#### DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Physics 1A Homework Solutions Instructor: Professor M.Y. Okamura

# Solutions to Problems

### 1.1

Since 1 billion is equal to 10000000000, or  $10^9$ ; 10 billion =  $100000000000 = 10 \times 10^9 = 10^{10}$ .

# 1.3

Use the definitions of the various prefixes listed in Table 1.2.

- (a)  $10.0 \,\mathrm{ms} = (10.0 \,\mathrm{ms})(0.001 \,\mathrm{s/ms}) = 0.010 \,\mathrm{s}$ .
- (b)  $1000 \,\mu\text{s} = (1000 \,\mu\text{s})(0.000 \,001 \,\text{s}/\mu\text{s}) = 0.001 \,\text{s}.$
- (c)  $10.000 \,\mathrm{ks} = (10.000 \,\mathrm{ks})(1000 \,\mathrm{s/ks}) = 10000 \,\mathrm{s}$ .
- (d)  $100 \,\mathrm{Ms} = (100 \,\mathrm{Ms})(1\,000\,000 \,\mathrm{s/Ms}) = 100\,000\,000 \,\mathrm{s}$ .
- (e)  $1000 \, \text{ns} = (1000 \, \text{ns})(0.000 \, 000 \, 001 \, \text{s/ns}) = 0.000 \, 001 \, \text{s}.$

#### 1.6

Since  $1 \, \text{mi} = 1.609 \, \text{km}$ ,

$$1.0 \times 10^3 \,\mathrm{mi} = (1.0 \times 10^3 \,\mathrm{mi})(1.609 \,\mathrm{km/mi}) = 1.6 \times 10^3 \,\mathrm{km}$$
.

## **1.10**

Since  $1 \text{ nm} = 10^{-9} \text{ m}$  and  $1 \text{ m} = 10^{2} \text{ cm}$ ,

$$1\text{Å} = 0.1 \,\text{nm} = (0.1 \,\text{nm})(10^{-9} \,\text{m/nm})(10^2 \,\text{cm/m}) = 10^{-8} \,\text{cm}$$
.

#### 1.13

According to the hint given in the problem statement the number of meters in a mile is given by 1 mi = (1 mi)(5280 ft/mi)(12 in./ft)(2.54 cm/in.)(0.01 m/cm) = 1609 m. Thus

$$1.00 \text{ ly} = 5.88 \times 10^{12} \text{ mi} = (5.88 \times 10^{12} \text{ mi})(1609 \text{ m/mi}) = 9.46 \times 10^{15} \text{ m}$$

#### 1.19

Let the mass of each nickel be m and the number of nickels whose total mass is  $M=1\,\mathrm{kg}$  be N. Then M = Nm. Since  $m = 5 g = (5 g)(10^{-3} kg/g) = 5 \times 10^{-3} kg$ ,

$$N = \frac{M}{m} = \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg}} = 2 \times 10^2$$
.

# 1.23

The time in question is  $t = (1/500) s = 2 \times 10^{-3} s$ . Using  $1 s = 10^3 ms = 10^6 \mu s = 10^9 ns$ , this is

$$t = (2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s})(10^3 \text{ ms/s}) = 2 \text{ ms}$$
  
=  $(2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s})(10^6 \mu\text{s/s}) = 2 \times 10^3 \mu\text{s}$   
=  $(2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s})(10^9 \text{ ns/s}) = 2 \times 10^6 \text{ ns}$ .

#### 1.24

Since 1 h = (1 h)(60 min/h)(60 s/min) = 3600 s, 24 h = (24 h)(3600 s/h) = 86400 s.

# 1.46

The diameter D of each hydrogen atom is twice its radius, at about  $D=2(5.29177\times 10^{-11}\,\mathrm{m})=1.058354\times 10^{-10}\,\mathrm{m}$ . A total of N such atoms, lined up one "touching" the next, will have an end-to-end length of ND. If that length is 1.0 m, then

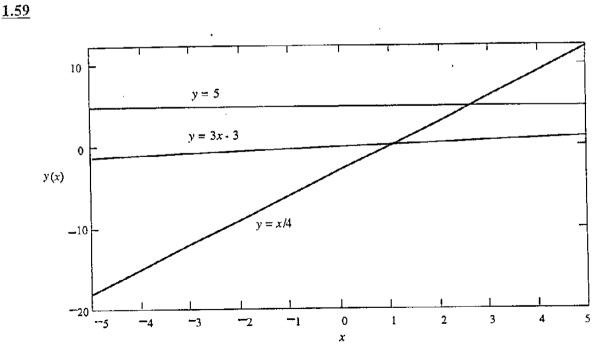
$$N = \frac{1.0 \,\mathrm{m}}{D} = \frac{1.0 \,\mathrm{m}}{1.058354 \times 10^{-10} \,\mathrm{m}} = 9.4 \times 10^9 \,.$$

# 1.47

The volume V of a sphere of radius R is given by  $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3$ . Thus for the Moon

$$V_{\rm c} = \frac{4\pi}{3} R_{\rm c}^3 = \frac{4\pi}{3} \left[ (1.738 \times 10^3 \,\mathrm{km}) (10^3 \,\mathrm{m/km}) \right]^3 = 2.199 \times 10^{19} \,\mathrm{m}^3$$
, where we used  $1 \,\mathrm{km} = 10^3 \,\mathrm{m}$  to convert the result to  $\mathrm{m}^3$ . To two significant figures, this is

 $2.2 \times 10^{19} \,\mathrm{m}^3$ .



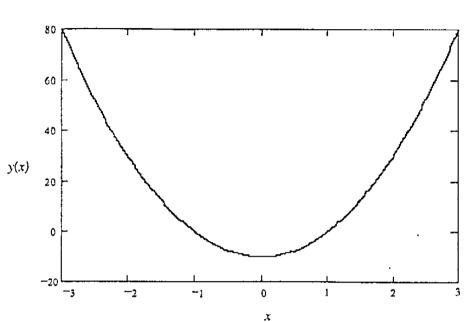
(d) Let the equation in question be y = mx + b. Since it represents a straight line parallel to the one described by y = 3x - 3 we have m = 3. Also, as it passes the point (0, 5) we have  $5 = 3 \times 0 + b$ , or b = 5. So the equation is y = 3x + 5.

The sketch is shown below. The minimum value of y(x) occurs at the point where dy/dx = 0:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}(10x^2 - 10) = 10(2x) = 20x = 0,$$

i.e., at x = 0. This is apparent since the only x-dependent term in y(x) is  $10x^2$ , which cannot be negative and reaches its minimum value of zero at x = 0. The minimum value of y is  $y_{\min} = 10(0)^2 - 10 = -10$ .

 $y_{\min} = 10(0)^2 - 10 = -10$ . To find the value of x at which y(x) = 0, let  $y(x) = 10x^2 - 10 = 0$  and solve for x:  $x^2 = 10/10 = 1$ ,  $x = \pm 1$ .



cannot be positive and reaches its maximum value of zero at x-2=0, or x=2. Thus y(x) has a maximum value of 24 when x=2, as you can easily verify by setting dy/dx=0.

1.64

To find the value of x when y(x) = 0, set

or  $(x-2)^2 = 24/12 = 2$ ,  $x-2 = \pm \sqrt{2}$ , i.e.,  $x = 2 \pm \sqrt{2} \approx 0.586$  or 3.414. Check these results with the plot below.

The plot is shown below. Note that the only x-dependent term in y(x) is  $-12(x-2)^2$ , which

 $y(x) = -12(x-2)^2 + 24 = 0$ 

