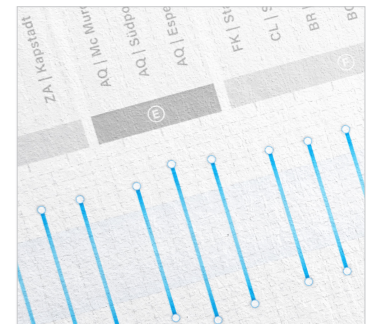
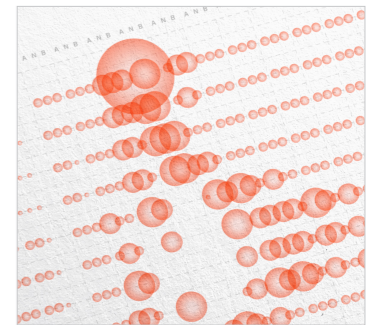
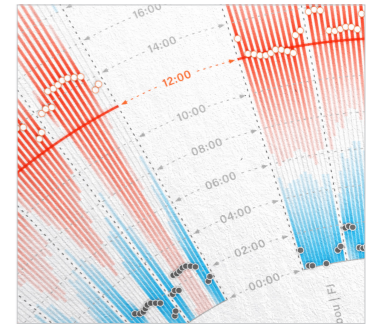
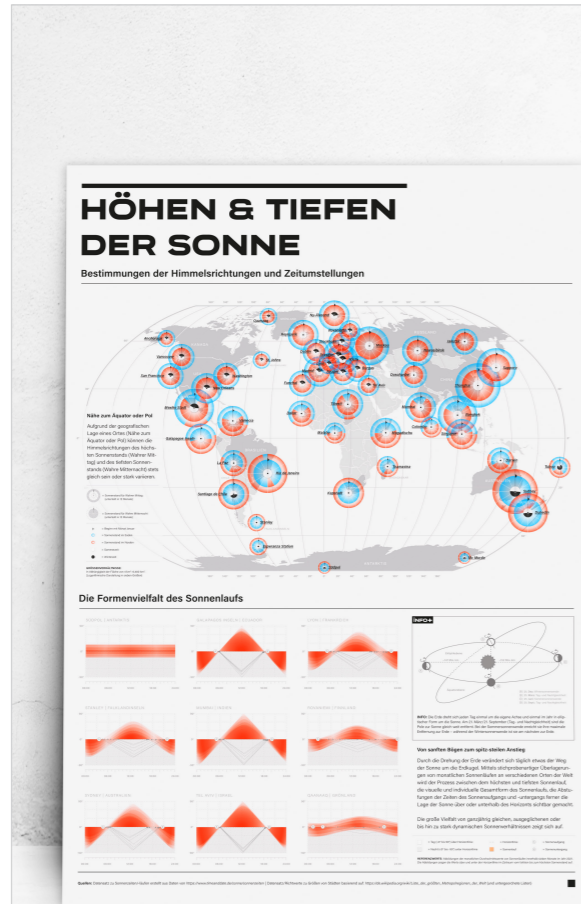
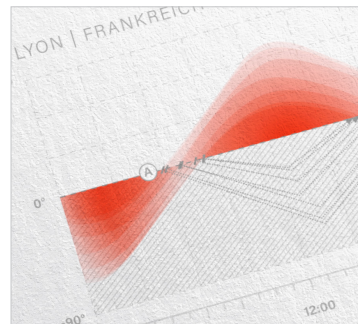
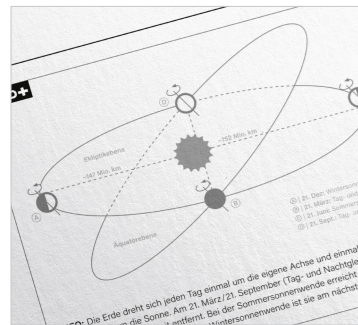
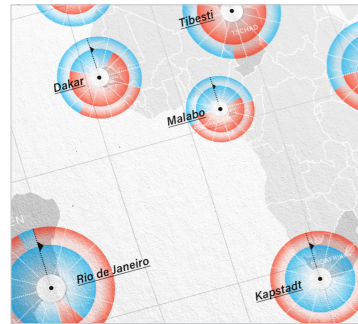


Category: Bachelor and Masters

Project: The diversity of sunlight



What was the challenge?

The phenomenon of the sun has fascinated mankind time and again, influencing their lives for over thousands of years. But how can the diversity of sunlight be visually represented in terms of temporal, spatial and geographical aspects?

Communicating complex knowledge, making the invisible visible and stimulating research became one of the greatest challenges during the process.

What was the solution?

For this extensive topic, data visualizations are a suitable method to illustrate complex processes. Here, knowledge can be acquired through an intensive research itself, generating an own dataset*, at the same time translating research into teaching and communicating on knowledge to others. The result is a poster series in large format (700 x 1.000 mm) with the following content structure:

1st poster :: Heights and depths of the sun
(Illustrations: Determinations of the geographical points of the compass and time changes, as well as the variety of the sun's course).

2nd poster :: Long days – Long nights
(Illustrations: Analyses between daylight, twilight and night times)

3rd poster :: Diversity of the sun
(Illustrations: Similarities and differences of the diversity focused on twilight times, as well the different angles of the sun's course).

What was the effect?

The minimalistic, light and decent visualizations offer space and time for observation, analysis, reflection and research. Repetitive elements (e.g. colors and shapes) made it easier for the viewers to understand and connect the content across the three posters.

Previous exhibitions have shown, that most viewers started to observe familiar places/countries (e.g. home town, holiday locations). Afterwards, they began to compare more places they knew and didn't know. Thereby they went automatically deeper and deeper into the topic. Furthermore, places with unusual and extreme solar situations, quickly became very interesting. The newly gained knowledge helped the viewers to understand better the respective locations and their individual solar conditions and also to recognize the differences between each location. Some visitors mentioned that they explored the topic of the solar conditions (with awareness) for the first time.

* Own generated dataset; based on information provided by the online tool "timeanddate" (Source: www.timeanddate.de)

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