

Section 5.4/Exponential and Logarithmic Equations:

recall:  $a^x = a^y$  if and only if  $x=y$  (If bases are equal, then exponents must be equal)

$$2^3 = 8 \Rightarrow \text{rewrite as } 2^3 = 2^3$$

$$\log_a x = \log_a y \quad \text{if and only if } x = y.$$

$$\log_2(8) = \log_2(x) \Rightarrow \text{then } x=8!!$$

Things that go into functions are called arguments.

$$a^{\log_a x} = x \quad \text{recall: } 2^{\log_2(8)} = 2^3 = 8$$

$$\log_a(a^x) = x \quad \text{recall: } \log_2(8) = \log_2(2^3) = 3$$

example 1:  $2^x = 32$

$$2^x = 2^5$$

$$x = 5$$

$$\ln x - \ln 3 = 0$$

$$\ln x - \ln 3 + \ln 3 = 0 + \ln 3$$

$$\ln x = \ln 3$$

$$x = 3$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x = 9$$

$$(3^{-1})^x = 3^2$$

$$3^{-x} = 3^2$$

$$-x = 2$$

$$x = -2$$

$$e^x = 7$$

inverse of  $e^x$  is  $\ln$  function: take  $\ln$  of both sides:  $\ln e^x = \ln 7$

apply power rule on LHS/bring  $x$  down:  $x \ln e = \ln 7$

recall that  $\ln e$  means  $\log_e(e) = 1$

$$x \cdot 1 = \ln 7$$

$$x = \ln 7$$

$$\ln x = -3$$

exponentiate both sides:  $e^{\ln x} = e^{-3}$

recall that  $e$  and  $\ln$  are inverse, so they cancel:  $e^{\ln(x)} = e^{-3}$

$$x = e^{-3}$$

$$\log x = -1$$

rewrite as  $10^{\log x} = 10^{-1}$

$\log$  and  $10$  cancel:  $x = 10^{-1} = \frac{1}{10}$

$$\log_3(x) = 4$$

exponentiate:  $3^{\log_3(x)} = 3^4$

$3$  and  $\log_3$  cancel:  $x = 3^4$

$$x = 81$$

example 2 in book:  $e^{-x^2} = e^{-3x-4}$

set exponents equal:  $-x^2 = -3x - 4$

$$-x^2 + 3x + 4 = 0$$

$$x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0 \quad (\text{divide by } -1)$$

factor:  $(x-4)(x+1) = 0$

$$x-4 = 0 \quad x+1 = 0$$

$$x = 4, \quad x = -1 \quad (\text{they do work i original equation})$$

(b)  $3 \cdot 2^x = 42$

$$\frac{3}{3} \cdot 2^x = \frac{42}{3}$$

$$2^x = 14 \Rightarrow 2^x, \text{ so take base 2 logs: } \log_2(2^x) = \log_2(14) \Rightarrow x = \log_2(14)$$

$$x = \frac{\ln 14}{\ln 2} \text{ (change bases)}$$

(3 in book)  $e^x + 5 = 60$

$$e^x + 5 - 5 = 60 - 5$$

$$e^x = 55$$

take ln:  $\ln e^x = \ln 55$

bring x down:  $x \ln e = \ln 55$

$$x \cdot 1 = \ln 55$$

$$x = \ln 55 \approx 4.007$$

example 6 in book:

$$\ln x = 2$$

$$e^{\ln x} = e^2 \quad \text{exponentiate both sides}$$

$$x = e^2$$

b.  $\log_3 (5x-1) = \log_3 (x+7)$

logs have same bases and each side has one log  
so set arguments equal:

$$5x - 1 = x + 7$$

$$5x - x - 1 = x - x + 7$$

$$4x - 1 = 7$$

$$4x - 1 + 1 = 7 + 1$$

$$4x = 8$$

$$x = 2$$

c.  $\log_6 (3x+14) - \log_6 (5) = \log_6 (2x)$

first combine LHS:  $\log_6 \left( \frac{3x+14}{5} \right) = \log_6 (2x)$

same bases, so equate arguments!  $\frac{3x+14}{5} = 2x$

$$5 \cdot \frac{3x+14}{5} = 2x \cdot 5$$

$$3x + 14 = 10x$$

$$3x - 3x + 14 = 10x - 3x$$

$$14 = 7x$$

$$2 = x$$

example 7:  $5 + 2 \ln x = 4$

$$5 - 5 + 2 \ln x = 4 - 5$$

$$2 \ln x = -1$$

$$\frac{2 \ln x}{2} = \frac{-1}{2}$$

$$\ln x = \frac{-1}{2}$$

$$e^{\ln x} = e^{-1/2}$$

$$x = e^{-1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow a^{\log_a(x)} = x$$

$$e^{\ln x} \text{ really means } e^{\log_e(x)} = x$$

$\log 5x + \log(x-1) = 2$  recall

$\log(5x(x-1)) = 2$

exponentiate:  $10^{\log(5x(x-1))} = 10^2$

$$5x(x-1) = 100$$

$$5x \cdot x - 5x \cdot 1 = 100$$

$\log_{10}(x)$  is  $\log x$

$$\Leftarrow \text{by } a^{\log_a(x)} = x$$

$$5x^2 - 5x = 100$$

divide by 5:  $\frac{5x^2}{5} - \frac{5x}{5} = \frac{100}{5}$

$$1x^2 - x = 20$$

⇒ quad.

$$x^2 - 1x - 20 = 0$$

equation..

$$(x-5)(x+4)=0 \text{ check: } -5(4)=-20, \text{ and } -5+4=-1$$

$$x = 5, x = -4$$

check with  $x=-4$ :  $\log(5 \cdot -4) + \log(-4 - 1) = ? 2$

$$\log(-20) + \log(-5) \text{ cannot be equal to } 2 \text{ b/c}$$

$$\log(-20) \text{ doesn't exist. } \log(-5) \text{ doesn't exist!}$$

for any base log function,  
 $\log_a(\text{argument}), \text{argument} > 0$

So  $x=-4$  is not a solution.  
 $x=5$  does work.

example 10 in book: Doubling an investment:

You have deposited 500 in an account that pays 6.75% interest, compounded continuously. Formula:  $A = Pe^{rt}$

$P = \text{principal}, e = 2.718 \quad r = \text{rate (decimal form)}, t = \text{time}$

math 200 we derive  $A = Pe^{rt}$

**How long ( $t=?$ )** will it take for your money to double?

$$A = 500e^{0.0675t} \quad \text{to double means } 500 \text{ is now } 2 \cdot 500$$

$$2 \cdot 500 = 500e^{0.0675t} \text{ (LHS gets } 2 \cdot 500)$$

$$\text{cancel off } 500: 2 \cdot \frac{500}{500} = \frac{500}{500} e^{0.0675t}$$

$$2 = e^{0.0675t}$$

since we have  $e$ , take  $\ln$ :  $\ln 2 = \ln e^{0.0675t}$

$$\ln 2 = 0.0675t \cdot \ln e \quad \leftarrow \text{power rule on RHS}$$

$$\ln 2 = 0.0675t \cdot 1$$

$$\ln 2 = 0.0675 \times t$$

$$\frac{\ln 2}{0.0675} = t \Rightarrow \text{calculator } t = 10.27 \text{ years!!}$$

application: retail sales in billions of e-commerce companies in the US from 2002 to 2007 can be modeled by  $y = -549 + 236.7 \ln t$ , where  $12 \leq t \leq 17$

(model is derived from some survey data)

During which year did the sales reach 108 billion?

what is  $t$ ?  $-549 + 236.7 \ln(t) = 108$ ? (units of billions on LHS and RHS would cancel)

$$-549 + 549 + 236.7 \ln(t) = 108 + 549 \quad \Rightarrow \text{pick up here: } e^{\ln t} = e^{657 / 236.7}$$

$$236.7 \ln(t) = 657$$

$$t = e^{657 / 236.7}$$

divide:  $\frac{236.7}{236.7} \ln(t) = \frac{657}{236.7}$

$$t \approx 16.$$

$$\ln(t) = 657 / 236.7$$

our  $t$  is  $12 \leq t \leq 17$

12 means 2002, 17 means 2007

$t=16$ , 2006!!