

Optics

For the complete bibliography with references as well as an explanation of the classification scheme go to:

[Demonstration Bibliography](#)

The **demonstration name** listed in the bibliography is either the name listed on the reference or, if none is given, a simple descriptive name. In cases where there are several common names for a demonstration, the committee has chosen a preferred name.

The **description** is very brief. It is not intended to be a summary of the reference. One sentence is, in general, sufficient to describe the unique characteristics, if any, of an item. Each source has a unique numbering format. These unique formats are used to identify references in the Bibliography.

The formats for the **reference** column and links to the sources are listed below:

Reference	Source
M-1	Sutton
Ma-1	Freier & Anderson
M-1d	Hilton
8-2.8	Meiners
M-108	Dick & Rae
1A 12.01	University of Minnesota Handbook
AJP 52(1),85	American Journal of Physics
TPT 15(5),300	The Physics Teacher
Disc 01-01	The Video Encyclopedia of Physics Demonstrations
PIRA 200	Physics Instructional Resource Association
PIRA 500	PIRA 500
PIRA 1000	PIRA 1000

Each demonstration is listed in only one location, even if it is commonly used to illustrate several concepts.

5/16/2023

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OPTICS	6A01.10	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Speed of Light		
Speed of Light		
A pulsed IR laser, a couple of photodiodes and a retro-reflector are used with a fast scope to measure the speed of light. The scope settings are stores in a file on the scope. An IR sensitive card can be used to show the beam.		



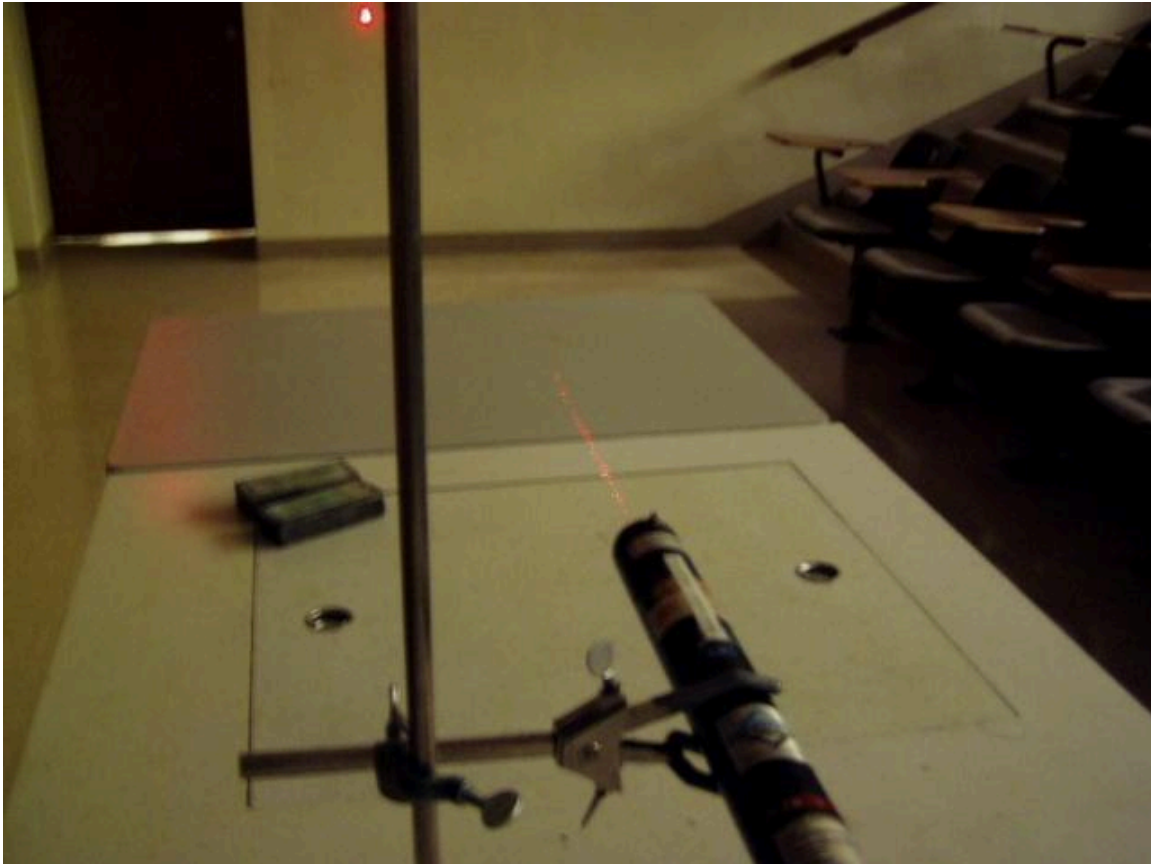
Location: Id2, Fb5

OPTICS	6A02.15	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Straight Line Propagation		
Shadows		
	Use a point source to cast sharp shadows.	



Location: Id2

OPTICS	6A02.35	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Straight Line Propagation		
Chalk Dust		
	Use chalk dust to make a laser beam visible.	



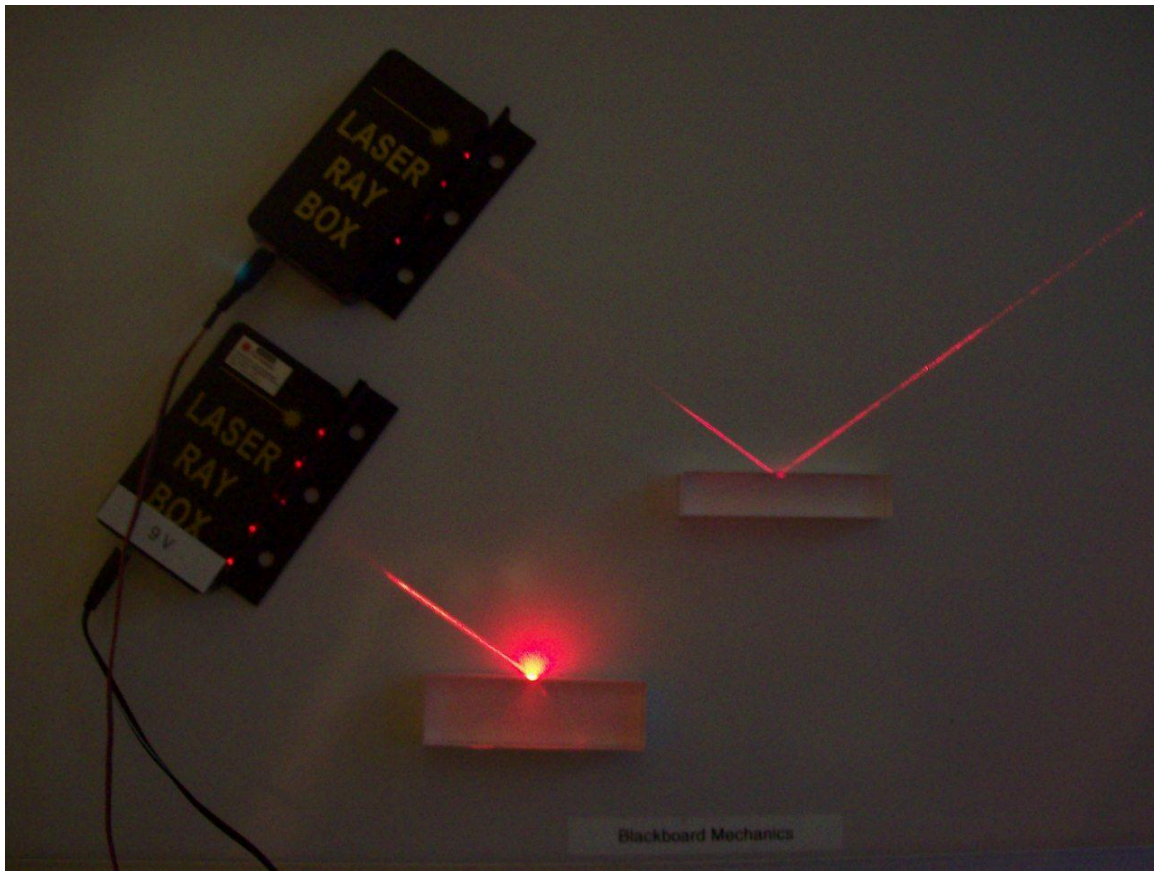
Location: Ja6

OPTICS	6A10.18	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Flat Surfaces		
Microwave Reflection		
Reflect a microwave beam off of a metal plate into receiver.		



Location: Ia7

OPTICS	6A10.20	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Flat Surfaces		
Diffuse and Specular Reflection		
	Use the blackboard optics equipment to show specular reflection off of a mirror then replace the mirror with a sheet of paper.	



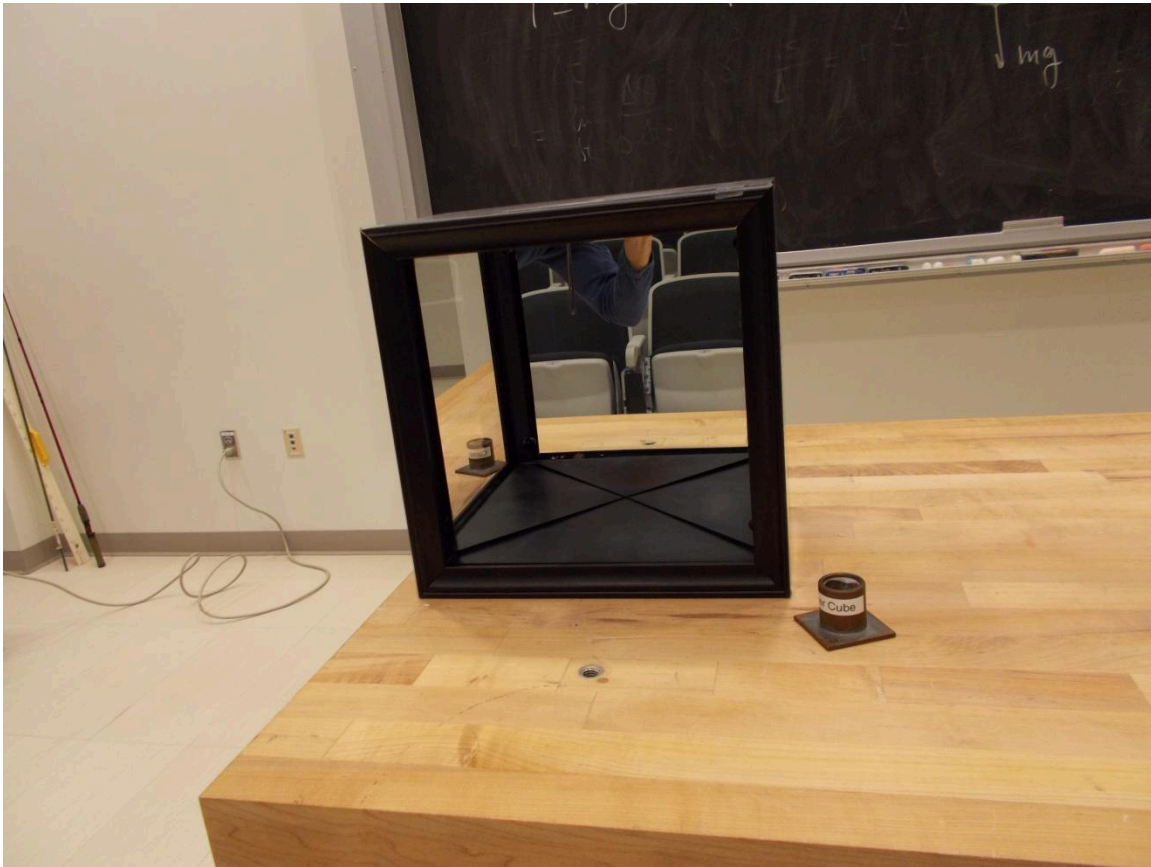
Location: Blackboard Optics Cart

OPTICS	6A10.25	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Flat Surfaces		
Ripple Tank Reflection		
	A barrier in a ripple tank reflects plain waves. This can also be done with a point source to illustrate image formation in a plain mirror.	



Location: Fb4

OPTICS	6A10.30	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Flat Surfaces		
Corner Reflection		
Look at your image in a corner mirror. Also use the TV camera to look into a corner reflector.		



Location: Id3, Optics Table Cabinet

OPTICS	6A10.40	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Flat Surfaces		
Angled Mirrors		
	Two hinged mirrors show multiple images of an object placed between them.	



Location: Id4

OPTICS	6A10.45	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Flat Surfaces		
Parallel Mirrors		
	An infinite number of images are formed with a light bulb between parallel mirrors.	



Location: Id4

OPTICS	6A10.50	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Flat Surfaces		
Full View Mirror		
	A mirror is covered with paper so that a person can just see their entire height.	



Location: IdT

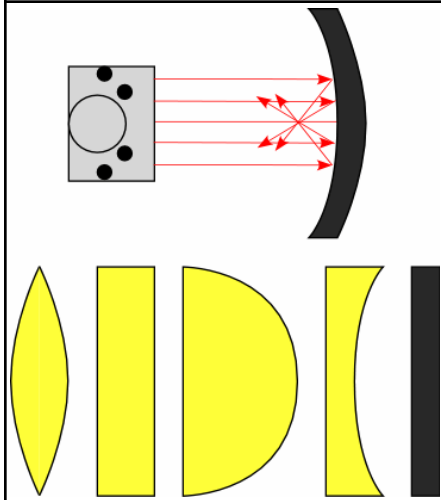
OPTICS	6A10.65	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Flat Surfaces		
Mirror Box		
	“Pepper’s Ghost”, an old stage illusion. As the light on the subjects face is dimmed another light on a plastic skull brightens causing an apparent metamorphosis.	



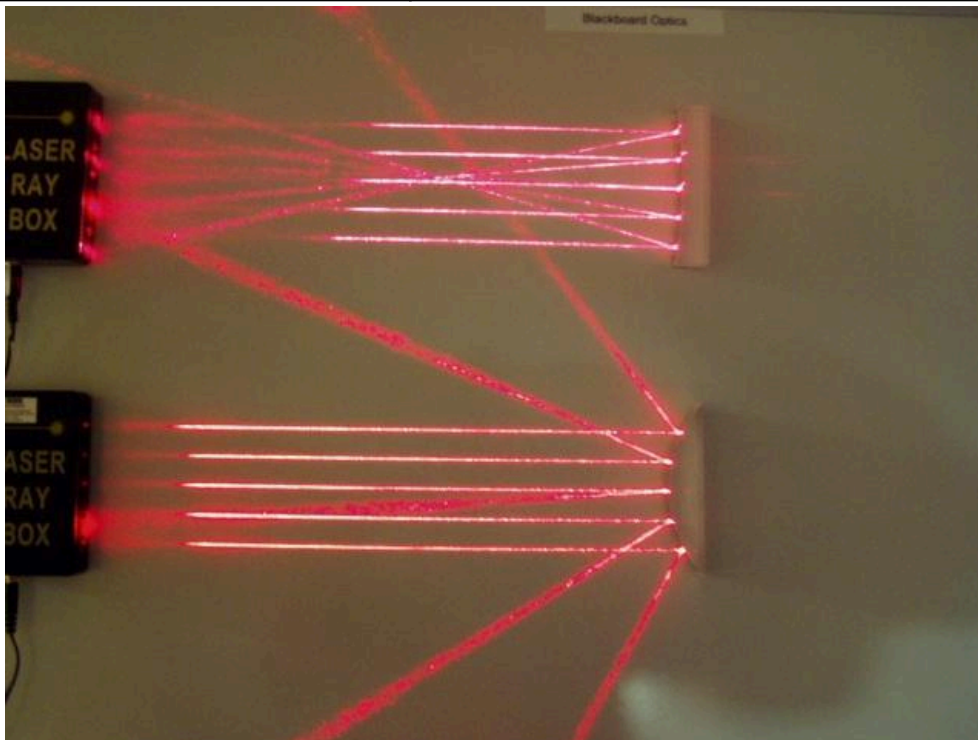
Location: Ja1

Reflection from Curved Surfaces

Blackboard Optics - Curved Mirrors



Shine parallel beams at convex and concave mirrors. Use the Blackboard optics for two dimensional representations.



Location: Blackboard Optics Cart

OPTICS	6A20.15	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Curved Surfaces		
Parallel Lasers and Curved Mirrors		
	Shine parallel beams at convex and concave mirrors.	



Location: Ja4, Blackboard Optics Cart

OPTICS	6A20.30	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Curved Surfaces		
Lamp in the Socket		
The image of a hidden light bulb is projected at the location of an empty socket.		



Location: IdT

OPTICS	6A20.35	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Curved Surfaces		
Optic Mirage		
	Two concave mirrors face each other. Images of objects resting on the bottom mirror appear at the center hole of the top mirror.	



Location: Ja2

OPTICS	6A20.40	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Curved Surfaces		
Projected Arrow with Mirror		
A converging mirror is used to project the image of an illuminated arrow on a screen. Focal Length 0.75 m, diameter 0,203 m.		

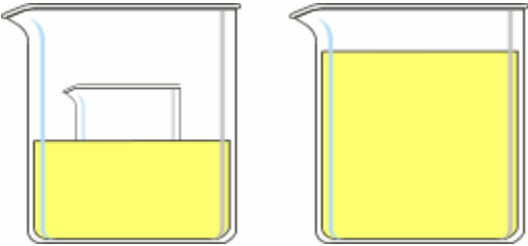


Location: Ja2

OPTICS	6A20.45	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Reflection from Curved Surfaces		
Concave and Convex Mirrors		
Large convex and concave mirrors are shown.		



Location: Id5

OPTICS	6A40.30	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Refractive Index		
Disappearing Beaker		
		Use Johnson's baby oil or Wesson oil to make a small beaker disappear when immersed. If the beaker has graduations or words they will appear to be floating in the liquid.



Location: Ja3

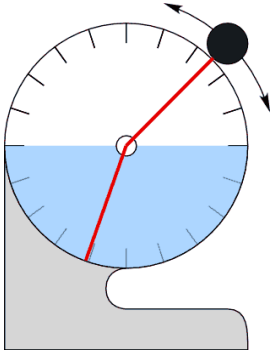
OPTICS	6A40.47	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Refractive Index		
Mirage with Laser		
A laser beam almost grazing a hot plate will show a deflection when the plate is turned on. Level the laser and aim the beam so that it just goes over the hot plate and hits the scale at “0”. In the arrangement shown the laser spot on the scale moves up about 2 cm as the plate heats up. It takes a few minutes.		



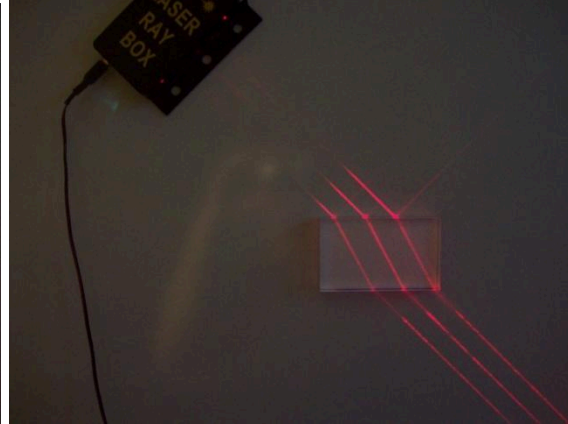
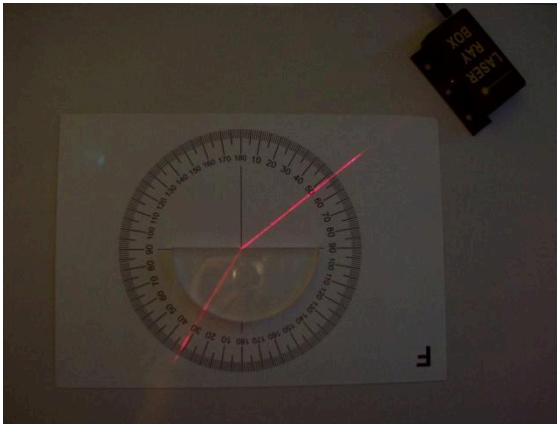
Location: Ja6, Gb2

Refraction at Flat Surfaces

Blackboard Optics - Refraction

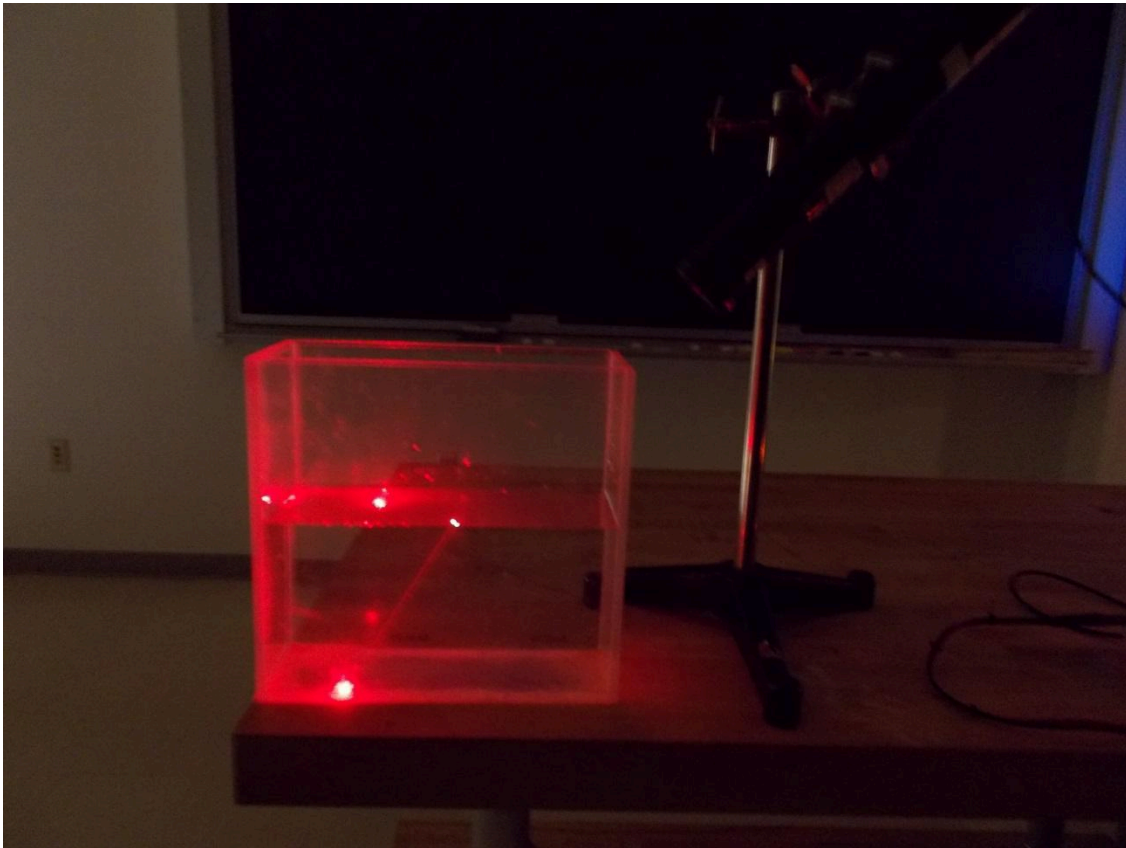


The light source can be rotated through 270 degrees to show refraction and total internal reflection for both air/plastic and plastic/air interfaces. One can also use a rectangular prism (not shown but in the supplied BBO equipment) to show refraction and internal reflection.



Location: Blackboard Optics Cart

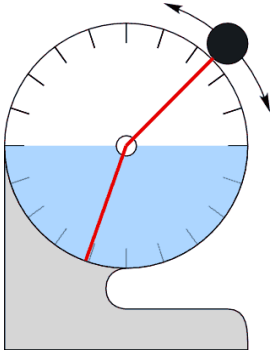
OPTICS	6A42.20	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Refraction at Flat Surfaces		
Refraction Tank		
	The light source can be rotated through 270 degrees to show refraction and total internal reflection for both air/plastic and plastic/air interfaces. Also can be done with an aquarium tank, water and a laser.	



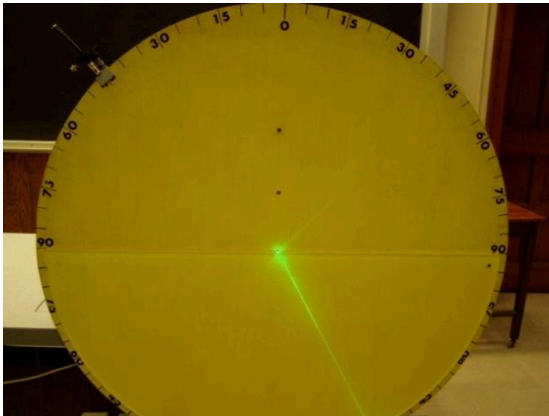
Location: Ja3, Ja6

Refraction at Flat Surfaces

Big Plastic Refraction Tank



The light source can be rotated through 270 degrees to show refraction and total internal reflection for both air/plastic and plastic/air interfaces. Be careful using the bright (20 mw) green laser.



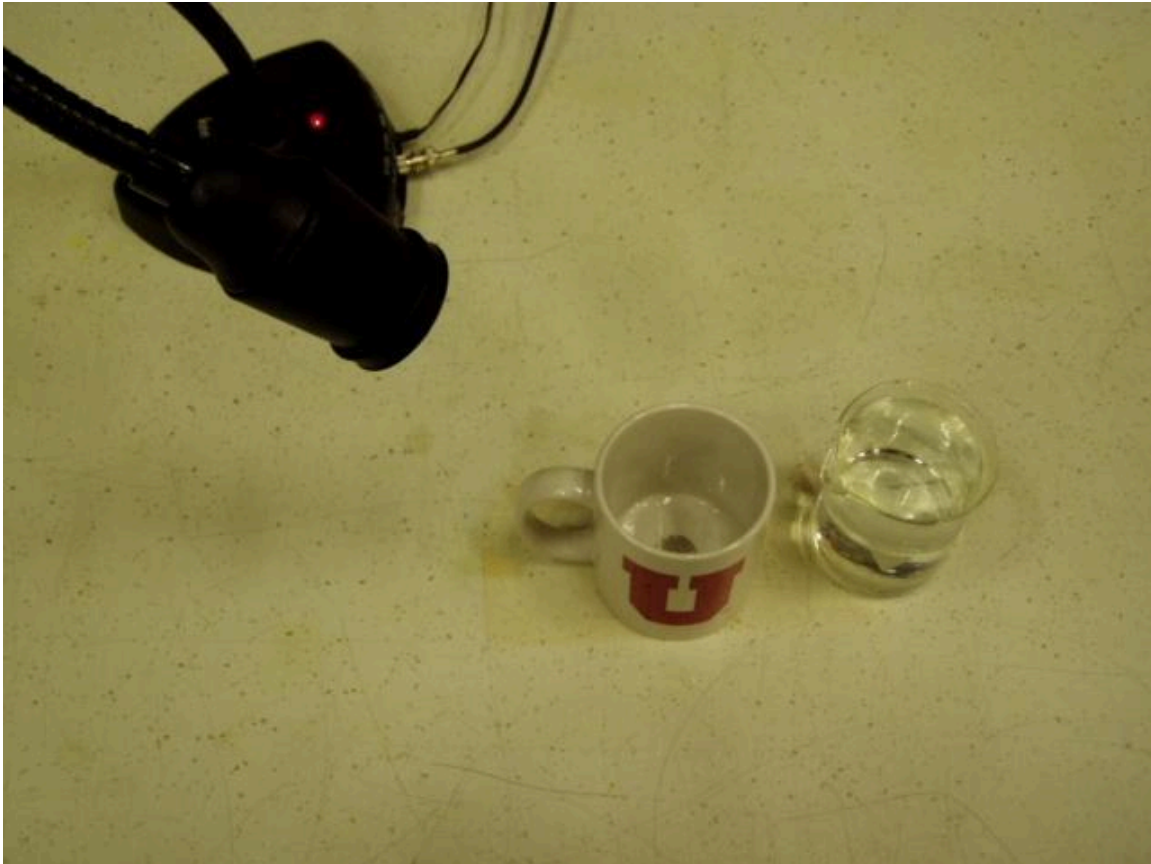
Location: PbT, Jd1

OPTICS	6A42.35	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Refraction at Flat Surfaces		
Ripple Tank Refraction		
	The wave velocity over a shoal is smaller than that over deeper water and thus refraction of the ripples occurs over the plastic shoal.	



Location: Fb4

OPTICS	6A42.40	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Refraction at Flat Surfaces		
Seeing a Coin		
	Pour water in a cup until a coin at the bottom (use double stick tape to hold it in place) previously hidden by the side is visible.	



Location: Ja3

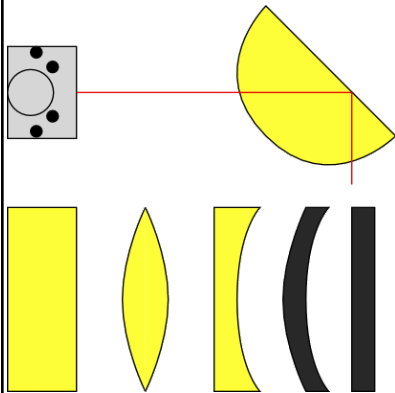
OPTICS	6A42.45	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Refraction at Flat Surfaces		
Stick in Water		
	A stick appears bent when inserted into water.	



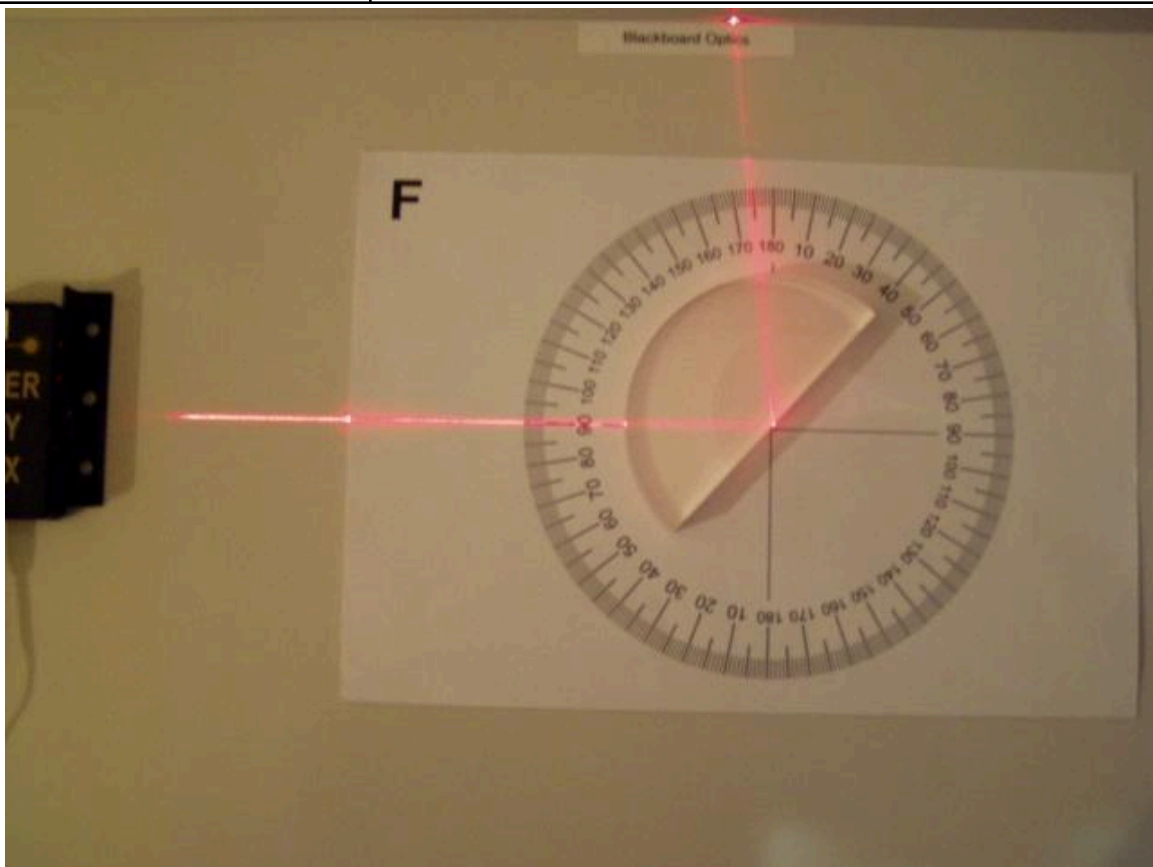
Location: Ja4

Total Internal Reflection

Blackboard Optics – Prism, Semicircle

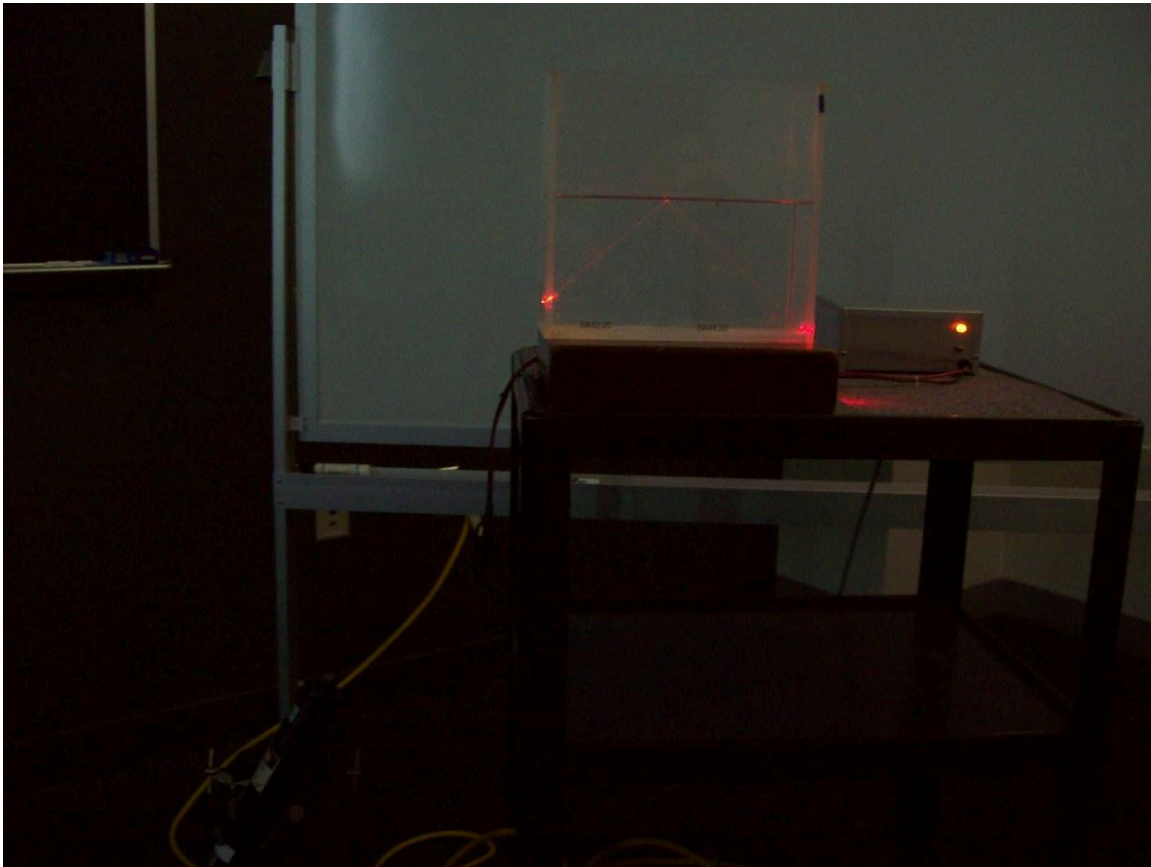


Rotate the semicircular slab of Plexiglas with the light ray entering the flat face and exiting through the curved surface. Rotate the semicircular slab until the critical angle is reached and total internal reflection is obtained.



Location: Blackboard Optics Cart

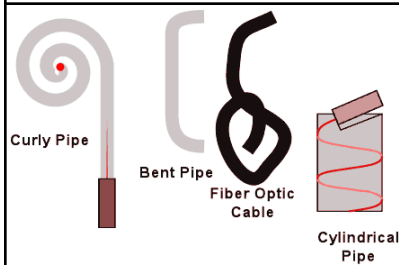
OPTICS	6A44.20	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Total Internal Reflection		
Critical Angle in a Refraction Tank		
A beam in a tank of water is rotated until there is total internal reflection at the surface.		



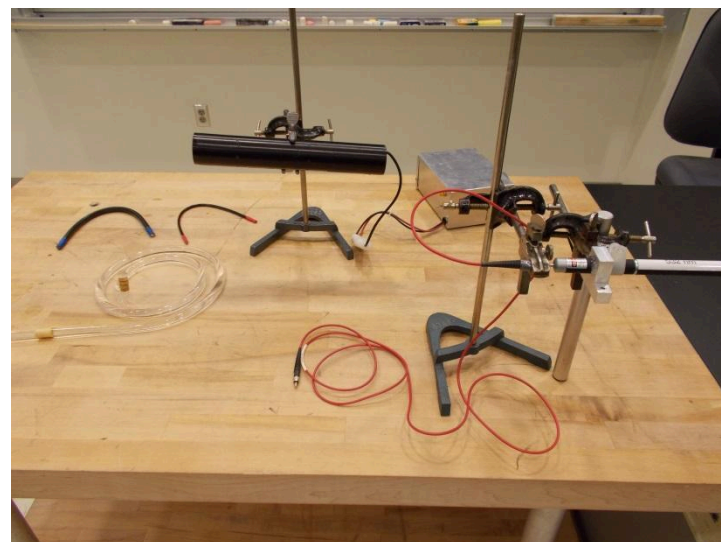
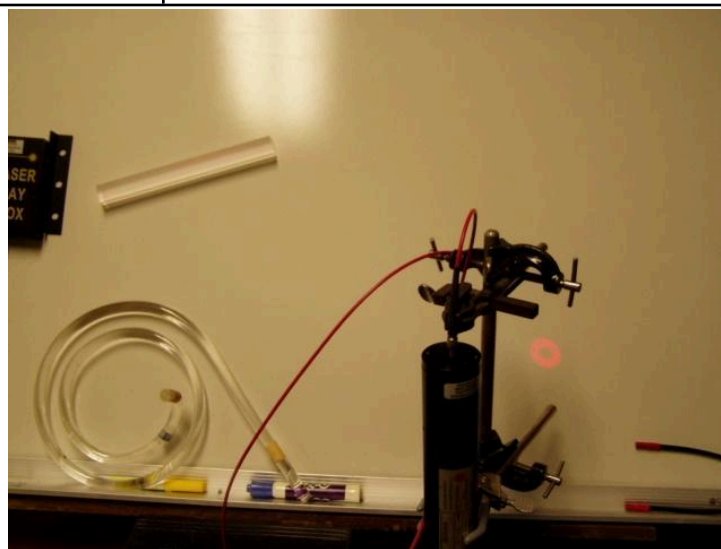
Location: Ja3, Ja6

Total Internal Reflection

Laser and Fiber Optics

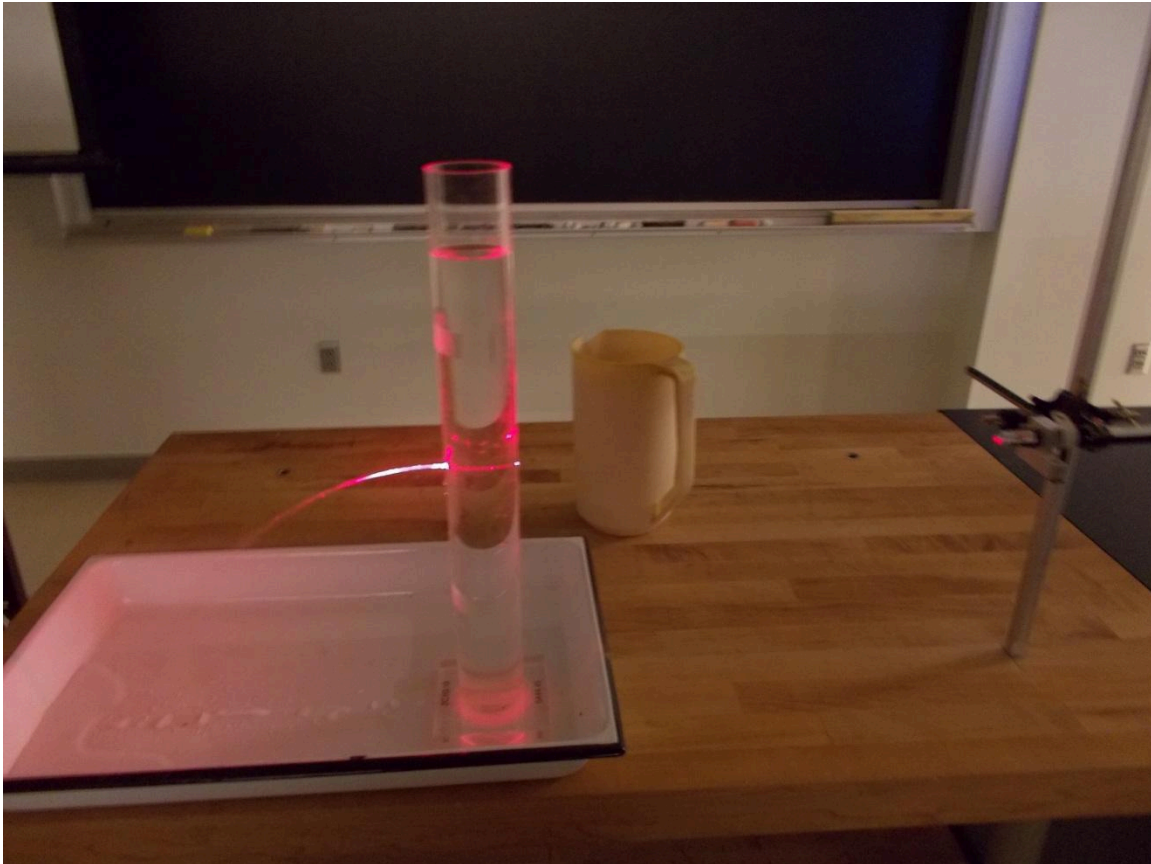


You are provided with a Plexiglas rod, Plexiglas curly Q and a section of fiber optic cable. Hold their ends in the beam near the laser. Vary the number of reflections in the rod by changing the angle.



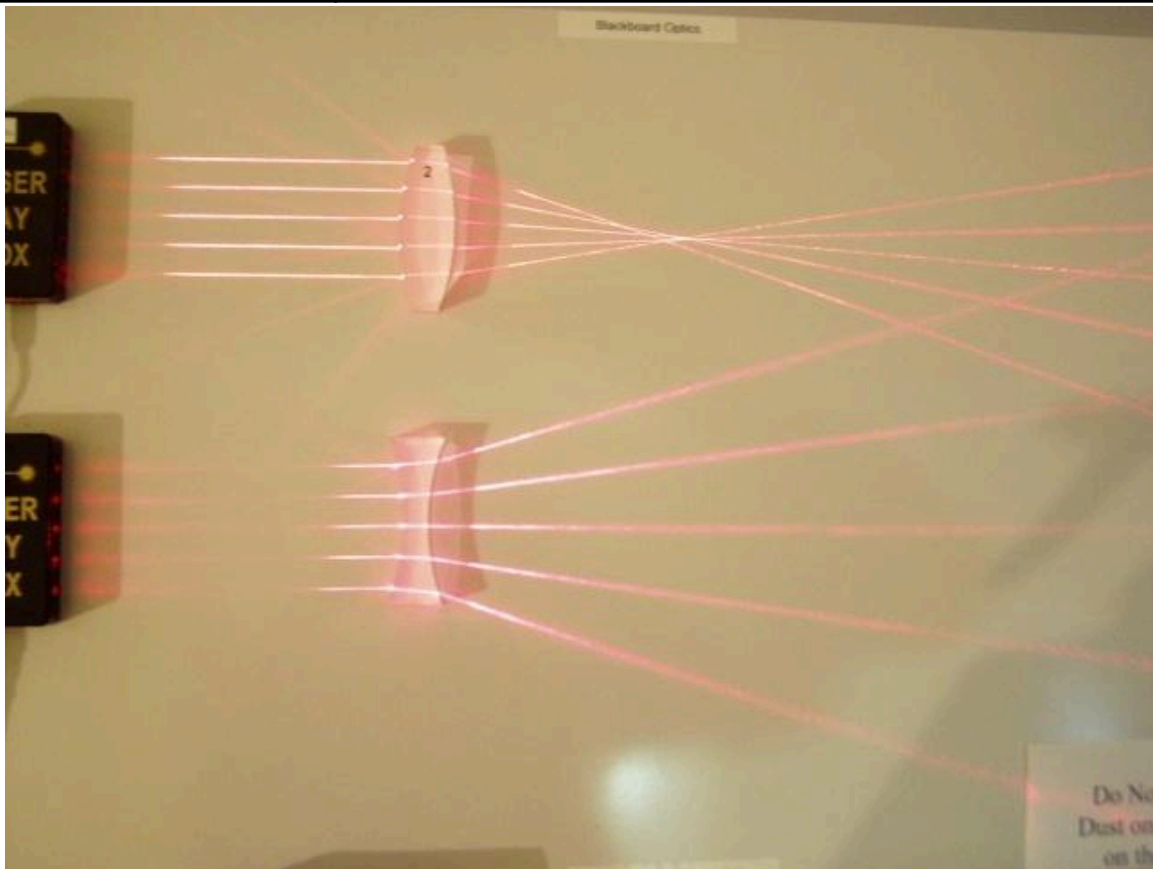
Location: Blackboard Optics Cart, Ja4, Ja6

OPTICS	6A44.45	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Total Internal Reflection		
Laser Waterfall		
	Shine a laser down the center of a nozzle and it follows the water stream.	



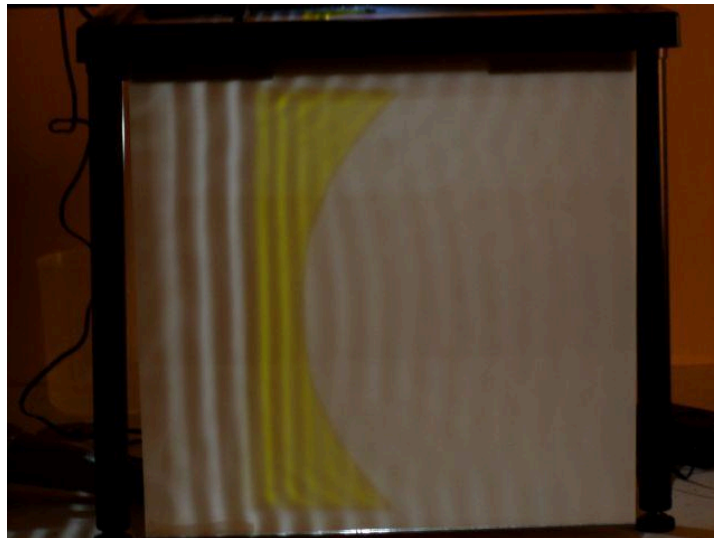
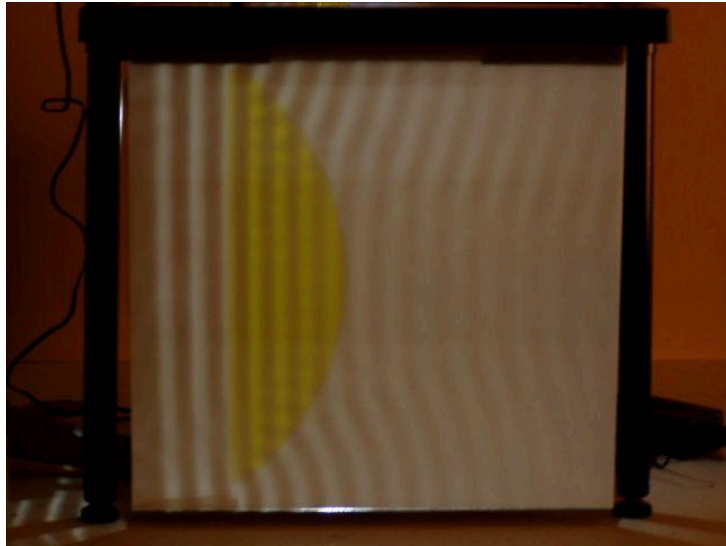
Location: Dd6, Ja6

OPTICS	6A60.10	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Thin Lenses		
Blackboard Optics – Thin Lenses		
Blackboard optics are used with convex and concave thin lens elements		



Location: Blackboard Optics Cart

OPTICS	6A60.15	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Thin Lenses		
Ripple Tank – Lens Model		
	Refraction due to depth differences over a lens shaped area in the ripple tank.	



Location: Fb4

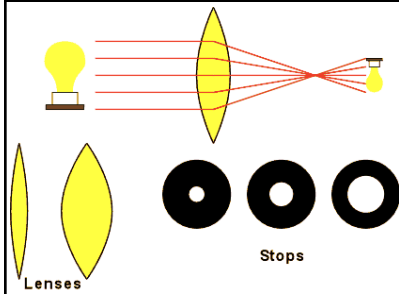
OPTICS	6A60.20	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Thin Lenses		
Parallel Lasers and Lenses		
	Parallel lasers are passed through converging and diverging lenses. Chalk dust illuminates the beams.	



Location: Id1, Blackboard Optics Cart

Thin Lenses

Projected Arrow w/Lens

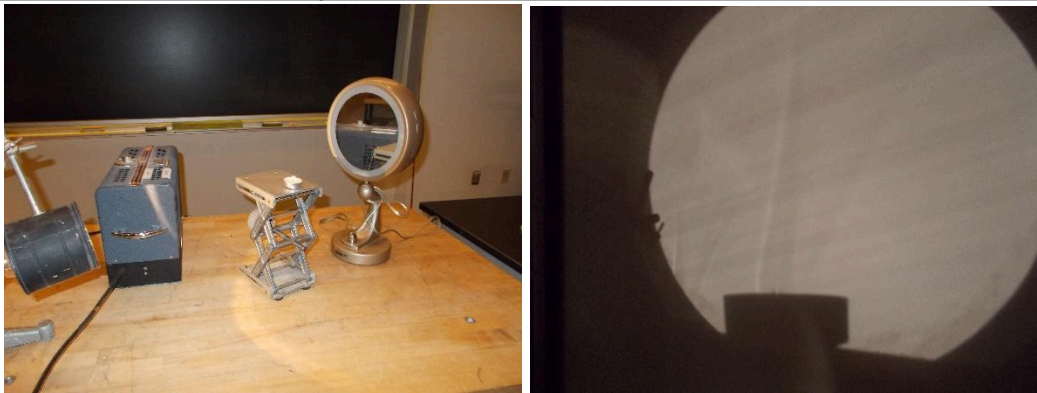


Turn on the light bulb. Move the light bulb to focus the image on the side wall. The focal lengths are marked on the lenses. Show the effect of aperture size on the sharpness on the focus by placing different sized stops in front of the lens.



Location: Id1, Jd3

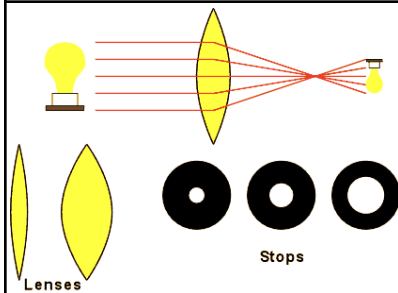
OPTICS	6A60.41	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Thin Lenses		
Schlieren Image of a candle		
	A point source, a mirror and a candle.	



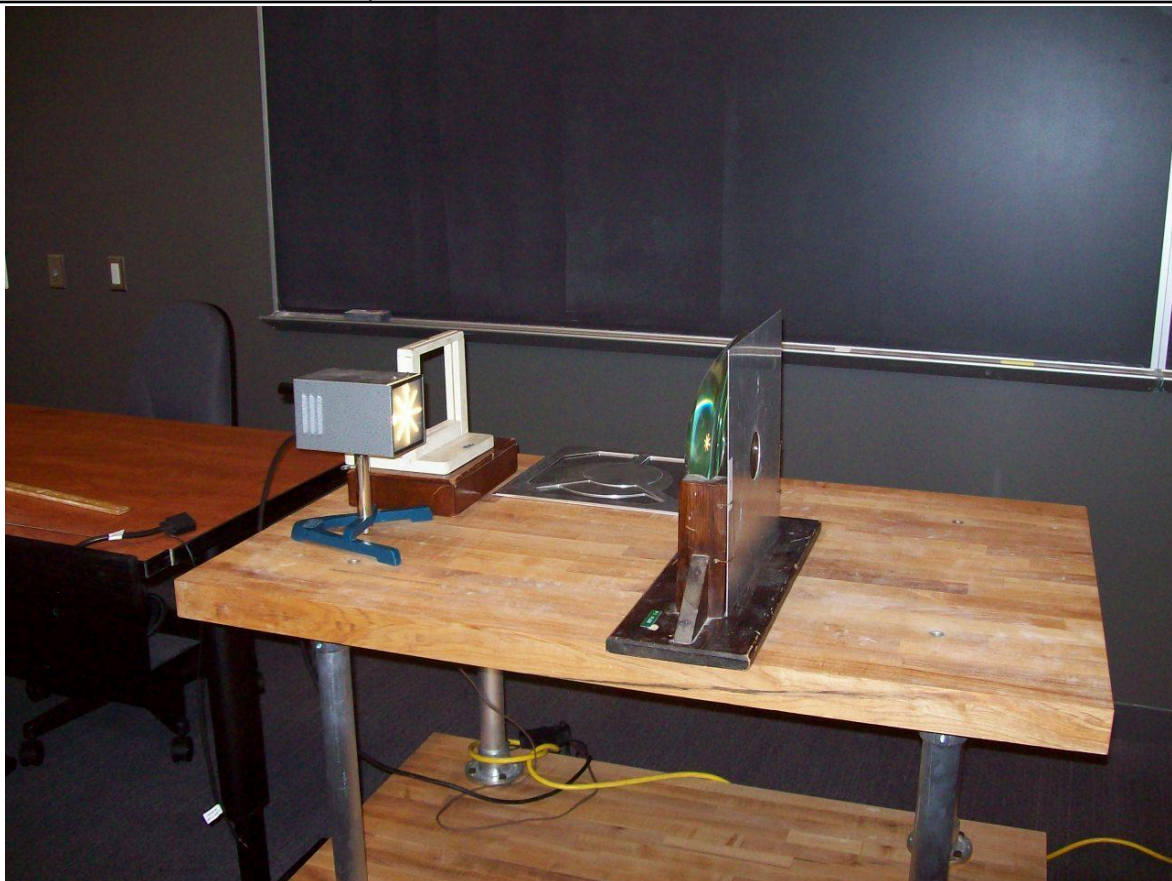
Location: Id1, Jd3

Thick Lenses

Improving an Image with a Stop

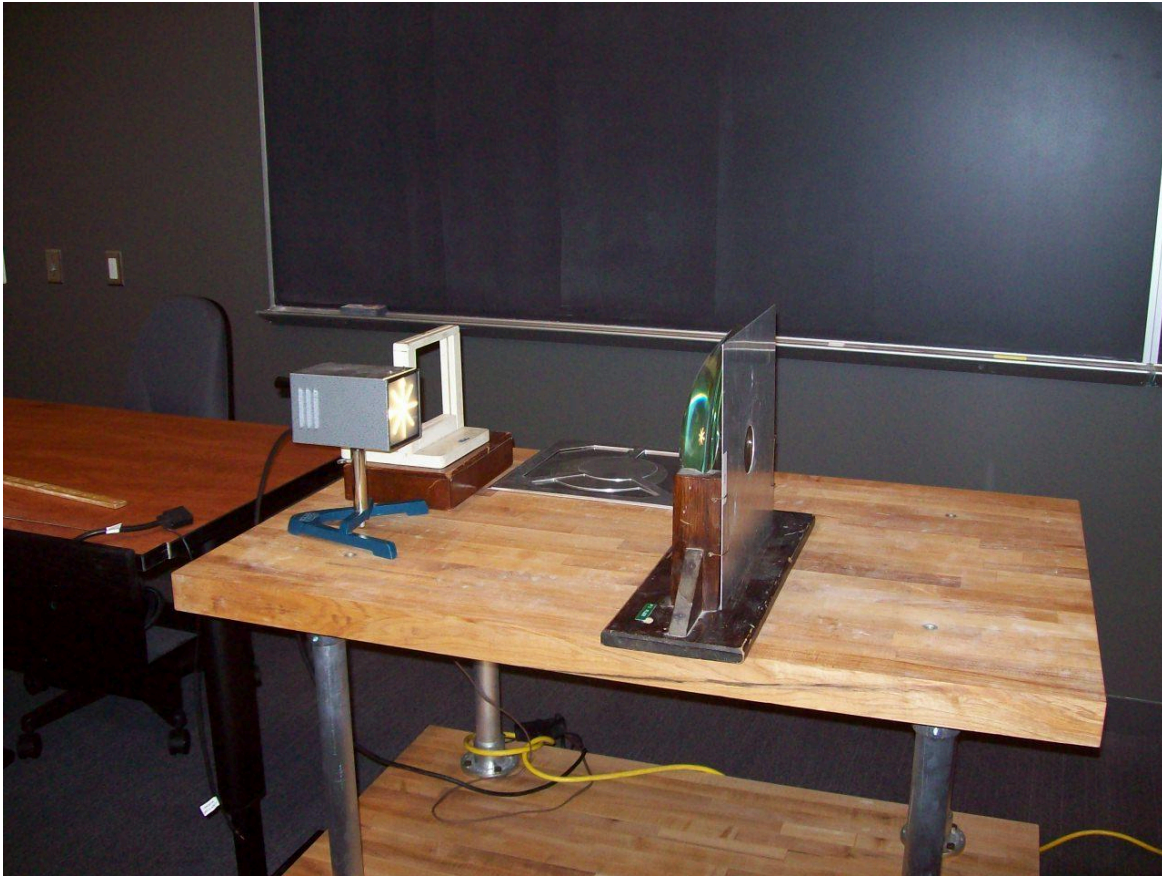


Turn on the light bulb. Move the light bulb to focus the image on the side wall. The focal lengths are marked on the lenses. Show the effect of aperture size on the sharpness on the focus by placing different sized stops in front of the lens. Use the thick, short focal length lens.



Location: Ja5, Jd3

OPTICS	6A65.24	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Thick Lenses		
Chromatic and Spherical Aberration		
Use diaphragms with central, annular, and other openings to show spherical and chromatic aberration.		



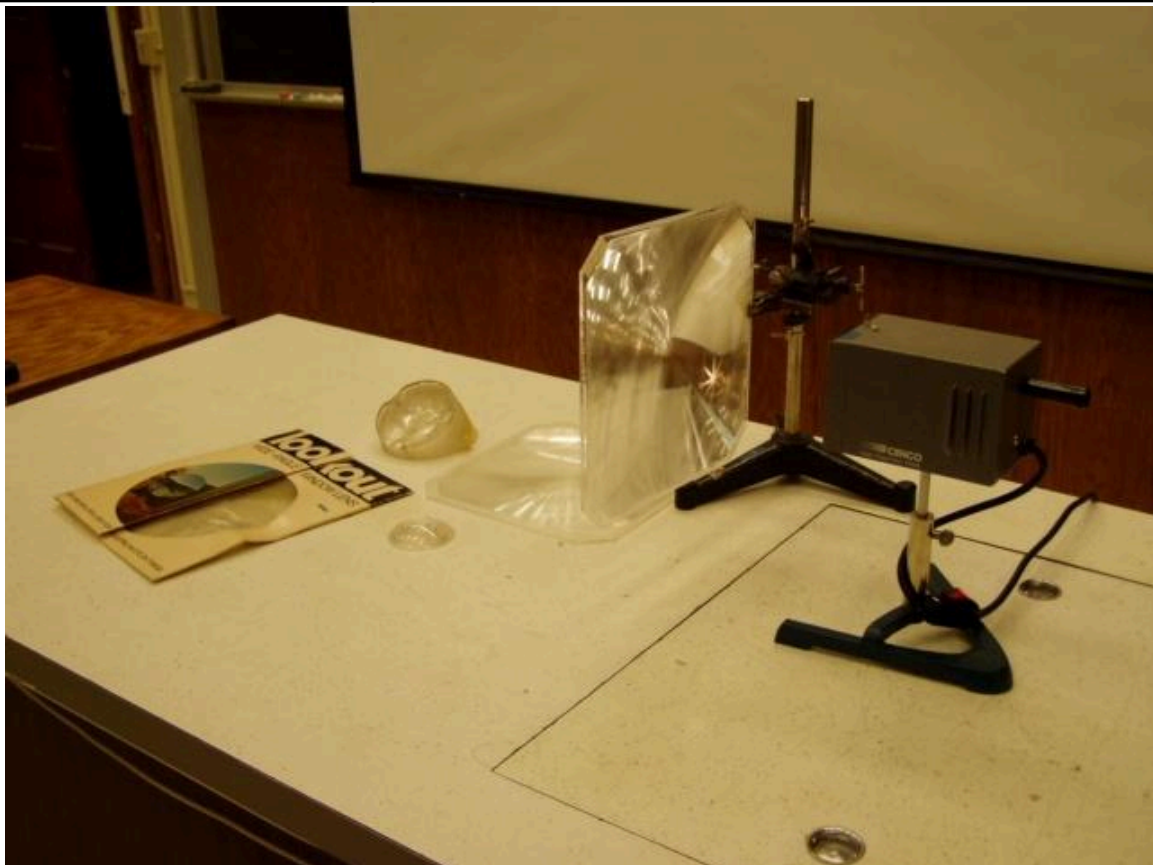
Location: Ja6, Jd3

OPTICS	6A65.56	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Thick Lenses		
CHOICE MATERIAL GLASS OXIDE		
	CHOICE MATERIAL GLASS OXIDE is viewed through an acrylic rod or a plastic tube filled with water.	



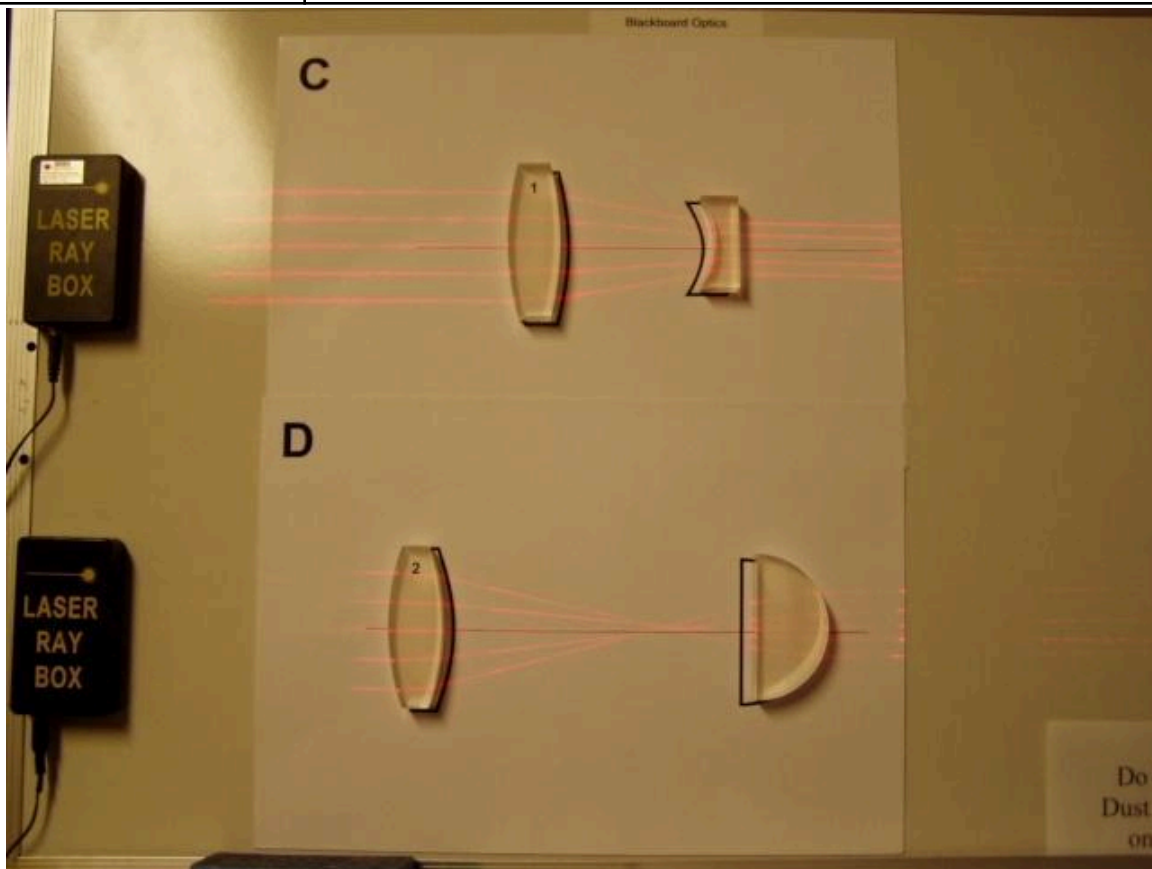
Location: Ja3

OPTICS	6A65.70	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Thick Lenses		
Fresnel Lens		
	Show some Fresnel Lenses and a model of them.	



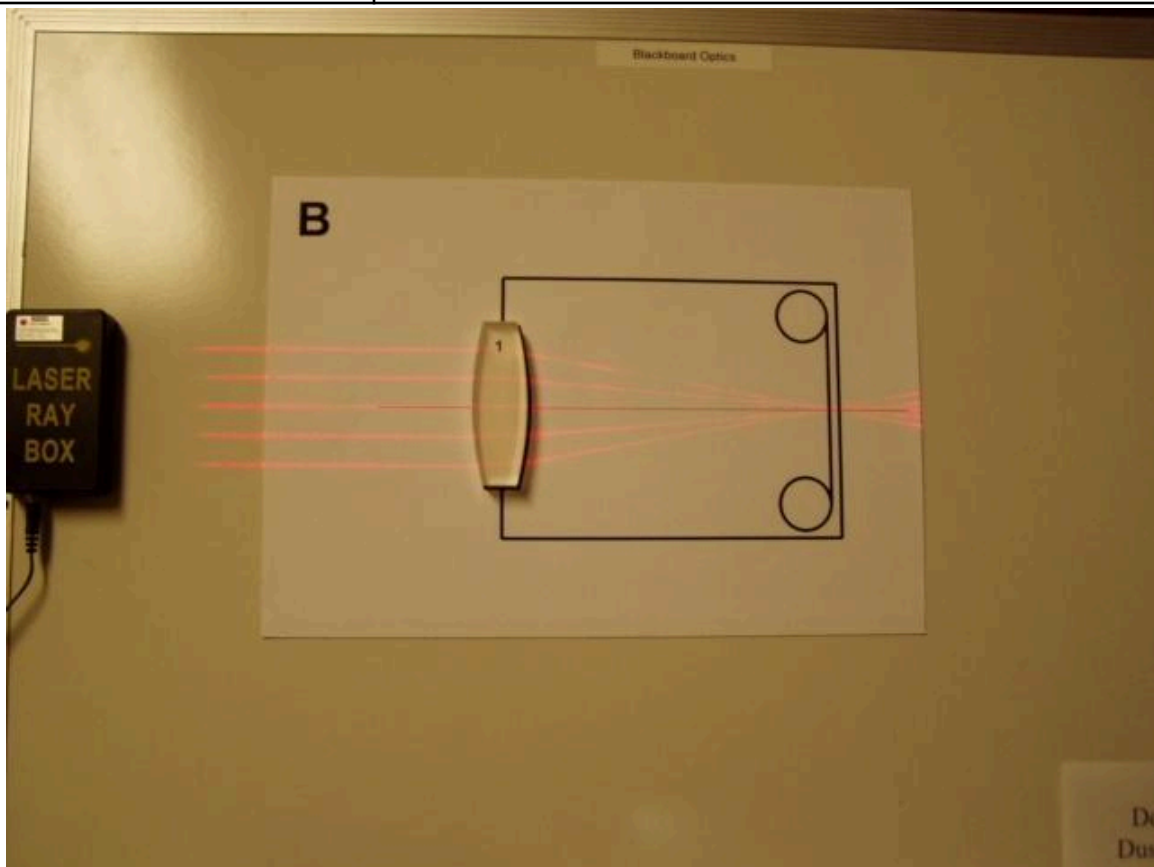
Location: Ja5, Jd3

OPTICS	6A70.20	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Optical Instruments		
Telescope Models		
	Blackboard optics illustrations of a Keplerian telescope and a Galileian telescope.	



Location: Blackboard Optics Cart

OPTICS	6A70.30	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Optical Instruments		
Camera Model		
	Blackboard optics illustration of a camera.	



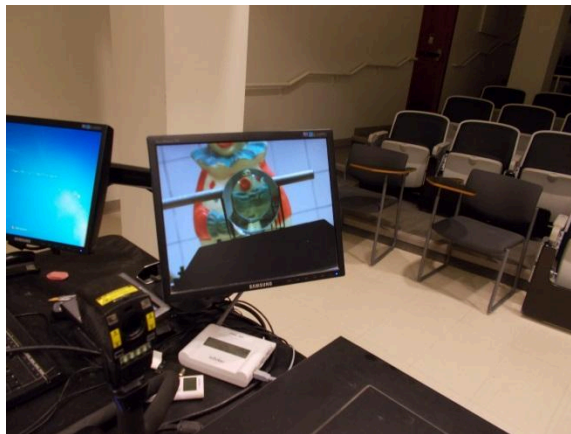
Location: Blackboard Optics Cart

OPTICS	6A70.45	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Optical Instruments		
Lens Combinations		
Set up some optical systems with more than one lens. Use the TV camera and screen to show intermediate images. It is helpful to use a dimmer on the source object box to keep the TV image from being washed out.		



Location: Id4, Jd3

OPTICS	6A70.46	GEOMETRIC OPTICS
Optical Instruments		
Invisibility		
Four lenses (two 15 cm focal length and two 5 cm focal length) are arranged so that an aluminum rod seems “cloaked” when passed through certain regions.		



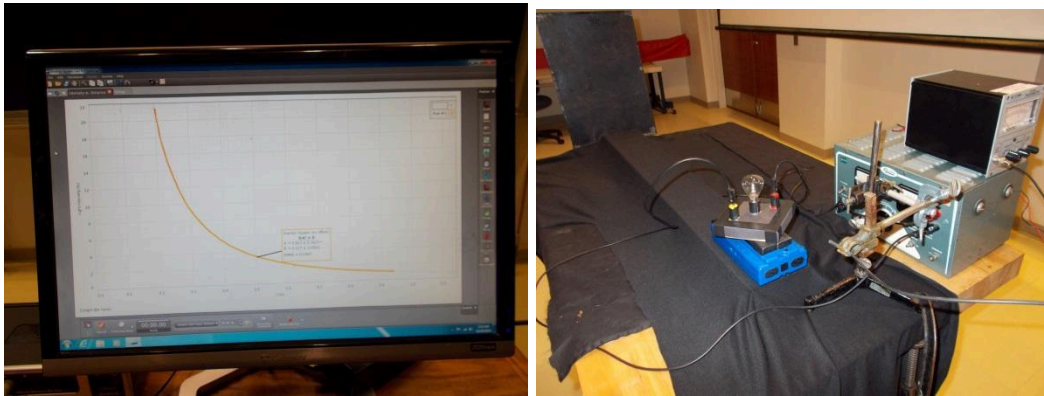
Location: Ja3, Jd2, Lb5, Bd1

OPTICS	6B10.15	PHOTOMETRY
Luminosity		
Inverse Square Model		
A point source casts a shadow from a square frame. A screen four times the area is placed twice as far from the source as the frame. The light going through the frame just fills the screen.		



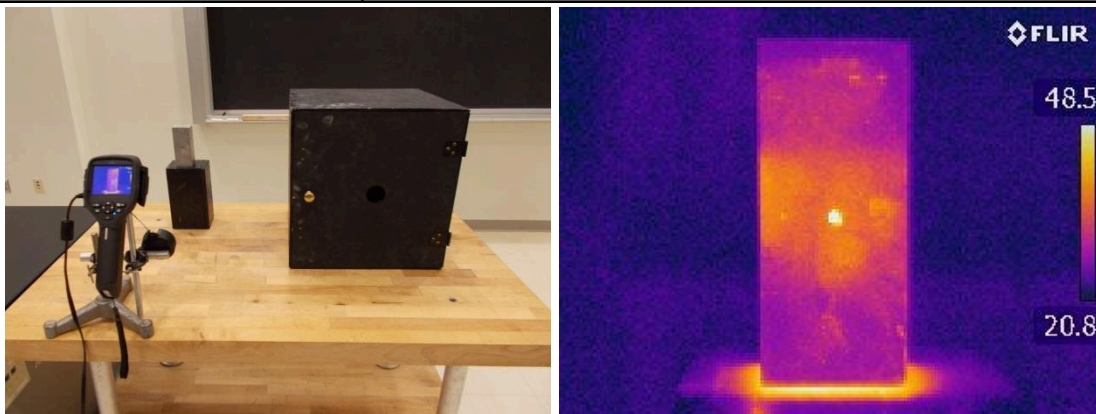
Location: JaT, Ja6, Jd3

OPTICS	6B10.20	PHOTOMETRY
Luminosity		
Inverse Square Law with a Photometer		
A photometer is used with a smart cart, a computer, and the Capstone software to plot intensity of light vs distance. The Capstone file is Inverse Square Law for Light.		



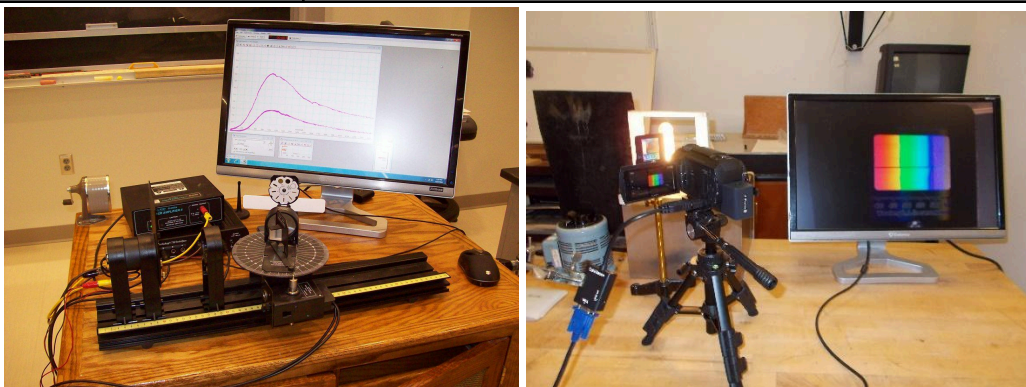
Location: Jb1, Bb2, Cc1

OPTICS	6B40.20	PHOTOMETRY
Blackbodies		
Hole in a Box		
A box that is painted black has a hole in a hinged door. The hole appears blacker than the box, When the door is opened, you see the box is actually painted white on its inside surfaces. Use an infrared camera to look at a hole in a heated aluminum block (100 C).		



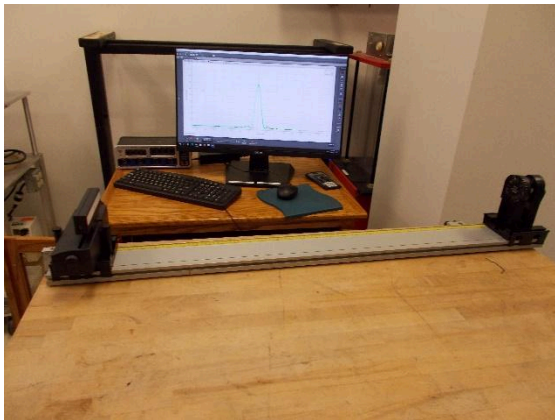
Location: Jb2, Fc5, FLIR Cabinet

OPTICS	6B40.40	PHOTOMETRY
Blackbodies		
Black Body Spectrum		
A spectrometer and bolometer connected to Science Workshop is used to record the spectrum from an incandescent bulb at various temperatures. For the TV camera version, use fixed focus and exposure. Change the variac setting to show the spectrum shift.		



Location: Science Workshop Cabinet, Optics Table Cabinet, Kb2, Ib2

OPTICS	6C10.10, 6C10.15	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Through One Slit		
Single Slit and Laser		
 		
Turn on the laser. The pattern appears on the wall. The slit widths are printed on the wheel. To select a different slit, turn the wheel. We also have the Cornell slitfilm card, which includes a slit of gradually increasing width. There is also a variable slit one can also use to “choke” the laser beam. Also shown is the computerized version (Diffraction.cap, uses the Capstone software). Use the 40 mW green diode laser, shimmed to the proper beam height. CAUTION: the undiffracted beam is bright enough to be harmful.		



Location: Ja6, Jb3

OPTICS	6C10.20	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Through One Slit		
Two Finger Slit		
	Have each student look at a vertical filament lamp through the slit formed by holding two fingers closely together.	



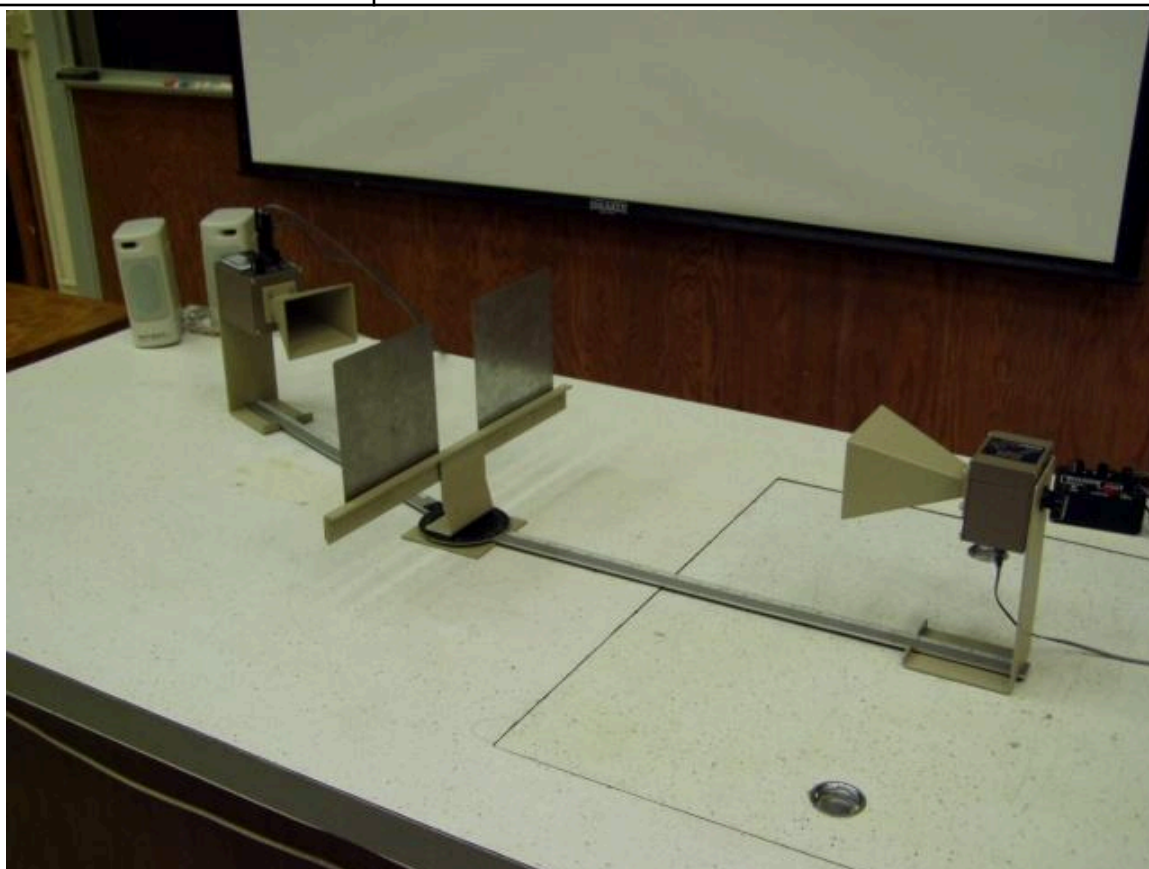
Location: Jd3

OSCILLATIONS AND WAVES	3B50.10	WAVE MOTION
Interference and Diffraction		
Ripple Tank – Single Slit		
	Set up the ripple tank with a plane wave source and a single slit.	



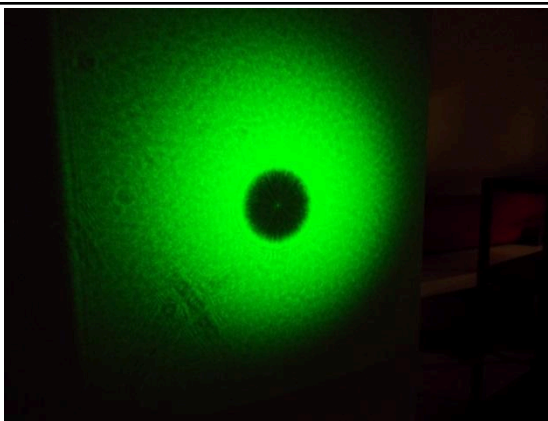
Location: Fb4

OPTICS	6C10.50	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Through One Slit		
Microwave Single Slit Diffraction		
		3 cm microwave and a single slit.



Location: Ia7

OPTICS	6C20.10	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Around Objects		
Arago (Poisson) Spot		
Shine an expanded laser beam at a ball bearing and look at the diffraction pattern.		



Location: Jb3, Ja6

OPTICS	6C20.15	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Around Objects		
Diffraction around Objects		
	Diffraction of a divergent laser beam around a razor blade or needle.	



Location: Jb3, Ja6

OPTICS	6C20.20	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Around Objects		
Babinet's Principle		
Diffraction of a divergent laser beam around a thin line (0.08 mm) is compared to diffraction by a slit of the same size. Use the brighter laser on the slit. The wheel has both the individual line and slit that you can use by turning the wheel. Alternatively, there is a slide on the wheel that has the slit and line side by side (move the whole wheel holder from side to side to go from one to the other). Use the 40 mW green diode laser, shimmed to the proper beam height. CAUTION: the undiffracted beam is bright enough to be harmful.		



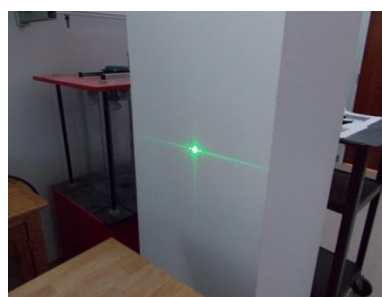
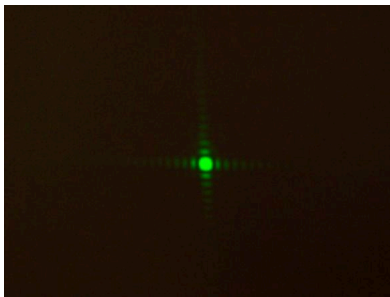
Location: Jb3, Ja6

OPTICS	6C20.30	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Around Objects		
Pinhole Diffraction		
Shine a laser beam through pinholes of various sizes. Use the 40 mW green diode laser, shimmed to the proper beam height. CAUTION: the undiffracted beam is bright enough to be harmful.		



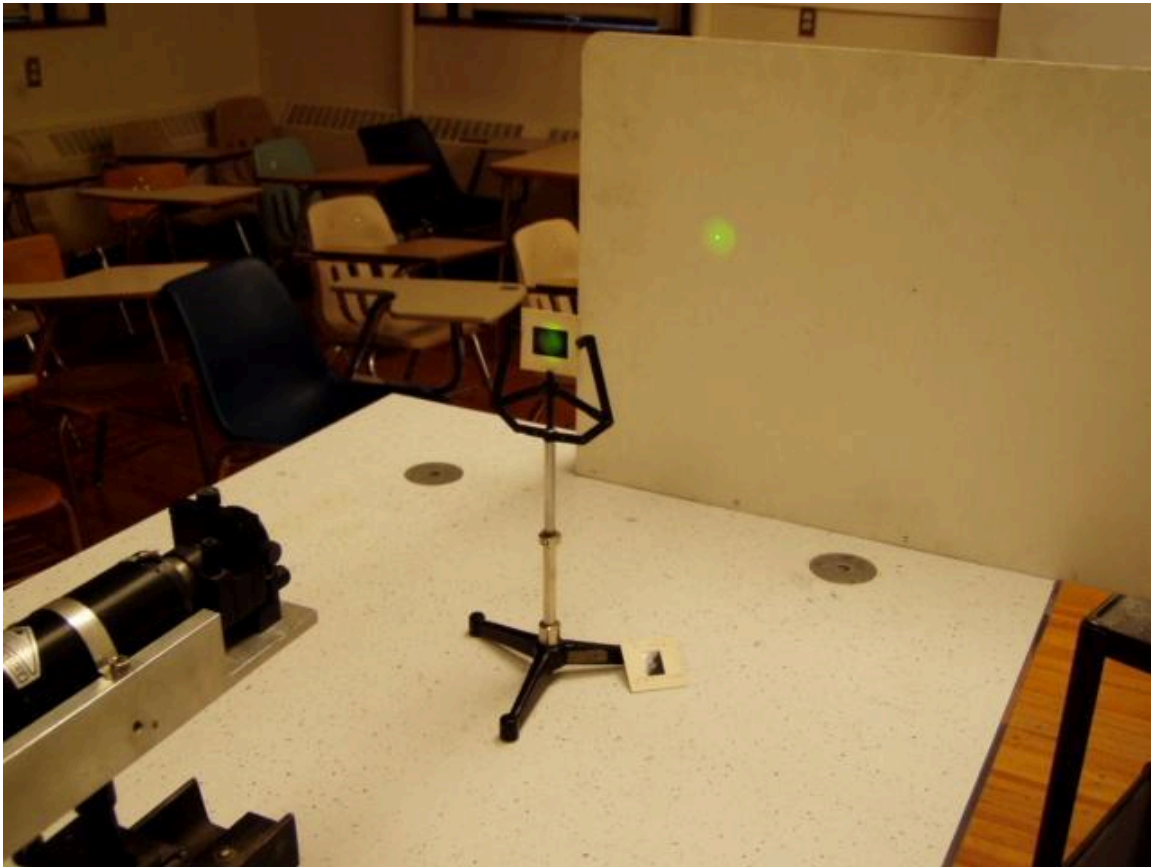
Location: Jb3, Ja6

OPTICS	6C20.35	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Around Objects		
Square and Rectangular Apertures		
Shine a laser beam through a square (0.16 mm x 0.16 mm) or rectangular aperture (0.16 mm x 0.08 mm) aperture. The Mounting hardware (mirror mounts) for the apertures is in the Newport Holography kit. Remove Newport mirror mount, MM2-1A, from riser (RB-MM2-2), and mount aperture slide in it. The lens (18 mm) is from the Pasco Advanced optics kit. Use steel nuts as spacers on the mounting slide so it can be moved close enough to the aperture.		



Location: Jb3, Ja6

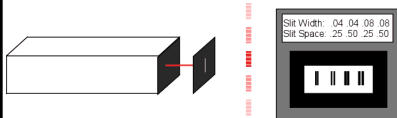
OPTICS	6C20.40	DIFFRACTION
Diffraction Around Objects		
Zone Plate Lens		
	Use a zone plate. The source is a spatially filtered diverging beam. Also place a zone plate on the overhead projector to show the center is an opaque spot (note we also have one that is not opaque in the center).	



Location: Jb3, Ja6

Interference From Two Sources

Double Slits and Laser

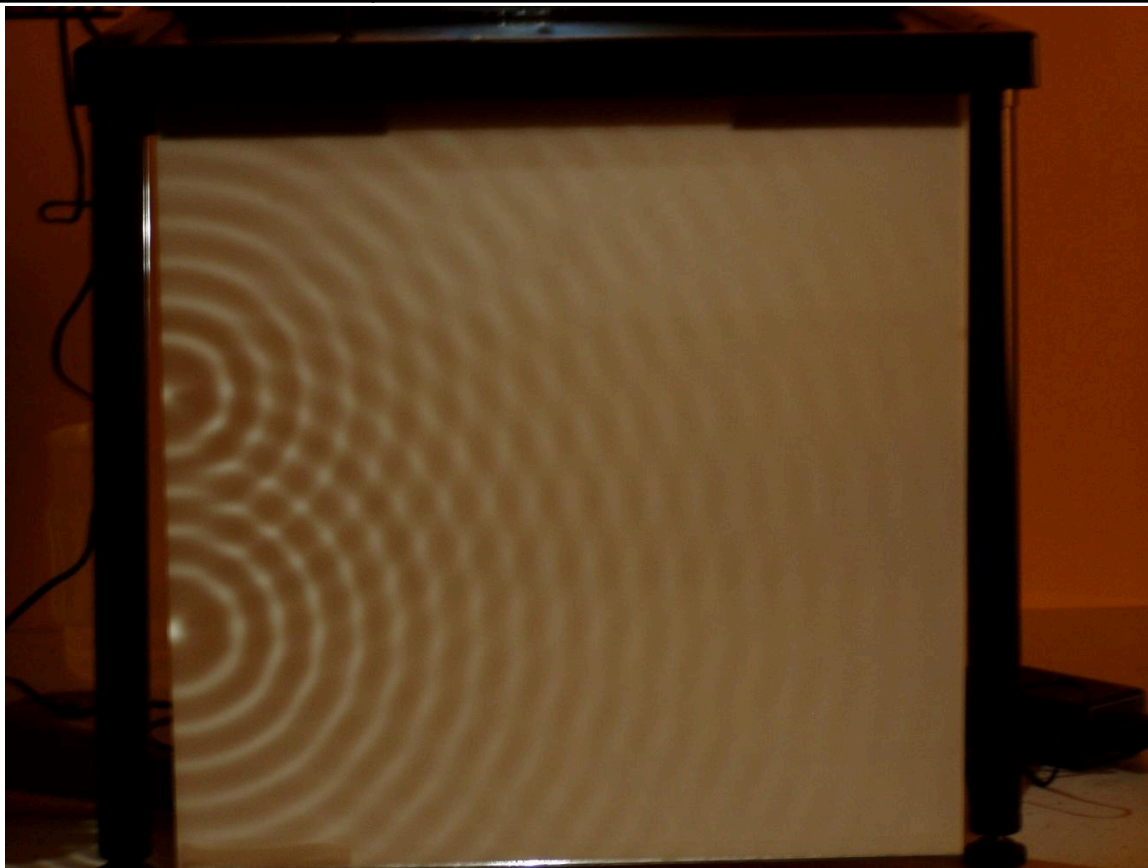


Turn on the laser. The pattern appears on the wall. The slit widths and spacings are printed on the wheel. To select different slits, turn the wheel. There is a continuously variable double slit that varies the slit spacing on the wheel. We also have the Cornell slitfilm card, which includes double slits of increasing width and spacing. Use the 40 mW green diode laser, shimmed to the proper beam height. **CAUTION: the undiffracted beam is bright enough to be harmful.**



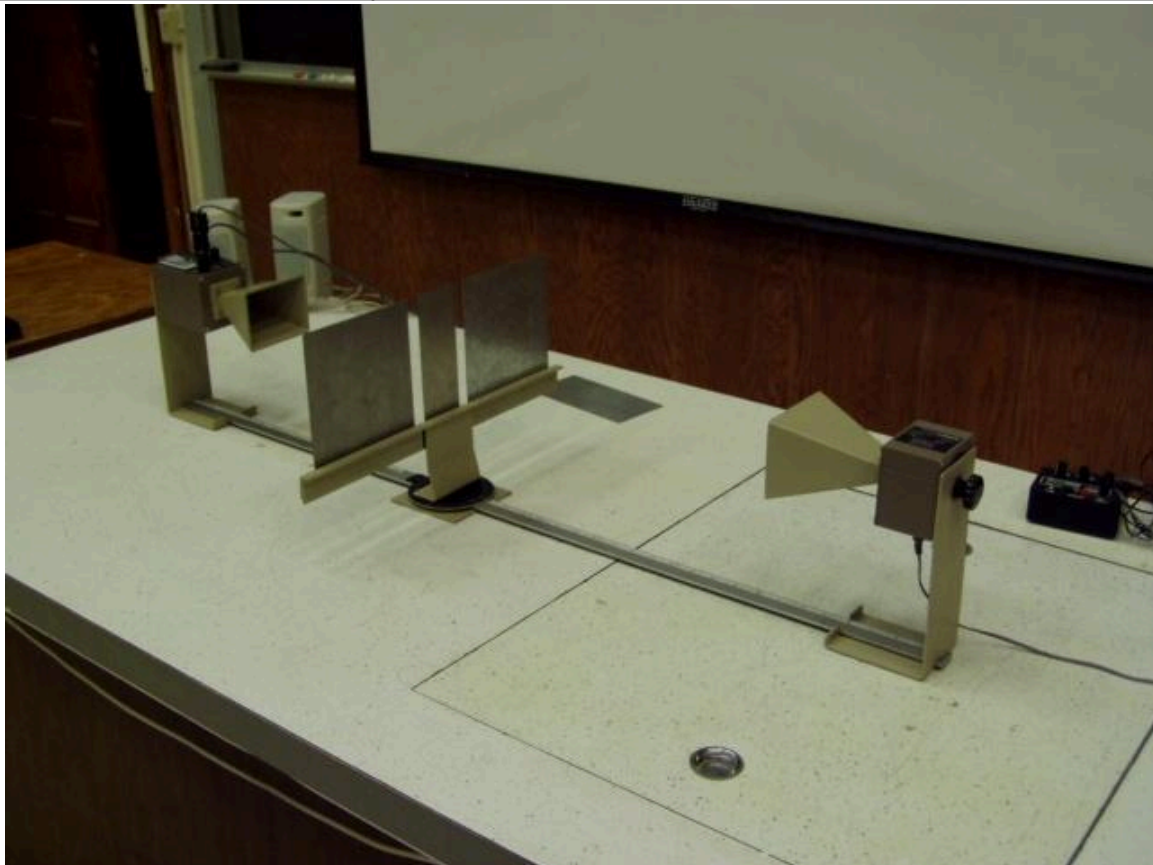
Location: Jb4, Ja6

OSCILLATIONS AND WAVES	3B50.20	WAVE MOTION
Interference and Diffraction		
Ripple Tank – Two Point		
Set up the ripple tank with a double point source.		



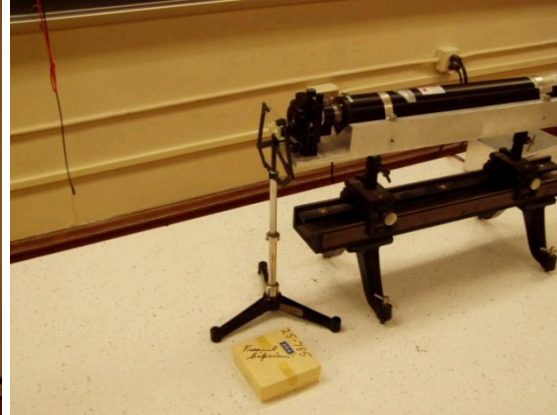
Location: Fb4

OPTICS	6D10.20	DIFFRACTION
Interference From Two Sources		
Microwave Double Slit		
		3 cm microwave and a double slit.



Location: Ia7

OPTICS	6D10.41	DIFFRACTION
Interference From Two Sources		
Fresnel Biprism		
A spatially filtered diverging beam illuminates a Fresnel biprism. A pattern similar to a double slit is produced.		



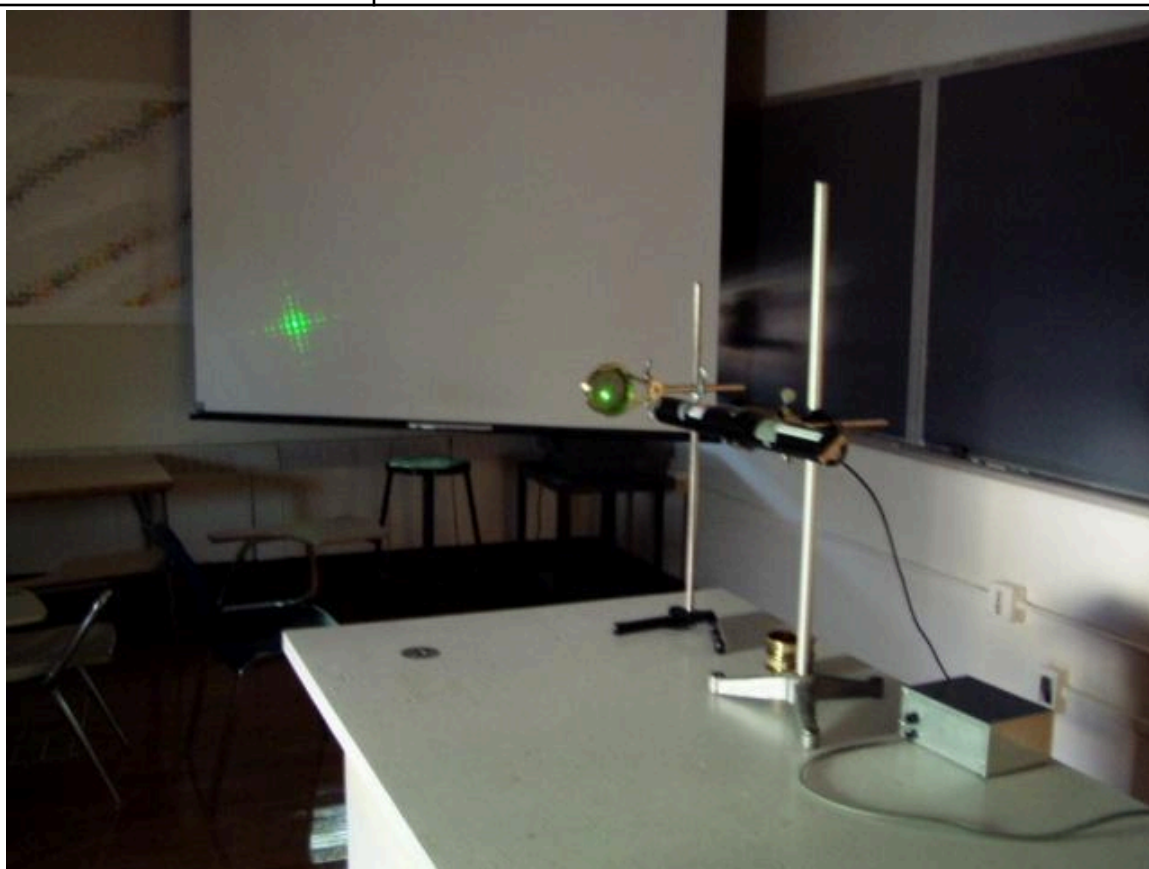
Location: Jb4, Ja6, Optics Table Cart

OPTICS	6D20.10	INTERFERENCE
Gratings		
Number of Slits		
Turn on the laser. The pattern appears on the wall. The slit widths, numbers and spacings are printed on the wheel. To select different slits, turn the wheel. View the results of the interference pattern on the wall. The lights in the room may need to be darkened. Use the 40 mW green diode laser, shimmed to the proper beam height. CAUTION: the undiffracted beam is bright enough to be harmful.		



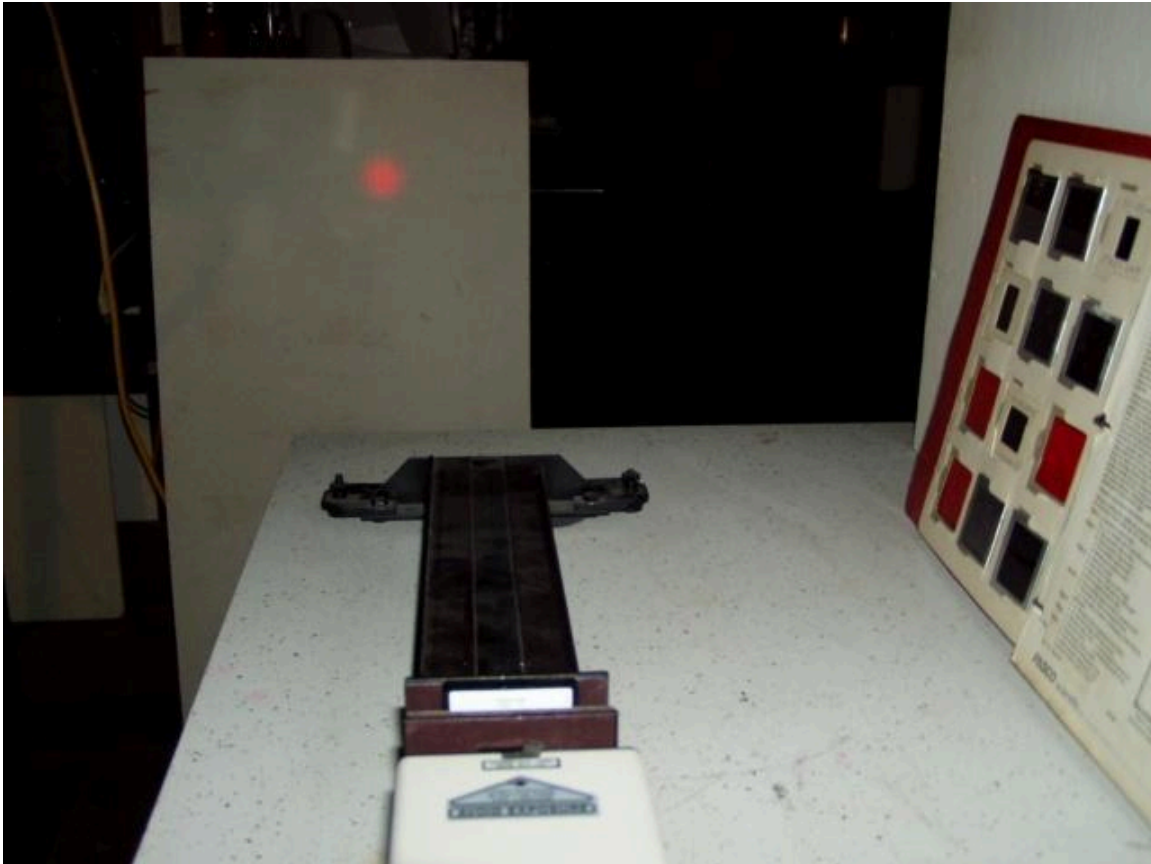
Location: Jb4, Ja6

OPTICS	6D20.55	INTERFERENCE
Gratings		
Fine Mesh and Laser		
	Shine a laser through a fine mesh and observe the patterns.	

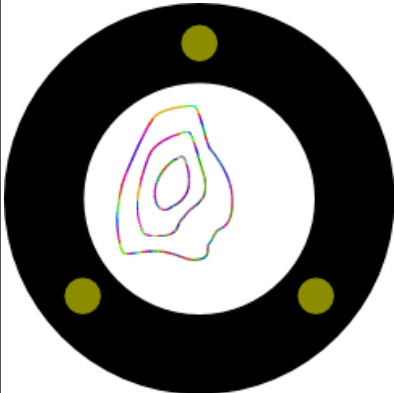


Location: Jb4, Ja6

OPTICS	6D20.57	INTERFERENCE
Gratings		
Optical Crystal Set		
	Seven sequences of 2x2 slides used in the simple Laue approach to diffraction by crystals.	



Location: Jb4, Jd2

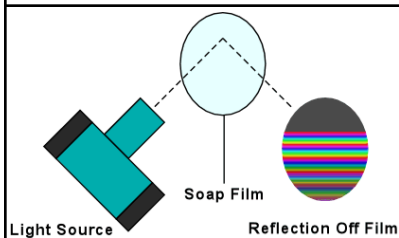
OPTICS	6D30.10	INTERFERENCE
Thin Films		
Newton's Rings		
 Turn on the light. The interference pattern is projected onto the side wall. Change the pattern by tightening a screw on the edge of the glass disk.		



Location: Id1, Jb4, Jd3

Thin Films

Soap Film Interference



Turn on the light. Dip the wire frame into the soap solution and secure with the clip. Adjust the angle until the pattern appears on the side wall.



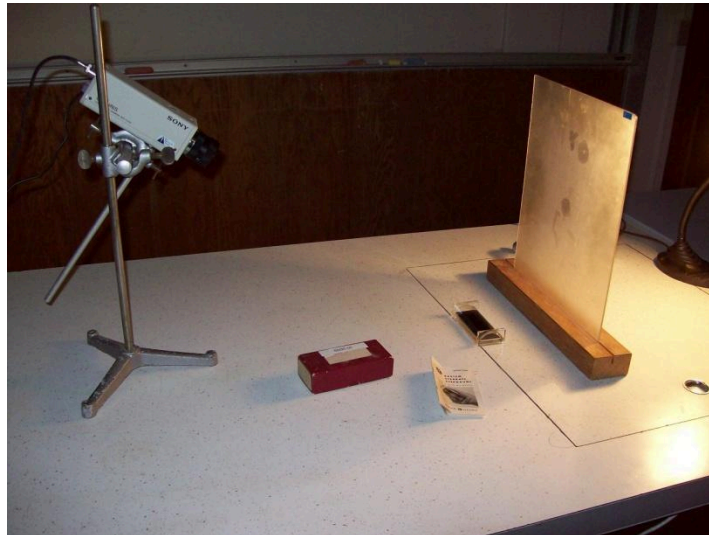
Location: Id1, Jb4, Jd3

OPTICS	6D30.30	INTERFERENCE
Thin Films		
Air Wedge		
A sodium lamp illuminates two plates of glass (in the picture two quartz surface plates are shown). Compare with a piece of glass that is not an optical flat.		



Location: Jb3, Ka2

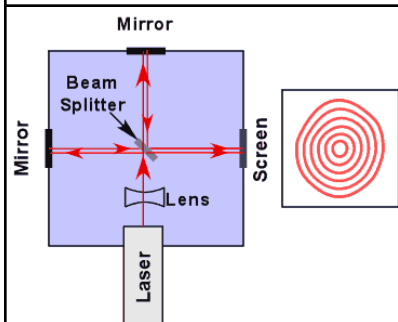
OPTICS	6D30.55	INTERFERENCE
Thin Films		
Step Gauge		
Thin films of barium stearate, from 2×10^{-6} to 16×10^{-6} inches in microinch increments are deposited on a glass plate. The steps reflect a vivid series of interference colors when illuminated by white light.		



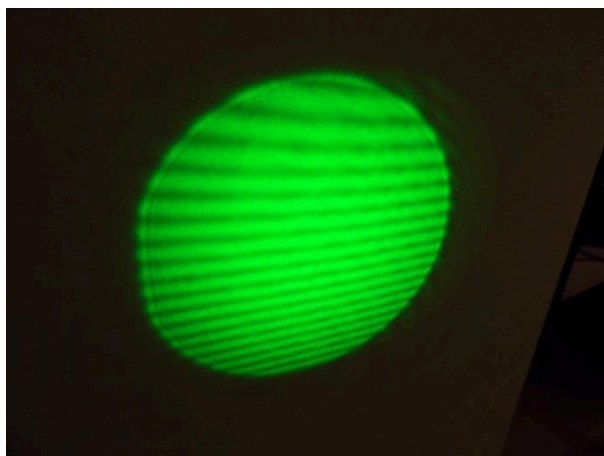
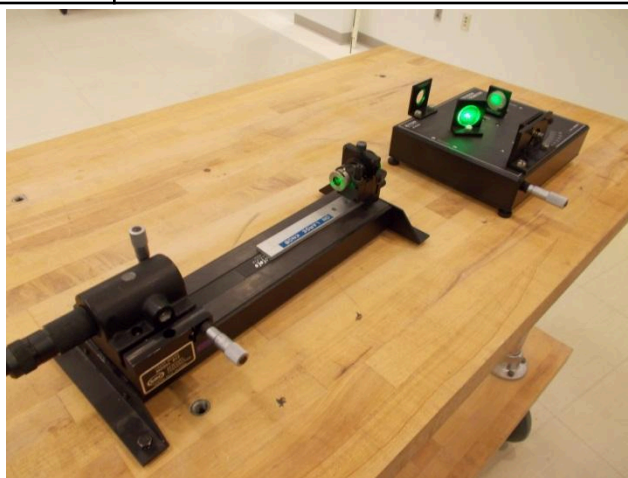
Location: Jb4

Interferometers

Michelson Interferometer

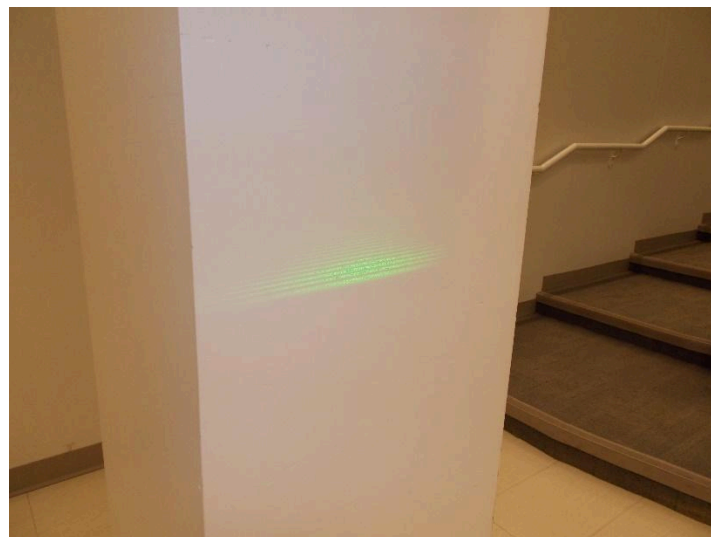
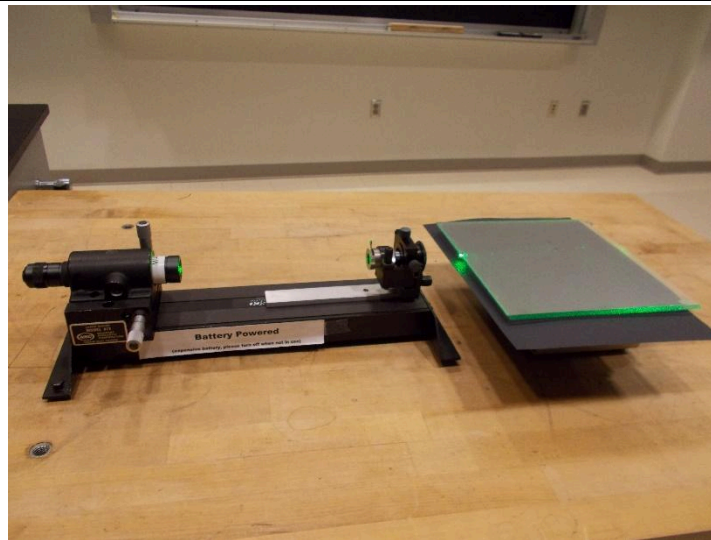


Turn on the laser. Read the initial position of the micrometer. Count the number of fringes while turning the micrometer slowly in one direction only. Read the final position. This can also be done with white light. A spatial filter is used to create a clean, diverging beam.



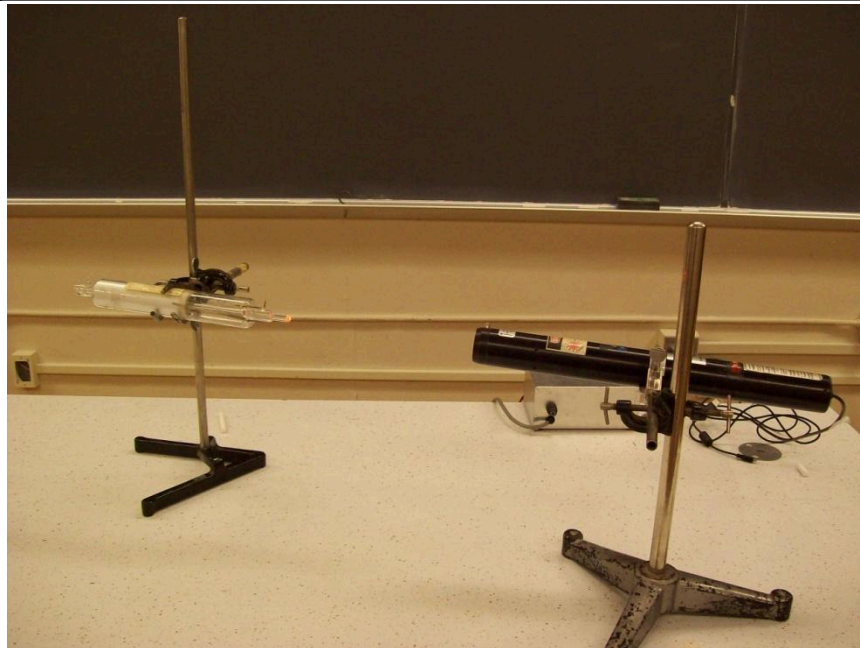
Location: Optics Table Cabinet, Jb5, Ja6

OPTICS	6D40.27	INTERFERENCE
Interferometers		
Lloyd's Mirror		
The laser is aligned so that the beam grazes the surface of the glass plate. Two spots are seen on a distant screen, one from the light passing directly over the plate and the other from the light reflected from the plate. As the plate is raised into the beam, the spot of light from the reflection will lower and merge with the spot that passes directly over the plate. As it does, an interference pattern will appear.		



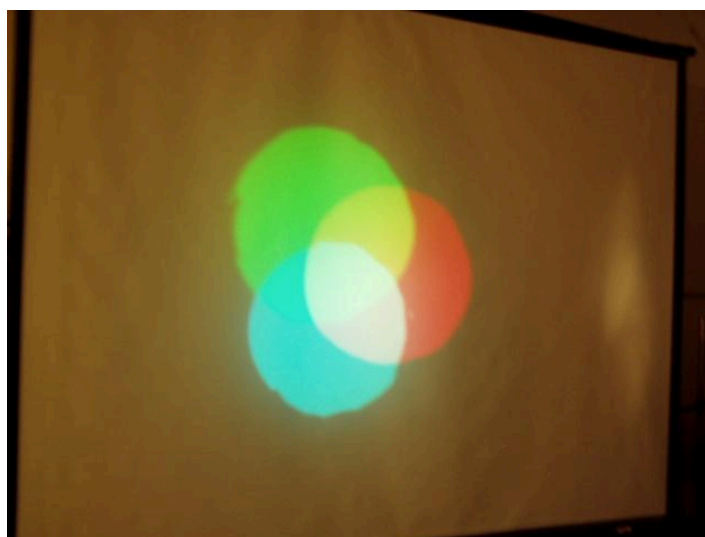
Location: Id3, Jb3,

Modern Physics	7G20.20	Lasers
Laser Polarization and Intensity Fluctuation - Modes		
Optical Resonator		
	Light from a laser is directed down the optical cavity of an old laser tube. The cavity acts as an optical resonator and as the exciting laser warms up, its frequency slews through a spectrum of frequencies. As the frequencies match resonate frequencies in the old tube (it can be thought of as a Fabry Perot interferometer), light is transmitted through it and shows up as a spot on a screen placed down beam from the exit side. Various modes can be observed as the exciting lasers frequency changes.	



Location: Ia1, Ja6

OPTICS	6F10.10	COLOR
Synthesis and Analysis of Color		
Color Box		
	Three spot lights with color filters are used to project colored spots on a screen. The spots overlap to show color mixing. Colorful shadows can be cast as well.	

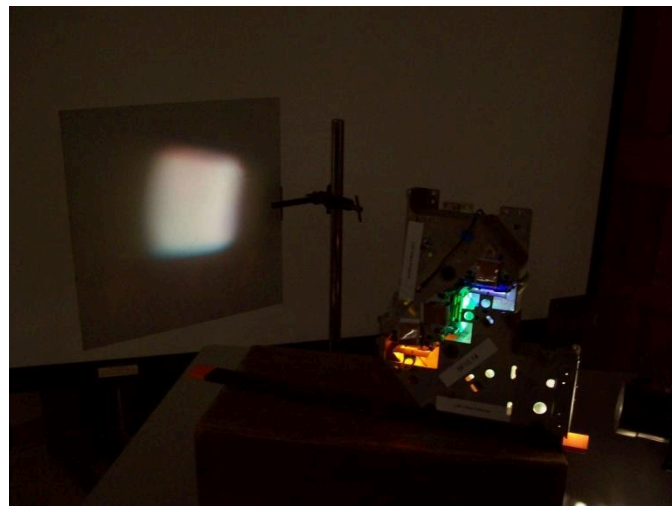
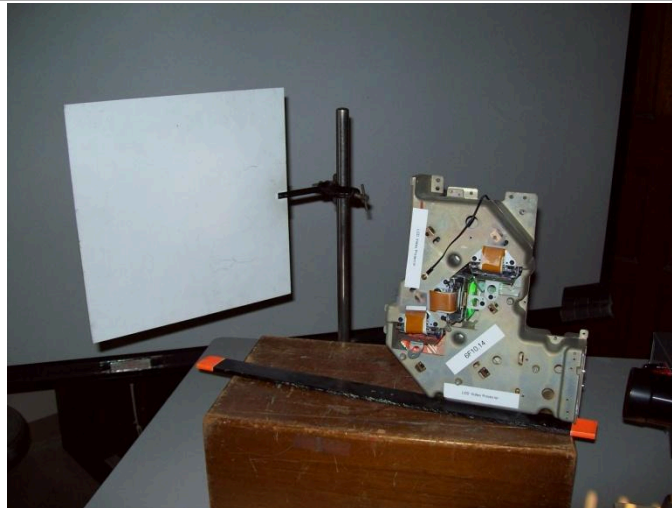


Location: Jb6

OPTICS	6F10.14	COLOR
Synthesis and Analysis of Color		

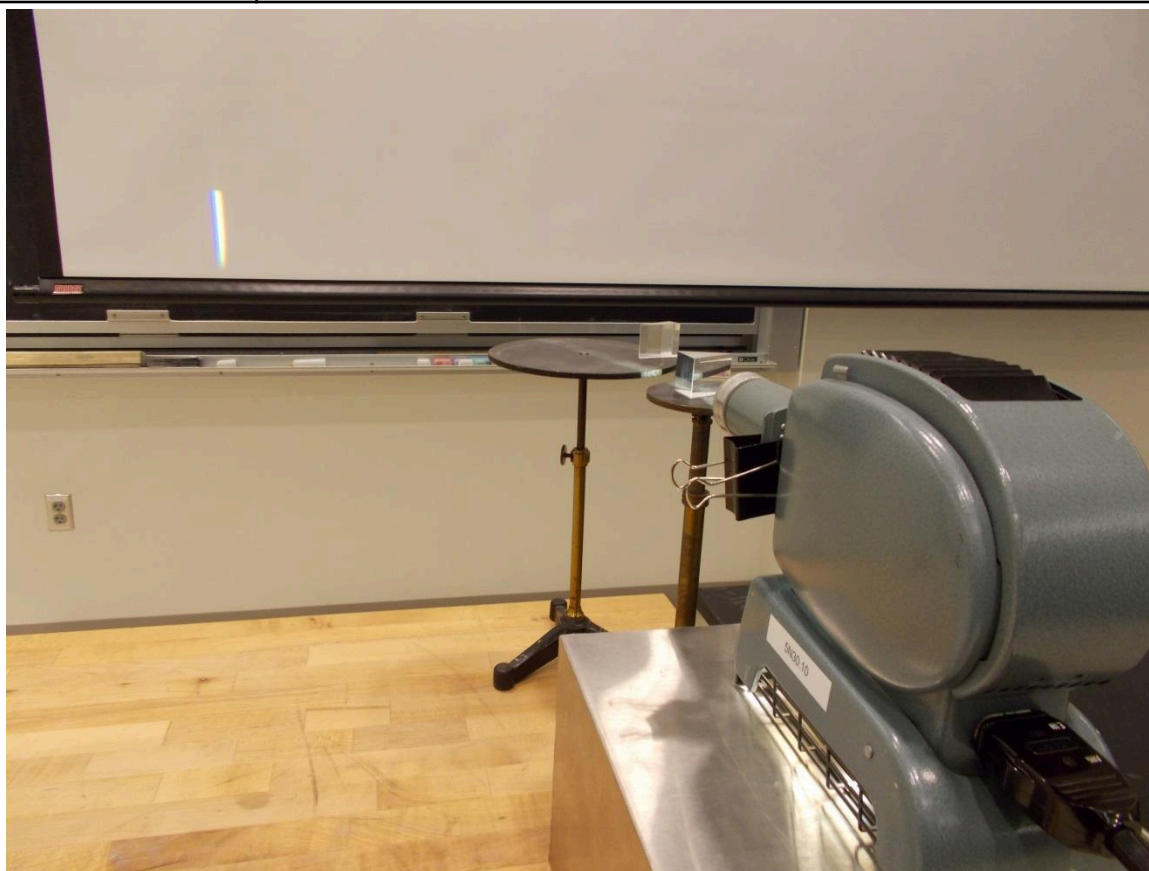
Color Mixing

Use an old LCD projector to split a white beam of light into RGB and then recombine it.



Location: Jb6

OPTICS	6F10.30	COLOR
Synthesis and Analysis of Color		
Recombining the Spectrum		
Recombine the spectrum after passing through a prism to get white light or remove a color to get the complement.		

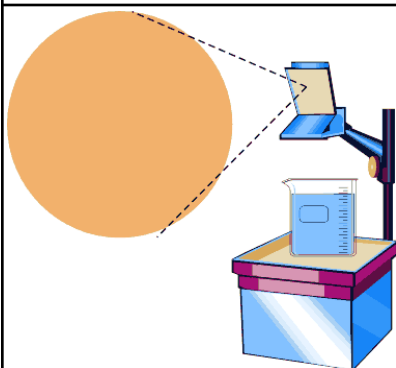


Location: Ib1, Jb3, Jc1

OPTICS	6F40.10	COLOR
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Scattering

Sunset



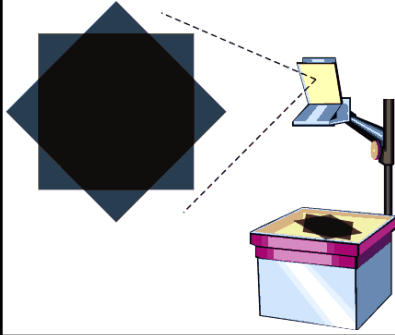
A beam of light shines through a circular slide on the overhead projector and then through one liter of water and onto the side wall. Add a few drops of Pinesol (cedarwood oil in alcohol or Lysol) to the water and stir with the stick. The "sun" will begin to turn yellow. To increase the scattering to an orange sun, add more Pinesol. It takes about 15 minutes to fully achieve the effect. Use the Polaroid film to show the scattered blue light is polarized (it becomes less so as you get double scattering).



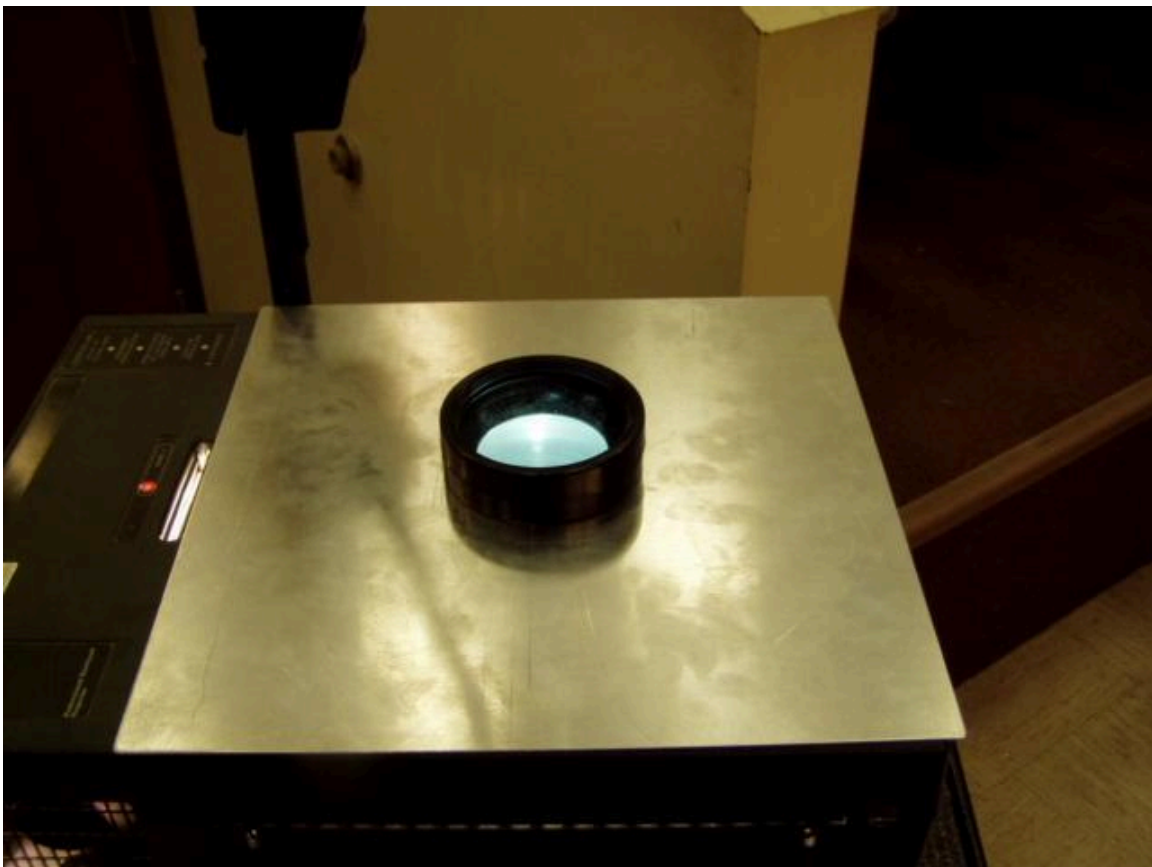
Location: Jc2

Dichroic Polarization

Polaroids on the Overhead



You get two sheets of Polaroid and a pair of Polaroid sunglasses. Rotate one on the Polaroids or the sunglasses.



Location: Jc3, Ja5

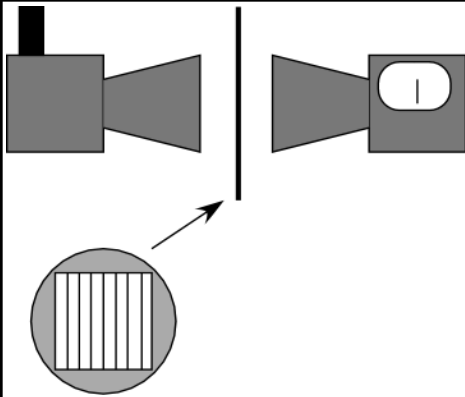
OPTICS	6H10.12	POLARIZATION
Dichroic Polarization		
Polaroid Box		
An arrangement of cross polarizers makes it appear that there is a solid barrier inside a box.		



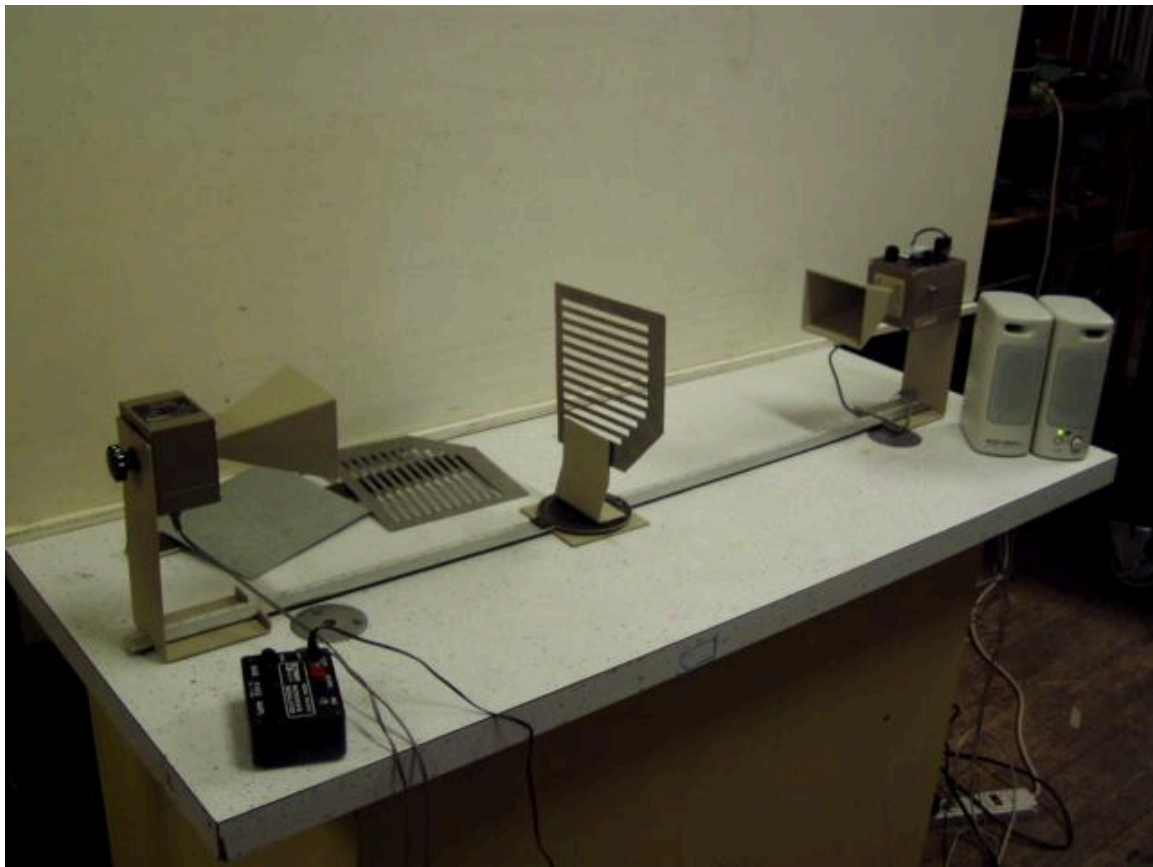
Jc3

Dichroic Polarization

Microwave Polarization



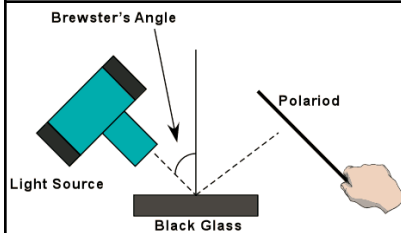
Hold a grid of parallel wires in a microwave beam and rotate the grid.



Location: Ia7

Polarization by Reflection

Brewster's Angle

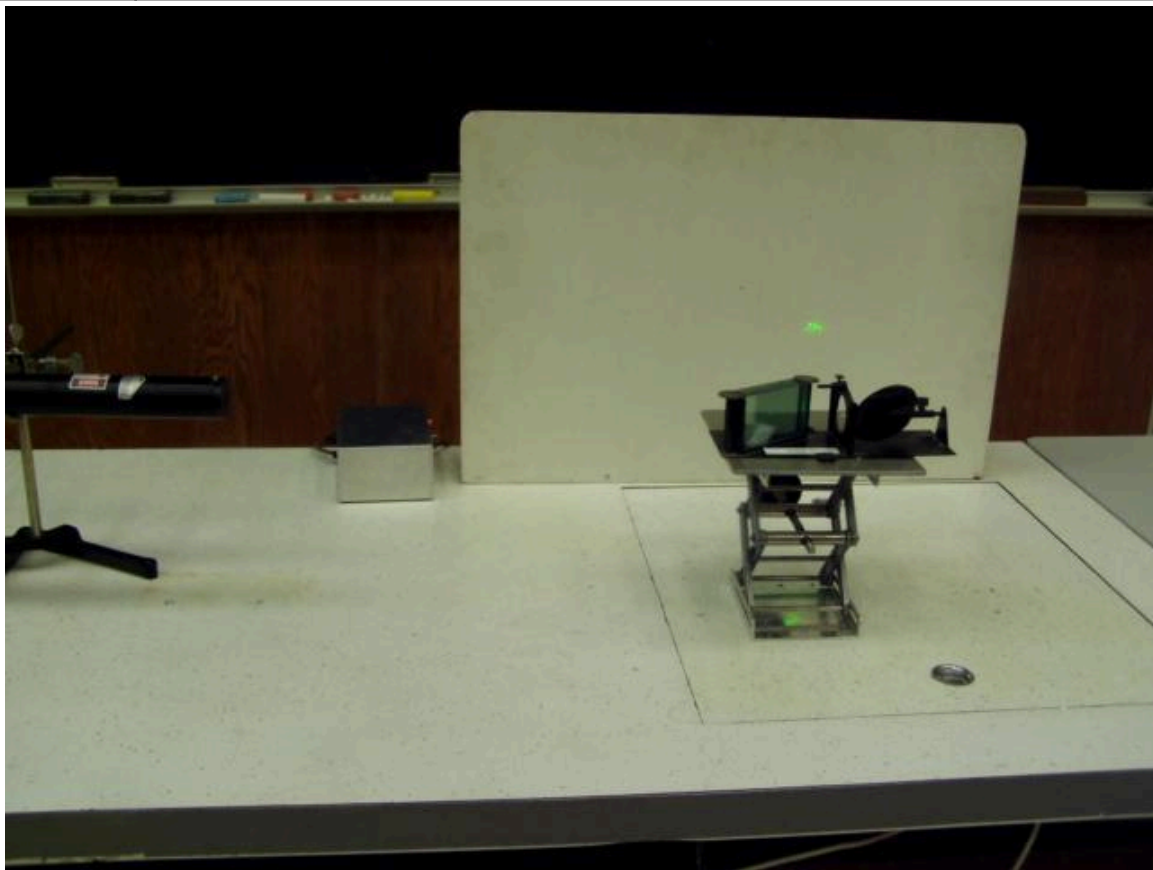


Light is reflected from a sheet of black glass onto the wall. Rotate a sheet of Polaroid in the path of the reflected light. We set the light at Brewster's Angle. Vary the incident angle by rotating the light.



Location: Jc3, Jd3

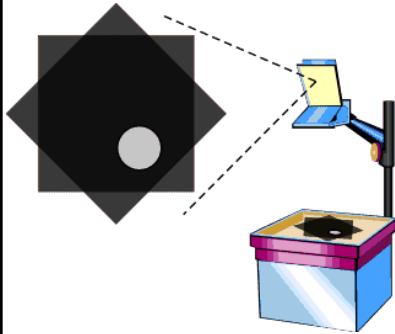
OPTICS	6H20.40	POLARIZATION
Polarization by Reflection		
Stack of Plates		
A stack of glass plates at 57 degrees will transmit and reflect light that is cross polarized. In this apparatus, the black mirror serves as an analyzer for the transmitted beam and when the ray reflected off of it is in the same direction as the rays reflected off of the stack of plates, the intensity is low because the plane of polarization of the transmitted ray is normal to a line in the plane of the black glass; however, if you rotate the black mirror 90 degrees so the reflected beam is normal to the direction of the rays reflected off of the stack, then the plane of polarization of the transmitted ray is in the plane of the black glass and the ray is more intense. Use the green, unpolarized laser as the light source.		



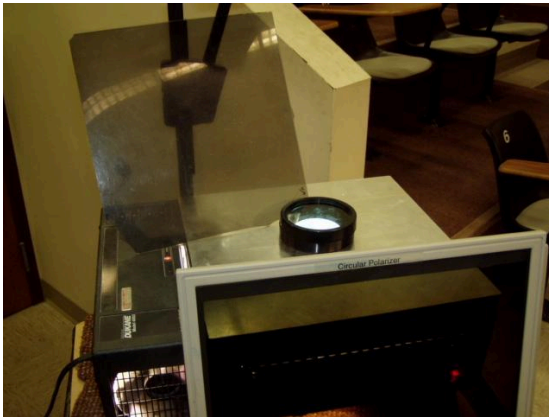
Location: Ja6, Jc3

Circular Polarization

Three Polaroids

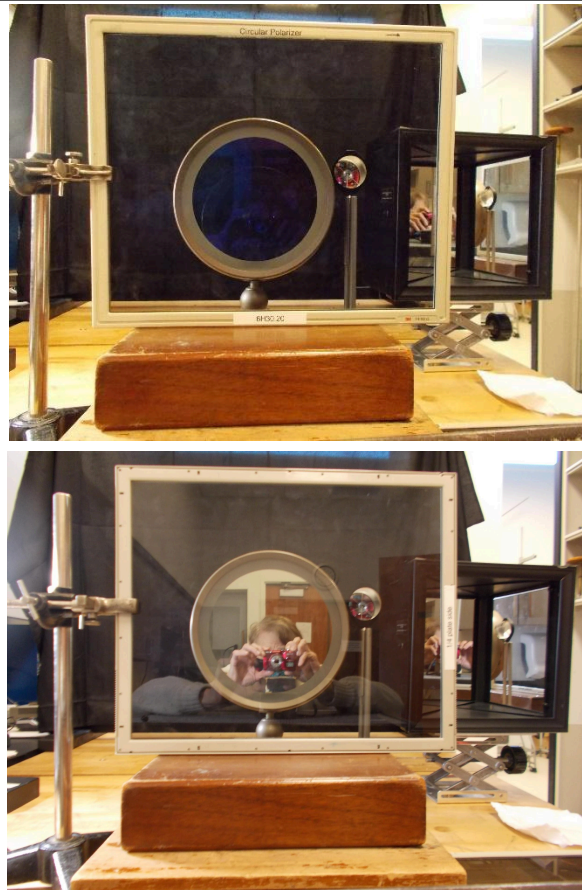


Three sheets of Polaroid are provided with an overhead projector. Also shown in the photograph is a circular polarizer. The second picture shows a version that does not use the overhead projector



Location: Jc2, Jc3

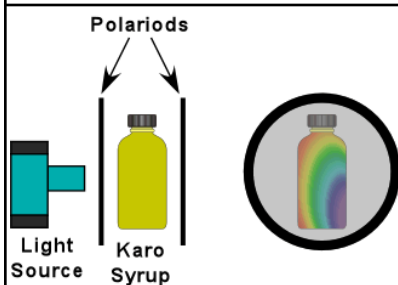
OPTICS	6H30.20	POLARIZATION
Circular Polarization		
Circular Polarizer, 1/4 Wave Plate, Polaroid and Mirror		
	Look through a circular polarizer at your image in a mirror with the $\frac{1}{4}$ wave plate side toward the mirror. Now flip the circular polarizer so that the $\frac{1}{4}$ wave plate is on the side opposite the mirror. Also try a retroreflector and various orientations with a linear polarizer.	



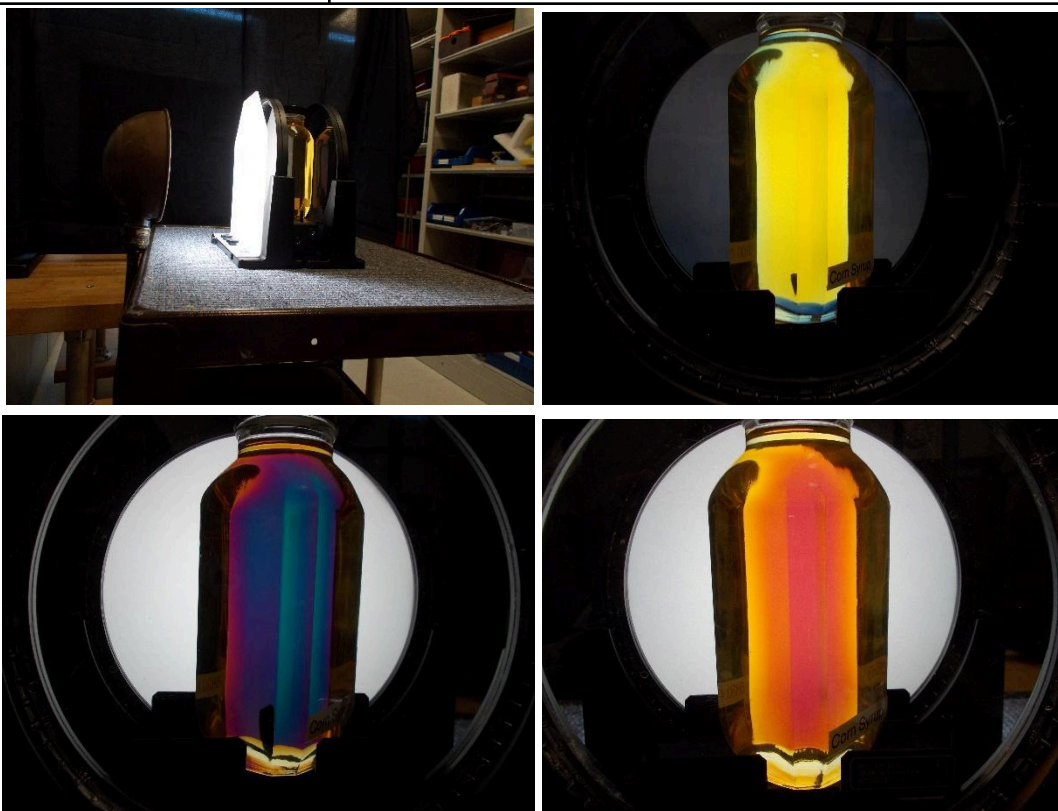
Location: Id5, Jc3

Circular Polarization

Karo Syrup

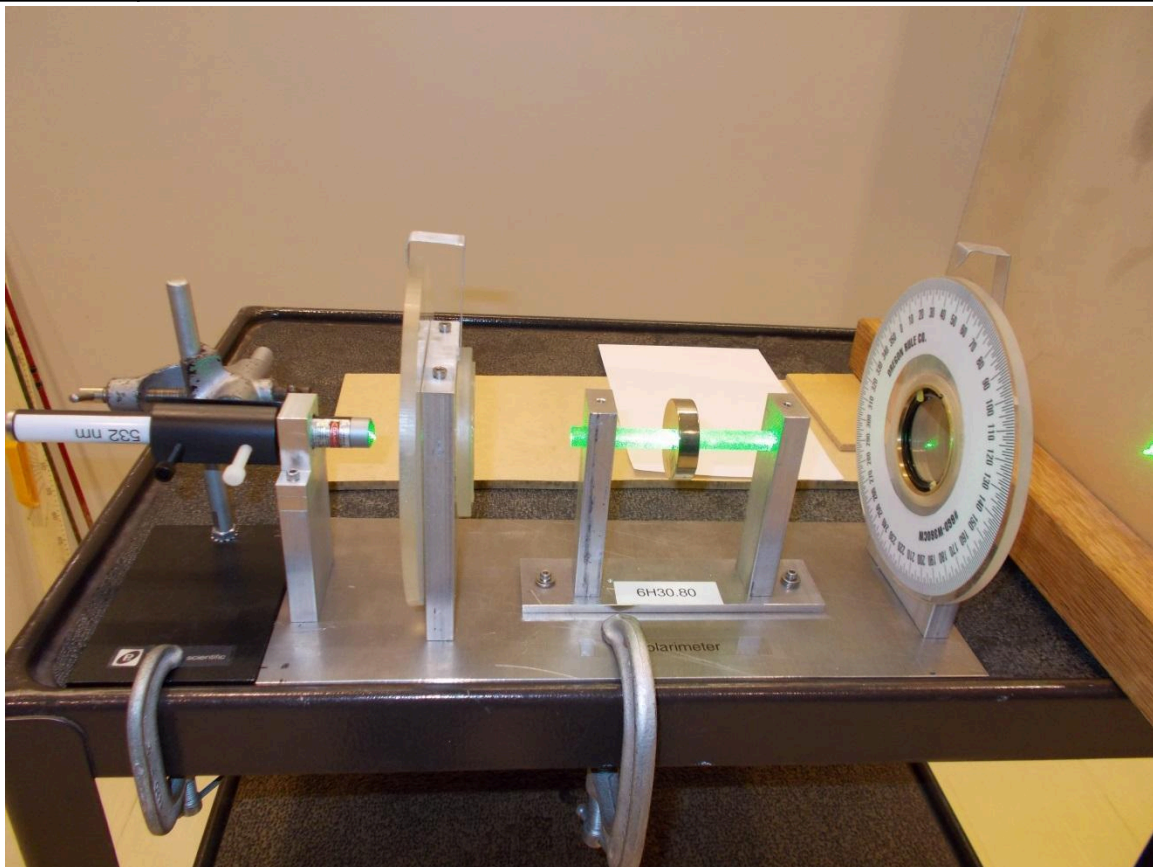


Place the Karo syrup between two circular polarizers. Place the light source behind the rear polarizer and turn the lamp on. Rotate the front polarizer and watch the syrup change colors. Use a point source with a diffuser. Show with a polarization axis finder (disk) is for fun.



Location: Jc2, Jc4

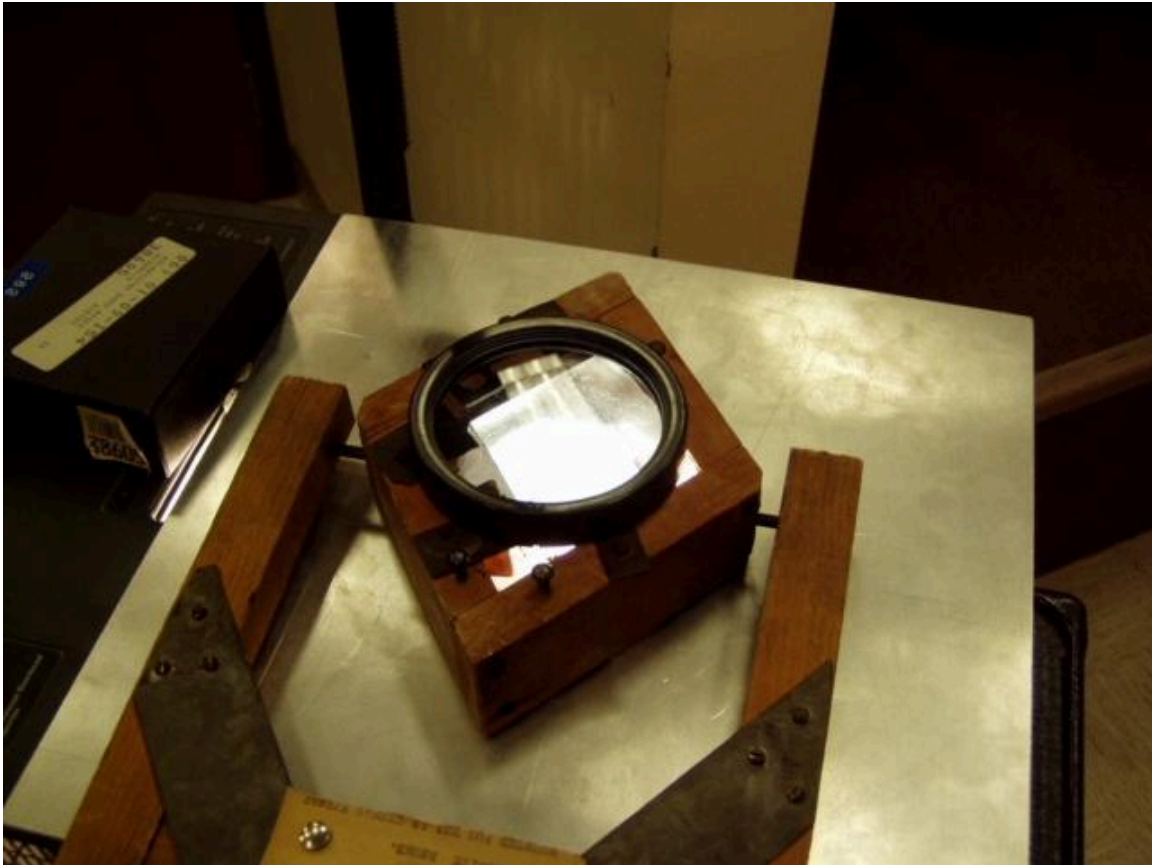
OPTICS	6H30.80	POLARIZATION
Circular Polarization		
Faraday Rotation		
A TGG (Terbium Gallium Garnet) glass sample is placed in a polarimeter and illuminated with one of 3 lasers (405 nm, 532 nm and 605 nm). The polarimeter is adjusted for minimum throughput. A magnetic field is applied (0.13 T) and the Faraday rotation is observed by finding the new minimum.		



Jc2

OPTICS	6H35.15	POLARIZATION
Birefringence		
Calcite and Polaroid on the OHP		

	A calcite rhomb is placed on an overhead projector with a slide underneath. The double image can then be seen and manipulated with a polarizer.



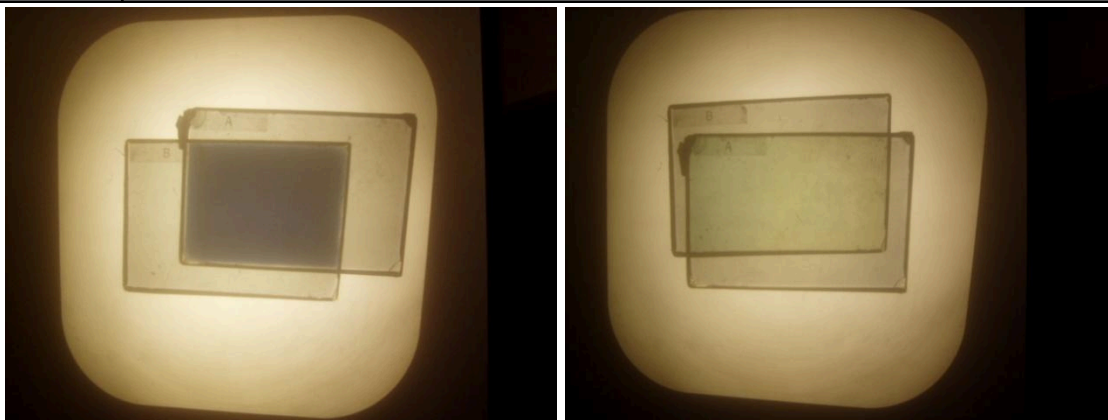
Location: Jc4

OPTICS	6H35.24	POLARIZATION
Birefringence		
Wavefront Model		
	Cast plaster model shows spherical and elliptical wavefronts in crystals.	



Location: Jc3

OPTICS	6H35.40	POLARIZATION
Birefringence		
Quarter Wave Plate		
Show two plates with attached polarizers and the Magic glass trick wherein light appears to go through one way but not the reverse path (it's a trick). One can also do this with one plate/polarizer by looking through it at a mirror and then flipping 180 degrees about a horizontal axis and looking again.		



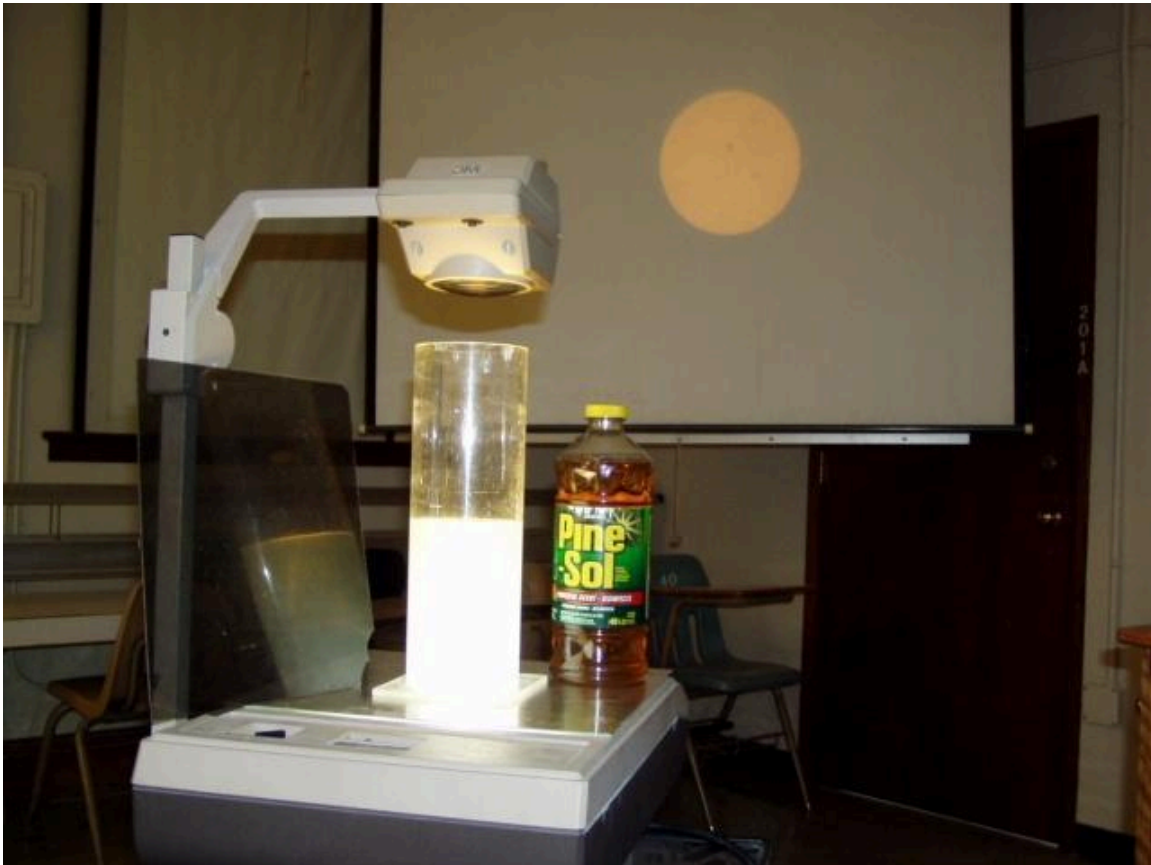
Location: Jc3

OPTICS	6H35.53	POLARIZATION
Birefringence		
Butterfly		
	Mica, cellophane, butterfly slide, etc. are placed between crossed polarizers.	

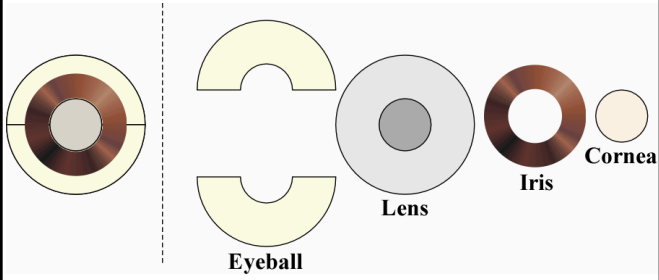


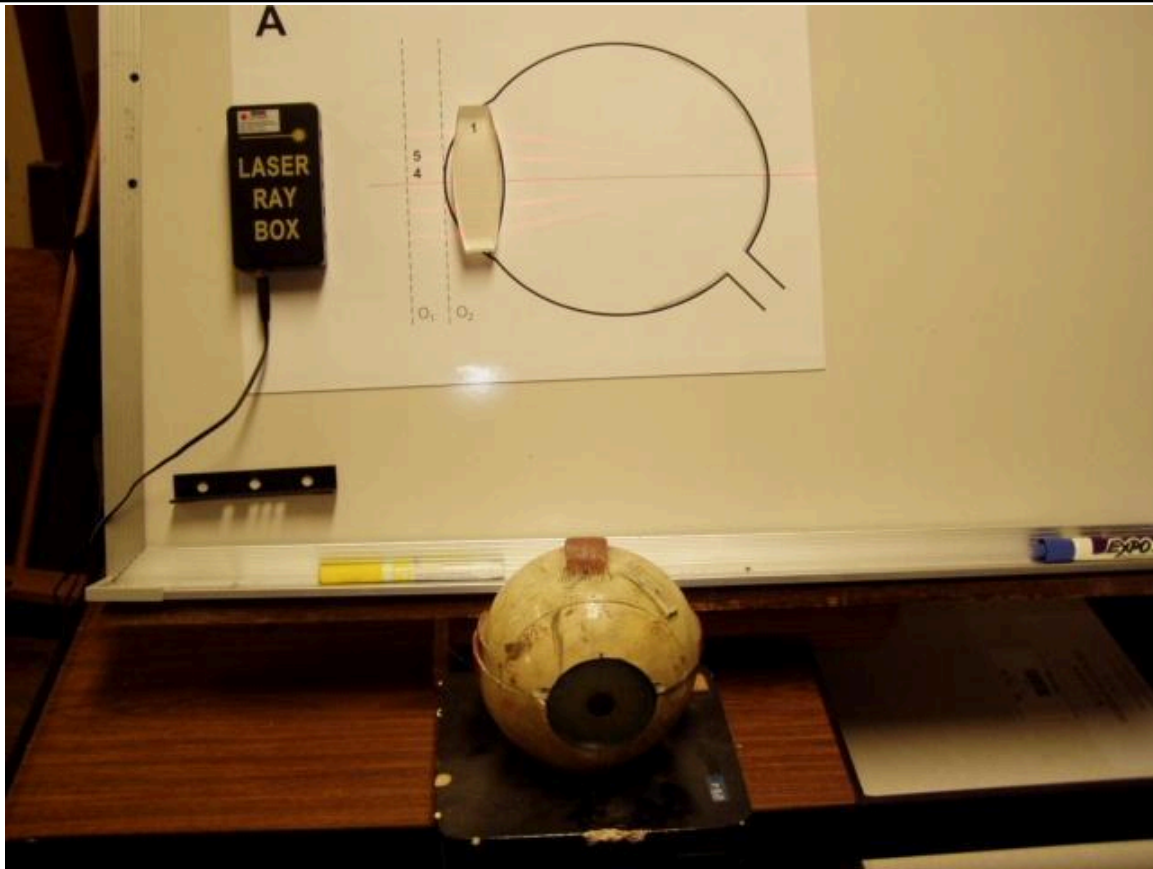
Location: Jc3

OPTICS	6H50.10	POLARIZATION
Polarization by Scattering		
Sunset with Polarizers		
Use a sheet of Polaroid to check the polarization of scattering from a beam of light passing through a tank with scattering particles.		



Location: Jc2

OPTICS	6J10.10	THE EYE
The Eye		
Eye Model		
		The standard take-apart eye model. A Blackboard optics two dimensional version is also shown in the photograph.



Location: Blackboard Optics Cart, Jc5

OPTICS	6J1055	THE EYE
The Eye		
Eye Glasses		
An antique optometrist's refracting kit can be used to show how to correct vision problems.		



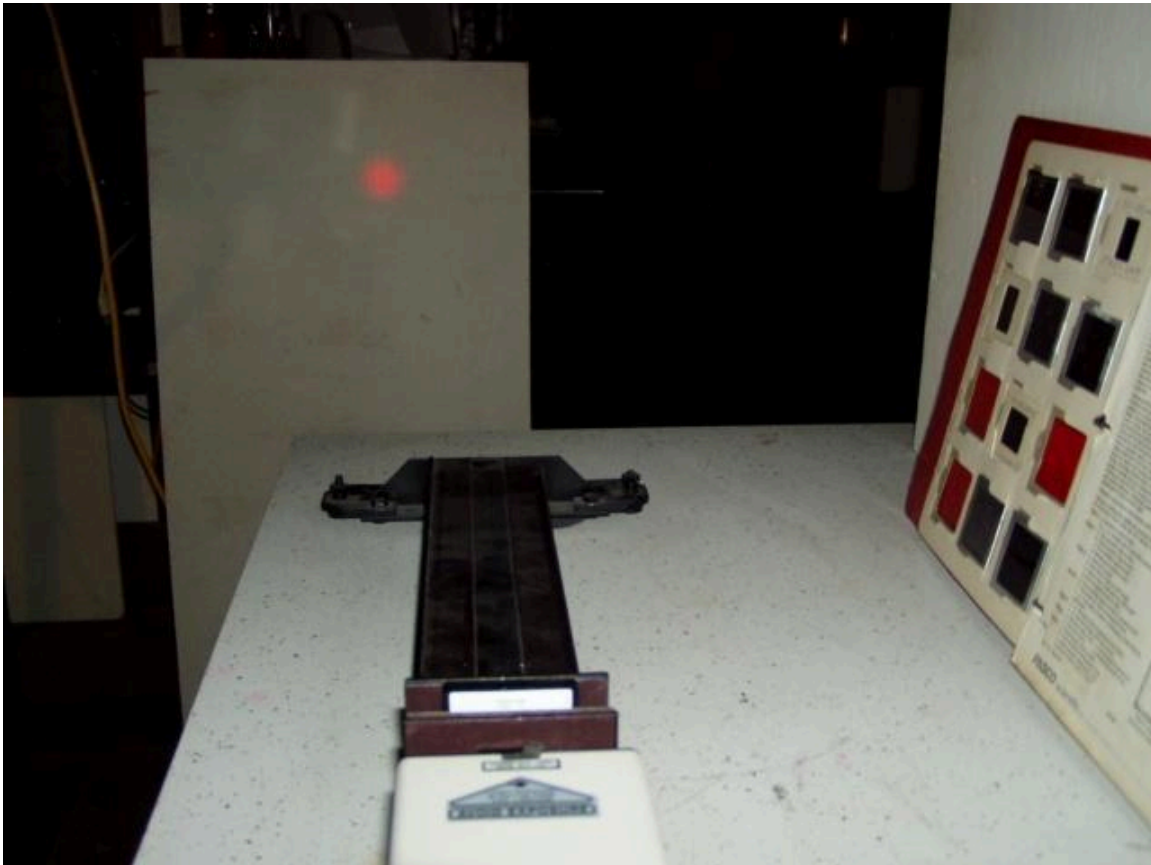
Location: Jc5

OPTICS	6Q10.10	MODERN OPTICS
Holography		
Holograms		
Use a laser with a spatial filter to illuminate the hologram.		



Location: Ja6, Jc6, Optics Table Cart

OPTICS	6Q20.10	MODERN OPTICS
Physical Optics		
Abbe's Theory of Imaging		
A laser beam illuminates an "Optical Crystal" (a geometric array of small characters). You see the diffraction pattern consisting of the body factor convolved with the form factor. Insert a lens and you see its Fourier transform, the real image of the Optical Crystal		



Location: Jb4, Jd2