

Problems for the 8th Canadian Young Physicists' Tournament 2024

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Adapted from the [Problem for IYPT 2024](#)

Day 1 Problems:

A. Droplet Microscope

By looking through a single water droplet placed on a glass surface, one can observe that the droplet acts as an imaging system. Investigate the magnification and resolution of such a lens.

B. Rigid Ramp Walker

Construct a rigid ramp walker with four legs (e.g. in the form of a ladder). The construction may begin to 'walk' down a rough ramp. Investigate how the geometry of the walker and relevant parameters affect its terminal velocity of walking.

C. Ping Pong Rocket

A ping pong ball is placed in a container of water. When the container is dropped, the ping pong ball will get launched to a great height. What maximum height can you reach with up to 2 liters of water?

D. Non-contact Resistance

The responses of a LRC circuit driven by an AC source can be changed by inserting either a non-magnetic metal rod or a ferromagnetic rod into the inductor coil. How can we obtain the magnetic and electric properties of the inserted rod from the circuit's responses?

E. Pumping Straw

A simple water pump can be made using a straw shaped into a triangle and cut open at the vertices. When such a triangle is partially immersed in water with one of its vertices and rotated around its vertical axis, water may flow up through the straw. Investigate how the geometry and other relevant parameters affect the pumping speed.

Day 2 Problems:

F. Juicy Solar Cell

A functional solar cell can be created using conducting glass slides, iodine, juice (e.g. blackberry) and titanium dioxide. This type of cell is called a Grätzel cell. Make such a cell and investigate the necessary parameters to obtain maximum efficiency.

G. Magnetic Gear

Take several identical fidget spinners and attach neodymium magnets to their ends. If you place the m side by side on a plane and rotate one of them, the remaining ones start to rotate only due to the magnetic field. Investigate and explain the phenomenon.

H. Giant Sounding Plate

When a large, thin and flexible plate (e.g. plastic, metal or plexiglass) is bent, it may produce a loud and unusual howling sound. Explain and investigate this phenomenon.

I. The Soap Spiral

Lower a compressed slinky into a soap solution, pull it out and straighten it. A soap film is formed between the turns of the slinky. If you break the integrity of the film, the front of the film will begin to move. Explain this phenomenon and investigate the movement of the front of the soap film.

J. Ruler Trick

Place a ruler on the edge of a table and throw a ball at its free end. The ruler will fall. However, if you cover a part of the ruler with a piece of paper and repeat the throw, then the ruler will remain on the table while the ball will bounce off it. Explain this phenomenon, and investigate the relevant parameters.

Problems selected by CaYPT problem selection subcommittee in consultation with experienced CaYPT team leader jurors.