

PC 12 SEC 7.3: SOLVING EXPONENTIAL EQUATIONS
FUNCTIONS



REVIEW: EXPONENT LAWS (Mostly Review from Grade 9 & 10)

→ a and b are rational or variable bases AND m and n are rational exponents

	EXAMPLES
Product of Powers (multiplication) $(a^m)(a^n) = a^{m+n}$	$2^3 \cdot 2^4 = 2^7 = 128$
Quotient of Powers (division) $a \neq 0$ $(a^m) \div (a^n)$ or $\left(\frac{a^m}{a^n}\right) = a^{m-n}$	$\frac{2^6}{2} = 2^5$
Power of a Power $(a^m)^n = a^{m \cdot n}$	$(2^3)^4 = 2^{12}$
Power of a Product $(ab)^m = a^m b^m$	$(2x)^3 = 2^3 x^3 = 8x^3$
Power of a Quotient $b \neq 0$ $\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n}$	$\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^5 = \frac{x^5}{y^5}$
Zero Exponent $a \neq 0$ $a^0 = 1$ <i>fractional</i>	$\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^0 = 1$
Rational Exponent $a \neq 0, n \neq 0$ $\left(a^{\frac{1}{n}}\right)^m = a^{\frac{m}{n}}$ or $\left(\sqrt[n]{a^m}\right) = \left(\sqrt[n]{a}\right)^m$ <i>* flower power</i>	$(64^{\frac{1}{3}})^2 = 64^{\frac{2}{3}}$ $\sqrt[3]{64^2} = 16$ $(9x)^{\frac{3}{2}} = 9^{\frac{3}{2}} x^{\frac{3}{2}}$ $\sqrt[3]{9^3} \cdot \sqrt{x^3} = 27x\sqrt{x}$
Negative Exponent $a \neq 0$ $a^{-n} = \left(\frac{1}{a^n}\right)$ or $a^n = \left(\frac{1}{a^{-n}}\right)$ <i>* reciprocals</i>	$(x^{-3})^{\frac{1}{5}} = x^{-\frac{3}{5}}$ $= \frac{1}{x^{\frac{3}{5}}}$ $= \frac{1}{\sqrt[5]{x^3}}$ $25^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 25^{-\frac{3}{2}}$ $= \frac{1}{25^{\frac{3}{2}}}$ $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{25^3}} = \frac{1}{125}$

INVESTIGATE : WRITING POWERS WITH THE SAME BASE

EXPONENTIAL FORM	2^7	2^6	2^5	2^4	2^3	2^2	2^1	2^0
STANDARD FORM	128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1

EXPONENTIAL FORM	2^{-7}	2^{-6}	2^{-5}	2^{-4}	2^{-3}	2^{-2}	2^{-1}	2^0
STANDARD FORM	$\frac{1}{128}$	$\frac{1}{64}$	$\frac{1}{32}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1

EXPONENTIAL FORM	3^4	3^3	3^2	3^1	3^0	3^{-1}	3^{-2}	3^{-3}	3^{-4}
STANDARD FORM	81	27	9	3	1	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{9}$	$\frac{1}{27}$	$\frac{1}{81}$

EXPONENTIAL FORM	4^4	4^3	4^2	4^1	4^0	4^{-1}	4^{-2}	4^{-3}	4^{-4}
STANDARD FORM	256	64	16	4	1	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{64}$	$\frac{1}{256}$

EXPONENTIAL FORM	5^4	5^3	5^2	5^1	5^0	5^{-1}	5^{-2}	5^{-3}	5^{-4}
STANDARD FORM	625	125	25	5	1	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{1}{25}$	$\frac{1}{125}$	$\frac{1}{625}$

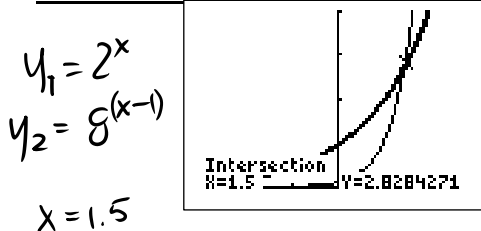
EXPONENTIAL FORM	6^4	6^3	6^2	6^1	6^0	6^{-1}	6^{-2}	6^{-3}	6^{-4}
STANDARD FORM	1296	216	36	6	1	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{1}{216}$	$\frac{1}{1296}$

INVESTIGATE: DIFFERENT WAYS TO EXPRESS EXPONENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- exponential equations:** an equation that has a variable as an exponent

A. Rewrite each side of the equation $2^x = 8^{x-1}$ with the same base if possible, then solve

Method 1: Using Graphing Calculator



Method 2: Without Using Graphing Calculator

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

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

*drop base

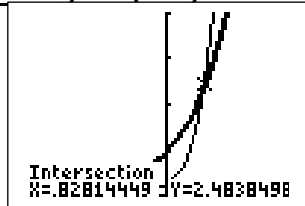
$$\therefore x = 3x - 3$$

$$3 = 2x$$

$x = \frac{3}{2}$

B. Rewrite each side of the equation $3^x = 4^{2x-1}$ with the same base if possible, then solve

Method 1: Using Graphing Calculator



trial & error

Method 2: Without Using Graphing Calculator

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

$$3^x = 3^{1.2618595(2x-1)}$$

$$\therefore x = 1.2618595(2x-1)$$

$$+1.26 \quad x^{-x} = 2.52x^{-1.26} + 1.26$$

$$\frac{1.26}{1.52} = \frac{1.52x}{1.52} \quad x = \frac{1.26}{1.52} \approx 0.83$$

CHANGE THE BASE OF POWERS

EX. 1: a) Write $27^{\frac{1}{3}}(\sqrt[3]{81})^2$ as a power with base 3

$$\begin{aligned} & (3^3)^{1/3} \cdot (3^4)^{2/3} \\ & = 3^1 \cdot 3^{8/3} \\ & = 3^{1+8/3} = 3^{3/3+8/3} \\ & = 3^{11/3} \end{aligned}$$

b) Write $8^{\frac{2}{3}}(\sqrt{16})^3$ as a power with base 2

$$\begin{aligned} & (2^3)^{2/3} \cdot (2^2)^{3/2} \\ & = 2^{4/3} \cdot 2^{12/2} \\ & = 2^2 \cdot 2^6 \\ & = 2^8 \end{aligned}$$

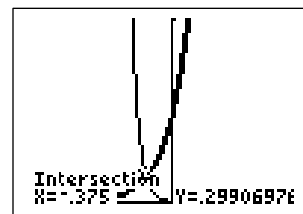
SOLVE AN EQUATION BY CHANGING THE BASE

EX. 2: a) Solve $25^x = \left(\frac{1}{125}\right)^{2x+1}$

Method 1: Using Change of Base

$$\begin{aligned} (5^2)^x &= (5^{-3})^{2x+1} \\ 5^{2x} &= 5^{-6x-3} \\ \therefore 2x &= -6x-3 \\ 8x &= -3 & x = -\frac{3}{8} \end{aligned}$$

Method 2: Using Graphing Calculator

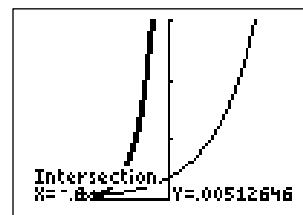


b) Solve $9^{4x} = 27^{x-1}$

Method 1: Using Change of Base

$$\begin{aligned} (3^2)^{4x} &= (3^3)^{x-1} \\ 3^{8x} &= 3^{3x-3} \\ \therefore 8x &= 3x-3 \\ 5x &= -3 \\ x &= -\frac{3}{5} \end{aligned}$$

Method 2: Using Graphing Calculator



SOLVE AN EQUATION BY SYSTEMATIC TRIAL

EX. 3: Solve $2(5)^x = 3^{x+1}$

Method 2: Using Graphing Calculator

Method 1: Using Systematic Trial

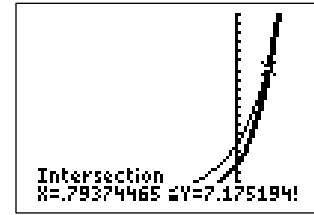
$$\text{try } x=1 \quad 2(5)^1 = 3^{1+1}$$

$$10 = 9$$

$$\text{try } x=0.8 \quad 2(5)^{0.8} = 3^{0.8+1}$$

$$7.25 = 7.22$$

etc. . .



SOLVE PROBLEMS INVOLVING EXPONENTIAL EQUATIONS WITH DIFFERENT BASES

EX. 4: Determine how long \$1000 needs to be invested in an account that earns 8.3% compounded semiannually before it increases to in value to \$1490.

$$A = P\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$$

$$r = 0.083 \quad n = 2$$

$$P = 1000$$

$$A = 1490$$

Method 1: Using Systematic Trial

Method 2: Using Graphing Calculator

$$1490 = 1000 \left(1 + \frac{0.083}{2}\right)^{2t}$$

$$1490 = 1000 (1.0415)^{2t}$$

$$1.49 = (1.0415)^{2t}$$

$$\text{try } t=3 \quad 1.49 = (1.0415)^{2(3)}$$

$$1.49 = 1.27$$

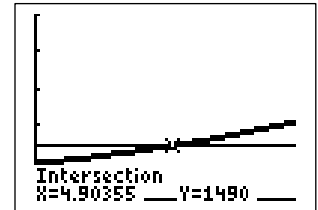
$$t=5 \quad 1.49 = (1.0415)^{10}$$

$$1.49 = 1.50$$

$$t=4.9 \quad 1.49 = (1.0415)^{2(4.9)}$$

$$1.49 = 1.49 \checkmark$$

$\therefore 4.9$ years.



ASSIGNMENT: 1) Worksheet 7.3: Solving Exponential Equations
2) pg. 364 # 1-7, 10, 12, 13, *18



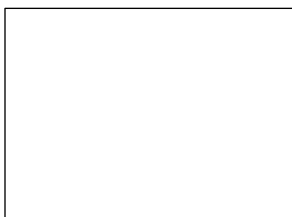
1. Solve $2^{4x-1} = 8^x$

Check:

2. Solve $6^{x+1} = 36^{x-1}$

Check:

3. Solve $2^x = 5$, using

Method 1: Systematic TrialMethod 2: Graphing CalculatorMethod 3: Logarithms

Check: