

Properties of Exponential

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₁ $x^1 = x$

$x^n = x_1 * x_2 * \dots * x_n$ where $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n$

Proof.

$$x^2 = x * x$$

and

$$x^1 = x \implies \frac{x^2}{x^1} = x^1 \implies x^{2-1} = \frac{x^2}{x^1} \implies x^0 = x^{1-1} = \frac{x}{x} = 1$$

□

₂ Conclusion: $x^0 = 1$

Given the proof above, we can say that $x^{-1} = \frac{x^0}{x}$ which is $\frac{1}{x}$
in the same sense, $x^{-2} = \frac{x^0}{x^2} = \frac{1}{x^2}$

What About \mathbb{Q} numbers as exponential? How can we find them?

Proof.

$$16^1 = 4^2 = 2^4 = a^8 \dots$$

$$2^2 = 4^1 = 16^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

You see that exponents divided by 2 when bottoms increases.

$$16^{1/2} = 4^1 = 2^2 = a^4$$

We can understand $1^n = 1$ whatever n might be. So $2^{1/2}$ is somewhere between 2 and 1. □

¹Identity law

²inverse law