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## Cool visualizations

by Eszter Hargittai on March 18, 2007

What do you get when you sort approximately 800,000 published papers into 776 scientific paradigms? If you have an interesting [visualization expert](#) working with you on the project then you get [this map](#) (or [click here](#) for an even larger version). [Seed Magazine](#) has more on the details and Brad Paley's Information Esthetics Web site [tells you](#) how you can get your own copy just for paying shipping and handling charges.

This map is just one project of Katy Börner's cool [Places and Spaces: Mapping Science](#) initiative at Indiana University. Check out that site for more goodies.

Brad also has some other intriguing projects, like [this calendar](#) (an alternative to what we usually use). One of my favorites, however, remains his [TextArc](#) work for alternative ways of visualizing text. For example, check out his representation of [Alice in Wonderland](#).

UPDATE: I've been meaning to blog about Jim Moody's related work as well so I should've remembered to include a link to his visualizations, too: [co-citation of physical and bio sciences](#), dynamic visualization of [sociology co-authorship network](#).

{ 3 comments }

**1 J. Ellenberg** 03.18.07 at 11:13 pm

I'd like to see a map of the MSC classifications within mathematics, with distances between x and y given by the data of how frequently a paper was classified under both heading x and y. [MathSciNet](#) already has all this data, so producing the picture is surely doable.

**2 vivian** 03.19.07 at 2:08 am

Wow. A favorite professor used to try to generate a graph like this on the chalkboard back in the day (inspiring to some of us, baffling and dusty to most). I can't wait to send him this link. So were these people channeling the Buzan brothers, or is this node-plus-sentence-like-tendrils style more common than I realize?

**3 franck** 03.19.07 at 1:49 pm

What precisely is "Materials"? Does this mean most of condensed matter physics, or is that in Quantum Physics? The categories seem a little weird.

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