

EXPERIENCES OF A VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT IN THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL ATOMIC AND NUCLEAR PHYSICS COURSE

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Atomic and Nuclear Physics (3 ETCS credits) course is a part of study program for the students, who has physics as a secondary subject at the University of Oulu. The course has not been lectured for a few years but students may have been attended lectures of Atomic Physics I (6 ETCS credits), which is aimed mainly for physics majors and teacher students.

The aim of the project was to develop an alternative way to pass the Atomic and Nuclear Physics course. Virtual learning environment was created including course material, various exercises and learning diary. The course became possible to pass at any time of the semester without final exam.

The course piloting was held on fall semester 2015 with 10 students, when also research about the student's experiences (8 students) was done. The purpose of our research was to find out how the students receive physics online course, why they choose the course and what kind of studying habits the students had while studying the course. The main reason to choose the online course was the freedom to pass the course with own pace. Also the possibility to have no final exam made the online course attractive. Some students showed an interest to try new learning methods for physics course.