

Inertial Batons



Purpose: Demonstrate Rotational Inertia.

The two aluminum batons weigh the same. One has extra mass added to the center, while the other has the mass added at the ends. The fun begins when you find two assistants to face each other with the batons held in the middle. Have them begin by waggling the batons up and down slowly. Then ask them to speed up. The unfortunate person (hopefully, a big tough guy) with the end-loaded rod will not be able to keep up.

Note: The batons have been painted since the photo. Now one is red and the other blue.

Extra Equipment: None.

Location: Shelf A4.