

Chapter 8: LOGARITHMIC FUNCTIONS
8.2 – Transformations of Logarithmic Functions

Recall: The **logarithmic function** is the inverse of the **exponential function**.

Remember, to find the inverse of a function, we switch the x and y values and then solve for y .

Exponential Function

$$y = b^x$$

Inverse Function

$$x = b^y$$

which is equivalent to

$$y = \log_b x$$

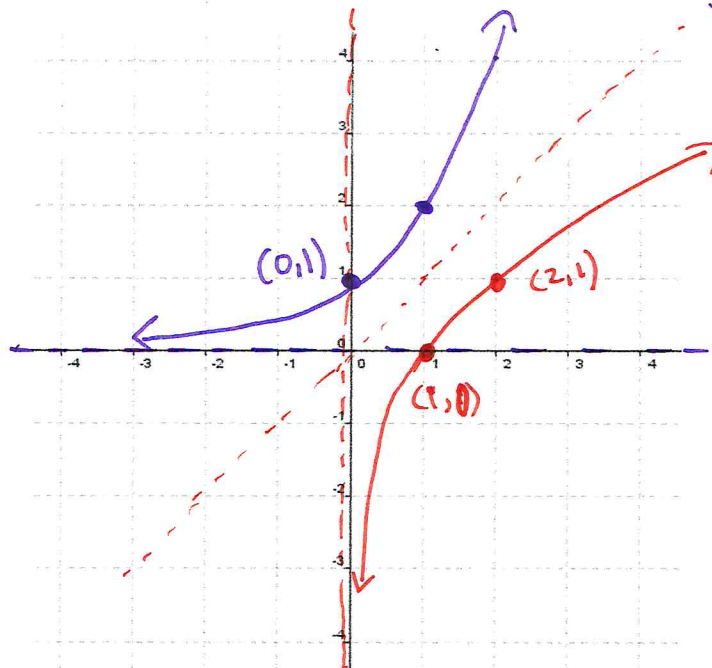
Example #1

Sketch the graphs of the functions $y = 2^x$ and $y = \log_2 x$.

Note that these two functions are inverses of each other.

$(x, y) \rightarrow (y, x)$

x	y



x	y

Note: The graph of $y = \log_2 x$ has a V.A. at $x = 0$, x int. $(1, 0)$, $(2, 1)$

because $y = 2^x$ H.A $y = 0$, y int $(0, 1)$, point $(1, 2)$

Example #2

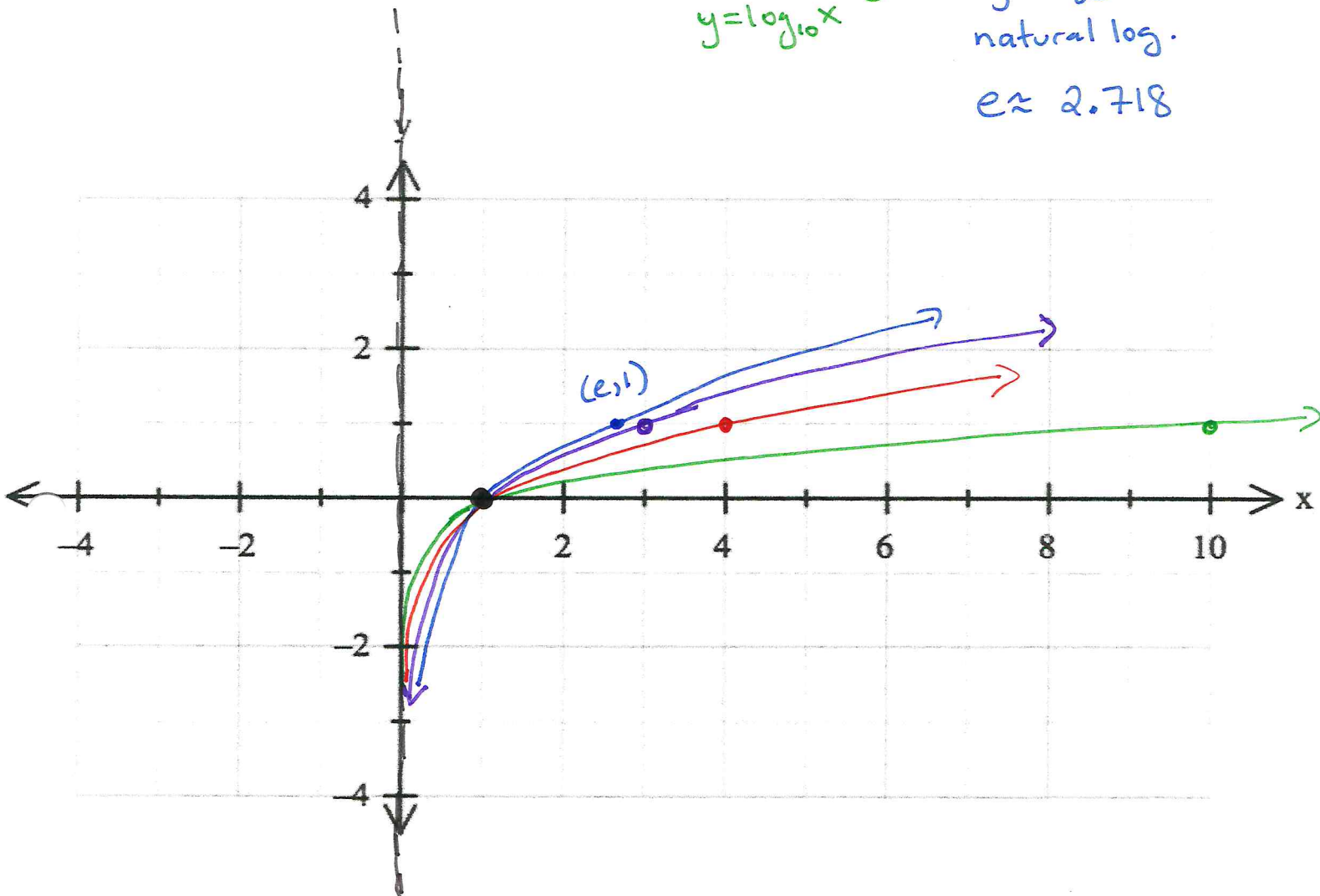
Sketch the graphs of the following functions on the same Cartesian plane.

a) $y = \log_3 x$

b) $y = \log_4 x$

c) $y = \log x$
common log
 $y = \log_{10} x$

d) $y = \ln x$
 $y = \log_e x$
natural log.
 $e \approx 2.718$



Note: All the graphs pass through the point $(1,0)$. The **base** of the logarithm determines the next point.

Base 3 $\rightarrow (3,1)$

$$y = \log_3 x \rightarrow 3^y = x \rightarrow 3^1 = 3 \rightarrow (3, 1)$$

Base 4 $\rightarrow (4,1)$

Base e $\rightarrow (e,1)$

Vertically stretch by a factor of $|a|$
 Reflect in the x-axis if $a < 0$.

$$y = a \log_c (b(x - h)) + k$$

Horizontally stretch by a factor of $\left|\frac{1}{b}\right|$
 Reflect in the y-axis if $b < 0$.

Vertically translate k units.
 Horizontally translate h units.

Example #3

a) Sketch the graph of the function $y = \log_5(x + 2) - 1$

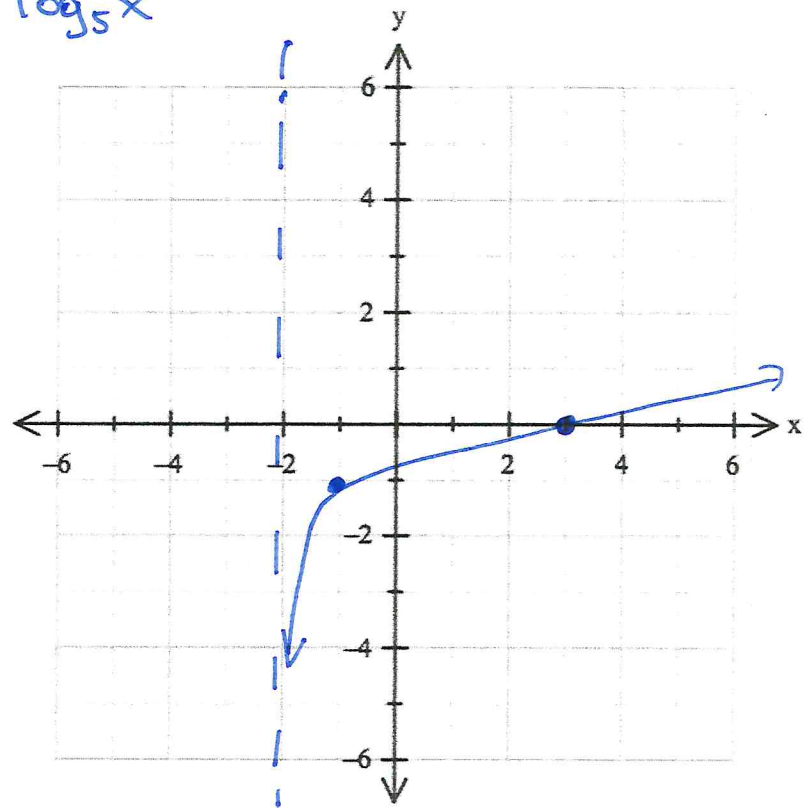
$$y = \log_5 x$$

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (x - 2, y - 1)$$

$$(1, 0) \rightarrow (-1, -1)$$

$$(5, 1) \rightarrow (3, 0)$$

$$x = 0 \quad x = -2$$



b) State the domain and range.

Domain: $x > -2$

Range: $(-\infty, \infty)$

c) State the equation of the asymptote.

$$x = -2$$

d) Determine the x-intercept.

$$y = \log_5(x + 2) - 1$$

$$0 = \log_5(x + 2) - 1$$

$$1 = \log_5(x + 2)$$

$$5^1 = x + 2$$

$$3 = x$$

Example #4

$$y = \log_3 x$$

a) Sketch the graph of the function $y = \log_3(3-x) + 1$

$$y = \log_3(-x+3) + 1$$

$$y = \log_3[-(x-3)] + 1$$

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (-x+3, y+1)$$

$$(1, 0) \rightarrow (2, 1)$$

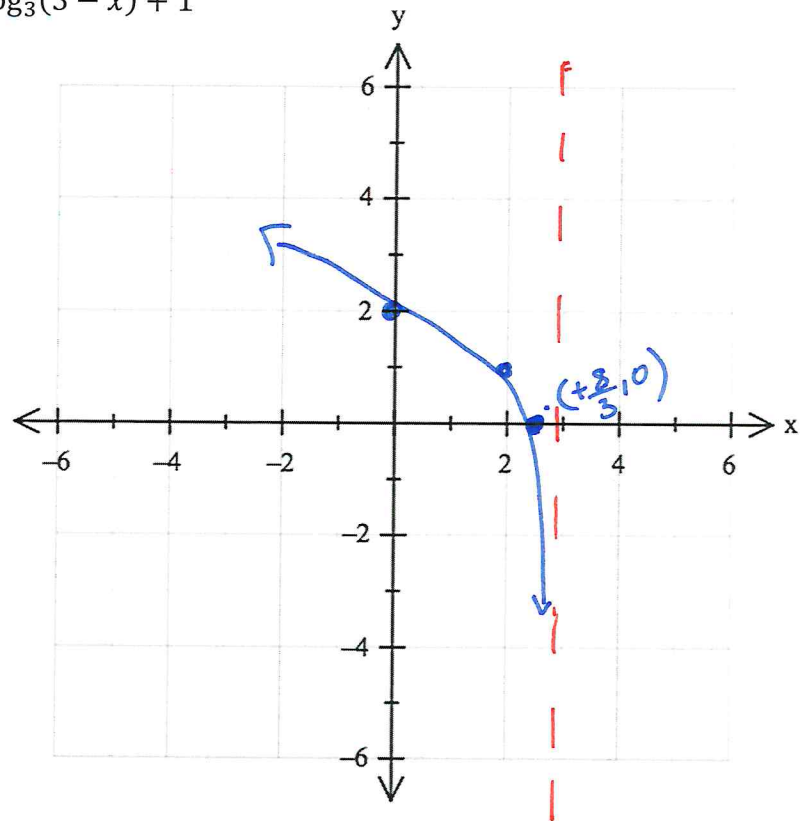
$$(3, 1) \rightarrow (0, 2)$$

$$x=0 \rightarrow x=3$$

b) State the domain and range.

Domain: $x < 3$ $(-\infty, 3)$

Range: $(-\infty, \infty)$ $y \in \mathbb{R}$



c) State the equation of the asymptote.

$$x = 3$$

$$y = \log_3(3-x) + 1$$

d) Determine the y-intercept and the x-intercept.

x-int:

$$0 = \log_3(3-x) + 1$$

$$-1 = \log_3(3-x)$$

$$3^{-1} = 3-x$$

$$\frac{1}{3} - 3 = -x$$

$$\frac{1}{3} - \frac{9}{3} = -x$$

$$-\frac{8}{3} = -x$$

$$x = \frac{8}{3} \quad 2\frac{2}{3}$$

y-int:

$$y = \log_3(3-0) + 1$$

$$y = \log_3 3 + 1$$

$$y = 1 + 1$$

$$y = 2$$