# User Interface Design
## Critical Analysis

THE PROJECT
Suggest changes
to current UI of
Physics 20 applets

ICONS

INTERFACE

LANGUAGE

Suzette Chan
28 March 2003

## ICONS

### CHALLENGES
- Unfamiliar icons for new, complex concepts
- Numerous and varied icons to operate each applet

### GOALS
- Communicability, Clarity

### RECOMMENDATIONS
**- The icons must be more self-explanatory.**

Text should accompany icons that operate the applets. This will allow students immediate access to the tools. Reticent students will be encouraged to use less daunting applets.

Labels would be particularly beneficial where icons are very similar or where very small differences are crucial (e.g. fig. 5). Larger icons should also be considered to help distinguish small differences.

The dimensional box image which appears on some help menus is puzzling. Is it a logo or is it operational? This should be clarified.

The "?" icon should either always appear on the Help menu, or never appear.

The icons and the labels on the slider bars need a higher level of figure/ground contrast, especially since the icons and formulae may be unfamiliar to students.