

Chapter – 12

Exponents and Powers

- Numbers with negative exponents obey the following laws of exponents.

(a) $a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$

(b) $a^m \div a^n = a^{m-n}$

(c) $(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$

(d) $a^m \times b^m = (ab)^m$

(e) $a^0 = 1$

(f) $\frac{a^m}{b^m} = \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m$

- Very small numbers can be expressed in standard form using negative exponents.
- Use of Exponents to Express Small Number in Standard form:
 - (i) Very large and very small numbers can be expressed in standard form.
 - (ii) Standard form is also called scientific notation form.
 - (iii) A number written as $m \times 10^n$ is said to be in standard form if m is a decimal number such that $1 \leq m < 10$ and n is either a positive or a negative integer.

Examples: $150,000,000,000 = 1.5 \times 10^{11}$.

- Exponential notation is a powerful way to express repeated multiplication of the same number. For any non-zero rational number 'a' and a natural number n, the product $a \times a \times a \times \dots \times a$ (n times) $= a^n$. It is known as the nth power of 'a' and is read as 'a' raised to the power n'. The rational number a is called the base and n is called exponent.
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