

01 Measurement review answers

Part A: Magnitude knowledge:

State to the nearest order of magnitude:

- 1) (a) size of a neutron 10^{-15}m (b) extent of the visible universe. 10^{23}m
- 2) (a) mass of an electron 10^{-30}kg (b) mass of the universe 10^{50}kg
- 3) (a) light across a nucleus 10^{-23}s (b) age of the universe. 10^{18}s
- 4) What is the ratio of the size of an atom (10^{-10}m) to the size of the Milky way (10^{21}m) 10^{-31} ?

Part B: Magnitude estimations - radius of Earth 6380 km – mass of Earth $6 \times 10^{24}\text{kg}$

1. Light traversal: proton? $10^{-15}\text{m} / 3 \times 10^8 \text{ms}^{-1} = 3 \times 10^{-24}\text{s}$ Milky Way? = $10^{21}\text{m} / 3 \times 10^8 \text{ms}^{-1} = 3 \times 10^{12}\text{s}$
2. Hydrogen to make up the mass of the Earth? $6 \times 10^{24}\text{kg} / 1.7 \times 10^{-27}\text{kg} = 4 \times 10^{51}$
3. The radius of the Earth expressed in units of the Planck length? $6.4 \times 10^6\text{m} / 1.6 \times 10^{-35}\text{m} = 4 \times 10^{41}$
4. How many heartbeats are there in the lifetime of a person? $80 \times 365 \times 24 \times 60 \times 60 = 2.5 \times 10^9$
5. Using the molar mass of water of 18g mol^{-1} , how many molecules of water are there in you?
Molecules = $N_A \times \text{Mass} \div \text{Molar mass} = 6 \times 10^{23} \times 80 \div 0.018 = 3 \times 10^{27}$
6. Give an order of magnitude estimate of the density of a proton. (approximating a proton as a cube)
 = mass / volume = $1.7 \times 10^{-27}\text{kg} / (10^{-15})^3 = 1.7 \times 10^{18}\text{kg/m}^3$.
7. Write these lengths in metres: a) 5.356 nm, b) 3.4 mm. [n:10-9, f:10-15, m:10-3]
8. Write these energies in Joules: a) 4.834 MJ, b) 364 GeV. [M:106, p:10-12: G:109]
9. Write these times in seconds: a) 4.76 ns, b) 24.0 ms, [n:10⁻⁹, m:10-3]
10. What is the velocity of an electron that covers a distance of 15.68 mm in 87.50 ns?
= $15.68 \times 10^{-3}\text{m} / 87.5 \times 10^{-9}\text{s} = 1.8 \times 10^5\text{ms}^{-1}$

<http://htwins.net/scale/>

Part C: Units

- 1) the six fundamental units. **Kilogram (mass), metre (length), second (time), ampere (current), mole (amount of substance) and kelvin (temperature).**
- 2) Equivalent in fundamental units of:
Newtons -(F=ma) kgms^{-2} , Coulombs- (Q=It) As,
Joules – (Work = F.s) $\text{kgm}^2\text{s}^{-2}$ Volts: (V = E/q) $\text{kgm}^2\text{A}^{-1}\text{s}^{-3}$
- 3) What quantity is measured by kWh (Kilowatt.hour) - **Energy**, eV - **Energy**, kgms^{-1} **Momentum**
- 4) In an experiment speed was measured several times and was judged to be between 6.82 and 8.02 m/s-1. Express this as a value with: a) an absolute uncertainty b) a fractional uncertainty, c) a percentage uncertainty. **7.42 +/- 0.60, or +/- 8%**
- 5) To measure the resistance of an ohmic component you use a voltmeter accurate to 3% and an ammeter accurate to 2%. a) What is the accuracy of your resistance calculation? **5%** b) How could you improve the accuracy of your result without changing the meters? **Make several measurements at different currents and plot a I vs V graph, 1/gradient = resistance**
- 6) a) Explain the difference between speed and velocity with reference to horizontal circular motion at a radius of 0.5m and a rate of 3.14 rads-1. **Speed will be constant, velocity will have a constant magnitude but direction that rotates once every 2 seconds (tangential to the circle)**
 b) Calculate the magnitude of the velocity of the circular motion in part a.
Speed = $0.5 \times 3.14 = 1.57$

Part D Uncertainty, error, precision, accuracy.

- 1) A student is performing an experiment measuring the resistance of a thermistor (temperature dependent resistor). The thermistor is in oil whose temperature is controlled and measured.

A The student has not realized the voltmeter he is using reads a value 5% smaller than the real value.

B There is variation in EMF of the power supply used.

C There is a small amount of heat generated inside the thermistor.

D The milli-ammeters, contacts and wires that he is using have resistance.

E The ammeter records current to the nearest milliamp.

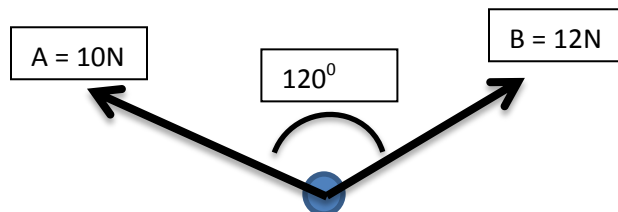
F The voltmeter records voltage to the nearest one hundredth of a volt.

- List the systematic errors: **A, C, D**
- Identify the random error and state how it could be reduced without changing an apparatus. **B, repeat readings to reduce this error.**
- Based on the precision of the instruments state the uncertainty that should be recorded. **+/- 1mA, +/- 0.01V**
- What is the percentage uncertainty in a voltmeter reading of 0.8V? **$100 \times 0.01 / 8 = 0.1\%$**
- What is the percentage uncertainty in a ammeter reading of 50mA? **$100 \times 1 / 50 = 2\%$**
- What is the percentage uncertainty in the measured value of the resistance? **2.1%**
- If the measured resistance values are 4% different to those stated by the manufacturer of the thermistor what should the conclusion of the student be? **The systematic errors are significant.**

Part E Vectors and Scalars

- Give four examples of scalar quantities and four examples of vector quantities.
Scalar : mass, density, length, speed.... Vector: displacement, force, velocity, momentum.
- A rocket is flying 500m/s at an elevation of 50° what are the vertical and horizontal components of its velocity? **Vertical = $500\sin(50^\circ) = 383\text{m/s}$, Horizontal = $500\cos(50^\circ) = 321\text{m/s}$**
- An object is being pushed by two forces A and B as shown. What is the size of the resultant force?

Parallel to A: Force = $10 - 12 \cos(60) = 4\text{N}$
Perpendicular to A: Force = $12 \sin(60) = 10.4\text{N}$
 $\sqrt{4^2 + 10.4^2} = 11.1\text{N}$



Or... $a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$

The diagram shows a triangle with two sides representing forces A and B, and a third side representing the resultant. The angle between A and B is 60° . The resultant is the side opposite to this angle.

Resultant² = $10^2 + 12^2 - 2 \times 10 \times 12 \times \cos(60)$
Resultant² = $100 + 144 - 120$
Resultant = 11.0N