

# **EFFECTIVE PLOTTING**

## **SCATTER AND LINE PLOTS**

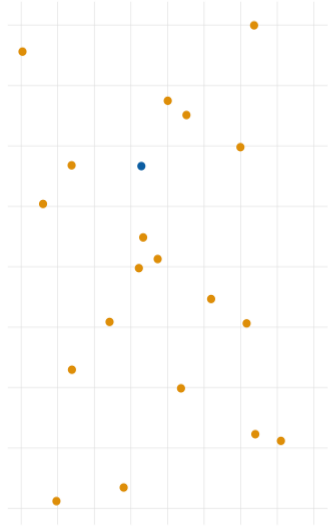
Brett Andrews

10.30.2018

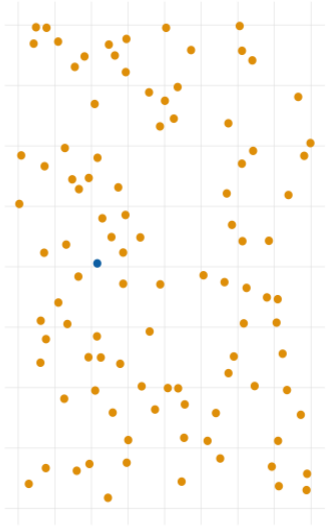
# **DON'T MAKE ME THINK!**

Take advantage of human perception.

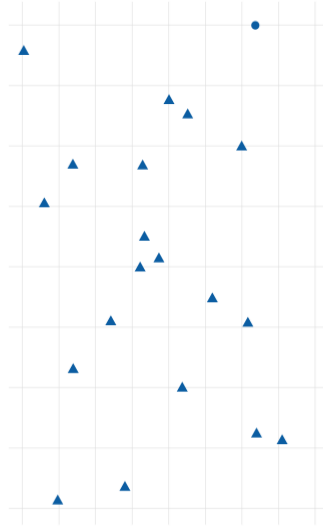
Color Only, N=20



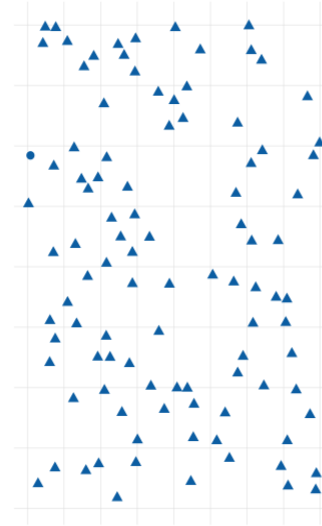
Color Only, N=100



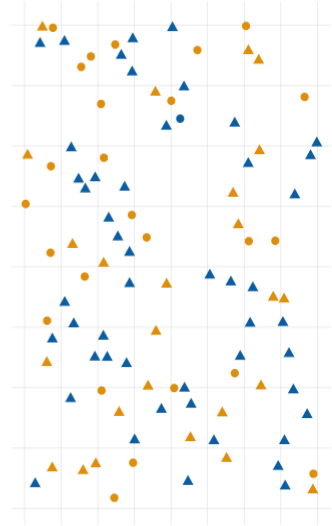
Shape Only, N=20



Shape Only, N=100

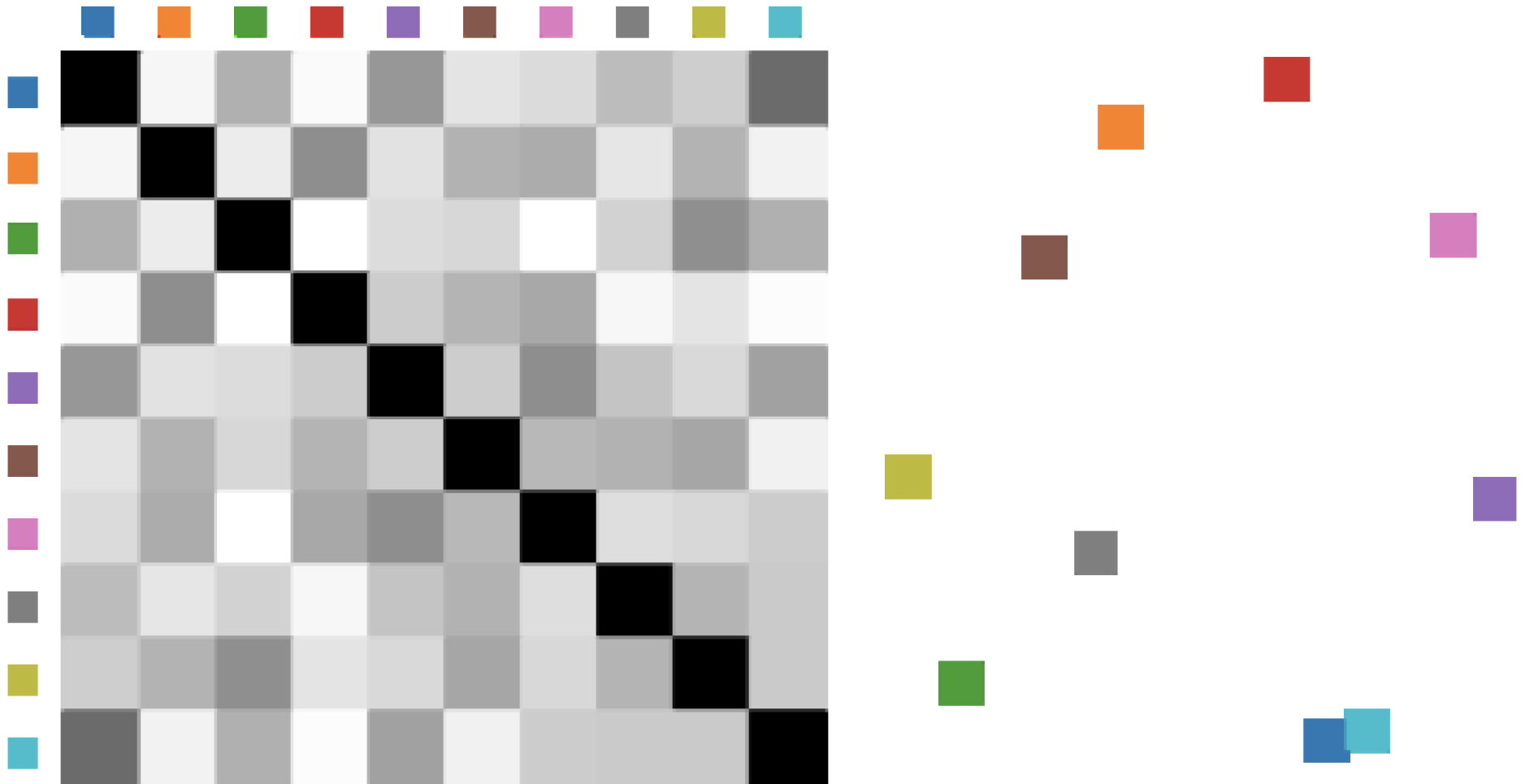


Color & Shape, N=100



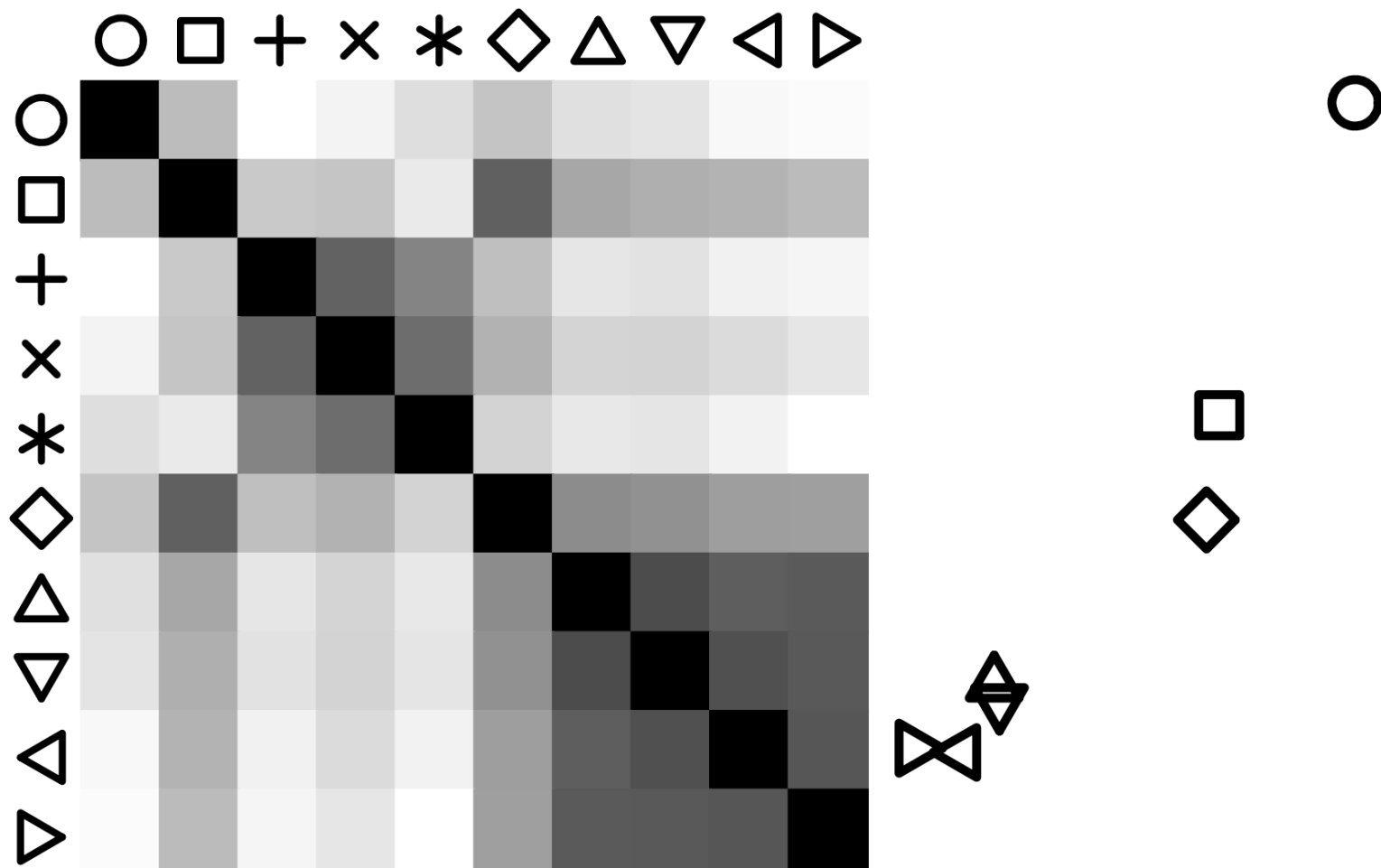
# Color better than shape.

Kieran Healy, "Data Visualization: a Practical Introduction."



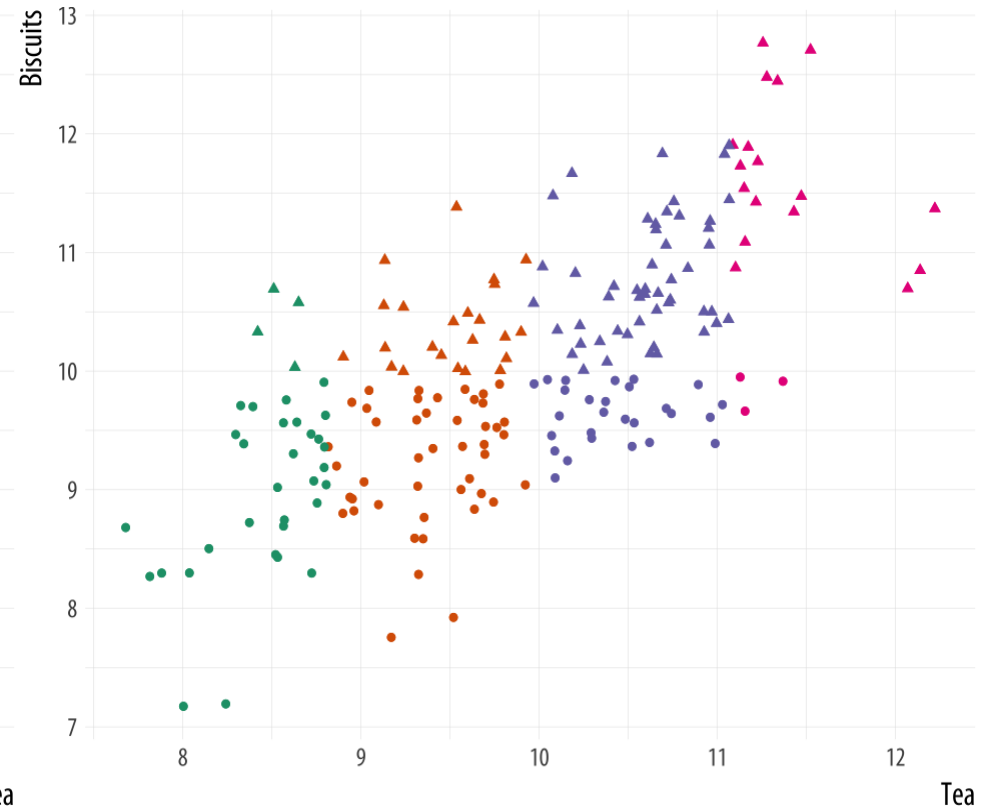
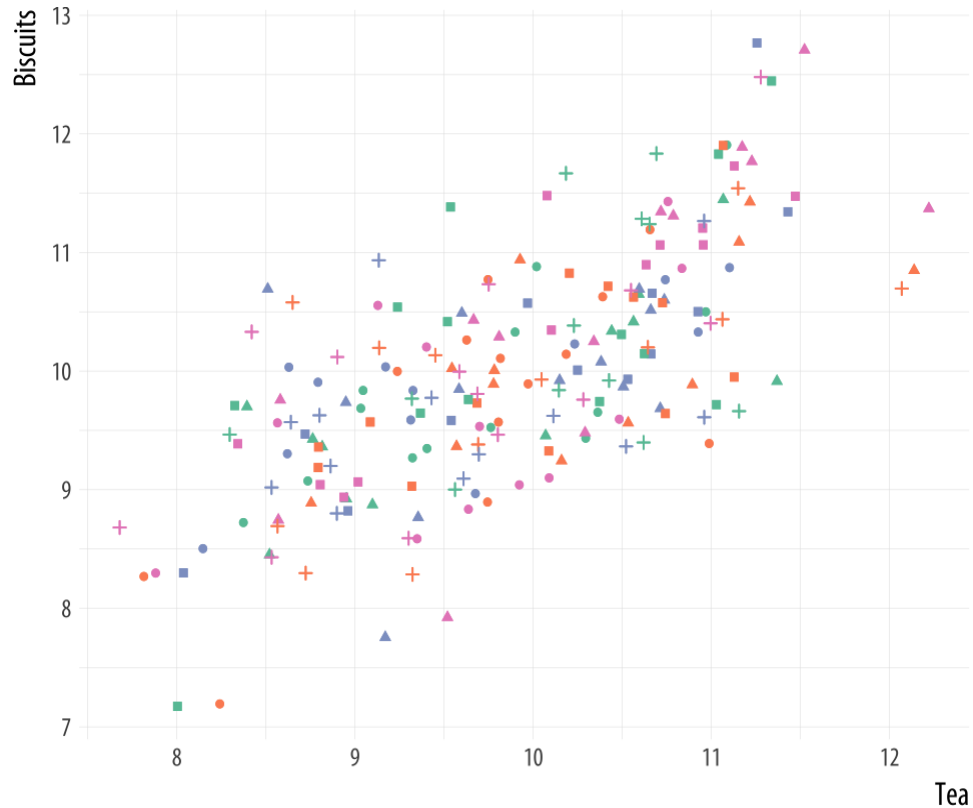
# Which colors play nicely together?

Demiralp et al. (2014), "Learning Perceptual Kernels for Visualization Design."



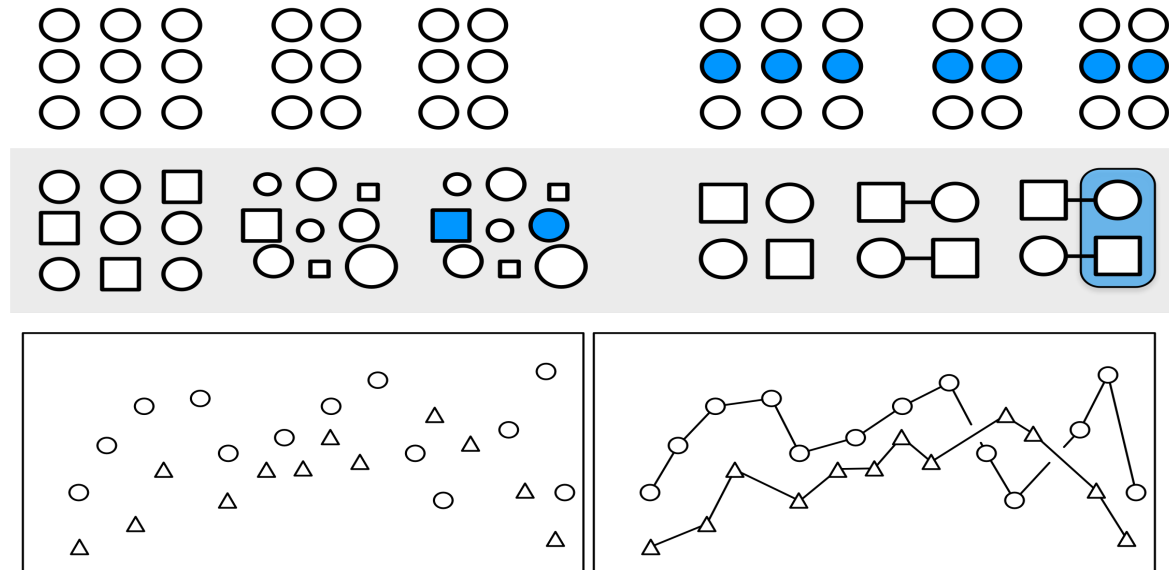
Which shapes play nicely together?

Demiralp et al. (2014), "Learning Perceptual Kernels for Visualization Design."

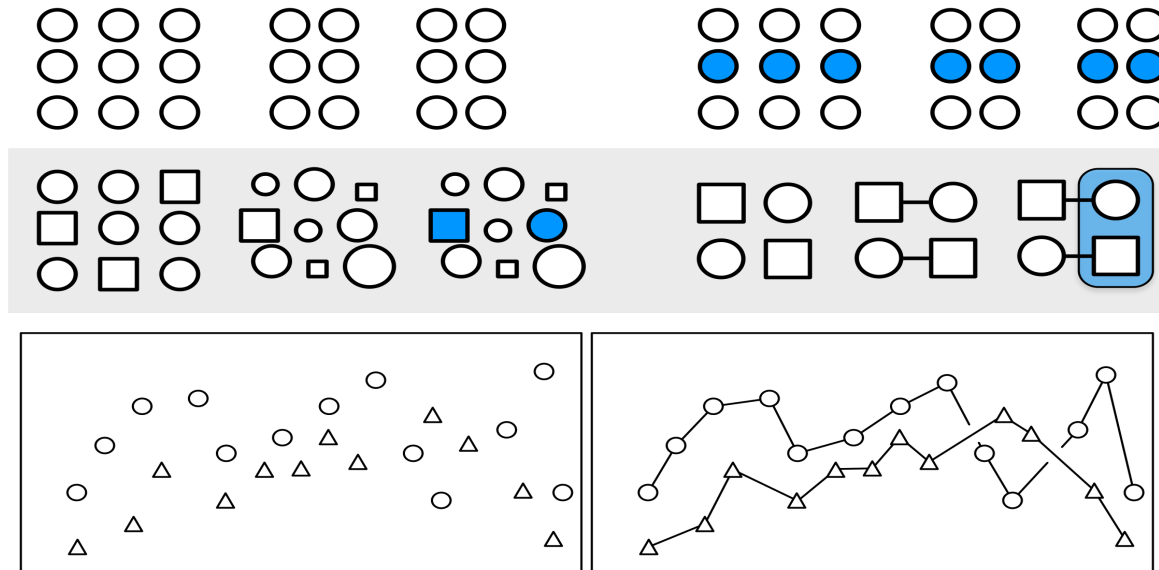


Distinguishability falls off a cliff unless data is highly structured.

Kieran Healy, "Data Vizualization: a Practical Introduction."



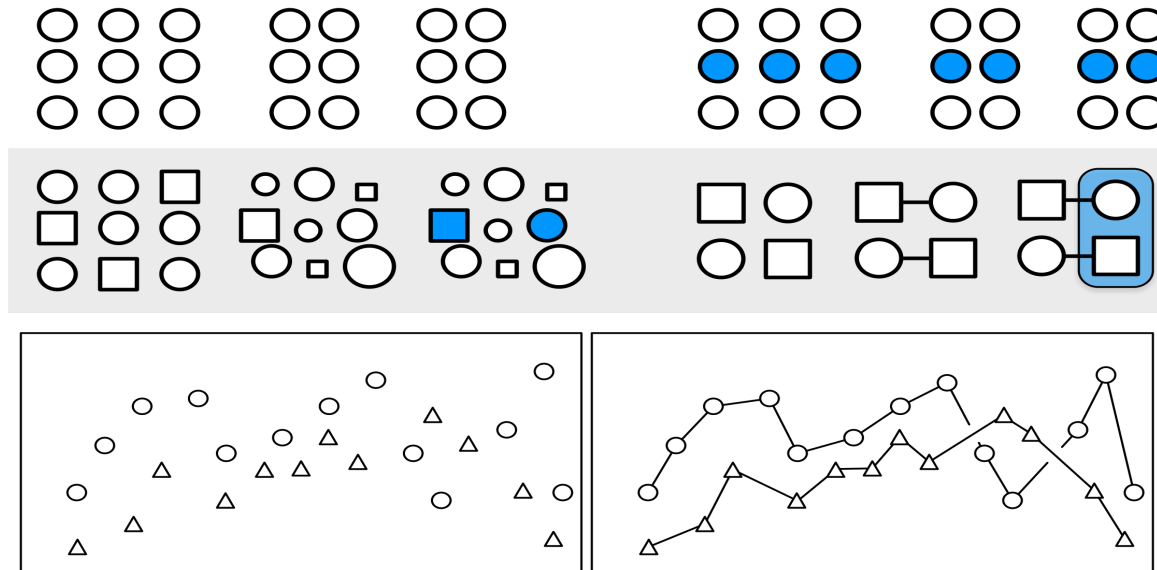
Kieran Healy, "Data Visualization: a Practical Introduction."



1. **Proximity:** Things that are spatially near to one another seem to be related.

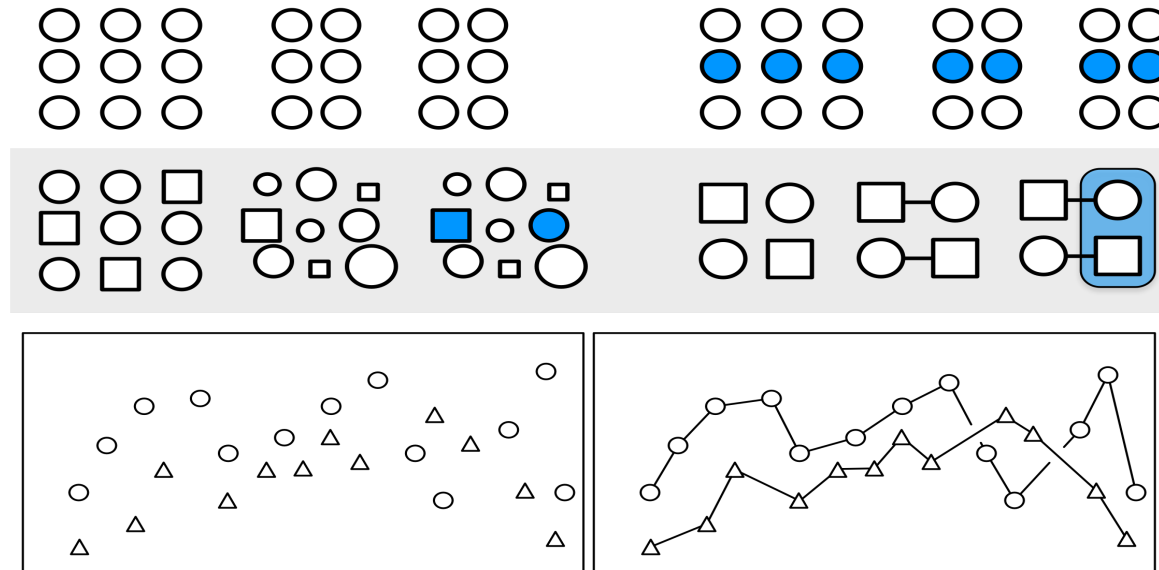
Kieran Healy, "Data Vizualization: a Practical Introduction."





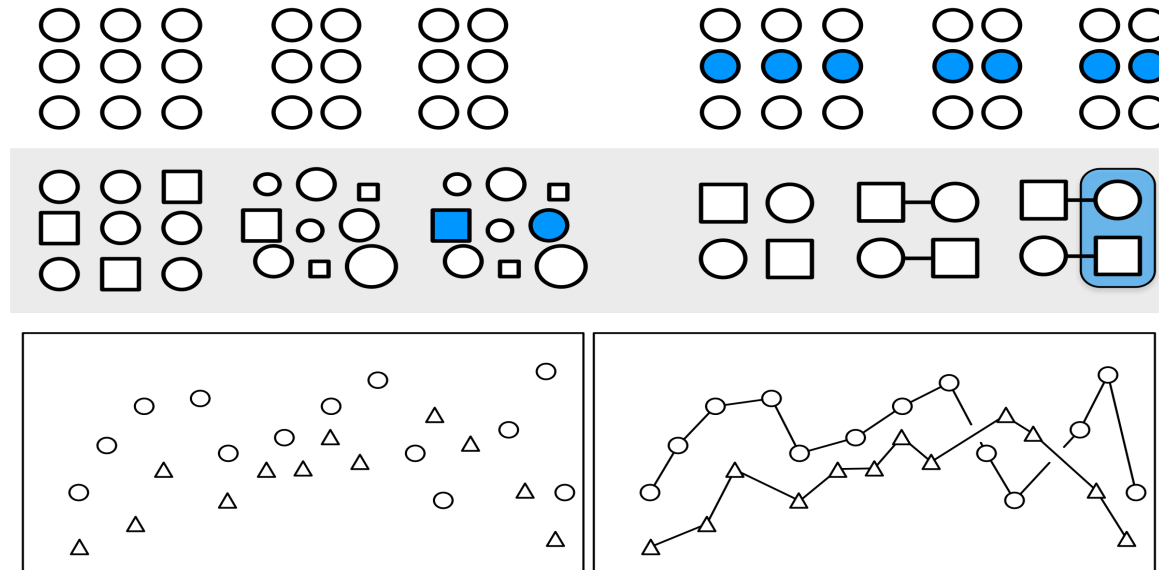
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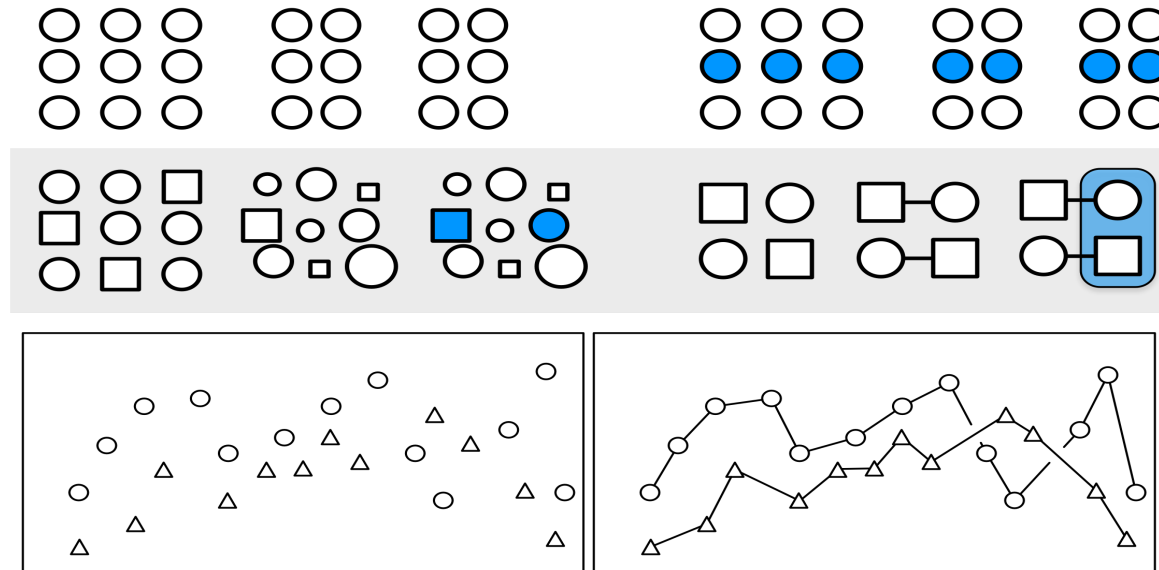
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Kieran Healy, "Data Vizualization: a Practical Introduction."



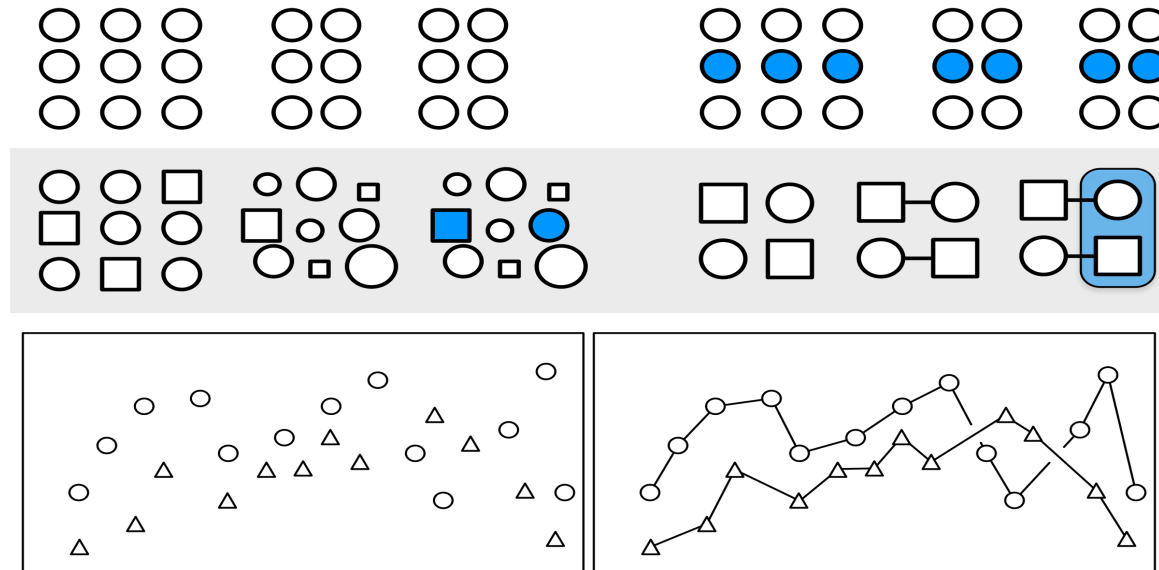
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Kieran Healy, "Data Visualization: a Practical Introduction."



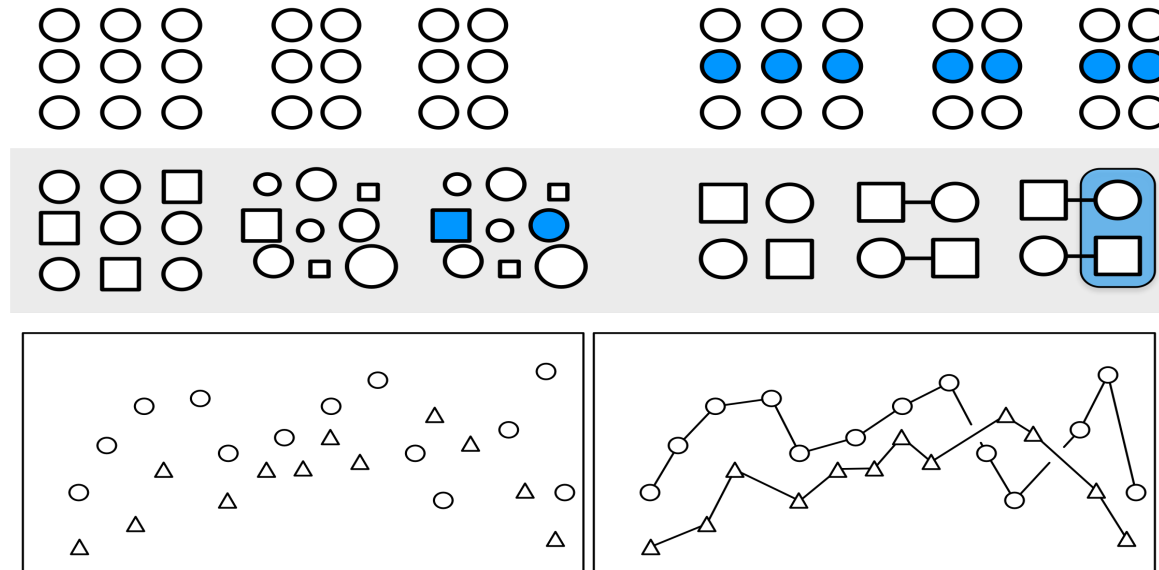
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Kieran Healy, "Data Vizualization: a Practical Introduction."



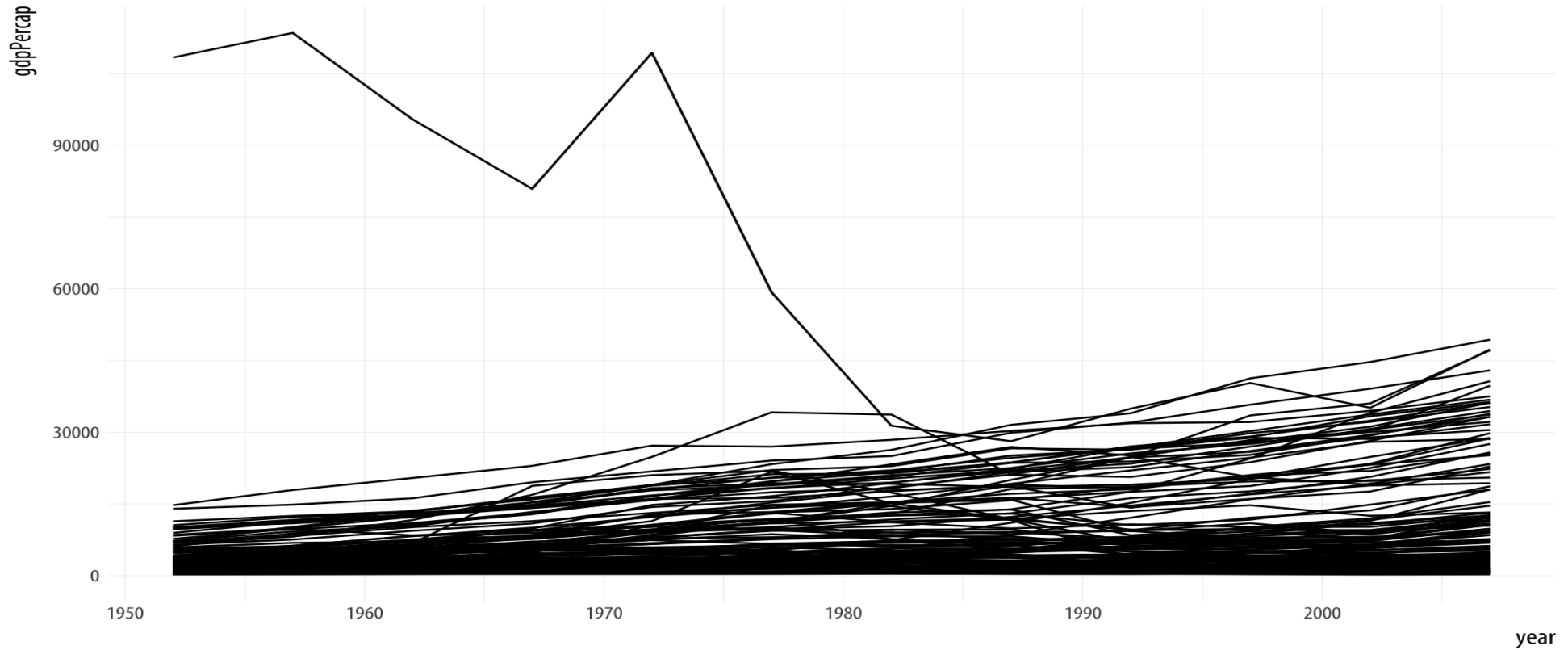
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Kieran Healy, "Data Vizualization: a Practical Introduction."



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5. **Closure:** Incomplete shapes are perceived as complete.
6. **Figure and Ground:** Visual elements are taken to be either in the foreground or the background.
7. **Common Fate:** Elements sharing a direction of movement are perceived as a unit.

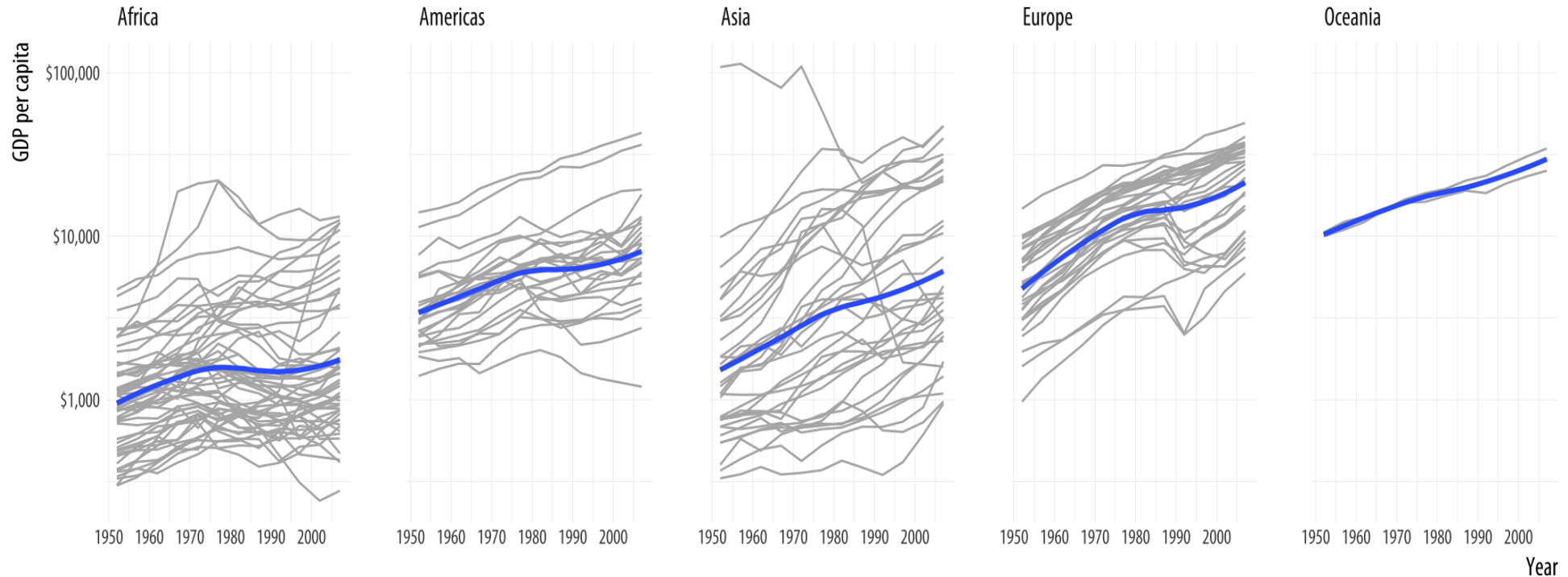
Kieran Healy, "Data Vizualization: a Practical Introduction."



Don't need to show all data in one panel.

Kieran Healy, "Data Visualization: a Practical Introduction."

## GDP per capita on Five Continents



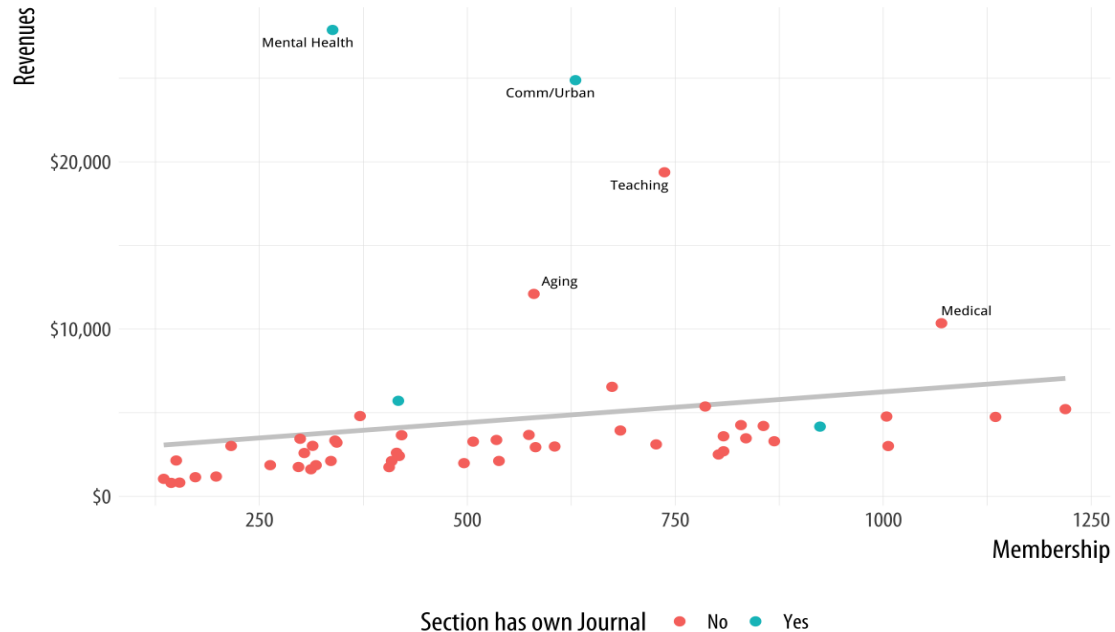
Multiple panels add structure.

Kieran Healy, "Data Visualization: a Practical Introduction."



## ASA Sections

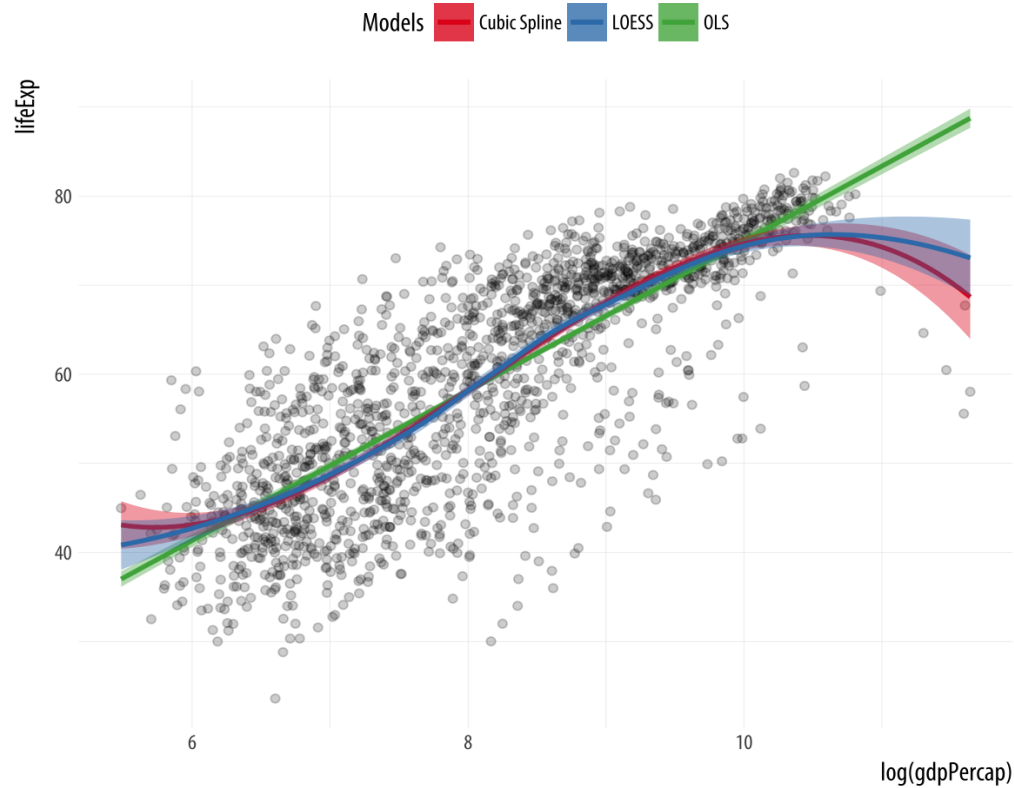
2014 Calendar year.



Source: ASA annual report.

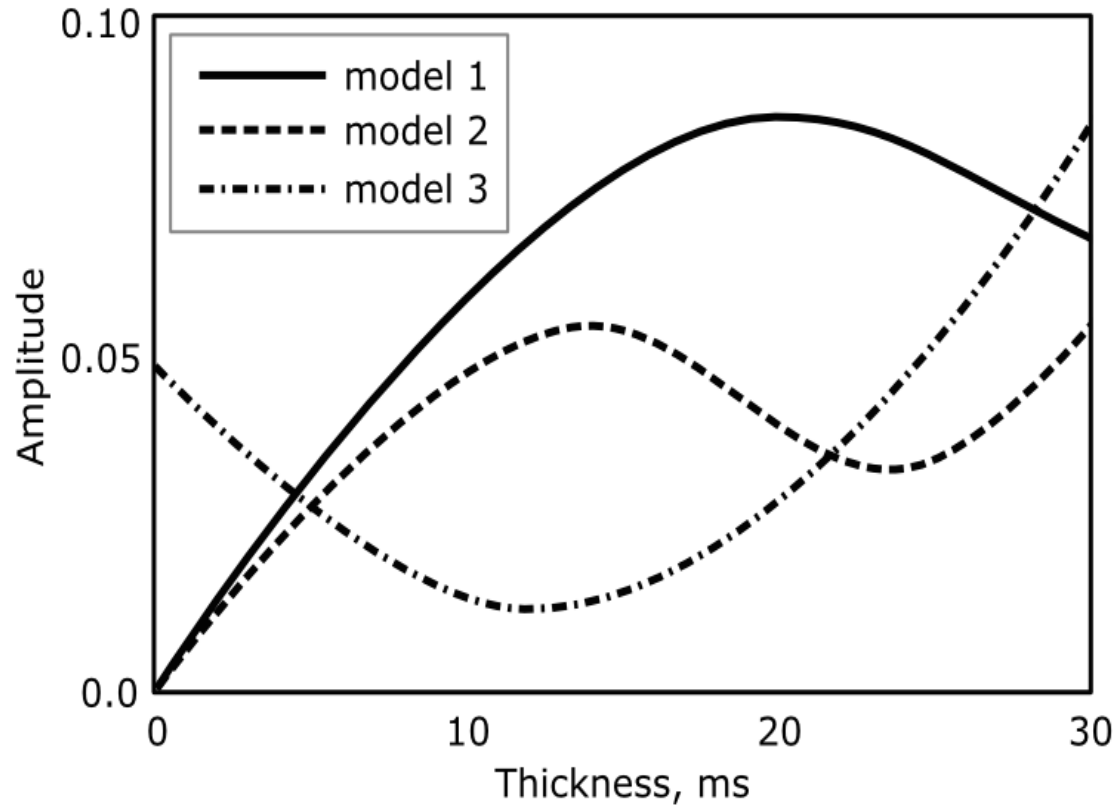
# Annotate outliers.

Kieran Healy, "Data Vizualization: a Practical Introduction."



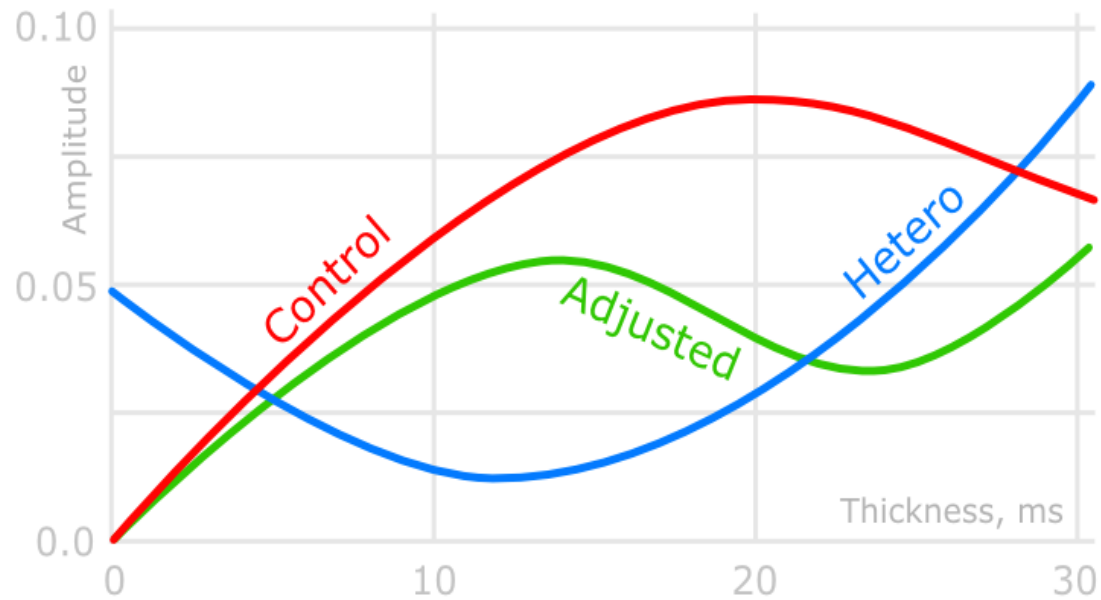
Alpha for overlapping points.

Kieran Healy, "Data Visualization: a Practical Introduction."



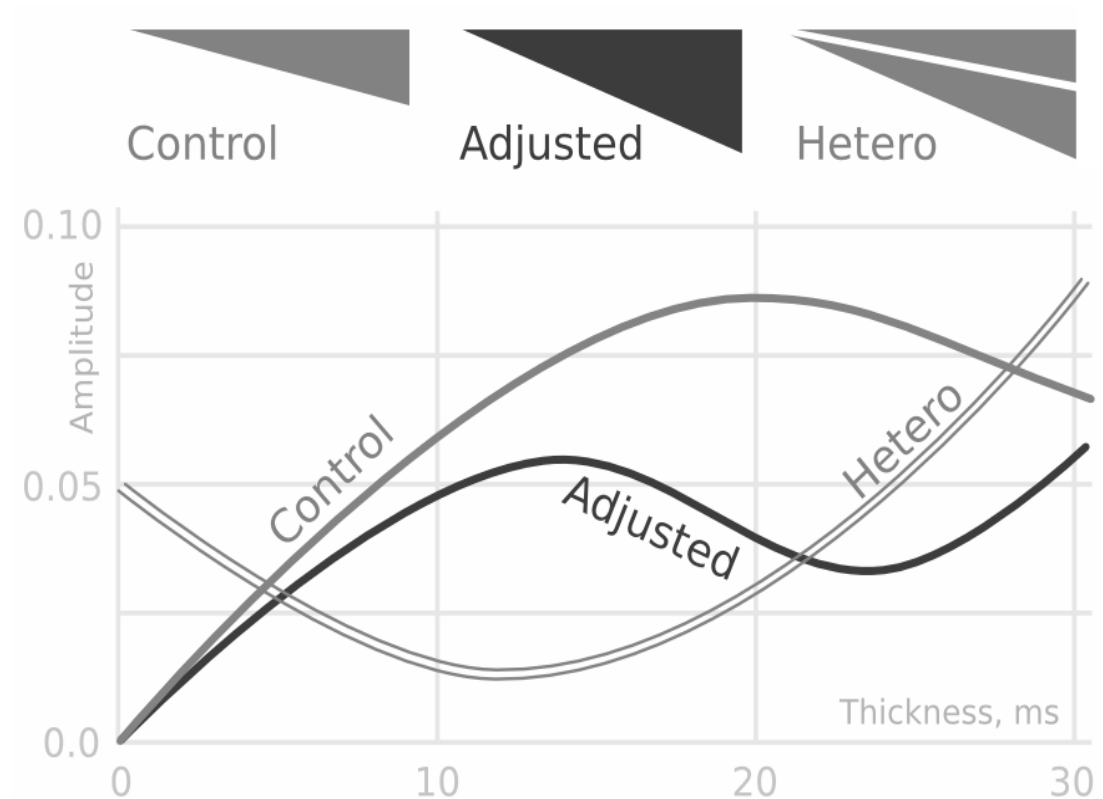
Basic Legend.

Matt Hall



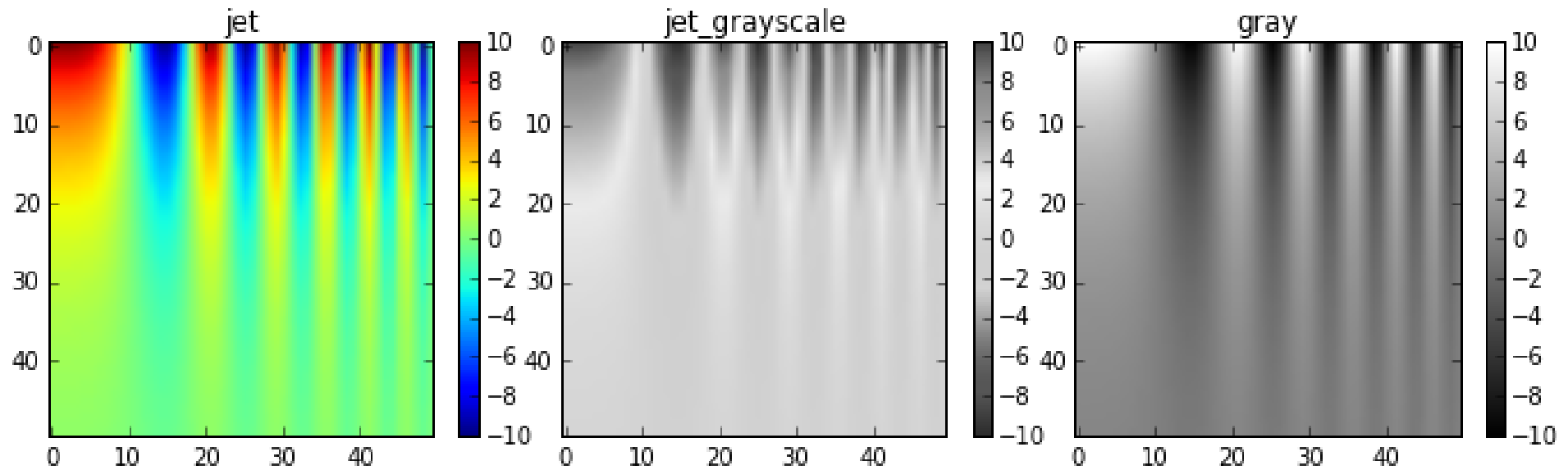
More intuitive.

Matt Hall



Black and white option.

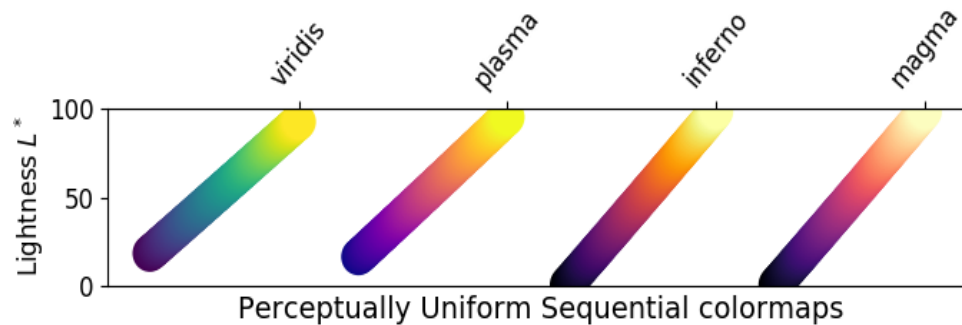
Matt Hall



Don't use jet.

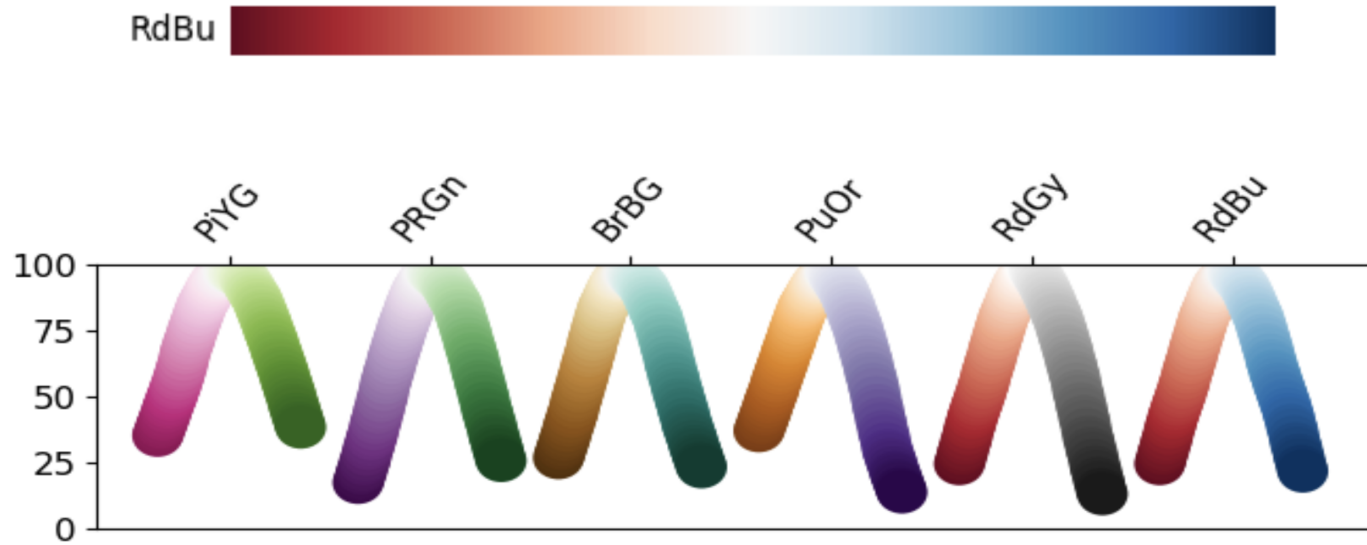
Jake VanderPlas

## Perceptually Uniform Sequential colormaps



## Sequential Colormaps

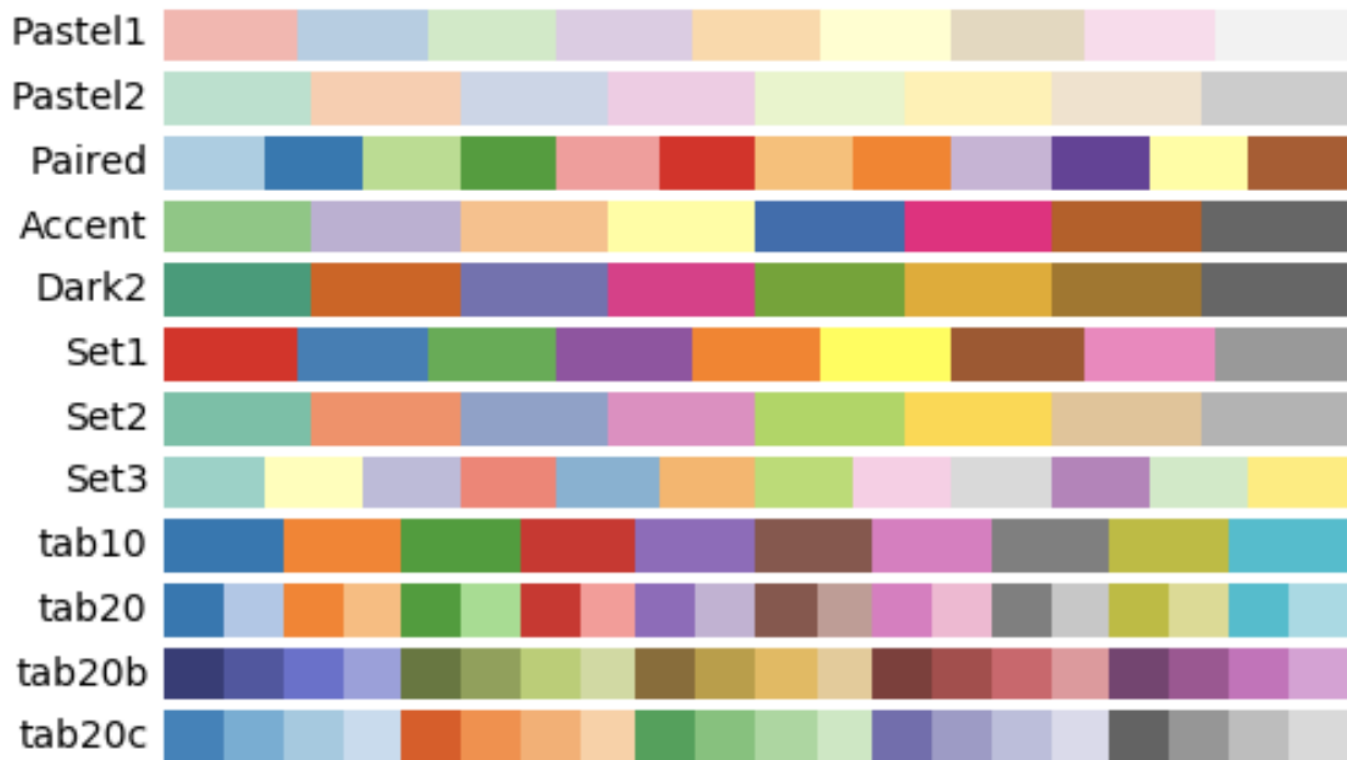
[Matplotlib docs](#)



## Diverging Colormaps

[Matplotlib docs](#)





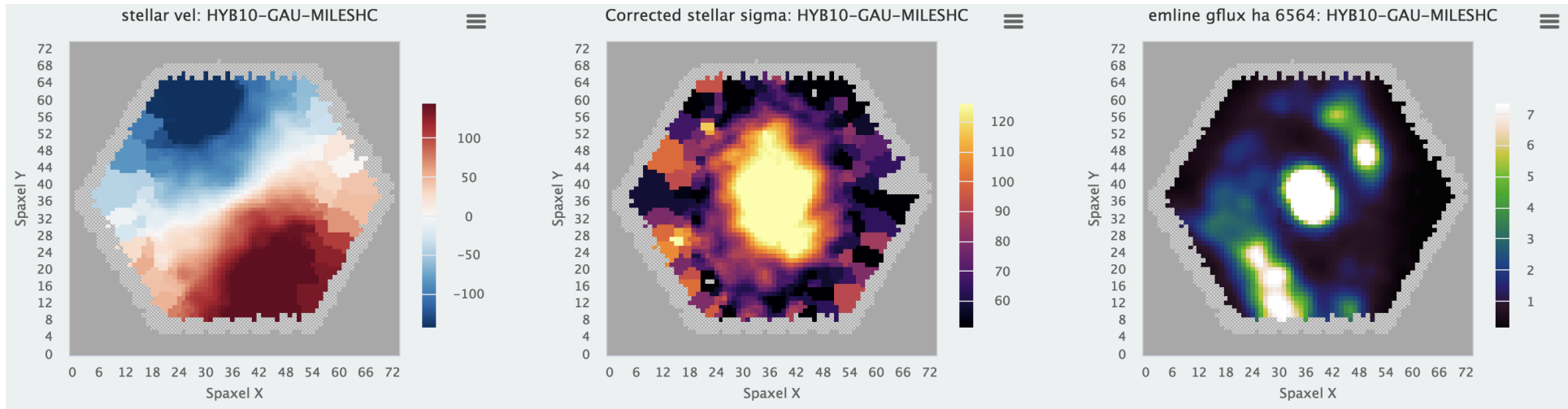
# Qualitative Colormaps

[Matplotlib docs](#)



## Cyclic Colormaps

New in Matplotlib 3!



Colormaps in the wild.

Marvin

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