

# 1. PHYSICAL CONSTANTS

**Table 1.1.** Reviewed 2011 by P.J. Mohr (NIST). Mainly from the “CODATA Recommended Values of the Fundamental Physical Constants: 2010” by P.J. Mohr, B.N. Taylor, and D.B. Newell in arXiv:1203.5425 and Rev. Mod. Phys. (to be published). The last group of constants (beginning with the Fermi coupling constant) comes from the Particle Data Group. The figures in parentheses after the values give the 1-standard-deviation uncertainties in the last digits; the corresponding fractional uncertainties in parts per  $10^9$  (ppb) are given in the last column. This set of constants (aside from the last group) is recommended for international use by CODATA (the Committee on Data for Science and Technology). The full 2010 CODATA set of constants may be found at <http://physics.nist.gov/constants>. See also P.J. Mohr and D.B. Newell, “Resource Letter FC-1: The Physics of Fundamental Constants,” Am. J. Phys., **78** (2010) 338.

Quantity	Symbol, equation	Value	Uncertainty (ppb)
speed of light in vacuum	$c$	$299\,792\,458 \text{ m s}^{-1}$	exact*
Planck constant	$h$	$6.626\,069\,57(29) \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$	44
Planck constant, reduced	$\hbar \equiv h/2\pi$	$1.054\,571\,726(47) \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$ $= 6.582\,119\,28(15) \times 10^{-22} \text{ MeV s}$	44 22
electron charge magnitude	$e$	$1.602\,176\,565(35) \times 10^{-19} \text{ C} = 4.803\,204\,50(11) \times 10^{-10} \text{ esu}$	22, 22
conversion constant	$\hbar c$	$197.326\,9718(44) \text{ MeV fm}$	22
conversion constant	$(\hbar c)^2$	$0.389\,379\,338(17) \text{ GeV}^2 \text{ mbarn}$	44
electron mass	$m_e$	$0.510\,998\,928(11) \text{ MeV}/c^2 = 9.109\,382\,91(40) \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$	22, 44
proton mass	$m_p$	$938.272\,046(21) \text{ MeV}/c^2 = 1.672\,621\,777(74) \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$ $= 1.007\,276\,466\,812(90) \text{ u} = 1836.152\,672\,45(75) m_e$	22, 44 0.089, 0.41
deuteron mass	$m_d$	$1875.612\,859(41) \text{ MeV}/c^2$	22
unified atomic mass unit (u)	(mass $^{12}\text{C}$ atom)/12 = (1 g)/( $N_A$ mol)	$931.494\,061(21) \text{ MeV}/c^2 = 1.660\,538\,921(73) \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$	22, 44
permittivity of free space	$\epsilon_0 = 1/\mu_0 c^2$	$8.854\,187\,817 \dots \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$	exact
permeability of free space	$\mu_0$	$4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N A}^{-2} = 12.566\,370\,614 \dots \times 10^{-7} \text{ N A}^{-2}$	exact
fine-structure constant	$\alpha = e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c$	$7.297\,352\,5698(24) \times 10^{-3} = 1/137.035\,999\,074(44)^\dagger$	0.32, 0.32
classical electron radius	$r_e = e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2$	$2.817\,940\,3267(27) \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$	0.97
( $e^-$ Compton wavelength)/ $2\pi$	$\lambda_e = \hbar/m_e c = r_e \alpha^{-1}$	$3.861\,592\,6800(25) \times 10^{-13} \text{ m}$	0.65
Bohr radius ( $m_{\text{nucleus}} = \infty$ )	$a_\infty = 4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar^2/m_e c^2 = r_e \alpha^{-2}$	$0.529\,177\,210\,92(17) \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$	0.32
wavelength of 1 eV/c particle	$hc/(1 \text{ eV})$	$1.239\,841\,930(27) \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}$	22
Rydberg energy	$hcR_\infty = m_e e^4/(2(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2 \hbar^2) = m_e c^2 \alpha^2/2$	$13.605\,692\,53(30) \text{ eV}$	22
Thomson cross section	$\sigma_T = 8\pi r_e^2/3$	$0.665\,245\,8734(13) \text{ barn}$	1.9
Bohr magneton	$\mu_B = e\hbar/2m_e$	$5.788\,381\,8066(38) \times 10^{-11} \text{ MeV T}^{-1}$	0.65
nuclear magneton	$\mu_N = e\hbar/2m_p$	$3.152\,451\,2605(22) \times 10^{-14} \text{ MeV T}^{-1}$	0.71
electron cyclotron freq./field	$\omega_{\text{cycl}}^e/B = e/m_e$	$1.758\,820\,088(39) \times 10^{11} \text{ rad s}^{-1} \text{ T}^{-1}$	22
proton cyclotron freq./field	$\omega_{\text{cycl}}^p/B = e/m_p$	$9.578\,833\,58(21) \times 10^7 \text{ rad s}^{-1} \text{ T}^{-1}$	22
gravitational constant <sup>†</sup>	$G_N$	$6.673\,84(80) \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$ $= 6.708\,37(80) \times 10^{-39} \hbar c (\text{GeV}/c^2)^{-2}$	$1.2 \times 10^5$ $1.2 \times 10^5$
standard gravitational accel.	$g_N$	$9.806\,65 \text{ m s}^{-2}$	exact
Avogadro constant	$N_A$	$6.022\,141\,29(27) \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$	44
Boltzmann constant	$k$	$1.380\,6488(13) \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$ $= 8.617\,3324(78) \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV K}^{-1}$	910 910
molar volume, ideal gas at STP	$N_A k(273.15 \text{ K})/(101\,325 \text{ Pa})$	$22.413\,968(20) \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$	910
Wien displacement law constant	$b = \lambda_{\text{max}} T$	$2.897\,7721(26) \times 10^{-3} \text{ m K}$	910
Stefan-Boltzmann constant	$\sigma = \pi^2 k^4/60\hbar^3 c^2$	$5.670\,373(21) \times 10^{-8} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$	3600
Fermi coupling constant <sup>**</sup>	$G_F/(\hbar c)^3$	$1.166\,378\,7(6) \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$	500
weak-mixing angle	$\sin^2 \hat{\theta}(M_Z) \text{ (MS)}$	$0.231\,16(12)^{\dagger\dagger}$	$5.2 \times 10^5$
$W^\pm$ boson mass	$m_W$	$80.385(15) \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$1.9 \times 10^5$
$Z^0$ boson mass	$m_Z$	$91.1876(21) \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$2.3 \times 10^4$
strong coupling constant	$\alpha_s(m_Z)$	$0.1184(7)$	$5.9 \times 10^6$
$\pi = 3.141\,592\,653\,589\,793\,238$		$e = 2.718\,281\,828\,459\,045\,235$	$\gamma = 0.577\,215\,664\,901\,532\,861$
1 in $\equiv 0.0254 \text{ m}$	1 G $\equiv 10^{-4} \text{ T}$	1 eV $= 1.602\,176\,565(35) \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$	$kT$ at 300 K $= [38.681\,731(35)]^{-1} \text{ eV}$
1 Å $\equiv 0.1 \text{ nm}$	1 dyne $\equiv 10^{-5} \text{ N}$	1 eV/ $c^2$ $= 1.782\,661\,845(39) \times 10^{-36} \text{ kg}$	0 °C $\equiv 273.15 \text{ K}$
1 barn $\equiv 10^{-28} \text{ m}^2$	1 erg $\equiv 10^{-7} \text{ J}$	2.997\,924\,58 $\times 10^9$ esu $= 1 \text{ C}$	1 atmosphere $\equiv 760 \text{ Torr} \equiv 101\,325 \text{ Pa}$

\* The meter is the length of the path traveled by light in vacuum during a time interval of 1/299 792 458 of a second.

† At  $Q^2 = 0$ . At  $Q^2 \approx m_W^2$  the value is  $\sim 1/128$ .

‡ Absolute lab measurements of  $G_N$  have been made only on scales of about 1 cm to 1 m.

\*\* See the discussion in Sec. 10, “Electroweak model and constraints on new physics.”

†† The corresponding  $\sin^2 \theta$  for the effective angle is 0.23146(12).