

$b^c = a$  the equivalent log statement is

$$\log_b a = c.$$

$$2^6 = 64$$

$$\log_2 64 = 6$$

$\log_2 64$  is asking "What power do you raise 2 to, to obtain 64?"

$$2^{\log_2 64} = 64$$

Is this a coincidence, or is

$$a^{\log_a b} = b$$

Always true?

The latter is always true because it's self-referential. A to some power equals ? The power to which we raise a to, is exactly the power that when you raise a to that power, you obtain b.

Just the same  $\log_a a^b = b$ .

$$\log a + \log b = \log ab$$

This comes from the exponential formula

$$c^a c^b = c^{a+b}$$

First multiply c by itself a times, then multiply c by itself b times. In total, we've multiplied c by itself a+b times, which is the right hand side.

Let  $x = \log_c a$ , and let  $y = \log_c b$

Thus,  $c^x = a$  and  $c^y = b$

Now consider  $ab = c^x c^y = c^{x+y}$

Now, rewrite this as a log statement:

$$\log_c ab = x + y$$

Now, substitute for x and y:

$$\log_c ab = \log_c a + \log_c b$$

Apply this rule over and over again with the same item:

$\log_c a + \log_c a + \log_c a \dots + \log_c a = \log_c a^n = n \log_c a$ .

LHS has n terms the same, RHS is using log addition rule

So this is the derivation of the power rule.

$\log a - \log b = \log (a/b)$ , can be proven pretty similarly to addition proof.

Log change of base

$$\log_a b = \frac{\log_c b}{\log_c a}$$

For example,  $\log_8 x = \frac{\log_2 x}{\log_2 8} = \frac{\log_2 x}{3}$ .

What is  $\log_8 16$ ?  $8^x = 16$ ,  $2^{3x} = 2^4$ , so  $3x = 4$  and  $x = 4/3$

1) What is the value of  $(81^{\log_3 1234})^{0.25}$ ?

$$(3^{4 \log_3 1234})^{0.25}$$

$$3^{4 \log_3 1234 (0.25)}$$

$$3^{\log_3 1234} = 1234$$

Recall that  $(a^b)^c = a^{bc}$ , this says multiply a by itself b times, then take that number and multiply it by itself c times:  $a^b a^b a^b \dots a^b$  (c times). How many times is a multiplied by itself? Bc.

2) Determine the ordered pair, (a, b), that satisfies the following pair of equations:

$$\log_{16} a^2 + \log_8 b^3 = 11$$

$$\log_8 a^6 + \log_{16} b^{10} = 32$$

Note: You may express a and b as a some base raised to an exponent instead of a single value, if you wish.

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \log_{16} a + 3 \log_8 b &= 11 \\ \frac{2 \log_2 a}{\log_2 16} + \frac{3 \log_2 b}{\log_2 8} &= 11 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{2\log_2 a}{4} + \frac{3\log_2 b}{3} = 11$$

$$6\log_8 a + 10\log_{16} 6 = 32$$

$$\frac{6\log_2 a}{3} + \frac{10\log_2 b}{4} = 32$$

$$\frac{2\log_2 a}{4} + \frac{3\log_2 b}{3} = 11$$

Let  $X = \log_2 a$ ,  $Y = \log_2 b$

$$2x + \frac{5}{2}y = 32$$

$$2x + 4y = 44$$

Subtract second from the first:  $-\frac{3}{2}y = -12$ ,  $y = 8$ ,  $x = 6$

Finally  $a = 2^6 = 64$ ,  $b = 2^8 = 256$

3) What is the value of  $a$  for which  $\sum_{i=2}^{10} \frac{1}{\log_i a} = 1$ ?

$$\frac{1}{\log_2 a} + \frac{1}{\log_3 a} + \frac{1}{\log_4 a} + \dots + \frac{1}{\log_{10} a} = 1$$

$$\frac{1}{\frac{\ln a}{\ln 2}} + \frac{1}{\frac{\ln a}{\ln 3}} + \frac{1}{\frac{\ln a}{\ln 4}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\frac{\ln a}{\ln 10}} = 1$$

$$\frac{\ln 2}{\ln a} + \frac{\ln 3}{\ln a} + \frac{\ln 4}{\ln a} + \dots + \frac{\ln 10}{\ln a} = 1$$

$$\log_a 2 + \log_a 3 + \log_a 4 + \dots + \log_a 10 = 1$$

$$\log_a 10! = 1$$

So  $a = 10!$

4) The sequence  $\log_{12} 162, \log_{12} x, \log_{12} y, \log_{12} z, \log_{12} 1250$  is an arithmetic progression. What is  $x$ ?

Let  $D = \log_{12} x - \log_{12} 162$ , the common difference of the arithmetic progression.

$$\log_{12} 162 + 4D = \log_{12} 1250$$

$$4D = \log_{12} 1250 - \log_{12} 162$$

$$4D = \log_{12} (1250/162) = \log_{12} (625/81) = \log_{12} (5^4/3^4)$$

$$4D = \log_{12} (5/3)^4$$

$$4D = 4\log_{12} (5/3)$$

$$D = \log_{12} (5/3)$$

$$\log_{12} 162 + \log_{12} (5/3) = \log_{12} x$$

$$\log_{12} 270 = \log_{12} x, \text{ so } x = 270.$$