



“Motion of the Tip of a Snapped Towel”

Nicolas Lee, Spence Allen, and Elizabeth Smith, NCSSM '93

A sequence of 12 flash units, filtered with different colors, captured the tip of this towel as it was being snapped. The tip accelerates greatly as it flips from left to right. The greatest speed is achieved between the third and fifth images, as the towel extends completely. In some cases, the speed can exceed the speed of sound.