

5.2 Logarithmic Functions and Their Properties

Monday, January 17, 2022 3:53 PM

The logarithmic function is defined by

$$y = f(x) = \log_a x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln a}, \quad x > 0, \quad a \neq 1$$

\downarrow
 $\ln 1 = 0$

$$y = \log_a x$$

logarithmic form

\Leftrightarrow

$$a^y = x$$

exponential form

Exp write the following logarithmic equation using exponential form

$$(1) \quad 4 = \log_2 16 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad 2^4 = 16$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{1}{2} = \log_9 3 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad 9^{\frac{1}{2}} = 3$$

\downarrow
 $\sqrt{9}$

$$(3) \quad -2 = \log_5 \left(\frac{1}{25} \right) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad 5^{-2} = \frac{1}{25}$$

\downarrow
 $\frac{1}{2}$

Exp write the following equations in logarithmic form

① $2^4 = 16 \Leftrightarrow y = \log_a^x$
 $4 = \log_2 16$

② $3^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \Leftrightarrow y = \log_a^x$
 $-1 = \log_3 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$
 $3^{-1} = \frac{1}{3}$

Remark ① Natural logarithmic function has the form

$$y = \log_{[e]}^x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln e} = \ln x$$

$a = e \approx 2.718$

② Graph $y = \ln x$, $x > 0$

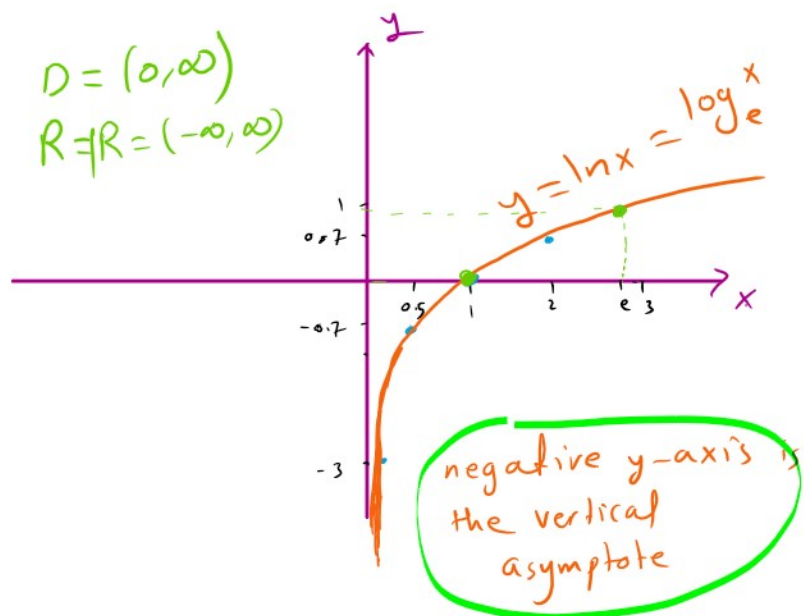
$x \mid y = \ln x$

$D = (0, \infty)$

x	$y = \ln x$
0.05	$\ln 0.05 = -3$
0.1	$\ln 0.1 = -2.3$
0.5	$\ln 0.5 = -0.7$ ✓
1	$\ln 1 = 0$ ✓
2	$\ln 2 = 0.7$ ✓
e	$\ln e = 1$
3	$\ln 3 = 1.1$
10	$\ln 10 = 2.3$

$$D = (0, \infty)$$

$$R = R = (-\infty, \infty)$$



Using Calculator

$$\log x = \log_{10} x$$

$$= \frac{\ln x}{\ln 10}$$

Exp $\log_2 2 \approx 0.301$

$\log_2 2$

$\ln 2 \approx 0.693$

$\log_2 2$

$$\ln x = \log_e x$$

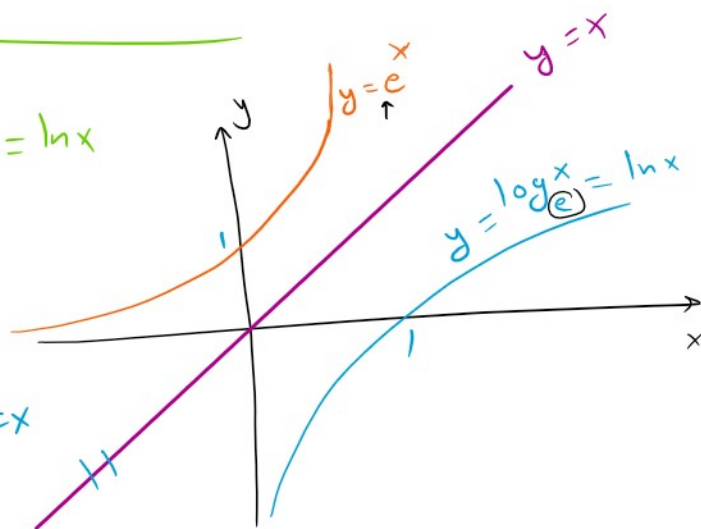
$$= \frac{\ln x}{\ln e} \rightarrow 1$$

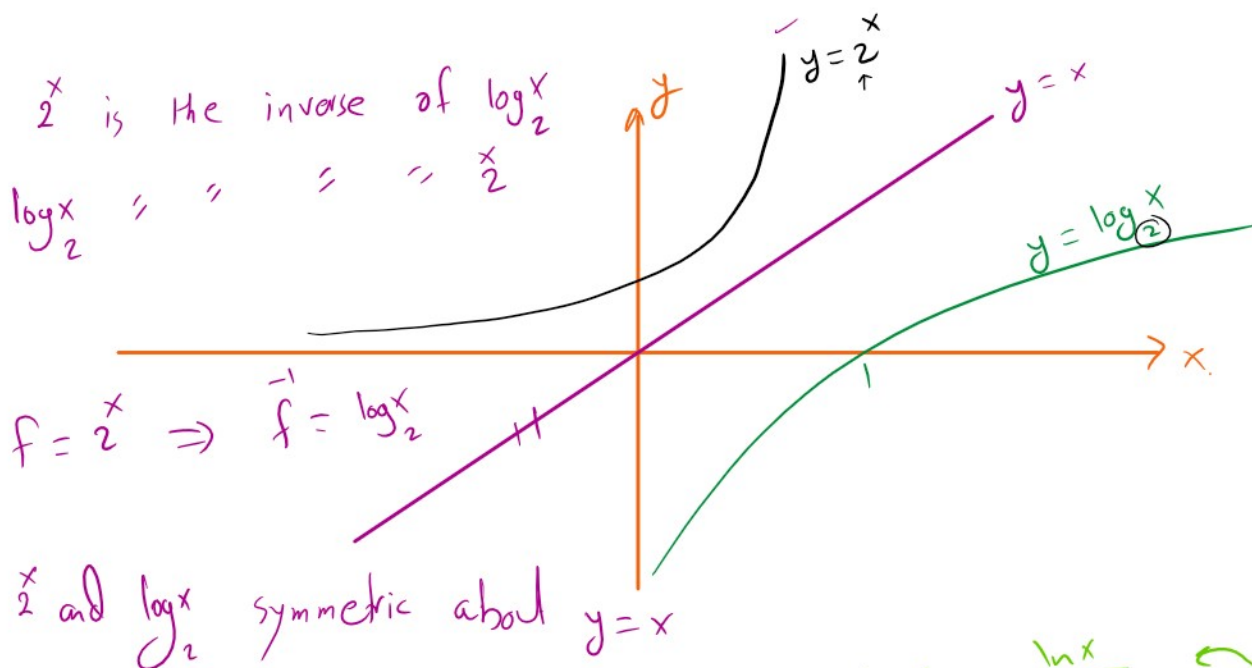
$$= \ln x$$

e^x is the inverse of $\log_e x = \ln x$

$\ln x$ is the inverse of e^x

f and f^{-1} are symmetric about $y=x$





Exp ① Graph $y = \log_2^x$

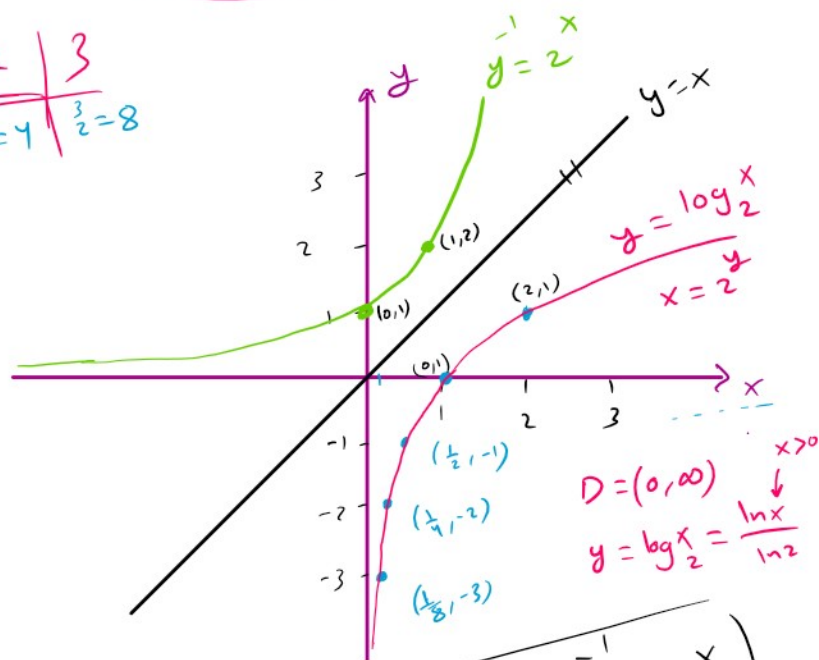
$y = \log_2^x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln 2}$ ← Imp

$\frac{y}{2} = x$ ← Imp

y	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
x	$2^{-3} = \frac{1}{8}$	$2^{-2} = \frac{1}{4}$	$2^{-1} = \frac{1}{2}$	1	2	$2^2 = 4$	$2^3 = 8$

② Find the inverse of \log_2^x

$\bar{y} = 2^x$



$f = \log_a^x \Rightarrow f^{-1} = a^x$

$R = \mathbb{R}$
 $= (-\infty, \infty)$

Exp Solve for x

$$\textcircled{1} \log_3 x = 4 \Rightarrow \frac{4}{3} = x \Rightarrow x = \frac{3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3}{9 \cdot 9} = 81$$

$$\textcircled{2} \log_{16} x = -\frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 16^{-\frac{1}{2}} = x$$

$$\frac{1}{16^{\frac{1}{2}}} = x$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{16}} = x$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{4} = x}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \log (4x + 20) = 2$$

$$\log_{10} (4x + 20) = 2$$

$$10^2 = 4x + 20$$

$$100 = 4x + 20$$

~~-20~~

$$\frac{80}{4} = \frac{4x}{4}$$

$$\boxed{20 = x}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \ln (3x - 17) = 0$$

$$\ln 1 = 0$$

↓

$$3x - 17 = 1$$

$$+17 \quad +17$$

$$\frac{3x}{3} = \frac{18}{3}$$

$$\boxed{x = 6}$$

$$\frac{\ln(3x-17)}{\ln e} = 0$$

$$\log_e 3x-17 = 0$$

$$e = 3x - 17$$

$$1 = 3x - 17$$

~~+17~~

$$18 = 3x$$

20

$$\frac{18}{3} = \frac{3x}{3}$$

$$6 = x$$

Exp Graph

① $y = \log_4 x$

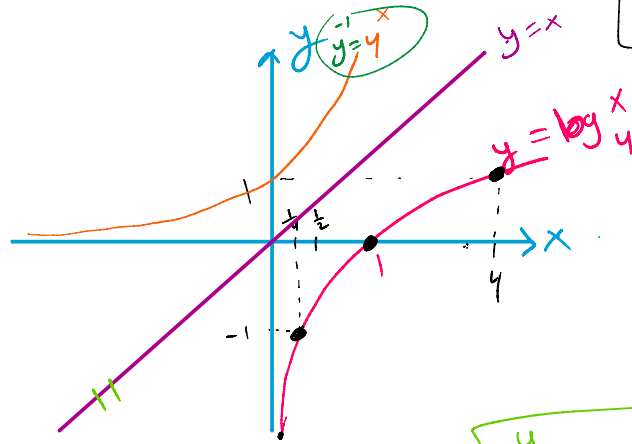
x	$4^{-2} = \frac{1}{16}$	$4^{-1} = \frac{1}{4}$	$4^0 = 1$	$4^1 = 4$	$4^2 = 16$
y	-2	-1	0	1	2

$x = y$

$$y = \log_4 x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln 4}$$

or

$$\frac{y}{4} = x$$

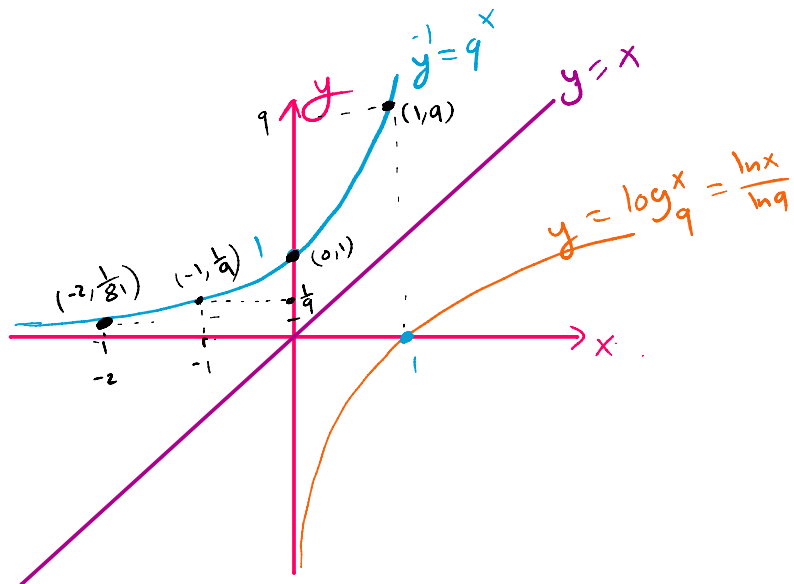


② $y = 4^x$ ✓

4^x is the inverse function of $\log_4 x$
 $\log_4 x$ " " " " " " " " " " " "

③ $y = \log_9 x$

④ $y = 9^x$



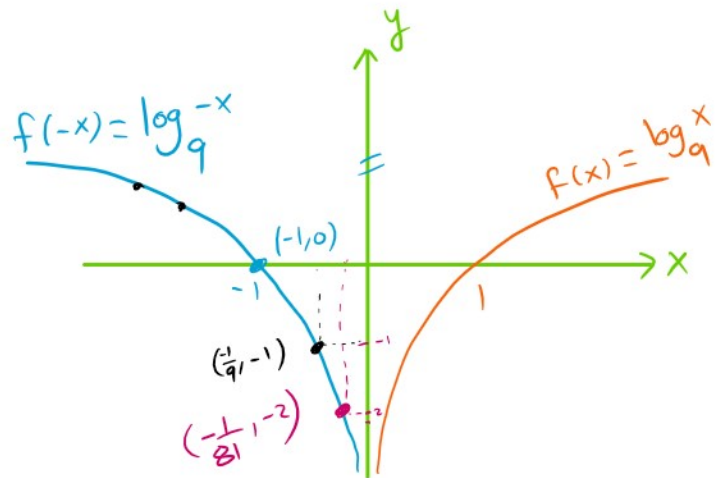
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

q^x is the inverse function of \log_q^x

x	-2	-1	0	1	2
y	$q^{-2} = \frac{1}{81}$	$q^{-1} = \frac{1}{9}$	$q^0 = 1$	$q^1 = 9$	$q^2 = 81$

⑤ $y = \log_q^{-x}$

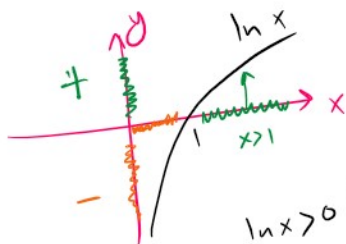
compare with $f(x) = \log_q^x$



$f(-x) = \log_q^{-x}$

$y = \log_q^{-x} \Rightarrow q^y = -x \Rightarrow x = -\frac{y}{q}$

y	-2	-1	0	1	2
x	$-\frac{2}{9} = -\frac{1}{81}$	$-\frac{1}{9} = -\frac{1}{9}$	$-\frac{0}{9} = 0$	$-\frac{1}{9} = -\frac{1}{9}$	$-\frac{2}{9} = -\frac{2}{9}$



$\ln x > 0$ if $x > 1$
 $\ln x < 0$ if $x < 1$

$\log_4^x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln 4}$

$\log_9^x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln 9}$



y'

