

Homework 10

Sahana Sarangi

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Problem 14.6: Find the linear-to-linear function whose graph has $y = 6$ as a horizontal asymptote and passes through $(0, 10)$ and $(3, 7)$.

Solution: The standard form of a linear to linear rational function is $y = \frac{ax+b}{x+c}$ where a , b , and c , are constants. We are given that the horizontal asymptote is $y = 6$, so our value of a is 6. Our function is then $y = \frac{6x+b}{x+c}$. We are also given two coordinates: $(0, 10)$ and $(3, 7)$. Plugging these two coordinates into our function, we can get the following equations:

$$7 = \frac{18 + b}{3 + c}$$

$$10 = \frac{0 + b}{0 + c}$$

Solving the first equation for b , we have $b = 3 + 7c$. Solving the second equation for b , we have $10c = b$. Setting these two equations for b equal to each other, we have $3 + 7c = 10c$. Solving for c , we have $c = 1$. Plugging this value of c into our second equation, we have $10 = \frac{b}{1}$. Solving for b , we get $b = 10$. Plugging these values for a , b , and c , into our rational function, we get

$$y = \frac{6x + 10}{x + 1}$$

2022 Practice Final Problem 3: Let f be an unknown one-to-one function, and let g be the function

$$g(x) = f(2f^{-1}(x) + 1)$$

Find a formula for $g^{-1}(x)$ (in terms of f and f^{-1}).

Solution: To find the inverse of g , we can start by switching $g(x)$ and x in the equation for $g(x)$. For simplicity, we can let $y = g(x)$ and rewrite the equation using y :

$$x = f(2f^{-1}(y) + 1)$$

Now, we need to solve this equation for y . We can start by applying f^{-1} to both sides:

$$f^{-1}(x) = 2f^{-1}(y) + 1$$

Simplifying:

$$\frac{f^{-1}(x) - 1}{2} = f^{-1}(y)$$

Now, we can apply f to both sides of the equation. This would make our formula for $g^{-1}(x)$ be

$$f\left(\frac{f^{-1}(x) - 1}{2}\right) = y$$

or

$$g^{-1}(x) = f\left(\frac{f^{-1}(x) - 1}{2}\right)$$

2022 Practice Final Problem 7: The population of the world used to be growing exponentially, but lately it's been leveling out. One way to model this is with the following function:

$$P(t) = 8.5^{\frac{t-90}{t+10}}$$

where t is the year and $P(t)$ is the population in year t , measured in billions. Based on this model, when will there be 8 billion people in the world?

Solution: To find when there are 8 billion people, we can set $P(t)$ equal to 8:

$$8 = 8.5^{\frac{t-90}{t+10}}$$

Writing this as a logarithm:

$$\log_{8.5}(8) = \frac{t-90}{t+10}$$

Simplifying:

$$\begin{aligned} t \log_{8.5}(8) + 10 \log_{8.5}(8) &= t - 90 \\ t(\log_{8.5}(8) - 1) &= -10 \log_{8.5}(8) - 90 \end{aligned}$$

Solving for t , the population will be 8 billion after

$$t = \frac{-10 \log_{8.5}(8) - 90}{\log_{8.5}(8) - 1} \text{ years.}$$

2022 Practice Final Problem 8: Rewrite the expression

$$\log_4 x - \log_{16} x$$

as a single logarithm.

Solution: Using the change of base formula to write $\log_{16} x$ as a logarithm with base 4, we have

$$\log_4 x - \frac{\log_4 x}{\log_4 16}$$

Simplifying:

$$\begin{aligned} \log_4 x - \frac{\log_4 x}{2} \\ \frac{2 \log_4 x}{2} - \frac{\log_4 x}{2} \\ \boxed{\frac{1}{2} \log_4 x} \end{aligned}$$

2019 Practice Final Problem 5: Find all solutions to the equation

$$\log_5(x+2) + \log_5(x+3) = \log_5(2x+4)$$

Solution: Using the logarithmic rule $\log_a x + \log_a y = \log_a (xy)$, we can rewrite this as

$$\log_5 ((x+2)(x+3)) = \log_5 (2x+4)$$

Because logarithms are one to one, this equation is the same as

$$(x+2)(x+3) = 2x+4$$

Solving for x :

$$x^2 + 3x + 2 = 0$$

$$x = -1, x = -2$$

From these solutions, the solution $x = -2$ is extraneous. If $x = -2$ is a solution, then when we substitute -2 for x into the initial equation, the logarithm $\log_5 x + 2$ will be $\log_5 0$. The argument of a logarithm must be greater than 0 (as a number to the power of something cannot be less than or equal to 0). Hence, $x = -2$ is not a solution and the answer is $\boxed{x = -1}$.