

S3 Logarithms and Their Properties

Identify the base, answer, and power

$2^3 = 8$	$(x+1)^4 = 256$	$3^{x-4} = 27$
Base: 2	$x+1$	3
Answer: 8	256	27
Power: 3	4	$x-4$

Exponential $B^P = A$ Logarithm $\log_B A = P$

Convert the above examples to logarithm

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 2^3 = 8 & (x+1)^4 = 256 & 3^{x-4} = 27 \\ \log_2 8 = 3 & \log_{x+1} 256 = 4 & \log_3 27 = x-4 \end{array}$$

Common logarithm $\log x = \log_{10} x$

$$\begin{array}{l} 10^3 = 1000 \Rightarrow \log 1000 = 3 \\ \log 100 = 2 \Rightarrow 10^2 = 100 \end{array}$$

Natural logarithm $\ln x = \log_e x$

$$\begin{array}{l} e^2 = 7.389 \quad \ln 7.389 = 2 \\ \ln 5 = 1.609 \quad e^{1.609} = 5 \end{array}$$

Properties of Logarithms

Product: $\log_a xy = \log_a x + \log_a y$

Quotient: $\log_a \frac{x}{y} = \log_a x - \log_a y$

Power: $\log_a x^y = y \log_a x$

Exponential

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

$$\frac{a^x}{a^y} = a^{x-y}$$

$$(a^x)^y = a^{xy}$$

Example 1 Use properties of logarithms to rewrite each expression.

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{76} \textcircled{A} \log_2 \frac{6x}{y} &= \log_2 6x - \log_2 y \\ &= \log_2 6 + \log_2 x - \log_2 y \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{77} \textcircled{B} \log_k \frac{pq^2}{m} &= \log_k pq^2 - \log_k m \\ &= \log_k p + \log_k q^2 - \log_k m \\ &= \log_k p + 2\log_k q - \log_k m \end{aligned}$$

Example 2 Use properties of logarithms to rewrite as a single log with coefficient 1.

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{82} \textcircled{A} (\log_b k - \log_b m) - \log_b a &= \log_b \frac{k}{m} - \log_b a \\ &= \log_b \frac{\frac{k}{m}}{\frac{1}{a}} && \frac{k}{m} \cdot \frac{1}{a} \\ &= \log_b \frac{k}{ma} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{85} \textcircled{B} 2\log_a (z-1) + \log_a (3z+2) &= \log_a (z-1)^2 + \log_a (3z+2) \\ &= \log_a (z-1)^2 (3z+2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{91} \textcircled{C} \ln(atb) + \ln a - \frac{1}{2}\ln 4 &= \ln(atb) + \ln a - \ln 4^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \ln(atb) + \ln a - \ln \sqrt{4} \\ &= \ln(atb)a - \ln 2 \\ &= \ln \frac{a(atb)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

5.3 cont'd

Change of Base Rule $\log_a x = \frac{\log x}{\log a}$ or $\frac{\ln x}{\ln a}$

Common Base Rule If $a^x = a^y$ then $x = y$
If $\log_a x = \log_a y$, then $x = y$

Example 2 Solve

19 (A) $\log_5 125 = x$

$$5^x = 125$$

$$5^x = 5^3$$

$$\boxed{x = 3}$$

change to exponential
find common bases
Common base rule

$$\log_5 125 = x$$

$$\frac{\log 125}{\log 5} = x$$

$$\frac{3}{1} = x$$

Change of base Rule

25 (B) $\log_x 16 = \frac{4}{3}$

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

$$x^{\frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4}} = 16^{\frac{3}{4}}$$

$$x = (\sqrt[4]{16})^3$$

$$x = 2^3$$

$$\boxed{x = 8}$$

25 (C) $\log_3 (x-1) = 2$

$$3^2 = x-1$$

$$9 = x-1$$

$$\boxed{10 = x}$$

Example 3 Simplify

$$(31) \textcircled{A} 3^{\log_3 7} = x$$

$$\log_3 x = \log_3 7$$

$$x = 7$$

$$\boxed{7}$$

$$\textcircled{B} 4^{\log_4 9} = x$$

$$\log_4 x = \log_4 9$$

$$x = 9$$

$$\boxed{9}$$

We added
the variable
x. Don't include
in the answer

$$\textcircled{D} a^{\log_a k} = \boxed{k}$$

Example 4 Evaluate

$$(35) \textcircled{A} \log 10^{1.5} = x$$

$$10^x = 10^{1.5}$$

$$x = 1.5$$

$$\boxed{1.5}$$

$$\textcircled{B} \ln e^{\sqrt{6}} = x$$

$$\log_e e^{\sqrt{6}} = x$$

$$e^x = e^{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$\boxed{\sqrt{6}}$$