

# Graphics and Visualization

Wolfgang Huber

# See also

www.huber.embl.de/msmb Chapter 3

The screenshot shows a web browser window with three tabs: 'EMBL - Calendario - luglio 2019', 'CSAMA 2019 - Statistical Data', and 'Modern statistics modern biol...'. The address bar shows the URL 'https://www.cambridge.org/it/academic/subjects/statistics-probabili...'. The Cambridge University Press logo is in the top left, and navigation links for 'Academic', 'Cambridge English', 'Education', 'Bibles', 'Digital Products', 'About Us', and 'Careers' are in the top right. A search bar is located in the top right corner with the text 'Search for keyword, author, ISBN, etc.' and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar are links for 'Include historic titles', 'Sign in', and 'Register'. A navigation menu includes 'Subjects', 'Blogs', 'News', 'Textbooks', 'Authors', 'Contact Us', 'Reference', and 'Conferences'. The main content area shows the book 'Modern Statistics for Modern Biology' by Susan Holmes and Wolfgang Huber. The book cover is on the left, and the title and authors are on the right. The price is £ 49.99 Paperback. There are buttons for 'Add to cart' and 'Add to wishlist'. A 'Request inspection copy' button is also present. The bottom of the page has a navigation bar with 'Description', 'Contents', 'Resources', 'Courses', and 'About the Authors'. A footer note says 'If you are a biologist and want to get the best out of the powerful methods of modern computational' and there is a 'RELATED BOOKS' section.

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LOOK INSIDE

**Modern Statistics for Modern Biology**

TEXTBOOK

**AUTHORS:**  
Susan Holmes, Stanford University, California  
Wolfgang Huber, European Molecular Biology Laboratory

**DATE PUBLISHED:** February 2019  
**AVAILABILITY:** In stock  
**FORMAT:** Paperback  
**ISBN:** 9781108705295

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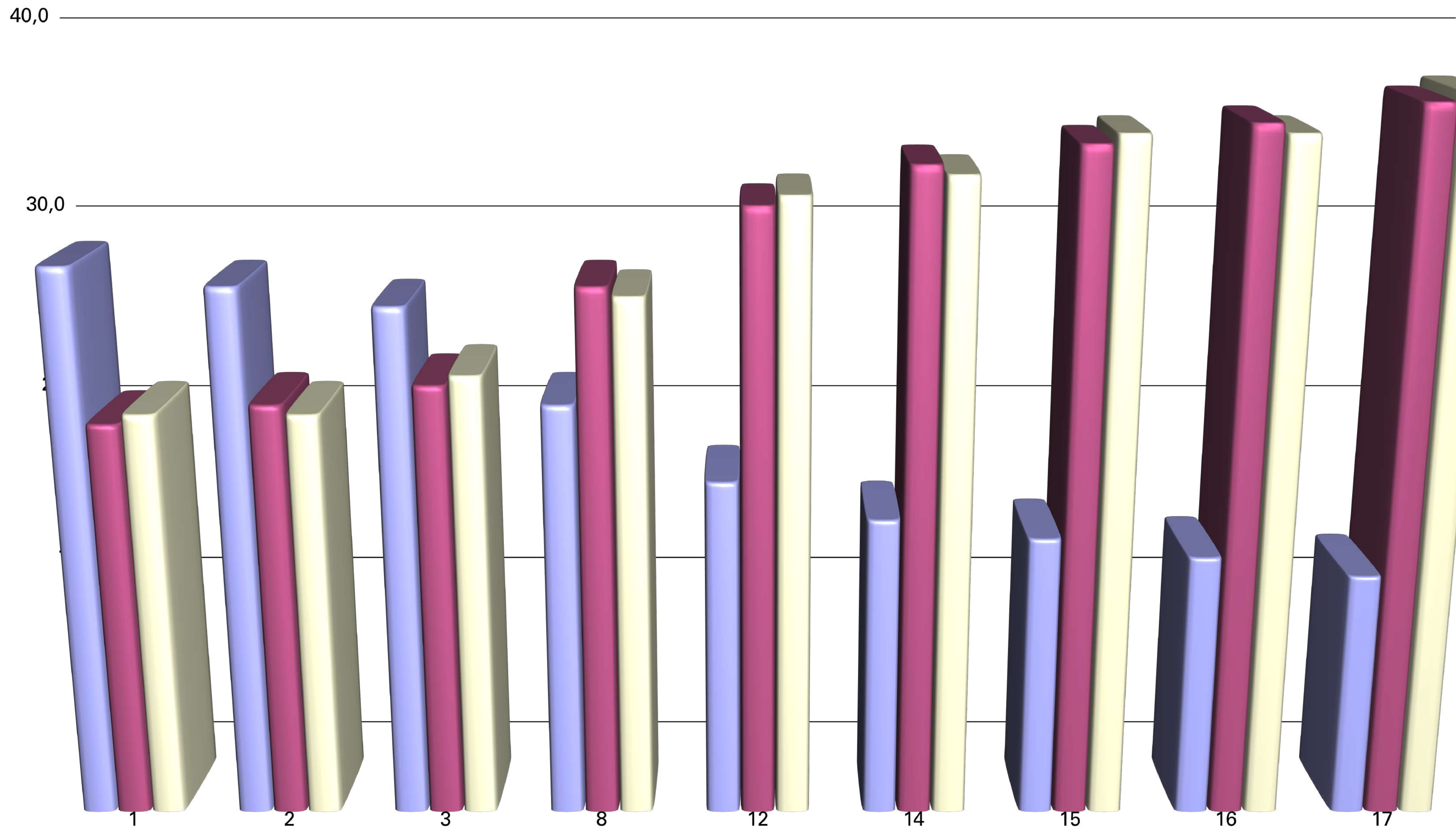
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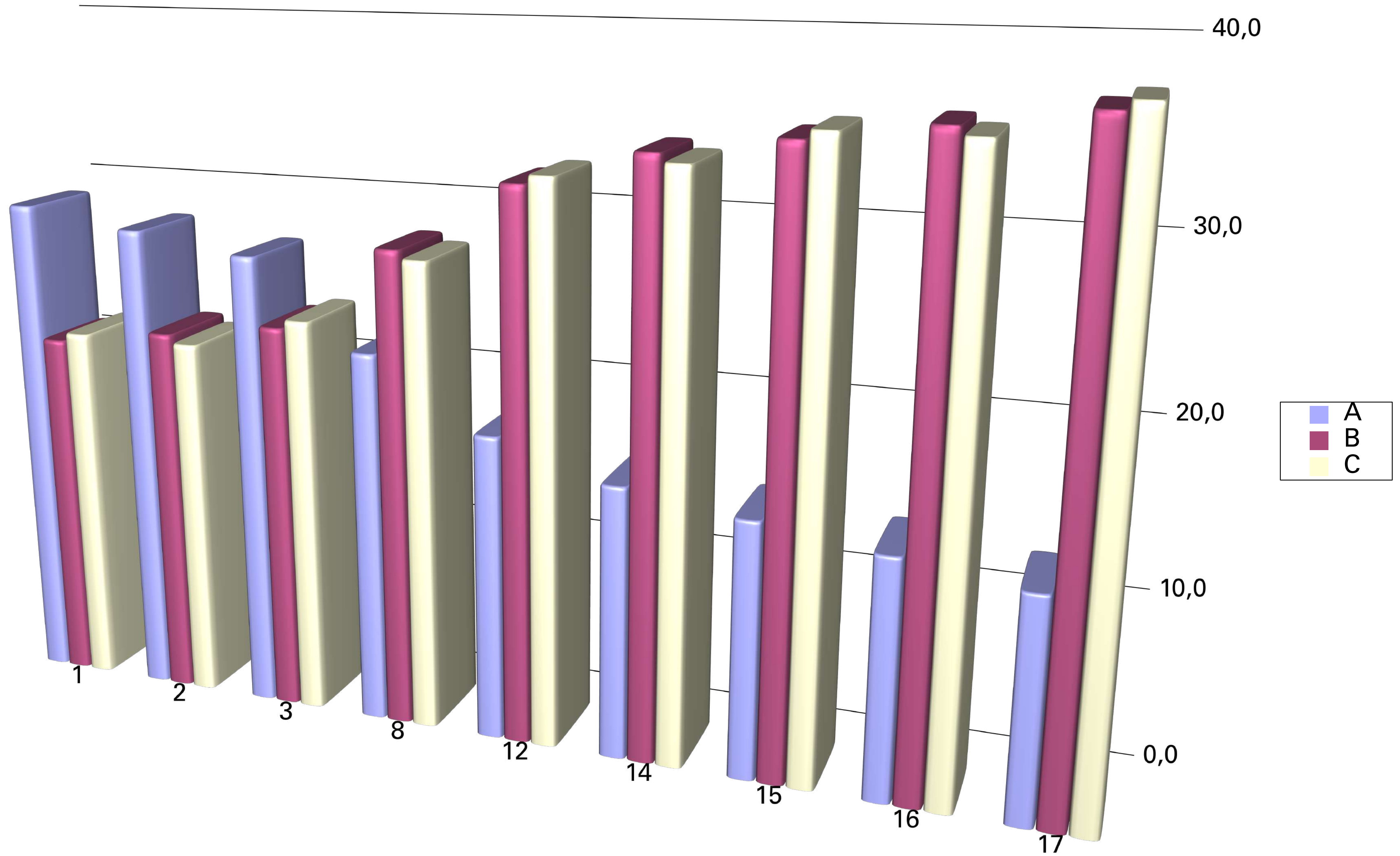
Description Contents Resources Courses About the Authors

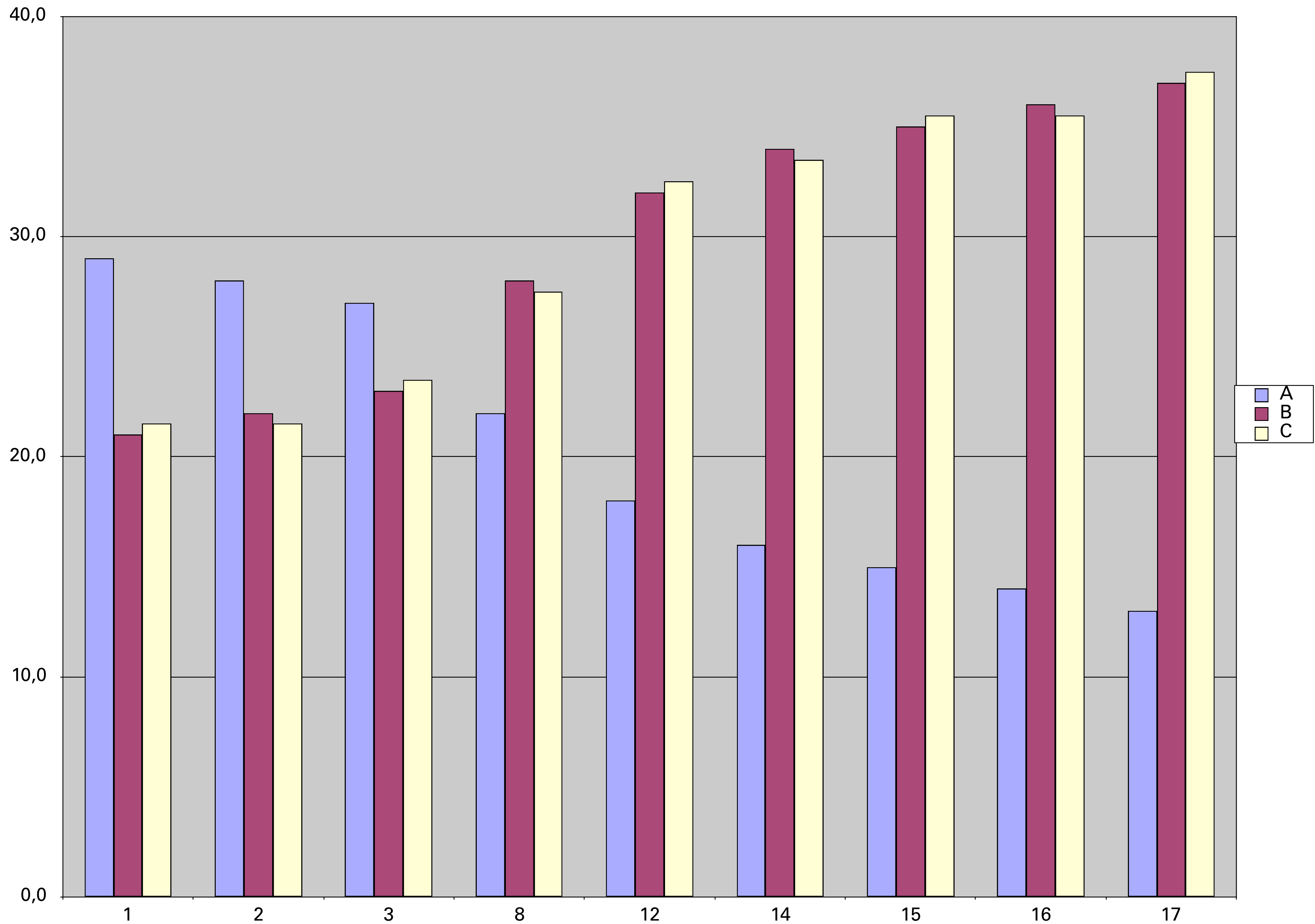
If you are a biologist and want to get the best out of the powerful methods of modern computational

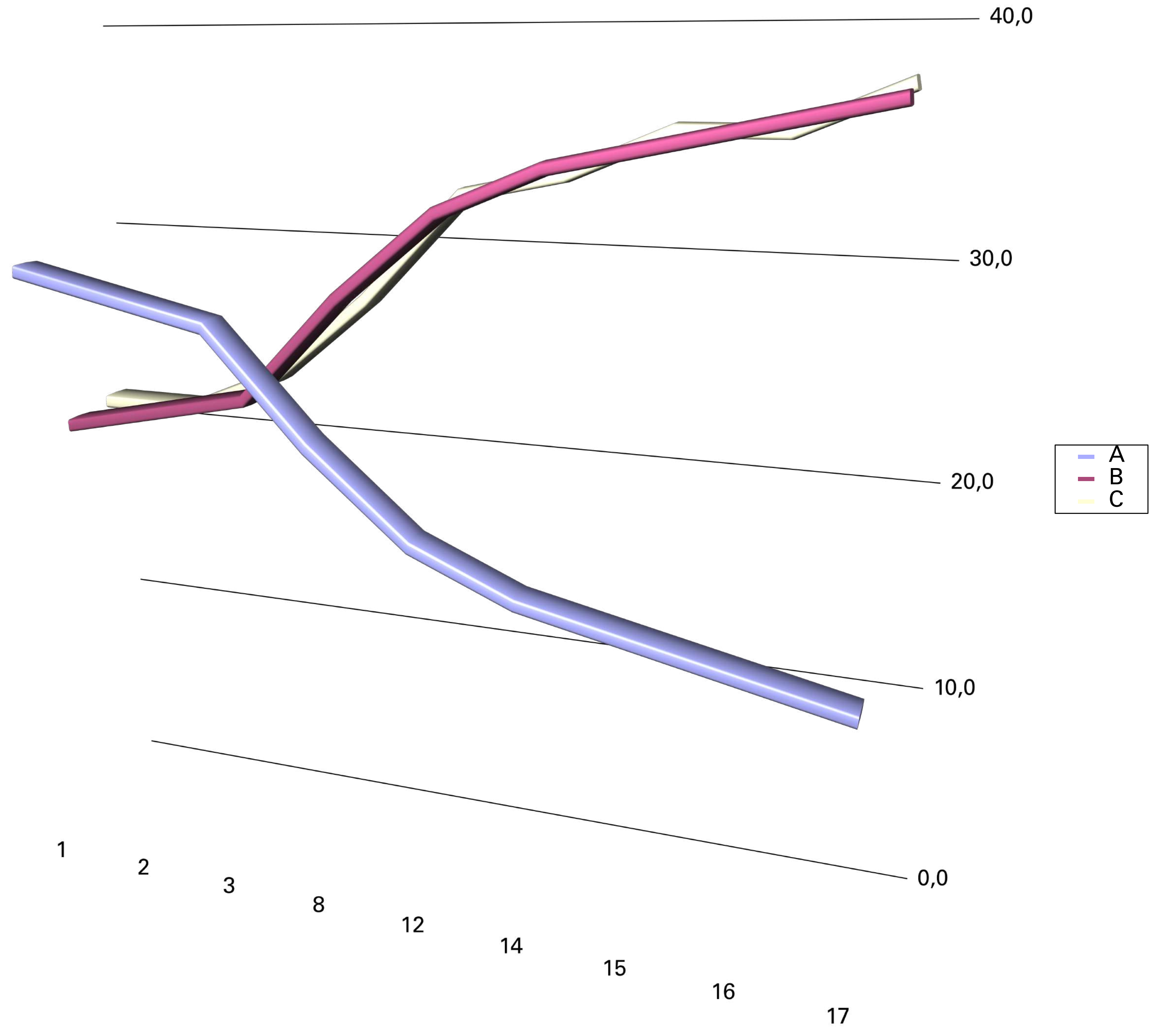
RELATED BOOKS

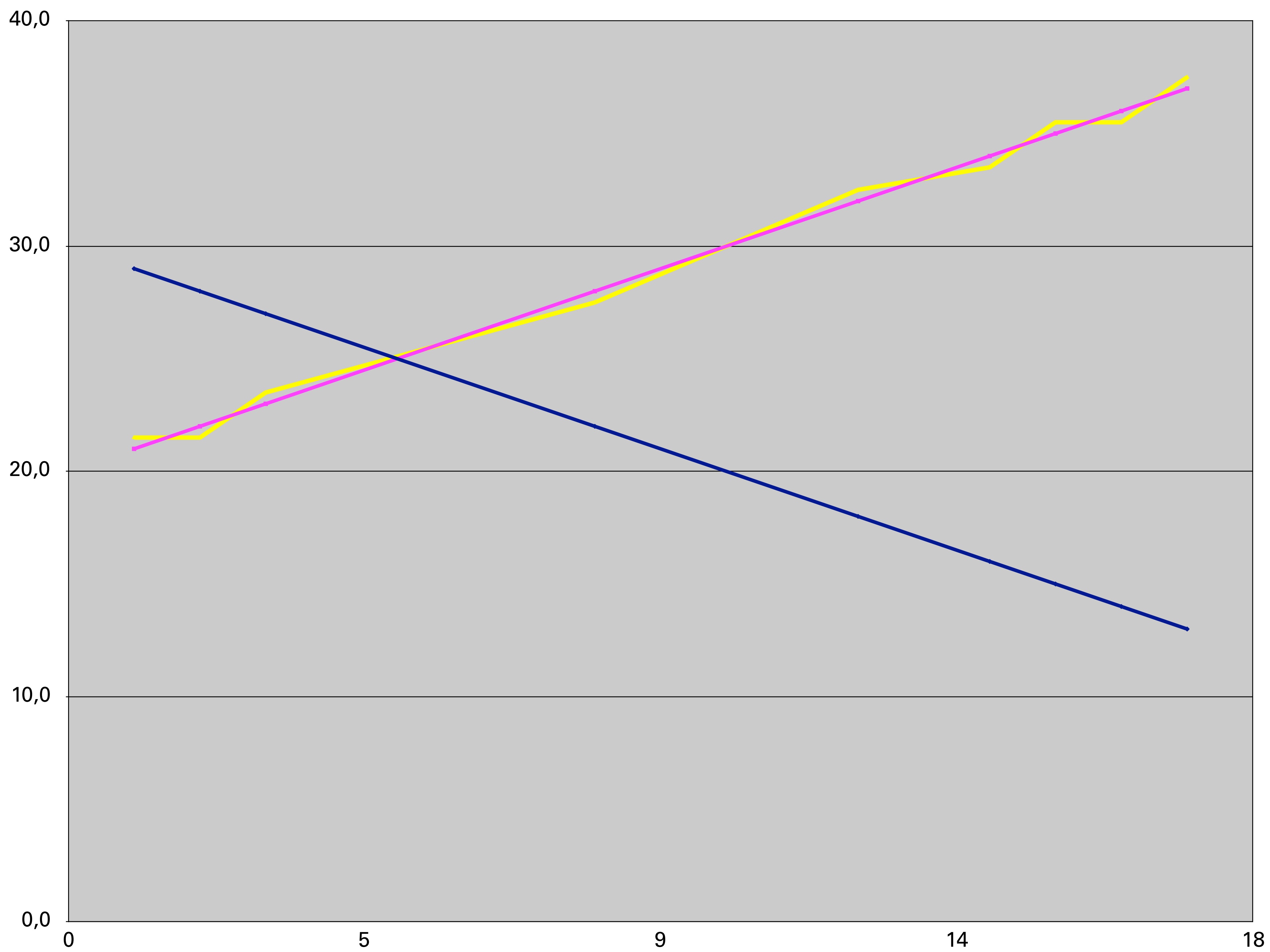
# Horror Picture Show



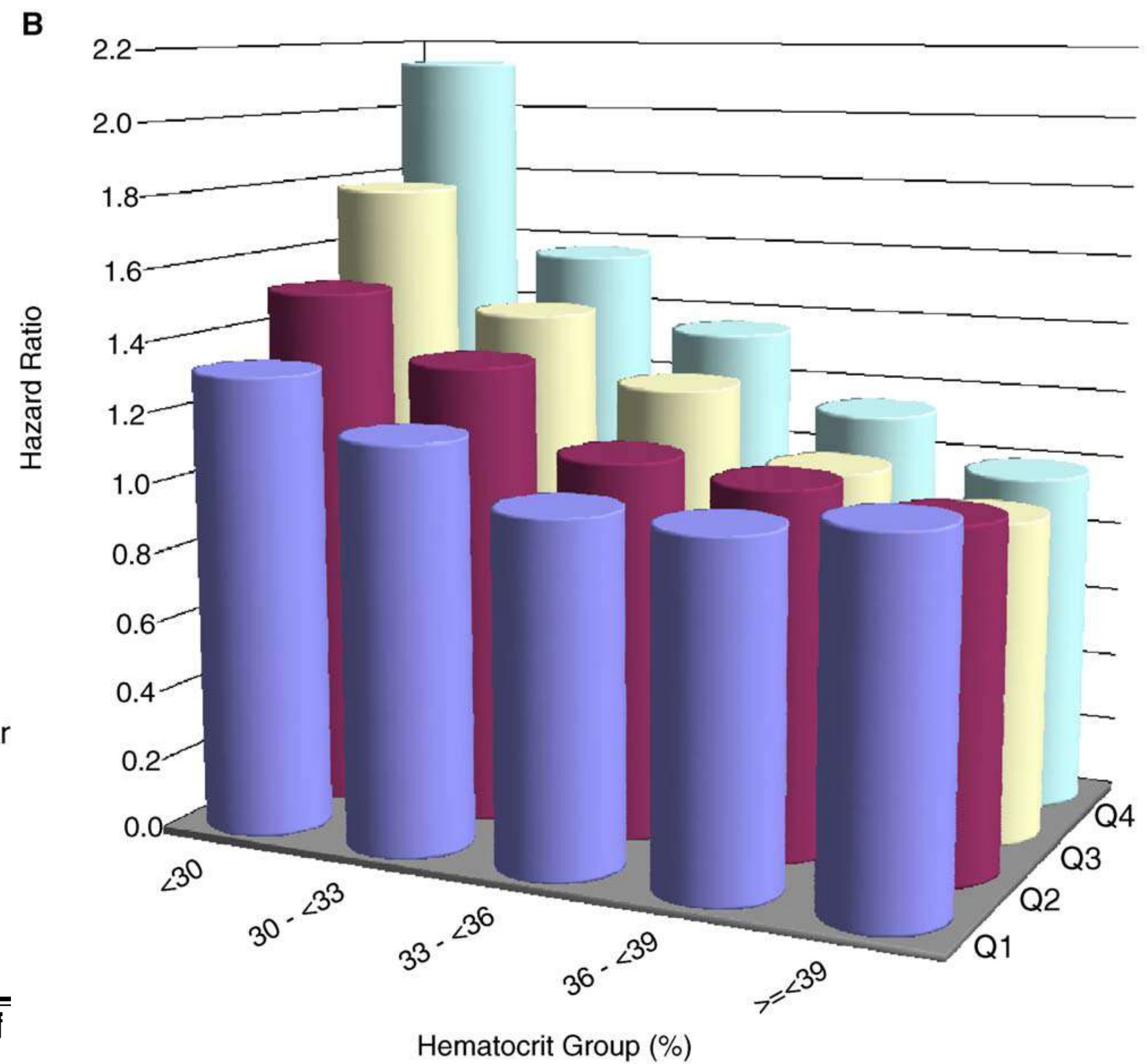
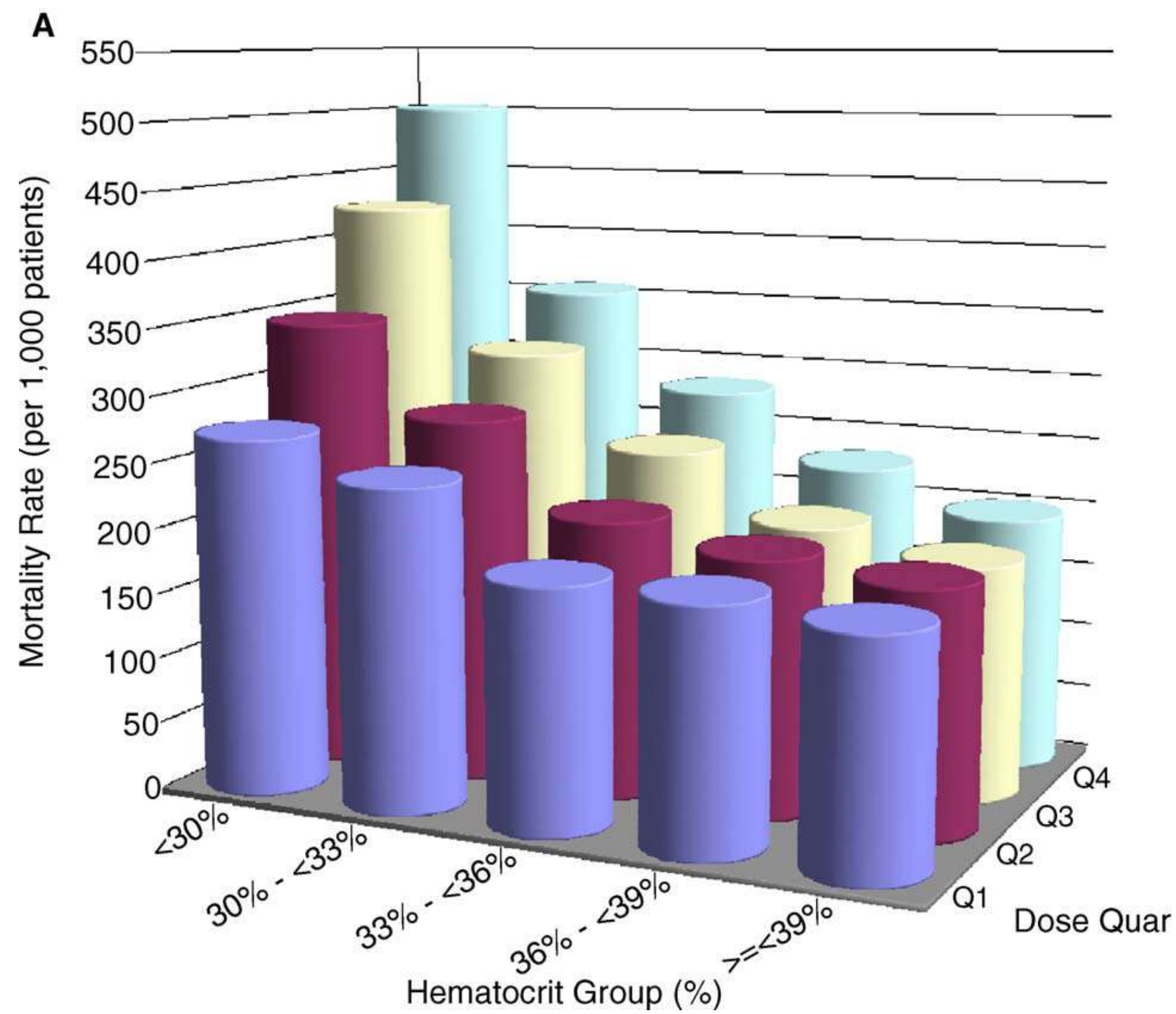












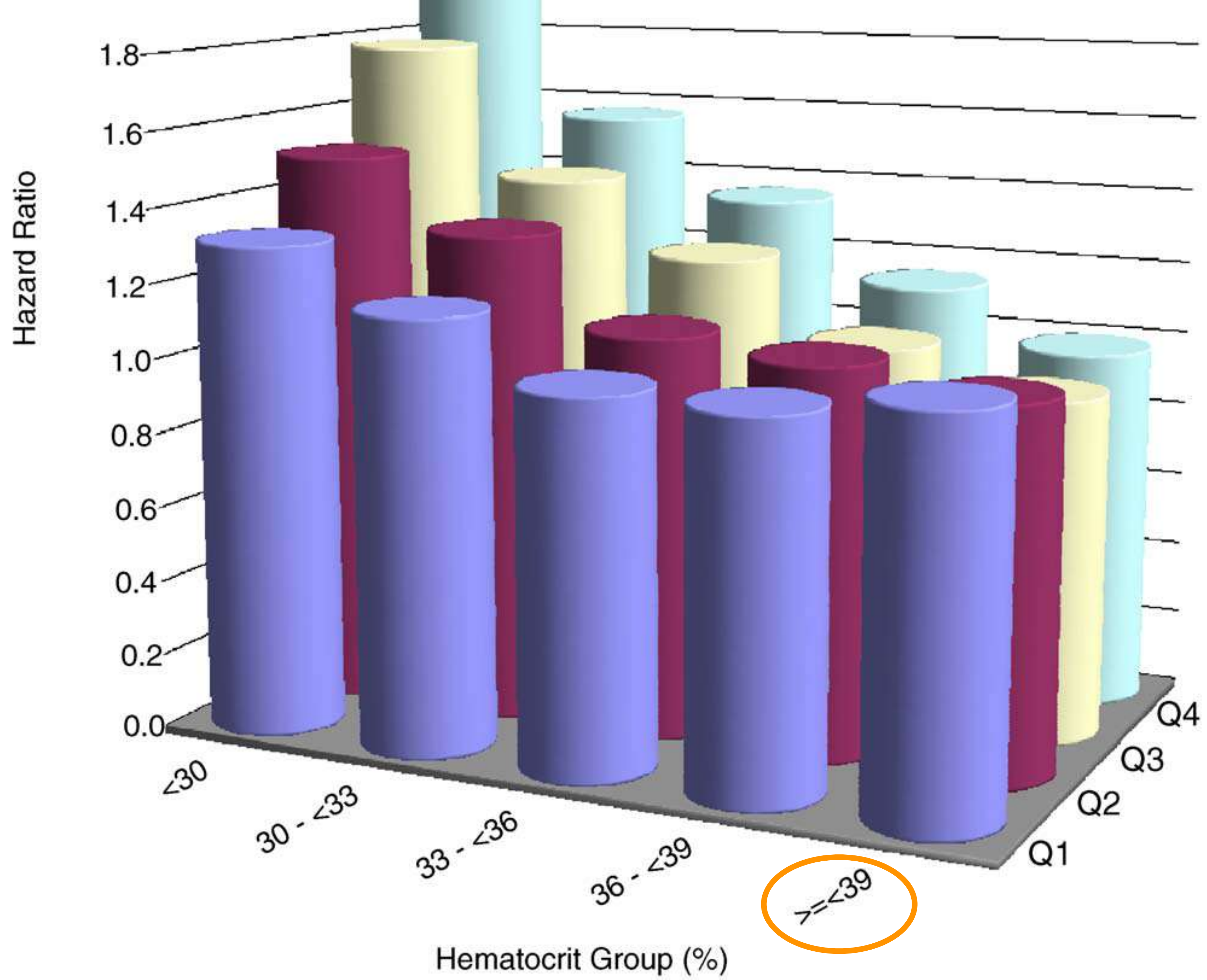
## Hematocrit was not validated as a surrogate end point for survival among epoetin-treated hemodialysis patients

Dennis J. Cotter<sup>a,\*</sup>, Kevin Stefanik<sup>a</sup>, Yi Zhang<sup>a</sup>, Mae Thamer<sup>a</sup>, Daniel Scharfstein<sup>b</sup>, James Kaufman<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Medical Technology and Practice Patterns Institute, Inc., 4733 Bethesda Avenue, Suite 510, Bethesda, MD 20814

<sup>b</sup>Department of Biostatistics, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD, 21205-2179

<sup>c</sup>VA Boston Healthcare System, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130



# Why graphics?

1. To explore data (interactively)
2. To communicate data & preliminary insights with collaborators
3. To publish results

# Goals for this lecture

- Review base R plotting
- Understand the **grammar of graphics** concept
- Introduce ggplot2's `ggplot` function
- See how to plot 1D, 2D, 3-5D data and understand faceting
- Visualisation for quick viewing large datasets and discover large-scale trends (e.g. batch effects)
- Use colours like a pro

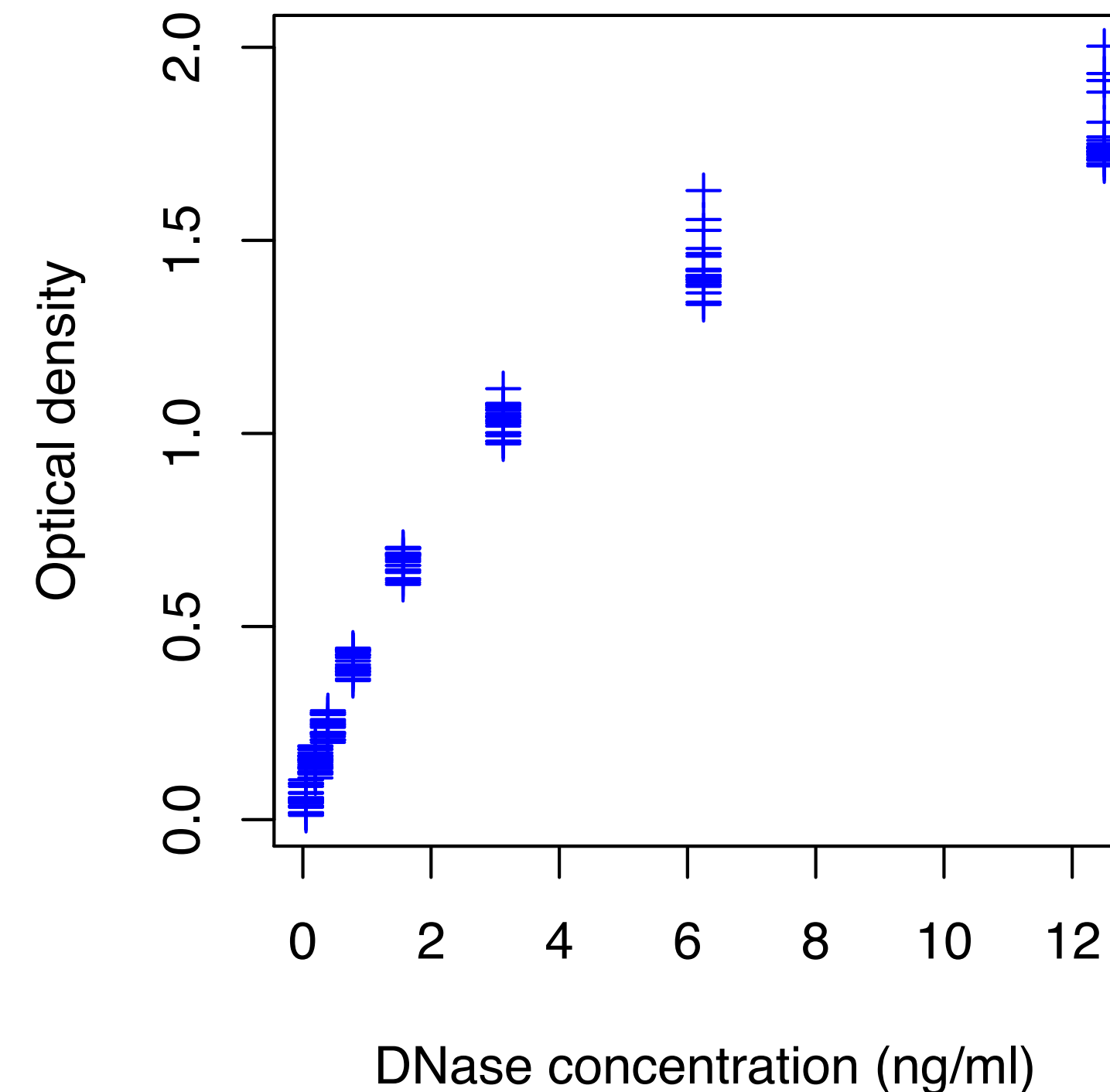
# Base R plotting

Canvas model: a series of instructions that sequentially fill the plotting canvas

```
head(DNase)
```

```
## Run conc density
## 1 1 0.0488 0.017
## 2 1 0.0488 0.018
## 3 1 0.1953 0.121
## 4 1 0.1953 0.124
## 5 1 0.3906 0.206
## 6 1 0.3906 0.215
```

```
plot(DNase$conc, DNase$density,
     ylab = attr(DNase, "labels")$y,
     xlab = paste(attr(DNase, "labels")$x, attr(DNase, "units")$x),
     pch = 3, col = "blue")
```

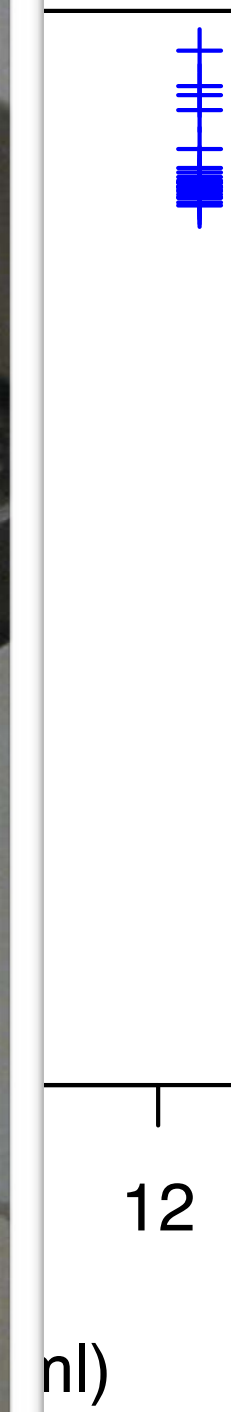
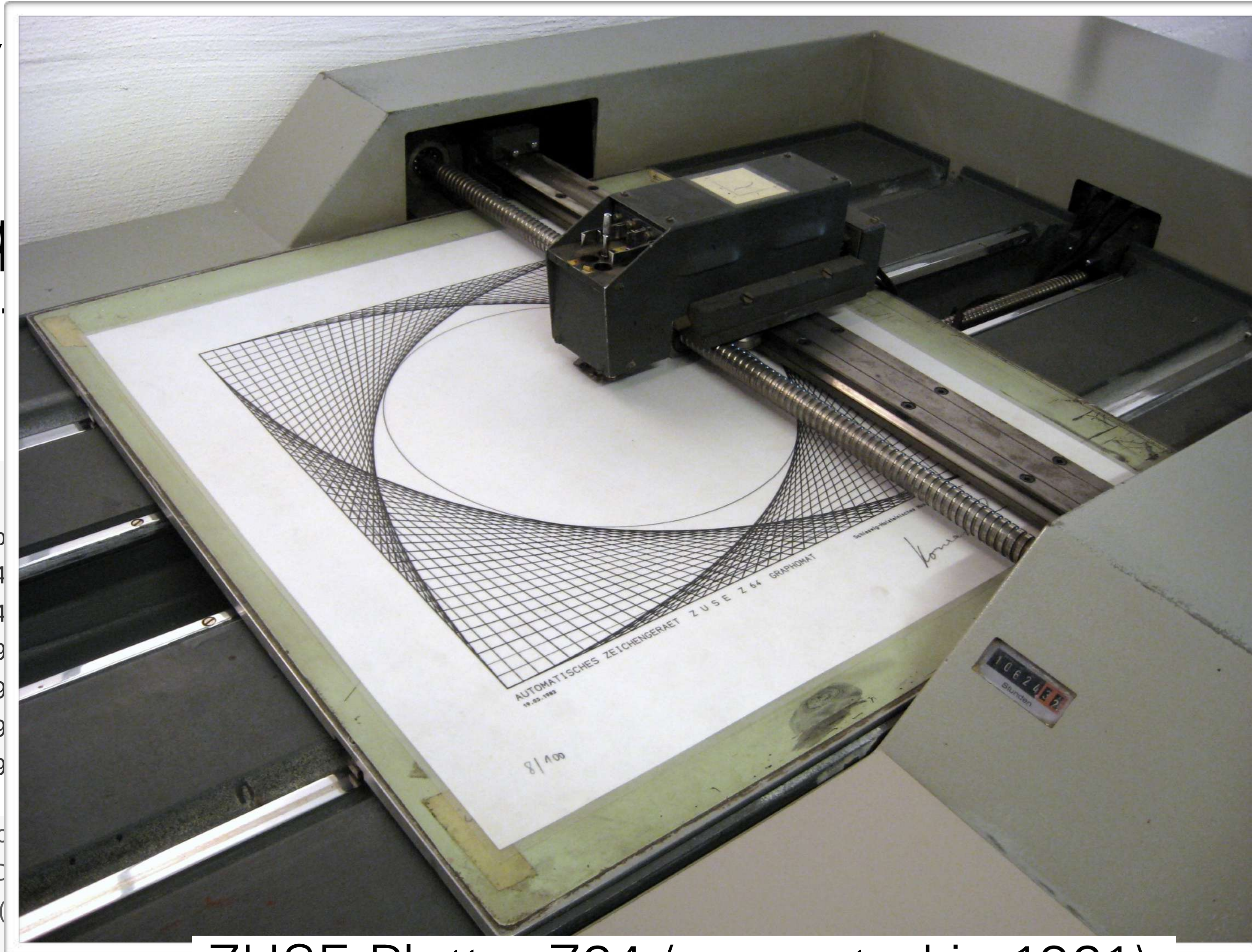


# Base R plotting

Canvas  
of i  
seq  
plo

```
head(DNase)
## Run co
## 1 1 0.04
## 2 1 0.04
## 3 1 0.19
## 4 1 0.19
## 5 1 0.39
## 6 1 0.39
```

```
plot(DNase$cc
ylab = attr(D
xlab = paste(
pch = 3, col
```



ZUSE Plotter Z64 (presented in 1961).

# Base R plotting

Canvas  
of i  
se  
pl



Drawbacks:

- Layout choices have to be made at the beginning with no overview over what may still be coming
- Different functions for different plot types, with different interfaces
- Many routine tasks require a lot of 'boilerplate' code
- No concept of facets / lattices
- No concept of viewports, only a single global coordinate system
- Default colours are poor
- Resizing often leads to unsatisfactory results

```
head(DNase
```

```
## Run  
## 1 1 G  
## 2 1 G  
## 3 1 G  
## 4 1 G  
## 5 1 G  
## 6 1 G
```

```
plot(DNase
```

```
ylab = att
```

```
xlab = pas
```

```
pch = 3, c
```

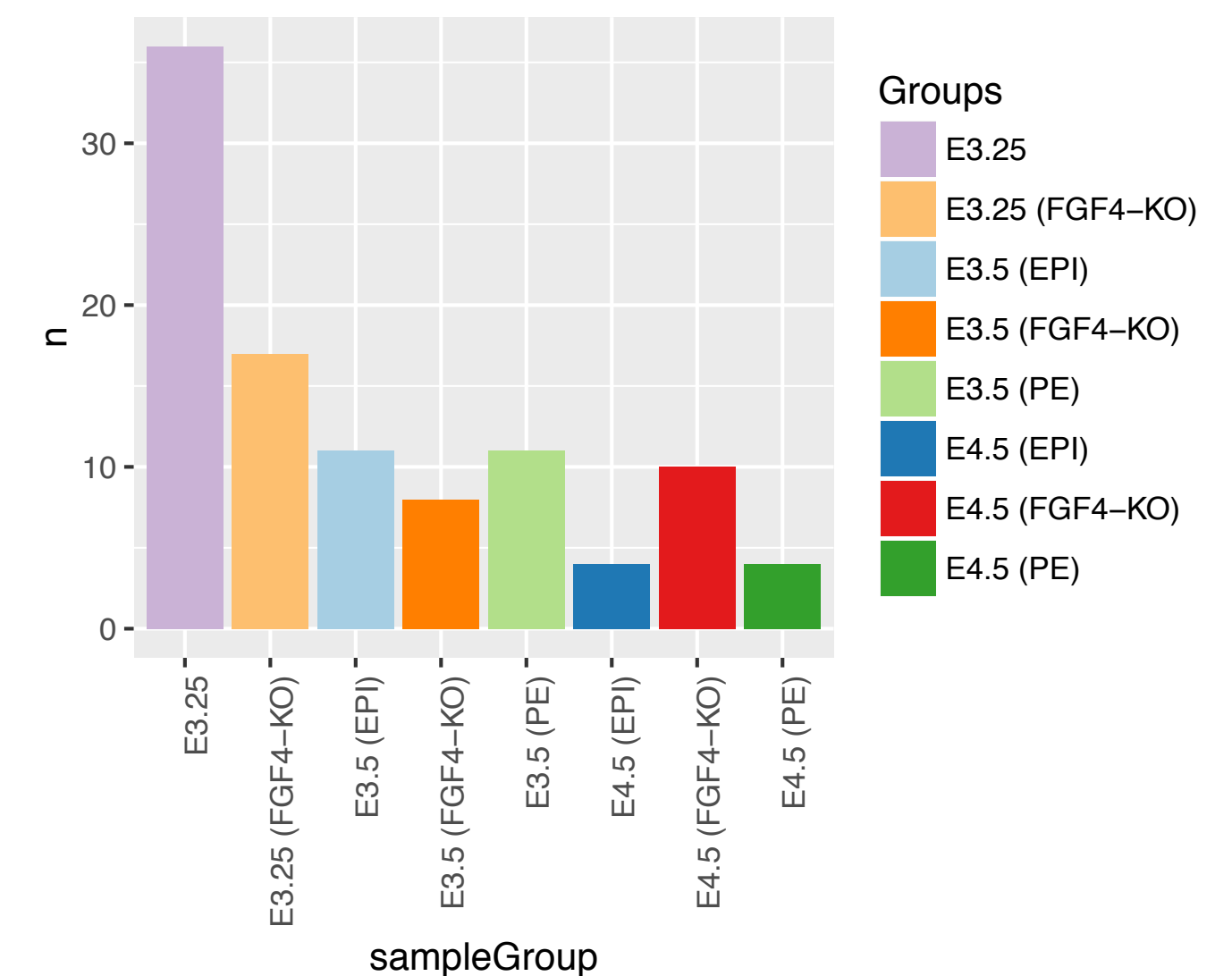
ZUSE Plotter Z64 (presented in 1961).

# The grammar of graphics

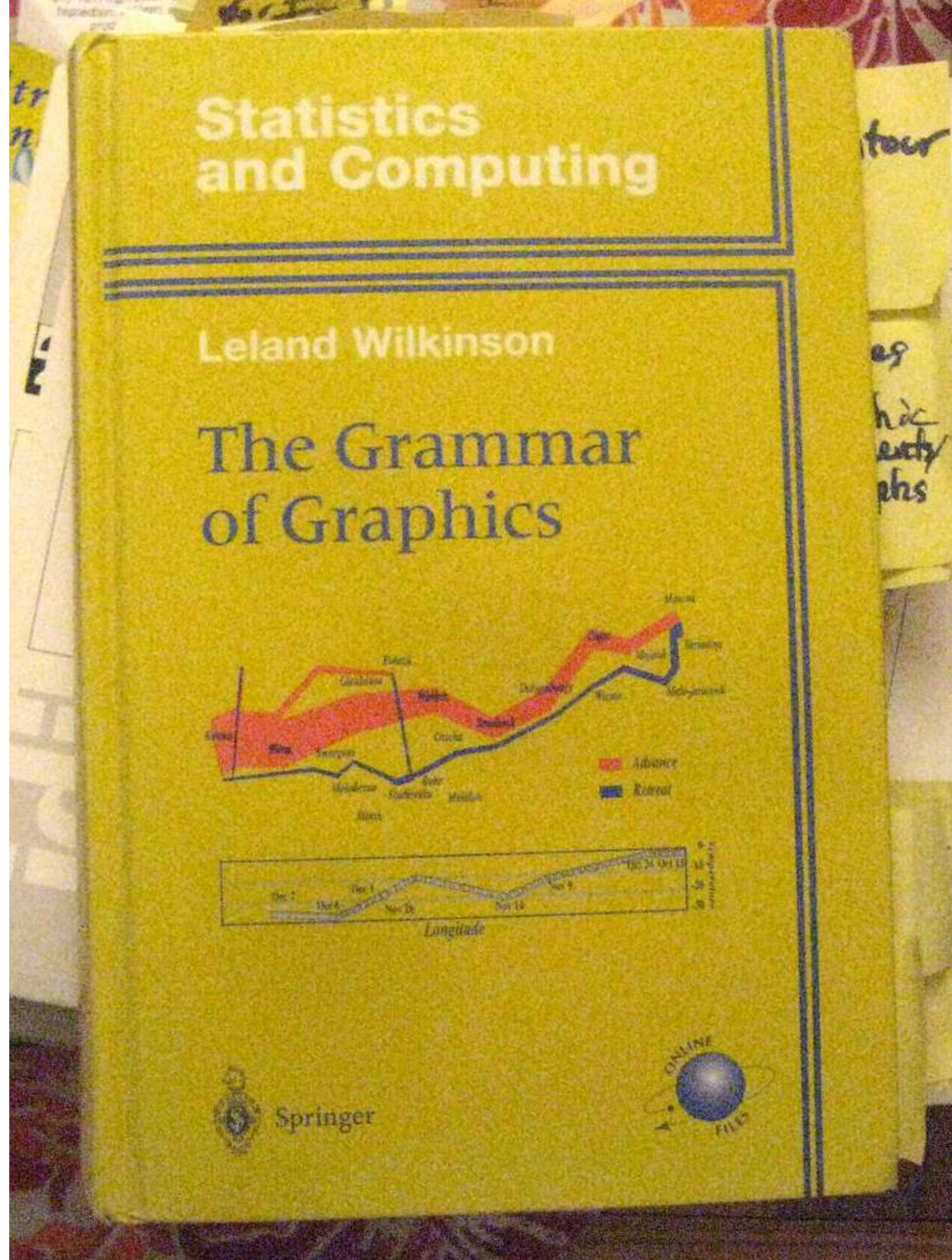
The components of ggplot2's grammar of graphics are

- one or more datasets ("noun"),
- one or more geometric objects that serve as the visual representations of the data, for instance, points, lines, rectangles, contours ("verb"),
- descriptions of how the variables in the data are mapped to visual properties (aesthetics) of the geometric objects, and an associated scale (e.g. linear, logarithmic, rank),
- one or more coordinate systems,
- statistical summarization rules (e.g. line fit, binning),
- a facet specification, i.e. multiple similar subplots to look at subsets of the same data,
- optional parameters for layout and rendering, e.g., text size, font, alignment; legend positions

```
ggplot(groups, aes(x = sampleGroup, y = n, fill = sampleGroup)) +  
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +  
  scale_fill_manual(values = groupColour, name = "Groups") +  
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1))
```







# A Layered Grammar of Graphics

Hadley Wickham

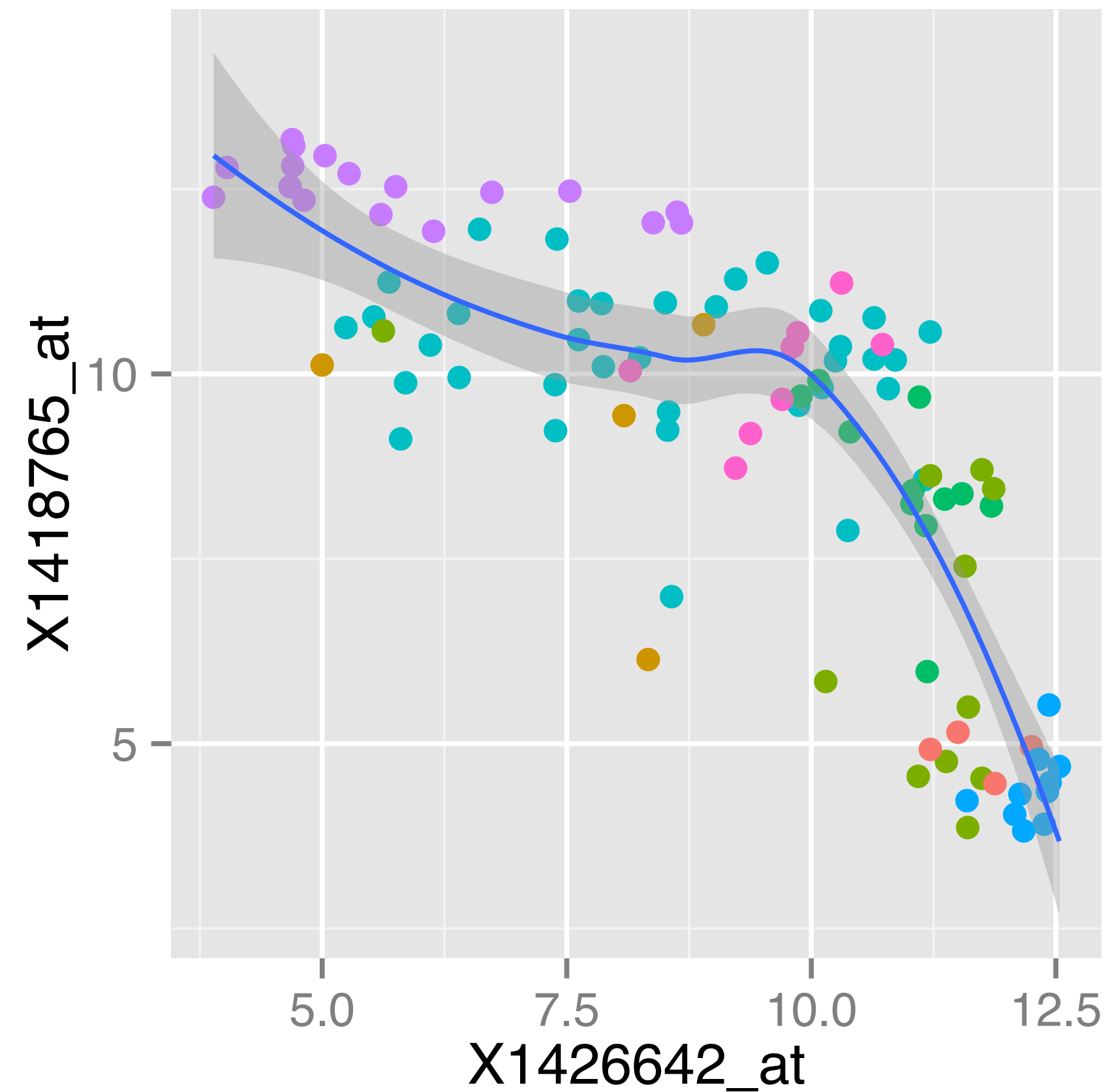
Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics, 2010

Volume 19, Number 1, Pages 3–28

DOI: 10.1198/jcgs.2009.07098

# Layers

```
ggplot( dftx, aes( x = X1426642_at, y = X1418765_at ) ) +  
  geom_point( aes( colour = sampleColour), shape = 19 ) +  
  geom_smooth( method = "loess" ) +  
  scale_colour_discrete( guide = FALSE )
```



# A more complex example: themes

```
pb <- ggplot(data.frame(  
  name = names(groupSize),  
  size = as.vector(groupSize)),  
  aes(x = name, y = size))
```

# A more complex example: themes

```
pb <- ggplot(data.frame(  
  name = names(groupSize),  
  size = as.vector(groupSize)),  
  aes(x = name, y = size))
```

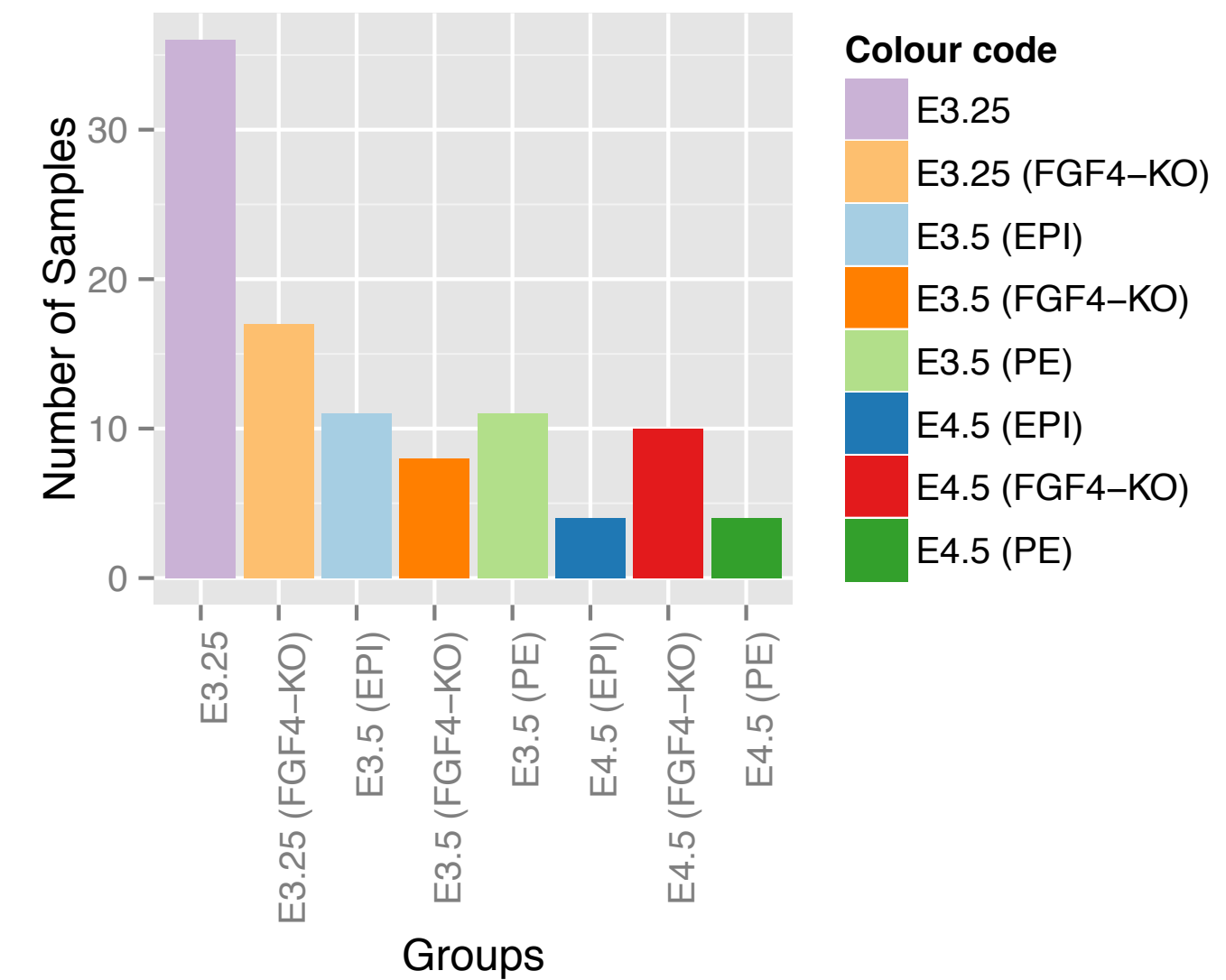
No geom defined yet!

# A more complex example: themes

```
pb <- ggplot(data.frame(  
  name = names(groupSize),  
  size = as.vector(groupSize)),  
  aes(x = name, y = size))
```

No geom defined yet!

```
pb <- pb + geom_bar(stat = "identity") +  
  aes(fill = name) +  
  scale_fill_manual(values = groupColour, name = "Colour code") +  
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1)) +  
  xlab("Groups") + ylab("Number of Samples")
```

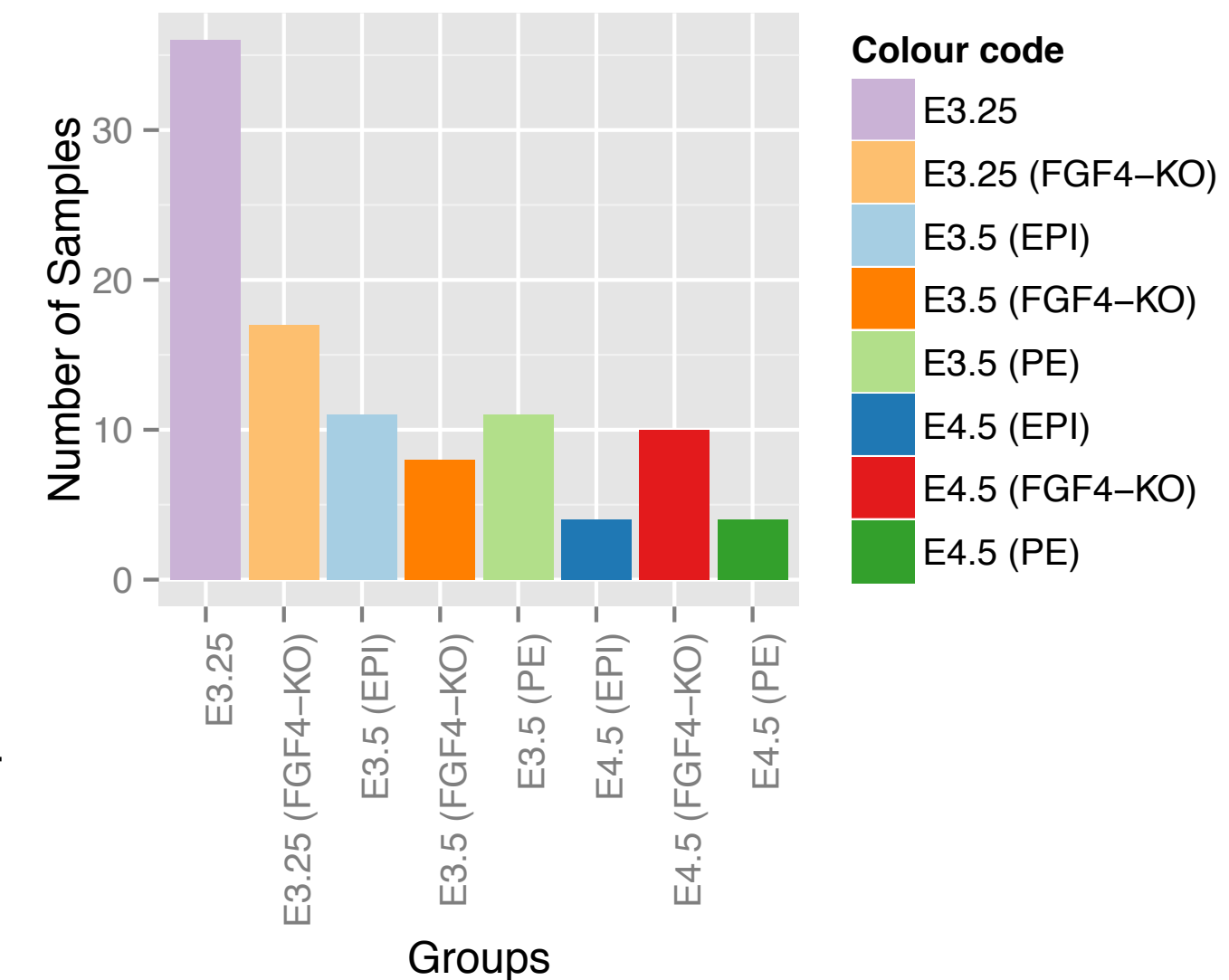


# A more complex example: themes

```
pb <- ggplot(data.frame(  
  name = names(groupSize),  
  size = as.vector(groupSize)),  
  aes(x = name, y = size))
```

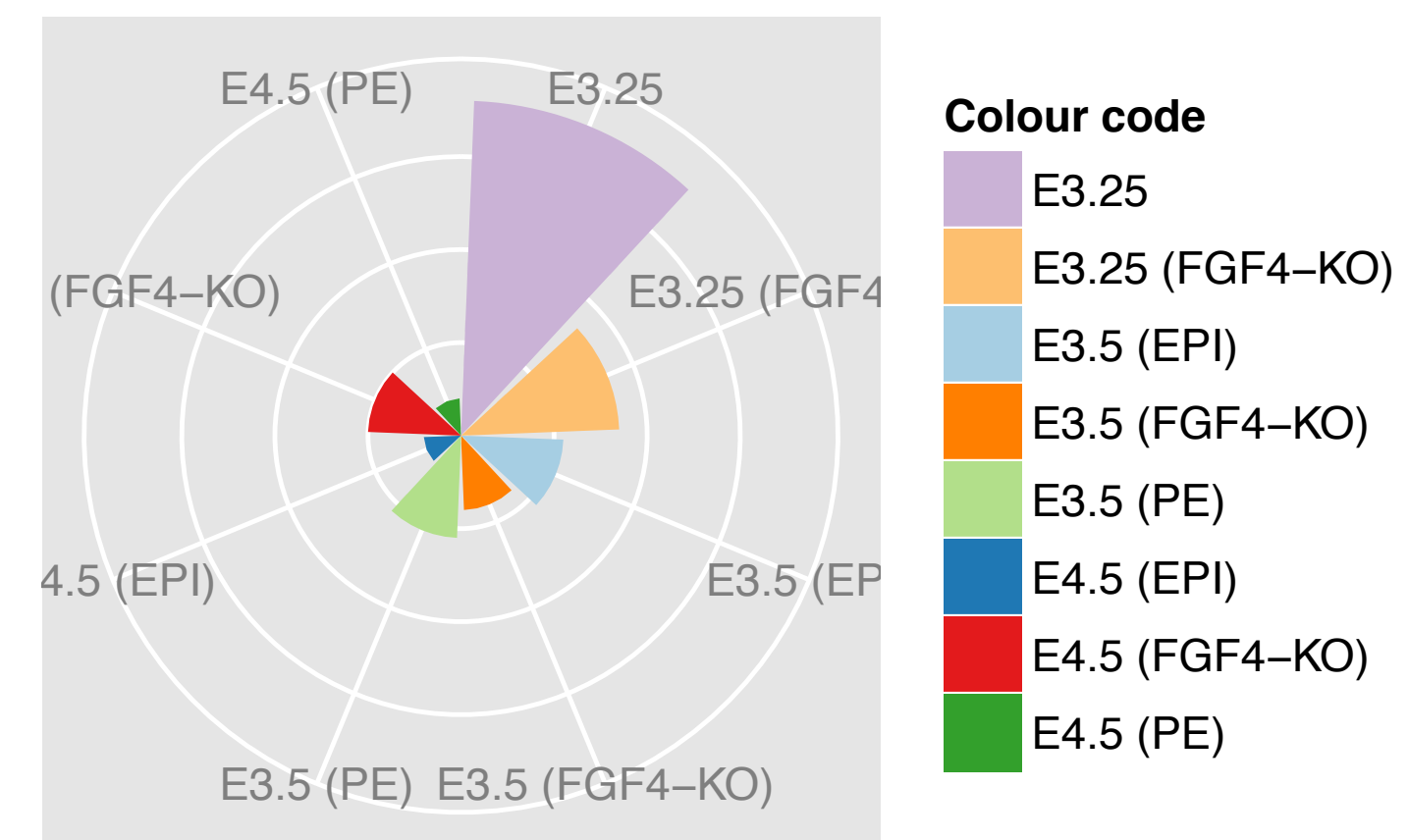
No geom defined yet!

```
pb <- pb + geom_bar(stat = "identity") +  
  aes(fill = name) +  
  scale_fill_manual(values = groupColour, name = "Colour code") +  
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1)) +  
  xlab("Groups") + ylab("Number of Samples")
```

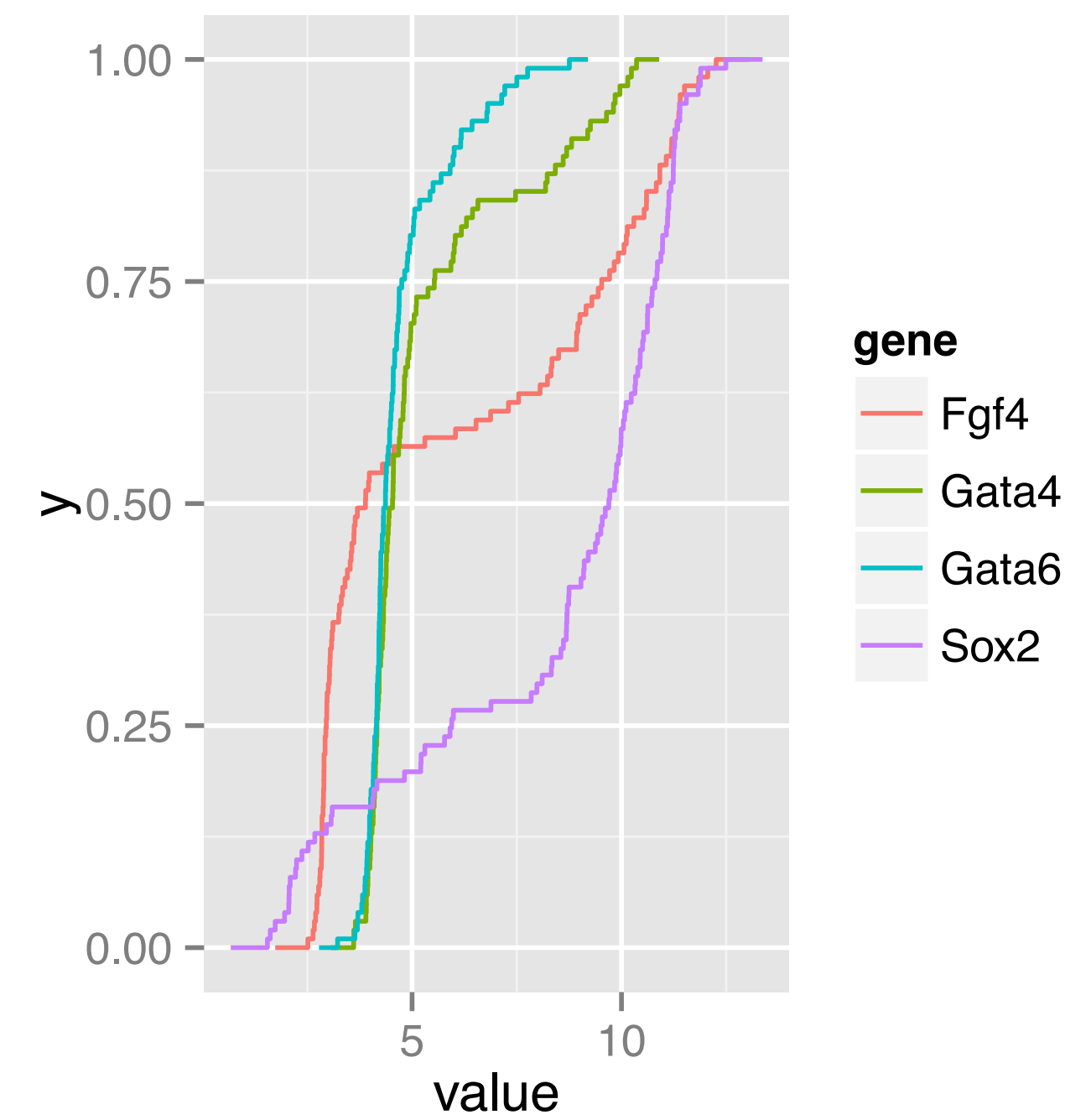
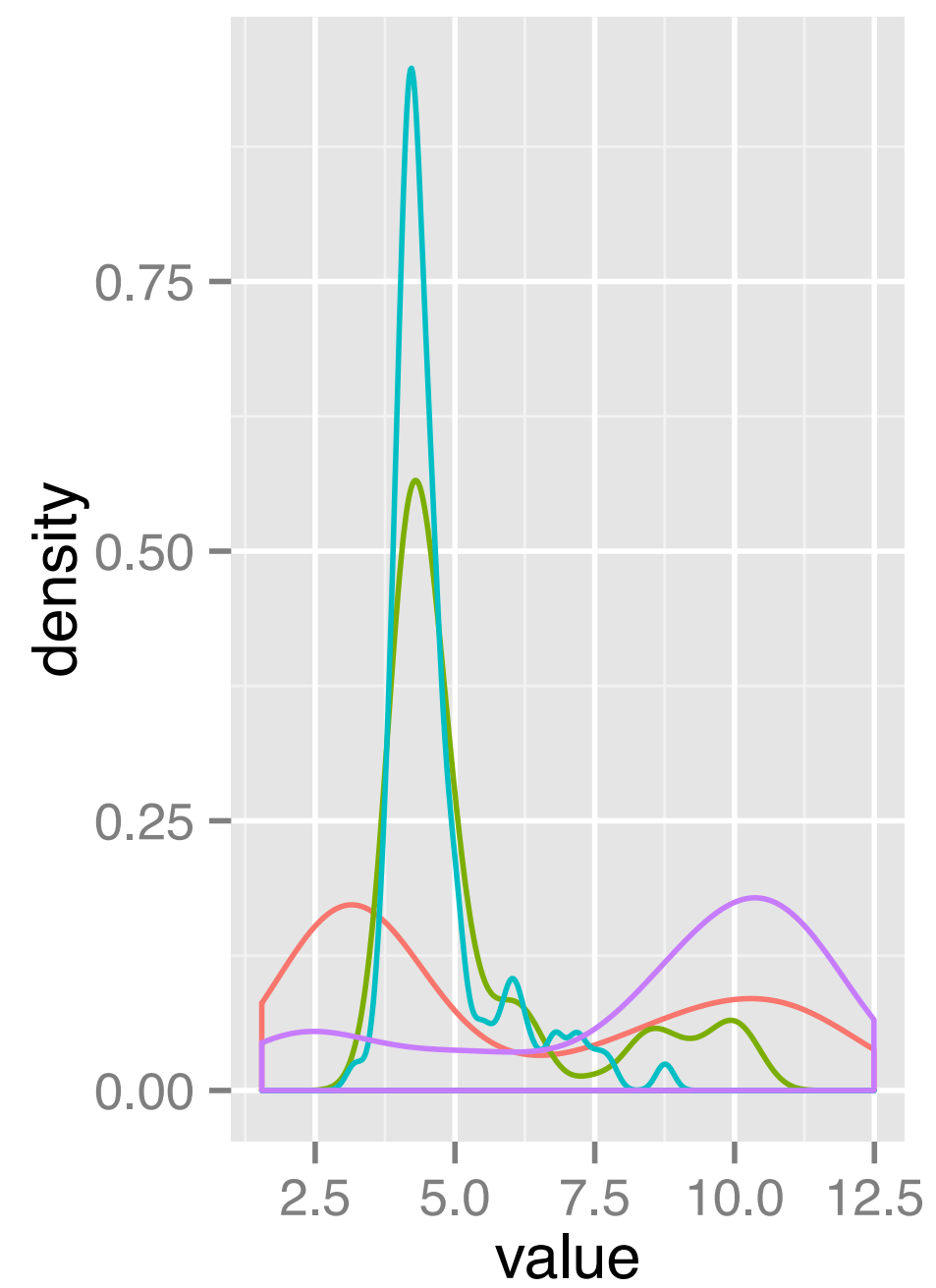
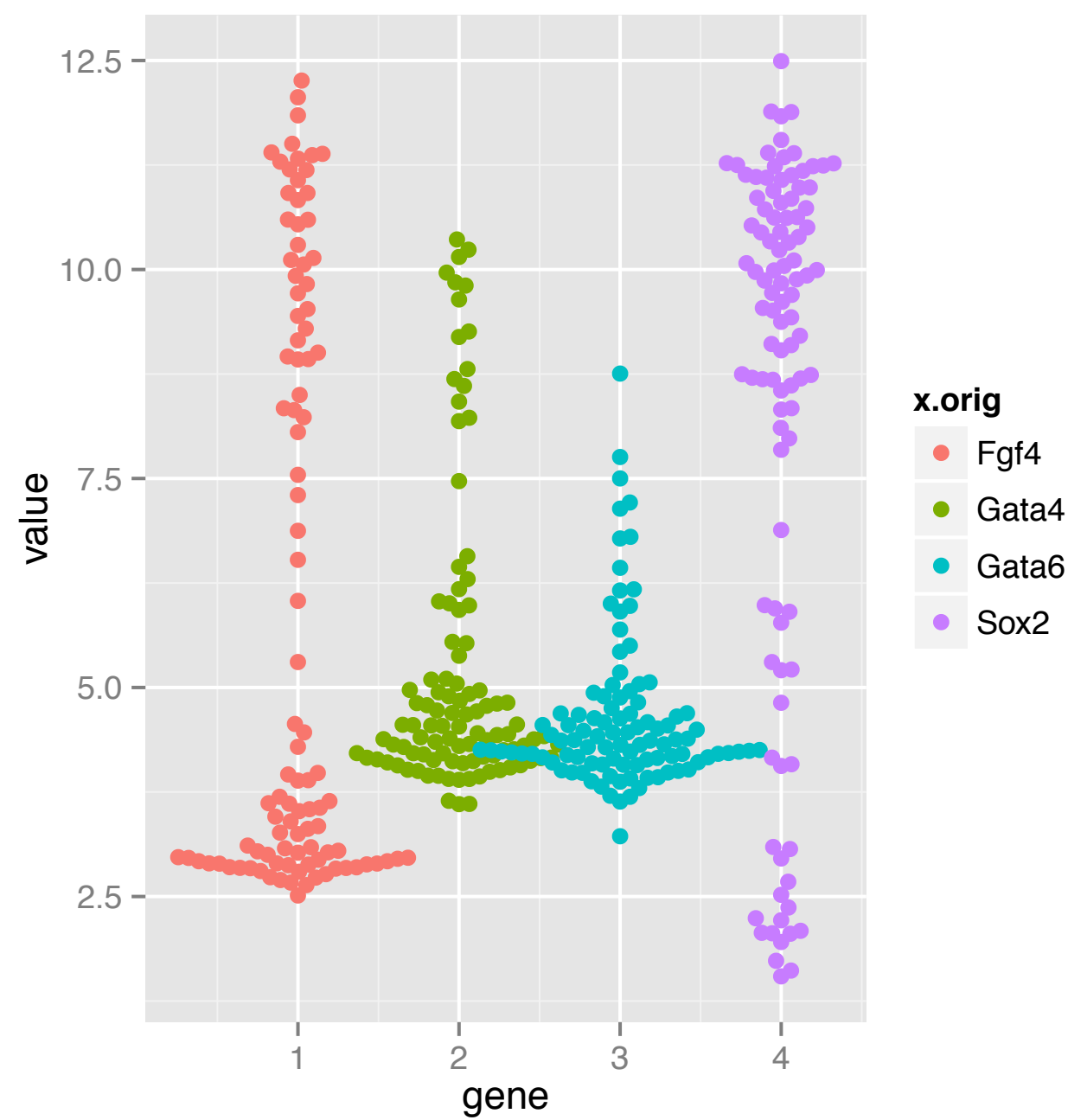
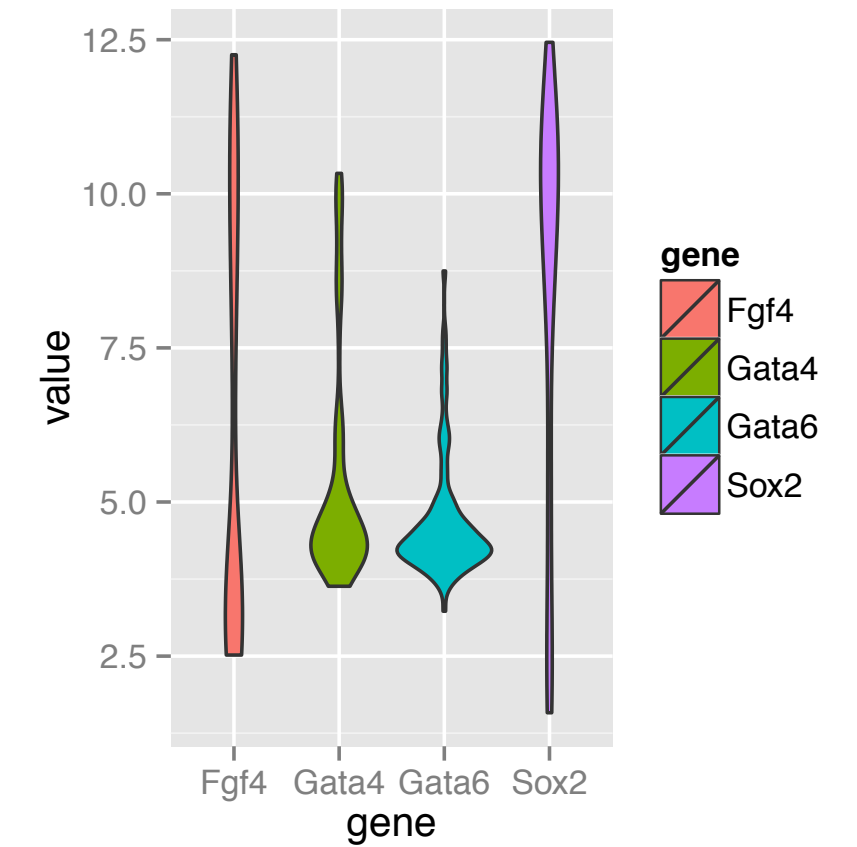
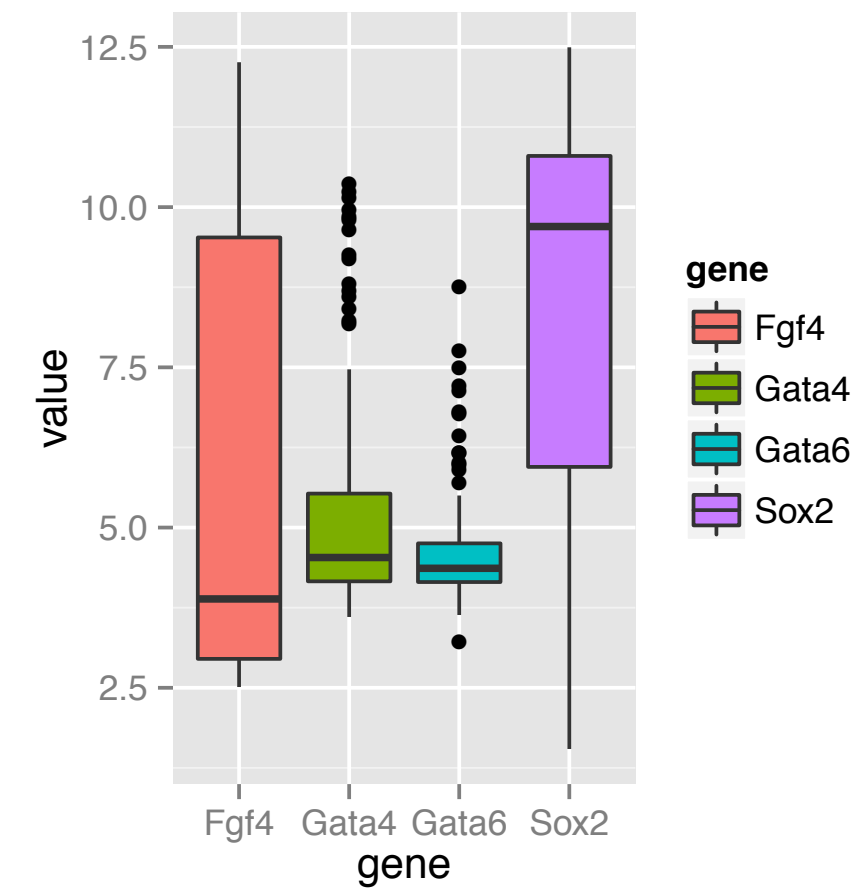
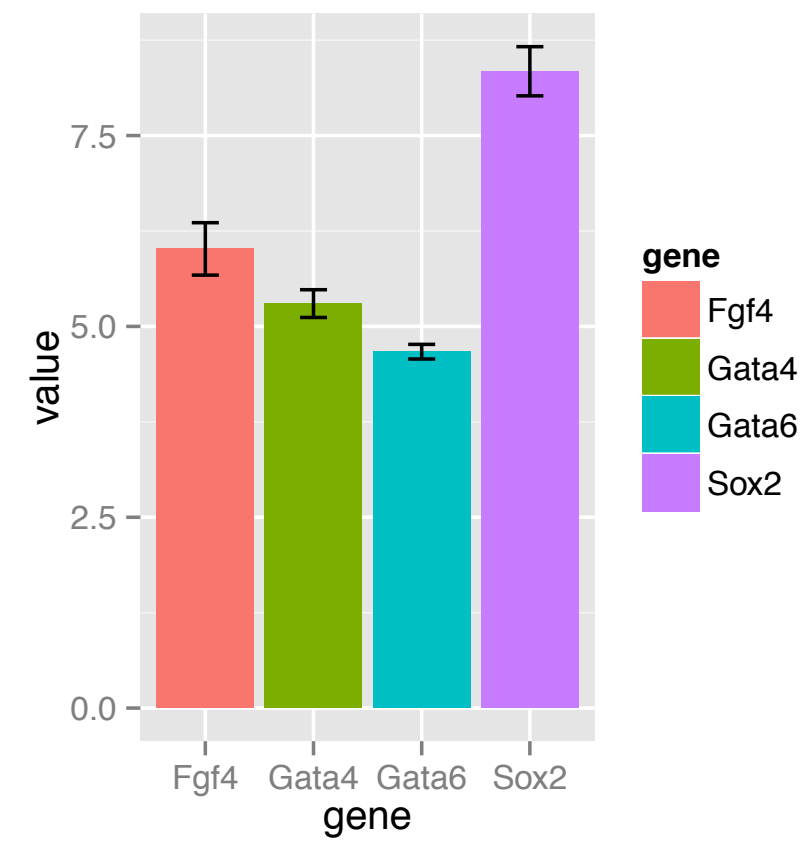
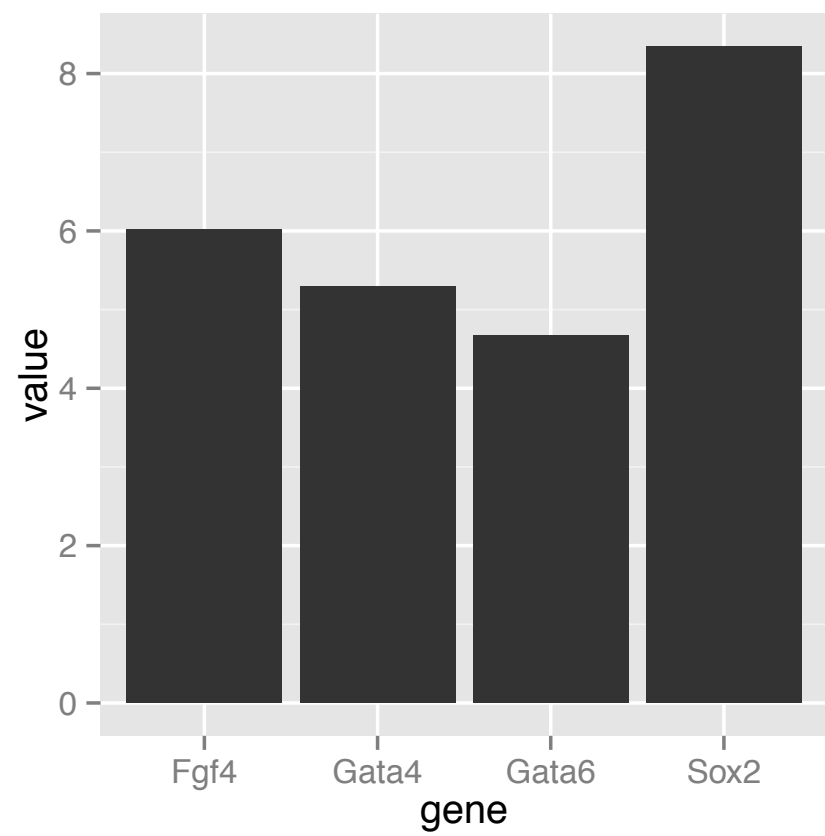


```
pb.polar <- pb + coord_polar() +  
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 0, hjust = 1),  
        axis.text.y = element_blank(),  
        axis.ticks = element_blank()) +  
  xlab("") + ylab("")
```

pb.polar



# Visualizing distributions in 1D



# 1D plot types

**Boxplot** makes sense for unimodal distributions

**Histogram** requires definition of bins (width, positions) and can create visual artifacts esp. if the number of data points is not large

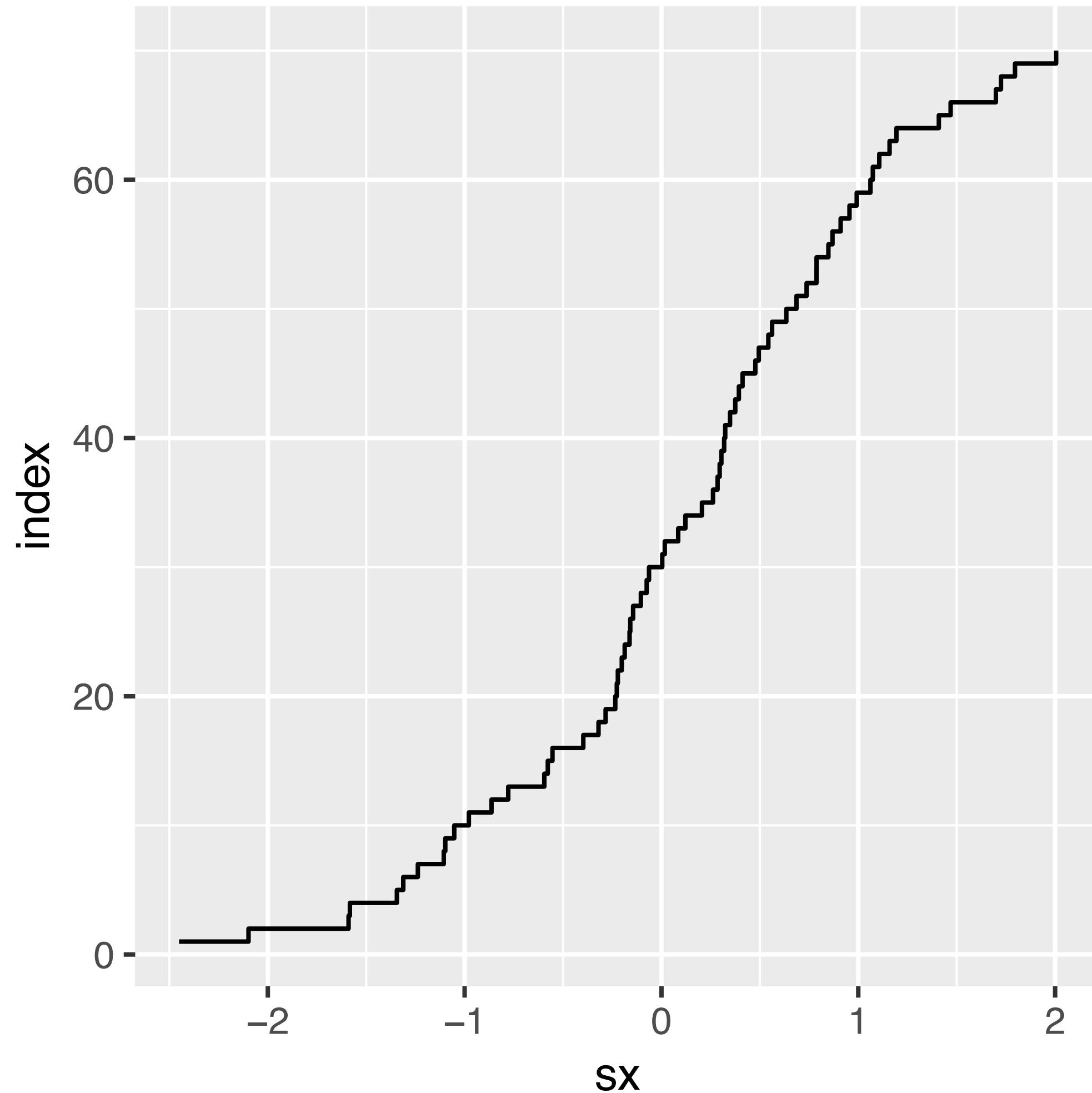
**Density** requires the choice of bandwidth; obscures the sample size (i.e. the uncertainty of the estimate)

**ecdf** does not have these problems; but is more abstract and interpretation requires more training. Good for reading off quantiles and shifts in location in comparative plots; OK for detecting differences in scale; less good for detecting multimodality.

Up to a few dozens of points - just show the data! (**beeswarm**)

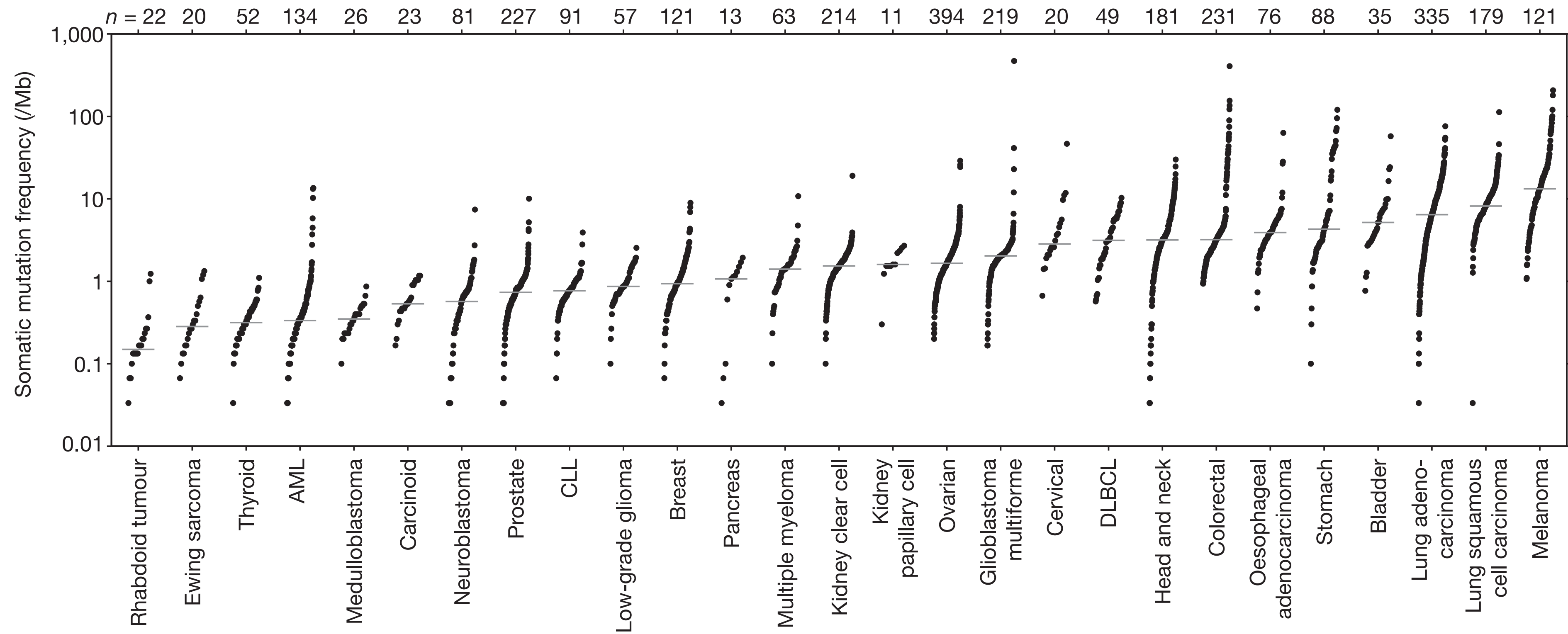


# The empirical cumulative distribution function



$$F_n(x) = \frac{\text{number of } i \text{ for which } x_i \leq x}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}(x \leq x_i)$$

```
simdata = rnorm(70)
tibble(index = seq(along = simdata),
        sx = sort(simdata)) %>%
ggplot(aes(x = sx, y = index)) + geom_step()
```



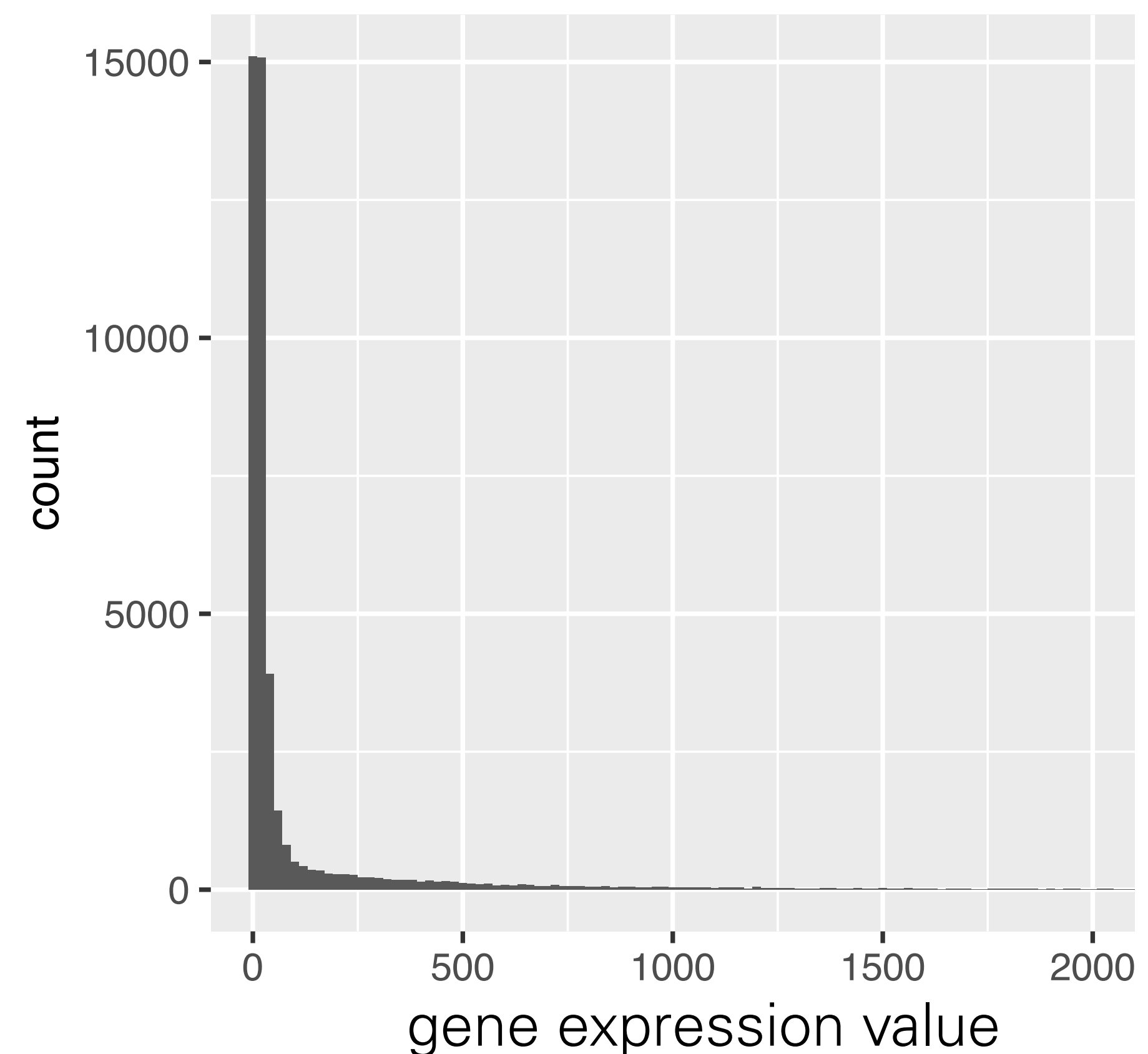
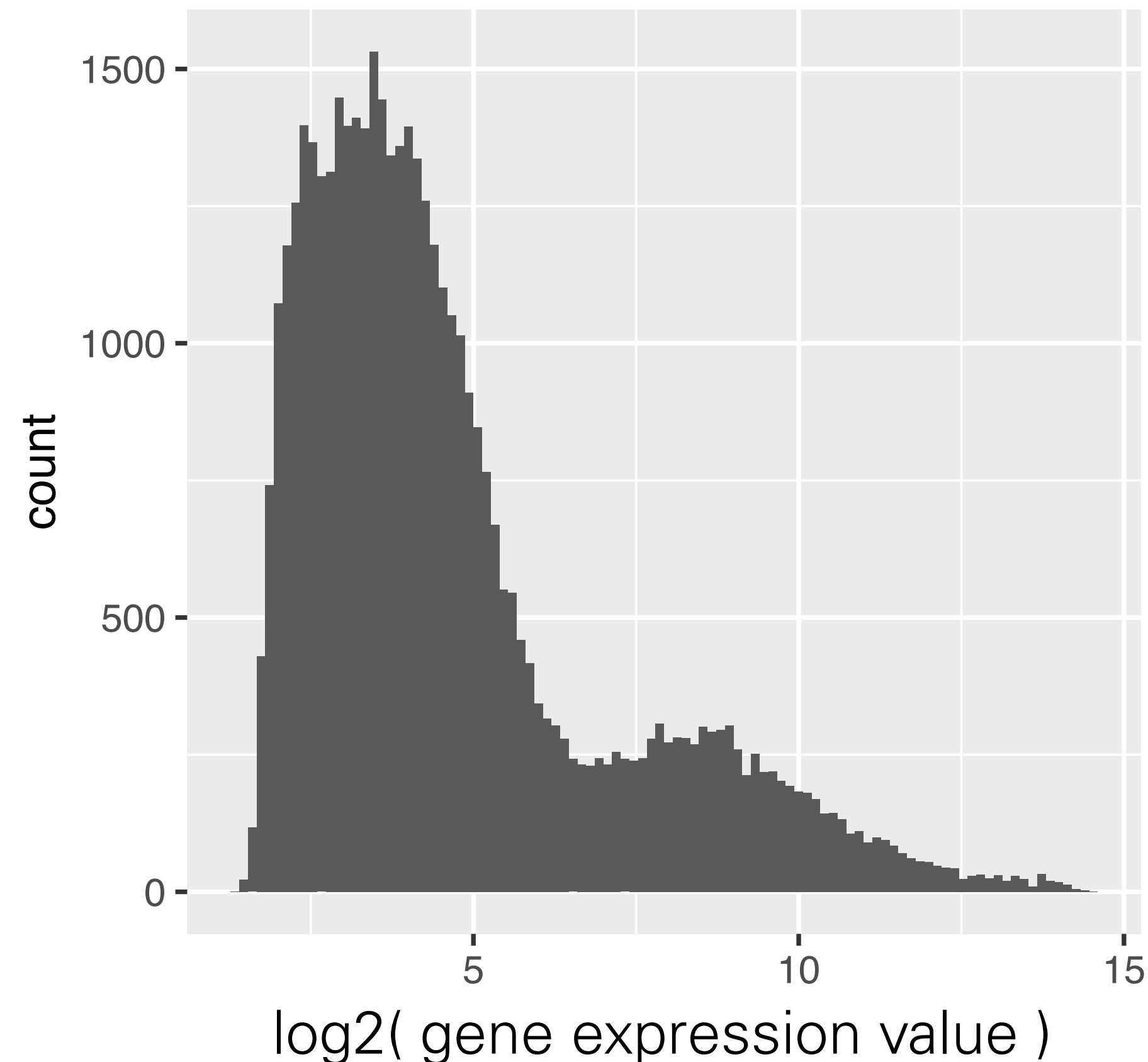
## LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature12213

### Mutational heterogeneity in cancer and the search for new cancer-associated genes

Michael S. Lawrence<sup>1\*</sup>, Petar Stojanov<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Paz Polak<sup>1,3,4\*</sup>, Gregory V. Kryukov<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Kristian Cibulskis<sup>1</sup>, Andrey Sivachenko<sup>1</sup>, Scott L. Carter<sup>1</sup>, Chip Stewart<sup>1</sup>, Craig H. Mermel<sup>1,5</sup>, Steven A. Roberts<sup>6</sup>, Adam Kiezun<sup>1</sup>, Peter S. Hammerman<sup>1,2</sup>, Aaron McKenna<sup>1,7</sup>, Yotam Drier<sup>1,3,5,8</sup>, Lihua Zou<sup>1</sup>, Alex H. Ramos<sup>1</sup>, Trevor J. Pugh<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Nicolas Stransky<sup>1,9</sup>, Elena Helman<sup>1,10</sup>, Jaegil Kim<sup>1</sup>, Carrie Sougnez<sup>1</sup>, Lauren Ambrogio<sup>1</sup>, Elizabeth Nickerson<sup>1</sup>, Erica Shefler<sup>1</sup>, Maria L. Cortés<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Auclair<sup>1</sup>, Gordon Saksena<sup>1</sup>, Douglas Voet<sup>1</sup>, Michael Noble<sup>1</sup>, Daniel DiCara<sup>1</sup>, Pei Lin<sup>1</sup>, Lee Lichtenstein<sup>1</sup>, David I. Heiman<sup>1</sup>, Timothy Fennell<sup>1</sup>, Marcin Imielinski<sup>1,5</sup>, Bryan Hernandez<sup>1</sup>, Eran Hodis<sup>1,2</sup>, Sylvan Baca<sup>1,2</sup>, Austin M. Dulak<sup>1,2</sup>, Jens Lohr<sup>1,2</sup>, Dan-Avi Landau<sup>1,2,11</sup>, Catherine J. Wu<sup>2,3</sup>, Jorge Melendez-Zajgla<sup>12</sup>, Alfredo Hidalgo-Miranda<sup>12</sup>, Amnon Koren<sup>1,3</sup>, Steven A. McCarroll<sup>1,3</sup>, Jaume Mora<sup>13</sup>, Ryan S. Lee<sup>2,3,14</sup>, Brian Crompton<sup>2,14</sup>, Robert Onofrio<sup>1</sup>, Melissa Parkin<sup>1</sup>, Wendy Winckler<sup>1</sup>, Kristin Ardlie<sup>1</sup>, Stacey B. Gabriel<sup>1</sup>, Charles W. M. Roberts<sup>2,3,14</sup>, Jaclyn A. Biegel<sup>15</sup>, Kimberly Stegmaier<sup>1,2,14</sup>, Adam J. Bass<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Levi A. Garraway<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Matthew Meyerson<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Todd R. Golub<sup>1,2,3,8</sup>, Dmitry A. Gordenin<sup>6</sup>, Shamil Sunyaev<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Eric S. Lander<sup>1,3,10</sup> & Gad Getz<sup>1,5</sup>

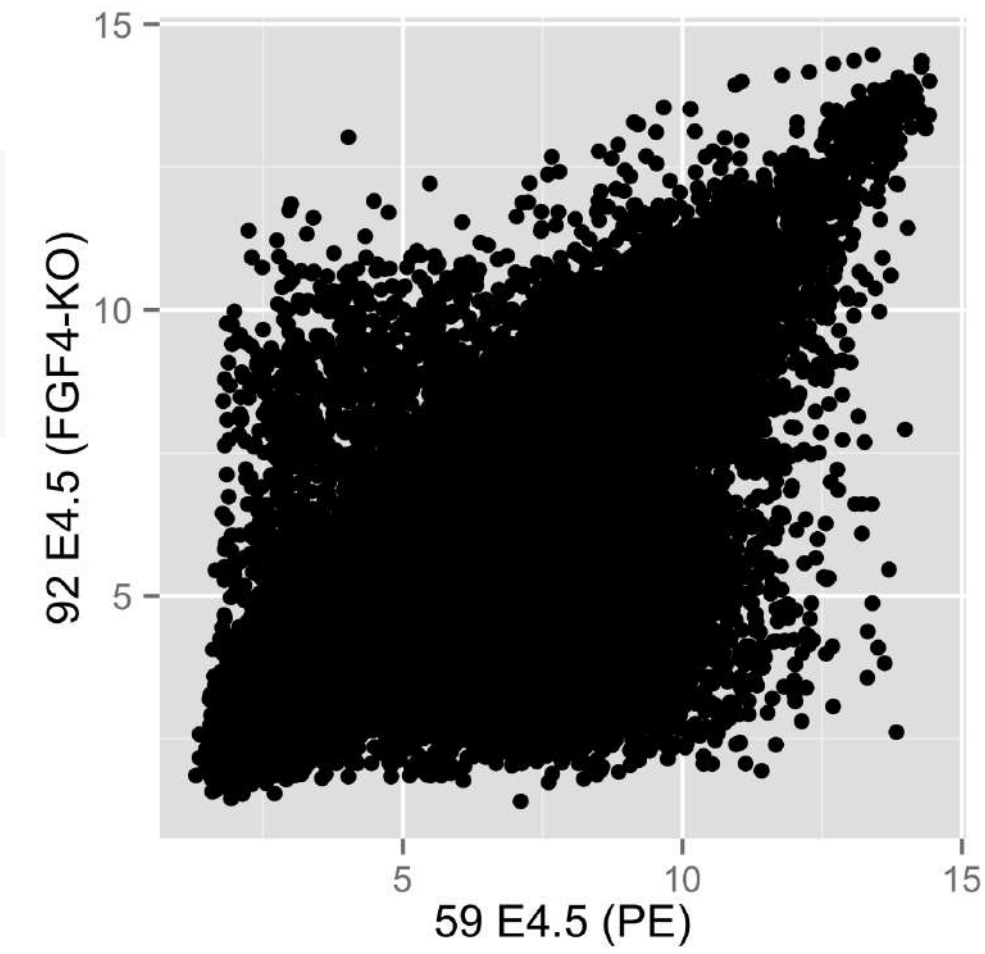
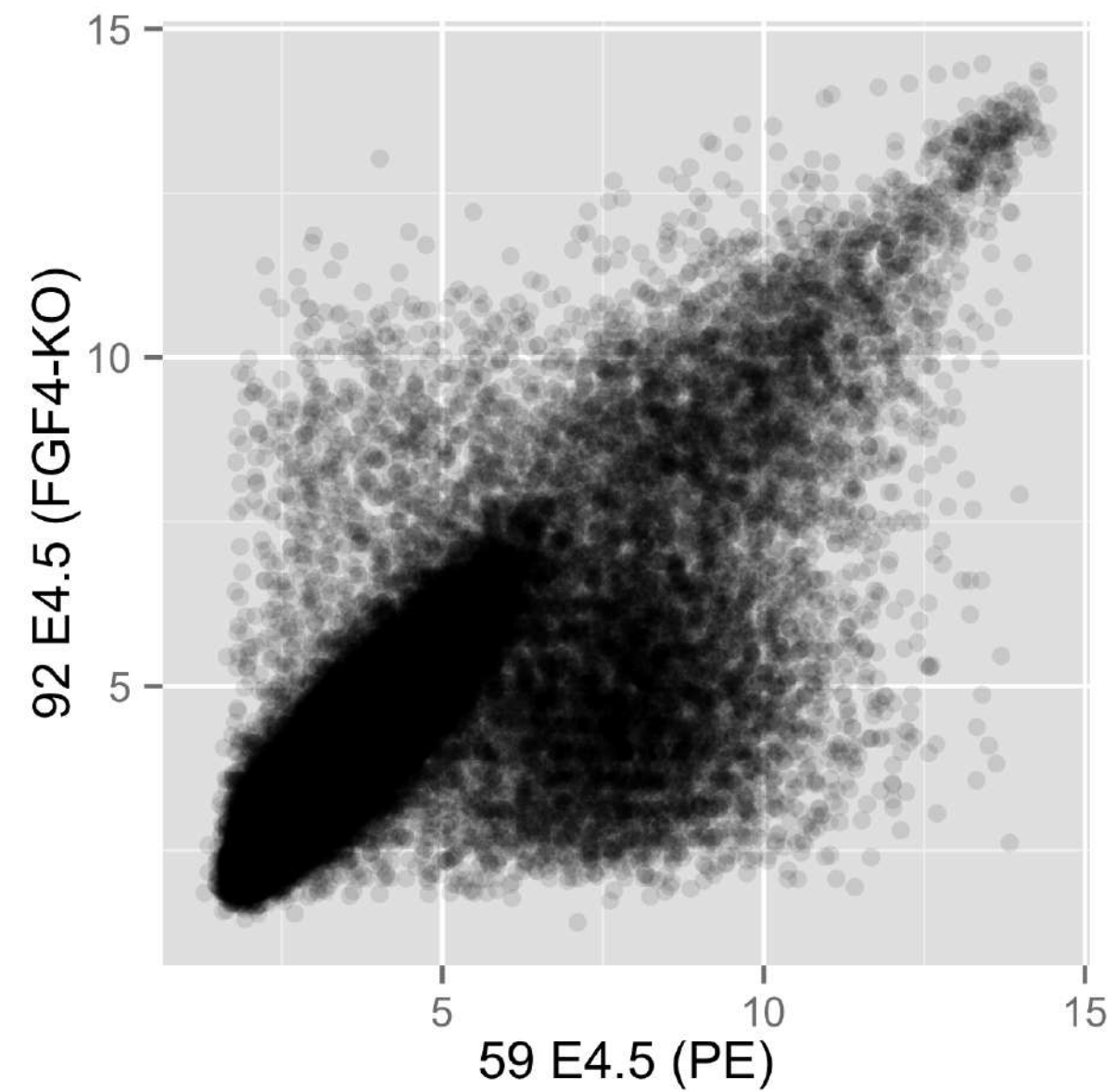
# Impact of non-linear transformation on the shape of a density



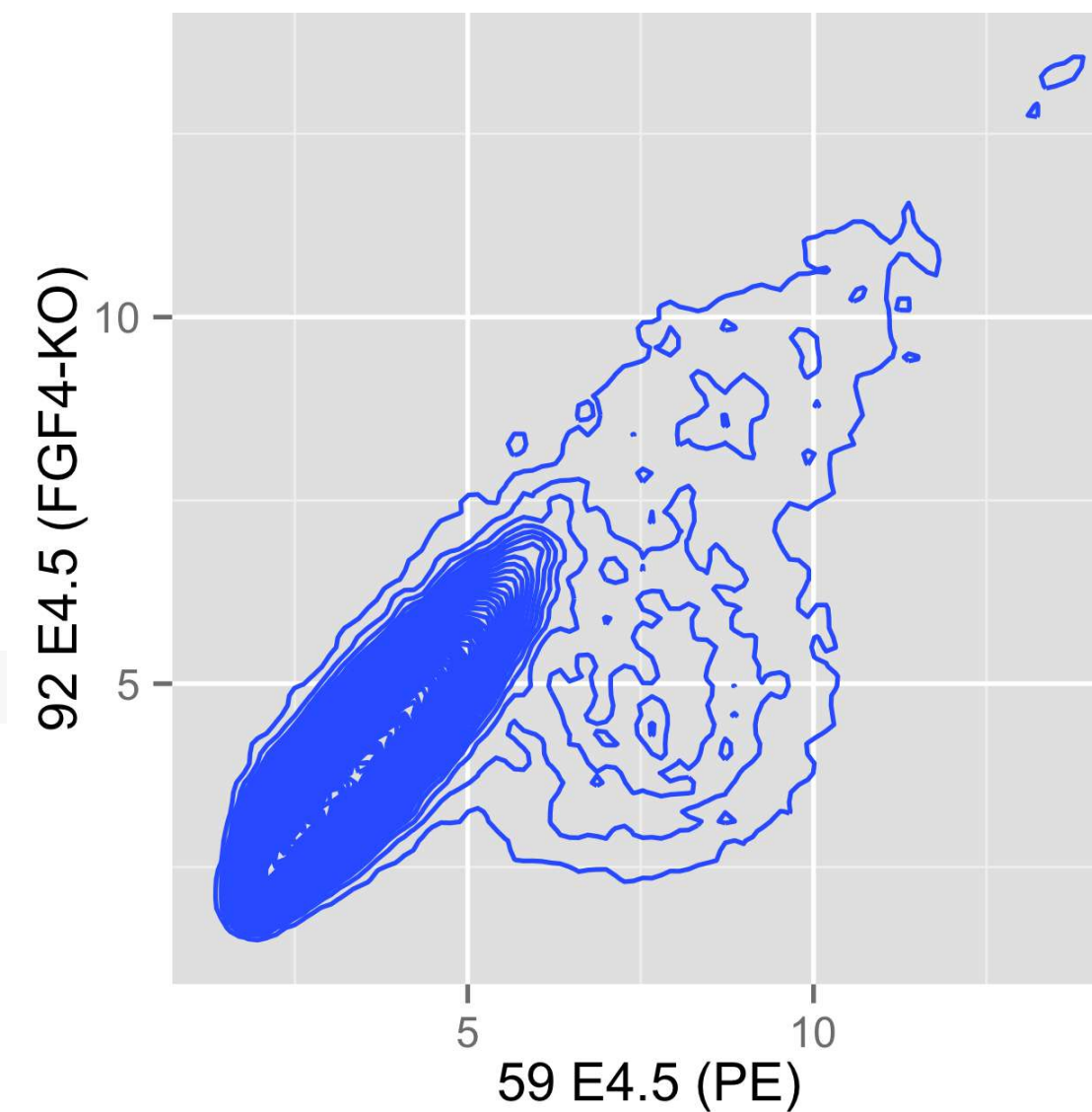
- The mode of a distribution is an infinitesimal concept.
- Need either an infinite amount of data or choose smoothing / binning bandwidth
- Number of modes (let alone their positions) can change under non-linear data transformations (Question 3.5 in the book)

# Showing data in 2D

```
scp <- ggplot(dfx, aes( x = '59 E4.5 (PE)' ,  
                       y = '92 E4.5 (FGF4-KO)' ))  
scp + geom_point()
```

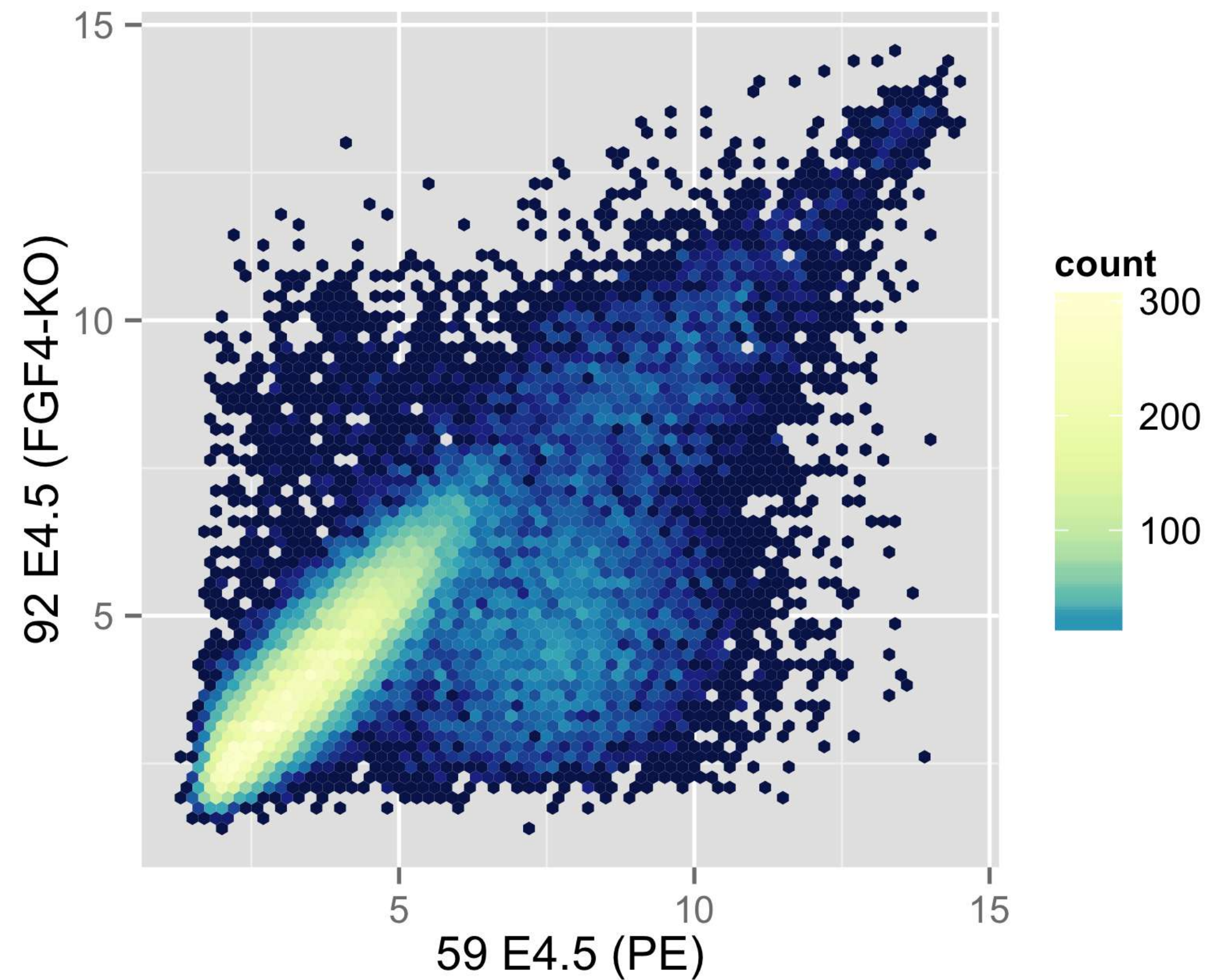


```
scp + geom_point(alpha = 0.1)
```



```
scp + geom_density2d(h = 0.5, bins = 60)
```

# Showing data in 2D



```
scp + stat_binhex(binwidth = c(0.2, 0.2)) + colourscale +  
coord_fixed()
```

# Plot shape, banking

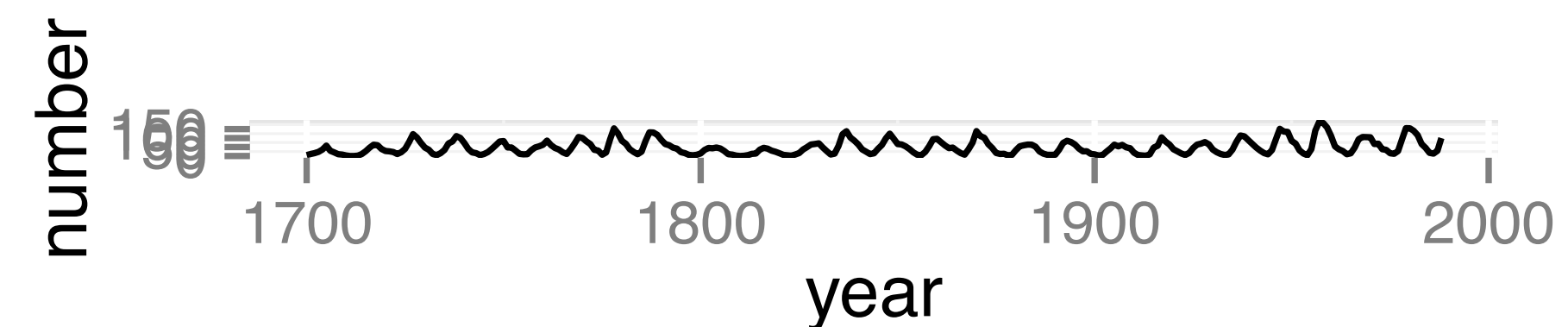
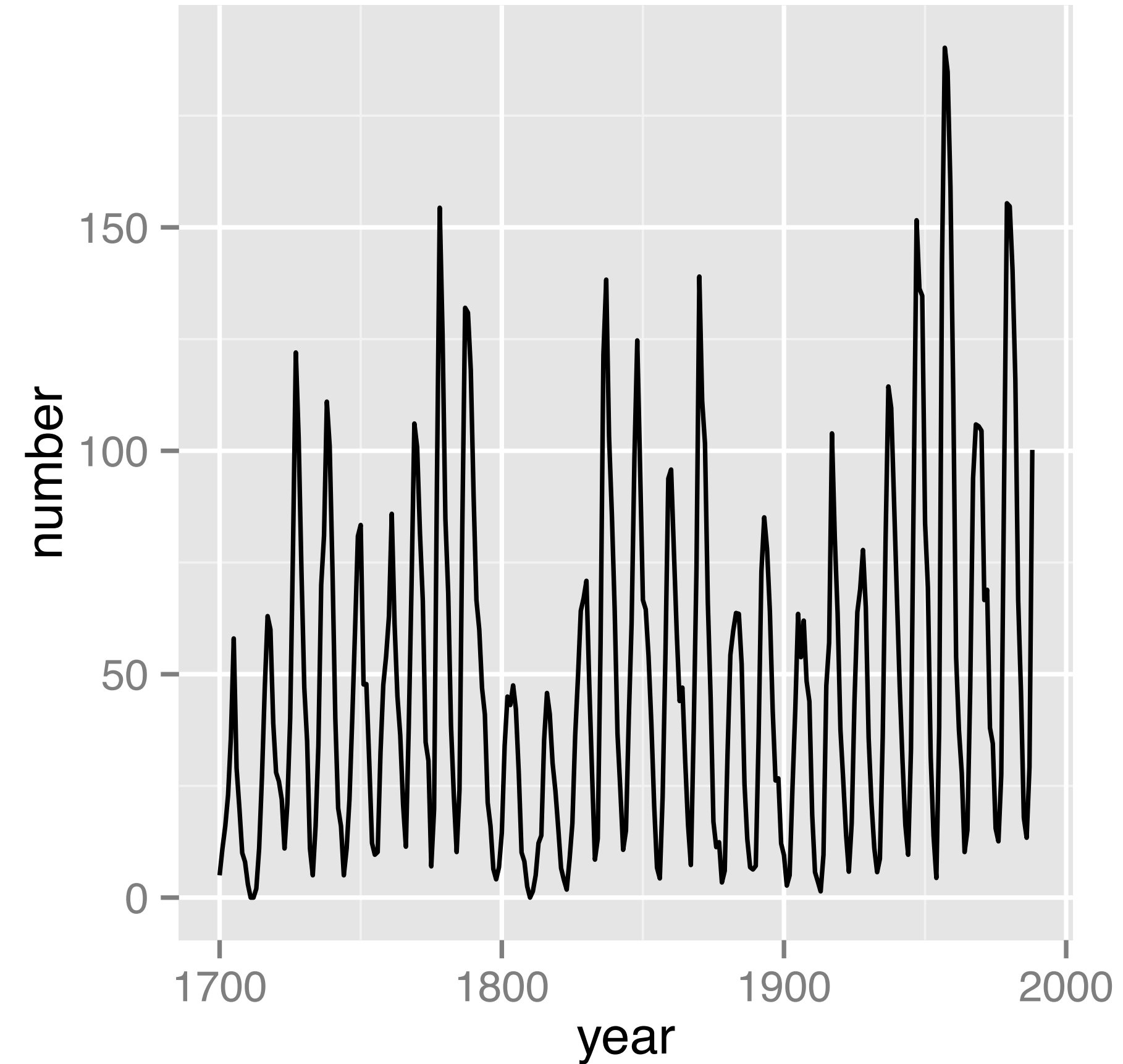
## Yearly sunspot numbers 1849-1924

Changes in amplitude

Banking to 45 degrees:

Choose aspect ratio so that center of absolute values of slopes is 45 degrees

**Sawtooth:** Sunspot cycles typically rise more rapidly than they fall (pronounced for high peaks, less for medium and not for lowest)



# Plot shape, banking

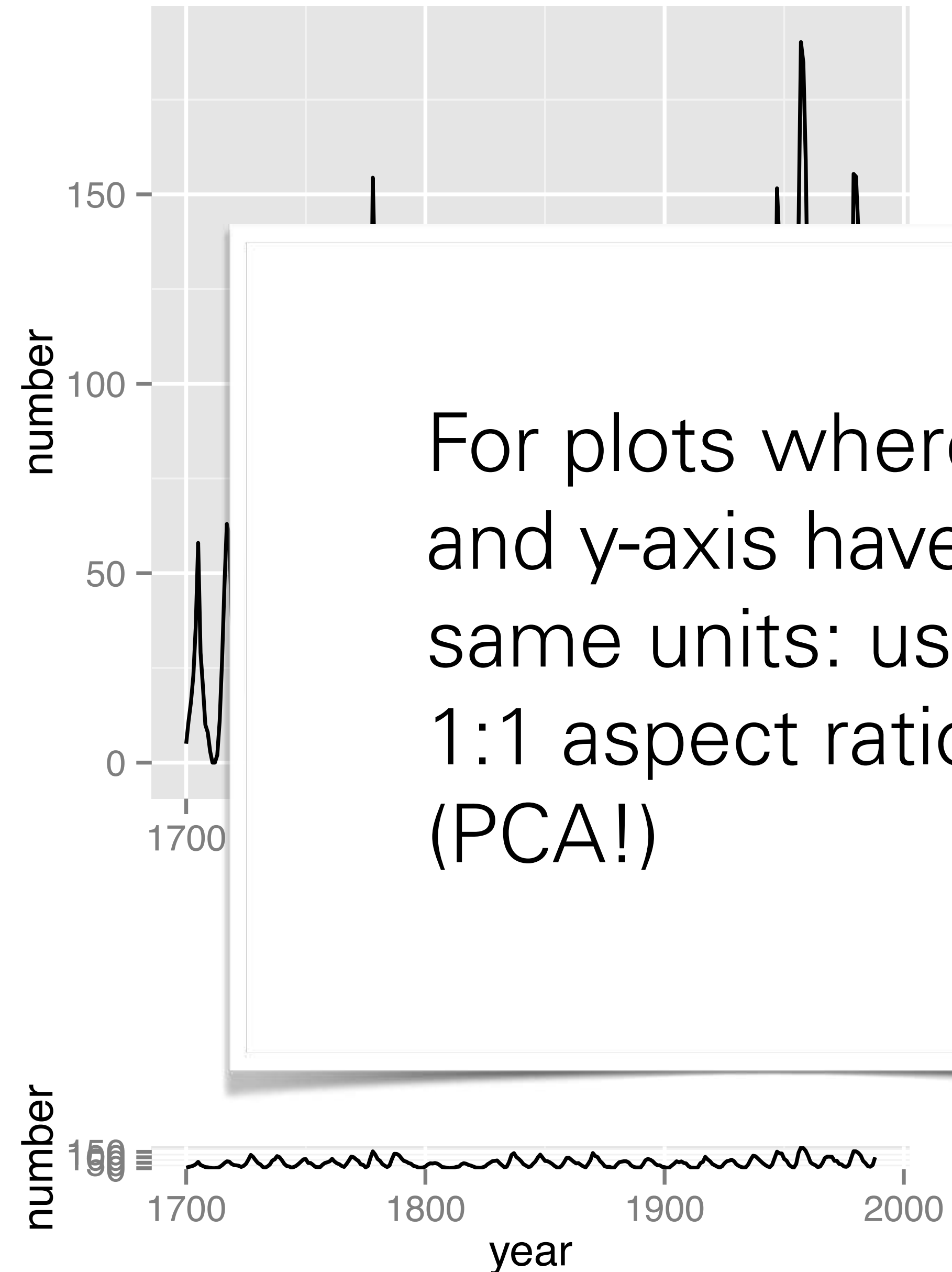
## Yearly sunspot numbers 1849-1924

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**Sawtooth:** Sunspot cycles typically rise more rapidly than they fall (pronounced for high peaks, less for medium and not for lowest)

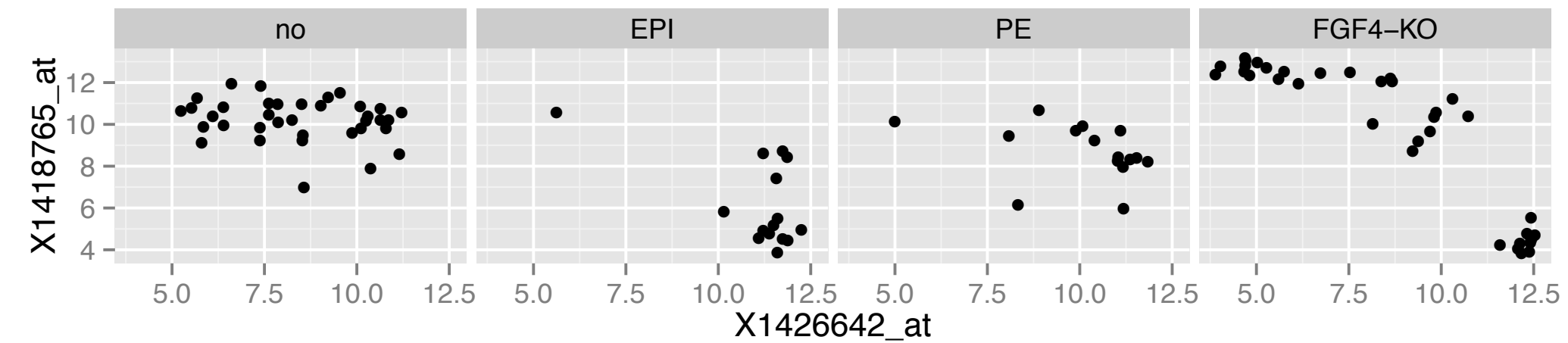


# 3-5 D and faceting

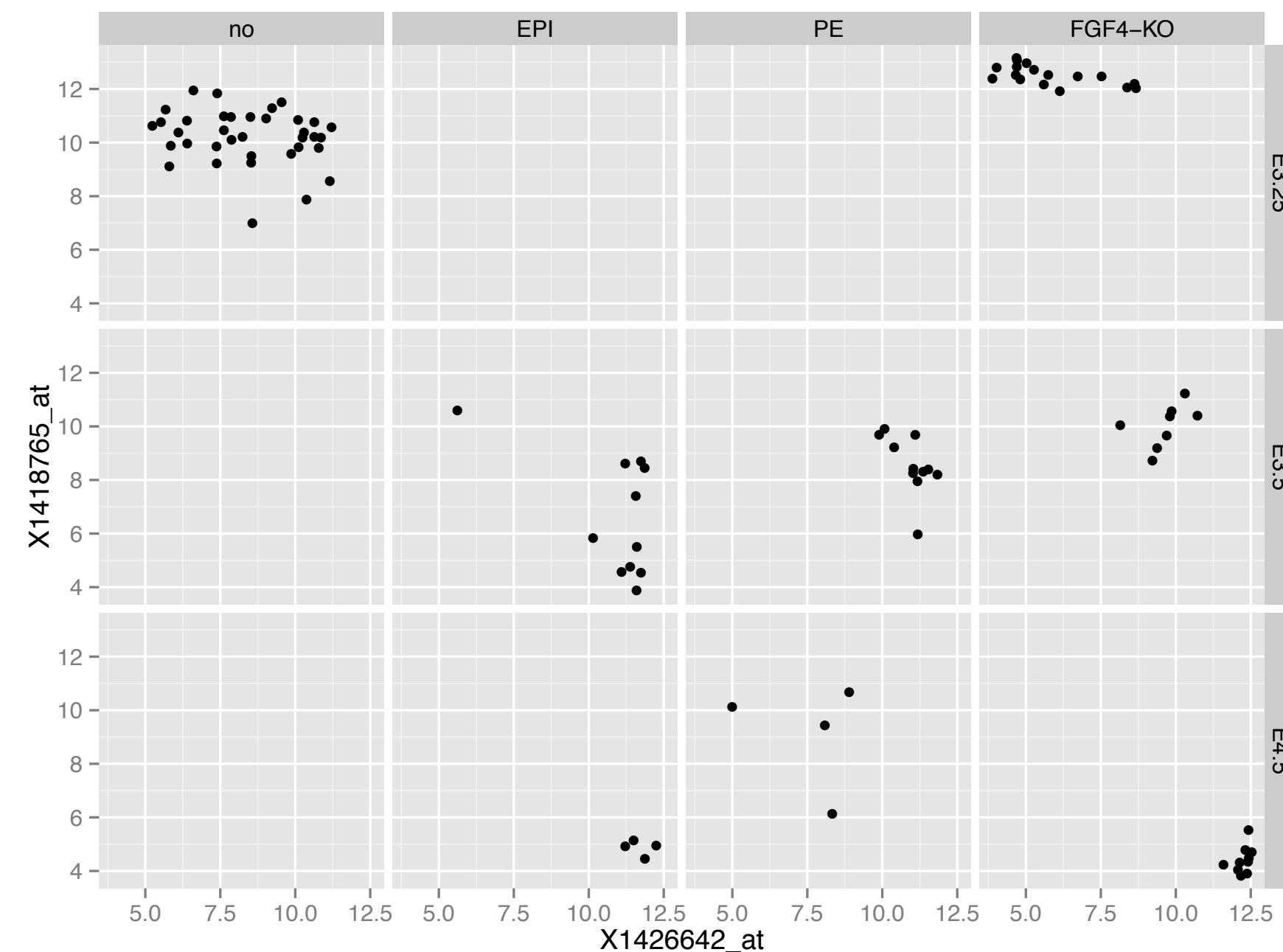
geom\_point offers these aesthetics (beyond x and y):

- fill
- colour
- shape
- size
- alpha

```
ggplot(dftx, aes( x = X1426642_at, y = X1418765_at)) +  
  geom_point() + facet_grid( . ~ lineage )
```



```
ggplot( dftx,  
  aes( x = X1426642_at, y = X1418765_at)) + geom_point() +  
  facet_grid( Embryonic.day ~ lineage )
```



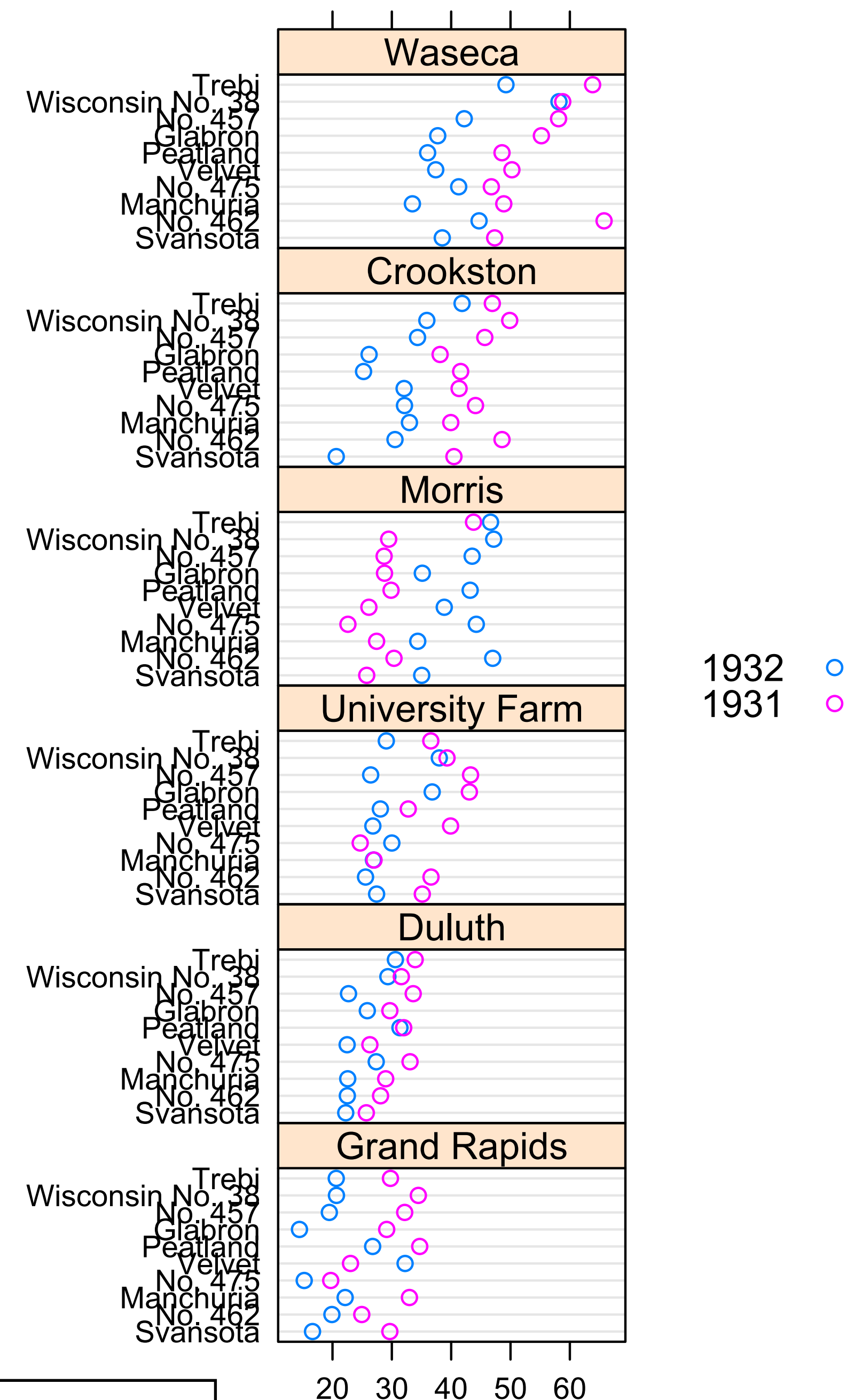


Data from an agricultural field trial to study the crop barley.

At 6 sites in Minnesota, 10 varieties of barley were grown in each of two years.

Data: yield, for all combinations of site, variety, and year (6 x 10 x 2 = 120 observations)

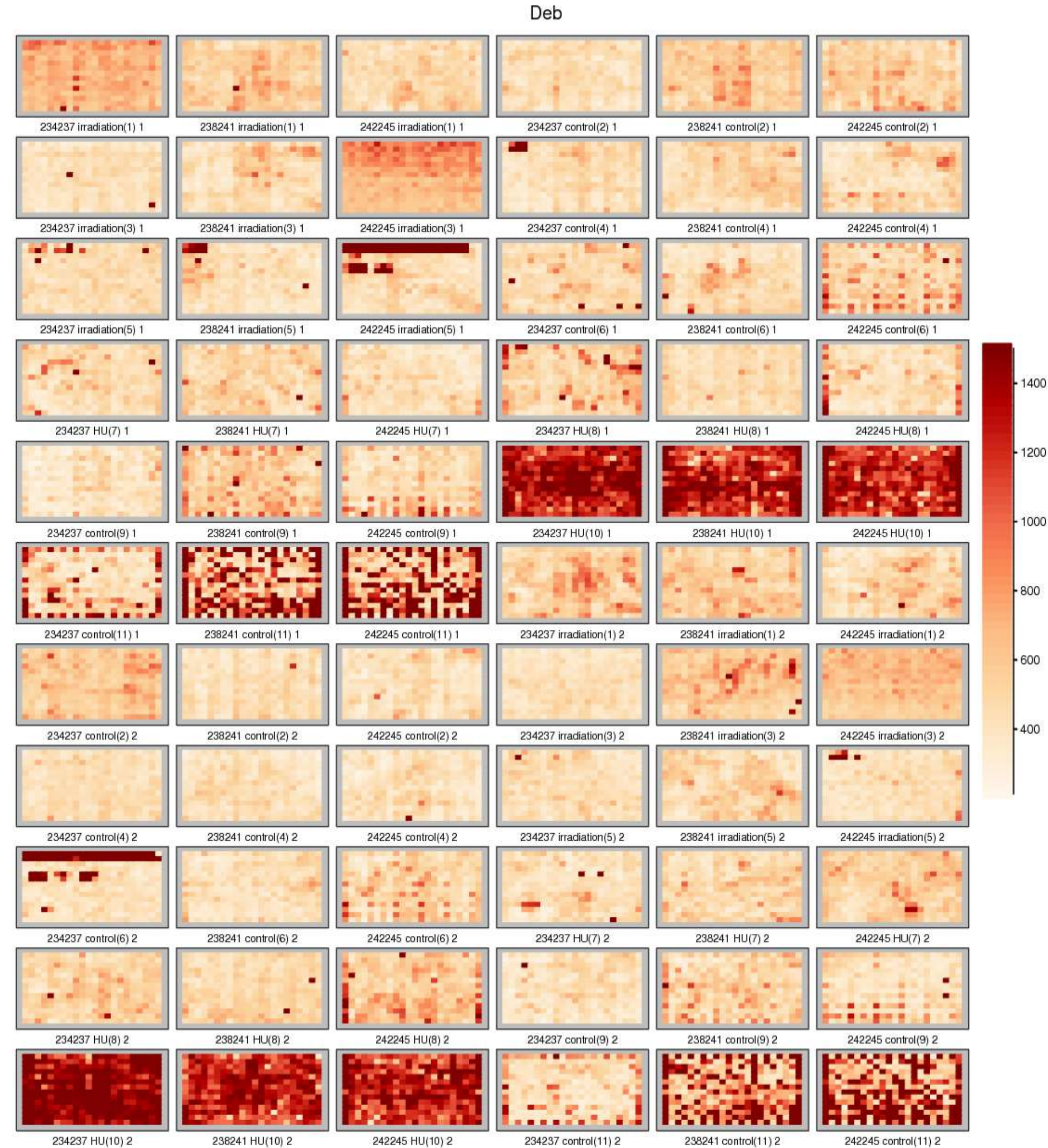
Note the data for Morris - reanalysis in the 1990s using Trellis revealed that the years had been flipped!



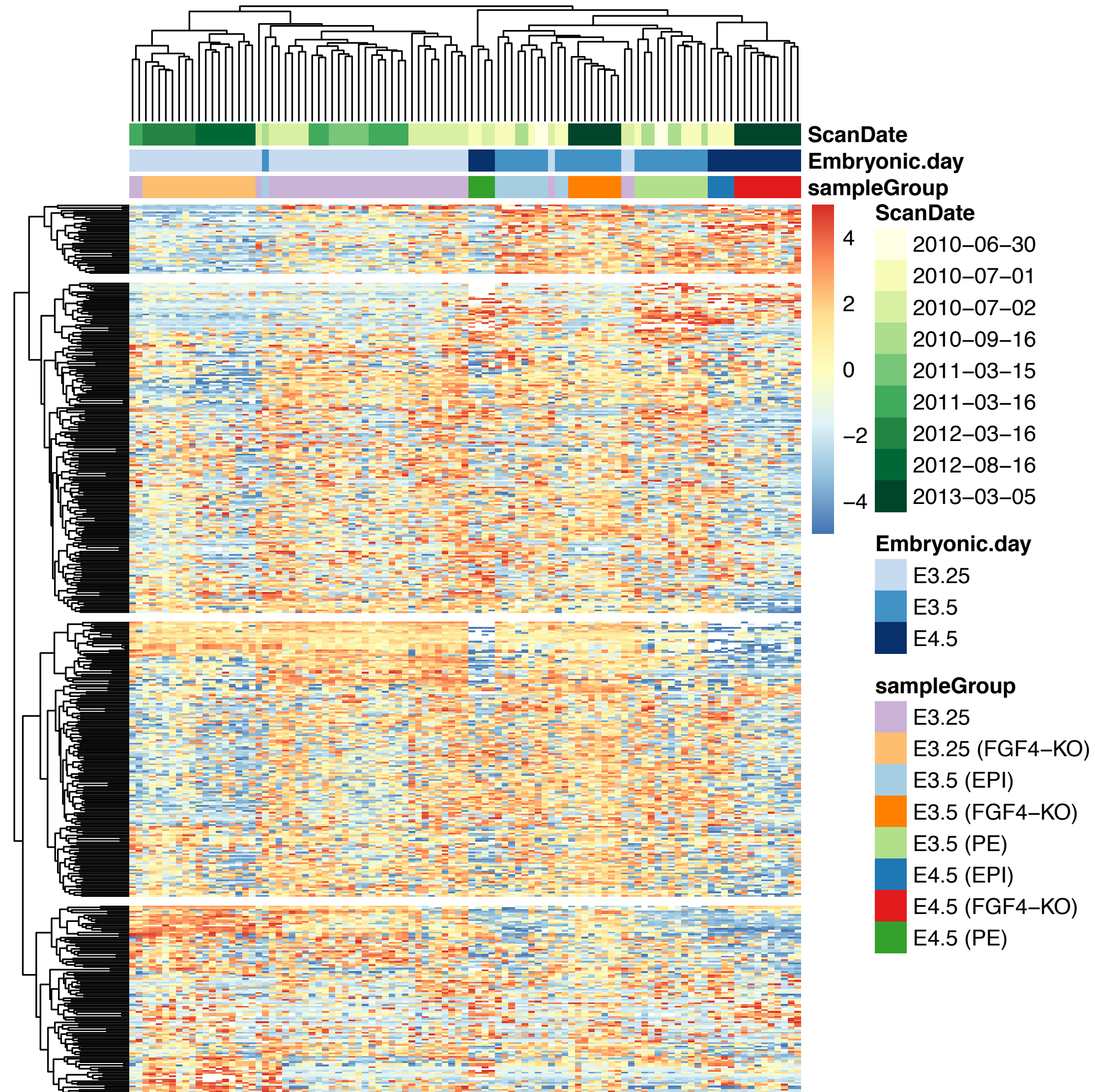
```
library("lattice")  
example("barley")
```

Barley Yield (bushels/acre)

# EDA for finding batch effects



# pheatmap

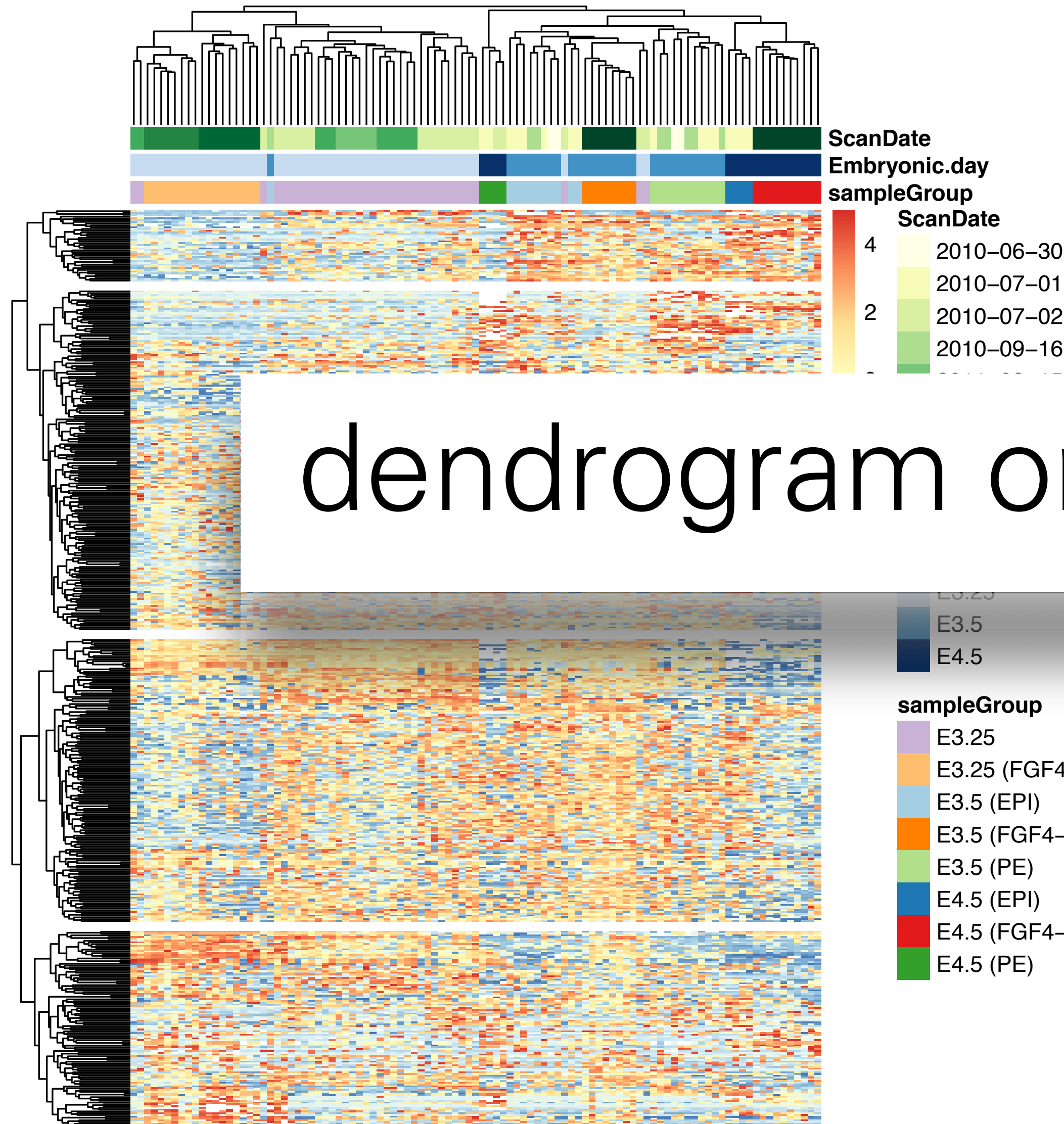


Many reasonable defaults

Easy to add column and row 'metadata' at the sides

See also [ComplexHeatmaps](#) package

# pheatmap



dendrogram order

Many reasonable defaults

Easy to add column row 'metadata' on the sides

See also

[ComplexHeatmaps](#) package

# Interactivity

Use shiny or plotly

<https://shiny.rstudio.com/gallery/genome-browser.html>

Animations (time-dependent plots):

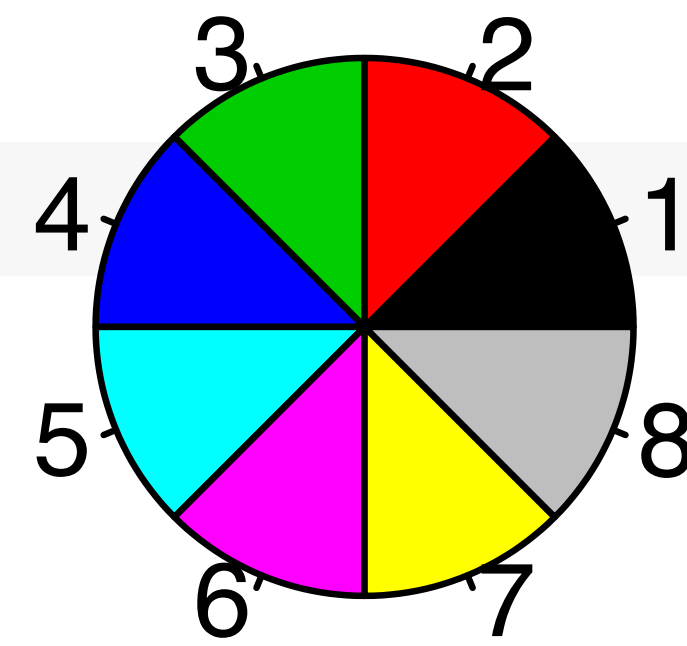
<https://gganimate.com>

Linked Charts

<https://anders-biostat.github.io/linked-charts/>

NB: ggvis is senescent

```
pie(rep(1, 8), col=1:8)
```



```
display.brewer.all()
```



```
pie(rep(1, 8), c
```

Consider these:

Different requirements for line & area colours

Many people are red-green colour blind

Lighter colours tend to make areas look larger than

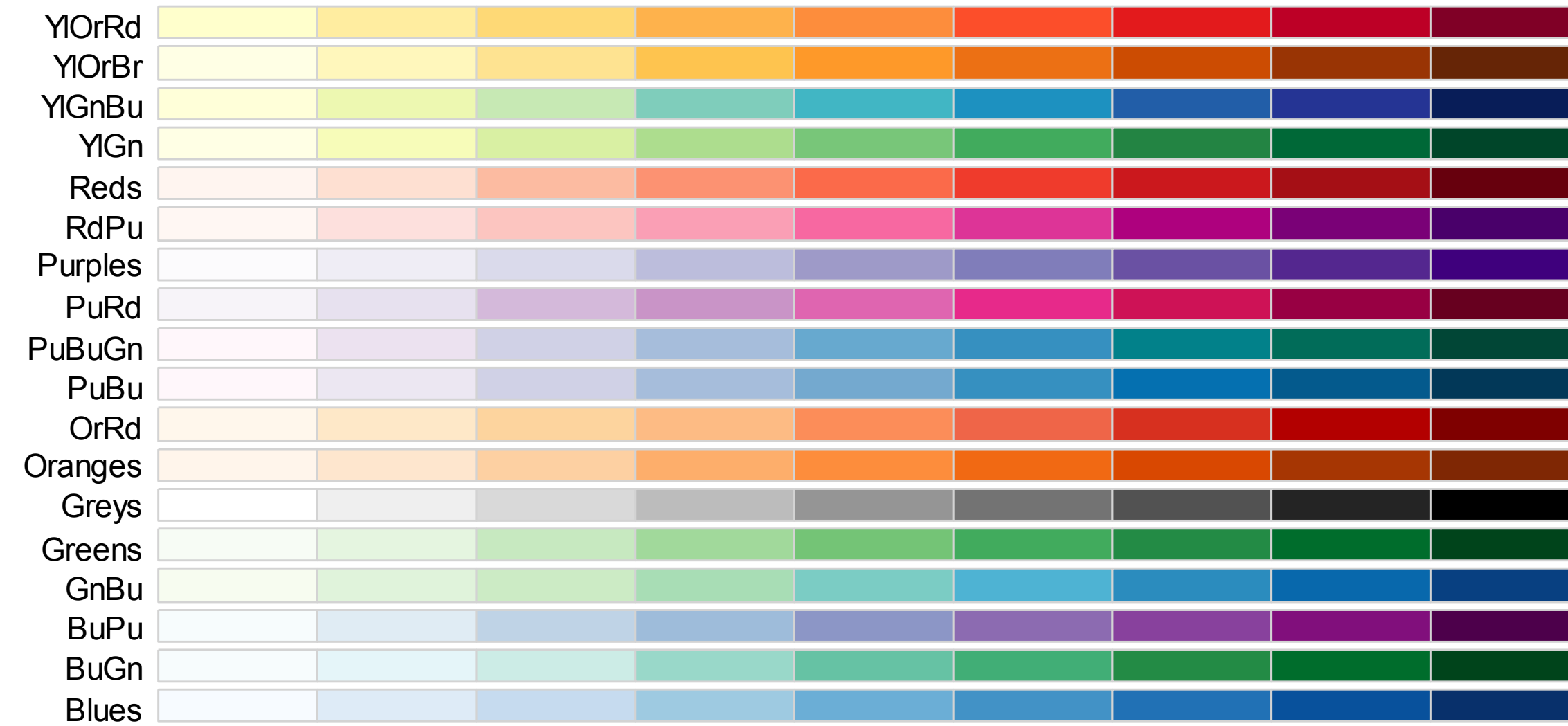
darker colours → use colors of equal luminance for filled areas.

```
display.brewer.
```

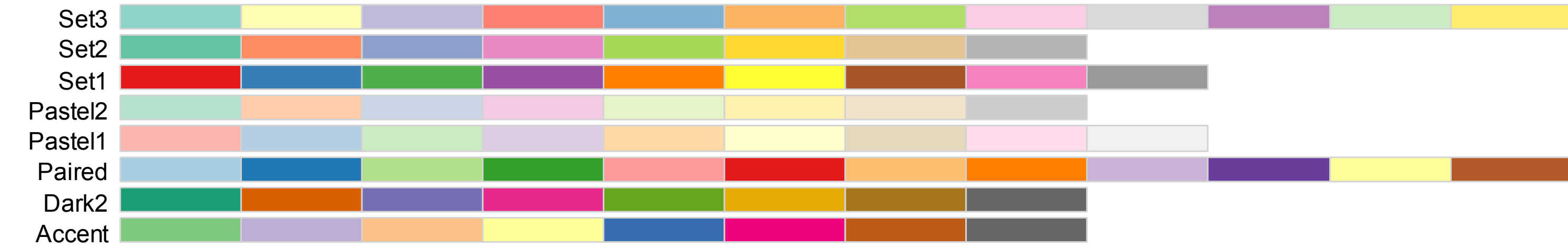


# RColorBrewer

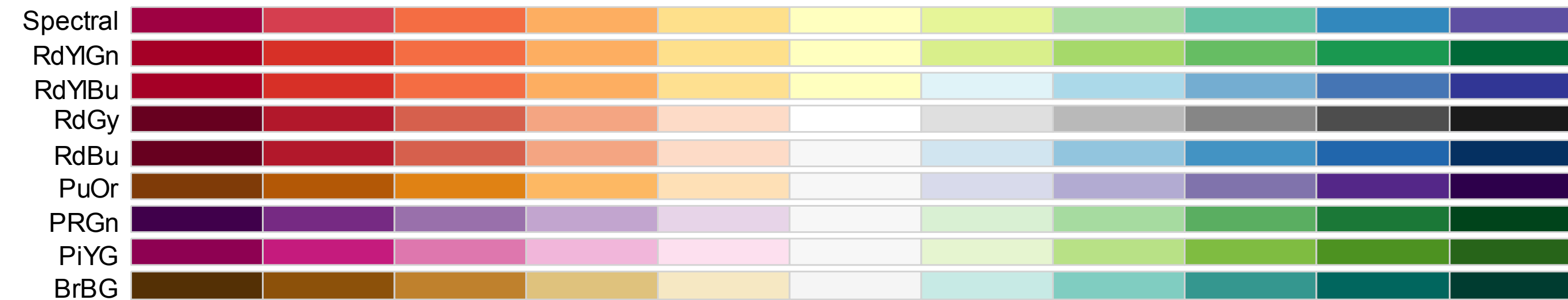
## sequential



## qualitative



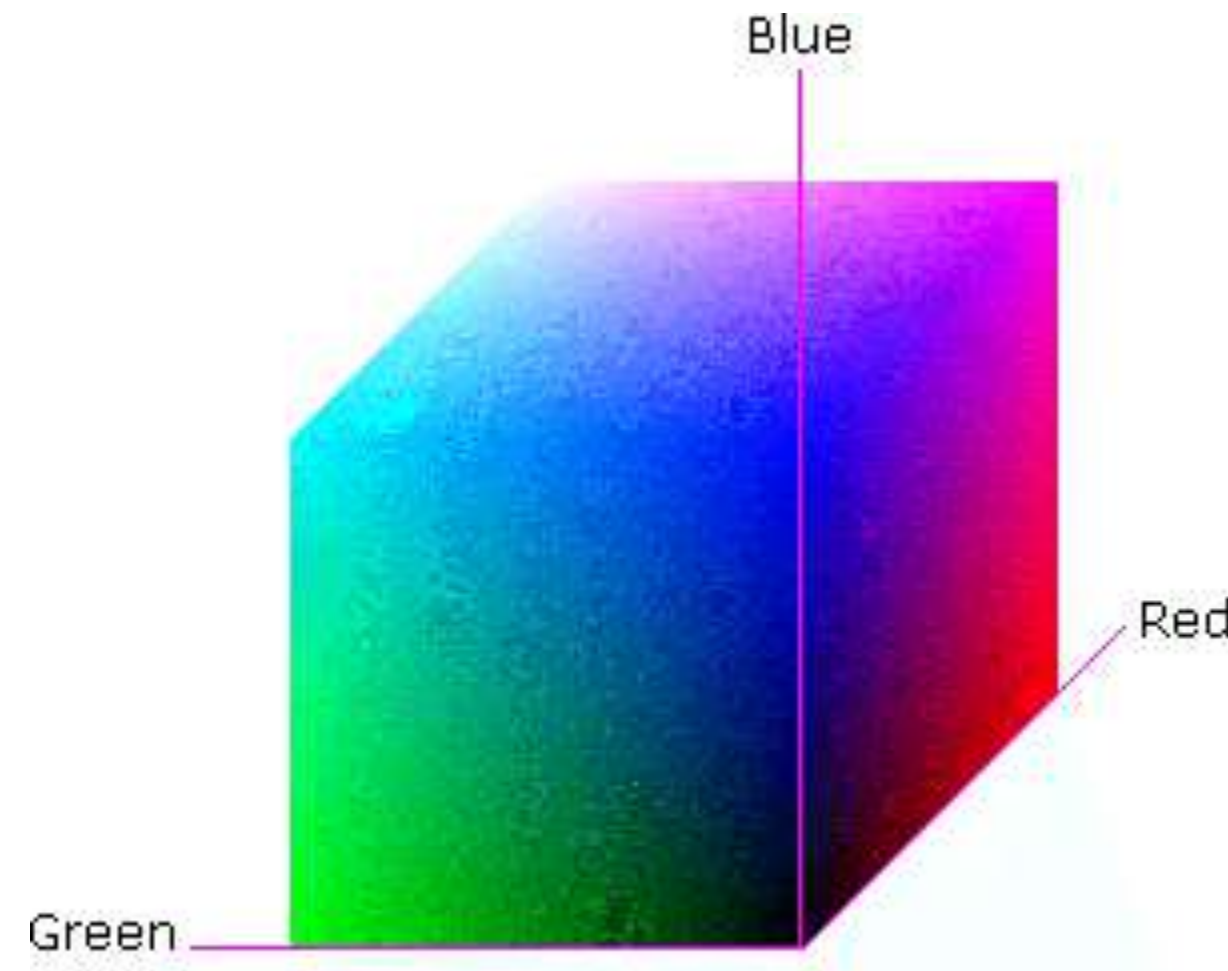
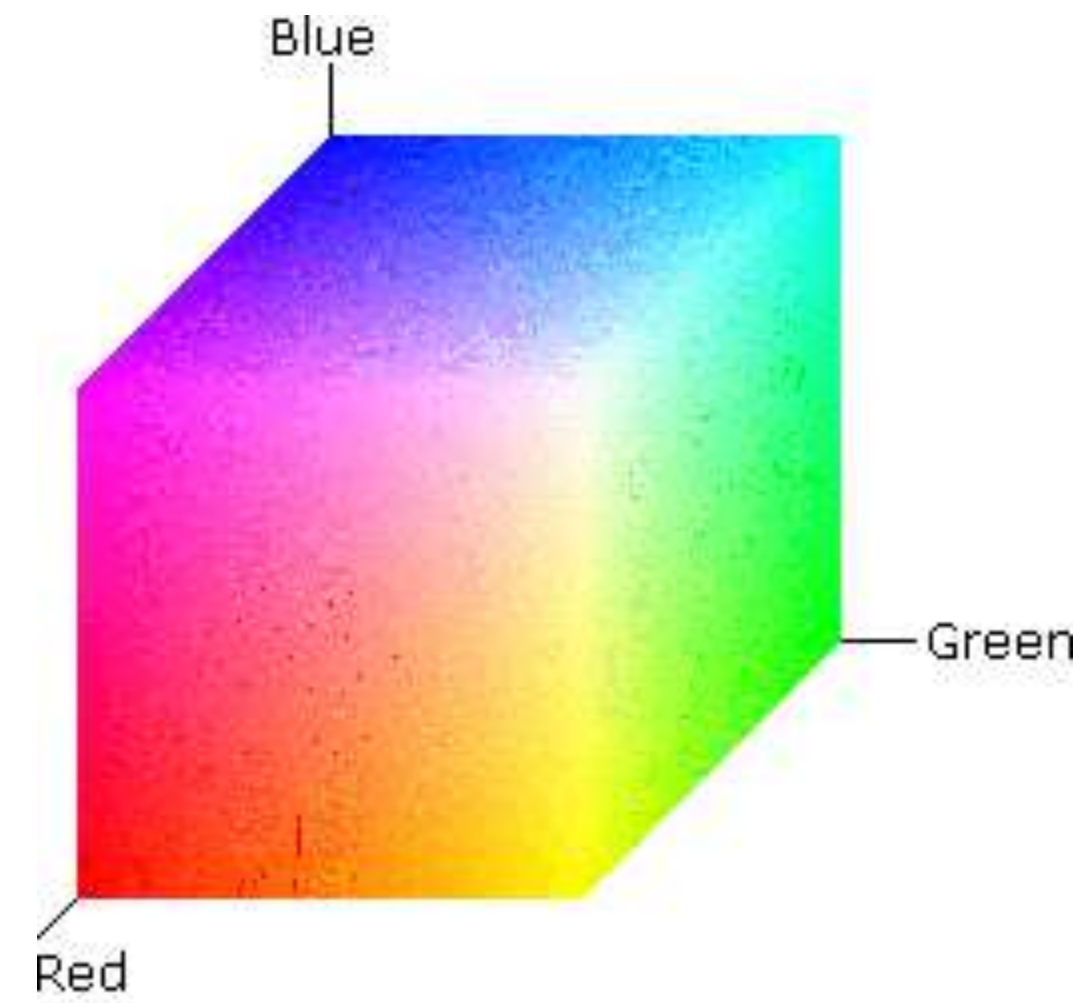
## diverging





# RGB color space

Motivated by computer screen hardware



# HSV color space

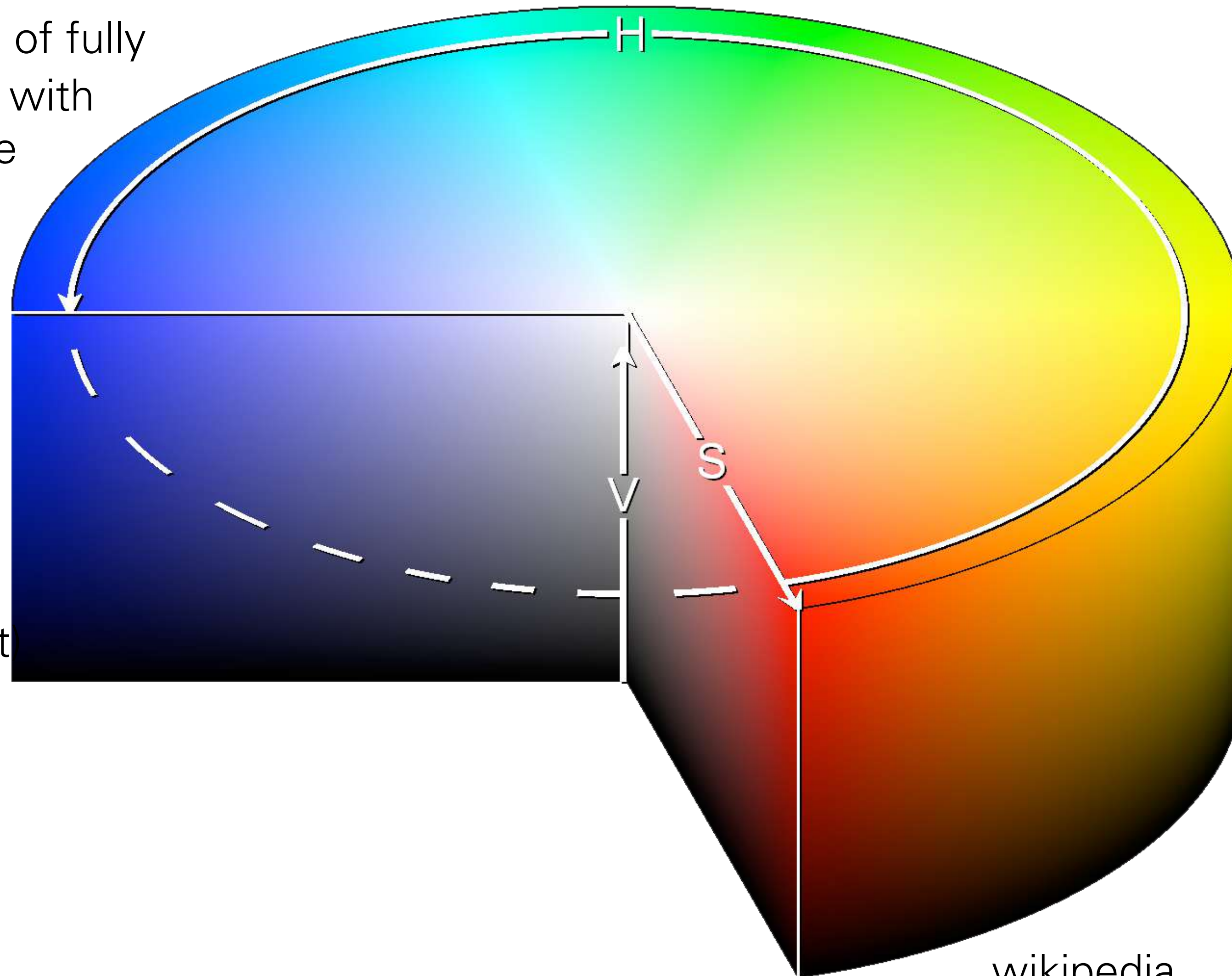
## Hue-Saturation-Value (Smith 1978)

$V_{\max}$ : a planar area of fully saturated colours, with white in the centre

**hue**: similarity to a primary color

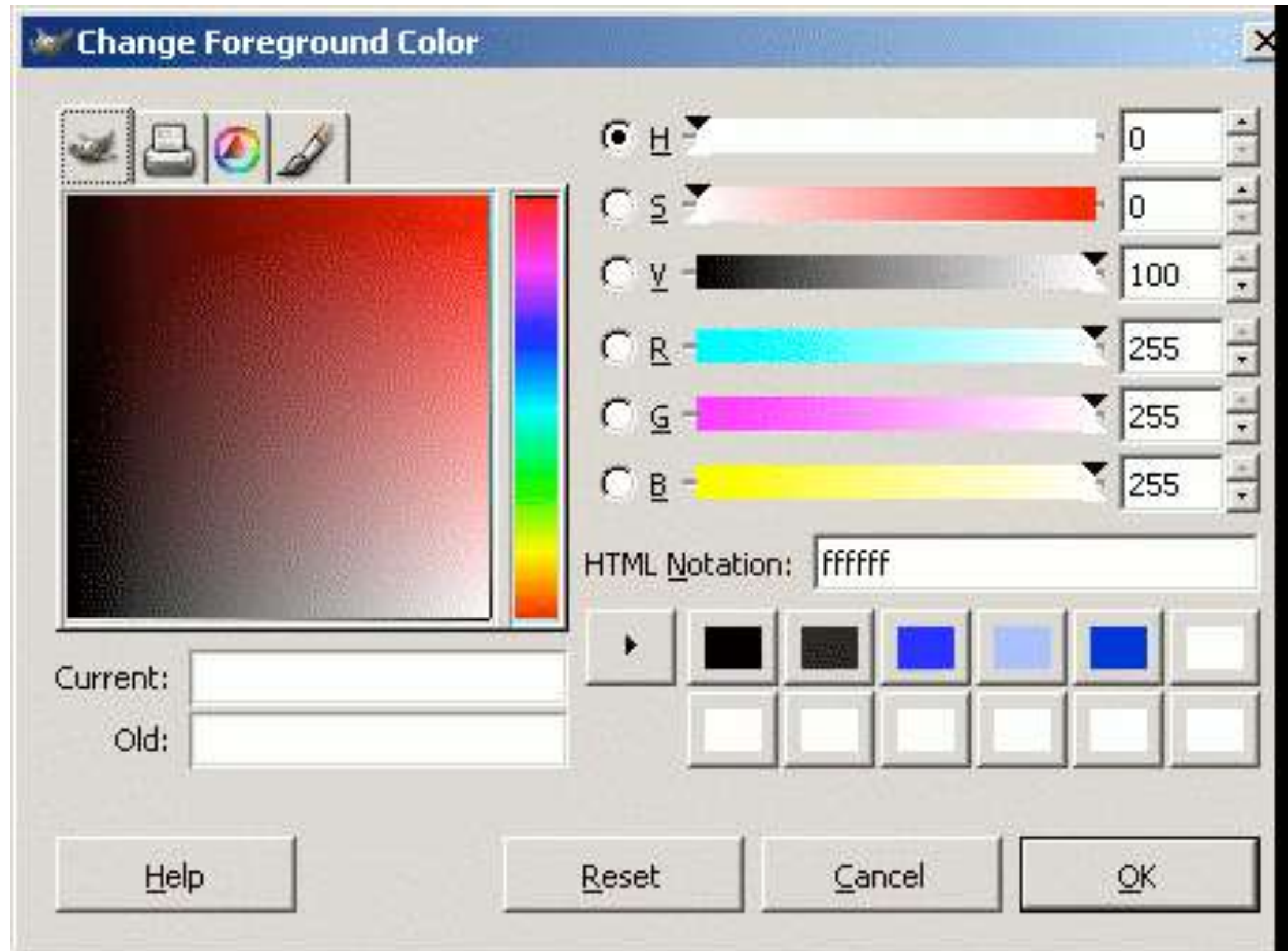
**saturation**: width of the spectral distribution

$V_{\min}$ : black (one point)



# HSV color space

## GIMP colour selector



linear or circular hue  
chooser

and

a two-dimensional  
area (usually a square  
or a triangle) to choose  
saturation and value/  
lightness for the  
selected hue

# (almost) 1:1 mapping between RGB and HSV space

## Conversion from RGB to HSL or HSV

Let  $r, g, b \in [0, 1]$  be the red, green, and blue coordinates, respectively, of a color in RGB space.

Let  $\max$  be the greatest of  $r, g$ , and  $b$ , and  $\min$  the least.

To find the hue angle  $h \in [0, 360]$  for either HSL or HSV space, compute:

$$h = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \max = \min \\ (60^\circ \times \frac{g-b}{\max - \min} + 0^\circ) \bmod 360^\circ, & \text{if } \max = r \\ 60^\circ \times \frac{b-r}{\max - \min} + 120^\circ, & \text{if } \max = g \\ 60^\circ \times \frac{r-g}{\max - \min} + 240^\circ, & \text{if } \max = b \end{cases}$$

To find saturation and lightness  $s, l \in [0, 1]$  for HSL space, compute:

$$s = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \max = \min \\ \frac{\max - \min}{\max + \min} = \frac{\max - \min}{2l}, & \text{if } l \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{\max - \min}{2 - (\max + \min)} = \frac{\max - \min}{2 - 2l}, & \text{if } l > \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$
$$l = \frac{1}{2}(\max + \min)$$

wikipedia

The value of  $h$  is generally normalized to lie between 0 and 360°, and  $h = 0$  is used when  $\max = \min$  (that is, for grays) though the hue has no geometric meaning there, where the saturation  $s$  is zero. Similarly, the choice of 0 as the value for  $s$  when  $l$  is equal to 0 or 1 is arbitrary.

HSL and HSV have the same definition of [hue](#), but the other components differ. The values for  $s$  and  $v$  of an HSV color are defined as follows:

$$s = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \max = 0 \\ \frac{\max - \min}{\max} = 1 - \frac{\min}{\max}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$v = \max$$

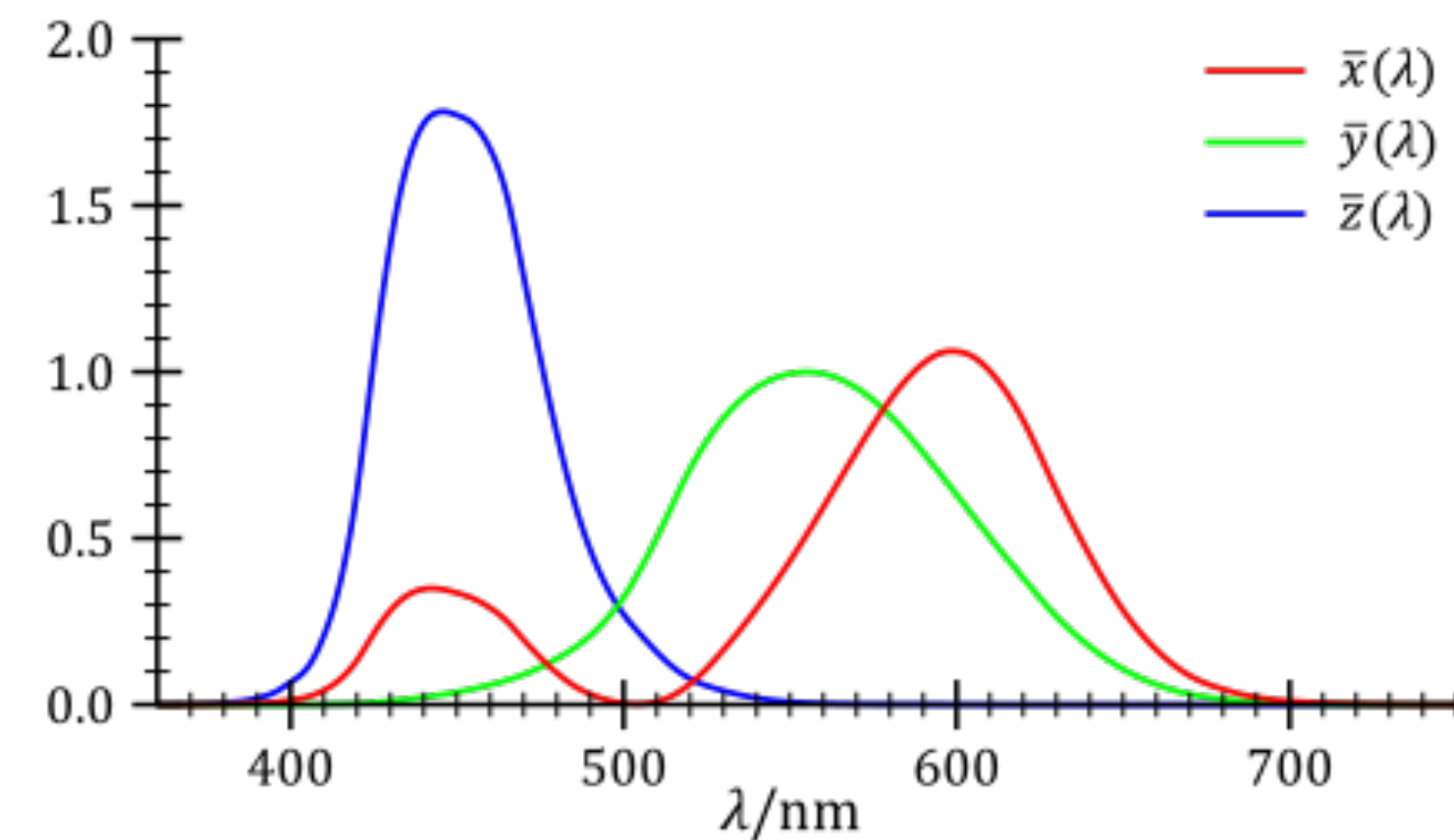
The range of HSV and HSL vectors is a cube in the [cartesian coordinate system](#); but since hue is really a cyclic property, with a cut at red, visualizations of these spaces invariably involve hue circles;<sup>[4]</sup> [cylindrical](#) and conical (bi-conical for HSL) depictions are most popular; [Spherical](#) depictions are also possible.

# Perceptual colour spaces

Human perception of colour corresponds neither to RGB nor HSV coordinates, and neither to the physiological axes light-dark, yellow-blue, red-green

# Perceptually based coordinates of colour space: CIE LUV, CIE LAB

Commission Internationale de l'Éclairage (CIE) in 1931, on the basis of extensive colour matching experiments with people, defined a "standard observer" who represents a typical human colour response (response of the three light cones + their processing in the brain) to a triplet  $(x,y,z)$  of primary light sources



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CIE\\_1931\\_color\\_space](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CIE_1931_color_space)

1976: CIE LUV (L, u, v)-coordinates are preferred by those who work with emissive colour technologies (e.g. computer displays); CIE LAB by those working with dyes and pigments (such as in the printing and textile industries)

# HCL colours

$$(u,v) = C * (\cos H, \sin H)$$

H: hue (dominant wavelength)

C: chroma (colorfulness, intensity of color as compared to gray)

L: luminance (brightness, amount of gray), same as in CIELUV

(C, H) are simply polar coordinates for (u,v)

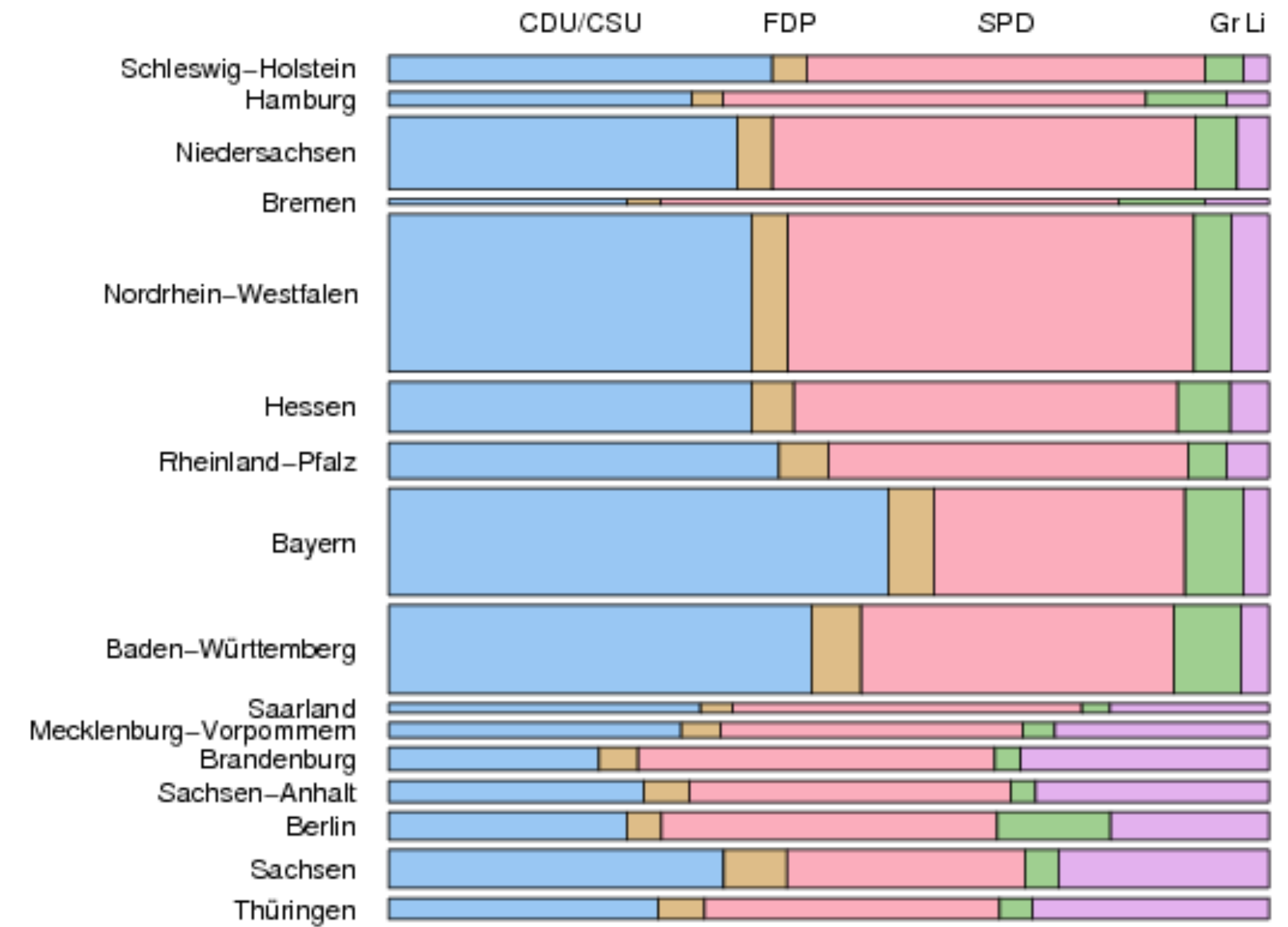
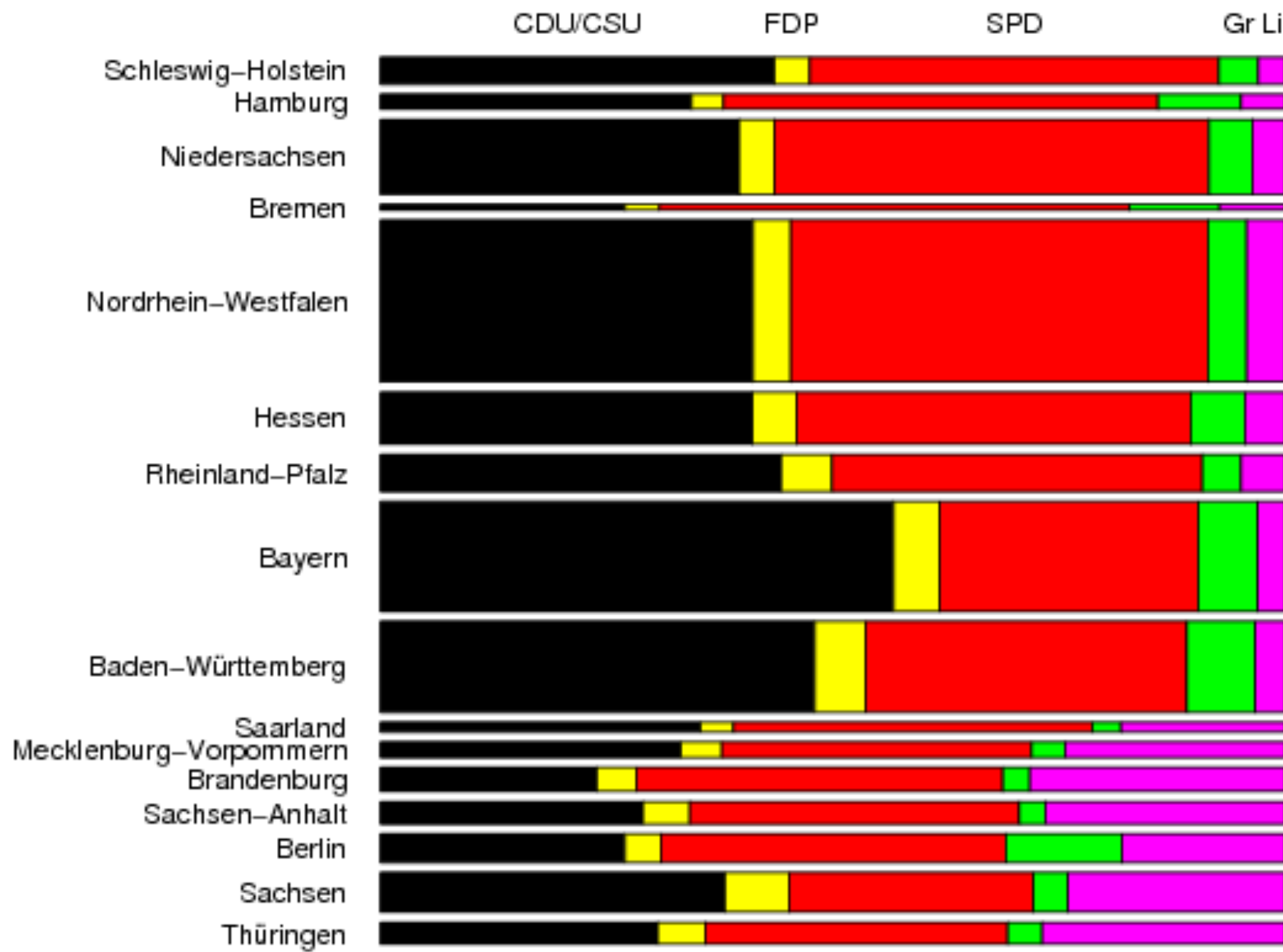


**a****b**

Figure 2: Circles in HCL colorspace. *a*: circles in HCL space at constant  $L = 75$ , with the angular coordinate  $H$  varying from 0 to 360 and the radial coordinate  $C = 0, 10, \dots, 60$ . *b*: constant  $C = 50$ , and  $L = 10, 20, \dots, 90$ .



# Pick your favourite



From A. Zeileis, Reisenburg 2007

# Balance

The intensity of colour that should be used is dependent on the area that that colour is to occupy. Small areas need to be more colourful than larger ones.

Choose colours centred on a mid-range or neutral value, or;

Choose colours at equally spaced points along smooth paths through (perceptually uniform) colour space: equal luminance and chroma and correspond to set of evenly spaced hues.

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