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SCIENCE ONLINE THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE

Another Year for Science

**EDITORIAL** 

**Donald Kennedy** 

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A star formation region in our galaxy. This special section discusses the formation of stars from molecular clouds (dark filamentary regions) and the spatiotemporal distribution of stars of all masses (bright points of various sizes and colors). [Image: J.-C. Cuillandre, 2000; Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope]



110 Martian gullies: Slippery when wet

# New on Science Express for xenotransplantation

Genetic engineering and cloning



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**CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS AS OF 4 JANUARY 2002** 

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**SCIENCE EXPRESS** 

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#### Mapping the One-Dimensional Electronic States of Nanotube Peapod Structures D. J. Hornbaker et al.

A scanning tunneling microscopy study reveals that fullerene-filled carbon nanotubes—so-called peapods—have a hybridized electronic density of states that may be tunable.

## ▼ Production of α-1,3-Galactosyltransferase Knockout Pigs by Nuclear Transfer Cloning L. Lai *et al.*

Cloned pigs in which one allele of a galactosyltransferase gene was knocked out may be a step forward for xenotransplantation.

#### **TECHNICAL COMMENTS**

#### The Isomap Algorithm and Topological Stability

Tenenbaum et al. (Reports, 22 December 2000, p. 2319) presented a computational algorithm, called Isomap, that offered an approach to nonlinear dimensionality reduction, the problem of "finding meaningful low-dimensional structures hidden in . . . high-dimensional observations." Balasubramanian and Schwartz comment that "the basic idea of Isomap has long been known," and that the implementation by Tenenbaum is "topologically unstable," requiring "a priori information about the global geometry of the high-dimensional data manifold" to allow selection of an appropriate computational neighborhood size. Tenenbaum et al. respond that their algorithm is substantially simpler, more efficient, and more broadly applicable than previous approaches. They also suggest a method for selecting an optimal neighborhood size without a priori information about the data geometry.

The full text of these comments can be seen at www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/295/5552/7a

#### SPECIAL FEATURE

### Star Formation—A Web Supplement

www.sciencemag.org/feature/data/starformation/index.shtml

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#### Global Feature: Careers in Energy Science Edited by J. Austin

The writing is on the wall for fossil fuels-and with many contending "alternative" technologies, but no clear front runners, it's an exciting time to be working in energy science.

#### US: Surveying Postdocs—The Tale of a New Postdoc Association O. M. Buxton and S. Gasior

New postdoc associations often have to overcome a classic Catch-22: They require funding and support to get organized, but the institution is unwilling to supply that funding and support without evidence that they are needed.

UK: How Much Ethics Should Young Scientists Know? K. Urguhart Have today's scientists, expected as they seem to be to spend as much time agonizing over their moral choices as they do on experiments, ever had it so tough?

#### Canada: The Merits of Mentoring-University of Toronto Students Lend a Helping Hand K. Balaban, T. Samanth, and E. Kanetos

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#### Perspective: IL-23—A Cytokine That Acts on Memory T Cells D. M. Frucht

Interleukin (IL)-23 and IL-12 share several characteristics, but IL-23 is emerging as a cytokine with distinct effects.

#### Perspective: Unexpected Cross Talk—Small GTPase Regulation of Calcium Channel Trafficking J. S. Trimmer

A possible mechanism for connecting calcium signaling to calcium channel biosynthesis through Kir/Gem.

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# **THIS WEEK IN Science**

# **Freeze-Thaw Cycles on Mars**

Liquid water is not stable under current martian surface conditions, but the presence of small gullies on the polewardfacing slopes of mid- to highlatitude martian surfaces suggests that erosion by liquid water might have occurred. Costard et al. (p. 110) developed a global climate model for Mars when it had a higher obliquity (about 300,000 years ago). Their model shows that more melting of the polar ice caps would have occurred and an increase in the surface pressure and temperature at midto high-latitudes in the summer would have allowed liquid water to flow. Similarly shaped gullies have been observed in

edited by Phil Szuromi

#### **Electrically Excited** 102 **Single Photons**

The development of practical quantuminformation processing requires the ability to

send single photons on demand. Several techniques have been developed that can provide single photons, but all have been based on systems that have been optically excited. The ideal single photon source would be electrically driven and operate at room temperature. Yuan et al. (p. 102) have constructed a device in which a quantum dot is embedded in a p-i-n diode. Although the device operates at temperatures below 200 millikelvin, subnanosecond voltage pulses deliver single photons on demand.

## And in Brevia ...

The fluorescent glow of budgerigars' crown and cheek feathers are shown by Arnold et al. (p. 92) to be a sexual signal and not merely a by-product of plumage pigmentation.



periglacial debris flows from eastern Greenland. These observations, taken together with the modeling, suggest that the martian gullies formed by a freeze-thaw cycle of water on the surface, rather than through flow of an aquifer system.

# Magma Flow at Mid-Ocean Ridges

The isotopic concentrations of uranium, thorium, and lead in dredged basalt samples have been used to trace magma flow to mid-ocean ridge spreading centers. Zou et al. (p. 107; see the Perspective by Elliott) measured anomalous <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>238</sup>U ratios in basalt samples taken 20 kilometers away from the axis of the East Pacific Rise that indicate the presence of an off-axis magma reservoir or of anomalous lateral flow of melt from the ridge axis. Either source will require revisions to current models of mid-ocean ridge dynamics.

# **Uncertain Futures**

Estimates of uncertainty in predictions of long-term climate change usually are based in part on the informed but still subjective assessment of "experts," and more objective means of determining uncertainty in such forecasts is desirable. Forest et al. (p. 113; see the news story by Kerr) use a two-dimensional statistical-dynamical model to evaluate what joint range of values for three of the most important properties that control climate system behavior-climate sensitivity, the rate of heat uptake by the deep ocean, and the strength of the net aerosol forcing—is consistent with 20th-century records of upper-air temperatures, surface temperatures, and ocean temperatures.

# Just Add Water?

Noble metals resist air oxidation and corrosion by water. Indeed, structural studies of the initial stages of water adsorption on clean

# star or something more exotic? Simulations indicate that large den-

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A Start for Stars

surfaces of metals such as ruthenium indicate that simple

ice-like bilayers form. Other

spectroscopic results appear to

be inconsistent with such a

structure. Feibelman (p. 99; see

the Perspective by Menzel) pre-

sents density functional calcu-

lations which indicate that wa-

ter molecules in the first ad-

sorbed layer on the close-

packed Ru(0001) surface actu-

ally dissociate. The calculated

structures show how the oxy-

gen atoms of the first layer can

be coplanar and suggest more

generally that dissociation may

be necessary for water to wet a

metal surface.

sity contrasts in a collapsing protogalactic halo would have fragmented any protostellar core and stifled star formation. Abel et al. (p. 93; see the Perspective by Rees and the special issue on star formation) have completed a three-dimensional hydrodynamic simu-

lation of halo collapse from cosmological to stellar length scales, starting with a flat, cold dark matter cosmology. Threebody hydrogen formation could have proceeded without fragmentation long enough and fast enough to allow the development of a stable, fully molecular core. The molecular core then could stably accrete more mass to form a star. Thus, the first light may have been from a star. These simulations also show that metal-free stars can form in isolation from collapsing molecular clouds. 🛪



# Live Long and Avoid Oxygen Radicals

Severely restricting the food intake of a rat or mouse will result in an extremely long-lived animal. Larsen et al. (p. 120; see the Perspective by Tatar and Rand) show that when fed a diet without coenzyme Q, the nematode Caenorhabditis elegans can also live a longer life. Coenzyme Q is a lipid electron acceptor necessary for proper function of the respiratory chain in mitochondria. There is a paradoxical similarity in these two cases—why does the lack of proper energy production lead to longer life-spans? The authors propose that less coenzyme Q in nematodes and less food in rodents may result in fewer damaging reactive oxygen species, which are released as a by-product of respiration. Alternatively, the imbalance of coenzyme Q may alter transcription of genes that influence the aging process.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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## CONTINUED FROM 9 THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE

# **Mineralization by Bacteria**

Shewanella putrefaciens has a hitherto unrecognized capacity to generate iron oxide crystals, apparently within membrane-bounded compartments at the poles of the cells. Glasauer *et al.* (p. 117) show that when grown with hydrous ferric oxide, in conditions mimicking natural conditions in the soil, *Shewanella* co-precipitates a variety of fine-grained iron minerals within its cells. Iron may be recycled in these bacteria, and these distinct crystals could provide a useful fossil tracer of prokaryotic life.

# **Clues from Close and Distant Relatives**



The DNA damage response (DDR) process in eukaryotes includes DNA damage-induced checkpoint control pathways and DNA repair processes. Boulton *et al.* (p. 127) describe a combination of protein-protein interaction mapping and high-throughput RNA-mediated interference to identify 23 genes in the *Caenorhabditis elegans* that are required for DDR, 11 of which had not been implicated previously. One of the genes identified is the ortholog of human *BCL3*, a gene frequently altered in chronic lymphocytic leukemia. A

first-generation physical map of the chimpanzee genome has been generated that will provide a solid basis and resources for analysis of its genome. Fujiyama *et al.* (p. 131) have mapped more than 60,000 bacterial artificial chromosomes (BACs) from a chimpanzee genome library to the human genome by means of BAC-end sequences to search for relatively large rearrangements between both genomes. Two clusters containing large, nonrandom differences were found relative to human chromosome 21.

# **Go Fourth and Recombine**

It has been reported for many years that unlike the other *Drosophila* chromosomes, the fourth chromosome undergoes no recombination. Wang *et al.* (p. 134) conducted a whole chromosome polymorphism survey of natural *Drosophila* populations from around the world and found an unexpected high level of variation and recombination. This chromosome can be divided into different regions of variation, which suggests that different regions in the fourth chromosome have different evolutionary histories.

# **Uncapping Tumstatin's Effects**

Tumstatin belongs to a family of extracellular matrix-derived protein fragments that have attracted attention as potential anticancer agents because they are potent and nontoxic inhibitors of angiogenesis. Maeshima *et al.* (p. 140) found that tumstatin functions as an endothelial cell-specific inhibitor of protein synthesis that depends on the messenger RNA 5' cap structure. This activity requires interaction of tumstatin with  $\alpha V\beta$ 3 integrin and results in endothelial cell apoptosis.

# Push Me, Pull You

When *Bacillus subtilis* sporulates, its cells undergo an uneven division process during which the chromosomal DNA needs to be transported across a septum from a mother cell into a neighboring daughter cell. Sharp and Pogliano (p. 137) show that the SpoIIIE protein, known to help mediate this process, defines directionality by its preferential localization in the mother cell, from which it actively pumps chromosomal DNA into the forespore. When SpoIIE was forced to accumulate in the forespore, the direction of DNA transport could be reversed.

# **Molecular Basis of Mossy Fiber LTP**

Long-term potentiation (LTP) at hippocampal mossy fiber synapses is distinct from most other forms of LTP. Mellor *et al.* (p. 143) found that the hyperpolarization-activated mixed cation current  $l_h$  unexpectedly plays an important role. Calcium entry into the hippocampal granule cells during repetitive stimulation activates a calcium/calmodulin sensitive adenylate cyclase. The subsequent rise in cyclic adenosine monophosphate activates protein kinase A, which leads to increases in  $l_h$ . The resulting depolarization causes an enhancement of mossy fiber synaptic transmission.



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Section of the sectio



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# AWARDS AND HONORS

Research Fellowship from the Graduate School of Comes lines 1990-present

1990

1987-1990

1986

Magna Cum Laude

Dean's List

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# PUBLICATIONS

- 1. John Doe, Gustave Hall, and Sossily Rapparell. Coontinue Regu Jonn Doe, Gustave Immunology, Vol. 66, No. 11/12, pp. 490-311, 1998
- 2. John Doe and Sossity Rapparell. Identification of Alternatively Spliced h Lines from a Bare Lymphocyte Syndrome Patient, fin Preparate

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- 1) Nat. Biotechnol. 18, 630-634 (2000)
- 2) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 97, 1665-1670 (2000)

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