Pre-Lab Exercises
Lab #1: CD Spectrometer
MIT Nanomaker_Spring 2013

1) Read the photonics.com article on cellphone spectrometry.

2) How might a spectrometer be useful in day-to-day activity?

3) List a few qualities that are desirable in a spectrometer. How might a spectrometer’s slit and collimating tube, grating, and detector affect those qualities?

4) In this lab, we will be using a delaminated recordable CD as a diffraction grating. How might the CD diffraction grating differ in performance from a linear grating that could be purchased from an optics supply company? How would the diffraction change by replacing a CD diffraction grating with a DVD?

Weekly Challenge: Measure the data track spacing on CDs.