

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

1: The Nature of Science and Physics

In this text, you will begin to explore the history of the formal study of physics, beginning with natural philosophy and the ancient Greeks, and leading up through a review of Sir Isaac Newton and the laws of physics that bear his name. You will also be introduced to the standards scientists use when they study physical quantities and the interrelated system of measurements most of the scientific community uses to communicate in a single mathematical language.

[1.0: Prelude to Science and the Realm of Physics, Physical Quantities, and Units](#)

[1.1: Physics- An Introduction](#)

[1.2: Physical Quantities and Units](#)

[1.3: Accuracy, Precision, and Significant Figures](#)

[1.4: Approximation](#)

[1.E: The Nature of Science and Physics \(Exercises\)](#)

Thumbnail: This parabola-shaped lava flow illustrates the application of mathematics in physics—in this case, Galileo's law of falling bodies. (Jim D. Griggs, HVO (USGS) staff photographer @ <http://pubs.usgs.gov/dds/dds-80>).

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