Rubric for Period of a Pendulum

Heading and Abstract

Item	Comments	Score
1. Title accurately describes the experiment.		/1
Author listed and date listed.		
2. Describes what the experiment was and how		/3
it worked in a way that would be understood by		
a reader not familiar with the experiment.		
3. Describes the specific results of the		/2
experiment in a way that is understandable to a		
reader not familiar with the experiment.		
4. Written concisely (penalty if excessive		Penalty:
unneeded details included).		
		/-0.5
General comments on the abstract.		
		/6

Introduction

Item	Comments	Score
1. Describes the given theory and assumptions		/2
of theory that angle is small and dissipative		
forces negligible.		
3. Describes in general terms how the		/1
experiment tested the hypothesis.		
4. Written concisely (penalty if excessive		Penalty:
unneeded details included).		/-0.5
General comments on the introduction.		

/3

Procedure/Methods

Item	Comments	Score
1. Describes the procedure in a way that could		/4
be replicated by someone who was not familiar		
with the experimental setup.		
2. Experiment tests amplitude and length with		/3
enough variation in each variable and welled-		
defined controls.		
3. Multiple swings used in each trial.		/1
4. Other quality control measures. (Multiple		Bonus:
trials, particularly thoughtful design, etc.)		
6. Includes a clearly labeled diagram(s) or		/2
pictures(s) of the experimental setup.		
7. Written in the past tense. (Penalty if not in		Penalty:
the past tense).		/-0.5
General comments on the procedure.		
		/9

Data

Item	Comments	Score
1. Data is presented clearly, with associated		/2
units and context.		
2. Uncertainty in data is presented clearly, and		
the uncertainty estimates are reasonable.		
·		/2
3. The uncertainty estimates are explained in		
the text, and the explanations are reasonable.		
-		/2
4. Exceptional methodology for estimating		Bonus:
uncertainty		
5. Raw data is not mixed with calculated		Penalty:
quantities.		
6. No extra material (graphs, uncertainty		Penalty:
propagation etc.) is included.		
General comments on the data section.		•
		/6

Analysis

Item	Comments	Score
1. Section clearly divided into parts by		
independent variable.		/1
2. Prop of uncertainty through averaging and		
dividing by the number of swings is correct.		/1
3. Graphs of data corresponding to each ind.		
variable, with proper labels and error bars.		/3
4. For amplitude, MC done to get uncert. in		
slope.		/1
5. For length, data transformation done to test		
power law, graph made, and process discussed.		/3
6. Prop of uncert. through ln done correctly		
and explained.		/2
7. For transformed data graph, slope and		
intercept reported w/ uncertainty using MC		/1
8. Bonus for exceptional data/analysis		Bonus:
General comments on the analysis section.		
		/12

Conclusion

Item	Comments	Score
1. Explicit comparisons made, using		
uncertainty, between theoretical values for 2		
slopes and y-int. on transformed graph for		/3
length.		
2. When exp. agrees with theory, power/uncert.		
discussed. and/or When exp. disagrees with		/2
theory possible reasons theory may be invalid		
are discussed.		
General comments on the conclusion section	•	
		/5

Overall

Item	Comments	Score
1. Language in the report is easy to understand.		/5
It avoids unnecessarily long sentences.		
Technical language is used correctly.		
2. The grammar, spelling, and punctuation in		/2
the report is correct.		
Additional bonuses		Bonus:
Additional penalties		Penalty:
General comments.		
1		

Total:	,	/ 4	18	