

■Purpose of Exhibition

The Foucault pendulum was installed using the atrium in the Life Science Bldg. It is 27.9 meters long. This device shows the rotation of the earth. The pendulum is 27 centimeters in diameter and weighs 81 kilograms, and comes into operation at the beginning of each day. Please look at this swinging pendulum, which gradually change its direction of rotation.



■Additional Knowledge



C Heritage Images/PPS The first experiment of Foucault pendulum at the dome of the Panthéon in 1851, Paris,

How Did Foucault Experiment using a Pendulum? [Open Experiment at the Pantheon]

In France in 1851, Foucault started his experiments with pendulums in his basement. The pendulum swings in a given direction to space. But the earth is rotating and changing its direction to space, so that on the earth, looking at the pendulum it seems as if it's changing its direction little by little.

In March the same year, Napoleon III let Foucault install a pendulum into a place which has a high dome, in the Pantheon in Paris, and allowed him to conduct an experiment on it.

Article by Astronomy Section

The direction along which the pendulum swings appears to rotate The plane of the pendulum's swin tends to keep a fixed direction in space

The plane of oscillation of a pendulum at the North Pole undergoes a rotation during one day

At other latitudes,the plan of oscillation precesses relative to Earth, but slowe than at the pole. (Foucault pendulum at nagoya rotates 208' in one day?

When a Foucault pendulum is susp on the equator, the plane of oscillation remains fixed relative to Earth

