

# Spectrophotometric Analysis

**UM-SJTU JI**

**&**

**Department of Chemistry, SJTU**

# OBJECTIVES

- Practice calculating and performing dilutions of solutions.
- Construct and utilize an absorbance and calibration curve.
- Determine the concentration of phosphate in a water sample by spectrophotometric analysis:
  - a. Using projection from the standard curve.
  - b. Using slope of the standard curve then Beer's law [  $A = \text{slope} \times c$  &  $A = -\text{Log}(\%T/100)$  ]

# BACKGROUND

- Spectrophotometric Analysis and the Determination of Phosphate
- The Absorbance Spectrum
- The Calibration Curve

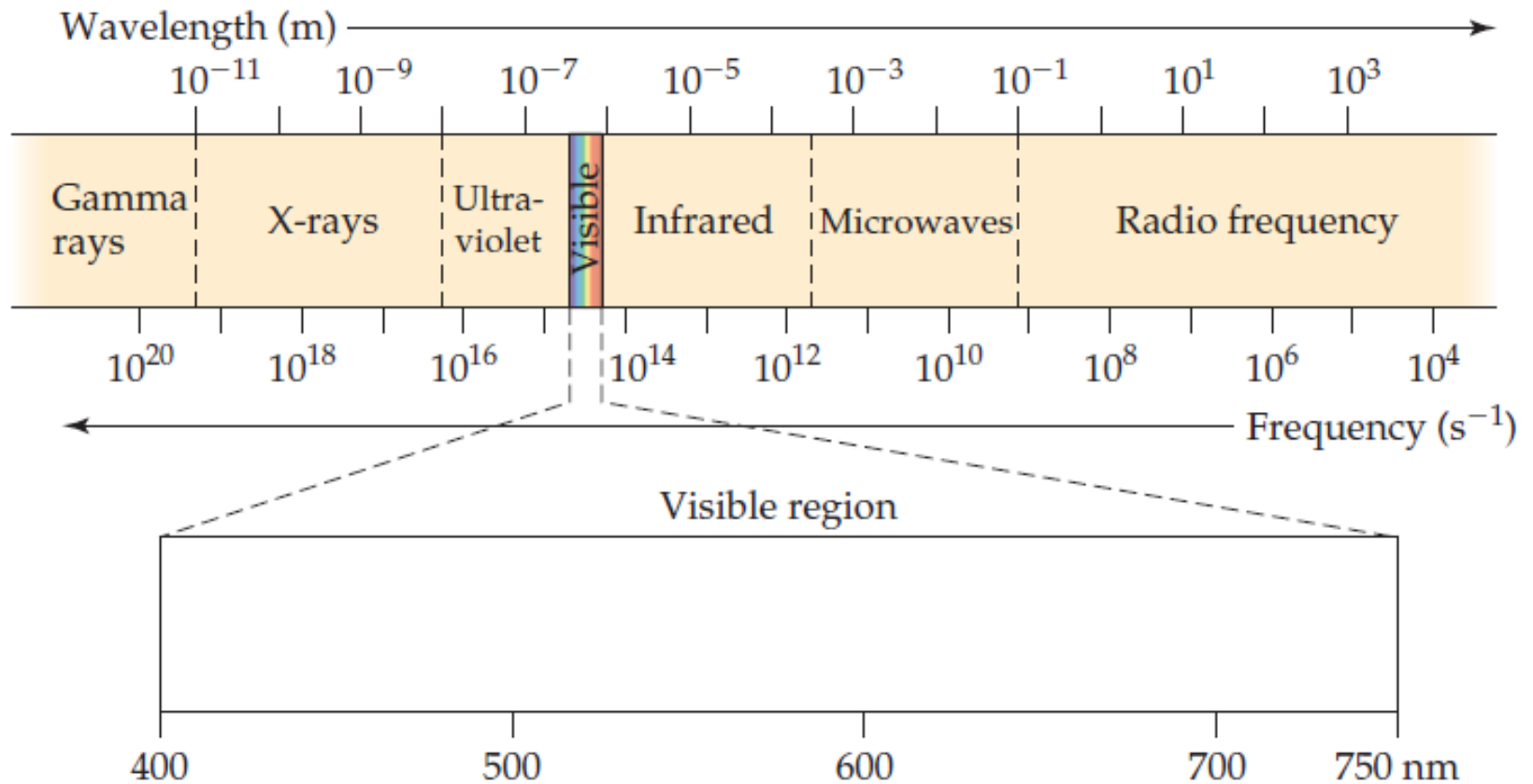
# Chromogenic Reaction of Phosphate



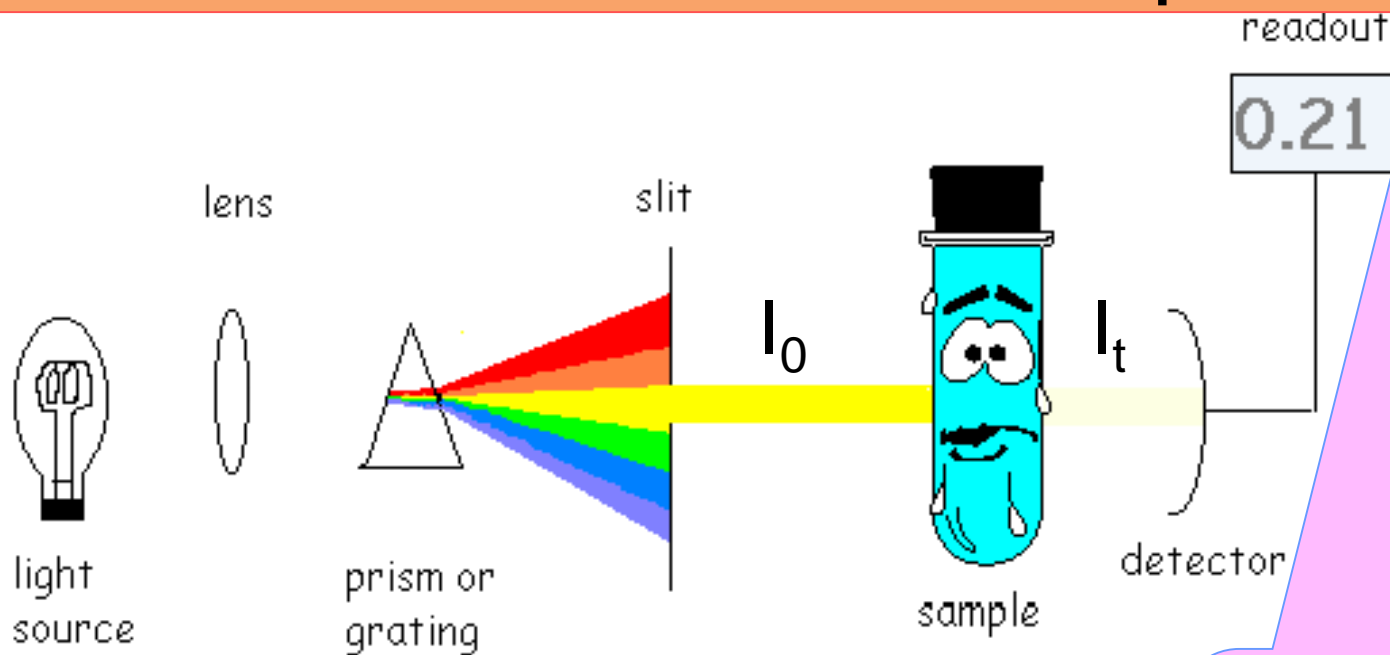
Chromogenic  
Reagent, **AV** solution

# LIGHT SPECTRUM

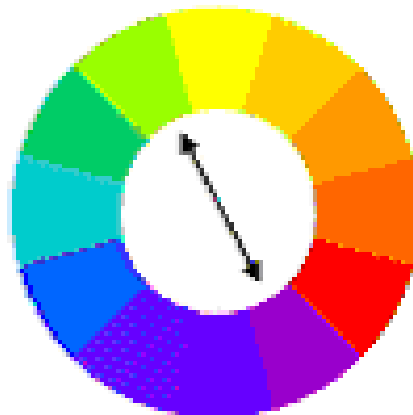
How do the wavelength and frequency of an X-ray compare with those of the red light from a neon sign?



# Spectrophotometric Analysis and the Determination of Phosphate



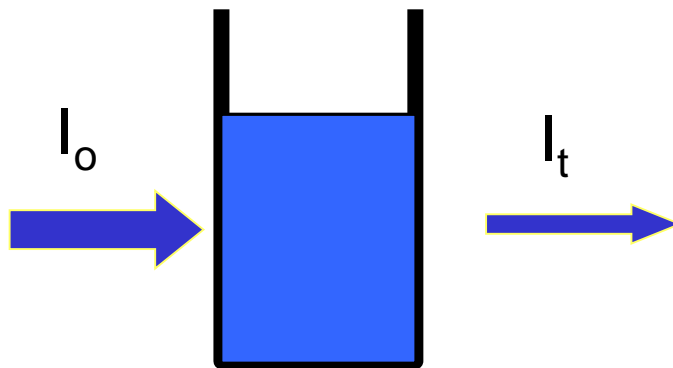
Complimentary  
color



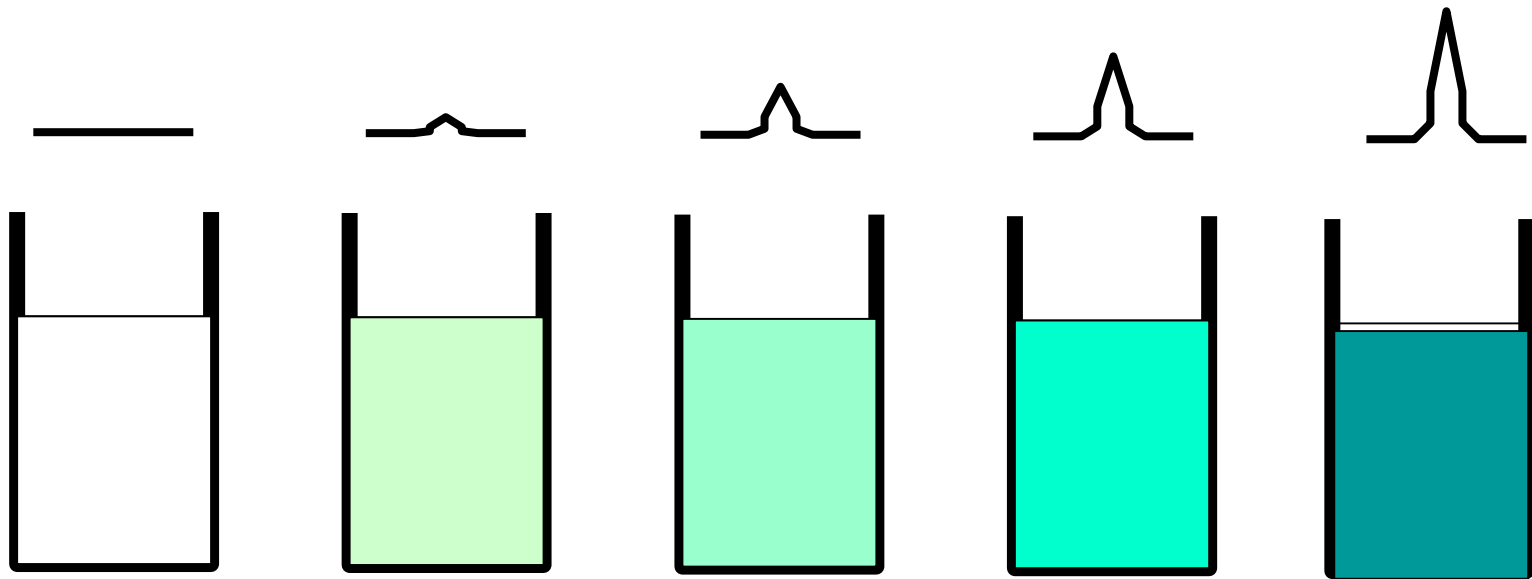
**Color  
absorbed or  
transmitted?**

# Lambert—Beer Law

- $I_o$  = intensity of light through blank
- $I_t$  = intensity of light through sample
- Absorption =  $I_o - I_t$
- Transmittance =  $I_t/I_o$
- Absorbance =  $\log(I_o/I_t) = -\log(I_t/I_o)$



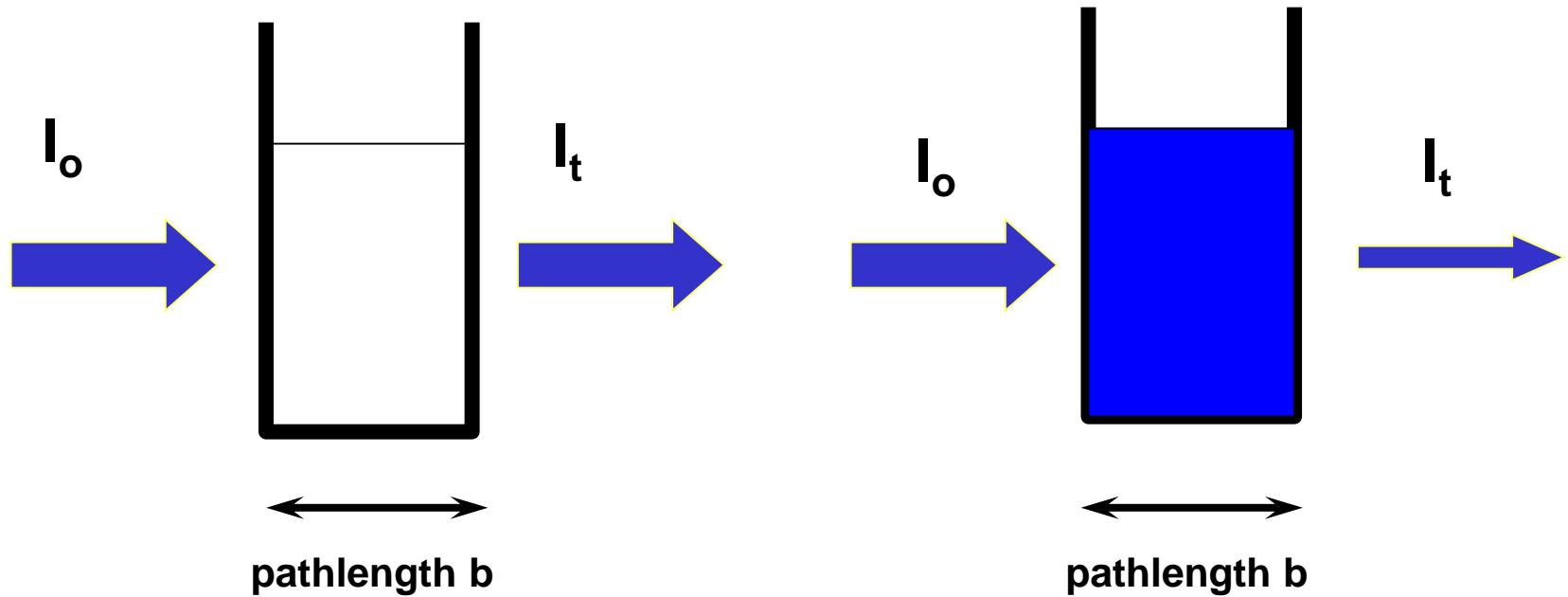
# Absorbance & Beer's Law



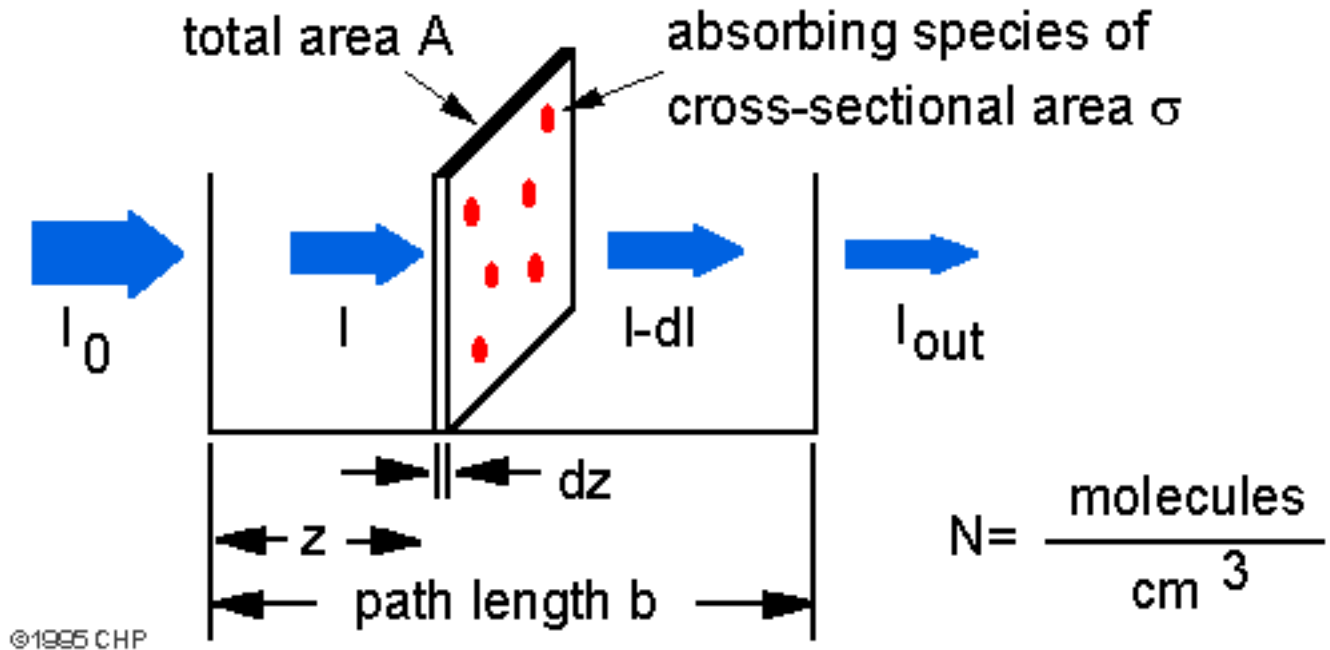
Increasing absorbance



# Lambert's Law

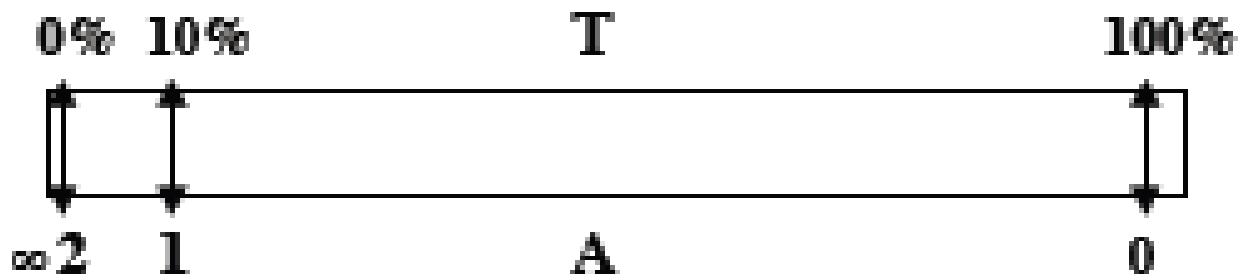


# Lambert's Law



$$\text{Absorbance} = \epsilon bc$$

# Spectrophotometric Analysis and the Determination of Phosphate Conc.



$$\%T = \left( \frac{I_t}{I_0} \right) \times 100\%$$

$$A = -\log\left(\frac{\%T}{100}\right)$$

$$A = \epsilon bc$$

*T-Transmittance*

*A-Absorbance*

*$\epsilon$ -molar absorptivity*

*b-solution path length*

*c-molar concentration*

Lambert - Beer Law

# PROCEDURE-- Part A.1

- ***Organizing your group***
- ✓ Prepare a group of phosphate solutions with concentrations range from  $1.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M to  $4.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M.
- ✓ **Each student is responsible for make at least one** of the solutions and measuring at least one data point of Absorbance.

**EACH STUDENT MUST PREPARE AT LEAST 1 SAMPLE SOLUTION. ALL E2 IS GROUP EFFORTS EXPERIMENT BUT MUST SUBMIT INDIVIDUAL REPORT. EACH STUDENT MUST COMPLETE 1 ROW OF DATA & ENTER ON THE MAIN DATASHEET. DO ALL PARTS E3: A-E**

**DO NOT WASTE REAGENTS**: **AV** difficult to make, follow rinsing pipet instructions.

**Part A:** Preparation of 6 Standard Solutions: from  $1.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M to  $4.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M (Pipet  $x$  mL 0.001M  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  solution, 2.00 mL 2M  $\text{HNO}_3$  & 1.00 mL **AV** solution, into 50-mL volumetric flask & dilute with distilled  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to mark

**Part B:** Adjusting the Spectrometer @  $\lambda = 400\text{nm}$ , rinsing the cuvette

**Part C:** Finding the proper wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{OPT}}$ ) for maximum absorbance by using standard stock that has the maximum concentration (stock # 6) and then find its maximum absorbance at varying wavelengths from 400nm to 450nm to find  $\lambda_{\text{OPT}}$

**Part D:** Making the calibration curve using the standard stock solutions (#1 to # 6) at maximum absorbance ( $\lambda_{\text{OPT}}$ ) wavelength.

**Part E:** Determination of the unknown concentration by:

a.a. Using projection from the standard curve.

b. Using slope of the standard curve then Beer's law:

$$[A = \text{slope} \times c) \ \& \ A = -\text{Log}(\%T/100)]$$

**Make sure to use Excel or Origin software to plot & calculate.**

# VC211 DATASHEET FOR EXPERIMENT: E3 SPECTROPHOTOMETRY OF PHOSPHOROUS IN THE FORM OF $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$

**SECTION:** TA: **GROUP EFFORTS & INDIVIDUAL REPORTS: EACH STUDENT SHOULD PREPARE AT LEAST ONE SAMPLE SOL'N, 1 CALIBRATION DATA & COMPLETE ROW DATA**

**PART A:** PREPARE 6 STANDARD CAL. SAMPLES + 1 UNKNOWN SAMPLE

←----- **PARTS A, D, & E: SAMPLES PREPARED WITH SHOWN VOLUMES (mL)** -----→

**PART B:** CALIBRATION @ 400nm 0%T (black block) & 100%T (Sample 1#)

← **PART A:** CALIBR. SAMPLES WITH SHOWN STNDRD VOLUME SOL'NS →

← **PART E:** UNKNOWN ABSORB @  $\lambda_{\text{OPT}}$  →

←----- **PART C:** FIND  $\lambda_{\text{OPT}}$  of 6# SAMPLE -----→

← **PART D:** ABSORBANCE OF PREPARED SAMPLES @  $\lambda_{\text{OPT}}$  →

GR P #	NAME	ID #	λ					$\lambda_{\text{OPT}}$	VOLUME (mL)						ABSORBANCE				CONC. (M)	
			λ1	λ2	λ3	λ4	λ5		1#	2#	3#	4#	5#	6#	7#A	7#B	7#A	7#B	CONC'N	CONC'N
			400nm	410nm	420nm	430nm	450nm	.....nm	0.00mL	1.00mL	2.00mL	3.00mL	4.00mL	5.00mL	5.00mL	5.00mL	5.00mL	5.00mL	5.00mL	5.00mL
			A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	A12	A13	A14	CONC'N	CONC'N		

**Maximum Absorbance Optimum Wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{opt}}$ )**

1. After calibration in Procedure Part B, remove cuvette and rinse in distilled water followed by sample 6# solution. Must use same cuvette, then change mode to absorbance.

2. Insert a 3/4 full of sample 6# solution into the same slot as during calibration with  $\lambda = 400\text{nm}$ , then read absorbance (make sure knob is pulled to the location slot of the cuvette).

3. Find the optimum wavelength when maximum absorbance is observed by varying  $\lambda = 400\text{nm} - 450\text{nm}$ , always increase knob in same direction and do not go backward until this Procedure Part C is completed. Do not re-calibrate the meter when changing wavelengths.

Important note: the spectrometers in the chemistry building are operating near the low ends of the Gaussians distribution curve of a vs  $\lambda$ , so higher than 400nm will produce erroneous absorbance data that can go up and down but higher than that at 400nm. Therefore,  $\lambda_{\text{opt}} = 400\text{nm}$  and the remaining absorbance data can be ignored. Many factors can effect this erratic behavior such as: meter light sensitivity near the bottom of the Gaussians curve, accuracy of wavelength dial mechanism, accuracy of dial reading, cuvette condition such as rinsing, cleaning, bubbles, touching, solution reproduction etc.

**Additional notes:**

a. Make sure to use same cuvette and same slot inside spectrometer compartment

b. Before measuring, rinse cuvette with distilled water 2-3 times and then followed with Sample 6# again 2-3 times.

c. Only handle cuvette by the opaque 2 sides and wipe dry carefully with proper tissue before inserting into its slot inside the spectrometer rack.

**Procedure Part A:** each student prepare 2 samples, group leader 1 sample

**Procedure Part B:** each student verify calibration

**Procedures Part C, D, E:** each student measure and record the remaining rows data (A1-A13 (or A1-A12 & A14))

1. Wash & rinse all glassware.

2. Rinse each pipet & drive out all excess water then wipe dry the outside.

4 pipets available color coded: 1-mL (yellow tag for AV), 2-mL (black tag for 2M  $\text{HNO}_3$ ), 5-mL (red tag) for 0.001M  $\text{Na}_3\text{PO}_4$ , 5-mL (red tag) for unknown ?M  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ . Keep pipets on the rack each at its original location.

3. Rinse pipet with stock solution (2-3 times). Minimize waste of reagents.

4. Using the pipet 1 mL AV stock solution into each of the 7 volumetric flasks.

5. Repeat step 4 by using 2mL 2M  $\text{HNO}_3$ .

6. Repeat step 4 by pipet x mL 0.001M  $\text{Na}_3\text{PO}_4$  standard solution. See (x) values above. For the unknown molarity sample of  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  dilute 5 mL in a 50.00-mL volumetric using either unknown samples A or B but not both

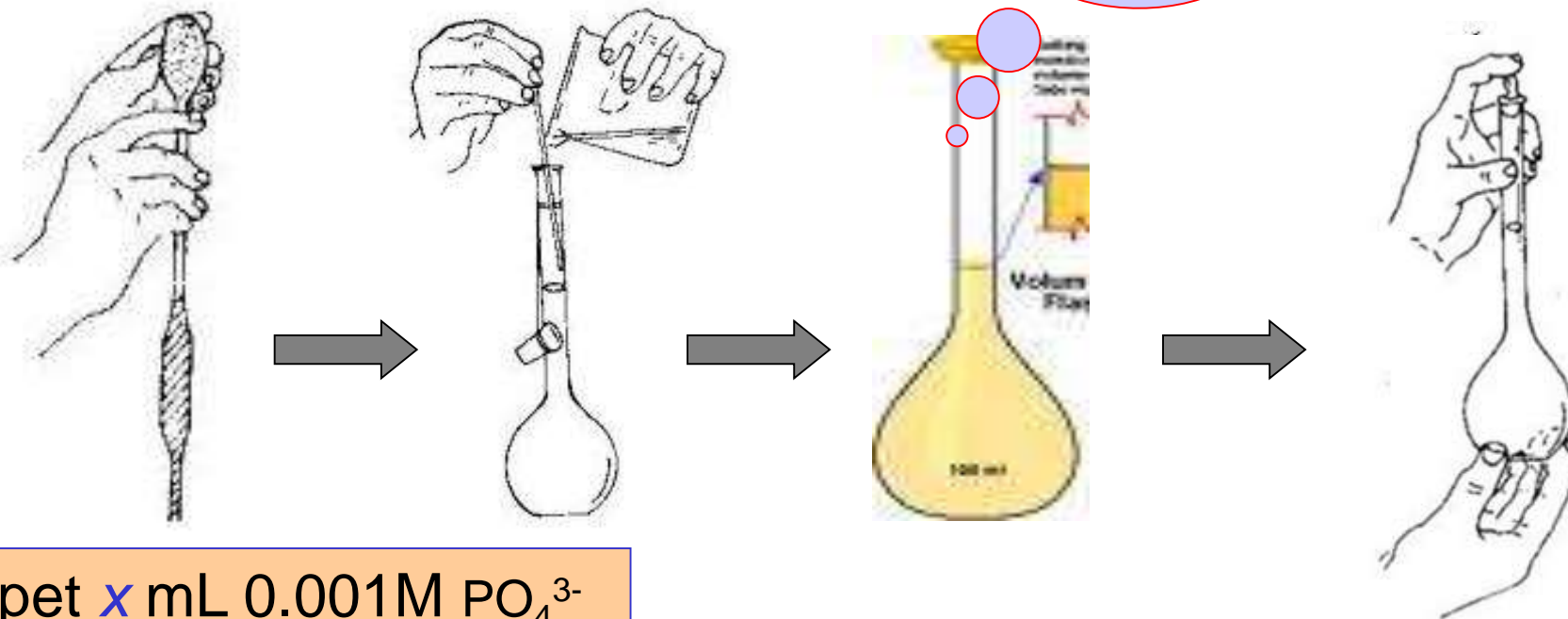
7. Dilute to 50.00mL mark

8. Measure absorbance of each sample at the optimum  $\lambda$ , make sure you rinse cuvette with each corresponding sample 2-3 time

AV = ammonium vanadomolybdate

# Scheme 1

Attention!  
Add drop-wise  
with a pipet!



Pipet  $x$  mL  $0.001\text{M PO}_4^{3-}$  solution,  $2.00$  mL  $2\text{M HNO}_3$  and  $1.00$  mL AV solution

Dilute the solution to  $50.00\text{mL}$

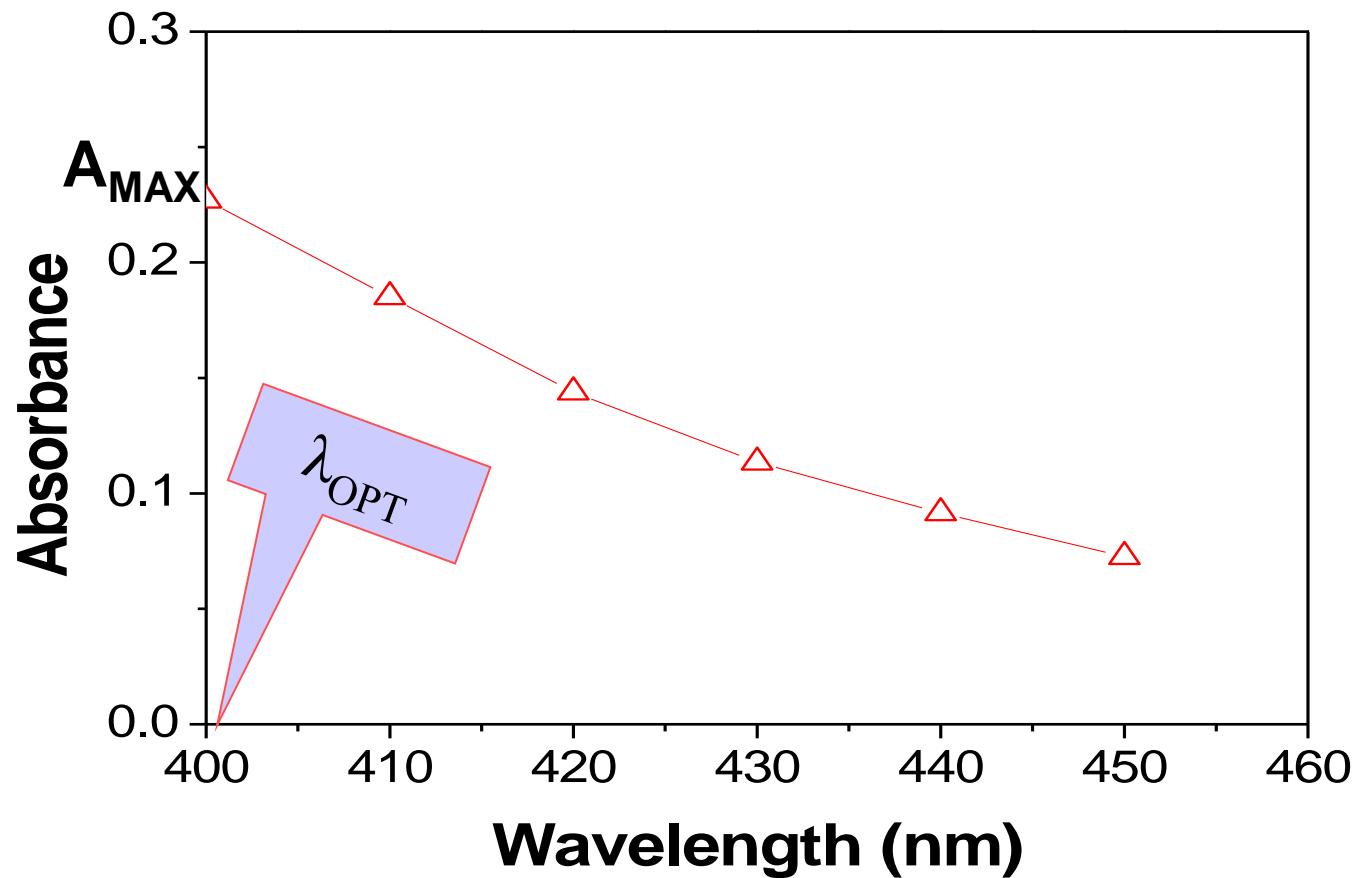
Invert  $>20$  times

# PROCEDURE-- Part A.2

- ***Preparation of Standard Solutions***
  1. Pipet 0.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00 mL  $1.00 \times 10^{-3}$  M phosphate stock solution into 1# - 6# 50-mL volumetric flasks, respectively.
  2. Pipet 2.00 mL 2M  $\text{HNO}_3$  solution into each 1# - 6# 50-mL volumetric flask.
  3. Pipet 1.00 mL of the ammonium vanadomolybdate stock solution into each 1# - 6# 50-mL volumetric flask.
  4. Dilute the solution by filling the volumetric flask until the meniscus reach the mark.



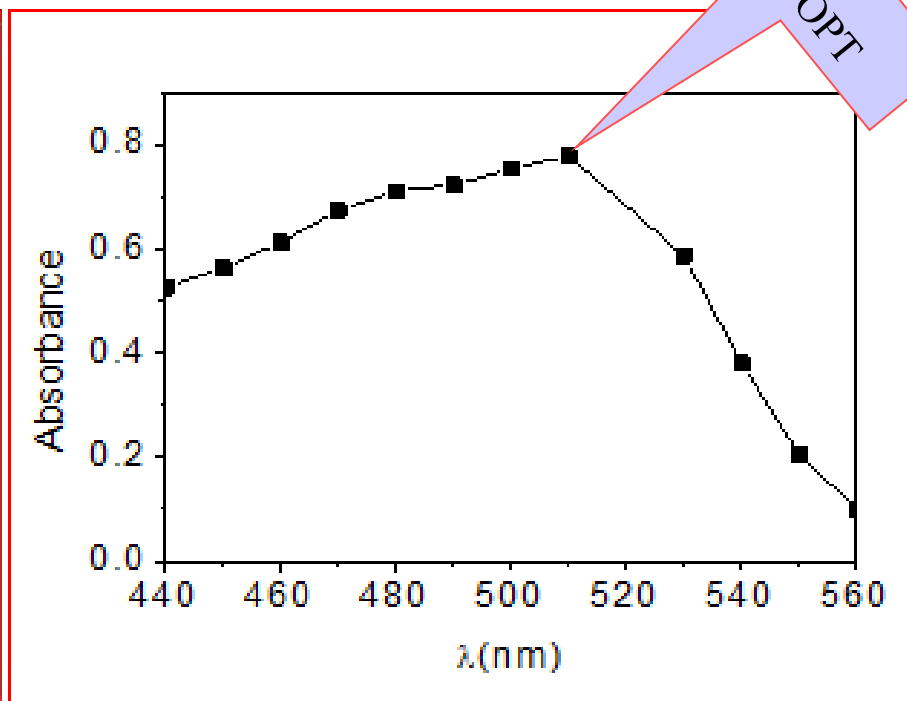
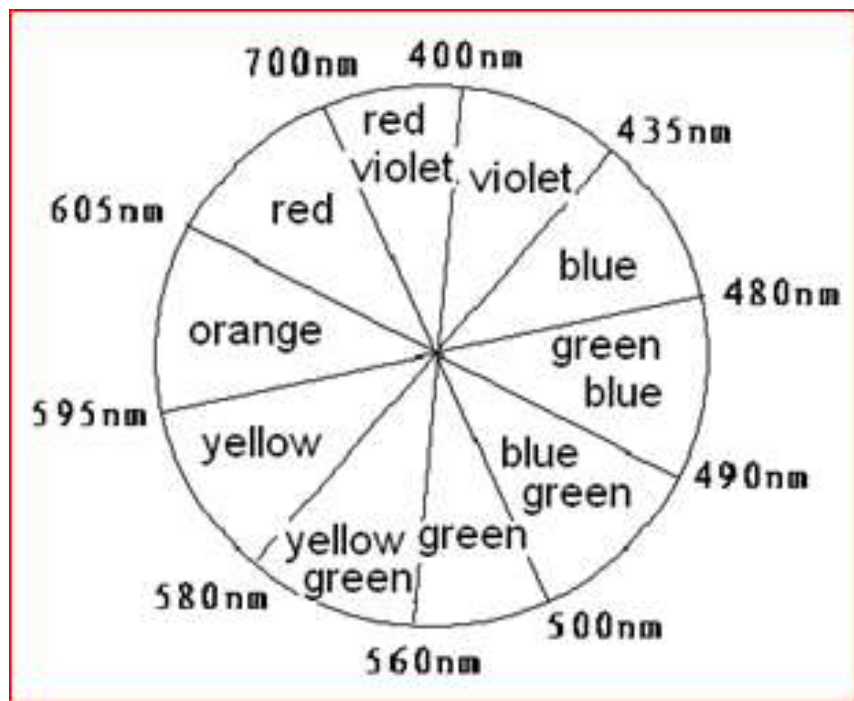
The Absorbance Spectrum: **Must generate at least 6 data points & find wavelength  $\lambda_{\text{OPT}}$  at maximum absorbance  $A_{\text{MAX}}$**



# THE ABSORBANCE SPECTRUM

VISIBLE COLOR SPECTRUM  
WITH LIGHT WAVELENGTH

ION ABSORBANCE CURVE: FIND  
OPTIMUM WAVELENGTH



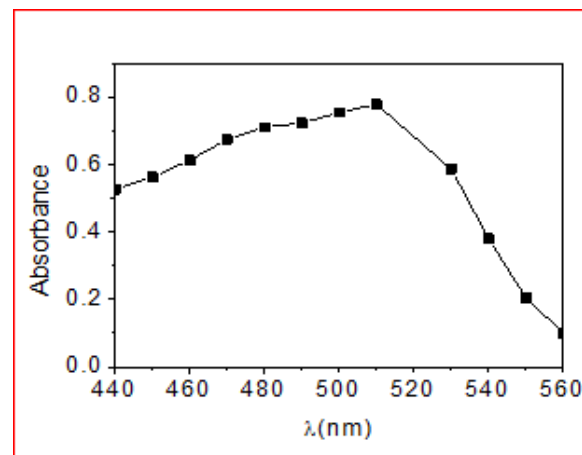
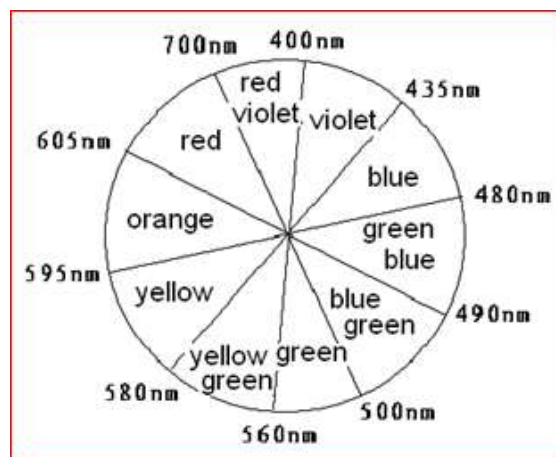
According the complimentary color theory, the color of absorbed light at 520 nm belongs to the GREEN region (which is absorbed), so the color of  $M^{+n}$  solution is RED VIOLET ( which is reflected into our eyes & see).

# THE ABSORBANCE SPECTRUM

1. Explain % T & A:  $A = -\log (\%T/100\%)$
2. Graph A & % T, inverted
3. Absorbed vs Observed colors.

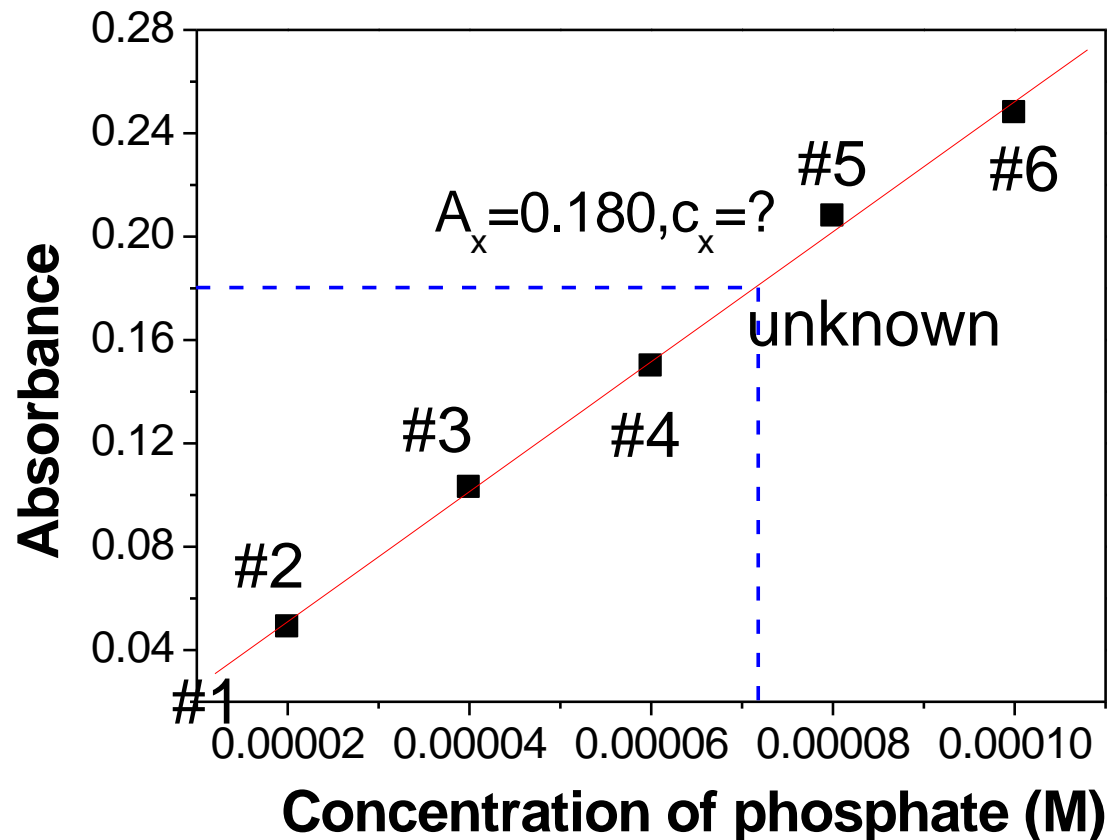
## VISIBLE COLOR SPECTRUM ION ABSORBANCE CURVE: WITH LIGHT WAVELENGTH FIND MAX. WAVELENGTH

Absorbance vs. wavelength is same as inverted plot for %T vs. wavelength



According the complimentary color theory, the color of absorbed light at 520 nm belongs to the GREEN region (which is absorbed), so the color of  $M^{+n}$  solution is RED VIOLET ( which is reflected into our eyes & see).

# The Calibration Curve



# PROCEDURE-- Part B.

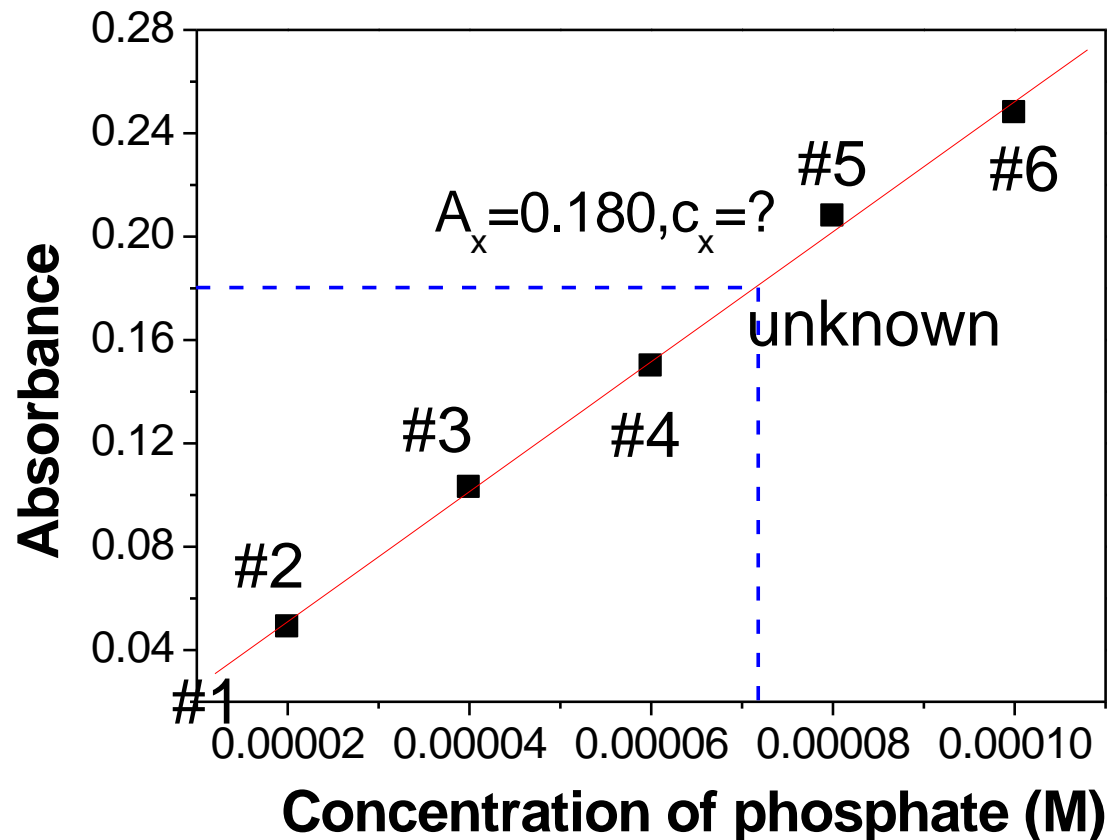
- ***Adjusting the Spectrophotometer***

1. Turn on the spectrometer to warm-up (15min).
2. Adjust the wavelength to 400nm. Use a blackblock to adjust  $T = 0\%$ .
3. Wash and rinse the cuvettes. Insert a cuvette filled with  $\frac{3}{4}$  blank solution(1#) to set  $T=100\%$ .

# PROCEDURE-- Part D.

- ***Making the Calibration Curve Using the standard Solutions***
  1. Rinse the same cuvette,  $\frac{3}{4}$  fill the rinsed cuvette with the 2<sup>#</sup> solution.
  2. Insert the cuvette into the spectrometer. Measure and record A at  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ .
  3. Repeat above step for 3<sup>#</sup> -5<sup>#</sup> solutions .
- (All data points for a given curve must be measured with the same cuvette)

# The Calibration Curve



# PROCEDURE-- Part E.

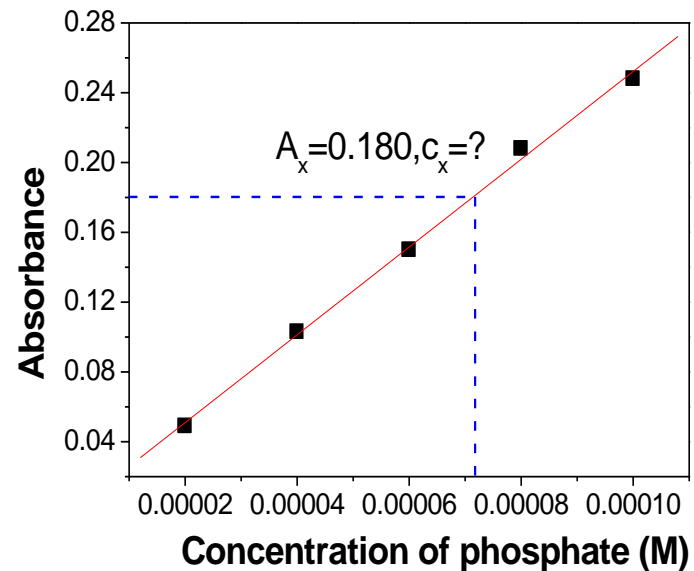
- ***Determination of Unknown Concentration***

1. Pipet 5.00 mL of the unknown, 2.00 mL  $\text{HNO}_3$  and 1.00 mL of the ammonium vanadomolybdate solution into 7 # 50-mL volumetric flask.
2. Dilute the solution by filling the volumetric flask until the meniscus reach the mark.
3.  $\frac{3}{4}$  fill the rinsed cuvette with the unknown solution. Use the spectrometer to measure A.
4. Determination of unknown concentration by using the calibration curve.



# Data?

- Make the curves using a computer
- Use software, such as excel or origin



# How to Use a Spectrophotometer

- Spectrophotometers are used to determine absorbency at certain wavelength of a solution. This can then be used to determine the concentration of a solution or determine what an unknown substance is.
- A digital spectrometer measures the amount of visible light absorbed by a colored solution. This can be read as Absorbance or % Transmittance.



# Setting Up the Spectrometer

- **First, check that the instrument is turned on. You will hear the fan and see light coming out of the right side of the instrument.**
- **Next press the “MODE” button to select % Transmittance mode. The current mode appears on the display.**



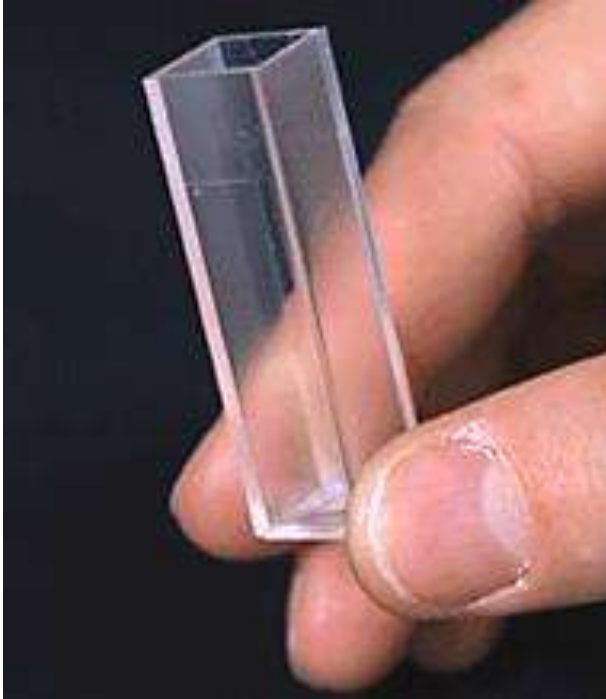
# How to Use a Spectrophotometer

- Set the wavelength to the desired value using the knob on the top.
- Open the cover, press 0% T to set the absorbance of the background to 0%T.
- Fill a cuvette (3/4 full) with your blank solvent and dry the outside of the cuvette carefully (make sure cuvette is first pre-rinsed 3 times with few mL of blank solvent).
- Insert your blank cuvette in the first compartment and close the cover.
- Press 100% T to set the Transmittance of the blank to 100%T.

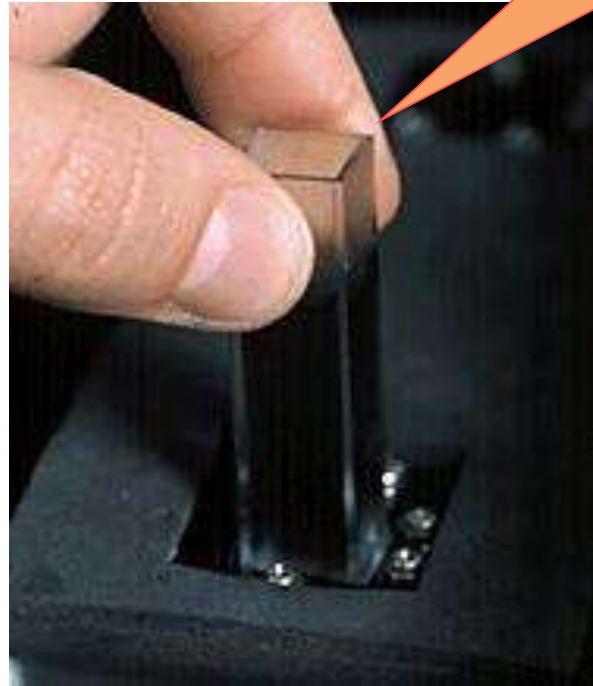
# How to Use a Spectrophotometer

- **Insert a dry sample cuvet in the second compartment and close the cover, pull the draw bar at the first step. Press the “MODE” button to select Absorbance mode. The absorbance value of the sample will now be shown on the LCD.**

# cuvette



Rinse 3 times and  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  fill with the  
solution



ground glass

Dry the outside of the cuvette  
with a tissue and insert it into  
the spectrometer