

Illustration of Logs and Anti-Logs

Note: The essential property of the logarithm ("log") function is that it converts products into sums: $\log(xy) = \log x + \log y$. In particular, $\log(x^2) = 2\log x$.

Note: The anti-log of x is the inverse of the log of x . The anti-log of x is also called the exponential of x , and is written "exp. x ". Therefore, for each $t > 0$, $t = \exp(\log t)$. Substituting xy for t , we have, $xy = \exp(\log(xy))$. Applying the essential property of the logarithm, we then have $xy = \exp(\log x + \log y)$. This is the formula used in doing calculations.

x	$\log x$
exp. x	x
10	1
25	1.4 (approximately)
100	2
625	2.8 (approximately)
1000	3
10000	4

$$\text{Example 1: } 100^2 = \exp(\log(100^2)) = \exp(2 \log 100) \\ = \exp(2 \times 2) = \exp 4 = 10000.$$

$$\text{Example 2: } 25^2 = \exp(\log(25^2)) = \exp(2 \log 25) \\ = \exp(2 \times 1.4) = \exp(2.8) = 625.$$

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