Review of 《*Journalism in the Age of Data*》

After watching Journalism in the Age of Data, it became easier for me to tell that data visualization in journalism and in academia is quite different. These differences come from their different goals and audiences.

First, in journalism, the main goal of data visualization is to be easy to understand. Since the audience is usually the general public with many different backgrounds. Designers often use bright colors, simple chart types, and interactive displays to show information. This way, readers don't need professional knowledge to quickly see the story behind the data. For example, interactive maps or stream graphs on news websites can show a lot of information, while also giving readers the fun of "exploring" the data.

On the other side, in academia, data visualization focuses more on accuracy and precision. The goal of academic charts is not to entertain or attract, but to make sure that the research process and results are clearly and correctly shown. The style is usually simple, with colors used for function, not decoration. Academic charts often include strict axes, error bars, statistical marks, and sometimes even mathematical formulas. These charts may look less "fancy", but they make sure the data can be compared and checked carefully within the academic community.

Overall, data visualization in journalism and academia are not better or worse, but serve different needs. Journalism may sacrifice some precision to make information easier for the public to understand, while academia may sacrifice readability to keep completeness and rigor.

This article was originally written in Chinese by the author. AI was used only for translation into English.