Desing workshop

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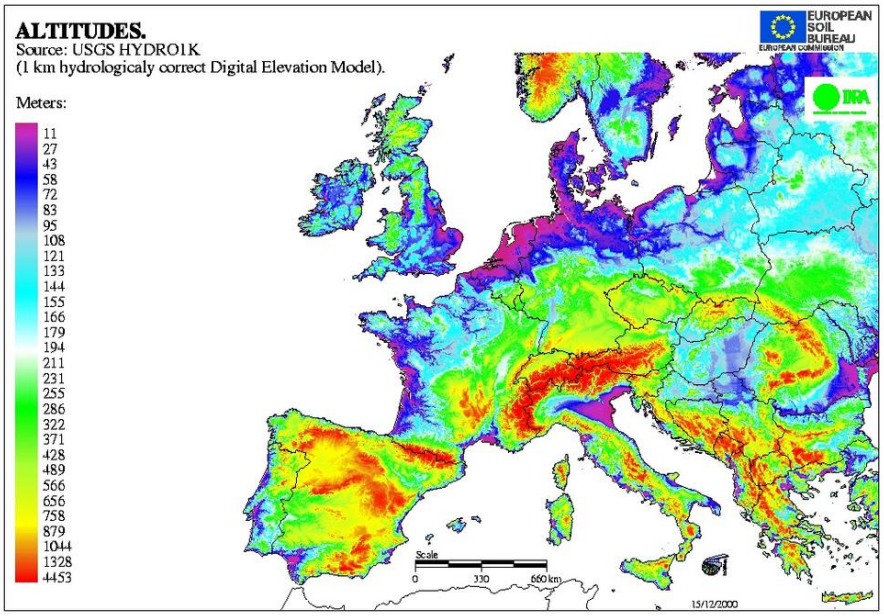
February 2016

1 Problem 1

The author tried to visualize the differences of opinion between the audience and critics and attempted to map the financial success of the movie to its ratings. He has done this with over 600 movies from the last 5 years in Hollywood cinema
I think they have done a great job at fulfilling they task, they have successfully plotted all the data which at first glance seems a little of a mess, but one could, within a few seconds, easily figure out how the visualization and its interactivity works,
It is unfortunate that the x-axis is not labeled with text, describing the data. Starting from the left and working our way to the right one could see that at the upper most left the critics give higher ratings than the audience does and that this slowly changes to data points where the audience gives higher ratings than the critics do. On the other hand, the author took into account that dat variation is more important than design variation.
Even though the author successfully utilized both data-ink ratio, increase of data density as well as the layer information and visual encodings such as position, placement and pattern density, this visualization lacks every single design principle which is unfortunate.
Although this visualization is interactive, properly designed and easy to analyze, I think making the circles of the critics and audience be more in contrast as well as assigning some sort of test to the x-axis would certainly improve this visualization.

2 Problem 2



In the visualization above te author, European Soil Bureau, intended to visualize the differences in altitude within Europe. I assume its audience mainly consists of geographers. Although the visualization consists of lots of data it might be an obscuring and misleading info-graphic. One could think his is a mapping of temperature differences instead of altitude differences. Furthermore, even though it has a color scaling included, the scaling numbers are not linearly separated and therefore making it even harder for the audience to fully understand the visualized data. I think due to these failing properties the visualization fails to successfully convey information. A color map consisting of multiple shades of blue along with a linearly scaled color index would be a great improvement to this visualization.
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