

PHYSICS EXPERIMENT 6: Hooke's Law

Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Partners: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. **PURPOSE:** To study the properties of springs.
- 2. HYPOTHESIS: (SKIP)
- **3. PROCEDURE**:

<b>APPARATUS:</b>	<b>MATERIALS:</b>
<ol> <li>ring stand</li> <li>clamp</li> <li>mm ruler</li> <li>mass set</li> </ol>	2 different springs Fisher # S41028 # S41029



**PART-A**: The elongation of a "light" spring.

- **Step-1:** Hang a "light" spring to a ring stand.
- Step-2: Align the zero reading of a (mm) ruler with the end of the spring. Tape the ruler to a graduated cylinder or a book or a box and make sure you do not move it.
  - ★ **IMPORTANT**: Be sure to read the elongation of the "spring" at eye-level. Also, always read the same "spot" on the "spring" for each reading.
- **Step-3:** Hang the following masses to the spring and for each mass carefully record the elongation (in millimeters):

MASS	ELONGATION (mm)
0	0
20 g	
40 g	
50 g	
70 g	
90 g	
100 g	
120 g	
140 g	
150 g	

1. Graph your experimental data below. Plot the distance the spring stretches (along the y-axis) versus the mass which represents the force (along the x-axis).

Be sure to select suitable units both for the mass (g) and the distance (mm).

After plotting your points, draw a smooth line which best fits the most plotted points.



2. What kind of relationship between the elongation of the spring and the mass (force applied) does your graph above indicate?

**PART-B**: The elongation of a "heavy" spring.

- Step-1: Hang a "heavy" spring to a ring stand.
- Step-2: Align the zero reading of a (mm) ruler with the end of the spring. Tape the ruler to a graduated cylinder or a book or a box and make sure you do not move it.
  - ★ IMPORTANT: Be sure to read the elongation of the "spring" at eye-level. Also, always read the same "spot" on the "spring" for each reading.



• Step-3: Hang the following masses to the spring and for each mass carefully record the elongation (in millimeters):

MASS	ELONGATION (mm)
0	0
400 g	
500 g	
600 g	
700 g	
800 g	
900 g	
1000 g	

3. Suggest two reasons why the two springs behave differently:

4. Graph your experimental data below. Plot the distance the spring stretches (along the y-axis) versus the mass which represents the force (along the x-axis).

Be sure to select suitable units both for the mass (g) and the distance (mm).

After plotting your points, draw a smooth line which best fits the most plotted points.



5. What kind of relationship between the elongation of the spring and the mass (force applied) does your graph above indicate?

- 6. Find the slopes of the graphs you plotted:
  - a) Slope of graph for the "light" spring (part-A):
  - b) Slope of graph for the "heavy" spring (part-B): \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which spring (light or heavy) has a higher spring constant?

- 8. What do the slopes represent?
- 9. What does the area under the curve represent?
- 10. Using your first spring graph (part-A), predict the elongation of this "light" spring for any three forces which you did not attach to this spring:

	MASS	PREDICTED ELONGATION
a)		
b)		
c)		

11. Using your second spring graph (part-B), predict the elongation of this "heavy" spring for any three forces which you did not attach to this spring:

	MASS	PREDICTED ELONGATION
a)		
b)		
c)		

12. a) If a spring stretches 5.0 cm when a mass of 15 g is attached to it, how many centimeters will it stretch when a mass of 20 g is attached to this spring?

b) How much potential energy is stored in the spring when the 20g mass is hung?