

SC/BIOL 2090.02— Current Topics in Biophysics — TERM TEST ONE

There are three questions. You must complete all of them. Ensure that you show your work (that is, equations and calculations).

QUESTION ONE

Many organismal functions (for example, metabolic rates and rates of biomass accumulation) scale as the power 0.75 (rate $\sim \text{mass}^{0.75}$), and the ratios of surface area to volume scale as the power 0.67 ($A/V \sim \text{mass}^{0.67}$) (for mammals). But other functions scale differently. For example, longevity versus organismal mass (left) scales as the power 0.137 (longevity $\sim \text{mass}^{0.137}$) (for vertebrates). In fact, within the mammalian clade, all species die after approximately $3.3 \cdot 10^8$ breath cycles and $1.5 \cdot 10^9$ heart beats, regardless of size (that is, small animals with brief life spans have a faster heart rate). Propose a reason why all mammals, regardless of size, have the same total breath cycles and heart beats, bearing in mind that both functions are directly linked to repetitive cycles of muscle contraction.

QUESTION TWO

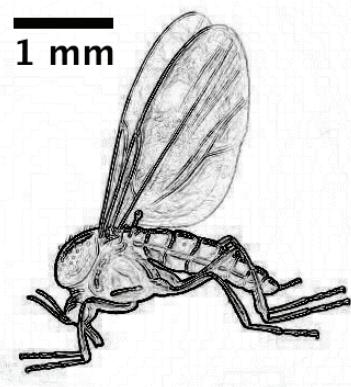
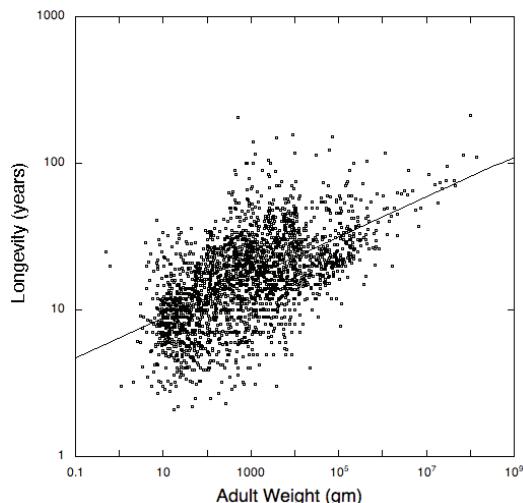
The integral forms for the first and second moments of either mass or area —

$$\int r \, dm \quad \int r^2 \, dm \quad \int y \, dA \quad \int y^2 \, dA$$

— play surprisingly important and fundamental roles in diverse biological processes. Select one and only one of the four integral equations and explain its biophysical application(s). Excessive length is not encouraged, but clarity is.

QUESTION THREE

The ‘universe’ of low Reynolds number involves not only bacteria but other organisms as well. Compare the Reynolds number for a gnat (right) flying at about 30 mm sec⁻¹ in air (*J Exp Biol* 208:2963, 2005) and a human free-falling in the same medium (say, 60 m sec⁻¹). Values for air viscosity are given in the equations/constants appendix. Please ensure that your estimates of other parameters are realistic.



KEY: Question One.

To a first approximation, the work of a heart beat or a breath cycle is independent of mass. By analogy to the similar jump heights of a flea and a human:

$$\text{work } (w) \propto m \cdot h \quad \& \quad \text{work } (w) \propto V_{\text{muscle}} \\ (\text{or } \propto F \cdot d) \quad \text{equating } w, \text{ mass cancels out}$$

the work of a heart beat should be independent of the mass of the heart (or diaphragm) & therefore independent of the organismal (mammal) mass.

So, if the total number of heart beats (or breath cycles) are the same in any mammalian species, it follows that the total work output in a lifespan is also independent of mammalian mass.

Since a mouse with a short lifespan has a much higher heart beat rate than a large elephant, the total work output must be completed sooner.

That is, "work" $\left[\frac{(\text{joules sec}^{-1}) \cdot \text{lifespan}}{(\text{watts})} \right]$ is constant.

To say that a mouse lives "faster" than an elephant is reasonable.

The underlying causes are likely related to the homeothermic nature of mammals, where the faster metabolic rate of a mouse, coupled with its ~~higher~~ ^{surface area} ~~volume~~ result in the completion of its total work output sooner than for an elephant with its slower metabolic rate and lower ^{surface area} ~~volume~~.

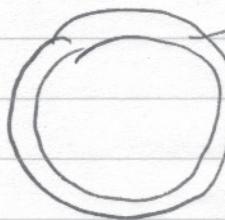
KEY: Question Two

$\int r dm$ used to evaluate an organism's center of mass $\frac{\int r dm}{\int dm}$

$\int r^2 dm$ used to evaluate an organism's inertial moment.

$\int y dA$ used to evaluate an organism's area, or "center of area" (centroid) $\frac{\int y dA}{\int dA}$

$\int y^2 dA$ used to evaluate the squared distribution of area. Best known for its utility in evaluating the strength of biomaterials (such as bone & trees)



In a tree, the outer perimeter contributes more to the strength.

KEY: Question Three $\text{[g cm}^{-1}\text{sec}^{-1}\text{]}$

$$Re = \frac{\rho \cdot L \cdot P}{\eta} \quad \frac{6000 \text{ (cm sec}^{-1}\text{)} \cdot \frac{0.02}{200} \text{ (cm)} \cdot 1 \text{ g cm}^{-3}}{\eta}$$

{ from the
tables.

$$\eta_{\text{air}} = 1.813 \times 10^{-5} \text{ Pa sec (20°C)}$$

conversions

$$\text{Pa} = \text{N m}^{-2}$$

$$\text{N} = \text{kg} \cdot \text{m sec}^{-2}$$

$$\eta_{\text{air}} = 1.813 \times 10^{-5} \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{10^3 \text{ gm}}{1 \text{ kg}} \cdot \frac{\text{m}}{10^2 \text{ cm}}$$

$$= 1.813 \times 10^{-4} \text{ gm cm}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

$$= \begin{matrix} \text{goat} & 333 (\approx 10^2) \\ \text{human} & 6.67 \cdot 10^9 (\approx 10^{10}) \end{matrix}$$

6 orders of
magnitude
difference.

$$N_T = N_0 \cdot 2^{(T/g)}$$

↓ ↓
 g is the generation time
 ↓
 N_0 is the number of cells at time $T = 0$
 N_T is the number of cells at time T

as time increases, $t/g = 1, 2, 3 \dots$, thus $2^1, 2^2, 2^3$, etc.

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \mu M \quad \mu \text{ is the specific growth rate and } M \text{ the mass}$$

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \mu M - \mu \frac{M^2}{G} \quad G \text{ is the maximal attainable population}$$

A cube has a surface area of $6 \cdot x^2$. Its volume is x^3 .

For a sphere, the surface area is $4 \cdot \pi \cdot r^2$, and the volume is $\pi \cdot r^3$.

For a cylinder, the surface area is $2 \cdot \pi \cdot r \cdot h$ (plus $2\pi r^2$ for the top and bottom of the cylinder), the volume is $\pi \cdot r^2 \cdot h$.

For a rectangle, the surface area is $2(d \cdot w) + 2(l \cdot d) + 2(l \cdot w)$, the volume is $d \cdot w \cdot l$.

Heat conduction rates are defined by the relation:

$$P_{\text{cond}} = Q / t = k \cdot A \cdot [(T_a - T_b) / L]$$

where P_{cond} is the rate of conduction (transferred heat, Q , divided by time, t); k is the thermal conductivity; T_a and T_b are the temperatures of the two heat reservoirs a and b ; A is the area; and L is the distance. Thermal conductivities of water and air are about 0.6 and $0.024 \text{ W m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$, respectively.

Thermal radiation is defined by the relation:

$$P_{\text{rad}} = \sigma \cdot \epsilon \cdot A \cdot T^4$$

where P_{rad} is the rate of radiation; σ is the Stefan-Boltzmann constant ($5.6703 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$); ϵ is the emissivity (varies from 0 to 1 for a blackbody radiator); A is the area; and T is the temperature (in Kelvins). The *net* radiative emission or absorption will depend upon the difference in temperature:

$$P_{\text{net}} = \sigma \cdot \epsilon \cdot A \cdot (T_{\text{body}}^4 - T_{\text{ambient}}^4)$$

$w \propto m \cdot h$ w is the work, m is the mass, and h is the height

$w \propto V_{muscle}$ V_{muscle} is the muscle volume

$$F = m \cdot a, F = m \frac{\Delta v}{t}, F \cdot t = m \cdot \Delta v, w = F \cdot d$$

$\int r \cdot dm$ and $\int r^2 \cdot dm$ first and second moments of mass

$\int y \cdot dA$ and $\int y^2 \cdot dA$ first and second moments of area

$$\text{compression} = \rho \cdot h$$

$$h_{critical} = \frac{\text{compression}}{\rho}$$

$$F_{cr} = \frac{E \cdot I \cdot \pi^2}{L_{eff}^2}$$

$$I_x = \frac{\pi \cdot r^4}{4}$$

$$h = 0.851 \cdot \left[\frac{E}{\rho} \right]^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot r^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

common name	species	diameter meters	height meters	Modulus of Rupture GN·m ⁻²	Modulus of Elasticity GN·m ⁻²	density kg m ⁻³	compression parallel to grain MN·m ⁻²
Redwood	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	7.6808	97.8408	0.074	9.40	436	42.4
Eastern Hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	1.6332	50.2920	0.059	8.30	431	21.2
Trembling Aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	0.9702	41.4528	0.059	8.22	401	14.8
White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	2.4174	40.2336	0.061	8.81	373	16.8
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	1.8030	35.0520	0.108	12.65	676	27.7
Yellow Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	3.0238	33.8328	0.064	10.38	427	18.3
Yellow Birch	<i>Betula lutea</i>	1.5038	31.6992	0.117	14.53	668	23.3
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	2.5225	28.6512	0.134	14.20	798	70.2
Eastern Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	3.5898	28.3464	0.060	9.53	433	15.7
Hornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	0.9298	21.3360	0.100	11.76	762	n/a
Common Apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	1.1400	21.3360	0.088	8.77	745	n/a
Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	0.8894	10.0584	0.105	10.64	796	n/a
		means		0.086	10.599	578.8	27.822

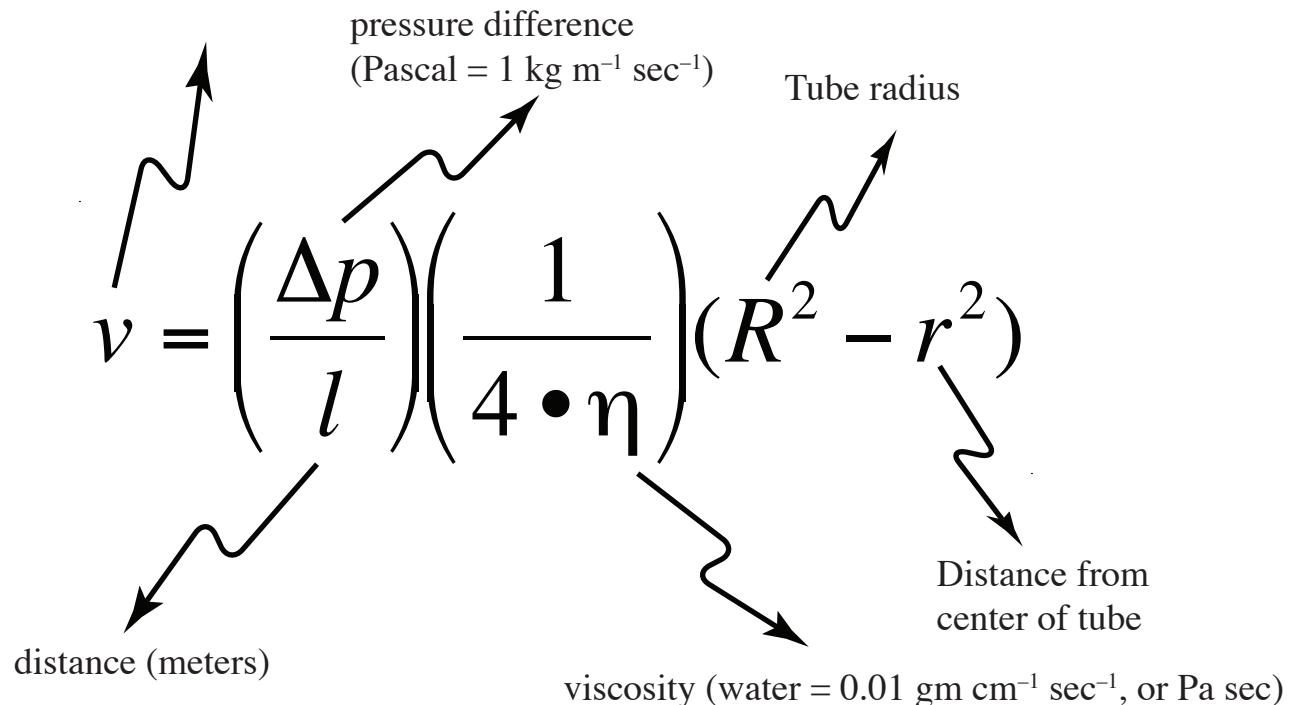
$$\Psi_{wv} = \frac{RT}{V_w} \ln\left(\frac{\% \text{ relative humidity}}{100}\right) + \rho_w gh$$

where R is the gas constant (8.314 m³ Pa mol⁻¹ °K⁻¹), T is the temperature (°K), V_w is the partial

molal volume of water (1.805•10⁻⁵ m³ mol⁻¹ at 20°C [293°K]). At 20°C, the term RT/V_w is 135 MPa. The second term is the gravitational potential: ρ_w is the density of water (998.2 kg m⁻³ at 20°C), g is the gravitational constant (9.807 m sec⁻²) and h is the height.

The basic equation describing the flow velocity of a liquid through a tube is the Poiseuille equation^[1]:

velocity (meters sec⁻¹)



The fastest velocity is at the center of the tube ($r = 0$):

$$v = \left(\frac{\Delta p}{l} \right) \left(\frac{1}{4 \cdot \eta} \right) R^2$$

$$J_v = \left(\frac{\Delta p}{l} \right) \left(\frac{\pi}{8 \cdot \eta} \right) \cdot R^4$$

The diagram illustrates the Darcy-Weisbach equation for head loss:

$$R_e = \frac{\rho \cdot v \cdot l}{\eta}$$

Annotations explain the variables:

- density (water = 1 gm cm⁻³)**: Points to the term ρ .
- velocity (cm sec⁻¹)**: Points to the term v .
- tube diameter (cm)**: Points to the term l .
- viscosity (water = 0.01 gm cm⁻¹ sec⁻¹)**: Points to the term η .

flux, J ($\text{mol cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$)

$J = -D \cdot \frac{dc}{dx}$

concentration gradient, dc/dx
with units of $(\text{mol cm}^{-3})/(\text{cm})$,
or mol cm^{-4} .

Diffusion coefficient with units of $\text{cm}^2 \text{ sec}^{-1}$

flux of some solute at x

J

dx

$J = J + \frac{\partial J}{\partial x} dx$

The change in flux over the small distance dx

flux of some solute at $x + dx$

Area, A

$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}$

$D = \frac{RT}{N} \cdot \frac{1}{6 \cdot \pi \cdot \eta \cdot r}$

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle = 2Dt$$

$$r = \sqrt{6 \cdot D \cdot t}$$

$$J = D \frac{K_p}{d} [c_{\text{outside}} - c_{\text{inside}}]$$

where $D \frac{K_p}{d} = P$, the permeability coefficient with

units of $\frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{sec}}$, or $\text{cm} \cdot \text{sec}^{-1}$

$$\frac{F_{inertial}}{F_{frictional}} = \frac{l^3 \cdot \rho \cdot v^2 / r}{\eta \cdot l^3 \cdot (\nu / r^2)} = \frac{\rho \cdot v \cdot r}{\eta} = R_e$$

The drag (D) on an object is defined by:

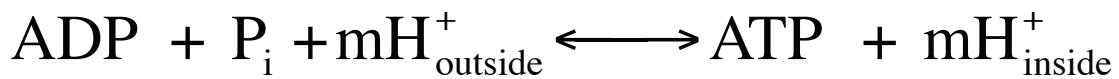
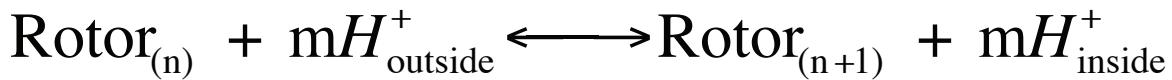
$$D = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \rho \cdot V^2 \cdot A \cdot C_D$$

$$m \left(-\frac{dv}{dt} \right) = 6 \cdot \pi \cdot \eta \cdot r \cdot v$$

$$v(t) = v_0 e^{\left(-\frac{6 \cdot \pi \cdot \eta \cdot r}{m} \cdot t \right)}$$

$$p_0(t) = e^{(-\lambda t)}$$

$$p(k, \mu) = \frac{\mu^k}{k!} e^{-\mu}$$



$$\mu = \mu^\circ + RT \ln(a_{H^+}) + zF\Psi$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{ATP}} = \Delta G_{\text{ATP}}^\circ + RT \ln \left(\frac{[\text{ATP}]}{[\text{ADP}][P_i]} \right)$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{total}} = n \cdot \Delta \mu_{H^+} + \Delta G_{ATP} = 0$$

$$n \cdot (RT \ln \left(\frac{a_{H^+}^{\text{inside}}}{a_{H^+}^{\text{outside}}} \right) + F\Delta\Psi) + \Delta G_{ATP}^o + RT \ln \left(\frac{[ATP]}{[ADP][P_i]} \right) = 0$$

$$\Delta \mu_{H^+} = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left(\frac{a_{H^+}^{\text{inside}}}{a_{H^+}^{\text{outside}}} \right) + \Delta\Psi \quad (\text{units: mV})$$

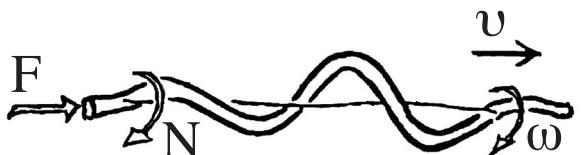
RT/F is about 25 mV at 20°C.

Both velocity and rotation contribute to both the force and torque.

$$F = A\upsilon + B\omega$$

$$N = C\upsilon + D\omega$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$$



The constants A, B, C and D (proportional to the viscosity and the size and shape of the 'propellor') comprise the propulsion matrix \mathbf{P} .

APPENDIX I

Numerical Values of Constants and Coefficients

Symbol	Description	Magnitude
c	speed of light in vacuum	$2.998 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
c_{wv}^*	saturation concentration of water vapor (i.e., at 100% relative humidity)	See pp. 548–550 for values from -30°C to 60°C .
C_P^{water}	volumetric heat capacity of water at constant pressure (1 atmosphere, 0.1013 MPa)	$4.217 \text{ MJ m}^{-3} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ at 0°C $4.175 \text{ MJ m}^{-3} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ at 20°C $4.146 \text{ MJ m}^{-3} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ at 40°C
C_P^{air}	volumetric heat capacity of dry air at constant pressure (1 atmosphere)	$1.300 \text{ kJ m}^{-3} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ at 0°C $1.212 \text{ kJ m}^{-3} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ at 20°C $1.136 \text{ kJ m}^{-3} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ at 40°C
D_{CO_2}	diffusion coefficient of CO_2 in air (1 atmosphere, 0.1013 MPa)	$1.33 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 0°C $1.42 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 10°C $1.51 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 20°C $1.60 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 30°C $1.70 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 40°C
D_{O_2}	diffusion coefficient of O_2 in air (1 atmosphere, 0.1013 MPa)	$1.95 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 20°C
D_{wv}	diffusion coefficient of water vapor in air (1 atmosphere, 0.1013 MPa)	$2.13 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 0°C $2.27 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 10°C $2.42 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 20°C $2.57 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 30°C $2.72 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 40°C
e	base for natural logarithm electronic charge	2.71828 ($1/e = 0.368$) $1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
F	Faraday's constant	$9.649 \times 10^4 \text{ coulomb mol}^{-1}$ $9.649 \times 10^4 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ V}^{-1}$ $2.306 \times 10^4 \text{ cal mol}^{-1} \text{ V}^{-1}$ $23.06 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1} \text{ V}^{-1}$

Symbol	Description	Magnitude
<i>g</i>	gravitational acceleration	9.780 m s ⁻² (sea level ¹ , 0° latitude)
		9.807 m s ⁻² (sea level ¹ , 45° latitude)
		9.832 m s ⁻² (sea level ¹ , 90° latitude)
		978.0 cm s ⁻² (sea level ¹ , 0° latitude)
		980.7 cm s ⁻² (sea level ¹ , 45° latitude)
<i>h</i>	Planck's constant	983.2 cm s ⁻² (sea level ¹ , 90° latitude)
		6.626 × 10 ⁻³⁴ J s
		6.626 × 10 ⁻²⁷ erg s
		0.4136 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ eV s
<i>hc</i>		1.584 × 10 ⁻³⁷ kcal s
		1.986 × 10 ⁻²⁵ J m
<i>H</i> _{sub}	heat of sublimation of water	1.240 eV nm
		51.37 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.847 MJ kg ⁻¹) at -10°C
		51.17 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.835 MJ kg ⁻¹) at -5°C
		51.00 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.826 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 0°C
		12.27 kcal mol ⁻¹ (680 cal g ⁻¹) at -10°C
<i>H</i> _{vap}	heat of vaporization of water	12.22 kcal mol ⁻¹ (677 cal g ⁻¹) at -5°C
		12.18 kcal mol ⁻¹ (675 cal g ⁻¹) at 0°C
		45.06 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.501 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 0°C
		44.63 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.477 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 10°C
		44.21 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.454 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 20°C
<i>k</i>	heat of vaporization of water	44.00 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.442 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 25°C
		43.78 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.430 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 30°C
		43.35 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.406 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 40°C
		42.91 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.382 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 50°C
		40.68 kJ mol ⁻¹ (2.258 MJ kg ⁻¹) at 100°C
<i>k</i>	Boltzmann's constant	1.381 × 10 ⁻²³ J molecule ⁻¹ K ⁻¹
		1.381 × 10 ⁻¹⁶ erg molecule ⁻¹ K ⁻¹
		8.617 × 10 ⁻⁵ eV molecule ⁻¹ K ⁻¹
<i>kT</i>		0.02354 eV molecule ⁻¹ at 0°C
		0.02526 eV molecule ⁻¹ at 20°C
		0.02569 eV molecule ⁻¹ at 25°C
		0.02699 eV molecule ⁻¹ at 40°C
<i>K</i> ^{air}	thermal conductivity coefficient of dry air (1 atmosphere) ²	0.0237 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at -10°C
		0.0243 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 0°C
		0.0250 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 10°C
		0.0257 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 20°C
		0.0264 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 30°C
		0.0270 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 40°C
		0.0277 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 50°C

1. The correction for height above sea level is -3.09×10^{-6} m s⁻² per m of altitude.

2. The pressure sensitivity is very slight, *K*^{air} increasing only about 0.0001 W m⁻¹ °C⁻¹ per atmosphere (0.1013 MPa) increase in pressure.

Symbol	Description	Magnitude
K_{water}	thermal conductivity coefficient of moist air (100% relative humidity, 1 atmosphere)	0.0242 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 0°C 0.0255 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 20°C 0.0264 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 40°C
K_{water}	thermal conductivity coefficient of water	0.565 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 0°C 0.599 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 20°C 0.627 W m ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 40°C
$\ln 2$		0.6931
N	Avogadro's number	6.0220 × 10 ²³ entities mol ⁻¹
N_{hc}		0.1196 J mol ⁻¹ m 119 600 kJ mol ⁻¹ nm 28.60 kcal mol ⁻¹ μm 28 600 kcal mol ⁻¹ nm
N_{wv}^*	saturation mole fraction of water vapor (i.e., at 100% relative humidity) at 1 atmosphere (0.1013 MPa)	See pp. 548–550 for values from –30°C to 60°C.
P_{wv}^*	saturation vapor pressure of water	See pp. 548–500 for values from –30°C to 60°C.
e	protomic charge	1.602 × 10 ⁻¹⁹ C
R	gas constant	8.314 J mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹ 1.987 cal mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹ 8.314 m ³ Pa mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹ 8.314 × 10 ⁻⁶ m ³ MPa mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹ 0.08205 litre atmosphere mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹ 0.08314 litre bar mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹ 83.14 cm ³ bar mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹
RT		2.271 × 10 ³ J mol ⁻¹ (m ³ Pa mol ⁻¹) at 0°C 2.437 × 10 ³ J mol ⁻¹ (m ³ Pa mol ⁻¹) at 20°C 2.479 × 10 ³ J mol ⁻¹ (m ³ Pa mol ⁻¹) at 25°C 2.271 × 10 ⁻³ m ³ MPa mol ⁻¹ at 0°C 2.437 × 10 ⁻³ m ³ MPa mol ⁻¹ at 20°C 2.479 × 10 ⁻³ m ³ MPa mol ⁻¹ at 25°C 542.4 cal mol ⁻¹ at 0°C 582.2 cal mol ⁻¹ at 20°C 2.271 litre MPa mol ⁻¹ at 0°C 2.437 litre MPa mol ⁻¹ at 20°C 22.71 litre bar mol ⁻¹ at 0°C 24.37 litre bar mol ⁻¹ at 20°C 22 710 cm ³ bar mol ⁻¹ at 0°C 24 370 cm ³ bar mol ⁻¹ at 20°C 22.41 litre atmosphere mol ⁻¹ at 0°C 24.05 litre atmosphere mol ⁻¹ at 20°C
2.303 RT		5.612 kJ mol ⁻¹ at 20°C 5.708 kJ mol ⁻¹ at 25°C 1.342 kcal mol ⁻¹ at 20°C 1.364 kcal mol ⁻¹ at 25°C 56 120 cm ³ bar mol ⁻¹ at 20°C

546 Appendix I *Some constants for scientific calculations*

Symbol	Description	Magnitude
RT/F	Universal gas constant divided by Faraday's constant	25.3 mV at 20°C 25.7 mV at 25°C
2.303 RT/F	Universal gas constant divided by Faraday's constant multiplied by 2.303	58.2 mV at 20°C 59.2 mV at 25°C 60.2 mV at 30°C
RT/\bar{V}_w	Universal gas constant divided by partial molal volume of water	135.0 MPa at 20°C 137.3 MPa at 25°C 32.31 cal cm ⁻³ at 20°C 135.0 J cm ⁻³ at 20°C 1 350 bars at 20°C 1 330 atmospheres at 20°C
2.303 RT/\bar{V}_w	Universal gas constant divided by partial molal volume of water multiplied by 2.303	310.9 MPa at 20°C 316.2 MPa at 25°C 3 063 atmospheres at 20°C 3 109 bars at 20 °C
solar constant		1 368 W m ⁻² 1.960 cal cm ⁻² min ⁻¹ 1.368 × 10 ⁵ erg cm ⁻² s ⁻¹ 0.1368 W cm ⁻²
thermal capacity of water (mass basis)		4 218 J kg ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 0°C 4 182 J kg ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 20°C 4 179 J kg ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 40°C 1.0074 cal g ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 0°C 0.9988 cal g ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 20°C 0.9980 cal g ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 40°C
thermal capacity of water (mole basis)		75.99 J mol ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 0°C 75.34 J mol ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 20°C 75.28 J mol ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 40°C 18.14 cal mol ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 0°C 17.99 cal mol ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 20°C 17.98 cal mol ⁻¹ °C ⁻¹ at 40°C
\bar{V}_w	partial molal volume of water	1.805 × 10 ⁻⁵ m ³ mol ⁻¹ at 20°C 18.05 cm ³ mol ⁻¹ at 20°C
ϵ_0	permittivity of a vacuum	8.854 × 10 ⁻¹² coulomb ² m ⁻² N ⁻¹ 8.854 × 10 ⁻¹² coulomb m ⁻¹ V ⁻¹
η_{air}	viscosity of air	1.716 × 10 ⁻⁵ Pa s at 0°C 1.813 × 10 ⁻⁵ Pa s at 20°C 1.907 × 10 ⁻⁵ Pa s at 40°C
η_w	viscosity of water	1.787 × 10 ⁻³ Pa s at 0°C 1.307 × 10 ⁻³ Pa s at 10°C 1.002 × 10 ⁻³ Pa s at 20°C 0.798 × 10 ⁻³ Pa s at 30°C 0.653 × 10 ⁻³ Pa s at 40°C 0.547 × 10 ⁻³ Pa s at 50°C 0.01002 dyn s cm ⁻² at 20°C 0.01002 poise at 20°C

Symbol	Description	Magnitude
ν_{air}	kinematic viscosity of air (dry, 1 atmosphere)	$1.327 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 0°C $1.505 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 20°C $1.691 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 40°C
ν_w	kinematic viscosity of water	$1.787 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 0°C $1.004 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 20°C $0.658 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 40°C
π	circumference/diameter of circle	3.14159
ρ_{air}	density of dry air (1 atmosphere, 0.1013 MPa)	1.293 kg m^{-3} at 0°C 1.205 kg m^{-3} at 20°C 1.128 kg m^{-3} at 40°C
	density of saturated air (1 atmosphere) ³	1.290 kg m^{-3} at 0°C 1.194 kg m^{-3} at 20°C 1.097 kg m^{-3} at 40°C
ρ_w	density of water	999.8 kg m^{-3} (0.9998 g cm^{-3}) at 0°C $1\,000.0 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ (1.0000 g cm^{-3}) at 4°C 999.7 kg m^{-3} (0.9997 g cm^{-3}) at 10°C 998.2 kg m^{-3} (0.9982 g cm^{-3}) at 20°C 995.6 kg m^{-3} (0.9956 g cm^{-3}) at 30°C 992.2 kg m^{-3} (0.9922 g cm^{-3}) at 40°C
ρ_{wg}		$0.00979 \text{ MPa m}^{-1}$ (20°C , sea level, 45° latitude) $0.0979 \text{ bar m}^{-1}$ (20°C , sea level, 45° latitude) 979 dyn cm^{-3} (20°C , sea level, 45° latitude) $0.0966 \text{ atmosphere m}^{-1}$ (20°C , sea level, 45° latitude)
σ	Stefan–Boltzmann constant	$5.670 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$ $5.670 \times 10^{-12} \text{ W cm}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$ $8.130 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cal cm}^{-2} \text{ min}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-4}$ $5.670 \times 10^{-5} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-4}$
σ_w	surface tension of water	0.0756 N m^{-1} (Pa m) at 0°C 0.0742 N m^{-1} (Pa m) at 10°C 0.0728 N m^{-1} (Pa m) at 20°C 0.0712 N m^{-1} (Pa m) at 30°C 0.0696 N m^{-1} (Pa m) at 40°C $7.28 \times 10^{-8} \text{ MPa m}$ at 20°C 72.8 dyn cm^{-1} at 20°C $7.18 \times 10^{-5} \text{ atmosphere cm}$ at 20°C $7.28 \times 10^{-5} \text{ bar cm}$ at 20°C

3. Moist air is less dense than dry air at the same temperature and pressure, because the molecular weight of water (18.0) is less than the average for air (29.0).