

Part 1

## 1. Define significant figures

Number of digits reported for the values of a measured or calculated quantity

## 2. How is a number's number of significant figures different from its number of decimal places?

The significant figures can include numbers to the left of the decimal point. For example, 405.5 has one decimal places, but 4 significant figures.

## 3. Rules for zeros

Zeros are significant when

1. They are between other significant figures
2. Zeros to right of number, but after decimal point

Zeros are not significant when

1. Preceding a decimal point with no numbers to the left
2. Precede first non-zero digit and

## 4. Rules for multiplication and division

Result should have no more significant figures than the factor with the fewest significant digits

## 5. Rules for addition and subtraction

Give same number of decimal places as there are in the factor with the least number of decimal places

## 6. Rules for exact numbers

Do not factor into significant figures calculations

Part 2

1. Number	Decimal places	Significant Figures
<u>376</u>	0	3
<u>376.0</u>	1	4
<u>376908</u>	0	6
<u>3760000</u>	0	3
<u>0.376</u>	3	3
<u>0.376000</u>	6	6
<u><math>3.76 \times 10^{-6}</math></u>	2	3

2.  $(2.43)(17.675) = 43.0$

3.  $(2.479h)(60 \text{ min/h}) = 100$

4.  $1725.463 - 489.2 + 6.73 = 1243.0$

5.  $903000 + 54600 + 104470 = 1067070$

Part 3

## 1. Define Error and uncertainty

Error: Difference between measured value and true value

Uncertainty: Difference between measured value and ideally measured value.

If your model is accurate, uncertainty and error are the same thing.

## 2. One-unit rule:

When there is no uncertainty range given, it is assumed to be  $\pm 1$  of the least significant significant figure

## One-tenth rule

When using an analog measurement such as a ruler, the uncertainty is  $\pm 1$  the digit past the least significant significant digit

## 3. Define precision and accuracy

Precision is the ability to hit the same spot every time.

Accuracy is the ability to average over the correct spot.

1. How does uncertainty differ for analog and digital devices?  
 Analog devices use one tenth rule  
 Digital devices use one unit rule

### Problems:

1. Estimate measurement with one tenth rule  
 Ruler  $\rightarrow 64.4 \pm 0.1$  Cylinder  $\rightarrow 63.5 \pm 0.1$

2. Calculate and determine uncertainty:

a.  $3.2 + 6.02 = 9.2 \pm 0.1$   
 b.  $21 \times 8.5 = 120 \pm 1$   
 c.  $(3.5 - 1.005) / 55.6 = 0.045 \pm 0.1$

3. Error Propagation

- a. Determine  $R = A + B$  where  $A = 4.5 \pm 0.3m$  and  $B = 3.7 \pm 0.2m$

$R = 8.2$   $U_R = 0.5$

$R = 8.2 \pm 0.5m$

- b. Determine  $R = A \times B$  where  $A = 2.0 \pm 0.3m$  and  $B = 3.0 \pm 0.2m$

$R = 6.0$   $U_R = 0.5$

$R = 6.0 \pm 0.5m$

- c.  $R = A \times B - C$  where  $A = 3.0 \pm 0.2$   $B = 4.0 \pm 0.2$   $C = 9.15 \pm 0.08$

$R = 3 \pm 0.9$

4. Calculate mean and standard deviation

Trial Measurement

1	11.7	$11.7 + 10.7 + 11.0 + 11.4 + 11.9 + 10.8 + 11.1 + 11.1 + 10.5 + 10.8 + 11.1 + 10.5 + 10.8 + 10.1$
2	10.7	10
3	11.0	$\boxed{= 11} \rightarrow \text{mean}$
4	11.4	$\text{Std dev} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{(n-1)}}$
5	11.9	
6	10.8	$\sqrt{\frac{(1.7)^2 + (-0.3)^2 + (-0.7)^2 + (-0.4)^2 + (-0.9)^2 + (-0.2)^2 + (-0.1)^2 + (-0.5)^2 + (-0.2)^2 + (-0.9)^2}{(n-1)}}$
7	11.1	
8	10.5	$\sqrt{\frac{.49 + .09 + 0 + 0.16 + 0.81 + .04 + .01 + .25 + .01 + .81}{9}}$
9	10.8	
10	10.1	$\boxed{= 0.6} \rightarrow \text{Std dev}$