

NPHY-171E

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Week 1

Units and measurements

Units

The basic SI Units

The derived SI Units

Unit Conversions

Sub-division and multiples of S.I. units

Unit conversions

Numbers

Engineering Notation

Significant figures

1 Units and measurements

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 - The derived SI Units
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- Sub-division and multiples of S.I. units
- Unit conversions
- Numbers
 - Engineering Notation
 - Significant figures

All quantities in the physical world can be expressed in terms of mainly six basic or S.I. units

Quantity	Unit	Symbol
Length	meter	m
Time	second	s
Mass	kilogram	kg
Temperature	kelvin	K
Electric current	ampere	A
Luminous Intensity	candela	cd

When writing units, the following rules must always be adhered to, namely:-

- 1 Whenever a unit is written out in full, it must always start with a small letter, even if the unit is named after a scientist

Example

Use ampere not Ampere

- 2 When symbols are used, and the unit is named after a scientist, the first letter of the symbol is a capital letter.

Example

thus A for ampere, but kg for kilogram

- ③ Either write the units in full or use the correct symbols.
No abbreviations allowed

Example

2 Amps, 5 sec or any other abbreviations are not acceptable.

- ④ When using symbols, don't add "s" to indicate plural form

Example

2 kilogram^s and 25 metre^s remain 2 kg and 25 m.

All other S.I. units are derived from the **base** units.
Special names are often used for derived units.

Example

$$\text{Force} = \text{mass} \times \text{acceleration}$$

$$= \text{mass} \times \frac{\text{velocity}}{\text{time}}$$

$$= \text{mass} \times \frac{\frac{\text{displacement}}{\text{time}}}{\text{time}}$$

$$= \text{kg} \times \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

$$= \text{kg} \cdot \text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$$

known as newton

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Exercise

Derive the S.I. units of the pressure from its defining equation.

Multiples and Submultiples of SI Units

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Because a basic unit in a system may NOT be convenient in size for a given measurement, other units have come in to use within each system.

Example

Long distances are usually expressed in kilometers rather than in meters.

SI units vs Customary Units

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S.I. units makes calculations easy whereas the customary units are quite irregular.

Example

$$1\text{km} = 1000\text{m}$$

But

$$1\text{mi} = 5280\text{ft}$$

Example

Convert 15 mi to km

(NB 1mi=1.61km)

$$\frac{1 \text{ mi}}{15 \text{ mi}} = \frac{1.61 \text{ km}}{x}$$

$$x \cancel{\text{mi}} = (15 \cancel{\text{mi}})(1.61 \text{ km})$$

$$x = 24.15 \text{ km}$$

Set cross products equal

Exercise

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) a 365-day year in seconds? | (f) 120 km.h ^{-s} in m.s ⁻¹ |
| (b) 20°C in kelvins | (g) 22.3 tonnes in grams |
| (c) 20°C in fahrenheit | (h) 8 mi to ft |
| (d) 31.45 g in kilograms | (i) 52m ² to ft ² |
| (e) 15 m.s ⁻¹ in km.h ⁻¹ | |

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SWBAT:-

- 1 write numbers in scientific notation

Rules

- 1 move the **decimal point** to the first **non-zero digit**.
+ $\leftarrow \leftarrow \text{"."} \rightarrow \rightarrow -$
- 2 write the number in the form $(\text{"."} \times 10^{\pm \text{moves}})$.

Example 1 : Change a general number to scientific notation

- 1 $0.0035 = 3.5 \times 10^{-3}$ $\text{"."} \rightarrow \rightarrow$
- 2 $56765.32 = 5.676532 \times 10^4$ $\leftarrow \leftarrow \text{"."}$

Example 2 : Change scientific notation to a general number

- 3 $5.4646 \times 10^4 = 54646$ $\text{"."} \rightarrow \rightarrow$
- 4 $5.304 \times 10^{-3} = 0.005304$ $\leftarrow \leftarrow \text{"."}$

Scientific notation

Check more exercises on page 34 of the workbook

Example

a) $5.02 \times 10^3 = 5.02 \times 1000 = 5020$ BIG number
 b) $5.02 \times 10^{-3} = 5.02 \div 1000 = 0.00502$ small number

Powers of 10

$$x10^5 = 100\ 000$$

$$x10^4 = 10000$$

$$x10^3 = 1000$$

$$x10^2 = 100$$

$$x10^1 = 10$$

$$x10^0 = 1$$

$$x10^{-1} = 0.1$$

$$x10^{-2} = 0.01$$

$$x10^{-3} = 0.001$$

$$x10^{-4} = 0.0001$$

$$x10^{-5} = 0.00001$$

Exercise : Write the missing numbers General \longleftrightarrow Scientific

1)	54646.459	$= 5.4646459 \times 10^4$
2)	2,523	$=$
3)	4 254.45	$=$
4)	45.45	$=$
5)	0.00800	$= 8 \times 10^{-3}$
6)	0.00 000 067	$=$
7)	0.034	$=$
8)		$= 4.454 \times 10^{-3}$
9)		$= 0.034347 \times 10^{-2}$
10)		$= 0.000120 \times 10^{-5}$
11)		$= 4\ 454\ 003\ 34 \times 10^{-6}$

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TWBAT:-

- 1 write numbers in engineering notation

Multiples and Sub-multiples of SI units

Example

a) $5.02 \times 10^3 \text{ V} = 5.02 \times 1000 = 5.020 \text{ kV}$ kilovolts

b) $5.02 \times 10^{-3} \text{ V} = 5.02 \div 1000 = 5.02 \text{ mV}$ millivolts

Unit prefixes

$\times 10^{12}$	tera	T
$\times 10^9$	giga	G
$\times 10^6$	mega	M
$\times 10^3$	kilo	k
$\times 10^{-2}$	centi	c
$\times 10^{-3}$	milli	m
$\times 10^{-6}$	micro	μ
$\times 10^{-9}$	nano	n

Fill the missing information

- 1) $54 \times 10^3 \text{ V} = 54 \text{ kV}$
- 2) $1.64 \times 10^9 \text{ V} = 1.64 \text{ GV}$
- 3) $= 8 \text{ m}\Omega$
- 4) $= 10 \mu\text{A}$
- 5) $= 9 \text{ GW}$
- 6) $0.00 \text{ 067 A} =$
- 7) $0.034 \text{ V} =$
- 8) $= 10 \text{ kV}$
- 9) $2000 \text{ V} =$
- 10) $= 0.5 \mu\text{V}$
- 11) $= 10 \text{ MV}$

Identifying the number of significant figures

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- ① All non-zero numerals are significant.

Example

112,6 has four significant figures.

- ② Only zeros between non-zero numerals, or following a non-zero numeral **AND CONTINUING TO THE RIGHT OF THE DECIMAL POINT** are significant.

Example

Other zeros are not significant

- (a) *1 004 has four significant figures*
- (b) *0.000 060 has two significant figures*
- (c) *50.00 has four significant figures*
- (d) *50 000 really has only one significant*

Adding, Subtracting, Dividing and Multiplying values with different significant figures

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- If the result is calculated by multiplying or dividing measured values, it may contain only as many significant figures as contained in the least precise of the readings.

Example

$$0.02 \times 3.2 = 0.06$$

- If the result is calculated by adding or subtracting measured values, it may contain only as many decimal places as there are in the value with the least number of decimal places

Example

$$0.02 + 3.2 = 3.2$$

Test your Knowledge

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Exercise

Write answers in correct *significant figures*.

(a) $8.91 - 6.435 =$

(b) $5.6792 \text{ m} + 0.6 \text{ m} + 4.33 \text{ m} =$

(c) $4.51 \text{ cm} \times 3.666 \text{ cm} =$

(d) $3.7 \text{ g} + 2.35 \text{ kg} =$

(e) $(1.00 \times 10^4) \times (9.9 \times 10^6) + 10^9 =$

(f) $(5.61 \times 7.891) \times 9.1 =$

Exercise

Assignment 1: Visit <https://b.socrative.com/login/student/>

Room Name = type [RHYME]

Enter your name = type [ONLY your student number]

Submit before Week 2 Starts.