

International System of Units (SI units)

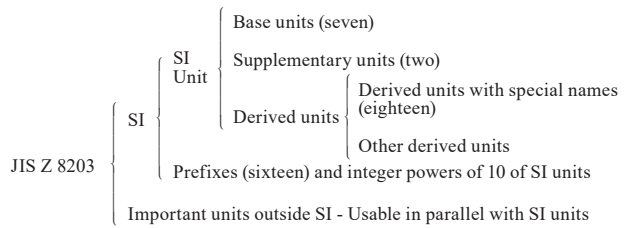
SI units

The International System of Units, or SI, comprises seven base units, prefixes to represent integer powers of 10 in the range from 10^{18} to -10^{-18} , supplementary units of radians and steradians, and twenty-seven derived units defined according to the resolution by the International Committee of Weights and Measures.

It is often abbreviated as SI from its French expression "Système International d'Unités".

Its use in ISO standards started in 1971. In Japan, the Conference on Standardization of the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee decided in 1972 to introduce the SI units to JIS in a stepwise manner. And in 1974, JIS Z 8203 International System of Units (SI) (established based on ISO1000) and the guide for its use were enacted and promulgated, and their dissemination is in progress.

Structure of SI and JIS Z 8203



Appendix table 4 Example of SI derived units that are expressed with special names

Quantity	Name	Symbol
viscosity	pascal second	Pa·s
moment of force	newton meter	N·m
surface tension	newton per meter	N/m
heat flux density, irradiation	watt per square meter	W/m ²
heat capacity, entropy	joule per kelvin	J/K
specific heat capacity, specific entropy *	joule per kilogram kelvin	J/(kg·K)
thermal conductivity	watt per meter kelvin	W/(m·K)
permittivity	farad per meter	F/m
permeability	henry per meter	H/m

* It is also referred to as mass entropy.

Appendix table 1 SI base units

Quantity	Name	Symbol	Quantity	Name	Symbol
length	meter	m	thermodynamic temperature	kelvin	K
mass	kilogram	kg	luminous intensity	candela	cd
time	second	s	amount of substance	mole	mol
current	ampere	A			

Appendix table 2 SI supplementary units

Quantity	Name	Symbol
Plane related angle	radian	rad
solid angle	steradian	sr

Appendix table 3 SI derived units with special names

Quantity	Name	Symbol	Definition
frequency	hertz	Hz	s ⁻¹
force	newton	N	m·kg·s ⁻²
pressure, stress	pascal	Pa	N/m ²
energy, work, heat	joule	J	N·m
power, radiant flux	watt	W	J/s
quantity of electricity, electric charge	coulomb	C	A·s
voltage, electrical potential	volt	V	W/A
electrical capacitance	farad	F	C/V
electrical resistance	ohm	Ω	V/A
conductance	siemens	S	A/V
magnetic flux	weber	Wb	V·s
magnetic flux density	tesla	T	Wb/m ²
inductance	henry	H	Wb/A
celsius' temperature scale	degree Celsius	°C	t°C = (t + 273.15) K
luminous flux	lumen	lm	cd·sr
illuminance	lux	lx	1
radioactivity	becquerel	Bq	
absorbed dose	gray	Gy	

Table 5 SI prefixes

Multiplication	Prefix	Symbol	Multiplication	Prefix	Symbol
10 ¹⁸	exa	E	10 ⁻¹	deci	d
10 ¹⁵	peta	P	10 ⁻²	centi	c
10 ¹²	tera	T	10 ⁻³	milli	m
10 ⁹	giga	G	10 ⁻⁶	micro	μ
10 ⁶	mega	M	10 ⁻⁹	nano	n
10 ³	kilo	k	10 ⁻¹²	pico	p
10 ²	hecto	h	10 ⁻¹⁵	femto	f
10 ¹	deca	da	10 ⁻¹⁸	atto	a

Multiplications of 10⁶ (M: mega) and larger are expressed with capital letters.

Appendix table 6 Units used in parallel with SI units

Name	Symbol	Value in SI units
minute	min	1 min = 60 s
hour	h	1 h = 60 min = 3,600 s
day	d	1 d = 24 h = 86,400 s
degree	°	1° = (π/180) rad
minute	'	1' = (1/60)° = (π/10,800) rad
second	"	1" = (1/60)' = (π/648,000) rad
liter	L	1 L = 1 dm ³ = 10 ⁻³ m ³
ton	t	1 t = 10 ³ kg

Appendix table 7.1 Conversion table from conventional gravitation units to SI units

Quantity	Unit name	Symbol	Conversion factor for SI units	SI unit name	Symbol
angle	degree	°	π/180	radian	rad
	minute	'	π/10800		
	second	"	π/648000		
length	meter	m	1	meter	m
	micron	μm	10 ⁻⁶		
	angstrom	Å	10 ⁻¹⁰		
area	square meter	m ²	1	square meter	m ²
	are	a	10 ²		
volume	cubic meter	m ³	1	cubic meter	m ³
	liter	L	10 ⁻³		

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Appendix table 7.2 Conversion table from conventional gravitation units to SI units

Quantity	Unit name	Symbol	Conversion factor	SI unit name	Symbol
angle	degree	°	$\pi/180$	radian	rad
	minute	'	$\pi/10800$		
	second	"	$\pi/648000$		
length	meter	m	1	meter	m
	micron	μ	10^{-6}		
	angstrom	Å	10^{-10}		
area	square meter	m ²	1	square meter	m ²
	are	a	10^2		
volume	cubic meter	m ³	1	cubic meter	m ³
	liter	l, L	10^{-3}		
mass	kilogram	kg	1	kilogram	kg
	ton	t	10^3		
	atomic mass unit	u	1.6606×10^{-27}		
time	second	s	1	second	s
	minute	min	60		
	hour	h	3600		
	day	d	86400		
speed, velocity	meter per second	m/s	1	meter per second	m/s
frequency	cycle	s ⁻¹	1	hertz	Hz
rotational speed	times per minute	min ⁻¹	1/60	revolutions per second	s ⁻¹
angular velocity	radian per second	rad/s	1	radian per second	rad/s
acceleration	meter per second squared	m/s ²	1	meter per second squared	m/s ²
	g	G	9.8067		
force	weight kilogram	kgf	9.8067	newton	N
	weight ton	tf	9806.7		
	dyne	dyn	10^{-5}		
moment of force	weight kilogram meter	kgf·m	9.8067	newton meter	N·m
stress	weight kilogram per square meter	kgf/m ²	9.8067	pascal	Pa
	weight kilogram per square centimeter	kgf/cm ²	9.8067×10^4		
	weight kilogram per square millimeter	kgf/mm ²	9.8067×10^6		
pressure	weight kilogram per square meter	kgf/m ²	9.8067	pascal	Pa
	meter of water	mH ₂ O	9806.7		
	millimeter mercury column	mmHg	101325/760		
	bar	bar	10^5		
energy	erg	erg	10^{-7}	joule	J
	International Steam Table calorie	cal _{IT}	4.1868		
	weight kilogram meter	kgf·m	9.8067		
	kilowatt hour	kW·h	3.600×10^6		
	metric horse power hour	PS·h	2.6478×10^6		
work rate and power	watt	W	1	watt	W
	metric horse power	PS	735.5		
	kilocalorie per hour	kcal/h	1.163		
viscosity and viscosity coefficient	poise	P	10^{-1}	pascal second	Pa·s
	centipoise	cP	10^{-3}		
	weight kilogram second per square meter	kgf·s/m ²	9.8067		
dynamic viscosity and dynamic viscosity coefficient	stokes	St	10^{-4}	square meter per second	m ² /s
	centistokes	mm ² /S, cSt	10^{-6}		
temperature	degree	°C	+273.15	kelvin	K
magnetic flux	maxwell	M _x	10^{-8}	weber	Wb
magnetic flux density	gamma	γ	10^{-9}	tesla	T
	gauss	G _s	10^{-4}		
magnetic field strength	oersted	O _e	$10^3/4 \pi$	ampere per meter	A/m
quantity of electricity	coulomb	C	1	coulomb	C
electrical potential difference	volt	V	1	volt	V
electrical capacitance	farad	F	1	farad	F
electrical resistance	ohm	Ω	1	ohm	Ω
conductance	siemens	S	1	siemens	S
inductance	henry	H	1	henry	H
current	ampere	A	1	ampere	A

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Appendix table 8 Comparison table between SI and CGS/system of gravitational units

Representative quantity	SI units	Absolute system of units		Gravity unit system	
		m - kg	ft - lb	m - kgf	ft - lbf
length	m	m	ft	m	ft
mass	kg	kg	lb	kgf·s ² /m	lbf·s ² /ft
time	s	s	s	s	s
gravity (force)	N	kg·m/s ²	lb·ft/s ²	kgf	lbf
acceleration	m/s ²	m/s ²	ft/s ²	kgf/s ²	lbf/s ²
pressure (stress)	Pa	kg/m·s ²	lb/ft·s ²	kgf/m ²	lbf/ft ²
energy	J	kg·m ² /s ²	lb·ft ² /s ²	kgf·m	lbf·ft
work rate	W	kg·m ² /s ³	lb·ft ² /s ³	kgf·m/s	lbf·ft/s
density	kg/m ³	kg/m ³	lb/ft ³	kgf·s ² /m ⁴	lbf·s ² /ft ⁴
viscosity	Pa·s	kg/m·s	lb/ft·s	kgf·s/m ²	lbf·s/ft ²
temperature	K	°C	°C	°C	°C

Note: 1 N = 10⁵ g·cm/s², 1 Pa = IN/m², 1J = 1 N·m, 1 W = 1 N·m/s
1 dyn = 1 g·cm/s², 1 Poundal = 1 lb·ft/s², 1 slug = 1 lb·s²/ft
1 Poise = 1 g/cm·s

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■ Conversion tables for frequently used units to SI units

● Force

N newton	dyn	kgf
1	1×10^5	1.01972×10^{-1}
1×10^{-5}	1	1.01972×10^{-6}
9.80665	9.80665×10^5	1

● Pressure

Pa	bar	kgf/cm ²	atm	mmH ₂ O	mmHg or Torr
1	1×10^{-5}	1.01972×10^{-5}	9.86923×10^{-6}	1.01972×10^{-1}	7.50062×10^{-3}
1×10^5	1	1.01972	9.86923×10^{-1}	1.01972×10^4	7.50062×10^2
9.80665×10^4	9.80665×10^{-1}	1	9.67841×10^{-1}	1×10^4	7.35559×10^2
1.01325×10^5	1.01325	1.03323	1	1.03323×10^4	7.60000×10^2
9.80665	9.80665×10^{-5}	1×10^{-4}	9.67841×10^{-5}	1	7.35559×10^{-2}
1.33322×10^2	1.33322×10^{-3}	1.35951×10^{-3}	1.31579×10^{-3}	1.35951×10	1

Note: 1 Pa = 1 N/m²

● Stress

Pa	MPa or N/mm ²	kgf/mm ²	kgf/cm ²
1	1×10^{-6}	1.01972×10^{-7}	1.01972×10^{-5}
1×10^6	1	1.01972×10^{-1}	1.01972×10
9.80665×10^6	9.80665	1	1×10^2
9.80665×10^4	9.80665×10^{-2}	1×10^{-2}	1

● Work, Energy, Heat

J	kW·h	kgf·m	kcal
1	2.77778×10^{-7}	1.01972×10^{-1}	2.38889×10^{-4}
3.600×10^6	1	3.67098×10^5	8.6000×10^2
9.80665	2.72407×10^{-6}	1	2.34270×10^{-3}
4.18605×10^3	1.16279×10^{-3}	4.26858×10^2	1

Note: 1 J = 1 W·s, 1 W·h = 3600 W·s
1 cal = 4.18605 J

● Power

kW	kgf·m/s	PS	kcal/h
1	1.01972×10^2	1.35962	8.6000×10^2
9.80665×10^{-3}	1	1.33333×10^{-2}	8.43371
7.355×10^{-1}	7.5×10	1	6.32529×10^2
1.16279×10^{-3}	1.18572×10^{-1}	1.58095×10^{-3}	1

Note: 1 W = 1 J/s, PS: metric horsepower
1 PS = 0.7355 kW
1 cal = 4.18605 J

● Temperature

$$T_1 = T_2 + 273.15$$

$$T_3 = 1.8T_2 + 32$$

$\left[\begin{array}{l} T_1: \text{thermodynamic temperature K (kelvin)} \\ T_2: \text{Celsius' temperature scale } ^\circ\text{C (degree Celsius)} \\ T_3: ^\circ\text{F} \end{array} \right]$

● Moment of force

N·m newton meter	kgf·m
1	0.1020
9.807	1

Note: 1 N·m = 1 kg·m²/S₂

● Viscosity

Pa·s pascal second	cP	P (poise)
1	1×10^3	1×10
1×10^{-3}	1	1×10^{-2}
1×10^{-1}	1×10^2	1

Note: 1 P = 1 dyn·s/cm² = 1 g/cm·s
1 Pa·s = 1 N·s/m², 1 cP = 1 mPa·s

● Dynamic viscosity

m ² /S	mm ² /S	St
1	1×10^6	1×10^4
1×10^{-6}	1	1×10^{-2}
1×10^{-4}	1×10^2	1

Note: 1 St = 1 cm²/s

● Thermal conductivity

W/(m·K)	kcal/(h·m·°C)
1	8.6000×10^{-1}
1.16279	1

Note: 1 cal = 4.18605 J

● Heat transfer coefficient

W/(m ² ·K)	kcal/(h·m ² ·°C)
1	8.6000×10^{-1}
1.16279	1

Note: 1 cal = 4.18605 J

● Specific heat capacity

J/(kg·K)	kcal/(kg·°C) cal/(g·°C)
1	2.38889×10^{-4}
4.18605×10^3	1

Note: 1 cal = 4.18605 J