

# MATHEMATICS: THE LANGUAGE OF PHYSICS

1. QUADRATIC EQUATIONS: ALWAYS HAVE TWO SOLUTIONS.

a) FACTORIZATION:  $x^2 - 5x - 24 = 0$

$$(x-8)(x+3) = 0 \quad \therefore x = 8 \quad x = -3,$$

b) QUADRATIC FORMULA:  $x = \frac{-B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}}{2A}$

$$2x^2 + x - 28 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1^2 - (4)(2)(-28)}}{2(2)} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1+224}}{4}$$

$$x = (-1 \pm 15) / 4 = \begin{cases} 3.5 \\ -4 \end{cases}$$

2. EXPONENTIAL NOTATION: EXAMPLE:

$$x = 4000 = 4 \times 10^3$$

$$y = .05 = 5 \times 10^{-2}$$

a)  $xy = (4 \times 10^3)(5 \times 10^{-2}) = 20 \times 10^1 = 2 \times 10^2$

b)  $x/y = (4/5) \times 10^{3-(-2)} = .8 \times 10^5 = 8 \times 10^4$

ON A CALCULATOR: TO MULTIPLY =

4, EXP, 3, x, 5, EXP, 2, +/-, =

3. SIMULTANEOUS EQUATIONS: REQUIRE AS MANY EQUATIONS AS THE NUMBER OF UNKNOWNNS.

EXAMPLE:

$$\begin{cases} 3x - y = 10 \\ 5x + 7y = 34 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} 21x - 7y = 70 \\ 5x + 7y = 34 \end{cases}$$

$$26x = 104$$

$$x = 4$$

$$\therefore y = 2$$

EXAMPLE:

$$\begin{cases} 5A = 50 - T_2 \\ 2A = T_2 - T_1 \\ 3A = T_1 - 30 \end{cases}$$

$$10A = 20$$

$$\therefore A = 2$$

SUBSTITUTE ABOVE:

$$10 = 50 - T_2 \quad \therefore T_2 = 40$$

$$6 = T_1 - 30 \quad \therefore T_1 = 36$$

4. LOGARITHMS LOG BASE 10

KEY: LOG X AND  $10^x$  ARE OPPOSITES,

EXAMPLE: GIVEN:  $10^x = 25$ . FIND X.

$$x = \log 25$$

$$x = 1.4$$

EXAMPLE: GIVEN:  $\text{LOG } X = 1.8$  FIND  $X$ .

$$X = 10^{1.8} = 63$$

ON A CALCULATOR: METHOD 1:  $10, y^x, 1.8, =$

METHOD 2:  $1.8, \text{INV}, \text{LOG}$

5. NATURAL LOGARITHMS LN BASE  $e$

WHERE  $e = 2.7182818, \dots$

$\text{LN } X$  AND  $e^x$  ARE OPPOSITES.

EXAMPLE: GIVEN:  $e^x = 4$

$$x = \ln 4$$

$$x = 1.386$$

EXAMPLE: GIVEN:  $\ln x = 7$

$$x = e^7$$

$$x = 1096.6$$

6. LOGARITHM RULES: FOR ANY BASE:

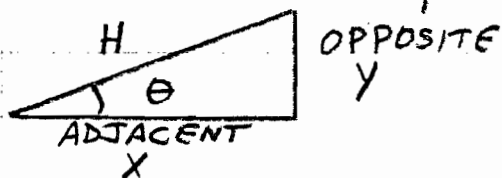
a)  $\text{LOG } A + \text{LOG } B = \text{LOG}(AB)$

b)  $\text{LOG } A - \text{LOG } B = \text{LOG}(A/B)$

c)  $N \text{ LOG } A = \text{LOG}(A^N)$

d)  $\text{LOG}_A B = (\text{LOG}_N B) / (\text{LOG}_N A)$

7. TRIGONOMETRY: RIGHT TRIANGLES



$$x^2 + y^2 = H^2$$
$$\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$$

$$\cos \theta = X/H$$

$$\sin \theta = Y/H$$

$$X = H \cos \theta$$

$$Y = H \sin \theta$$

NOTE:  $\sin \theta$  AND  $\cos \theta$  ARE FRACTIONS AND ARE THEREFORE DILUTION FACTORS.

$$\tan \theta = Y/X \quad \therefore \theta = \tan^{-1}(Y/X)$$

NOTE:  $\tan$  AND  $\tan^{-1}$  ARE INVERSE FUNCTIONS.

$\tan \theta = Y/X$  MEANS THAT WE KNOW THE ANGLE AND WE WANT TO FIND  $Y$  OR  $X$ .

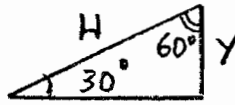
$\theta = \tan^{-1}(Y/X)$  MEANS THAT WE KNOW  $X$  AND  $Y$  AND WE WISH TO FIND  $\theta$ .

EXAMPLE: GIVEN:  $\sin \theta = .866$  FIND  $\theta$ .

$$\theta = \sin^{-1}(.866) = 60^\circ$$

THE FUNCTION OF AN ANGLE EQUALS THE COFUNCTION OF THE COMPLEMENTARY ANGLE,  $\sin 30^\circ = \cos 60^\circ$

JUSTIFICATION:

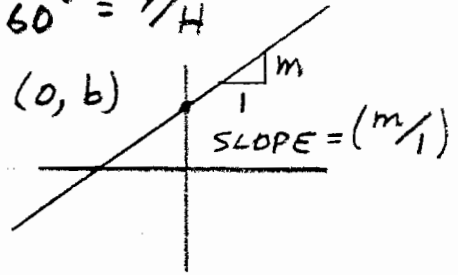


$$\sin 30^\circ = \frac{y}{H}$$

$$\cos 60^\circ = \frac{y}{H}$$

8. GRAPHING:

a) LINEAR:  $y = mx + b$



b) PARABOLIC:  $y = ax^2$



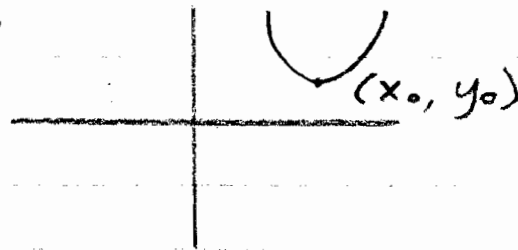
IF  $a = (+)$ , THE PARABOLA HOLDS WATER.

IF  $a = (-)$ , THE PARABOLA OPENS DOWNWARD.

IF  $a$  IS A LARGE NUMBER, THE PARABOLA IS SKINNY.

IF THE PARABOLA IS NOT CENTERED AT THE ORIGIN:

$$(y - y_0) = a(x - x_0)^2$$



EXAMPLE: GIVEN:

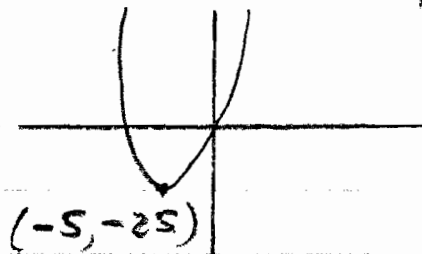
$$y = x^2 + 10x$$

SKETCH THIS PARABOLA.

COMPLETE THE SQUARE: DIVIDE IN HALF AND SQUARE.

$$y + 25 = x^2 + 10x + 25$$

$$(y + 25) = (x + 5)^2$$

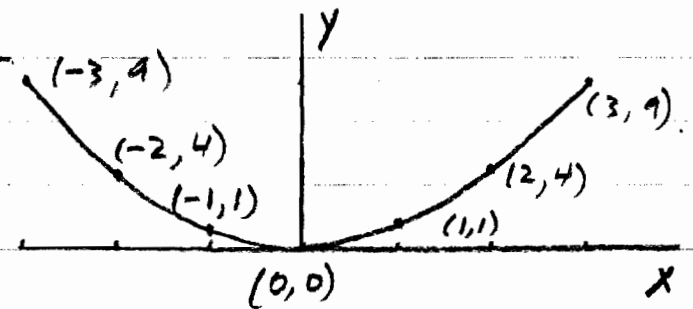


9. DERIVATIVES: PURPOSE: TO FIND THE SLOPE OF A

CURVE. EXAMPLE: GIVEN:  $y = x^2$

TO PLOT THIS CURVE, USE THE FUNCTION  $y = x^2$

X	Y	X	Y
0	0	-1	1
1	1	-2	4
2	4	-3	9
3	9		



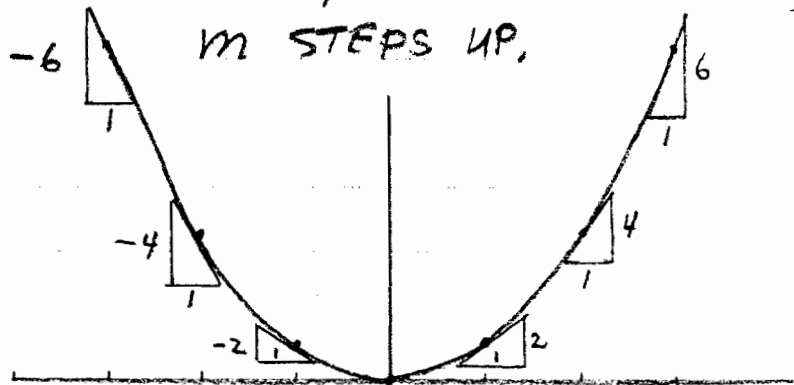
TO FIND THE STEEPNESS OF THIS CURVE, THAT IS, ITS SLOPE, WE TAKE THE DERIVATIVE, FOR POLYNOMIALS, BRING DOWN THE POWER AND MAKE IT ONE LESS POWER, FOR  $y = x^2$ :

$$\text{SLOPE} = \frac{\text{RISE}}{\text{RUN}} = \frac{\text{CHANGE IN } Y}{\text{CHANGE IN } X} = \frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$$

$x$	$dy/dx = \text{SLOPE} = 2x$
0	0
1	2
2	4
3	6
-1	-2
-2	-4
-3	-6

NOTE: THE SLOPE IS

ALWAYS ONE STEP OVER,  
M STEPS UP,



$dy$  = SMALL PIECE OF  $y$        $dx$  = SMALL PIECE OF  $x$ .

EXAMPLE: GIVEN:  $y = 7x^4 + 2x^3 + x^1 + 7x^0 + x^{-1}$

FIND A FORMULA FOR THE SLOPE.

$$\text{SLOPE} = \frac{\text{RISE}}{\text{RUN}} = \frac{dy}{dx} = 28x^3 + 6x^2 + 1 + 0 - 1x^{-2}$$

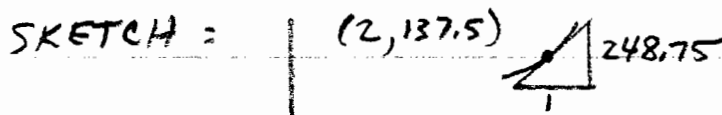
FIND OUR LOCATION AT  $x = 2$ .

$$y = 7(2)^4 + 2(2)^3 + 2 + 7 + \frac{1}{2} = 137.5$$

$$(x, y) = (2, 137.5)$$

FIND THE SLOPE AT  $x = 2$ .

$$dy/dx = 28(2)^3 + 6(2)^2 + 1 - \frac{1}{2^2} = 248.75 / 1$$



10. INTEGRALS: OPPOSITE OF DERIVATIVES

PURPOSE: TO FIND AN EQUATION FOR  $y$  IF WE KNOW THE SLOPE EQUATION.

EXAMPLE: GIVEN:  $dy/dx = 2x$ .

FIND AN EQUATION FOR  $y$ .

$$dy/dx = 2x$$

$$dy = (2x) dx$$

$$\int dy = \int (2x) dx$$

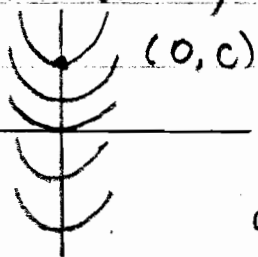
$$y = 2 \frac{x^2}{2} + C \quad \therefore y = x^2 + C$$

NOTE:  $\int$  MEANS "ADD THEM ALL UP"

$\therefore \int dy$  MEANS "ADD UP ALL THE SMALL PIECES OF  $y$ ."

AN INTEGRAL SYMBOL MUST ALWAYS BE ACCOMPANIED BY A DIFFERENTIAL AT THE END, THE QUANTITY CONTAINED IN THE INTERIOR PARENTHESES MAY OR BE CONSTANTS OR THE SAME VARIABLE AS THE FINAL DIFFERENTIAL. RECIPE: THE  $\int$  AND THE DIFFERENTIAL ACT ON THE INTERIOR FUNCTION AND THEN BOTH DISAPPEAR, FOR POLYNOMIALS, RAISE  $x$  TO ONE HIGHER POWER AND DIVIDE BY THE NEW POWER.

THE REASON WE INCLUDE "+ C" WHERE  $C$  IS A CONSTANT IS THAT WE WERE GIVEN THE SHAPE OF THE CURVE, BUT NOT ITS LOCATION. IN THIS CASE,  $C$  IS THE  $y$ -INTERCEPT.



EXAMPLE = GIVEN:

$$dy/dx = x^3 + 6x^2 + x + 2.$$

FIND AN EQUATION FOR  $y$ .  $dy = (x^3 + 6x^2 + x + 2) dx$

$$\int dy = \int (x^3 + 6x^2 + x + 2) dx$$

$$y = \frac{x^4}{4} + \frac{6x^3}{3} + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{2x}{1} + C$$

# UNITS AND CHAIN CALCULATIONS

## I. METRIC SYSTEM : SI = SYSTEM INTERNATIONAL

### A. BASIC UNITS :

LENGTH [METERS]

TIME [SECONDS]

MASS [KILOGRAMS]

WAVELENGTHS OF LIGHT  
FROM KRYPTON-86,  
PERIODS OF LIGHT  
FROM CESIUM-133,  
PT-IR ALLOY CYLINDER  
IN PARIS, FRANCE.

### B. PREFIXES :

LARGE

K = KILO = THOUSAND

M = MEGA = MILLION

EXAMPLES :

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

$$100 \text{ cm} = 1 \text{ m}$$

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

SMALL

C = CENTI = ONE-HUNDREDTH

m = milli = ONE-THOUSANDTH

$\mu$  = MICRO = ONE-MILLIONTH

$$1 \times 10^6 \mu\text{g} = 1 \text{ g}$$

$$1 \text{ Ms} = 1 \times 10^6 \text{ SECONDS}$$

### C. UNIT CONVERSIONS

KEY: WE WILL MULTIPLY BY FACTORS EQUAL TO ONE.  $\therefore$  THE NET VALUE WILL NOT CHANGE. IN EACH CONVERSION FACTOR, THE DIVISION SIGN CAN BE READ AS AN EQUAL SIGN.

EXAMPLE :

$$50 \text{ Mg} \left( \frac{1 \times 10^6 \text{ g}}{1 \text{ Mg}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \times 10^3 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ g}} \right) = 5 \times 10^{10} \text{ mg}$$

$$45 \text{ cm} \left( \frac{1 \text{ m}}{100 \text{ cm}} \right) \left( \frac{1000 \text{ mm}}{1 \text{ m}} \right) = 450 \text{ mm}$$

$$9700 \text{ m} \left( \frac{100 \text{ cm}}{1 \text{ m}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ INCH}}{2.54 \text{ cm}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ ft}}{12 \text{ IN}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ mile}}{5280 \text{ ft}} \right) = 6 \text{ miles}$$

$$\frac{55 \text{ m}}{\text{SEC}} \left( \frac{1 \text{ mile}}{1609.3 \text{ m}} \right) \left( \frac{60 \text{ SEC}}{1 \text{ MIN}} \right) \left( \frac{60 \text{ MIN}}{1 \text{ HOUR}} \right) = 123 \frac{\text{miles}}{\text{HR}}$$

$$18 \text{ cm}^2 \left( \frac{1 \text{ m}}{100 \text{ cm}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{1 \text{ km}}{1000 \text{ m}} \right)^2 = 1.8 \times 10^{-9} \text{ km}^2$$

$$5 \frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{HR}^3} \left( \frac{100 \text{ cm}}{1 \text{ m}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{1 \text{ HR}}{60 \text{ MIN}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{1 \text{ MIN}}{60 \text{ SEC}} \right)^3 = 1.07 \times 10^{-6} \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{SEC}^3}$$

#### D. PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

RECIPE: 1. IDENTIFY CONVERSION FACTORS: MIXED UNITS,  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ ,  $\text{m}/\text{s}$ , ...; PERCENT; PER.

2. WRITE THE NAME OF THE UNKNOWN =

3. START THE CHAIN WITH THE REMAINING NUMBER.

EXAMPLE: JESSE'S FERRARI ZOOMS AT  $40 \text{ m/s}$  FOR  $80 \text{ SEC}$ . FIND THE DISTANCE TRAVELED.

$$x = 80 \text{ SEC} (40 \text{ m/s}) = 3200 \text{ m}$$

EXAMPLE: MICHAEL'S BMW CRUISES AT  $30 \text{ m/s}$ . FIND THE TIME TO TRAVEL  $5250 \text{ m}$ .

$$t = 5250 \text{ m} \left( \frac{1 \text{ SEC}}{30 \text{ m}} \right) = 175 \text{ SECONDS}$$

EXAMPLE: DIAMOND HAS A DENSITY OF  $3.5 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$ .

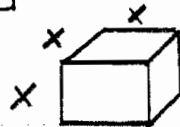
FIND THE MASS, IN  $\text{mg}$ , OF A JEWEL WHOSE VOLUME IS  $60 \text{ mm}^3$ .

$$\text{MASS} = 60 \text{ mm}^3 \left( \frac{1 \text{ cm}}{10 \text{ mm}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{3.5 \text{ g}}{1 \text{ cm}^3} \right) \left( \frac{1000 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ g}} \right) = 210 \text{ mg}$$

EXAMPLE: FIND THE VOLUME OF A  $21600 \text{ KG}$  CUBE OF ALUMINUM WHOSE DENSITY IS  $2.7 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$ .

$$V = 21600 \text{ kg} \left( \frac{1000 \text{ g}}{1 \text{ kg}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ cm}^3}{2.7 \text{ g}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ m}}{100 \text{ cm}} \right)^3 = 8 \text{ m}^3$$

FIND THE LENGTH OF ONE SIDE OF THIS CUBE.



$$x^3 = 8 \text{ m}^3$$

$$x = \sqrt[3]{8} = 2 \text{ m}$$

EXAMPLE: A ROLL OF QUARTERS, WHICH CONTAINS  $40$  COINS, HAS A TOTAL MASS OF  $350 \text{ g}$ . A QUARTER IS  $70\%$  COPPER. FIND THE MASS OF COPPER IN  $\$50$  OF COINS.

$$\text{MASS OF COPPER} = \$ 50 \left( \frac{4 \text{ COINS}}{\$ 1} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ ROLL}}{40 \text{ COINS}} \right) \left( \frac{350 \text{ g}}{1 \text{ ROLL}} \right) \left( \frac{70 \text{ g Cu}}{100 \text{ g COINS}} \right) \quad 8A$$

$$\text{MASS Cu} = 1225 \text{ g}$$

NOTE: 1) CARAT = 200 mg      2) KARAT =  $\frac{1}{24} \frac{\text{th}}{-}$

$\therefore$  18 K GOLD IS  $\frac{18}{24} \frac{\text{th}}{-}$  GOLD,