



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



King Saud University
College of Science
Physics & Astronomy Dept.



PHYS 103 (GENERAL PHYSICS)

CHAPTER 1: DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS

LECTURE NO. 1

THIS PRESENTATION HAS BEEN PREPARED BY: **DR. NASSR S. ALZAYED**

How to run this presentation?



Please use your mouse (just click on any place)



Or use keyboard arrows



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Welcome to 103 Physics

- ❑ Importance of the course
- ❑ Directions on how to get maximum benefit of the course
- ❑ Talk about attendance, participation and office hours
- ❑ Short information about the LMS and how to make it effective and useful.
- ❑ Little about the textbook and online resources.
- ❑ Solving Problems Tips.



1.1 Standards of Length, Mass, and Time

- ❑ In mechanics, there are three basic quantities: *length*, *mass*, and *time*
- ❑ All other quantities in mechanics can be expressed in terms of these three.
- ❑ In 1960, an international committee established a set of standards for the fundamental quantities of science. It is called the SI (Système International)
- ❑ *In the SI: Units of length: meter*
Units of mass : kilogram
Units of time : second



1.1 Standards of Length, Mass, and Time

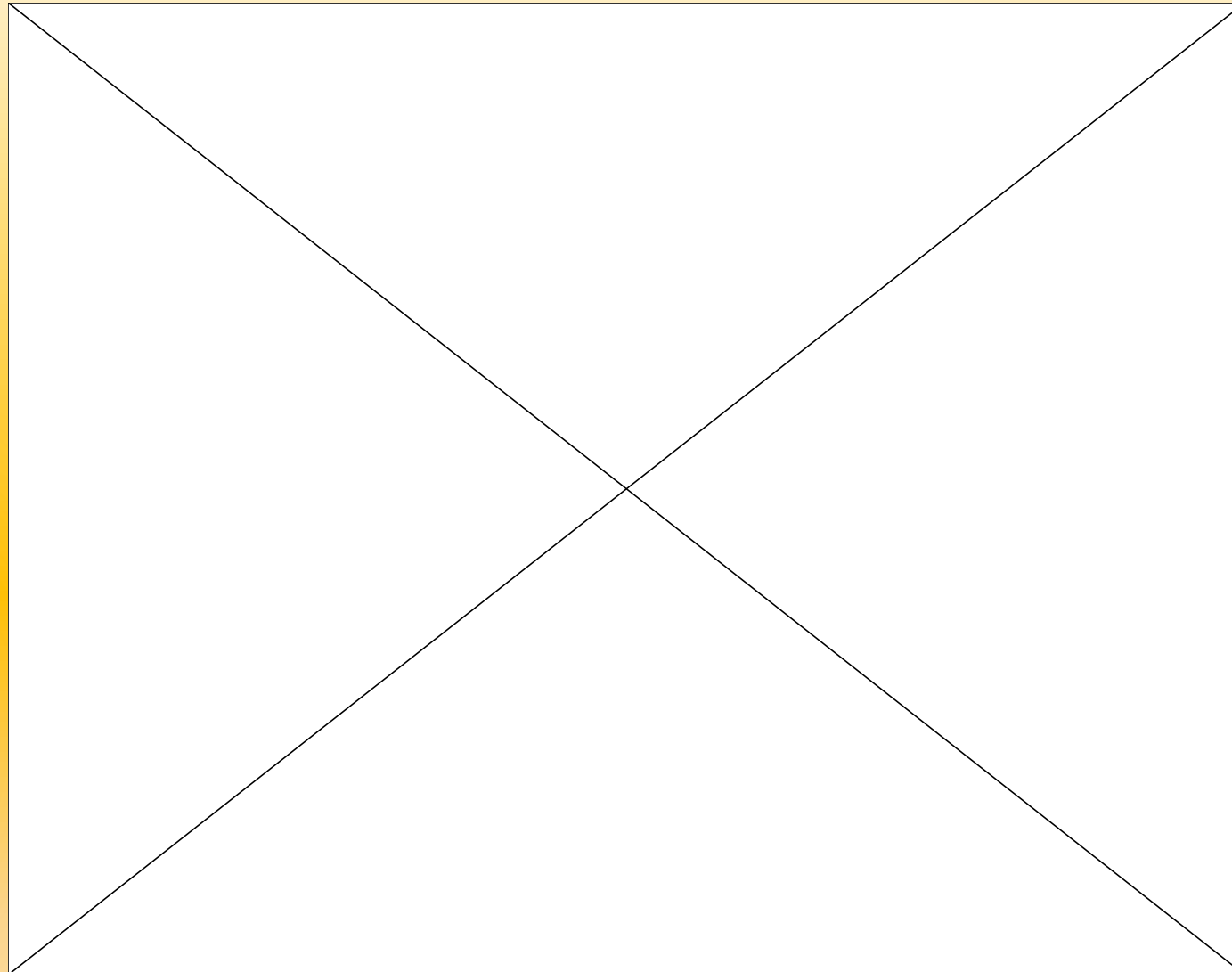
- ❑ **Length:** SI Unit of length is: meter (m).
- ❑ **Mass:** SI Unit of mass is: kilogram (kg)
- ❑ **Time:** SI Unit of time is: second (s)

- ❑ In many situations, you may have to derive or check a specific equation. A useful and powerful procedure called *dimensional analysis* can be used to assist in the derivation or to check your final expression.
- ❑ As a simple method: Left Hand Side must = Right Hand Side



1.1 Standards of Length, Mass, and Time: Movie

*Please Click by
mouse on the
movie to play
Then Wait*



1.4 Dimensional Analysis

- ❑ **Dimension:** it denotes the physical nature of a quantity
- ❑ **Example:** distance: could be in meters, yards, or micrometers.
But overall it is: a length
- ❑ **Symbols we are going to use are:**
 - ▶ dimension of length: **[L]**
 - ▶ dimension of mass: **[M]**
 - ▶ dimension of time: **[T]**

Units of Area, Volume, Velocity, Speed, and Acceleration				
System	Area (L ²)	Volume (L ³)	Speed (L/T)	Acceleration (L/T ²)
SI	m ²	m ³	m/s	m/s ²
U.S. customary	ft ²	ft ³	ft/s	ft/s ²



1.4 Dimensional Analysis

- *Example:* Use dimensional analysis to check the equation:
 $x = \frac{1}{2}at^2$

Solution:

$$L = \frac{L}{T^2} \cdot T^2 = L$$

- *Example:* Show that $v=at$ is dimensionally correct.
- *Solution:*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{L.H.S.} &: [v] = \frac{L}{T} \\ \text{R.H.S.} &: [at] = \frac{L}{T^2} T = \frac{L}{T} \\ \therefore \text{L.H.S} &= \text{R.H.S} \end{aligned}$$

- *Hence the equation is dimensionally correct*



1.4 Dimensional Analysis (Quiz)

My Quiz

Question 4 of 16 Point Value: 20 / Total Points: 10 out of 160

Match the following items:

Item 1 Item 5


Item 2 Item 6

Item 3 Item 7

Item 4 Item 8

Answer Finish



Click the  **Quiz** button on iSpring Pro toolbar to edit your

1.5 Conversion of Units

- ▶ Sometimes it is necessary to convert units from one *measurement* system to *another*, or to convert *within* a system, for example, from kilometers to meters.
- ▶ Please visit [this page](#) for comprehensive list
- ▶ Examples:
 - ▶ 1 mile = 1 609 m = 1.609 km
 - ▶ 1 ft = 0.304 8 m = 30.48 cm
 - ▶ 1 m = 39.37 in. = 3.281 ft
 - ▶ 1 in. = 0.025 4 m = 2.54 cm (exactly)



1.5 Conversion of Units (Quiz)

My Quiz

Question 4 of 16 Point Value: 20 / Total Points: 10 out of 160

Match the following items:

Item 1 Item 5


Item 2 Item 6

Item 3 Item 7

Item 4 Item 8

Answer Finish



Click the  Quiz button on iSpring Pro toolbar to edit your

Lecture Summary

- ▶ The three fundamental physical quantities of mechanics are length, mass, and time, which in the SI system have the units meters (m), kilograms (kg), and seconds (s), respectively.
- ▶ The method of dimensional analysis is very powerful in solving physics problems.
- ▶ Dimensions can be treated as algebraic quantities. By making estimates and performing order-of-magnitude calculations, you should be able to approximate the answer to a problem when there is not enough information available to completely specify an exact solution.





Please read the attachment