

Exponential and logarithmic Functions

Note Title

24/06/2011

For any exponential function $y = a^x$,
the derivative is $\frac{dy}{dx} = k \times a^x$.

We can find a number such that $k=1$ i.e.
the derivative is IDENTICAL to the original function.

This number is called e , and $e = 2.71828 \dots$
(an irrational number like π).

So if $y = e^x$, then $\frac{dy}{dx} = e^x$

It follows that $\int e^x dx = e^x + c$

Example The number of people with a disease t
years after it was first detected is given by

$$N = 300 - 100e^{-0.5t}$$

(a) How many people were first diagnosed?

$$\text{If } t = 0, \quad N = 300 - 100e^0 \\ = \underline{\underline{200}}$$

(b) How many people have the disease 2 years
after it was detected?

$$\text{If } t = 2, \quad N = 300 - 100e^{-1} \\ = \underline{\underline{263}}$$

(c) What is the expected number of people with
the disease in the long term?

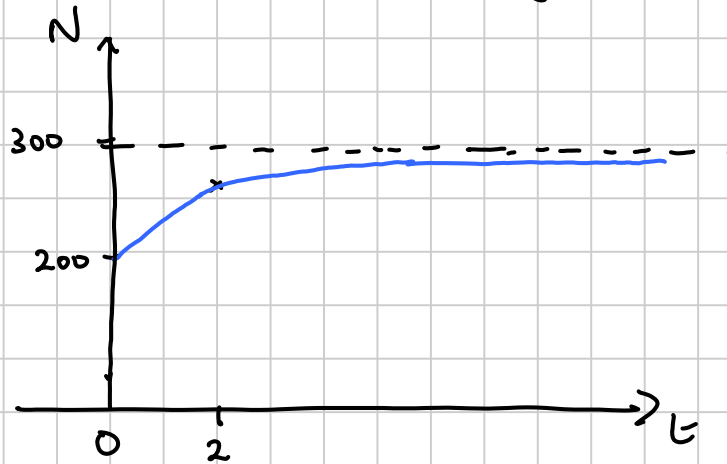
$$\text{As } t \rightarrow \infty, \quad e^{-0.5t} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{so } N \rightarrow 300 - 100 \times 0$$

$$N \rightarrow 300$$

The number of people with the disease will increase towards 300 but not past this number.

(d) Sketch the graph of N against t (for $t \geq 0$)



Ex 3A Q 1 a b c d f, 2, 3, 5

The logarithmic Function

We know that if $y = 2^x$, then $x = \log_2 y$

Similarly, the inverse function of $y = e^x$
is $x = \log_e y$

We have a shorthand for \log_e : it is often written \ln .
So all the usual rules of logs apply to \ln :-

$$\ln a + \ln b = \ln(ab)$$

$$\ln a - \ln b = \ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)$$

$$\ln e = 1$$

$$k \ln a = \ln(a^k)$$

Because e^x and $\ln x$ are inverse functions,

$$\ln(e^x) = x$$
$$e^{\ln x} = x$$

Example (continued)

Given that $N = 300 - 100e^{-0.5t}$
(N = no of people with the disease, t = no of years since disease started)

(e) After how many years will the number of cases reach 280?

$$280 = 300 - 100e^{-0.5t}$$

$$100e^{-0.5t} = 300 - 280 = 20$$

$$e^{-0.5t} = \frac{20}{100} = 0.2$$

$$\ln(e^{-0.5t}) = \ln(0.2)$$

$$-0.5t \cancel{\ln e} = \ln(0.2)$$

$$t = \frac{\ln(0.2)}{-0.5}$$

$$= \underline{\underline{3.22 \text{ years}}}$$

(f) Write a formula for t in terms of N .

$$N = 300 - 100e^{-0.5t}$$

$$100e^{-0.5t} = 300 - N$$

$$e^{-0.5t} = \frac{300 - N}{100}$$

$$\ln(e^{-0.5t}) = \ln\left(\frac{300 - N}{100}\right)$$

$$-0.5t \cancel{(\ln e)} = \ln\left(\frac{300 - N}{100}\right)$$

$$(x-2)$$

$$(x-2)$$

$$\underline{\underline{t = -2 \ln \left(\frac{300 - N}{100} \right)}}$$

Example 2 Solve the follow equations giving exact solutions

(a) $3 \ln(x-2) = 12$

$(\div 3)$ $(\div 3)$

$$\ln(x-2) = 4$$

$$e^{\ln(x-2)} = e^4$$

$$x-2 = e^4$$

$$\underline{\underline{x = e^4 + 2}}$$

(note that $e^{\ln a} = a$)

(b) $3 + 2e^{4x} = 6$

$$2e^{4x} = 3$$

$$e^{4x} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\ln(e^{4x}) = \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$$

$$4x = \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$$

$$\underline{\underline{x = \frac{1}{4} \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)}}$$

Example 3 Solve $\ln(x+1) - \ln 2 = 3$

[CANT do $e^{\ln(x+1)} - e^{\ln 2} = e^3$
- can only do this with the whole of each side]

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

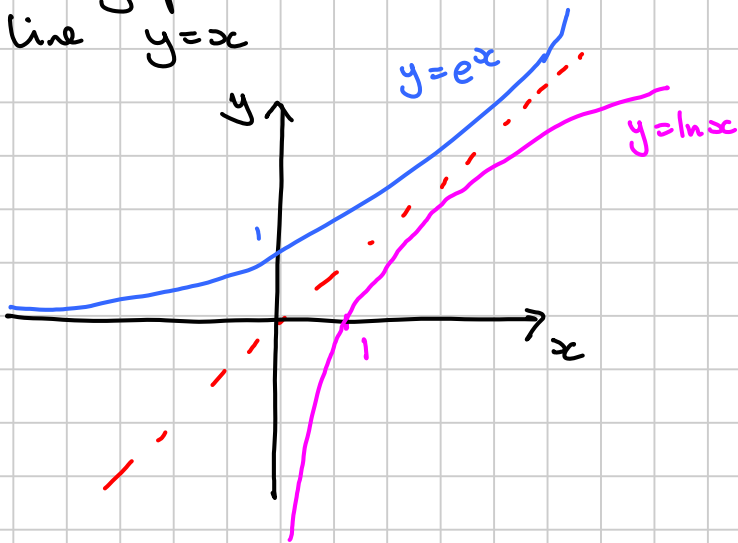
$$e^{\ln\left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right)} = e^3$$

$$\frac{x+1}{2} = e^3$$

$$x = \underline{\underline{2e^3 - 1}}$$

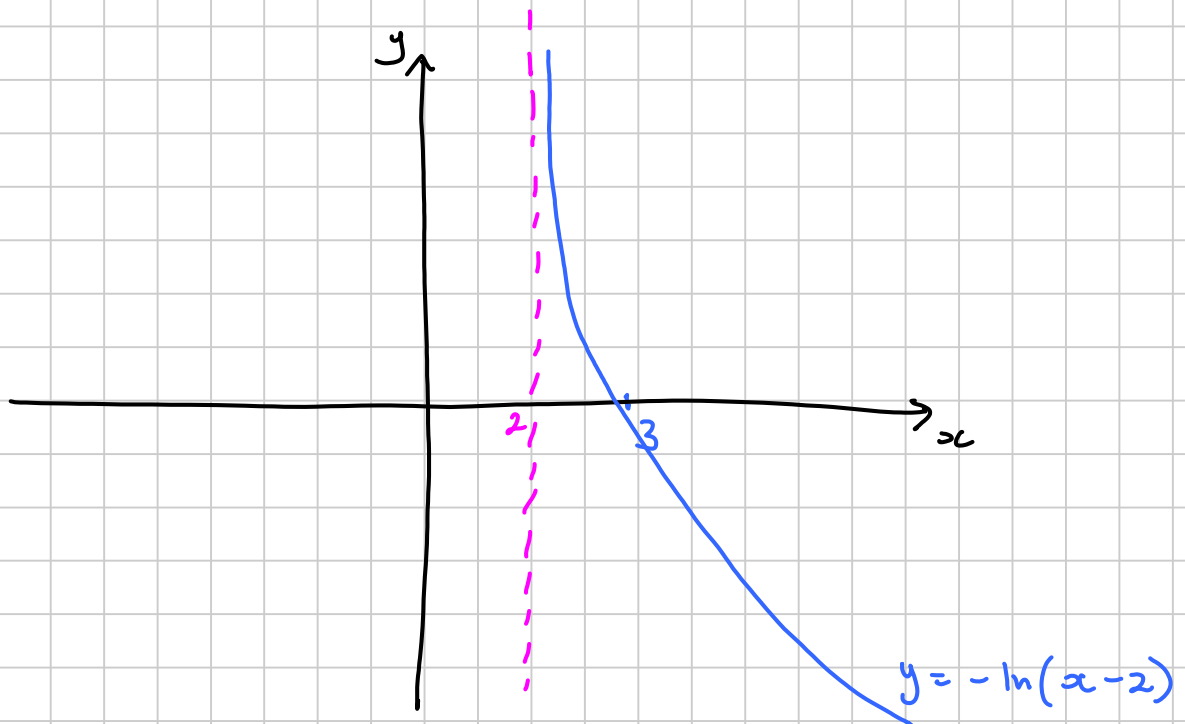
Example 4 Sketch the graph of $y = -\ln(x-2)$.

The graph of $\ln x$ is the reflection of $y = e^x$ in the line $y = x$



$y = \ln(x-2)$ is translated 2 to the right

$y = -\ln(x-2)$ is reflected in the x -axis



p 36 Ex 3B Q 1, 2, 3 a, c, f, 4, 5, 6, 7