

# Errata for The Feynman Lectures on Physics Volume I New Millennium Edition (submitted 5/16/2021)

The errors in this list appear in *The Feynman Lectures on Physics: New Millennium Edition* and earlier editions; errors validated by Caltech will be corrected in future printings of the *New Millennium Edition* or in future editions.

Errors are listed in the order of their appearance in the book. Each listing consists of the errant text followed by a brief description of the error, followed by corrected text.

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## Errata for The Feynman Lectures on Physics

### I:viii, after par 4

Note added by Kip Thorne to the *Acknowledgements* section of his Preface.

*Note added 13 May, 2022:* In addition to Caltech professors who contributed to the making of FLP, a number of graduate students and staff helped with the technical details of its preparation. The Forewords written by Feynman's coauthors Leighton and Sands acknowledge these helpers, but while Volumes II and III give lists, Volume I includes only a general acknowledgment. After consulting knowledgeable colleagues I have constructed the following, likely incomplete, list of people who, I believe, deserve credit for their help with the technical details of preparing Volume I: *Alan Title, Marylou Clayton, Julie Curcio, Don Groom, James Hartle, Tom Harvey, Fanny Warren, Clyde Zaidins, and Barbara Zimmerman.* (I would welcome suggestions for additions or corrections to this list; please send them to me at Caltech.)

### I:4-5, par 1

... discovered by Stevinus and inscribed on his tombstone.

Stevinus used the *clootcrans* ("wreath of spheres") diagram as his trademark. The legs of its triangle are in the ratio 1:2, as opposed to Feynman's 3:5. Stevinus' tombstone has never been found.

... discovered by Stevinus and inscribed on his tombstone.<sup>2</sup>

2. Stevinus' tombstone has never been found. He used a similar diagram as his trademark.

### I:4-5, Fig 4-4

The lower part of the chain does not look balanced in the original figure. It should hang in a catenary and have reflection symmetry across a vertical line through its horizontal center, as shown below. Quotation marks are added to the word epitaph in the caption, consonant with the new footnote for par 1 given above.

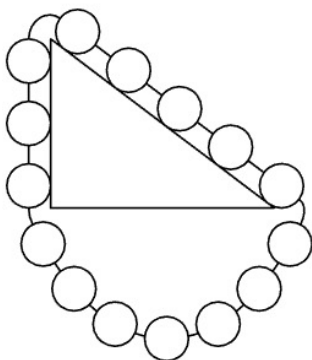


Fig. 4-4. The "epitaph" of Stevinus.

## Errata for The Feynman Lectures on Physics

### I:28-2, par 4

That, of course, is Coulomb's law, which we already know:  $q$  is the charge that is producing the field;  $\mathbf{e}_r$  is the unit vector in the direction from the point  $P$  where  $\mathbf{E}$  is measured,  $r$  is the distance from  $P$  to  $q$ .

Superfluous tick mark: " $\mathbf{e}_r$ " vs. " $\mathbf{e}_r$ " (for consistency with Coulomb's law and with ' $r$ ', which appears later in the sentence).

That, of course, is Coulomb's law, which we already know:  $q$  is the charge that is producing the field;  $\mathbf{e}_r$  is the unit vector in the direction from the point  $P$  where  $\mathbf{E}$  is measured,  $r$  is the distance from  $P$  to  $q$ .

### I:30-10, par 3

We shall suppose, however, that the point  $P$  is so far away, compared with the distance of the point  $Q$  from the axis (the distance  $\rho$  in Fig. 30-10), for those changes that we need to take into account, that we can leave out the cosine factor (which would be nearly equal to 1 anyway).

Wrong word: "changes" vs. "charges".

We shall suppose, however, that the point  $P$  is so far away, compared with the distance of the point  $Q$  from the axis (the distance  $\rho$  in Fig. 30-10), for those charges that we need to take into account, that we can leave out the cosine factor (which would be nearly equal to 1 anyway).

### I:52-12, par 3

There is a gate in Japan, a gate in Neiko, which is sometimes called by the Japanese the most beautiful gate in all Japan;

Incorrect spelling. ("Neiko" vs. "Nikkō")

There is a gate in Japan, a gate in Nikkō, which is sometimes called by the Japanese the most beautiful gate in all Japan;