

**GS331 In-Class Exercise**  
**Introduction to Scientific Inquiry and Data Analysis**

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**Introduction**

KEY

Earth Science employs the scientific method via qualitative and quantitative observation, the collection of data, hypothesis formulation / testing, and hypothesis modification. This lab exercise provides a basic introduction to quantitative observation and analysis.

**Part 1 - Unit Conversion**

Using the attached metric and English measurement unit conversion tables, complete the following conversions. SHOW ALL OF YOUR MATH WORK IN THE SPACE PROVIDED.

2.05 m = 205 cm  $2.05 \text{ m} \left( \frac{100 \text{ cm}}{1 \text{ m}} \right) = 205 \text{ cm}$

1.50 m = 1500 mm  $1.5 \text{ m} \left( \frac{1000 \text{ mm}}{1 \text{ m}} \right) = 1500 \text{ mm}$

5.4 g = 5400 mg  $5.4 \text{ g} \left( \frac{1000 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ g}} \right) = 5400 \text{ mg}$

6.8 m = 0.0068 km  $6.8 \text{ m} \left( \frac{1 \text{ km}}{1000 \text{ m}} \right) = 0.0068 \text{ km}$

4214.6 cm = 42.15 m  $4214.6 \text{ cm} \left( \frac{1 \text{ m}}{100 \text{ cm}} \right) = 42.15 \text{ m}$

321.5 g = 0.3215 kg  $321.5 \text{ g} \left( \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{1000 \text{ g}} \right) = 0.3215 \text{ kg}$

1 in = 2.54 cm

1 m = 3.28 ft

1 mi = 1.61 km  $1 \text{ mi} \left( \frac{1 \text{ km}}{0.62 \text{ mi}} \right) = 1.61 \text{ km}$

123.4 mi = 199 km  $123.4 \text{ mi} \left( \frac{1 \text{ km}}{0.62 \text{ mi}} \right) = 199 \text{ km}$

1234 km = 765 mi  $1234 \text{ km} \left( \frac{1 \text{ mi}}{1.61 \text{ km}} \right) = 765 \text{ mi}$

1054 lb = 479 kg  $1054 \text{ lb} \left( \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{2.2 \text{ lb}} \right) = 479 \text{ kg}$

$2 \times 10^5 \text{ in} = \frac{3.17 \text{ mi} (2 \times 10^5 \text{ in}) \left( \frac{1 \text{ mi}}{63,360 \text{ in}} \right) =$

$2 \times 10^9 \text{ ft} = \frac{3.8 \times 10^5 \text{ mi} (2 \times 10^9 \text{ ft}) \left( \frac{1 \text{ mi}}{5280 \text{ ft}} \right) =$

$126,765,000 \text{ ft} = \frac{38636.1 \text{ km} (126,765,000 \text{ ft}) \left( \frac{1 \text{ km}}{3281 \text{ ft}} \right) = 38636.1$

$72^\circ \text{C} = \frac{161.6^\circ \text{F}}{\left( \frac{9}{5} (72^\circ \text{C}) + 32^\circ \right) = 161.6^\circ \text{F}}$

$8^\circ \text{F} = \frac{-13.3^\circ \text{C}}{\frac{5}{9} (8^\circ \text{F} - 32) = -13.3^\circ \text{C}}$

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

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

$5.7 \times 10^{45} \text{ sec} = \frac{1.81 \times 10^{38} \text{ years}}{5.7 \times 10^{45} \text{ sec} \left( \frac{1 \text{ yr}}{3.15 \times 10^7 \text{ sec}} \right) = 1.81 \times 10^{38} \text{ yr}}$

$9.8 \times 10^{20} \text{ days} = \frac{2.68 \times 10^{18} \text{ years}}{9.8 \times 10^{20} \text{ day} \left( \frac{1 \text{ yr}}{365.25 \text{ day}} \right) = 2.68 \times 10^{18} \text{ yr}}$

$2.0 \times 10^{31} \text{ in} = \frac{5.1 \times 10^{26} \text{ km}}{2.0 \times 10^{31} \text{ in} \left( \frac{1 \text{ km}}{39370 \text{ in}} \right) = 5.1 \times 10^{26} \text{ km}}$

If 1 inch equals 2000 ft on a map, points A and B are 7.8 inches apart on the map. How far apart are points A and B on the ground in feet? Now how about in miles?

$(7.8 \text{ in}) \left( \frac{2000 \text{ ft}}{1 \text{ in}} \right) = 15600 \text{ ft}$

$15,600 \text{ ft} \left( \frac{1 \text{ mi}}{5280 \text{ ft}} \right) = 2.95 \text{ mi}$

## Part 2. Solving Equations

A. The density of a substance is defined by it's mass divided by it's volume. The equation has the following form:

$$D = M / V$$

where D is density in gm/cm<sup>3</sup>, M = mass in grams, and V is volume in cm<sup>3</sup>

1. You measure the mass of a substance as 2356 gm. It's volume is 534 cm<sup>3</sup>, calculate it's density in gm/cm<sup>3</sup>. SHOW THE FORMULA AND ALL OF YOUR MATH WORK!

$$D = \frac{M}{V} = \frac{2356 \text{ gm}}{534 \text{ cm}^3} = 4.41 \text{ gm/cm}^3$$

2. The density of a substance is 9.8 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>. If you had a volume of 3.8 cm<sup>3</sup> of the substance, what would be the corresponding mass in grams? Hint: Rearrange the density equation to solve for mass. SHOW THE FORMULA AND ALL OF YOUR MATH WORK!

$$v. D = \frac{M}{V} \Rightarrow D \cdot V = M = (9.8 \frac{\text{gm}}{\text{cm}^3}) (3.8 \text{ cm}^3) = 37.24 \text{ gm}$$

3. The density of a substance is 2.5 gm/cm<sup>3</sup> and you possess 15.3 grams of that material. What will be it's corresponding volume in cm<sup>3</sup>. Hint: Rearrange the density equation to solve for mass. SHOW THE FORMULA AND ALL OF YOUR MATH WORK!

$$v. D = \frac{M}{V} \Rightarrow V \cdot D = M \Rightarrow V = \frac{M}{D} \Rightarrow \frac{15.3 \text{ g}}{2.5 \text{ gm/cm}^3} \Rightarrow 6.12 \text{ cm}^3$$

B. The velocity of moving objects (for example your car while driving) is measure as a rate of motion, according to the following equation:

$$V = d / t$$

where V is velocity (m/sec), d is distance (m), and t is time (sec).

4. You drive your car between two cities that are 123 miles apart. It takes you 4 hours to get there. Calculate your average velocity in mi/hr. SHOW THE FORMULA AND ALL OF YOUR MATH WORK!

$$V = \frac{d}{t} = \frac{123 \text{ mi}}{4 \text{ hr}} = 30.75 \text{ mi/hr}$$

5. Using the velocity you calculated in 4 above, what was your velocity in m/sec? Hint: you will have to use a distance and time conversion factor. SHOW THE FORMULA AND ALL OF YOUR MATH WORK!

$$\left( 30.75 \frac{\text{mi}}{\text{hr}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ hr}}{60 \text{ min}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ min}}{60 \text{ sec}} \right) \left( \frac{1.61 \times 10^3 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ mi}} \right) = 13.8 \text{ m/sec}$$

6. You are driving a car at a velocity of 10 m/sec for a distance of 12 km. How long did it take you to get there? Answer in hours. SHOW THE FORMULA AND ALL OF YOUR MATH WORK!

$$t. V = \frac{d}{t} \Rightarrow t \cdot V = d \Rightarrow t = \frac{d}{V} = \frac{(12 \text{ km})(1000 \text{ m/km})}{10 \text{ m/sec} (3600 \text{ sec/hr})} = \frac{12000 \text{ m}}{36000 \text{ m/hr}} = 0.03 \text{ hr}$$