

# FIT3179 Data Visualisation

Week 06 – Part 1: Colour

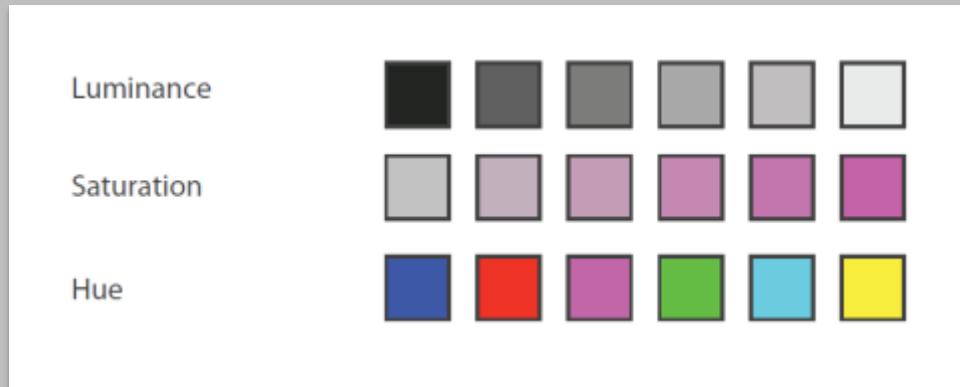


VAD chapter 10

# Colour

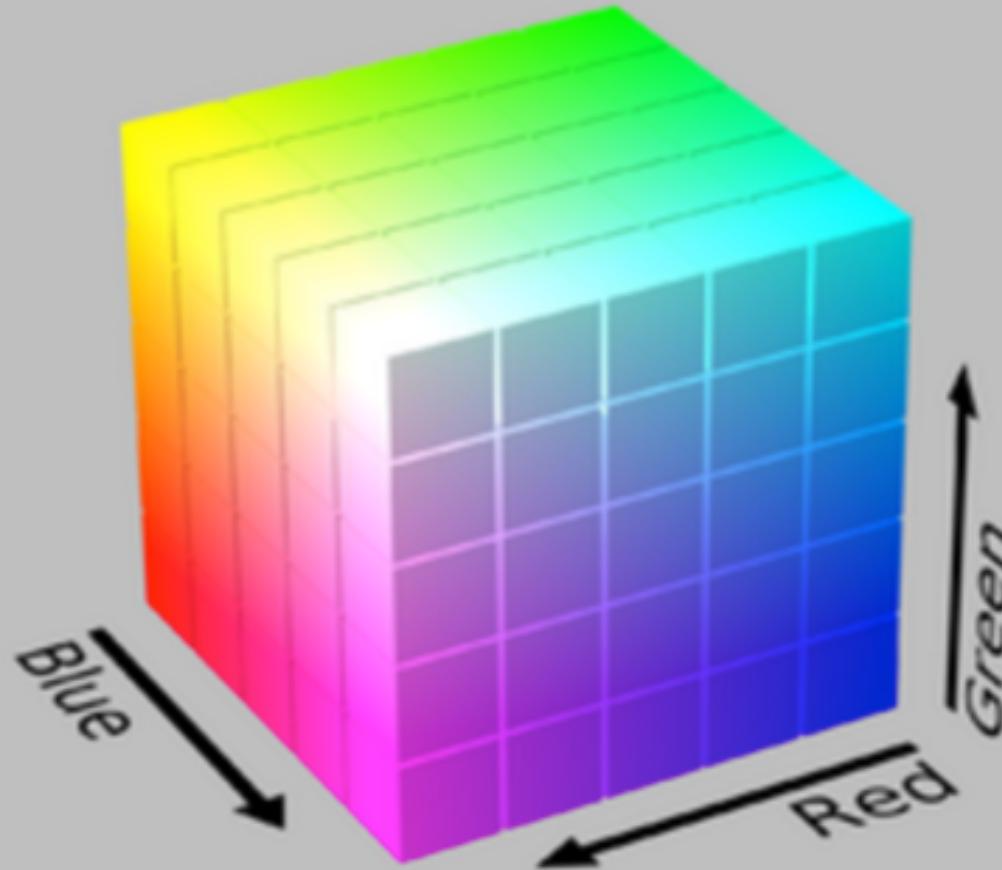
- Colour spaces
- Effective use of colour for data visualisation

# Colour Spaces



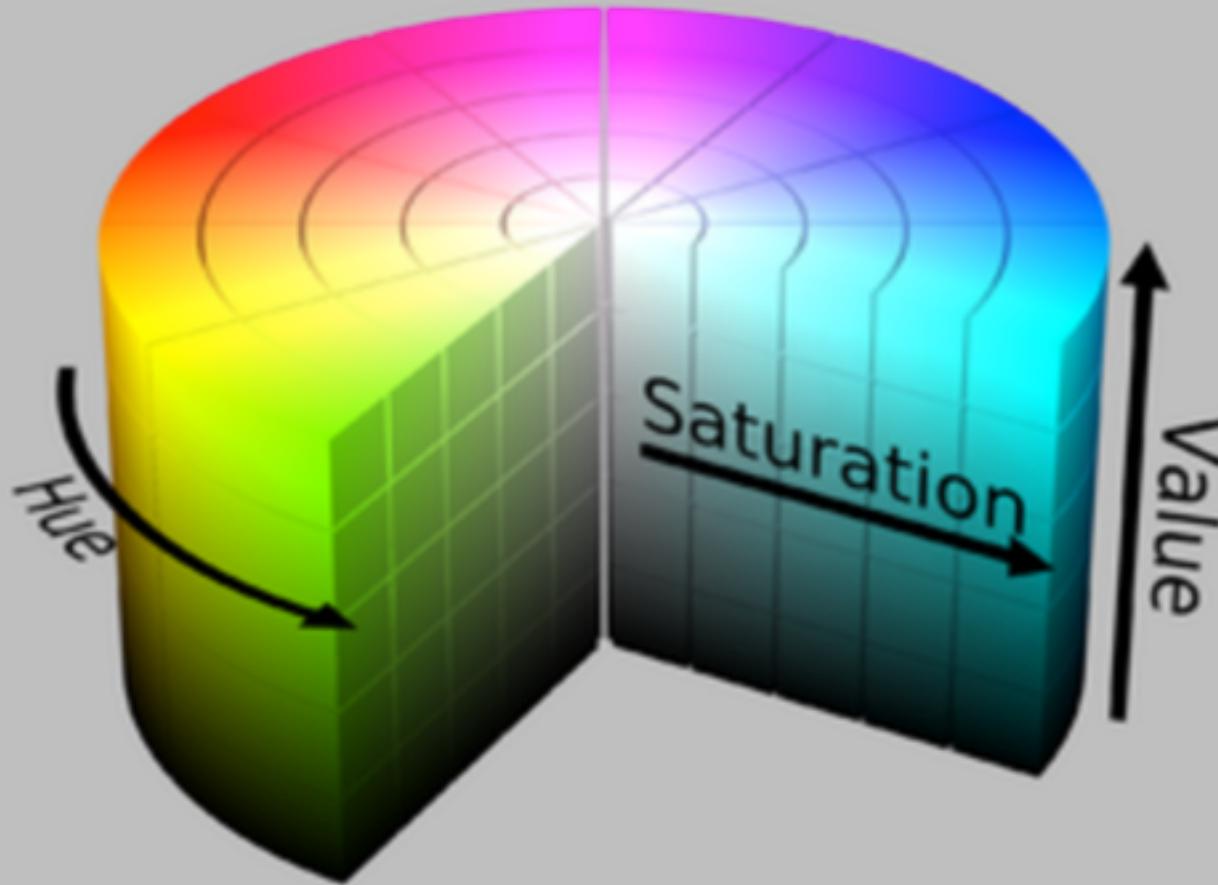
# Colour Spaces

RGB



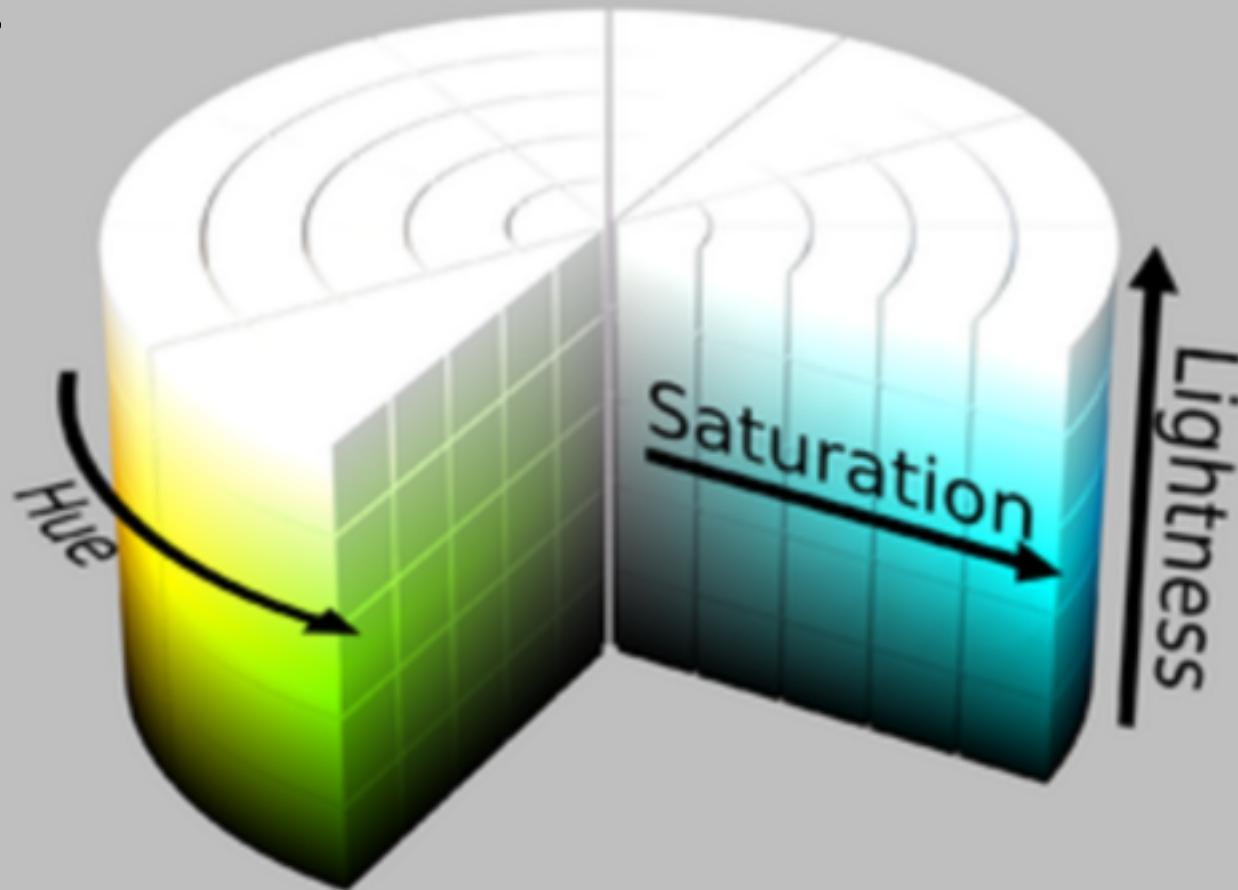
# Colour Spaces

HSV



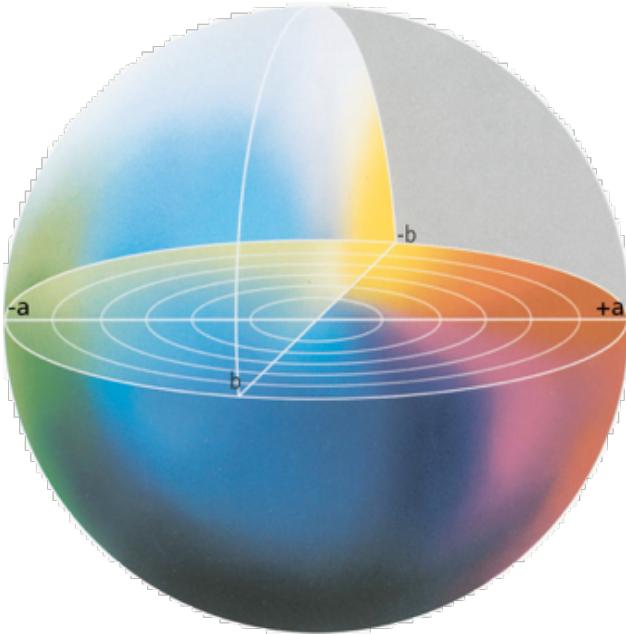
# Colour Spaces

HSL



# $L^*a^*b^*$ : Perceptually Linear Colour space

- $L^*$ : luminance axis
- a and b: red-green and blue-yellow axes



Corners of the RGB color cube



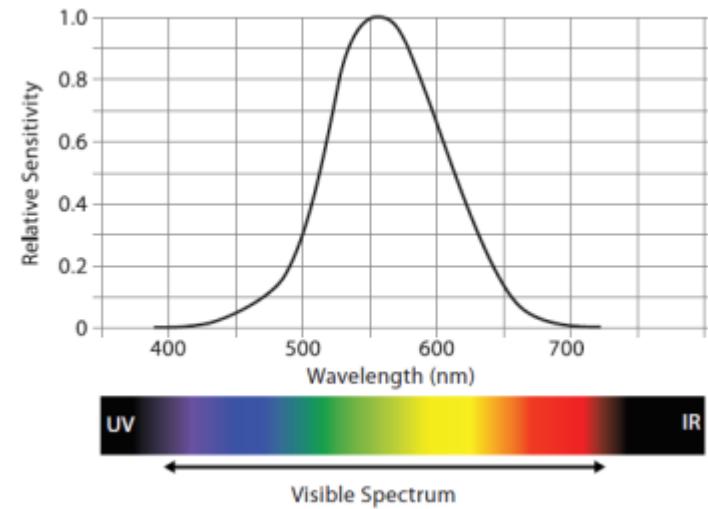
$L$  from HSL  
All the same



Luminance



$L^*$



# Colour Spaces

- RGB, HSV, HSL, XYZ, L\*a\*b\* have 3 axes
- RGB, HSV, HSL, XYZ are not visually equidistant, that is, the numerical mean of two colours is not the visual mean of these colours.
- L\*a\*b\* is visually equidistant.
- HSV and HSL used for colour pickers, because of their intuitive axes.
- XYZ and L\*a\*b\* used for colour management, that is, matching colours between different devices.

May 29, 2018

Thoughts & How To's

by Lisa Charlotte  
Rost

# What to consider when choosing colors for data visualization

Data Visualisation can be defined as representing numbers with shapes – and no matter what these shapes look like (areas, lines, dots), they need to have a color. Sometimes colors just make the shapes visible, sometimes they encode data or categories themselves. We'll focus mostly on the latter in this article. But we'll also take a general look at colors and what to consider when choosing them:

<https://blog.datawrapper.de/colors/>

# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

NOT IDEAL



PEOPLE IN GROUP A



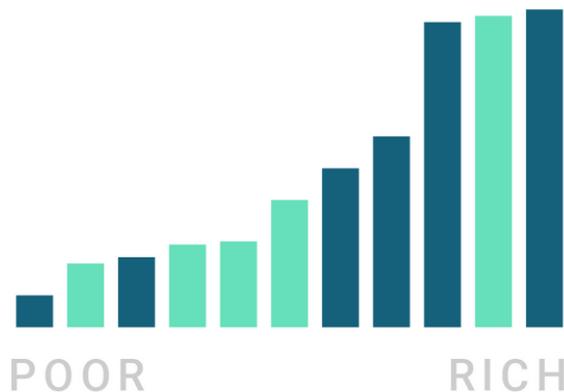
PEOPLE IN GROUP B



BETTER

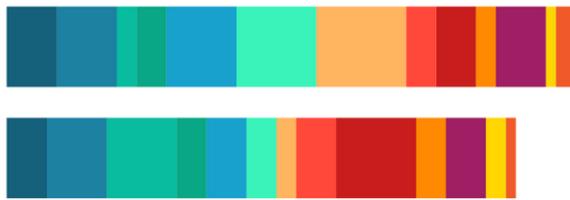
PEOPLE IN GROUP

A B



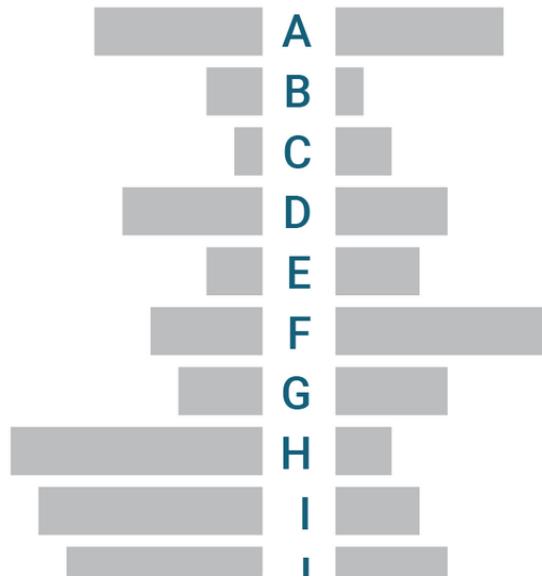
# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

NOT IDEAL



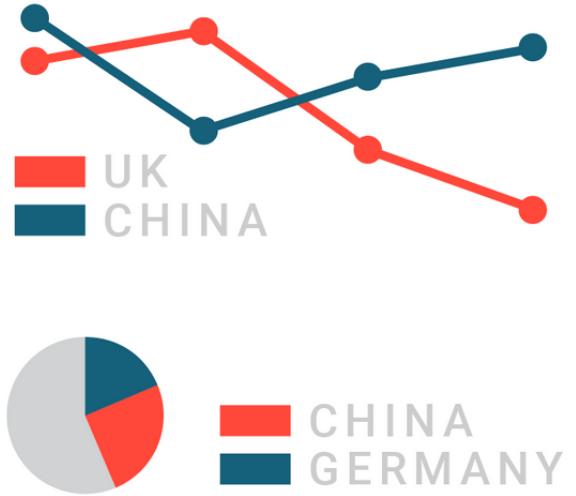
A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I
J	K	L
M		

BETTER

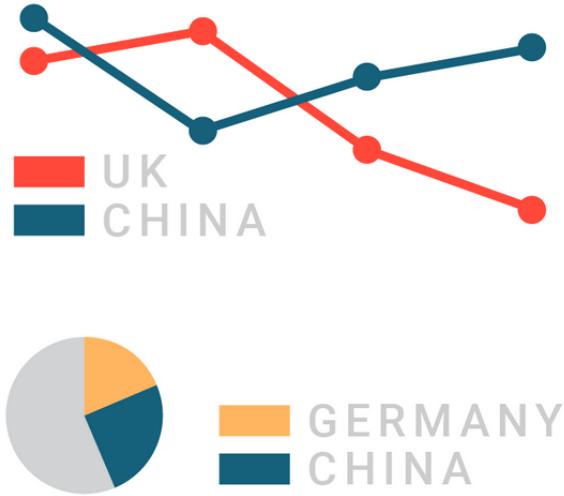


# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

NOT IDEAL



BETTER



# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

COLOR KEY



SHARE OF  
PEOPLE IN  
**CHINA AND**  
**GERMANY**

# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

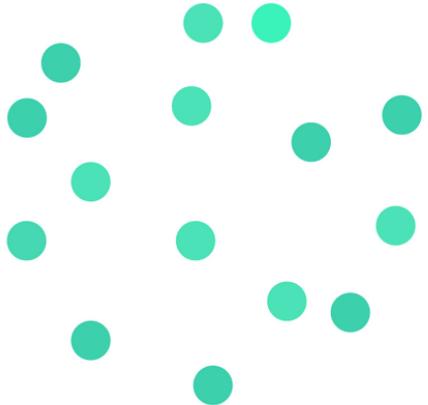
## CONTRAST

### CONTRAST RATIOS

1.0	A light grey horizontal bar.	A medium grey horizontal bar.	A bright green horizontal bar.	A bright green horizontal bar.
1.1	Choose if you dislike readers.	That's bad.	That's bad.	Horrible.
1.5	Ok in 1% of the cases.	Not ideal.	That's bad.	My eyes!
2.5	Can be a good choice.	Ok.	Not ideal.	That's bad.
4.5	Safe choice.	Great.	Ok.	Not ideal.

# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

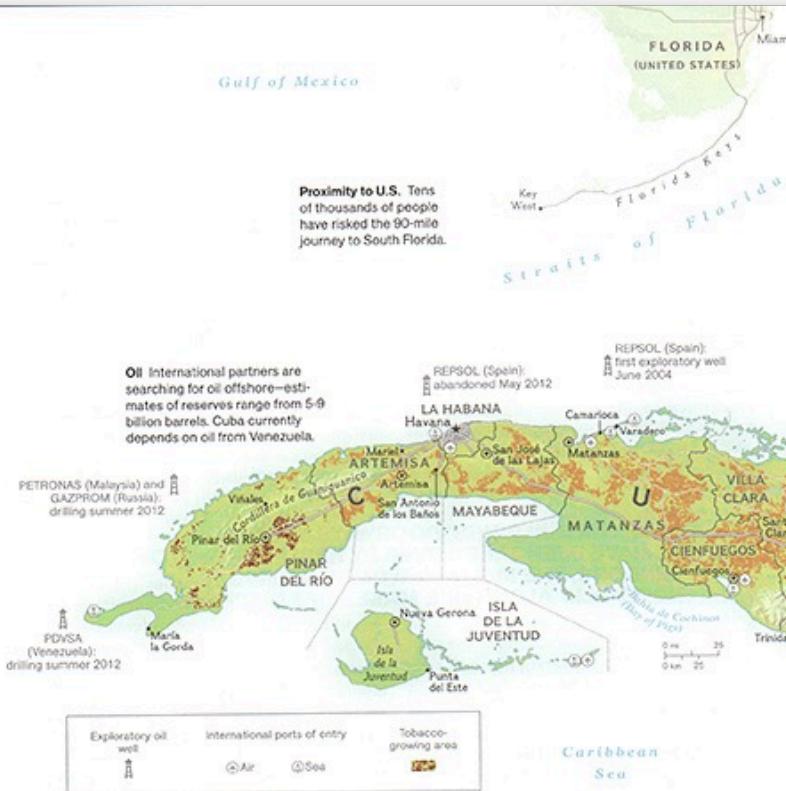
NOT IDEAL



BETTER



Gulf of Mexico

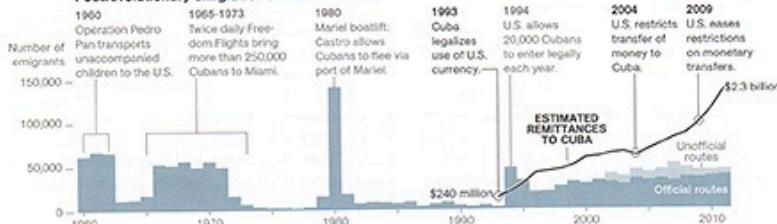


#### CUBANS OUT, DOLLARS IN

Among the most reliable sources of hard currency are the billions in remittances flowing in from the Cuban diaspora and the more than two billion dollars spent annually by tourists. The number of people leaving the island each year fluctuates with the twists and turns of politics and policy.

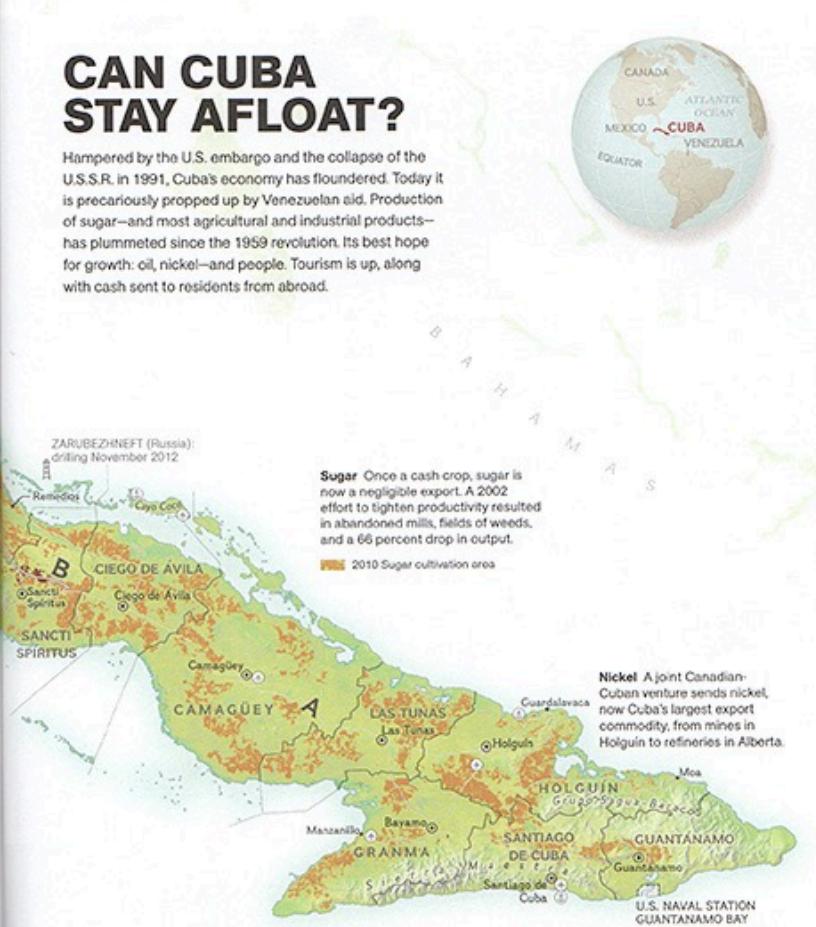
Cuban native and NGS cartographer Juan Valdés narrates an emigration timeline.

#### Postrevolutionary emigration and remittances



## CAN CUBA STAY AFLOAT?

Hampered by the U.S. embargo and the collapse of the U.S.S.R. in 1991, Cuba's economy has floundered. Today it is precariously propped up by Venezuelan aid. Production of sugar—and most agricultural and industrial products—has plummeted since the 1959 revolution. Its best hope for growth: oil, nickel—and people. Tourism is up, along with cash sent to residents from abroad.



#### Cuban nationals abroad and tourists by country of origin



MARTIN GAMACHE, NMG STAFF; ALEXANDER STEGMAYER AND JUAN JOSE VALDÉS, NGS MAPS  
SOURCES: CUBAN NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE AND U.S. CENSUS; U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION; UN STATISTICS DIVISION; DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE ON MIGRATION; GLOBAL CITATION AND POVERTY; MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE; EMILIO MORALES AND JOE SCARPA/CIAA; CONSULTING GROUP; ARCH RETTER, CARLETON UNIVERSITY; JORGE R. PISON, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN; MODIS LAND COVER, NASA LP DAAC



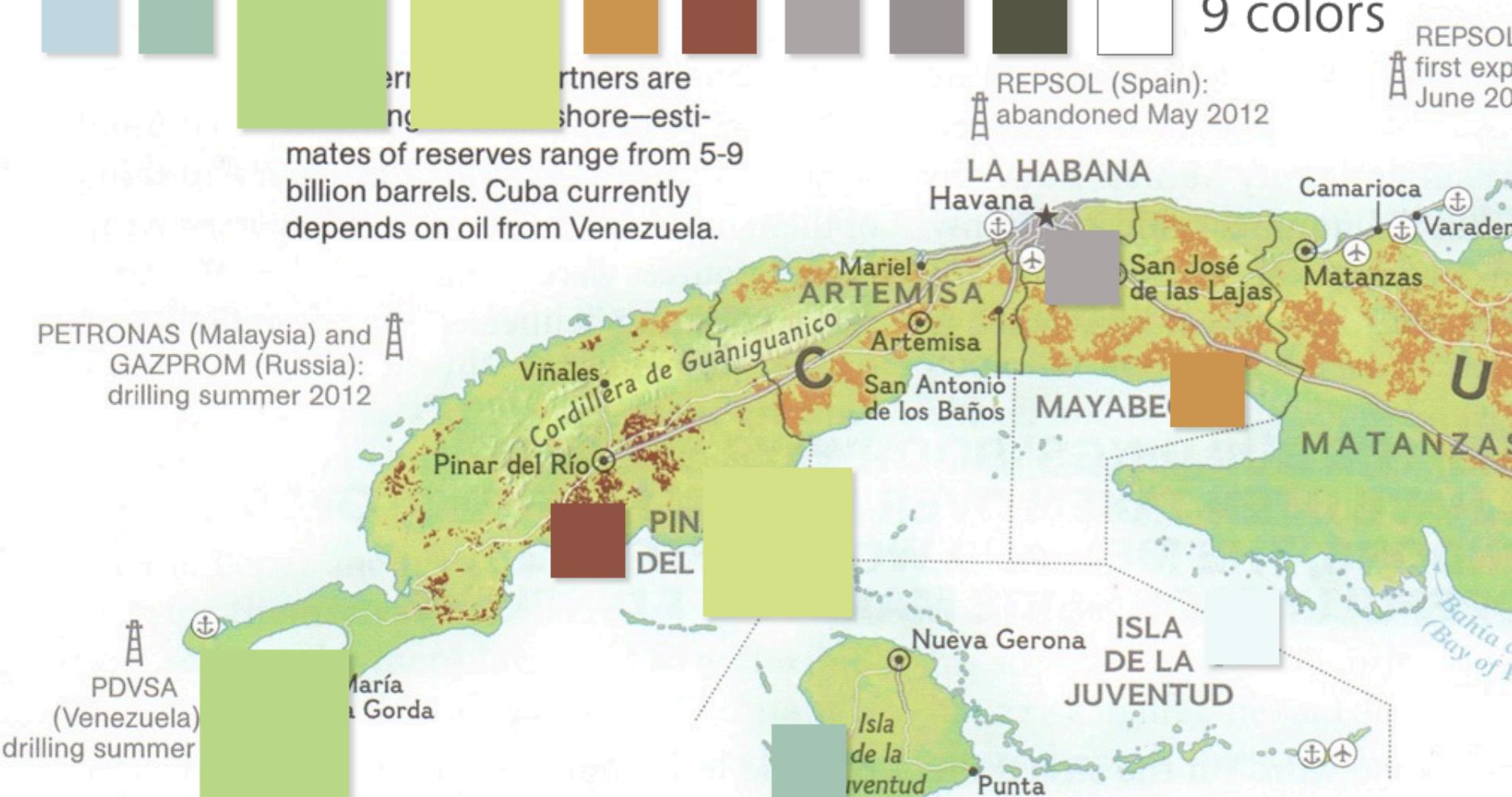
9 colors

REPSOL  
first exp.  
June 2012

er  
n  
rners are  
shore—esti-

mates of reserves range from 5-9  
billion barrels. Cuba currently  
depends on oil from Venezuela.

PETRONAS (Malaysia) and  
GAZPROM (Russia):  
drilling summer 2012



Exploratory oil  
well



International ports of entry



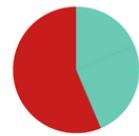
Tobacco-  
growing area



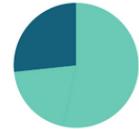
Carib  
an  
Sea

# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

NOT IDEAL



GOOD  
BAD



FOREST  
LAKE



FEMALE  
MALE

BETTER



GOOD  
BAD



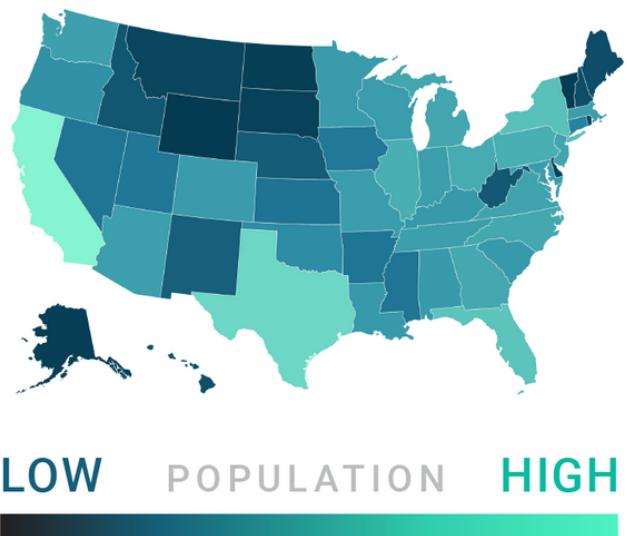
FOREST  
LAKE



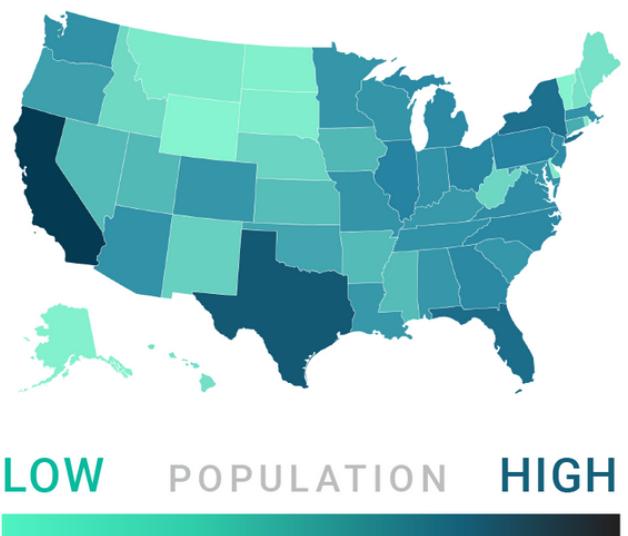
FEMALE  
MALE

# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

NOT IDEAL



BETTER

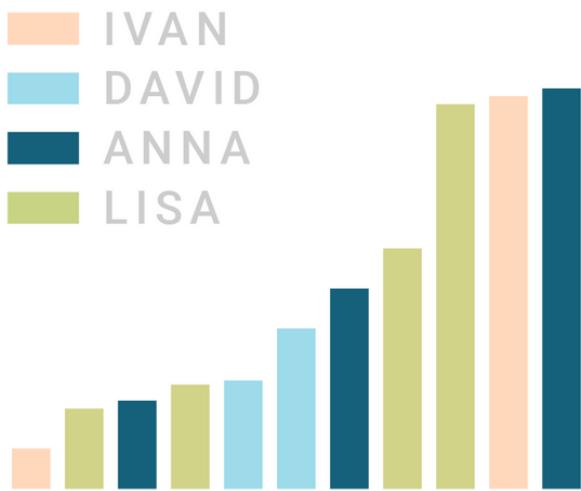


# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation

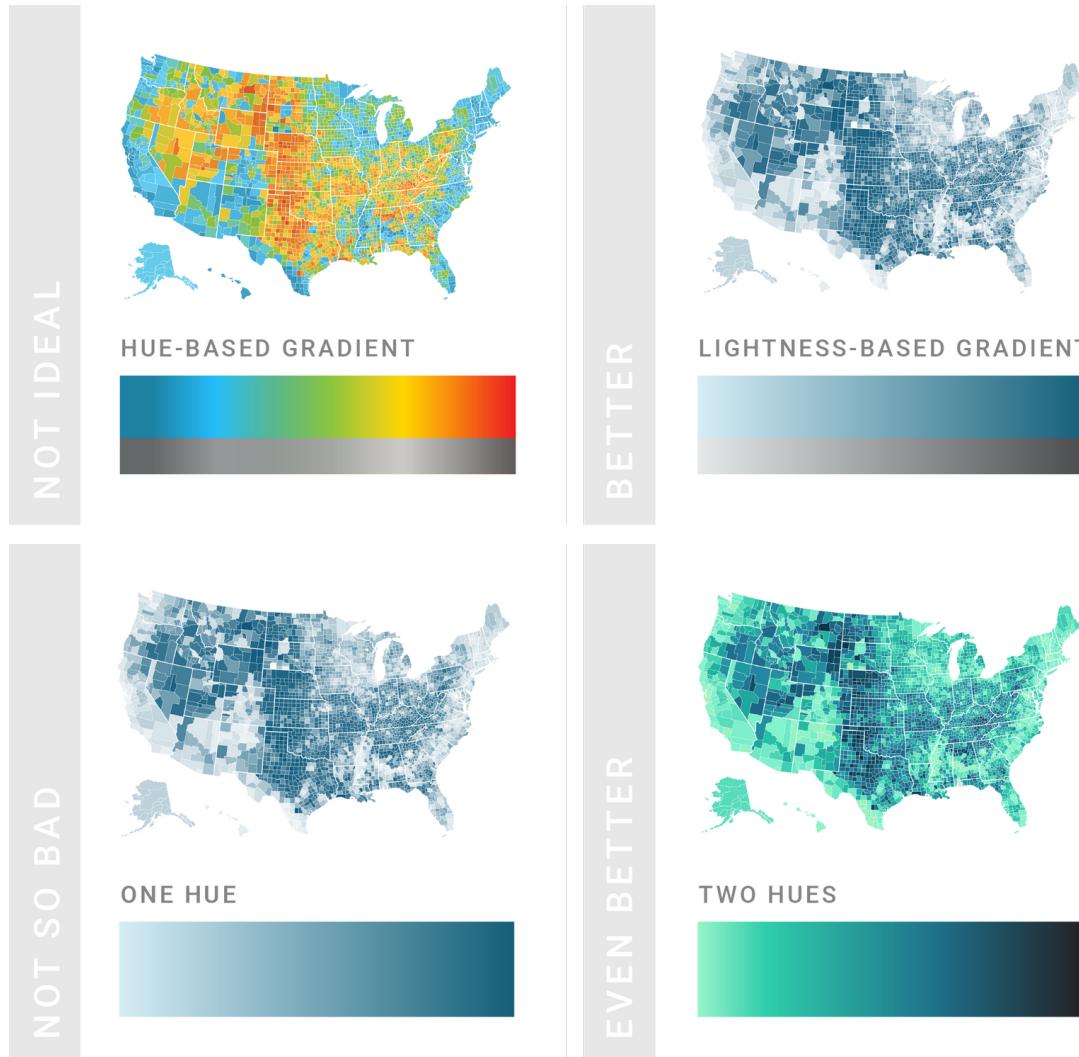
NOT IDEAL



BETTER



# Choosing Colour for Data Visualisation



# The Evil Rainbow Colourmap

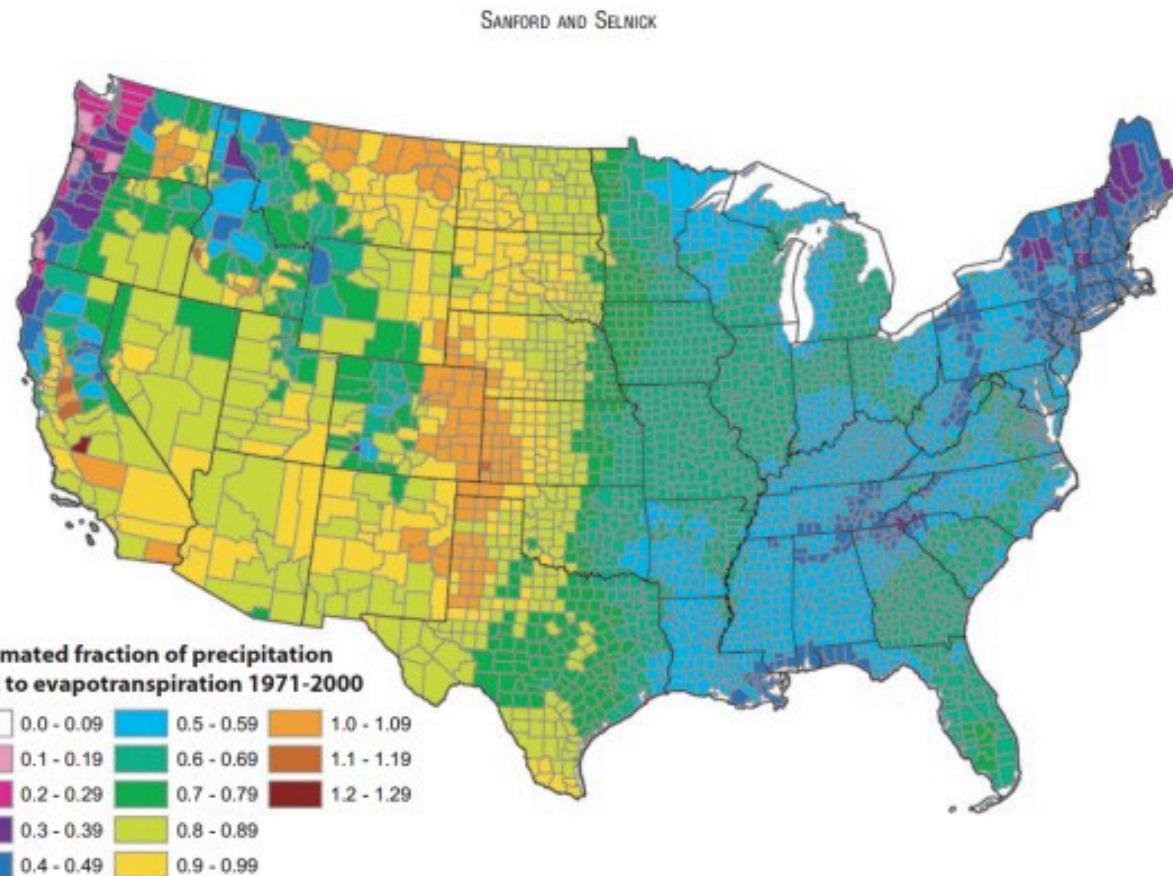


FIGURE 13. Estimated Mean Annual Ratio of Actual Evapotranspiration (ET) to Precipitation ( $P$ ) for the Conterminous U.S. for the Period 1971-2000. Estimates are based on the regression equation in Table 1 that includes land cover. Calculations of  $ET/P$  were made first at the 800-m resolution of the PRISM climate data. The mean values for the counties (shown) were then calculated by averaging the 800-m values within each county. Areas with fractions  $>1$  are agricultural counties that either import surface water or mine deep groundwater.

# The Evil Rainbow Colourmap

SANFORD AND SELNICK

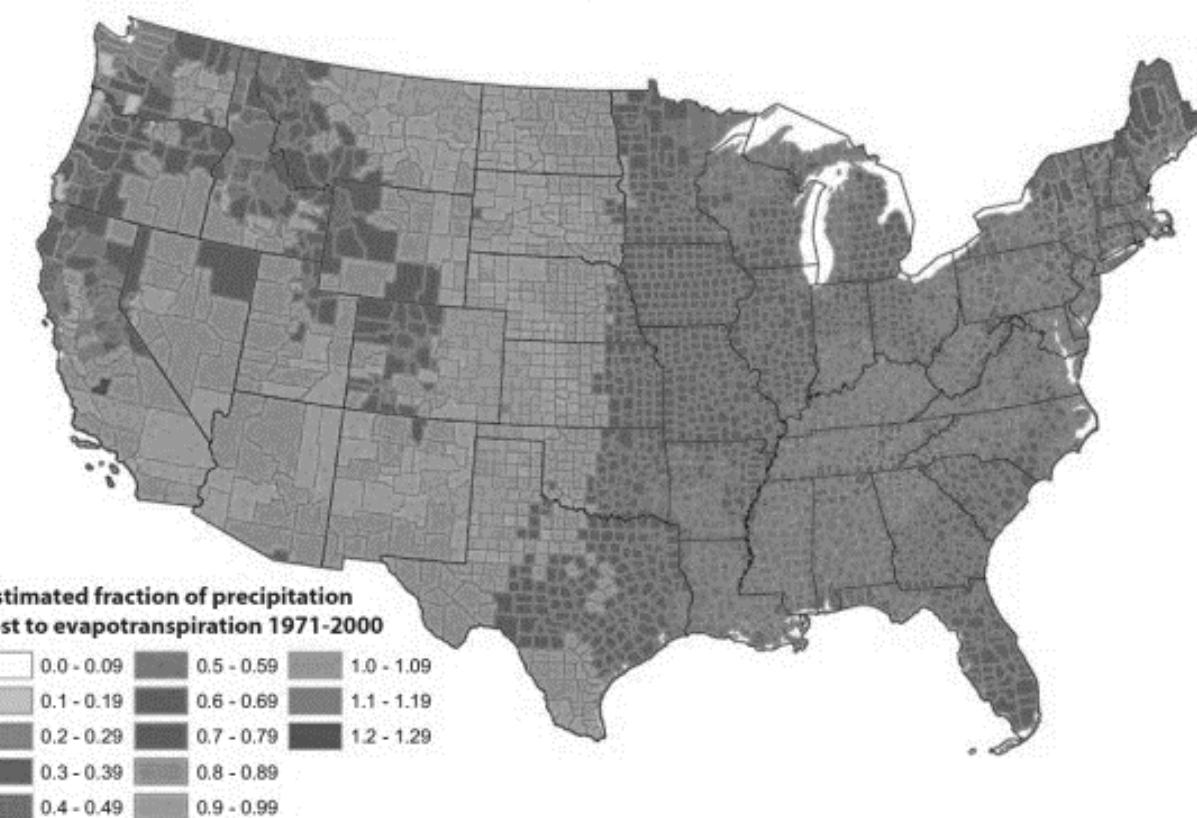
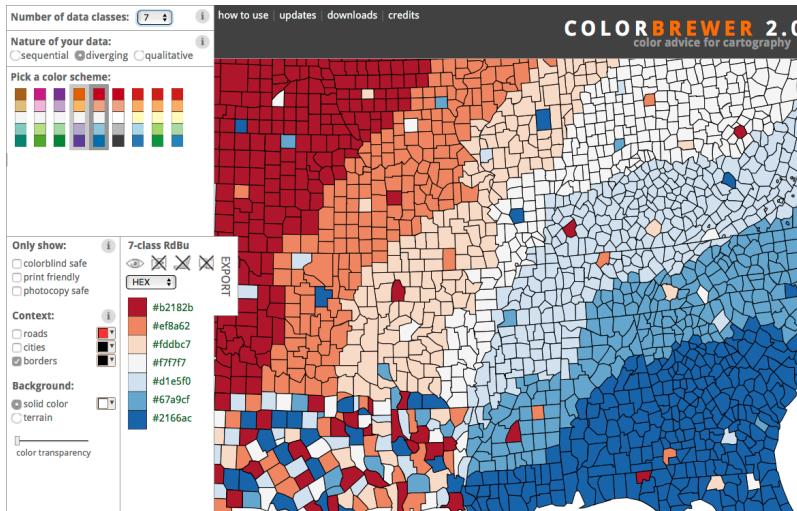
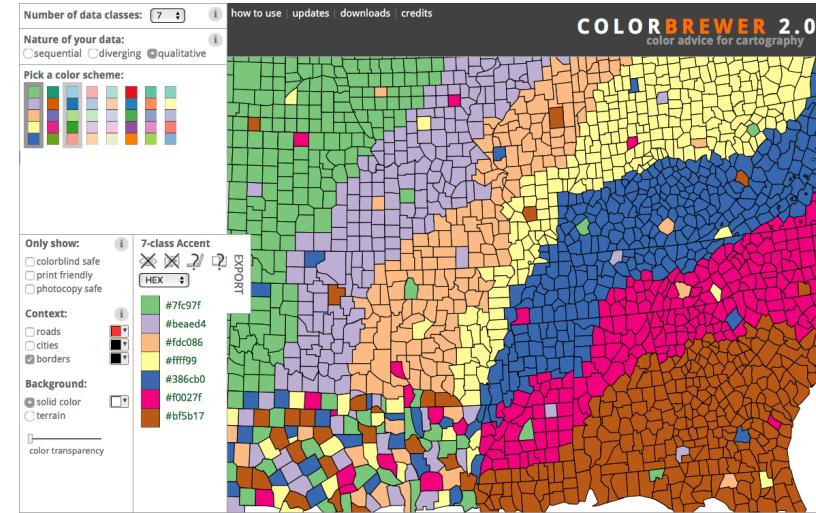
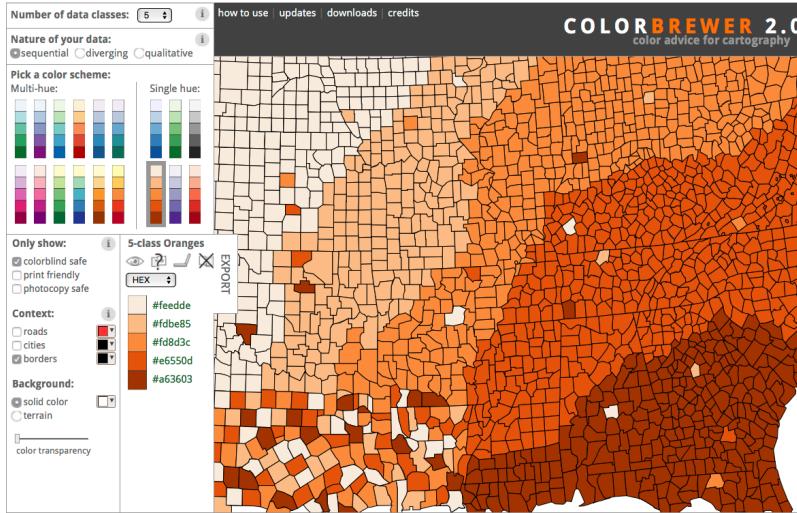


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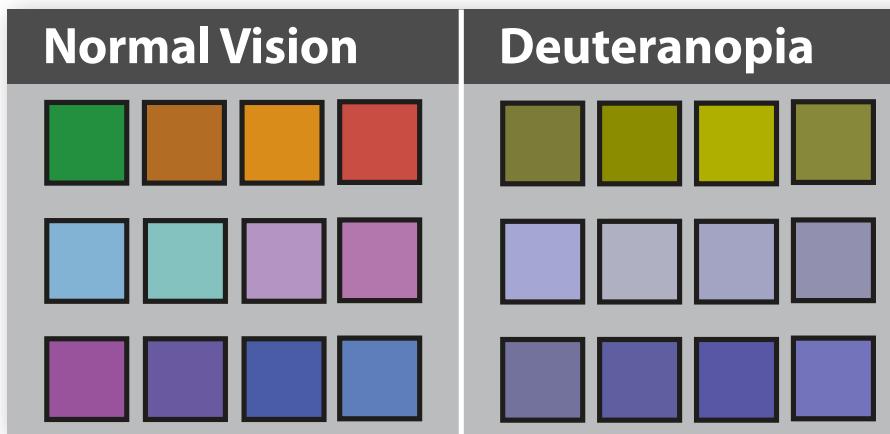
# Sequential, diverging and qualitative colour schemes



<http://colorbrewer2.org>

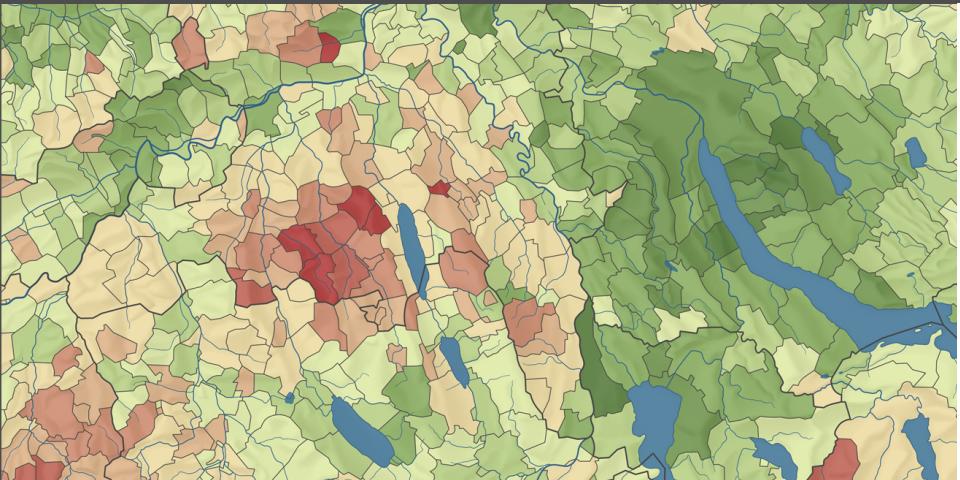
# Colour for the colour vision impaired

- 8% of all men have a color vision deficiency
- They mainly confuse red and green (protanopia and deutanopia)

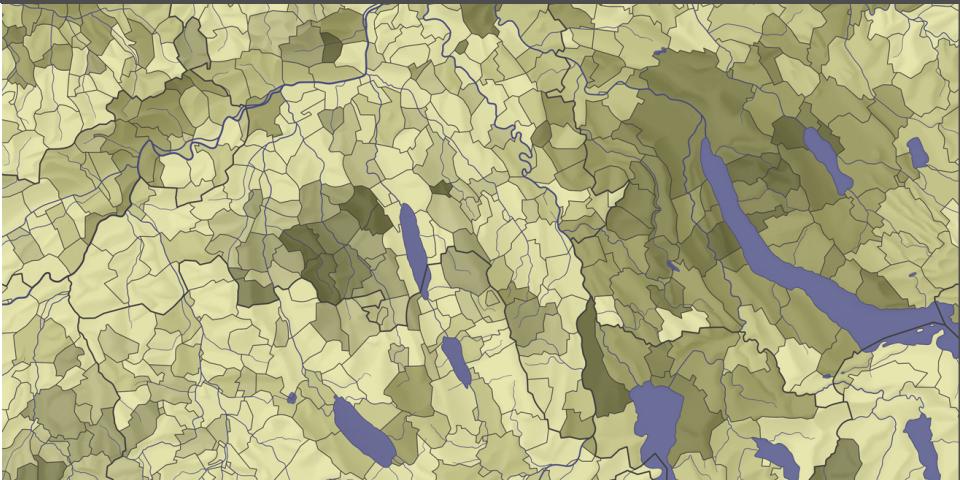


# Colour for the colour vision impaired

## Diverging Red-Green Color Scheme

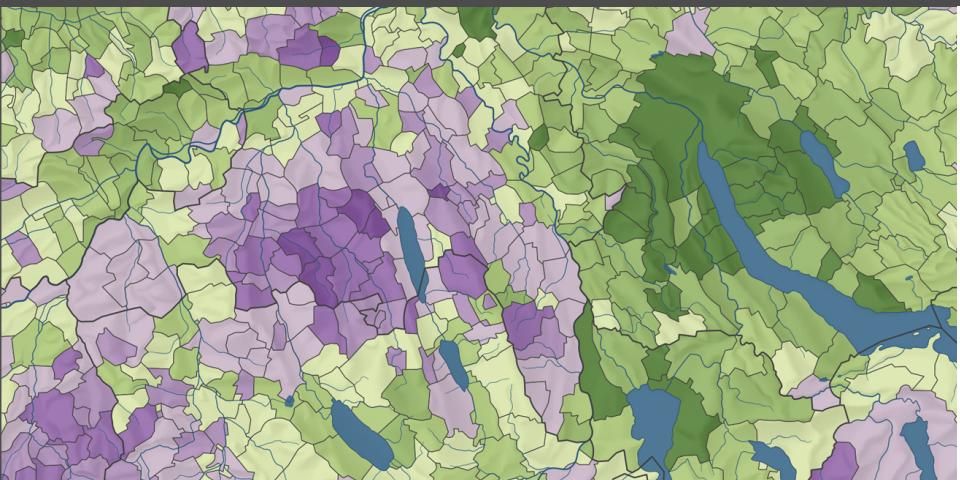


Normal Vision

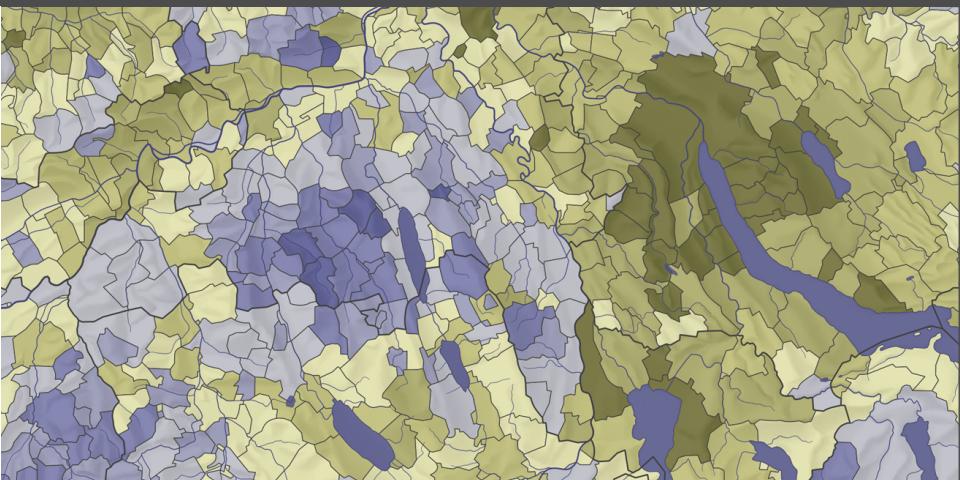
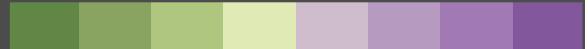


Deuteranopia

## Diverging Purple-Green Color Scheme



Normal Vision



Deuteranopia



Normal Vision

- Deutanopia (Common) F5
- Protanopia (Rare) F6
- Tritanopia (Very Rare)
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# Spectral Color Scheme

