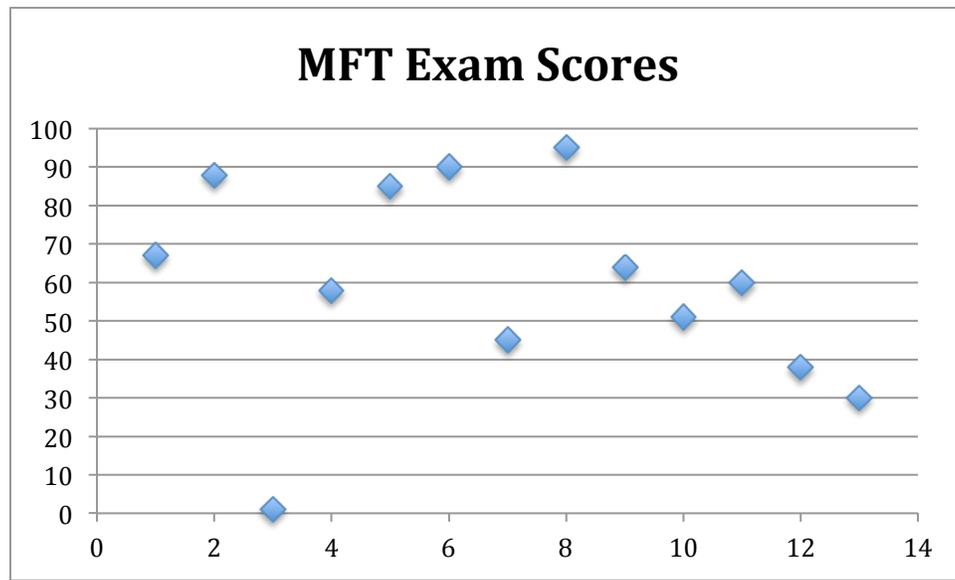


Assessment of Knowledge:

Knowledge/Critical Thinking (Goal): Students will have a working knowledge of the basic areas of physics: (Mechanics, Electricity & Magnetism, Thermodynamics, Quantum Mechanics) and be able to demonstrate their ability to solve difficult problems, some that include real world applications.

We assess this category in multiple ways. The primary assessment is by having our seniors take the Major Field Test in Physics. While this is more appropriate for our pure physics majors, our Engineering/Physics majors take this as well. Since this is an exam given nationwide to many schools it gives us a good way to compare our graduates versus a broad comparison group. We look to have 70% of our students come above the 50th percentile. Below are the results from 2012-2014.



Here 9 of the 13 scored above 50% (so 69%) which is a hair below our target.

Second, especially for the pure physics majors, we look to have over half go on to graduate programs. On our last alumni survey (2011) we found 60% went on to PhD programs. Overall (including Engineering/Physics) 58% went on to graduate programs (this included MS, PhD and MD programs) including institutions such as Stanford, U. of Chicago, UCSB, UCSD, Michigan State, Berkeley, Columbia.

Third we would like to see 75% of our grads enter technical fields. The same alumni survey showed 80% did.