

# Error propagation for logarithms

## 1. Generic derivation

Given an observation  $o$  we can write it as

$$o = v \pm err$$

where  $v$  is our measured value and  $err$  is the instrument tolerance

$$\log_b(o) = \log_b(v + err)$$

by differentiating the error portion we get the general formula for any base  $b$  logarithm

$$\log_b(o) = \log_b(v) \pm \frac{1}{\ln(b)} \frac{err}{v}$$