Biology 4605/7220 13 September 2005

1. Name a quantity of interest to you that has dimensions of M/T. In the spaces below provide a complete five-part definition of the quantity (name, symbol, procedural statement, numbers, units).

		TYPICAL	
NAME	SYMBOL	VALUES	SCALE (typical units)

Κ

Procedural statement (you may have to invent this)

[This should be clear enough so that another investigator could make comparable measurements]

 $sum(X) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$

n is number of observations (it has no units)

 $mean(X) = \overline{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{n=1}^{n} X \qquad variance(X) = s^{2} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{n=1}^{n} ((X - \overline{X}))^{2}$

coefficient of dispersion

$$cd(X) = \frac{variance(X)}{mean(X)}$$

2. Substitute the symbol for your quantity within the parentheses in the following expressions, and fill in the blanks.

sum() has units of _____K___

mean() has units of <u>K</u>

cd() has units of <u>K</u>

3a. The median is defined as a value such that half the observations are above and half are below. Report the mean and median values of the following quantity (don't forget units).

E = [65	5	5 10	15] Joules	$mean(E) = $ _	100/	<u>5=20</u>	
				<i>median</i> (E	E) =	10	

3b. State which is greater (mean or median) <u>mean</u>

3c. Explain why. The mean exceeds the median because the mean is influenced by an extreme value, 65.