

Information Handout – Constants, Conversion Factors, Equations, and Other Data

Save this handout to use when you are working homework problems. You will receive an updated handout with each exam.

Physical Constants:

$$N_A = 6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1} \quad (\text{i.e. } 1 \text{ mol} = 6.022 \times 10^{23})$$

$$g \text{ (gravitational constant)} = 9.807 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$$

$$c \text{ (speed of light)} = 2.998 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$R = 0.08206 \text{ (L}\cdot\text{atm)/(K}\cdot\text{mol)} = 8.314 \text{ J/(K}\cdot\text{mol)}$$

Water:

$$\text{specific heat of water} = 4.184 \text{ J/(g}\cdot\text{K)}$$

$$\text{density of water} = 1.0 \text{ g/mL}$$

Abbreviations and Prefixes:

amu atomic mass unit

lb pound

mi mile

in inch

ft foot

yd yard

min minute

hr hour

yr year

Prefix	Symbol	Factor	Example
femto	f	10^{-15}	1 femtosecond (fs) = 1×10^{-15} s (0.000000000000001 s)
pico	p	10^{-12}	1 picometer (pm) = 1×10^{-12} m (0.000000000001 m)
nano	n	10^{-9}	4 nanograms (ng) = 4×10^{-9} g (0.000000004 g)
micro	μ	10^{-6}	1 microliter (μ L) = 1×10^{-6} L (0.000001 L)
milli	m	10^{-3}	2 millimoles (mmol) = 2×10^{-3} mol (0.002 mol)
centi	c	10^{-2}	7 centimeters (cm) = 7×10^{-2} m (0.07 m)
deci	d	10^{-1}	1 deciliter (dL) = 1×10^{-1} L (0.1 L)
kilo	k	10^3	1 kilometer (km) = 1×10^3 m (1000 m)
mega	M	10^6	3 megahertz (MHz) = 3×10^6 Hz (3,000,000 Hz)
giga	G	10^9	8 gigayears (Gyr) = 8×10^9 yr (8,000,000,000 Gyr)
tera	T	10^{12}	5 terawatts (TW) = 5×10^{12} W (5,000,000,000,000 W)

Conversion Factors:

mass

$$1 \text{ lb} = 453.6 \text{ g}$$

$$1 \text{ amu} = 1.66 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g}$$

$$1 \text{ ton} = 2000 \text{ lb}$$

length

$$1 \text{ inch} = 2.54 \text{ cm (exact)}$$

$$1 \text{ yard} = 3 \text{ feet}$$

$$1 \text{ foot} = 12 \text{ inches}$$

$$1 \text{ mile} = 1.609 \text{ km}$$

volume

$$1 \text{ cm}^3 = 1 \text{ mL}$$

$$1 \text{ cup} = 8 \text{ ounces}$$

$$1 \text{ quart} = 2 \text{ pints}$$

$$1 \text{ gallon} = 3.785 \text{ L}$$

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

$$1 \text{ pint} = 2 \text{ cups}$$

$$1 \text{ gallon} = 4 \text{ quarts} = 8 \text{ pints} = 16 \text{ cups}$$

$$1 \text{ cubic foot} = 28.3168 \text{ L}$$

time

$$1 \text{ minute} = 60 \text{ seconds}$$

$$1 \text{ day} = 24 \text{ hours}$$

$$1 \text{ hour} = 60 \text{ minutes}$$

$$1 \text{ year} = 365.25 \text{ days}$$

pressure

$$760 \text{ mm Hg} = 760 \text{ torr} = 1 \text{ atm} = 1.01325 \text{ bar} = 101,325 \text{ Pa} = 101.325 \text{ kPa} = 14.73 \text{ psi absolute}$$

energy

1 cal = 4.184 J (exact)

1 L·atm = 101.3 J

1 food Calorie = 1000 cal = 1 kcal

Selected Formulas and Equations:**unit definitions**

1 N = 1 kg m s⁻¹

1 J = 1 kg m² s⁻²

1 Pa = 1 N m⁻² = 1 kg m⁻¹ s⁻²

1 C · 1 V = 1 J

temperature conversions

T (in °F) = $\frac{9}{5}$ T (in °C) + 32

T (in °C) = $\frac{5}{9}$ [T (in °F) – 32]

T (in K) = T (in °C) + 273.15

equations for volume

$V_{\text{sphere}} = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$

$V_{\text{cube}} = s^3$

$V_{\text{cylinder}} = \pi r^2 h$

$V_{\text{box}} = lwh$

$V_{\text{cone}} = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$

math equations

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

y = mx + b

Statistics:

$$E_y = \sqrt{\sum_i E_{x_i}^2}$$

$$s_y = \sqrt{\sum_i s_{x_i}^2}$$

$$E_{r,y} = \sqrt{\sum_i (E_{r,x_i})^2}$$

$$\frac{s_y}{y} = \sqrt{\sum_i \left(\frac{s_i}{x_i}\right)^2}$$

(see table on next page for alternate versions of the above equations in terms of standard deviation)

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum_i x_i}{N}$$

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{N - 1}}$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_i (x_i - \mu)^2}{N}}$$

CL for $\mu = \bar{x} \pm \frac{ts}{\sqrt{N}}$

$$t_{\text{calculated}} = \frac{|\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2|}{S_{\text{pooled}} \sqrt{\frac{N_1 + N_2}{N_1 N_2}}}$$

$$S_{\text{pooled}} = \sqrt{\frac{s_1^2(N_1 - 1) + s_2^2(N_2 - 1)}{N_1 + N_2 - 2}}$$

$$S_{\text{pooled}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x}_1)^2 + \sum_j (x_j - \bar{x}_2)^2 + \sum_k (x_k - \bar{x}_3)^2 + \dots}{N_1 + N_2 + N_3 + \dots - N_t}}$$

$$s_d = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (d_i - \bar{d})^2}{N-1}}$$

$$t_{\text{calculated}} = \frac{|\bar{d}|}{s_d} \sqrt{N}$$

$$Q_{\text{calculated}} = \frac{\text{gap}}{\text{range}}$$

Ionic Strength and Activity:

$$\mu = \frac{1}{2} (c_1 z_1^2 + c_2 z_2^2 + \dots) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i c_i z_i^2$$

$$A_c = [C] \gamma_c \quad \log \gamma = \frac{-0.51 z^2 \sqrt{\mu}}{1 + \alpha B \sqrt{\mu}}$$

Acid-Base Chemistry:

$$K_w = [\text{H}^+][\text{OH}^-] = 1.0 \times 10^{-14}$$

$$\text{pH} = -\log[\text{H}^+]$$

$$\text{pOH} = -\log[\text{OH}^-]$$

$$\text{pH} + \text{pOH} = 14.00$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = \frac{-K_a \pm \sqrt{K_a^2 - 4K_a c_{\text{HA}}}}{2}$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{K_a c_{\text{HA}}}$$

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log \frac{[\text{base}]}{[\text{acid}]}$$

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log \frac{[\text{A}^-]}{[\text{HA}]}$$

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log \frac{[\text{B}]}{[\text{BH}^+]}$$

$$[\text{H}^+]^3 + K_a [\text{H}^+]^2 - \{K_a [\text{HA}]_F + K_w\} [\text{H}^+] - K_a K_w = 0$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{\frac{K_{a,2} c_{\text{HA}^-} + K_w}{1 + \frac{c_{\text{HA}^-}}{K_{a,1}}}}$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = \sqrt{K_{a,1} K_{a,2}}$$