NEWS

Conflict Marks Crime Conference 1808
French Budget: Research Given an ‘Apparent Increase’ 1809
Democrats Urge Clinton to Stand Up for R&D Programs 1810
Commission Proposes New Definition of Misconduct 1811
International Experts Help Probe Haiti’s Bloody Past 1812
Tracing Croatia’s ‘Disappeared’ 1812
Mass Migration Plan for Neutrinos 1813
Chambron Builds Institute With U.S. Funds and Eye for Detail 1814
Riding the Waves of Molecular Biology 1815
Butterfly Biomechanics: Wing Scales May Help Beat the Heat 1816
Another Blow Weakens EMF-Cancer Link 1816

Is the Most Distant Galaxy a Star Factory? 1817
Is Hale-Bopp the Next Great Comet? 1818

SPECIAL NEWS REPORT

SEX DETERMINATION

Tracing How the Sexes Develop 1822
Snaring the Genes That Divide the Sexes for Mammals 1824
How Males and Females Achieve X Equality 1826

ARTICLE

From Molecular Diversity to Catalysis: Lessons from the Immune System P. G. Schultz and R. A. Lerner

Departments

THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE 1797
EDITORIAL 1799
Science in the Stationary Phase A. Kornberg
LETTERS 1801
Multiple-Use Physics Facilities: J. C. Browne and R. Pynn; J. M. Carpenter; L. Rosen • The Endangered Species Act: P. F. Torrence • Garlic and Mosquitoes: F. Crowe • “Not-Even-a-Draft!”: R. L. Park; Editors • Pioneering Work: W. Fiers; J. C. Venter

SCIENCESCOPE 1807

DEPARTMENTAL INDEX 1871

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1794
SCIENCE • VOL. 269 • 29 SEPTEMBER 1995

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Propagating acoustic strain waves depicted by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). The dual-source interference pattern arose from 500-hertz mechanical shear waves applied to a tissue-simulating gel at two points (54 micrometers apart, at left). The MRI technique used can quantitatively depict mechanical waves with amplitudes on the order of hundreds of nanometers and could lead to the development of a medical imaging modality that emulates the clinical technique of palpation. See page 1854. [Image: Richard L. Ehman]

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Hemoglobin Allostery: Resonance Raman Spectroscopy of Kinetic Intermediates

V. Jayaraman, K. R. Rodgers, I. Mukerji, T. G. Spiro

REPORTS

Understanding C–H Bond Oxidations: H- and H+ Transfer in the Oxidation of Toluene by Permanganate K. A. Gardner and J. M. Mayer

Global Distribution of Persistent Organochlorine Compounds S. L. Simonich and R. A. Hites


Anisotropy and Spiral Organizing Centers in Patterned Excitable Media O. Steinbock, P. Kettunen, K. Showalter

Replicator Neural Networks for Universal Optimal Source Coding R. Hecht-Nielsen


Modulation of Transcription Factor Ets-1 DNA Binding: DNA-Induced Unfolding of an α Helix J. M. Petersen, J. J. Skalicky, L. W. Donaldson, L. P. McIntosh, T. Alber, B. J. Graves

A Specialized Pathway Affecting Virulence Glycoconjugates of Leishmania

A. Descoteaux, Y. Luo, S. J. Turco, S. M. Beverley


Jak-STAT Signaling Induced by the v-abl Oncogene N. N. Danial, A. Pernis, P. B. Rothman

Lateral Interactions in Primary Visual Cortex: A Model Bridging Physiology and Psychophysics M. Stemmler, M. Usher, E. Niebur


FFA-1, a Protein That Promotes the Formation of Replication Centers Within Nuclei H. Yan and J. Newport


TECHNICAL COMMENTS

Honeybees and Magnetoreception

H. Nichol and M. Locke; J. L. Kirschvink and M. M. Walker; M. H. Nesson; C.-Y. Hsu and C.-W. Li

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