

7.4 – Characteristics of Logarithmic Functions

with Base 10 and Base e

A Logarithm is an Exponent written in a different way

$10^2 = 100$



$\log_{10}(100) = 2$

$10^3 = 1000$



$\log_{10}(1000) = 3$

$10^1 = 10$



$\log_{10}(10) = 1$

The Exponents

Example 1: What is the value of $\log_{10}(20)$?

(use **LOG** on your calculator)

Any time it just says "log" that implies base 10 (just like $\sqrt{\quad}$ implies $\sqrt{\quad}$)

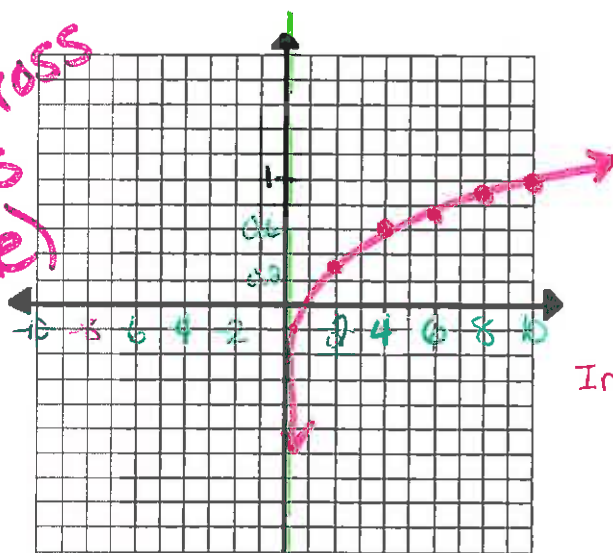
LOG(20) = 1.301029996

log 20 = 1.3

Example 2: Sketch a graph of the function $y = \log_{10}(x)$

x	y
0	$\log 0 = \text{undefined}$
2	$\log 2 = 0.30$
4	$\log 4 = 0.60$
6	$\log 6 = 0.78$
8	$\log 8 = 0.90$
10	$\log 10 = 1$
0.1	$\log 0.1 = -1$

won't touch/cross y-axis (asymptote)



Asymptote

Domain: $x > 0$
Range: $y \in \mathbb{R}$

Introducing "e": e is a constant number named e in honour of Euler who proved that it was irrational. With the possible exception of π , e is the most important constant in mathematics since it appears in myriad mathematical contexts involving limits and derivatives. The numerical value of e is $e = 2.718281828459045235360287471352662497757 \dots$

Logarithms with a base of e are called Natural Logarithms.

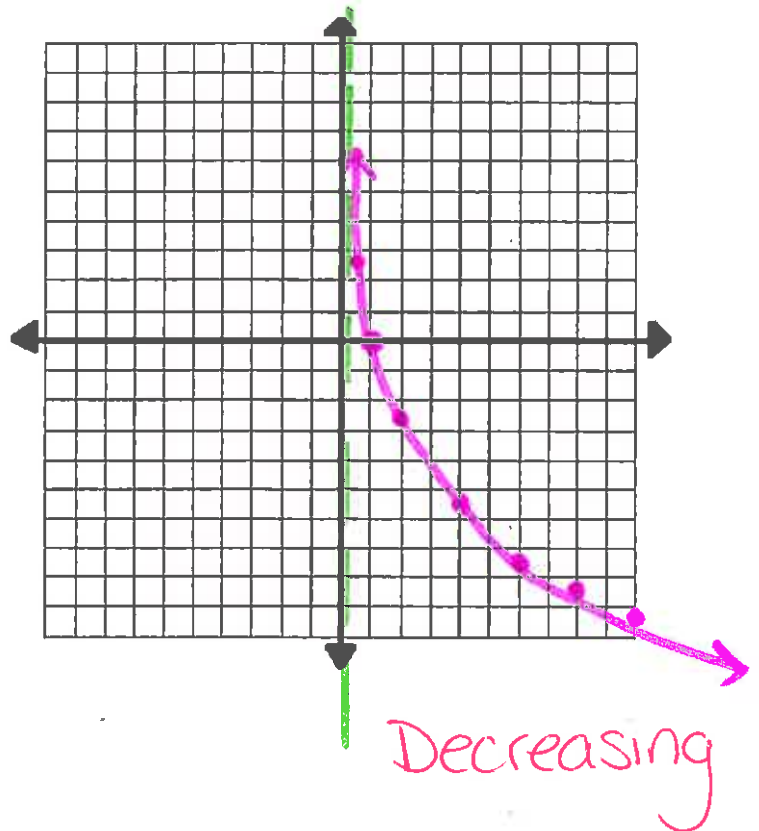
$y = \log_e(x)$ is equivalent to $y = \ln(x)$

Example 3: Sketch a graph of the function $y = -4 \ln(x)$

0	$-4 \ln(0)$ undefined
2	$-4 \times \ln(2) = -2.77$
4	$-4 \times \ln(4) = -5.55$
6	$-4 \times \ln(6) = -7.17$
8	$-4 \times \ln(8) = -8.32$
10	$-4 \times \ln(10) = -9.21$
1	$-4 \times \ln(1) = 0$
0.5	$-4 \times \ln(0.5) = 2.77$

See what happens close to zero

Asymptote



Determine:

the x-intercept: $(1, 0)$

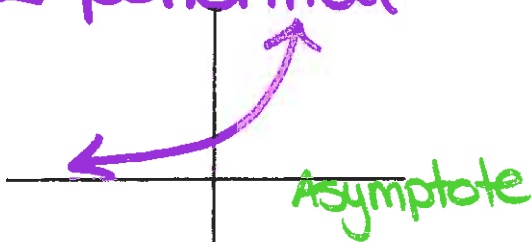
number of y-intercepts: zero

end behaviour: QI to QIV

domain and range: Domain: $x > 0$
Range: $y \in \mathbb{R}$

Comparing Exponential Functions & Logarithmic Functions

Exponential



$$y = a(b)^x$$

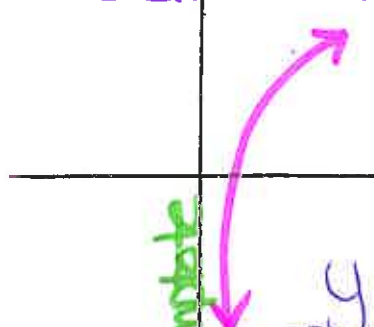
$b > 1$ = Increasing
 $0 < b < 1$ = Decreasing

y-intercept = a

Domain: $x \in \mathbb{R}$

Range: $y > 0$

LOGARITHMIC



Asymptote

$$y = a \log(x)$$

$$\text{or } y = a \ln(x)$$

$a > 0$ = Increasing
 $a < 0$ = Decreasing

x-intercept = 1

Domain: $x > 0$

Range: $y \in \mathbb{R}$

Example 4: Which function matches each graph below?

EXP ↑

$$y = 5(2)^x$$

y-int ↑

EXP ↓

$$y = 2(0.1)^x$$

y-int ↑

Log ↑

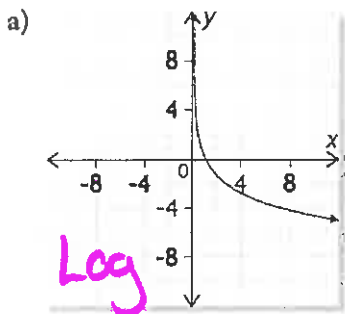
$$y = 6 \log x$$

x-int = 1

Log ↓

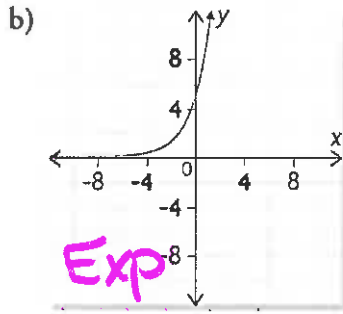
$$y = -2 \ln x$$

x-int = 1



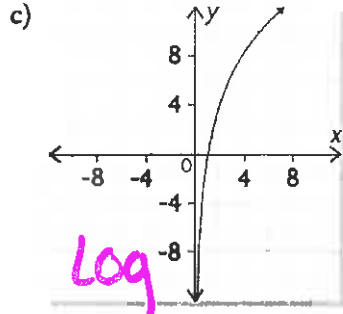
Log

Decreasing
 $\therefore y = -2 \ln(x)$



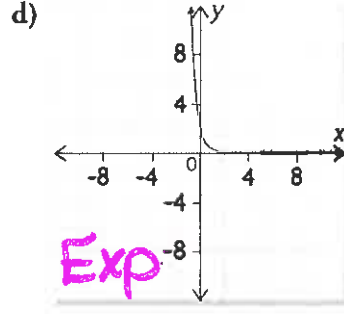
EXP

Increasing
 $y = 5(2)^x$



Log

Increasing
 $y = 6 \log(x)$



EXP

Decreasing
 $y = 2(0.1)^x$