

THE 42nd—14th INTERNATIONAL—RUDOLF ORTVAY PROBLEM SOLVING CONTEST IN PHYSICS 28 October—7 November 2011 RULES OF THE CONTEST

The Physics Students' Association of Eötvös University, Budapest, the Roland Eötvös Physical Society and the Hungarian Association of Physics Students proudly announce the **42nd** – and for the fourteenth time **international** Rudolf Ortway Problem Solving Contest in Physics, between 28 October 2011 and 7 November 2011.

Every university student from any country can participate in the Ortway Contest. PhD students compete in a separate category. The contest is for individuals: solutions sent by groups of students are not accepted. The name, the university, the major, and the university year should be indicated on each solutions. Pseudonyms and passwords cannot be used: each contestant has to use his/her own name.

The problems can be **downloaded** from the webpages of the Ortway Contest

<http://ortvay.elte.hu/>

in Hungarian and English languages, in pdf format, from **12 o'clock (Central European Time, 10:00 GMT), Friday, 28 October 2011.**

Despite all the efforts of the organizers, it may happen that some unclear points or misprints stay in the text. Therefore it is very useful to visit the webpage of the contest from time to time, as the corrections and/or modifications will appear there.

Each contestant can send solutions for up to 10 problems. For the solution of each problem 100 points can be given.

Any kind of reference material may be consulted; textbooks and articles of journals can be cited.

Computer programs appended to the solutions should be accompanied by detailed descriptions (what computer language it has been written in, how to use the program, which parameters can be set, what notations are used, how to interpret the output figures and graphs, etc.)

Deadline for sending the solutions: 12 o'clock CET (11:00 GMT), 7 November 2011.

Attention! In contrast to earlier years, the solutions may be submitted *exclusively* only in an electronic format! Please convert all materials and written versions to .pdf files. This can automatically be done for solutions written in LaTeX, whereas we kindly request the handwritten sheets to be scanned and converted to pdf as well. If all else fails jpg and gif are accepted.

Solutions may be accompanied with attached files (executable programs, pictures, tables). Please compress the executable files and upload it in the archived form. Please make sure to give a complete list of the specific attached files at the end of the written form of each solutions!

Please save the solutions for each problems in separate files, and upload them separately (evidently, if solution are handwritten, please prepare them on separate pages for each solutions, and scan them so). If solutions for different problems are mixed, either by having written on the same page, or if one file contains more than one addressed problems, the submitted solutions are disregarded!

Please upload your solutions in an electronic form, using the program accessible from the website of the competition. Contestants must get registered first by filling out the formular, also available at the website. We kindly ask all participants to register already at the beginning of the competition, or at least few days before the deadline, to avoid last minute rush. Please give precise information in the formular concerning personal and educational data; incomplete registration will be declined by the system.

Please make it clear in which category (grade) you wish to compete (from first to fifth grade or PhD student). This must be evident for physics or physics-engineer majors or all those who study physics as their principal subject: in this case the actual year must be indicated. Those who missed some semesters or studied abroad, or by any reason the grade is unclear, should try to choose in the most reasonable way. It is a basic rule that one can round upwards but not downwards: a fifth year student should not compete among the second year students. Other students who study physics not as a major subject, or if eventually they do not study physics at all, should make the choice on their own accord. Secondary school students should in any case choose the first grade. PhD students studying physics or similar subjects must indicate the PhD category. In case of serious doubt, please contact the organizers via the mail address info@ortvay.elte.hu before 3 November.

Those who fill out the formular will receive a confirmation e-mail. Clicking on the given link the registration is validated.

Registered contestants may log in with their identifier and password and can upload their solutions in the data base. The system accepts a number of different file types, but as it was indicated above, pdf format is highly preferred. The maximum size of any single file can be 2MB! Please upload the essays and the accompanying files matched with the corresponding problem number.

Upload may start already at the first days of the competition, in arbitrary order, but the transfer must be completed at latest by the end of the competition, that is by noon (11:00 GMT) on the 7th November. In case of technical problems please write a mail to info@ortvay.elte.hu .

The contest will be evaluated separately for each university year, according to the total number of points. The referees reserve the right to withhold, to multiply or to share some prizes. Beyond the money prizes given for the first, second, and third places, honorable mentions and special prizes for the outstanding solutions of individual problems can be awarded. This is why it is worthwhile sending even one or two solutions.

The announcement of the results will take place on 8 December, 2011. The detailed results will be available on the webpage of the contest thereafter. Certificates and prizes will be sent by mail.

Wishing a successful contest to all our participants,

the Organizing Committee: Andrea Király, Gyula Dávid and József Cserti
The original Hungarian text is translated by Dezső Varga

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