

# Mass, volume, density

- **Mass of an object describes the amount of matter contained in it. Mass is denoted by  $m$ .**

Units of mass are kilograms (kg), grams (g), tons, pounds, ounces, etc.

- **Volume of an object tells us how much space does the object take up. Volume is denoted by  $V$ .**

Units of volume are liters(l), milliliters (ml), cubic meters ( $m^3$  ), gallons, etc.

- **Density is a property of a material: it tells us how much mass is contained in a given volume of the material. It tells us how tightly the matter is packed. Density is denoted by  $\rho$  (Greek letter “rho”).**

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}} \quad \text{or} \quad \rho = \frac{m}{V}$$

# Homework 10

## Problem 1

Find the density of an alloy that is made of 2 kg of copper and 1 kg of aluminum.

Density of copper is  $8900 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ; density of aluminum is  $2700 \text{ kg/m}^3$ . Assume that

the volume of the alloy is equal to the combined volume of its components.

*Hint: find the volumes of copper and aluminum first*

## Problem 2 (problem about the pirate continued).

*Previous problem: A pirate gives you a cube that he claims is made of pure gold. The side of the cube is 4 cm. You measure its mass and find that it is 900 grams. Is the pirate lying to you? Gold density is  $19.3 \text{ g/cm}^3$ . We found that the pirate is lying.*

Unable to argue with physics, the pirate admits that he lied to you. He assures you that the cube is a mixture of silver and gold. How much of it is silver and how much is gold? Silver density is  $10.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$ .