

2,540,000

\*Very Large\*

so many digits!

Sometimes with numbers this small or this large, it can be helpful to rewrite without the extra zeroes.

0.0008264

\*very small\*

So, we KEEP the 1<sup>st</sup> non-zero digit, place a decimal point before the next, and use powers of 10 to correctly represent how we moved the decimal point.

The rewritten format is called

# SCIENTIFIC NOTATION

2,540,000

becomes

$$2.54 \times 10^6$$

When converting a number into scientific notation,

If you moved a decimal to the

**LEFT**

P  
O  
S  
I  
T  
I  
V  
E

power of ten

(\* gets smaller)

Careful!

Moving the decimal point to the

**LEFT** represents...

Dividing by a power of 10.

Moving the decimal point to the

**RIGHT**

represents...

Multiplying by a power of 10.

(\* gets larger)

0.0008264

becomes

$$8.264 \times 10^{-3}$$

When writing in scientific notation,

If you moved the decimal to the

**RIGHT**  
NE  
GATIVE

power of ten

Try It

Write 0.0337 in scientific notation.

$$3.37 \times 10^{-2}$$

Name:

**Introduction to Scientific Notation**

**Objective:** I can use scientific notation to express very large or very small quantities.

**Guided Practice:**

Scientific Notation- when you are dealing with very **large** or very **small** numbers, it is helpful to be able to write them in a shorter form.

<u>Scientific Notation</u>	=	<u>Standard Form</u>
$2.59 \times 10^{11}$		259,000,000,000

**Rule:** A number is in Scientific Notation if:

- 1) The **first factor** is a **single digit** followed by a decimal point
- 2) **Multiplied** by the second factor which is a **power of 10**.

**Exercise 1-** Determine if the following numbers are written in scientific notation:

(1)  $3.2 \times 10^4$

**Yes**  
because first factor is one digit.

(2)  $78.96 \times 10^4$

**No**  
because first factor is not a single digit.

(3)  $456.1 \times 10^{-8}$

**No**  
because first factor is not a single digit.

(4)  $9. \times 10^{-5}$

**Yes**  
because "9" is a single digit.

**Scientific Notation: When to use Positive Exponents and Negative Exponents**

A number in scientific notation with **positive** exponents represents a number **LARGER** than one (whole number).

A number in scientific notation with **negative** exponents represents a number between 0 and 1 (decimal).

**Remember:**

Positive Exponent → **whole # (LARGE #)**  
Negative Exponent → **decimal (SMALL #)**

**Exercise 2-** Determine if the following numbers below will be whole numbers or decimals.

(1)  $1.2 \times 10^5$

**whole #**  
(positive exponent)

(2)  $5.8 \times 10^{-5}$

**decimal**  
(negative exponent)

(3)  $6.8 \times 10^{-9}$

**decimal**  
(negative exponent)

(4)  $3 \times 10^9$

**whole #**  
(positive exponent)

## Converting Numbers from Scientific Notation and Standard Form

### Standard Form to Scientific Notation

1. Write the number placing the decimal point after the first **non-zero** digit
2. Write  $\times 10$
3. Count the number of digits you moved the decimal point & write it as the exponent.

Remember:

- If it is a whole number the exponent is positive.
- If it is a decimal the exponent is Negative.

Exercise 3- Convert from standard form to scientific notation.

(1)  $245,000,000.$   
 $2.45 \times 10^8$

\*Draw box from old to new decimal.

(3)  $500,000.$   
 $5.0 \times 10^5$

(2)  $00084$   
 $8.4 \times 10^{-4}$

(4)  $000007643$   
 $7.643 \times 10^{-6}$

### Scientific Notation to Standard Form

1. Move the decimal point to the number the number of places indicated by the exponent
2. If it's a positive exponent, move the decimal point to the right (*Whole number- make the number larger*)... If it's a negative exponent, move the decimal point to the left (*Decimal- make the number smaller*)

Exercise 4- Convert from scientific notation to standard form.

(1)  $5.9 \times 10^3$  *move forward.*  
 $5,900.$  = 5,900

(3)  $8.32 \times 10^{-4}$  *move back.*  
 $0.000832$

(2)  $4.765 \times 10^8$   
 $476,500,000.$  = 476,500,000

(4)  $1.9 \times 10^{-7}$   
 $0.00000019$

Making Sure a Number is written in Scientific Notation

Left Add  
LARS Right Subtract

**Rule:**

If a decimal point needs to move to the **L**eft, the exponent **(Add)** increases  $48.6 \times 10^3$

If the decimal point needs to move to the **R**ight, the exponent **(Subtract)** decreases  $.48 \times 10^3$

\*\* Be careful when the exponent is negative!

Exercise 5- Write each in Scientific Notation, if necessary:

(1)  $68.7 \times 10^9$   $6.87 \times 10^{10}$  (2)  $6 \times 10^5$  ✓ already correct

(3)  $.725 \times 10^8$   $7.25 \times 10^7$  (4)  $.292 \times 10^{-4}$   $2.92 \times 10^{-5}$

(5)  $326 \times 10^{-8}$   $3.26 \times 10^{-6}$  (6)  $7.5 \times 10^{-9}$  ✓ already correct

**PROBLEM SET:**

1. Determine if the numbers below are written in scientific notation. Explain your answer.

(a)  $4.1 \times 10^{15}$  ✓

Yes!  
one digit

(b)  $24.01 \times 10^5$

No, first factor is not a single digit.

(c)  $0.1 \times 10^{-6}$

No, first factor can't be zero!

2. The speed of light in a vacuum is 299,792,458 meters per second. Which number, written in scientific notation, is the best approximation of the speed of light?

(a)  $0.3 \times 10^7$  meters per second

(b)  $0.3 \times 10^8$  meters per second

(c)  $3.0 \times 10^7$  meters per second

(d)  $3.0 \times 10^8$  meters per second

$299,792,458 \xrightarrow{\text{APPROX}} 300,000,000$   
 $3 \times 10^8$

3. In 2013, JFK Airport had approximately  $9.4 \times 10^7$  passengers pass through the airport. What is that number written in standard form?

$9.40000000 = 94,000,000$

4. A virus is viewed under a microscope. Its diameter is  $0.00000002$  meter. How would this length be expressed in scientific notation?

$2 \times 10^{-8}$

Negative Exponent because it's a decimal + we moved RIGHT.

5. Ms. Moser gave her class the following problem: Convert the following number from standard form to scientific notation 1,742,103,000.

**Anthony's Answer:**  $17.42103 \times 10^8$

Is Anthony's answer correct? Explain your reasoning.

No.

**NO** You can't have two digits in your first factor. It should be  $1.742103 \times 10^9$