

DataVizA Tutorial: Good Plots Bad Plots

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Tutorial 2

Bad plots

1. Go to the website [top ten bad graphs](#) by Karl Broman. These graphs have all been published in reputable academic journals by respected scientists. Form groups of two or three and your tutor will allocate a plot to each group. In your groups discuss problems with the plots (if you are stuck, Karl Broman has his own commentary on each plot). After five minutes of discussion each group should appoint a spokesperson to discuss the problems with their graph to the entire group.

Try to critique the plots with reference to the following:

- Data ink ratio
 - Data density
 - Chart junk
 - Lie factor
 - Bad taste
 - Bad perception
 - Bad data
2. Find your own bad plot from business (try searching for terms like *bad graphs in business* on a search engine). Critique it according to the above criteria.