

Example Express the following numbers in scientific notation.

a. $1200 \text{ g} = 1.2 \times 10^3 \text{ g}$

b. $0.00657 \text{ m} = 6.57 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$

c. $5601 \text{ L} = 5.601 \times 10^3 \text{ L}$

d. $14\,100\,000 \text{ km} = 1.41 \times 10^7 \text{ km}$

e. $0.000\,000\,698 \text{ mg}$

$= 6.98 \times 10^{-7} \text{ mg}$

f. 12 million hours

$= 12\,000\,000 \text{ hours}$

$= 1.2 \times 10^7 \text{ hours}$

g. The speed of light in a vacuum

$299\,793\,458 \text{ m/s}$

$= 2.99793458 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

h. Number of seconds in a day

$86\,400 \text{ s}$

$= 8.64 \times 10^4 \text{ s}$

i. Mean radius of the earth

6378 km

$= 6.378 \times 10^3 \text{ km}$

j. Radius of an argon atom

$0.000\,000\,000\,098 \text{ m}$

$= 9.8 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$

To undo scientific notation, or write a number given in scientific notation in standard notation

Positive Exponent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> number is bigger than shown moves the decimal to the right
Negative Exponent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> number is smaller than shown moves the decimal to the left

Example Write each number in standard notation.

a. $1.23 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mg}$

$= 0.000123 \text{ mg}$

b. $7.35 \times 10^{-10} \text{ mL}$

$= 0.000\,000\,000\,735 \text{ mL}$

c. $7.982 \times 10^6 \text{ km}$

$= 7\,982\,000 \text{ km}$

d. $1.6325 \times 10^{10} \text{ kg}$

$= 16\,325\,000\,000 \text{ kg}$