




Measurement Metrics Dimensional Analysis

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Units



Assume you run out of gas
 You ask by-standers, "How far to nearest gas station?"
 One bystander points left and says, "four"
 Another points right and says, "six"
 Duh!!!!!!
 4 or 6 feet, yards, meters, rods, blocks, miles, light years ?

Measurements are meaningless without units
 Units provide a scale (magnitude)
 Units identify the type (m, g, s, etc.) of measurement
 Units provide key to solving problems



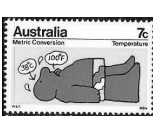



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Measurement Systems

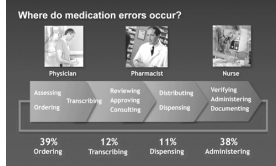
Origin	English Conquest Based on royalty	Metric Convention Based on decimal 10
Conversions	Not-uniform Not-consistent	Uniform Consistent
Communication	Confuses Regional	Facilitates Universal in science

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Correct Measurements Are Not Trivial



Improper Measurements / Calculations Can Cost Lives

1990: ~ 98,000 deaths / year from hospital errors

2016: > 440,000 deaths / year from hospital errors

Third Leading Cause of deaths in the US

~ 1.7 million non-fatal injuries

Lab Notebook Documentation Absolutely Essential

Not following procedures can be lethal

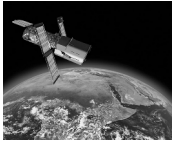
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Famous Failures



15 million doses lost:
Employees mixed wrong ingredients
\$ 150 million loss



Hubble Space Telescope:
Mirror surface shape
Curve Off by 1.3 mm
(Billions \$ to repair)



Mars Orbiter:
One group in km/sec
Another group in mi/hr
Orbiter Crashed:
\$125 million

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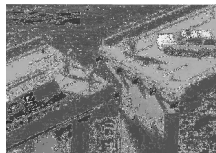
Famous Failures



French Rail System
2000 trains too wide for
1300 Stations



Warship VASA
Builders used different length measures
Sank 20 minutes into maiden voyage



Laufenberg Bridge across Rhine
Swiss-German
Measured sea level from different point
54 cm (~ 21 in) height difference when they met

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Correct Measurements Are Not Trivial



Spain's S-80 Sub (2003)
Misplaced decimal in specifications
770 tons too heavy
Added length to compensate for too heavy
Result: too long to fit naval base
1 billion Euro total cost / per sub
More than twice original cost



Disney Japan Space Mountain
Error in length conversion
Wrong axle size
Cars derailed
1 dead, 10 injured



Freighter Capsizes
Improper Buoyancy Calculations
\$200 million lost

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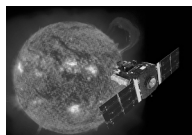
Famous Failures



Sochi Biathlon Track
40 m too short



Amsterdam Subsidies to the poor
Sent out € 188 million instead of 18.8



SOHO satellite lost communications
Improper Metric to English conversions



Gimli Glider
Ran out of fuel @ 40,000 feet
Wrong units for fuel calculation

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Basic SI (Systeme International) Units

How much?

mass = kilogram (kg)

length = meter (m)

time = second (s)

chemical quantity = mole (mol)

2 Different Systems:

kms: kilogram-meter-second (preferred)

cgs: centimeter-gram-second (commonly used in labs)



Measurement incomplete without "units"
Absolutely essential when working problems!

166 pages

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Derived Units

Any combination of more than one unit

Examples:

Area = length x width (units of length²)

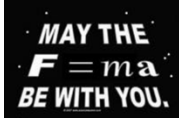
Volume = length x width x height (units of length³)

Volume (mL, L, cm³, cc) is ALWAYS a derived unit

Density = mass / volume (combination of units)

Speed = distance / time (combination of units)

Force = mass x acceleration (combination of units)



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Metric Prefixes

kilo-
Larger; multiply by 1000



centi-
Smaller; divide by 100

milli-
Smaller; divide by 1000



Metric Conversions

1000 m = 1 km

100 cm = 1 m

1000 mm = 1 m

“per expressions”

1000 m = 1 x (1000) m
kilo = 1000

100 x (1/100) m = 1 m
centi = 1/100

1000 x (1/1000) m = 1 m
milli = 1/1000



Same numerical value on each side of =

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Metric Prefixes

Metric System Prefixes

Prefix	Symbol	Multiplier (Scientific Notation)	Multiplier
Exa	E	10 ¹⁸	1,000,000,000,000,000,000
Peta	P	10 ¹⁵	1,000,000,000,000,000
Tera	T	10 ¹²	1,000,000,000,000
Giga	G	10 ⁹	1,000,000,000
Mega	M	10 ⁶	1,000,000
Kilo	k	10 ³	1,000
Hecto	h	10 ²	100
Deka	da	10 ¹	10
Deci	d	10 ⁻¹	0.1
Centi	c	10 ⁻²	0.01
Milli	m	10 ⁻³	0.001
Micro	μ	10 ⁻⁶	0.000,001
Nano	n	10 ⁻⁹	0.000,000,001
Pico	p	10 ⁻¹²	0.000,000,000,001
Femto	f	10 ⁻¹⁵	0.000,000,000,000,001
Atto	A	10 ⁻¹⁸	0.000,000,000,000,000,001




Meter = m = 1

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Dimensional Analysis

Fancy term for “Canceling Units”



**Universal Method
For
Solving Measurement Problems**
‘cause it
bridges gap between
known information and wanted information



Known
→
Wanted

Canceling Units defines a “Path”

Let the units drive the solution

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Doing the Math

Measurements are two parts:


4.78 cm

↑

Numeral

↙

Unit



Addition / Subtraction
Quantities **MUST HAVE** the same units
Can't do:
Apples + oranges
km + m
miles + gal

Let the units drive the solution


Multiplication / Division
Numbers & units separately multiplied or divided

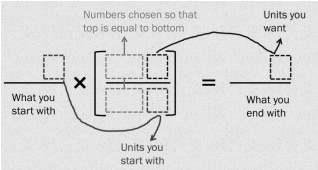
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Per Expressions

Always has the form:


Units wanted in next step
Units canceled in previous step






Let the units drive the solution

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Doing the Math



$$345 \text{ m} \times \frac{1 \text{ km}}{1000 \text{ m}} = 0.345 \text{ km}$$

To “cancel” units:

Numerator unit (top) of first term
Same as
Denominator unit (bottom) of next term

Let the units drive the solution

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Use “per expressions” to place the “numbers”

Numbers & units on either side of the “per expression” = stay together

For per expression: 1000 g = 1 kg

Starting with g:

$$\text{g} \times \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{1000 \text{ g}}$$




Starting with kg:

$$\text{kg} \times \frac{1000 \text{ g}}{1 \text{ kg}}$$


Per expressions also termed:
Conversion Factors
Equivalences




Let the units drive the solution

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Measurement without Units Leads to Disaster!






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Key to Solving Problems

Process:
 Write Given or Known (Left side of =)
 Write Wanted (Right side of =)
 Select “per expression” to cancel given unit
 If units same on left and right of =, do the math
 If units not the same, add another per expression
 Continue “linear string” until units same on both sides of the =
 Once units correct, solve as a single linear string calculation

Let the units drive the solution

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Doing the Math


Convert 345 m to km:

Write “known” and “wanted”
 $345 \text{ m} \times \quad = ? \text{ km}$
 Next, start conversion factor so starting unit “cancels”
 $345 \text{ m} \times \frac{\quad}{\text{m}} = ? \text{ km}$
 Now, add wanted unit
 $345 \text{ m} \times \frac{\text{km}}{\quad \text{m}} = ? \text{ km}$
 Add the “per expression” numbers
 $345 \text{ m} \times \frac{1 \text{ km}}{1000 \text{ m}} = ? \text{ km}$
 If units “cancel” and give “wanted”, then do the math
 $345 \text{ m} \times \frac{1 \text{ km}}{1000 \text{ m}} = 0.345 \text{ km}$

Let the units drive the solution

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Like the Unit

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Calculator Does The Arithmetic; You Do The Units



Using Units
Prevents
Inappropriate calculations



Using Units
Provides
Path to solution

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Doing the Arithmetic

Calculate the number of milligrams in 158 grams

1. What is wanted → ? milligrams (mg)

2. What do I know → 158 g



3. Going from 2 → 1

$$158 \text{ g} \times \frac{1000 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ g}} = 158,000 \text{ mg}$$

If I use only numbers & put them in wrong place, I get :

$$158 \text{ g} \times \frac{1 \text{ g}}{1000 \text{ mg}} = 0.158 \text{ g}^2 / \text{mg}$$

Let the units drive the solution

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Doing the Arithmetic

Calculate the number of cm in 85.9 mm

1. What is wanted → ? centimeters (cm)

2. What do I know → 85.9 mm



3. Going from 2 → 1 (as "linear string")

$$85.9 \text{ mm} \times \frac{1 \text{ m}}{1000 \text{ mm}} \times \frac{100 \text{ cm}}{1 \text{ m}} = 8.59 \text{ cm}$$

If I use only numbers & put them in wrong place, I get :

$$85.9 \text{ mm} \times \frac{1 \text{ m}}{1000 \text{ mm}} \times \frac{1 \text{ m}}{100 \text{ cm}} = 0.000859 \text{ m}^2 / \text{cm}$$

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Doing the Arithmetic



The wrong units spell disaster
If the units are wrong, the answer is wrong!

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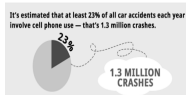
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Practical Problem



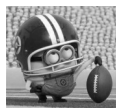
A typical texting message takes a minimum of 10 seconds.
 At 60 mph (88.0 ft/sec), how much distance is traveled in 10.0 sec?

$$\frac{88.0 \text{ ft}}{\text{sec}} \times 10.0 \text{ sec} = 880 \text{ feet}$$



This corresponds to the length of

$$\frac{880 \text{ ft}}{3 \text{ ft}} \times \frac{1 \text{ yd}}{3 \text{ ft}} \times \frac{1 \text{ football field}}{100 \text{ yd}} = 2.93 \text{ football fields}$$



Let the units drive the solution



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Practical Problem

A fast food lunch consists of

A burger: 610 kcal

Large fries: 500 kcal

Vanilla Milk Shake: 530 kcal → Total = 1640 kcals

If walking a mile takes 100 kcal,

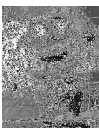
how many miles must you walk to “burn off” this meal?

$$\frac{1640 \text{ kcals}}{100 \text{ kcals}} \times \frac{1 \text{ mile}}{100 \text{ kcals}} = 16.4 \text{ miles}$$

At 2.5 mi / hr, how long will this take?

$$\frac{16.4 \text{ miles}}{2.5 \text{ mi}} \times \frac{\text{hours}}{2.5 \text{ mi}} = 6.6 \text{ hours}$$

Let the units drive the solution



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Practical Problem

You have a ten dollars. If gas is \$2.45 a gallon and your car gets 34.2 miles per gallon, how many miles will you be able to drive on ten dollars?



$$\$ 10.00 \times \frac{1 \text{ gal}}{\$ 2.45} \times \frac{34.2 \text{ mi}}{\text{gal}} = 140 \text{ miles}$$

If you get 15.4 miles per gallon:

$$\$ 10.00 \times \frac{1 \text{ gal}}{\$ 2.45} \times \frac{15.4 \text{ mi}}{\text{gal}} = 62.8 \text{ miles}$$



Let the units drive the solution

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Practical Problem

Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock were stranded in the US circa 1935. Mr. Spock asked for 5.00 pounds of platinum (\$280 /oz). How long would it take our intrepid Captain Kirk working at 15 cents an hour to obtain the funds necessary to obtain this amount of platinum for Mr. Spock?

$$5.00 \text{ lbs} \times \frac{12 \text{ oz}}{\text{lbs}} \times \frac{\$280.00}{\text{oz}} \times \frac{100 \text{ cents}}{1 \$} \times \frac{1 \text{ hr}}{15 \text{ cent}} = 112,000 \text{ hrs}$$

Convert to years

$$112,000 \text{ hrs} \times \frac{1 \text{ day}}{24 \text{ hrs}} \times \frac{1 \text{ year}}{365 \text{ days}} = 12.8 \text{ years}$$



Let the units drive the solution

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The Sooner “Canceling Units” is Yours,
The easier this class will be!

Use Units



Don't Use Units



SUCCESS
FINDS A WAY..
FAILURE
FINDS AN EXCUSE

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