**Readings 2**

**1. Find a visualization not discussed in class or used in a homework and answer the following questions pertaining to that visualization. Attach the visualization as a screenshot in your submission.**

**2. Consider Bertin’s characterization of visual variables (position, size, shape, value, color, orientation, and texture). Pick 2 of Bertin’s visual variables, and discuss them in relation to your visualization.**

- Color: the colors represent the age of buildings in the city. The colors seem a bit arbitrarily chosen, but it makes sense to me on the map.

- Shape: the shapes schematically display the city. I think it is very clear, especially if you have a sense of what Amsterdam looks like.

**3. Munzner proposed a nested model for visualization design and validation. Discuss/validate your visualization with respect to domain problem characterization and data/operation abstraction design.**

Domain problem characterization: it is pretty straightforward. No complex vocabulary is used in this graph. I think it is all okay.

Data/operation abstraction: I’m sorry, I don’t really understand what this is.

**4. Based on Cleveland and McGill’s results, does your visualization embody good practices (i.e. can people accurately perform the tasks based on the encodings?)**

I don’t know whether it is possible to apply the theory to my visualisation.The article focusses on basic graphs and my visualisation is on a higher level of information representation. I do think it woud be better to use grids with different spacing (just like the example on page 24 of Cleveland et al. ()) instead of different colors to represent the age of buildings. I think it would make more sense, to have some sort of gradual change. On the other hand, the visualisation does look pretty and appealing this way.

**5. Do you agree that visualization is a functional art? Explain.**

I do, it is an art to visually display data in a way that it is appealing to the audience. I find “de groei van Amsterdam” informative and pleasant to look at. It grabs the attention of a viewer. This information would be boring and not as informative if not visualised.

**6. Ask yourself what the designer is trying to convey and think of three to four possible tasks this visualization should help you with. Does the visualization achieve any of your tasks? (To view an example, see Albert Cairo, pages 26-­28.)**

present: It presents the data of the age of buildings in Amsterdam

compare: You can compare different parts of the city with each other and maybe think about the historical influences (war 🡪 bombs 🡪 new buildings.

organize: it helps to organize the city from old to new parts. It is visible how the city is organized. From the heart to of the city with the oldest buildings to the periphery of the city.

