



Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology

Thiruvananthapuram 695 547
Department of Physics
Academic Audit Report
2021-2022

Academic audit committee

Internal members		
Sl.No.	Faculty Name	Role
1	Dr. Sudheesh Chethil, Associate Professor, Physics	Chairman
2	Dr. Sooraj Ravindran, Associate Professor, Avionics	Member
3	Dr. Apoorva Nagar, Associate Professor, Physics	Convenor

External members						
Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Email	Mobile	Name of the Institute	Role
1	Dr. Rajeev N Kini	Associate Professor			IISER Thiruvananthapuram	Member

I Department profile		
1	No. of Permanent Faculty Members	13
2	No. of Adjunct Faculty Members	0
3	No. of Contract Faculty Members	0
4	No. of Guest Faculty Members	0
5	No. of Emeritus Professors / Visiting Faculty Members	3

6	No. of Technical Staff / Tutors (Permanent)	1
7	No. of Technical Staff / Tutors (Contract)	8
8	No. of JRFs/ SRF/ JPF (excluding PhD students)	13
9	No. of Project Fellows	36
10	No. of Research Associates	0
11	No. of Post Doctoral Fellows	2

II Details of academic programmes and student strength in numbers

A .Undergraduate/ Dual Degree / Postgraduate programmes

Sl. No.	Programme	Year	Sanctioned strength in the academic year	Student strength in the academic year (At the start of even semester)	Female student strength in the academic year	No. of passed out Students	Pass Percentage
1	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics (B.Tech.)+ M.Tech./ Master of Science	I Year	22	22	3	0	0.00
2	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics (B.Tech.)+ M.Tech./ Master of Science	II Year	22	22	1	0	0.00
3	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics (B.Tech.)+ M.Tech./ Master of Science	III Year	22	22	1	0	0.00
4	Dual Degree: Eng. Physics (B.Tech.)+ Optical Engineering(M.Tech.)	IV Year	20	4	0	0	0.00
5	Dual Degree: Eng. Physics (B.Tech.)+ Optical Engineering(M.Tech.)	V Year	20	7	0	7	100.00
6	Dual Degree: Eng. Physics (B.Tech.)+ Solid State Physics(Master of Science)	IV Year	20	5	0	0	0.00
7	Dual Degree: Eng. Physics (B.Tech.)+ Solid State Physics(Master of Science)	V Year	20	5	0	5	100.00
8	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering (Standalone)	I Year	16	5	3	0	0.00
9	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering (Standalone)	II Year	10	6	3	6	100.00

10	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology (Standalone)	I Year	11	3	1	0	0.00
11	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology (Standalone)	II Year	10	6	2	5	83.33
Total			193	107	14	23	

B. Details of Student Demand Ratio

Programme	No. of students applied	No. of students admitted	Comments	Suggestions
Dual Degree: Engineering Physics (B.Tech.)+ M.Tech./ Master of Science	0	0		
Dual Degree: Eng. Physics (B.Tech.)+ Optical Engineering (M.Tech.)	4694	4		
Dual Degree: Eng. Physics (B.Tech.)+ Solid State Physics (M.Tech.)	4694	5		
M.Tech.: Optical Engineering (Standalone)	138	5		
M.Tech.: Solid State Technology (Standalone)	123	3		

C. Doctoral Degree

PhD	During the academic year			Degree awarded
	Sanctioned seats	No. of students admitted	Current student strength	
PART TIME	0	0	0	0
FULL TIME	8	8	37	4
Total	8	8	37	4

III Details of core courses and electives in each programme

SI. No.	Programme Name	Course code	Course name	Core/ Elective	Credits assigned	As per curriculum revision/ newly added elective course/ syllabus revised
1	B.Tech.: Aerospace Engineering	PH361	Quantum Information Theory	Elective	3	
2	B.Tech.: Aerospace Engineering	PH111	Physics I	Core	4	
3	B.Tech.: Aerospace Engineering	PH121	Physics II	Core	4	

4	B.Tech.: Aerospace Engineering	PH131	Physics Lab	Core	1	
5	B.Tech.: Electronics and Communication Engineering(Avionics)	PH464	Introduction to Quantum Optical Technologies	Audited	0	
6	B.Tech.: Electronics and Communication Engineering(Avionics)	PH111	Physics I	Core	4	
7	B.Tech.: Electronics and Communication Engineering(Avionics)	PH121	Physics II	Core	4	
8	B.Tech.: Electronics and Communication Engineering(Avionics)	PH131	Physics Lab	Core	1	
9	Dual Degree: Earth System Science	PH452	Summer Internship and Training	Core	3	
10	Dual Degree: Astronomy & Astrophysics	PH452	Summer Internship and Training	Core	3	
11	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH554	Project Phase II	Core	20	
12	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH551	Project Phase I	Core	13	
13	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH552	Comprehensive Viva-Voce II	Core	2	
14	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH411	Optical Engineering Fundamentals	Core	3	
15	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH412	Opto Mechanical Design Analysis	Core	3	
16	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH413	Optical Fabrication and Testing	Core	3	
17	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH414	Lasers and Optoelectronics	Core	3	
18	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH419	Fourier Optics	Elective	3	
19	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH431	Optics and Optoelectronics Lab	Core	1	
20	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH432	Design and Analysis Lab	Core	1	
21	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH452	Summer Internship and Training	Core	3	
22	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH421	Guided Wave Optics	Core	3	

23	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH422	Adaptive Optics	Core	3	
24	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH423	Optical System Analysis and Design	Core	3	
25	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH464	Quantum Optical Technology	Elective	3	
26	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH468	MEMS and MOEMS	Elective	3	
27	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH441	Guided Wave Optics Lab	Core	1	
28	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH442	Adaptive Optics Lab	Core	1	
29	Dual Degree: Optical Engineering	PH451	Seminar	Core	1	
30	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH555	Project Phase II	Core	18	
31	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH553	Project Phase I	Core	16	
32	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH411	Optical Engineering Fundamentals	Elective	3	
33	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH415	Advanced Solid State Physics	Core	4	
34	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH416	Quantum Mechanics II	Core	4	
35	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH417	Semiconductor Physics	Core	4	
36	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH418	Experimental Physics	Elective	3	
37	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH433	Solid State Physics Lab II	Core	1	
38	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH452	Summer Internship and Training	Core	3	
39	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH424	Advanced Statistical Mechanics	Core	4	
40	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH425	Computational Physics	Core	3	
41	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH464	Quantum Optical Technology	Elective	3	
42	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH468	MEMS and MOEMS	Elective	3	
43	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH443	Solid State Physics Lab III	Core	1	

44	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH453	Mini Project	Core	2	
45	Dual Degree: Solid State Physics	PH454	Comprehensive Viva Voce II	Core	2	
46	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH311	Quantum Mechanics	Core	4	
47	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH312	Statistical Mechanics	Core	3	
48	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH331	Modern Physics Lab	Core	1	
49	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH321	Introduction to Solid State Physics	Core	3	
50	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH311	Atomic and Molecular Spectroscopy	Elective	3	
51	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH361	Quantum Information Theory	Elective	3	
52	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH464	Introduction to Quantum Optical Technologies	Elective	3	
53	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH341	Solid State Physics Lab	Core	1	
54	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH351	Comprehensive Viva-Voce I	Core	3	
55	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH211	Electrodynamics and Special Relativity	Core	3	
56	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH212	Mathematical Physics	Core	4	
57	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH222	Classical Mechanics	Core	4	
58	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH231	Optics Lab I	Core	1	
59	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH221	Modern Optics	Core	3	
60	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH222	Quantum Mechanics	Core	4	
61	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH241	Optics Lab II	Core	1	
62	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH111	Physics I	Core	4	
63	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH121	Physics II	Core	4	
64	Dual Degree: Engineering Physics	PH131	Physics Lab	Core	1	

65	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH751	Project Phase I	Core	13	
66	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH752	Comprehensive Viva	Core	2	
67	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH754	Project Phase II	Core	20	
68	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH611	Optical Engineering Fundamentals	Core	3	
69	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH612	Opto Mechanical Design Analysis	Core	3	
70	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH613	Optical Fabrication and Testing	Core	3	
71	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH614	Lasers and Optoelectronics	Core	3	
72	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH619	Fourier Optics	Elective	3	
73	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH631	Optics and Optoelectronics Lab	Core	1	
74	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH632	Design and Analysis Lab	Core	1	
75	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH621	Guided Wave Optics	Core	3	
76	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH622	Adaptive Optics	Core	3	
77	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH623	Optical System Analysis and Design	Core	3	
78	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH664	Quantum Optical Technology	Elective	3	
79	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH668	MEMS and MOEMS	Elective	3	
80	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH641	Guided Wave Optics Lab	Core	1	
81	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH642	Adaptive Optics Lab	Core	1	
82	M.Tech.: Optical Engineering	PH651	Seminar	Core	1	
83	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH755	Project Phase I	Core	14	
84	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH757	Project Phase II	Core	18	
85	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH615	Advanced Electromagnetics	Core	3	

86	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH616	Statistical and Semiconductor Physics	Core	4	
87	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH617	Solid State Physics I	Core	4	
88	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH618	Applied Quantum Physics	Core	4	
89	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH635	Solid State Technology Lab I	Core	3	
90	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH625	Solid State Physics II	Core	3	
91	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH626	Device Physics and Nanoelectronics	Core	3	
92	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH627	Computational Solid State Physics	Core	3	
93	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH664	Quantum Optical Technology	Elective	3	
94	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH668	MEMS and MOEMS	Elective	3	
95	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH636	Solid State Technology Lab - II	Core	3	
96	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH653	Seminar	Core	1	
97	M.Tech.: Solid State Technology	PH656	Comprehensive Viva	Core	1	
98	Ph.D.: Course Work - January	PH664	Quantum Optical Technology	Credited	3	
99	Ph.D.: Course Work - January	PH321	Introduction to Solid State Physics	Credited	3	
100	Ph.D.: Course Work - July	PH619	Fourier Optics	Credited	3	
101	Ph.D.: Course Work - July	PH832	Experimental Physics	Credited	3	
102	Ph.D.: Course Work - July	PH814	Advanced Mathematical Physics	Credited	4	
103	Ph.D.: Course Work - July	PH417	Semiconductor Physics	Credited	3	
104	Ph.D.: Course Work - July	PH611	Optical Engineering Fundamentals	Credited	3	

IV Review on Curriculum

Criteria	Reponse	Revision made during this academic year	Comments on curriculum, if any	Suggestions for improvement
Qualitative comment on the content of the curriculum	EXCELLENT	yes	Syllabus modified, Some courses removed and new ones added as per recommendations of committee	

V Review on Teaching, Learning and Evaluation

Sl. No.	Criteria	Response based on criteria	Comments	Suggestions
1	Any innovative teaching methods/aids adopted?	Yes	Experimental demonstrations in theory courses, applets and video demonstrations, exercises to promote lateral thinking, working with real world data	
2	Is any e-learning modules developed?	Yes	Exams and Lecture videos on Moodle Videos for experiment demonstrations	
3	Student evaluation procedure			
	Criteria	Response	Comments	Suggestions
	Course evaluation	Internal		
	Project evaluation	Internal		
4	Evaluation components			
	Criteria	Response	Comments	Suggestions
	Theory	Continuous assesment and end semester exam		
	Lab	Continuous assesment and end semester exam Continuous assesment and course project Continuous assesment and end semester exam, Continuous assesment and course project		
	Project/ Internship/ Seminar	Mid term evaluaion and final evaluation		
5	Continuous Assessment Components			

	Theory	Quiz I Quiz II Others - End semester internal evaluation		
	Lab	Class exercise evaluation & End Semester Examination short projects for evaluation in advanced labs		
6	Is there any remedial coaching to support weak performers?	Yes	Remedial classes for weak students	
7	Is academic feedback from students taken regularly?	Yes	Class committee meetings, course evaluation forms at the end of semester	
8	What are the steps taken based on student's feedback?	Class committee feedback: suggestions implemented in ongoing semester Course feedback: Teachers improve content and methods the next time course is taught Curriculum revised if recommended by students		
9	Is Class committee meetings conducted?	Yes Class committee meetings held after quiz 1 and quiz 2		

VI Department faculty credentials

Sl. No.	Criteria	Response	Comments	Suggestions
1	Percentage of faculty with PhD	100		
2	No. of journal articles published	26		
3	No. of books published	0		
4	No. of book chapters published	0		
5	No. of invited talks/ conferences/ workshops attended	1		
6	No. of research projects funded by IIST	7		
7	No. of research projects funded through ASRG/IIST-ISRO/DoS	6		
8	No. of externally funded research projects like CSIR, DST, DRDO etc.	6		
9	No. of patents published/awarded	0		
10	No. of patents filed	0		
11	No. of faculty/student awards received	10		
12	No. of conferences/Workshops/seminars/Colloquium Organized	1		

13	No. of conference paper published	6		
14	No. of visits made by the faculty/student for research collaborations/invited talks/conferences abroad	0		
15	No. of Industry collaborative projects	0		
16	No. of ISRO mission related projects/ activities	0		
17	No. of consultancy services entertained	0		

VIII Details of student co-curricular activities

Criteria	Response	Comments	Suggestions
Whether students are involved in extra curricular & co-curricular activities?	Yes	SSPACE, Physics club, AHAN, OPTICA, SPIE student chapter, NIRMAN (social outreach), Yoga club	
Whether students are doing internship abroad?			
Whether students are doing internship at national academic institutes / universities?	Yes Externally sponsored	MS SSP student went to RRI	
Whether students are doing internship at ISRO/ Industries/ R&D institutes?			
Whether the department conducts outreach programs?	Yes OPTICA, SPIE student chapter organise lectures		
Whether department has alumni activities?	No		

IX Details of placement/ higher studies of students

Criteria	UG	PG	PhD	Comments	Suggestions
No. of students placed	0	15	0		
No. of students opted for higher studies	0	2	0		
No. of students cleared GATE/ SLET/ NET/ CSIR/ UGC/ Others etc.	0	0	0		

X Infrastructure in the Department

Sl. No.	Criteria	Response	Comments	Suggestions
1	No. of classrooms	10		
2	No. of seminar/ conference rooms	1		
3	No. of instruction labs	7		
4	No. of research labs	8		
5	No. of full-fledged e-learning classrooms	10		
6	No. of computing labs	2		
7	Is there any lab with potential for centre of excellence?			
8	Is there any labs sponsored by external agency?	The Electric Propulsion Diagnostics Lab. (EPDL) (Prof. Umesh). Lab funded by ISRO for supporting the development of Electric Propulsion Systems by LPSC.		
9	Inter-disciplinary research facility	The Sensors and Payloads Lab (SPDL) (Prof. Umesh). Development of space based sensors and payloads for near earth and inter planetary missions. Interdisciplinary team of 5 faculty members from various departments involved.		
10	Is there any common amenities like restroom, recreation club, etc.?	yes,R-209 restroom		
11	Is there any facilities for differently abled?	yes, separate toilet, lift, wheel chair and wheelchair ramp		
12	Is there any Department library?	No		

XII Additional Information

1.	Does the curriculum of each programme offered by the department provide the Programme Educational Objectives (PEOs)/Programme Specific Outcomes (PSOs) and Programme Outcomes (POs)?	Yes
2.	Do the courses offered in each programme by the department provide the Course Objectives and Course Outcomes (COs) written in clear terms?	No
3.	Give the status of adopting Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) in the programmes offered by the department	Implemented
4.	Give the status of adopting Objective Based Education (OBE) in the programmes offered by the department.	Implemented

5.	Satisfaction level of support of academic, administrative, and other support units of the institution	Excellent
6.	The status of taking feedback from stakeholders and expert groups for revision and design of curriculum of a programme.	Student Faculty Alumni Employers Academic Peers
7.	The list of extension programmes conducted by the department	
8.	List Faculty Development Programme conducted (any programme aiming at updating the knowledge of faculty of the department).	
9.	Does students take projects involving Field work/Survey. If yes, give the list.	No
10.	The List of MoU and MoAs, that are currently operational during the year.	Development of atomic layer deposition system funded by DST(Prof. Jinesh), Design and construction of MEMS-based portable Seismocardiogram (Dr. Jinesh), Establishment of Laser Profilometry Based on Holographic Principle.(Prof. Dinesh)
11.	Detail the mechanism adopted to help academically disadvantaged students to cope with academic requirements	Remedial classes, Mentorship, supplementary exam
12.	Detail the mechanism adopted to help students who perform very much below the class averages	Remedial classes, Mentorship, supplementary exam
13.	The total grant/revenue generated/received from different agencies by the department conducting research projects/consultancy services during the year.	26768323/- (11308720 DST+2965118 DST+2455029 SERB+5262400 SERB+4777056 SERB)

14.	The suggestions to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the IIST system.	Procurement process and external external project fund management are overly constrained. Policy needed for external project overhead funds. Simplification required for access to IIST by academic visitors.
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XIII Strength of the Department (maximum 150 words)

Faculty with complementary research areas that can support each other's teaching and research work. Good research and teaching laboratory facilities. Overlapping activities for research, PG and UG students providing an opportunity to work together and learn. ISRO experts as guest faculty for teaching specific technical courses Excellent teaching with an average feedback of more than 80% for the department.

XIV Weakness of the Department (maximum 150 words)

Some areas of Physics not represented, e.g. high energy physics, soft condensed matter physics. Faculty strength below optimal as regards teaching load

XV Challenges (maximum 150 words)

Visibility as a department is less than optimum. Need better projection at a national level to attract talent. Limited availability of talent for research (PhD and Postdoctoral fellows) We are a science department both AICTE and UGC guidelines, leading to duplication of procedural efforts.

XVI Opportunities (maximum 150 words)

Collaboration with ISRO on cutting edge technological problems related to applications of Physics. Thus there is a fruitful exchange between industry and academics. Collaborations with international institutions. Resources for futuristic quantum technology research.

XVII Any other details relevant to the department

Final Recommendations

On the day of visit, the team verified all the documents and records available in the department and evaluated the academic process. A detailed report of the audit is given above. The report is signed by the following:

Signature of Committee Members

- Dr. Sudheesh**
1 **Chethil, Associate**
Professor, Physics:
- Dr. Sooraj**
2 **Ravindran,**
Associate Professor,
Avionics:
- Dr. Apoorva Nagar,**
3 Associate Professor,
Physics:
- Dr. Rajeev N Kini, Associate**
4 Professor, IISER
Thiruvananthapuram:

C. Sudheesh
Sooraj
Apoorva
Rajeev

Approved by, 

Dean Academics,
IIST
प्रोफ. कुरुविल्ला जोसफ/Prof. Kuruvilla Joseph
डीन (शैक्षिकी), आईआईएसटी
Dean (Academics), IIST