

Lesson 3.6 - Properties of Logarithms

I. Properties of Logs

Let a be a positive number such that $a \neq 1$, and let n be a real number. If u and v are positive real numbers, the following properties are true:

Examples:

i. $\log_a(uv) = \log_a(u) + \log_a(v)$

$$a^u a^v = a^{u+v}$$

$$\log(3x) = \log(3) + \log(x)$$

$$\ln 2 + \ln x + \ln y = \ln(2xy)$$

ii. $\log_a\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) = \log_a(u) - \log_a(v)$

$$\frac{a^u}{a^v}$$

$$\log\left(\frac{3}{x}\right) = \log 3 - \log x$$

$$\log\left(\frac{3xy}{z}\right) = \log(3xy) - \log(z)$$

iii. $\log_a(u^n) = n \cdot \log_a(u)$

$$(a^u)^n = a^{u \cdot n}$$

$$\log(x^3) = 3 \log x$$

$$\log 3y^4 = \log 3 + 4 \log y$$

iv. $\log_a(x) = \frac{\log_b(x)}{\log_b(a)}$

$$y = \log_a(x) \Leftrightarrow a^y = x$$

$$\log \frac{3x^2}{yz^3} = \log 3 + 2 \log x - \log y - 3 \log z$$

$$\log_b a^y = \log_b x$$

$$\log \frac{\sqrt{x+1}}{y^2z} = \frac{1}{2} \ln(x+1) - 2 \ln y - \ln z$$

$$y \cdot \log_b a = \log_b x$$

$$y = \frac{\log_b x}{\log_b a}$$

Use the properties of logs to expand the following:

1. $\log(3x^4y^2)$

2. $\log\left(\frac{\sqrt{3x-5}}{7x^3}\right)$

3. $\log\left[\left(\frac{4x^3}{y}\right)^2\right]$

$$\log 3 + 4 \log x + 2 \log y$$

$$2 \log\left(\frac{4x^3}{y}\right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \log(3x - 5) - 3 \log 7x$$

$$2(\log 4 + 3 \log x - \log y)$$

$$2 \log 4 + 6 \log x - 2 \log y$$

Use the properties of logs to condense the following:

$$4. 2 \log(x + 2) - \frac{1}{3} [\log(x) + \log(y)]$$

$$2 \log(x + 2) - \frac{1}{3} (\log xy)$$

$$\log(x + 2)^2 - \log \sqrt[3]{xy}$$

$$\log \frac{(x+2)^2}{\sqrt[3]{xy}}$$

$$5. \log(x) - 3 \log(x + 1)$$

$$\log x - \log(x + 1)^3$$

$$\log\left(\frac{x}{(x+1)^3}\right)$$

$$6. \log_5(75) - \log_5(3)$$

$$\log_5 \frac{75}{3}$$

$$\log_5 25$$

$$2$$

If $\log(2) \approx 0.301$ and $\log(7) \approx 0.845$ find the following without a calculator (show work).

$$7. \log(2^3)$$

$$3(0.301)$$

$$0.903$$

$$8. \log(14)$$

$$\log 7 + \log 2$$

$$0.845 + 0.301$$

$$1.146$$

$$9. \log(20)$$

$$\log 2 + \log 10$$

$$0.301 + 1$$

$$1.301$$

$$10. \log(7000)$$

$$\log 7 + \log 1000$$

$$0.845 + 3$$

$$3.845$$

$$11. \log\left(\frac{1}{7}\right)$$

$$\log 7^{-1}$$

$$-\log 7$$

$$-0.845$$

$$12. \log(5)$$

$$\log 10 - \log 2$$

$$1 - 0.301$$

$$0.699$$

$$13. \text{Evaluate without a calculator: } \frac{\log_3(2)}{\log_3(8)} = \log_8 2 = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$14. \text{Show that } \log(3) \cdot \ln(10) = \ln(3)$$

$$\frac{\ln 3}{\ln 10} \cdot \ln 10 = \ln 3$$

$$\ln 3 = \ln 3$$

$$15. \text{Show that } \log_{\frac{1}{4}}(x) = -\log_4(x)$$

$$\frac{\log_4 x}{\log_4 \frac{1}{4}} = -\log_4 x$$

$$\frac{\log_4 x}{-1} = -\log_4 x$$

$$\log_4 x = \log_4 x$$