

DIVERSITY in STEM Education

Magdalena Grygiel | High School of Nicolaus Copernicus | Kalisz | Poland Investigating optical properties of non-Newtonian liquid



The Kaye's effect occurs when a thin stream of non-Newtonian liquid is poured onto a surface. Suddenly, a small stream of liquid occasionally leaps upward from the heap. This effect is named after its first observer A. Kaye.



Testing Bouguer's law of light absorption in non-Newtonian liquids.

As control samples we used water, colored water and canola oil. We changed the layer of water (and other liquids) thickness and measured light intensity by a sensor and COACH LAB II+. We tested non-Newtonian liquids: shower-gel, honey and slime. Graphs present our results.



Experimental set

trend line experimental result





Conclusion: non-Newtonian liquids obey the Bouguer's law just like ordinary Newtonian liquids.



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Investigating optical properties of non-Newtonian liquid

Observation of refraction in non-Newtonian liquids gave an opportunity to take photos and by using sfotware to determine angels of incidence and refraction light in water (as a control sample), dish soap and slime. The experimental results were used to calulate the speed light propagation in the liquids by using MS Excel.









Refraction in water

Refracrion in dish soap



Refraction in lime

liquid	water	dish soap	slime
α	9,2	9,0	12,1
β	7,1	8,1	8,5
v [• 10 ⁸ m/s]	2,316 ∓ 0,068	2,700	2,114

Tab. Experimental results, for water it was possible to calculate measurement uncertainty.







presents the phenomenon in shower-gel.

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Conclusion: optical properties of non-Newtonian liquids are similar to Newtonian liquids.

