

Two objectives of effective graphs:

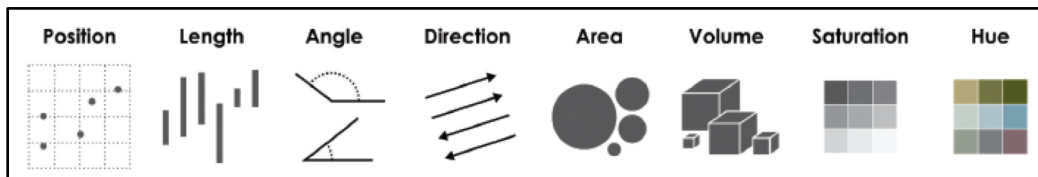
1. Grab & direct attention (iconic memory)
2. Reduce processing demands (working memory)

Graph components:

1. Geoms:
  - points, lines, boxes, bars, etc.
2. Pre-attentive attributes:
  - position, color, shape, curvature, etc.
3. Non-data ink:
  - scales, grid lines, legend, labels, etc.
4. No chart junk!

Pattern recognition hierarchy:

- Position on a common scale
- Position on non-aligned scales
- Length
- Angle
- Area
- Color saturation
- Color hue



Cleveland's three visual operations of pattern perception:

1. Estimation:
  - Discrimination  $X \neq Y$
  - Ranking  $X > Y$
  - Ratioing  $X / Y$
2. Assembly:
  - The grouping of graphical elements
  - Prägnanz: We strongly prefer to interpret stimuli as regular, simple, and orderly
3. Detection:
  - Recognizing that a geometric object encodes a physical value
  - Above all else, show the data

10 lessons from research on visual perception:

1. Do remove chart chunk
2. Don't make 3D plots\*
3. Don't lie
4. Don't use pie charts for proportions\*
5. Don't stack bars\*
6. Do rotate and sort categorical axes\*
7. Do eliminate legends & directly label geoms\*
8. Don't use pattern fills
9. Don't use red & green together
10. Do consider tables for small data sets

\*most of the time