Exponentials & Logarithms

Index laws

$$a^{m} \times a^{n} = a^{m+n}$$

$$a^{m} \div a^{n} = a^{m-n}$$

$$(a^{m})^{n} = a^{m}$$

$$(ab)^{m} = a^{m}b^{m}$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{m} = \frac{a^{m}}{b^{m}}$$

$$^{n}\sqrt{x} = x^{1/n}$$

Logarithm laws

$$\log_a(mn) = \log_a m + \log_a n$$
$$\log_a(\frac{m}{n}) = \log_a m - \log_a$$
$$\log_a(m^p) = p \log_a m$$
$$\log_a(m^{-1}) = -\log_a m$$
$$\log_a 1 = 0 \text{ and } \log_a a = 1$$
$$\log_b c = \frac{\log_a c}{\log_a b}$$

Inverse functions

For $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}, f(x) = a^x$, inverse is:

$$f^{-1}: \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}, f^{-1} = \log_a x$$

Exponentials

 e^x natural exponential function

$$e = \lim_{n \to \infty} (1 + \frac{1}{n})^n$$

Modelling

$$A = A_0 e^{kt}$$

- A_0 is initial value
- t is time taken
- k is a constant
- For continuous growth, k > 0
- For continuous decay, k < 0

Graphing exponential functions

$$f(x) = Aa^{k(x-b)} + c, \quad |a > 1$$

- y-intercept at $(0, A \cdot a^{-kb} + c)$ as $x \to \infty$
- horizontal asymptote at y = c
- domain is \mathbb{R}
- range is (c,∞)
- dilation of factor |A| from x-axis
- dilation of factor $\frac{1}{k}$ from *y*-axis



Graphing logarithmic functions

 $\log_e x$ is the inverse of e^x (reflection across y = x)

$$f(x) = A \log_a k(x-b) + c$$

where

- domain is (b,∞)
- range is \mathbb{R}
- vertical asymptote at x = b
- y-intercept exists if b < 0
- dilation of factor |A| from x-axis
- dilation of factor $\frac{1}{k}$ from *y*-axis



Finding equations

On CAS: $\begin{cases} f(3)=9\\ g(3)=0 \\ a,b \end{cases}$