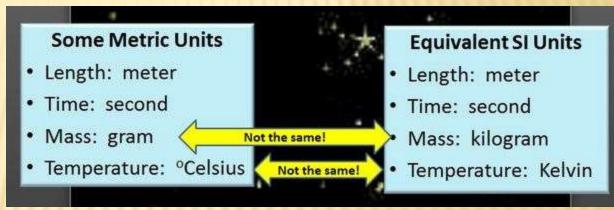


#### THE SI SYSTEM AND UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

Prepared by: Ahmed M. El-Sherbeeny, PhD - Fall 2025

### **MEASUREMENT**

- In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, scientists used the metric system
- The metric system is a precursor to the SI System



Scientists all over the world use a single measurement system called Le Systeme International d'unités, abbreviated SI

### SI SYSTEM OF MEASUREMENT

- \* This system was presented in 1960 by a General Conference of Weights and Measures
- \* SI has both base units and derived units





### SI SYSTEM OF MEASUREMENT (CONT.)

- × SI system:
  - + based on meter-kilogram-second system (m k s)
  - + replaces both the foot-pound-second system (f p s) and centimeter-gram-second system (cgs)
- There are seven SI base units: meter, kilogram, second,

System	Length	Mass	Time
F.P.S.	foot	pound	second
C.G.S.	centimetre	gram	second
M.K.S.	metre	kilogram	second

mole, ampere, Kelvin and candela

## SI BASE UNITS

\* The most common base units include:

Quantity	Quantity Symbol	Unit name	Unit abbreviation
Length	l	meter	m
Mass	т	kilogram	kg
Time	t	second	S
Temperature	T	Kelvin	K

### UNITS IN THE SI SYSTEM

In the metric and SI systems, one unit is used for each type of measurement:

Measurement	Metric	SI
Length	meter (m)	meter (m)
Volume	liter (L)	cubic meter (m <sup>3</sup> )
Mass	gram (g)	kilogram (kg)
Time	second (s)	second (s)
Temperature	Celsius (°C)	Kelvin (K)

## UNITS IN THE SI SYSTEM (CONT.)

# BASE QUANTITIES AND THEIR SYMBOLS IN THE SI SYSTEM

Quantity	Unit name	Symbol
Length	meter	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	S
Temperature	kelvin	K
Electric current	ampere	A
Luminous intensity	candela	cd
Amount of substance	mole	mol

## SI PREFIXES

- SI Units system includes a set of prefixes
- Use of a prefix makes a unit larger or smaller
- Ranges of SI unit prefixes are listed in the tables 1 and 2

## TABLE 1

Prefix	Symbol	Function	Divided by
deci	d	10-1	10
centi	С	10-2	100
milli	m	10-3	1000
micro	μ	10-6	1,000,000
nano	n	10-9	1,000,000,000
pico	p	10-12	1,000,000,000
femto	f	10-15	1,000,000,000,000

# TABLE 2

Prefix	Symbol	Function	Multiply by
deca	da	$10^{1}$	10
hector	h	$10^{2}$	100
kilo	k	$10^{3}$	1000
mega	M	$10^{6}$	1,000,000
Giga	G	109	1,000,000,000
tera	Т	$10^{12}$	1,000,000,000
peta	P	10 <sup>15</sup>	1,000,000,000,000

The Metric System Prefixes				
Prefix	Symbol	Decimal Value	Scientific	Colloquial
quecto	q	0.000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 001	10 <sup>-30</sup>	nonillionth
ronto	r	0.000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 001	10 <sup>-27</sup>	octillionth
yocto	у	0.000 000 000 000 000 000 001	10 <sup>-24</sup>	septillionth
zepto	z	0.000 000 000 000 000 001	10 <sup>-21</sup>	sextillionth
atto	а	0.000 000 000 000 001	10 <sup>-18</sup>	quintillionth
femto	f	0.000 000 000 001	10 <sup>-15</sup>	quadrillionth
pico	р	0.000 000 001	10 <sup>-12</sup>	trillionth
nano	n	0.000 000 001	10-9	billionth
micro	μ	0.000 001	10 <sup>-6</sup>	millionth
milli	m	0.001	10 <sup>-3</sup>	thousandth
centi	С	0.01	10-2	hundredth
deci	d	0.1	10 <sup>-1</sup>	tenth
-	=:	1	10º	one
deka	da	10	10¹	ten
hecto	h	100	10 <sup>2</sup>	hundred
kilo	k	1 000	10 <sup>3</sup>	thousand
mega	M	1 000 000	10 <sup>6</sup>	million
giga	G	1 000 000 000	10 <sup>9</sup>	billion
tera	Т	1 000 000 000 000	10 <sup>12</sup>	trillion
peta	Р	1 000 000 000 000 000	10 <sup>15</sup>	quadrillion
exa	E Z	1 000 000 000 000 000 000	10 <sup>18</sup>	quintillion
zetta	Z	1 000 000 000 000 000 000	10 <sup>21</sup>	sextillion
yotta	Y	1 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	1024	septillion
ronna	R	1 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	10 <sup>27</sup>	octillion
quetta	Q	1 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	1030	nonillion

## MEASUREMENT SYSTEM COMPARISONS

MEASUREMENT	ENGLISH (US)	SI SYSTEM
LENGTH	Foot / Inch	Meter
MASS	Ounce / Pound	Kilogram
VOLUME	Quart	Cubic meter
TEMPERATURE	Fahrenheit	Kelvin
TIME	Second	Second

### **TEMPERATURE**

- The standard unit of measurement for temperature is Kelvins (K)
- Temperature can also be measured in degrees Celsius (°C) and degrees Fahrenheit (°F)
- ★ To convert degrees Celsius (°C) to degrees Fahrenheit (°F) multiply by 1.8 and then add 32. To convert degrees Fahrenheit to degrees Celsius, subtract 32 and then divide by 1.8
- $\times$  K=  $^{\circ}$ C + 273

### **DERIVED UNITS**

- Derived units are combinations of base units
- They are produced by multiplying or dividing standard units

Quantity	Quantity symbol	Unit	Unit abbreviation
Area	Α	square meter	m <sup>2</sup>
Volume	V	cubic meter	m <sup>3</sup>
Density	D	kilograms per cubic meter	kg/m³

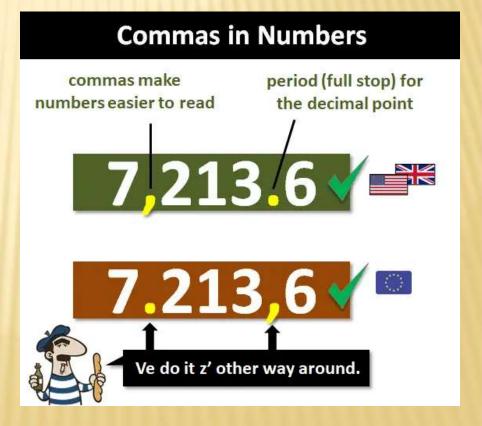
MANAGEMENT CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	TABLE 3 UNIT CON	VERSION FACTO	ORS	
CONVERSIONS	Quantity	To convert from	То	Multiply by
COMPRESIONS	Length	mi yd ft ft	km m m	1.609 344* 0.9144* 0.304 8* 304.8*
	Area	in. mi <sup>2</sup> acre acre ft <sup>2</sup>	mm km² m² ha** m²	25.4* 2.590 00* 4 046.87 0.404 687 0.092 903 04*
	Volume	in. <sup>2</sup> yd <sup>3</sup> ft <sup>3</sup> 100 board feet gal	mm <sup>2</sup> m <sup>3</sup> m <sup>3</sup> m <sup>3</sup> L	645.16* 0.764 555 0.028 3168 0.235 974 3.785 41
	Velocity Rate of fluid flow, infiltration	in. <sup>3</sup> in. <sup>3</sup> ft/s ft <sup>3</sup> /s gal/h	cm <sup>3</sup> mm <sup>3</sup> m/s m <sup>3</sup> /s mL/s	16.387 064 16 387.064 0.3048 0.028 3168 1.051 50
	Acceleration Mass Mass per unit area Mass density	ft/s <sup>2</sup> lb psf pcf	m/s <sup>2</sup> kg kg/m <sup>2</sup> kg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.3048 0.453 59 4.882 43 16.018 5
	Force Force per unit length Pressure, stress	plf psf psi in. of mercury	N N/m Pa kPa kPa	4.448 22 14.593 9 47.880 26 6.894 76 3.386 38
		(in. Hg) in. of Hg (in. Hg) atm***	psf kPa	70.72 101.325

### **CONVERSIONS (CONT.)**

Temperature	°F	°C	5/[9(°F – 32)]
9	°F	K	(°F + 459.7)/1.8
Quantity of heat	Btu	J	1055.056
Power	ton (refrigeration)	kW	3.517
	Btu/h	W	0.293 07
	hp	W	745.7
	Btu/(h-ft <sup>2</sup> )	W/m <sup>2</sup>	3.154 59
Thermal conductivity	Btu-in/(ft <sup>2</sup> -h-°F)	$W/(m \cdot {}^{\circ}C)$	0.144 2
Thermal conductance, or			
thermal transmittace, U	Btu/(ft <sup>2</sup> -h-°F)	$W/(m^2 \cdot {}^{\circ}C)$	5.678 263
Thermal resistance	(ft <sup>2</sup> -h-°F)/Btu	(m <sup>2</sup> ·°C)/W	0.176 110
Thermal capacity	Btu/(ft <sup>2</sup> -°F)	kJ/(m <sup>2</sup> ·°C)	20.44
Specific heat	Btu/(lb-°F)	J/(kg·°C)	4.186 8
Vapor permeability	perm-in	ng/(Pa·m·s)	1.459 29
Vapor permeance	perm	ng/(Pa·m <sup>2</sup> ·s)	57.213 5
Angle	degree	radian	0.017 453

### DECIMAL AND THOUSANDS SEPARATORS

- With UK and US are 2 places that use the period (.) to indicate decimal place
  - Other countries use a comma instead (,)
  - Decimal separator aka "radix character"



### DECIMAL AND THOUSANDS SEPARATORS

- Using comma to separate groups of thousands
  - Used in U.K. and U.S.
  - Many other countries use a period instead
  - Some countries separate thousands groups with a thin space
  - See next slide for some commonly used numeric formats

10,000,00 10,000,00 10,000.00

## DECIMAL AND THOUSANDS SEPARATORS

Region	Large Number
Canadian (English and French)	4 294 967 295,000
Danish	4 294 967 295,000
Finnish	4 294 967 295,000
French	4 294 967 295,000
German	4 294 967.295,000
Italian	4.294.967.295,000
Norwegian	4.294.967.295,000
Spanish	4.294.967.295,000
Swedish	4 294 967 295,000
UK-English	4,294,967,295.00
US-English	4,294,967,295.00