

6.1: The Exponential Function and Its Inverse

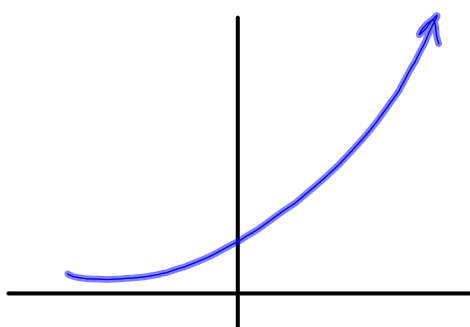
- Exponential functions are useful for describing relationships
- If the growth of a population is proportional to the size of the population as it grows, we describe the growth as exponential

Recall:

- Exponential Functions of the form: $y = b^x$

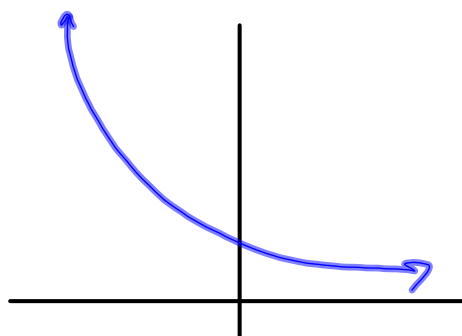
$$b > 1$$

Exponential Growth



$$0 < b < 1$$

Exponential Decay



Properties

- repeating pattern of finite differences.
- a rate of change that is increasing proportional to the function for $b > 1$.
- a rate of change that is decreasing proportional to the function for $0 < b < 1$.

Features that are the same:

- 1) both bases are positive.
- 2) both have the same y-int and it is ± 1 .
- 3) both have the same horizontal asymptote at $y = 0$.
- 4) both have the same domain and it is $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- 5) both have the same range and it is $\{y | y > 0, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$
- 6) The graph is either increasing or decreasing.

Investigate: The nature of the rate of change of an exponential function

- Complete the table of values for: $y = 3^x$

| x | y | Differences | | |
|---|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | $\Delta_1 y$ | $\Delta_2 y$ | $\Delta_3 y$ |
| 0 | 1 | • | • | • |
| 1 | 3 | 2 | • | • |
| 2 | 9 | 6 | 4 | • |
| 3 | 27 | 18 | 12 | 8 |
| 4 | 81 | 54 | 36 | 24 |
| 5 | 243 | 162 | 108 | 72 |
| 6 | 729 | 486 | 324 | 216 |

Handwritten notes in blue ink: A vertical bracket on the right side of the table spans from the y=1 row to the y=27 row, with the number '3' written next to it. Arrows point from this '3' to the y-values 3, 9, and 27, indicating that each y-value is multiplied by 3 to get the next one.

for $y = 3^x$

| Interval | | Average Rate of Change, m_{AB} | Instantaneous Rate of Change at A, m_A | Instantaneous Rate of Change at B, m_B |
|----------|-----|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| A | B | | | |
| x=0 | x=1 | 2 | 1.09 | 3.29 |
| x=1 | x=2 | 6 | 3.29 | 9.88 |
| x=2 | x=3 | 18 | 9.88 | 29.66 |
| x=3 | x=4 | 54 | 29.66 | 88.98 |
| x=4 | x=5 | 162 | 88.98 | 266.96 |

Example 1: Write an Equation to Fit Data

Write an equation to fit the data in the table of values

$$y = ab^x$$

| x | y | $\Delta_1 y$ |
|---|----|--------------|
| 0 | 1 | |
| 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 | 16 | 12 |
| 3 | 64 | 48 |

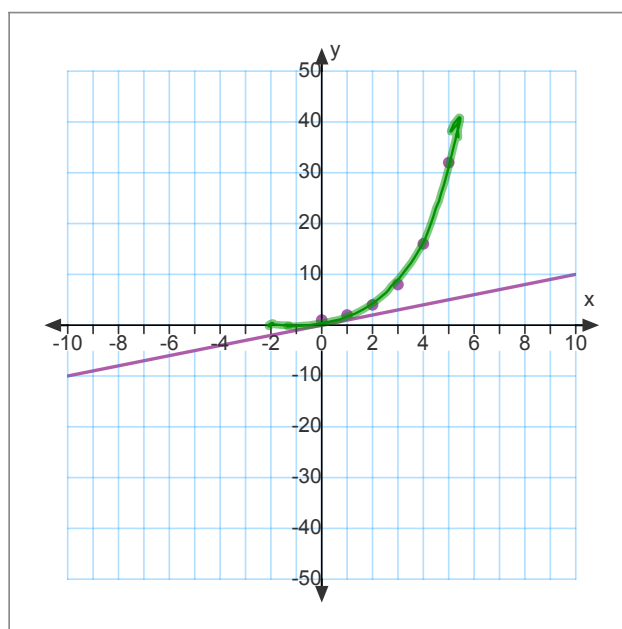
Handwritten notes in green: Brackets and arrows showing that each y-value is multiplied by 4 to get the next y-value (1 to 4, 4 to 16, 16 to 64). Similarly, blue brackets and arrows show that each $\Delta_1 y$ value is multiplied by 4 to get the next $\Delta_1 y$ value (3 to 12, 12 to 48).

$$\therefore y = 4^x$$

Investigate: What is the nature of the inverse of an exponential function?

$$y = 2^x$$

| X | Y |
|---|-----|
| 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 4 |
| 3 | 8 |
| 4 | 16 |
| 5 | 32 |
| 6 | 64 |
| 7 | 128 |



$$y = x$$

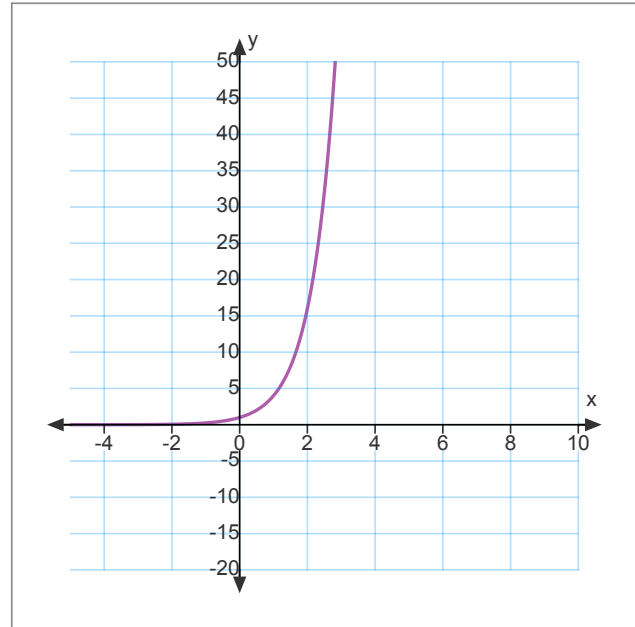
Example 2: Graphing an Inverse Funcon

Consider the funcon $f(x) = 4^x$

- a) Identify the key features of the funcon
 - (i) domain and range
 - (ii) x-intercept, if it exists
 - (iii) y-intercept, if it exists
 - (iv) posve and negave intervals
 - (v) increasing and decreasing intervals
 - (vi) equaon of asymptote
- b) Sketch a graph of the funcon
- c) On the same set of axes, sketch a graph of the inverse of the funcon
- d) Identify the key features of the inverse of the funcon

$$y = 4^x$$

| X | Y |
|---|------|
| 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 4 |
| 2 | 8 |
| 3 | 32 |
| 4 | 128 |
| 5 | 512 |
| 6 | 2048 |
| 7 | 8192 |



key features:

Domain: $\{x \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Range: $\{y \mid y > 0, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$

x-int: does not exist

y-int: $\neq 1$.

pos/neg intervals:
positive: $(-\infty, \infty)$

Increasing/dec. intervals

Increasing $(-\infty, \infty)$

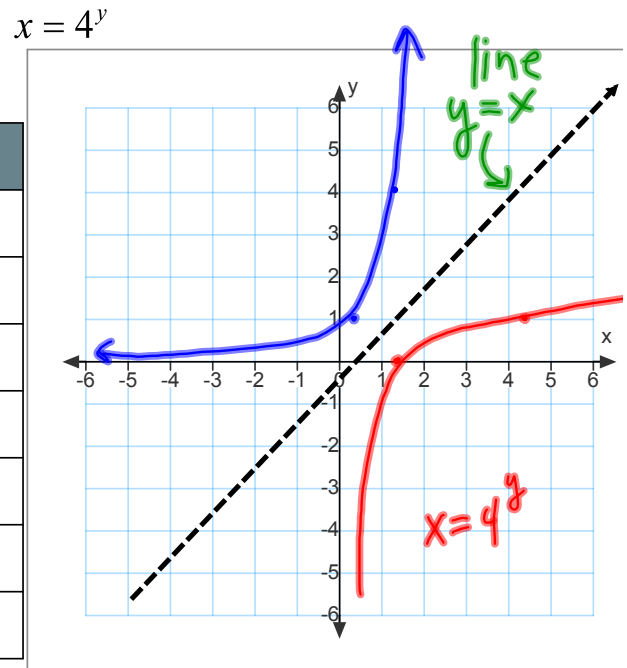
Asymptote: $y = 0$

Table for:
 $y = 4^x$

| X | Y |
|---|------|
| 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 4 |
| 2 | 8 |
| 3 | 32 |
| 4 | 128 |
| 5 | 512 |
| 6 | 2048 |
| 7 | 8192 |

Table for
 $x = 4^y$

| X | Y |
|------|---|
| 1 | 0 |
| 4 | 1 |
| 8 | 2 |
| 32 | 3 |
| 128 | 4 |
| 512 | 5 |
| 2048 | 6 |



key features: of $x = b^y$

Domain: $\{x \mid x > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Range: $\{y \mid y \in \mathbb{R}\}$

x-int: +1

y-int: no y-int!

asymptote: $y = 0$

Intervals increase/
decrease

Increasing $(0, \infty)$

pos / neg intervals:

pos: $(0, 1]$

neg: $[1, \infty)$

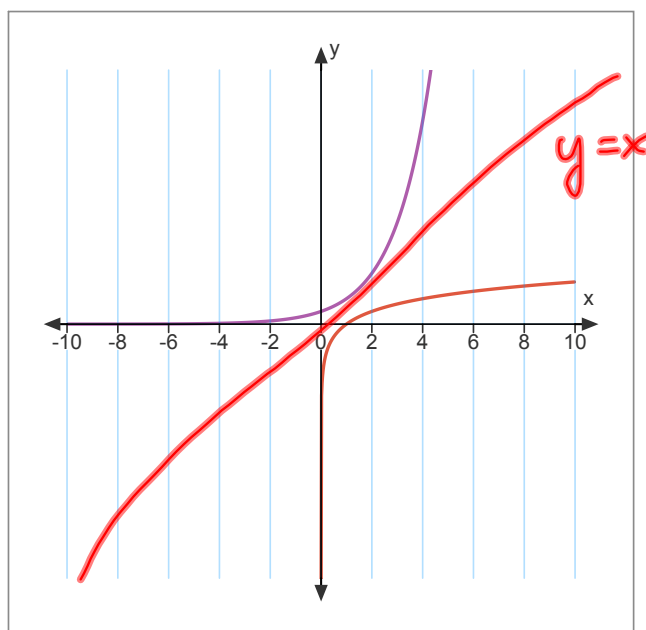
$$y = 2^x$$

$$y = \log_2 x$$

$$y = b^x$$

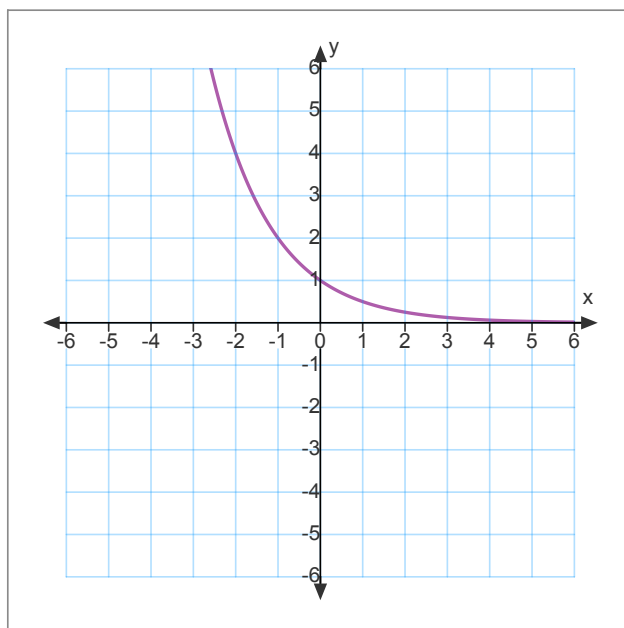
$$x = b^y$$

$$y = \log_b x$$



$$y = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^x$$

$$y = \log_{\frac{1}{2}} x$$



Properties of $x = b^y$

- The base, b , is always positive
- Vertical asymptote is $y = 0$
- x -int is $+1$
- It is a reflection of $y = b^x$ about the line $y = x$
- For $b > 1$, it is an increasing function.
- For $0 < b < 1$, it is a decreasing function
- Domain: $\{x \mid x > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
- Range: $\{y \mid y \in \mathbb{R}\}$