

Significant Figures Pacific/Atlantic Rule



Decimal point PRESENT? Start from the PACIFIC!

Begin counting on the left hand (Pacific) side of the number. Move toward the right and start with the first non zero digit.

$$\overrightarrow{\underline{3}06.4000} = 7 \text{ significant figures}$$

$$\overrightarrow{\underline{1}200.} = 4 \text{ significant figures}$$

$$\rightarrow 0.0000\underline{4} = 1 \text{ significant figure}$$

$$0.0000\underline{4}0 = 2 \text{ significant figures}$$

Decimal point ABSENT? Start from the ATLANTIC!

Begin counting on the right hand (Atlantic) side of the number. Move toward the left and start with the first non zero digit.

$$\leftarrow \underline{1}200 = 2 \text{ significant figures}$$

$$\leftarrow 120\underline{7} = 4 \text{ significant figures}$$