

8.4 Logarithms and Logarithmic Functions

- I can graph a logarithmic function
- I can evaluate logarithms
- I can rewrite into logarithmic or exponential forms

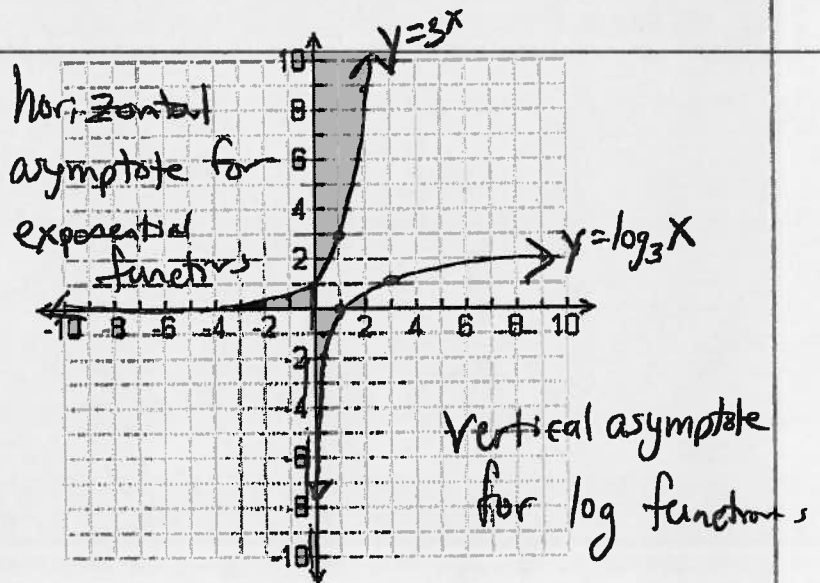
Logarithmic functions are inverse of exponential functions. X and y values are interchanged.

exponential
 $y=3^x$

X	Y
-2	$\frac{1}{9}$
-1	$\frac{1}{3}$
0	1
1	3
2	9

logarithmic
 $x = 3^y$
 $(y = \log_3 x)$

X	Y
$\frac{1}{9}$	-2
$\frac{1}{3}$	-1
1	0
3	1
9	2



Logarithmic form: $\log_b a = c$

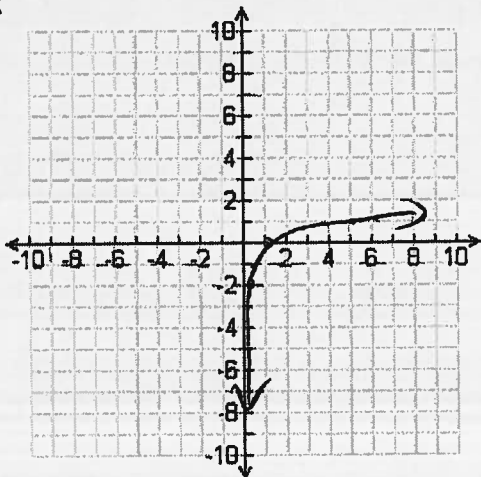
Exponential form: $b^c = a$

The expression $\log_b y$ is read as "log base b of y ."

Ex 1: Graph the following logarithmic functions.

$y = \log_5 x$

X	Y
$\frac{1}{25}$	-2
$\frac{1}{5}$	-1
1	0
5	1
25	2



Domain: $x > 0$ Asymptote: $x = 0$

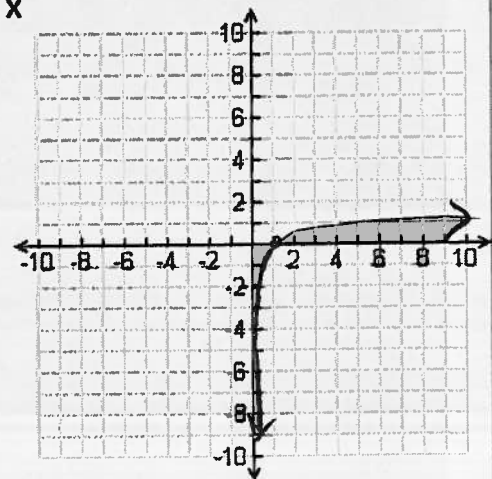
Range: \mathbb{R} Y-intercept: none

X int. \perp

Quick check:

$y = \log_{10} x$

X	Y
$\frac{1}{100}$	-2
$\frac{1}{10}$	-1
1	0
10	1
100	2



Domain: $x > 0$ Asymptote: $x = 0$

Range: \mathbb{R} Y-intercept: none

X int: \perp

Logarithmic form: $\log_b a = c$

Exponential form: $b^c = a$

logs equal the exponent

natural log: \ln

common log: \log

base is e

base is 10

Ex 2: Rewrite in logarithmic form.

a.) $3^x = 20$

$$\log_3 20 = x$$

b.) $y = e^5$

$$\log_e y = 5$$
$$\ln y = 5$$

c.) $10^4 = 10,000$

$$\log_{10} 10,000 = 4$$
$$\log 10,000 = 4$$

Ex 3: Rewrite in exponential form.

a.) $\log_4 x = 3$

$$4^3 = x$$

b.) $\log 4 = y$

$$10^y = 4$$

c.) $\ln e = z$

$$e^z = e$$

Do and Discuss:

Which of the following is equivalent to $2^5 = 32$?

$\log_2 32 = 5$

$\log_5 2 = 32$

$\log_{32} 5 = 2$

Write $5^3 = 125$ in logarithmic form.

$$\log_5 125 = 3$$

Which of the following is equivalent to $\log_4 16 = x$?

$16^x = 4$

$4^x = 16$

$4^{16} = x$

Write $\log_2 64 = 6$ in exponential form.

$$2^6 = 64$$

Ex 4: Evaluate the following logarithms without a calculator.

$\log_3 81 = 4$

$$3^4 = 81$$

$\log_4 0.25 = -1$

$$4^{-1} = 0.25$$

$$4^{-1} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$\log_{1/4} 256 = -16$

$$\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{-16} = 256$$

$\log_{49} 7 = \frac{1}{2}$

$$49^{1/2} = 7$$

$\log_{1/3} 9 = -2$

$$\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{-2} = 9$$

$\log_{16} 4 = \frac{1}{2}$

$$16^{1/2} = 4$$

$\log 100 = 2$

$$10^2 = 100$$

$\ln e^4 = 4$

$$e^4 = e^4$$

Additional Resources: Section 7.4 from the textbook