

Class Note 2.2.3 (2)

September 21, 2022 9:05 AM



Module 2.2.3C Derivatives of logarithmic functions

1



Logarithmic Functions

The logarithm y is the exponent to which base b is to be raised in order to get value x .

$$y = \log_b x$$

Note that

- x is the independent variable, the **input** of the logarithmic function. The input of any log functions is positive: $x > 0$
- $y = y(x)$ is the **output**, computed based on the input x and base b .
- Base b is the fixed parameter: $b > 0$ and $b \neq 1$

- The exponential b^x and logarithmic $\log_b x$ are inverse functions.

$$\log_{10} 100 = 2 \Leftrightarrow 10^2 = 100$$

- $\log_b 1 = 0, \log_b b = 1$

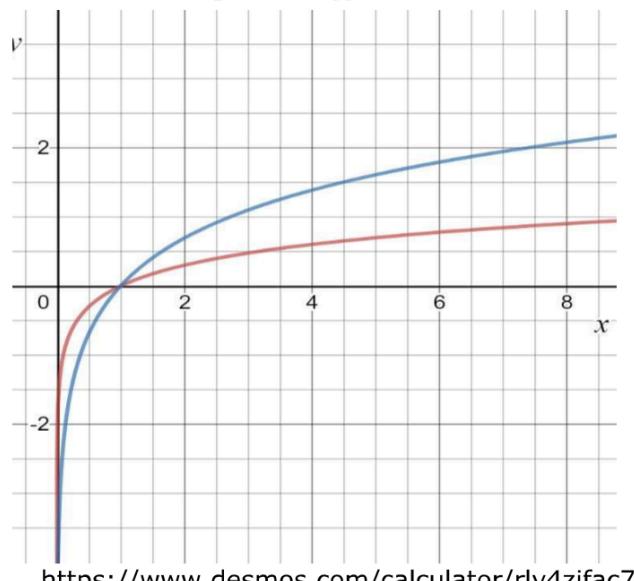


BKM

Natural Log: $b = e \rightarrow y = \ln x$

Common Log: $b = 10 \rightarrow y = \log x$

The two most commonly used log functions and their graphs.



<https://www.desmos.com/calculator/r1v4zifac7>



The Properties of Logarithms. Refer to the Formula Sheet

*Properties of Logarithm:

$$\log_b AB = \log_b A + \log_b B$$

1. The logarithm of the product is the sum of the logarithms of the factors;

$$\log_b \frac{A}{B} = \log_b A - \log_b B$$

$$\log_b A^P = P \log_b A$$

2. The logarithm of the quotient is the difference of logarithms of numerator A and denominator B .
3. The logarithm of the power A^P can be expressed as the exponent of the power P multiplied by the log of the base of the power A

Note that, the rules 1-3 apply both ways: from left to right and from right to left.

Use properties of logarithms to simplify the following:

Example 1.

$$\ln[\sqrt{3x+1} (2x-5)^3] =$$

Example 2.

$$\ln[x^{\sin x}] =$$

$$1. \frac{1}{2}\ln(3x+1) + 3\ln(2x-5); 2. \sin x$$

Example 3

$$\ln \left[\frac{e^{2x} x^{2/3} \sqrt{2x+1}}{(x-2)^3} \right] =$$

6

The Generalized Derivative Formulas

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\ln x] = \frac{1}{x} \quad \frac{d}{dx} [\log_b x] = \frac{1}{x \ln b}$$

Verbally:

1. To differentiate the logarithm function take the reciprocal of the INPUT.
2. If there are nested functions, then apply the Chain Rule
3. If the base of the log is b , then adjust by multiplying by $\ln b$ in the denominator
4. For the natural logs, no such adjustment is needed because $\ln e = 1$

7

Find the derivatives of the given functions

EXAMPLE 1. $y = \ln x$, then

$$y' = \frac{1}{x}$$

To differentiate the \ln function,
take the reciprocal of the INPUT

EXAMPLE 2. $y = \log x$, then

$$y' = \frac{1}{x \ln 10}$$

To differentiate the log function with
the base 10, take the reciprocal of the
INPUT and adjust by $\ln 10$

Since in both examples $u = x$, then $\frac{du}{dx} = 1$

EXAMPLE 3.

Differentiate $y = \ln(2x^3 + 5x)$.

To differentiate the \ln function, take the
reciprocal of the INPUT .
If there is a nested function, use Chain Rule

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2x^3 + 5x} \cdot (6x^2 + 5)$$

$$u = 2x^3 + 5x; \frac{du}{dx} = 6x^2 + 5$$

$$= \frac{6x^2 + 5}{2x^3 + 5x}$$

ANS: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{6x^2 + 5}{x(2x^2 + 5)}$

EXAMPLE 4. $y = \ln x^3$,

Use the properties of logarithms to simplify the expression prior to differentiation

Simplify first $y = 3 \ln x$.

Then differentiate

$$y' = \frac{d}{dx}[3 \ln x] = 3 \frac{d}{dx}[\ln x] = \frac{3}{x}$$

EXAMPLE 5. (Self-Check) $y = \ln x^{-2}$

Answers to self-check problems are on the last slide,
or accessible by clicking on the blue Answer box

Answer

Module 1.2C Class Notes

10

• **EXAMPLE 6.** $y = \log \left[\frac{(1+3x)}{x^2} \right]$

Rewrite the function as

$$y = \log(1 + 3x) - 2 \log x.$$

Find the derivative now

$$y' = \frac{1}{1+3x} \cdot 3 - 2 \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{x} \left(\frac{3}{1+3x} - 2 \right)$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{(1+3x)\ln 10} (2x - 3) = \frac{2x-3}{(1+3x)\ln 10}$$

EXAMPLE 7. $y = \log_a(x^2 - 3x)$. Use the derivative of the logarithm base b formula.

$$y' = \frac{1}{(x^2 - 3x)\ln a} (2x - 3) = \frac{2x-3}{(x^2 - 3x)\ln a}$$

EXAMPLE 8. $y = \ln \sin x$,

This is a composite function, with the input of the \ln function $u(x) = \sin x$. Use the Chain Rule along with the derivative for \ln and derivative for \sin :

$$y' = \frac{1}{\sin x} \frac{d}{dx} [\sin x] = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} = \cot x$$

Use the trigonometric identity: $\cot x = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x}$

Note that a reasonable effort is expected to be put into simplification and presentation of the final answer.

EXAMPLE 9. (Self-Check) $y = \ln(\sec x + \tan x)$

Answer

EXAMPLE 10. $y = x^3 \ln(5x + 2)$

Using the product rule, with get

$$u = x^3 \rightarrow u' = 3x^2$$
$$v = \ln(5x + 2) \rightarrow v' = \frac{5}{5x+2}$$

$$y' = 3x^2 \ln(5x + 2) + x^3 \frac{5}{5x+2} = 3x^2 \ln(5x + 2) + \frac{5x^3}{5x+2}$$

EXAMPLE 11. $y = \sqrt[3]{\ln x}$

This is the composite (nested) function. Prepare it for the double chain rule:

$y = \sqrt[3]{\ln x} = (\ln x)^{\frac{1}{3}} \rightarrow$ the input/output sequence is as follows:

$$x \rightarrow \ln(\quad) \rightarrow (\quad)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{3} (\ln x)^{-\frac{2}{3}} \frac{d}{dx} [\ln x] = \frac{1}{3} (\ln x)^{-\frac{2}{3}} \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{3x(\ln x)^{\frac{2}{3}}}$$

• **EXAMPLE 12.** $y = \ln \frac{x+1}{\sqrt{x-2}}$,

Rewrite the function in simplified form taking advantage of the logs properties.

$$y = \ln(x+1) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(x-2)$$

Now differentiate

$$y' = \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x-2}$$

and algebraic simplification yields

$$y' = \frac{x-5}{2(x+1)(x-2)}$$

Answers for Self-Check Examples

5. $y' = -\frac{2}{x}$

9. $y' = \sec x$

$$\arcsin(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\operatorname{arccsc}(x) = -\frac{1}{|x|}$$

$$\arccos(x) = -\sqrt{1-x^2}$$

$$\arctan(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$$

$$\text{arcsec}(x) = \frac{1}{|\lambda| \sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\text{arccot}(x) = -\frac{1}{1+x^2}$$