

Announcements for Monday, March 26, 2012

- Welcome to Physics H133!
- Prof. Dick Furnstahl. Nuclear theorist (e.g., see unedf.org).
Office: Physics Research Building (PRB) M2048 (mezzanine!).
- Handouts will always be on the table up front. There are 3 today.
- Please sign the sheet up front and get your picture taken.
Indicate whether you could do the Wednesday studio session from 2:30-3:18pm (instead of 3:30-4:18pm).
- Scanned Q1 and Q2 available online if no text yet (see email).
Username/password: physics/h133 (all lowercase)
- Tentative evening midterm date: Tuesday, May 1. Conflicts?
- Questions relevant for this quarter's topics (units Q and T):
 - 1 Can my cellphone give me cancer?
 - 2 How dangerous is nuclear power?
 - 3 Is climate change for real?
- Wave equation: a) $\frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$ or b) $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$???

“Moral Qualities of the Scientist”

Adapted from G. Polya, Induction and Analogy in Mathematics, chapter 1, section 4, which is entitled “The Inductive Attitude”.

Intellectual courage

One should be ready to revise any one of our beliefs.

Intellectual honesty

One should change a belief when there is a compelling reason to do so. To stick to a conjecture clearly contradicted by experience is dishonest. It is also dishonest to ignore information or not to state and criticize all assumptions.

Wise restraint

One should not change a belief wantonly, without some good reason. Don't just follow fashion. Do not believe anything, but question only what is worth questioning.