

ELNs In the Semantic Era

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15 March 2006

IBC Life Sciences

Maximising the Potential of Electronic Laboratory
Notebooks



The CombeChem Project

- Collect data with regard to how it could eventually be used
 - Make sure the metadata is of high quality
 - Record properly at source in Digital Form
- The Chemistry Lab
 - People & Machines working together
- End to End linking of data and information
 - Publication@Source
- But then.... "Who needs provenance?"
Bush, Blair The JIC, MI5, CIA & Hutton



Chemical Grids

- Start in the laboratory – pervasive physical grid (Smart Tea)
- Computational chemistry very significant source – *in silico* grid (*Chem MyTea*)
- Used by chemists so must be simple to support & maintain - *simple, stable, secure, & autonomic*

What are the people up to?

We can capture the environment
but need to capture the processes

Who is doing what, where are
they doing it, and what is the
environment like?



Like cash machine
electronic notebooks
have taken many forms
- we want one that
adapts to context,
simple to use in the lab
whilst doing actual
bench chemistry but
linked to more
resources at the desk -
the pervasive lab book
grid

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ChemLab

The Chemistry 3/5 & 6
Laboratories

- ▶ General Information
- ▶ Instruments & Techniques
- ▶ Chemistry 3/5 Experiments
- ▶ Chemistry 6 Experiments

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Permanent,
documented
and primary
record of
laboratory
observations

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Safety

- [General Rules](#)
- [Safety Equipment](#)
- [Safety Hazards](#)
- [Emergency Procedures](#)

Resources

- [Applets](#)
- [General FAQ](#)
- [Uncertainty](#)
- [ChemLab Home](#)

[Info](#) | [Techniques](#) | [Chem 3/5](#) | [Chem 6](#)

How to Keep a Notebook

One of the most useful skills you will acquire in the laboratory is the proper use of a laboratory notebook. Notebooks, or other formally kept records, are an essential tool in many careers, ranging from that of the research scientist to that of the practicing physician. The effort invested in developing good habits of notebook use will be amply repaid for students who pursue a future in the basic or applied sciences. Experience has indicated that skillful notebook use is developed by most students only through continued special effort--it does not come naturally. Some of the main principles of sound notebook use are outlined below.

The laboratory notebook is a permanent, documented, and primary record of laboratory observations. Therefore, your notebook will be a bound journal with pages that should be numbered in advance and never torn out. A notebook will be supplied to you before the first laboratory period. Write your name, the name of your TA, and your lab section on the cover of your notebook. All notebook entries must be in ink and clearly dated. No entry is ever erased or obliterated by pen or "white out". Changes are made by drawing a single line through an entry in such a way that it can still be read and placing the new entry nearby. If it is a primary datum that is changed, a brief explanation of the change should be entered (e.g. "balance drifted" or "reading error"). No explanation is necessary if a calculation or discussion is changed; the section to be deleted is simply removed by drawing a neat "x" through it.



necessary if a calculation or discussion is changed; the section to be deleted is simply removed by drawing a neat "x" through it.

In view of the fact that a notebook is a primary record, data are not copied into it from other sources (such as this manual or a lab partner's notebook, in a joint experiment) without clear acknowledgment of the source. Observations are never collected on note pads, filter paper, or other temporary paper for later transfer into a notebook. If you are caught using the "scrap of paper" technique, your improperly recorded data may be confiscated by your TA or instructor at any time. It is important to develop a standard approach to using a notebook routinely as the primary receptacle of observations.

Each week at the beginning of lab lecture, you will turn in your prelab problems from the manual for grading. Problems not turned in at the beginning of lab lecture will be

Observations are never collected on note pads, filter paper or other temporary paper for later transfer into a notebook

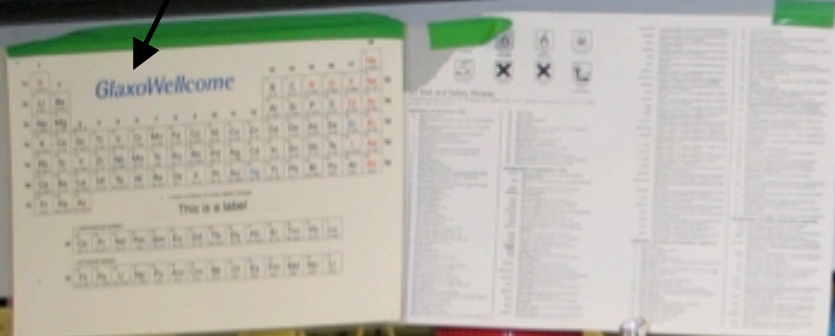


If you are caught using the "scrap of paper" technique, your improperly recorded data may be confiscated by your TA

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es ELN

Industrial support



critical data
entry





COSHH

leverage off things we already
have to do

COSHH ASSESSMENT FORM				Record No.
SUBSTANCE NAME	PHYSICAL FORM	QUANTITY	NATURE OF HAZARD	
Water	liquid	1000ml	None	
Dextrose	Solid	<20g	possible irritation to eyes and skin	
Caffeine	Solid (tea)	<1g	Harmful if swallowed, induce vomiting	
Milk	liquid	<100ml	No particular hazards	
NATURE OF PROCESS liquid extraction of caffeine, followed by combination with dext to produce a sweet drink				
Is there a less hazardous substance? <i>No</i> If so, why not use it?				
CONTROL MEASURES REQUIRED <i>No specific measure required</i> (Local exhaust ventilation, personal protection, etc.)				





Weigh-Station #1

11-Feb-2004 16:04:40

dj

djbj3403

Experiment Details

Name	Planned	Actual
Fluorinated biphenyl	0.9000 g	0.9031 g
Br11OCB	1.5900 g	1.5918 g
Potassium Carbonate	2.0700 g	2.0719 g
Butanone	40.0 ml	40.0 ml

7

8

9

4

5

6

1

2

3

0

.

Enter

Del

All measurements completed.

djbj3

Merck2

Potassium Carbonate

Butanone

Escape

Quit

Weigh

Liquid-Measure

Bench

Store

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Ingredient List

Fluorinated biphenyl	0.9 g
Br11OCB	1.59 g
Potassium Carbonate	2.07 g
Butanone	40 ml

Name	Planned	Actual
Fluorinated biphenyl	0.9000 g	0.9031 g
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7	8	9
4	5	6
1	2	3
0	.	

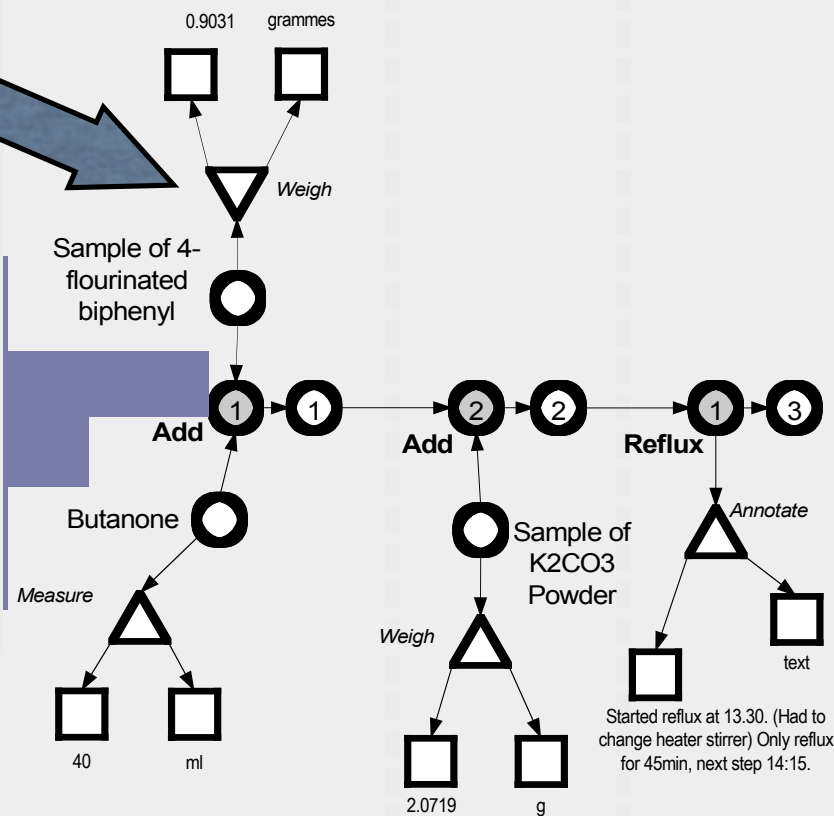
Enter

Del

Dissolve 4-flourinated biphenyl in butanone

Add K₂CO₃ powder

Heat at reflux for 1.5 hours



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To I Plan Record

Ingredient List	
Fluorinated biphenyl	0.9 g
Br11OCB	1.59 g
Potassium Carbonate	2.07 g
Butanone	40 ml

Dissolve 4-fluorinated biphenyl in butanone

Add K₂CO₃ powder

Heat at reflux for 1.5 hours

Cool and add Br11OCB

Heat at reflux until completion

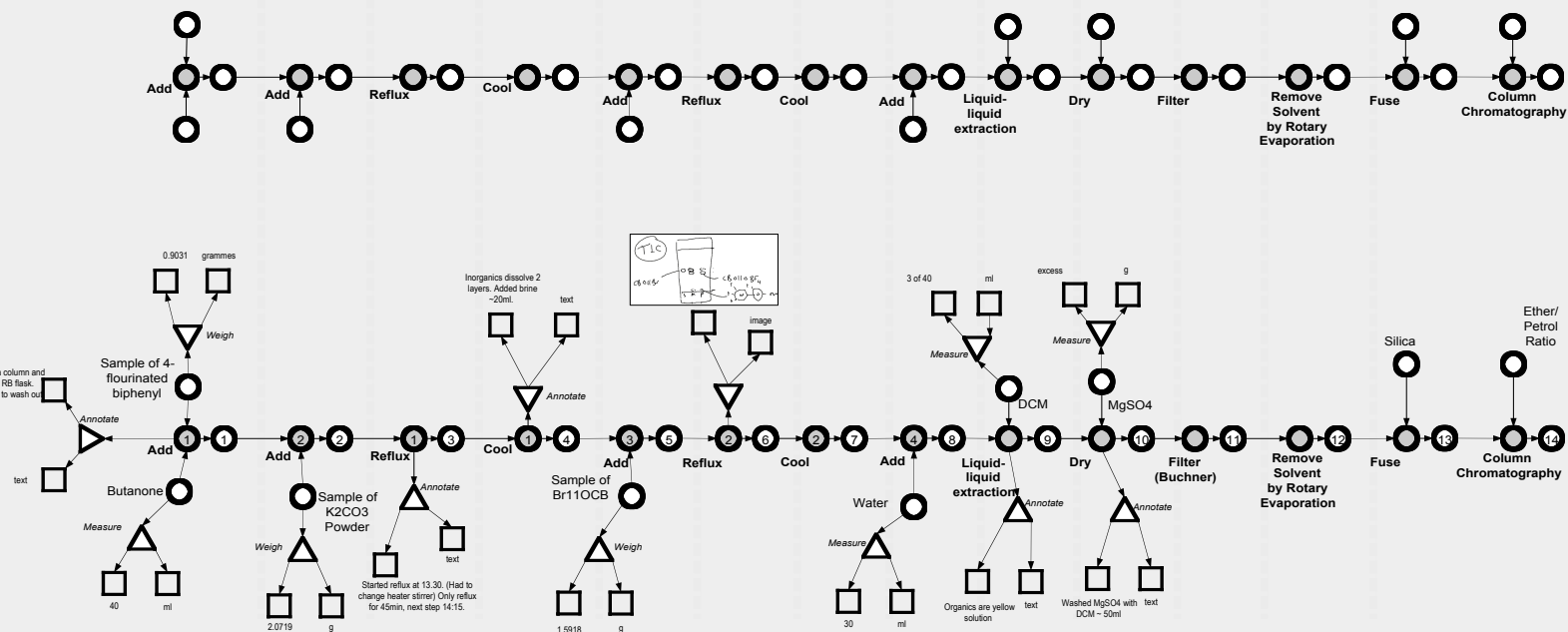
Cool and add water (30ml)

Extract with DCM (3x40ml)

Combine organics, dry over MgSO₄ & filter

Remove solvent in vacuo

Fuse compound to silica & column in ether/petrol



Key	
Process	○
Input	○○
Literal	□
Observation	▽

Observation Types	
weight - grammes	
measure - ml, drops	
annotate - text	
temperature - K, °C	

Future Questions	
Whether to have many subclasses of processes or fewer with annotations	
How to depict destructive processes	
How to depict taking lots of samples	
What is the observation/process boundary? e.g. MRI scan	

Combechem
30 January 2004
gvh, hrm, gms





Property in RDF

- `<c:OrganicMolecule rdf:about="file:///storage/ba8efc2ce0edada69d63b02d1b8630c6.rdf">`
- `<c:has-inchi>1.12Beta/C12H13NO2/c1-2-15-8-9-5-6-11(14)12-10(9)4-3-7-13-12/h1H3,2H2,3-7H,8H2,14H</c:has-inchi>`
- `<c:has-cas>22049-19-0</c:has-cas>`
- `<c:has-empirical-formula>C12H13NO2</c:has-empirical-formula>`
- `<c:has-stereocentres>0</c:has-stereocentres>`
- `<c:has-property>`
- `<c:MeltingPoint>`
- `<c:has-information>`
- `<c:Information>`
- `<c:has-value>150</c:has-value>`
- `<c:has-uncertainty>`
- `<c:Range>`
- `<c:has-value>16</c:has-value>`
- `</c:Range>`
- `</c:has-uncertainty>`
- `</c:Information>`
- `</c:has-information>`
- `</c:MeltingPoint>`
- `</c:has-property>`
- `</c:OrganicMolecule>`



Schema

- `<rdf:Class rdf:about="&c;OrganicMolecule">`
- `<rdf:label>Organic Molecule</rdf:label>`
- `<rdf:subClassOf rdf:resource="&c;Molecule" />`
- `</rdf:Class>`

- `<rdf:Class rdf:about="&c;PhysicalProperty">`
- `<rdf:label>Property</rdf:label>`
- `</rdf:Class>`

- `<rdf:Class rdf:about="&c;PartitionCoefficient">`
- `<rdf:label>Parition Coefficient</rdf:label>`
- `<rdf:subClassOf rdf:resource="&c;PhysicalProperty" />`
- `<rdf:description>Ratio of substance dissolved in octan-1-ol and water`
- `</rdf:description>`
- `</rdf:Class>`

This turns out to be a very flexible approach

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window Help

file:///rob/prog/triangle/test2/nitrostyrene-page.htm

TRIANGLE

CAS INCHI NAME SMILES EMPIR

1202-32-0

Search the DB Canned Example

query number = [10]

• MOLECULE

type	Resource
type	Molecule
has-SMILES	<chem>c1cccc1C=C(Cc1ccc(N(=O)=O)cc1)</chem>
has-name	B-ETHYL-B-NITROSTYRENE
has-rmm	177.2
has-stereocentres	0
has-empirical-formula	C10H11NO2
has-cas	1202-32-0

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File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window Help

file:///rob/prog/triangle/test2/nitrostyrene-page.htm

Search

type OrganicMolecule

has-property 48.29587

type PhysicalProperty

type BoilingPoint

type Resource

has-information

49.29587

type Resource

type Information

has-date 2005-2-28

has-value 307.5

has-uncertainty

has-unit

has-source

53.29587

type Source

type PhysProp

type Resource

has-method

54.29587

type Resource

type Laboratory

of-quality

has-condition

has-property 16.29587

type PhysicalProperty

type Solubility

type Resource

has-property 26.29587

type PhysicalProperty

type Information

type Solubility

type Resource

has-information

has-property 6.29587


type PhysicalProperty

type Information

type Solubility

type Resource

has-information

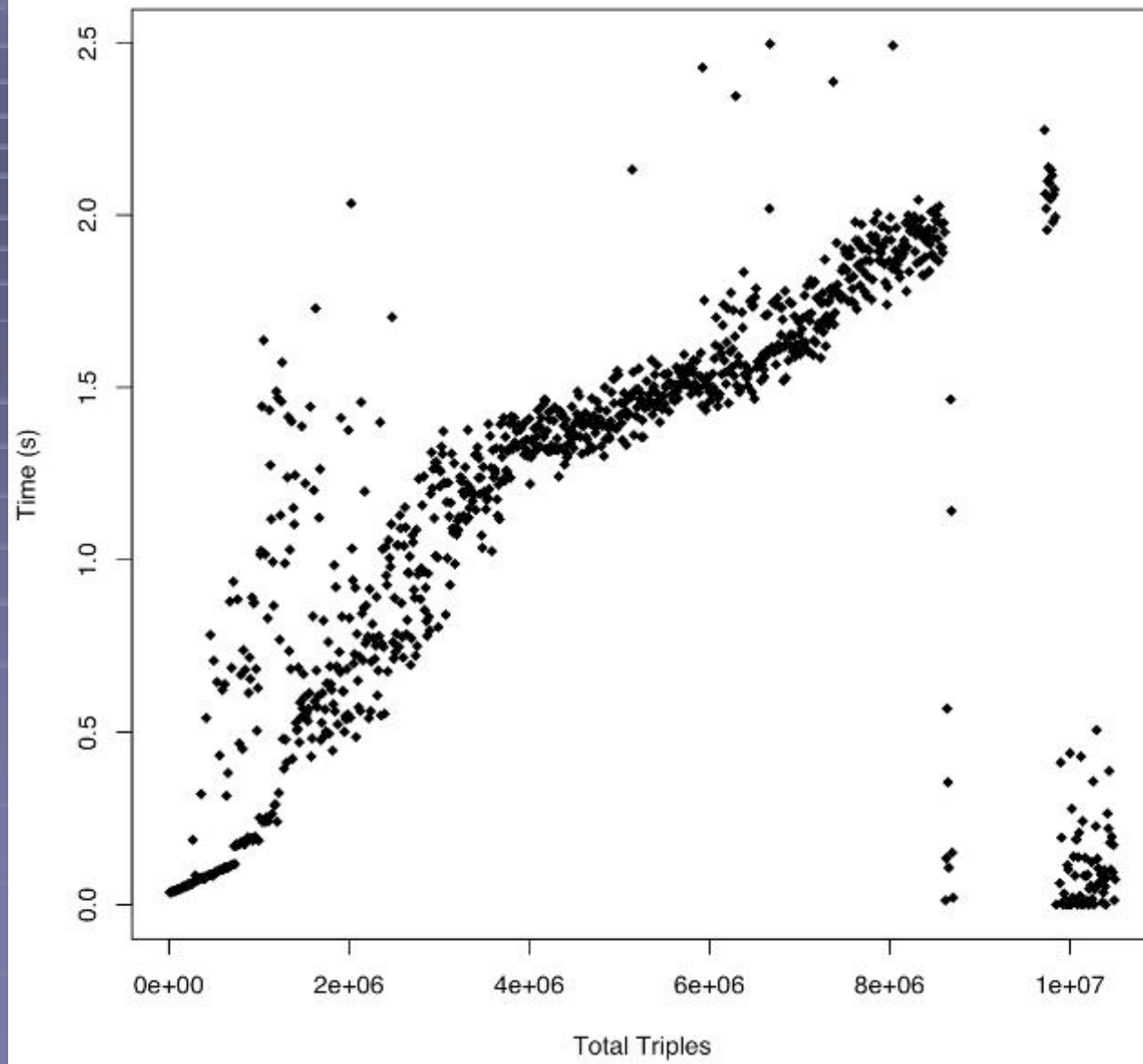


3mol

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ACCESS RESTRICTED
Version = 0.6



Performance of Six Related Queries



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LN



Adapt SHG lab

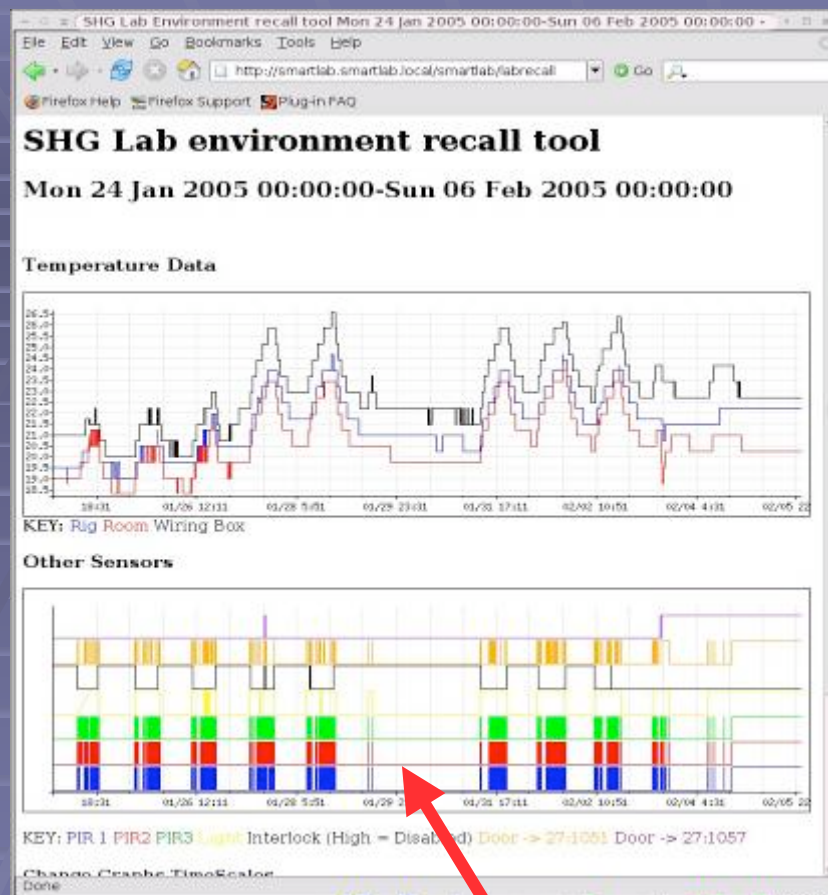
- Capture information from places you would not want to put your eyes



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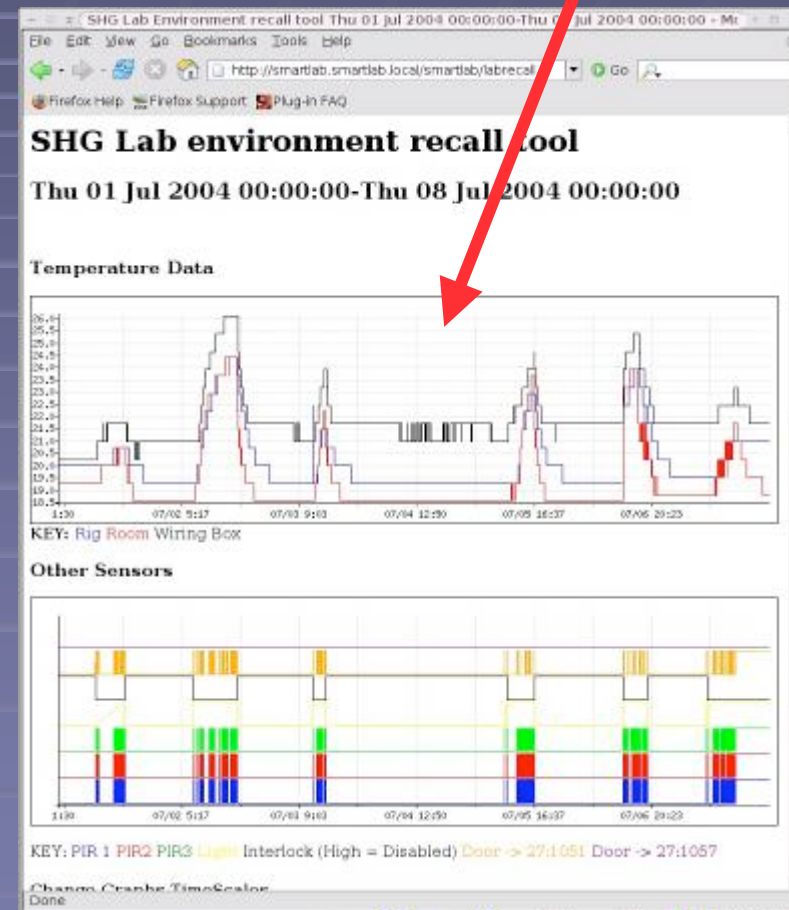
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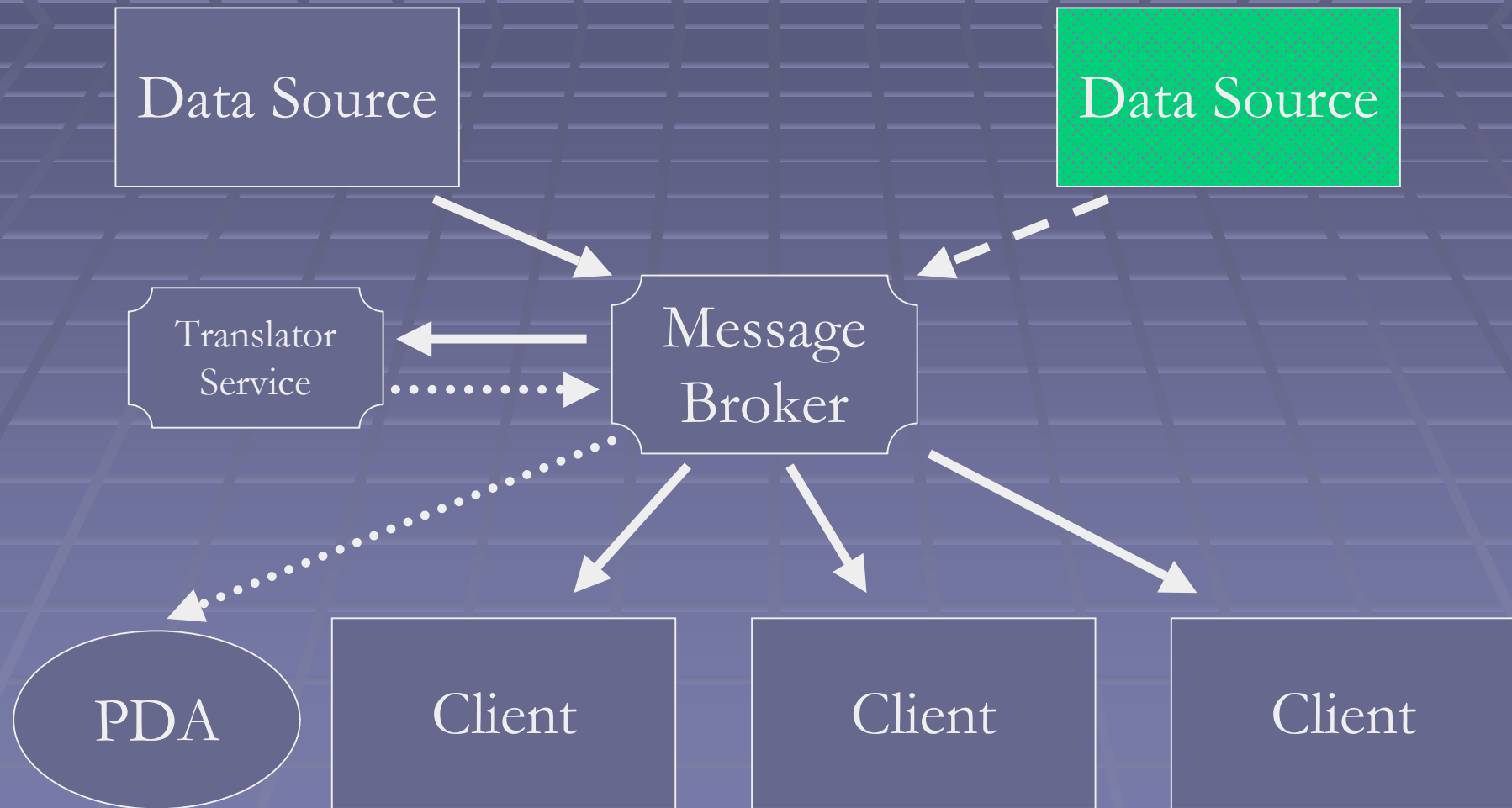
Air Conditioning failed

Student turned off a/c





Get the view of the lab where and when you want
in the way you want it - how to support this





BBC NEWS | Science/Nature | Chemists escape labs via mobiles - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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By Jo Twist
BBC News sci

**A blend of m
and award-w
is letting sci
escape the la**

The software, "middleware", computer syst other securely instantaneous

As part of a n project in the used to let So University che experiment co mobiles.

Sensors in the changes in the the system ca

"It replaces th

Address <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4233757.stm>

experiment in more detail.

PDAs everywhere

Members of Dr Frey's non-linear laser spectroscopy research group, working as part of the Combechem project, have been successfully trying out the system at conferences - and in the university bar.

The next step is to evolve the system so that at a push of a button on a mobile, scientists will be able to remotely change the conditions in the lab, like turning down the temperature.

It could also realise the promise of controlling home environments from phones easily and seamlessly.

But there are many other potential applications for the monitoring jobs done by the power industries, healthcare professions and other labs.



Chemists enjoy a drink at the bar while keeping an eye on the lab

IBM won the Royal Academy of Engineering's MacRobert prize which rewards technological and engineering innovation for the program in June last year.

Used by top global banks, the WebSphere MQ family is a decade old.

Address <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/help/3681938.stm>