2.14 Scientific Notation

Basic Algebra: One Step at a Time. Pages 227 -234: #19, 21, 22

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19. $\frac{0.000096}{0.000000008}$

Solution: First convert numerator and denominator to scientific notation:

$$\frac{9.6 \times 10^{-5}}{8 \times 10^{-9}}$$

Divide the numbers, and subtract the exponents:

$$\frac{9.6}{8} \times \frac{10^{-5}}{10^{-9}}$$

$$1.2 \times 10^{-5 - (-9)}$$

$$1.2 \times 10^{-5 + 9}$$

Final Answer: 1.2×10^4

21. $\frac{150,000}{0.00006}$

Solution: First convert numerator and denominator to scientific notation:

$$\frac{1.5 \times 10^5}{6 \times 10^{-5}}$$

Divide the numbers, and subtract the exponents:

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1.5}{6} \times \frac{10^5}{10^{-5}} \\ &0.25 \times 10^{5-(-5)} \\ &0.25 \times 10^{5+5} \\ &0.25 \times 10^{10} \end{aligned}$$

This is NOT the final answer, since the number 0.25 is not between 1 and 10! $2.5 \times 10^{-1} \times 10^{10}$

Final Answer: 2.5×10^9

 $\frac{0.00006}{0.0000008}$

Solution: First convert numerator and denominator to scientific notation:

$$\frac{6\times10^{-5}}{8\times10^{-7}}$$

Divide the numbers, and subtract the exponents:

$$\frac{6}{8} \times \frac{10^{-5}}{10^{-7}}$$

$$0.75 \times 10^{-5-(-7)}$$

$$0.75 \times 10^{-5+7}$$

$$0.75 \times 10^{2}$$

This is NOT the final answer, since the number 0.75 is not between 1 and 10!

$$7.5 \times 10^{-1} \times 10^{2}$$

Final Answer: 7.5×10^1 or 75