

Studio Physics

Engineering Physics II

PHYS 214
Department of Physics
Kansas State University
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Studio Physics Laboratory Demonstrations and Numerical Problems

Success in physics is based on three elements: conceptual understanding, problem solving skills, and the concepts of measurement. Studio Physics has been created to integrate these three elements. It consists of you, your fellow students with whom you will interact, the instructors and a series of specially created laboratory demonstrations and accompanying numerical problems. Each of the laboratory demonstrations has been created to give tangible example to what may be considered standard problems in fundamental physics. These problems contain key concepts that reside at the core of physics. By solving problems and then experimenting with the real thing, the conceptual foundation of the problem will grow by example along with problem solving abilities. Moreover, quantitative measurement will, through experimental uncertainty, teach realistic expectations. Once exact agreement is deemphasized, the trends and functionalities will appear and conceptual understanding can again grow.

Your tasks for Studio Physics are straightforward. Problems for situations similar to these lab demonstrations will be given as the assignment for that day's work. These are best done the night before the Studio class. Many problems, which relate directly to the lab demonstrations, are included in this book. Your studio instructor may also assign some of these problems as in-studio group activities. Next, the lab demonstration should be performed, measurements made and trends in the data discerned. Numerical results and trends should be compared to the calculation.

Many of the laboratory demonstrations ask questions or suggest data manipulation procedures. These should be used as guides for further insight into the physics of the situation. Very important to this enterprise is your interaction with your lab partners to discuss the physics and procedures of the demonstration. With your peers, teach and be taught.

Integral to your studio experience is your lab notebook. Record your data and observations on what happened (right or wrong). Make graphs and straightforward conclusions, answer and perhaps pose questions. Keep it spontaneous and simple! A notebook is for notes, not refined dissertations.

Lastly, as you work on physics, remember to integrate as you learn the three basic elements of conceptual understanding, problem solving, and an appreciation how numbers can describe the physical world.

Acknowledgments: The creation of these laboratory demonstrations owes a great deal to Alice Churukian, William Hageman, Chris Long, Farhad Maleki, Corrie Musgrave and Jason Quigg. More recently, Peter Nelson, Dr. Kirsten Hogg, Dr. Rebecca Lindell and Professor C.L. Cocke have made valuable suggestions. This lab manual was revised during the Fall 2003 semester by Kevin Knabe, and during the Spring 2005 semester by Amit Chakrabarti. Dave Van Domelen has also contributed with minor revisions. This work was supported by a grant from NSF (CCLI) to Susan Maleki and Chris Sorensen.

Chris Sorensen
University Distinguished Professor

Guidelines for Lab Notebooks in Studio

Observation is the essence of science, and controlled observation is experimentation. A Dutch proverb says elegantly: “Meten is Weten” which translates to: “measuring is knowing.” When you perform your lab work in Studio, controlled observation to measure and thereby know will be emphasized.

Integral to this experimental process is a written record of your experimental work. Your Lab Notebook is a working, written record of experimental work. It should contain sufficient information so someone else can understand what you did, why you did it and your conclusions.

Also, pragmatically, it is inevitable that the assessment of your experimental work in the Studio is largely based upon it.

The following is an outline of the expectations we have for the records you will keep in your Lab Notebooks.

Description of Experimental Work

1. The date should be recorded at the beginning of each session in the studio.
2. Each experimental topic should be given a descriptive heading.
3. A BRIEF introduction describing the purpose of the experiment, description of apparatus and experimental procedures should be included.
4. Schematic or block (rather than pictorial) diagrams should be included where appropriate.
5. Circuit diagrams should be included.

Records of Observations and Data

1. The lab notebook must contain the original record of all observations and data – including mistakes! Never erase ‘incorrect’ readings; simply cross them out in such a way that they can be read if need be. There is no such thing as bad data.
2. All relevant non-numerical observations should be clearly described. A sketch should be used whenever it would aid the description.
3. The nature of each reading should be identified by name or *defined* symbol, together with its numerical value and unit.

Tables

1. Observations and data should be gathered and tabulated whenever appropriate.
2. Each table should have an identifying caption.
3. Columns in tables should be labeled with the names or symbols for both the variable and the units in which it is measured. All symbols should be defined.

Engineering Physics II Studio
Table of Contents

21.1	Electrostatics	7
21.2	The Van de Graaf Generator	8
22.1	Electric Fields I	9
22.2	Electric Fields II	11
23.1	Gauss' Law and Field Magnitude	13
23.2	Gauss' Law and Flux	14
23.3	Gauss' Law, Gaussian Surfaces and Symmetry	16
24.1	Graphing Equipotentials.....	18
24.2	Field and Voltage in the Parallel Plate Geometry	20
25.1	Capacitor Charge and Energy Storage	21
25.2	Charging and Discharging a Capacitor	22
25.3	Dielectric Capacitors	23
25.4	Capacitor Circuits.....	24
27.1	Series and Parallel Resistor Combinations.....	26
27.2	Series Circuits	27
27.3	Parallel Circuits	28
27.4	A Kirchhoff Circuit	29
27.5	Real Batteries	30
27.6	RC Circuits.....	31
28.1	Force on a Current Carrying Wire in a Magnetic Field	33
28.2	A DC Motor (Torque on a Magnetic Dipole)	34
29.1	Ampere's Law	37
29.2	Magnetic Field of a Current Carrying Loop.....	39
29.3	The Solenoid	40
29.4	The Solenoid Continued.....	41
30.1	Induction.....	42
30.2	Induction and Lenz's Law	43
30.3	Electrical Generators	45
31.1	LC Oscillator	47
31.2	AC Circuit	49
32.1	Magnetic Materials.....	51
33.1	Polarization in Nature.....	52
33.2	Polarized Light	53
33.3	Refraction	54
33.4	The Prism	56
33.5	Fibers	59
34.1	Ray Optics	60
34.2	Mirrors.....	61
34.3	Lenses.....	62
34.4	The Telescope	63
34.5	The Microscope.....	64
35.1	Young's Double Slit Experiment.....	65
35.2	Thin Film Interference	67
36.1	Single Slit Diffraction	68
36.2	Circular Aperture Diffraction.....	69

36.3	Diffraction Grating	70
36.4	Diffraction	71
37.1	Time Dilation	73
38.1	The Photoelectric Effect.....	74
39.1	Line Spectra.....	76

Graphs

1. With graphs we often discover functionalities. Don't hesitate to graph your data or numerical results if you think it will help you see what's going on, even if it is not your "final," concluding result.
2. Graphs should be drawn directly into your lab notebook.
3. Each graph should have a descriptive caption. Axes of graphs should be labeled with the name or symbol for the quantity and its unit. Numerical values should be written along each axis.

Analysis and Results

1. The organization of calculations should be sufficiently clear for mistakes (if any) to be easily found.
2. Results should be given with an estimate of their uncertainty whenever possible. The type or nature of each uncertainty should be specified unambiguously.
3. Results should be compared, whenever possible, with accepted values or with theoretical predictions.
4. Serious discrepancies in results should be examined and every effort made to locate the reason.

Summary/Conclusions

1. A BRIEF summary should be written for each experiment.
2. The summary should report the results and contain a comparison with accepted values or with theoretical predictions. Any discrepancies should be mentioned.

21.1. Electrostatics

Lab Demonstration

Mess around with a number of simple electrostatic demonstrations. Rub a piece of PVC and a piece of acrylic with wool. Then:

- Show, using the electrometer, that these two plastics obtain different signs of charge.
- Attract an empty pop can and roll it across the table.
- Pick up small pieces of paper.
- Charge two pith balls that are attached to the same string.
- Deflect a thin stream of water.
- Charge the electrometer by directly touching the charged plastic rod to it. Then ground the electrometer by touching it with your hand. Where did the charge go?
- Charging by induction. With an uncharged electrometer bring the charged plastic rod near the metal sensing disk at the top. Touch the other side of the disk with your finger and as soon as the electrometer needle falls to zero deflection, remove the rod and your finger. What happens and why? What is the charge on the electrometer compared to that on the plastic rod?

21.2. The Van de Graaf Generator

Lab Demonstration

Run the Van de Graaf generator (VdG) to create large electrostatic charges.

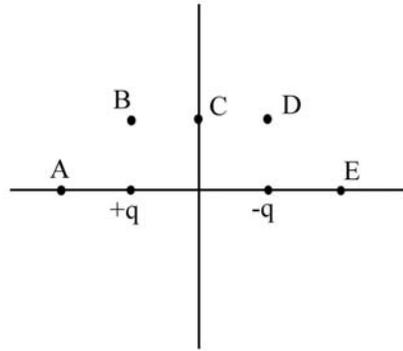
- Insulate from the ground someone with long, dry hair and have them touch the upper globe of the VdG as it charges (i.e., discharge the VdG, touch your hand to the globe, then turn it on). Why does their hair stand on end?
- Try placing foil plates on the top of the VdG face down, then face up. Why do the reactions differ?
- Throw a spark. A spark results when the electric field ionizes or "breaks down" the air. The breakdown electric field of air is 3×10^6 volts/m. Even if you haven't learned about fields and voltages yet, measure the length of a spark and use unit analysis to determine the voltage on the upper globe.
- Put the "pinwheel" on top of the VdG and notice the direction of rotation. How does it work?

22.1. Electric Fields I

Lab Demonstration

On large scale graph paper, plot the electric field vectors at several points around:

- A point charge $q = 4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$ at several distances from 3 to 20 cm. Use a scale of 1 cm equals 10^6 N/C . Label all drawn vectors with their respective magnitudes (in N/C). Note the strong variation of the field with distance.
- A dipole with $q = \pm 10^{-6} \text{ C}$ separated by 20 cm. With this, calculate and draw the resultant field at points A, B, C, D, E on the sketch below (spacings BC, CD, etc. are all 10 cm). Take advantage of symmetry as much as possible! Use both graphical vector-addition as well as x- and y-component vector addition to verify your results.



- For each case above draw Faraday's lines of force based on your vector fields and understand the relation between these two pictures of the field. Compare your sketches to given drawings of Faraday's lines of force. What do these lines mean qualitatively?

22.2. Electric Fields II

Lab Demonstration

In this demo you will have closed, plastic containers with electrodes and an oily liquid inside. Suspended in this liquid are small, elongated grains of a polarizable dielectric. In an applied electric field these grains develop an electric dipole moment and then align parallel to the field (so that the torque on them is zero). In this way Faraday's field lines can be visualized.

- Charge the electrodes with the means provided (plastic rods and wool, Van de Graaf, high voltage). Observe and draw the field lines displayed by the alignment of the grains.
- How does the field orient itself relative to the surfaces of the metal electrodes (conductor)?
- How can you tell if the field is strong or weak? Near what shape of surface does the field appear strongest?

23.1. Gauss' Law and Field Magnitude

Lab Demonstration

Go back to the Electric Field created by a point charge in lab 22.1. Look at how small the field vectors are at $r > 10$ cm and how large they are at $r < 5$ cm. Multiply the length of the vectors at some r by the surface area of the sphere centered on the charge with surface at r for a few different r -values.

- What do you find and why?
- The field's magnitude falls quickly with increasing r , but what "compensates" for this quick fall?
- What remains the same, independent of r ?
- What is the reason for the rapid variation of the field magnitude?

23.2. Gauss' Law and Flux

Lab Demonstration

Use a flexible piece of wire to represent an arbitrarily shaped Gaussian surface for 2d pictures of fields near a point source (a monopole), a dipole, and a uniform field (possibly your pictures from 22.1). Lay this Gaussian surface on these field examples and note qualitatively how many field vectors point into the "surface" and how many point out. Consider and comment on the following cases where the Gaussian surface encloses:

- No charge
- A single charge
- Two like charges
- Two opposite charges

Vary the position and shape of the loop and develop your intuition for Gauss' Law.

23.3. Gauss' Law, Gaussian Surfaces, and Symmetry

Lab Demonstration

Here we explore the consequences of symmetries on electric fields and Gauss' Law. Complete the following table and show all calculations of integrals and assumptions made.

Charge Shape	Charge Density Units and common symbol	Simplest Gaussian Surface	E(r)
Sphere			
Straight Line			
Plane			

- Assume the small styrofoam ball is uniformly charged, i.e., no place on the sphere's surface has anything other than the average charge density. This is a statement of symmetry. With this symmetry, how can Nature place an electric field emanating from the sphere? Construct such a field with toothpicks, sticking them into the sphere.
- Now recall Gauss's Law. Consider the E-field emanating from the sphere above, represented by toothpicks. Enclose this sphere and its field in the containers provided (sphere, cylinder, box).
 - Since the containers are closed, what is $\oint \vec{E} \cdot \vec{dA}$ for each container (i.e. the Gaussian surface)?
 - Consider the integrand $\vec{E} \cdot \vec{dA}$. For which Gaussian surface is this dot product simplest? What does this have to do with symmetry?
 - What is the simplest of these three Gaussian surfaces? Solve the integral for this container only and find $\vec{E}(r)$ where r is the distance from the center of the distribution.
 - Comment on why the other shapes do not work well for calculating $\oint \vec{E} \cdot \vec{dA}$.
- Now consider a uniform plane and uniform rod (line) of charge. Follow the arguments above and answer the corresponding questions.

24.1. Graphing Equipotentials

Lab Demonstration

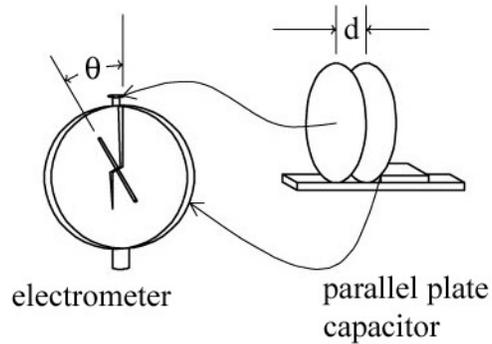
In this lab you are given a voltage source and spatially separated electrodes that can be connected to the voltage (one to plus, one to minus). This creates an electric field (volts/meter). Conducting paper can then be placed between the electrodes. The voltage, relative to a given electrode, at some place on this paper will vary with position. Set your power supplies to 5V and find the following:

- Use conducting paper and a voltmeter to map out equipotential lines for different electrode shapes. To do this connect one probe of the voltmeter to an electrode. Then touch the other probe to the paper. The voltmeter will read the voltage difference between the electrode and the point on the paper. Map out the equipotential lines for a couple voltages between 0 and 5 volts.
- Now draw in the electric field lines. (How is the field related to the equipotentials?) What is a typical magnitude of the field?

24.2. Field and Voltage in the Parallel Plate Geometry

Lab Demonstration

Charge the parallel plate capacitor with the van de Graaf generator. Use the electrometer to measure the "voltage" between the plates. This voltage is approximately proportional to the angle θ of deflection from vertical of the electrometer needle.

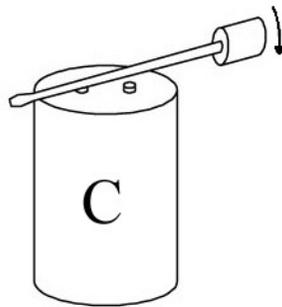


- If you start with charged plates close together and then separate them, do you expect the voltage to go up or down? Why?
- Do this by varying the capacitor spacing 'd' from 1/2 to a few cm. Plot the "voltage" (deflection angle) versus spacing. Understand this result in terms of voltage, field, and the constant charge on the plates.

25.1. Capacitor Charge and Energy Storage

Lab Demonstration

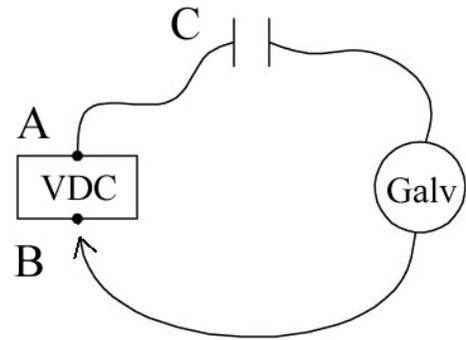
This is a quicky. Charge a large capacitor ($\sim 10^4 \mu\text{F}$) with a DC power supply with at least 10 volts (the more, the better!). REMOVE THE POWER, then short the terminals ("crowbar it") with a piece of metal (e.g., a screw driver). What happens and why?



25.2. Charging and Discharging a Capacitor

Lab Demonstration

Arrange a DC voltage source, galvanometer and capacitor ($C \sim 0.05$ to $0.5 \mu\text{F}$) in series as drawn, leaving the circuit open at B. Now connect the wire to B while watching the galvanometer. The galvanometer is a device that sensitively measures current, which is the flow of charge. At the moment of connection, the needle on the galvanometer will impulsively swing or kick over, indicating charge flow, but will then swing back with diminishing swings about zero indicating no charge flow. This demonstrates important characteristics of capacitors in DC circuits: an initial transient of charge flow (as C is being charged) and a steady state, zero charge flow (after C is fully charged).



The kick during the transient is proportional to the total charge that flowed onto the capacitor, q . Hence you can determine the functionality of q with the applied voltage V and capacitance C . Do this:

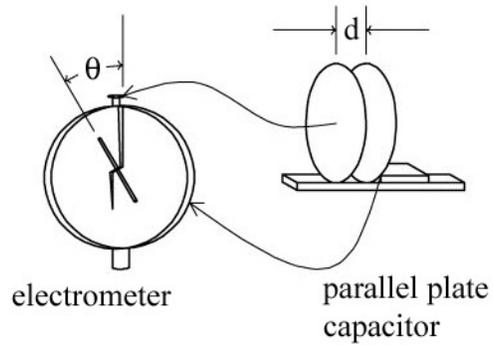
- measure the galvanometer kick as a function of V (graph kick vs. V while keeping C constant)
- measure the galvanometer kick as a function of C (graph kick vs. C while keeping V constant)
- After you have charged a capacitor remove the connection at B and shortly thereafter reconnect to A. This discharges the capacitor. What do you observe on the galvanometer? Why?
- Measure the kick (remember, proportional to q) for a capacitor and then put it in series and then parallel with an identical capacitor. Then measure the kicks for these combinations. How do the kicks compare? What can you conclude about the equivalent (or effective) capacitance of series and parallel combinations?

25.3. Dielectric Capacitors

Lab Demonstration

Use the VdG to charge the parallel plate capacitor. Use the electrometer to measure the "voltage" on the capacitor by the angle θ of the needle on the electrometer.

- Slide a dielectric between the plates of the capacitor (e.g., a notebook). What happens? What if the dielectric doesn't entirely fill the gap? Measure (approximately) the dielectric constant.

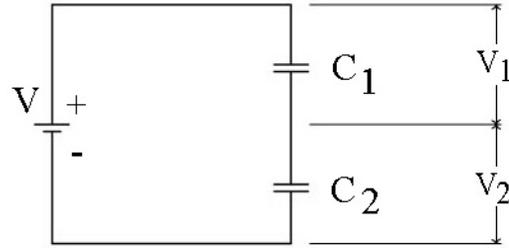


25.4. Capacitor Circuits

Lab Demonstration

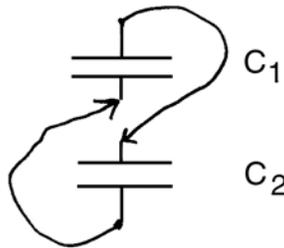
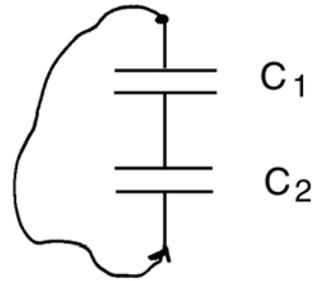
Hook up two different capacitors in series to a DC source. This experiment works best with large ($\geq 1000\mu\text{F}$) capacitors.

- Measure, calculate, and compare the voltage across each capacitor (see "Note on Voltmeters," below).



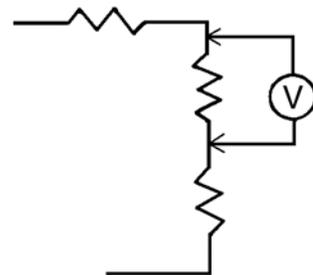
Now disconnect the capacitors from the battery (while they are still charged) and connect them in the following configurations:

- Connect the positive end of one capacitor to the negative end of the other. Measure, calculate and compare the voltage across the capacitors.
- Now recharge the capacitors in series and disconnect from the battery. Then connect the positive terminals together, and the negative terminals together. Measure, calculate and compare the voltages.



Note on Voltmeters. Voltmeters are high resistance (or more generally impedance) devices used to measure the voltage *across* a circuit element or device. To do this the voltmeter is put across, i.e., in parallel to, the circuit element, as drawn below. As you learn more about circuits the following characteristics will become clear to you:

1. Since the voltmeter is in parallel to the circuit element, it and the circuit element have the same voltage across them. Thus we measure the voltage across that circuit element.
2. The larger the impedance of the voltmeter, the better. Since the voltmeter is in parallel to the circuit element, a large impedance ("ohmage") will draw little current hence perturb the circuit only slightly. In fact, the ideal voltmeter would have infinite impedance, hence draw no current and cause no perturbation. When you learn about parallel resistors, revisit this paragraph and answer the question, "large relative to what"?
3. Because the voltmeter is placed in parallel to circuit elements, it can probe the system without physical modification of the circuit. The voltmeter probes simply touch each end of the element, voltage is read, and probes removed. Compare this to an ammeter which, because it must be placed in series to read the current, requires cutting and reconnecting the circuit to include the ammeter.



27.1. Series and Parallel Resistor Combinations

Lab Demonstration

This is fairly quick. Use an ohmmeter to measure the resistance of a few resistors.

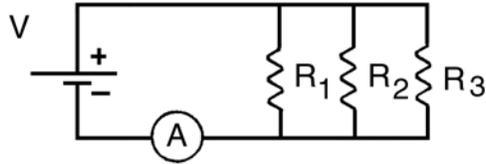
- Connect some in series and measure the series combination. Compare to theory.
- Connect some in parallel and measure the parallel combination. Compare to theory.
- Pay attention to the fact that R (series combo) $>$ R (any individual) and R (parallel combo) $<$ R (any individual).
- As a rough rule does the physical size of a resistor have anything to do with its value of resistance?

27.3. Parallel Circuits

Lab Demonstration

Set up a simple parallel circuit with a battery, three different resistors and an ammeter (A).

- Measure and calculate the current. How do these compare? What would happen if the ammeter's resistance was about the same as the resistors in the circuit?
- Measure and calculate the voltage drop across each resistor. How do they compare?
- Disconnect a resistor or two and see what happens to the current and voltages.

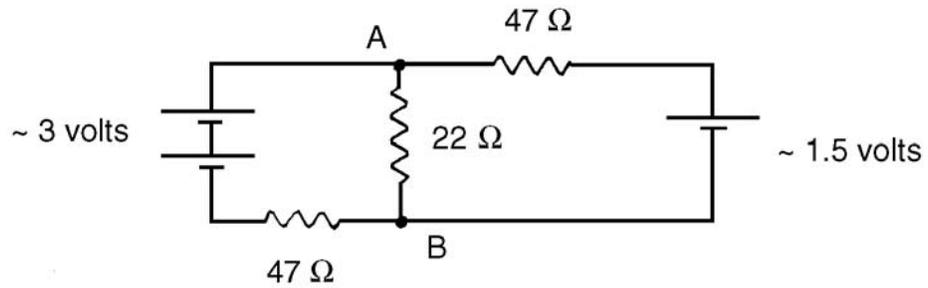


27.4. A Kirchoff Circuit

Lab Demonstration

Set up the circuit drawn below.

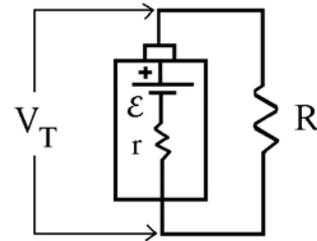
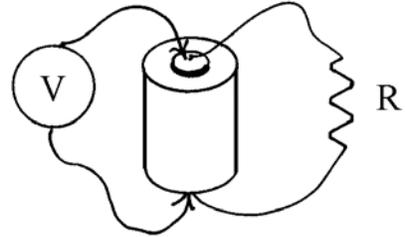
- Measure and calculate the voltage drop across each resistor. Don't forget to measure the voltage that your batteries are actually supplying.



27.5. Real Batteries

Lab Demonstration

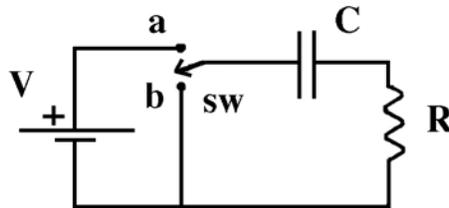
- Measure with a voltmeter (V) the terminal voltages of two common "1.5 volt" batteries, AAA and D cells. A good voltmeter will have a very high resistance and hence will not be a significant load for the batteries.
- Connect each battery in turn to resistors with $R=100, 10, 3,$ and 1 ohm. Connect for only a short time (2-3 sec.) so as not to wear down the battery. In each case measure the terminal voltage. Qualitatively, what is happening and which battery is "best"?
- Assume each battery has an internal resistance r and derive an expression for the terminal voltage V_T in terms of the ideal EMF, \mathcal{E} and r and R of the load resistor. Show that a plot of \mathcal{E} / V_T versus R^{-1} should be linear with slope equal to r . Plot your data this way, and determine r for the AAA and D cells. What does battery physical size tell you about r ? What makes a good battery?



27.6. RC Circuits

Lab Demonstration

Set up the RC circuit drawn below. Use a battery for the voltage source to avoid grounding problems. Pick values of R and C so that RC is on the order of a couple of seconds. Use the data studio to detect both the voltage across the resistor V_R and across the capacitor V_C simultaneously.

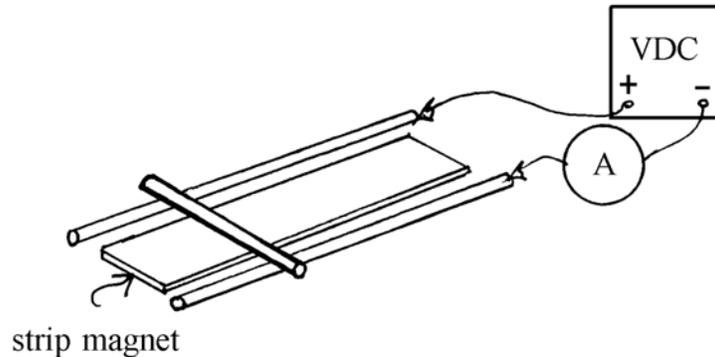


- Set the switch SW to position 'a' and record V_R and V_C as a function of time. Which voltage indicates current and which one indicates charge? Determine the time constant for both, compare them and compare to RC .
- Repeat for the switch moved to position b.

28.1. Force on a Current Carrying Wire in a Magnetic Field

Lab Demonstration

Place a strip magnet on the table. If a strip magnet is not available, use a series of disk magnets all with the same pole up. In this configuration they will repel and flip so you will have to hold them down with tape. Lay two metal rods along each long side of the magnetic strip, parallel to each other. Tape the rods to the wooden blocks. Place a small rod on the parallel rods perpendicular to them. All three rods should be free of dirt, oxide, etc. (use steel wool to clean them). Connect a DC power supply to the parallel rods, with one terminal to each long rod (make sure the power supply is off at this time).

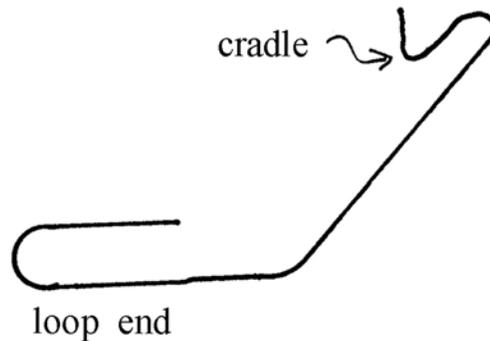
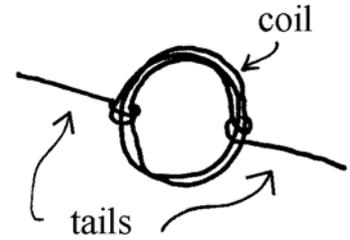


- Use the Hall probe to measure the magnetic field just above the strip magnet at the level of the small rod. By symmetry, what is the direction of the magnetic field?
- Set the current limit on the DC power supply as described by your instructor (before you connect the power supply to the circuit). Apply a voltage to the parallel rods. Reverse the voltage. What does the small rod do?
- Measure the current. Calculate the force on the small rod. Mass it. Calculate the acceleration (magnitude and direction). Measure the acceleration. (This will be rough, but better than no measurement.) Compare.

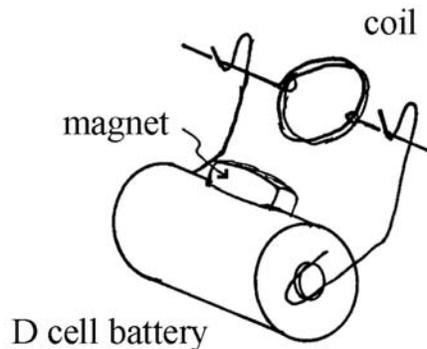
28.2 A DC Motor (Torque on a Magnetic Dipole)

Lab Demonstration

- Starting about 3 inches from the end of a piece of magnet wire, wrap it several times around a D battery. Remove the battery. Cut the wire, leaving a 3-inch tail opposite the original starting point. Wrap the two tails around the coil so that the coil is held together and the two tails extend perpendicular to the coil. See illustration to the right.
- On one tail, use sandpaper to completely remove the insulation from the wire (do not sand the tabletops!). Leave about 1/4" of insulation on the end and where the wire meets the coil. On the other tail, lay the coil down flat and lightly sand off the insulation from the top half of the wire only. Again, leave 1/4" of full insulation on the end and where the wire meets the coil.
- Bend two paper clips into the following shape.



- Use a rubber band or masking tape to hold the loop ends of the paper clips (on the left in the above drawing) to the terminals of a "D" Cell battery:
- Stick a magnet on the side of the battery as shown.

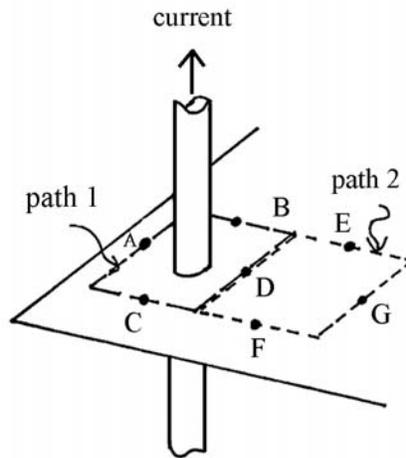


- Place the coil in the cradle formed by the right ends of the paper clips. You may have to give it a gentle push to get it started, but it should begin to spin rapidly.
- Try to make the best motor in class.
- Explain how the motor works.

29.1. Amperes' Law

Lab Demonstration

Put a large current into the square loop. Place some paper, on which you can draw, on the horizontal board. Draw two connected squares, 5 cm per side as drawn below. Now take time to understand what the probe measurement is telling you. Use the hall probe to measure the magnetic field (magnitude and direction) at the center of each side of each square (i.e., A, B, C, D, E, F and G as drawn). Measure only the component of the field parallel to the square side.



From these data you can approximate Ampere's integral, which is the left hand side of Ampere's Law

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l} = \mu_0 i \text{ (total inside)}$$

Note that $\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l} = \pm B$ (parallel to side) dl . The + or - is determined by whether $d\vec{l}$ is parallel or antiparallel to \vec{B} (parallel to side).

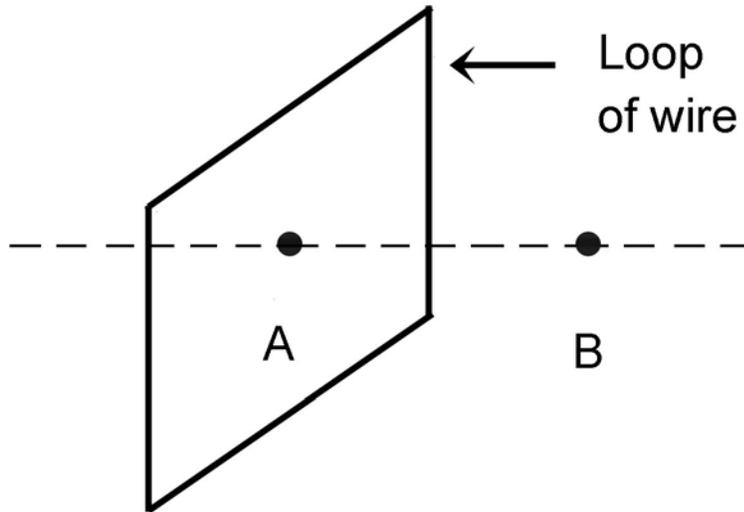
- Walk around the square loop which encloses the wire and determine ampere's integral as the sum of the four values of B (parallel to side) dl using B at the side center and dl =side length as an approximation. Compare this to $\mu_0 i$ (total inside) and see how well Ampere's Law works.
- Do this again for the square loop that does not enclose the wire. Be careful with signs. Verify Ampere's law.

29.2. Magnetic Field of a Current Carrying Loop

Lab Demonstration

Put a measured current into the square loop.

- Use the magnetic field sensor (the Hall probe) to measure the magnetic field at the loop's center.
- Measure the loop's dimensions and calculate the magnetic field at the center of the loop. Compare.
- Repeat the experiment and theory above for an arbitrary point on the perpendicular axis of the loop.



A = center of loop

B = arbitrary point on perpendicular axis

29.3. The Solenoid

Lab Demonstration

Measure the number of turns per unit length for the air-cored solenoid. Also measure the total length and diameter. Compare and discuss whether it is an "infinite" solenoid.

- Put a current of as much as 2 amps into the solenoid. Use the magnetic field detector (the Hall probe) to measure the field (magnitude and direction) near the center of the length of the solenoid, off the central axis, along the axis to the end and outside, but next to the solenoid. Compare to theory.
- How does the end compare to the center? Make a symmetry argument for the ratio of the field at the end and the center.
- How does the outside compare to the inside? Is the solenoid infinite?
- Make a graph of the axial field inside as a function of position.
- Now put a wood dowel in the solenoid. What is the field at the end?
- Now put an iron rod in the solenoid. What is the field at the end? Is this result useful? How can you use the rod to extend the reach of the solenoid?

29.4. The Solenoid Continued

Lab Demonstration

For this lab, we will measure the relationship between the current through a solenoid and the B Field created by this current.

- You should have a wooden rod and at least one metallic rod (ideally we should have at least two types of metals).
- Now, with each of the 4 cores (air counts as one), measure the B Field while varying the current from 0 to 2 Amps. Measure at least in 0.5 Amp increments (but you can do smaller if you like).
- How can you determine the B Field at the center of the solenoid by measuring the B Field at one end? Comment on this in detail in your lab book.
- Don't forget to label the different curves you get, and explain why the curves are different.
- Consider the slope of the curve of the air core. What is this value? What should it be?

For the next part of this experiment, take one of the metallic cores and slowly strike a magnet along one end.

- Try to pick up paperclips (or something metallic). Why did this happen?
- Drop the rod from a couple of feet in the air onto the floor. Why does the rod become demagnetized?

30.1. Induction

Lab Demonstration

Connect a wire loop to a galvanometer.

- Use a bar magnet and move one of the poles into the loop; leave it there. Describe the current flow as indicated by the galvanometer.
- Remove the magnet; what happens?
- Switch poles and repeat the experiment above.
- Vary the rates of movement. Vary the angles at which the magnet is in the center of the loop. Use more than one magnet. Deduce a law of induction. Does your law depend on the magnetic field or that rate at which it changes?

30.2. Induction and Lenz's Law

Lab Demonstration

(This is a quicky.)

- Drop one of the rare-earth magnets down a vertical brass tube. What happens? Why?
- Place a thin piece of aluminum metal on top of a stiff piece of paper. Hold one of the rare-earth magnets under the paper below the aluminum. Note that there is, of course, no attraction of the aluminum to the magnet. Now move the magnet quickly, horizontally. What happens, why?
- Place the magnet on the thick sheet of aluminum, and let gravity slide it down. Compare this to letting the magnet slide down a thick book cover of the same inclination.

30.3. Electrical Generators

Lab Demonstration

- Spin the crank of the hand generator with no electrical connection (i.e., no load). Note the torque you must apply.
- Now connect the generator to various loads of about 100 ohms, 10 ohms, and short-circuited ($R_{\text{load}} \sim$ wires resistance). Note the qualitative torque you must apply. For what value of load is the torque the greatest and the least? Use conservation of energy to explain your observation.
- Is a large load a big resistance or a small resistance? Explain why the crank is harder to turn when the load is there. To do this use conservation of energy, conversion of mechanical to electric energy, and rotational work being torque times angle turned.
- Connect the hand generator to the oscilloscope function of the lab computer. This will give you an instantaneous picture of the output voltage as a function of time. Crank it at different rates and explain what you see.

31.1. LC Oscillator

Lab Demonstration

Connect a capacitor to a switch where in one position the capacitor is in parallel with the voltage source, and in the other position it is in parallel with an inductor.

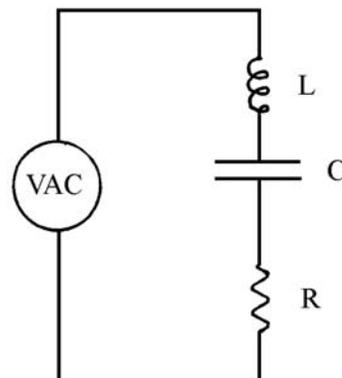
- Draw a graph of the voltage response.
- Measure and calculate the natural frequency and the period.
- Why does the graph of the experimental voltage differ from the theoretical? What could we do to make a “better” LC oscillator?

31.2. AC Circuit

Lab Demonstration

The "breadboard" for this experiment has an inductor with $L=0.33\text{ H}$ (and a resistance of $\sim 480\Omega$ -- its a real inductor!). A capacitor with $C=10\text{nF}$ and a resistor with $R=1000\Omega$. Connect these in series in the order L, C, and R. Connect the variable voltage output of the lab computer to the series combination. Turn on the output voltage and set the frequency near 1000Hz . Use an AC voltmeter to measure the voltage across the resistor as you increase the frequency. Dividing this voltage by the resistance gives you the current in the circuit (this is easy to do in your head because $R=1000\Omega$).

- Make a graph of I vs. f . What is the measured resonance frequency? Compare to theory. What is the current at resonance? Compare to theory.
- At resonance measure the voltages, V_L , V_C , V_R , across all three elements, L, C and R. Phasor (vector) add them and compare to the applied voltage. (Don't get faked out. Your voltmeter is probably measuring RMS, whereas an oscilloscope display--e.g., your voltage source from the computer--is showing you peak voltages.)
- Measure the voltage across the combination of L and C at resonance. Explain your result with phasors. If the inductor was ideal, i.e., if it had no resistance, what would $V_L + V_C$ equal?
- Both increase and decrease the frequency from resonance by a factor of 2 to 3. Measure V_L , V_C , V_R and show that these voltages, acting like phasors, add to the applied voltage.
- Use the oscilloscope function of the lab computer to measure the voltage across the entire LRC combination, and a second trace for the voltage across the resistor. This voltage tells you, with ohms law, the current in the circuit (why?). The dual sweep trace shows you the applied voltage and the current. Now vary the frequency from below resonance to above. Watch both the amplitude of the current and its phase relative to the applied voltage. Make sense of what you see.



32.1. Magnetic Materials

Lab Demonstration

- Try balancing a plastic rod that has either bismuth or copper sulfate located at the ends of the rod. Now place a magnet close to one end. What do you observe? What is the orientation of the rod relative to the magnetic field? Explain your observations.

33.1. Polarization in Nature

Lab Demonstration

Use a sheet polarizer to check the polarization of natural light sources. Hold the polarizer in front of your eye and rotate it back and forth through 90° as you look at:

- Room lights,
- Light reflected from the tile floor,
- Light reflected at a glancing angle from the black board,
- Light from the blue sky at various angles from the sun,
- Light from clouds.

What is an easy way to tell if advertised polarizing sunglasses are in fact polarizers and not just tinted glasses?

33.2. Polarized Light

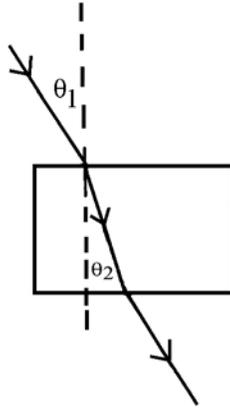
Lab Demonstration

- Look through two polarizers and rotate one relative to the other to qualitatively demonstrate the $\cos^2 \theta$ functionality (the Law of Malus).
- Cross two polarizers, i.e., arrange them so that their optical axes are perpendicular and hence no light is transmitted. Now place a third polarizer between the two crossed polarizer and rotate its optical axis. How are the transmitted intensity and polarization related to the orientation of the third polarizer?

33.3. Refraction

Lab Demonstration

Use the ray optics projector and shine rays at various angles (at least 3) from the normal. Measure the refracted angles, verify Snell's Law, and measure the refractive index of the material.

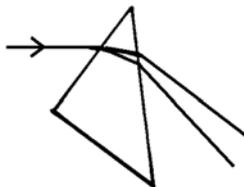


33.4. The Prism

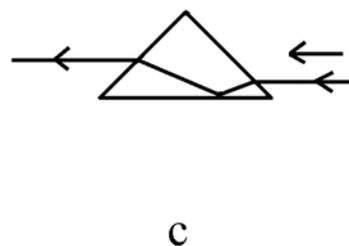
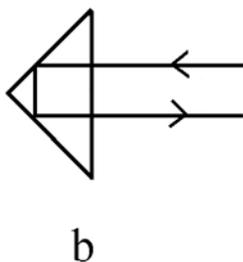
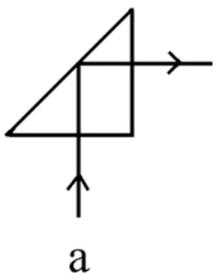
Lab Demonstration

A prism can be used to demonstrate a variety of interesting phenomena. Here we use a common 45° - 45° - 90° prism.

- Dispersion. Shine a white beam of light through one of the 45° corners as drawn. What is the order of increasing refraction of the colors. In other words, what color of light gets bent more by diffraction? Observe the beauty of the spectrum.



- Total Internal Reflection.
 - a) 90° deviation. Shine light into one face toward the hypotenuses as drawn. Light is totally reflected from the clear glass hypotenuse. Look through it this way too.
 - b) 180° deviation. Shine light into the hypotenuse toward the 90° corner. Look into this corner too. Move from side to side. Hold a printed page under your nose and look at this reflection through this corner. Where is the inversion?
 - c) Dove prism. Look through the prism as drawn. Rotate the prism about an axis through the prism, parallel to the hypotenuse. What happens? Explain with ray diagram.



33.5. Fibers

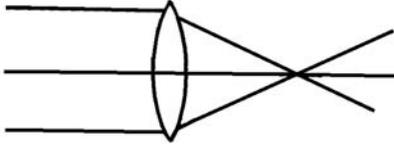
Lab Demonstration

Mess around with the optical fibers.

34.1. Ray Optics

Lab Demonstration

- Use the ray optics projector to create three parallel beams of light. Project these beams toward the lens and mirror cross sections to see how refraction and reflection can cause either convergence or divergence of rays hence focal points. Draw each case and label the focal point.



34.2. Mirrors

Lab Demonstration

- Use the concave mirror to form a real image of a distant object. Draw a ray diagram to explain your observation.
- Hold the concave mirror close to your eye to form an image (real or virtual) of your eye (i.e., look into the mirror). Hold it far from your eye. What do you see? Why?
- Mess around with a convex mirror. Can it ever form a real, enlarged image?

34.3. Lenses

Lab Demonstration

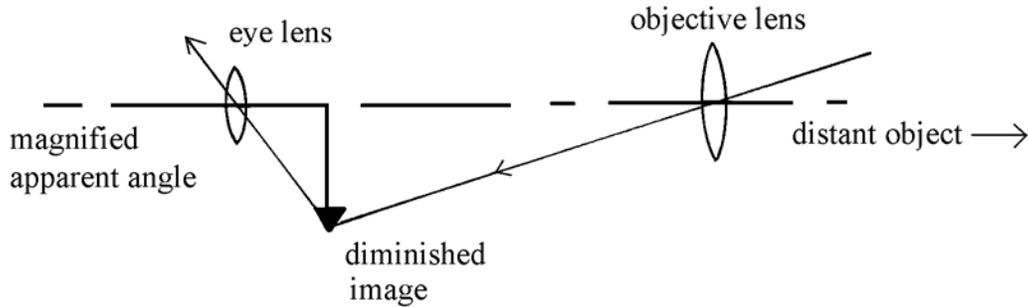
Set up a luminous object, a lens, and an observation screen on the optical bench.

- Form an image of the object on the screen using a positive lens. Measure the image and object distances. Verify the thin lens formula. Draw a ray diagram and show consistency with both the calculation and the measurement. Measure the image and object size and compare to calculation and your ray diagram.
- Calculate the distance your lens should be placed from the luminous object to form a large, projected, real image on a distant wall. Try it and make it work.
- Now calculate the distance your lens should be placed from a screen to produce an image if the light source is far away. Try it and make it work.
- Mess around with a negative lens. Can you form a real image? Can you ever magnify (enlarge) with such a lens?

34.4. The Telescope

Lab Demonstration

- Mount two lenses on the optical bench. Use $f_o = 20$ to 30 cm and $f_{eye} = 3$ to 5 cm. Place them approximately $f_o + f_{eye}$ apart. This is a telescope. Look through the eye lens (i.e., the eyepiece -- the one with f_{eye}) with the telescope pointed toward a distant object (many times f_o). Adjust slightly the distance between the objective lens (the one with f_o -- closest to the object) and the eye lens until the view is sharp (i.e., focus the telescope).

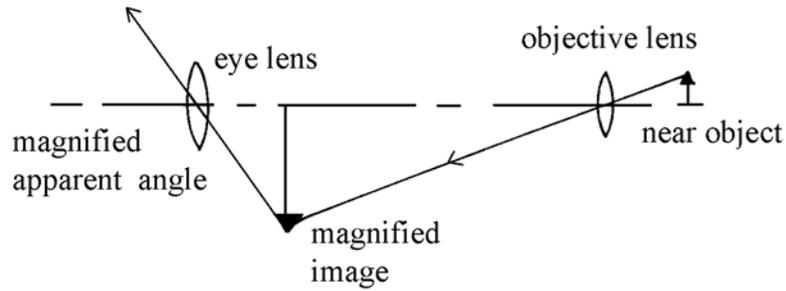


- Determine (approximately) the magnification of the telescope by viewing the image of the object with one eye through the telescope and the object directly with the other eye simultaneously. Relax, your mind will overlap these two images in your brain. Comparing sizes will allow a reasonable estimation of the magnification. Compare to calculation.
- With the telescope pointed toward a bright area (e.g., a window), hold a viewing screen (a piece of paper) behind the eye lens (about f_{eye} distance away) until a nice round circle of light forms. This is the exit pupil. Measure its diameter. Measure the diameter of the objective lens. Their ratio is the magnification. Compare to above.

34.5. The Microscope

Lab Demonstration

Mount two lenses on the optical bench. Use focal lengths for both of ca. 2 to 4 cm and place them 20 to 30 cm apart. Look through one lens and hold an object (e.g., some print) in front of the other, slightly more than one f away. Adjust the distance between the object and this objective lens carefully until you see an image while looking through the eye lens. You are focusing your microscope (compare to how one focuses a telescope).

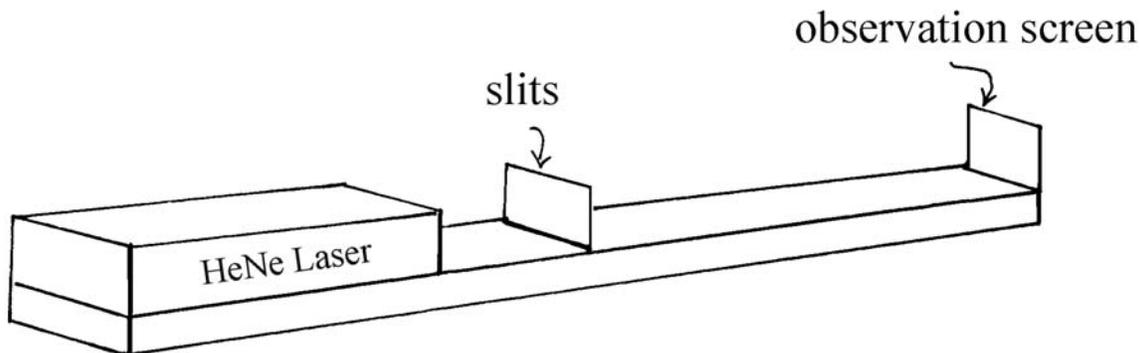


- Using two eyes simultaneously, one looking through the microscope the other looking at the object, estimate your microscope's magnification. Using f_o , f_{eye} and the distance between the two lenses, calculate the magnification and compare.

35.1. Young's Double Slit Experiment

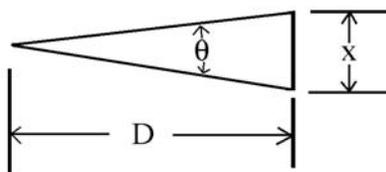
Lab Demonstration

Set up a laser to shine its beam toward the double slits. Adjust until the spot of the beam falls across both slits. Place an observation screen about 0.5 meter or more behind the slits (the larger the distance to the observation screen, the better your experimental results will be). Observe and describe the fringe pattern.



- Measure the distance between consecutive fringes and the distance between the double slit and the observation screen and calculate the angular spacing in radians.* Compare this to theory.
- Very delicately use a sharp edge (e.g., the edge of a piece of paper or a knife blade) and try to block just one of the slits. If you can do this, what do you see? Explain.

*Digression on small θ . You're big kids now and, when dealing with small angles, its time to wean yourself from trigonometry. For example in the diagram below, which is related to the fringe spacing problem above, what is the angle θ ?



From a strictly trigonometric approach one can show

$$\theta = 2 \arctan (x/2D)$$

not particularly aesthetically pleasing. Instead, if I approximate the side x as an arc, I find

$$\theta = x / D$$

with θ in radians. This is clean, simple, and hence beautiful! I can also do the calculation in my head.

But, you might protest, is it correct, i.e., accurate? It is for small θ , i.e., $\theta \ll 1$ radian ≈ 57 deg. As an example let $D=0.5\text{m}$ and $x=1\text{cm}$. We find

$$\theta = 2 \arctan (x/2D)=0.0199993 \text{ rad. } =1.14588 \text{ deg.}$$

$$\theta = x/D=0.0200000 \text{ rad. } = 1.14592 \text{ deg.}$$

These are essential equal, differing by only 4 parts in 100,000. Another way of saying this is that for $\theta \ll 1$ rad. ≈ 57 deg,

$$\sin \theta \approx \theta$$

$$\tan \theta \approx \theta$$

$$\cos \theta \approx 1.$$

Thus $\arctan \theta \approx \theta$ and we have $\theta = 2 \arctan (x/2D)=2x/2D=x/D$.

35.2. Thin Film Interference

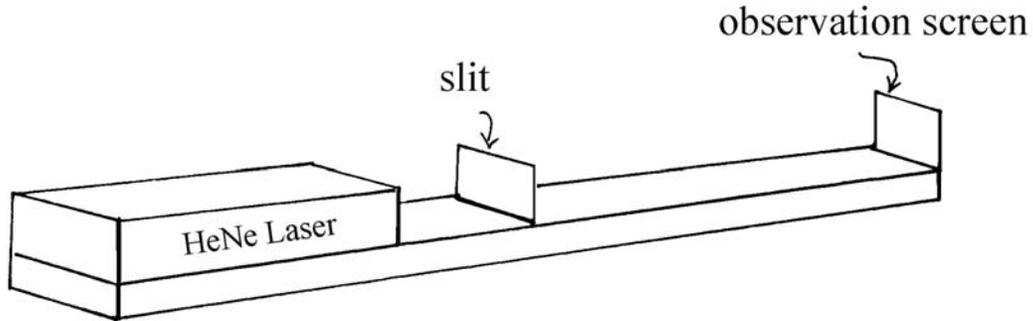
Lab Demonstration

- Clean two microscope slides with chem-wipes. Press them together with your fingers and look at the reflection of the overhead lights in them. You should see interference fringes. What color are they and why? What happens when you press harder? Why?
- Suspend a soap film on a wire frame in a vertical plane and let it sit for a while (with preferably little air movement around it). Look for interference fringes. Record (draw) these fringes at various times after the initial suspension. What is the thickness of your film?
- Blow some soap bubbles. What gives bubbles their iridescent color?

36.1. Single Slit Diffraction

Lab Demonstration

Set up a laser to shine its beam on a single slit. Place an observation screen about 0.5 meter or more behind the slit. Observe, draw, and describe the pattern on the screen.



- Measure the width of the diffraction pattern and the distance between the slit and the screen and calculate the angular width in radians. Compare to theory.
- Try different wavelengths if available.
- Measure the width of a human hair with diffraction by holding a hair in the beam and measuring the diffraction pattern. Note that a hair is a "negative" (a reverse) of a slit. Then by Babinet's principle the diffraction patterns are very similar. Human hair should be on the order of 70 microns.
- Rest your arm on the table and let the laser beam pass between your thumb and index finger. Squeeze down on the beam and observe the diffraction pattern on a distance screen.

36.2. Circular Aperture Diffraction

Lab Demonstration

Repeat 36.1 but for a circular aperture. Compare theory and experiment.

36.3. Diffraction Grating

Lab Demonstration

- Shine a laser through a diffraction grating. Describe the diffracted spot pattern. Measure the angles for each diffraction order. Find the wavelength of the light using these data, the specified grating lines per unit length, and the diffraction grating formula. Compare to the known wavelength.
- Shine a white light beam through the grating. Observe the spectrum. Measure the angle and calculate the wavelength at the limit of visibility at the blue end of the spectrum.
- Shine a laser through a piece of woven material (e.g., a thin shirt). What do you see? What is the thread spacing?

36.4. Diffraction

Lab Demonstration

- Place a piece of window screen in front of the objective lens of a telescope. Look through the telescope at a bright, distant object. What do you see, that isn't there without the screen. Why?
- Look at a bright light through a piece of fine screen, cloth, or tissue. What do you see and why?

37.1. Time Dilation

Lab Demonstration

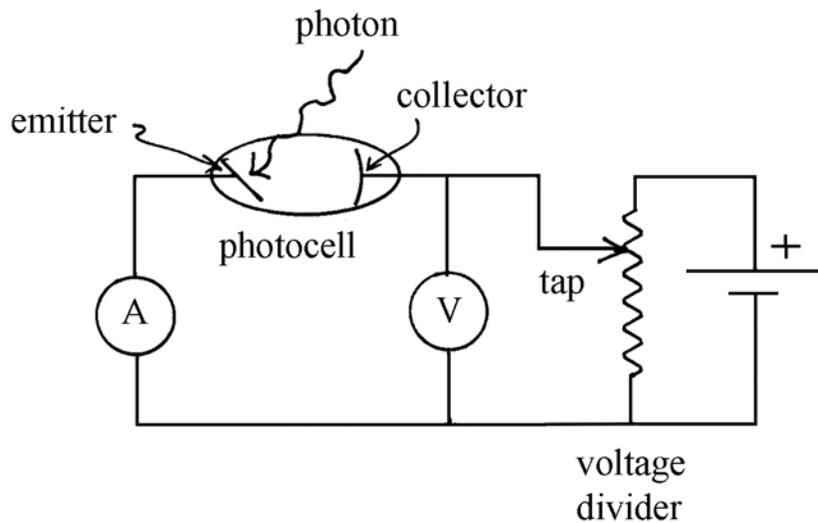
Run as fast as you can. While running note that everybody else's time seems to run slower than yours. When they observe you, what do they see? When you stop and compare times notice that they appear to have aged more than you. Is this because running is good demonstration and helps keep you young? By the way, did you feel more massive while you were running?

38.1. The Photoelectric Effect

Lab Demonstration

In this experiment you will shine light on the emitter of a photocell. If the photons of light have enough energy, electrons will be emitted from the emitter (one e^- per photon), pass through a vacuum in the photocell and be collected by the collector. Thus current will be measured with an ammeter. Depending on the energy per photon and the work function of the cathode material, the electrons will jump out of the cathode with a certain energy. This emission energy can be opposed by a voltage applied across the photocell with a bias such that the collecting electrode is negative (hence repels the electrons). The voltage which completely stops the electron flow (current) tells us the emission energy of the photo-electrons (recall $U = q\Delta V$ and electron volts).

- Turn on the mercury lamp and let it warm up. Avoid looking at the lamp since its UV light can hurt your eyes.
- Connect the circuit as drawn below.



- Set the filter wheel on the box to one of the wavelengths. This allows only that wavelength of the Hg lamp to pass to the photocell. Put the lamp right next to the filter. Increase the voltage until the current stops decreasing and levels off at some small, but probably not zero value. If the apparatus was purely dependent on the photoelectric effect, the large voltage would make the current zero, but the device is not perfect and a little, nonzero, "leakage" current is present. The critical measurement comes when you slowly decrease the voltage. The small current should remain constant for a while and then begin to change. This change is due to photoelectrons. Hence the voltage you want to measure is that when the current just begins to change. This is the stopping voltage. Record this stopping voltage. What is its significance?
- Repeat for the other two wavelength filters.
- Look at the photoelectric effect formula and find a way to plot stopping voltage and wavelength so that the graph is linear. From this graph find the work function and Planck's constant.

39.1. Line Spectra

Lab Demonstration

Use the spectroscope to observe:

- Emission lines from the discharge tubes provided. Draw the line spectra observed, labeling each line with the wavelength as measured from the scale in the spectroscope.
- Pay special attention to hydrogen. Fit its lines to the Balmer series.
- Observe a white light spectrum. Place colored filters between the light and the spectrometer and explain your observations.
- Look at the spectra of the photodiodes provided. Emissions from photodiodes occur when electrons jump across an energy band gap. Calculate these band gap energies (in joules and eV) from your spectroscopic measurements.