

Metro

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1 Introduction

The Metro package aims to be a port of the Latex package siunitx. It allows easy typesetting of numbers and units with options. This package is very early in development and many features are missing, so any feature requests or bug reports are welcome!

Metro's name comes from Metrology, the study scientific study of measurement.

2 Usage

2.1 Options

`#metro-setup(..options)`

Options for Metro's can be modified by using the `metro-setup` function. It takes an argument `sink` and saves any named parameters found. The options for each function are specified in their respective sections.

All options and function parameters use the following types:

Literal Takes the given value directly. Input type is a string, content and sometimes a number.

Switch On-off switches. Input type is a boolean.

Choice Takes a limited number of choices, which are described separately for each option. Input type is a string.

Number Takes a float or integer.

2.2 Numbers

`#num(number, e: none, pm: none, ..options)`

Formats a number.

number Number

The number to format.

pm Literal

(default: none)

Uncertainty of the number.

e Number

(default: none)

Exponent. The exponent is applied to both the number and the uncertainty if given.

123

−1234

12345

2.2.1 Options

times c

The symbol

2.3 Units

`#unit(unit, ..options)`

Typesets a unit and provides full control over output format for the unit. This function can be used in two different ways.

The first way is “literally” in math mode, where the math content is parsed and any non-prefixes are separated by the `inter-unit-product` (by default a thin space) option and fractions are modified depending on the `frac-mode` option. Units within the `unit` function can be specified in three ways: a

single letter ($\text{\$unit(m)\$, m}$); a string ($\text{\$unit("mol"^2)\$, mol^2}$); or by importing the units as variable definitions:

```
#import "@preview/metro:0.1.0": unit, kg, mol
#unit( $\text{\$kg m/s^2}$ )
$unit(g_"polymer" mol_"cat" s^(-1))$
kg m/s2
gpolymer molcat s-1
```

The second way is an “intrepreted” system by passing the function a string delimited by the interpreted-delimeter option (default is “#” to reflect Typst’s equivalent of Latex’s backslash).

```
#unit("#kilo#metre#cubed#second")\
#unit("#kilo#gram#metre#per#square#second")\
#unit("#gram#per#cubic#centi#metre")\
#unit("#square#volt#cubic#lumen#per#farad")\
#unit("#metre#squared#per#gray#cubic#lux")\
#unit("#henry#second")
km3 s
kg m s-2
g cm-3
V2 lm3 F-1
m2 Gy-1 lx3
H s
```

On its own, this is less convenient than the literal method. However, the package allows you to alter a variety of options.

2.3.1 Using Interpreted Mode

I’m not sure what to call these as in siunitx they are macros but here they are strings. But to not hurt my brain further trying to create a new name (apart from “thingymajigs”) I’ll call them macros for now.

When writing in interpreted mode several macros have been defined.

\#per used as in “metres *per* second”.

```
#unit("#metre#per#second")
m s-1
```

\#square and \#cubic apply their respective powers to the units after them, while \#squared and \#cubed apply to units before them.

```
#unit("#square#becquerel")\
#unit("#joule#squared#per#lumen")\
#unit("#cubic#lux#volt#tesla#cubed")
Bq2
J2 lm-1
lx3 V T3
```

Generic powers can be inserted using the \#tothe and \#raiseto macros. These act as functions and whatever is wrapped in its parantheses are taken as its argument.

```
#unit("#henry#tothe(5)")\
#unit("#raiseto(4.5)#radian")
```

H^5
 $\text{rad}^{4.5}$

Generic qualifiers are available using the `#of` macro:

```
#unit("#kilogram#of(metal)")\  
#unit("#milli#mole#of(cat)#per#kilogram#of(prod)", qualifier-mode: "bracket")  
  
kgmetal  
mmol(cat) kg(prod)-1
```

2.3.2 Options

The following options affect both literal and interpreted mode.

inter-unit-product Literal (default: `sym.space.thin`)

The separator between each unit. The default setting is a thin space: another common choice is a centred dot.

```
#unit("#farad#squared#lumen#candela")\  
#unit("#farad#squared#lumen#candela", inter-unit-product: $dot.c$)  
  
F2 lm cd  
F2 · lm · cd
```

per-symbol Literal (default: `h(0pt) + sym.slash + h(0pt)`)

The symbol to use to separate the two parts of a unit when `per-symbol` is "symbol".

```
#unit("#joule#per#mole#per#kelvin", per-mode: "symbol", per-symbol: [ div ])  
  
J div (mol K)
```

The following option affects only literal mode.

frac-mode Choice (default: "symbol")

Use to alter the handling of a `math.frac` function. These are normally created in math mode by using a slash `/`.

symbol Separates the numerator and the denominator using the symbol in `per-symbol`.

```
$unit(joule / \ (mole kelvin))$\  
$unit(meter / second^2)$  
  
J/(mol K)  
m/s2
```

frac This leaves the `math.frac` as it is.

```
#metro-setup(frac-mode: "frac")  
$unit(joule / (mole kelvin))$\  
$unit(meter / second^2)$  
  

$$\frac{J}{\text{mol K}}$$

$$\frac{m}{s^2}$$

```

The following options affect only interpreted mode.

per-mode Choice (default: "power")

Use to alter the handling of `per`.

power Reciprocal powers

```
#unit("#joule#per#mole#per#kelvin")\
#unit("#metre#per#second#squared")
```

$$\text{J mol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$$

$$\text{m s}^{-2}$$

fraction Uses the `math.frac` function (also known as \$ / \$) to typeset positive and negative powers of a unit separately.

```
#unit("#joule#per#mole#per#kelvin", per-mode: "fraction")\
#unit("#metre#per#second#squared", per-mode: "fraction")
```

$$\frac{\text{J}}{\text{mol K}} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

symbol Separates the two parts of a unit using the symbol in `per-symbol`. This method for displaying units can be ambiguous, and so brackets are added unless `bracket-unit-denominator` is set to `false`. Notice that `bracket-unit-denominator` only applies when `per-mode` is set to `symbol`.

```
#metro-setup(per-mode: "symbol")
#unit("#joule#per#mole#per#kelvin")\
#unit("#metre#per#second#squared")
```

$$\text{J}/(\text{mol K})$$

$$\text{m}/\text{s}^2$$

bracket-unit-denominator Switch (default: `true`)

Whether or not to add brackets to unit denominators when `per-symbol` is `"symbol"`.

```
#unit("#joule#per#mole#per#kelvin", per-mode: "symbol", bracket-unit-
denominator: false)
```

$$\text{J/mol K}$$

sticky-per Switch (default: `false`)

Normally, `per` applies only to the next unit given. When `sticky-per` is `true`, this behaviour is changed so that `per` applies to all subsequent units.

```
#unit("#pascal#per#gray#henry")\
#unit("#pascal#per#gray#henry", sticky-per: true)
```

$$\text{Pa Gy}^{-1} \text{H}$$

$$\text{Pa Gy}^{-1} \text{H}^{-1}$$

qualifier-mode Choice (default: `"subscript"`)

Sets how unit qualifiers can be printed.

subscript

```
#unit("#kilogram#of(pol)#squared#per#mole#of(cat)#per#hour")
```

$$\text{kg}_{\text{pol}}^2 \text{mol}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$$

bracket

```
#unit("#kilogram#of(pol)#squared#per#mole#of(cat)#per#hour", qualifier-mode:
"bracket")
```

$$\text{kg}(\text{pol})^2 \text{mol}(\text{cat})^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$$

combine Powers can lead to ambiguity and are automatically detected and brackets added as appropriate.

```
#unit("#deci#bel#of(i)", qualifier-mode: "combine")
```

dBi

/phrase: Used with qualifier-phrase, which allows for example a space or othre linking text to be inserted.

```
#metro-setup(qualifier-mode: "phrase", qualifier-phrase: sym.space)
```

```
#unit("#kilogram#of(pol)#squared#per#mole#of(cat)#per#hour")\
```

```
#metro-setup(qualifier-phrase: " of ")
```

```
#unit("#kilogram#of(pol)#squared#per#mole#of(cat)#per#hour")
```

kg pol² mol cat⁻¹ h⁻¹

kg of pol² mol of cat⁻¹ h⁻¹

power-half-as-sqrt Switch (default: false)

When true the power of 0.5 is shown by giving the unit symbol as a square root.

```
#unit("#Hz#tothe(0.5)")\
```

```
#unit("#Hz#tothe(0.5)", power-half-as-sqrt: true)
```

Hz^{0.5}

$\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

interpreted-delimiter string (default: #)

The delimiter to use to separate the macros in intepretd mode.

```
#unit("#joule#per#mole#per#kelvin")\
```

```
#unit("joule per mole per kelvin", interpreted-delimiter: " ")
```

J mol⁻¹ K⁻¹

J mol⁻¹ K⁻¹

Note that the first macro does not actually need the delimiter.

2.4 Quantities

3 Meet the Units

The following tables show the currently supported prefixes, units and their abbreviations. Note that unit abbreviations that have single letter commands are not available for import for use in literal mode as math mode accepts single letters.

Unit	Command	Symbol
ampere	ampere	A
candela	candela	cd
kelvin	kelvin	K
kilogram	kilogram	kg
metre	metre	m
mole	mole	mol
second	second	s

Table 1: SI base units.

Unit	Command	Symbol	Unit	Command	Symbol
becquerel	becquerel	Bq	newton	newton	N
degree Celsius	degreeCelsius	°C	ohm	ohm	Ω
coulomb	coulomb	C	pascal	pascal	Pa
farad	farad	F	radian	radian	rad
gray	gray	Gy	siemens	siemens	S
hertz	hertz	Hz	sievert	sievert	Sv
henry	henry	H	steradian	steradian	sr
joule	joule	J	tesla	tesla	T
lumen	lumen	lm	volt	volt	V
katal	katal	kat	watt	watt	W
lux	lux	lx	weber	weber	Wb

Table 2: Coherent derived units in the SI with special names and symbols.

Unit	Command	Symbol
astronomicalunit	astronomicalunit	au
bel	bel	B
dalton	dalton	Da
day	day	d
decibel	decibel	dB
degree	degree	°
electronvolt	electronvolt	eV
hectare	hectare	ha
hour	hour	h
litre	litre	L
	liter	L
minute (plane angle)	arcminute	'
minute (time)	minute	min
second (plane angle)	arcsecond	"
neper	neper	Np
tonne	tonne	t

Table 3: Non-SI units accepted for use with the International System of Units.

Prefix	Command	Symbol	Power	Prefix	Command	Symbol	Power
quecto	quecto	q	−30	deca	deca	d a	1
ronto	ronto	r	−27	hecto	hecto	h	2
yocto	yocto	y	−24	kilo	kilo	k	3
atto	atto	a	−18	mega	mega	M	6
zepto	zepto	z	−21	giga	giga	G	9
femto	femto	f	−15	tera	tera	T	12
pico	pico	p	−12	peta	peta	P	15
nano	nano	n	−9	exa	exa	E	18
micro	micro	μ	−6	zetta	zetta	Z	21
milli	milli	m	−3	yotta	yotta	Y	24
centi	centi	c	−2	ronna	ronna	R	27
deci	deci	d	−1	quetta	quetta	Q	30

Table 4: SI prefixes

Unit	Abbreviation	Symbol	Unit	Abbreviation	Symbol	Unit	Abbreviation	Symbol
femtogram	fg	fg	millihertz	mHz	mHz	farad	F	F
picogram	pg	pg	hertz	Hz	Hz	femtofarad	fF	fF
nanogram	ng	ng	kilohertz	kHz	kHz	picofarad	pF	pF
microgram	ug	μg	megahertz	MHz	MHz	nanofarad	nF	nF
milligram	mg	mg	gigahertz	GHz	GHz	microfarad	uF	μF
gram	g	g	terahertz	THz	THz	millifarad	mF	mF
kilogram	kg	kg	millinewton	mN	mN	henry	H	H
picometre	pm	pm	newton	N	N	femtohenry	fH	fH
nanometre	nm	nm	kilonewton	kN	kN	picohenry	pH	pH
micrometre	um	μm	meganewton	MN	MN	nanohenry	nH	nH
millimetre	mm	mm	pascal	Pa	Pa	millihenry	mH	mH
centimetre	cm	cm	kilopascal	kPa	kPa	microhenry	uH	μH
decimetre	dm	dm	megapascal	MPa	MPa	coulomb	C	C
metre	m	m	gigapascal	GPa	GPa	nanocoulomb	nC	nC
kilometre	km	km	milliohm	mohm	mΩ	millicoulomb	mC	mC
attosecond	as	as	kilohm	kohm	kΩ	microcoulomb	uC	μC
femtosecond	fs	fs	megohm	Mohm	MΩ	kelvin	K	K
picosecond	ps	ps	picovolt	pV	pV	decibel	dB	dB
nanosecond	ns	ns	nanovolt	nV	nV	astronomicalunit	au	au
microsecond	us	μs	microvolt	uV	μV	becquerel	Bq	Bq
millisecond	ms	ms	millivolt	mV	mV	candela	cd	cd
second	s	s	volt	V	V	dalton	Da	Da
femtomole	fmol	fmol	kilovolt	kV	kV	gray	Gy	Gy
picomole	pmol	pmol	watt	W	W	hectare	ha	ha
nanomole	nmol	nmol	nanowatt	nW	nW	katal	kat	kat
micromole	umol	μmol	microwatt	uW	μW	lumen	lm	lm
millimole	mmol	mmol	milliwatt	mW	mW	neper	Np	Np
mole	mol	mol	kilowatt	kW	kW	radian	rad	rad
kilomole	kmol	kmol	megawatt	MW	MW	sievert	Sv	Sv
picoampere	pA	pA	gigawatt	GW	GW	steradian	sr	sr
nanoampere	nA	nA	joule	J	J	weber	Wb	Wb
microampere	uA	μA	microjoule	uJ	uJ			
milliampere	mA	mA	millijoule	mJ	mJ			
ampere	A	A	kilojoule	kJ	kJ			
kiloampere	kA	kA	electronvolt	eV	eV			
microlitre	uL	μL	millielectronvolt	meV	meV			
millilitre	mL	mL	kiloelectronvolt	keV	keV			
litre	L	L	megaelectronvolt	MeV	MeV			
hectolitre	hL	hL	gigaelectronvolt	GeV	GeV			
			teraelectronvolt	TeV	TeV			
			kilowatt hour	kWh	kWh			

Table 5: Unit abbreviations