

# STANDARD FORM

Used to express very small or very large numbers

$$7,000,000 \Rightarrow 7 \times 10^6$$

where  $10^6 = 1,000,000$

$$0.000072 \Rightarrow 7.2 \times 10^{-5}$$

where  $10^{-5} = 0.00001$

Standard form is always written as

$$a \times 10^b$$

where  $a$  is between 1 & 10  
and  $b$  is a positive or negative integer

Multiplying with Standard Form

$$(2.1 \times 10^5) \times (3.0 \times 10^4)$$

the numbers are separated from the standard form & done separately

$$2.1 \times 3.0 = 6.3$$

$$10^5 \times 10^4 = 10^{5+4}$$

don't forget the powers + when multiplied

$$\Rightarrow 6.3 \times 10^9$$

The same happens with dividing

$$(8.4 \times 10^{10}) \div (2.0 \times 10^3)$$

powers - to give  $10^7$

$$8.4 \div 2 = 4.2$$

$$10^{10} \div 10^3 = 10^7$$

$$\Rightarrow 4.2 \times 10^7$$

Adding & Subtracting with Standard Form

$$(3.6 \times 10^3) + (2.4 \times 10^2)$$

Because of the powers being different we can't just add the numbers we have to get them to the same powers first

$$2.4 \times 10^2$$

$\div 10$  to increase power

$$\Rightarrow 0.24 \times 10^3$$

$$3.6 \times 10^3 + 0.24 \times 10^3 \Rightarrow \begin{array}{r} 3.6 \\ + 0.24 \\ \hline 3.84 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3.84 \times 10^3$$

$$5.8 \times 10^9 - 1.2 \times 10^8 \Rightarrow 5.8 \times 10^9 - 0.12 \times 10^9$$

$$\Rightarrow 5.68 \times 10^9$$

# ESTIMATING

It can be useful to estimate an answer without the use of a calculator

Firstly approximate your numbers to a certain number of decimal places or significant figures

$$24.9 \times 3.12 \approx 25 \times 3 = 75$$

$$321.5 \div 74 \approx 320 \div 80 = 4$$

## Estimating with standard form

Can be useful to convert your number first to standard form

$$\begin{aligned} 0.07824 \times 49760 &\approx 0.08 \times 50000 \quad (1 \text{ sf}) \\ &\approx 8 \times 10^{-2} \times 5 \times 10^4 \\ &\approx 40 \times 10^2 \end{aligned}$$

## BOUNDS

When numbers are rounded we lose a certain level of accuracy

Knowing the degree of accuracy helps us find the

OR  
highest possible value - UPPER BOUND  
lowest possible value - LOWER BOUND

eg A measurement of 40m has been rounded to the nearest 10m

The exact measurement will be between 35m & 45m

 Can be written as  $40 \pm 5\text{m}$

## Calculating with Bounds

First calculate the necessary U or L Bound of the numbers before doing the actual calculation

eg A field measures 150m square to the nearest 10m  
find the greatest & smallest area of the field

GREATEST  
UB of side length = 155m  
so Area =  $155 \times 155$   
 $= 24,025 \text{ m}^2$

SMALLEST  
LB of side length = 145m  
so Area =  $145 \times 145$   
 $= 21,025 \text{ m}^2$

$$21,025 \leq A < 24,025 \text{ m}^2$$