

**Change of Base**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

$$(1) \log_a b = \frac{\log_x b}{\log_x a} = \frac{\log b}{\log a}$$

$$(2) \log_a b = \frac{1}{\log_b a}$$

$$(3) \text{ In particular, } \log b = \frac{\log b}{\log 10}$$

**Example 1**

Evaluate to 2 decimal places:

a)  $\log_2 23$

b)  $\log_4 4.7$

**Example 2**Prove that  $\log_t b = \frac{1}{\log_b t}$ .**Example 3**Show that  $\frac{1}{\log_3 a} + \frac{1}{\log_4 a} = \frac{1}{\log_{12} a}$ .

**Example 4**

If  $a^2 + b^2 = 14ab$ , where  $a > 0, b > 0$ , show that  $\log\left(\frac{a+b}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{2}(\log a + \log b)$

**Example 5 P.286 #8**

If  $\log_a b = p^3$  and  $\log_b a = \frac{4}{p^2}$ , show that  $p = \frac{1}{4}$ .

**Example 6**

If  $y = (\log_2 3)(\log_3 4)(\log_4 5)\dots(\log_{31} 32)$ , calculate the value of  $y$ .

<p><b><u>Homework:</u></b> WS: Change of Base</p>
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1. Use your calculator to find the value of each of the following, correct to three decimal places.

a)  $\log_5 21$       b)  $\log_7 124$       c)  $\log_6 3.24$       d)  $\log_4 4.7$

2. Show that each of the following statement is true.

a)  $\frac{1}{\log_5 a} + \frac{1}{\log_3 a} = \frac{1}{\log_{15} a}$

b)  $\frac{1}{\log_8 a} - \frac{1}{\log_2 a} = \frac{1}{\log_4 a}$

c)  $\frac{2}{\log_6 a} = \frac{1}{\log_{36} a}$

d)  $\frac{2}{\log_8 a} - \frac{4}{\log_2 a} = \frac{1}{\log_4 a}$

3. Describe the changes to the graph of  $y = \log_3 x$  when  $x$  is replaced by  $x^2$ .

4. For  $a > 1, b > 1$ , show that  $(\log_a b)(\log_b a) = 1$

5. If  $a^2 + b^2 = 23ab$ , where  $a > 0, b > 0$ , show that  $\log\left(\frac{a+b}{5}\right) = \frac{1}{2}(\log a + \log b)$ .

6. For  $a > 0, a \neq 1, x > 0$ , prove that  $\log_a \frac{1}{x} = \log_{\frac{1}{a}} x$ .

7. If  $\log_a b = p^3$  and  $\log_b a = \frac{4}{p^2}$ , show that  $p = \frac{1}{4}$ .

8. If  $a^3 - b^3 = 3a^2b + 5ab^2$ , where  $a > 0, b > 0$ , show that  $\log\left(\frac{a-b}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{3}(\log a + 2\log b)$ .

**Answers**

1a) 1.892    b) 2.477    c) 0.656    d) 1.116

3) Graph is reflected in  $y -$  axis.