Topic 5 – Chemical Formulas and Equations

Lesson 2 – Types of Chemical Formulas

Terms to Know

Molecular Formula –

Empirical Formula –

Structural Formula –

Nomenclature –

IUPAC –



Reducing a Formula to the Empirical Formula

* Find the Greatest Common Factor (GCF) for the subscripts in the general formula
* Divide each subscript by their GCF to get the empirical formula

Write the empirical formula for NO2, K2S2O4, and C3H6

Given Formula NO2 K2S2O4 C3H6

GCF 1 2 3

Empirical Formulas NO2 KSO2 CH2