

Name: C1

Date: 4/20/15 19:13

## PHY332 Weekly Reflection #3 (CA)

### **Describe a successful moment when you got something to work properly on your project.**

We had to get our two superimposed lasers to shine directly down a microscope shaft, but they had to propagate just about perfectly parallel to the shaft, directly in the center. Otherwise they would not be able to go through the centers of both of the apertures in the shaft. After 20+ minutes of adjusting two of the mirrors that directed the lasers into the shaft, we closed both apertures almost completely and the lasers still shone through the shaft, perfectly on target on the other side.

### **In what specific ways were you able to contribute to this successful moment?**

I was the one who was (informally) in charge of the alignment, so I was the primary contributor. My partner was working on manufacturing the gain material while I aligned the lasers.

### **Tell me about one of your strengths that is relevant to this successful moment or to the project more generally.**

I tend to be patient, and I do not like to leave a project until it is as good as I can make it. There was a point fairly early in the process where the lasers were aligned well enough but with room for improvement, and attempts to improve the alignment had the potential of making it worse. But I did keep trying and eventually got the lasers aligned just how we wanted them.

### **Compare how you feel to now to how you were feeling before the successful moment.**

**How have your perceptions changed as a result of the successful moment? Indicate the level of change below.**

*1 – Much less, 2 – Somewhat less, 3 – About the same, 4 – Somewhat more, 5 – Much more*

Compared to before the successful moment, your current level of...

...enjoyment when working on the project: 4

...confidence in your ability to solve problems: 4

### **Please elaborate on how your level of enjoyment when working on the project changed as a result of this successful moment.**

A lot of miscellaneous setup has gone into the project up to now, but the completion of the laser alignment was one of the first steps which had a clear effect on our final measurements and results. I like working toward a goal, so taking a significant step in the right direction helps make the project enjoyable.

### **Please elaborate on how your level of confidence in your ability to solve problems changed as a result of this successful moment.**

The process of aligning the lasers was explained by Dr. Lindquist, so there was not a significant amount of problem-solving done on our end. But I was able to follow his guidelines and align the lasers successfully on my own.

Name: C2

Date: 4/20/15 22:16

## PHY332 Weekly Reflection #3 (CA)

**Describe a successful moment when you got something to work properly on your project.**

We were able to fabricate the solid state gain material that we are going to use.

**In what specific ways were you able to contribute to this successful moment?**

I worked with the professor to mix the solution of the dye and acetone then mixed it into the UV curing glue.

**Tell me about one of your strengths that is relevant to this successful moment or to the project more generally.**

One strength I have is being goal oriented so it has helped to have an outlook of what needs to get done and work towards those goals.

**Compare how you feel to now to how you were feeling before the successful moment.**

**How have your perceptions changed as a result of the successful moment? Indicate the level of change below.**

*1 – Much less, 2 – Somewhat less, 3 – About the same, 4 – Somewhat more, 5 – Much more*

Compared to before the successful moment, your current level of...

...enjoyment when working on the project: 3

...confidence in your ability to solve problems: 3

**Please elaborate on how your level of enjoyment when working on the project changed as a result of this successful moment.**

It has been pretty steady this whole time.

**Please elaborate on how your level of confidence in your ability to solve problems changed as a result of this successful moment.**

It has been pretty steady this whole time.