

Chapter 0.2 Discussion

Estimation, Units, Dimensional Analysis

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1. In Wagner's opera *Das Rheingold*, the goddess Freia is ransomed for a pile of gold just tall enough and wide enough to hide her from sight. Estimate the monetary value of this pile.

$$\rho_{\text{Gold}} = 19.3 \text{ g/cm}^3, \text{ Cost : } \$10/\text{g}$$

$$\text{density of pile : } 10\text{g} \times 2 \times 10^5 = 2 \times 10^6$$

$$\text{monetary value of pile : } \$2 \times 10^7$$

$$V = 200 \times 100 \times 10 \text{ cm}^3 \\ = 2 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^3$$

2. How many times does a typical person blink her eyes in a lifetime?

$$1 \text{ blink} / 10\text{s} \Rightarrow 6 \text{ blink} / 1 \text{ min} \Rightarrow 6 \times 60 / 1 \text{ hr} \Rightarrow 6 \times 60 \times 24 / 1 \text{ Day} \Rightarrow 365 \times 6 \times 60 \times 24 / 1 \text{ year}$$

Average year of the person, lifetime is 100 years, $365 \times 6 \times 60 \times 24 \times 100 \text{ s} / 100 \text{ year}$

$$\therefore 3.15 \times 10^8 \text{ times}$$

3. Given the quantities $a = 9.7 \text{ m}$, $b = 4.2 \text{ s}$, $c = 69 \text{ m/s}$, what is the value of the quantity $d = a^3 / (cb^2)$?

$$d = \frac{(9.7 \text{ m})^3}{(69 \text{ m/s})(4.2 \text{ s})^2} = \frac{912.673 \text{ m}^3}{(69 \text{ m})(17.64 \text{ s})} = \frac{912.673 \text{ m}^2}{1217.16 \text{ s}} \\ \therefore 0.75 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$$

4. At a resting pulse rate of 75 beats per minute, the human heart typically pumps about 70 mL of blood per beat. Blood has a density of 1060 kg/m^3 . Circulating all of the blood in the body through the heart takes about 1 min in a person at rest.

(a) How much blood (in L and m^3), is in the body? $5.25 \text{ L}, 5.25 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$

(b) On average, what mass of blood (in g and kg) does the heart pump each beat? $742 \times 10^{-4} \text{ kg}, 742 \times 10^{-1} \text{ g}$

$$75 \text{ beats} / 1 \text{ min}$$

$$\text{blood in body in 1 min} = 75 \times 70 = 5250 \text{ mL} \\ = 5.25 \text{ L}$$

$$\text{pumps : } 70 \text{ mL} / 1 \text{ beat}$$

$$\rho_{\text{blood}} : 1060 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$1000 \text{ L} = 1 \text{ m}^3$$

$$1 \text{ L} = 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$$

$$5.25 \text{ L} = 5.25 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$$

1 beat pumps 70 mL of blood

$$70 \text{ mL} \Rightarrow 0.7 \times 10^{-1} \text{ L} \Rightarrow 0.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3$$

$$\text{So mass : } 70 \text{ mL} \times 1060 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$: 0.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3 \times 1060 \text{ kg/m}^3 = 742 \times 10^{-4} \text{ kg}$$

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5. The acceleration of a falling object near a planet is given by the following equation: $g = GM/R^2$. If the planet's mass M is expressed in kg and the distance of the object to the planet's center R is expressed in meters, determine the units of the gravitational constant G . The acceleration g must have units of m/s^2 .

$$g = GM/R^2, \quad M \Rightarrow \text{kg}$$

$$R \Rightarrow \text{m}$$

$$\text{acceleration } g \Rightarrow m/s^2$$

$$\frac{m}{s^2} = \boxed{} \times \frac{\text{kg}}{1} \times \frac{1}{m^2}$$

$$\boxed{} = \frac{m}{s^2} \times \frac{1}{\text{kg}} \times \frac{m^2}{1} = \frac{m^3}{\text{kg} \cdot s^2}$$

$$\therefore [G] \Rightarrow \frac{m^3}{\text{kg} \cdot s^2}$$

6. The air bubble formed by an explosion underwater undergoes oscillations with time period T , which depends on pressure p , density ρ , and on the energy of the explosion E . Establish a relation between T , p , E , and ρ .

$$\therefore T \propto \frac{1}{p} \propto \rho \propto E$$

(proportional to)

$$[T] = T$$

$$[p] = \frac{ML}{T^2 L^2}$$

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

$$[E] = M \frac{L^2}{T^2}$$

$$T = k p^x \rho^y E^z$$

$$T = \left(\frac{M}{L T^2} \right)^x \left(\frac{M}{L^3} \right)^y \left(\frac{M L^2}{T^2} \right)^z$$

$$M^0 = M^{x+y+z} \rightarrow x+y+z=0$$

$$L^0 = L^{-x-3y+2z} \rightarrow -x-3y+2z=0$$

$$T^1 = T^{-2x-2z} \rightarrow -2x-2z=1$$

$$3x+3y+3z=0$$

$$-x-3y+2z=0$$

$$2x+5z=0$$

$$2x+5z=0$$

$$-2x-2z=1$$

$$3z=1$$

$$x = -\frac{5}{6}, y = \frac{1}{2}, z = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$-2x - \frac{2}{3} = 1$$

7. We wish to calculate the period T of a pendulum of length ℓ , mass m , and initial angle of displacement θ_0 , released from rest under the influence of Earth's gravitational field g . How does T depend on these quantities?



$$T = L^x m^y g^z \times \theta_0$$

$$T = L^x \times M^y \times \left(\frac{L}{T^2}\right)^z$$

$$T = L^{\frac{1}{2}} m^0 g^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times \theta_0$$

$$[T] = T$$

$$[L] = L$$

$$[m] = M$$

$$[g] = \frac{L}{T^2}$$

z has to be $-\frac{1}{2}$ to make T^1

x has to be $\frac{1}{2}$ to get rid of L

y " 0 " M

$$\therefore T \propto \sqrt{\frac{L}{g}} \times \theta_0$$

when initial angle gets larger, T will become also larger.

8. Consider a wire of length ℓ vibrating with amplitude A . It has a linear mass density μ and is under tension F_T . How does the energy E of the vibration depend on these parameters? Are all present? Is the answer completely determined or would further experiment be necessary?

$$[L] = L$$

$$[A] = L$$

$$[\mu] = \frac{M}{L}$$

$$[F_T] = \frac{ML}{T^2}$$

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

$[M, L, T]$ which is all fundamental dimensions are presented.

So the E of the vibration can be defined based on these parameters.