The Ph.D. Research Process

University of Michigan

ME599-009 | Winter 2012



09: Graphics and visualizations

March 23, 2012

Announcements



-

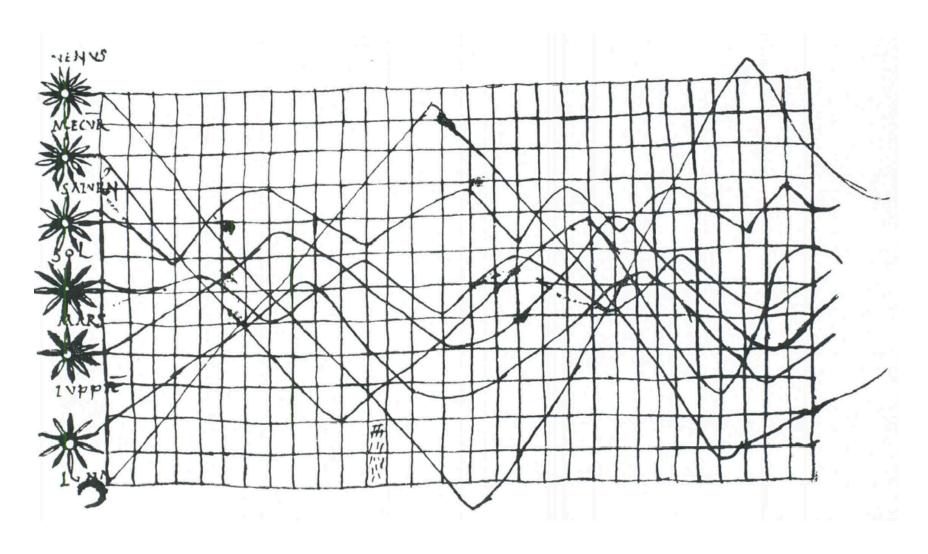
Goals for today



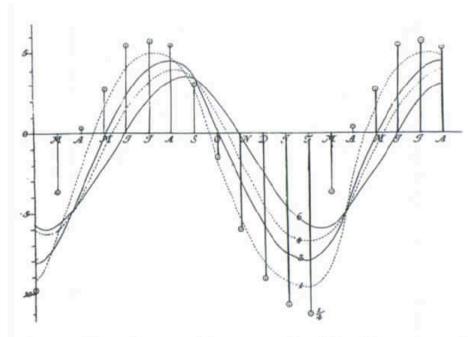
- Discuss how visual information is organized to provide:
 - Maximum information content
 - Minimum work for the reader
- Talk about how to make good figures:
 - Discuss important elements (color, alignment, grouping, text, etc.)
 - Study examples in the context of publications, proposals, and presentation slides (more next week)
- → Not so many rules, but lots of guidelines
- Have some time for peer-review of draft proposal aims

The first plot ever?









J. H. Lambert, Pyrometrie (Berlin, 1779).

Radiation Dose Chart

explosion and meltdown (50 Sv)

Sources:

http://mitnse.com/

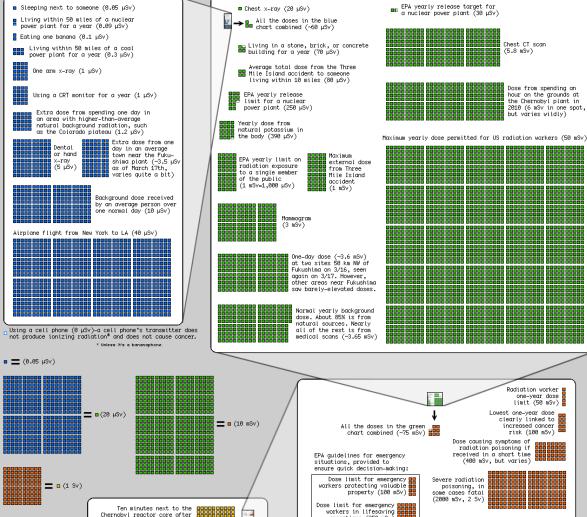
http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/cfr/part020/ www.nema.ne.gov/technological/dose-limits.html

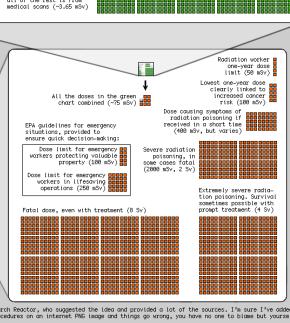
http://www.bnl.gov/bnlweb/PDF/03SER/Chapter_8.pdf http://dels-old.nas.edu/dels/rpt_briefs/rerf_final.pdf http://people.reed.edu/~emcmanis/radiation.html http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sievert

http://www.deq.idaho.gov/inl_oversight/radiation/dose_calculator.cfm http://www.deq.idaho.gov/inl_oversight/radiation/radiation_guide.cfm

http://blog.vornaskotti.com/2010/07/15/into-the-zone-chernobyl-pripyat/ http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/fzact-sheets/tritium-radiation-fs.html http://www.mext.go.jp/component/a_menu/other/detail/__icsFiles/afieldfile/2011/03/18/1303727_1716.pdf

This is a chart of the ionizing radiation dose a person can absorb from various sources. The unit for absorbed dose is "sievert" (Sv), and measures the effect a dose of radiation will have on the cells of the body. One sievert (all at once) will make you sick, and too many more will kill you, but we safely absorb small amounts of natural radiation daily. Note: The same number of sieverts absorbed in a shorter time will generally cause more damage, but your unlative long-term dose plays a big role in things like cancer risk.







A figure should

M

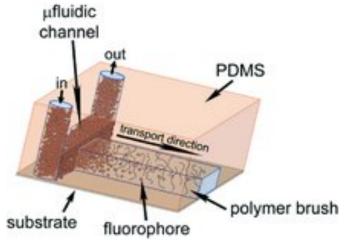
- Make only one point
 - → As a distinct part of the whole story
- Be self-explanatory and easy to read
 - → We can skim the paper/proposal by looking at the figures
- Use "perceptual tasks that rank high in efficiency and accuracy"
- Use the chosen visual elements efficiently
- Be suitable for use on a presentation slide
 - → Think about how you would layer the information as you talk

Not-so-good figures

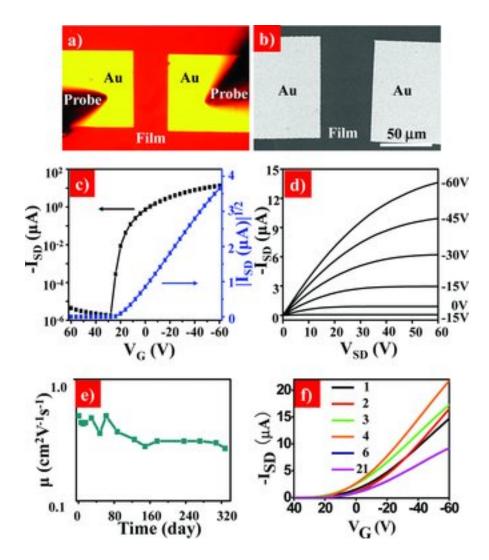


Keywords:

surface modification; polymeric materials; microcon

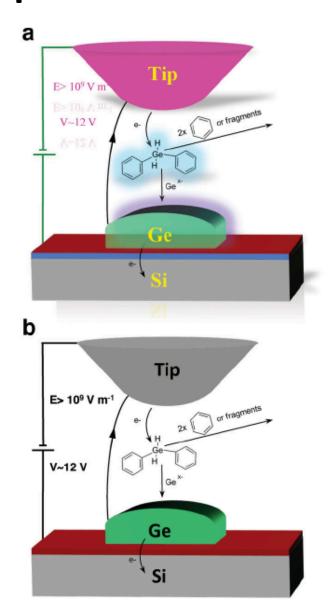


Patterned polymer brushes are shown to direct the rapidly across the patterned regions, but not on the covers the patterns and bare regions and serves to locations on the substrate is demonstrated.



Improvement





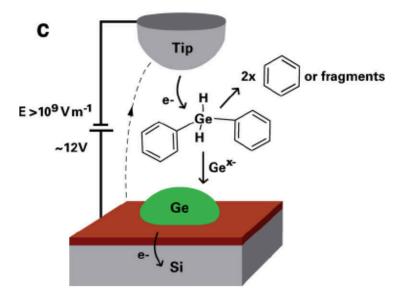
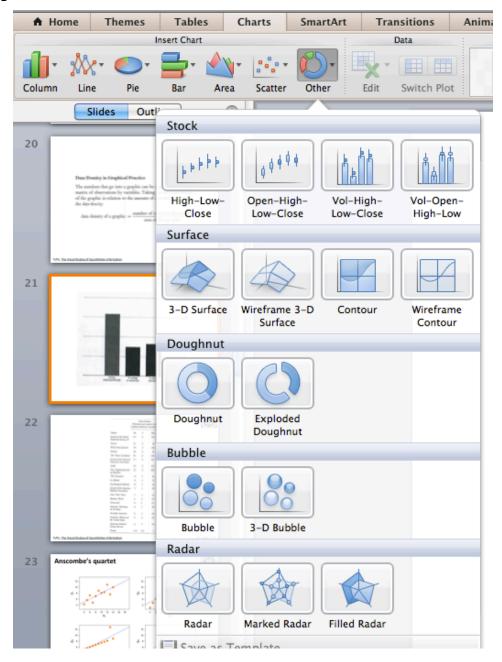


Figure 4. a) A disorganized science graphic, with questionable use of shadows, glows, and other software effects. The text is illegible due to low value contrast. b) A clearer version of (a) designed by one of the authors (M.R). Reproduced with permission. [18] c) A version of (b) improved by one of the authors (K.C.). In this redesign, the molecular reaction has been enlarged for greater legibility. Fewer type sizes are used, and components are aligned on an implied grid.

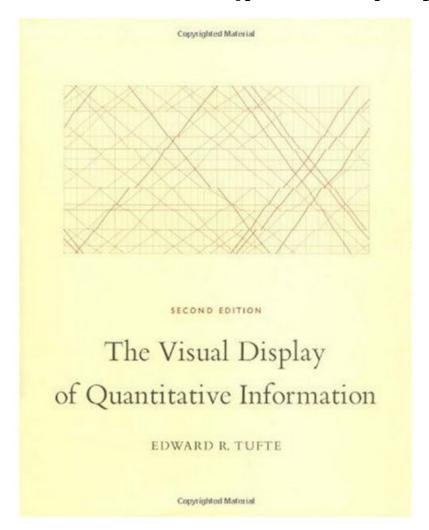
Too many options!

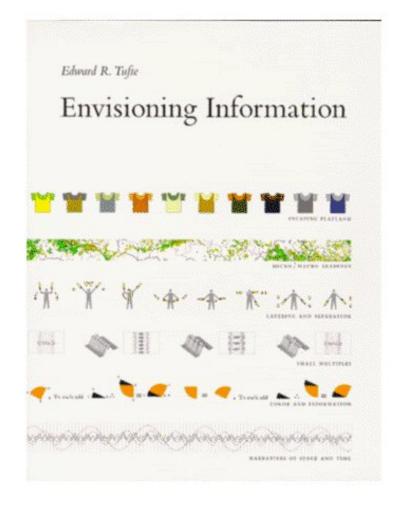




Edward Tufte (philosophy of displaying info)







Bang Wong (relevant to scientific papers)

HOME | COVER ARTWORK | FIGURES | ANIMATIONS | WEB & GRAPHIC DESIGN

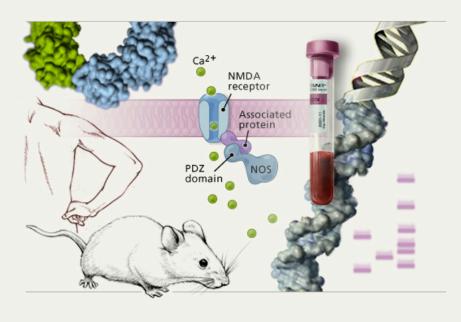




Monthly column in Nature Methods http://www.nature.com/nmeth/index.html

Visual Expression of Scientific Concepts

ClearScience combines high-level scientific knowledge with artistic expertise to produce effective communications in science. We help our clients clearly and aesthetically express complex scientific ideas.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We appreciate your interest in working with us but regrettably we are unable to accept new commissions at this time.

AUGUST 2010

ABOUT CS

Points of View, a monthly column in Nature Methods by Bang Wong on the design of scientific figures and data visualizations.

IULY 2010

Bang Wong elected to the Board of Governors of the Association of Medical Illustrators.

MARCH 2010

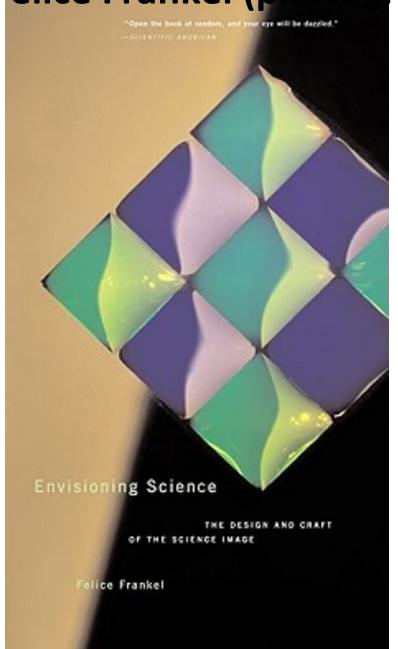
Keynote by Bang Wong for 2010 Visualizing Biological Data Workshop in Heidelberg Germany. The presentation was also the EMBO Science & Society lecture.

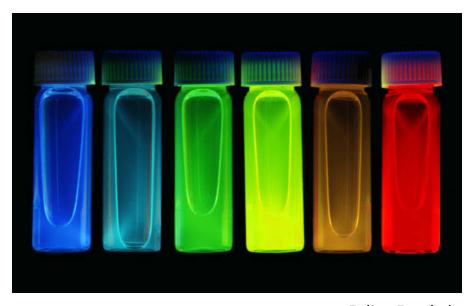
DECEMBER 2009

ClearScience works with Carol Greider to create slides for her Nobel Lecture on telomerase and the consequences of telomere dysfunction.

Felice Frankel (photography)



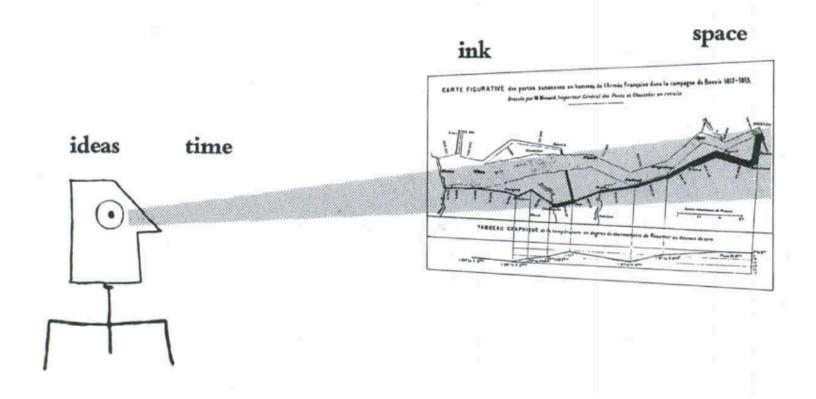




Felice Frankel



Graphical excellence is that which gives to the viewer the greatest number of ideas in the shortest time with the least ink in the smallest space.



Tufte's compositional principles good figures should



- Have properly chosen format and design
- Use words, numbers, and drawing together
- Reflect a balance, a proportion, a sense of relevant scale
- Display an accessible complexity of detail
- Have a story to tell about the data
- Be drawn in a professional manner
- Avoid content-free decoration ("chartjunk")



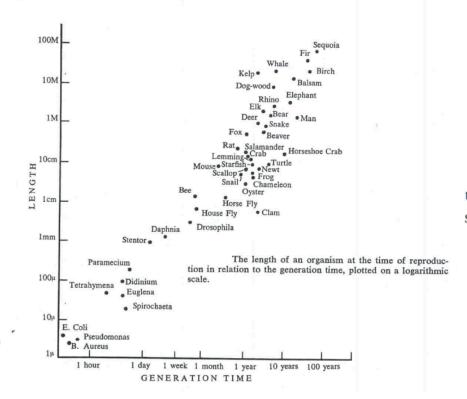
Data-ink ratio	=	total ink used to print the graphic
÷	=	proportion of a graphic's ink devoted to the non-redundant display of data-information

data-ink

without loss of data-information.

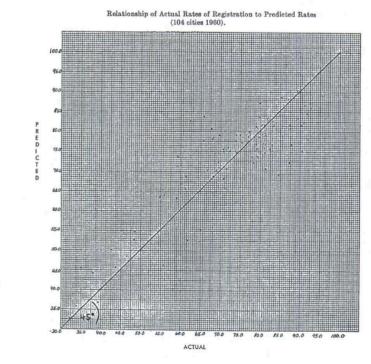
= 1.0 - proportion of a graphic that can be erased

Most of the ink in this graphic is data-ink (the dots and labels on the diagonal), with perhaps 10-20 percent non-data-ink (the grid ticks and the frame):



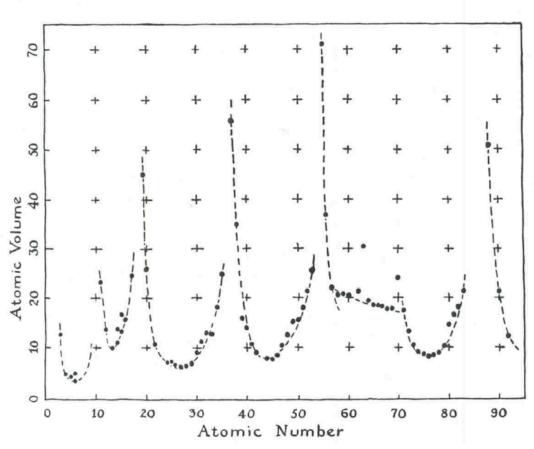


In this display with nearly all its ink devoted to matters other than data, the grid sea overwhelms the numbers (the faint points scattered about the diagonal):





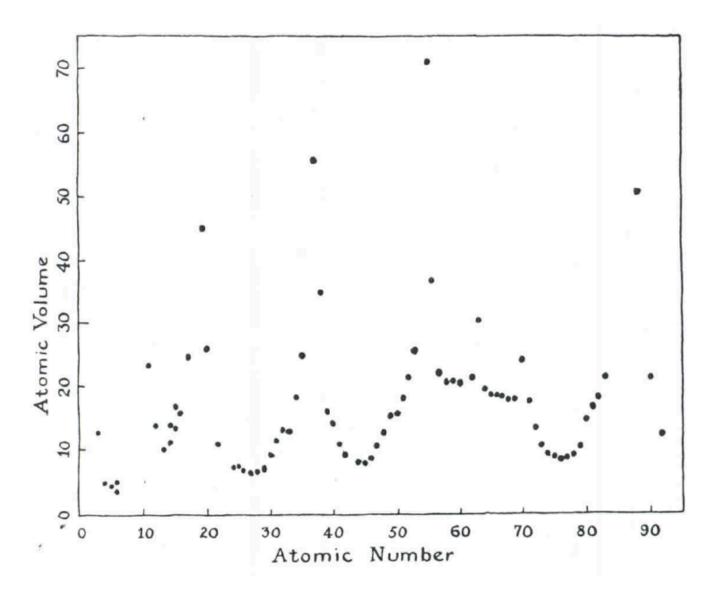
The next graphic, drawn by the distinguished science illustrator Roger Hayward, shows the periodicity of properties of chemical elements, exemplified by atomic volume as a function of atomic number. The data-ink ratio is less than 0.6, lowered because the 76 data points and the reference curves are obscured by the 63 dark grid marks arrayed over the data plane like a precision marching band of 63 mosquitoes:



Tufte, The Visual Display of Quantitative Information.

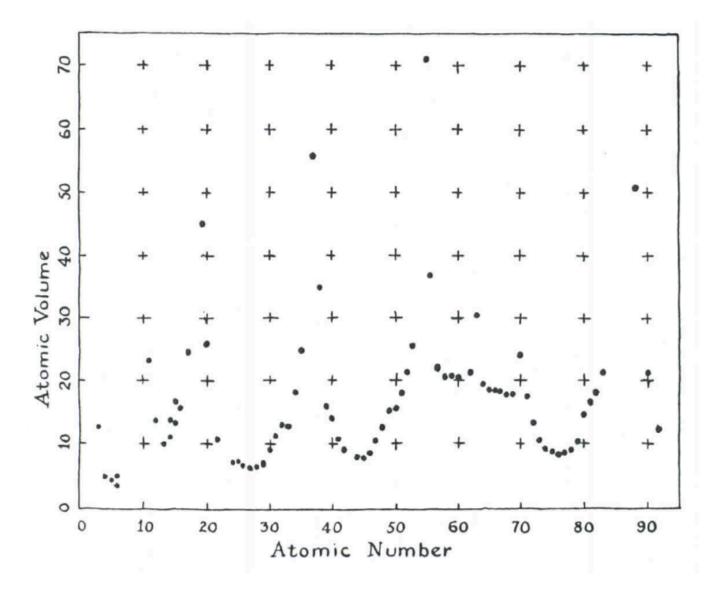
No grid, no guides





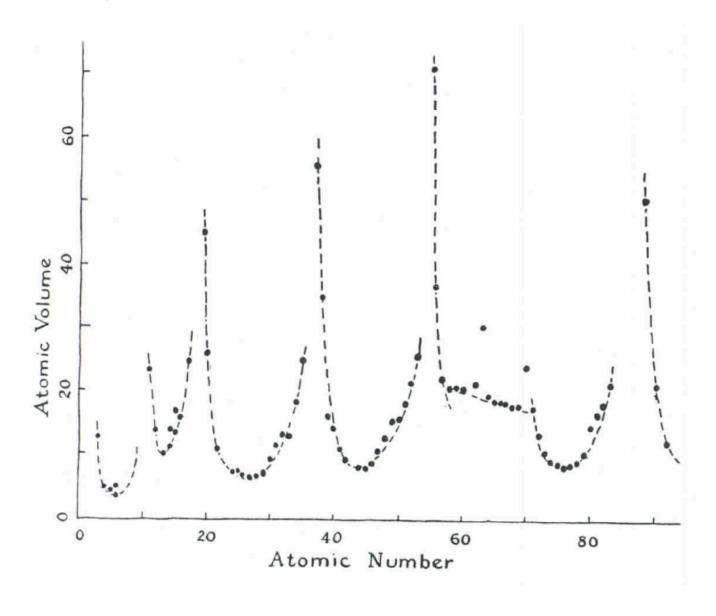
Grid, no guides





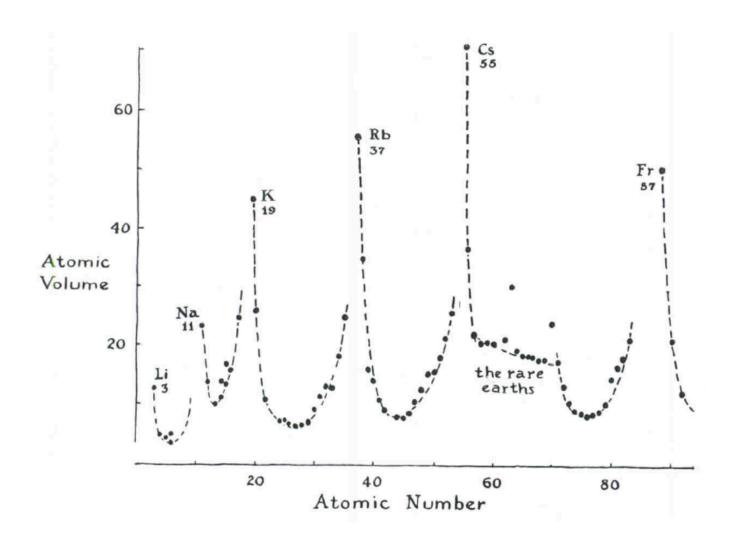
Guides, no grid





A bit more







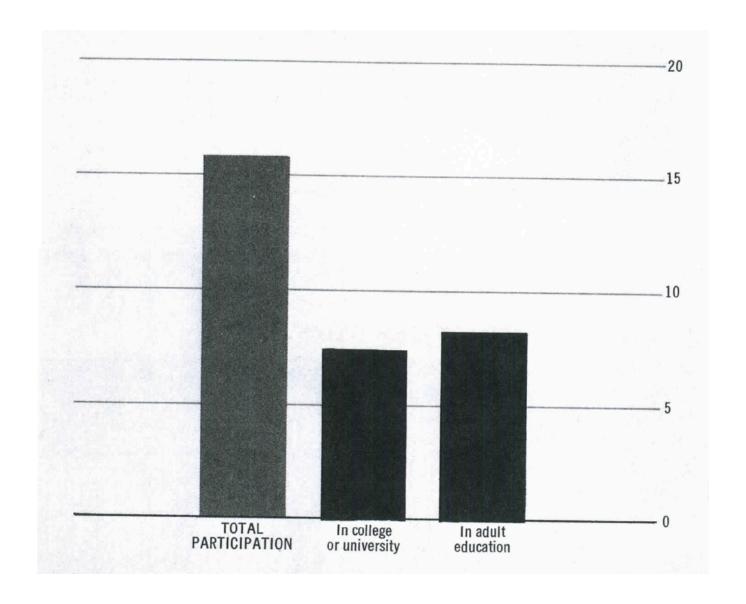
Data Density in Graphical Practice

The numbers that go into a graphic can be organized into a data matrix of observations by variables. Taking into account the size of the graphic in relation to the amount of data displayed yields the data density:

data density of a graphic
$$=$$
 $\frac{\text{number of entries in data matrix}}{\text{area of data graphic}}$

Is this enough data for a figure?

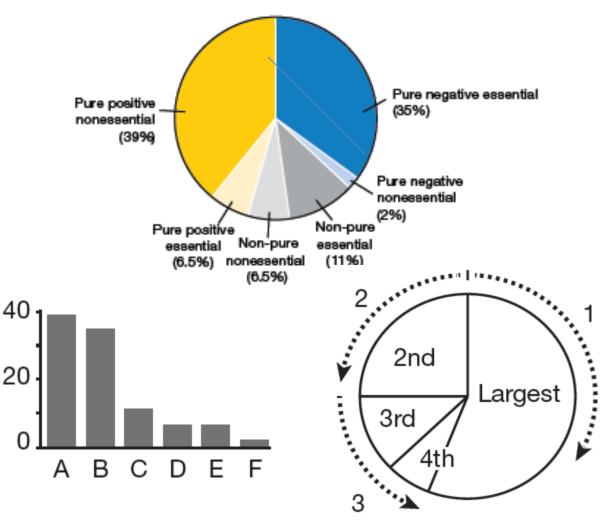




Tufte: "Given their low data density and failure to order numbers along a visual dimension, pie charts should never be

M

used"



But, if a simple graphic is necessary pay attention to how you organize the data

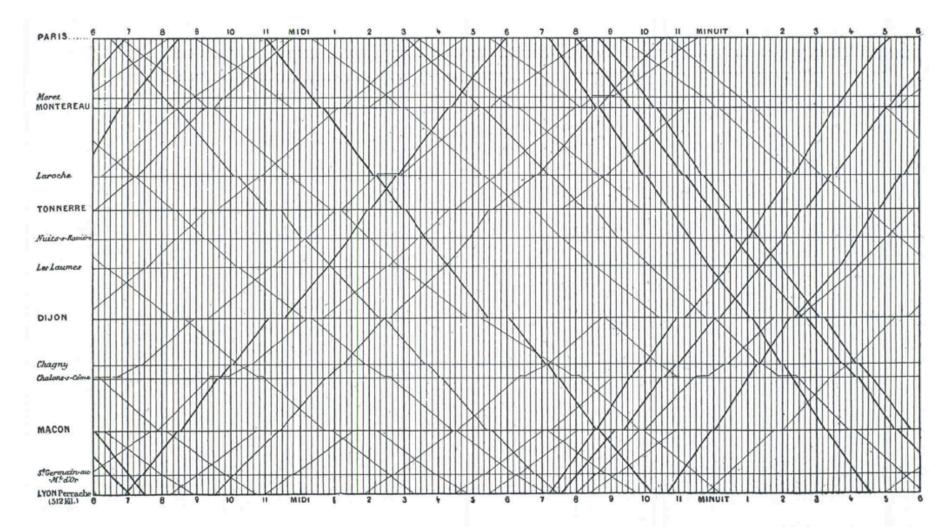
Data Density (Numbers per square inch) median minimum maximum



			maximum
Nature	48	3	362
Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, B	27	4	115
Science	21	5	44
Wall Street Journal	19	3	154
Fortune	18	5	31
The Times (London)	18	2	122
Journal of the American Statistical Association	17	4	167
Asahi	13	2	113
New England Journal of Medicine	12	3	923
The Economist	9	1	51
Le Monde	8	1	17
Psychological Bulletin	8	1	74
Journal of the American Medical Association	7	1	39
New York Times	7	1	13
Business Week	6	2	12
Newsweek	6	1	13
Annuaire Statistique de la France	6	1	25
Scientific American	5	1	69
Statistical Abstract of the United States	5	2	23
American Political Science Review	2	1	10
Pravda	0.2	0.1	1

Example of high a data density figure with useful gridlines



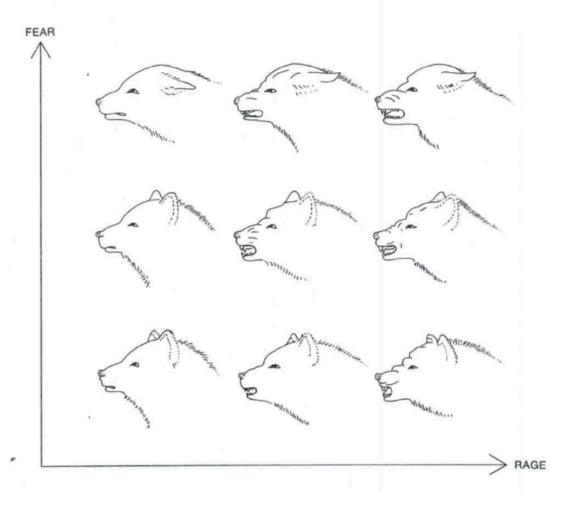


E. J. Marey, La Méthode Graphique (Paris, 1885), p. 20. The method is attributed to the French engineer, Ibry.

Relating variables using pictures



Finally, two relational designs of a different sort—wherein the data points are themselves data. Here the effect of two variables interacting is portrayed by the faces on the plotting field:



Configurations

Order = quality, purity, alignment
Quantity = #/volume

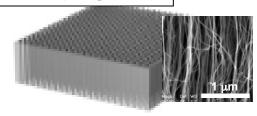
individual

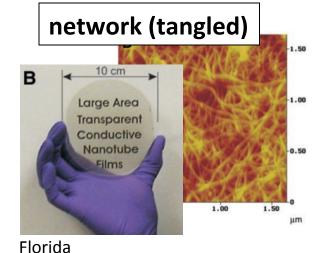
(Ti/Au)

d=100-200 µm

Stanford, ETH

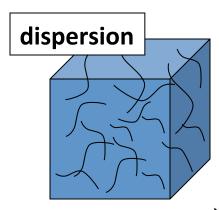
forest (aligned)





yarn/sheet

Nanocomp



≫

few

Quantity [#/vol]

many

Elements of figure composition and style

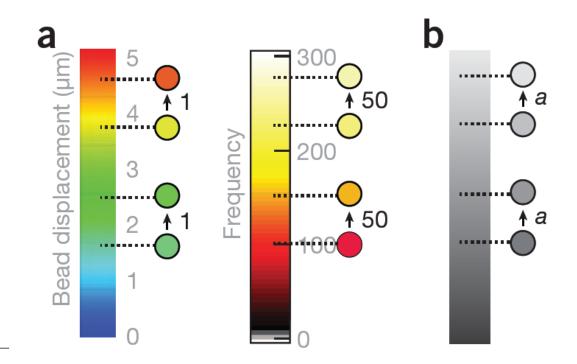


- Color coding
- Text
- Lines, axes, and arrows
- Alignment and grouping
- Choice of shape
- Drawings / images
- Negative space!

Color transitions are not perceived equally

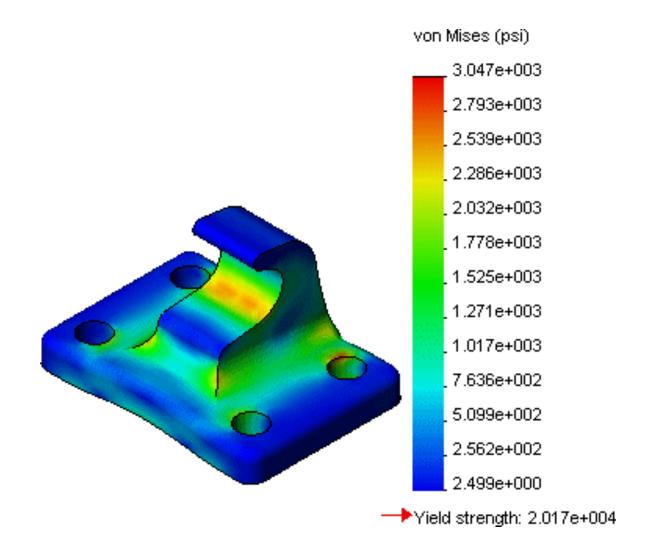


Figure 2 | Color is not ideal for presenting quantitative data. (a) Shifts in color scales (circles) are not visually commensurate with change in value. Reprinted from *Nature Methods*^{2,5}. (b) A gradation from 10–90% black produces even transitions.



This is really relevant to ME





Choosing color scales



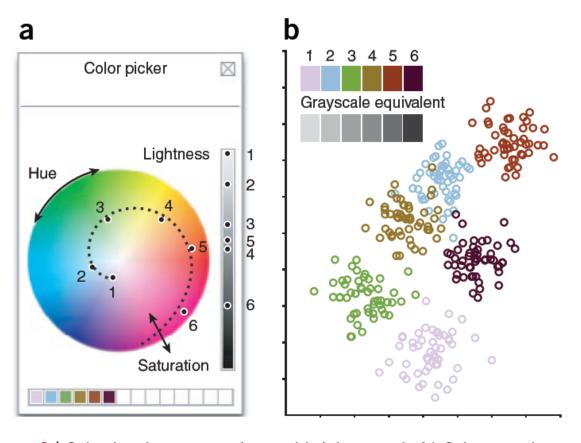


Figure 2 | Color has hue, saturation and brightness. (a,b) Colors can be tuned using a color picker (a). Spiraling through hue and saturation while varying lightness can generate a discernible color set distinguishable even in grayscale (points labeled 1–6).

Perception of color is based on proximity and surroundings



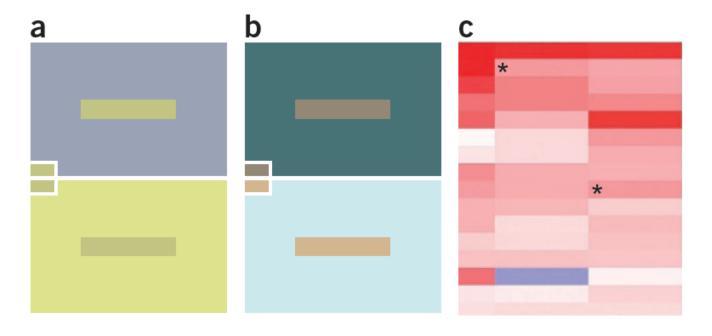


Figure 1 | Perception of color can vary. (a,b) The same color can look different (a), and different colors can appear to be nearly the same by changing the background color $(b)^1$. (c) The rectangles in the heat map indicated by the asterisks (*) are the same color but appear to be different.

Encoding values: make it easy for the reader



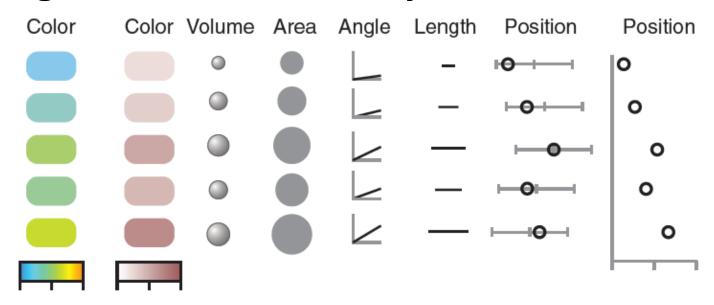


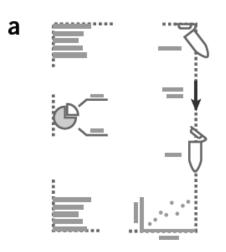
Table 1 | Elementary perceptual tasks

Rank	Aspect to compare
1	Positions on a common scale
2	Positions on the same but nonaligned scales
3	Lengths
4	Angles, slopes
5	Area
6	Volume, color saturation
7	Color hue

Tasks are ordered from most to least accurate. Information adapted from ref. 2.

Alignment





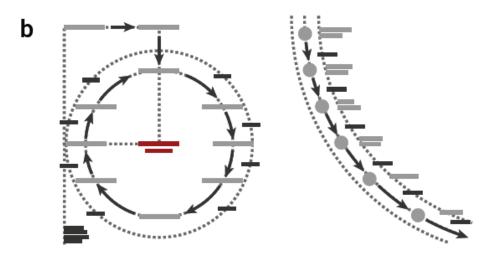
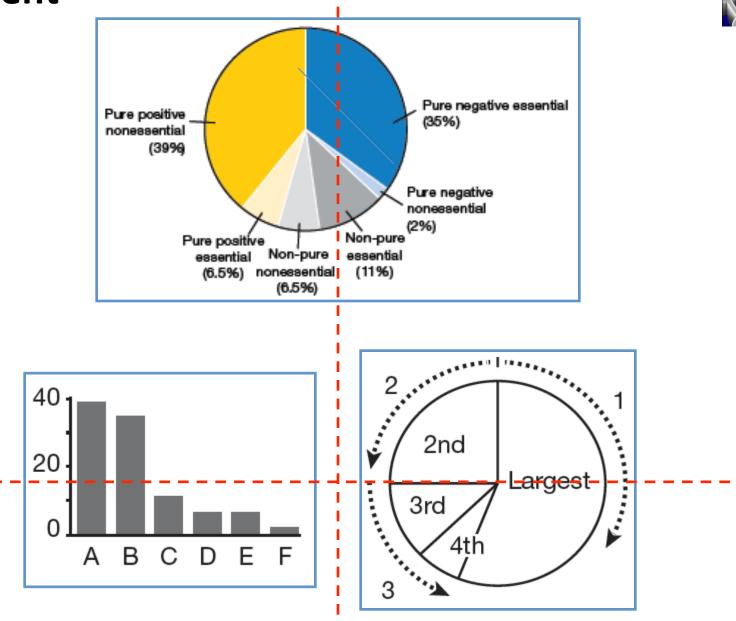


Figure 2 | Alignment. (a) Graphics and text used as vertices and edges of geometric shapes. (b) Geometric and curvilinear shapes used as flexible guides to align content.

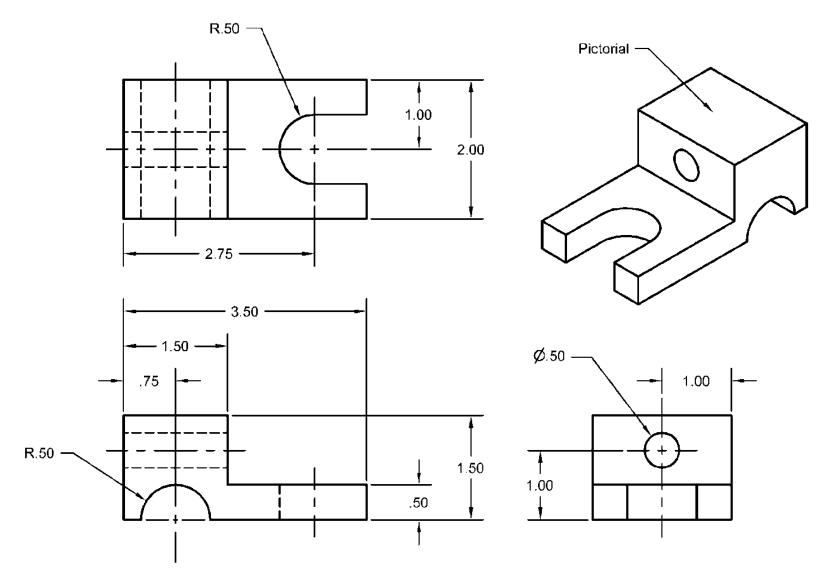
Alignment





Principles of alignment in mechanical drawings

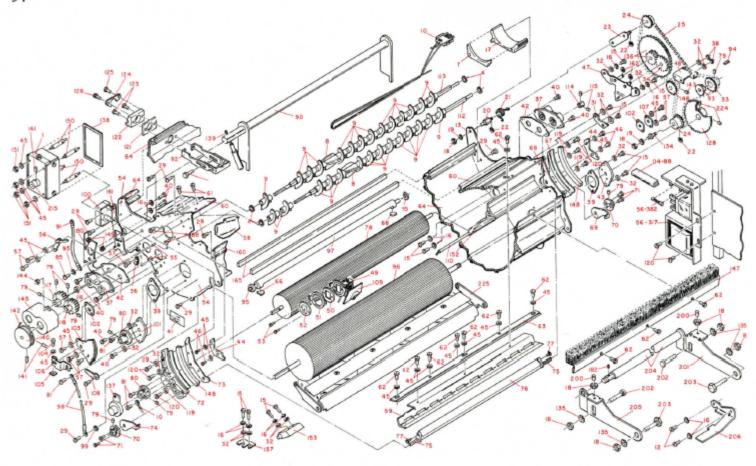




Color and alignment



54 ENVISIONING INFORMATION



Similarly, color effortlessly differentiates between annotation and annotated, in this skillful industrial-strength diagram separating 300 small parts and their identifying numbers.

IBM Series III Copier | Duplicator, Adjustment Parts Manual (Boulder, Colorado, 1976), p. 101. Drawn by Gary E. Graham.

Gestalt principles: grouping and similarity



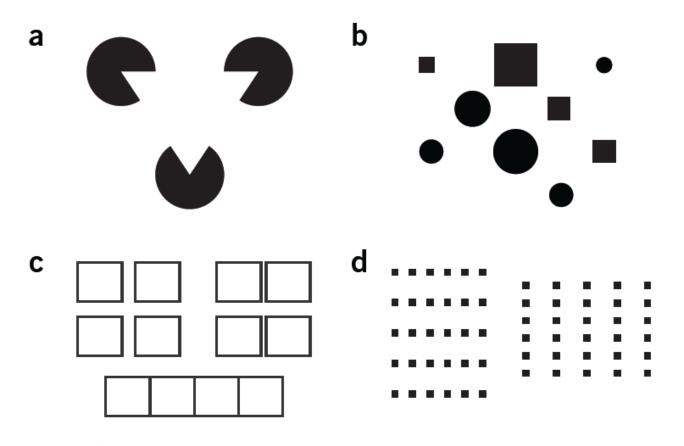
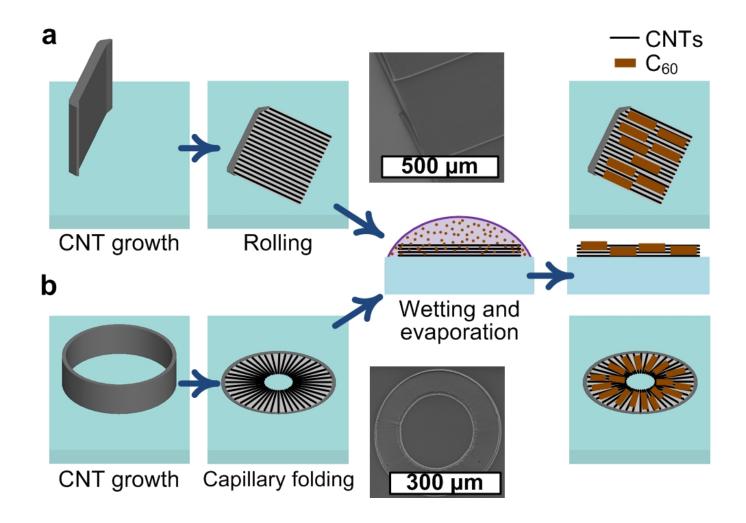
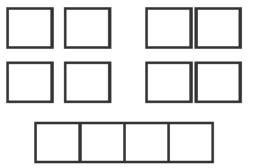


Figure 1 | Gestalt principles. (a) An illustration of subjective contour.

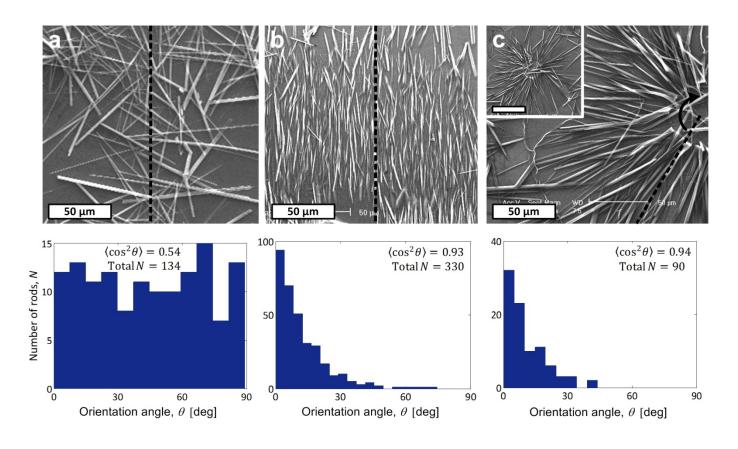
(b) Similar objects are visually grouped. (c) Objects placed close to one another are seen as going together. (d) Relative proximity elicits vertical or horizontal correlations between objects.

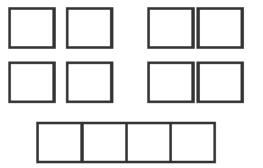




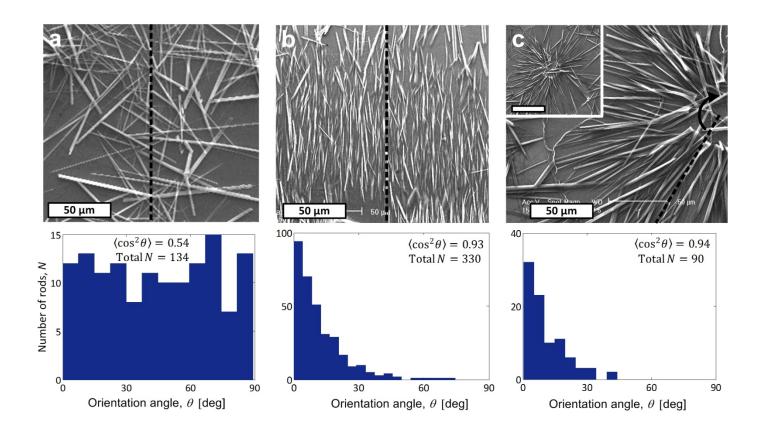




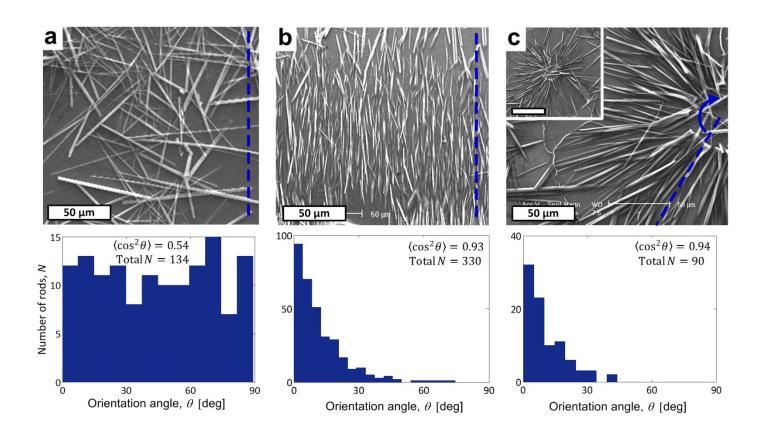




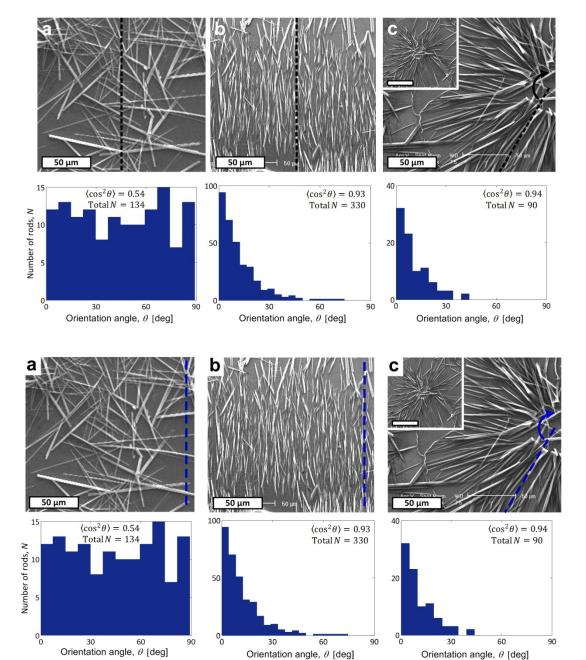












original

new

A.J. Hart | 45

Published figure (B&W)



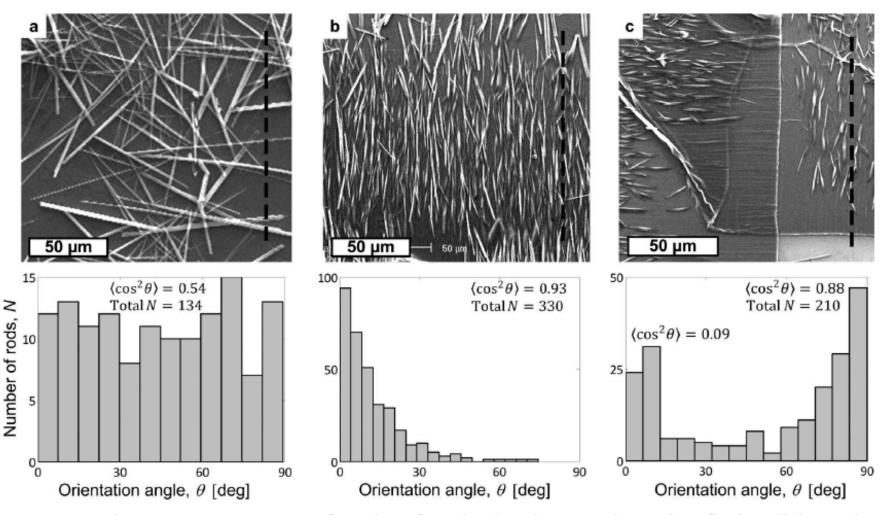


Figure 2. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images after synthesis of C₆₀ rods on bare silicon (a), unidirectional CNT film (b), and bidirectional CNT film (c). Accompanying histograms are below each SEM, showing distribution of rod orientation relative to axis indicated by black dashed lines.

Typography (text)



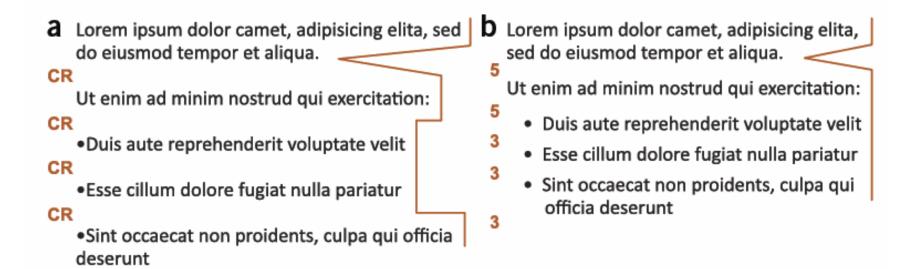
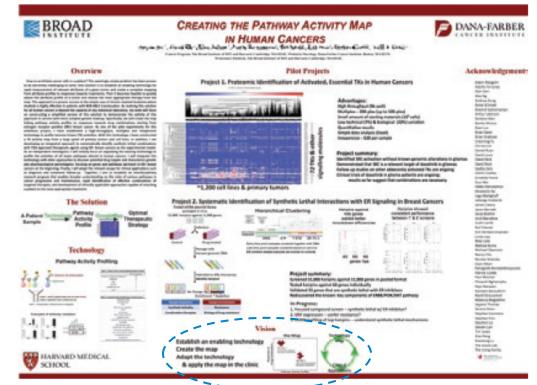


Figure 2 | Spacing can reveal structure and give meaning to text. (a) Uniform carriage return (CR) spacing is incongruous with hierarchical content. (b) Relative spacing using paragraph formatting expresses relationships in the text. Numbers are 'space after' values given in point sizes.

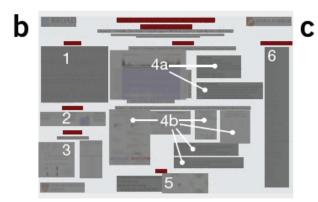
Whitespace is "the lungs of a good design"

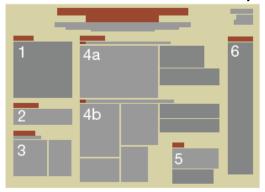


a



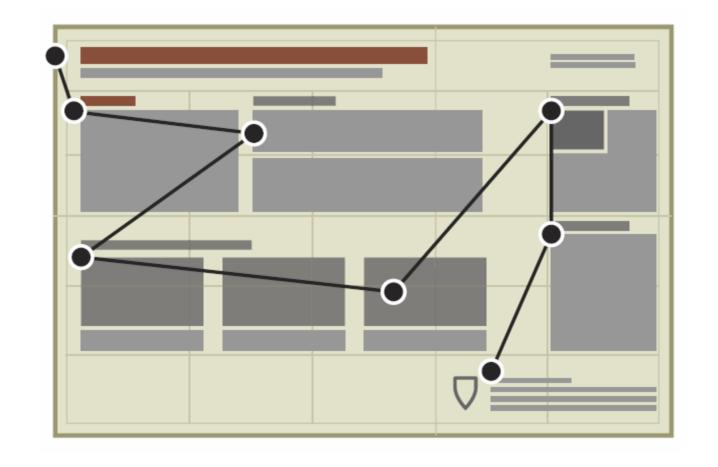
Is this the best place for the conclusion?





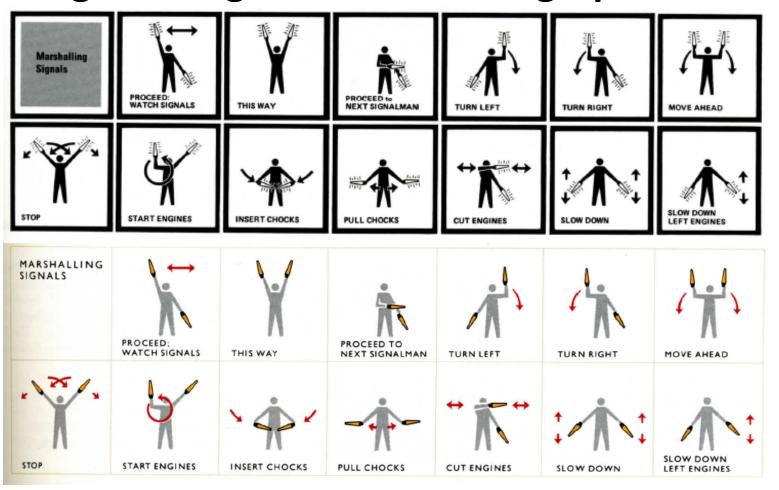






Putting it all together in an "infographic"





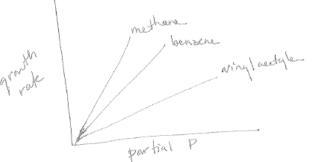
- Avoid competition between visual elements
- Remove unnecessary annotation
- Use color to make important points

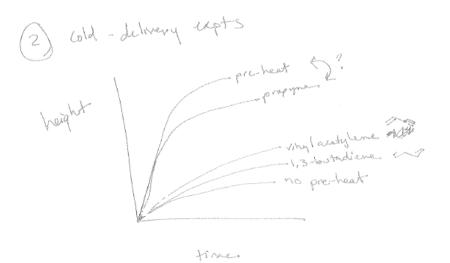
How to start? Maybe sketch.



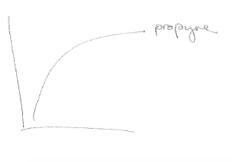








Sketching figures can also help design experiments!



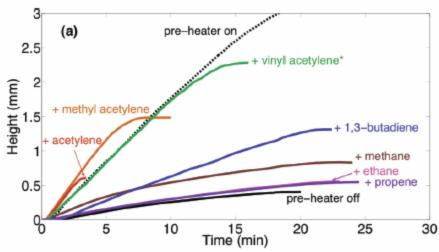
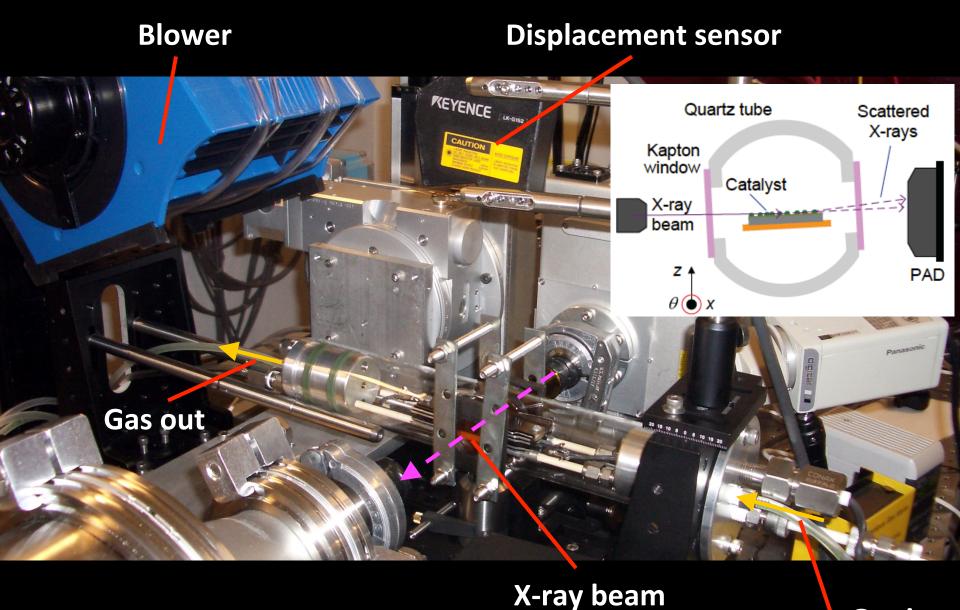


Figure 3. Effects of precursor chemical structure on CNT growth kinetics. In all experiments, standard growth gases $(C_2H_4/H_2 =$ 120/310 sccm) were delivered without preheating in addition to

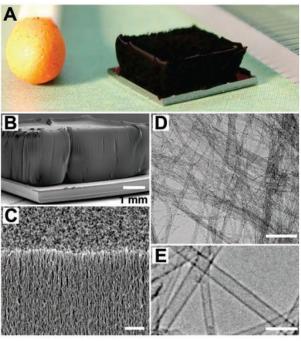
Images: annotations and visual cues



Gas in

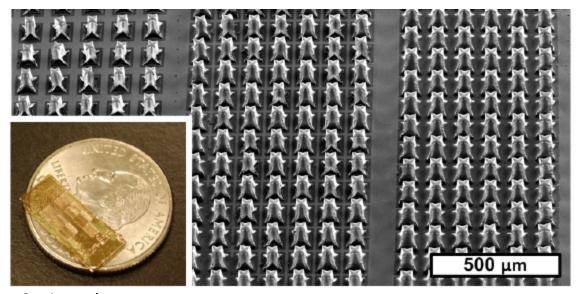
Showing practical scales





Hata et al.

Fig. 1. SWNT forest grown with water-assisted CVD. (A) Picture of a 2.5-mm-tall SWNT forest on a 7-mm by 7-mm silicon wafer. A matchstick on the left and ruler with millimeter markings on the right is for size reference. (B) Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) image of the same SWNT forest. Scale bar, 1 mm. (C) SEM image of the SWNT forest ledge. Scale bar, 1 μ m. (D) Low-resolution TEM image of the nanotubes. Scale bar, 100 nm. (E) High-resolution TEM image of the SWNTs. Scale bar, 5 nm.



Copic et al.

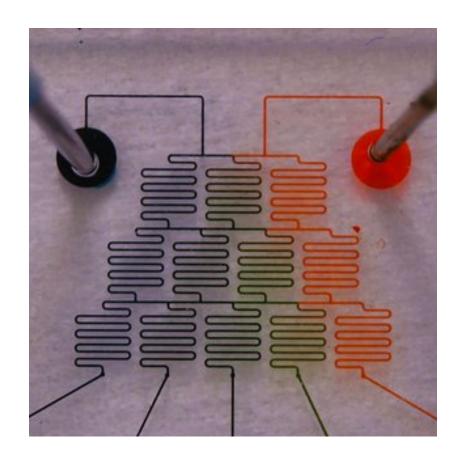
Showing scale and function





Showing function with color



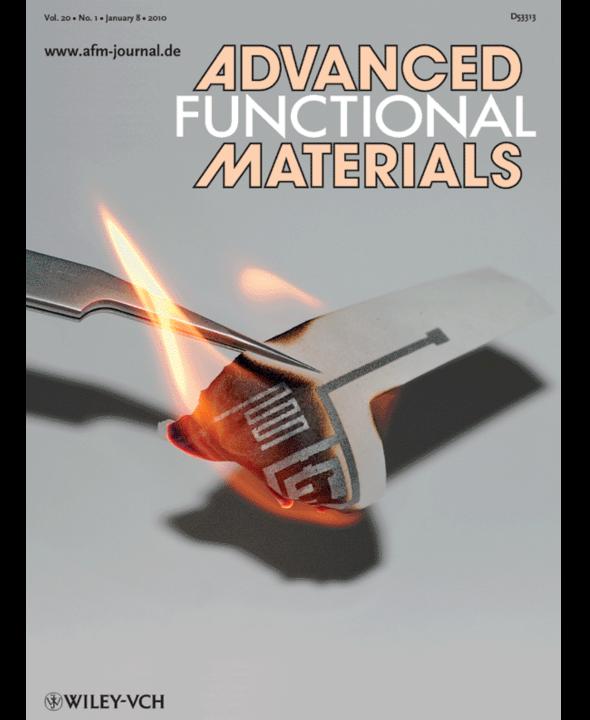


Using microfluidic devices and a substrate annealing gradient system large arrays of organic thin-film transistors (OTFTs) are fabricated from poly(didodecylquaterthiophene-alt-didodecylbithiazole).

http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/adma.201003815/abstract

Lightweight and flexible printed circuit boards (PCBs) have been produced by micropatterning metal on paper substrates, as reported by Siegel et al. on page 28. Paperbased electronic devices can be folded and creased repeatedly, shaped to form threedimensional structures, integrated with paper-based microfluidic devices, and disposed of by flame (as shown in the cover image).

http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/adfm.200990114/abstract



The ToC figure (= a visual abstract, a carrot)

Population Growth Dynamics of Carbon Nanotubes

Mostafa Bedewy, Eric R. Meshot, Michael J. Reinker, and A. John Hart*

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Section:

Surface Chemistry and Colloids

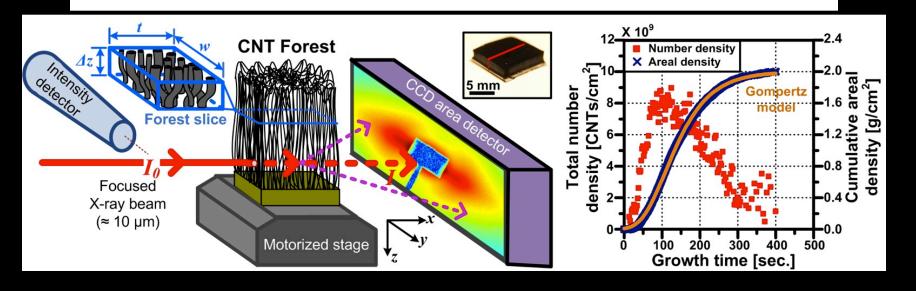
Abstract

Supporting Info

Figures

Citing Articles

PDF w/ Links [1542 KB]



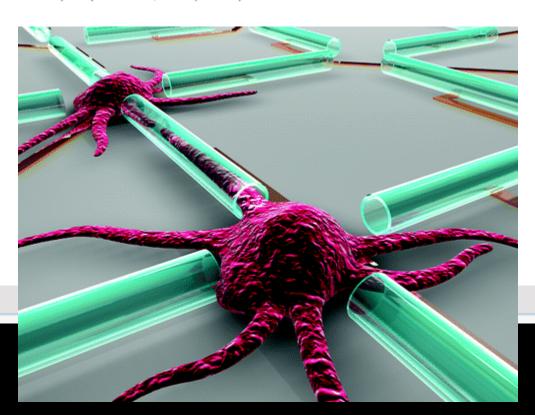
Understanding the population growth behavior of filamentary nanostructures, such as carbon nanotubes (CNTs), is hampered by the lack of characterization techniques capable of probing statistical variations with high spatial resolution. We present a comprehensive methodology for studying the population growth dynamics of vertically aligned CNT forests, utilizing high-resolution spatial mapping of synchrotron X-ray scattering and attenuation, along with real-time height kinetics. We map the CNT alignment and dimensions within CNT forests, revealing broadening and focusing of size distributions during different stages of the process. Then, we calculate the number density and mass density of the CNT population versus time, which are true measures of the reaction kinetics. We find that the mass-based kinetics of a CNT population is accurately represented by the S-shaped Gompertz model of population growth, although the forest height and CNT length kinetics are essentially linear. Competition between catalyst activation and deactivation govern the rapid initial acceleration and slow decay of the CNT number density. The maximum CNT density (i.e., the overall catalyst activity) is limited by gas-phase reactions and catalyst-surface interactions, which collectively exhibit autocatalytic behavior. Thus, we propose a comprehensive picture of CNT population growth which combines both chemical and mechanical cooperation. Our findings are relevant to both bulk and substrate-based CNT synthesis methods and provide general insights into the self-assembly and collective growth of filamentary nanostructures.

Keywords: carbon nanotubes; kinetics; filaments; X-ray; characterization; population; chemical vapor deposition; catalyst

Semiconductor Nanomembrane Tubes: Three-Dimensional Confinement for Controlled Neurite Outgrowth

Minrui Yu, Yu Huang, Jason Ballweg, Hyuncheol Shin, Minghuang Huang, Donald E. Savage, Max G. Lagally, Erik W. Dent, Robert H. Blick, and Justin C. Williams

Publication Date (Web): March 2, 2011 (Article)



Abstract

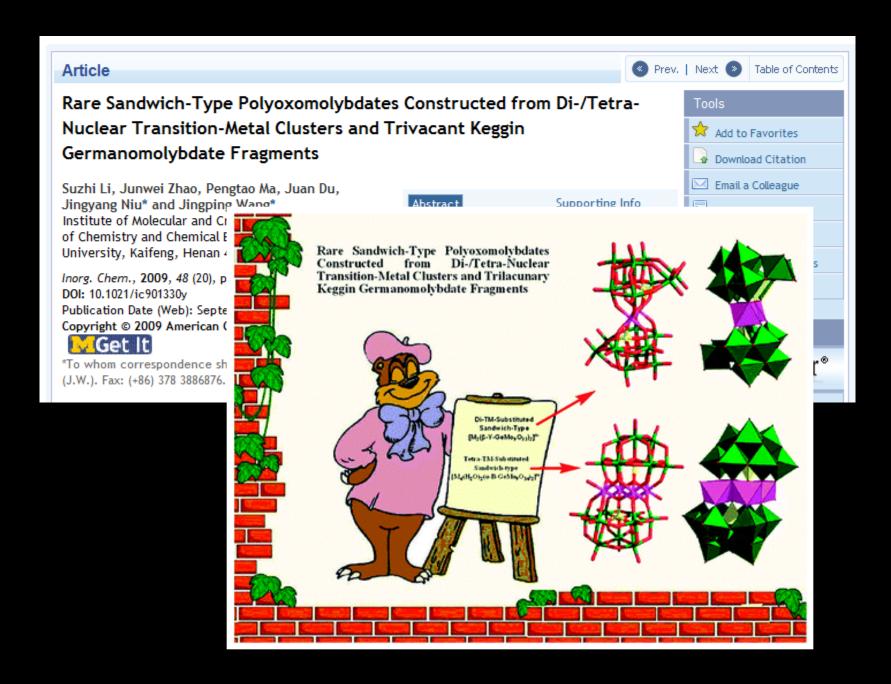












Sun-Believable Solar Paint. A

Transformative One-Step Approach for

Designing Nanocrystalline Sola

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That if all it takes is a coat of paint to convert light energy into electricity? That is the challenge that needs to be addressed if we desire to have a transformative photovoltaic technology and meet future energy needs. 1-2 In recent years semiconductor nanocrystal or quantum-dot-based solar cells have drawn significant attention as viable candidates for boosting the energy conversion efficiency beyond the traditional Shockley and Queisser limit of 32% for 51-based solar cells. 3-12

Because of the extremely small size of semic on ductor quantum dots and high absorption cross section, it is possible to capture nearly all of the incident solar light in the visible region with an extremely thin layer of semiconductor materials. These heterojunction semiconductor solar cells, often referred as ETA (extremely thin absorber) cells, offer new opportunities to devel op relatively inexpensive solar cells. 13,14 One such example utilizes a PbS and TiOheterojunction and is reported to exhibit a power conversion efficiency of 5.1%.15 Similarly, Sb₂S₃-based ETA solar cells have delivered efficiencies greater than 5%.13,16,17 These recent developments of photoinduced charge separation using semiconductor nanocrystal-based assemblies and efforts to utilize them in solar cells paves the way to propose transformative research efforts.

The other type of quantum dot solar cell employs metal chalcogenide semiconductors as sensitizers which, upon excitation, inject electrons into large band gap semiconductors such as TiO₂. The sulfide/polysulfide red ox couple, which scavenges holes from the photoanode, is regenerated at the counter electrode. The photoelectrochemical cells employing CdS and CdSe have been widely studied, and power conversion efficiency in the 3-4% range is often

ABSTRACT



A transformative approach is required to meet the detechnology. By making use of recent advances in semiconow developed a one-cost solar paint for designing of paste consisting of CdS, CdSe, and TiO₂ semiconductor in to conducting glass surface and annealed at 473 K. Ti semiconductor film electrodes was evaluated in a pl graphene—Cu₂S counter electrode and sulfide/polysulf as high as 600 mV and short circuit current of 3.1 mA/cm TiO₂ electrodes. A power conventional paint it trust Whereas further improvements are necessary to devel state devices, this initial effort to prepare solar paint of and economically viable next generation solar cells.

KEYWORDS: solar cells - photoconversion - solar nanocrystals - photoelectrochemistry - metal chall

achieved. ^{14—16,18—22} A recent study that overcomes the redox limitation at the counter electrode by using Cu₂S/reduced graphene oxide has produced efficiency as high as 4.4%²² Previous work in our laboratory has provided understanding of the photoinduced charge transfer processes in semiconductor quantum dots and their utilization insemiconductor-sensitized solar cells (Scheme 1).^{21—25}

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Figures in proposals

- To <u>sell</u> the main idea
- To <u>summarize</u> the background
- To show preliminary results
- To show your proposed methods/experiments
- To explain how the key pieces fit together
 - Team
 - Tasks
 - Time

The main idea in words



Project Summary

Research Objectives: This research will seek to enable a manufacturing technology for continuous largescale production of aligned carbon nanotube (CNT) films by chemical vapor deposition (CVD), and for integration of these films in new hybrid material architectures including structural composites. Phase one will undertake a fundamental study of CNT forest nucleation and growth from a film of metal catalyst nanoparticles on a substrate. Limiting mechanisms of catalyst activation and lifetime will be determined by conducting repeated CNT growth, film delamination, catalyst treatment, and microscopy and surface analysis experiments on centimeter-scale substrates. We will utilize our novel heated platform reactor with *in situ* monitoring of the growth kinetics and CNT quality for these tests. In phase two, a meter-scale benchtop "ring" growth apparatus will be designed and built, facilitating rapid growth of CNT films on a continuously recirculating substrate. A comprehensive set of preliminary studies in CNT growth and characterization, the interdisciplinary expertise of the research team, and strong industrial interest and support, prepares us for focused progress toward the program objectives within the proposed timeline.

CNT forests will be incorporated in a "nanostitched" hybrid composite architecture, which is being developed with broad aerospace industry support through MIT's Nano-Engineered Composite Structures (NECST) Consortium. NECST was been formed as a collaboration among the PI and co-PIs during the PI's postdoctoral work at MIT. The mechanical (e.g., toughness, strength), thermal, and electrical properties of these larger-scale structures will be evaluated using standard tests, and will be related to the characteristics of the embedded CNT layers and the reaction parameters.

The main idea in pictures



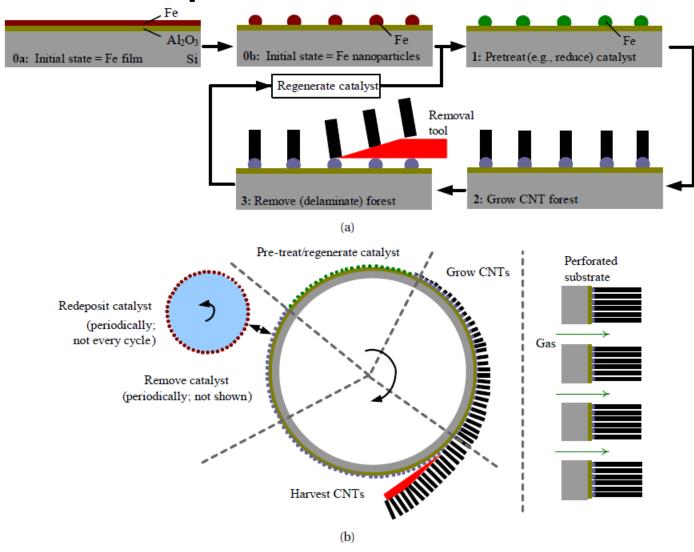


Figure 1. Proposed investigation of continuous manufacturing of CNT films: (a) schematic of batch-style study of consecutive catalyst treatment, CNT growth, CNT removal, and catalyst regeneration experiments; (b) schematic of ring apparatus with recirculating substrate, and perforated substrate concept.

Summarizing background literature



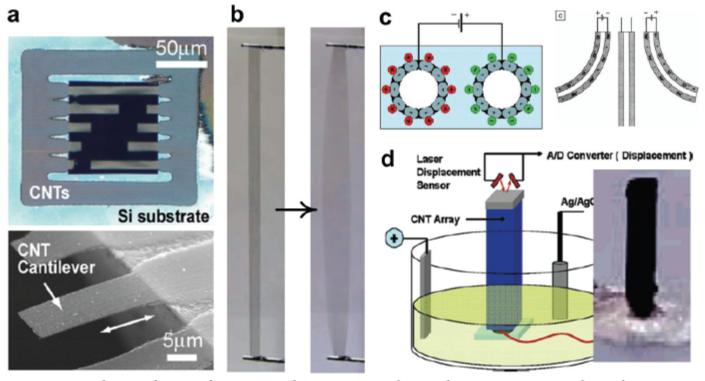
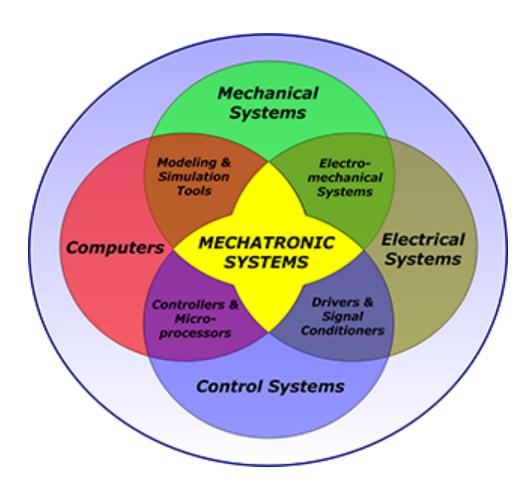


Fig. 3. Selected previous work on CNT-based actuators and active materials: (a) electrostatic deflection of a suspended CNT thin-film (ref. Hayamizu); CNT sheet "aerogel muscles" (ref. Aliev); (c) mechanism of bending CNT sheets by electrochemical actuation (ref. Baughman); (d) lengthening of a vertically-aligned CNT tower immersed in a salt bath (ref. Yun)

How different concepts fit together





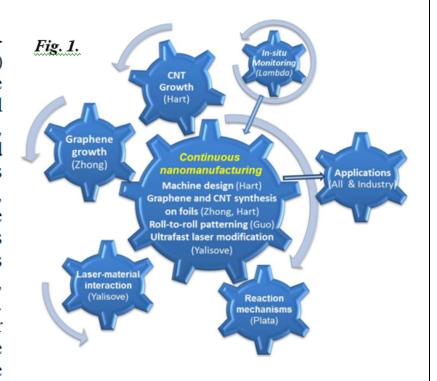
Shorya Awtar A.J. Hart | 67

How a team fits together



1. The Vision

This proposal aims to invent and develop new highthroughput scalable nanomanufacturing (SNM) technologies that will bring graphene and nanotube (CNT) based materials and their hybrids to practical large area applications in electronics, optoelectronics, and mechanics. The breadth of these applications and the requirement to integrate them into continuous manufacturing demand a multidisciplinary approach, supported by a fundamental understanding of the underlying mechanisms (Fig. 1). These fundamentals will drive principles and design methods for machines and processes that manufacture nanoscale structures, devices, and systems using carbon nanomaterials. The project will build a lab-scale machine for continuous CVD of CNTs and graphene on flexible substrates, and integrate a suite of novel and scalable



patterning and modification techniques with large-area films made by the continuous CVD process. Together, the SNM technology will be used to build and test CNT- and graphene-based hybrid photovoltaics, broadband cloaks, and high-surface-area filters. The research will be complimented with a strong educational component and outreach activities, and collaboration with industry.

2. The Team

This SNM program brings together an interdisciplinary team of recognized experts in the area of nanofabrication and high throughput nanomanufacturing, CNT and graphene materials and devices, and

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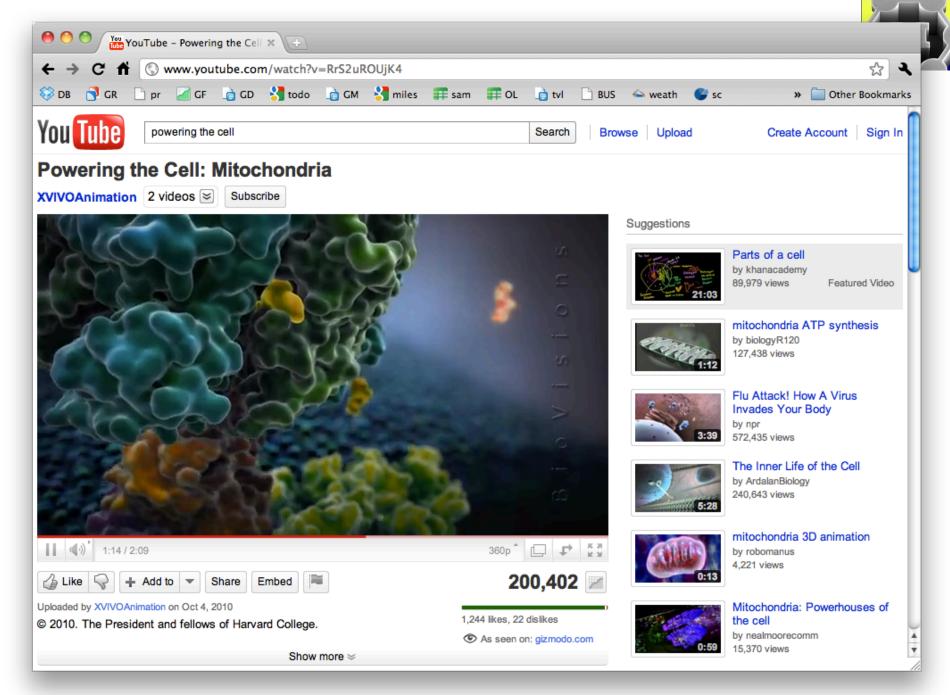
Figure-making software

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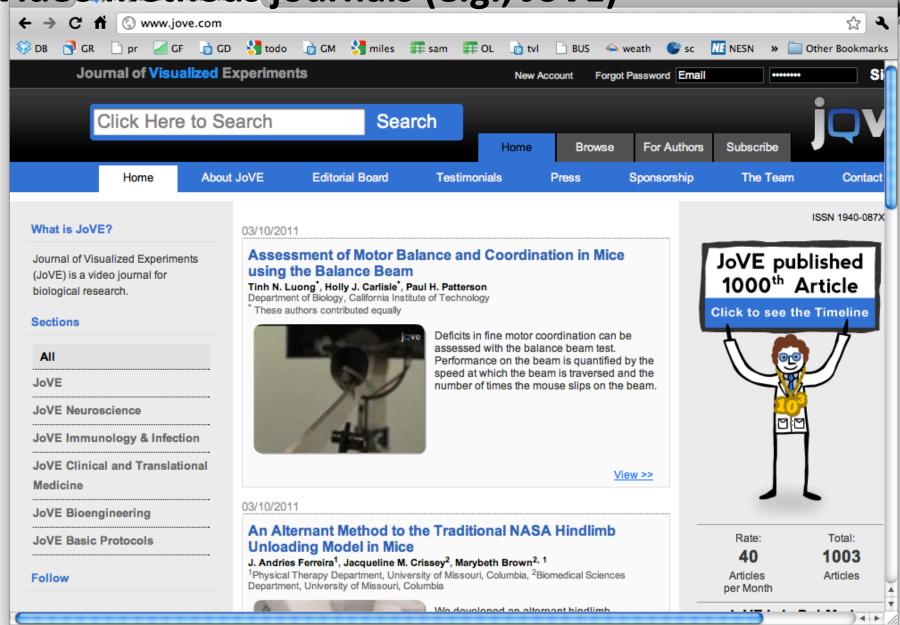
- Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop
- Inkscape (free Illustrator-like)
- IPE (vector graphics)
- Microsoft Visio (PC only)
- OmniGraffle (Mac only)
- SmartDraw
- Origin (for plotting)
- Other favorites?

24 hours of air traffic





Video methods journals (e.g., JoVE)



http://www.jove.com/

Summary from Tufte

There are many specific differences between friendly and unfriendly graphics:



words are spelled out, mysterious and elaborate encoding avoided

words run from left to right, the usual direction for reading occidental languages

little messages help explain data

elaborately encoded shadings, crosshatching, and colors are avoided; instead, labels are placed on the graphic itself; no legend is required

graphic attracts viewer, provokes curiosity

colors, if used, are chosen so that the color-deficient and color-blind (5 to 10 percent of viewers) can make sense of the graphic (blue can be distinguished from other colors by most color-deficient people)

type is clear, precise, modest; lettering may be done by hand

type is upper-and-lower case, with serifs

Unfriendly

abbreviations abound, requiring the viewer to sort through text to decode abbreviations

words run vertically, particularly along the Y-axis; words run in several different directions

graphic is cryptic, requires repeated references to scattered text

obscure codings require going back and forth between legend and graphic

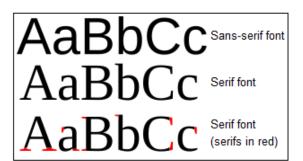
graphic is repellent, filled with chartjunk

design insensitive to color-deficient viewers; red and green used for essential contrasts

type is clotted, overbearing

type is all capitals, sans serif





Peer review: aims/tasks should be



- Specific (= what will be done)
- Measurable (= how you will measure the outcome)
- Practical (= can be done)
- Logical (= makes sense, on its own and in combination with other tasks)

Homework



- Please think twice about how you design and use figures in your proposal!
- Due next Friday 2pm
- Please bring paper copy to class too