

# Unit and Measurement

The comparison of any physical quantity with its standard unit is called Measurement.

## Physical Quantities

All the quantities in term of which laws of physics are described, and whose measurement is necessary are called physical quantities.

## Units

- A definite amount of a physical quantity is taken as its standard unit.
- The standard unit should be easily reproducible internationally accepted.

## Fundamental Units

Those physical quantities which are independent to each other are called fundamental quantities and their units are called fundamental units.

|    |                     |          |     |
|----|---------------------|----------|-----|
| 1. | Length              | metre    | m   |
| 2. | Mass                | kilogram | kg  |
| 3. | time                | second   | s   |
| 4. | Temperature         | Kelvin   | K   |
| 5. | Electric current    | ampere   | A   |
| 6. | Luminous intensity  | Candela  | cd  |
| 7. | Amount of substance | mole     | mol |

## Supplementary fundamental units

Radian and steradian are two supplementary units. It measures plane angle and solid angle respectively.

## Derived unit Quantity

These type of Quantity / Quantities depends on some fundamental quantity.

e.g. Velocity, acceleration, force, work

## Definitions of fundamental Quantities

1. 1 kilogram:

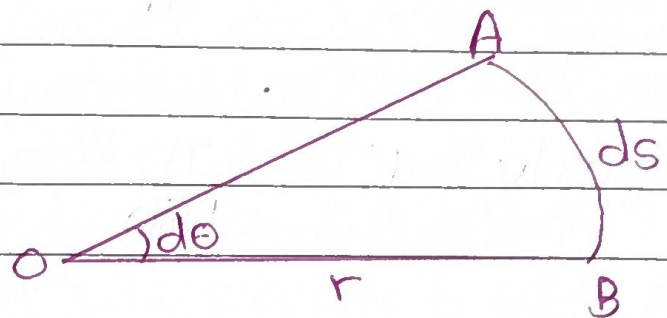
## Supplementary Quantities

1. Plane angle      radian      rad.
2. ~~Solid~~ angle

## Supplementary Quantities

- i) Plane angle ( $d\theta$ ): This is the ratio of the length of an arc of a circle to the radius of the circle

$$d\theta = \frac{ds}{r}$$

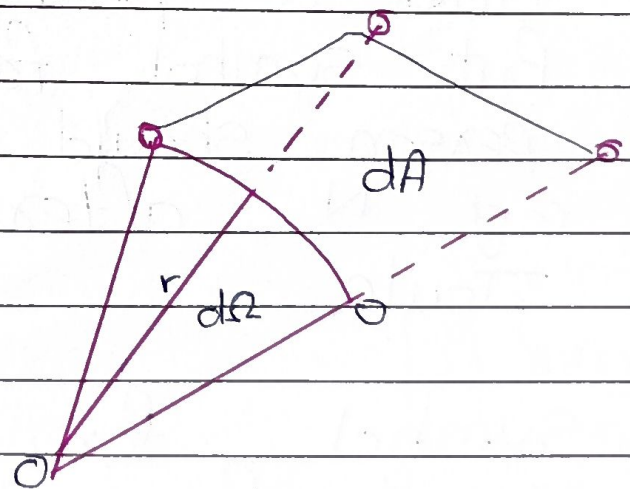


It is measured in radian (rad)

An angle  $\theta$  in radian is denoted as  $\theta^c$

- ii) Solid angle ( $d\Omega$ ): This is the 3-dimensional analogue of  $d\theta$  and is defined as the area of a portion of surface of a sphere to the square of radius of the sphere.

$$d\Omega = \frac{dA}{r^2}$$



It is measured in steradian (sr)

A sphere of radius r has surface

area  $4\pi r^2$

entire sphere at its centre is  $\Omega = \frac{4\pi r^2}{r^2} = 4\pi$  sr

The relation between radian and degree is  
 $\pi$  radian

$$\pi^\circ = 180^\circ$$

$$1 \text{ radian} = \frac{180}{\pi} = \frac{180}{3.1415} \approx 57.3^\circ$$

$$\text{Similarly } 1^\circ = \frac{\pi}{180} = \frac{3.14}{180} = 1.745 \times 10^{-2} \text{ rad}$$

$$1^\circ = 60' \quad 1' = 2.91 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad}$$

### Conventions for the use of SI units

1. Unit of every physical quantity should be represented by its symbol
2. Full name of a unit always starts with smaller letter even if the name is after a person e.g. 1 newton, 1 joule  
But symbol for unit named after a person should be in capital letter  
e.g. N after scientist Newton, J after Joule
3. Symbol for unit do not take plural form for example force of 20N and not 20 newtons or not 20Ns

4. A Prefix symbol is used before the Symbol of the unit.

Thus prefix symbol and units symbol constitute a new symbol for the unit which can be raised to a positive or negative power of 10

$$* 1 \text{ ms} = 1 \text{ millisecond} = 10^{-3} \text{ s}$$

$$* 1 \mu\text{s} = 1 \text{ microsecond} = 10^{-6} \text{ s}$$

$$* 1 \text{ ns} = 1 \text{ nanosecond} = 10^{-9} \text{ s}$$

use of double prefixes is avoided when single prefix is available.

$$10^{-6} \text{ s} = 1 \mu\text{s} \text{ and not } 1 \text{ mms}$$

$$10^{-9} \text{ s} = 1 \text{ ns} \text{ and not } 1 \mu\text{ms}$$

## Measurement of length

| Measurement                                                        | Length in meter               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Distance to Andromeda Galaxy (from Earth)                          | $2 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}$  |
| Distance to nearest star (after sun) Proxima Centauri (from earth) | $4 \times 10^{16} \text{ m}$  |
| Distance to pluto (from earth)                                     | $6 \times 10^{12} \text{ m}$  |
| Average Radius of Earth                                            | $6 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$     |
| Height of Mount Everest                                            | $9 \times 10^3 \text{ m}$     |
| Thickness of this paper                                            | $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$  |
| Length of a typical virus                                          | $1 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}$  |
| Radius of hydrogen atom                                            | $5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$ |
| Radius of proton                                                   | $1 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$ |

## Dimension of Physical quantity

The dimensions of a physical quantity are the power to which the concerned fundamental units must be raised in order to obtain the unit of the given physical quantity

Length  $\rightarrow L$

mass  $\rightarrow M$

time  $\rightarrow T$

Current  $\rightarrow A$

temp  $\rightarrow K$

moles  $\rightarrow \text{mol}$

amount  $\rightarrow \text{mol}$

**Note:** If any physical quantity is ratio of same dimension, quantity will be dimensionless e.g. angle

\* There are many physical quantities which have same dimension, angle, Torque, Strain, work.

\* All the pure numbers are dimensionless

\*  $CR$ ,  $\frac{L}{R}$ ,  $\sqrt{LC}$  all have dimension of time.

\* Exponent ( $e^x$ ),  $\log x$  and trigonometric functions are dimensionless.

# Principle of Homogeneity of Dimensions

According to this principle all the term of the physical quantity have same dimension.

## Application or uses of dimension analysis.

- i) To check the correctness of physical equation
- ii) To establish the relationship between related physical quantities
- iii) To find the conversion factor between the two units of the same physical quantity in two different system of units.

$$1 \text{ J} = \text{arg}$$

## Accuracy

It refers to closeness of the observed value to its true value of the quantity.

e.g. If length of a rod is 10 cm and measured by two scales

Scale 1 = 9.8 cm

High Accuracy

Scale 2 = 9.1 cm

Low Accuracy

## Precision

It refers to closeness between observed values of the measurement

e.g. = 10 cm rod

Scale 1 = 8.7 cm, 8.6 cm, 8.8 cm

High Precision

Scale 2 : 9.2 cm, 9.9 cm, 9.5 cm

Low

Precision

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Error = It is defined as difference between actual value to measured value.

$$\text{Error} = \text{True value} - \text{measured value}$$

Types of error.

Systematic error

If the error is either positive or negative the error is called systematic error.

It can be eliminated by proper calibration

Systematic error arise due to improper measurement

Random errors:

The error which occurs irregularly or randomly is called random error.

In random error magnitude and sign both may be different

## Order of magnitude.

The magnitude of any physical quantity can be expressed as  $A \times 10^n$  where 'A' is a number such that  $0.5 \leq A < 5$  and 'n' is an integer called the **order of magnitude**.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{radius of earth} &= 6400 \text{ km} \\ &= 0.64 \times 10^7 \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

## Significant figure.

### Rounding off Rules

$$3.72 = 3.7 \quad \text{because } 2 < 5$$

$$3.76 = 3.8 \quad \text{because } 6 > 5$$

$$3.752 = 3.8 \quad (5=5) \text{ \& followed by non-zero}$$

$$4.653 = 4.7 \quad (5=5)$$

$$3.750 = 3.8 \quad 7 \text{ is even odd}$$

$$3.650 = 3.6 \quad 6 \text{ is even}$$

# Rules of Significant Figures

★ All non-zero digits are significant

$$1.224 \rightarrow 4 \text{ s.f.}$$

★ Trapped zeros are significant

$$1.004 \rightarrow 4 \text{ s.f.}$$

★ Initial zeros are never significant

$$0.001 \rightarrow 1 \text{ s.f.}$$

★ Ending zeros are s.f. if they appear after decimal.

$$2.00 \rightarrow 3 \text{ s.f.}$$

★ Order of magnitude is never significant

$$2.1 \times 10^3 \rightarrow 2 \text{ s.f.}$$

## Limitation of dimension analysis.

- 1) It can not give the value of constant
- 2) It can not drive relation if physical quantity depend on more than three quantity.
3. It can not drive relation if it contain more than two term

## Average

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum of all data}}{\text{number of data}}$$

## Mean value quantity (Average quantity)

If  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  are observed values then mean value or average value will be

$$\langle a \rangle = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + a_3}{n}$$

## Absolute error:

The magnitude of the difference between mean value and each individual value is called absolute error.

$$|\Delta a| = |\bar{a} - a_i|$$

## Mean absolute error:

The arithmetic mean of all the absolute error is called mean absolute error.

$$|\Delta \bar{a}| = \frac{|\Delta a_1| + |\Delta a_2| + \dots + |\Delta a_n|}{n}$$

Final result of observation will be

$$a = \bar{a} \pm |\Delta \bar{a}|$$

## Relative error:

The ratio of mean absolute error to its arithmetic mean value is called Relative error.

$$= \frac{|\Delta \bar{a}|}{\bar{a}}$$

Percentage error

$$\frac{|\Delta \bar{a}|}{\bar{a}} \times 100$$

# Propagation of error.

## Error in addition

$$Y = A + B$$

If  $\Delta A$  is error of A

$\Delta B$  is error of B

the  $\Delta Y$  is error in Y

$$Y + \Delta Y = (A \pm \Delta A) \pm (B \pm \Delta B)$$

$$Y + \Delta Y = (A + B) \pm (\Delta A + \Delta B)$$

$$Y + \Delta Y = Y \pm (\Delta A + \Delta B)$$

$$\boxed{\Delta Y = (\Delta A + \Delta B)}$$

## Error in subtraction

$$Y = A - B$$

$$Y \pm \Delta Y = (A - \Delta A) \pm (B - \Delta B)$$

$$Y \pm \Delta Y = (A - B) \pm (\Delta A - \Delta B)$$

$$\Delta Y = \pm (\Delta A - \Delta B)$$

## Error in multiplication

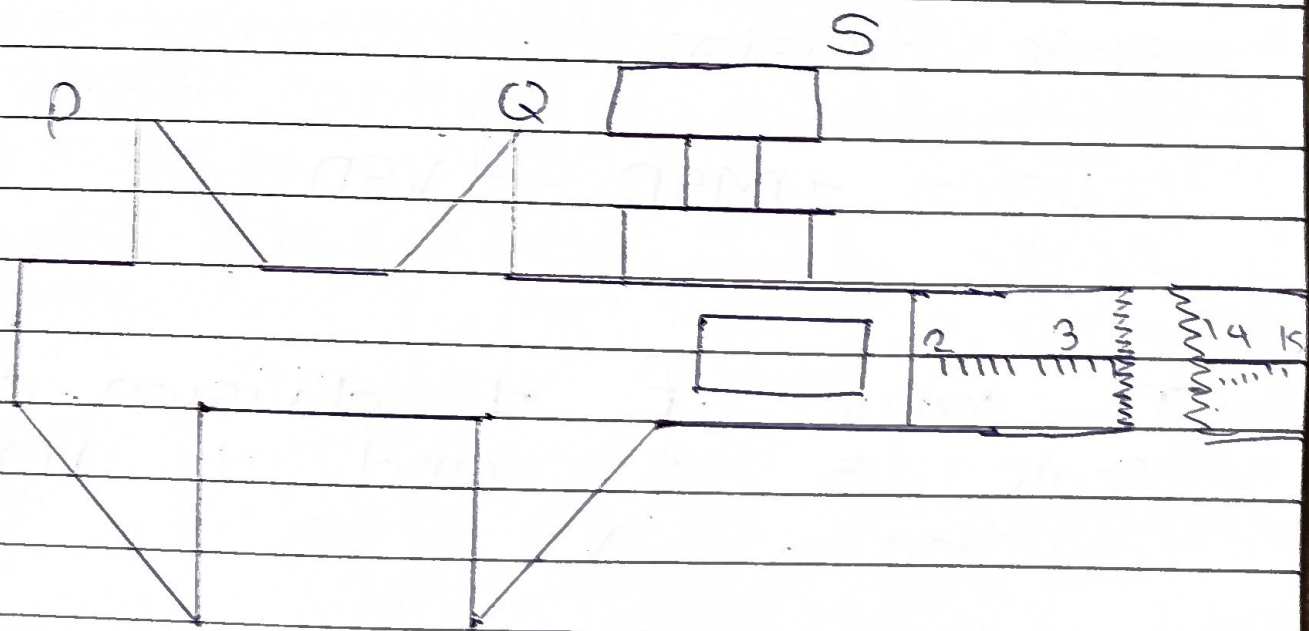
$$Y = AB$$

$$Y \times \Delta Y = (A \times \Delta A) + (B \times \Delta B)$$

$$= (A \times B) + \left( \frac{1}{\Delta A} \Delta A + \Delta B \right)$$

$$\Delta Y = \frac{\Delta A}{A} + \frac{\Delta B}{B}$$

## Vernier Callipers



It is an instrument to measure up to smaller length up to  $\frac{1}{10}$  mm accurately

- \* It consists two scale, main scale and vernier scale. fixed
- \* Main scale is moveable and vernier scale is fixed. moveable
- \* The division on vernier scale are slightly smaller than main scale division.
- \* It has two jaw, one is moveable another is fixed purpose of it to grip the object.

### Vernier Constant

It is defined as difference of value of  $\pm$  main scale division and  $\pm$  vernier scale division

$$VC = \pm MSD - \pm VSD$$

If value of  $\pm$  division of main scale is  $S$  and  $\pm$  vernier scale division is  $V$

$$10V = 9S$$

If there is  $n$  division in vernier scale

$$S - V = \frac{S}{n}$$

Value of one main scale total division of  $V.S$

## Types of Error in vernier calliper

### a) Positive zero error

When zero marked on vernier scale lies toward right of main scale when jaw are contact the measured length will be greater than actual length

$$\text{Zero error} = (n \times \text{L.C})$$

$$\text{True reading} = \text{Measured Value} - \text{Positive error}$$

### b) Negative zero error

When zero marked on vernier scale lies towards left of main scale when jaw are contact the measured length will be smaller than actual length

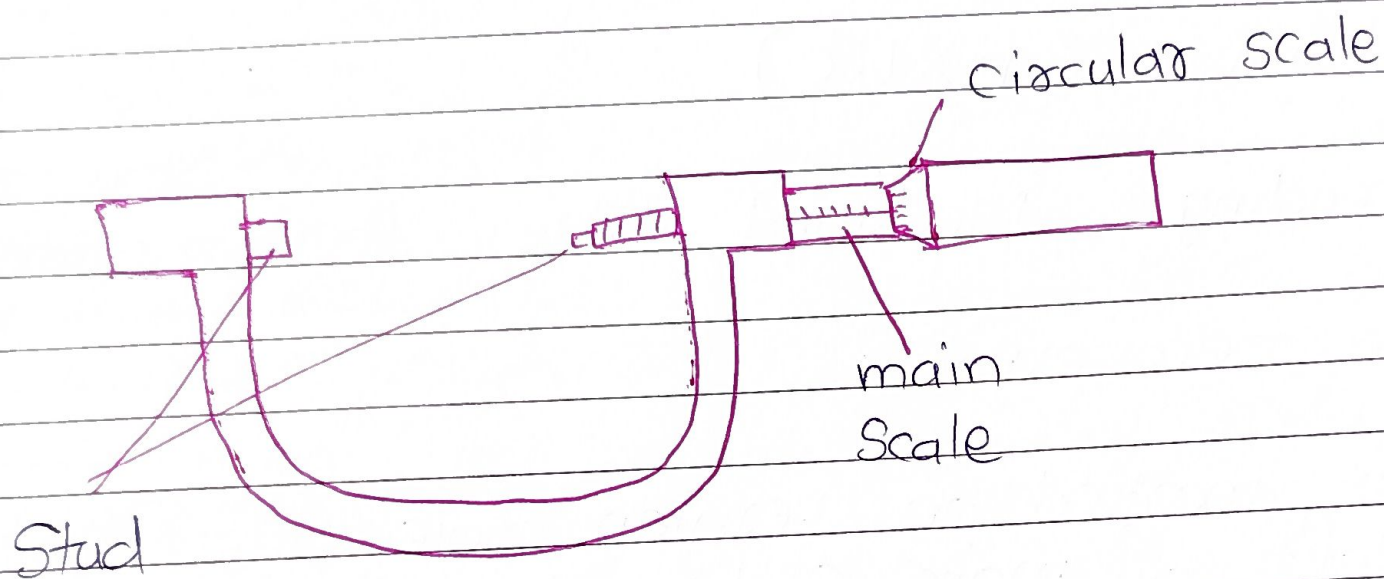
$$\text{N. z.e} = -(10 - n) \text{L.C}$$



## ★ Screw Gauge

It is an instrument which is used to measure very small length such as diameter of the thin wire, thickness of the sheet.

It can measure  $\frac{1}{100}$  mm length



Screw gauge consists U-shaped metal frame

It consists main scale and circular scale

### Pitch

It is defined as the linear distance moved by screw forward or backward when one complete rotation is given to circular cap

$$L.C.S.G = \frac{\text{Pitch}}{\text{Total number of division of circular scale}}$$

## zero error:

When the zero of circular scale is above or below reference line it is said that screw gauge has zero error