Presentation Technique: The Good, the Bad, and the Downright Deplorable

Lecture 5
22.033/22.33 – Nuclear Engineering Design Project
September 28, 2011

Outline (Have One!)

Background

Presentation Style

How to Make Effective Slides

Don't Do This!

What's Wrong Here?

How to Fix Common Problems

Conclusion

Background

Making effective presentations can be easy!

- There are many pitfalls scientists & engineers tend to fall into
 - Slides of text
 - Animations
 - Readability

Follow these tips for more successful presentations!

Presentation Style

How do you spot a social engineer in the crowd?

Presentation Style

Look at the audience. All of them!

Avoid the board when possible

Keep your speed constant

- Keep it understandable, but not boring

Dress up... a bit

 22.ThG seminar students used to fail for not dressing up!

Making Effective Slides



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Not too much info per slide

- A few bullets
- Avoid long sentences

Use white space to

- Guide the audience
- Make it easier on the eyes

Use alignment features. They look good!

Don't Do This!

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Don't Do This!

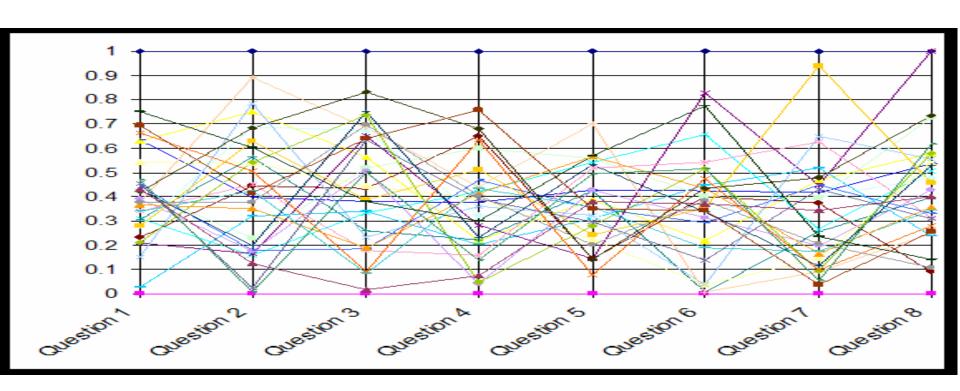
- Here is the first bullet
- Here is the second bullet
- Here is the third bullet
- Here is the fourth bullet



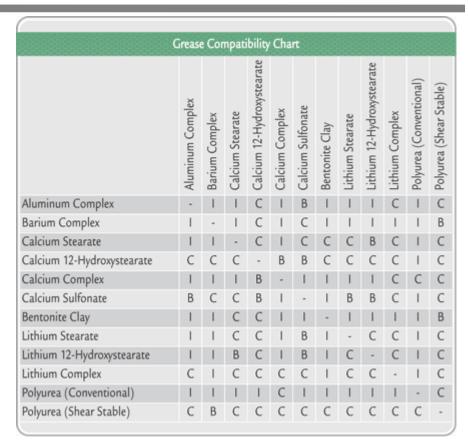
Image © prguitarman. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see http://ocw.mit.edu/fairuse.

 Here is the fifth bullet. It is fancy and shouldn't be.

What's Wrong Here?



What's Wrong Here?



Courtesy of Noria Corporation and Machinery Lubrication. Used with permission.

What's Wrong Here?

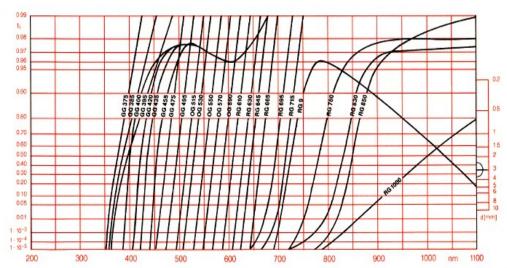


Figure 1a shows the average standard deviation of theta

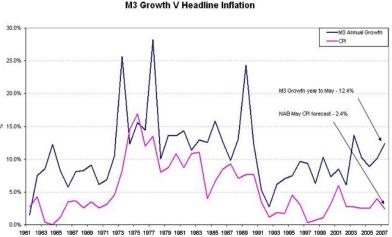


Figure 1b shows the growth in headline inflation

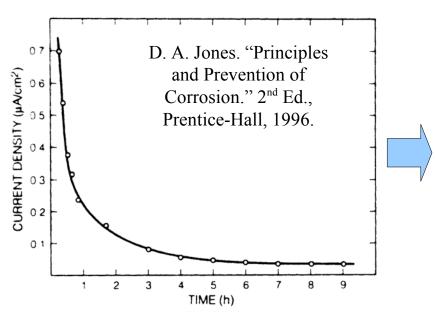
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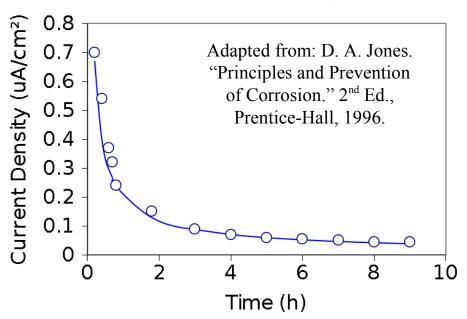
Fixing Common Problems - Graphs

Don't be afraid to remake a graph from its data Keep the pixel aspect ratio correct!



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Passivation Current Density vs. Time



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References!

Reference graphs, data and facts if:

- It's not general knowledge for your audience
- You didn't make it
- You aren't theorizing it

When in doubt, reference. It can't hurt!

Conclusions

Good luck!

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