

Section 4.4 – Laws of Logarithms

- Laws of Logarithms قوانين اللوغاريتمات

$$\log_a A + \log_a B = \log_a (AB)$$

$$\ln A + \ln B = \ln(AB)$$

$$\log_a A - \log_a B = \log_a \left(\frac{A}{B}\right)$$

$$\ln A - \ln B = \ln \left(\frac{A}{B}\right)$$

$$\log_a (A^C) = C \log_a A$$

$$\ln(A^C) = C \ln A$$

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Common MISTAKES

$$1. \log_a (A + B) \neq \log_a A + \log_a B$$

$$2. \frac{\log_a A}{\log_a B} \neq \log_a \left(\frac{A}{B}\right)$$

$$3. (\log_a A)^C \neq C \log_a A$$



Example 1

Evaluate each expression.

(a) $\log_4 2 + \log_4 32$

(b) $\log_2 80 - \log_2 5$

(c) $\log_3 100 - \log_3 18 - \log_3 50$

Solution

$$(a) \log_4 (2 \cdot 32) = \log_4 64 = 3$$

$$(b) \log_2 \left(\frac{80}{5}\right) = \log_2 16 = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} (c) \log_3 \left(\frac{100}{50}\right) - \log_3 18 &= \log_3 2 - \log_3 18 \\ &= \log_3 \left(\frac{2}{18}\right) = \log_3 \frac{1}{9} = -2 \end{aligned}$$

Problems

- Evaluate the expression

(a) $\frac{-1}{3} \log 8$

$$= \log (8^{-1/3})$$

$$= \log \left(\frac{1}{8^{1/3}} \right)$$

$$= \log \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{8}} = \log \frac{1}{2}$$

(b) $\log 50 + \log 200$

$$= \log (50 \cdot 200)$$

$$= \log 10,000 = 4$$

(c) $\log_2 60 - \log_2 15$

$$= \log_2 \left(\frac{60}{15} \right)$$

$$= \log_2 4 = 2$$

- Use the Laws of Logarithms to expand the expression.

(a) $\log_5(5x^3y^6)$

$$= \log_5 5 + \log_5 x^3 + \log_5 y^6$$

$$= 1 + 3\log_5 x + 6\log_5 y$$

(b) $\ln\left(\frac{ab^2}{\sqrt[3]{c}}\right)$

$$= \ln ab^2 - \ln \sqrt[3]{c}$$

$$= \ln a + \ln b^2 - \ln c^{1/3}$$

$$= \ln a + 2\ln b - \frac{1}{3}\ln c$$

$$(c) \log \sqrt{\frac{x}{10(x^3-7)^2}}$$

$$= \log \left(\frac{x}{10(x^3-7)^2} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{x}{10(x^3-7)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\log x - \log 10 (x^3-7)^2]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\log x - \log 10 + \log (x^3-7)^3]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\log x - \log 10 + 3 \log (x^3-7)]$$

$$(d) \ln \left(x \sqrt{\frac{y}{z}} \right)$$

$$= \ln x + \ln \sqrt{\frac{y}{z}}$$

$$= \ln x + \ln \left(\frac{y}{z} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$= \ln x + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{y}{z} \right)$$

$$= \ln x + \frac{1}{2} [\ln y - \ln z]$$

- Use the Laws of Logarithms to combine the expression.

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

$$\begin{aligned} &= \log 10 + \log x^3 + \log (x+1)^{1/2} \\ &= \log [10 x^3 \sqrt{x+1}] \end{aligned}$$

(b) $3 \ln s + \ln(t + 2) - \ln(t^2 + t - 2)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \ln s^3 + \ln(t+2) - \ln(t^2+t-2) \\ &= \ln \frac{s^3 (t+2)}{t^2+t-2} \end{aligned}$$

$$(c) \ln(a+b) + \ln(a-b) - 2 \ln c$$

$$= \ln \frac{(a+b)(a-b)}{c^2}$$

$$= \ln \frac{a^2 - b^2}{c^2}$$

$$(d) 2 \log_3 x - 3(\log_3(y+1) + \log_3 z)$$

$$= \log_3 x^2 - 3 \log_3 (y+1) - 3 \log_3 z$$

$$= \log_3 x^2 - \log_3 (y+1)^3 - \log_3 z^3$$

$$= \log_3 \frac{x^2 z^3}{(y+1)^3}$$