

# Errata for The Feynman Lectures on Physics Volume II New Millennium Edition (5<sup>th</sup> printing)

The errors in this list appear in the 5<sup>th</sup> printing of *The Feynman Lectures on Physics: New Millennium Edition* and earlier printings and editions; these errors have been corrected in the 6<sup>th</sup> printing of the New Millennium Edition.

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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**II:7-11, Eq 7.43**

$$\frac{d^2 F_n}{dz^2} = \frac{4\pi n^2}{a^2} F_n \quad (7.43)$$

Missing exponent '2' on  $\pi$ . (Compare to Eq. 7.42.)

$$\frac{d^2 F_n}{dz^2} = \frac{4\pi^2 n^2}{a^2} F_n \quad (7.43)$$

**II:26-10, par 2 [approved]**

So when we move along perpendicular to a static electric field, we see a reduced  $E$  and an added transverse  $B$ .

Inaccurate statement (because  $E'_{\parallel} = E_{\parallel}$  and  $E'_{\perp} > E_{\perp}$ , so  $E' > E$ ).

So when we move along perpendicular to a static electric field, we see an added transverse  $B$ .

**II:32-1, Table 32-1, row 2 [approved]**

Index of gases	Vol. I Chap 31	$n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{Nq_e^2}{\epsilon_0(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}$
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Electron mass 'm' is missing in the denominator of the second term on the right (as per Eqs. I:31-19 and II:32-26).

Index of gases	Vol. I Chap 31	$n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{Nq_e^2}{\epsilon_0 m(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}$
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**II:32-9, Table 32-2, col. J heading [approved]**

$$N_0 \alpha_2$$

(g/liter)

Wrong units (strike). [Note:  $\alpha_2$  (the polarizability of a sugar molecule) has dimensions of volume (see FLP II:11), so column J also has dimensions of volume, or volume per mole.]

$$N_0 \alpha_2$$

**II:39-8, par 2**

This is again a vector wave equation for waves with the speed  $C_2 = \sqrt{\mu/\rho}$  . . . and  $C_2 = C_{\text{shear}}$  .

Wrong index ('2' vs. '1', 2 occurrences).

This is again a vector wave equation for waves with the speed  $C_1 = \sqrt{\mu/\rho}$  . . . and  $C_1 = C_{\text{shear}}$  .

**II:42-11, par 2 [approved]**

Since the energy  $E_0$  has the gravitational mass  $E_0/c^2$  the photon has a mass (*not* rest mass)  $\hbar\omega/c^2$  , . . .

Feynman never said this; the term "gravitational mass" is not defined anywhere in FLP, and it is questionable whether it applies to a photon.

Since the energy  $E_0$  has the relativistic mass  $E_0/c^2$  the photon has a mass (*not* rest mass)  $\hbar\omega/c^2$  , . . .