

# Things You Should Know About Regents Physics

## Measurement and Mathematics

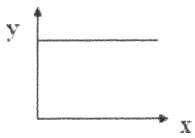
Estimation: 1 kg = 2.2 lbs    1 apple = 1 N    1 quarter = 5 g = 0.005 kg

Order of magnitude: power of ten    (thickness of paper =  $10^{-4}$  m)

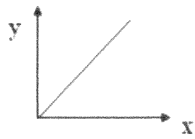
## Fundamental units

Quantity	Units	Symbol
Length	meter	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
Electric current	ampere	A

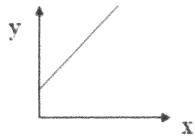
## General Relationships:



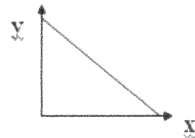
Constant  
 $y = c$



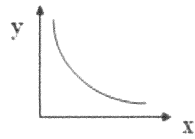
Direct  
 $y = mx$   
Slope =  $\Delta y / \Delta x$



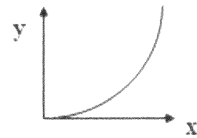
Linear  
 $y = mx + b$



Linear (Indirect)  
 $y = -mx + b$



Inverse  
 $y = c/x$   
Inverse-Square (Quadratic)  
 $y = c/x^2$



Direct-Square (Quadratic)  
 $y = cx^2$

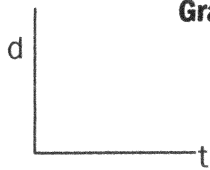
Scalars (magnitude only)	Vectors (magnitude and direction) – only 9!
Distance Speed	Displacement Velocity Acceleration
Anything else!	Force (weight, normal force, etc.) Momentum Impulse Fields (gravitational, electric, magnetic)

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}}$$

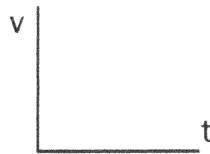
$$\cos \theta = \frac{\text{adj}}{\text{hyp}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{adj}}$$

## Graphs of Motion



Slope = velocity



Slope = acceleration  
Area = displacement

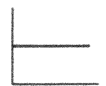
## Two Types of Motion

### Constant Velocity

Forces are balanced  
 $F_{\text{net}} = 0, a = 0$   
In equilibrium  
Newton's first law



Distance v.  
time



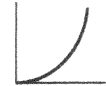
Speed v.  
time



Acceleration v.  
time

### Constant Acceleration

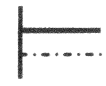
Forces are unbalanced  
 $F_{\text{net}} \neq 0, a \neq 0$   
not in equilibrium  
Newton's second law



Distance v.  
time



Speed v.  
time



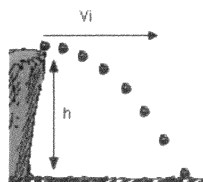
Acceleration v.  
time

## Projectiles

### Horizontal Launch

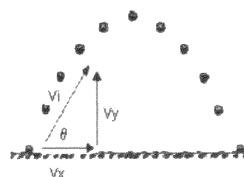
	x	Y
d		h
t	the same	
a	0	9.81
$v_i$	$v_i$	0
$v_f$	$v_i$	
$v_{\text{avg}}$	$v_i$	

Horizontal – constant speed  
Vertical – constant acceleration



### Angle Launch

	x	Y
d		
t	whole	half
a	0	9.81
$v_i$	$V_x$	$V_y$
$v_f$	$V_x$	0 (top)
$v_{\text{avg}}$	$V_x$	



# Things You Should Know About Regents Physics

## Mechanics

**Equilibrium:** no net force, no acceleration, constant velocity or at rest, forces form a closed figure

**Concurrent vectors:** placed tail-to-tail

**Component vectors:** must be head-to-tail to find resultant

**Resultant force =  $F_{net}$ :** head-to-head and tail-to-tail with components

**Range of possible resultants:**

Maximum = sum of vectors      Minimum = difference of vectors

**Equilibrant:** equal and opposite to resultant

**Box on a Hill in Equilibrium:**  $mg\sin\theta = F_f$  or  $F_A$  or  $F_T$  and  $mg\cos\theta = F_N$

**Mass (m):** = inertia, amount of matter, constant from place to place, units: kg

**Weight ( $F_g$ ):** = force of gravity, changes from place to place, units: N

Formula:  $F_g = mg$

**Two names for little "g":**

1) acceleration due to gravity, units:  $m/s^2$ , formula:  $g = GM/r^2$       2) gravitational field strength, units: N/kg, formula:  $g = F_g/m$

### Vectors

Concurrent

Resultant

Equilibrant

Maximum  $\theta = 0^\circ$       2      5      7

Minimum  $\theta = 180^\circ$       2      5      3

Triangle rule  $\rightarrow$  sum of any 2 sides  $\geq$  third side for forces to be in equilibrium

### Inclined Plane

$F_A$   $F_f$   $F_T$        $F_N$

$F_g$

$F_{||} = mg \sin\theta$

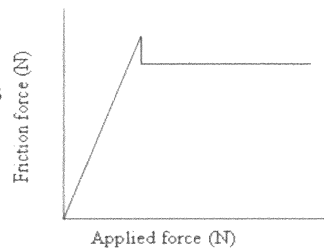
$F_{\perp} = mg \cos\theta$

### Friction

Static friction (at rest) = applied force until motion starts

Kinetic friction (in motion) is constant

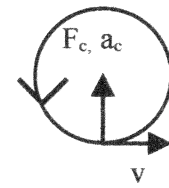
Maximum static friction is greater than kinetic friction



$$F_f = \mu F_N$$

**Newton's Third Law:** Whenever A exerts force on B, B exerts equal/opposite force on A. (Action/reaction pairs: bat and ball, Earth and Moon, hammer and nail)

### Circular Motion



$$v = \frac{d}{t} = \frac{\text{circumference}}{\text{period}} = \frac{2\pi r}{T}$$

$$a_c = \frac{v^2}{r} \quad F_c = ma_c = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

**Forces** are the same but the **effects** of the forces are not:  $m\mathbf{a} = m\mathbf{a}$

Newton's Law of  
Universal Gravitation

$$F_g = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}$$

**Conservation Laws:** electric charge, momentum, mass and energy

# Things You Should Know About Regents Physics

## Energy

Work: force and displacement must be parallel

$$W = Fd$$

Mechanical Energy:  $PE_g + PE_s + KE$

Total Energy:  $PE_g + PE_s + KE + Q$

Internal Energy = Q: thermal energy, heat due to friction/air resistance

Power: rate of change of energy, rate of doing work (units: Watts (W) = J/s)

$PE_g$  increases if height increases. KE increases if speed increases.  $PE_s$  increases if spring is stretched or compressed.

Formulas for springs:  $PE_s = \frac{1}{2} kx^2$   $F_s = kx$

k = spring constant (units: N/m)

Conservation of Energy:  $E_T = E_T$   
 $PE_g + PE_s + KE + Q = PE_g + PE_s + KE + Q$

Work-Energy Theorem:  $W = \Delta E_T$

## Electricity

Conductors (metals) have free electrons, insulators do not.

Objects become charged by losing or gaining electrons (not protons).

Elementary Charge: proton or electron

1 Coulomb of charge =  $6.25 \times 10^{18}$  elementary charges

Charge of Electron:  $q = -1e$  OR  $q = -1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Mass of Electron:  $m = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

Charge of Proton:  $q = +1e$  OR  $q = +1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Mass of Proton:  $m = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$

If two or more identical charged spheres touch, the final charge on each is the **average** charge (total charge/# of spheres). The total charge is conserved.

A neutral object will be attracted (never repelled) by any charged object. If two objects attract, they could have opposite charges or one could be neutral. If two objects repel, they must have the same type of charge.

Charging by conduction: direct contact - electroscope gets same charge as rod

Charging by induction: no direct contact - electroscope gets charge opposite of rod

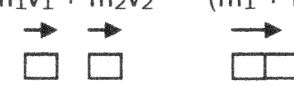
## Collisions

Conservation of Momentum:  $p_{\text{before}} = p_{\text{after}}$

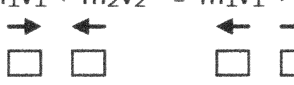
Isolated System: no external forces

Elastic Collision: total KE is conserved

Sticky  
(inelastic)  $m_1v_1 + m_2v_2 = (m_1 + m_2) \cdot v_f$

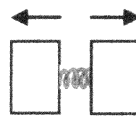


Bouncy  
(elastic)  $m_1v_1 + m_2v_2 = m_1v_1 + m_2v_2$



Remember - Moving to the left gets a NEGATIVE sign!

## Explosion



Equal and opposite forces, impulses, changes in momentum, and contact times

Different speed based on mass

$$m\mathbf{a} = M\mathbf{a}$$

$$m\mathbf{V} = M\mathbf{V}$$

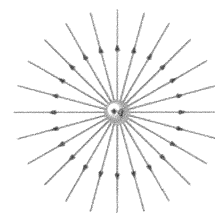
**Coulomb's Law**  
(electric force,  
electrostatic force)

$$F_e = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$$

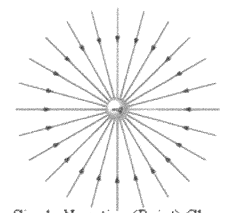
**Electric Field**  
(units: N/C or V/m)

$$E = \frac{F_e}{q}$$

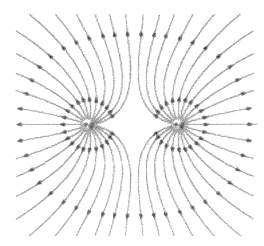
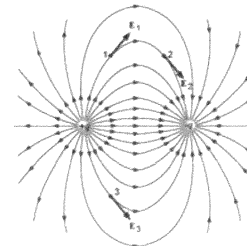
Lines go from + to -.  
 Lines never cross.  
 Lines show direction of force on small positive test charge.  
 Field is most intense where field lines are most dense.



Single Positive (Point) Charge



Single Negative (Point) Charge



Two Like Equal Charges

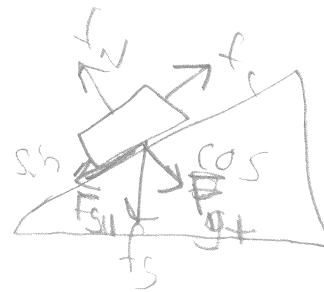
# Things You Should Know About Regents Physics

Electric potential difference (voltage): work done per unit charge ( $V = W/q$ )

Resistance of a wire:  $R = \rho L/A$  where  $A = \pi r^2$

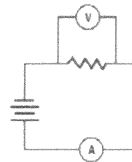
Least resistance (best conductor): short, fat, cold

Most resistance (worst conductor): long, skinny, hot

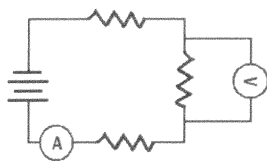


Voltmeter: connect in parallel, infinite internal resistance

Ammeter: connect in series, zero internal resistance



## Series Circuit



$$R_{eq} = R_1 + R_2 + R_3$$

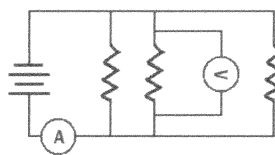
$$V_T = V_1 + V_2 + V_3$$

Control: current stays the same

Resistance adds up (greater than greatest)

Adding extra resistor increases total resistance and decreases total current.

## Parallel Circuit



$$I_T = I_1 + I_2 + I_3$$

$$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$$

Control: voltage stays the same

Resistance adds down (less than least)

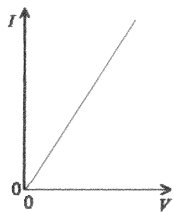
Adding extra resistor decreases total resistance and increases total current.

Potential difference	V	Volt	$V = J/C$
Current	I	Amps	$A = C/s$
Resistance	R	Ohms	$\Omega = V/A$
Power	P	Watts	$W = J/s$
Charge	q	Coulombs	C
Energy	W	Joules	$J = N \cdot m$

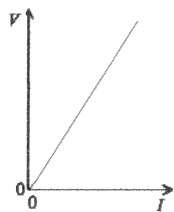
Resistance:  $R = V/I$

Ohmic Device: follows Ohm's law ( $V \propto I$  at constant T) = constant resistance

Non-Ohmic Device: resistance not constant (eg. filament lamp)



Slope =  $1/R$



Slope = R

Mechanical Power:  $P = W/t = Fd/t = Fv$

Electrical Power:  $P = VI = I^2R = V^2/R$

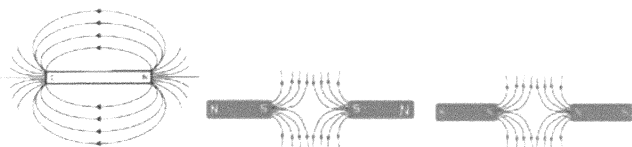
1 electronvolt (eV) =  $1.60 \times 10^{-19}$  J

1 kilowatt hour =  $(1000 \text{ W})(1 \text{ hr}) = 3.6 \times 10^6$  J

Three units of energy: joules, electronvolts, kilowatt hours

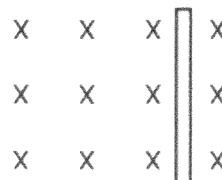
## Magnetic Fields

From N to S, density = strength (intensity)  
Direction of lines = direction of compass needle



## Two Principles of Electromagnetism:

- 1) An electric current (or moving charged particle) generates a magnetic field.
- 2) A changing/moving magnetic field induces an electric current (electromagnetic induction).



# Things You Should Know About Regents Physics

## Waves

Mechanical: needs medium  
Electromagnetic: no medium



Transverse: perpendicular  
Longitudinal: parallel

Radio Wave: electromagnetic wave – speed =  $3.00 \times 10^8$  m/s

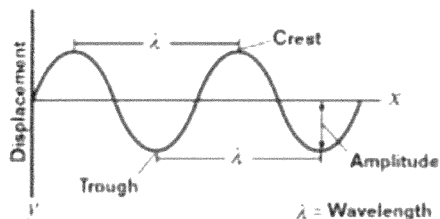
Period (T): seconds/cycle

Frequency (f): cycles/second

Wave equation:  $v = f\lambda$

### Sound

Longitudinal, mechanical  
Speed = 331 m/s (STP) 340 m/s (room temp)  
Amplitude = loudness (volume)  
Frequency = pitch  
Energy  $\propto$  amplitude  
Speeds up when going from air to water  
Can't be polarized

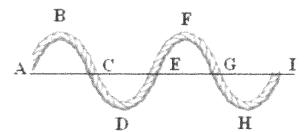


### Light

Transverse, electromagnetic  
Speed =  $c = 3.00 \times 10^8$  m/s (vacuum)  
Amplitude  $\propto$  brightness (intensity)  
Frequency  $\propto$  energy ( $E = hf$ )  
Slows down when going from air to water  
Can be polarized  
**Red:** long wavelength, low frequency  
**Blue:** short wavelength, high frequency

In Phase: A, E, I

Out of Phase by  $180^\circ$  or  $\lambda/2$ : A, C



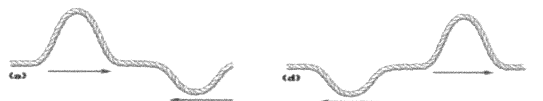
Hard reflection: out of phase



Soft reflection: in phase



Constructive interference: in phase

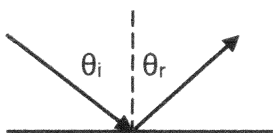


Destructive interference: out of phase

In one medium :  $f \propto 1/\lambda$

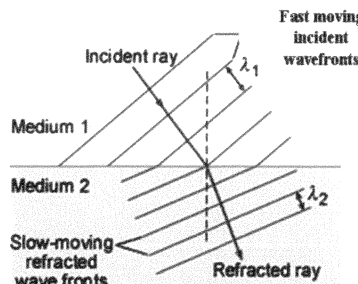
Control: speed - you can only change the speed of the wave by changing the properties of the medium)

Law of Reflection:  $\theta_i = \theta_r$



Crossing a boundary:  $v \propto \lambda$

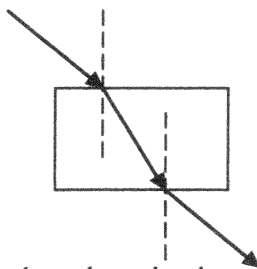
Control: frequency stays the same, so does period and phase



Refraction: changing direction when changing speed when crossing a boundary

**FAST:**

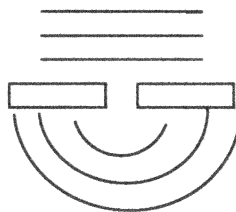
into fast, bend away from normal (high n to low n)  
into slow, bend towards normal (low n to high n)



Light slows down, bends towards the normal, and has a shorter wavelength when it enters a medium with a higher index. The frequency stays the same.

Diffraction: bending around obstacle or spreading through opening

Noticeable diffraction: when size of opening approx. equal to size of wavelength – as opening gets smaller, more diffraction effects

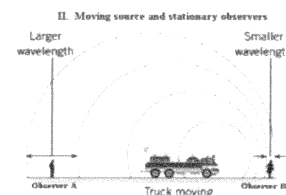


**Resonance:** energy is transferred to a system by making it vibrate at its natural frequency resulting in large amplitude standing waves

Examples: guitar strings, bridges, swings, wine glasses

Doppler Effect: apparent change in frequency due to relative motion

Constant low frequency, Decreasing amplitude

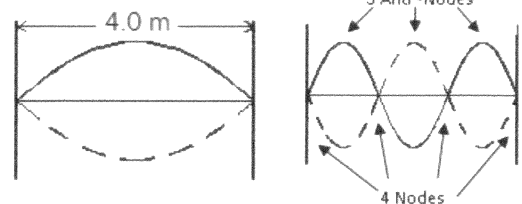


Constant high frequency, Increasing amplitude

Doppler Shift for Light:

“blue shift” = object moving towards  
“red shift” = object moving away

Standing Wave: Two identical waves traveling in opposite directions in the same medium interfere



Fundamental Wave:

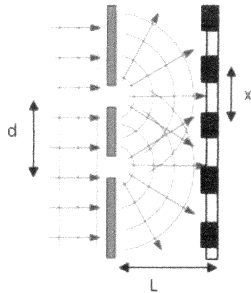
lowest frequency ( $f_1$ ),  
 $\lambda_1 = 8.0$  m

Visible Light: 400 nm (violet) – 700 nm (red)

Order of Electromagnetic Spectrum: Source – accelerating charged particles  
**Radioactive Monkeys In Virginia Use X-ray Guns** – lowest to highest frequency and energy

# Things You Should Know About Regents Physics

**Double Slit Diffraction and Interference:** equally spaced bright and dark bands

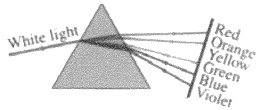


Red Spread

**Single Slit Diffraction:** wide and bright central maximum

**Dispersion:** spreading out of light into components due to refraction – each color has slightly different index and speed

**Blue Bends Best** - slowest  
**Red Resists Refraction** - fastest



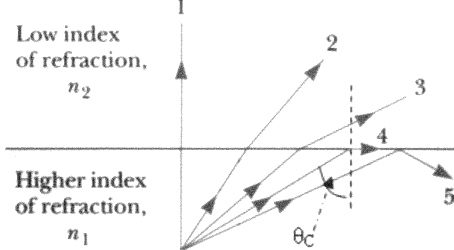
**Total Internal Reflection**

**Critical Angle ( $\theta_c$ ):** incident angle for which the refracted angle is  $90^\circ$

Formula:  $\sin \theta_c = n_2/n_1$

**Total Internal Reflection:** all light is reflected at surface, none is refracted – only occurs when light travels from high to low index and incident angle is greater than  $\theta_c$

Major use: fiber optic cables



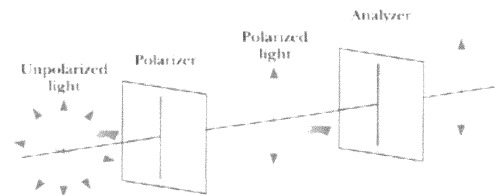
**Polarization**

Only transverse waves can be polarized  
– light = yes, sound = no.

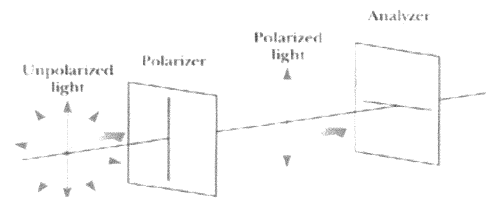
**Polarized Light:** vibrates in only one direction

**Natural Polarization:** light is partially polarized when it reflects off a surface

50% of unpolarized light transmits through a single polarizer.



Parallel polarizers: 50% passes through both



Perpendicular polarizers: 0% passes through second

## Modern Physics

### Wave-Particle Duality

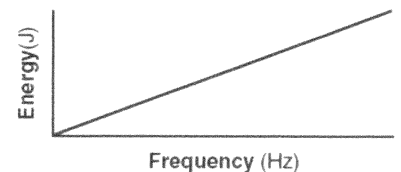
	Wave Nature	Particle Nature
<b>Light (Energy)</b>	- Diffraction - Interference - Doppler Effect	Photo-electric Effect
<b>Matter</b>	- Electron Diffraction - Matter Waves	Collisions (e.g. Alpha particle scattering)

**Photon – quantum (particle) of light**

Higher frequency = higher energy  
( $E = hf$ )

Higher intensity = more photons

### Energy vs. Frequency



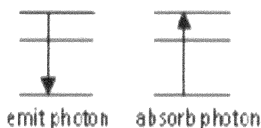
Slope = Planck's constant ( $h$ )

### Atomic Spectra

Ground state: lowest energy level  
Excited state: higher energy level  
Ionization: zero energy level

$E_{\text{photon}} = |\Delta E_n|$

( $E_{\text{photon}} = E_i - E_f$ )



$E = mc^2$  (only use if E is in Joules and m is in kg)

$1 \text{ u} = 9.31 \times 10^2 \text{ MeV}$

Hadrons made of quarks, leptons don't break down further...

Antimatter = same mass, opposite charge

Alpha particle = helium nucleus (2 protons and 2 neutrons)

Positron = anti-electron = positive electron

Proton = uud

Neutron = udd

### Fundamental forces:

EM and gravity – long-range; Strong and weak – short-range