Equipment

The information reported here is obtained from manufacturers and from other sources considered to be reliable. Science does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information. A coupon for use in making inquiries concerning the items listed appears on page 1518.

- DIGITAL VOLT-OHM METER gives direct numerical indication of a-c and d-c voltage and resistance. Voltage measurements are accurate to ± 0.5 percent; resistance measurements to ± 1 percent. Ranges are selectable in decades from 0 to 1000 v and from to 0 to 10 megohm. Sampling rates may be set at 1 to 10 per second or may be arranged for external triggering. Measurement is accomplished in the instrument by comparing the input voltage to a reference linear sweep voltage that is generated internally. Start and stop pulses thus obtained are used to control a gated oscillator. Frequency range is 50 cy to 50 kcy/sec. Polarity and decimal-point location are indicated. Binarycoded output is available for operating a digital recorder. (Beckman Instruments Inc., Dept. 118)
- STEREOSCOPIC MICROSCOPE for dual use permits both the instructor and the student to view the same field simultaneously. Thus the instructor may demonstrate and manipulate objects under stereoscopic observation without ambiguity. (Kenneth A. Dawson Co., Dept. 110)
- OSCILLATOR covers frequencies from 180 to 600 Mcy/sec in a single range. A 4-in. dial is direct reading in terms of frequency with accuracy of ±1 percent. At least 300 mw of output power is available into 50 ohm at all frequencies. (General Radio Co., Dept. 114)
- PARTICLE ACCELERATOR of Van de Graaf type is designed for pulsed neutron output. The instrument delivers 2.5×10^9 neutron/sec during a 100-µsec pulse. Energy rating is 0.25 MeV, nominal, with ion current of 50 µa during pulse. Pulse length is adjustable in the range 25 to 250 µsec. Pulse rise and decay times are less than 5 µsec. Repetition rate is 400 pulse/sec, synchronous with ion-source power supply. (High Voltage Engineering Corporation, Dept. 117)
- ANGULAR-POSITION TRANSDUCER combines a rotary variable transformer and a transistorized demodulator. When the unit is excited from a suitable a-c source, the d-c output is linear with respect to rotation and polarized with respect to direction of rotation. A typical instrument range is 45-0-45 deg rotation. Units are available for excitation frequencies from 400 to 1000 cy/sec and with outputs up to ±30 v d-c. (Bourns Laboratorics, Dept. 124)

- HANDWRITING TRANSMITTER permits transmission over telephone wires of normal fast hand-writing with precision of 1/32 in. To transmit, the message is written with a ball point pen on continuously fed paper. A slave pen duplicates the message at the remote station. Carbon copies may be produced at both ends. (Autron Engineering Inc., Dept. 120)
- OXIDASE DISCS are a stable form of dimethyl-p-phenylenediamine, for identification of the genus *Neisseria*. In use, the discs are moistened and placed on the
- culture. After 30 to 45 min, oxidase-positive colonies will turn pink to red to black. Discs maintain stability indefinitely at room or refrigerator temperatures. (Scientific Products, Dept. 116)
- ANAEROBIC INCUBATORS permit accurate control of gas composition and pressure for growing anaerobic cultures. Carbon dioxide content is established by evacuating to correct pressure and filling to atmospheric pressure from a CO₂ bottle. For tissue cultures requiring continuous flow of gas through the chamber, two gas valves are provided. Temperature is ad-



justable from room temperature to 65°C. An accessory cooling coil is available for operation below room temperature. A vacuum of 10µ-Hg may be maintained in the chamber. A transparent window permits photosynthetic organisms to be grown with a controlled light source. (National Appliance Co., Dept. 132)

- PANORAMIC ANALYZER measures radio-frequency signals up to 1000 Mcy/sec. Resolution varies from 3 kcy/sec at a rapid scan rate down to less than 10 cy/sec. Scan rate is variable from 0.1 to 30 cy/sec. Direct sensitivity is 20 µv full-scale, and conversion sensitivity is 2 mv. Preset narrow-band scans of 150, 500, 2000, and 10,000 cy/sec are provided. Display is on a 5-in., high-persistence cathode-ray tube. Logarithmic, linear, and square-law scales are provided. (Panoramic Radio Products, Inc., Dept. 131)
- FOUR-CHANNEL OSCILLOSCOPE uses a square-face, four-gun, cathode-ray tube. Frequency range is from d-c to 5 Mcy/sec. Five preamplifiers form an integral part of the instrument and may be used in any combination on each of the four channels. Plug-in sweep generators permit viewing of all four channels on common or separate time bases. A calibrator-marker combines a square-wave voltage calibrator and a crystal-controlled 1-kcy/sec time-mark generator. (Electronic Tube Corporation, Dept. 119)
- RATE METER combines linear and logarithmic display. The instrument will also drive standard potentiometer- or galvanometer-type recorders. The linear scale has ten ranges, from 0 to 30 to 0 to 10⁶ count/min. The logarithmic scale covers 5 cycles in a single range from 10 to 10⁶ count/min. (Baird-Atomic Inc., Dept. 130)
- TIMER monitors development time for Polaroid-type oscilloscope record camera. Settings can be adjusted from 30 to 120 sec. The timer, which attaches to the camera, rings an alarm to alert the operator at the correct time for removal of the film from the camera. (Allen B. Du-Mont Laboratories, Inc., Dept. 127)
- VACUUM GAGE is useful in the pressure range 10⁻⁸ to 10⁻¹¹ mm-Hg. Ion current is 100 times that of the Bayard-Alpert ionization gage at the same pressure with filament emission 1 millionth as large. Electron trajectories of 10⁸ cm are obtained. Positive ions produced by collisions with gas molecules are attracted to the negative end plates constituting the ion current. Pumping speed of the gage for helium is up to 0.1 lit./sec. (General Electric Co., Dept. 138)

Joshua Stern

National Bureau of Standards

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(a) Scientist of Research-Director Caliber trained in fermentation—pharmaceutical industry; large industrial company; West. (b) Chemist qualified in microbiology to direct research laboratory, major industrial company; university city, East; \$10,000—\$12,000. (c) Chemist to direct department, new 225-bed hospital; \$6000 plus commission; Georgia. (d) Clinical Psychologists; newly created positions; outside United States; \$\$580—\$770. (e) Scientist qualified biochemistry or allied science, who is effective writer; firm handling nuclear instruments; up to \$10,000; Midwest. S6-4 Medical Bureau, Burneice Larson, Director, 900 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

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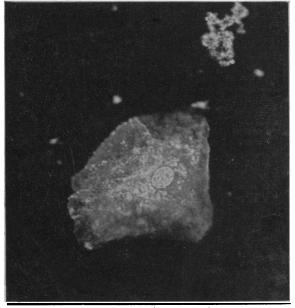
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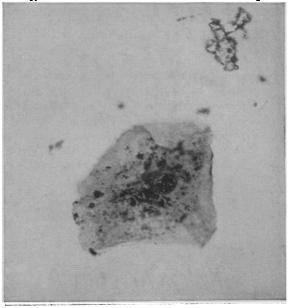


Here's how you can

MEASURE OPTICAL PATH DIFFERENCE

with the AO-Baker Interference Microscope





1. First, as shown in the photomicrograph* above, the microscope analyzer was rotated until the background was brought to extinction. Readings were taken directly from the analyzer scale. Averaged settings resulted in reading of 70.4°.

2. Next, the analyzer was rotated until the nucleus of the cell was brought to extinction. Averaged settings resulted in reading of 138.2°.

3. The Optical Path Difference, in degrees, is *twice* the difference between the two readings: OPD = 2
$$(138.2^{\circ}-70.4^{\circ}) = 135.6^{\circ}$$
, or OPD = $\left(\frac{135.6^{\circ}}{360^{\circ}}\right).546 = .2057$ Microns.



Optical path difference measurements can be made to an optimum accuracy of 1/300 wavelength. This unique ability to measure optical path thicknesses is in itself of great importance. But even more important, these measurements can be converted into a variety of quantitative information of great potential value. Water and protein content of a cell, for example, may be measured. Materials such as glass, plastics, emulsions, textiles can be examined.

While the AO-Baker Interference Microscope is primarily a quantitative instrument, it also offers unique advantages for qualitative observations through variable intensity contrast and dramatically effective variable color contrast.

*Photomicrographs taken by Mr. Lynn C. Wall, Medical Division, Eastman Kodak Co. Data: Epithelial Cell. AO-Baker Interference Microscope, 40X Shearing objective, 10X eyepieces. Corning filter CS4-120 with AO Model 630 Pulsarc Illuminator to transmit monochromatic light at .546 microns.

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