

7.7 Solving Log and Exponential Equations

ex.1 Solve and verify the solution

$$\log_3 \underline{9x} + \log_3 \underline{x} = 4$$

product law

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ 9x > 0 \\ x > 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ x > 0 \end{matrix}$$

Remember $x > 0$
when x is defined

$$\log_3(9x^2) = 4 \longleftrightarrow \log_3 3^4 \text{ (from 7.4)}$$

$$\log_3(\underline{9x^2}) = \log_3(\underline{3^4})$$

Since same \log_3 then values are equal

$$\begin{aligned} 9x^2 &= 3^4 \\ 9x^2 &= 81 \\ x^2 &= 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = \pm 3$$

-3 is extraneous

$$x = 3$$

2. $\log \underline{6x} = \log(\underline{x+6}) + \log(\underline{x-1})$

defined \rightarrow $\begin{matrix} 6x > 0 \\ x > 0 \end{matrix}$

$$\begin{matrix} x+6 > 0 \\ x > -6 \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} x-1 > 0 \\ x > 1 \end{matrix}$$



$$x > 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log 6x &= \log(x+6)(x-1) \\ \log 6x &= \log(x^2 + 5x - 6) \\ 6x &= x^2 + 5x - 6 \end{aligned}$$

FACTOR/FORMULA

$$\begin{aligned}
 6x &= x^2 + 5x - 6 \\
 0 &= x^2 - x - 6 \\
 0 &= (x-3)(x+2) \\
 \boxed{x=3} &\quad \cancel{-2} \leftarrow \text{FACTOR/FORMULA}
 \end{aligned}$$

ex. 3 Using logs to solve exponential equations

a) $12 = 4^x$ change to \log_4 (7.4!!)

$$\log_4 12 = \log_4 4^x$$

$$\log_4 12 = x$$

$$\frac{\log 12}{\log 4} = x$$

use calc.

$$\boxed{1.79 = x}$$

b) $3^{x+1} = 6^x$

$$\log 3^{(x+1)} = \log 6^{(x)}$$

$$(x+1) \log 3 = x \log 6$$

$$\underline{x \log 3} + \log 3 = \underline{x \log 6}$$

$$\log 3 = \underline{x \log 6} - \underline{x \log 3} \rightarrow \text{factor out } x$$

$$x (\log 6 - \log 3) \rightarrow \text{quotient law OR eval.}$$

→ cannot use \log_6 since the left side has an exponent with variable

→ use common log.

→ laws - power

→ dist. property

→ gather like parts

$$\log 3 = x(\log 6 - \log 3) \rightarrow \text{quotient law OR eval.}$$

$$\log 3 = x(\log 2)$$

$$\frac{\log 3}{\log 2} = x \leftarrow \text{use calc.}$$

$$\boxed{1.58 = x}$$

c) $\frac{36}{3} = \frac{3(2^{x+1})}{3}$

$$12 = 2^{x+1} \rightarrow \log_2$$

$$\log_2 12 = \log_2 2^{x+1}$$

$$\log_2 12 = x+1$$

$$\log_2 12 - 1 = x$$

$$\frac{\log 12}{\log 2} - 1 = x \quad \text{use calc.}$$

$$\boxed{2.58 = x}$$

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