Short text summary on how I’ve applied each of the Tufte Rules in my plot.

I believe I used most of the Tufte Rules on my figure.

1. Show Your Data – To construct the figure, I pulled the data from credible sources such as NASA and SCRIPPS Institute of Oceanography. Also, I modified the data from the two sources to make them readable by the program. Furthermore, I decided to show the data for the 1960-2010 period, as mentioned on the figure.
2. Use Graphics – This was not applicable to my figure, as there isn’t much to add to the graph.
3. Avoid Chartjunk – I’ve definitely avoided chartjunk by keeping my figure simple and clean, without any distracting patterns. My figure does not focus too much on the design aspect, but is pleasant to look at.
4. Utilize Data Ink – In order to apply this rule, I’ve removed the Figure borders, grid lines, and other unnecessary elements.
5. Use Labels – I have clearly labeled my axes, and have included units of measurement in the figure title. Also, my figure contains a legend, representing the meaning of the color gradient.
6. Utilize Micro/Macro – The data I’ve used for my figure contains a monthly data for each year, i.e. 12 months for 1 year (1960-2010). From close up, individual data points can be seen, however, when they are viewed from afar, they show the trend line clearly.
7. Separate Layers – As shown on my figure, I’ve used opposite colors for the Keeling curve, distinguishing the trend line from the data points. In the bottom figure, I’ve used a color gradient to indicate temperature change, and included the range of the temperature change.
8. Use Multiples – The data shows the trend in a clear way no matter which way you look at it, i.e. it is consistent.
9. Utilize Color – I used contrasting colors to distinguish a dataset versus a trend line. Also, I used a color gradient to show the change in temperature over time.
10. Understand Narrative – The narrative applies for the Keeling curve, as you can see the seasonal changes of CO2 fluctuations over time.