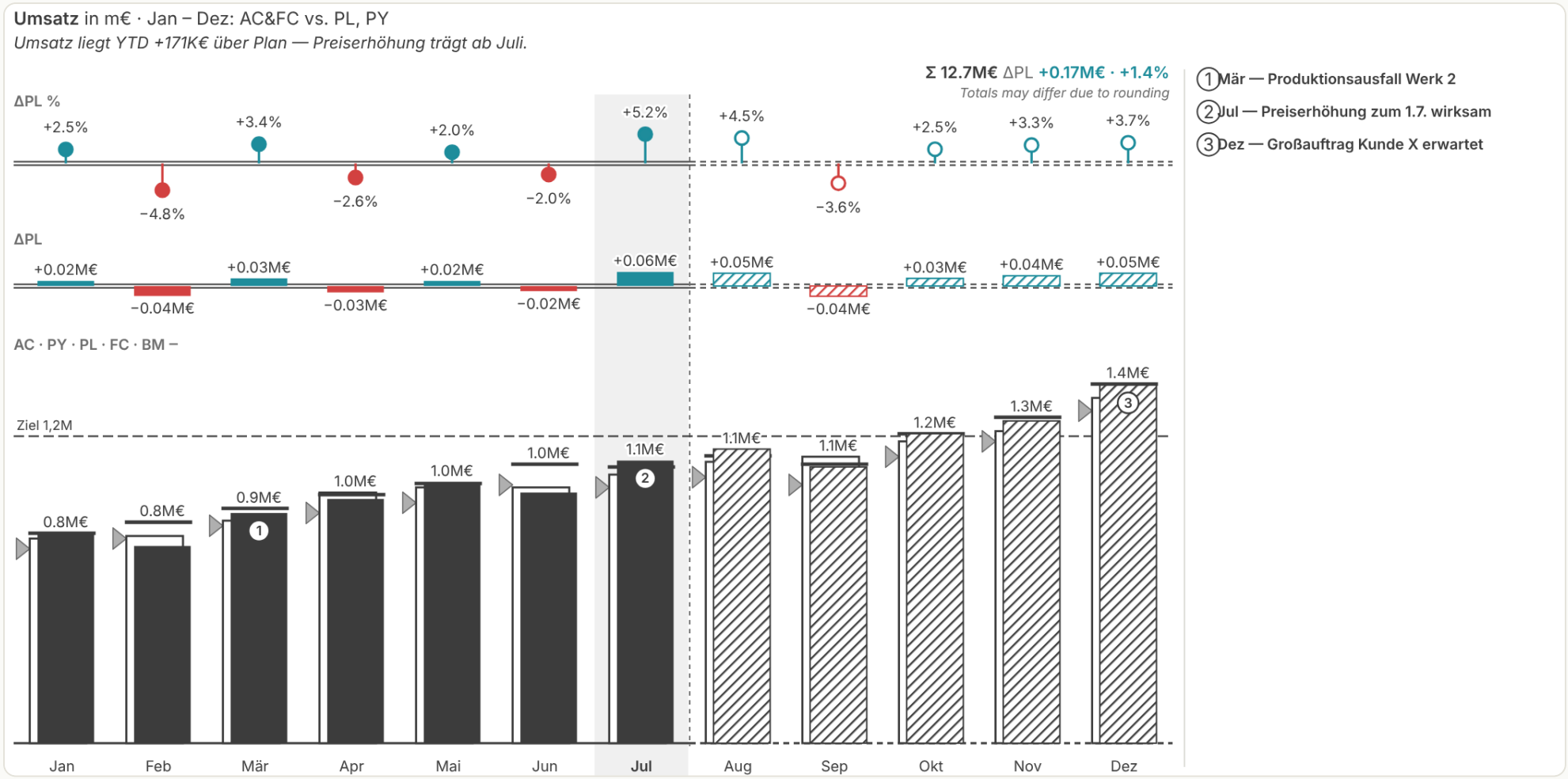
ChartKitchen byDatenWG

One visual, 13 chart modes, IBCS-inspired: time series with variances, bridges, P&L, tables and matrix, scatter, KPI cards and small multiples.



Columns + variances · AC solid, FC hatched, PL and PY as reference, ΔPL and ΔPL% above, comments ①②③

01 What ChartKitchen does

ChartKitchen covers the **breadth** of chart forms in controlling, the sister visual P&L Statement the **depth** of the income statement.
One notation, one way of working: actual solid, prior year grey, plan outlined, forecast hatched, one scale per unit.

Time & structure

Columns, line, combo, bars with top-N, stacked, Pareto, dumbbell, slope.

Bridges & P&L

Integrated bridge across months, category bridge by drivers, P&L waterfall, P&L statement.

Tables & matrix

IBCS table with Δ bars and pins, hierarchies, matrix with quarter and month columns.

Scatter & Bubble

Quadrants, trend line, movement arrows, play button, log scales, rectangle selection.

Small Multiples

One tile per region or product, same scale, Σ and top-N tile, for almost every mode.

KPI cards

Monitoring tiles with traffic light against benchmark, bullet and trend sparkline.

Thank you, IBCS. This visual is heavily inspired by the ideas of IBCS® – International Business Communication Standards. Without their great resources, exceptional content and, above all, groundbreaking conceptual work, something like this visual would not have been possible. Therefore: thank you. Not sponsored by, licensed by or associated with the IBCS Association.

CONTENTS

02	Which mode for which question	3
03	Time series	4
04	Structure	7
05	Bridges	11
06	P&L with ChartKitchen	17
07	Tables & matrix	22
08	Scatter & Bubble	25
09	Small Multiples	33
10	KPI cards	39
11	Dark mode	41
12	Why it's a cool alternative for controlling	43
13	What you need: the fields	44
14	Get started & the sister P&L Statement	45
15	Links	46

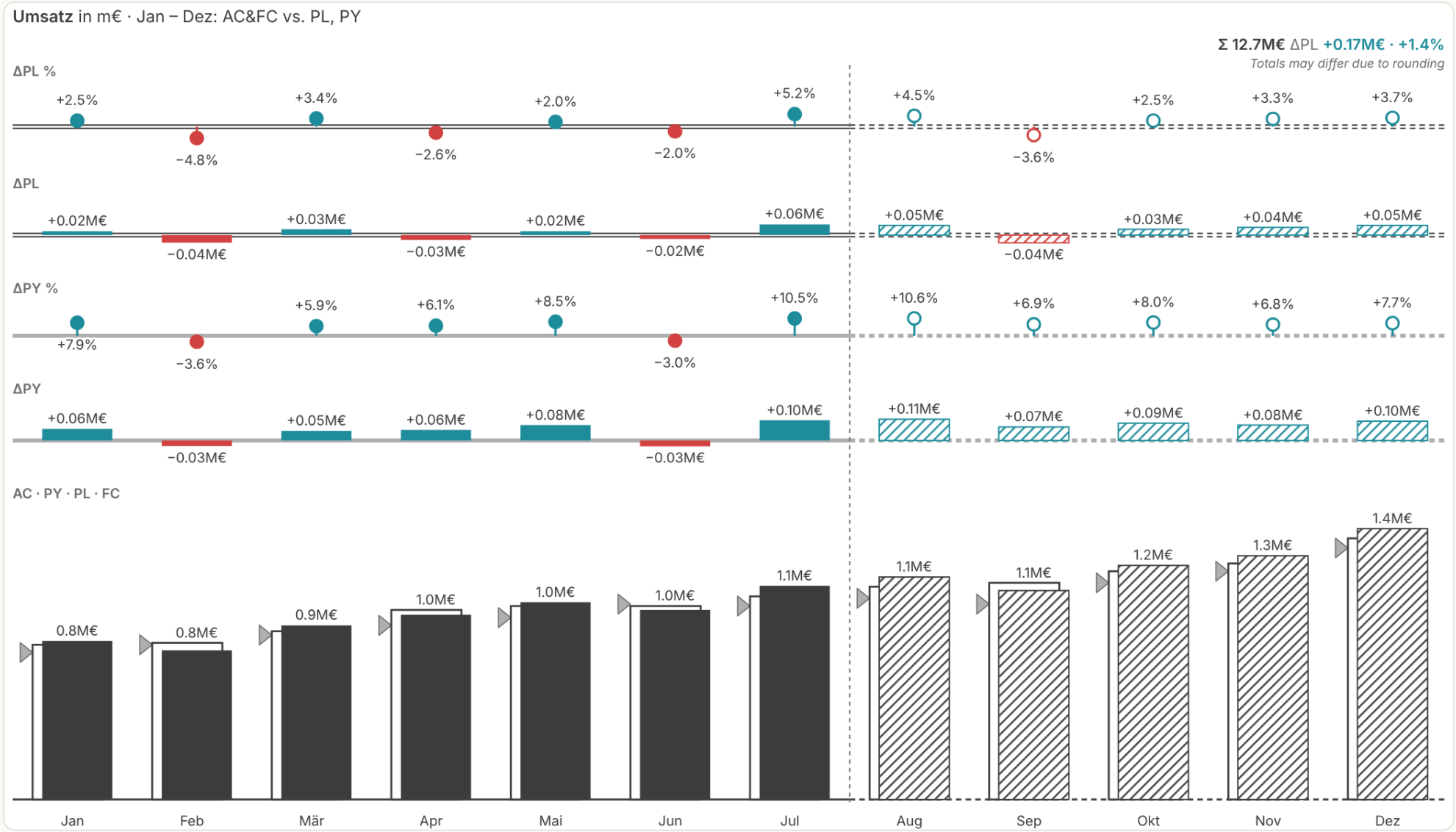
02 Which mode for which question

Question	Form	Template · mode
“How did revenue develop against plan?”	Columns + variances, AC/FC split	`C03 · columns`
“Which months made the gap?”	Integrated bridge PY/PL → AC+FC	`C05 · intwaterfall`
“Which regions or products drive the variance?”	Category bridge, sorted by impact	`C06 · catbridge`
“How do we get from revenue to EBIT?”	P&L waterfall with result anchors	`C12 · waterfall`
“Which countries are above or below plan?”	Bars with top-N + rest, or IBCS table	`C04 · bars / table`
“What does each quarter look like per region?”	Matrix: row hierarchy × period columns	`table + colgroup`
“Where are our stars, where are the problem cases?”	Scatter / bubble with quadrants	`C09 / C10 · scatter`
“Do all regions follow the same pattern?”	Small multiples on one scale	`C13 · multiples`
“Which KPIs need attention today?”	KPI cards with traffic light and trend	`cards`
“Which few customers make 80 %?”	Pareto with cumulative line	`pareto`

Templates C01–C13 (without C07/C11) set every switch with one click in the gallery; after that everything stays editable. A **small multiples** field turns almost every mode into a tile grid.

03 Time series

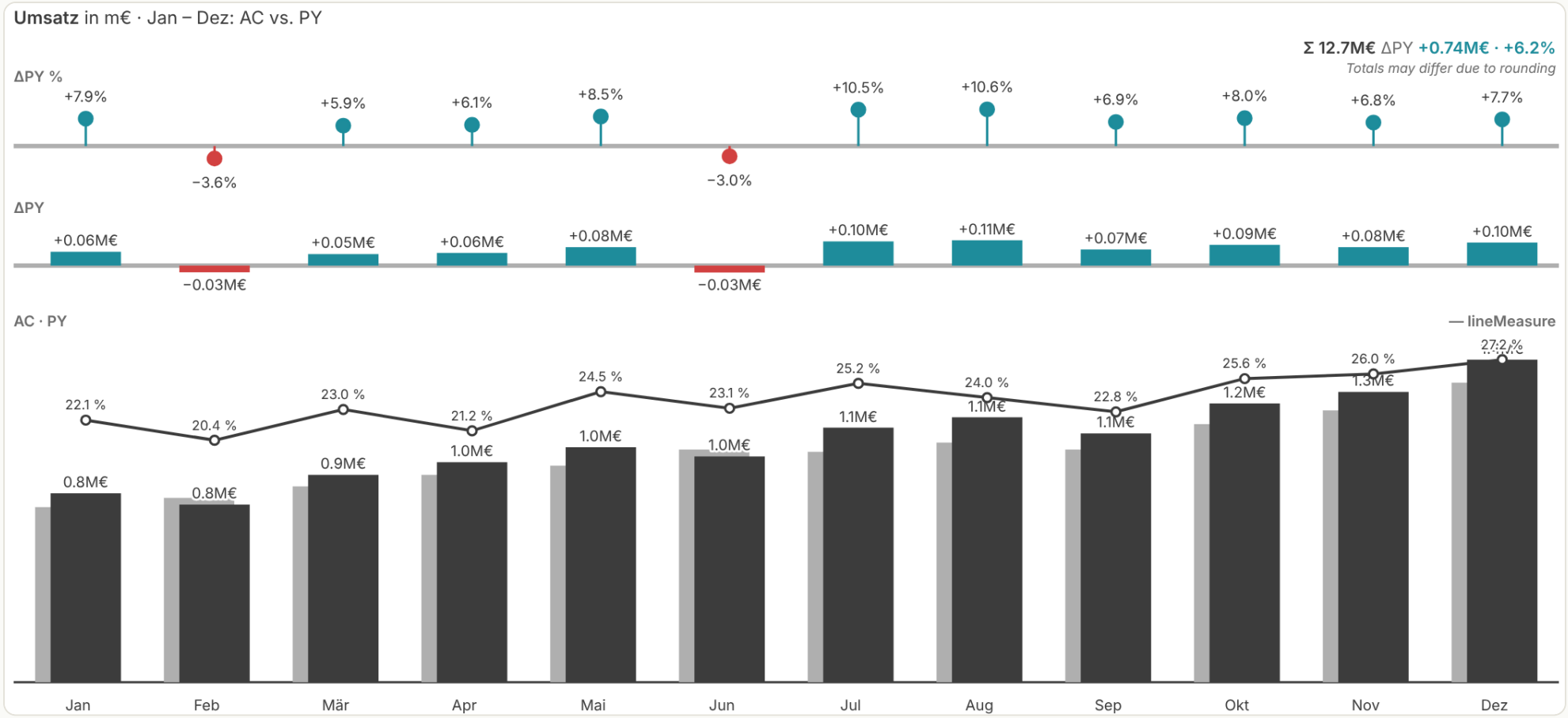
Use case: a monthly report where plan and prior year matter at the same time. Both variances share one scale, so equal gaps look equally long.



Dual variance · ΔPL and ΔPY side by side on one scale

03 Time series · Kombi

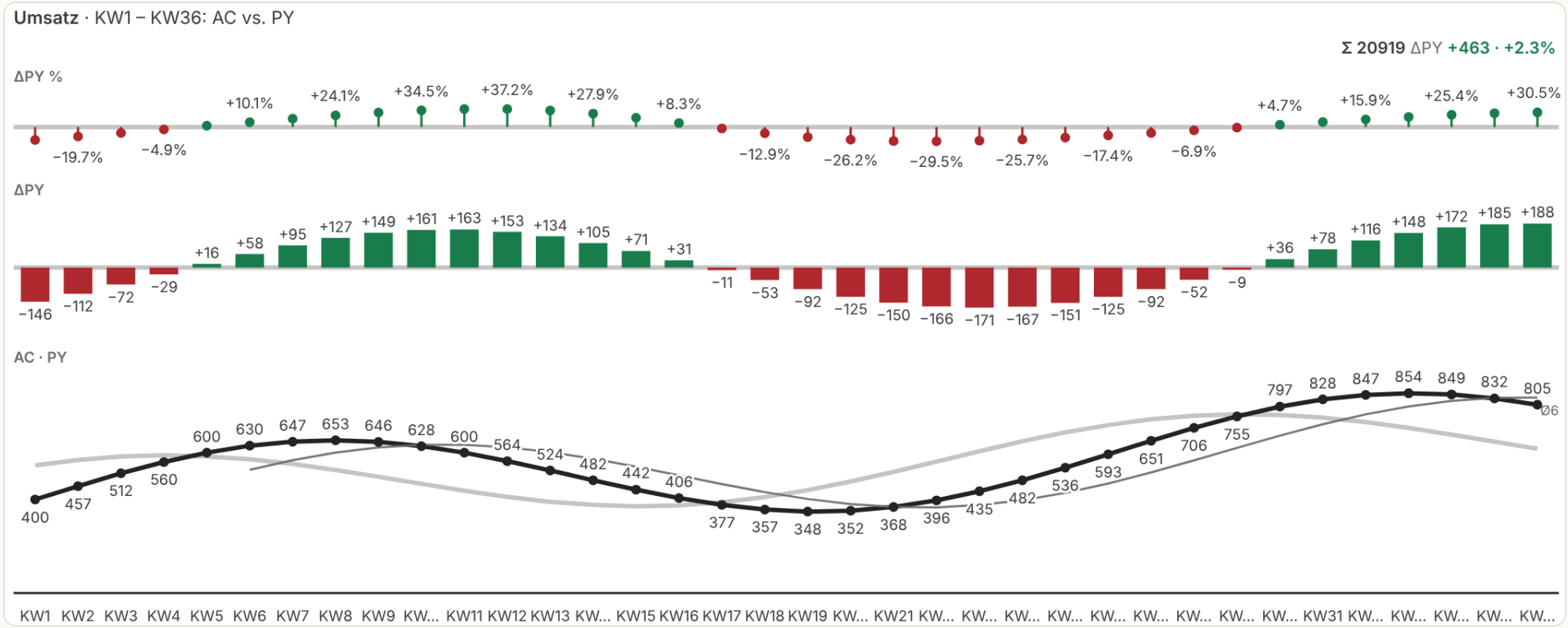
Use case: volume and quality in one picture, e.g. revenue and gross margin or units and price.



Combo · columns for revenue, a line for the margin on its own scale

03 Time series · Line

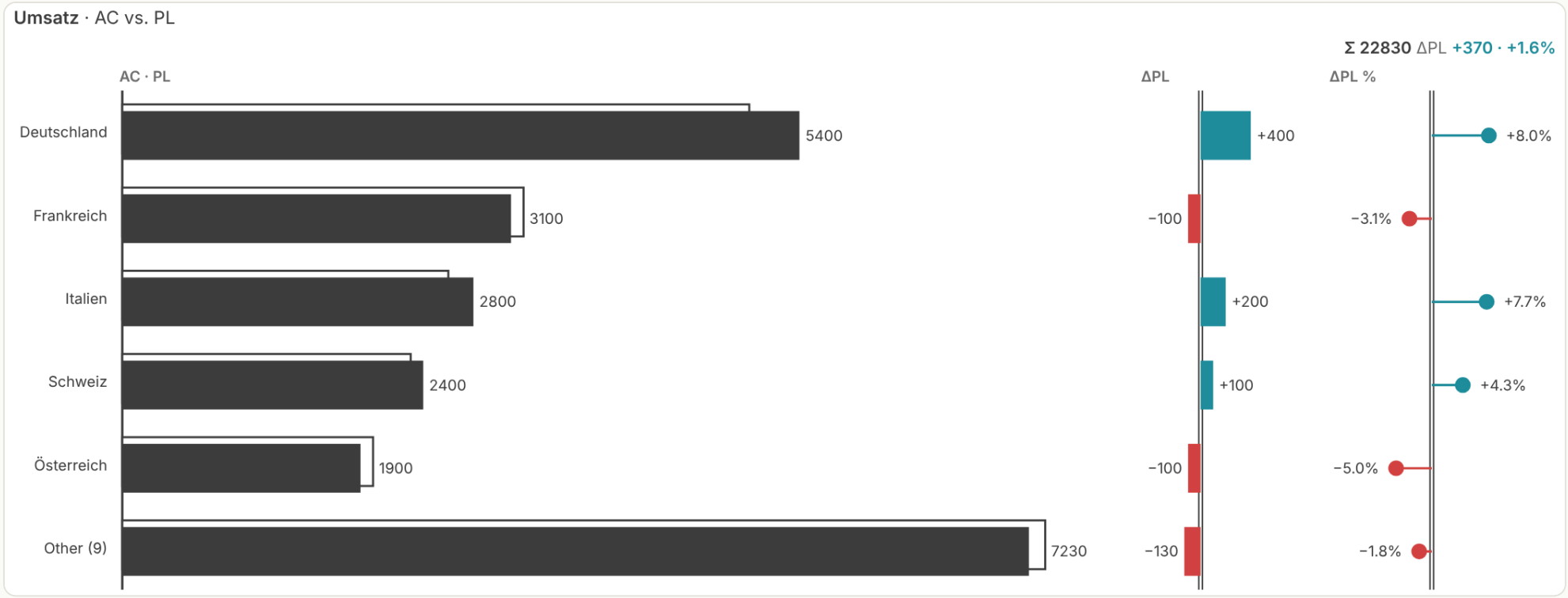
Use case: long series from about 24 points, weekly or daily values where columns would get too dense.



Line · 36 weeks, AC solid, PY thin grey

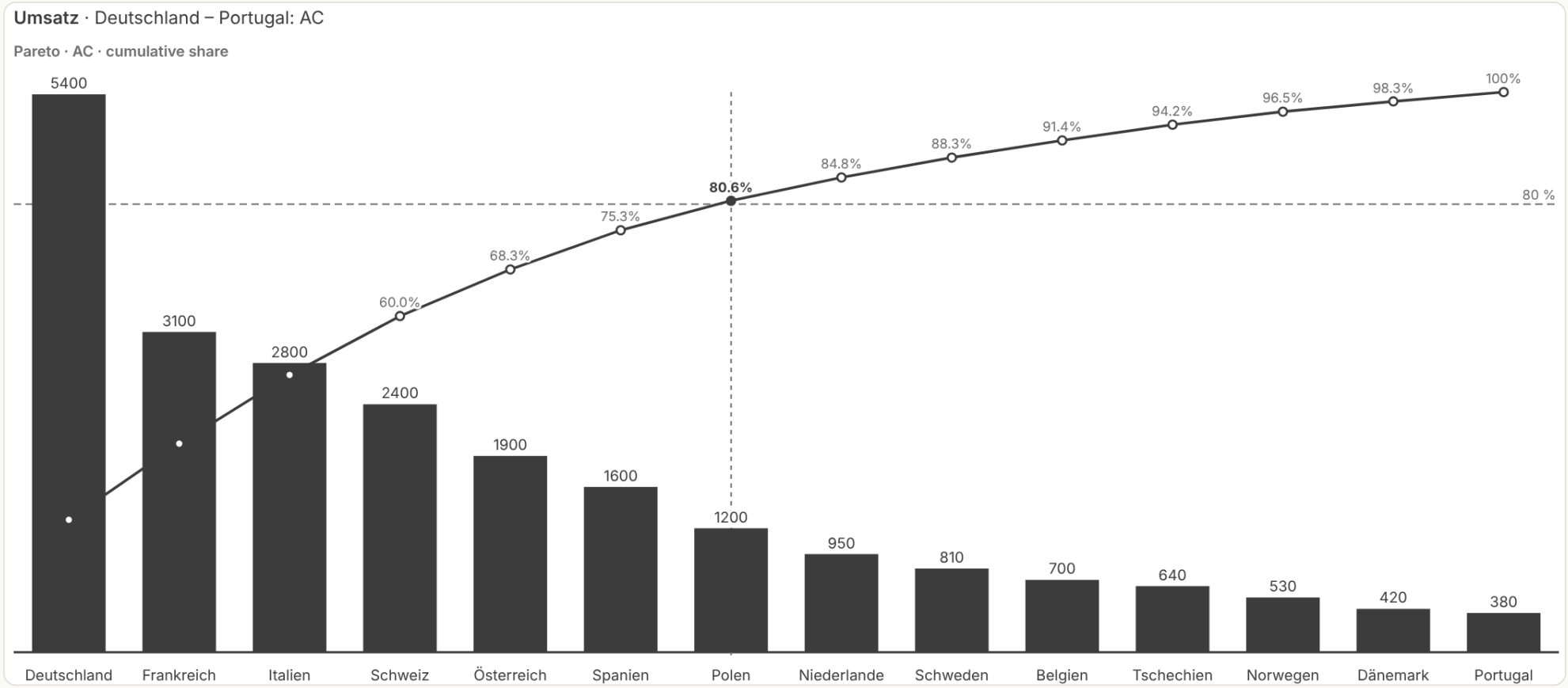
04 Structure

Use case: rankings by country, customer or product. Top-N with a rest bar keeps long lists readable.



Bars · top 5 + rest out of 14 countries

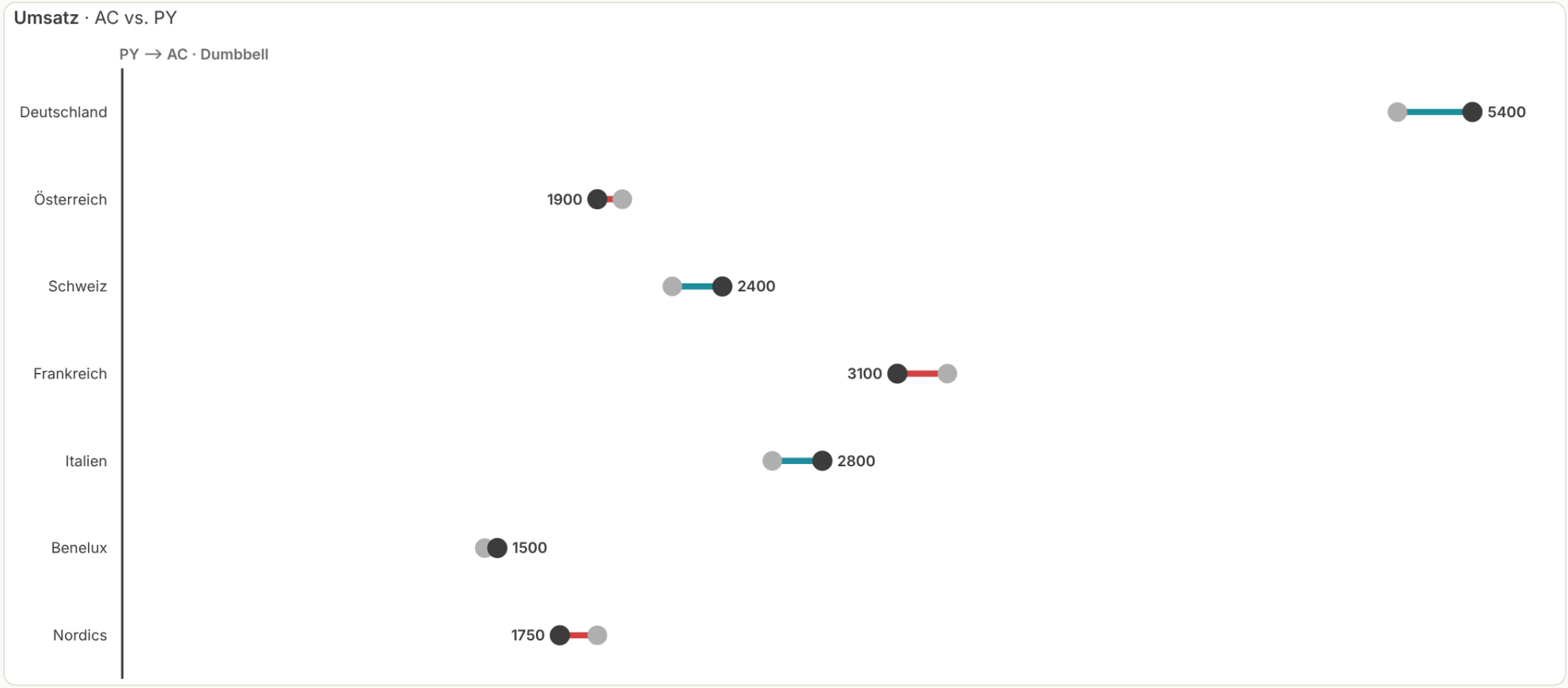
Use case: ABC analysis of customers, items or cost types: which few make up most of it?



Pareto · descending columns, cumulative % line, 80 % mark

04 Structure · Dumbbell

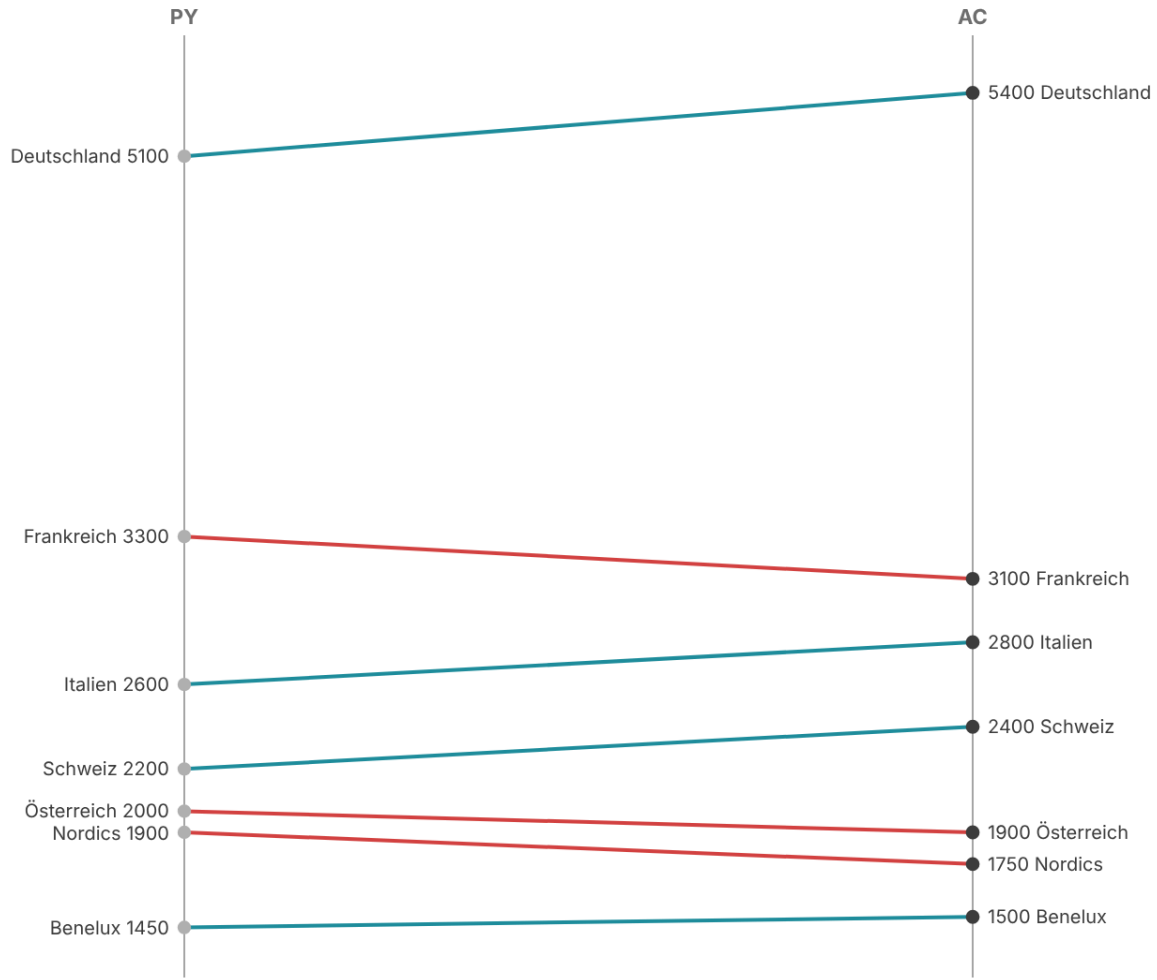
Use case: before and after per category, e.g. prices, rates or margins per region, when the gap matters more than the level.



Dumbbell · PY → AC per category

Use case: rank changes between two points in time, e.g. market shares or KPIs of two years.

Umsatz · Deutschland – Nordics: AC vs. PY



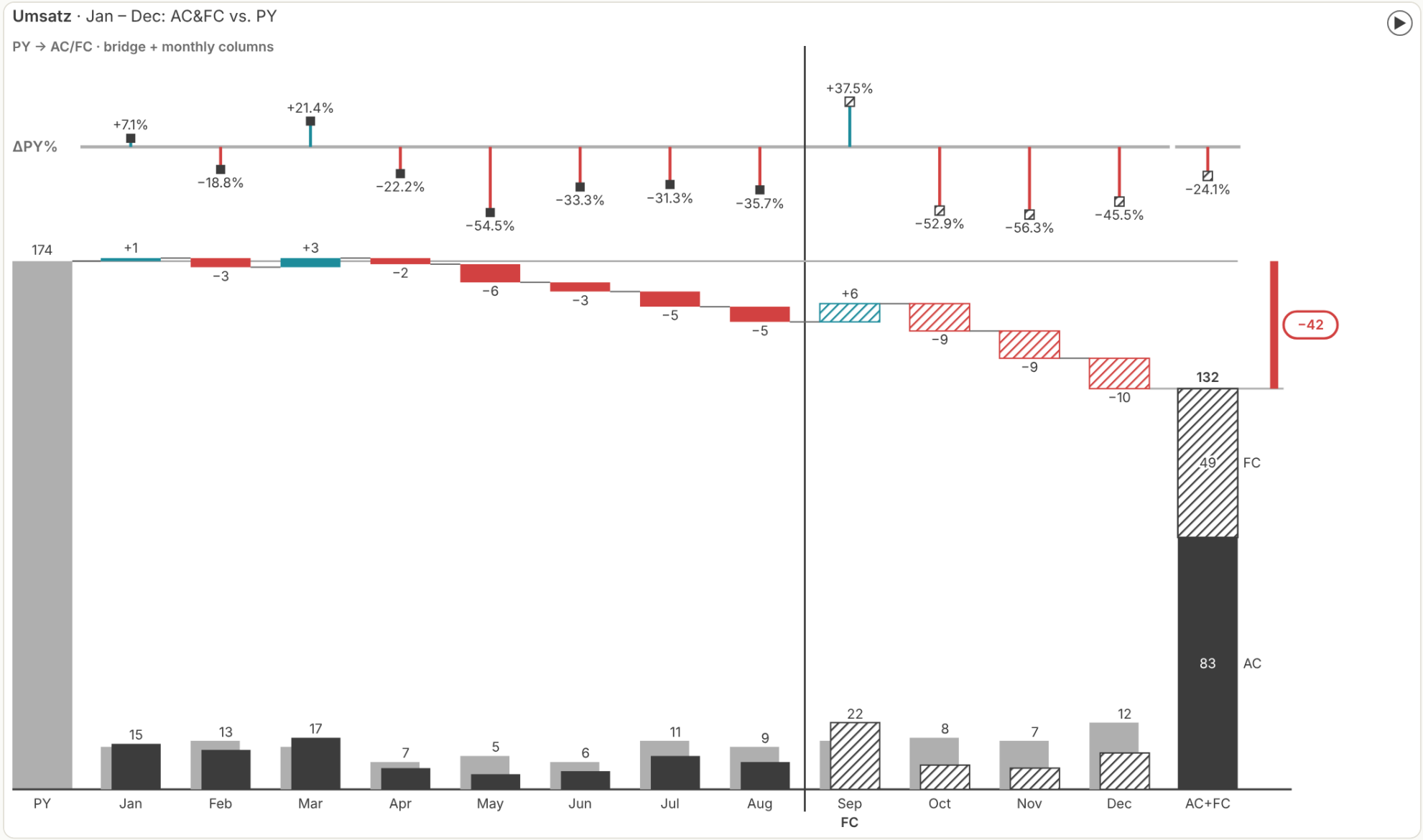
Slope · before/after PY → AC

05 Bridges

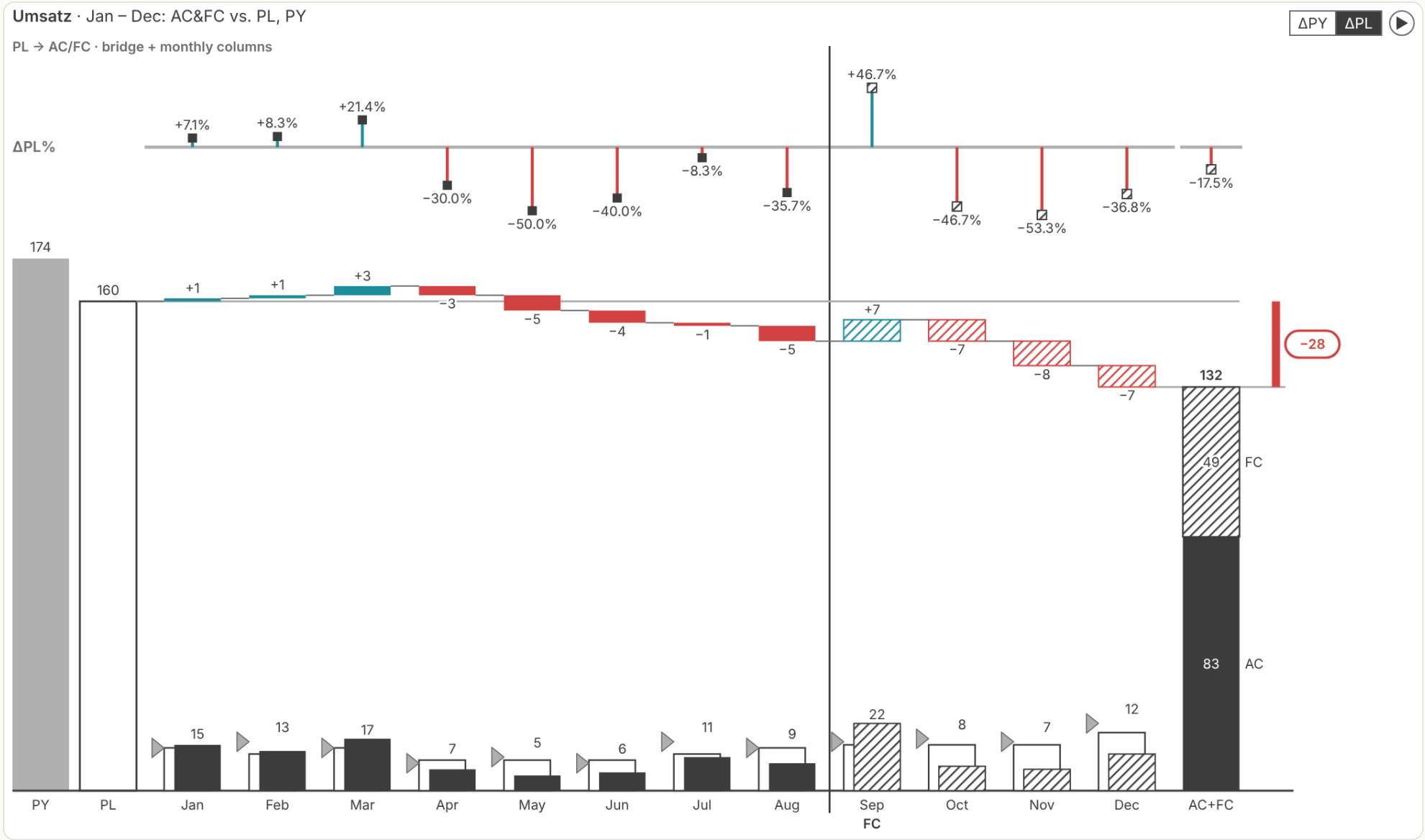
Bridges explain a variance step by step. ChartKitchen knows three forms, depending on whether the question asks about time, about drivers or about the result structure.

Bridge	Question	Use Cases
Integrated bridge (C05)	Which months took us from prior year or plan to actual + forecast?	Explain the full-year outlook, forecast gap to budget, monthly report
Category bridge (C06)	Which regions, products or customers drive the variance?	Revenue bridge by country, cost variance by cost centre, top-N + rest, biggest driver flagged
Waterfall (C12)	How is a result built up?	P&L from revenue to EBIT, price-volume effects, cash reconciliation (see P&L)

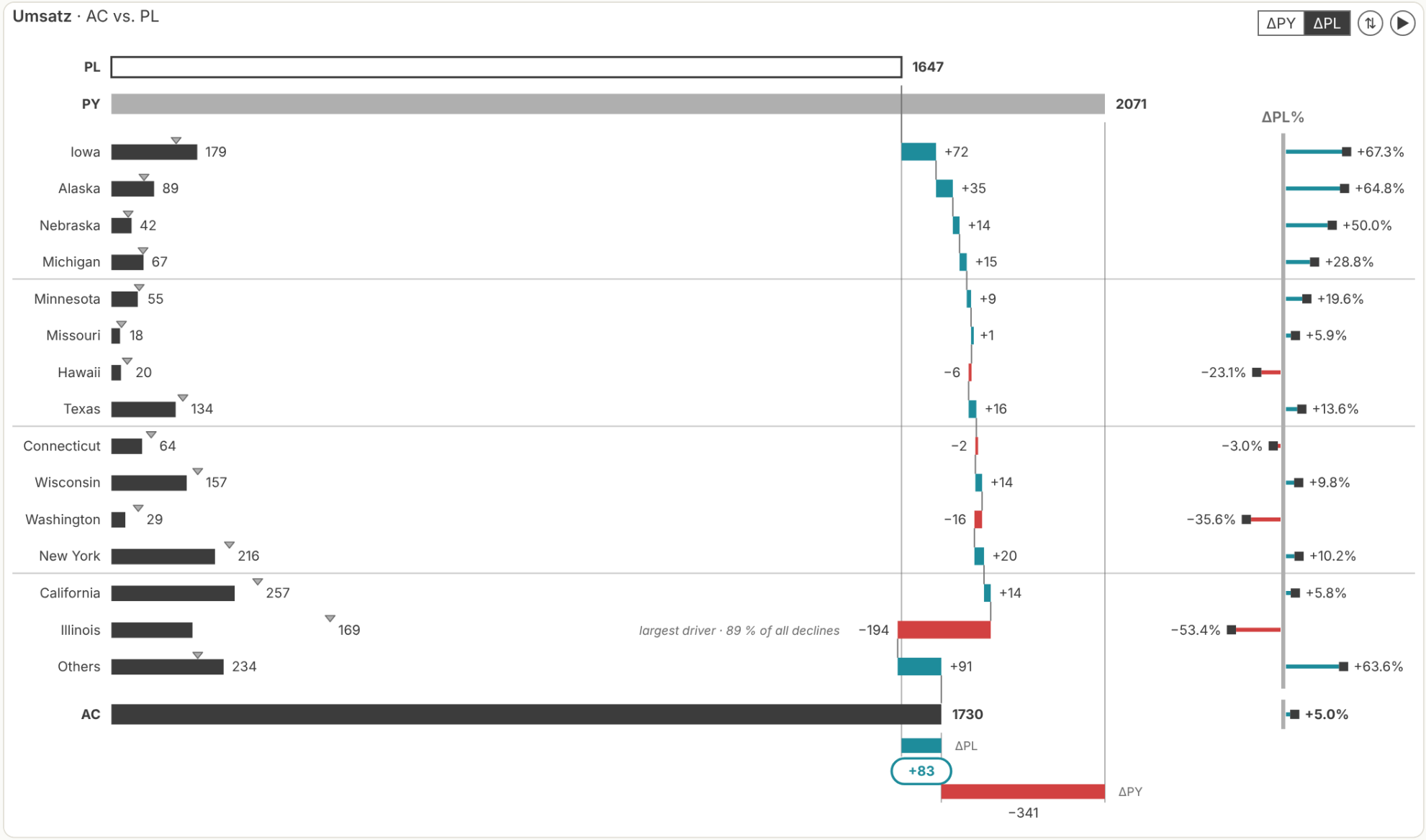
- **Same scale everywhere:** anchors and steps share one scale; a large base can be cut with an axis break (IBCS UN 5.3) instead of shrinking every step.
- **Forecast stays visible:** forecast months and steps are hatched, the total column stacks AC and FC.
- **Small multiples:** every bridge also works as one tile per region on a shared scale.



Integrated bridge · PY left, monthly steps, monthly columns, AC+FC right, ΔPY% pins on top



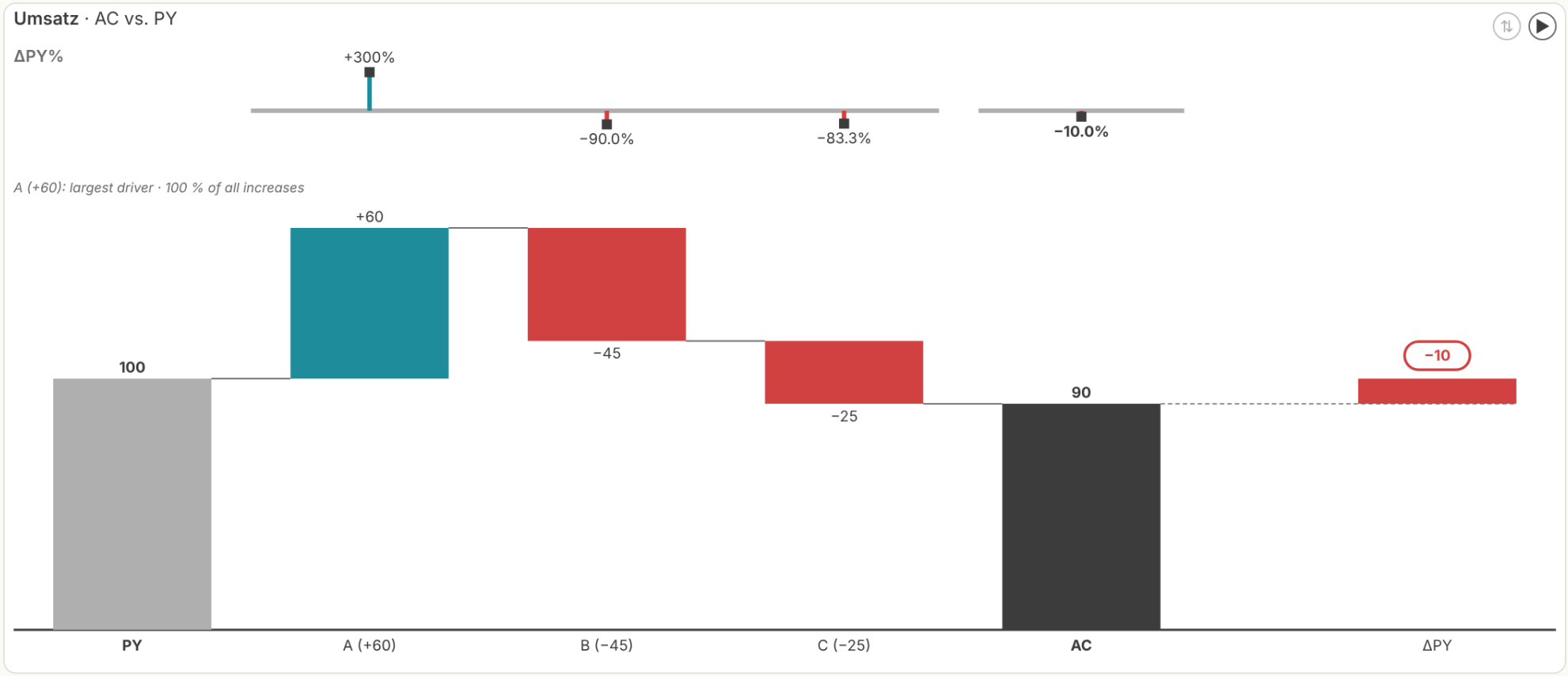
Integrated bridge on plan · two total columns PY and PL, PL outlines per month, PY as triangle



Category bridge · PL and PY as anchors, cascade per country sorted by impact, ΔPY% pins, dual reconciliation

05 Bridges · vertical

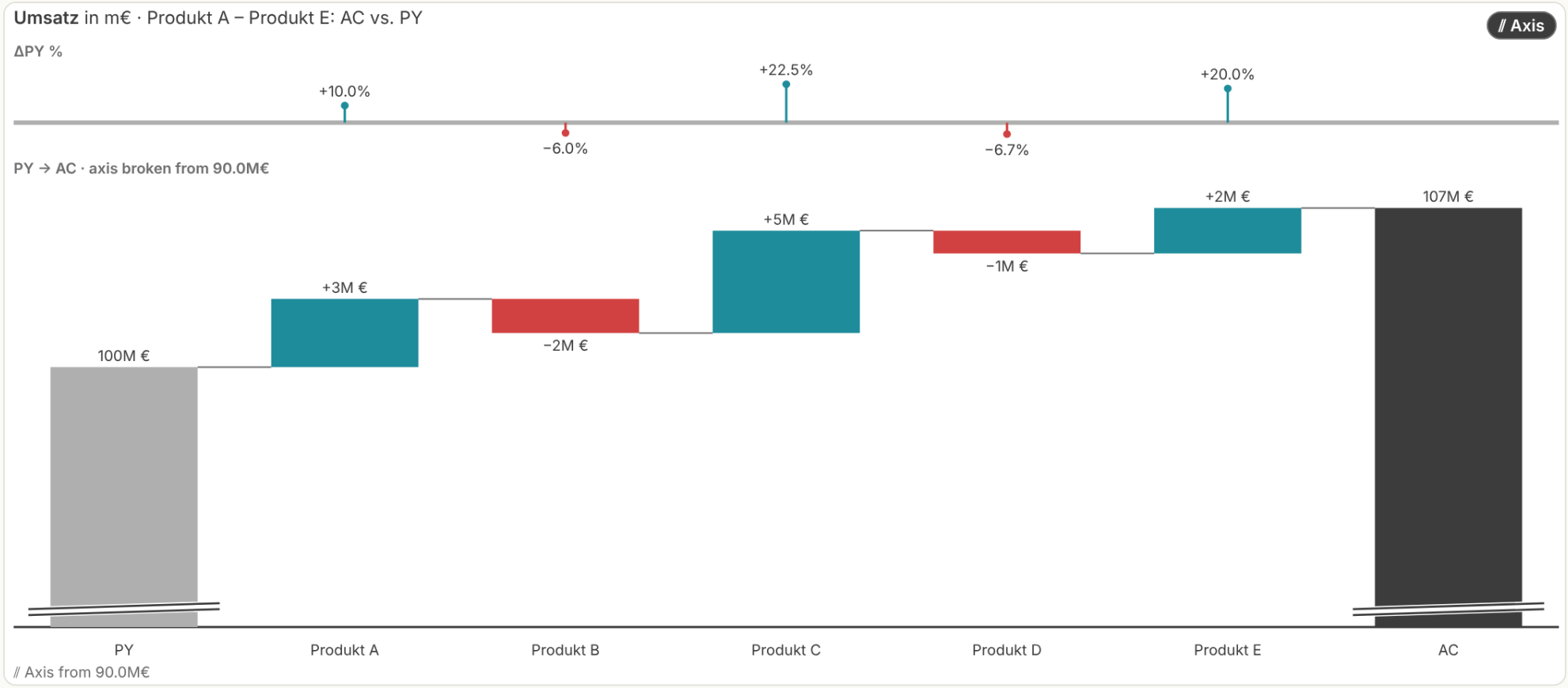
Use case: a few drivers in a presentation, e.g. price, volume, mix and currency.



Vertical category bridge (C06) · PY 100 → drivers → AC

05 Bridges · Axis break

Use case: small variances on a large base, e.g. ±2 % on 100 m revenue. The axis break is only offered where it is allowed.



Axis break (IBCS UN 5.3) · PY 100 m, driver steps readable instead of squeezed

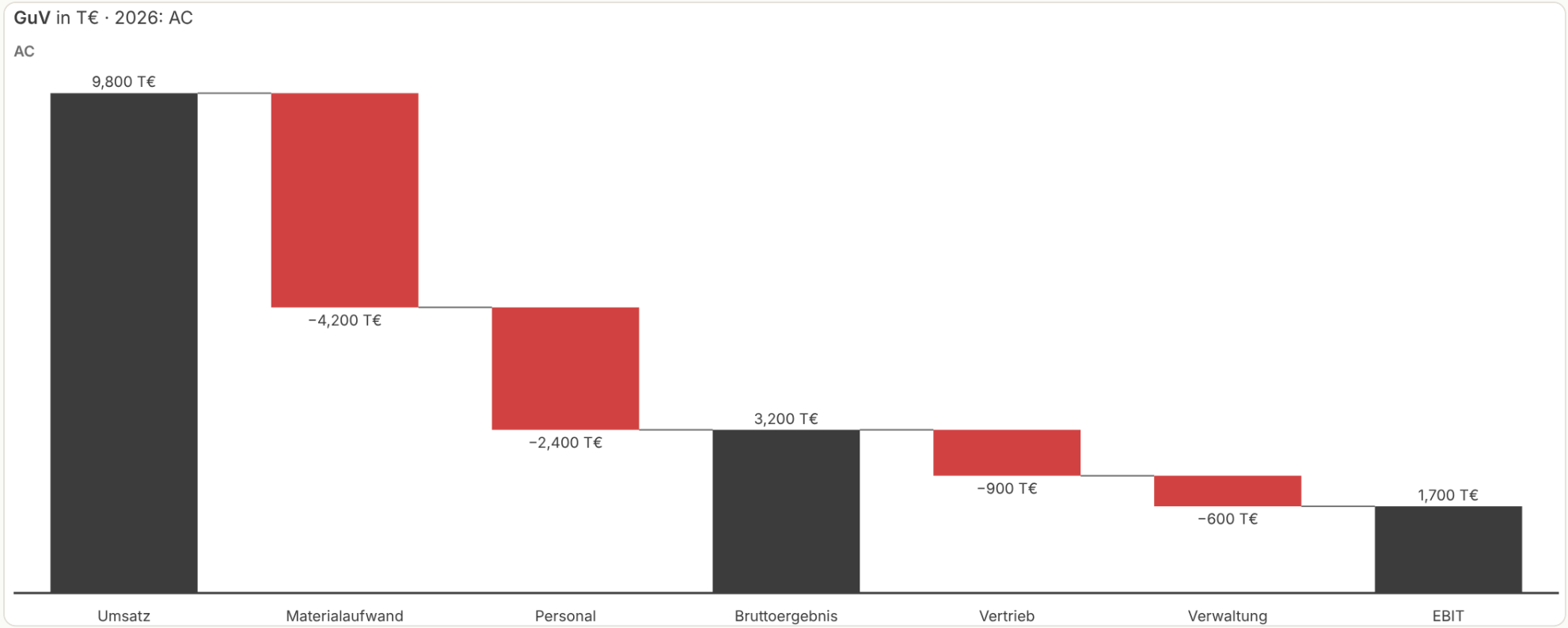
06 P&L with ChartKitchen

With the **row type** role (values `sum` / `total`, `delta`, `pct`) a category becomes a P&L: result rows anchor, movements cascade, margin rows show % and Δ in percentage points.

- **P&L waterfall (C12):** revenue → costs → gross profit → EBIT as one picture, for the management summary.
- **Waterfall + ΔPY steps:** the same waterfall with the variance per row against the prior year.
- **P&L statement (mode pnl):** PY and AC cascades as columns, ΔPY bars and pins, levels to expand — the compact P&L for a report page.
- **P&L table:** the statement as an IBCS table with margin rows and formula rows (gross profit = revenue + material costs).
- **Same column as the P&L visual:** the row-type values of the P&L Statement visual (Subtotal, Formula, KPI, Account) are understood, so one account dimension feeds both visuals.

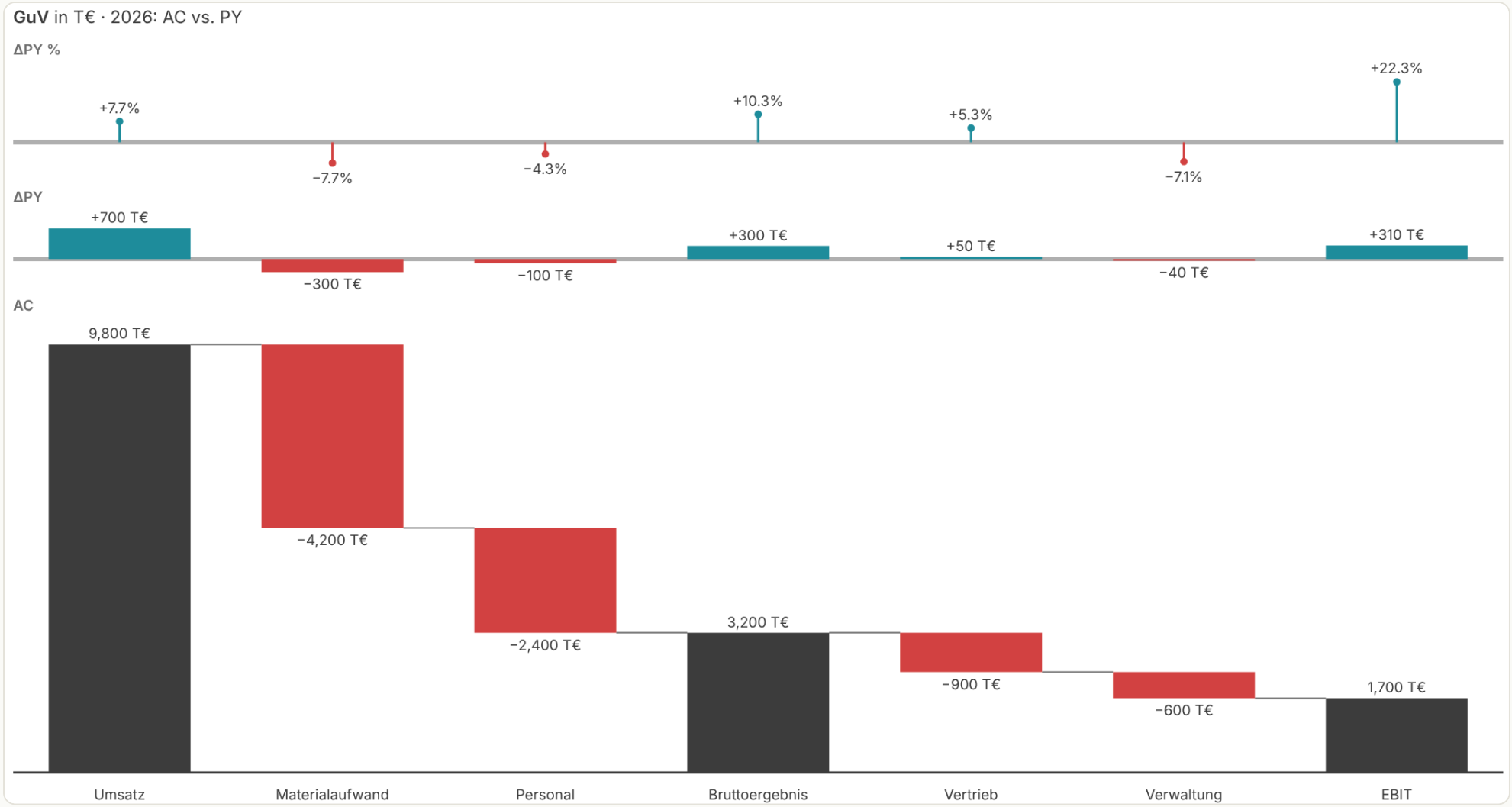
> **When the P&L visual fits better:** for the full P&L with formula engine, mega-table templates, balance sheet, cash flow, value driver tree and Sankey.

06 P&L with ChartKitchen · Waterfall



P&L waterfall (C12) · row type sum/delta, result rows as anchors

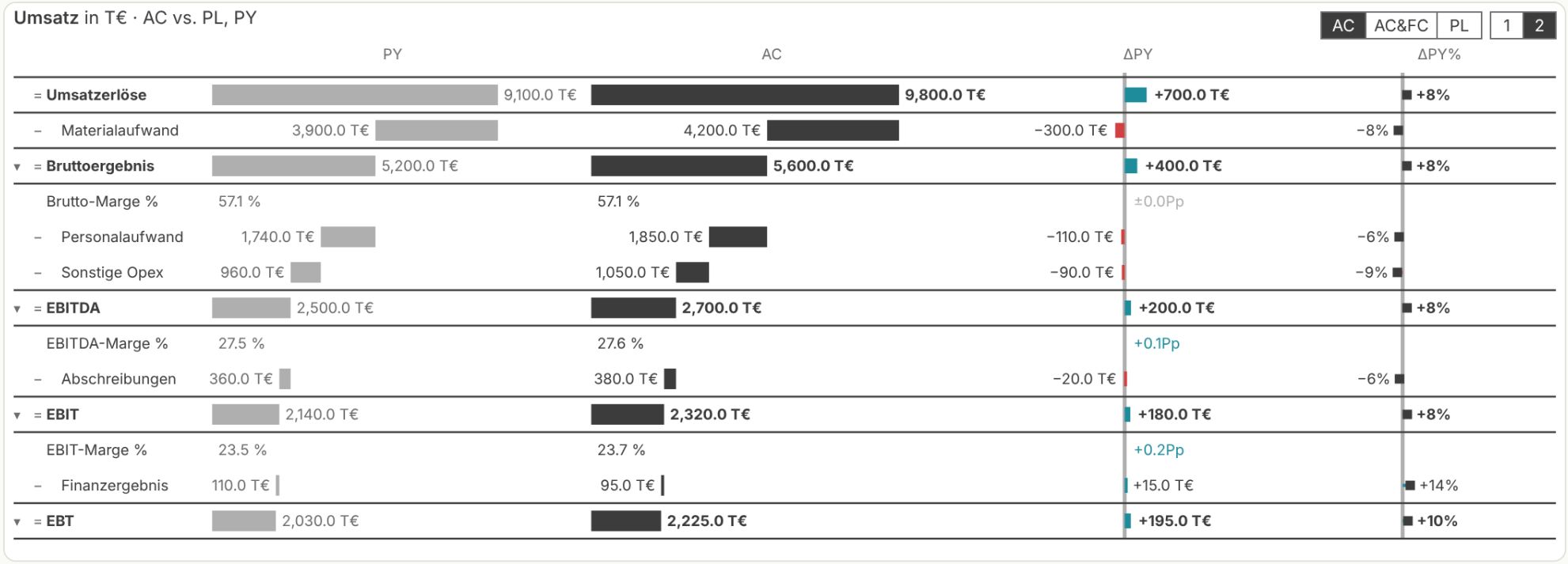
06 P&L with ChartKitchen · with ΔPY



P&L waterfall with ΔPY variance steps

06 P&L with ChartKitchen · Statement

Use case: the P&L as a compact statement on a report page, with level buttons for readers.



P&L statement · PY and AC cascades, ΔPY bars and ΔPY% pins, margins in %

Umsatz in T€ · AC vs. PY

	AC	AC · PY	ΔPY	ΔPY %
Umsatz	9,800 T€		+600 T€	+6.5%
Materialaufwand	-4,200 T€		−300 T€	−7.7%
Personal	-2,400 T€		−100 T€	−4.3%
Bruttoergebnis	**3,200 T€**		**+200 T€**	**+6.7%**
Vertrieb	-900 T€		−50 T€	−5.9%
Verwaltung	-600 T€		+40 T€	+6.3%
EBIT	**1,700 T€**		**+190 T€**	**+12.6%**

P&L as IBCS table · AC·PY bars, ΔPY and ΔPY% pins

Umsatz in T€ · AC vs. PY

	AC	AC · PY	ΔPY	ΔPY %
Umsatz	9,800 T€		+700 T€	+7.7%
Materialaufwand	-4,200 T€		−300 T€	−7.7%
Personal	-2,400 T€		−100 T€	−4.3%
Opex	-900 T€		−50 T€	−5.9%
Rohertrag	**5,600 T€**		**+400 T€**	**+7.7%**
Marge	57.1 %		0.0Pp	
Σ Total	**2,300 T€**		**+250 T€**	**+12.2%**

Formula rows · gross profit = revenue + material costs, margin = gross profit / revenue

07 Tables & matrix

The IBCS table shows numbers and graphics in one row: values, Δ bars on a shared scale and Δ% pins. With a **column group** field it becomes a matrix.

- **Country or customer lists** with ΔPL and ΔPY side by side, sortable by clicking the header, Σ row fixed.
- **Hierarchies** region → country → product with chevrons, ±All buttons and automatic expansion.
- **Matrix:** rows × quarter or month columns (two levels, expandable), Σ block, mini Δ bars per block, Δ against the previous column for period comparisons.
- **Row formats and flags:** margin rows in %, of-which rows indented, memo rows outside the Σ, emphasis for one row.
- **Sum-safe rounding:** rounded values add up exactly to the total row.

Umsatz · AC vs. PL, PY

	AC	AC · PY · PL	ΔPL	ΔPL %	ΔPY	ΔPY %
Deutschland	5400		+400	+8.0%	+414	+8.3%
Österreich	1900		−100	−5.0%	+114	+6.4%
Schweiz	2400		+100	+4.3%	+54	+2.3%
Frankreich	3100		−100	−3.1%	+276	+9.8%
Italien	2800		+200	+7.7%	+168	+6.4%
Belgien	700		−50	−6.7%	−48	−6.4%
Niederlande	950		+50	+5.6%	+147	+18.3%
Polen	1200		+100	+9.1%	+72	+6.4%
Tschechien	640		−60	−8.6%	−52	−7.5%
Dänemark	420		−30	−6.7%	+115	+37.7%
Schweden	810		+10	+1.3%	+49	+6.4%
Norwegen	530		−30	−5.4%	−58	−9.9%
Spanien	1600		−100	−5.9%	+186	+13.2%
Portugal	380		−20	−5.0%	+23	+6.4%
Σ Total	**22830**		**+370**	**+1.6%**	**+1460**	**+6.8%**

IBCS table · countries with ΔPL and ΔPY, values, bars and pins, Σ total

Umsatz in T€ · AC vs. PY

	Q1	ΔPY	Q2	ΔPY	Σ	ΔPY	ΔPY %
▾ **DACH**	**2,150 T€**	**+105 T€**	**2,390 T€**	**+145 T€**	**4,540 T€**	**+250 T€**	**+5.8%**
Deutschland	1,000 T€	+50 T€	1,120 T€	+70 T€	**2,120 T€**	+120 T€	+6.0%
Österreich	1,150 T€	+55 T€	1,270 T€	+75 T€	**2,420 T€**	+130 T€	+5.7%
▾ **West**	**2,950 T€**	**+125 T€**	**3,190 T€**	**+165 T€**	**6,140 T€**	**+290 T€**	**+5.0%**
Frankreich	1,400 T€	+60 T€	1,520 T€	+80 T€	**2,920 T€**	+140 T€	+5.0%
Benelux	1,550 T€	+65 T€	1,670 T€	+85 T€	**3,220 T€**	+150 T€	+4.9%
Σ Total	**5,100 T€**	**+230 T€**	**5,580 T€**	**+310 T€**	**10,680 T€**	**+540 T€**	**+5.3%**

Matrix · row hierarchy region → country × quarter columns, mini Δ bars per block

Umsatz in T€ · AC vs. PY

	▸ Q1		▸ Q2				
	Σ	ΔPY	Σ	ΔPY	Σ	ΔPY	ΔPY %
Nord	2,820 T€	+75 T€	3,180 T€	+135 T€	**6,000 T€**	+210 T€	+3.6%
West	3,720 T€	+105 T€	4,080 T€	+165 T€	**7,800 T€**	+270 T€	+3.6%
Süd	4,620 T€	+135 T€	4,980 T€	+195 T€	**9,600 T€**	+330 T€	+3.6%
Ost	5,520 T€	+165 T€	5,880 T€	+225 T€	**11,400 T€**	+390 T€	+3.5%
Σ Total	**16,680 T€**	**+480 T€**	**18,120 T€**	**+720 T€**	**34,800 T€**	**1,200 T€**	**+3.6%**

Matrix · quarter → month (two levels), collapsed, Σ block on the right

Umsatz in T€ · AC vs. PL, PY

	Q1	PY	PL	ΔPL	Q2	PY	PL	ΔPL	Q3	PY	PL	ΔPL	Σ	ΔPL
Nord	800 T€	780 T€	820 T€	−20 T€	900 T€	860 T€	910 T€	−10 T€	1,000 T€	940 T€	1,000 T€	0	**2,700 T€**	−30 T€
West	1,100 T€	1,070 T€	1,130 T€	−30 T€	1,200 T€	1,150 T€	1,220 T€	−20 T€	1,300 T€	1,230 T€	1,310 T€	−10 T€	**3,600 T€**	−60 T€
Süd	1,400 T€	1,360 T€	1,440 T€	−40 T€	1,500 T€	1,440 T€	1,530 T€	−30 T€	1,600 T€	1,520 T€	1,620 T€	−20 T€	**4,500 T€**	−90 T€
Σ Total	**3,300 T€**	3,210 T€	3,390 T€	**−90 T€**	**3,600 T€**	3,450 T€	3,660 T€	**−60 T€**	**3,900 T€**	3,690 T€	3,930 T€	**−30 T€**	10,800 T€	**−180 T€**

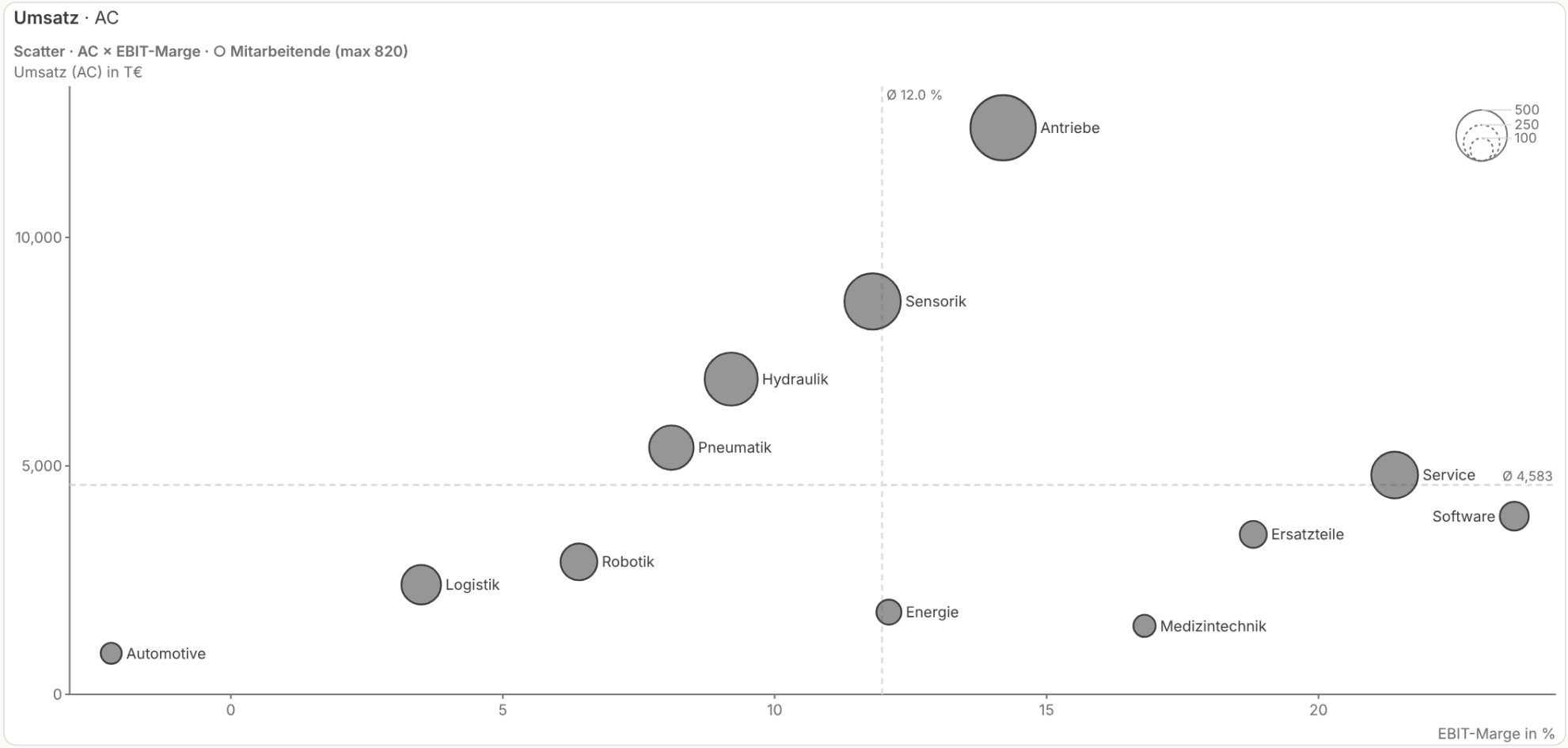
Matrix · value columns AC · PY · PL per block

08 Scatter & Bubble

Two KPIs against each other: Y is the actual, X a second KPI, optionally the bubble size as a third. Portfolios, customers or sites become comparable.

Use Case	Y	X	Size
Product portfolio	revenue	EBIT margin	employees
Customer value	revenue	DSO or contribution margin	number of orders
Sites / plants	output	cost per unit	headcount
Sales reps	order intake	hit rate	pipeline
Cost centres	costs	Δ against plan in %	budget

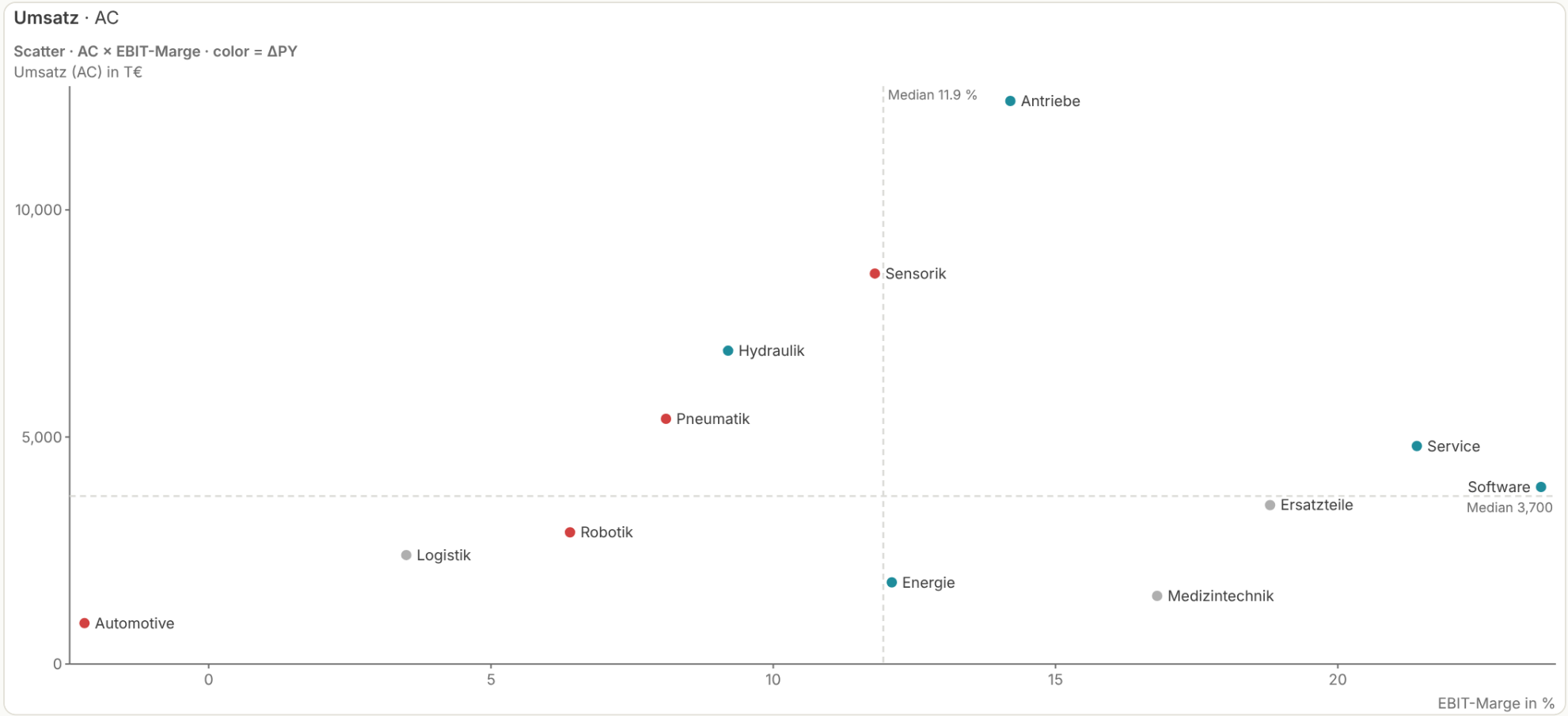
- **Quadrants** at mean, median or fixed values, with your own labels such as “Stars” or “Review”.
- **Status colouring** by ΔPY or ΔPL with materiality, **emphasis** of single points, colour by group with shapes per series.
- **Trend line** with R^2, **log scales**, fixed axes, **movement arrows** PY → AC, the **play button** through the months, **rectangle selection** as cross-filter.



Bubble (C10) · revenue × EBIT margin, size = employees, quadrants at the mean, size legend

08 Scatter & Bubble · Status

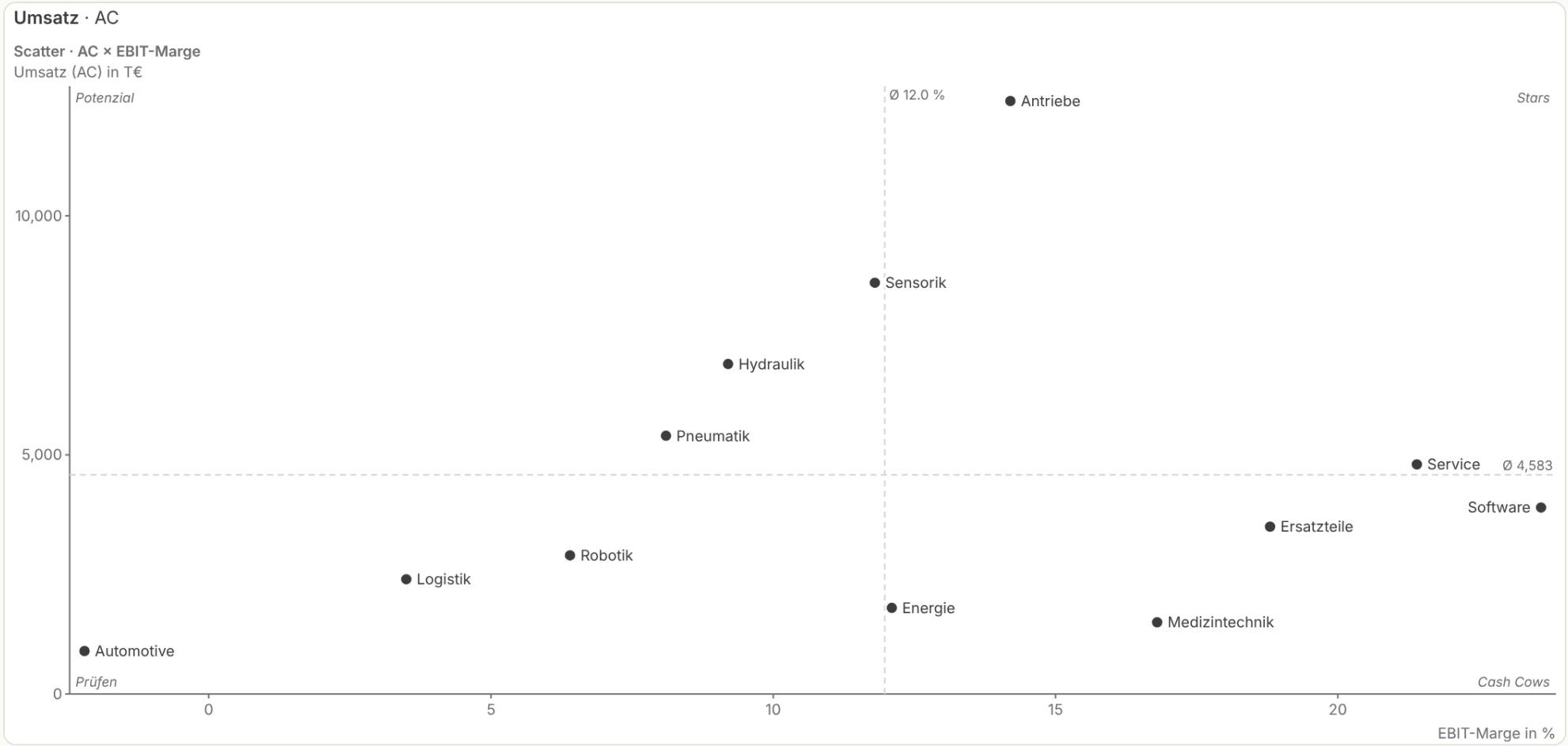
Use case: who improved against the prior year, who got worse? Immaterial moves stay grey.



Status colouring ΔPY (favourable teal, unfavourable red) with 3 % materiality

08 Scatter & Bubble · Quadrants

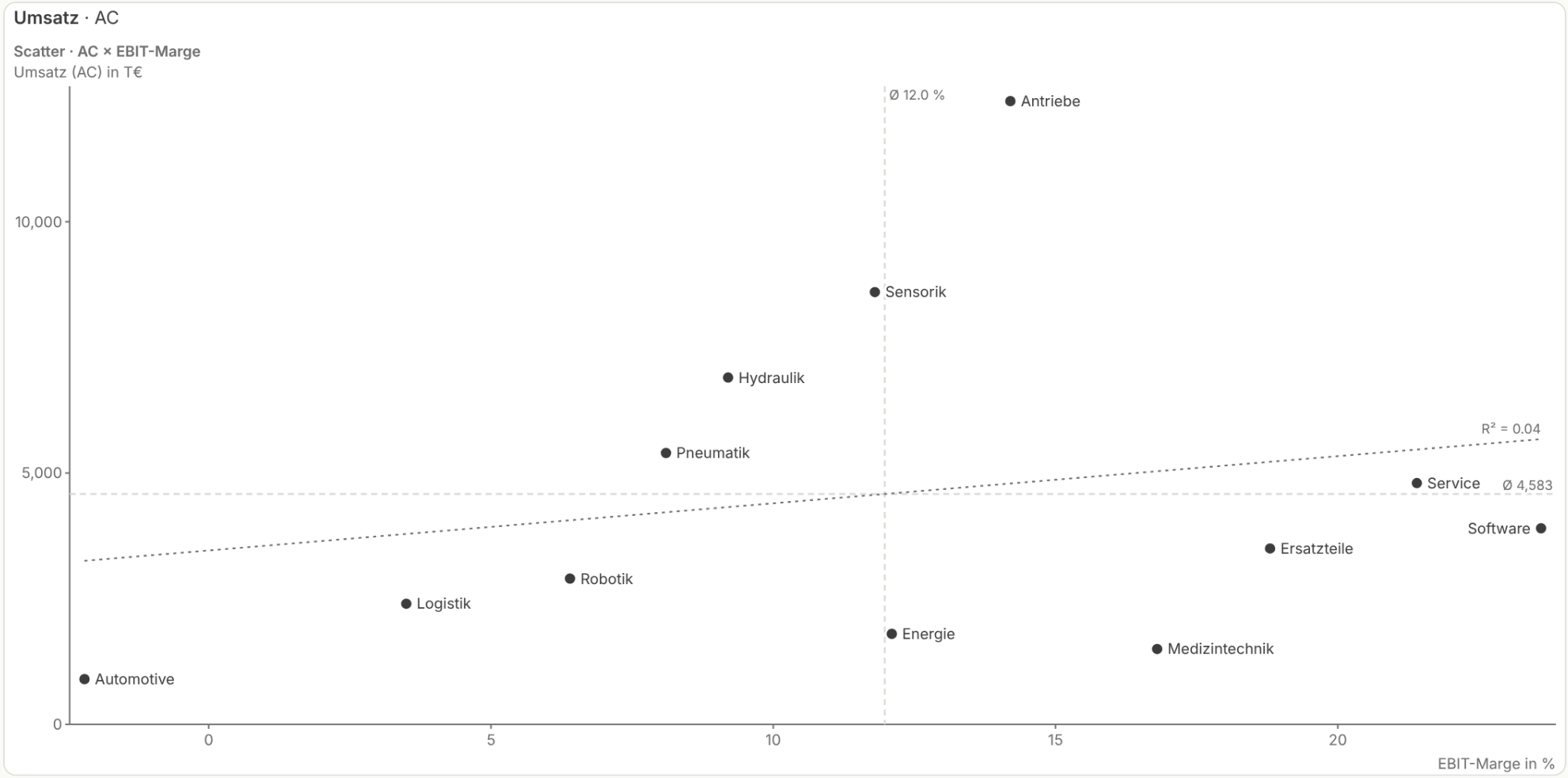
Use case: portfolio discussion in management: the quadrants carry the recommended action.



Quadrant labels · stars, potential, review, cash cows

08 Scatter & Bubble · Trend

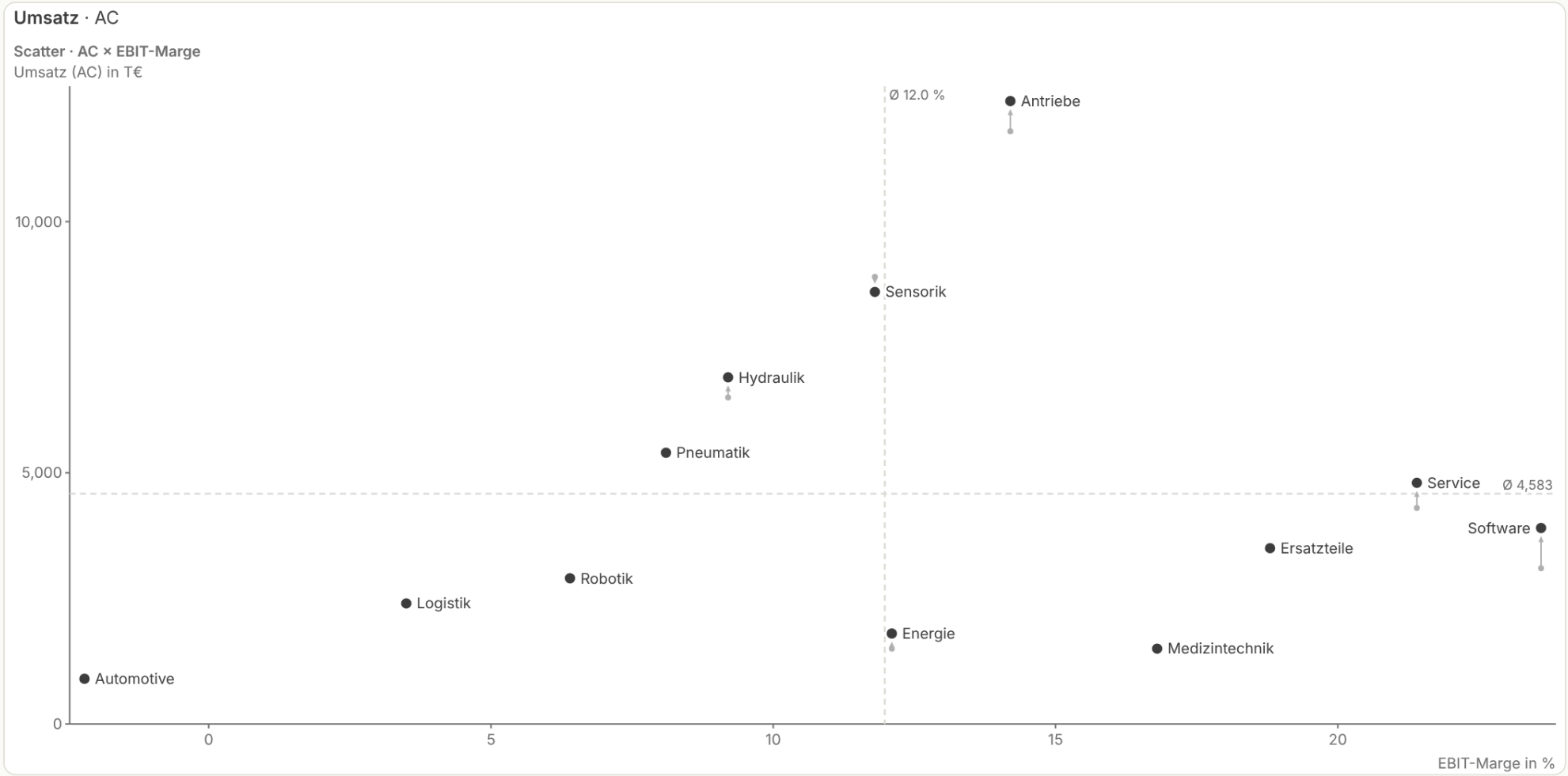
Use case: check a relationship, e.g. marketing budget and revenue. Outliers above and below the line stand out at once.



Trend line (linear) with R^2

08 Scatter & Bubble · Movement

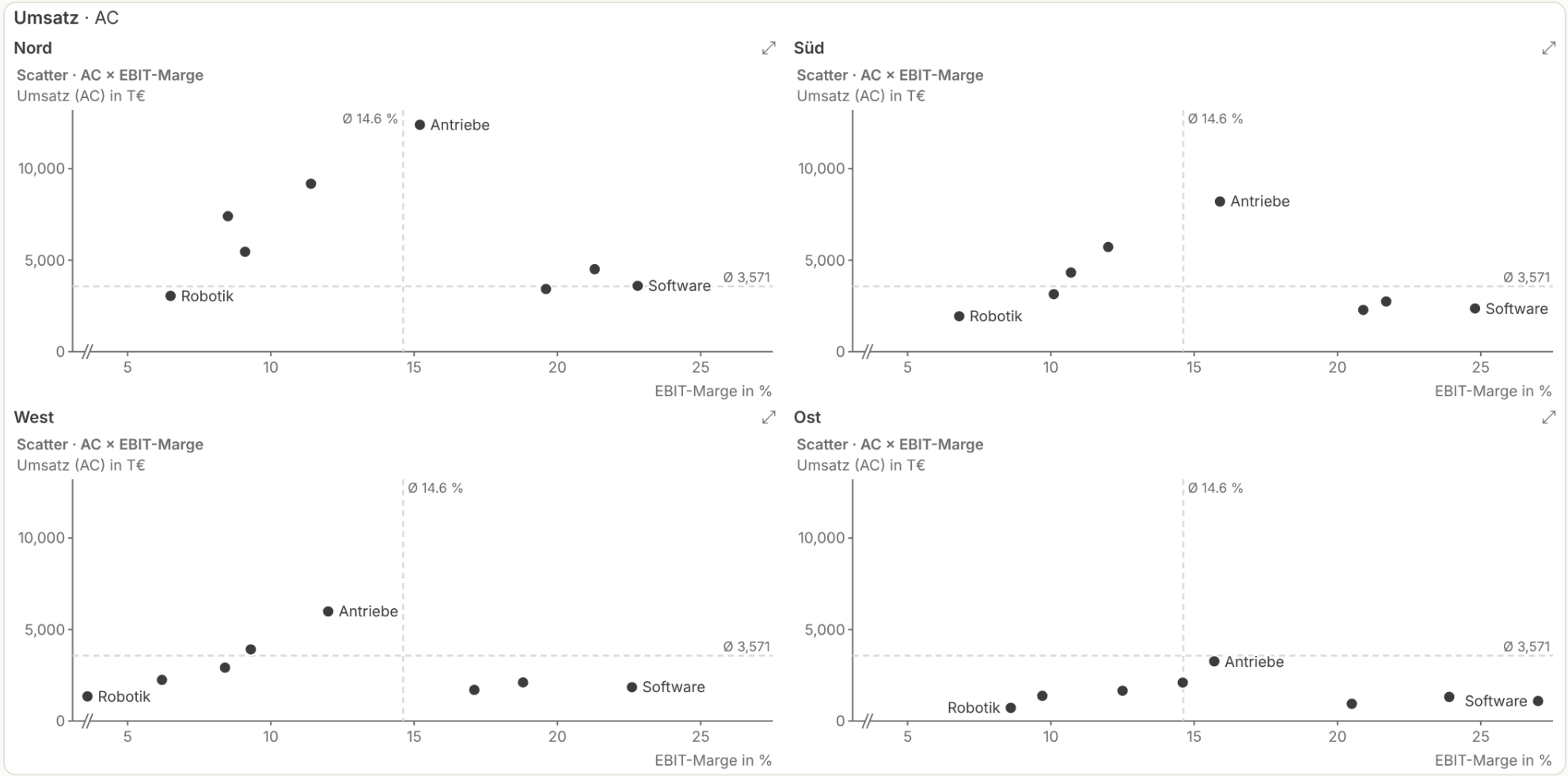
Use case: where did products or customers move? With a bound prior-year X the arrows run in two dimensions.



Movement arrows PY → AC

08 Scatter & Bubble · Small Multiples

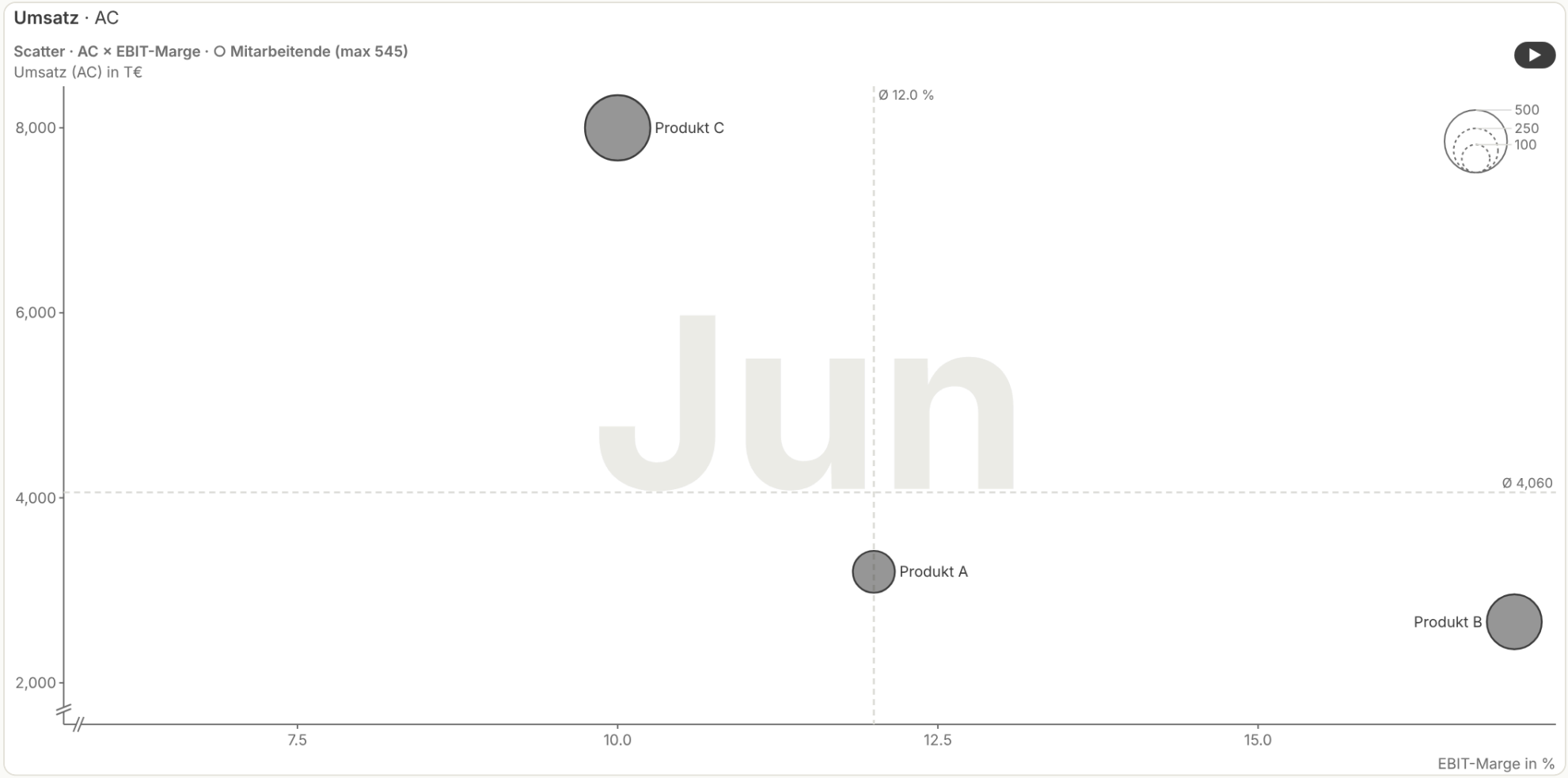
Use case: compare the same portfolio per region. Shared axes show at once where a region is smaller or weaker in margin.



Scatter as small multiples · 4 regions × 8 divisions, shared axes

08 Scatter & Bubble · Play

Use case: tell the story of the year, in the style of Hans Rosling.



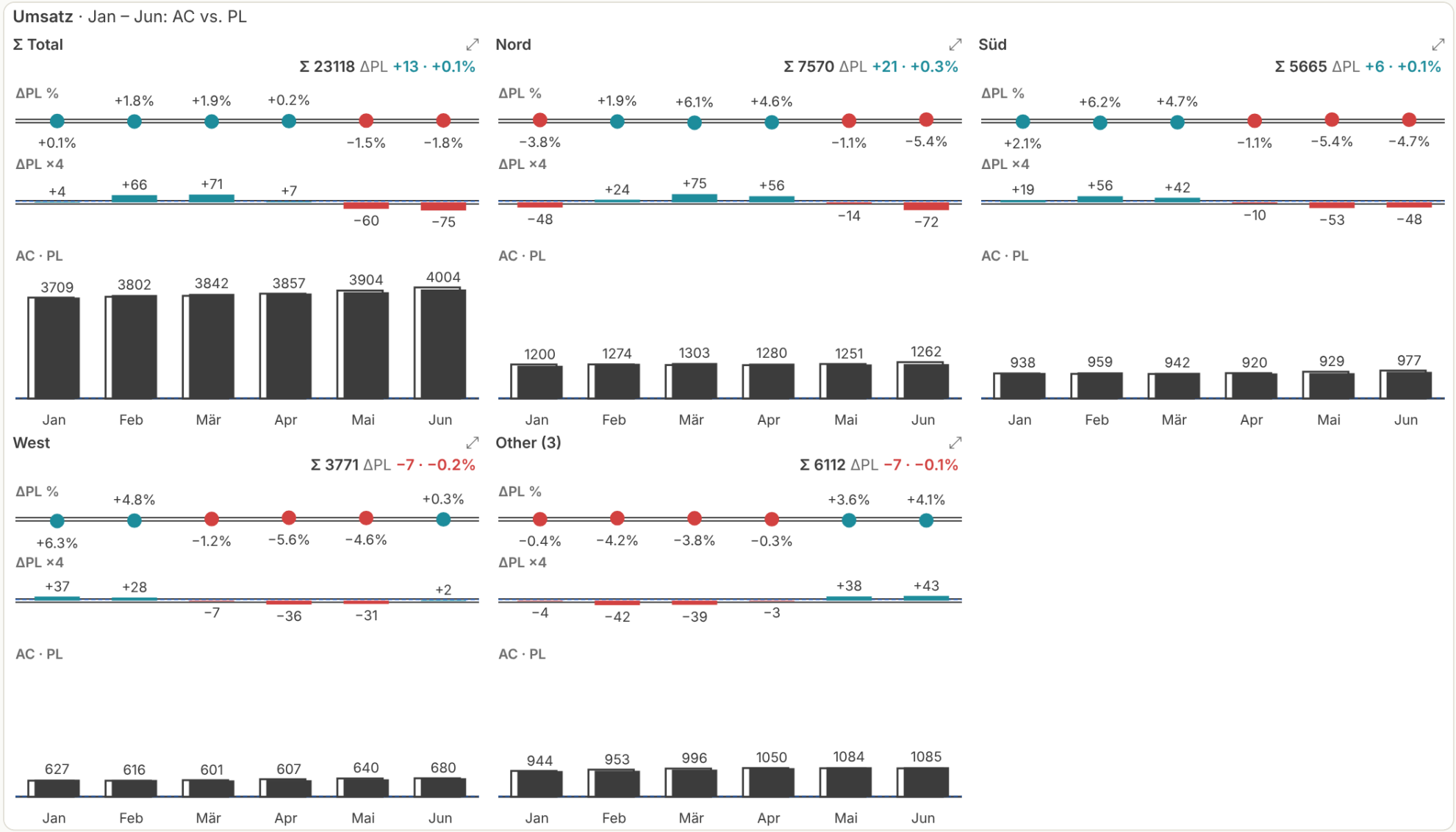
Play button · category = months as time axis, points move month by month

09 Small Multiples

A **small multiples** field splits the picture into one tile per region, product or company. All tiles share one scale so sizes stay comparable.

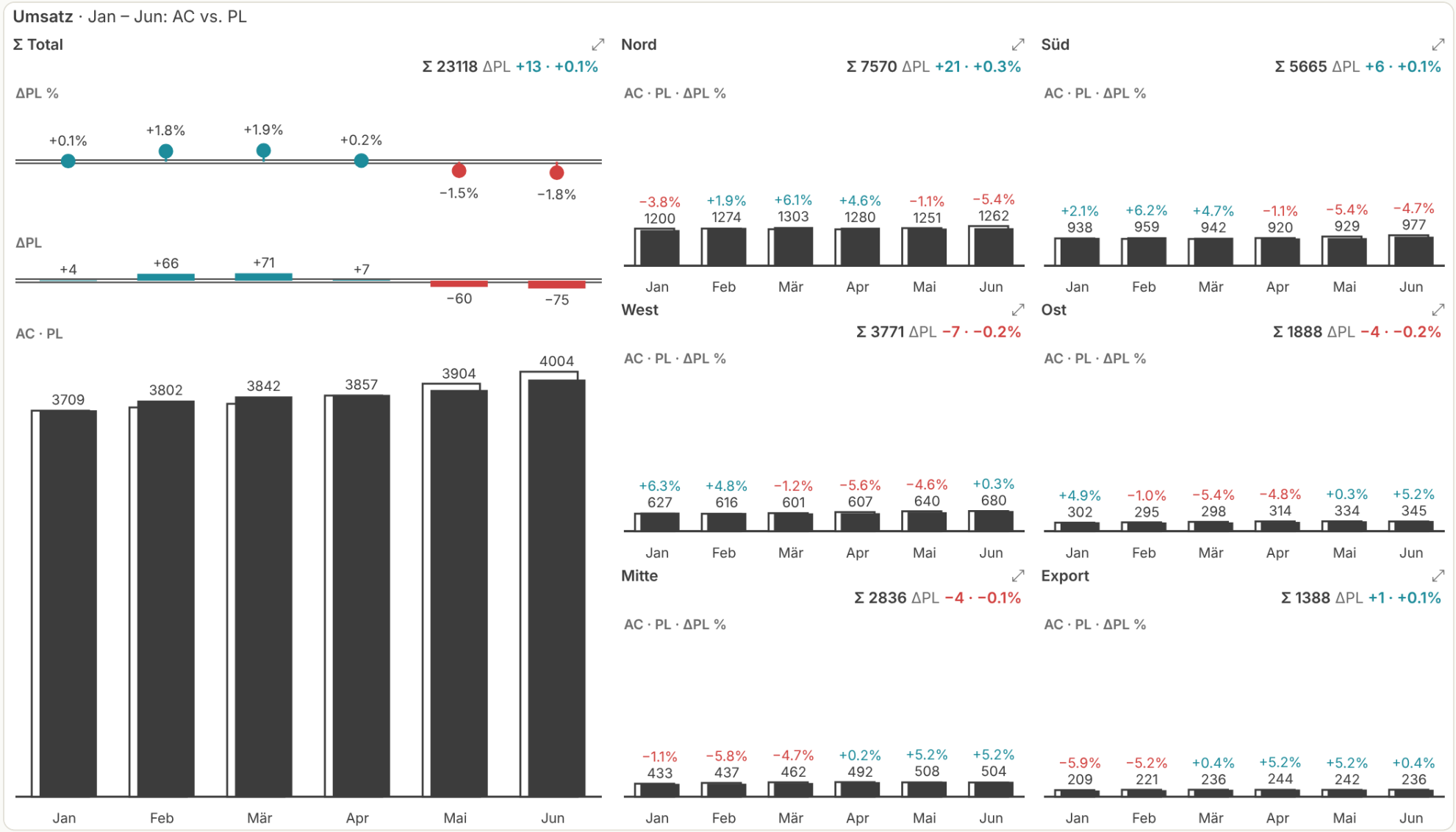
- **Regions or segments** in the monthly report: is the dip everywhere or only in one region?
- **Σ tile and top-N + rest:** the total first, then the biggest units, the rest in one tile.
- **First tile large:** the total as a big tile, the units as small ones next to it.
- **Every mode:** columns, bars, bridges, Pareto and scatter work as multiples; a ⤢ icon zooms into one tile.
- **Shared or own scale:** shared is the default (IBCS), own scale per tile can be switched on deliberately.

09 Small Multiples · Top-N + Σ



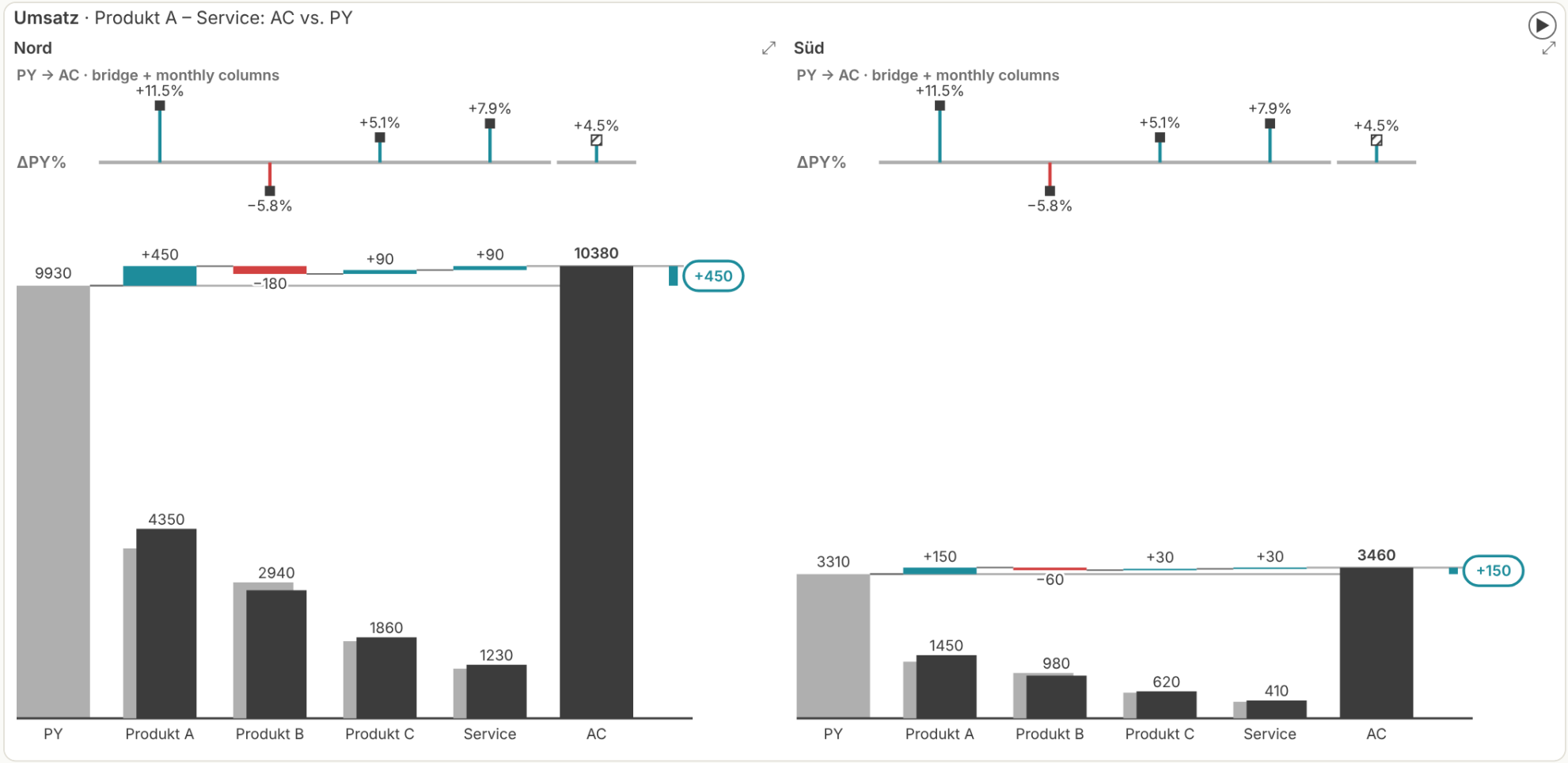
Top 3 + rest + Σ total · 6 regions, monthly columns with ΔPL and ΔPL%

09 Small Multiples · first tile large



First tile large + Σ total

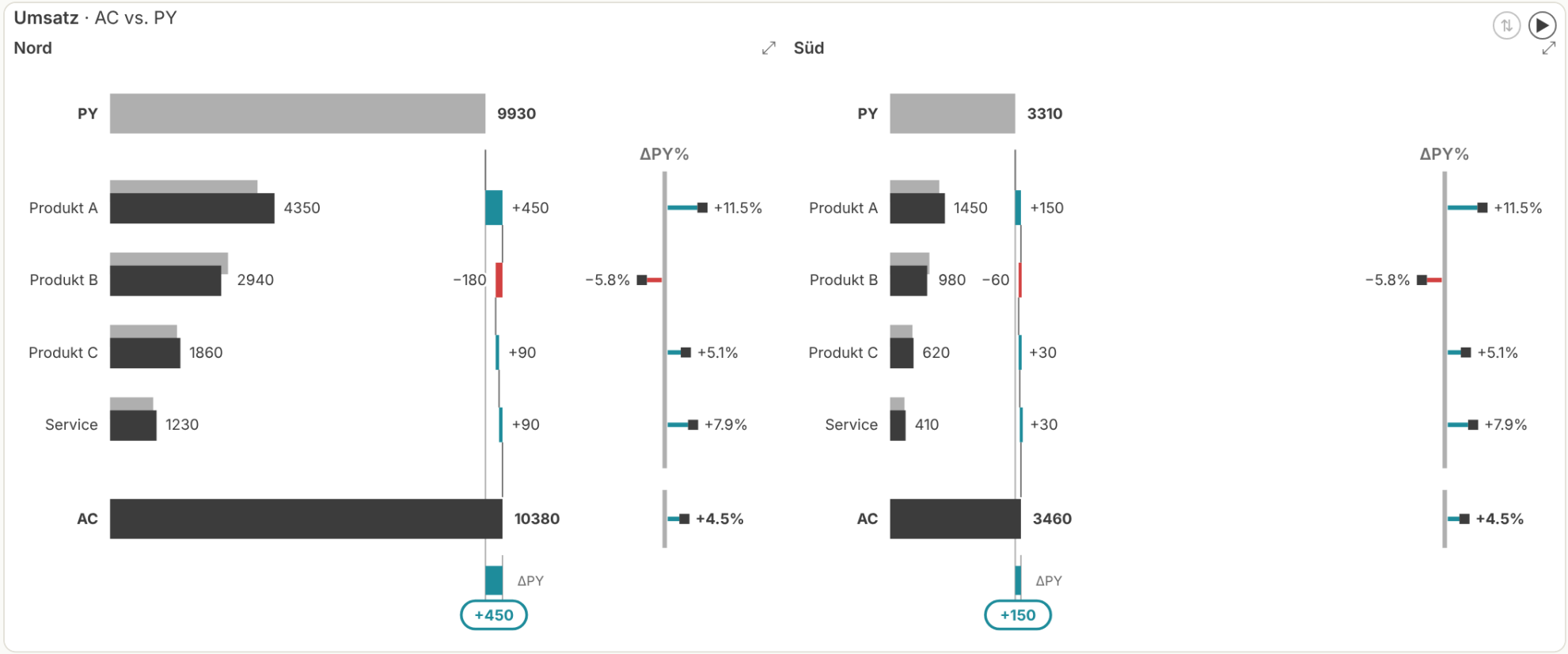
Use case: forecast gap per company on one page.



Integrated bridge as small multiples · shared scale

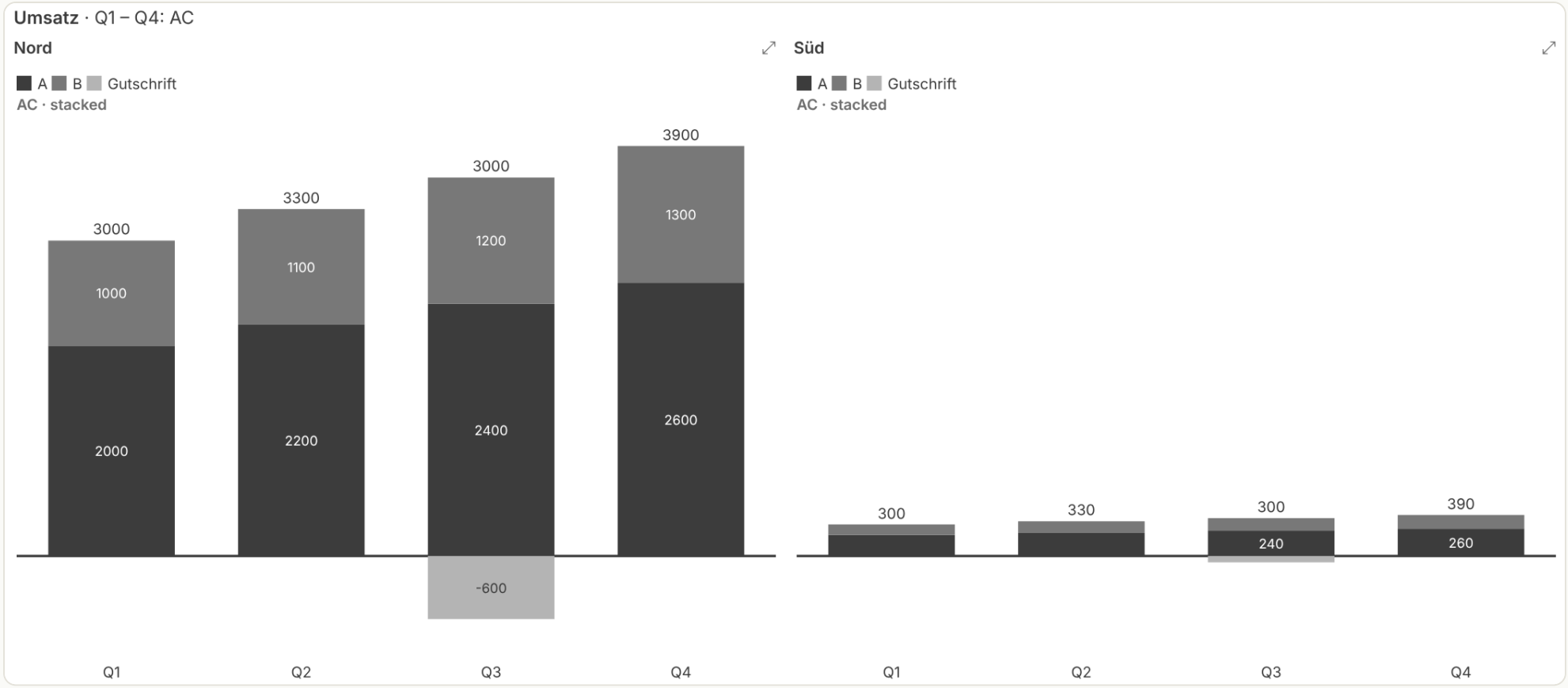
09 Small Multiples · category bridge

Use case: compare the drivers of the variance per region. The shared scale shows where the big amounts are.



Category bridge as small multiples · shared scale (south bars shorter)

09 Small Multiples · stacked



Stacked as small multiples · north and south on a shared scale

10 KPI cards

Use case: management cockpit with 4–12 KPIs; sortable, worst first, costs judged inverted.

Umsatz in m€ · AC&FC vs. PL, PY

↕ Sort

Umsatz
9.8M€
ΔPL +0.3M€ · +3.2%
ΔPY +0.7M€ · +7.7%



Rohertrag
4.2M€
ΔPL +0.1M€ · +2.4%
ΔPY +0.3M€ · +7.7%



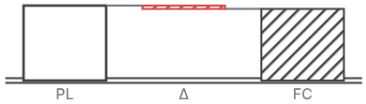
Opex
3.0M€
ΔPL +0.1M€ · +5.4%
ΔPY +0.3M€ · +9.3%



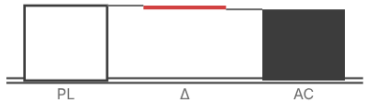
EBIT
1.3M€
ΔPL +0.1M€ · +4.0%
ΔPY +0.1M€ · +8.3%



Cashflow
860K € FC
ΔPL −40K € · −4.4%
ΔPY −50K € · −5.5%



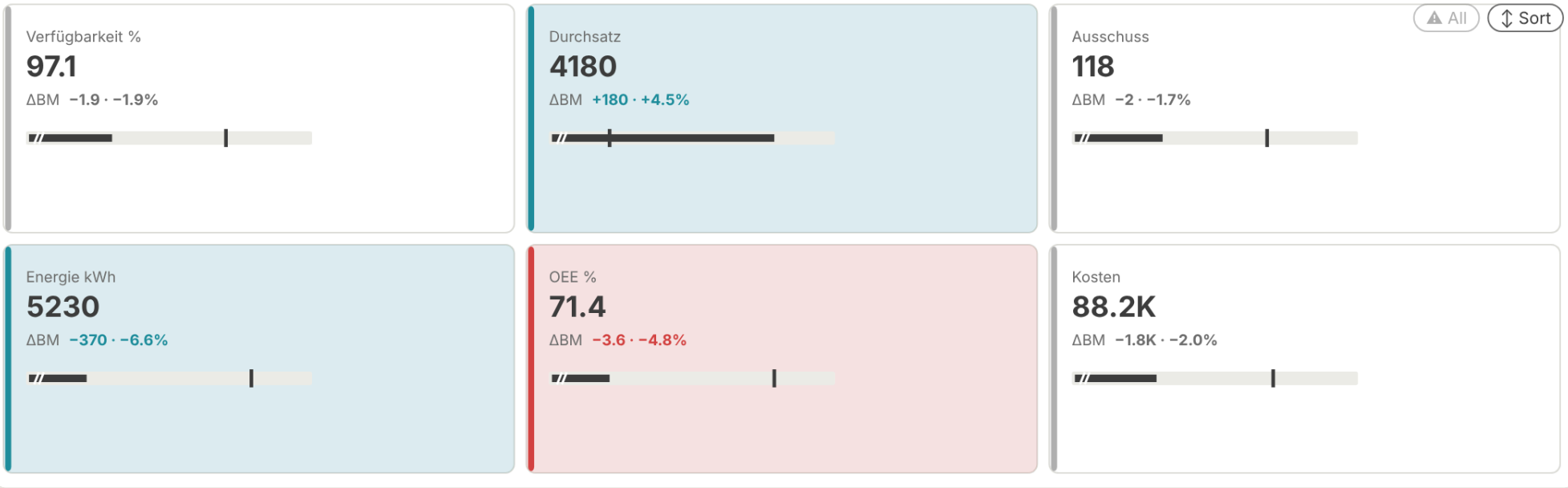
Auftragseingang
11.2M€
ΔPL −0.6M€ · −5.1%
ΔPY +0.8M€ · +7.7%



KPI cards · AC with ΔPL and ΔPY, mini bridge per card, FC hatched

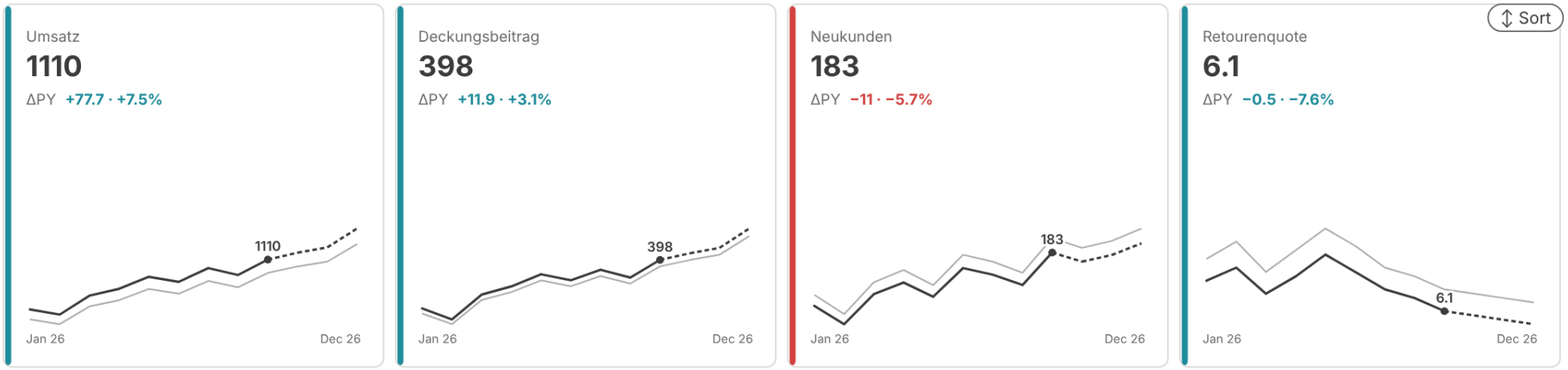
10 KPI cards · monitoring & trend

Umsatz in thousands · AC



Monitoring · status and background traffic light against benchmark

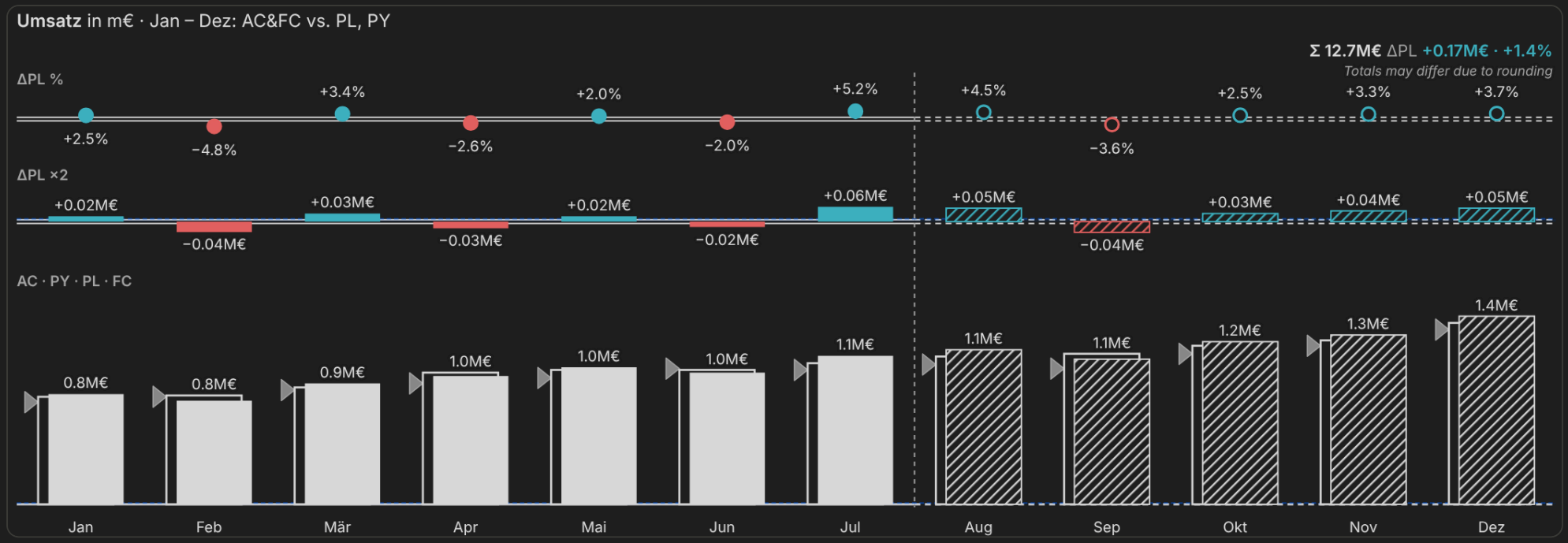
Umsatz · AC vs. PY



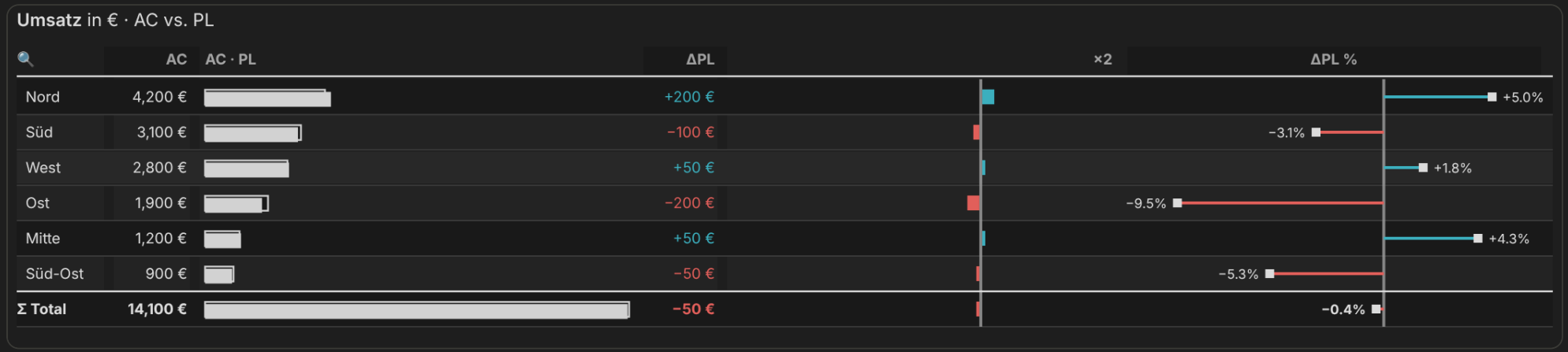
Cards with trend · sparkline, card value = last value

11 Dark mode

Same notation, light ink: actual light grey, plan as a light outline, forecast hatched, variances in the dark colours. “Auto” detects dark report themes by itself.

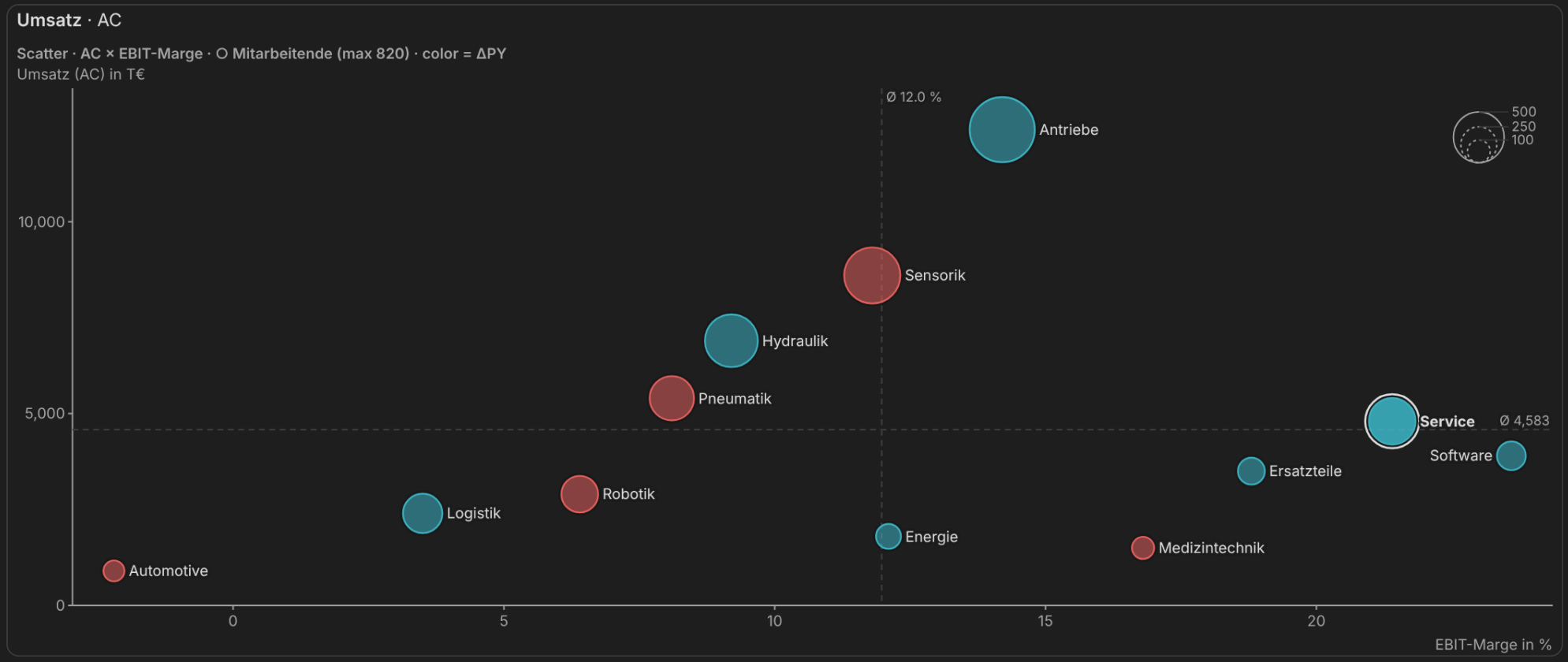


Columns AC/PY/PL/FC with ΔPL and ΔPL% · appearance dark



IBCS table with zebra rows and emphasis “West” · Δ bars and pins

11 Dark mode · Scatter



Scatter · bubbles = employees, colour = ΔPY status, emphasis “Service”, quadrants Ø

Auto

Default. If the report background is dark, the visual switches to light ink by itself.

Light / dark

Fixed under Colours → Appearance, e.g. for one dark page in a light report.

High contrast

Windows high contrast is detected: patterns and outlines instead of colours carry the message.

12 Why it’s a cool alternative for controlling

Free & open source

Apache-2.0 licence, no per-user fee. The code is on GitHub and can be audited.

13 modes, one notation

Actual, prior year, plan and forecast look the same in every mode. One scale per unit, also across tiles.

Templates C01–C13

A gallery by purpose sets every switch with one click, the start hub walks you through fields and polish.

Readers drive it

YTD, comparison, sorting and zoom in the chart, comments ①② as footnotes, bookmarks keep the state.

Privacy

No external calls, no telemetry, nothing stored outside the report.

Accessible, four languages

Teal instead of green, blue/orange preset, high contrast with patterns, keyboard; German, English, Spanish, Japanese.

Notation: actual solid dark grey, prior year grey, plan white outlined, forecast hatched; one scale per unit (IBCS 2.0 / ISO 24896). Documented deviation: teal instead of green for favourable variances.

13 What you need: the fields

No special model needed: one category and one measure are enough. Every further role unlocks features.

BASICS

Category	month, region, product; hierarchy allowed
AC	actual (required)
PY · PL · FC	prior year, plan, forecast
FC flag	actual/forecast/preliminary per month
Benchmark	target marker, card bullet
Comment · filter info	footnotes ①②, footer

STRUCTURE & FORM

Row type	P&L: `sum` `delta` `pct` + flags
Series	stacked
Column group	matrix (max. 2 levels)
Small Multiples	one tile per value
Line measure	combo line
Trend	time axis per KPI card

SCATTER

X	second measure (required)
X prior year	2D movement arrows
Bubble size	turns it into a bubble chart
Previous FC	base “ΔFC prev.”

The most important trap: a measure that returns 0 instead of blank for combinations that do not exist (`COALESCE(x, 0)` , `+ 0`) creates ghost rows. Better: `IF(COUNTROWS('Fact') > 0, …)` . Help with the model: the Claude skill `finance-data-model` in the GitHub repo.

14 Get started & the sister P&L Statement

YOUR FIRST CHART IN THREE MINUTES

1. **Download the .pbiviz** via the Knowledge Kitchen quick start.
2. **Import:** Visualizations → ⋯ → Import a visual from a file.
3. **Drop it on the canvas:** the start hub shows a tour, the template gallery, a demo and every field explained.
4. **Bind category and AC,** pick a template. Done.

TWO VISUALS FROM ONE KITCHEN

Same notation, same handling, same start hub. **ChartKitchen** is the breadth, **P&L Statement** the depth: P&L row by row, IBCS templates T01–T05, balance sheet, cash flow, value driver tree and Sankey. With the same scale maximum both show equal bars for equal amounts.

> **Tip for the report page:** the P&L from P&L Statement on the left, ChartKitchen with the monthly trend, a driver bridge or KPI cards on the right. Enter the same scale maximum in both visuals, then equal amounts are equally long.

15 Links

Free, open source, forever. Revenue comes from consulting, not from licences.

Download & quick start

datenwgknowledgekitchen.com/chartkitchen-schnellstart_en.html

Documentation

datenwgknowledgekitchen.com/chartkitchen-doku_en.html

Source code on GitHub

github.com/Losveratos/PowerBI-Kitchen-/tree/main/ibcsInspiredChartDeck

Direct download · always current

datenwgknowledgekitchen.com/downloads/chartkitchen-byDatenWG-latest.pbiviz

Sister: P&L Statement

datenwgknowledgekitchen.com/pnl-schnellstart_en.html

Daten-WG Knowledge Kitchen

datenwgknowledgekitchen.com/

Thank you, IBCS. This visual is heavily inspired by the ideas of IBCS® – International Business Communication Standards. Without their great resources, exceptional content and, above all, groundbreaking conceptual work, something like this visual would not have been possible. Therefore: thank you. Not sponsored by, licensed by or associated with the IBCS Association.

IBCS® is a registered trademark of the IBCS Association. ChartKitchen byDatenWG is IBCS-inspired and not certified by the IBCS Association. All images: demo data from the visual's test suite, rendered with version 1.53.0.0 at one consistent scale. As of 1 Nov 2026.