

Exponential Notation, Expanded Form and Bases

Definitions

1. EXPONENTIAL NOTATION: will be used to do expanded form (below). When multiplying a number times itself many times, exponential notation is quicker.

Ex1. $8*8*8*8*8 = 8^5$

2. BASE: the number which is being multiplied times itself.

Ex1.(Revisited) In 8^5 , 8 is the base.

3. POWER / EXPONENT: the number of times you multiply the base. It is the superscript in exponential notation.

Ex1.(Revisited) In 8^5 , 5 is the power, or the exponent.

4. HINDU-ARABIC / BASE 10: our usual way of writing numbers. In this system, we use 10 different symbols (0,1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9), and each digit has a PLACE VALUE that is a power of ten.

Ex2.

4	0	3	6	7
↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
10^4	10^3	10^2	10^1	10^0

5. BASE X (x can be any number): another way of writing numbers. In this system, we use X different symbols (0,1,2,3, ..., X-1), and each digit has a PLACE VALUE that is a power of X.

Ex3. Base 5 uses the symbols 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and the place values are powers of 5.

1	0	0	3	4	five
↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	
5^4	5^3	5^2	5^1	5^0	

6. BASE 10-EXPANDED FORM: combines definitions 1. and 4.

Ex2.(Revisited)

$$40367 = (4*10^4) + (0*10^3) + (3*10^2) + (6*10^1) + (7*10^0)$$

or

$$40367 = (4*10^4) + (3*10^2) + (6*10^1) + (7*10^0) \text{ (without zeros),}$$

7. BASE X-EXPANDED FORM: combines definitions 1. and 5.

Ex3.(Revisited) In Base 5,

$$10034_{\text{five}} = (1*5^4) + (0*5^3) + (0*5^2) + (3*5^1) + (4*5^0)$$

or

$$10034_{\text{five}} = (1*5^4) + (3*5^1) + (4*5^0) \text{ (without zeros).}$$

Exponential Notation is a type of short-hand. Instead of writing $8*8*8*8*8$, it is quicker and shorter to use exponential notation:

$$8^5$$

The base
The exponent, or the power

RULES

1. Anything raised to the zero power equals one:

$$1^0 = 1$$

$$2^0 = 1$$

$$13^0 = 1$$

$$\text{anything}^0 = 1$$

2. Anything raised to the one power equals itself:

$$1^1 = 1$$

$$5^1 = 5$$

$$23^1 = 23$$

$$\text{anything}^1 = \text{itself}$$

Special Case.

Something funny happens with tens:

$$10^0 = 1$$

$$10^1 = 10$$

$$10^2 = 100$$

$$10^3 = 1000$$

$$10^4 = 10000$$

$$10^5 = 100000$$

...

For powers of ten only, the exponent equals the number of zeros.

- *Calculator Note:* Find out where the exponent button is on your calculator (sometimes has the symbol ^), so that instead of typing “ $8*8*8*8*8$ ” you can just type “ 8^5 ”

Base Ten, or Hindu Arabic Numbers is the usual way we write numbers, using digits 0 thru 9. Each Hindu Arabic/Base Ten number has an expanded form, which is obtained by multiplying each digit times its place value, then adding them all up.

Example:

This digit has a place value of 10^0 , or 1.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 10^4 & 10^3 & 10^2 & 10^1 & & & \\
 \swarrow & \swarrow & \swarrow & \swarrow & & & \\
 4 & 0 & 3 & 6 & 7 & = & (4 * 10^4) + (0 * 10^3) + (3 * 10^2) + (6 * 10^1) + (7 * 10^0)
 \end{array}$$

Expanded Form

Or, we can also use a slightly shorter expanded form: $(4 * 10^4) + (3 * 10^2) + (6 * 10) + (7 * 1)$.

What's different?

$$10^1 = 10$$

$$10^0 = 1$$

Omit $(0 * 10^3)$, since it equals zero.

Base Two, or Binary is a way of writing number using only 0's and 1's. Each Base Two number has a Base Two Expanded Form, obtained in a similar way as above, but now with powers of two instead of powers of ten.

Example:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & \nearrow & \nearrow & \nearrow \\
 & & & & 2^3 & 2^2 & 2^1 \\
 & & & & \nearrow & \nearrow & \nearrow \\
 & & & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1_{\text{two}}
 \end{array}
 =
 \underbrace{(1 * 2^3) + (0 * 2^2) + (1 * 2^1) + (1 * 2^0)}_{\text{Base Two Expanded Form}}$$

This digit has a place value of 2^0 , or 1.

Or, the slightly shorter expanded form looks like $(1 * 2^3) + (1 * 2) + (1 * 1)$.

Base Five is a way of writing number using only 0 through 4. Each Base Five number has a Base Five Expanded Form, obtained in a similar way as above, but now with powers of five.

Example

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & \nearrow & \nearrow & \nearrow \\
 & & & & 5^4 & 5^3 & 5^2 & 5^1 \\
 & & & & \nearrow & \nearrow & \nearrow & \nearrow \\
 & & & & 4 & 0 & 3 & 4 & 4_{\text{five}}
 \end{array}
 =
 \underbrace{(4 * 5^4) + (3 * 5^2) + (4 * 5) + (4 * 1)}_{\text{Base Five Expanded Form}}$$

This digit has a place value of 5^0 , or 1.

Base Anything! Using similar ideas, we can do base 2, base 3, base 4,, base anything! Just change the place values.

Converting between Base 10 and Base X

TO Hindu Arabic/Base Ten

Example:

Convert the base eight number 27011_{eight} to Hindu Arabic/Base Ten.

1. Change to Base Eight Expanded Form: $= (2 * 8^4) + (7 * 8^3) + (1 * 8) + (1 * 1)$
2. Just multiply / add up part 1:
 $= (2 * 4096) + (7 * 512) + 8 + 1$
 $= 8192 + 3584 + 9$
 $= 11785$

In general, if you start with a number in base Y, and want to convert it to Hindu Arabic/Base Ten:

1. Change to Base Y Expanded Form.
2. Just multiply / add up what you found in part 1.

FROM Hindu Arabic/Base Ten

Example:

Convert the Hindu Arabic/Base Ten number 10 into base two/binary:

1. List powers of two until you reach 10:
 $2^0 = 1$
 $2^1 = 2$
 $2^2 = 4$
 $2^3 = 8$
 ~~$2^4 = 16$~~ (is greater than 10. Too big, stop here!)
2. Start with the largest power from step 1, and start dividing:

$$2^3 \overline{)10} = 8 \overline{)10} \quad \text{remainder } 2$$

$$2^2 \overline{)2} = 4 \overline{)2} \quad \text{remainder } 2$$

$$2^1 \overline{)2} = 2 \overline{)2} \quad \text{remainder } 0$$

$$2^0 \overline{)0} = 1 \overline{)0} \quad \text{remainder } 0$$

Therefore $10 = 1010_{\text{two}}$ in base two.

Let's check our answer by converting 1010_{two} back into Hindu Arabic/Base Ten:

$$1010_{\text{two}} = (1 * 2^3) + (1 * 2^1) = 8 + 2 = 10 \quad \checkmark$$

In general, if you start with a number in Hindu Arabic/Base Ten and you want to convert it to base Y:

1. List powers of Y until you reach the number.
2. Start with the largest power from step 1, and start dividing. Each time you divide, you obtain another digit of the base Y number.

Another example: Convert 6826 into base five:

2. List powers of five until you reach 6826:

$$5^0 = 1$$

$$5^4 = 625$$

$$5^1 = 5$$

$$5^5 = 3125$$

$$5^2 = 25$$

$$\cancel{5^6 = 15625} \quad (\text{is greater than 6826. Too big, stop here!})$$

$$5^3 = 125$$

2. Start with the largest power from step 1, and start dividing:

$$5^5 \overline{)6826} = 3125 \overline{)6826}^2 \quad \text{remainder } 576$$

$$5^4 \overline{)576} = 625 \overline{)576}^0 \quad \text{remainder } 576$$

$$5^3 \overline{)576} = 125 \overline{)576}^4 \quad \text{remainder } 76$$

$$5^2 \overline{)76} = 25 \overline{)76}^3 \quad \text{remainder } 1$$

$$5^1 \overline{)1} = 5 \overline{)1}^0 \quad \text{remainder } 1$$

$$5^0 \overline{)1} = 1 \overline{)1}^1 \quad \text{remainder } 0$$

Therefore the Hindu Arabic/Base Ten number 6826, is 204301_{five} in base five.

Let's check our answer by converting 204301_{five} back into Hindu Arabic/Base Ten:

$$\begin{aligned} 204301_{\text{five}} &= (2 \cdot 5^5) + (4 \cdot 5^4) + (3 \cdot 5^3) + (1 \cdot 5^0) \\ &= (2 \cdot 3125) + (4 \cdot 125) + (3 \cdot 25) + (1 \cdot 1) \\ &= 6250 + 500 + 75 + 1 \\ &= 6826 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Summary

Find digits of Base X-expanded form by using division and remainders:
 $\# = \dots + (?*X^2) + (?*X^1) + (?*X^0)$
 Then write # in Base X: $?????_X$

$\nwarrow$ # in Base 10 $\swarrow$ You already know the digits of Base X-expanded form. Just add and multiply.

$\nearrow$ # in Base X

Ex $\nwarrow$ 279_{ten} in Base 10 $\swarrow$
 Find digits of Base 5-expanded form.
 $(?*5^3) + (?*5^2) + (?*5^1) + (?*5^0)$
 Using division and remainders,

$$279 \div 5^3 = \boxed{2} \text{ R } 29$$

$$29 \div 5^2 = \boxed{1} \text{ R } 4$$

$$4 \div 5^1 = \boxed{0} \text{ R } 4$$

$$4 \div 5^0 = \boxed{4}$$

You already know the digits of Base 5-expanded form.
Just add and multiply.

$$(2*5^3) + (1*5^2) + (0*5^1) + (4*5^0)$$

$$= 250 + 25 + 0 + 4$$

$$= 279_{\text{ten}}$$

Therefore, expanded form in Base 5 is:
 $(2*5^3) + (1*5^2) + (0*5^1) + (4*5^0)$
 $= 2104_{\text{five}}$

$\nwarrow$ 2104_{five} in Base 5 $\swarrow$