## **Objectives:**

• Find derivatives of logarithmic functions.

## Review of logarithmic functions:





## Important facts:

$y = e^x$ means $\ln y = x$ and $y = a^x$ means $\log_a y = x$		
$\log_2 8 = 3$	is equivalent to	$2^3 = 8$
$\log_{10} 100 = 2$	is equivalent to	$10^2 = 100$
$\log_{10} 0.001 = -3$	is equivalent to	$10^{-3} = \frac{1}{1000} = 0.001$
$\ln\sqrt{e} = \frac{1}{2}$	is equivalent to	$e^{1/2} = \sqrt{e}$
$y = \log_a x$	is equivalent to	$a^y = x$
$\ln y = x$	is equivalent to	$y = e^x$

## Solving Equations:

Solve  $5e^{0.34t} = 6$  for t.

$$e^{0.34t} = \frac{6}{5}$$
$$\ln\left(e^{0.34t}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{6}{5}\right)$$
$$0.34t = \ln\frac{6}{5}$$
$$t = \frac{\ln\frac{6}{5}}{0.34}$$

Solve  $\log_2(x) + \log_2(x-1) = 1$ . (Hint: use laws of logs)

$$\log_2 (x(x-1)) = 1$$
$$x(x-1) = 2^1$$
$$x^2 - x = 2$$
$$x^2 - x - 2 = 0$$
$$(x-2)(x+1) = 0$$

So x = 2 or x = -1 but substituting shows x = -1 is not in the domain. So x = 2 is the solution.



Proof: (of 1.)

Step 1:  $y = \ln x$ 

Step 2:  $e^y = x$  (use inverses)

Step 3:  $e^y \cdot y' = 1$  (differentiate)

Step 4:  $y' = \frac{1}{e^y}$  (solve for y')

Step 5:  $y' = \frac{1}{x}$  (substitute to write in terms of x)

Try the proof for 2 at home!

**Examples:** Find the derivatives of the following functions using our new formulas.

1. 
$$f(x) = x \ln(x)$$
  
 $f'(x) = x \cdot \frac{1}{x} + \ln x = 1 + \ln x$   
2.  $f(x) = \ln (\arctan(x))$   
 $f'(x) = \frac{1}{\arctan x} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + x^2}$ 

3. 
$$f(x) = \sqrt{\log_2(x)} = (\log_2 x)^{1/2}$$
  
 $f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} (\log_2 x)^{-1/2} \cdot \frac{1}{x \ln 2}$ 
4.  $f(x) = \arcsin\left(e^{\tan(x^2)}\right)$   
 $f'(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - e^{2\tan(x^2)}}} \cdot e^{\tan(x^2)} \cdot \sec^2(x^2) \cdot 2x$ 

5. 
$$f(x) = \ln\left(\frac{x^2\sqrt{x-1}}{(x+3)^4}\right) = \ln(x^2) + \ln\left(\sqrt{x-1}\right) - \ln\left((x+3)^4\right) = 2\ln x + \frac{1}{2}\ln(x-1) - 4\ln(x+3)$$
$$f'(x) = \frac{2}{x} + \frac{1}{2(x-1)} - \frac{4}{x+3}$$

Logarithmic Differentiation: Why would we take logarithms to take derivatives?

- Use it with functions that have products/quotients/powers, like  $f(x) = \frac{x^4\sqrt{x^2+1}}{(3x+4)^2}$
- Use if if there is a variable in the base and the exponent, like  $f(x) = x^{\sin x}$ , since neither the power rule nor the exponential rule apply.

**Examples** Find f'(x) for the following functions.

1. 
$$f(x) = \frac{x^4\sqrt{x^2+1}}{(3x+4)^2}$$
.

Step 1: Use y for f(x)

$$y = \frac{x^4\sqrt{x^2+1}}{(3x+4)^2}$$

Step 2: Take ln of both sides

$$\ln y = \ln \left( \frac{x^4 \sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{(3x + 4)^2} \right)$$

Step 3: Use laws of logs to simplify

$$\ln y = 4\ln x + \frac{1}{2}\ln(x^2 + 1) - 2\ln(3x + 4)$$

Step 4: Differentiate implicitly

$$\frac{1}{y} \cdot y' = \frac{4}{x} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x^2 + 1} \cdot 2x - \frac{2}{3x + 4} \cdot 3$$

Step 5: Solve for y'

$$y' = y\left(\frac{4}{x} + \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} - \frac{6}{3x + 4}\right) = \left(\frac{x^4\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{(3x + 4)^2}\right)\left(\frac{4}{x} + \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} - \frac{6}{3x + 4}\right)$$

2.  $f(x) = x^{\sin x}$ 

$$y = x^{\sin x}$$
$$\ln y = \ln \left( x^{\sin(x)} \right) = \sin x \cdot \ln x$$
$$\frac{1}{y}y' = \frac{\sin(x)}{x} + \ln x \cos x$$
$$y' = y \left( \frac{\sin(x)}{x} + \ln x \cos x \right)$$
$$= x^{\sin x} \left( \frac{\sin(x)}{x} + \ln x \cos x \right)$$