

# 物理实验教学中心

*Physics Experiment Center*



# Introduction to college physics experiments

LI Bin

NJUPT

2019.Spring

# Classrooms of experiments

- ◊ 0. Introduction, J2-532
- ◊ 1. Spectrometer, J2-532
- ◊ 2. Michelson Interferometer, J2-534
- ◊ 3. Oscilloscope, J2-418
- ◊ 4. Double Bridge, J2-417
- ◊ 5. Wheatstone Bridge, J2-416
- ◊ 6. Dielectric constant measurement, J2-429
- ◊ 7. Torsional Pendulum, J2-427

<https://github.com/bliseu/phylab>



# **Part 1**

## **Rules of this course**

# 1. Preparations

## Key-points:

- Reference books, Handouts
- Goals, methods, principles
- Experimental conditions
- Preparation reports

## **Preparation report includes:**

- 1. Title;**
- 2. Your name, student ID, date;**
- 3. Experimental goals;**
- 4. Experimental principles;**
- 5. Experimental apparatus (models, specifications) ;**
- 6. Data Tables**

## 2 . Experiments

**At the beginning of the class, I will :**

- Check your preparation reports of this lesson;
- Ask for your previous experiment reports;
- Show the experimental principles and the operation.

**During the experiments, you should:**

- Follow the operating rules;
- Observe experimental phenomena;
- Record the data.



➤ **Experimental data and phenomenon;**

**Record:** date, time, place, temperature, pressure, instrument serial number, title, specifications, original data and phenomenon...

- **Requirement:** smooth writing, plotting (when necessary), data, results.
- **Good habit:** process experimental data and submit reports in time.



### 3、 Contents of experimental reports:

1、 Title

2、 Goals

3、 Instruments

4、 Principles

} Before class

5、 Contents & steps

6、 Data processing

7、 Discussions and analysis

} after class

## **Part 2**

**Measurement error and  
instrumental error range in  
physics experiments**

# 1、 Measurement data & unit

➤ data = value+unit

e.g.: 175.0 cm

value

unit

The international system of  
units

(SI): meter (m)、kilogram  
(kg)、second (s)、ampere (A)、  
Kelvin (K)、mole (mol)、  
candela (cd)



## 2、 Measurement classification

**direct**

**passive**

e.g.

The cylinder's density

$$\rho = \frac{4m}{\pi D^2 h}$$

### 3、 Significant digit and more...

(1). Significant digit : total digit number from first non-zero digit to the last one.

*4.60cm ≠ 4.600cm*

(2). Significant digit's nature

a). Significant digit tells the precision of measuring instrument



## length measurement with different precision

**steel ruler:**  $L=46.0\text{mm}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{仪}}=0.1\text{mm}$ ,  
 $E_r=0.13\%$

**Vernier calipers:**  $L=46.00\text{mm}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{仪}}=0.02\text{mm}$ ,  
 $E_r=0.026\%$

**micrometer:**  $L=46.000\text{mm}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{仪}}=0.004\text{mm}$ ,  
 $E_r=0.006\%$

b) Significant digit have nothing to do with decimal point's location and unit

e.g. 4.60 cm   0.0460m   46.0mm

measurement results

0.0125m=1.25cm   1.0900cm≠ 1.09cm

8.88m=8880mm?

### (3). Scientific notation

Scientific notation :  $a \times 10^n$  (単位)

$$8.88\text{m}=8.88 \times 10^3\text{mm}$$

$$80.30\text{g}=0.0803\text{kg?}=80300\text{mg?}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 80.30\text{g} &= 8.030 \times 10^1\text{g} = 8.030 \times 10^4\text{mg} \\ &= 8.030 \times 10^{-2}\text{kg} \end{aligned}$$



## (4). rules for rounding

- If the last digit of a number is less than 5, drop it;
- If it is more than 5, the number to be rounded add 1;
- If it is 5, make the last digit be even.

e.g.: if  $m=3.065\text{kg}$ ,  $u_{cm}=0.042\text{kg}$

$$m=(3.06 \pm 0.05)\text{kg}$$

e.g.

**7.146 rounded to two digits**      7.1

**0.086 rounded to one digits**      0.09

**2.4352 rounded to three digits**      2.44

**17.415 rounded to four digits**      17.42

**17.425 rounded to four digits**      17.42

## (5). algorithms

### a) addition and subtraction

e.g.  $A + B + C = 14.7\overline{8} + 0.004\overline{7} - 1.50\overline{3}$   
 $= 13.2\overline{8}\overline{1}\overline{7} = 13.2\overline{8}$

Shortest decimal



## b) Multiplication and division

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} A \times B \times C &= 24.56\overline{8} \times \boxed{3.4\overline{5}} \times 128.\overline{4} \\ &= 10883.13264 = \boxed{1.09} \times 10^4 \end{aligned}$$

Shortest digit

## (6)、 the rule to read data(direct)

instrumental error or minimum graduation  
value

a: ruler

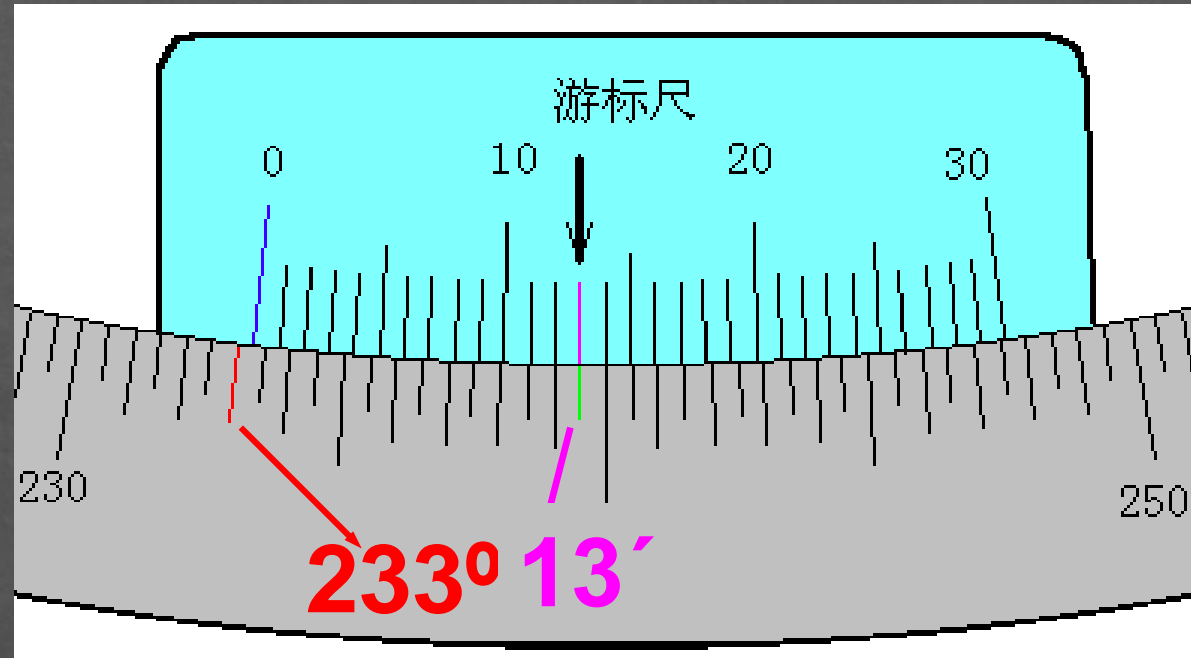
2cm or 20mm?



Minimum graduation  
value  $1/5 \sim 1/2$

2.00cm or 20.0mm

**b: angular vernier**



**e.g. vernier calipers**



c: reading of digital meter



reading :23.9°C



## 4、 error and uncertainty

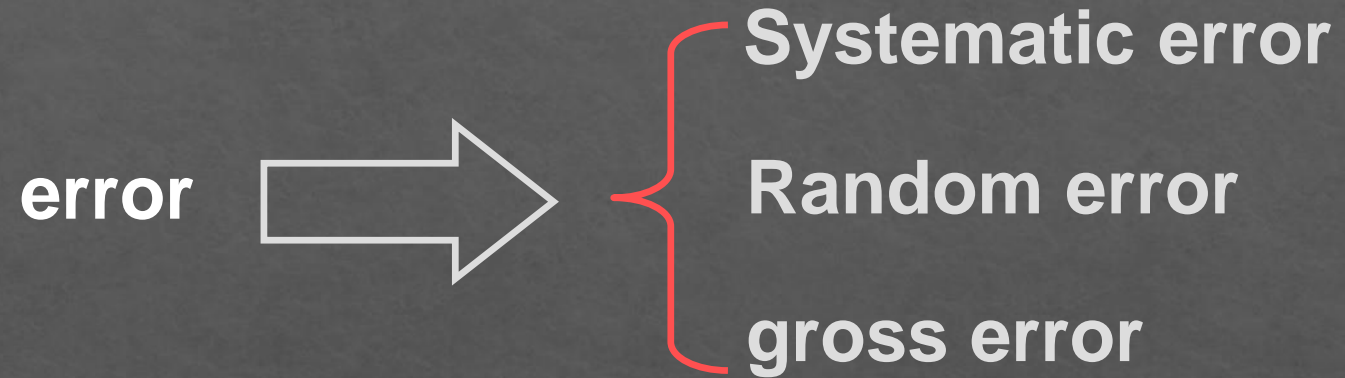
### Error and true value

true value:  $a$

measured value:  $x$

error:  $\varepsilon$        $\varepsilon = x - a$

## Classification of error



**Systematic error**

# uncertainty

★ uncertainty: range of fluctuation

the uncertainty  $u$

1.  $A$  uncertainty :  $u_A$

2.  $B$  uncertainty :  $u_B$

3. Synthetic uncertainty:

$$u = \sqrt{u_B^2 + u_A^2}$$



## A uncertainty

$$u_A = \frac{st}{\sqrt{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{(n-1)}} \cdot \frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}$$

***t* distribution factor, n measurement times, probability P=0.95:**

<b>n</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>t</b>	12.71	4.30	3.18	2.78	2.57	2.45	2.36	2.31	2.26
<b><math>\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}</math></b>	8.99	2.48	1.59	1.24	1.05	0.93	0.84	0.77	0.72

***B* uncertainty**

**instrument error ,Limit error**

**instrument error :  $\Delta$**

**instrument error =Level  $\times$  range**

***B* uncertainty**

$$u_B = \Delta_{ins}$$

**Synthetic uncertainty**

$$u = \sqrt{u_B^2 + u_A^2}$$

**measurement result:**

$$N = N_M \pm u \text{ (unit)}$$

**$U$ =Synthetic uncertainty,**

**$N_M$ =best estimation of measurement data**



# Single measurement, Multiple/Repeated measurement

## 1、 result of single direct measurement

single direct  
measurement

estimated true value: result  
of single measurement

$$U = U_B = \Delta_{\text{仪}}$$

$$N = N_m \pm \Delta \text{ (unit)}$$

$N_m$  have same decimal as  $\Delta$

## 2、 result of repeated measurement

$$N = \bar{N} \pm u \text{ (unit)}$$

estimated true value:

$$\bar{N}$$

uncertainty:

$$u = \sqrt{u_A^2 + u_B^2}$$

$$\mu_A = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (N_i - \bar{N})^2}{(n - 1)}} \cdot \frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\mu_B = \Delta_{\text{仪}}$$

**Example 1: Vernier caliper (division: 50) , cylinder diameter, 10 times.**

times	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$d_i (cm)$	19.78	19.80	19.70	19.78	19.74	19.76	19.72	19.68	19.80	19.72

$$\bar{d} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{10} d_i}{10} = 19.75 mm$$

$$u_A = S_{\bar{d}} \cdot \frac{t}{\sqrt{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{10} (d_i - \bar{d})^2}{9}} \cdot 0.72 = 0.0108 mm$$

$$u_B = \Delta_{\text{仪}} = 0.02 \text{ mm}$$

**uncertainty**

$$u = \sqrt{u_A^2 + \Delta_{\text{仪}}^2} = \sqrt{0.0108^2 + 0.02^2}$$

$$\approx 0.0227 \text{ mm} \approx 0.023 \text{ mm}$$

**diameter**

$$d = \bar{d} \pm u_d = 19.750 \pm 0.023 (\text{mm})$$

**Same  
decimal**



relative uncertainty

$$L_1 = (170.0 \pm 0.3) \text{ (cm)} \quad E_{r1} = 0.18\%$$

$$L_2 = (17.0 \pm 0.3) \text{ (cm)} \quad E_{r1} = 1.8\%$$

relative uncertainty,  $E_r$

$$E_r = \frac{u}{\overline{N}} \times 100\%$$

### (3) percentage error

$$E_0 = \frac{|N - N_0|}{N_0} \times 100\%$$

$$E_r=1.54\% \longrightarrow E_r=1.\underline{6}\%$$

$$E_r=3.82\% \longrightarrow E_r=3.\underline{9}\%$$

$$E_0=5.04\% \longrightarrow E_0=\underline{6}\%$$

## Indirect measurement

if,  $N = f(x, y, z, \dots)$

$x, y, z, \dots$  direct measurement

if  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}, \dots$  best estimates of direct measurement

best estimates of indirect measurement

$$\bar{N} = f(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}, \dots)$$



## Estimate of uncertainty (indirect measurement)

**$N$  uncertainty**

$$u_N = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 u_x^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2 u_y^2 + \dots}$$

**$N$  relative uncertainty**

$$E_r = \frac{u_N}{N} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial x}\right)^2 u_x^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial y}\right)^2 u_y^2 + \dots}$$

## Result of indirect measurement

$$N = \bar{N} + \mu_N$$

$$\bar{N} = f ( \bar{x}, \bar{y}, \cdots )$$

## ★ calculation processing (uncertainty)

1、 direct measurement ( $x, y, \dots$ ) uncertainty ( $u_x, u_y, \dots$ )

2、 function

$$N = f(x, y, \dots)$$

$N$  total derivative

$$dN = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy + \dots$$

3、  $N$  uncertainty  $u_N$

$$u_N = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right)^2 u_x^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right)^2 u_y^2 + \dots}$$

## ★ calculation processing (relative uncertainty)

1、 direct measurement uncertainty  $u_x, u_y, \dots$ ;

2、 function  $N = f(x, y, \dots)$

logarithm  $\ln N = \ln f(x, y, \dots)$

In  $N$  total derivative  $\frac{dN}{N} = \frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial y} dy + \dots$

3、 relative uncertainty of  $N$

$$E_r = \frac{u_N}{N} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial x}\right)^2 u_x^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial y}\right)^2 u_y^2 + \dots}$$



**Example 2:** Using pendulum to measure

acceleration of gravity:  $g=4\pi^2 l/T^2$ ,

$T=2.000 \pm 0.002s, l=100.0 \pm 0.1cm$ , try to write a  
gravitational acceleration  $g$  expression.

**answer:**  $g = \frac{4\pi^2 l}{T^2}, \ln g = \ln 4\pi^2 + \ln l - 2 \ln T$

$$\frac{\partial \ln g}{\partial l} = \frac{1}{l}, \frac{\partial \ln g}{\partial T} = -\frac{2}{T}$$

$$E_r = \frac{u_g}{g} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial \ln g}{\partial l}\right)^2 u_l^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \ln g}{\partial T}\right)^2 u_T^2}$$

**Thus:**

$$E_r = \sqrt{\left(\frac{u_l}{l}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{u_T}{T}\right)^2} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{0.1}{100}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{0.002}{2.000}\right)^2}$$

$$= 2.24 \times 10^{-3} = 0.23\%$$

$$g = \frac{4\pi^2 l}{T^2} = \frac{4 \times 3.1416^2 \times 100.0}{2.000^2} = 987.0(\text{cm} / \text{s}^2)$$

$$u_{cg} = E_r \cdot g = 2.24 \times 10^{-3} = 2.3(\text{cm} / \text{s}^2)$$

**Round to the nearest tenth , carry only!**

**acceleration of gravity  $g=(987.0 \pm 2.3) (\text{cm/s}^2)$**

**align**

# **Part 3**

## **Methods of data processing**

# 1. Tabulation

## Notes:

- a. Table design: **reasonable**, straightforward, **complete**.
- b. Title bar: **physical quantity's name, mark, unit**.
- c. Data: effective number.



**d. instruction and parameter (table name,  
measuring instrument specifications,  
environment condition).**

**e. main->original data, important intermediate  
result.**

## Table Data of wire diameter measurement

Instrument: micrometer caliper, Level: 1, range: 0~25mm, error:  $\pm 0.004\text{mm}$ ,  
 data:-0.005mm

Order	data (mm)	diameter $D_i(\text{mm})$	$D_i - \bar{D}$ (mm)	$(D_i - \bar{D})^2 (\times 10^{-8} \text{mm}^2)$
1	0.280	0.285	0.0022	484
2	0.278	0.283	0.0002	4
3	0.275	0.280	-0.0028	784
4	0.284	0.289	0.0062	3844
5	0.272	0.277	-0.0052	2704
6	0.278	0.283	0.0002	4
Average		0.282 8		$\sum (D_i - \bar{D})^2 = 7824$

$$S_{\bar{D}} = 1.7 \times 10^{-3} \text{mm}, \sigma_{\text{仪}} = \frac{\Delta_{\text{仪}}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{0.004 \text{mm}}{\sqrt{3}} = 2.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{mm},$$

$$u_{cD} = \sqrt{S_{\bar{D}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{仪}}^2} = 2.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{mm} = 0.003 \text{mm},$$

$$D = \bar{D} \pm u_{cD} = (0.283 \pm 0.003) \text{mm}$$

## 2. Graphical method

➤ Numbers, Lines

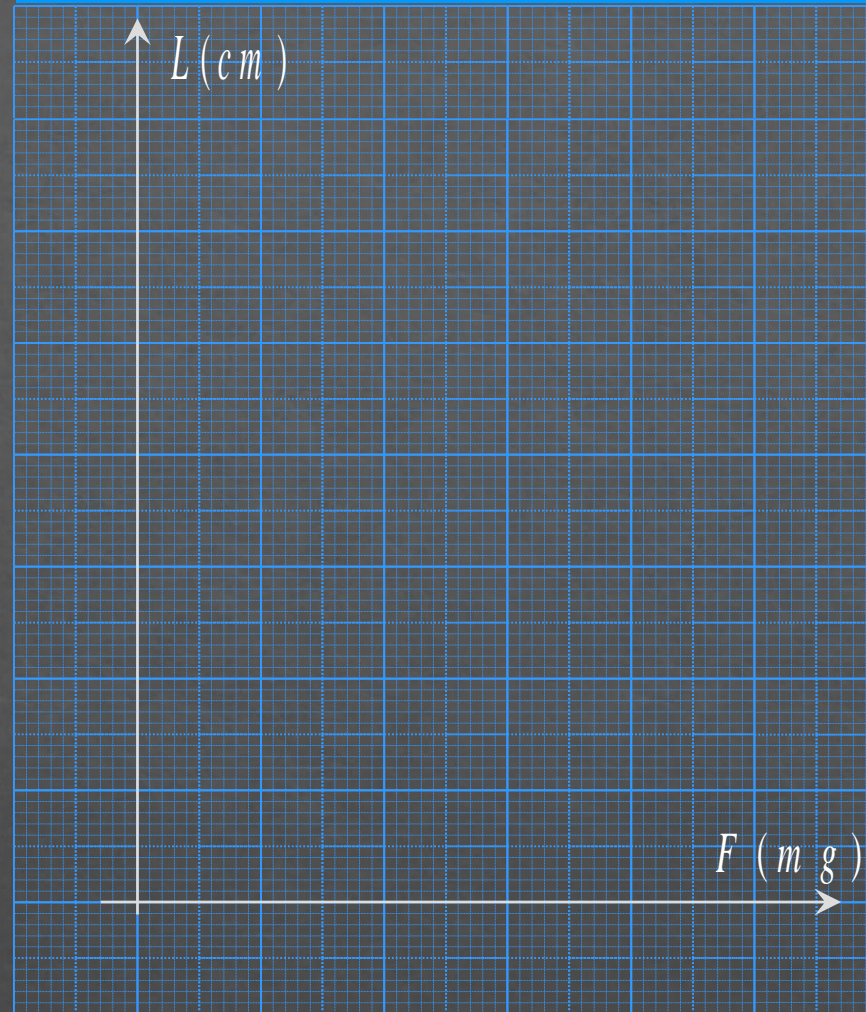
➤ Mapping rules

# Mapping rules

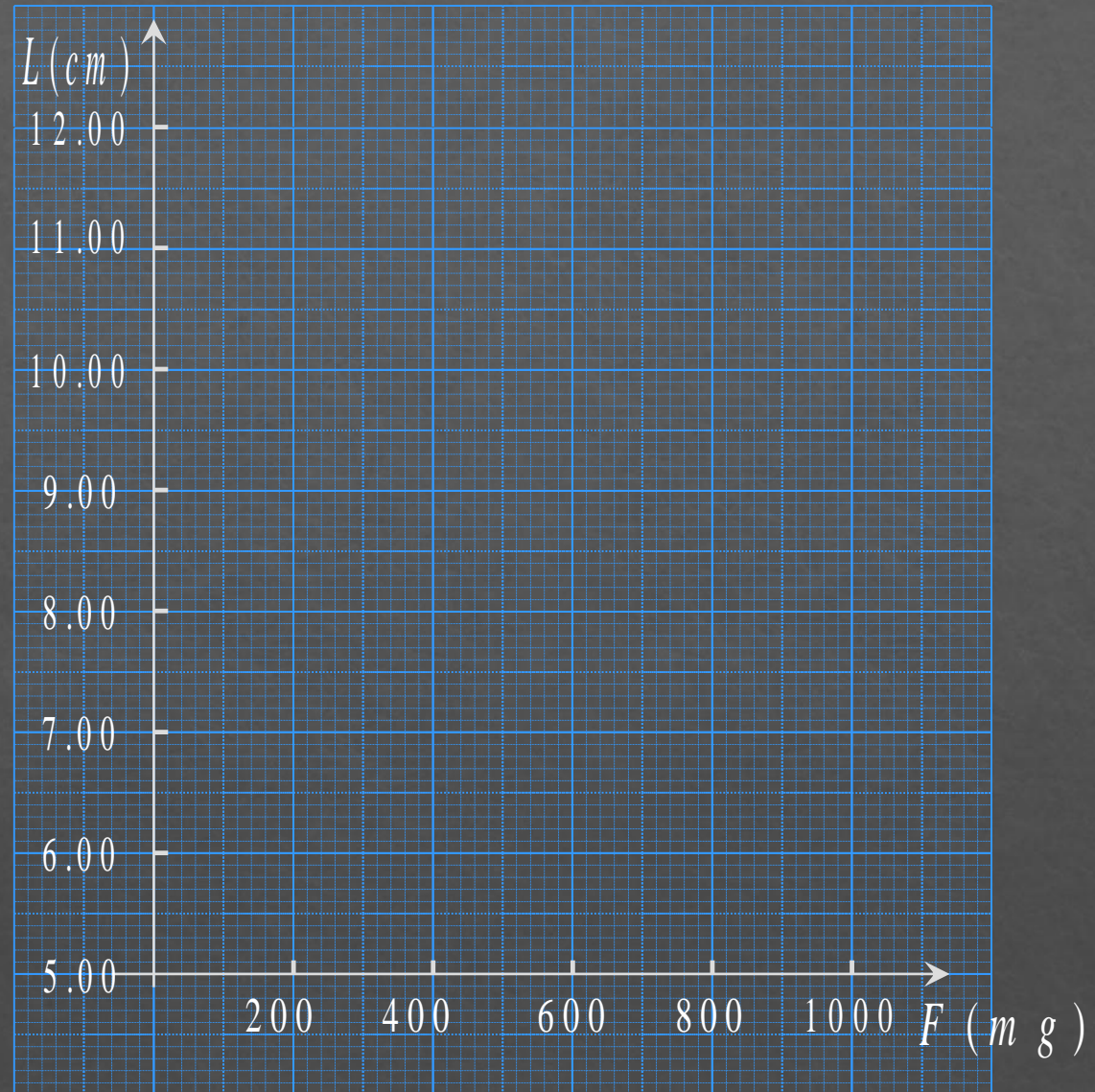
- 1、 Plotting From Data table
- 2、 Using coordinate paper



### 3. Coordinates

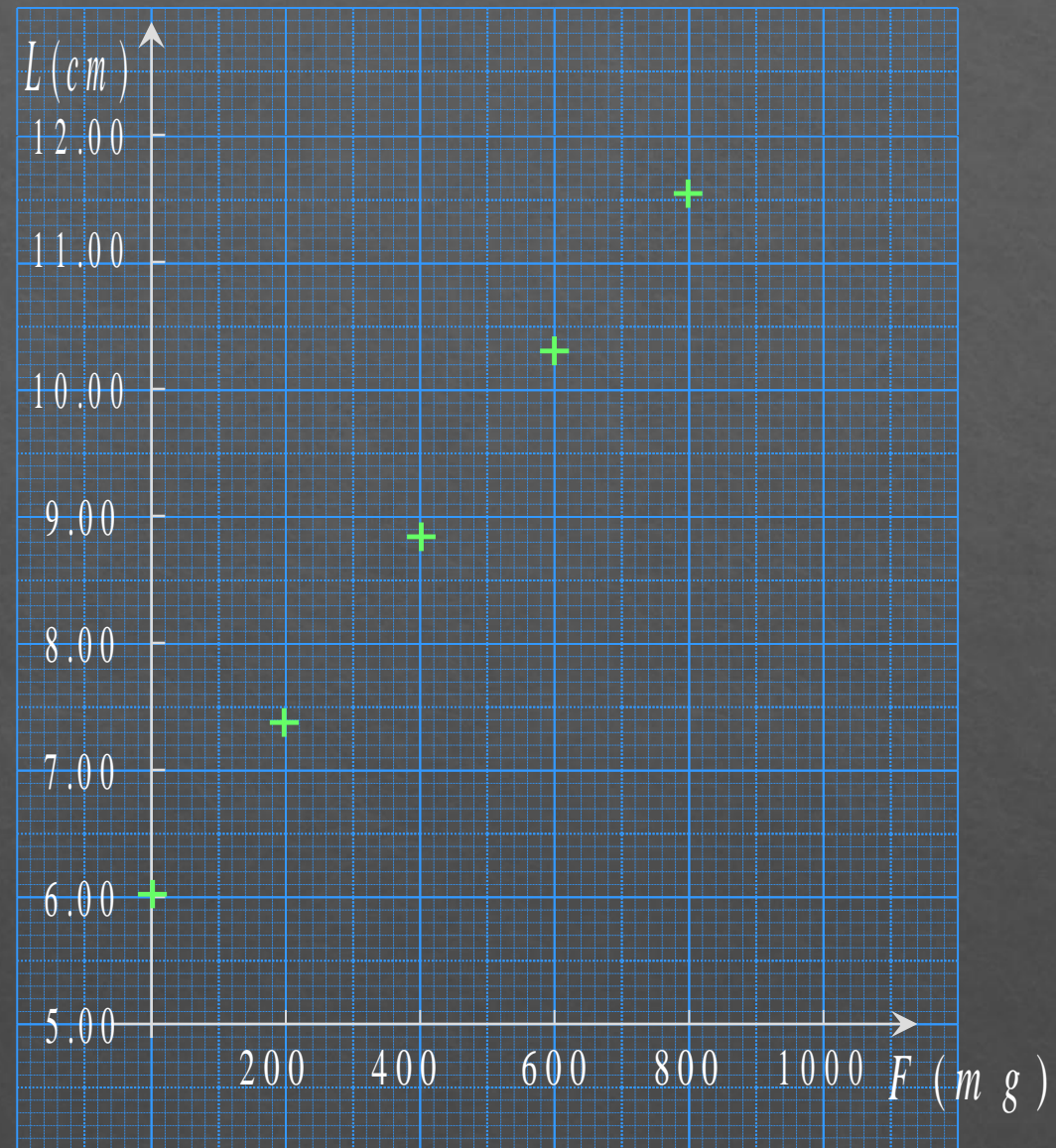


## 4. Coordinate indexing

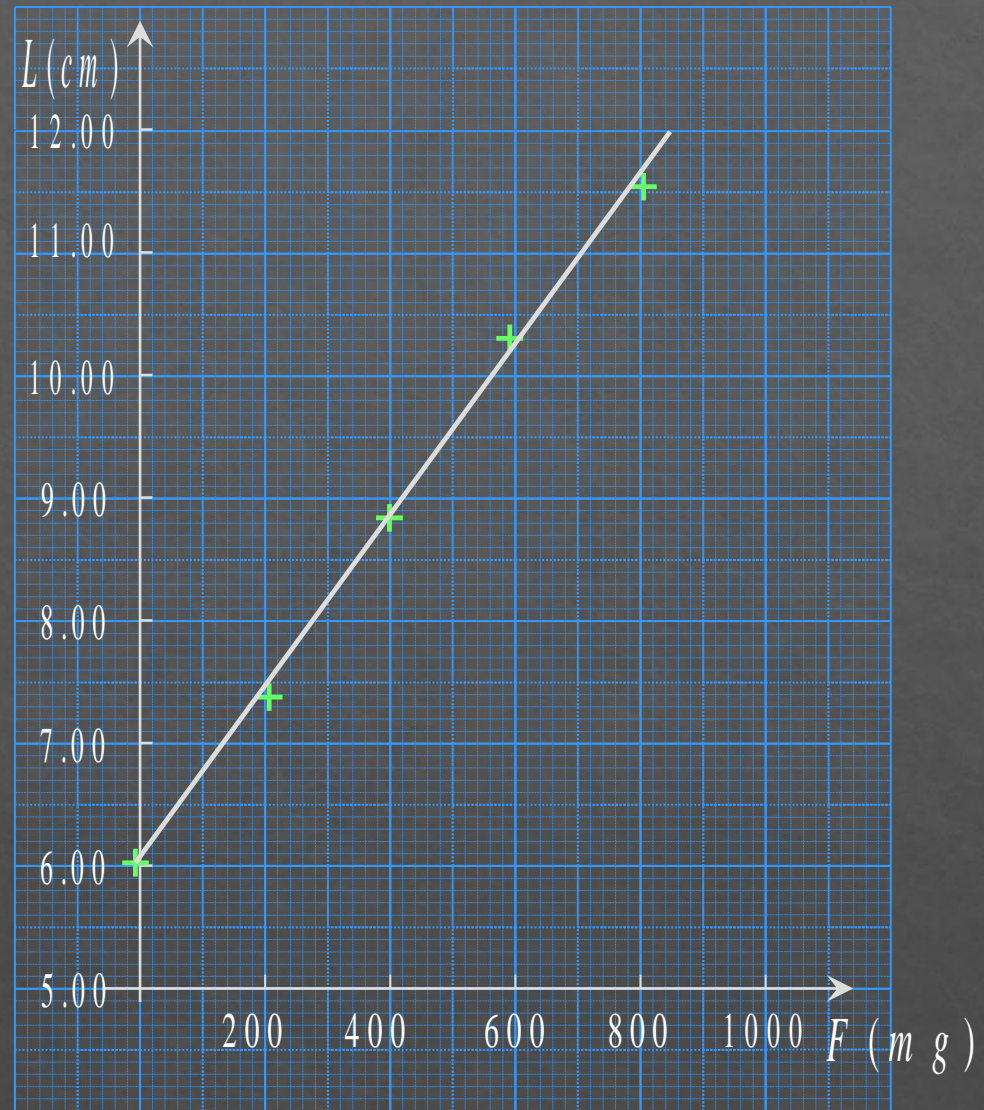




## 5. Experimental data points

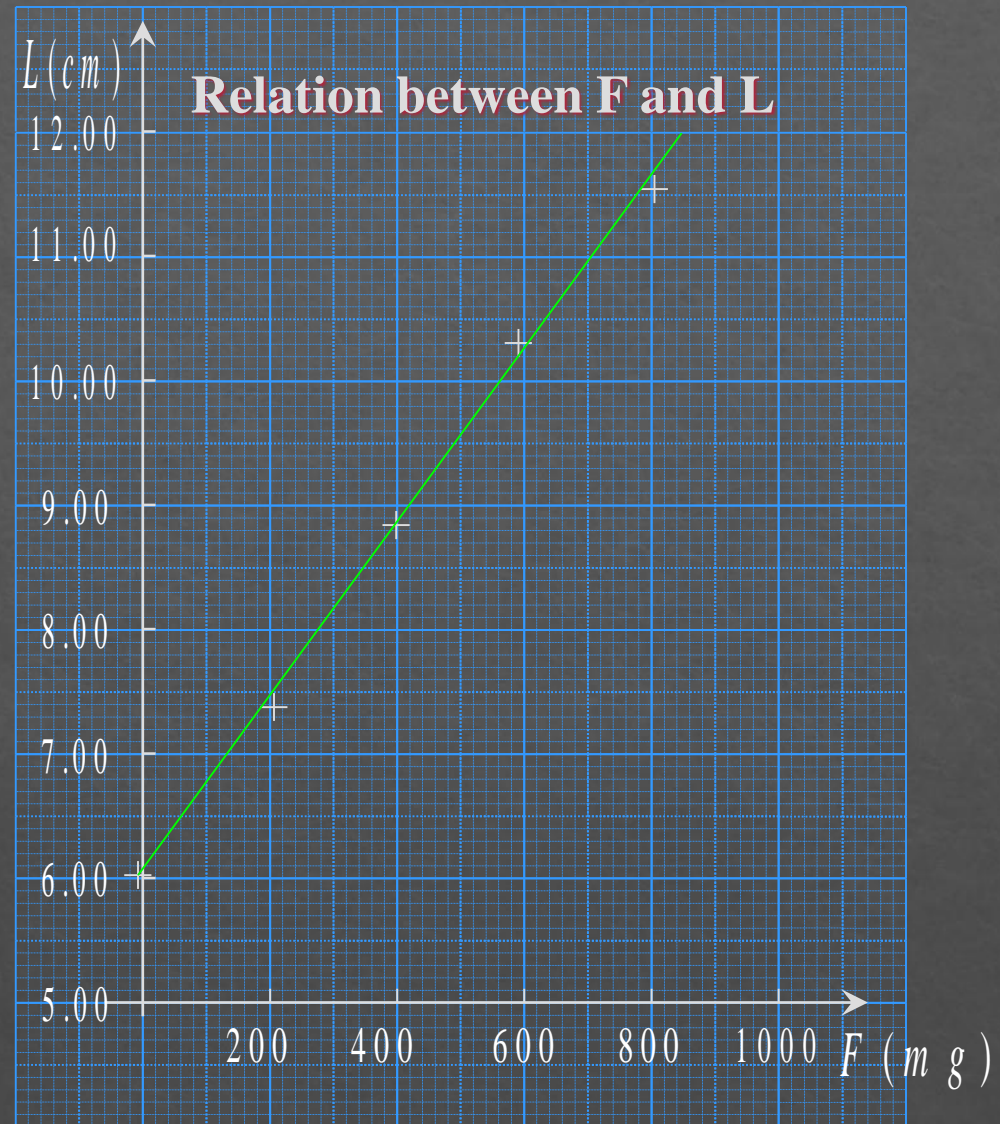


## 6. Draw curve





## 7. Introductions



# Graphical method

## 1) Coordinate values

$$(x_1, y_1) \text{ 、 } (x_2, y_2) \text{ 。}$$

equation of  
straight line:

$$y = a + b x$$

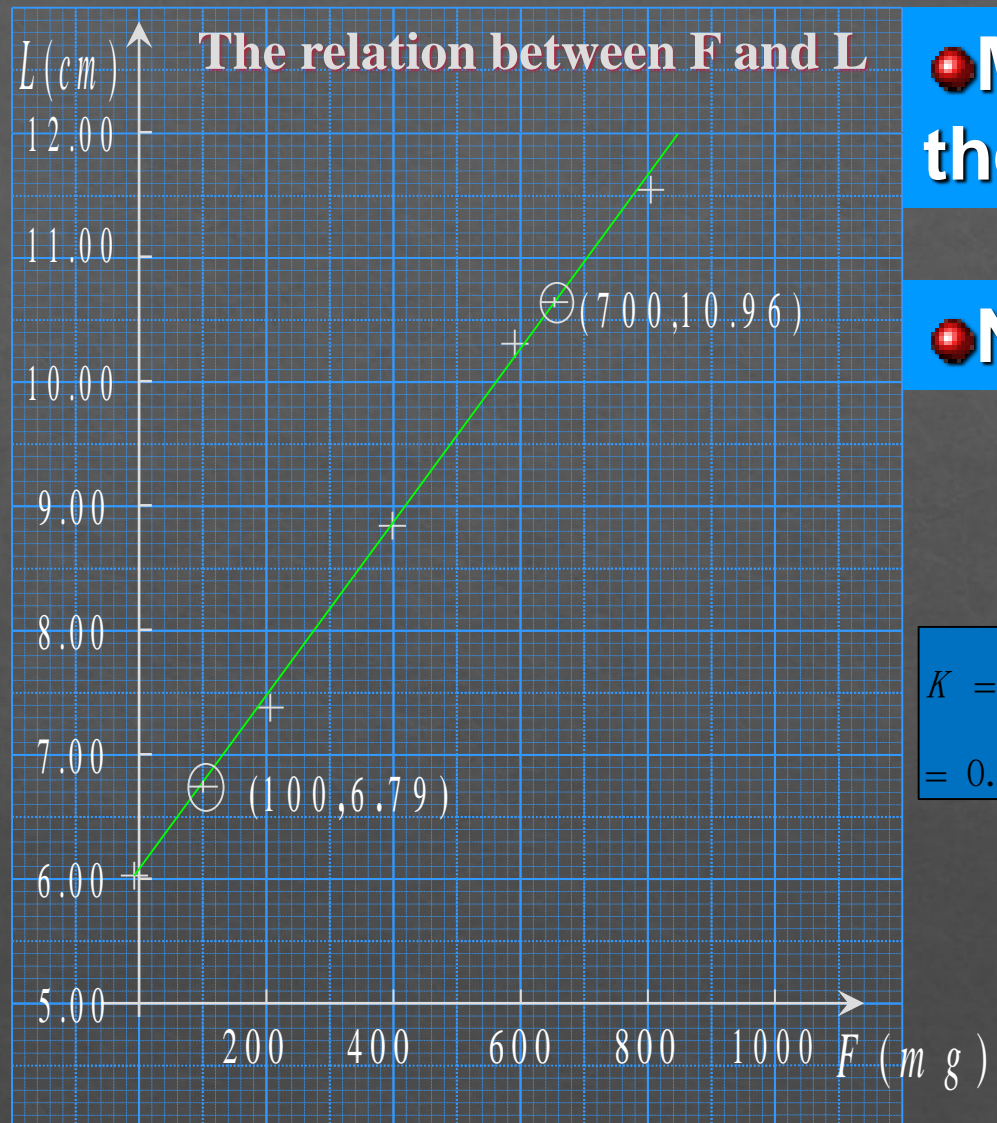
2) slope  $b$ :

$$b = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

3) intercept  $a$ :

$$a = \frac{x_2 y_1 - x_1 y_2}{x_2 - x_1}$$





● Mark **2** points on the line.

● Note the distance

$$K = \frac{(700 - 100) \times 9.794 \times 10^{-6}}{(10.96 - 6.79) \times 10^{-2}} = 0.141 N / m$$

### 3. Method of successive minus

- method of successive minus:
  - experimental data->table  
verify law of variation of data.
  - divide into two groups: high,low  
Make full use of data, reduce measurement error.



➤ Verify the *linear relationship of  $L_i$  and  $F$*  。

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta \bar{L} &= \frac{1}{7} [(L_1 - L_0) + (L_2 - L_1) + \cdots + (L_7 - L_6)] \\ &= \frac{1}{7} [L_7 - L_0]\end{aligned}$$

Intermediate data ×

beginning and end ○。

If we divide data into  $(L_7, L_6, L_5, L_4)$   
and  $(L_3, L_2, L_1, L_0)$  .

$$\Delta \bar{L} = \frac{1}{4}[(L_7 - L_3) + (L_6 - L_2) \cdots + (L_4 - L_0)]$$

**Make full use of data, Keep all the merits of  
Multi-times measurement.**

# Summary

1. Rules of this course;
2. Significant digit, rules for rounding, algorithm, reading
3. Uncertainty calculation, rules for rounding

$U_A$ ,  $U_B$ ,  $U$

Indirect measurement

#### 4. Measurement results:

$$N = N_M \pm u_c \text{ (unit)}$$

$u_c$ : *Synthetic uncertainty*,  $N_M$ : best estimation of measurement data

#### 5. Data processing methods:

tabulation method, graphical method, method of successive minus



END