

Lab Manual

FOURTH EDITION
physics



CONTENTS

Welcome to the Laboratory

vi

Unit 1 Kinematics

1 Foundations of Physics

- 1A **Long Shot**
Creating Histograms 1
- 1B **Zeroing In**
Inquiring into Experimental Design 9

2 Motion in One Dimension

- 2A **Keeping Things Rolling**
Curve Fitting Using Video Analysis 11
- 2B **Time to Fall**
Measuring Acceleration due to Gravity 19
- 2C **Everyday Accelerations**
Measuring Everyday Acceleration 25

3 Vectors and Scalars

- 3A **Parts of the Whole**
Investigating Vector Components 29
- 3B **The Roundabout Way**
Adding Vectors 35

4 Motion in Two Dimensions

- 4A **It's a Tossup**
Analyzing Projectile Motion 41
- 4B **Look Up in the Sky**
Evaluating the Effect of Air Drag 47



Unit 2 Dynamics

5 Newton's Laws

- 5A **Balanced Approach**
Investigating Balanced Forces 53
- 5B **Don't Be So Pushy!**
Inquiring into Newton's Second Law 61
- 5C **Bridging the Gap**
Designing a Bridge 63

6 Applying Newton's Laws

- 6A **Slipping Away**
Measuring Coefficients of Friction 65
- 6B **Putting It All Together**
Investigating Combined Forces 73

7 Rotational and Circular Motion

- 7A **Around the Curve**
Investigating Circular Motion 79
- 7B **Take It for a Spin**
Exploring Angular Acceleration 87

8 Work and Energy

- 8A **Losing Energy?**
Investigating Conservation of Energy 91
- 8B **Big Bill's Better Bungees**
Designing a Better Bungee 95

9 Momentum

- 9A **Striving for Eggcellence**
Designing a Safer Restraint System 99
- 9B **Collision Course**
Investigating Conservation during Collisions 103

10 Periodic Motion

- 10A **Taking a Swing at It**
Inquiring into the Period of a Pendulum 111
- 10B **Sonic Boom**
Measuring the Speed of Sound in Air 113

CONTENTS

Unit 3 Thermodynamics and Matter

11 Expansion and Temperature

- 11A **Across the Expanse**
Investigating Thermal Expansion 121
- 11B **Under Pressure**
Investigating Boyle's Law 129
- 11C **Hot Space**
Investigating Charles's Law 135

12 Thermal Energy and Heat

- 12A **The Capacity to Understand**
Understanding Heat Capacity and Specific Heat Capacity 143
- 12B **What's Cooking?**
Building a Better Solar Oven 149

13 Thermodynamic Laws

- 13 **Microstates**
Understanding Entropy 153

14 Fluid Mechanics

- 14A **Navigating Water Weighs**
Understanding Buoyancy 159
- 14B **Draft Day**
Designing a Paper Boat 167

Unit 4 Electromagnetics

15 Static Electricity

- 15A **Are You Positive?**
Inquiring into Electric Charge 171
- 15B **Simply Shocking**
Investigating Electric Charge 173

16 Electric Fields

- 16A **Field Work**
Mapping Electric Fields 179
- 16B **Charge It**
Investigating Capacitance 187

17 Current Electricity

- 17A **Circuit Court**
Understanding Circuits and Resistors 195
- 17B **The Lineup**
Investigating Series Circuits 201
- 17C **The Path Less Traveled**
Investigating Parallel Circuits 209

18 Magnetism

- 18 **Navigating Magnetism**
Mapping a Magnetic Field 217

19 Electromagnetism

- 19A **Make the Wheels Go Round**
Measuring Work in an Electric Motor 223
- 19B **Maglev Training**
Designing a Maglev Train 233

Unit 5 Geometric Optics and Light

20 Light and Reflection

- 20A **Illuminating Illumination**
Investigating Luminous Flux and Illuminance 235
- 20B **Mirror, Mirror**
Investigating Plane Mirrors 241
- 20C **Closer Than They Appear**
Investigating Curved Mirrors 247

21 Refraction

21A All Bent Out of Shape Investigating Refraction	255
21B Call the Ball Investigating Thin Lenses	265

22 Wave Optics

22 In the Groove Investigating Diffraction	273
--	-----

Unit 6 Modern Physics

23 Relativity

23 Absolutely Relative Investigating the Effects of Relativity	281
--	-----

24 Quantum Physics

24 Fill In the Planck Determining the Planck Constant	287
---	-----

25 Nuclear Physics

25A Halftime Show Simulation of Radioactive Decay	295
25B Elementary, My Dear Investigating Subatomic Particles	303

Appendixes

A	Laboratory and First-Aid Rules	317
B	Laboratory Techniques	319
C	Using the Phyphox® App	324
D	Tracker Video Analysis Software	326
E	Mathematical Reference	328
F	STEM Design Process	336
G	Writing Formal Lab Reports	337
H	Physical Constants	341
I	Electrical Resistor Color Codes	342
J	Characteristics of Selected Subatomic Particles	344
	Periodic Table of the Elements	348

