

# Equations

**Total Impulse** Thrust force integrated over the time of application.

$$I_t = \int_0^t F dt \quad (1)$$

**Specific Impulse:** Thrust per unit propellant ‘weight’ flow rate.

$$I_S = \frac{\int_0^t F dt}{g_0 \int_0^t \dot{m} dt} = \frac{I_t}{w} \quad (2)$$

**Total Propellant Weight:**

$$w = m_p g_0 \quad (3)$$

**Weight Flow Rate:**

$$\dot{w} = \dot{m}_p g_0 \quad (4)$$

**Effectice Exhaust Velocity:** An average or mass-equivalent velocity at which propellant is being ejected from the nozzle.

$$c = I_S g_0 = \frac{F}{\dot{m}} \quad (5)$$

**Mass Ratio:** Ratio of the final mass over the initial mass.

$$\mathbf{MR} = \frac{m_f}{m_0} \quad (6)$$

**Propellant Mass Fractio:** Ratio of the usefull propellant mass to the intitial mass.

$$\zeta = \frac{m_p}{m_0} = \frac{(m_0 - m_f)}{m_0} = \frac{m_p}{(m_p + m_f)} \quad (7)$$

**Impulse-to-Weight Ratio:** The total impulse divided by the initial propellant-loaded vehicle sea-level weight.

$$\frac{I_t}{w_o} = \frac{I_t}{(m_f + m_p)g_0} = \frac{I_S}{\frac{m_f}{m_p} + 1} \quad (8)$$

# Symbols

$I_t$	Total Impulse	N · s
$I_S$	Specific Impulse	s
$m_p$	Total Effective Propellant Mass	kg
$w$	Effectice Propellant Weight	N
$\dot{m}$	Total Mass Flow Rate	kg / s
$\dot{w}$	Weight Flow Rate	N / s
$g_0$	Earth's Average Gravity	kg / s <sup>2</sup>
$c$	Effectice Exhaust Velocity	m / s
<b>MR</b>	Mass Ratio	Unitless
$m_f$	Final Mass	kg
$m_0$	Initial Mass	kg
$\zeta$	Propellant Mass Fraction	Unitless
$I_t / w_0$	Impulse-to-Weight Ratio	s / kg