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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/040412OilWaterACS.jpgDefying conventional wisdom, water can float on oilCredit: American Chemical Society |

Defying thousands of years of conventional wisdom, scientists are reporting that it is possible for water to float on oil, a discovery they say has important potential applications in cleaning up oil spills that threaten seashores and fisheries. Their report appears in ACS’ journal Langmuir.Chi M. Phan and colleagues point out that the ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle made an early attempt to explain flotation around 350 B.C. Today, most people know that less dense liquids float on more dense liquids. So crude oil with a density of about 58 pounds per cubic foot floats on sea water, which has a density of 64 pounds per cubic foot — and not vice-versa. Correct? Phan’s team decided to test that notion with computer models and in the lab. They report that in certain cases, the conventional wisdom is wrong. By adding tiny amounts of water to a floating droplet of oil, they found that the ability of water drops to float at the surface of an oil bath depends on both the size of the droplet and the type of oil. Commercial vegetable oil has enough surface tension – the force between liquid molecules that allows beads of water to form or insects to walk on water -- at its interfaces with air and water to support a droplet’s weight, while pure mineral oils do not. At the same time, they found that vegetable oil could not support drops bigger than about one one hundredth of a cubic inch. The authors suggest the new knowledge could help clean up oil spills, where water-borne, oil-eating microbes will mix more easily into the oil if suspended in the tiny droplets they describe. “This result can lead to a new and advanced mechanism in processing oil/water mixtures, such as biodegrading process of unwanted oils, including vegetable oils, sand oil tailings and oil spillages,” the authors said.[Click here](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266603&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/la204820a) to view a video of their experiment.

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/040412Langmuir_thumb.jpg[Click here](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266604&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://web.1.c2.audiovideoweb.com/1c2web3536/040412langmuir.jpg) for high-resolution image |

ARTICLE #1 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**“Can Water Float on Oil?”[DOWNLOAD FULL TEXT ARTICLE](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266605&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://pubs.acs.org/stoken/presspac/presspac/full/10.1021/la204820a) CONTACT:Chi M. Phan, Ph.D.Curtin UniversityPerth, AustraliaEmail: c.phan@curtin.edu.au [To Top](#top)http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/goldline.gifARTICLE #2 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Some “improved cookstoves” may emit more pollution than traditional mud cookstoves**Environmental Science & Technology

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/040412CookstoveIstock_thumb.jpgSome “improved cookstoves” may emit more pollution than traditional mud cookstovesCredit: iStock |

The first real-world, head-to-head comparison of “improved cookstoves” (ICs) and traditional mud stoves has found that some ICs may at times emit more of the worrisome “black carbon,” or soot, particles that are linked to serious health and environmental concerns than traditional mud stoves or open-cook fires. The report, which raises concerns about the leading hope as a clean cooking technology in the developing world, appears in ACS’ journal Environmental Science &Technology.Abhishek Kar, Hafeez Rehman, Jennifer Burney and colleagues explain that hundreds of millions of people in developing countries in South Asia, Africa and South America are exposed to soot from mud stoves and 3-stone fires used for cooking, heating and light. The particles can be inhaled deeply into the lungs and have been linked to health problems similar to those associated with cigarette smoking. In addition, black soot released into the atmosphere is a major factor in global warming. Aid agencies and governments have been seeking replacements for traditional cookstoves and fires to remedy those problems, with ICs as one of the leading hopes. Until now, however, there have been little real-world data on the actual performance of ICs — which have features like enhanced air flow and a battery-powered fan to burn wood and other fuel more cleanly.The researchers measured black carbon emissions from five IC models and traditional mud stoves. They did the test in real homes as part of [Project Surya](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266606&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.projectsurya.org/), which quantifies the impacts of cleaner cooking technologies in a village in India. Forced draft stoves burned cleaner than any other IC. However, black carbon concentrations from all ICs varied significantly, even for the same stove from one day to the next. Surprisingly, some natural draft stoves occasionally emitted more black carbon than the traditional mud cookstove. The researchers acknowledge funding from private donors, the [National Science Foundation](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266607&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.nsf.gov/), the [Swedish International Development Agency](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266608&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.sida.se/English/), the [United Nations Environment Programme](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266609&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.unep.org/), the [Vetlesen Foundation](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266610&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.monellvetlesen.org/vetlesen/default.htm) and the Alderson Foundation.

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/040412EST_thumb.jpg[Click here](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266611&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://web.1.c2.audiovideoweb.com/1c2web3536/040412est.jpg) for high-resolution image |

ARTICLE #2 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**“Real-time Assessment of Black Carbon Pollution in Indian Households Due to Traditional and Improved Biomass Cookstoves”[DOWNLOAD FULL TEXT ARTICLE](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266612&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://pubs.acs.org/stoken/presspac/presspac/full/10.1021/es203388g)CONTACT:Jennifer Burney, Ph.D.Scripps Institution of OceanographyUniversity of California, San DiegoSan Diego, Calif. 92121Phone: 858-534-4154Email: jburney@ucsd.edu [To Top](#top)http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/goldline.gifARTICLE #3 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASECarbon nanotubes can double growth of cell cultures important in industry**ACS Nano

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/040412MWCNTIstock_thumb.jpgCarbon nanotubes can double growth of cell cultures important in industryCredit: iStock |

A dose of carbon nanotubes more than doubles the growth rate of plant cell cultures — workhorses in the production of everything from lifesaving medications to sweeteners to dyes and perfumes — researchers are reporting. Their study, the first to show that carbon nanotubes boost plant cell division and growth, appears in the journal ACS Nano.Mariya V. Khodakovskaya and colleagues explain that their previous research demonstrated that so-called multiwalled carbon nanotubes (MWCNTs) can penetrate through the thick coatings on seeds, stimulate germination of the seeds and stimulate the growth of certain plants. MWCNTs are wisps of pure carbon so small that thousands would fit on the period at the end of this sentence. Those discoveries “have the potential to transform agricultural practices in the near future and to provide solutions to some of the most serious problems related to plant growth and development,” the scientists said. Their new research focused on how MWCNTs affect the growth of model tobacco plant cell cultures. Plant cells of many plant species, grown in large industrial vats, find extensive use in producing medical and commercial products and plants for agriculture. The scientists found that tiny amounts of MWCNTs ramped up the activity of genes involved in cell growth. MWCNTs also seem to work by activation of channels that transport water into cells, helping cells divide and grow faster. The authors acknowledge funding from the [EPSCoR Center for Plant-Powered Production](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266614&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.arkp3center.org/) and the [Arkansas Science & Technology Authority](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266615&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.asta.arkansas.gov/Pages/default.aspx).

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/040412ACSNano_thumb.jpg[Click here](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266616&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://web.1.c2.audiovideoweb.com/1c2web3536/040412acsnano.jpg) for high-resolution image |

ARTICLE #3 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**“Carbon Nanotubes Induce Growth Enhancement of Tobacco Cells”[DOWNLOAD FULL TEXT ARTICLE](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266617&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://pubs.acs.org/stoken/presspac/presspac/full/10.1021/nn204643g)CONTACT:Mariya V. Khodakovskaya, Ph.D.University of Arkansas at Little RockLittle Rock, Ark. 72204Email: mvkhodakovsk@ualr.edu [To Top](#top)http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/goldline.gif ARTICLE #4 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: A PressPac Instant Replay\*****Advance toward an imaging agent for diagnosing Alzheimer’s disease**ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/011112ADIstock_thumb.jpgAdvance toward an imaging agent for diagnosing Alzheimer’s diseaseCredit: iStock |

Scientists are reporting development and initial laboratory tests of an imaging agent that shows promise for detecting the tell-tale signs of Alzheimer’s disease (AD) in the brain — signs that now can’t confirm a diagnosis until after patients have died. Their report appears in the journal ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters.Masahiro Ono and colleagues explain that no proven laboratory test or medical scan now exists for AD, which is claiming an increasingly heavy toll with the graying of the world’s population. Patients now get a diagnosis of AD based on their medical history and symptoms, and symptoms like memory loss often are identical to those of normal aging. Currently, the only definitive way to diagnose AD involves an autopsy with examination of brain samples for the presence of the clumps and tangles of abnormal protein that occur in the disease.The scientists describe the synthesis and lab testing of a new imaging agent (called FPPDB), which bound tightly to ß-amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles — signs of AD — in human brain samples. In normal laboratory mice, which served as stand-ins for humans, FPPDB stayed in the body long enough for a PET scan (a sophisticated medical imaging technique). With further development, the imaging agent may allow early AD diagnosis in humans, the scientists indicate.The authors acknowledge funding from the [Japan Society for the Promotion of Science](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266618&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-jisedai/) and the [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266619&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.mext.go.jp/english/).

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/040412ACSMedChem_thumb.jpg[Click here](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266620&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://web.1.c2.audiovideoweb.com/1c2web3536/040412acsmedchem.jpg) for high-resolution image |

ARTICLE #4 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**“18F-Labeled Phenyldiazenyl Benzothiazole for in Vivo Imaging of Neurofibrillary Tangles in Alzheimer’s Disease Brains”[DOWNLOAD FULL TEXT ARTICLE](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266621&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://pubs.acs.org/stoken/presspac/presspac/full/10.1021/ml200230e)CONTACT:Masahiro Ono, Ph.D.Department of Patho-Functional BioanalysisGraduate School of Pharmaceutical SciencesKyoto UniversityKyoto, JapanPhone: +81-75-753-4608Fax: + 81-75-753-4568Email: ono@pharm.kyoto-u.ac.jp**\* A previous PressPac item that you may have missed**   [To Top](#top)http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/goldline.gifARTICLE #5 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Greening up the blue dye in jeans, police uniforms and the red, white & blue**Chemical & Engineering News

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/040212CEN_thumb.jpg[Click here](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266622&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://web.1.c2.audiovideoweb.com/1c2web3536/040212cen.jpg) for high-resolution image. |

Efforts are underway to develop a more environmentally friendly process for dyeing denim with indigo, the storied "king of dyes," used to the tune of 50,000 tons annually to color cotton blue jeans and hundreds of other products. That effort is the topic of an article in the current edition of Chemical & Engineering News (C&EN). C&EN is the weekly newsmagazine of the American Chemical Society (ACS), the world’s largest scientific society.In the article, C&EN Assistant Managing Editor Michael McCoy notes that concerns about the environmental effects of indigo represent a modern concern about an ancient product. Indigo produces a rainbow of hues, ranging from deep navy to pale pastels. For centuries, the primary source of indigo was branches of a bush native to India. In 1878, German chemist and Nobel laureate Adolf von Baeyer made the first synthetic indigo, but the process was too expensive. It took chemical manufacturer BASF years to find a practical process for making the dye, and that happened only because of a lucky accident in which a lab worker broke a mercury thermometer, and the mercury catalyzed a reaction to make the dye.The story describes how a partnership between the dye manufacturer DyStar and Swiss startup RedElec Technologie may be the beginning of a new revolution in indigo dyeing that will improve its environmental profile. To get indigo dye to attach to denim and other fabrics requires chemical reactions before and after the dye impregnates the cotton fibers. Even with modern improvements to the technique, the process produces large amounts of waste. The article highlights a new approach designed to achieve a long-standing goal of eliminating the need for sodium hydrosulfite in the dyeing process. Doing so would green up the indigo dyeing process and stop a water pollution problem at its source. ARTICLE #5 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**"Into the Blue"This story is available at: [http://cenm.ag/blue](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266624&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://cenm.ag/blue)  [To Top](#top)http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/goldline.gif **Journalists’ Resources** **Press releases, briefings and more from ACS’ 243rd National Meeting**[www.eurekalert.org/acsmeet.php](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266625&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.eurekalert.org/acsmeet.php) [http://www.ustream.tv/channel/acslive](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266626&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.ustream.tv/channel/acslive%20) **Inside Science News Service**For thoroughly enjoyable multimedia coverage of the science behind the news — a valuable resource for journalists and news media organizations everywhere. [Click here](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266627&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.insidescience.org/) to visit the Inside Science News website.**C&EN Video Spotlight: 3-D printing goes viral**Sriram Subramaniam, Ph.D., keeps a curio collection of sorts on top of a file cabinet in his office. It's packed with three-dimensional replicas of viruses and proteins implicated in diseases, including influenza and HIV. They're made with a technology called 3-D printing, which makes 3-D objects from a digital image in a way that's akin to printing images on a piece of paper. The technology is already used in the medical and dental, footwear and jewelry industries. Subramaniam, a biophysicist, and his colleagues learn more about how diseases are transmitted with these "touchable science" tools at the newly-created Living Lab, a collaboration between the National Institutes of Health and instrument maker FEI.[Click here](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266628&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://youtu.be/wStbqKU9Dmc) to watch Dr. Subramaniam show off some of the proteins and viruses his group has made.**Must-reads from C&EN: Exit a 130-pound printed icon, enter a new lite cola**Just teasers. But the full stories appear in the popular Newscripts feature in the weekly news magazine of the world's largest scientific society. For the full stories, contact Michael Bernstein at m\_bernstein@acs.org.**ACS Pressroom Blog** The ACS Office of Public Affairs' [pressroom blog](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266629&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.acspressblog.com) highlights research from ACS’ 41 peer-reviewed journals and National Meetings. **Bytesize Science Blog** Educators and kids, put on your thinking caps: The American Chemical Society has [a blog for Bytesize Science](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266630&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.bytesizescience.com), a science podcast for kids of all ages.  **ACS Satellite Pressroom: Daily news blasts on Twitter** The satellite press room has become one of the most popular science news sites on Twitter. To get our news blasts and updates, create a free account at [https://twitter.com/signup](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266631&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=https://twitter.com/signup). Then visit [http://twitter.com/ACSpressroom](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266632&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://twitter.com/ACSpressroom) and click the ‘join’ button beneath the press room logo. **C&EN on Twitter**Follow @cenmag <[http://twitter.com/cenmag](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266633&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://twitter.com/cenmag)> for the latest news in chemistry and dispatches from C&EN's blog, CENtral Science <[http://centralscience.org](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266634&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://centralscience.org)>.**ACS Press Releases** [Press releases](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266635&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_NEWSRELEASES&node_id=222&use_sec=false&sec_url_var=region1&__uuid=50b5ab93-801d-4d0d-868f-b9507ff9d709) on a variety of chemistry-related topics.[To Top](#top)http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/acs/goldline.gif**ACS Videos**The American Chemical Society encourages news organizations, museums, educational organizations and other web sites to embed links to these videos.**Spellbound: How Kids Became Scientists**

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| http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/Spellbound3.jpg |

The road to a Nobel Prize began for one scientist in elementary school when his father placed a sign on his bedroom door proclaiming him to be a “doctor.” This is just one of the many experiences that helped launch the careers of scientists from diverse backgrounds who are featured in a new ACS video series called [Spellbound: How Kids Became Scientists](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266636&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_ARTICLEMAIN&node_id=1355&content_id=CNBP_028033&use_sec=true&sec_url_var=region1&__uuid=e8e6ee76-0abe-4e78-84c4-3717c995c65e). **Prized Science video series**

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Prized Science: How the Science Behind ACS Awards Impacts Your Life video series is new for 2011! In the first episode, see how Ahmed Zewail, Ph.D., developed a technology that's paving the way for new medicines, new fuels and new materials that will give people longer, healthier, happier lives. Zewail is the winner of the 2011 Priestley Medal. The second episode features the work of David Craik, Ph.D., who made advances toward new drugs for treating health problems that affect millions of people around the world, including antibiotic-resistant bacteria and AIDS. Craik is the winner of the ACS 2011 Ralph F. Hirschmann Award in Peptide Chemistry, sponsored by Merck Research Laboratories. More episodes will appear later in the year. The series is available at the [Prized Science](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266637&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_ARTICLEMAIN&node_id=446&content_id=CTD1_018821&use_sec=true&sec_url_var=region1&__uuid=594bce97-0b05-4df7-b759-1a0f9156c5d8) website and on DVD. **First Living, Dancing Periodic Table of the Elements**

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That famous chart displaying the chemical elements that make up everything on Earth — a fixture on the walls of classrooms and labs — literally comes alive in this new video from the American Chemical Society (ACS). [Chemists Can Dance!](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266638&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://bytesizescience.com/index.cfm/2011/3/29/The-Chemistry-Dance) features scores of chemists wearing symbols representing the elements, kicking up their heels to the tune of an original rap song. It's all part of ACS' celebration of the International Year of Chemistry. Check out the fun and share the link.**A Day Without Chemistry** Imagine a day without cars, electric lights, TV, telephones, safe food and water, medicine, clothing, your house and thousands of other familiar objects that make up modern society. Do it, and you are imagining a day in a world without chemistry. ACS explores that thought-provoking premise in a new high-definition video released as part of the celebration of the International Year of Chemistry. [A Day Without Chemistry](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266639&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbfW_CMMe48) follows a person who sees more and more everyday necessities and conveniences disappear before his widening eyes.[The Chemistry of Sourdough Bread](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266640&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.bytesizescience.com/index.cfm/2010/9/27/Chemistry-of-Sourdough)[The Chemistry of Fireworks](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266641&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.bytesizescience.com/index.cfm/2010/6/25/Bytesize-Science-Presents-The-Chemistry-of-Fireworks)[The Chemistry of Grilling and Barbecuing](http://www.mmsend88.com/link.cfm?r=800557068&sid=18266642&m=1853184&u=ACS&j=9703737&s=http://www.bytesizescience.com/index.cfm/2010/6/15/Chemistry-of-Barbeque) [To Top](#top)  http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACS/goldline.gif**ACS Podcasts**

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