



Question 21. Is Avogadro's number a dimensionless quantity?

Answer: No, it has dimensions. In fact its dimensional formula is $[\text{mol}^{-1}]$.

Question 22. Can a physical quantity have dimensions but still have no units?

Answer: No, it is not possible.

Question 23. Are all constants dimensionless?

Answer: No, it is not true.

Question 24. What is $\text{N m}^{-1} \text{s}^2$ equal to?

Answer: $\text{N m}^{-1} \text{s}^2$ is nothing but SI unit of mass i.e., the kilogram.

Question 25. Express a joule in terms of fundamental units.

Answer: $[\text{Energy}] = [\text{M L}^2 \text{T}^{-2}]$,

hence $1 \text{ joule} = 1 \text{ kg} \times 1 \text{ m}^2 \times 1 \text{ s}^{-2} = 1 \text{ kg m}^2 \text{s}^{-2}$.

Question 26. What is the dimensional formula for torque?

Answer: $[\text{M L}^2 \text{T}^{-2}]$.

Question 27. Is nuclear mass density dependent on the mass number? (Given: $r = r_0 A^{1/3}$)

Answer: No, since density = Mass/Volume

$$= \frac{A}{\frac{4}{3} \pi r^3} = \frac{A}{\frac{4}{3} \pi r_0^3 A} \text{ is independent of } A.$$

Question 28. What does LASER stand for?

Answer: LASER stands for 'Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation'.

II. Short Answer Type Questions

Question 1. A body travels uniformly a distance of $(13.8 \pm 0.2) \text{ m}$ in a time $(4.0 \pm 0.3) \text{ s}$. What is the velocity of the body within error limits?

Answer:

Here, $S = (13.8 \pm 0.2) \text{ cm}; t = (4.0 \pm 0.3) \text{ s}$

$$\therefore V = \frac{13.8}{4.0} = 3.45 \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also } \frac{\Delta V}{V} &= \pm \left(\frac{\Delta S}{S} + \frac{\Delta t}{t} \right) \\ &= \pm \left(\frac{0.2}{13.8} + \frac{0.3}{4.0} \right) = \pm 0.0895 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta V = \pm 0.3 \text{ (rounding off to one place of decimal)}$$

$$V = (3.45 \pm 0.3) \text{ ms}^{-1}.$$

Question 2. What do you mean by order of magnitude? Explain.

Answer: The order of magnitude of a numerical quantity (N) is the nearest power of 10 to which its value can be written. For example,

Order of magnitude of nuclear radius $1.5 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}$ is -14.

Question 3. A laser signal is beamed towards the planet Venus from Earth and its echo is received 8.2 minutes later. Calculate the distance of Venus from the Earth at that time.

Answer:

We know that speed of laser light, $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$ Time of echo, $t = 8.2 \text{ minutes} = 8.2 \times 60 \text{ seconds}$

If distance of Venus be d , then $t = 2d/c$

$$d = \frac{1}{2}ct = \frac{1}{2} \times 3 \times 10^8 \times 8.2 \times 60 \text{ m}$$

$$= 7.38 \times 10^{10} \text{ m}$$

$$= 7.4 \times 10^{10} \text{ m.}$$

Question 4. The parallax of a heavenly body measured from two points diametrically opposite on earth's equator is 60 second. If the radius of earth is $6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$, determine the distance of the heavenly body from the centre of earth. Convert this distance in A.U. Given $1 \text{ A.U.} = 1.5 \times 10^{11} \text{ m}$.

Answer:

Given, $R = 6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$

$\therefore D = 2R = 2 \times 6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$
 $= 12.8 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$

$\theta = 60 \text{ second}$

$$= \frac{1^\circ}{60} = \frac{\pi}{180} \times \frac{1}{60} \text{ radian}$$

The distance of heavenly body from earth is given by

$$r = \frac{D}{\theta} = \frac{12.8 \times 10^6}{\frac{\pi}{180 \times 60}} \times 180 \times 60$$

$$= \frac{12.8 \times 180 \times 60 \times 10^6}{3.142}$$

$\Rightarrow r = 4.399 \times 10^{10} \text{ m}$

or, $r = \frac{4.399 \times 10^{10}}{1.5 \times 10^{11}} \text{ A.U.}$
 $= 0.293 \text{ A.U.}$

Question 5. If the length and time period of an oscillating pendulum have errors of 1% and 2% respectively, what is the error in the estimate of g ?

Answer:

We know $T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$ or $T^2 = 4\pi^2 \frac{l}{g}$

$\therefore g = 4\pi^2 \frac{l}{T^2}$

$\therefore \frac{\Delta g}{g} = \frac{\Delta l}{l} + 2 \frac{\Delta T}{T}$

% error in $g = 1\% + 2 \times 2\% = 5\%$.

Question 6. If $x = at^2 + bt + c$; where x is displacement as a function of time. Write the dimensions of a , b and c .

Answer: All the terms should have the same dimension

$$\therefore \quad [a] = \left[\frac{x}{t^2} \right] = [LT^{-2}]$$

$$[b] = \left[\frac{x}{t} \right] = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$[c] = [x] = [L]$$

Question 7. The number of particles crossing per unit area perpendicular to x-axis in unit time N is given by $N = -D(n_2 - n_1/x_2 - x_1)$, where n_1 and n_2 are the number of particles per unit volume at x_1 and x_2 respectively. Deduce the dimensional formula for D.
Answer:

$$D = -N \left(\frac{x_2 - x_1}{n_2 - n_1} \right)$$

$$[N] = \frac{N_0}{[L^2 T]} = [L^{-2} T^{-1}]$$

$$[D] = \frac{[L^{-2} T^{-1} L]}{[L^{-3}]} = [L^2 T^{-1}]$$

$$[x_2] = [x_1] = [L]$$

$$\text{and} \quad [n_2] = [n_1] = \frac{N_0}{[L^3]} = [L^{-3}]$$

Question 8. An experiment measured quantities a, b, c and then x is calculated by using the relation $ab^2x = ab^2/c^3$. If the percentage errors in measurements of a, b and c are $\pm 1\%$, $\pm 2\%$ and $\pm 1.5\%$ respectively, then calculate the maximum percentage error in value of x obtained.

Answer:

$$\text{Given} \quad x = \frac{ab^2}{c^3}$$

$$\therefore \quad \left(\frac{\Delta x}{x} \right)_{\max} = \frac{\Delta a}{a} + 2 \frac{\Delta b}{b} + 3 \frac{\Delta c}{c}$$

$$\text{But} \quad \frac{\Delta a}{a} = \pm 1\%, \quad \frac{\Delta b}{b} = \pm 2\% \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\Delta c}{c} = \pm 1.5\%$$

$$\therefore \quad \left(\frac{\Delta x}{x} \right)_{\max} = 1\% + 2 \times 2\% + 3 \times 1.5\% \\ = (1 + 4 + 4.5)\% = 9.5\%.$$

Question 9. If instead of mass, length and time as fundamental quantities, we choose velocity, acceleration and force as fundamental quantities and express their dimensions by V, A and F respectively, show that the dimensions of Young's modulus can be expressed as $[FA^2 V^{-4}]$.

Answer:

We know that the usual dimensions of Y are $[MLT^{-2}]/[L^2]$ i.e., $[M L^{-2} T^{-2}]$

To express these in terms of F , A and V , we must express, M , L and T in terms of these new 'fundamental' quantities.

Now, $[V] = [LT^{-1}]$, $[A] = [LT^{-2}]$ and $[F] = [MLT^{-2}]$

It follows that $M = FA^{-1}$, $T = VA^{-1}$, $L = V^2 A^{-1}$

$[Y] = [ML^{-1}T^{-2}]$

$= [FA^{-1}] [V^2 A^{-1}]^{-1} [VA^{-1}]^{-2}$

$= FA^2 V^{-4}$ Thus the 'new' dimensions of Young's modulus are $[FV^4 A^2]$

Question 10. The density of a cylindrical rod was measured by using the formula $\rho = 4m/\pi D^2 l$. The percentage errors in m , D and l are 1%, 1.5% and 0.5%. Calculate the percentage error in the calculated value of density.

Answer:

$$\therefore \text{Density } \rho = \frac{4m}{\pi D^2 l}$$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{\Delta \rho}{\rho} \right)_{\max} = \frac{\Delta m}{m} + 2 \frac{\Delta D}{D} + \frac{\Delta l}{l}$$

$$\text{But } \frac{\Delta m}{m} = 1\%, \quad \frac{\Delta D}{D} = 1.5\% \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\Delta l}{l} = 0.5\%$$

\therefore Maximum percentage error in calculated value of density

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\Delta \rho}{\rho} \right)_{\max} &= 1\% + 2 \times 1.5\% + 0.5\% \\ &= (1 + 3 + 0.5)\% = 4.5\%. \end{aligned}$$

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