WHAT CAN GO WRONG WITH STATISTICS: TYPICAL ERRORS

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The poster will summarize and illustrate the most typical errors that appear in the presentations of newcomers, but also in the newspapers and even in the research papers where the statistical results are discussed. Although every classification is inevitably a simplification of the real situation I have divided typical errors into six big groups for the sake of clarity: unsuitable method for analysis, miscalculations or misuse of software, unsuitable or distorting way of presenting the results, partial description of results or insufficient information for the correct interpretation, incorrect interpretation of (correct) results, incorrect generalisations.

In the poster the genesis of different types of errors will be explained and some real life examples given. When possible, the guidelines to avoid errors will be given, whereby the poster could be seen and used as an example of teaching material suitable to a wide range of students.

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