To: WR327 Students

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Subject: Data Sources Memo

Writing technical reports and documentation involves presentation of data. This memo will showcase some of the data sources used by students and academics in the field that readers can use in their own technical writing.

**Plots:**

Plots display data in a way to help the audience understand it. Plots take on many forms with the purpose of showing relationships between variables, data trends, data to model comparisons, mathematical functions, etc.

(Plot of something vs. something)

**Tables:**

Tables serve a similar purpose to plots, and help the audience to understand data. Tables display discreet values and are useful for comparing these values to each other across variables.

(table sowing data relationship)

**Images:**

Images are data in the form of photographs, graphics, and other forms that are not explicitly showing data relationships.

(Landsat satellite photo)

**Math, code, and other example of theory or methods:**

(example of code block)

**Drawings and renders:**

(Technical drawing of machine part)

For further reading, *The Visual Display of Quantitative Information* is a great source of information detailing best practices and pitfalls when presenting visual data.