Faraday's Law

Aim: To determine the relationship between the velocity of a moving magnet and the EMF it generates in a coil.

Theory:

Faraday's Law states the relationship between the EMF generated in a coil of wire (solenoid) and the rate of change of magnetic flux as

$\mathbf{EMF} = - \mathbf{N} \, \mathbf{d} \phi / \mathbf{d} t$

Where ϕ = Magnetc Flux N = Number of turns of the solenoid

As the EMF depends upon the rate at which the magnetic flux (ϕ) changes, we would expect the EMF generated by a magnet dropped into a wire coil to depend upon the velocity of the magnet as it enters the coil.

The velocity (v) of a dropped magnet depends upon the height from which it is dropped and is given by the equation $v^2 = u^2 + 2as$, where a is the acceleration, u = initial velocity and s is the height.

Equipment:

Solenoid (Coil), magnet, ruler, foam, data logger (EziLog USB, or equivalent) with voltage sensor, computer.

Method :

- I. Connect a solenoid to a suitable voltage (+/- 2.5 V) sensor and the voltage sensor to a data logger, which in turn is connected to a computer.
- II. Setup the solenoid with a foam (or other suitable material) inner core. Place a ruler into the core as indicated below



III. Set the sampling rate to a minimum of 20,000 samples s⁻¹ and an appropriate sample number. Start the data logger

- IV. Place the magnet at 0.04 cm above the solenoid and drop. Your data logger results should look similar to that shown below
- V. Measure and record the value of the first peak. Enter this value into the Max emf column. Determine the velocity using the equation in the Theory section with u = 0 and enter this in the Velocity column of the results table.
- VI. Repeat for the other values of height in the results table.



Finally when all values of emf and velocity have been determined plot a graph of Max emf vs velocity.

Results

Height	Velocity	Max emf
(cm)	(m.s⁻¹)	(volts)
0.04		
0.06		
0.08		
0.1		
0.12		

Discussion:

- 1. What is the shape of the line in your graph?
- 2. What is the relationship between emf generated in the coil and the velocity of the magnet?
- 3. Are your results consistent with Faraday's Law?

Conclusion:

Write your own conclusion ensuring that it relates to the aim as stated above.