

Evaluating Large Language Models in Olympic-Level Physics Problems: A Benchmark Dataset

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Abstract

Large Language Models (LLMs) and Large Multimodal Models (LMMs) have demonstrated notable capabilities across a wide range of tasks and domains, showcasing advanced problem-solving skills that encompass everything from natural language understanding and generation to complex decision-making processes. However, the extent of their proficiency in tackling mathematical physics problems remains relatively underexplored. In this paper, we propose PhOPile, a high-quality, multimodal, physics-specific, and Olympic-level physics dataset. We detail the meticulous process of data collection, cleaning, and structuring to ensure the dataset’s integrity and utility. Furthermore, we conduct a high-granularity evaluation of the performance of currently popular LLMs and LMMs on our dataset and provide a benchmark of their physics problem-solving capability and enrich assessment options for models’ competencies in natural subjects. We also introduce an evaluation method that enables a more detailed measurement of the model’s reasoning capabilities. Our research represents the first attempt to reveal the potential and current limitations in interpreting and solving complex physics challenges, setting a foundational baseline for subsequent advancements in this field.

1 Introduction

Large language models (LLMs) and large multimodal models (LMMs) such as GPT-3 (Brown et al., 2020), GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2023), and Gemini (Deepmind, 2023) have shown exceptional performance in tasks beyond Natural Language Processing (NLP). Not surprisingly, there is an increasing research interest in exploring scientific domains, especially in mathematics. Significant progress has been shown such as MathPrompter (Imani et al., 2023) using prompt template, FunSearch (Romera-Paredes et al., 2024) utilizing self-iteration, Improving LLM Fine-Tuning method



Figure 1: Source of PhOPile

(Liu et al., 2023), DeepSeekMath (Shao et al., 2024) leveraging improved reinforcement learning, Llemma (Azerbayev et al., 2023) and Goat (Liu and Low, 2023). Typically, these models need training to specifically address mathematical problems, which often necessitates a substantial quantity of high-quality datasets or corpus like MiniF2F (Zheng et al., 2021), MATH (Hendrycks et al., 2021), GSM8K (Cobbe et al., 2021), MLFMF (Bauer et al., 2023), Mathpile (Wang et al., 2023b) and Proof-Pile-2 (Azerbayev et al., 2023).

However, research focusing on LLMs and LMMs of physics reasoning remains notably sparse. There is no physics specified model at present. Related studies mainly focus on natural science datasets and corpora used for LLMs and LMMs training, including a portion of low-difficulty physics data such as SciQ (Johannes Welbl, 2017), ScienceQA (Lu et al., 2022) and TheoremQA (Chen et al., 2023). Nevertheless, physics, as an exceedingly important discipline within the natural sciences, plays a pivotal role in various fields such as construction, aerospace, and electronic engineering. It is still insufficient to evaluate the physical inferencing abilities of LLMs with the

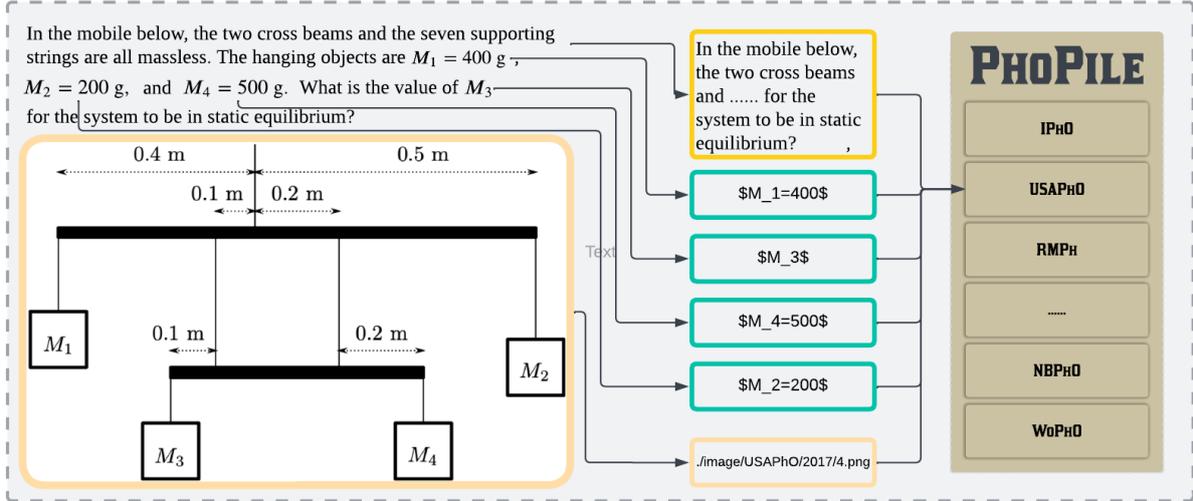


Figure 2: PhOPile collection and processing process. We collect it from physics competitions around the world. It has gone through a series of preprocessing, including: regular character collection, mathematical formula conversion, image extraction, question number modification, etc. Detailed steps are clearly stated in Section 3.

current datasets while they are relatively small, not difficult enough, and not covering a complete range of physical knowledge.

By recognizing the lack, in this paper, we introduce PhOPile, a multimodal dataset featuring Olympiad-difficulty-level physics problems. Specifically designed for fine-tuning and evaluating LLMs' and LMM's capabilities in solving advanced physics problems, PhOPile marks a pioneering step in bridging the gap between artificial intelligence and high-level physics problem-solving. In contrast to the rigorous logic demanded in mathematical problem-solving datasets, physics problems call for a distinct form of reasoning that often involves the integration of a broad spectrum of conceptual understanding (Hung and Jonassen, 2006) along with mathematical analysis. Acknowledging this difference, we utilize PhOPile, which comprises physics competition problems, to assess the efficacy of LLMs and LMMs. Our goal is to share our findings with the community, thereby fostering further advancements in this field by fellow scholars.

In summary, our contributions are summarized as follows:

- We introduce a carefully processed, extremely high-quality, and first of the kind physics problems dataset of physics problems with solution steps and their relevant images.
- We provide a new metric of physics problems for evaluating LLMs.

- We evaluate this dataset among the current mainstream LLMs and LMMs and propose a benchmark, which not only clarifies their abilities in physics but also identifies opportunities for enhancement.
- We discuss the potential future developments of LLMs in the field of natural sciences and their implications for related domains.

2 Data Collection

We collect of Physics Olympiad questions from various regions around the globe as shown in Fig. 1, including: International Physics Olympiad (IPhO, 1967-2023), Asian Physics Olympiad (APhO, 2000-2021), European Physics Olympiad (EuPhO, 2017-2021), Nordic-Baltic Physics Olympiad (NBPhO, 2003-2021), Romanian Master of Physics (RMPhO, 2012-2021), United States Physics Olympiad (AAPT, 2007-2019), and British Physics Olympiad (BPhO, 2001-2022).

Physics problems often involve mathematical formulas, we use LaTeX to formulate the solutions with all the detailed information in plain text. A representative sample question (from USAPhO 2017) from our dataset is shown in Fig. 2. To enhance our work efficiency and ensure the uniformity and appropriateness of our dataset in LaTeX format, we utilize MathPix, an OCR recognition software, to convert the content of images into LaTeX code. For finalized dataset samples stored in JSON format, please refer to the Appendix A.1. The following

section will introduce the steps we took in data processing.

3 Data Processing

A physics question problem has multiple parts: text, numbers, and images. Fig. 2 illustrates how we process the each part of a physics question. The following section will introduce detailed steps we take in data processing.

Sub-questions Unlike the most mathematical datasets, a considerable number of physics competition questions consist of multiple sub-questions that are interconnected. We collect and specify these questions by using Arabic number as their index. An completed example is shown in Fig. A.1.

Hint Information & Solution Format Requirements Physics competition problems sometimes provide additional information, which, in the sources we compile, are referred to as: ‘Hint’, ‘Data’, or ‘For information only’. Such information usually contains the premises necessary to solve the problem. Therefore, depending the position appears, we place this type of information after the corresponding question text to ensure a more targeted and effective use, enhancing the specificity and relevance of the information provided in relation to that specific part of the problem.

For questions that specify formatting requirements for the candidate responses, for example, ‘please round to two decimal places’, the positioning of such instructional text is aligned with the previously mentioned approach for hint information.

Images in the Question A significant portion of the questions and answers in our dataset include one or more images. For such questions, we have stored the related images in a folder and introduced ‘imgQ’ and ‘imgA’ in our dataset, which stores the local URLs for the images associated with the questions and the solutions, respectively.

At the same time, in order to record the position where the image appears in the question text, we replaced words like ‘figure’ with a mark: ‘###img_N###’, where ‘N’ denotes the order of the image. An example can be observed in Fig. 7b. The ‘###img_1###’ in ‘Question’ and ‘Solution’ stands for the image of ‘./pic/question/34.png’ and ‘./pic/answer/65.png’ respectively in repository.

Regarding the captions of these images, we observe two primary types. The first type consists merely of image labels, such as ‘Fig. 05’ or ‘figure 1’. For these cases, we choose to omit the captions from our dataset, as they provide minimal informational value. The second type of captions such as ‘Figure 1: Isosceles glass prism with an apex angle of 90° ’, containing crucial content of the problem are added in question text. Similar method has been proven to improve the accuracy of language model outputs by MathVista (Lu et al., 2024), as they input with both the captions of images and text from enhanced Optical Character Recognition (OCR).

Data cleaning and filtering We delete extraneous elements from the questions, including historical background introductions, scoring criteria, and regulations or policies related to competitions. We filtered out certain LaTeX commands solely involved in adjusting the format, as they contribute nothing to the essence of the question. This serves the dual purpose of noise reduction and data compactness. Additionally, this approach aims to meet the text length requirements specified for the window length of LLMs.

Multiple Solutions For certain questions, the source files provide multiple solutions. They often appear as ‘Solution 2’, ‘Another way to solve this problem’. To adhere to the specificity of training and ensure the constraints of text length within the window parameters, we establish a new key called ‘solution2’ or ‘solution3’ (if there are more alternative solutions) to store them.

4 Data Analysis

Summary We collect 4,496 high-quality, and Olympic-level physics competition questions from 1967 to 2021 in various fields. The specific amount of each source is shown in Fig. 3 and more detailed token statistics from different sources are shown in Table 1.

At the present stage, the advancement in research pertaining to LMMs addressing problems involving images remains suboptimal. Notably, some images can be considered meaningless, as shown in Fig. 5 (b), images for this type of topic do not contain any useful information, whereas images Fig. 5 (a) contain necessary information for solving the question. Therefore, questions containing images like Fig. 5 (b) can be regarded as a complete question

Source	# Questions	# Tokens	Max (#Tokens)	Min (#Tokens)	Ave (#Tokens)	Years
APhO	589	279,802	3,208	18	475	2000-2021
EuPhO	23	20,738	3,951	20	902	2017-2021
IPhO	947	446,170	4,487	21	471	1967-2021
NBPhO	429	137,406	1,638	17	320	2003-2021
RMPH	195	81,364	1,861	49	420	2012-2021
USAPhO	723	136,179	2,030	11	188	2007-2019
WohO	146	66,038	1,737	19	452	2011-2013
Total	4496	1,275,406	-	-	-	-

Table 1: The token statistics of each components of PhoPile.

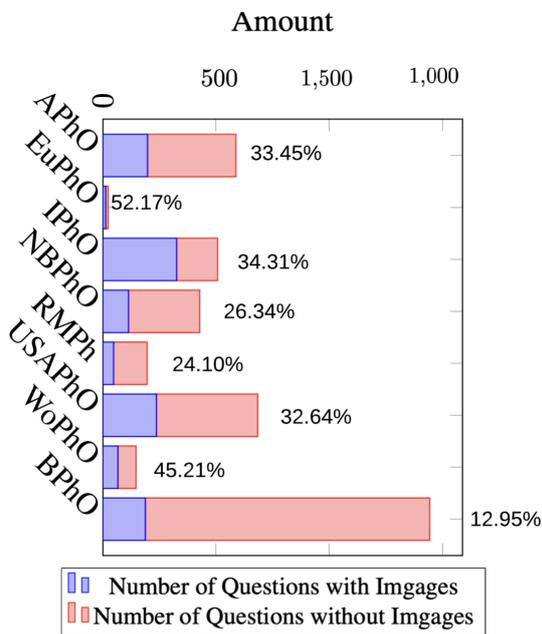


Figure 3: Comparison of Number of Questions from Different Sources with and without Images. The percentage represents the proportion of questions with images.

even without images. Models can still obtain all information about the question without images in the prompt.

The Token Count Distribution of Answers and Solutions The token count statistics are illustrated in Fig. 4. Due to the excessive length of certain individual questions (for example, some questions spend huge spaces to explain a complex and comprehensive physical environment/premises or some solutions are subjective, and they often use a lot of tokens to explain a physical phenomenon clearly). We can see that the number of tokens in most questions and solutions is within 500. For the current popular LLMs and LMMs, the window for text

length allows for a complete round of training without the need to prune the prompt.

Ambiguous Statistical Values Explanation

The lowest number of token is 1, typically representing sub-questions that serve as a completion of their preceding counterparts. For example, the question ‘Please determine the average speed of the period (i) T and (ii) 2T.’ has two sub-questions: The one is ‘Please determine the average speed of the period T’ with the token count is 9 and the other one is ‘2T.’ with the token count is 1. The lowest number of solution tokens could be 0, because some questions require candidates to sketch a graph, so there is no literal solutions.

Images in Solutions In our dataset, a great part of solutions incorporate images. Some of these images are curve graphs, designed to illustrate the relationship between two variables as specified by the question, while others are structural diagrams for force analysis, among other types. However, current LMMs are incapable of generating images in accordance to the specific requirements posed by the questions. Nevertheless, we have included these instances in PhoPile, aiming to facilitate future research contributions by scholars.

4.1 Data Contamination

We conducted data contamination detection on PhoPile. Due to the limited current research on physical sciences by both LLMs and LMMs, we were unable to find a perfectly corresponding benchmark dataset. However, we discovered some natural science datasets that include physics problems: SciQ (Johannes Welbl, 2017), ScienceQA (Lu et al., 2022) and TheoremQA (Chen et al., 2023). We performed n-grams data contamination

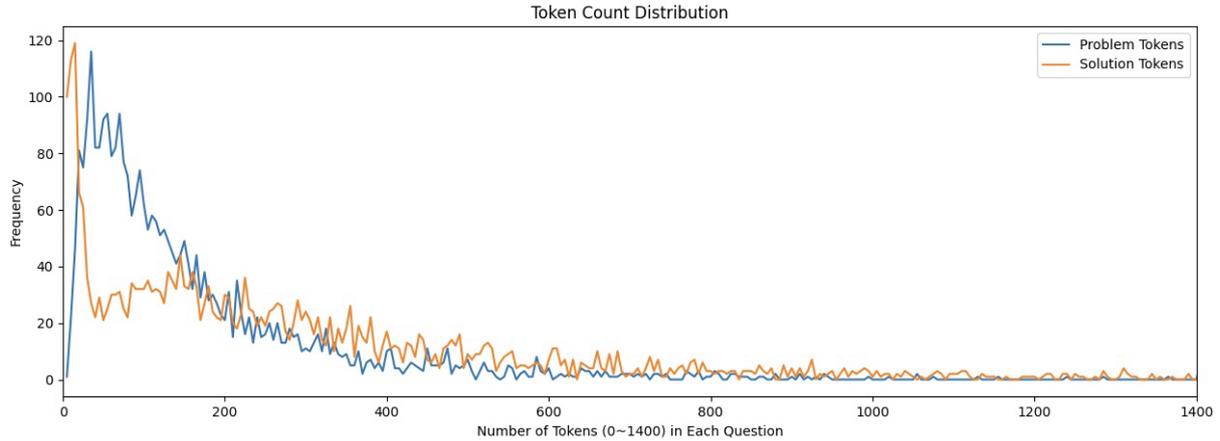


Figure 4: Token Count Distributions in Problems and Solutions: The image displays the token distribution statistics of PhoPile, while blue line and yellow line stand for the token distribution statistics of the problem text and solution text respectively. Please note that this picture only shows the distribution of tokens between 0 and 1400, since few questions with exceptionally long tokens (over 4000) were excluded from the statistical image to avoid compression that would render the image unclear

278 monitoring on them, setting n to 3. The results were
 279 as follows: SciQ: 4.2977%, ScienceQA: 0.7759%,
 280 and TheoremQA: 10.0088%. Above results, even
 281 when setting n as low as 3, indicate remarkably low
 282 contamination rates. These figures suggest that the
 283 quality of our dataset is exceptionally high, which
 284 is positive for our research integrity and the validity
 285 of the data we utilize. However, it’s important to
 286 acknowledge the limitations in guaranteeing the
 287 absence of contamination in our dataset in relation
 288 to the training sets of closed-source models. Since
 289 the datasets used for training these models are not
 290 publicly available, we cannot definitively ensure
 291 that our data is free from overlap with these their
 292 training data.

293 5 Experiments

294 In this section, we use the test set and perform
 295 evaluations on it using LLMs and LMMs.

296 5.1 Test Dataset

297 Due to the window context length limit of Llama2
 298 (Touvron et al., 2023) is 4096 and the average so-
 299 lution token length in PhoPile being around 400,
 300 we initially filtered out questions whose total num-
 301 ber of tokens exceeded 3500 in our test set. By
 302 doing so, we can ensure that the prompts input
 303 into the model are within the window text length
 304 range of the model. Then, we extracted two sets
 305 of questions for testing, employing random selec-
 306 tion to ensure equal distribution across sources and

by year. Finally, we constructed *Test-PhoPile* and
 307 *Test-PhoPile-V*, consisting of 50 main questions
 308 with 82 sub-questions in pure text, and 20 main
 309 questions with 73 sub-questions including image
 310 queries, respectively. 311

312 5.2 Evaluation

313 To enable models to provide highly targeted re-
 314 sponds to each sub-question of problems contain-
 315 ing multiple sub-questions, we do not simply con-
 316 catenate the text of all sub-questions and input them
 317 into models. Instead, our prompts strategy is: We
 318 input the sub-question texts in the order and obtain
 319 the corresponding response text. So the message
 320 history is a sub-question text sent by the user, and
 321 then a respond from the assistant arranged in se-
 322 quence. An prompt example of the format of input
 323 for a text-based question is demonstrated in Fig.
 324 19.

325 Physics questions like the International
 326 Olympiad often require candidates to answer
 327 questions with long logical chains of reasoning.
 328 Hence, the scoring criteria should not solely assess
 329 the provision of the final answer. Whether solving
 330 it partially correctly or entirely incorrectly from
 331 the outset, neither leads to the correct final answer.
 332 However, we posit that the LLMs that achieves
 333 partial correctness demonstrates a superior ability
 334 in handling physics questions. Consequently, we
 335 have opted for a step-by-step scoring strategy.

336 In the original examination marking scheme,
 337 each question was assigned varying points, a sys-

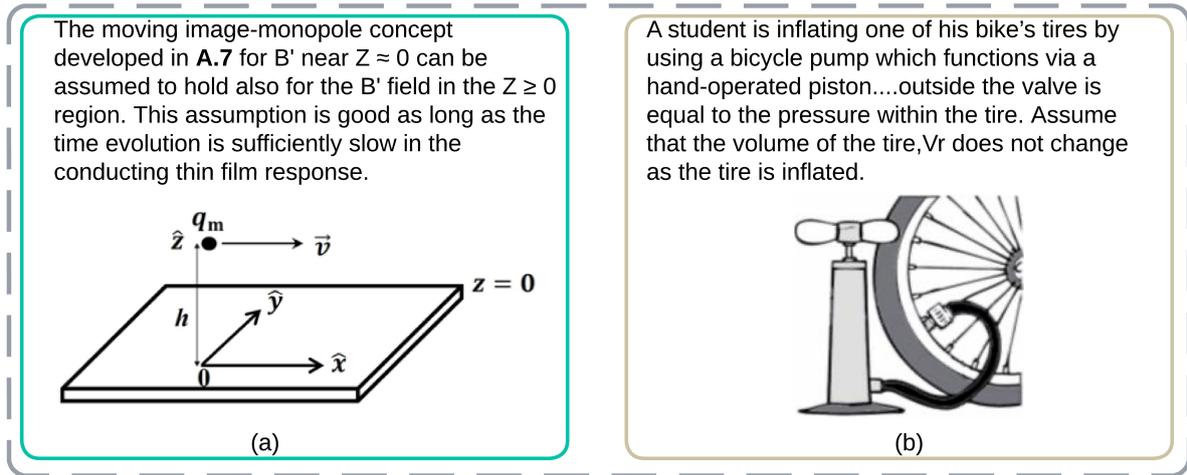


Figure 5: Examples of Questions with Meaningless and Meaningful Images in PhoPile: Part (a) is the question with its image providing necessary condition. Image of question demonstrated in Part (b) does not show any useful information in problem solving.

Model	Input	FCR (%)	FIR (%)	PCR (%)	APC (%)	ALL (%)
Llama2-13B	<i>T</i>	1.20	71.08	27.71	28.70	9.16
ChatGPT-3.5	<i>T</i>	14.63	15.85	69.51	40.18	42.56
Gemini-Pro	<i>T</i>	15.85	18.29	65.85	41.48	43.17
ChatGPT-4	<i>T</i>	35.37	3.66	60.98	59.00	71.34
Zero-Shot Chain of Thought						
CoT Llama2-13B	<i>T</i>	1.22	71.95	26.83	29.55	9.15
CoT ChatGPT-3.5	<i>T</i>	12.20	13.41	74.39	12.50	45.49
CoT Gemini-Pro	<i>T</i>	9.76	17.07	73.17	35.67	35.85
CoT ChatGPT-4	<i>T</i>	40.24	6.10	53.66	56.36	70.49
Large Multimodal Models (on <i>Test-PhoPile-V</i>)						
Gemini-Pro-Vision	<i>T, I</i>	4.11	23.29	72.60	35.28	29.73
ChatGPT-4-Vision	<i>T, I</i>	17.81	6.85	75.34	48.55	54.38

Table 2: The evaluation results of currently popular large language models under different input methods on PhoPile. Input: *Text*: Question text only. *Text, Image*: Question text and images. To further increase consistency, the score for each question is the mode of the scores among 10 times.

tem that proved challenging and inconsistent for grading purposes. Consequently, we adopted a new approach, each initial order question is uniformly valued at ten points. A full score is awarded when candidate LLM generates the correct answer. In cases where the LLM's response is incomplete or partially correct, the score is assigned based on the extent of correctness (the furthest correct element in the reasoning process) provided by the LLM. This modification aims to standardize scoring while accommodating the varying completion levels of solutions generated by the LLM. We leverage ChatGPT-4 to grade every question by letting it compare the standard solution and the solution output by candidate LLM. Then, we compute the

arithmetic mean of the scores obtained for all questions answered by candidate LLMs and LMMs. For examples of prompting ChatGPT-4 to mark a solution, please refer to the Appendix 20.

5.3 Validation of GPT-4 Scoring Accuracy

We develop a new marking method which can improve the accuracy of evaluation for reasoning chain solutions without human intervention by inputting the standard solution and the solution generated by model. To ensure consistency, we conducted a series of experiments before using GPT-4 to score LLMs' and LMMs' results. These experiments include, but are not limited to, combinations of the following situations:

- 367 • Provide a generated fully correct solution. 414
368 (GPT-4 gives 10) 415
- 369 • Provide half of the generated fully correct so- 416
370 lution. (GPT-4 gives 1 to 9) 417
- 371 • Provide a completely wrong solution that need 418
372 to be scored. (GPT-4 gives 0)
- 373 • Slightly change the final answer but the error 419
374 is within the reasonable range required by the 420
375 question. (GPT-4 gives 10) 421
- 376 • Provide answers in normal format, Latex for- 422
377 mat, and answers without units but the num- 423
378 bers are the same. (GPT-4 gives 10) 424
- 379 • Provide a generated fully correct solution with 425
380 changing the final answer to a totally wrong 426
381 one. (GPT-4 gives 9) 427
- 382 • Provide a fully incorrect solution but with the 428
383 correct final answer. (GPT-4 gives 0) 429

384 All of the above are situations where GPT-4 can 430
385 correctly respond to a candidate’s answers. How- 431
386 ever, for some answers, GPT-4 may also give scores 432
387 that do not meet the scoring criteria. 433

- 388 • Slightly modify the numerical value of the 434
389 final answer, but do not enter a reasonable 435
390 range. For example, the assessed answer is 436
391 3.8, whereas the standard answer is 4. (GPT-4 437
392 gives 9; Should 0) 438
- 393 • Cut a generated fully correct solution to a half 439
394 and add the correct final answer. (GPT-4 gives 440
395 10; Should 1 to 9) 441
- 396 • Randomly delete some scoring points from a 442
397 generated fully correct, but the final answer is 443
398 correct. (GPT-4 gives 10) 444

399 Detailed sample questions, answers, and 445
400 prompts of this experiment are shown in Appendix 446
401 A.2. 447

402 Above three situations do not align with the 448
403 marking criteria. But the first one can be easily 449
404 avoid via prompt. For the second and the third, 450
405 according to the scoring rules, an answer that is 451
406 missing some scoring points should not receive 452
407 full marks, which is different from the results pro- 453
408 vided by GPT-4. However, such cases are very rare. 454
409 LLMs sometimes do exhibit leaps in logic that re- 455
410 sult in missing scoring points. But what we are 456
411 measuring here is the reasoning capability of these 457
412 models. Even in cases where there are leaps in 458
413 logic, this does not negate their ability to reason, as 459

they are capable of producing the final result. The 414
415 results of these experiments show that our method 416
417 can give correct judgments when facing various 418
419 levels and types of answers to be scored. 420

421 Evaluation metrics: 422

- 423 • Full Correctness Rate (FCR): The percentage 424
425 of the number for completely correct ques- 426
427 tions to the total number of questions. 428
- 429 • Full Incorrectness Rate (FIR): The percent- 430
431 age of the number for completely incorrect 432
433 questions to the total number of questions. 434
- 435 • Partial Correctness Rate (PCR): The percent- 436
437 age of the number for partially correct ques- 438
439 tions to the total number of questions. Please 440
441 note that $FCR+FIR+PCR=100\%$. 442
- 443 • Average score of Partially Correct questions 444
445 (APC): The arithmetic mean of all answers 446
447 that are partially correct. 448
- 449 • ALL: Overall correctness rate, the arithmetic 450
451 mean of all questions scores. 452

453 5.4 Results 454

455 The evaluation results can be seen in Table 2. Over- 456
457 all, ChatGPT-4 consistently achieved the best per- 458
459 formance under all conditions, followed by Gemini 460
461 Pro and ChatGPT-3.5, with the untrained open- 462
463 source model Llama2-13B at last. Specifically, in 464
465 the context of Zero-Shot CoT reasoning, ChatGPT- 465
466 4 exhibited a 5% increase in FCR. However, it is 466
467 noteworthy that empirical observations revealed 467
468 a varying degree of performance degradation for 468
469 Gemini Pro and ChatGPT-4 in the context of Zero- 469
470 Shot CoT reasoning, with Gemini experiencing a 470
471 decline of 7.32 percentage points. 471

472 For LMMs results, the comprehensive perfor- 472
473 mance of ChatGPT-4 surpasses that of Gemini by 473
474 nearly double. However, according to the results 474
475 from MathVista (Lu et al., 2024), in the domain of 475
476 mathematical imagery, the capability of ChatGPT- 476
477 4-V is remarkably similar to Bard (AI, 2023) which 477
478 is the precursor to Gemini. The primary reasons 478
479 for this significant discrepancy are attributed to the 479
480 inherent differences in the disciplines, the nature 480
481 of the problem images, and, secondarily, the differ- 481
482 ences in the evaluation methodologies. An analysis 482
483 of Gemini’s outputs reveals that, often, Gemini 483
484 struggles to comprehend the inputted physical im- 484
485 ages, with examples of Gemini’s outputs available 485
486 in the Appendix A.5. 486

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6 Related Work

Study of LLMs in Natural Science Subjects. In recent years, LLMs have developed very rapidly, providing great convenience for people’s needs in all aspects of life. These models, like GPT-3 (Brown et al., 2020), GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2023) and Gemini (Deepmind, 2023) have already shown great performance in terms of accuracy, interpretability, and multimodality, similarly as general LLMs, they show outstandingly high performance of natural science QA and mathematical reasoning. Meanwhile, a range of excellent open source models, including T5 (Raffel et al., 2020), ChatGPT-2 (Radford et al., 2019) and Llama2 (Touvron et al., 2023), is available for researchers to enhance further, by training them on a specialized dataset to attain superior capabilities compared to generalized models. Consequently, a series of outstanding open source models that are specifically trained and fine-tuned on math have emerged, such as DeepSeek-Math (Shao et al., 2024), Llama (Azerbayev et al., 2023) and Goat (Liu and Low, 2023). Additionally, there are also a few models focusing on formal proof such as LeanDojo (Yang et al., 2023) and LEGO-Prover (Wang et al., 2023a); these are models trained on math-specialized corpus or datasets. However, in the expansive domain of mathematics, the multitude of sub-disciplines presents a significant challenge for models with constrained parameters to adequately address comprehensive mathematical problems. Studies like Boosting LLM Reasoning (Huang et al., 2023a) and LeanDojo (Yang et al., 2023) use a retrieval-augmented approach to improve the accuracy of mathematical problem-solving. It is noteworthy that research at the intersection of linguistics and natural sciences remains relatively scarce. Scholars have placed a greater emphasis on mathematical reasoning.

Natural Science datasets for LLMs. Models which demonstrate excellent performance on mathematical ability are inseparable from high-quality datasets and corpus such as Mathpile (Wang et al., 2023b), proof-pile-2 (Azerbayev et al., 2023), MiniF2F (Zheng et al., 2021), MATH (Hendrycks et al., 2021), GSM8K (Cobbe et al., 2021), MLFMF (Bauer et al., 2023) and the corpus proposed by DeepSeekMath (Shao et al., 2024). The aforementioned datasets consist solely of textual data; however, it is commonly understood that the interpretation of mathematical problems often requires the analysis of images. Conse-

quently, MathVista (Lu et al., 2024) introduced a specialized image-based mathematical dataset and conducted evaluations of models such as GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2023), ChatGPT (OpenAI, 2022), Claude-2 (Anthropic, 2023), and mPLUG-Owl-LLaMA (Ye et al., 2023) from various perspectives: purely textual input, text with captions and image OCR (Augmented-LLMs), and multimodal analysis. However, there is a noticeable paucity of specialized research linking LLMs with the discipline of physics. The relevant work in this area is confined to a minimal subset of physics-related data within certain natural science datasets, such as SciQ Dataset (Johannes Welbl, 2017), ScienceQA (Lu et al., 2022), C-eval (Huang et al., 2023b), E-EVAL (Hou et al., 2024), and TheoremQA (Chen et al., 2023).

7 Conclusion

In this work, we introduce PhOPile, a benchmark constructed to comprehensively test LLMs’ abilities in physics reasoning under both pure text questions and image-based questions. We evaluated four mainstream models, among which ChatGPT-4 showed the best performance. Furthermore, we proposed a new marking method tailored for problems that contain multiple sub-questions and involve reasoning steps. This method allows for a more sophisticated evaluation of language models’ reasoning capabilities, providing deeper insights into their ability to process and solve complex tasks that require step-by-step logical deduction.

8 Limitations

Due to the intrinsic characteristics of physics problems, which often comprise numerous sub-questions and exceptionally lengthy prompts, certain measures must be adopted by language models constrained by a shorter window text length to facilitate comprehensive problem fine-tuning and evaluation. In this work, to ensure the progress and to control variables of the evaluation, only those problems with a total token count of less than 3500 were selected for testing. In addition, we cannot detect data pollution for the closed-source models of OpenAI and Deepmind. Finally, for questions that require drawings in the answer, all existing models cannot provide effective answers.

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A Appendix

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A.1 Question Examples in PhOPile

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To fully record the details of the questions, we create ‘question_number’, ‘sub_question_number’, and ‘sub_sub_question_number’ which stand for question number, first order sub-question number and second order sub-question number in our dataset to facilitate distinction. Furthermore, within the text of the questions, we replace the original question index, which typically consist of Arabic numerals, English letters, Roman numerals, etc, with Arabic number in ‘sub_question_number’ or ‘sub_sub_question_number’. Fig. 7 shows an example of how we process a question with second order questions.

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- a) A steel ball is thrown down with a speed of 3.0 m s^{-1} on to a hard surface from a height of 2.0 m . It retains 70% of its energy on each bounce. Calculate
- (i) the speed at which it hits the ground for the first time, and
 - (ii) the maximum height it reaches after the 4th bounce.
- [2]**

Figure 6: Raw Question in BPhO

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```
Question: A steel ball is thrown down with a speed of  $3.0 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  on to a hard surface from a height of  $2.0 \text{ m}$ . It retains 70% of its energy on each bounce. Calculate the speed at which it hits the ground for the first time
solution: 
$$v^2 = u^2 + 2as = 3^2 + 2 \times 9.81 \times 2 = 6.946 = 7.0 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

question number: 1
sub question number: 1
Question image path: null
Answer image path: null

Question: the maximum height it reaches after the 4th bounce.
Solution: 
$$g \frac{h_1}{2} v^2 \eta = \frac{1}{2} v^2 \eta \times 6.95^2 \times 0.7 \rightarrow h_1 = 1.72 \text{ m} \quad h_n = h_1 \times \eta^{n-1} = 0.59 \text{ m}$$

question_number: 2
Question image path: null
Answer image path: null
```

(a) Demonstration of Question Numbers Processing: We replace sub-question number ‘(i)’ and ‘(ii)’ to Arabic numeral ‘1’ and ‘2’. As there is no image provided in the question, we set ‘null’ in image key.

```
Question: Consider a plane-parallel transparent plate, where the refractive index,  $n$ , varies with distance,  $z$ , from the lower surface (see ). Show that  $n_A \sin \alpha = n_B \sin \beta$ . The notation is that of the figure.
Solution: From the  we get  $n_A \sin \alpha = n_1 \sin \alpha_1 = n_2 \sin \alpha_2 = \dots = n_B \sin \beta$ 
Question image path: ./pic/question/34.png,
Answer image path: ./pic/answer/65.png
```

(b) Demonstration of Image Processing: We replace ‘figure 1’ in text to special marks to record the position of where image appears. At the same time, we input the image path to ‘image’ key.

Figure 7: Examples from the dataset.

A.2 Prompts and Results for Validation of GPT-4 Scoring Accuracy Experiment

Provide complete problem-solving steps that need to be scored and standard answers. (GPT-4 gives 10) [Proof question]

Input 1:

System:
You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:
Standard answer:
If the light falls at the angle of 30° then the film seen from the perpendicular direction cannot be colored. It would appear dark.

Student answer:
The color seen in a soap film is due to constructive and destructive interference patterns of light reflecting off the front and back surfaces of the film. The thinnest possible soap film that still displays a color will be when the film creates the condition for constructive interference for the shortest visible wavelength of light (violet) in the first order of interference (where $m=1$), observed perpendicularly ($\alpha = 0$), meaning $\beta = 0$ and thus $\cos(\beta) = 1$.
Constructive Interference Condition
For constructive interference from a thin film observed perpendicularly ($\alpha=0^\circ$) and hence $\beta=0^\circ$), the condition for the m -th order of maxima is:
$$2d \cos \theta = m\lambda$$
Where: d is the path difference that causes constructive interference. d is the thickness of the film. n is the refractive index of the film. λ is the wavelength of light in the film. m is the order of interference.
For the thinnest possible film displaying color, $m=1$ (first order), and we aim to solve for d (thickness).
Wavelength of Light in the Film
The wavelength of light in the film (λ) is related to the wavelength in the vacuum (λ_0) by:
$$\lambda = \frac{\lambda_0}{n}$$
Since we are interested in visible light and the thinnest film would theoretically reflect violet light (since violet has the shortest wavelength in the visible spectrum, around 400 nm), we would use $\lambda_0 \approx 400 \text{ nm}$.
Solving for the Minimum Thickness d
Set $m=1$ for the first order of maximum (bright fringe) and solve for d for violet light to find the thinnest film:
$$2d = \frac{\lambda_0}{n}$$
Given that $\lambda_0 \approx 400 \text{ nm}$ for violet light and substituting, we get:
$$d = \frac{400 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{2 \times 1.33}$$
Because the refractive index $n = 1.33$ (for the soap film, similar to water), we substitute n into the equation:
$$d \approx \frac{400 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{2 \times 1.33}$$

$$d \approx 150.38 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$d \approx 150 \text{ nm}$$
Conclusion
The thinnest possible soap film that still displays a color when viewed perpendicularly would reflect violet light, characteristic of the first order of constructive interference, with a minimum thickness of approximately 150 nm . This result follows from the constructive interference condition, considering the smallest possible constructive interference for visible light occurs with violet light due to its shortest wavelength in the visible spectrum.

Output 1:
Assistant: 10

Figure 8: Prompt Example of Providing Complete Problem-Solving Steps That Need to Be Scored and Standard Answers. (Proof Question)

Provide complete problem-solving steps that need to be scored and standard answers. (GPT-4 gives 1-9) [Calculation Question]

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

Energy (3) of the question sheet can be interpreted as describing a system of a mass μ in a circular orbit with angular velocity Ω , radius L , around a mass M (at rest). Equating the gravitational acceleration to the centripetal acceleration: $G \frac{M}{L^2} = \Omega^2 L$. This is indeed Kepler's third law (for circular orbits). Then, from (7), $E = -\frac{1}{2} G \frac{M \mu}{L}$. $\beta = -\frac{1}{2}$.

Student answer:

To simplify the total energy expression and arrive at a formula such as $E = \beta G \frac{M \mu}{L}$, we need to incorporate both kinetic and potential energy terms and their relation in a two-body system of circular orbits. From previous considerations, the total energy E of the system combines both kinetic (K) and potential (U) energies: $E = K + U$. From the provided equation and context, the potential energy of two bodies attracting each other gravitationally is: $U = -G \frac{M \mu}{L}$. To find the kinetic energy K in terms of known quantities, we recall that for circular orbits, the gravitational force provides the centripetal force required to keep the bodies in orbit. The gravitational force is: $F_{\text{gravity}} = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{L^2}$. And the centripetal force required for a mass moving in a circular orbit of radius r (where r is a portion of L relevant to each mass) and angular velocity Ω is given by: $F_{\text{centripetal}} = m \Omega^2 r$. For a two-body system described, we use the reduced mass $\mu = \frac{M_1 M_2}{M_1 + M_2}$, which effectively experiences the centripetal acceleration due to the gravitational attraction between the two masses. The kinetic energy, knowing it derives from the dynamics of circular motion where the gravitational force acts as the centripetal force, is given by: $K = \frac{1}{2} \mu v^2 = \frac{1}{2} \mu (\Omega L)^2$. However, to align kinetic and potential energy in terms of μ , G , M , and L , and explicitly realize the angular dynamics within circular motion, $F_{\text{gravity}} = F_{\text{centripetal}}$. $G \frac{M_1 M_2}{L^2} = \mu \Omega^2 L$. Solving for Ω^2 and substituting back gives insight into K 's dependence on these quantities, but given the task, we integrate existing understanding: for circular orbits, the kinetic energy (K) is half the magnitude but opposite in sign to the potential energy (U) in a stable gravitational two-body system, leading to: $K = \frac{1}{2} G \frac{M \mu}{L}$. This relation arises from equating the gravitational force that provides the necessary centripetal force for circular motion, revealing that the kinetic energy in such a system is precisely half the potential energy's absolute value but positive, given the negative sign conventionally assigned to gravitational potential energy. Substituting K and U into the total energy, $E = \frac{1}{2} G \frac{M \mu}{L} - G \frac{M \mu}{L}$. $E = -\frac{1}{2} G \frac{M \mu}{L}$. Comparable with the form $E = \beta G \frac{M \mu}{L}$, this implies that $\beta = -\frac{1}{2}$.

Output 1:

Assistant: 10

Figure 9: Prompt Example of Providing Complete Problem-Solving Steps That Need to Be Scored and Standard Answers. (Calculate Question)

Provide half of the problem-solving steps that need to be scored and standard answers. (GPT-4 gives 1-9)

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

Solution: The thin layer reflects the monochromatic light of the wavelength λ in the best way, if the following equation holds true $2nd \cos \beta = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$, $\quad k=0,1,2, \dots$, where k denotes an integer and β is the angle of refraction satisfying $\frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \beta} = n$. Hence, $\cos \beta = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \beta} = \frac{1}{n} \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha}$. Substituting to $2nd \cos \beta = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$, $\quad k=0,1,2, \dots$ we obtain $2d \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha} = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$. If the white light falls on a layer, the colors of wavelengths obeying $2d \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha} = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$ are reinforced in the reflected light. If the wavelength of the reflected light is λ_0 , the thickness of the layer satisfies for the k th order interference $d_k = \frac{(2k+1) \lambda_0}{4 \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha}}$. For given values and $k=0$ we obtain $d_0 = 1.01 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$. a) The mass of the soap film is $m_k = \rho_k b h d_k$. Substituting the given values, we get $m_0 = 6.06 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, $m_1 = 18.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, $m_2 = 30.3 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, etc. The mass of the thinnest film thus cannot be determined by given laboratory scales. If the light falls at the angle of 30° then the film seen from the perpendicular direction cannot be colored. It would appear dark.

Student answer:

To determine whether it's possible to measure the mass of the soap film using the laboratory scales with a calibration accuracy of 0.1 mg , we first need to estimate the mass of the soap film. The mass of the soap film can be found if we can estimate its volume and use the given density. However, to check the feasibility of the calculation based on the given conditions, we need first to understand the relevance of the reflected green light ($\lambda = 500 \text{ nm}$) and its relation to the thickness of the soap film, because this will indirectly help us in estimating the volume. Thickness of the Soap Film Interference of light in thin films (like soap films) can create constructive or destructive interference patterns, which depend on the thickness of the film (d), the wavelength of the light in the film (λ) which is different from the wavelength in vacuum (λ_0) due to the refractive index, and the angle of incidence (α). For constructive interference of reflected light (which we assume here for seeing a strong green color), the path difference must be an integral multiple of the wavelength ($m\lambda$), where m is an integer (typically starting with $m=1$) for the first bright fringe). However, considering that the light needs to travel down and back through the film, for the reflected light to have a strong intensity at a particular wavelength, the condition involving the thickness of the film (d), the angle of refraction (β), and the refractive index (n) must be considered: $2d \cos \beta = m\lambda$. Given that λ_0 is the wavelength in air and n is the relative refractive index, the wavelength of light in the film (λ) is given by $\lambda = \lambda_0 / n$. Snell's law relates the angles of incidence and refraction: $n = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \beta}$. For small angles or assuming the angle of refraction is relatively small, $\cos \beta \approx 1$. However, in general, we should calculate $\cos \beta$ to be more precise. Let's simplify the calculation by focusing on the first order ($m=1$): $2d = \frac{\lambda_0}{n \cos \beta}$. Considering that we neglect the angle effect for simplification ($\cos \beta \approx 1$), we can directly solve for d , given λ_0 and n : $d = \frac{\lambda_0}{2n} = \frac{500 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{2 \times 1.33} \approx 1.88 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$. Volume and Mass of the Soap Film Given the dimensions of the rectangle (b and h), and assuming the film has two sides, the volume (V) of the soap film is: $V = 2bh$. $V \approx 2 \times 1.88 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m} \times 0.020 \text{ m} \times 0.030 \text{ m} \approx 2.26 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^3$. The mass (m) of the soap film is then given by: $m = \rho V \approx 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3 \times 2.26 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^3 \approx 2.26 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kg} \approx 2.26 \text{ mg}$. Conclusion With a mass of approximately 2.26 mg for the soap film, and given that the scales have a calibration accuracy of 0.1 mg , it is indeed possible to determine the mass of the soap film using the laboratory scales.

Output 1:

Assistant: 4

Figure 10: Prompt Example of Providing Half of the Problem-Solving Steps That Need to Be Scored and Standard Answers.

Give completely wrong problem-solving steps that need to be scored and standard answers. (GPT-4 gives 0) [1]

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

Solution: The thin layer reflects the monochromatic light of the wavelength λ in the best way, if the following equation holds true $2n d \cos \beta = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$, $\quad k=0,1,2, \dots$, where k denotes an integer and β is the angle of refraction satisfying $\frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \beta} = n$. Hence, $\cos \beta = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \beta} = \frac{1}{n} \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha}$. Substituting to $2n d \cos \beta = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$, $\quad k=0,1,2, \dots$ we obtain $2d \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha} = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$. If the white light falls on a layer, the colors of wavelengths obeying $2d \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha} = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$ are reinforced in the reflected light. If the wavelength of the reflected light is λ_0 , the thickness of the layer satisfies for the k th order interference $d_k = \frac{(2k+1) \lambda_0}{4 \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha}} = (2k+1) d_0$. For given values and $k=0$ we obtain $d_0 = 1.01 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ m}$. a) The mass of the soap film is $m_k = \rho_k h d_k$. Substituting the given values, we get $m_0 = 6.06 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, $m_1 = 18.2 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, $m_2 = 30.3 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, etc. The mass of the thinnest film thus cannot be determined by given laboratory scales. ' If the light falls at the angle of 30° then the film seen from the perpendicular direction cannot be colored. It would appear dark.

Student answer:

Hello! World.

Output 1:

Assistant: 0

Figure 11: Prompt example of Providing Completely Wrong Problem-Solving Steps that Need to Be Scored and Standard Answers. (1)

Give completely wrong problem-solving steps that need to be scored and standard answers. (GPT-4 gives 0) [2]

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

Solution: The thin layer reflects the monochromatic light of the wavelength λ in the best way, if the following equation holds true $2nd \cos \beta = (2k+1)\lambda$, where $k=0,1,2,\dots$, where k denotes an integer and β is the angle of refraction satisfying $\frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin \beta} = n$. Hence, $\cos \beta = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \beta} = \frac{1}{n} \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha}$. Substituting to $2nd \cos \beta = (2k+1)\lambda$, we obtain $2d \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha} = (2k+1)\lambda$. If the white light falls on a layer, the colors of wavelengths obeying $2d \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha} = (2k+1)\lambda$ are reinforced in the reflected light. If the wavelength of the reflected light is λ_0 , the thickness of the layer satisfies for the k th order interference $d_k = \frac{(2k+1)\lambda_0}{4 \sqrt{n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha}} = (2k+1) d_0$. For given values and $k=0$ we obtain $d_0 = 1.01 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$. a) The mass of the soap film is $m_k = \rho_k b h d_k$. Substituting the given values, we get $m_0 = 6.06 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, $m_1 = 18.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, $m_2 = 30.3 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, etc. The mass of the thinnest film thus cannot be determined by given laboratory scales. If the light falls at the angle of 30° then the film seen from the perpendicular direction cannot be colored. It would appear dark.

Student answer:

The color seen in a soap film is due to constructive and destructive interference patterns of light reflecting off the front and back surfaces of the film. The thinnest possible soap film that still displays a color will be when the film creates the condition for constructive interference for the shortest visible wavelength of light (violet) in the first order of interference (where $m=1$), observed perpendicularly ($\alpha = 0$), meaning $\beta = 0$ and thus $\cos \beta = 1$. Constructive Interference Condition For constructive interference from a thin film observed perpendicularly ($\alpha = 0^\circ$) and hence $\beta = 0^\circ$, the condition for the m -th order of maxima is $\Delta = 2d \cos \beta = m\lambda$, where $m=1,2,3,\dots$. Where Δ is the path difference that causes constructive interference. d is the thickness of the film. n is the refractive index of the film. λ is the wavelength of light in the film. m is the order of interference. For the thinnest possible film displaying color, $m=1$ (first order), and we aim to solve for d (thickness). Wavelength of Light in the Film The wavelength of light in the film (λ) is related to the wavelength in the vacuum (λ_0) by $\lambda = \frac{\lambda_0}{n}$. Since we are interested in visible light and the thinnest film would theoretically reflect violet light (since violet has the shortest wavelength in the visible spectrum, around 400 nm), we would use $\lambda_0 \approx 400 \text{ nm}$. Solving for the Minimum Thickness Set $m=1$ for the first order of maximum (bright fringe) and solve for d for violet light to find the thinnest film $2d \cos \beta = \lambda$ $2d = \frac{\lambda}{\cos \beta}$ Given that $\lambda_0 \approx 400 \text{ nm}$ for violet light and substituting, we get $d = \frac{400 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{2}$. Because the refractive index $n = 1.33$ (for the soap film, similar to water), we substitute n into the equation $d = \frac{400 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}{2 \times 1.33}$ $d \approx 150.38 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$ $d \approx 150 \text{ nm}$ Conclusion The thinnest possible soap film that still displays a color when viewed perpendicularly would reflect violet light, characteristic of the first order of constructive interference, with a minimum thickness of approximately 150 nm . This result follows from the constructive interference condition, considering the smallest possible constructive interference for visible light occurs with violet light due to its shortest wavelength in the visible spectrum.

Output 1:

Assistant: 0

Figure 12: Prompt example of Providing Completely Wrong Problem-Solving Steps that Need to Be Scored and Standard Answers. (2)

Slightly change the final answer but the error is within the reasonable range required by the question. (GPT-4 gives 10)

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

$v = 20 \pm 0.8 \text{ m/s}$

Student answer:

20.6

Output 1:

Assistant: 10

Figure 13: Prompt Example of Slightly Change the Final Answer but the Error Is Within the Reasonable Range Required by the Question.

Give answers in normal format, Latex format, and answers without units but the numbers are the same and standard answers. (GPT-4 gives 10)

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

$3 \text{ \texttt{\text{cm}}}$

Student answer:

3 \text{cm}

Output 1:

Assistant: 10

Input 2:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

$3 \text{ \texttt{\text{cm}}}$

Student answer:

3cm

Output 2:

Assistant: 10

Input 3:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

$3 \text{ \texttt{\text{cm}}}$

Student answer:

3

Output 3:

Assistant: 10

Figure 14: Prompt Example of Providing Answers in Normal Format, Latex Format, and Answers Without Units but the Numbers Are the Same and Standard Answers.

Provide complete problem-solving steps that need to be scored with changing the final answer to a totally wrong one and standard answers. (GPT-4 gives 9)

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

Energy (3) of the question sheet can be interpreted as describing a system of a mass m in a circular orbit with angular velocity Ω , radius L , around a mass M (at rest). Equating the gravitational acceleration to the centripetal acceleration: $G \frac{M}{L^2} = \Omega^2 L$. This is indeed Kepler's third law (for circular orbits). Then, from (7), $E = -\frac{1}{2} G \frac{M m}{L}$. $\beta = -\frac{1}{2}$.

Student answer:

To simplify the total energy expression and arrive at a formula such as $E = \beta G \frac{M m}{L}$, we need to incorporate both kinetic and potential energy terms and their relation in a two-body system of circular orbits. From previous considerations, the total energy E of the system combines both kinetic (K) and potential (U) energies: $E = K + U$. From the provided equation and context, the potential energy of two bodies attracting each other gravitationally is: $U = -G \frac{M m}{L}$. To find the kinetic energy K in terms of known quantities, we recall that for circular orbits, the gravitational force provides the centripetal force required to keep the bodies in orbit. The gravitational force is: $F_{\text{gravity}} = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{L^2}$. And the centripetal force required for a mass moving in a circular orbit of radius r (where r is a portion of L relevant to each mass) and angular velocity Ω is given by: $F_{\text{centripetal}} = m \Omega^2 r$. For a two-body system described, we use the reduced mass $\mu = \frac{M_1 M_2}{M_1 + M_2}$, which effectively experiences the centripetal acceleration due to the gravitational attraction between the two masses. The kinetic energy, knowing it derives from the dynamics of circular motion where the gravitational force acts as the centripetal force, is given by: $K = \frac{1}{2} \mu v^2 = \frac{1}{2} \mu (\Omega L)^2$. However, to align kinetic and potential energy in terms of μ , G , M , and L , and explicitly realize the angular dynamics within circular motion, $F_{\text{gravity}} = F_{\text{centripetal}}$. $G \frac{M_1 M_2}{L^2} = \mu \Omega^2 L$. Solving for Ω^2 and substituting back gives insight into K 's dependence on these quantities, but given the task, we integrate existing understanding: for circular orbits, the kinetic energy (K) is half the magnitude but opposite in sign to the potential energy (U) in a stable gravitational two-body system, leading to: $K = \frac{1}{2} G \frac{M m}{L}$. This relation arises from equating the gravitational force that provides the necessary centripetal force for circular motion, revealing that the kinetic energy in such a system is precisely half the potential energy's absolute value but positive, given the negative sign conventionally assigned to gravitational potential energy. Substituting K and U into the total energy, $E = \frac{1}{2} G \frac{M m}{L} - G \frac{M m}{L}$. Comparable with the form $E = \beta G \frac{M m}{L}$, this implies that $\beta = -\frac{1}{2}$.

Output 1:

Assistant: 9

Figure 15: Prompt example of Providing Complete Problem-Solving Steps that Need to Be Scored with Changing the Final Answer to a Totally Wrong One and Standard Answers.

Cut a candidate's zero marks solution to a half but with the correct final answer. (GPT-4 gives 0)

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

Energy (3) of the question sheet can be interpreted as describing a system of a mass μ in a circular orbit with angular velocity Ω , radius L , around a mass M (at rest). Equating the gravitational acceleration to the centripetal acceleration: $G \frac{M}{L^2} = \Omega^2 L$. This is indeed Kepler's third law (for circular orbits). Then, from (7), $E = \frac{1}{2} G \frac{M \mu}{L}$. $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$.

Student answer:

To determine whether it's possible to measure the mass of the soap film using the laboratory scales with a calibration accuracy of (0.1 mg) , we first need to estimate the mass of the soap film. The mass of the soap film can be found if we can estimate its volume and use the given density. However, to check the feasibility of the calculation based on the given conditions, we need first to understand the relevance of the reflected green light (wavelength $\lambda_0 = 500 \text{ nm}$) and its relation to the thickness of the soap film, because this will indirectly help us in estimating the volume. Thickness of the Soap Film Interference of light in thin films (like soap films) can create constructive or destructive interference patterns, which depend on the thickness of the film d , the wavelength of the light in the film λ which is different from the wavelength in vacuum $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$.

Output 1:

Assistant: 9

Figure 16: Prompt example of Cutting a Candidate's Zero Marks Solution to a Half but With the Correct Final Answer.

Cut a candidate's full marks solution to a half and add the correct final answer. (GPT-4 gives 10; Should 5-7)

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

Energy (3) of the question sheet can be interpreted as describing a system of a mass m in a circular orbit with angular velocity Ω , radius L , around a mass M (at rest). Equating the gravitational acceleration to the centripetal acceleration: $G \frac{M}{L^2} = \Omega^2 L$. This is indeed Kepler's third law (for circular orbits). Then, from (7), $E = \frac{1}{2} G \frac{M m}{L}$. $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$.

Student answer:

To simplify the total energy expression and arrive at a formula such as $E = \beta G \frac{M m}{L}$, we need to incorporate both kinetic and potential energy terms and their relation in a two-body system of circular orbits. From previous considerations, the total energy E of the system combines both kinetic (K) and potential (U) energies: $E = K + U$. From the provided equation and context, the potential energy of two bodies attracting each other gravitationally is: $U = -G \frac{M m}{L}$. To find the kinetic energy K in terms of known quantities, we recall that for circular orbits, the gravitational force provides the centripetal force required to keep the bodies in orbit. The gravitational force is: $F_{\text{gravity}} = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{L^2}$. And the centripetal force required for a mass moving in a circular orbit of radius r (where r is a portion of L relevant to each mass) and angular velocity Ω is given by: $F_{\text{centripetal}} = m \Omega^2 r$. For a two-body system described, we use the reduced mass $\mu = \frac{M_1 M_2}{M_1 + M_2}$, which effectively experiences the centripetal acceleration due to the gravitational attraction between the two masses. The kinetic energy, knowing it derives from the dynamics of circular motion where the gravitational force acts as the centripetal force, $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$.

Output 1:

Assistant: 10

Figure 17: Prompt example of Cutting a Candidate's Full Marks Solution to a Half and Add the Correct Final Answer.

Randomly delete some scoring points from a candidate's full marks solution, but the final answer is correct (GPT-4 gives 10; Should 1-9)

Input 1:

System:

You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User:

Standard answer:

Energy (3) of the question sheet can be interpreted as describing a system of a mass m in a circular orbit with angular velocity Ω , radius L , around a mass M (at rest). Equating the gravitational acceleration to the centripetal acceleration: $G \frac{M}{L^2} = \Omega^2 L$. This is indeed Kepler's third law (for circular orbits). Then, from (7), $E = -\frac{1}{2} G \frac{M m}{L}$. $\beta = -\frac{1}{2}$.

Student answer:

To simplify the total energy expression and arrive at a formula such as $E = \beta G \frac{M m}{L}$, we need to incorporate both kinetic and potential energy terms and their relation in a two-body system of circular orbits. From previous considerations, the total energy E of the system combines both kinetic (K) and potential (U) energies: we use the reduced mass $\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$, which effectively experiences the centripetal acceleration due to the gravitational attraction between the two masses. The kinetic energy, knowing it derives from the dynamics of circular motion where the gravitational force acts as the centripetal force, is given by: $K = \frac{1}{2} \mu v^2 = \frac{1}{2} \mu (\Omega L)^2$. The kinetic energy (K) is half the magnitude but opposite in sign to the potential energy (U) in a stable gravitational two-body system, leading to: $K = \frac{1}{2} G \frac{M m}{L}$. This relation arises from equating the gravitational force that provides the necessary centripetal force for circular motion, $\beta = -\frac{1}{2}$.

Output 1:

Assistant: 10

Figure 18: Prompt Example of Randomly Deleting Some Scoring Points from a Candidate's Full Marks Solution, but the Final Answer Is Correct.

A.3 Modification of Identifiers

We have identify and amend a series of identifiers, which include but are not limited to the following:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
a)	b)	c)	d)	e)	f)	g)	h)	i)
A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.	I.
A.1	A.2	A.3	A.4	A.5	A.6	A.7	A.8	A.9
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
i	ii	iii	iv	v	vi	vii	viii	ix

Table 3: Modified identifiers

A.4 Prompt Examples

In this section, we display the prompt examples of how we prompt LLMs to inference physical questions, mark solutions.

Prompt example for LLMs inference

Input 1:
System: You are a professional physicist, and you will answer the following physics questions. The mathematical formulas involved in the questions are expressed in Latex code.
User: During the Soviet-French experiment on the optical location of the Moon the light pulse of a ruby laser $(\lambda=0.69 \mu\text{m})$ was directed to the Moon's surface by the telescope with a diameter of
 $d_p=5 \text{ mm}$. Plank constant is $(h)=6.610^{-34} \text{ Js}$. What must the accuracy to direct the telescope optical axis be in this experiment?

Output 1:
Assistant: To determine the required accuracy to direct the telescope optical axis in this experiment, we need to consider the size of the spot that the laser beam forms on the Moon's surface. The size of the spot can be estimated using the formula for the diffraction-limited spot size, given by: $\theta \approx \frac{1.22 \lambda}{D}$ where θ is the angular size of the spot, λ is the size of the spot on the photodetector and d_p is the diameter of the pupil of the eye. $\Delta x \approx (3.25 \times 10^{-7}) \times (5 \times 10^{-3})$
 $\Delta x \approx 1.625 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$
Therefore, the required accuracy to direct the telescope optical axis in this experiment is approximately $1.625 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$.

Input 2:
System: You are a professional physicist, and you will answer the following physics questions. The mathematical formulas involved in the questions are expressed in Latex code.
User: During the Soviet-French experiment on the optical location of the Moon the light pulse of a ruby laser $(\lambda=0.69 \mu\text{m})$ was directed to the Moon's surface by the telescope with a diameter of
 $d_p=5 \text{ mm}$. Plank constant is $(h)=6.610^{-34} \text{ Js}$. What must the accuracy to direct the telescope optical axis be in this experiment?
Assistant: To determine the required accuracy to direct the telescope optical axis in this experiment, we need to consider the size of the spot that the laser beam forms on the Moon's surface. The size of the spot can be estimated using the formula for the diffraction-limited spot size, given by: $\theta \approx \frac{1.22 \lambda}{D}$ where θ is the angular size of the spot, λ is the size of the spot on the photodetector and d_p is the diameter of the pupil of the eye. $\Delta x \approx (3.25 \times 10^{-7}) \times (5 \times 10^{-3})$
 $\Delta x \approx 1.625 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$
Therefore, the required accuracy to direct the telescope optical axis in this experiment is approximately $1.625 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$.

Output 2:
Assistant: To determine the part of the emitted laser energy that can be detected after reflection on the Moon, we need to consider the reflectance of the mirror on the Moon's surface and the losses due to the telescope's collecting
 $\frac{10^8}{0.69 \times 10^{-6}} \text{ quanta}$
 $\approx 7.246 \times 10^{25} \text{ quanta}$
Given that the threshold sensitivity of the eye is $n = 100$ light quanta, we can see that the energy of the laser pulse is much larger than the threshold sensitivity. Therefore, we can expect that the reflected light pulse would be visible with the naked eye.

Input 3:
.....

Figure 19: Prompt example of pure text inference

Marking Examples

Input 1:

System: You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User: Standard answer: 10 m/s Student answer: 10

Output 1:

Assistant: 10

Input 2:

System: You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User: Standard answer: Start with $\Delta x = \frac{1}{2} a t^2 + v_i t$. We have four times. $t_0 = 0$ s is when the train starts, and when the first car is aligned with the observer. t_1 s is when the end of the first car is aligned with the observer. Then $L = \frac{1}{2} a t_1^2$. We are assuming the car has a length L . t_2 s is when the tenth car is first aligned with the observer, so $L = \frac{1}{2} a t_2^2$ and finally, t_3 s is when that car has passed, $L = \frac{1}{2} a t_3^2$. From the equation for t_1 s we find $L/a = 25 \text{ m/s}^2$ so $t_2 = \sqrt{9 \cdot 25 \text{ m/s}^2} = 15 \text{ m/s}$ and $t_3 = \sqrt{10 \cdot 25 \text{ m/s}^2} = 15.81 \text{ m/s}$. **Student answer:** The speed of the center of mass (CM) of a system can be found using the formula for the velocity of the center of mass v_{CM} , which is given by: $v_{CM} = \frac{m_1 v_1 + m_2 v_2}{m_1 + m_2}$. Where: m_1, m_2 are the masses of the two objects, and v_1, v_2 are their velocities. Given: $m_1 = 3 \text{ kg}$, $v_1 = 30 \text{ m/s}$ (to the right, which we can consider as positive direction), $m_2 = 2 \text{ kg}$, $v_2 = -20 \text{ m/s}$ (to the left, which we consider as negative direction because it is opposite to v_1). Substituting the given values into the formula for v_{CM} : $v_{CM} = \frac{(3 \text{ kg})(30 \text{ m/s}) + (2 \text{ kg})(-20 \text{ m/s})}{3 \text{ kg} + 2 \text{ kg}} = \frac{(90 - 40) \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}}{5 \text{ kg}} = \frac{50 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}}{5 \text{ kg}} = 10 \text{ m/s}$. Therefore, after the collision, the center of mass of the system is moving at a speed of 10 m/s to the right.

Output 2:

Assistant: 0

Input 3:

System: You are a professional physicist and you will grade answers provided by physics students by reference to standard answers. The full score is 10 points, and the minimum score is 0 points. If the student gives the final answer, full marks will be awarded directly. If the student does not give the final answer or the final answer is incorrect, please score based on the proportion of correct calculation steps given by the student. You only need to output a score number.

User: Standard answer: The thin layer reflects the monochromatic light of the wavelength λ in the best way, if the following equation holds true $2 n d \cos \beta = (2k+1) \frac{\lambda}{2}$, $\text{quad } k=0,1,2, \dots$, β is the angle of reflection.

a) The mass of the soap film is $m_k = \rho_k b h d_k$. Substituting the given values, we get $m_0 = 6.06 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, $m_1 = 18.2 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, $m_2 = 30.3 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ mg}$, etc. The mass of the thinnest film thus cannot be determined by given laboratory scales.

Student answer: To determine whether it's possible to measure the mass of the soap film using the laboratory scales with a calibration accuracy of 0.1 mg , we first need to estimate the mass of the soap film. The

.....
approximately 2.26 mg for the soap film, and given that the scales have a calibration accuracy of 0.1 mg , it is indeed possible to determine the mass of the soap film using the laboratory scales.

Output 3:

Assistant: 3

Figure 20: Marking Examples

A.5 Gemini Output Examples

Questions: In a simple model, an atomic nucleus can be thought of as a ball consisting of closely packed nucleons [see Fig. 1(a)], where the nucleons are hard balls of radius $r_N = 0.85\text{fm}$ ($1\text{fm} = 10^{-15}\text{ m}$). The nuclear force is present only for two nucleons in contact. The volume of the nucleus V is larger than the volume of all nucleons AV_N , where $V_N = \frac{4}{3}r_N^3\pi$. The ratio $f = AV_N/V$ is called the packing factor and gives the percentage of space filled by the nuclear matter. Calculate what would be the packing factor f if nucleons were arranged in a "simple cubic" (SC) crystal system, where each nucleon is centered on a lattice point of an infinite cubic lattice [see Fig. 1(b)]. (0.3 points)

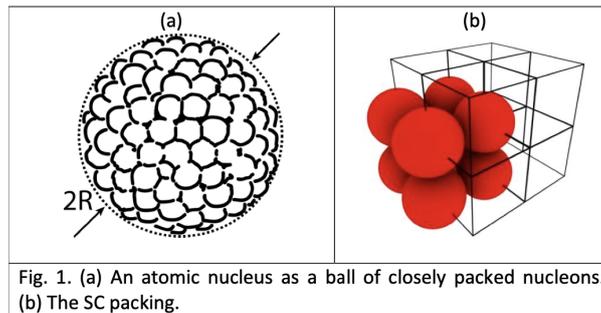


Fig. 1. (a) An atomic nucleus as a ball of closely packed nucleons. (b) The SC packing.

Standard Answer: In the SC-system, in each of 8 corners of a given cube there is one unit (atom, nucleon, etc.), but it is shared by 8 neighboring cubes - this gives a total of one nucleon per cube. If nucleons are touching, as we assume in our simplified model, then $a = 2r_N$ is the cube edge length a . The volume of one nucleon is then $V_N = \frac{4}{3}r_N^3\pi = \frac{4}{3}\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^3\pi = \frac{4a^3}{3 \cdot 8}\pi = \frac{\pi}{6}a^3$ from which we obtain $f = \frac{V_N}{a^3} = \frac{\pi}{6} \approx 0.52$

ChatGPT-4-Vision Output:(Score: 10) In the "simple cubic" (SC) crystal system, each nucleon is centered on a lattice point, and because we're assuming the nucleons to be hard spheres, the sides of the cubic lattice cell must be twice the radius of a nucleon to accommodate one nucleon inside without overlapping with others. Given that the radius of a nucleon r_N is 0.85 fm (fermi), which is 0.85×10^{-15} meters, the side length a of the cubic cell will be: $a = 2 \times r_N$. The volume V_N of a single nucleon (since it's a sphere) is: $V_N = \frac{4}{3}\pi r_N^3$. Now, the volume V_{SC} of the cubic cell which contains one nucleon would be: $V_{SC} = a^3 = (2r_N)^3 = 8r_N^3$. The packing factor f will be the ratio of the nucleon's volume to the volume of the cubic cell: $f = \frac{AV_N}{V} = \frac{V_N}{V_{SC}}$. Since each cell volume V_{SC} contains one nucleon for the simple cubic packing, we don't need to multiply V_N by A , because A will cancel when we take the ratio for one cubic cell. Plugging in the expressions for V_N and V_{SC} gives: $f = \frac{\frac{4}{3}\pi r_N^3}{8r_N^3}$ calculating this gives: $f = \frac{\pi}{6}$. Numerically, this evaluates to approximately: $f \approx \frac{3.14159}{6} \approx 0.5236$. Or, in percentage terms: $f \approx 52.36\%$. This means the packing factor or the percentage of space filled by the nuclear matter in a simple cubic arrangement is approximately **52.36%**.

Gemini-Pro-Vision Output:(Score: 2) I see the image you sent and can use it to understand the setup of the Kelvin water dropper. The absolute value of the charge, Q_0 , of each droplet as they separate from the tubes and at the instant the capacitor's charge is q can be expressed as: $Q_0 = Cq / (2r_{\text{max}})$ where: C is the capacitance. q is the charge on the capacitor. r_{max} is the maximum radius of the droplet as it breaks free from the nozzle. This expression is derived based on the following: 1. Charge Quantization: Each droplet acquires a quantized charge, meaning its charge is a multiple of the fundamental electron charge (e). As the first droplet falls, it acquires a small charge imbalance, which is then shared equally between the two electrodes due to the capacitor. 4. Maximum Radius: The maximum radius, r_{max} , relates to the amount of charge a droplet can hold due to its surface tension. A larger droplet can hold more charge. Therefore, the absolute value of the charge on each droplet depends on the capacitance, the capacitor's charge, and the maximum radius the droplet can achieve before breaking free. It's important to note that this expression neglects the effect mentioned in Part A-iii, where the charge on the droplet can induce a charge on the metal nozzle. This additional effect can slightly modify the charge acquired by the droplet. I hope this helps! Let me know if you have any other questions.

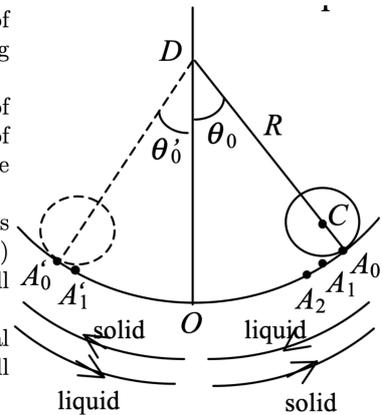
Consider a sphere filled with liquid inside rolling back and forth at the bottom of a spherical bowl. . . . please study the movement of the sphere for the following three cases:

1. \mathbf{W} behaves as in ideal solid state, meanwhile \mathbf{W} contacts the inner wall of the spherical shell so closely that they can be taken as solid sphere as a whole of radius r with an abrupt density change across the interface between the inside wall of the shell and \mathbf{W} .

(1) Calculate the rotational inertia I of the sphere with respect to the axis passing through its center C . (You are asked to show detailed steps.) (1.0 points)

(2) Calculate the period T_1 of the sphere rolling back and forth with a small amplitude without slipping at the bottom of the spherical bowl. (2.5 points)

2. \mathbf{W} behaves as an ideal liquid with no friction between \mathbf{W} and the spherical shell. Calculate the period T_2 of the sphere rolling back and forth with a small amplitude without slipping at the bottom of the spherical bowl. (2.5 points)



(a) An Original Question with Second Order Questions in PhoFile

Question: Consider a sphere filled with liquid inside rolling back and forth at the bottom of a spherical bowl. . . . please study the movement of the sphere for the following three cases: \mathbf{W} behaves as in ideal solid state, meanwhile \mathbf{W} contacts the inner wall of the spherical shell so closely that they can be taken as solid sphere as a whole of radius r with an abrupt density change across the interface between the inside wall of the shell and \mathbf{W} .

Calculate the rotational inertia I of the sphere with respect to the axis passing through its center C . (You are asked to show detailed steps.)

Question number: 1

Sub-question number: 1

Sub-sub question number: 1

Solution: . . .

Question image path: ./pic/question/34.png

Answer image path:

Question: Calculate the period T_1 of the sphere rolling back and forth with a small amplitude without slipping at the bottom of the spherical bowl.

Question number: 1

Sub-question number: 1

Sub-sub question number: 2

Solution: . . .

Question image path: . . .

Answer image path:

Question: \mathbf{W} behaves as an ideal liquid with no friction between \mathbf{W} and the spherical shell. Calculate the period T_2 of the sphere rolling back and forth with a small amplitude without slipping at the bottom of the spherical bowl.

Question number: 1

Sub-question number: 2

Sub-sub-question number: null

Solution: . . .

Question image path: . . .

Answer image path:

(b) The Corresponding Question in PhoFile: We delete '1.', '(1)', and '(2)' in text. At the same time, we input the Arabic number to 'Question number', 'Sub-question number', and 'Sub-sub-question number' key.

Figure 21: Demonstration of Question Index Processing