

## SCALES OF MEASUREMENT VERSION 1.8

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$3 \times 10^{-6}$	arcseconds	Angular size of a $10^8 M_{\odot}$ Schwarzschild black hole in M31
0.0002	arcseconds	Typical VLBA resolution at 43 GHz
0.0005	arcseconds	Person on the Moon
0.001	arcseconds	Typical VLBI resolution
0.001	arcseconds	Typical gravitational microlensing image angular separation
0.0015	arcseconds	<i>Hipparcos</i> satellite astrometric positional accuracy
0.04	arcseconds	<i>Hubble Space Telescope</i> FOC optical angular resolution
0.1	arcseconds	VLA largest configuration resolution at 23 GHz
0.1	arcseconds	<i>Hubble Space Telescope</i> WFC optical angular resolution
0.15	arcseconds	1 meter optical reflector yellow light diffraction limit
0.5	arcseconds	WHT MARTINI guide star system resolution
0.6	arcseconds	Rough optical telescope atmospheric seeing limit
0.8	arcseconds	Angular diameter of Europa
1	arcseconds	AXAF X-ray satellite angular resolution goal
1.32	arcseconds	Yearly proper motion of Sirius
1.75	arcseconds	Gravitational deflection of a light ray which grazes the Sun
2.9	arcseconds	Angular diameter of a M31 sized galaxy at $z = 0.5$ in optical light
5	arcseconds	ROSAT X-ray satellite HRI angular resolution
8	arcseconds	Angular separation of the gravitationally lensed quasar 0957+561
25	arcseconds	ROSAT X-ray satellite PSPC angular resolution
36	arcseconds	Angular diameter of Jupiter
120	arcseconds	Human eye resolution
120	arcseconds	Typical optical telescope field of view
150	arcseconds	Rough Crab Nebula radius
210	arcseconds	Rough Cir X-1 radio nebula radius
400	arcseconds	Cluster imprint on the cosmic microwave background radiation
480	arcseconds	OVRO 5.5 meter 32 GHz telescope resolution
700	arcseconds	Jodrell bank 250 foot 1 420.4 MHz telescope resolution
1 200	arcseconds	ROSAT X-ray satellite HRI field of view radius
1 500	arcseconds	ASCA X-ray satellite GIS field of view radius
1 865	arcseconds	Angular diameter of the Moon at its mean distance
1 800	arcseconds	100 Mpc structure imprint on the cosmic microwave background radiation
1 922	arcseconds	Angular diameter of the Sun at its mean distance
2 700	arcseconds	Largest dimension of W50 (ARAA 22, 524)
3 100	arcseconds	Maximum angular scale of causal connection on the cosmic microwave background radiation
3 600	arcseconds	ROSAT X-ray satellite PSPC field of view radius
10 800	arcseconds	Angular diameter of the LMC
14 400	arcseconds	Angular diameter of M31 in optical light
19 800	arcseconds	Palomar Optical Sky Survey plate field of view
25 200	arcseconds	COBE DMR resolution limit
$5 \times 10^{-44}$	seconds	Planck-Wheeler time = $(\frac{G\hbar}{c^3})^{\frac{1}{2}}$
$4 \times 10^{-24}$	seconds	Typical lifetime of strong interaction resonance = $\frac{h}{m_p c^2}$
$8 \times 10^{-21}$	seconds	Electron light crossing time = $\frac{h}{m_e c^2}$
$1 \times 10^{-13}$	seconds	Typical period of vibration of an atom in a solid
$1 \times 10^{-13}$	seconds	Typical X-ray line electric dipole radiative transition time
$1.6 \times 10^{-9}$	seconds	Typical hydrogen 2p→1s radiative transition time (electric dipole one photon process)
$8 \times 10^{-4}$	seconds	Mass shedding minimum spin period for a neutron star
$1.6 \times 10^{-3}$	seconds	Spin period of PSR 1957+20
0.12	seconds	Typical hydrogen 2s→1s radiative transition time (strictly forbidden two photon process)

10	seconds	Median duration of a classical $\gamma$ -ray burst
887	seconds	Mean life of a neutron in free space
2 000	seconds	Sun dynamic time scale
$8.6 \times 10^4$	seconds	Earth rotation time
$3.2 \times 10^7$	seconds	Earth orbit time around the Sun
$1.6 \times 10^9$	seconds	Typical time between Milky Way supernovae
$1.9 \times 10^{11}$	seconds	Carbon-14 half-life
$3 \times 10^{12}$	seconds	Rough lifetime of a supernova remnant
$1.5 \times 10^{13}$	seconds	Typical HMXB evolution time
$3 \times 10^{13}$	seconds	Rough time for evolution of a biological species
$1.6 \times 10^{14}$	seconds	Main sequence lifetime for a $30 M_{\odot}$ star
$3 \times 10^{14}$	seconds	Hydrogen 21 cm spin flip time
$3 \times 10^{14}$	seconds	Rough Lyapunov time of the solar system
$6.3 \times 10^{14}$	seconds	Sun thermal time scale
$1.3 \times 10^{15}$	seconds	E-folding time for a black hole accreting at the Eddington rate with an efficiency of 0.1
$1.9 \times 10^{15}$	seconds	Main sequence lifetime for a $5 M_{\odot}$ star
$2 \times 10^{15}$	seconds	Timescale for Los Angeles to pass San Francisco via continental drift
$2.4 \times 10^{15}$	seconds	Typical LMXB evolution time
$7.3 \times 10^{15}$	seconds	Orbit time for sun around galaxy center
$1.1 \times 10^{16}$	seconds	PSR 1913+16 orbital gravitational radiation coalescence timescale
$2 \times 10^{16}$	seconds	Rough supernova biological extinction time
$6 \times 10^{16}$	seconds	Minimum age of PSR J0437–4715 (ApJ 411, L85)
$6 \times 10^{16}$	seconds	Time for galaxy to cross a cluster
$7 \times 10^{16}$	seconds	Radial period of the orbit of the Magellanic Clouds (MNRAS 198, 718)
$1.1 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Primeval slime to man time
$1.5 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Age of Earth and Sun
$1.5 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Uranium-238 half-life
$2.7 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Look back time to $z = 1$
$3 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Main sequence lifetime for a $1 M_{\odot}$ star
$3.3 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Look back time to $z = 2$
$3.3 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Sun nuclear time scale
$3.7 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Look back time to $z = 4$
$3.8 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Rough age of the Milky Way
$3.8 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Look back time to the $z = 4.897$ quasar PC 1247+3406
$4 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Rough age of 47 Tucanae (an old globular cluster)
$4.1 \times 10^{17}$	seconds	Age of the universe = $\frac{2}{3H_0}$
$2.5 \times 10^{18}$	seconds	Globular cluster evaporation time
$3 \times 10^{25}$	seconds	Galaxy dynamical relaxation timescale
$3 \times 10^{27}$	seconds	Earth/Sun orbital gravitational radiation coalescence timescale
$1 \times 10^{39}$	seconds	Lower limit on the proton lifetime
$4.7 \times 10^{73}$	seconds	$1 M_{\odot}$ black hole Hawking evaporation time
$1.6 \times 10^{-35}$	meters	Planck-Wheeler length = $(\frac{G\hbar}{c^3})^{\frac{1}{2}}$
$2 \times 10^{-35}$	meters	Rough postulated superstring size
$1 \times 10^{-24}$	meters	Effective 1 MeV neutrino radius
$1.6 \times 10^{-22}$	meters	Radius of a $10 M_{\odot}$ star squeezed down to the Planck-Wheeler density
$1.5 \times 10^{-18}$	meters	Classical proton radius = $\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 m_p c^2}$
$1.6 \times 10^{-17}$	meters	$W^{\pm}$ Compton wavelength = $\frac{\hbar}{m_{W^{\pm}} c}$ = rough weak force length
$4 \times 10^{-17}$	meters	LIGO 4 km gravity-wave detector needed sensitivity
$1.3 \times 10^{-15}$	meters	Proton Compton wavelength = $\frac{\hbar}{m_p c}$ = rough proton fuzziness length
$1.44 \times 10^{-15} A^{\frac{1}{3}}$	meters	Nuclear radius
$2.8 \times 10^{-15}$	meters	Classical electron radius = $\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2}$

$8.8 \times 10^{-15}$	meters	$\pi$ -meson Compton wavelength $= \frac{h}{m_{\pi}c}$ = attractive strong force length
$1.2 \times 10^{-12}$	meters	1 MeV $\gamma$ -ray wavelength
$2.4 \times 10^{-12}$	meters	Electron Compton wavelength $= \frac{h}{m_e c}$ = rough electron fuzziness length
$5.3 \times 10^{-11}$	meters	Bohr radius $= \frac{h^2 \epsilon_0}{\pi m_e e^2}$
$2.6 \times 10^{-10}$	meters	Copper atom spacing in solid copper
$3.5 \times 10^{-10}$	meters	H <sub>2</sub> O molecular diameter
$4 \times 10^{-10}$	meters	ROSAT X-ray satellite mirror rms surface error
$1.2 \times 10^{-9}$	meters	1 keV X-ray wavelength
$3 \times 10^{-9}$	meters	Typical mean nucleon spacing during primordial nucleosynthesis
$3.4 \times 10^{-9}$	meters	DNA double helix turn length
$6 \times 10^{-8}$	meters	Typical rms surface error of a Keck telescope mirror
$7.0 \times 10^{-8}$	meters	Molecular mean free path in the atmosphere
$1 \times 10^{-7}$	meters	Typical size of a virus
$3 \times 10^{-7}$	meters	Interstellar dust grain size
$5 \times 10^{-7}$	meters	Optical photon wavelength
$4 \times 10^{-6}$	meters	Typical size of a cell
$2 \times 10^{-4}$	meters	Small dust particle size
0.03	meters	Lunar laser ranging accuracy ( <i>Science</i> 265, 482)
0.068	meters	Unraveled human DNA strand length
1.8	meters	Man
30	meters	Blue Whale
3 700	meters	Mean ocean depth
4 000	meters	Error in our knowledge of the distance to Jupiter
5 500	meters	Rough radius of Halley's comet
8 847	meters	Height of Mount Everest
10 000	meters	Neutron star radius
10 000	meters	Typical asteroid radius
10 000	meters	Typical comet radius
11 032	meters	Depth of the Mariana Trench
12 000	meters	Height of troposphere
12 000	meters	Typical airliner cruising altitude
30 000	meters	Typical thickness of the Earth's crust
$5.5 \times 10^5$	meters	Height of the ASCA X-ray satellite orbit
$9 \times 10^5$	meters	Height of the COBE satellite orbit
$3.2 \times 10^6$	meters	Length of the Great Wall of China
$6.3 \times 10^6$	meters	Radius of the Earth
$4.2 \times 10^7$	meters	Geostationary satellite orbit height
$7.1 \times 10^7$	meters	Radius of Jupiter
$9 \times 10^7$	meters	Distance to the Earth's solar wind bow shock
$3.8 \times 10^8$	meters	Distance to the Moon
$7.0 \times 10^8$	meters	Radius of the Sun
$1 \times 10^9$	meters	Typical X-ray binary accretion disk circularization radius
$1.7 \times 10^9$	meters	5 M <sub>⊙</sub> star main sequence radius
$7 \times 10^9$	meters	Typical standoff radius of Jupiter's solar wind bow shock
$1.47 \times 10^{11}$	meters	Event horizon radius for a 10 <sup>8</sup> M <sub>⊙</sub> maximally rotating Kerr black hole
$1.50 \times 10^{11}$	meters	Earth/Sun mean distance
$1.5 \times 10^{11}$	meters	Radius of the red giant Mira at minimum light
$3 \times 10^{11}$	meters	Radius of the red giant Mira at maximum light
$5 \times 10^{11}$	meters	Radius of the 20 M <sub>⊙</sub> red supergiant Betelgeuse at maximum light
$5.91 \times 10^{12}$	meters	Pluto/Sun mean distance
$1.5 \times 10^{13}$	meters	Expected distance to the solar wind termination shock
$2 \times 10^{14}$	meters	Rough stellar separation in the central parsec of the Milky Way
$4 \times 10^{14}$	meters	Rough stellar separation in a globular cluster

$4 \times 10^{14}$	meters	Seyfert galaxy characteristic broad line region radius
$2 \times 10^{15}$	meters	Rough Oort Cloud/Sun distance
$9.46 \times 10^{15}$	meters	1 light-year
$3.08 \times 10^{16}$	meters	1 parsec
$4 \times 10^{16}$	meters	Nearest nonsolar star to Earth
$4.5 \times 10^{16}$	meters	Rough Crab Nebula radius
$1.6 \times 10^{17}$	meters	Stromgren sphere radius for an O5 star
$3 \times 10^{17}$	meters	Rough Cir X-1 radio nebula radius
$3 \times 10^{17}$	meters	Rough supernova biological extinction distance (PASP 106, 689)
$5 \times 10^{17}$	meters	Typical interstellar medium cloud size
$1.4 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Hyades open cluster distance
$1.5 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Trigonometric parallax distance determination limit
$1.5 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Typical globular cluster radius
$2 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Rough radius of the local interstellar hot gas bubble
$2 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Largest dimension of W50 (ARAA 22, 524)
$2.6 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Rough distance to PSR J0108 – 1431
$5 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Scale height of the Milky Way interstellar medium
$5 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Seyfert galaxy characteristic narrow line region radius
$5.2 \times 10^{18}$	meters	Distance to the $20 M_{\odot}$ red supergiant Betelgeuse (will go supernova within 10 000 years)
$2 \times 10^{19}$	meters	Characteristic height of the Milky Way main disk
$6 \times 10^{19}$	meters	Typical dwarf galaxy radius
$6.6 \times 10^{19}$	meters	Distance to the Crab Nebula
$2 \times 10^{20}$	meters	Estimated distance to Cir X-1
$2.4 \times 10^{20}$	meters	Distance from Sun to galactic center
$1.5 \times 10^{21}$	meters	Distance to the LMC
$2 \times 10^{21}$	meters	Rough Milky Way dark matter halo radius
$6 \times 10^{21}$	meters	Typical Ly- $\alpha$ galaxy neutral hydrogen radius
$1 \times 10^{22}$	meters	Typical active galaxy jet length
$1 \times 10^{22}$	meters	Length of the “superantennae” of IRAS 19254–7245
$1.9 \times 10^{22}$	meters	Distance to M31
$3 \times 10^{22}$	meters	Radius of the core of the Virgo cluster of galaxies
$4 \times 10^{22}$	meters	Rough Local Group radius
$9.2 \times 10^{22}$	meters	Cepheid variable distance determination limit (via ground observations)
$1.2 \times 10^{23}$	meters	Distance to the Circinus galaxy
$5 \times 10^{23}$	meters	Rough boundary between the nonlinear and linear gravitational collapse regimes
$7 \times 10^{23}$	meters	Distance to the $z = 0.0036$ Seyfert 2 NGC 1068
$7 \times 10^{23}$	meters	Distance to the center of the Virgo cluster of galaxies
$9 \times 10^{23}$	meters	Characteristic maximum travel length of a yocto-eV cosmic ray due to pion production off the microwave background
$2.3 \times 10^{24}$	meters	Shapley supercluster radius
$3 \times 10^{24}$	meters	Typical length scale probed by the Harvard/Smithsonian CfA redshift survey
$4.1 \times 10^{24}$	meters	Luminosity distance to the $z = 0.022$ Coma cluster of galaxies
$1.5 \times 10^{25}$	meters	Typical length scale probed by the Lick survey
$3.0 \times 10^{25}$	meters	Luminosity distance to the $z = 0.158$ quasar 3C273
$3 \times 10^{25}$	meters	Typical length scale probed by the 4C radio galaxy survey
$3 \times 10^{25}$	meters	Schwarzschild radius of a singularity with the mass of a critical density universe
$5.5 \times 10^{26}$	meters	Luminosity distance to the $z = 2.286$ ultraluminous IRAS galaxy IRAS F10214+4724
$1.3 \times 10^{27}$	meters	Luminosity distance to the $z = 4.897$ quasar PC 1247+3406
$1 \times 10^{-9}$	m s <sup>-1</sup>	Sea floor spreading rate
$1.6 \times 10^{-9}$	m s <sup>-1</sup>	Average slip rate of the San Andreas fault
$1 \times 10^{-8}$	m s <sup>-1</sup>	Typical rainfall rate in a semi-arid climate
$2 \times 10^{-8}$	m s <sup>-1</sup>	Grass growth rate
$3 \times 10^{-6}$	m s <sup>-1</sup>	Typical glacial advance rate

$1 \times 10^{-3}$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Equivalent radial velocity resolution of pulsar pulse arrival time analysis
1.3	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Human walking speed
3	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Radial velocity accuracy of high precision Doppler spectroscopy
13	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Speed of the reflex motion induced on the Sun by Jupiter
25	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Car speed
60	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Radial velocity semi-amplitude of 51 Pegasi due to its planet
100	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Typical speed of an electric pulse in the nervous system
330	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Sound speed in air
480	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Earth's atmosphere molecular rms velocity
600	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Fighter jet speed
2 380	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Escape velocity from Moon's surface
10 000	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Typical longitudinal seismic wave velocity in the Earth's mantle
11 000	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Escape velocity from the Earth's surface
20 000	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Globular cluster stellar velocity dispersion
29 000	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Earth's motion around the Sun
40 000	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Globular cluster stellar escape velocity
$1 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Typical Galactic pulsar vertical velocity component
$1 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Average speed of the initial stroke of a lightning flash
$2.2 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Rotational velocity of the Sun around the Milky Way's center
$3 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Orbital speed of PSR 1913+16
$3 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Rough velocity of Geminga's proper motion
$3.65 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Motion of the solar system barycenter relative to the cosmic microwave background
$4.1 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Orbital speed of Cen X-3
$6.2 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Escape velocity from the Sun's surface
$6.2 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Escape velocity from the Milky Way for objects in the solar neighborhood (ARAA 29, 429)
$6.22 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Motion of the Local Group relative to the cosmic microwave background
$8 \times 10^5$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Typical galaxy cluster galaxy velocity dispersion
$2 \times 10^6$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Speed of $n = 1$ hydrogen electron = $Zac$
$5 \times 10^6$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Young (months old) supernova ejecta
$1.2 \times 10^7$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Velocity of the wind streaming out from H1413+117 "Cloverleaf" ( <i>Nature</i> 371, 559)
$7.8 \times 10^7$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	SS433 jet speed
$1.4 \times 10^8$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Keplerian orbital velocity at the surface of a neutron star
$2 \times 10^8$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Escape velocity from neutron star surface
$2.8 \times 10^8$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Ejecta from GRS 1915+105 ( <i>Nature</i> 371, 46)
$2.998 \times 10^8$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Light in a vacuum
$3.7 \times 10^8$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Apparent superluminal motion of the ejecta from GRS 1915+105 ( <i>Nature</i> 371, 46)
$6 \times 10^9$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Apparent superluminal motion of the jet from the $z = 2.16$ quasar 0836+710
$2.7 \times 10^{10}$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$	Apparent superluminal motion of the jet from the $z = 0.940$ BL Lac AO 0235+164 (may be lensed)
$4.2 \times 10^{-36}$	kilograms	Mass equivalent of a green light photon
$9.1 \times 10^{-36}$	kilograms	Electron antineutrino upper mass limit
$4.8 \times 10^{-31}$	kilograms	Muon neutrino upper mass limit
$9.11 \times 10^{-31}$	kilograms	Electron mass
$5.5 \times 10^{-29}$	kilograms	Tau neutrino upper mass limit
$1.67 \times 10^{-27}$	kilograms	Proton mass
$9 \times 10^{-27}$	kilograms	Bottom quark mass
$4.8 \times 10^{-26}$	kilograms	Mean mass of atmosphere molecule
$1.4 \times 10^{-25}$	kilograms	$W^\pm$ mass ( $80.22 \pm 0.22 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ )
$1.6 \times 10^{-25}$	kilograms	$Z^0$ mass ( $91.187 \pm 0.007 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ )
$2 \times 10^{-25}$	kilograms	Favored Higgs boson mass
$3.1 \times 10^{-25}$	kilograms	Top quark mass ( $176 \pm 13 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ )
$4 \times 10^{-25}$	kilograms	DNA nucleotide
$1 \times 10^{-22}$	kilograms	Typical protein molecule mass
$5 \times 10^{-21}$	kilograms	<i>E. Coli</i> ribosome

$1 \times 10^{-16}$	kilograms	Interstellar dust grain mass
$8 \times 10^{-15}$	kilograms	Rough mass of a human DNA molecule
$7 \times 10^{-13}$	kilograms	Typical mass of a cell
$2.2 \times 10^{-8}$	kilograms	Planck-Wheeler mass = $(\frac{\hbar c}{G})^{\frac{1}{2}}$
$1 \times 10^{-5}$	kilograms	Typical mosquito mass
0.02	kilograms	Typical goldfish mass
70	kilograms	Typical human mass
70	kilograms	Lower limit to the allowed mass for a Sumo wrestler
100	kilograms	Meteorite mass before entry into Earth's atmosphere
420	kilograms	ASCA X-ray satellite mass
900	kilograms	Compton <i>Gamma-Ray Observatory</i> satellite mass
1 000	kilograms	Car
2 200	kilograms	ISO infrared satellite mass at launch
10 000	kilograms	Tyrannosaurus Rex
$5 \times 10^{11}$	kilograms	Initial mass of a primordial black hole with evaporation time equal to the universe's age
$1 \times 10^{13}$	kilograms	Typical comet mass
$3 \times 10^{14}$	kilograms	Typical mountain mass
$1.1 \times 10^{16}$	kilograms	Superterranean biomass of Earth (ocean organisms are included)
$5.3 \times 10^{18}$	kilograms	Total mass of Earth's atmosphere
$3 \times 10^{19}$	kilograms	Typical asteroid mass
$1.4 \times 10^{21}$	kilograms	Total mass of Earth's oceans
$4.8 \times 10^{22}$	kilograms	Mass of Europa
$7.3 \times 10^{22}$	kilograms	Mass of the Moon
$2 \times 10^{24}$	kilograms	Rough Oort cloud mass
$5.98 \times 10^{24}$	kilograms	Mass of the Earth
$1.9 \times 10^{27}$	kilograms	Mass of Jupiter
$1.6 \times 10^{29}$	kilograms	Minimum mass to fusion burn hydrogen
$4 \times 10^{29}$	kilograms	Rough mass of MACHO and EROS microlensing objects
$1.99 \times 10^{30}$	kilograms	Mass of the Sun
$2.8 \times 10^{30}$	kilograms	Chandrasekhar mass (maximum mass for a white dwarf)
$6.0 \times 10^{30}$	kilograms	Oppenheimer-Volkoff mass (maximum mass for a neutron star)
$1.2 \times 10^{31}$	kilograms	Minimum mass of the unseen object in GS2023+338/V404 Cygni
$4 \times 10^{31}$	kilograms	Rough stellar mass above which the evolutionary endpoint is a black hole
$1.0 \times 10^{32}$	kilograms	Mass of the most massive member of Plaskett's star
$1.2 \times 10^{32}$	kilograms	Rough mass at which a star becomes unstable to pulsations
$2 \times 10^{33}$	kilograms	Typical interstellar cloud mass
$1 \times 10^{36}$	kilograms	Typical mass of a globular cluster
$5 \times 10^{36}$	kilograms	Approximate mass of the Milky Way central black hole
$1 \times 10^{37}$	kilograms	Rough baryonic Jeans mass immediately after decoupling
$4 \times 10^{39}$	kilograms	Rough mass of the SMC
$2 \times 10^{40}$	kilograms	Rough mass of the LMC
$2.6 \times 10^{42}$	kilograms	Rough mass of the visible and dark matter in the Milky Way (ApJ 345, 759)
$1.3 \times 10^{44}$	kilograms	Rough mass of the stars in the Coma galaxy cluster
$6.4 \times 10^{44}$	kilograms	Rough mass of the X-ray gas in the Coma galaxy cluster
$2.7 \times 10^{45}$	kilograms	Rough virial mass of the Coma galaxy cluster
$6 \times 10^{45}$	kilograms	Rough virial mass of the Abell 2163 galaxy cluster
$2 \times 10^{48}$	kilograms	Rough baryonic Jeans mass immediately before decoupling
$1.4 \times 10^{49}$	kilograms	Rough total mass in spiral galaxies
$2 \times 10^{49}$	kilograms	Rough total (baryonic and nonbaryonic) mass in galaxy clusters
$3 \times 10^{49}$	kilograms	Rough total mass in elliptical and spheroidal galaxies
$8 \times 10^{49}$	kilograms	Rough total mass of visible matter in the universe
$1 \times 10^{51}$	kilograms	Rough total baryon mass predicted by primordial nucleosynthesis
$2 \times 10^{52}$	kilograms	Rough total mass of a critical density universe

$2 \times 10^{-38}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Effective density of the 100-300 MHz radio background
$1 \times 10^{-35}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Effective density of the 1–10 MeV $\gamma$ -ray background
$8 \times 10^{-35}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Effective density of the 2–100 keV X-ray background
$1.1 \times 10^{-33}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Upper limit to the effective density of the gravitational wave background
$1 \times 10^{-32}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Effective density of the starlight released in a Hubble time
$4.6 \times 10^{-31}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Effective density of the cosmic microwave background radiation
$2 \times 10^{-29}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Smoothed density of visible galactic material throughout universe
$2 \times 10^{-28}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Smoothed baryon density predicted by primordial nucleosynthesis
$4.7 \times 10^{-27}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Critical density of the universe = $\frac{3H_0^2}{8\pi G}$
$2 \times 10^{-24}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Typical gas in a cluster of galaxies
$3 \times 10^{-21}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Typical gas in the interstellar medium of the Milky Way
$7 \times 10^{-21}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Dynamically inferred Milky Way disk density
$5 \times 10^{-20}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Typical density of the gas in the central kiloparsec of an interacting or starburst galaxy
$1 \times 10^{-9}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Best room temperature vacuum achieved on Earth
$1.7 \times 10^{-4}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Mean density of Antares (19 M <sub>⊙</sub> )
1.3	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Density of air
700	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Mean density of Saturn
1 000	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Density of water
1 300	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Mean density of Jupiter
1 400	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Mean density of the Sun
3 300	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Mean density of the Moon
5 500	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Mean density of the Earth
7 860	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Density of iron
19 300	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Density of gold
$5 \times 10^7$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Typical white dwarf mean density
$3 \times 10^{10}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Typical white dwarf central density
$1.1 \times 10^{12}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Inverse $\beta$ decay threshold
$4.3 \times 10^{14}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Neutron drip density
$6 \times 10^{17}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Nuclear density
$1 \times 10^{18}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Typical neutron star central density
$5 \times 10^{96}$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>	Planck-Wheeler density, at which quantum gravitational effects become important = $\frac{c^5}{G^2 \hbar}$
$6 \times 10^{-25}$	joules	Lamb-Retherford shift
$9.5 \times 10^{-25}$	joules	21.049 cm photon—hyperfine shift
$4 \times 10^{-22}$	joules	Molecular rotation transition
$4 \times 10^{-21}$	joules	$kT_{\text{room}}$ = translational kinetic energy of atmosphere gas molecule
$7 \times 10^{-21}$	joules	Donor level/conduction band gap in a doped semiconductor
$3 \times 10^{-20}$	joules	Molecular vibration transition
$1.6 \times 10^{-19}$	joules	Valence band/conduction band gap in a semiconductor
$2.2 \times 10^{-19}$	joules	Bond energy of an organic substance with half-life 30 000 years
$3.8 \times 10^{-19}$	joules	Green light photon
$9 \times 10^{-19}$	joules	Valence band/conduction band gap in an insulator
$1.1 \times 10^{-18}$	joules	Fermi energy in copper = depth of Fermi sea
$1.1 \times 10^{-18}$	joules	Positronium ionization energy
$2.2 \times 10^{-18}$	joules	Hydrogen $n = 1$ binding energy
$1.6 \times 10^{-16}$	joules	1 keV X-ray
$1.5 \times 10^{-15}$	joules	Hydrogenic iron $n = 1$ binding energy
$8.18 \times 10^{-14}$	joules	Electron rest mass
$1.6 \times 10^{-13}$	joules	1 MeV $\gamma$ -ray
$1.6 \times 10^{-13}$ ( $Z_1 \times Z_2$ )	joules	Coulomb barrier height
$1.3 \times 10^{-12}$	joules	Nucleon binding energy
$4.3 \times 10^{-12}$	joules	Energy from $4 \times ({}^1\text{H}) \rightarrow {}^4\text{He}$
$1.50 \times 10^{-10}$	joules	Proton rest mass

$1.6 \times 10^{-7}$	joules	Particle kinetic energy in a 1 TeV accelerator
10	joules	Well hit tennis ball
51	joules	Fly's Eye most energetic cosmic ray event
$2 \times 10^5$	joules	Energy from a light bulb burning for 1 hour
$2 \times 10^7$	joules	Rough energy from a 1 kilogram meal
$4.2 \times 10^9$	joules	Explosion energy of 1 ton of TNT
$2 \times 10^{10}$	joules	Rough energy of a lightning flash
$2 \times 10^{11}$	joules	Rough human total energy output in a lifetime
$1.5 \times 10^{14}$	joules	Typical atomic bomb explosion energy
$6 \times 10^{16}$	joules	Tunguska 50 m diameter meteorite impact energy
$1 \times 10^{17}$	joules	Powerful H-bomb explosion energy
$3 \times 10^{17}$	joules	Elastic wave energy release from a large ( $M = 8.5$ ) earthquake
$5 \times 10^{17}$	joules	Explosion energy of Krakatoa
$3 \times 10^{18}$	joules	Superman flying at 70 per cent of light speed
$9 \times 10^{18}$	joules	USA electricity usage in 1986
$5 \times 10^{19}$	joules	Rough explosion energy of the Lake Toba eruption in Sumatra
$2.5 \times 10^{22}$	joules	Energy from the comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 fragment G impact on Jupiter
$4 \times 10^{23}$	joules	K-T 10 km diameter meteorite impact energy
$1 \times 10^{24}$	joules	Power released by an evaporating black hole during the last second of its life
$2.1 \times 10^{29}$	joules	The Earth's rotational energy
$3 \times 10^{31}$	joules	The Earth's total heat content
$7 \times 10^{34}$	joules	Total rotational energy of the planets
$2.5 \times 10^{35}$	joules	Rotational energy of the Sun
$3 \times 10^{36}$	joules	Gravitational internal binding energy of Jupiter
$6 \times 10^{37}$	joules	Nova Persei outburst
$3 \times 10^{41}$	joules	A $450 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ neutron star kick
$3 \times 10^{43}$	joules	Energy needed to make the local bubble
$1.3 \times 10^{44}$	joules	Total radiant energy from the Sun — $(\frac{1}{10})(0.007)M_{\odot}c^2$
$3 \times 10^{44}$	joules	Energy in photons from a type II supernova explosion
$1 \times 10^{45}$	joules	Rough total energy from a cosmological $\gamma$ -ray burst
$3 \times 10^{46}$	joules	Energy in neutrinos from a type II supernova explosion
$2 \times 10^{53}$	joules	Typical gravitational binding energy of a galaxy
$2 \times 10^{54}$	joules	Typical magnetic and kinetic energy in a large radio lobe (Shu 311)
$5.2 \times 10^{54}$	joules	Rotational energy of a $10^8 M_{\odot}$ maximal Kerr black hole = $0.29M_{\bullet}c^2$
$5 \times 10^{57}$	joules	Typical gravitational binding energy of a cluster of galaxies
$2 \times 10^7$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Efficiency of the metabolism of food
$1.3 \times 10^{13}$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Efficiency of dropping matter onto a white dwarf
$6.3 \times 10^{14}$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Efficiency of fusion burning hydrogen
$5.1 \times 10^{15}$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Slowly spiraling accretion onto a Schwarzschild black hole
$7.5 \times 10^{15}$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Shakura-Sunyaev efficiency for accretion onto a Newtonian "black hole"
$8 \times 10^{15}$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Efficiency of dropping matter onto a neutron star
$2.6 \times 10^{16}$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Slowly spiraling prograde accretion onto a realistically maximally rotating Kerr black hole
$3.8 \times 10^{16}$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Slowly spiraling prograde accretion onto a theoretically maximally rotating Kerr black hole
$8.99 \times 10^{16}$	J kg <sup>-1</sup>	Efficiency of matter-antimatter annihilation
$4 \times 10^{-6}$	watts	Average energy output from 1 kilogram of the Milky Way
$1 \times 10^{-3}$	watts	Optical disc player laser
6	watts	Amateur short wave radio transmitter
60	watts	Light bulb
100	watts	Gravitational wave power from the Earth-Sun system
150	watts	Human being under normal conditions
750	watts	Maximum long duration horse output
1 500	watts	Typical fireplace fire



20 000	watts	Car
$7 \times 10^4$	watts	Soft X-ray scattered lunar luminosity
$1 \times 10^5$	watts	Running Tyrannosaurus Rex
$3 \times 10^8$	watts	Nuclear power reactor
$3 \times 10^8$	watts	Moderate thunderstorm electrical power generation rate
$1.3 \times 10^9$	watts	Hoover dam
$4 \times 10^9$	watts	Soft X-ray Jovian auroral luminosity
$3 \times 10^{11}$	watts	USA average electricity usage rate in 1986
$1 \times 10^{13}$	watts	Solar radio luminosity
$8 \times 10^{13}$	watts	Powerful nanosecond pulse laser
$1.7 \times 10^{17}$	watts	Insolation of Earth
$1 \times 10^{20}$	watts	X-ray luminosity of the quiet Sun
$1 \times 10^{23}$	watts	Typical white dwarf luminosity
$8 \times 10^{24}$	watts	Gravitational wave radiation from PSR 1913+16
$3.9 \times 10^{26}$	watts	Solar luminosity
$5 \times 10^{26}$	watts	The 2–10 keV flux of the cataclysmic variable FO Aquarii
$1 \times 10^{28}$	watts	Typical X-ray luminosity of an X-ray pulsar
$1 \times 10^{28}$	watts	X-ray luminosity associated with Sgr A*
$3.5 \times 10^{28}$	watts	Rotational energy loss rate from the Geminga pulsar
$4.3 \times 10^{28}$	watts	Megamaser in NGC 4258
$2.4 \times 10^{29}$	watts	5 $M_{\odot}$ star on main sequence
$4 \times 10^{30}$	watts	Cygnus X-1 X-ray luminosity
$5.5 \times 10^{30}$	watts	Luminosity of the 20 $M_{\odot}$ red supergiant Betelgeuse at maximum light
$1 \times 10^{31}$	watts	Crab Nebula energy output
$2 \times 10^{31}$	watts	Eddington limit for a 1.4 $M_{\odot}$ neutron star
$3 \times 10^{31}$	watts	Typical luminosity of Cir X-1 in zero phase
$3 \times 10^{31}$	watts	Typical luminosity of GRS 1915+105 in outburst ( <i>Nature</i> 371, 46)
$1 \times 10^{33}$	watts	Rough luminosity of Eta Carinae in April 1843
$5 \times 10^{35}$	watts	Type II supernova peak photon luminosity
$3 \times 10^{36}$	watts	Milky Way
$1.5 \times 10^{38}$	watts	Coma cluster X-ray gas luminosity
$1 \times 10^{39}$	watts	$10^8 M_{\odot}$ black hole accreting at $\frac{1}{10}$ of the Eddington limit
$1 \times 10^{39}$	watts	Typical quasar luminosity
$1 \times 10^{40}$	watts	Rough luminosity of the quasar 3C273
$2 \times 10^{41}$	watts	Rough luminosity of the $z = 2.286$ ultraluminous IRAS galaxy IRAS F10214+4724
$6 \times 10^{43}$	watts	Rough luminosity of a cosmological $\gamma$ -ray burst
$2 \times 10^{46}$	watts	Rough luminosity of all the stars in the universe
$1 \times 10^{48}$	watts	Core collapse neutrino luminosity of a type II supernova (QJRAS 30, 423)
$7 \times 10^{-7}$	kelvins	Laser cooling of cesium atoms
$1.3 \times 10^{-5}$	kelvins	Cosmic microwave background quadrupole anisotropy
$5 \times 10^{-4}$	kelvins	Typical Sunyaev-Zel'dovich cosmic microwave background decrement
$3.3 \times 10^{-3}$	kelvins	Cosmic microwave background dipole anisotropy
0.01	kelvins	Typical limit of liquid helium dilution cooling
0.3	kelvins	Typical limit of liquid helium evaporation cooling
2.17	kelvins	Liquid $^4\text{He}$ superfluid transition temperature
2.726	kelvins	Cosmic microwave background temperature today
3.20	kelvins	Liquid $^3\text{He}$ boiling point
4	kelvins	Typical limit of Joule-Thomson effect cooling
4.18	kelvins	Liquid $^4\text{He}$ boiling point
6	kelvins	Typical noise temperature of a HEMT receiver at 30 GHz
12	kelvins	Lanthanum (under pressure) superconductivity critical temperature (highest for a pure element)
20	kelvins	Liquid $\text{H}_2$ boiling temperature
77	kelvins	Liquid $\text{N}_2$ boiling temperature

133	kelvins	Mercury-barium-calcium-copper oxide compound superconductivity critical temperature
273	kelvins	Water freezing temperature
311	kelvins	Human surface temperature
373	kelvins	Water boiling temperature
388	kelvins	Brimstone melting temperature—upper limit to the temperature of Hell
506	kelvins	Paper burning temperature
740	kelvins	Typical surface temperature of Venus
1811	kelvins	Melting temperature of iron
3000	kelvins	Cosmic microwave background temperature at decoupling
5770	kelvins	Solar effective temperature
$5 \times 10^5$	kelvins	Surface temperature of the Geminga pulsar
$3 \times 10^6$	kelvins	Polar cap temperature of the Geminga pulsar
$3 \times 10^6$	kelvins	Typical fusion experiment
$1.4 \times 10^7$	kelvins	Center of the Sun
$1.5 \times 10^7$	kelvins	Changeover temperature from the proton-proton chain to the CNO cycle
$2.7 \times 10^7$	kelvins	Center of a $5 M_{\odot}$ star
$5 \times 10^7$	kelvins	Typical gas temperature in a cluster of galaxies
$1 \times 10^8$	kelvins	Typical cataclysmic variable accretion column shock temperature
$4 \times 10^8$	kelvins	Characteristic temperature for electron-positron pair production
$4 \times 10^8$	kelvins	Minimum primordial nucleosynthesis temperature
$5 \times 10^8$	kelvins	Inner accretion disc temperature of Cyg X-1
$7 \times 10^8$	kelvins	Thermal electrons become relativistic ( $v_e = \frac{c}{2}$ )
$1 \times 10^9$	kelvins	Maximum primordial nucleosynthesis temperature
$1 \times 10^9$	kelvins	Rough superconductivity critical temperature in a neutron star
$1 \times 10^{10}$	kelvins	Rough plasma pair catastrophe temperature
$3 \times 10^{10}$	kelvins	Core collapse temperature of a supernova (QJRAS 30, 424)
$3 \times 10^{15}$	kelvins	Rough electroweak unification temperature
$7 \times 10^{-13}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Typical gas pressure in a cluster of galaxies
$5 \times 10^{-12}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Pressure in the best vacuum achieved on Earth
$5 \times 10^{-6}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Solar radiation pressure at the Earth
$1 \times 10^{-5}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Pressure of a sound wave at the human threshold of hearing
0.2	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Solar radiation pressure at the surface of the Sun
30	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Pressure of a sound wave at the human threshold of pain
$1 \times 10^4$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Mean human arterial blood overpressure
$1.5 \times 10^4$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Standing person
$1 \times 10^5$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Typical atmospheric pressure
$1.5 \times 10^6$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	High pressure bicycle tire
$2 \times 10^7$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Typical scuba tank pressure
$9 \times 10^7$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Peak pressure of a fist on concrete during a karate strike
$1.1 \times 10^8$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Pressure at the bottom of the Marianas trench
$6 \times 10^9$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Pressure needed for the natural crystalization of diamonds
$1 \times 10^{10}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Conventional high pressure laboratory press
$2 \times 10^{11}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Peak pressure from a diamond anvil pressure cell
$5 \times 10^{11}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Central pressure of the Earth
$4 \times 10^{12}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Central pressure of Jupiter
$2 \times 10^{13}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Radiation pressure at the center of the Sun
$2.7 \times 10^{16}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Central pressure of the Sun
$1 \times 10^{23}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Typical central pressure of a white dwarf
$1 \times 10^{34}$	$\text{N m}^{-2}$	Typical central pressure of a neutron star
$1 \times 10^{-12}$	$\text{W m}^{-2}$	Threshold of hearing (0 dB)
$1 \times 10^{-11}$	$\text{W m}^{-2}$	Rustle of leaves (10 dB)
$1 \times 10^{-10}$	$\text{W m}^{-2}$	Quiet whisper (20 dB)

$1 \times 10^{-9}$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Soft music (30 dB)
$3 \times 10^{-8}$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Average residence (45 dB)
$1 \times 10^{-6}$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Background music (60 dB)
$3 \times 10^{-6}$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Ordinary conversation at 0.5 meters (65 dB)
$1 \times 10^{-5}$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Busy street traffic (70 dB)
$3 \times 10^{-5}$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Typical factory (75 dB)
$1 \times 10^{-3}$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Rough boundary of unsafe sound levels (90 dB)
$1 \times 10^{-2}$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Lawn mower (100 dB)
1	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Loud rock music concert (120 dB)
10	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Threshold of pain (130 dB)
100	W m <sup>-2</sup>	Jet plane at 30 meters (140 dB)
$9.128 \times 10^{-35}$	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Magnitude of the electron spin angular momentum = $\sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}\hbar$
$1.054 \times 10^{-34}$	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Planck angular momentum = $\hbar$
$3 \times 10^{12}$	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Rough angular momentum of an artificial satellite
$5.9 \times 10^{33}$	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Earth rotational angular momentum
$1.7 \times 10^{41}$	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Sun rotational angular momentum
$3.1 \times 10^{43}$	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Total angular momentum of our solar system
$2 \times 10^{55}$	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Angular momentum of the Sun around the center of the Milky Way
$4 \times 10^{66}$	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	Rough total angular momentum of the Milky Way
$1 \times 10^{-13}$	teslas	Spontaneous human brain activity
$1 \times 10^{-12}$	teslas	Evoked human brain activity
$1 \times 10^{-12}$	teslas	Typical magnetic field needed for good radio reception
$1 \times 10^{-11}$	teslas	Typical magnetic field from a human heart
$1 \times 10^{-10}$	teslas	Typical 50/60 Hz magnetic field inside a building
$5 \times 10^{-10}$	teslas	Typical magnetic field strength in the local interstellar medium
$1 \times 10^{-9}$	teslas	Typical magnetic field strength in a radio lobe
$1 \times 10^{-8}$	teslas	Typical magnetic field strength in the central 300 parsecs of the Milky Way
$5 \times 10^{-8}$	teslas	Magnetic field in the Crab Nebula
$1 \times 10^{-7}$	teslas	Magnetic field in The Arc at the Milky Way center
$1 \times 10^{-6}$	teslas	Typical magnetic field from a hand held cordless phone
$3 \times 10^{-5}$	teslas	Magnetic field at Earth's surface
$1 \times 10^{-4}$	teslas	Magnetic field near Sun's pole
$4 \times 10^{-4}$	teslas	Magnetic field at Jupiter's cloud tops
0.1	teslas	Ap star magnetic field
0.2	teslas	Sunspot magnetic field
1	teslas	Typical medical NMR magnetic field
2	teslas	Magnetic field felt by the electron in an $n = 1$ hydrogen atom
2	teslas	RS CVn star spot magnetic field
12	teslas	Typical magnetic field used in high resolution NMR spectroscopy
25	teslas	Powerful superconducting/normal hybrid magnet
$1 \times 10^8$	teslas	Typical single pulsar dipole magnetic field strength
$4.4 \times 10^9$	teslas	Magnetic field strength when the energy of the first electron Landau level is comparable to the electron rest mass (MNRAS 275, 257)
$1 \times 10^4$	amperes	Peak lightning bolt current
$5 \times 10^6$	amperes	Current along Io's flux tube ( <i>Science</i> 262, 1035)
$3 \times 10^8$	volts	Typical potential difference across a lightning bolt
$3 \times 10^6$	V m <sup>-1</sup>	Electrical discharge field in air with ions
$1 \times 10^{12}$	V m <sup>-1</sup>	Typical electric field at the surface of a pulsar
$1 \times 10^{19}$	V m <sup>-1</sup>	QED pair production electric field limit

240	bits	Eigen replicator genome — 120 nucleotides
440	bits	Spiegelman monster genome — 220 nucleotides
9 000	bits	$Q_{\beta}$ virus genome — 4 500 nucleotides
32 000	bits	Single spaced typed page
$6.6 \times 10^5$	bits	Uncompressed ASCII version of <i>Lysistrata</i>
$4.36 \times 10^6$	bits	<i>C. elegans</i> nematode chromosome III — longest contiguous piece of DNA sequenced
$6 \times 10^6$	bits	<i>E. Coli</i> genome — 3 million nucleotides
$6.3 \times 10^6$	bits	Uncompressed ASCII version of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>
$2.6 \times 10^7$	bits	Yeast genome — 13 million nucleotides
$3.6 \times 10^7$	bits	Uncompressed ASCII version of <i>The Bible</i>
$2 \times 10^8$	bits	Nematode genome — 100 million nucleotides
$1 \times 10^9$	bits	Microcomputer hard drive
$2.5 \times 10^9$	bits	Twenty volume edition of the Oxford English Dictionary on CD-ROM
$7 \times 10^9$	bits	MACHO project data intake per night
$9 \times 10^9$	bits	Human genome
$8 \times 10^{10}$	bits	Sloan Digital Sky Survey spectral database
$1.4 \times 10^{11}$	bits	Cambridge X-ray group total disk space
$2 \times 10^{11}$	bits	International Halley watch database
$5 \times 10^{11}$	bits	VCR tape
$1 \times 10^{12}$	bits	Speed reading for 80 years with perfect memory
$8.8 \times 10^{12}$	bits	HST archive size in mid-1994
$9 \times 10^{12}$	bits	VLA <i>FIRST</i> Survey data set
$2 \times 10^{13}$	bits	Digitized new Palomar sky survey
$5 \times 10^{13}$	bits	Sloan Digital Sky Survey 0.4 arcsecond pixel map
$8 \times 10^{13}$	bits	NSF backbone traffic in March 1994
$3 \times 10^{16}$	bits	HDTV for 80 years with perfect memory
200	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	Typical reading and talking rate
500	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	Fast speed reading rate
24 000	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	<i>Hipparcos</i> satellite data acquisition rate
56 000	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	Typical Internet link
$1 \times 10^5$	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	High quality audio
$1.4 \times 10^5$	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	HST archive mean growth rate
$1 \times 10^7$	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	Xerox Ethernet
$1 \times 10^7$	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	HDTV bit rate after compression
$4.5 \times 10^7$	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	Internet backbone T3 link
$6 \times 10^7$	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	Sloan Digital Sky Survey data acquisition rate
$3 \times 10^{10}$	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	Soliton optical fiber information transmission rate
$2 \times 10^{15}$	bits s <sup>-1</sup>	Sexual reproduction genetic information transmission rate
2 100	1994 USA dollars	Average USA public school spending per pupil in 1960
6 200	1994 USA dollars	Average USA public school spending per pupil in 1993
$2 \times 10^5$	1994 USA dollars	Vancouver liquid mercury mirror telescope
$9 \times 10^6$	1994 USA dollars	Income of St. John's College, Cambridge during 1992–1993
$1.5 \times 10^7$	1994 USA dollars	Development and construction cost of the Giant Meterwave Radio Telescope near Pune, India
$2.9 \times 10^7$	1994 USA dollars	Total predicted cost of the Sloan Digital Sky Survey
$3 \times 10^7$	1994 USA dollars	Rough United States ACLU yearly national operations budget
$3 \times 10^7$	1994 USA dollars	Rough United States NRA lobbying budget
$5.5 \times 10^7$	1994 USA dollars	Development, construction, and launch cost of the <i>Clementine I</i> spacecraft
$8.5 \times 10^7$	1994 USA dollars	VLBA development and construction cost
$9 \times 10^7$	1994 USA dollars	Development and construction cost of the Keck telescope
$1 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Development and construction cost of the ASCA X-ray satellite
$1.5 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Typical holdings of an old wealthy Oxbridge college

$1.5 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Rough cost of a European Ariane rocket launch
$2 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Development and construction cost of the VLA
$2.1 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Total spending in the 1994 United States senate election campaigns
$3.7 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Rough construction and operation cost (for 4 years) of LIGO
$7.8 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Rough United States NEA revenues
$9 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Development, construction, and launch cost of the <i>Magellan</i> probe
$9.8 \times 10^8$	1994 USA dollars	Development, construction, and launch cost of the <i>Mars Observer</i> spacecraft
$1.1 \times 10^9$	1994 USA dollars	Worldwide Visa and MasterCard fraud in 1993
$1.5 \times 10^9$	1994 USA dollars	Planned total cost of the AXAF X-ray mission
$1.6 \times 10^9$	1994 USA dollars	Estimated cost of the CERN Large Hadron Collider
$1.7 \times 10^9$	1994 USA dollars	Barclays 1994 half-year profits
$1.8 \times 10^9$	1994 USA dollars	Amount of food stamp fraud in the USA in 1993
$3.5 \times 10^9$	1994 USA dollars	Planned total cost of the <i>Cassini</i> spacecraft
$3.8 \times 10^9$	1994 USA dollars	Microsoft revenue in 1993
$1 \times 10^{10}$	1994 USA dollars	Rough monetary losses associated with BCCI
$1.3 \times 10^{10}$	1994 USA dollars	Lockheed revenue in 1993
$1.4 \times 10^{10}$	1994 USA dollars	NASA planned 1995 budget
$1.5 \times 10^{10}$	1994 USA dollars	Rough United Nations yearly budget
$2.8 \times 10^{10}$	1994 USA dollars	Planned cost for the space station
$4.4 \times 10^{10}$	1994 USA dollars	Total cost of the first 20 B-2 Stealth bombers
$5 \times 10^{10}$	1994 USA dollars	Clinton administration 1995 loan guarantee to Mexico
$1 \times 10^{11}$	1994 USA dollars	Rough annual gap between USA IRS estimates of federal taxes due and tax revenues actually collected
$2.6 \times 10^{11}$	1994 USA dollars	United States 1994 military spending
$2.6 \times 10^{11}$	1994 USA dollars	United States 1994 predicted deficit
$8 \times 10^{11}$	1994 USA dollars	United States 1994 entitlement spending (e.g. social security, medicare, medicaid, food stamps, unemployment compensation, farm aid, federal pensions)
$1 \times 10^{12}$	1994 USA dollars	Rough total United States health care spending in 1994
$1.3 \times 10^{12}$	1994 USA dollars	United States 1994 tax receipts
$1.5 \times 10^{12}$	1994 USA dollars	United States 1994 federal government spending
$3.5 \times 10^{12}$	1994 USA dollars	United States antipoverty spending since 1965
$4.4 \times 10^{12}$	1994 USA dollars	United States 1994 national debt
$6.4 \times 10^{12}$	1994 USA dollars	United States 1994 gross domestic product
$1.4 \times 10^{13}$	1994 USA dollars	United States 1994 unfunded liabilities for social security, medicare, federal civil-service retirement and military retirement
$3.1 \times 10^{14}$	1994 USA dollars	World 1994 GDP
0.004		Black velvet optical light albedo
0.012		Black cloth optical light albedo
0.04		Halley's comet optical light albedo
0.068		Moon optical light albedo
0.14		Mars optical light albedo
0.40		Earth optical light albedo
0.80		White paper optical light albedo
0.85		Venus optical light albedo
$1 \times 10^{-10}$	pc <sup>-3</sup>	Space density of X-ray binaries in the Milky Way
$5 \times 10^{-7}$	pc <sup>-3</sup>	Space density of pulsars in the solar neighborhood
$3 \times 10^{-6}$	pc <sup>-3</sup>	Space density of cataclysmic variables in the solar neighborhood
0.1	pc <sup>-3</sup>	Space density of main sequence stars in the solar neighborhood
$1 \times 10^{-9}$	Mpc <sup>-3</sup>	Ultraluminous IRAS galaxies
$1 \times 10^{-9}$	Mpc <sup>-3</sup>	Quasars
$1 \times 10^{-7}$	Mpc <sup>-3</sup>	QSOs

$1 \times 10^{-7}$	$\text{Mpc}^{-3}$	FR II radio galaxies (edge-brightened)
$5 \times 10^{-6}$	$\text{Mpc}^{-3}$	FR I radio galaxies (not edge-brightened)
$1 \times 10^{-4}$	$\text{Mpc}^{-3}$	Seyfert galaxies
0.1	$\text{Mpc}^{-3}$	Field galaxies
0.6	$\text{Mpc}^{-3}$	Group galaxies
−26.8		V apparent magnitude of the Sun
−12.5		V apparent magnitude of the full Moon
−4.4		V apparent magnitude of Venus at its brightest
−1.5		V apparent magnitude of Sirius
0.1		V apparent magnitude of the LMC
0.5		V apparent magnitude of Betelgeuse
3.4		V apparent magnitude of M31
6.5		V apparent magnitude of naked eye limit at a dark site
9		V apparent magnitude of 50-mm binocular limit
10.5		V apparent magnitude of the $z = 0.00363$ Seyfert 2 NGC 1068
11.6		V apparent magnitude of the $z = 0.00170$ H II region galaxy NGC 5408
12.8		V apparent magnitude of the $z = 0.158$ quasar 3C273
13.6		V apparent magnitude of the $z = 0.0167$ Seyfert 1 NGC 7469
14.5		V apparent magnitude of 12-in telescope visual limit
15.3		V apparent magnitude of the $z = 0.239$ quasar PG 0953+414 (ApJ 435, L12)
19.55		V apparent magnitude of the $z = 3.67$ quasar DHM 0054 – 284
23.5		V apparent magnitude of 200-in telescope photographic limit
25.5		V apparent magnitude of a typical Cepheid in M100 (ApJ 435, L33)
29.5		V apparent magnitude limit of an 18-hour exposure with HST
−27.5		$M_V$ of the $z = 0.158$ quasar 3C273
−24.1		$M_V$ of the $z = 0.239$ quasar PG 0953+414 (ApJ 435, L12)
−21.1		$M_V$ of M31
−21.0		$M_V$ of a typical Seyfert host galaxy
−19.5		$M_V$ limit on the host galaxy of the $z = 0.239$ quasar PG 0953+414 (ApJ 435, L12)
−18.5		$M_V$ of the LMC
−6.0		$M_V$ of Betelgeuse
4.4		$M_V$ of the most luminous star in Alpha Centauri
4.79		$M_V$ of the Sun

**Note:** I assume an inflationary ( $\Omega_0 = 1.0$ ) dust-filled Friedmann-Robertson-Walker universe with  $H_0 = 50 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1} = 1.62 \times 10^{-18} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for all calculations. Space densities are given for “here and now.”