

Scientific Notation is a format in which a number is expressed as a number between 1 and 10 multiplied by a power of 10.

EX 1: Put each of these in scientific notation.

a) 3052

b) 0.08923

c) 0.000032

d) 1948.35

EX 2: Write in decimal notation.

- a) 5.7 x 10⁻³
- b) 7.55 x 10⁶

c) 8×10^2

d) 0.3 x 10⁻⁴

Multiply/Divide with scientific notation

Multiply or divide the number and deal with the powers of ten separately.

EX 3: Multiply or divide these.

a)
$$(4 \times 10^7) \cdot (3.5 \times 10^{-2})$$

b)
$$(3.2 \times 10^5) \div (2.1 \times 10^{-2})$$

Add/Subtract

If powers match, add the numbers and keep the powers of ten.

If powers do not match, add or subtract in decimal notation.

EX 4: Add or subtract these.

b)
$$(3 \times 10^6) + (5 \times 10^4)$$

Scientific Notation

Advantages

Disadvantages

· easy to write large or small numbers (w/ less space) · convenient when multiplying or dividing

·easy to lose track of meaning/size of number · hard to use for adding or subtracting (if Powers are different)

EX 5: Use scientific notation for this computation. In the year 2006, the population of the U.S. hit 300 million. The national debt was \$8.6 trillion. What was the national debt per person that year?