Tips for Proper Display of Information in Lab Reports

1. Thou shalt use discretion for properly displaying the information at hand: a **figure** to display graphical trends; a **table** to display actual values

2. Thou shalt have proper axis labels, with units

3. Thou shalt show discrete symbols for experimental data

4. Thou shalt use a line for plotting results from an equation

5. Thou shalt be mindful of having color in a figure but printing in black and white; line trends should be clearly differentiated in all forms

6. Thou shalt use legends only when necessary

7. Thou shalt adjust the axis range to fit the trends

   *In a report...*

8. Thou shalt have a figure caption, with a number and brief description of the figure’s information

9. Thou shalt reference ALL figures and tables in the text

Compare the two plots of the same information. Which one makes more sense and is easier to read? What information is missing from the plot on the right?

![Theoretical Values vs. distance from inlet](image1.png)

**Figure 1:** Theoretical velocity and pressure as a function of distance.