



Southern Water Treatment Company, Inc.

Error Propagation in Arithmetic Calculations

Type of Calculation	Example	Standard Deviation of x
Addition or Subtraction	$x = p + q - r$	$s_x = \sqrt{s_p^2 + s_q^2 + s_r^2}$
Multiplication or Division	$x = \frac{p \cdot q}{r}$	$s_x = x \sqrt{\left(\frac{s_p}{p}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{s_q}{q}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{s_r}{r}\right)^2}$
Exponentiation	$x = p^y$	$s_x = y \cdot x \frac{s_p}{p}$
Logarithm	$x = \log_{10} p$	$s_x = 0.434 \frac{s_p}{p}$
Antilogarithm	$x = \text{anti log}_{10} p$	$s_x = 2.303 \cdot x \cdot s_p$

Quantity	Equivalent Values
Mass	$1\text{kg} = 1000\text{g} = 0.001 \text{ metric ton} = 2.20462\text{lb}_m = 35.27392 \text{ oz}$ $1\text{lb}_m = 16 \text{ oz} = 5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ ton} = 453.593 \text{ g} = 0.453593\text{kg}$
Length	$1\text{m} = 100 \text{ cm} = 1000 \text{ mm} = 10^6 \text{ microns} (\mu\text{m}) = 10^{10} \text{ angstroms} (\text{\AA})$ $= 39.37 \text{ in} = 3.2808 \text{ ft} = 1.0936 \text{ yd} = 0.0006214 \text{ mile}$
Volume	$1 \text{ m}^3 = 1000 \text{ liters} = 10^6 \text{ cm}^3 = 10^6 \text{ ml}$ $= 35.3145 \text{ ft}^3 = 220.83 \text{ imperial gallons} = 264.17$ $= 1056.68 \text{ qt}$ $1 \text{ ft} = 12 \text{ in} = 1/3 \text{ yd} = 0.03048 \text{ m} = 30.48 \text{ cm}$
Force	$1\text{N} = 1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}^2 = 10^5 \text{ dynes} = 10^5 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm/s}^2 = 0.22481 \text{ lb}_f$ $1\text{lb}_f = 32.174 \text{ lb}_m \cdot \text{ft/s}^2 = 4.4482 \text{ N} = 4.4482 \times 10^5 \text{ dynes}$
Pressure	$1 \text{ atm} = 1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2 (\text{Pa}) = 101.325 \text{ kPa} = 1.01325 \text{ bars}$ $= 1.01325 \times 10^6 \text{ dynes/cm}^2$ $= 760\text{mm Hg at } 0^\circ\text{C (torr)} = 10.333 \text{ m H}_2\text{O at } 4^\circ\text{C}$ $= 14.696 \text{ lb}_f/\text{in}^2 (\text{psi}) = 33.9 \text{ ft H}_2\text{O at } 4^\circ\text{C}$ $= 29.921 \text{ in Hg at } 0^\circ\text{C}$
Energy	$1\text{J} = 1 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} = 10^7 \text{ ergs} = 10^7 \text{ dyne} \cdot \text{cm}$ $= 2.778 \times 10^{-7} \text{ kW} \cdot \text{h} = 0.23901 \text{ cal}$ $= 0.7376 \text{ ft-lb}_f = 9.486 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Btu}$
Power	$1 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ J/s} = 0.23901 \text{ cal/s} = 0.7376 \text{ ft} \cdot \text{lb}_f/\text{s} = 9.486 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Btu/s}$ $= 1.341 \times 10^{-3} \text{ hp}$