NEWS & COMMENT

Clinton's Technology Policy Emerges 1244
Publication by Electronic Mail Takes Physics by Storm 1246
AAAS*93: An Array of Science From Mitochondrial Eve to EUVE 1249
New Meetings Tackle the Knowledge Conundrum 1253
Measures of Success at the Frontiers

RESEARCH NEWS

The Cell's Nucleus Shapes Up 1257
Looking for Cancer in Nuclear Matrix Proteins
Analytical Titans Gather at Pittcon to Predict the Future An Analytical Triptych
Battle Lines Shift in the Great Cosmic Distance Dispute
MS Study Yields Mixed Results 1263

PERSPECTIVE

GTP Hydrolysis in Protein Synthesis: Two for Tu? 1264
P. Schimmel

ARTICLES

Mediterranean Outflow Mixing and Dynamics 1277
J. F. Price, M. O. Baringer, R. G. Lueck, G. C. Johnson, I. Ambar, G. Farrilla, A. Cantos, M. A. Kennelly, T. B. Sanford

Simple Systems That Exhibit Self-Directed Replication 1282

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Crystal Structure of a Synthetic Triple-Stranded $\alpha$-Helical Bundle 1288
B. Lovejoy, S. Choie, D. Cascio, D. K. McRorie, W. F. DeGrado, D. Eisenberg

DEPARTMENTS

THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE 1233
PESTICIDES AND FOOD 1235
LETTERS 1237

SCIENCESCOPE 1243
Biotech drug falters in trials, etc.

RANDOM SAMPLES 1256
Animal Importer Admits Primate Conspiracy

Uncovering a 10-Ton Hoax - A Run Is Run Is a Run - A New Director for Hubble Facility

AAAS MEETINGS 1346
18th Annual AAAS Colloquium on Science and Technology Policy, 15–16 April 1993, Washington, DC - Preliminary Program - Advance Registration Form - Hotel Registration Form

BOOK REVIEWS 1348

PRODUCTS & MATERIALS 1352

F. Sherwood Rowland
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Geerat J. Vermeij
Bert Vogelstein
Harold Weintraub
Zene Werb
George M. Whitesides
Owen N. Witte
Keith Yamamoto
Model of precursor messenger RNA metabolism in a mammalian cell nucleus. Polyadenylated RNA (red) concentrates in topologically arranged centers, which have discrete cores of spliceosome assembly factor SC-35 (yellow). Closely associated with these centers are specific RNA transcript tracks (exons, green; introns, white; and fibronectin gene, lavender) within which both transcription and splicing occur. The dark blue area represents the nucleolus. See the Carter et al. report on page 1330 and the Xing et al. report on page 1326; also see the News story on page 1257. [Art: Ken Carter and John McNeil]

REPORTS

The Chaotic Obliquity of Mars
J. Touma and J. Wisdom
1294

Lidar Observations of the Meteoric Deposition of Mesospheric Metals
T. J. Kane and C. S. Gardner
1297

Isomers of Small Carbon Cluster Anions: Linear Chains with up to 20 Atoms
G. von Helden, P. R. Kemper, N. G. Gotts, M. T. Bowers
1300

A Mixed-Valent Polyiron Oxo Complex That Models the Biomimeralization of the Ferritin Core
K. L. Taft, G. C. Papaefthymiou, S. J. Lippard
1302

Identification of a Second Dynamic State During Stick-Slip Motion
H. Yoshizawa, P. McGuigan, J. Israelachvili
1305

Three-Dimensional Instabilities of Mantle Convection with Multiple Phase Transitions
S. Honda, D. A. Yuen, S. Balachandar, D. Reuteler
1308

Toward a Model for the Interaction Between Elongation Factor Tu and the Ribosome
A. Weiβl and A. Parmeggiani
1311

Inhibition of Rev-Mediated HIV-1 Expression by an RNA Binding Protein Encoded by the Interferon-Inducible 9-27 Gene
P. Constantoulakis, M. Campbell, B. K. Felber, G. Nasioulas, E. Afonina, G. N. Pavlakis
1314

The Cloning of PIG-A, a Component in the Early Step of GPI-Anchor Biosynthesis
1318

Double-Blind Pilot Trial of Oral Tolerization with Myelin Antigens in Multiple Sclerosis
1321

Association Between Brain Temperature and Dentate Field Potentials in Exploring and Swimming Rats
E. Moser, I. Mathiesen, P. Andersen
1324

Higher Level Organization of Individual Gene Transcription and RNA Splicing
Y. Xing, C. V. Johnson, P. R. Dobner, J. B. Lawrence
1326

A Three-Dimensional View of Precursor Messenger RNA Metabolism Within the Mammalian Nucleus
1330

TECHNICAL COMMENTS

The Role of Water in Hemoglobin Function and Stability
1335

Cover

1324
An exercise in learning

1308
Episodic mantle mixing

Indicates accompanying feature

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