

## Lab – Reaction Time

**Purpose:** To determine one's own reaction time.

**Materials:**

- Meter stick

**Instructions:**

1. You must work with a partner.
2. Your partner will hold the meter stick at the top. You will put your thumb and index finger at the 50 cm mark, ready to catch it.
3. Your partner will drop the meter stick when you least suspect it. Catch it as soon as you can.
4. Take note of where your fingers catch the meter stick, this is your change in displacement. Repeat this six times, recording each displacement in the data section of your lab.
5. Repeat process for your partner.
6. Using the GUESS method and the distance formula, calculate each trial's reaction time.
7. Your conclusion should discuss what happened to your reaction time as you went through the six trials – did it get better, worse, or stay the same? How did your reaction time compare to your partner's?