

EE47008

Notation and symbols, in SI¹ units

Quantity	Description	Units
Area (A)	length \times length	square meters (m^2)
Capacitance (C)	charge/potential	Coulomb/volt (C/V), Farad (F)
Charge density	either, linear charge density ρ_l (charge/length)	C/m
	surface charge density ρ_s (charge/area)	C/m ²
	volume charge density ρ_v (charge/volume)	C/m ³
Charge (Q)	current \times time	Coulomb (C)
fundamental (q)	electron charge	1.602×10^{-19} C
Conductance	1/resistance	1/Ohm, Ω^{-1}
Conductivity (σ)	conductance/length	$\Omega^{-1}m^{-1}$
Current (I)	charge/time	A
Current density (J)	current/area	A/m ²
Efficiency (η)	energy out/energy in	dimensionless, %
Electric dipole (\mathbf{p})	$\mathbf{p} = q\mathbf{d}$	C m
Electric field (ξ)	force/charge or potential/length	V/m
Electric flux density (\mathbf{D})	electric flux = $\int_{\text{surface}} \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = Q$ \mathbf{D} is electric flux/area	C/m ²
Force (\mathbf{F})	mass \times acceleration	Newton (N)
Frequency (f)	cycles/second	Hertz, (Hz or s ⁻¹)
Inductance (L)	magnetic flux/current	Henry (H) or Wb/A
Length (l, d)		meter (m)
Magnetic field intensity (\mathbf{H})	$\int_{\text{loop}} \mathbf{H} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = I$	A/m
Magnetic flux (Φ)	$\Phi = \int_s \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$	Weber (Wb)
Magnetic field (\mathbf{B})	magnetic flux density (Φ /area)	Tesla (T) Weber/m ² (Wb/m ²)
Mass (m)		kilogram (kg)
Permeability (μ_0)	for vacuum	Henry/meter (H/m)
Permittivity (ϵ_0), dielectric constant	for vacuum or air at atmospheric pressure	F/m
Polarization (\mathbf{P})	electric dipole/volume	C/m ²
Potential	voltage	V
Power	energy/time	Watt (W)

Bold face indicates vector quantities

¹ International System of Units (SI), The NIST Reference on Constants, Units, and Uncertainty, <http://physics.nist.gov/cuu/Units/>, Aug. 2, 2008.

Quantity	Description	Units
Power density	power/area	W/m ²
Relative permittivity (ϵ_r)	material permittivity/ ϵ_o	dimensionless
Resistance (R)	voltage/current	Ω
Resistivity (ρ)	resistance \times length	W cm
Seebeck coefficient (Q)	electric field/temperature gradient	V/K
Strain (s)	relative change in length $\Delta l/l$	dimensionless
Stress (σ)	force/area	N/m ²
Temperature (T)		Kelvin (K)
Time (t)		s
Thermal conductivity (κ)	Watts/Kelvin/meter	W/(K m)
Thermoelectric figure-of-merit (Z)	$Q^2/\kappa\sigma$	K ⁻¹
Velocity (v)	distance/time	m/s
Wavelength (λ)	propagation velocity/ frequency	m
Young's modulus (Y)	strain/stress	N/m ²

Some symbols have to be determined by context: σ is used for both conductivity and stress, and Q is used for charge and Seebeck coefficient. This table is based on Appendix B of Iskander².

²M. F. Iskander, Electromagnetic Fields and Waves, Waveland Press, 1992, pp. 720-723.