

## Physics 4810 / 7810 Week 11 (zoinks!)

Day 20: Fa2008:  
Politics, Society and Physics

Rotational Motion and Rigid Body



Eyes to web  
Project DRAFT due in two weeks  
Draft can be various levels of finished  
--- more you provide me, more response  
you get



## Our Class Norms...

- Again, potentially charged topics
- Please focus on ideas, not people
- CONSTRUCTIVE critiques are the best
- It is okay & encouraged for you to differ with:
  - Authors
  - Professor
  - And maybe each other...
- Debate, Dissent, and Discussion are patriotic ; )

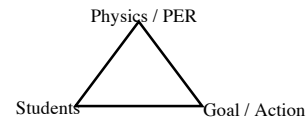
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## Silent Lie

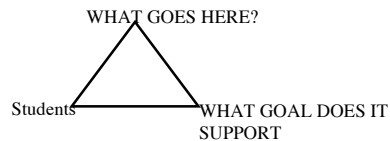
- What is the silent lie for:
  - Fish
  - Mahajan
  - Bartlett
- What are their stated goals?

## Mediation

- Tools mediate (allow for thought) thought



## How would BARTLETT/MAHAJAN/FISH change physics?



## Context

- Context is the collection of components and the relations among them – the connected whole which includes constituent elements *and* the relations among them.
- Birdwhistell uses the analogy of a rope to develop such a notion of context:



## Context as Rope

*The fibers that make up the rope are discontinuous; when you twist them together you don't make them continuous, you make the thread continuous .... even though it may look in a thread as though each of those particles[fibres] are going all through it, that isn't the case... Obviously, I am not talking about the environment. I am not talking about inside and outside. I am talking about the conditions of the system*  
(Birdwhistell as quoted in R. McDermott 1993, p. 274).

## Practice this



I leave my house lights on over night, how much money did I waste (hint: you pay approx. 10cents / (kW\*hr) )

$$\text{Energy} = \text{power} \times \text{time} = 100\text{W} \times 8 \text{ hrs} = 800 \text{ W*hr} \\ = 0.8 \text{ kW*hr.}$$

Since you pay about \$0.10 for each kW\*hr, that's about 8 cents. No big deal. Does this mean energy is cheap?

## More Practice

- What if I have to produce this energy 0.8 kW\*hrs?

Assume I am about 1/10th of a horse

0.1 horsepower running on a treadmill

1 hp = 750 Watts.

So I produce about 75 Watts.

For how long to get 800 Watt - hrs?  
(more than the amount of time I left the bulb on!)

Is energy still cheap?

*[I'm willing to pay you 8 cents to do this]*

## Exponential growth

- Al Bartlett contends, "The greatest shortcoming of the human race is our inability to understand the exponential function."

## Orders of Magnitude / Exponential Growth

- How much will a hamburger cost in 2052?
- When will we run out of fossil fuels?
- How long does it take to charge a flash?
- How close do circuit components have to be to take advantage of / avoid quantum tunneling?

## Why OoM problems? What can students / instructors learn?

??

## Estimation / Orders of Magnitude

- Useful if you don't have exact data
- Too complex a calculation -- simplify formula
- Gives **trends**

## Simple growth (interest) vs. compounded.

- Every year I'll give you 15% simple interest on your \$1000 of principle investment..for the next 50 years
- I.e. \$150/year.... Or \$7500
- What if I got interest on the interest?
  - i.e. Year two, I get  $0.15 * \$1150...$
- Or instantaneously!
  - $P(t) = P_0 * e^{rt}$  where  $r = \text{interest rate} = 0.15$ ,  $t = \text{time}$
  - $t = 50 \text{ years} \rightarrow r * t = 7.5 \rightarrow e^{rt} = 1808$
  - $P(50\text{yrs}) = \$1000 * e^{rt} = \$1,800,000$  !!!!!

## Solved by a simple equation

$$P(t) = P_0 * e^{rt}$$

$t = \text{time} = \text{lyr}$     $r = \text{growth rate } 0.05 / \text{yr}$

**Time to double** ... ie. When is  $P(t)/P_0 = 2$ ?

$$\ln(P(t)/P_0) = \ln(2) = \ln(e^{rt}) = rt$$

$$0.69 = r * t$$

**Rule of 70:**  $70 / (\text{percent rate}) = t = \text{time to double}$

e.g. 3 % growth/year  $\Rightarrow$  27 years to double  
 a \$7.50 hamburger costs \$30 in ~54 years.  
 If it were 6%  $\rightarrow$  doubling time =  $70/6 = 13$  years  
 a \$7.50 hamburger costs \$120 in 52 years

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## OoM problems

- What makes an OoM problem physics?
- Share with each other your OoM problems
- What makes a good problem?
- Can an OoM problem be political but apartisan?

## Population example

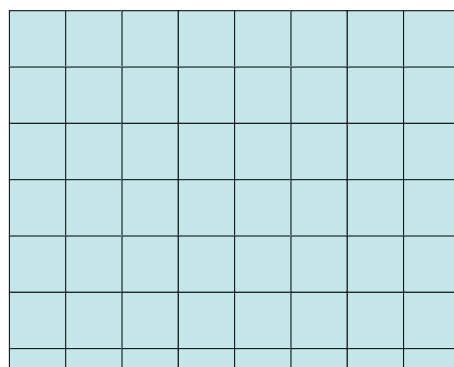


Bacteria in a bottle  
 Bacteria divide once every minute  
 Start at 11AM

At noon the bottle is filled

- What time is it when the bottle 1/2 full?
- What time is it when the bottle is 1/32 full?
- Three adventurous bacteria are sent out to find new bottles at 11:55. They find 3 new bottles!!! Quadrupling all known space for bacteria.
- How much more time did they buy themselves?

## A graphical example



## Real-world example

- Let us look at some current approximate, data (1997).

	United States	World
Population	270 million	5700 million
Annual increase	3 million	90 million
Annual growth rate	1 % per year	1.6 % per year

What's the doubling time?



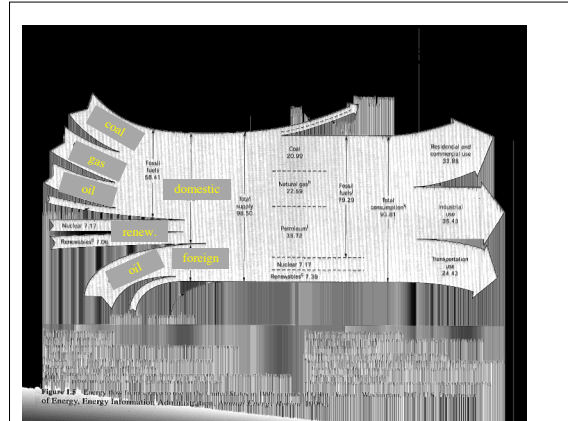
## Is this an issue?

- 70 years seems like a while?
- Are we sustainable right now?
- Think about food and non-renewable energy for example.

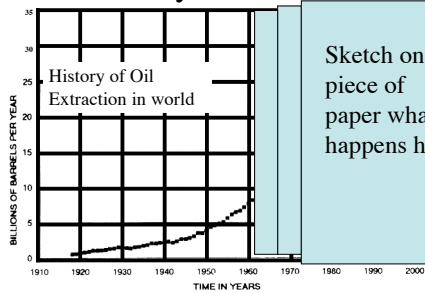
## Energy & Environment Phys 3070

<http://www.colorado.edu/physics/phys3070>

- Loads of data at:  
[www.eia.doe.gov](http://www.eia.doe.gov) (energy information administration)
- Global coal USE is about 100 QBtu/yr = 5E9 ton/year
- Global coal *reserves* are estimated (high end est.) at 20,000 Qbtu
- Global fossil fuel USE is about 400 QBtu/yr
- Global oil *reserves* are estimated (high end est.) at 10,000 Qbtu
- US coal USE is 20 QBtu/yr = 1E9 ton/year
- US fossil fuel USE is about 100 QBtu (of which 40 is petroleum)



## History of Oil Use



## What about US oil?

