

## Concave Mirror Experiment

## 1 Objective

Determination of the focal length a concave mirror by:
(i) by u-v method.
(ii) From 1/u-1/v graph.

## 2 Theoretical background



The equation connecting the distance between mirror and object (u), distance between mirror and image (v), and the focal length of the mirror (f) is called mirror equation:

$$
\frac{1}{f}=\frac{1}{U}+\frac{1}{V}
$$

All the distances are measured from the center (pole) of the mirror.

## 3 Equipment

- A concave mirror
- Stand
- Screen
- Illuminated wire gauze.


## - Metre scale <br> 4 Method

1. Chose the type of a spherical mirror to be the concave mirror.
2. Set up the equipment as in the diagram. The object should be placed between C and F points.
3. Adjust the distance $u$ which is between mirror and the object as in the first value of $u$ tabular column in the result table.
4. Record the value of v , which the distance between the mirror and the image, in its tabular column.
5. Calculate the focal length of the given concave mirror by using the relation, $\mathrm{f}=\mathrm{uv} /(\mathrm{u}+\mathrm{v})$.
6. Repeat the experiment for different values of $u$ and in each time, record $v$ and calculate the focal length ( f ) of the concave mirror.
7. Calculate the mean of all focal lengths to get the correct focal length of the given concave mirror.
8. Plot a graph with $1 / \mathrm{u}$ along X axis and $1 / \mathrm{v}$ along Y axis by taking same scale for drawing the X and Y axes. The graph is a straight line intercepting the axes at A and B .
9. Determine the values of A and B points and calculate the mean of focal length by using the relation, $f=2 /(A+B)$.

## 5 Results

## Set the parameters of the simulator as the following:



## O Concave mirror

 OConvex mirrorMagnification $=-2.00$ Real image:
Image position $=6.00 \mathrm{~cm}$
Image height $=-1.19 \mathrm{~cm}$

| No. | Distance between the mirror and |  | $\begin{gathered} 1 / \mathrm{u} \\ \left(\mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1 / \mathrm{v} \\ \left(\mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $f=\frac{u v}{u+v}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Object, u } \\ & \text { (cm) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Image, v } \\ & \text { (cm) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2.50 | 10 | 0.40 | 0.10 | 2.0000000 |
| 2 | 2.75 | 7.33 | 0.36 | 0.14 | 1.9997520 |
| 3 | 3.00 | 6 | 0.33 | 0.17 | 2.0000000 |
| 4 | 3.25 | 5.2 | 0.31 | 0.19 | 2.0000000 |
| 5 | 3.50 | 4.67 | 0.29 | 0.21 | 2.0006120 |
| 6 | 3.75 | 4.29 | 0.27 | 0.23 | 2.0009328 |

the mean calculation of the concave mirror focal length by:

## I. U-V method.

$f_{\text {average }}=2 \quad \mathrm{~cm}$

Errors Analysis: $f_{T}=2 \mathrm{~cm}$
Error $\%=\frac{\left|f-f_{T}\right|}{f_{T}} \times 100 \%$,
Error $\%=\frac{|2-2|}{2} \times 100 \%$
Error \% $=0 \times 100 \%$

## II. $1 / u-1 / v$ graph.

## 6 Graph

Plot the relation between 1/u (on x axis) and 1/v ( on y axis) in sperate squares paper sheet.

## 7 Calculations

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Intercept of } 1 / \mathrm{u}=\mathrm{B}=0.5 \\
& \text { Intercept of } 1 / \mathrm{v}=\mathrm{A}=0.5
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
f_{\text {average }}=\frac{2}{A+B}=\frac{2}{0.5+0.5}=2 \quad \mathrm{~cm}
$$

Errors Analysis: $f_{T}=2 \mathrm{~cm}$
Error $\%=\frac{|2-2|}{2} \times 100 \%$
Error \% $=0 \times 100 \%$


