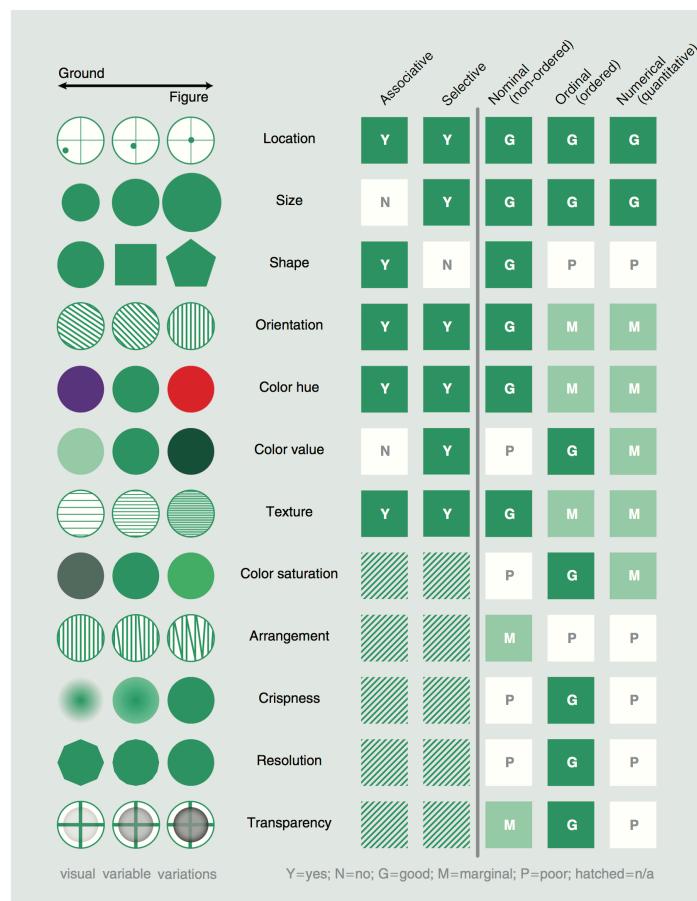


## VISUAL VARIABLES



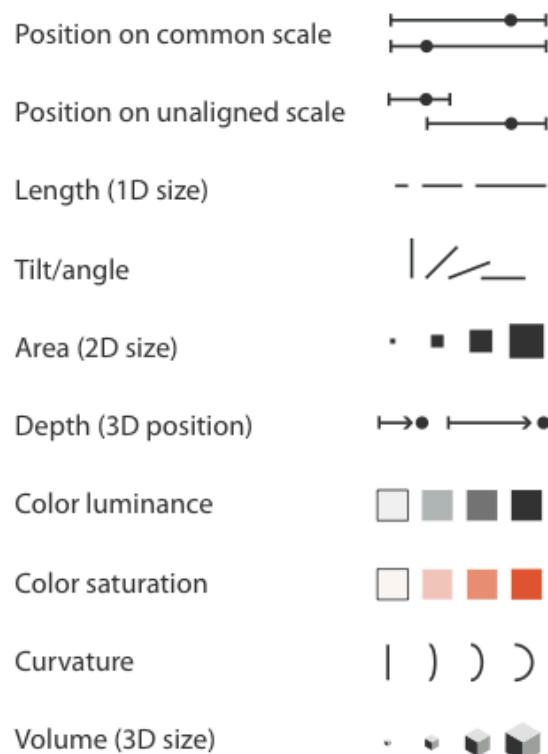
Properties and qualities of Visual Variables

## SYNTACTICS

Roth (2017)

## Channels: Expressiveness Types and Effectiveness Ranks

### ④ Magnitude Channels: Ordered Attributes



### Ordered

we cannot estimate **quantities** well from encodings that use these visual variables, though we can **order** them

Munzner (2014)

## Channels: Expressiveness Types and Effectiveness Ranks

### Selective / Associative / Dissociative

#### Identity Qualitative (nominal)

identity tasks are performed more successfully with the higher encoding methods

so we associate symbols that are grouped together more than we associate symbols that have the same shape ... and color hue works well to 'make things look the same' when we are trying to associate symbols with the same quality

#### Identity Channels: Categorical Attributes

Spatial region



Color hue



Motion



Shape



Effectiveness  
Least ↑ Most ↓

**Munzner (2014)**

## levels of measurement data

### categories

*labels  
that describe  
characteristics of  
things*

#### nominal

organisation names  
telephone numbers



### measurements

*numbers  
that describe  
characteristics of  
things*

#### interval

*You can't create ratios from the numbers*

temperature (C or F)  
calendar year



#### ratio

counts  
monetary value



#### COLORBOWER SCHEMES

qualitative

#### BICYCLE EXAMPLE

brand  
trek, canyon, cube

sequential

frame size  
XS, S, M, L, XL, XXL

sequential

year made  
2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

sequential

price  
£1,699 ; £799 ; £1,475

#### MUNZNER TERMINOLOGY

identity

order

magnitude

magnitude