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## Measuring space: accuracy and 2D geometry

Almost everything we do requires some understanding of our surroundings and the distance between objects. But how do we go about measuring the space around us?


How can you calculate the distance travelled by a satellite in orbit?

How do scientists measure the depths of lunar craters by measuring the length of the shadow cast by the edge of the crater?

How far can you see? If you stood somewhere higher or lower, how would that affect how much of the Earth you can see?
Think about the following:

- If you stood 10 metres above the ground, what would be the distance between you and the farthest object that you can see?
- One World Trade Center is the tallest building in New York City. If you stand on the Observatory floor, 382 m above the ground, how far can you see?
- How can you make a diagram to represent the distance to
 the farthest object that you can see? How do you think the distance you can see will change if you move the observation point higher?


## Developing inquiry skills

Write down any similar inquiry questions that might be useful if you were asked to find how far you could see from a local landmark, or the top of the tallest building, in your city or country.
What type of questions would you need to ask to decide on the height of a control tower from which you could see the whole of an airfield? Write down any similar situations in which you could investigate how far you can see from a given point, and what to change so you could see more (or less).
Think about the questions in this opening problem and answer any you can. As you work through the chapter, you will gain mathematical knowiedge and skills that will help you to answer them all.

## Before youstart

## You should know how to:

1 Find the circumference of a circle with radius 2 cm . eg $2 \pi(2)=12.6 \mathrm{~cm}(12.5663 \ldots)$

2 Find the area of a circle with radius 2 cm . $\pi(2)^{2}=12.6 \mathrm{~cm}(12.5663 \ldots)$

3 Find the area of:
a a triangle with side 5 cm and height towards this side 8.2 cm
$A=\frac{5 \times 8.2}{2}=20.5 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$
b a square with side 3 cm $3^{2}=9 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$
c a trapezoid with bases 10 m and 7 m , and height 4.5 m . $\frac{10+7}{2} \times 4.5=8.5 \times 4.5=38.25 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$

## Skills check

## Click here for help

 with this skills check1 Find the circumference of a circle with radius $r=5.3 \mathrm{~cm}$.

2 Find the area of a circle with radius 6.5 cm .

3 Find the areas of the following shapes.

b


C


### 1.1 Measurements and estimates

## Investigation 1

## A Measuring a potato

1 Make a list of all the physical properties of a potato. Which of these properties can you measure? How could you measure them? Are there any properties that you cannot measure? How do we determine what we can measure?
2 Factual What does it mean to measure a property of an object? How do we measure?

3 Factual Which properties of an object can we measure?
4 Conceptual Why do we use measurements and how do we use measuring to define properties of an object?

## B Measuring length

5 Estimate the length of the potato.
6 Measure the length of the potato. How accurate do you think your measurement is?

## C Measuring surface area

Recall that the area that encloses a 3D object is called the surface area.
7 Estimate the surface area of the potato and write down your estimate.
Use a piece of aluminium foil to wrap the potato and keep any overlapped areas to a minimum. Once the potato is entirely wrapped without any overlaps, unwrap the foil and place it over grid paper with $1 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$ units, trace around it and count the number of units that it covers.

8 Record your measurement. How accurate do you think it is?
9 Measure your potato again, this time using sheets of grid paper with units of $0.5 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$ and $0.25 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$. Again, superimpose the aluminium foil representing the surface area of your potato on each of the grids, trace around it on each sheet of grid paper, and estimate the surface area.

10 Compare your three measurements. What can you conclude?
11 Factual How accurate are your measurements? Could the use of different units affect your measurement?

## D Measuring volume

You will measure the volume of a potato, which has an irregular shape, by using a technique that was used by the Ancient Greek mathematician Archimedes, called displacement. The potato is to be submerged in water and you will measure the distance the water level is raised.

12 Estimate the volume of the potato.
13 What units are you using to measure the volume of water? Can you use this unit to measure the volume of a solid?

Note the height of the water in the beaker before you insert the potato. Slowly and carefully place the potato in the water, and again note the height of the water. Determine the difference in water level.

14 Record your measurement for the volume of the potato.
15 Conceptual If you used a beaker with smaller units, do you think that you would have a different measurement for the volume?
E Measuring weight
16 Estimate the weight of the potato and write down your estimate.
17 Use a balance scale to measure the weight of the potato. Which units will you use?
18 Conceptual Could the use of different units affect your measurement?
F Compare results
19 Compare your potato measurements with the measurements of another group. How would you decide which potato is larger? What measures can you use to decide?

20 Conceptual How do we describe the properties of an object?

Measurements help us compare objects and understand how they relate to each other.

Measuring requires approximating. If a smaller measuring unit is chosen then a more accurate measurement can be obtained.

When you measure, you first select a property of the object that you will measure. Then you choose an appropriate unit of measurement for that property. And finally, you determine the number of units.

## Investigation 2

Margaret Hamilton worked for NASA as the lead developer for Apollo flight software. The photo here shows her in 1969, standing next to the books of navigation software code that she and her team produced for the Apollo mission that first sent humans to the Moon.
1 Estimate the height of the books of code stacked together, as shown in the image. What assumptions are you making?

2 Estimate the number of pages of code for the Apollo mission. How would you go about making this estimate? What assumptions are you making?

3 Factual What is an estimate? What is estimation? How would you go about estimating? How can comparing measures help you estimate?
4 Conceptual Why are estimations useful?


Estimation (or estimating) is finding an approximation as close as possible to the value of a measurement by sensible guessing. Often the estimate is used to check whether a calculation makes sense, or to avoid complicated calculations.

Estimation is often done by comparing the attribute that is measured to another one, or by sampling.

## Did you know?

The idea of comparing and estimating goes way back. Some of the early methods of measurement are still in use today, and they require very little equipment!

## The logger method

Loggers often estimate tree heights by using simple objects, such as a pencil. An assistant stands at the base of the tree, and the logger moves a distance away from the tree and holds the pencil at arm's length, so that it matches the height of the assistant. The logger can then estimate the height of the tree in "pencil lengths" and multiply the estimate by the assistant's height.


## The Native American method

Native Americans had a very unusual way of estimating the height of a tree. They would bend over and look through their legs!


This method is based on a simple reason: for a fit adult, the angle that is formed as they look through their legs is approximately 45 degrees. Can you explain how this method works?

### 1.2 Recording measurements, significant digits and rounding

## Investigation 3

When using measuring instruments, we are able to determine only a certain number of digits accurately. In science, when measuring, the significant figures in a number are considered only those figures (digits) that are definitely known, plus one estimated figure (digit). This is summarized as "all of the digits that are known for certain, plus one that is a best estimate".

1 Read the temperature in degrees Fahrenheit from this scale.


What is the best reading of the temperature that you can do? How many digits are significant in your reading of this temperature?
2 A pack of coffee is placed on a triple-beam balance scale and weighed. The image below shows its weight, in grams.


Riders
Find the weight of the pack of coffee by carefully determining the reading of each of the three beam scales and adding these readings. How many digits are significant in your reading of this weight?
3 Factual What is the smallest unit to which the weight of the pack of coffee can be read on this scale?

4 A laboratory technician compares two samples that were measured as 95.270 grams and 23.63 grams. What is the number of significant figures for each measurement? Is 95.270 grams the same as 95.27 grams? If not, how are the two measurements different?

5 Conceptual What do the significant figures tell you about the values read from the instrument? What do the significant figures in a measurement tell you about the accuracy of the measuring instrument?

6 Conceptual How do the reading of the measuring instrument and the measuring units limit the accuracy of the measurement?

## TOK

What might be the ethical implications of rounding numbers?

## Decimal places

You may recall that in order to avoid long strings of digits it is often useful to give an answer to a number of decimal places (dp). For example, when giving a number to 2 decimal places, your answer would have exactly two digits after the decimal point. You round the final digit up if the digit after it is 5 or above, and you round the final digit down if the digit after it is below 5 .

## Significant figures

Measuring instruments have limitations. No instrument is advanced enough to determine an unlimited number of digits. For example, a scale can measure the mass of an object only up until a certain decimal place. Measuring instruments are able to determine only a certain number of digits precisely.

The digits that can be determined accurately or with some degree of reliability are called significant figures (sf). Thus, a scale that could register mass only up to hundredths of a gram until 99.99 g could only measure up to 4 digits with accuracy ( 4 significant figures).

## Example 1

For each of the following, determine the number of significant figures.
$21.35,1.25,305,1009,0.00300,0.002$

| 21.35 has 4 sf and 1.25 has <br> 3 sf. | Non-zero digits are always <br> significant. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 305 has 3 sf and 1009 has 4 sf. | Any zeros between two <br> significant digits are significant. |
| In 0.00300 only the last two <br> zeros are significant and the <br> other zeros are not. It has <br> 3 sf. | A final zero or trailing zeros <br> in the decimal part only are <br> significant. |
| 0.002 has only 1 sf, and <br> all zeros to the left of 2 are <br> not sf. |  |

## Rounding rules for significant figures

The rules for rounding to a given number of significant figures are similar to the ones for rounding to the nearest $10,100,1000$, etc. or to a given number of decimal places.

## EXAM HINT

In exams, give your answers as exact or accurate to 3 sf, unless otherwise specified in the problem.

## Example 2

Round the following numbers to the required number of significant figures:

a 0.1235 to 2 sf
b 0.2965 to 2 sf
c 415.25 to 3 sf
d 3050 to 2 sf

| a $\quad 0 . \underline{12} 35=0.12(2 \mathrm{sf})$ | Underline the 2 significant figures. The next <br> digit is less than 5, so delete it and the digits to <br> the right. |
| :--- | :--- |
| b $\quad 0 . \underline{29} 65=0.30(2 \mathrm{sf})$ | The next digit is greater than 5 so round up. <br> Write the 0 after the 3 , to give 2 sf. |
| c $\underline{415.25=415(3 \mathrm{sf})}$Do not write 415.0 , as you only need to give $3 \mathrm{sf}$. <br> d $\underline{3050=3100(2 \mathrm{sf})}$ Write the zeros to keep the place value. |  |

## Rounding rule for $\boldsymbol{n}$ significant figures

If the $(n+1)$ th figure is less than 5 , keep the $n$th figure as it is and remove all figures following it.

If the $(n+1)$ th figure is 5 or higher, add 1 to the $n$th figure and remove all figures following it.

In either case, all figures after the $n$th one should be removed if they are to the right of the decimal point and replaced by zeros if they are to the left of the decimal point.

## Exercise 1A

1 Round the following measurements to 3 significant figures.
a 9.478 m
b 5.322 g
c 1.8055 cm
d 6.999 in
e 4578 km
f 13178 kg

2 Round the numbers in question 1 parts a to $\mathbf{d}$ to 2 dp .

3 Determine the number of significant figures in the following measurements:
a 0.102 m
b $\quad 1.002 \mathrm{dm}$
c 105 kg
d 0.001020 km
e $1000000 \mu \mathrm{~g}$

4 Find the value of the expression
$\frac{12.35+21.14+1.075}{\sqrt{3.5}-1}$ and give your answer to 3 significant figures.

## Example 3

A circle has radius 12.4 cm . Calculate:
a the circumference of the circle
b the area of the circle.
Write down your answers correct to 1 dp .
a $\quad C=2 \times \pi \times 12.4$

$$
=77.9 \mathrm{~cm}(\mathrm{ldp})
$$

b $\quad A=\pi(12.4)^{2}$

$$
=483.1 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}(1 \mathrm{dp})
$$

Use the formula for circumference of a circle, $C=2 \pi r$.

The answer should be given correct to 1 dp , so you have to round to the nearest tenth.

Use the formula for area of a circle, $A=\pi r^{2}$. The answer should be given correct to 1 dp , so you have to round to the nearest tenth.

## Investigation 4

The numbers of visitors to the 10 most popular national parks in the United States in 2016 are shown in the table.

| 10 Most Visited National Parks (2016) |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Park | Recreational Visits |
| 1.-Great Smoky Mountains NP | 11312786 |
| 2. Grand Canyon NP | 5969811 |
| 3. Yosemite NP | 5028868 |
| 4. Rocky Mountain NP | 4517585 |
| 5. Zion NP | 4295127 |
| 6. Yellowstone NP | 4257177 |
| 7. Olympic NP | 3390221 |
| 8. Acadia NP | 3303393 |
| 9. Grand Teton NP | 3270076 |
| 10. Glacier NP | 2946681 |

1 Which park had the most visitors? How accurate are these figures likely to be?

2 Round the numbers of visitors given in the table to the nearest 10000.
3 Are there parks with an equal number of visitors, when given correct to 10000 ? If so, which are they?

4 Round the number of visitors, given in the table, to the nearest 100000.
5 Are there parks with an equal number of visitors, when given correct to 100000 ? If so, which are they?

6 Round the numbers of visitors given in the table to the nearest 1000000.
7 Are there parks with an equal number of visitors, when given correct to 1000000 ? If so, which are they?

8 Determine how many times the number of visitors of the most visited park is bigger than the number of visitors of the least visited park. Which parks are they?

9 Determine how many times the number of visitors of the most visited park is bigger than the number of visitors of the second most visited park.

## 1.3

10 Factual Determine how many times the number of visitors of the most visited park is bigger than the number of visitors of the third most visited park.

11 Conceptual How did rounding help you compare the numbers of park visitors?

12 Conceptual What are the limitations of a measurement reading in terms of accuracy?
13 Conceptual How is rounding useful?

## Exercise 1B

1 Round each of the following numbers as stated:
a 8888
to 3 sf
b 3.749
to 3 sf
c 27318
to 1 sf
d 0.00637
to 2 sf
e $\sqrt{62}$
to 1 dp
2 Round the numbers in the table to the given accuracy.

|  |  | Round <br> to the <br> nearest <br> ten | Round <br> to the <br> nearest <br> hundred | Round <br> to the <br> nearest <br> thousand |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| a | 2815 |  |  |  |
| b | 75391 |  |  |  |
| c | 316479 |  |  |  |
| d | 932 |  |  |  |
| e | 8253 |  |  |  |

3 Round the following amounts to the given accuracy:
a 502.13 EUR to the nearest EUR
b 1002.50 USD to the nearest thousand USD
c 12 BGN to the nearest 10 BGN
d 1351.368 JPY to the nearest 100 JPY
4. A circle has radius 33 cm . Calculate the circumference of the circle. Write down your answer correct to 3 sf .

5 The area of a circle is $20 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$ correct to 2 sf . Calculate the radius of the circle correct to 2 sf .

6 Estimate the volume of a cube with side 4.82 cm . Write down your answer correct to 2 sf.

### 1.3 Measurements: exact or approximate?

## Accuracy

The accuracy of a measurement often depends on the measuring units used. The smaller the measuring unit used, the greater the accuracy. If I use a balance scale that measures only to the nearest gram to weigh my silver earrings, I will get 11 g . But if I use an electronic scale that measures to the nearest hundredth of a gram, then I get 11.23 g .

## TOK

To what extent do instinct and reason create knowledge?

Do different geometries (Euclidean and nonEuclidean) refer to or describe different worlds? Is a triangle always made up of straight lines? Is the angle sum of a triangle always $180^{\circ}$ ?

The accuracy would also depend on the precision of the measuring instrument. If I measured the weight of my earrings three times, the electronic scale might produce three different results: 11.23 g , 11.30 g and 11.28 g . Usually, the average of the available measures is considered to be the best measurement, but it is certainly not exact.

Each measuring device (metric ruler, thermometer, theodolite, protractor, etc.) has a different degree of accuracy, which can be determined by finding the smallest division on the instrument. Measuring the dimensions of a rug with half a centimetre accuracy could be acceptable, but a surgical incision with such precision most likely will not be good enough!

A value is accurate if it is close to the exact value of the quantity being measured. However, in most cases it is not possible to obtain the exact value of a measurement. For example, when measuring your weight, you can get a more accurate measurement if you use a balance scale that measures to a greater number of decimal places.

## Investigation 5

The yard and the foot are units of length in both the British Imperial and US customary systems of measurement. Metal yard and foot sticks were the original physical standards from which other units of length were derived.
In the 19th and 20th centuries, differences in the prototype yards and feet were detected through improved technology, and as a result, in 1959, the lengths of a yard and a foot were defined in terms of the metre.
In an experiment conducted in class, several groups of students worked on measuring a standard yardstick and a foot-long string.

1 Group 1 used a ruler with centimetre and millimetre units and took two measurements: one of a yardstick and one of a foot-long string. Albena, the group note taker, rounded off the two measurements to the nearest centimetre and recorded the results for the yard length as 92 cm and for the foot length as 29 cm . Write down the possible values for the unrounded results that the group obtained. Give all possible unrounded values for each measure as intervals in the form $a \leq x<b$.

2 Group 2 used a Vernier caliper, which is able to measure lengths to tenths of a millimetre. They also took measurements of a yardstick and of a piece of string a foot long. Velina, the group note taker, rounded off the two measurements to the nearest millimetre and recorded the results as 91.5 cm and 31.5 cm . Write down the possible values for the unrounded results that the group obtained. Give all possible unrounded values for each measure as intervals in the form $a \leq x<b$.

## Internationalmindedness

## SI units

In 1960, the
International System of Units, abbreviated SI from the French, "systeme International", was adopted as a practical system of units for international use and includes metres for distance, kilograms for mass and seconds for time.

3 Conceptual Can you explain why the intervals in parts 1 and 2 include the endpoint $a$ but exclude the endpoint $b$ ?

4 Conceptual Based on your conclusions in parts 1 and $\mathbf{2}$, make a conjecture about the interval in which the exact value should lie. How big is this interval in relation to the unit used? How would you determine the left and the right ends of the interval?

The left and the right ends of an interval in which an exact value of a measurement lies are respectively called the lower bound and the upper bound.

The lower bound and the upper bound are half a unit below and above a rounded value of a measurement. Thus the upper bound is calculated as the rounded measurement +0.5 unit, and the lower bound is found as the rounded measurement - 0.5 unit.

## Did you know?

The exact values of one yard and one foot are defined by an international agreement in 1959. A yard was defined as 0.9144 metres exactly, and a foot was defined as 0.3048 metres exactly.

## Example 4

a Jane's weight is 68 kg to the nearest kg . Determine the upper and lower bounds of her weight.
b Rushdha's height is measured as 155 cm to the nearest cm . Write the interval within which her exact height lies.
a The upper and lower bounds are 68.5 and 67.5 , respectively.
b $154.5 \leq h<155.5$

The range of possible values for Jane's weight is $68 \pm 0.5 \mathrm{~kg}$.

The range of possible values for Rushdha's height is $155 \pm 0.5 \mathrm{~cm}$.

## Example 5

Majid ran 100 metres in 11.3 seconds. His time is measured to the nearest tenth of a second. Determine the upper and lower bounds of Majid's running time.

Lower bound $=11.3-0.05=11.25$

Upper bound $=11.3+0.05=11.35$

Lower bound is $11.3-0.5$ unit, and upper bound is $11.3+0.5$ unit.

Majid's time is given to the nearest tenth of a second. A unit is a tenth of a second or 0.1 sec , and 0.5 unit is 0.05 sec .

## Example 6

A rectangular garden plot was measured as 172 m by 64 m . Determine the lower and
 upper bounds of its perimeter.
$171.5 \leq L<172.5$
$63.5 \leq W<64.5$
Then the lower bound of the perimeter is $2 \times(171.5+63.5)=470$, and the upper bound of the perimeter is $2 \times(172.5+64.5)=474$.

Thus $470 \leq P<474$.

For the lower bound of the perimeter, use the shortest possible lengths of the sides: the measured values -0.5 m ; for the upper bound, use the longest possible lengths: the measured values +0.5 m .

## Exercise 1C

1 Find the range of possible values for the following measurements, which were rounded to the nearest mm , tenth of m , and hundredth of kg respectively:
a 24 mm
b 3.2 m
c $\quad 1.75 \mathrm{~kg}$

2 A triangle has a base length of 3.1 cm and corresponding height 4.2 cm , correct to 1 decimal place. Calculate the upper and lower bounds for the area of the triangle as accurately as possible.


3 With 72 million bicycles, correct to the nearest million, Japan is at the top of the list of countries with most bicycles per person. On average, Japanese people travel about 2 km by bicycle, correct to the nearest km, each day. Calculate the upper bound for the total distance travelled by all the bicycles in Japan.

4 To determine whether a business is making enough profit, the following formula is used:

$$
P=\frac{S-C}{S}
$$

where $P$ is relative profit, $S$ is sales and $C$ is costs. If a company has $\$ 340000$ worth of sales and $\$ 230000$ of costs, correct to 2 significant figures, calculate the maximum and minimum relative profit to the appropriate accuracy.

Since measurements are approximate there is always error in the measurement results. A measurement error is the difference between the exact value $\left(V_{E}\right)$ and the approximate value $\left(V_{A}\right)$, ie

Measurement error $=V_{A}-V_{E}$

## Investigation 6

Tomi and Massimo measured the length of a yardstick and the length of a foot-long string and obtained 92.44 cm for the length of a yard and 31.48 cm for the length of a foot.

## TOK

Do the names that we give things impact how we understand them?

1 Given that the exact value of 1 yard is 91.44 cm and of 1 foot is 30.48 cm , find the measurement error in the results obtained by Tomi and Massimo.
Tomi thinks that the two measurements were equally inaccurate. Massimo thinks that one of the two measurements is more accurate than the other.
2 Who do you agree with: Tomi or Massimo? Why? Explain.
Massimo decides to find the magnitude of his measurement error as a percentage of the measured length.
3 Write down the error in measuring the length of 1 yard as a fraction of the exact length of 1 yard. Give your answer as a percentage.
4 Write down the error in measuring the length of 1 foot as a fraction of the exact length of 1 foot. Give your answer as a percentage.

5 Conceptual In what ways could expressing measurement errors as a percentage of the exact value be helpful?

6 Conceptual How could measurement errors be compared?

The percentage error formula calculates the error as a percentage of the measured quantity. For example, a weight measured as 102 kg when the exact value is 100 kg gives a measurement error of 2 kg and percentage error of $\frac{2}{100}=2 \%$. A weight measured as 27 kg when the exact value is 25 kg gives the same measurement error of 2 kg but a percentage error of $\frac{2}{25}=8 \%$.

Percentage error $=\left|\frac{V_{A}-V_{B}}{V_{E}}\right| \times 100 \%$, where $V_{A}$ is the approximate value and $V_{E}$ is the exact value.

## Example 7

The fraction $\frac{22}{7}$ is often used as an approximation of $\pi$.
a How close (to how many decimal places) does $\frac{22}{7}$ approximate $\pi$ ?
b Find the percentage error of this approximation, giving your answer to 2 dp .

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { a } \frac{22}{7}-\pi=0.001264 \ldots \\
& \text { Thus } \frac{22}{7} \text { approximates } \pi \text { to } 2 \mathrm{dp}
\end{aligned}
$$

Measurement error $=V_{A}-V_{E^{\prime}}$ where $V_{A}$ is the approximate value and $V_{E}$ is the exact value.
b Percentage error $=\left|\frac{\frac{22}{7}-\pi}{\pi}\right| \times 100 \%$

$$
=0.04 \%
$$

Percentage error $=\left|\frac{V_{A}-V_{E}}{V_{E}}\right| \times 100 \%$
Be careful to take the absolute value of the fraction as the percentage error is always a positive number!

In multistep calculations, you must be careful not to round figures until you have your final answer. Premature rounding of initial or intermediate results may lead to an incorrect answer.

## TOK

How does the perception of the language being used distort our understanding?

## Example 8

Calculate the density of a cube of sugar weighing 2.45 grams, where the side of the cube is 1.2 cm , correct to 1 dp .

| Volume $=(1.2)^{3}$ | $=1.728 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ |
| ---: | :--- |
| Density $=\frac{2.45}{1.728}$ | $=1.41782 \ldots \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$ |
|  | $=1.4 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}($ correct to 1 dp$)$ |

If you first rounded the mass to 1 dp , then calculated the volume to 1 dp and then divided, you would obtain:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{2.5}{1.7} & =1.47058 \ldots \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}, \\
& =1.5 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}(\text { correct to } 1 \mathrm{dp})
\end{aligned}
$$

This gives a percentage error of
$\left|\frac{1.5-1.41782 \ldots}{1.41782 \ldots}\right| \times 100 \%=5.80 \%$
Make sure to avoid premature rounding!

Rounding of intermediate results during multistep calculations reduces the accuracy of the final answers. Thus, make sure to round your final answer only.

## Exercise 1D

1 Find the percentage error in using 3.14 instead of $\pi$.

2 In 1856, Andrew Waugh announced Mount Everest to be 8840 m high, after several years of calculations based on observations made by the Great Trigonometric Survey. More recent surveys confirm the height as 8848 m . Calculate the percentage error made in the earlier survey.

3 Eratosthenes estimated the circumference of the Earth as 250000 stadia (the length of an athletic stadium). If we assume he used the most common length of stadia of his time, his estimate of the circumference of the Earth would be 46620 km . Currently, the accepted average circumference of the Earth is 40030.2 km . Find the percentage error of Eratosthenes' estimate of the circumference of the Earth.

4 The temperature today in Chicago is $50^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. Instead of using the standard conversion formula ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}=\frac{5}{9} \times\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}-32\right)$, Tommaso uses his grandmother's rule, which is easier but gives an approximate value: "Subtract 32 from the value in ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ and multiply the result by 0.5."
a Calculate the actual and an approximate temperature in ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, using the standard formula and Tommaso's grandmother's rule.
b Calculate the percentage error of the approximate temperature value in ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

### 1.4 Speaking scientifically

## Investigation?

1 a Complete the table, following the pattern:

| Number |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Written as powers of 10 | $10^{3}$ | $10^{2}$ | $10^{1}$ | $10^{0}$ |  | $10^{-2}$ | $10^{-3}$ |
| Written as decimals | 1000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Written as fractions | $\frac{1000}{1}$ |  |  |  | $\frac{1}{10}$ |  |  |

b When you move from left to right, from one column to the next, which operation would you use?
c How would you write $10^{-4}$ as a decimal and as a fraction?
d Write $10^{-n}$ as a fraction.
2 Complete the table, following the pattern:

| Number |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Written as powers of 2 | $2^{3}$ | $2^{2}$ | $2^{1}$ | $2^{0}$ |  | $2^{-2}$ | $2^{-3}$ |
| Written as decimals | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Written as fractions | $\frac{8}{1}$ |  | $\frac{2}{1}$ |  | $\frac{1}{2}$ |  |  |

a Find $2^{0}$.
b Find $10^{0}$.
c Find $x^{0}$.
d How are algebraic expressions similar to and different from a numerical expression?

Numerical expressions consist only of numbers and symbols of operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and exponentiation), whereas algebraic expressions contain numbers, variables and symbols of operations.

Exponentiation is a mathematical operation, written as $a^{n}$, where $a$ is called the base and $n$ the exponent or power.

If the exponent, $n$, is a positive integer, it determines how many times the base, $a$, is multiplied by itself. For example, $8^{2}$ means $8 \times 8$.

If the exponent, $n$, is a negative integer it determines how many times to divide 1 by the base, $a$. For example, $8^{-2}$ means $\frac{1}{8^{2}}$ or $\frac{1}{8 \times 8}$.

The base, $a$, is the factor in the expression $a \times a \times a \times \ldots \times a$ if the exponent, $n$, is positive and is the factor in the expression $\frac{1}{a \times a \times a \times \ldots \times a}$ if the exponent, $n$, is negative.

## Investigation 8

1 a Complete the first and the third columns of the table. The middle column you can choose to finish or not.

| Expression | Expanded expression | Written as power of $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $10^{2} \times 10^{3}$ | $(10 \times 10) \times(10 \times 10 \times 10)$ | $10^{5}$ |
| $10^{4} \times 10^{5}$ |  |  |
|  | $(10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10) \times$ <br> $(10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10)$ |  |
| $10^{5} \times 10^{6}$ |  | $10^{8}$ |
| $10^{1} \times 10^{10}$ | $(10 \times 10) \times(10 \times 10) \times$ |  |
| $(10 \times 10)$ |  |  |

b Follow the pattern from the table and rewrite $10^{m} \times 10^{n}$ as a single power of 10.
c Rewrite $10^{2} \times 10^{0}$ as a single power of 10 .
d What can you conclude for the value of $10^{\circ}$ ? Why?
e Follow the pattern and rewrite $x^{m} \times x^{n}$ as a single power.
f Use powers and multiplication to write three expressions whose value is $10^{11}$.
g Rewrite $\left(10^{2}\right)^{3}$ as a single power.
h Follow the pattern and rewrite $\left(10^{m}\right)^{n}$ as a single power.
i Follow the pattern from part $\mathbf{h}$, and rewrite $\left(x^{m}\right)^{n}$ as a single power.
j Write the expanded expression for $(2 \times 3)^{5}$. Then rewrite each term of the expanded expression as a product of two single powers.
$\mathbf{k}$ Follow the pattern in part $\mathbf{j}$, and rewrite $(x \times y)^{n}$ as a product of two single powers.

## Internationalmindedness

Indian mathematician Brahmagupta is credited with the first writings that included zero and negative numbers in the 7th century.
${ }^{-}$
2 a Complete the first and the third columns of the table. The middle column you can choose to finish or not.

| Expression | Expanded expression | Written as power of 10 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{10^{3}}{10^{2}}$ | $\frac{10 \times 10 \times 10}{10 \times 10}$ | $10^{1}$ |
| $\frac{10^{5}}{10^{3}}$ |  |  |
|  | $\frac{10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10}{10 \times 10 \times 10}$ |  |
| $\frac{10^{6}}{10^{6}}$ |  | $10^{4}$ |
| $\frac{10^{3}}{10^{0}}$ |  |  |

b Follow the pattern from the table and rewrite $\frac{10^{m}}{10^{n}}$ as a single power of 10 .
c Rewrite $\frac{10^{2}}{10^{0}}$ as a single power of 10 . What would that be?
d Follow the pattern and rewrite $\frac{x^{m}}{x^{n}}$ as a single power.
e Use powers and division to write three expressions whose value is $10^{5}$.
f Write the expanded expression of $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{5}$. Rewrite the expanded expression as a quotient of two powers.
g Write the expanded expression of $\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^{n}$. Rewrite the expanded expression as a quotient of two powers.

## Laws of exponents

| Law | Example |
| :---: | :---: |
| $x^{1}=x$ | $6^{1}=6$ |
| $x^{0}=1$ | $7^{0}=1$ |
| $x^{-1}=\frac{1}{x}$ | $4^{-1}=\frac{1}{4}$ |
| $x^{m} x^{n}=x^{m+n}$ | $x^{2} x^{3}=x^{2+3}=x^{5}$ |

Continued on next page

## International- <br> mindedness

Archimedes discovered and proved the law of exponents, $10^{x} \times 10^{y}=10^{x+y}$.

| Law | Example |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{x^{m}}{x^{n}}=x^{m-n}$ | $\frac{x^{6}}{x^{2}}=x^{6-2}=x^{4}$ |
| $\left(x^{m}\right)^{n}=x^{m n}$ | $\left(x^{2}\right)^{3}=x^{2 \times 3}=x^{6}$ |
| $(x y)^{n}=x^{n} y^{n}$ | $(x y)^{3}=x^{3} y^{3}$ |
| $\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^{n}=\frac{x^{n}}{y^{n}}$ | $\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^{2}=\frac{x^{2}}{y^{2}}$ |
| $x^{-n}=\frac{1}{x^{n}}$ | $x^{-3}=\frac{1}{x^{3}}$ |

## Internationalmindedness

Abu Kamil Shuja was called al-Hasib al-Misri, meaning "the calculator from Egypt", and was one of the first mathematicians to introduce symbols for indices in the 9th century.

## Example 9

Use the laws of exponents to express each of the following in terms of powers of a single number:
a $\frac{2}{2^{3}}+\left(2^{2}\right)^{3}$
b $\frac{4^{3} \times 4^{-7}}{4^{2}}$
a $2^{-2}+2^{6}=64.25$
b $\frac{4^{-4}}{4^{-2}}=4^{-2}=\frac{1}{4^{2}}=\frac{1}{16}=0.0625$

Use your GDC, or use $\frac{x^{m}}{x^{n}}=x^{m-n}$ for $\frac{2}{2^{3}}$ and $\left(x^{m}\right)^{n}=x^{m n}$ for $\left(2^{2}\right)^{3}$.

Use your GDC, or use $x^{m} x^{n}=x^{m+n}$ to simplify the numerator and then $\frac{x^{m}}{x^{n}}=x^{m-n}$ to simplify the quotient.

## Example 10

Write the following expressions using a single power of $x$ :
a $\left(x^{2}\right)^{3}$
b $\left(\frac{1}{x^{2}}\right)^{4}$
c $\left(x^{3}\right)^{-1}$
d $\frac{x^{3} \times x^{-1}}{x^{5}}$
a $x^{6}$
b $\left(\frac{1}{x^{2}}\right)^{4}=\left(x^{-2}\right)^{4}=x^{-8}$
c $\left(x^{3}\right)^{-1}=\frac{1}{x^{3}}=x^{-3}$
d $\frac{x^{2}}{x^{5}}=x^{-3}$

Use $\left(x^{m}\right)^{n}=x^{m n}$.
Use $x^{-n}=\frac{1}{x^{n}}$ to write $\frac{1}{x^{2}}$ as $x^{-2}$, and then apply $\left(x^{m}\right)^{n}=x^{m n}$.
Use $\left(x^{m}\right)^{n}=x^{m n}$, or use $x^{-n}=\frac{1}{x^{n}}$ twice.
Use $\frac{x^{m}}{x^{n}}=x^{m-n}$.

## Exercise $1 E$

1 Calculate the following numerical expressions, giving your answer as a single power of an integer.
a $2^{3} \times 2^{3}$
b $5^{2} \times 5^{1}$
c $\frac{6^{7}}{6^{5}}$
d $\frac{4^{2}}{5^{-2}}$
e $8^{6} \times 8^{-3}$
f $\left(3^{2}\right)^{4}$

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { g } \frac{3^{-4}}{3^{2} \times 3^{9}} & \text { h } \frac{2^{7} \times 2^{-4}}{2^{3}} \\
\text { i } \quad 5^{4} \times 3^{4} & \text { j } \frac{20^{3}}{4^{3}}
\end{array}
$$

2 Simplify the following algebraic expressions:
a $x^{-2} \times\left(x^{2}\right)^{3} \times\left(x^{2} \times x^{6}\right)$
b $\frac{x^{0} \times\left(x^{2}\right)^{3}}{x^{2} \times x^{-3}}$

## Standard form

In standard form (also known as scientific notation), numbers are written in the form $a \times 10^{n}$, where $a$ is called the coefficient or mantissa, with $1 \leq a<10$, and $n$ is an integer.

Scientific notation is certainly economical; a number such as googol, which in decimal notation is written as 1 followed by 100 zeros, is written simply as $10^{100}$ in scientific notation.

With scientific notation, Avogadro's constant, which is the number of particles (atoms or molecules) contained in 1 mole of a substance, is written as $6.022140857 \times 10^{23}$. If not for scientific notation it would take 24 digits to write!

You may have noticed that your graphic display calculator gives any results with lots of digits in scientific notation. However, instead of writing the results in the form $a \times 10^{n}$, it gives them in the form $a \mathrm{E} n$, where $n$ is an integer. For example, $3 \times 10^{5}$ will be given as 3 E 5 , and $3.1 \times 10^{-3}$ as $3.1 \mathrm{E}-3$.

To convert from decimal to scientific notation on your GDC, change the Mode

## EXAM HINT

Note that in an exam you cannot write 3E5, as this is calculator notation and not the correct scientific notation. The correct notation is $3 \times 10^{5}$. from Normal to Scientific. Thus, all of your number entries will be immediately converted to scientific calculator notation. To convert to correct scientific notation, you will need to replace E with 10 , eg 5 E2 should be written as $5 \times 10^{2}$.

## Example 11

Find the volume of a computer chip (a cuboid) that is $2.44 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{~m}$ wide, $1.5 \times 10^{-7} \mathrm{~m}$ long and $2.15 \times 10^{-4} \mathrm{~m}$ high.


The volume is $7.869 \times 10^{-17} \mathrm{~m}^{3}$.

To check your answer is sensible, multiply the rounded values $2 \times 2 \times 2=8$, and check the powers of 10 come to $10^{-17}$.

## Exercise 1F

1 Find the measurements below in the form $a \times 10^{n}$, where $1 \leq a<10$ and $n$ is an integer:
a the density of air at $27^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and l atm pressure, $0.00161 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$
b the radius of a calcium atom, 0.000000000197 m
c one light-year, 9460000000000 km
d the mass of a neutron, 0.000000000000000000000001675 g .

2 Write down the following numbers found on a calculator display in scientific notation:
a $1.2 \mathrm{E}-1$
b 5.04 E 7
c $4.005 \mathrm{E}-5$
d $1 \mathrm{E}-3$

3 The image of a speck of dust viewed through an electron microscope is $1.2 \times 10^{2}$ millimetres wide. The image is $5 \times 10^{2}$ times as large as the actual size. Determine the width, in millimetres, of the actual speck of dust.
4 a Convert the following from decimal to scientific notation:
age of the Earth $=4600000000$ years.
b Convert the following from scientific to decimal notation: $5 \times 10^{3}$.

5 One millilitre has about 15 drops. One drop of water has $1.67 \times 10^{21} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (water) molecules. Estimate the number of molecules in 1 litre of water. Write down your answer in standard form.

6 Scientists announced the discovery of a potential "Planet Nine" in our solar system in 2016.
The so-called "Planet Nine" is about 5000 times the mass of Pluto. Pluto's mass is $0.01303 \times 10^{24} \mathrm{~kg}$.
a Calculate the mass of Planet Nine. Write down your answer in standard form.
b The Earth's mass is $5.97 \times 10^{24} \mathrm{~kg}$. Find how many times Planet Nine is bigger or smaller compared to the Earth. Write down your answer correct to the nearest digit.

## TOK

What do we mean when we say that one number is larger than another number?

7 The table below shows the population of different regions in 1985 and in 2005.

| Place | Population in <br> 1985 | Population <br> in 2005 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Entire world | $4.9 \times 10^{9}$ | $6.4 \times 10^{9}$ |
| China | $1.1 \times 10^{9}$ | $1.3 \times 10^{9}$ |
| India | $7.6 \times 10^{8}$ | $1.1 \times 10^{9}$ |
| United States | $2.4 \times 10^{8}$ | $3.0 \times 10^{8}$ |
| Bulgaria | $8.9 \times 10^{6}$ | $7.2 \times 10^{6}$ |

a Determine the ratio of the population of the entire world to that of China in 2005, giving your answer to the nearest integer.
b Find the increase in the world's population between 1985 and 2005.
c Calculate the percentage change in the population of each of the four countries, giving your answers accurate to 3 sf. List the countries according to their percentage change from highest to lowest.
d State whether or not you agree that it is always the case that the country with a bigger percentage change also has a bigger population increase between 1985 and 2005. Justify your answer.

### 1.5 Trigonometry of right-angled triangles and indirect measurements

## Investigation 9

1 Puzzle One:
What do you notice about the three squares built on the sides of the right-angled triangle $\triangle \mathrm{ABC}$, where angle $\hat{C}=90^{\circ}$ ?
Can you state the relationship between the sides [AB], [BC] and [ $A C$ ] of the triangle? If you cannot copy the shapes exactly, then use scissors to cut out copies of the red, blue and green squares, and see whether you can fit the green and blue squares exactly over the red one. You may cut up the blue and green squares along the internal lines to create smaller squares or rectangles.

2 Puzzle Two:
There are 11 puzzle pieces: 8 right-angled
 triangles and 3 squares of different sizes. Cut out copies of the puzzle pieces and arrange them in the two frames.

Frames:


