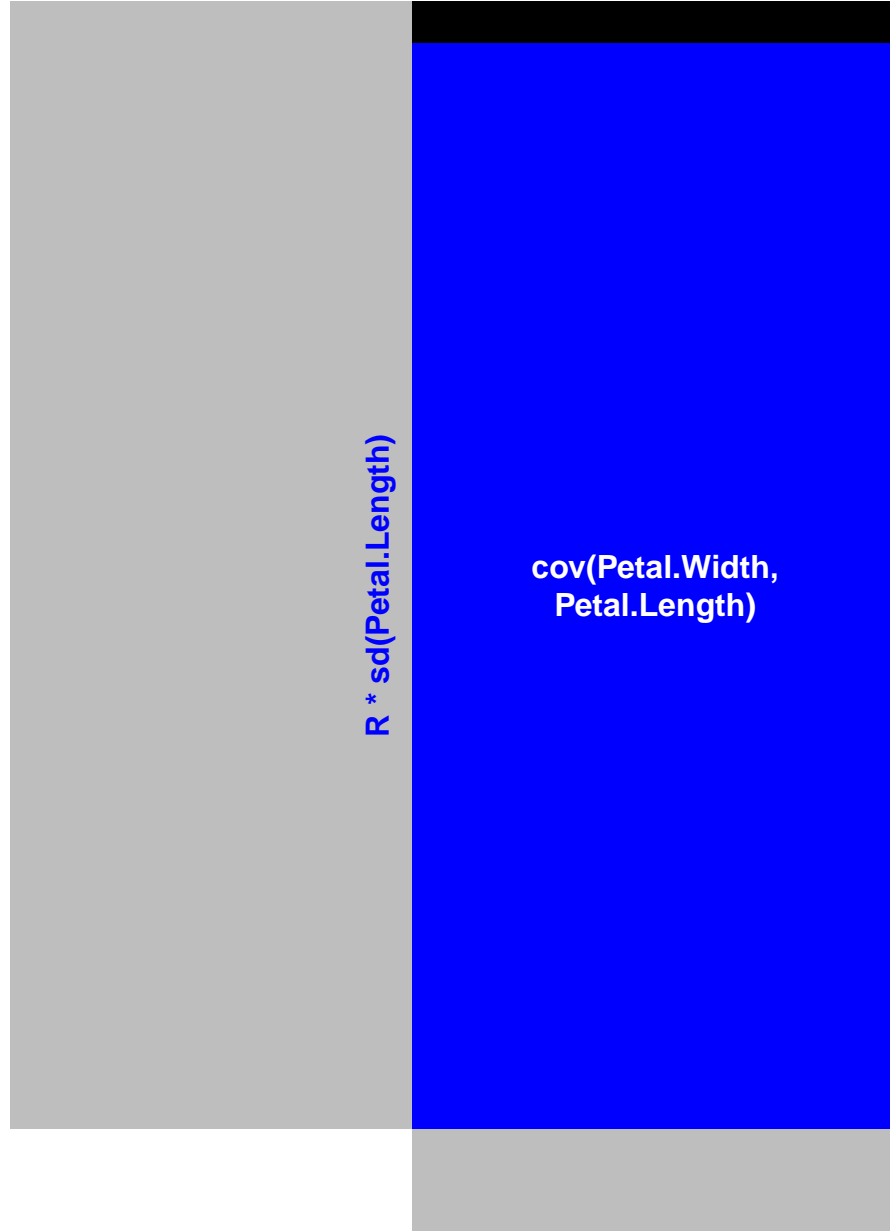


Squish covariance vertically into the rectangle.

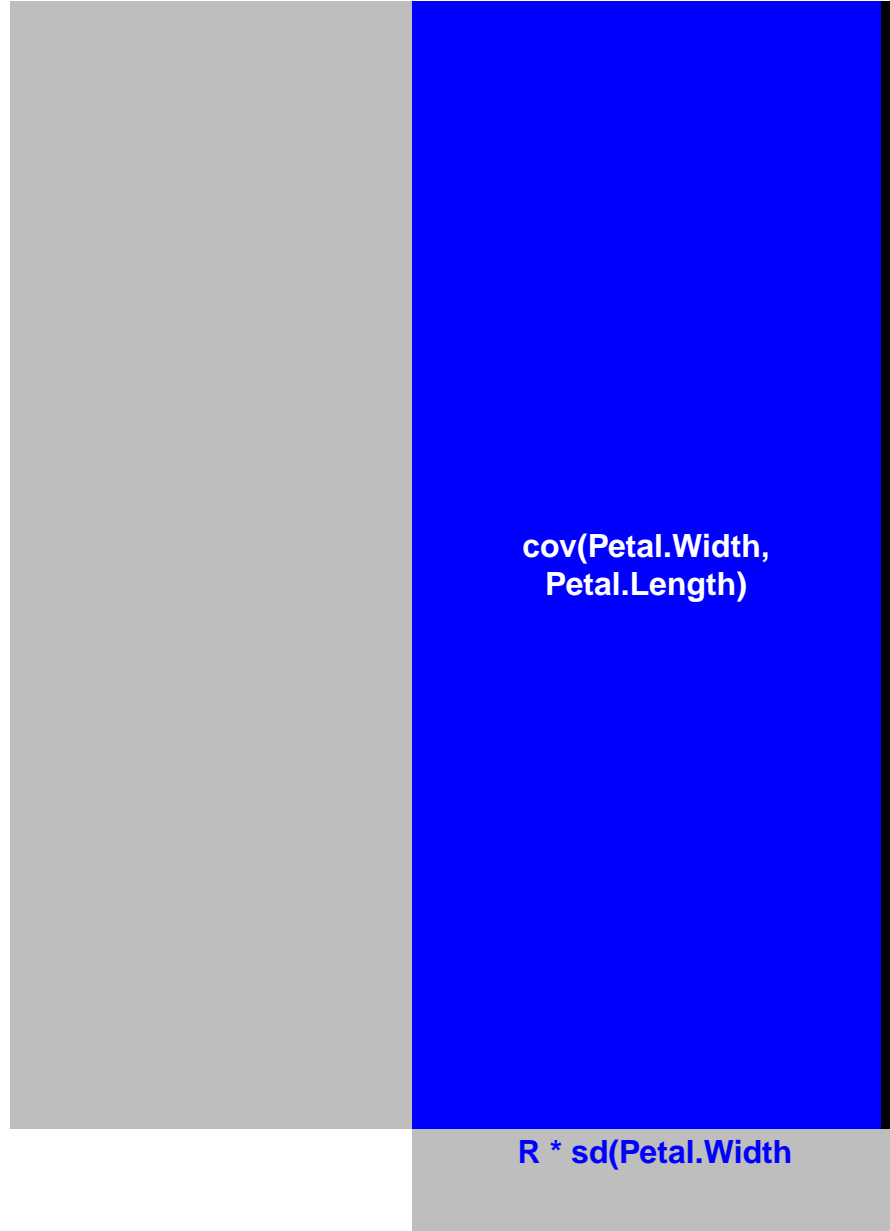


**Correlation (R)
is the ratio of
the small rectangle
to the big rectangle.**

Squish covariance vertically into the rectangle.

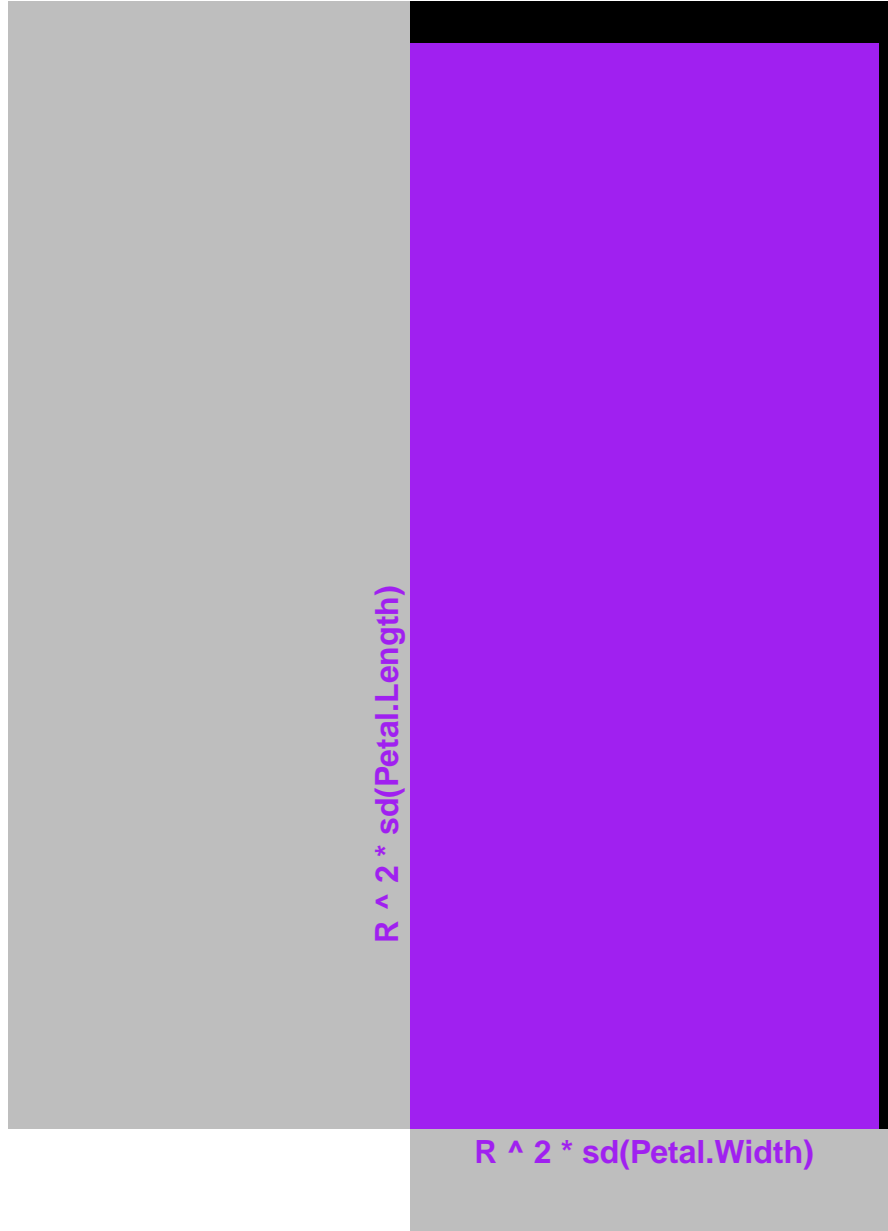


Squish covariance horizontally into the rectangle.

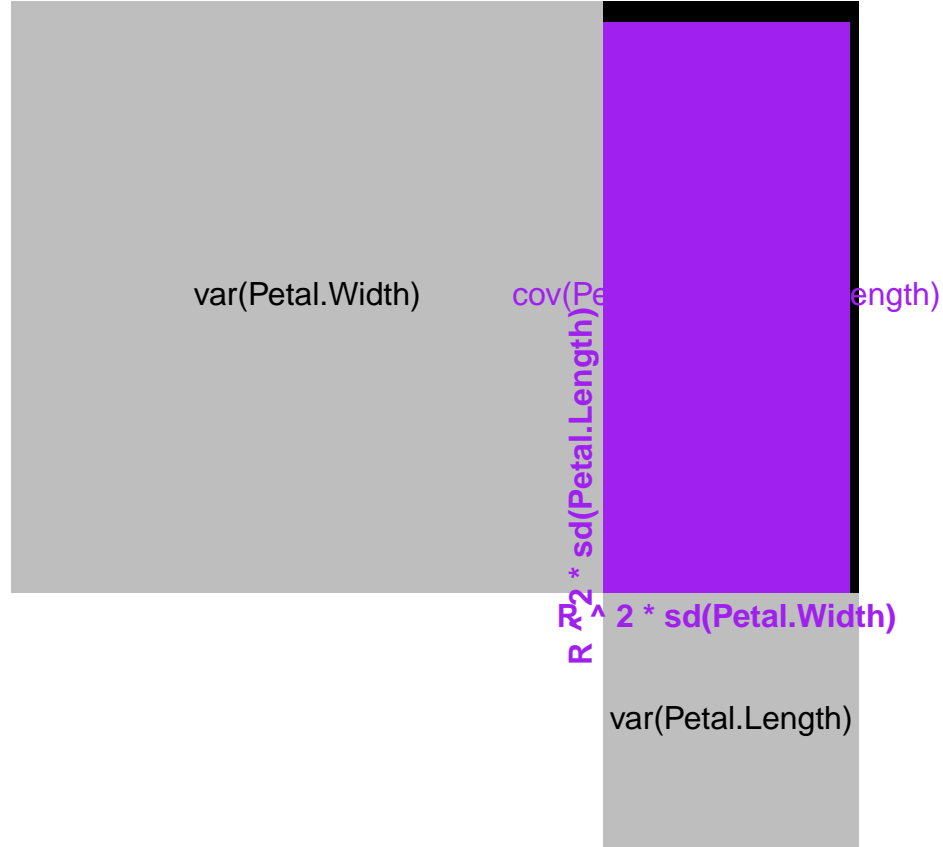


**People like to
talk about R-squared.**

Intersect the two squished covariance rectangles.



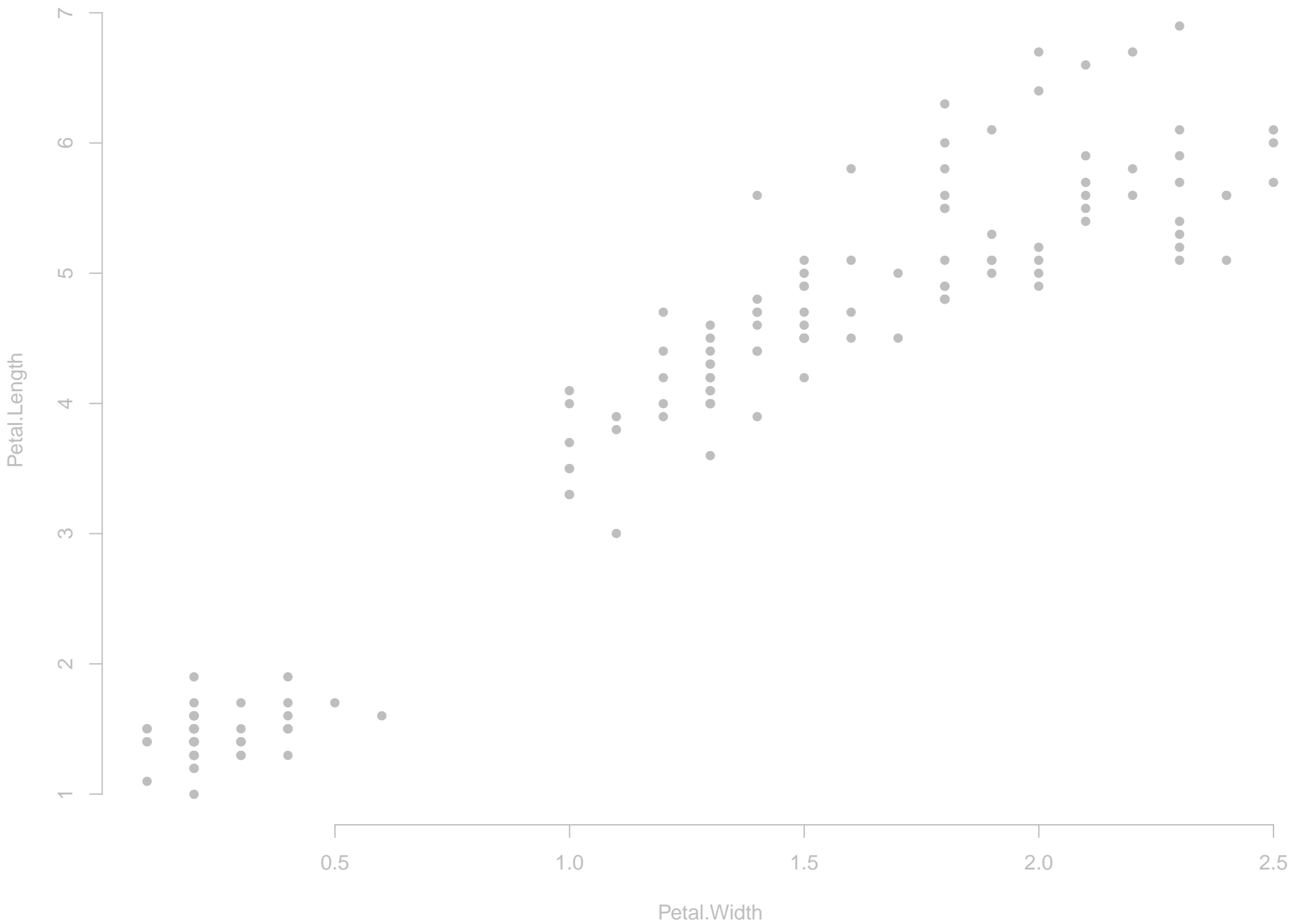
Intersect the two squished covariance rectangles.



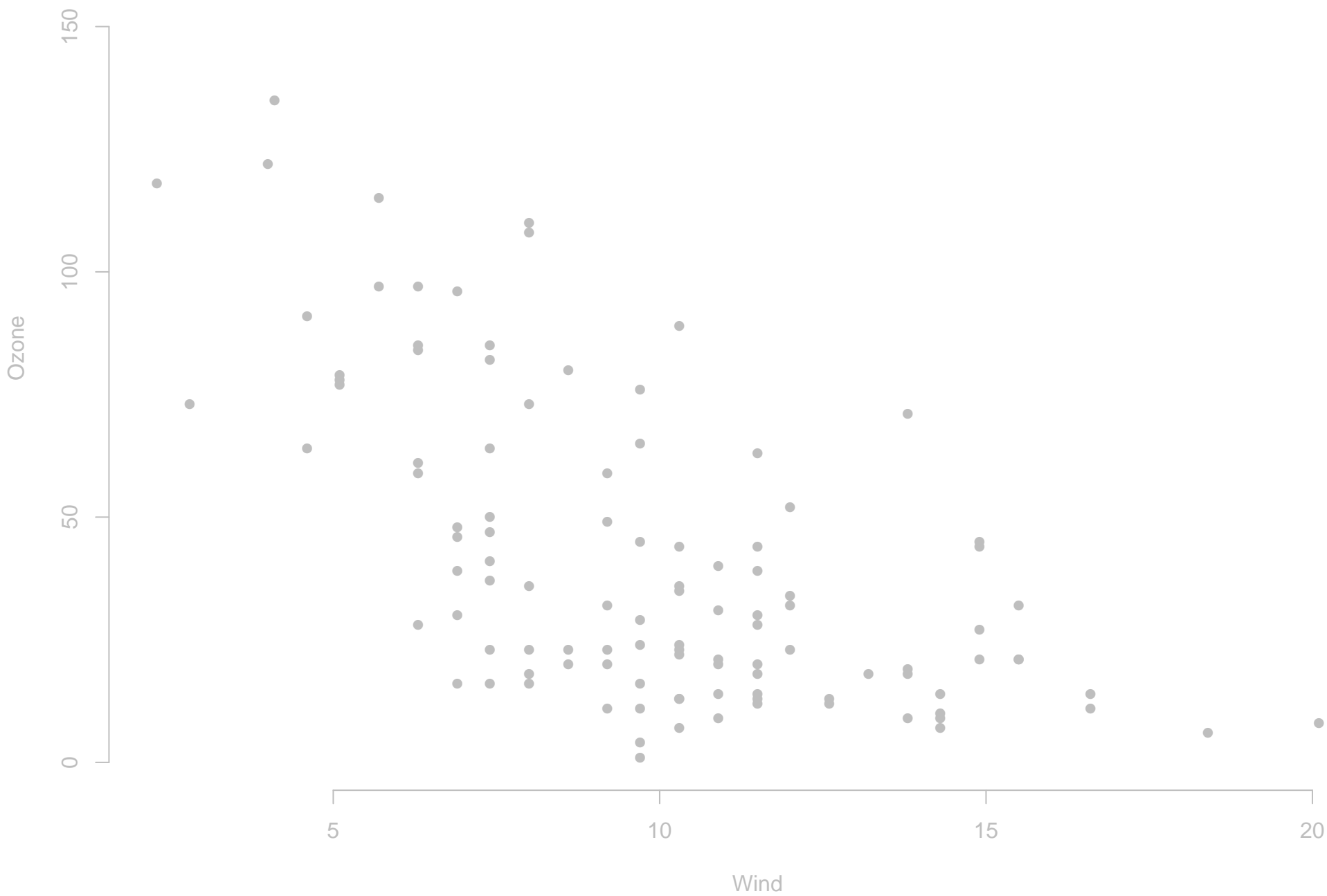
**That was for very
positive (blue) covariances.**

What if covariance is negative (red)?

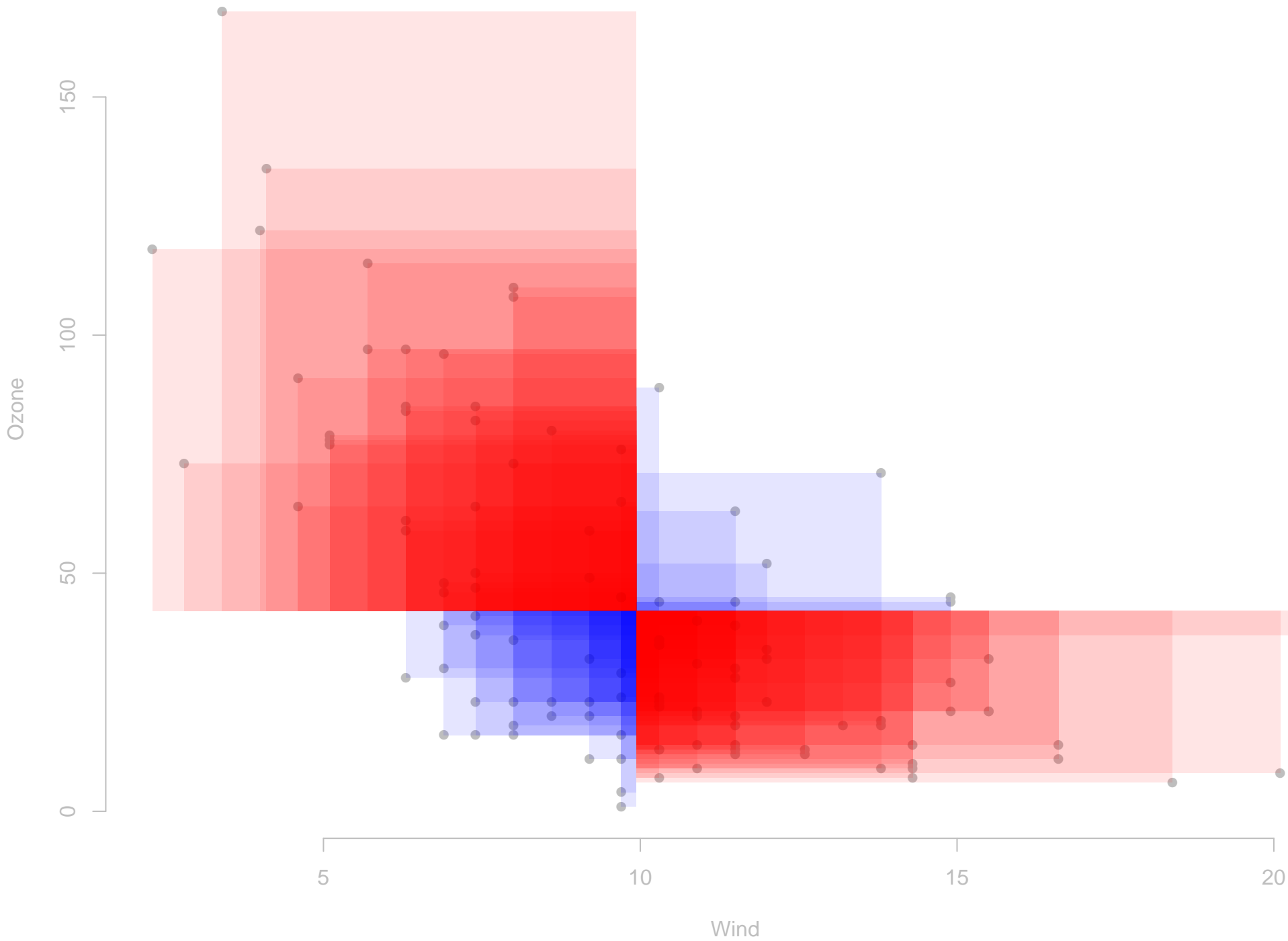
We were just using these data.



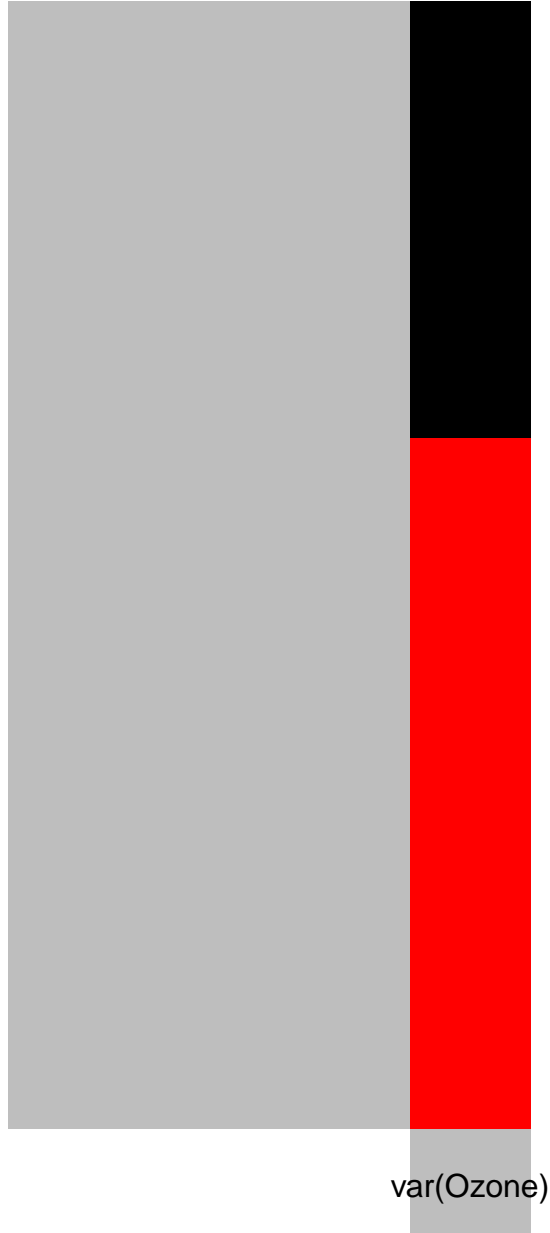
What if we had these data?



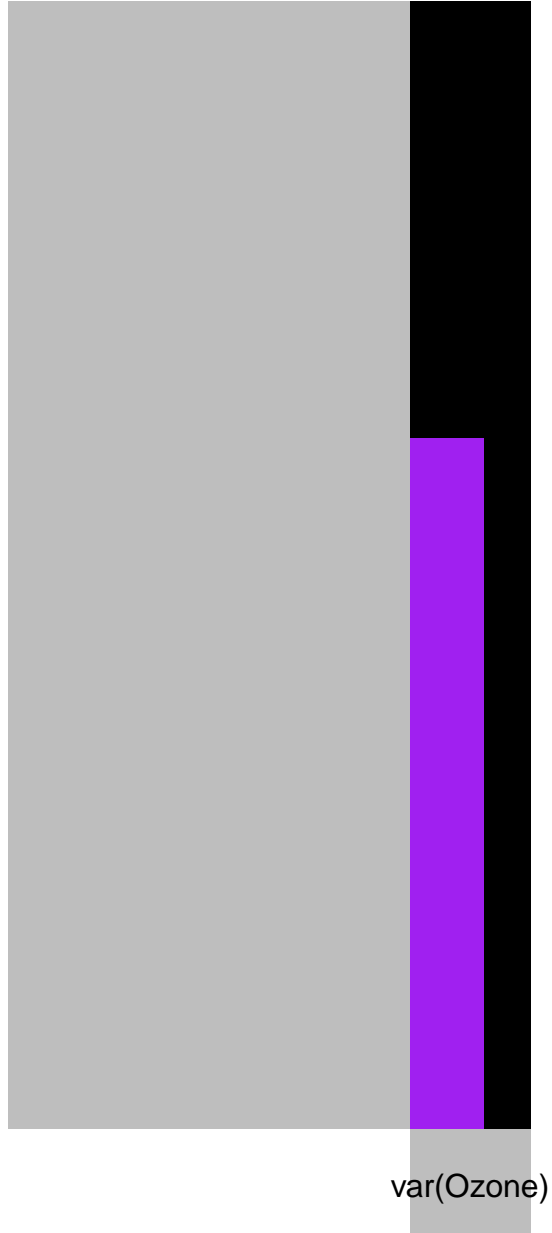
What if we had these data?



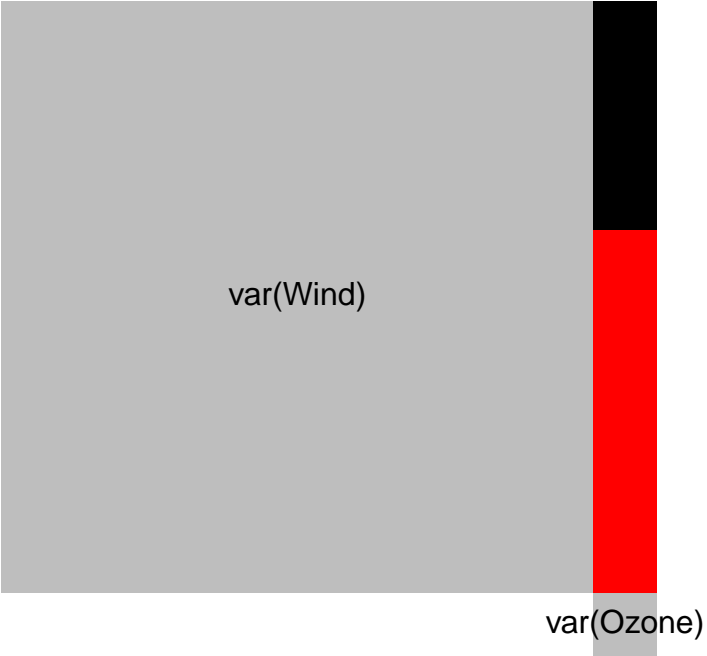
R is the same, just negative.



R-squared is the same, and it is always positive.



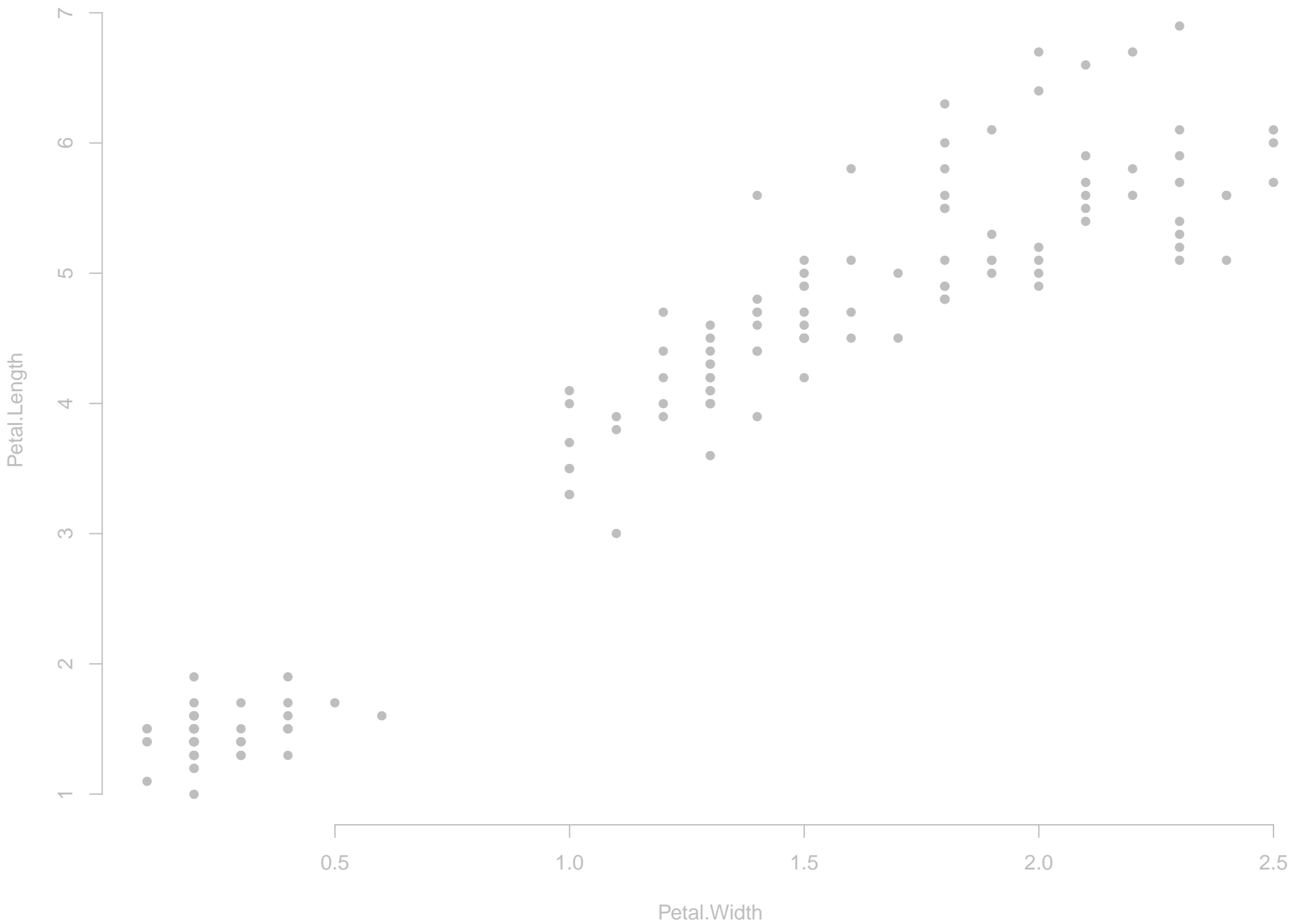
Zoom back out.



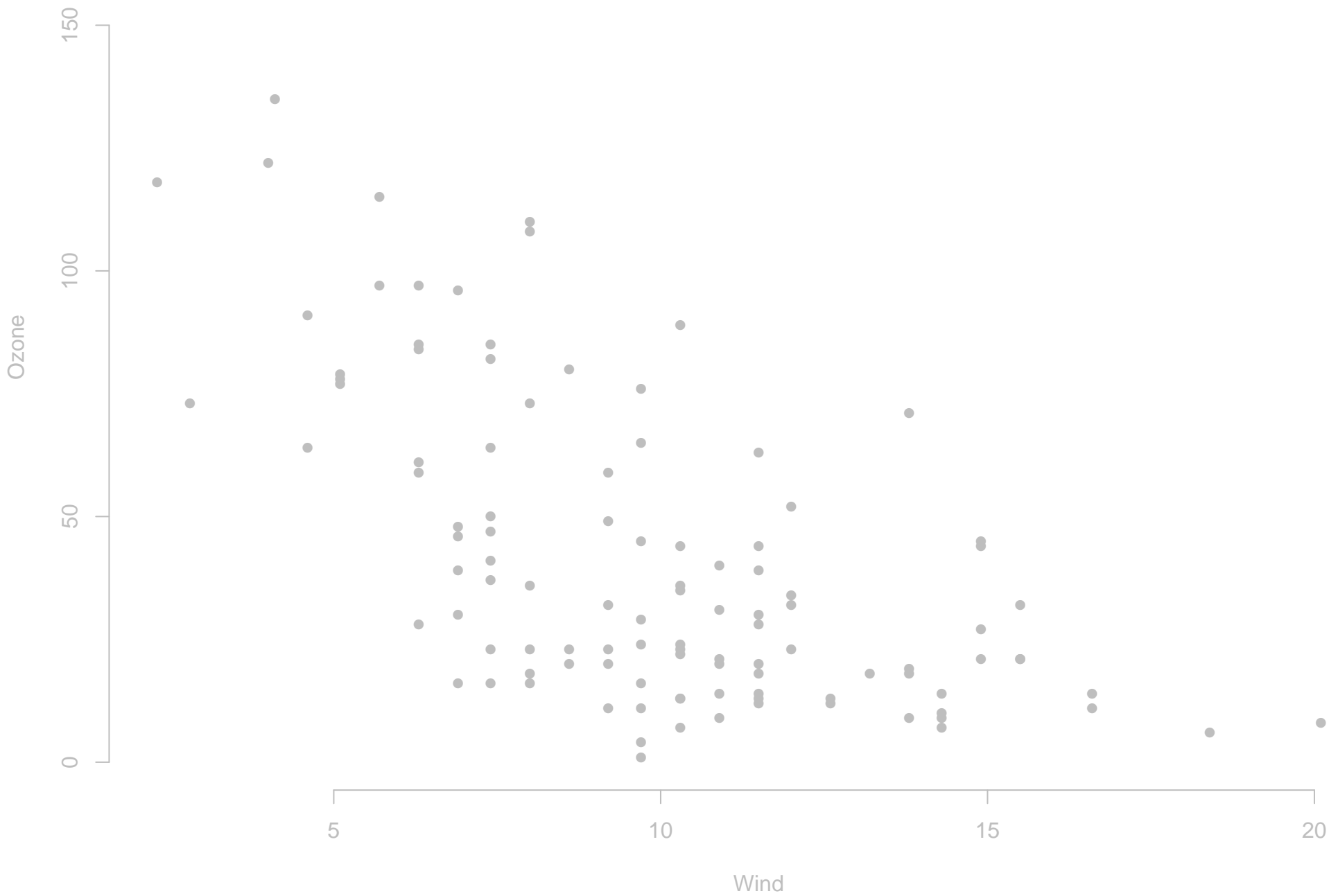
Remember how this fits in.

**We want a number
that describes
whether two variables
move together.**

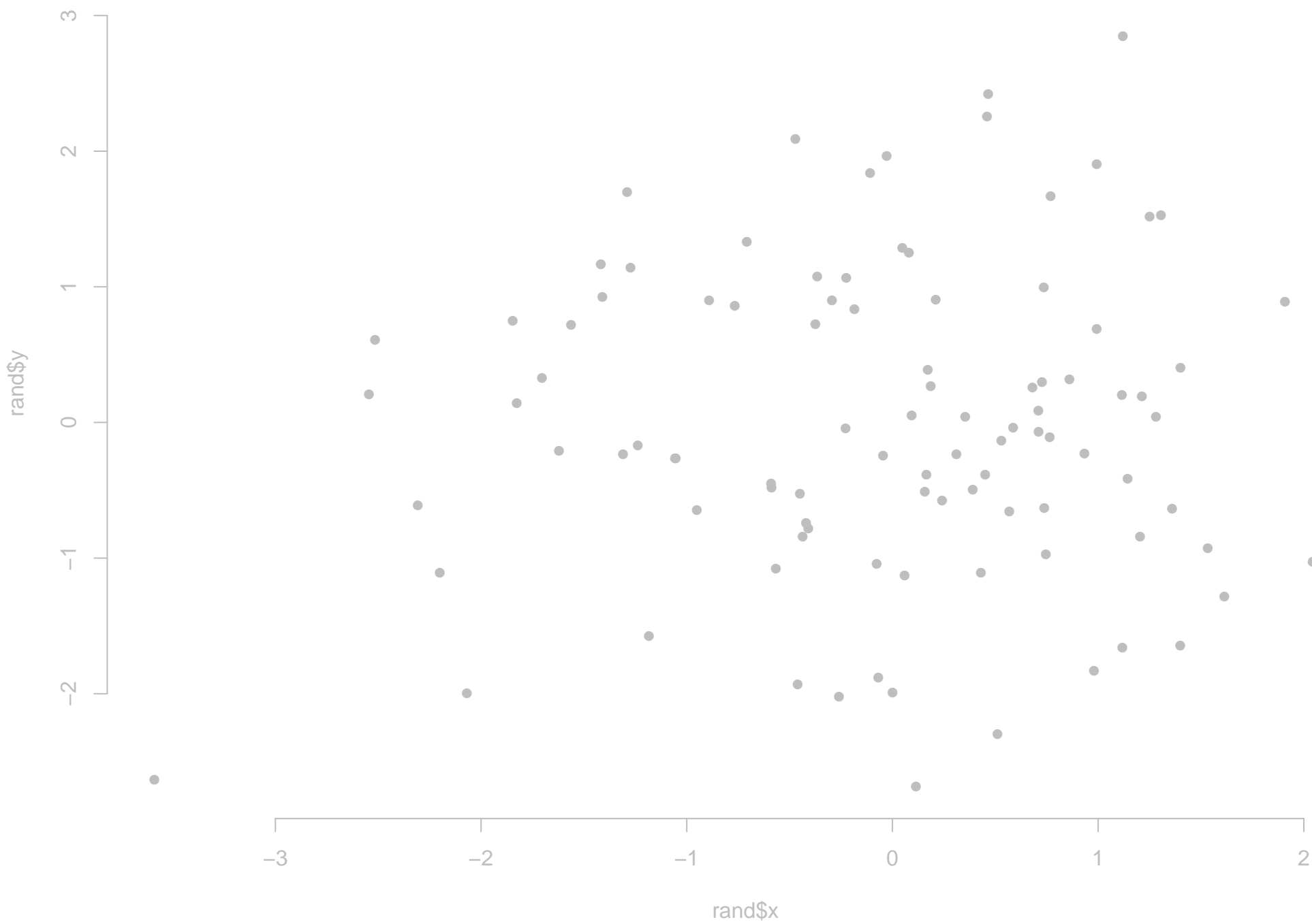
It should be high for these variables



It should be low for these variables

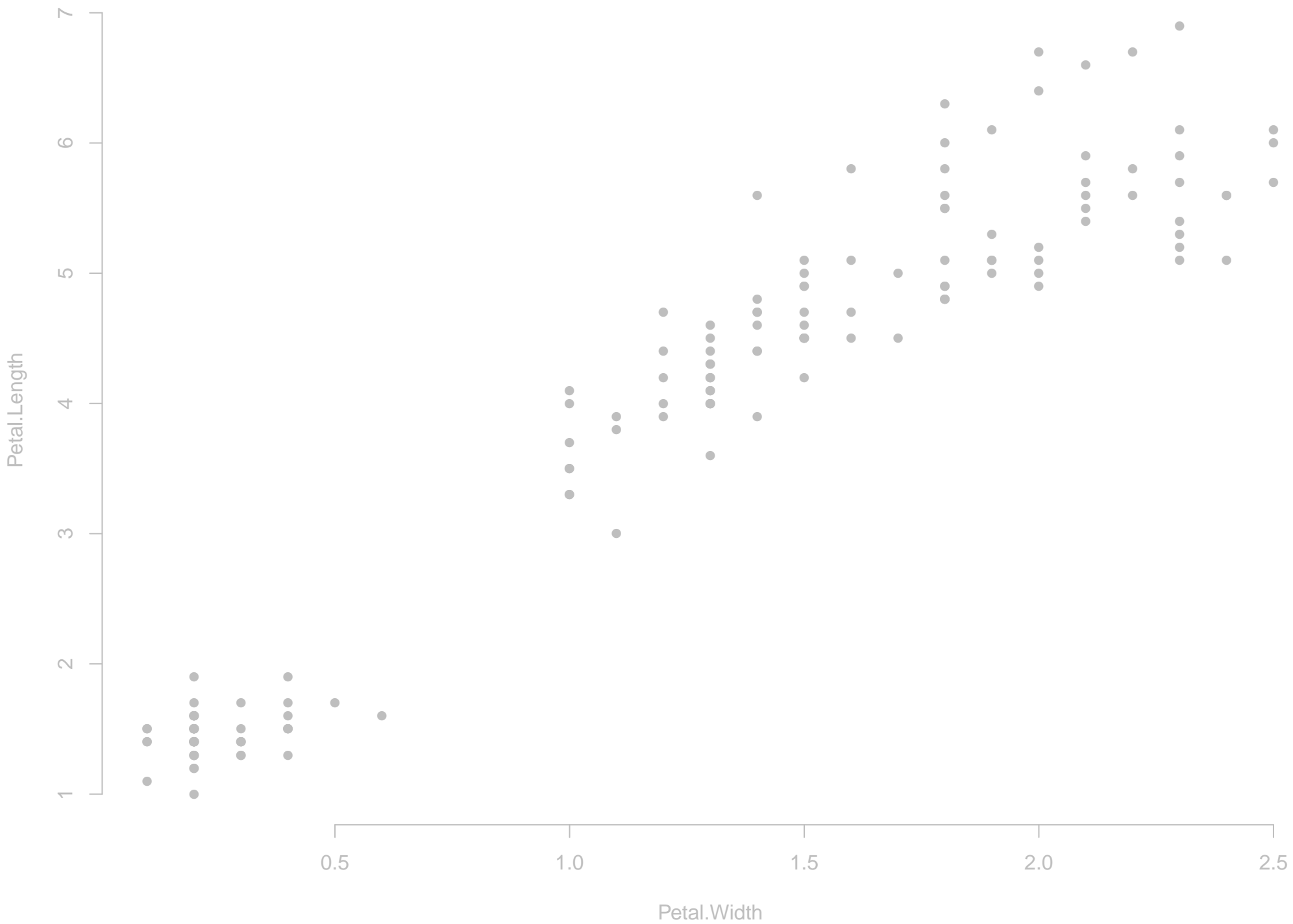


It should be near zero for these variables

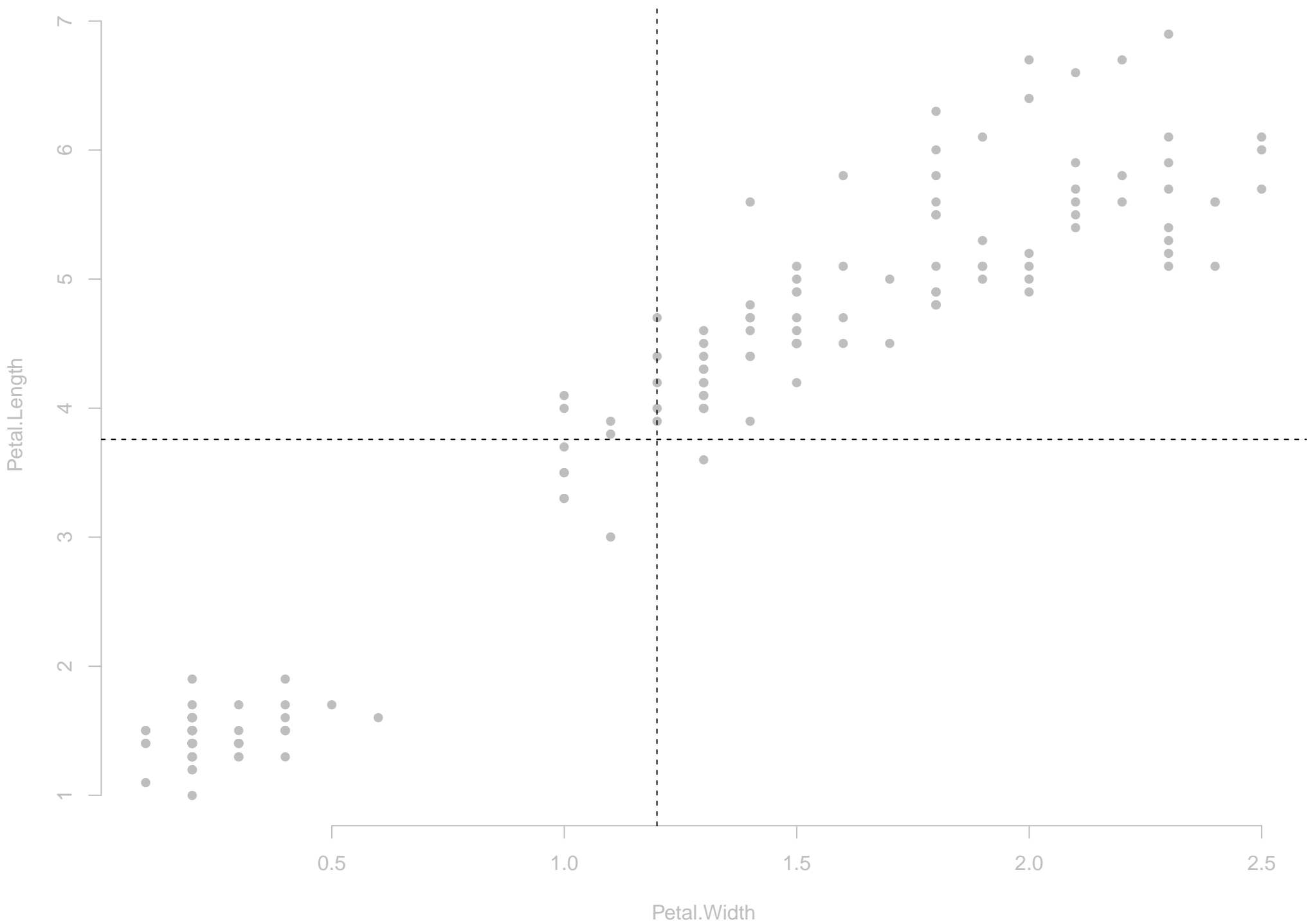


Covariance

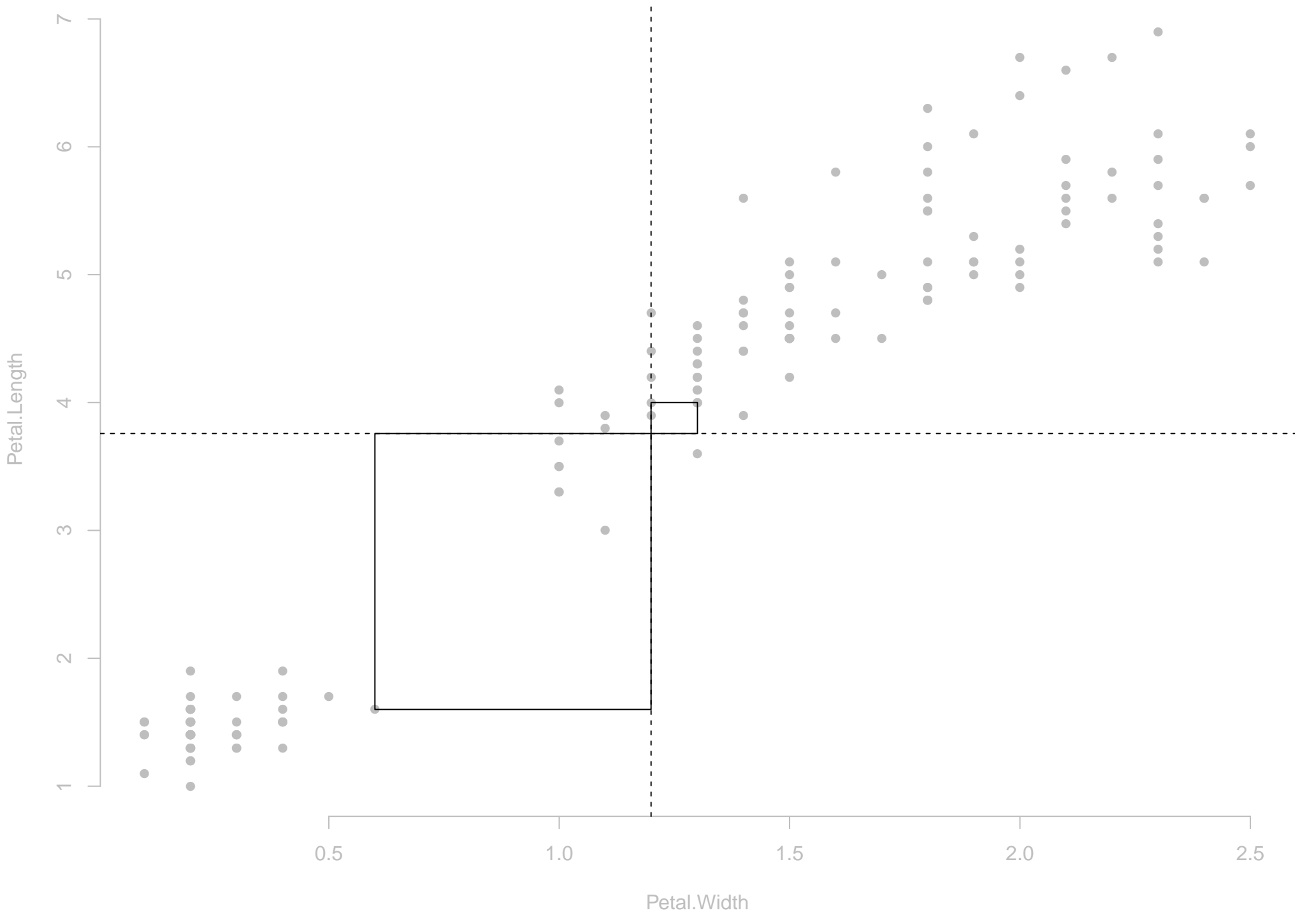
The iris variables



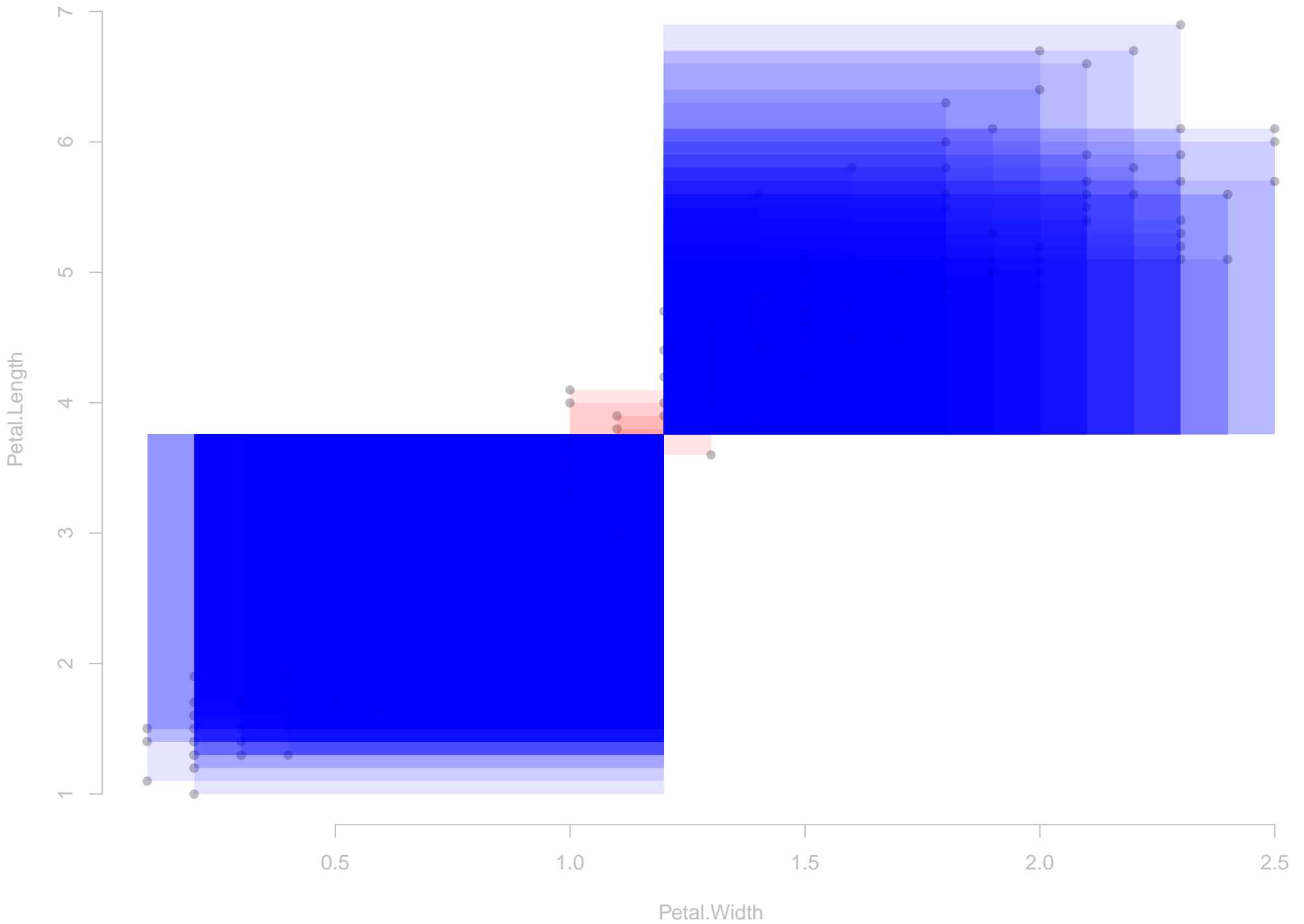
Find the means



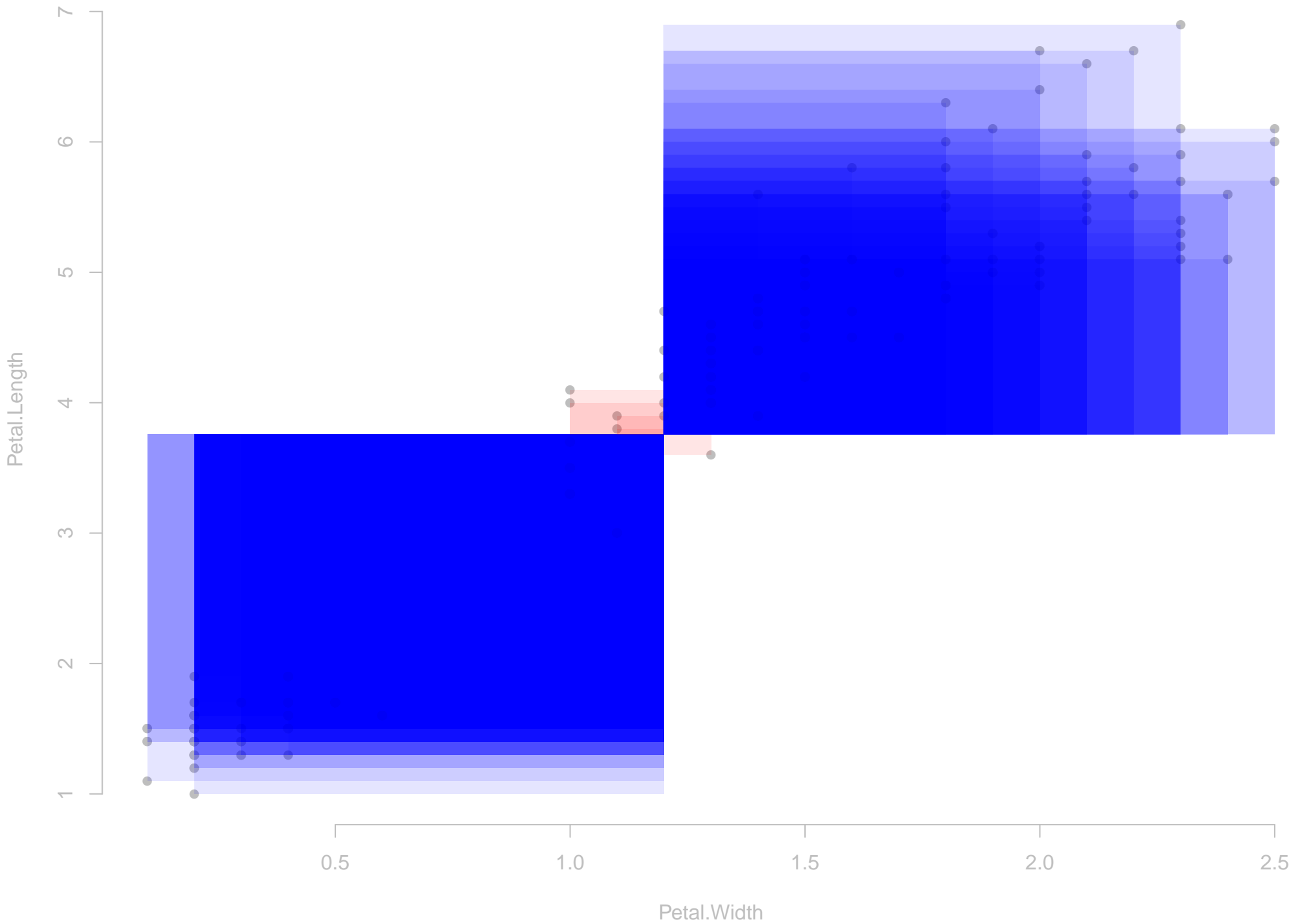
Draw a rectangle



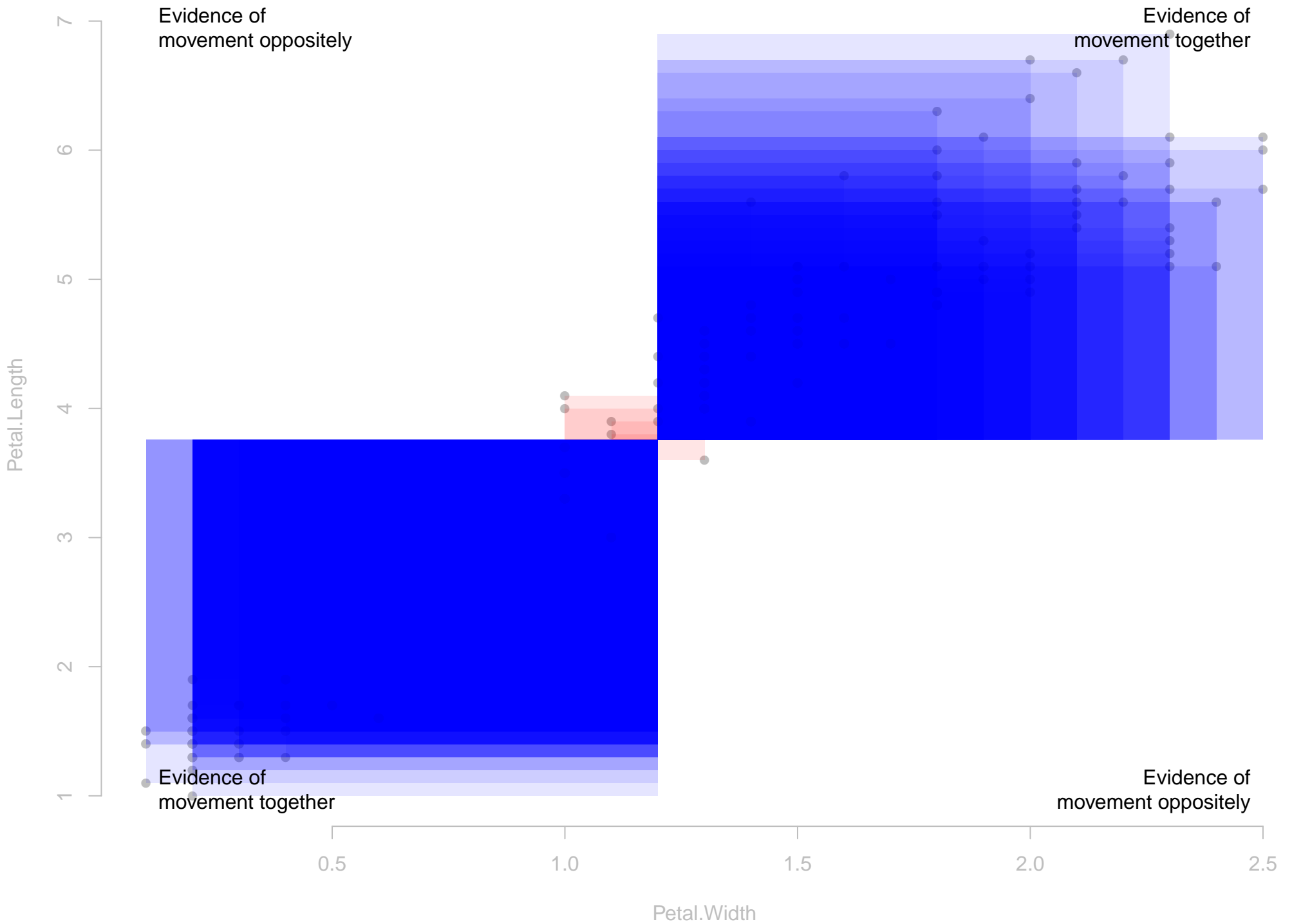
Draw all the rectangles



Why did I color them blue and red?



Why did I color them blue and red?



Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



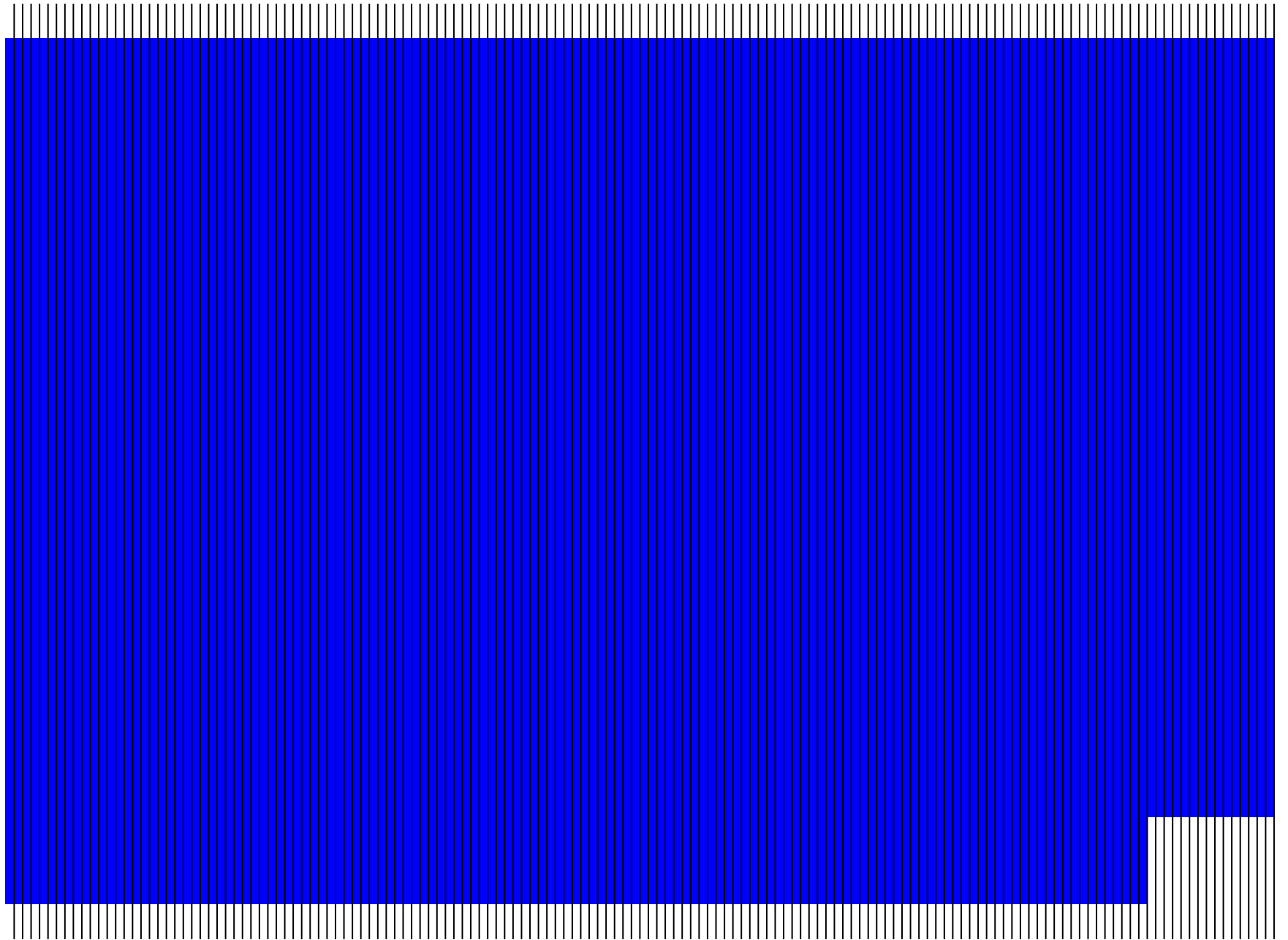
Add the reds together.



Subtract the reds.



Divide into as many equal pieces as we have irises (n).



This blue sliver is the covariance.



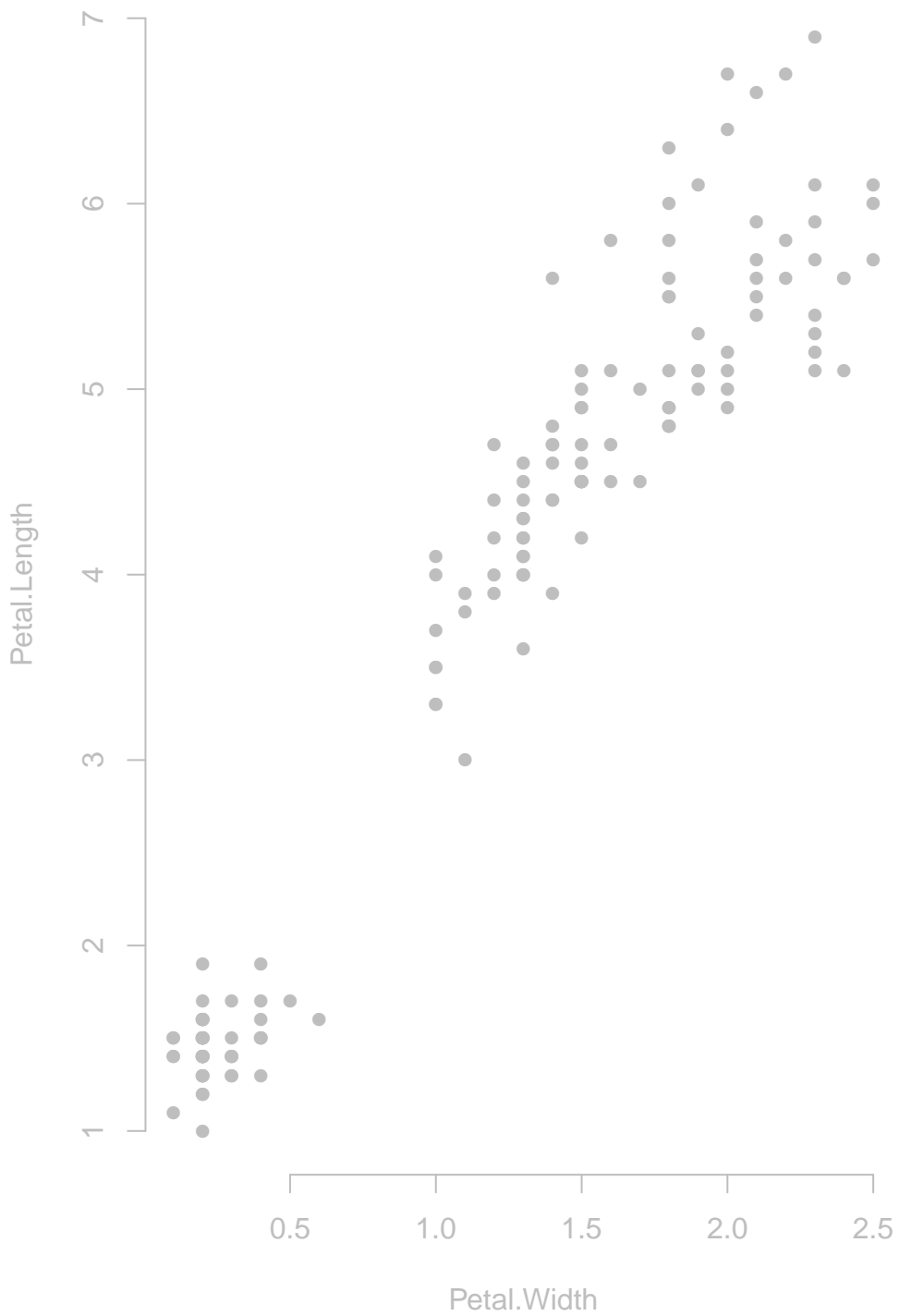
A problem with covariance

Covariance has units!

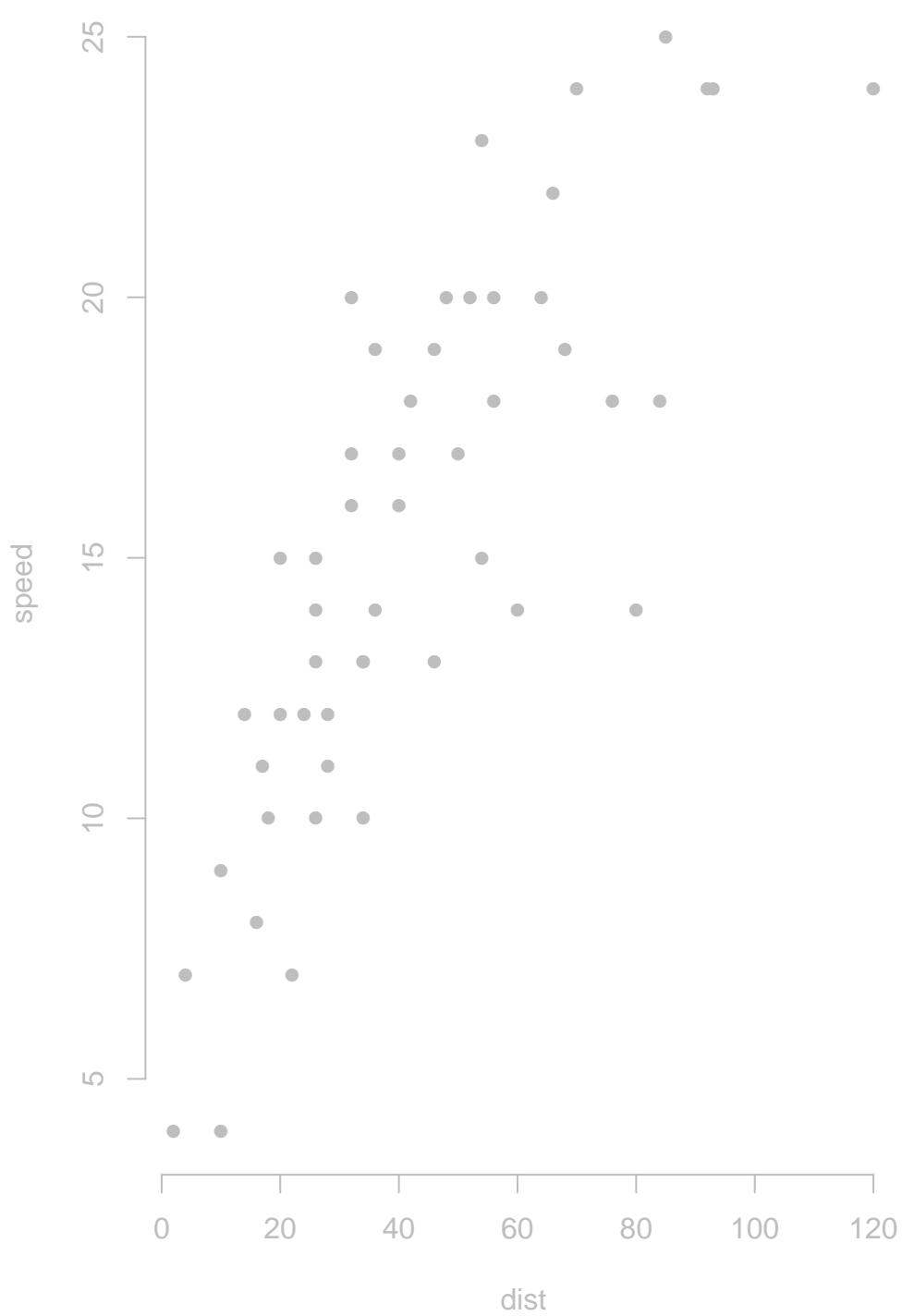
(x-unit times y-unit)

**Which relationship is stronger
(more linear)?**

Irises (cov = 1.3 cm²)



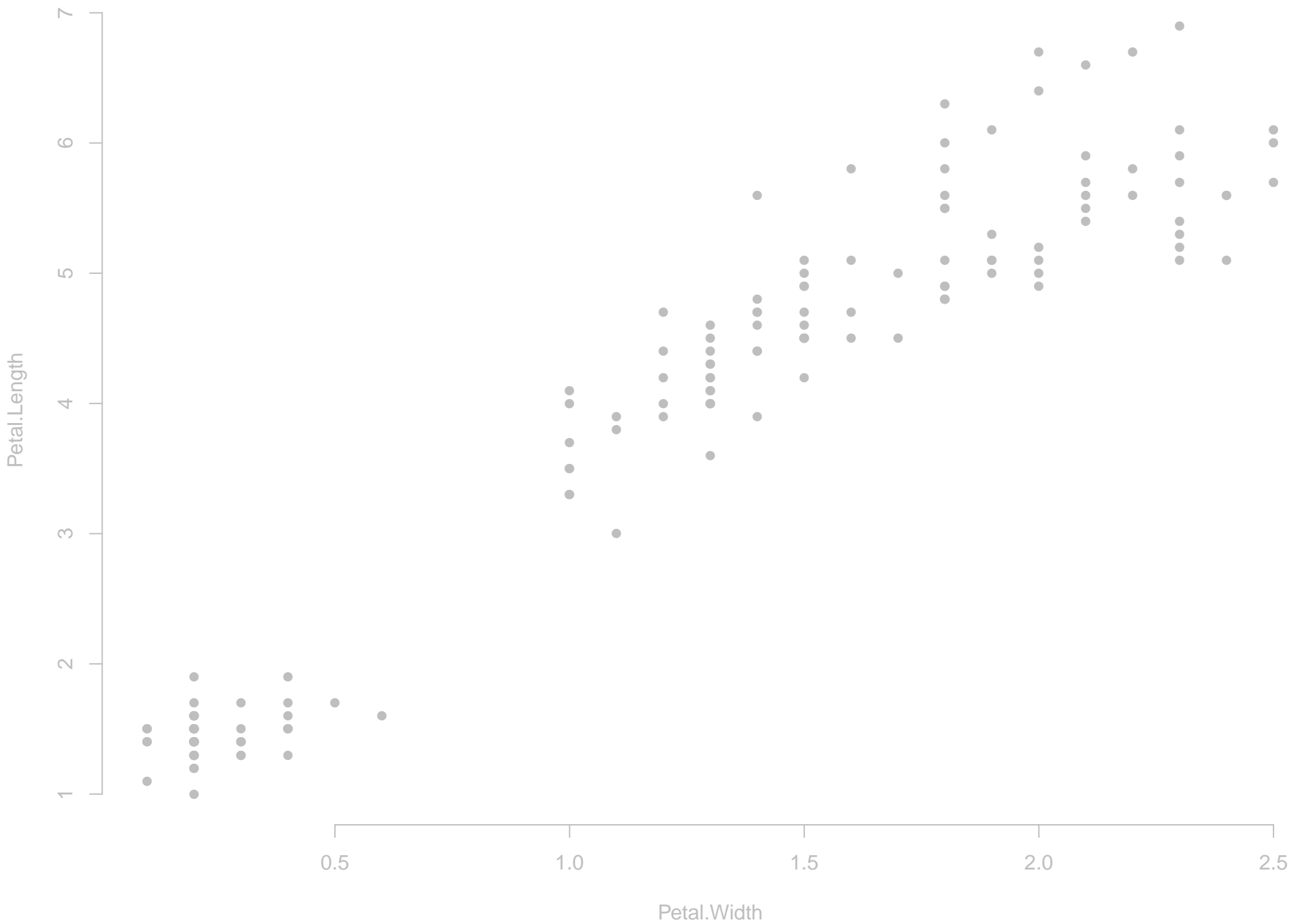
Cars (cov = 109.95 mph*ft)



Oh noes!

**We can divide
the covariance
by the variances
to standardize it.**

We're using these data again.



`var(Petal.Width)`

`sd(Petal.Width)*`
`sd(Petal.Length)`

`var(Petal.Length)`



$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

The black rectangle is
like an average variance.

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

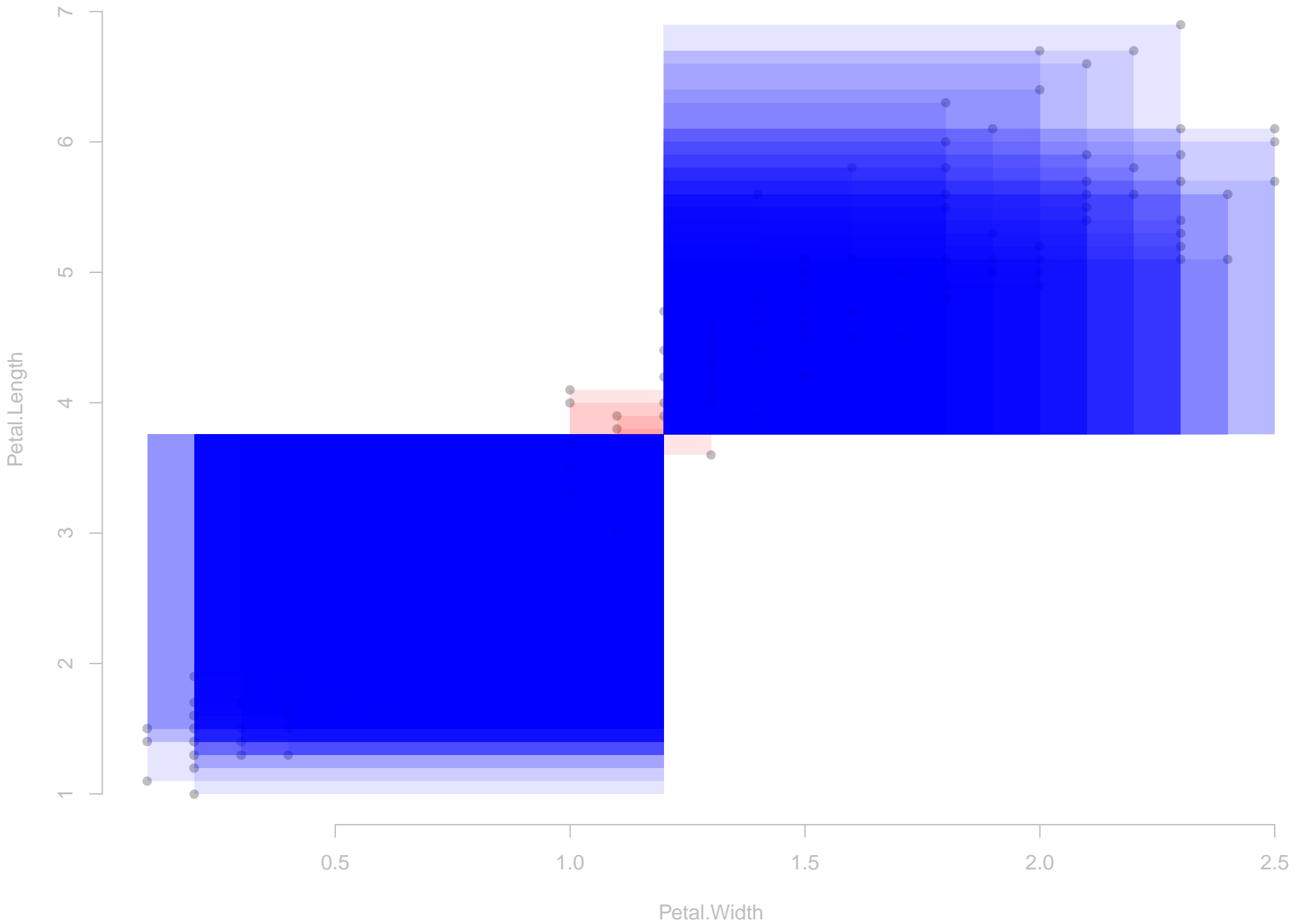
$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

$\text{cov}(\text{Petal.Width}, \text{Petal.Length})$
cannot be bigger than
black rectangle.

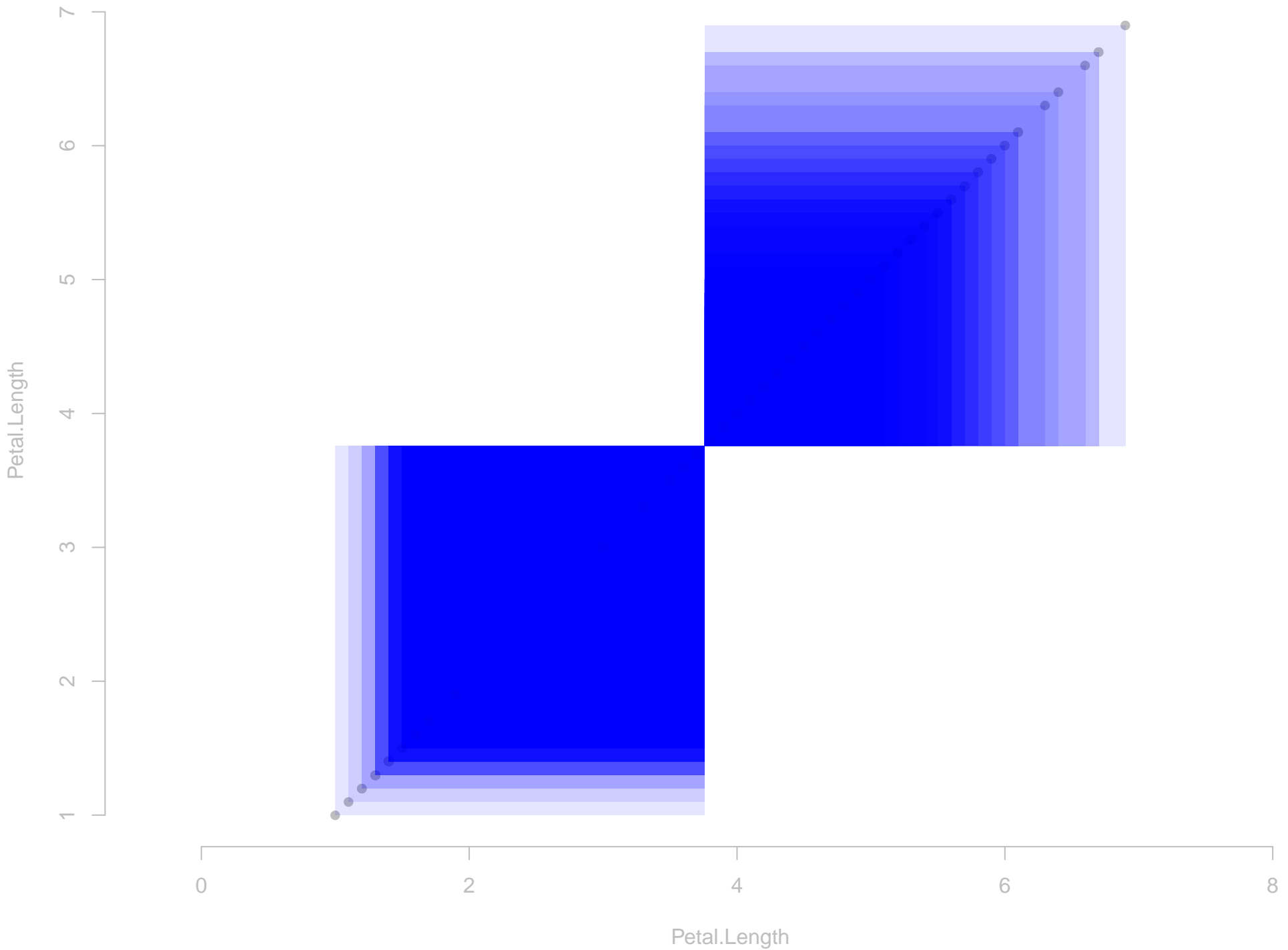
$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

Why?

Covariance has red rectangles.



Variance doesn't have red rectangles.



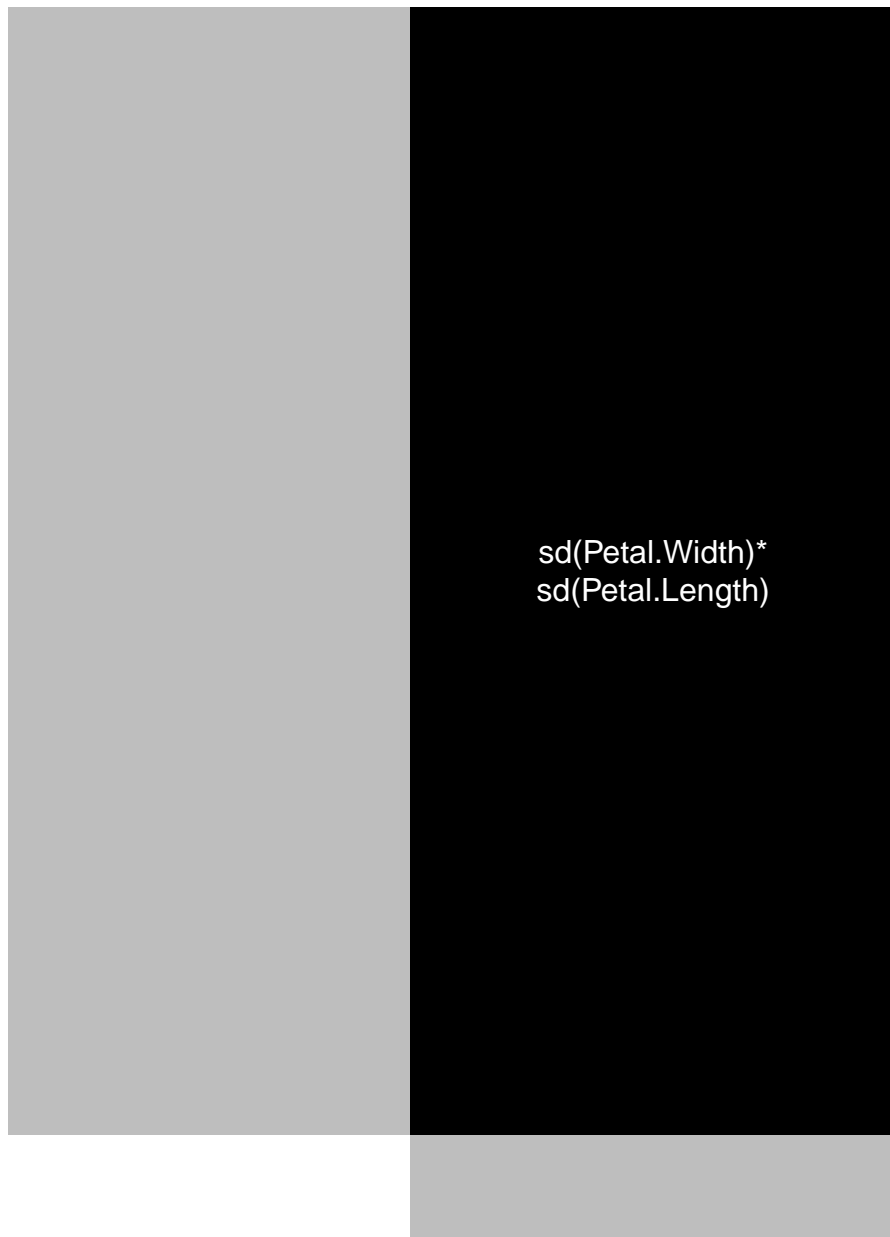
$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

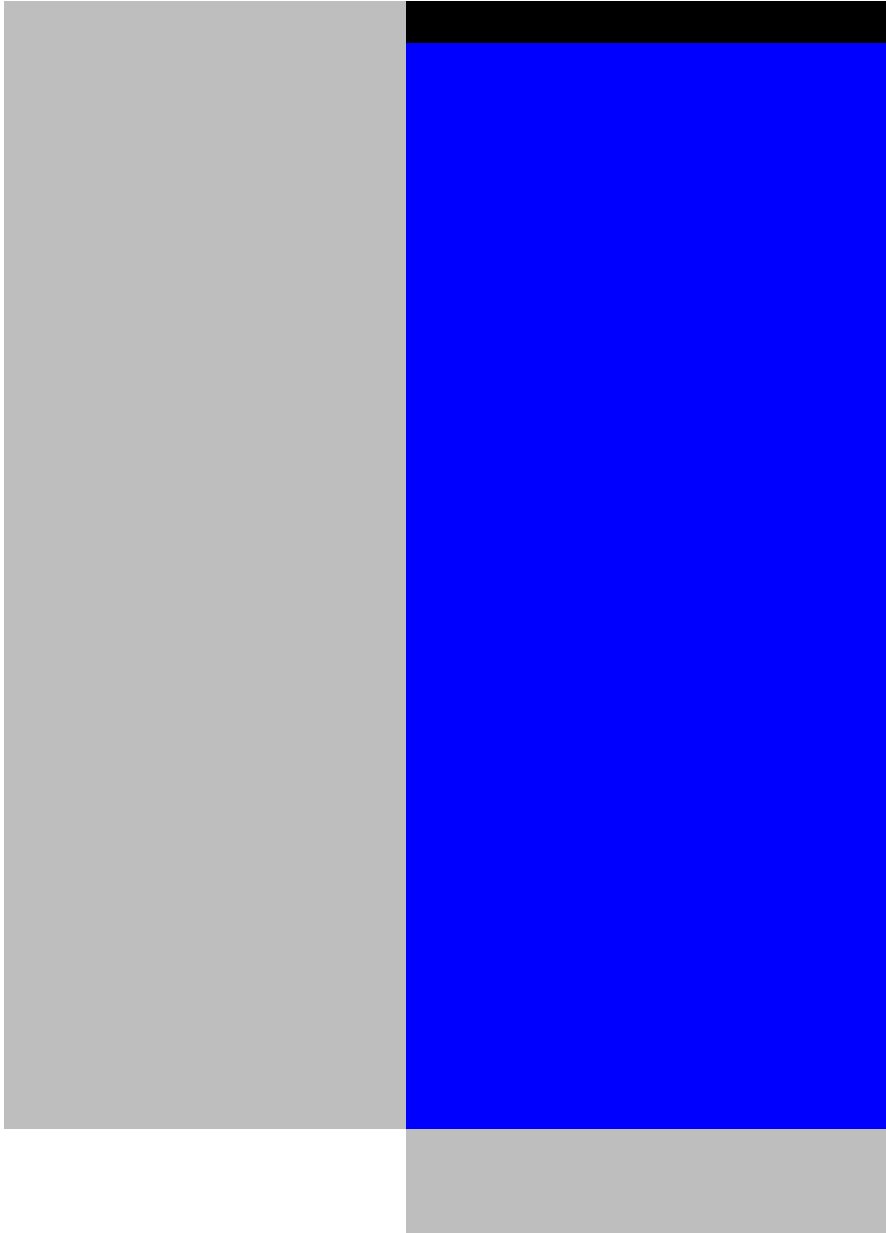
$\text{cov}(\text{Petal.Width}, \text{Petal.Length})$
cannot be bigger than
black rectangle.

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

Let's zoom in.

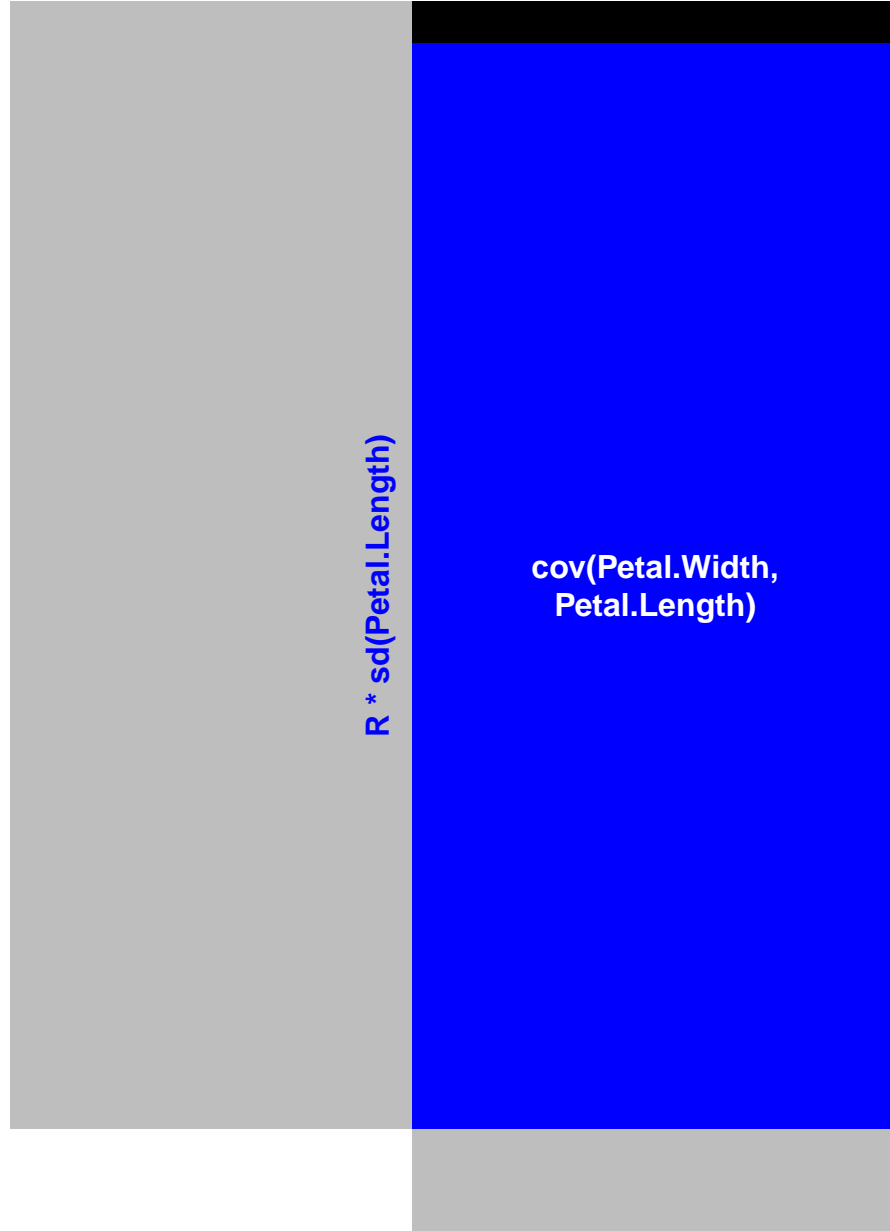


Squish covariance vertically into the rectangle.

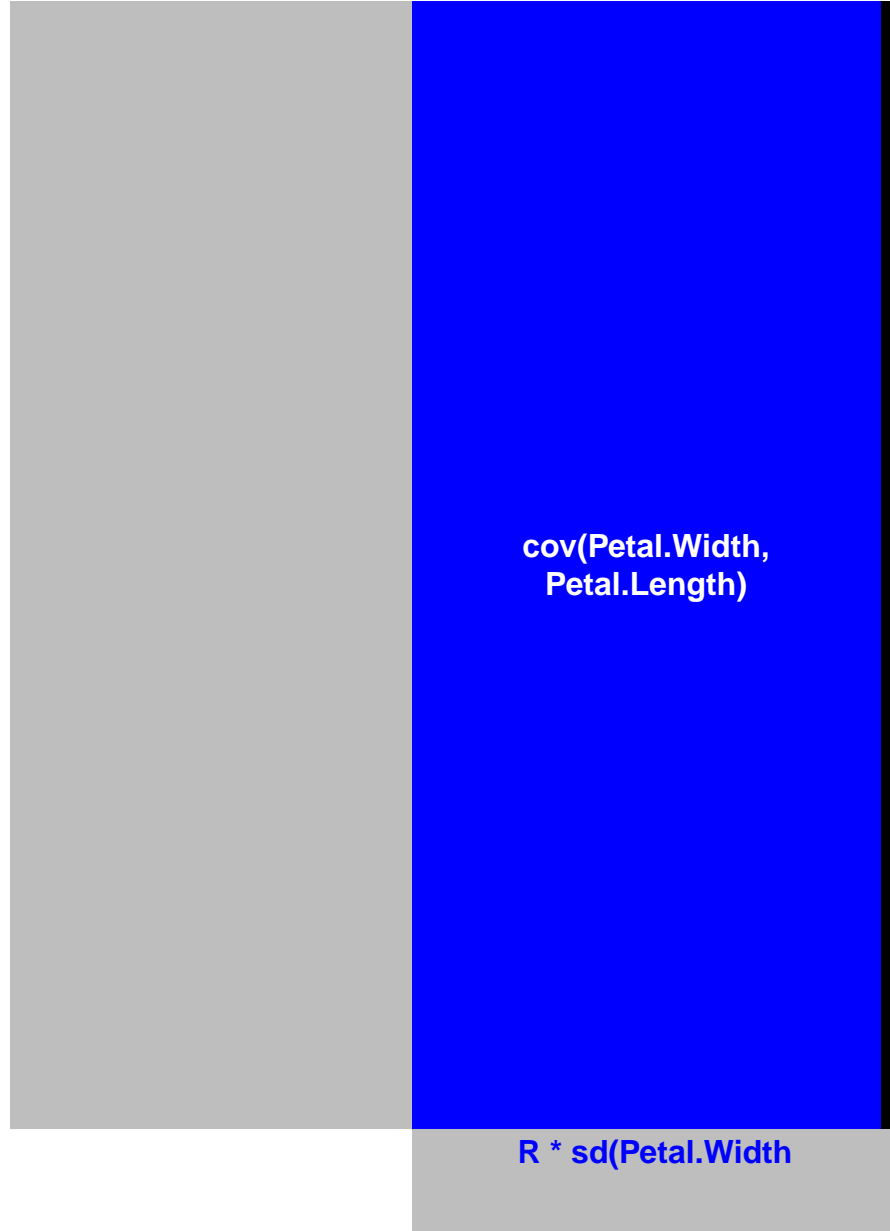


**Correlation (R)
is the ratio of
the small rectangle
to the big rectangle.**

Squish covariance vertically into the rectangle.

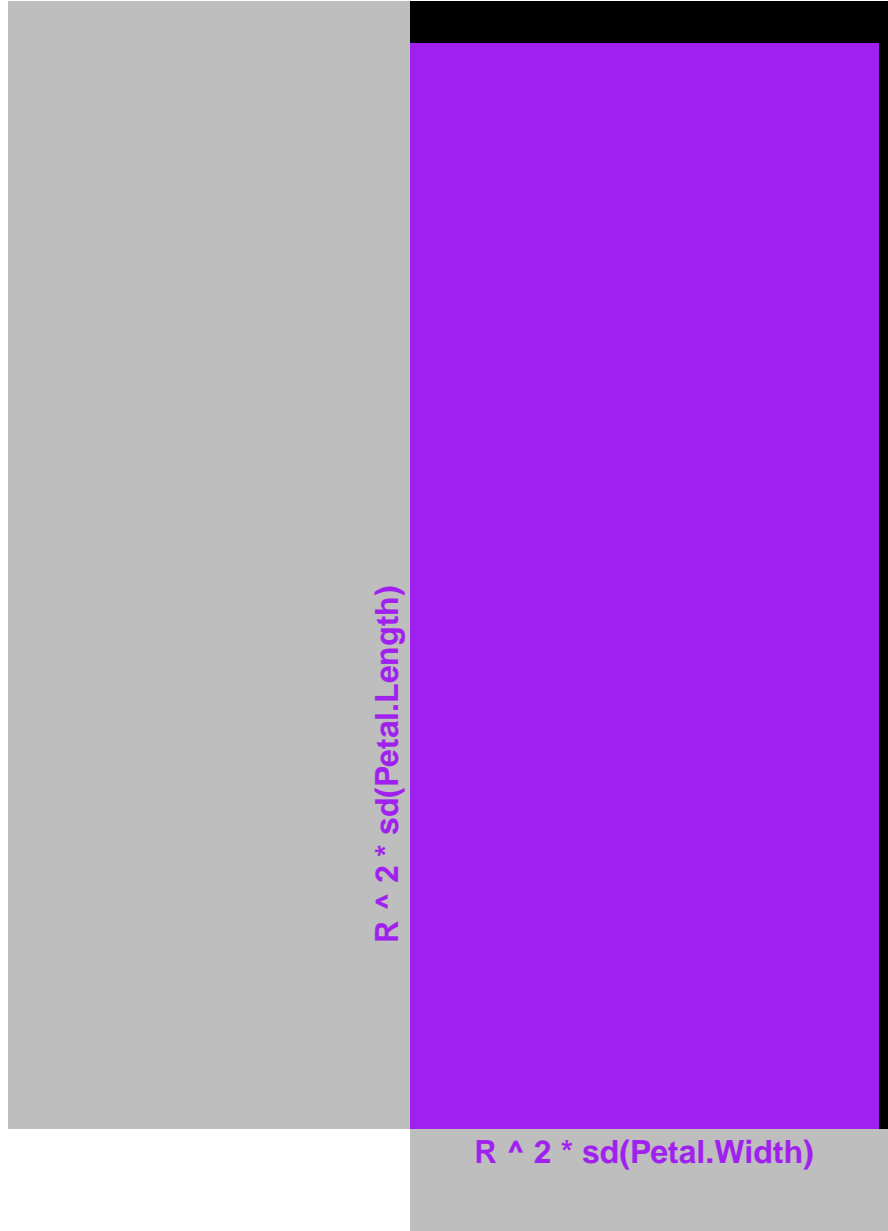


Squish covariance horizontally into the rectangle.

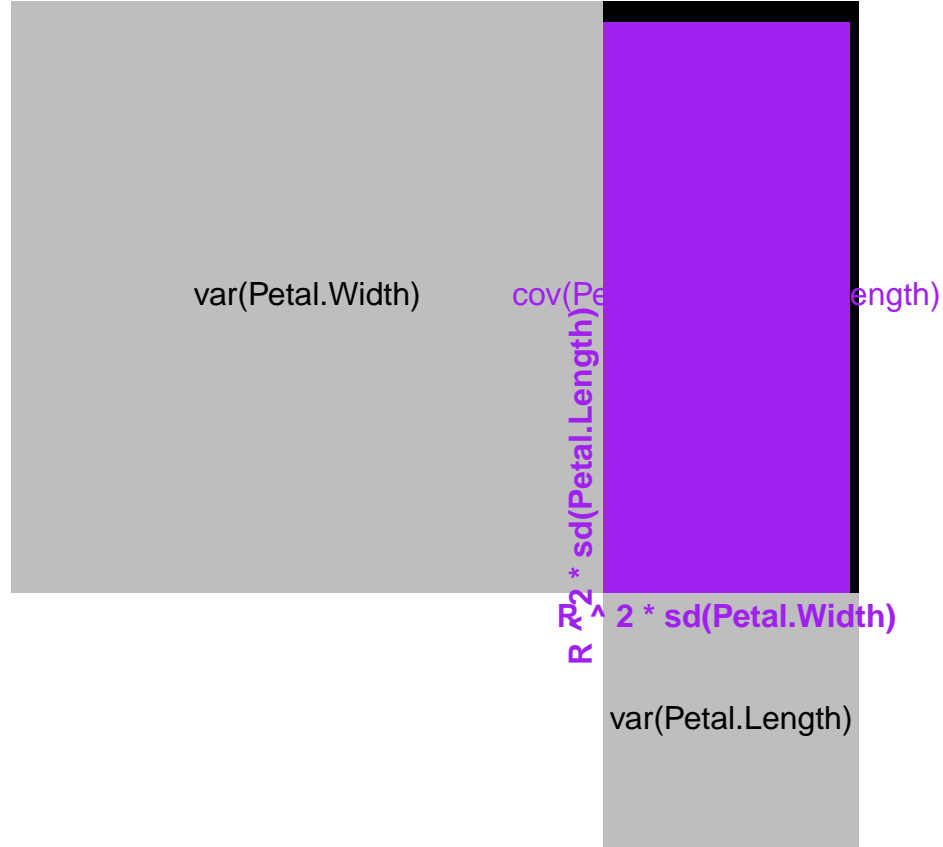


**People like to
talk about R-squared.**

Intersect the two squished covariance rectangles.



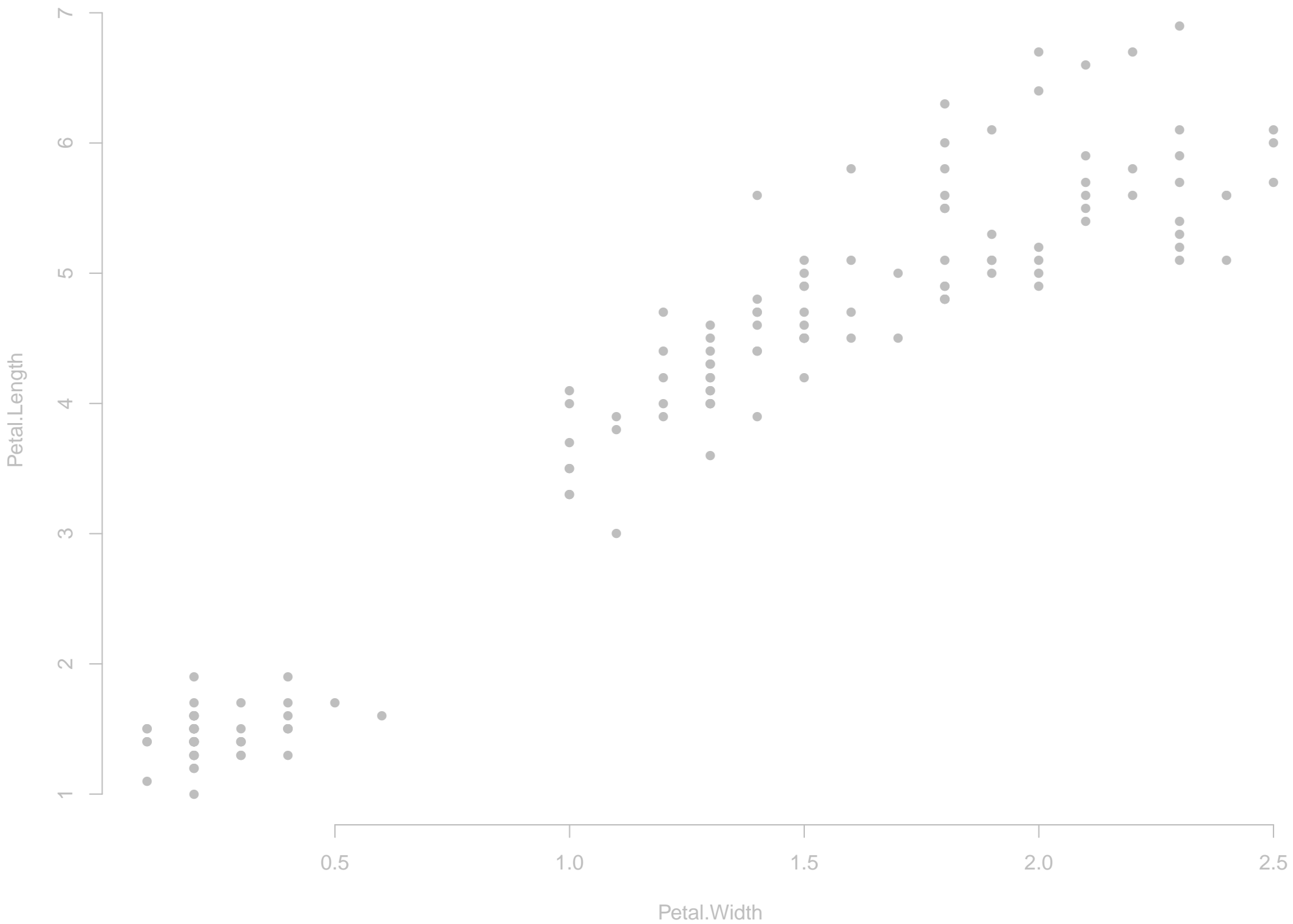
Intersect the two squished covariance rectangles.



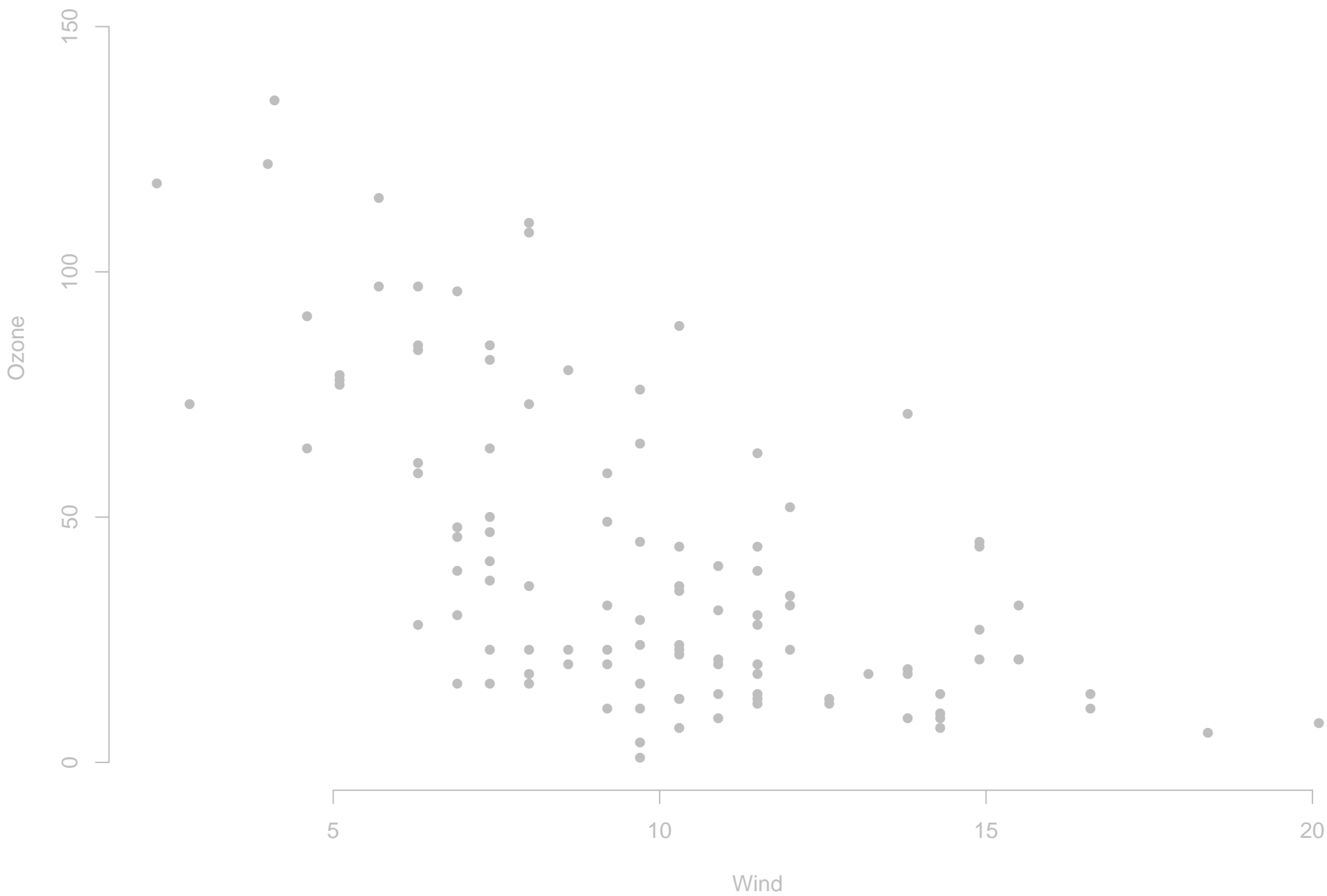
**That was for very
positive (blue) covariances.**

What if covariance is negative (red)?

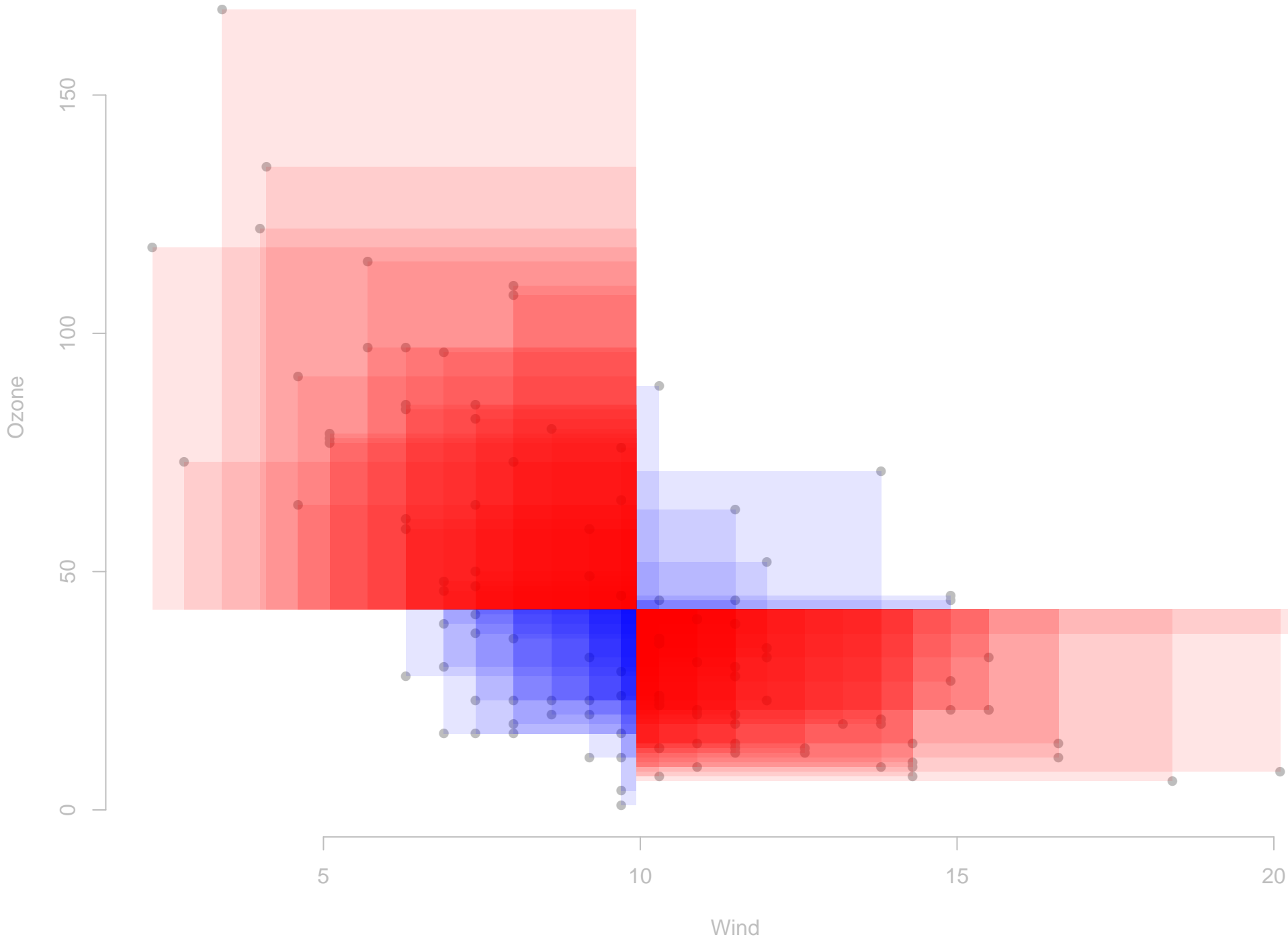
We were just using these data.



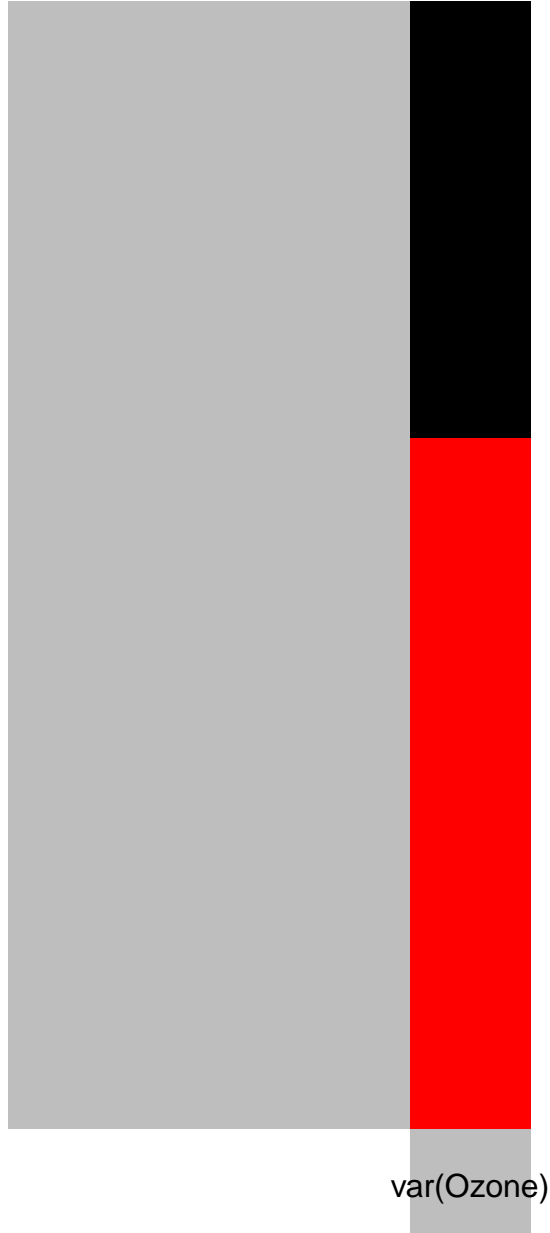
What if we had these data?



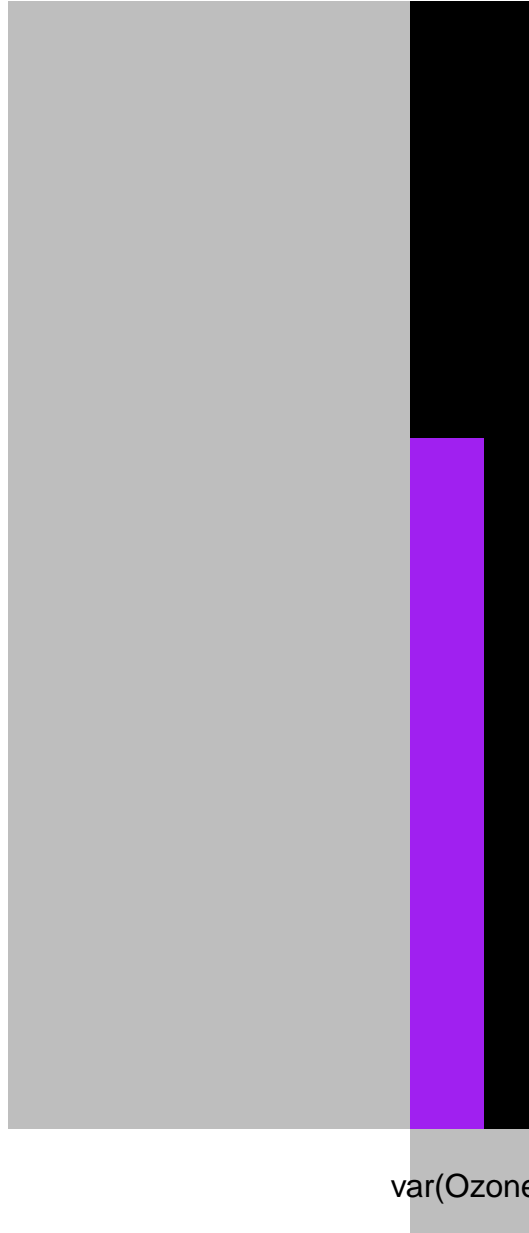
What if we had these data?



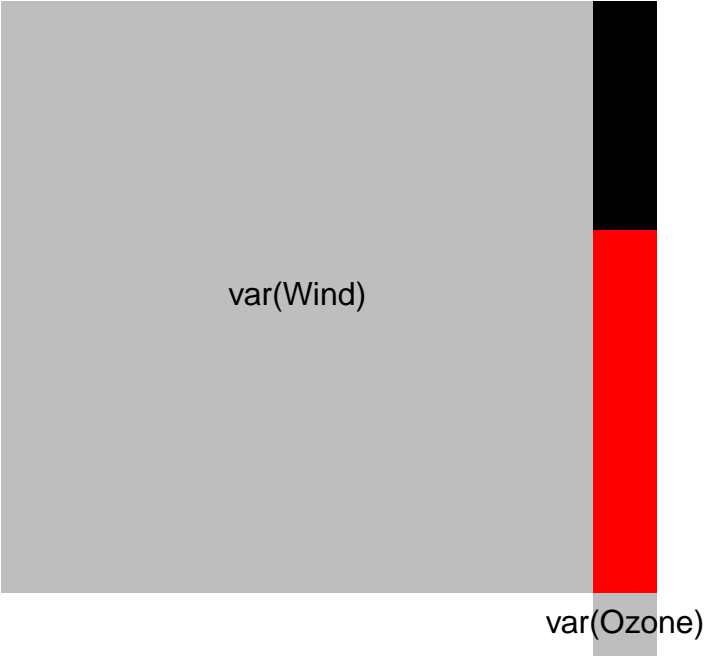
R is the same, just negative.



R-squared is the same, and it is always positive.



Zoom back out.



**If we transform the covariance a bit,
we can also make predictions.**

Let's use x to predict y .

$$y = b_0 + b_1 * x$$

Let's invent b1.

What values should it have?

**If covariance is very positive
and x is high,
 y should be high.**

(We want b_1 to be positive.)

**If covariance is very negative
and x is high,
 y should be low.**

(We want b_1 to be negative.)

**If covariance is low,
we have no idea what y is.**

(b_1 is around zero.)

Let's think about units again.

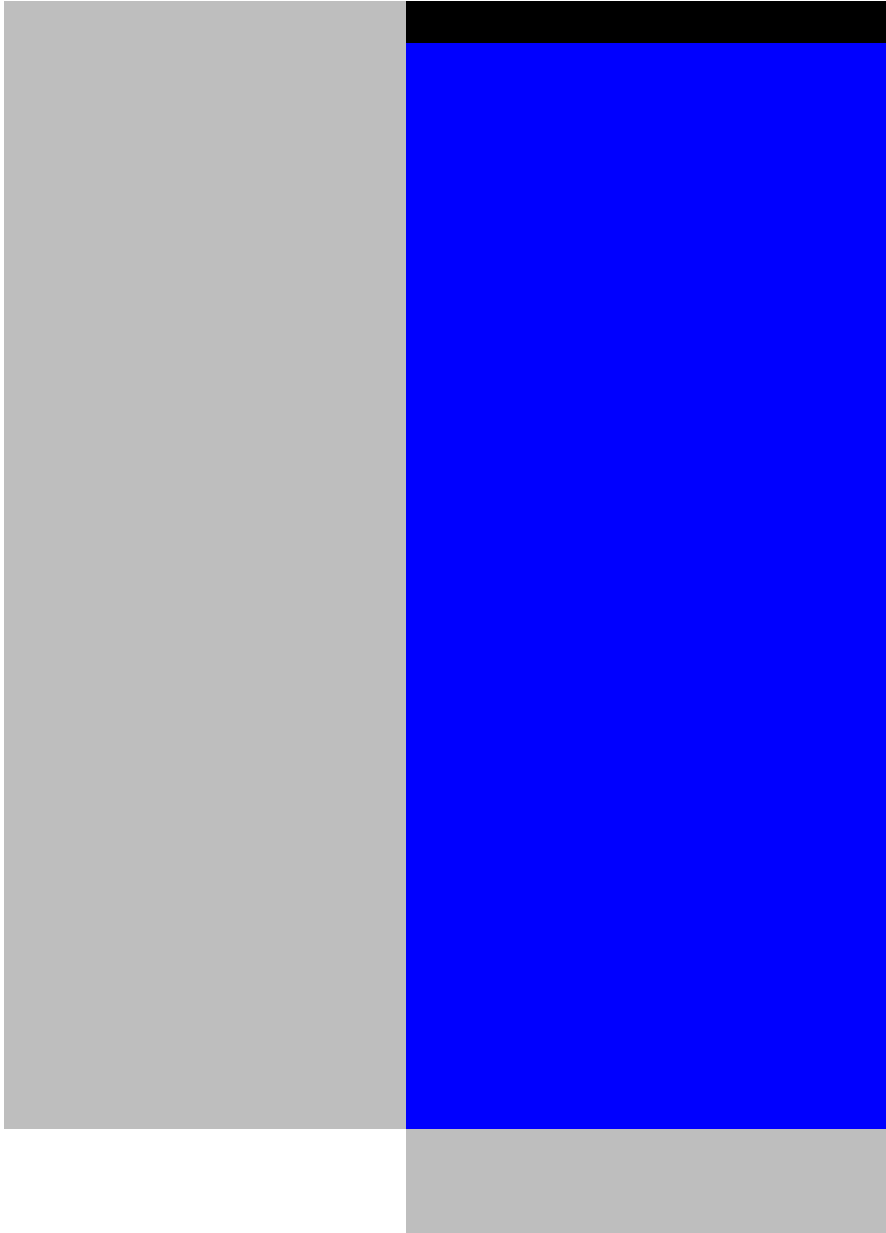
Covariance is an area; its unit is the product of the x and y units.



Variance is a special covariance; its unit is the square of the x unit.

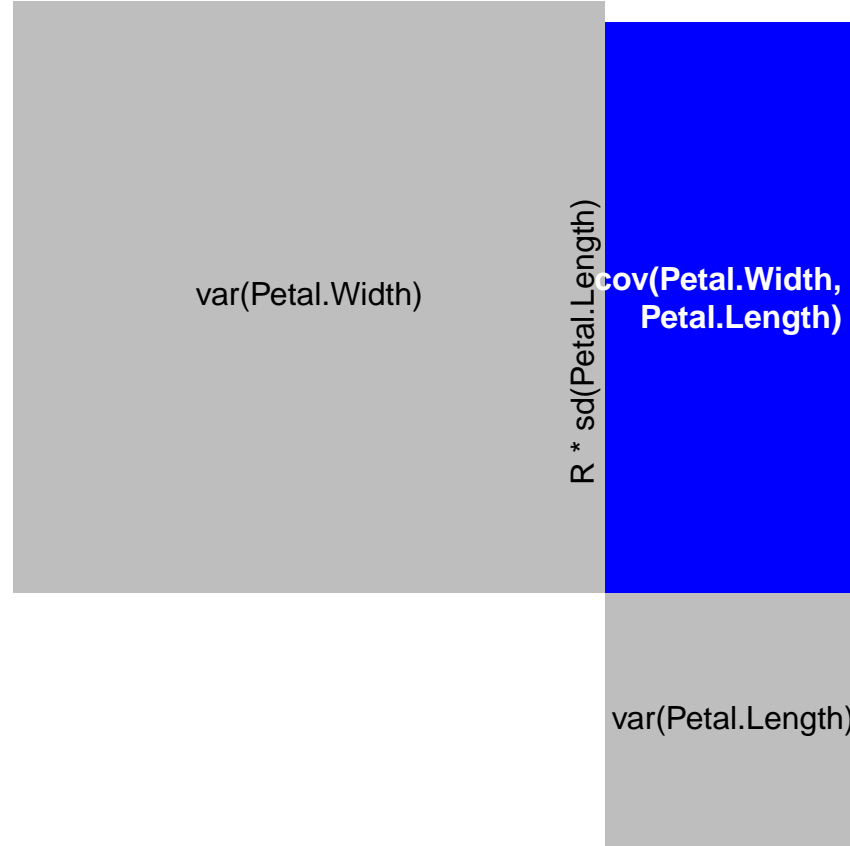


Correlation is a ratio of areas with the same units.

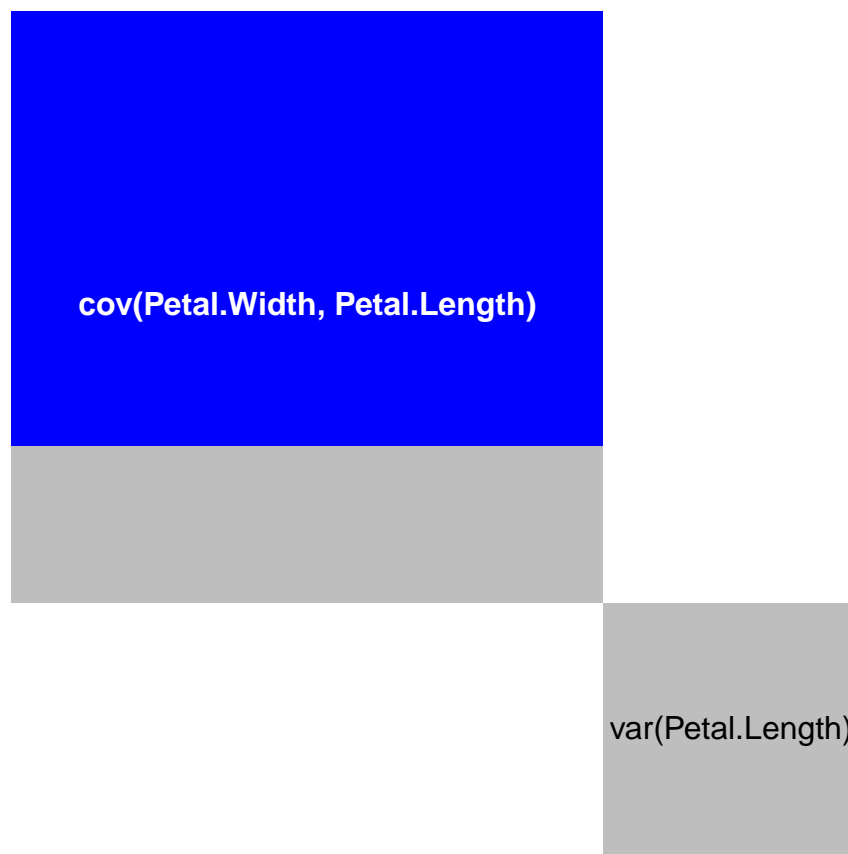


The unit of b_1 must be y-unit/x-unit.

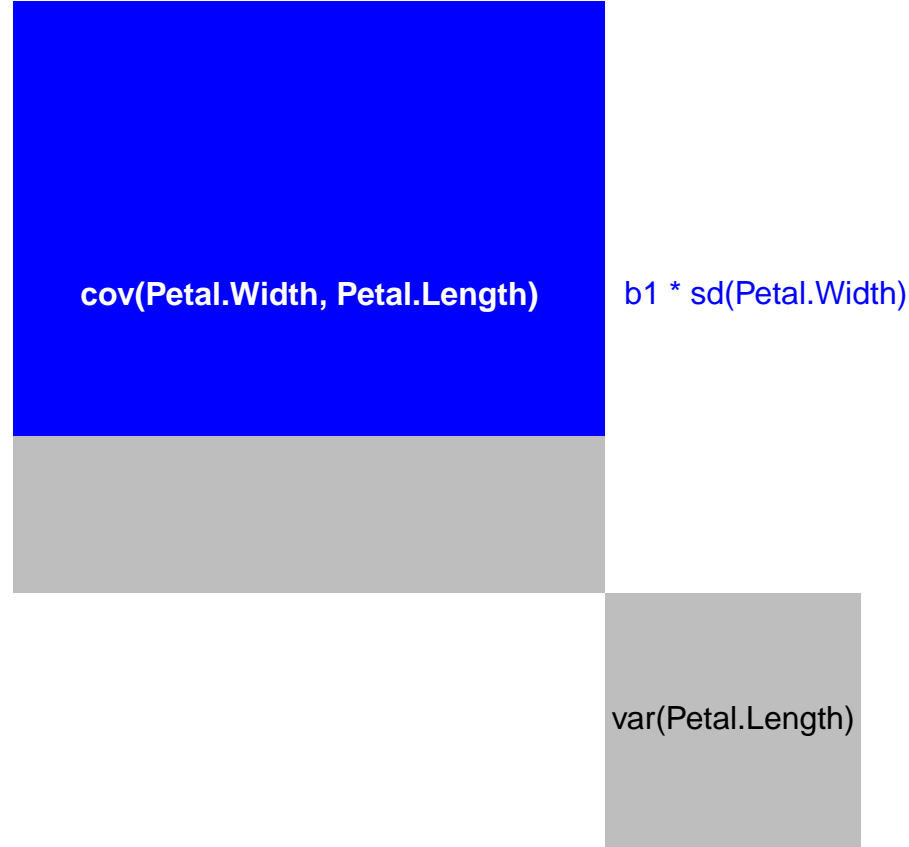
Our covariance picture



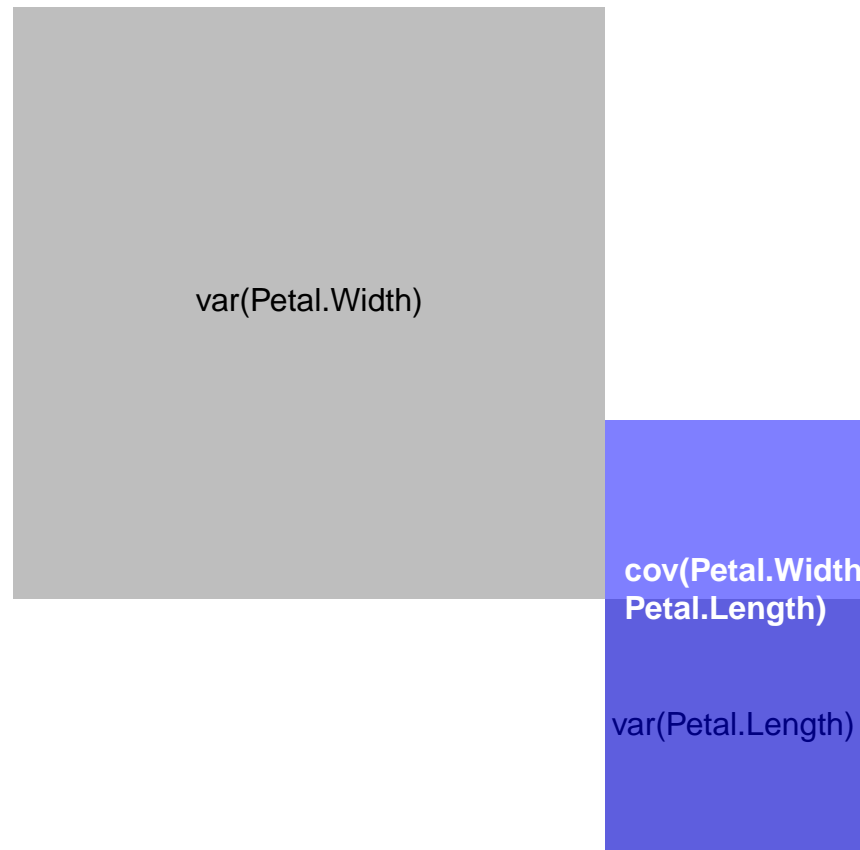
Lay the covariance over one of the variances instead.



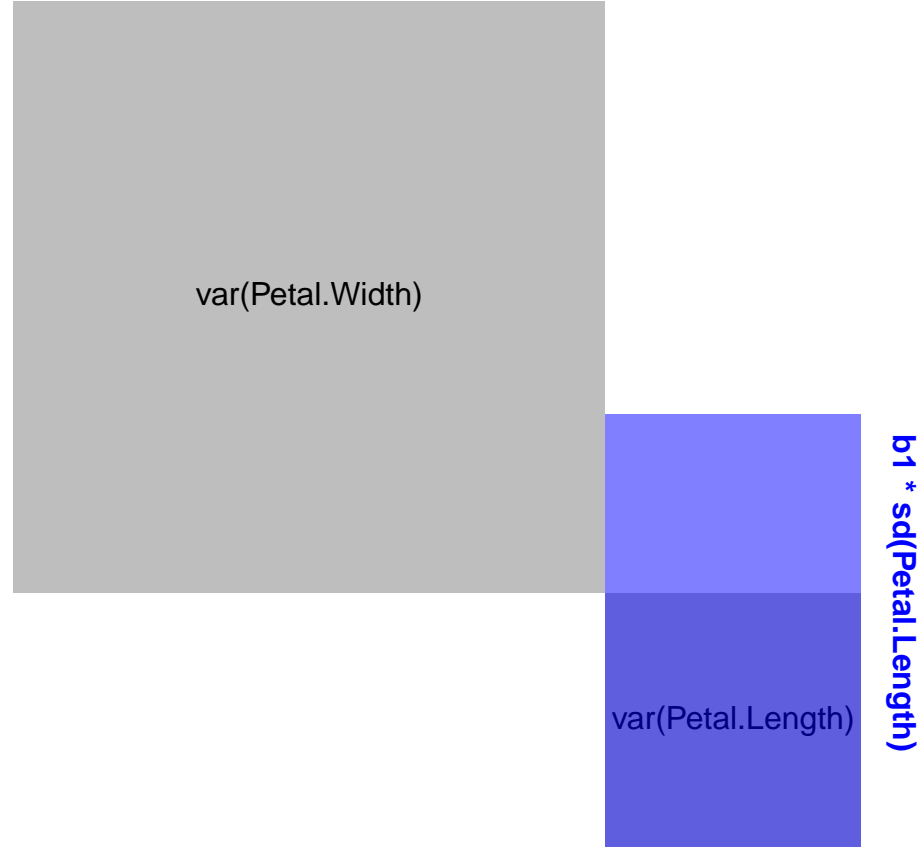
$$\text{Petal.Length} = b_0 + b_1 * \text{Petal.Width}$$



Lay the covariance over the other variance.

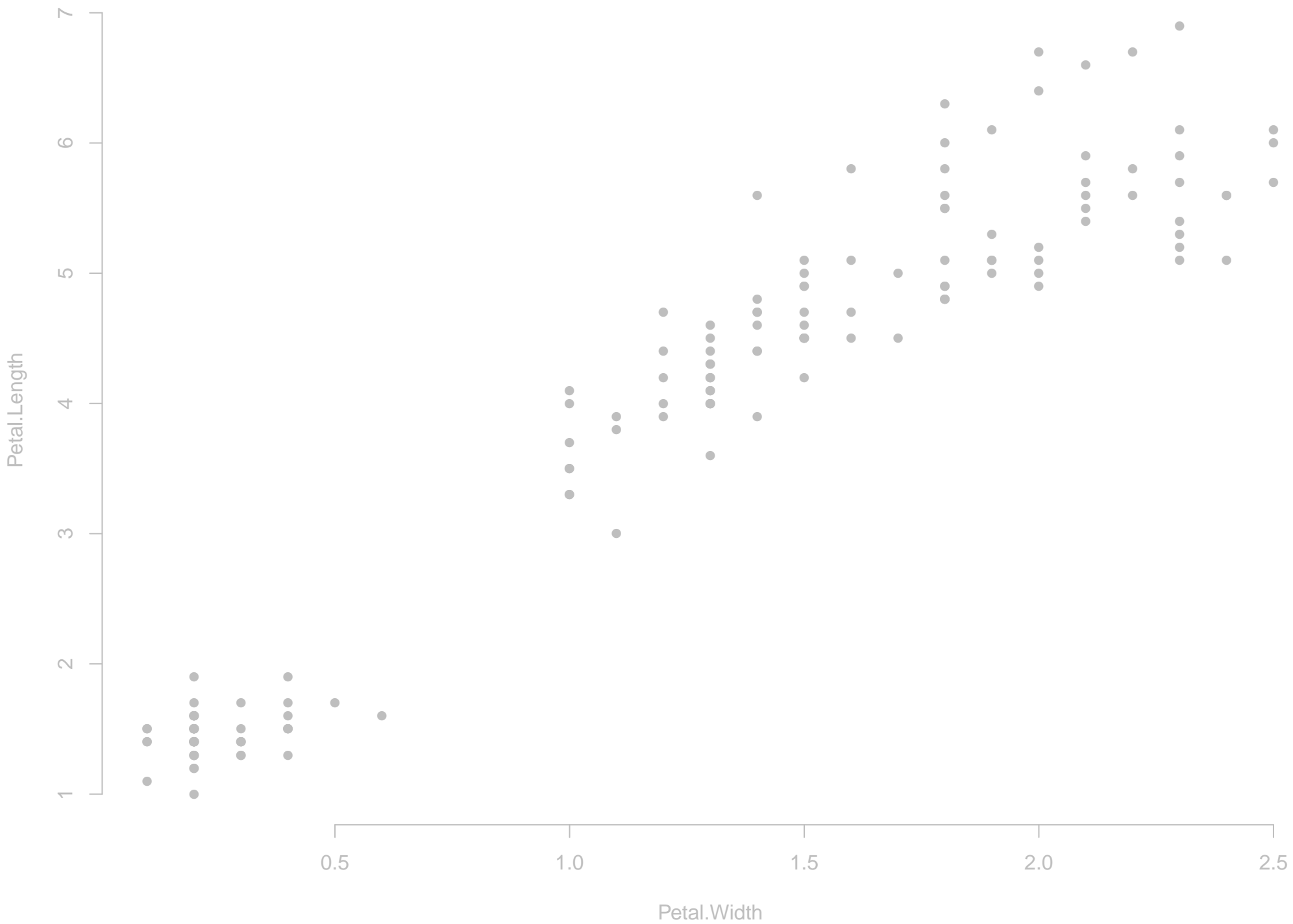


$$\text{Petal.Width} = b_0 + b_1 * \text{Petal.Length}$$

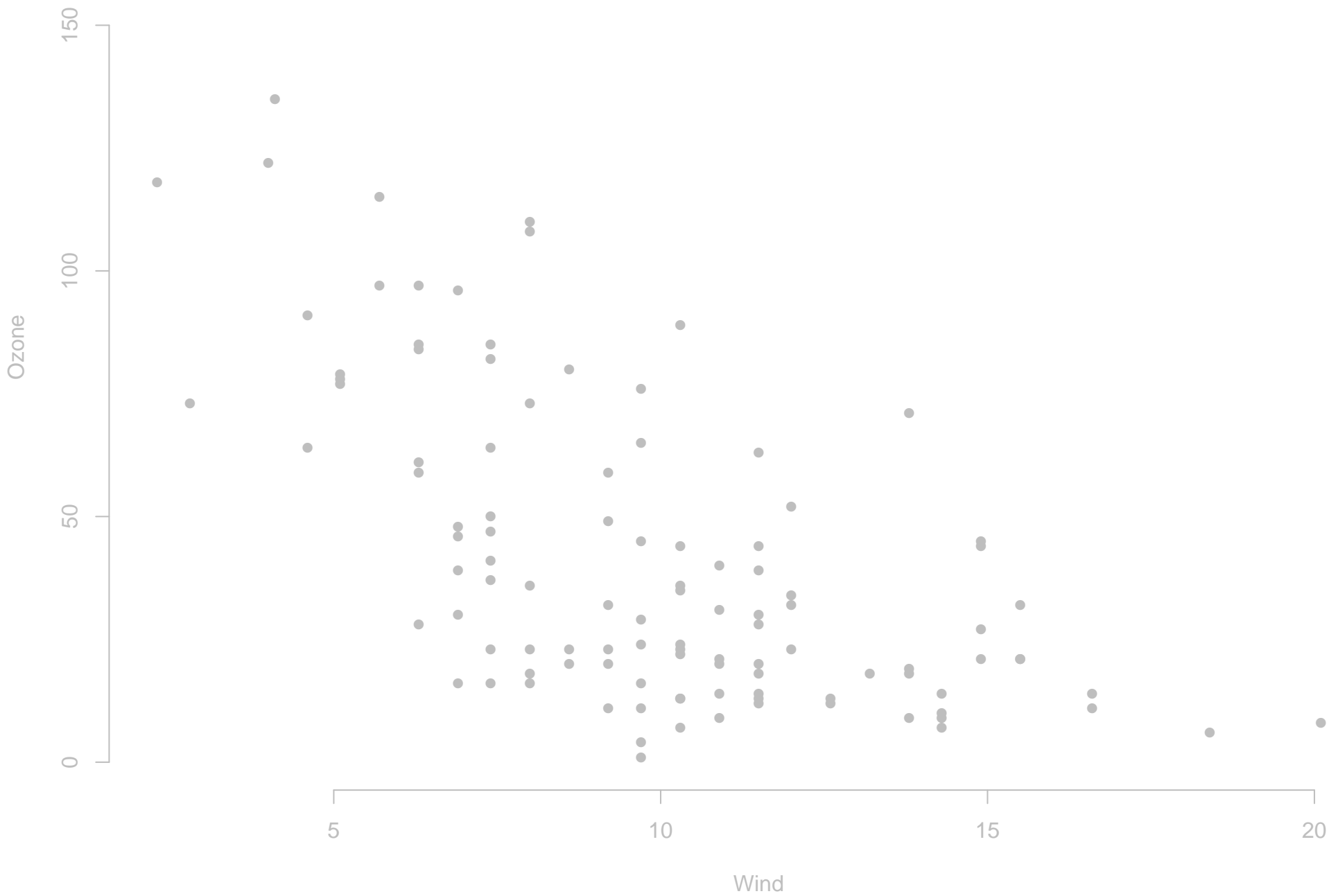


**Let's go over everything
one last time.**

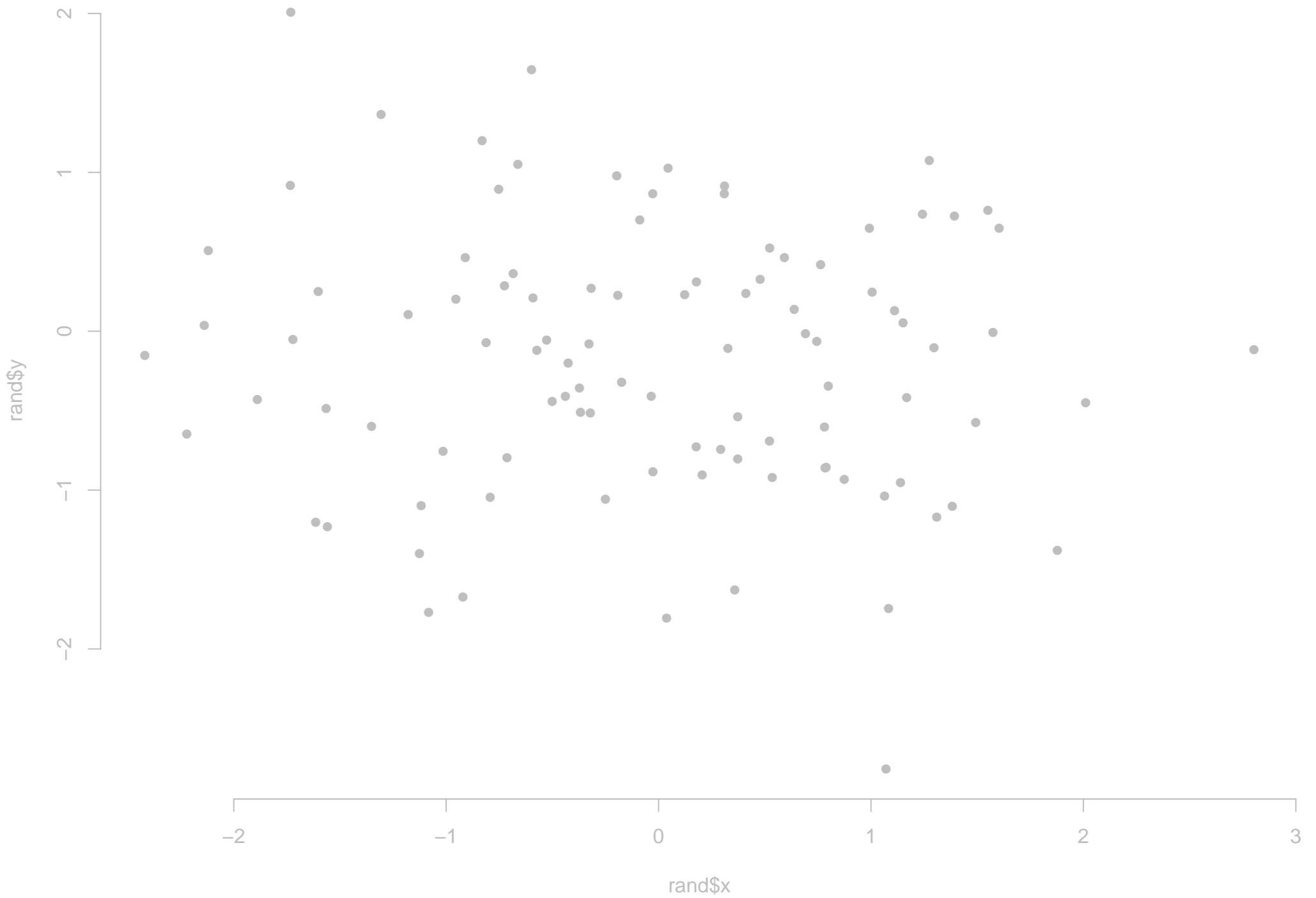
Two iris variables that move together



Two air quality variables that move oppositely

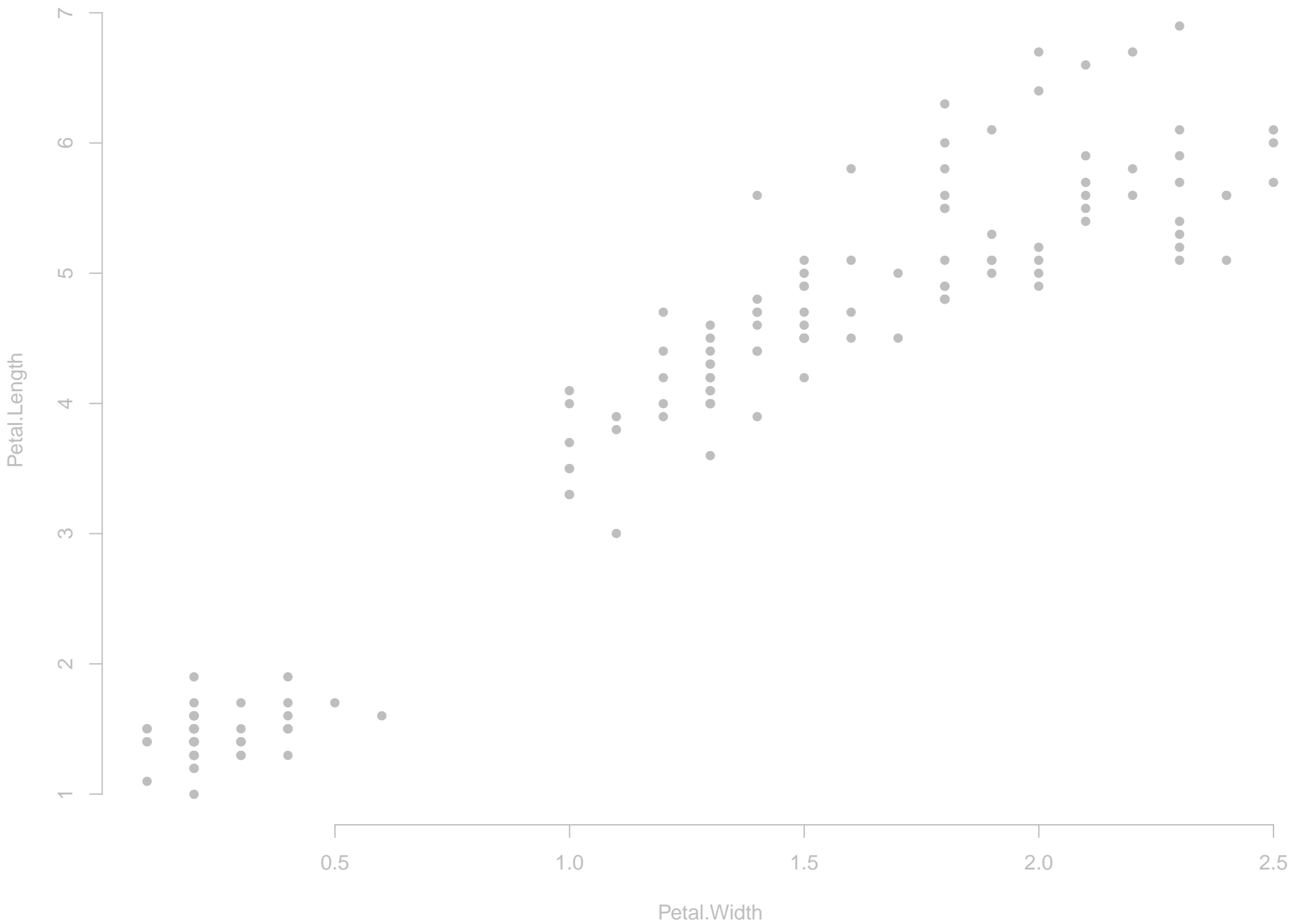


Normal random noise

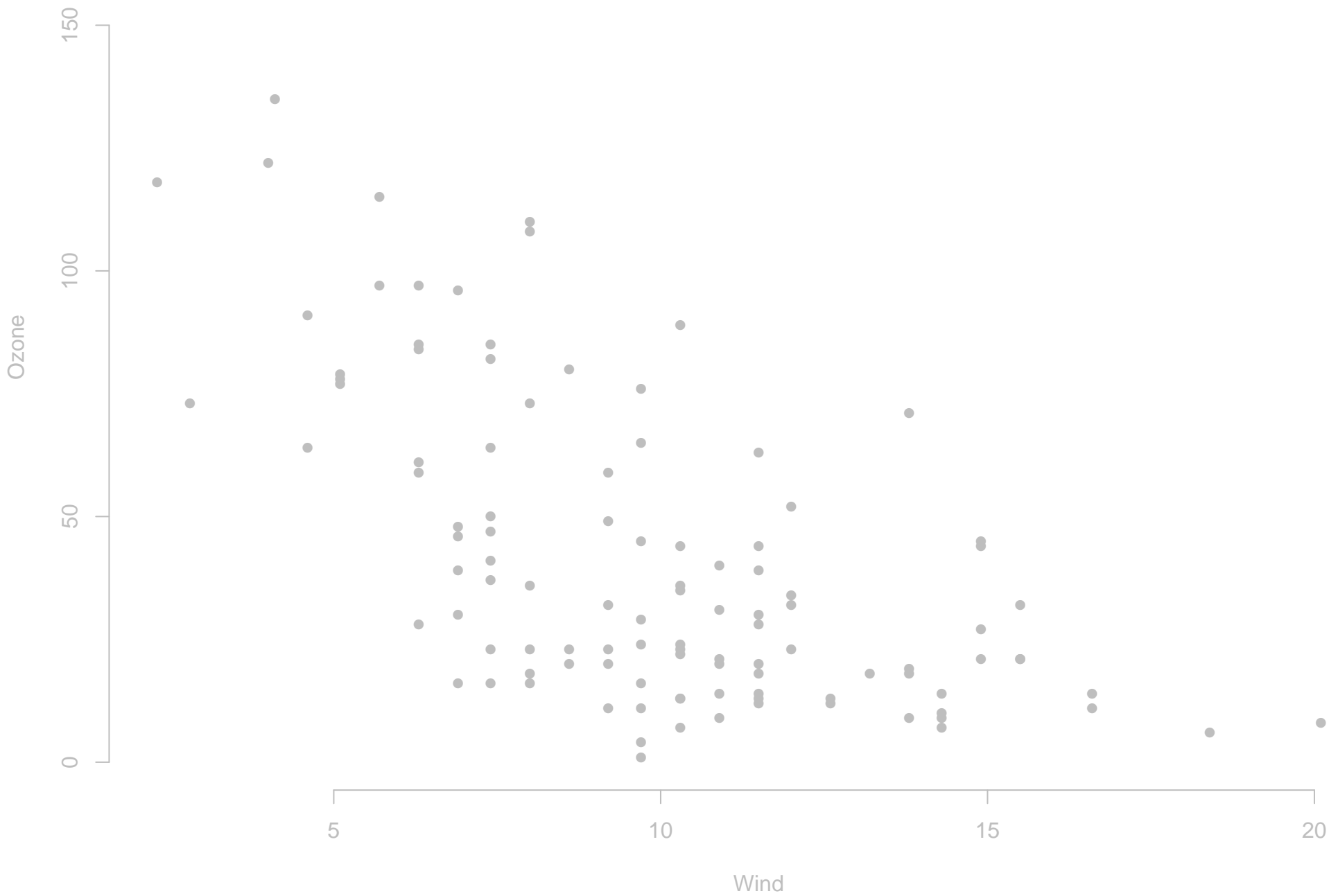


**We want a number
that describes
whether two variables
move together.**

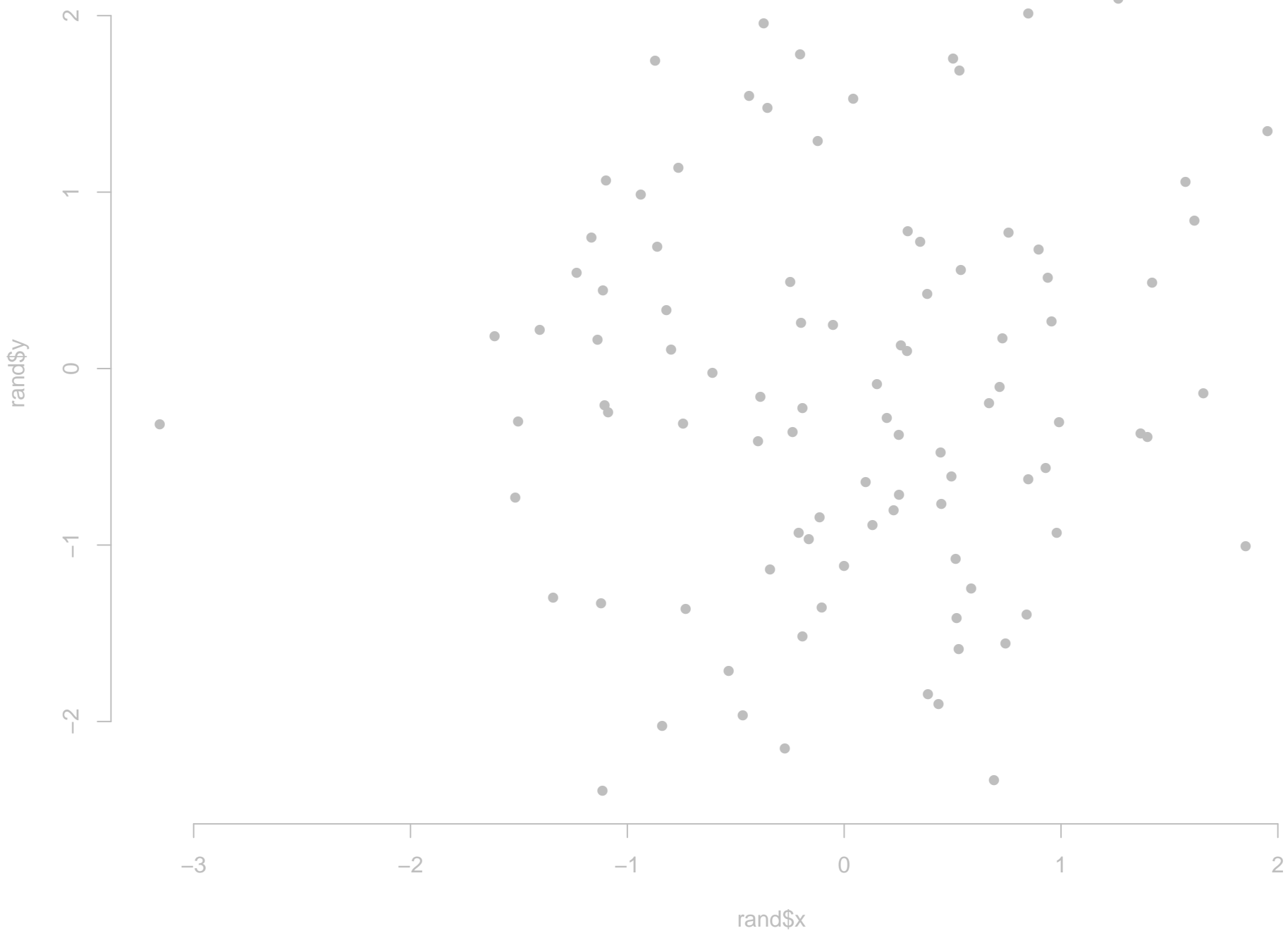
It should be high for these variables



It should be low for these variables

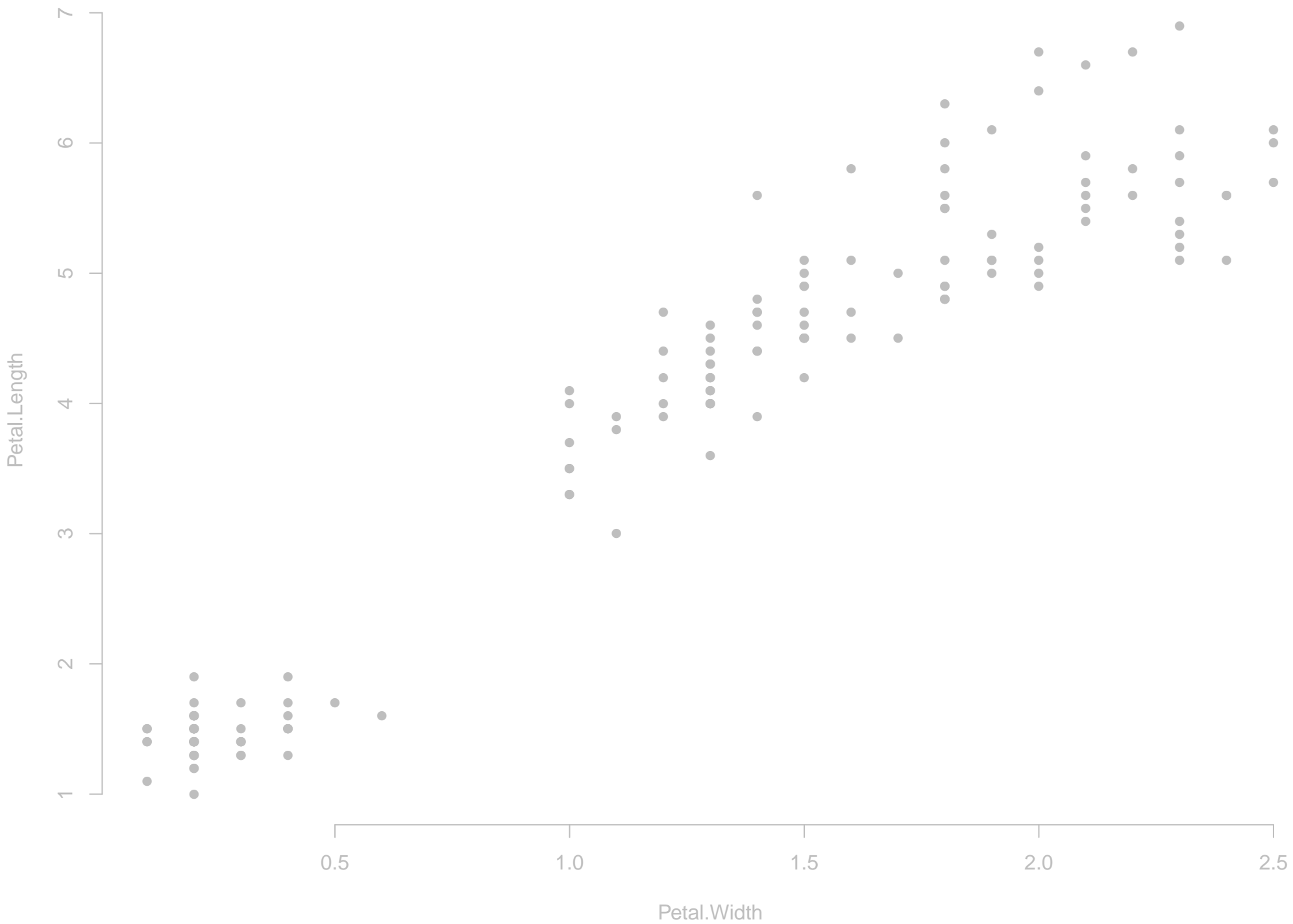


It should be near zero for these variables

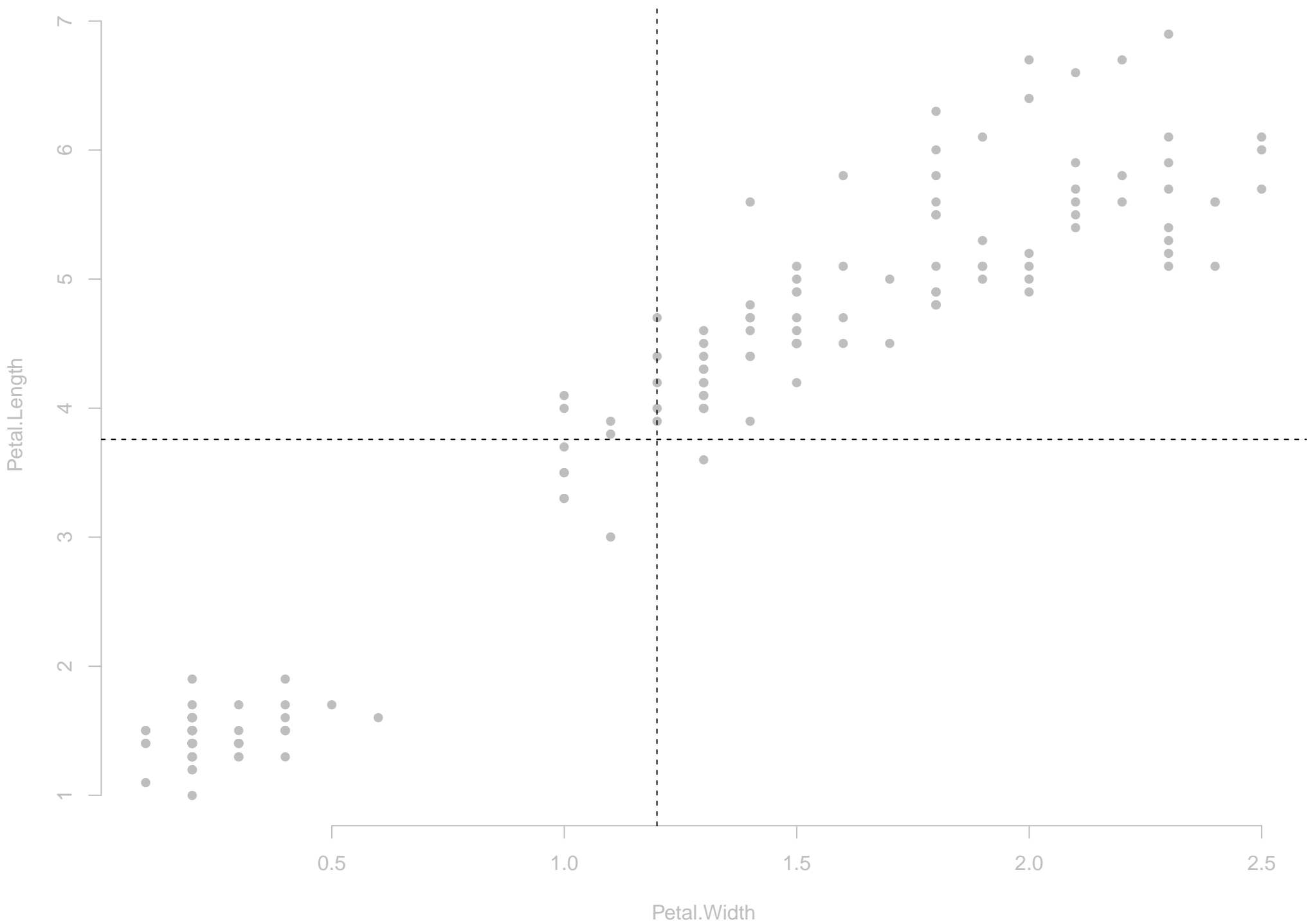


Covariance

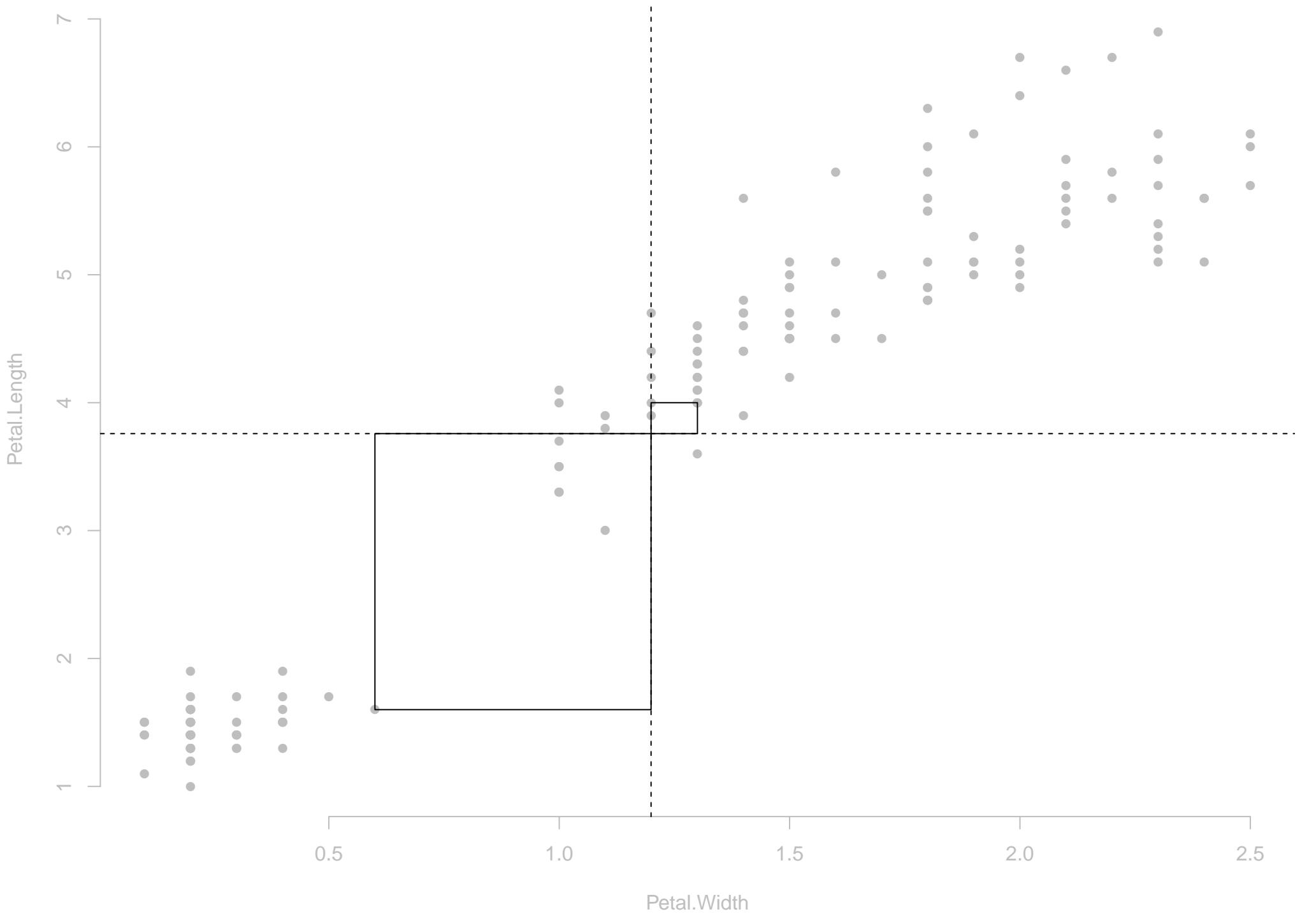
The iris variables



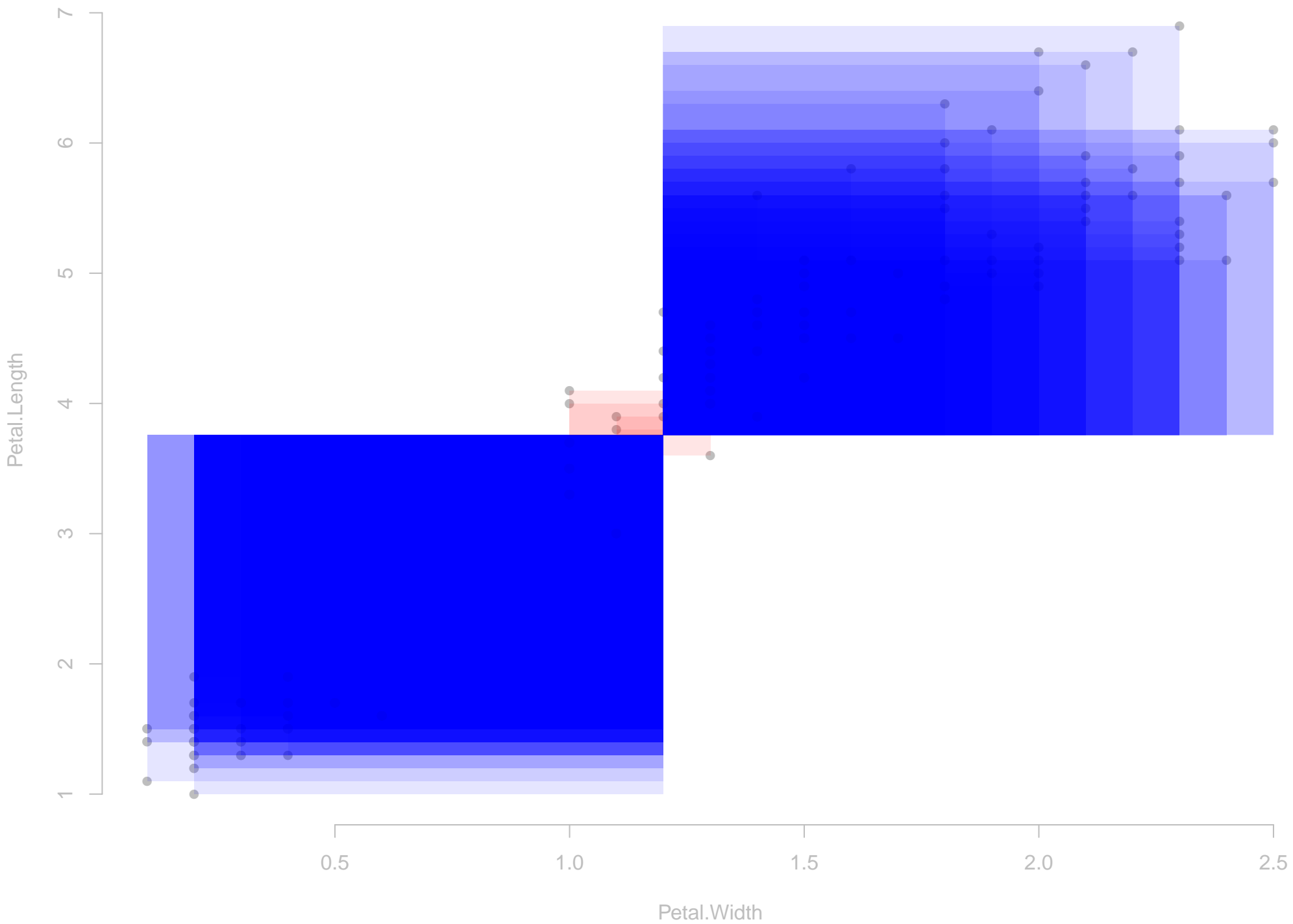
Find the means



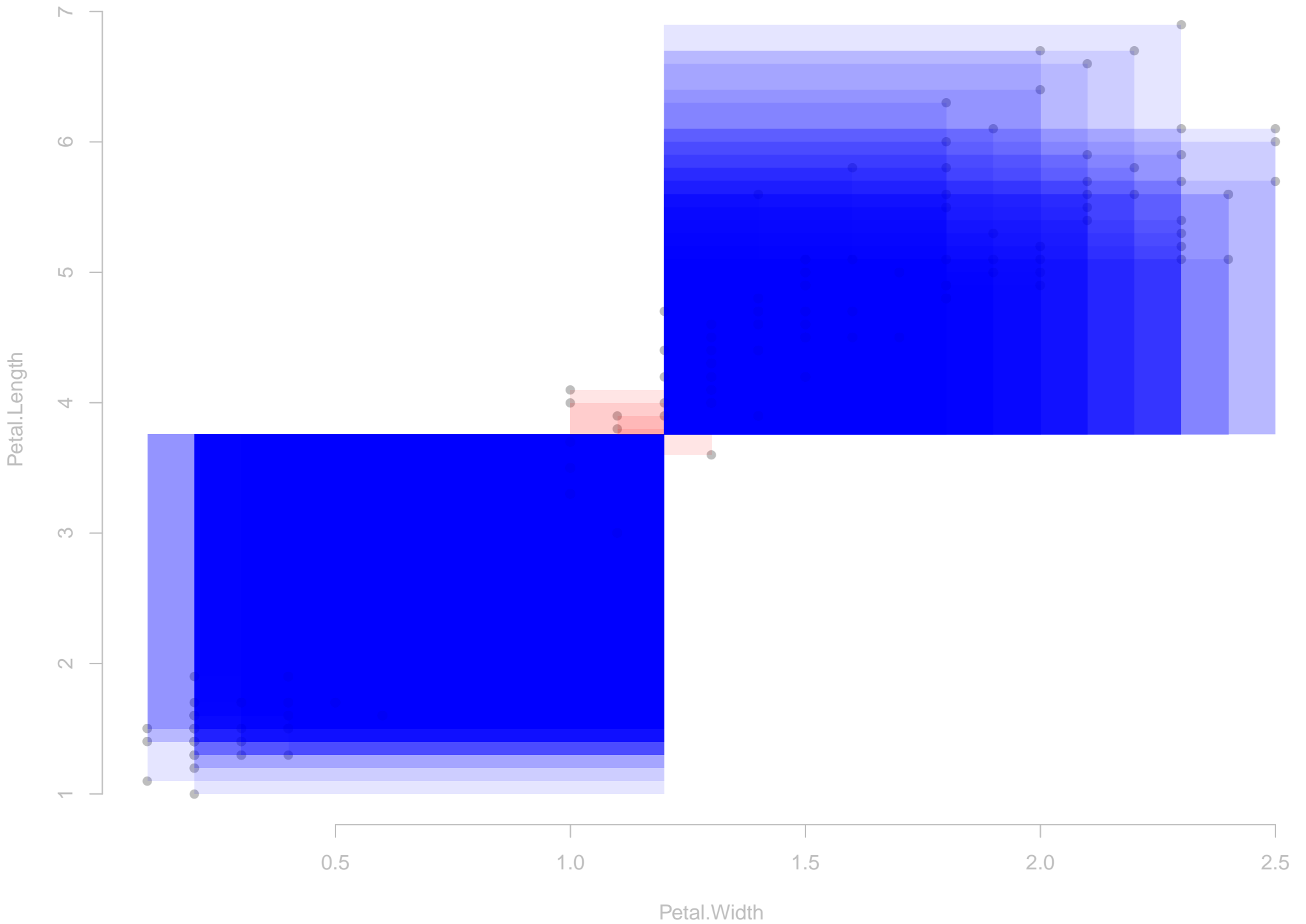
Draw a rectangle



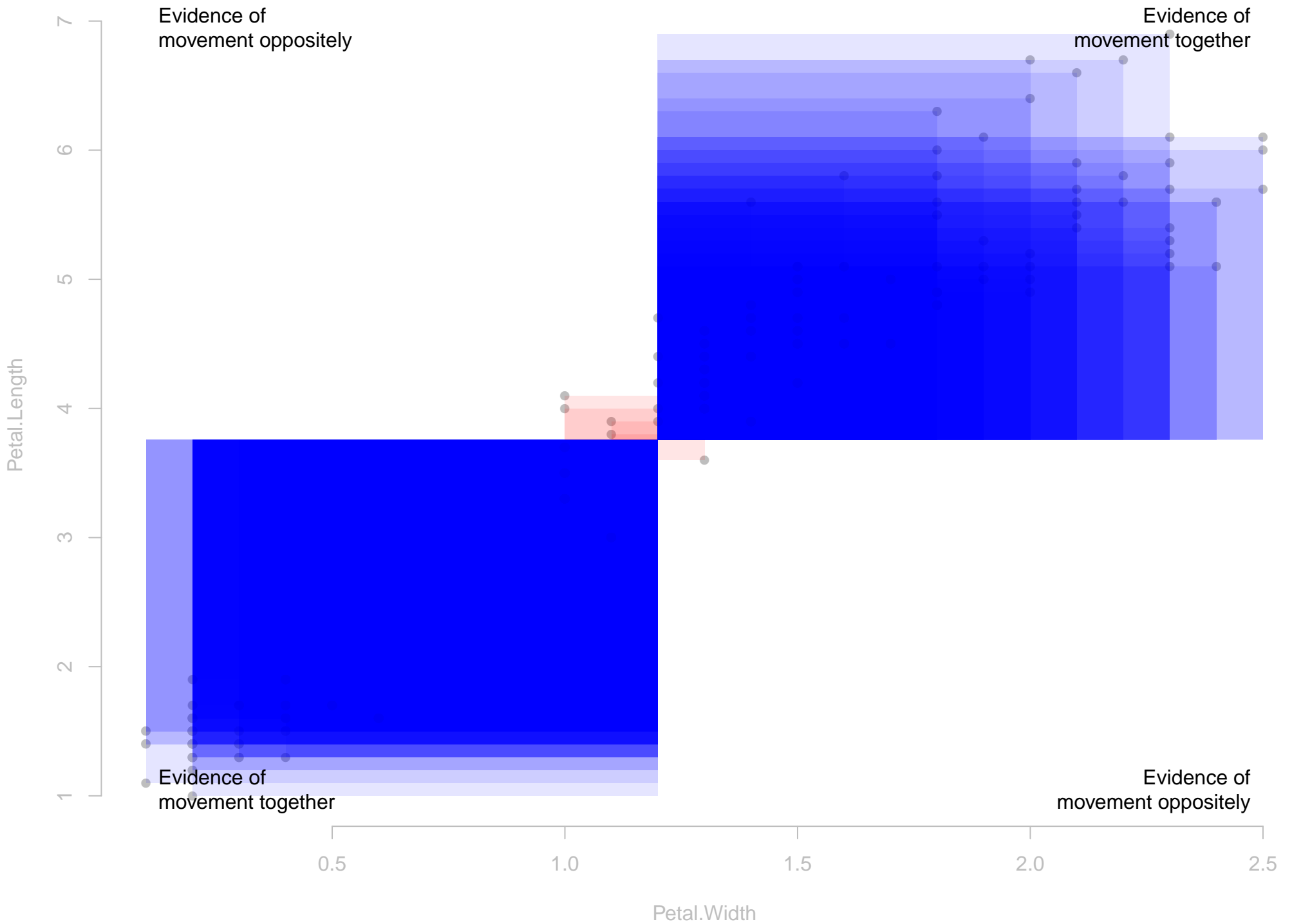
Draw all the rectangles



Why did I color them blue and red?



Why did I color them blue and red?



Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



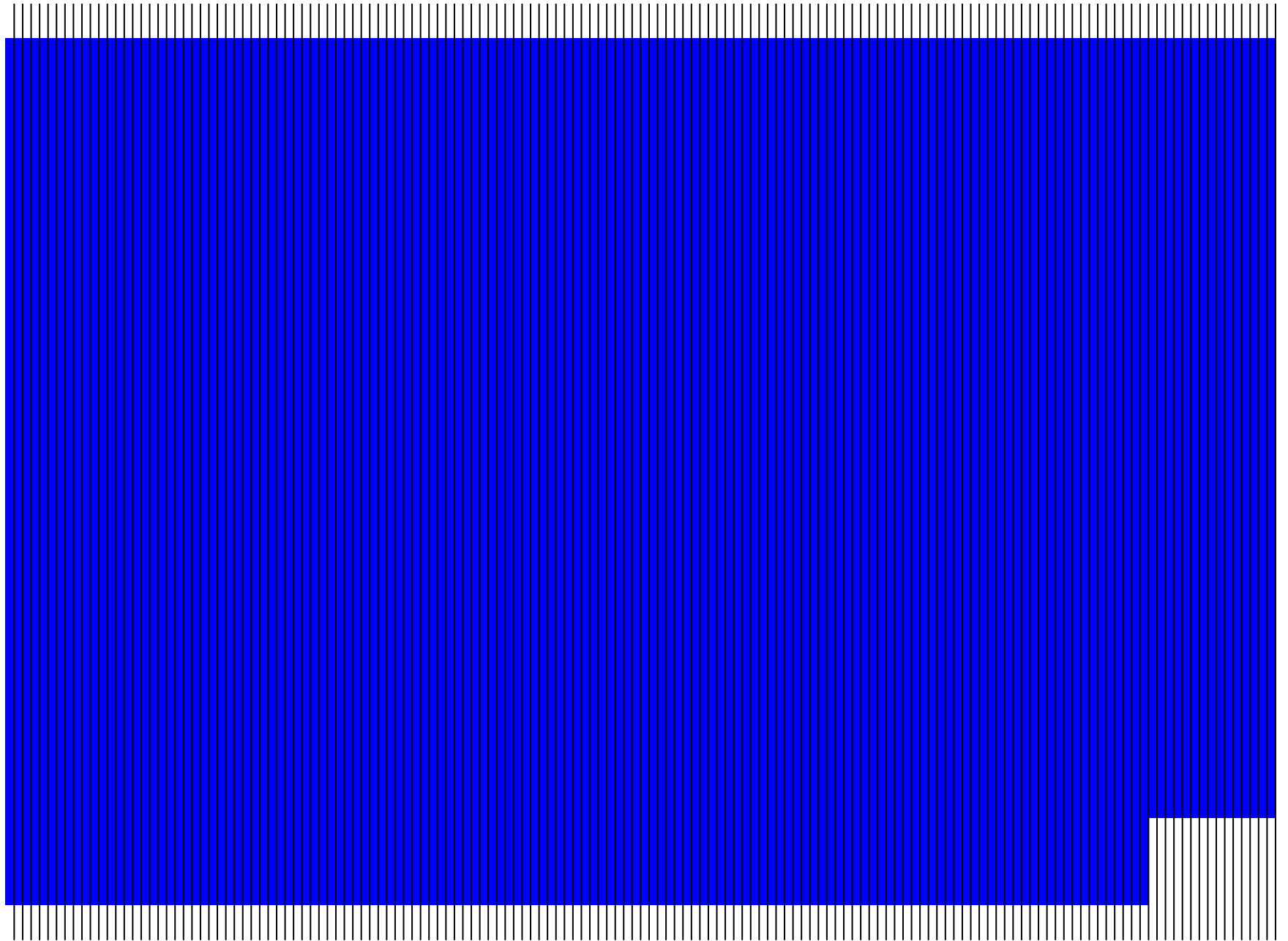
Add the reds together.



Subtract the reds.



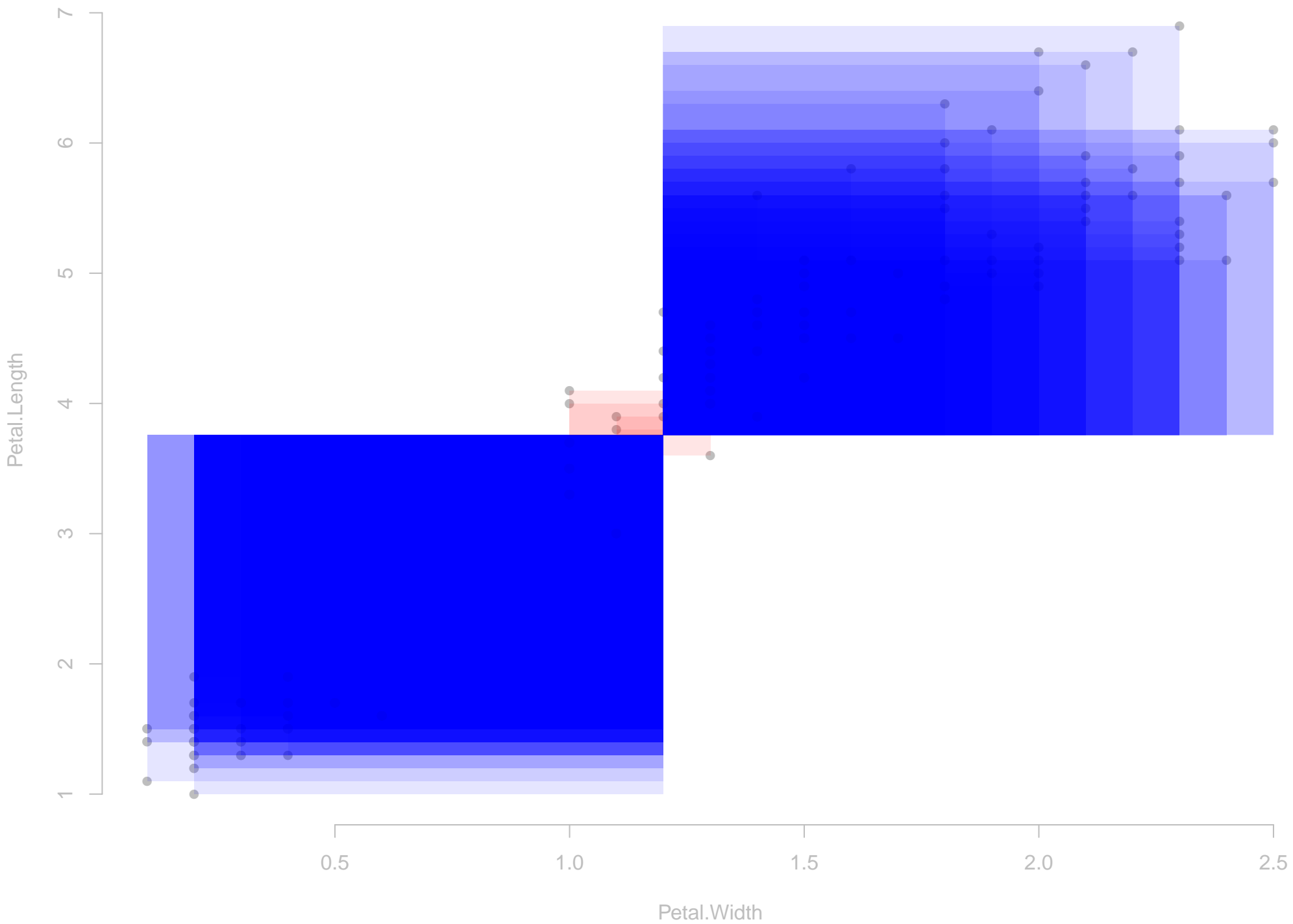
Divide into as many equal pieces as we have irises (n).



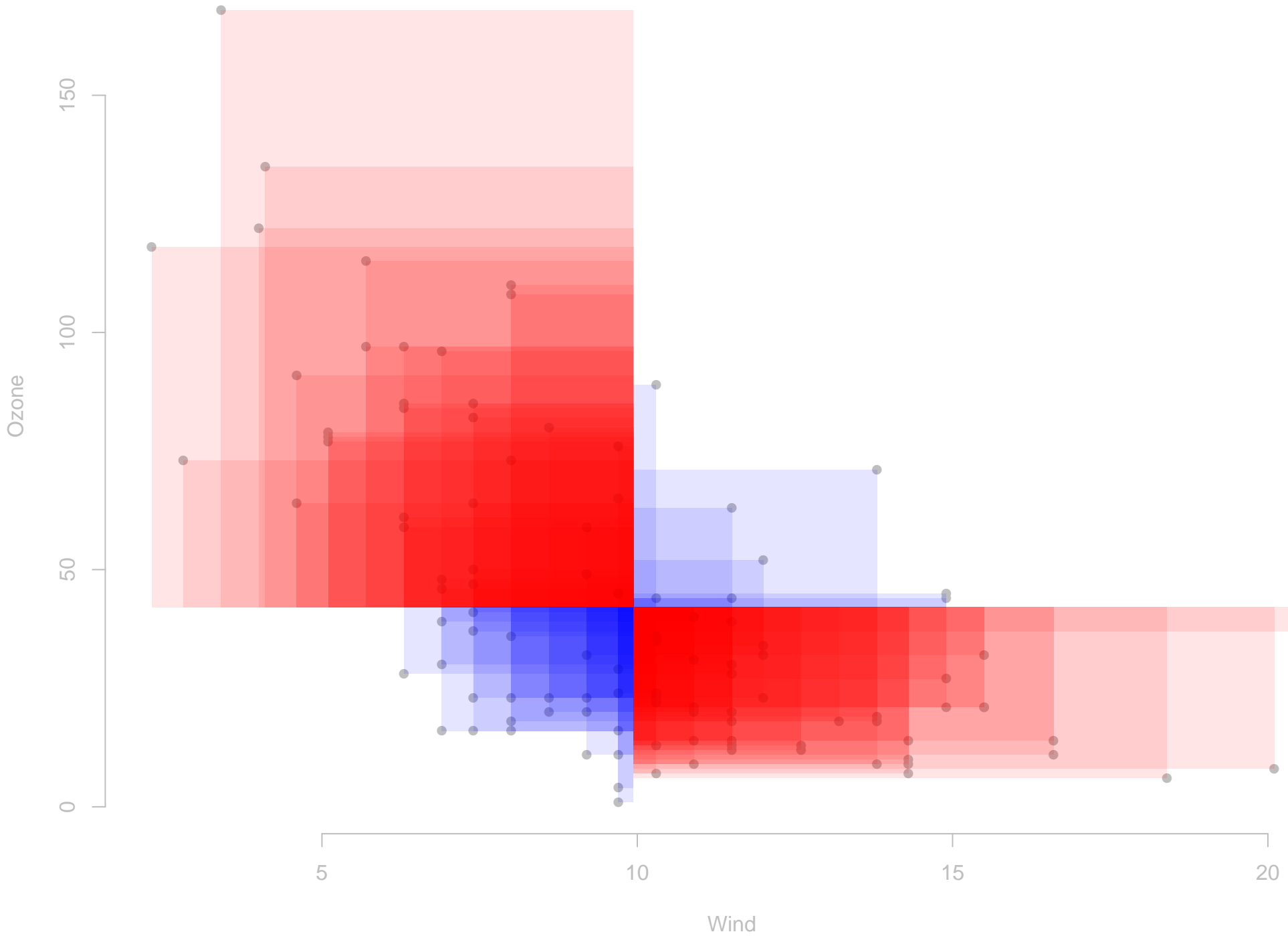
This blue sliver is the covariance.



That was for this sort of relationship.



What if we have more red than blue?



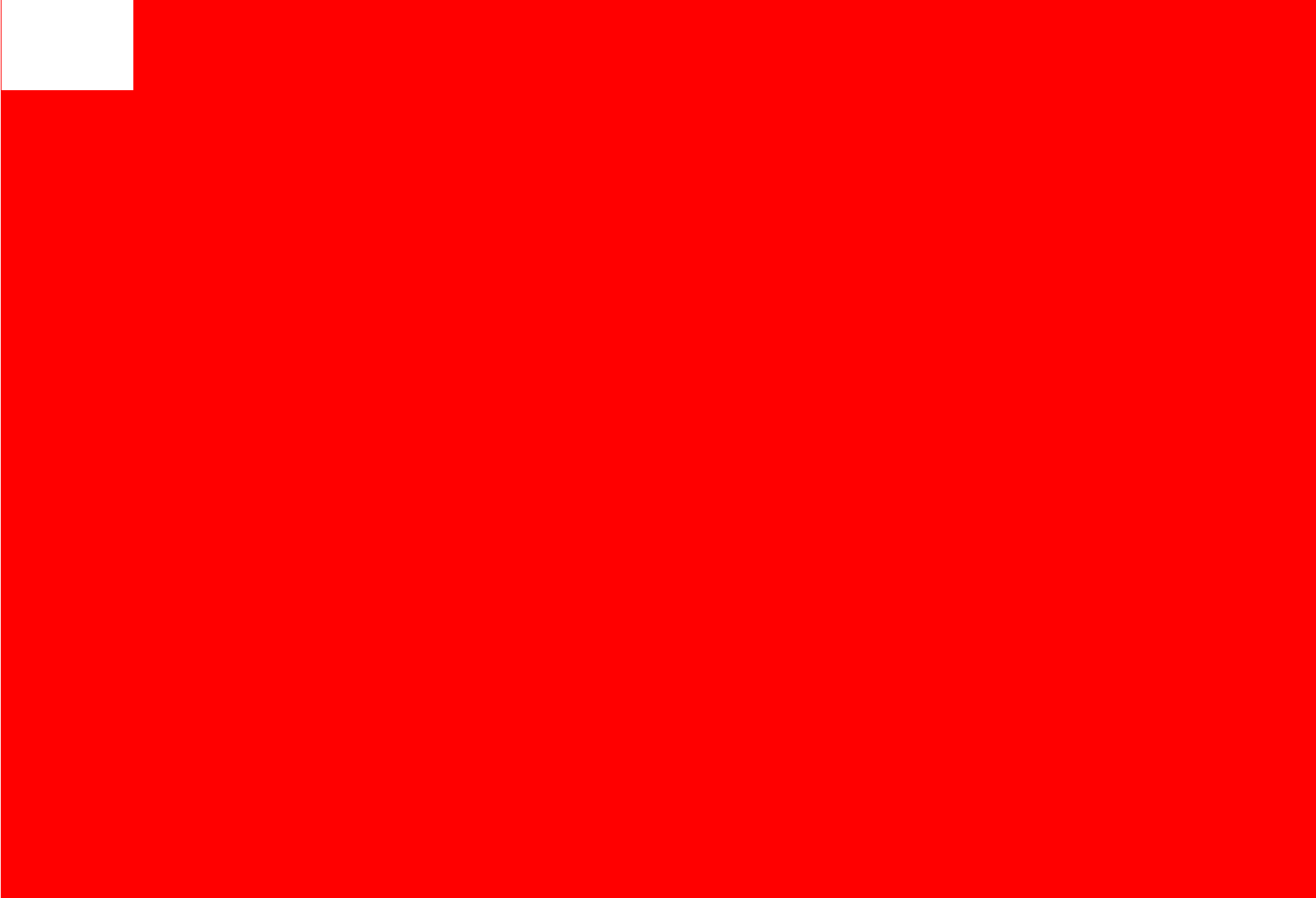
Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



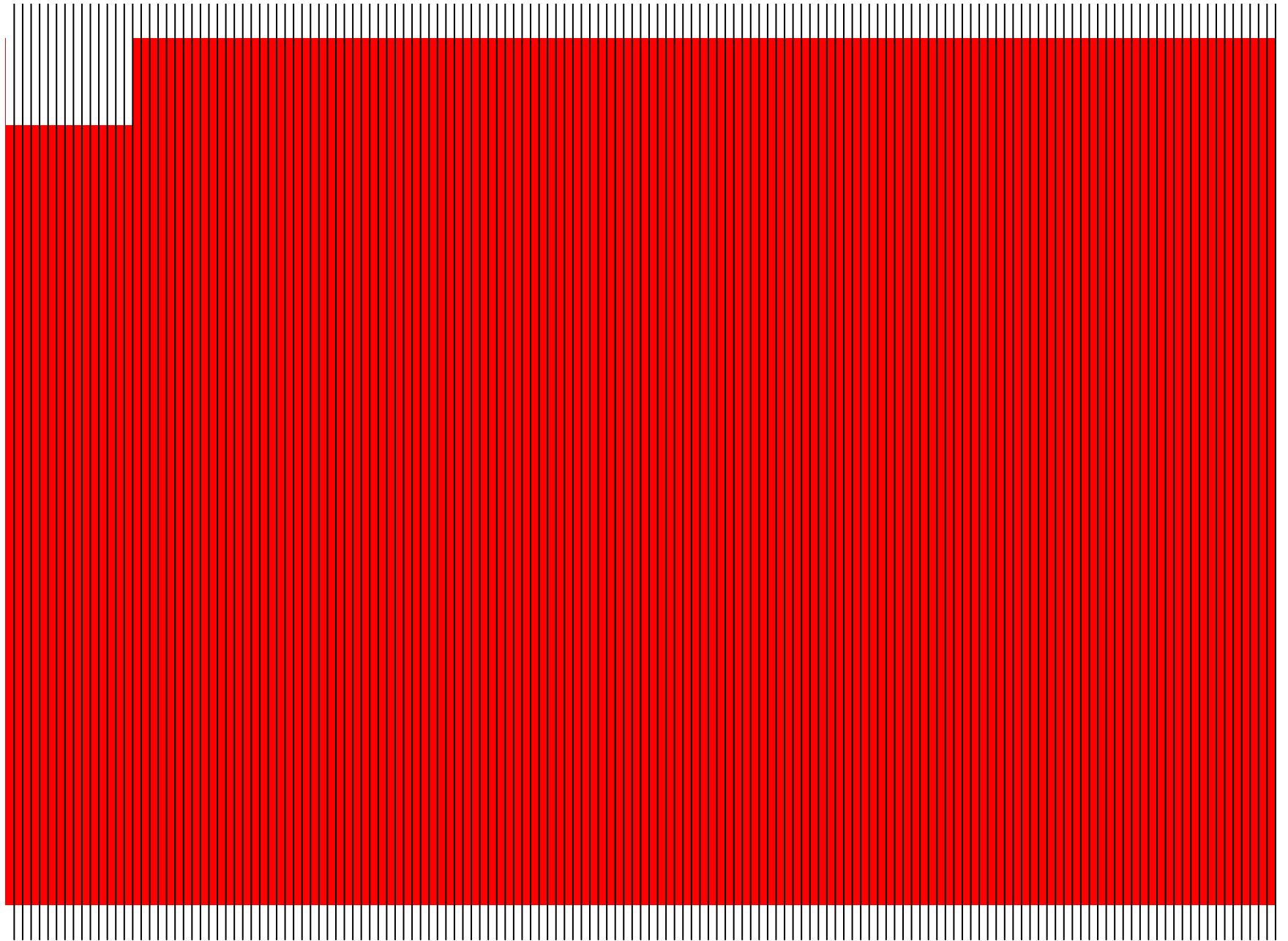
Add the reds together.



Subtract the reds.



Divide into as many equal pieces as we have irises (n).



This red sliver is the covariance.

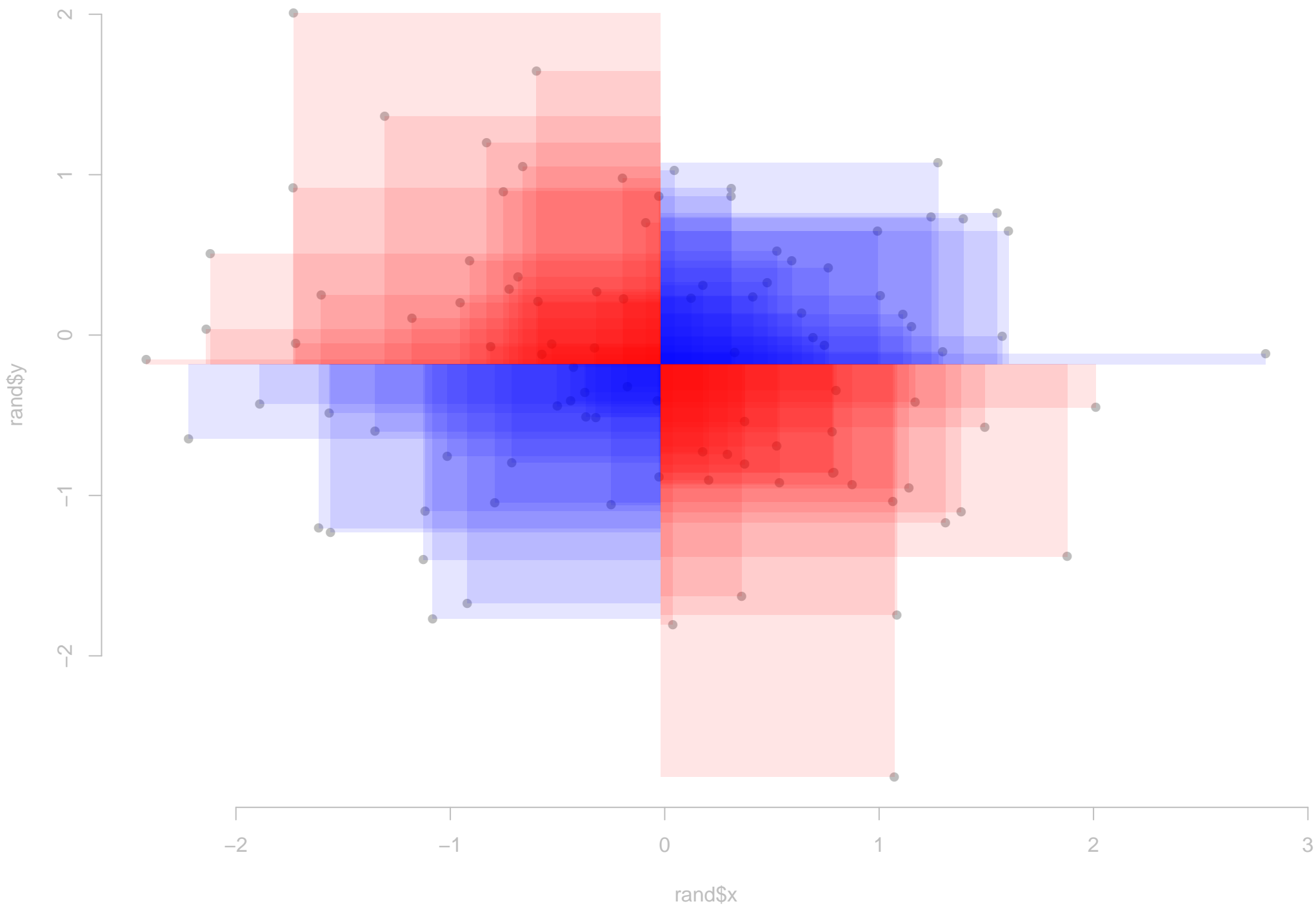


This red sliver is the covariance.



**But it's
negative!**

What if we have as much red as blue?



Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



Add the reds together.



Subtract the reds.

○

(Covariance is zero.)

Variance

**Variance tells us
how spread out
some numbers are.**

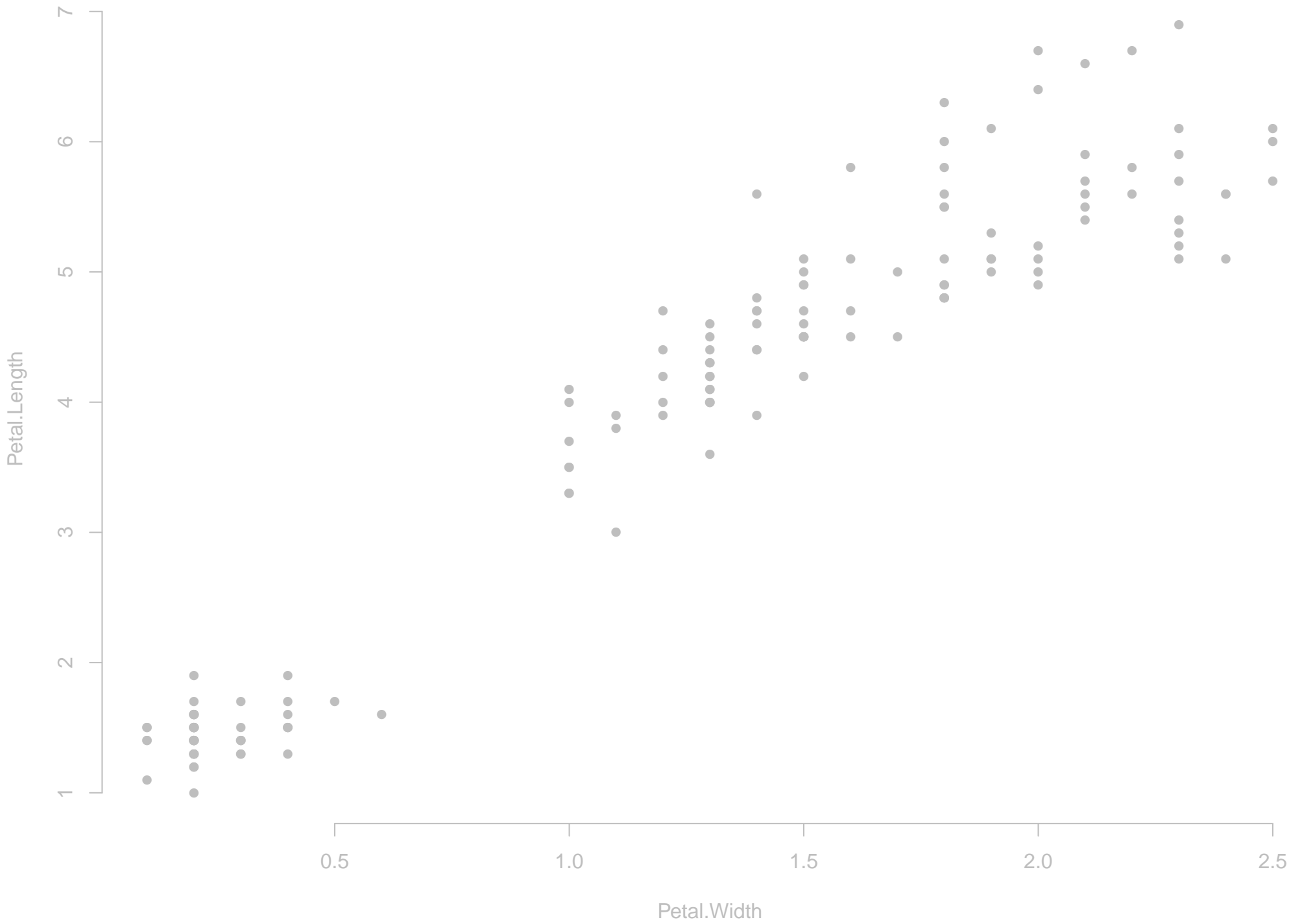
1, 4, 8, 10

VS

4, 4, 5, 6

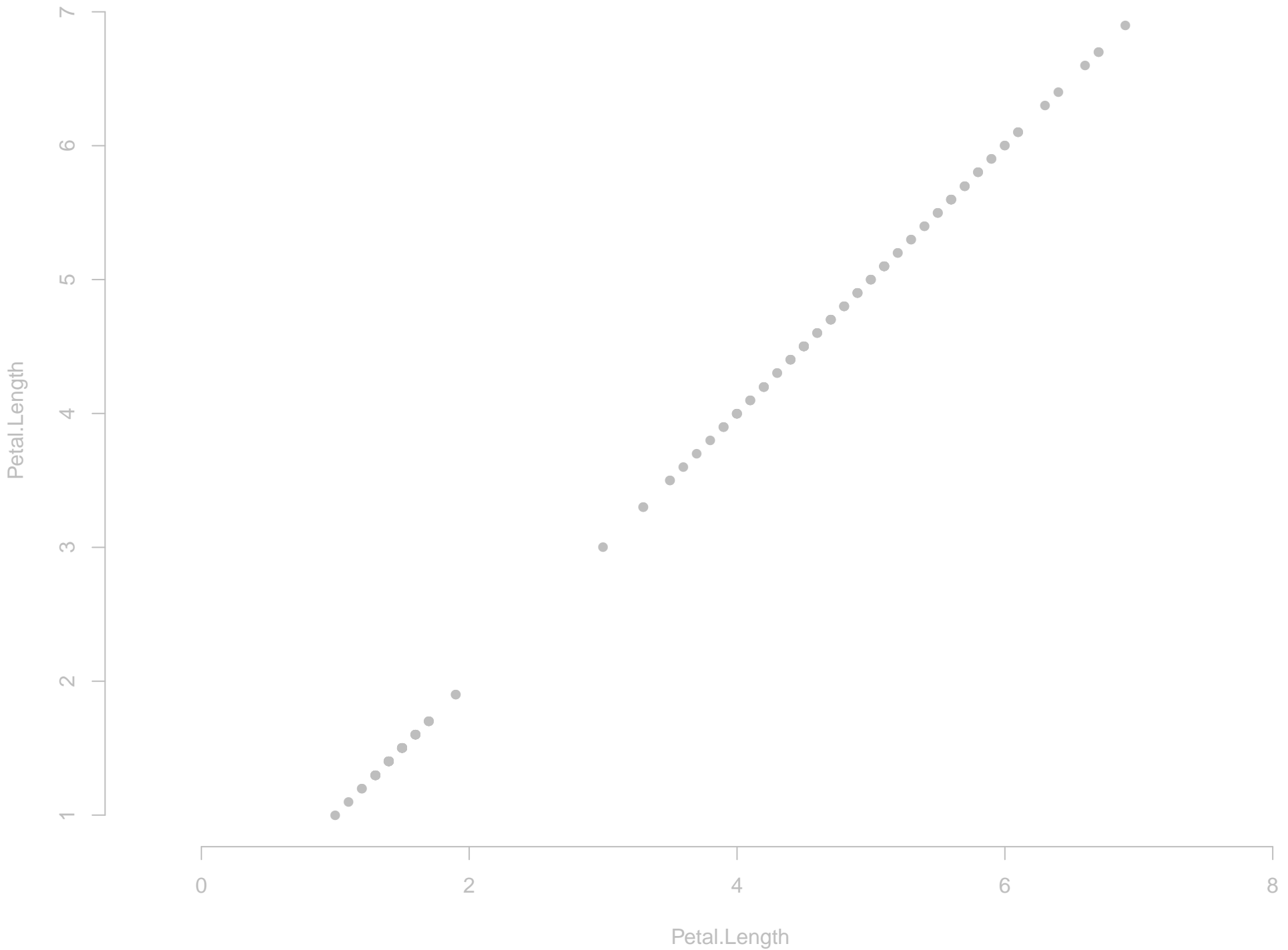
**The variance of a variable is
the covariance of the variable
with itself.**

Our two iris variables from before



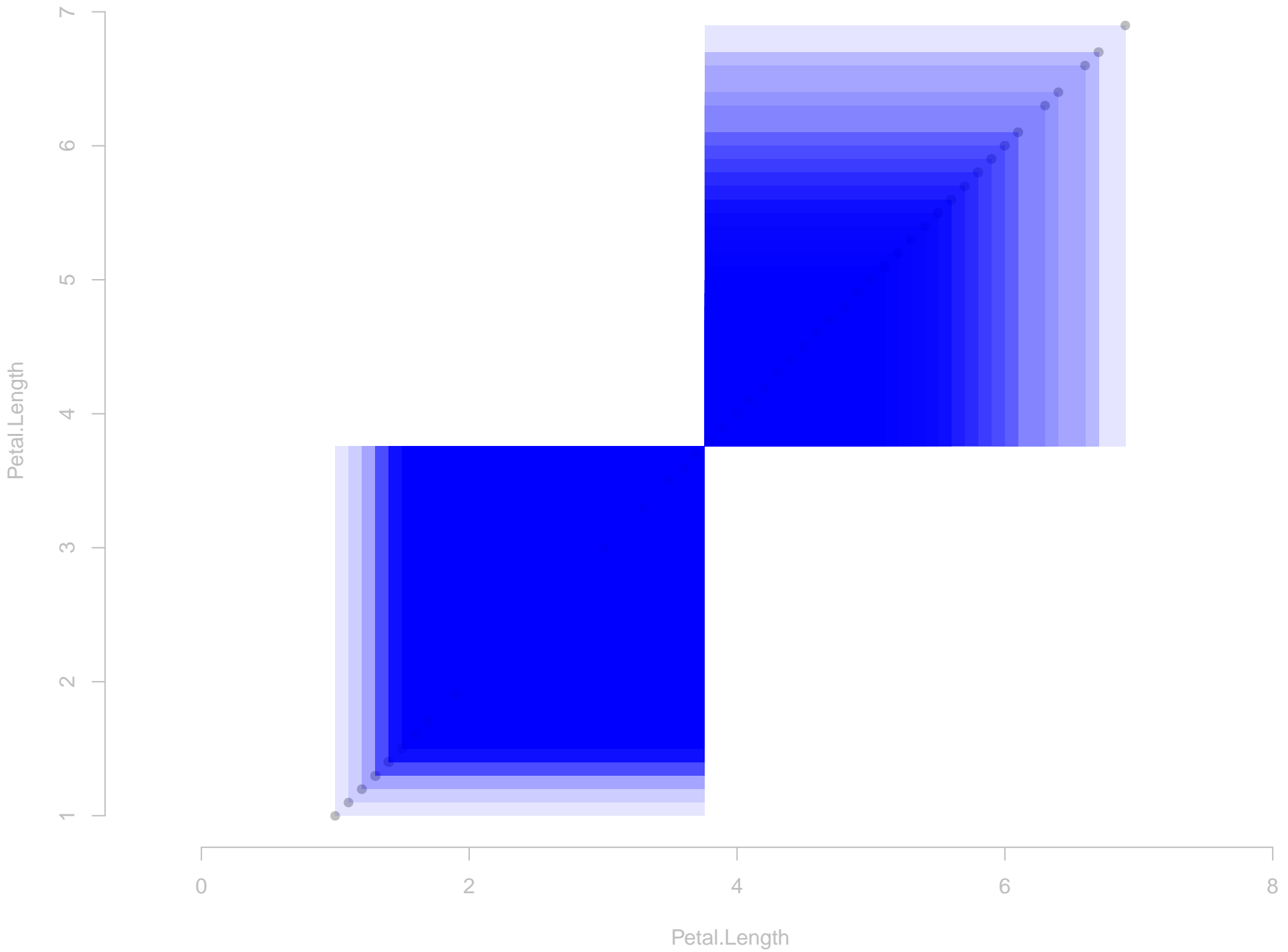
Let's look at just one of them.

The points all fall along the same line.

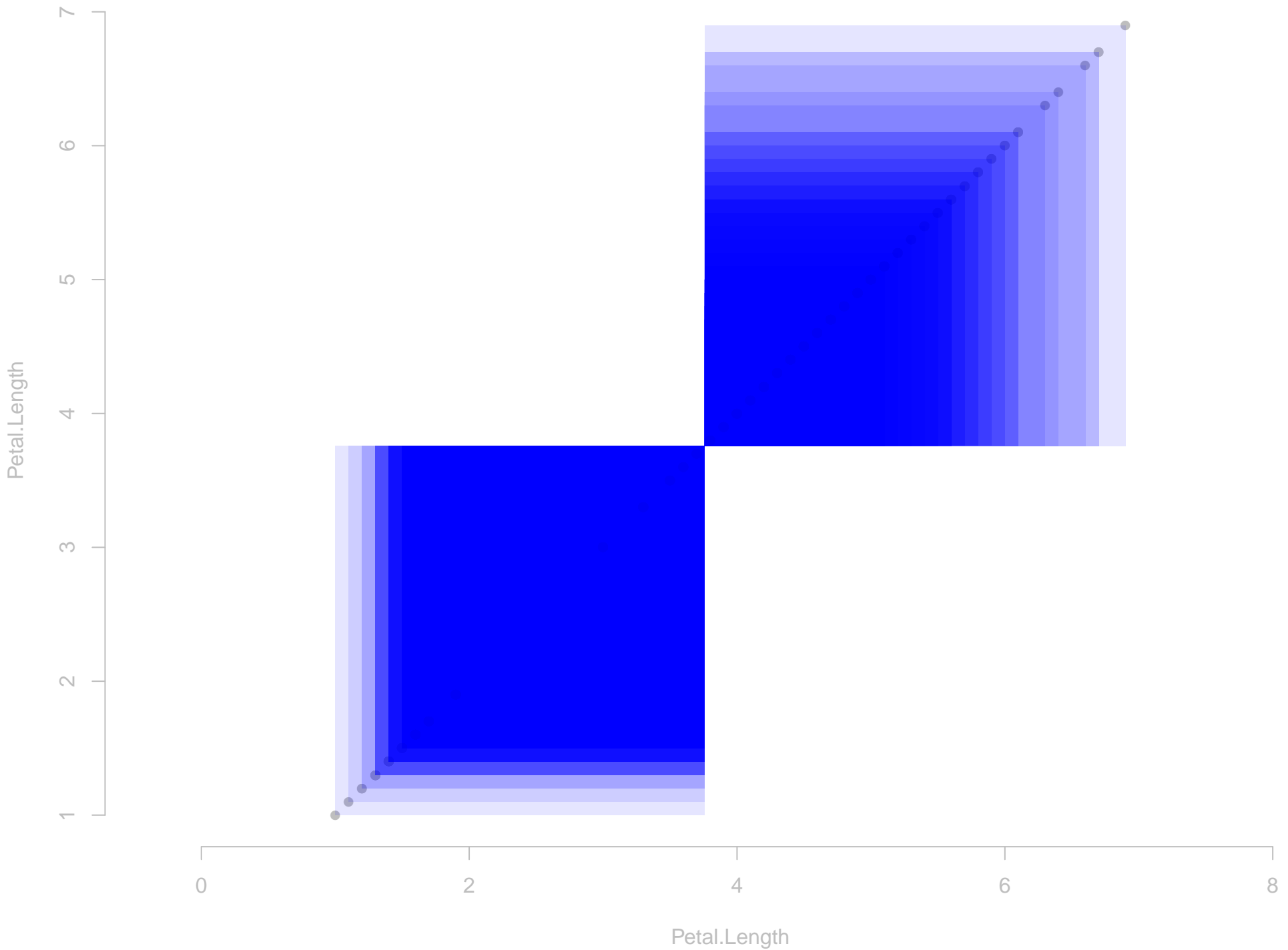


Let's find the variance of Petal.Length

Draw all the rectangles



Why no red rectangles?



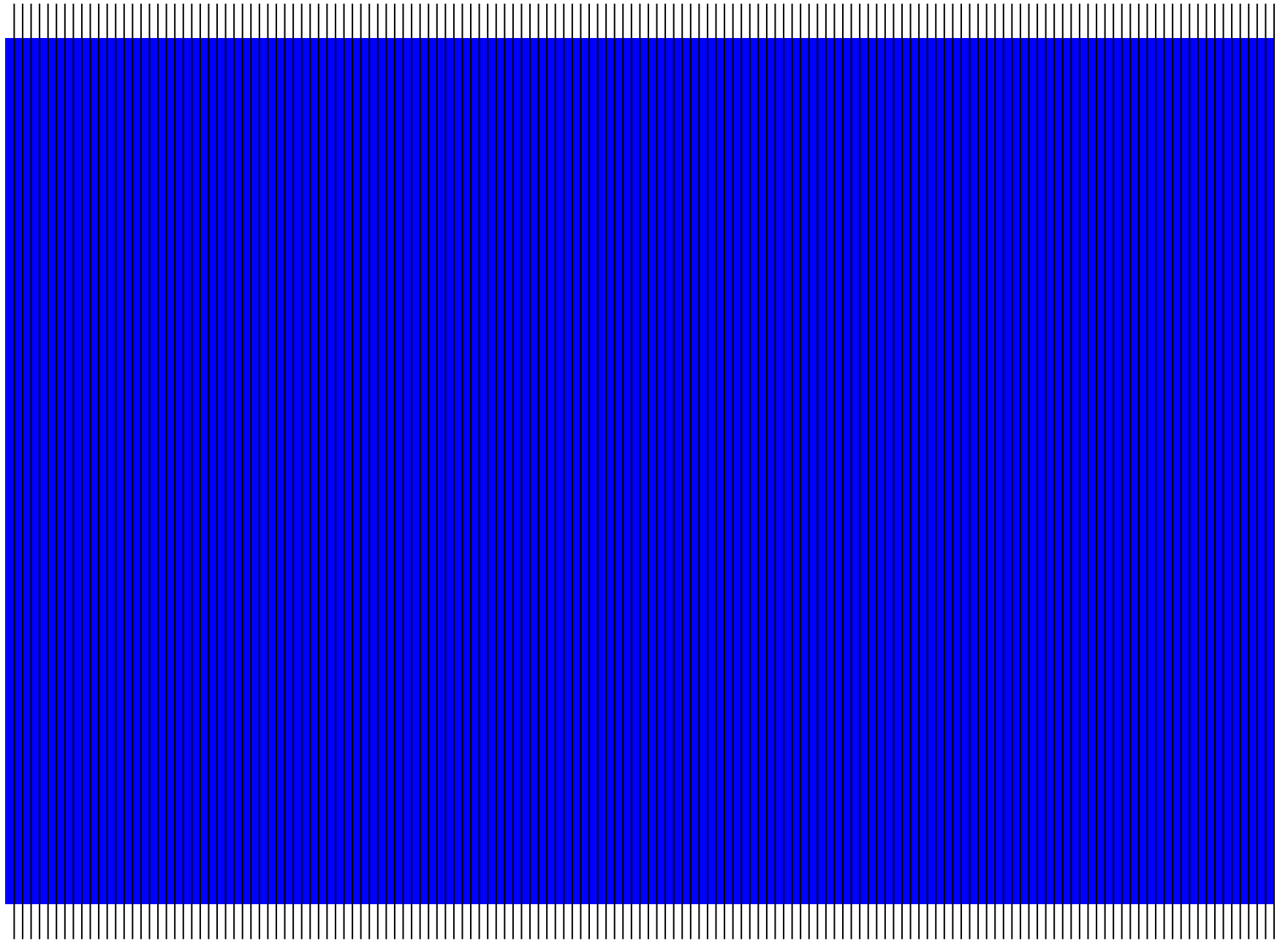
Add the blues together. (This is at a different scale.)



We have no reds to subtract.



Divide into as many equal pieces as we have irises (n).



This blue sliver is the variance.



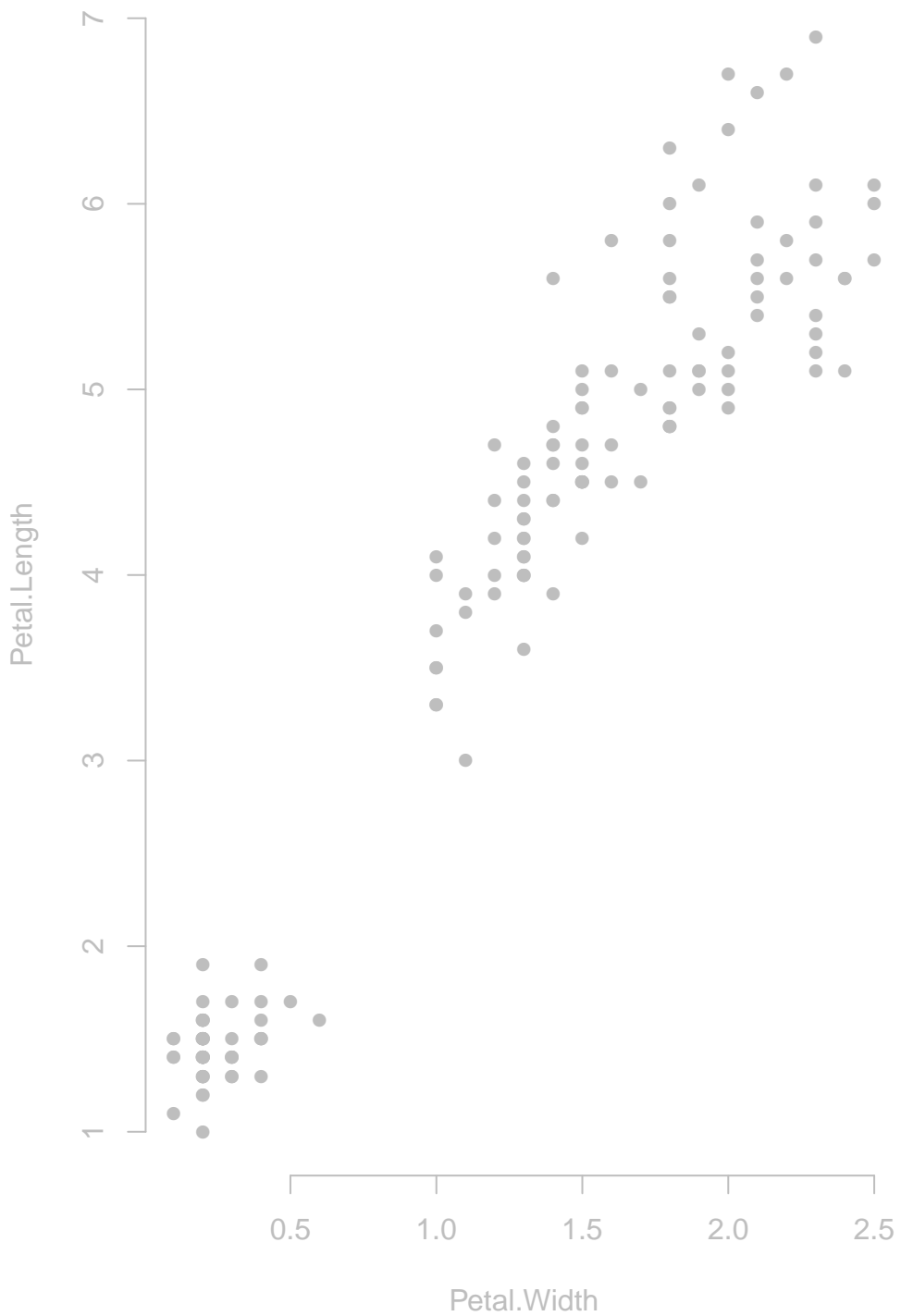
A problem with covariance

Covariance has units!

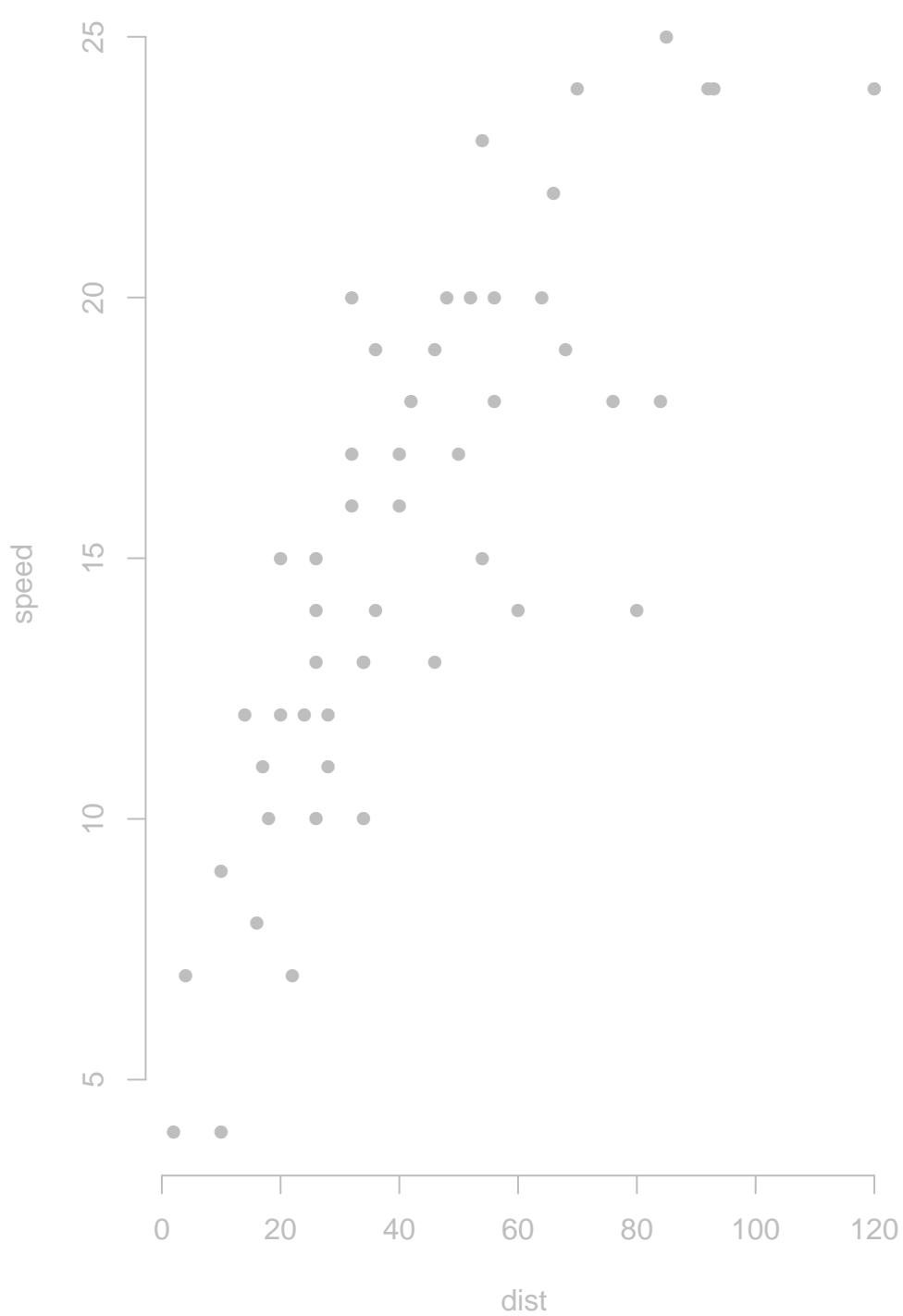
(x-unit times y-unit)

**Which relationship is stronger
(more linear)?**

Irises (cov = 1.3 cm²)



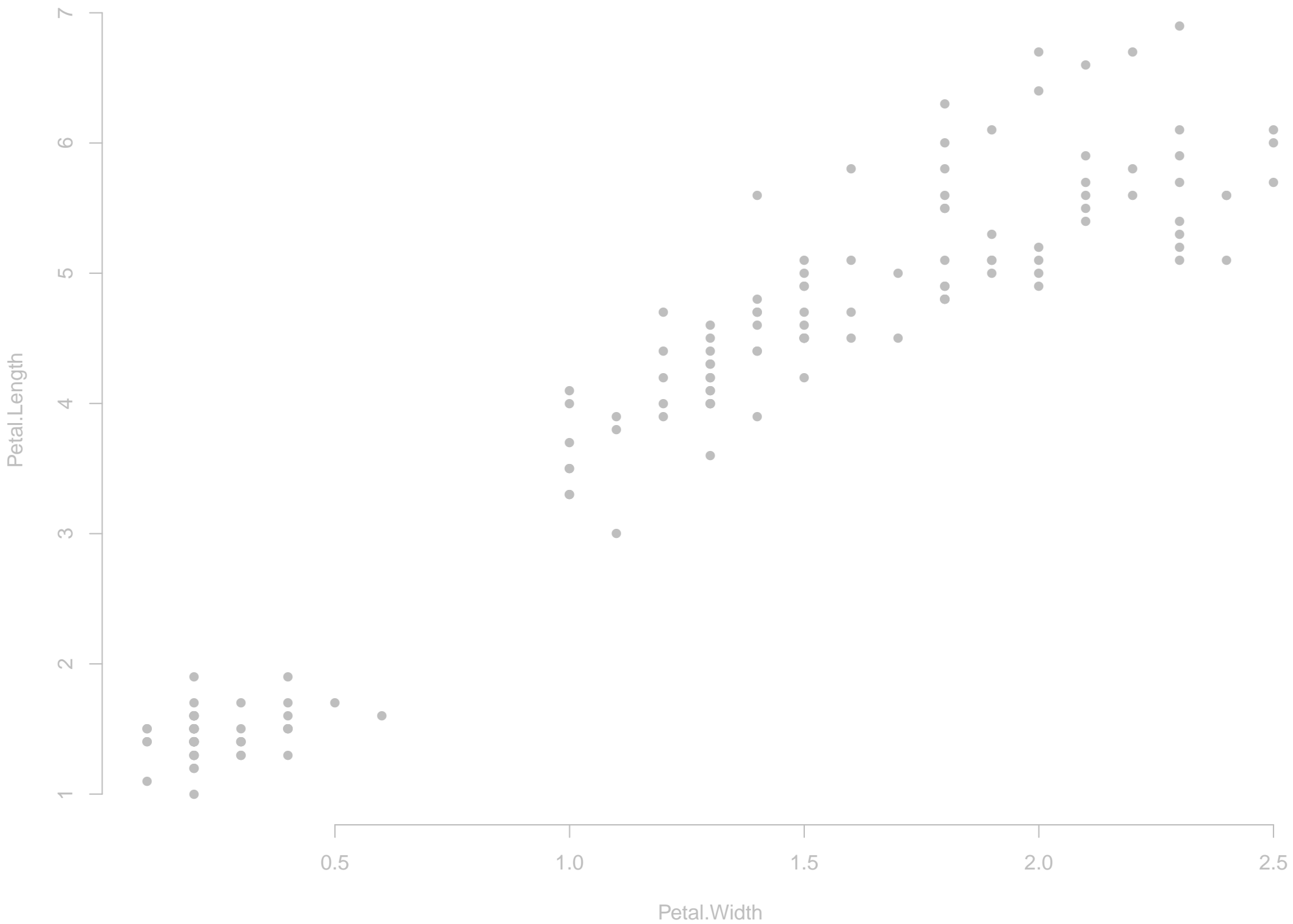
Cars (cov = 109.95 mph*ft)



Oh noes!

**We can divide
the covariance
by the variances
to standardize it.**

We're using these data again.



$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$



$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

The black rectangle is
like an average variance.

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

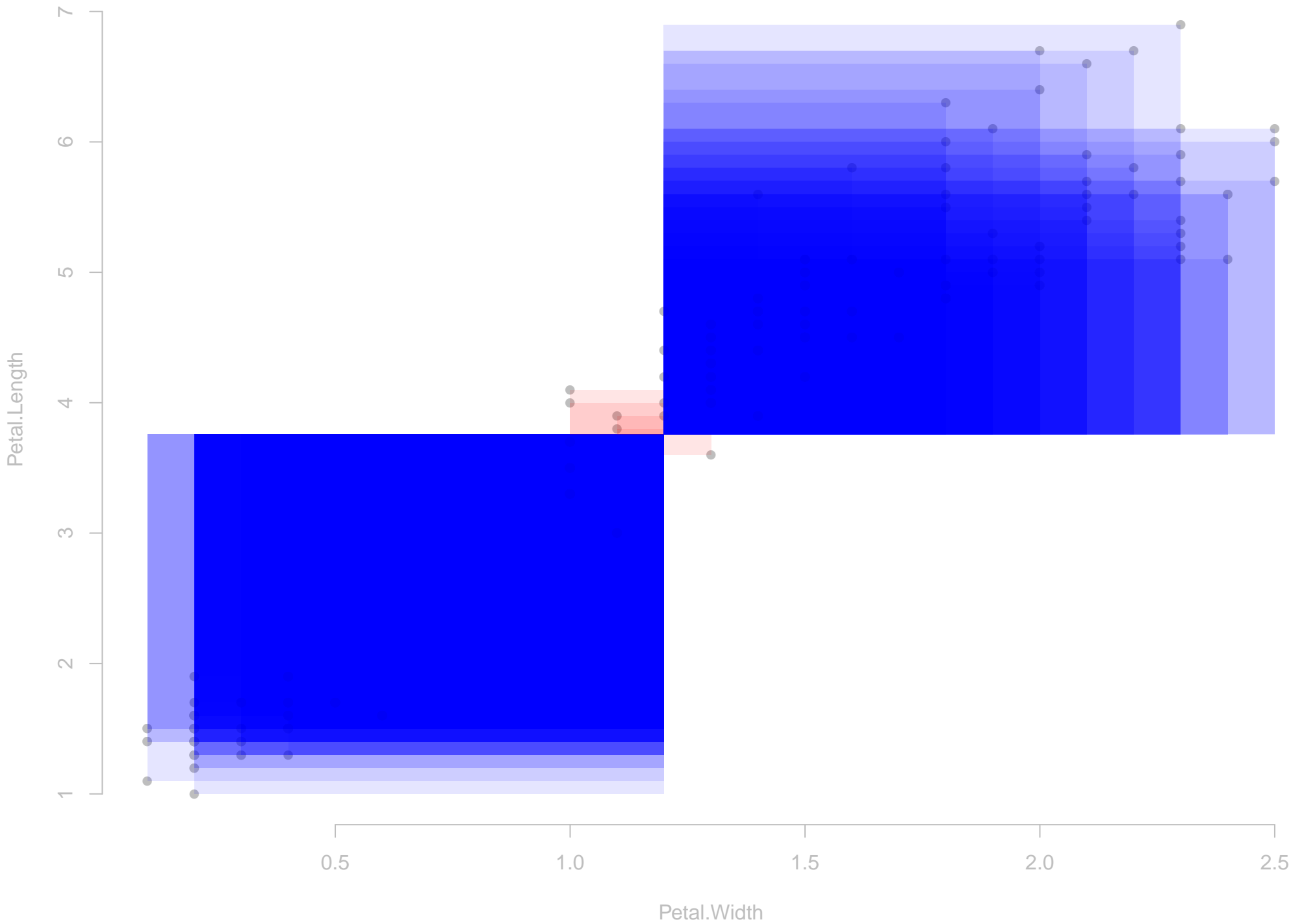
$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

$\text{cov}(\text{Petal.Width}, \text{Petal.Length})$
cannot be bigger than
black rectangle.

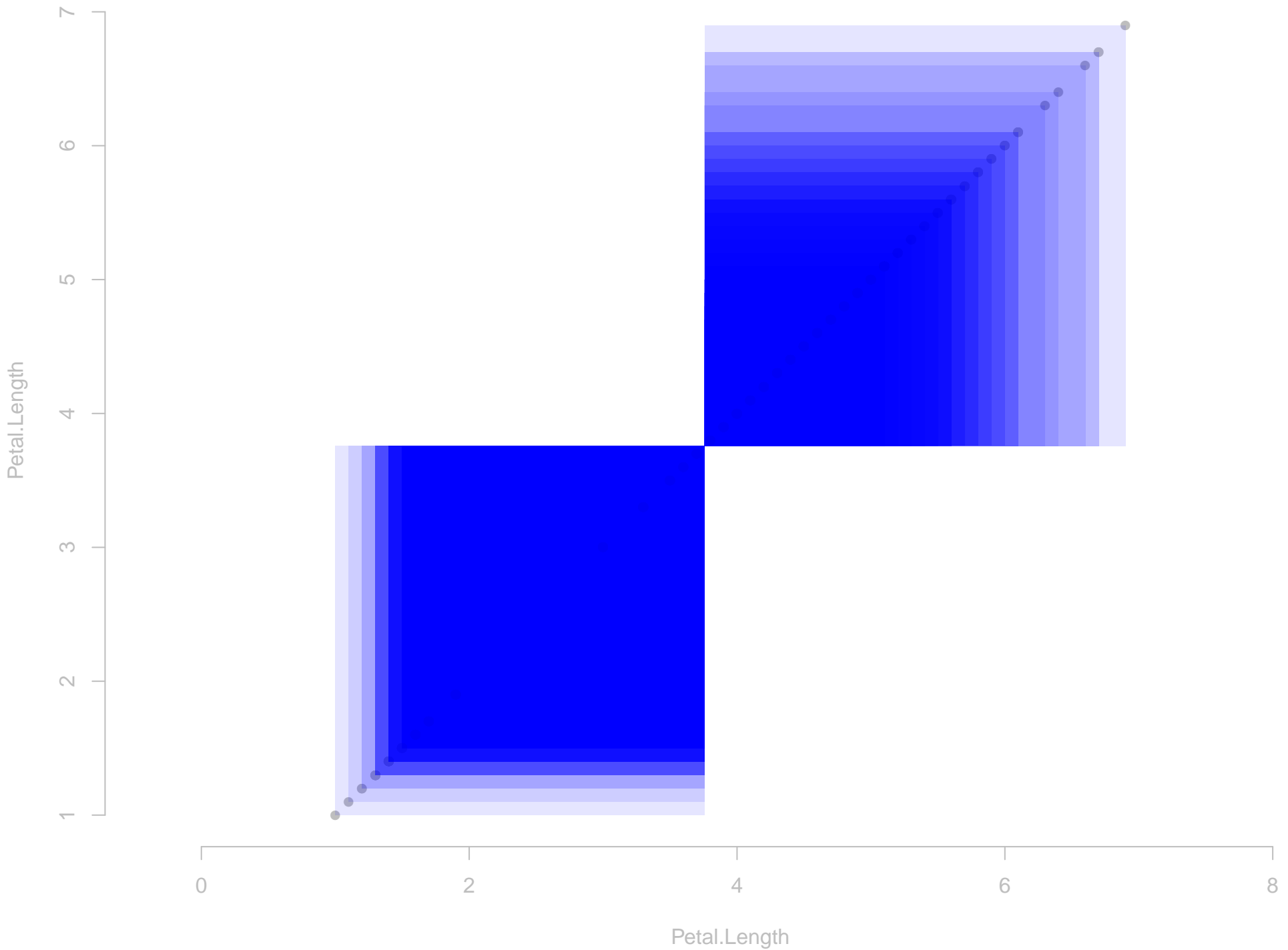
$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

Why?

Covariance has red rectangles.



Variance doesn't have red rectangles.



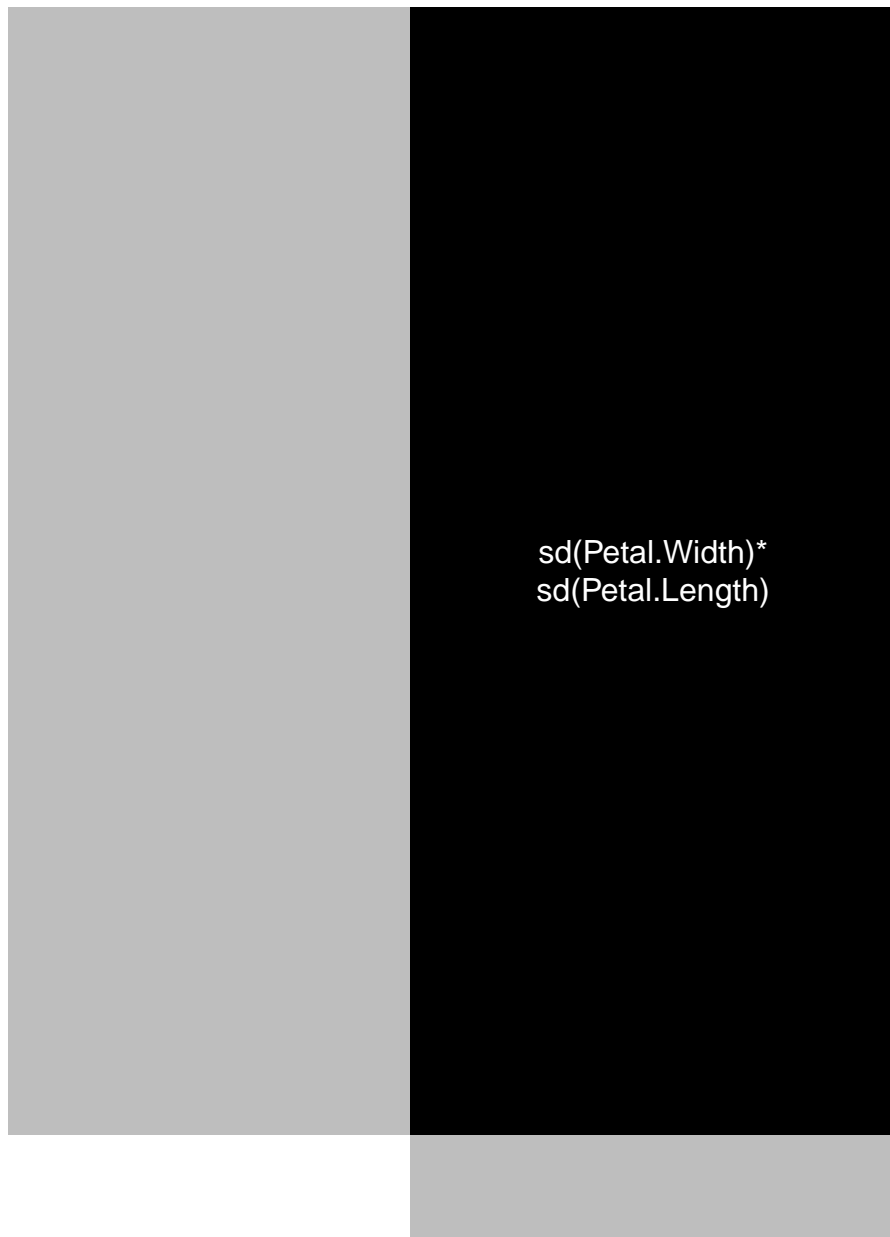
$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Width})$

$\text{sd}(\text{Petal.Width}) * \text{sd}(\text{Petal.Length})$

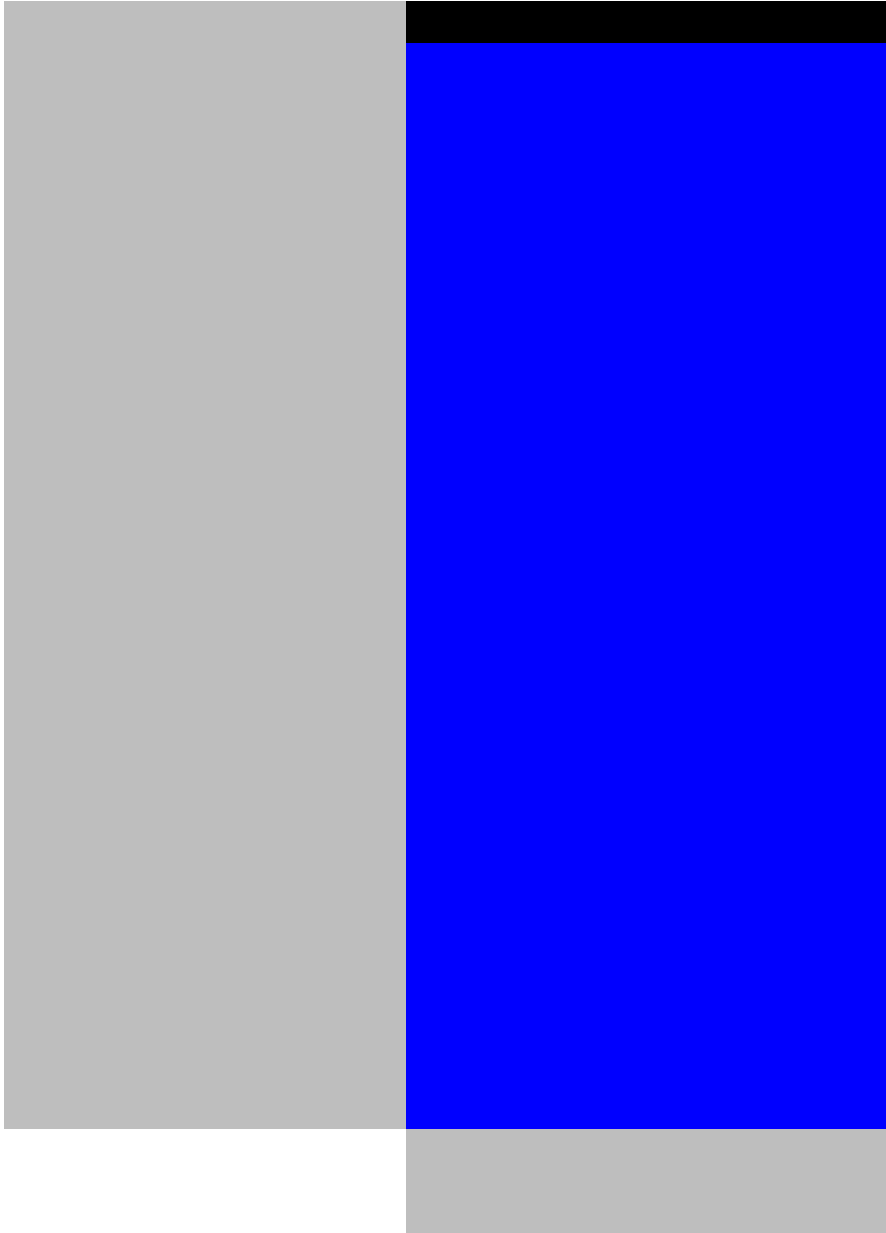
$\text{cov}(\text{Petal.Width}, \text{Petal.Length})$
cannot be bigger than
black rectangle.

$\text{var}(\text{Petal.Length})$

Let's zoom in.

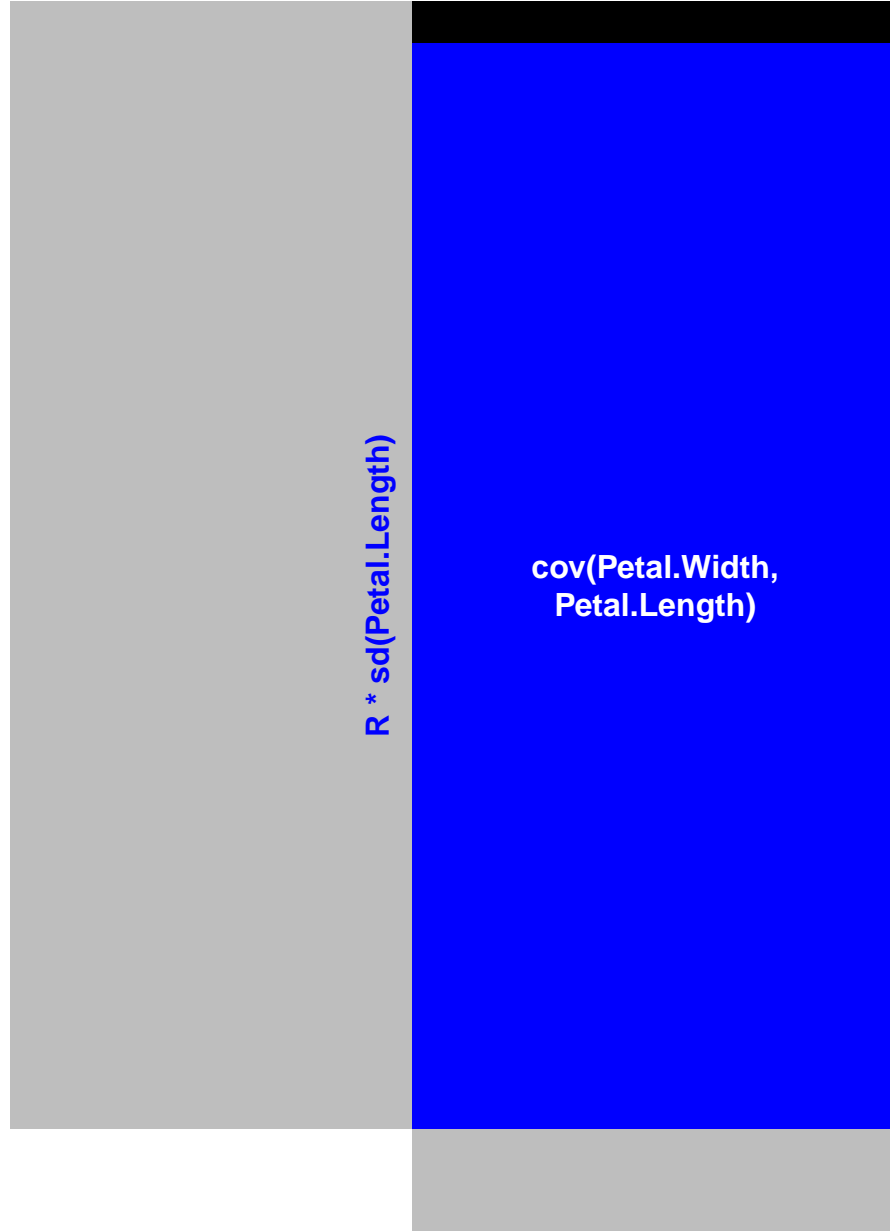


Squish covariance vertically into the rectangle.

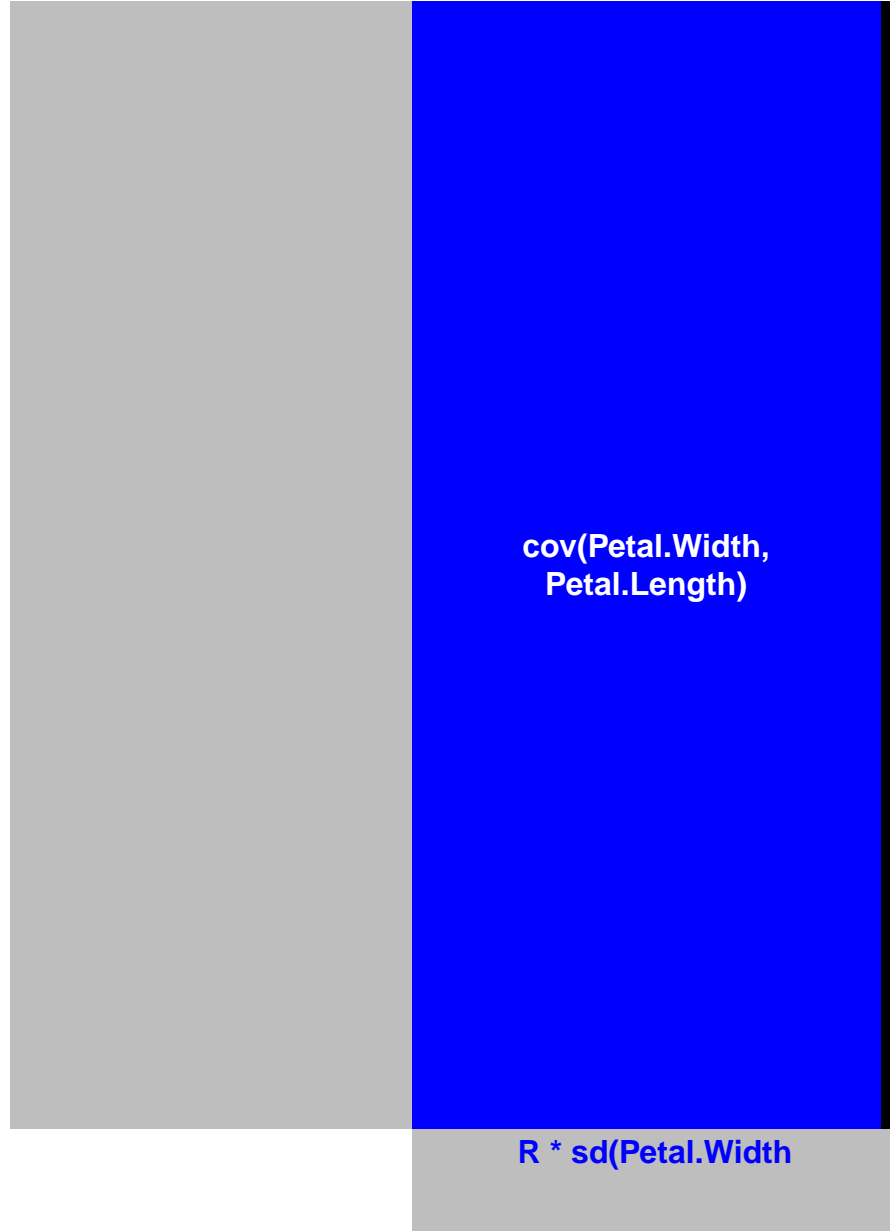


**Correlation (R)
is the ratio of
the small rectangle
to the big rectangle.**

Squish covariance vertically into the rectangle.

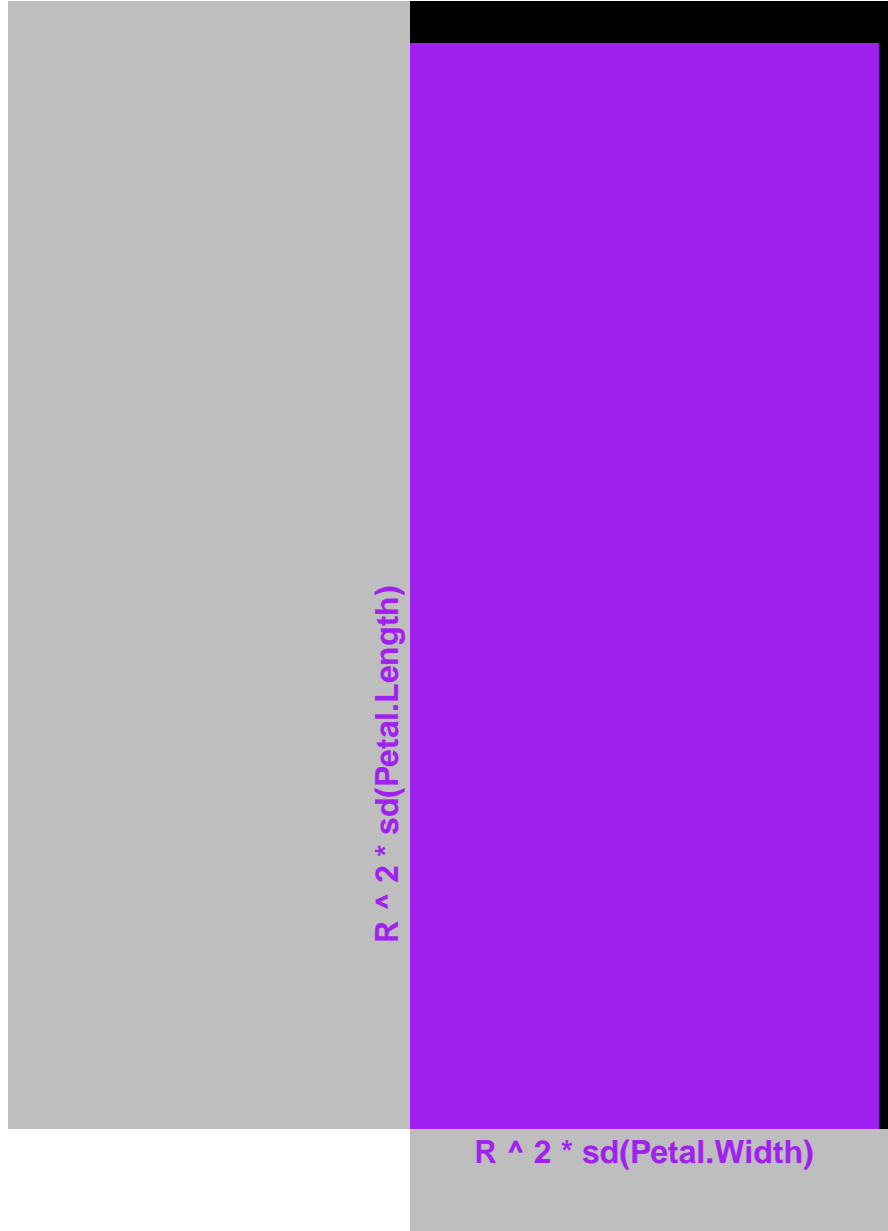


Squish covariance horizontally into the rectangle.



**People like to
talk about R-squared.**

Intersect the two squished covariance rectangles.



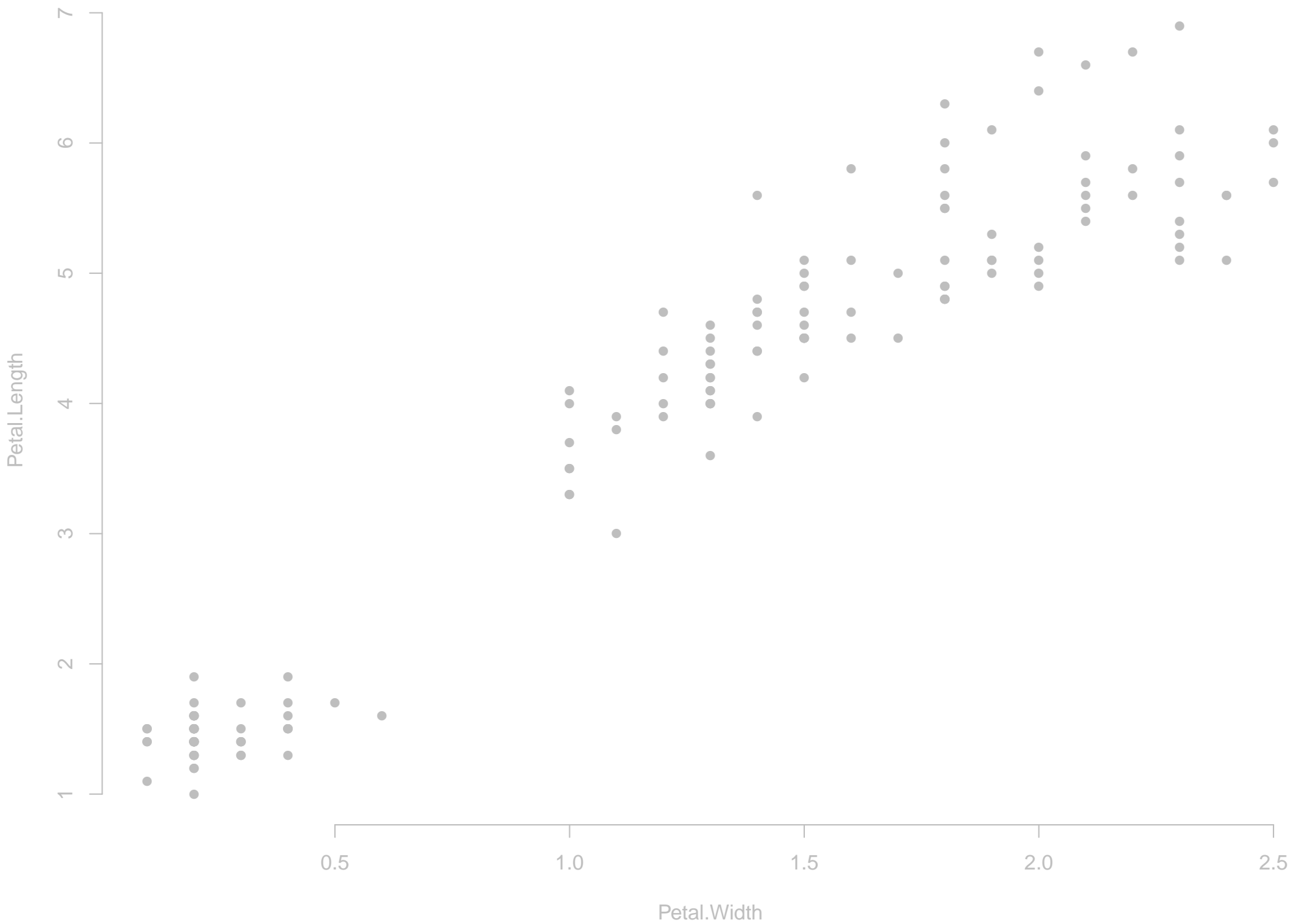
Intersect the two squished covariance rectangles.



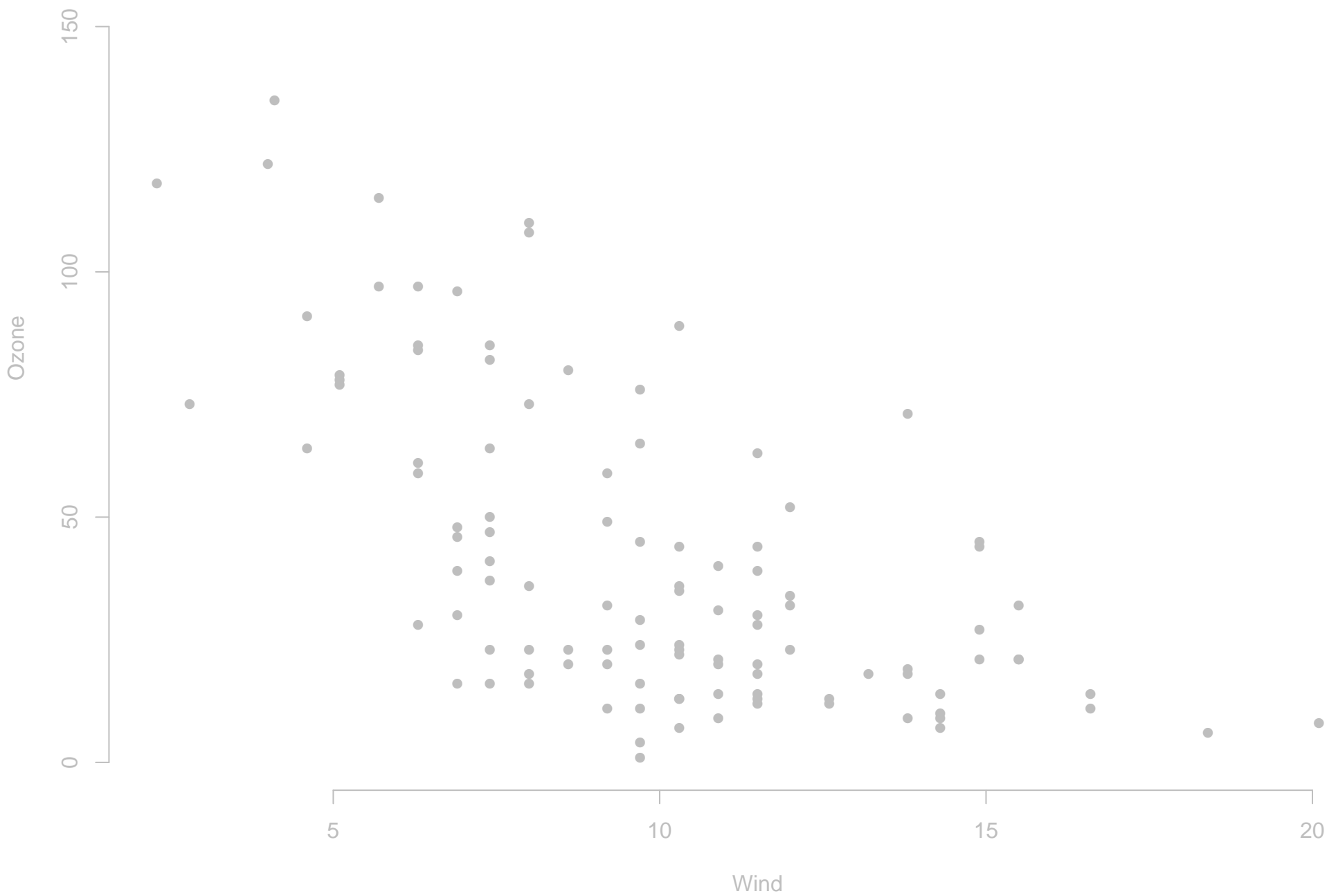
**That was for very
positive (blue) covariances.**

What if covariance is negative (red)?

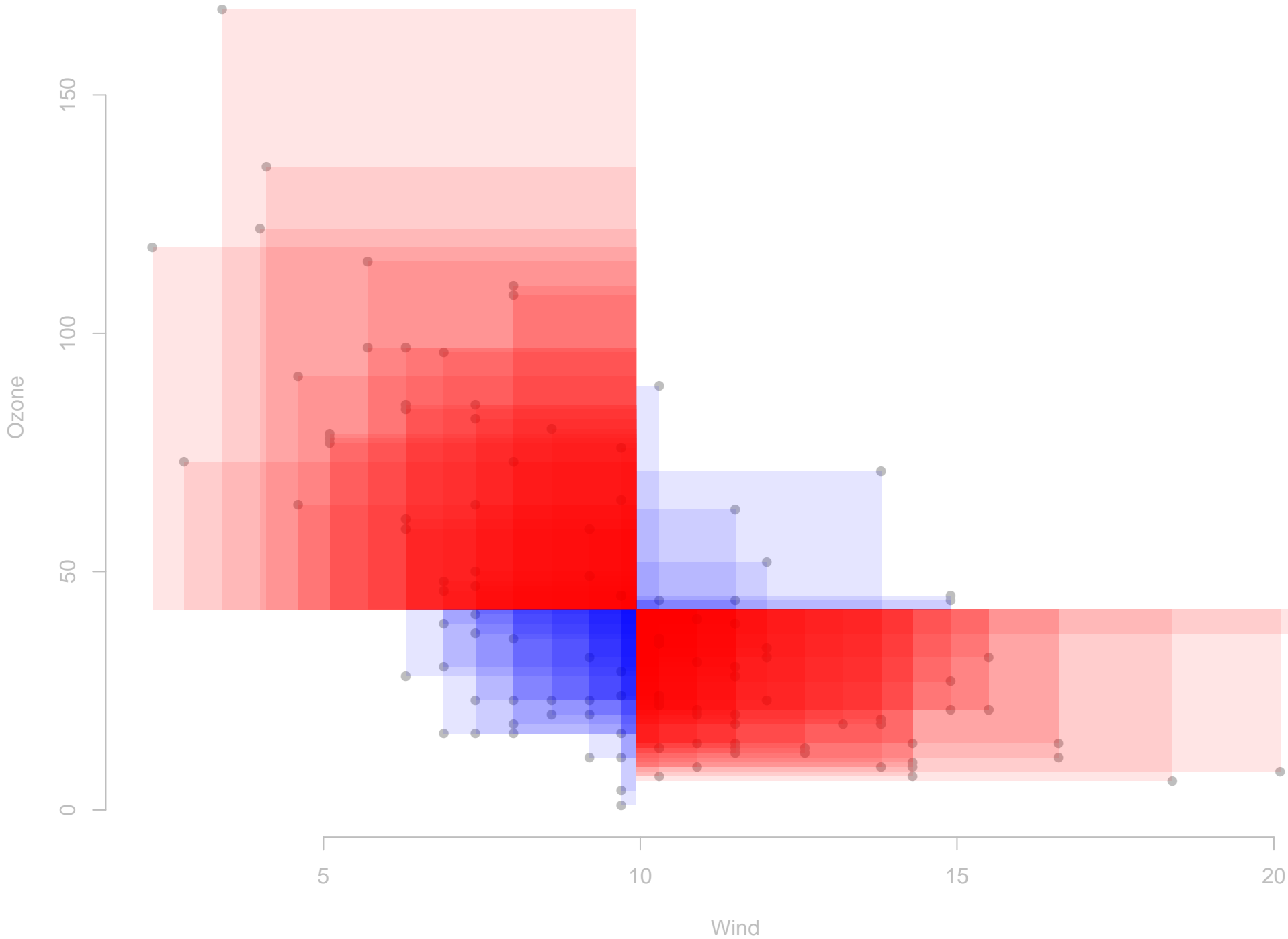
We were just using these data.



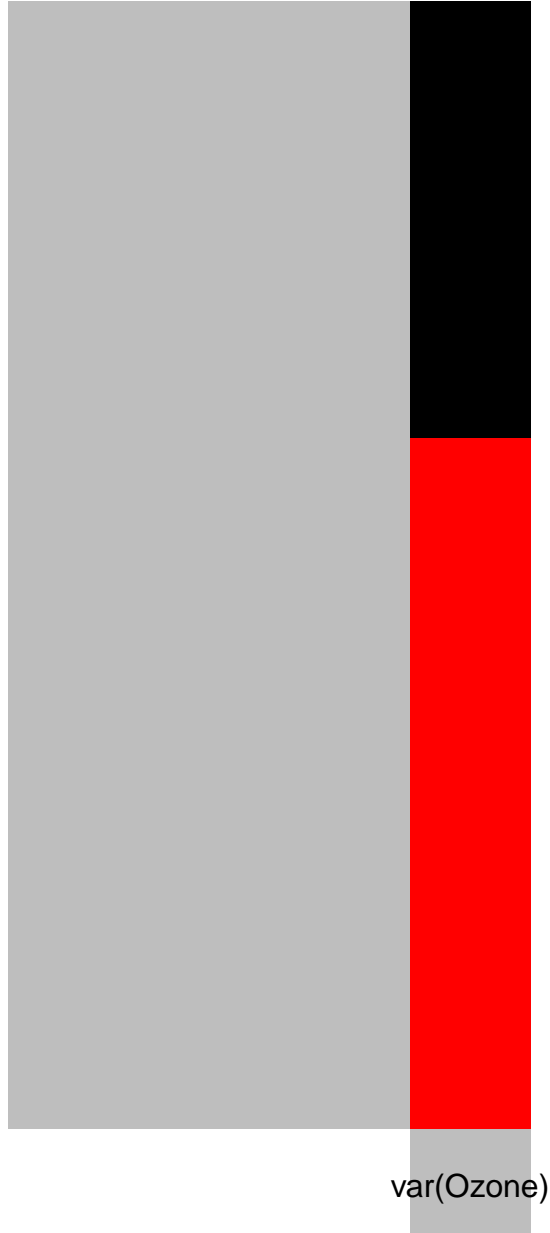
What if we had these data?



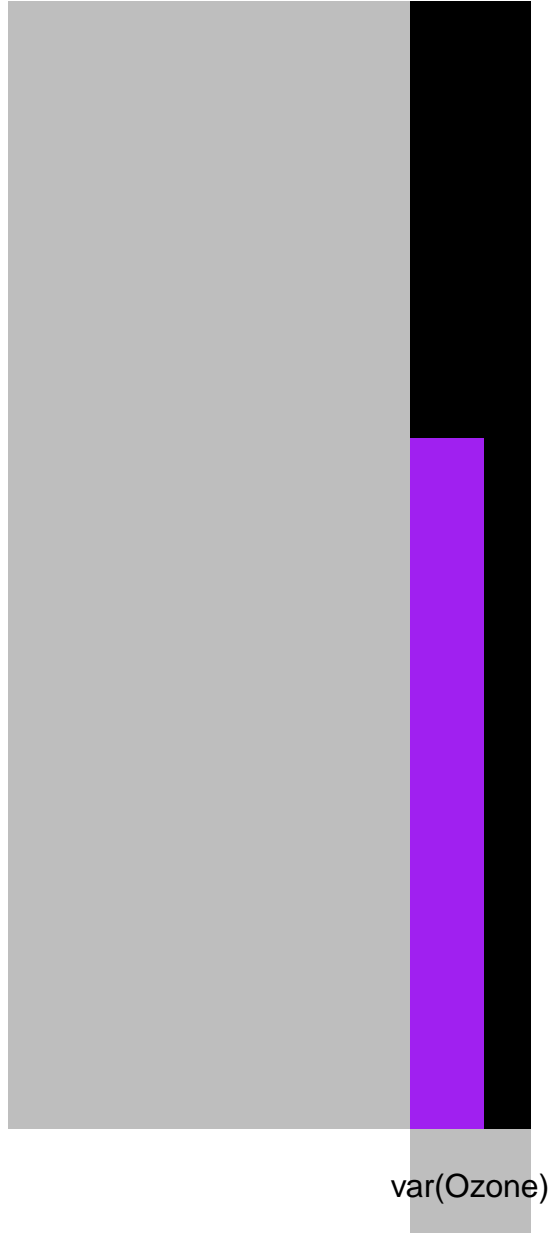
What if we had these data?



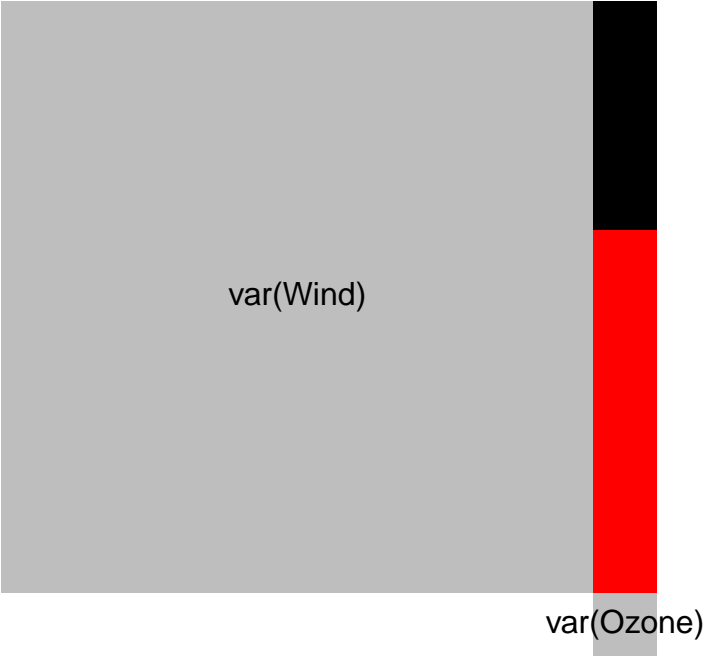
R is the same, just negative.



R-squared is the same, and it is always positive.



Zoom back out.



**If we transform the covariance a bit,
we can also make predictions.**

Let's use x to predict y .

$$y = b_0 + b_1 * x$$

Let's invent b1.

What values should it have?

**If covariance is very positive
and x is high,
 y should be high.**

(We want b_1 to be positive.)

**If covariance is very negative
and x is high,
 y should be low.**

(We want b_1 to be negative.)

**If covariance is low,
we have no idea what y is.**

(b_1 is around zero.)

Let's think about units again.

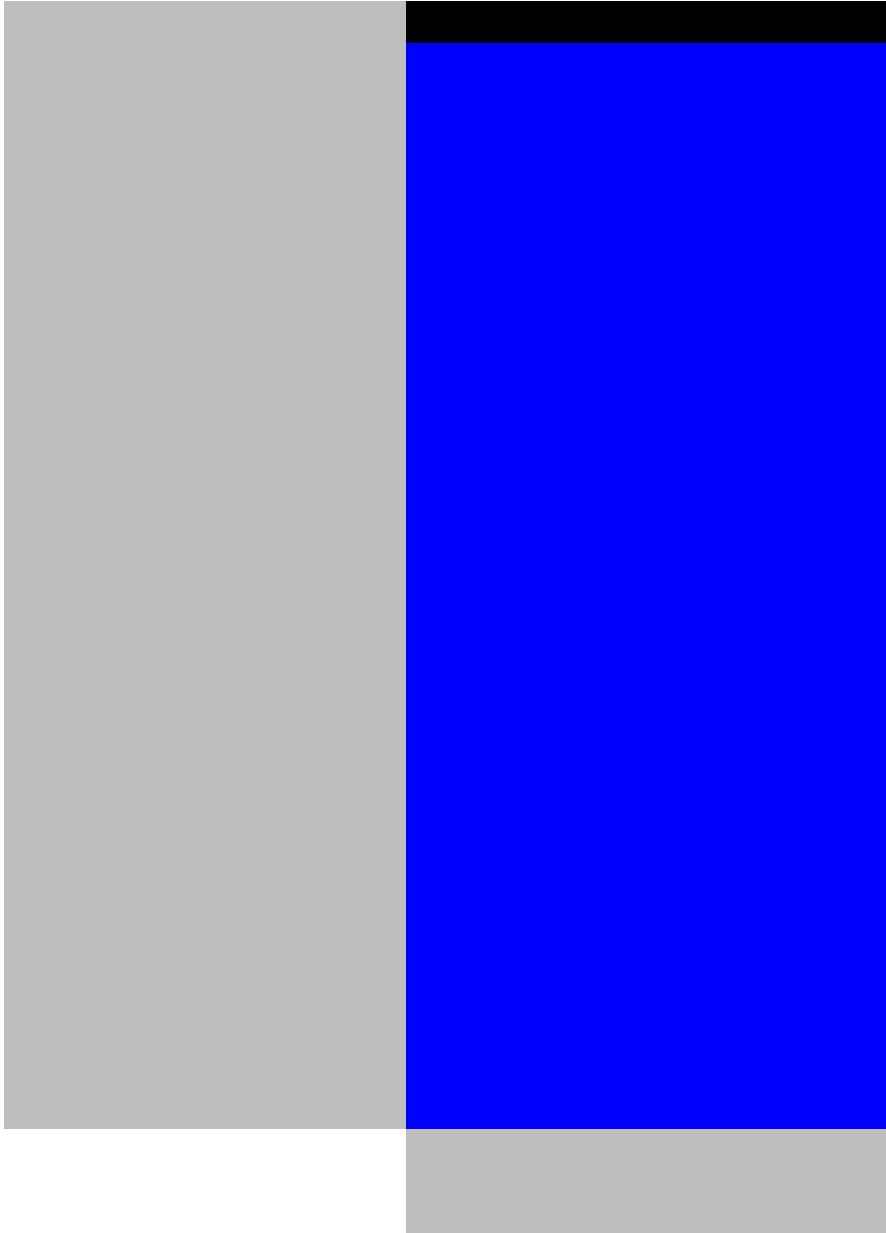
Covariance is an area; its unit is the product of the x and y units.



Variance is a special covariance; its unit is the square of the x unit.

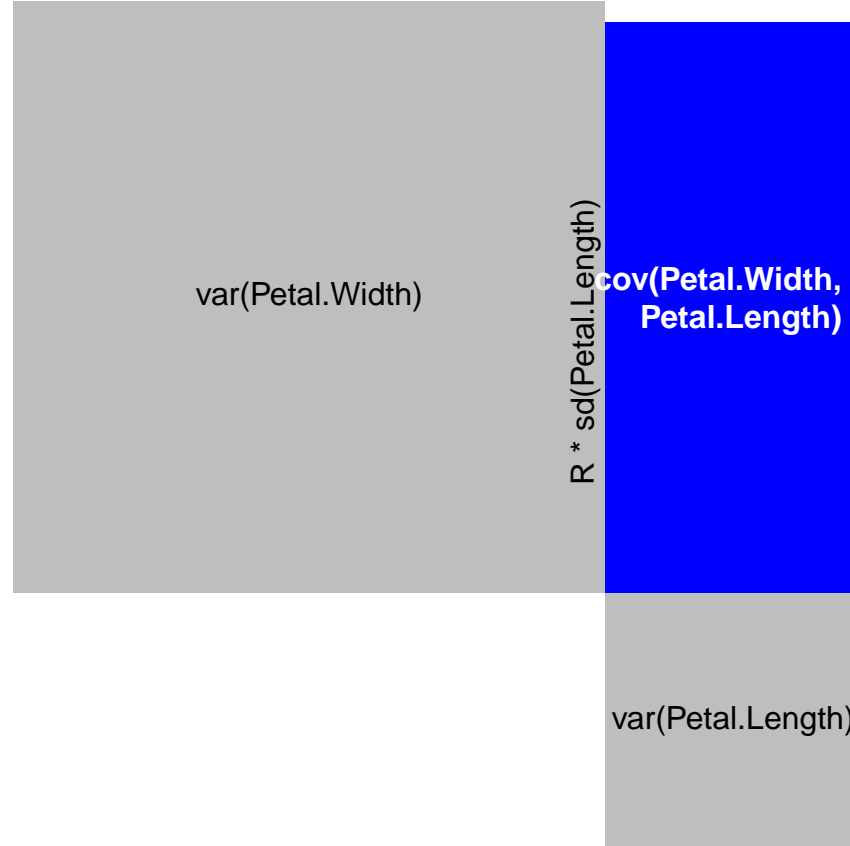


Correlation is a ratio of areas with the same units.

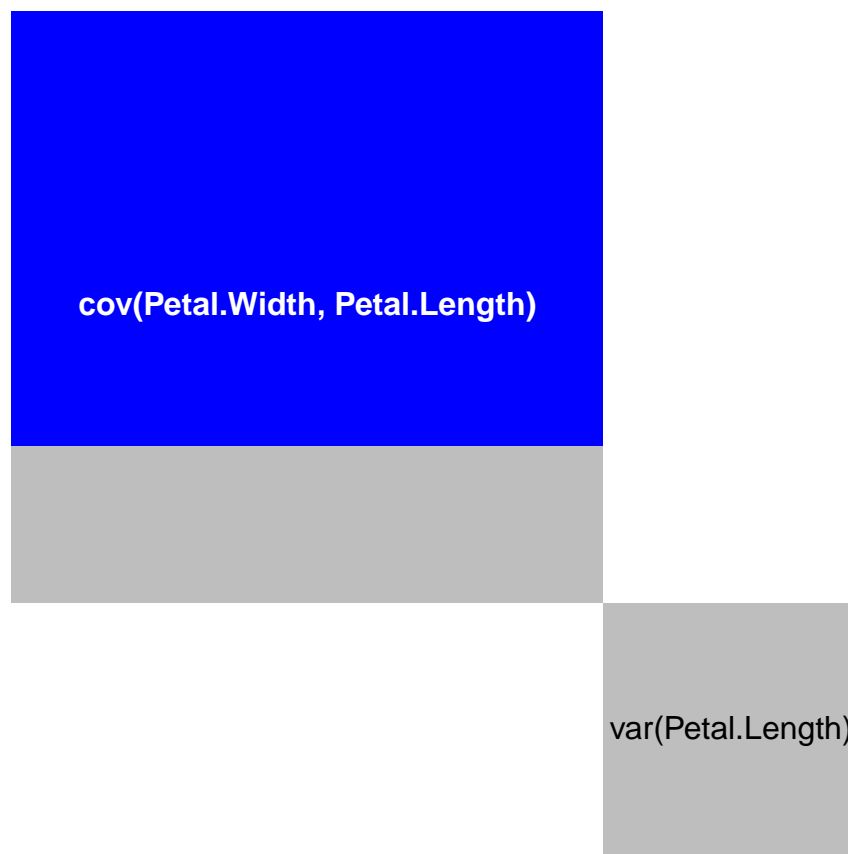


The unit of b_1 must be y-unit/x-unit.

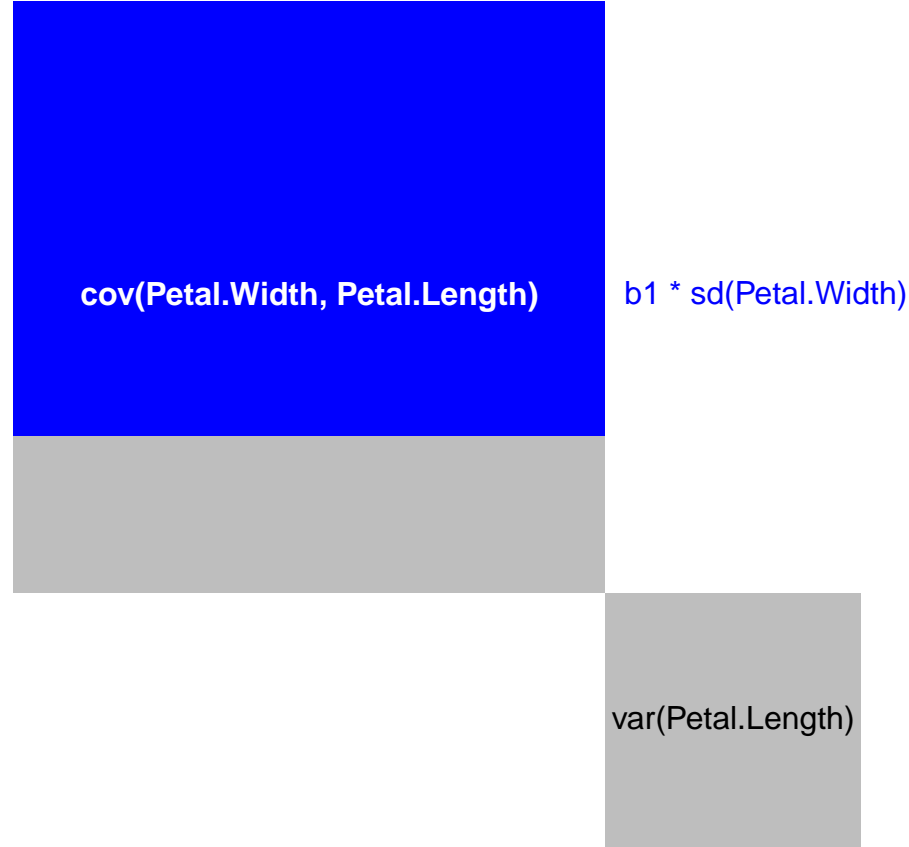
Our covariance picture



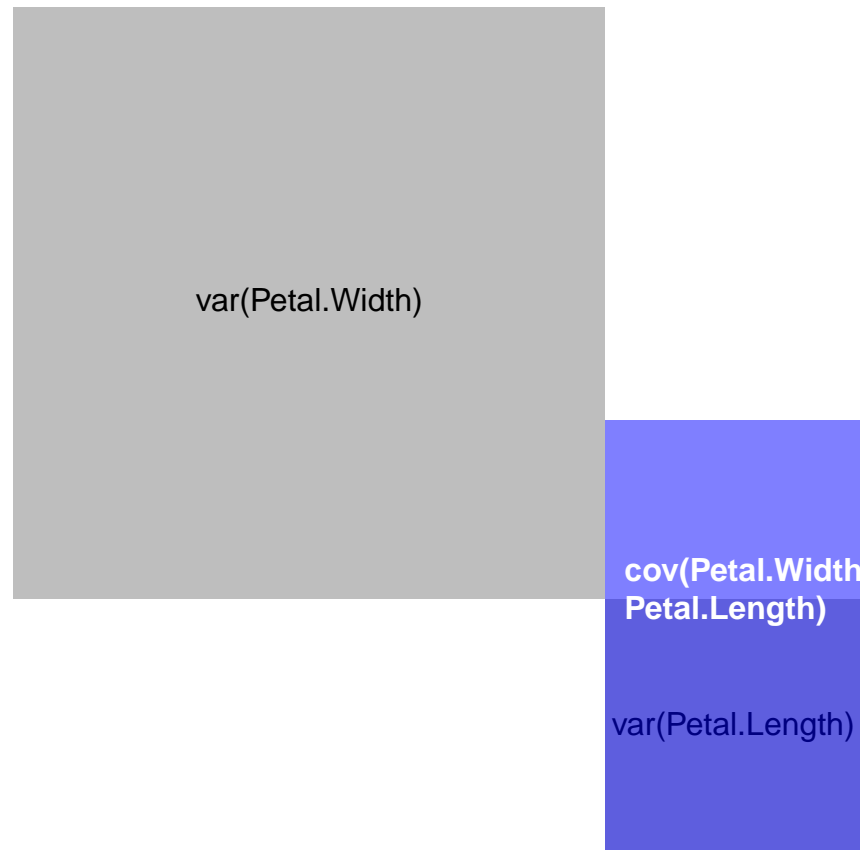
Lay the covariance over one of the variances instead.



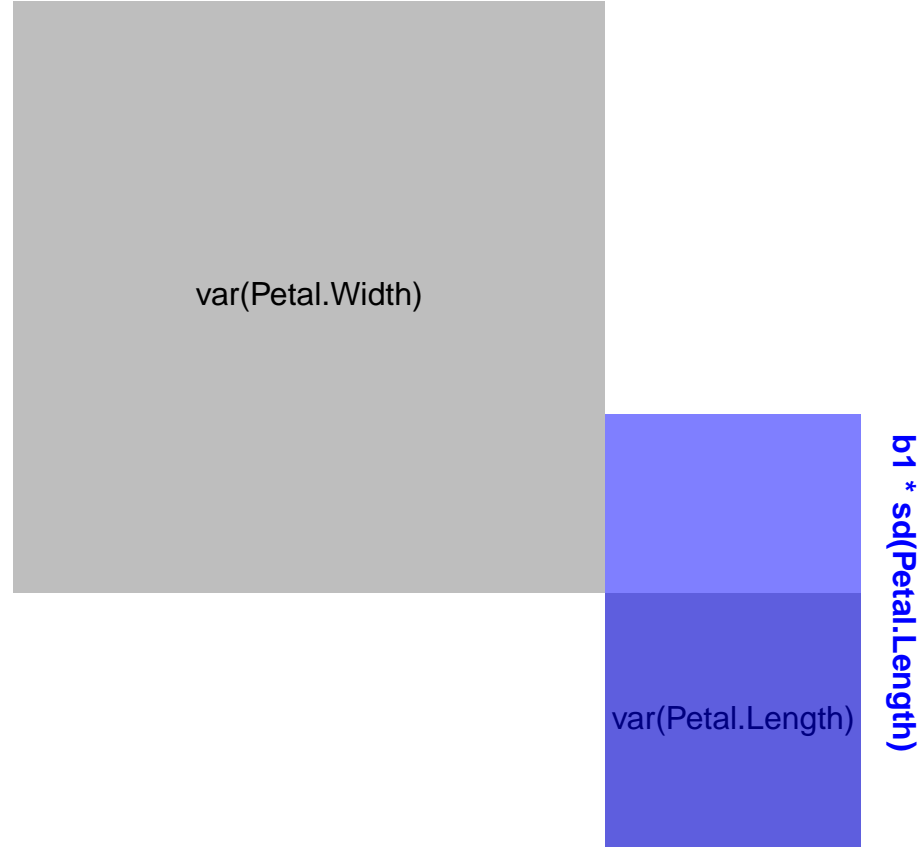
$$\text{Petal.Length} = b_0 + b_1 * \text{Petal.Width}$$



Lay the covariance over the other variance.



$$\text{Petal.Width} = b_0 + b_1 * \text{Petal.Length}$$

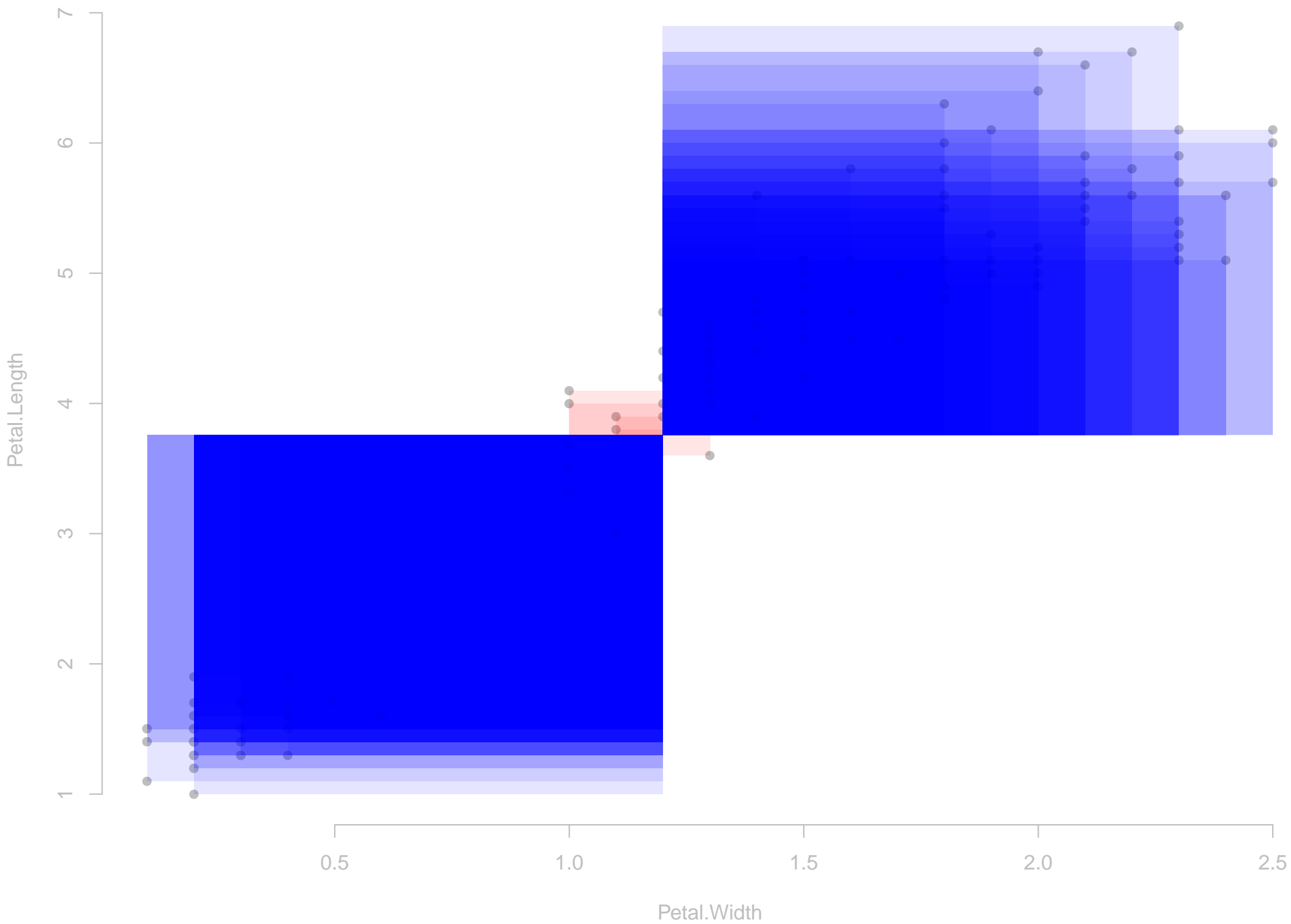


Some things to remember

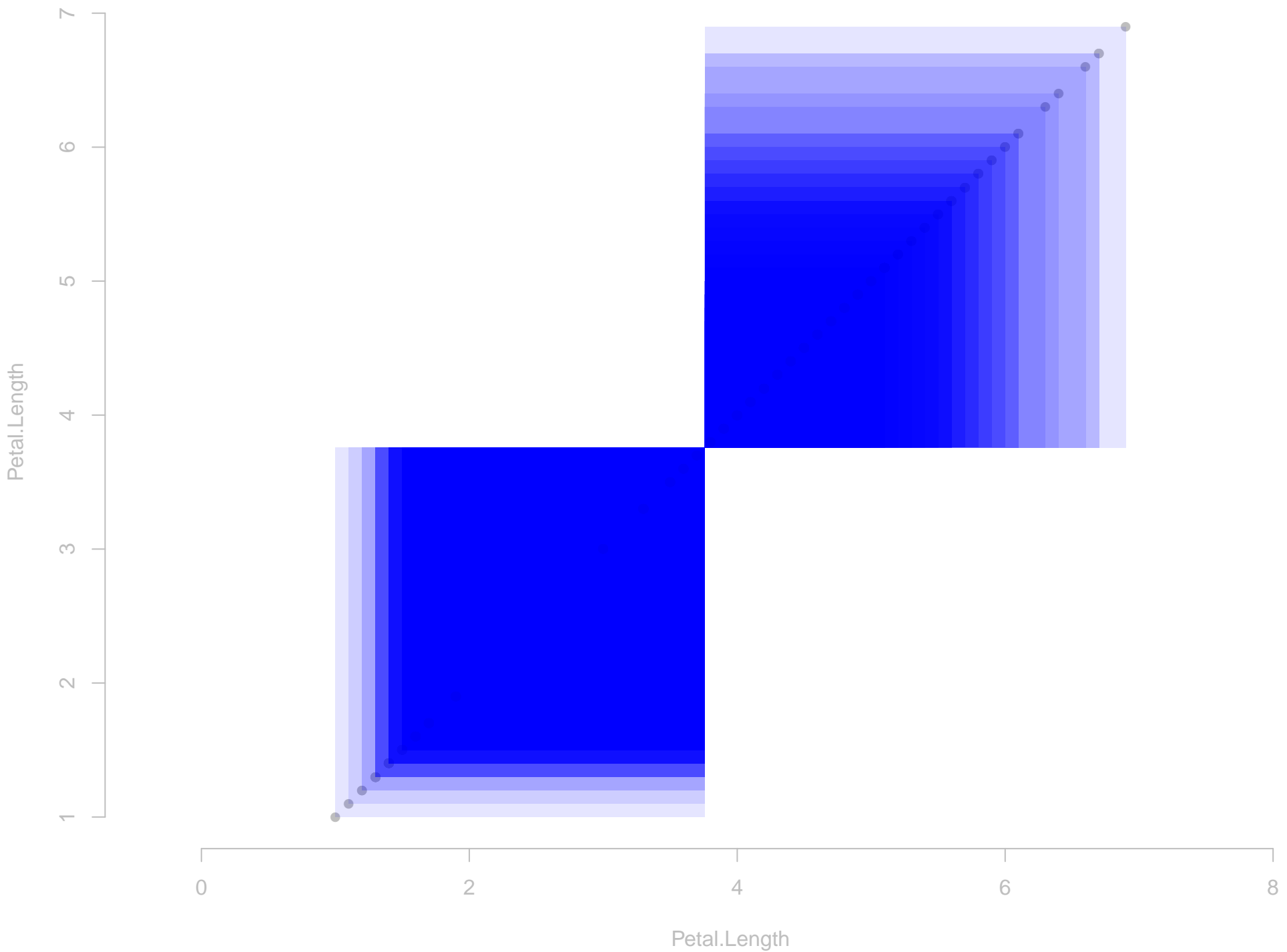
A statistic is a number that describes a lot of other numbers.

28	93	82	69	26	33	13	15	61	39	16	93	1	26	33	97	96	63	71	67	94
67	94	91	77	72	59	46	39	88	68	28	17	63	100	10	73	75	65	1	73	52
73	52	78	97	53	55	42	78	58	41	38	79	87	33	90	69	97	22	40	83	9
83	9	18	89	25	80	74	89	70	6	65	61	10	35	54	54	6	13	91	22	67
22	67	49	61	45	72	77	16	74	49	1	3	54	14	61	86	58	54	14	89	62
89	62	95	37	67	28	54	97	40	37	17	33	18	97	30	39	35	61	83	96	86
96	86	28	49	74	39	16	1	88	13	19	76	53	12	66	65	73	85	1	97	97
97	97	69	5	61	89	30	23	64	33	65	26	30	25	71	60	52	56	56	81	78
81	78	92	40	37	80	17	68	73	42	43	86	9	55	64	87	86	74	35	68	8
68	8	88	67	62	54	34	58	65	64	78	46	92	12	17	67	96	35	44	76	95
76	95	30	58	29	59	17	53	6	80	57	42	23	98	47	55	94	50	82	54	97
54	97	22	82	8	64	64	6	72	23	15	52	53	50	21	56	23	62	11	50	52
50	52	37	39	76	75	64	24	5	27	10	3	91	10	43	41	46	51	70	51	77
51	77	47	96	53	6	89	6	59	45	22	27	51	69	66	0	6	63	80	27	20
27	20	5	70	39	42	77	95	20	71	74	14	23	47	84	33	3	55	33	16	61
16	61	22	10	90	45	13	99	6	60	24	41	80	48	44	91	57	72	58	5	61
5	61	62	72	17	90	28	15	64	3	64	59	2	26	19	81	59	38	35	22	57
22	57	79	85	90	21	16	61	37	60	6	36	82	40	8	82	24	78	94	59	68
59	68	61	45	96	64	48	41	59	76	40	68	4	86	51	91	62	5	61	43	57
43	57	26	26	46	8	71	94	88	15	7	91	55	39	31	45	56	50	14	95	58
95	58	44	54	8	83	93	43	84	22	83	76	68	18	34	67	2	73	97	11	28

The covariance statistic describes the strength of linear relationships.



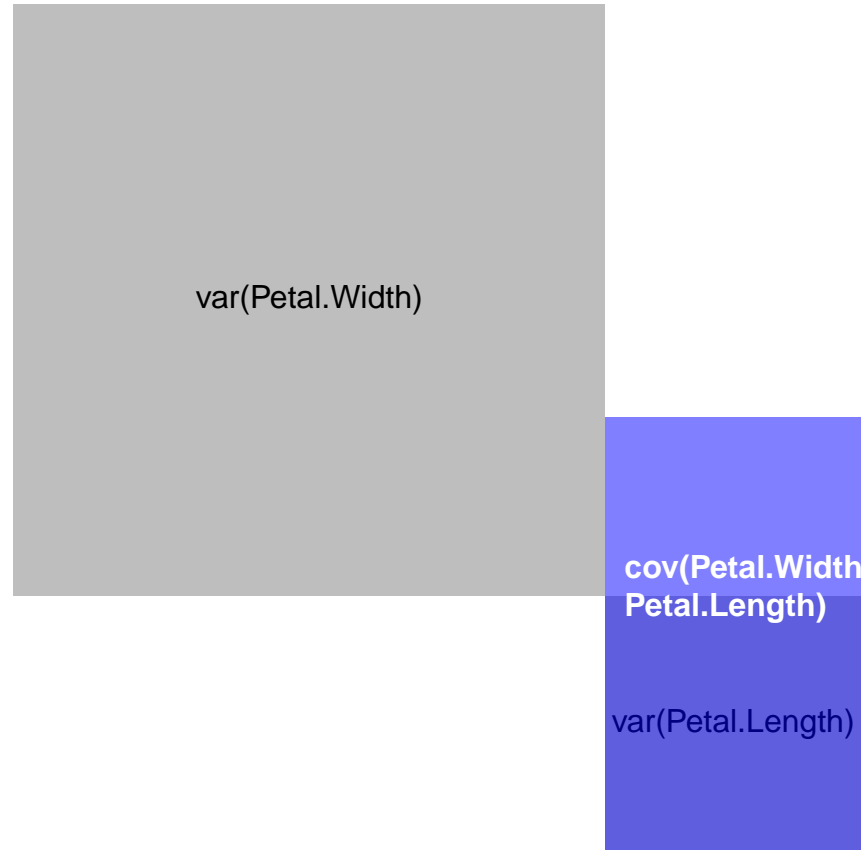
The variance statistic describes how spread-out some numbers are.



The correlation statistic is a standardized version of covariance.



(Beta coefficients for) least-squares regression predict one variable based on another.



You can pretty much always draw math.