

Name: KEY

Topic: 8.6 Solving Exponential and Logarithmic Equations

Summary: Part I

**Change-of -Base Formula**

Let  $u$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  be positive numbers with  $b \neq 1$  and  $c \neq 1$ . Then:

$$\log_c u = \frac{\log u}{\log c} \quad \text{AND} \quad \log_c u = \frac{\ln u}{\ln c}$$

Examples:

1.  $\log_2 4 = \frac{\log 4}{\log 2} \approx \frac{.602}{.301} \approx 2$  2.  $\log_9 729 = \frac{\log 729}{\log 9} \approx \frac{2.863}{0.954} \approx 3$   
 $* 2^2 = 4$   $* 9^3 = 729$   
 $3.001 \approx 3$

3.  $\log_2 5 = \frac{\log 5}{\log 2} \approx \frac{.699}{.301} \approx 2.322$  4.  $\log_7 10 = \frac{\log 10}{\log 7} \approx \frac{1}{0.845} \approx 1.183$

5.  $\log_6 200 = \frac{\log 200}{\log 6} \approx \frac{2.301}{0.778} \approx 2.958$  6.  $\log_5 \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\log \frac{1}{2}}{\log 5} \approx \frac{-0.301}{.699} \approx -0.431$

7.  $\log_4 1235 = \frac{\log 1235}{\log 4} \approx \frac{3.09}{0.602} \approx 5.13$  8.  $\log_3 17 = \frac{\log 17}{\log 3} \approx \frac{1.230}{0.477} \approx 2.579$

## Solving equations by equating exponents

Example: solve  $2^{4x} = 32^{x-1}$ 

$2^5 = 32$

$2^{4x} = 2^{5(x-1)}$

$4x = 5(x-1)$

$4x = 5x - 5$

$-x = -5$

$x = 5$

9.  $4^x = 4^{2x+1}$

$$\begin{array}{r} x = 2x + 1 \\ -2x \quad -2x \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$-x = 1$

$x = -1$

10.  $3^{2x} = 3^{x-5}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x = x - 5 \\ -x \quad -x \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$x = -5$

11.  $e^{3x} = e^{2x+7}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x = 2x + 7 \\ -2x \quad -2x \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$x = 7$

12.  $e^{2x-1} = e^{3-x}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x - 1 = 3 - x \\ +x \quad \quad +x \\ \hline 3x - 1 = 3 \\ +1 \quad +1 \\ \hline 3x = 4 \\ \frac{3x}{3} = \frac{4}{3} \end{array}$$

$x = \frac{4}{3}$

13.  $9^{x+1} = 3^{3x-3}$

$3^2 = 9$

$3^{2(x+1)} = 3^{3x-3}$

$x = 5$

$2(x+1) = 3x-3$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x + 2 = 3x - 3 \\ -2x \quad -2x \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$2 = x - 3$

14.  $4^{x+1} = 16$

$4^2 = 16$

$4^{x+1} = 4^2$

$x+1 = 2$

$x = 1$