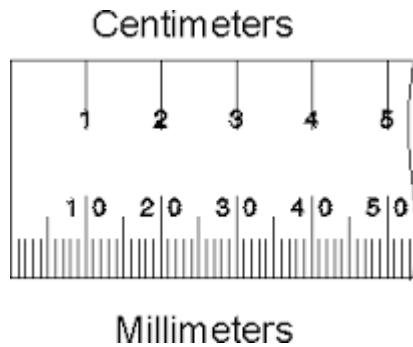


Most cells and microorganisms are too small to be seen with the naked eye.

The smallest object the human eye can see without magnification is about 0.1 mm (or 100 μm) in diameter.

(A printed full stop in a newspaper is about 0.3 mm (or 300 μm) in diameter.)



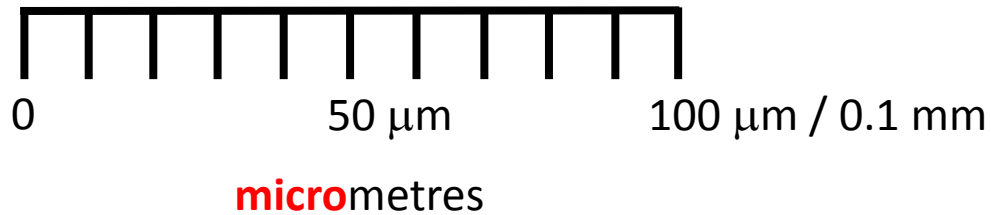
Units of measurement:

cm (**centi**metre) = 1/100 m

mm (**milli**metre) = 1/1000 m

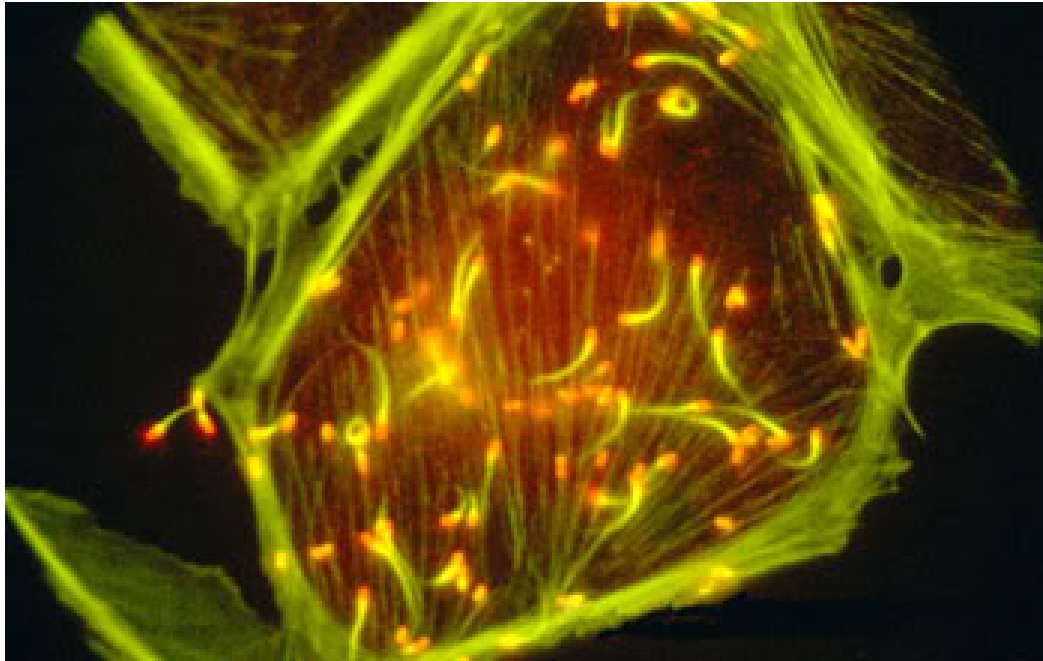
μm (**micro**metre) = 1/1000 000 m

nm (**nano**metre) = 1/1000 000 000 m



Relative Size

Bacteria in a human cell



Place these objects on the scale

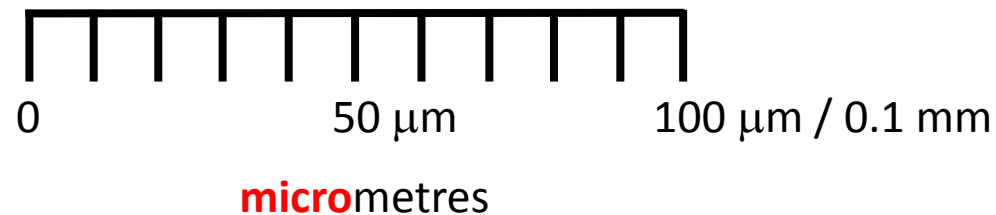
Virus 0.1 μm

Bacterium 3 μm

Grain of talcum powder 10 μm

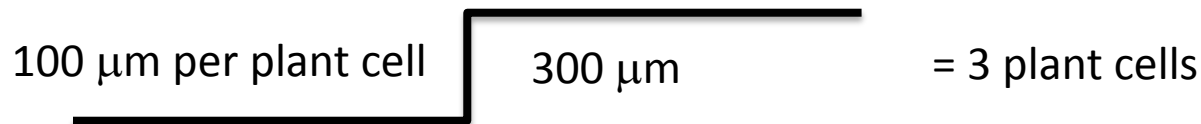
Animal cell 20 μm

Plant cell 100 μm



Thinking about size.

- How many plant cells would fit across a full stop?



- How many animal cells would fit across a full stop?
- How many bacterial cells would fit across a full stop?
- How many viruses would fit across a full stop?