

Scientific Notation—Adding and Subtracting

*You already have notes—from 10-15-15—with examples a.—f. on the back—LOOK at them!

To add or subtract, remember:

- Both numbers have to be in scientific notation (“the
- The EXPONENTS must match (same number)
 - Add or subtract from one of them (doesn’t matter
 - If you change the exponent you have to change the decimal!
 - Memorize the directions—left means add, right means subtract
- You add or subtract the regular #’s (can be whole or decimal)
- Write your new # with the same power (base of 10 with same ‘matching’ exponent)
- “change the decimal” if needed
 - Basics: between 1 and 10
 - If you move the decimal to fit the basics: YOU NEED TO + OR – TO THE EXPONENT!

←	→
Left	Right
+ Add	-- Subtract

Keep It Simple Steps:

1. Make exponents match
2. Move the decimal
3. Add or subtract the actual #
4. Write the answer—IN scientific notation

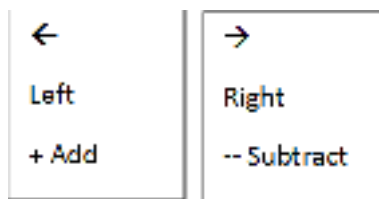
←	→
Left	Right
+ Add	-- Subtract

$(6.89 \times 10^4) + (9.24 \times 10^5)$	$(6.89 \times 10^4) + (9.24 \times 10^5)$
1. <u>Make exponents match</u> Add 1 to the 4	1. <u>Make the exponents match</u> Subtract 1 from 5
2. <u>Move the decimal</u> 1 to the left on 6.89 (6.89×10^4) becomes $.689 \times 10^5$	2. <u>Move the decimal</u> 1 to the right on 9.24 (9.24×10^5) becomes 92.4×10^4
3. <u>Add the #'s</u> $(.689 + 9.24) = 9.929$	3. <u>Add the #'s</u> $(6.89 + 92.4) = 99.29$
4. <u>Write the answer</u> 9.929×10^5	4. <u>Write the answer</u> 99.29×10^4 *Make into Scientific Notation! --move decimal ONE to the left—[between 1 and 10!] --moving the left means ADD—so add 1 to the exponent Answer: 9.929×10^5

EXAMPLE OF SUBTRACTING—WITH NEGATIVES

Keep It Simple Steps:

5. Make exponents match
6. Move the decimal
7. Add or subtract the actual #
8. Write the answer—IN scientific notation



$(9 \times 10^{-5}) - (6 \times 10^{-7})$	$(9 \times 10^{-5}) - (6 \times 10^{-7})$
1. <u>Make exponents match</u> Subtract 2 from -5 (both exponents will = -7) $-5 - 2 = -7$ [integer rules: signs same, +, keep sign]	1. <u>Make the exponents match</u> Add 2 to -7 (both exponents will = -5) $2 + -7 = -5$ [integer rules: signs different, -, sign of larger]
2. <u>Move the decimal</u> SUBTRACT 2, then we MOVE RIGHT 2 9 becomes 900 (9×10^{-5}) becomes (900×10^{-7})	2. <u>Move the decimal</u> ADD 2, then we MOVE LEFT 2 6 becomes .06 (6×10^{-7}) becomes $(.06 \times 10^{-5})$
3. <u>Subtract the #'s</u> $(900 - 6) = 894$	3. <u>Subtract the #'s</u> $(9 - .06) = 8.94$
4. <u>Write the answer</u> 894×10^{-7} *Make it scientific notation! 894 becomes 8.94 (decimal 2 to LEFT) *LEFT –ADD—so ADD 2 to exponent $-7 + 2 = -5$ Final Answer: 8.94×10^{-5}	4. <u>Write the answer</u> 8.94×10^{-5} *Already in Scientific Notation 😊
Look, our answers match!	