

Logarithmic equations

1) Solve the equations:

a) $\log_3(2x+3) = 2$

b) $\log_4(3x+4) = 3$

c) $\log \sqrt{3x+1} = \frac{1}{2}$

Solution:

a) $\log_3(2x+3) = 2 \rightarrow$ Use definition: $\log_A B = \otimes \Leftrightarrow B = A^{\otimes}$

So :

$$\begin{array}{ll} 2x+3 = 3^2 & 2x+3 > 0 \\ 2x+3 = 9 & \text{condition: } 2x > -3 \\ 2x = 6 & \\ x = 3 & x > -\frac{3}{2} \end{array}$$

Because $3 > -\frac{3}{2}$, solution $x = 3$ is "good"

b) $\log_4(3x+4) = 3 \rightarrow$ again by definition...

$$\begin{array}{ll} 3x+4 = 4^3 & 3x+4 > 0 \\ 3x+4 = 64 & \text{condition: } 3x > -4 \\ 3x = 60 & \\ x = 20 & x > -\frac{4}{3} \end{array}$$

Solution satisfies the condition!

c) $\log \sqrt{3x+1} = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\log_{10} \sqrt{3x+1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \sqrt{3x+1} = 10^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text{condition: } \sqrt{3x+1} > 0 \\ \sqrt{3x+1} = \sqrt{10} \dots \dots / ()^2 & 3x+1 > 0 \\ 3x = 9 & x > -\frac{1}{3} \\ x = 3 & \end{array}$$

So, $3 > -\frac{1}{3}$, solution $x = 3$ is "good"

2) Solve the equations:

a) $\log_2(x-1) + \log_2(x+2) = 2$

b) $\log(x^2 + 19) - \log(x-8) = 2$

c) $\log(5-x) + 2\log\sqrt{3-x} = 1$

Solution:

We use : $\log_a x + \log_a y = \log_a(xy)$

a)

$$\log_2(x-1) + \log_2(x+2) = 2$$

$$\log_2(x-1)(x+2) = 2 \rightarrow \text{Conditions: } x-1 > 0 \text{ and } x+2 > 0$$
$$x > 1 \text{ and } x > -2$$

by definition: $\log_A B = \otimes \Leftrightarrow B = A^{\otimes}$

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

$$x^2 + 2x - x - 2 = 4$$

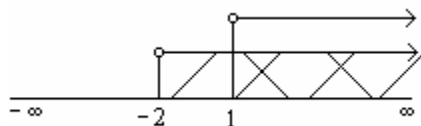
$$x^2 + x - 6 = 0$$

$$x_{1,2} = \frac{-1 \pm 5}{2}$$

$$x_1 = 2$$

$$x_2 = -3$$

Are the solutions satisfy conditions?: $x > 1$ i $x > -2$



$$x \in (1, \infty)$$

$$x_1 = 2 \rightarrow \text{'good'}$$

$$x_2 = -3 \rightarrow \text{'not good'}$$

So, the only solution is: $x = 2$

$$b) \log(x^2 + 19) - \log(x - 8) = 2$$

$$\log_{10}(x^2 + 19) - \log_{10}(x - 8) = 2$$

We know that: $\log_a x - \log_a y = \log_a \frac{x}{y}$

$$\log_{10} \frac{x^2 + 19}{x - 8} = 2 \quad \text{with condition: } x^2 + 19 > 0 \text{ i } x - 8 > 0$$

$$x > 8$$

$$\frac{x^2 + 19}{x - 8} = 10^2$$

$$\frac{x^2 + 19}{x - 8} = 100$$

$$x^2 + 19 = 100(x - 8)$$

$$x^2 + 19 = 100x - 800$$

$$x^2 - 100x + 819 = 0$$

$$x_{1,2} = \frac{100 \pm 82}{2}$$

$$x_1 = 91$$

$$x_2 = 9$$

Both solutions are "good" because they are more than 8.

$$c) \log(5 - x) + 2 \log \sqrt{3 - x} = 1$$

Conditions are:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 5 - x > 0 & 3 - x > 0 \\ -x > -5 & \text{and} \quad -x > -3 \\ x < 5 & x < 3 \end{array}$$

So: $x < 3$

$$(5 - x)(3 - x) = 10^1$$

$$15 - 5x - 3x + x^2 - 10 = 0$$

$$x^2 - 8x + 5 = 0$$

$$x_{1,2} = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{44}}{2} = \frac{8 \pm 2\sqrt{11}}{2} = \frac{2(4 \pm \sqrt{11})}{2} = 4 \pm \sqrt{11}$$

$$x_1 = 4 + \sqrt{11} \approx 7,32$$

$$x_2 = 4 - \sqrt{11} \approx 0,68$$

$x_1 = 4 + \sqrt{11}$ does not meet the requirement, and the only solution is $x = 4 - \sqrt{11}$

3) Solve the equations:

a) $\log^2 x - 3\log x + 2 = 0$

b) $\log_2 x + \log_x = \frac{5}{2}$

Solution:

a) Replacement: $\log x = t$ with condition: $x > 0$

$$\log^2 x - 3\log x + 2 = 0$$

$$t^2 - 3t + 2 = 0$$

$$t_{1,2} = \frac{3 \pm 1}{2}$$

$$t_1 = 2$$

$$t_2 = 1$$

Back in the replacement :

$\log_{10} x = 2$	and	$\log_{10} x = 1$
$x = 10^2$		$x = 10^1$
$x = 100$		$x = 10$

b) $\log_2 x + \log_x = \frac{5}{2}$ Use: $\log_a b = \frac{1}{\log_b a}$

$\log_2 x + \frac{1}{\log_b a} = \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow$ Replacement : $\log_2 x = t$ with condition: $x > 0$ i $x \neq 1$

$t + \frac{1}{t} = \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow$ All multiply with $2t$

$$2t^2 + 2 = 5t$$

$$2t^2 - 5t + 2 = 0$$

$$t_{1,2} = \frac{5 \pm 3}{4}$$

$$t_1 = 2$$

$$t_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

: Back in the replacement :

$\log_2 x = 2$	or	$\log_2 x = \frac{1}{2}$
$x = 2^2$		$x = 2^{\frac{1}{2}}$
$x = 4$		$x = \sqrt{2}$

4) Solve the equations:

a) $\log_2 x + \log_4 x + \log_{16} x = 7$

b) $\log_3 x \cdot \log_9 x \cdot \log_{27} x \cdot \log_{81} x = \frac{2}{3}$

Solution:

In both examples we use that: $\log_{a^s} x = \frac{1}{s} \log_a x$

a)

$$\log_2 x + \log_4 x + \log_{16} x = 7 \quad \text{condition: } x > 0$$

$$\log_2 x + \log_{2^2} x + \log_{2^4} x = 7$$

$$\log_2 x + \frac{1}{2} \log_2 x + \frac{1}{4} \log_2 x = 7 \dots \cdot 4$$

$$4 \log_2 x + 2 \log_2 x + 1 \log_2 x = 28$$

$$7 \log_2 x = 28$$

$$\log_2 x = 4$$

$$x = 2^4 \Rightarrow x = 16$$

b)

$$\log_3 x \cdot \log_9 x \cdot \log_{27} x \cdot \log_{81} x = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\log_3 x \cdot \log_{3^2} x \cdot \log_{3^3} x \cdot \log_{3^4} x = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\log_3 x \cdot \frac{1}{2} \log_3 x \cdot \frac{1}{3} \log_3 x \cdot \frac{1}{4} \log_3 x = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\frac{1}{24} \log_3^4 x = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\log_3^4 x = 16 \Rightarrow \log_3 x = t$$

$$t^4 - 16 = 0 \Rightarrow (t^2)^2 - 4^2 = (t^2 - 4)(t^2 + 4) = 0$$

$$(t - 2)(t + 2)(t^2 + 4) = 0$$

$$t = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad t = -2$$

$$\log_3 x = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad \log_3 x = -2$$

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

$$x = 9 \quad \quad \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{1}{9}$$

5) Solve the equations:

a) $\log_{\sqrt{5}}(4^x - 6) - \log_{\sqrt{5}}(2^x - 2) = 2$

b) $\log(7 - 2^x) - \log(5 + 4^x) + \log 7 = 0$

Solution:

a)

$$\log_{\sqrt{5}}(4^x - 6) - \log_{\sqrt{5}}(2^x - 2) = 2$$

$$\log_{\sqrt{5}} \frac{4^x - 6}{2^x - 2} = 2$$

$$\frac{4^x - 6}{2^x - 2} = \sqrt{5}^2$$

$$4^x - 6 = 5(2^x - 2)$$

$$4^x - 6 = 5 \cdot 2^x - 10$$

$$4^x - 5 \cdot 2^x + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow \text{replacement : } 2^x = t$$

$$t^2 - 5t + 4 = 0$$

$$t_{1,2} = \frac{5 \pm 3}{2}$$

$$t_1 = 4$$

$$t_2 = 1$$

$$2^x = 4 \quad \text{or} \quad 2^x = 1$$

$$2^x = 2^2 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 0$$

$$x = 2$$

It is best to check solutions in the home equation $\rightarrow x = 2$ is the only solution!

b)

$$\log(7 - 2^x) - \log(5 + 4^x) + \log 7 = 0$$

$$\log_{10}(7 - 2^x) - \log_{10}(5 + 4^x) + \log_{10} 7 = 0$$

$$\log_{10}(7 - 2^x) \cdot 7 = \log_{10}(5 + 4^x)$$

$$(7 - 2^x) \cdot 7 = 5 + 4^x$$

$$49 - 7 \cdot 2^x = 5 + 4^x$$

$$49 - 7 \cdot 2^x - 5 - 4^x$$

$$-4^x - 7 \cdot 2^x + 44 = 0 / (-1)$$

$$4^x + 7 \cdot 2^x - 44 = 0 \dots \dots \dots \text{replacement : } 2^x = t$$

$$t^2 + 7t - 44 = 0$$

$$t_{1,2} = \frac{-7 \pm 15}{2}$$

$$t_1 = 4$$

$$t_2 = -11$$

Back in replacement:

$$2^x = 4 \quad \text{Or} \quad 2^x = -11 \text{ no solution}$$

$$2^x = 2^2$$

$$x = 2$$

Conditions are $7 - 2^x > 0$ and $5 + 4^x > 0$, solution $x = 2$ obviously satisfy them!

6) Solve the equations:

a) $x^{1+\log x} = 3x$

b) $x^{1+\log_4 x-2} = 2^{3(\log_4 x-1)}$

Solution:

a)

$$x^{1+\log x} = 3x \dots \dots \dots / \log_3$$

$$\log_3 x^{1+\log x} = \log_3 3x \quad \text{we know that } \log_a b^n = n \log_a b$$

$$(1 + \log_3 x) \log_3 x = \log_3 3 + \log_3 x \dots \dots \dots \Rightarrow \text{replacement } \log_3 x = t$$

$$(1 + t) \cdot t = 1 + t$$

$$t + t^2 = 1 + t$$

$$t^2 = 1 - t + t \Rightarrow t^2 = 1 \Rightarrow t = \pm 1$$

Back in replacement:

$$\log_3 x = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \log_3 x = -1$$

$$x = 3^1 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 3^{-1}$$

$$x = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{1}{3}$$

b)

$$x^{1+\log_4 x-2} = 2^{3(\log_4 x-1)} \rightarrow \log \text{ for basis 4 in both sides}$$

$$\log_4 x^{1+\log_4 x-2} = \log_4 2^{3(\log_4 x-1)}$$

$$(\log_4 x - 2) \log_4 x = 3(\log_4 x - 1) \log_4 2$$

$$(\log_4 x - 2) \log_4 x = 3(\log_4 x - 1) \log_{2^2} 2$$

$$(\log_4 x - 2) \log_4 x = 3(\log_4 x - 1) \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

Replacement: $\log_4 x = t$:

$$(t-2) \cdot t = \frac{3}{2}(t-1)$$

$$2t(t-2) = 3(t-1)$$

$$2t^2 - 4t = 3t - 3$$

$$2t^2 - 4t - 3t + 3 = 0$$

$$2t^2 - 7t + 3 = 0$$

$$t_{1,2} = \frac{7 \pm 5}{4}$$

$$t_1 = 3$$

$$t_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

So:

$$\log_4 x = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad \log_4 x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x = 4^3 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 4^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$x = 64 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 2$$