



**Chesapeake Section of the
American Association of Physics Teachers
Fall 2021 Virtual Meeting**

Contribution ID: 25

Type: **Demo**

Determining the Width of a Hair with a Laser

Saturday, October 23, 2021 3:40 PM (5 minutes)

The opportunity doesn't often arise for you to pluck out your students' hair without negative repercussions, but this demo is exciting enough for students to offer it freely! Because light acts as a wave, we see a diffraction pattern when it passes over a small slit or obstruction. Using only a laser pointer, measuring tape, and a ruler, you can measure the width of a human hair by analyzing your laser's diffraction pattern on a viewing screen.

Presenter: MARTIN, Chris (Shenandoah Valley Governor's School)

Session Classification: Demo Share-a-thon