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**Quantities and units —**

**Part 4:  
Mechanics**

*Grandeurs et unités —*

*Partie 4: Mécanique*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 12, *Quantities and units*, in collaboration with Technical Committee IEC/TC 25, *Quantities and units*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 80000-4:2006), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- the table giving the quantities and units has been simplified;
- some definitions and the remarks have been stated physically more precisely.

A list of all parts in the ISO 80000 and IEC 80000 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

# Quantities and units —

## Part 4: Mechanics

### 1 Scope

This document gives names, symbols, definitions and units for quantities of mechanics. Where appropriate, conversion factors are also given.

### 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

### 3 Terms and definitions

Names, symbols, definitions and units for quantities used in mechanics are given in [Table 1](#).

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/4bab1c4f-82c0-4b88-9be8-6b46e5b71191/iso-80000-4-2019>

Table 1 — Quantities and units used in mechanics

Item No.	Quantity			Unit	Remarks
	Name	Symbol	Definition		
4-1	mass	$m$	property of a body which expresses itself in terms of inertia with regard to changes in its state of motion as well as its gravitational attraction to other bodies	kg	The kilogram (kg) is one of the seven base units (see ISO 80000-1) of the International System of Units, the SI. See also IEC 60050-113.
4-2	mass density, density	$\rho, \rho_m$	quantity representing the spatial distribution of mass of a continuous material: $\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{dm}{dV}$ where $m$ is mass of the material contained in an infinitesimal domain at point $\mathbf{r}$ and $V$ is volume of this domain	$\text{kg m}^{-3}$	
4-3	specific volume	$v$	reciprocal of mass density $\rho$ (item 4-2): $v = \frac{1}{\rho}$	$\text{kg}^{-1} \text{m}^3$	
4-4	relative mass density, relative density	$d$	quotient of mass density of a substance $\rho$ and mass density of a reference substance $\rho_0$ : $d = \frac{\rho}{\rho_0}$	1	Conditions and material should be specified for the reference substance.
4-5	surface mass density, surface density	$\rho_A$	quantity representing the areal distribution of mass of a continuous material: $\rho_A(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{dm}{dA}$ where $m$ is the mass of the material at position $\mathbf{r}$ and $A$ is area	$\text{kg m}^{-2}$	The name "grammage" should not be used for this quantity.

Table 1 (continued)

Item No.	Quantity			Unit	Remarks
	Name	Symbol	Definition		
4-6	linear mass density, linear density	$\rho_l$	quantity representing the linear distribution of mass of a continuous material: $\rho_l(r) = \frac{dm}{dl}$ where $m$ is the mass of the material at position $r$ and $l$ is length	kg m <sup>-1</sup>	
4-7	moment of inertia	$J$	tensor (ISO 80000-2) quantity representing rotational inertia of a rigid body relative to a fixed centre of rotation expressed by the tensor product: $L = J\omega$ where $L$ is angular momentum (ISO 80000-3) of the body relative to the reference point and $\omega$ is its angular velocity (ISO 80000-3)	kg m <sup>2</sup>	The calculation of the value requires an integration.
4-8	momentum	$p$	product of mass $m$ (item 4-1) of a body and velocity $v$ (ISO 80000-3) of its centre of mass: $p = mv$	kg m s <sup>-1</sup>	
4-9.1	force	$F$	vector (ISO 80000-2) quantity describing interaction between bodies or particles	N kg m s <sup>-2</sup>	
4-9.2	weight	$F_g$	force (item 4-9.1) acting on a body in the gravitational field of Earth: $F_g = mg$ where $m$ (item 4-1) is the mass of the body and $g$ is the local acceleration of free fall (ISO 80000-3)	N kg m s <sup>-2</sup>	In colloquial language, the name "weight" continues to be used where "mass" is meant. This practice should be avoided. Weight is an example of a gravitational force. Weight comprises not only the local gravitational force but also the local centrifugal force due to the rotation of the Earth.
4-9.3	static friction force, static friction	$F_s$	force (item 4-9.1) resisting the motion before a body starts to slide on a surface	N kg m s <sup>-2</sup>	For the static friction coefficient, see item 4-23.1.
4-9.4	kinetic friction force, dynamic friction force	$F_\mu$	force (item 4-9.1) resisting the motion when a body slides on a surface	N kg m s <sup>-2</sup>	For the kinetic friction factor, see item 4-23.2.

Table 1 (continued)

Item No.	Quantity		Unit	Remarks
	Name	Symbol		
4-9.5	rolling resistance, rolling drag, rolling friction force	$F_{rr}$	force (item 4-9.1) resisting the motion when a body rolls on a surface	N kg m s <sup>-2</sup> For the rolling resistance factor, see item 4-23.3.
4-9.6	drag force	$F_D$	force (item 4-9.1) resisting the motion of a body in a fluid	N kg m s <sup>-2</sup> For the drag coefficient, see item 4-23.4.
4-10	impulse	$I$	vector (ISO 80000-2) quantity describing the effect of force acting during a time interval: $I = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathbf{F} dt$ where $\mathbf{F}$ is force (item 4-9.1), $t_1$ is time (ISO 80000-3) and $[t_1, t_2]$ is considered time interval	N s kg m s <sup>-1</sup> For a time interval $[t_1, t_2]$ , $I(t_1, t_2) = \mathbf{p}(t_1) - \mathbf{p}(t_2) = \Delta \mathbf{p}$ where $\mathbf{p}$ is momentum (item 4-8).
4-11	angular momentum	$L$	vector (ISO 80000-2) quantity described by the vector product: $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}$ where $\mathbf{r}$ is position vector (ISO 80000-3) with respect to the axis of rotation and $\mathbf{p}$ is momentum (item 4-8)	kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
4-12.1	moment of force	$M$	vector (ISO 80000-2) quantity described by the vector product: $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F}$ where $\mathbf{r}$ is position vector (ISO 80000-3) with respect to the axis of rotation and $\mathbf{F}$ is force (item 4-9.1)	N m kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-2</sup> The bending moment of force is denoted by $M_b$ .
4-12.2	torque	$T, M_Q$	quantity described by the scalar product: $T = \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{e}_Q$ where $\mathbf{M}$ is moment of force (item 4-12.1) and $\mathbf{e}_Q$ is unit vector of direction with respect to which the torque is considered	N m kg m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-2</sup> For example, torque is the twisting moment of force with respect to the longitudinal axis of a beam or shaft.



Table 1 (continued)

Item No.	Quantity		Unit	Remarks
	Name	Symbol		
4-13	angular impulse	$H$	vector (ISO 80000-2) quantity describing the effect of moment of force during a time interval: $H(t_1; t_2) = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} M dt$ where $M$ is moment of force (item 4-12.1), $t$ is time (ISO 80000-3) and $[t_1, t_2]$ is considered time interval quotient of the component of a force normal to a surface and its area: $p = \frac{e_n \cdot F}{A}$ where $e_n$ is unit vector of the surface normal, $F$ is force (item 4-9.1) and $A$ is area (ISO 80000-3) pressure $p$ (item 4-14.1) decremented by ambient pressure $p_{amb}$ : $p_e = p - p_{amb}$	For a time interval $[t_1, t_2]$ , $H(t_1, t_2) = L(t_2) - L(t_1) = \Delta L$ where $L$ is angular momentum.
4-14.1	pressure	$p$	Pa N m <sup>-2</sup> kg m <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-2</sup>	
4-14.2	gauge pressure	$p_e$	Pa N m <sup>-2</sup> kg m <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-2</sup>	Often, $p_{amb}$ is chosen as a standard pressure. Gauge pressure is positive or negative. Stress tensor is symmetric and has three normal-stress and three shear-stress (Cartesian) components.
4-15	stress	$\sigma$	Pa N m <sup>-2</sup> kg m <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-2</sup>	
4-16.1	normal stress	$\sigma_n, \sigma$	Pa N m <sup>-2</sup> kg m <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-2</sup>	A couple of mutually opposite forces of magnitude $F$ acting on the opposite surfaces of a slice (layer) of homogeneous solid matter normal to it, and evenly distributed, cause a constant normal stress $\sigma_n = F/A$ in the slice (layer).

Table 1 (continued)

Item No.	Quantity		Unit	Remarks
	Name	Symbol		
4-16.2	shear stress	$\tau_s, \tau$	Pa $\text{N m}^{-2}$ $\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2}$	A couple of mutually opposite forces of magnitude $F$ acting on the opposite surfaces of a slice (layer) of homogeneous solid matter parallel to it, and evenly distributed, cause a constant shear stress $\tau = F/A$ in the slice (layer).
4-17.1	strain	$\epsilon$	1	Strain tensor is symmetric and has three linear-strain and three shear strain (Cartesian) components.
4-17.2	relative linear strain	$\epsilon, (e)$	1	
4-17.3	shear strain	$\gamma$	1	
4-17.4	relative volume strain	$\vartheta$	1	
4-18	Poisson number	$\mu, (v)$	1	

Table 1 (continued)

Item No.	Quantity		Unit	Remarks	
	Name	Symbol			
4-19.1	modulus of elasticity, Young modulus	$E, E_m, Y$	quotient of normal stress $\sigma$ (item 4-16.1) and relative linear strain $\epsilon$ (item 4-17.2): $E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon}$	Pa $N\ m^{-2}$ $kg\ m^{-1}\ s^{-2}$	Conditions should be specified (e.g. adiabatic or isothermal process).
4-19.2	modulus of rigidity, shear modulus	$G$	quotient of shear stress $\tau$ (item 4-16.2) and shear strain $\gamma$ (item 4-17.3): $G = \frac{\tau}{\gamma}$	Pa $N\ m^{-2}$ $kg\ m^{-1}\ s^{-2}$	Conditions should be specified (e.g. isentropic or isothermal process).
4-19.3	modulus of compression, bulk modulus	$K, K_m, B$	negative of the quotient of pressure $p$ (item 4-14.1) and relative volume strain $\vartheta$ (item 4-17.4): $K = -\frac{p}{\vartheta}$	Pa $N\ m^{-2}$ $kg\ m^{-1}\ s^{-2}$	Conditions should be specified (e.g. isentropic or isothermal process).
4-20	compressibility	$\kappa$	negative relative change of volume $V$ (ISO 80000-3) of an object under pressure $p$ (item 4-14.1) expressed by: $\kappa = -\frac{1}{V} \frac{dV}{dp}$	$Pa^{-1}$ $kg^{-1}\ m\ s^2$	Conditions should be specified (e.g. isentropic or isothermal process). See also ISO 80000-5.
4-21.1	second axial moment of area	$I_a$	geometrical characteristic of a shape of a body equal to: $I_a = \iint_M r_Q^2 dA$ where $M$ is the two-dimensional domain of the cross-section of a plane and considered body, $r_Q$ is radial distance (ISO 80000-3) from a $Q$ -axis in the plane of the surface considered and $A$ is area (ISO 80000-3)	$m^4$	This quantity is often referred to wrongly as “moment of inertia” (item 4-7). The subscript, $a$ , may be omitted when there is no risk of confusion.