

Physical Quantities

The quantities which can be measured by an instrument & which describes the laws of physical world

Types of physical quantities

Physical Quantities

Fundamental
Physical quantity

Derived
Physical quantity

Fundamental Quantity: Physical quantities which does not depend upon other quantity.

S.N	Physical Quantity	Units	Symbol
1.	Length	Meter	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

Derived Quantity: physical quantity which are made up of by Fundamental Quantity.

- (i) Area $\rightarrow m^2 \rightarrow \text{length} \times \text{length}$
- (ii) Volume $\rightarrow m^3 \rightarrow \text{length} \times \text{length} \times \text{length}$
- (iii) Velocity $\rightarrow m/s \rightarrow \frac{\text{length}}{\text{time}}$
- (iv) Force $\rightarrow \text{N} \text{ or } \text{kg m/s}^2 \rightarrow \text{mass} \times \text{acceleration}$

Dimensions: The dimensions are the powers to which the fundamental units are raised in order to express the derived unit of quantity.

- (i) Length $\rightarrow [L]$
- (ii) Mass $\rightarrow [m]$
- (iii) Time $\rightarrow [T]$
- (iv) Temperature $\rightarrow [K] \text{ or } [\theta]$
- (v) Electric current $\rightarrow [A] \text{ or } [I]$
- (vi) Luminous Intensity $\rightarrow [C]$
- (vii) Amount of substance $\rightarrow [mol]$

∴ If two physical quantities have same units their dimension is also same.

Dimension of some physical quantity

- (I) Area $\rightarrow m^2 \rightarrow [M^0 L^2 T^0]$
- (II) Volume $\rightarrow m^3 \rightarrow [M^0 L^3 T^0]$
- (III) Density $\rightarrow \text{kg/m}^3 \rightarrow [M^1 L^{-3} T^0]$
- (IV) Force $\rightarrow \text{kg m/s}^2 \rightarrow [M^1 L^1 T^{-2}]$
- (V) Acceleration $\rightarrow \text{m/s}^2 \rightarrow [M^0 L^2 T^{-2}]$

Principle of Homogeneity

The dimension of each term of an equation must be same.

$$4s + 2s = 6s$$

$$4s + 2\text{kg} \neq 6 \times \text{kg}$$

Application of Dimensional Analysis (Pc3)

Relation	Correctness	Constant	Conversion
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- (i) To check the correctness of given physical equation.

e.g.

$$v^2 = u^2 + 2as$$

$$\text{Dimension of } [v^2] = [M^0 L^2 T^{-2}]^2 = [M^0 L^4 T^{-4}]$$

$$\text{Dimension of } [U^2] = [M^0 L^2 T^{-2}]^2 = [M^0 L^2 T^{-4}]$$

$$\text{Dimension of } [2as] = [M^0 L^2 T^2] \times [L] = [M^0 L^3 T^2]$$

Since, the Dimension of each term is correct, we can say given equation is correct.

- (ii) It helps to find the value of any constant in the given physical equation.

e.g In, the equation we can find the value of G where symbols have their usual meaning.

$$F = G m_1 m_2$$

$$r^2$$

$$\text{or, } G = \frac{Fr^2}{m_1 m_2}$$

$$\text{or, } [G] = \frac{[M L T^{-2}] \times [L]^2}{[M] \times [M]}$$

$$\text{or, } [G] = \frac{[M L^3 T^{-2}]}{[M^2]}$$

$$\text{or, } [G] = [M^{-2} L^3 T^{-2}]$$

(iii) It helps us to convert system of measurement.

Let v_1 and v_2 are two system of measurement and n_1 and n_2 are numeric values associated with those respectively.

$$n_1 v_1 = n_2 v_2$$

Let, M_1, L, T_1 are the fundamental units for v_1 system and M_2, L_2, T_2 are fundamental units for v_2 system the above equation becomes.

$$n_1 \times [M_1^a L^b T_1^c] = n_2 \times [M_2^{\alpha} L_2^{\beta} T_2^{\gamma}]$$

$$n_2 = n_1 \times \left[\frac{M_1^a}{M_2^{\alpha}} \right]^{\frac{1}{\beta}} \left[\frac{L_1^b}{L_2^{\beta}} \right]^{\frac{1}{\beta}} \left[\frac{T_1^c}{T_2^{\gamma}} \right]^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

$$n_2 = n_1 \times \left[\frac{M_1}{M_2} \right]^{\frac{a}{\alpha}} \left[\frac{L_1}{L_2} \right]^{\frac{b}{\beta}} \left[\frac{T_1}{T_2} \right]^{\frac{c}{\gamma}}$$

e.g.

conversion of 10^5 J in erg

(iv) To find the relation between different physical quantities.

e.g

If the force in circular path depends on the m, v, γ where the symbol have their usual meaning, then find the relation between them.

Since, the force depends on m, v and γ

$$F \propto m^a \quad \dots (i)$$

$$F \propto v^b \quad \dots (ii)$$

$$F \propto \gamma^c \quad \dots (iii)$$

Combining (i) and (ii) and (iii)

$$F \propto m^a v^b \gamma^c$$

$$F = k m^a v^b \gamma^c \quad \dots (iv)$$

where k is proportionality constant.

In terms of dimension,

$$[MLT^{-2}] = [M]^a \times [LT^{-2}]^b \times [L]^c$$

$$[MLT^{-2}] = [M]^a \times [L^{b+c} T^{-b}]$$

Equating the power of given dim.

we got,

$$a = \pm$$

$$b = 2$$

$$b+c = \pm \quad [\because b = 2]$$

$$\text{or, } 2+c = \pm$$

$$\text{or, } c = \pm -2$$

Using these values in eqn (iv)

$$F = K m^2 \times v^2 \times r^{-2}$$

$$\text{or, } F = \frac{K m v^2}{r}$$

Experimentally $K = 1$ unit

$$F = mv^2$$

This is required relation between given physical quantities

Limitation (Drawbacks) of Dimensions.

- ⇒ It fails to determine the dimension of dimensionless constant.
- ⇒ It doesn't give us the dimension of trigonometry, exponential and algebra like function.
- ⇒ It doesn't tell us about the vector or scalar nature of physical quantity.
- ⇒ Some physical equation are expressed in ratio and are not able to express in dimension.

Accuracy:

The closeness between calculated value and the value is known as accuracy. Accurate value always coincide with true or standardized value.

e.g If we calculate a mass in lab for three times and found to be 520gm in all three experiments and the true mass of that body is also 520gm then our calculated data is accurate own.

Precision:

Precision is repetition of data to the particular point is known as precision. For eg. if we calculate a mass of any body and found to be precise data. The precise data may or may not be accurate.

Significant figure.

The meaningful digits in a Number are known as significant figure. With increase in significant figure, the data becomes more significant.

The rules to determine the significant figure:

(i)

All non-zero digits are significant.
e.g. 123 or 1.23 have 3 significant.

(ii)

All the trapped zeros are significant
e.g. 1005 2005 have 4 significant figure.

(iii)

All the zeros right of the decimal are significant. e.g. 0.002 or, 0.100 both have 3 significant figures.

(iv)

All the trailing zero after Number are non-significant. For eg. 2000 have only one significant figure.

- (v) If the number can be expressed in the power of 10, then it is insignificant.
 5×10^{23} or 49×10^{-7} have only two significant.

SHORT ANSWER QUESTION

- 1.a State principle of Homogeneity of dimension

Principle of Homogeneity of dimension states that, "In an equation, the dimension of each term should be equal."

i.e

$$a+b = c$$

where, the dimension of a, b, c are same

- 1.(b) The time dependent physical quantity P is given by $P = P_0 e^{-\alpha t^2}$, where α is constant and t is time. Find the dimension of α .

$$P = P_0 e^{-\alpha t^2}$$

We know, $-2t^2$ has no dimension because it is exponential value

$$-2t^2 = [M^0 L^0 T^0]$$

$$-2 [T]^2 = [M^0 L^0 T^0]$$

$$-2L^2 = [M^0 L^0 T^{-2}]$$

$$\therefore \alpha = [M^0 L^0 T^{-2}]$$

(c) In equation $F = at^2$, F is force, a is constant + is time, find dimension of a

$$\begin{aligned} F &= at^2 \\ [MLT^{-2}] &= a \times [T]^2 \\ a &= \frac{[MLT^{-2}]}{[T^2]} \\ a &= [MLT^{-4}] \end{aligned}$$

2(a) A student writes $\sqrt{\frac{R}{2GM}}$ for escape velocity

check the correctness of the formula using dimension analysis.

$$\text{Escape Velocity} = \sqrt{\frac{R}{2GM}}$$

$$[LT^{-1}] = \sqrt{\frac{[L]}{2[M^{-1}L^3T^{-2}]\times[M]}} \quad \text{or} \quad \sqrt{\frac{[L]}{2[L^3T^{-2}]}}$$

$$[LT^{-1}] = \sqrt{\frac{[L]}{[L^3T^{-2}]}}$$

$$[LT^{-1}] \neq \sqrt{[L^{-2}T^2]}$$

∴ The formula is incorrect

2.(b) A simple pendulum of length l and mass m be oscillating with time period T under gravity. Show dimensionally $T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$

Let's Assume

$$T \propto l^a \quad \dots \textcircled{I}$$

$$T \propto g^b \quad \dots \textcircled{II}$$

Combining \textcircled{I} and \textcircled{II}

$$T \propto l^a g^b$$

or, $T = k l^a g^b$. $(\because k$ is proportionality constant)

Now,

$$[T] = [L]^a \times [LT^{-2}]^b$$

$$[T] = [L^a] \times [L^b T^{-2b}]$$

$$[T] = [L^{a+b} T^{-2b}]$$

Equating corresponding powers

$$a+b=0 \quad \dots \textcircled{IV}$$

$$-2b=1$$

$$b=-\frac{1}{2}$$

Putting value of b in \textcircled{IV}

$$a-\frac{1}{2}=0$$

$$a=\frac{1}{2}$$

Again putting values of a, b at \textcircled{II}

$$T = k \cdot l^{3/2} g^{-1/2}$$

$$T = k \frac{l^{3/2}}{g^{1/2}}$$

$$T = k \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$$

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}} \quad \left[\because 2\pi = k, \text{ Experimentally} \right]$$

∴ This is the required equation.

3.(a)

What do you mean by relative error?

The relative error is defined as the ratio of the absolute error of the measurement to the actual measurement.

(b)

Find the percentage error, 2.226 ± 0.25

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Percentage Error} &= \frac{0.25}{2.226} \times 100 \\ &= 11.06\% \end{aligned}$$

Q. (a) Taking Force, length and Time to be the fundamental quantities find the dimension of (a) density (b) pressure (c) momentum (d) energy

(a) Density

$$\rho = \frac{m}{V}$$

$$= \frac{[M]}{[L^3]}$$

$$= [ML^{-3}]$$

(b) Pressure

$$P = \frac{F}{A}$$

$$P = [MLT^{-2}]$$

$$[LF]$$

$$P = [ML^{-1}T^{-2}]$$

(c) Momentum

$$P = F \times V$$

$$= [MLT^{-2}] \times [LT^{-1}]$$

$$= [MLT^{-1}]$$

Energy

$$P.E = mgh$$

$$[M] [L^2]$$

$$= [ML^2T^{-1}]$$

(b) The position x of a particle at time t is given by

$$x = v_0 (1 - e^{-at})$$

$$(v_0 \text{ is initial velocity})$$

we know

$$-at = [M^0 L^0 T^0]$$

$$-a = [M^0 L^0 T^{-1}]$$

S.(b) Add 7.21, 12.191 and 0.0028 and then write to an appropriate number of significant figures.

Significant figures's sum
 $= 7.21 + 12.191 + 0.0028$
 $= 19.35$

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

1.(a) A body of mass m be moving with constant speed v in circle of radius r under centripetal Force F . show dimensionally
 $F = \frac{mv^2}{r}$.

let's assume

$$F \propto m^a \dots \textcircled{I}$$

$$F \propto v^b \dots \textcircled{II}$$

$$F \propto r^c \dots \textcircled{III}$$

Combining \textcircled{I} , \textcircled{II} and \textcircled{III} ,

$$F \propto m^a v^b r^c$$

$$F = k m^a v^b r^c \dots \textcircled{IV}$$

$\therefore k$ is constant

Now,

$$[MLT^{-2}] = [M]^a \times [LT^{-1}]^b \times [L]^c$$

$$[MLT^{-2}] = [M^a] \times [L^{b+1}] \times [L^c]$$

$$[MLT^{-2}] = [M^a L^{b+c} T^{-b}]$$

Equating the corresponding sides

$$a=2$$

$$b=2$$

$$b+c=2$$

$$2+c=2$$

$$c=-2$$

Again Putting the value of a, b, c in (iv)

$$F = k m^1 v^2 \times r^{-1}$$

$$F = k \frac{m v^2}{r}$$

We know, $k=2$, Experimentally

$$F = \frac{m v^2}{r} \times 2$$

$$\therefore F = \frac{m v^2}{r}$$

Hence required formula is $F = \frac{m v^2}{r}$

(b) The distance covered by a particle in time t is given by.

$$x = a + b + ct^2 + dt^3$$

Given,

$$x = [L]$$

$$a = [L]$$

$$b = [L]$$

\therefore Principle of Homogeneity

$$ct^2 = [L]$$

$$c = [L]$$

$$[T^2]$$

$$dt^3 = [L]$$

$$d = [L]$$

$$[T^3]$$

$$c = [LT^{-2}]$$

$$d = [LT^{-3}]$$

(c) Calculate the dimensional formula of from the relation in 1(a)

$$F = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

$$F = [M] \times \frac{[LT^{-1}]^2}{[L]}$$

$$F = \frac{[M \cdot L^2 T^{-2}]}{[L]}$$

$$\therefore F = [MLT^{-2}]$$

2(a) What do you mean by error in measurement
Is significant figure related with error?

The difference between real value of physical quantity and measured value of physical quantity is error.

If there are more number of significant figure than there is less error and vice versa.

2.(b) A student measures a distance of about 75 cm with a meter stick. Estimate the percentage error in this measurement.

$$\text{Measurement} = 75 \text{ cm}$$

$$\text{Error} = 0.1 \text{ cm}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\% \text{ Error} &= \frac{\text{Error}}{\text{Measurement}} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{0.1}{75} \times 100 \\ &= 0.13\%\end{aligned}$$

2.(c) How many significant figures in the measurement 75.0 cm

\Rightarrow 3 significant figures.

(1)

A body is moving through air at high speed v experiments a retarding force F given by $F = k A \rho v^x$, where A is the surface area of a body, ρ is density of air and k is dimensionless constant. Deduce the value of x .

$$F = k A \rho v^x$$

We know.

$$[MLT^{-2}] = [L^2] \times [ML^{-3}] \times [LT^{-2}]^x$$

$$[MLT^{-2}] = [M L^{-1}] \times [L^x T^{-x}]$$

$$[MLT^{-2}] = [M L^{-1+x} T^{-x}]$$

Equating corresponding sides.

$$-1 + x = -2$$

$$x = 2$$

(11)

The velocity (v) = $at + b$ where a, b and c are constants. Find the dimension of a, b and c

Given

a, b, c are constant

The Dimension of $c = [T]$ \therefore Principle of Homogeneity

We know

$$\frac{b}{t+c} = v$$

Taking dimensions

$$\frac{b}{[T]} = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$b = [LT^{-1+1}]$$

$$b = [L]$$

Again

$$at = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$a = \underline{[LT^{-1}]}$$

$$a = [T^{-1}]$$

$$a = [LT^{-2}]$$

$$\therefore a = [LT^{-2}] \quad b = [L] \quad c = [T]$$

3. The velocity (v) of a particle depending on time t is given

$$v = at + bt + \underline{c}$$

$$dt$$

$$\text{Dimension of } a = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$\text{Dimension of } bt = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$\text{or, } b = \underline{\frac{[LT^{-1}]}{[T]}}$$

$$\text{or, } b = [LT^{-2}]$$

Dimension of $\omega = [LT]$ \therefore Principle of Homogeneity

Dimension of $c = \frac{L}{d+t} = [LT^{-1}]$

$$\text{or, } \frac{c}{[LT] + [LT]} = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{c}{[LT]} = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$\text{or, } c = [LT^0]$$

$$\text{or, } c = [L]$$

9. The density of Earth is given by $\rho = kgx^{y}t^z$. Obtain the values of x, y, z

Let's assume

$$\rho = kg^x t^y L^z$$

Taking the dimension on both sides

$$[ML^{-3}] = [LT^{-2}]^x [L]^y [M^{-1}T^2]^z$$

$$[ML^{-3}] = [L^x T^{-2x}] \times [L^y] \times [M^{-z} T^{3z}]$$

$$[ML^{-3}] = [M^{-z} L^{x+y+3z} T^{-2x-2z}]$$

Equating corresponding components

$$-z = 1 \quad -2x - 2z = 0 \quad 2x = -2$$

$$z = 1 \quad 2x + 2z = 0 \quad x = -1$$

$$2x + 2 = 0$$

$$x+y+32 = -3$$

$$-1+y+3 = -3$$

$$-1+y = -6$$

$$y = -6 + 1$$

$$y = -5$$

5. The velocity of a particle change with time according to the relation $v = xt + yt^2 + z$. Find the dimensions of x, y and z if v is in ms^{-1} and t in s .

The dimension of $z = [LT^0]$

The dimension of $xt = [LT^{-1}]$

$$x = [LT^{-2}]$$

The dimension of $y t^2 = [LT^{-1}]$

$$y = [LT^{-3}]$$

\therefore The dimension of x, y, z are $[LT^{-2}]$

$$[LT^{-3}] [LT^{-1}]$$

6. If acceleration due to gravity g , the speed of light c and pressure p are taken as fundamental quantities, then find the dimension of length.

Let's assume

$$ld g^a \quad \dots \textcircled{I}$$

$$ld c^b \quad \dots \textcircled{II}$$

$$ld p^c \quad \dots \textcircled{III}$$

combining (I) and (II) (III)

$$l \propto g^a c^b p^x$$

$$l = K g^a c^b p^x$$

Taking dimension on both side

$$\therefore [L] = [LT^{-2}]^a \times [LT^{-1}]^b \times [ML^{-2}T^{-2}]^x$$

$$[L] = L^a T^{-2a} \times L^b T^{-b} \times M^x L^{-2x} T^{-2x}$$

$$[L] = [L^{a+b-x} M^x T^{-2a-b-2x}]$$

Equating corresponding values

$$x = 0$$

$$a+b-x = 2$$

$$-2a-b-2x = 0$$

$$a+b = 1 \dots (IV)$$

$$-2a-b = 0$$

$$2a+b = 0 \dots (V)$$

Subtracting (IV) from (V)

$$2a+b = 0$$

$$a+b = -1$$

$$a = -1$$

Again Putting into (IV)

$$-1+b = 2$$

$$b = 2$$

So, The required dimension of l is

$$= g^{-1} c^2 p^0$$

7. Find the value of 15 joule in a system which has 10cm, 100gm and 20s as fundamental units

Given,

$$n_1 = 15 \text{ joule} \quad n_2 = ? \text{ new units}$$

$$m_1 = 2 \text{ kg} \quad M_2 = 100 \text{ gm}$$

$$L_1 = 1 \text{ m} \quad L_2 = 10 \text{ cm}$$

$$T_1 = 2 \text{ s} \quad T_2 = 20 \text{ s}$$

We know that

$$n_2 = n_1 \times \left[\frac{M_1}{M_2} \right]^a \times \left[\frac{L_1}{L_2} \right]^b \times \left[\frac{T_1}{T_2} \right]^c$$

$$n_2 = 15 \times \left[\frac{2 \text{ kg}}{100 \text{ gm}} \right]^a \times \left[\frac{1 \text{ m}}{10 \text{ cm}} \right]^b \times \left[\frac{2 \text{ s}}{20 \text{ s}} \right]^c$$

We know, the dimension of joule is $[ML^2T^{-2}]$ so, $a=2$, $b=2$, $c=-2$

$$n_2 = 15 \times \left[\frac{1000}{100} \right]^2 \times \left[\frac{100}{10} \right]^2 \times \left[\frac{1}{20} \right]^{-2}$$

$$n_2 = 15 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 400$$

$$n_2 = 6000000$$

$$n_2 = 6 \times 10^6 \text{ new units.}$$

9. The length of each side of a cube is 7.203 m. What is the total surface area and the volume of the cube to appropriate significant figure.

$$\text{length of side} = 7.203 \text{ m}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Total surface area} &= 6a^2 \\ &= 6 \times (7.203)^2 \\ &= 311.3 \text{ m}^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Volume} = a^3$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= (7.203)^3 \\ &= 346.39 \text{ m}^3\end{aligned}$$

8. The length and breadth of a field are measured as: $l = (120 \pm 2) \text{ m}$ and $b = (100 \pm 5) \text{ m}$ respectively. What is the area of field?