Problem 80

Consider the equation y = mt + b, where the dimension of y is length and the dimension of t is time, and m and b are constants. What are the dimensions and SI units of (a) m and (b) b?

Solution

If y is length, then the two quantities being added, mt and b, have to have dimensions of length as well. This means the dimensions of m and b are

$$\left[m\right] = \frac{\text{Length}}{\text{Time}}$$

$$[b] = \text{Length}.$$

Their SI units are

$$[m] = \frac{\text{meters}}{\text{second}}$$

$$[b] = meters.$$