On a linear scale, human history, whether written history or genus Homo, is reduced to invisibility, and most of the space is taken up by pre-Earth Cosmic history, for which little information is available.

A logarithmic scale is badly distorted (it looks like all Cosmic history before Earth formed was briefer than from Columbus to World War II), and there can be no zero on the horizontal scale.

Neither a linear scale nor a logarithmic scale is satisfactory for portraying all of history. The solution adopted in ChronoZoom is to use 12 linear time lines, each covering about 10% of the previous one, as shown in this index. A problem is that details are available only for recent times.