



1.6. The Natural Logarithm

Motivation: Population in Nevada, t years

since 2000 is given by

$$P = f(t) = 2.020(1.036)^t \text{ millions}$$

Ques. How do we find when the population will reach 4 million?

We want t such that

$$f(t) = 4$$

$$2.020(1.036)^t = 4$$

→ We will take log. on both sides:

we will comb back to this.

Not obvious
how to
solve for
 t .

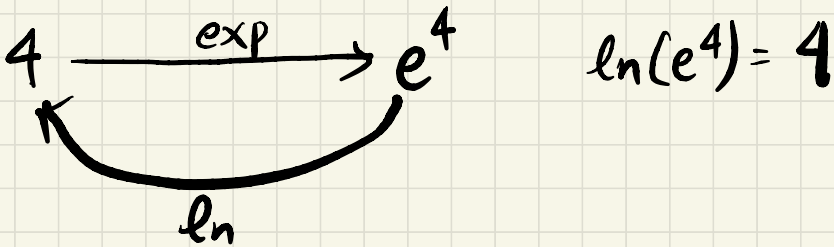
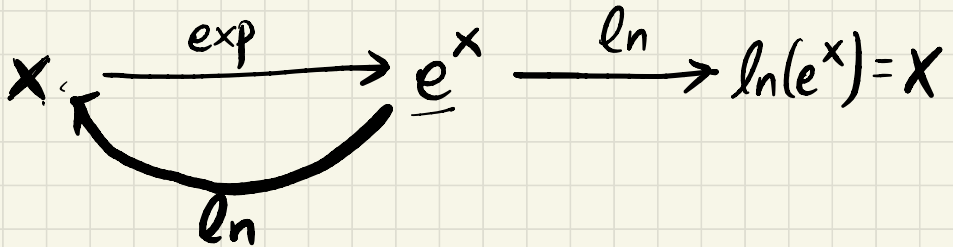
Def. The natural logarithm of x , written $\ln(x)$, is the power/exponent of e needed to get x .

e = Euler's number = 2.71828...

$$\ln(x) = c \text{ means}$$

$$e^c = x$$

Also written as $\log_e(x)$. It is the inverse of e^x .



Ex. (i) $\ln(e) = ?$

$$e^? = e$$

$$? = 1$$

$$\therefore \ln(e) = 1$$

(ii) $\ln(e^5) = ?$

$$e^? = e^5$$

$$? = 5$$

$$\therefore \ln(e^5) = 5$$

(iii) $\ln(1) = ?$

$$e^? = 1$$

We know $e^0 = 1$, so, $? = 0$

$$\therefore \ln(1) = 0$$

$$\ln(x)$$

$$e^? = x$$

(iv) $\ln(0)$

$$e^? = 0$$

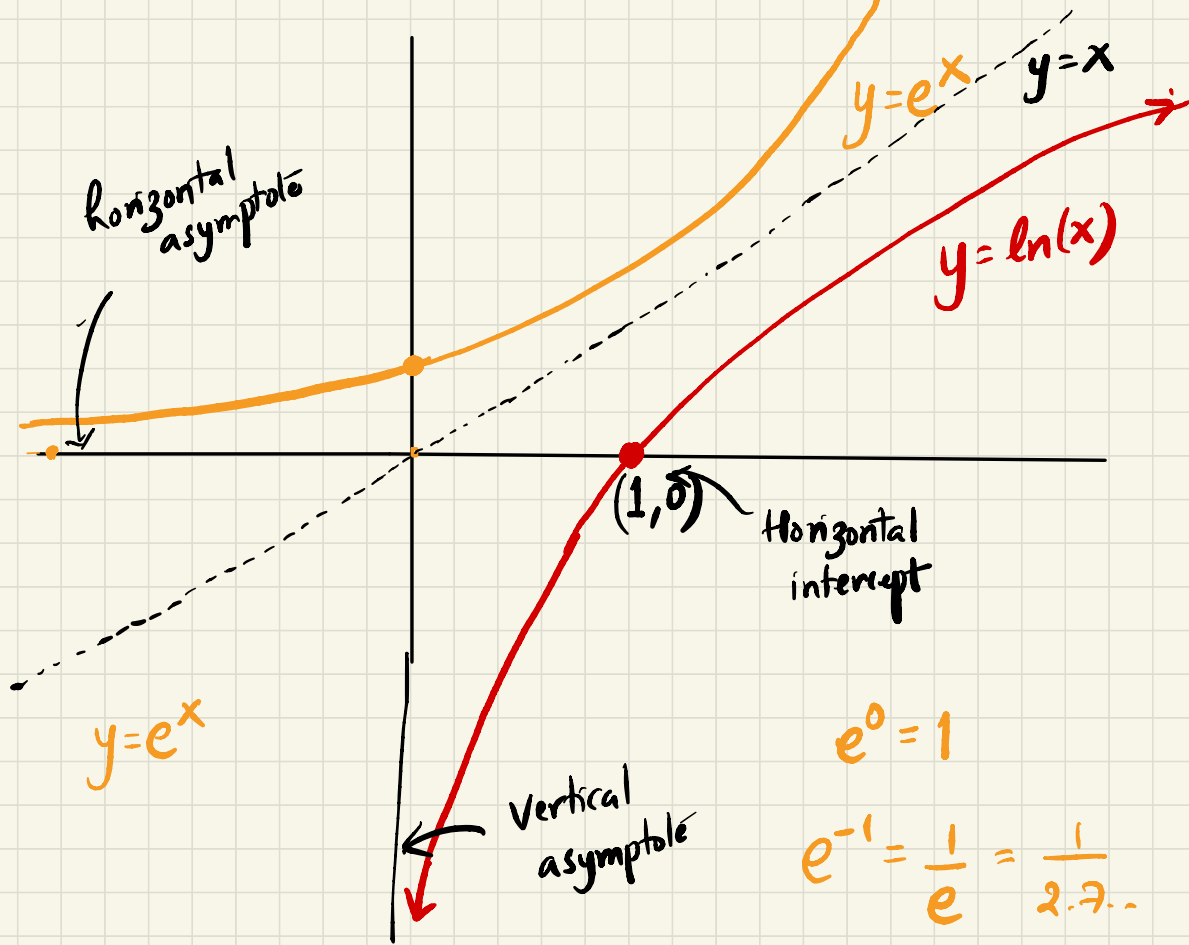
Cannot be 1

because $e^1 = e$

Cannot be 0

because $e^0 = 1$

undefined



$$e^0 = 1$$

$$e^{-1} = \frac{1}{e} = \frac{1}{2.7...}$$

< 1

$$e^{-10} = \frac{1}{e^{10}} = \text{small no.}$$

For what value of x is

$$\ln(x) = 0$$

$$\ln(1) = 0$$

Properties of Natural Logarithms

$$1) \ln(AB) = \ln A + \ln B \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Products into} \\ \text{Sums} \end{array} \right)$$

Warning: $\ln(A+B) \neq \ln A + \ln B$

$$2) \ln\left(\frac{A}{B}\right) = \ln(A) - \ln(B) \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Fractions / Quotient} \\ \text{into difference} \end{array} \right)$$

Warning: $\ln(A-B) \neq \ln(A) - \ln B$

$$3) \ln(A^p) = p \ln(A) \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{bring down} \\ \text{exponents / powers} \end{array} \right)$$

$$4) \ln(e^x) = x$$

$$5) e^{\ln x} = x$$

Problem 1

Find t such that $3^t = 10$

Soln.

$$3^t = 10$$

$$\ln(3^t) = \ln(10)$$

$$t \ln(3) = \ln(10)$$

[Property 3]

$$\frac{t \cancel{\ln(3)}}{\cancel{\ln(3)}} = \frac{\ln(10)}{\ln(3)}$$

$$t = \frac{\ln(10)}{\ln(3)}$$

$$t = 2.096$$

$$3^t = 10$$

Take \log_{10} on both sides

$$\log_{10}(3^t) = \log_{10}(10)$$

$$t \log_{10}(3) = \log_{10}(10)$$

$$t \log_{10}(3) = 1$$

$$t = \frac{1}{\log_{10}(3)}$$

$$= 2.096$$

Exponential Functions with Base e

$$P = P_0 a^t$$

Goal: Rewrite in terms of base e

We want to do that, taking ln is computationally easier.

$$P = P_0 a^t$$

Let $a = e^k$ for some k .

$$\rightarrow P = P_0 (e^k)^t$$

$$\therefore P = P_0 e^{kt}$$

We succeeded in our goal

What is this k ?

$$a = e^k$$

$$\text{So, } \boxed{k = \ln(a)}$$

$$P = P_0 a^t \quad \text{exponential function}$$

Rewrite as

$$P = P_0 e^{kt}$$

where $k = \ln a$

is called **continuous growth or decay rate.**

- If $a > 1$, we have exponential growth.
- If $0 < a < 1$, we have exponential decay.
- If $k > 0$, we have exponential growth.
- If $k < 0$, we have exponential decay.

$$k = \ln a$$

$$a > 1 \quad \Downarrow \quad \text{equivalent}$$
$$k = \ln(a) > 0$$

$$0 < a < 1 \quad \Downarrow \quad \text{equivalent}$$
$$\Leftrightarrow k = \ln(a) < 0$$

Problem 4

1) Convert $P = 1000 e^{0.05t}$ to the form $P = P_0 a^t$

Soln. $P = 1000 e^{0.05t}$
 $K = 0.05$

We know, $K = \ln a$

$$0.05 = \ln(a)$$

$$\ln(a) = 0.05$$

$$e^{0.05} = a$$

$$\therefore a = 1.0513$$

$$\therefore P = 1000 (1.0513)^t$$

So a continuous growth rate of 5% is equal to growth rate of 5.13%

$$a = 1 + r$$

$$r = a - 1$$

b) Convert $P = 500(1.06)^t$ to the form

$$P = P_0 e^{kt}$$

Soln.

$$P_0 = 500$$

$$k = \ln a$$

$$k = \ln(1.06)$$

$$\underline{k = 0.0583}$$

$$\therefore P = 500 e^{0.0583t}$$

So growth rate of 6% per unit time is equivalent to continuous growth of 5.83%.

1. The problems you need to solve is on Moodle
2. Hwr 2 Due Feb 2 Tuesday
3. Next class in person
- 4) Sample Test Due Feb 9 midnight.