

# Exponential and Index Functions

## Index laws

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^m \times a^n &= a^{m+n} \\
 a^m \div a^n &= a^{m-n} \\
 (a^m)^n &= a^{m \cdot n} \\
 (ab)^m &= a^m b^m \\
 \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m &= \frac{a^m}{b^m}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{1}$$

## Fractional indices

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

## Logarithms

$$\log_b(x) = n \quad \text{where } b^n = x$$

## Using logs to solve index eq's

Used for equations without common base exponent

Or change base:

$$\log_b c = \frac{\log_a c}{\log_a b}$$

If  $a < 1$ ,  $\log_b a < 0$  (flip inequality operator)

## Exponential functions

$e^x$  - natural exponential function

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^h - 1}{h} = 1$$

## Logarithm laws

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log_a(mn) &= \log_a m + \log_a n \\
 \log_a\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) &= \log_a m - \log_a n \\
 \log_a(m^p) &= p \log_a m \\
 \log_a(m^{-1}) &= -\log_a m \\
 \log_a 1 &= 0 \text{ and } \log_a a = 1
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2}$$

## Inverse functions

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

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

## Euler's number

$$e = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$$

# Literal equations

*Literal equation* - no numerical solutions

## Exponential and logarithmic modelling

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

where

$A_0$  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  $(0, A \cdot a^{-kb} + c)$
- **horizontal asymptote** at  $y = c$
- **domain** is  $\mathbb{R}$
- **range** is  $(c, \infty)$
- 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  $(b, \infty)$
- **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