

Example of an Unacceptable Abstract

Lab One

Newton P. Maxwell

The purpose of this lab was to observe the motion of a cart. To measure the amount of time that the cart took to reach the end of the track a spark timer was used. On the cart was placed a spark timer, which burned dots onto a piece of spark tape at a given interval of time. The displacement of the cart was recorded in one-sixtieth of a second intervals with a spark timer while it slid down the track. We received our results by taking the information from the spark paper. We measured the dots with a meter stick and used masking tape to secure the paper tape to the table so that it could not move as a result of human error. Microsoft Excel plotted three graphs, velocity vs. time, position vs. time, and acceleration vs. time. In our position versus time graph, we were able to find the acceleration by finding twice the slope of our quadratic data fit. The results we obtained about the acceleration was that the Position vs. Time graph equaled $(30.3345763 \text{ cm/s}^2)$, the Velocity vs. Time equaled $(30.4 \pm 0.8) \text{ cm/s}^2$ and the Acceleration equaled $(30 \pm 700) \text{ cm/s}^2$. None of them agreed with the expected value from $g \sin \theta$. This was human error. This lab was a success because I learned a lot about carts and using the computer to make the data table thing that tells you the coefficients of the line. I also met a nice lab partner who I'm thinking of asking out, but I don't know if they like me.