

Physical Constants

Name	Symbol	Value (SI)
Speed of light in vacuum	c	2.99792458×10^8 m/s (exact)
Newtonian constant of gravitation	G	$6.67430(15) \times 10^{-11}$ m ³ · kg ⁻¹ · s ⁻²
Planck constant	h	$6.62607015 \times 10^{-34}$ J · s (exact)
Reduced Planck constant $\hbar/2\pi$	$\hbar$	$1.054571817... \times 10^{-34}$ J · s (exact)
Elementary charge	e	$1.602176634 \times 10^{-19}$ C (exact)
Vacuum permittivity	ϵ_0	$8.8541878188(14) \times 10^{-12}$ F/m
Vacuum permeability $1/c^2\epsilon_0$	μ_0	$1.25663706127(20) \times 10^{-7}$ H/m
Electron mass	m_e	$9.109383(28) \times 10^{-31}$ kg
Proton mass	m_p	$1.67262192595(52) \times 10^{-27}$ kg
Proton-electron mass ratio	m_p/m_e	1836.152673426(32)
Boltzmann constant	k_B	1.380649×10^{-23} J/K (exact)
Avogadro constant	N_A	$6.02214076 \times 10^{23}$ mol ⁻¹ (exact)
Electron volt (e/C) J	eV	$1.602176634 \times 10^{-19}$ J (exact)
(Unified) atomic mass unit $m(^{12}\text{C})/12$	u, m_u	$1.66053906892(52) \times 10^{-27}$ kg
Temperature 1 eV	—	$1.160451812... \times 10^4$ K (exact)

To use the above physical constants in C++, #include the following header file:

```
1 // physical_constants.hpp cpp
2 #if !defined(PHYSICAL_CONSTANTS_HPP)
3 #define PHYSICAL_CONSTANTS_HPP
4
5 #include <numbers> // namespace std::numbers e, egamma, pi, log sqrt
6 #include <type_traits> // for std::is_arithmetic_v<> and std::is_floating_point_v<>
7
8 // SI since 2019
9 namespace physical_constants {
10     // Favor double over float unless there is no enough space, as the lack of precision in a float will often lead to
11     // inaccuracies.
12     // Note that constexpr functions are implicitly inline, but constexpr variables are not implicitly inline.
13
14     // Inline variables have external linkage by default, so that they are visible to the linker. This is necessary so the
15     // linker can de-duplicate the definitions.
16     // Non-inline constexpr variables have internal linkage. If included into multiple translation units, each translation
17     // unit will get its own copy of the variable. This is not an ODR violation because they are not exposed to the linker.
18
19     // Since we are using inline variables, changing anything in this header file requires recompiling those files who
20     // include it.
21     // Use constexpr std::string_view for constexpr strings.
22
23     // =====
24     // Exact constants
25     // =====
26
27     // Speed of light in vacuum: c = 299 792 458 m/s (exact)
28     template<typename T>
29         requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T> // T
30         inline constexpr T speed_of_light_v { static_cast<T>(299'792'458.0L) }; // static_cast
31     inline constexpr double speed_of_light { speed_of_light_v<double> };
32
33     template<typename T>
34         requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
35         inline constexpr T sqrt_c2_v { speed_of_light_v<T> };
36     inline constexpr double sqrt_c2 { speed_of_light };
37
38     template<typename T>
39         requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
40         inline constexpr T c_v { speed_of_light_v<T> };
41     inline constexpr double c { speed_of_light };
42
43     template<typename T>
44         requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T> // T
45         inline constexpr T speed_of_light_square_v { static_cast<T>(89'875'517'873'681'764.0L) }; // static_cast
46     inline constexpr T c_v { speed_of_light_square_v<T> };
47 }
```

```

44 inline constexpr double speed_of_light_square { speed_of_light_square_v<double> };
45
46 template<typename T>
47     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
48 inline constexpr T c2_v { speed_of_light_square_v<T> };
49 inline constexpr double c2 = speed_of_light_square;
50
51
52
53 // Planck constant:  $h = 6.626\,070\,15 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$  (exact)
54 template<typename T>
55     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{f T}$ 
56 inline constexpr T planck_constant_v { static_cast<T>(6.626'070'15e-34L) };
57 inline constexpr double planck_constant { planck_constant_v<double> };
58
59 template<typename T>
60     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
61 inline constexpr T h_v { planck_constant_v<T> };
62 inline constexpr double h { planck_constant };
63
64 // Reduced Planck constant:  $\hbar = h / (2\pi)$  (exact, derived)
65 template<typename T>
66     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{f T}$ 
67 inline constexpr T planck_constant_reduced_v { static_cast<T>(3.313'035'075e-34L * std::numbers::inv_pi_v<long double> ) };
68 inline constexpr double planck_constant_reduced { planck_constant_reduced_v<double> };
69
70 template<typename T>
71     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
72 inline constexpr T hbar_v { planck_constant_reduced_v<T> };
73 inline constexpr double hbar { planck_constant_reduced };
74
75
76
77 // Elementary charge:  $e = 1.602\,176\,634 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$  (exact)
78 template<typename T>
79     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{f T}$ 
80 inline constexpr T elementary_charge_v { static_cast<T>(1.602'176'634e-19L) };
81 inline constexpr double elementary_charge { elementary_charge_v<double> };
82
83 template<typename T>
84     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
85 inline constexpr T qe_v { elementary_charge_v<T> };
86 inline constexpr double qe { elementary_charge };
87
88 template<typename T>
89     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
90 inline constexpr T e_v { elementary_charge_v<T> };
91 inline constexpr double e { elementary_charge };

```

```

92
93
94 // Boltzmann constant: k_B = 1.380 649e-23 J/K (exact)
95 template<typename T>
96     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{is\_floating\_point\_v}$  T  $\text{is\_floating\_point\_v}$ 
97 inline constexpr T boltzmann_constant_v { static_cast<T>(1.380'649e-23L) };
98 inline constexpr double boltzmann_constant { boltzmann_constant_v<double> };
99
100 template<typename T>
101     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
102 inline constexpr T kB_v { boltzmann_constant_v<T> };
103 inline constexpr double kB { boltzmann_constant };
104
105
106
107 // Avogadro constant: N_A = 6.022 140 76e23 mol-1 (exact)
108 template<typename T>
109     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{is\_floating\_point\_v}$  T  $\text{is\_floating\_point\_v}$ 
110 inline constexpr T avogadro_constant_v { static_cast<T>(6.022'140'76e23L) };
111 inline constexpr double avogadro_constant { avogadro_constant_v<double> };
112
113 template<typename T>
114     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
115 inline constexpr T NA_v { avogadro_constant_v<T> };
116 inline constexpr double NA { avogadro_constant };
117
118
119
120 // Electron volt: eV = 1.602 176 634e-19 J (exact, same as elementary charge)
121 template<typename T>
122     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{is\_floating\_point\_v}$  T  $\text{is\_floating\_point\_v}$ 
123 inline constexpr T electron_volt_v { static_cast<T>(1.602'176'634e-19L) };
124 inline constexpr double electron_volt { electron_volt_v<double> };
125
126 template<typename T>
127     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
128 inline constexpr T eV_v { electron_volt_v<T> };
129 inline constexpr double eV { electron_volt };
130
131
132
133 // Temperature of 1 eV: e / k_B (exact, derived)
134 template<typename T>
135     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T> //  $\text{is\_arithmetic\_v}$  T  $\text{is\_arithmetic\_v}$ 
136 inline constexpr T electron_volt_temperature_v { static_cast<T>(elementary_charge_v<long double> /
    boltzmann_constant_v<long double>) };
137 inline constexpr double electron_volt_temperature { electron_volt_temperature_v<double> };
138
139 template<typename T>

```

```

140     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
141     inline constexpr T eV_temp_v { electron_volt_temperature_v<T> };
142     inline constexpr double eV_temp { electron_volt_temperature };
143
144     // =====
145     // Constants with experimental uncertainty (central values)
146     // =====
147
148     // Newtonian constant of gravitation:  $G = 6.674\,30(15)\text{e-11 m}^3\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-2}$ 
149     template<typename T>
150         requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{[T]}$   $\text{[T]}$ 
151     inline constexpr T gravitational_constant_v { static_cast<T>(6.674'30e-11L) };
152     inline constexpr double gravitational_constant { gravitational_constant_v<double> };
153
154     template<typename T>
155         requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
156     inline constexpr T G_v { gravitational_constant_v<T> };
157     inline constexpr double G { gravitational_constant };
158
159
160     // Vacuum permittivity:  $\epsilon_0 = 8.854\,187\,818\,8(14)\text{e-12 F/m}$ 
161     template<typename T>
162         requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{[T]}$   $\text{[T]}$ 
163     inline constexpr T vacuum_permittivity_v { static_cast<T>(8.854'187'818'8e-12L) };
164     inline constexpr double vacuum_permittivity { vacuum_permittivity_v<double> };
165
166     template<typename T>
167         requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
168     inline constexpr T epsilon0_v { vacuum_permittivity_v<T> };
169     inline constexpr double epsilon0 { vacuum_permittivity };
170
171
172
173     // Vacuum permeability:  $\mu_0 = 1.256\,637\,061\,27(20)\text{e-6 H/m}$ 
174     template<typename T>
175         requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{[T]}$   $\text{[T]}$ 
176     inline constexpr T vacuum_permeability_v { static_cast<T>(1.256'637'061'27e-6L) };
177     inline constexpr double vacuum_permeability { vacuum_permeability_v<double> };
178
179     template<typename T>
180         requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
181     inline constexpr T mu0_v { vacuum_permeability_v<T> };
182     inline constexpr double mu0 { vacuum_permeability };
183
184
185
186     // Electron mass:  $m_e = 9.109\,383(28)\text{e-31 kg}$ 
187     template<typename T>
188         requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\text{[T]}$   $\text{[T]}$ 

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189 inline constexpr T electron_mass_v { static_cast<T>(9.109'383e-31L) };
190 inline constexpr double electron_mass { electron_mass_v<double> };
191
192 template<typename T>
193     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
194 inline constexpr T me_v { electron_mass_v<T> };
195 inline constexpr double me { electron_mass };
196
197
198
199 // Electron charge to mass ratio: e / m_e = 1.758 820 1e11 C/kg
200 template<typename T>
201     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T> // ❌ T ❌❌❌❌
202 inline constexpr T electron_charge_to_mass_ratio_v { static_cast<T>(elementary_charge_v<long double> /
electron_mass_v<long double>) };
203 inline constexpr double electron_charge_to_mass_ratio { electron_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<double> };
204
205 template<typename T>
206     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
207 inline constexpr T qe_over_me_v { electron_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<T> };
208 inline constexpr double qe_over_me { electron_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<double> };
209
210 template<typename T>
211     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
212 inline constexpr T e_over_me_v { electron_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<T> };
213 inline constexpr double e_over_me { electron_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<double> };
214
215
216
217 // Electron mass to charge ratio: m_e / e = 5.685 629 7e-12 kg/C
218 template<typename T>
219     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> // ❌ T ❌❌❌❌
220 inline constexpr T electron_mass_to_charge_ratio_v { static_cast<T>(electron_mass_v<long double> /
elementary_charge_v<long double>) };
221 inline constexpr double electron_mass_to_charge_ratio { electron_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<double> };
222
223 template<typename T>
224     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
225 inline constexpr T me_over_qe_v { electron_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<T> };
226 inline constexpr double me_over_qe { electron_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<double> };
227
228 template<typename T>
229     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
230 inline constexpr T me_over_e_v { electron_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<T> };
231 inline constexpr double me_over_e { electron_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<double> };
232
233
234
235 // Proton mass: m_p = 1.672 621 925 95(52)e-27 kg

```

```

236 template<typename T>
237     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\mathbb{R}$  T  $\mathbb{R}$ 
238 inline constexpr T proton_mass_v { static_cast<T>(1.672'621'925'95e-27L) };
239 inline constexpr double proton_mass { proton_mass_v<double> };
240
241 template<typename T>
242     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
243 inline constexpr T mp_v { proton_mass_v<T> };
244 inline constexpr double mp { proton_mass_v<double> };
245
246
247
248 // Proton charge to mass ratio:  $e / m_p = 9.578\,833\,143\,0e7\text{ C/kg}$ 
249 template<typename T>
250     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T> //  $\mathbb{R}$  T  $\mathbb{R}$ 
251 inline constexpr T proton_charge_to_mass_ratio_v { static_cast<T>(elementary_charge_v<long double> /
    proton_mass_v<long double>) };
252 inline constexpr double proton_charge_to_mass_ratio { proton_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<double> };
253
254 template<typename T>
255     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
256 inline constexpr T qe_over_mp_v { proton_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<T> };
257 inline constexpr double qe_over_mp { proton_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<double> };
258
259 template<typename T>
260     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
261 inline constexpr T e_over_mp_v { proton_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<T> };
262 inline constexpr double e_over_mp { proton_charge_to_mass_ratio_v<double> };
263
264
265
266 // Proton mass to charge ratio:  $m_p / e = 1.043'968'492'9e-8\text{ kg/C}$ 
267 template<typename T>
268     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> //  $\mathbb{R}$  T  $\mathbb{R}$ 
269 inline constexpr T proton_mass_to_charge_ratio_v { static_cast<T>(proton_mass_v<long double> /
    elementary_charge_v<long double>) };
270 inline constexpr double proton_mass_to_charge_ratio { proton_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<double> };
271
272 template<typename T>
273     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
274 inline constexpr T mp_over_qe_v { proton_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<T> };
275 inline constexpr double mp_over_qe { proton_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<double> };
276
277 template<typename T>
278     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T>
279 inline constexpr T mp_over_e_v { proton_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<T> };
280 inline constexpr double mp_over_e { proton_mass_to_charge_ratio_v<double> };
281
282

```

```

283
284 // Proton-electron mass ratio: m_p / m_e = 1 836.152 673 426(32)
285 template<typename T>
286     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T> // ?? T XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
287     inline constexpr T proton_electron_mass_ratio_v { static_cast<T>(1'836.152'673'426L) };
288     inline constexpr double proton_electron_mass_ratio { proton_electron_mass_ratio_v<double> };
289
290 template<typename T>
291     requires std::is_arithmetic_v<T>
292     inline constexpr T mp_over_me_v { proton_electron_mass_ratio_v<T> };
293     inline constexpr double mp_over_me { proton_electron_mass_ratio_v<double> };
294
295
296
297 // (Unified) atomic mass unit: u = 1.660 539 068 92(52)e-27 kg
298 template<typename T>
299     requires std::is_floating_point_v<T> // ?? T XXXXXX
300     inline constexpr T atomic_mass_unit_v { static_cast<T>(1.660'539'068'92e-27L) };
301     inline constexpr double atomic_mass_unit { atomic_mass_unit_v<double> };
302
303 } // namespace physical_constants
304
305 #endif // PHYSICAL_CONSTANTS_HPP
306

```