

Math-1050

Session #26

6.6: Solve Exponential and Logarithmic Equations

And

6.7: Compound Interest

The easiest Exponential Equation

$$2^x = 2^{4-x}$$

Exponents have to be equal to each other!

$$x = 4 - x$$

+x +x

$$2x = 4$$

÷x ÷x

$$7^{2x+1} = 7^{13-4x}$$

$$x = 2$$

$$2x + 1 = 13 - 4x$$

+4x +4x

$$6x + 1 = 13$$

-1 -1

$$6x = 12$$

Check your answer!

$$2^2 = 2^{4-2}$$

Solving using “convert to same base”

$$2^{4x-1} = 8^{x-1} \quad \text{“convert to same base”}$$

$$2^{4x-1} = (2^3)^{x-1} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Exponent of a power} \\ \text{Exponent Property} \end{array}$$

$$2^{4x-1} = 2^{3x-3}$$

$$\boxed{x = -2}$$

$$4x - 1 = 3x - 3$$

$-3x$ $-3x$

Check your answer!

$$2^{4(-2)-1} = 8^{-2-1}$$

$$x - 1 = -3$$

$$+1 \quad +1$$

$$2^{-9} = 8^{-3}$$

$$(2^{-9} = 8^{-3})^{-1}$$

$$2^9 = 8^3$$

$$512 = 512$$

Sometimes you can't rewrite the exponentials with the same bases so you have no choice. Use log of a power property.

$$5^x = 7^{2x-1}$$

$$\ln 5^x = \ln 7^{2x-1}$$

$$x \ln 5 = (2x-1) \ln 7$$

$$\div \ln 5 \quad \div \ln 5$$

$$x = (2x-1) \frac{\ln 7}{\ln 5}$$

$$x = (2x-1)(1.21)$$

$$x = 2.42x - 1.21$$

$$+1.21 \quad +1.21$$

$$1.21 + x = 2.42x$$

$$-x \quad -x$$

$$1.21 = 1.42x$$

$$\div 1.42 \quad \div 1.42$$

$$x = 0.85$$

Instead of Using the Log of a Power Property Using Log base 'e', you can use log base 5.

$$5^x = 7^{2x-1}$$

$$\log_5 5^x = \log_5 7^{2x-1}$$

$$x \log_5 5 = (2x - 1) \log_5 7$$

$$x = (2x - 1)1.20906$$

$$x = (2x - 1)(1.21)$$

$$x = 2.42x - 1.21$$

$$+1.21 \quad +1.21$$

$$1.21 + x = 2.42x$$

$$-x \quad -x$$

$$1.21 = 1.42x$$

$$\div 1.42 \quad \div 1.42$$

$$x = 0.85$$

Instead of Using the Log of a Power Property Using Log base '5', you can use log base 7.

$$5^x = 7^{2x-1}$$

$$\log_7 5^x = \log_7 7^{2x-1}$$

$$x \log_7 5 = (2x - 1) \log_7 7$$

$$0.82709x = 2x - 1$$

$$+1 \quad +1$$

$$-0.83x \quad -0.83x$$

$$1 = 1.17x$$

$$1 = 1.17x$$

$$\div 1.17 \quad \div 1.17$$

$$x = 0.85$$

Sometimes the questions will ask for the *EXACT SOLUTION*.

$$5^x = 7^{2x-1}$$

$$1 = x(2 - \log_7 5)$$

$$\log_7 5^x = \log_7 7^{2x-1}$$

$$\div (2 - \log_7 5) \div (2 - \log_7 5)$$

$$x \log_7 5 = (2x - 1) \log_7 7$$

$$x \log_7 5 = 2x - 1$$

$$x = \frac{1}{(2 - \log_7 5)}$$

+1

+1

$$-x \log_7 5 = -x \log_7 5$$

$$1 = 2x - x \log_7 5$$

Solving using “log of a power” property

$$8^{x+2} = 4^{x-2} \quad \text{Take natural log of both side}$$

$$\ln 8^{x+2} = \ln 4^{x-2} \quad \text{“log of pwr property”}$$

$$(x+2)\ln 8 = (x-2)\ln 4$$

$$\div \ln 8$$

$$\div \ln 8$$

$$(x+2) = (x-2)\frac{\ln 4}{\ln 8} \quad \text{simplify}$$

$$3x + 6 = 2x - 4$$

$$-2x - 6 \quad -2x - 6$$

$$x = -10$$

$$x+2 = (x-2)(0.66666666) \quad \text{simplify}$$

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

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

Solve using the “log of a power property”

$$5^{x+2} = 4^{x-2} \quad \text{Take natural log of both sides}$$

$$\ln 5^{x+2} = \ln 4^{x-2} \quad \text{Power property}$$

$$(x+2) \ln 5 = (x-2) \ln 4 \quad 2 = -0.1387x - 1.7227$$

$\div \ln 5 \quad \ln 5 \quad +1.7227 \quad +1.7227$

$$x+2 = (x-2) \frac{\ln 4}{\ln 5} \quad 3.7227 = -0.1387x$$

$\div -0.1387 \quad \div -0.1387$

$$x+2 = (x-2)(0.8614)$$

$$x = -26.8399$$

$$x+2 = 0.8614x - 1.7227$$

-x

-x

When the unknown value is in the exponent, always remember “a log is an exponent”

$$8^x - 2 = 5 \quad \text{“Isolate the exponential”}$$

$+2 \quad +2$

$$8^x = 7 \quad \text{“convert to a log”}$$

$$x = \log_8 7$$

$$x = 0.9358$$

Solve using “undo the exponential”

$$3^{2x-1} + 5 = 7 \quad \text{“Isolate the exponential”}$$

$$3^{2x-1} = 2$$

“Undo the exponential”

$$2x - 1 = \log_3 2$$

→ Change of
base formula

$$2x - 1 = \frac{\ln 2}{\ln 3}$$

$$2x - 1 = 0.63093$$

$$2x - 1 = 0.63093$$

$$2x = 1.63093$$

$$2x = 1.63093$$

$$x = 0.815$$

$$x = 0.815$$

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$$x = 0.815$$

“Quadratic Form”: a trinomial that looks like a standard form quadratic of the form $y = ax^{2n} + bx^n + c$

$$y = x^4 + 3x^2 + 2$$

Use “m-substitution”

$$x^4 = m^2, x^2 = m^1$$

$$y = m^2 + 3m^1 + 2$$

Factor

$$y = (m + 2)(m + 1)$$

Use “m-substitution”

$$y = (x^2 + 2)(x^2 + 1)$$

Zeroes: $x = i\sqrt{2}, -i\sqrt{2}, i, -i$

Extraneous solution: an apparent solution that does not work when plugged back into the original equation.

Square root equations

Radicals cannot be negative

$$5 = \sqrt{2x - 3}$$

Domain of possible solutions: $2x - 3 \geq 0$ $x \geq \frac{3}{2}$

$$5 = \sqrt{2x - 3} \quad 25 = 2x - 3 \quad 28 = 2x \quad x = 14$$

Apparent solution ($x = 14$) is in the domain of possible solutions

$x = 14$ is not an extraneous solution.

Log equations Logarands must be positive

$$5 = \log_3(2x - 3)$$

Domain of possible solutions: $2x - 3 > 0$ $x \geq \frac{3}{2}$

$$5 = \log_3(2x - 3) \quad \text{"A log is an exponent."}$$

$$3^5 = 2x - 3 \quad 243 = 2x - 3 \quad 246 = 2x \quad x = 123$$

Apparent solution ($x = 123$) is in the domain of possible solutions

$x = 123$ is not an extraneous solution.

“Quadratic Form”: a trinomial that looks like a standard form quadratic of the form $y = ax^{2n} + bx^n + c$

$$y = 3^{2x} + 3^x - 2 \quad \text{Use “m-substitution”} \quad m = 3^x$$

$$y = (3^x)^2 + 3^x - 2 \quad y = m^2 + m - 2 \quad \text{Factor}$$

$$0 = (m + 2)(m - 1) \quad \text{Find the zeroes}$$

$$m = -2, 1 \quad \text{Use “m-substitution”} \quad m = 3^x$$

$$3^x = -2 \quad 3^x = 1 \quad \text{“A log is an exponent”}$$

$$x = \log_3(-2)$$

$$x = \log_3(1)$$

Domain of log function: $x > 0$

$$x = 0$$

Extraneous solution

The easiest log equation. $\log(x + 3) = \log(2x - 1)$

$$x + 3 = 2x - 1 \quad \boxed{\rightarrow x = 4}$$

Domain of possible solutions is the more restrictive of:

$$x + 3 > 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 2x - 1 > 0$$

$$x > -3 \quad x > \frac{1}{2}$$

Apparent solution ($x = 2$) is in the domain of possible solutions

$x = 4$ is not an extraneous solution.

$$\log_2 5^x = 5$$

Power property of logarithms

$$x \log_2 5 = 5$$

→ Change of base

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

$$2.32192x = 5$$

$$\div 2.32192 \quad \div 2.32192$$

$$x = 2.1534$$

→ Approximate solution

$$\log_3 4^{5x} = 6$$

→ Exact solution

Use inverse
property of
multiplication

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

Solving Logs requiring condensing the product.

$$\log 2x + \log(x - 5) = 2 \quad \text{“condense the product”}$$

$$\log 2x(x - 5) = 2 \quad \text{“undo the logarithm”}$$

$$10^2 = 2x(x - 5) \quad \text{Quadratic} \rightarrow \text{put in standard form}$$

$$100 = 2x^2 - 10x$$

$$2x^2 - 10x - 100 = 0 \quad \text{Divide both sides by ‘2’}$$

$$x^2 - 5x - 50 = 0 \quad \text{factor}$$

$$(x - 10)(x + 5) = 0 \quad \text{Zero product property}$$

$$x = 10, -5$$

Check for extraneous solutions:

$$x = 10, -5$$

$$\log 2x + \log(x - 5) = 2$$

$$\log(2 * 10) + \log(10 - 5) = 2$$

$$\log(20) + \log(5) = 2 \quad \text{All logarands are positive 😊}$$

$$\log 100 = 2 \quad \text{“Condense the product”} \quad 10^2 = 100$$

Checks

$$\log(2)(-5) + \log(-5 - 5) = 2$$

$$\log(-10) + \log(-10) = 2 \quad \text{Negative logarands 😞}$$

$x = 5$ is an extraneous solution.

More complicated Logarithmic Equations

$$2 + \log_2 5^{x-2} = 7 \quad \text{“Isolate the logarithm”}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \\ \log_2 5^{x-2} = 5 \end{array} \quad \text{“undo the logarithm”}$$

$$(x-2) \log_2 5 = 5$$
$$\div \log_2 5 \quad \div \log_2 5$$

$$x - 2 = 2.15338$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +2 \\ x - 2 = 2.15338 \end{array} \quad \text{Add ‘2’ to both sides.}$$

$$x = 4.1524$$

$$\log_4(5x - 1) = 3$$

“Isolate the logarithm”

$$5x - 1 = 4^3$$

“undo the logarithm”

$$5x - 1 = 64$$

Add ‘1’ to both sides

$$5x = 65$$

Divide both sides by ‘5’

$$x = 13$$

Plug back in to check!

$$\log_4(5 * 13 - 1) = 3$$

$$\log_4 64 = 3$$

Checks

Exponential Data: what is the equation?

x	f(x)
-2	0.0625
-1	0.25
0	1
1	4
2	16
3	64
4	256

Integer x-values increment by one each time

y-values increment by the same factor each time.

This number is the “growth factor”

“growth factor” is the base of the exponential.

↘ 4
↘ 4

$$f(x) = 4^x$$

$$f(x) = (1 + 3)^x$$

Another way to think about it.

$$f(x) = 4^x$$

x	f(x)
0	1
1	4
2	16
3	64
4	256

“growth factor” is the base of the exponential.

$$y_{next} = y_{previous} * \text{Growth factor}$$

The “next y-value” equals the
“previous y-value” plus some growth.

$$16 = 4 + 12$$

$$16 = 4(1 + 3)$$

growth factor = 1
→ no growth

% rate of
change

$$f(x) = (1 + 3)^x$$

You deposit \$100 money into an account that pays 3.5% interest per year. The “rent” is “paid” yearly. How much money will be in the account at the end of the 1st year?

$$A(1) = 100(1 + 0.035)^{(1)} \quad A(1) = 100(1.035)^{(1)}$$

$$A(1) = \$103.5$$

How much will be in the account after the 2nd year?

$$A(2) = A(1)(1.035)^{(1)}$$

$$A(2) = 103.5(1.035)^{(1)}$$

$$A(2) = 100(1.035)^{(1)}(1.035)^{(1)} \quad A(t) = A_0(1+r)^t$$

$$A(2) = 100(1.035)^{(2)}$$

$$A(2) = \$107.12$$

You deposit \$100 money into an account that pays 2% interest per year. But the “rent” is paid “monthly.” What is the interest rate that is paid each month?

$$\frac{2\%}{\text{year}} * \frac{1 \text{ year}}{12 \text{ months}} = \frac{0.17\%}{\text{month}} = \frac{0.0017}{\text{month}}$$

How much money will be in the account after 5 months?

$$A(t) = A_0(1 + r)^t$$

$$A(5) = 100(1 + 0.0017)^5 \quad \text{Time uses units of months}$$

$$A(5 \text{ months}) = \$100.85$$

How much money will be in the account after 7 years?

$$A(7 \text{ years}) = 100(1 + 0.0029)^{12(7)} \quad \text{Time uses units of years .}$$

$$A(7) = \$127.54$$

$$A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$$

“*n*”: number of times “rent” is paid per year

Compound interest: the interest (rent) that is paid at the end of period of time.

$$A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$$

Compounded annually: “ n ” = ? $A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{1}\right)^{1*t}$

Compounded semi-annually: “ n ” = ? $A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{2}\right)^{2*t}$

Compounded quarterly: “ n ” = ? $A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{4}\right)^{4*t}$

Compounded monthly: “ n ” = ? $A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{12}\right)^{12*t}$

Compounded weekly: “ n ” = ? $A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{52}\right)^{52*t}$

Compounded daily: “ n ” = ? $A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{365}\right)^{365*t}$

Compounded hourly: “ n ” = ? $A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{8760}\right)^{8760*t}$

Compounded minutely: “ n ” = ? $A(t \text{ in yrs}) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{525600}\right)^{525600*t}$

You deposit \$100 money into an account that pays 3% interest per year. The interest is “compounded” monthly. How much money will be in the account at the end of the 5th year?

$$A(t) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{k}\right)^{kt} \quad A(5) = 100 \left(1 + \frac{0.03}{12}\right)^{12(5)}$$

$$A(5) = \$116.16$$

What is the doubling time for this account?

$$200 = 100 \left(1 + \frac{0.035}{12}\right)^{12t}$$

$$2 = (1.0029)^{12t}$$

$$\log_{1.0029}(2) = 12t \quad 239.4 = 12t \quad t = 19.9 \text{ yrs}$$

Continuous compounding

$$A(t) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{k}\right)^{kt}$$

$$A(t) = A_0 e^{rt}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e$$

A bank compounds interest continuously. The annual interest rate is 5.5%. How long would it take for the money in the account to triple?

$$3A_0 = A_0 e^{0.055t}$$

$$\ln 3 = 0.055t$$

$$3 = e^{0.055t}$$

$$t = 19.97 \text{ yrs}$$

Present Value:

“Present value of “A” dollars to be received at ‘t’ years, annual interest rate ‘r’, compounded ‘n’ times per year.”

→ The original investment amount is the unknown value.

$$A(t) = A_0 e^{rt}$$

$$A(t) = A_0 \left(1 + \frac{r}{k}\right)^{kt}$$

Future value.


$$A_0 = A(t) * e^{-rt}$$

$$A_0 = A(t) * \left(1 + \frac{r}{k}\right)^{-kt}$$

Effective Rate of Return

The equivalent simple interest rate (compounding period = 1 yr) of an investment that has a different annual interest rate and is compounded more than once per year.

→ The effective rate of return is the unknown value.


$$A_0(1 + r_{eff})^t = A_0(1 + r_{new}/k)^{kt}$$

Assume 1 year and the same investment in each account

$$1 + r_{eff} = (1 + r_{new}/k)^k$$

$$r_{eff} = (1 + r_{new}/k)^k - 1$$