

# Prism Spectrometer

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02 March 2024

## Abstract

In this experiment, we utilize a prism spectrometer—an optical device that separates light into its constituent frequencies—to measure the refractive index of a prism. A collimator with a slit is used to produce a parallel beam of light emitted by a mercury lamp, which is then passed through the prism. The light is then refracted and dispersed into its constituent frequencies. The angle of deviation of the light is measured and used to calculate the refractive index of the prism using a special relation. A graph of the index of refraction versus wavelength is also plotted. The results are compared to the theoretical values and the limitations of the experiment are discussed.

The abstract is a short summary of the report. It concisely describes the experiment and the results. A reader should be able to understand the main questions that are being investigated, the methods used to answer the questions, and results of the investigation from the abstract. Ideally, it should be between 100-200 words.

## 1 Introduction

In the introduction you should give a brief overview of the experiment. You should start with a brief description of the theoretical background behind the experiment. You should also mention the methods used in the experiment. You are expected to cite your sources[1] midtext.<sup>1</sup>

You can insert an inline equation using the \$ sign. As in  $E = mc^2$ . To display an equation in the middle of the page use the following:

$$\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln |x| + C \tag{1}$$

## 2 Data & Results

In this section, you are to present the data you obtain from the experiment, which is mostly going to be presented in the form of a table as in Table 1 or in the form of a graph as in Figure 1. The manuals for the experiments have instructions on

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<sup>1</sup>More information on how to do this can be found in the references section.

Something	Something	Something	Something
1234	1234	1234	1234

Table 1: This is a caption for the table.

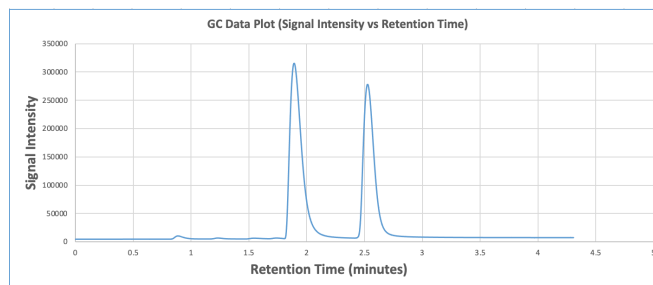


Figure 1: This is a caption for the figure.

how to present the data, and in the case of any ambiguity you TA will provide you with the necessary information. You should also include any calculations you do in this section. A brief discussion of the results should also be included.

### 3 Discussion & Conclusion

In this section, you are expected to discuss the limitations of the experiment and how these limitations may have affected the results. Meaning, you are to discuss the possible errors, the approximations you made in obtaining physical data, and the discrepancies you see between the results you obtain and the theoretical values or the values reported in the literature. You should also discuss the possible improvements that can be made to the experiment.

### References

- [1] Sergey Bravyi et al. In: 125.26 (Dec. 2020). DOI: 10.1103/physrevlett.125.260505. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1103/physrevlett.125.260505>.