

Plan for Physics 492 Fall 2022

Lab number	Lab name	Subjects
I	Diode Experiments	Introduction to the test equipment and some components (including diodes) that you will use in Physics 492 and Physics 493.
II	Frequency Dependence	You will study circuits made from linear components: resistors, capacitors and inductors. You will build filters and resonators. You will learn the concept of impedance and its importance in circuit analysis and electrical measurements. You will also learn why we use scope probes and terminators for scope measurements.
III	More Diodes	This lab begins the study of semiconductor components. You will find the relation between the voltage and current in an ordinary diode and a zener diode. You will study temperature effects, rectification, and nonlinear circuit equilibrium.
IV	Constructing a Diode Thermometer	You will use a diode to design an analog thermometer that will work down to liquid-nitrogen temperatures. You will then build your own thermometer in a plastic housing that uses battery power.
V	Measuring Specific Heat of Metals	Use your homemade analog thermometer to measure the specific heat of various metals over a wide temperature range.
VI	Bipolar Transistors	The workhorse of electronics: the bipolar transistor. You will build amplifiers, an emitter follower, a constant-current source, and a switch.
VII	Differential Amplifiers	The differential amplifier forms the front end of all operation amplifiers. You will build a differential amplifier with a constant current source to eliminate all common mode noise.
VIII	JFET Transistors (time permitting)	This lab explores basic JFET transistor characteristics, circuits and applications. You will build a JFET switch, memory cell, current source, and voltage follower, attenuator, modulator, and transmitter.
IX	Op-amps	You'll study operational amplifiers and feedback. You will construct a comparator, follower, current source, as well as inverting, non inverting, differential, and summing amplifiers. The lab assumes that the op amps are perfect and uses the Op Amp Golden Rules to analyze the circuits.