

# Visualization

- Main goal is to **tell the story** (data + model)
- Is the **story clear**?
- Are the **data clear**?
- Asking "**How can I make the story or data clear?**" is more useful than asking "What type of plot should I make?"
- The elements of the grammar help with this perspective

# Visualization

- All data plots are built from **marks** and **channels**
- Different combinations of marks and channels are more **effective** for visual perception than others
- Best practice: **evidence based**

# Marks

Points



0D

Lines



1D

Polygons  
Areas



2D

# Channels

## Position

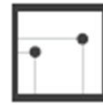
→ Horizontal



→ Vertical



→ Both



## Color



## Shape



## Tilt



## Size

→ Length



→ Area



→ Volume



# Combining



mark:  
line  
channel 1  
quantitative:  
vertical  
position  
channel 2  
category:  
horizontal  
position



mark:  
point  
channel 1  
quantitative:  
vertical  
position  
channel 2  
quantitative:  
horizontal  
position



+  
channel 3  
category:  
color



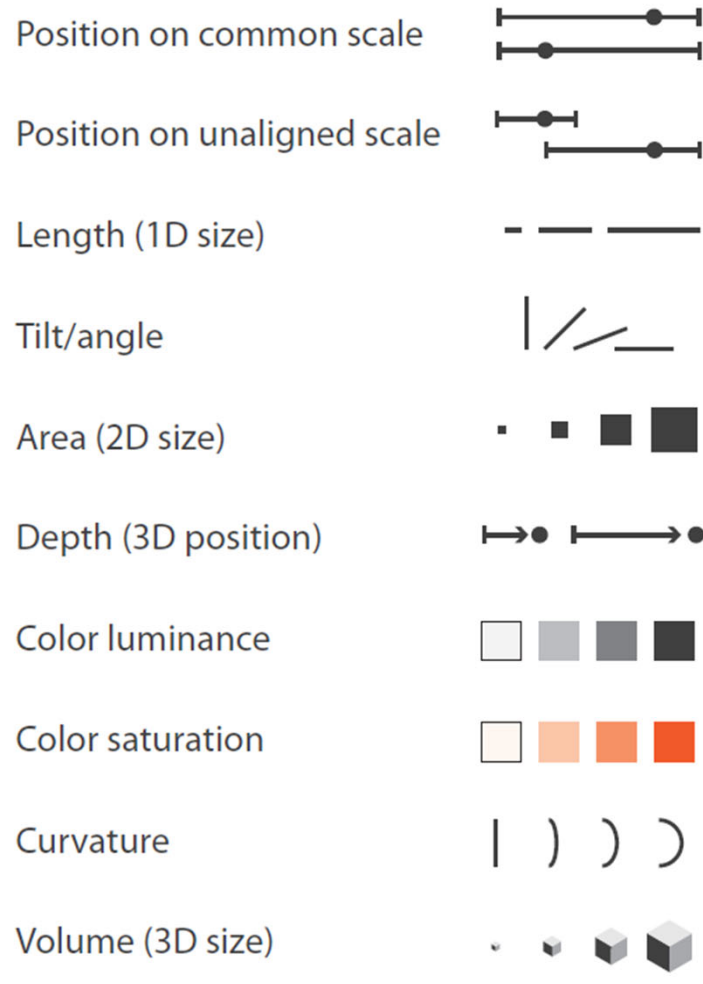
+  
channel 4  
quantitative:  
size

# Fundamental principles

- **Expressiveness:** visual encoding should express all, and only, info in the variable
  - ordered data: **magnitude** channels
  - unordered data: **identity** channels (should not imply ordering )
- **Effectiveness:** code the most important data features with the most effective channels

# Effectiveness of channels

## ➔ Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes



## ➔ Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes



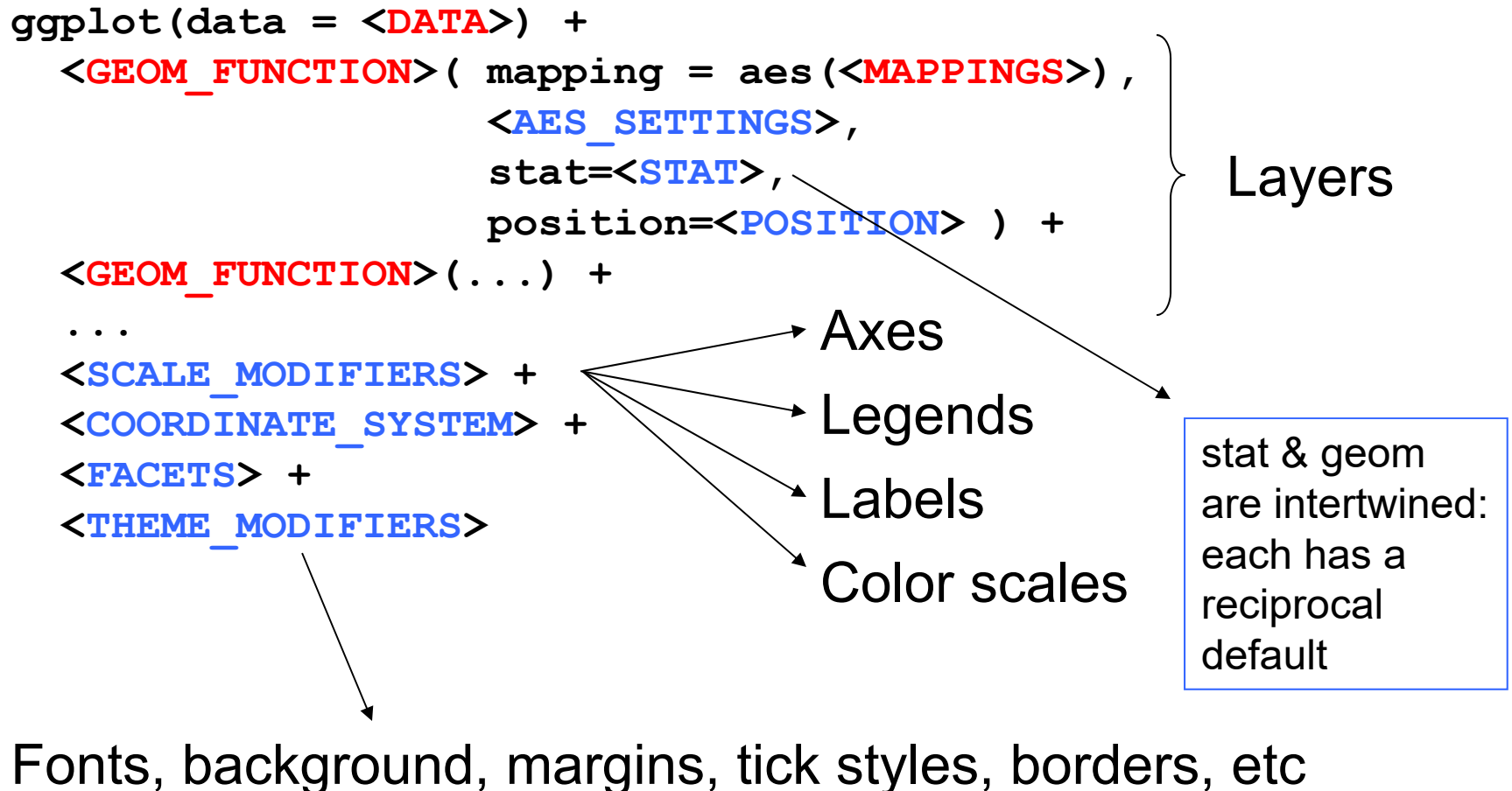
# Summary Wickham paper

- Marks: **geom** (geometric object): points, lines, polygons, ...
- Channels: **aes** (aesthetic) x, y, shape, color
- **Mapping**: map data to channels of marks
- Scales: one per aes
- Statistics (summarizing function)
- Coordinate system (one per plot)
- Annotations
- Facets

Layer



# ggplot template



Cheatsheet: <https://www.rstudio.com/resources/cheatsheets> (visualization)

# ggplot inheritance

```
ggplot() +  
  geom_point(data=mpg, mapping=aes(x=displ, y=hwy)) +  
  geom_smooth(data=mpg, mapping=aes(x=displ, y=hwy))
```

```
ggplot(data=mpg, mapping=aes(x=displ, y=hwy)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth()
```

layers inherit

