Show that a license audit by a software company was unfair.

In a license fee audit, a software company counted the high traffic use on ten servers on five successive days. They then 'cherry-picked' the highest usage on each server for different days, and then summed the high values, even though the total exceeded the number of employees in the company. These two flow charts were designed to show the unfairness of this counting procedure.

The first chart shows high volumes on each of the ten servers over five weekdays.

On any given day in that week, the total users logged onto the total servers never exceeded the maximum licenses limit of 250.

The software company, however, took the high values on each server for that week and totaled them, not taking into consideration lower volumes on other servers and other days, resulting in a total 136 users over the license limit of 250 seats.

In contrast, a simple daily count of computers taking each server result straight across the day is not only proper, but appropriate to the spirit and the definition of the license agreement. By contrasting the normal count (shown to the right) with the skewed count as claimed (but not illustrated) by the software company, the convoluted and greedy plot becomes suspect and true intentions are revealed.