



**BIMM 143**

**Data visualization with R**

**Lecture 5**

**Barry Grant**  
**UC San Diego**

<http://thegrantlab.org/bimm143>

# Recap From Last Time:

- What is R and why should we use it?
- Familiarity with R's basic syntax.
- Familiarity with major R data structures namely **vectors** and **data.frames**.
- Understand the basics of using **functions** (arguments, vectorization and re-cycling).
- Appreciate how you can use R scripts to aid with reproducibility.

[\[MPA Link\]](#)

# Today's Learning Goals

- Appreciate the major elements of **exploratory data analysis** and why it is important to visualize data.
- Be conversant with **data visualization best practices** and understand how good visualizations optimize for the human visual system.
- Be able to generate informative graphical displays including **scatterplots, histograms, bar graphs, boxplots, dendrograms** and **heatmaps** and thereby gain exposure to the extensive graphical capabilities of R.
- Appreciate that you can build even more complex charts with **ggplot** and additional R packages such as **rgl**.

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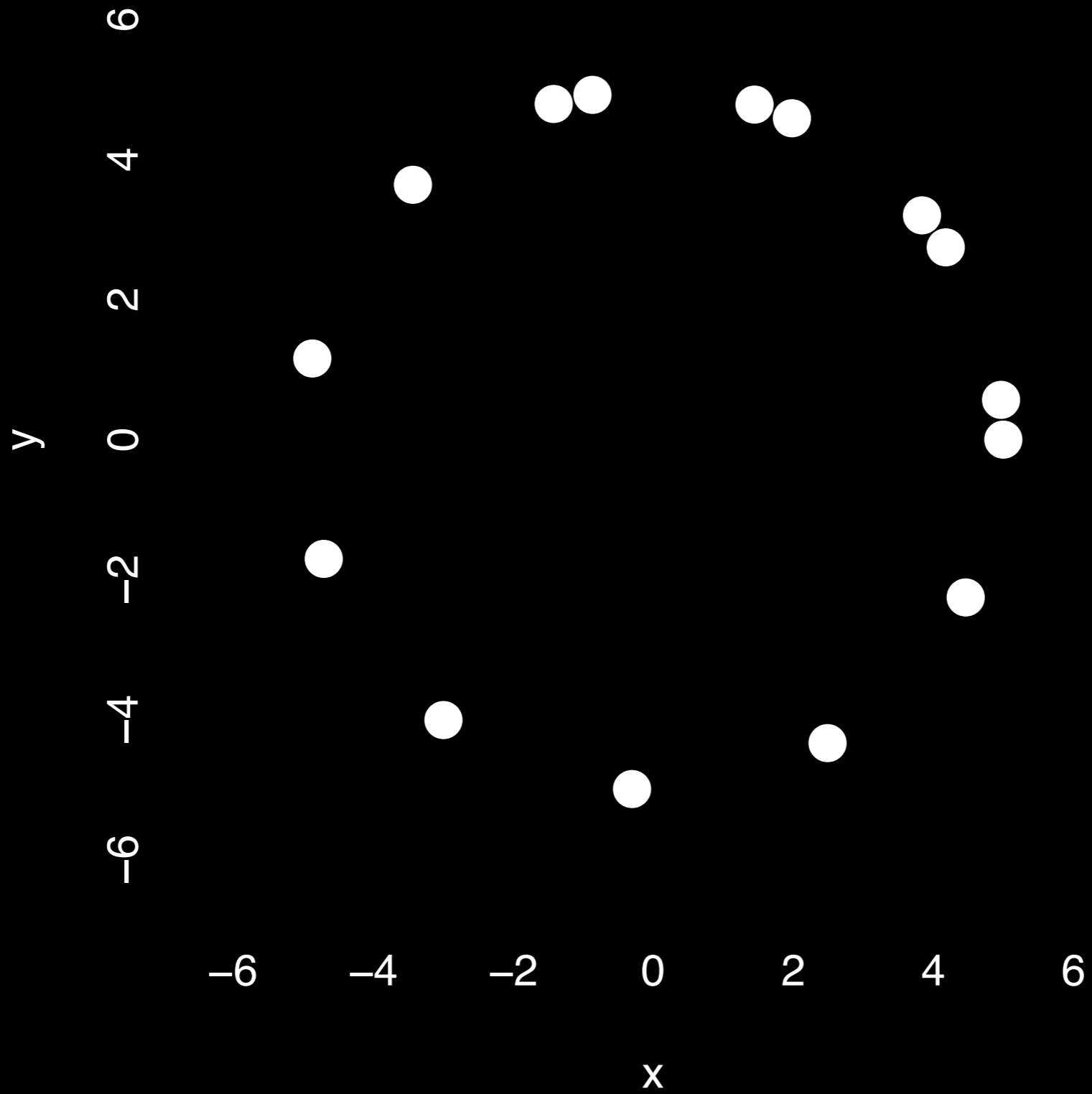
**Why visualize at all?**

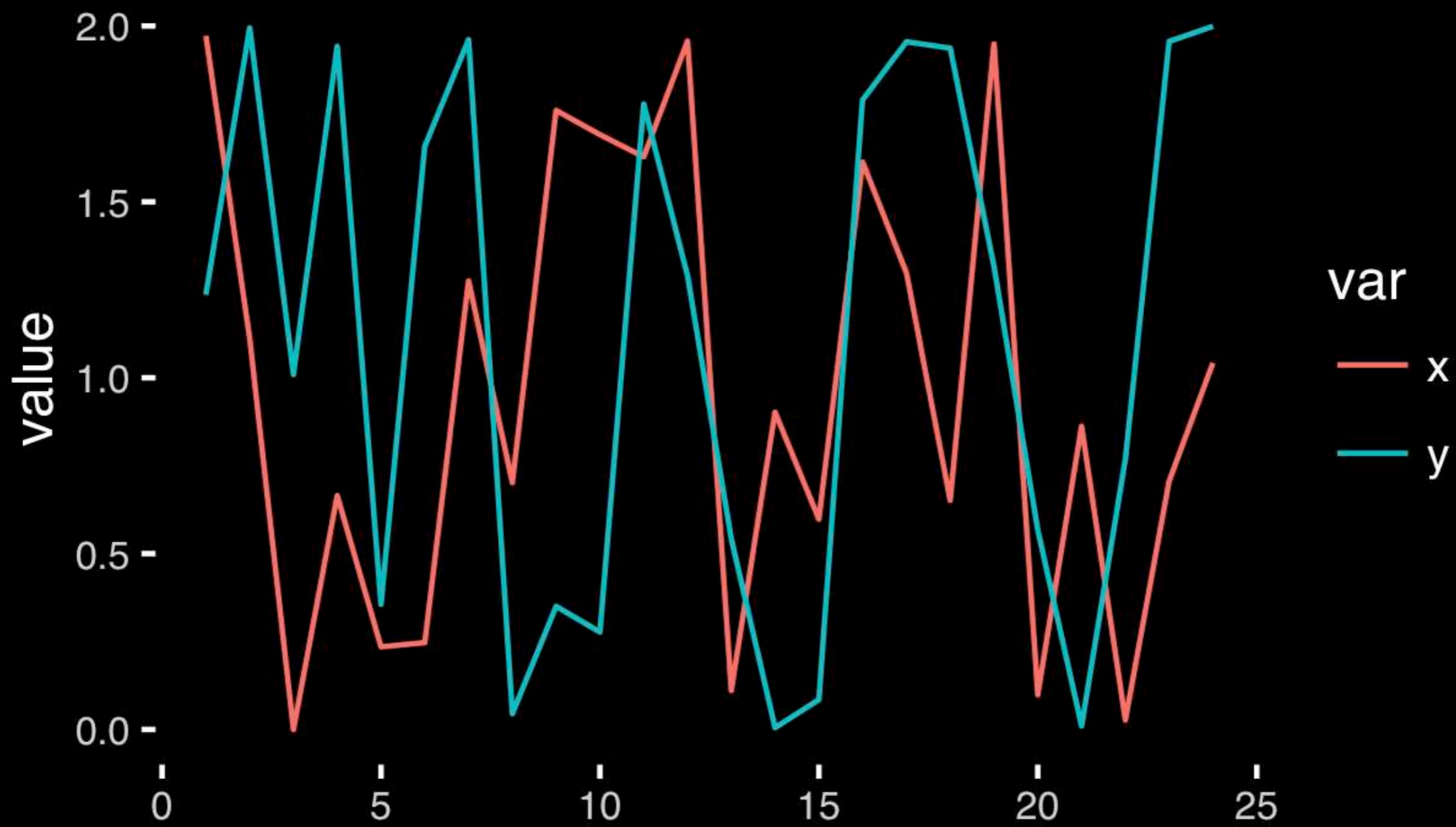


	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>
<b>1</b>	5.00	0.00
<b>2</b>	4.18	2.75
<b>3</b>	1.98	4.59
<b>4</b>	-0.86	4.92
<b>5</b>	-3.43	3.64
<b>6</b>	-4.86	1.16
<b>7</b>	-4.70	-1.70
<b>8</b>	-2.99	-4.01
<b>9</b>	-0.30	-4.99
<b>10</b>	2.49	-4.34
<b>11</b>	4.46	-2.25
<b>12</b>	4.97	0.57
<b>13</b>	3.84	3.20
<b>14</b>	1.45	4.79
<b>15</b>	-1.42	4.79

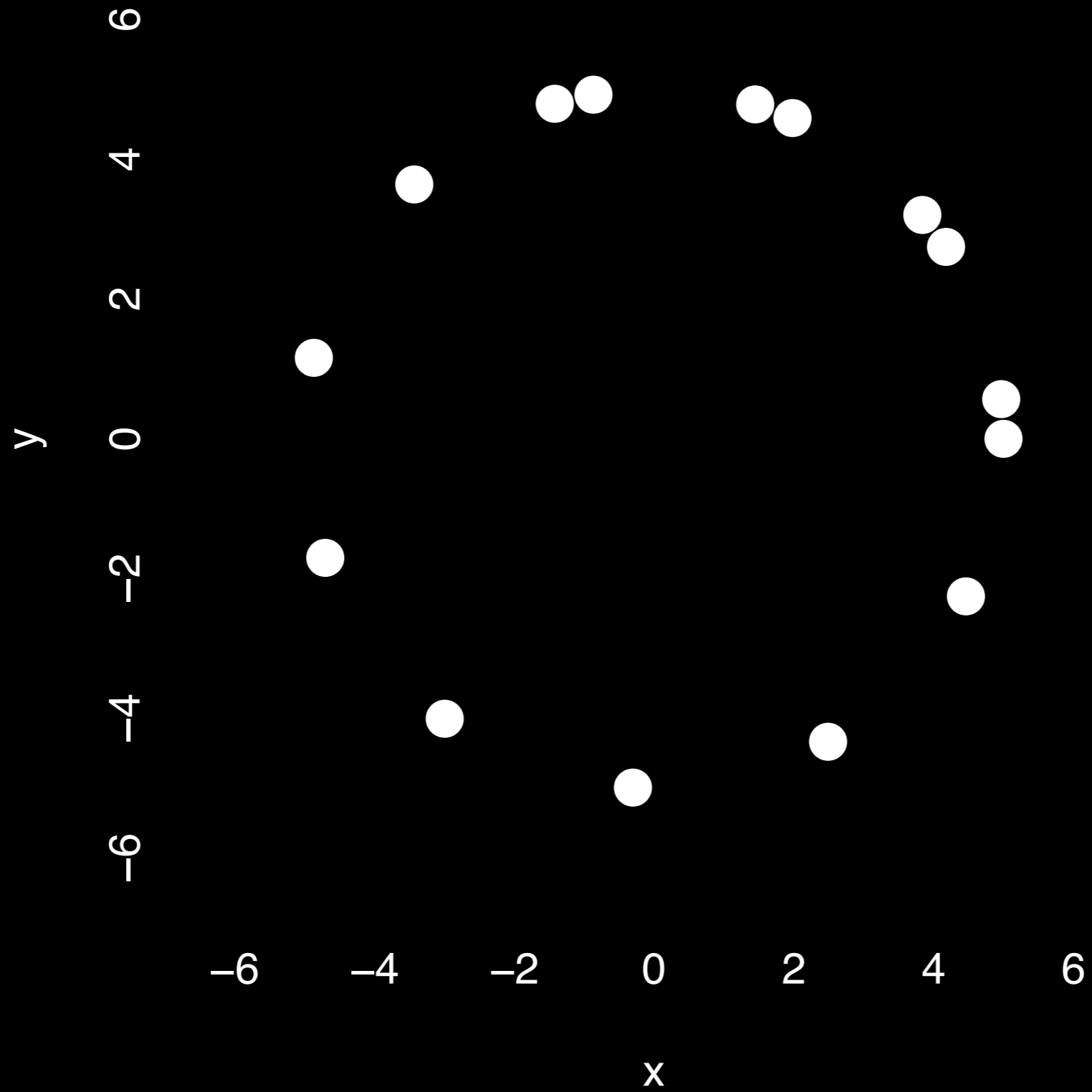
	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>
<b>Min.</b>	-4.86	-4.99
<b>1st Qu.</b>	-2.21	-1.98
<b>Median</b>	1.45	1.16
<b>Mean</b>	0.65	0.87
<b>3rd Qu.</b>	4.01	4.12
<b>Max.</b>	5.00	4.92







[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_F18/class-material/05\\_draw\\_circle\\_points/](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_F18/class-material/05_draw_circle_points/)

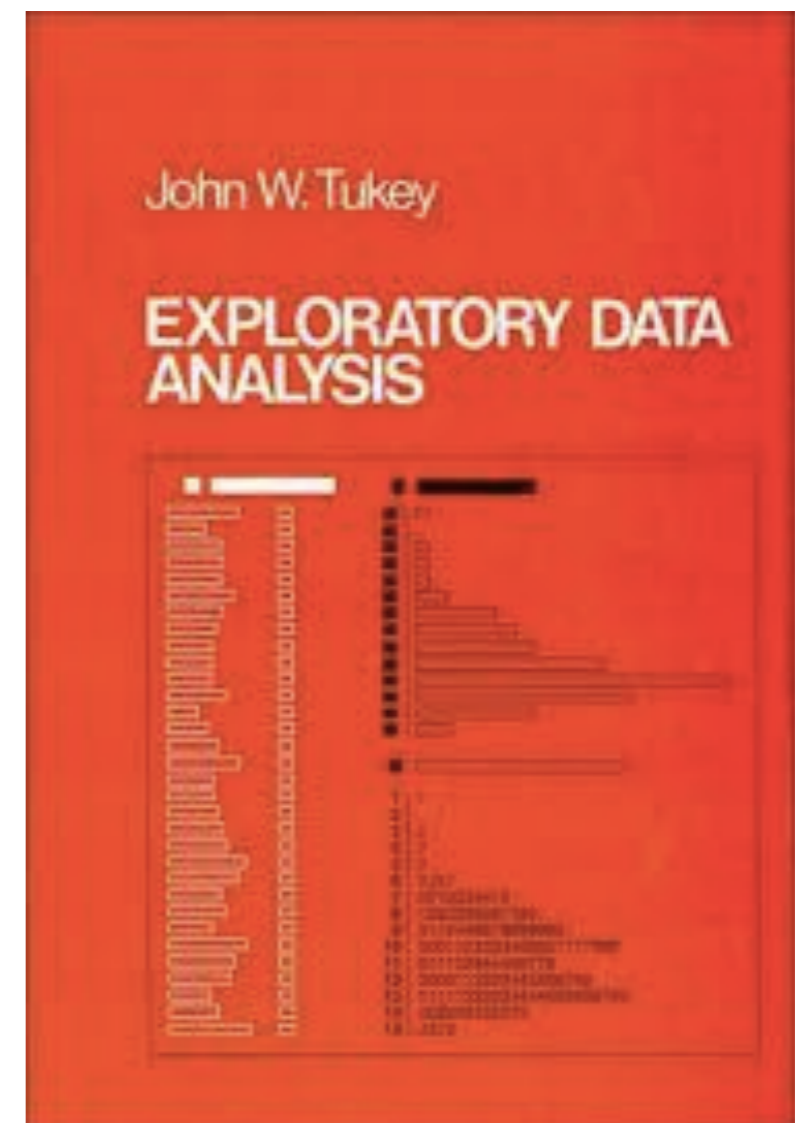
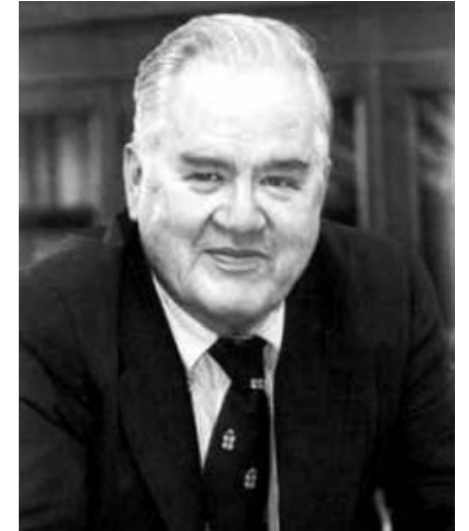


# Exploratory Data Analysis

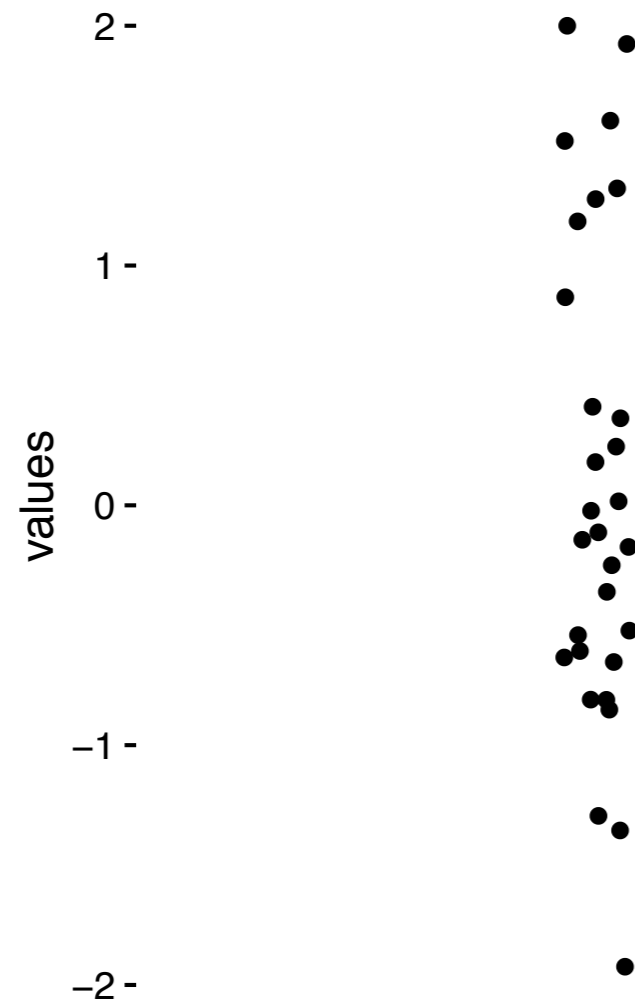
- ALWAYS look at your data!
- If you can't see it, then don't believe it!
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) allows us to:
  1. Visualize distributions and relationships
  2. Detect errors
  3. Assess assumptions for confirmatory analysis
- EDA is the first step of data analysis!

# Exploratory Data Analysis 1977

- Based on insights developed at Bell Labs in the 60's
- Techniques for visualizing and summarizing data
- What can the data tell us? (in contrast to “confirmatory” data analysis)
- Introduced many basic techniques:
  - 5-number summary, box plots, stem and leaf diagrams,...
- 5 Number summary:
  - extremes (min and max)
  - median & quartiles
  - More robust to skewed & longtailed distributions



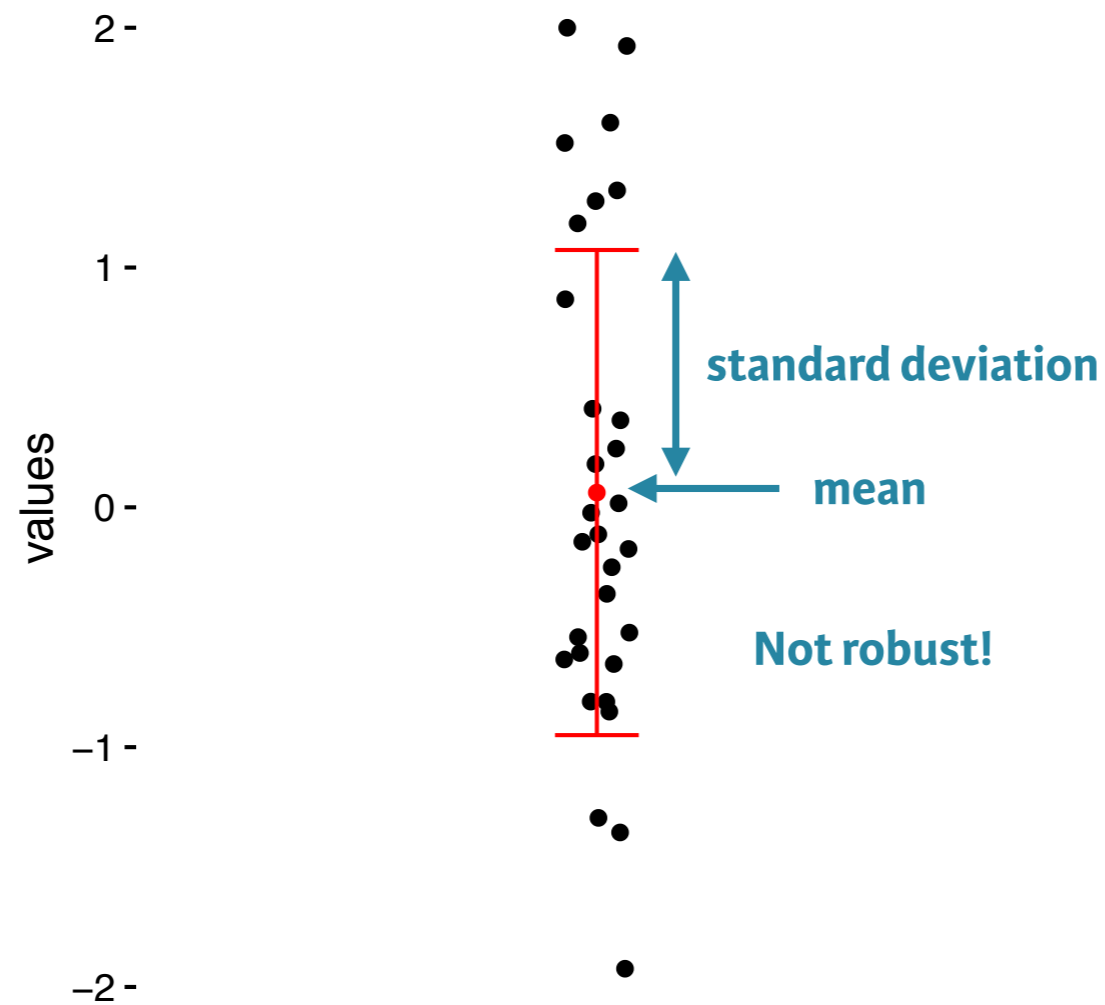
# Side-note: How to summarize data?



```
x <- rnorm(1000,0)
```

# Side-note: Mean & standard deviation

Fine for normally distributed data



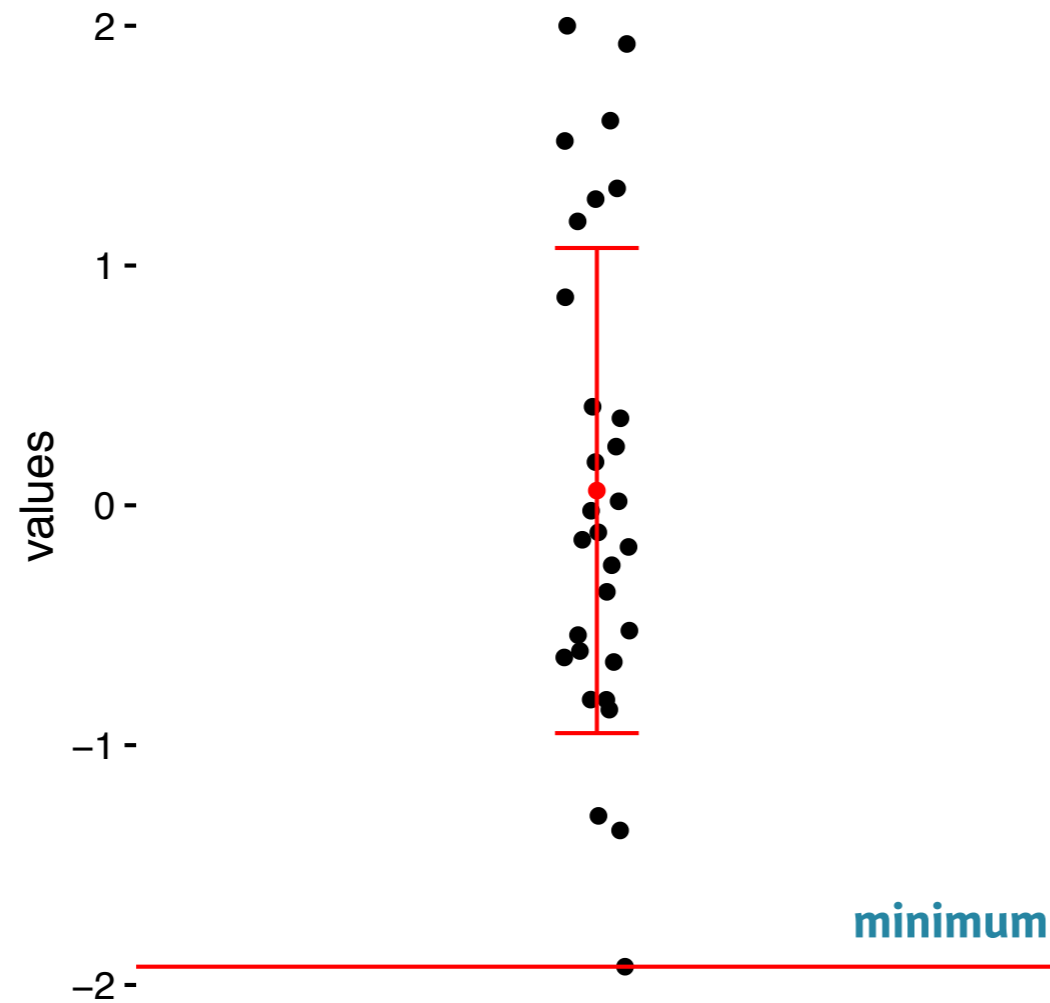
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x <- rnorm(1000,0)
```

```
mean(x)
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```
sd(x)
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# Side-note: 5 number summary

Minimum, Q1, Q2, Q3, and maximum



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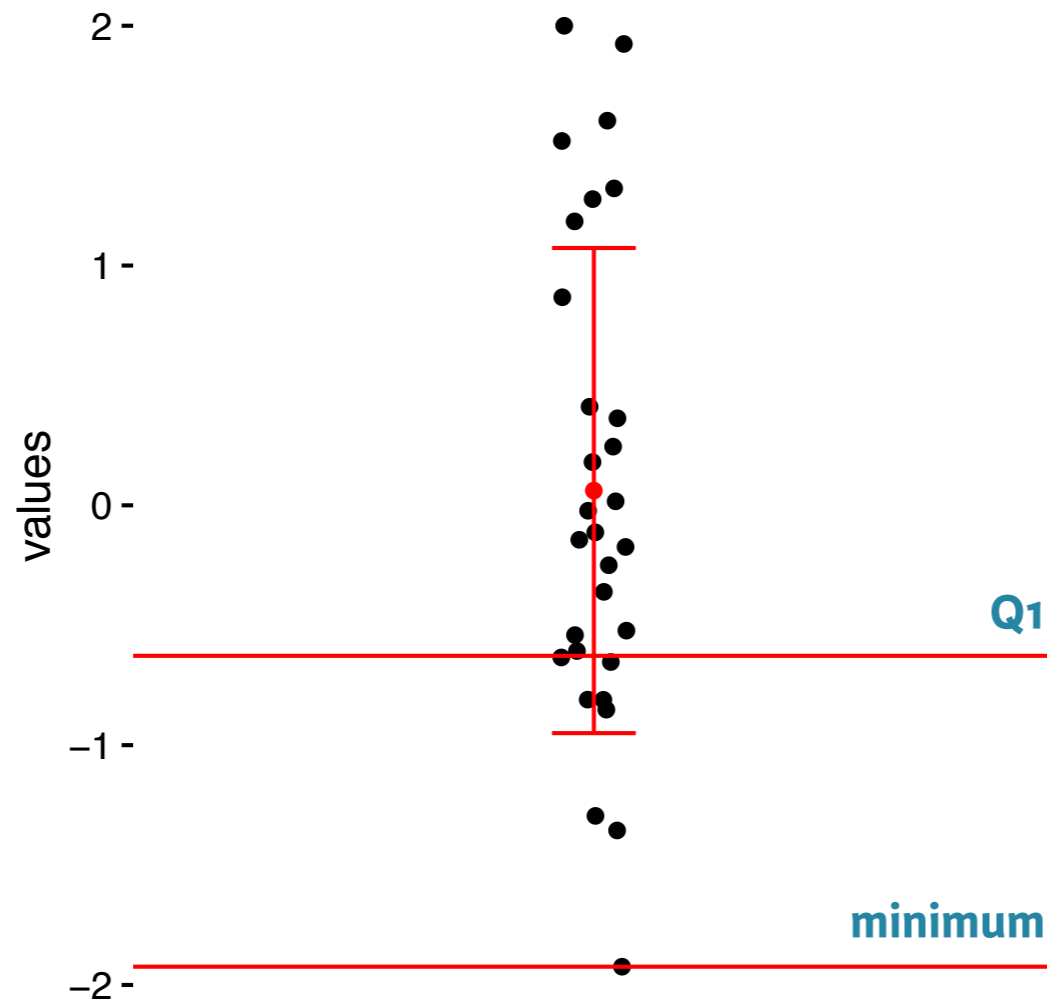
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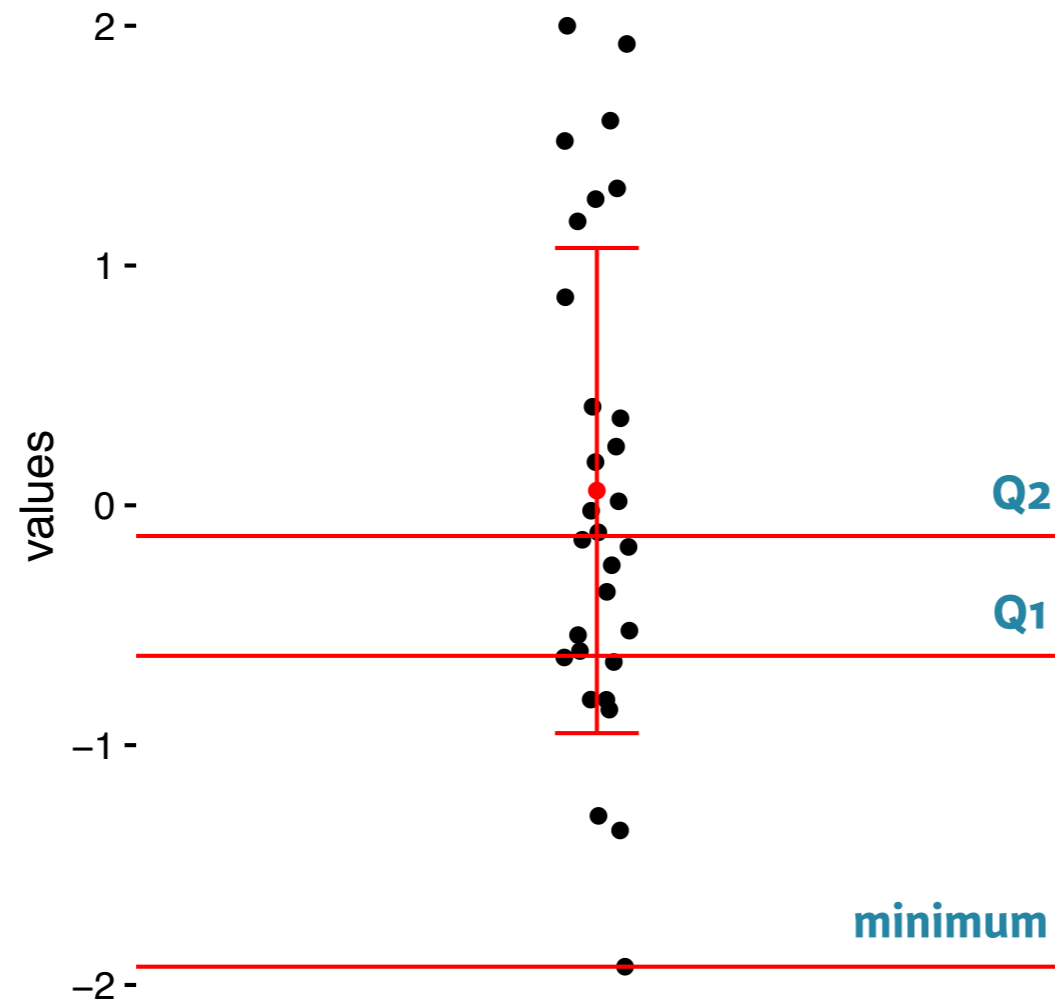
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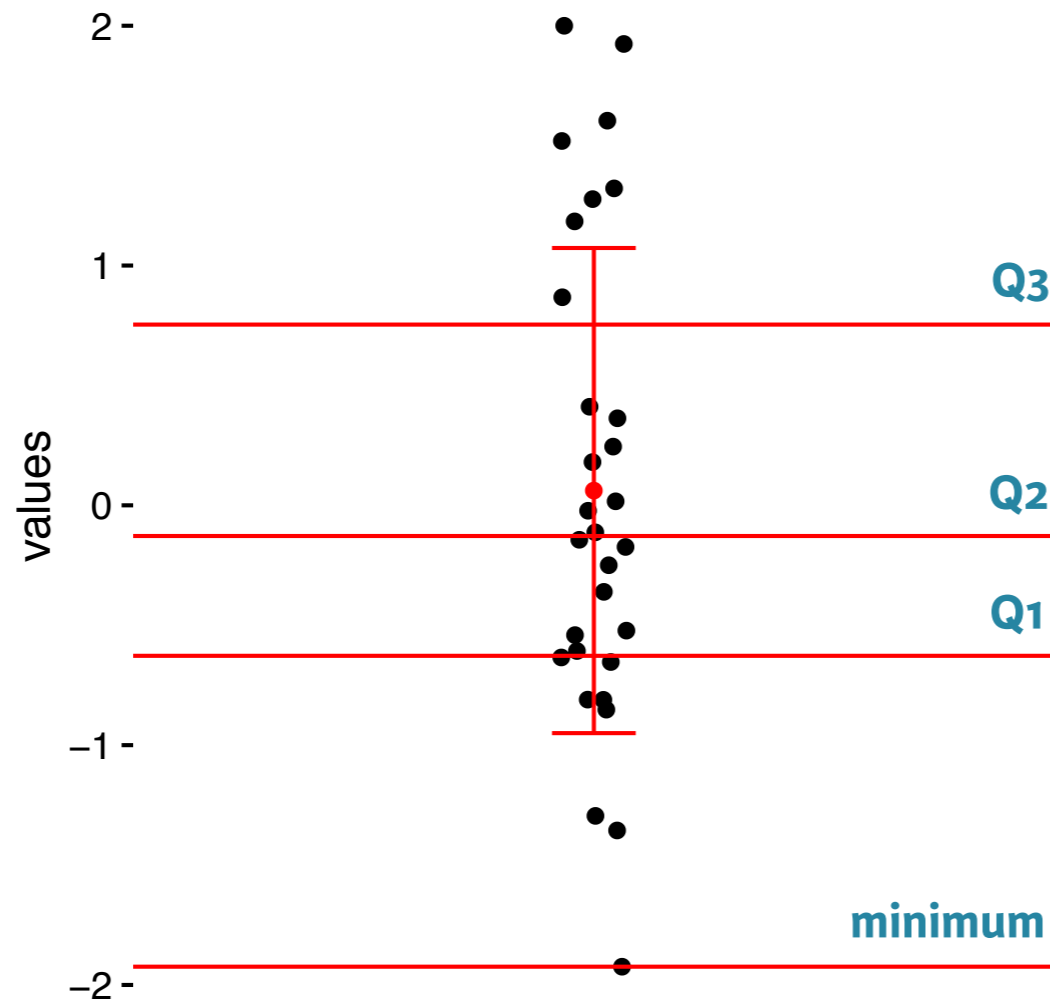
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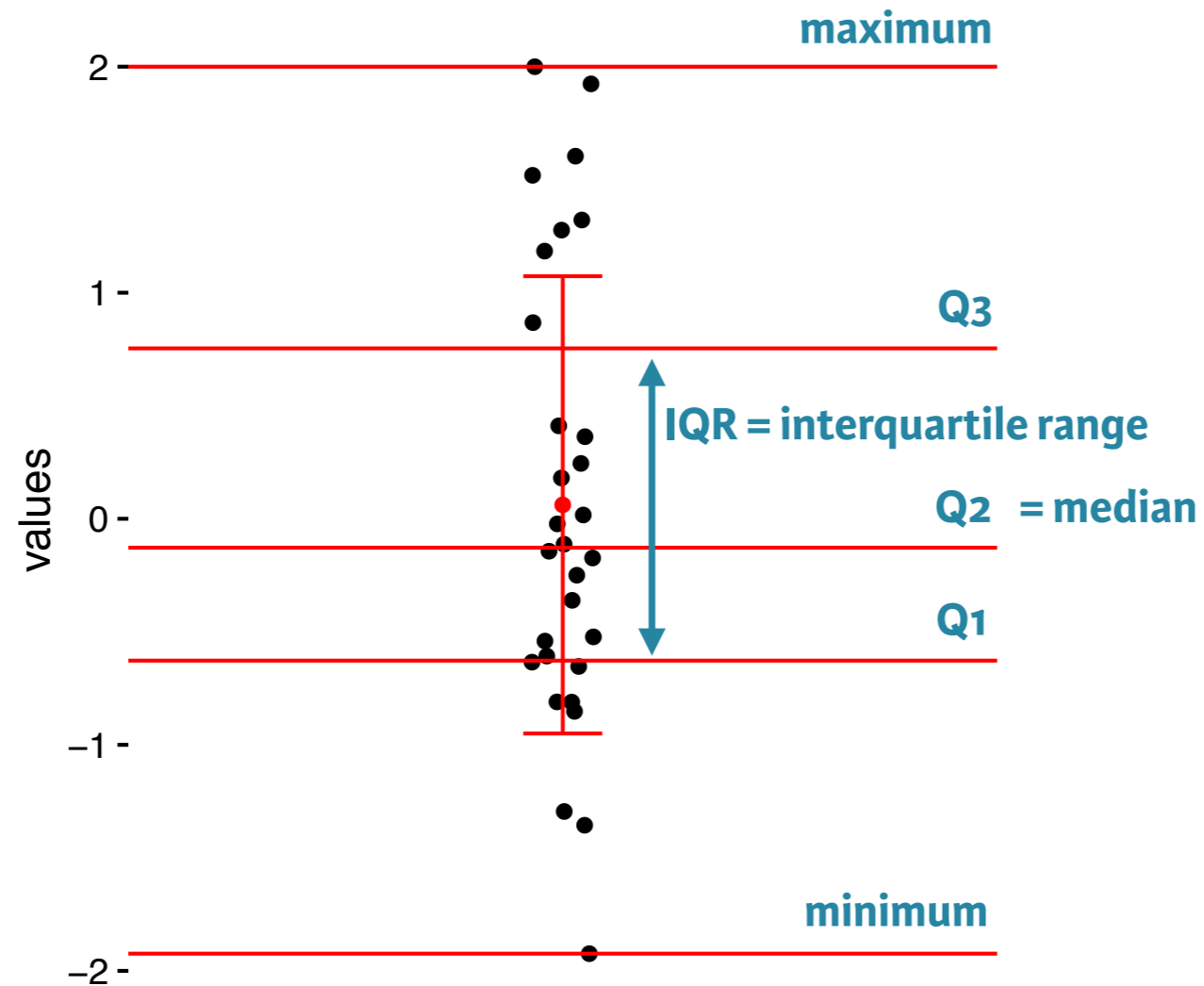
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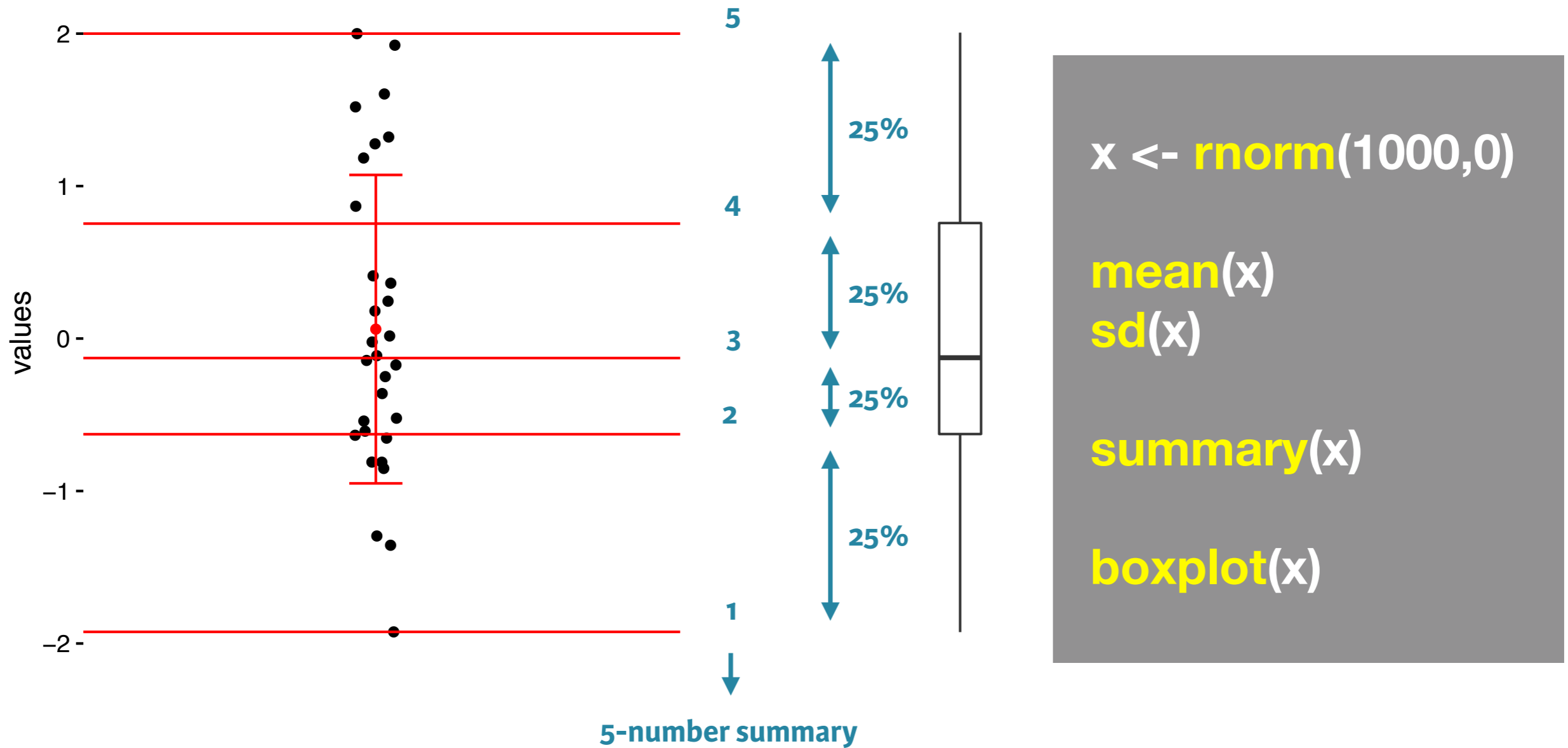
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# Side-note: **boxplot**

Graphical form of the 5 number summary!



Also called box-and-whisker plots;  
See also `hist()`; violin plots etc.

# The Trouble with Summary Stats

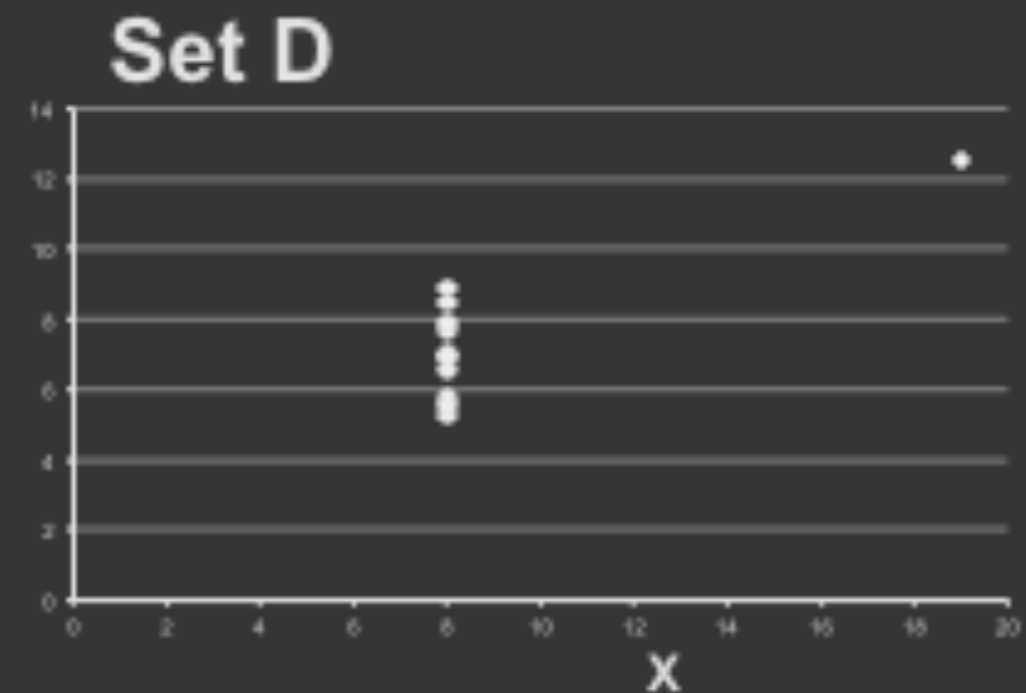
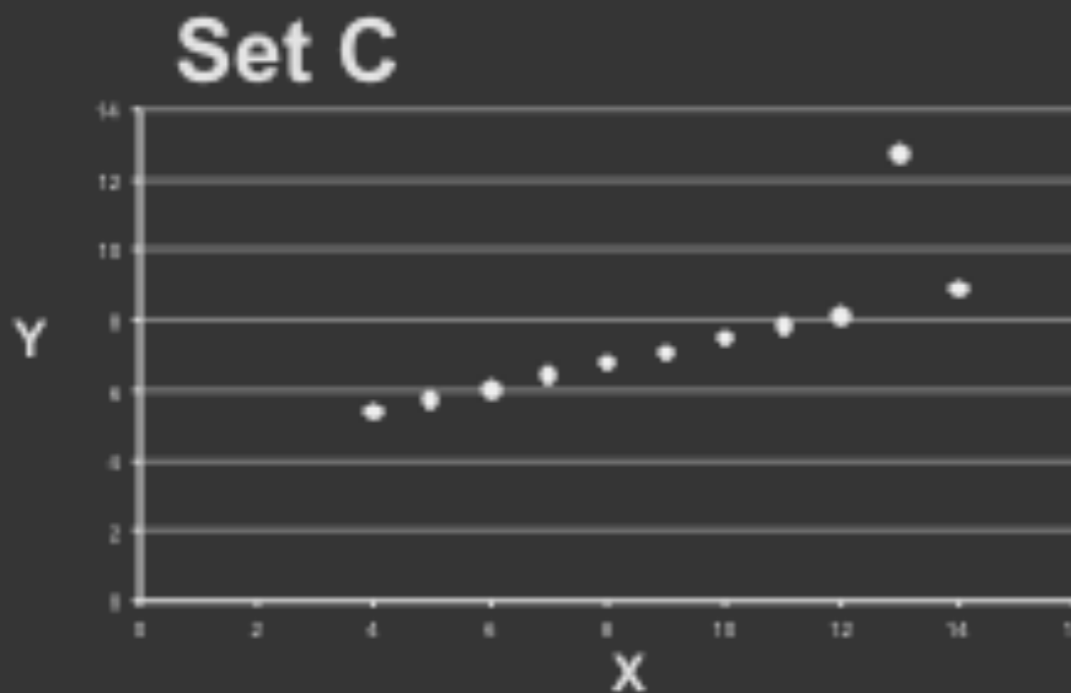
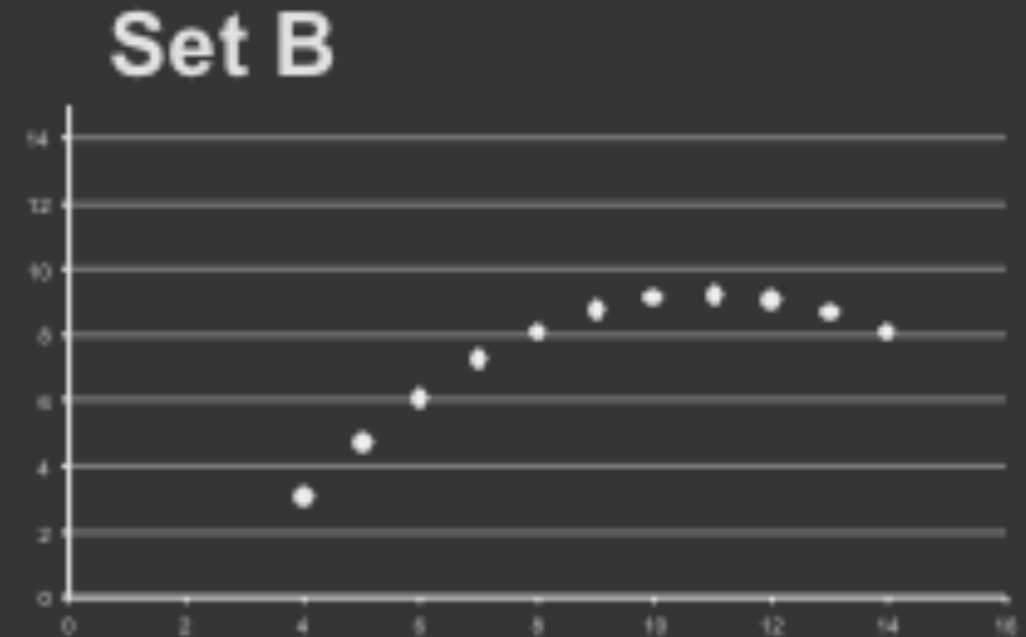
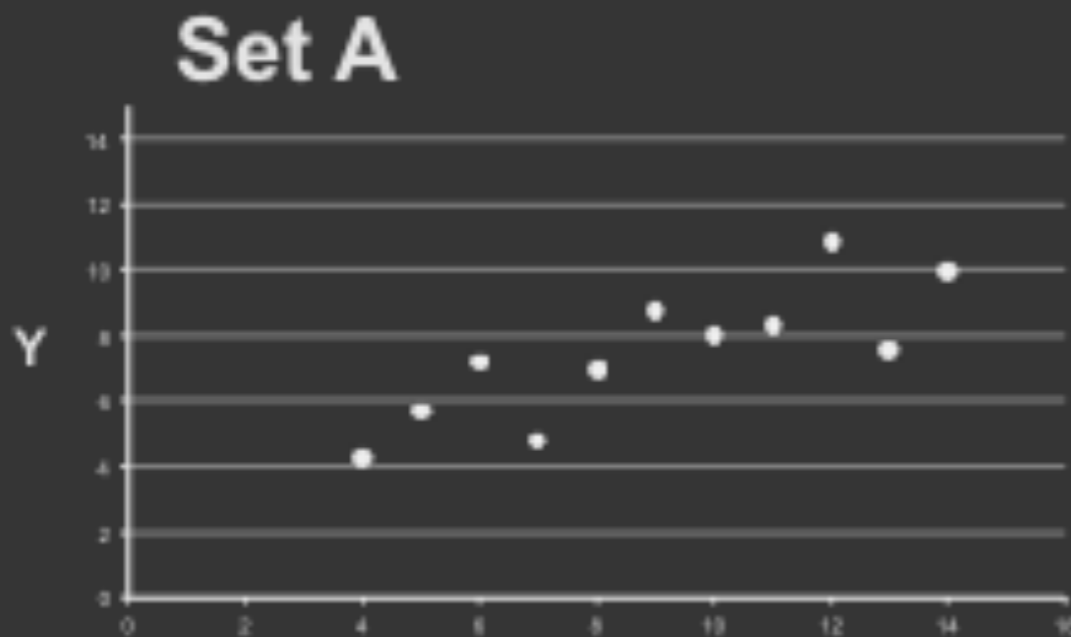
Set A		Set B		Set C		Set D	
X	Y	X	Y	X	Y	X	Y
10	8.04	10	9.14	10	7.46	8	6.58
8	6.95	8	8.14	8	6.77	8	5.76
13	7.58	13	8.74	13	12.74	8	7.71
9	8.81	9	8.77	9	7.11	8	8.84
11	8.33	11	9.26	11	7.81	8	8.47
14	9.96	14	8.1	14	8.84	8	7.04
6	7.24	6	6.13	6	6.08	8	5.25
4	4.26	4	3.1	4	5.39	19	12.5
12	10.84	12	9.11	12	8.15	8	5.56
7	4.82	7	7.26	7	6.42	8	7.91
5	5.68	5	4.74	5	5.73	8	6.89

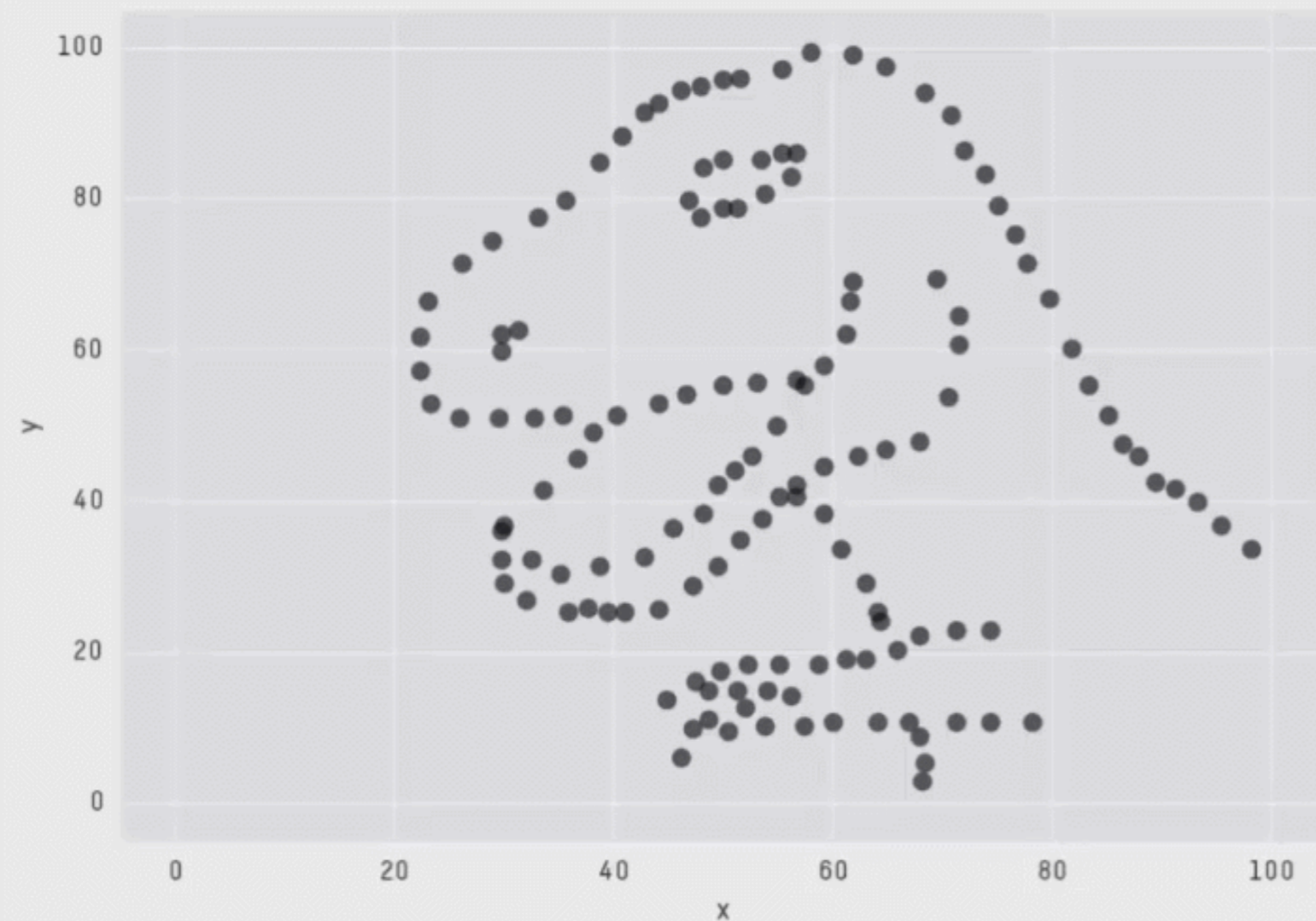
## Summary Statistics Linear Regression

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu_X &= 9.0 & \sigma_X &= 3.317 & Y &= 3 + 0.5 X \\
 \mu_Y &= 7.5 & \sigma_Y &= 2.03 & R^2 &= 0.67
 \end{aligned}$$

[Anscombe 73]

# Looking at Data





X Mean: 54.2659224  
Y Mean: 47.8313999  
X SD : 16.7649829  
Y SD : 26.9342120  
Corr. : -0.0642526

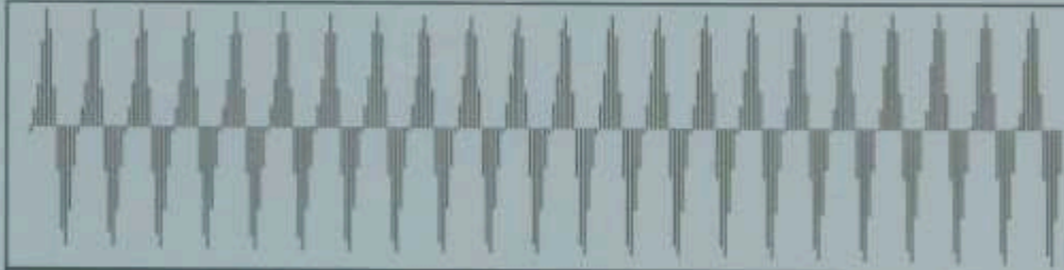
**Key point:** You need to visualize your data!

<https://github.com/stephlocke/datasauRus>



# Today's Learning Goals

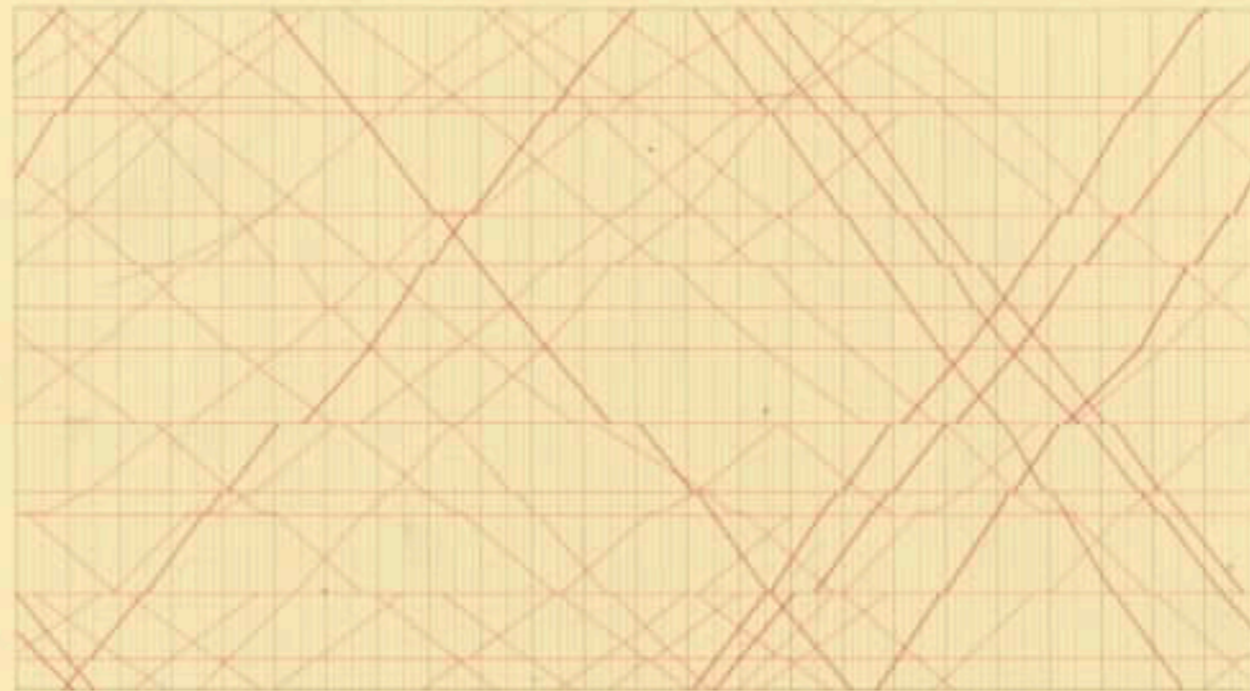
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# The Elements of Graphing Data

William S. Cleveland





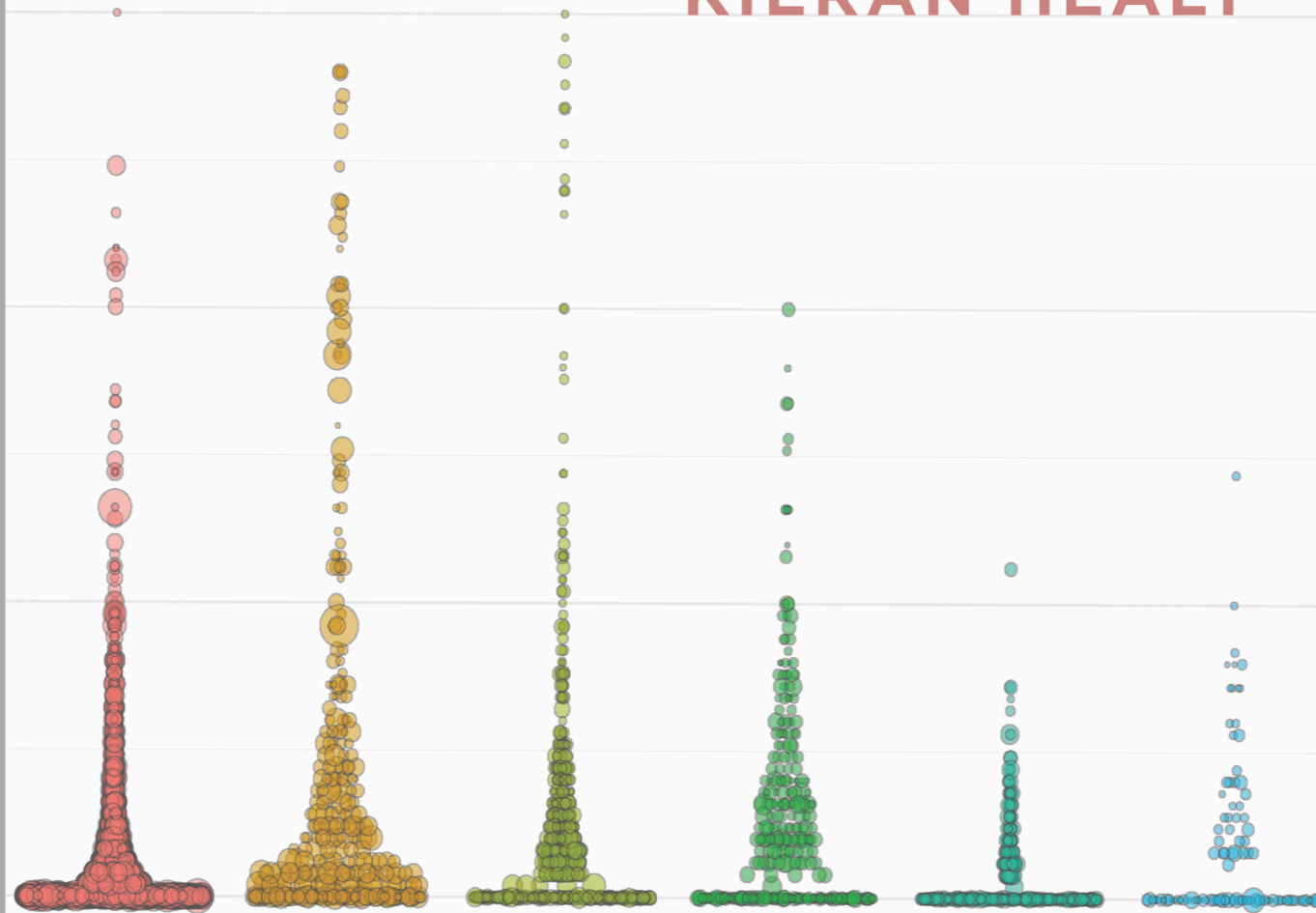
The Visual Display  
of Quantitative Information

EDWARD R. TUFTE

# DATA VISUALIZATION

A PRACTICAL INTRODUCTION

KIERAN HEALY



<http://socviz.co/>

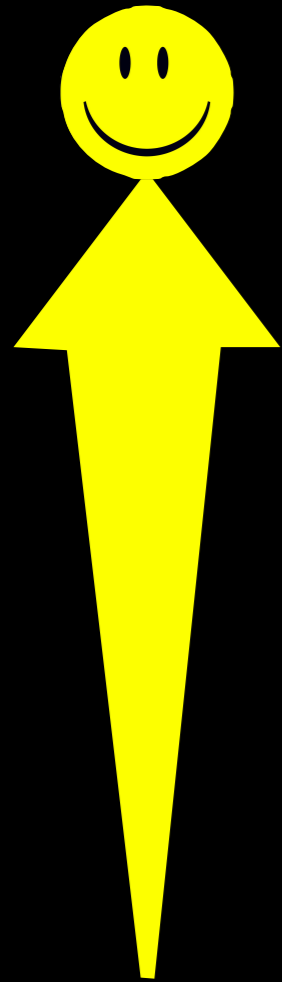
## **Key Point:**

Good visualizations optimize for the human visual system.

**Key Point:** The most important measurement should exploit the highest ranked encoding possible

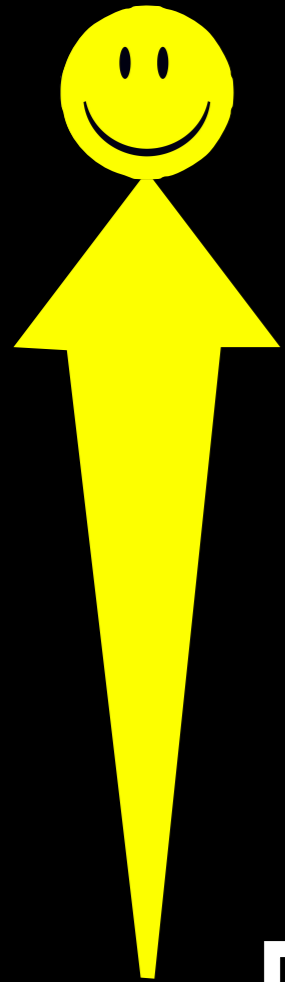
- Position along a common scale
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luminance

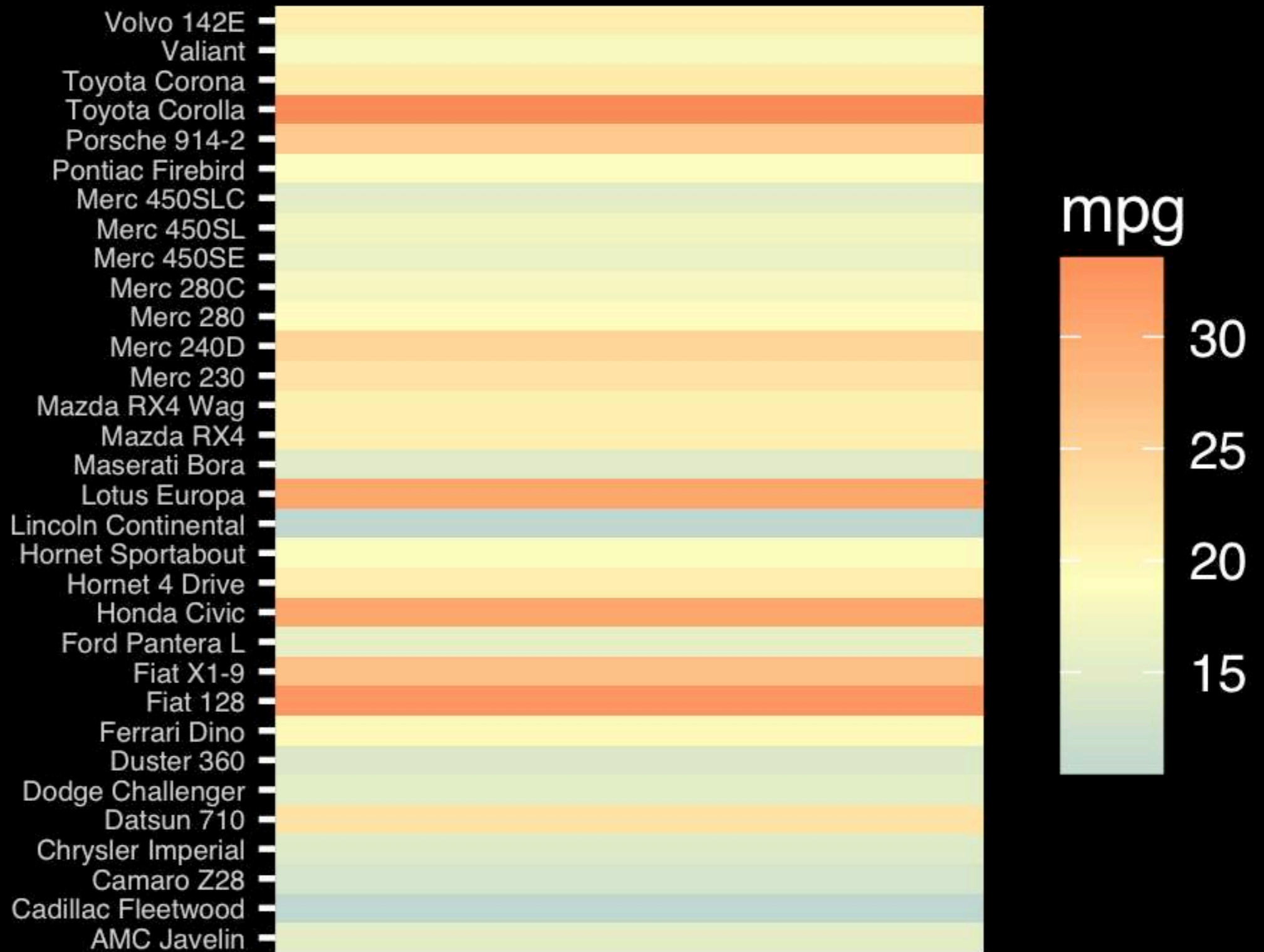


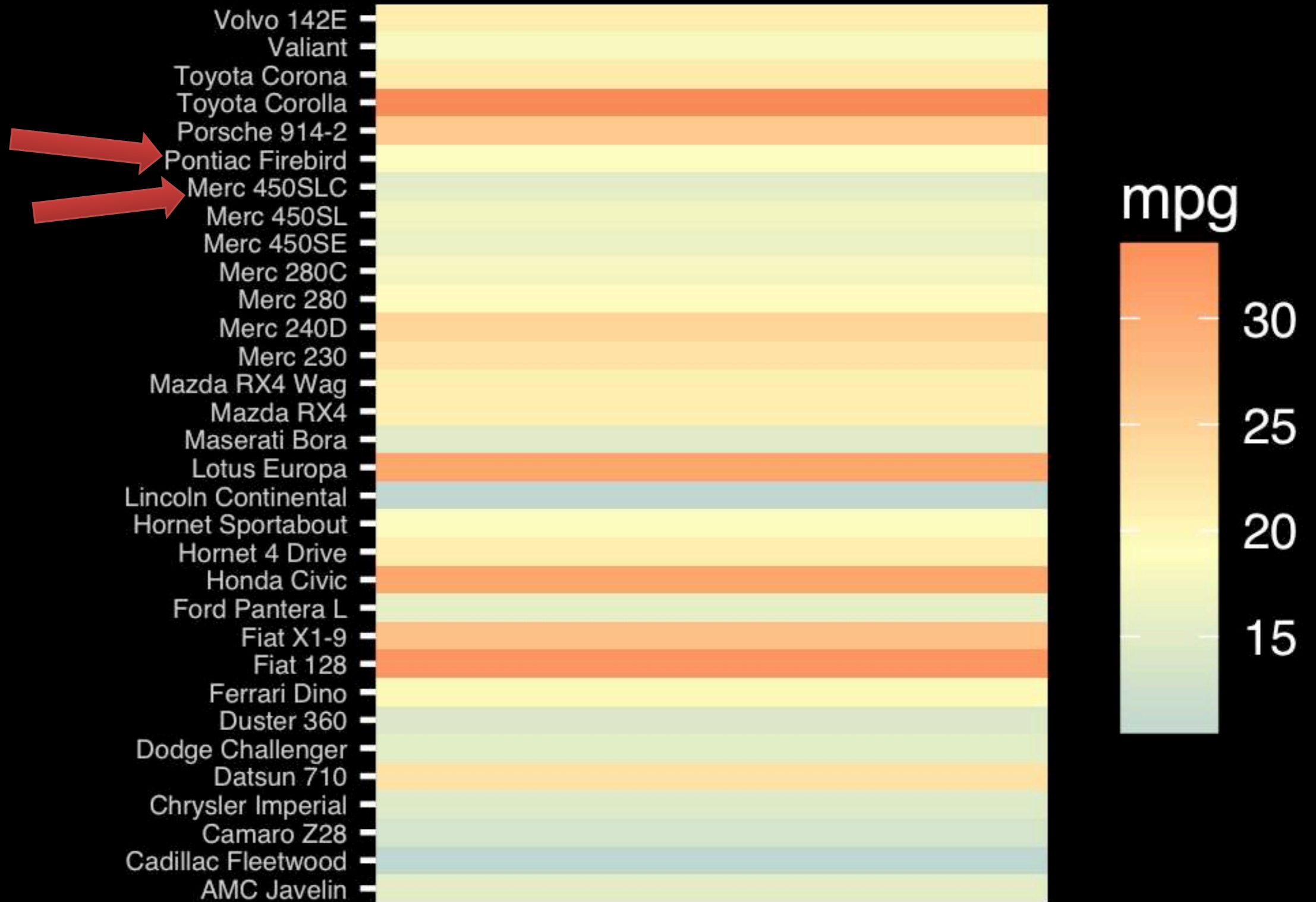
saturation



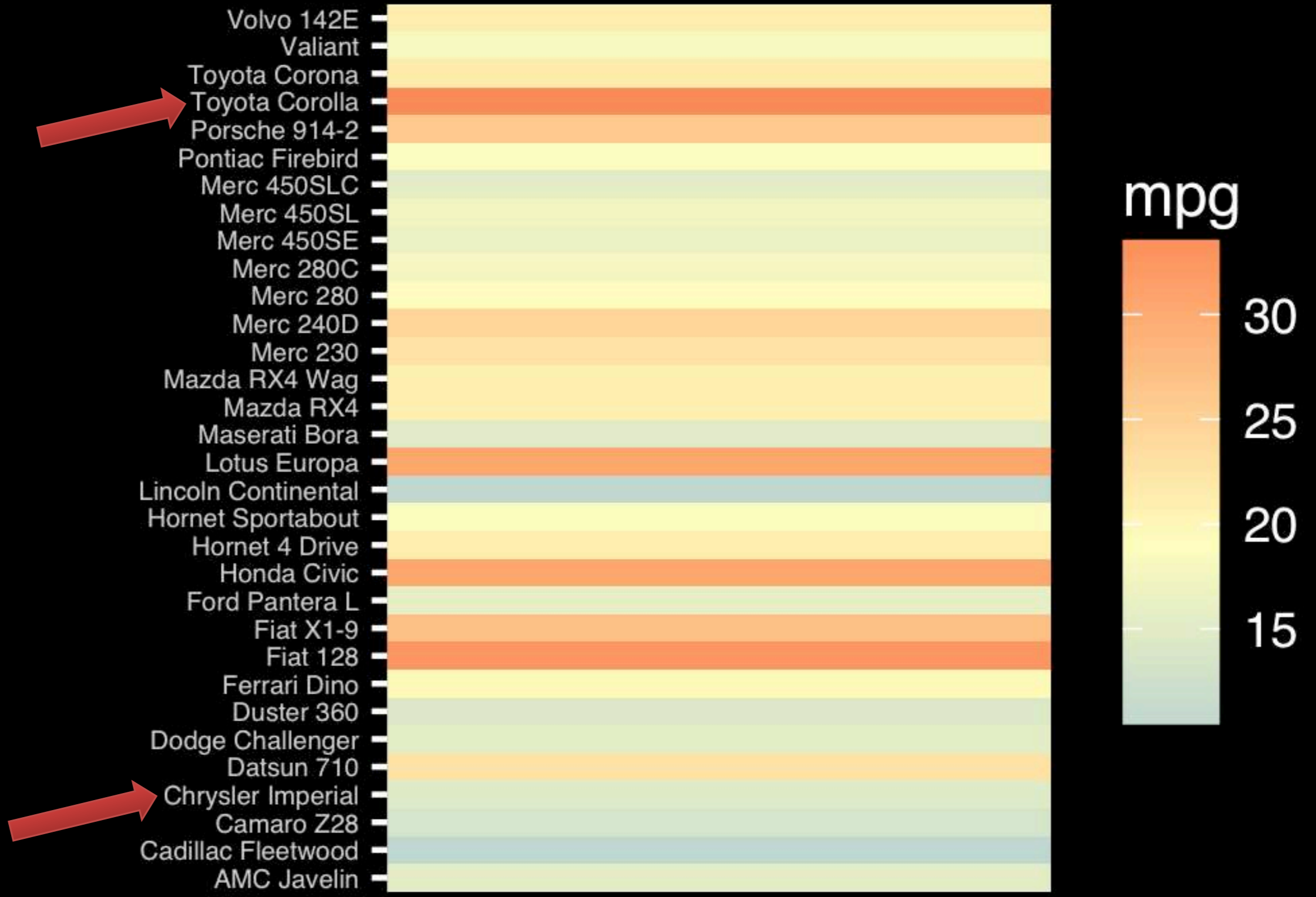
hue



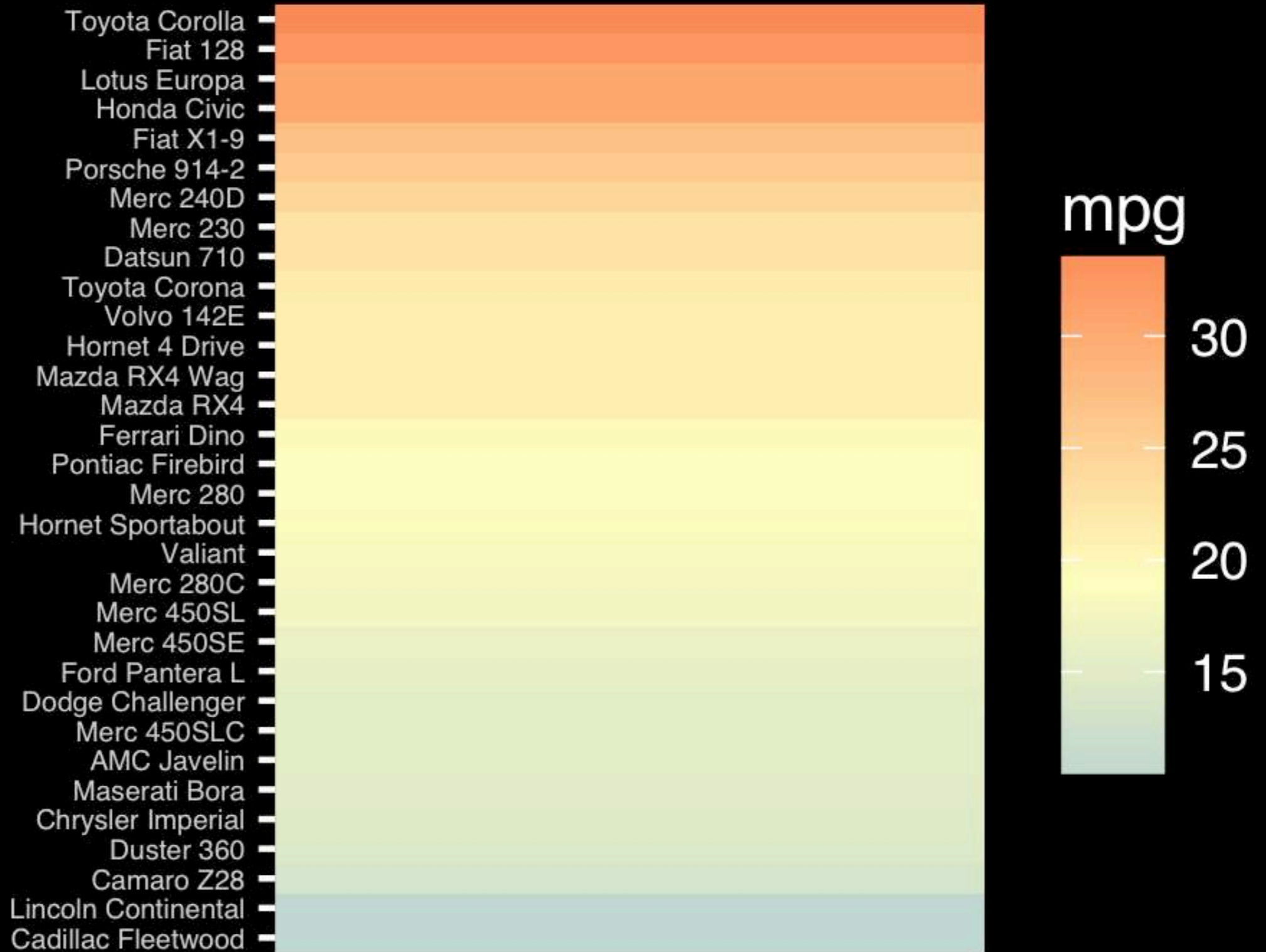


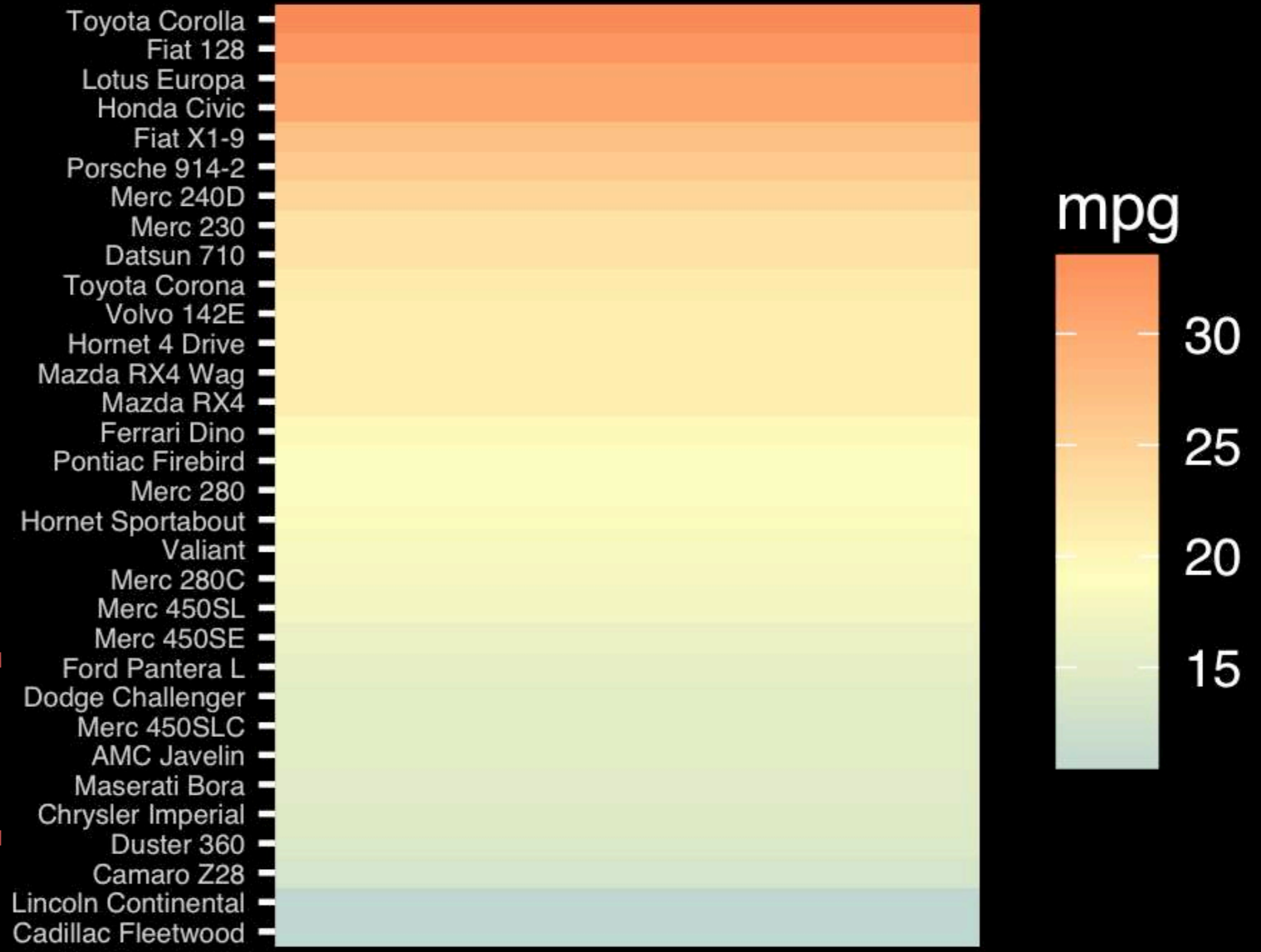




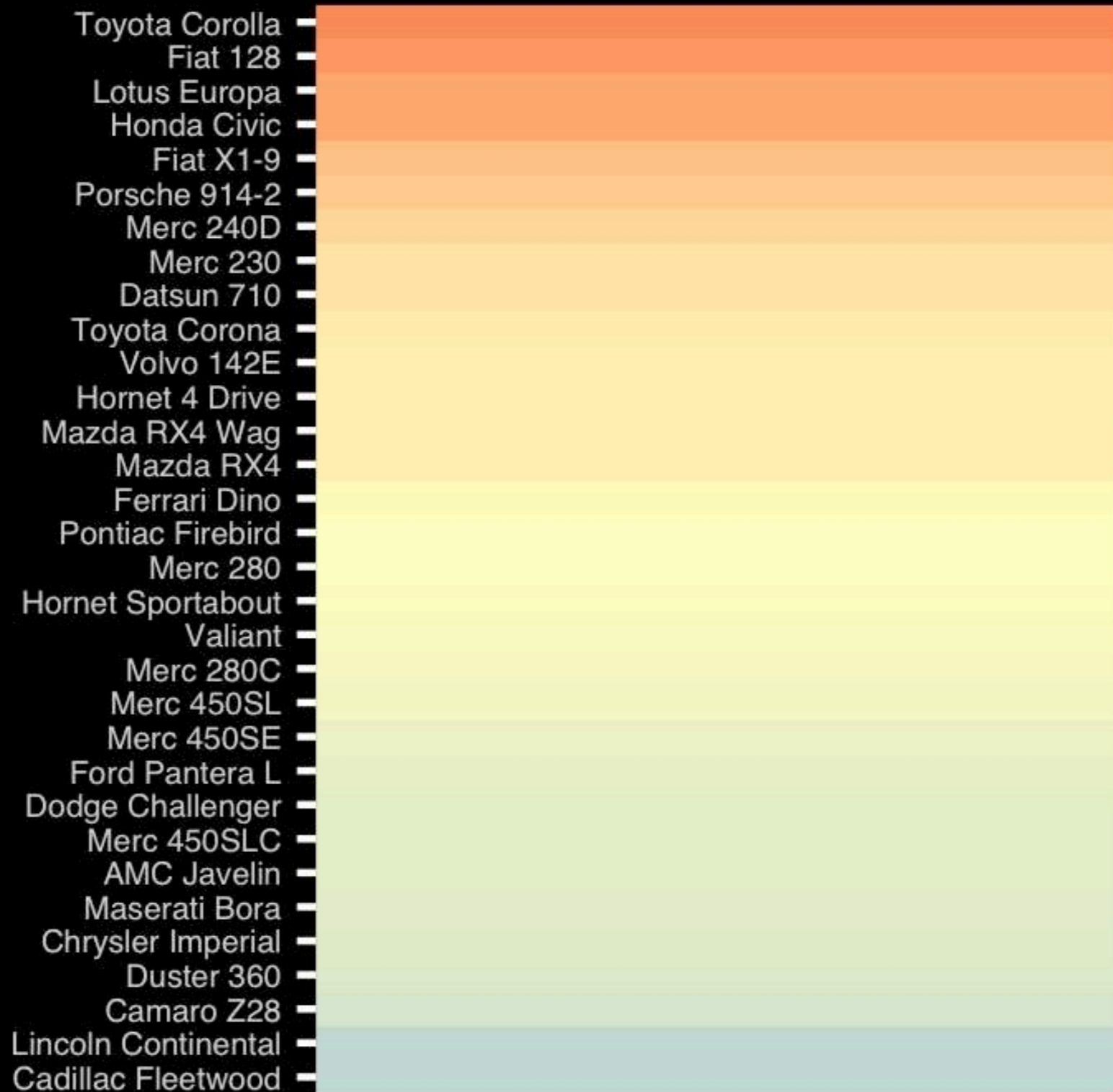


**Observation:** Alphabetical is almost never the correct ordering of a categorical variable.

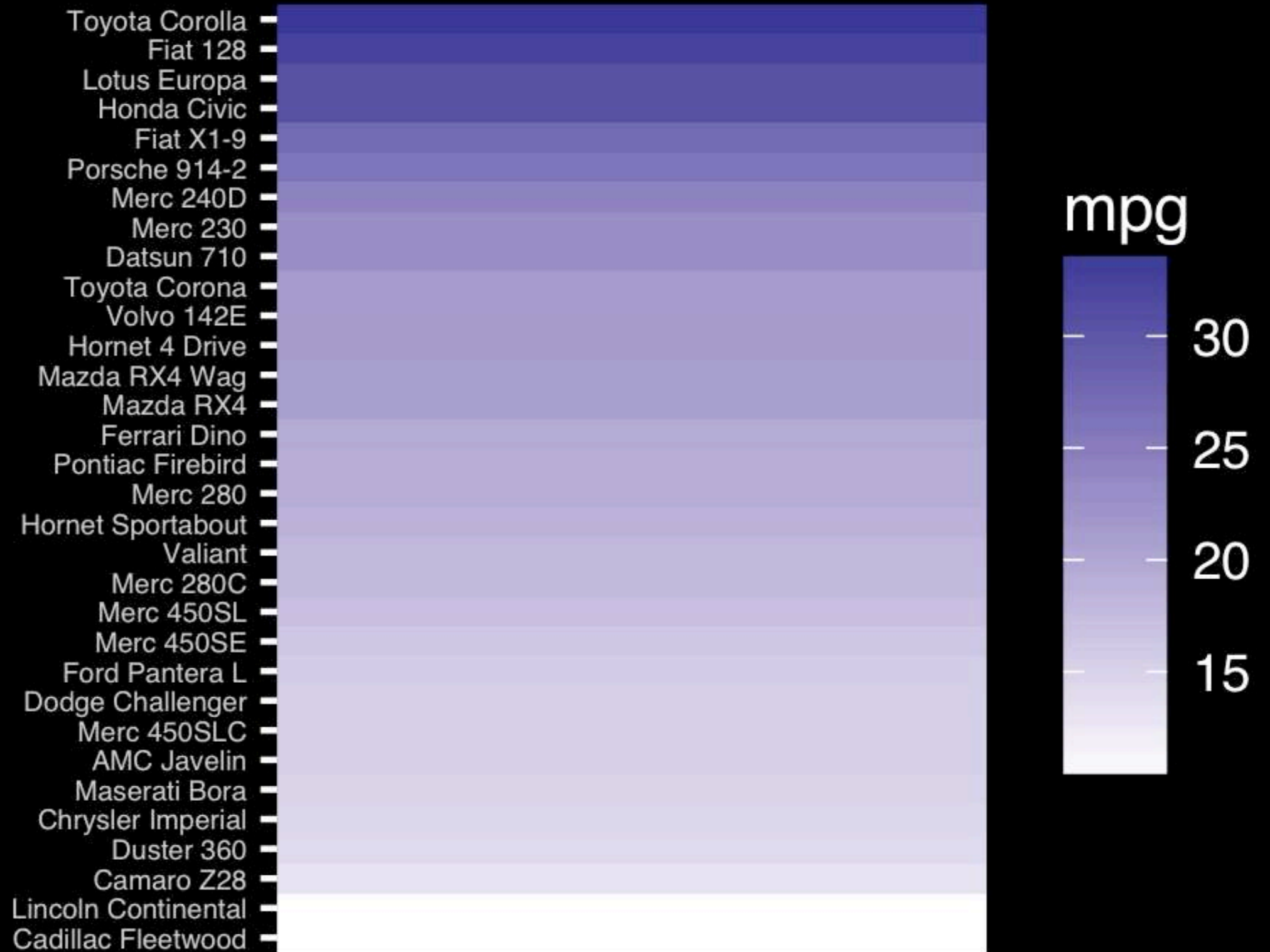






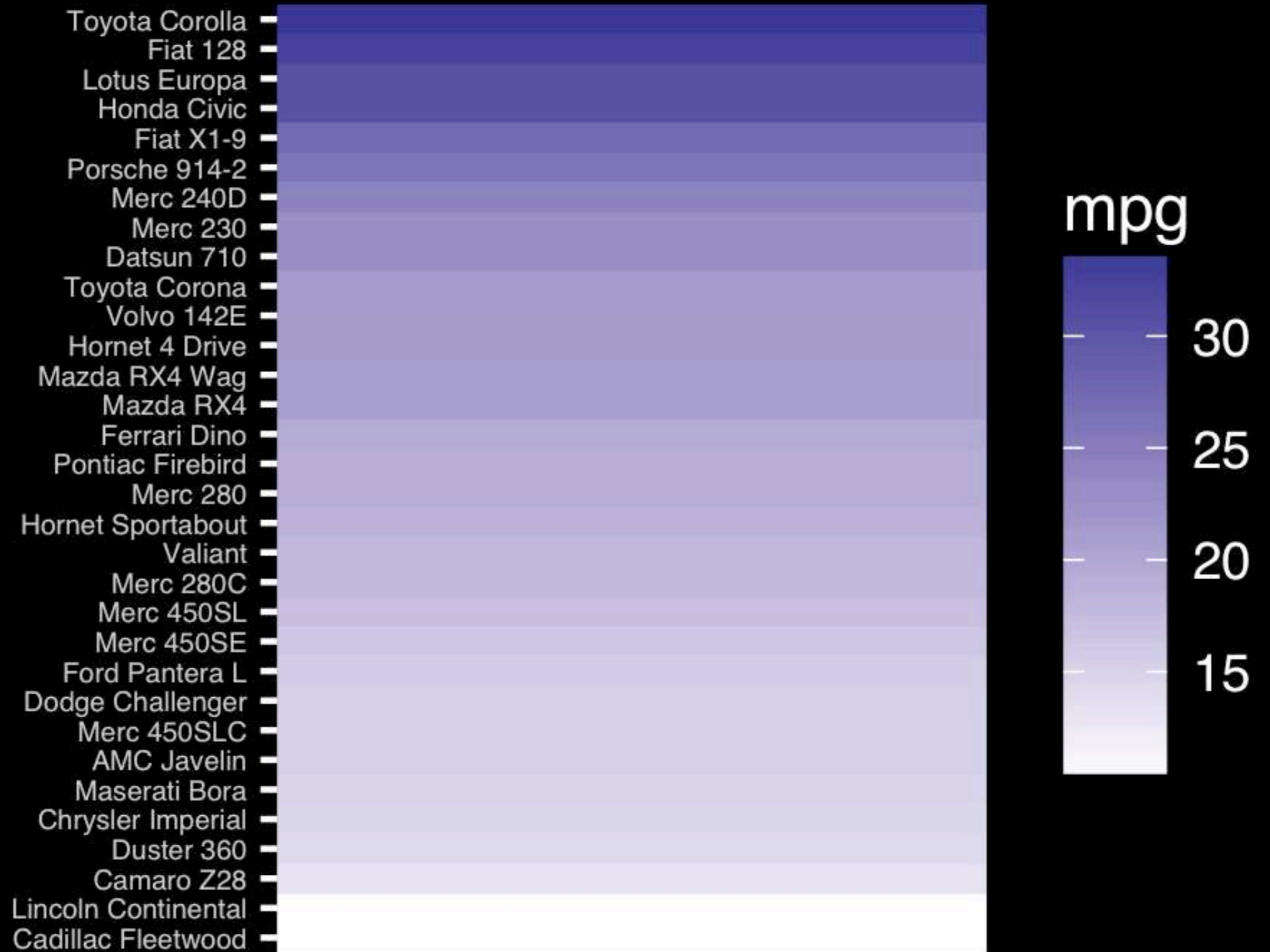


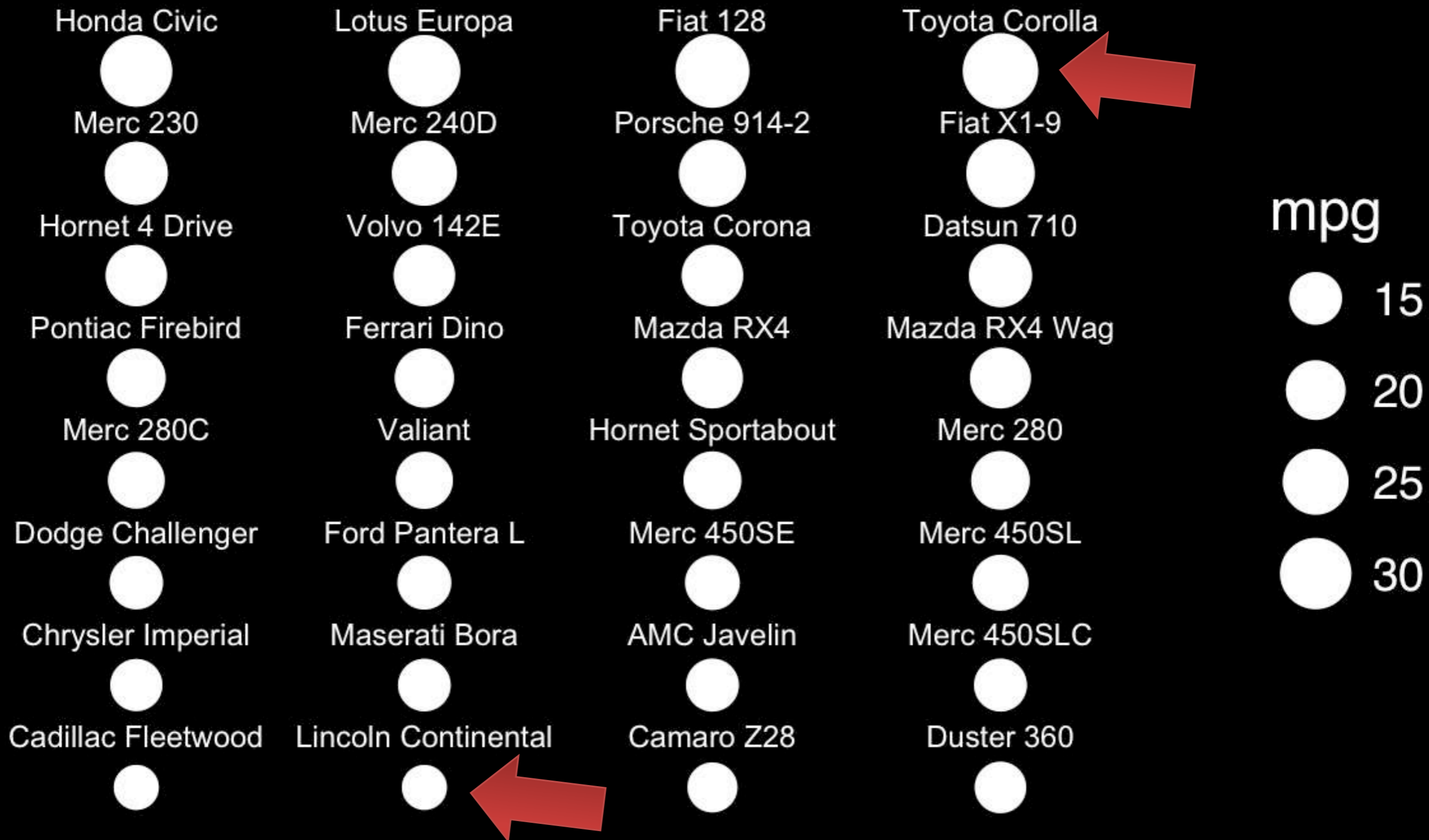
**If we did not have the legend would you know which was low or high mpg?**

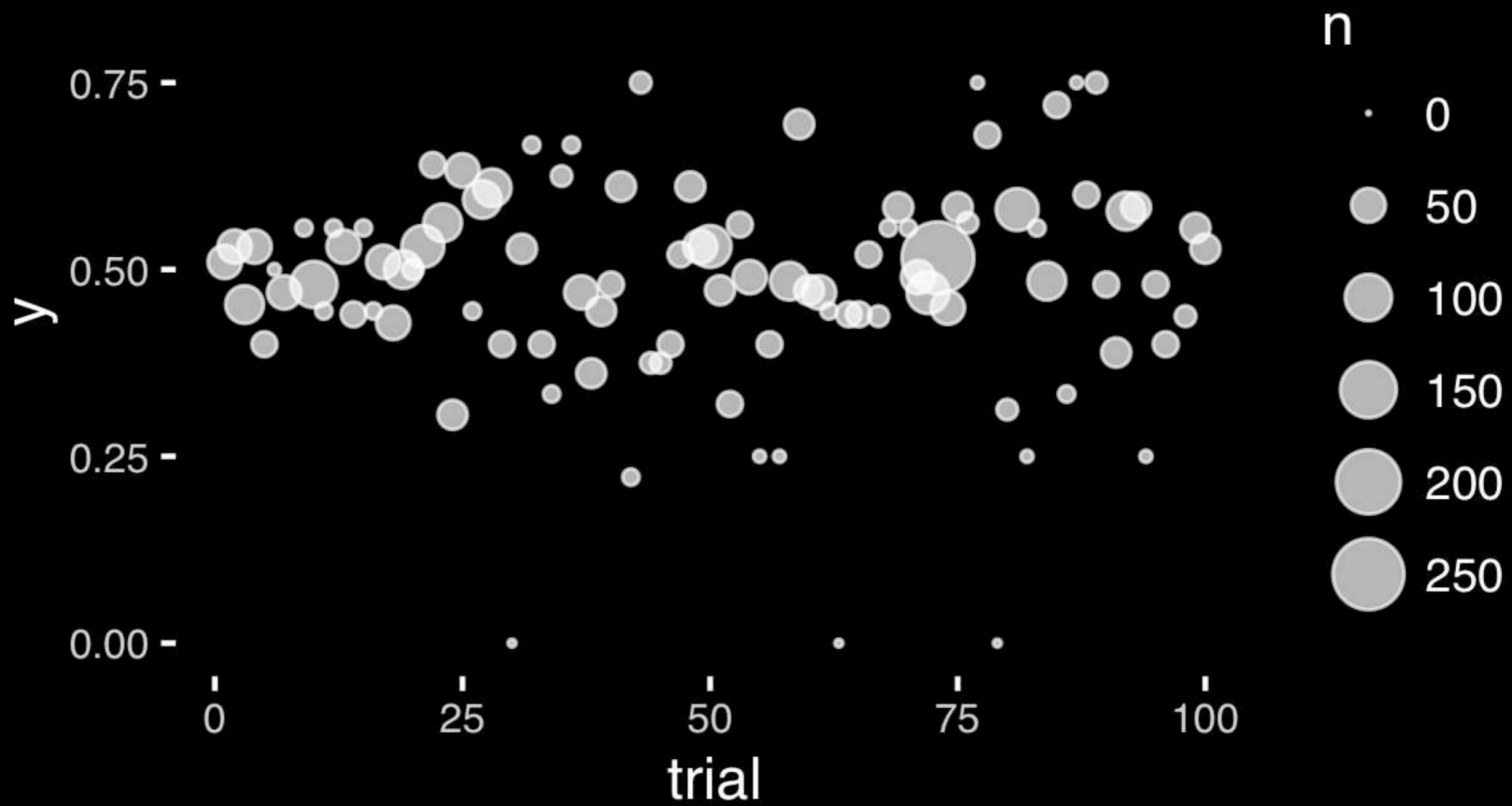


The most important measurement should exploit the highest ranked encoding possible.

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Cadillac Fleet

Lincoln Continental

Camaro Z28

Duster 360

Chrysler Imperial

Maserati Borghese

AMC Javelin

Merc 450SLC



Dodge Challenger

Ford Pantera

Merc 450SE

Merc 450SL

Merc 280C

Valiant

Hornet Sport

Merc 280



Pontiac Firebird

Ferrari Dino

Mazda RX4

Mazda RX4

Hornet 4 Drive

Volvo 142E

Toyota Corolla

Datsun 710



Merc 230

Merc 240D

Porsche 914

Fiat X1-9

Honda Civic

Lotus Europa

Fiat 128

Toyota Corolla





Cadillac Fleet

Lincoln Continental

Camaro Z28

Duster 360

Chrysler Imperial

Maserati Bor

AMC Javelin

Merc 450SLC

Dodge Challenger

Ford Pantera

Merc 450SE

Merc 450SL

Merc 280C

Valiant

Hornet Sport

Merc 280

Pontiac Firebird

Ferrari Dino

Mazda RX4

Mazda RX4

Hornet 4 Drive

Volvo 142E

Toyota Corolla

Datsun 710

Merc 230

Merc 240D

Porsche 914

Fiat X1-9

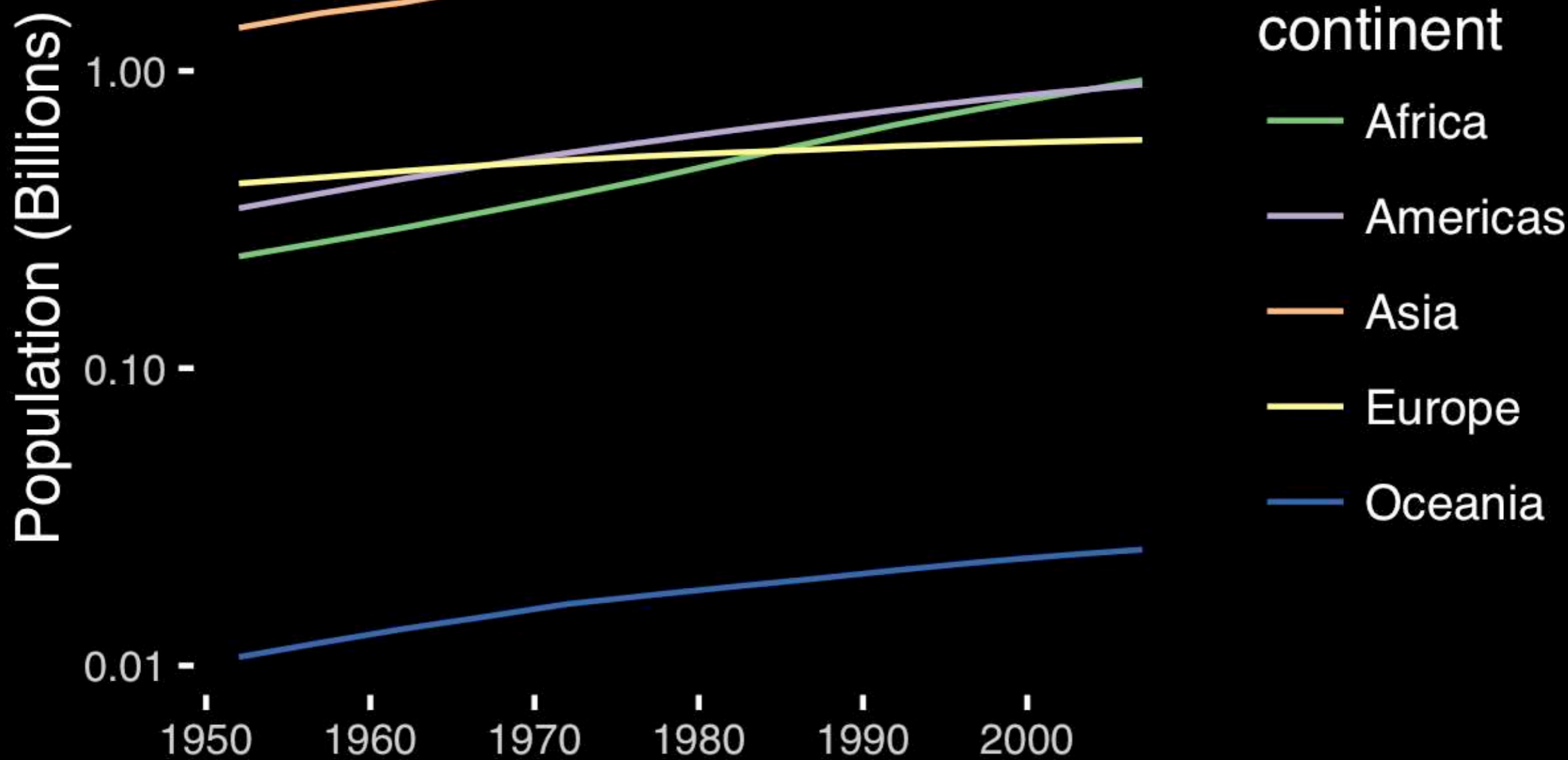
Honda Civic

Lotus Europa

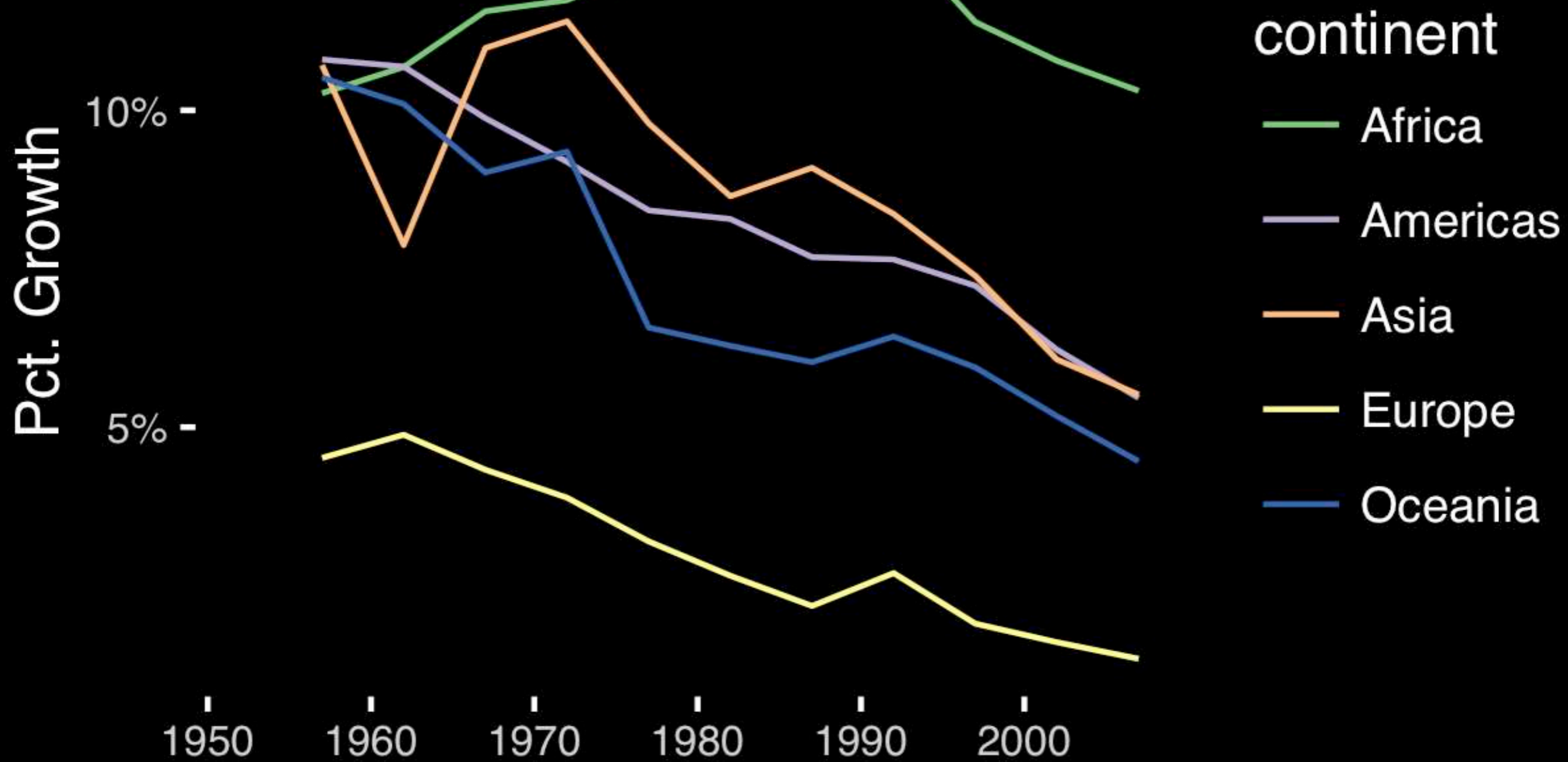
Fiat 128

Toyota Corolla





**If growth (slope) is important, plot it directly.**



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**Observation:** Pie charts  
are ALWAYS a mistake.

Apart from MPAs :-)

**Piecharts are the information visualization equivalent of a roofing hammer to the frontal lobe.** They have no place in the world of grownups, and occupy the same semiotic space as short pants, a runny nose, and chocolate smeared on one's face. They are as professional as a pair of assless chaps.

<http://blog.codahale.com/2006/04/29/google-analytics-the-goggles-they-do-nothing/>

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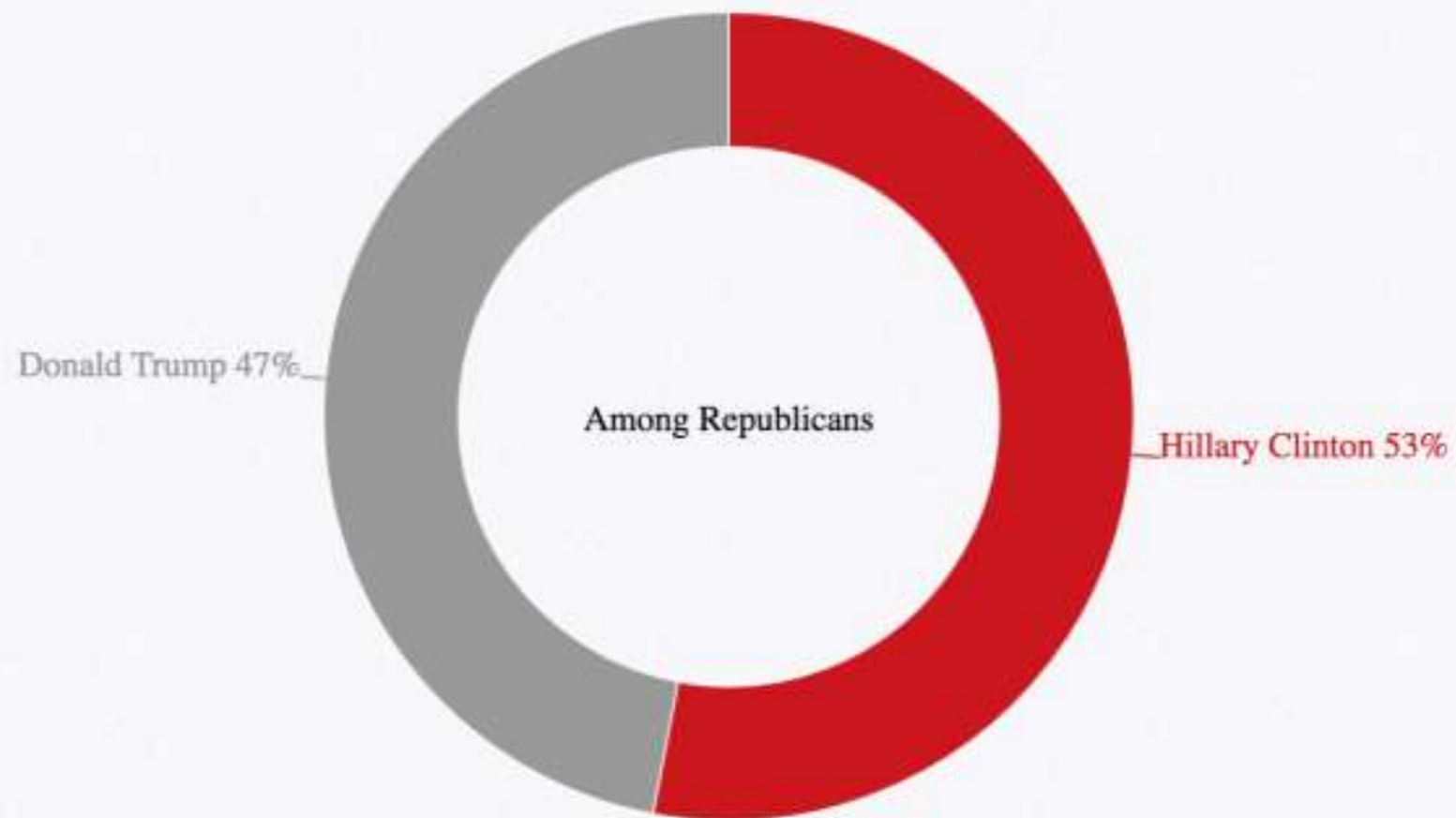
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# Who do you think did a better job in tonight's debate?

Among Republicans

Among Democrats



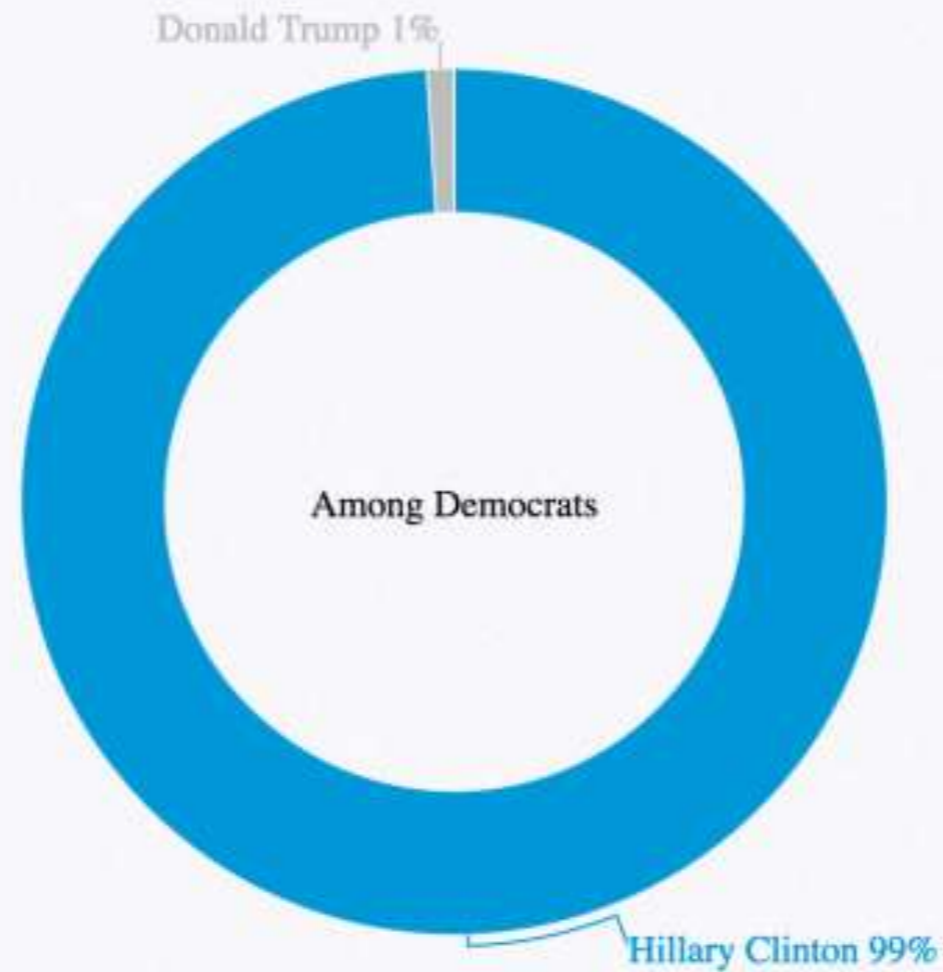
 Share

POLITICO

# Who do you think did a better job in tonight's debate?

Among Republicans

Among Democrats



 Share

POLITICO

Tables are preferable to graphics for many small data sets. A table is nearly always better than a dumb pie chart; the only thing worse than a pie chart is several of them, for then the viewer is asked to compare quantities located in spatial disarray both within and between pies... Given their low data-density and failure to order numbers along a visual dimension, **pie charts should never be used.**

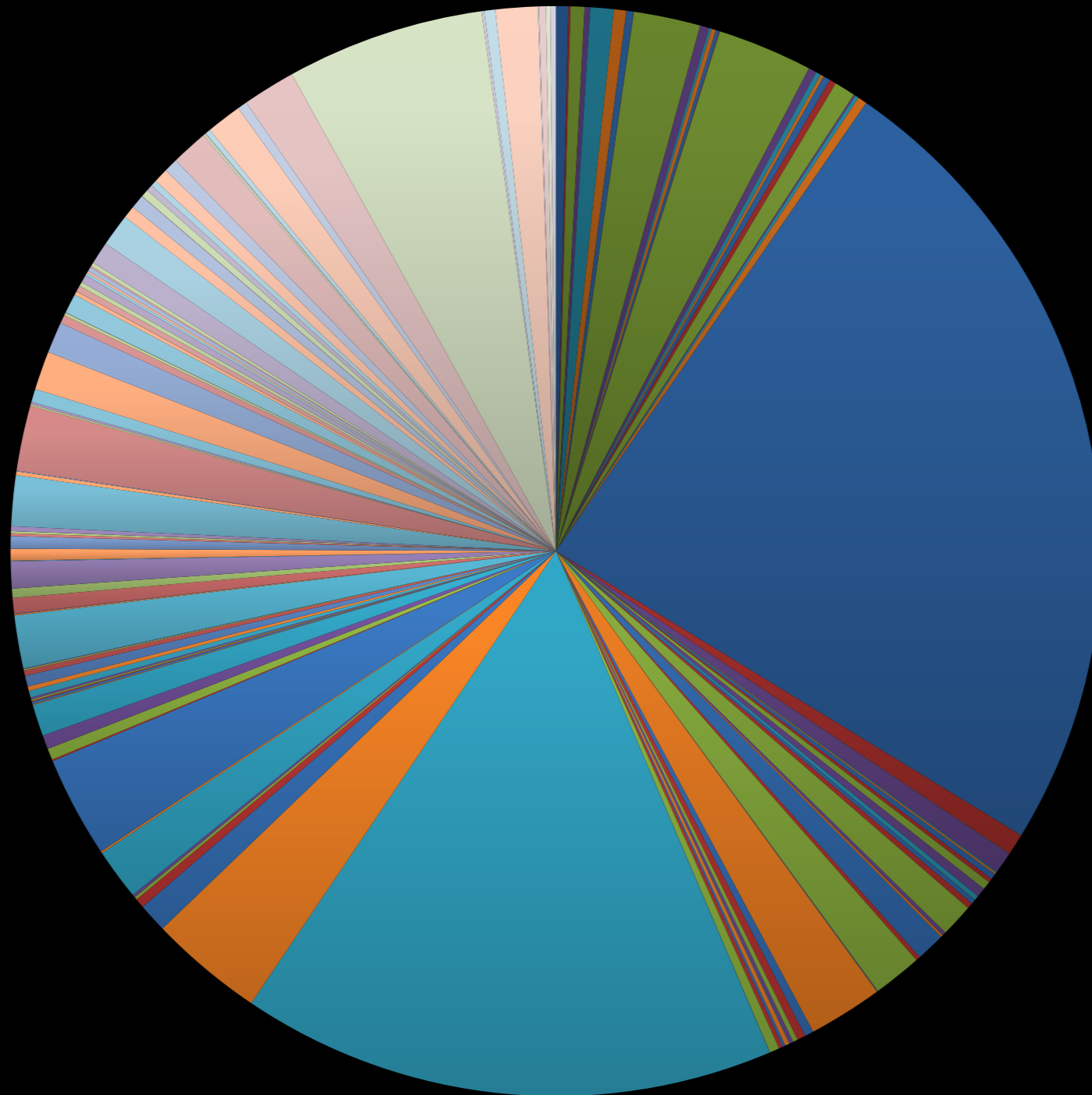
**-Edward Tufte, The Visual Display of Quantitative Information**

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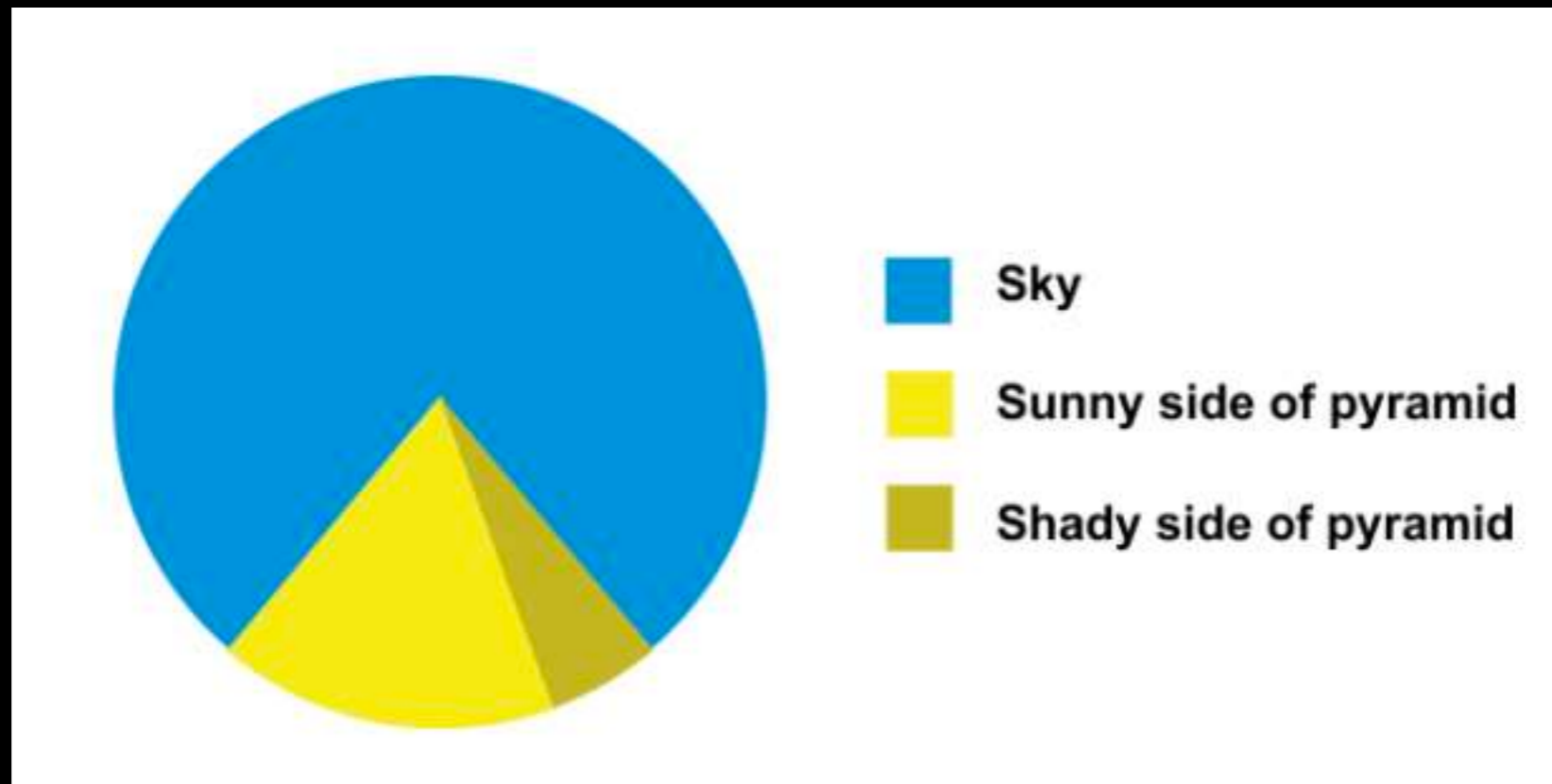
Who do you think did a better job in tonight's debate?

	Clinton	Trump
Among Democrats	99%	1%
Among Republicans	53%	47%



- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Algeria
- Angola
- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Belgium
- Benin
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon

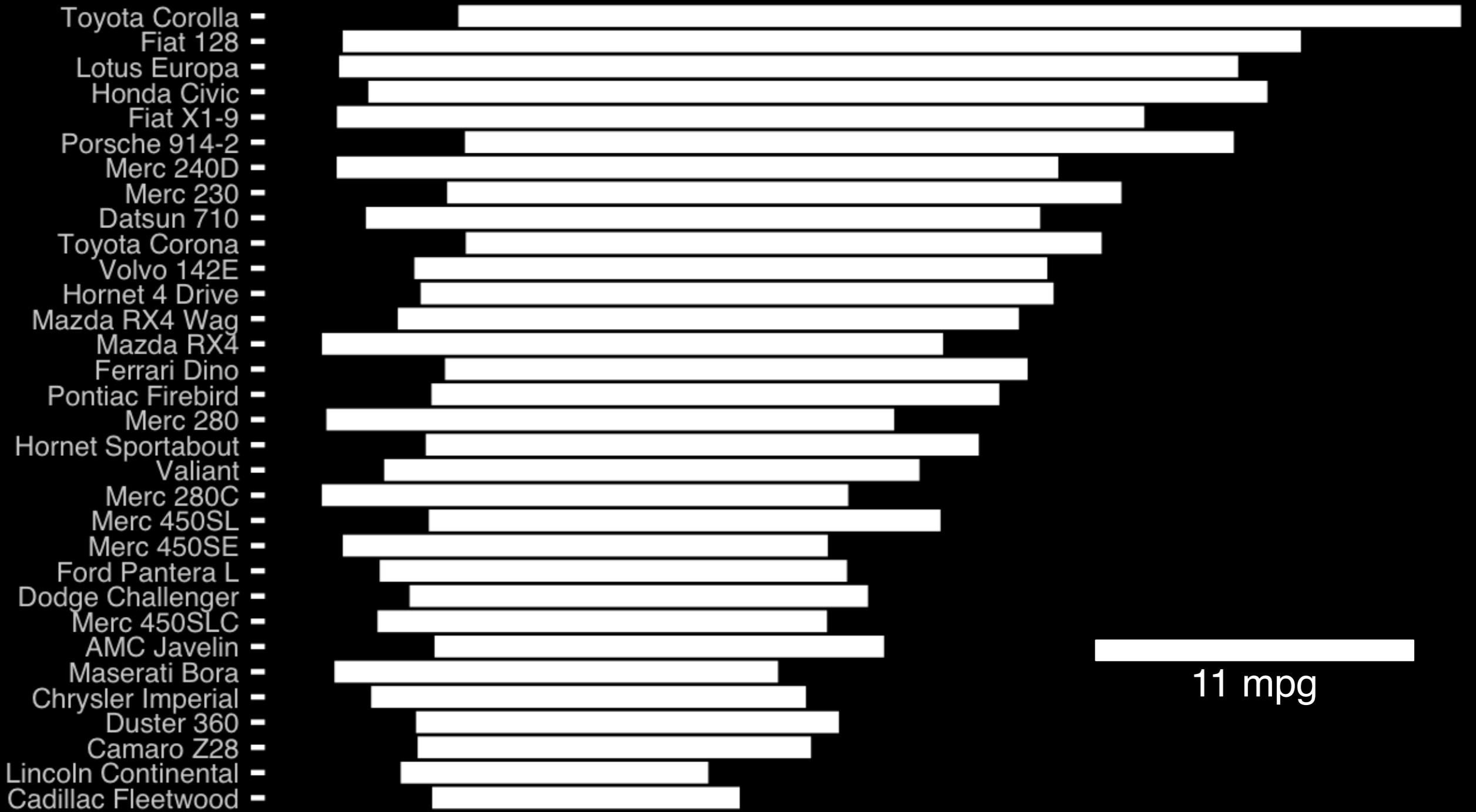
All good pie charts are jokes...



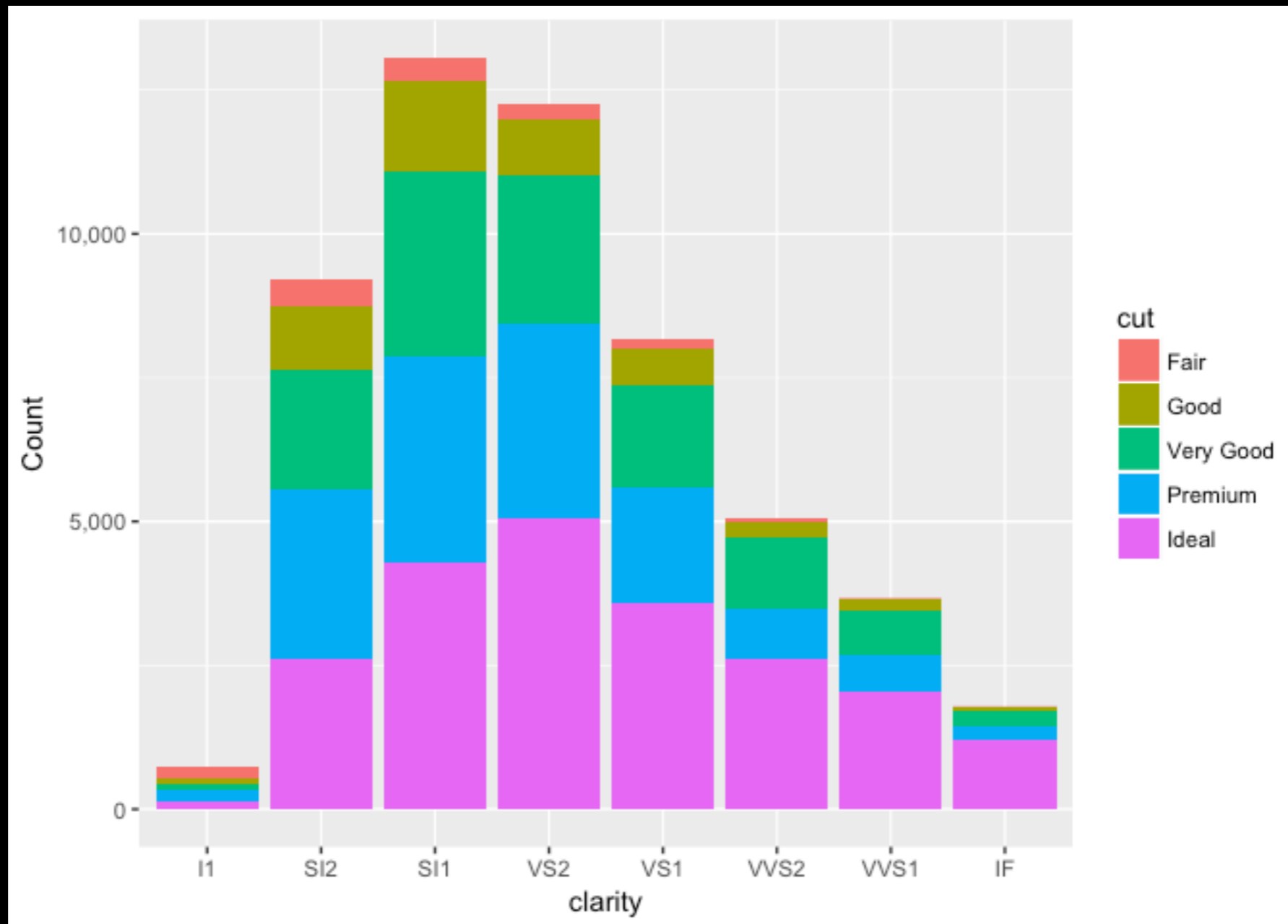
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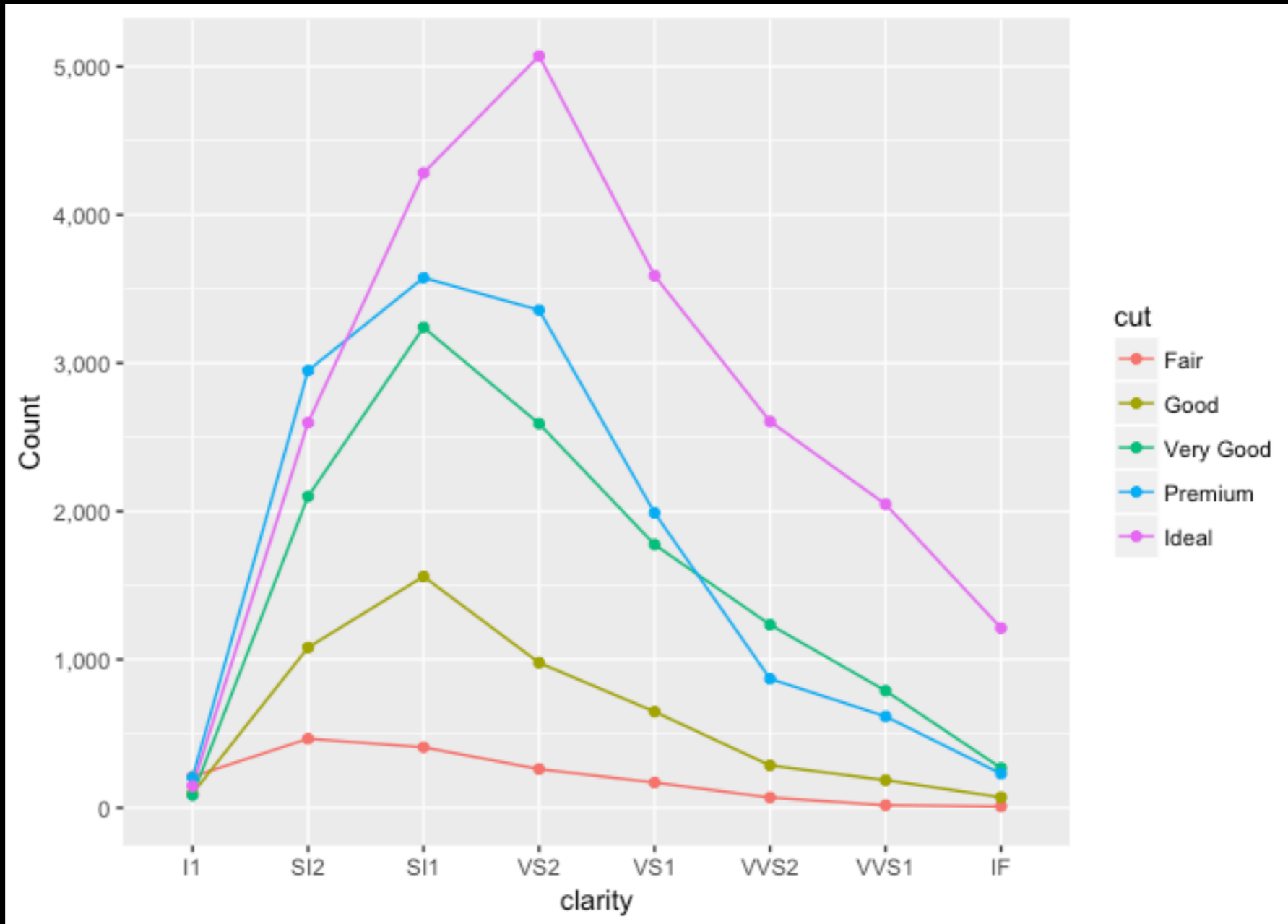


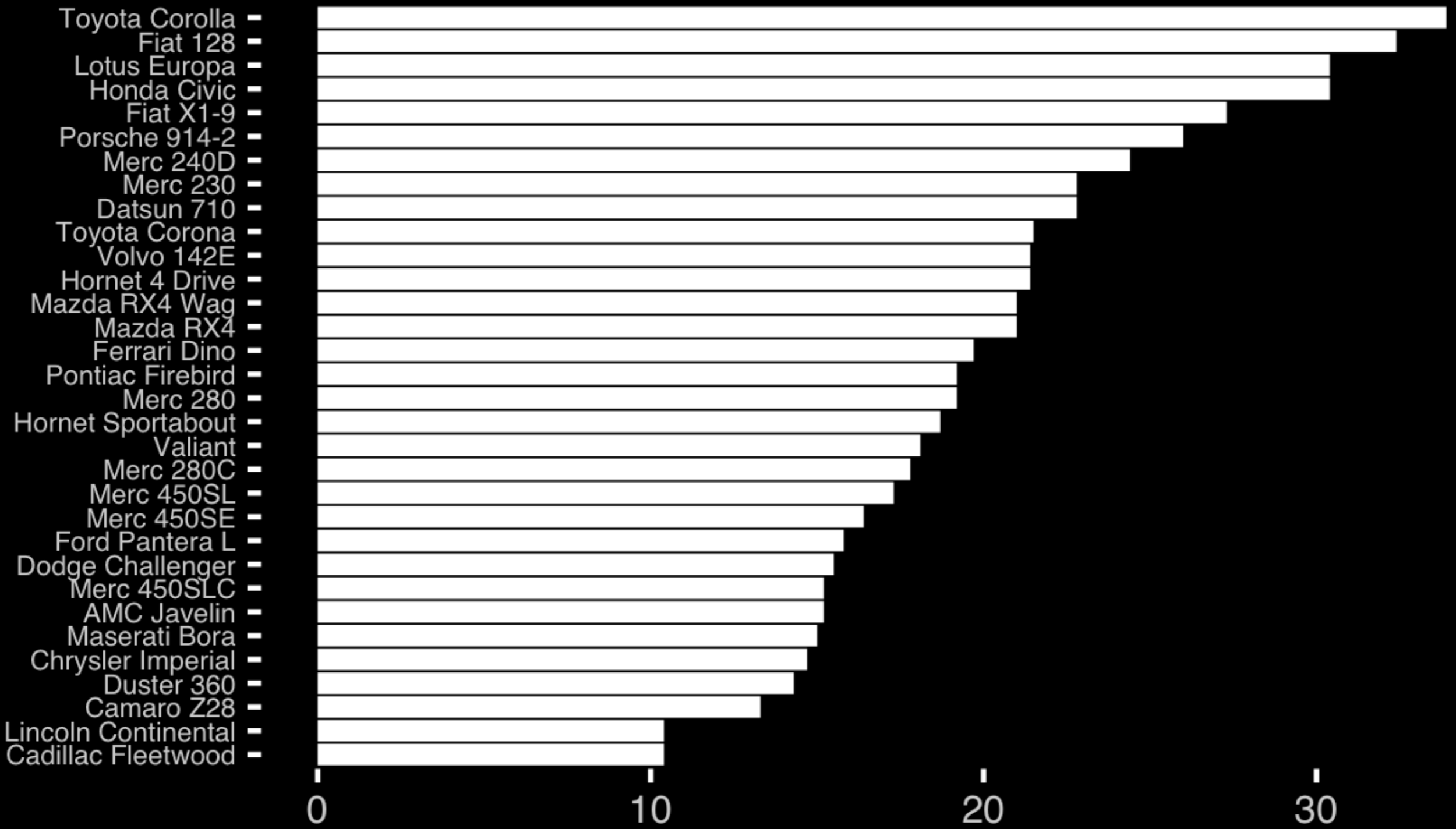


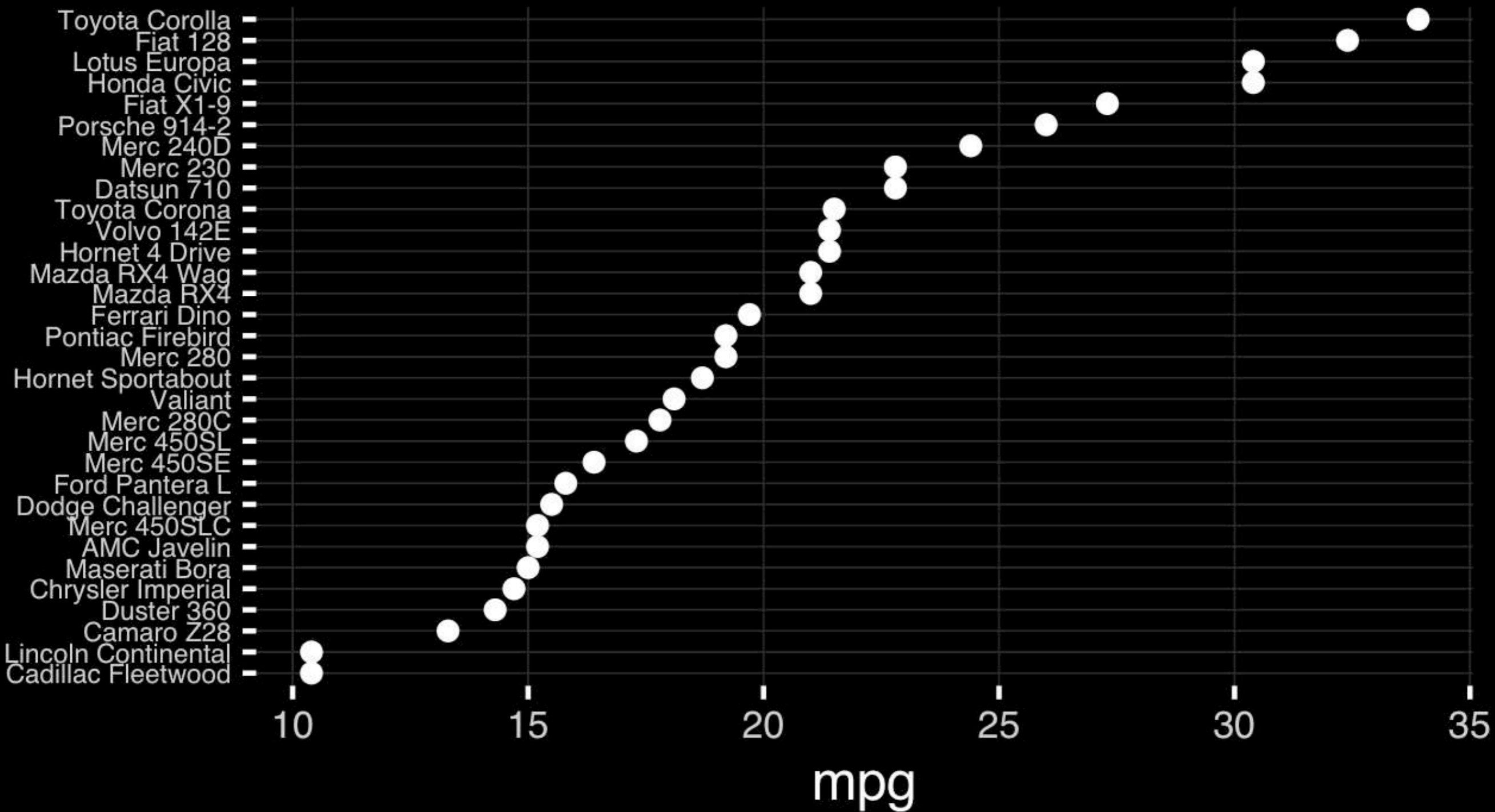
## Stacked anything is nearly always a mistake



This is much better...

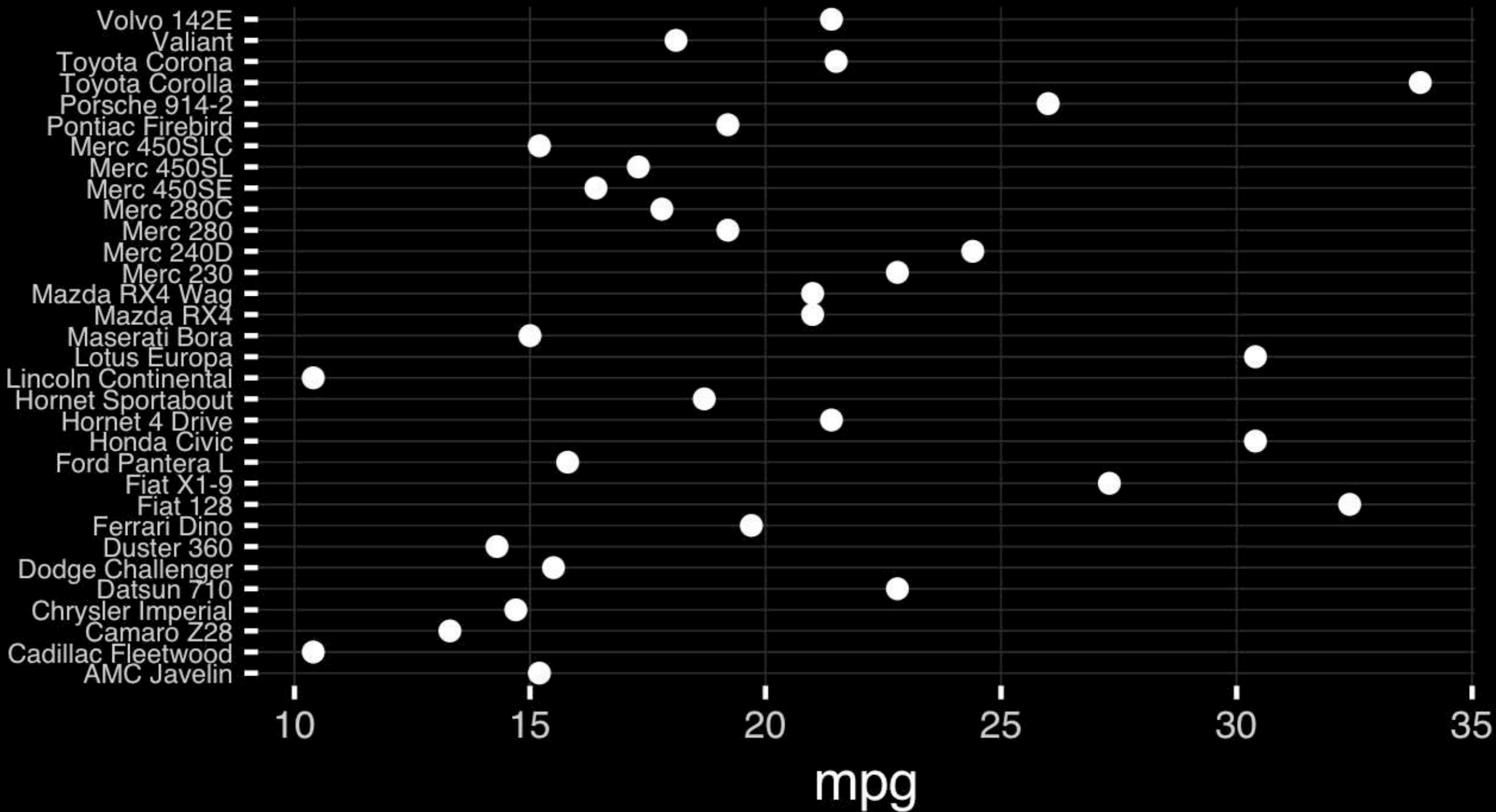


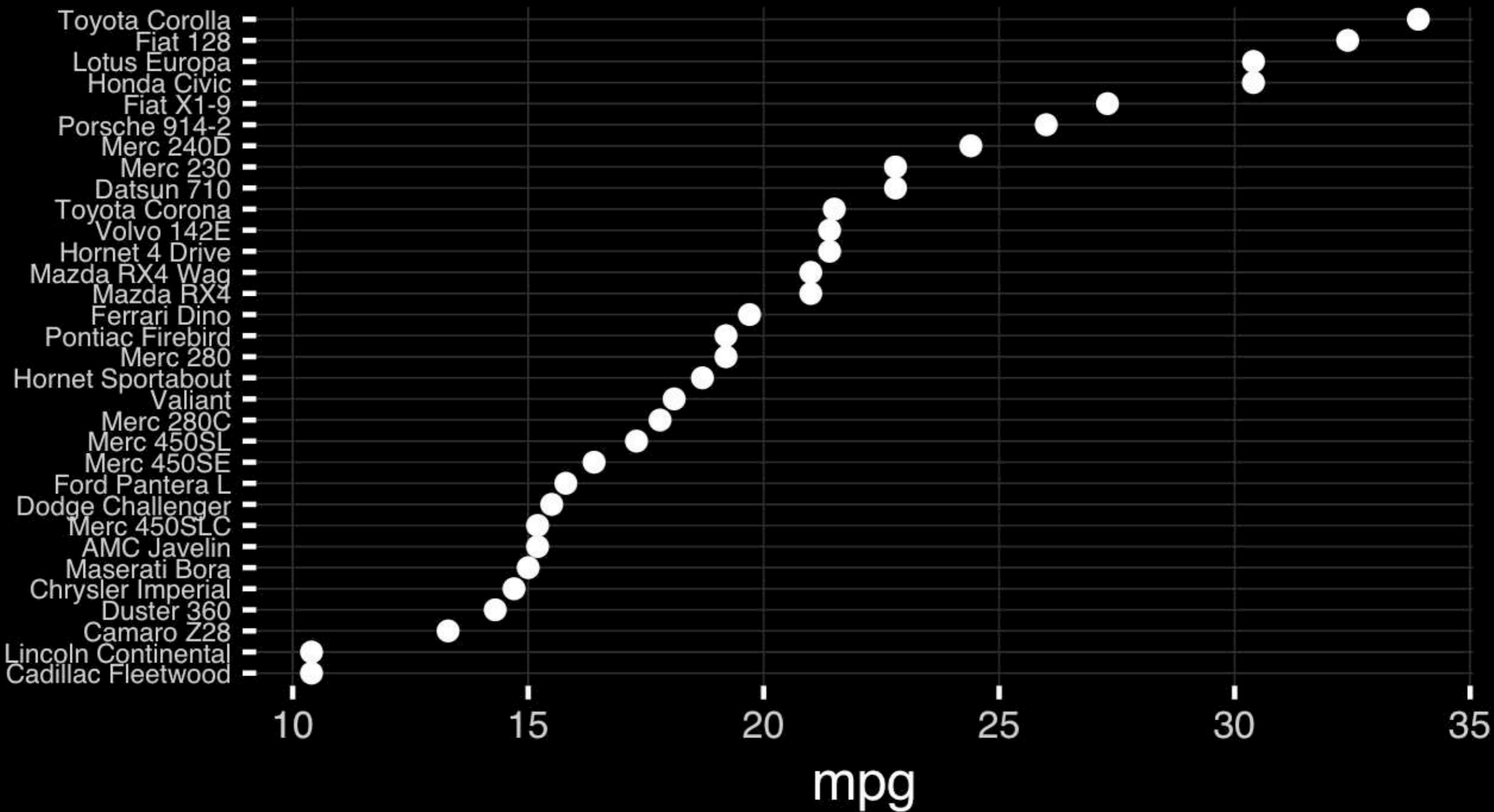




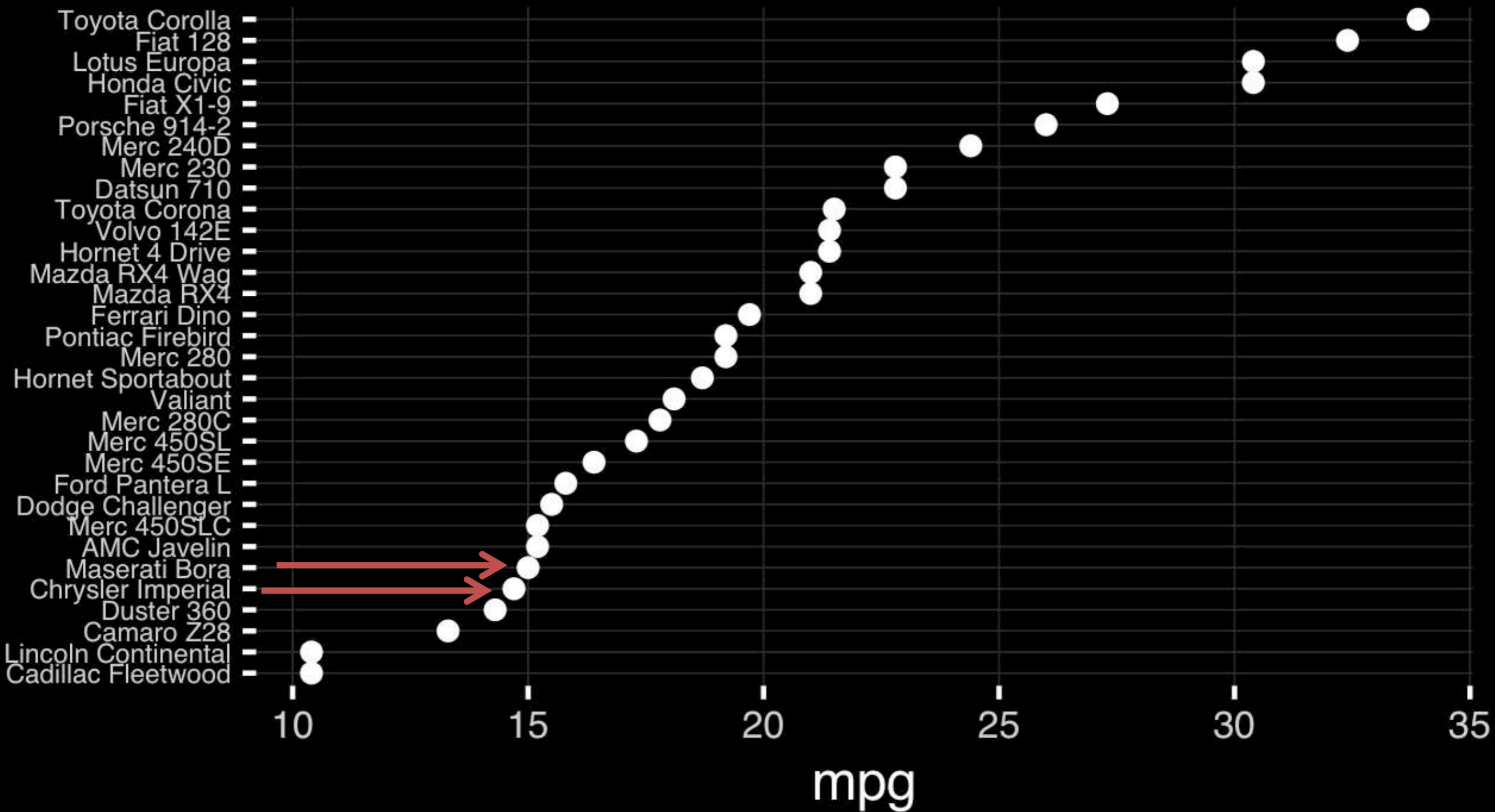
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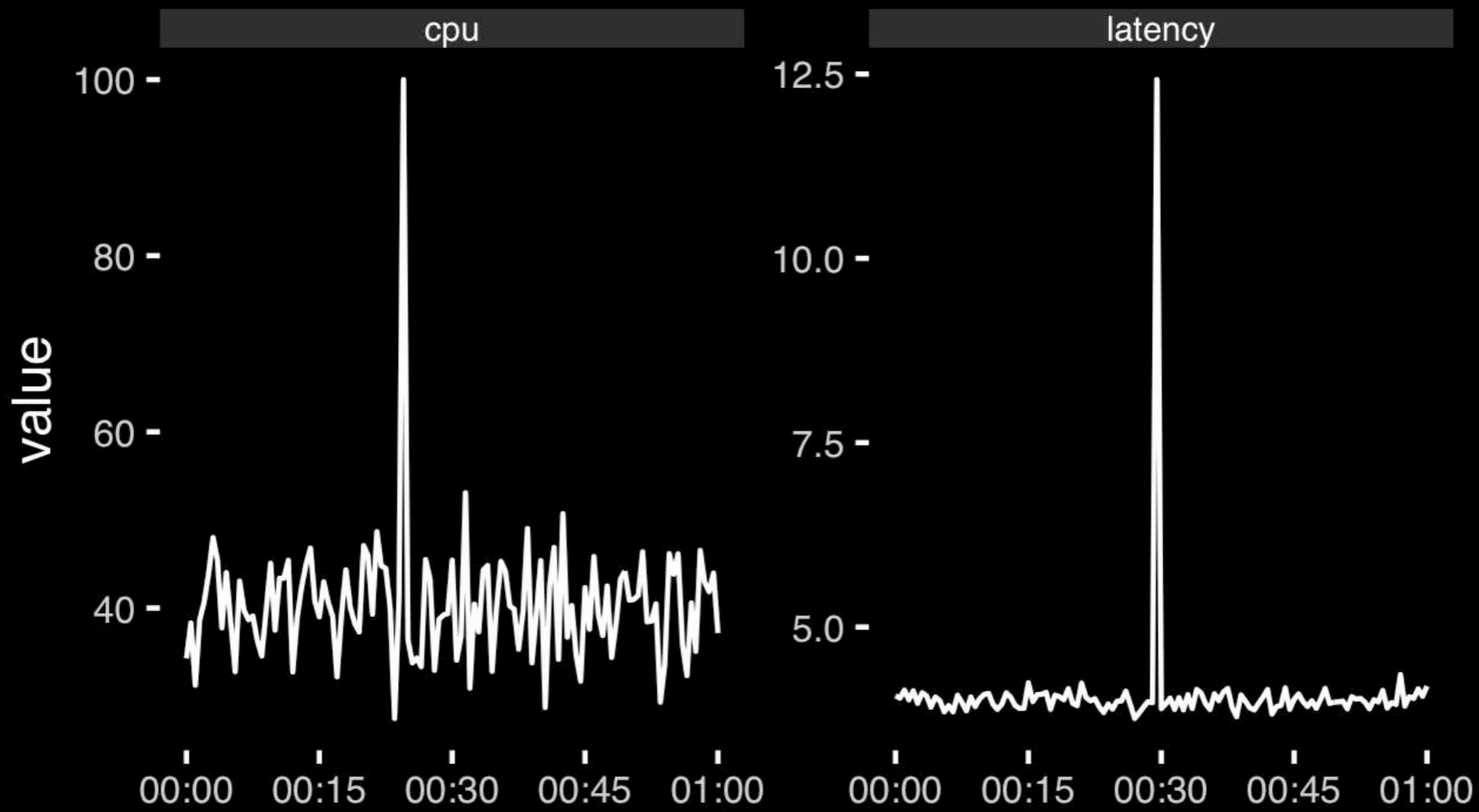


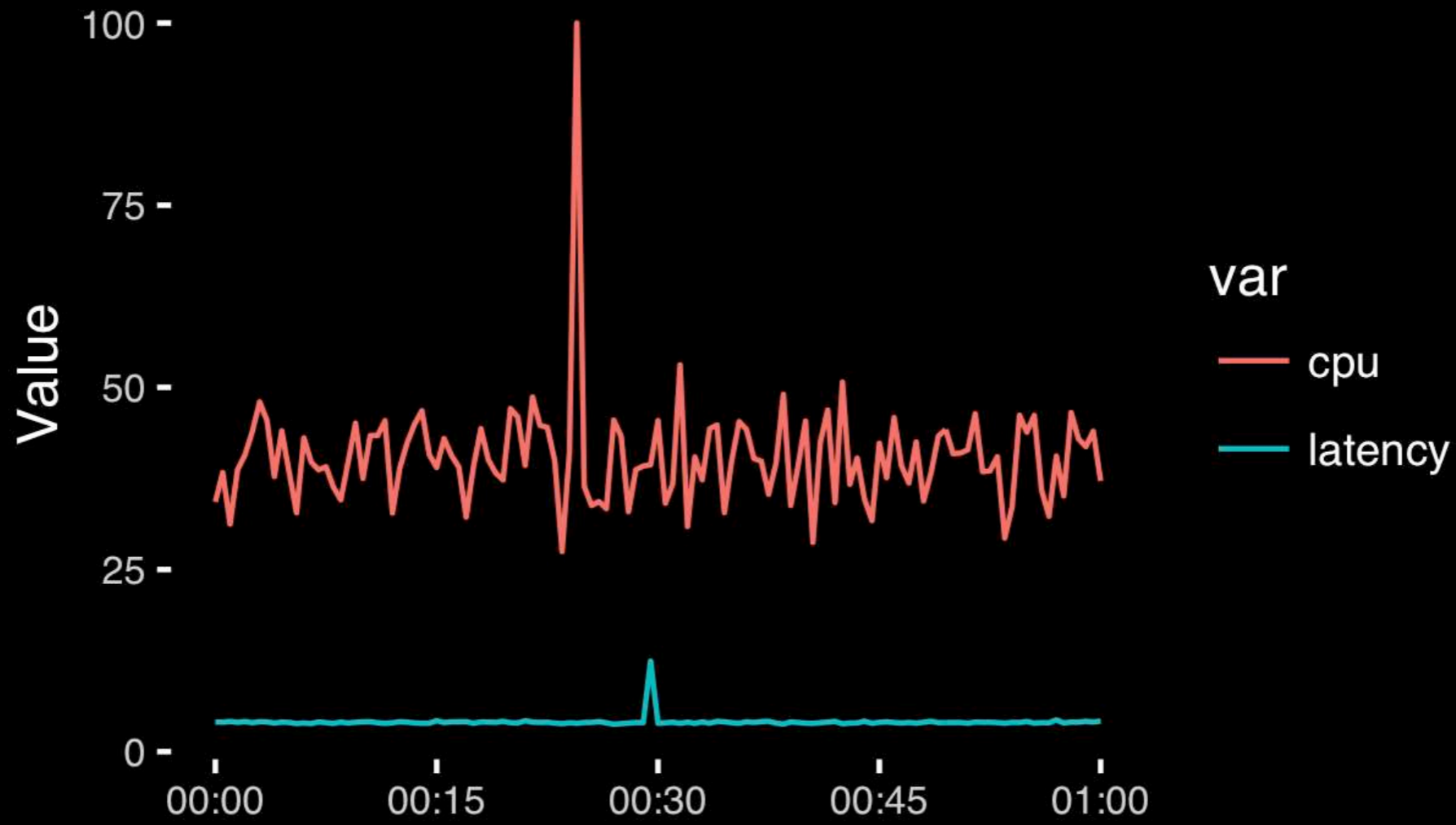


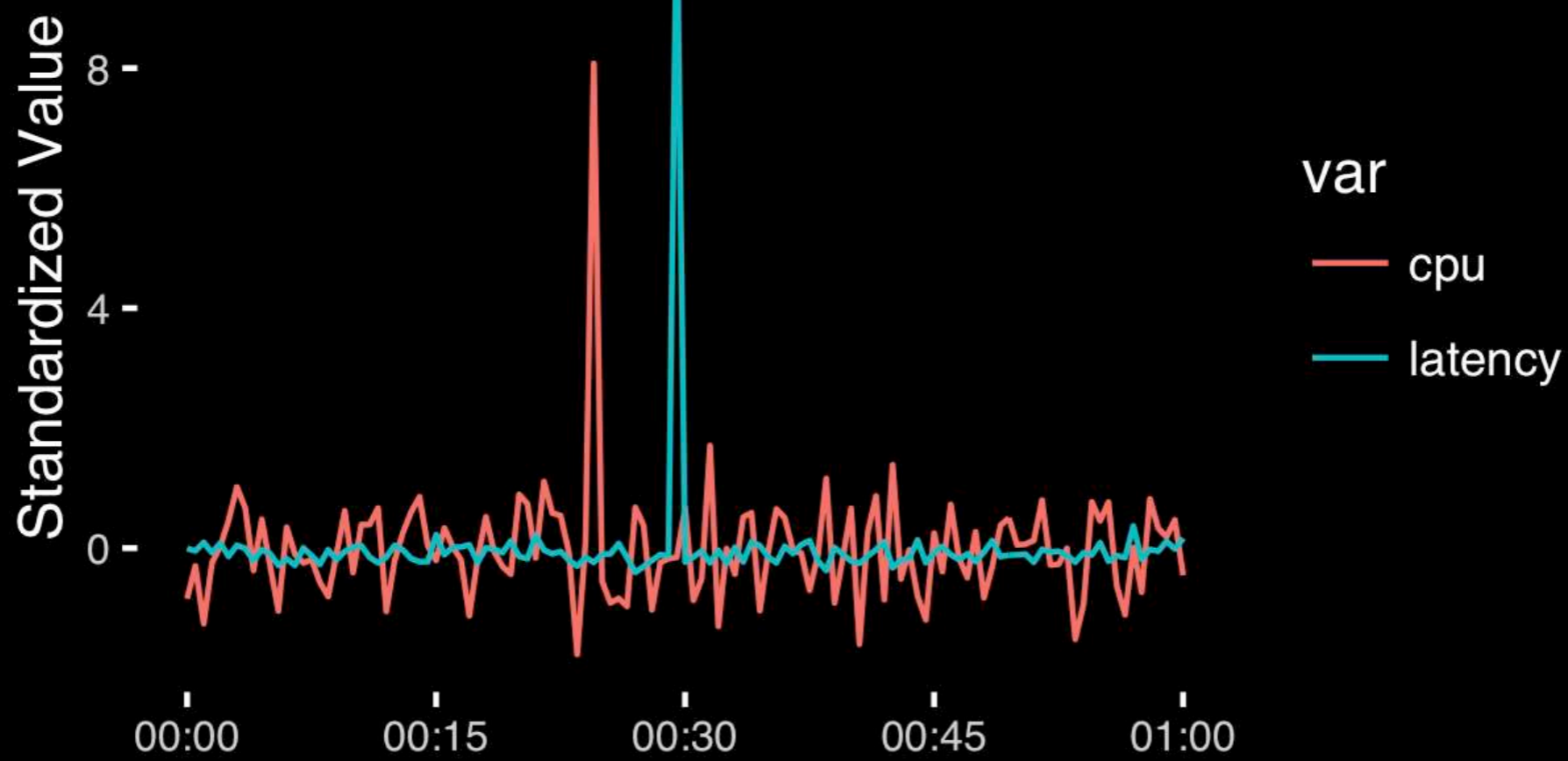




**Observation:** Comparison is trivial on a common scale.







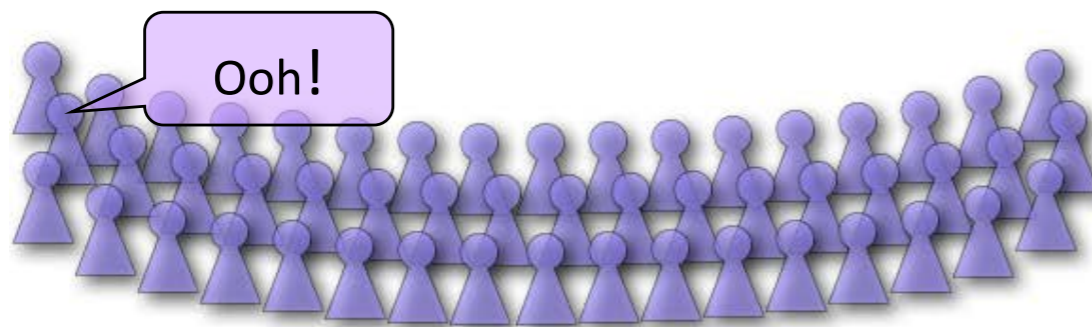
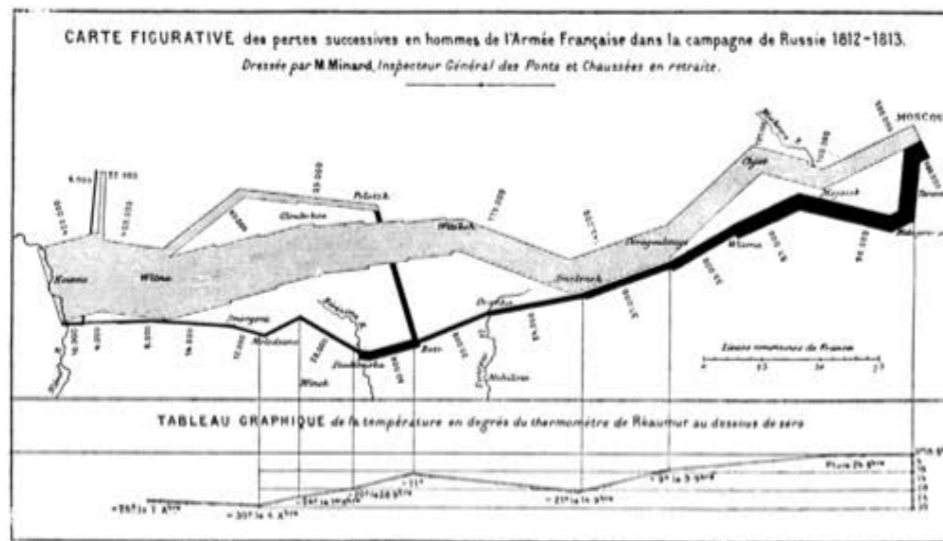
# Today's Learning Goals

- Appreciate the major elements of **exploratory data analysis** and why it is important to visualize data.
- Be conversant with **data visualization best practices** and understand how good visualizations optimize for the human visual system.
- Be able to generate informative graphical displays including **scatterplots, histograms, bar graphs, boxplots, dendrograms** and **heatmaps** and thereby gain exposure to the extensive graphical capabilities of R.
- Appreciate that you can build even more complex charts with **ggplot** and additional R packages such as **rgl**.

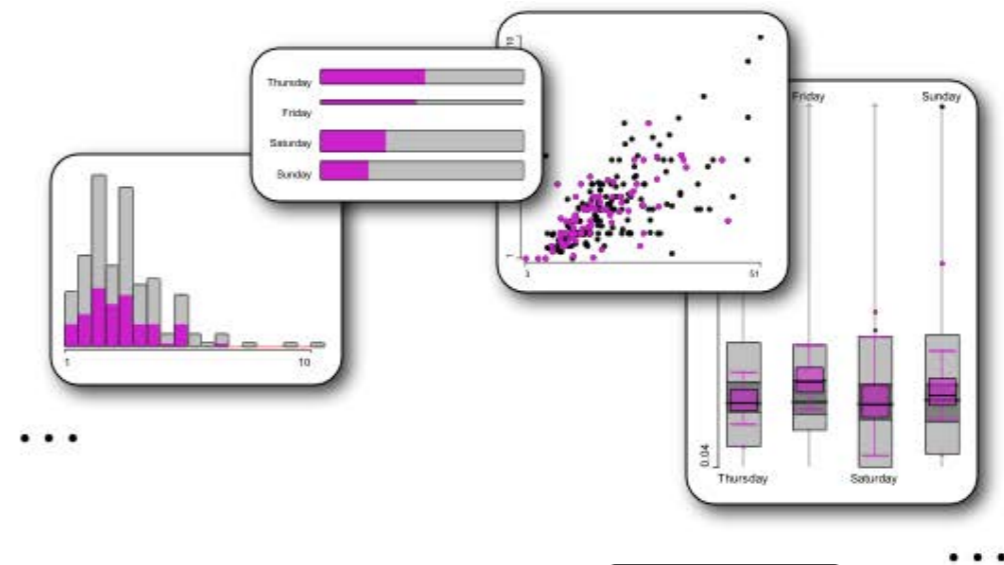
# Different graphs for different purposes

**Exploratory graphs:** many images for a narrow audience (you!)

**Presentation graphs:** single image for a large audience



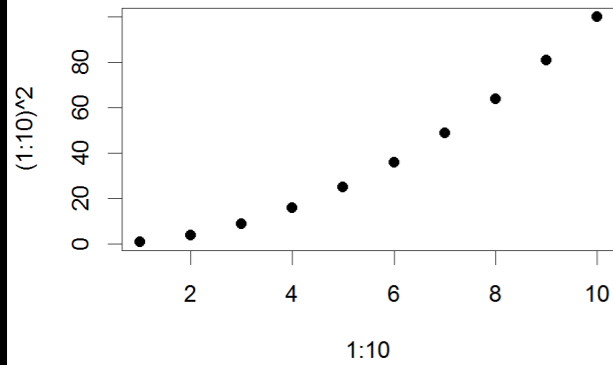
Presentation



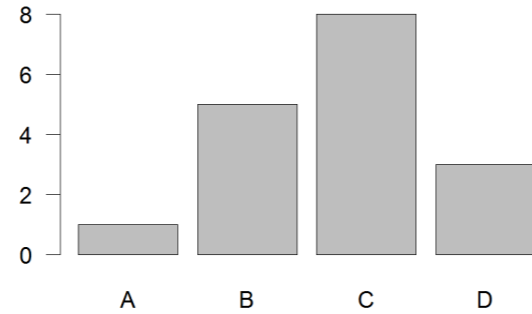
Exploration

# Core R Graph Types

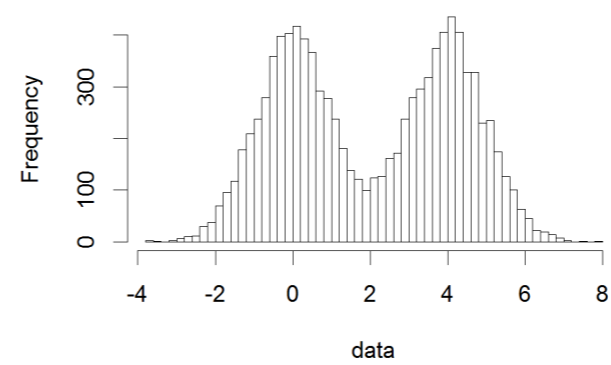
Scatter plot



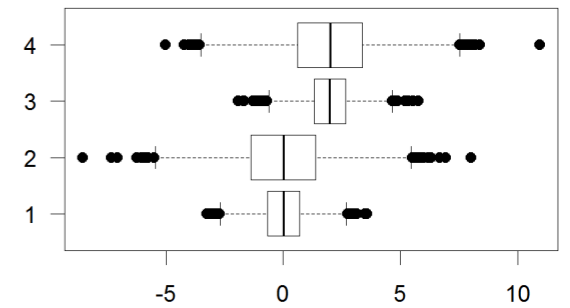
Bar Chart



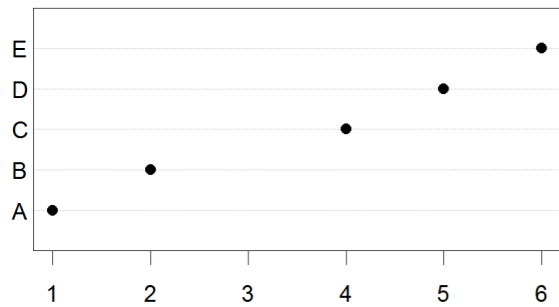
Histogram



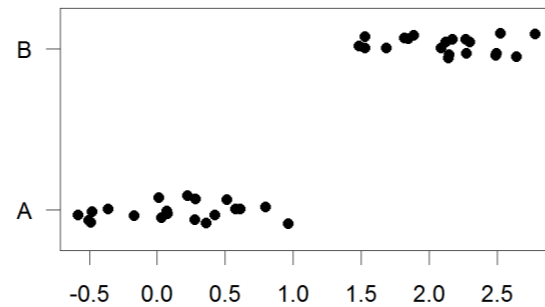
Boxplot



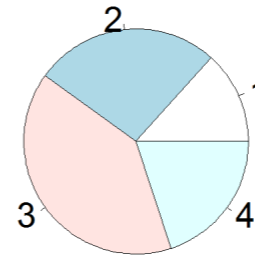
Dot Chart



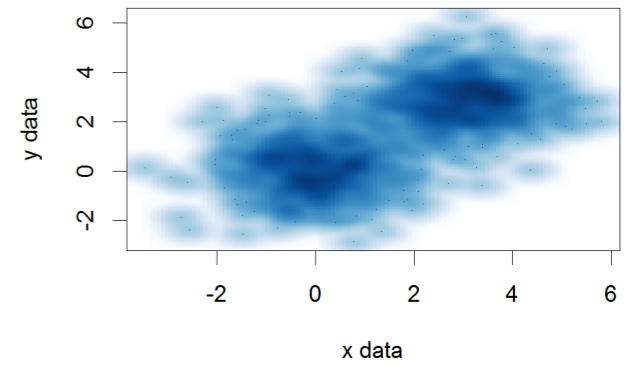
Stripchart



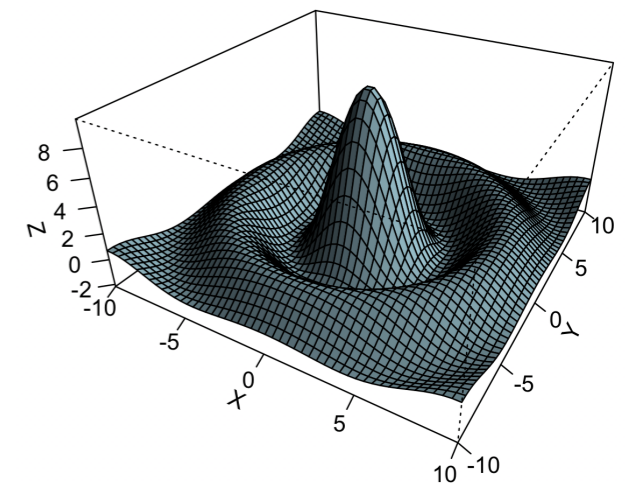
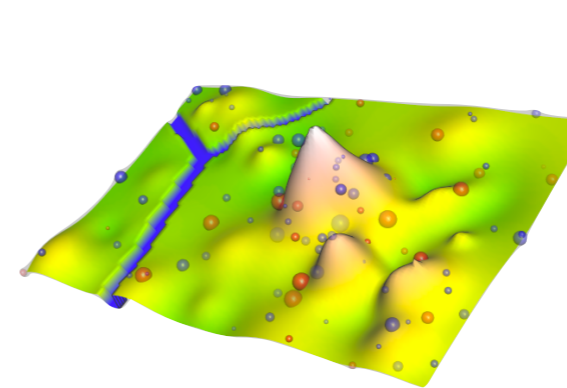
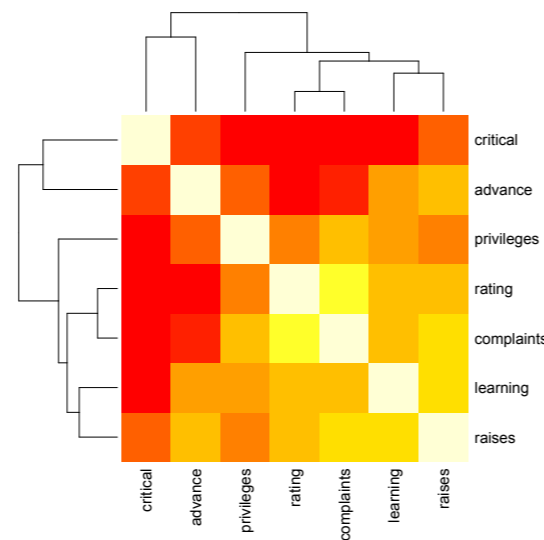
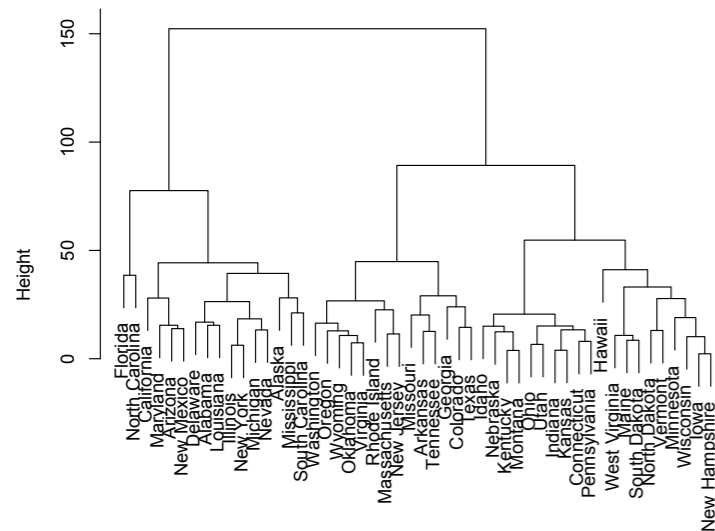
Pie Chart



Smooth Scatter

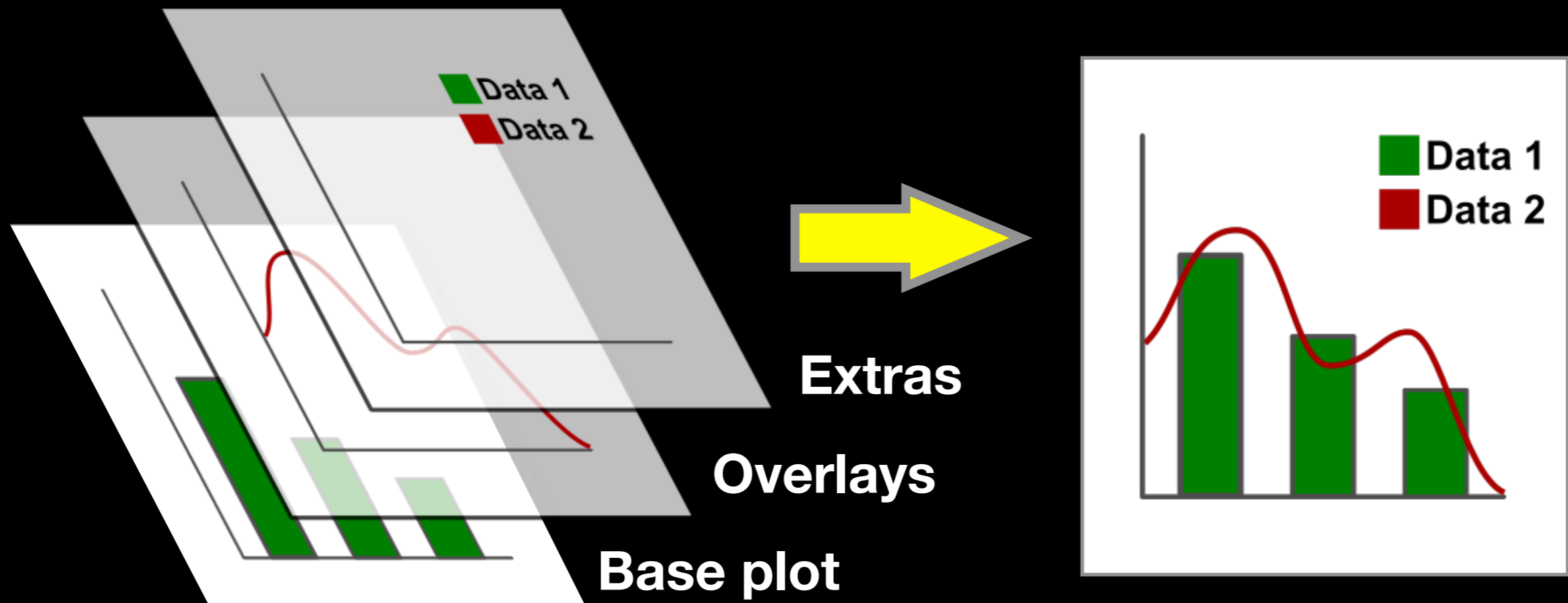


Cluster Dendrogram





# The R Painters Model



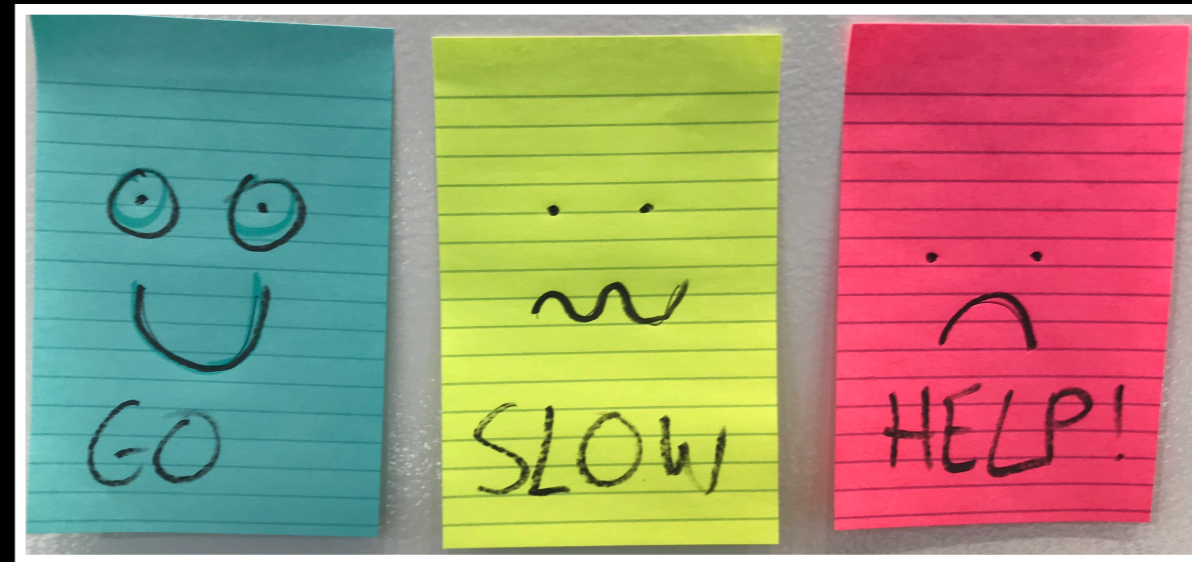
**Side-Note:** “Red and green should never be seen”

Do it Yourself!

# Hands-on

## Section 1 only please

- ➔ Create a new **RStudio Project** for this class,
- ➔ **Download** the example data files and move them to your project directory,
- ➔ Focus on **Sections 1A & 1B** in the **handout**.



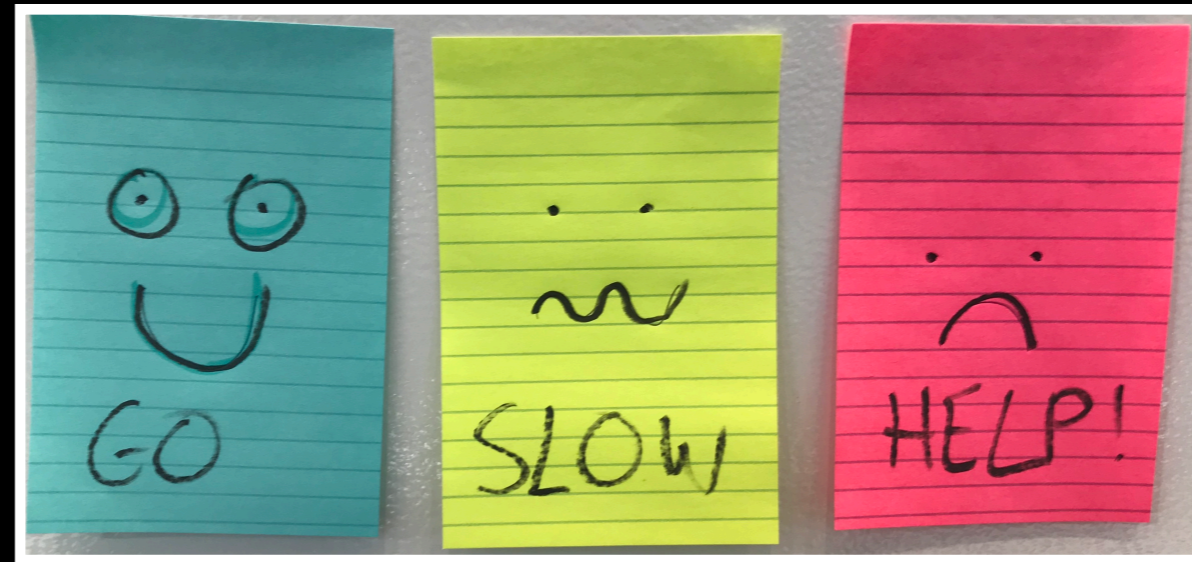
Do it Yourself!

# Hands-on

## Section 1 only please

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- ➔ Focus on **Sections 1A & 1B** in the **handout**.

Do it Yourself!



# Hands-on Section 2 Notes

- ➔ Focus on **Sections 2A & 2B** in the lab **handout**.
- ➔ Try **Section 2C** if you have time.
- ➔ See notes on the following slides...

# Common Options

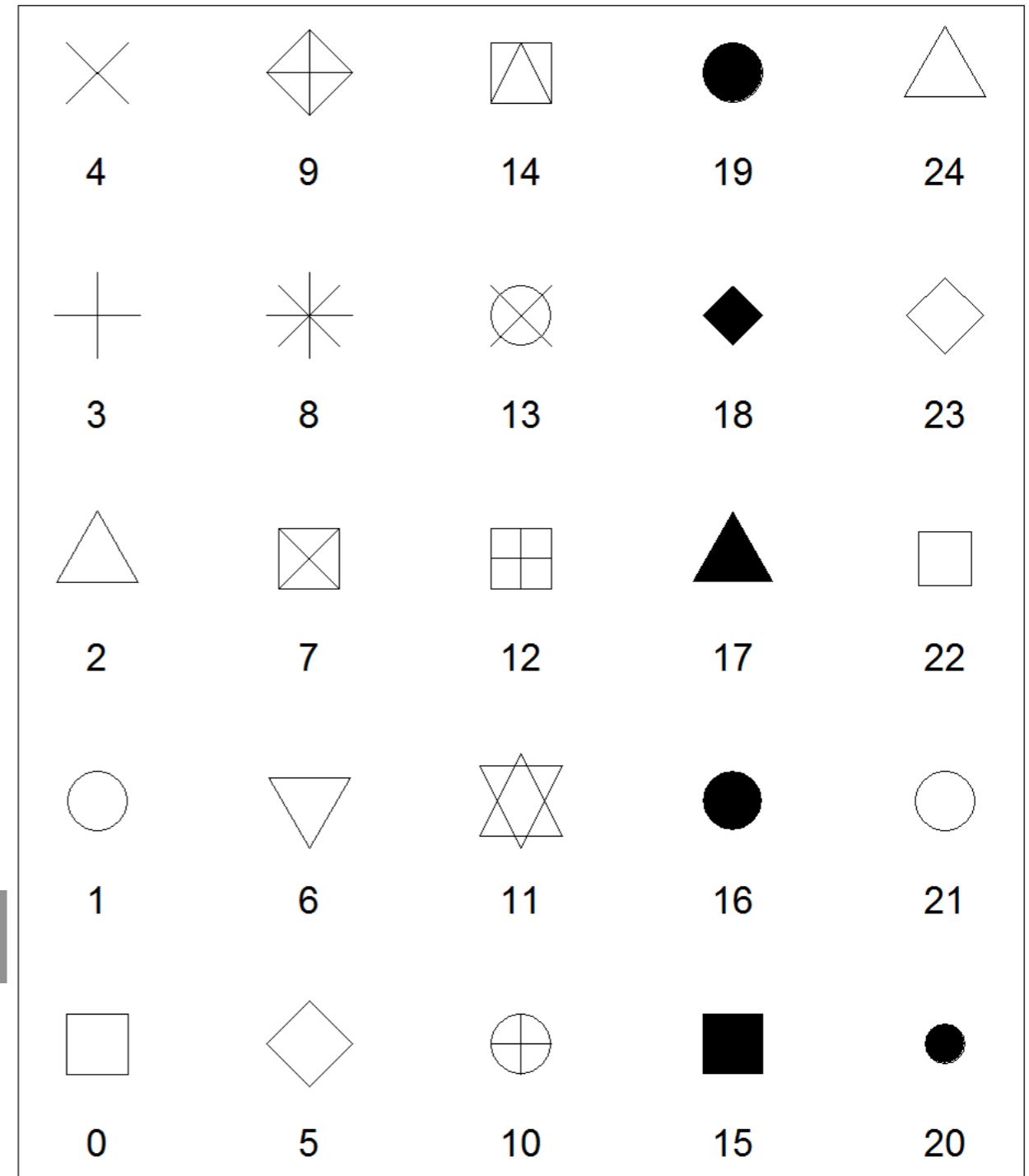
- **Axis scales**
    - `xlim c(min,max)`
    - `ylim c(min,max)`
  - **Axis labels**
    - `xlab(text)`
    - `ylab(text)`
  - **Plot titles**
    - `main(text)`
    - `sub(text)`
  - **Plot characters**
    - `pch(number)`
    - `cex(number)`
- 
- Local options to change a specific plot
  - Global options to affect all graphs

# Plot Characters

cex sizes



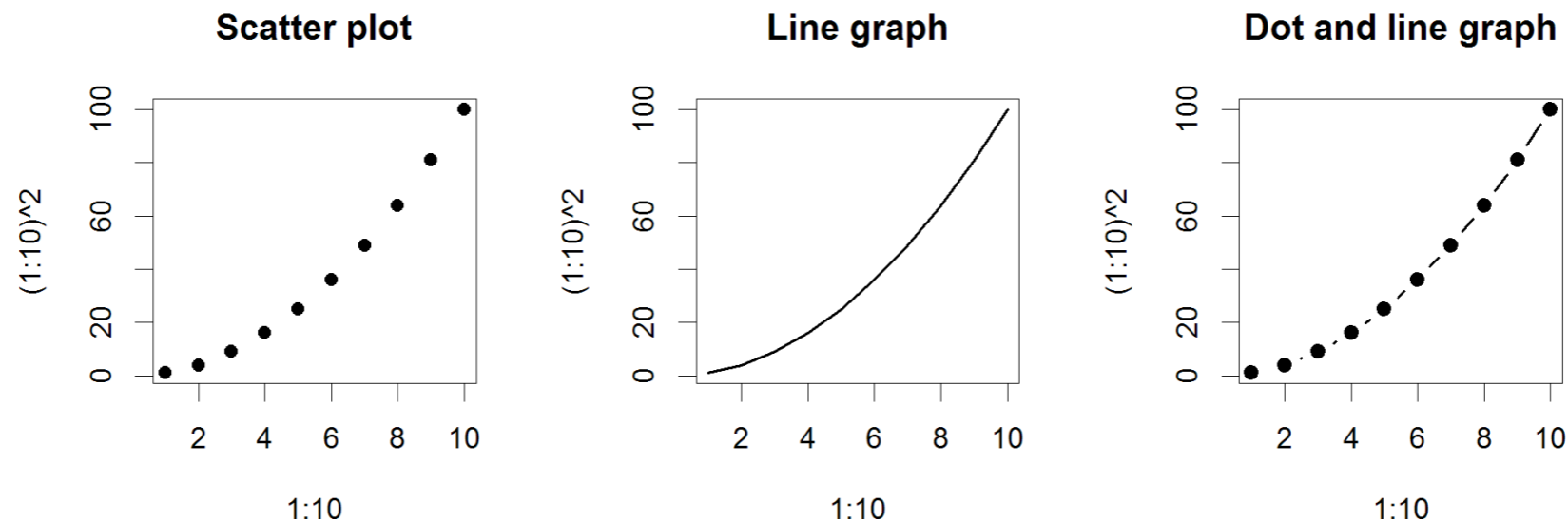
Plot Characters



```
plot( 1:5, pch=1:5, cex=1:5 )
```

# Plot Type Specific Options

# Plot (scatterplots and line graphs)

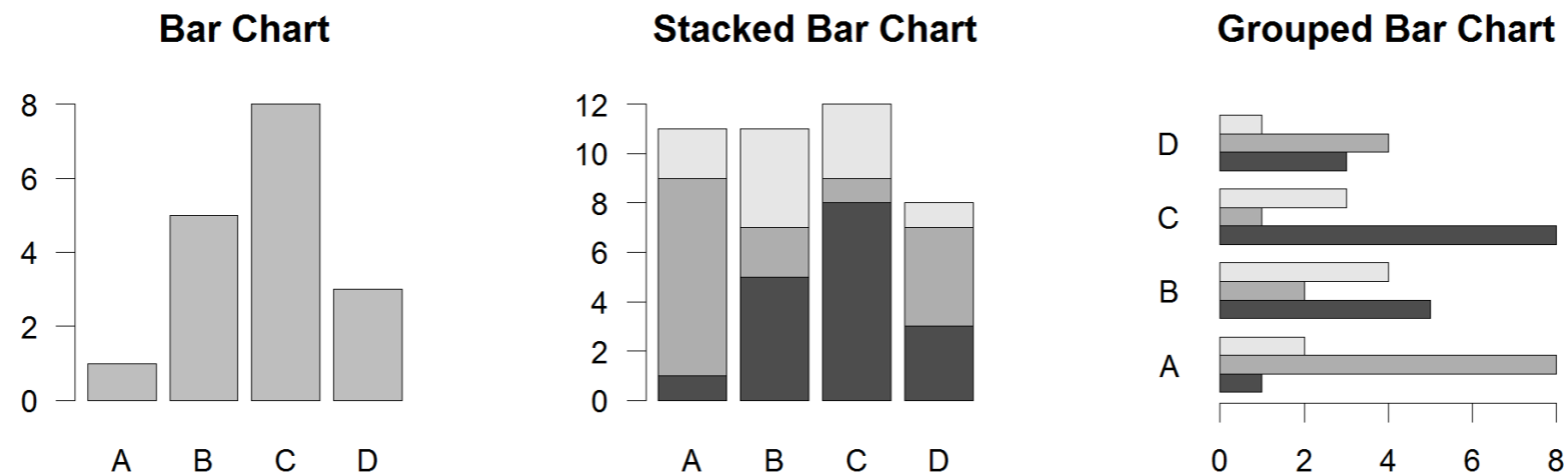


- Input: Almost anything. 2 x Vectors
- Output: Nothing
- Options:
  - `type` l=line, p=point, b=line+point
  - `lwd` line width (thickness)
  - `lty` line type (1=solid,2=dashed,3=dotted etc.)

```
plot( c(1:10)^2, typ="b", lwd=4, lty=3 )
```



# Section 2B: Barplot (a.k.a. bar graphs)



- Input: Vector (single) or Matrix (stack or group)
- Output: Bar centre positions
- Options:
  - `names.arg` Bar labels (if not from data)
  - `horiz=TRUE` Plot horizontally
  - `beside=TRUE` Plot multiple series as a group not stacked

```
barplot(VADeaths, beside = TRUE)
```

# Controlling plot area options with `par`

# Par

- The `par` function controls global parameters affecting all plots in the current plot area
- Changes affect all subsequent plots
- Many `par` options can also be passed to individual plots

?par

# Par examples

- **Reading current value**
  - `par()$cex`
- **Setting a value**
  - `par(cex=1.5) -> old.par`
- **Restoring a value**
  - `par(old.par)`

# Par options

- **Margins**

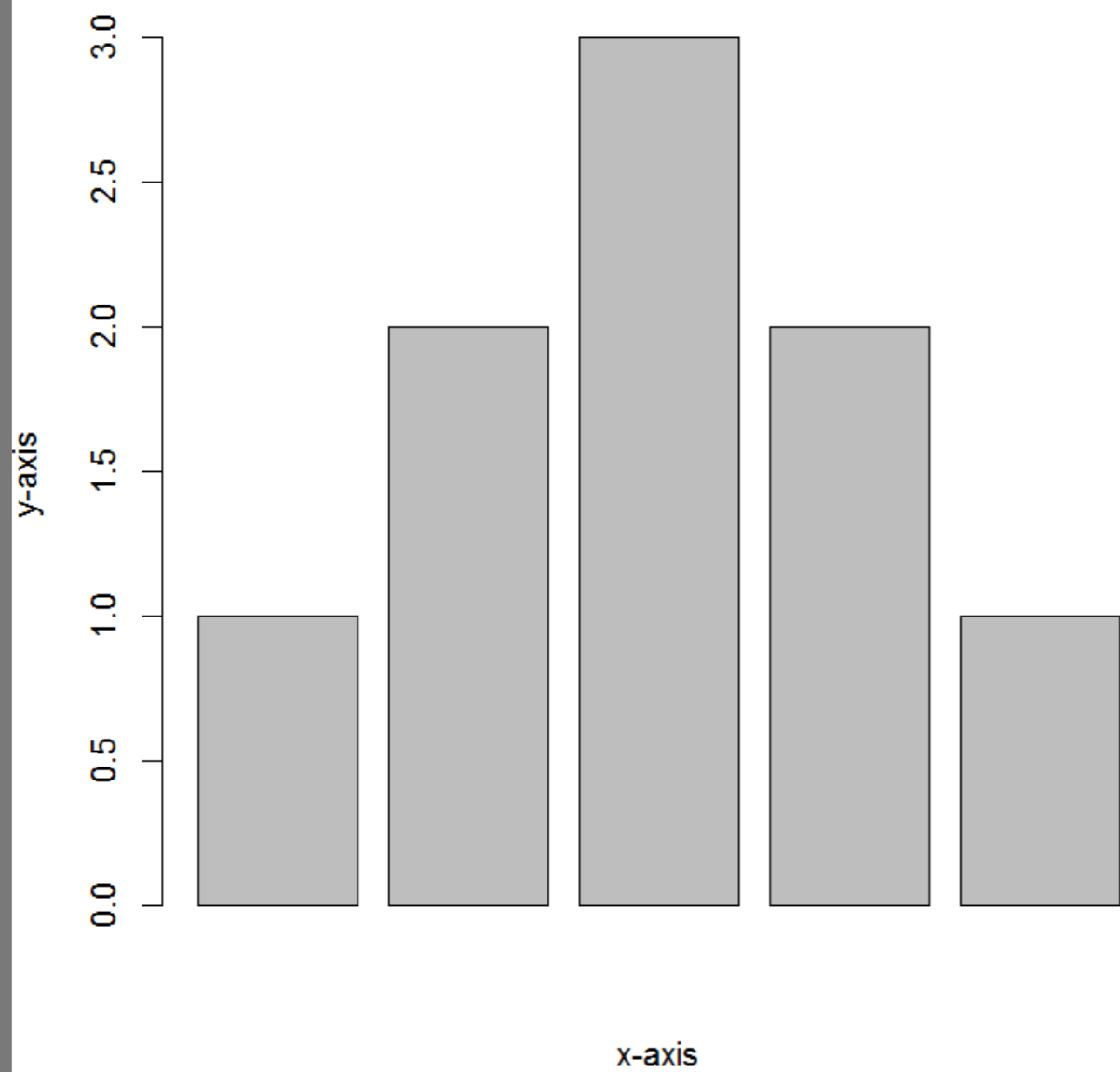
- `mai` (set margins in inches)
- `mar` (set margins in number of lines)
- `mex` (set lines per inch)
- 4 element vector (bottom, left, top, right)

- **Warning**

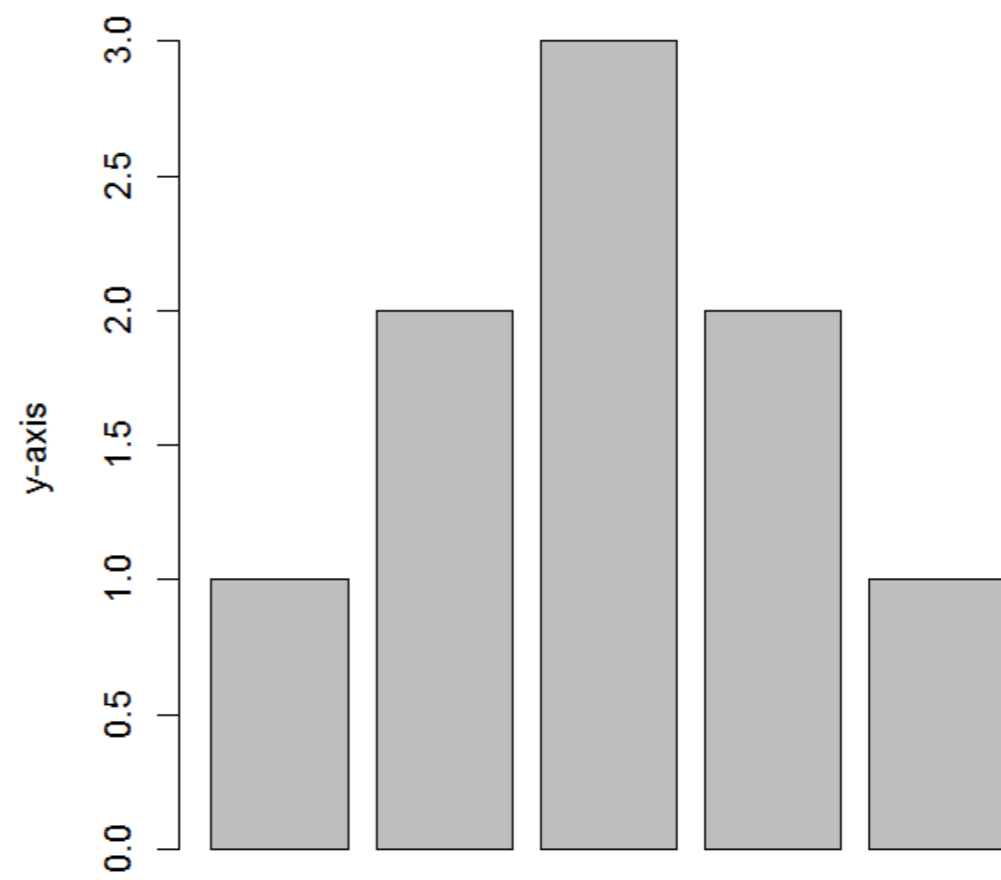
- `Error in plot.new() : figure margins too large`

```
par( mar=c(2, 10, 1, 1) )
```

**mar=c(5,4,4,2)**

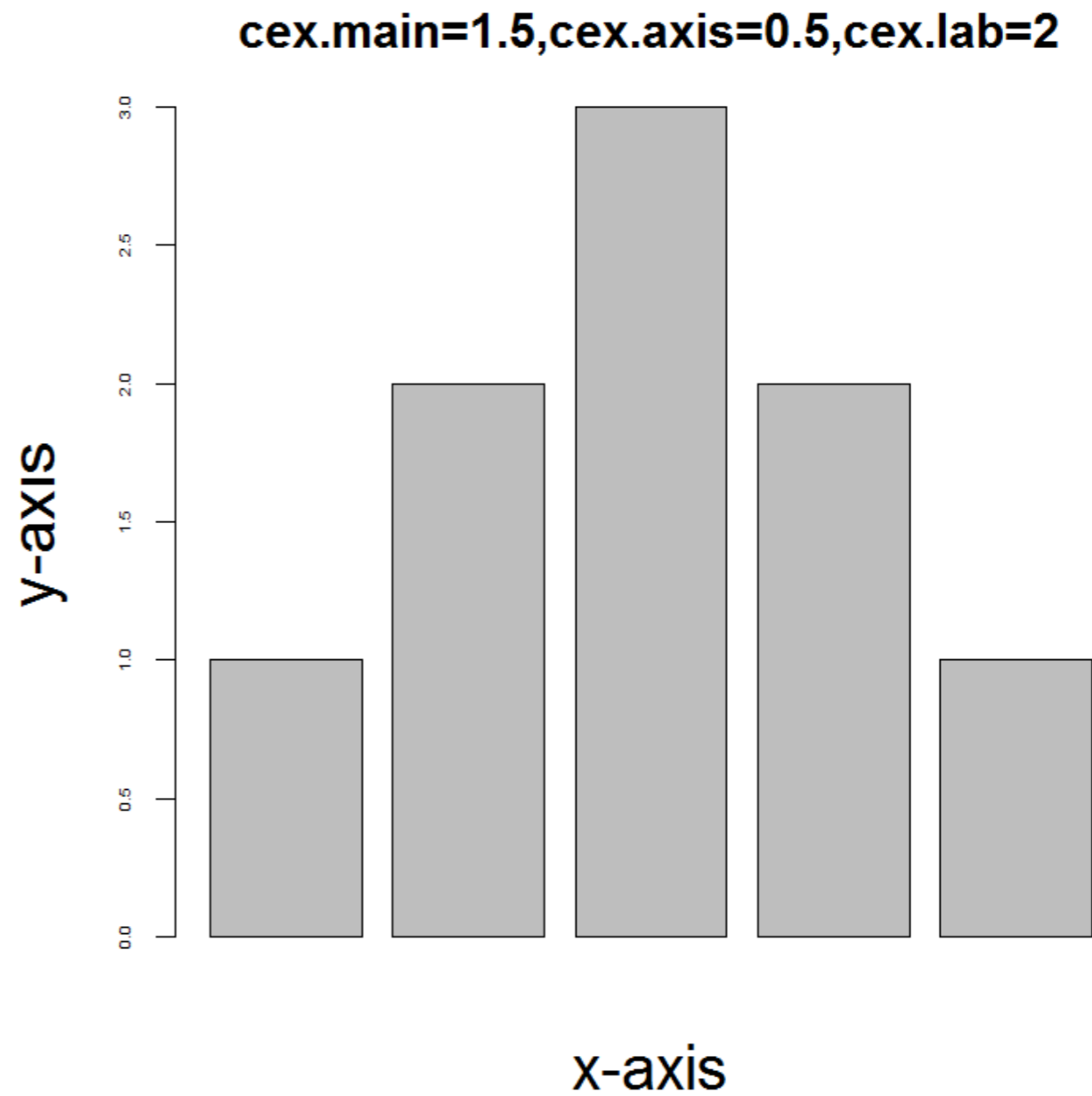
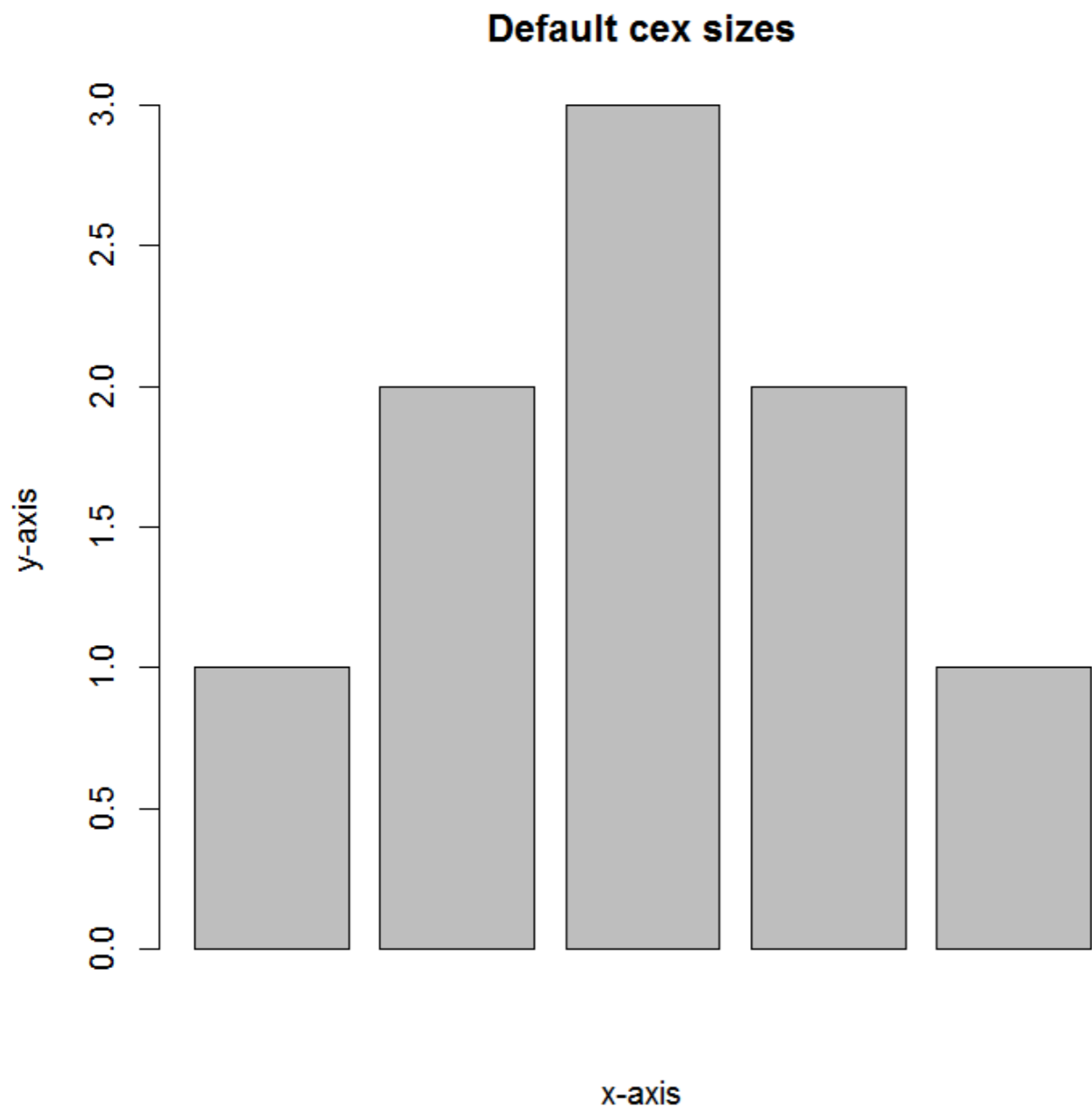


**mar=c(2,10,10,1)**



# Par options

- **Fonts and labels**
  - `cex` - global char expansion
    - `cex.axis`
    - `cex.lab`
    - `cex.main`
    - `cex.sub`



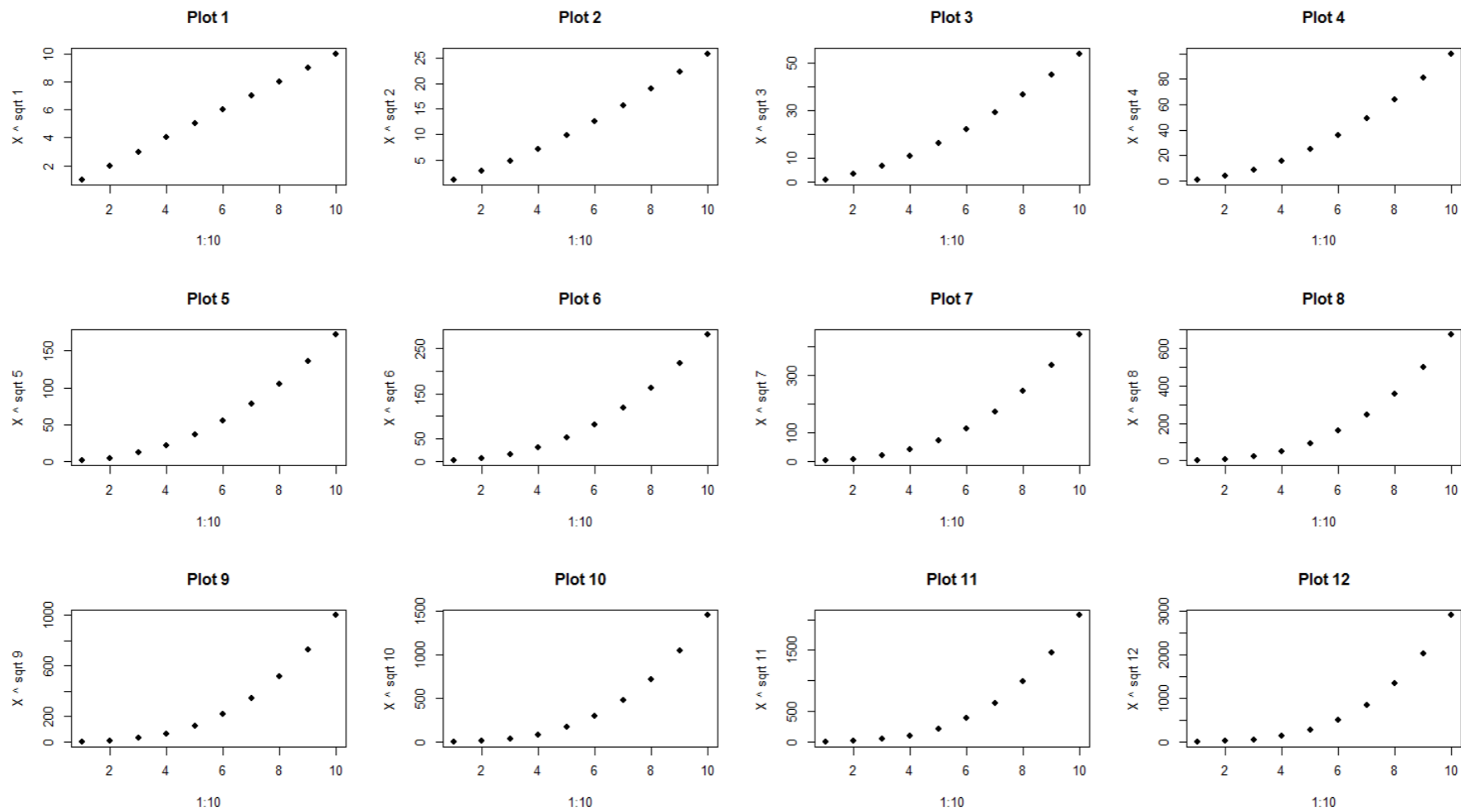
```
par( cex.main=1.5, cex.axis=0.5, cex.lab=2 )
```



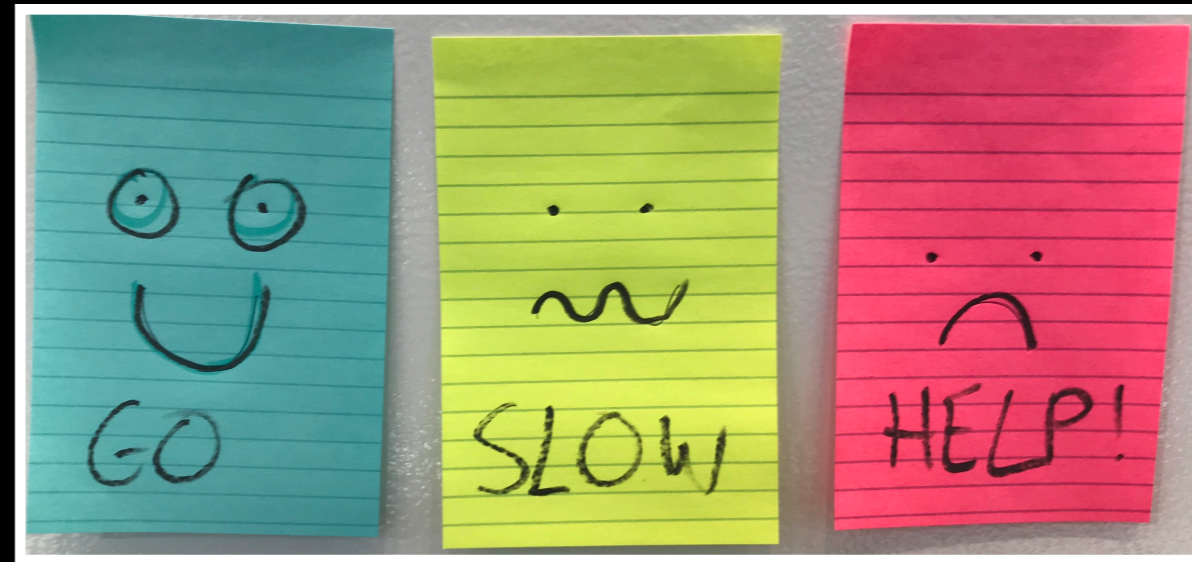
# Par options

- Multi-panel

– `par( mfrow=c( rows, cols ) )`



```
par( mfrow=c(3, 4) )
```



Do it Yourself!

# Hands-on

**Section 3** only please

# Using Color

# Specifying colors

- Color by number
  - `col=c(1, 2, 3)`
  - Will give black, red, green etc.
- Hexadecimal strings
  - `#FF0000` (red)
  - `#0000FF` (blue)
  - `#CC00CC` (purple)
- Controlled names
  - `col=c("red", "green")` etc.
  - see `colors()`
- Also RGB values, HCL values, etc.

# Built in color schemes

- Functions to generate colors
- Pass in number of colors you want
- E.G. the functions:
  - `rainbow()`
  - `heat.colors()`
  - `cm.colors()`
  - `terrain.colors()`
  - `topo.colors()`

`rainbow(7)`

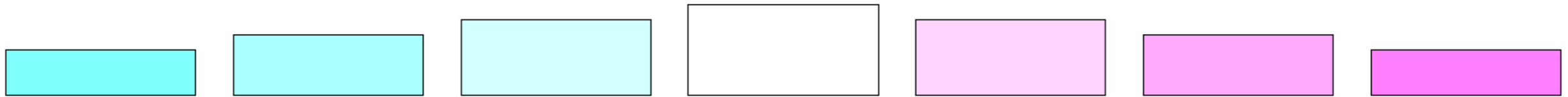
**Rainbow Colours**



**Heat Colours**



**CM Colours**



**Terrain Colours**



**Topo Colours**



`rainbow(7)`

# Color Packages

- **Color Brewer**
  - Set of pre-defined, optimized palettes
  - `library(RColorBrewer)`
  - `brewer.pal(n_colours, palette)`
- **ColorRamps**
  - Create smooth palettes for ramped color
  - Generates a function to make actual color vectors
  - `colorRampPalette(c("red", "white", "blue"))`
  - `colorRampPalette(c("red", "white", "blue"))(5)`

# Applying Color to Plots

- Vector of numbers or specified colors passed to the `col` parameter of a plot function
- Vector of **factors** used to divide the data
  - Colors will be taken from the set color palette
  - Can read or set using **palette()** function
    - `palette()`
    - `palette(brewer.pal(9, "Set1"))`

```
plot( 1:5, col=1:5, pch=15, cex=2)
```



# Dynamic use of color

- Coloring by density
  - Pass data and palette to `densCols()`
  - Vector of colors returned
- See Lab Supplement (online):
  - [Plotting with color in R](#)

# Make a lab report!

- Open your previous **class05** RStudio **project** (and your saved **R script**)
- Can you **source** your **class05.R** file to re-generate all your plots without error?



- If so you can now generate a nice **HTML report** of your work to date...

[Take 2-3 minutes]

# Homework!

New DataCamp Assignments

- RStudio IDE (Pt 1)
- Intermediate R
  - Conditionals and Control Flow
  - Functions
  - Loops

**Muddy Point Assessment Form Link**

Useful new website: <https://www.data-to-viz.com/>