

(2) Arithmetic: Powers, Roots and Logarithms

- x^y means “x multiplied y many times”; x is called the *base* and y the *exponent* (*power*). For example, $\underline{4^3} = (\underline{4})^{\underline{3}} = \underline{4} \cdot \underline{4} \cdot \underline{4} = \underline{64}$

$$\underbrace{x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot \dots \cdot x}_{y \text{ times}}$$



Dr. Yilmaz Kocer

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- Product of terms with the same base has $\underline{7^a} \cdot \underline{7^b} = \underline{7^{a+b}}$, similarly $\frac{5^a}{5^b} = 5^{\underline{a-b}}$,
... power has $\underline{7^a} \cdot \underline{5^a} = (\underline{7 \cdot 5})^a = \underline{35^a}$

$$\underbrace{7.5 \cdot 7.5 \cdots 7.5}_a$$



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- Power of a base is taken to another power: you multiply the powers: $(3^a)^b = 3^{a \cdot b}$

$$\underbrace{(\underbrace{3 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot 3}_a)}_b$$



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- Power of a base is taken to another power: you multiply the powers: $(3^a)^b = 3^{a \cdot b}$
- $1^a = 1$ for any a real number a, $0^a = 0$ except when $a = 0$, which is *undefined*.
- In general, $x^{-a} = x^{0-a} = \frac{x^0}{x^a} = \frac{1}{x^a}$ $0^0 \div 0^{2-2} = \frac{0^2}{0^2} = \frac{0}{0}$



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- **Roots** are fractional powers: $\sqrt{4} = 4^{0.5} = (2^2)^{0.5} = 2^{2 \cdot 0.5} = 2^1 = \underline{\underline{2}}$

In general, $\sqrt{a^2} = |a|$ which is the absolute value of a .

$$|a| = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } a \geq 0 \\ -a & \text{if } a < 0 \end{cases} \quad |-3| = 3 \quad | +17 | = 17$$



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- $(3^4)^{\frac{1}{4}} = (81)^{\frac{1}{4}}$ means $3 = 81^{\frac{1}{4}} = \sqrt[4]{81}$.

But don't forget that $x^4 = 81$ has solutions $x = \pm 3$ in real numbers.

$$(-3)^4 = \underbrace{(-3) \cdot (-3)}_4 = 3^4$$



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- Logarithm answers the question “to what power should I raise **a** to arrive at the value **b** ?” in the expression $x = \log_a b$. That is, it means $a^x = b$.



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- For example, $\log_3 81 = 4$ or $\log_{10} 1,000,000 = 6$



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- For example, $\mathbf{\log_3 81 = 4}$ or $\mathbf{\log_{10} 1,000,000 = 6}$
- Common logarithm bases are $\mathbf{2, e, 10}$
- When the base is not explicitly written, it is understood to equal **2**; for ex.
 $\mathbf{\log(32) = 5}$,
- Euler's number $\mathbf{e = 2.718 \dots}$; it is commonly written as
 $\mathbf{\ln(x) = \log_e(x)}$



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- Logarithms satisfy $\log_a(b) + \log_a(c) = \log_a(bc)$, $\log_a(b^k) = k \cdot \log_a(b)$
- Handwritten notes and diagrams illustrating the properties:
- For the first property, let $x = \log_a(b)$ and $y = \log_a(c)$. Then $a^x = b$ and $a^y = c$. Adding the exponents gives $a^{x+y} = bc$, which implies $\log_a(bc) = x+y = \log_a(b) + \log_a(c)$.
- For the second property, $\log_a(b^k) = \log_a(\underbrace{b \cdot b \cdot \dots \cdot b}_k) = \underbrace{(\log_a b) + (\log_a b) + \dots + (\log_a b)}_k = k \cdot \log_a(b)$.



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- Logarithms satisfy $\log_a(b) + \log_a(c) = \log_a(bc)$, $\log_a(b^k) = k \cdot \log_a(b)$

- Hence, $4\ln(2) - 2\ln(8) = \ln\left(\frac{2^4}{8^2}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = \ln(2^{-2}) = -2\ln(2)$

Handwritten notes:
Below the first term: $\ln(2^4) = \ln(8^2)$
Below the fraction: $2^2 = 2^{-2}$



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- Also, for *change of base* for logarithms we have $\frac{\log_c a}{\log_c b} = \log_b a$ for example;

$$\frac{\log_2 9 \log_3 16}{\log_4 3 \log_9 4} = \frac{\log(9) \log(16) \log(4) \log(9)}{\log(2) \log(3) \log(3) \log(4)} = \log_3 9 \cdot \log_3 9 \cdot \log_2 16$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 4 = 16$$

$$\frac{2 \log 9}{\log 2} \cdot \frac{4 \log 16}{\log 3} = \frac{8}{\frac{1}{2}} = 8 \cdot \frac{2}{1} = 16 //$$



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