

## Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

Source: D.Lippman, M.Rasmussen (2012) *Precalculus: An Investigation of Functions* (Edition 1.3)

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### Exponential growth

is a function that grows at a constant percent growth rate

$$f(x) = a(1+r)^x \text{ or } f(x) = ab^x \text{ where } b=1+r$$

**a** is the initial or starting value of the function (is the vertical intercept of the graph)

**r** is the percent growth or decay rate, written as a decimal

**b** is the growth factor or growth multiplier (determines the rate at which the graph grows)

the function will increase if  $b > 1$

the function will decrease if  $0 < b < 1$

The graph will have a horizontal asymptote at  $y = 0$

The graph will be concave up if  $a > 0$ ; concave down if  $a < 0$ .

The domain of the function is all real numbers

The range of the function is  $(0, \infty)$

### Transformations of Exponentials

$$f(x) = ab^x + c$$

$y = c$  is the horizontal asymptote

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### Compound Interest

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

**A(t)** is the account value

**t** is measured in years

**a** is the starting amount of the account, often called the principal

**r** is the annual percentage rate (APR), also called the nominal rate

**k** is the number of compounding periods in one year

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### Annual Percentage Yield

Is the actual percent a quantity increases in one year

$$APY = \left(1 + \frac{r}{k}\right)^k - 1$$

### Continuous Growth

$$f(x) = ae^{rx}$$

**a** is the starting amount

**r** is the continuous growth rate

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### Logarithmic Functions

$\log_b(x)$  is the inverse of the exponential function  $b^x$

Graph of Log

The graph has a horizontal intercept at  $(1, 0)$

The graph has a vertical asymptote at  $x = 0$

The graph is increasing and concave down

The domain of the function is  $x > 0$ , or  $(0, \infty)$

The range of the function is all real numbers, or  $(-\infty, \infty)$

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**Properties of Logs**

$$\begin{aligned} \log_b(b^x) &= x \\ b^{\log_b x} &= x \\ b^a = c &\iff \log_b(c) = a \\ \log_b(A^r) &= r\log_b(A) \\ \log_b(A) &= \frac{\log_c(A)}{\log_c(b)} \end{aligned}$$

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**Inverse Properties**

$$\begin{aligned} \log_b(b^x) &= x \\ b^{\log_b x} &= x \end{aligned}$$

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**Exponential Property**

$$\log_b(A^r) = r\log_b(A)$$

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**Change of Base**

$$\log_b(A) = \frac{\log_c(A)}{\log_c(b)}$$

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**Sum of Logs Property**

$$\log_b(A) + \log_b(C) = \log_b(AC)$$

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**Difference of Logs Property**

$$\log_b(A) - \log_b(C) = \log_b\left(\frac{A}{C}\right)$$

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**Common Log**

is the logarithm with base 10 ( $\log(x)$ )

**Natural Log**

is the logarithm with base e ( $\ln(x)$ )

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