

# Units And Measurements

## Physical Quantity

- Quantities which can be measured by an instrument and used to describe Laws of Physics are Physical quantities
- Physical quantity = Numerical value (N) × Unit (U)

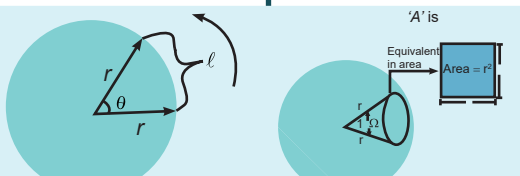
Numerical Value  
Unit

## TYPES

Fundamental quantities do not depend upon other quantities:

- (1) Length
- (2) Mass
- (3) Time
- (4) Temperature
- (5) Amount of Substance
- (6) Electric current
- (7) Luminous Intensity

- Derived quantities are formed by combining more than one fundamental physical quantities
- Area, Volume, velocity and acceleration are some derived quantities



Two supplementary SI units are:-

- (1) Radian (Plane angle)  
 $Q = \frac{\text{arc}}{\text{radius}}$
- (2) Steradian (Solid angle).  
 $\Omega = \frac{\text{arc}}{(\text{radius})^2}$

## UNITS

- (1) Unit is defined as the reference standard used for measurements.
- (2) Measurements consists of a numerical value along with a relevant unit.
- (3) Example: meter, Newton, Joule, Seconds etc.

MKS (m, kg, s) CGS (m, gm, s) FPS (ft, pound, s)

### S.I Units

- The system of units accepted internationally
- S.I units of time is 'Sec' is the example of S.I system

## Dimensional Analysis

Dimension formula is the expression for the unit of a physical quantity in terms of the fundamental quantities

Dimensional formula is expressed in terms of power of M, L and T.

### PRINCIPLE OF HOMOGENEITY

Principle of homogeneity states that the dimension of each term on both sides of dimensional equation should be same.

### Primary or fundamental Dimensional Formula

There are seven fundamental dimensional formulas:  
(1) Mass = [M], (2) Length = [L], (3) Time = [T], (4) Temperature = [K] or [Q], (5) Electric current = [I], (6) Luminous intensity = [cd], (7) amount of matter = [mol]

### Secondary or derived dimensional Formula

- Other than fundamental formula all other are derived dimensional formula
- example: (1) (Speed) = [M<sup>0</sup>L<sup>1</sup>T<sup>-1</sup>], (2) (Acceleration) = [M<sup>0</sup>L<sup>1</sup>T<sup>-2</sup>]

All non-zero digits are significant  
4.125 - 4 Sf;  
123 - 3 Sf

Leading zeroes i.e. are never significant placed to the left of the number  
0.0403 - 3 Sf;  
0.04030 - 4 Sf

10.9 - 3 Sf;  
400.001 - 4 Sf

All zero lie in between the non-zero digits are significant

Order of magnitude is not considered  
38.3 × 10<sup>4</sup> - 3 Sf;  
38.30 × 10<sup>-9</sup> - 4 Sf

Constants and pure numbers have infinite significant figures:

### SOME OTHER UNITS

- (1) mass:- 1 quintal = 100 kg, 1 ton = 1000 kg
- (2) length:- 1 light year = 9.46 × 10<sup>15</sup> m, 1 au = 1.496 × 10<sup>11</sup> m
- (3) Temperature: 0° C = 273 K, 10° F = 255.928 K

## ORDER OF MAGNITUDE

It is defined as the power of 10 which is closest to its magnitude

$N = N \times 10^x$ ; x = order of magnitude.

coefficient      exponent  
6.022 × 10<sup>23</sup>  
base

## RULE OF ROUNDING OFF

- Rules of Rounding off the uncertain digits (up to 3 significant figures)

If digit > 5 then, preceding digit +1

If digit < 5 then, preceding digit remain same

- If insignificant digit = 5:
- Preceding digit remain same when rounded off digit is even.
  - Preceding digit +1 when rounded off digit is odd

## ACCURACY

Accuracy is degree of closeness of measured value to the true value: Shows that how closely the results with the standard value.

## PRECISION

Precision is the range of variation of true value during several observation

## ERRORS

The uncertainty in measurement is called errors  
- Error = true value - measured value

## TYPES OF ERROR

Absolute Error, = true value - measured value

## Mean absolute errors

$$\Delta\alpha_{\text{mean}} = \frac{|\Delta\alpha_1| + |\Delta\alpha_2| + \dots + |\Delta\alpha_n|}{n}$$

## Relative error

$$\frac{\Delta\alpha_{\text{mean}}}{\alpha_{\text{mean}}}$$

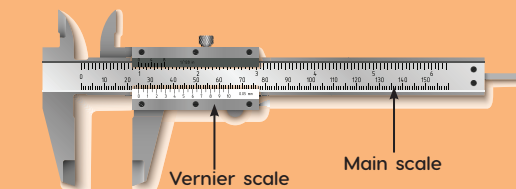
## Percentage error.

is difference the measured value and the true value as a percentage of true value  
Percentage error

$$\frac{\Delta\alpha_{\text{mean}}}{\alpha_{\text{mean}}} \times 100$$

## VERNIER CALLIPERS

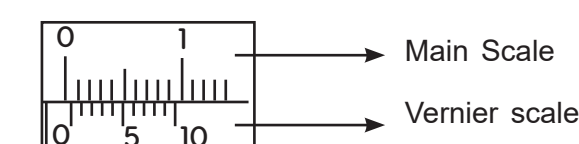
Least Count (L.C) = 1 MSD - 1 VSD; MSD = main scale division; VSD = Vernier scale division



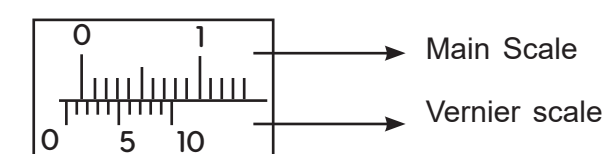
Total reading = Main Scale Reading + (Vernier Coincidence × Least Count)

Zero error = N × L.C;  
N = No. of coinciding division;  
L.C = Least count of an instrument.

### POSITIVE ZERO ERROR



### NEGATIVE ZERO ERROR

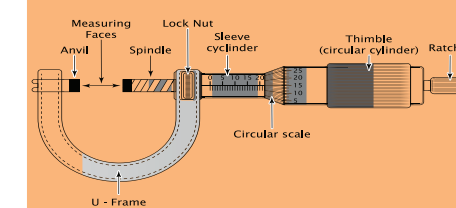


## Pitch =

displacement of screw / no. of rotations

## L.C. =

Pitch / total no. of divisions

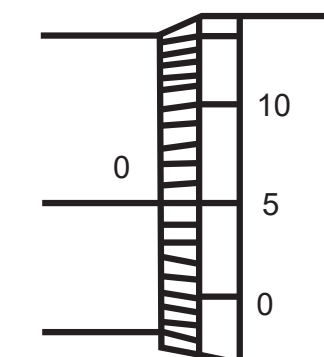


Zero error = N × L.C

N = No. of circular scale division that coincides with the reference line

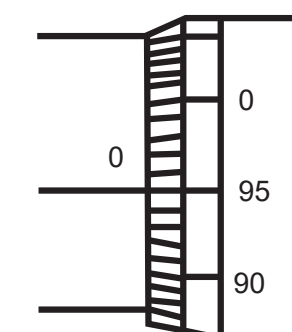
L.C = Least Count

### POSITIVE ZERO ERROR



Positive Zero Error

### NEGATIVE ZERO ERROR



Negative Zero Error