

5.6 Exponential and logarithmic equations

Exponential equations: An equation

in which the variable occurs in the exponent.

$$2^x = 5$$

recall $\ln a^x = x \ln a$

$$\ln 2^x = \ln 5$$

take \ln at both sides

$$x \ln 2 = \ln 5$$

solve for x .

$$x = \frac{\ln 5}{\ln 2}$$

& use calculator

Guidelines for solving exponential equations:

- ① Isolate the exponential expression on one side of the equation
- ② Take the logarithm of each side, then use the laws of logarithms to bring down exponent
- ③ Solve for the variable.

$$\textcircled{6} \quad 2e^{-x} = 8$$

$$e^{-x} = 4$$

$$\ln e^{-x} = \ln 4$$

$$-x \ln e = \ln 4$$

$$-x = \ln 4$$

$$x = -\ln 4$$

$$\approx -1.386$$

$$\textcircled{12} \quad 0.05(1.15)^x = 5$$

$$(1.15)^x = \frac{5}{0.05}$$

$$1.15^x = 100$$

$$\ln(1.15^x) = \ln(100)$$

$$x \ln(1.15) = \ln(100)$$

$$x = \frac{\ln(100)}{\ln(1.15)} \approx 32.95$$

$$\textcircled{24} \quad 3^{1-2x} = e^{0.5x}$$

$$\ln 3^{1-2x} = \ln e^{0.5x}$$

$$(1-2x) \ln 3 = 0.5x \ln e$$

$$\ln 3 - (\ln 3)2x = 0.5x$$

$$\ln 3 = \ln(3)(2x) + 0.5x$$

$$\ln 3 = x(2 \ln 3 + 0.5)$$

$$x = \frac{\ln 3}{2 \ln 3 + 0.5}$$

$$\textcircled{22} \quad 2^x = -4$$

$$\ln(2^x) = \ln(-4) \quad \Leftarrow \text{NO real solution}$$

So no real solution

logarithmic equations: an equation that has a logarithm of a variable.

Guidelines for solving logarithmic equations:

① Isolate the logarithmic term on one side of the equation, you may first need to combine logarithmic terms

② Write equation in exponential form

③ Solve for the variable

Examples:

① $\ln x = 8$

$$\log_e x = 8$$

$$x = e^8 \approx 2981$$

② $\log_2(25-x) = 3$

$$25-x = 2^3$$

$$25-x = 8$$

$$-x = -17$$

$$x = 17$$

$$(44) 100 + 10 \log x = 120$$

$$10 \log x = -4/0$$

$$\log x = -4$$

$$\boxed{10^{-4} = x}$$

$$(50) \ln 2x + \ln 3x = \ln 6$$

$$\ln[(2x)(3x)] - \ln 6 = 0$$

$$\ln\left[\frac{6x^2}{6}\right] = 0$$

$$\ln[x^2] = 0$$

$$e^0 = x^2$$

$$\boxed{x = \pm 1}$$

$$\text{but } x \neq -1$$

$$(56) \ln(x^2-4) - \ln(x+2) = \ln(3-x)$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{x^2-4}{x+2}\right) - \ln(3-x) = 0$$

$$\ln(x-2) - \ln(3-x) = 0$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{x-2}{3-x}\right) = 0$$

$$e^0 = \frac{x-2}{3-x}$$

$$3-x = x-2$$

$$5 = 2x$$

$$\boxed{\frac{5}{2} = x}$$

Applications of logarithmic and exponential equations:

① continuous compound interest:

$$\textcircled{a} A(t) = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt} \rightarrow \text{Interest compounded } n \text{ times per year}$$

$$\textcircled{b} A(t) = Pe^{rt} \rightarrow \text{Interest compounded continuously}$$

Example:

A sum of \$1000 is invested at an interest rate of 8% per year. Find the amount of time for the amount to grow to \$4000.

$$P = \$1000$$

$$A(t) = \$4000$$

$$r = .08$$

$$t = ?$$

$$4000 = 1000 e^{.08t}$$

$$= 4 = e^{.08t}$$

$$\ln 4 = \ln e^{.08t}$$

$$\ln 4 = .08t$$

$$\frac{\ln 4}{.08} = t$$

$$\boxed{17.33 \text{ years} = t}$$

(2) Exponential Growth Model - Population.

A population that experiences exponential growth increases according to the model

$$n(t) = n_0 e^{rt}$$

$n(t)$ = population at time t

n_0 = initial population

r = relative rate of growth (expressed as proportion of population)

t = time.

The population of the world was 6.1 billion in 2000 and the estimate relative growth rate was 1.4% per year. Write a function to describe the population growth.

(a)

$$n(t) = ?$$

$$t = ?$$

\Rightarrow

~~$n(t) = 6.1 e^{(0.014)t}$~~

$$n(t) = 6.1 e^{(0.014)t}$$

$$n_0 = 6.1 \text{ billion}$$

$$e =$$

$$r = 0.014$$

Assuming this model, when will the population reach 122 billion?

$$122 = 6.1 e^{0.014t}$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{122}{6.1}\right) = 0.014t \quad \Rightarrow \quad t = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{122}{6.1}\right)}{0.014} \approx \underline{\underline{213.98 \text{ years}}}$$

(b) Another way to set up problem

$$n(t) = n_0(1+r)^{t-t_0}$$

r = growth rate

n_0 = initial population

t = time

t_0 = initial year

$n(t)$ = number at time t .

$$n(t) = 6.1(1.014)^{t-2000}$$

$$\frac{122}{6.1} = (1.014)^{t-2000}$$

$$\ln(20) = (t-2000) \ln(1.014)$$

$$\frac{\ln(20)}{\ln(1.014)} = t-2000$$

$$t = 2000 + \frac{\ln(20)}{\ln(1.014)} \approx 2265$$

③ Radioactive decay

If m_0 is the initial mass of a radioactive substance with half-life h then the mass remaining at time t is modeled by the function:

$$m(t) = m_0 e^{-rt}$$

$$\text{where } r = \frac{\ln 2}{h}$$

$$m(t) = \text{mass at time } t$$
$$m_0 = \text{initial mass}$$

A wooden artifact from an ancient tomb contains 65% of the carbon-14 that is present in living trees. How long ago was the artifact made?

half-life of carbon 14 is 5730 years

$$m_0 = m_0$$

$$m(t) = .65(m_0)$$

$$h = 5730$$

$$r = \frac{\ln 2}{5730} = .00012$$

$$\Rightarrow .65 m_0 = m_0 e^{-.00012 t}$$

$$.65 = e^{-.00012 t}$$

$$\ln(.65) = -.00012 t$$

$$t = \frac{\ln(.65)}{-.00012} \approx 3570 \text{ years}$$

Version 79:

The percentage of radioactive carbon-14 remaining in a fossil after t years is given by $p = 100 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{t/5700}$. Suppose a fossil contains 45% of the carbon 14 it contained when it was alive. Estimate the age of fossil.

$$45 = 100 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{t/5700}$$

$$\frac{45}{100} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{t/5700}$$

$$\frac{9}{20} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{t/5700}$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{9}{20}\right) = \left(\frac{t}{5700}\right) \ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$\frac{\ln\left(\frac{9}{20}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)} = \frac{t}{5700}$$

$$5700 \left(\frac{\ln\left(\frac{9}{20}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)} \right) = t \quad \approx 6566 \text{ years}$$

Newton's Law of cooling:

IF D_0 is the initial temperature difference between an object and its surroundings, and if its surroundings have temperature T_s , then the temperature of the object at time t is modeled by the function

$$T(t) = T_s + D_0 e^{-kt}$$

k = positive constant that depends on insulation of object

(83) rev. A pan of boiling water with temperature of 212°F is set in a bin of ice with temp of 32°F . The pan cools to 70°F in 60 minutes

(a) Find the formula for $T(t)$

$$T_s = 32^\circ$$

$$D_0 = 212 - 32 = 180^\circ$$

$$k = ?$$

$$T(t) = 32 + 180 e^{-kt}$$

$$70 = 32 + 180 e^{-k \cdot 60}$$

$$37 = 180 e^{-kt}$$

$$\frac{37}{180} = e^{-k \cdot 60}$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{37}{180}\right) = -k \cdot 60$$

$$k = \frac{-\ln\left(\frac{37}{180}\right)}{60}$$

$$k = .027$$

$$T(t) = 32 + 180 e^{-0.027(t)}$$

- (b) Find temperature of pen after ten minutes

$$T(10) = 32 + 180 e^{-(0.027)(10)}$$

- (c) How long does it take pen to reach 40 degrees?

$$40 = 32 + 180 e^{-(0.027)(t)}$$

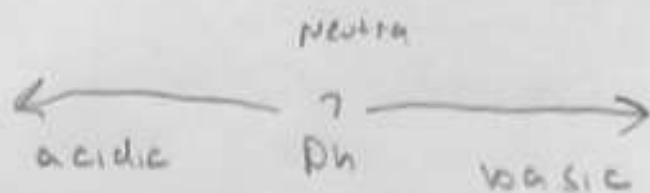
Solve for t

Logarithmic Scales:

ph scale

$$pH = -\log [H^+]$$

where H^+ is the concentration of hydrogen ions measured in moles/liter



- ② The hydrogen concentration of a sample of human blood was measured to be $H^+ = 3.16 \times 10^{-8}$. Find the pH and classify the blood as acidic or basic.

$$pH = -\log [H^+] = -\log [3.16 \times 10^{-8}] \approx 7.5$$

basic