

# Contouring V: parsimony

The principle of parsimony, or Occam's razor, says that explanations should not include assumptions for which there is no

evidence. In contouring, that means that we shouldn't include structures for which the data provide no evidence. This page provides a set of data with a parsimonious

interpretation (B) and two interpretations that aren't parsimonious (C & D) – and that could be used to defraud people who don't look at such maps carefully.

