

Precalculus

Basic exponent equation of type $e^{px+q} = A$

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2019

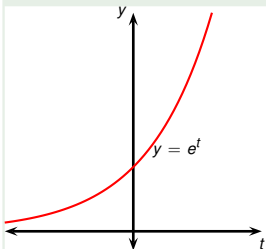
Example

Solve the equation.

$$\begin{aligned}e^{5-3x} &= 10 \\ \ln(e^{5-3x}) &= \ln 10 \\ 5 - 3x &= \ln 10 \\ 3x &= 5 - \ln 10 \\ x &= \frac{5 - \ln 10}{3}\end{aligned}$$

Calculator: $x \approx 0.8991.$

Example



$$e^{2x+3} = -1$$

no real solution

- Exponents (of real numbers) are positive, never negative.
- \Rightarrow “No real solution” is an appropriate answer.
- Exponents of complex numbers can be negative (google Euler’s f-la).
- “no solution” is not appropriate.

Example

$$e^{3x-1} = 0$$

no solution

- Exponents are never 0 (even for complex numbers).
- “no solution” is the appropriate answer.