

**T.C.**  
**GEBZE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY**  
**PHYSICS DEPARTMENT**

**PHYSICS LABORATORY I**  
**EXPERIMENT REPORT**

**THE NAME OF THE EXPERIMENT**

Hooke's Law

**GEBZE**  
**TEKNİK ÜNİVERSİTESİ**

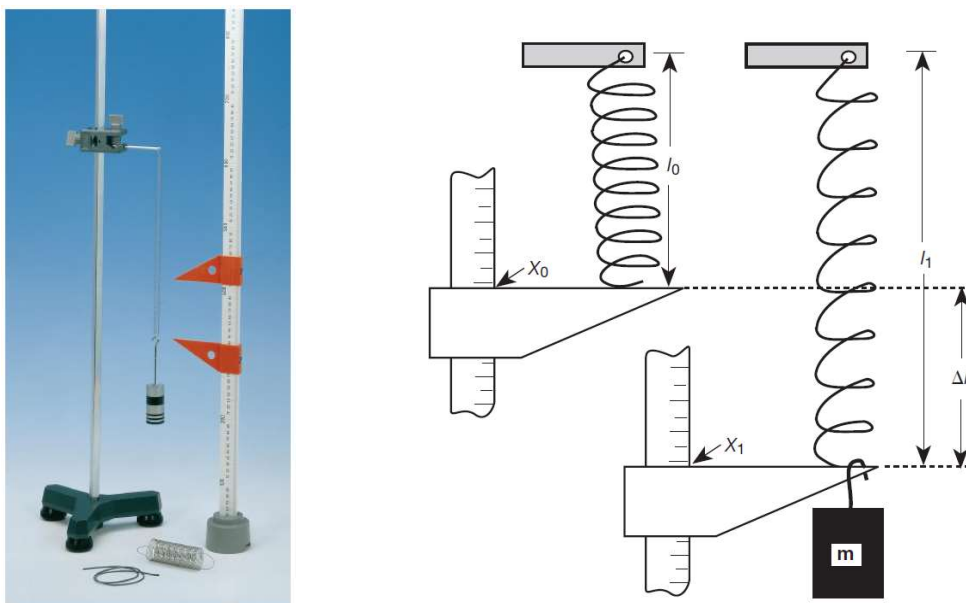
**PREPARED BY**

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**STUDENT NUMBER :**  
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**TEACHING ASSISTANT :**  
**DATE OF THE EXPERIMENT : .....**  
**DATE : .....**

Signature:

## Experimental Procedure:

The experimental set-up to measure the spring constants is shown in Fig.10.1.



**Figure 10.1:** Experimental set-up: Hooke's law.

### Hook's Law:

1. Measure the length of each spring (thick and thin) and mass of the weight holder.

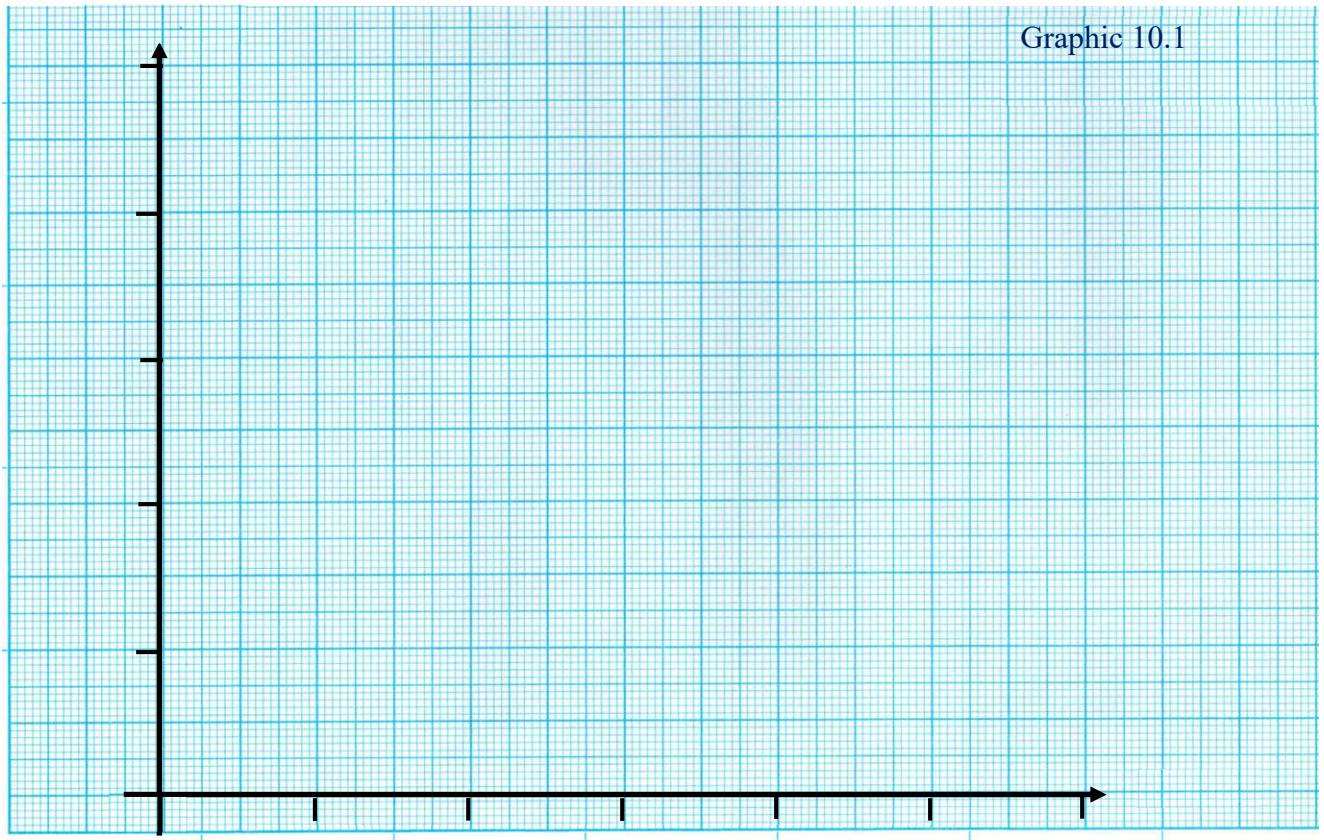
$$L_{thick}^0 = \text{_____ (cm)} \quad L_{thin}^0 = \text{_____ (cm)} \quad m_{holder} = \text{_____ (cm)}$$

2. Suspend a weight on the holder, then measure the displacements from equilibrium position for each spring. Don't forget to use total mass (weight + weight of the holder) attached to the spring in the calculations.
3. One after another suspend an additional weight and increase the mass by 10g increments to a total of 50g and read the corresponding length and calculate change of length  $\Delta L$ . Record the values in Table 10.1
4. Calculate the weight (force)  $F = mg$  ( $g=980 \text{ cm/s}^2$ ) and also note these values in Table 10.1.

**Table 10.1:** Spring length  $L$  as a function of the weights suspended.

$m$ (gr)	$F$ (gr.cm/s <sup>2</sup> )	$L_{\text{thick}}$ (cm)	$\Delta L_{\text{thick}}$ (cm)	$L_{\text{thin}}$ (cm)	$\Delta L_{\text{thin}}$ (cm)
0	0		0		0
10					
20					
30					
40					
50					

Use the values in the Table 10.1 and plot  $F$ - $\Delta L$  graphs of each spring on reserved milimetric space as  $x$ -axis the change of length ( $\Delta L$ ) and  $y$ -axis the force ( $F$ ). Represent the values in the table as points on your graph.



If we take into account our theoretical considerations, we expect a line passing through those points. The Eq. 10.7  $F = -k\Delta L$  describes a linear ( $y=kx$ ) relation between the force  $F$  acting on the spring and the change of length  $\Delta L$ , with the slope spring constant  $k$ . Use the slope  $k$  and, which will be calculated in the following step, plot  $y=kx$  line on your graph. Observe the fitness of the line to your data points.

You are expected to calculate the slope  $k$ . The slope of the line could be calculated using the values in Table 10.1 with the statistical fitting method called “*least squares method*”.

A) Thick spring;

Calculate two terms that will be used in the equations below.

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 \Delta L_i F_i =$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 \Delta L_i^2 =$$

Substitute those values in equation and calculate the slope (spring constant)  $k_{thick}$ .

$$k_{thick} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^5 \Delta L_i F_i}{\sum_{i=1}^5 \Delta L_i^2} =$$

Thick spring constant  $k_{thick} =$  ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

B) Thin spring;

Calculate two terms that will be used in the equations below.

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 \Delta L_i F_i =$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 \Delta L_i^2 =$$

Substitute those values in the equation and calculate the slope (spring constant)  $k_{thin}$

$$k_{thin} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^5 \Delta L_i F_i}{\sum_{i=1}^5 \Delta L_i^2} =$$

Thin spring constant  $k_{thin} =$  ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

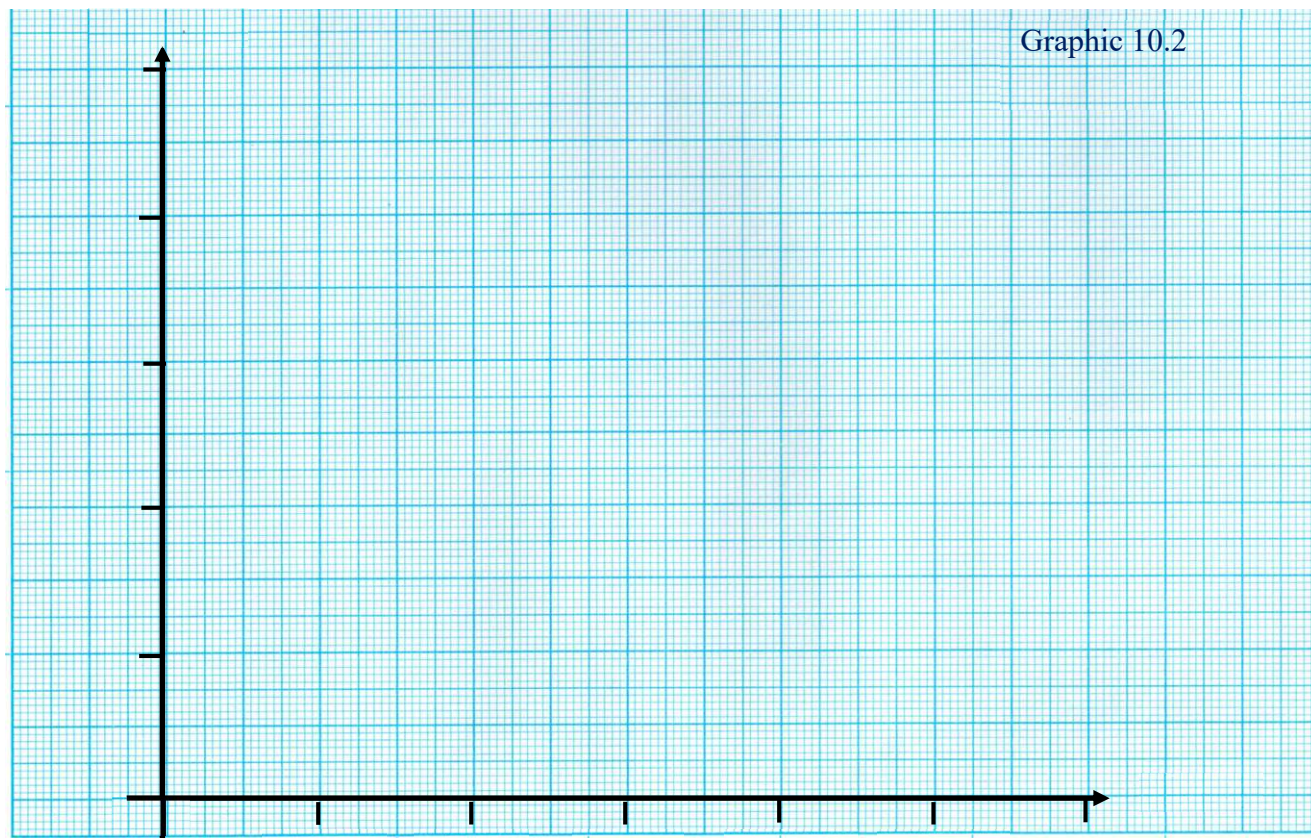
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**Harmonic oscillation:**

1. In this step, suspend the same masses on each spring in turn. Pull the mass little bit down then release. Measure the time of the oscillation of the spring to complete 10 cycle for each mass by using stopwatch. Divide each time by 10 to find the time for one period for each mass and record the values in the table 10.2.
2. Calculate period of oscillation  $T$  and square of period of oscillation  $T^2$  and fill in the Table 10.2.

**Table 10.2:** Period of oscillation  $T$  as function of the weights suspended.

$m$ (gr)	$\Delta t_{\text{thick}}$ (s)	$T_{\text{thick}}$ (s)	$T^2_{\text{thick}}$ (s <sup>2</sup> )	$\Delta t_{\text{thin}}$ (s)	$T_{\text{thin}}$ (s)	$T^2_{\text{thin}}$ (s <sup>2</sup> )
0						
10						
20						
30						
40						
50						



Use the values in the Table 10.2 and plot  $T^2$ - $m$  graph for both spring on the same graph with  $x$ -axis *the mass ( $m$ )* and  $y$ -axis *square of the period of oscillation ( $T^2$ )*. Represent the values in the table 10.2 as points on your graph. If one takes squares of both sides of the Eq. 10.7,  $T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{k}m$  is obtained and this equation describes a linear ( $y=ax$ ) relation between the square of the period of oscillation  $T^2$  and the mass  $m$ , with the slope  $a = \frac{4\pi^2}{k}$ . Use the slope  $a$  and, which will be calculated in the following step, plot  $y=ax$  line on your graph. Observe the fitness of the line to your data points.

You are expected to calculate the slope  $a = \frac{4\pi^2}{k}$ . The slope of the line could be calculated using the values in the table 10.2 with the statistical fitting method called “*least squares method*”.

A) Thick spring;

Calculate the two terms that will be used in the equations below.

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 m_i T_i^2 =$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 m_i^2 =$$

Substitute those values in equation below and calculate the slope  $a$ .

$$a = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^5 m_i T_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^5 m_i^2} =$$

The spring constant  $k_{\text{thick}}$  can be calculated from the slope  $a$  according to

$$k_{\text{thic}} = \frac{4\pi^2}{a} = \quad ( \quad )$$

B) Thin spring;

Calculate the two terms that will be used in the equations below.

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 m_i T_i^2 =$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 m_i^2 =$$

Substitute those values in equation below and calculate the slope  $a$ .

$$a = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^5 m_i T_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^5 m_i^2} =$$

The spring constant  $k_{\text{thin}}$  can be calculated from the slope  $a$  according to

$$k_{\text{thin}} = \frac{4\pi^2}{a} = \quad ( \quad )$$

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Compare the spring constants  $k_{thick}$  and  $k_{thin}$  values calculated by using the Hook's law and harmonic oscillation with each other. Discuss the reasons for probable differences.

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**Conclusion, Comment and Discussion:**

(Tips: Give detail explanation about what you've learned in the experiment and also explain the possible errors and their reasons.)

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## Questions:

1) When you measure the period of same spring at poles and near the equator do you observe any difference? How do you explain this?

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2) A mass  $m$  is hanged to a 10 cm spring with a spring constant  $k$  and the system performs a simple harmonic motion. Then the spring is divided into two pieces as 3 cm and 7 cm. The same  $m$  mass is hanged to both spring. How do the period and spring constants change? Please explain.

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