

# BSP1153

## Mechanics & Thermodynamics

### Physics & measurement

by  
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*Units and Measurements*  
by Farah Hanani binti Zulkifli

<http://ocw.ump.edu.my/enrol/index.php?id=461>

# Chapter Description



- Expected Outcomes
  - To resolve physical quantity and international systems of measurement
  - To perform the dimensional analysis
  - To solve problems involving unit conversion
- References
  - Young, H.D. & Freeman, R.A. University Physics with Modern Physics (14th Ed.) Pearson, 2015
  - University physics with modern physics / Wolfgang Bauer, Gary D. Westfall, Mc Graw Hill, 2014
  - Paul E. Tippens, Physics 7th Edition. Mc Graw Hill, 2013
  - Physics for scientists and engineers : a strategic approach / Randall D. Knight, Boston, MA : Pearson, 2013
  - Giancoli, D.C. Physics for Scientists and Engineers: with Modern Physics (4th Edition). Pearson Prentice Hall, 2013



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# Content #1

- 1.1 Units, Standard and SI Systems
  - 1.1.1 Standard of length, mass and time
  - 1.1.2 Unit Prefix
- 1.2 Dimensional Analysis
- 1.3 Unit Conversions
- 1.4 Significant figures



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# What is Physics?

Physics is one of the most fundamental of sciences involving the observation of the phenomena in nature such as;

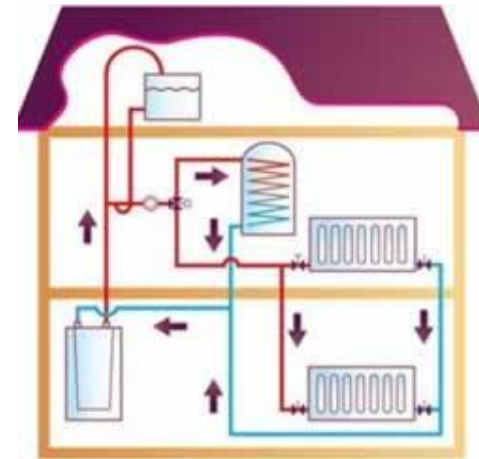
- Ball falling from the top of building
- Two cars collide each other
- A boy is climbing a ladder



**Structure design**



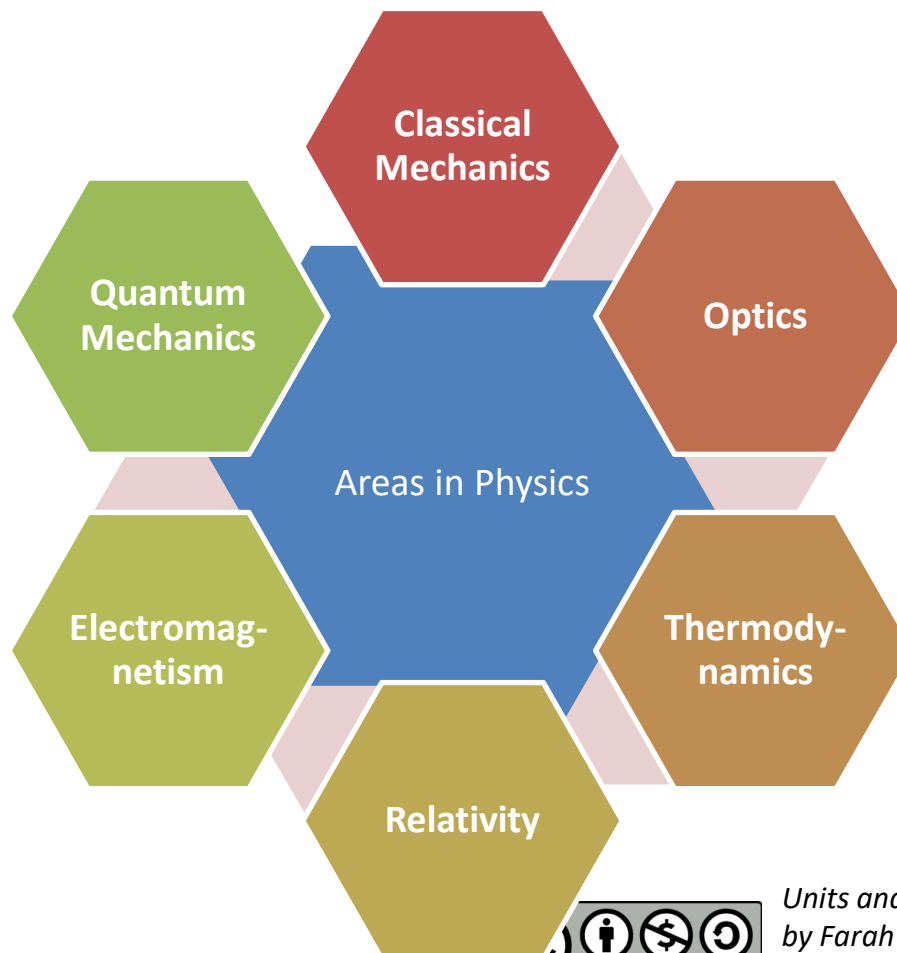
**Medical imaging systems**



**Heating System**

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# Physical quantity

- Any number that is used to describe a physical (e.g. object) phenomenon (e.g. weight, height, distances) quantitatively.
- The measurement of any **QUANTITY** is made relative to a particular standard or unit.
- **UNIT** (e.g., meter, kilogram, hour) is used as a standard for measurement of the same physical quantity.



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Physical quantities must includes:

- symbol
- number value
- units of measurement

For example:

Height of Ahmad, H is 1.40 m. Therefore,

H represents the symbol

1.40 represents the number value

m represents the unit



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# Standards and units

## International system of units (S.I)

- Formerly known as “metric system”.
- The most common unit used by scientists and engineers around the world.
- 1960 - known as International System.



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Quantity	SI unit
Length	meter
Mass	kilogram
Time	second
Temperature	Kelvin
Electric current	Ampere
Luminous Intensity	Candela
Amount of substance	mole



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# Unit prefix

- ✓ Refer to the powers of 10.
- ✓ Usually express multiples of 10 or 1/10 in **exponential notation**.
- ✓ Each prefix has a specific name and abbreviation.

E.g.,  $1\,000\,000 = 10^6$  (mega, M)

$1/1\,000\,000 = 10^{-6}$  (micro, m)

- ✓ In physics, it is usually used with any basic units.

E.g. kilometer, mililiter



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**TABLE 1–4 Metric (SI) Prefixes**

Prefix	Abbreviation	Value
yotta	Y	$10^{24}$
zetta	Z	$10^{21}$
exa	E	$10^{18}$
peta	P	$10^{15}$
tera	T	$10^{12}$
giga	G	$10^9$
mega	M	$10^6$
kilo	k	$10^3$
hecto	h	$10^2$
deka	da	$10^1$
deci	d	$10^{-1}$
centi	c	$10^{-2}$
milli	m	$10^{-3}$
micro <sup>†</sup>	$\mu$	$10^{-6}$
nano	n	$10^{-9}$
pico	p	$10^{-12}$
femto	f	$10^{-15}$
atto	a	$10^{-18}$
zepto	z	$10^{-21}$
yocto	y	$10^{-24}$

<sup>†</sup>  $\mu$  is the Greek letter “mu.”



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(a)  $10^{26}$  m  
Limit of the  
observable  
universe



(b)  $10^{11}$  m  
Distance to  
the sun



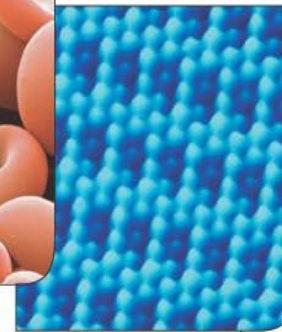
(c)  $10^7$  m  
Diameter of  
the earth



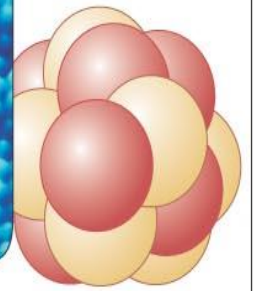
(d) 1 m  
Human  
dimension



(e)  $10^{-5}$  m  
Diameter of a  
red blood cell



(f)  $10^{-10}$  m  
Radius of an  
atom



(g)  $10^{-14}$  m  
Radius of an  
atomic nucleus



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# Base quantities

There are three (3) fundamental basic quantities used in physics:

Length SI Unit - Meter, m

- What? - Distance between two points in space.

Mass (SI Unit - kilogram, kg)

- What? How heavy the object w/o considered the gravity.

Time (SI unit - second, s)

- What?

Quantity	Unit	Unit Abbreviation
Length	meter	m
Time	second	s
Mass	kilogram	kg
Electric current	ampere	A
Temperature	kelvin	K
Amount of substance	mole	mol
Luminous intensity	candela	cd



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# Derived quantities

- Quantities that can be prompted from various of basic quantities.
- E.g., pressure, density, area,



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# Dimensional Analysis

- Technique to ensure the equation is expressed correctly.
- Dimensions :
  - Includes → Length [L], Mass [M], Time [T].
  - denoted with square brackets.
  - can be treated as algebraic quantities.
  - **must have the same dimensions for both sides of equation.**



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# Continued...

- is not a **CONSTANT**.
- can have many actual units. e.g.: dimension of area always  $[L^2]$ : the unit can be  $m^2$ ,  $ft^2$ ,  $cm^2$  and so on.
- are remain same even though the formula for a quantity is different.

e.g. : area of a triangle of base  $b$  and height  $h$  is  $A = \frac{1}{2}bh$ , whereas area of circle is  $\pi r^2$ . Their dimensions are always  $[L^2]$ .



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Does  $x = \frac{1}{2} at^2$  is a correct expressions?

**First:** Confirm the dimensions on both LHS and RHS.

$$L = \frac{L}{T^2} \cdot T^2 = L$$

**Second:** If the  $T^2$ 's cancel, the left hand side (LHS) equation will leave L at the equation.

**Third:** So, Left Hand side (LHS) = Right Hand Side (RHS)

**Conclusion: Equation is dimensionally correct.**



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# Unit Conversion

- In a several situation, when the units are not constant, it can be converted to a same unit.

E.g.,  $1 \text{ m} = 39.37 \text{ in.} = 3.281 \text{ ft.}$   
 $1 \text{ in.} = 0.0254 \text{ m} = 2.54 \text{ cm}$

- Remember!!
  - Units can be treated as algebraic quantity.
  - Units can also being cancel each other out.
  - You are advised to carry the units through the entire calculation. **MUST!!**



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E.g., Find the length of 10.0 inch ruler in cm.  
Knowing that 1 in. = 2.54 cm

$$10.0\text{in.} = ?\text{cm}$$

$$10.0\text{in.} = \left( \frac{2.54\text{cm}}{1.0\text{in.}} \right) = 25.4\text{cm}$$

Find the distance of the 1.00 mile travelling when it expressed in km.

if 1 mile = 1609m , 1 km = 1000 m

Answer : 1.61 km



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## Conversion Factors

### Length

	m	cm	km	in.	ft	mi
1 meter	1	$10^2$	$10^{-3}$	39.37	3.281	$6.214 \times 10^{-4}$
1 centimeter	$10^{-2}$	1	$10^{-5}$	0.393 7	$3.281 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.214 \times 10^{-6}$
1 kilometer	$10^3$	$10^5$	1	$3.937 \times 10^4$	$3.281 \times 10^3$	0.621 4
1 inch	$2.540 \times 10^{-2}$	2.540	$2.540 \times 10^{-5}$	1	$8.333 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.578 \times 10^{-5}$
1 foot	0.304 8	30.48	$3.048 \times 10^{-4}$	12	1	$1.894 \times 10^{-4}$
1 mile	1 609	$1.609 \times 10^5$	1.609	$6.336 \times 10^4$	5 280	1

### Mass

	kg	g	slug	u
1 kilogram	1	$10^3$	$6.852 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.024 \times 10^{26}$
1 gram	$10^{-3}$	1	$6.852 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.024 \times 10^{23}$
1 slug	14.59	$1.459 \times 10^4$	1	$8.789 \times 10^{27}$
1 atomic mass unit	$1.660 \times 10^{-27}$	$1.660 \times 10^{-24}$	$1.137 \times 10^{-28}$	1

Note: 1 metric ton = 1 000 kg.

### Time

	s	min	h	day	yr
1 second	1	$1.667 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.778 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.157 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.169 \times 10^{-8}$
1 minute	60	1	$1.667 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.994 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.901 \times 10^{-6}$
1 hour	3 600	60	1	$4.167 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.141 \times 10^{-4}$
1 day	$8.640 \times 10^4$	1 440	24	1	$2.738 \times 10^{-5}$
1 year	$3.156 \times 10^7$	$5.259 \times 10^5$	$8.766 \times 10^3$	365.2	1

**Speed**

	m/s	cm/s	ft/s	mi/h
1 meter per second	1	$10^2$	3.281	2.237
1 centimeter per second	$10^{-2}$	1	$3.281 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.237 \times 10^{-2}$
1 foot per second	0.304 8	30.48	1	0.681 8
1 mile per hour	0.447 0	44.70	1.467	1

*Note:* 1 mi/min = 60 mi/h = 88 ft/s.

**Force**

	N	lb
1 newton	1	0.224 8
1 pound	4.448	1

*continued*

**Work, Energy, Heat**

	J	ft · lb	eV
1 joule	1	0.737 6	$6.242 \times 10^{18}$
1 foot-pound	1.356	1	$8.464 \times 10^{18}$
1 electron volt	$1.602 \times 10^{-19}$	$1.182 \times 10^{-19}$	1
1 calorie	4.186	3.087	$2.613 \times 10^{19}$
1 British thermal unit	$1.055 \times 10^3$	$7.779 \times 10^2$	$6.585 \times 10^{21}$
1 kilowatt hour	$3.600 \times 10^6$	$2.655 \times 10^6$	$2.247 \times 10^{25}$
	cal	Btu	kWh
1 joule	0.238 9	$9.481 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.778 \times 10^{-7}$
1 foot-pound	0.323 9	$1.285 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.766 \times 10^{-7}$
1 electron volt	$3.827 \times 10^{-20}$	$1.519 \times 10^{-22}$	$4.450 \times 10^{-26}$
1 calorie	1	$3.968 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.163 \times 10^{-6}$
1 British thermal unit	$2.520 \times 10^2$	1	$2.930 \times 10^{-4}$
1 kilowatt hour	$8.601 \times 10^5$	$3.413 \times 10^2$	1

# See You in Chapter 2



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