


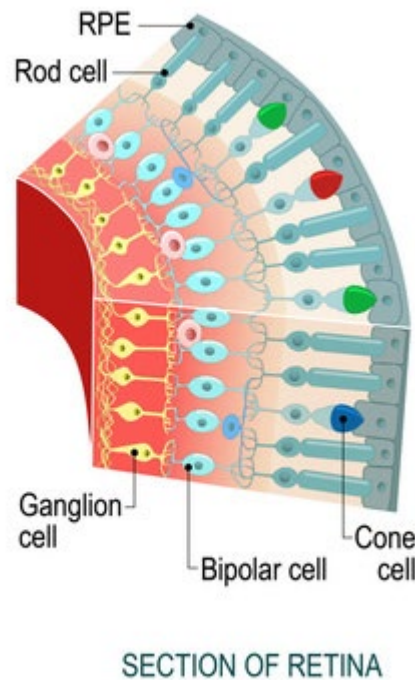
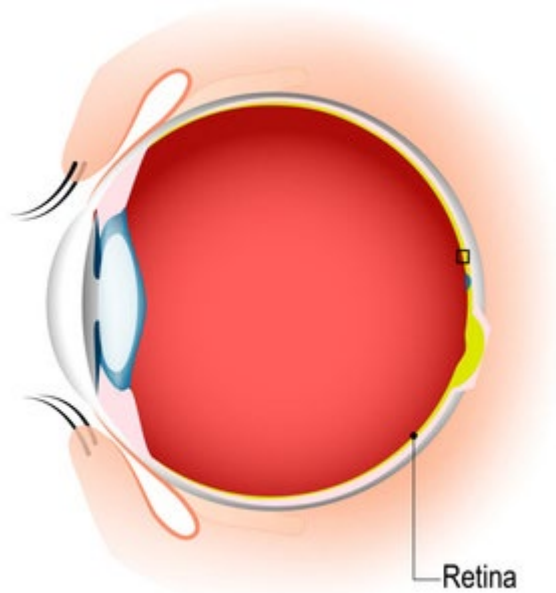
# Presentation and Visualization. Perception (I)



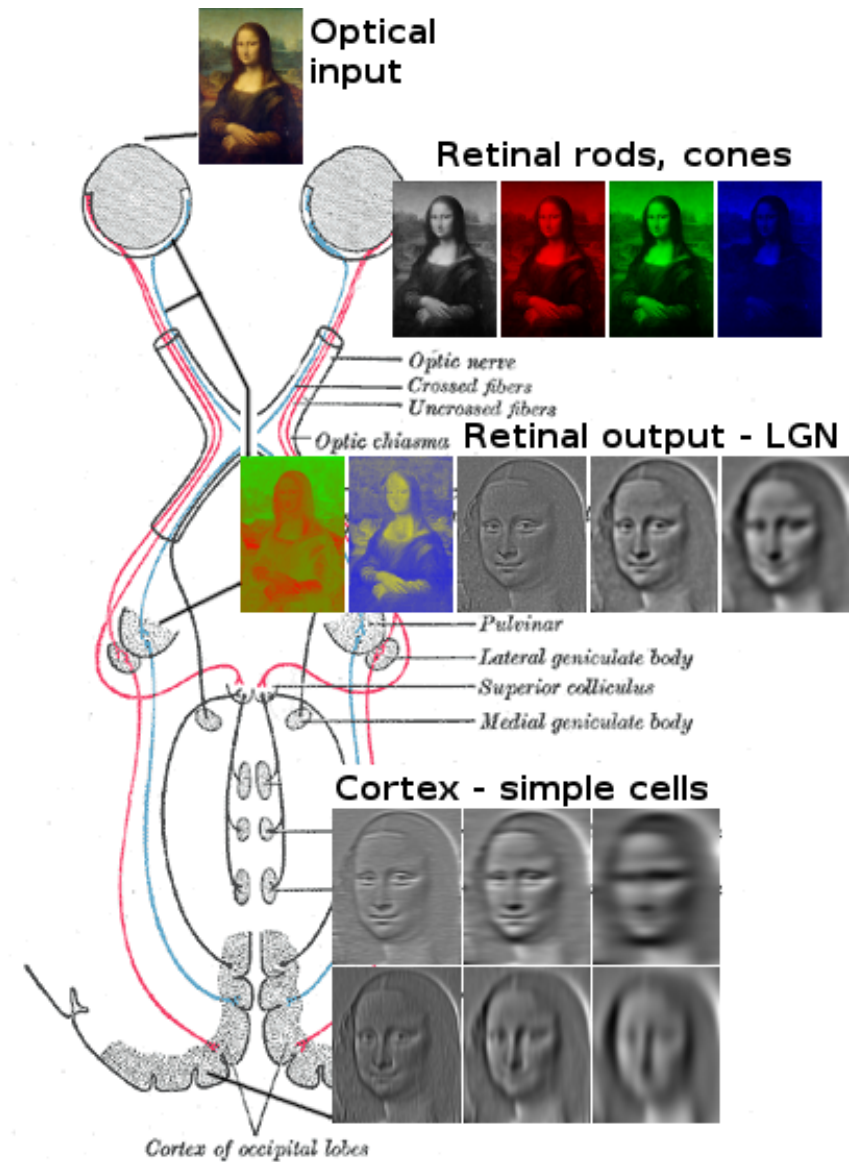
Mireia Ribera  
[ribera@ub.edu](mailto:ribera@ub.edu)  
Office: 206, near T1

# The eye and the visual process

iStock.com/metamorworks



sensation {  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
perception {

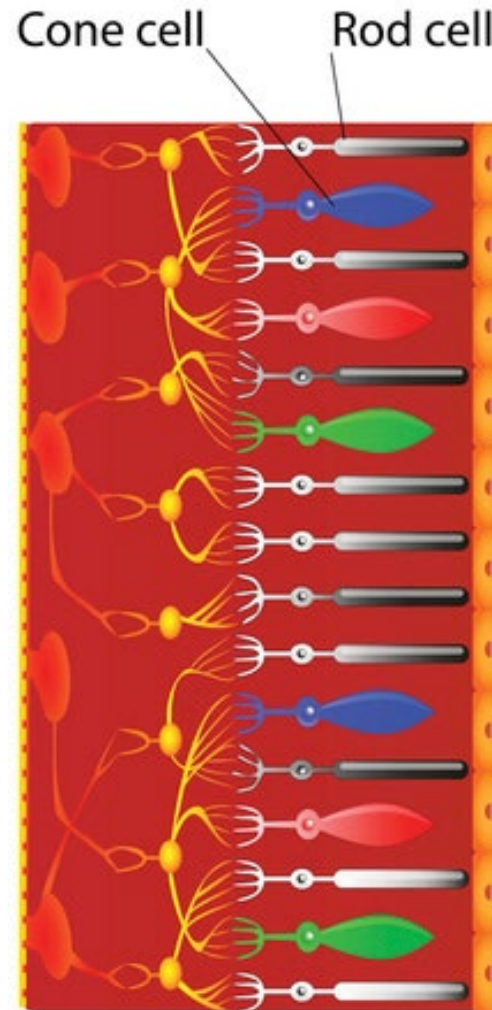


# Cones and rods

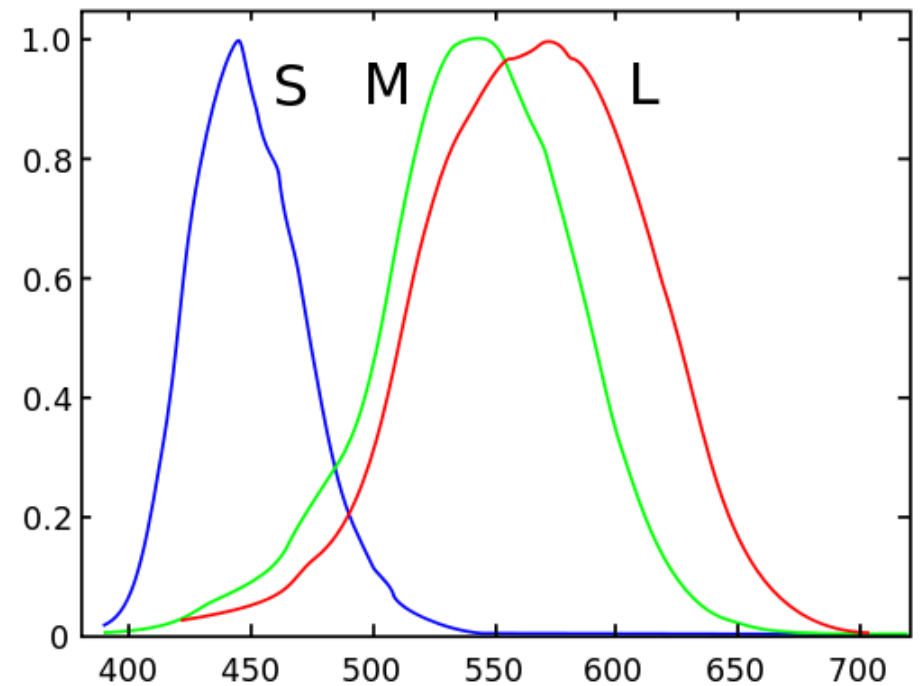
We have 120 million rods arranged throughout the retina, except the fovea (peripheral vision).

We have 6.4 million cones located in the fovea (central vision).

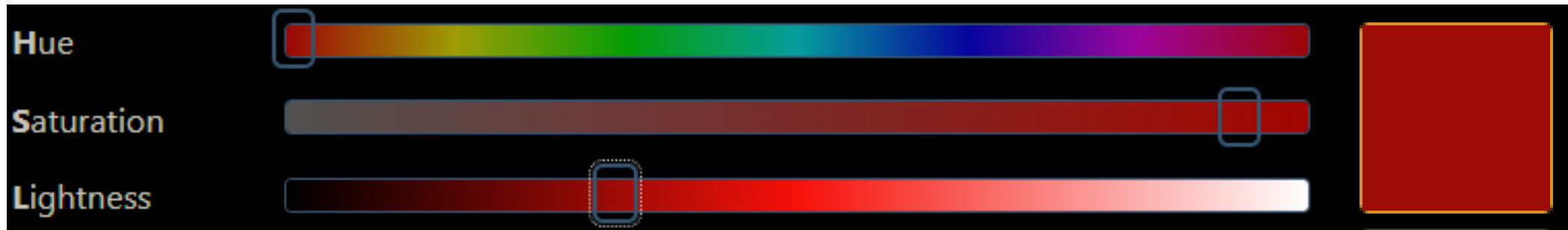
There are cones that detect short (blue), medium (green) or long (red) light waves.



iStock.com/metamorworks



# Colour dimensions



- **Hue o Chroma**, the name of the colour
- **Saturation**, the purity of colour
- **Luminosity**, while/black level. **Most accurately perceived**

# Colour blindness

## Normal vision

---



## Deuteranopia (green is not perceived)

---



## Protanopia (red is not perceived)

---



## Titranopia (blue is not perceived)

---



## Achromatopsia (no colors perceived)

---

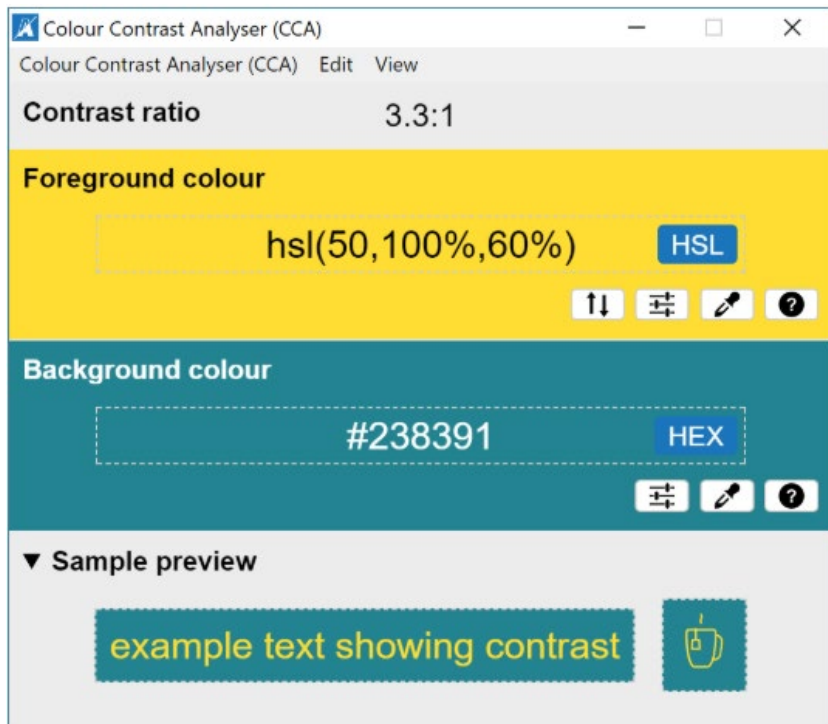


## Age, Colour blindness and contrast

- Colour perception **decreases with age**
- Sight decrease affects both rods and cones
- As we have many more rods, **elders perceive much better luminance differences** than hue differences.
- It is therefore important to **keep contrast differences** in every colour system.



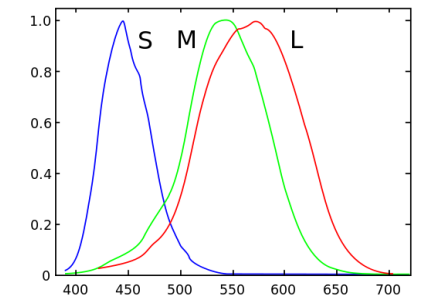
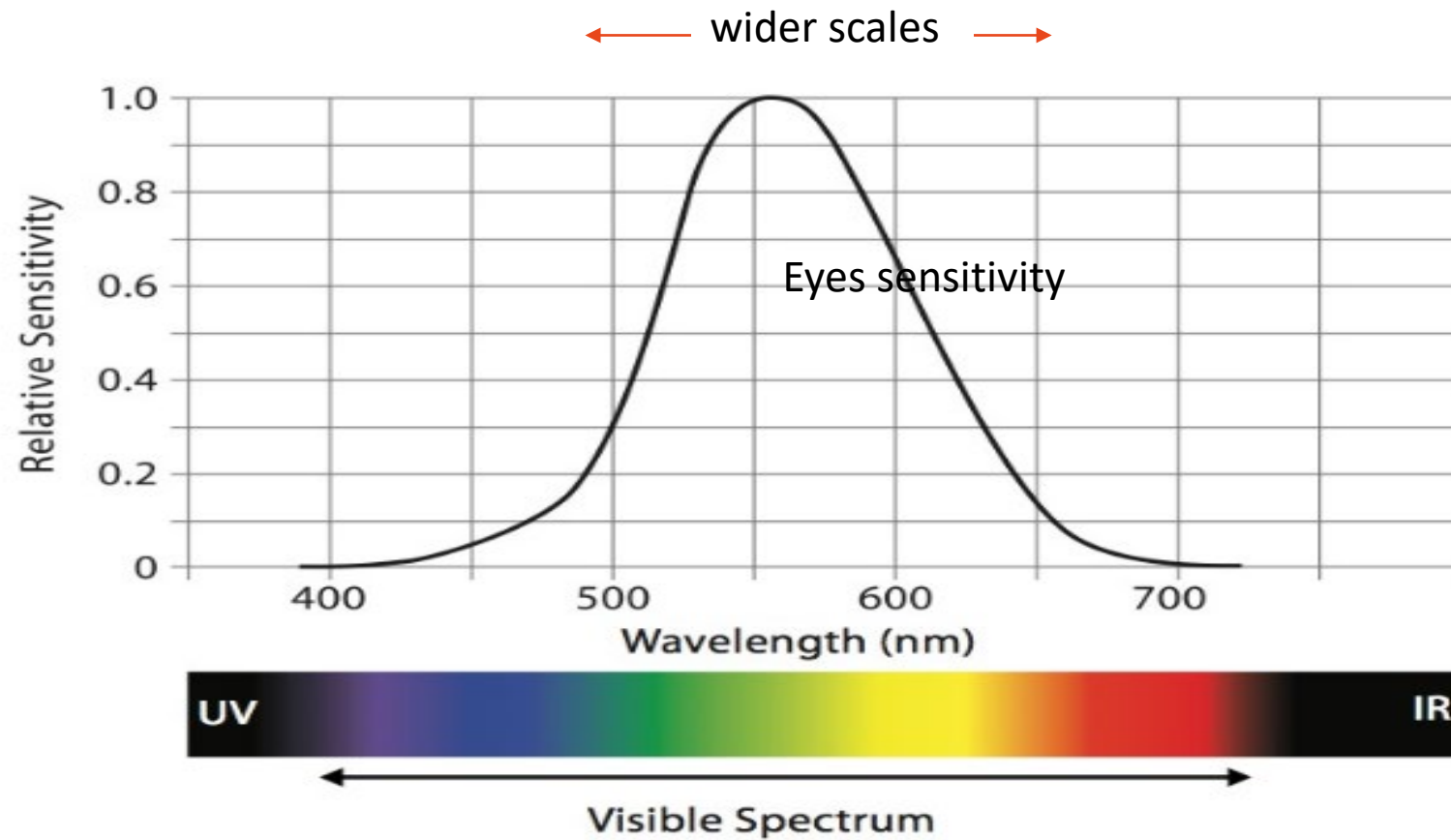
# Contrast: some tools



LINUX: <https://contrast-ratio.com>

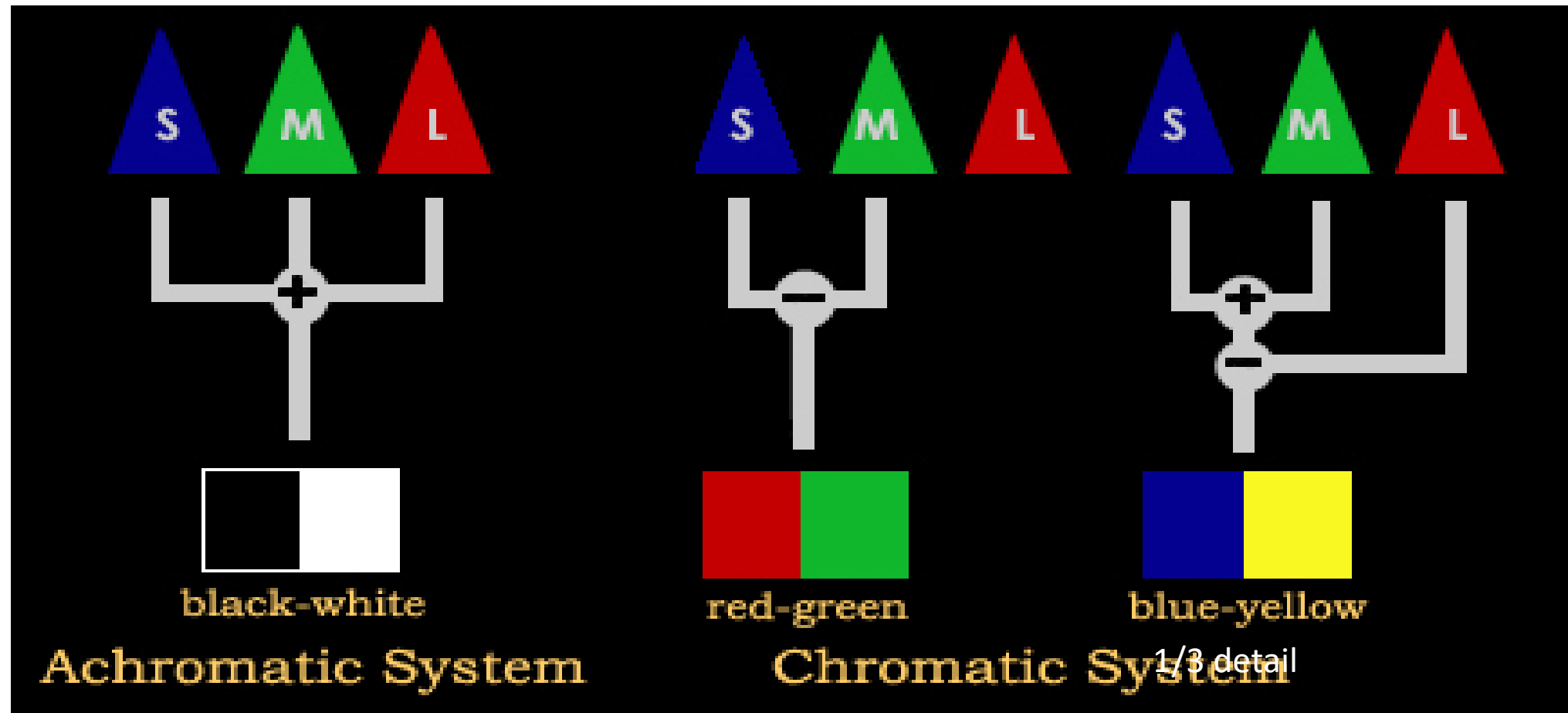
[Carbon IBM's Design System: Accessible colour palettes for information visualization](#)

# Eyes' sensitivity





# The opponent-process theory (Edwald Hering)

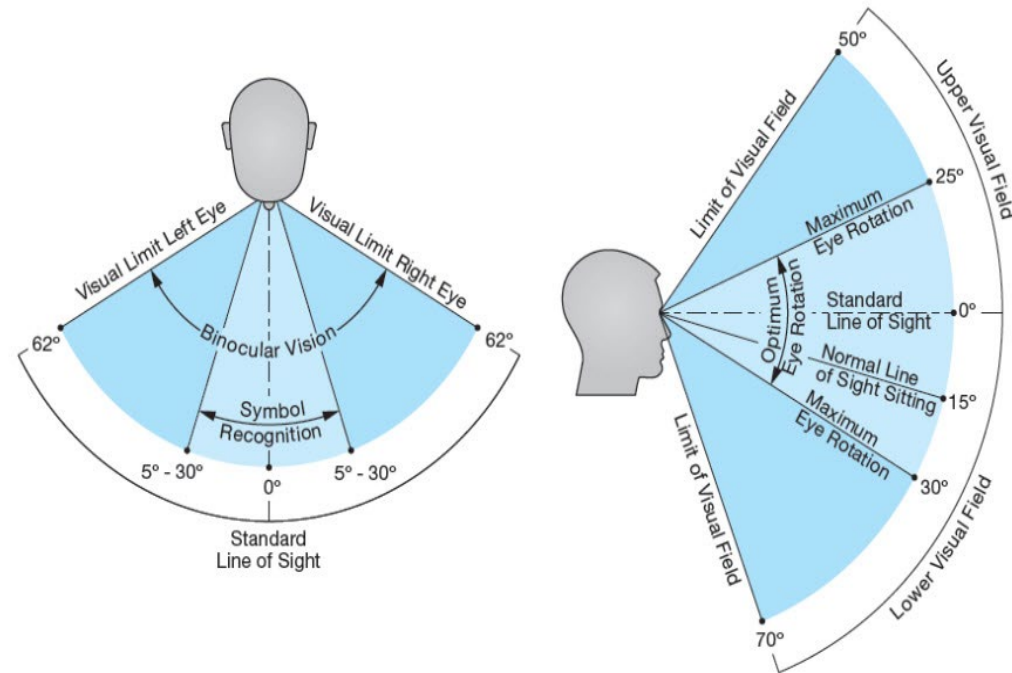
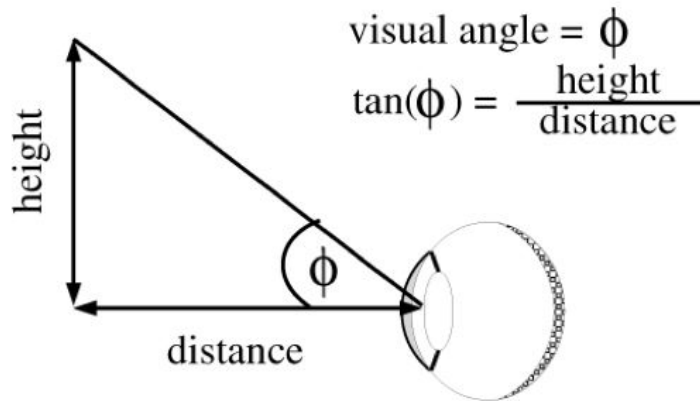


## Class activity

- The Hue-test challenge <http://www.xrite.com/hue-test/>
- Simulating colour vision [Silktide disability simulator](#)

# Visual angle and Useful field of view

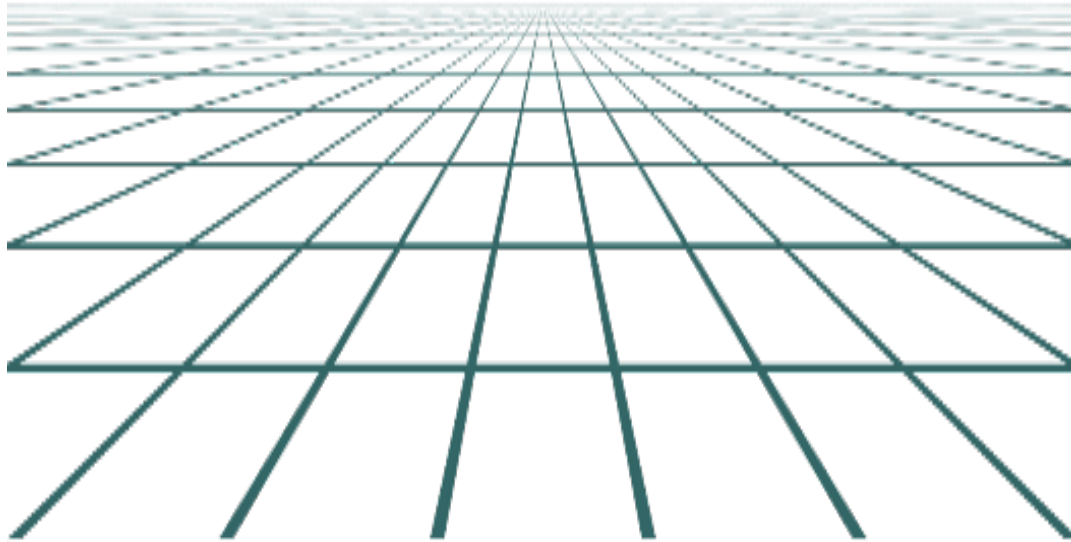
## Visual angle



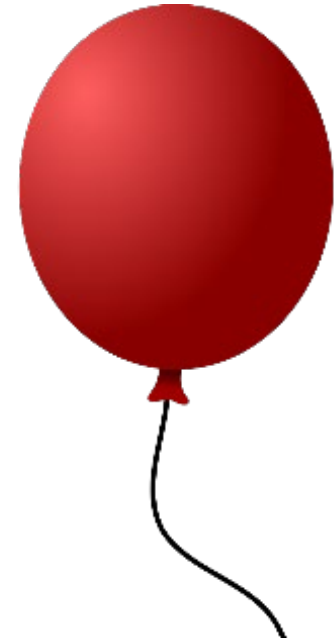
Source: <http://www.cns.nyu.edu/~david/courses/perception/lecturenotes/eye/eye.html>

# From eyes or from mind?

iStock.com/ImpakPro

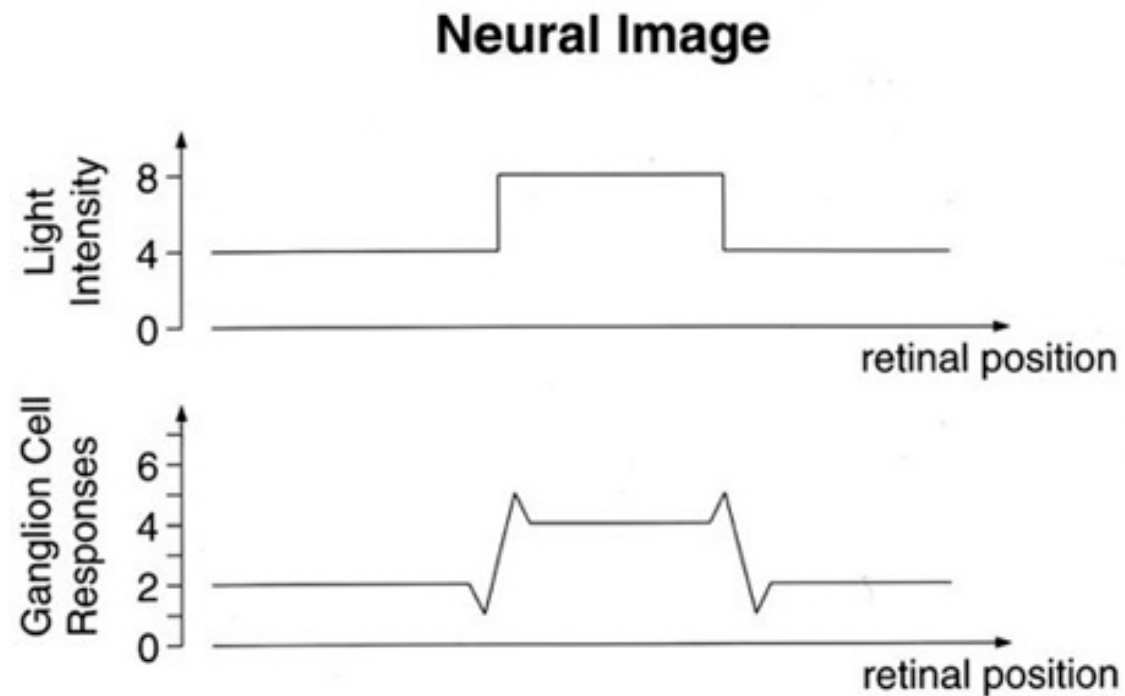


## THE CHT

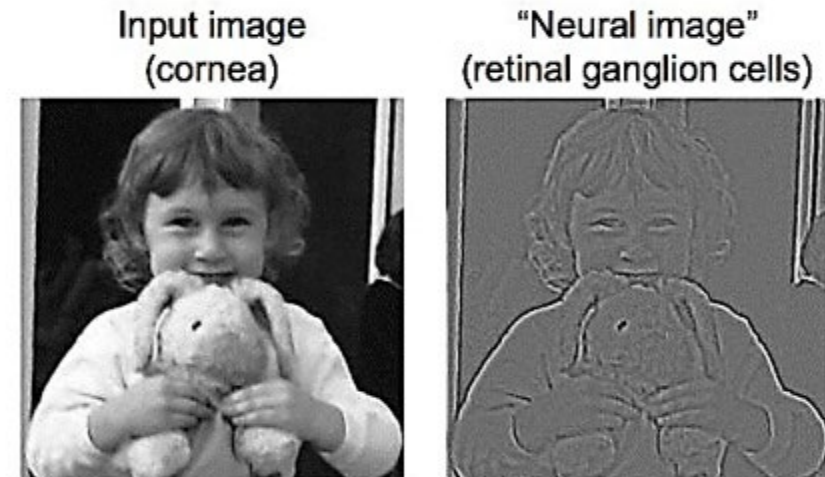


iStock.com/Sigit Mulyo Utomo Anastasia\_M

# Economy of effort

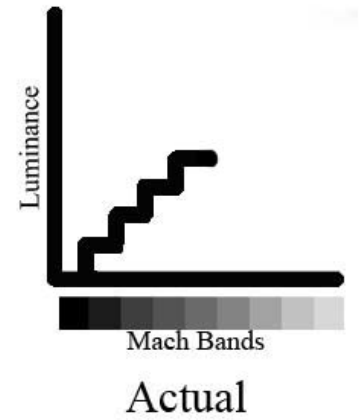
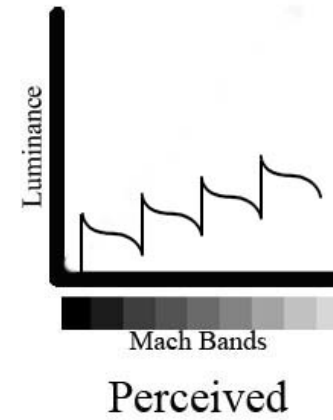
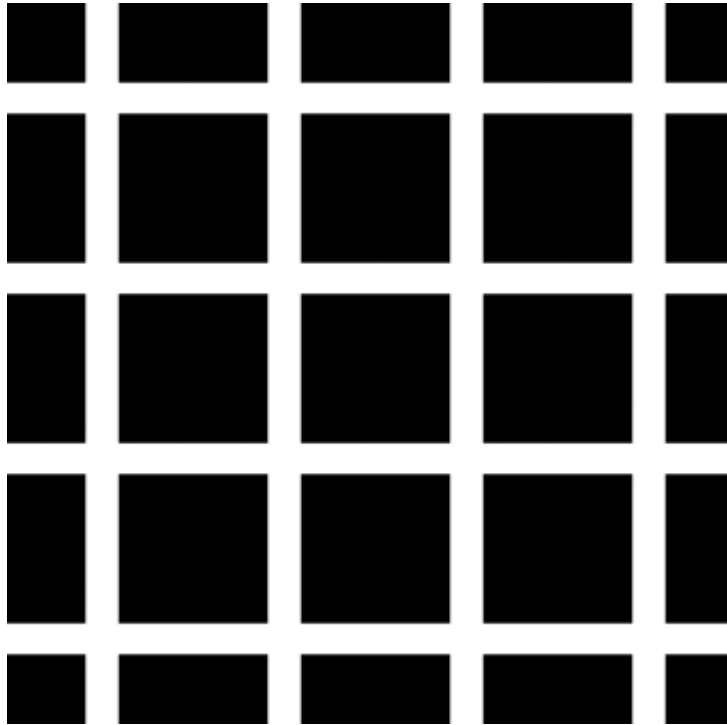


Retinal ganglion cells respond to edges



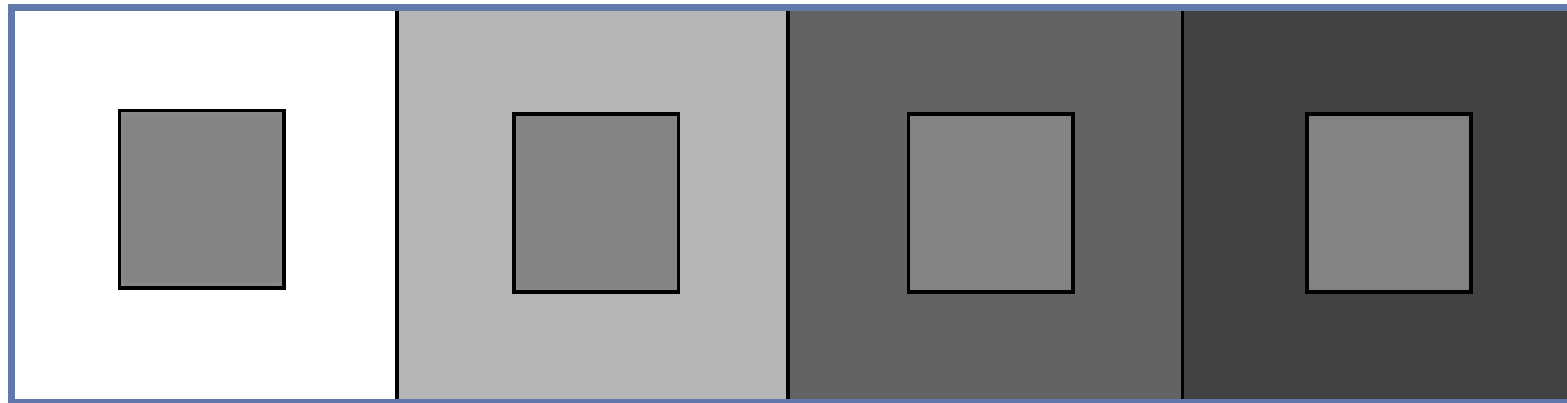
Center-surround receptive fields: emphasize edges.

# Biased signals sent to neurons

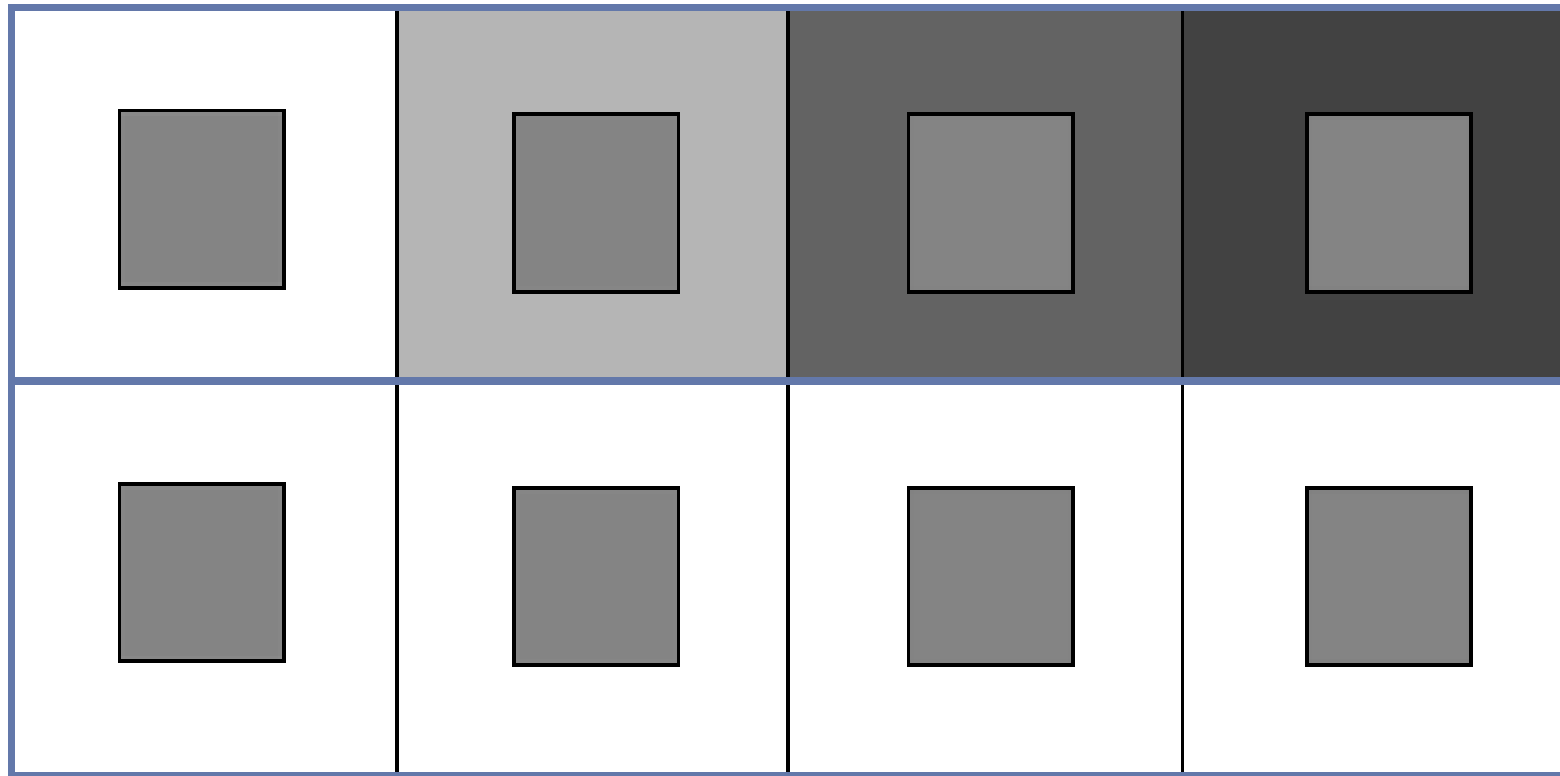




# Perception is relative



# Perception is relative (II)



How many 5 are there?

385720939823728196837293827

382912358383492730122894839

909020102032893759273091428

938309762965817431869241024

## How many 5 are there? (II)

38**5**720939823728196837293827

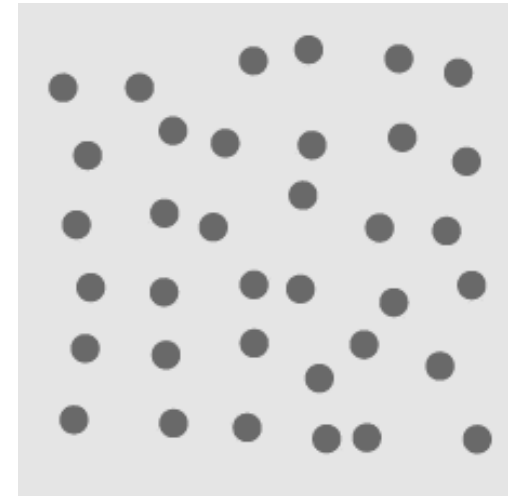
3829123**5**8383492730122894839

9090201020328937**5**9273091428

93830976296**5**817431869241024

# Preattentive properties

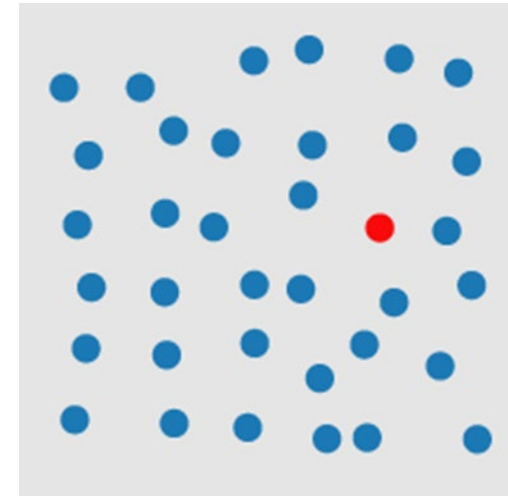
- ❑ Certain visual properties are detected immediately by low-level visual system
  - ❑ Immediately is  $<200-250$  ms
- ❑ They “pop-out” without requiring serial search
- ❑ Not affected by distractors



Source: Healey, 2012

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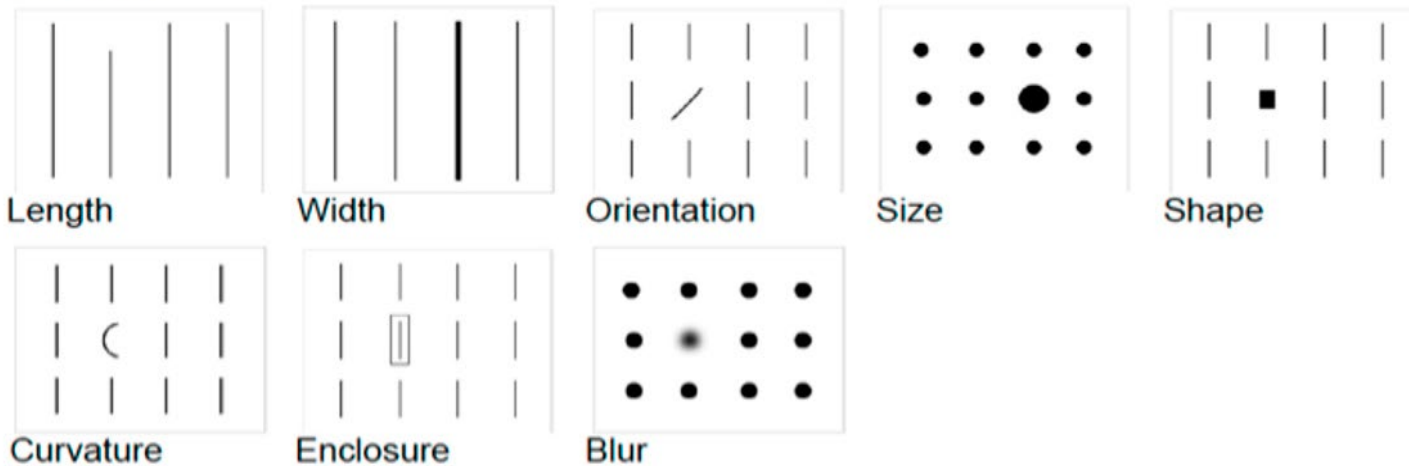


Source: Healey, 2012

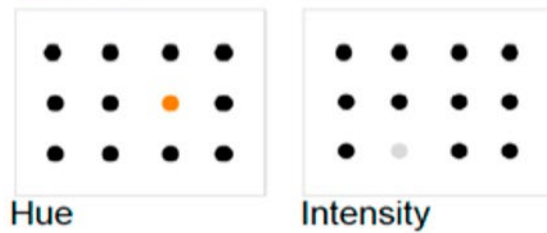


# Preattentive properties. Types

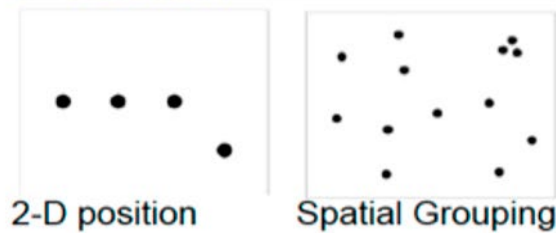
## Form



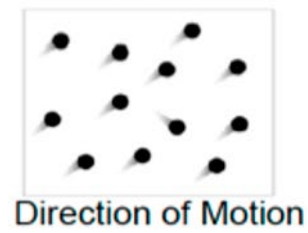
## Color



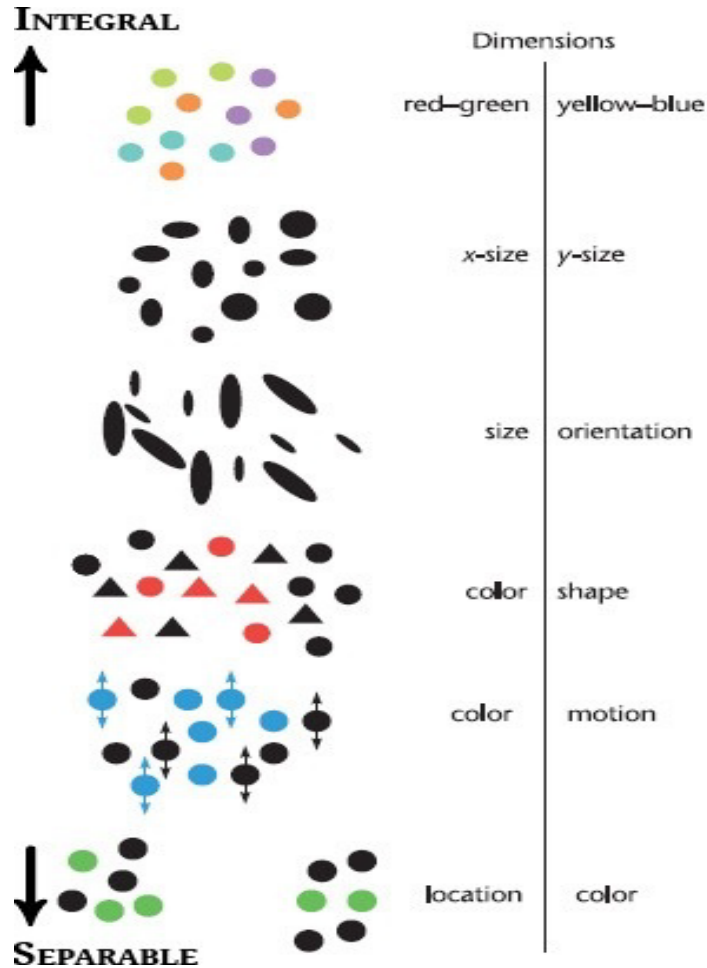
## Position



## Motion

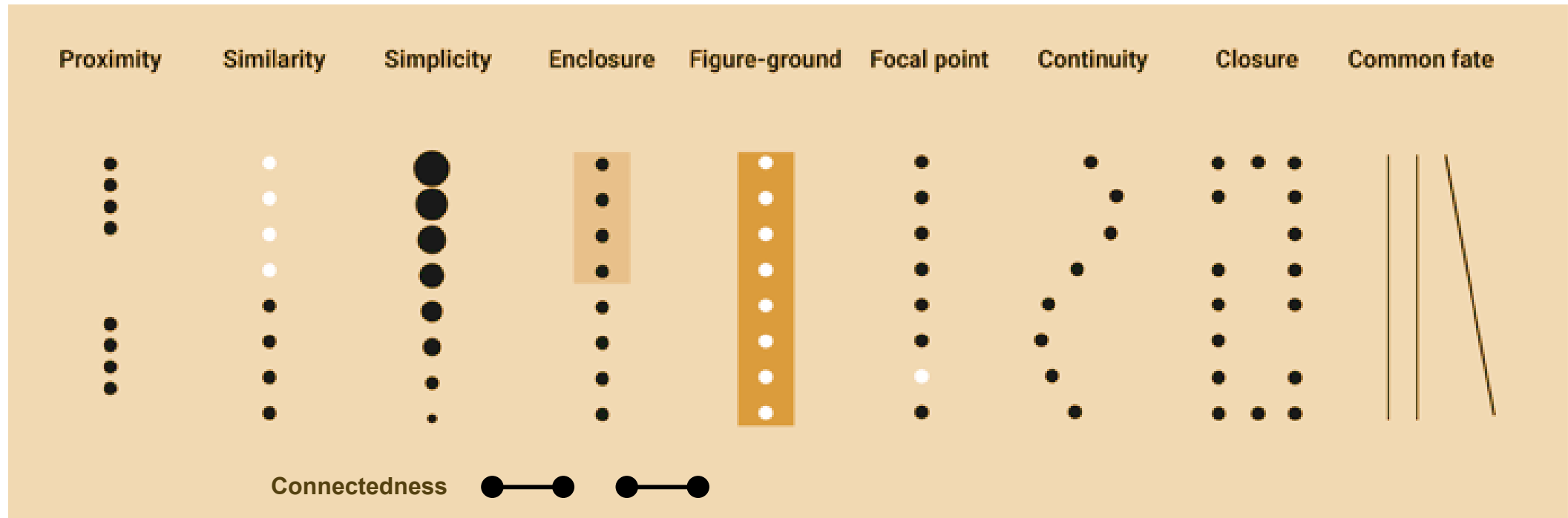


# Combination of dimensions: integral and separable



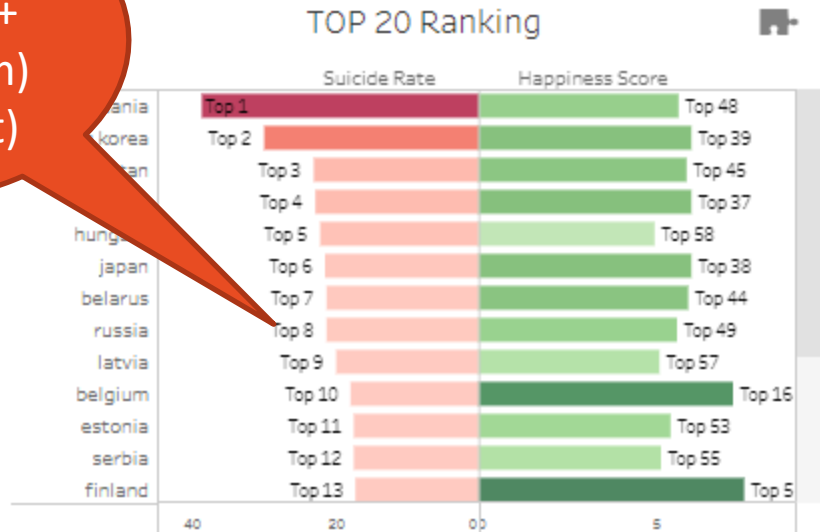
- **Integral** dimensions are seen together
- **Separable** dimensions are seen separately

# Gestalt laws

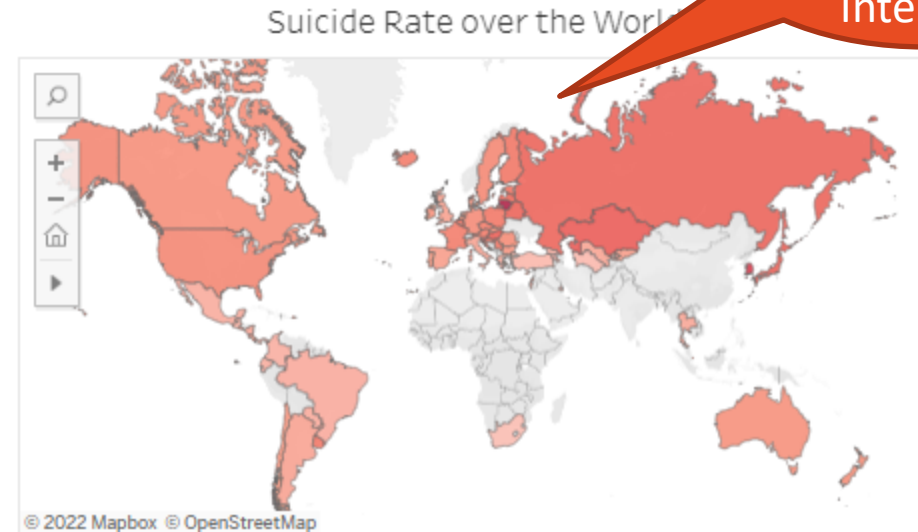


Source: van Dijk, 2022

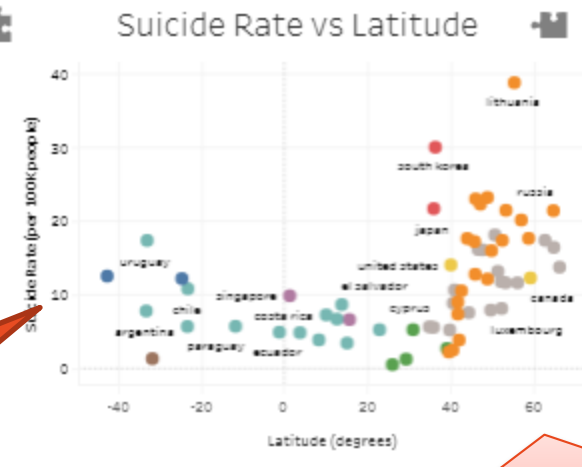
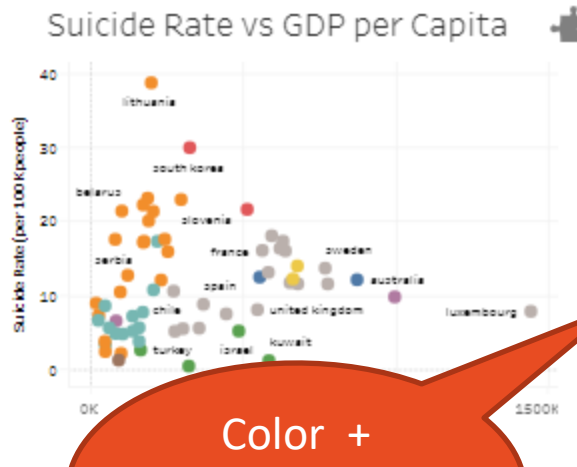
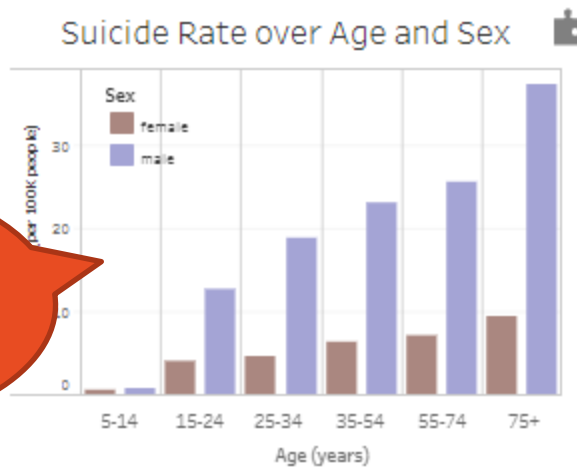
Color (Hue + Intensity) + length(Form) (redundant)



Color (Saturation + Luminosity) = Intensity



Color + length (Form) (separable)

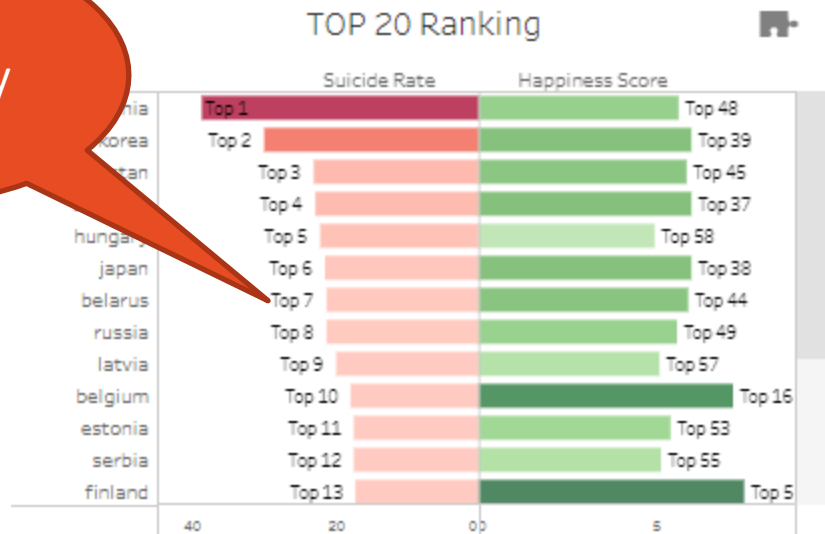


Color + Position (separable)

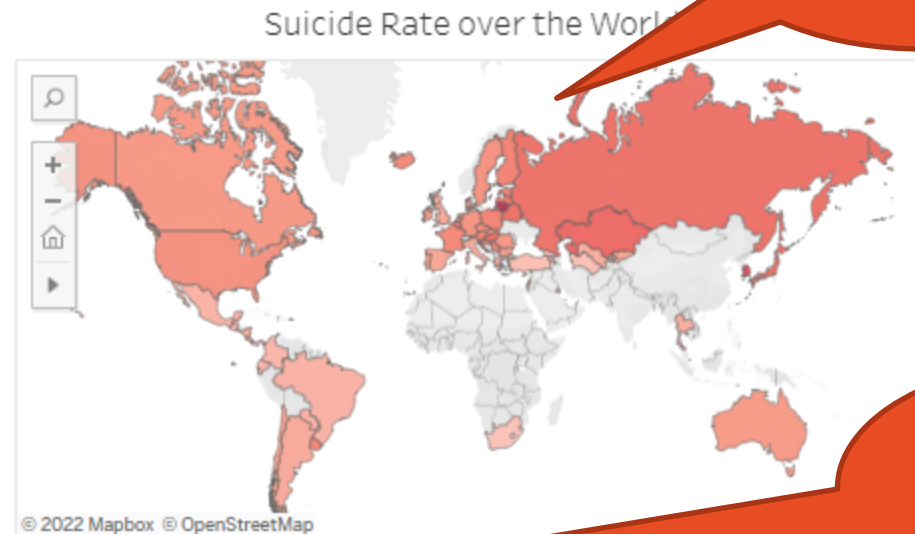
What do women...? What age ...?

How is Central and Eastern Europe GDP and suicide rate?

Symmetry

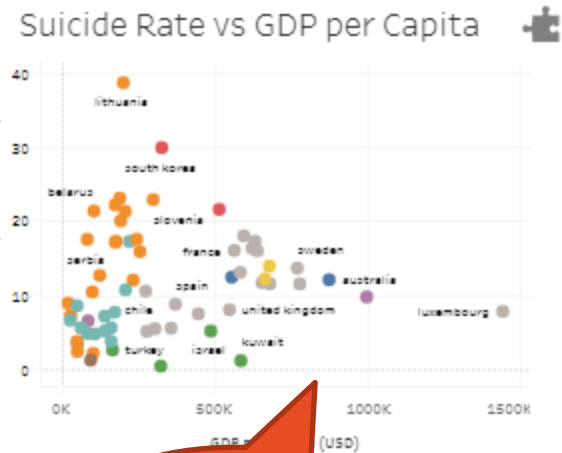
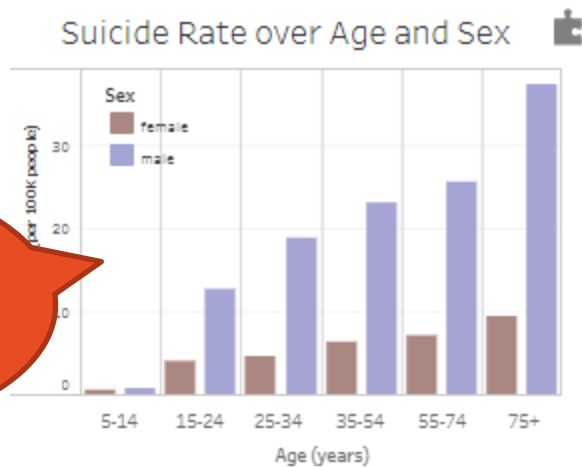


Similarity

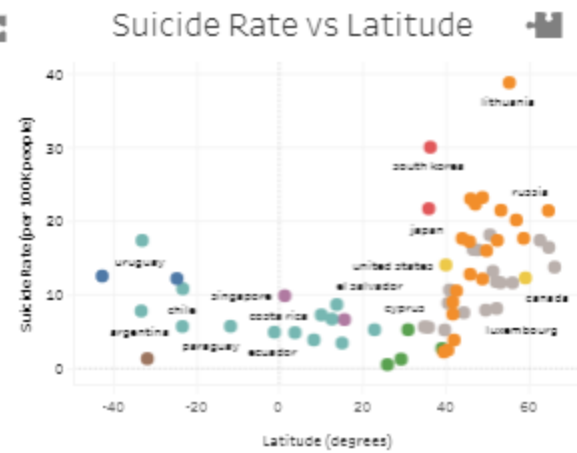


Closure

Similarity



Proximity



# Combining preattentive properties + gestalt to represent quantity

- size:
  - *length or height*,
  - *area* (radius),
  - *never volume*
- lightness, darker = bigger
- hue saturation, saturated = bigger
- vertical position, higher = bigger



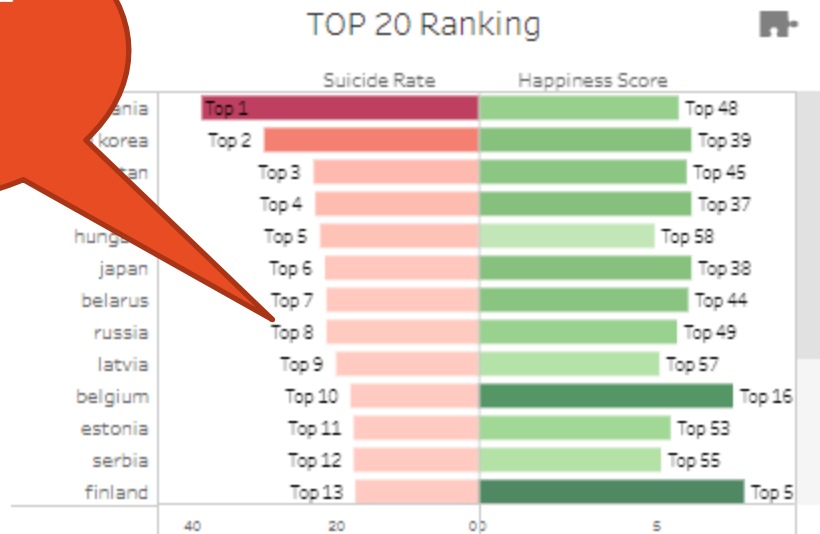
# Combining preattentive properties + gestalt to represent INTENSITY

- Darker or more saturated,
- Bigger,
- Thicker

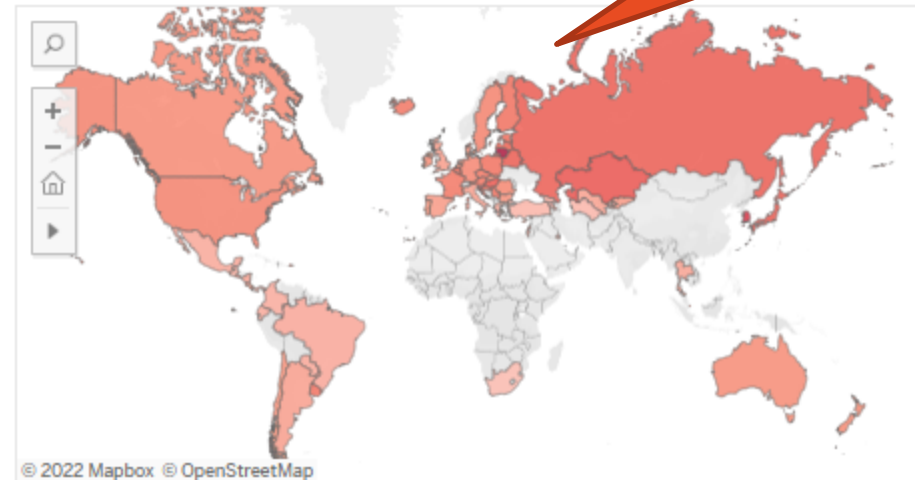
# Combining preattentive properties + gestalt to represent VISUAL SALIENCE

- Distinct from the norm: in hue, orientation,
- Enclosure: by line or background colour,
- Added marks

More saturated = bigger  
Larger = bigger

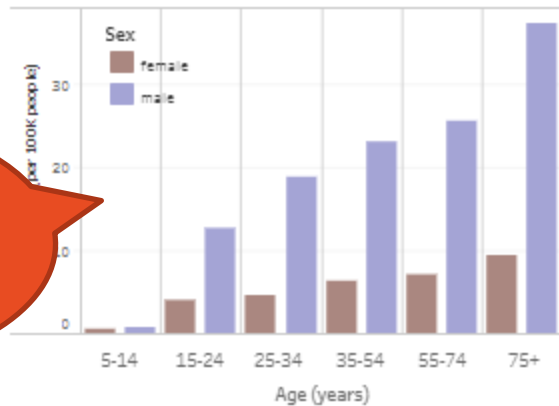


### Suicide Rate over the World



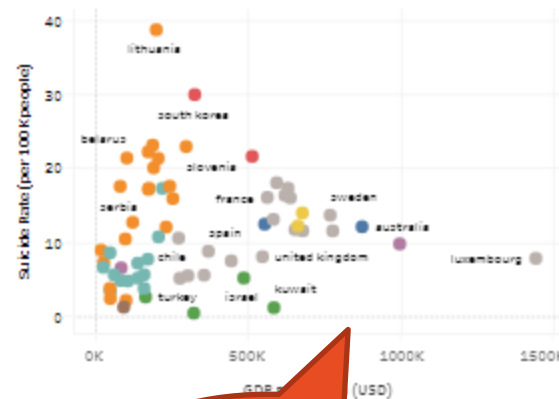
More saturated = bigger

### Suicide Rate over Age and Sex



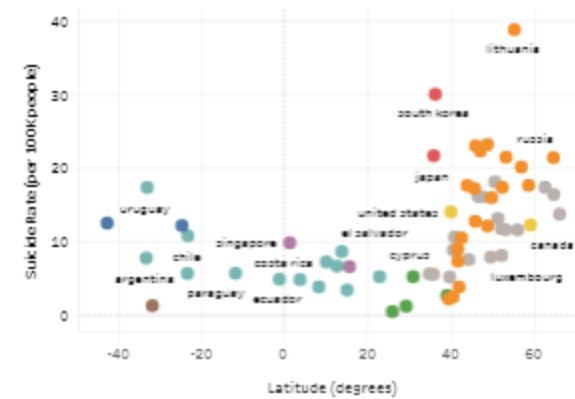
Larger = bigger

### Suicide Rate vs GDP per Capita






Higher = bigger

### Suicide Rate vs Latitude



# Key ideas

-  Information visualization is a tool that uses our visual perception capacity to digest data and facilitate its understanding.
-  Preattentive properties allow maximum efficiency in data communication. Gestalt laws guide perception.
-  By combining both we can highlight and relate specific graphs and data.

# Sources

- ★ Ware, C. (2020) Information visualization: perception for design. Burlington: Morgan Kaufmann.
- ★ Heeger, D (2006) [Perception Lecture Notes: Retinal Ganglion Cells](#). NY: Department of Psychology, New York University.
- ★ Healey, CG (2012) [Perception in Visualization](#). Department of Computer Science, North Carolina State University.
- ★ Few, S (2012) Show Me the Numbers: Designing Tables and Graphs to Enlighten. Analytics Press.
- ★ van Dijk, D. (2022) [Mind your data visualization](#). Datylon BV.

# Thank you for your attention



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