

CS49000-VIZ - Fall 2020

Introduction to Data Visualization

Marks and Channels

Lecture 5

September 7, 2020

Ch 5: Marks and Channels

Channels: Expressiveness Types and Effectiveness Ranks

➔ **Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes**



➔ **Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes**

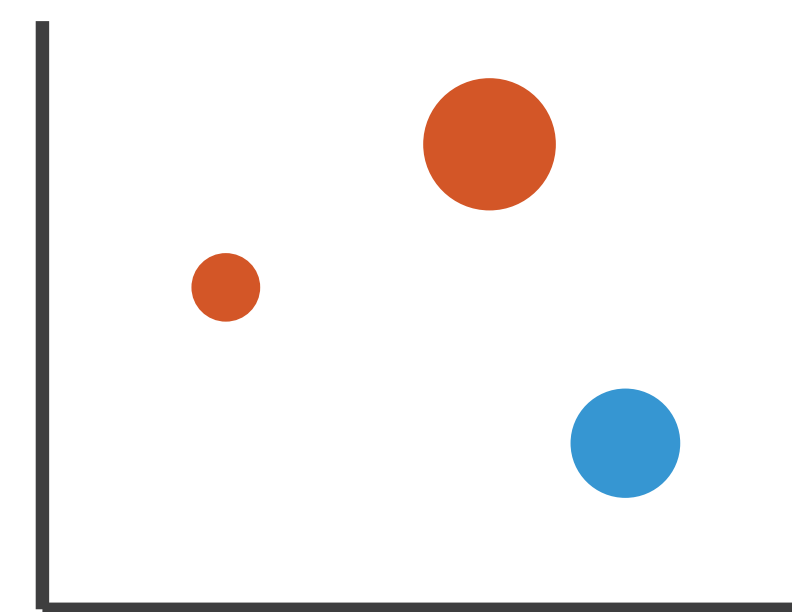
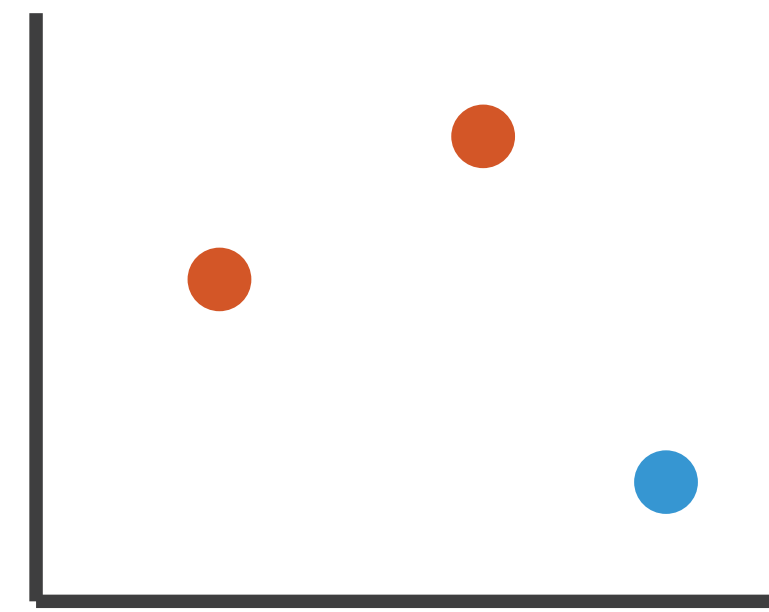
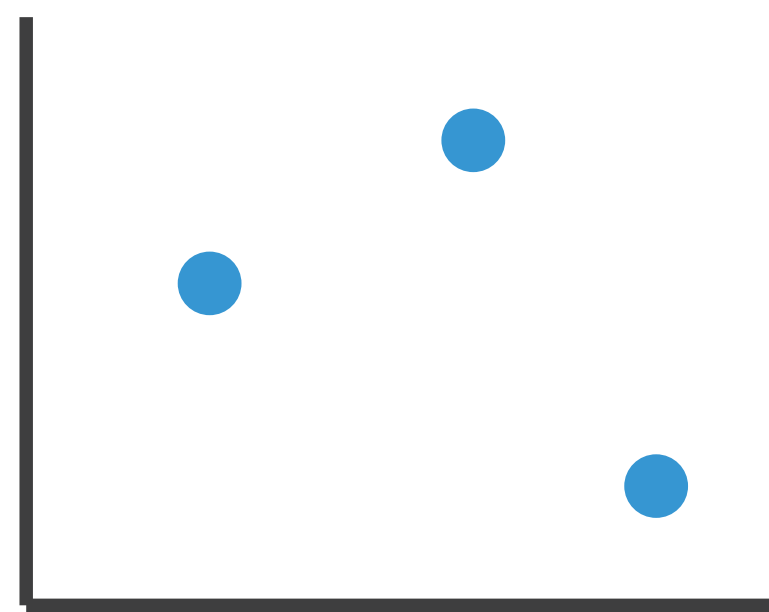
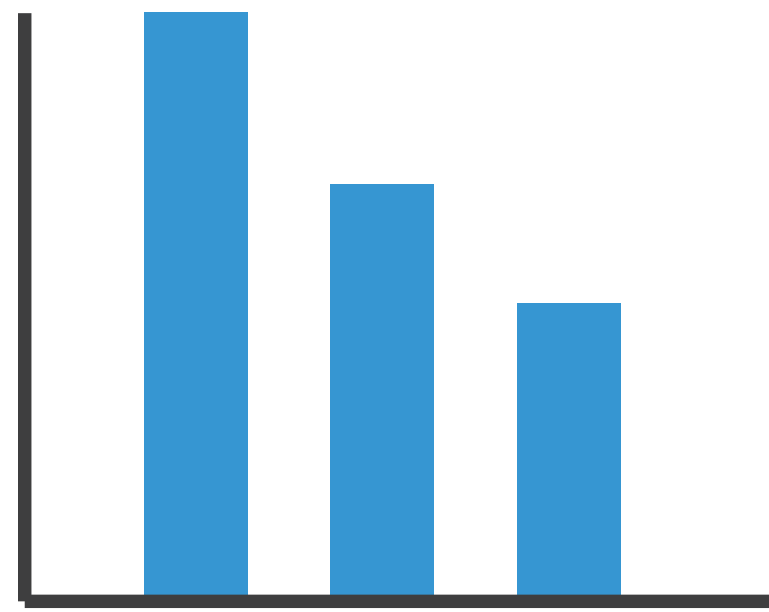


Most
Effectiveness
Least

[VAD Fig 5.1]

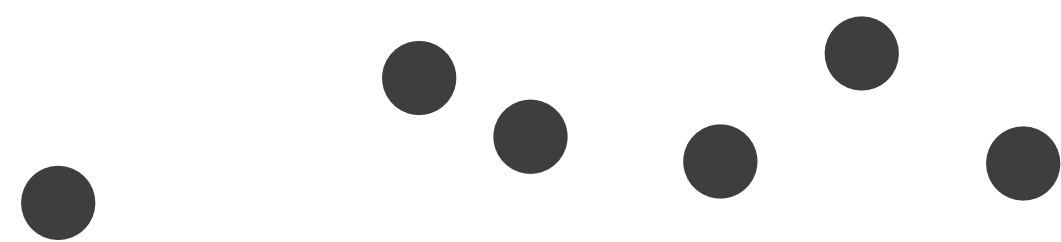
Encoding visually

- analyze idiom structure



Definitions

➔ Points



➔ Lines



➔ Areas

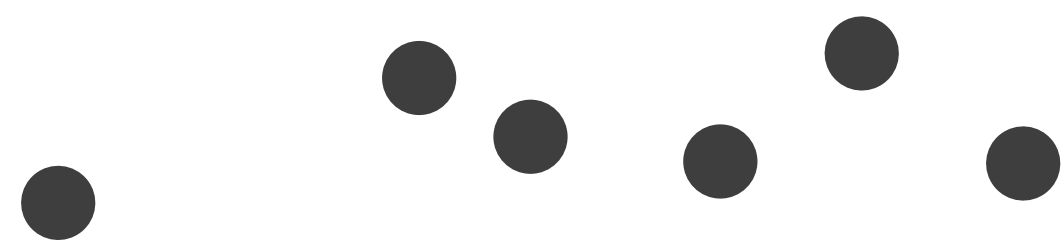


Definitions

Marks:

geometric primitives

➔ Points



➔ Lines



➔ Areas



Definitions

Channels

control appearance
of marks

→ Position

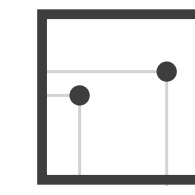
→ Horizontal



→ Vertical



→ Both



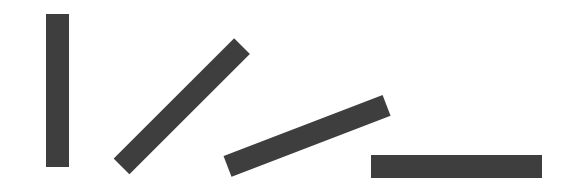
→ Color



→ Shape



→ Tilt



→ Size

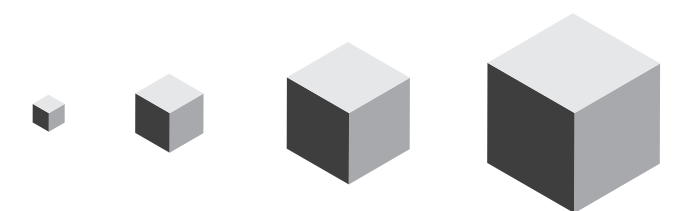
→ Length



→ Area

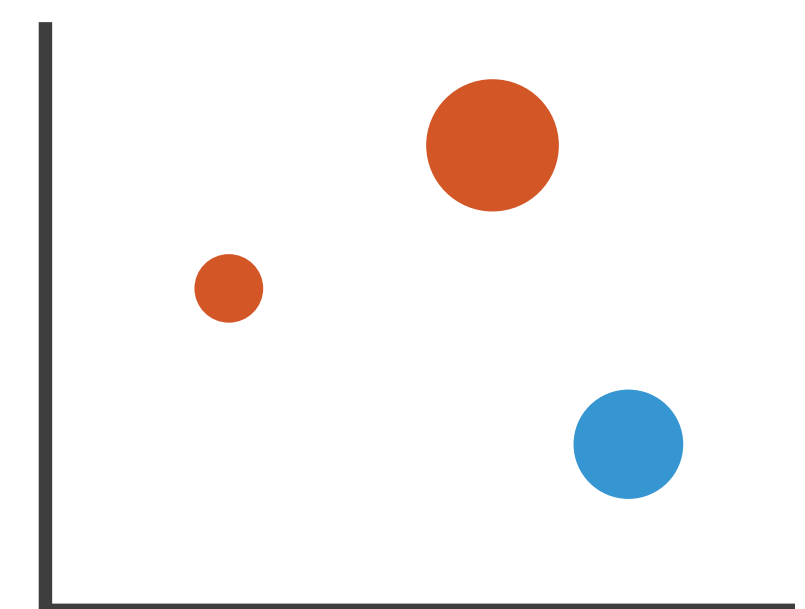
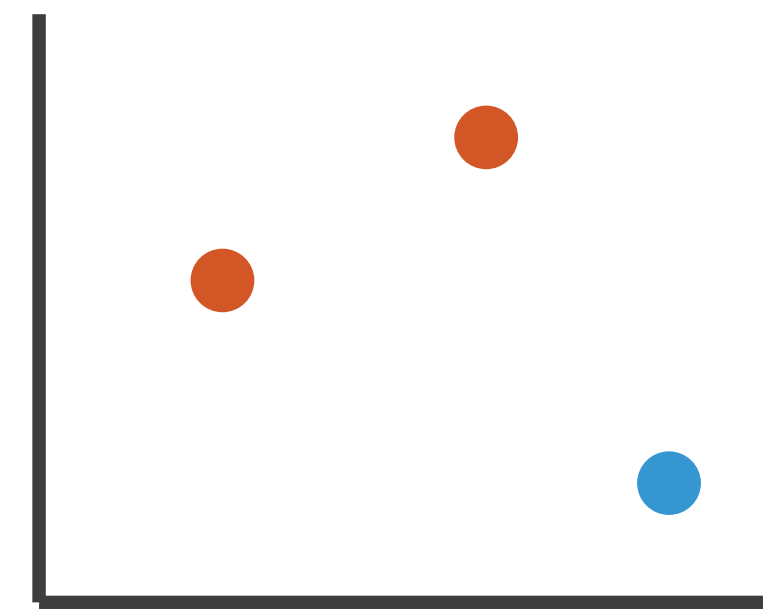
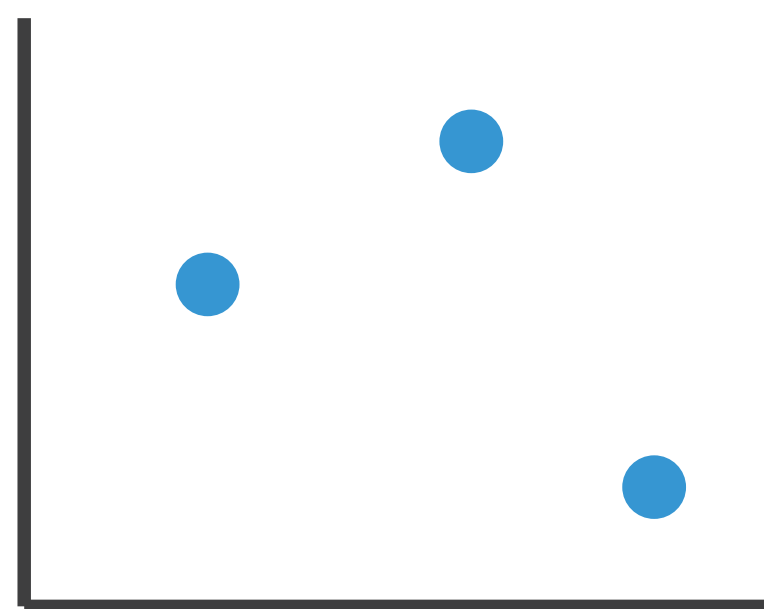
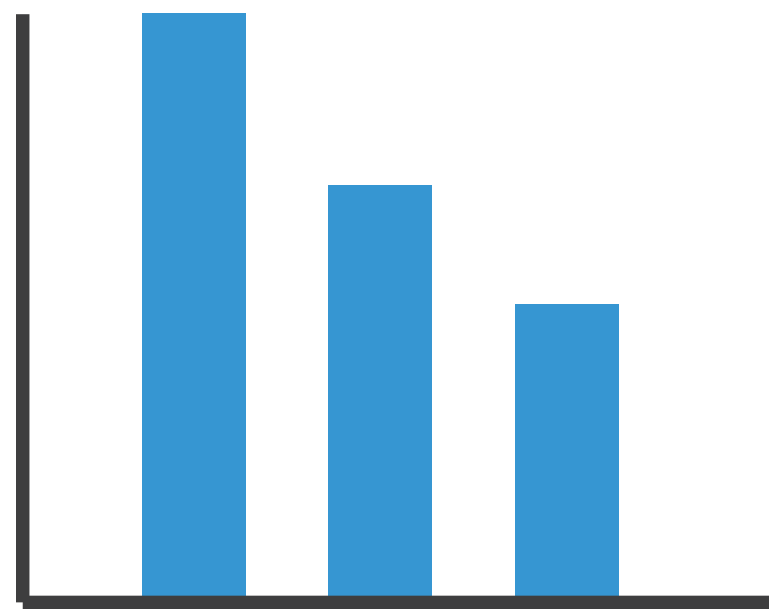


→ Volume



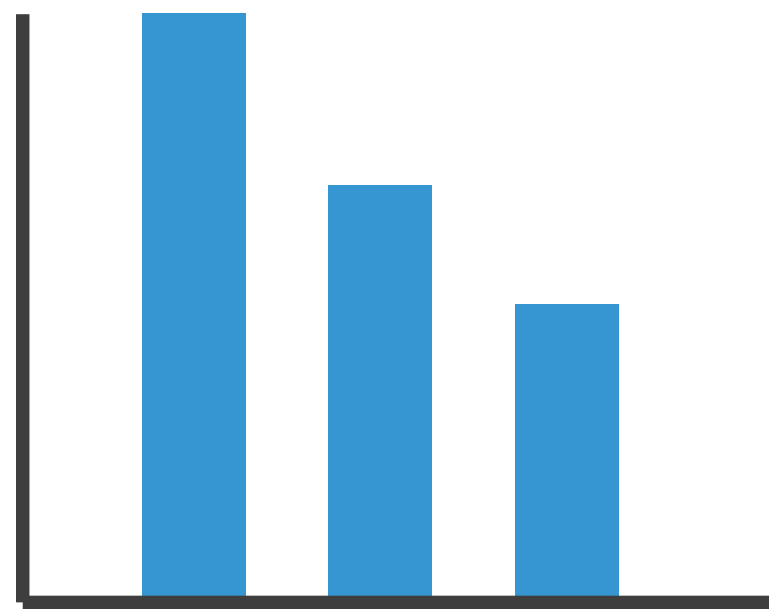
Using marks and channels

- analyze idiom structure
 - as combination of marks and channels

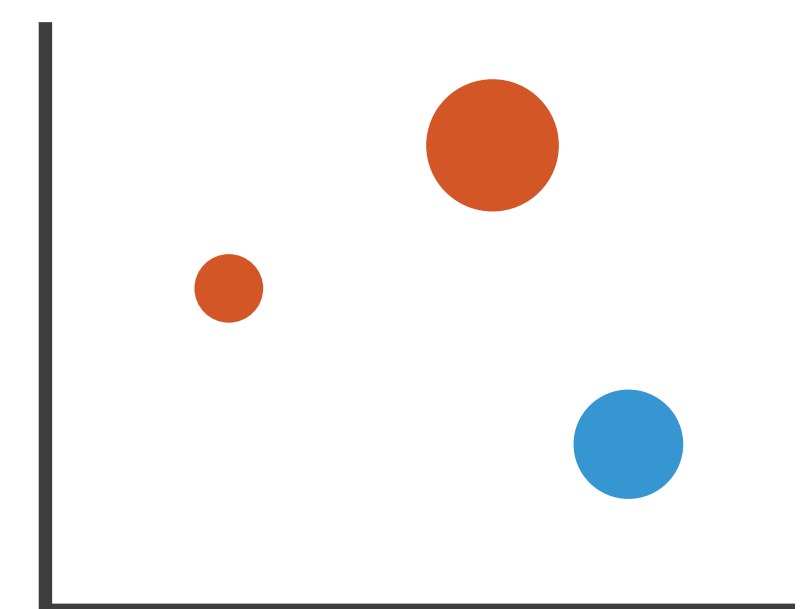
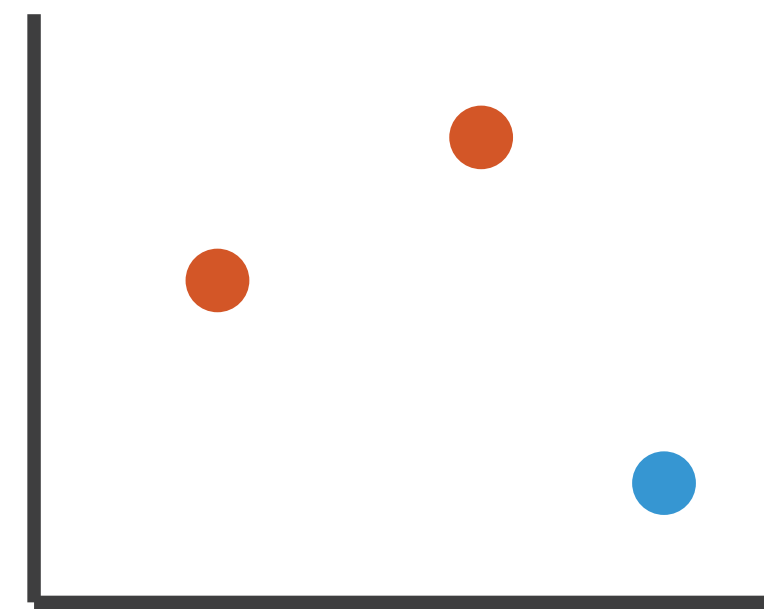
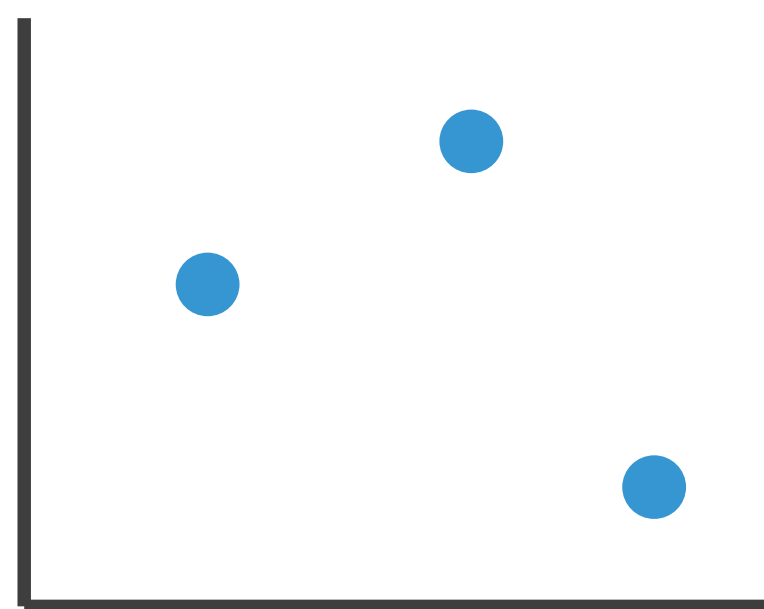


Using marks and channels

- analyze idiom structure
 - as combination of marks and channels



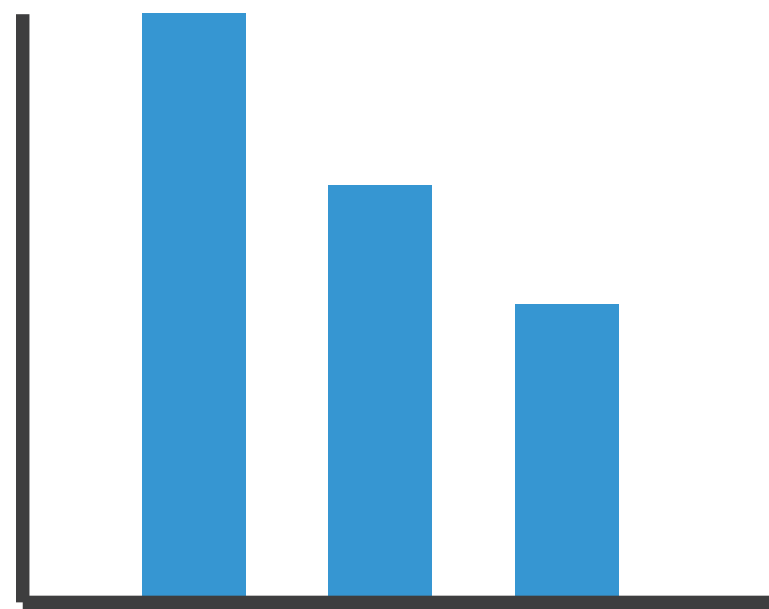
1:
vertical position



mark: line

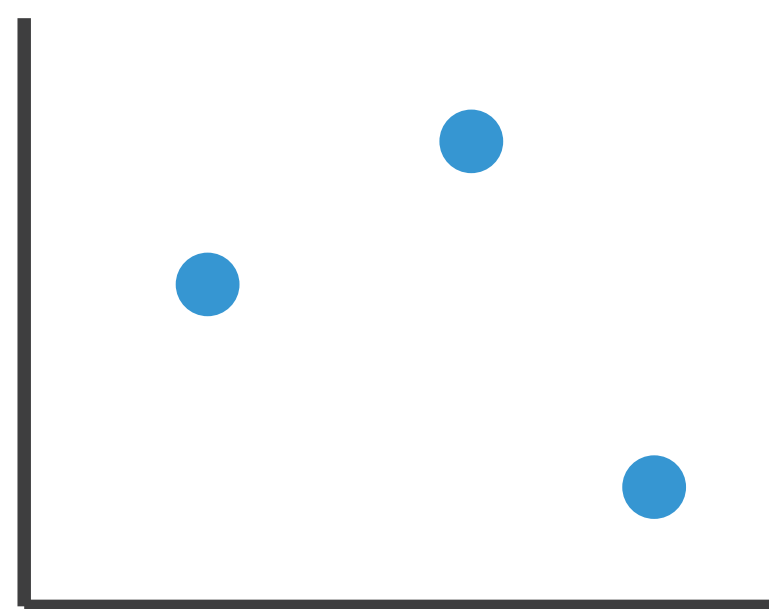
Using marks and channels

- analyze idiom structure
 - as combination of marks and channels



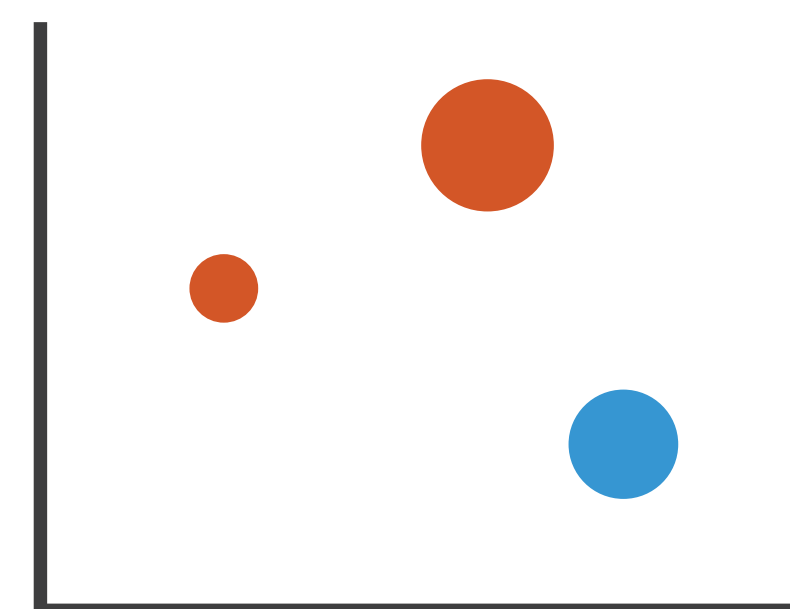
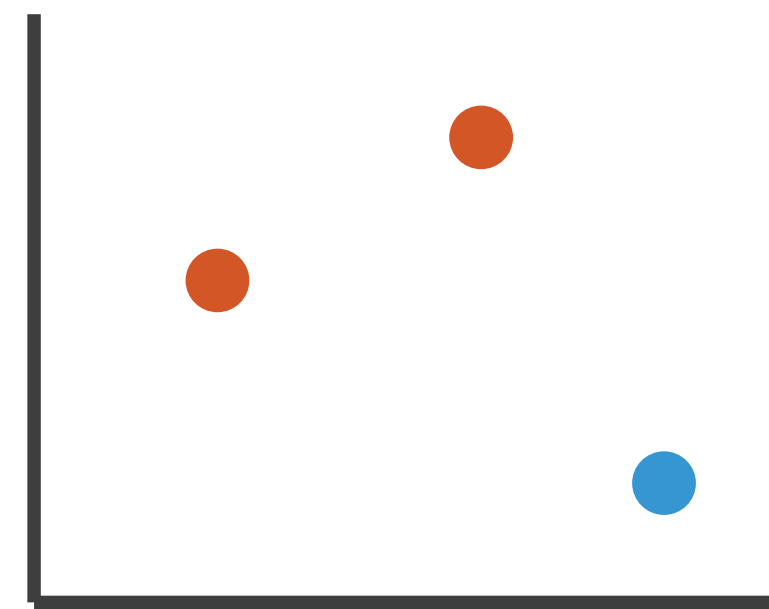
1:
vertical position

mark: line



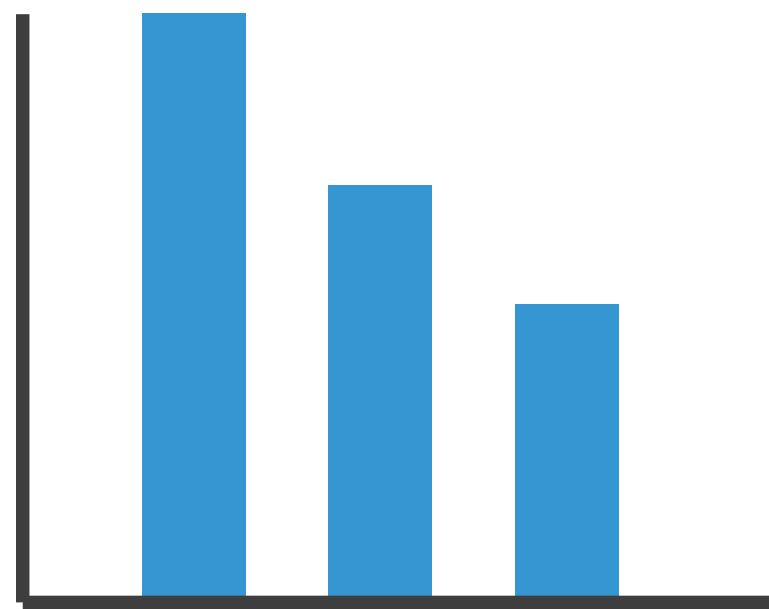
2:
vertical position
horizontal position

mark: point



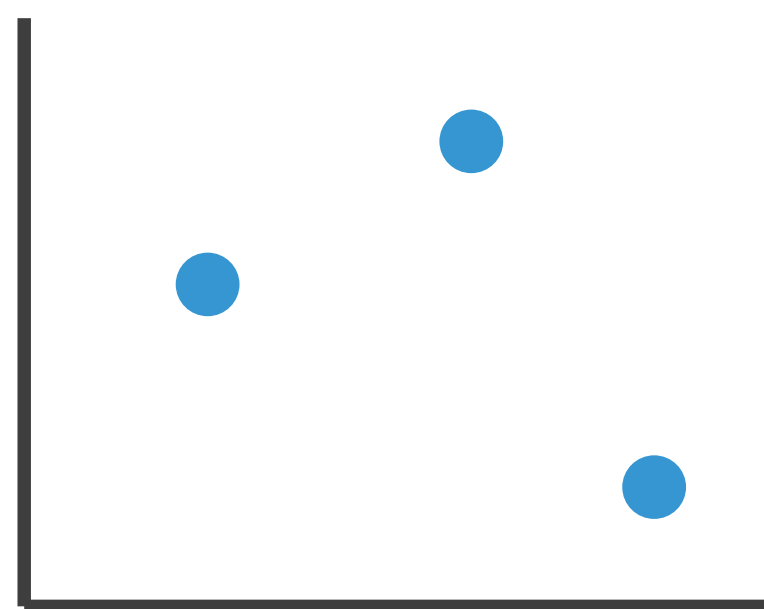
Using marks and channels

- analyze idiom structure
 - as combination of marks and channels



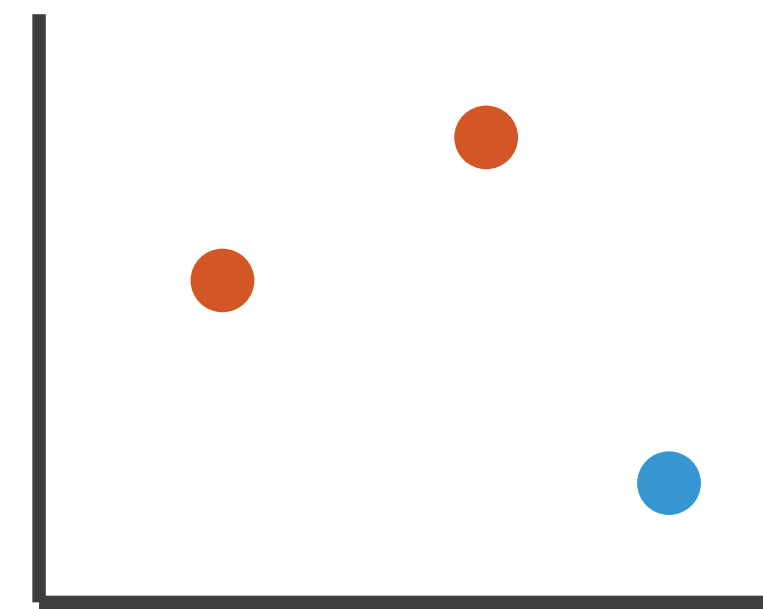
1:
vertical position

mark: line



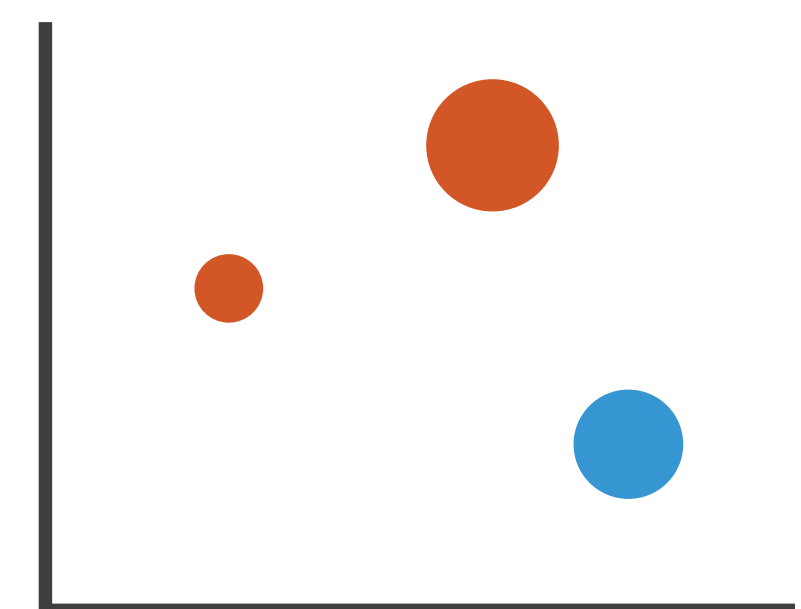
2:
vertical position
horizontal position

mark: point



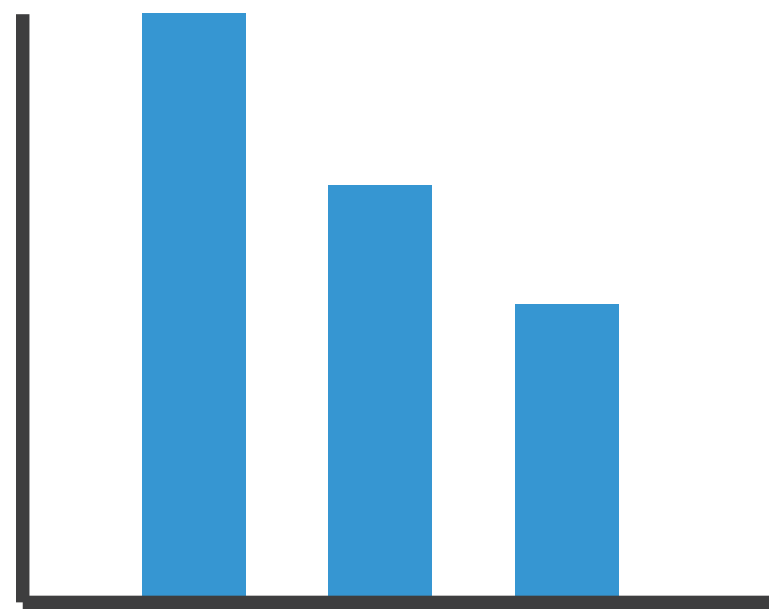
3:
vertical position
horizontal position
color hue

mark: point



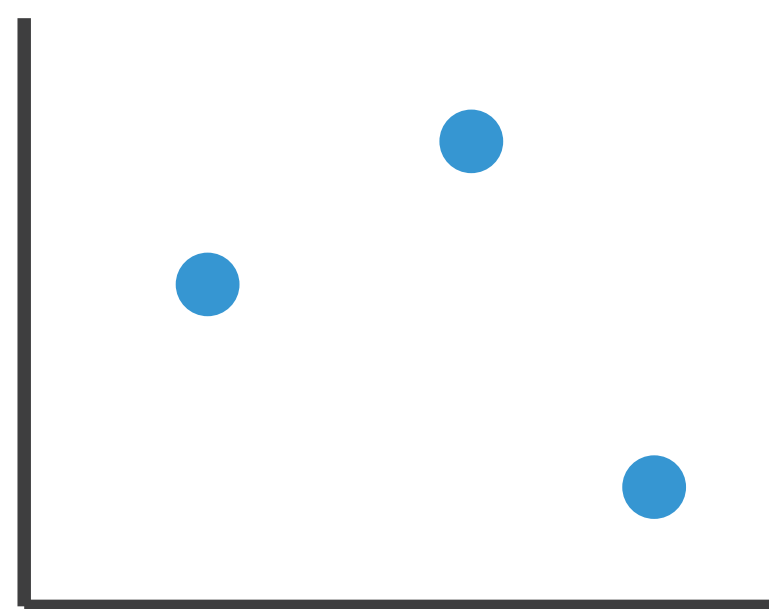
Using marks and channels

- analyze idiom structure
 - as combination of marks and channels



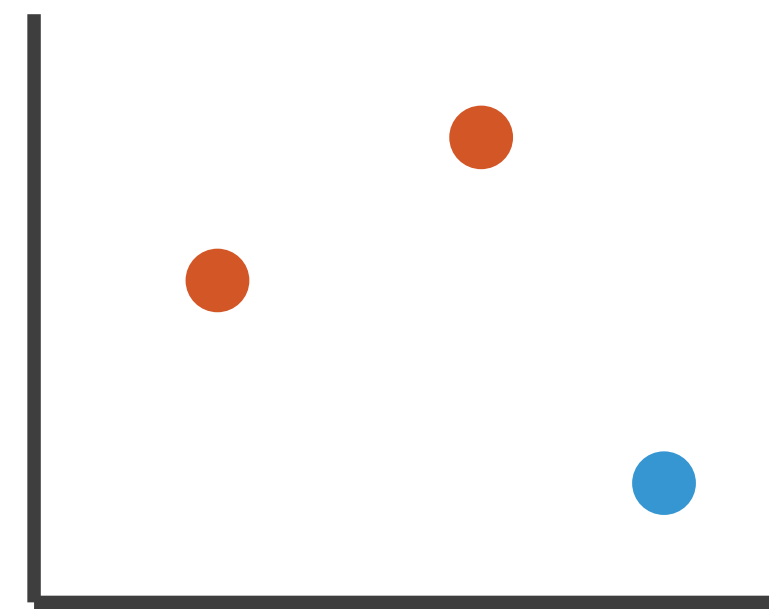
1:
vertical position

mark: line



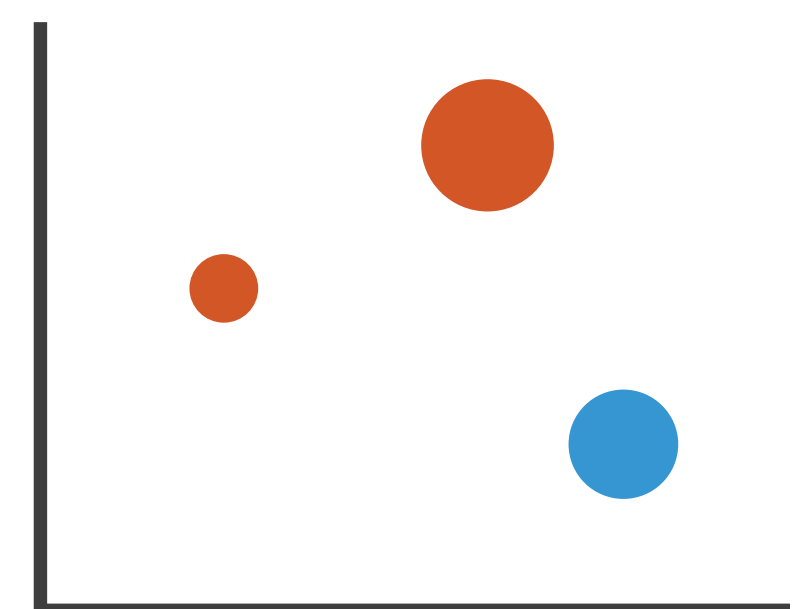
2:
vertical position
horizontal position

mark: point



3:
vertical position
horizontal position
color hue

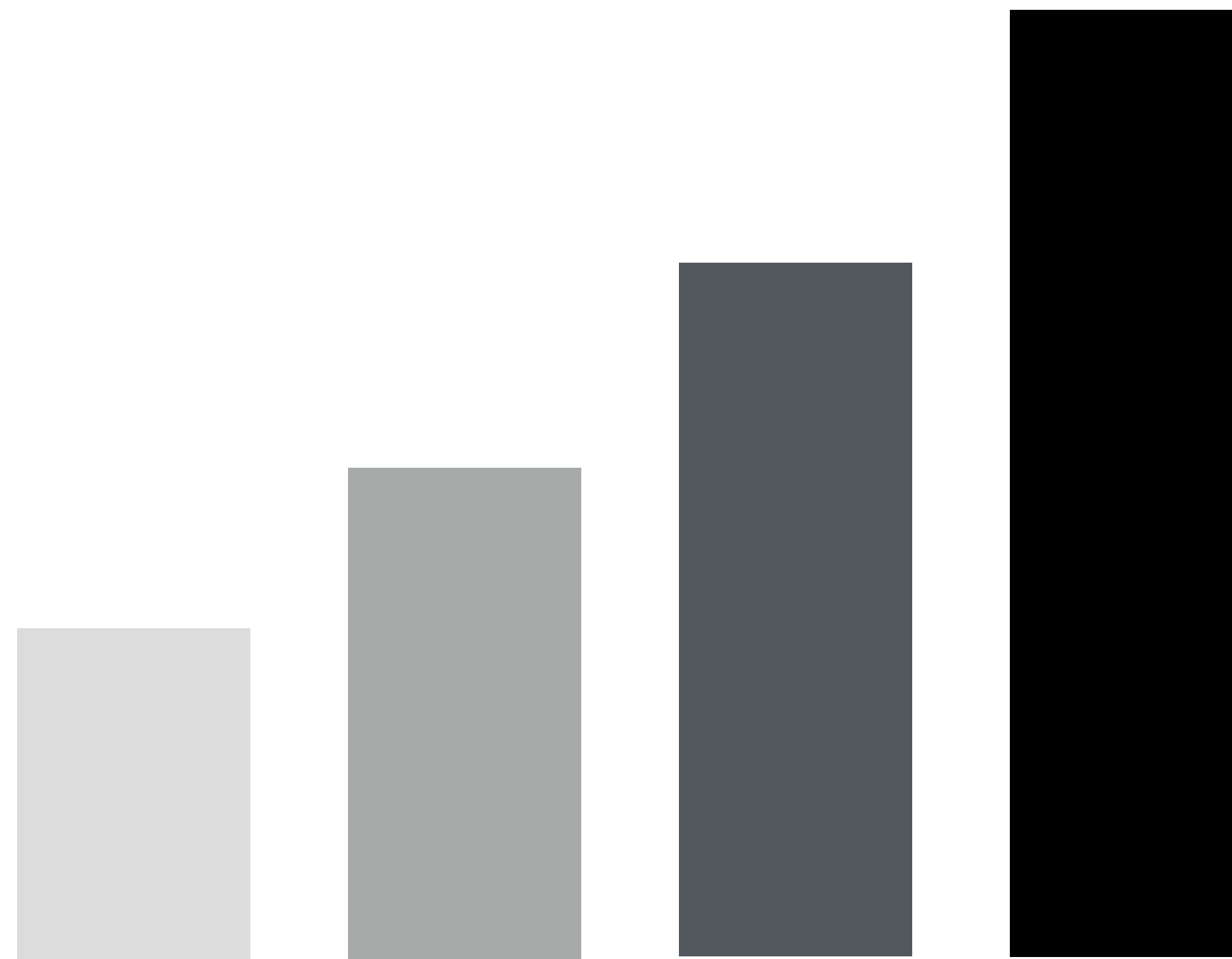
mark: point



4:
vertical position
horizontal position
color hue
size (area)

mark: point

Redundant Encoding



Length, position, and value

Channels

➔ Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes

Position on common scale 

Position on unaligned scale 

Length (1D size) 

Tilt/angle 

Area (2D size) 

Depth (3D position) 

Color luminance 

Color saturation 

Curvature 

Volume (3D size) 

Same

➔ Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes

Spatial region 

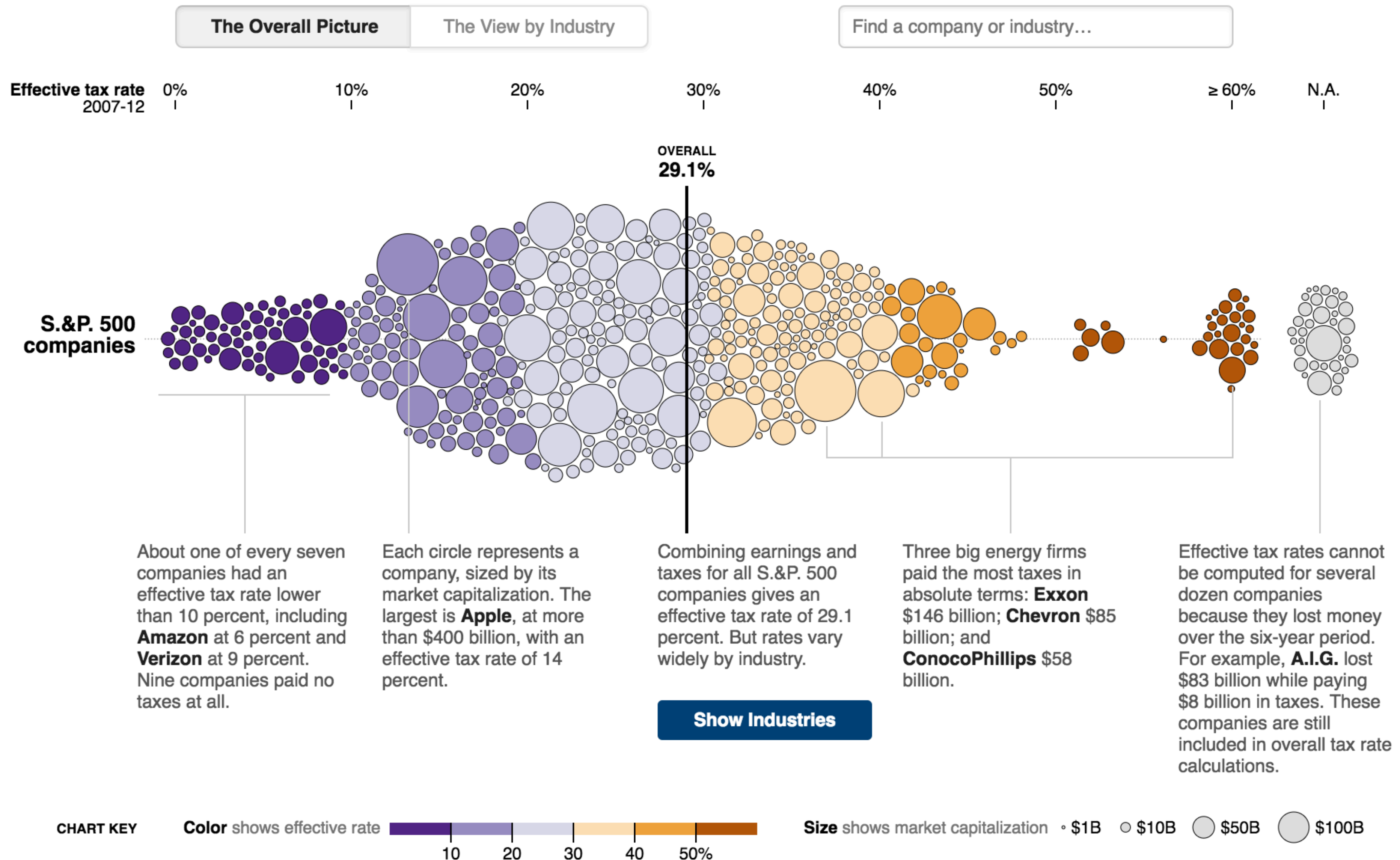
Color hue 

Motion 

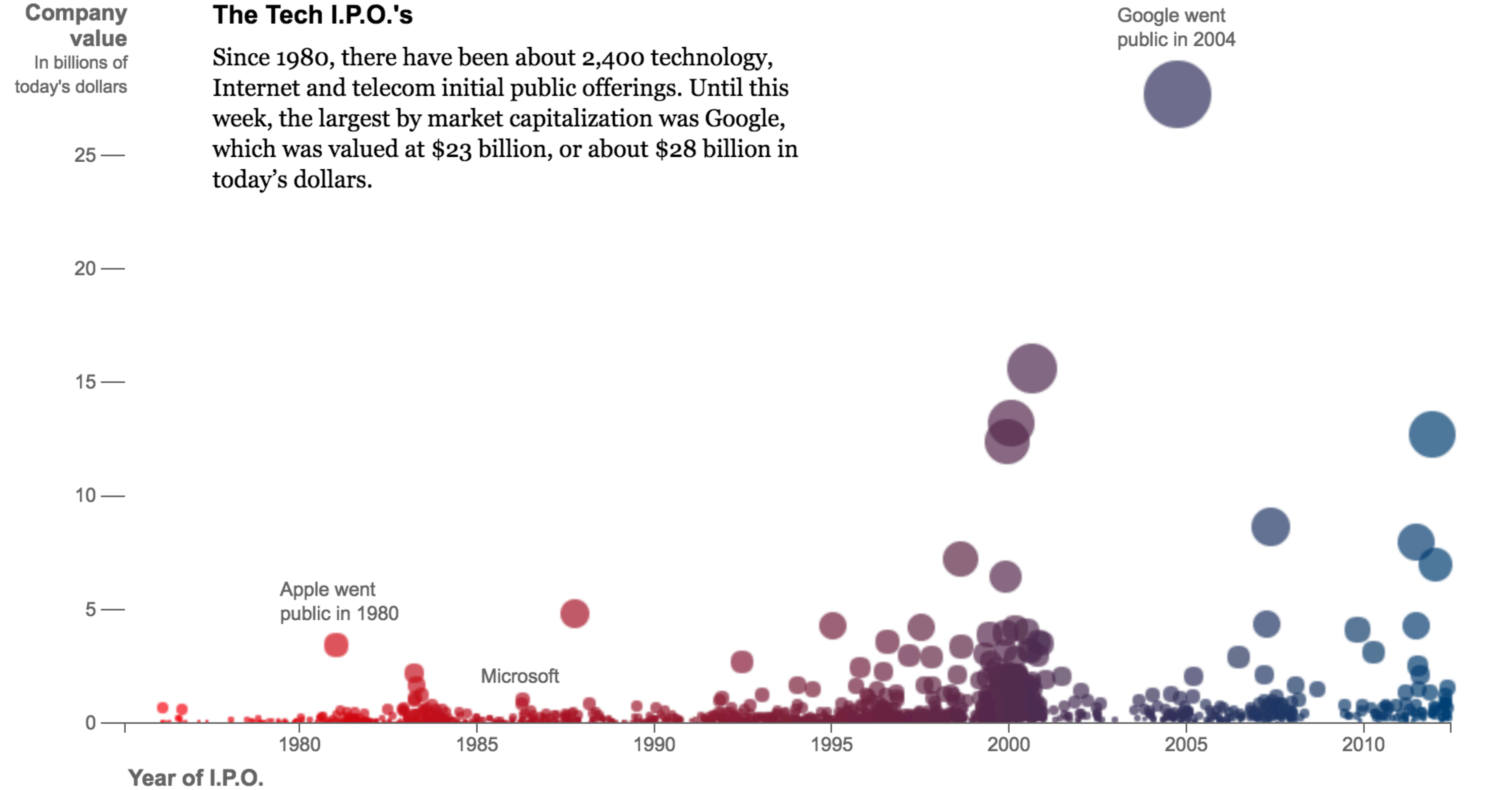
Shape 

Across U.S. Companies, Tax Rates Vary Greatly

Last week, in a Congressional hearing, Apple got grilled for its low-tax strategy. But not every business can copy that approach. Here is a look at what S.&P. 500 companies paid in corporate income taxes — federal, state, local and foreign — from 2007 to 2012, according to S&P Capital IQ. [Related Article »](#)



The Facebook Offering: How It Compares



Channels: Rankings

➔ Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes

Position on common scale



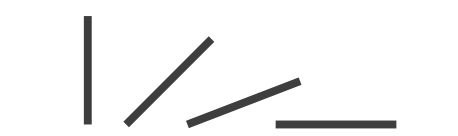
Position on unaligned scale



Length (1D size)



Tilt/angle



Area (2D size)



Depth (3D position)



Color luminance



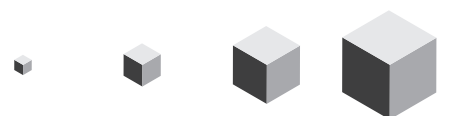
Color saturation



Curvature



Volume (3D size)



➔ Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes

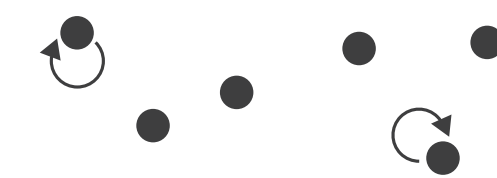
Spatial region



Color hue



Motion



Shape



Best

Effectiveness

Least

Same

Same

- **Effectiveness principle**
 - Encode most important attributes with highest ranked channels
- **Expressiveness principle**
 - Match channel and data characteristics

Channels: Rankings

➔ Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes

Position on common scale



Position on unaligned scale



Length (1D size)



Tilt/angle



Area (2D size)



Depth (3D position)



Color luminance



Color saturation



Curvature



Volume (3D size)



Same

Same

➔ Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes

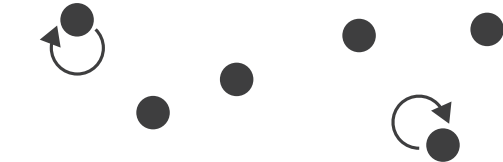
Spatial region



Color hue



Motion



Shape



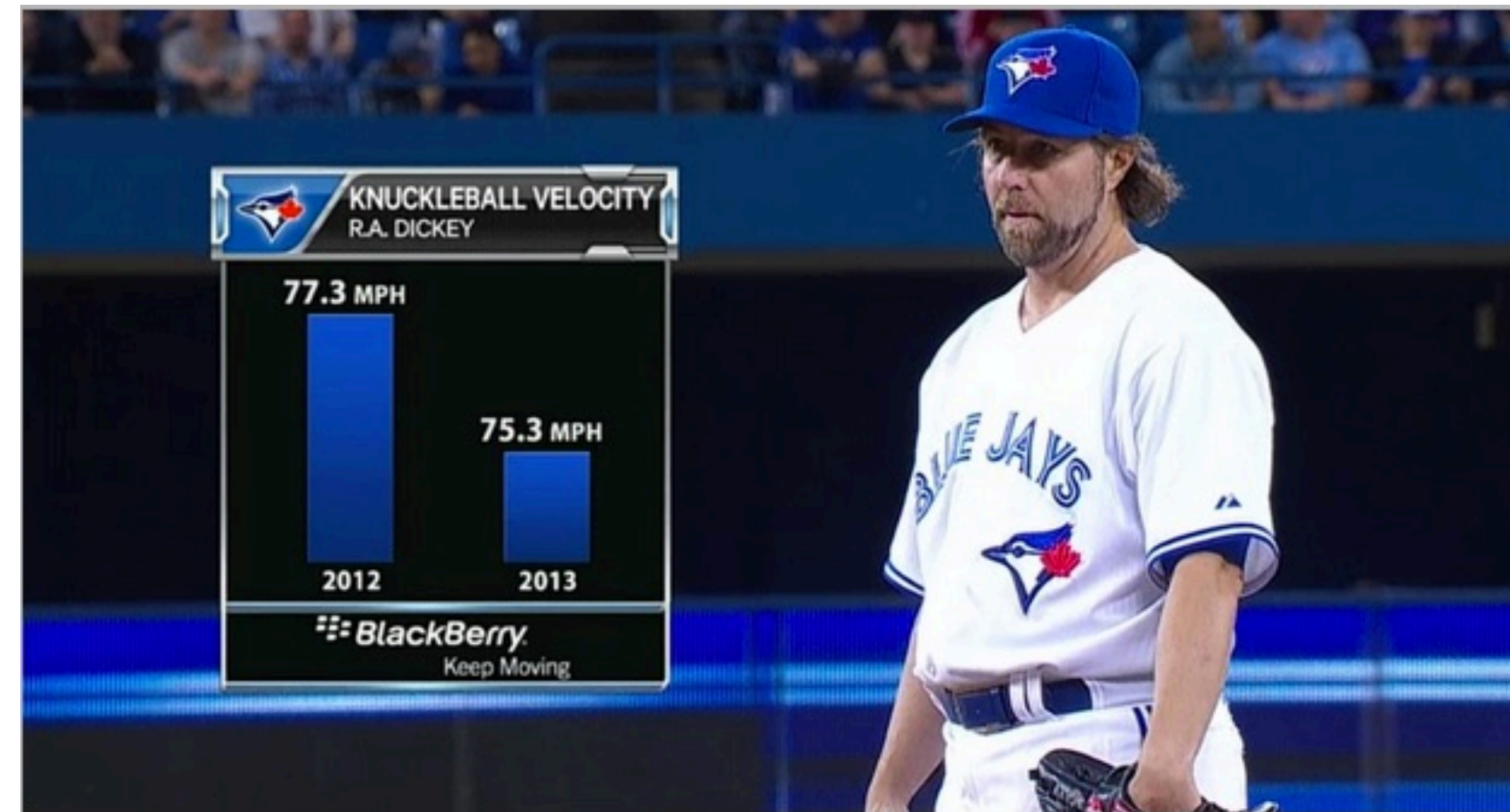
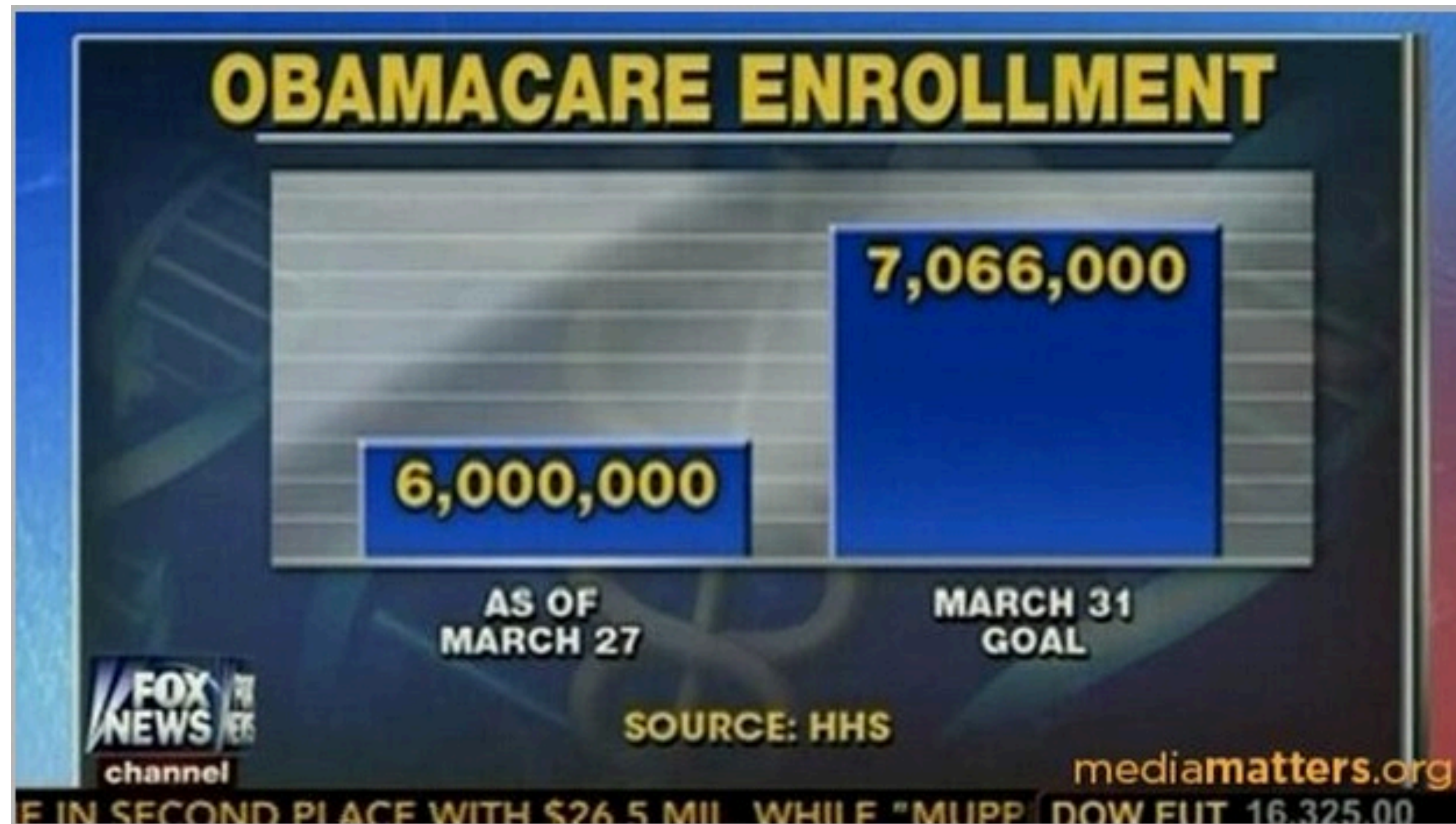
Best

Effectiveness

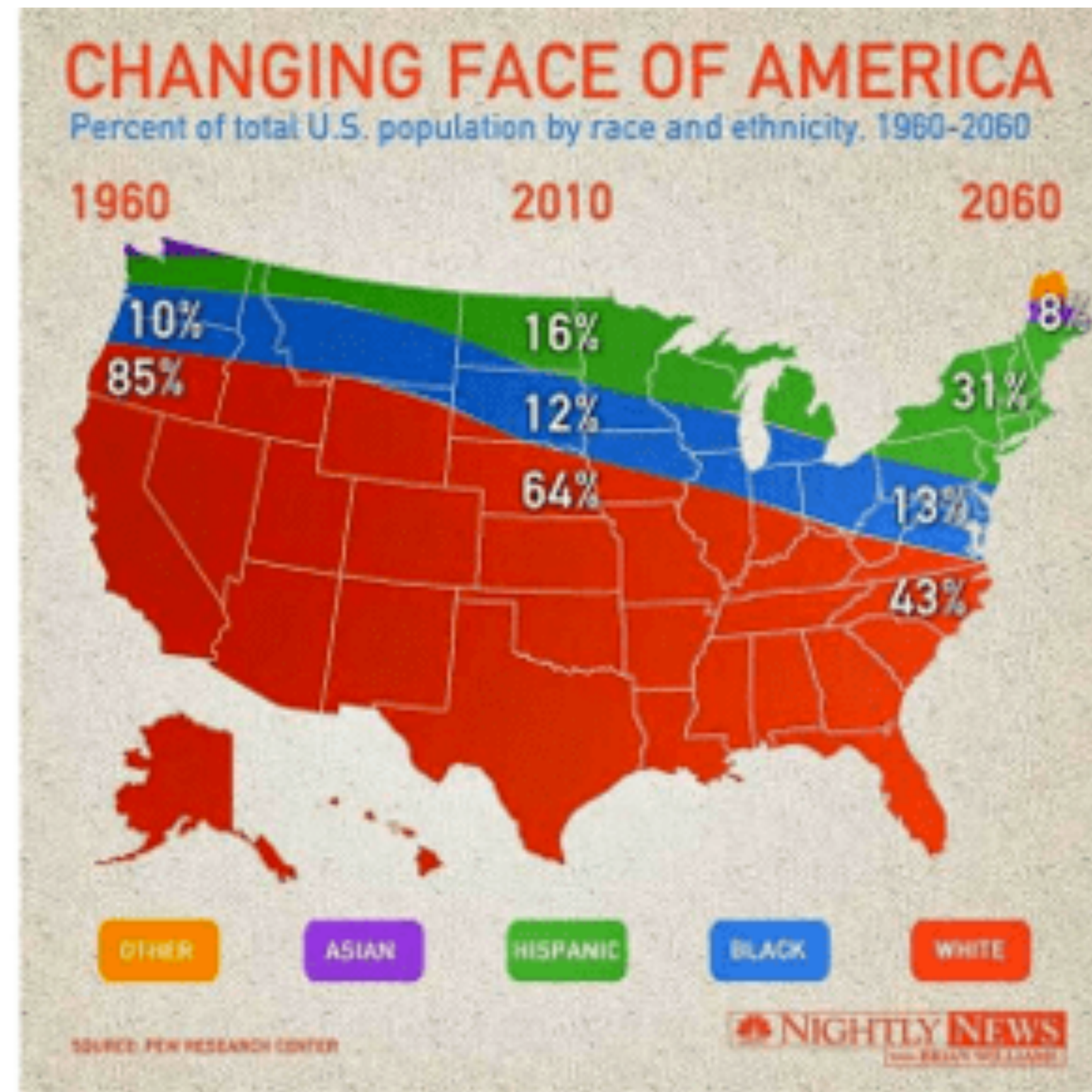
Least

- **Effectiveness principle**
 - Encode most important attributes with highest ranked channels
- **Expressiveness principle**
 - Match channel and data characteristics

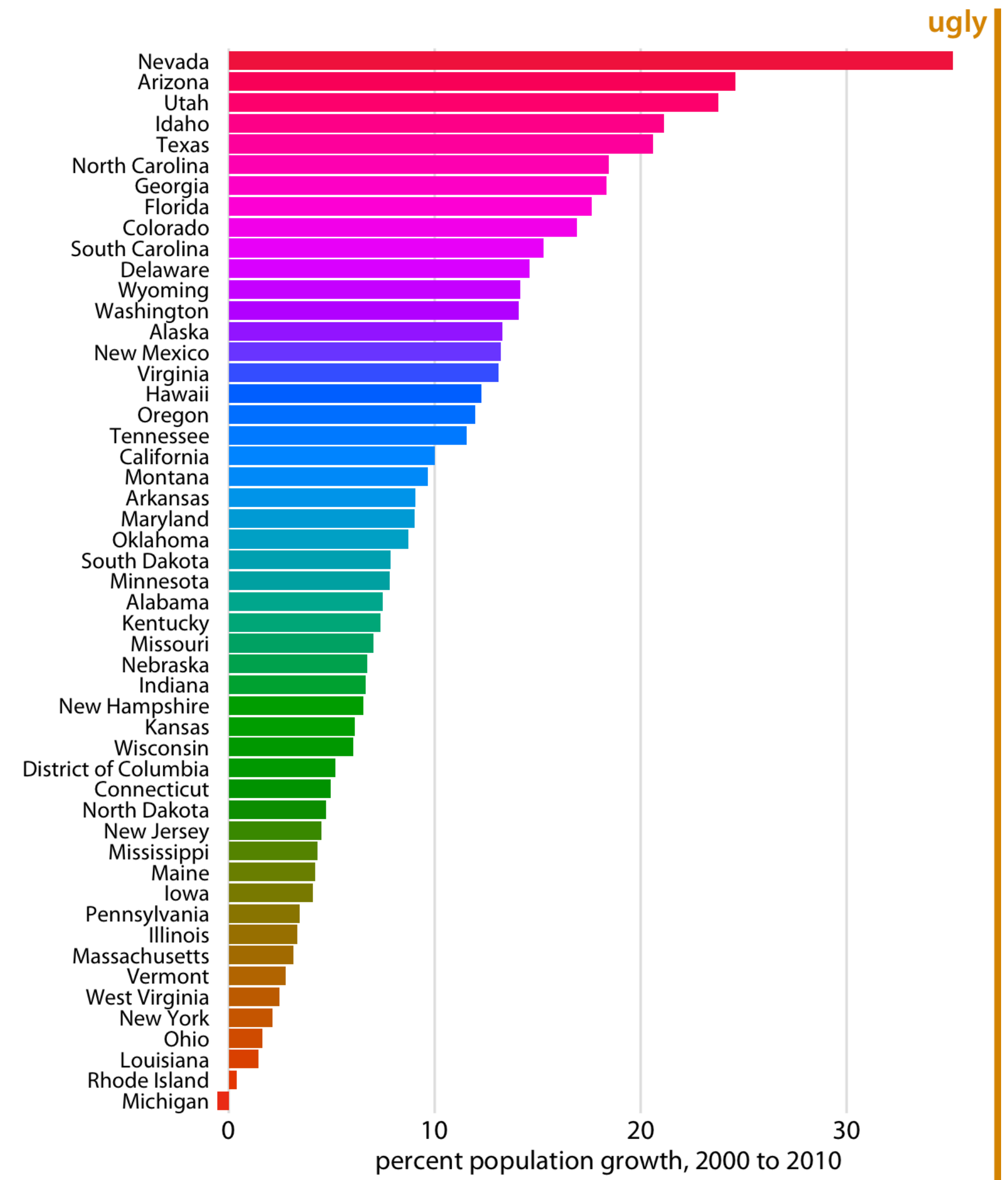
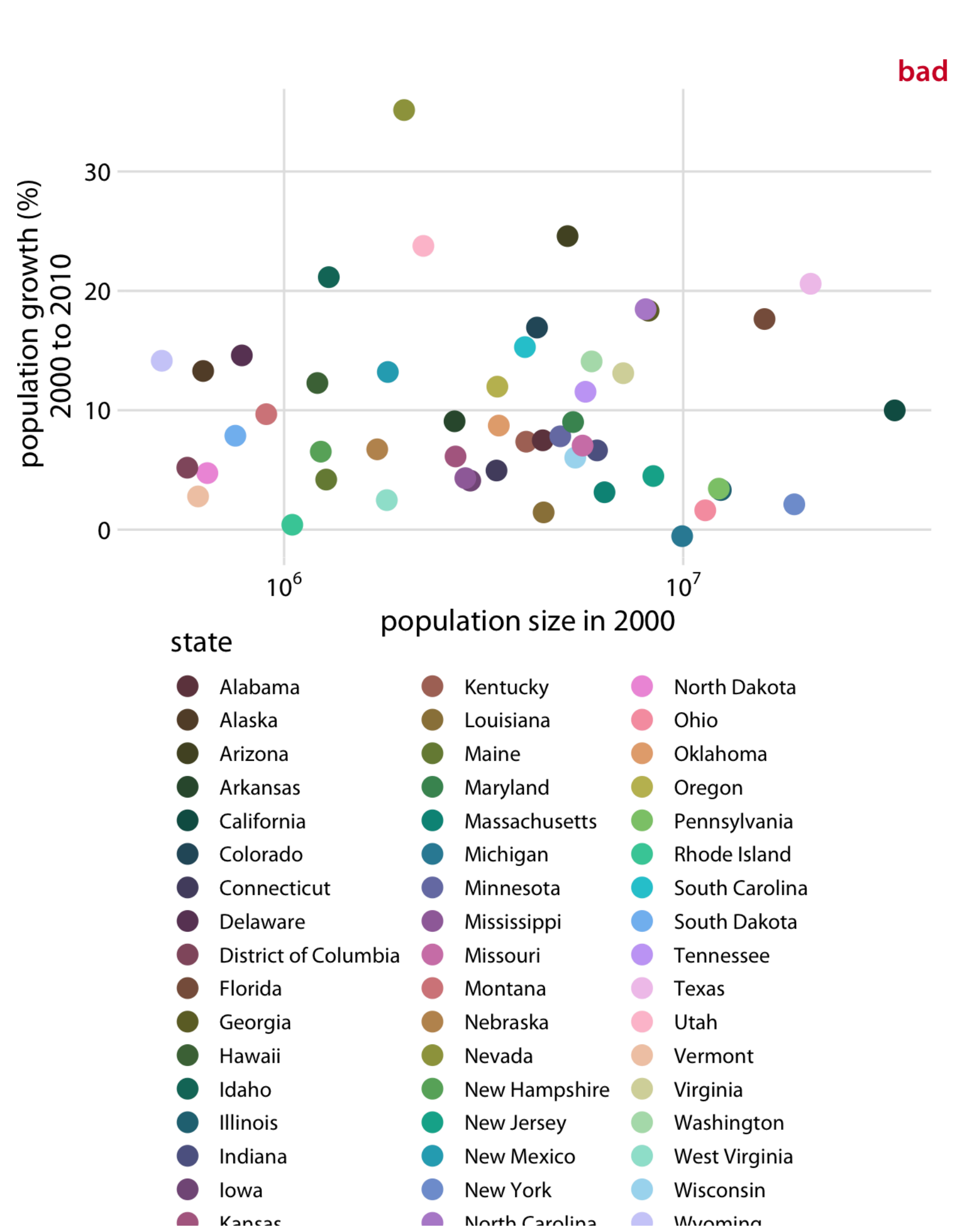
Bad Uses of Size



Bad Use of Position



Bad Uses of Colors



Bad Use of Colors

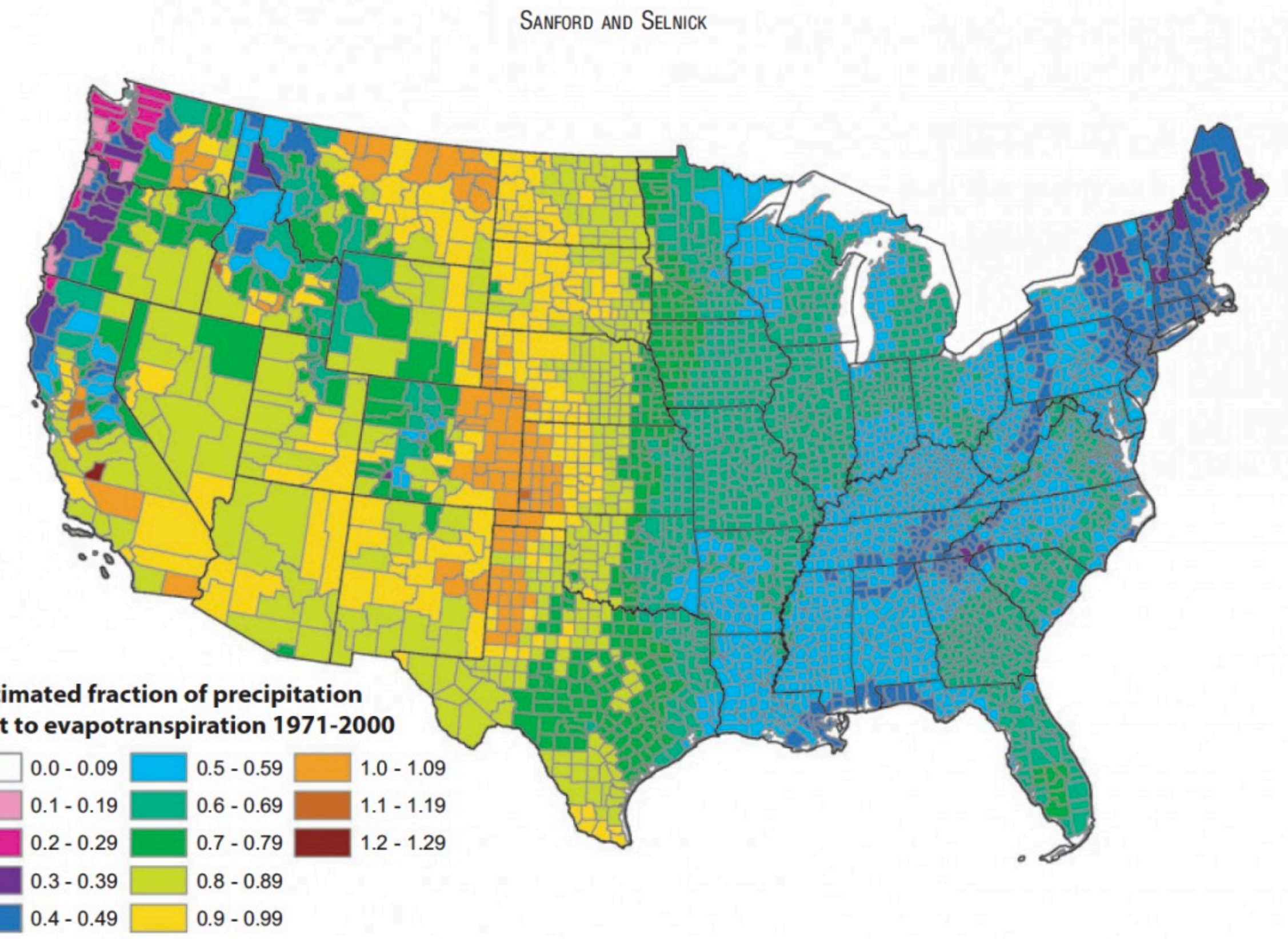
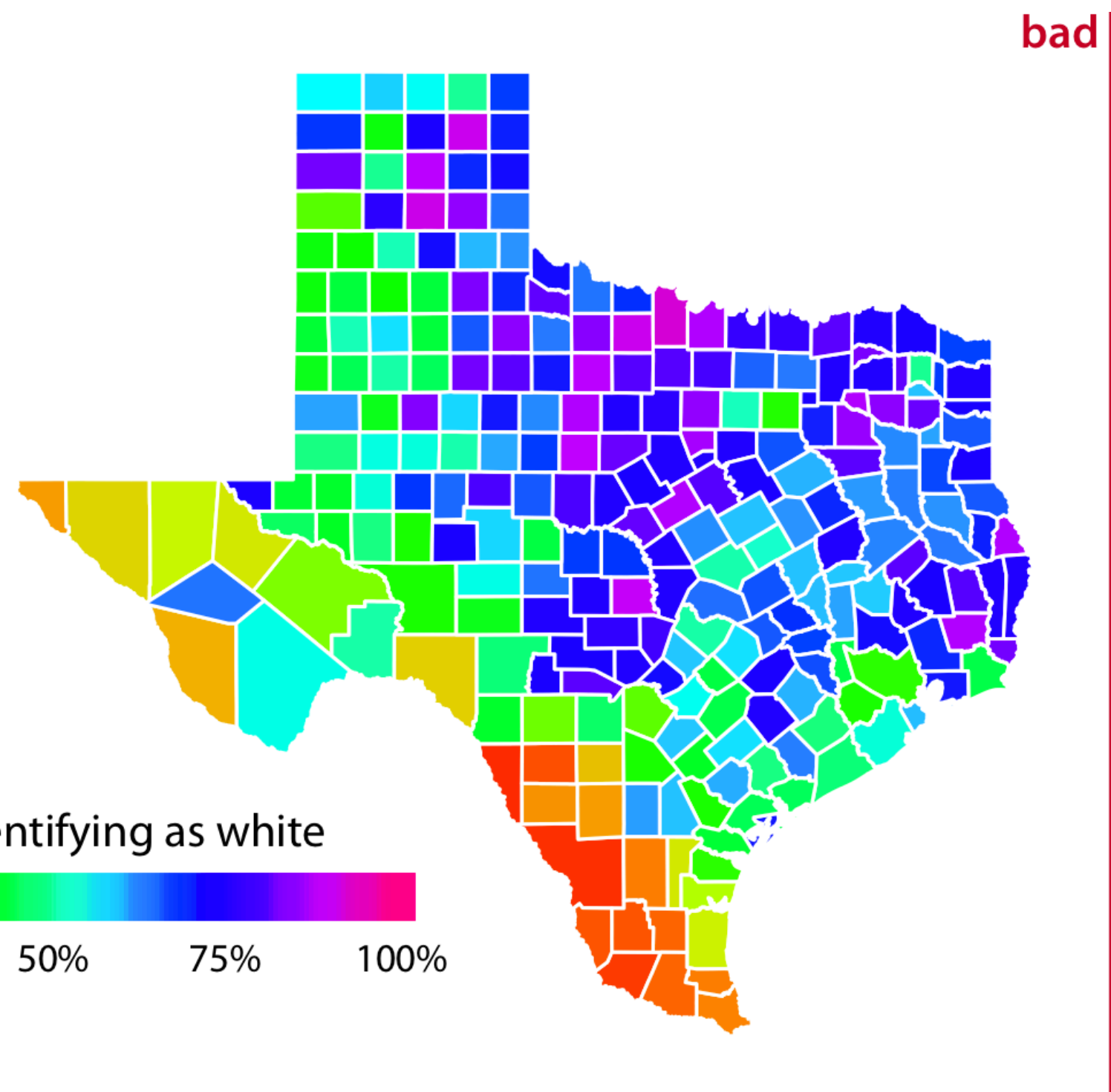
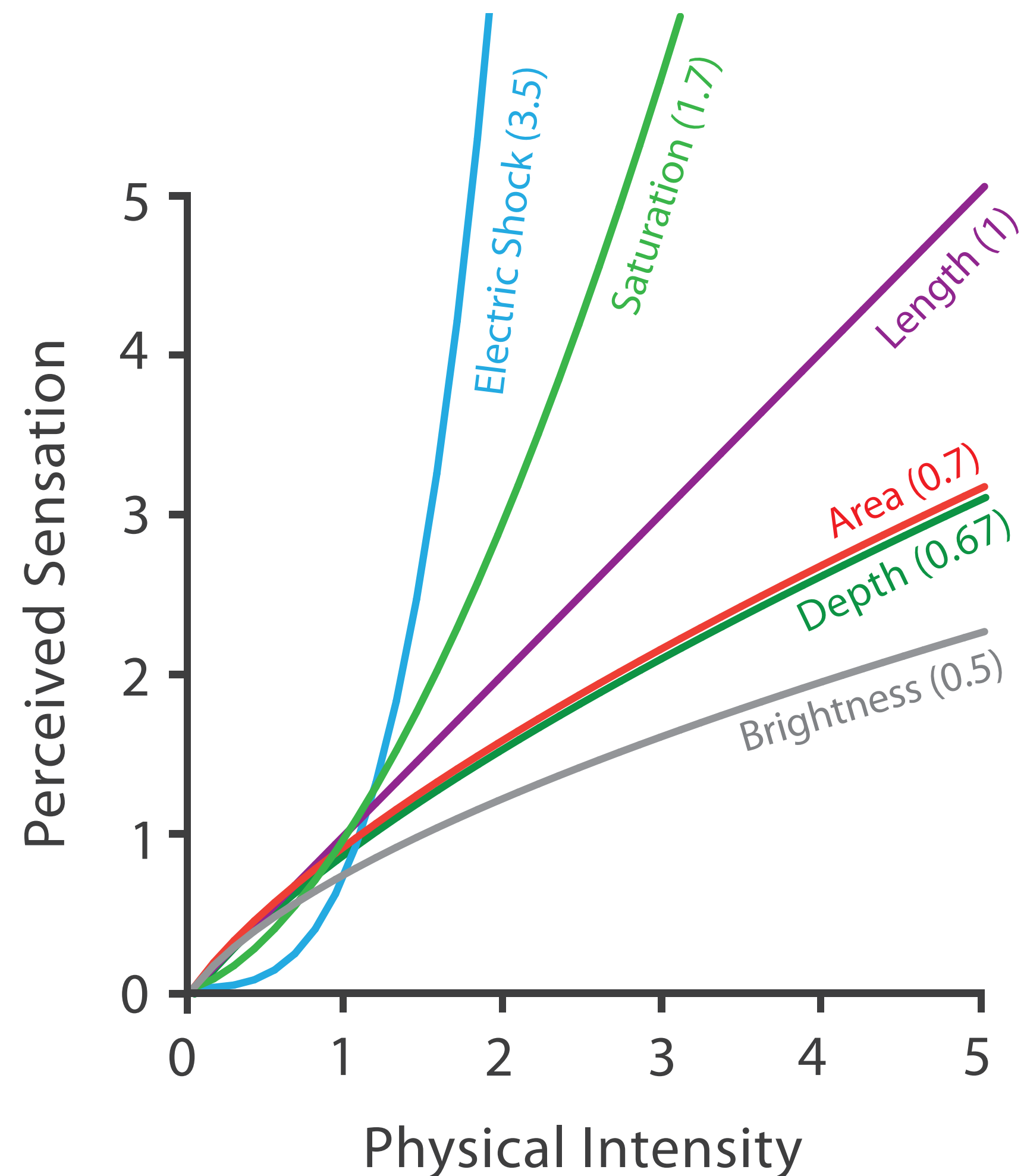


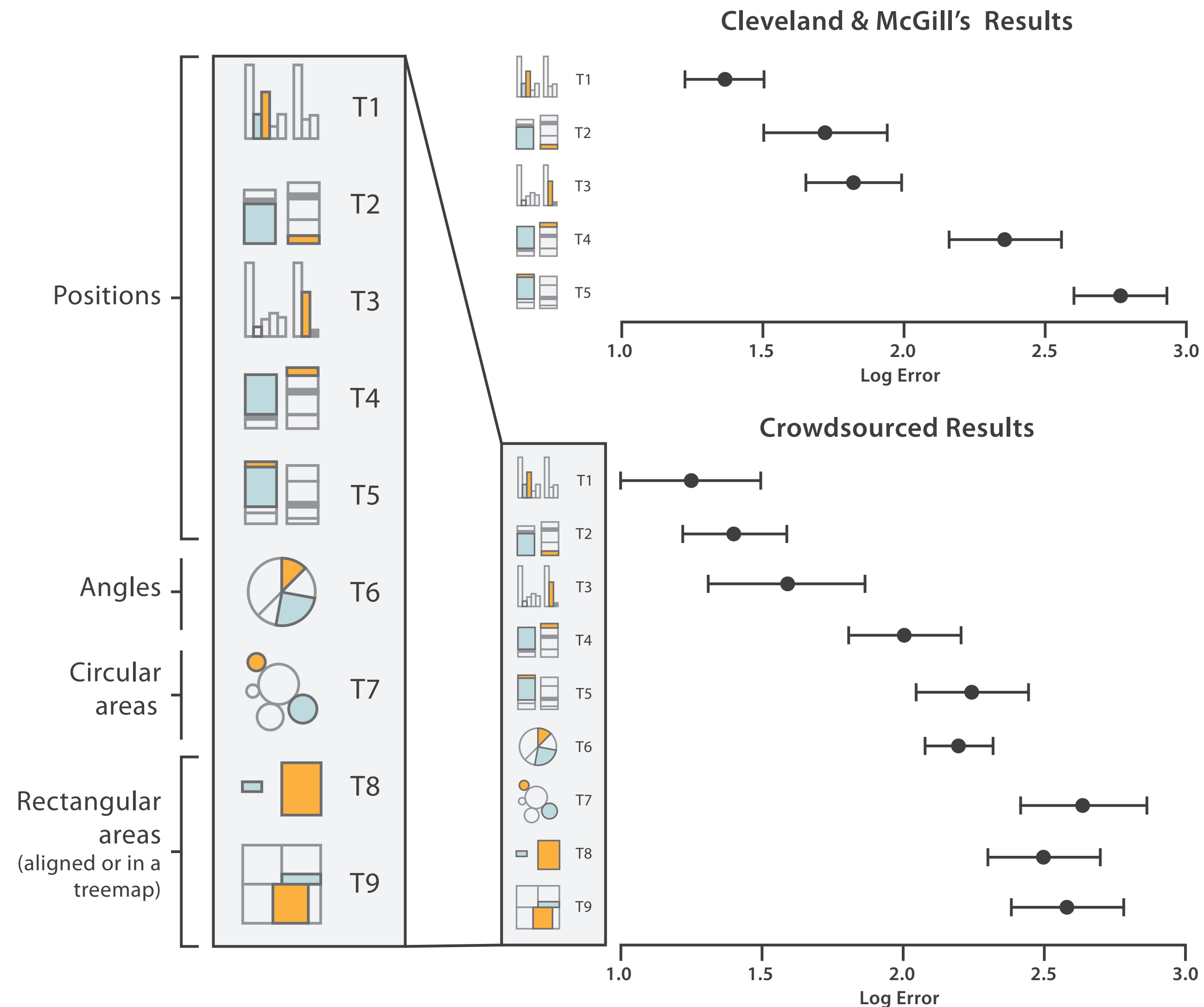
FIGURE 13. Estimated Mean Annual Ratio of Actual Evapotranspiration (ET) to Precipitation (P) for the Conterminous U.S. for the Period 1971-2000. Estimates are based on the regression equation in Table 1 that includes land cover. Calculations of ET/ P were made first at the 800-m resolution of the PRISM climate data. The mean values for the counties (shown) were then calculated by averaging the 800-m values within each county. Areas with fractions >1 are agricultural counties that either import surface water or mine deep groundwater.

Accuracy: Fundamental Theory

Steven's Psychophysical Power Law: $S = I^N$



Accuracy: Vis experiments

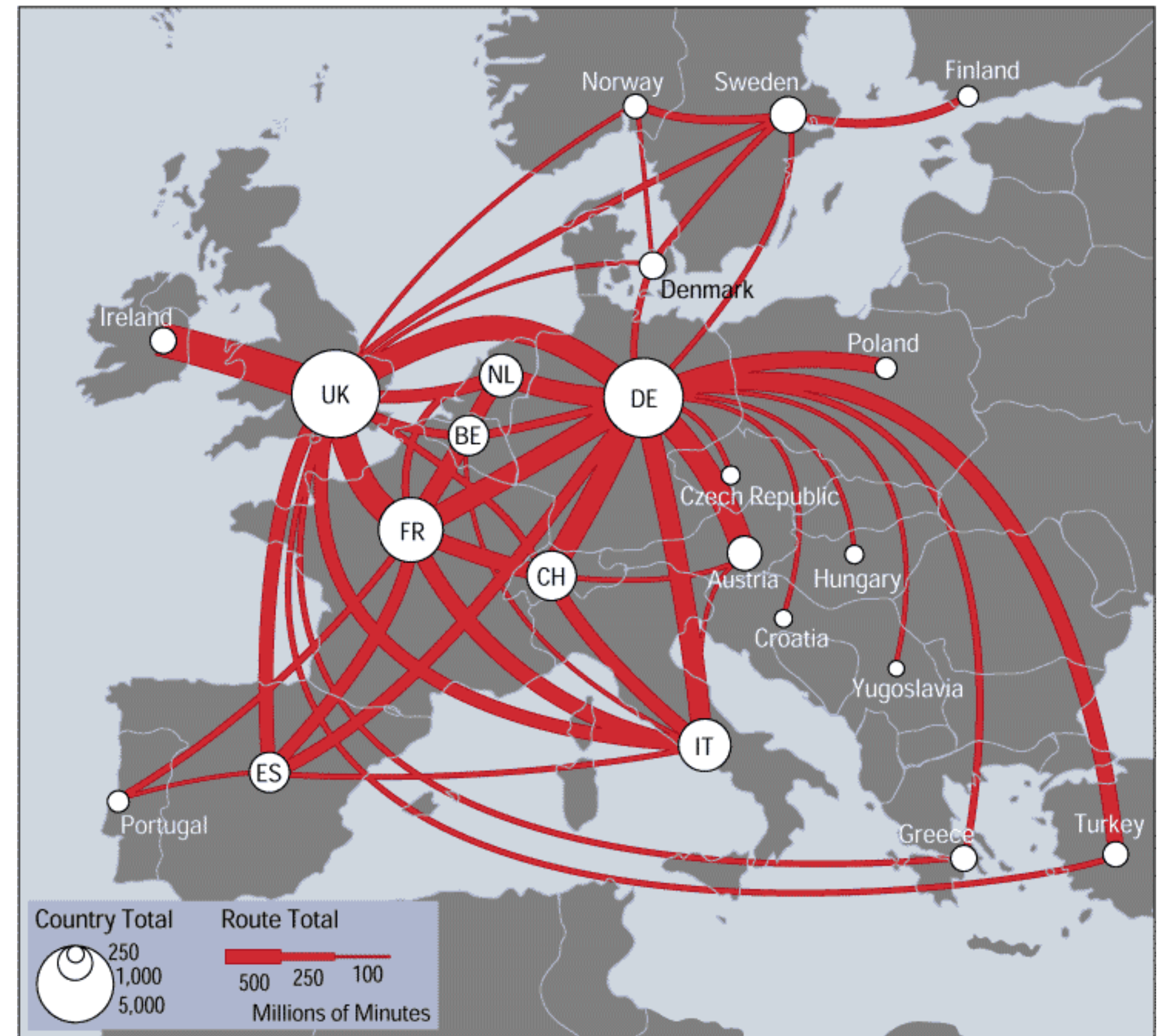


after Michael McGuffin course slides, <http://profs.etsmtl.ca/mmcguffin/>

[Crowdsourcing Graphical Perception: Using Mechanical Turk to Assess Visualization Design. Heer and Bostock. Proc ACM Conf. Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2010, p. 203–212.]

Discriminability: How many usable steps?

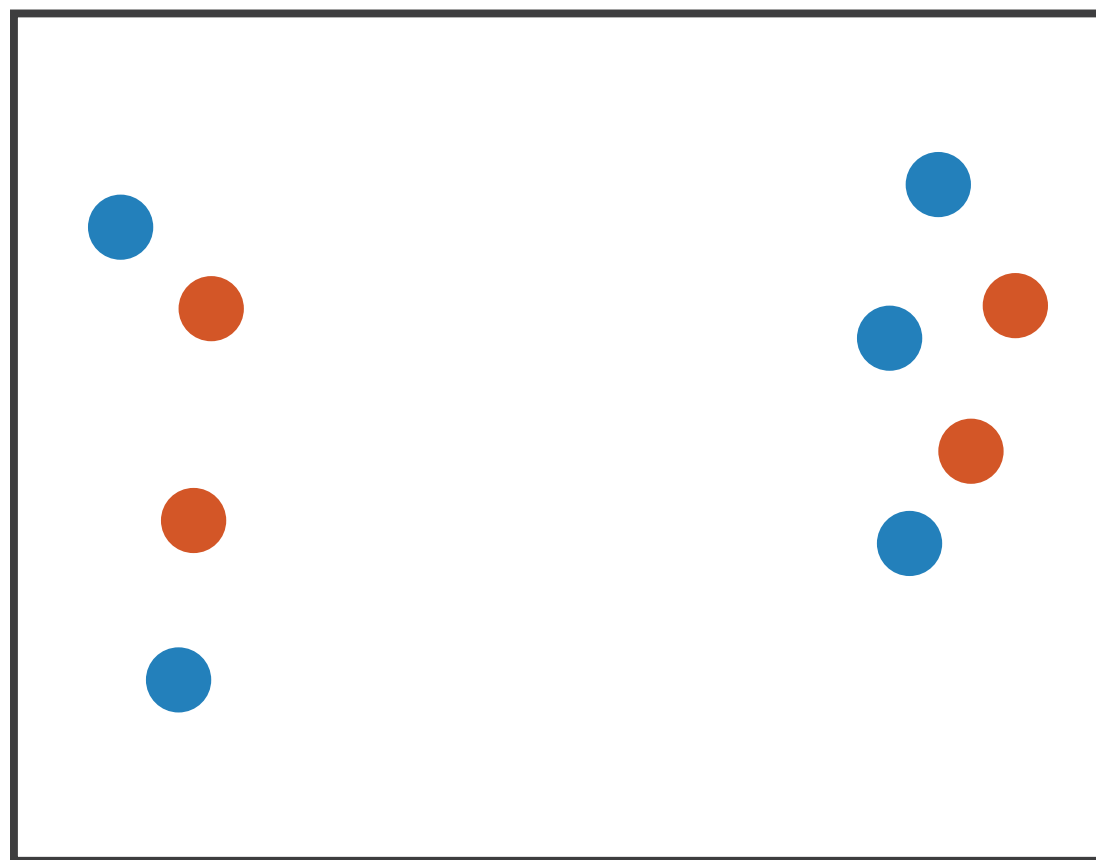
- must be sufficient for number of attribute levels to show
 - line width: few bins



[mappa.mundi.net/maps/maps_014/telegeography.html]

Separability vs. Integrality

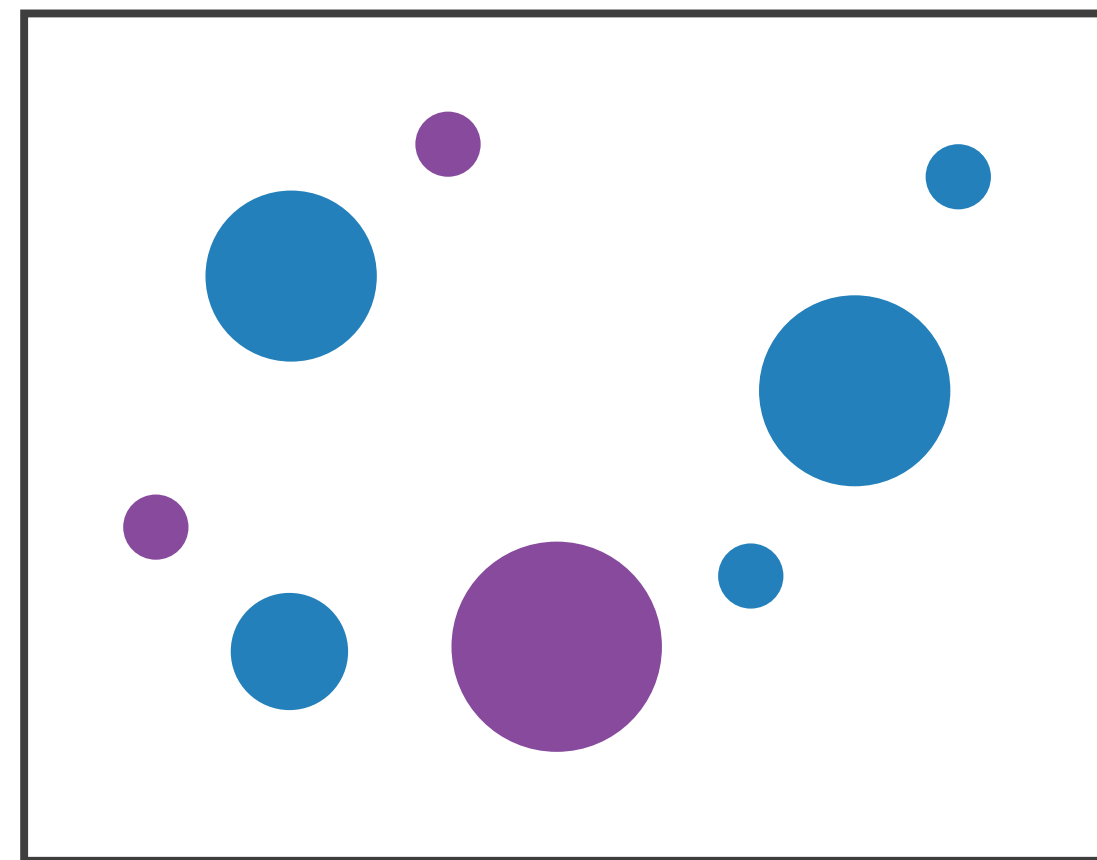
Position
+ Hue (Color)



Fully separable

2 groups each

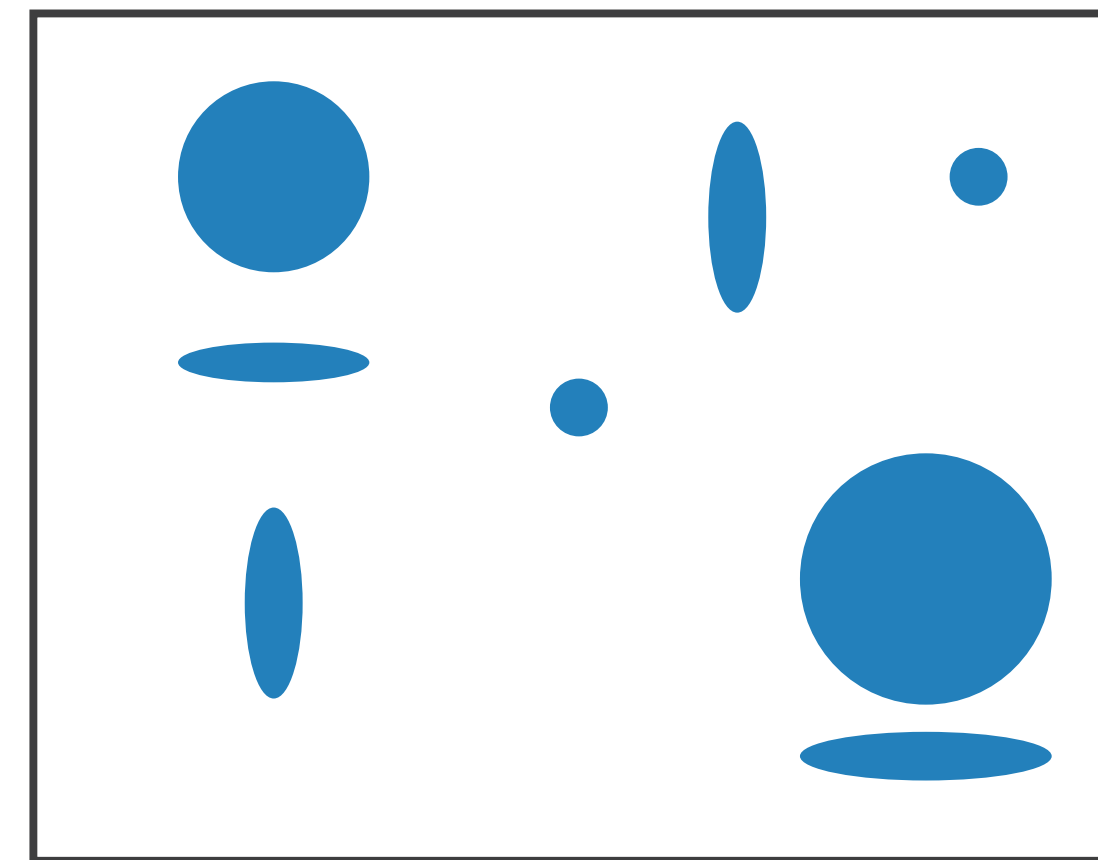
Size
+ Hue (Color)



Some interference

2 groups each

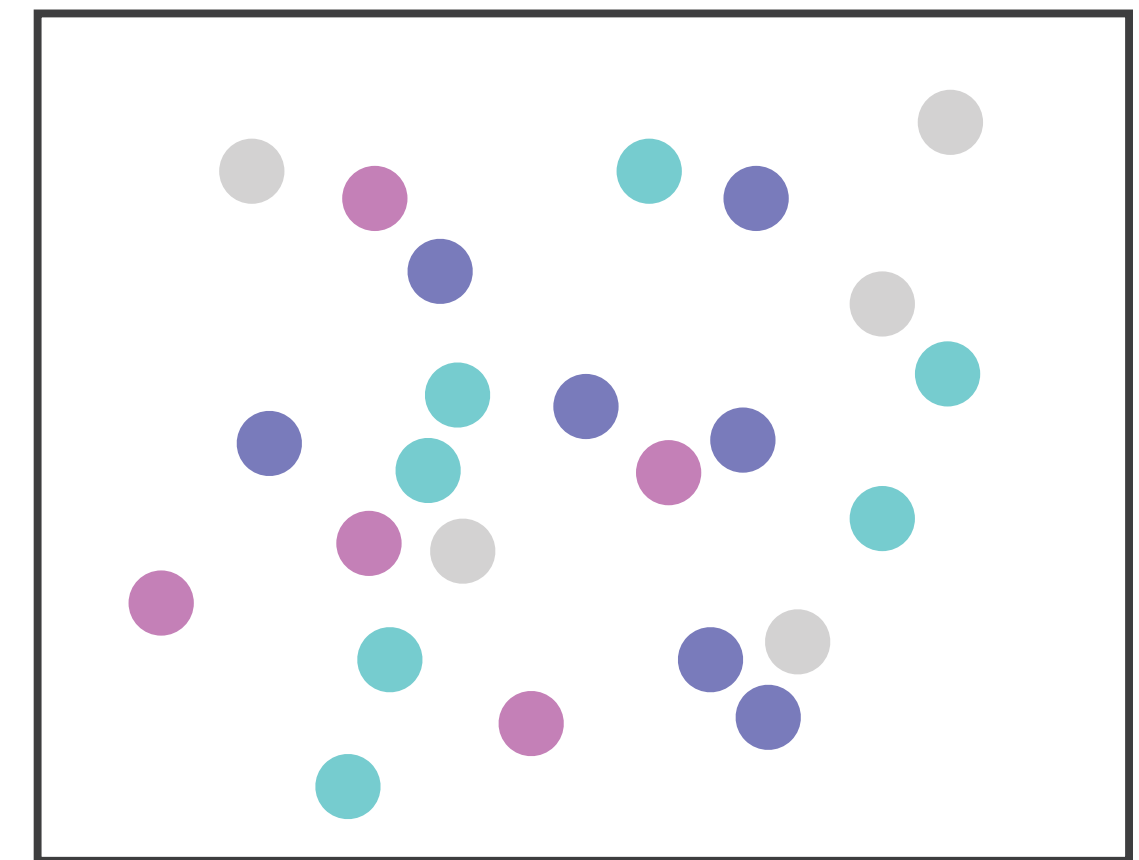
Width
+ Height



Some/significant
interference

3 groups total:
integral area

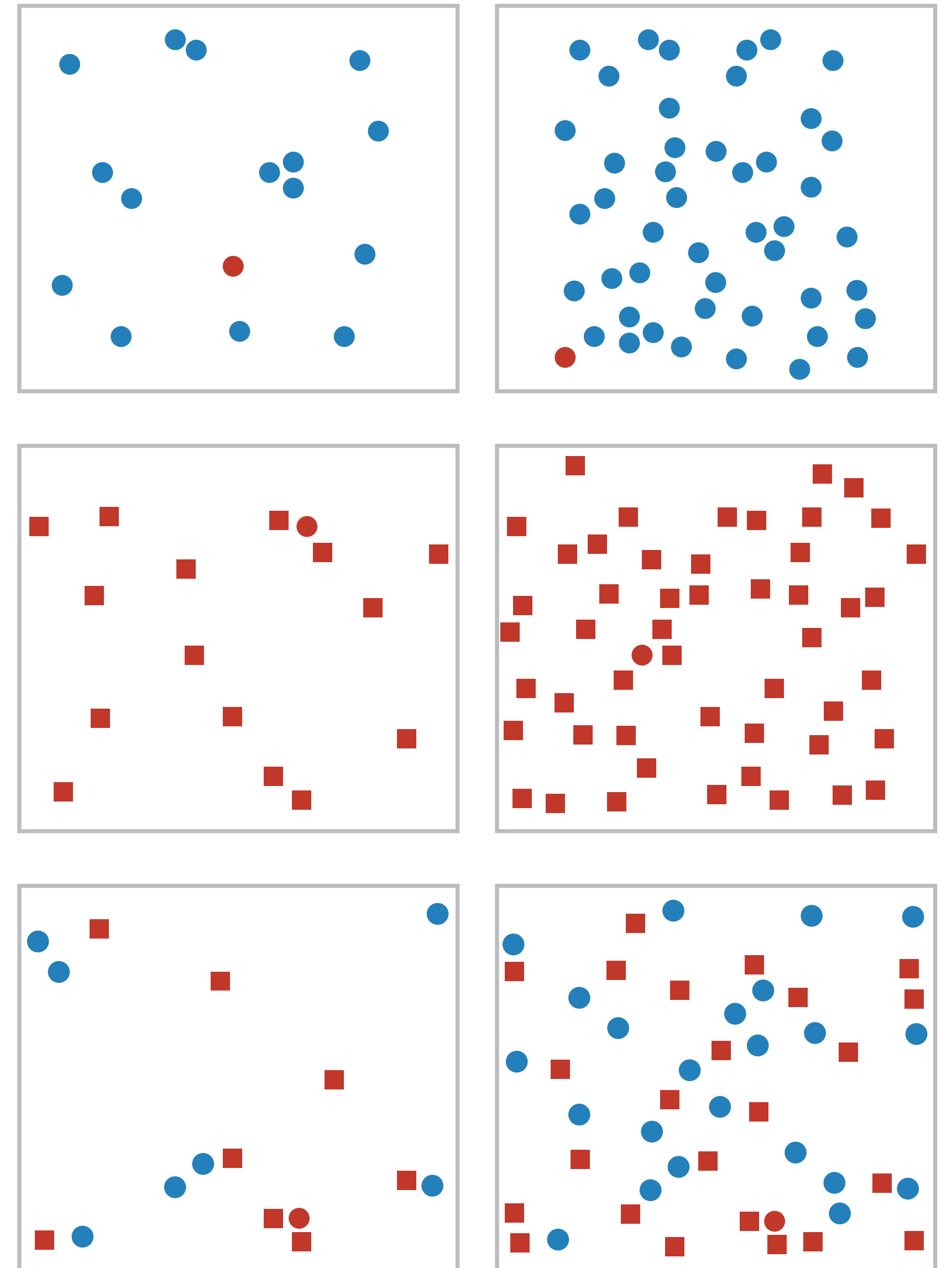
Red
+ Green



Major interference

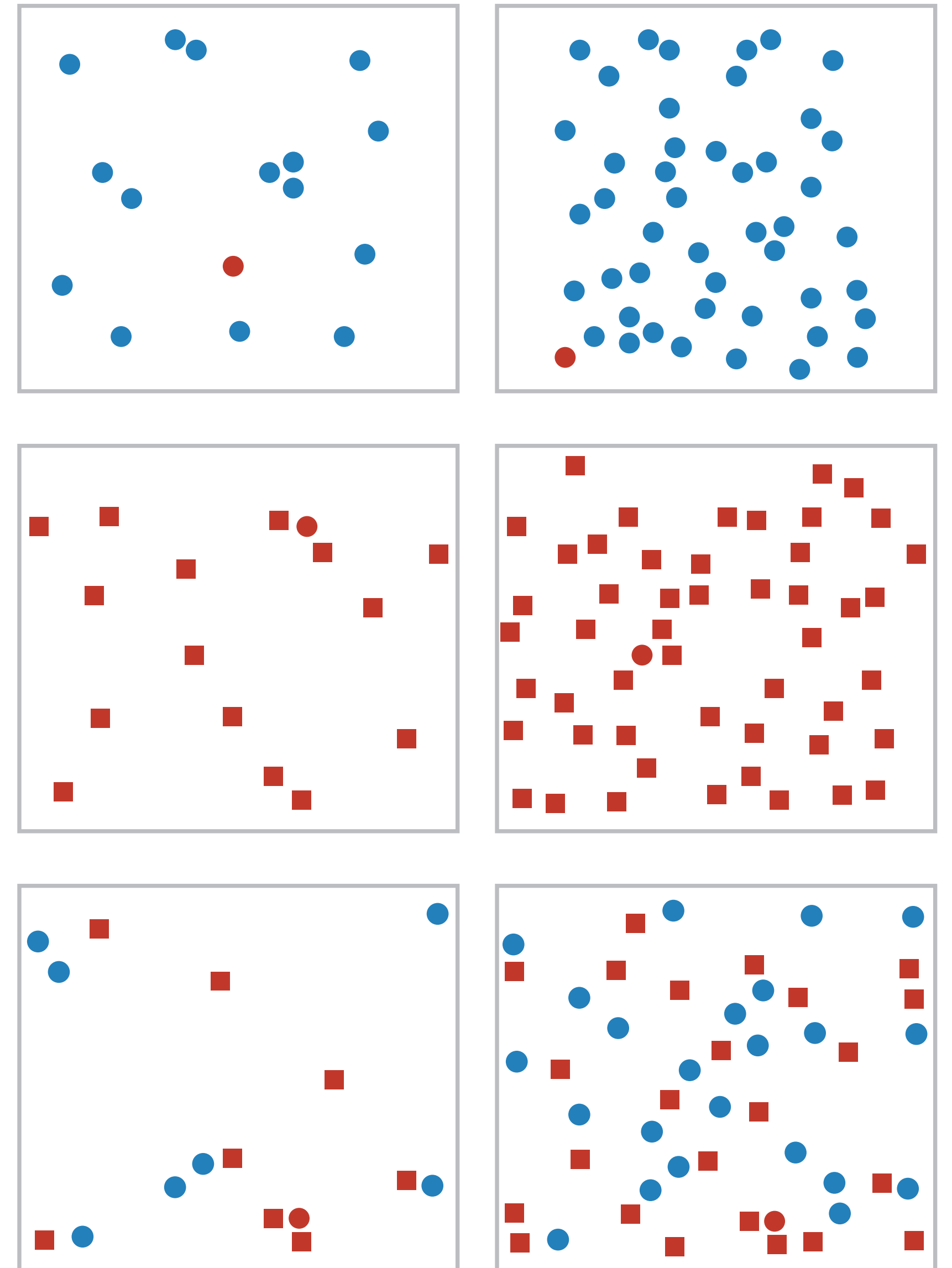
4 groups total:
integral hue

Popout



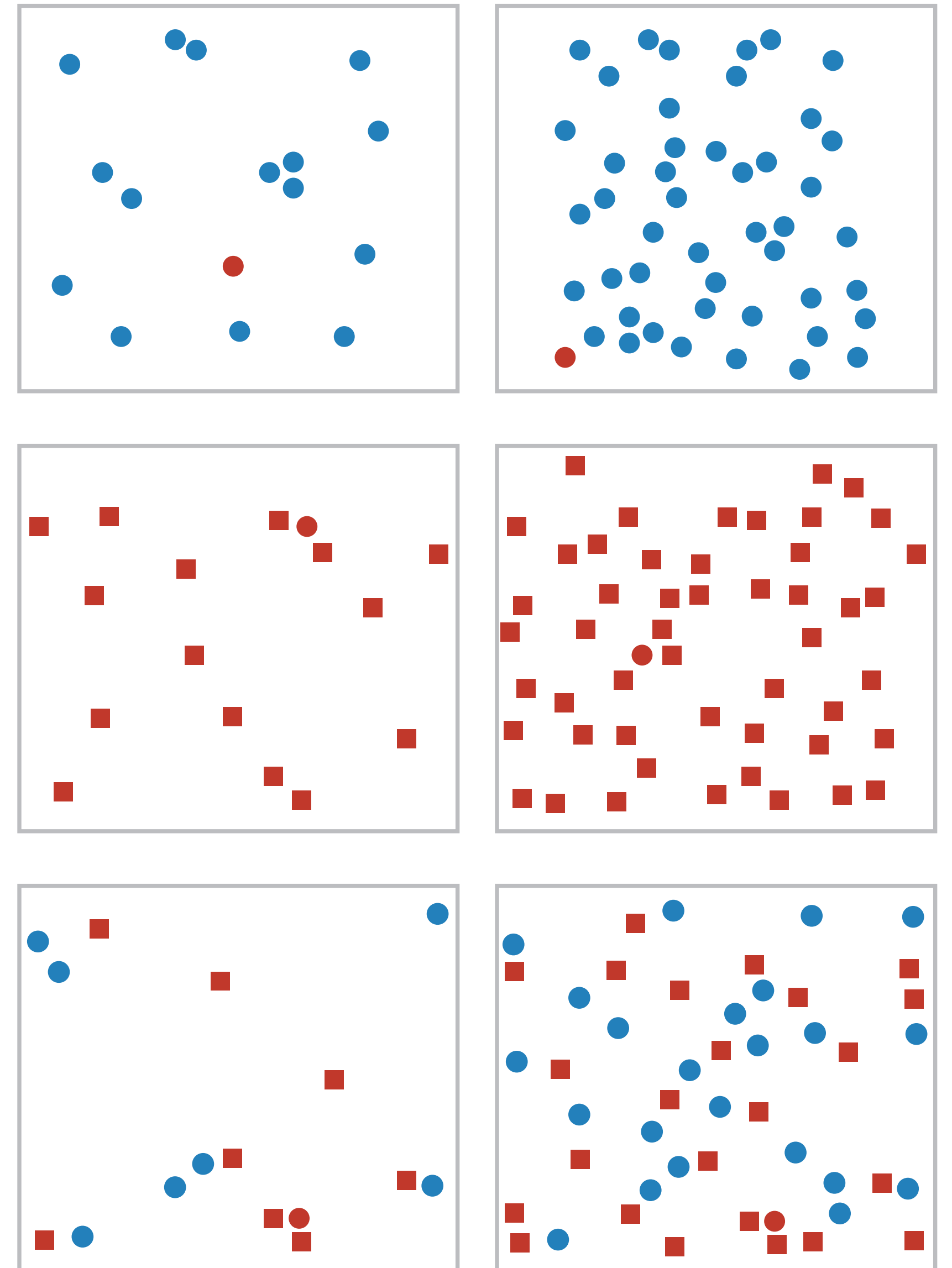
Popout

- find the red dot
–how long does it take?

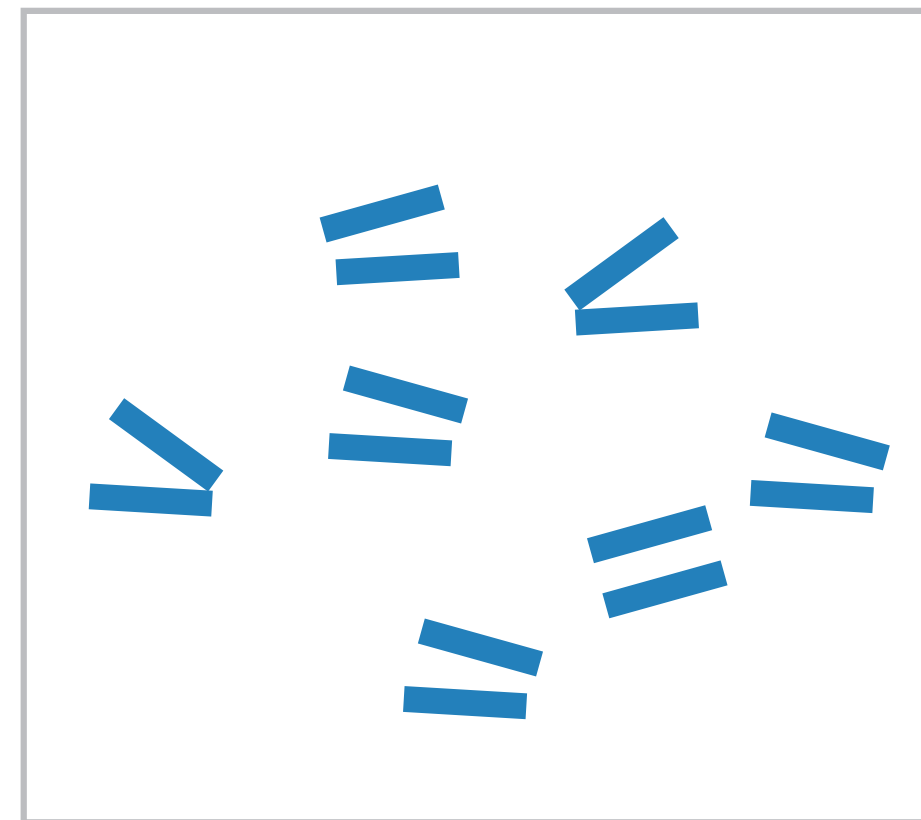
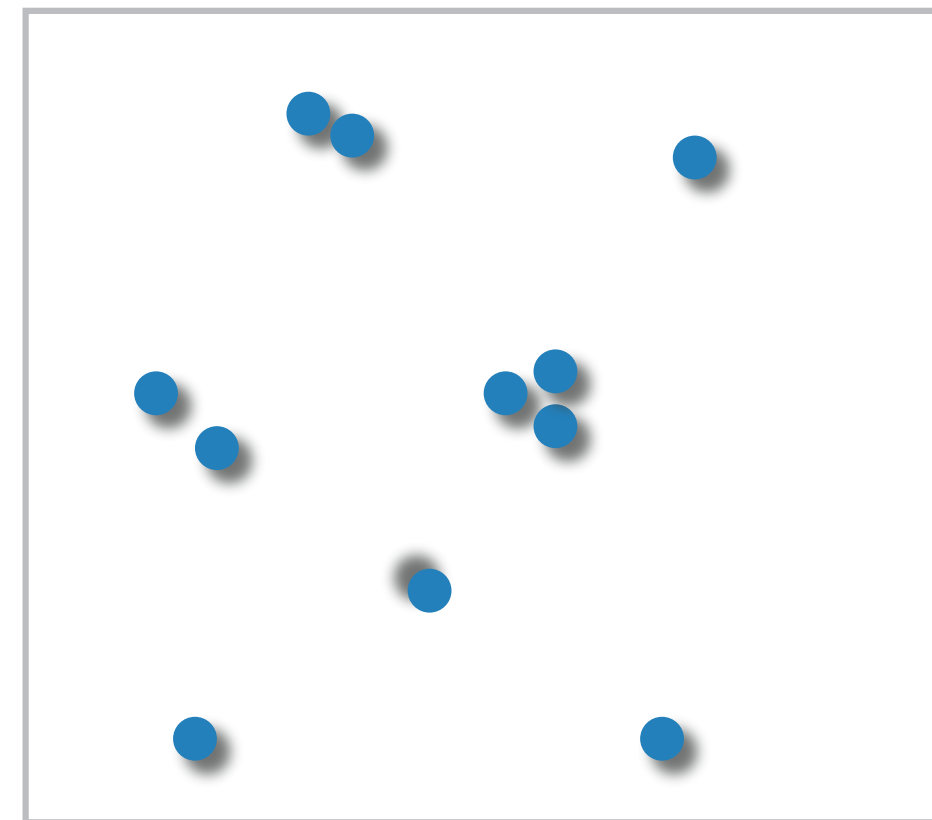
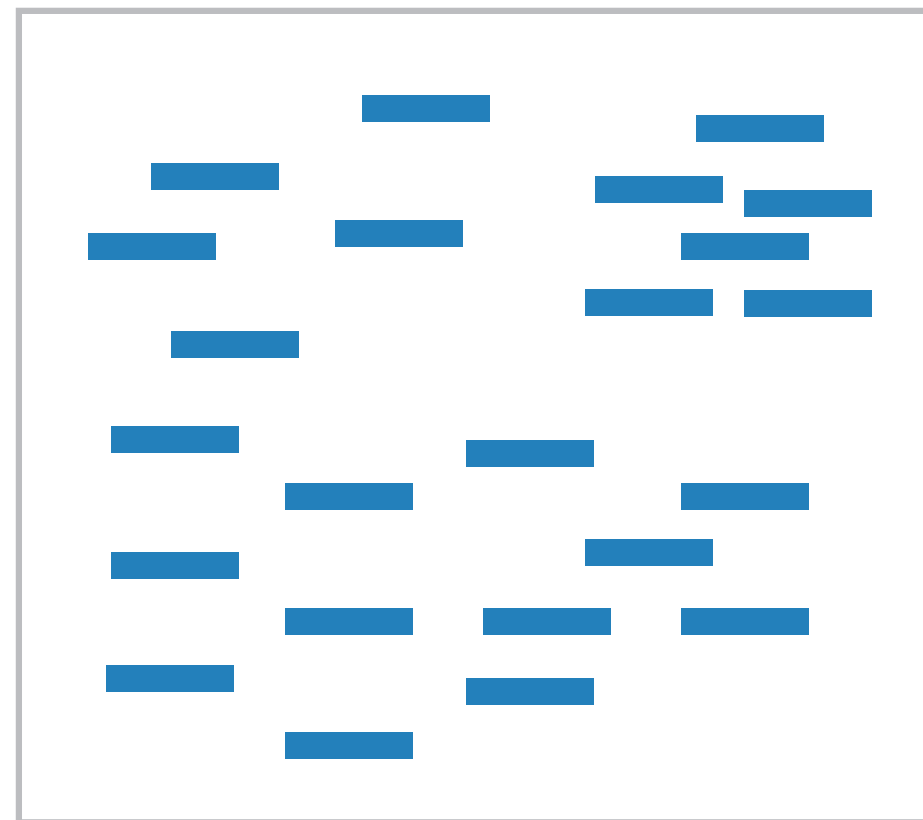
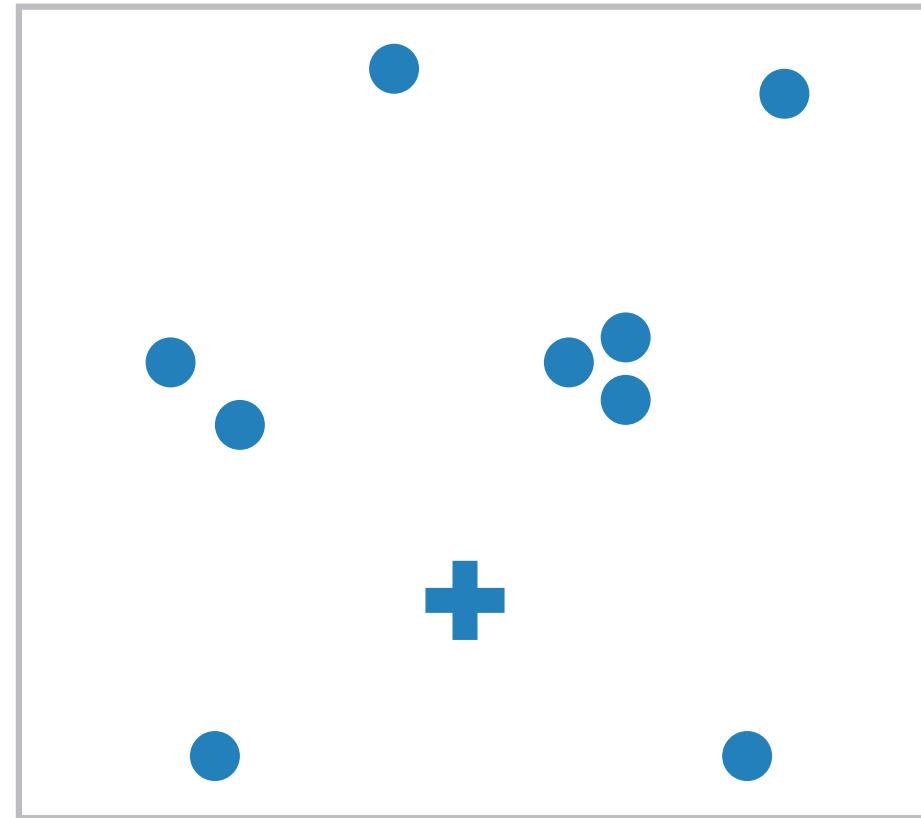
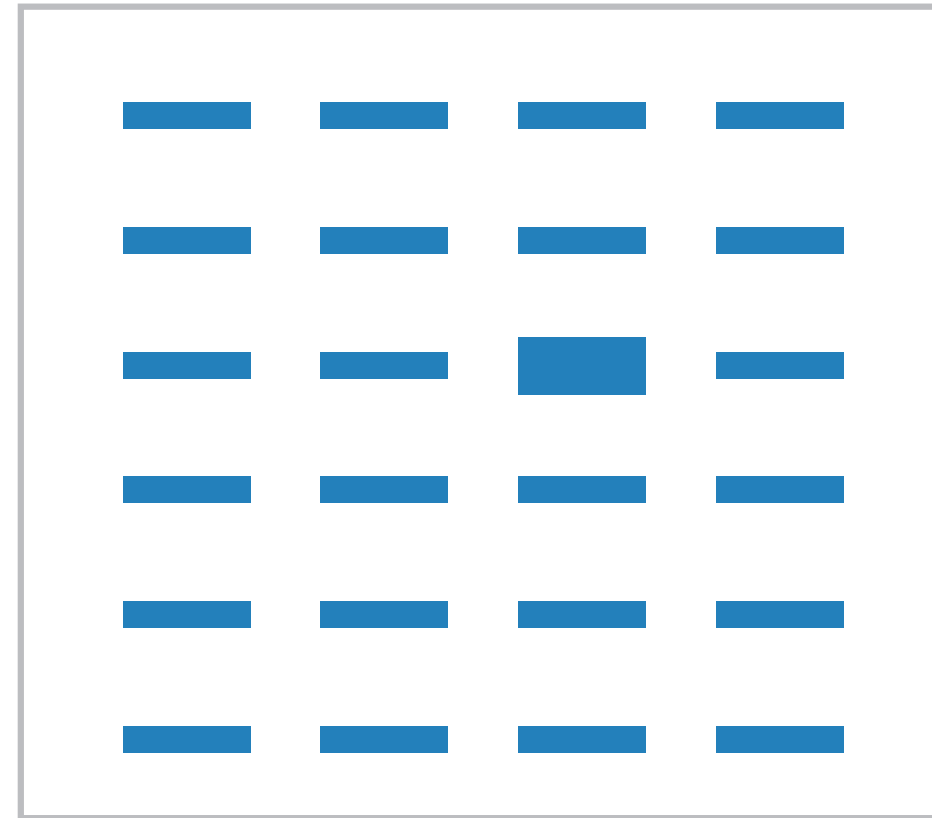
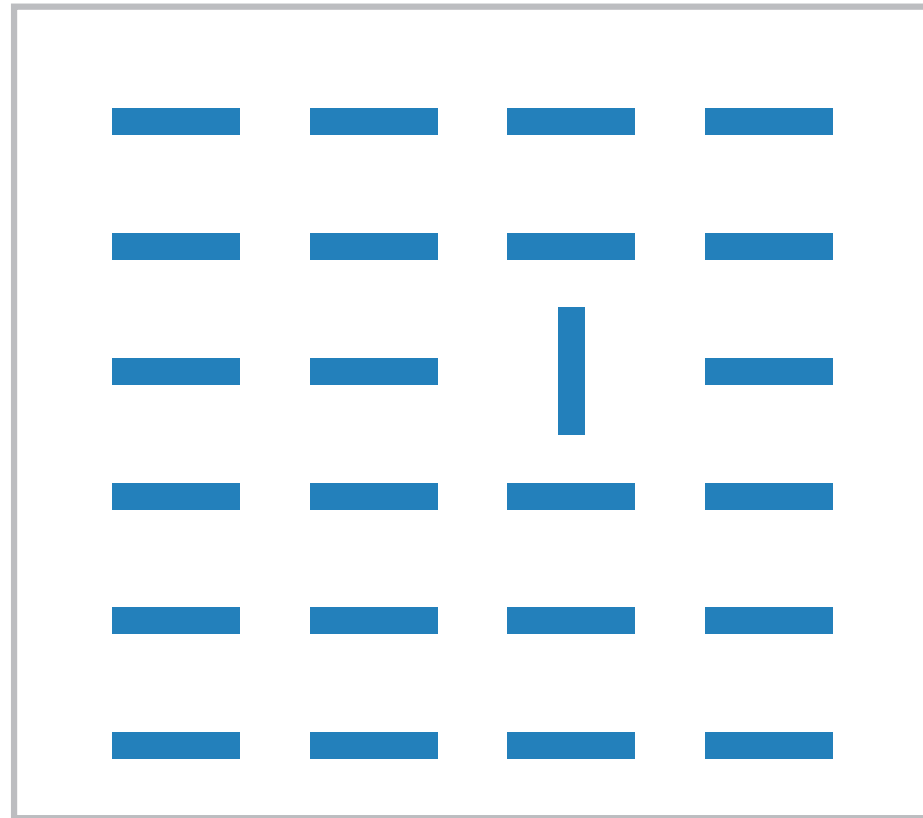


Popout

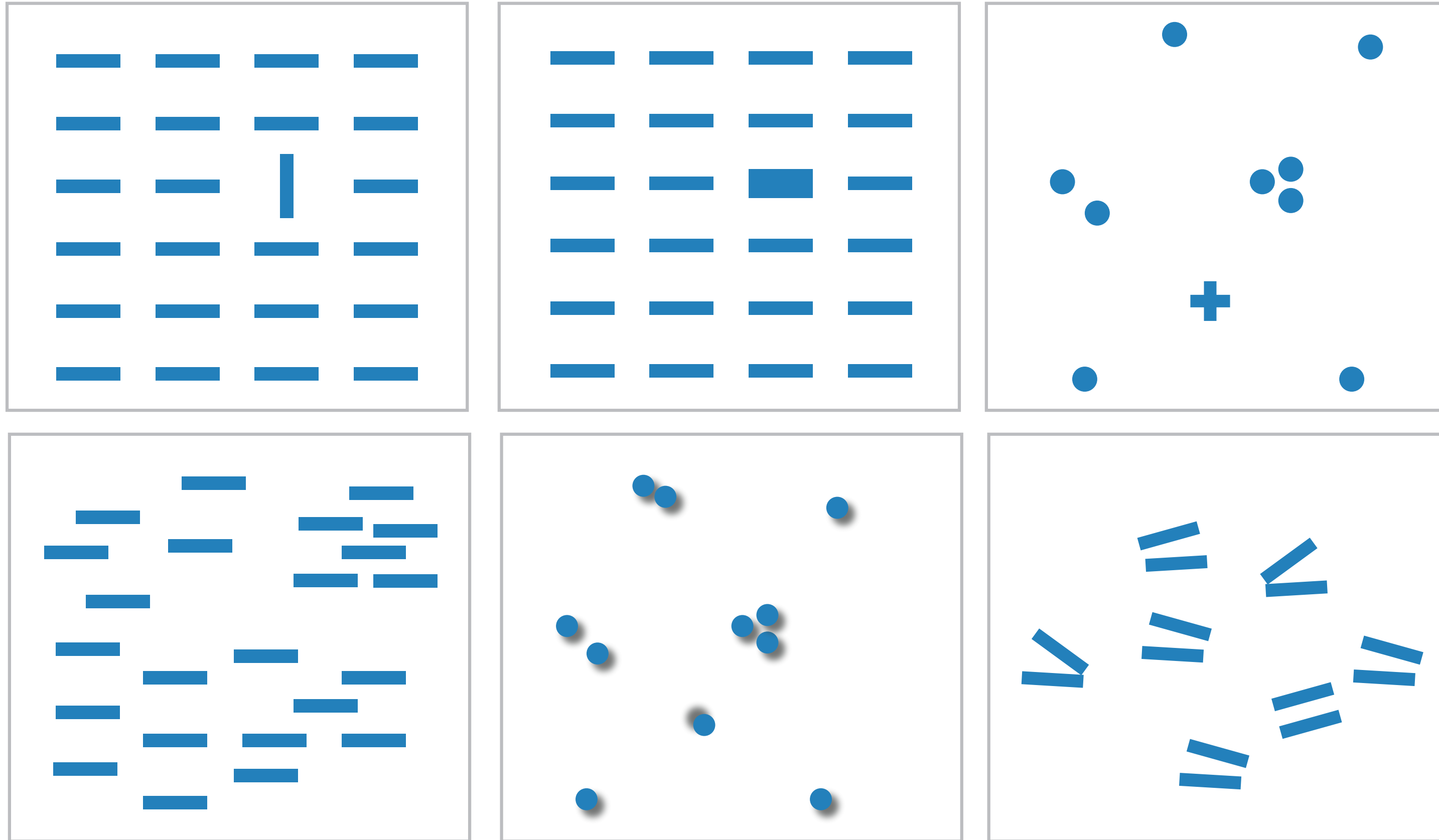
- **find the red dot**
 - how long does it take?
- **parallel processing on many individual channels**
 - speed independent of distractor count
 - speed depends on channel and amount of difference from distractors
- **serial search for (almost all) combinations**
 - speed depends on number of distractors



Popout

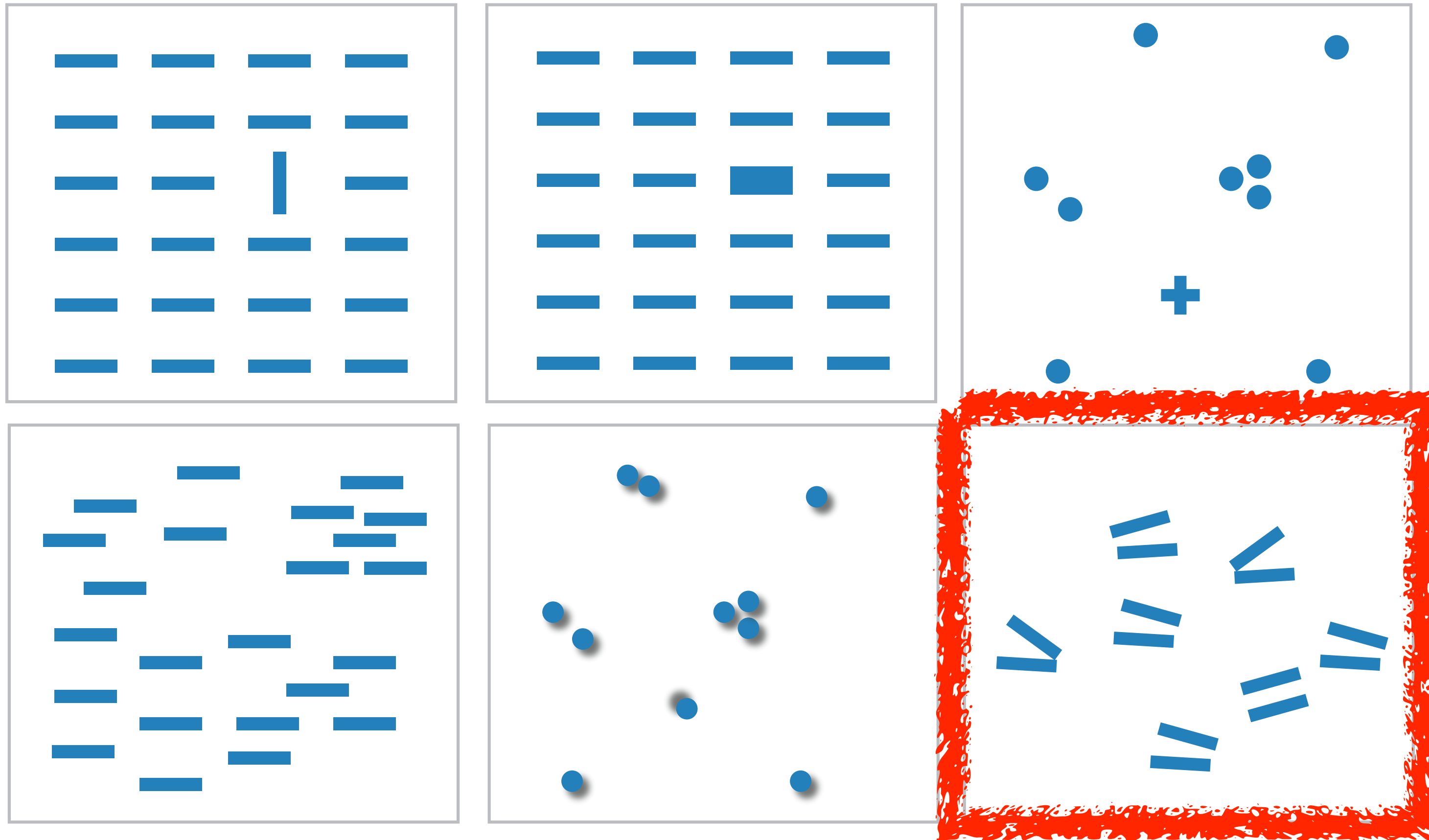


Popout



- many channels: tilt, size, shape, proximity, shadow direction, ...

Popout



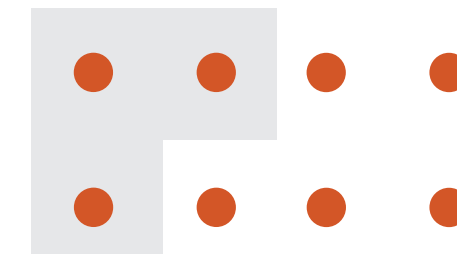
- many channels: tilt, size, shape, proximity, shadow direction, ...
- but not all! parallel line pairs don't pop out from tilted pairs

Grouping

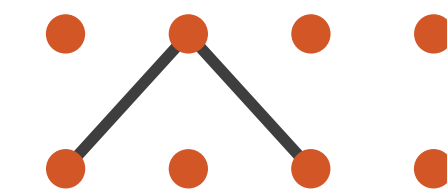
- containment
- connection

Marks as Links

➔ Containment



➔ Connection



- proximity
 - same spatial region
- similarity
 - same values as other categorical channels

➔ Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes

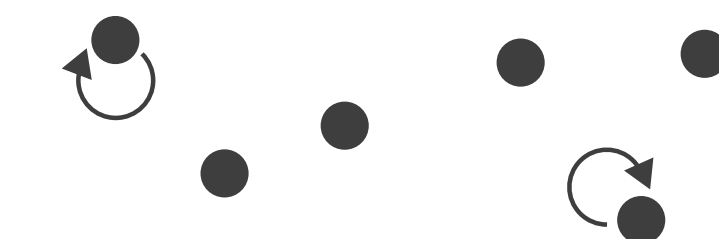
Spatial region



Color hue



Motion



Shape



Relative vs. absolute judgements

after [Graphical Perception: Theory, Experimentation, and Application to the Development of Graphical Methods. Cleveland and McGill. Journ. American Statistical Association 79:387 (1984), 531–554.]

Relative vs. absolute judgements

- perceptual system mostly operates with relative judgements, not absolute

after [Graphical Perception: Theory, Experimentation, and Application to the Development of Graphical Methods. Cleveland and McGill. Journ. American Statistical Association 79:387 (1984), 531–554.]

Relative vs. absolute judgements

- perceptual system mostly operates with relative judgements, not absolute
 - that's why accuracy increases with common frame/scale and alignment

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Relative vs. absolute judgements

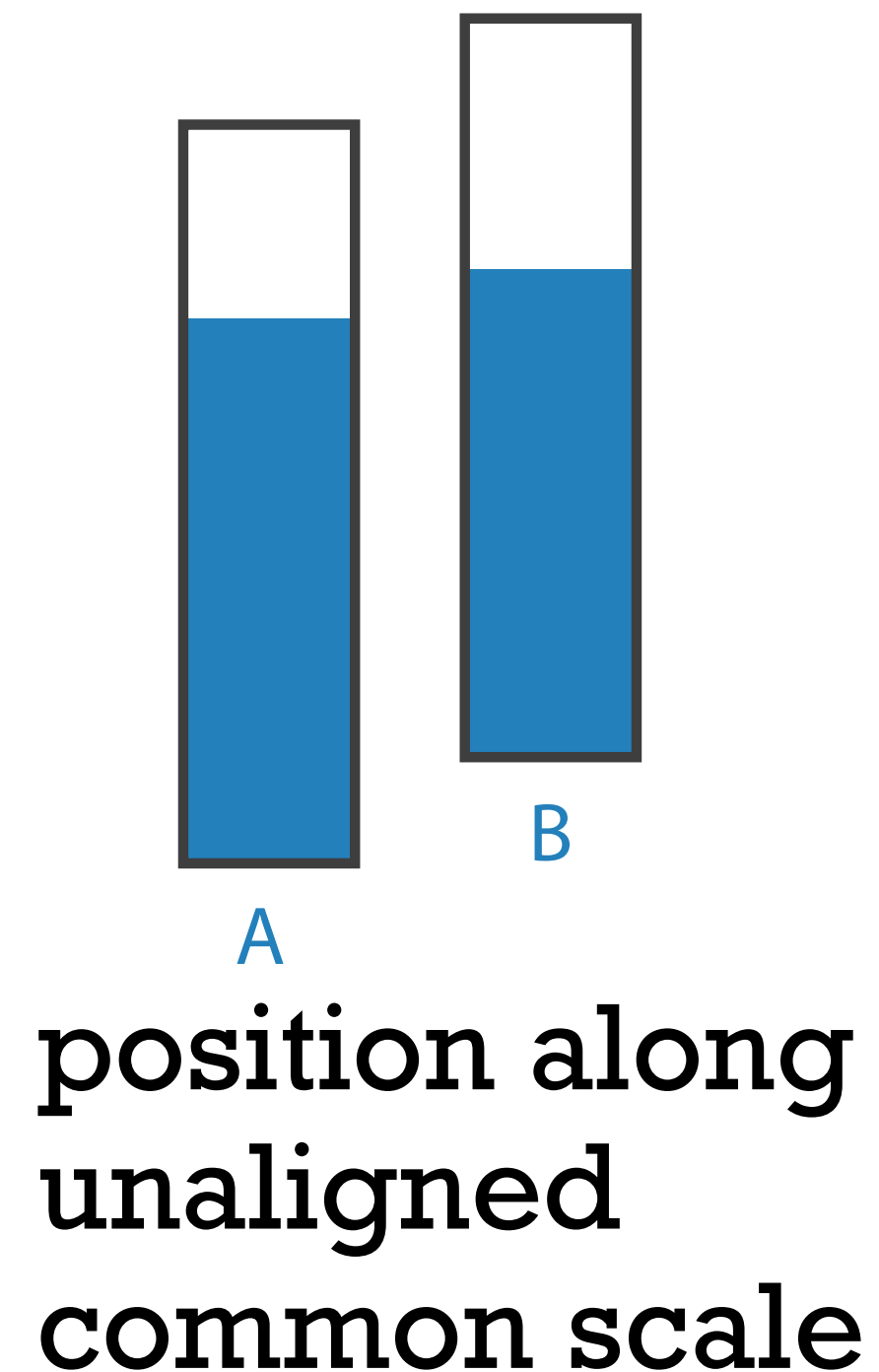
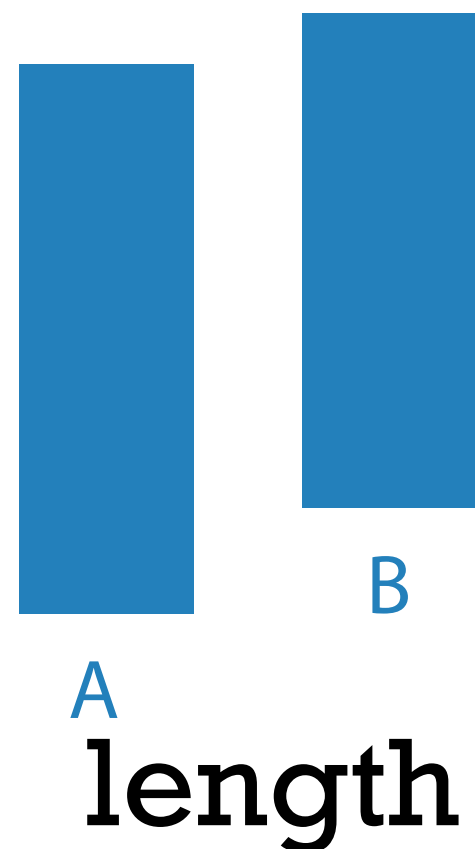
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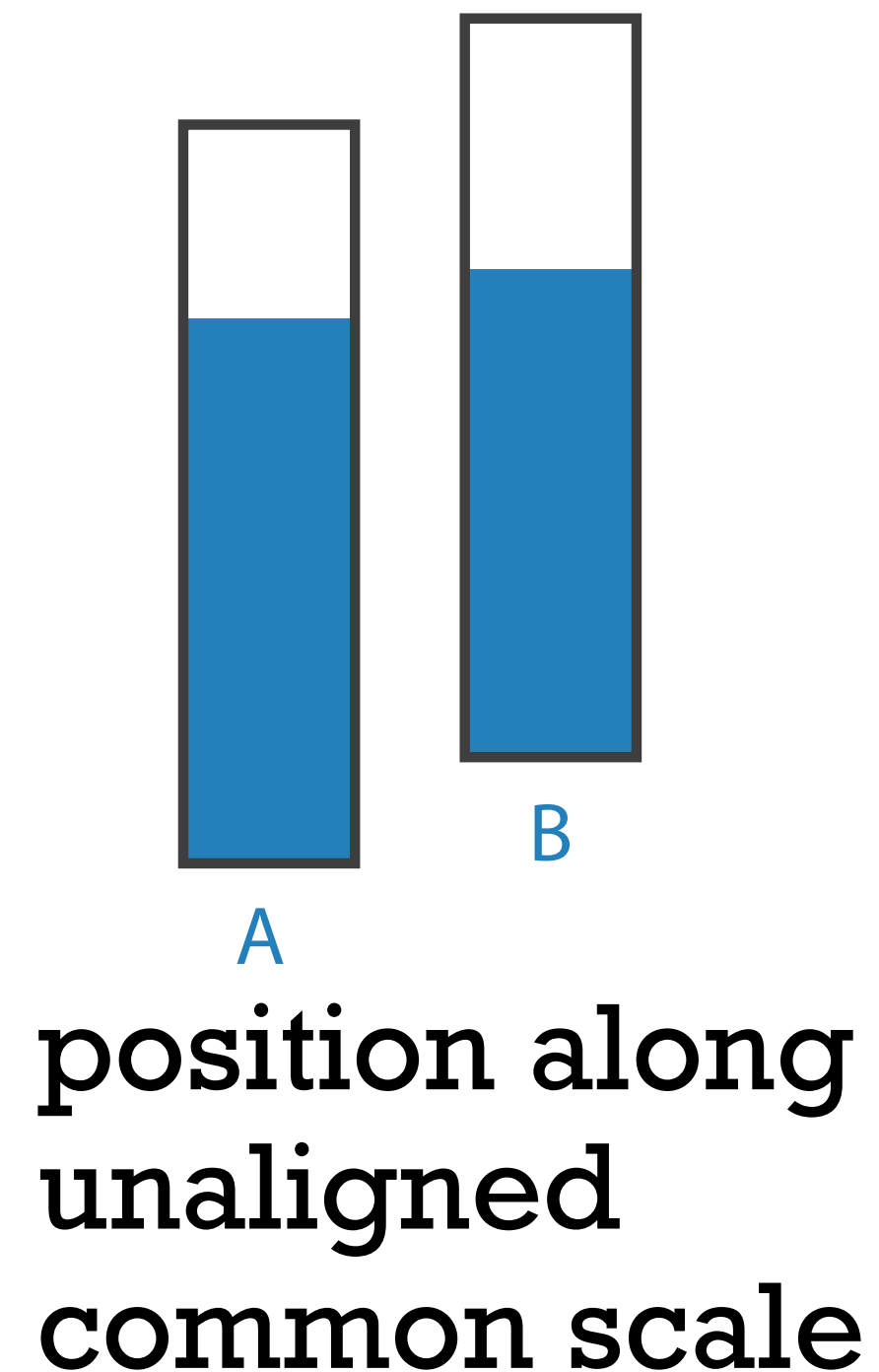
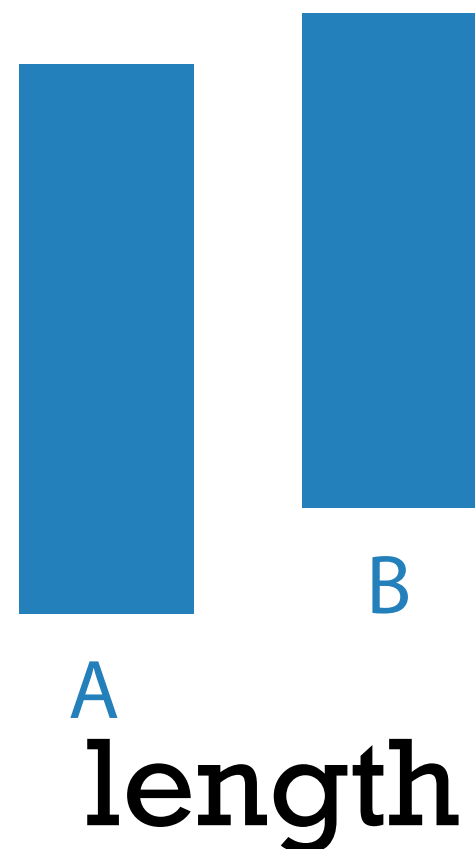
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 - Weber's Law: ratio of increment to background is constant

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 - filled rectangles differ in length by 1:9, difficult judgement

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Relative vs. absolute judgements

- perceptual system mostly operates with relative judgements, not absolute
 - Weber's Law: ratio of increment to background is constant
 - filled rectangles differ in length by 1:9, difficult judgement
 - white rectangles differ in length by 1:2, easy judgement

after [Graphical Perception: Theory, Experimentation, and Application to the Development of Graphical Methods. Cleveland and McGill. Journ. American Statistical Association 79:387 (1984), 531–554.]

Relative vs. absolute judgements

- perceptual system mostly operates with relative judgements, not absolute

–Weber's Law: ratio of increment to background is constant

- filled rectangles differ in length by 1:9, difficult judgement
- white rectangles differ in length by 1:2, easy judgement



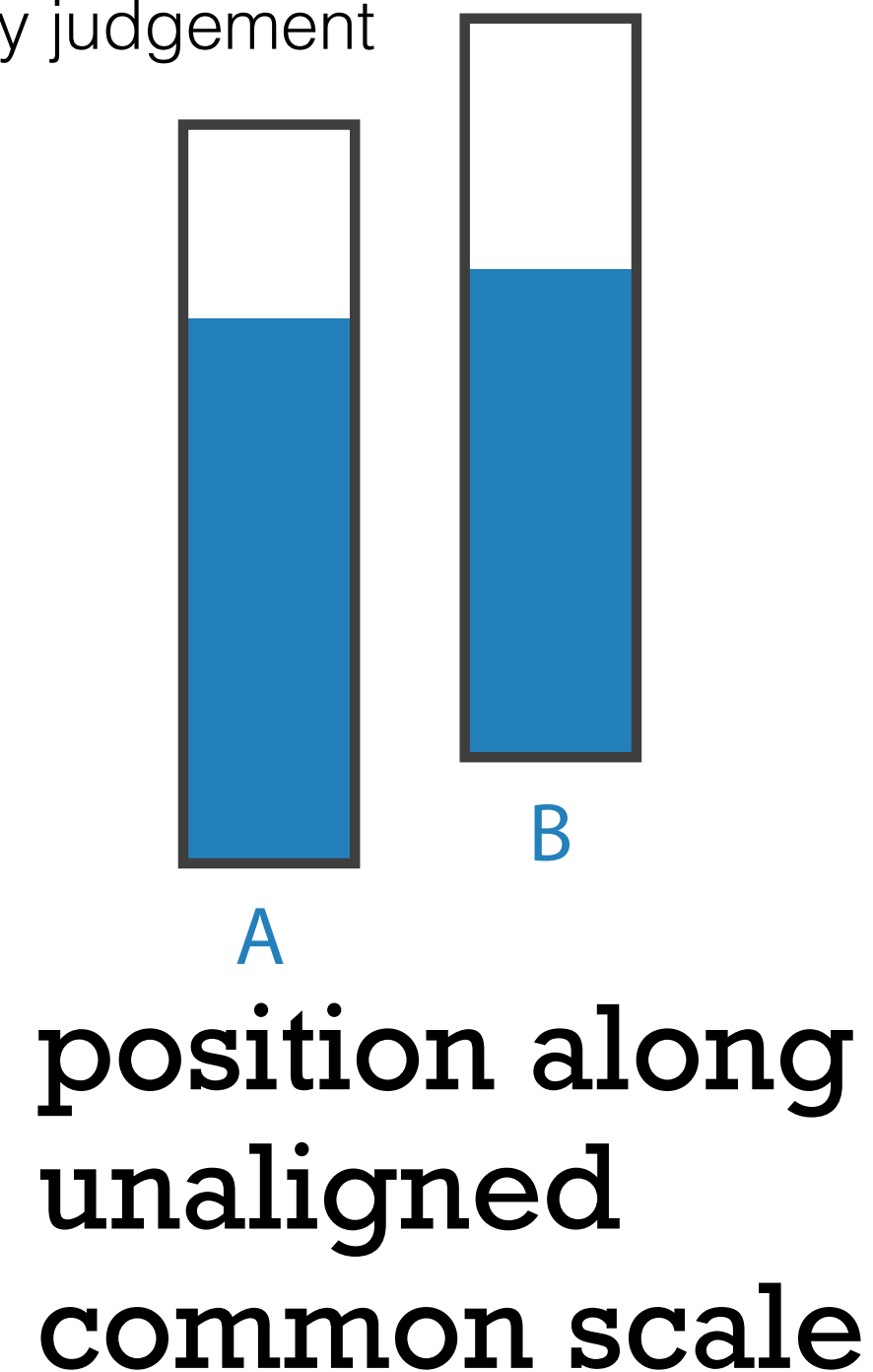
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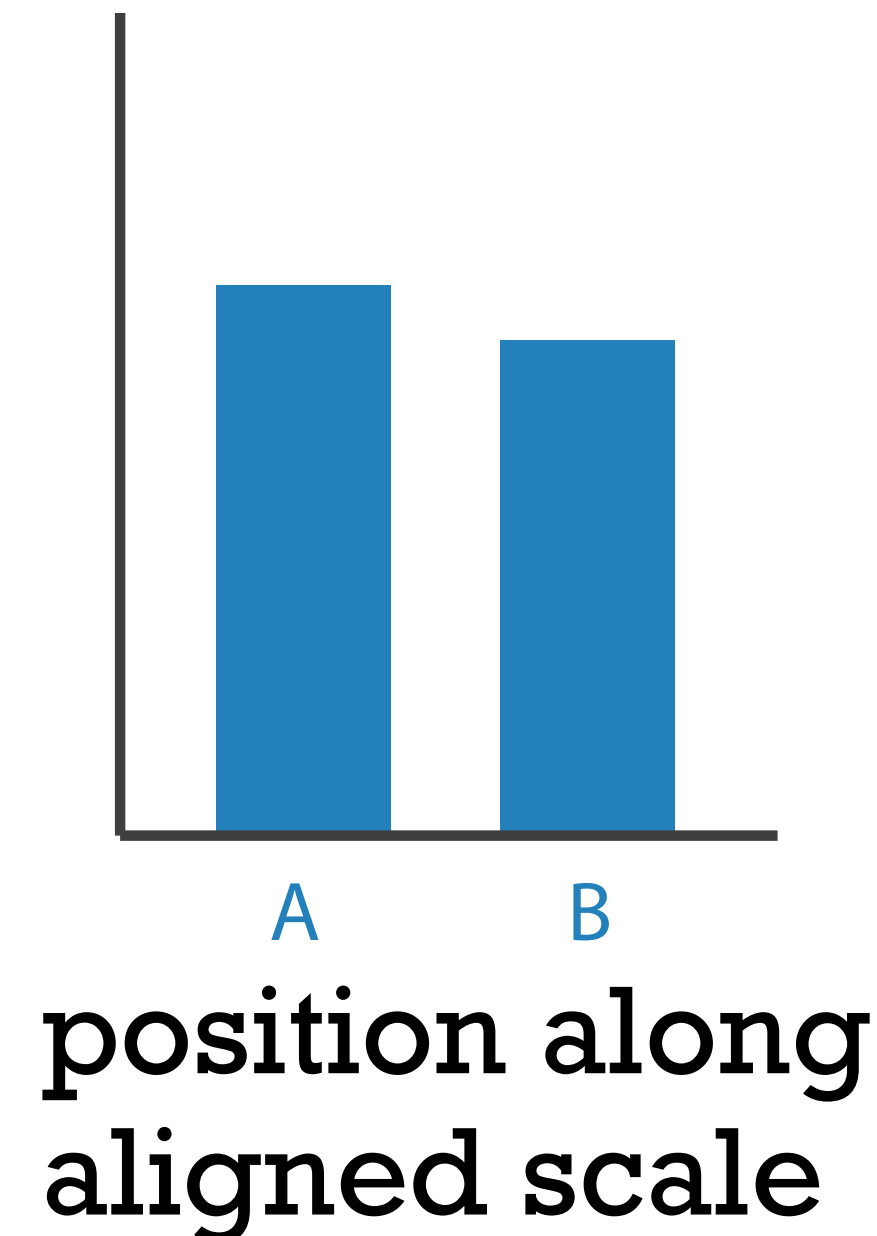
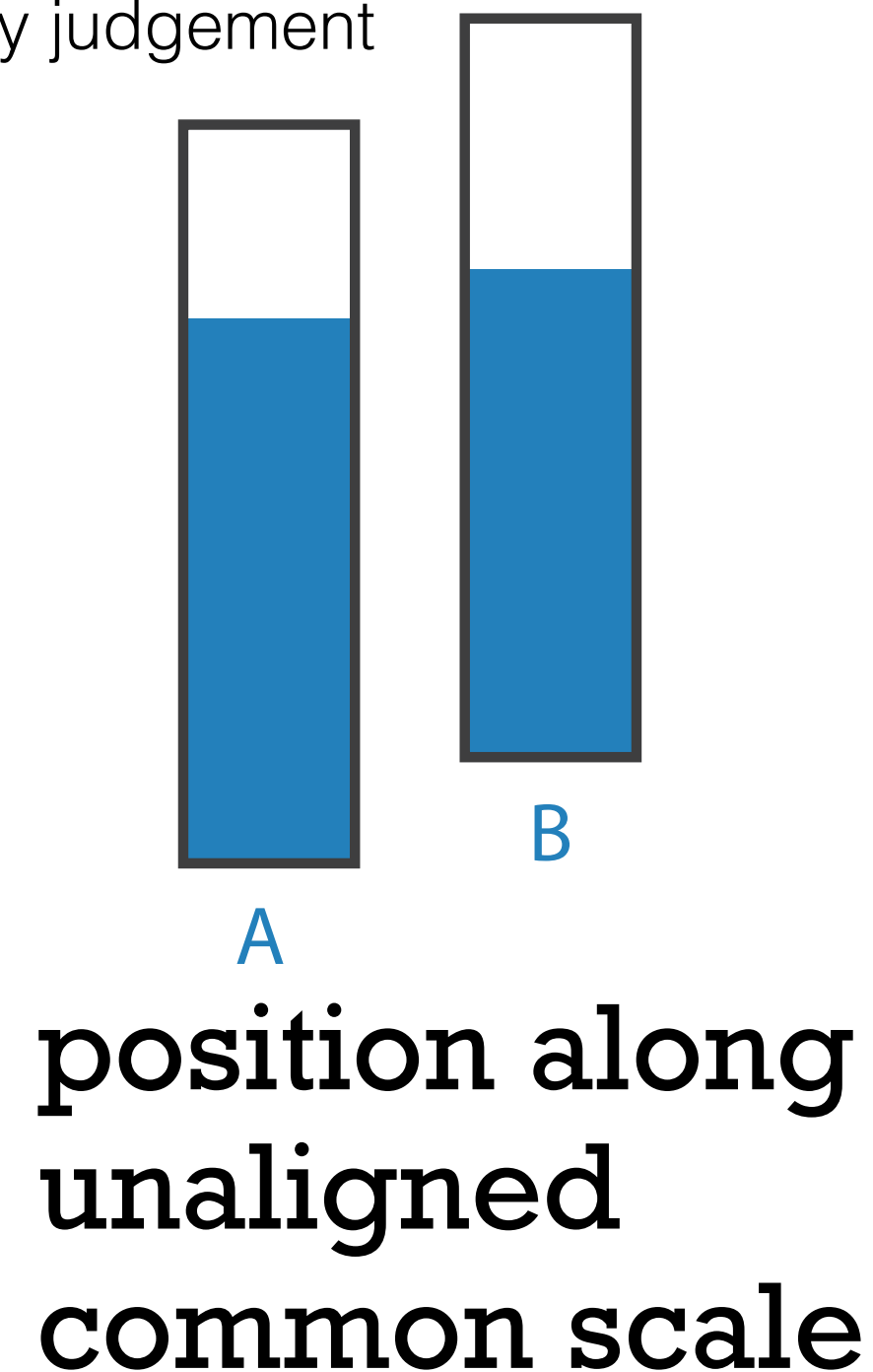
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