

Estimation : Interesting questions and Back of the envelope calculations

January 24, 2017

0.1 Avogadro Number: A Mole.

1. What is the length of a sheet of household Aluminium foil that has 1 mole of Aluminium atoms?

Answer :

Step 1. Required information.

Atomic mass of Aluminium = 27. This means 1 mole of Aluminium(Al) atoms weigh 27 grams.

Density of Al = 2.7 grams/cm³

Dimensions of household Al foil:

Length = 25 meter(2500cm), Width = 30cm, and Thickness = 14 microns(0.0014cm).

Step 2. Volume of Al foil for above dimensions.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Volume} &= \text{Width} \times \text{Length} \times \text{Thickness} \\ &= (30 \times 0.014 \times 2500) \text{cm}^3 \\ &= 105 \text{cm}^3. \end{aligned}$$

Step 3. Mass of the Al foil

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mass} &= \text{Volume} \times \text{Density} \\ &= 105 \times 2.7 \\ &= 283.5 \text{grams}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 4. If 27grams → 1mole then 283.5grams → ? moles.

$$\text{so, } \frac{283.5}{27} = 10.5 \text{moles}.$$

Step 5. If 283.5grams → 2500cm then 27grams → ? cm.

$$\text{So, } \frac{(27 \times 2500)}{283.5} = 238.09 \text{cm} \approx 2.4 \text{metre}.$$

So, to get 1 mole of Al atoms we have to roll 2.4 meters of Al foil of given dimensions.

2. How much each of 2 SGD, 10 USD, and Rs.50 bills weigh? How many atoms are there in each of the bills?(What fraction of a mole?).

Answer:

Step 1. Required information

1. SGD notes are made of Biaxially oriented polypropylene (PP)(C_3H_6)_n. Which is mainly Carbon and Hydrogen atoms.
2. USD and Indian Rupees are made of Paper which is 75% Cotton and 25% Linen. Cotton contains 91% cellulose ($C_6H_{10}O_5$)_n.
3. Dimensions of bills in (width \times length \times thickness)in cm.

$$SGD\ 2 = (6.3 \times 12.6 \times 0.01)$$

$$USD\ 10 = (6.63 \times 15.6 \times 0.01)$$

$$INR\ 50 = (7.3 \times 14.7 \times 0.01)$$

4. Density

$$\text{Density of Polypropylene} = 0.93 \text{ grams/cm}^3.$$

$$\text{Density of Cellulose} = 1.5 \text{ grams/cm}^3.$$

5. Molecular weight of Polypropylene(C_3H_6)= $12 \times 3 + 1 \times 6 = 42$ grams/mole. Which means 1 mole of PP weighs 42 grams.

Molecular weight of Cellulose ($C_6H_{10}O_5$)= $12 \times 6 + 1 \times 10 + 16 \times 5 = 162$ grams/mole. Which means, 1 mole of Cellulose weighs 162 grams.

Step 2. 1. SGD 2

(1.1) Volume = $(6.3 \times 12.6 \times 0.01) \approx 0.8 \text{ cm}^3$.

(1.2) Mass = Density \times Volume
 $= 0.93 \text{ grams/cm}^3 \times 0.8 \text{ cm}^3$
 $= 0.76 \text{ grams}$.

(1.3) If 42 grams of PP \rightarrow 1 mole of PP molecules then 0.76 grams \rightarrow ? molecules

So, $\frac{0.76 \text{ grams}}{42 \text{ grams}} \times (6 \times 10^{23}) \approx 1.1 \times 10^{21}$ **of PP molecules in 1 SGD 2 note bill**. And to have 1 mole of PP molecules, we should have 55 notes (=SGD 110).

2.USD 10

(2.1) Volume = $(6.63 \times 15.6 \times 0.01) \approx 1 \text{ cm}^3$.

(2.2) Mass = Density \times Volume
 $= 1.5 \text{ grams/cm}^3 \times 1 \text{ cm}^3$
 $= 1.5 \text{ grams}$ (But actual weight of the note is ≈ 1 gram, due to the reduced density of polymer chain after packaging.)

(2.3) If 162 grams of Cellulose \rightarrow 1 mole of Cellulose molecules then 1 grams \rightarrow ? molecules

So, $\frac{1 \text{ gram}}{162 \text{ grams}} \times 6 \times 10^{23} \approx 3.7 \times 10^{21}$ of Cellulose molecules in 1 USD 10 note bill and to have 1 mole of Cellulose molecules, we should have 162 notes (= USD 1620).

3.INR 50

(3.1) Volume = $(7.3 \times 14.7 \times 0.01) \approx 1.1 \text{ cm}^3$.

(3.2) Mass = Density \times Volume
 $= 1.5 \text{ grams/cm}^3 \times 1 \text{ cm}^3$
 $= 1.7 \text{ grams}$ (Similar to the USD, actual weight of the note is ≈ 1 gram due to the reduced density of polymer chain after packaging.)

(3.3) If 162 grams of Cellulose \rightarrow 1 mole of Cellulose molecules then 1 grams \rightarrow ? molecules

So, $\frac{1 \text{ gram}}{162 \text{ grams}} \times (6 \times 10^{23}) \approx 3.7 \times 10^{21}$ **of Cellulose molecules in 1 INR 50 note bill**. And to have 1 mole of Cellulose molecules, we should have 162 notes (=INR 8100).

3. How many hair are there on the scalp of average adult human? How big a animal has to be to have 1 mole of hair on his body?

Answer:

Step 1: Required information.

1. For humans, average body surface area (BSA) = $\frac{\sqrt{(W \times H)}}{60}$.

Where, W = weight in kg and H = height in centimetres.

For average adult human with weight = 70 kg and height = 180 cm,

$$BSA = \frac{\sqrt{70 \times 180}}{60} \approx 2m^2.$$

2. Scalp surface area $\approx 500cm^2$.

No. of hair follicles $percm^2 \approx 100$. And on an average, each follicle will have 2 hair. So, there are $200hair/cm^2$.

Step 2: 1. If $1cm^2 \rightarrow 200$ hair, then $500cm^2 \rightarrow ?$ hair.

So, $\frac{500cm^2 \times 200}{1cm^2} = 100,000$ hair on human scalp.

2. Considering same density of hair ($200 hair/cm^2$) over all the body surface area, a human with $2m^2$ of body surface area will have

$$\frac{200 \times 2 \times 10^4cm^2}{1cm^2} = 4 \times 10^6 \text{ hair.}$$

3. Now, if 4 million hair per $2m^2$ of body surface area then 4×10^6 hair $\rightarrow ?$ body surface area.

$$\text{So, } \frac{4 \times 10^6 \times 2m^2}{4 \times 10^6} \approx 3 \times 10^{19}m^2 = 3 \times 10^{12}km^2.$$

4. The Sun is the celestial body with largest surface area in our solar system.

Radius of the Sun = 695,700 km. $\approx 700,000$ km

$$\text{Area of the Sun} = \pi \times r^2$$

$$= \pi \times (7 \times 10^5)^2$$

$$\approx 1.5 \times 10^{12}km^2.$$

So, an animal has to be as big as twice the size of the Sun to have 1 mole of hair.

4. How many sheets of A4 size paper collectively has 1 mole of carbon atoms?

Answer:

Step 1. Required information

1. From given data, A paper of area $1m^2$ ($=10^4cm^2$) weighs 80 grams.

2. Size of A4 paper = 21cm \times 30cm

3. Molecular weight of Carbon = 12 grams/mole. Area of A4 paper = 21cm \times 30cm = $630 cm^2$

Step 2. If $10^4cm^2 \rightarrow 80$ grams then $630cm^2 \rightarrow ?$ grams.

$$\text{So, } \frac{(630 \times 80)}{10^4} = 5.04 \text{ grams.}$$

Now, If 5 grams \rightarrow 1 A4 paper then 12 grams $\rightarrow ?$ papers . So, $\frac{12}{5} = 2.4$ meters.

So, nearly 2 and a half sheets of A4 paper have 1 mole of carbon atoms.

5. How big is 1 cubic volume of 1 mole of Styrofoam?

Answer:

Step 1. Required information

Styrofoam is made of Polystyrene $(C_8H_8)_n$.

Polystyrene density = $0.96\text{--}1.04 \text{ gram}/\text{cm}^3$.

Styrofoam weighs = $0.05 \text{ gram}/\text{cm}^3$

Molecular weight of Polystyrene $(C_8H_8) = 12 \times 8 + 1 \times 8$
= 104 grams/mole.

Step 2. If $0.05 \text{ grams} \rightarrow 1\text{cm}^3$ then $104 \text{ grams} \rightarrow ? \text{ cm}^3$.

$$\text{So, } \frac{104}{0.05} = 2080\text{cm}^3.$$

1 mole of Styrofoam has 2080cm^3 volume. Which is a cube of side 12.76 cm.

6. How big is a diamond of 1 mole of carbon?

Answer:

Step 1. Required information.

Molecular weight of Carbon = 12 grams/mole.

Mass of diamond $\approx 12 \text{ grams}$.

Density of diamond = $3.515 \text{ grams}/\text{cm}^3$

Step 2. 1. Volume of a diamond of mass 12 grams

$$\text{Volume} = \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{Density}}$$

$$\text{Volume} = \frac{12}{3.5} = 3.4\text{cm}^3$$

$$2. \text{ Volume of a sphere} = \frac{4}{3} \times \Pi \times r^3$$

$$\Rightarrow 3.4 \text{ cm}^3 = \frac{4}{3} \times \Pi \times r^3$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{10.2}{12.56} = r^3$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.82\text{cm}^3 = r^3$$

$$\Rightarrow r = 0.9 \text{ cm}$$

So, A diamond of 1 mole of Carbon will be as big as a sphere of diameter 1.8 cm.

7. How many moles of molecules are there in a dot of white board marker ink?

Answer:

Step 1. Required information.

A white board marker pen ink mainly contains Ethanol (C_2H_6O) or Isopropanol (C_3H_8O) .

Density of Ethanol = $0.789 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3 \approx 0.8 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$

Density of Isopropanol = $0.786 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3 \approx 0.8\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$

Considering marker pen tip = 5mm in diameter, a dot on whiteboard is a very tiny disc of thickness 0.1mm

Molecular weight of Ethanol $(C_2H_6O) = 12 \times 2 + 1 \times 6 + 16 \times 1$
= 46grams/mole.

Step 2. 1. Volume of a disk = $\Pi \times r^2 \times \text{thickness}$
 $= (3.14 \times (0.25)^2 \times 0.01) \text{cm}^3$
 $\approx 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{cm}^3$

2. Mass = Volume \times Density
 $= 2 \times 10^{-3} \times 0.8$
 $= 1.6 \times 10^{-3} \text{grams}$

3. So, if 46 grams of Ethanol \rightarrow 1 mole of Ethanol molecules then $1.6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ grams} \rightarrow$? molecules of Ethanol.

So, $\frac{(1.6 \times 10^{-3}) \times (6 \times 10^{23})}{46} \approx 2 \times 10^{19} \text{molecules.}$

So, a 5mm diameter dot of marker pen ink has 2×10^{19} molecules.

8. How many electrons does a fully charged phone battery store?

Answer:

Step 1. Required information.

1. Phone battery current rating is in Ampere-Hour(AH). Today's smart phones generally have 3AH of current rating. Which means a fully charged 3AH battery can produce 3Amp current for 1 hour or 1 Amp current for 3 hours.

2. 1 Coulomb = 1 Ampere.Second

3. 1 electron has 1.6×10^{-19} coulombs of charge.

So, 1 coulomb has $\frac{1}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 6.25 \times 10^{18}$ electrons.

Step 2. 1 Amp current is 1 coulomb of electrons per second.

So, for 1 Amp current there are 6.25×10^{18} electrons in 1 second. And $6.25 \times 10^{18} \times 3600$
 $= 2.25 \times 10^{22}$ electrons in 1 hour.

If 1 Amp-hour = 2.25×10^{22} electrons, then 3 Amp-hour \rightarrow ? electrons.

So, $\frac{(3 \times 2.25 \times 10^{22})}{1} = 6.75 \times 10^{22}$ electrons.

So, a fully charged phone battery stores $\approx 6.75 \times 10^{22}$ electrons.

9. Why we weigh lightest in the morning after the sleep? Where does this lost mass go?

Answer:

Step 1. Required information.

1. During sleep human inhales ≈ 500 ml of air per breathe. And take 16 breathes per minute. So, he inhales ≈ 7 -8 liters of air per minute.
2. Average sleep duration is 8 hours.

Step 2. 1. Per breathe intake of air is 500 ml. Out of which $\frac{1}{5}^{th}$ is Oxygen ≈ 100 ml. This inhaled Oxygen combines with carbon and becomes CO_2 which is then exhaled. This exhaled CO_2 is around $\frac{1}{5}^{th}$ of the inhaled Oxygen. Which is ≈ 20 ml.

Step 3. 1. Exhaled CO_2 carries 0.012 grams of carbon in each breathe.

If per minute 16 breathes, then in 8 hours total 7680 breathes.

So, $0.012 \text{ grams} \times 7680 \text{ breathes} \approx 92 \text{ grams}$ of mass is lost in the form of carbon during 8 hours of sleep.

Also, some mass is lost in the form of sweat. Hence we weigh lightest in the morning.

10. How many moles of ATP molecules does each cell in a human body synthesize? How many ATP molecules are required to run for 1 hour? And how many ATP molecules are required to run at a speed of 60Km/hr?

Answer:

Step 1: Required information.

Average ATPs required per day by humans ≈ 200 -300 moles. Let's consider 240 moles of ATPs a day. Which is ≈ 10 moles of ATPs per hour.

Step 2: Total number of cells in human body $\approx 4 \times 10^{12}$

$\Rightarrow 4 \times 10^{12}$ cells synthesize 240 moles of ATPs/day.

If, 4×10^{12} cells \Rightarrow produce 240 moles of ATPs/day, then 1 cell \Rightarrow ? ATPs a day?

$$\frac{240 \times 6 \times 10^{23}}{4 \times 10^{12}} = 36 \times 10^{11} \text{ ATP molecules.}$$

So, 36×10^{11} ATP molecules by each cell per day.

11. How many moles of water molecules does a human consume in a day? And in his life span?

Answer:

Step 1. Required information.

1. 1 mole of water molecules = 18 grams of water.

1 litre water = 1000 grams of water.

1 litre of water contains $\frac{1000}{18} \approx 55$ moles.

Step 2. On an average, daily water intake for humans 2 litres.

So, 2 litres \times 55 moles = 110 moles/day.

Step 3. Number of days per year = 365.

Average life span of humans = 60 years.

So, for 60 *times* 365 = 21900 days, total water consumption is 21900×110 moles $\approx 2.4 \times 10^6$ moles of water. Which is 43362 litres of water.

So, A human consumes 110 moles of water a day and 2.4 million moles in his life span.

12. For a bacteria E. coli, how big a ball of 1 mole of E. coli will be?

Answer:

Step 1: Required information.

E.coli is a cylindrical shape bacteria with a radius of $0.5\mu\text{m}$ and a length of about $2\mu\text{m}$.

Step 2: 1. Volume of single E. coli cell = $\pi \times r^2 \times \text{length}$
 $= 3.14 \times 0.5^2 \times 2$
 $\approx 1.6\mu\text{m}^3$

2. If 1 E.coli $\rightarrow 1.6\mu\text{m}^3$ of volume, then 1 mole of E.coli $\rightarrow ?$ volume.

So, $\frac{(1.6 \times (10^{-6})^3 \times 6 \times 10^{23})}{1} \approx 9.6 \times 10^5 \text{m}^3$

3. Volume of a sphere = $\frac{4}{3} \times \pi \times r^3$
 $9.6 \times 10^5 \text{m}^3 = \frac{4}{3} \times \pi \times r^3$
 $\Rightarrow r^3 \approx 62 \text{metres.}$

1 mole of E.coli will make a ball of diameter 124m.

13. How big a packed ball of E. coli will be, so that there are 1 mole of DNA base pairs?

Answer:

Step 1. Required information.

E.coli genome consists of a single molecule of DNA containing ≈ 4.7 million base pairs.

Step 2. 1. If 4.7×10^6 base pairs \rightarrow in 1 E.coli cell, then 6×10^{23} base pairs \rightarrow ? E.coli cells.

$$\frac{(6 \times 10^{23})}{(4.7 \times 10^6)} = 1.27 \times 10^{17} \text{ E.coli cells.}$$

So, $\approx 1.3 \times 10^{17}$ E.coli cells will have 1 mole of DNA base pairs.

2. Now, if 1 E.coli cell $\rightarrow 1.6 \mu m^3$ of volume, then 1.3×10^{17} E.coli cells \rightarrow ? volume.

$$\text{So, } \frac{1.3 \times 10^{17} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-18}}{1} \approx 0.2 m^3.$$

3. Volume of a sphere = $\frac{4}{3} \times \pi \times r^3$

$$0.2 m^3 = \frac{4}{3} \times \pi \times r^3$$

$$\Rightarrow r \approx 0.37 m = 37 \text{ cm.}$$

So, a packed ball of E.coli cells containing 1 mole DNA base pairs will be of size 74cm in diameter.

14. How big a ball of E. coli will be to have 1 mole of water?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. E.coli bacteria contains 70% water.

2. 1 mole of E.coli has $9.6 \times 10^5 m^3$ of volume. And 70% of $9.6 \times 10^5 m^3 \approx 6.7 \times 10^5 m^3$.

Step 2. 1. Density of water = $1000 \text{ kg}/m^3$.

If $1 m^3 \rightarrow 1000 \text{ kg}$ then $6.7 \times 10^5 m^3 \rightarrow$? kg.

$$\text{So, } \frac{6.7 \times 10^5}{1000} = 6.7 \times 10^8 \text{ kg} = 6.7 \times 10^{11} \text{ grams of water.}$$

2. Now, if 6.7×10^{11} grams $\rightarrow 6.7 \times 10^5 m^3$ volume, then 18 grams \rightarrow ? volume.

$$\text{So, } \frac{18 \times 6.7 \times 10^5}{6.7 \times 10^{11}} = 18 \times 10^{-6} m^3 = 18 \text{ cm}^3.$$

3. Volume of sphere = $\frac{4}{3} \pi \times r^3$

$$18 \text{ cm}^3 = \frac{4}{3} \pi \times r^3$$

$$\Rightarrow r = 1.65 \text{ cm}$$

So, a ball of E.coli of diameter 3cm will hold 1 mole of water.

15. How much iced water(temp = 0°C) is required to drink to lose 100 Kilo calories a day?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. Specific heat of water = 1 cal/gram.°C

Step 2. Heat = mass × specific heat × temperature change.

$$100 \text{ Kcal} = \text{mass} \times 1 \text{ cal/gram.}^\circ\text{C} \times (37-0)$$

$$10^5 \text{ cal} = \text{mass} \times 1 \text{ cal/gram.}^\circ\text{C} \times 37.$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{mass} = \frac{10^5 \text{ cal}}{1 \text{ cal/gram.}^\circ\text{C} \times 37}$$

$$\text{mass of the water} = 2702.7 \text{ grams} \approx 2.7 \text{ litres or more.}$$

So, to lose 100 Kcal a day one need to drink atleast 2.7 litres of iced water.

16. How much energy a person will lose if he sits in cold water(temp = 4°C) for 1 hour?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. Normal body temperature of a person = 37°C
2. Cold water temperature = max 21-22°C
3. Temperature of cold water from fridge = 4°C
4. Specific heat of water = 1 cal/gram.°C
5. Mass of a person = 70 Kg = 70000 grams.

Step 2. 1. Heat = mass × specific heat × temperature change.

$$= 70000 \times 1 \text{ cal/gram.}^\circ\text{C} \times (37-4)^\circ\text{C}$$

$$= 2.31 \times 10^6 \times 1$$

$$= 2310 \text{ Kcal}$$

2. For cold water of temperature 21°C,

$$\text{Heat} = 70000 \times 1 \text{ cal/gram.}^\circ\text{C} \times (37-21)^\circ\text{C}$$

$$= 1120 \text{ Kcal}$$

The speed of Google man is 1.25 metres/second.

17. What is the time required to chew a single raisin before you lose the energy?
as much as raisin gives you? **Answer.**

Step 1. Required information

1. Calorie of a single raisin = 2 kcal.
2. Mass of mouth = m = 400 grams = 0.4 kg
3. Height to which one needs to lift his mouth for chewing = h = 1 cm = 0.01 metre.

4. Acceleration due to gravity = $g = 10 \text{ metres/sec}^2$

Step 2. 1. Energy utilized in chewing (up and down) = $2 \times mgh$
 $= 2 \times 0.4 \times 10 \times 0.01$
 $= 0.08 \text{ joules}$

2. $2 \text{ kcal} = 8.36 \text{ kJoules}$.

If $0.08 \text{ joules} \rightarrow$ in 1 chewing

then $8.36 \text{ kJoules} \rightarrow$ in ? chewing?

$$\Rightarrow \frac{8.36 \times 10^3}{0.08} = 104.5 \times 10^3 \text{ chewings.}$$

3. If 1 chewing \rightarrow 1 second

then $104.5 \times 10^3 \rightarrow$? seconds

$$\Rightarrow \frac{104000}{3600} = 29 \text{ hours} = 1.2 \text{ days.}$$

Hence, to chew a single raisin before you loose the energy as much as raisin gives will require continuous chewing for 1.2 day

18. How fast a google man walks?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. Speed given in Google map = 3 Kilometres in 40 minutes

Step 2. 1. $40 \text{ minutes} = 2400 \text{ seconds}$.

2. If in $2400 \text{ seconds} \rightarrow 3000 \text{ metres}$,

then in 1 second \rightarrow ? metres.

So, in 1 second $\frac{3000 \text{ metres}}{2400 \text{ seconds}} = 1.25 \text{ metres per second.}$

The speed of Google man is 1.25 metres/second.

19. How much energy do we lose to our surroundings due to the temperature between our body and our surroundings?
1. Assuming Sun as a black body radiator, how much energy does the Sun pull out per second?
 2. How much of this energy does the Earth receive?
 3. Assuming that there is an object of human body temperature in the space, how much power does it radiate?
 4. If the radiator in part 3 above is also bathed by another black body radiator that is at room temperature, then what is the net power loss by object in part 3?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. Normal human body temperature = $37^{\circ}\text{C} = 311\text{ K}$
2. Room temperature = $27^{\circ}\text{C} = 300\text{ K}$
3. Temperature of the Sun (Photosphere) = 5800 K .
4. Stefan-Boltzmann's constant = $5.67 \times 10^{-8}\text{ watts/m}^2.\text{K}^4$
5. Radius of the Sun = $7 \times 10^8\text{ metres}$.
6. Distance between the Sun and the Earth = $1\text{ AU} = 149 \times 10^9\text{ metres}$.
7. Surface area of the Sun = $4 \times \pi \times R_{\text{sun}}^2$
 $= 8.8 \times 10^9\text{ m}^2$

Step 2. 1. Power radiated by the Sun as black body radiator = $j^* = \sigma \times T^4$.
 $= 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \times (5800)^4$.
 $j^* = 6.4 \times 10^7 \text{ watts/m}^2$.

2. Total power radiated from the surface area of the Sun = $\sigma \times T^4 \times \text{Surface area of the Sun}$
 $= \sigma \times T^4 \times 4 \times \pi \times R_{sun}^2$
 $= 6.4 \times 10^7 \text{ watts/m}^2 \times 8.8 \times 10^9 \text{ m}^2$
Total power radiated by the Sun = $3.94 \times 10^{26} \text{ watts} = 3.94 \times 10^{26} \text{ joules/sec}$

3. How much of this energy does Earth receive?

Solar irradiance = S_o = It is the power per unit area received from the Sun in the form of electromagnetic radiation.

Solar irradiance on an object at a distance D away from the Sun is found by dividing the total power emitted from the Sun by the surface area over which the Sunlight falls. that is,

$$S_o = \frac{\sigma \times T^4 \times 4 \times \pi \times R_{sun}^2}{4 \times \pi \times (D_{Sun to Earth}^2)}$$

$$= \frac{3.94 \times 10^{26} \text{ watts}}{1.9 \times 10^{12} \text{ m}^2}$$

$$= 1430 \text{ watts/m}^2$$

$$\text{Power received by the Earth from Sunlight} = S_o \times \pi \times R_{Earth}^2$$

$$= 1430 \text{ watts/m}^2 \times 3.14 \times (6371 \times 10^3)^2 \text{ m}^2$$

$$\text{Power received by the Earth from the Sunlight} = 1.9 \times 10^{17} \text{ watts.}$$

4. Assuming that there is an object of human body temperature (HBT) in the space, how much power does it radiate?

Temperature of the object = 311 K

$$j^* = \sigma \times T^4$$

$$= 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ watts/m}^2 \cdot \text{K}^4 \times (311 \text{ K})^4$$

$$j_{HBT}^* = 530.4 \text{ watts/m}^2$$

5. If the radiator in part 3 above is also bathe by another black body radiator that is at room temperature (RT), then what is the net power loss by object in part 3?

$$j^* = \sigma \times T^4$$

$$= 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ watts/m}^2 \cdot \text{K}^4 \times (300 \text{ K})^4$$

$$j_{RT}^* = 459.3 \text{ watts/m}^2$$

$$\text{6. The net radiative power loss} = Q_{1-2} = A1 \times \sigma \times ((T_1)^4 - (T_2)^4)$$

$$= 2 \text{ m}^2 \times 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ watts/m}^2 \cdot \text{K}^4 \times (311^4 - 300^4)$$

$$\text{The net radiative power loss} = 136 \text{ watts} = 136 \text{ joules/sec} \Rightarrow 11.56 \times 10^6 \text{ joules/day} = 2764.8 \text{ kcal/day}$$

7. The net radiative power loss for surrounding temperature at 0°C = 273 K. The net radiative power loss = $Q_{1-2} = A1 \times \sigma \times ((T_1)^4 - (T_2)^4)$

$$= 2 \text{ m}^2 \times 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ watts/m}^2 \cdot \text{K}^4 \times (311^4 - 273^4)$$

$$= 430 \text{ watts.}$$

$$\text{The net radiative power loss} = 430 \text{ watts} = 430 \text{ joules/sec} = 37 \times 10^6 \text{ joules/day} = 8879 \text{ kcal/day.}$$

20. How much power Singapore consumes per day?
1. Most of this energy comes from Natural-gas mainly Methane (CH_4). What is the natural energy density of methane?
 2. How many swimming pools full of LNG (Liquefied natural gas) Singapore burns a day?
 3. What is the mass of CO_2 emitted per day?
 4. The amount of CO_2 emitted per day is equivalent to how many trees?
 5. How long would it take for Singapore to get covered with trees to compensate CO_2 emitted per day?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. Density of LNG = $450 \text{ kg}/m^3$.
2. Energy density of LNG = $0.45 \text{ kg}/\text{litres} = 50 \text{ MJ}/\text{kg}$.
3. Volume of a Olympic size swimming pool = $2500 \text{ m}^3 = 2.5 \times 10^6 \text{ litres}$.
4. Daily energy consumption of energy in Singapore = $450 \times 10^{12} \text{ joules}$.
5. Specific carbon content in Natural gas = $0.75 \text{ kg}_C/\text{kg}_{fuel}$

Step 2. 1. How many swimming pools full of LNG (Liquefied natural gas) Singapore burns a day?

Energy density of LNG = 50 MJ/kg.

Daily energy consumption of energy in Singapore = 450×10^{12} joules

If 50 MJ in 1 kg then 450×10^{12} joules \rightarrow ? kg.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{450 \times 10^{12} \text{ joules} \times 1 \text{ kg}}{50 \times 10^6 \text{ joules}} = 9 \times 10^6 \text{ kg.}$$

Density of LNG = 450 kg/m^3 .

If $1 \text{ m}^3 = 450 \text{ kg}$

then $2500 \text{ m}^3 \rightarrow$? kg.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2500 \text{ m}^3 \times 450 \text{ kg}}{1 \text{ m}^3} = 1125 \times 10^3 \text{ kg}$$

Now, if $1125 \times 10^3 \text{ kg}$ in 1 swimming pool,

then $9 \times 10^6 \text{ kg}$ in \rightarrow ? swimming pools

$$\Rightarrow \frac{9 \times 10^6 \text{ kg}}{1125 \times 10^3 \text{ kg}} = 8 \text{ swimming pools.}$$

So, Singapore needs 8 Olympic size swimming pools full of LNG for the requirement of 1 day energy consumption.

2. What is the mass of CO_2 emitted per day?

To calculate the CO_2 emission from a fuel, the carbon content of the fuel must be multiplied with the ratio of molecular weight of the CO_2 to the molecular weight of C = $\frac{44}{12} = 3.7$

So, CO_2 emission from natural gas = $0.75 \times 3.7 = 2.775 \text{ kg}_C / \text{kg}_{\text{fuel}}$.

For, CO_2 emission from $9 \times 10^6 \text{ kg}$ of LNG = $2.775 \text{ kg}_C / \text{kg}_{\text{fuel}} \times 9 \times 10^6 \text{ kg} = 25.2 \times 10^6 \text{ kg}_C$

3. The amount of CO_2 emitted per day is equivalent to how many trees?

1 tree consumes 21 kg of CO_2 in 1 year.

If in 365 days, 21 kg of CO_2 then in 1 day \rightarrow ? kg of CO_2

$$\frac{21 \text{ kg}}{365} = 0.057 \text{ kg/day.}$$

If 0.057 kg by 1 tree then $25 \times 10^6 \text{ kg}$ by \rightarrow ? trees.

$$\frac{25 \times 10^6}{0.057} = 435 \text{ million trees.}$$

The amount of CO_2 emitted per day is equivalent to 435 million trees.

4. How long would it take for Singapore to get covered with trees to compensate CO_2 emitted per day?

For Mahogany trees, CO_2 density = $300 \times 10^3 \text{ kg/hectare} = 30 \times 10^6 \text{ kg/km}^2$

If $30 \times 10^6 \text{ kg}$ of CO_2 in 1 km^2
then $25 \times 10^6 \rightarrow ? \text{ km}^2$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{25 \times 10^6 \times 1 \text{ km}^2}{30 \times 10^6 \text{ kg}} = 0.83 \text{ km}^2$$

If 0.83 km^2 area of Mahogany trees are = 1 day of CO_2 emission
then $719 \text{ km}^2 \rightarrow ? \text{ days of } \text{CO}_2 \text{ emission}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{719 \text{ km}^2 \times 1 \text{ day}}{0.83 \text{ km}^2} = 862.8 \text{ days} = 2.36 \text{ years.}$$

So, Total area of Singapore will be covered in 2.36 years.

21. How many swimming pools full of AA batteries can fulfil the energy requirement of 1 day by Singapore?

How many AA batteries will need to make a layer of AA batteries over the entire area of Singapore?

Step 1. Required information

1. Dimensions of AA (Alkaline) batteries :

Length = 5 cm

Diameter = 1.5cm

weight = 30 grams

2. Maximum energy at nominal voltage and 50 mA drain = 3 watt-hour = $10.8 \times 10^3 \text{ joules}$.

Step 2. 1. Consumption of energy /day in Singapore = 450×10^{12} joules.

If 10.8×10^3 joules in 1 AA battery,
then 450×10^{12} joules \rightarrow ? AA batteries.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{450 \times 10^{12}}{10.8 \times 10^3} = 42 \times 10^9 \text{ AA batteries.}$$

So, Singapore's 1 day requirement of energy can be stored in 42 billion AA batteries.

2. 1 AA battery weighs ≈ 30 grams.
then 42 billion batteries will weigh \rightarrow ? grams.

$$\frac{42 \times 10^9 \times 30 \text{ grams}}{1} = 126 \times 10^{10} \text{ grams} = 126 \times 10^7 \text{ kg.}$$

3. Capacity of 1 Olympic size swimming pool = (Volume) = 2500 m^3 . Energy density of AA Alkaline batteries = 1.3MJ/Liter.

If 1 liter \rightarrow 1.3 MJ

then 1000 liters \rightarrow ? MJ

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1000 \times 1.3 \text{ MJ}}{1} = 1300 \text{ MJ / 1000 liters} = 1300 \text{ MJ / m}^3.$$

4. Specific energy of AA Alkaline batteries = 0.67 MJ/kg.

If 0.67 MJ per 1 kg

then 1300 MJ per ? kg

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1300 \text{ MJ} \times 1 \text{ kg}}{0.67 \text{ MJ}} = 1940 \text{ kg} \Rightarrow 1940 \text{ kg / m}^3.$$

Volume of 1 swimming pool = 2500 m^3

If 1 m^3 holds 1940 kg of AA batteries

then $2500 \text{ m}^3 \rightarrow$ holds ? kg batteries.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2500 \text{ m}^3 \times 1940 \text{ kg}}{1 \text{ m}^3} = 4.85 \times 10^6 \text{ kg.}$$

If 30 grams \rightarrow 1 AA battery,

then $4.85 \times 10^6 \text{ kg} \rightarrow$? batteries.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4.85 \times 10^9 \text{ g}}{30 \text{ g}} \approx 162 \text{ million batteries.}$$

If 162 million batteries stored in 1 swimming pool

then 42 billion batteries are stored in \rightarrow ? swimming pools .

$$\Rightarrow \frac{42 \times 10^9}{162 \times 10^6} = 259 \text{ swimming pools.}$$

5. Area of Olympic size swimming pool = 1250 m^2 .

If $1250 \text{ m}^2 = 1$ swimming pool

then $719 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2 = ?$ swimming pools.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{719 \times 10^6}{1250} = 575 \times 10^3 \text{ swimming pools.}$$

6. If 259 Swimming pools can store energy required for 1 day

then 575×10^3 swimming pools can store \rightarrow energy required for ? day's.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{575 \times 10^3}{259} = 2220 \text{ days} \approx 6 \text{ years.}$$

So, Total area of Singapore as a swimming pool full of AA batteries will hold the energy requirement of Singapore for 6 years.

7. How many AA batteries will need to make a layer of AA batteries over the entire area of Singapore?

Length of AA battery = $5 \text{ cm} = 0.05 \text{ m}$

Diameter of AA battery = $1.5 \text{ cm} = 0.015 \text{ m}$

Area of AA battery cell = Area of a cylinder = $2 \times \pi \times r \times (r + h)$

$$= 2 \times 3.14 \times 0.015 \times (0.015 + 0.05)$$

$$\text{Area of a AA battery cell} \approx 6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^2$$

If $6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^2 = 1$ AA battery

then $719 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2 \rightarrow ?$ batteries.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{719 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2}{6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^2} = 117 \text{ billion AA batteries.}$$

So, Total cover area of Singapore with a sheet, 117 billion AA batteries are required. These number of batteries can suffice the energy requirement of 3 days for Singapore.

22. 1. How much rainwater is stored in Singapore per year?
2. How many litres of water is consumed in Singapore per day? This is equal to how many swimming pools of water?
3. What is the total volume of Singapore's all the reservoirs?

Step 1. Required information

In Singapore,

1. Average number of rainy days = 178.

2. Average rainfall per year = 2400 mm/year.

3. Rainfall volume per square meters of area = $1.725 \times 10^9 \text{ m}^3 / 719 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2$.

4. Per day water demand = 430 million gallons = 1.627×10^9 litres/day. \Rightarrow approx 6×10^{11} litres/year.

Step 2. 1. How much rainwater is stored in Singapore per year? What is the total volume of Singapore's all the reservoirs?

"The average annual rainfall in Singapore = 2400 mm. About 50% of the land area is used for water catchment.

Available water based on an average of 2200 mm of annual rainfall gives $12 \times 10^8 \text{ m}^3$ of water falling over the mainland of Singapore. About half of this would be lost through evaporation and transpiration.

Rough estimates give the **total available water from existing catchment area to be about $1.6 \times 10^8 \text{ m}^3/\text{year}$.**

There are total 17 reservoirs in Singapore. The **total maximum storage capacity of these reservoirs $\approx 108 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ (= 108 billion litres).**" (Ref from the Book: 'The coastal Environmental Profile of Singapore' by Lin Sien Chia, Habibullah Khan (Ph. D.), L. M. Chou).

2. How many litres of water is consumed in Singapore per day? This is equal to how many swimming pools of water?

Water consumption in Singapore $\approx 1.6 \times 10^9$ litres/day.

Volume of an Olympic size swimming pool = $2500 \text{ m}^3 = 2.5 \times 10^6$ litres.

If 2.5×10^6 litres in 1 swimming pool
then 1.6×10^9 litres \rightarrow ? swimming pools.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1.6 \times 10^9}{2.5 \times 10^6} = 640 \text{ Swimming pools.}$$

So, Singapore needs water of 640 Swimming pools per day and 240,000 Swimming pools per year.

23. What is the energy consumption per kilometre by cars running on CNG, Petrol, Diesel and Electricity? How much CO_2 is emitted by each of these cars running on different fuels?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. Energy content of the engine fuels:

Gasoline = 9.5 kwh/litre

Diesel = 9.7 kwh/litre

CNG = 53.6 MJ/kg = 14.8 kwh/kg

Electric car = 23 kwh/100km = 8.8 kwh/litre

2. Mileage (km/litre) of cars:

Gasoline car = 20

Diesel car = 30

CNG car = 25 km/kg

Electric car = 4.3 km/kwh = 38.46 km/litre

3. CO_2 emission by different fuel cars (kg_c/kwh):

Gasoline car = 0.24

Diesel car = 0.27

CNG car = $0.0545 \text{ kg}_c/\text{scf} \rightarrow 0.197 \text{ kg}_c/\text{kwh}$

Electric car = 0.527

Step 2. 1. Gasoline car.

Goes average 20 km/litre.

Consumes 9.5 kwh/litre of energy.

Emits 240 grams/kwh $\rightarrow 2.28 \text{ kg/litre}$.

On an average, for 20,000 km of distance travelled a year,(needs 1000 litres of Gasoline) car running on Gasoline emits 2.28 tonnes of carbon dioxide in a year.

2. Diesel car.

Goes average 30 km/litre.

Consumes 9.7 kwh/litre of energy.

Emits 270 grams/kwh $\rightarrow 2.62 \text{ kg/litre}$.

On an average, for 20,000 km of distance travelled a year,(needs ≈ 670 litres of Diesel) car running on Diesel emits 1.74 tonnes of carbon dioxide in a year.

3. CNG car.

Goes average 25 km/kg.

Consumes 14.8 kwh/kg of energy.

Emits 197 grams/kwh $\rightarrow 2.9 \text{ kg}_c/\text{kg}$.

On an average, for 20,000 km of distance travelled a year,(needs ≈ 800 kg of CNG) car running on CNG emits 2.34 tonnes of carbon dioxide in a year.

4. Electric car.

Goes average 25 km/kg.

Consumes 23kwh/100km equivalent to 8.8kwh/L of energy.

Emits 527 grams/kwh $\rightarrow 4.63 \text{ kg}_c/\text{litre}$.

On an average, for 20,000 km of distance travelled a year,(needs ≈ 4600 kwh of electricity) car running on CNG emits 2.42 tonnes of carbon dioxide in a year.

CO ₂ emission					
Car type	Energy Density (kwh/L)	Car Mileage (km/L)	CO ₂ emission (kg _{CO₂})/kwh	CO ₂ emission per litre	CO ₂ emission tCO ₂ /year
Gasoline car	9.5	20	0.24	2.28	2.28
Diesel car	9.7	30	0.27	2.67	1.74
CNG car	14.8 kwh/kg	25 km/kg	0.197	2.9 kg _c /kg	2.34
Electric car	8.8	38.46	0.527	4.6	2.42

24. What is the grid emission factor (GEF) of Singapore?

Step 1. Required information

1. GEF measures average CO₂ emissions emitted per unit net electricity generated. It is calculated using the Average Operating Margin (OM) method. This is the generation-weighted average CO₂ emission per unit net electricity generation of all generating power plants serving the electricity grid.

2. There are few ways to estimate the GEF of a nation based on the data available. Here a method is used based on the available data of total fuel consumption by Singapore in a year and electricity generation of the system.

The simple operating margin emission factor is calculated based on the net electricity supplied to the grid by all power plants serving the system and based on the fuel types and total fuel consumption of the project electricity system as follows:

$$GEF_{OMsimple,y} = \frac{\sum_i (FC_{i,y} \times NCV_{i,y} \times EF_{CO_2,i,y})}{EG_y}$$

where,

1. $GEF_{OMsimple,y}$ = Simple operating margin CO₂ emission factor in year y ($tonne_{CO_2}/MWh$).

2. $FC_{i,y}$ = Amount of fossil fuel type i consumed in the project electricity system in year y (mass or volume unit).

3. $NCV_{i,y}$ = Net calorific value (energy content) of fossil fuel type i in year y (GJ/mass or GJ/volume unit).

4. $EF_{CO_2,i,y}$ = CO₂ emission factor of fossil fuel type i in year y ($tonne_{CO_2}/GJ$).

5. EG_y = Net electricity generated and delivered to the grid by all power sources serving the system (MWh).

6. i = All fossil fuel types combusted in power sources in the project electricity system in year y.

7. y = The relevant year as per the data vintage chosen.

3. Net Electricity generated and delivered to the grid = 50000 GWh = 50×10^9 kwh.

$FC_{i,y}$				
Fuel type	MPPs	APPs	Total power produced	Total fuel input used
Petroleum products	1.7×10^8 kwh	22×10^8 kwh	23×10^8 kwh	1.9×10^8 kg
Natural gas	9.4×10^{10} kwh	1.15×10^{10} kwh	10.55×10^{10} kwh	6.9×10^9 kg
Coal and Peat	2.9×10^9 kwh	-	2.9×10^9 kwh	439×10^6 kg
Others	7.9×10^9 kwh	2.31×10^8 kwh	81.31×10^8 kwh	774.3×10^6 kg

where, MPPs = Major power producers.

APPs = Auto power producers.

$NCV_{i,y}$		
Fuel type	MJ/kg	kwh/kg
Petroleum products	44	12.5
Coal	24	6.6
Natural gas	55	15.27
Others(Considering Biodiesel)	38	10.5

$EF_{CO_2,i,y}$	
Fuel type	kg_{CO_2}/kwh
Petroleum products	0.24
Coal	0.38
Natural gas	0.23

Step 2. 1. Petroleum products = $FC_{i,y} \times NCV_{i,y} \times EF_{CO_2,i,y}$
 $= 1.98 \times 10^8 \text{ kg} \times 12.5 \text{ kwh /kg} \times 0.24 \text{ kg}_{CO_2}/\text{kwh}$
 $= 5.7 \times 10^8 \text{ kg}_{CO_2}$

2. Natural gas = $FC_{i,y} \times NCV_{i,y} \times EF_{CO_2,i,y}$
 $= 6.9 \times 10^9 \text{ kg} \times 15.27 \text{ kwh /kg} \times 0.23 \text{ kg}_{CO_2}/\text{kwh}$
 $= 2.42 \times 10^{10} \text{ kg}_{CO_2}$

3. Coal = $FC_{i,y} \times NCV_{i,y} \times EF_{CO_2,i,y}$
 $= 439 \times 10^6 \text{ kg} \times 6.6 \text{ kwh /kg} \times 0.38 \text{ kg}_{CO_2}/\text{kwh}$
 $= 1.1 \times 10^9 \text{ kg}_{CO_2}$

So, $GEF_{OMsimple,y} = \frac{\sum_i (5.7 \times 10^8 \times 2.42 \times 10^{10} \times 1.1 \times 10^9)}{50 \times 10^9 \text{ kwh}}$
 $= \frac{258 \times 10^{11} \text{ grams}}{50 \times 10^{12} \text{ wh}}$
 $= 0.516 \text{ grams/wh}$

Singapore's grid emission factor is 0.516 grams/wh.

25. What is the contribution of solar power in the total energy generated in Singapore in a year?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. Total Energy generated per year in Singapore = 50 Twh.

2. There are total 900 solar PV installations across the island. This system gives 45.8 MW_{ac} of power in 1 year.

$$45.8 \text{ MW} = 45.8 \times 10^6 \times 3600 \text{ watt-hour.}$$
$$= 1.65 \times 10^{11} \text{ watt-hour} = 165 \text{ Gwh.}$$

Step 2. 1. Total power generated in a year = 50,000 Gwh.

Power generated by solar system = 165 GWh.

\Rightarrow This is about 0.33% of the total energy generated.

So, Solar energy contribute only 0.33% to the total energy generated in a year.

26. How much area of Singapore needs to be covered with solar panels in order to meet up the daily and yearly energy requirement of Singapore?

Answer.

Step 1. Required information

1. The amount of electricity a solar panel produces depends on three main things: 1. The size of the panel.

2. The conversion efficiency of the solar cells.

3. The amount of sunlight the panel receives.

2. Singapore's annual solar insolation = 1663 kwh/m^2 which is equivalent to receiving 4.55 peak Sun hours/ day.

(3. Peak Sun hours are number of hours per day when solar irradiance = 1000 w/m^2 .

4. Dimensions of Solar panel = $1.65 \text{ m} \times 1.01 \text{ m} \times 0.046 \text{ m}$.

Area of a solar panel $\approx 1.65 \text{ m}^2$.

5. Typical peak power output of a modern solar panel = 250 to 270 watts (or 250 to 270 Wp) in controlled conditions. However, when these panels are integrated into a system, the aggregate efficiency is low. Average peak power output of a system is 200 Wp/m^2 .

6. Efficiency of a solar panel from above information is $\frac{1000 \text{ w/m}^2}{250 \text{ w/m}^2} \times 100 = 25\%$.

7. Total Energy generated per year in Singapore = 50 Twh = $1.8 \times 10^{17} \text{ joules/year} \rightarrow \approx 500 \times 10^{12} \text{ joules/day}$.

Step 2. 1. A 250 watt solar panel will produce 250 wh of energy in 1 hour.
⇒ For 5 hours of Sunlight, it will produce 1.25 kwh/day.

2. If 1.25 kwh/1.65 m² then ⇒ 0.76 kwh/m² = 2.7×10^6 joules/m².

3. Singapore's energy consumption per day is 450×10^{12} joules.
If 2.7×10^6 joules in 1 m²,
then 450×10^{12} joules → ? m²

⇒ $\frac{450 \times 10^{12} \text{ joules} \times 1 \text{ m}^2}{2.7 \times 10^6 \text{ joules}} \approx 166 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2 = 166 \text{ km}^2$.
This is about 23% of the total area of Singapore.

However, as the efficiency of the solar systems is \approx 5-10% lower as compared to that of individual solar panels, the total area needed to install the solar systems to meet up the daily energy consumption of the Singapore will be 5-10% more than the above calculated area.

So, So, to meet up the daily and yearly energy requirement of Singapore, atleast 20-30% of the Singapore's total area should be covered with Solar panels.

5. Number of Solar panels required to cover 166 km² of area.
If 1.65 m² → 1 solar panel.
then $166 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2$ → ? solar panels.

⇒ $\frac{166 \times 10^6}{1.65} = 100$ million solar panels.

So, approximately 100 million solar panels are required to cover the (166 km²) of area to generate energy needed for Singapore's daily energy consumption.

6. How many number of solar panels are required to cover the entire area of Singapore? How much energy this system can produce?
If 1.65 m² → 1 solar panel.
then $719 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2$ → ? solar panels.

⇒ $\frac{719 \times 10^6}{1.65} \approx 440$ million solar panels.

If 0.76 kwh of energy is generated from 1 m²
then how much energy is generated in $719 \times 10^6 \text{ km}^2$?
⇒ $719 \times 10^6 \times 0.76 \text{ kwh} = 546 \times 10^6 \text{ kwh} = 546 \text{ Gwh/day} = \approx 2000 \times 10^{12} \text{ joules/day}$

So, if the entire area of Singapore is to be covered with solar panels, we need 440 million solar panels and this system will produce 546 Gwh of energy per day. This is 4 times the energy produced per day in Singapore by non solar systems.

27.

28. What is the contribution of solar power in the total energy consumption in Singapore in a year?