

For $b > 0$ and r a rational number, we can use known properties to write the following:

$$b^r = e^{\ln b^r} = e^{r \ln b}$$

$\uparrow$ cancellation property $\uparrow$ power law for $\ln$

So therefore, $b^r = e^{r \ln b}$. This is true for all rational r .

We will extend this idea to all real numbers, and use this relationship to define b^x .

Definition of b^x

$$b^x = e^{x \ln b}$$

$$b > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}$$

because $(-4)^x$ where x is a fraction, you could get a negative root, which is not real.

Recall the expression $2^{\sqrt{3}}$? Now, we can use this definition to write $2^{\sqrt{3}}$.

$$b^x = e^{x \ln b}$$

$$2^{\sqrt{3}} = e^{\sqrt{3} \ln 2}$$

$\uparrow$ $b=2$ $\uparrow$ $x=\sqrt{3}$

$$5^3 = e^{3 \ln 5}$$

The function $f(x) = b^x$ is called the **exponential function with base b** .

Additionally, with this definition, the power rule for the $\ln$ function ($\ln b^r = r \ln b$ for rational r) can now be extended to be true for all real numbers.

$$\begin{aligned} \ln b^x &= \ln e^{x \ln b} \\ &= x \ln b \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\ln b^x = x \ln b$ for any real number x .

Laws of Exponents

If x and y are real numbers and $a, b > 0$, then

1. $b^x b^y = b^{x+y}$ (Product Law)
2. $\frac{b^x}{b^y} = b^{x-y}$ (Quotient Law)
3. $(b^x)^y = b^{xy}$ (Power Law)
4. $(ab)^x = a^x b^x$ (Product-to-power Law)

$$2^3 \cdot 2^5 = 2^8 \quad 2^\pi \cdot 2^{\sqrt{3}} = 2^{\pi + \sqrt{3}}$$

e properties
 $\downarrow$

$$b^x = e^{x \ln b}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (2x)^3 &= 2^3 \cdot x^3 \\ &= 8x^3 \end{aligned}$$

Proof of (1) Product Law:

(try-for-yourself: prove the other three laws)

Given: $b > 0$ and $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

Goal: To prove: $b^x b^y = b^{x+y}$

$$\text{LHS} = b^x b^y$$

$$= e^{x \ln b} \cdot e^{y \ln b}$$

$$= e^{x \ln b + y \ln b}$$

$$= e^{(x+y) \ln b}$$

$$= b^{x+y} = \text{RHS}$$

by definition of b^v

$$e^u \cdot e^v = e^{u+v} \quad \text{product Law for } e$$

factor $\ln b$

$$e^{\square \ln b} = b^{\square} \quad \text{by definition}$$

$$b^x b^y = b^{x+y}$$

QED

Derivative of the exponential function with base b :

$$\frac{d}{dx}(b^x) = b^x \ln b$$

Chain Rule: $\frac{d}{dx} b^u = b^u \ln b \left(\frac{du}{dx} \right)$

Example: $\frac{d}{dx}(5^x) = 5^x \ln 5$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(7^x) = 7^x \ln(7) \quad \frac{d}{dx}(e^x) = e^x \frac{\ln e}{1} = e^x$$

Proof:

$$\frac{d}{dx}(b^x) = \frac{d}{dx}(e^{x \ln b})$$

$$= e^{x \ln b} \frac{d}{dx}(x \ln b)$$

$$= e^{x \ln b} \frac{d}{dx}(\underbrace{(\ln b)x}_{\text{constant}})$$

$$= e^{x \ln b} \ln b$$

$$\rightarrow = b^x \ln b$$

definition of $b^x = e^{x \ln b}$

$$\frac{d}{dx} e^u = e^u \cdot u'$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(kx) = k \ln b$$

QED

Calc I. $\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}$
 power rule $\leftarrow$ constant exponent
 $\uparrow$ variable in the base

$\frac{d}{dx}(e^x) = e^x$ $\leftarrow$ variable exponent
 constant base $\uparrow$
 $\frac{d}{dx}(b^x) = b^x \ln b$ $\leftarrow$ variable exponent
 $b > 0$ constant base

Example 1: Find the derivative.

(a) $y = (3^{2-x^2})(x^{\sqrt{2}})$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \left[\frac{d}{dx}(3^{2-x^2}) \right] x^{\sqrt{2}} + 3^{2-x^2} \left[\frac{d}{dx}(x^{\sqrt{2}}) \right] \\ &= -3^{2-x^2} \ln(3) 2x \cdot x^{\sqrt{2}} + 3^{2-x^2} \sqrt{2} x^{\sqrt{2}-1} \\ &= 3^{2-x^2} \left[-2x \ln(3) x^{\sqrt{2}} + \sqrt{2} x^{\sqrt{2}-1} \right] \end{aligned}$$

(c) $y = (e^{3x} + \ln x)^{\sqrt{\cos x}}$

Method One: Logarithmic Differentiation

$$\begin{aligned} \ln y &= \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x)^{\sqrt{\cos x}} \\ \ln y &= \sqrt{\cos x} \cdot \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x) \\ \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{1}{y} &= \frac{-\sin x}{2\sqrt{\cos x}} \cdot \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x) + \sqrt{\cos x} \cdot \frac{x(3e^{3x} + \frac{1}{x})}{x(e^{3x} + \ln x)} \\ &= \frac{(-\sin x) \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x)}{2\sqrt{\cos x}} + \frac{\sqrt{\cos x}(3xe^{3x} + 1)}{x(e^{3x} + \ln x)} \\ &= (e^{3x} + \ln x)^{\sqrt{\cos x}} \left[\frac{(-\sin x) \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x)}{2\sqrt{\cos x}} + \frac{\sqrt{\cos x}(3xe^{3x} + 1)}{x(e^{3x} + \ln x)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

(b) $y = x^e + e^x + \sqrt{3^x} + 3^{\sqrt{2}}$
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = e x^{e-1} + e^x + \sqrt{3^x} \ln 3 + 0$

Method II: By definition $b^u = e^{u \ln b}$

$$\begin{aligned} (e^{3x} + \ln x)^{\sqrt{\cos x}} &= e^{\sqrt{\cos x} \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x)} \\ \frac{d}{dx}(e^{3x} + \ln x)^{\sqrt{\cos x}} &= \frac{d}{dx} e^{\sqrt{\cos x} \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x)} \\ &= e^{\sqrt{\cos x} \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x)} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{\cos x} \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x) \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{\sqrt{\cos x} \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x)} \left[\frac{-\sin x}{2\sqrt{\cos x}} \cdot \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x) + \sqrt{\cos x} \cdot \frac{3e^{3x} + \frac{1}{x}}{e^{3x} + \ln x} \right] \\ &= (e^{3x} + \ln x)^{\sqrt{\cos x}} \left[\frac{(-\sin x) \ln(e^{3x} + \ln x)}{2\sqrt{\cos x}} + \frac{\sqrt{\cos x}(3xe^{3x} + 1)}{x(e^{3x} + \ln x)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Summary For constants b, n

$$\frac{d}{dx} b^n = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} b^{g(x)} = b^{g(x)} \ln b \cdot g'(x)$$

Calc I power rule
 $\leftarrow$ constant

$$\frac{d}{dx} [f(x)]^n = n[f(x)]^{n-1} f'(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [f(x)]^{g(x)} \rightarrow \text{Use logarithmic differentiation.}$$

OR rewrite b^u as $e^{u \ln b}$ and differentiate.

$$\frac{d}{dx}(b^x) = b^x \cdot \ln b$$

Integral of the exponential function with base b:

$$\int b^x dx = \frac{1}{\ln b} (b^x) + C$$

$$\int b^u du = \frac{1}{\ln b} (b^u) + C$$

Proof:

$$\int b^x dx = \int e^{x \ln b} dx$$

$$= \int e^u \cdot \frac{1}{\ln b} du$$

$$= \frac{1}{\ln b} \int e^u du$$

$$= \frac{1}{\ln b} e^u + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{\ln b} e^{x \ln b} + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{\ln b} b^x + C$$

$$\text{Let } u = x(\ln b)$$

$$\frac{du}{\ln b} = \frac{\ln b}{\ln b} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{\ln b} du = dx$$

Examples:

$$\int 10^x dx = \frac{10^x}{\ln 10} + C$$

or

$$= \frac{1}{\ln 10} (10^x) + C$$

$$\int \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^x dx$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^x}{\ln\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)} + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{-\ln 5} \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^x + C$$

Example 2: Evaluate the integral.

$$\int \frac{10^{\sqrt{x}}}{\sqrt{x}} dx$$

$$\text{Let } u = \sqrt{x}$$

$$du = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx$$

$$2 du = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$$

$$= 2 \int 10^u du$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{10^u}{\ln 10} \right) + C$$

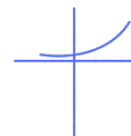
$$= 2 \left(\frac{10^{\sqrt{x}}}{\ln 10} \right) + C$$

or

$$\frac{2}{\ln 10} (10^{\sqrt{x}}) + C$$

Graph of $y = b^x$, $b > 0$ and $b \neq 1$,

Range of $e^x > 0$
(0, ∞)



$$f(x) = b^x = e^{x \ln b} > 0$$

Domain: $(-\infty, \infty)$ Range: $(0, \infty)$

For $b > 1$, $\Rightarrow \ln b > 0$

$$f(x) = b^x$$

$$f'(x) = \underbrace{b^x}_{>0} \underbrace{\ln b}_{>0} > 0 \Rightarrow f \text{ is always increasing}$$

$$f''(x) = b^x \ln b \cdot \ln b = \underbrace{b^x}_{>0} \underbrace{(\ln b)^2}_{>0} > 0 \Rightarrow \text{graph is concave up}$$

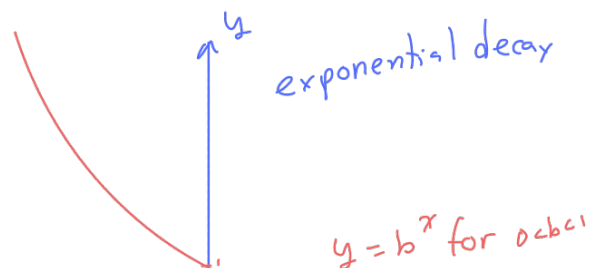
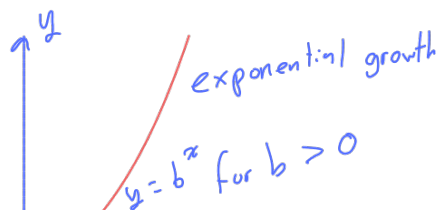
For $0 < b < 1$,

$$\ln b < 0$$

$$f'(x) = \underbrace{b^x}_{>0} \underbrace{\ln b}_{<0} < 0 \text{ decreasing}$$

$$f''(x) = \underbrace{b^x}_{>0} \underbrace{(\ln b)^2}_{>0} > 0 \text{ concave up.}$$

↓



Ex: $f(x) = 2^x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} (2^x) = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (2^x) = \infty$$

Ex: $f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x = 2^{-x}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x = \infty$$

General Logarithmic Functions

Since b^x is one-to-one, it has an inverse function. Its inverse function is called **the logarithmic function with base b** .

Definition of $\log_b x$

input ↓ output ↓
 $\log_b x = y \Leftrightarrow b^y = x$

for $b > 0, b \neq 1, x > 0$

*Note: $\ln x = \log_e x$ and $\log x = \log_{10} x$

input ↓ output ↓
 $b^y = x$

$\log_{\text{base}} (\text{argument}) = \text{exponent} \Leftrightarrow \text{base}^{\text{exponent}} = \text{argument}$

Example: $\log_5(7) = y \Leftrightarrow 5^y = 7$
 $\log_5 7 = \boxed{y}$

Inverse Function Cancellation equations:

$\log_b b^x = x$ for all x and $b^{\log_b x} = x$ for $x > 0$

① $\log_2 2^5 = 5$
 $\log_2 32 = \boxed{5}$

② $\log_7 49^3 = \log_7 (7^2)^3$
 $= \log_7 7^6$
 $= \boxed{6}$

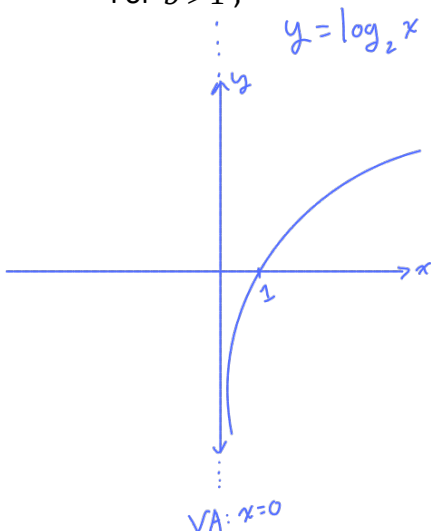
③ $\log_{28}(17) = \boxed{17}$

④ $8^{\log_2 5} = 2^{3 \log_2 5} = 2^{\log_2 5^3} = 2^{\log_2 125} = \boxed{125}$

Graphs of logarithmic functions

For $b > 1$,

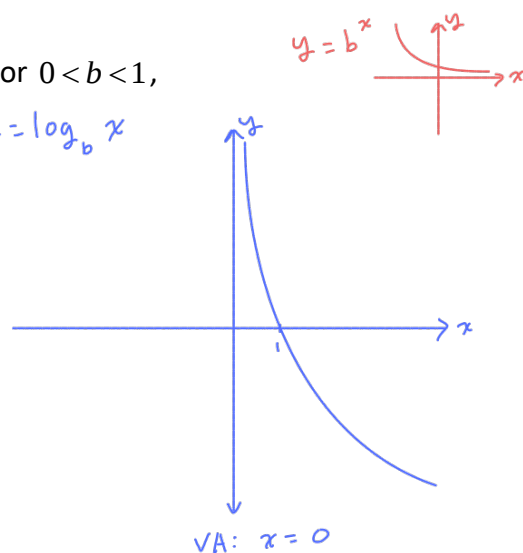
$y = \log_2 x$



$y = \log_b x$
 Domain: $(0, \infty)$
 Range: $(-\infty, \infty)$

For $0 < b < 1$,

$y = \log_b x$



Laws of Logarithms

(1) $\log_b(xy) = \log_b x + \log_b y$
Product Law

Quotient Law
 (2) $\log_b\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \log_b x - \log_b y$

Power Law
 (3) $\log_b(x^y) = y \log_b x$

Proof of (1):

(try-for-yourself: prove the other two laws)

Let $u = \log_b x$ and $v = \log_b y$

Then $x = \boxed{b^u}$ and $y = \boxed{b^v}$

So:

$$\begin{aligned} \log_b(xy) &= \log_b(b^u b^v) && \text{by substitution} \\ &= \log_b(b^{u+v}) && \text{product law for } b^x \\ &= u + v && \text{cancellation property} \\ &= \log_b x + \log_b y && \text{by substitution} \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \log_b(xy) = \log_b x + \log_b y$ Q.E.D.

Change-of-base Formula:

$$\log_b(x) = \frac{\log_a x}{\log_a(b)}$$

top (above numerator) and *bottom* (below denominator)

In particular: $\log_b x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln b}$

example: $\log_8 16 = \frac{\log_2(16)}{\log_2(8)} = \frac{4}{3}$

$8^{\frac{4}{3}} = 16$

$8^{\frac{4}{3}} = 16$

Proof:

Proof

Let $y = \log_b x$

Then, by the definition of inverse functions,

$x = \boxed{b^y}$

Applying the natural log to both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \ln x &= \ln(b^y) \\ \frac{\ln x}{\ln b} &= \frac{y \ln b}{\ln b} \Rightarrow y = \frac{\ln x}{\ln b} \\ &\Rightarrow \log_b x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln b} \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx}(\log_3 x) &= \frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{\ln x}{\ln 3}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\ln 3} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) \\ &= \frac{1}{\ln 3} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{1}{x \ln 3}} \end{aligned}$$

Challenge

Derivative of $\log_b x$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_b x = \frac{1}{\ln b} \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{x \ln b}$$

Chain Rule: $\frac{d}{dx} (\log_b u) = \frac{1}{\ln b} \cdot \frac{u'}{u}$

Proof:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_b x = \frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{\ln x}{\ln b} \right]$$

by the change of base formula

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{\ln b} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \ln x \\ &= \frac{1}{\ln b} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \frac{1}{x \ln b} \end{aligned}$$

Example 3 Find the equation of the tangent line to the graph of $y = e^{\cos x} \log_3(3 \tan x)$ at $x = \frac{\pi}{3}$.

Recall: The equation of a line with slope m and passing through the point (x_1, y_1) is $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$

The equation of a tangent line to the graph of $y = f(x)$ at the point $x = a$ is given by

$$y - f(a) = f'(a)(x - a)$$

$(a, f(a))$
slope at that point $f'(a)$

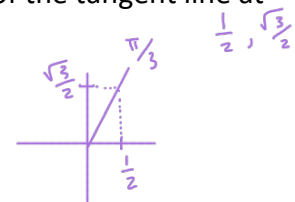
Step 1: Find the derivative of the function.

$$\begin{aligned} y &= e^{\cos x} \log_3(3 \tan x) \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{\cos x} (-\sin x) \cdot \log_3(3 \tan x) + e^{\cos x} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln 3} \cdot \frac{1}{\tan x} \cdot \sec^2 x \\ &= (-\sin x) e^{\cos x} \cdot \log_3(3 \tan x) + \frac{e^{\cos x} \sec^2 x}{(\ln 3) \tan x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \log_b x &= \frac{1}{dx} \frac{\ln x}{\ln b} \\ &= \frac{1}{\ln b} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Find the derivative of the function at the given point. (this is the slope of the tangent line at that point.), i.e. find $f'(a)$ with $a = \frac{\pi}{3}$ for this problem.

$$\begin{aligned} y' \left(\frac{\pi}{3} \right) &= \left(-\sin \left(\frac{\pi}{3} \right) \right) e^{\cos \frac{\pi}{3}} \cdot \log_3(3 \tan \frac{\pi}{3}) + \frac{e^{\cos \frac{\pi}{3}} \sec^2 \frac{\pi}{3}}{(\ln 3) \tan \frac{\pi}{3}} \\ &= \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) e^{\frac{1}{2}} \log_3(3 \sqrt{3}) + \frac{e^{\frac{1}{2}} (2)^2}{(\ln 3) \sqrt{3}} \\ &= -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} (\sqrt{e}) \log_3(3^{\frac{3}{2}}) + \frac{4\sqrt{e}}{\sqrt{3} \ln 3} \\ &= -\frac{\sqrt{3}e}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} + \frac{4\sqrt{e}}{\sqrt{3} \ln 3} = \frac{-3\sqrt{3}e}{4} + \frac{4\sqrt{e}}{\sqrt{3} \ln 3} \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} 3\sqrt{3} &= 3^1 \cdot 3^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= 3^{1+\frac{1}{2}} = 3^{\frac{3}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Example 3 cont'd:

Find the equation of the tangent line to the graph of $y = e^{\cos x} \log_3(3 \tan x)$ at $x = \frac{\pi}{3}$

The equation of a **tangent line** to the graph of $y = f(x)$ at the point $x = a$ is given by

$$y - f(a) = f'(a)(x - a)$$

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

Step 3: Find the equation of the tangent line using the point and the slope of the tangent line at that point. (if it's not given, you'll need to first find the y-value at the given point, i.e. find $f(a)$)

$$\begin{aligned} f\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) &= e^{\cos \frac{\pi}{3}} \cdot \log_3(3 \tan \frac{\pi}{3}) \\ &= e^{\frac{1}{2}} \log_3(3\sqrt{3}) \\ &= \sqrt{e} \cdot \frac{3}{2} = \frac{3\sqrt{e}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

EQUATION:

$$y - \frac{3\sqrt{e}}{2} = \left(\frac{-3\sqrt{3}e}{4} + \frac{4\sqrt{e}}{\sqrt{3} \ln 3} \right) \left(x - \frac{\pi}{3} \right)$$