

# Solving Exponents and Logarithms Algebraically

**Goal:**

- Can solve equations involving logs using algebra and remember to respect the domain of log functions.
- Can model problems using the natural log thinking of the relationship to the exponential function

**Terminology:**

- Extraneous Solutions

When solving log equations, we need to remember to respect the domain of the original expression

**Example:** Solve for  $x$

$$(x+1)^2 > 0$$

$$x \neq -1$$

$$-3 + \log_2 x = -\log_4 (x+1)^2$$

make  $\log_2 | \square$

$$= \frac{-\log_2 (x+1)^2}{\log_2 2^2} = -\frac{1}{2} \log_2 (x+1)^2$$

$$+3 = +\frac{1}{2} \log_2 (x+1)^2 + \log_2 x$$

$$2^3 = 2^{\log_2 [(x+1)^2 x]}$$

$$8 = x^2 + x$$

$$x^2 + x - 8 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1+32}}{2}$$

$$= 2.37 \dots$$

$$\sqrt{3.37} \dots$$

**Practice:** Solve for  $x$

$$\log_3((x+3)(x-4)) = 6 \log_2(x+3) + 1$$

$$\log_3(x+3)(x-4) = \frac{6 \log_3(x+3)}{\log_3 2^6} + 1$$

$$3^{\log_3 \frac{(x+3)(x-4)}{(x+3)^6}} = 3^1$$

$$\frac{x-4}{x+3} = 3 \Rightarrow x-4 = 3x+9$$

$$2x = -13$$

$$x = -6.5$$

out of domain  
no solution

We want to practice modelling exponential and log equations and solving by changing our bases to 10 and  $e$ .

**Practice:** The population of the Greater Vancouver Area last year (2019) was 2.5 million. It is expected to grow at an annual rate of 0.95% for the next few decades. Write a function for the population at year  $t$  using  $e$  as the base.

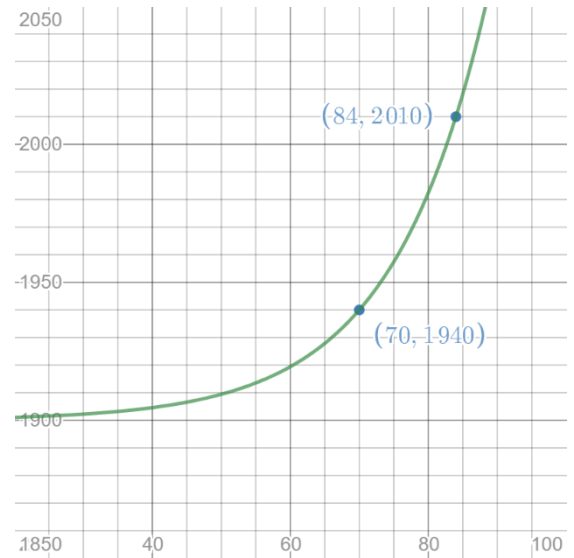
Write the equation to the inverse that outputs the year given the current population.

Determine the year the population of Vancouver will reach 4 million. Determine the year when the population of Vancouver was 1 million.

**Practice:** The average life span of Canadian women has grown logarithmically over the past century. Rather than make a log equation to start, we are going to make an exponential equation for the inverse relationship.

Find an expression  $Y(\ell)$  that gives you the year  $Y$  when the life expectancy is  $\ell$  if the following are true

- $Y(70) = 1940$
- $Y(84) = 2010$
- The horizontal asymptote is 1900



Re-write your equation in base  $e$ .

Determine the logarithmic equation  $L(y)$  that determines the life expectancy at year  $y$

**Practice:** As temperature increases the amount of sugar that can be dissolved in 100mL of water increases exponentially (the solubility changes). At 20°C you can dissolve 200g and every 1°C the temperature increases we can dissolve 1.15% more.

Determine an exponential equation using  $e$  to model how much is dissolved at a given temperature.  
Determine how much is dissolved at 50°C

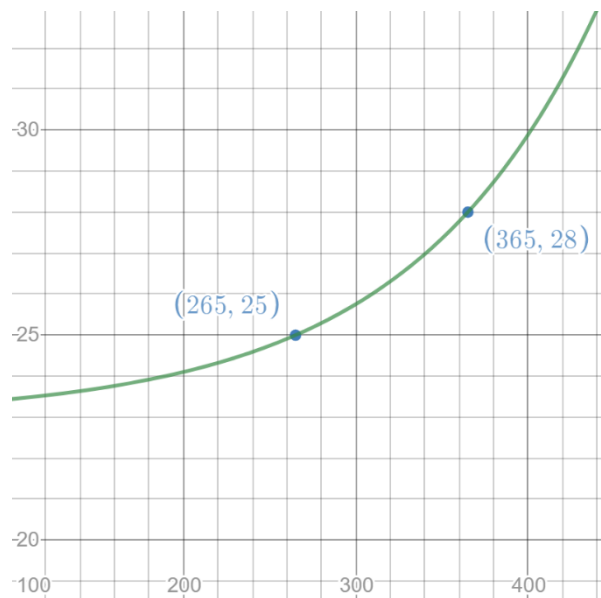
Determine a natural logarithm equation for the temperature of the water given the amount dissolved.  
Determine what temperature is needed to dissolve 400g of sugar.

**Practice:** Athletic performance typically will follow a logarithmic growth where early growth occurs quickly and it becomes harder to progress as you improve.

Again, to determine the log equation we will consider the inverse relationship of  $A(w)$  that determine the person's age given the maximum they can deadlift (a type of exercise).

Consider the following

- $A(265) = 25$
- $A(365) = 28$
- The horizontal asymptote is 23



Re-write your equation in base  $e$ .

Determine the logarithmic equation  $W(a)$  that determines the max weight lifted at age  $a$ .

**Suggested Practice Problems:** 8.4 page 412 – 415 # 1, 2, 5, 8-12, 15-17, 21

**Textbook Reading:** 8.4 page 404-411

Key Ideas on page 412

**Next Class:** Review

