

**THEORETICAL PART:**

Solutions

**Definition:**

Let  $a$  be a fixed positive real number not equal to 1. The **logarithmic function with base  $a$**  is defined to be the inverse of the exponential function with base  $a$ , and is denoted  $\log_a x$ . In symbols, if  $f(x) = a^x$ , then  $f^{-1}(x) = \log_a x$ .

In equation form, the definition of logarithm means that the equations

$$x = a^y \quad \text{and} \quad y = \log_a x$$

are equivalent. Note that  $a$  is the base in both equations: either the base of the exponential function or the base of the logarithmic function.

**Properties:**

1.  $\log_a 1 = 0$ , because  $a^0 = 1$
2.  $\log_a a = 1$ , because  $a^1 = a$
3.  $\log_a a^x = x$  and  $a^{\log_a x} = x$

**Definition:**

- The function  $\log_{10} x$  is called the **common logarithm** and is usually written  $\log x$ .
- The function  $\log_e x$  is called the **natural logarithm** and is usually written  $\ln x$ .

**Properties of Natural Logarithms:**

$$\ln x = y \Leftrightarrow e^y = x$$

1.  $\ln 1 = 0$
2.  $\ln e = 1$
3.  $\ln e^x = x$
4.  $e^{\ln x} = x$

**PRACTICAL PART:**

1. Use the definition of logarithmic functions to rewrite the following exponential equations as logarithmic equations:
  - (a)  $8 = 2^3$
  - (b)  $5^4 = 625$
  - (c)  $7^x = z$

$$(a) \quad 8 = 2^3$$

$$y = a^x$$

$$\log_a y = \log_a a^x = x$$

$$\log_a y = x$$

$$y = 8 \quad x = 3 \quad a = 2$$

$$\log_2 8 = 3$$

$$(b) \quad 5^4 = 625 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \log_5 625 = 4$$

$$(c) \quad 7^x = z$$

$$\log_7 7^x = \log_7 z$$

$$\log_7 z = x$$

2. Rewrite the following logarithmic equations as exponential equations:

(a)  $\log_3 9 = 2$

(b)  $3 = \log_8 512$

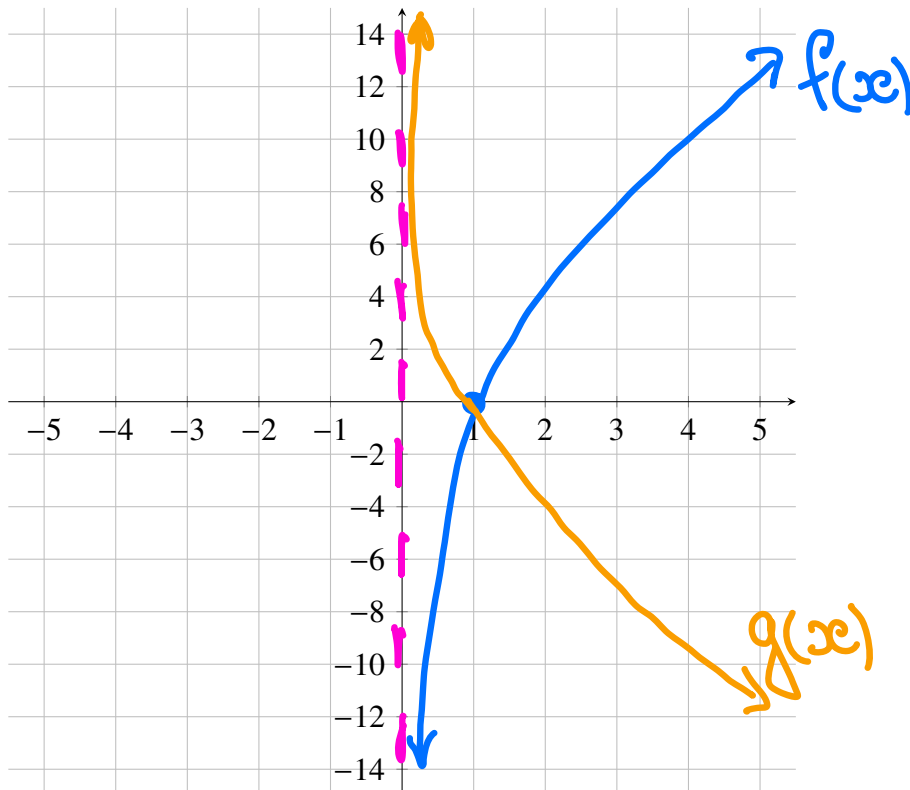
(a)  $\log_3 9 = 2 \Rightarrow 3^2 = 9$

(b)  $\log_8 512 = 3 \Rightarrow 8^3 = 512$

3. Sketch the graphs of the following logarithmic functions:

(a)  $f(x) = \log_3 x$   $a = 3$

(b)  $g(x) = \log_{\frac{1}{3}} x$

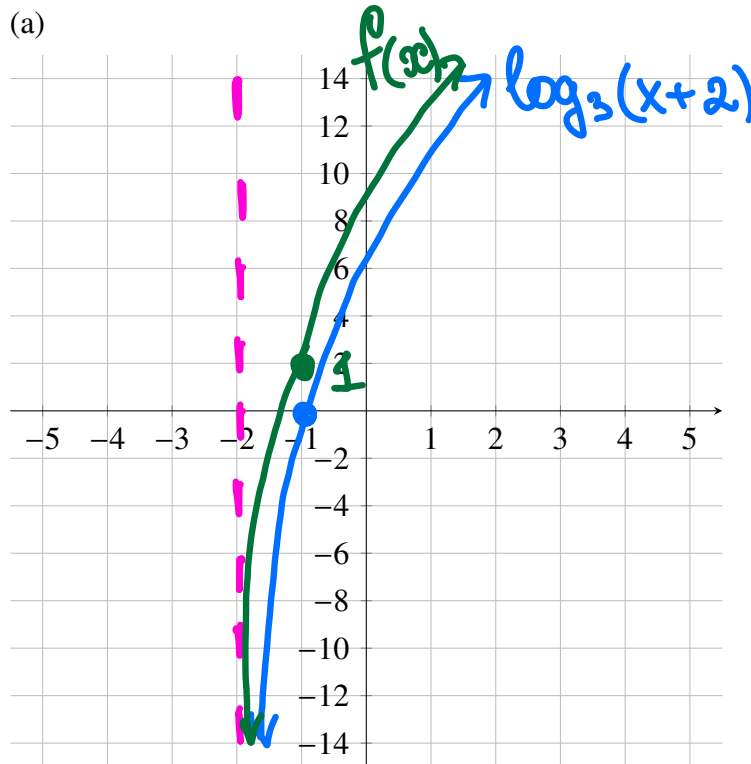


4. Sketch the graph of the following functions. State their domain and range.

(a)  $f(x) = \log_3(x+2) + 1$

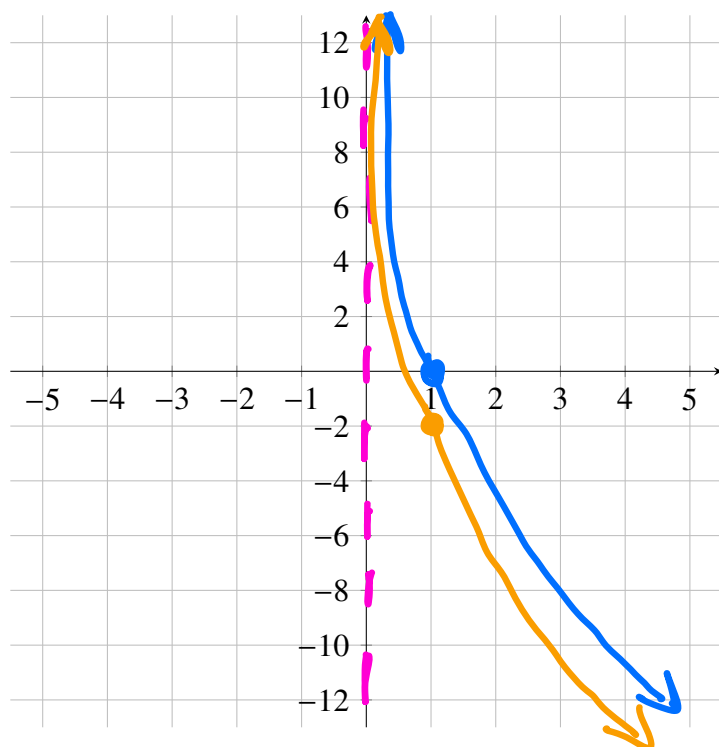
(b)  $g(x) = \log_{\frac{1}{2}} x - 2$

(a)



- $\log_3(x+2)$
- $\log_3(x+2) + 1$

(b)



- $\log_{\frac{1}{2}} x$
- $\log_{\frac{1}{2}} x - 2$

5. Evaluate the following logarithmic equations:

(a)  $\log_5 25 = 2$

(b)  $\log_{\frac{1}{2}} 2 = -1$

(c)  $\log_{16} 4 = \frac{1}{2}$

(d)  $\log_{10} \frac{1}{100} = -2$

6. Use elementary properties of exponents and logarithms to solve the following equations.

(a)  $\log_6 (2x) = -1$

(b)  $3^{\log_{3x} 2} = 2$

(c)  $\log_2 8^x = 5$

(a)  $\log_6 (2x) = -1$

$$6^{-1} = 2x \Rightarrow \frac{1}{6} = 2x \Rightarrow \boxed{x = \frac{1}{12}}$$

(b)  $3^{\log_{3x} 2} = 2$

$$\log_{3x} 2 = \log_3 2$$

$$3x = 3$$

$$\boxed{x = 1}$$

$$(c) \quad \log_2 8^x = 5$$

$$2^5 = 8^x$$

$$2^5 = 2^{3x}$$

$$5 = 3x$$

$$x = \frac{5}{3}$$

7. Evaluate the following logarithmic expressions.

(a)  $\ln(\sqrt[3]{e}) =$

(b)  $\log 1000 =$

(c)  $\ln(4.78) =$

$$(a) \ln(\sqrt[3]{e}) = \ln e^{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{3} \ln e = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\ln e = 1$$

$$(b) \log 1000 = \log_{10} 10^3 = 3$$

$$\log_{10} 10 = 1$$

$$(c) \ln(4.78) \approx 1.564$$