

Chapter 7.6: Solve Exponential and Logarithmic Equations

If b is a positive number other than one

$$b^x = b^y \quad \text{if} \quad x = y$$

Solve: $4^x = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x-3}$

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

$$2x = -x + 3$$
$$+x \qquad +x$$

$$3x = 3$$

$x = 1$

Solve: $4^x = 11$

$$\cancel{\log_4 4^x} = \log_4 11$$

$$x = \log_4 11$$

$$x = \frac{\log 11}{\log 4} \approx \underline{1.729}$$

$$\log_a a^x = x$$

$$\log_{10} 10 = 1$$

$$10^1 = 10$$

Newton's Cooling Law

If b, x and y are positive number and b is not 1 then

$$\log_b x = \log_b y \quad \text{if} \quad x = y$$

$$\log x = \log y \quad x = y$$

$$\ln x = \ln y \quad x = y$$

Solve: $\log_5(4x - 7) = \log_5(x + 5)$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 4x - 7 & = & x + 5 \\ -x + 7 & & -x + 7 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{3x}{3} = \frac{12}{3}$$

$$\underline{x = 4}$$

Solve: $\log_4(5x - 1) = 3$

$$4^{\log_4(5x-1)} = 4^3$$

$$a^{\log_a x} = x$$

$$5x - 1 = 4^3$$

$$5x - 1 = 64$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} +1 & & +1 \\ \hline 5x & = & 65 \\ x & = & 13 \end{array}$$

What are the solutions:

$$\log(2x) + \log(x - 5) = 2$$

$$10^{\log 2x(x-5)} = 10^2$$

$$\overbrace{2x(x-5)} = 100$$

$$2x^2 - 10x - 100 = 0$$

$$x^2 - 5x - 50 = 0$$

$$(x+5)(x-10) = 0$$

$$x = -5, 10$$

Homework: Chapter 7.6 pg.519
 #'s 4,10,14,18,26,30,32,36,42,50