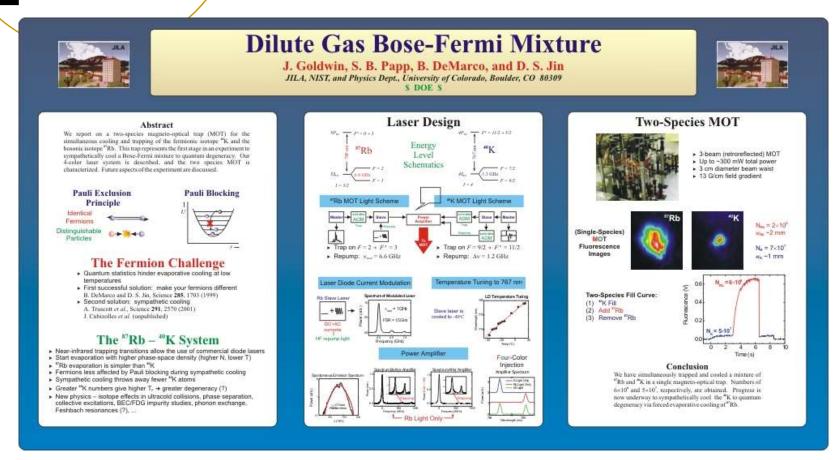
# **Tips for Making Scientific Posters**



Courtesy B. DeMarco

**Source:** The Craft of Scientific Presentations, Michael Alley

See also: https://www.research.undergraduate.vt.edu/our-services/for-students/poster-tips.html

# Why a scientific poster?

# One of the most common methods of disseminating scientific information at conferences!



Allows one to convey more details than in a talk

Provides an opportunity for more Q&A exchange between author and reader than a talk or paper

# Key features of a poster

#### Gap-Crossing Decisions by Red Squirrels in Fragmented Forests Victoria J. Bakker, University of California, Davis

#### Objective

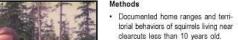
To study factors for decisions by red squirrels (Tamiasciurus hudsonicus) to cross gaps in fragmented forests.



Forest-clearcut edge at central Mitkof Island study site, Tongass National Forest, Alaska. Logging is the primary land use.

#### Rationale

- Knowing how mammals move in fragmented forests can aid in location of reserves and corridors.
- Questions exist about which factors control decisions of mammals to cross gaps in their preferred habitats.



fics were hypoth-

elease and subsequent tracking

esized to control crossing decisions.

lower overstory cover and lack of tree

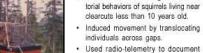
lower in clearcuts than forests

Hypotheses

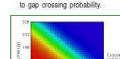
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- homing paths. ranslocation of individual squirrels across gaps
- Used logistic regression to relate extrinsic factors, such as gap size, and intrinsic factors, such as body mass, Efforts is minimize predation risk, eneray expenditures, or encounters with



Predation risk was assumed higher in clearcuts than in forests because of Energy expended per distance trav-

eled was assumed higher in clearcuts due to higher shrub stem densities. Conspecific encounter rates were

- **Results and Discussion** · Of 30 squirrels translocated at 5
  - clearcuts, 11 crossed clearcuts and 19 detoured along forested routes. Gap crossing probability was in-
  - versely related to squirrel body mass and detour efficiency  $(\eta_n)$ : Direct distance home

Indirect distance home

- · Lighter squirrels were more likely to cross clearcuts. Squirrels in poor condition may take more risks when moving. Squirrels were more likely to cross if detours were long, suggesting that squirrels assess distances of detours and that predation risk, energetics, or both influence crossing decisions.
- · Squirrels choosing forested routes avoided the route with the greatest number of highly defended territories. Non-significant factors were crossing
- distance, clearcut size, clearcut age, and individual's territorial behavior.

Acknowledgments: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Research and Development

### Must attract an audience:

Prominent title Attractive figures (lots) Clean, open layout

Must quickly orient the reader to the key points

### Should be logically arranged

Should contain all elements of a good research paper:

> Motivation/Background **Procedures/Experimental Results/Analysis** Conclusions Acknowledgments

Should have clearly labeled sections

Determinants of gap brossing: Relationship be-tween detour efficiency, body mass, and gap-crossing probability, based on logistic regression.

Good!

Conducted call-back surveys along clearcut perimeters to determine conspecific defense levels

# Posters should have more description than a talk slide, less description than a paper

# Too little description...the reader must be able to understand your poster if you're not there to explain it

### Improving the Cooling of Blades and Vanes in Gas Turbine Engines



Professor K. A. Thole Virginia Tech Experimental and Computational Convection Laboratory



To increase efficiency, gas turbine engines have to run at higher temperatures



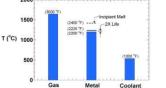


However, higher combustion temperatures reduce the life of the blades and vanes



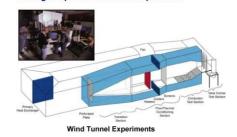


Better cooling schemes can dramatically affect the life of blades and vanes in gas turbines



If a cooling scheme can decrease the temperatures that a blade experiences by 25°C, the blade's life will double

### Our laboratory studies cooling schemes through experiments and computations

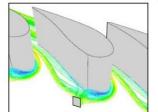




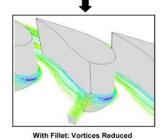
**Computational Predictions** 

Results from our studies are helping sponsors design better gas turbine engines





Without Fillet: Unwanted Vortices



In summary, we are improving the cooling of blades and vanes in gas turbine engines

# Posters should have more description than a talk slide, less description than a paper

### (Way) too much description:

EFFECTS OF METROBMIN ON INSLESS RESISTANCE. AND CENTRAL ADDROSITY IN PATH NTS RECEIVING. 125 EFFECTIVE PROTEASE INHENTION (PE THERAPY)

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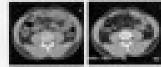
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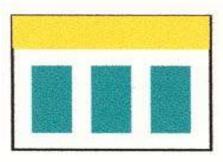
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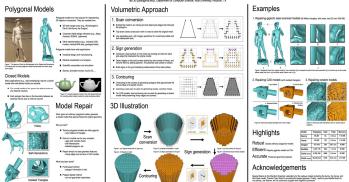
With Street, Michael Monty, Supplementary, and

## Choose a poster layout



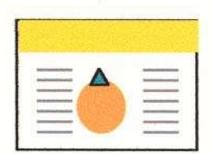
### vertical columns

#### **Robust Repair of Polygonal Models**



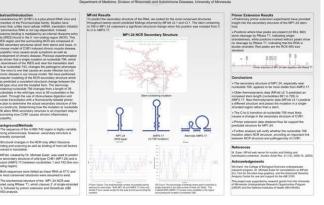


### contrasting fields



# centered images w/ explanations

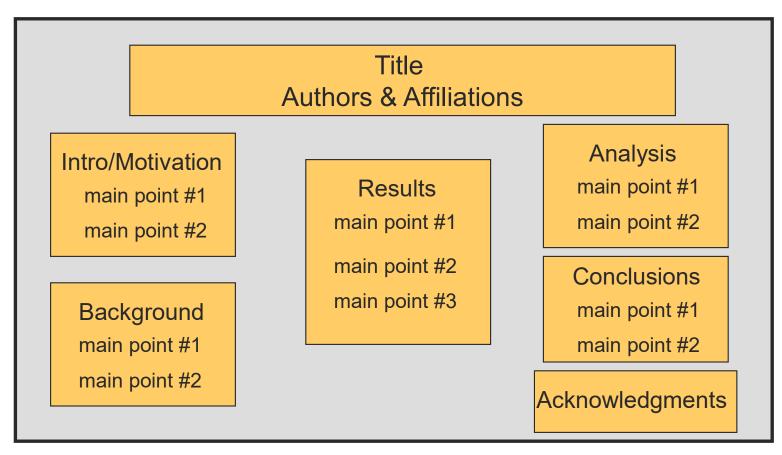
#### Determination of RNA Secondary Structure in the 5' Non-Coding Region Coxsackievirus B1



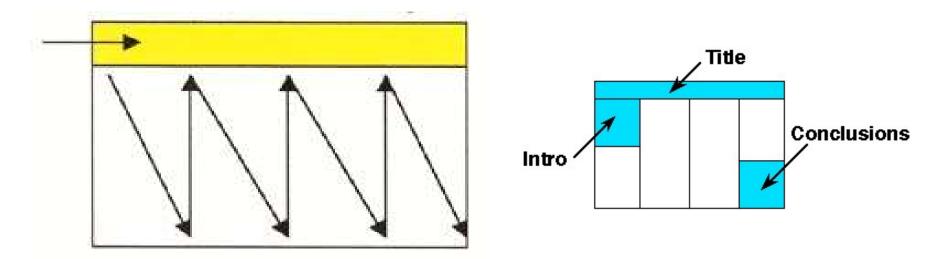
Sketch your organizational plan on paper

Write down the key ideas in each section

Identify the figures/results that best convey your ideas in each section



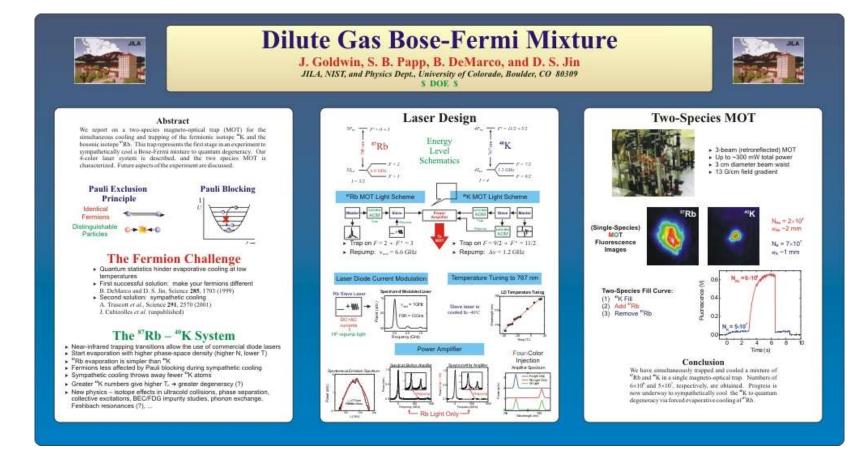
Make sure there's a coherent "flow" in your sections



You're telling a story, so make sure the reader knows where to start and end

http://www.owInet.rice.edu/~cainproj/designing.html

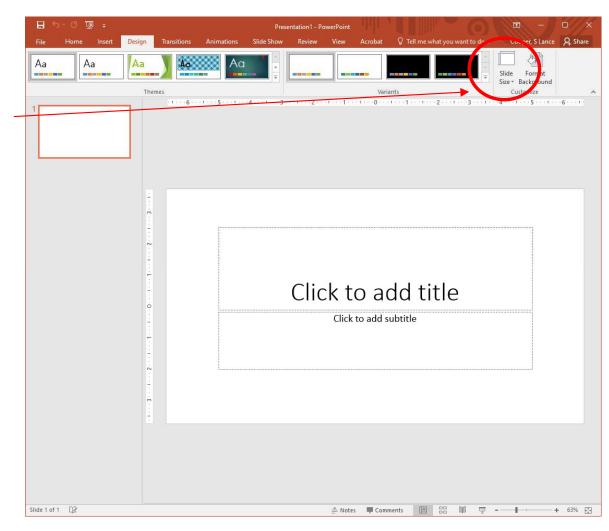
Use lots of blank space around margins to define sections:



Courtesy B. DeMarco

# Setting up PowerPoint:

On the "Design Tab", click Slide Size Select: Custom Slide Size Orientation of slides: Landscape Width of slides: 56 inches Height of slides: 28 inches Title: 90-120 pt, sans serif font Author: 48-60 pt. sans serif Headings: 70-80 pt. sans serif Main text: 36-40 pt. sans serif



# Other tips: Text

Text and figures should be legible from 3-5 feet away: 36 pt. font size minimum!

Edit excessive text!! Poster should have roughly 20% text, 40% figures, 40% space

Use sans serif fonts: these fonts are more legible than serif fonts from a distance

Headings and other text having the same level of importance should be the same font size

Generally, putting information in "bullet" form, rather than in sentences, is better:

### Original

The ideal anesthetic should quickly make the patient unconscious but allow a quick return to consciousness, have few side effects, and be safe to handle.

http://www.owInet.rice.edu/~cainproj/designing.html

### Revised

### Ideal anesthetics should:

- offer quick sedation
- provide quick recovery
- have few side effects
- be safe to handle

# Other tips: Color

Use color to define relationships between different areas of the poster

Use color to create coherence and guide the reader through your poster

DON'T overuse color...too much variation will distract from the substance of your poster

DON'T use color arbitrarily – the reader expects color to *mean something*, so they'll be confused if it's arbitrarily applied

DON'T use a distracting background, and make sure there's sufficient contrast between the background and the text

Beware shading of backgrounds...this sometimes doesn't show up well when enlarged to full poster size

# Other tips: Figures

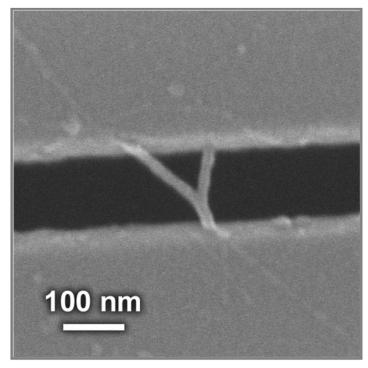
Make sure to label all figures with legible fonts and font sizes

Include a brief caption for the figure, or explicitly refer to the figure in the text

Make sure your images and figures are of sufficiently high resolution to be enlarged

Make sure your figures advance the points you're making in the text

Use darker background for lighter figures/pictures, and a lighter background for darker figures/pictures



# What makes your CELLS tick?

Coordination of cell proliferation and cell-type specification in vertebrate embryos: the role of dynamic regulation of the cdc25 phosphatases.

Mercedes Barrutia, Damian Nogare, Mary Ellen Lane, Ph.D.



#### ABSTRACT

The generation of a multicellular embryo from a single-celled zygote requires coordinating cell proliferation with mechanisms that regulate cell-type specification and cell movement. It is therefore essential that the rate of cell proliferation is variable for different populations of embryonic cells and different developmental stages. Following early, rapid, synchronous cell divisions, dynamic spatiotemporal regulation of cell proliferation is observed. We are interested in the molecular mechanisms that produce this spatiotemporal control in the embryo of a vertebrate, the zebrafish Danio rerio. Due to its rapid development, large transparent embryos, and genetic tractability, zebrafish is the ideal vertebrate model for these studies. In all eukaryotic organisms, the cdc25 tyrosine phosphatase plays a major role in cell cycle progression via activation of Mitosis Promoting Factor (MPF). Most higher metazoan genomes contain more than one gene encoding cdc25 phosphatases. To determine whether dynamic transcription of cdc25 is an important mechanism for spatiotemporal control of cell proliferation, as is the case in the Drosophila embryos, we are isolating the zebrafish genes encoding cdc25 by PCR. We have identified the zebrafish cdc25A gene and examined its spatiotemporal expression in developing embryos by in situ hybridization. Expression of cdc25A is observed in only a subset of proliferating cells of the developing nervous system and mesoderm. In some of these cells, namely the precursors of primary motor neurons (PMN) and retinal ganglion cell (RGC), expression appears to be restricted to the terminal mitosis. Future work will focus on analyzing the coordination of cdc25A transcription with the mechanisms that control differentiation of these cells, and on isolation and expression analysis of additional cdc25 genes.

#### INTRODUCTION

With knowledge of the cell cycle and its' regulators in other experimented organisms, we may be able to discern how certain aspects of processes, morphogenesis and pattern formation, are regulated at a molecular level in the zebrafish. In early embryonic cells, the cell cycle is synchronous and consists of two phases: mitosis (M) and synthesis (S). A two-subunit phosphoprotein of Cdk and cyclin, known as Mitosis Promoting Factor (MPF), is responsible for the entry to Mitosis. At later stages, the cell cycle experiences a transition (mid-blastula stage) from maternal mRNA control to zygotic mRNA control, synchronous to asynchronous cell division, and entrance of G1 and G2 phase. According to research on *Drosophila* flies, the MPF for the progression through G2 phase is activated through steps of phosphorylation/dephosphorylation on the Cdk subunit: (1) phosphorylation at residues Threonine-161, Tyrosine-15, and Threonine-14 by a particular set of enzymes, and (2) dephosphorylation GT H1 4 and Tyr 15 by an Cdc25 enzyme (called string) (Voet & Voet, 1995). Identifying Cdc25 in zebrafish will allow us to understand the cell-to-cell interaction occurring at the cell cycle for most higher metazoan genomes.

#### METHODS:

to isolate cdc25, I made primer pairs from an expressed sequence tag (EST), which is homologous to cdc25. Then I was able to clone Cdc25 from cDNA library (of zebrafish) through PCR reaction and expression vectors. After isolation, I determined when and where the gene is expressed through *in-situ* hybridization.

#### RESULTS



Figure 2: Expression of the CDC25 in the Primary Motor Neurons at the Terminal Mitosis

Selected Sources: Gilbert, S. F. (1997). <u>Developmental Biology</u> (5th ed.). Sunderland: Simauer Associates. Kimmel et al. (1995). *Developmental Dynamics* 103:253-310. New York: Wiley & Sons. http://zfin.org Lehner, C., and Lane, M.E. (1997) *Journal of Cell Science* 110, 523-528. Great Britain: The Company of Biologists Limited. Voet, D., & Voet, J. G. (1995). <u>Biochemistry</u> (2nd ed.). New York: John Wiley & Sons.

#### Please feel free to contact alegria@rice.edu

### **Robust Repair of Polygonal Models**

Tao Ju (jutao@rice.edu), Department of Computer Science, Rice University, Houston, TX

### Volumetric Approach

1. Scan conversion

2. Sign generation

the polygons.

### **Polygonal Models** Polygonal models are most popular for representing 3D objects in computers. They are created from:

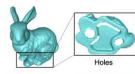
- 3D laser range scans (e.g., Michelangelo's David, the Bunny, the Dragon)
- Computer-aided design softwares (e.g., Maya, Autocad, 3DMAX, Lightwave)
- Other representations (e.g., industrial CAD models, medical MRI data, geological data)
- lygonal models have wide applications: Industrial design and manufacturing
- Medical visualization and analysis
- Scientific computation and simulation Games, animated movies, movie CG, .

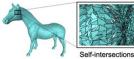
#### **Closed Models**

Many applications (e.g., rapid prototyping) require a closed model with well-defined inside and outside:

Figure 1. The statue of David by Michelangelo in the Galleria dell'Accader in Florence (left), and the polygonal model reconstructed from laser range scarse (in/h)

- The model partitions the space into distinct external and internal volumes
- Each polygon face lies on the boundary between an ernal volume and an internal volume





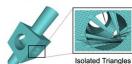


Figure 3. Non-closed polygonal me various types of mesh errors (right dels (left) with closeup looks at th

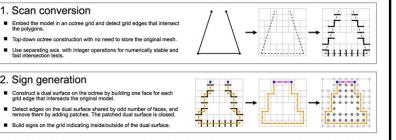
### Model Repair

Figure 2. A closed polygonal model of the Utah teapot (left)

Goal: given an arbitrary polygonal model, generate a closed model that approximates the original geometry

Why so hard?

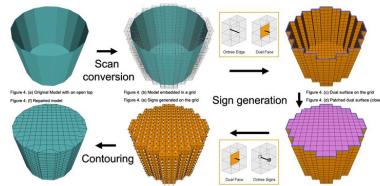
- Today's polygonal models are often gigantic - over millions of triangles
- Errors in models can be very complex gaps and complex holes
   self-intersections - isolated polygons, etc.
- Repair should not lose geometry features: - sharp edges and corners in CAD models
- What has been done? Point-based method
- polygon information is lost Polygon-based method
- can not guarantee closedness
- Volumetric method - hard with large mesh and comples errors



#### 3. Contouring

- Contouring is the process of generating polygons that approximate the zero-surface of a signed volume.
- Marching Cubes can be used for generating closed, manifold model.
- For CAD models, dual contouring can be used for generating a closed model while preserving sharp edges and corners.

### **3D** Illustration



.....

### Examples



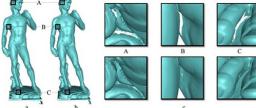
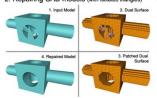
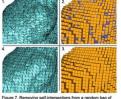


Figure 5. Repairing David: the original model at 1mm resolution (a), the repaired model at the same resolution (b), and close-ups on the mode before repair (top row in (c)) and after repair (bottom row in (c)).

#### 2. Repairing CAD models (with isolated triangles) 3. Repairing random models





Highlights
Robust Closes arbitrary polygon

Figure 6. Removing isolated triangles from CAD model

	Horse
oses arbitrary polygonal models	Dragon
epairs gigantic models on PCs	Buddha
,	David (2mr
Preserves geometry features	David (1mr

Model	Triangles	Grid	Time	Memory
Bunny	69,451	64	3.6 sec	< 10 MB
Horse	80,805	128	6.0 sec	< 10 MB
Dragon	871,414	256	45.2 sec	16 MB
Buddha	1,087,716	1024	1.3 min	28 MB
David (2mm)	8,254,150	4096	8.4 min	92 MB
David (1mm)	56,230,343	8192	53.2 min	417 MB

### Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the Stanford Graphics Laboratory for the various models including the bunny, the horse, and the David model. Thanks Chen Shen for providing the teapot pictures. Finally, I want to give heartful thank to my advisor, Joe Warren, for this continuous support and insightful comments.

Efficient R Accurate

### Were Victorian Fallen Women Doomed?



### The Question of REINTEGRATION

Could a Victorian woman ever transform from a Fallen Woman into a Respectable Matron?





Victorian literature portrays how numerous respectable ladies become fallen women who have had heterosexual relations outside of marriage. Often, polite society shuns the fallen woman, leaving her to endure a disgraced, alienated life.

But could fallen women ever reintegrate into society? Could a fallen woman ever regain her former status or even marry a respectable man'

I posit that a significant number of Victorian fallen women, real and fictional, reintegrated into society. I also propose that an even greater number empowered themselves by constructing and controlling their own narratives

#### Methodology

This project examines the representation of fallen women in both literary and historical accounts. I consulted Victorian handbooks on rescuing fallen women, treatises on prostitution, the annual reports of reform shelters for fallen women, and the records of rescue societies such as the Female Mission to the Fallen. In my research, I try to locate the stories of fallen women's reintegration and empowerment

#### **Special Thanks**

Professor Robert L. Patten, Rice University Professor John Sutherland, University College London Professor Helena Michie, Rice University Rice Undergraduate Scholars Program The British Library The Wellcome Trust Library

### The Common Vieb

#### Fallen women never reintegrated

In her study Fallenness in Victorian Women's Writing Deborah Anna Logan contends that most fictional fallen women were never fully reintegrated into society. Logan studies mostly lower-class fallen characters created



by female authors. Of the fallen characters she analyzes, all are "punished by the literal and metaphorical death or disfigurement of themselves or their children: none of them marries or otherwise achieves social integration.

Logan concludes, "What was true of eighteenth-century writers on the fallenwoman theme remains true a century later; 'no author has yet been so bold as to permit a lady to live and marry, and be a woman after this strain."

#### Fallen women were silent, passive victims

ovanne liberle's dissertation "Redeemed through Narrative Representing the Sexualized Heroine in Nineteenth-Century British Literature by Women," presents an even bleaker view of the Victorian fallen woman. NARRATIVE

According to Eberle, Victorians imagined only one fate for the fallen woman, known as the "Harlot's Progress She summarizes, "girl is seduced, girl suffers, girl repents, and girl dies.

Eberle continues, "The sexually transgressive heroine of the Victorian period is not the philosophical and self-const is speaking subject found in Romantic texts." Although her plight is recorded in social reform literature, it only "informs us of a great 'social evil' of which she is a victim and rarely a critic." This statement implies that fallen women never thoughtfully articulated their pasts and never knew any fate besides victimization.

#### Reform shelters oppressed fallen women

In her dissertation, Eberle also asserts that the Magdalen reform shelters established to reintegrate fallen women were victimizing structures. She writes, "Magdalen houses are merely a literal manifestation of the growing cultural desire to police female sexuality through law, medicine, and other institutions." 'These reform shelters, also known as Homes, only strove to "isolate fallen women," suppress their stories, and "shut 'co Eberle affirms that Victorian fallen women "tend to be acted upon; they are invariably the passive recipients of disciplinary polities

#### Selected Sources

Eberle, Roxanne, dissertation, "Redeemed through Narrative: Representing the Sexualized Heroine in Ninetcenth-Century British Literature by Women," University of California at Los Angeles, 1994.

Logan, Deborah Anna, Fallenness in Victorian Women's Writing, Columbia: University of Missouri, 1998.

Mumm, Susan, "'Not Worse Than Other Girls': The Convent-Based Rehabilitation of Fallen Women in Victorian Britain," Journal of Social History 29 (1996): 527-546. Tait, William, Magdalenism, Edinburgh, P. Rickard, 1842.

The 1866 Annual Report, London, The Female Mission to the Fallen, 1866.

### **Challenges** from MY RESEARCH

 Victorian authors depicted women marrying after a sexual fall

In David Copperfield (1849-1850) by Charles Dickens, Martha Endell, a former prostitute, emigrates to Australia and marries a farm-laborer. Wilkie Collins's The New Magdalen (1876) focuses on the

reintegration of Mercy Merrick, a former reform shelter inmate. Mercy marries a clergyman and subsequently emigrates to the New World with her husband.

#### · 'Real' fallen women also married

The 1866 report of The Female Mission to the Fallen records how one rehabilitated fallen woman is "now engaged to be married to the son of clergyman, with the full consent of the young man's family." Numerous other marriages are narrated in these reports.

 Not all Victorian fallen women were victims Victorian reform writer William Tait declares that no fallen woman ought to be given up as being beyond the reach of remedy.

In 1866, the Female Mission announced plans to employ a Missionary to deal exclusively with preventing fallen women from committing suicide. After rescuing these women, Missionaries found them employme or helped them enter reform shelters.

 Fallen women controlled their narratives William Makepeace Thackeray's Vanity Fair (1846-48) portrays the adventures of Becky Sharp. After living on the margins of society for a while, Becky uses the narrative of her victimization-isolation from her son, threats of suicide, consorting with questionable company-to gain sympathy and financial support from the other c

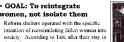
**Reform Shelters:** A Different Perspective

women, not isolate them Reform shelters operated with the specific intention of reassimilating fallen women into the shelters, women did "become useful and le members of society



Making victims into agents Susan Mumm, a scholar at York University, has documented how church based reform shelters attempted to give their inmates increased agency by "giving them specialized training." As a higher-status servant such as 'parlourmaids," women might be better able to defend themselves from the ances of other

Publishing the fallen woman's narrative Each year, reform shelters and agencies published reports detailing the cases they helped. Reform workers narrate the circumstances of the women's falls. These case histories do not gloss over the poverty, assault, and exploitation faced by these women. Often the reports include letters by the fallen women describing their new lives in society



### VITAMIN C: THE MULTIFUNCTIONAL ANTIOXIDANT

ORGANIC SYNTHESIS OF VITAMIN C

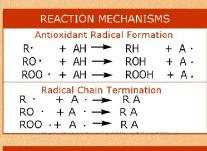
#### Rice University

#### BACKGROUND

Vitamin C (Ascorbic Acid) is an essential nutrient discovered in 1932 by Albert Szent-Györgyi, who isolated the antiscorbutic factor as pure crystalline material from lemon juice. In the past 25 years, much of the vitamin's biochemical functions have been elucidated, inducting vitamin C to the treatment of viral infections, diabetes, and even cancer prevention. Today, scientists' growing knowledge of ascorbic acid uncovers the significance of its antioxidant property, making its organic synthesis one of high demand for research and public consumption.

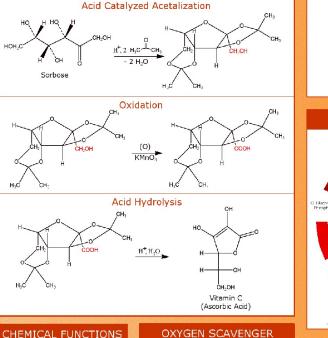
#### ANTIOXIDANT PROTECTION

- Stability of antioxidant free radicals
- Resonance delocalization
- Further oxidation of antioxidant radicals
  Reduction of radical species



#### ANTIOXIDANT RADICAL STABILITY

 $\begin{array}{c} & & & \\$ 

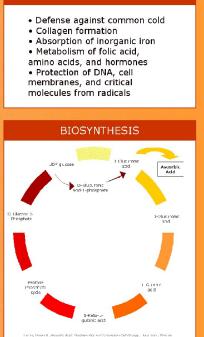


Vitamin C

(Single Oxygen Stabilized

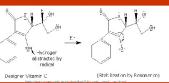
#### Antioxidant

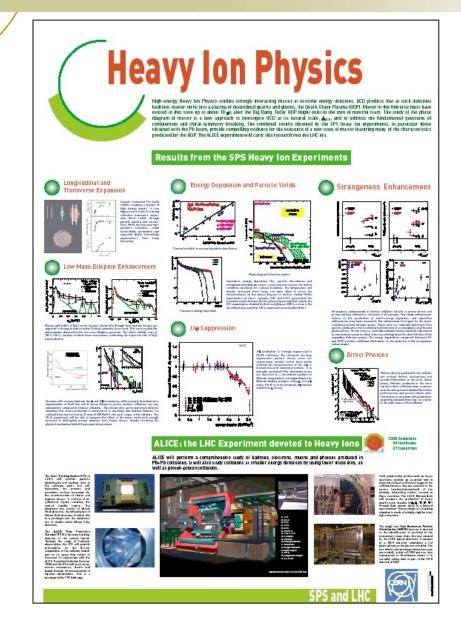
- Hydrogen donation to lipid radicals
- Removal of molecular O
  Quenching of singlet O
  Regeneration of tocopherol
- radicals Prooxidant • Reduction of Fe<sup>+3</sup> to Fe<sup>+2</sup>



BIOLOGICAL BENEFITS

#### DESIGNER VITAMIN C

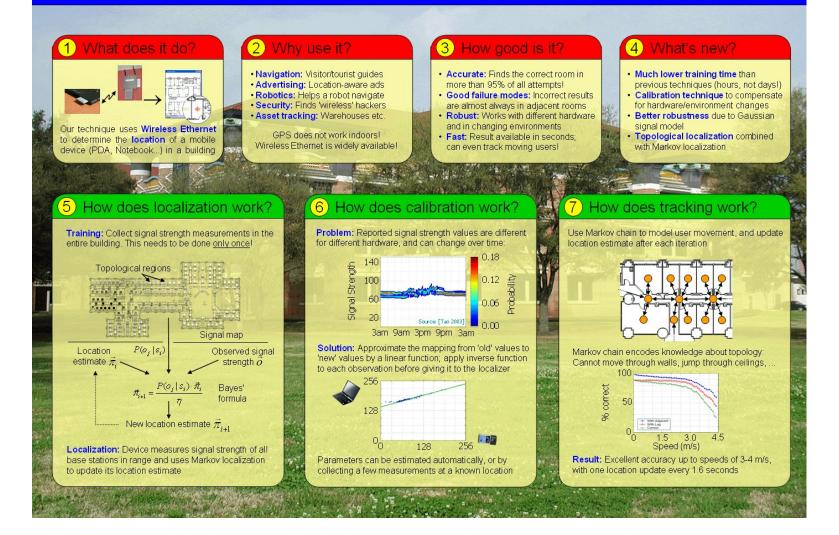






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Rudys Dan S. Wallach Lydia E. Kavraki





# Walk around the building

- look at and critique the posters you see
- o which ones are most effective?
  - capture your interest
  - easily navigable
  - etc., etc.
- which ones are less effective at presenting the key ideas?
- In your poster drafts, emulate effective aspects of posters you like