STS 98 Grading Rubric

Assignment 1 and the peer reviews will be graded *satisfactory* (A), *needs work* (B), or *incomplete* (F). Assignments 2–5 will be graded according to the rubric below.

Grade		
A+	Text	The text is a cautious, skeptical presentation of novel insights supported by strong evidence in the data and with external sources. For each unexpected result, multiple explanations are proposed and investigated. Potential errors in the data are identified and their impact on the results is addressed. There is a concise, big picture description of the strategy used to discover each insight, with a critical examination of its shortcomings.
	Figures	The figures are unique, extremely well-designed, and carefully selected to support the text without being redundant. Each is accompanied by a detailed written interpretation. Each has a title and axis labels (with units). Important details can be seen clearly. Each group has a distinct point or line style, so the figures remain legible in black and white. Legends are included when appropriate.
A	Text	The text is a cautious presentation of meaningful insights supported by strong evidence in the data. For each unexpected result, an explanation is proposed and investigated. Potential errors in the data are identified and their impact on the results is addressed. There is a concise description of the strategy used to discover each insight, with a critical examination of its shortcomings.
	Figures	The figures are well-designed and carefully selected to support the text without being redundant. Each is accompanied by a detailed written interpretation. Each has a title and axis labels (with units). Important details can be seen clearly. Each group has a distinct point or line style, so the figures remain legible in black and white. Legends are included when appropriate.
B	Text	The text presents plausible insights supported by evidence in the data. For each unexpected result, an explanation is proposed. Potential errors in the data are identified, but their impact on the results is not fully addressed. There is a description of the strategy used to discover each insight, with some examination of its shortcomings.
	Figures	The figures are carefully selected to support the text. Each has a title and axis labels. Each is accompanied by a written interpretation. Important details can be seen clearly. The figures remain mostly legible in black and white. Legends are included when appropriate.
C	Text	The text presents insights that are weakly supported by evidence in the data. Unexpected results are noted. Potential errors in the data are identified. There is a description of the strategy used to discover each insight.
	Figures	The figures support the text. A few are missing a title or axis labels. Important details are sometimes obscured by overplotting or bad scaling. The figures remain mostly legible in black and white. Legends are included when appropriate.
D	Text	The text presents insights that are not supported by or contradict evidence in the data. Unexpected results are ignored. Potential errors in the data are not considered. There is a description of the strategy used to discover each insight.
	Figures	The figures do not support the text. Many are missing titles and axis labels. Important details are obscured by overplotting and bad scaling.
F		The text and figures are irrelevant, illegible, or incomplete.