Title: Professional development for physics teachers: A UK perspective

Date: May 25, 2006 07:00 PM

URL: http://pirsa.org/06050012

Abstract: <kw> Institute of Science, A levels, boring, difficult, support for schools, girls in physics, advancing physics, physics education, celestia, videshell, quantum atomica, walter fend, physics lab, phet, modellus, clea, lancaster particle physics, many paths, seismology, stellarium, Alice law, warp, wintreb, datapoint, tinycad, falstad applets, spektrus, emanim </kw>

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(Science) Education in the (UK)

Age	Subject	Number	Assessment
5- 7	Science	~ 500K	National Test
7-11	Science	~ 500K	National Test
11-14	Science	~ 500K	National Test
14-16	Sciences(?) Core, Applied, Academic	~ 250K (A-C) Physics ~33K	GCSE
16-18	Physics	~ 28K	AS A2 Page 2/148

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Physics in Schools (Numbers)

- Physics A-level in 2005,
 - 28,119 UK candidates (12th most popular)
 - 21,922 (6th most popular (M))
 - 6197 (19th most popular (F))

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Physics in Schools (Attitudes)

Physics is difficult

 Research backs this up but probably not to the extent that it is perceived

Physics is irrelevent

 Poor careers advice and lack of contemporary physics is an issue

Physics is boring

Non specialist teaching, plus a didactic approach to learning

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Physics Teachers (Numbers)

- Trainee Teachers 2005 (England)
 - 301 Physics (not all physicists),
 - 434 Chemistry
 - 862 Biology
 - 977 Science (almost no physicists)
 - ~ 15% of trainee science teachers are physicists
- Physics Teachers in Schools
 - 19% of science teachers are physicists
 - No physicist in 26 per cent of 11-16 schools

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What the education department does

- Support for schools
 - Professional Development for Teachers
 - Affiliation Scheme
 - Teacher Network
 - Websites
 - Email lists
 - Publications
 - Current and forthcoming projects

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Professional Development for Teachers

- Physics Teacher Network
 - 33 local physicists coordinating a variety of training oportunities
- Physics Updates
 - 3 day residential courses
 - April, July and December
- Meetings
- Email Lists
 - PTNC (Physics Teachers News and Comment)
 - PEPD (Physics Early Professional Development)

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SPT Project

- professional development programmes
- supported by a series of CD-ROMs
 - Electricity & magnetism
 - Forces & motion
 - Light & sound
 - The Earth & beyond
 - Energy resources and energy transfer
- each CD ROM covers a chunk of the 11-14 physics curriculum

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Practical Physics

- www.practicalphysics.org
 - A website listing practical activities, equipment and advice on how to carry out practicals and build them into a teaching sequence
- New section being developed to help teach 'How science works' through practical activities.
- Please Contribute!

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Girls in Physics

- Girls are under represented at A-level –
 everyone knows this but no one has found a
 way of changing this.
- Two research studies have been commissioned:
 - Case studies from schools that are successful in recruiting girls to A-level physics
 - A review of the research that has been done in this area

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Teaching Advanced Physics www.tap.iop.org

- Contains detailed ideas and resources for teaching physics to students aged 16-19.
- Aims to help those new to teaching this age group
 - Electricity
 - Mechanics
 - Vibrations and Waves
 - Atomic and Nuclei
 - Fields
 - Energy
 - Astronomy

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Advancing Physics AS

Physics in Action

- Communication is about imaging and instrumentation.
- Designer materials looks at the way the world is made

Understanding Processes

- Waves and quantum behaviour introduces some simple quantum ideas
- Space and time moves from vectors to modelling

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Advancing Physics A2

The Rise and Fall of the Clockwork Universe

- Models and Rules introduces the use of mathematical modelling in physics
- Matter in Extremes develops a bridge between random events and empirical laws

Field and particle pictures

- Fields develops ideas about magnetic and electric fields
- Fundamental particles considers the structure and binding of atoms and nuclei and introduces ideas about risk

Advances in Physics

Draws together and uses physics ideas from the 13/148

whole source in looking at now contexts.

Advancing Physics A2

The Rise and Fall of the Clockwork Universe

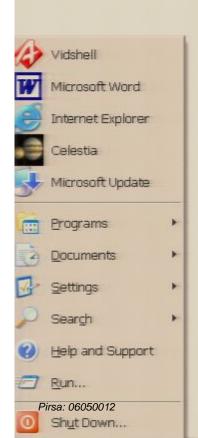
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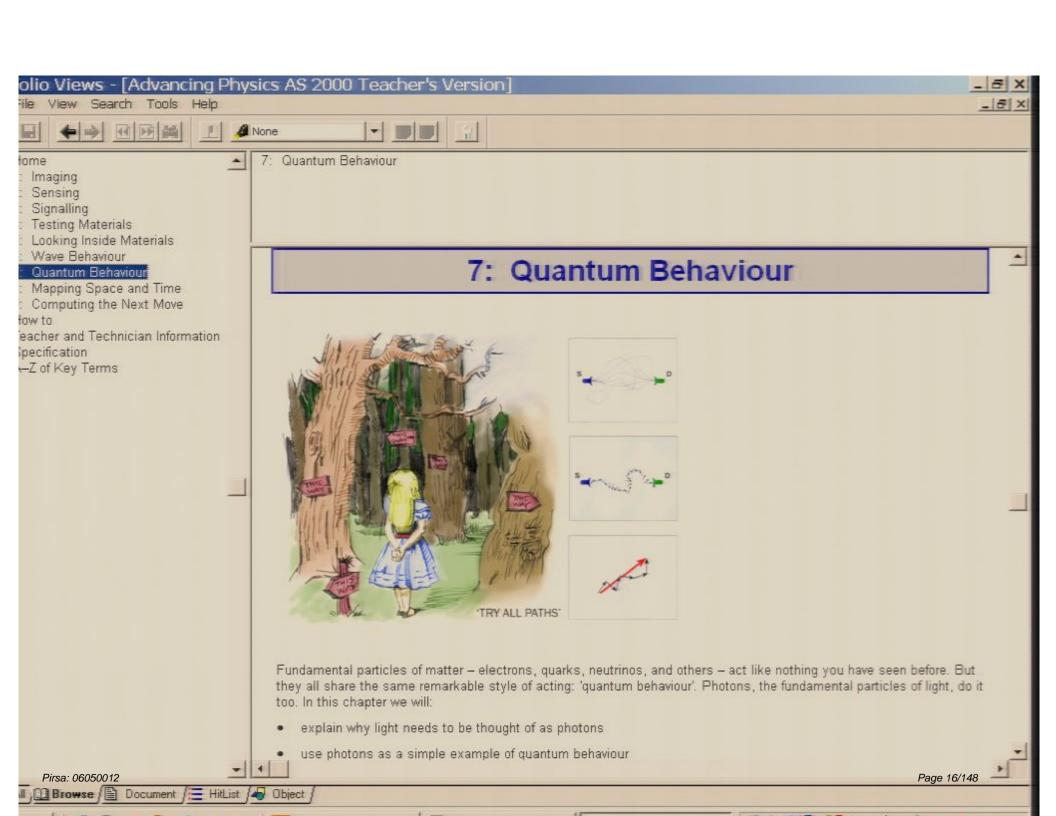
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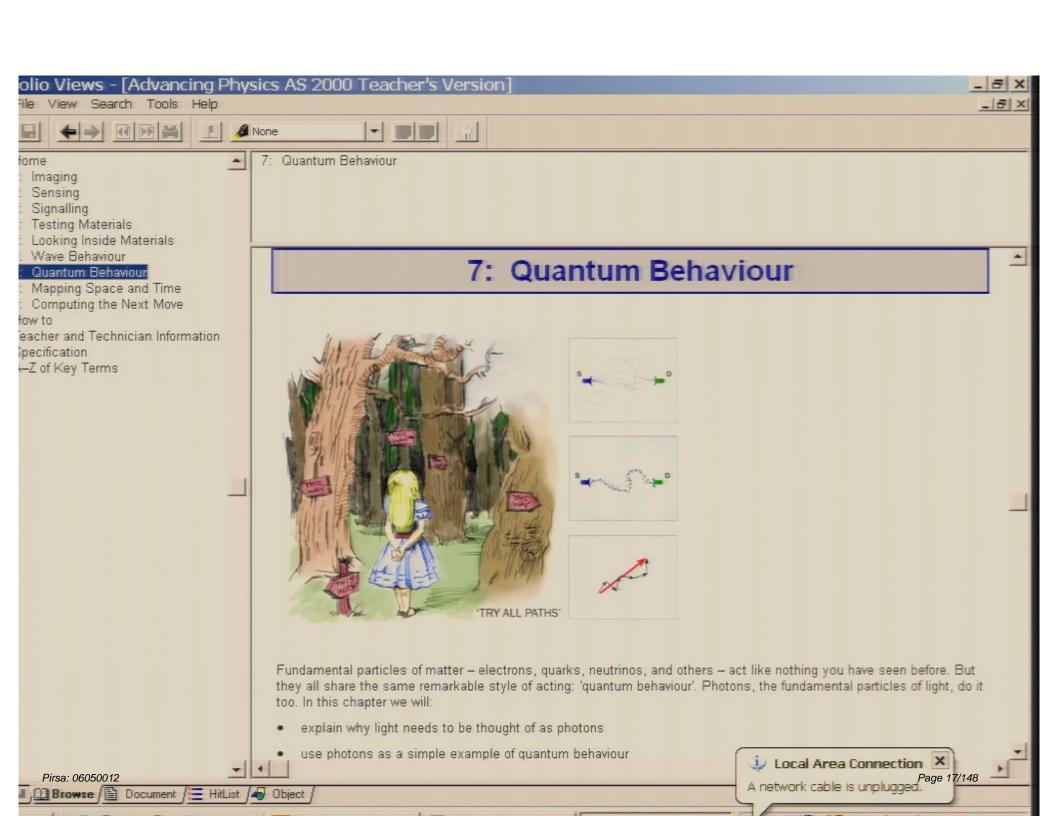
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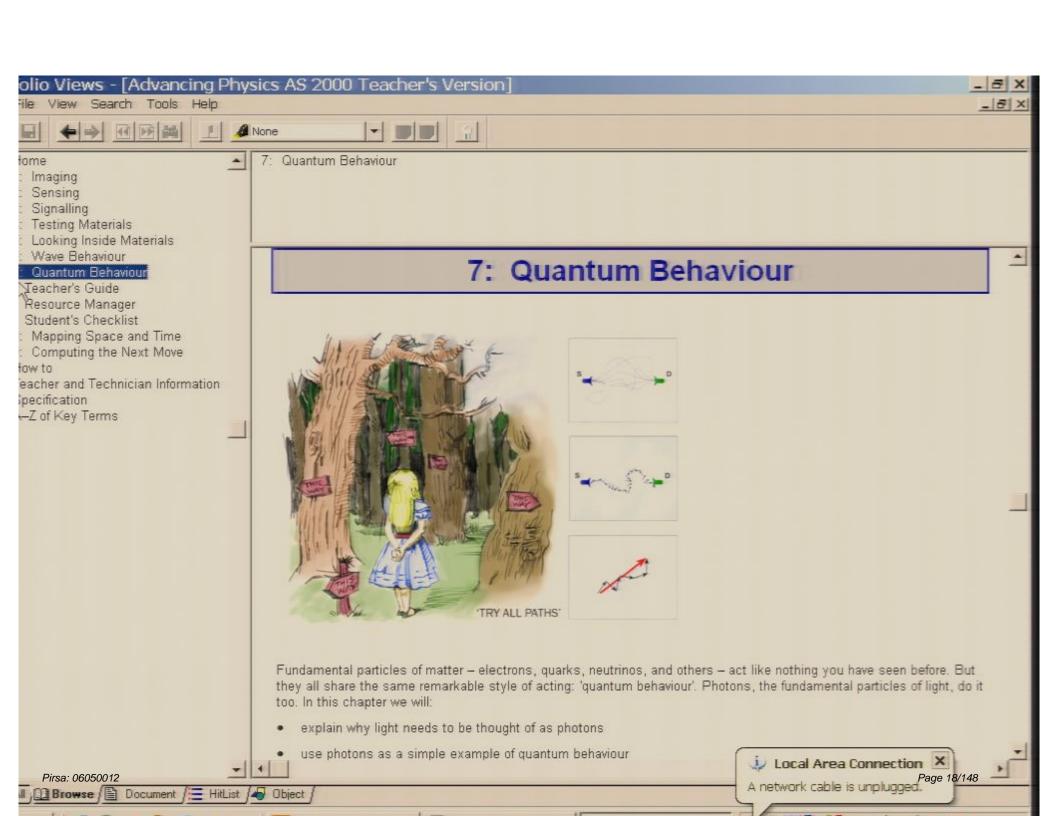
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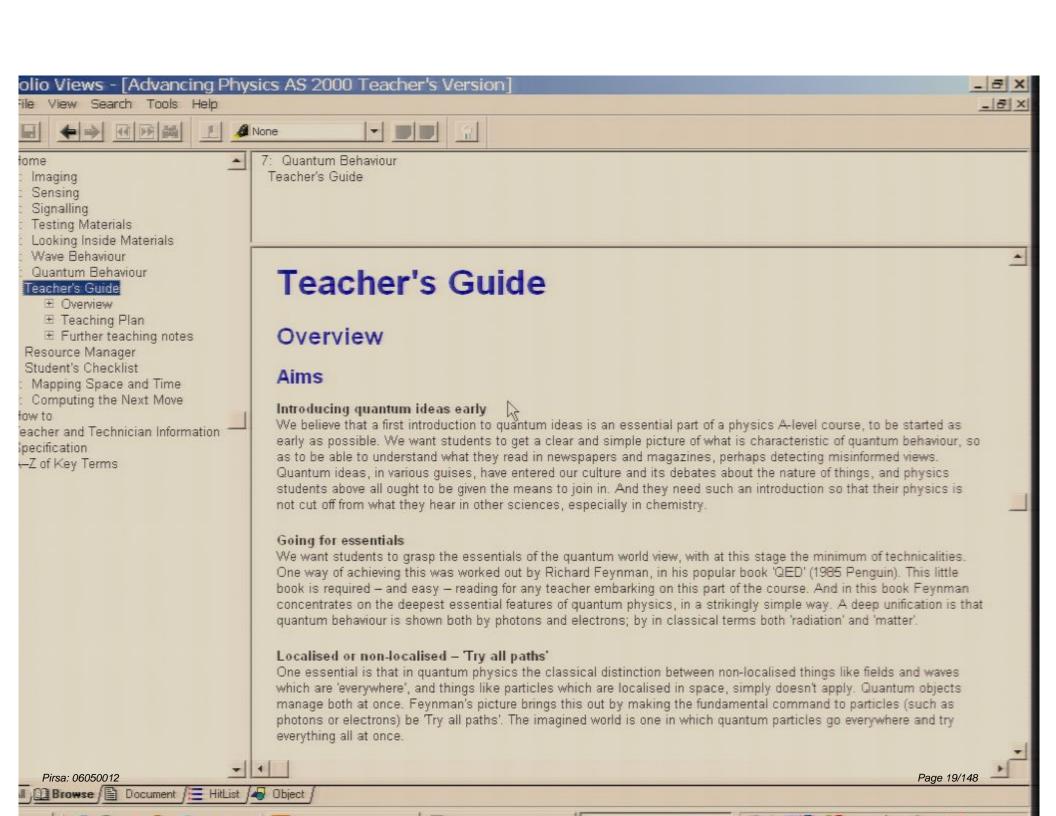
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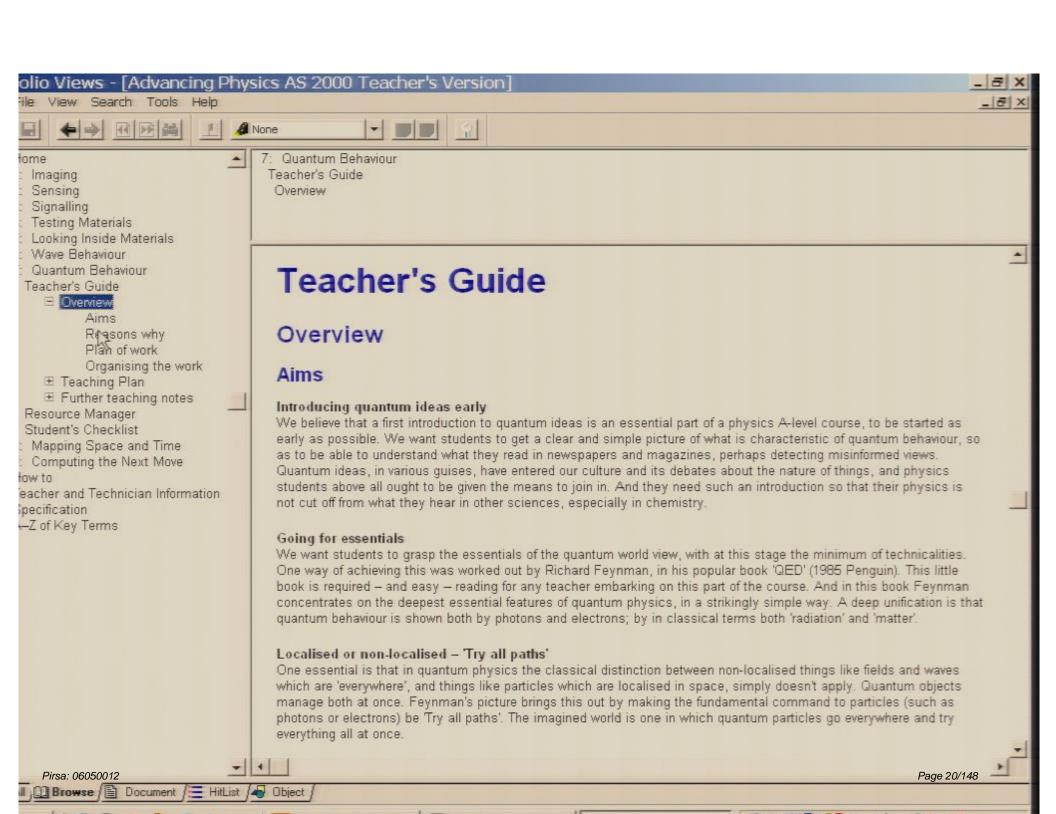
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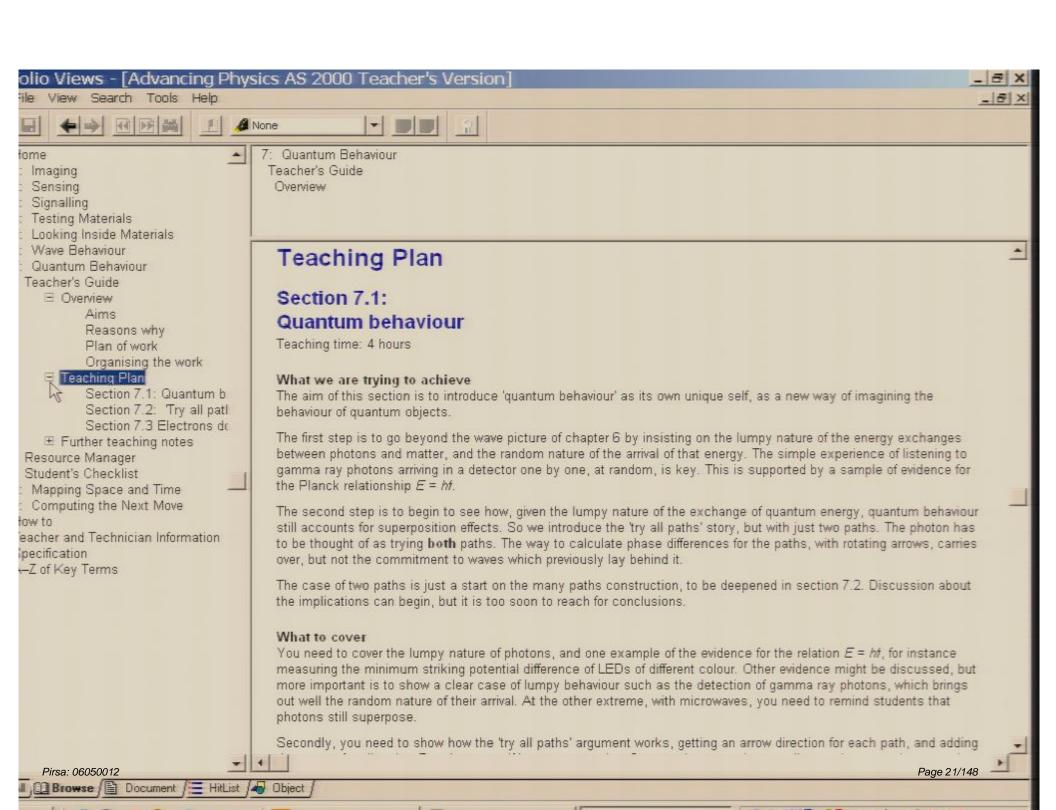


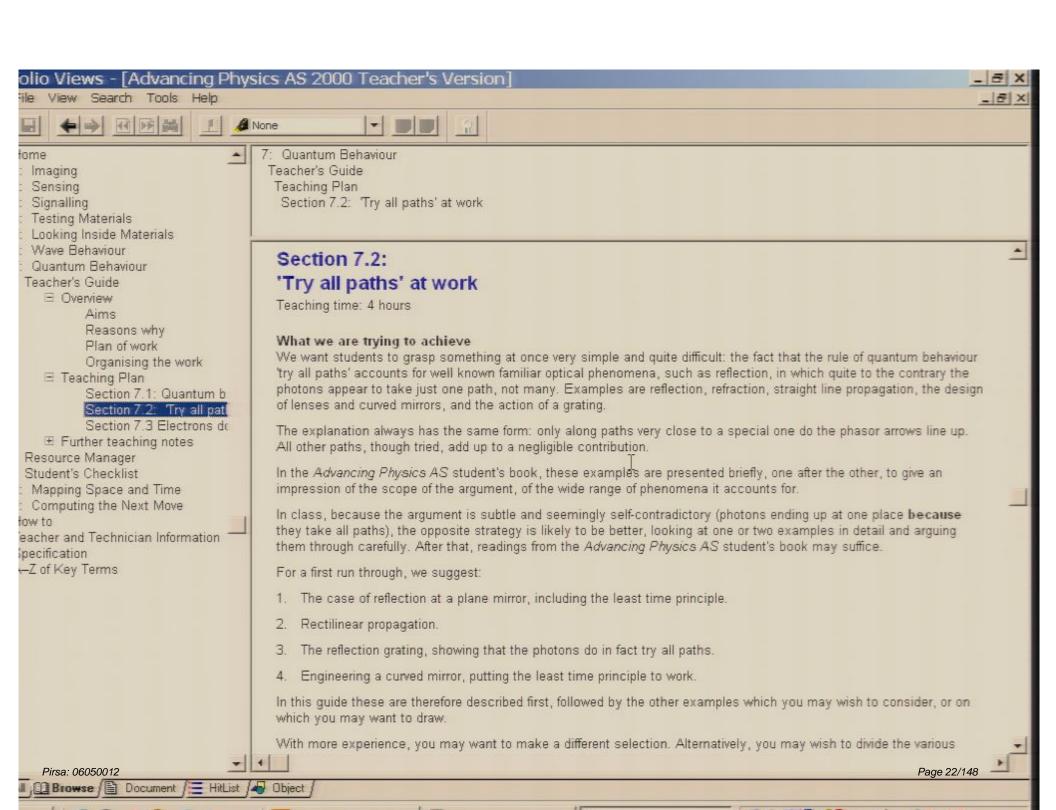


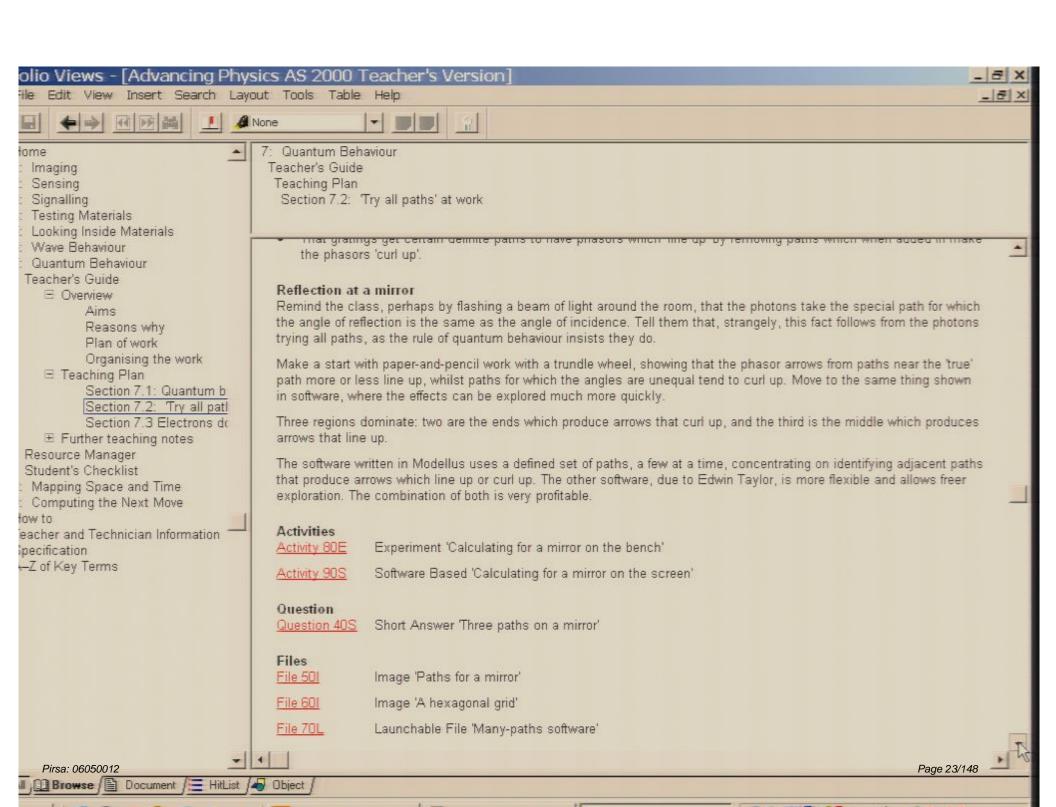


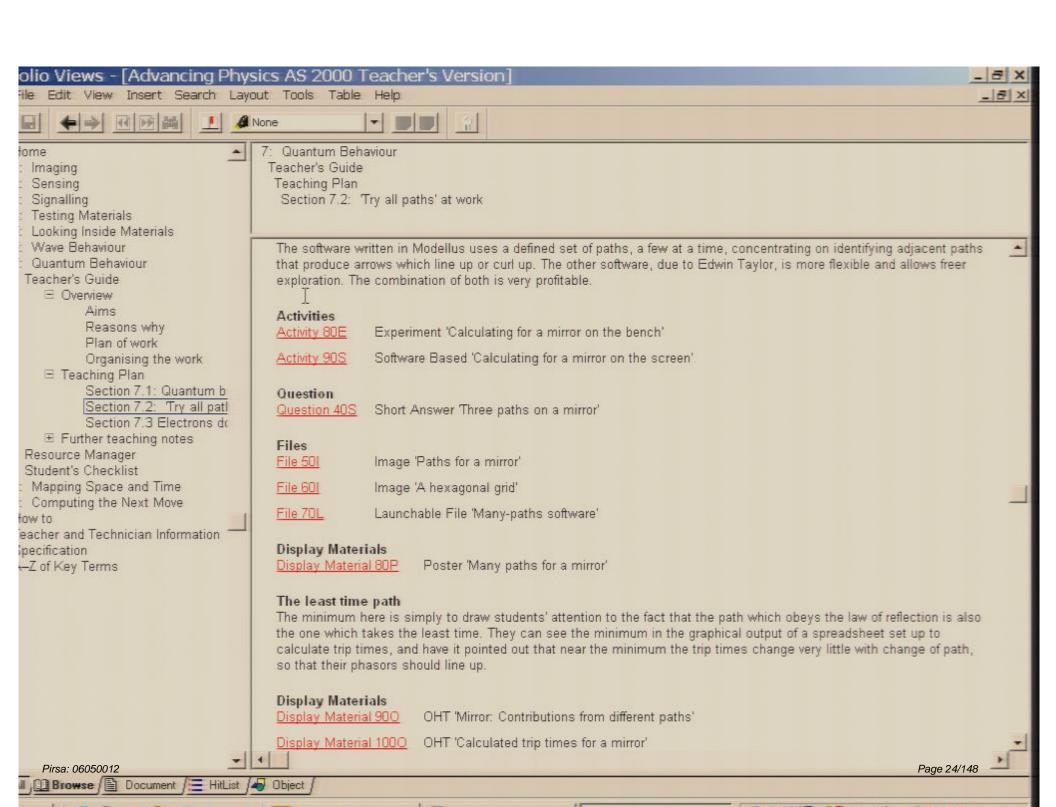


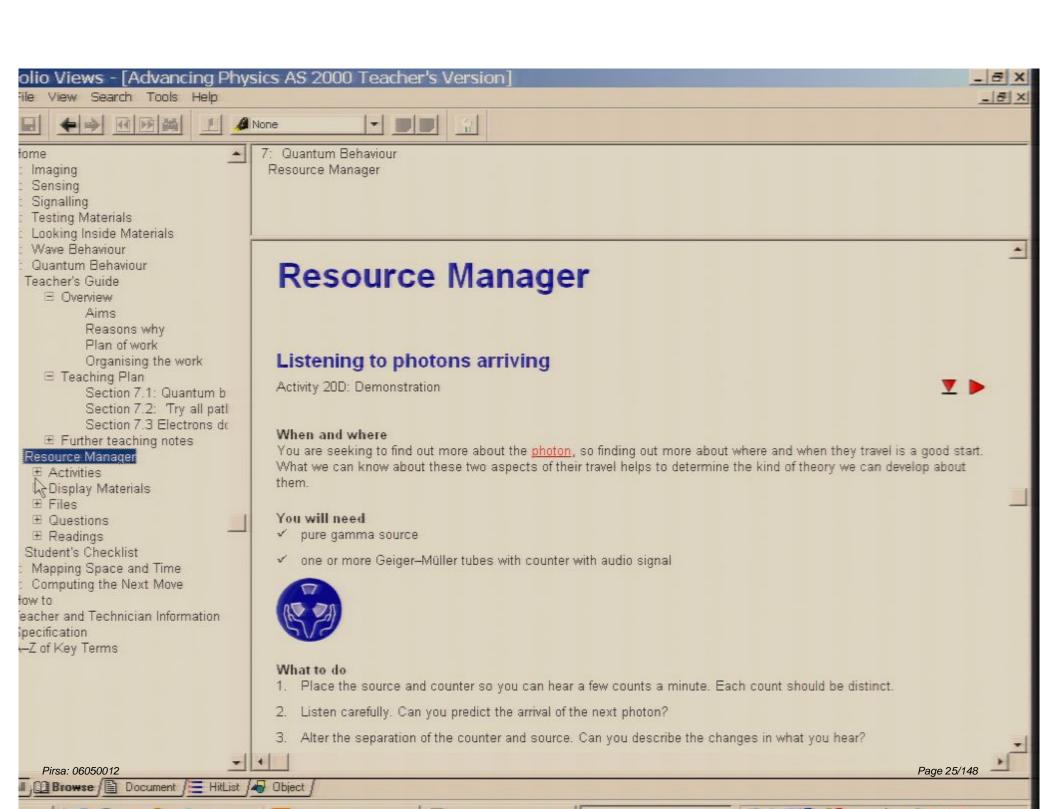


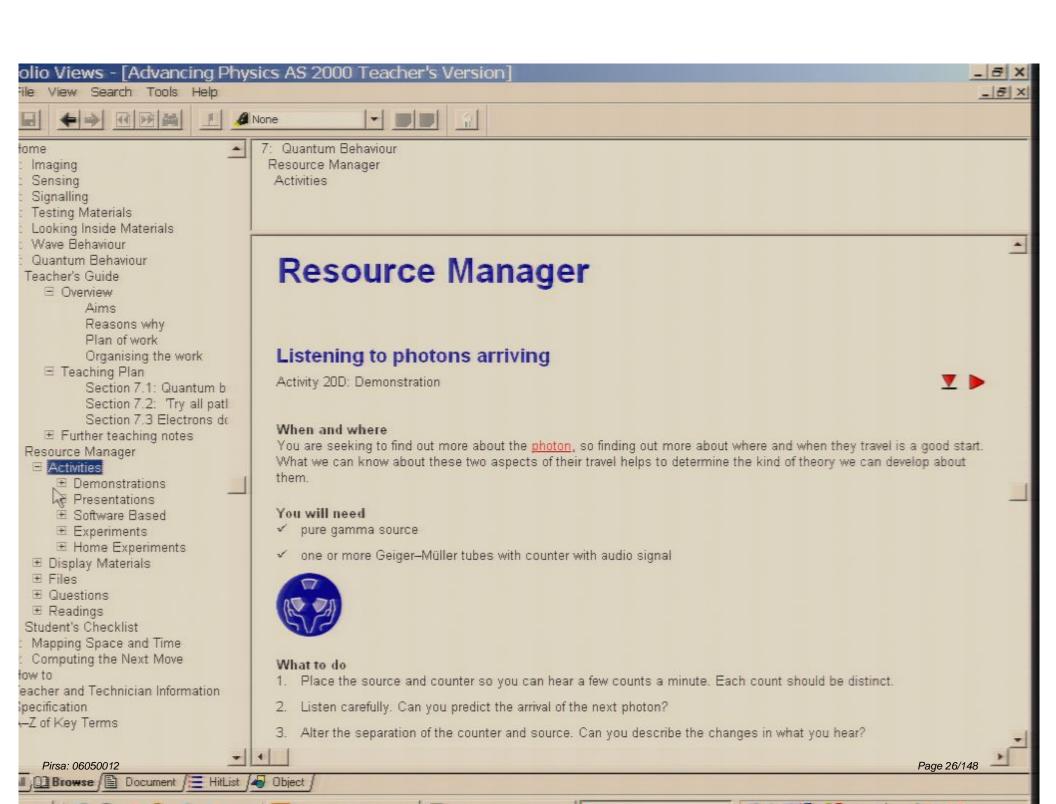


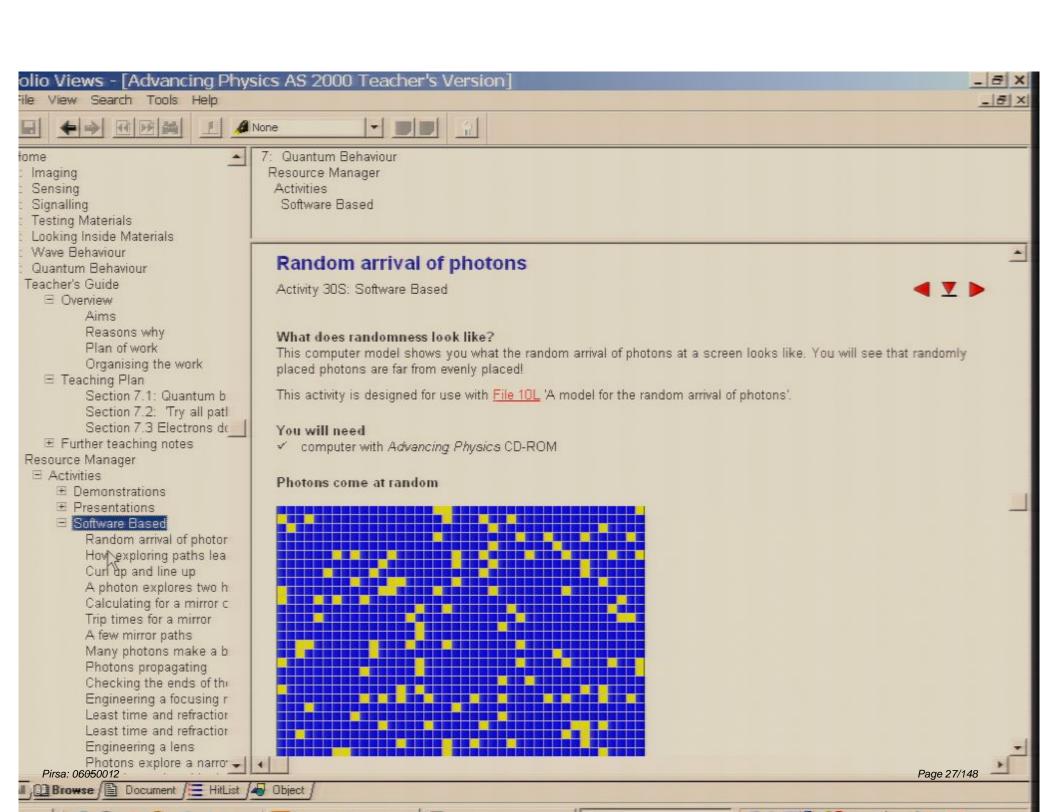


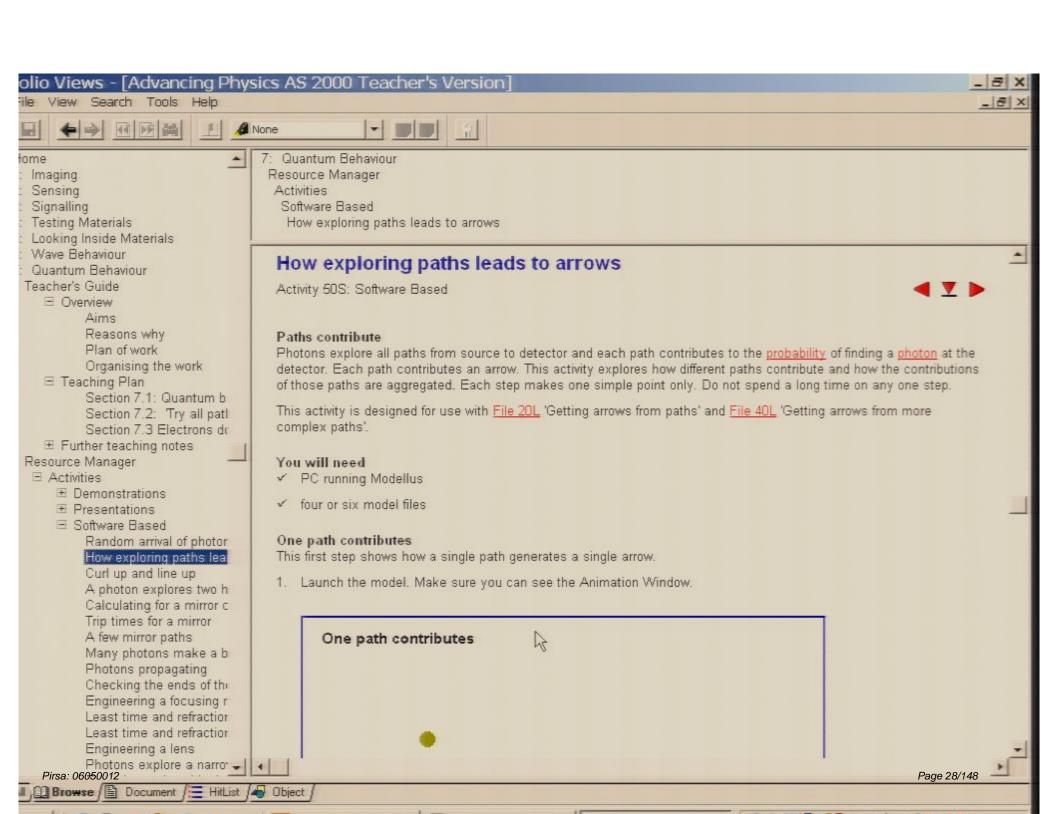


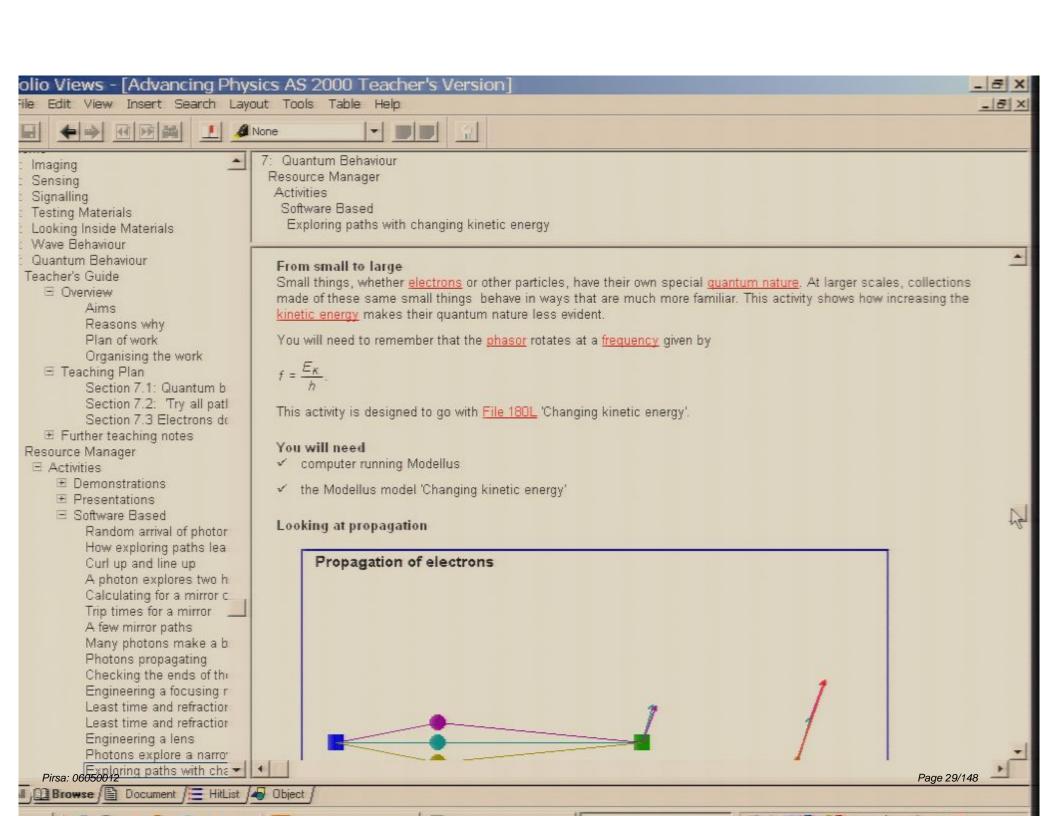


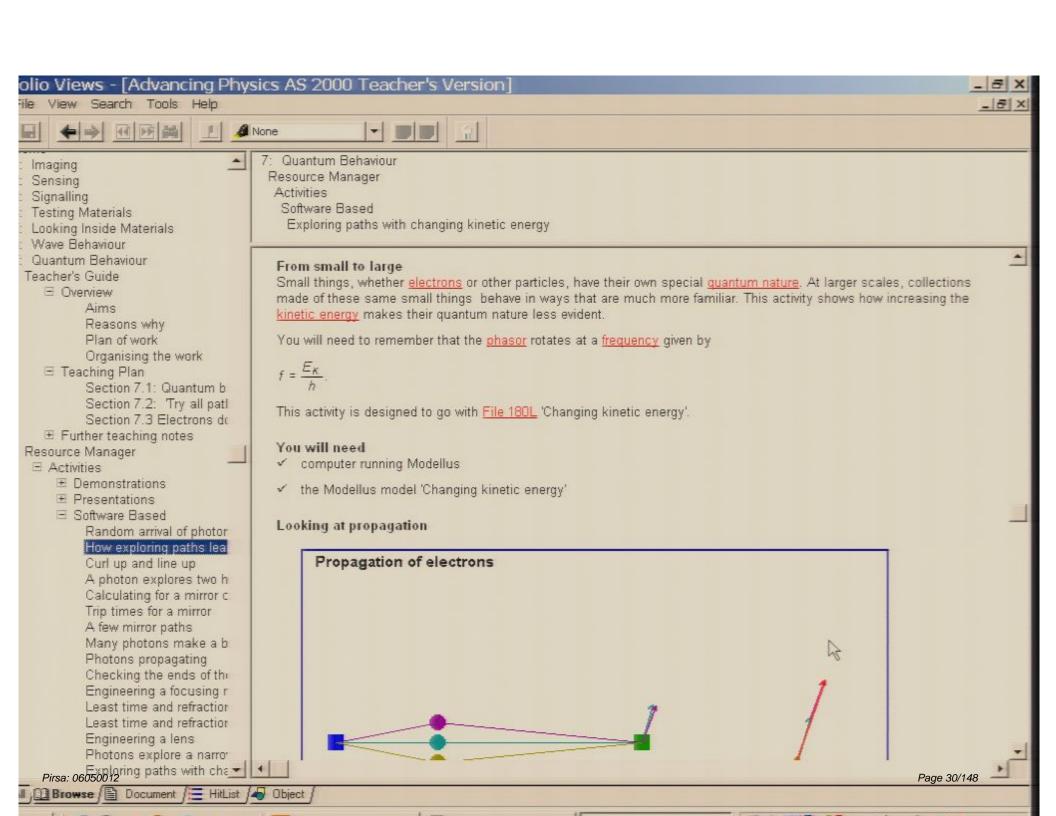


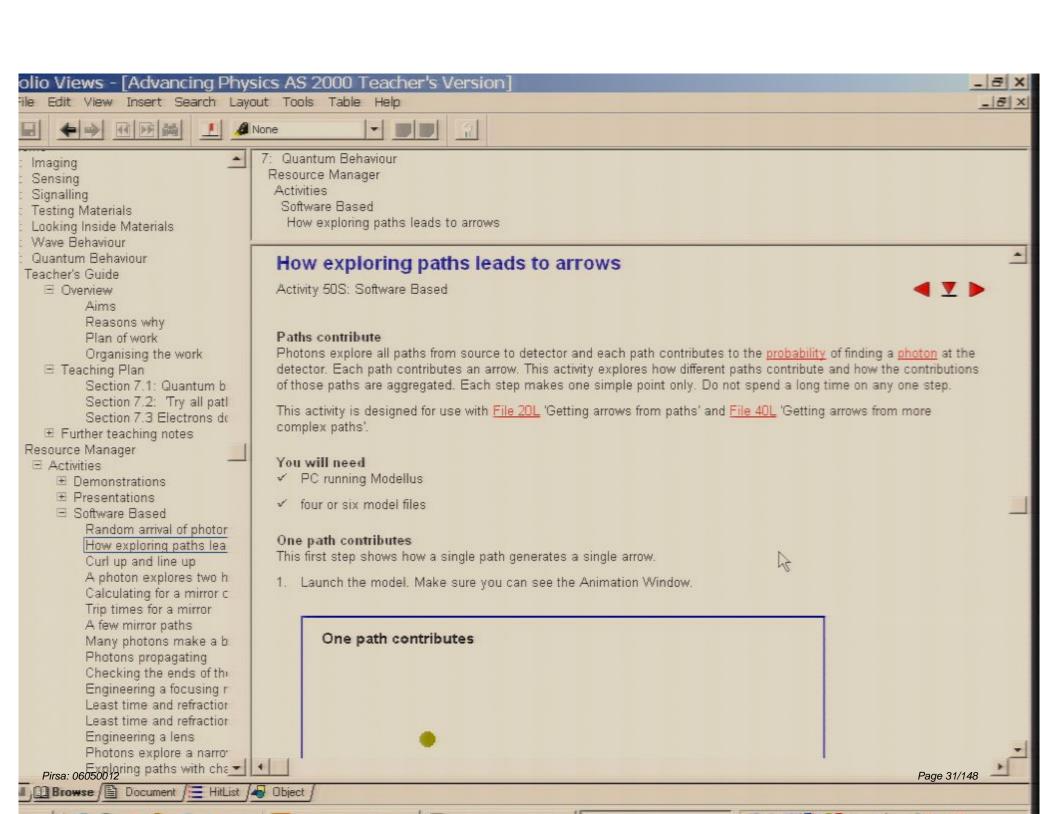


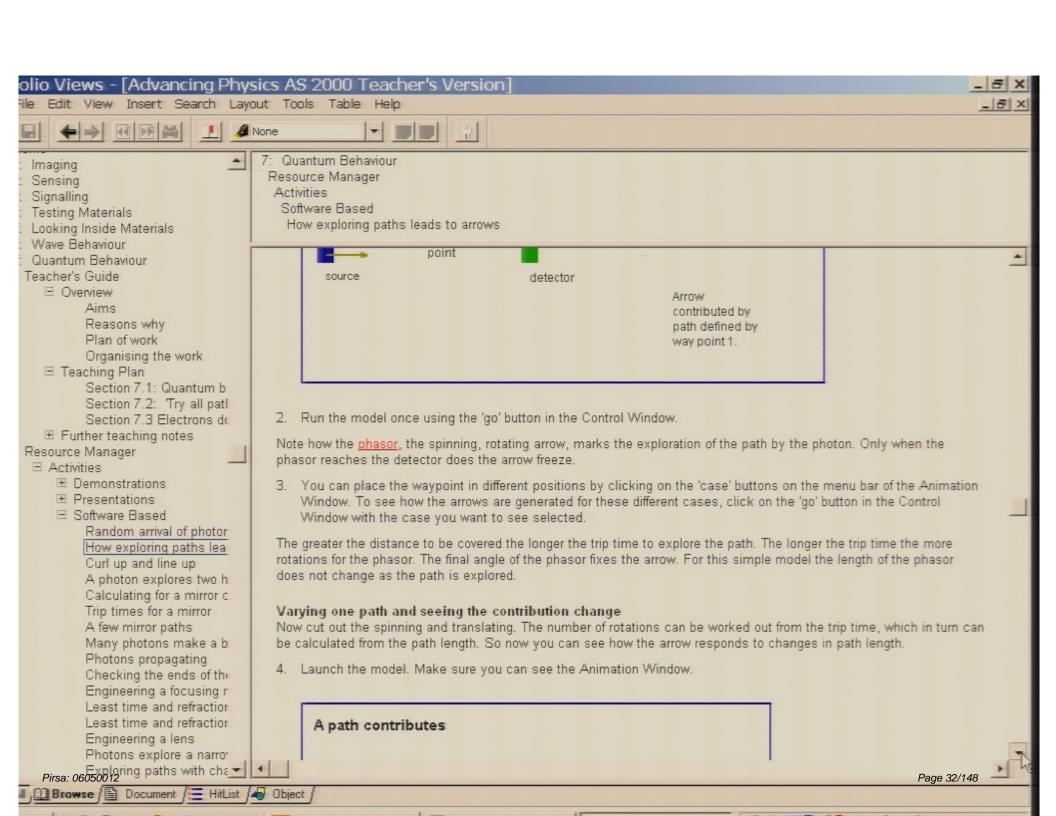


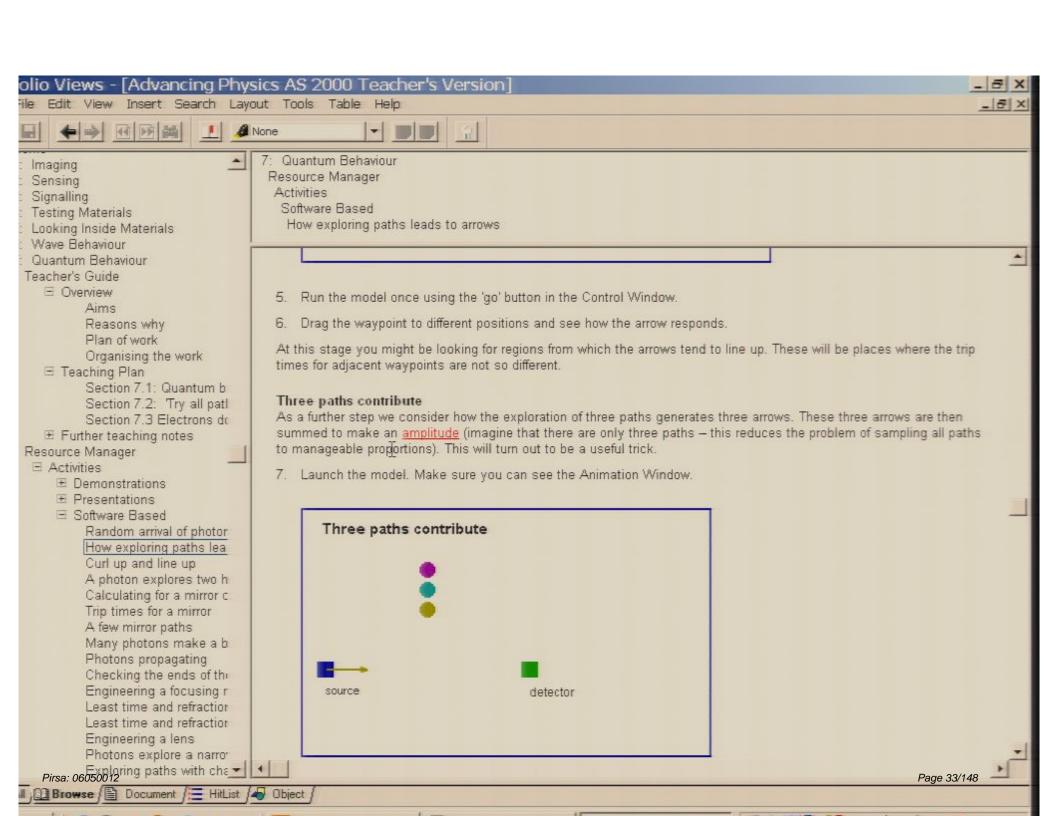


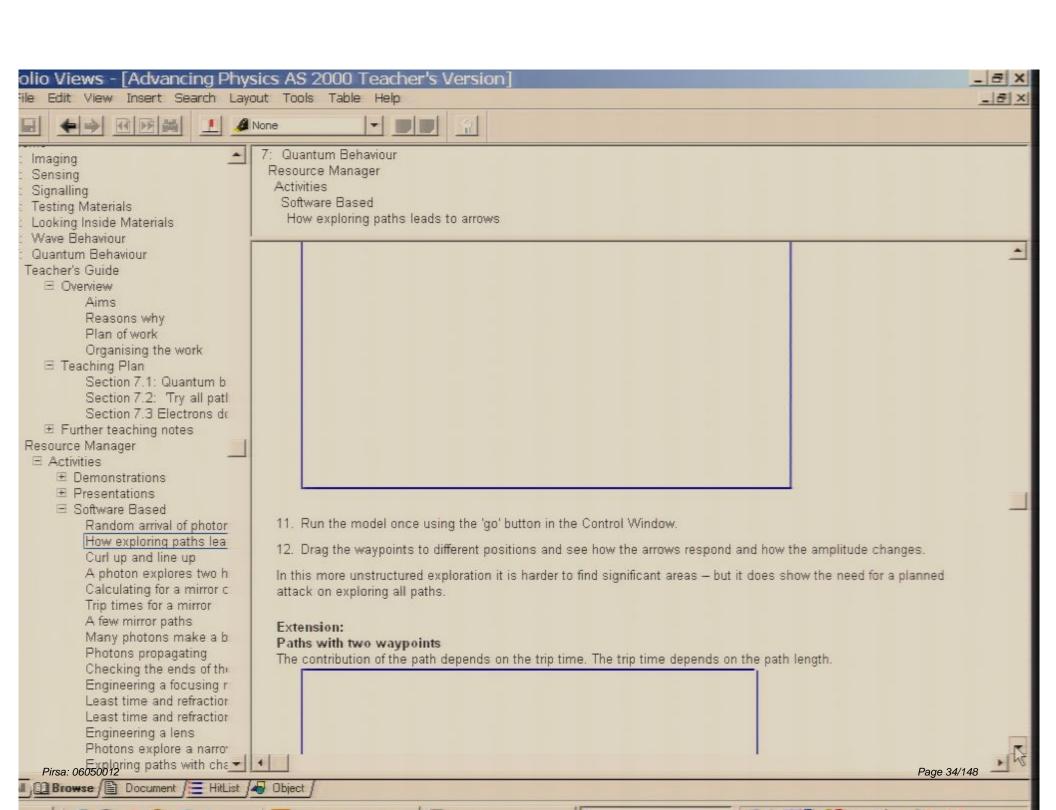


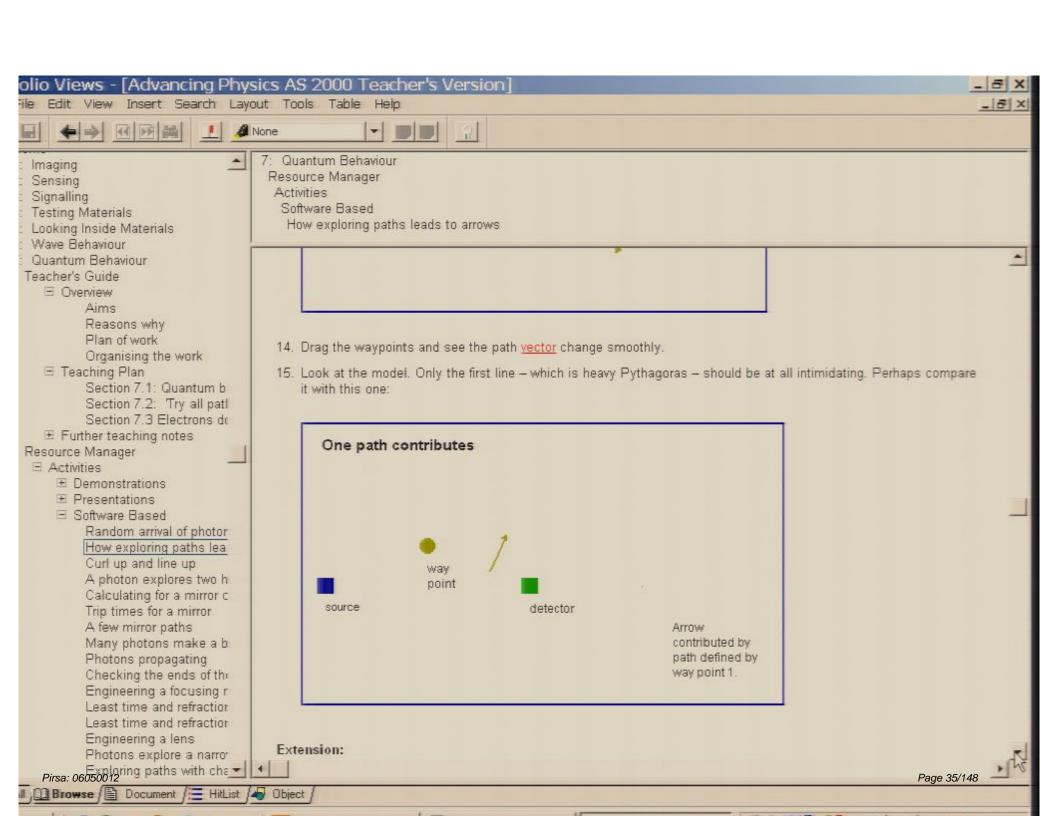


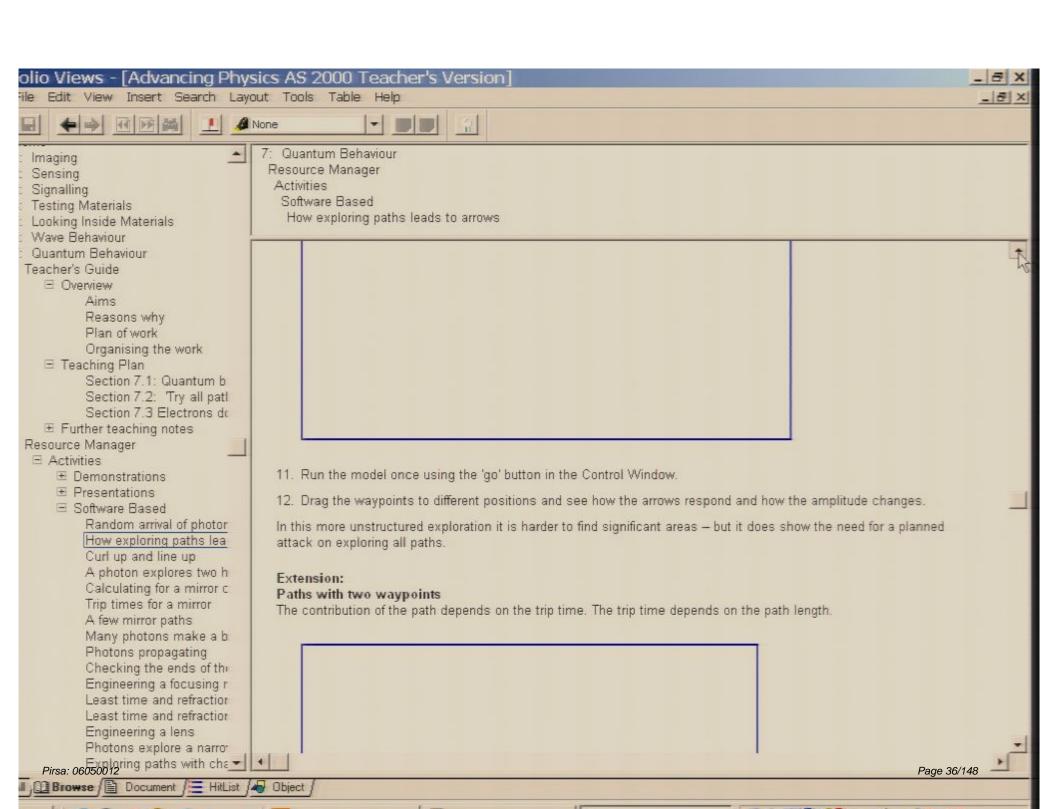


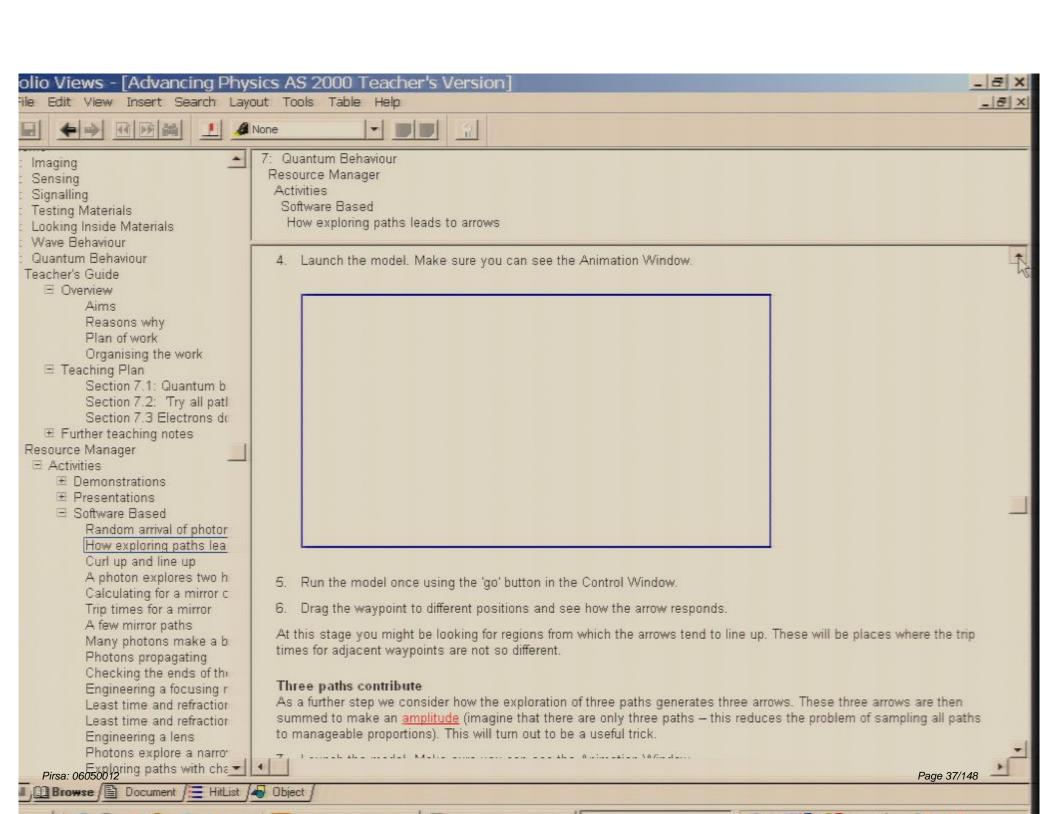


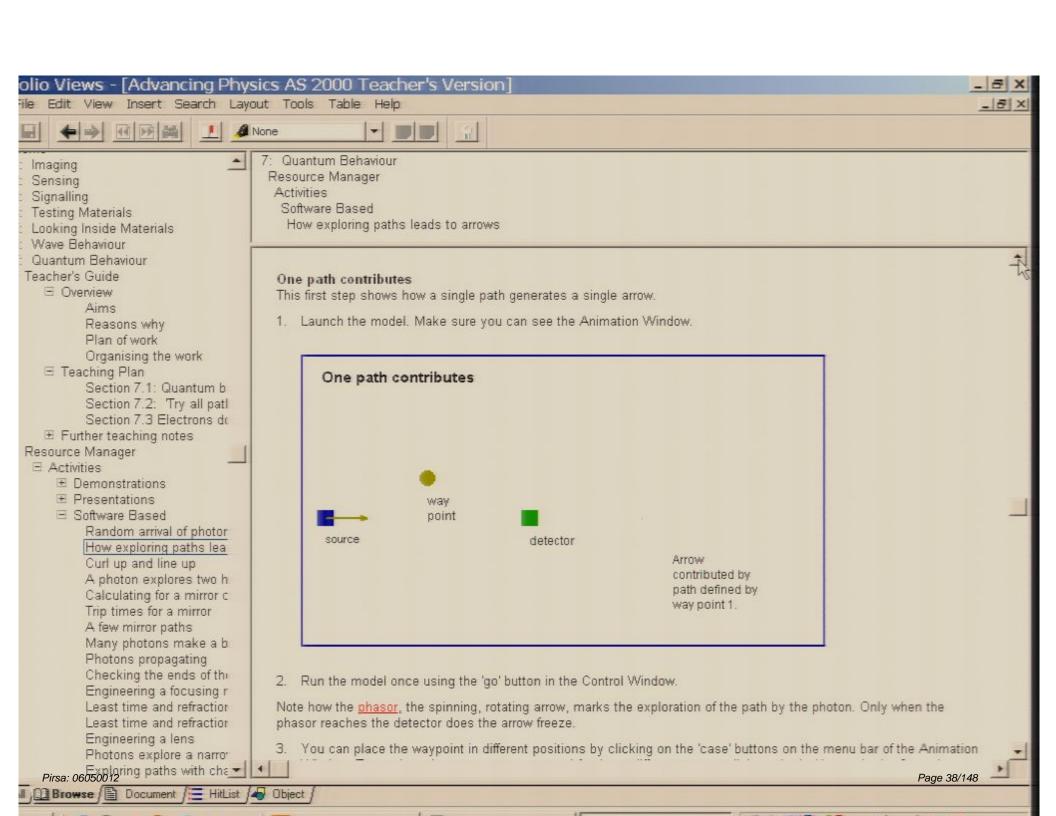


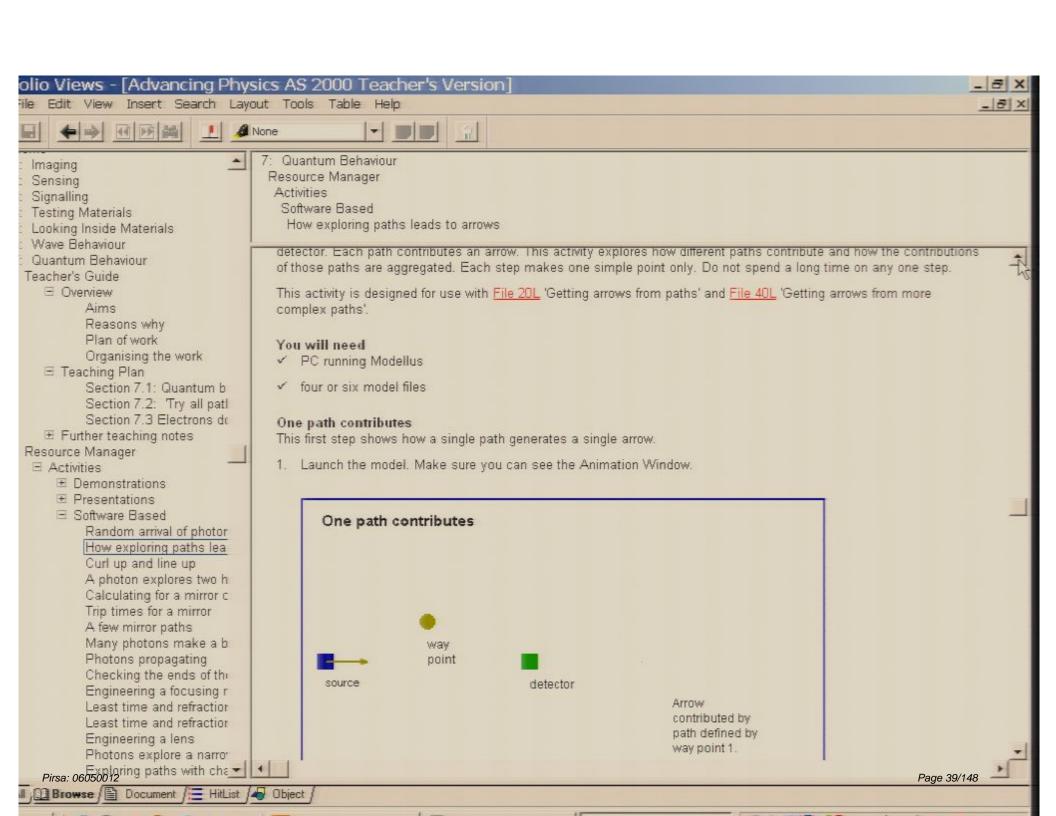


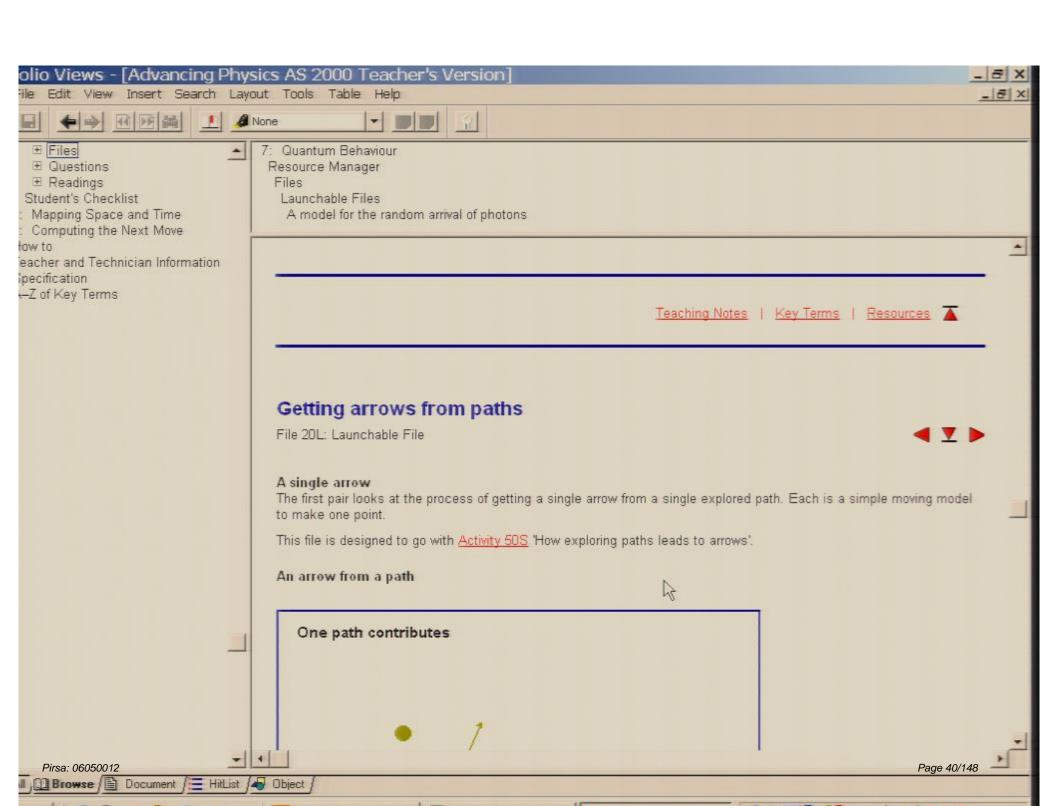


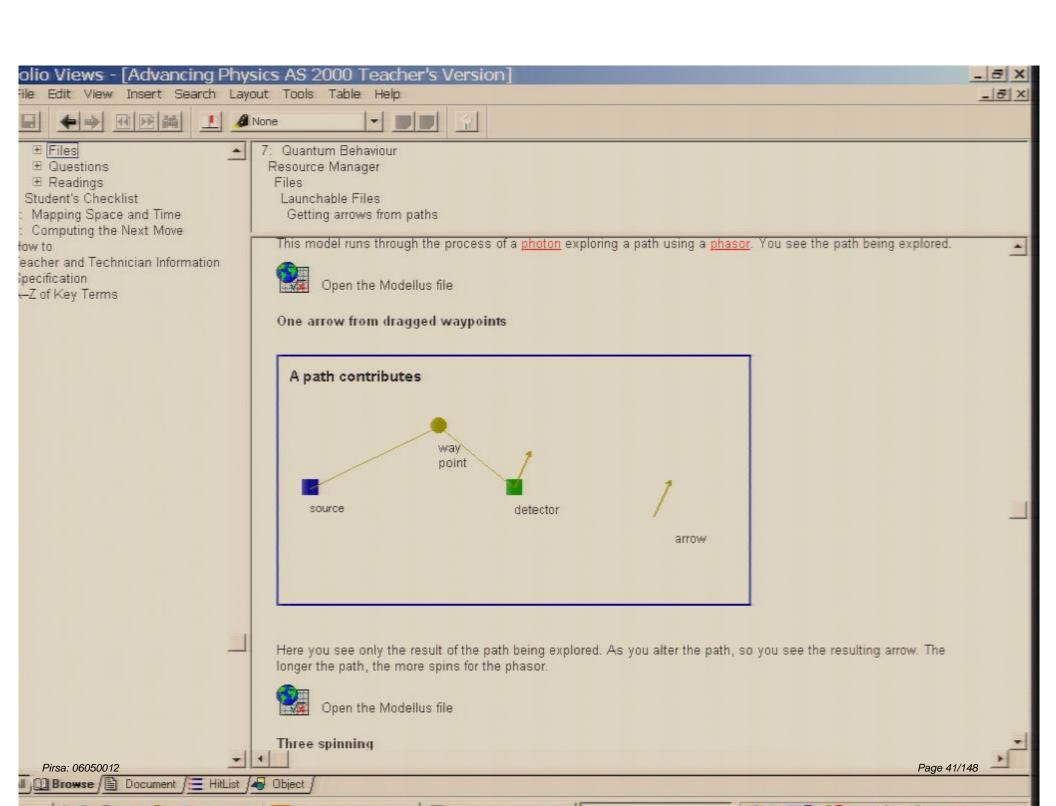


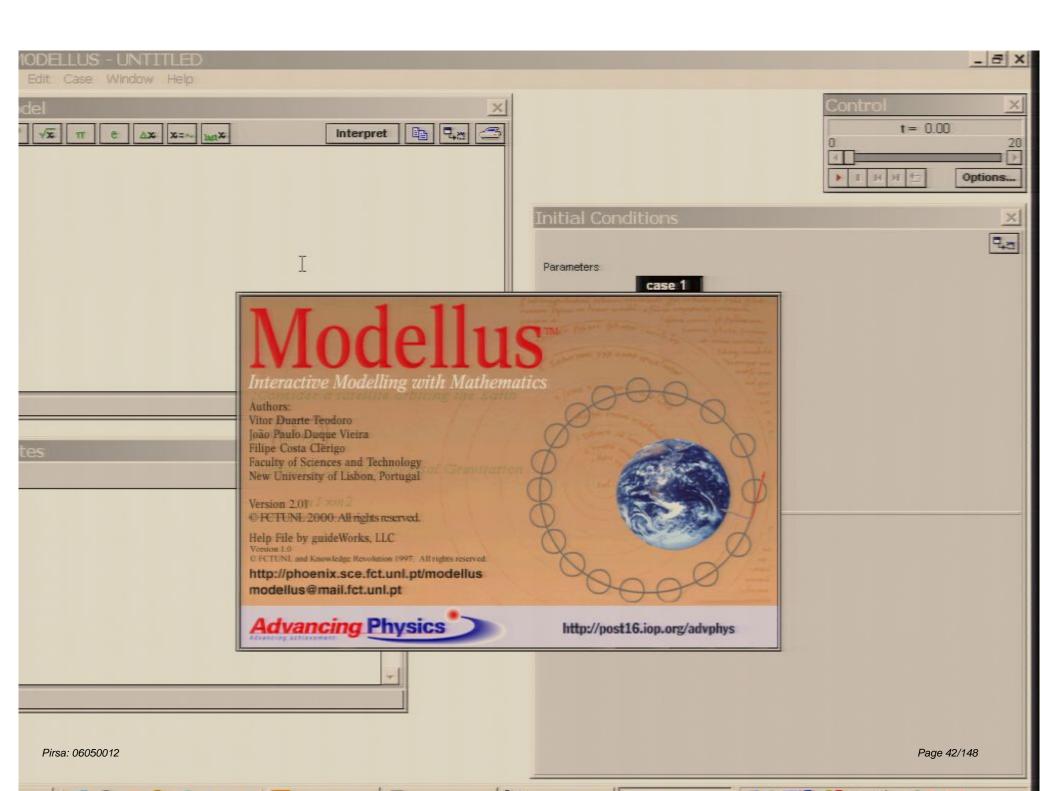








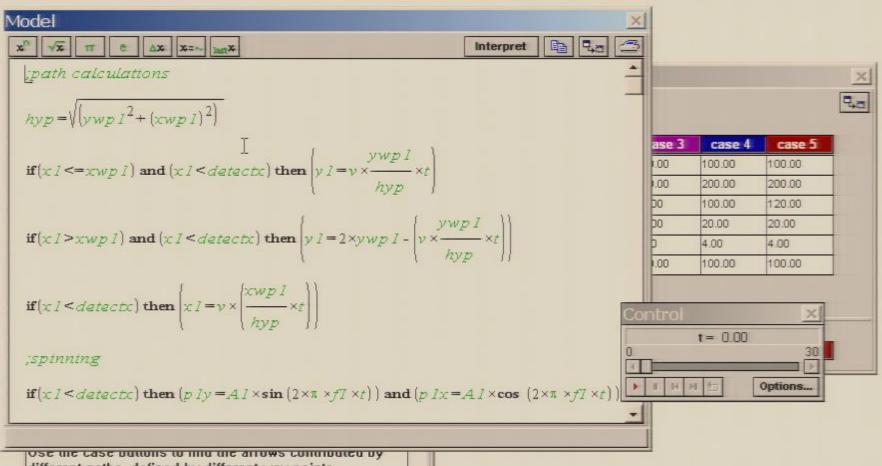




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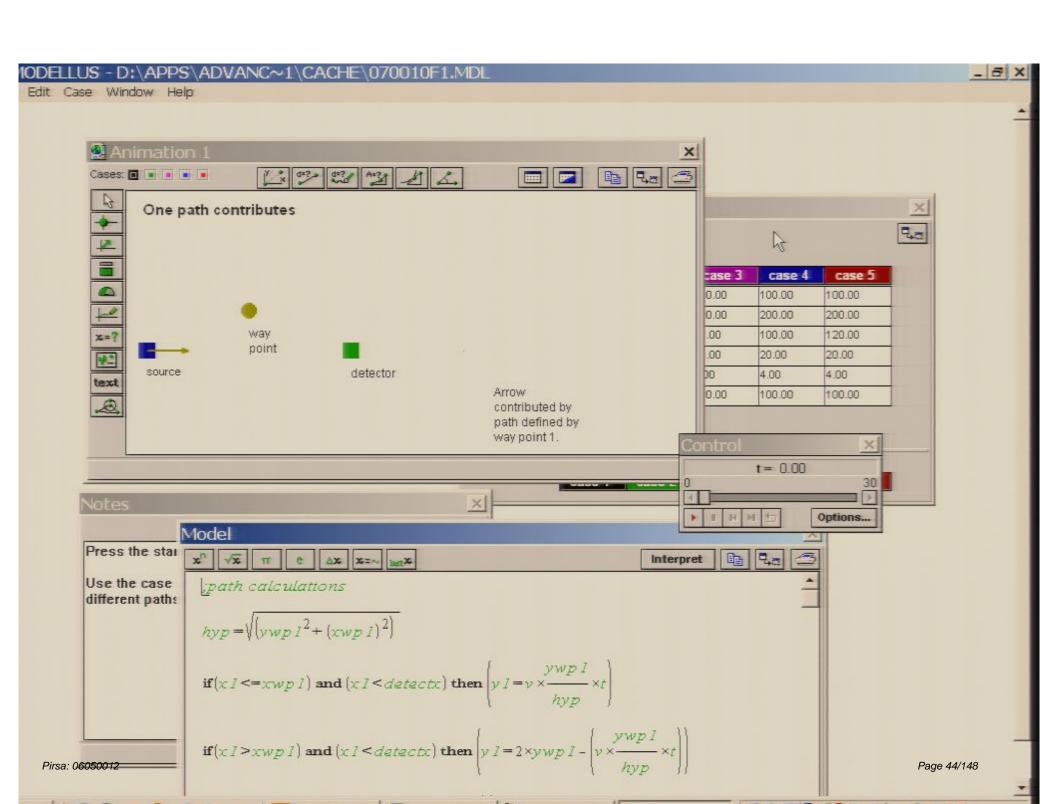
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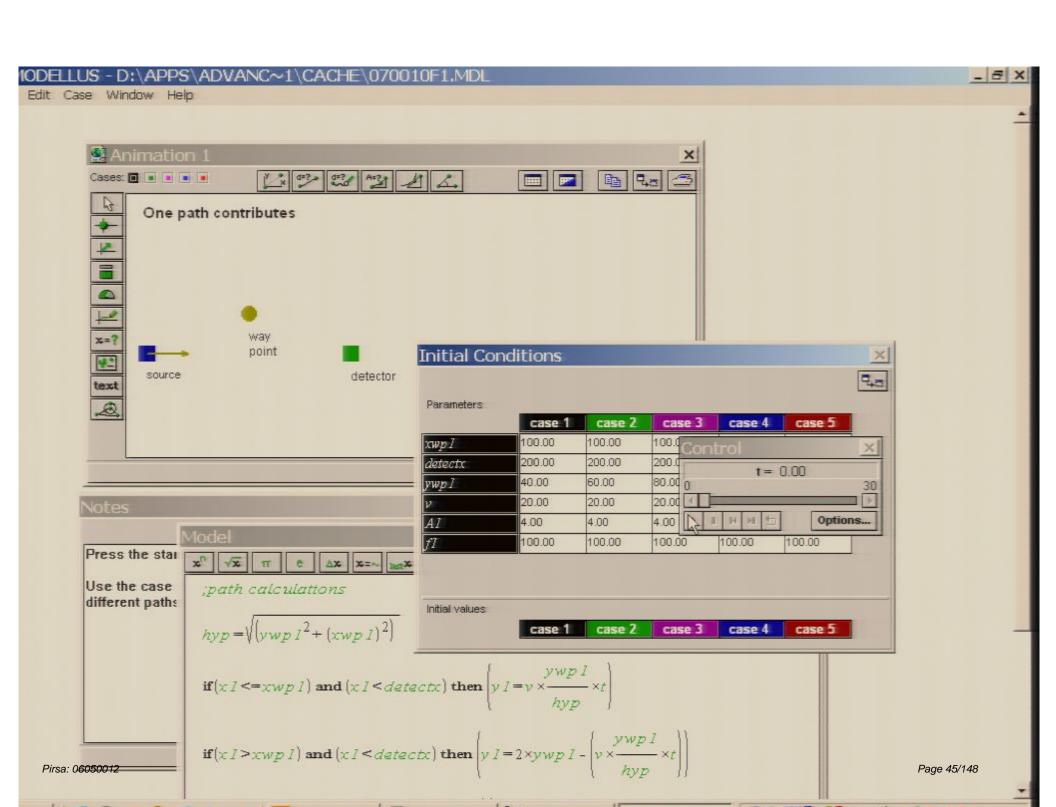
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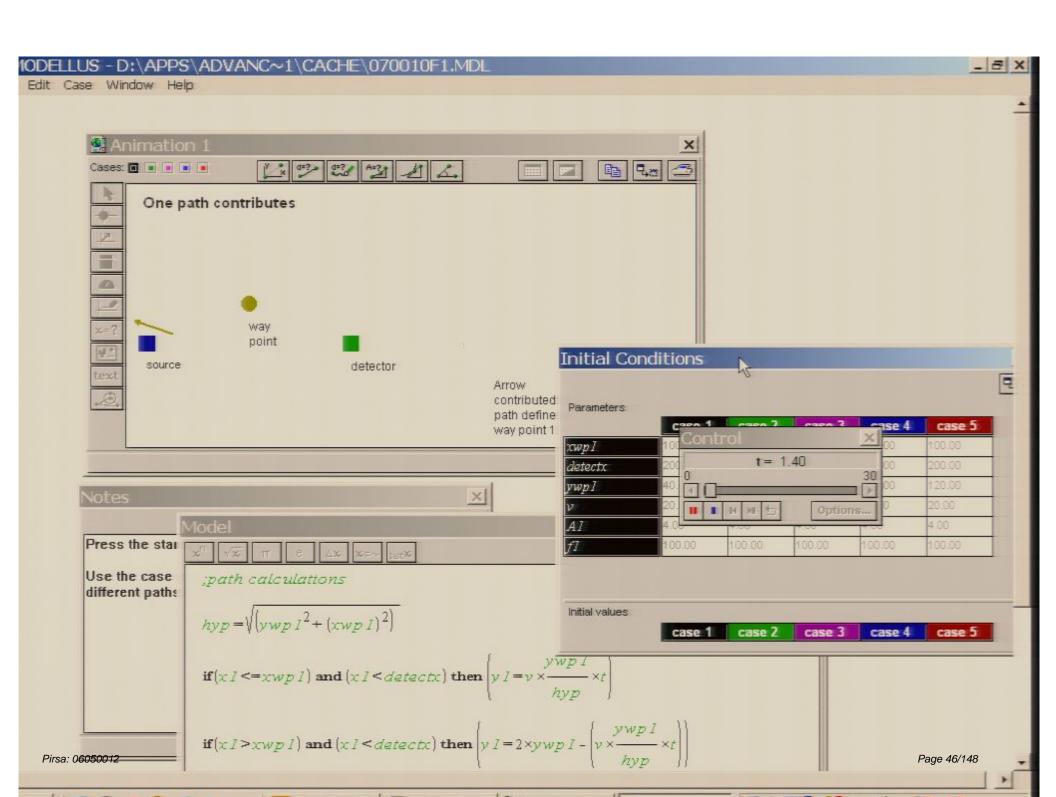


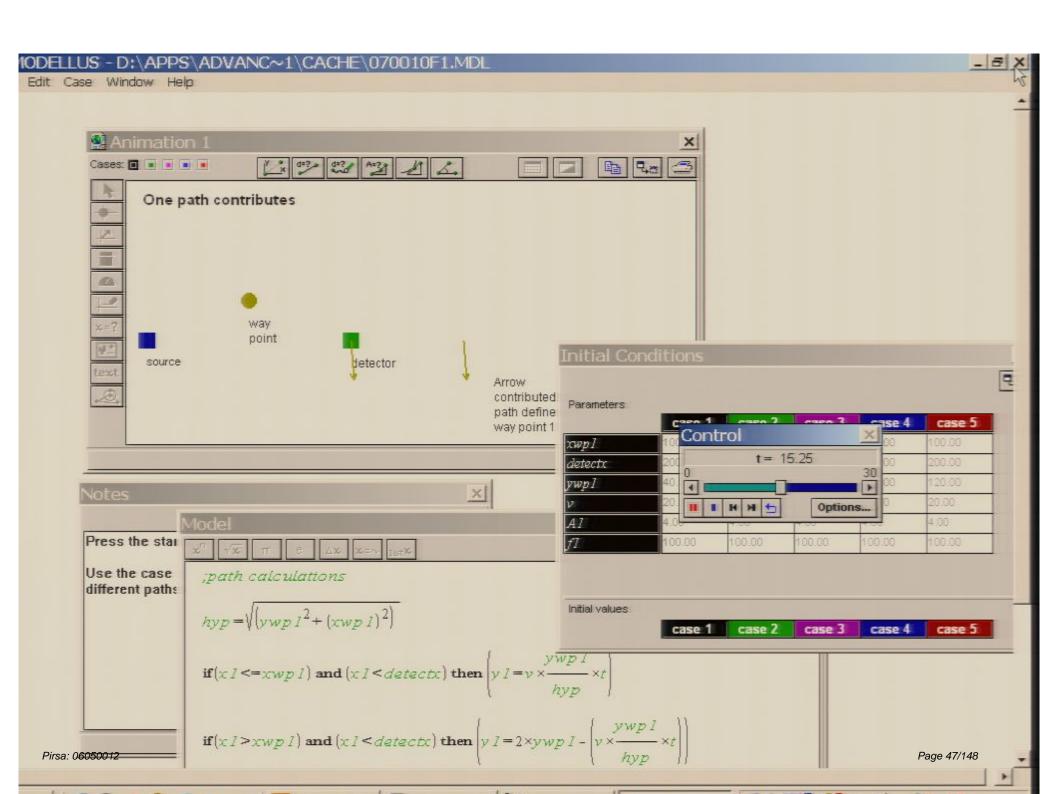
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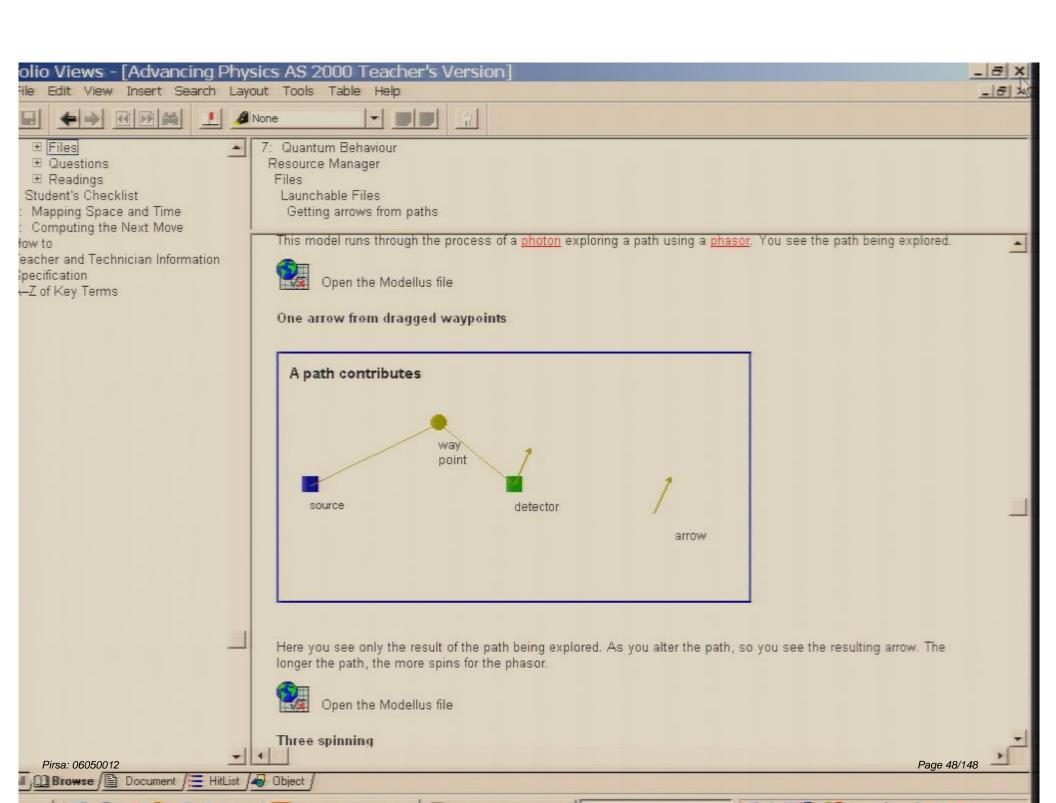
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IoP Teachers Network



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Amaze your students with simple equipment

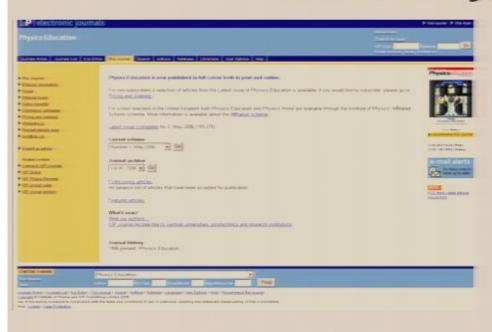
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Institute of Physics

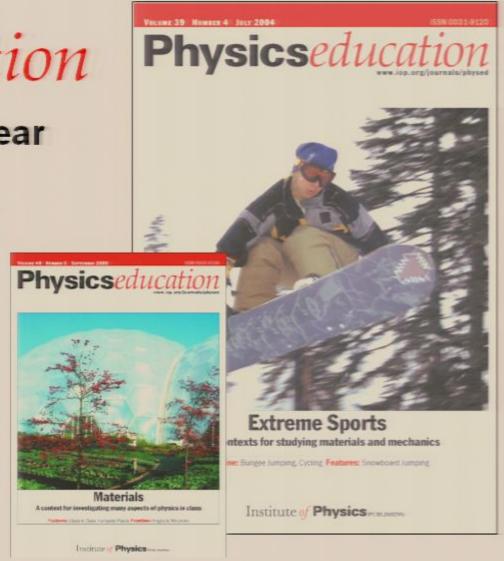
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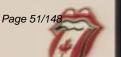


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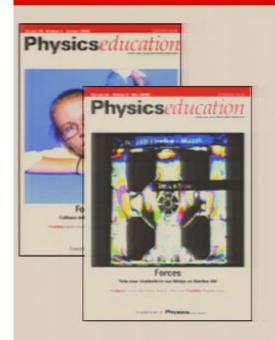


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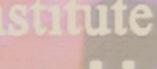
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IoP Teachers Network

Aim..



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Aim..

The aim of the Physics Teacher
 Network is to provide support for those involved with the teaching of physics, at an individual level.



Aim..

The aim of the Physics Teacher
 Network is to provide support for those involved with the teaching of physics, at an individual level.

 We want to engage with as many science and physics teachers and technicians as we can, helping them to improve the experience that students associated with them undergo.

Pirsa: 06050012

And....

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 "...at an individual level" doesn't mean that we can cater for every individuals needs.

And....

 "...at an individual level" doesn't mean that we can cater for every individuals needs.

And....

 It does mean that we can try and cater for the local needs of those we come in contact with

 Different regions will have different needs and require different support

Now.





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Coordinators own sessions



- Coordinators own sessions
- Centrally resourced sessions



- Coordinators own sessions
- Centrally resourced sessions
- Newsletters



- Coordinators own sessions
- Centrally resourced sessions
- Newsletters
- •Anything and everything!







The National Physical Laboratory and A-Level Physics

Monday 3rd July 2006 09:30 – 16:00 The National Physical Laboratory, Teddington



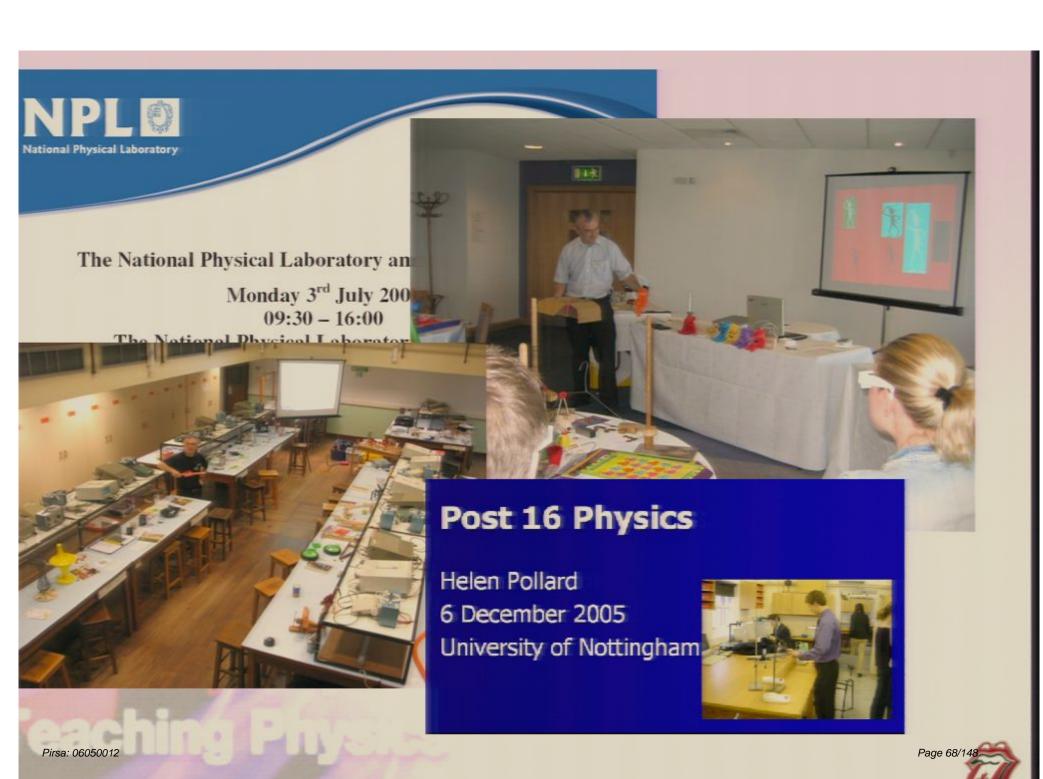


The National Physical Laboratory an

Monday 3rd July 200 09:30 – 16:00 The National Physical Laborator







NPL

The winners from the Y10 category were three girls from Edgaston High School





The winners from the Y9 category were from King Edward V Handsworth School.



Physics

2005 Nottingham



with runners up from Edgbaston Hgh School





The winners from the Y10 category were three girls from Edgbaston High School



Rocket Day at Swanshurst School June 30th 2005



Customising the designs.....



The winners from the Y9 category w∈ Edward VI Handsworth School,



with runners up from Edgbaston High School



Displaying the finished rockets....



Centrally resourced sessions



Centrally resourced sessions

Software for Skint Schools



Page 72/148

- Software for Skint Schools
- •New Ideas?



- Software for Skint Schools
- •New Ideas?
- •Son of New Ideas?

- Software for Skint Schools
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- •SEP Thermochromic sheet

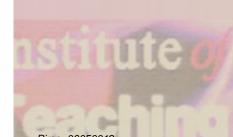




- Software for Skint Schools
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- •Son of New Ideas?
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In the pipeline:

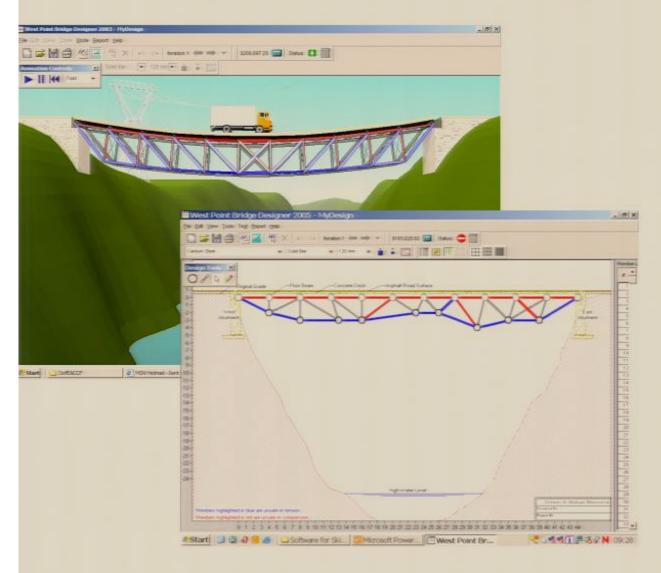
- Shocked and Stunned
- •New Ideas Rides Again?
- More from SEP







Westpoint Bridge Designer



From Westpoint Military

Academy. Allows you to design, build and test bridges.

It also has information about the materials used and their cost.

Easy to use and very stable, very popular with all ages from 4 up.



Celestia

A virtual chunk of the Galaxy. Really needs a good computer to do the software justice. You have to see this to appreciate how good it is.





Celestia

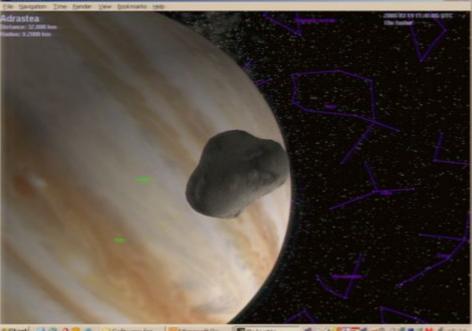
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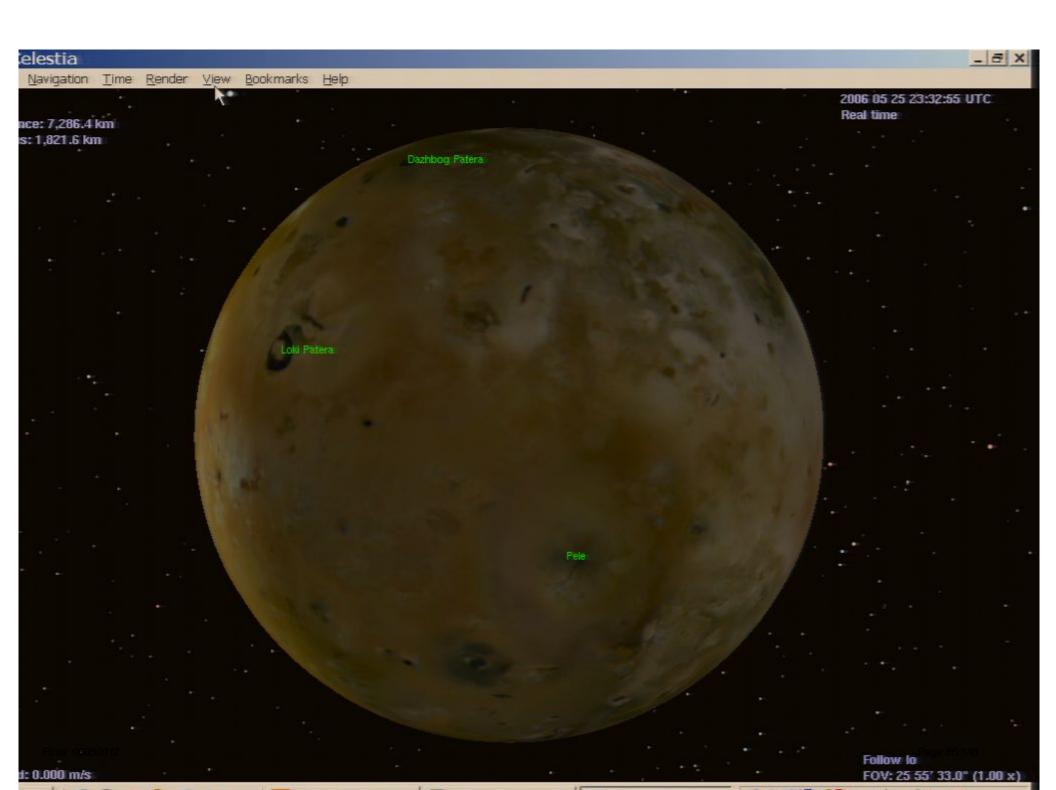
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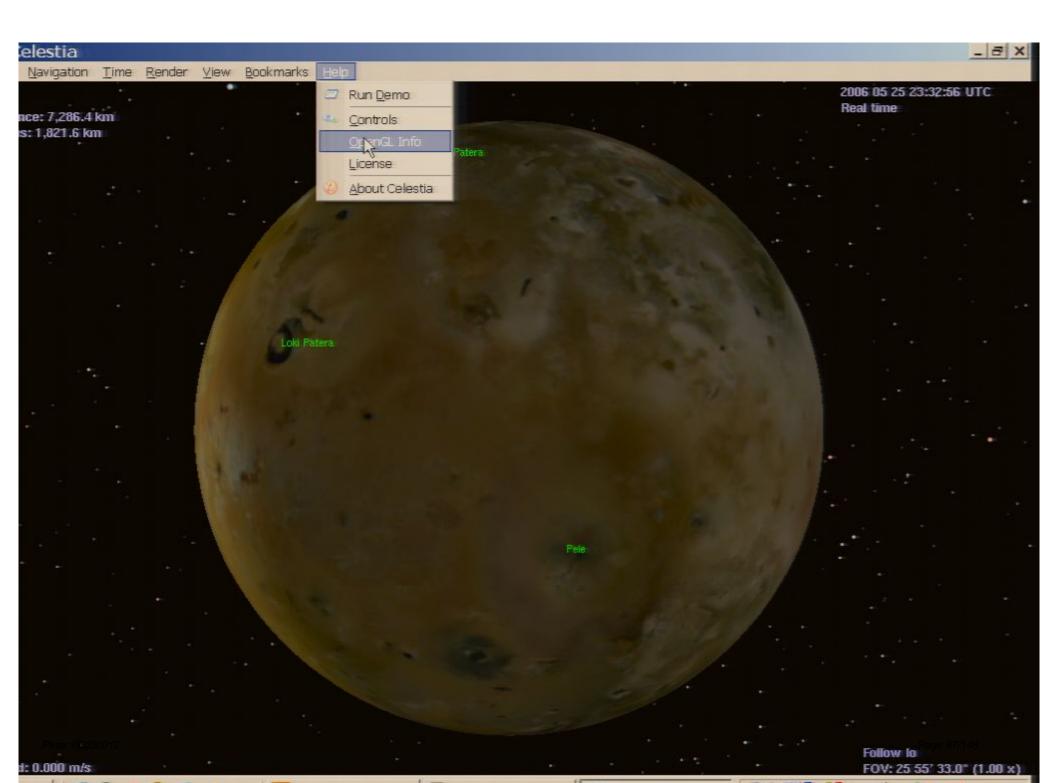


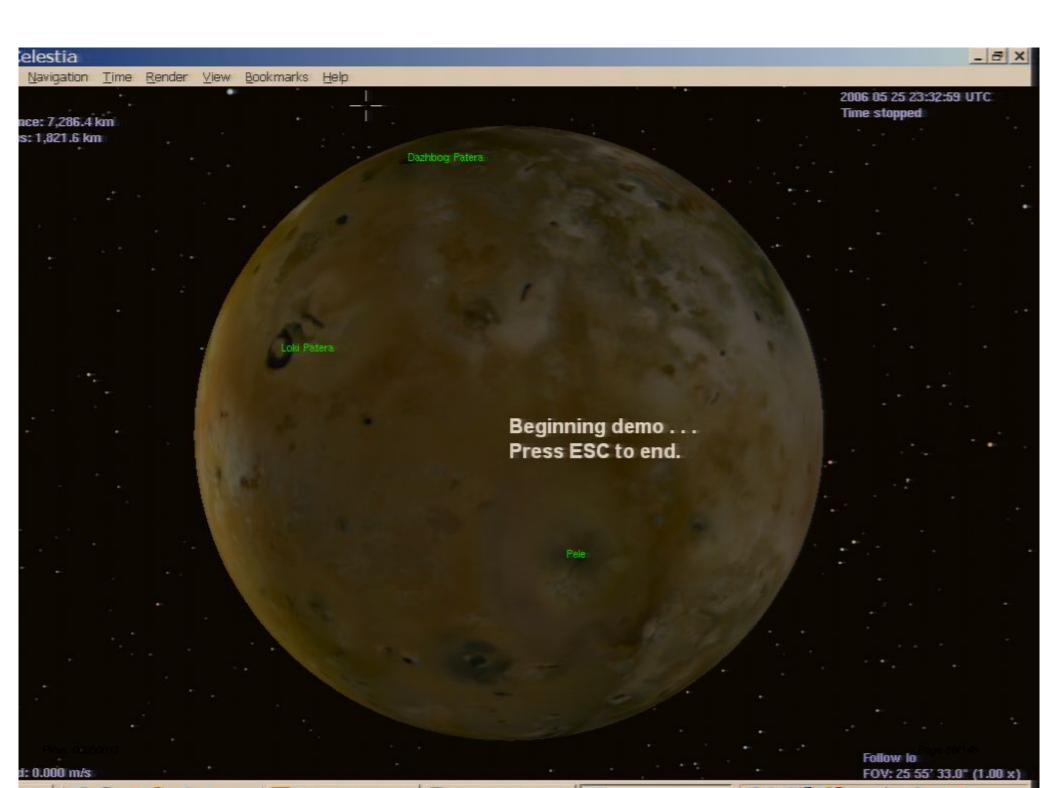


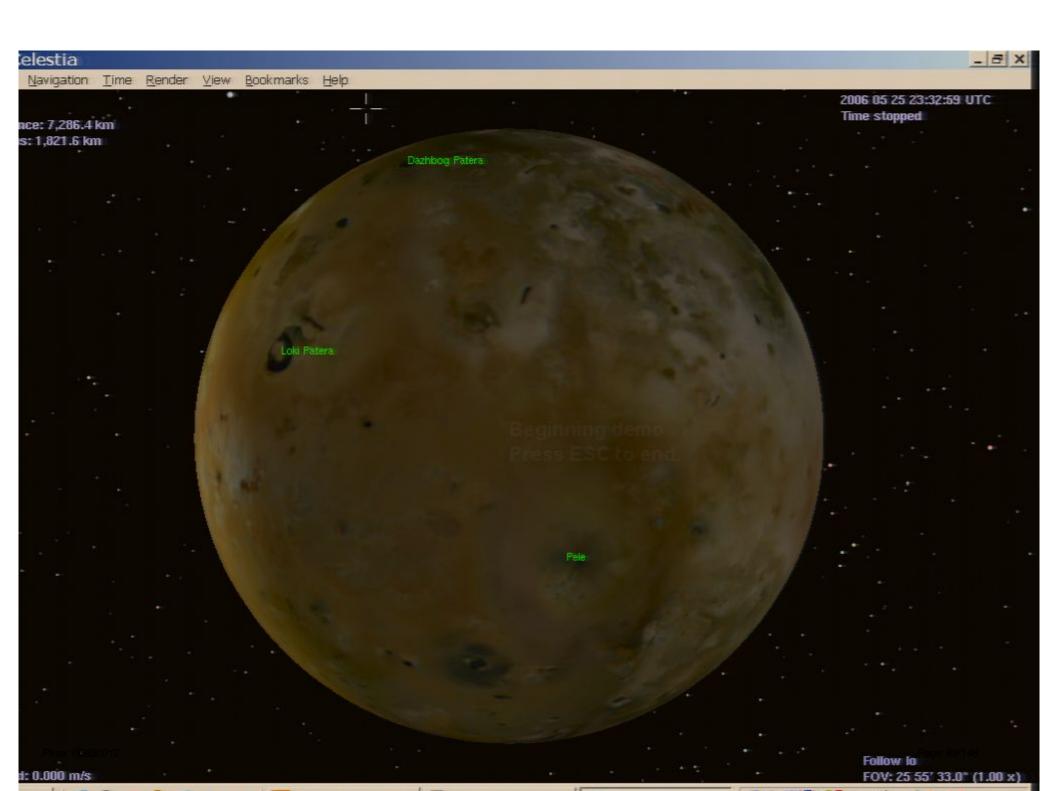


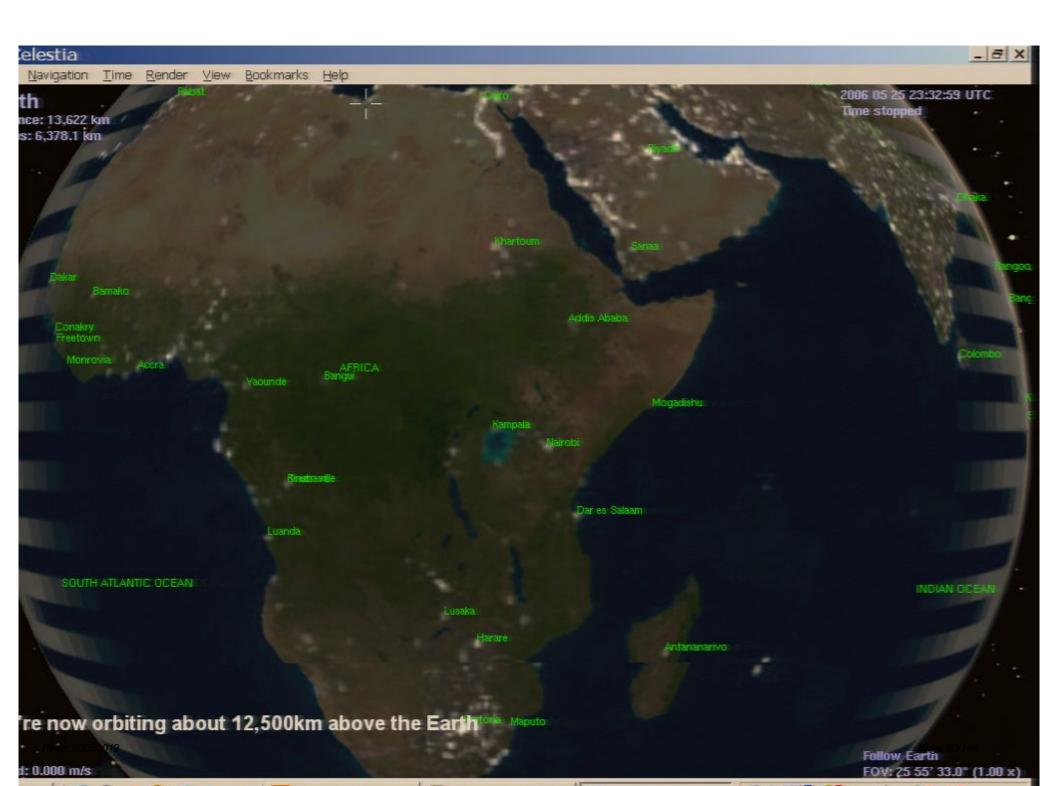


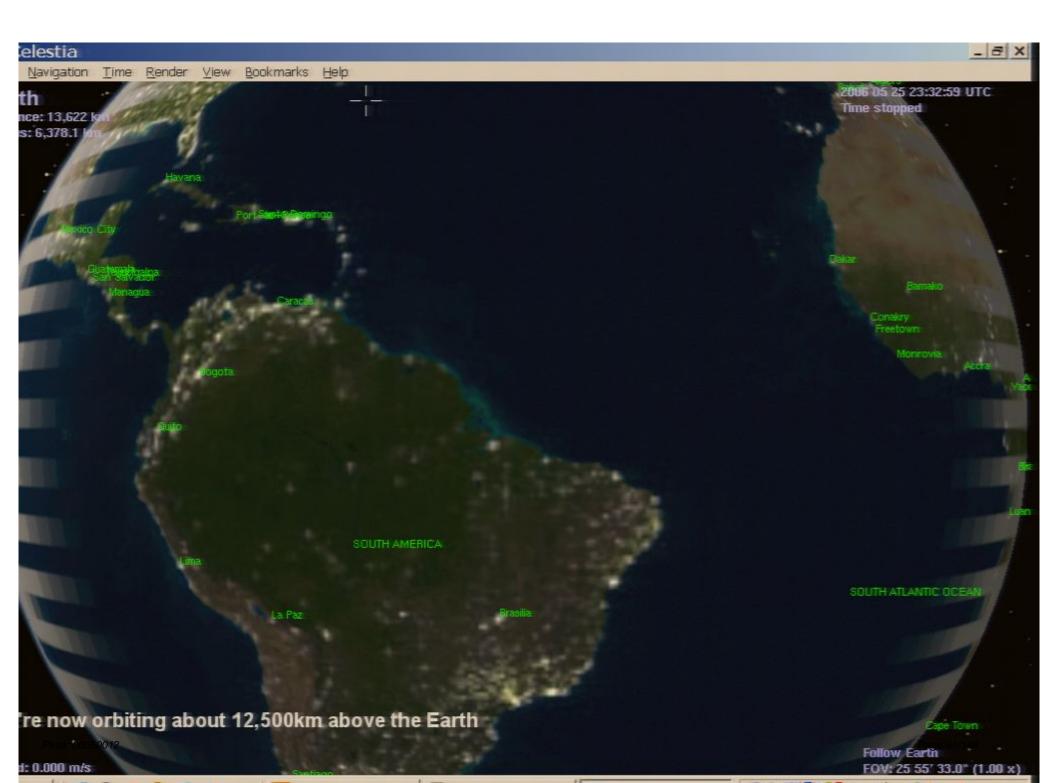


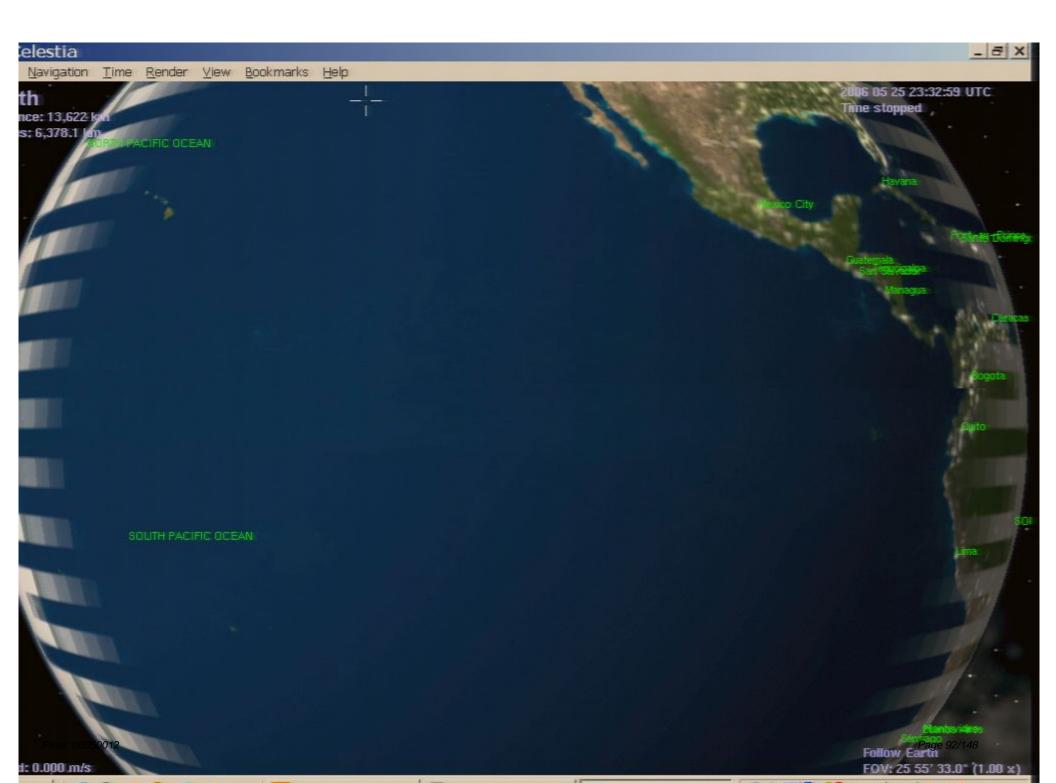


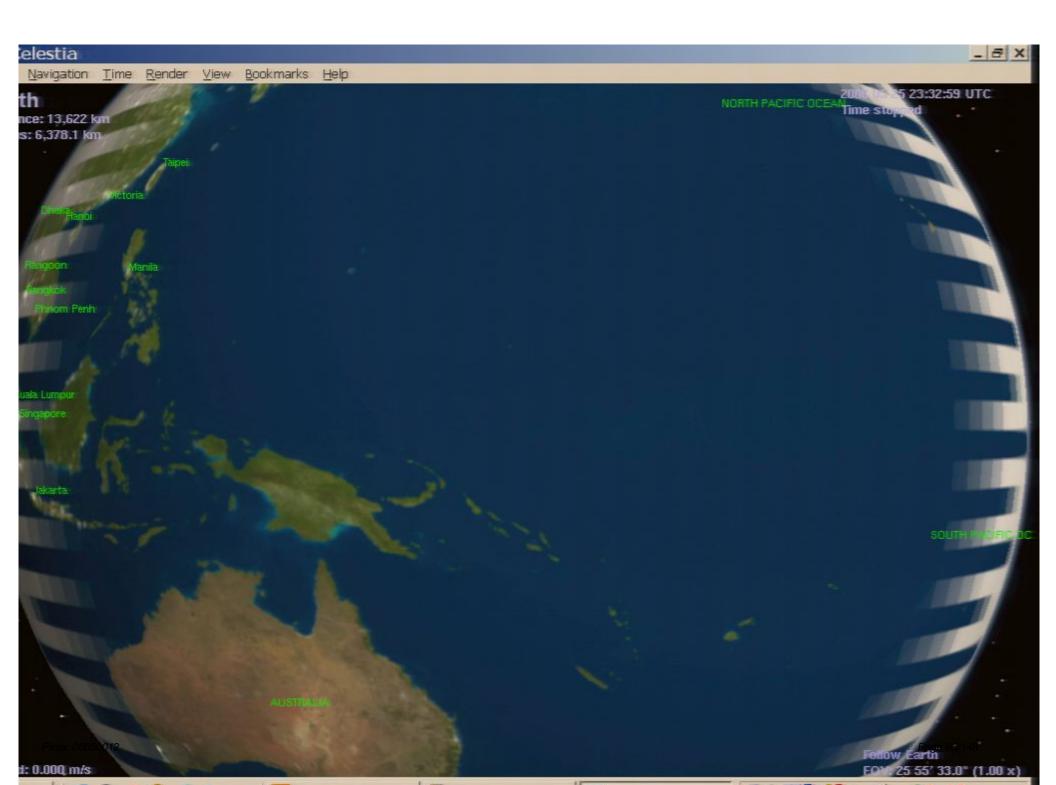


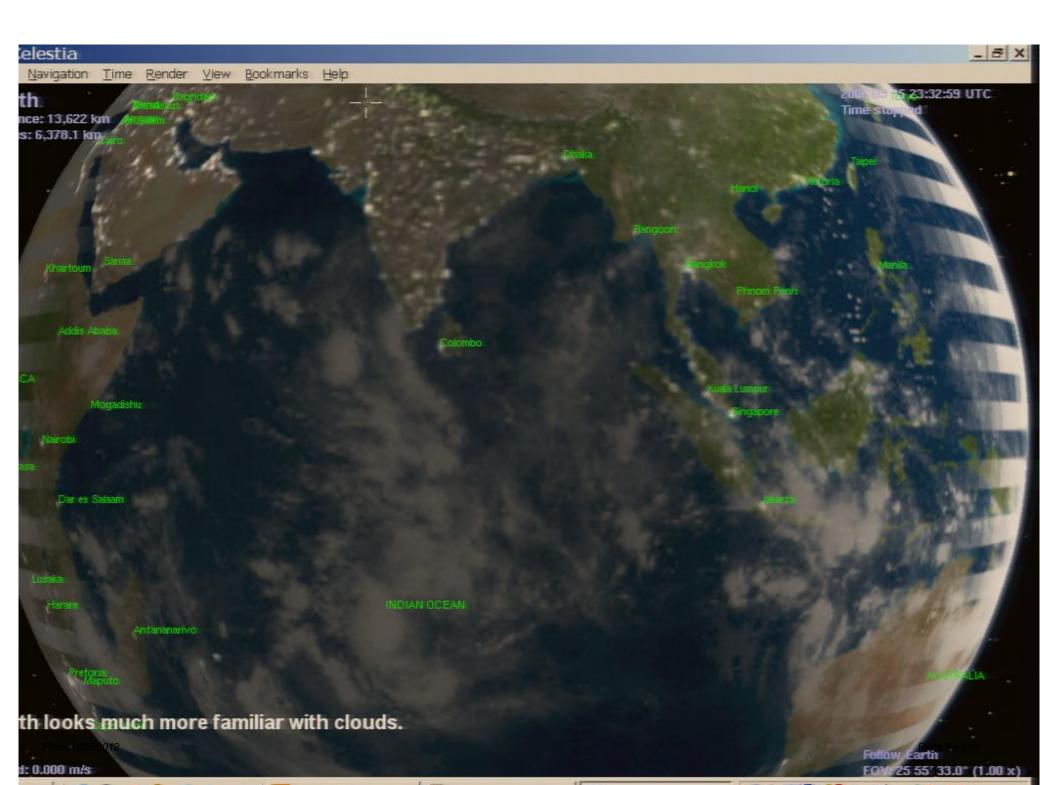


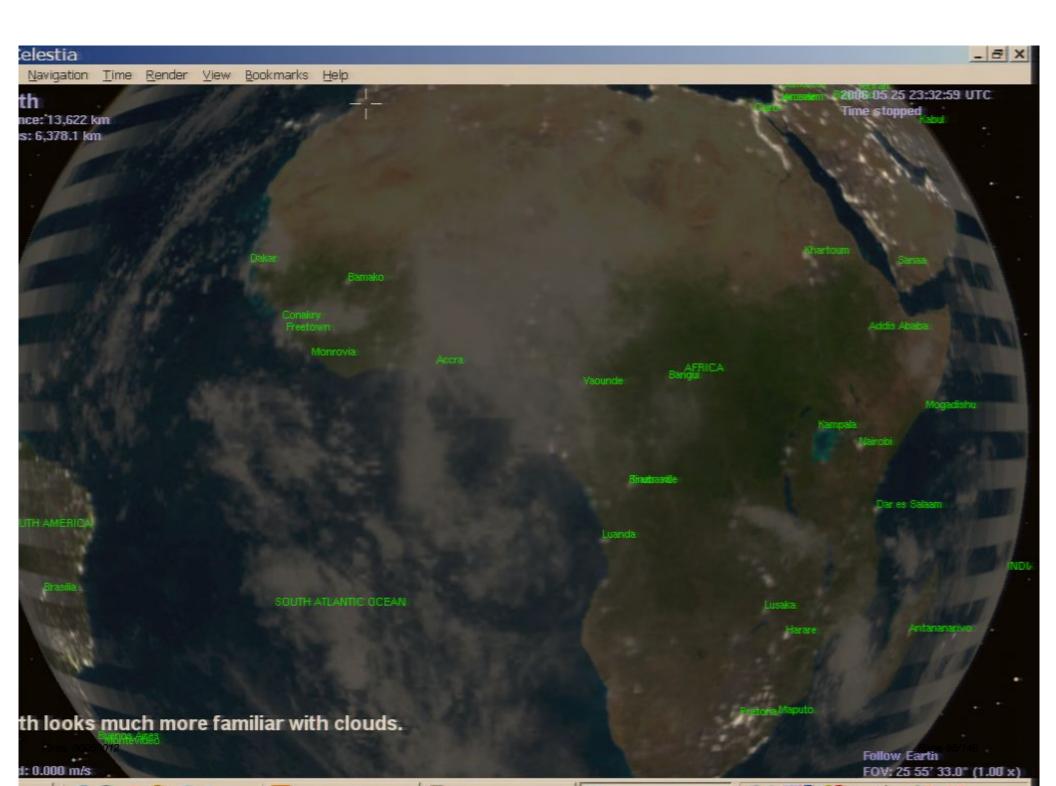


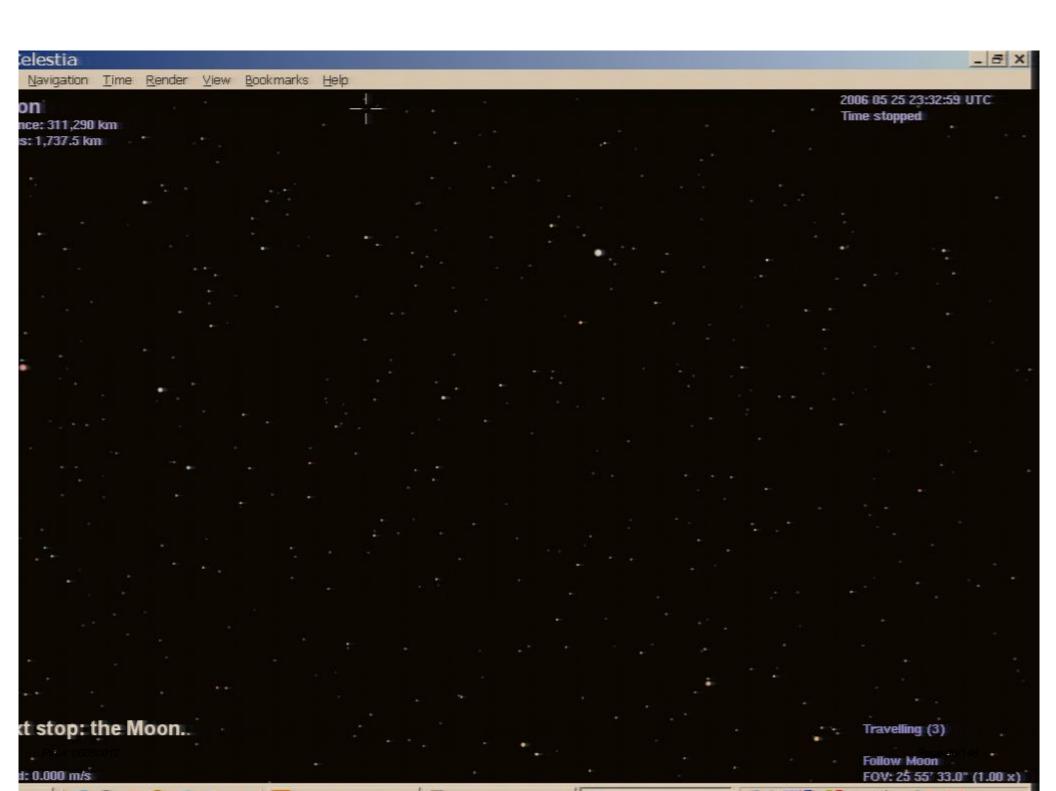


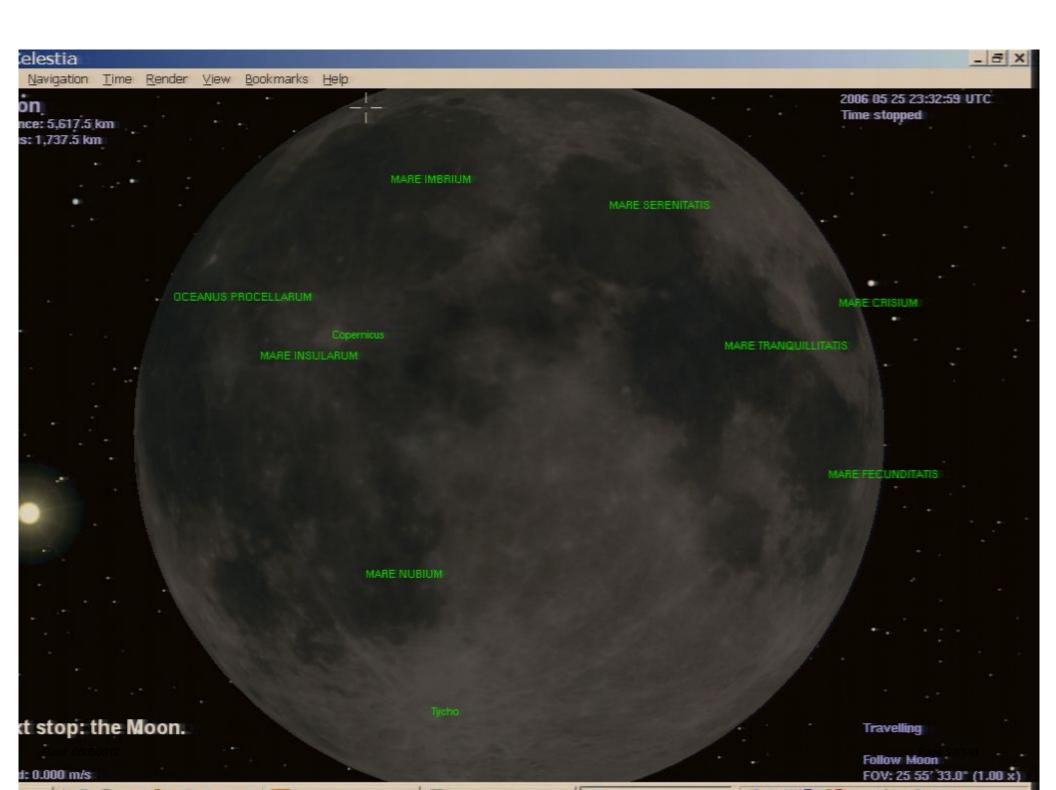


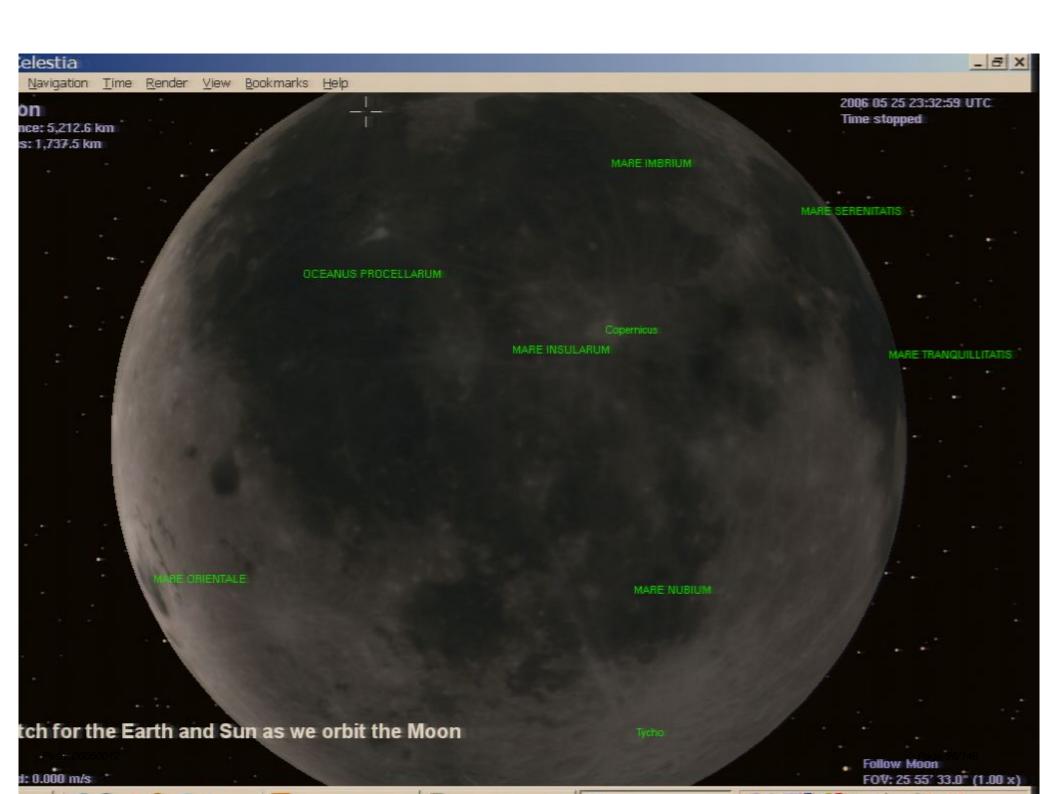


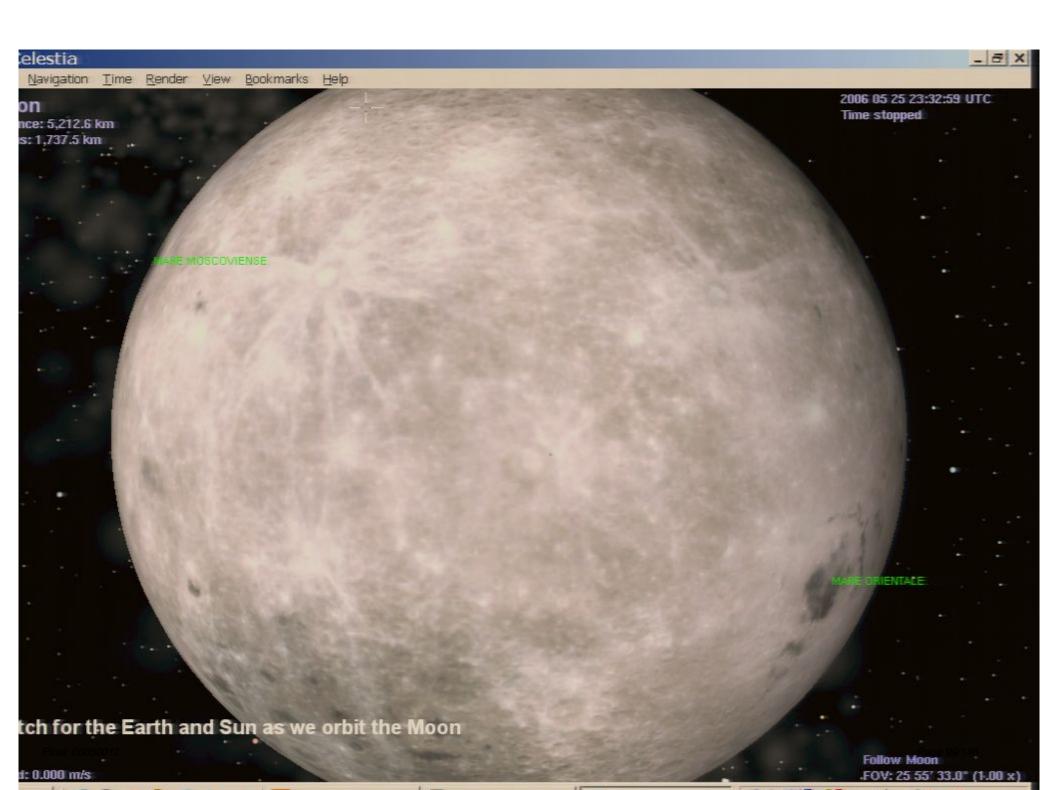


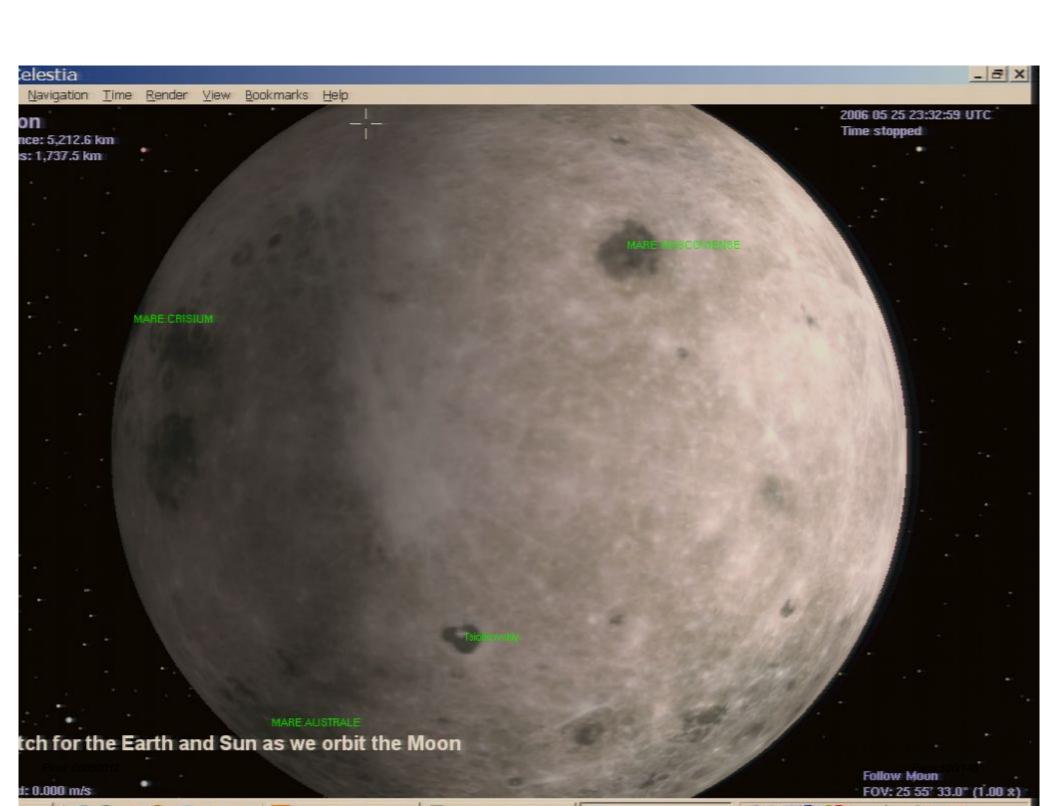


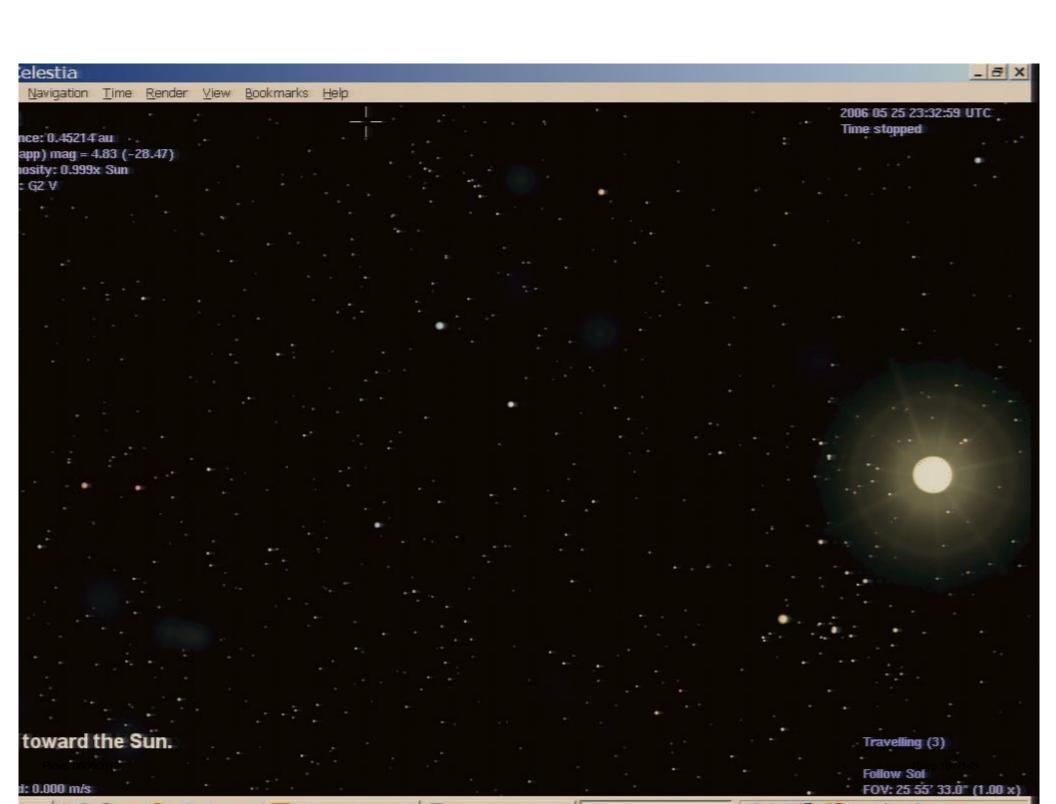




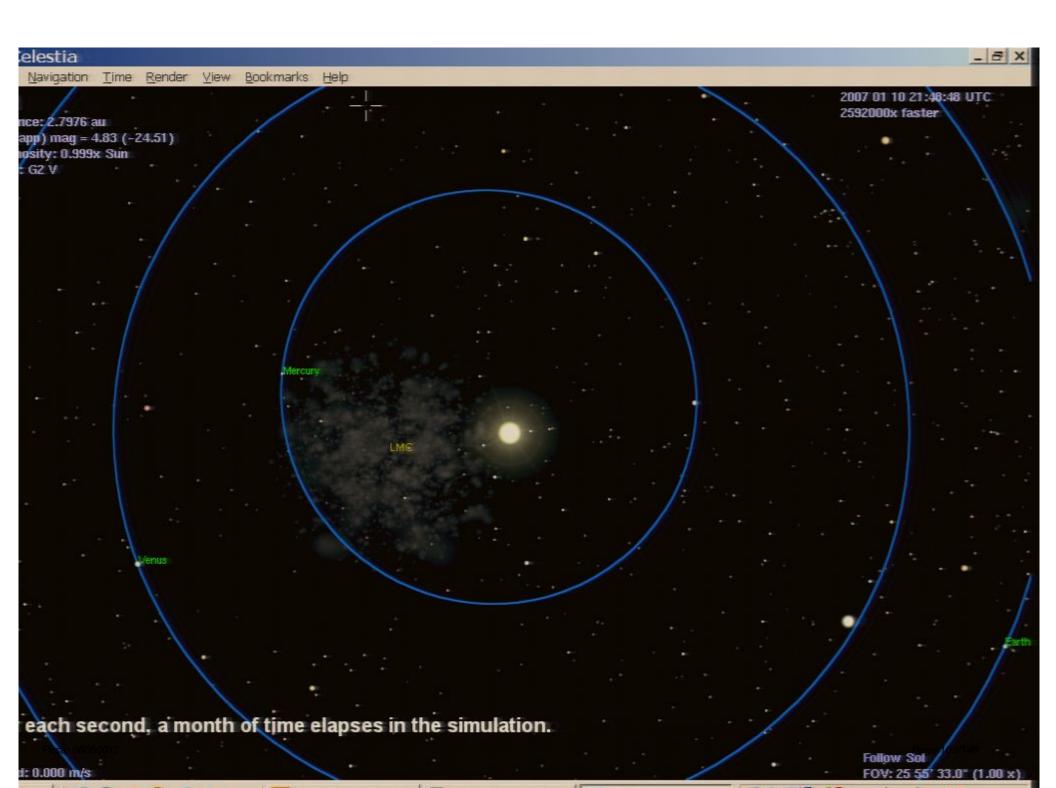


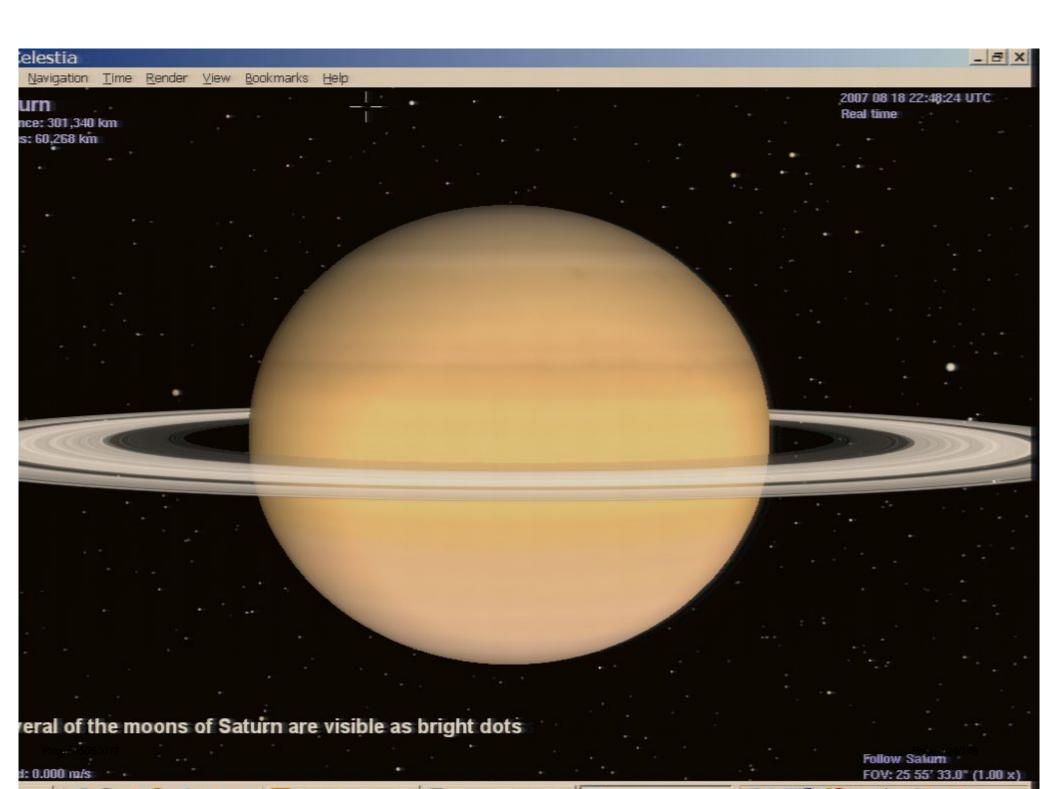


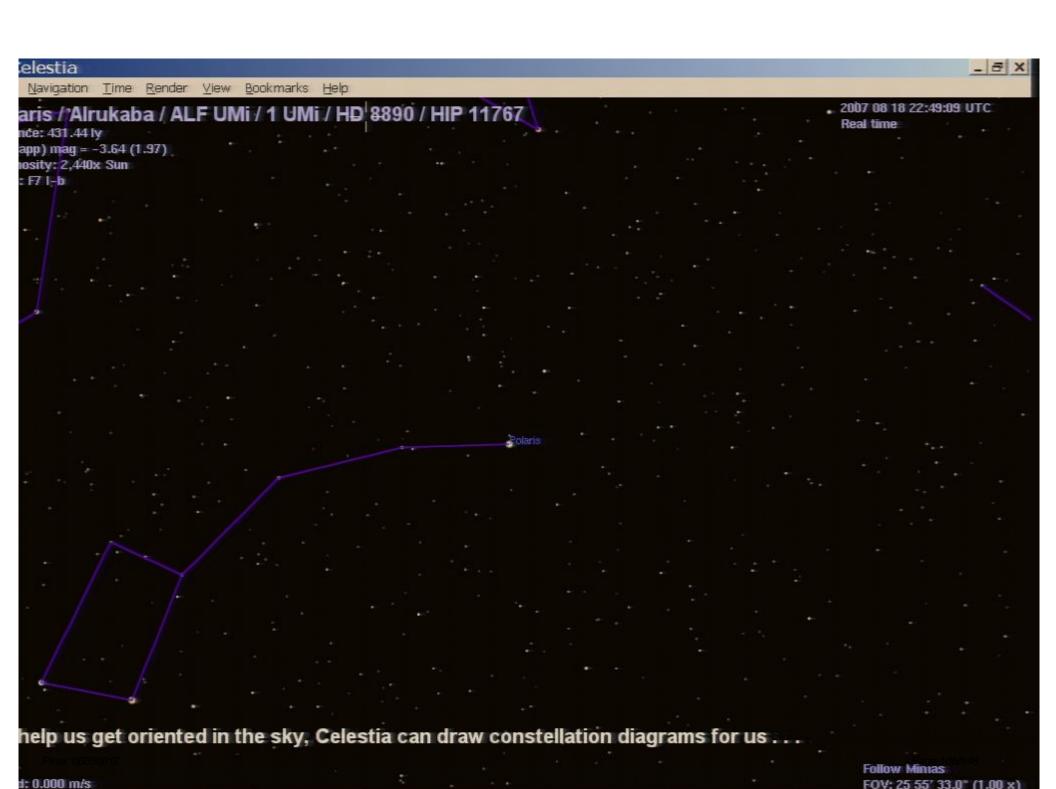




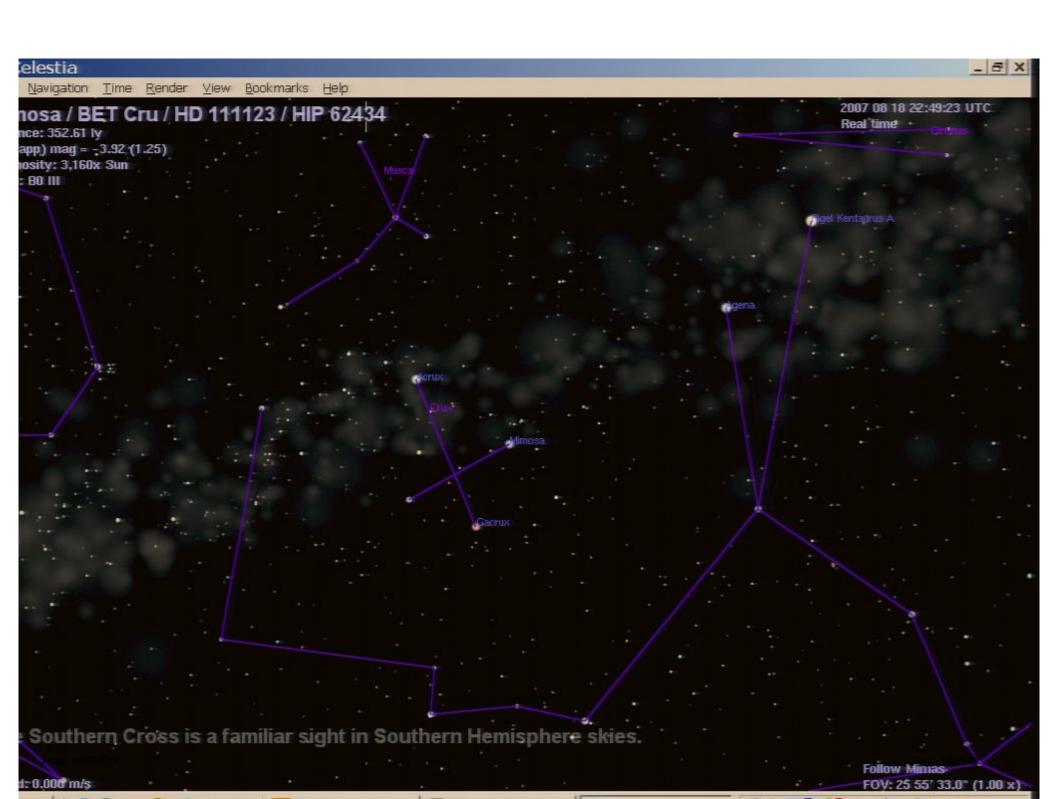


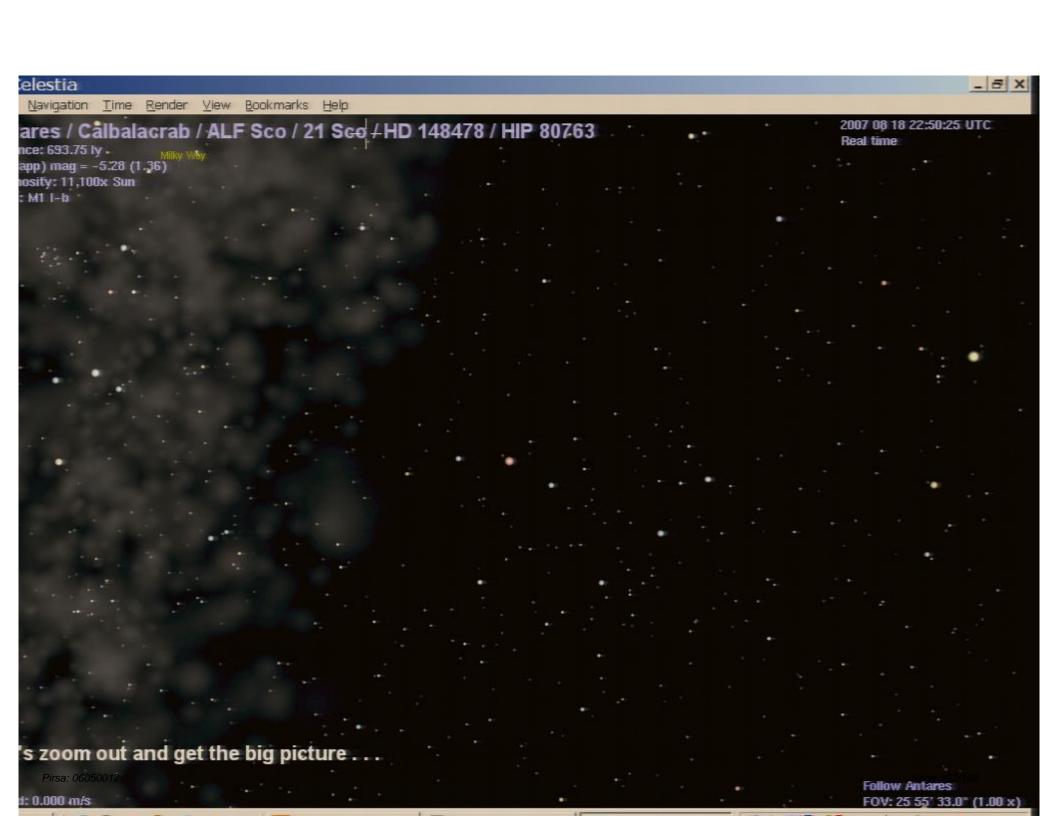


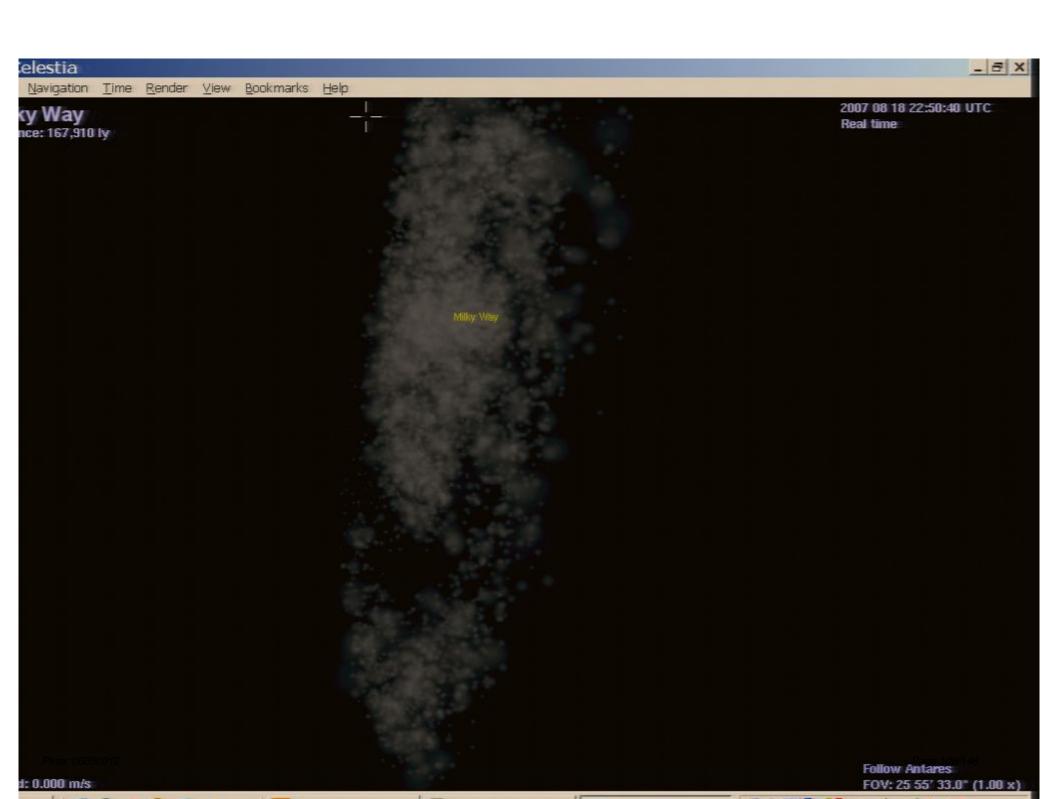


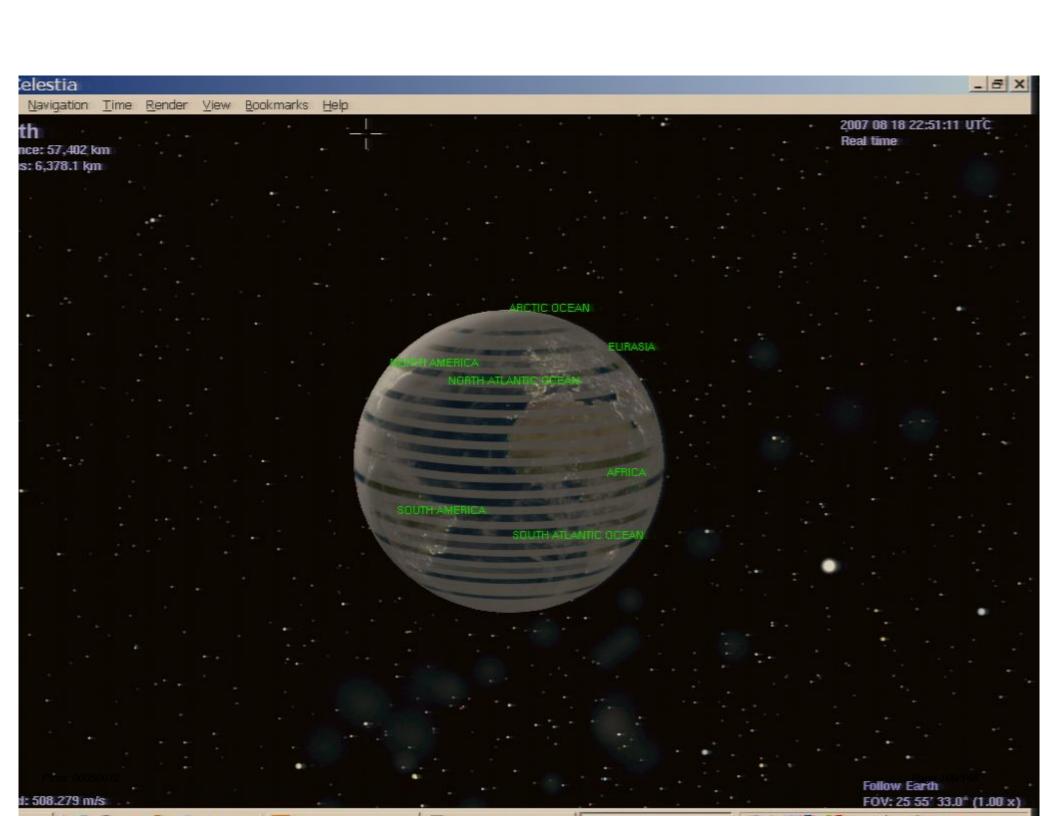


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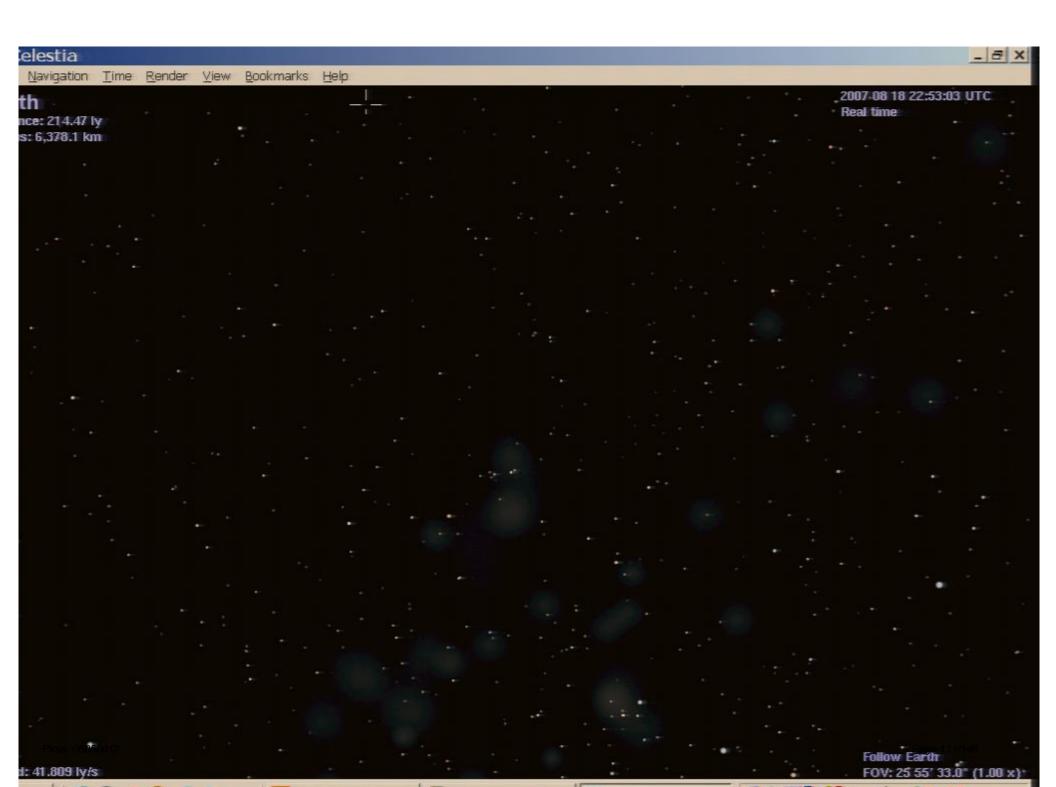


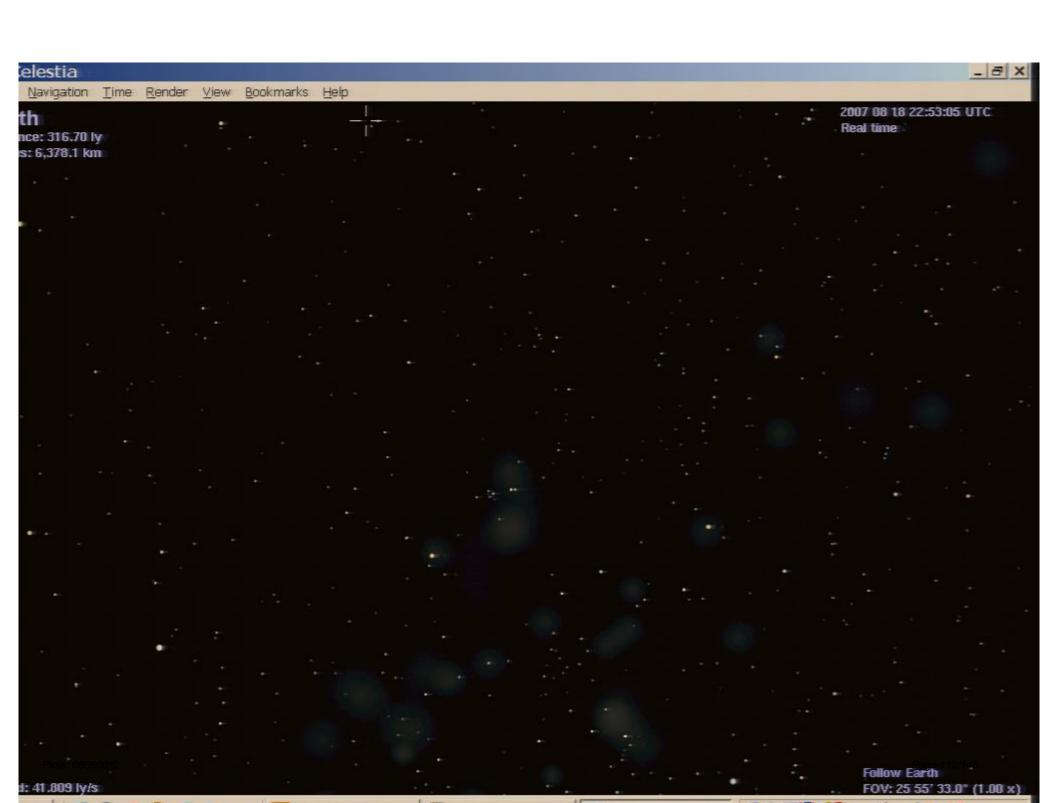




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Vidshell

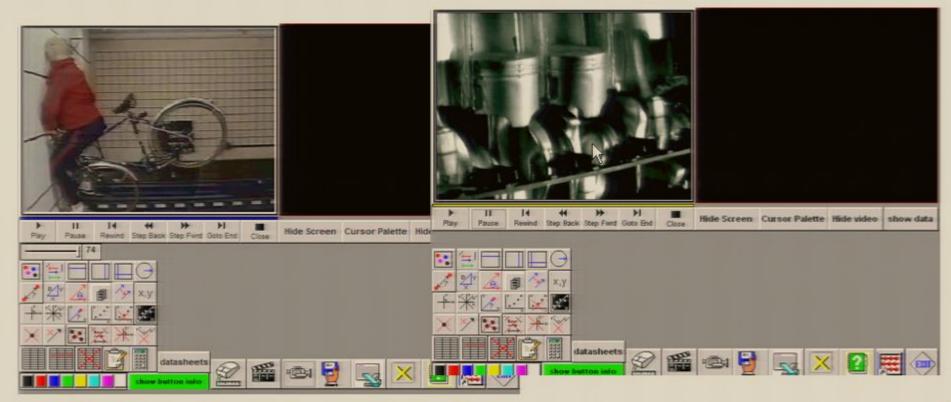
Motion analysis software that comes with video clips. It lets you measure and draw all sorts of things on the screen. You can also import your own video clips and export data to a spreadsheet. Written by Doyle V. Davis.





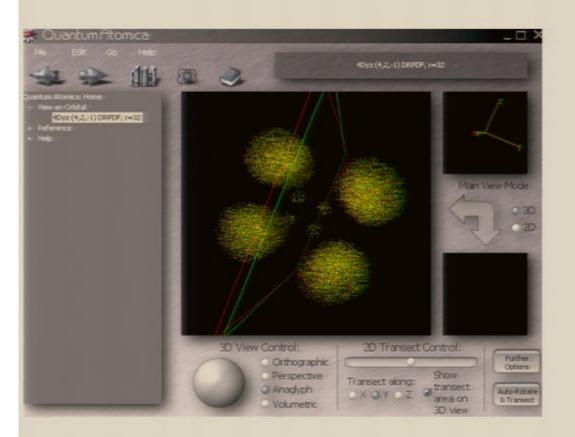
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Motion analysis software that comes with video clips. It lets you measure and draw all sorts of things on the screen. You can also import your own video clips and export data to a spreadsheet. Written by Doyle V. Davis.



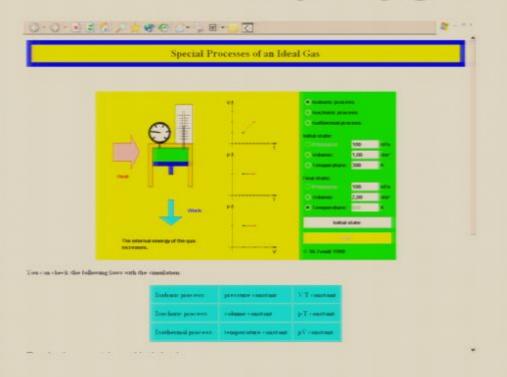


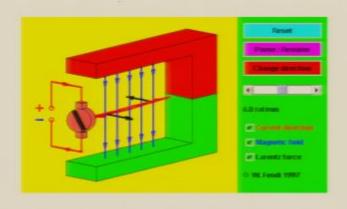
Quantum Atomica



Shows the shapes of electron orbitals in 3D. Allows you to change the viewpoint and look at the orbitals with 3D glasses!

Walter Fendt

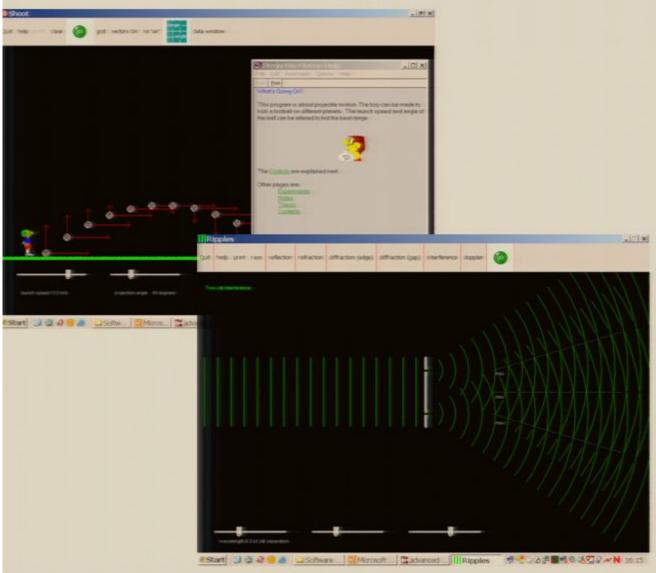






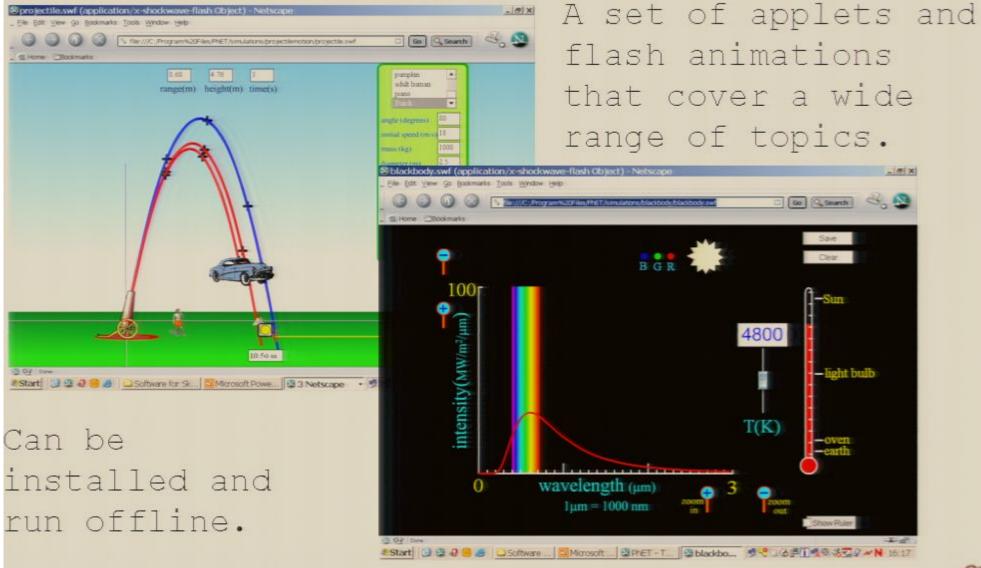
A whole load of applets that are ideal for displaying with a data projector. Highly rated.

Physics Lab



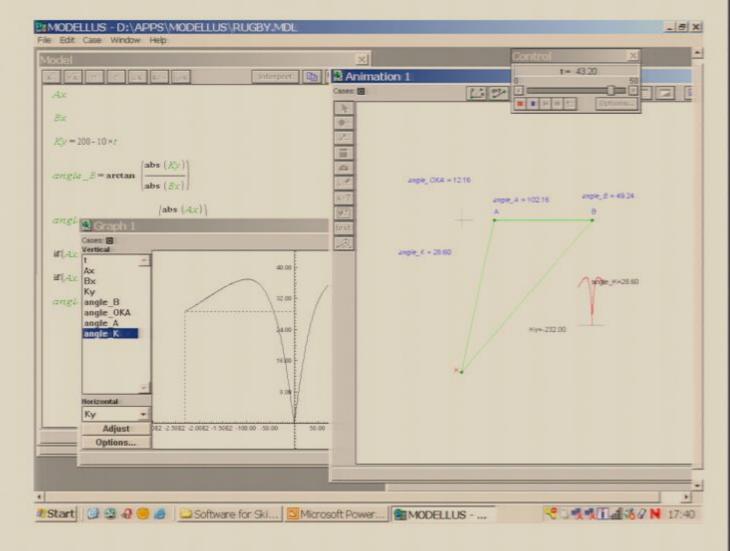
A set of experiment simulations that pupils can work through - clear and entertaining.

PhET



Modellus

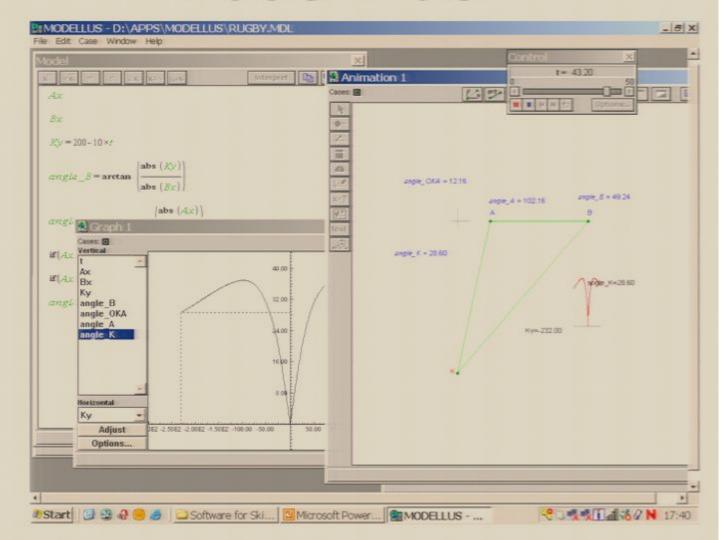
Mathematical nodelling software, create nodels and draw graphs and animations. Jery professional



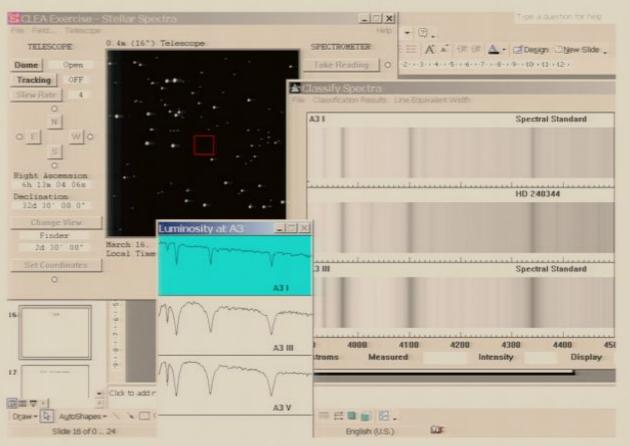


Modellus

Mathematical modelling software, create models and draw graphs and animations. Very professional



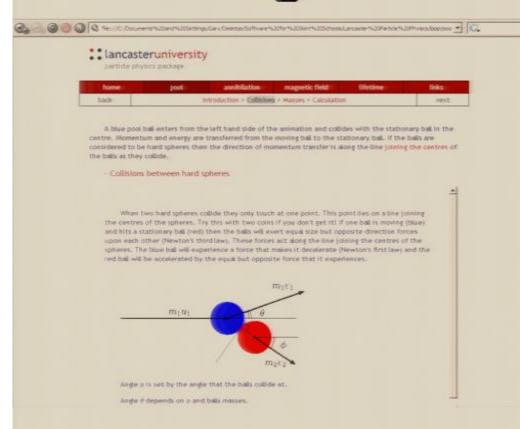
CLEA



A number of very realistic astronomy simulations. More suited to older pupils.

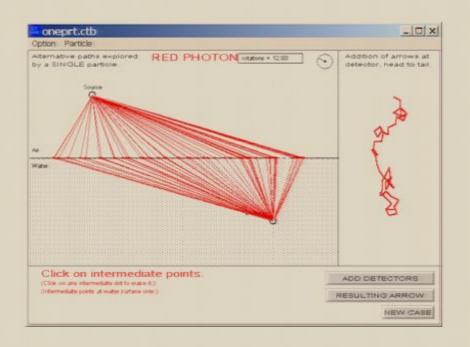


Lancaster Particle Physics

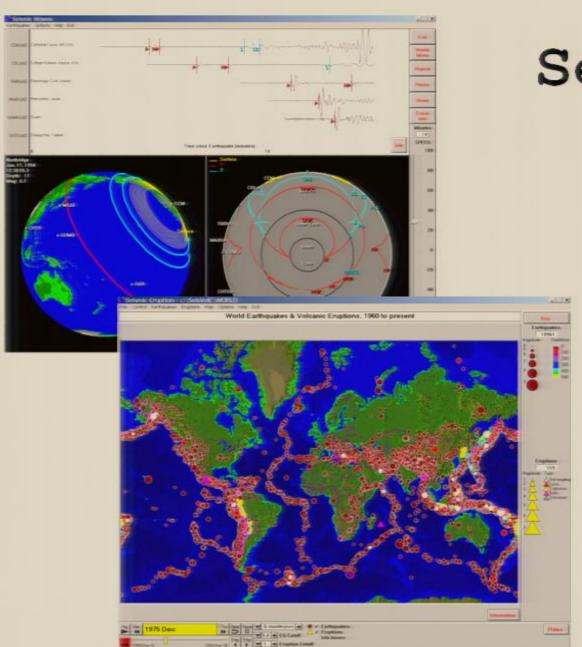


A tutorial based piece of software that explains the theory and gives some insight into the experimental side of particle physics

Many Paths



Draws all the possible paths of photons when teaching QED



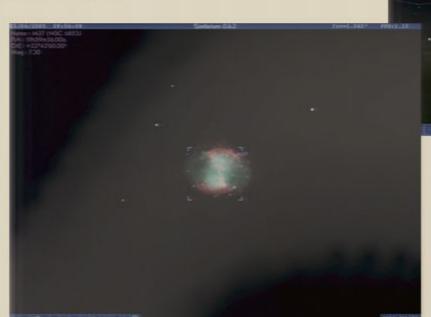
Seismology

Shows how P and S waves travel in the Earth and gives the locations of 1000's of earthquakes. Written by Alan L. Jones



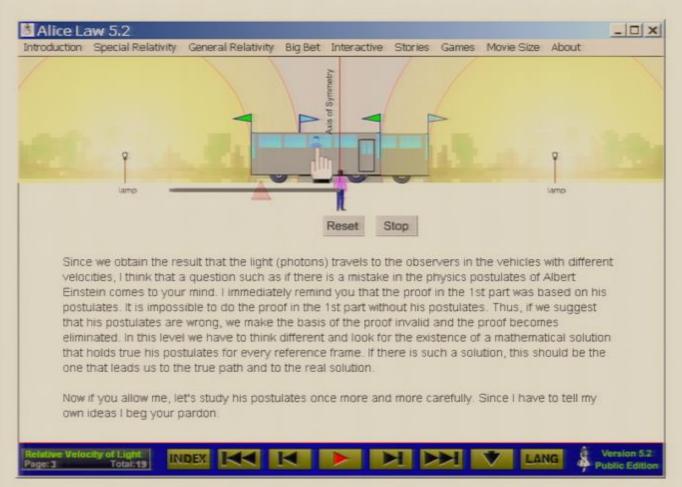
Stellarium

A planetarium that allows you to zoom in on galaxies and planets.



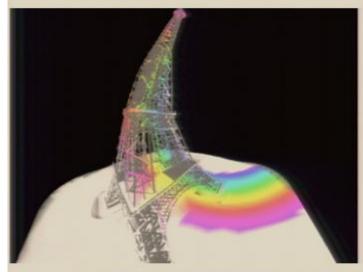


Alice Law



A tutorial that explains relativity using a variety of interactive animations.

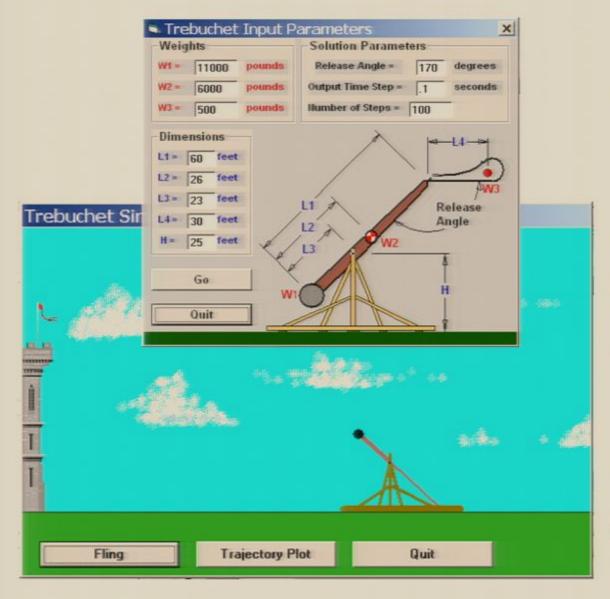
Warp





Simulates what you might see if you moved past objects while travelling at or near the speed of light

WinTreb

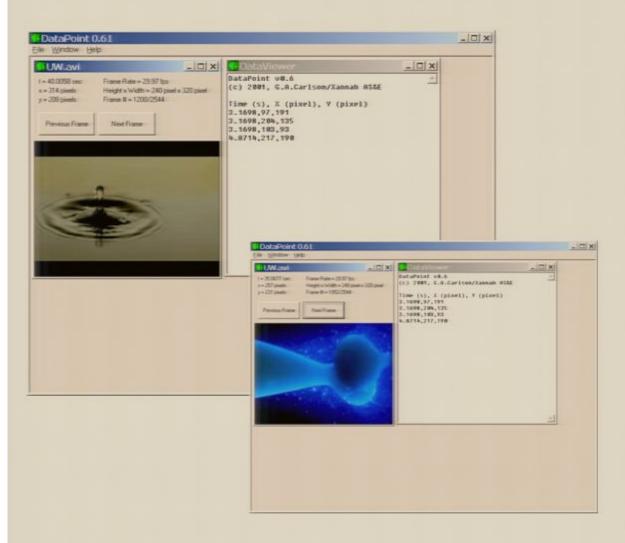


Change the dimensions of a trebuchet, fire it and measure the range and the maximum height of the projectile.

•THERE IS NO
SUPPORT
AVAILABLE FOR
THIS SIMULATION

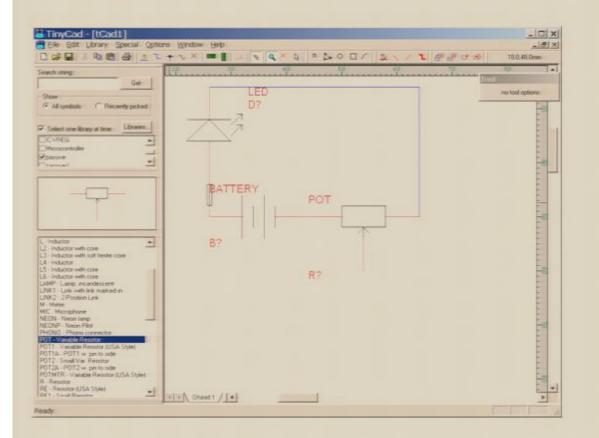


DataPoint



Allows you to move frame by frame through an avi file and collect data from the screen position. Written by Glenn A. Carlson

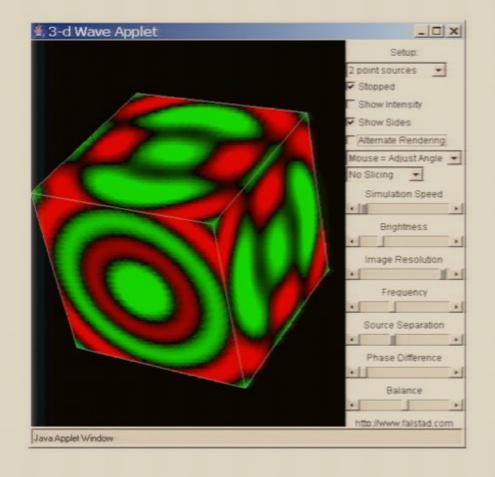
TinyCAD



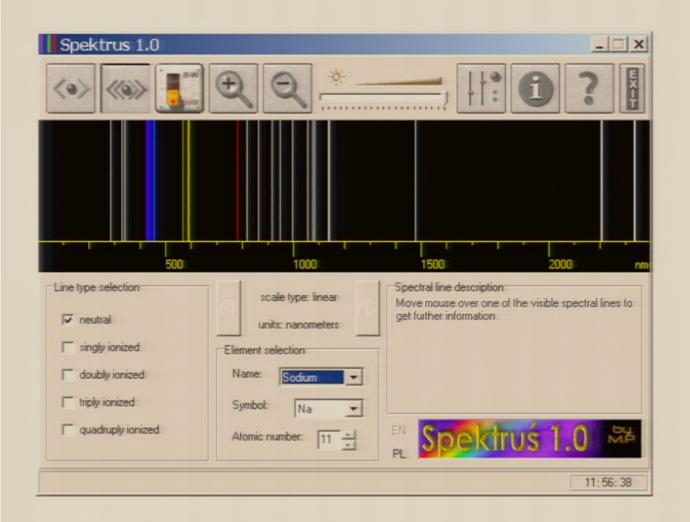
· Allows you to draw circuit diagrams, using a vast library, and to export them.

Falstad Applets

A set of applets that show a variety of things from acoustics to electrodynamics.



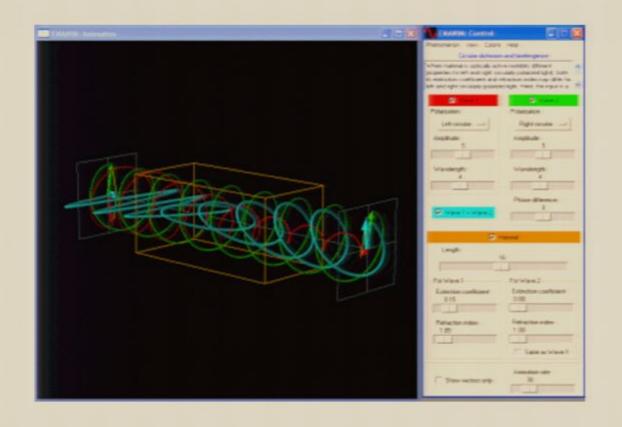
Spektrus



Shows the spectra of all of the elements and allows you to extract information about the emission lines.

Emanim

Visualises em waves and show different states of polarisation, interference, refraction etc



New Ideas?

A workshop from the Institute of Physics Teachers Network



Prism and OHP

Target:

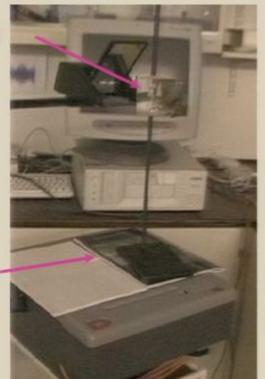
Any

Equipment and suppliers:

All you need is an ohp, large prism and two sheets of card or books that can be used to make a slit on the top of the ohp. You'll also need a clamp, stand and boss to hold the prism in place, a G-clamp can be used with the right ohp.

If your ohp is sitting doing nothing then now is the time to press it back into service for making rainbows.

Prism



Slit



Bendy Pencils

Target:

16 - 18

Equipment and suppliers:

Try pound shops - the pencils come in packs of 8 - only 12.5p each. Longer pencils have high resistance and need a good ohmmeter.

Bendy pencils can be used to make a strain gauge. The pencils come in 2

lengths, 30cm and 200cm.





Centrally resourced sessions



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Prism



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Son of New Ideas?

A workshop from the Institute of Physics Teachers Network



Wave changer

Target:

Any

Equipment and suppliers:

is in the

Marker pen, stick, wallpaper or A3 sheets taped together, old wire reel, clamp stand



Sound is a longitudinal wave - so why do we show images of transverse waves and say they're sound?

Show pupils how longitudinal waves are represented by transverse waves with this simple gadget.

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Equipment and suppliers:

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isulule

Eggs

Target:

14-18

Equipment and suppliers:



is tule

Eggs supplied by chickens! Tray from local supermarket -79p Using crème eggs is less messy

A variation on the bucket of water trick. Use a tray for boiling eggs and a length of rope. Make sure the folding handle is securely in place. Whirl round in circular fashion without breakages but stopping is the difficult bit!



Butthead

Target:

16-18

Equipment and suppliers:

Butt head game (£9.99 from Hawkin.com) or homemade Velcro equivalent, foam disc gun (£9.99 & £4.99) and an airzooka.

This game can be used to explain the photoelectric effect. The work function is the amount of energy needed to remove the ball from the head; the rest of the energy is transformed into KE.





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Thank You!

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