Math 141: College Algebra Worksheet 10

3. Calculate

Calculate a)
$$\log_2 32 = 5$$
 ($2^5 = 32$) b) $\log_2 3 = \frac{1}{3}$ ($27^{1/3} = 3$) c) $\log_2 1 = 0$ (log to any base of 1 is zero) d) $\log_\pi \pi^2 = 2$ ($\pi^2 = \pi^2$) e) $\log_{\sqrt{3}} \frac{1}{9} = -4$ ($\sqrt{3}^{-4} = 3^{-2} = \frac{1}{9}$)

4. Express $\log_{1000}100$ in terms of $\log_{10},$ and then calculate the value. We can use

$$\log_b x = \log_a x/\log_a b$$

which gives

$$\log_{1000} 100 = \log_{10} 100 / \log_{10} 1000 = \log_{10} 10^2 / \log_{10} 10^3 = \frac{2}{3}$$

5. Solve: $\ln(\log_{10} x) = 0$.

We start by raising both sides to the power of e to get rid of ln:

$$\ln(\log_{10} x) = 0
e^{\ln(\log_{10} x)} = e^0
\log_{10} x = 1$$

where we used that $e^{\ln a} = a$. Next we raise both sides to the power of 10 to get rid of \log_{10} :

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
\log_{10} x & = & 1 \\
10^{\log_{10} x} & = & 10^1 \\
x & = & 10
\end{array}$$

where we used that $10^{\log_{10} a} = a$.

6. Population Doubling Times.

(a) Imagine that a population grows exponentially with a rate k. If the initial population is P_0 , write down an equation relating the final population P_f and the elapsed time T.

$$P_f(T) = P_0 e^{kT}$$