

1.6 SI Units

International System of units (*metric system*)

French *le Système International d'Unités*

TABLE 1.1

SI Base Units

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

TABLE 1.2

Selected SI Prefixes

Prefix	Multiple	Symbol
mega	10^6	M
kilo	10^3	k
deci	10^{-1}	d
centi	10^{-2}	c
milli	10^{-3}	m
micro	10^{-6}	μ^*
nano	10^{-9}	n
pico	10^{-12}	p

*Greek letter mu, pronounced "mew."

In this chapter, we will discuss four base quantities: length, mass, time, and temperature.

(Q) The SI unit of length is:

- A. millimeter
- B. meter
- C. yard
- D. centimeter
- E. foot

Examples:

$$2.54 \text{ cm} = 2.54 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ mL} = 10^{-3} \text{ L}$$

$$1 \text{ km} = 1000 \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ ng} = 10^{-9} \text{ g}$$

$$1,130,000 \text{ m} = 1.13 \times 10^6 \text{ m} = \mathbf{1.13 \text{ Mm}}$$

TABLE 1.5

SI Prefixes—Their Meanings and Values^a

Prefix	Meaning	Symbol	Prefix Value ^b (numerical)	Prefix Value ^b (power of ten)
exa		E		10^{18}
peta		P		10^{15}
tera		T		10^{12}
giga	billions of	G	1000000000	10^9
mega	millions of	M	1000000	10^6
kilo	thousands of	k	1000	10^3
hecto		h		10^2
deka		da		10^1
deci	tenths of	d	0.1	10^{-1}
centi	hundredths of	c	0.01	10^{-2}
milli	thousandths of	m	0.001	10^{-3}
micro	millionths of	μ	0.000001	10^{-6}
nano	billionths of	n	0.000000001	10^{-9}
pico	trillionths of	p	0.000000000001	10^{-12}
femto		f		10^{-15}
atto		a		10^{-18}

^aPrefixes in red type are used most often.

^bNumbers in these columns can be interchanged with the corresponding prefix.

TABLE 1.3

Some Non-SI Metric Units Commonly Used in Chemistry

Measurement	Unit	Abbreviation	Value in SI Units
Length	angstrom	Å	$1 \text{ Å} = 0.1 \text{ nm} = 10^{-10} \text{ m}$
Mass	atomic mass unit	u (amu)	$1 \text{ u} = 1.66054 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$ (rounded to six digits)
	metric ton	t	$1 \text{ t} = 10^3 \text{ kg}$
Time	minute	min.	$1 \text{ min.} = 60 \text{ s}$
	hour	h	$1 \text{ h} = 60 \text{ min.} = 3600 \text{ s}$
Temperature	degree Celsius	°C	$T_K = t_C + 273.15$
Volume	liter	L	$1 \text{ L} = 1000 \text{ cm}^3$

TABLE 1.4

Some Useful Conversions

Measurement	English Unit	English/SI Equality ^a
Length	inch	$1 \text{ in.} = 2.54 \text{ cm}$
	yard	$1 \text{ yd} = 0.9144 \text{ m}$
	mile	$1 \text{ mi} = 1.609 \text{ km}$
Mass	pound	$1 \text{ lb} = 453.6 \text{ g}$
	ounce (mass)	$1 \text{ oz} = 28.35 \text{ g}$
Volume	gallon	$1 \text{ gal} = 3.785 \text{ L}$
	quart	$1 \text{ qt} = 946.4 \text{ mL}$

Laboratory Measurements

- **Four common**

1. Length

2. Volume

3. Mass

4. Temperature

Laboratory Measurements

1. Length

- SI Unit is meter (m)
- Meter too large for most laboratory measurements
- Commonly use
 - Centimeter (cm)
 $1 \text{ cm} = 10^{-2} \text{ m} = 0.01 \text{ m}$
 - Millimeter (mm)
 $1 \text{ mm} = 10^{-3} \text{ m} = 0.001 \text{ m}$

2. Volume

- Dimensions of $(\text{length})^3$
- SI unit for Volume = m^3
- Most laboratory measurements use V in liters (L)

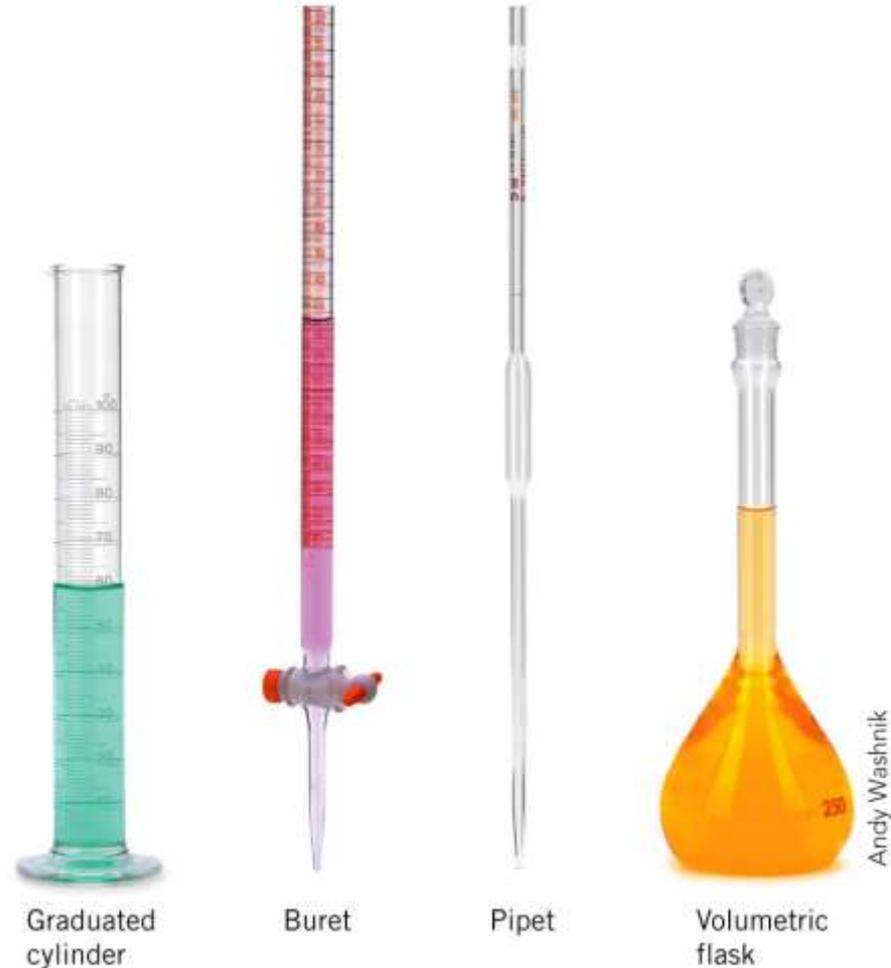
$$1 \text{ L} = 1 \text{ dm}^3$$

Chemistry glassware marked in L or mL

$$1 \text{ L} = 1000 \text{ mL}$$

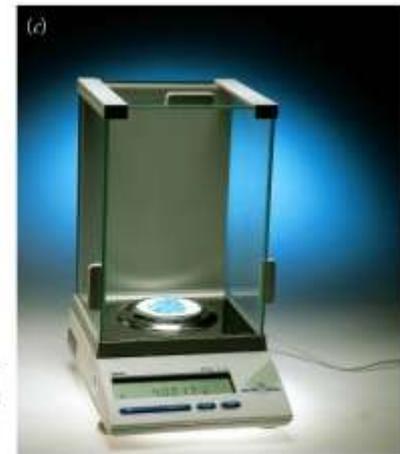
- What is a mL?

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



3. Mass

- SI unit is kilogram (kg)
 - Frequently use grams (g) in laboratory as more realistic size
- $1 \text{ kg} = 1000 \text{ g}$ $1 \text{ g} = 0.001 \text{ kg}$
- Mass is measured by comparing weight of sample with weights of known standard masses
- Instrument used = balance



4. Temperature

- Measured with thermometer
- Three common scales

A. Fahrenheit scale

- Common in US
- Water freezes at 32 °F and boils at 212 °F
- 180 degree units between melting and boiling points of water



4. Temperature

B. Celsius scale

- Most common for use in science
- Water freezes at 0 °C
- Water boils at 100 °C
- 100 degree units between melting and boiling points of water



Michael Watson

4. Temperature

C. Kelvin scale

- SI unit of temperature is **kelvin (K)**
 - **Note:** No degree symbol in front of K
- Water freezes at 273.15 K and boils at 373.15 K
 - 100 degree units between melting and boiling points
- Only difference between Kelvin and Celsius scale is zero point

Absolute Zero

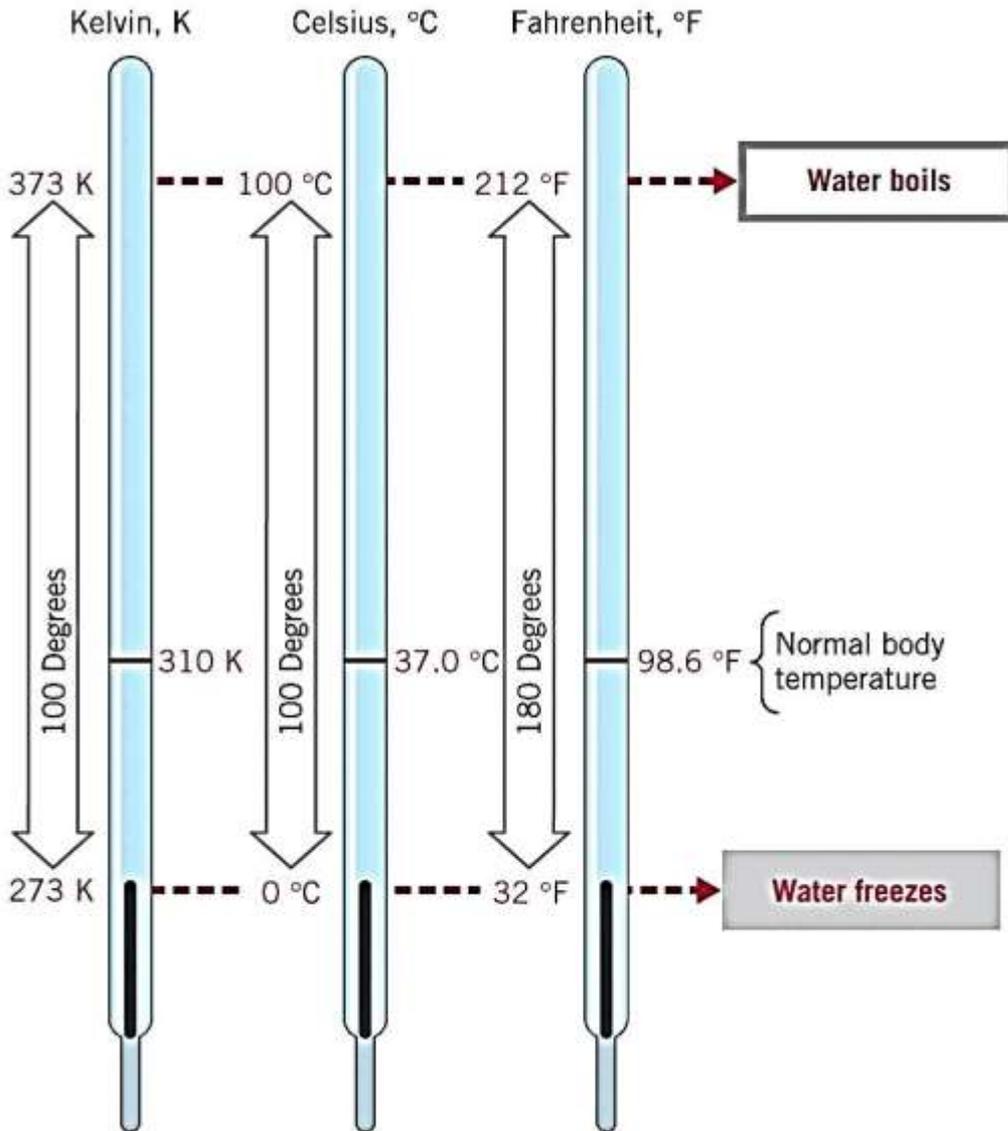
- Zero point on Kelvin scale
- Corresponds to nature's lowest possible temperature

Temperature Conversions

How to convert between °F and °C?

$$^{\circ}\text{F} = \frac{9}{5} \times ^{\circ}\text{C} + 32$$

$$32^{\circ}\text{F} = 0^{\circ}\text{C}$$
$$212^{\circ}\text{F} = 100^{\circ}\text{C}$$



Temperature Conversions

- Common laboratory thermometers are marked in Celsius scale
- How to convert to Kelvin scale

$$K = ^\circ\text{C} + 273.15$$

$$273.15 \text{ K} = 0 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$$

$$373.15 \text{ K} = 100 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$$

- Amounts to adding 273.15 to Celsius temperature

Example: What is the Kelvin temperature of a solution at 25 °C?

$$T_K = (25 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C} + 273.15 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}) \frac{1 \text{ K}}{1 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}} = \mathbf{298 \text{ K}}$$

1. Convert 121 °F to the Celsius scale.

$$^{\circ}\text{F} = \frac{9}{5} \times ^{\circ}\text{C} + 32 \qquad t_{\text{C}} = \left(t_{\text{F}} - 32 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{F} \right) \left(\frac{5 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}{9 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}} \right)$$

$$t_{\text{C}} = \left(121 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{F} - 32 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{F} \right) \left(\frac{5 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}{9 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}} \right) = \mathbf{49 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}$$

2. Convert 121 °F to the Kelvin scale.

– We already have in °C so...

$$T_{\text{K}} = (t_{\text{C}} + 273.15 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}) \frac{1 \text{ K}}{1 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}} = (49 + 273.15 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}) \frac{1 \text{ K}}{1 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}$$

$$\mathbf{T_{\text{K}} = 322 \text{ K}}$$

3. Convert 77 K to the Celsius scale.

$$T_K = (t_C + 273.15 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}) \frac{1 \text{ K}}{1 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}} \quad t_C = (T_K - 273.15 \text{ K}) \frac{1 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}}{1 \text{ K}}$$

$$t_C = (77 \text{ K} - 273.15 \text{ K}) \frac{1 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}}{1 \text{ K}} = \mathbf{-196 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}}$$

4. Convert 77 K to the Fahrenheit scale.

– We already have in $^\circ\text{C}$ so

$$t_F = \left(\frac{9 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}}{5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}} \right) (-196 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}) + 32 \text{ }^\circ\text{F} = \mathbf{-321 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}}$$

The melting point of UF_6 is $64.53\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. What is the melting point of uranium UF_6 on the Fahrenheit scale?

- A. $67.85\text{ }^\circ\text{F}$
- B. $96.53\text{ }^\circ\text{F}$
- C. $116.2\text{ }^\circ\text{F}$
- D. $337.5\text{ }^\circ\text{F}$
- E. $148.2\text{ }^\circ\text{F}$

$$t_{\text{F}} = \frac{9\text{ }^\circ\text{F}}{5\text{ }^\circ\text{C}} t_{\text{C}} + 32\text{ }^\circ\text{F}$$

$$t_{\text{F}} = \frac{9\text{ }^\circ\text{F}}{5\text{ }^\circ\text{C}} 64.53\text{ }^\circ\text{C} + 32\text{ }^\circ\text{F}$$

SI Units

- All physical quantities will have units **derived** from these seven SI base units

e.g., Area

- Derived from SI units based on definition of area
- length \times width = area
- meter \times meter = area
 $m \times m = m^2$
- SI unit for area = square meters = m^2

Note: Units undergo same kinds of mathematical operations that numbers do

TABLE 1.3**Derived Units**

Quantity	Definition of Quantity	SI Unit
Area	Length squared	m^2
Volume	Length cubed	m^3
Density	Mass per unit volume	kg/m^3
Speed	Distance traveled per unit time	m/s
Acceleration	Speed changed per unit time	m/s^2
Force	Mass times acceleration of object	$\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}/\text{s}^2$ (= newton, N)
Pressure	Force per unit area	$\text{kg}/(\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^2)$ (= pascal, Pa)
Energy	Force times distance traveled	$\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{s}^2$ (= joule, J)

- What is the SI derived unit for velocity?

$$\text{Velocity } (v) = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$$

$$\text{Velocity units} = \frac{\text{meters}}{\text{seconds}} = \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

- What is the SI derived unit for volume of a cube?

$$\text{Volume } (V) = \text{length} \times \text{width} \times \text{height}$$

$$V = \text{meter} \times \text{meter} \times \text{meter}$$

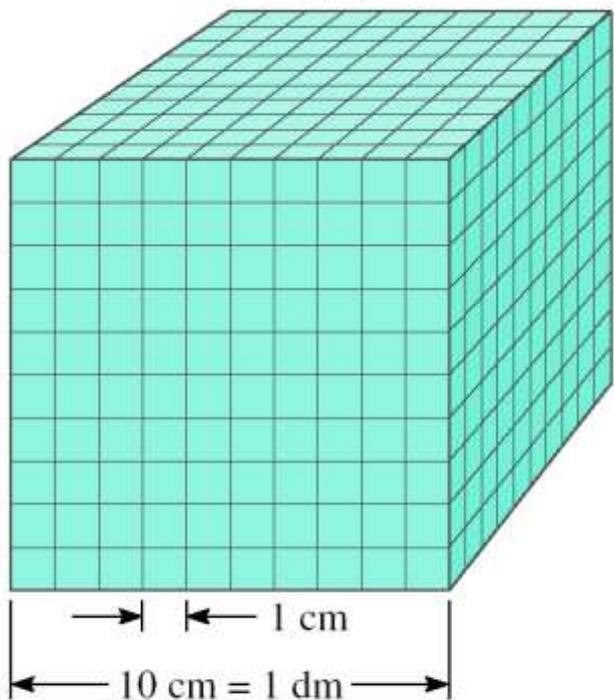
$$V = \mathbf{m^3}$$

What is the SI derived unit for acceleration
(hint: acceleration = distance/time²)?

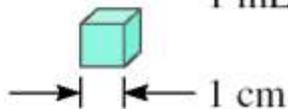
- A. mm/min
- B. yd/hr²
- C. m/s²
- D. m/s
- E. ft³

Volume – SI derived unit for volume is cubic meter (m^3)

Volume: 1000 cm^3 ;
 1000 mL ;
 1 dm^3 ;
 1 L



Volume: 1 cm^3 ;
 1 mL



$$1 \text{ cm}^3 = (1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m})^3 = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$$

$$1 \text{ dm}^3 = (1 \times 10^{-1} \text{ m})^3 = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$$

$$1 \text{ L} = 1000 \text{ mL} = 1000 \text{ cm}^3 = 1 \text{ dm}^3$$

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



Dimensional Analysis Method of Solving Problems

1. Determine which unit conversion factor(s) are needed
2. Carry units through calculation
3. If all units cancel except for the ***desired unit(s)***, then the problem was solved correctly.

given quantity x conversion factor = desired quantity

$$\cancel{\text{given unit}} \times \frac{\text{desired unit}}{\cancel{\text{given unit}}} = \text{desired unit}$$

A person's average daily intake of glucose (a form of sugar) is 0.0833 pound (lb). What is this mass in milligrams (mg)?

(1 lb = 453.6 g.)

pounds \longrightarrow grams \longrightarrow milligrams

$$\frac{453.6 \text{ g}}{1 \text{ lb}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1 \text{ mg}}{1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ g}}$$

$$? \text{ mg} = 0.0833 \cancel{\text{ lb}} \times \frac{453.6 \cancel{\text{ g}}}{1 \cancel{\text{ lb}}} \times \frac{1 \text{ mg}}{1 \times 10^{-3} \cancel{\text{ g}}} = 3.78 \times 10^4 \text{ mg}$$

Q) A liquid helium storage tank has a volume of 275 L. What is the volume in m^3 ?

Q) The density of liquid nitrogen at its boiling point (-196°C or 77 K) is 0.808 g/cm^3 . Convert the density to units of kg/m^3 .

$$\frac{1\text{ kg}}{1000\text{ g}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1\text{ cm}^3}{1 \times 10^{-6}\text{ m}^3}$$

$$? \text{ kg/m}^3 = \frac{0.808 \cancel{\text{ g}}}{1 \cancel{\text{ cm}^3}} \times \frac{1\text{ kg}}{1000 \cancel{\text{ g}}} \times \frac{1 \cancel{\text{ cm}^3}}{1 \times 10^{-6}\text{ m}^3} = 808\text{ kg/m}^3$$

Example: How to convert a person's height from 68.0 in to cm? if $2.54 \text{ cm} = 1 \text{ in.}$

Example: Convert 0.097 m to mm.

Example: Convert 3.5 m^3 to cm^3 .

Q) Convert speed of light from $3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$ to mi/hr
($1 \text{ mi} = 1.609 \text{ km}$)

The Toyota Camry hybrid electric car has a gas mileage rating of 56 miles per gallon. What is this rating expressed in units of kilometers per liter?

$$1 \text{ gal} = 3.784 \text{ L} \quad 1 \text{ mile} = 1.609 \text{ km}$$

A. $1.3 \times 10^2 \text{ km L}^{-1}$

B. 24 km L^{-1}

C. 15 km L^{-1}

D. $3.4 \times 10^2 \text{ km L}^{-1}$

E. 9.2 km L^{-1}

$$56 \frac{\cancel{\text{mi}}}{\cancel{\text{gal}}} \times \frac{\cancel{1 \text{ gal}}}{3.784 \text{ L}} \times \frac{1.609 \text{ km}}{\cancel{1 \text{ mi}}}$$

The volume of a basketball is 433.5 in^3 . Convert this to mm^3 .

(1 in. = 2.54 cm)

A. $1.101 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mm}^3$

B. $7.104 \times 10^6 \text{ mm}^3$

C. $7.104 \times 10^4 \text{ mm}^3$

D. $1.101 \times 10^4 \text{ mm}^3$

E. $1.101 \times 10^6 \text{ mm}^3$

Example 1.7: The world's oceans contain approximately $1.35 \times 10^9 \text{ km}^3$ of water. What is this volume in liters?

$$1 \text{ km} = 1 \times 10^3 \text{ m} = 1 \times 10^3 \times 10^2 \text{ cm} = 1 \times 10^5 \text{ cm} \quad (\text{km}^3 \rightarrow \text{cm}^3)$$

$$(\text{cm}^3 \rightarrow \text{L}) \quad (1 \text{ cm}^3 = 1 \text{ mL}) \quad (1 \text{ mL} = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ L})$$

Density

- Ratio of object's mass to its volume

$$\text{density} = \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}} \quad d = \frac{m}{V}$$

- Units (depends on what units we use for mass and volume.
 - **g/mL** or **g/cm³**
 - **Or g/L** or **kg/L**

- A student weighs a piece of gold that has a volume of 11.02 cm^3 of gold. She finds the mass to be 212 g . What is the density of gold?

$$d = \frac{m}{V}$$

$$d = \frac{212 \text{ g}}{11.02 \text{ cm}^3} = \mathbf{19.3 \text{ g/cm}^3}$$

Another student has a piece of gold with a volume of 1.00 cm^3 . What does it weigh? **19.3 g**

What if it were 2.00 cm^3 in volume? **38.6 g**

(Q) If the density of an object is 2.87×10^{-4} lbs/cubic inch, what is its density in g/mL? (1 lb = 454 g, 1 inch = 2.54 cm)

(Q) Which one of the following has the largest length?

A) 1.5×10^{-2} mm

B) 15 km

C) 1.5×10^{14} nm

D) 1.5×10^{15} pm