

Miscellaneous
SI Prefixes

Table with 3 columns: Prefix, Symbol, Value. Rows include yotta (10^24), zetta (10^21), exa (10^18), peta (10^15), tera (10^12), giga (10^9), mega (10^6), kilo (10^3), hecto (10^2), deka (10^1), deci (10^-1), centi (10^-2), milli (10^-3), micro (10^-6), nano (10^-9), pico (10^-15), femto (10^-18), atto (10^-21), zepto (10^-24), yocto (10^-24).

Units

Table with 2 columns: Unit, Value. Rows include Pa = N/m^2, W = J/s = N · m/s, J = N · m, N = kg · m/s^2, V = J/C, 1 cal = 4.184 J, °F = 9/5 °C + 32, K = °C + 273.15.

Vectors

A vector on a Cartesian chart
Figure 1: A vector on a Cartesian chart

Equations for vector components and magnitude: r = (r_x, theta), r = |r| = sqrt(r_x^2 + r_y^2), theta = tan^-1(r_y/r_x), r_x = r cos theta, r_y = r sin theta.

- A vector in general is a quantity that is made up of 2 scalar quantities, magnitude and direction.
- In physics, vectors are represented by arrows. The length of the arrow represents the magnitude of the vector and the direction of the arrow represents the direction of the vector.
- The vectors r and -r have the same magnitude but opposite directions.

Unit Vectors

Equations for unit vectors: r-hat = r/|r|, r-hat = r_x i-hat + r_y j-hat, r-hat = r_x i-hat + r_y j-hat + r_z k-hat, and unit vectors i-hat, j-hat, k-hat.

- A unit vector of a vector r is a vector in the same direction as r with a magnitude of 1.
- In the equations, i and j give a direction to r_x and r_y transforming them into vectors.

Vector Arithmetic

Scalar Multiplication

a r-hat = (a r, theta)

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include a (scalar), r-hat (vector), r (magnitude of r (scalar)), theta (direction of a r-hat (relative to the horizontal)).

Scalar multiplication of a vector r-hat by a scalar a is a vector in the same direction as r-hat with a magnitude of ar.

Addition & Subtraction

A-hat + B-hat = (A_x + B_x) i-hat + (A_y + B_y) j-hat

A-hat - B-hat = (A_x - B_x) i-hat + (A_y - B_y) j-hat

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include A-hat, B-hat (vectors), A_x, B_x (x-components of A-hat, B-hat), A_y, B_y (y-components of A-hat, B-hat), i-hat, j-hat (unit vector in the x, y direction (See: Unit Vectors)).

On a graph, if you connect the vectors A-hat and B-hat head to tail, the vector from the tail of A to the head of B is the sum of A and B.

Dot Product

A-hat · B-hat = AB cos theta

theta = 0° => A-hat || B-hat => A-hat · B-hat = AB

theta = 90° => A-hat perp B-hat => A-hat · B-hat = 0

theta = 180° => A-hat || B-hat (anti-parallel) => A-hat · B-hat = -AB

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include A-hat, B-hat (vectors), A, B (magnitudes of A-hat, B-hat), theta (angle between A-hat, B-hat), i-hat, j-hat (unit vector in the x, y direction (See: Unit Vectors)).

The dot product of two vectors A-hat and B-hat is a scalar.

Cross Product

A-hat x B-hat = AB sin theta n-hat

j-hat x i-hat = -k-hat

k-hat x j-hat = -i-hat

i-hat x k-hat = -j-hat

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include A-hat, B-hat (vectors to be multiplied), A, B (magnitudes of the vectors), theta (angle between the vectors), n-hat (unit vector perpendicular to the plane of A-hat and B-hat).

For direction of n-hat use RHR (See: Right Hand Rule).

RHR Diagram

Figure 2: RHR Diagram

Right Hand Rule

- Direction of rotation is determined by the position of the thumb. If the thumb points in the direction of the axis of rotation (typically upward), then the direction is positive. If the thumb points in the opposite direction of the axis of rotation (typically downward), then the direction is negative.

Gradient (Vector)

Nabla = i-hat partial over x + j-hat partial over y + k-hat partial over z (Cartesian)

Nabla = i-hat partial over r + theta-hat partial over theta + phi-hat partial over phi (Spherical)

Nabla = r-hat partial over r + phi-hat partial over phi + z-hat partial over z (Cylindrical)

- Note: partial over x is a partial derivative. partial over x means take the derivative with respect to x while holding all other variables constant.

Integration

Integral from x_1 to x_2 of x^n dx = (x_2^(n+1) - x_1^(n+1)) / (n+1)

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include x_1 (lower limit of integration), x_2 (upper limit of integration), n (power of x).

Capacitors

For charging/discharging, see: Capacitor Charging in Circuits
Created by 2 plates of area A, equal and opposite charge Q separated by a distance d

E-hat = sigma / epsilon_0 n-hat

E-hat_one plate = sigma / 2 epsilon_0 n-hat

sigma = Q / A

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include E-hat (Electric field between plates), sigma (Charge density on each plate), epsilon_0 (Permittivity of free space (epsilon_0 = 8.85 x 10^-12 C^2/N · m^2)), n-hat (Unit vector perpendicular to the plates (from positive to negative plate)), Q (Charge on each plate), A (Area of each plate).

Capacitance

SI unit: F (Farads)

C = Q / V

C = epsilon_0 A / d

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include C (Capacitance), Q (Charge (C)), V (Potential difference (See: Electric Potential)), epsilon_0 (Permittivity of free space (epsilon_0 = 8.85 x 10^-12 C^2/N · m^2)), A (Area of each plate), d (Distance between plates).

Energy of a Capacitor

U = 1/2 CV^2 = 1/2 Q^2 / C

U = integral u_E dV = 1/2 epsilon_0 integral E^2 dV

U = 1/2 epsilon_0 E^2 x Volume between plates

V = -Ed = -sigma / epsilon_0 d

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include U (Energy of a capacitor), C (Capacitance (See: Capacitance)), V (Potential difference (See: Electric Potential)), u_E (Energy density of electric field), E (Electric field between plates (See: Electric Field)), V (Potential difference (See: Electric Potential)), sigma (Charge density on each plate (See: Capacitors)), epsilon_0 (Permittivity of free space (epsilon_0 = 8.85 x 10^-12 C^2/N · m^2)).

Capacitors in Series/Parallel

See: Series vs Parallel for differences between series and parallel

1/C_eq = sum 1/C_i (Series)

C_eq = sum C_i (Parallel)

C_eq: capacitance of capacitor equivalent to the series/parallel combination

Dielectrics

Dielectric: Insulating material between the plates of a capacitor

C = kappa C_0

epsilon = kappa epsilon_0

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include C (Capacitance), kappa (Dielectric constant (See: Table 5)), C_0 (Capacitance without dielectric), epsilon (Permittivity of dielectric material (See: Table 5)), epsilon_0 (Permittivity of free space (epsilon_0 = 8.85 x 10^-12 C^2/N · m^2)).

Table 5: Dielectric Constants

Table with 2 columns: Material, kappa. Rows include Air (1.0006), Aluminum oxide (8.4), Glass (Pyrex) (5.6), Paper (3.5), Plexiglas (3.4), Polyethylene (2.3), Polystyrene (2.6), Quartz (3.8), Tantalum Oxide (26), Teflon (2.1), Water (80).

Conductive slab between plates

Inserting a conductive slab between the plates of a capacitor increases the capacitance the same as if the slab and the area filled by the slab were removed from the capacitor

Current and Resistance

- Current: I - flow of charge - SI unit: A (Amps)
- Resistance: R - opposition to current - SI unit: Ohm (Ohms)

I = Delta Q / Delta t

J = I / A

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include I (Current), Q (Charge), t (Time), J (Current density), A (Area).

Ohm's Law

V = IR

J = sigma E = E / rho

sigma = 1 / rho

R = rho L / A

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include V (Potential difference (See: Electric Potential)), I (Current), R (Resistance), J (Current density), sigma (Conductivity), rho (Resistivity (See: Table 6)), E (Electric field), L (Length (of wire)), A (Cross-sectional area (of wire)).

Table 6: Resistivity

Table with 2 columns: Material, Resistivity: rho (Ohm-m). Rows include Metals, Aluminum (2.65 x 10^-8), Copper (1.68 x 10^-8), Gold (2.24 x 10^-8), Iron (9.71 x 10^-8), Mercury (9.84 x 10^-7), Silver (1.59 x 10^-8), Solutions, 1-molar CuSO4 (3.9 x 10^-4), 1-molar HCl (1.7 x 10^-2), 1-molar NaCl (1.4 x 10^-4), H2O (2.6 x 10^5), Human Blood (0.70), Seawater (0.22), Semiconductors, Germanium (0.5), Silicon (3 x 10^3), Insulators, Ceramic (10^11 - 10^14), Glass (10^10 - 10^14), Polystyrene (10^15 - 10^17), Rubber (10^13 - 10^16), Wood (dry) (10^8 - 10^14).

Drift Velocity

I = nqAv_d e

J = nqv_d e

n = rho / m

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include I (Current), n (Number of charge carriers (atoms) per unit volume), q (Charge of each atom (-e = -1.6 x 10^-19 C)), A (Cross-sectional area), J (Current density), v_d (Drift velocity), e (Elementary charge (1.6 x 10^-19 C)), rho (mass density), m (Mass of each atom).

Power

P = IV = I^2 R = V^2 / R

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include P (Power (W)), I (Current (A)), V (Potential (V) (See: Electric Potential)), R (Resistance (Ohm)).

Circuits

Current is the same everywhere in a series circuit
Circuit Simulator

Voltmeter vs Ammeter

- Voltmeter: parallel - measures voltage across 2 terminals - ideally has infinite resistance
- Ammeter: series - measures current through itself - ideally has zero resistance

Series vs Parallel

Series: same current, different voltage
Parallel: same voltage, different current

Resistors in Parallel

Voltage is the same across each resistor

Current is split between each resistor

Equivalent resistance is less than the smallest resistor

I_p = sum I_i

1/R_p = sum 1/R_i

I_1 = I * R_2 / (R_1 + R_2) (2 resistors)

I_2 = I * R_1 / (R_1 + R_2) (2 resistors)

Resistors in Series

Current is the same across each resistor

Voltage is split between each resistor

Equivalent resistance is the sum of all resistors

V_s = sum V_i

R_s = sum R_i

V_1 = V * R_1 / (R_1 + R_2) (2 resistors)

V_2 = V * R_2 / (R_1 + R_2) (2 resistors)

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include I (Current (See: Current and Resistance)), R (Resistance (See: Current and Resistance)), V (Potential difference (See: Electric Potential)), V_1, I_1, I_2 (Total current in parallel circuit), I_1, I_1, I_2 (Current in each resistor in parallel circuit), R_p, R_s (Total resistance in parallel and series circuit (respectively)), R_1, R_1, R_2 (Resistance in each resistor in the circuit), V_s (Total voltage in series circuit), V_1, V_1, V_2 (Voltage in each resistor in series circuit).

Kirchoff's Voltage Law

The sum of all voltages in a closed loop is zero

sum V_i = 0 (closed loop)

- Draw loops & assign current (I) to each.
- Find sum V_i for each loop: Start with battery EMF/voltage (epsilon), then go around loop subtract voltage drops
- Voltage drops across resistor is IR - I = sum I_i (each loop)

Kirchoff's Current Law

The sum of all currents entering a node is zero

sum I_i = 0 (node)

- Choose nodes & assign voltage (V) to each.
- Assign current (I) to each branch entering each node
- Find sum I_i for each node: Incoming current is positive, outgoing current is negative

Capacitor Charging in Circuits

For in-depth capacitor mechanics, see: Capacitors

Initial State (t = 0)

Capacitor acts as a short circuit (no voltage)

Plates have 0 charge

q = 0 => E = 0 => V_c = 0 (min)

I = epsilon / R (max)

Intermediate State (0 < t < infinity)

Capacitor charges/discharges

Exponential growth/decay

q = Q(1 - e^(-t/tau))

I = epsilon / R e^(-t/tau)

V_c = epsilon(1 - e^(-t/tau))

z = RC (time constant)

Final State (t -> infinity)

Enough time for capacitor to sufficiently charge

Capacitor is effectively an open circuit (no current)

q = Q = CV => E = sigma / epsilon_0 => V_c = epsilon (max)

I = 0 (min)

Table with 2 columns: Symbol, Description. Rows include q (Charge (See: Capacitors)), Q (Maximum charge (See: Capacitors)), C (Capacitance (See: Capacitors)), E (Electric field (See: Capacitors)), V_c (Voltage across capacitor (See: Capacitors)), I (Current (See: Current and Resistance)), R (Resistance (See: Current and Resistance)), epsilon (Electromotive force (EMF, same as voltage) (See: Electric Potential)), sigma (Surface charge density (See: Capacitors)), epsilon_0 (Permittivity of free space (See: Capacitors)), t (Time since circuit closed).

Magnetic Field

SI Unit: Tesla (T)

Magnetic field can be generated by current

Direction of current determines the direction of the magnetic field via the right-hand rule

ε	Electromotive force (EMF, same as voltage) (<i>See: Electric Potential</i>)
σ	Surface charge density (<i>See: Capacitors</i>)
ϵ_0	Permittivity of free space (<i>See: Capacitors</i>)
t	Time since circuit closed

Magnetic Field

- SI Unit:** Tesla (T)
- Magnetic field can be generated by current
- Direction of current determines the direction of the magnetic field via the right-hand rule

Biot-Savart Law

Magnetic field generated by a current-carrying wire	
$d\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I d\vec{l} \times \hat{r}}{4\pi r^2}$	
$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \int \frac{d\vec{l} \times \hat{r}}{r^2}$	
\vec{B}	Magnetic field
μ_0	Permeability of free space = $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{Tm}{A}$
I	Current in wire
$d\vec{l}$	Differential length of wire
\hat{r}	Unit vector from wire to point of interest
r	Distance from wire to point of interest

- Use right-hand rule to determine direction of magnetic field
- Magnetic field lines are circles around the wire (azimuthal)
- Follows inverse square law

Ampere's Law

- Requirements:**
 - \vec{B} is constant along the amperian loop
 - \vec{B} is tangential to the amperian loop
- For a straight wire, amperian loop is a centered around the wire

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l} = \mu_0 I_{\text{encircled}}$$

$$B \cdot L = \mu_0 I_{\text{encircled}}$$

\vec{B}	Magnetic field
μ_0	Permeability of free space = $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{Tm}{A}$
I	Current in wire
$d\vec{l}$	Differential length of wire
r	Distance from wire to point of interest
L	Length of amperian loop = $2\pi r$

Gauss's Law for Magnetism

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{A} = 0$$

\vec{B}	Magnetic field
$d\vec{A}$	Differential area element

Magnetic Field of Simple Current Distributions

Straight Wire

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r}$$

B	Magnetic field at point of interest
μ_0	Permeability of free space = $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{Tm}{A}$
I	Current in wire
r	Distance from wire to point of interest

Loop of Wire

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I r_w^2}{2r} \hat{i}$$

$$x = 0 \implies \vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2r_w} \hat{i} \text{ (center)}$$

$$x \gg r_w \implies \vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I r_w^2}{2x^3} \hat{i} \text{ (far-field)}$$

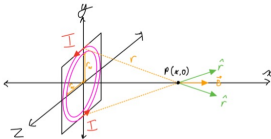


Figure 13: Diagram of loop

$$r = \sqrt{r_w^2 + x^2}$$

B	Magnetic field
μ_0	Permeability of free space = $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{Tm}{A}$
I	Current in wire
r_w	Radius of wire
r	Distance from wire to point of interest
x	Distance from center of loop to point of interest

Sheet (Plane) of Current

$$B = \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 J_s$$

B	Magnetic field
μ_0	Permeability of free space = $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{Tm}{A}$
J_s	Surface current density

Solenoid (Coil)

$$B = \mu_0 n I$$

B	Magnetic field
μ_0	Permeability of free space = $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{Tm}{A}$
n	Number of turns per unit length
I	Current in wire

Force of a Magnetic Field on a Moving Charge

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

\vec{F}	Force on the particle (charge)
q	Charge of the particle
\vec{v}	Velocity of the particle

Cyclotron Motion

$$f = \frac{qB}{2\pi m}$$

f	Cyclotron frequency (period of rotation)
q	Charge of the particle
B	Magnetic field
m	Mass of the particle

Note: \times is the cross product (*See: **Cross Product***)

Magnetic Force on a Straight Wire

$$\vec{F} = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B} \text{ (from uniform field)}$$

$$F = \frac{\mu_0 I_1 I_2 l}{2\pi d} \text{ (from parallel wire)}$$

\vec{F}	Force on the particle (charge)
I	Current in wire
l	Length of wire
\vec{B}	Magnetic field
d	Distance between wires
μ_0	Permeability of free space = $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{Tm}{A}$
I_1, I_2	Current in each wire

Force is attractive if currents are in the same direction, repulsive if in opposite directions

Note: \times is the cross product (*See: **Cross Product***)